
MATH 537, Fall 2020

Ordinary Differential Equations

Lecture #4
Chapter 2 Systems of ODEs

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Key ODEs in Chapter 1

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = ax$$

bifurcation at $a = 0$

$$x = x_0 e^{at}$$

$$\boxed{\frac{dx}{dt} = ax(1 - x)}$$

bifurcation at $a = 0$
(the Logistic Eq)

$$x = \frac{x_0 e^{at}}{1 - x_0 + x_0 e^{at}}$$

(sigmoid function)

$$\boxed{\frac{dx}{dt} = x(1 - x) - h}$$

bifurcation at $h = 1/4$
(the Logistic Eq with constant harvesting)

$$\boxed{\frac{dx}{dt} = x(1 - x) - h(1 + \sin(2\pi t))}$$

periodic forcing,
non-autonomous system

(the Logistic Eq with periodic harvesting)

Important Concepts

1. Bifurcation & Bifurcation points
2. Critical points, $f(x_c) = 0$;
3. (equilibrium points = fixed points = critical points)
4. Derivative tests & Perturbation method
5. General solution
6. Initial Value Problem (IVP)
7. Particular solution
8. Phase Line
9. Separable ODEs
10. Sink, Source, an Saddle
11. Stable vs. Unstable Solutions, $f'(x_c)$.
12. Structurally Stable vs. Unstable (i.e., with bifurcation)

Chapter 2: Systems of ODEs

In this chapter we begin the study of *systems of differential equations*. A system of differential equations is a collection of n interrelated differential equations of the form

$$x'_1 = f_1(t, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$$

$$x'_2 = f_2(t, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$$

$$\vdots$$

$$x'_n = f_n(t, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n).$$

Here the functions f_j are real-valued functions of the $n+1$ variables x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n , and t . Unless otherwise specified, we will always assume that the f_j are C^∞ functions. This means that the partial derivatives of all orders of the f_j exist and are continuous.

- There are n dependent variables and one independent variable (t).
- The above consists of n ODEs with n functions, $f_j, j = 1, 2, \dots, n$.
- f_j are C^∞ .

Terminology: C^∞ and C^k

A C^∞ function is a function that is differentiable for all degrees of differentiation. For instance, $f(x) = e^{2x}$ is C^∞ because its n^{th} derivative $f^n(x) = 2^n e^{2x}$ exists and is continuous. All polynomials are C^∞ . The reason for the notation is that C^k have k continuous derivatives.

A function with k continuous derivatives is called a C^k function. In order to specify a C^k function on a domain X , the notation $C^k(X)$ is used. The most common C^k space is C^0 , the space of **continuous** functions, whereas C^1 is the space of **continuously differentiable** functions.

<http://mathworld.wolfram.com/C-InfinityFunction.html>

Chapter 2. Systems of ODEs in Matrix Form

To simplify notation, we will use vector notation:

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix}. \quad \text{column vector}$$

We often write the vector X as (x_1, \dots, x_n) to save space. **row vector**

Our system may then be written more concisely as

$$X' = F(t, X),$$

where

$$F(t, X) = \begin{pmatrix} f_1(t, x_1, \dots, x_n) \\ \vdots \\ f_n(t, x_1, \dots, x_n) \end{pmatrix}.$$

Chapter 2. Systems of ODEs in Matrix Form

Our system may then be written more concisely as

$$X' = F(t, X),$$

- The system of equations is called **autonomous** if none of the f_j depends on t , so the system becomes $X' = F(X)$.
 - In analogy with first-order differential equations, a vector X_c for which $F(X_c)$ is called an equilibrium point for the system. An equilibrium point corresponds to a time-independent solution $X(t) = X_c$ of the system as before.
-
- For most of the rest of this book we will be concerned with autonomous systems.
 - We will reserve **capital letters** for vectors or for vector-valued functions.
 - We will always denote real variables or real-valued functions by **lowercase letters**.

2.1 Second-Order Differential Equations

Many of the most important differential equations encountered in science and engineering are second-order differential equations. These are differential equations of the form

$$x'' = f(t, x, x').$$

we note that these equations are a special subclass of two-dimensional systems of differential equations that are defined by simply introducing a second variable $y = x'$.

2.1 Second-Order Differential Equations

For example, consider a second-order constant coefficient equation of the form

$$x'' + ax' + bx = 0.$$

If we let $y = x'$, then we may rewrite this equation as a system of first-order equations:

$$\begin{aligned}x' &= y \\y' &= -bx - ay.\end{aligned}$$

$$y' = x'' = -ax' - bx = -ay - bx = -bx - ay$$

Section 2.2: Planar Systems

In this chapter we will deal with autonomous systems in \mathbb{R}^2 , which we will write in the form

$$\begin{aligned}x' &= f(x, y) \\y' &= g(x, y),\end{aligned}$$

thus eliminating the annoying subscripts on the functions and variables. As before, we often use the abbreviated notation $X' = F(X)$, where $X = (x, y)$ and $F(X) = F(x, y) = (f(x, y), g(x, y))$.

$$X' = F(X), \quad X = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}, \quad F(X) = \begin{pmatrix} f(x, y) \\ g(x, y) \end{pmatrix}$$

2.2 Planar Systems: Vector vs. Directional Field

In analogy with the slope fields of Chapter 1, we regard the right side of this equation as defining a *vector field* on \mathbb{R}^2 . That is, we think of $F(x, y)$ as representing a vector with x - and y -components that are $f(x, y)$ and $g(x, y)$, respectively. We visualize this vector as being based at the point (x, y) . For

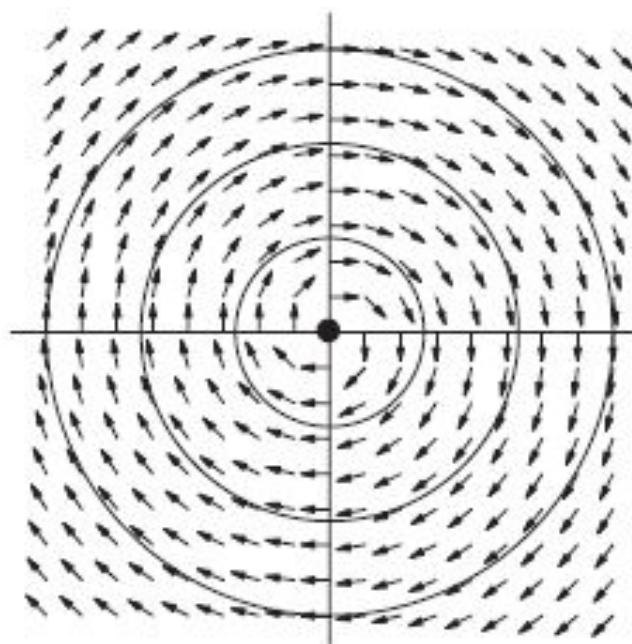
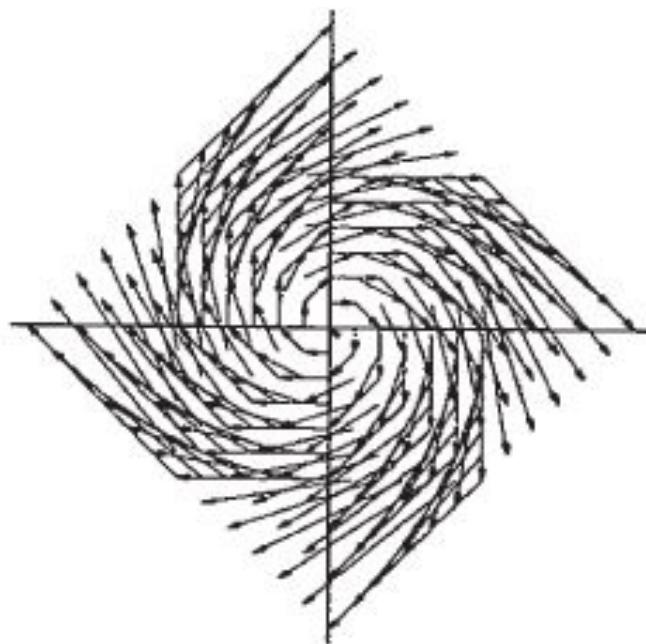
$$x' = y$$

$$y' = -x,$$

$$F(X) = \begin{pmatrix} y \\ -x \end{pmatrix}$$

vector
field

direction
&
magnitude



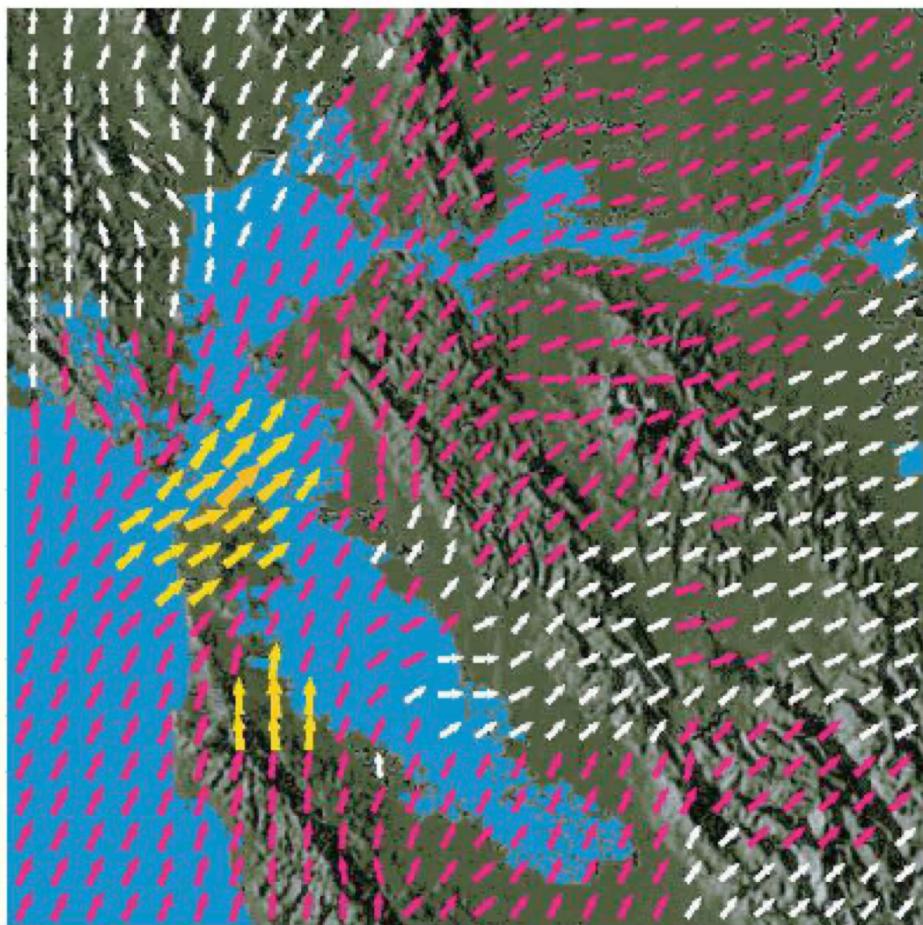
directional
field

direction

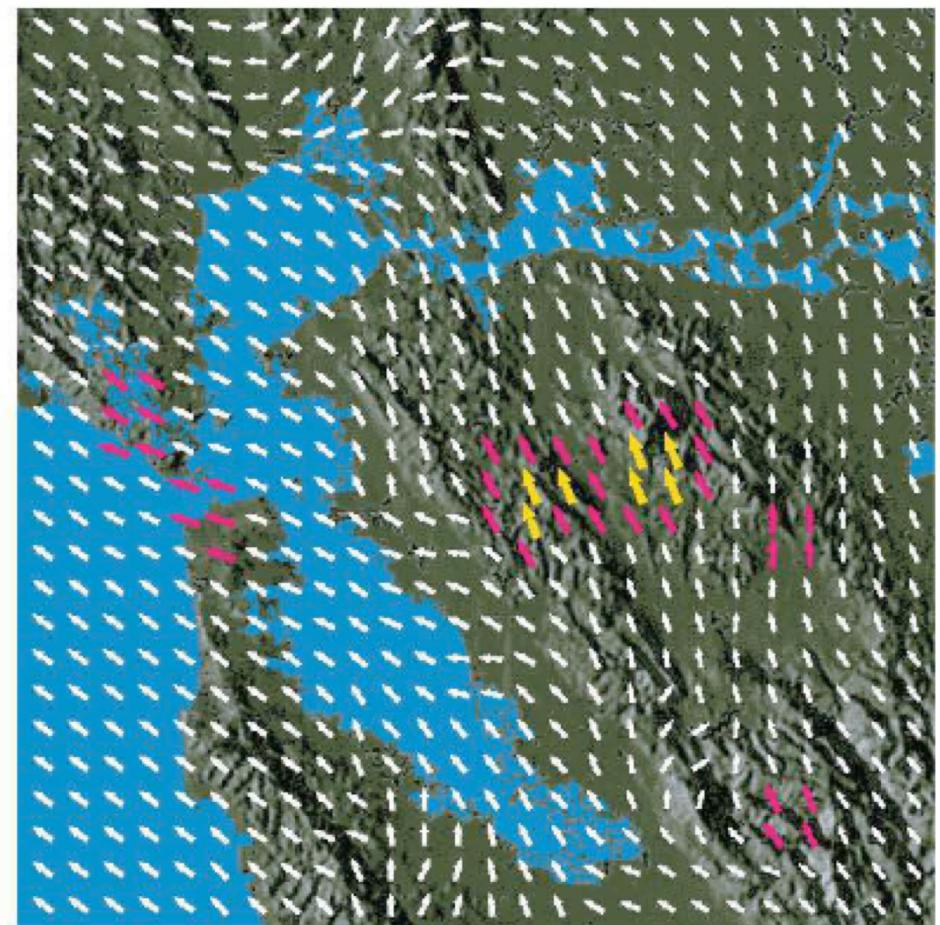
Review of 16.1 Vector Fields (M252)

Assign a vector to each point. A vector includes a direction and magnitude.

$$\vec{V} = (u, v) = (u(x, y), v(x, y))$$



(a) 6:00 PM, March 1, 2010



(b) 6:00 AM, March 1, 2010

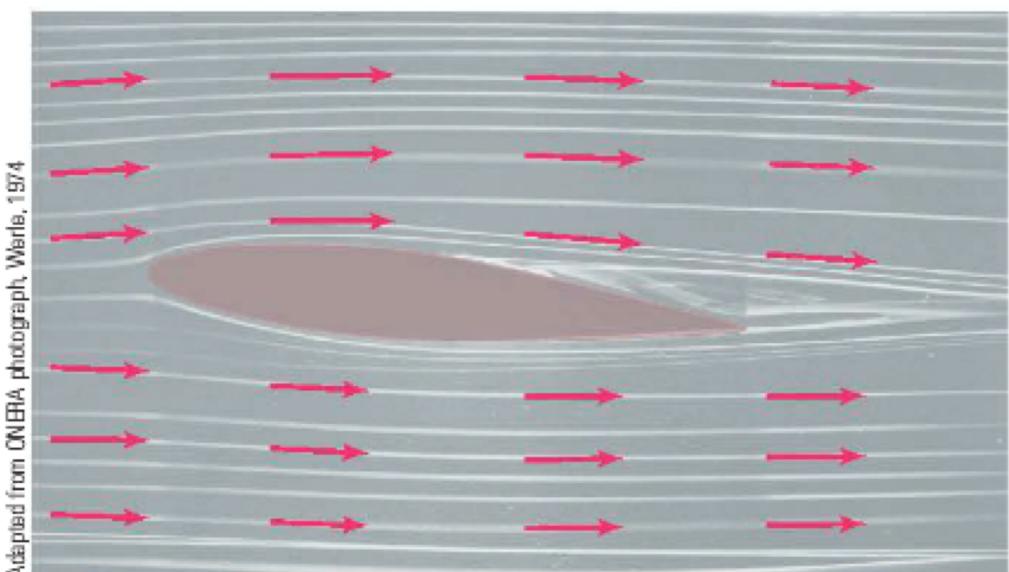
Review of 16.1 Vector Fields (M252)

$$\vec{V} = (u, v) = (u(x, y), v(x, y))$$

$$\vec{F} = (P, Q) = (P(x, y), Q(x, y))$$



(a) Ocean currents off the coast of Nova Scotia



(b) Airflow past an inclined airfoil

Review of Direction Fields (Math151)

slope only, dy/dx (direction)

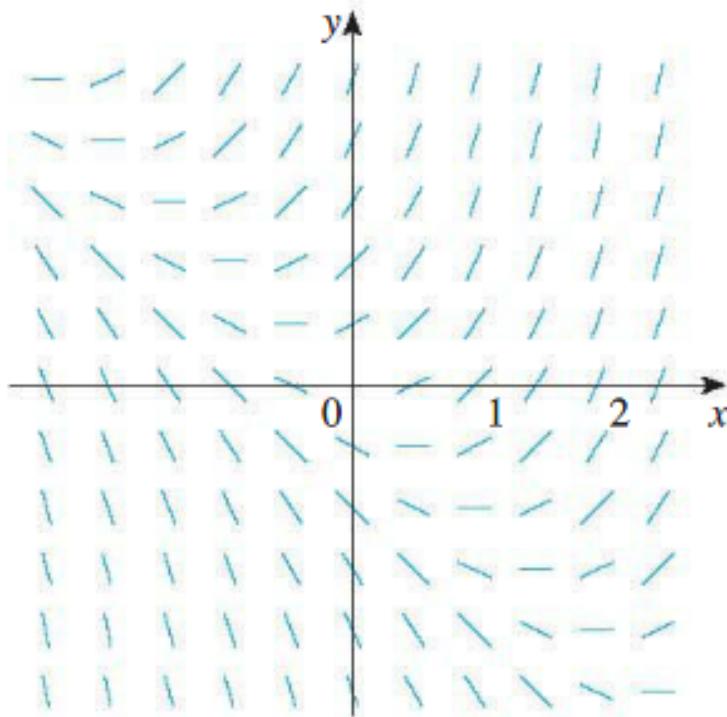


FIGURE 3
Direction field for $y' = x + y$

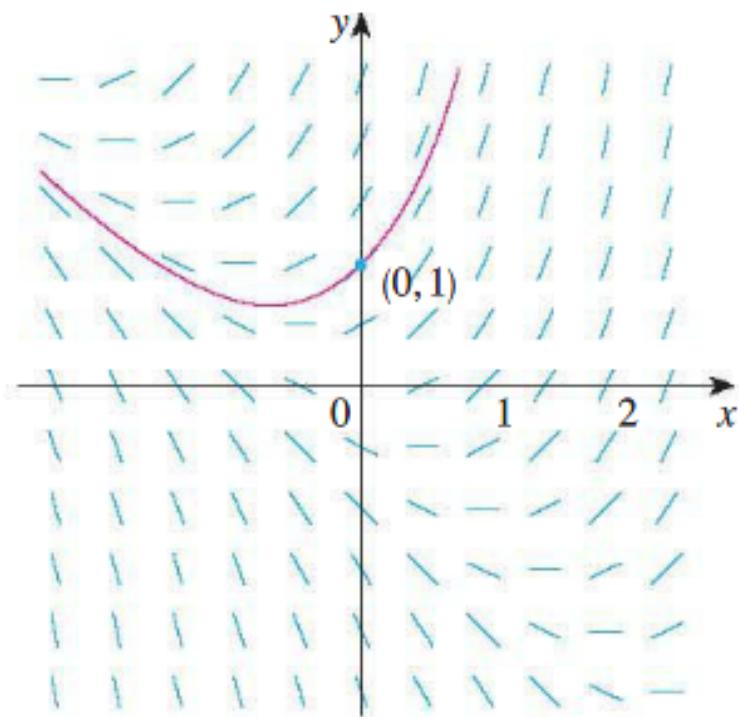


FIGURE 4
The solution curve through $(0, 1)$

Review of 16.1 2D Vector Fields

1 Definition Let D be a set in \mathbb{R}^2 (a plane region). A **vector field on \mathbb{R}^2** is a function \mathbf{F} that assigns to each point (x, y) in D a two-dimensional vector $\mathbf{F}(x, y)$.

component functions P and Q as follows:

$$\mathbf{F}(x, y) = P(x, y) \mathbf{i} + Q(x, y) \mathbf{j} = \langle P(x, y), Q(x, y) \rangle$$

or, for short,

$$\mathbf{F} = P \mathbf{i} + Q \mathbf{j}$$

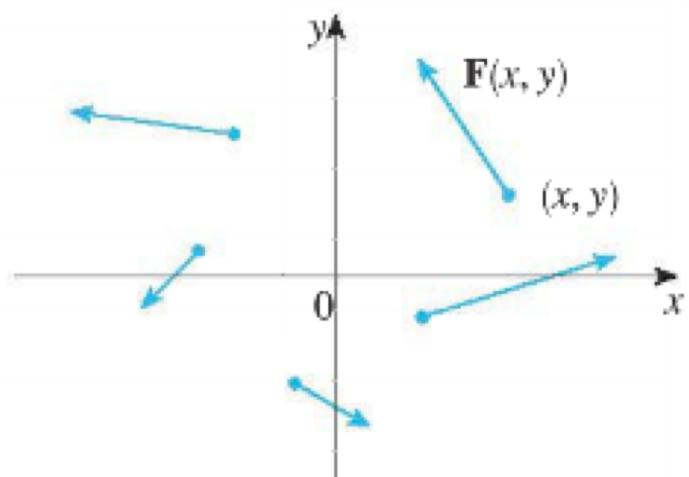
Notice that P and Q are scalar functions of two variables and are sometimes called **scalar fields** to distinguish them from vector fields.

Vector

- direction
- length/magnitude

Vector fields

- Vectors + locations



Review: Plots with Vector Fields: How?

Given a vector function, $\vec{F} = (P(x, y), Q(x, y))$, a plot for vector fields can be completed by performing the following:

- 1) Construct a grid system;
- 2) Choose sample points, (x_i^*, y_i^*) ;
- 3) Use each of the sample points as a starting point;
- 4) Compute the ending point using:

$$\text{ending point} = \text{starting point} + \vec{F}(x_i^*, y_i^*);$$

- 5) Draw a vector from the starting point to the ending point.

Method (I)

- Alternatively, we view each of the sample points as a new origin (to be discussed below).

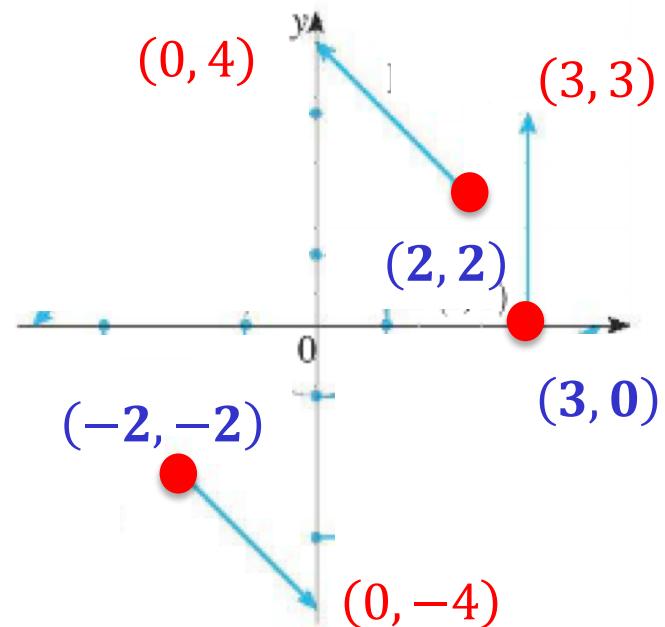
Method (II)

Review for the Plot of a Vector Fields: (I)



EXAMPLE 1 A vector field on \mathbb{R}^2 is defined by $\mathbf{F}(x, y) = -y \mathbf{i} + x \mathbf{j}$. Describe \mathbf{F} by sketching some of the vectors $\mathbf{F}(x, y)$ as in Figure 3.

1	2	3	4	5
	(x_i^*, y_i^*)	$\vec{F} = (-y, x)$	starting	ending (c_3+c_4)
A	$(3, 0)$	$(0, 3)$	$(3, 0)$	$(3, 3)$
B	$(2, 2)$	$(-2, 2)$	$(2, 2)$	$(0, 4)$
C	$(-2, -2)$	$(2, -2)$	$(-2, -2)$	$(0, -4)$



Review for the Plot of a Vector Field: (II)

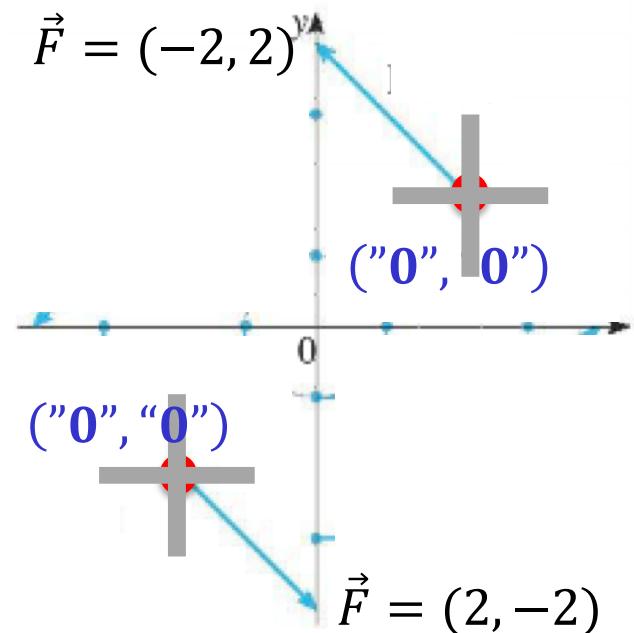


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B	$(2, 2)$	$(-2, 2)$	$(2, 2)$	$(0, 4)$

- Alternatively, we view each of the sample points as a new origin.

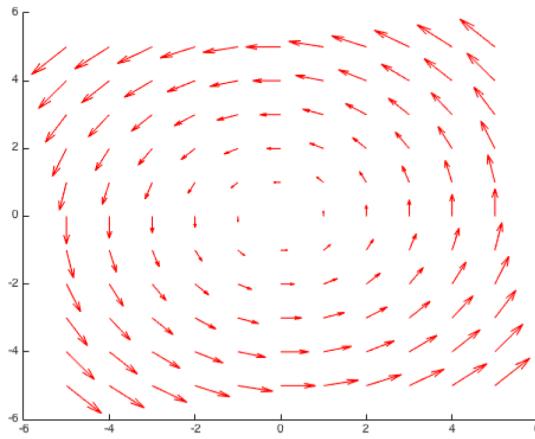
$$\text{magnitude} = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} = r$$



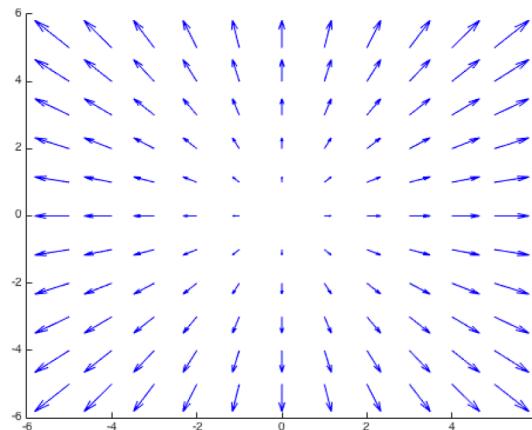
Review of Four Vector Fields



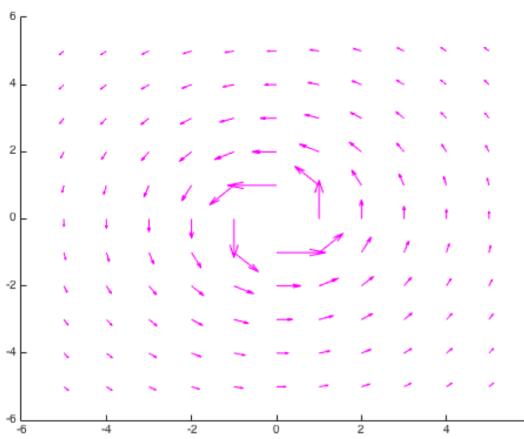
1. Uniform Rotation Field



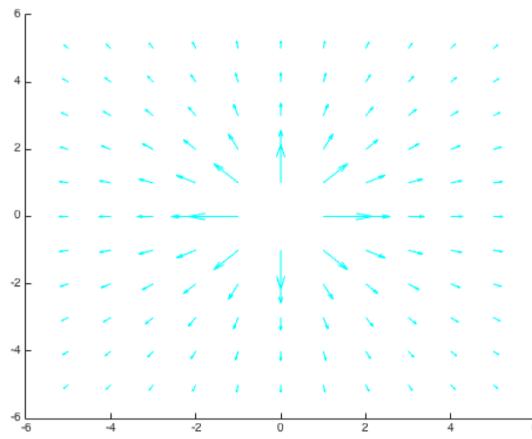
2. Uniform Expansion Field



3. Whirlpool Field



4. 2D Electrical Field



$$1: \vec{F} = \left(\frac{-y}{2}, \frac{x}{2} \right)$$

(example 1 of section 16.1)

$$2: \vec{F} = \left(\frac{x}{2}, \frac{y}{2} \right)$$

$$3: \vec{F} = \left(\frac{-y}{x^2 + y^2}, \frac{x}{x^2 + y^2} \right)$$

(example 3 of section 16.4)

$$4: \vec{F} = \left(\frac{x}{x^2 + y^2}, \frac{y}{x^2 + y^2} \right)$$

(example 1 of section 16.3)

(example 3 of section 16.9)

2.2 Planar Systems: Vector Field

$$F(X) = (y, -x) = (P, Q)$$

	(x_i^*, y_i^*)	\vec{F}
A	$(0.5, 0)$	$(0, -0.5)$
B	$(0, 0.5)$	$(0.5, 0)$
C	$(-0.5, 0)$	$(0, 0.5)$
D	$(0, -0.5)$	$(-0.5, 0)$

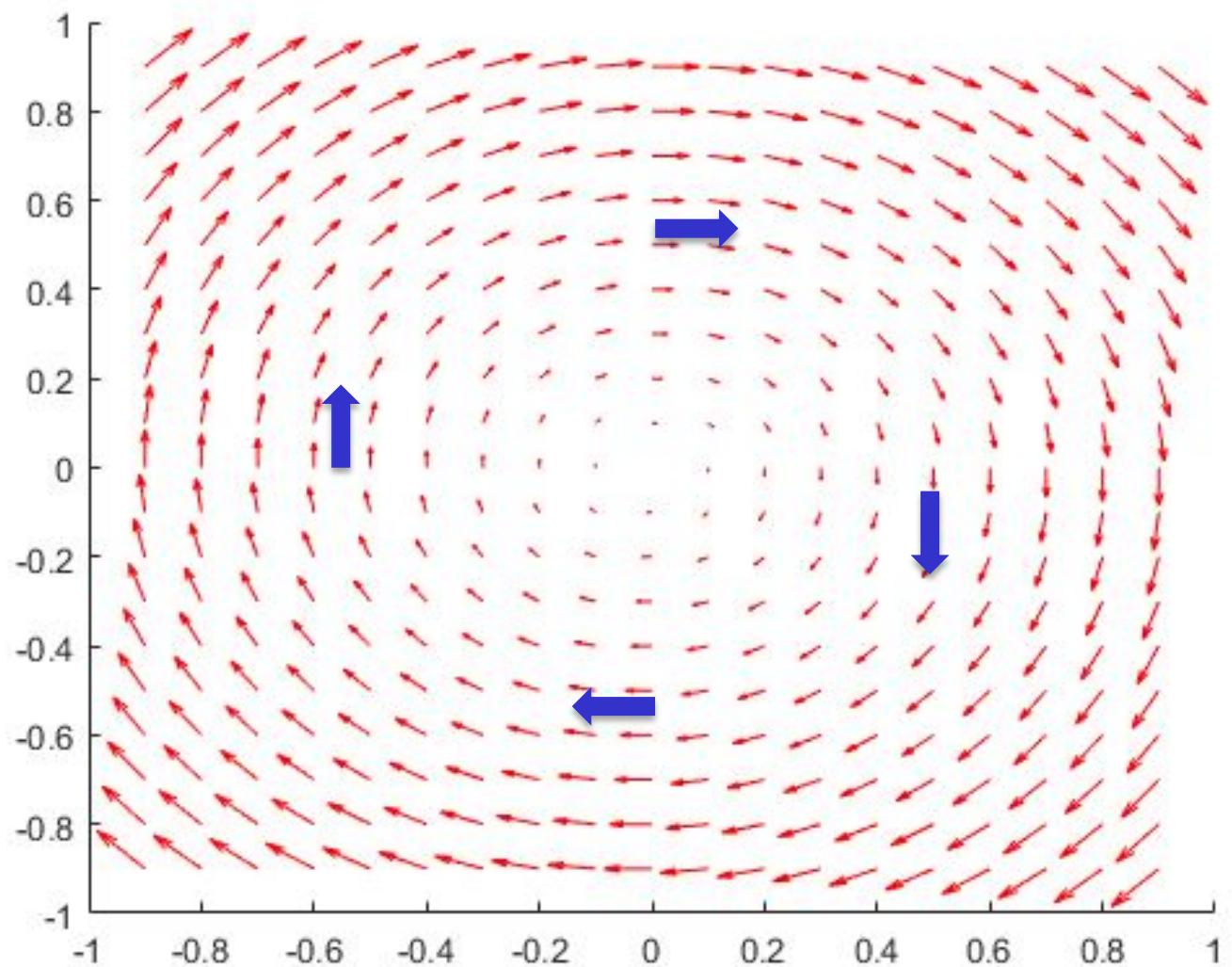
$$\nabla \times F = -2, \text{ clockwise}$$

$$\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y}$$

$$\nabla \cdot F = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial Q}{\partial y}$$

MATLAB Plot (Direction Field) for Figure 2.1



Review: A “Meta” Vector: $\nabla = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \right)$



- Consider a “meta” vector $\nabla = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \right)$, a function $f = f(x, y)$ and a vector $\vec{F} = (P(x, y), Q(x, y))$

We can define the following:

∇ : *nabla*

- Gradient:

$$\nabla f = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \right) f = \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right) = (f_x, f_y)$$

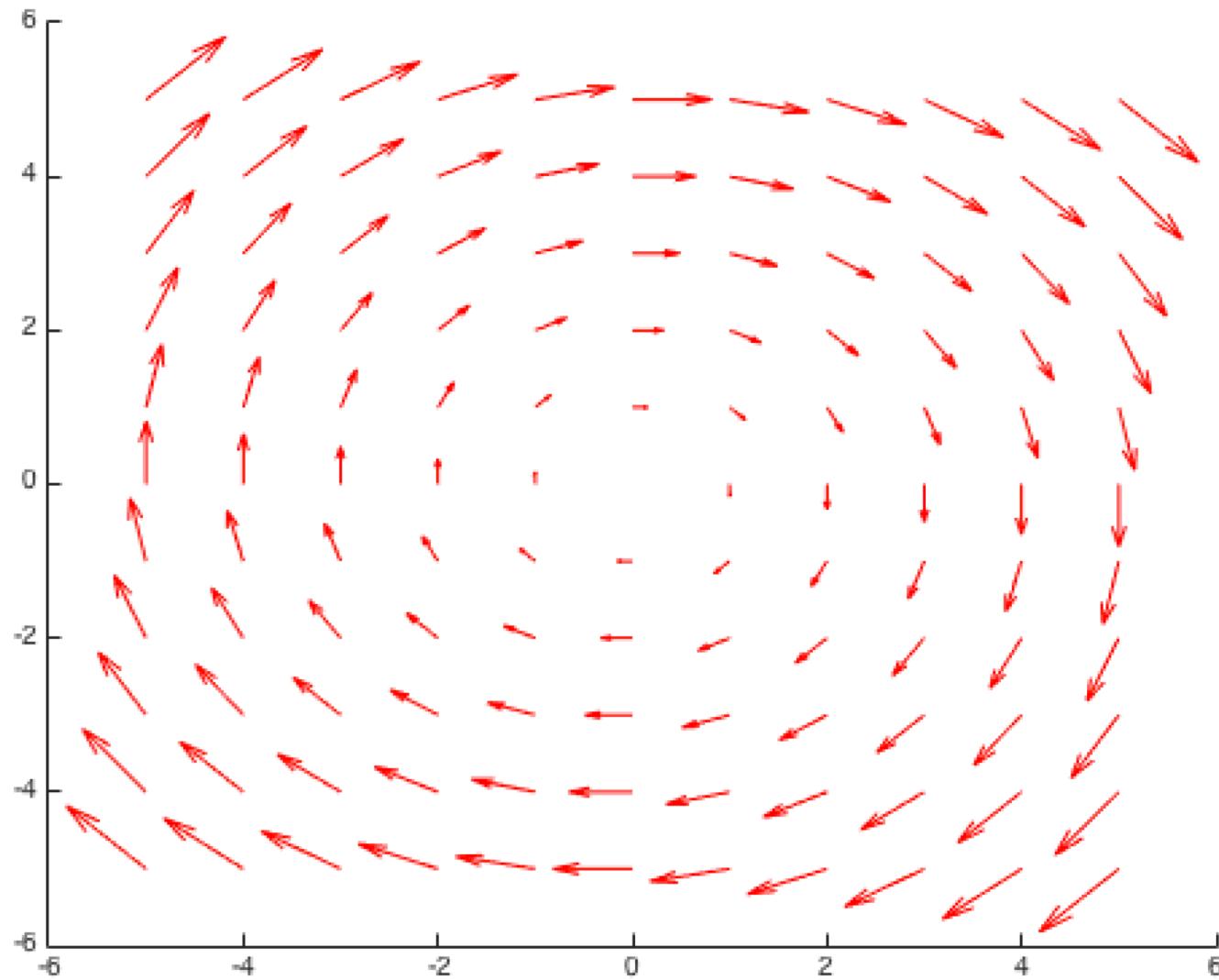
- Curl (a Cross product of ∇ and \vec{F}):

$$\nabla \times \vec{F} = \begin{vmatrix} i & j & k \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ P(x, y) & Q(x, y) & 0 \end{vmatrix} = k(Q_x - P_y)$$

- Divergence (a Dot product of ∇ and \vec{F}):

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{F} = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \right) \cdot (P, Q) = P_x + Q_y$$

A Vector Plot



Vector Plots

```
clear all; clc; close all;

% Set scale and start/final points of axes
dx = 1.0;
dy = 1.0;
xStart = -5.0;
xFinal = 5.0;
yStart = -5.0;
yFinal = 5.0;

x = xStart : dx : xFinal;
y = yStart : dx : yFinal;

% Create 2-D array (graph)
[X, Y] = meshgrid(x,y);

% Set to the length of axes
xLen = length(x);
yLen = length(y);

% Fill with 0's
z = zeros(xLen,yLen);
P = zeros(xLen,yLen);
Q = zeros(xLen,yLen);
```

```
% Nested for loop to display vectors
for i = 1 : xLen
    xi = xStart + (i-1) * dx;
    for j = 1 : yLen
        yj = yStart + (j-1) * dy;
        display ('xi yj ');
        display ([xi, yj]);
        P(j,i) = yj;
        Q(j,i) = -xi;
    end
end

% White background with phase diagram in red
figure('Color','w');
hold on;
quiver(X, Y, P, Q,'r');
hold off
```

2.2 A System of 1st Order ODEs

$$\begin{aligned}x' &= y \\y' &= -x\end{aligned}$$

How to solve?

For now, let's transform the above system into a single ODE

$$x'' = y' = -x$$

Assume

$$x = ke^{\lambda t}$$

$$\lambda = \pm i$$

$$x = c_1 \cos(t)$$

$$x = c_2 \sin(t)$$

How to obtain y ?

$$x' = y$$

$$y = -c_1 \sin(t)$$

$$y = c_2 \cos(t)$$

2.2 A System of 1st Order ODEs:

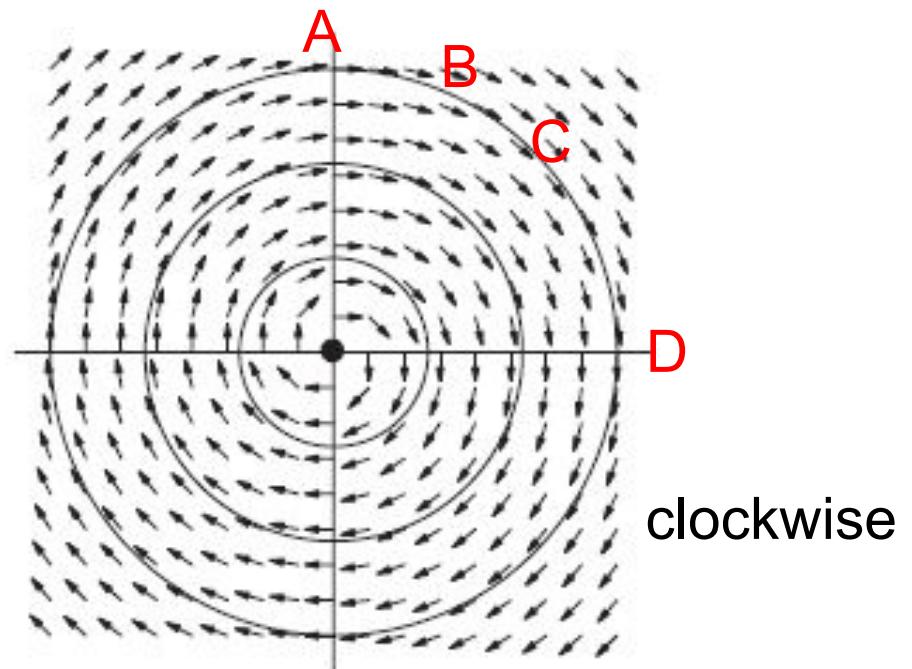
$$\begin{aligned}x' &= y \\y' &= -x\end{aligned}$$

Verify whether the following are the solutions to the above system

$$x = a \sin(t)$$

$$y = a \cos(t)$$

	t	$(\sin(t), \cos(t))$
A	0	$(0, 1)$
B	$\pi/6$	$(1/2, \sqrt{3}/2)$
C	$\pi/4$	$(\sqrt{2}/2, \sqrt{2}/2)$
D	$\pi/2$	$(1, 0)$



2.2: Alternative Method

$$\begin{aligned}x' &= y \\y' &= -x\end{aligned}$$

ODEs

How to solve?

Previously, we assume

$$x = ke^{\lambda t}$$

Now, we assume

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x_0 \\ y_0 \end{pmatrix} e^{\lambda t}$$

$$\begin{aligned}x &= x_0 e^{\lambda t} \\y &= y_0 e^{\lambda t}\end{aligned}$$

Plug into the above Eq.

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda x_0 &= y_0 & (1) \\ \lambda y_0 &= -x_0 & (2)\end{aligned}$$

Algebraic Eq.

$$\lambda \times (1) + (2)$$

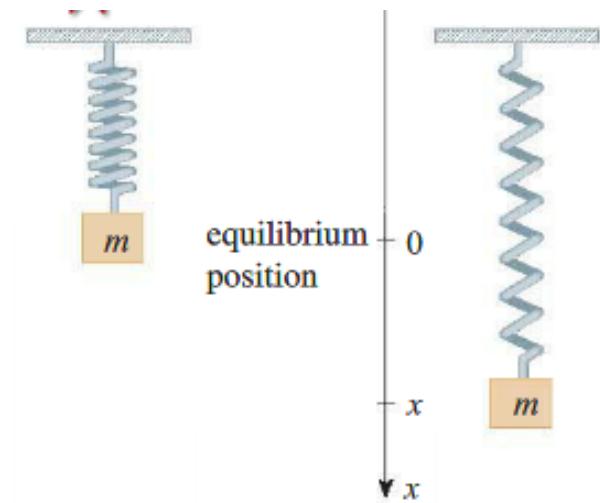
$$\lambda^2 x_0 = -x_0$$

$$\lambda = \pm i$$

A Model for an Oscillatory Motion

- Hooke's Law: if the spring is stretched (or compressed) x units from its natural length, then it exerts a forcing that is proportional to x :
- A **second-order** differential equation

$$m \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = -kx$$



$$F = ma = m \frac{d^2x}{dt^2}$$

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = \frac{-k}{m} x = -l^2 x$$

- The second derivative of x is proportional to x but has the opposite sign.
- Its solutions are trigonometric functions.

With a Damping Term

There are three parameters for this system: m denotes the **mass** of the oscillator, $b \geq 0$ is the **damping constant**, and $k > 0$ is the **spring constant**. Newton's law states that the force acting on the oscillator is equal to mass times acceleration. Therefore the differential equation for the damped harmonic oscillator is

$$mx'' + bx' + kx = 0.$$

If $b = 0$, the oscillator is said to be *undamped*; otherwise, we have a *damped* harmonic oscillator. This is an example of a second-order, linear, constant coefficient, homogeneous differential equation. As a system, the harmonic oscillator equation becomes

$$x' = y$$

$$y' = -\frac{k}{m}x - \frac{b}{m}y.$$

With a Damping Term

$$mx'' + bx' + kx = 0$$

$m, b, k > 0$

Divide by m

$$x'' + \frac{b}{m}x' + \frac{k}{m}x = 0$$

Assume

$$x = x_0 e^{\lambda t}$$

Obtain the characteristic equation

$$\lambda^2 + \frac{b}{m}\lambda + \frac{k}{m} = 0$$

$$\lambda = \frac{-\frac{b}{m} \pm \sqrt{\left(\frac{b}{m}\right)^2 - \frac{4k}{m}}}{2}$$

Represent the solution: $x = x_0 e^{\lambda t} \propto e^{\frac{-b}{2m}t}$

$x \downarrow$ as $t \uparrow$

b is a damping constant!

$b > 0$ Positive damping

$b < 0$ Negative damping

With an External Force

More generally, the motion of the mass-spring system can be subjected to an **external force** (such as moving the vertical wall back and forth periodically). Such an external force usually depends only on time, not position, so we have a more general forced harmonic oscillator system,

$$mx'' + bx' + kx = f(t),$$

where $f(t)$ represents the external force. This is now a **nonautonomous**, second-order, linear equation. ■

$$f'(x_c) \rightarrow \lambda \text{ (eigenvalue)}$$

$$x' = ax$$

$$x' = f(x)$$

assume

$$x = ke^{\lambda t}$$

$$\lambda = a = f'(x_c)$$

the solution is **stable (unstable)** if $\lambda < 0$ ($\lambda > 0$)

consider a **general case**

linearize $f(x)$
wrt a critical pt

$$x' = f(x)$$

$$x' = f(x) \approx \cancel{f(x_c)} + f'(x_c)(x - x_c) + \dots$$

the critical point is **stable** if $f'(x_c) < 0$

the critical point is **unstable** if $f'(x_c) > 0$

assume

$$x - x_c = ke^{\lambda t}$$

$$\lambda k e^{\lambda t} \approx f'(x_c) k e^{\lambda t}$$

$$\lambda = f'(x_c)$$

λ : eigenvalue

the critical point is **stable (unstable)** if $\lambda < 0$ ($\lambda > 0$)