

3. Two dimensional flows: Linear systems:

In 1D phase spaces, all trajectories are forced to move monotonically and are gathered in a single curve.

Now 2D dynamical systems are written in the typical form:

$$(1) \quad \dot{\underline{x}}(t) = \underline{f}(\underline{x}(t)) \text{ with } \underline{x} \in \mathbb{R}^2$$

\Rightarrow Linear systems:

$$(2) \quad \dot{\underline{x}}(t) = [\underline{A}] \underline{x}(t) \quad \text{with} \quad \underline{x}(0) = \underline{x}_0$$

$\underline{x}(t)$ is the vector of state variables.

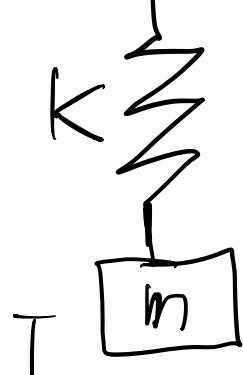
(2) is linear in the sense that if $\underline{x}_1(t)$ and $\underline{x}_2(t)$ are solutions, then so is any linear combination $c_1 \underline{x}_1(t) + c_2 \underline{x}_2(t)$.

$\underline{x}^* = \underline{0}$ is always a fixed point for any choice of $[A]$.

Solutions of $\dot{\underline{x}} = [A]\underline{x}$ can be visualized as trajectories moving in the phase plane $\underline{x} = [x, y]$

Example: Simple harmonic oscillator:

$$\text{Diagram: } m\ddot{x}(t) + kx(t) = 0 \quad (\text{physical space})$$



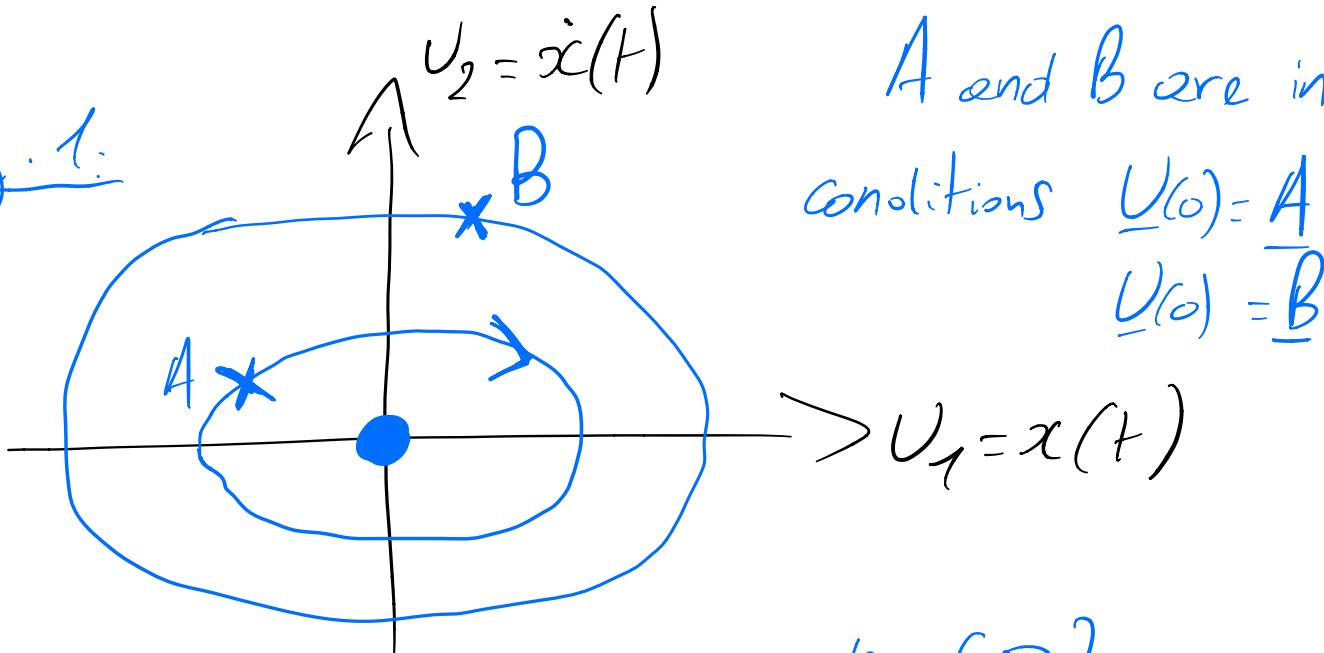
The state space is characterized by position $x(t)$ and velocity $v(t) = \dot{x}(t)$ of the mass.

$$\downarrow x(t) \quad (x) \rightarrow \begin{Bmatrix} x \\ v \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -\omega^2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} x \\ v \end{Bmatrix} \text{ with } \omega = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}$$

$$\dot{\underline{x}} = [A]\underline{x}$$

Trajectories in the state plane:

Fig. 1:



A and B are initial conditions
 $\underline{x}(0) = \underline{A}$
 $\underline{x}(0) = \underline{B}$

- is the fixed point at $\underline{x}^* = \begin{cases} 0 \\ 0 \end{cases}$

Fig. 1 is called a phase portrait, it shows "all" the trajectories in the phase plane.

Classification of linear systems - Stability analysis

To understand preferential directions of motion, we seek trajectories in the form:

$$\underline{x}(t) = e^{dt} \underline{\nu}$$

where $\underline{\nu} \neq \underline{0}$ is some fixed vector.

d is a growth rate.

Substituting $\underline{x}(t) = e^{\lambda t} \underline{v}$ in $\dot{\underline{x}} = [\underline{A}] \underline{x}$
yields $[\underline{A}] \underline{v} = \lambda \underline{v}$

\underline{v} is an eigenvector and λ eigenvalues of $[\underline{A}]$.

Quick recall:

Eigenvalues of $[\underline{A}]$ obtained by solving:

$$\det([\underline{A}] - \lambda [\underline{I}]) = 0$$

$$[\underline{A}] = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \quad \lambda_{1,2} = \frac{z \mp \sqrt{z^2 - 4D}}{2}$$

$$\text{with } z = \text{trace}([\underline{A}]) = a + d = \lambda_1 + \lambda_2$$

$$D = \det([\underline{A}]) = ad - bc = \lambda_1 \times \lambda_2$$

If the eigenvalues are distinct: $\lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{x}(t) = c_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} \underline{v}_1 + c_2 e^{\lambda_2 t} \underline{v}_2$$

With \underline{v}_i the eigenvectors of $[\underline{A}]$.

* Model projection:

$$\underline{x}(t) = [\varphi] \underline{y}(t) \quad \text{with} \quad [\varphi] = [\underline{\nu}_1, \underline{\nu}_2]$$

$$\text{and} \quad \underline{y}(t) = \begin{Bmatrix} y_1(t) \\ y_2(t) \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} C_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} \\ C_2 e^{\lambda_2 t} \end{Bmatrix}$$

Replacing $\underline{x}(t) = [\varphi] \underline{y}(t)$ in $\dot{\underline{x}} = [A] \underline{x}$

$$\Rightarrow \dot{\underline{y}}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} d_1 & 0 \\ 0 & d_2 \end{bmatrix} \underline{y}(t)$$

in the model space.

$\underline{y}(t)$ is the vector of model coordinates.

Example: $\begin{Bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 4 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} x \\ y \end{Bmatrix}$ with $\underline{v}(0) = \begin{Bmatrix} x(0) \\ y(0) \end{Bmatrix}$

$$\begin{aligned} C &= -1 & \underline{v}(0) &= \begin{Bmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \end{Bmatrix} \\ \Delta &= -6 & \Rightarrow d_1 &= 2 \\ && d_2 &= -3 \end{aligned}$$

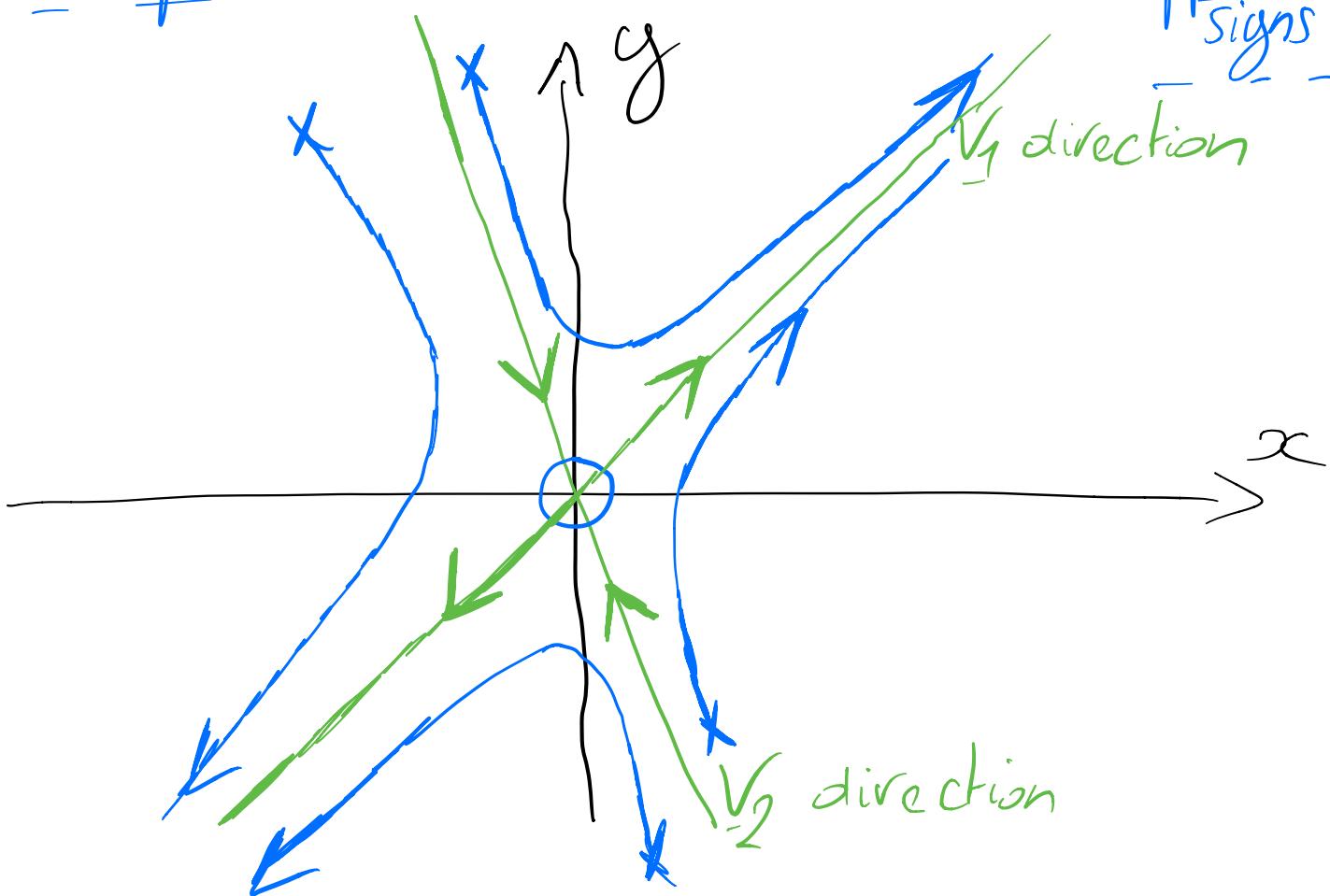
$$\underline{V}_1 = \begin{Bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{Bmatrix}$$

$$\underline{V}_2 = \begin{Bmatrix} 1 \\ -4 \end{Bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{U}(t) = c_1 \begin{Bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{Bmatrix} e^{2t} + c_2 \begin{Bmatrix} 1 \\ -4 \end{Bmatrix} e^{-3t}$$

Introducing initial conditions : $c_1 = 1, c_2 = 1$.

* Phase portrait when $\lambda_i \in \mathbb{R}$ and have opposite signs:

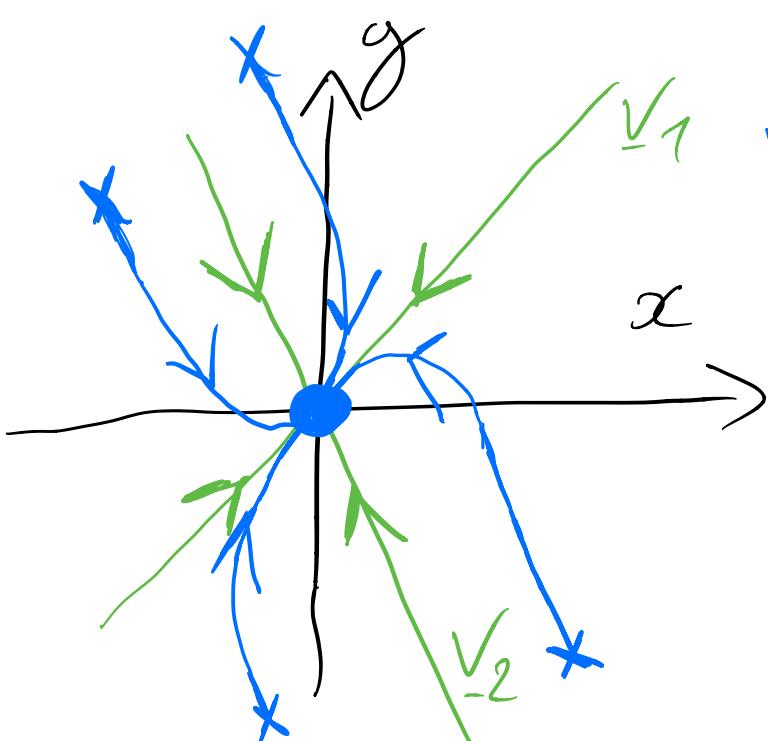


\underline{V}_1 is associated with a positive real eigenvalue.
We say that \underline{V}_1 spanned the unstable manif. fold.

$\sqrt{2}$ associated with a negative eigenvalue so
 $\sqrt{2}$ spanned the stable manifold.

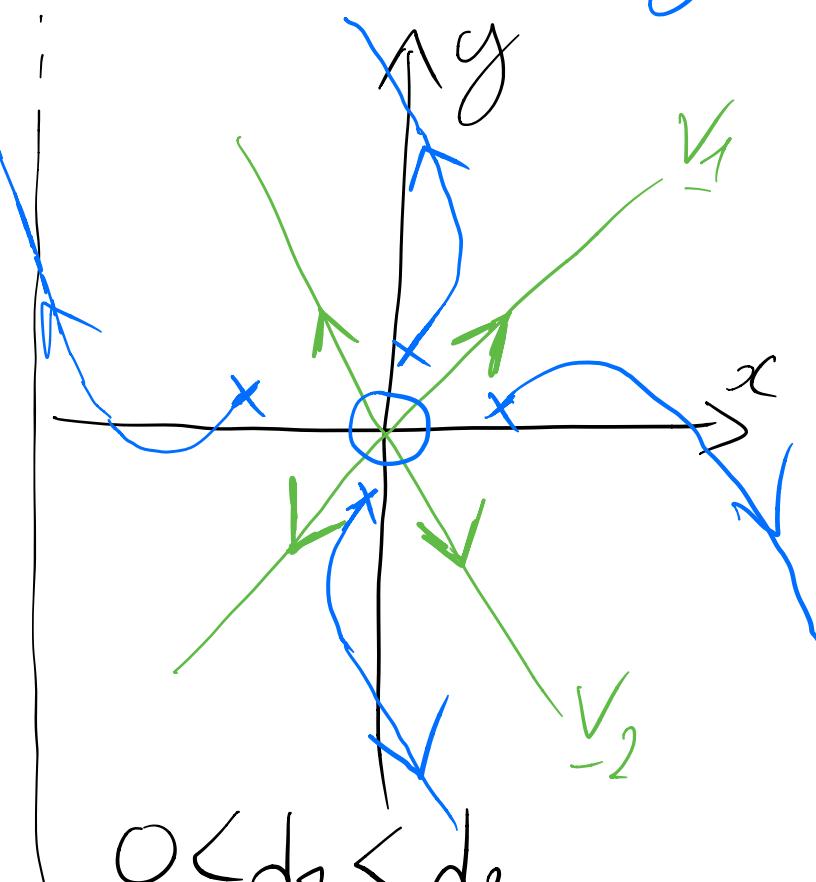
If you have one eigenvalue with positive real part, the fixed point $\underline{v}^* = \underline{0}$ is unstable.

* Phase portrait: $d_i \in \mathbb{R}$ and both have same sign:



$$d_2 < d_1 < 0$$

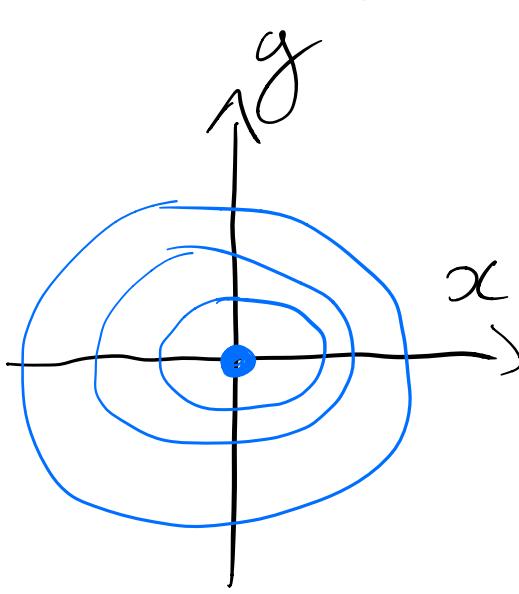
Fixed point is stable node



Fixed point is an unstable node

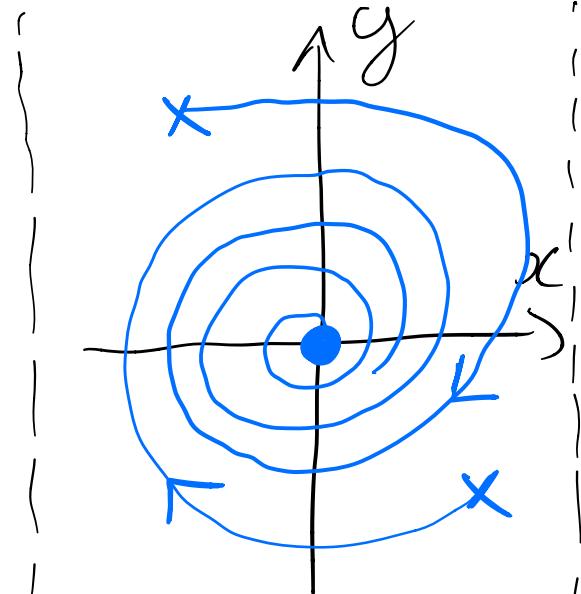
Trajectories approach the origin tangent to the slow direction $\sqrt{1}$. As time $t \rightarrow \infty$, trajectories become parallel to the fast direction $\sqrt{2}$.

* If the eigenvalues are complex: $d_i \in \mathbb{C}: d = \alpha + i\omega$
 \neq cases happen depending on the sign of $\alpha = \operatorname{Re}(d)$



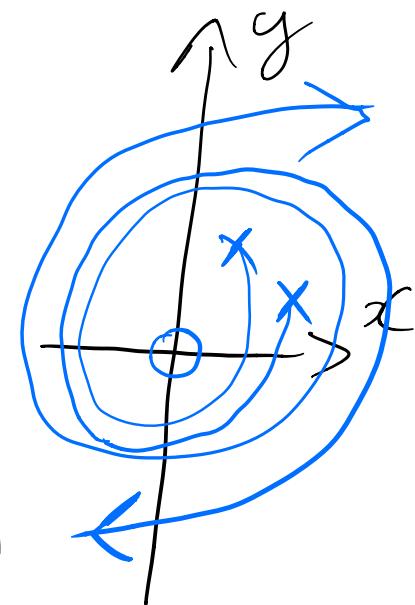
$$\alpha = 0$$

Fixed point is a center. It is neutrally or marginally stable.



$$\alpha < 0$$

Fixed point is a stable spiral.



$$\alpha > 0$$

Fixed point is an unstable spiral.

Remark:

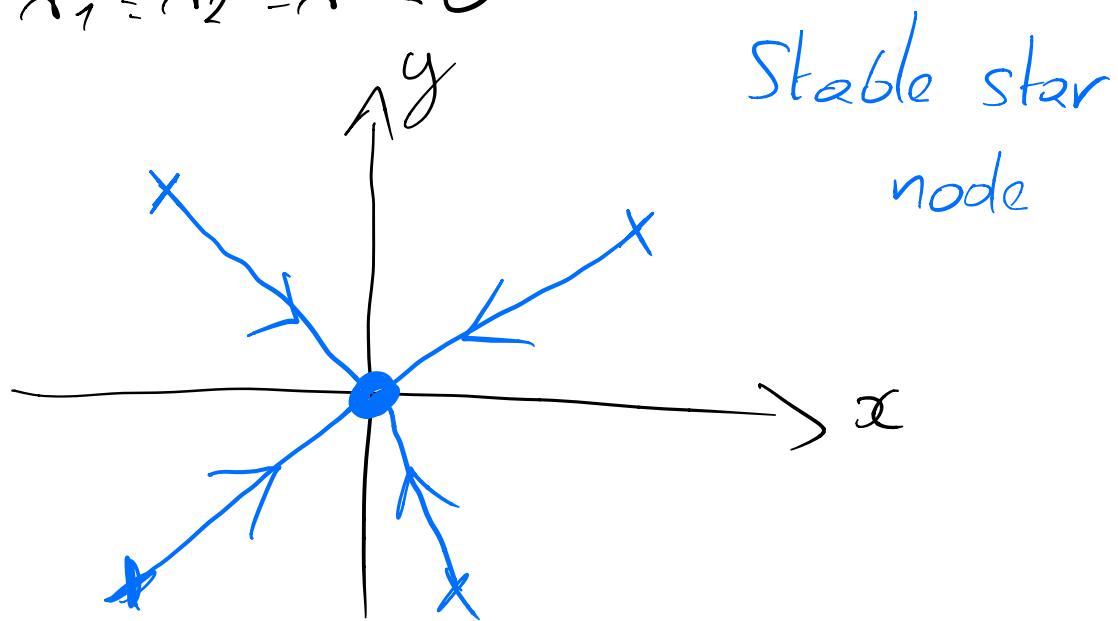
Two different trajectories never cross!

* If the eigenvalues are equal: $d_1 = d_2 = d$

→ Two independent eigenvectors and $d \neq 0$.

Fixed point is a star node: trajectories are straight lines through the origin:

Example: $d_1 = d_2 = d < 0$

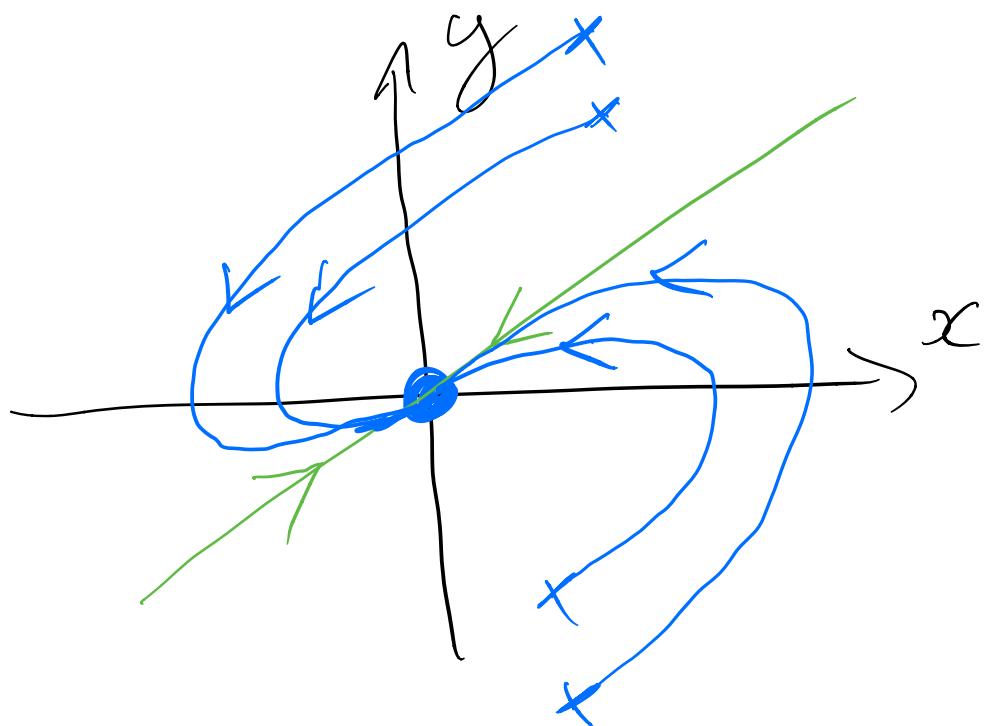


→ Two independent eigenvectors and $d=0$.

The whole phase plane is filled with fixed points.

→ Only one eigendirection:

The fixed point is a degenerate node.



Classification of stability of fixed points:

