

# Nonlinear Dynamics and Chaos I

151-0532-00, Fall 2022

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# Course outline

- **Basic facts about nonlinear systems**

Existence, uniqueness, dependence on initial data

- **Near equilibrium dynamics**

Linear and Lyapunov stability

- **Bifurcations of equilibria**

Center manifolds, normal forms, elementary bifurcations

- **Nonlinear dynamical systems on the plane**

Phase plane techniques, limit sets, limit cycles

- **Time-dependent dynamical systems**

Floquet theory, Poincare maps, averaging methods, resonance

- **Chaotic dynamics**

Homoclinic dynamics, Melnikov's method, attractors, Lyapunov exponents

- **Recommended books:**

- J. Guckenheimer & P. Holmes: *Nonlinear Oscillations, Dynamical Systems and Bifurcations of Vector Fields*
- F. Verhulst, *Nonlinear Differential Equations and Dynamical Systems*
- V. I. Arnold, *Ordinary Differential Equations*
- S. Strogatz, *Nonlinear Dynamics and Chaos*

# Logistics

**Course information on Moodle:** <https://moodle-app2.let.ethz.ch/course/view.php?id=18052>

**Prerequisites:** Analysis and a basic course in differential equations.

**Exam:** -- A written, two-hour exam in English (see the Moodle page for prior exams and solutions)  
-- Time and location will be announced soon on the Moodle page

**Problem sets:** - Will be discussed in problem sessions (watch for related announcements)  
- You are strongly encouraged to solve the problems before the problem sessions (see the course Moodle page for the problems and their solutions)

**In-class lectures:** **Tues. 16:15-17:45** Location: **HG D7.2**  
(no streaming or recording) **Wed. 10:15-11:45** Location: **HG D7.1**

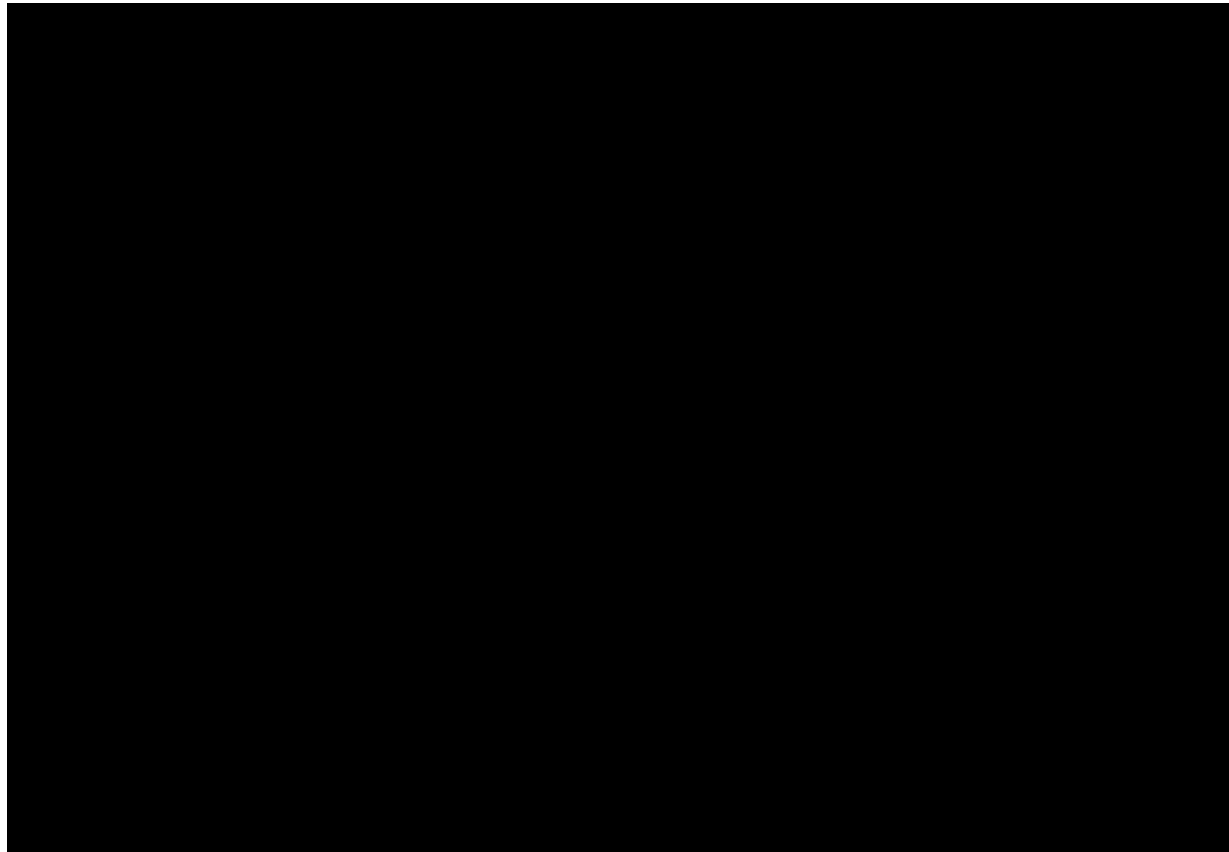
**Problem sessions:** **Mon 17:15-18:00;** Location: **NO C.44**  
(no streaming or recording) by Mr. Bálint Kaszás

**Office hours:** **Thurs 16:00-17:30;** Location: **LEE M.214**  
(no streaming or recording) by Mr. Joar Axås.



# Motivation

- Complex systems can show simple behavior  
(after 605 trials)



Honda: The Cog

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_ve4M4UsJQo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_ve4M4UsJQo)

# Motivation

- Simple systems may show complex behavior (right away)

A model for atmospheric convection (Lorenz [1963]):

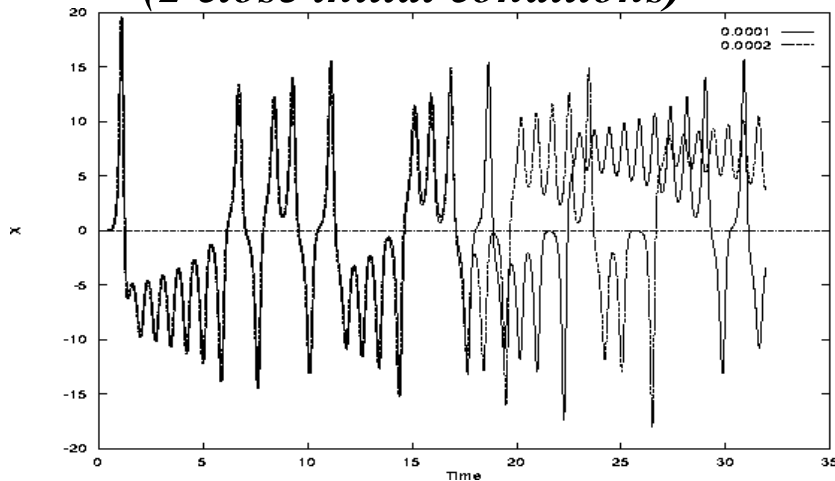
$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \sigma(y - x),$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = x(\rho - z) - y,$$

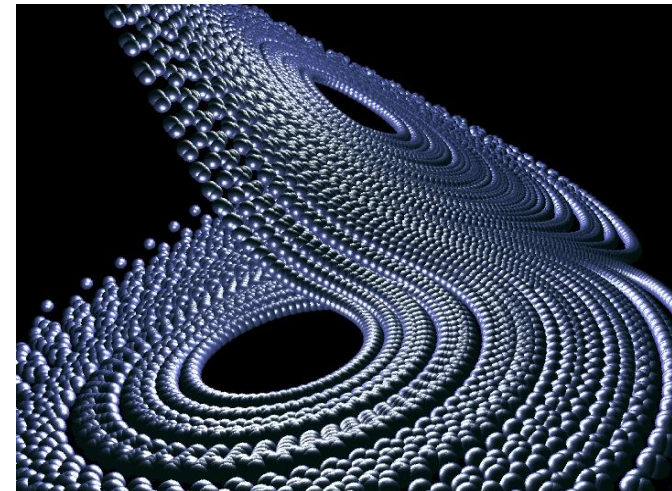
$$\frac{dz}{dt} = xy - \beta z.$$

$(x, y, z)$ : amplitudes of velocity modes

*Time history of one variable  
(2 close initial conditions)*



*Trajectories in  $(x, y, z)$  space*



# Objectives

- Learn methods to analyze nonlinear dynamics without solving the underlying differential equations
- Develop intuition for geometry of nonlinear systems through numerical assignments
- Learn a few important techniques from applied mathematics
- Analyze applications from various areas of engineering and applied science