

Stability of equilibria of planar systems

$$(1) \quad \dot{x} = f(x), \quad \text{where } f \in C^1(\mathbb{R}^2, \mathbb{R}^2)$$

Let $\eta^* \in \mathbb{R}^2$ be an equilibrium point of (1) (i.e. $f(\eta^*) = 0$)

($\forall \eta \in \mathbb{R}^2 \quad t \mapsto \varphi(t, \eta)$ the unique sol. of the IVP: $\begin{cases} \dot{x} = f(x) \\ x(0) = \eta \end{cases}$)

Def: 1) η^* is an **attractor** of (1) when $\exists V \in \mathcal{U}(\eta^*)$ s.t. $\forall \eta \in V$

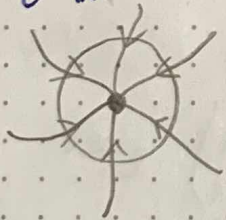
$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \varphi(t, \eta) = \eta^*$$



2) η^* is a **repeller** when $\exists V \in \mathcal{U}(\eta^*)$ s.t. $\forall \eta \in V, \lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} \varphi(t, \eta) = \eta^*$



3) η^* is **stable** when $\forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists \delta > 0$ s.t. $\forall \eta \in \mathbb{R}^2$ with $\|\eta - \eta^*\|_{\mathbb{R}^2} < \delta$ we have $\|\varphi(t, \eta) - \underbrace{\eta^*}_{\varphi(t, \eta^*)}\|_{\mathbb{R}^2} < \varepsilon, \forall t \in [0, \infty)$



$$\delta = \varepsilon$$

4) η^* is **unstable** when it's not stable.

§1. Stability of linear planar systems.

§2. The linearization method to study the stability of an equilibrium point of a nonlinear systems.

§3. Examples

§1. (2) $\dot{x} = Ax$, where $A \in M_2(\mathbb{R})$ $\det A \neq 0$.

Let $\lambda_1, \lambda_2 \in \mathbb{C}$ be the eigenvalues of A .

! 1) $\det A = \lambda_1 \cdot \lambda_2$

! 2) $\det A \neq 0 \Leftrightarrow \eta^* = 0_2 \in \mathbb{R}^2$ is the unique equl. point of (2)

! 3) $\det A \neq 0 \Leftrightarrow \lambda_1 \neq 0$ and $\lambda_2 \neq 0$

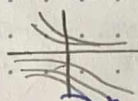
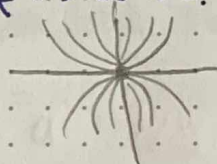
Def. (The type of a linear system). We say that 0_2 of (2) is a:

→ NODE when either $\lambda_1 \leq \lambda_2 < 0$ or $0 < \lambda_1 \leq \lambda_2$

→ SADDLE when $\lambda_1 < 0 < \lambda_2$

→ CENTER when $\lambda_{1,2} = \pm i\beta$, $\beta \in \mathbb{R}^*$

→ FOCUS when $\lambda_{1,2} = \alpha \pm i\beta$, $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}^*$, $\alpha \neq 0$.



T₁ 1) If $\operatorname{Re}(\lambda_1) < 0$ and $\operatorname{Re}(\lambda_2) < 0$ then $\eta^* = 0_2$ of (2) is a global attractor.

2) If $\operatorname{Re}(\lambda_1) > 0$ and $\operatorname{Re}(\lambda_2) > 0$ then $\eta^* = 0_2$ of (2) is a global repeller.

3) A center is stable. All the sol. of (2) with a center is a periodic function.

4) A saddle is unstable.

§ 2. $\dot{x} = f(x)$

$$P(x) = f(\eta^*) + \underbrace{f'(\eta^*)}_{\text{? Jacobian matrix}}(x - \eta^*)$$

for a function $f \in C^1(\mathbb{R}^2, \mathbb{R}^2)$, its Jacobian matrix in $x = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix}$

$$f = \begin{pmatrix} f_1 \\ f_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$Jf(x) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_1}(x) & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_2}(x) \\ \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial x_1}(x) & \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial x_2}(x) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$f(x) \rightarrow Jf(\eta^*)(x - \eta^*)$$

$$(3) \quad \dot{x} = Jf(\eta^*) x$$

Def: 1) The linear system (3) is called the linearization of (1) around the equil. point η^* .

2) Assume that $\det Jf(\eta^*) \neq 0$. When the eq. point O_2 of (3) is a NODE / SADDLE / CENTER / FOCUS, we say that the eq. point ~~of~~ η^* of (1) is a LINEAR NODE / LINEAR SADDLE / LINEAR CENTER / LINEAR FOCUS.

3) Let $\lambda_1, \lambda_2 \in \mathbb{C}$ be the eigenvalues of $Jf(\eta^*)$. We say that η^* is a hyperbolic equil. point of (1) when:
 $\operatorname{Re}(\lambda_1) \neq 0$ and $\operatorname{Re}(\lambda_2) \neq 0$.



1) If $\det Jf(\eta^*) = 0$ then η^* is not hyperbolic.

2) Assume that $\det Jf(\eta^*) \neq 0$.

If η^* is a linear center then η^* is not hyperbolic.

In the rest of the cases, it is hyperbolic.

T2

Let η^* be a hyperbolic equil. point of the nonlinear system (1).

If η^* is a LINEAR ATTRACTING NODE / FOCUS, then η^* is an attractor for the nonlinear system (1).

If η^* is a LINEAR REPELLING NODE / FOCUS, then η^* is a repeller for the nonlinear system (1).

If η^* is a LINEAR SADDLE, then η^* is an unstable equil. point of (1).



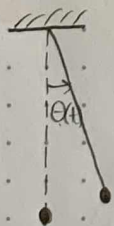
If we have to study the stability of the equilibria of a second order scalar diff. eq.: $\ddot{x} = f(x, \dot{x})$. We just have to ~~the~~ write the equivalent planar system with unknowns x and $y = \dot{x}$. This

system is :

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = y \\ \dot{y} = f(x, y) \end{cases}$$

§3. Examples

1) The idealized ~~for~~ pendulum equation.



$$\ddot{\theta} + \gamma \dot{\theta} + \sin \theta = 0$$

second order
nonlinear diff. eq.

$\gamma > 0$ damping constant

$\gamma = 0$ ideal case

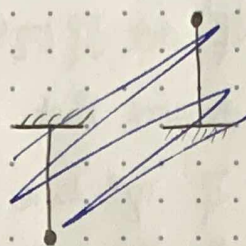
$$\ddot{\theta} + \sin \theta = 0$$

$$x = \theta$$

$$y = \dot{\theta}$$

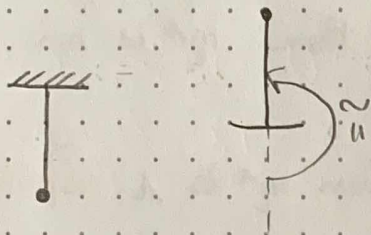
$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = y \\ \dot{y} = -\sin x \end{cases}$$

Nonlinear planar system



Study the stability of the equilibria.

$$f(x, y) = \begin{pmatrix} y \\ -\sin x \end{pmatrix} \quad f \in C^1(\mathbb{R}^2, \mathbb{R}^2)$$



look for the equilibria:

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} x = k\pi, & k \in \mathbb{Z} \\ y = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$f(x, y) = 0 \quad (\Leftrightarrow) \quad \begin{cases} y = 0 \\ -\sin x = 0 \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$(k\pi, 0), \quad k \in \mathbb{Z}$$

Physically we have 2 equil. points: $\eta_1^* = (0, 0)$ and $\eta_2^* = (\pi, 0)$.

Since our system is nonlinear, we apply the lin. method.

$$Jf = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -\cos x & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\eta_2^* = (\pi, 0)$$

$$Jf(\pi, 0) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} -\lambda & 1 \\ 1 & -\lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0 \quad (\Leftrightarrow) \quad \lambda^2 - 1 = 0 \quad (\Leftrightarrow) \quad \lambda^2 = 1 \quad \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda_1 = 1, \quad \lambda_2 = -1$$

$\Rightarrow \eta_2^*$ is a linear saddle, thus it is hyperbolic $\xRightarrow{\text{Th 2}} \eta_2^* = (\pi, 0)$ is UNSTABLE.

A the eq. of the eigenvalues: $\det(A - \lambda I_n) = 0$

$$\eta_1^* = (0, 0)$$

$$Jf(0, 0) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} -\lambda & 1 \\ -1 & -\lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \lambda_{1,2} = \pm i \quad \Rightarrow$$

η_1^* is a linear center, it's not hyperbolic \Rightarrow \Rightarrow the LM fails

T₃ If η^* is a LINEAR CENTER and there exists a first integral of (1) well defined in a neighbourhood of η^* then η^* is a stable equil. point of (1).

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{-\sin x}{y} \quad (\Rightarrow) \quad y dy = -\sin x dx \quad (\Rightarrow) \quad \int \frac{y^2}{2} = \cos x + C, C \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$H(x, y) = \frac{1}{2} y^2 - \cos x$$

$$H: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad C^1 \quad \text{check:} \quad \frac{\partial H}{\partial x} \cdot y + \frac{\partial H}{\partial y} \cdot (-\sin x) = 0$$

$\forall (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$

$$\Rightarrow \left. \begin{array}{l} H - \text{global first integral} \\ \eta^* \text{ is a linear center} \end{array} \right\} \xrightarrow{T_3} \eta^* \text{ is stable}$$