# **Short Introduction to Dynamical Systems**

March 31, 2021

Introduction to Dynamical

**Systems** 

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 But in general, analytical solutions for ODE systems, can not be found

$$\begin{split} C_m \dot{V} &= -I_L(V) - I_{Na}(V) - I_K(V,n) + I_{app}, \\ \dot{n} &= \frac{n_{\infty}(V) - n}{\tau_n(V)}, \end{split}$$

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$$C_m \dot{V} = -I_L(V) - I_{Na}(V) - I_K(V, n) + I_{app},$$
 
$$\dot{n} = \frac{n_{\infty}(V) - n}{\tau_n(V)},$$

• Nevertheless, Dynamical Systems show which is the asymptotic  $(t \to \infty)$  behavior of systems in the form  $\dot{x} = F(x)$ 

• Consider the system  $\dot{x} = F(x)$ 

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  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ 

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• Example in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $x = (x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ 

$$\begin{pmatrix} \dot{x}_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} F_{x_1} \\ F_{x_2} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \beta x_1 - x_2 - x_1 (x_1^2 + x_2^2) \\ x_1 + \beta x_2 - x_2 (x_1^2 + x_2^2) \end{pmatrix}$$

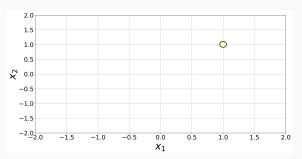
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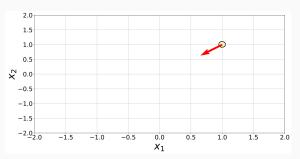
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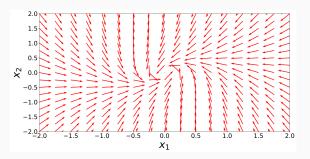
• Consider  $\beta = -1$ , take  $x = (1,1) \to F(1,1) = (-4,-2)$ 



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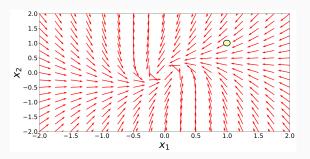
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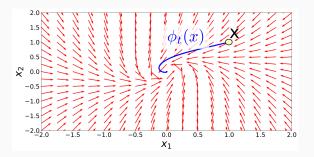
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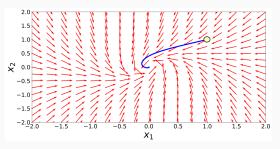
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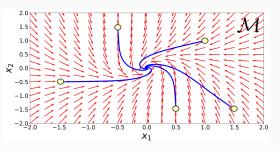


the trajectory of a given point x corresponds to the flow  $\phi_t(x)$  generated by the vector field F(x)

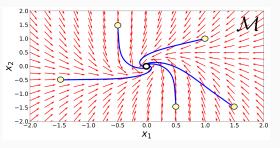
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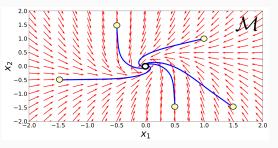
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• Why points in  $\mathcal{M}$  approach  $x^* = (0,0)$ ?

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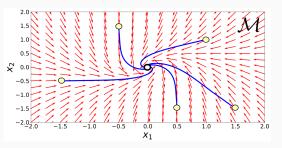
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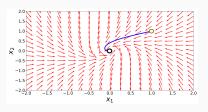


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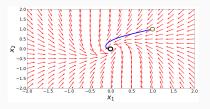
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- $x^* = (0,0)$  it is an equilibrium
- It is a stable equilibrium

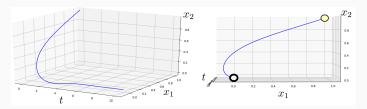
• What does it mean that the attractor of our system is a point?



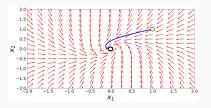
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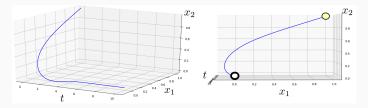
• Lets take x = (1,1) and integrate it using an ODE solver



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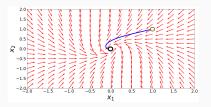


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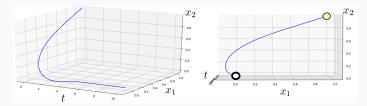


The phase space is precisely the time projection of the trajectories

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Fixed points of ODEs correspond to trajectories approaching a constant value

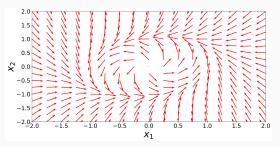
• Lets come back to the system  $\dot{x} = F(x)$ 

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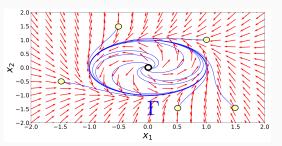
• Now consider  $\beta = 1$ 



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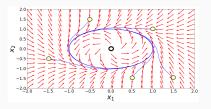
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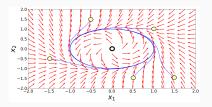
The portrait of the system dramatically changed

- $x^*$  is an unstable equilibrium
- Trajectories approach a closed curve Γ

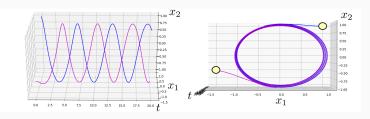
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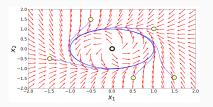


• Lets take some points and integrate them

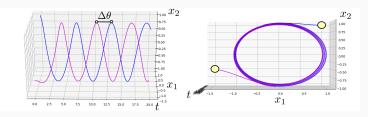


the system has periodic dynamics

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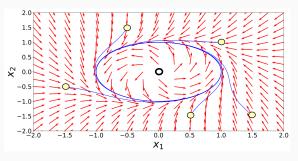


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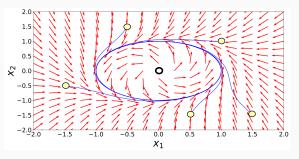


different points approach  $\Gamma$  with different phases  $\theta$ 

ullet As different points on  ${\mathcal M}$  approach the cycle  $\Gamma$  with different phases

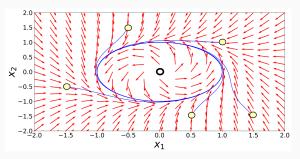


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we can assign a phase  $\theta$  to each point of  $\Gamma$ 

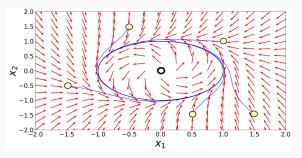
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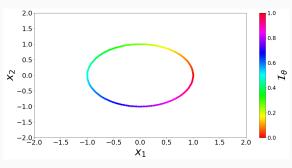
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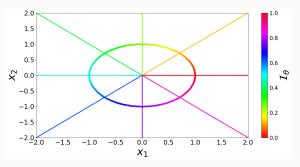
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- We can define a parameterization  $x = \gamma(\theta)$  for  $x \in \Gamma$
- Next slides will be devoted to explain the isochrons  $\to$  geometrical interpretation of the distribution of phases in  $\mathcal M$

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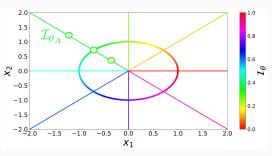


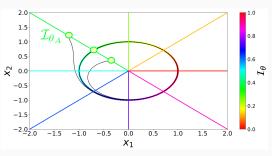
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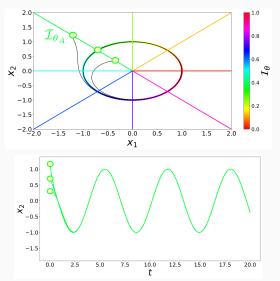


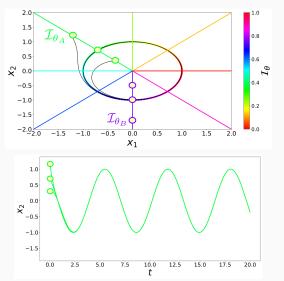
and extend the concept of phase heta to  ${\mathcal M}$  by the isochrons  ${\mathcal I}_{ heta}$ 

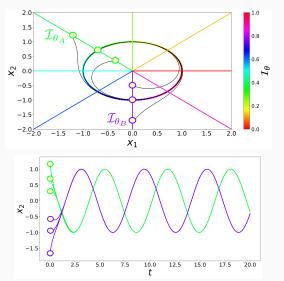
• The  $\mathcal{I}_{\theta}$  are the sets of points reaching  $\Gamma$  with the same phase  $\theta$ 

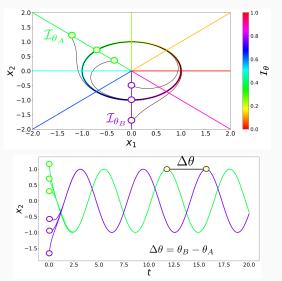




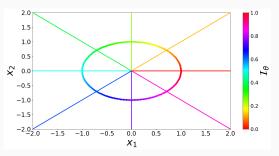






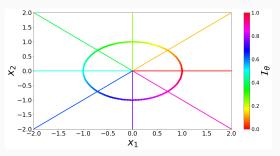


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Therefore, the computation of the isochrons  $\mathcal{I}_{\theta}$  illustrates the distribution of asymptotic phases for points in  $\mathcal{M}$ 

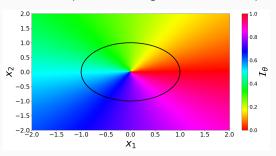
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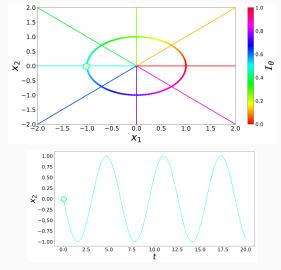
• For the sake of illustraton just 8 different isochrons were plotted

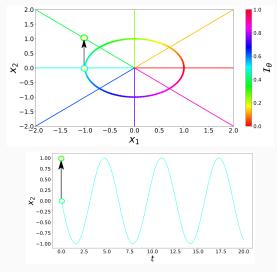
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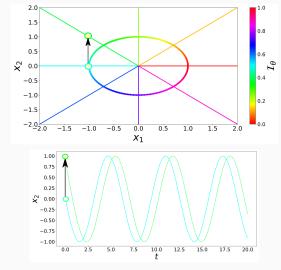


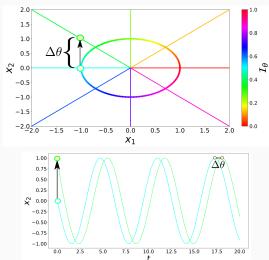
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- For the sake of illustraton just 8 different isochrons were plotted
- $\bullet$  The complete set of Isochrons folliates the whole basin of attraction  ${\cal M}$  of  $\Gamma$

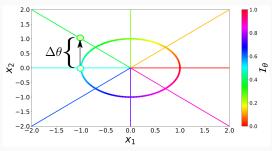








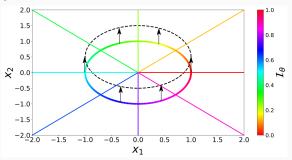
ullet The computation of  $\mathcal{I}_{ heta}$  provides full understanding of the system under perturbations



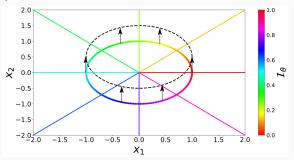
perturbations produce a phase shift  $\Delta\theta$  because they change trajectories from one isochron to other

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- The same perturbation applied at different phases  $\theta$  produce a different phase shift  $\Delta\theta$

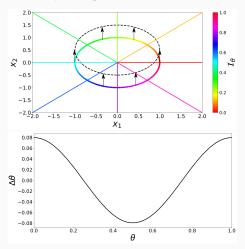


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• That is exactly what the Phase Response Curves (PRCs) measure

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- Systems  $\dot{x} = F(x)$ 
  - F(x) is a vector field defining a flow  $\phi_t(x)$  (trajectories)
  - Trajectories are plotted in the phase space
  - Point and periodic attractors

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- We have seen the relationship between the isochrons  $\mathcal{I}_{\theta}$  and the phase shifts  $\Delta \theta$  due to perturbations
- Finally, we understood how this phasic dependence is illustrated by means of the PRCs