

Dynamical Systems Tutorial

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Dynamical Systems Tutorial

- What makes a system “dynamic”?
- Basic math for describing dynamical systems
- Conceptual understanding
- Stability
- Bifurcation
- Review (?)

Dynamical System

- “A dynamical system is a function with an attitude” – E. Scheinerman, Invitation to Dynamical systems
- Variable(s) or *state* that change over time, $x(t)$
- Rule or *function* describing how the state evolves with time, $f(x(t))$
- Universal language of science
 - } physics, engineering, chemistry, biology, economics, ...

Recap: time-variation and rate of change

- Variable or state $x(t)$
- rate of change dx/dt

Recap: time-variation and rate of change

- example:

- variable $x(t)$ = position

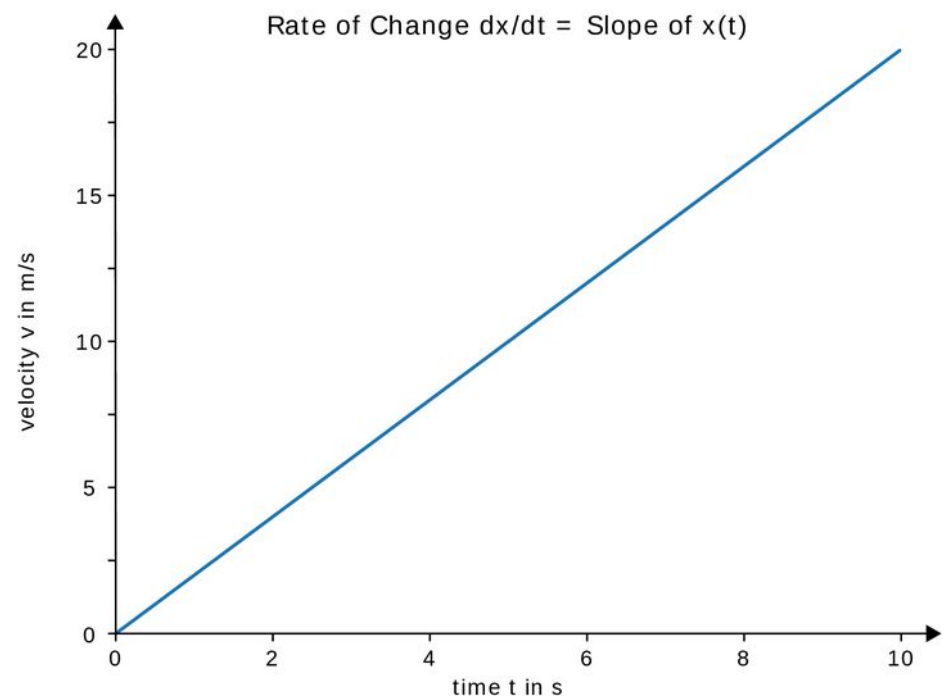
- rate of change dx/dt = velocity

- example:

- variable $v(t)$ = velocity

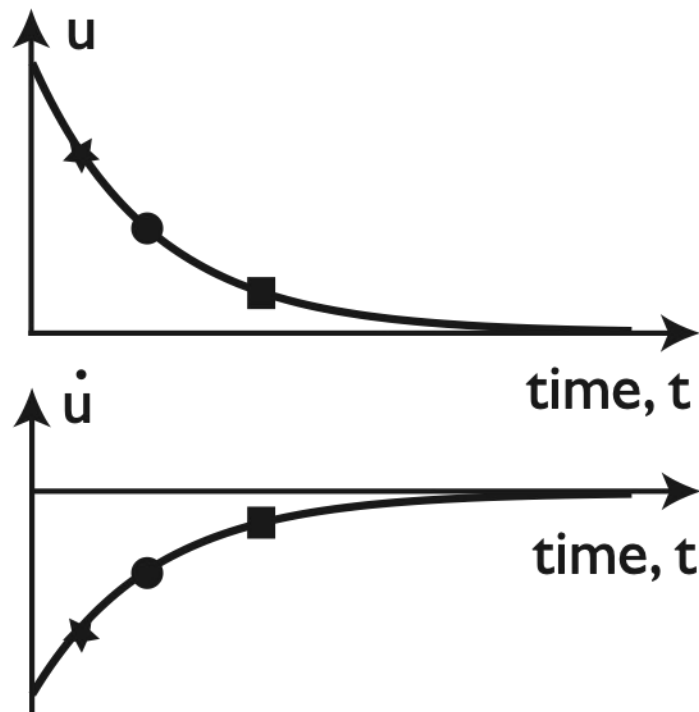
- rate of change ?

Recap: time-variation and rate of change

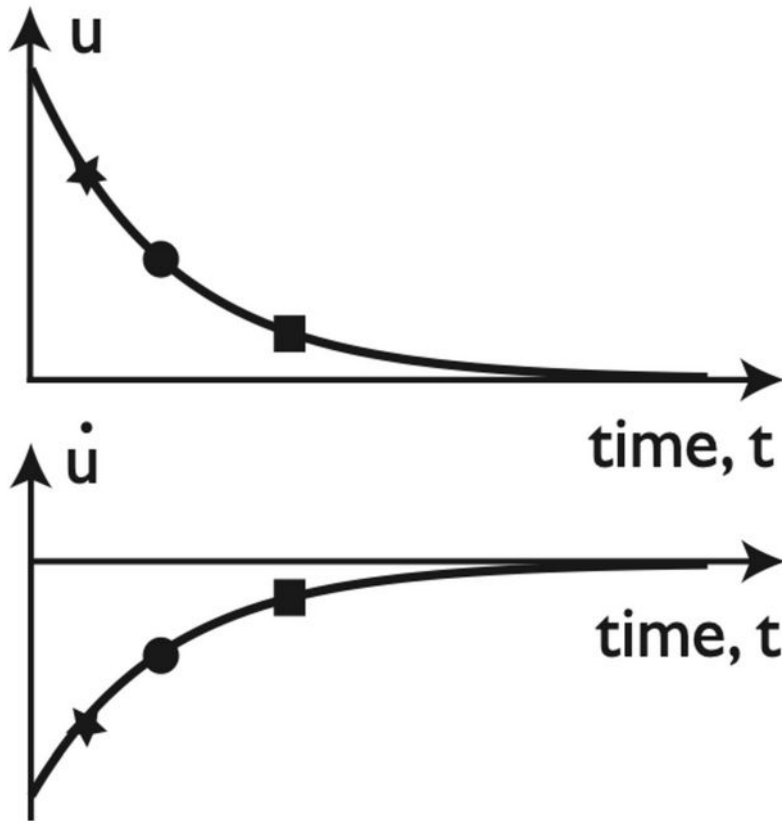


Recap: time-variation and rate of change

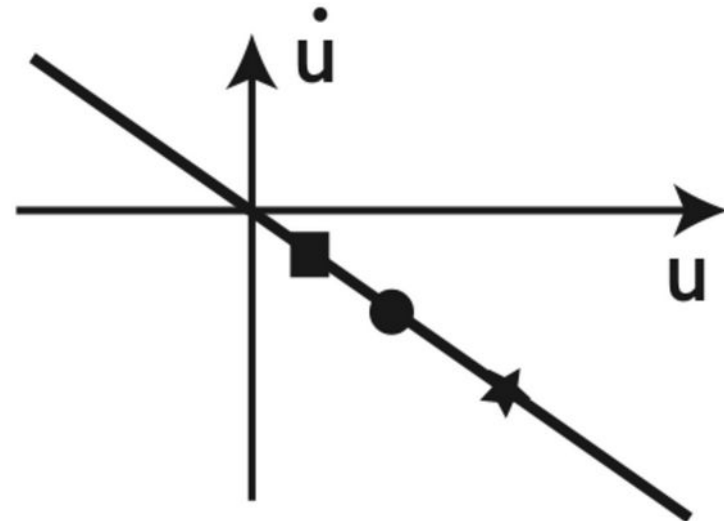
- trajectory: time course of a dynamical variable
- rate of change: slope of the trajectory



dynamical system: relationship between a variable and its rate of change, $du/dt = f(u)$



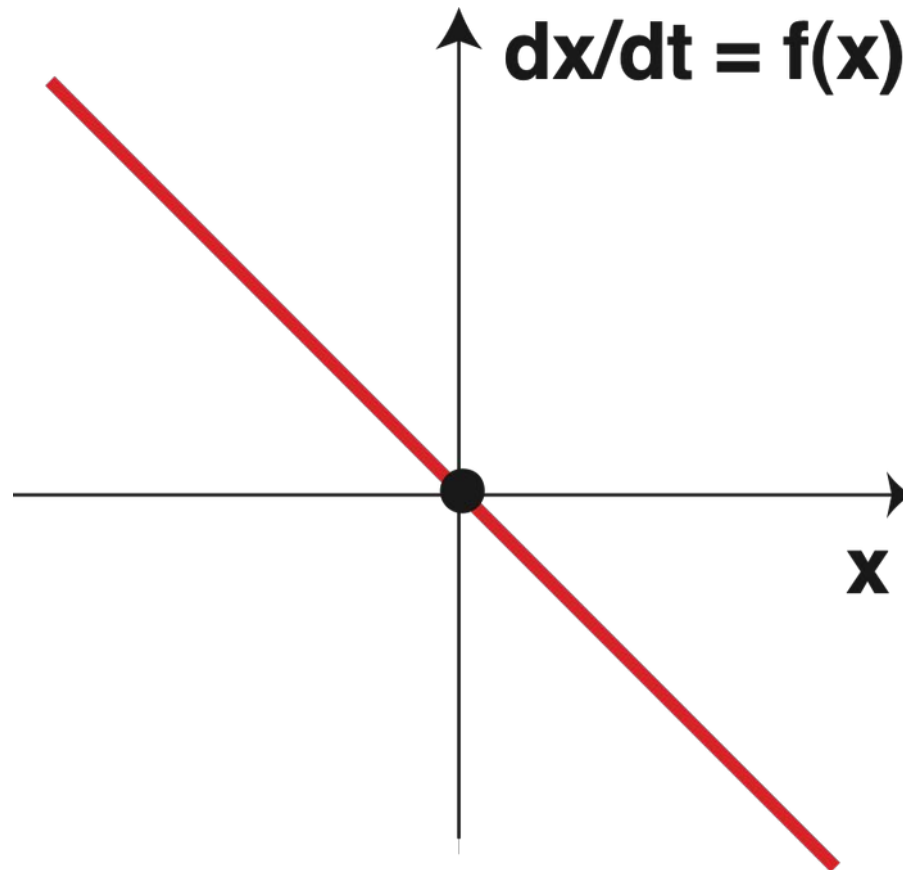
Time course of u and du/dt



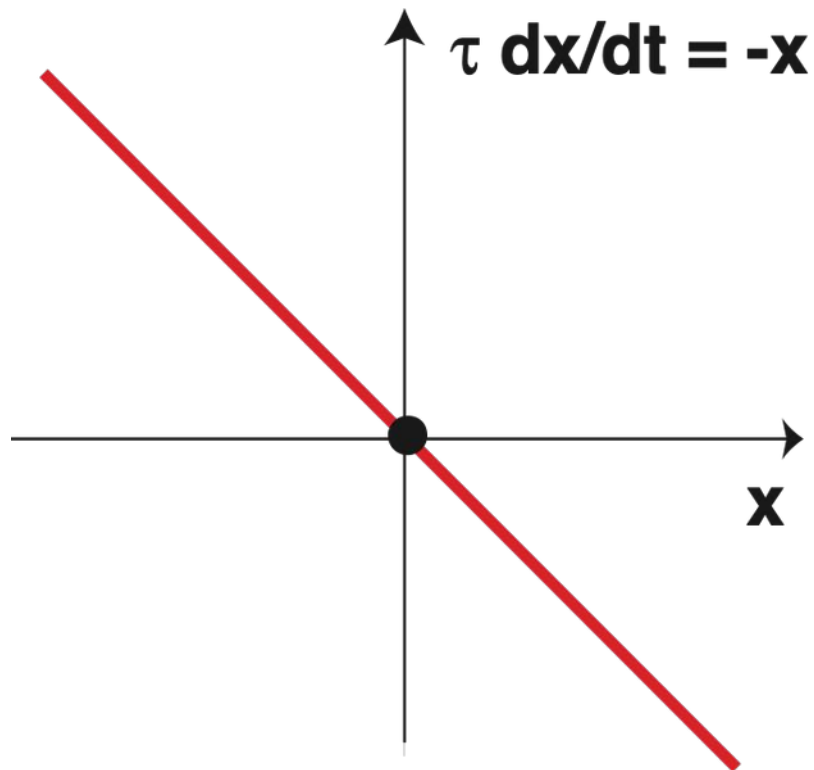
Phase plot of the dynamics

linear dynamical system

$$dx/dt = f(x) = ax + b$$



solution of linear dynamical systems



1. Guess:

A function whose derivative is the function itself but with some factor?

2. Calculating:

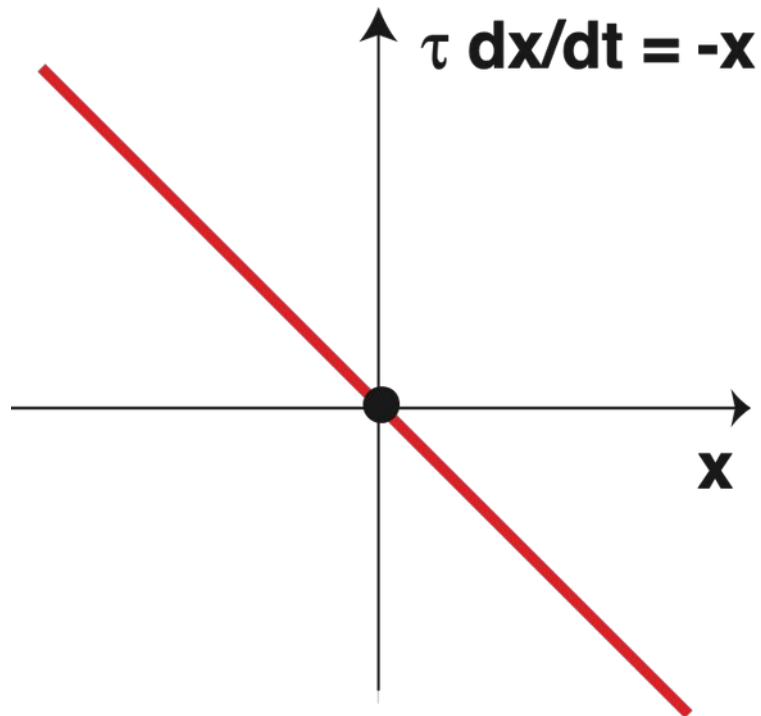
Exercise sheet!

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -\tau^{-1}x$$

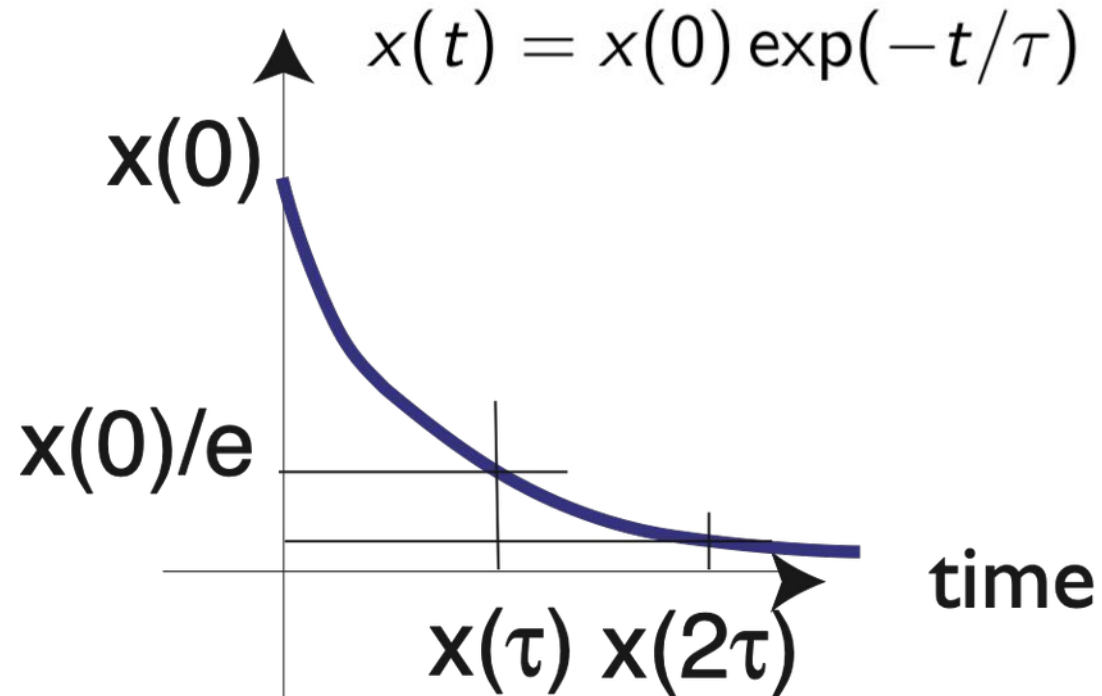
$$x(t) = x(0) \exp(-t/\tau)$$

Verify that $x(t)$ is a solution of the linear differential equation!

solution of linear dynamical systems

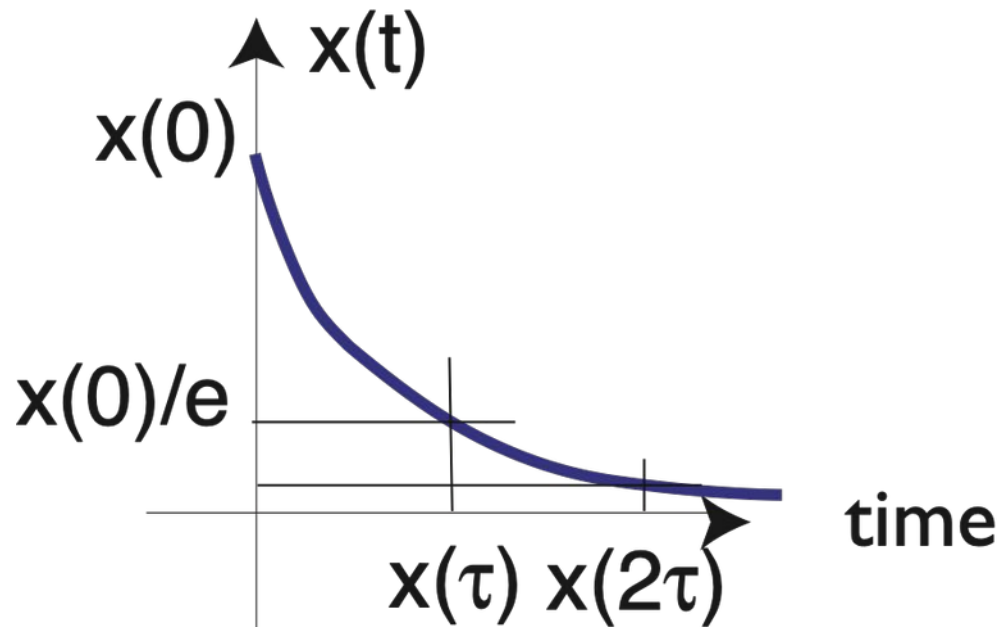


Phase plot of dynamical system



Time course of the solution $x(t)$

exponential relaxation to *attractors* with time scale τ



Time course of the solution $x(t)$

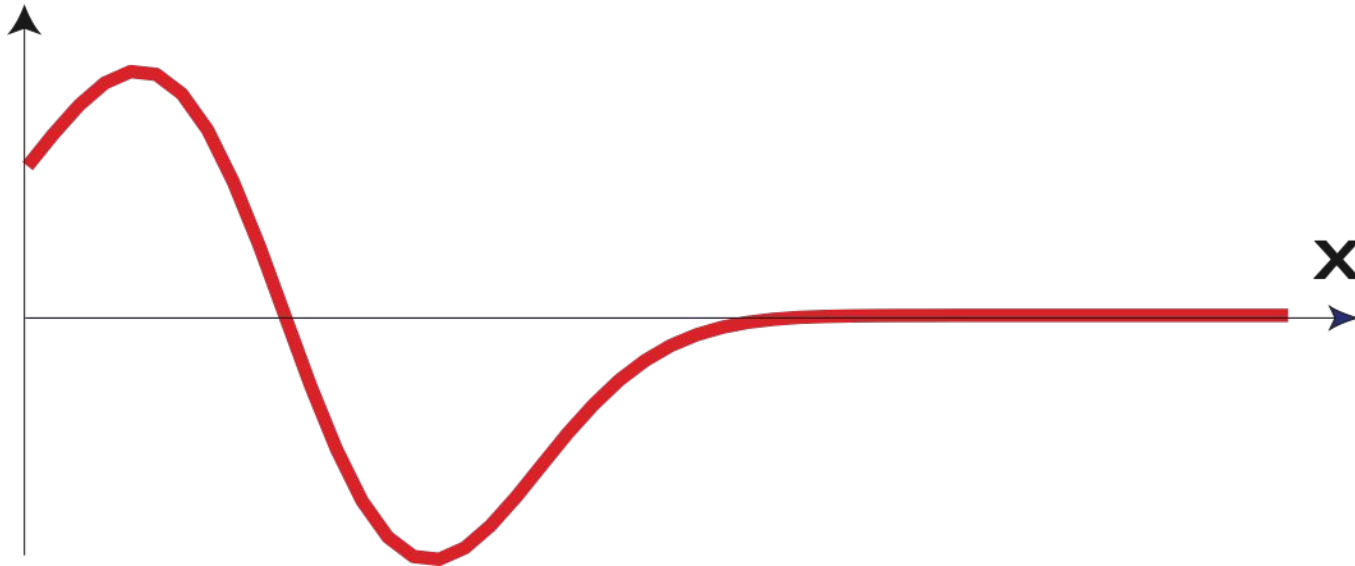
τ is the time at which
the initial condition $x(0)$
is reduced to $x(0)/e$
(or at any other time
point t)

→ Exercise sheet!

Dynamical system

$$\dot{x} = \frac{dx}{dt} = f(x)$$

$dx/dt=f(x)$



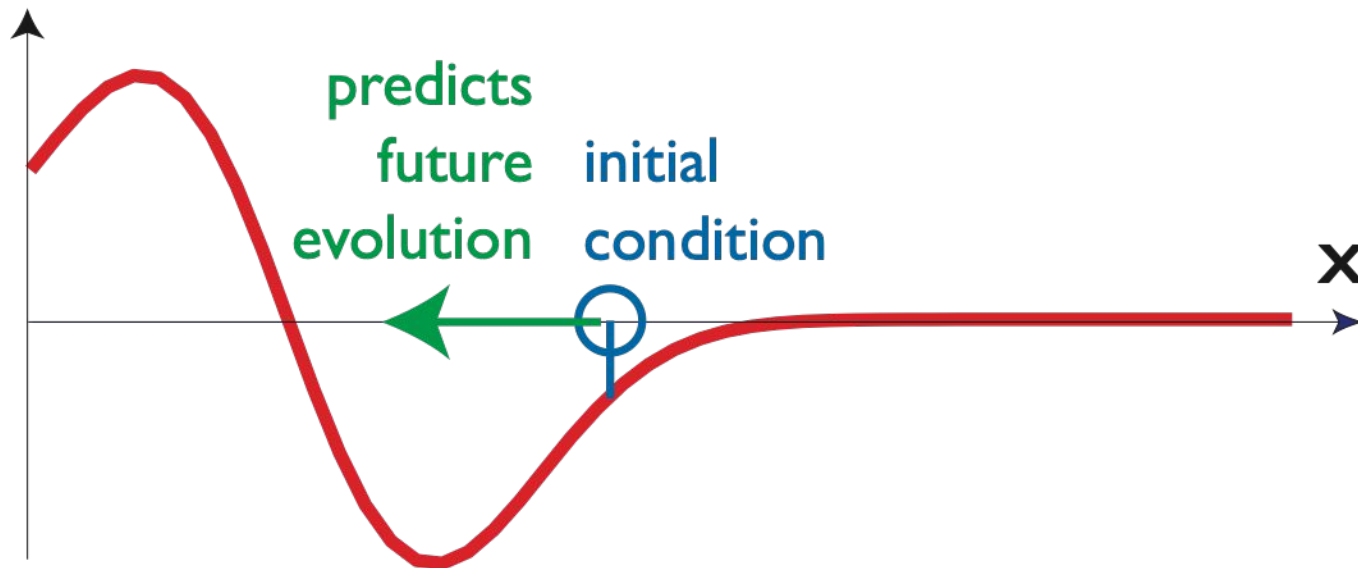
Phase plot of the dynamical system

Dynamical system

$$\dot{x} = \frac{dx}{dt} = f(x)$$

- the present determines the future

$dx/dt=f(x)$



Dynamical system

$$\dot{x} = \frac{dx}{dt} = f(x)$$

- x spans the **state** space (can be vector-valued or even function valued)
- $f(x)$ is the “**dynamics**” of x (or vector-field)
- $x(t)$ is a **solution** of the dynamical systems with initial condition x_0 when the rate of change of $x(t)$ obeys $dx/dt=f(x)$ and $x(0)=x_0$

Different forms of dynamical systems

- one-dimensional (ordinary) differential equation: initial value determines the future

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

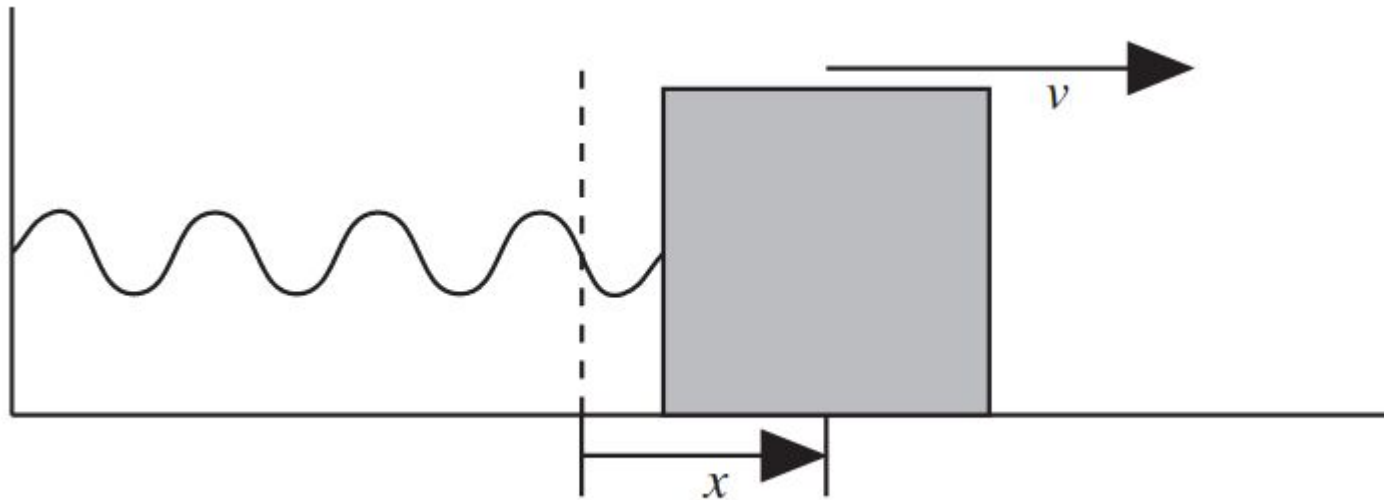
→ E.g. the linear dynamical system we analyzed

Different forms of dynamical systems

- vector-valued (ordinary) differential equation
- a vector of initial states determines the future, systems of differential equations:

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = f(\mathbf{x}) \quad \text{where} \quad \mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$$

Example of vector-valued differential equations: Ideal spring



Example of vector-valued differential equations: Ideal spring

Hooke's law: $\dot{v} = -k/m \cdot x$

We know: $\dot{x} = v$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{v} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -k/m & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ v \end{pmatrix}$$

Example of vector-valued differential equations: Ideal spring

With $x(0) = 1$, verify that a solution is:

$$\begin{pmatrix} x(t) \\ v(t) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos(\sqrt{k/m} t) \\ -\sqrt{k/m} \sin(\sqrt{k/m} t) \end{pmatrix}$$

Position and velocity of the mass bounce back and forth (without friction)!

Different forms of dynamical systems

- discrete time
- At each state x_k , the state at the following time point is given by:
 - $x_{k+1} = f(x_k)$ and an initial condition x_0

Example of discrete time dynamical system: Bank account

With x being the money in our bank account and r the interest rate which is payed out annually, the state of your bank account in year k can be described by: $x_{k+1} = (1 + r)x_k$ with the initial state x_0

Let $r = 4\%$ and $x_0 = \$100$:

$$x_1 = 1.04 \cdot \$100 = \$104$$

$$x_2 = 1.04 \cdot \$104 = \$108.16$$

$$x_3 = 1.04 \cdot \$108.16 = \$112.49$$

...

Other forms of dynamical systems

- partial differential equations
- integro-differential equations
- delay differential equations
- Functional differential equations

Numerical solutions

- Use the discrete to approximate the continuous:

compute solution, $x(t_i)$, by iterating through time, $t_i = i \Delta t$, $i=0,1,\dots,N$

- for example: (forward Euler)

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

■ \Rightarrow code / simulation

Fixed point

- is a constant solution of the dynamical system
- that is a state with zero rate of change:

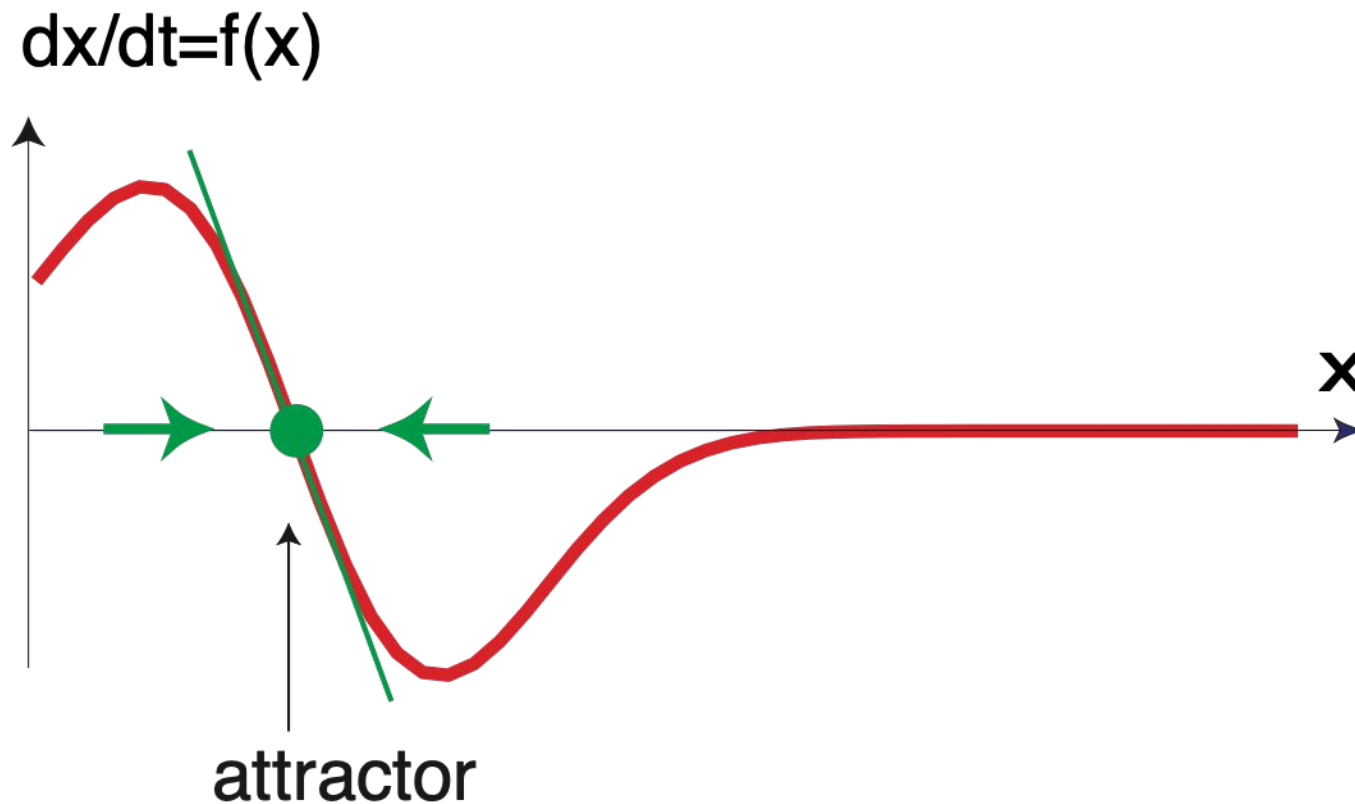
$$\dot{x} = f(x)$$

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

Zero crossings in the phase plot!

attractor

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



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

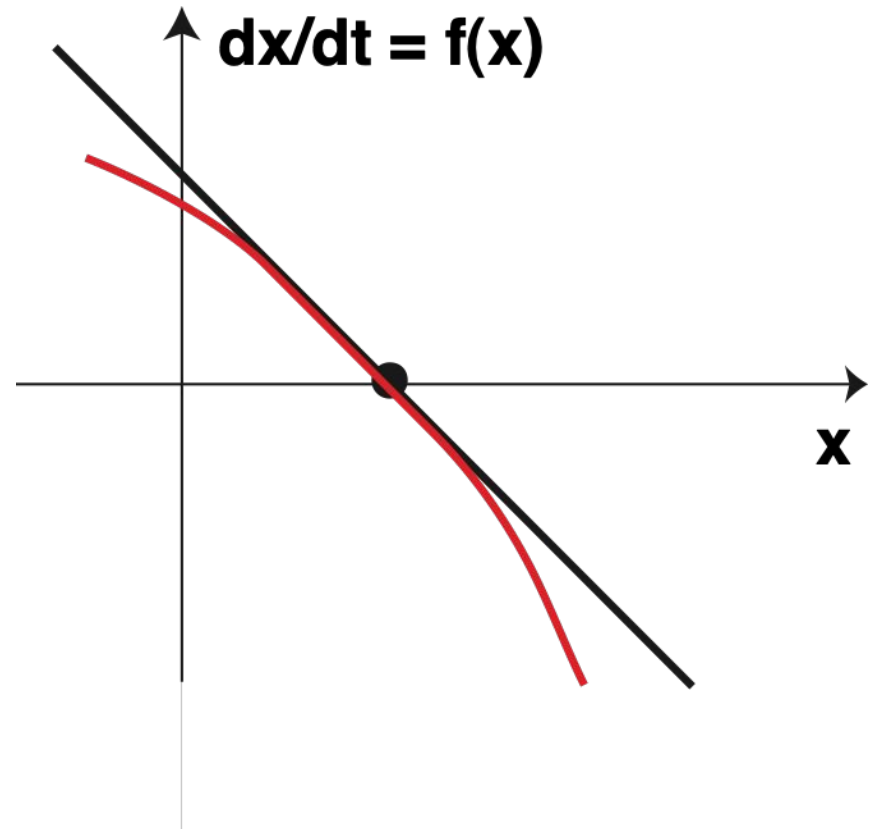
stability

- the mathematical concept of stability (which we do not use) requires only that nearby solutions stay nearby
- Definition: a fixed point is **unstable** if it is not stable in that more general sense,
 - that is: if nearby solutions do not necessarily stay nearby (may diverge)

How to tell whether a fixed point is stable or unstable?

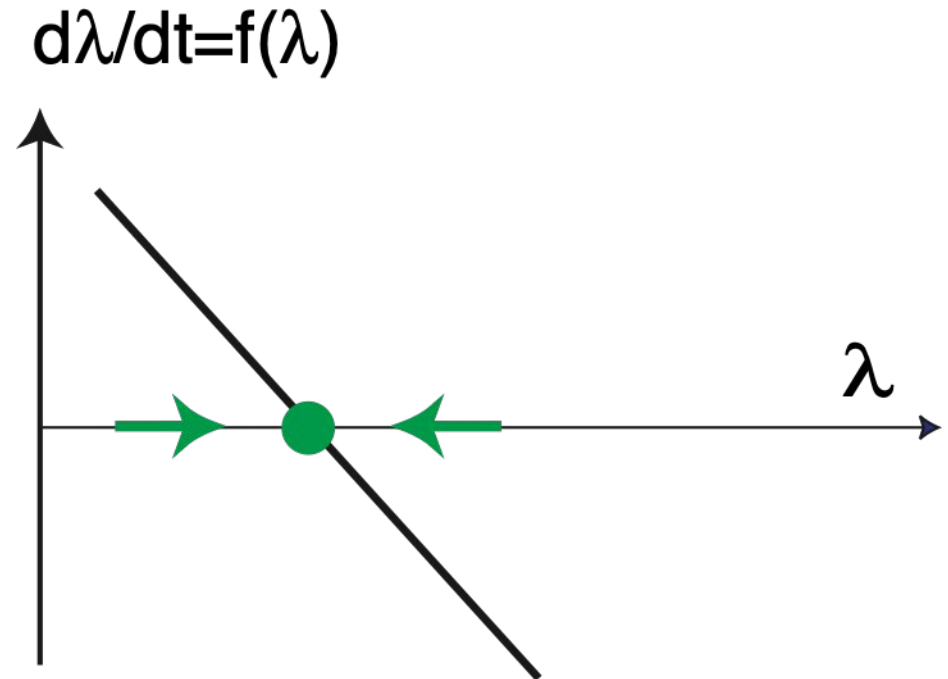
linear approximation near fixed point

- non-linearity as a small perturbation/deformation of linear system
- Only need to analyze the linearized system!



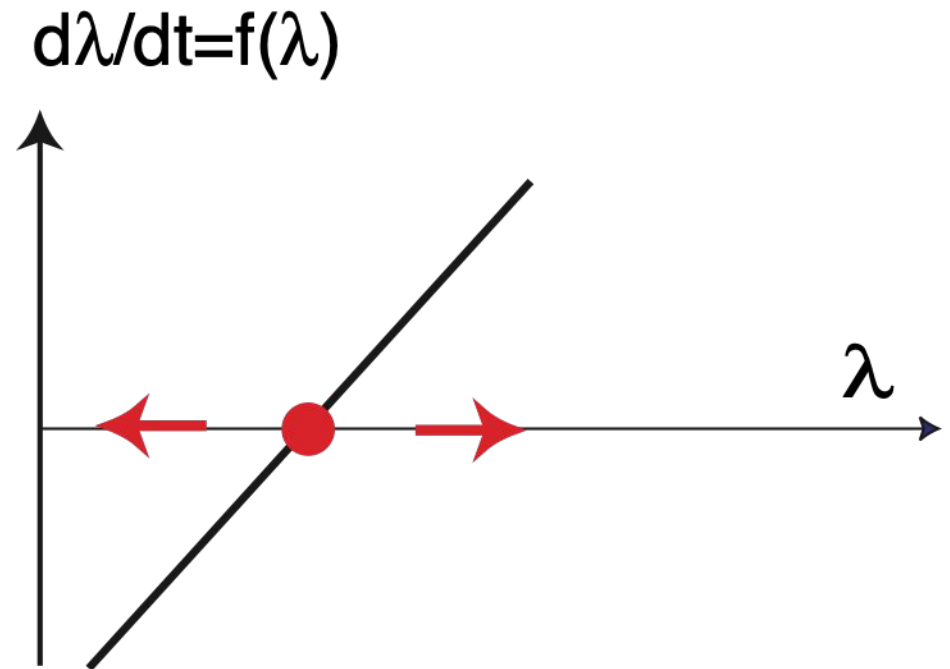
stability in a (one-dimensional) linear system

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



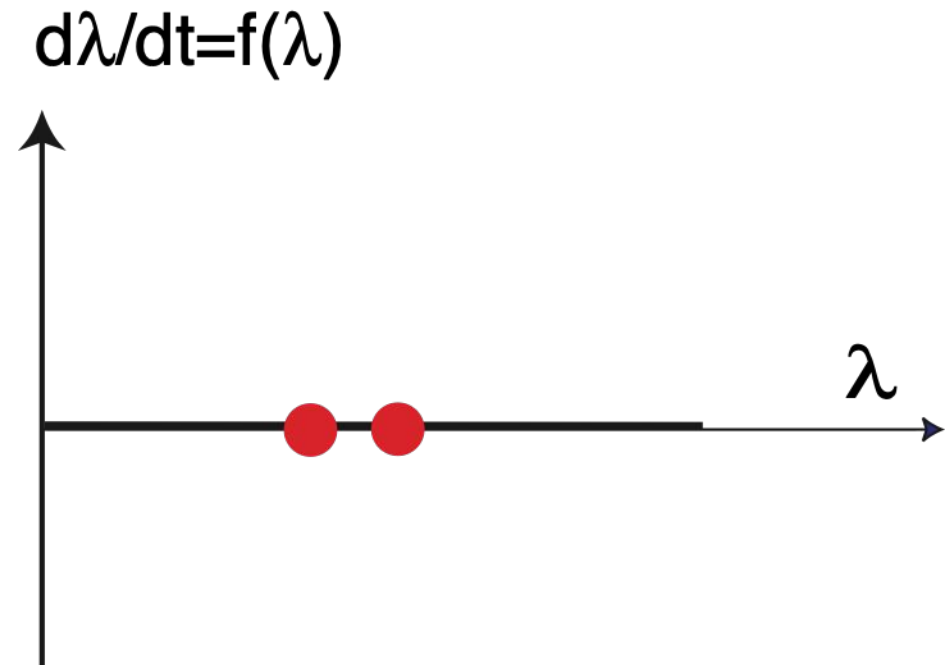
stability in a linear system

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



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)



stability in linear systems

- generalization to multiple dimensions:
 - if the real-parts of all Eigenvalues are negative: stable
 - if the real-part of any Eigenvalue is positive: unstable
 - if the real-part of any Eigenvalue is zero: marginally stable in that direction (stability depends on other eigenvalues)

Eigenvectors and Eigenvalues

The eigenvectors \mathbf{v} of a matrix A are:

$$A\mathbf{v} = \lambda\mathbf{v}$$

with the scalar λ , which is the eigenvalue associated with the eigenvector \mathbf{v}

The eigenvalue λ denotes the factor by which the eigenvector \mathbf{v} is scaled

Solution of the linear system

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = A\mathbf{x}$$

$$\rightarrow \mathbf{x}(t) = \mathbf{x}(0) \exp(At)$$

e raised to a matrix?

Solution of the linear system

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = A\mathbf{x}$$

$$\rightarrow \mathbf{x}(t) = \mathbf{x}(0) \exp(At)$$

e raised to a matrix? Yes, if A is *diagonal*!

$$\text{With } A = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{pmatrix} \text{ follows: } \exp(At) = \begin{pmatrix} \exp(\lambda_1 t) & 0 \\ 0 & \exp(\lambda_2 t) \end{pmatrix}$$

We can use the eigenvalues to *diagonalize* the matrix A

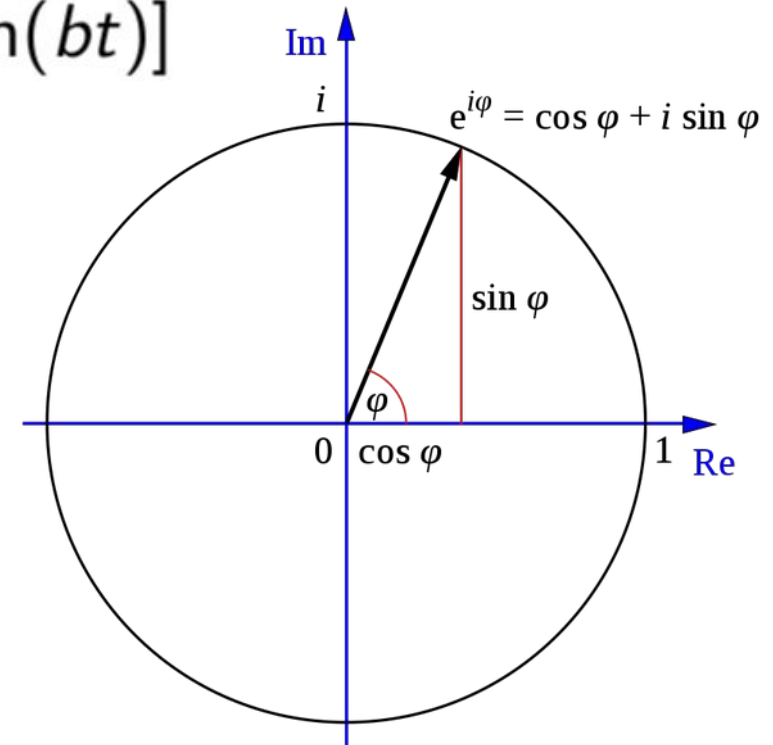
Why is only the real part important?

Eigenvalues may be complex, $\lambda = a + i b$

With Euler's formula:

$$\exp((a + i b)t) = \exp(at) [\cos(bt) + i \sin(bt)]$$

So that the amplitude is defined by the real part of the eigenvalue!

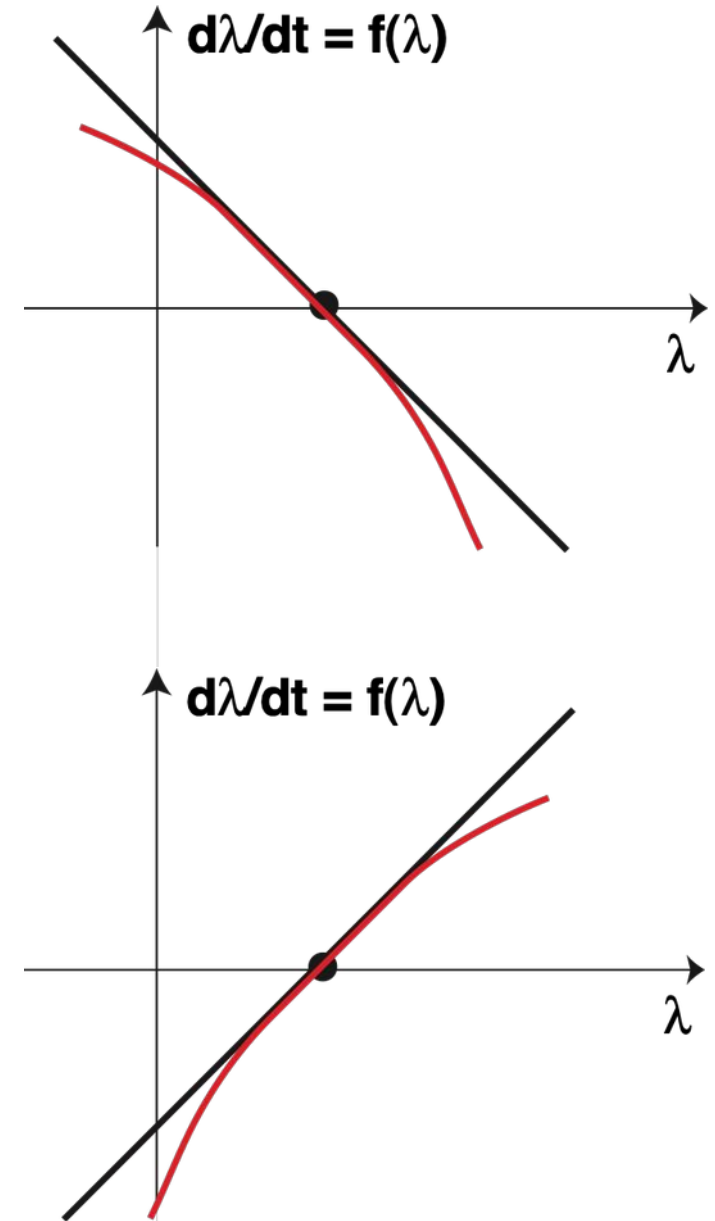


stability in nonlinear systems

- stability is a local property of the fixed point
- \Rightarrow linear stability theory
 - the eigenvalues of the linearization around the fixed point determine stability
 - all real-parts negative: stable
 - any real-part positive: unstable
 - any real-part zero: undecided: now nonlinearity decides (non-hyperbolic fixed point)

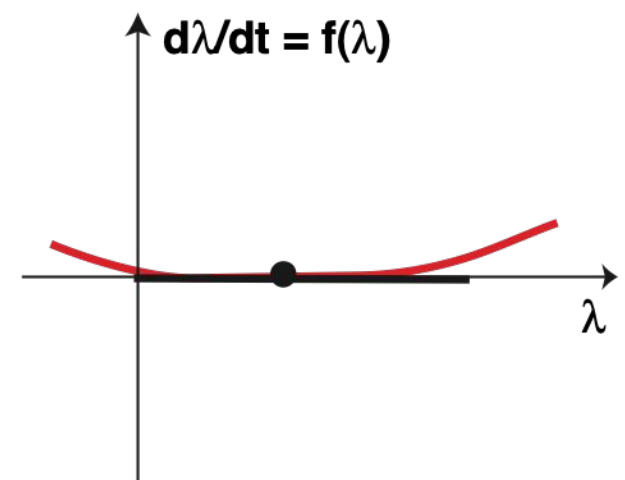
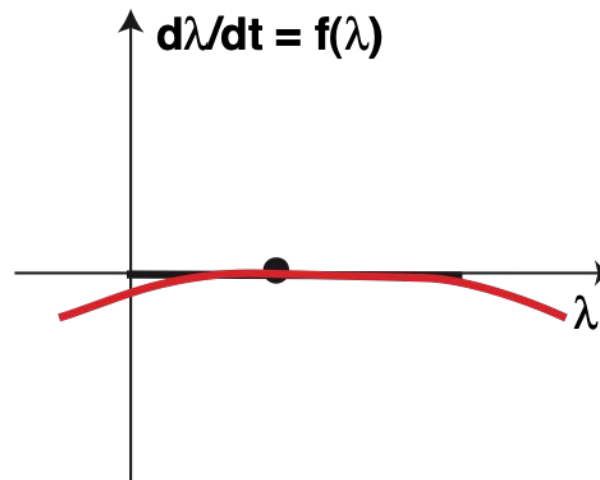
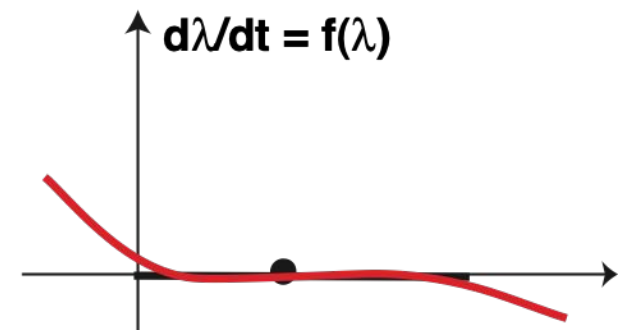
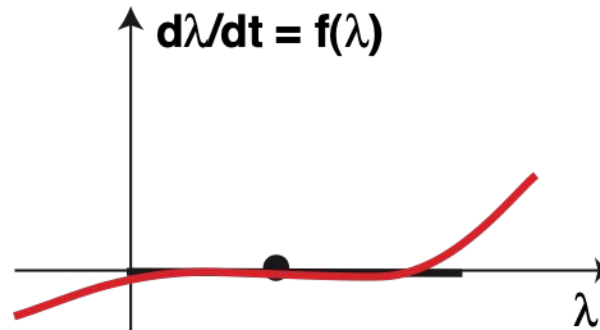
stability in nonlinear systems

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stability in nonlinear systems

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Example: Pendulum

Nonlinear dynamical system:

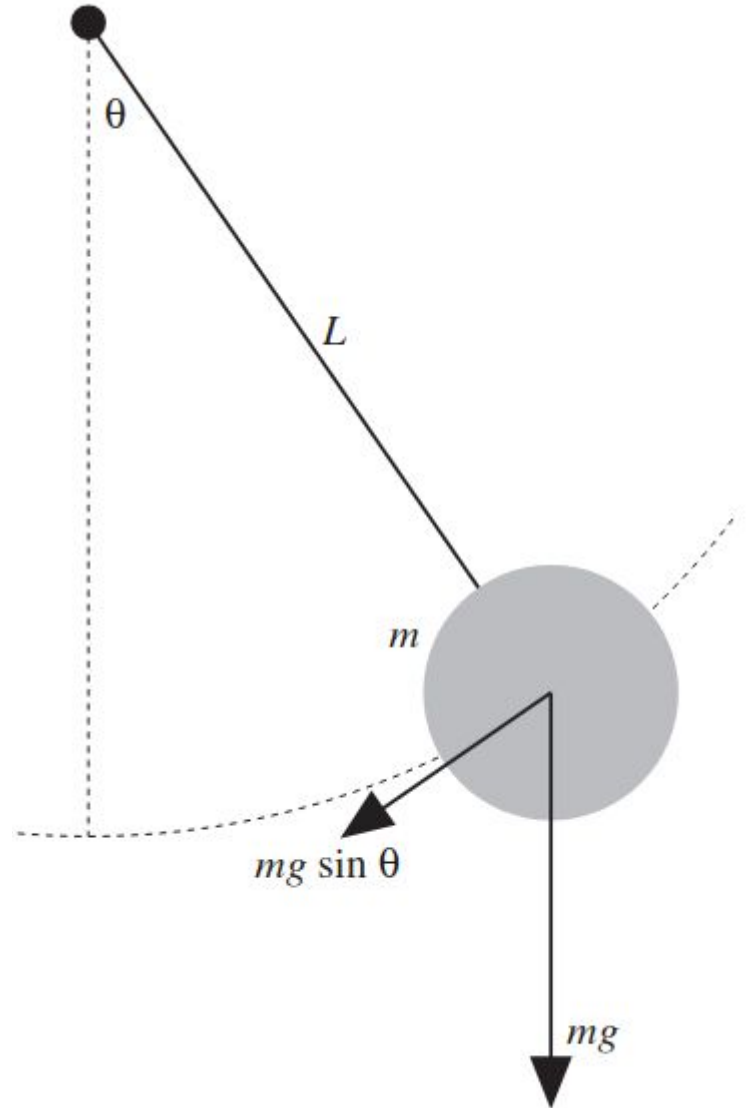
$$\dot{\theta} = \omega$$

$$\dot{\omega} = -g/L \sin \theta - \delta \omega$$

We already know the fixed points!

$$(\theta_1, \omega_1) = (0, 0) \text{ and } (\theta_2, \omega_2) = (\pi, 0)$$

Linearize around the fixed points to find the matrix A !



Example: Pendulum

After some calculus we find our linear systems around the two fixed points:

$$A_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -g/L & -\delta \end{pmatrix} \text{ for the pendulum hanging down}$$

$$A_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ g/L & -\delta \end{pmatrix} \text{ for the "inverted" pendulum}$$

We find that the eigenvalues of A_1 both have a negative real part, the eigenvalues of A_2 a positive and a negative one!