

BIFURCATION PHENOMENA

Lecture 1: Qualitative theory of planar ODEs

Yuri A. Kuznetsov

August, 2010

Contents

1. Solutions and orbits.
2. Equilibria.
3. Periodic orbits and limit cycles.
4. Homoclinic orbits.

Literature

1. A.A. Andronov, E.A. Leontovich, I.I. Gordon, and A.G. Maier *Qualitative Theory of Second-Order Dynamic Systems*, Willey & Sons, London, 1973
2. L.P. Shilnikov, A.L. Shilnikov, D.V. Turaev, and L.O. Chua *Methods of Qualitative Theory in Nonlinear Dynamics*, Part I, World Scientific, Singapore, 1998
3. F. Dumortier, J. Llibre, and J.C. Artés *Qualitative Theory of Planar Differential Systems*, Universitext, Springer-Verlag, Berlin, 2006

1. SOLUTIONS AND ORBITS

Newton's Second Law: $m\ddot{x} = F(x, \dot{x}) \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \dot{x} = y, \\ \dot{y} = \frac{1}{m}F(x, y) \end{cases}$

General planar system:

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = P(x, y), \\ \dot{y} = Q(x, y) \end{cases} \quad \text{or} \quad \dot{X} = f(X), \quad X \in \mathbb{R}^2,$$

where

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}, \quad f(X) = \begin{pmatrix} P(x, y) \\ Q(x, y) \end{pmatrix}.$$

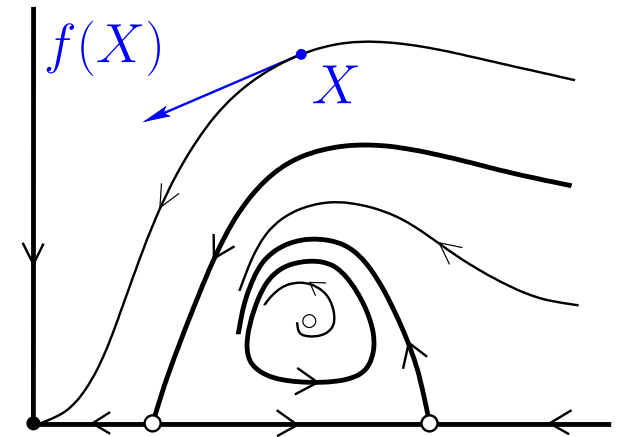
Theorem 1 *If f is smooth than for any initial point $\begin{pmatrix} x_0 \\ y_0 \end{pmatrix}$ there exists*

a unique locally defined solution $t \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} x(t) \\ y(t) \end{pmatrix}$ such that $x(0) = x_0$ and $y(0) = y_0$.

Definition 1 Let I be the maximal definition interval of a solution $t \mapsto X(t)$, $t \in I$. The oriented by the advance of time image $X(I) \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ is called the **orbit**.

Vector field: $X \mapsto f(X)$

$f(X) \neq 0$ is tangent to the orbit through X
 \Rightarrow orbits do not cross.



Definition 2 Phase portrait of a planar system is the collection of all its orbits in \mathbb{R}^2 .

We draw only key orbits, which determine the topology of the phase portrait.

Types of orbits:

1. **Equilibria:** $X(t) = X_0$ so that $f(X_0) = 0$.
2. **Periodic orbits (cycles):** $X(t) \neq X_0$, $X(t + T) = X(t)$, $t \in \mathbb{R}$
The minimal $T > 0$ is called the **period** of the cycle.
3. **Connecting orbits:** $\lim_{t \rightarrow \pm\infty} X(t) = X_{\pm}$ with $f(X_{\pm}) = 0$.
If $X_- = X_+$ the connecting orbit is called **homoclinic**
If $X_- \neq X_+$ the connecting orbit is called **heteroclinic**.
4. **All other orbits**

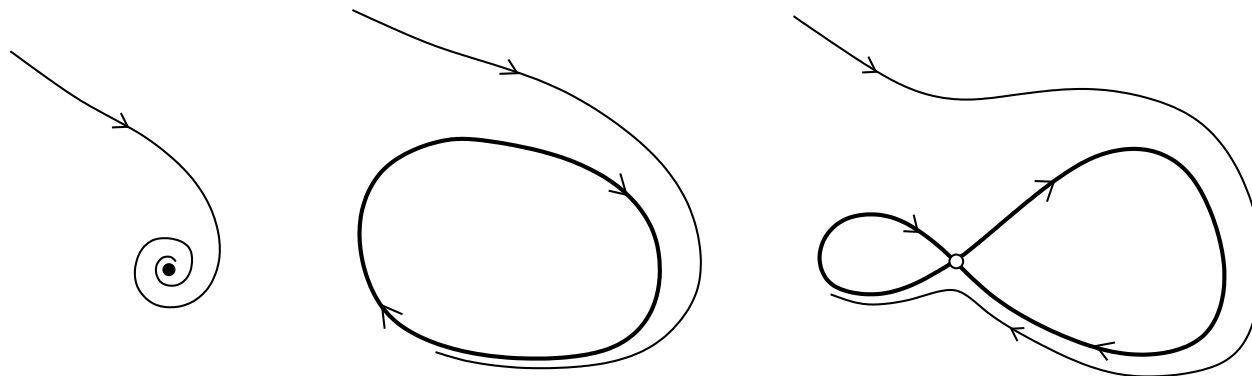
Theorem 2 (Poincaré-Bendixson)

A bounded orbit of a smooth system

$$\dot{X} = f(X), \quad X \in \mathbb{R}^2,$$

tends to one of the following sets in the phase plane:

- (i) an equilibrium point;*
- (ii) a periodic orbit;*
- (iii) a union of equilibria and their connecting orbits.*



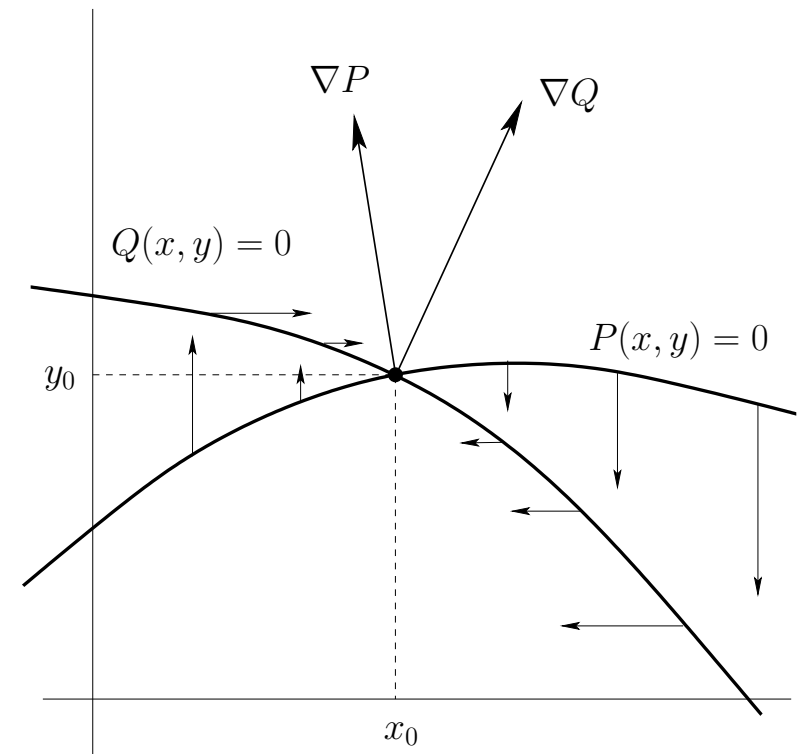
2. EQUILIBRIA: Null-isoclines

$$f(X) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} P(x, y) = 0, \\ Q(x, y) = 0. \end{cases}$$

$\nabla P = \begin{pmatrix} P_x \\ P_y \end{pmatrix}$ and $\nabla Q = \begin{pmatrix} Q_x \\ Q_y \end{pmatrix}$
are orthogonal to $P = 0$ and $Q = 0$, resp.

Jacobian matrix of the equilibrium X_0 :

$$A = f_X(X_0) = \begin{pmatrix} P_x & P_y \\ Q_x & Q_y \end{pmatrix} \Big|_{x=x_0, y=y_0}$$



If $\det A \neq 0 \Rightarrow$ the null-isoclines intersect transversally at X_0 .

If $\det A = 0 \Rightarrow$ the null-isoclines are tangent at X_0 .

Eigenvalues of the equilibrium X_0 are the eigenvalues of A , i.e. the solutions of

$$\lambda^2 - \sigma\lambda + \Delta = 0,$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma &= \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 = \text{Sp}A = P_x(x_0, y_0) + Q_y(x_0, y_0), \\ \Delta &= \lambda_1\lambda_2 = \det A = P_x(x_0, y_0)Q_y(x_0, y_0) - P_y(x_0, y_0)Q_x(x_0, y_0).\end{aligned}$$

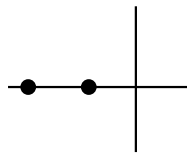
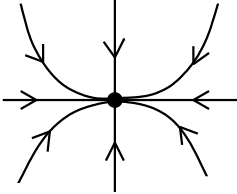
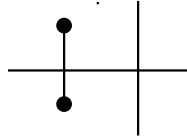

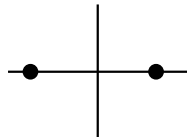
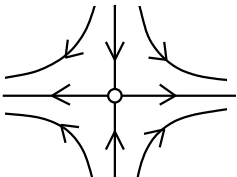
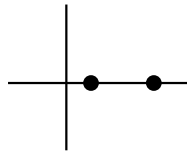
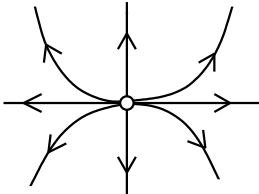
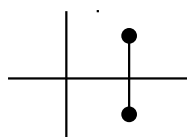

$$\lambda_{1,2} = -\frac{\sigma}{2} \pm \sqrt{\frac{\sigma^2}{4} - \Delta}$$

Definition 3 An equilibrium X_0 is **hyperbolic** if $\Re(\lambda) \neq 0$.

Equilibrium X_0 with $\lambda_1 = 0$ (i.e. $\det A = 0$) is called **multiple**.

Equilibrium X_0 with $\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 = 0$ (i.e. $\text{Sp} A = 0$) is called **neutral**.

Phase portraits of planar linear systems $\dot{Y} = AY$

(n_u, n_s)	Eigenvalues	Phase portrait	Stability	
(0, 2)			node	stable
			focus	
(1, 1)			saddle	unstable
(2, 0)			node	unstable
			focus	

Definition 4 *Two systems are called **topologically equivalent** if their phase portraits are homeomorphic, i.e. there is a continuous invertible transformation that maps orbits of one system onto orbits of the other, preserving their orientation.*

Theorem 3 (Grobman-Hartman) *Consider a smooth nonlinear system*

$$\dot{X} = AX + F(X), \quad F = \mathcal{O}(\|X\|^2) \equiv \mathcal{O}(2),$$

*and its **linearization***

$$\dot{Y} = AY.$$

If $\Re(\lambda) \neq 0$ for all eigenvalues of A , then these systems are locally topologically equivalent near the origin.

Warning: A stable/unstable node is locally topologically equivalent to a stable/unstable focus.

Trivial topological equivalences

1. Orbital equivalence:

$$\dot{X} = f(X) \sim \dot{Y} = g(Y)f(Y)$$

where $g : \mathbb{R}^2 \mapsto \mathbb{R}$ is smooth positive function; $Y = h(X) = X$ preserves orbits.

2. Smooth equivalence:

$$\dot{X} = f(X) \sim \dot{Y} = h_X(h^{-1}(Y))f(h^{-1}(Y)),$$

where $h : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ is a smooth diffeomorphism; the substitution $Y = h(X)$ transforms solutions onto solutions:

$$\dot{Y} = h_X(X)\dot{X} = h_X(X)f(X) \quad \text{where} \quad X = h^{-1}(Y).$$

3. Smooth orbital equivalence: 1. + 2.

Simplest critical cases

- $\lambda_1 = 0, \lambda_2 \neq 0$

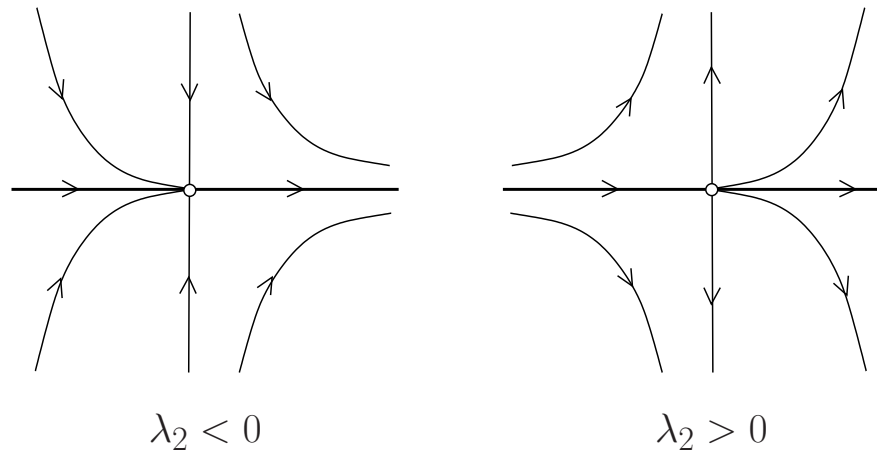
By a linear diffeomorphism, $\dot{X} = f(X)$ can be transformed into

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = ax^2 + bxy + cy^2 + O(3), \\ \dot{y} = \lambda_2 y + O(2). \end{cases}$$

If $a \neq 0$ then $\dot{X} = f(X)$ is locally topologically equivalent near the origin to

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = ax^2, \\ \dot{y} = \lambda_2 y. \end{cases}$$

Saddle-node ($a > 0$):



- $\lambda_{1,2} = \pm i\omega$, $\omega > 0$

By a linear diffeomorphism, $\dot{X} = f(X)$ can be transformed into

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = -\omega y + R(x, y), & R = O(2), \\ \dot{y} = \omega x + S(x, y), & S = O(2). \end{cases}$$

Introduce $z = x + iy \in \mathbb{C}$. Then this system becomes

$$\dot{z} = i\omega z + g(z, \bar{z}),$$

where

$$g(z, \bar{z}) = R\left(\frac{z + \bar{z}}{2}, \frac{z - \bar{z}}{2i}\right) + iS\left(\frac{z + \bar{z}}{2}, \frac{z - \bar{z}}{2i}\right).$$

Write its Taylor expansion in z, \bar{z} :

$$g(z, \bar{z}) = \frac{1}{2}g_{20}z^2 + g_{11}z\bar{z} + \frac{1}{2}g_{02}\bar{z}^2 + \frac{1}{2}g_{21}z^2\bar{z} + \dots$$

Definition 5 *The first Lyapunov coefficient is*

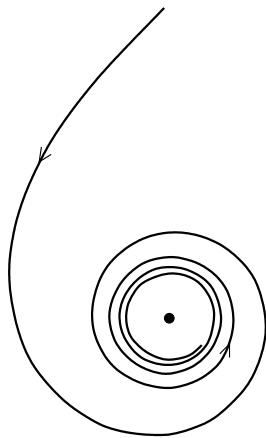
$$l_1 = \frac{1}{2\omega^2} \Re(ig_{20}g_{11} + \omega g_{21}).$$

If $l_1 \neq 0$ then $\dot{X} = f(X)$ is locally topologically equivalent near the origin to

$$\begin{cases} \dot{\rho} = l_1 \rho^3, \\ \dot{\varphi} = 1, \end{cases}$$

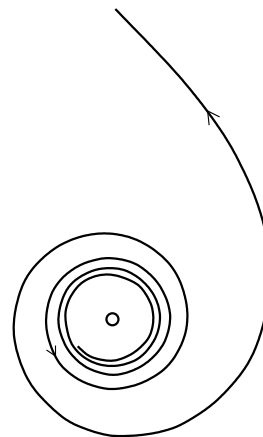
where (ρ, φ) are polar coordinates: $z = \rho e^{i\varphi}$.

Weak focus:



stable

$$l_1 < 0$$



unstable

$$l_1 > 0$$

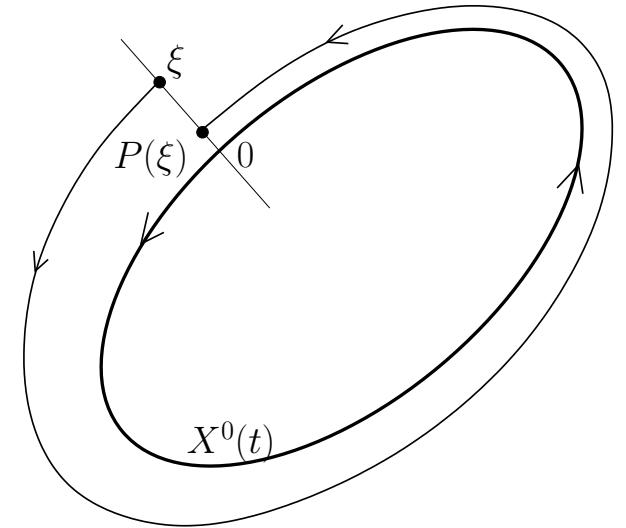
3. PERIODIC ORBITS AND LIMIT CYCLES

Poincaré map:

$$\xi \mapsto P(\xi) = \mu\xi + O(2),$$

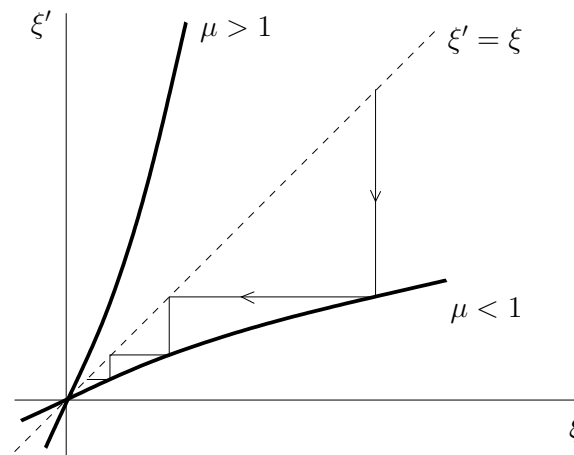
where the **multiplier**

$$\mu = \exp \left(\int_0^T (\operatorname{div} f)(X^0(t)) dt \right) > 0$$



Definition 6 A cycle of the planar system is **hyperbolic** if $\mu \neq 1$.

The cycle is stable if $\mu < 1$ and is unstable if $\mu > 1$.



Theorem 4 (Bendixson-Dulac)

If $(\operatorname{div} f)(X) > 0$ (< 0) in a disc $D \in \mathbb{R}^2$, then $\dot{X} = f(X)$ has no periodic orbits in D .

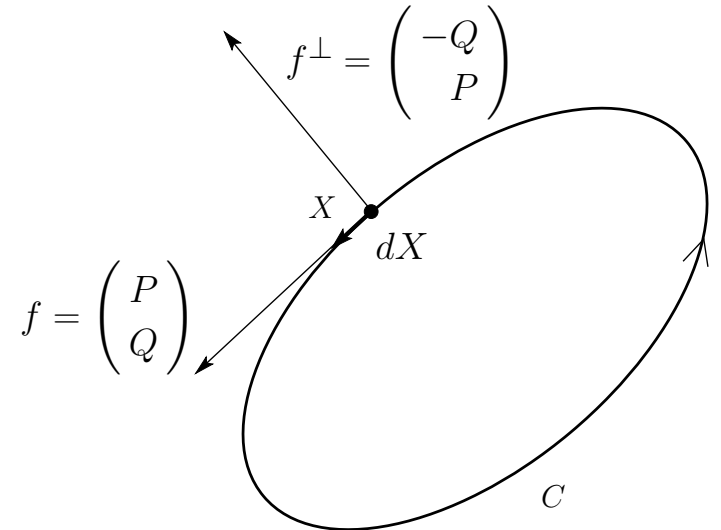
Proof: Suppose, there is such a cycle C .

$$\oint_C Pdy - Qdx = \oint_C \langle f^\perp, dX \rangle \equiv 0$$

but

$$\oint_C Pdy - Qdx = \iint_D (\operatorname{div} f) dX > 0 \text{ } (< 0),$$

contradiction. \square



Implications:

1. If $\operatorname{div}(gf) > 0$ (< 0) in a disc $D \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ for a smooth positive function $g : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, then $\dot{X} = f(X)$ has **no** periodic orbits in D .
2. If $\operatorname{div}(gf) > 0$ (< 0) in an annulus $A \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ for a smooth positive function $g : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, then $\dot{X} = f(X)$ has **at most one** periodic orbit in A .
3. If $f(X) \neq 0$ and $\operatorname{div}(gf) < 0$ in a trapping annulus $A \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ for a smooth positive function $g : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, then $\dot{X} = f(X)$ has a **unique** stable periodic orbit in A .

Example:

Consider

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = y \equiv P(x, y), \\ \dot{y} = ax + by + \alpha x^2 + \beta y^2 \equiv Q(x, y). \end{cases}$$

Define

$$g(x, y) = e^{-2\beta x} > 0$$

in \mathbb{R}^2 . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(gP) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(gP) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(e^{-2\beta x}y) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(e^{-2\beta x}(ax + by + \alpha x^2 + \beta y^2)) \\ &= -2\beta e^{-2\beta x}y + be^{-2\beta x} + 2\beta e^{-2\beta x}y \\ &= be^{-2\beta x} \neq 0 \end{aligned}$$

in \mathbb{R}^2 if $b \neq 0$. \Rightarrow **no** periodic orbits.

Reversible systems

Definition 7 A smooth system $\dot{X} = f(X)$ is called **reversible** if

$$f(JX) = -Jf(X)$$

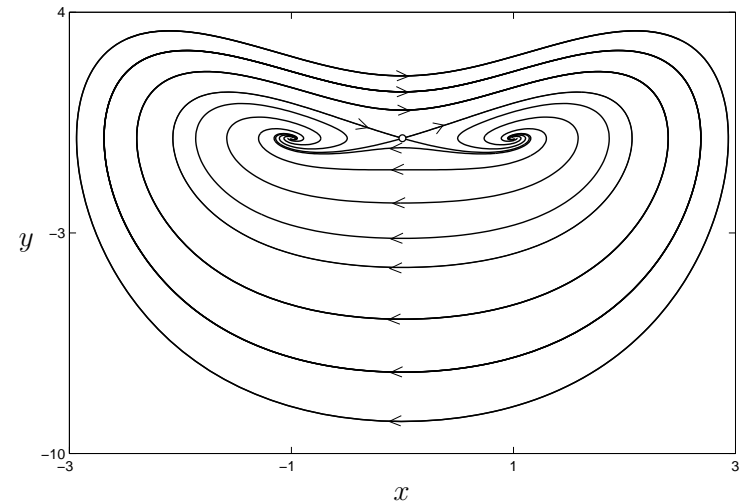
for a matrix J such that $J^2 = E$. The transformation $X \mapsto JX$ is called an **involution**.

If there is an orbit segment without equilibria connecting two points in the fixed subspace $\{Y : JY = Y\}$ of the involution, there is a periodic orbit of $\dot{X} = f(X)$. \Rightarrow Periodic orbits occur in continuous families.

Example:

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = y, \\ \dot{y} = x + xy - x^3, \end{cases}$$

$$J \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$$



Example: A prey-predator model

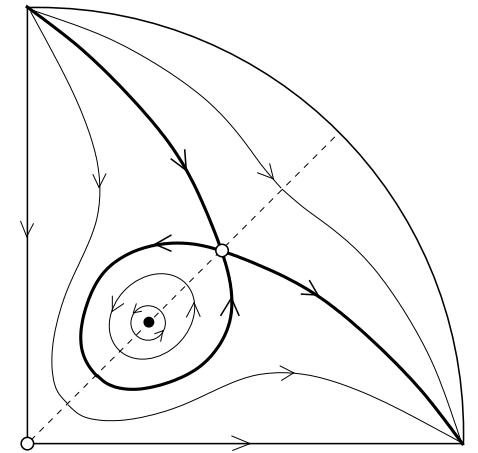
$$\begin{cases} \dot{\xi} = \xi - \frac{\xi\eta}{(1 + \alpha\xi)(1 + \beta\eta)} \equiv f_1(\xi, \eta), \\ \dot{\eta} = -\eta + \frac{\xi\eta}{(1 + \alpha\xi)(1 + \beta\eta)} \equiv f_2(\xi, \eta), \end{cases}$$

where $\alpha, \beta > 0$ and $x, y \geq 0$.

- There is a family of closed orbits for $\alpha = \beta$ if

$$0 < \alpha = \beta < \frac{1}{4}.$$

since the system is *reversible* with involution $J : (\xi, \eta) \mapsto (\eta, \xi)$.



- There are no closed orbits if $\alpha \neq \beta$, since the choice

$$g(\xi, \eta) = \xi^a \eta^b (1 + \alpha\xi)(1 + \beta\eta),$$

with appropriate a and b implies $\text{div}(gf) = (\alpha - \beta)\xi g$.

Planar Hamiltonian systems: $H : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ (smooth)

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = H_y(x, y), \\ \dot{y} = -H_x(x, y). \end{cases} \Rightarrow \dot{H} = H_x \dot{x} + H_y \dot{y} \equiv 0 \Rightarrow H(x(t), y(t)) = h$$

Potential system:

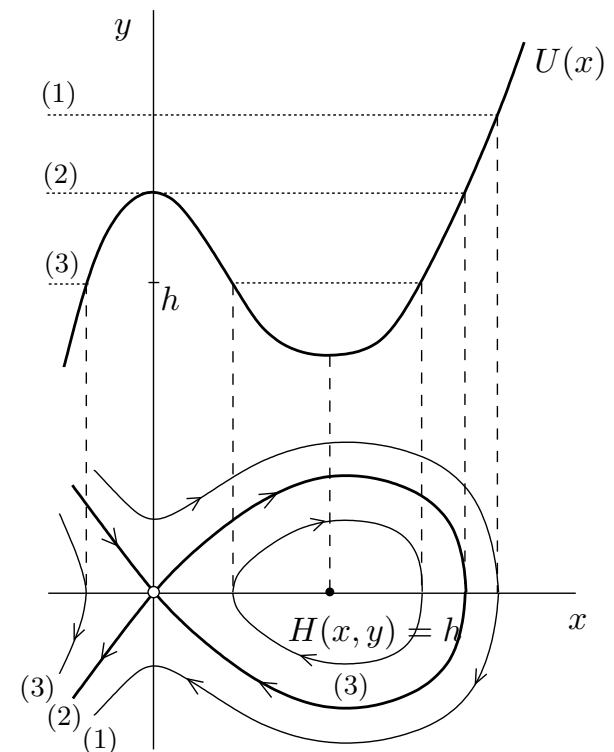
$$H(x, y) = \frac{y^2}{2} + U(x)$$

(reversible: $y \mapsto -y, t \mapsto -t$).

$$T = \left. \frac{dS}{dh} \right|_{h=H_0}$$

where

$$S(h) = \langle \text{area inside } \frac{y^2}{2} + U(x) = h \rangle$$

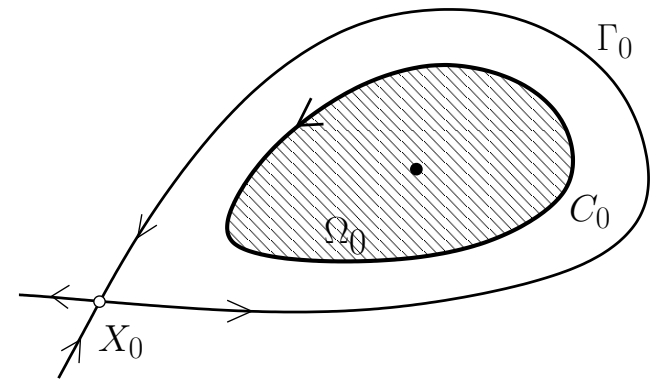


The Lotka-Volterra prey-predator model is orbitally equivalent to a Hamiltonian system.

Dissipative perturbations of 2D Hamiltonian systems

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = H_y(x, y) + \varepsilon P(x, y), \\ \dot{y} = -H_x(x, y) + \varepsilon Q(x, y), \end{cases} \quad F(x, y) = \begin{pmatrix} P(x, y) \\ Q(x, y) \end{pmatrix}.$$

Let $X^0(t)$ correspond to the T_0 -periodic orbit C_0 at $\varepsilon = 0$ and let $\Omega_0 = \langle \text{domain inside } C_0 \rangle$.



Theorem 5 (Pontryagin-Melnikov) *If*

$$\iint_{\Omega_0} \operatorname{div} F(X) \, dX = 0 \quad \text{but} \quad \int_0^{T_0} \operatorname{div} F(X^0(t)) \, dt \neq 0$$

then there exists an annulus containing C_0 in which the system has a unique periodic orbit C_ε for all sufficiently small ε , such that $C_\varepsilon \rightarrow C_0$ as $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$.

Example: Van der Pol equation $\ddot{x} + x = \varepsilon \dot{x}(1 - x^2)$

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = y, \\ \dot{y} = -x + \varepsilon y(1 - x^2), \end{cases}$$

For $\varepsilon = 0$, $H(x, y) = \frac{1}{2}(x^2 + y^2)$ and

$$X^0(t) = \begin{pmatrix} r \sin t \\ r \cos t \end{pmatrix}, \quad C_0 = \{(x, y) : x^2 + y^2 = r^2, r > 0\}$$

with $T_0 = 2\pi$.

$$F(x, y) = \begin{pmatrix} P(x, y) \\ Q(x, y) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ y(1 - x^2) \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then

$$\iint_{C_0} \operatorname{div} F \, dx dy = - \oint_{C_0} P dy - Q dx = \int_0^{2\pi} r^2 \cos^2 t (1 - r^2 \sin^2 t) dt = \frac{\pi}{4} r^2 (4 - r^2)$$

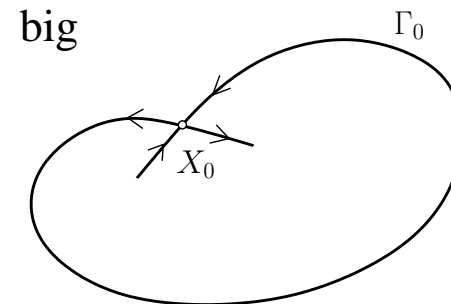
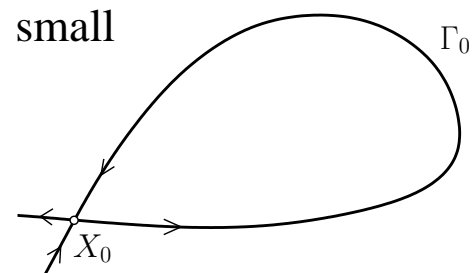
and

$$\int_0^{T_0} \operatorname{div} F(X^0(t)) \, dt = \int_0^{2\pi} (1 - 4 \sin^2 t) dt = -2\pi$$

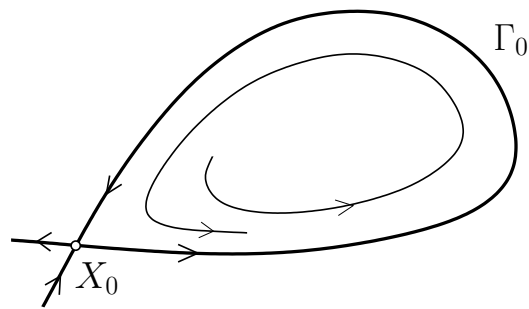
\Rightarrow A **cycle** close to $r = 2$ exists for small $\varepsilon \neq 0$.

4. HOMOCLINIC ORBITS

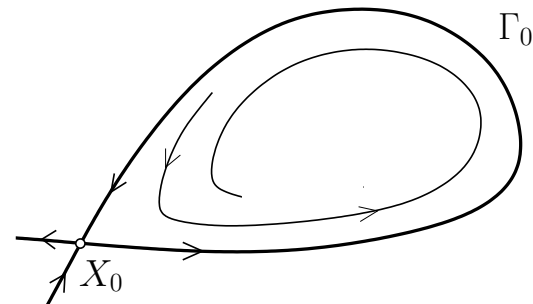
Homoclinic orbits to saddles:



Definition 8 *The real number $\sigma = \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 = (\operatorname{div} f)(X_0)$ is called the saddle quantity of X_0 .*



$$\sigma < 0$$



$$\sigma > 0$$

Singular map:

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = \lambda_1 x \\ \dot{y} = \lambda_2 y \end{cases}$$

$$\xi = \Delta(\eta) = \eta^{-\frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda_2}}$$

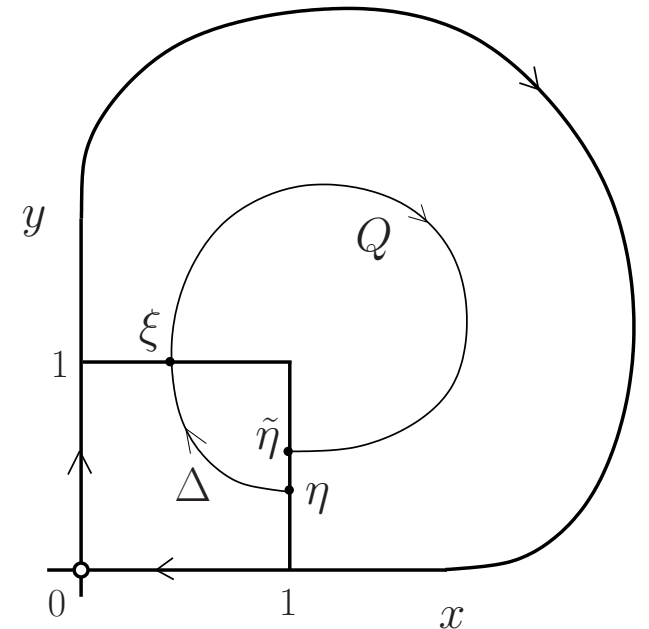
Regular map:

$$\tilde{\eta} = Q(\xi) = A\xi + O(2), \quad A > 0.$$

Poincaré map:

$$\eta \mapsto \tilde{\eta} = Q(\Delta(\eta)) = A\eta^{-\frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda_2}} + \dots$$

The homoclinic orbit is stable if $\sigma < 0$ and is unstable if $\sigma > 0$.

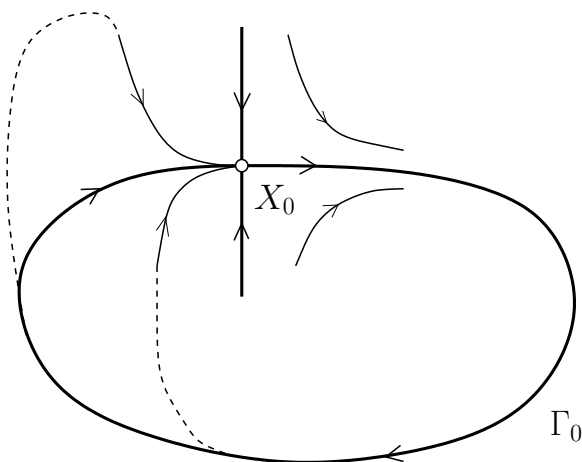


If $\sigma = \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 = 0$, then

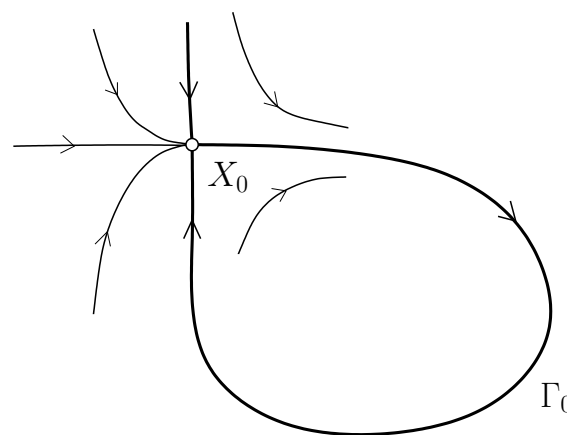
if $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (\operatorname{div} f)(X^0(t)) dt < 0$ the homoclinic orbit is stable;

if $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (\operatorname{div} f)(X^0(t)) dt > 0$ the homoclinic orbit is unstable.

Homoclinic orbits to saddle-nodes:



codim 1



codim 2