

**Math 4/5190A -- Problem Set 3 (Chapter III)**

1. Consider the 1-D DE

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -x + x^3 .$$

- Find the flow  $g^t a$  explicitly. Sketch the solution curves in  $tx$ -space, and the orbits in  $x$ -space. How many orbits are there?
- Verify directly that  $g^{t+s} = g^t \circ g^s$ .
- Show that any solution with initial state  $a$  subject to  $a^2 > 1$ , has a finite escape time.

2. Consider the 2-D DE

$$\frac{dx_1}{dt} = x_1 - x_1^3$$

$$\frac{dx_2}{dt} = -x_2 .$$

- Find the flow  $g^t a$ , and find an explicit equation for the orbits.
- Sketch the portrait of the orbits showing typical orbits, exceptional orbits and the behaviour near the equilibrium points.
- Give the linearizations of the DE at the equilibrium points. Are the corresponding linear flows topologically equivalent to the non-linear flows in a neighbourhood of the equilibrium point?

3. A one-parameter family of non-linear maps

$$g^t : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$$

is defined by

$$g^t \begin{pmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{a_1}{1-a_1 t} \\ e^{-t} a_2 \end{pmatrix} .$$

- Verify that  $\{g^t\}$  is a local flow, i.e. that it satisfies  $g^0 = I$ ,  $g^{t+s} = g^t \circ g^s$ , for all appropriate  $t$  and  $s$ .
- Show that the solution corresponding to any initial state  $(a_1, a_2)$  with  $a_1 > 0$  has a finite escape time.

- c) By eliminating  $t$ , show that the orbits are given by

$$x_2 e^{-1/x_1} = K, \text{ a constant}$$

- d) Find the autonomous DE which corresponds to the flow.
- e) Sketch the portrait of the orbits. Hence give the  $\omega$ -limit set  $\omega(a)$  for each initial state  $a \in \mathbb{R}^2$ .
- f) Find the linearization of the DE at the equilibrium point and sketch the portrait of its orbits. Is this linear flow topologically equivalent to the non-linear flow in a neighbourhood of the equilibrium point? Justify.
- g) Is the non-linear flow topologically equivalent to any linear flow?

**Comment:** The equilibrium point in this example is important in bifurcation theory. Its form suggests its name.

4. A hypothetical physical system is described by the DE

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = x^2 + 3y^2 - 1$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = -2xy.$$

- a) Show that the DE is Hamiltonian, and find  $H(x,y)$ .
- b) Sketch the portrait of the orbits, and indicate the isoclines  $\frac{dx}{dt} = 0$  and  $\frac{dy}{dt} = 0$ .  
Verify that  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$  is an invariant set of the flow. How many orbits does it contain?
- c) Let  $\{g^t\}$  be the flow which corresponds to the DE. Why can one assert that if  $\|a\| \leq 1$ , then  $g^t a$  is defined for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ ? By referring to b), evaluate

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} g^t a$$

for  $a = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1/4 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1/\sqrt{3} \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ , if the limit exists, i.e., determine the long-term behaviour corresponding to these initial states. Give the  $\omega$ -limit set  $\omega(a)$  for each point  $a$ .

5. Consider the DE

$$\frac{dx_1}{dt} = -x_2 - x_1^3, \quad \frac{dx_2}{dt} = x_1 - x_2^3.$$

- a) Show that any disc  $x_1^2 + x_2^2 \leq R^2$  is a trapping set (i.e., a closed bounded positively invariant set).
- b) Apply the Global Liapunov Theorem to show that the  $\omega$ -limit set for any initial state is the origin. Sketch the portrait of the orbits.
- c) Find the linearization of the DE at  $(0,0)$ . Is the linear flow topologically equivalent to the non-linear flow in a neighbourhood of  $(0,0)$ ? Why is your answer not in conflict with the Hartman-Grobman Theorem?  
[Note: the Hartman-Grobman Theorem will be discussed in Chapter IV.]

(This question is not to be handed in.)

(†) Consider the damped magneto-elastic beam, whose oscillations are governed by the DE:

$$\frac{dq}{dt} = p$$

$$\frac{dp}{dt} = -2\alpha p - q + \beta q(1-q^2)$$

where  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are positive constants. Here  $-2\alpha p$  is the damping force,  $-q$  is the elastic restoring force and  $\beta q(1-q^2)$  is the magnetic force, the magnets being located at  $q = \pm 1$ . If  $\beta > 1$  the magnetic force "dominates", while if  $\beta < 1$  the elastic force "dominates".

The goal is to sketch and justify the portrait of the orbits in the case of small damping ( $\alpha \geq 0$ ):

- Use the Global Liapunov Theorem to prove that the  $\omega$ -limit set for any initial state is an equilibrium point. Are there any periodic orbits?
- Analyze the linearizations at the equilibrium points in the case  $\beta > 1$ , and find the eigenvectors where appropriate. Use the Stable Manifold Theorem to sketch the orbits near the saddle point.
- Sketch the stable and unstable manifolds of the saddle point. The isocline  $\frac{dp}{dt} = 0$  will be useful.
- Complete the sketch of the portrait of the orbits. Indicate the basin of attraction of the sinks.
- Use the portrait to show that for all  $\epsilon > 0$  there exist initial states  $a_1$  and  $a_2$  with  $\|a_1 - a_2\| < \epsilon$  and a real number  $T > 0$  such that

$$\|g^t a_1 - g^t a_2\| > \sqrt{\frac{\beta-1}{\beta}}, \text{ for all } t \geq T$$

where  $g^t$  is the flow associated with the DE. This means that there are arbitrarily close initial states whose orbits do not remain close.

- Sketch the portrait of the orbits for the case of large damping.

(This question is not to be handed in.)

(††) Consider the DE

$$\frac{dx_1}{dt} = -2x_1 - (x_1^2 + x_2^2)$$

$$\frac{dx_2}{dt} = -(1-x_1)x_2$$

- a) Analyze the linearizations of the DE at the equilibrium points. Use the Stable Manifold Theorem to sketch the orbits near the saddle point. Find a quadratic approximation for the stable manifold, in the form

$$x_1 \approx a + bx_2 + cx_2^2, \quad a, b, c = \text{constant.}$$

- b) Use the isoclines  $\frac{dx_1}{dt} = 0$  and  $\frac{dx_2}{dt} = 0$  to deduce that there are no periodic orbits.

- c) Use the form of the DE to deduce that for all solutions with  $x_2(0) \neq 0$ ,

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} x_1(t) = +\infty, \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} x_2(t) = 0.$$

- d) Use c) to sketch the global stable manifold, and hence sketch the portrait of the orbits. Use the symmetry  $x_2 \rightarrow -x_2$ . Indicate the basin of attraction of the sink.
- e) Find a Liapunov function  $V$  for the sink, and determine the largest disc on which

$$\dot{V} < 0.$$

Comment: Notice how the saddle directs the orbits towards the sink, by attracting orbits along its stable manifold, and repelling them along its unstable manifold.