

Dynamical systems

Tutorial

Mathis Richter

■ dynamical systems are the universal language of science

■ physics, engineering, chemistry, theoretical biology, economics, quantitative sociology, ...

■ modeling processes

■ time-varying measures

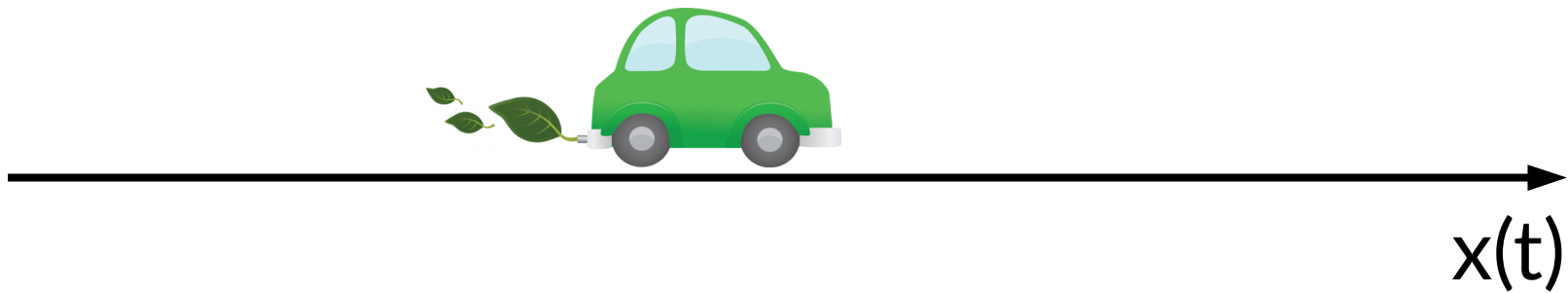
■ forces causing/accounting for movement

=> dynamical systems

time-variation & rate of change

- variable $x(t)$
- rate of change dx/dt

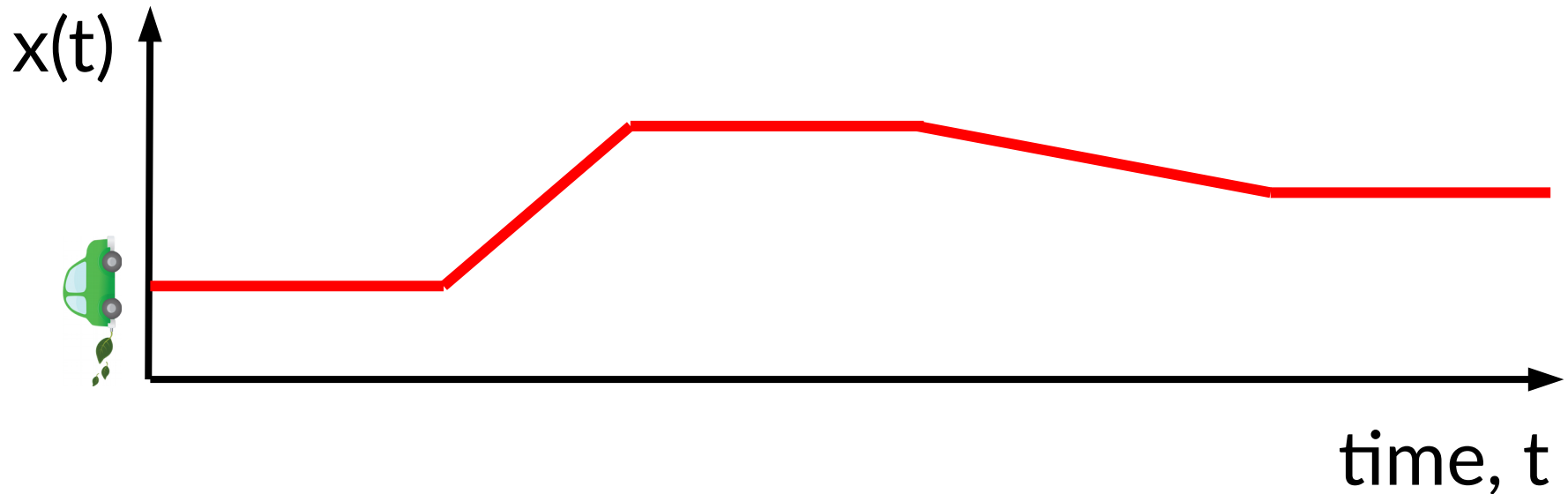
time-variation & rate of change



$x(t)$: position

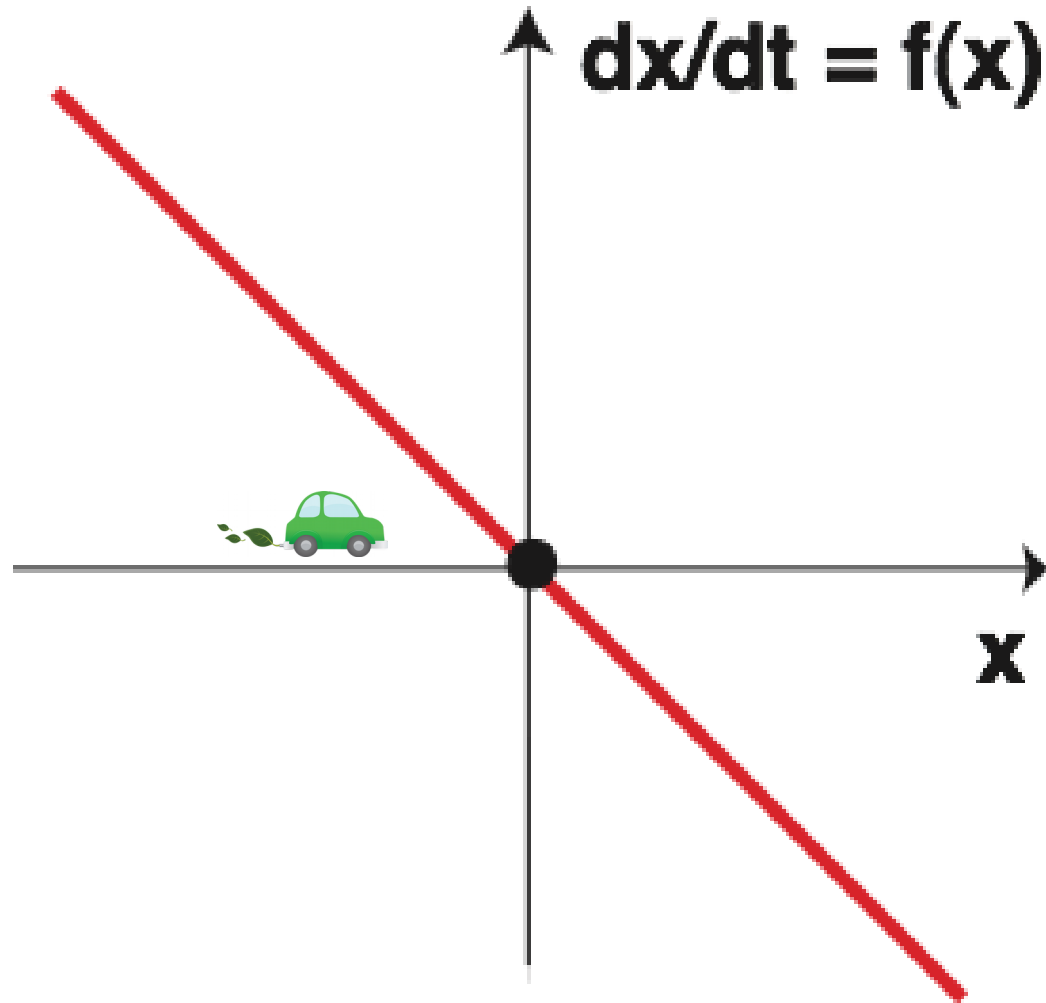
$\dot{x}(t) = dx/dt$: rate of change (speed)

time-variation & rate of change



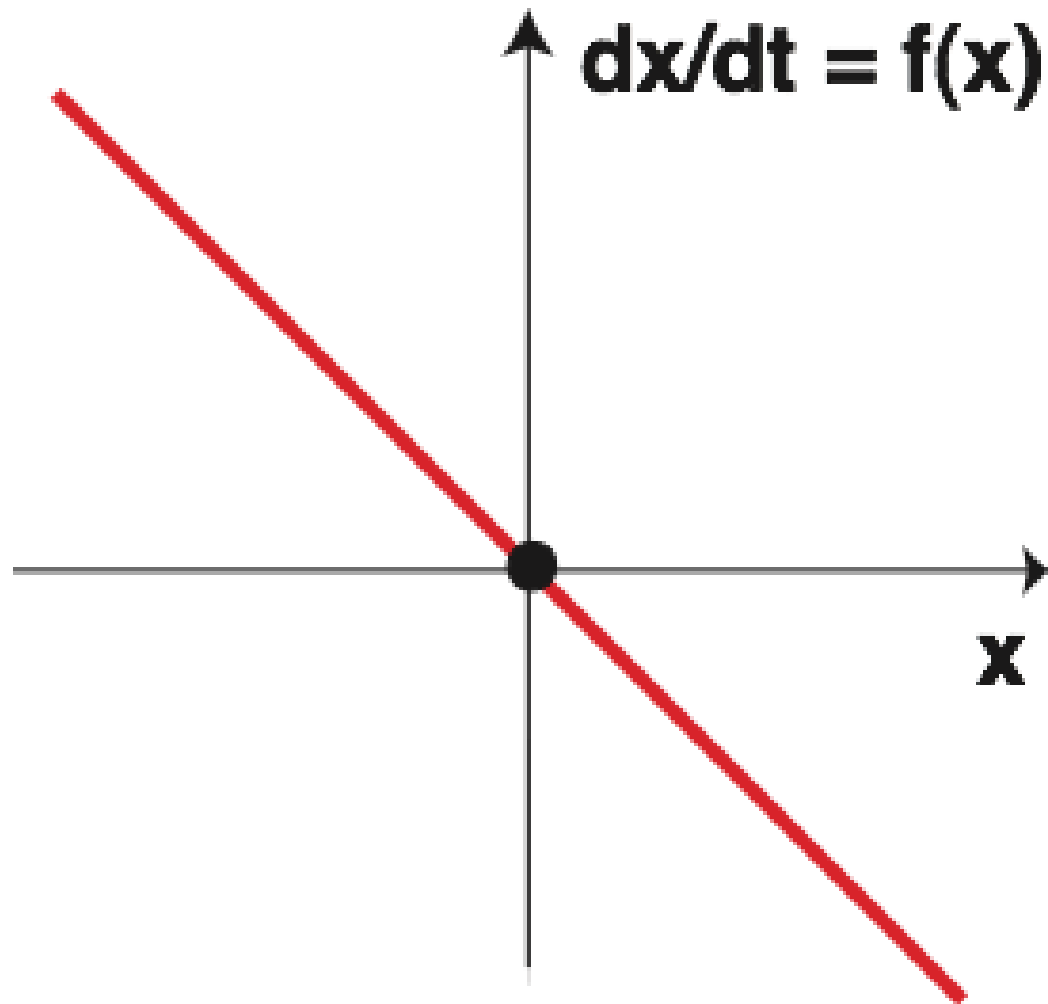
$$\dot{x} = dx/dt = \text{rate of change} = \text{slope of this graph}$$

dynamical system



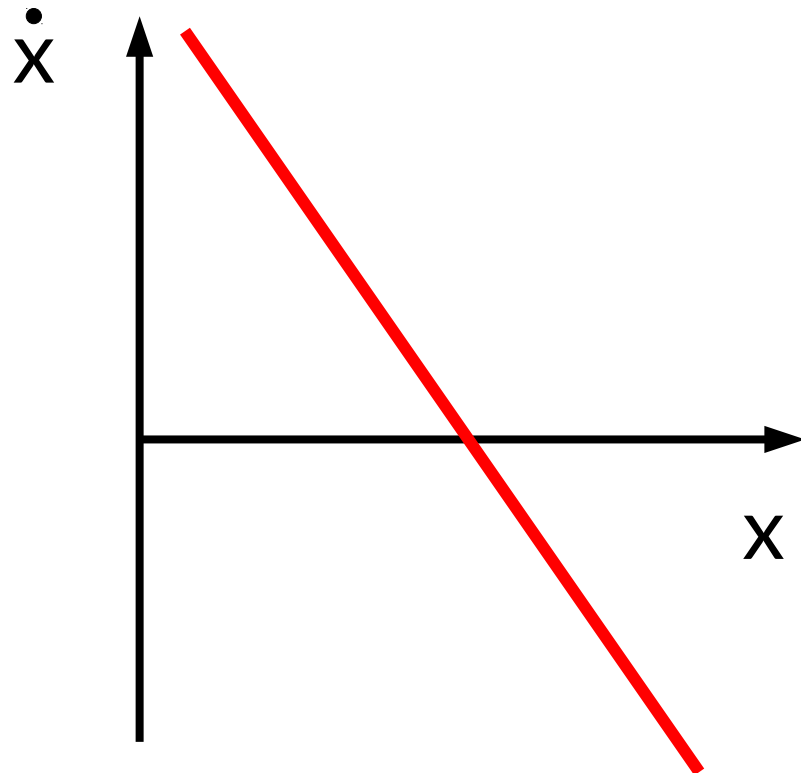
relationship between a variable and its rate of change

dynamical system

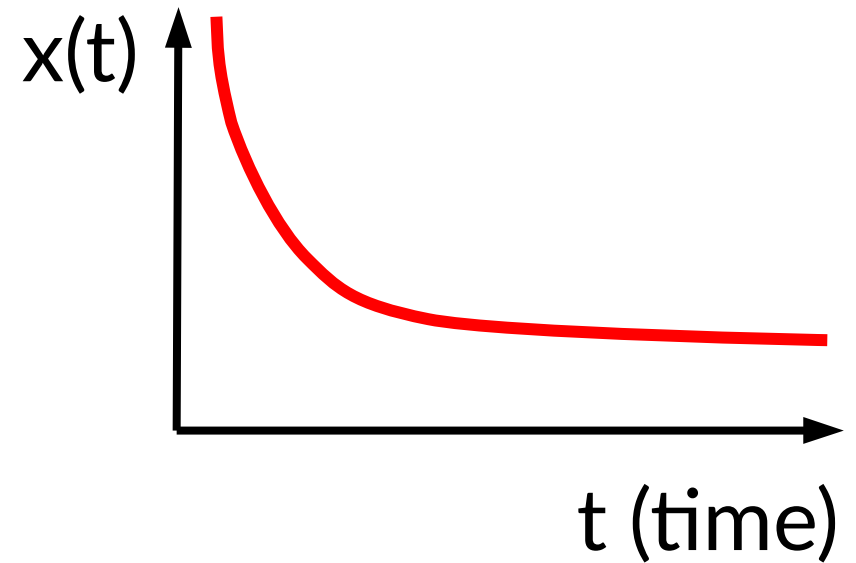


What equation is shown here?

dynamics/
phase plot



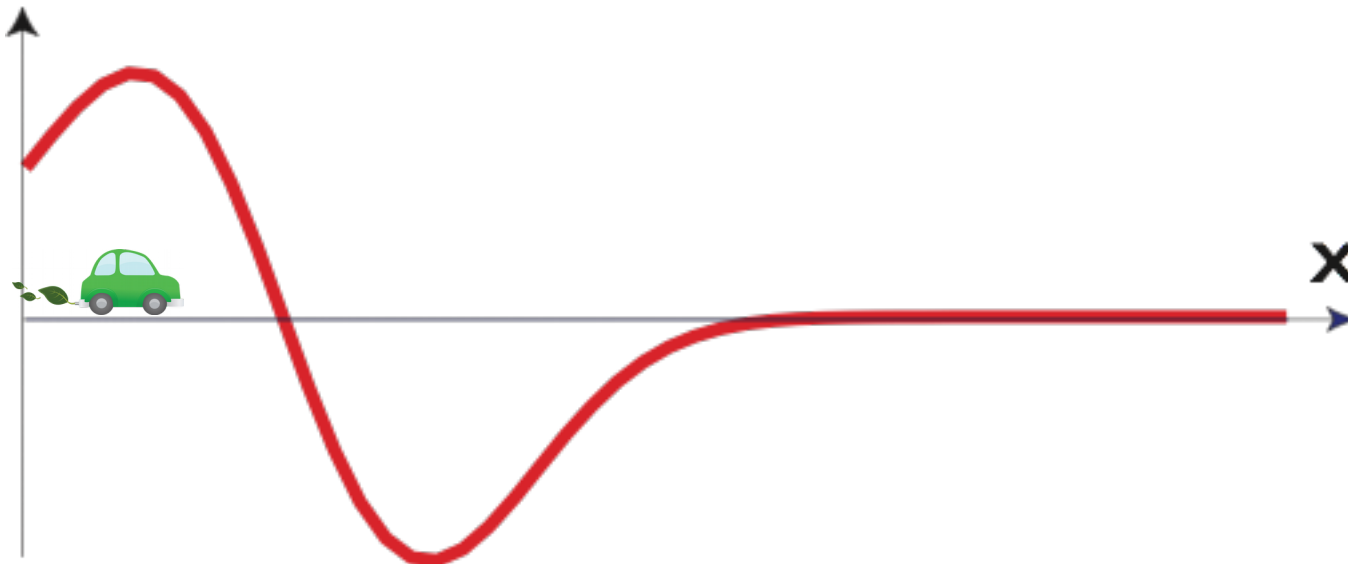
solution/
time course



dynamical system

- present determines the future
 - given initial condition
 - predict evolution (or predict the past)

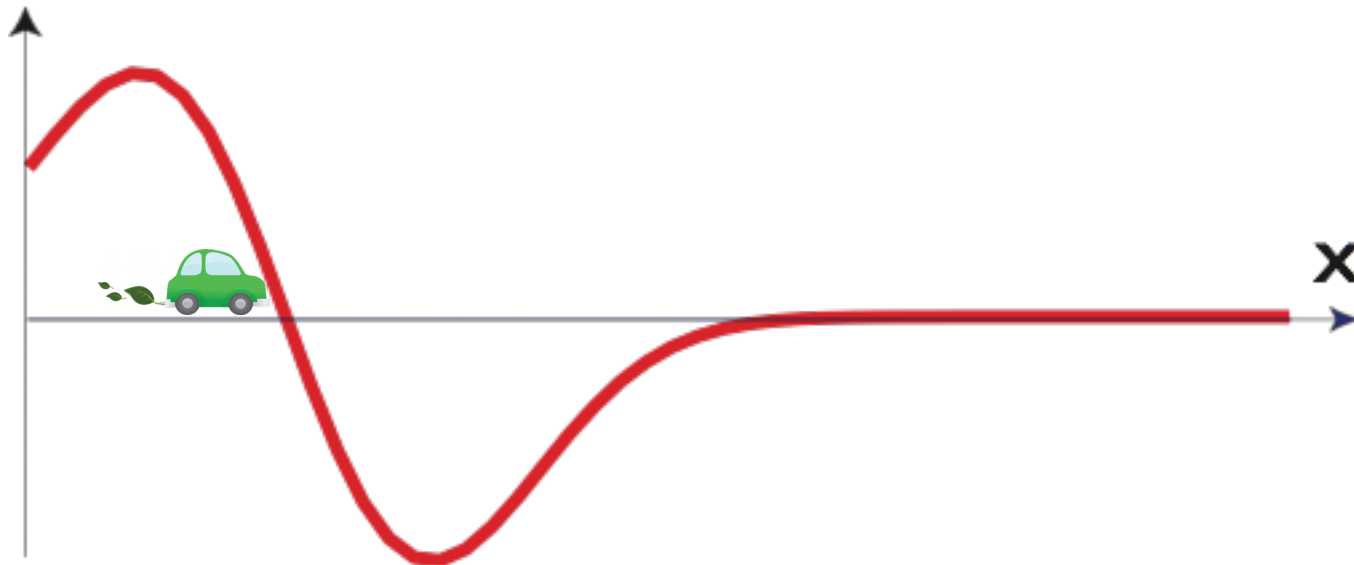
$$dx/dt=f(x)$$



dynamical system

- present determines the future
 - given initial condition
 - predict evolution (or predict the past)

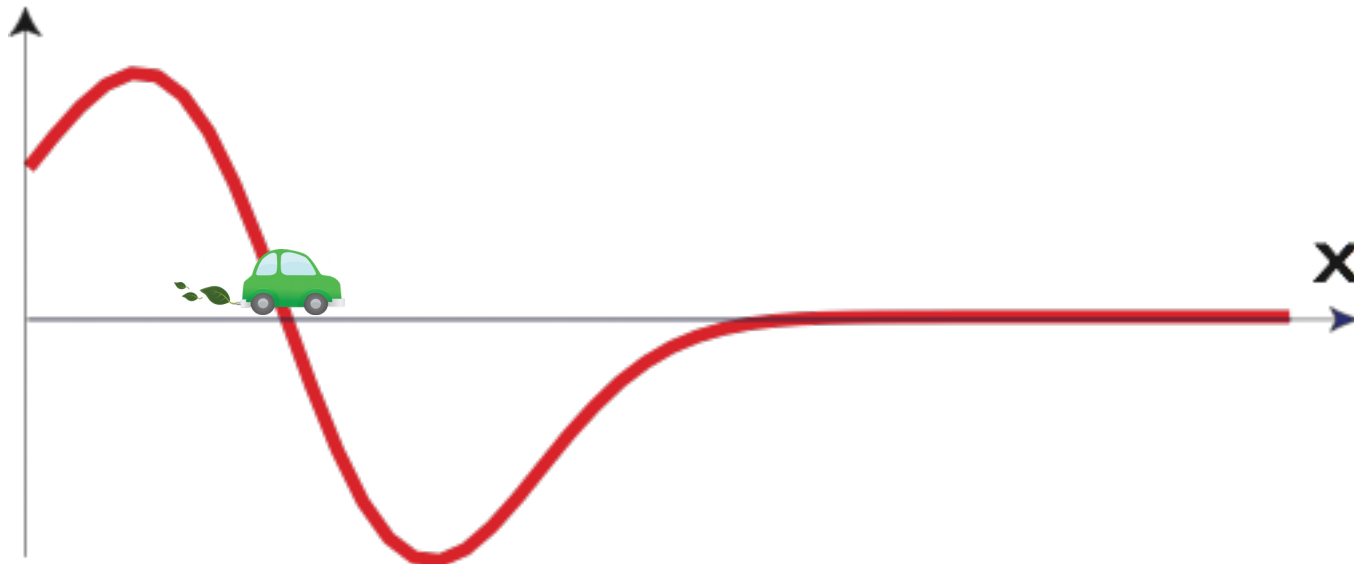
$$dx/dt=f(x)$$



dynamical system

- present determines the future
 - given initial condition
 - predict evolution (or predict the past)

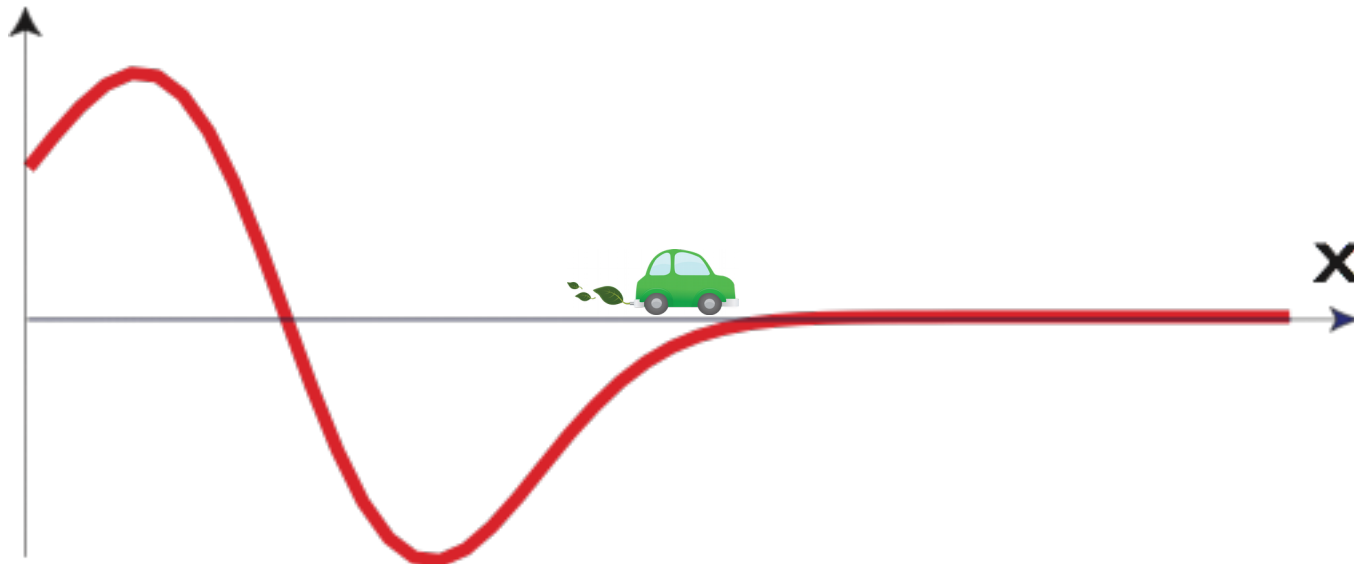
$$dx/dt=f(x)$$



dynamical system

- present determines the future
 - given initial condition
 - predict evolution (or predict the past)

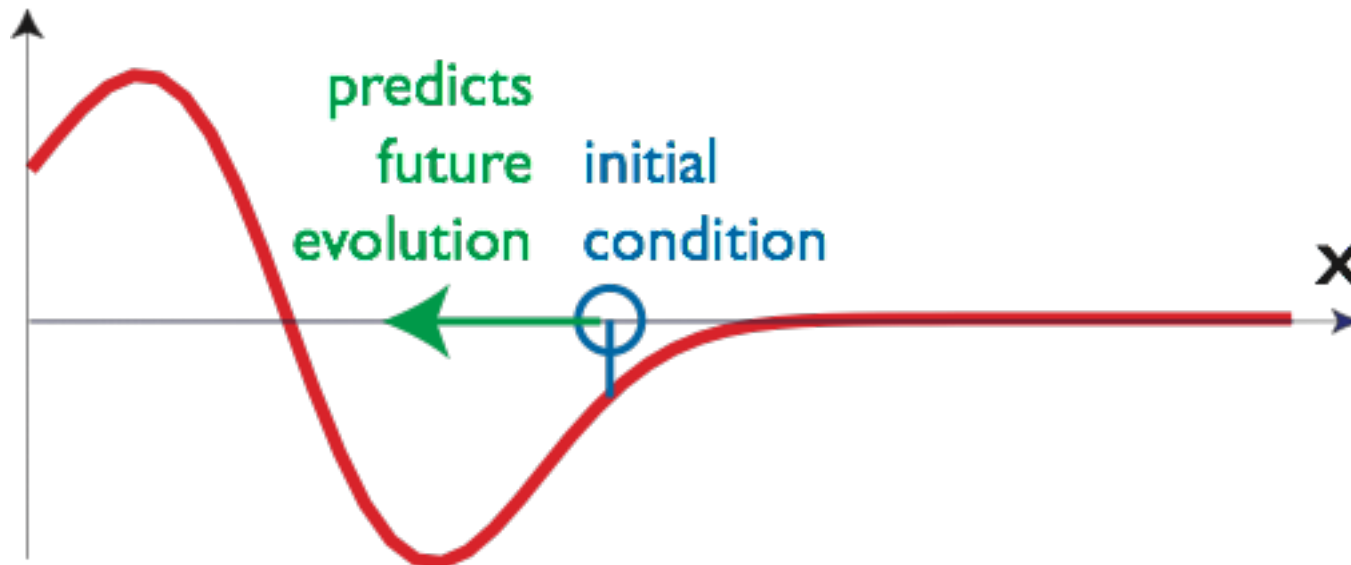
$$dx/dt=f(x)$$



dynamical system

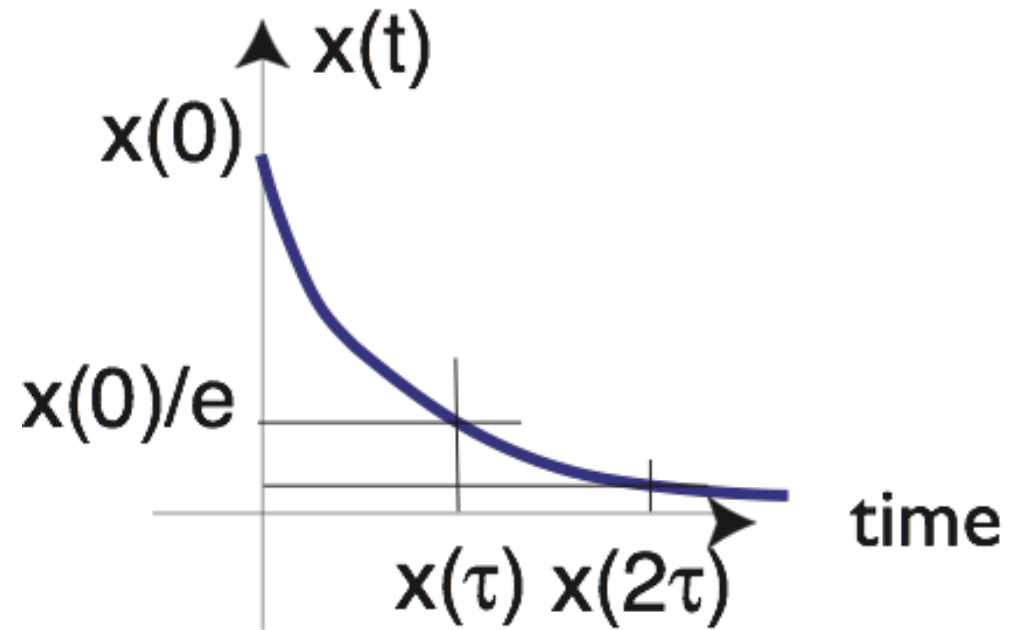
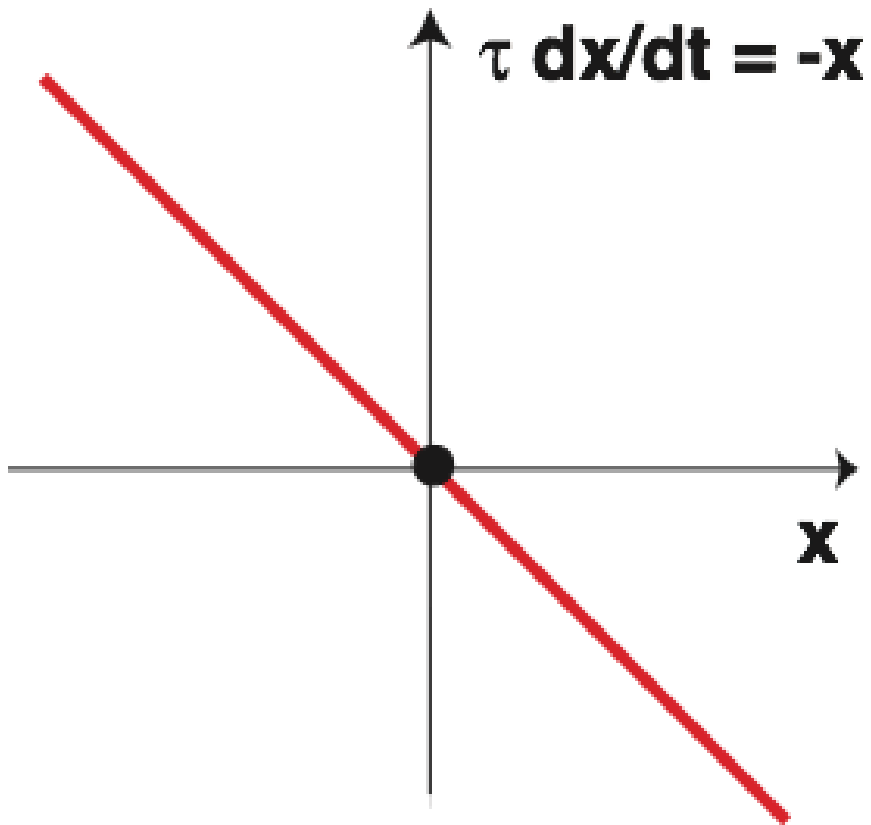
- present determines the future
- given initial condition
- predict evolution (or predict the past)

$$dx/dt=f(x)$$



exponential relaxation to attractors

■ => time scale



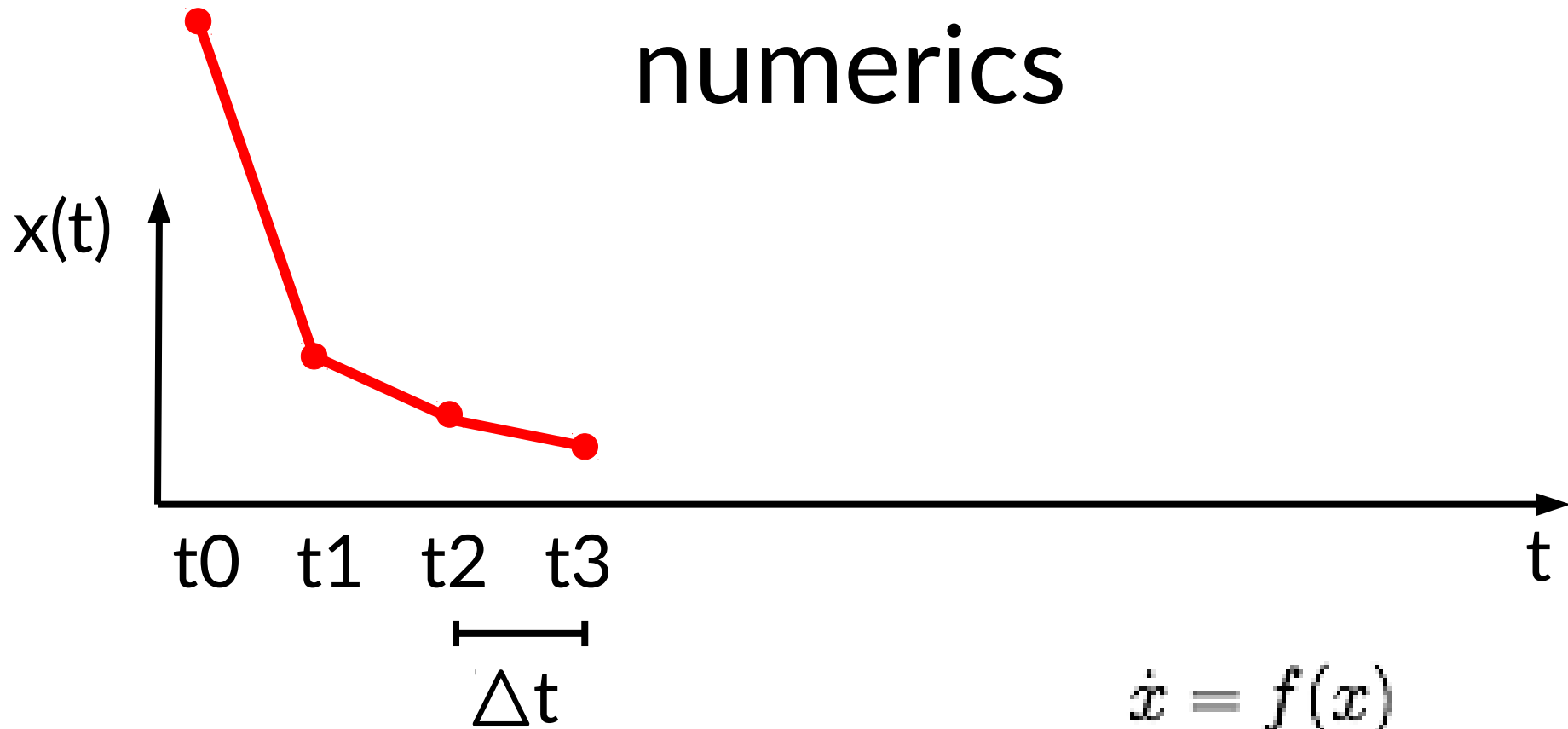
dynamical systems

- x : spans the state space (or phase space)
- $f(x)$: is the “dynamics” of x (or vector-field)
- $x(t)$ is a **solution** of the dynamical systems to the initial condition x_0
 - if its rate of change = $f(x)$
 - and $x(0)=x_0$

numerics

- sample time discretely
- compute solution by iterating through time

numerics



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

$$t_i = i * \Delta t; \quad x_i = x(t_i)$$

$$\dot{x} = \frac{dx}{dt} \approx \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t} = \frac{x_{i+1} - x_i}{\Delta t}$$

[forward Euler]

$$x_{i+1} = x_i + \Delta t * f(x_i)$$

linear dynamics

 => simulation

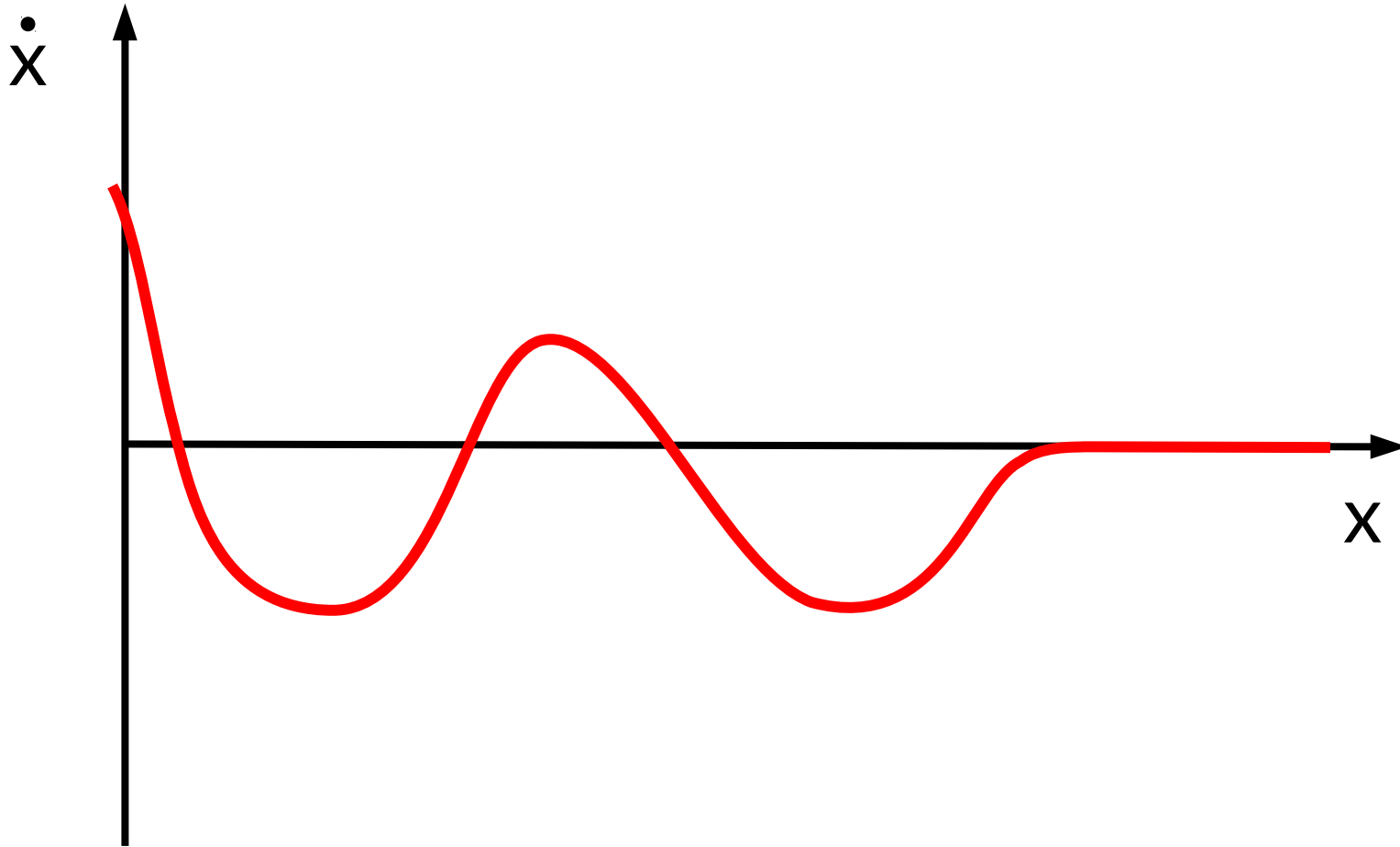
fixed point

■ is a constant solution of the dynamical system

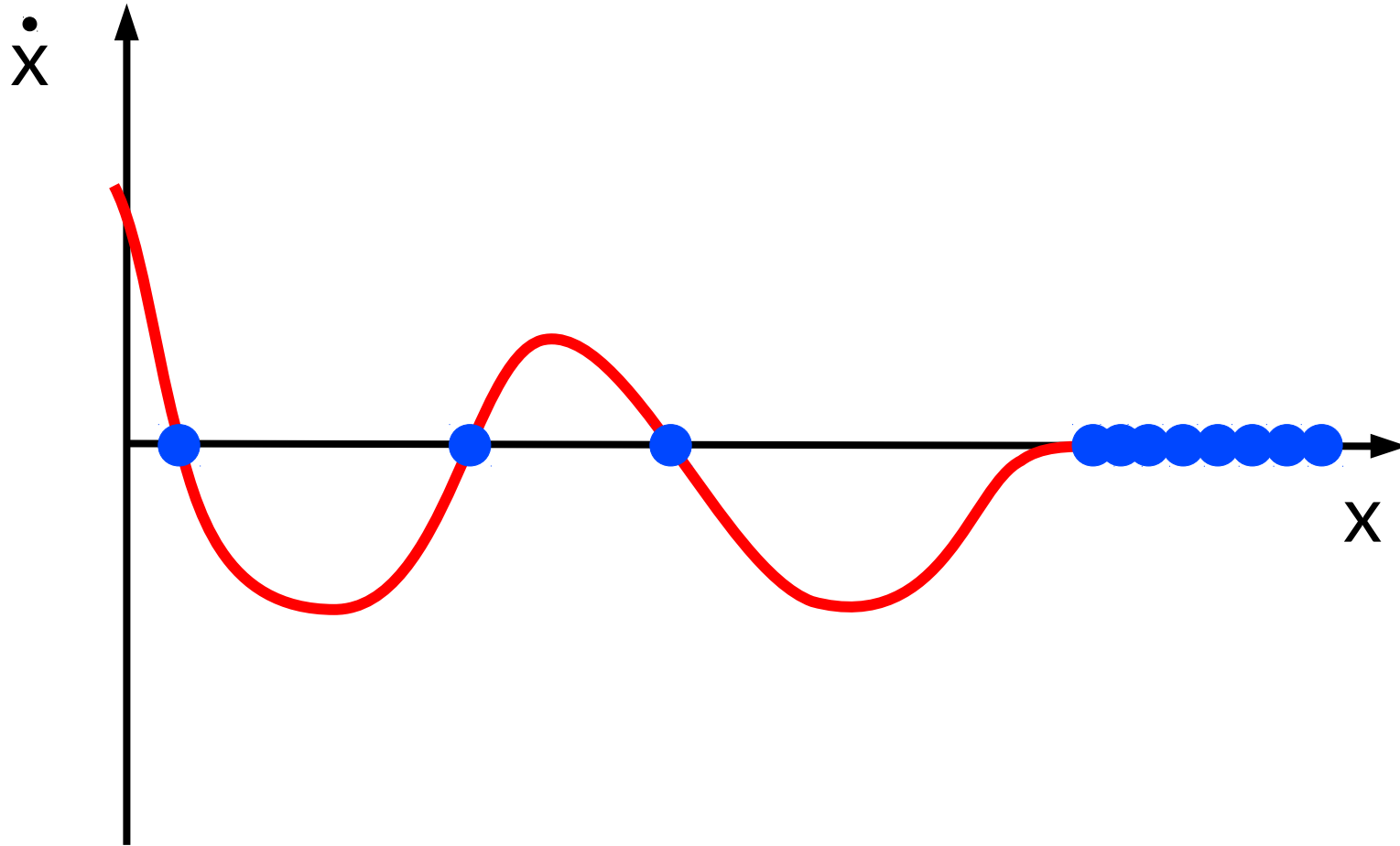
$$\dot{x} = f(x)$$

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

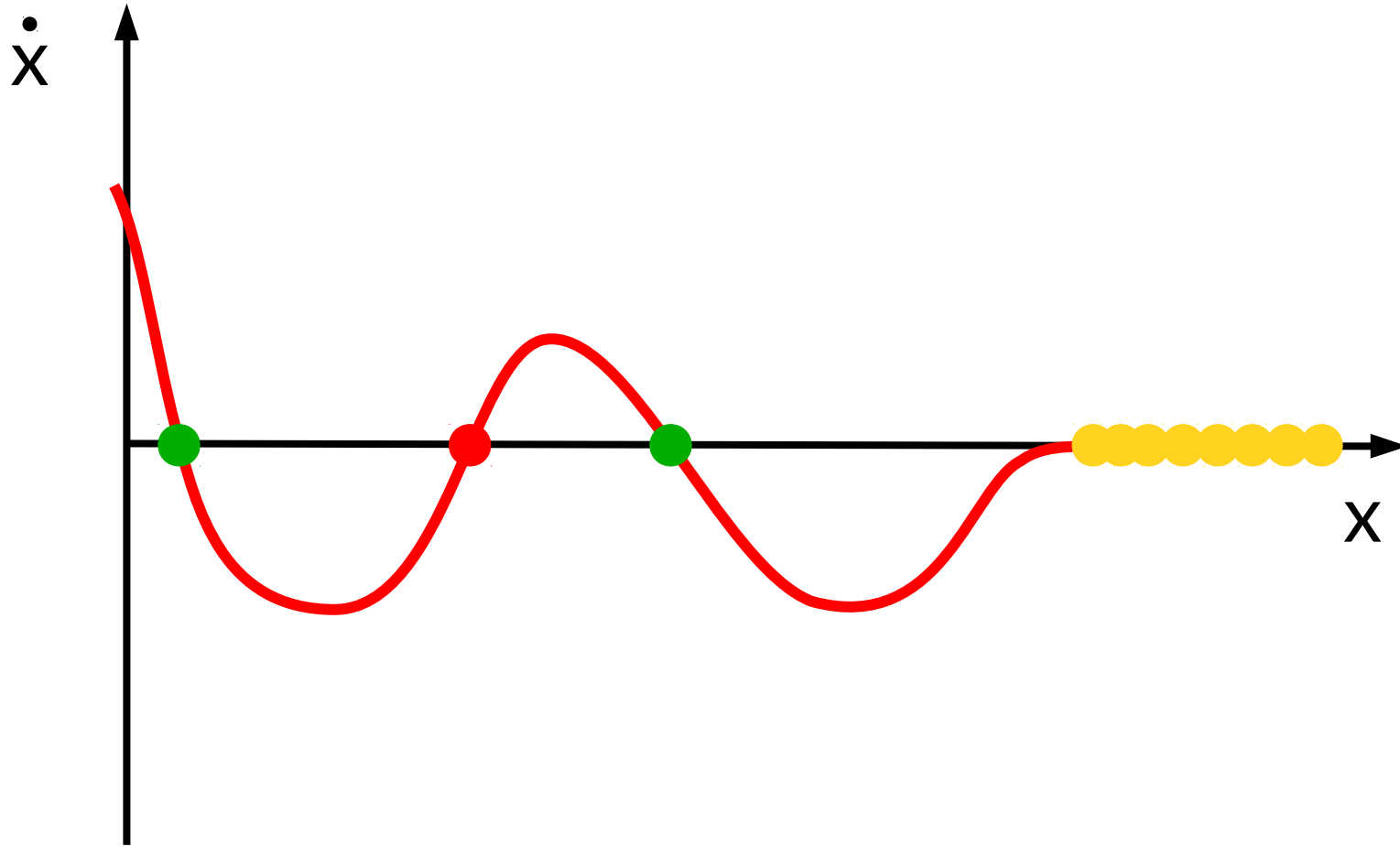
fixed points



fixed points



fixed points

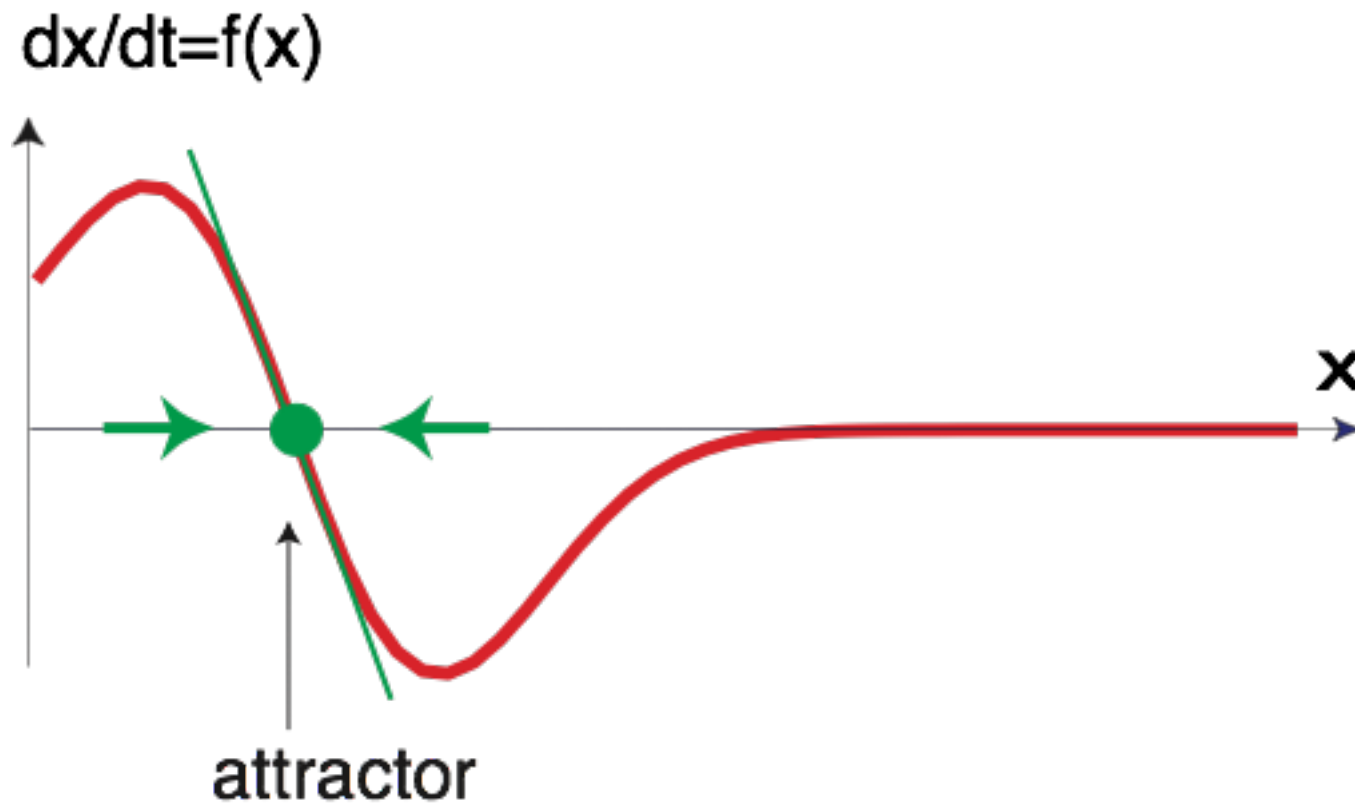


stability

- mathematically really: **asymptotic stability**
- defined: a fixed point is asymptotically stable, when solutions of the dynamical system that start nearby converge in time to the fixed point

attractor

- **fixed point**, to which neighboring initial conditions converge = **attractor**



linear approximation near attractor

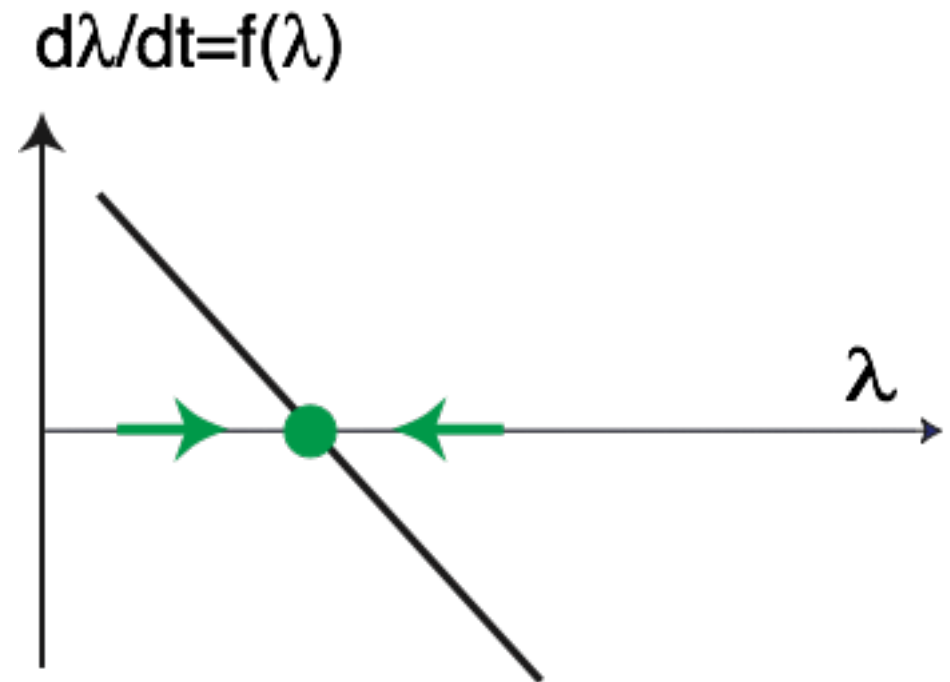
- non-linearity as a small perturbation/deformation of linear system
- => non-essential non-linearity



stability in a linear system

■ if the slope of the linear system is negative, the fixed point is (asymptotically stable)

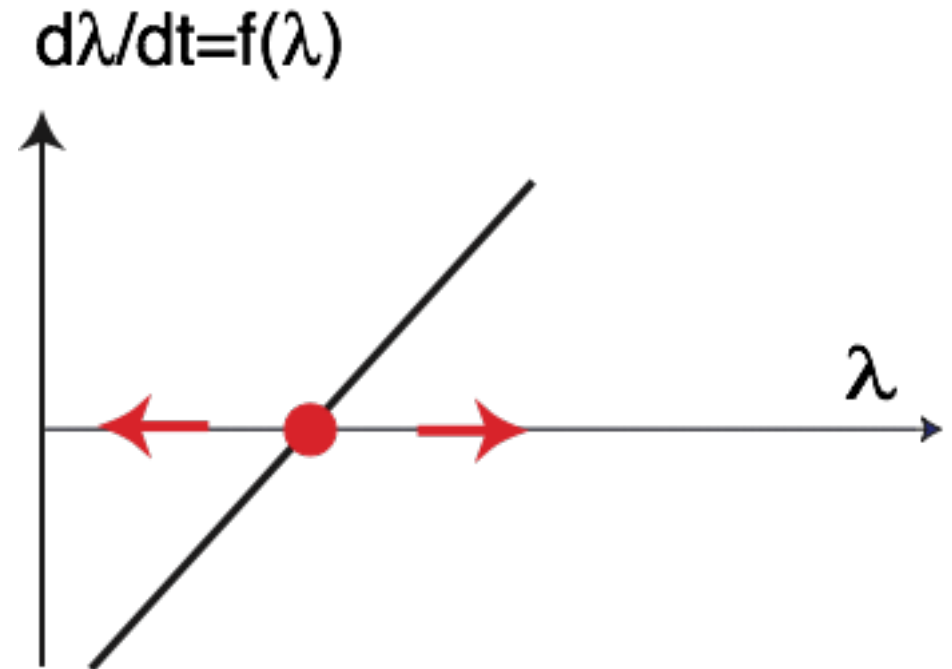
■ => attractor



stability in a linear system

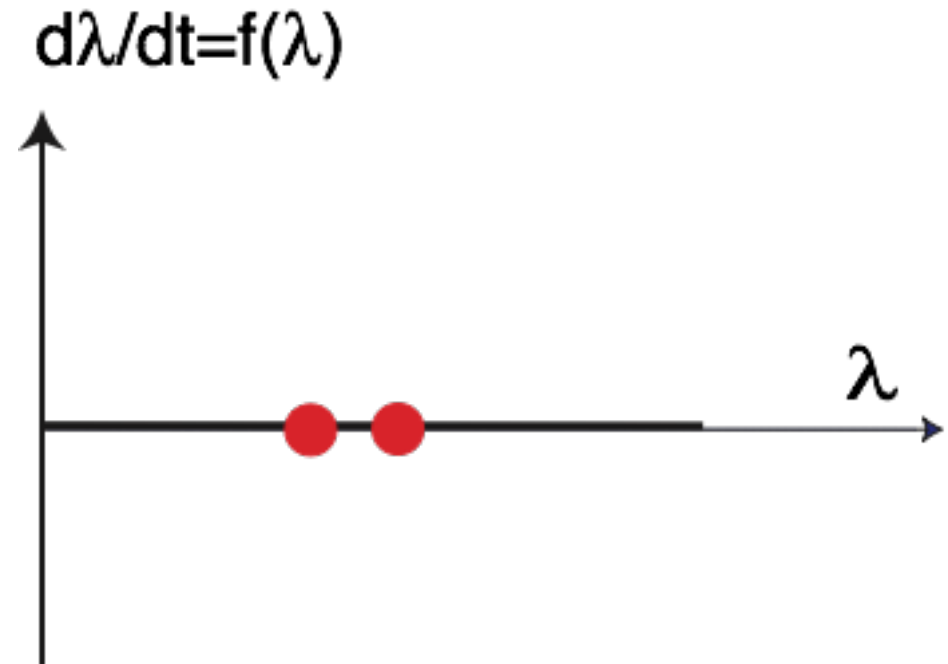
■ if the slope of the linear system is positive, then the fixed point is unstable

■ \Rightarrow repellor

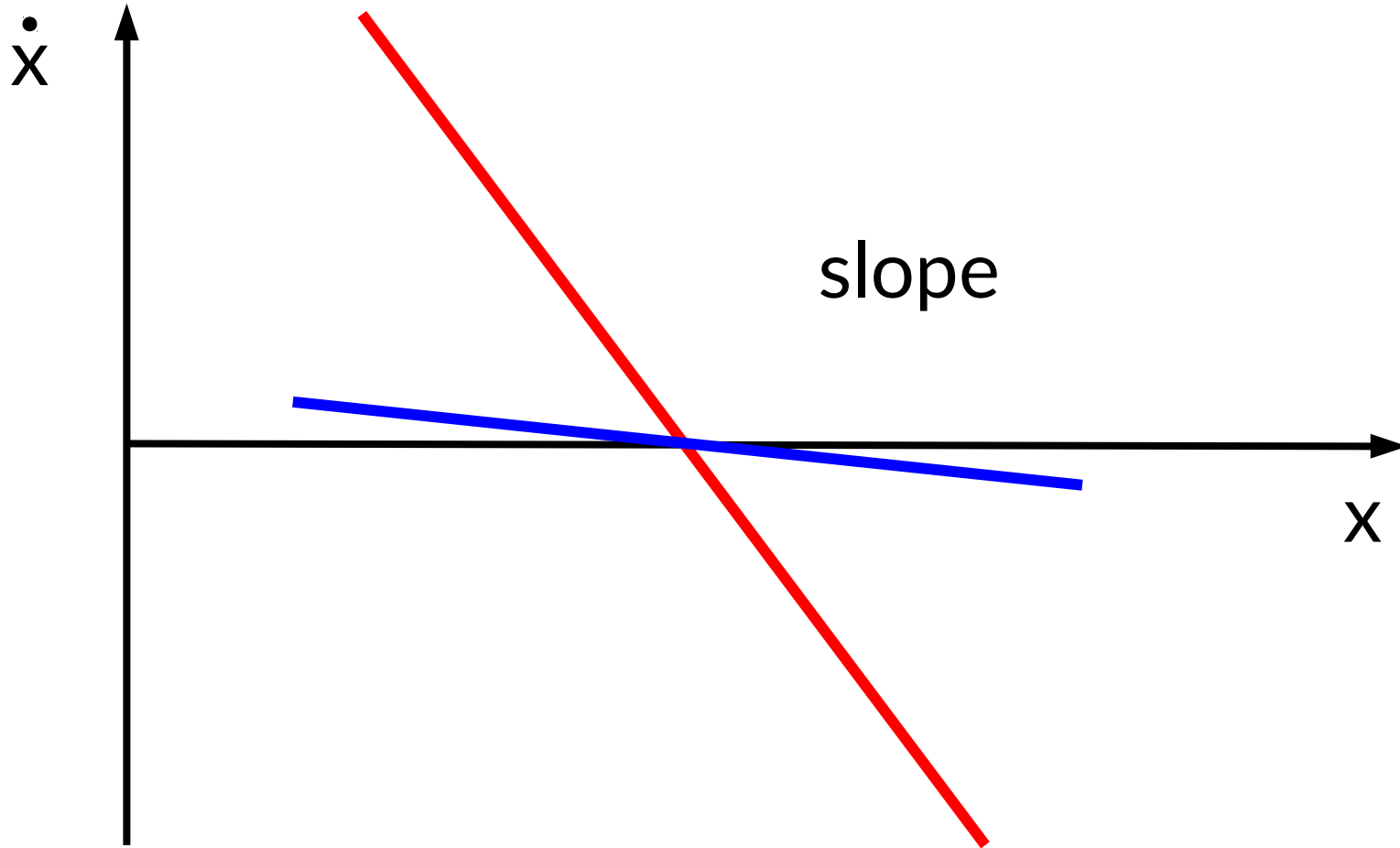


stability in a linear system

- if the slope of the linear system is zero, then the system is indifferent (marginally stable: stable but not asymptotically stable)



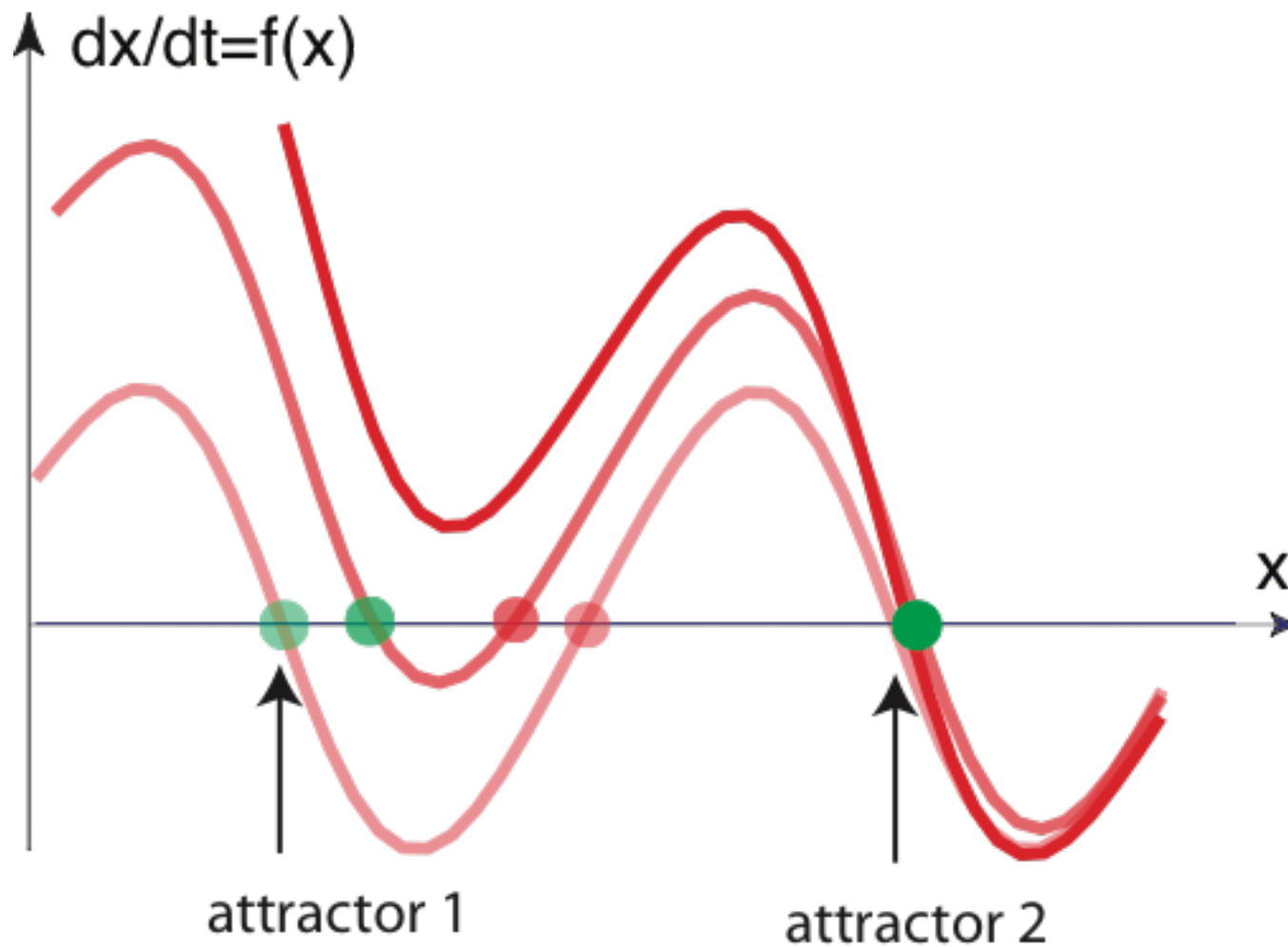
degree of stability



bifurcations

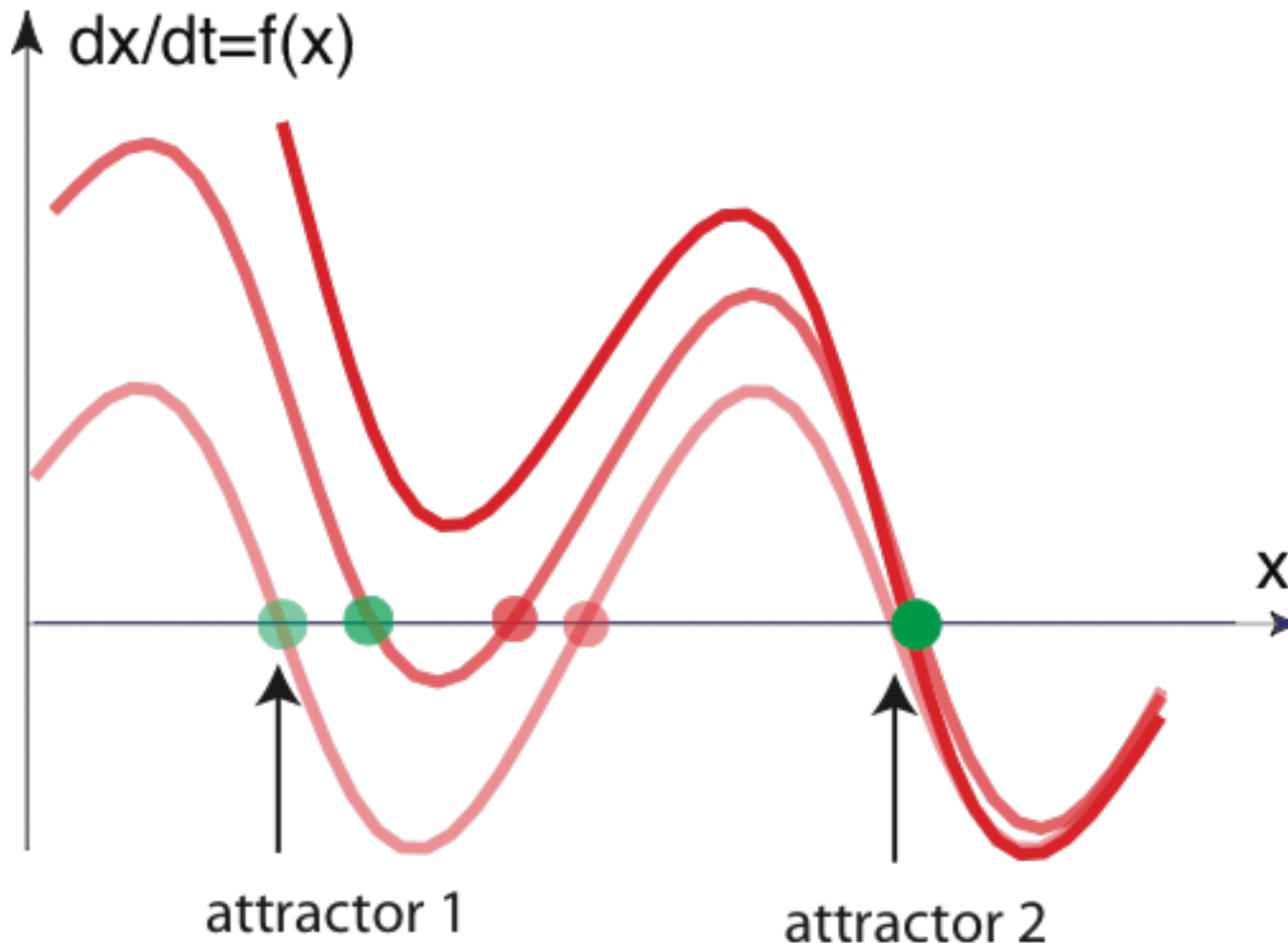
- look now at families of dynamical systems, which depend (smoothly) on parameters
- ask: as the parameters change (smoothly), how do the solutions change (smoothly?)
 - smoothly: topological equivalence of the dynamical systems at neighboring parameter values
 - bifurcation: dynamical systems NOT topological equivalent as parameter changes infinitesimally

bifurcation



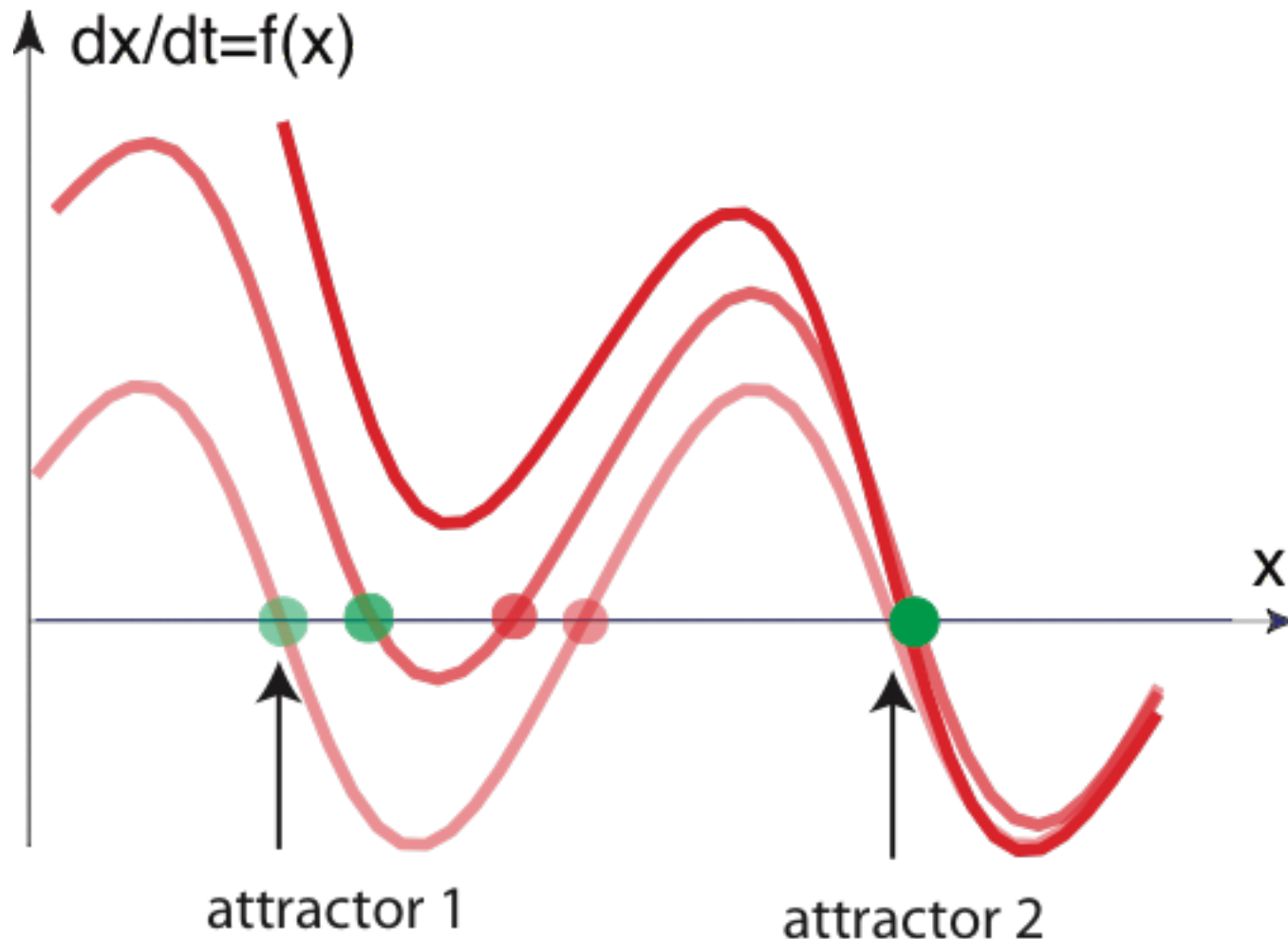
bifurcation

- bifurcation=**qualitative** change of dynamics (change in number, nature, or stability of fixed points) as the dynamics changes smoothly



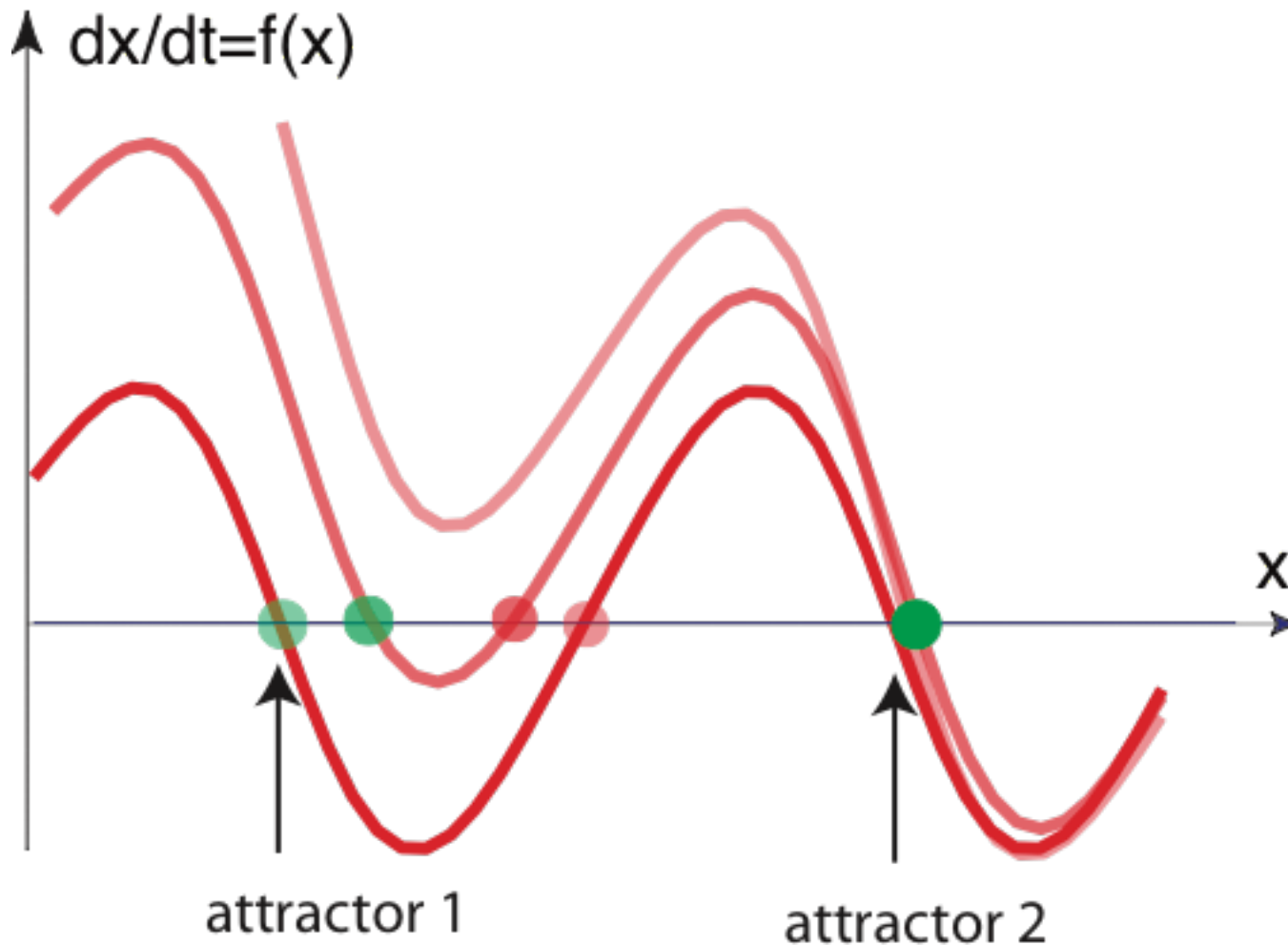
tangent bifurcation

- the simplest bifurcation: an attractor collides with a repeller and the two annihilate



reverse bifurcation

- changing the dynamics in the opposite direction



bifurcations are instabilities

- that is, an attractor becomes unstable before disappearing
- (or the attractor appears with reduced stability)
- formally: a zero-real part is a necessary condition for a bifurcation to occur

tangent bifurcation

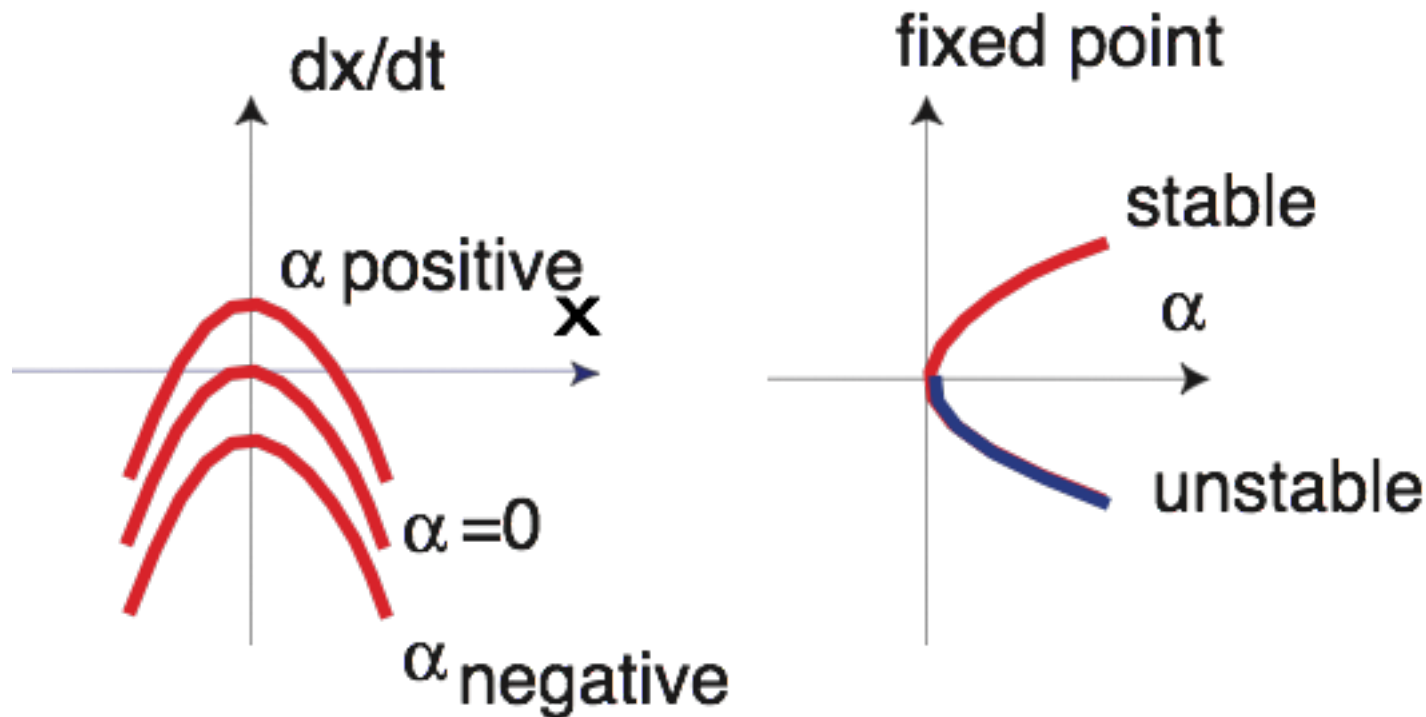
 => simulation

tangent bifurcation

- normal form of tangent bifurcation

$$\dot{x} = \alpha - x^2$$

- (=simplest polynomial equation whose flow is topologically equivalent to the bifurcation)



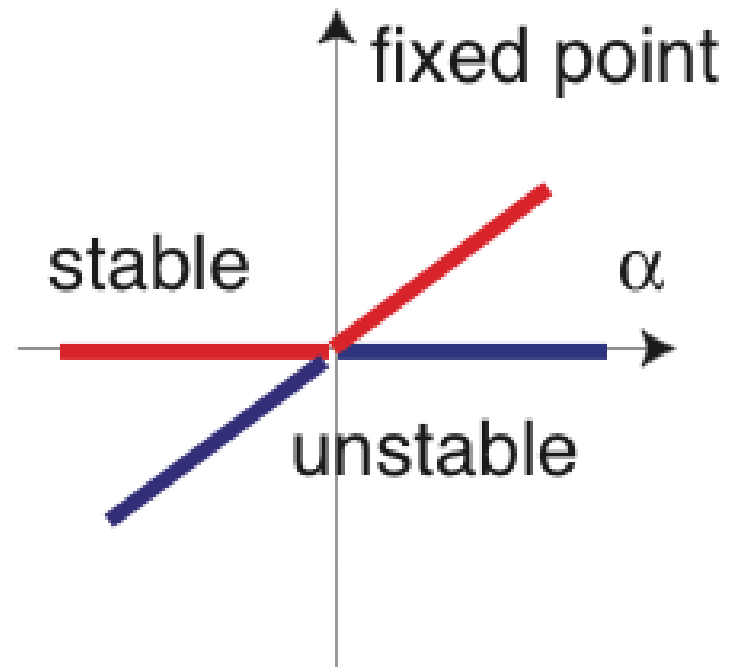
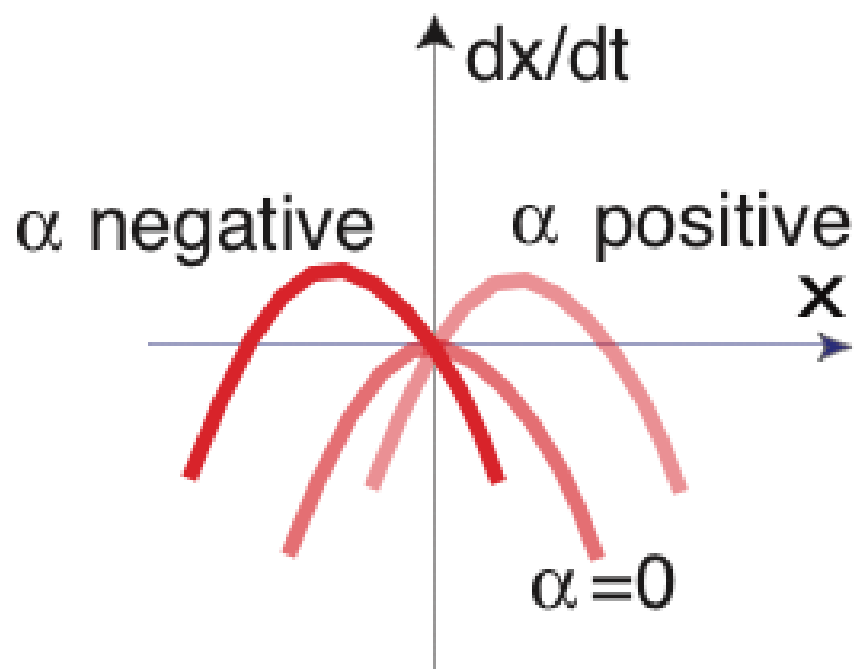
Hopf theorem

- when a single (or pair of complex conjugate) eigenvalue crosses the imaginary axis, one of four bifurcations occur
 - tangent bifurcation
 - transcritical bifurcation
 - pitchfork bifurcation
 - Hopf bifurcation

transcritical bifurcation

■ normal form

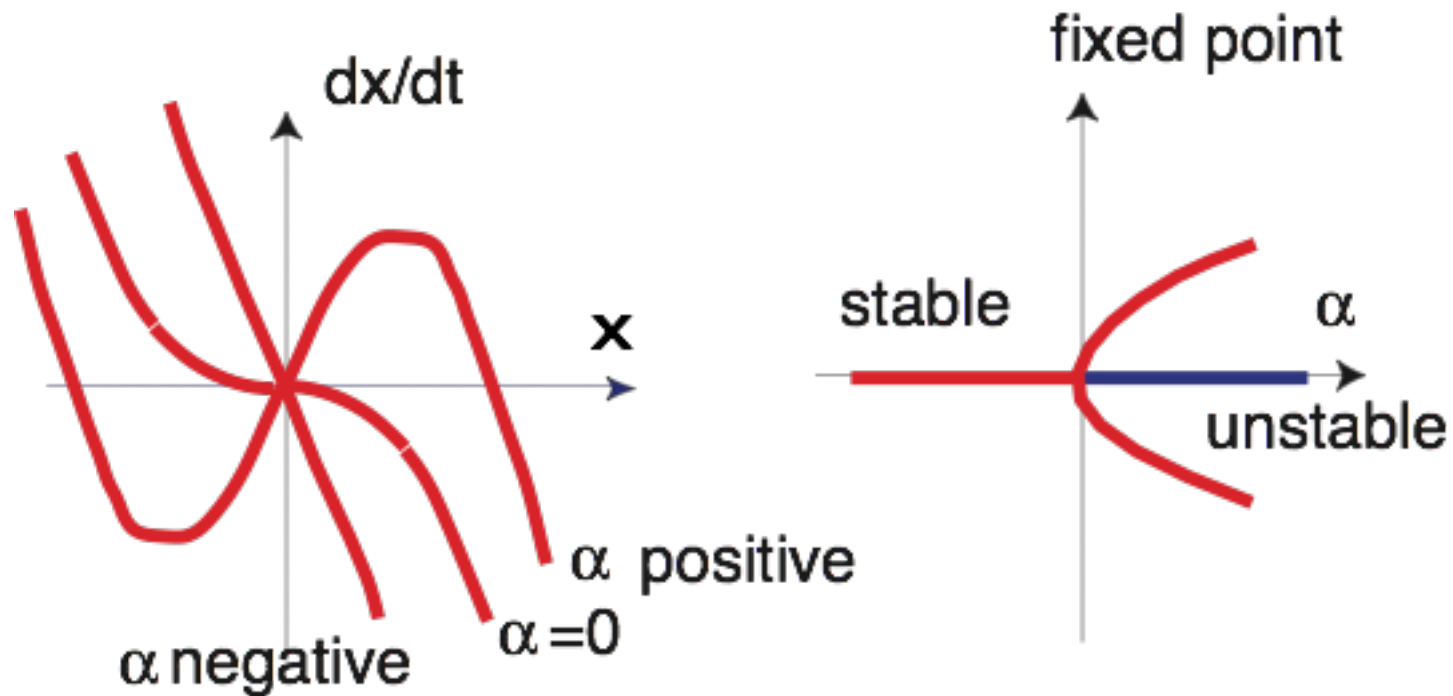
$$\dot{x} = \alpha x - x^2$$



pitchfork bifurcation

■ normal form

$$\dot{x} = \alpha x - x^3$$



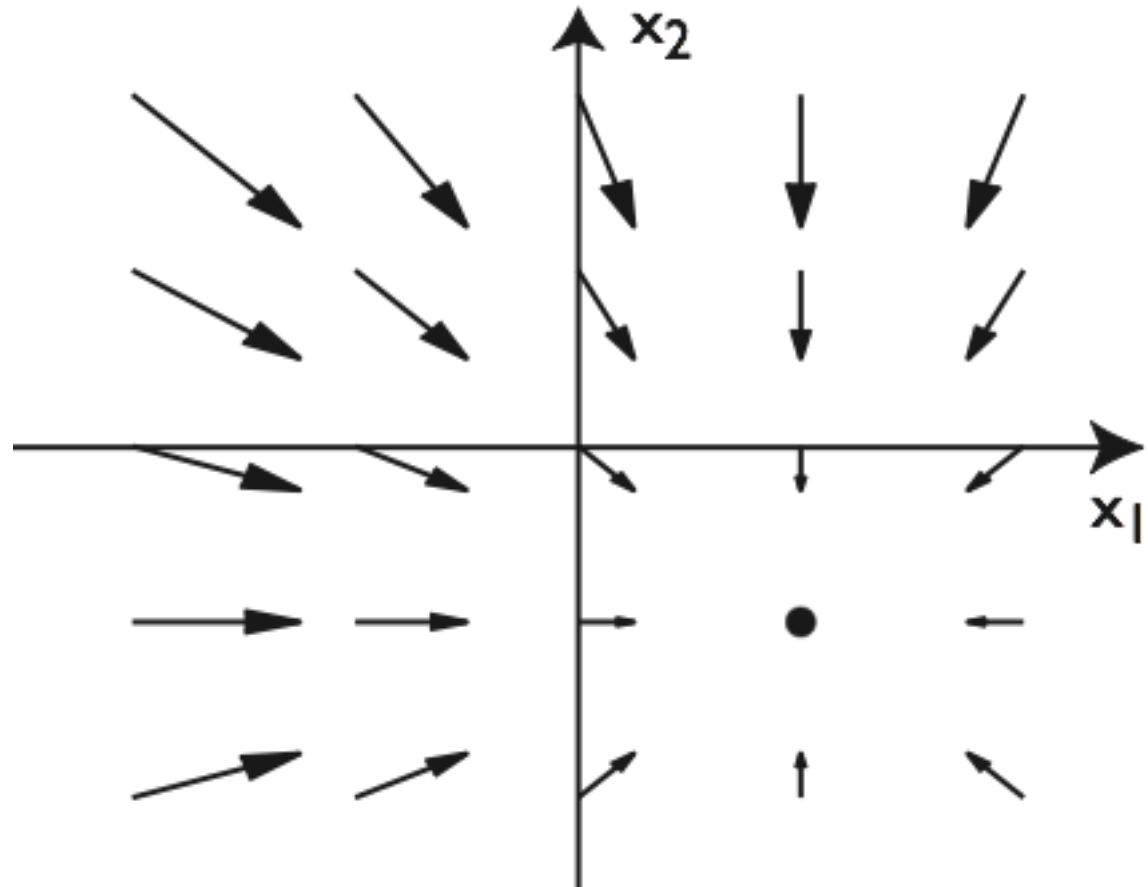
pitchfork bifurcation

 => simulation

Hopf: need higher dimensions

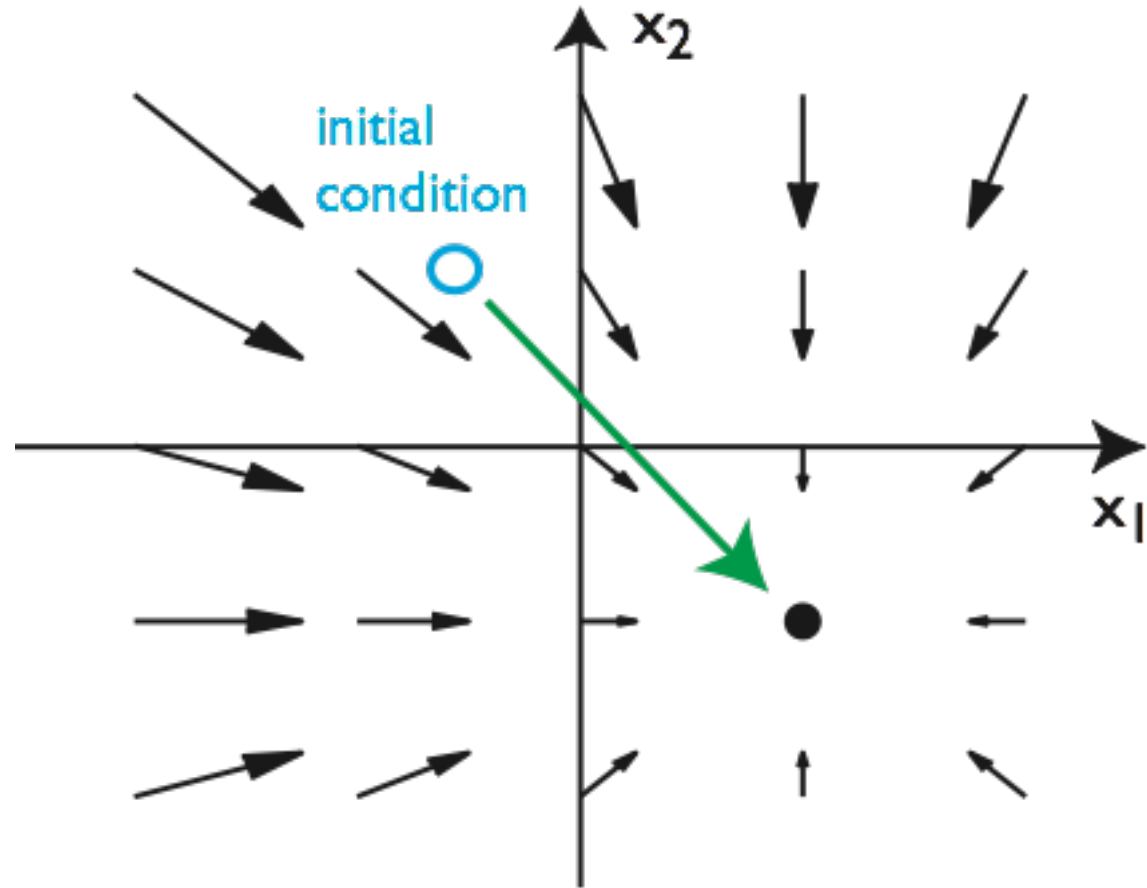
2D dynamical system: vector-field

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}_1 &= f_1(x_1, x_2) \\ \dot{x}_2 &= f_2(x_1, x_2)\end{aligned}$$



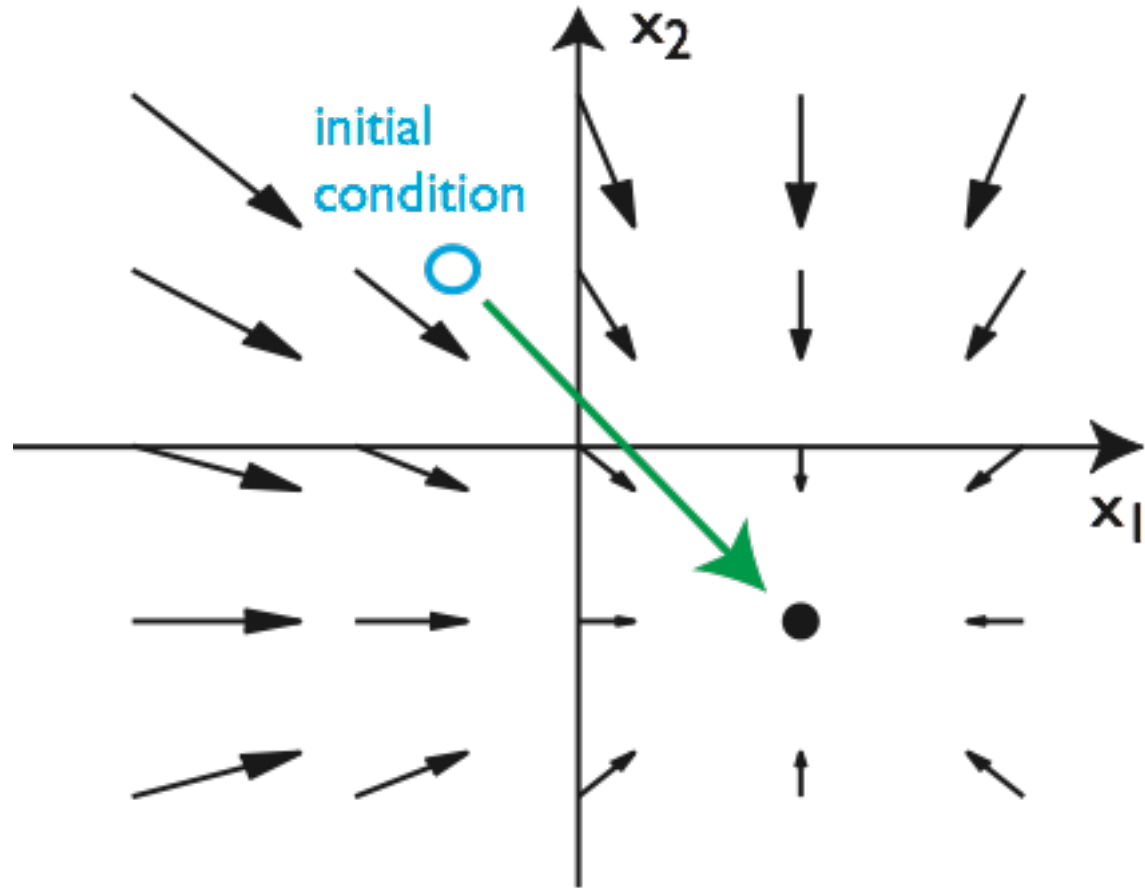
vector-field

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}_1 &= f_1(x_1, x_2) \\ \dot{x}_2 &= f_2(x_1, x_2)\end{aligned}$$



fixed point, stability, attractor

$$\dot{x}_1 = f_1(x_1, x_2)$$
$$\dot{x}_2 = f_2(x_1, x_2)$$

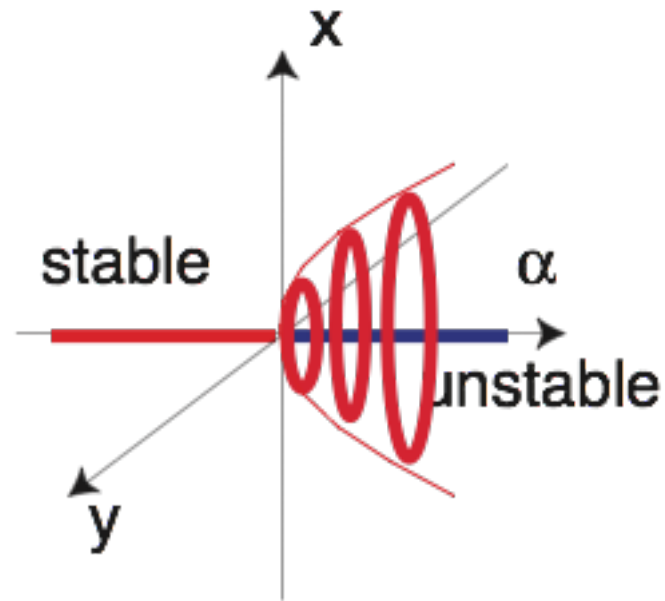
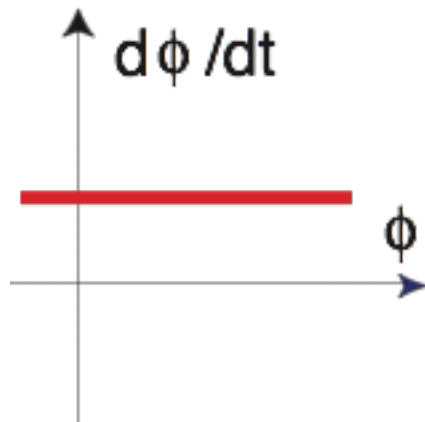
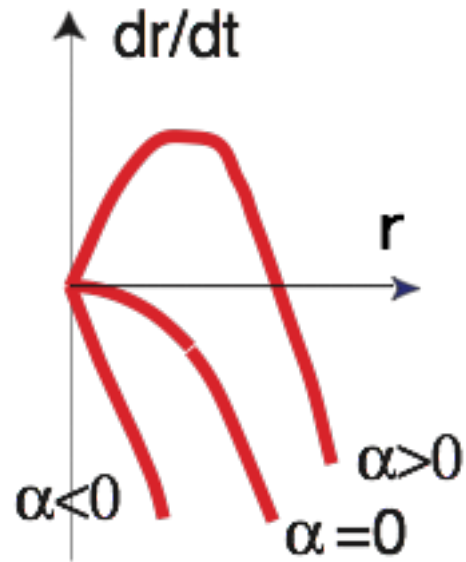


Hopf bifurcation

■ normal form

$$\dot{r} = \alpha r - r^3$$

$$\dot{\phi} = \omega$$



forward dynamics

- given known equation, determined fixed points /limit cycles and their stability
- more generally: determine invariant solutions (stable, unstable and center manifolds)

inverse dynamics

- given solution, find the equation...
- this is the problem faced in design of behavioral dynamics...

inverse dynamics: design

- in the design of behavioral dynamics... you may be given:
- attractor solutions/stable states
- and how they change as a function of parameters/conditions
- => identify the class of dynamical systems using the 4 elementary bifurcations
- and use normal form to provide an exemplary representative of the equivalence class of dynamics

important concepts

time-variation

rate of change

dynamical system

phase plot vs. time course plot

present determines the future

numerical solutions

fixed points (attractors, repellers)

stability

bifurcations & instabilities