

Linear systems  $\vec{\dot{x}} = \vec{A} \vec{x} + \vec{f}(t)$ ,  $n=2$

-what do we have?

- \* Can solve! Provided  $\vec{f}$  nice enough.

Roots = eigenvalues of  $\vec{A}$

If these are non-real: can still solve!

(get: if  $\lambda = \operatorname{tr}\vec{A} \pm \sqrt{-\beta^2}$ ,  
then  $\operatorname{Re}\lambda = \operatorname{tr}\vec{A}$  "into the exponent"  
and  $\beta$  "into the trig.")

- \* Stability and (if  $f=0$ ) graphing the phase diagram
  - if  $\min\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2\} > 0$ : "source", unstable
  - if  $\max\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2\} < 0$ : "sink", asympt. stable
  - if opposite signs: saddle point: unstable,  
but two trajectories converge

$\vec{w}$  = eigenvector associated with the positive eigenvalue  
 $\vec{v}$  = eigenvector associated with the negative eigenvalue

The convergent path has slope  $= \frac{x_2(t)}{x_1(t)} = \frac{v_2}{v_1}$

- if  $\lambda_1 > 0 = \lambda_2$ :  $C e^{\lambda_1 t} + D$  unstable
- if  $\lambda_1 < 0 = \lambda_2$ : — — — stable (not asympt.)
- if  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = 0$ :  $A t + B$  unstable

✓

- if  $\lambda \notin \mathbb{R}$ : spiralling
- outwards if  $\text{tr} \tilde{A} > 0$  unstable
- inwards if  $\text{tr} \tilde{A} < 0$  asympt. stable
- ellipses if  $\text{tr} \tilde{A} = 0$  stable (not asympt.).

Next: Nonlinear systems

- approximate with linear locally near equilibrium points
- stability properties  $\approx$  the linearized
  - although:
    - if  $\max\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2\} = 0$  we cannot conclude on stability or not
    - if  $\min\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2\} = 0$ : unstable, but we cannot conclude saddle or not
    - (if  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2$ : cannot tell whether it spirals)

Also: sketching phase diagrams.

## ODE systems & stability

System:  $\dot{\vec{x}} = \vec{F}(\vec{x})$  (autonomous, no explicit "t")

Def. Equilibrium point, a.k.a. stationary state  $\vec{x}^*$ ,

one for which  $\vec{F}(\vec{x}^*) = \vec{0}$ .

i.e.:  $\vec{x}(t) \equiv \vec{x}^*$  (constant!) is a particular solution.

### Stability.

Idea: "stable", can keep  $\vec{x}(t)$  close to  $\vec{x}^*$

by merely starting at  $\vec{x}(0)$  sufficiently  
close to  $\vec{x}^*$ .

"asymptotically" stable; also converges

Def'n: next page.

For nonlinear systems, these are "local"

Properties.

For linear systems: we "lose a few nuances"  
by thinking of them as "global".

| Ex:  $\begin{cases} \dot{x} = mx \\ \dot{y} = 0 \end{cases}$  stationary on the entire y axis

Most important in Math 3:

loc. asympt. stable? unstable?

And if unstable: saddle point?

Def.: A stationary state  $\vec{x}^*$  is

- \* stable if for every  $\epsilon > 0$   $\leftarrow$  (max allowed excursion)

there is some  $\delta > 0$  such that

whenever  $\vec{x}$  starts within distance  $\delta$  from  $\vec{x}^*$

$$\text{ie: } \|\vec{x}(t_0) - \vec{x}^*\| < \delta$$

we will have  $\|\vec{x}(t) - \vec{x}^*\| < \epsilon$ , all  $t \geq t_0$

- \* unstable if not stable

- \* locally asymptotically stable if stable and furthermore, some  $\delta > 0$ , if

$$\|\vec{x}(t_0) - \vec{x}^*\| < \delta$$

then  $\|\vec{x}(t) - \vec{x}^*\| \rightarrow 0$  as  $t \rightarrow +\infty$ .

[Minor detail: could be that this " $\delta$ " is less than the  $\delta$  chosen in the stability def'n — but we can then always choose the smallest of the two]

- \* globally asymptotically stable if stable and  $\|\vec{x}(t) - \vec{x}^*\| \rightarrow 0$  as  $t \rightarrow +\infty$

for all solutions  $\vec{x}(t)$ .

- \* For  $n = 2$ : saddle point if unstable and some  $\vec{x}(t) \rightarrow \vec{x}^*$  without starting there.

## Eigenvalue characterization

\* Linear case:  $\dot{\vec{x}} = \vec{A}\vec{x}$ , ( $\vec{A}$  constant)

① If all eigenvalues have negative real parts [note: if  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ , then  $\text{Re}(\lambda) = \lambda$ ]:

asymptotically stable

② If some eigenvalue has positive real part:  
unstable.

③ n=2: If  $\lambda_1 > 0 > \lambda_2$ : saddle point.  
(unstable)

For the linear case, we can classify also  
if the largest real part is 0, but... skip it.

\*\* Nonlinear case.

For each stationary state  $\vec{x}^*$ :

• Calculate the Jacobian of  $\vec{F}$  at  $\vec{x}^*$ :

$$\vec{J} = \frac{\partial \vec{F}}{\partial \vec{x}}(\vec{x}^*)$$

• Classify the linear system  $\dot{\vec{z}} = \vec{J}\vec{z}$

according to ① / ② / ③ above.

loc. asympt. unstable  $\Rightarrow$  saddle  
stable

• If  $\max_i \text{Re}(\lambda_i) = 0$ : no conclusion!

• n=2: If  $\lambda_1 > 0 = \lambda_2$ : unstable, but we don't  
know if saddle.

For tomorrow:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \end{pmatrix} = \bar{M} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2}(x^2 - 1) \\ y \end{pmatrix}$$

assume  
 $\bar{M} \neq 0$   
Nonlinear!

Jacobian:  $\bar{J} = \bar{M} \begin{pmatrix} * & 2 \\ * & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

(check for yourselves!)

E.g. pts:  $\bar{M} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2}(x^2 - 1) \\ y \end{pmatrix} = 0$

$\Leftrightarrow$  since  $\bar{M} \neq 0$        $x^2 = 1 \quad (-1, 0)$  and  
                                 $y = 0 \quad (1, 0)$

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{J}(-1, 0) &= \bar{M} \begin{pmatrix} \pm 1 & 1 \\ \pm 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \pm(m_{11} + m_{12}) & m_{11} + m_{12} \\ \pm(m_{21} + m_{22}) & m_{21} + m_{22} \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

has determinant = 0 (proportional columns!)

$$\begin{vmatrix} \pm p - \lambda & p \\ \pm q & q - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = \lambda^2 - \lambda(\pm p + \pm q)$$

$\text{"+" for } (1, 0), \text{"-" for } (-1, 0)$

eigenvalues  $\lambda_1 = 0$  and  $\lambda_2 = q \pm p$

$(1, 0)$ : unstable if  $q + p > 0$ , no conclusion otherwise

$(-1, 0)$  unstable if  $q - p > 0$ , ————— / —————

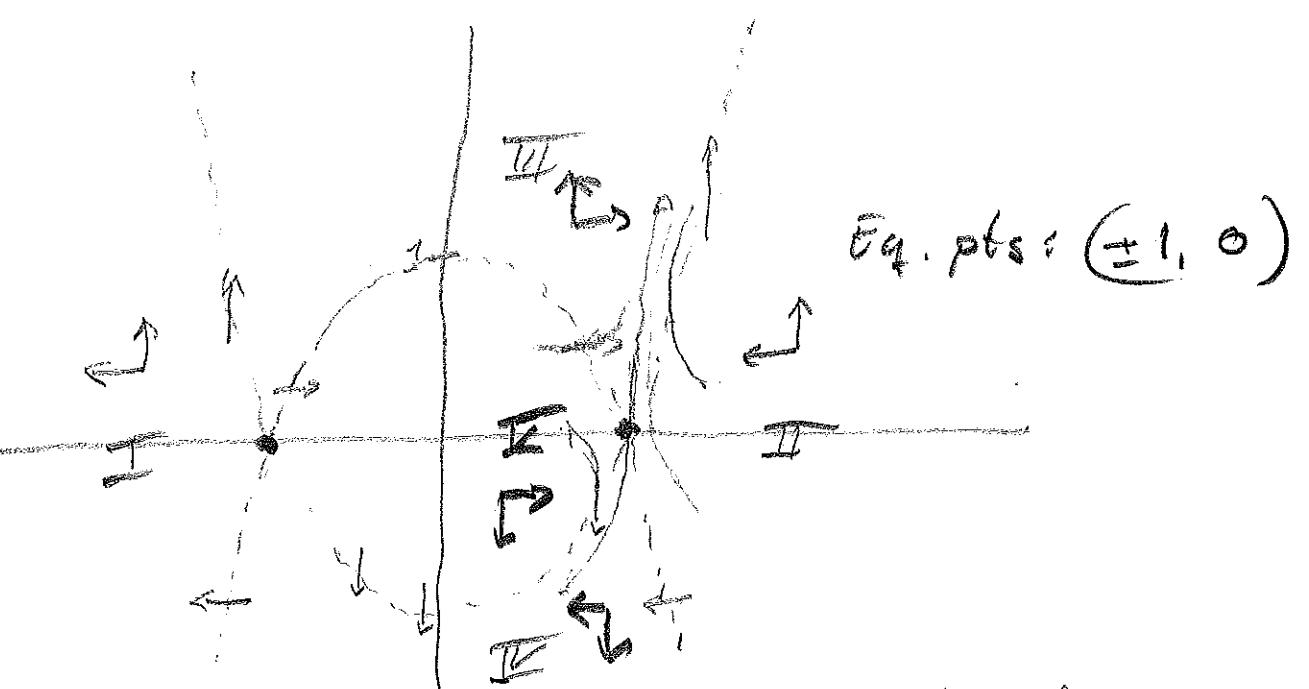
Graphical tool: phase plane analysis.

$f(x, y) = 0$ : curves in  $(x, y)$ -plane  
→ at the curve:  $\dot{x} = 0$  i.e.  
movement ↓ or ↑ or ↪

$g(x, y) = 0$ : analogous. No movement  
in  $y$ -direction

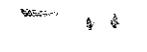
These curves are called nullclines.

Ex:  $\begin{cases} \dot{x} = y - x^2 + 1 & \text{zero when } y = x^2 - 1 \\ \dot{y} = y + x^2 - 1 & y = 1 - x^2 \end{cases}$

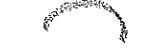


Nullclines partition the plane in this case into four domains

Above  :  $y > 0$ , "Upwards"

Below  :  $y < 0$ , "Downwards"

Above  :  $x > 0$  ; right

Below  :  $x < 0$  ; left