

# **Math 5470/6440      Chaos theory**

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## **1D: Phase portrait and fixed points**

Today we will discuss:

Pendulum problem. Linearization.

Phase space.

One-dimensional systems. Fixed points and stability.

Population growth model. Logistic equation.

Linear stability analysis.

One-dimensional or first order system is:

$$\dot{x} = f(x), \quad x(0) = x_0$$

Here  $x(t)$  is real valued function of time  $t$ ,

$f$  is a smooth, real-valued function of  $x$ .

$x$  is position of a particle,  $\dot{x}$  is velocity.

Ex: Swinging of pendulum



$x$  is angle of the pendulum from the vertical

$$F = ma$$

$l$  - the length of the pendulum

$$-mg \sin x = ma \Rightarrow a = -g \sin x$$

$$s = Lx, v = \frac{ds}{dt} = L \frac{dx}{dt} \Rightarrow$$

$$a = L \ddot{x} = -g \sin x$$

$$\ddot{x} + \frac{g}{L} \sin x = 0$$

$g$  is acceleration due to gravity

Then:

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}_1 = x_2 \\ \dot{x}_2 = -\frac{g}{L} \sin x_1 \end{cases}$$

Equivalent system

is nonlinear

Linearization: small angle approximation

$|x| \ll 1 : \sin x \approx x \Rightarrow$  the system is:

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}_1 = x_2 \\ \dot{x}_2 = -\frac{g}{L} x_1 \end{cases}$$

only a part of the problem corresponding to low energy

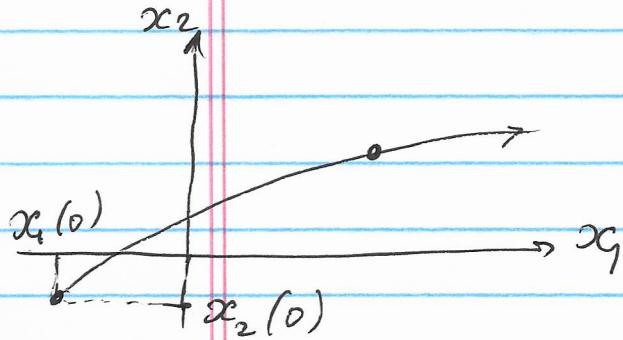
Linearized problem does not describe high energy solutions -

when pendulum whirls over the top  
(when  $x$  is not small)

Consider dependence on time:

$x_1(t) = x(t)$  - position of the pendulum

$\dot{x}_1(t) = \dot{x}(t)$  - velocity



Consider  $(x_1(t), x_2(t))$ -point moving along a curve -  
- trajectory -  
in coordinate (phase) space

$(x_1, x_2)$   
starting from initial point  $(x_1(0), x_2(0))$ .

Different trajectories for different initial conditions.

2-dimensional system - 2-dim. phasespace

Ex. Write system of odes in canonical form

$$\begin{cases} \ddot{x} + \sin(x-y) = 0 \\ \dot{y} + \frac{1}{2} x = 0 \end{cases}$$

but  $\begin{cases} x_1 = x \\ x_2 = \dot{x} \\ x_3 = y \end{cases}$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} \dot{x}_1 = x_2 \\ \dot{x}_2 = -\sin(x_1 - x_3) \\ \dot{x}_3 = -\frac{1}{2} x_1 \end{cases}$$

linear or nonlinear?

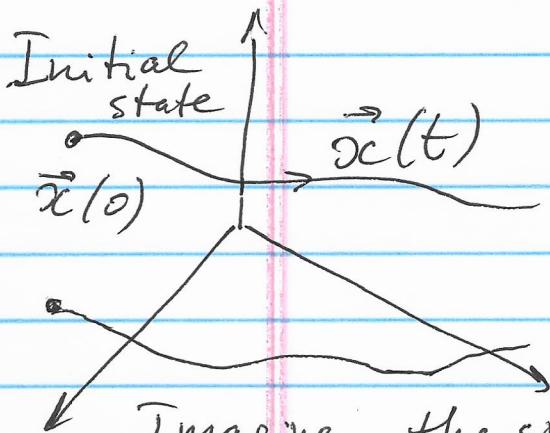
Phase space Consider  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  as a vector

in  $n$ -dimensional phase space :  $\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix}$

The point  $\vec{x}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} x_1(t) \\ x_2(t) \\ \vdots \\ x_n(t) \end{pmatrix}$  moving along a curve defines a trajectory in the phase space

Difff gr can be written as

$$\dot{\vec{x}} = \vec{F}(\vec{x})$$



Imagine, the space is filled with fluid

Given the initial state  $\vec{x}(0)$ , we need to find (predict) future states

Different initial conditions (states) generate different trajectories

The system

$\dot{\vec{x}} = \vec{F}(\vec{x})$  is called flow

↑      ↑  
fluid      in phase space  
velocity      given pt.  
                in space

$\Rightarrow$  the fluid velocity is known at each point.

The phase space is  $n$ -dimensional  $\Rightarrow$

the system is  $n$ -dimensional (or  $n$ -th order)

For pendulum,  $n=2$

# One-dimensional or first-order systems

$n=1$

$$\dot{x} = f(x)$$

$x(t)$  is real-valued function of  $t$

$f$  is smooth, real-valued function of  $x$

? What is the dimension of the phase space?

Can interpret diff. eqns as vector fields

Ex:

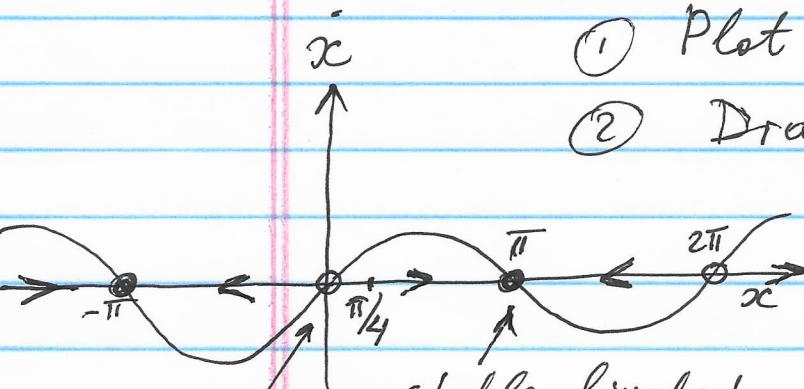
$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = \sin x \\ x(0) = x_0 \end{cases}$$

(Can integrate:  $\int dt = \int \frac{dx}{\sin x}$ )

Solu:  $t = \ln \left| \frac{\csc(x_0) + \cot(x_0)}{\csc(x) + \cot(x)} \right|$

Graphically:  $x$  - position of pt. on real line  
 $\dot{x}$  - velocity of this pt.

$\dot{x} = \sin x$  represent vector field on the line



unstable fixed pt, repeller,  
stable fixed pt attractor, sink  
 $\dot{x} = 0$   
equilibrium pts

Particle starting at  $\frac{\pi}{4}$  approaches a stable fixed point at  $x=\pi$ .

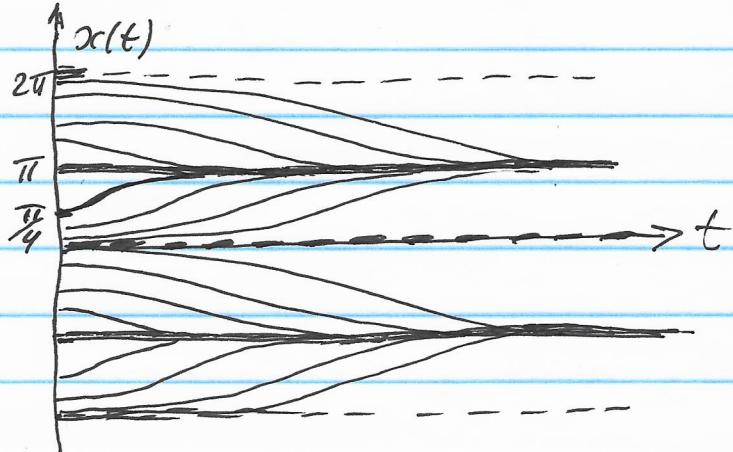
① Plot  $\dot{x}$  versus  $x$

② Draw arrows to show velocity vector

$\dot{x} > 0$  - arrow to the right

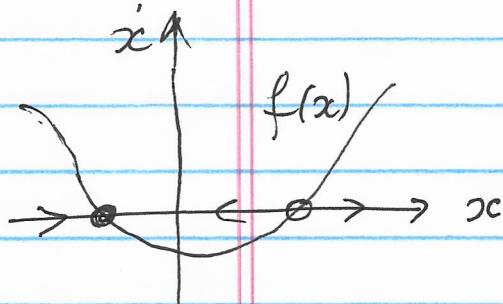
$\dot{x} = 0$  - fixed points

$\dot{x} < 0$  - arrow to the left



## 2.2 Fixed Points and Stability

### Phase Portrait



$$\dot{x} = f(x)$$

Imagine fluid flowing along the real line with local velocity  $f(x)$

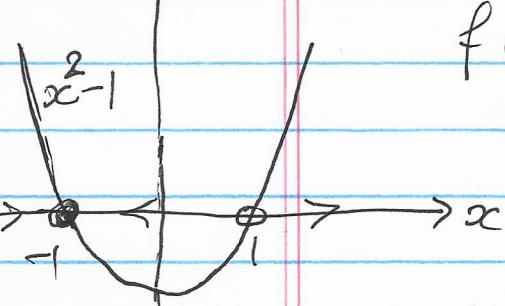
If  $f(x) > 0$  - flow is to the right  
 $f(x) < 0$  - flow is to the left

Fixed pts  $x^*$ :  $f(x^*) = 0$  - velocity is zero

$f'(x^*) < 0$  :  $x^*$  is stable equilibrium  
 disturbances die out in time

$f'(x^*) > 0$  :  $x^*$  is unstable equilibrium  
 disturbances grow in time

Ex.  $\dot{x} = x^2 - 1$  Find fixed points and classify their stability.



$$f(x) = x^2 - 1 \quad \text{To find } x^*, \text{ solve } f(x^*) = 0$$

$$x^2 = 1 \Rightarrow x^* = \pm 1$$

The flow is to the right where

$$f(x) > 0 : x^2 - 1 > 0 \text{ or } |x| > 1$$

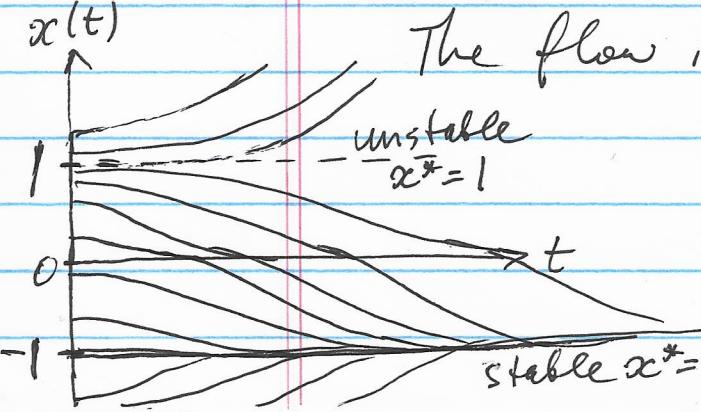
The flow is to the left where  $x^2 - 1 < 0$  ( $|x| < 1$ )

$$\text{Check } f'(x^*) = 2x^*$$

$$f'(x^*)|_{x^*=-1} = -2 < 0 \text{ - stable}$$

$$f'(x^*)|_{x^*=1} = 2 > 0 \text{ - unstable}$$

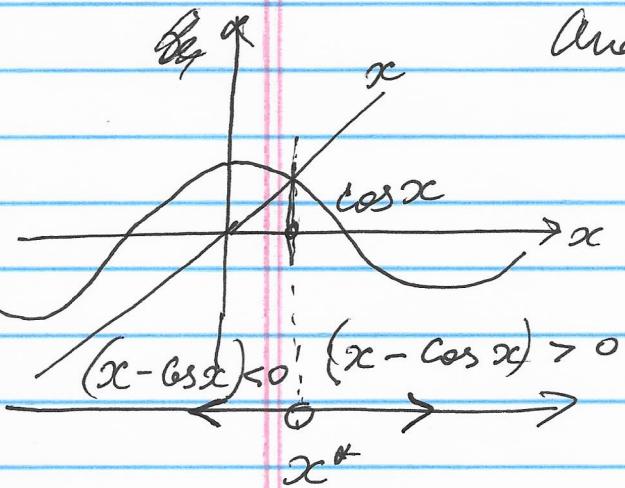
- disturbances grow



Ex:

$$\dot{x} = x - \cos x \quad - \text{ find fixed points}$$

~~for  $\dot{x}$~~



Analyze separately :

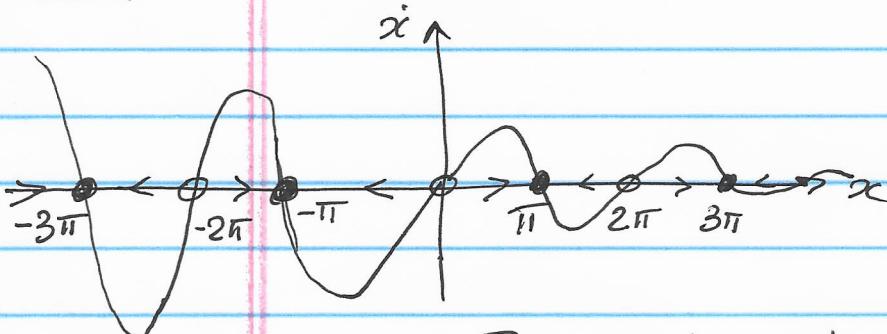
$$x = \cos x$$

$$x^* \text{ s.t. } f(x^*) = 0$$

$x^*$  is unstable fixed pt.

Ex:

$$\dot{x} = e^{-x} \sin x$$

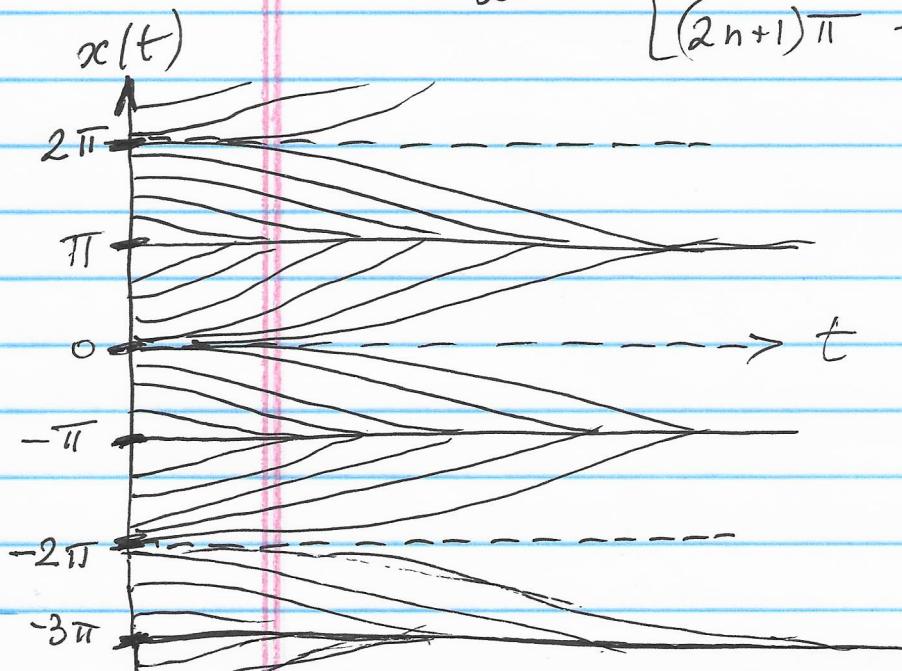


Find fixed points and check their stability

Graph  $x(t)$  as a function of time

$$\text{Fixed pts: } \sin x^* = 0 \Rightarrow x^* = \pi k, k \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$x^* = \begin{cases} 2n\pi & - \text{unstable} \quad (k=2n - \text{even}) \\ (2n+1)\pi & - \text{stable} \quad (k=2n+1 - \text{odd}) \end{cases}$$



## Population Growth Model

$N(t)$  is the population at time  $t$ ,  $N \geq 0$

$r > 0$  is the growth rate

The simplest model:

$$\dot{N} = rN, \quad N(0) = N_0 - \text{population size at } t=0$$

The model predicts exponential growth:

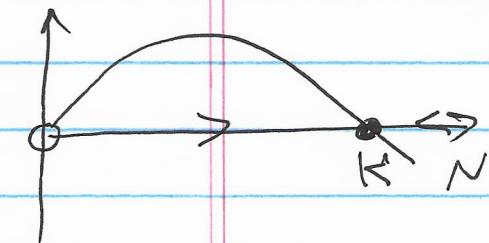
$$N(t) = N_0 e^{rt}$$

Introduce  $K$  - carrying capacity

$$r = r(N) = r_0 \left(1 - \frac{N}{K}\right)$$

The logistic equation

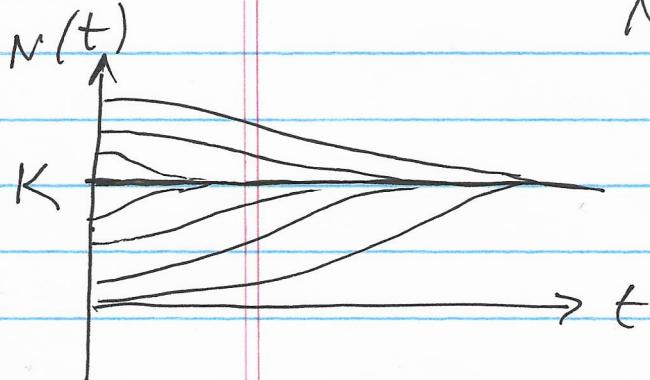
$$\dot{N} = rN \left(1 - \frac{N}{K}\right)$$



Fixed pts:  $N^* = 0$  - unstable

Small population grows exponentially fast

$N^* = K$  - stable (globally stable)



The population is always approaching its carrying capacity