

# MA 266 Lecture 11

Christian Moya, Ph.D.

## Sec 2.2-b Bifurcation Points

## Sec 2.3 Acceleration-Velocity Models

### Review example from Lecture 10

**Example 1.** *Consider:*

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

*a) Let  $k \leq 0$ . Show that the only critical point is stable.*

**Solution:** Note that if  $k \leq 0$ , then we can let  $k := -a^2$ . The **first** step is to find *critical points*. To this end, we solve the following algebraic equation:

$$f(x) = 0 \iff (k - x^2)x = -\underbrace{(a^2 + x^2)}_{>0}x = 0.$$

So, the only *critical point* is:

$$c = 0.$$

The **second** step is to compute the solution of the above differential equation. Observe that this equation is *separable*. Let  $a > 0$ . Then by separating variables, we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} \int \frac{dx}{(a^2 + x^2)x} &= \int -dt + C \\ \iff \frac{x^2}{(a^2 + x^2)} &= Ce^{-2a^2t} \end{aligned}$$

By solving the above for  $x^2$ , we obtain the general solution of the differential equation:

$$x^2 = \frac{a^2 Ce^{-2a^2t}}{1 - Ce^{-2a^2t}}$$

In the **third** step, we use the above general solution to determine the stability of the critical point  $c = 0$ . To this end, we check what happens with the solution as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ . Clearly, if we let  $t \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $Ce^{-2a^2t} \rightarrow 0$ . As a result:

$$x(t) \rightarrow 0 \equiv c \text{ as } t \rightarrow \infty.$$

Thus, we conclude that the critical point  $c = 0$  is *stable*.

b) Let  $k > 0$ . Analyze the stability of critical point(s).

**Solution:** Note that if  $k > 0$ , then we can let  $k = a^2$  with  $a \neq 0$ . As before, the **first** step is to find the critical points by solving the following algebraic equation:

$$f(x) = 0 \iff (k - x^2)x = \underbrace{(a^2 - x^2)}_{\geq 0}x = 0.$$

So, when  $k > 0$ , we have *three* critical point:

$$\begin{cases} c_1 = 0 \\ c_2 = +a = +\sqrt{k} \\ c_3 = -a = -\sqrt{k}. \end{cases}$$

The **second** step is to compute the solution of the differential equation. Note that we can write the differential equation as follows:

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -x(x - a)(x + a).$$

This is a separable equation. Thus, by separating variables, we obtain:

$$\int \frac{2a^2}{x(x - a)(x + a)} dx = - \int 2a^2 dt + C.$$

The partial fractions method yields:

$$\begin{aligned} \int -\frac{2}{x} + \frac{1}{x - a} + \frac{1}{x + a} dx &= - \int 2a^2 dt + C \\ \iff -2 \ln(x) + \ln(x - a) + \ln(x + a) &= -2a^2 t + C \\ \iff \frac{x^2 - a^2}{x^2} &= Ce^{-2a^2 t}. \end{aligned}$$

By solving for  $x$ , we obtain the general solution:

$$x(t) = \frac{\pm\sqrt{k}}{\sqrt{1 - Ce^{-2a^2 t}}}$$

For this example, it is convenient to also compute the particular solution for the initial condition  $x(0) = x_o$ . Using this initial condition, we find that is  $C = 1 - k/x_o^2$ . As a result, the particular solution is:

$$x(t) = \frac{\pm\sqrt{k}}{\sqrt{1 - (1 - k/x_o^2)e^{-2a^2 t}}}.$$

In the **third step**, we use the above particular solution to determine the stability of the three critical points. To this end, we analyze four cases.

**(Case 1)** Let  $x_o \in (0, \sqrt{k})$  and use the particular solution:

$$x(t) = \frac{+\sqrt{k}}{\sqrt{1 - (1 - k/x_o^2)e^{-2a^2t}}}.$$

- Note that for this case  $(1 - k/x_o^2) < 0$ .
- Hence the denominator satisfies:  $\sqrt{1 - (1 - k/x_o^2)e^{-2a^2t}} \searrow 1$ .
- As a result,  $x(t)$  increases towards  $+\sqrt{k}$ , *i.e.*,  $x(t) \nearrow +\sqrt{k}$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .

**(Case 2)** Let  $x_o > \sqrt{k}$  and use the particular solution:

$$x(t) = \frac{+\sqrt{k}}{\sqrt{1 - (1 - k/x_o^2)e^{-2a^2t}}}.$$

- Note that for this case  $(1 - k/x_o^2) > 0$ .
- Hence the denominator satisfies:  $\sqrt{1 - (1 - k/x_o^2)e^{-2a^2t}} \nearrow 1$ .
- As a result,  $x(t)$  decreases towards  $+\sqrt{k}$ , *i.e.*,  $x(t) \searrow +\sqrt{k}$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .

**Case 1) and 2)** show that the critical point  $c_2 = +\sqrt{k}$  is *stable*.

**(Case 3)** Let  $x_o \in (-\sqrt{k}, 0)$  and use the particular solution:

$$x(t) = \frac{-\sqrt{k}}{\sqrt{1 - (1 - k/x_o^2)e^{-2a^2t}}}.$$

- Note that for this case  $(1 - k/x_o^2) < 0$ .
- Hence the denominator satisfies:  $\sqrt{1 - (1 - k/x_o^2)e^{-2a^2t}} \searrow 1$ .
- As a result,  $x(t)$  becomes more negative ;  $x(t)$  decreases towards  $-\sqrt{k}$ , i.e.,  $x(t) \searrow -\sqrt{k}$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .

**(Case 4)** Let  $x_o < -\sqrt{k}$  and use the particular solution:

$$x(t) = \frac{-\sqrt{k}}{\sqrt{1 - (1 - k/x_o^2)e^{-2a^2t}}}.$$

- Note that for this case  $(1 - k/x_o^2) > 0$ .
- Hence the denominator satisfies:  $\sqrt{1 - (1 - k/x_o^2)e^{-2a^2t}} \nearrow 1$ .
- As a result,  $x(t)$  becomes less negative;  $x(t)$  increases towards  $-\sqrt{k}$ , i.e.,  $x(t) \nearrow -\sqrt{k}$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .

**Case 3) and 4)** show that the critical point  $c_3 = -\sqrt{k}$  is *stable*.

Finally, **Case 1)** and **Case 3)** show that the critical point  $c_1 = 0$  is *unstable*.

## Bifurcation points

- As we gradually increase the value of the parameter \_\_\_\_\_.
- We have seen that the differential equation has
- The value \_\_\_\_\_, for which the qualitative nature of the solutions changes

as the parameter increases, is called a \_\_\_\_\_ for the differential equation containing the parameter.

## Bifurcation diagram

- A common way to visualize the corresponding “bifurcation” in the solutions is to plot the *bifurcation diagram* for the equation.
- This diagram consists of all points \_\_\_\_\_, where  $c$  is a critical point of the equation

**Example 2.** *Construct the bifurcation diagram of the following logistic equation with harvesting:*

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = x(4 - x) - h$$

Critical points:

Bifurcation diagram:

## Acceleration-velocity models

- In chapter 1, we studied vertical motion of a mass  $m$  without considering air resistance.
- Newton's second law:
- \_\_\_\_\_ is the (downward-direction) force of gravity.

In section 2.3, we want to take into account air resistance.

- \_\_\_\_\_: force exerted by air resistance on the moving mass  $m$ .
- Newton's second law:
- For many problems, it suffices to model the force as:

where \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ depends on the size and shape of the body, as well as the density and viscosity of the air.

Generally speaking, we have:

- \_\_\_\_\_ for relatively low speeds.
- \_\_\_\_\_ for high speeds.
- \_\_\_\_\_ for intermediate speeds.

**Example 3.** Consider the vertical motion of an object near the surface of the earth.

- \_\_\_\_\_: mass.

Subject to two forces:

- \_\_\_\_\_: downward gravitational force.
- \_\_\_\_\_: air resistance force, where \_\_\_\_\_.

Find the particular solutions  $v(t)$  and  $y(t)$  for the initial conditions  $v(0) = v_o$  and  $y(0) = y_o$ .

- Newton's law of motion:

- Separating variables:

- Velocity equation:



- Q:  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} v(t)$ ?

- Position equation:

**Example 4.** Consider a body that moves horizontally with resistance  $-kv^2$  such that:

$$\frac{dv}{dx} = -kv^2.$$

Show that the velocity and position equations are:

$$v(t) = \frac{v_o}{1 + v_o kt} \quad \text{and} \quad x(t) = x_o + \frac{1}{k} \ln(1 + v_o kt).$$

where  $x(0) = x_o$  and  $v(0) = v_o$ .

- Separating variables:

- Velocity equation:

- Position equation:

- Q:  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} v(t), x(t)$ ?

## Variable Gravitational Acceleration

- Consider a body ( $m$ ) in vertical motion.
- Unless the body remains in the immediate vicinity of the earth's surface, the gravitational acceleration acting on the body is *not constant*.
- According to Newton's law of gravitation,
  - the gravitational force between two point masses \_\_\_\_\_
  - located at a distance \_\_\_\_\_ is:

**Example 5. *Escape velocity.*** Consider a body with mass  $m$  and let

- \_\_\_\_\_: body's distance from earth's center at time  $t$ .
- \_\_\_\_\_: earth's radius.
- \_\_\_\_\_: earth's mass.

Find \_\_\_\_\_ such that  $v(t) > 0$  for all  $t$ .

- Velocity equation:

- Escape velocity  $v_o = v(R)$  :