

Dynamical Systems 2007

These two exercises are homework, to be handed in on 19 March.

6.1 Collision time

Two particles P_i with mass m_i , ($i = 1, 2$) attract each other according to Newton's law with attraction constant f . In the initial position, they are at rest and their distance is $2a$. When do they meet?

6.2 The orthogonal group $O(n, \mathbb{R})$

Let $gl(n, \mathbb{R})$ be the set of all real $n \times n$ -matrices. Further define

$$\begin{aligned}Gl(n, \mathbb{R}) &= \{S \in gl(n, \mathbb{R}) \mid \det S \neq 0\}, \\O(n, \mathbb{R}) &= \{S \in gl(n, \mathbb{R}) \mid S^t S = \text{id}\}, \\o(n, \mathbb{R}) &= \{A \in gl(n, \mathbb{R}) \mid A^t = -A\}, \\Sym(n, \mathbb{R}) &= \{A \in gl(n, \mathbb{R}) \mid A^t = A\}.\end{aligned}$$

1. Show that $o(n, \mathbb{R})$ and $Sym(n, \mathbb{R})$ are real vector spaces. Give their dimensions.
2. Show that $Gl(n, \mathbb{R})$ is an n^2 -dimensional manifold. Show how $gl(n, \mathbb{R})$ can be regarded as the tangent space $T_{\text{id}}Gl(n, \mathbb{R})$.
3. Let $F : gl(n, \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow gl(n, \mathbb{R})$ be defined by $F(S) = S^t S$. Show that F is a smooth map and that the image of F is a subset of $Sym(n, \mathbb{R})$.
4. Show that the derivative $D_{\text{id}}F : gl(n, \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow gl(n, \mathbb{R})^1$ is given by $D_{\text{id}}F(B) = B^t + B$. What is the rank of this derivative?
5. Show that the rank of the derivative $D_S F : gl(n, \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow gl(n, \mathbb{R})$ is independent of $S \in O(n, \mathbb{R})$. (Hint: Use the fact that $O(n, \mathbb{R})$ is a group.)
6. Show that $O(n, \mathbb{R})$ is a manifold, also determining its dimension. In what sense can $o(n, \mathbb{R})$ be regarded as the tangent space $T_{\text{id}}O(n, \mathbb{R})$?

¹In another notation, $D_{\text{id}}F = F_{*, \text{id}}$.