

Outline

1 Lyapunov method

2 Periodic solutions

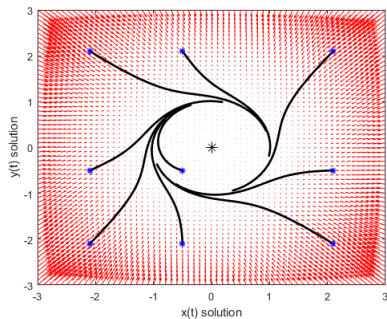


Figure: Entire curves can be sinks

We return to the damping-free pendulum system

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = y, \frac{dy}{dt} = -\frac{g}{L}\sin(x).$$

Consider the total energy of the system:

$$\begin{aligned} E(x, y) &= \text{Potential} + \text{Kinetic} \\ &= U(x, y) + K(x, y) \\ &:= mgL(1 - \cos(x)) + \frac{1}{2}mL^2y^2. \end{aligned}$$

But close to $(\pi, 0)$ change to

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = y, \frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{g}{L}\sin(x)$$

and Lyapunov function $V = y\sin(x)$

We have

$$\dot{V} = V_x \dot{x} + V_y \dot{y} = \nabla V \cdot T = |\nabla V| |T| \cos(\theta).$$

Stability criterion

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So if $\dot{V} \leq 0$ then $\cos(\theta) \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow \theta \in [\frac{\pi}{2}, \pi]$.

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Basin of attraction is the region bounded by the largest level set $\{V = c\}$ s.t. we still have $\dot{V} < 0$.

Lyapunov criterion

If V satisfies $V(x_0, y_0) = 0$ and $V(x, y) > 0$ for all other $(x, y) \neq (x_0, y_0)$ in a disk around (x_0, y_0) then

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- If $\frac{dV}{dt} \leq 0$ for $(x, y) \neq (x_0, y_0)$ then (x_0, y_0) is Lyapunov-stable.
- If $\frac{dV}{dt} < 0$ for $(x, y) \neq (x_0, y_0)$ then (x_0, y_0) is asymptotically stable.

If $V(x, y) > 0$ for at least one point close to (x_0, y_0) and $\frac{dV}{dt} > 0$ for $(x, y) \neq (x_0, y_0)$ then (x_0, y_0) is unstable.

Presenting the method

Consider the system:

$$\mathbf{x}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x},$$

for Lyapunov function $V = \frac{1}{2}x^2 - \frac{2}{3}xy + \frac{7}{12}y^2$.

Presenting the method

- 1 At the origin we indeed have $V(0,0)=0$.
- 2 Next we prove that $V > 0$. The goal is to complete the square. A quick formula for any monomial is

$$x^2 + bx + c = \left(x + \frac{1}{2}b\right)^2 + c - \frac{b^2}{4}.$$

So if we have $k > 0$ we are done. Indeed

$$c - \frac{b^2}{4} = y^2\left(\frac{7}{6} - \frac{4}{9}\right) > 0.$$

- 3 Next we check the sign of $\dot{V}$. We have

$$\dot{V} = V_x \dot{x} + V_y \dot{y} = x^2 + y^2 > 0.$$

- 4 So it says that the system is unstable. Indeed its eigenvalues are 1, 2 and so the origin is a source (i.e. the initial data matters because for initial data it stays trapped in the origin).

In class example

Consider the system:

$$\mathbf{x}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x},$$

for Lyapunov function $V = \frac{1}{2}x^2 - xy + \frac{3}{2}y^2$.

In class example

Consider the system:

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -x + 2y + y^4, \frac{dy}{dt} = -y + x^4$$

for Lyapunov function $V = \frac{1}{2}x^2 + xy + \frac{3}{2}y^2$.

In class example

Consider the system:

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -x + 2y + y^4, \frac{dy}{dt} = 2y - 2x + x^4$$

for Lyapunov function $V = 4x^2 - 3xy + \frac{7}{4}y^2$.

limit cycle

Consider the system

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x + y - x(x^2 + y^2) \\ -x + y - y(x^2 + y^2) \end{pmatrix}.$$

- 1 First we find the critical points:

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = 0, \frac{dy}{dt} = 0.$$

If we assume that $x \neq 0, y \neq 0$ we get the contradiction $x^2 + y^2 = 0$ which implies that the origin $(x, y) = (0, 0)$ is the only critical point.

- 2 We linearize around the origin to obtain

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$$

which has complex eigenvalues $1 \pm i$.

- 3 Since $\operatorname{Re}(\lambda) > 0$ we have that locally the phase portrait is a spiral source. But interestingly the behaviour changes globally. Here the stable sink trajectory will be the unit circle centered at the origin.

limit cycle

- ① First we change to polar coordinates $x = r \cos(\theta)$, $y = r \sin(\theta)$ to obtain the system:

$$r \frac{dr}{dt} = r^2(1 - r^2) \text{ and } \frac{d\theta}{dt} = -1.$$

- ② These equations are now decoupled and can be solved by separation of variables:

$$\begin{aligned} r \frac{dr}{dt} &= r^2(1 - r^2) \Rightarrow \\ \int \frac{-1}{r(1 - r^2)} dr &= \int dt \Rightarrow \\ \frac{1}{2} \ln(1 - r^2) - \ln(r) &= t + c \Rightarrow \\ r &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + c_1 e^{-2t}}}. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, for θ we obtain

- 1 We observe a couple of things. First, as $t \rightarrow +\infty$, the radius $r(t)$ of the solution converges to 1 irrespective of the constants c_1, c_2
- 2 These constants encode the initial data and ,in particular, the initial radius and angle because at time 0 we have

$$r(0) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+c_1}} \text{ and } \theta = c_2.$$

- 3 So if we happen to start outside the unit circle $r(0) > 1$ (eg. for $c_1 = -1/2$) or inside the unit circle $r(0) < 1$ (eg. for $c_1 = 1$), the solution will converge to the unit circle regardless.

The End