

MATH 11A W02  
3-5-12

# Reversibility

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§ 6.6 Reversible Systems - Have properties a lot like conservative systems

• Consider Newton:  $m \ddot{x} = f(x)$   $x \in \mathbb{R}$

1st order system -

$$\dot{x} = y$$

$$\dot{y} = \frac{1}{m} f(x)$$

• If  $f(x) = -U'(x)$  (just integrate  $U(x) = \int_{x_0}^x f$ )

then  $E(t) = \frac{1}{2} \dot{x}^2 + U(x)$  energy

const along solns -

• Another property = time-reversal symmetry

"Replace  $t$  by  $-t$  &  $\dot{x} = y$  by  $-y$  and equations stay same"

s = -t    z = -y

$$\frac{dx}{ds} = \frac{dx}{dt} \frac{dt}{ds} = - \frac{dx}{dt} = -y = z$$

$$\frac{dz}{ds} = \frac{dz}{dt} \frac{dt}{ds} = - \frac{dy}{dt} (-1) = \frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{1}{m} f(x)$$

$\frac{1}{m} \frac{d}{ds} \Rightarrow$   $x' = z$   
 $z' = \frac{1}{m} f(x)$

same equations with different variables

(\* Same as replacing  $t \rightarrow -t$  &  $y \rightarrow -y$  ✓

Defn: A general 2x2 system

$$\dot{x} = f_1(x,y)$$

$$\dot{y} = f_2(x,y)$$

is time reversible if equations are invariant under  $t \mapsto -t, y \mapsto -y$

Ex ①

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= y \\ \dot{y} &= \frac{1}{m} f(x)\end{aligned}$$

Newton's eqns are <sup>②</sup>  
time reversible (no friction)

Ex ② If  $f_1$  is odd in  $y$

$$f_1(x, -y) = -f_1(x, y)$$

and  $f_2$  is even in  $y$

$$f_2(x, -y) = f_2(x, y)$$

$$\frac{dx}{ds} = -\dot{x} = f_1(x, y) = -f_1(x, -y)$$

$$\boxed{x' = f_1(x, z)}$$

$$s = -t$$

$$z = -y$$

$$\frac{dy}{ds} = -\frac{dy}{dt} = -\left(-\frac{dz}{dt}\right) = f_2(x, y) = f_2(x, -y)$$

$$= f_2(x, z)$$

$$\boxed{y' = f_2(x, z)}$$

③  
② Note: In  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , Newton's Laws can be time reversible but not conservative.

$$\text{Eg } m\vec{a} = \vec{F} \quad \underline{x}(t) = (x(t), y(t), z(t))$$

$$m\ddot{\underline{x}} = \vec{F}(\underline{x}) \leftarrow (\text{no friction})$$

1st order system:

$$\begin{array}{l} 6 \text{ eqn's} \\ \text{in } 6 \\ \text{unknowns.} \end{array} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \dot{\underline{x}} = \underline{y} \\ \dot{\underline{y}} = \frac{1}{m} \vec{F}(\underline{x}) \end{array} \right.$$

Conservative  $\Leftrightarrow \vec{F} = -\nabla U(\underline{x}) \Leftrightarrow \vec{F}$  is

a conservative vector field  $\Leftrightarrow \text{Curl } \vec{F} = 0$

$\Rightarrow$  Most  $\vec{F}$  not conservative in  $\mathbb{R}^3$

• Time reversibly:  $t \mapsto -t$   $\vec{y} \mapsto -\vec{y}$

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\vec{x}} &= \vec{y} & \longrightarrow & & -\dot{\vec{x}} &= & -\vec{y} \\ \vec{y} &= \frac{1}{m} \nabla U(\vec{x}) & & & -(-\vec{y}) &= & \frac{1}{m} \nabla U(\vec{x}) \end{aligned}$$

sample

"Most  $\vec{F}$  are not conservative, but equ's are time reversible"

Back to 2x2 systems:

Defn: The 2x2 system

$$\dot{x} = f_1(x, y) \quad (1)$$

$$\dot{y} = f_2(x, y)$$

is time reversible if it is invariant under the replacement  $t \rightarrow -t$   $y \rightarrow -y$

Thm: (1) is time reversible if  $f_1$  is odd in  $y$  and  $f_2$  is even in  $y$ .

I.e.  $t \rightarrow -t$   $y \rightarrow -y$

$$-\dot{x}(t) = \dot{x}(-t) = f_1(x, -y) = -f_1(x, y)$$

check if  $f_1(x, -y) = -f_1(x, y)$  odd

$$-(-\dot{y}(t)) = -\dot{y}(-t) = f_2(x, -y) = f_2(x, y)$$

no minus in  $f_2(x, -y) = f_2(x, y)$  even



Cor: If (1) is time-reversible, then

$(x(t), y(t))$  solves (1) iff  $(x(-t), -y(-t))$  does  
 $a \leq t \leq b$   $-b \leq t \leq -a$

P.f. Be careful: set  $s = -t$ . then

$$\bar{x}(s) = \bar{x}(-t) = x(t)$$

$$\bar{y}(s) = \bar{y}(-t) = y(t)$$

We show  $(x(t), y(t))$  solves (1) iff  $(\bar{x}(s), -\bar{y}(s))$  does:

$$\dot{x}(t) = \frac{d}{dt} x(t) = \frac{ds}{dt} \frac{d}{ds} x(-s) = - \frac{d}{ds} \bar{x}(s)$$

$$f_1(x(t), y(t)) = f_1(x(-s), y(-s)) = f_1(\bar{x}(s), \bar{y}(s)) = -f_1(\bar{x}(s), -\bar{y}(s))$$

$$\Rightarrow \dot{x}(t) = f_1(x(t), y(t)) \quad \text{iff} \quad \dot{\bar{x}}(s) = f_1(\bar{x}(s), -\bar{y}(s))$$

$s = -t$

Similarly:

$$\dot{y}(t) = \frac{d}{dt} y(t) = \frac{ds}{dt} \frac{d}{ds} y(-s) = - \frac{d}{ds} \bar{y}(s)$$

$$f_2(x(t), y(t)) = f_2(x(-s), y(-s)) = f_2(\bar{x}(s), -\bar{y}(s))$$

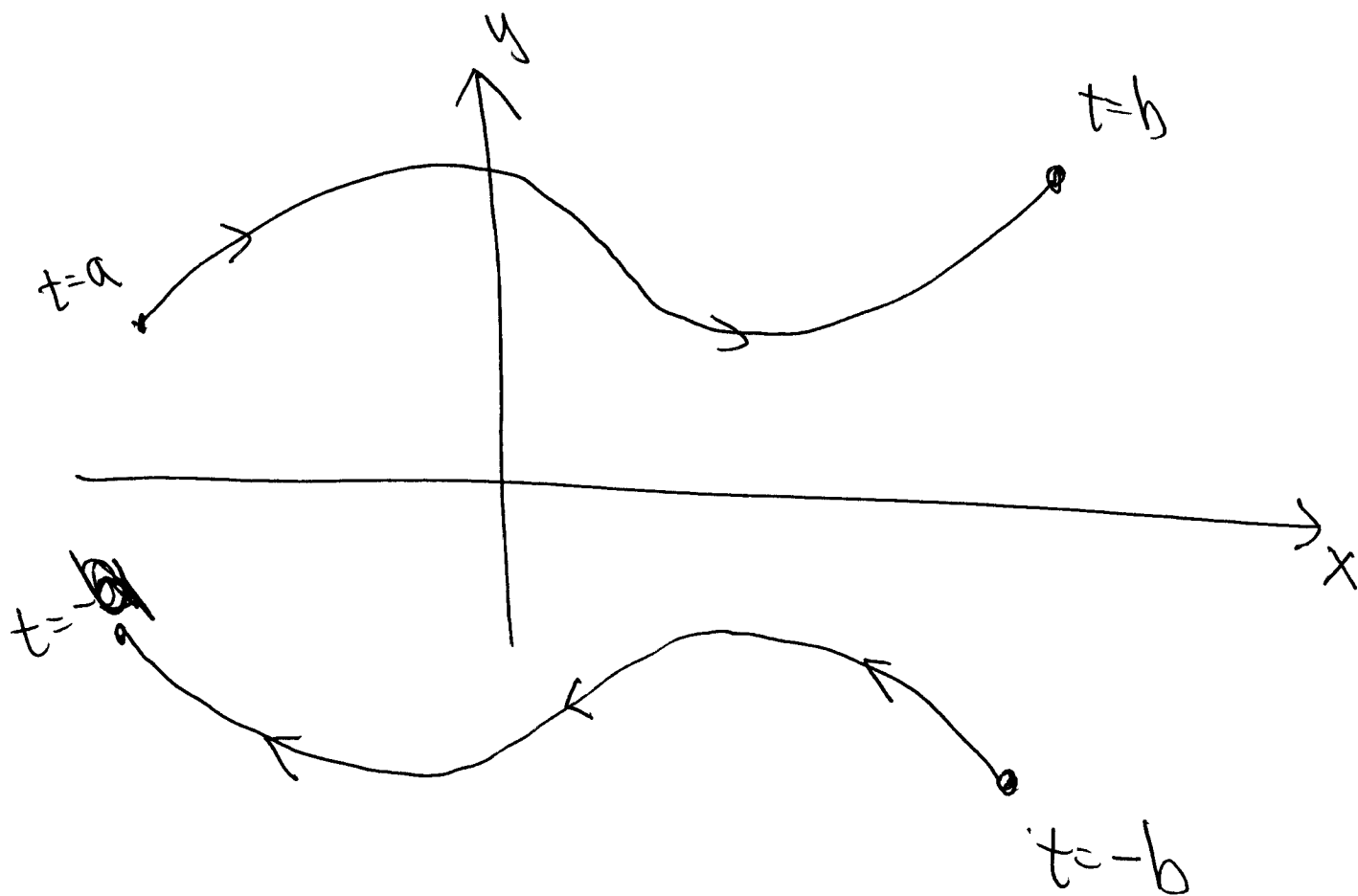
$$\Rightarrow \dot{y}(t) = f_2(x(t), y(t)) \quad \text{iff} \quad -\dot{\bar{y}}(s) = f_2(\bar{x}(s), -\bar{y}(s))$$

Picture:  $\dot{\underline{x}} = f(\underline{x})$  is reversible  $\Leftrightarrow$

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$\begin{pmatrix} x(t) \\ y(t) \end{pmatrix}$  solves (1) iff  $\begin{pmatrix} x(-t) \\ -y(-t) \end{pmatrix}$  does

$a \leq t \leq b$   $-b \leq -t \leq -a$



"Same solution running backwards"



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Theorem: (Nonlinear Centers perturb)

If  $\bar{x} = \underline{0}$  is an <sup>isolated</sup> rest pt for  $\dot{\bar{x}} = f(\bar{x})$

& linearized equations  $\dot{\bar{x}} = Df(\underline{0})$

is a center at  $\bar{x} = \underline{0}$ , then

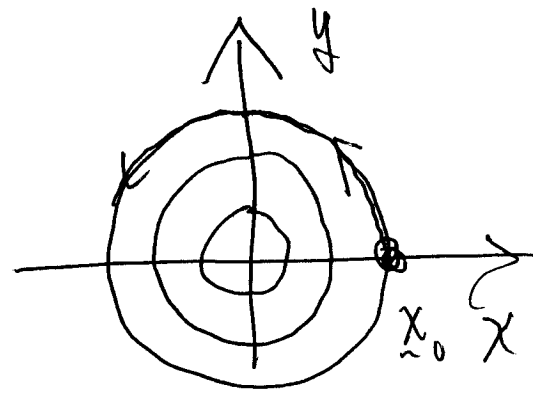
nearby nonlinear trajectories are closed orbits.

Pf. Linearized Equations

$\lambda = \pm ib \Rightarrow$  closed orbits

• Start with  $\bar{x}_0$  on  $x$ -axis near  $\bar{x} = \underline{0}$ . Since linearized

equation dominates near  $\bar{x} = \underline{0}$ , if  $\bar{x}_0$  is suff close to  $\underline{0}$ , then orbit must approx the linearized orbit -

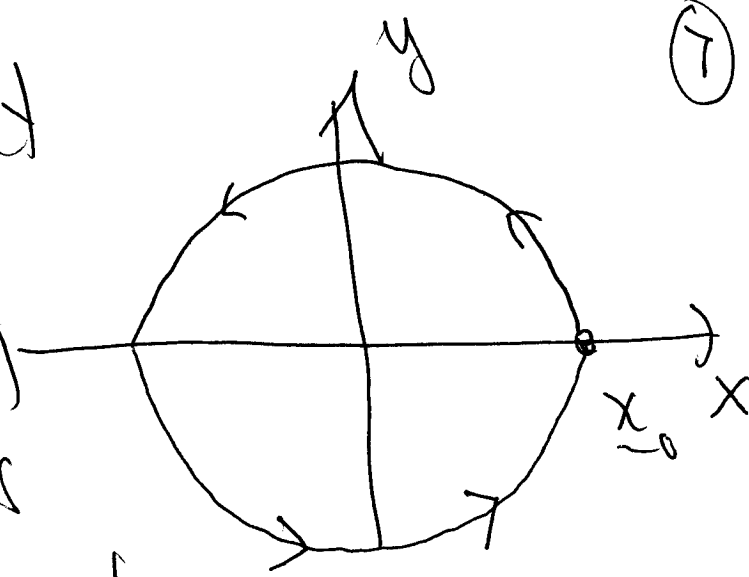


⇒ orbit must intersect

the negative  $x$ -axis.  
(Plausible, not hard to prove)

• But the reflection is  
also an orbit, & no rest pts

• Orbit at  $y > 0$  must continue to orbit  
at  $y < 0$  because otherwise two  
distinct orbits intersect ✗



Ex: Prove solutions of  $\dot{x} = y - y^3$   
 $\dot{y} = -x - y^2$   
form closed solutions  
near  $(x, y) = 0$ .

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Soln:  $t \mapsto -t \quad y \mapsto -y \Rightarrow$

$$-\dot{x} = (-y) - (-y)^3$$

$$\dot{x} = y - y^3 \checkmark$$

$$-(-\dot{y}) = -x - (-y)^2$$

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

Equations time-reversible.

Linearize at  $(0, 0)$ :  $Df(0, 0) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1-3y^2 \\ -1 & -2y \end{pmatrix}_{(0,0)} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$


$$\lambda^2 - 2\lambda + \Delta = \lambda^2 + 1 = 0 \quad \lambda = \pm i \text{ center}$$

8 apply Thm  $\checkmark$


Ex: Show system  $\begin{cases} \dot{x} = y \\ \dot{y} = x - x^2 \end{cases}$  has a

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homoclinic orbit at  $(0,0)$ .

Defn: homoclinic orbit starts & ends at same rest pt. 

Defn: heteroclinic orbit starts at one rest pt ends at another.

Soln:  $\begin{cases} -\dot{x} = -y \\ -\dot{y} = x - x^2 \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} \dot{x} = y \\ \dot{y} = x - x^2 \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow \text{reversible}$  

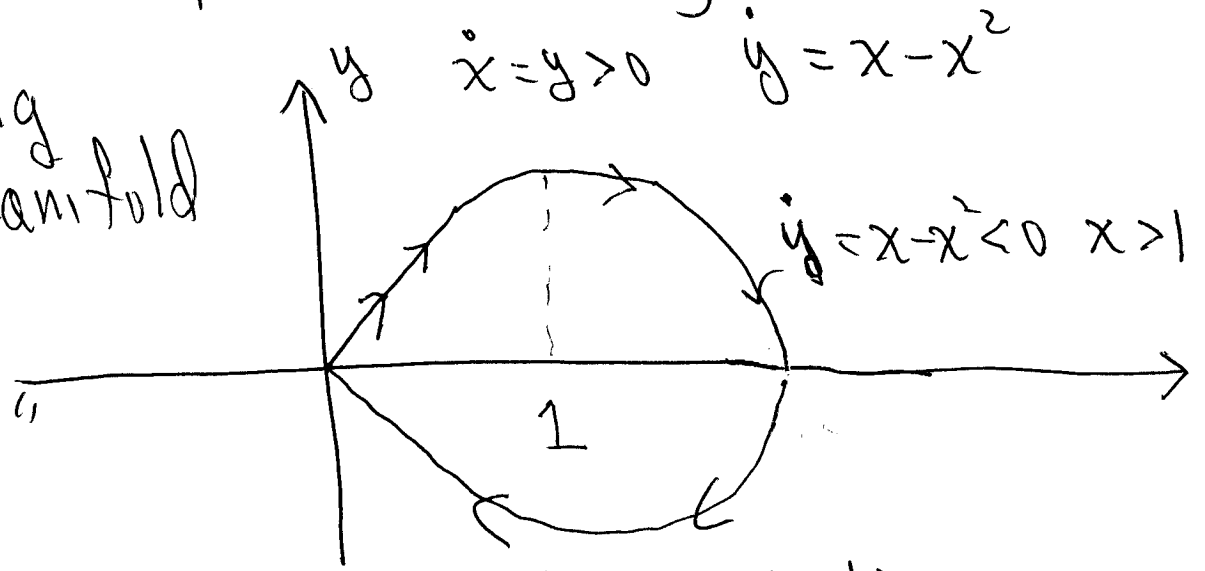
Linearized equations:  $\dot{\tilde{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \tilde{x}$

$$\lambda^2 - \tau\lambda + \Delta = \lambda^2 - 1 \quad \lambda = \pm 1$$

$(-1, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix})$  &  $(+1, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix})$  are e-pairs

• Linearized eqn's near  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$  :

"orbit along unstable manifold must hit  $x$ -axis..."



• Reversible  $\Rightarrow \exists$  reflected solution must be the continuation of the orbit.