

Lecture – 33

*Stability Analysis of Nonlinear Systems  
Using Lyapunov Theory – I*

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# Outline

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- Motivation
- Definitions
- Lyapunov Stability Theorems
- Analysis of LTI System Stability
- Instability Theorem
- Examples

## References

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- H. J. Marquez: *Nonlinear Control Systems Analysis and Design*, Wiley, 2003.
- J-J. E. Slotine and W. Li: *Applied Nonlinear Control*, Prentice Hall, 1991.
- H. K. Khalil: *Nonlinear Systems*, Prentice Hall, 1996.

# Techniques of Nonlinear Control Systems Analysis and Design

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- Phase plane analysis
- Differential geometry (Feedback linearization)
- Lyapunov theory
- Intelligent techniques: Neural networks, Fuzzy logic, Genetic algorithm etc.
- Describing functions
- Optimization theory (variational optimization, dynamic programming etc.)

# Motivation

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- Eigenvalue analysis concept does not hold good for nonlinear systems.
- Nonlinear systems can have multiple equilibrium points and limit cycles.
- Stability behaviour of nonlinear systems need not be always global (unlike linear systems).
- Need of a systematic approach that can be exploited for control design as well.

# Definitions

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## **System Dynamics**

$$\dot{X} = f(X) \quad f : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \text{ (a locally Lipschitz map)}$$

$D$  : an open and connected subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$

## **Equilibrium Point** ( $X_e$ )

$$\dot{X}_e = f(X_e) = 0$$

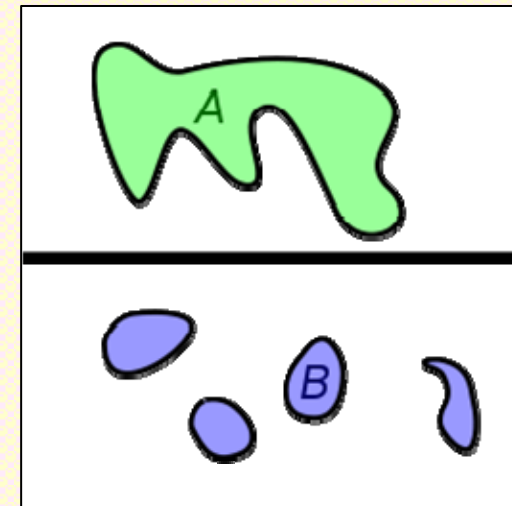
# Definitions

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**Open Set** A set  $A \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is open if  
for every  $p \in A$ ,  $\exists B_r(p) \subset A$

## **Connected Set**

- A **connected set** is a set which cannot be represented as the union of two or more disjoint nonempty open subsets.
- Intuitively, a set with only one piece.



Space  $A$  is connected,  $B$  is not.

# Definitions

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## Stable Equilibrium

$X_e$  is stable, provided for each  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $\exists \delta(\varepsilon) > 0$ :

$$\|X(0) - X_e\| < \delta(\varepsilon) \Rightarrow \|X(t) - X_e\| < \varepsilon \quad \forall t \geq t_0$$

## Unstable Equilibrium

If the above condition is not satisfied, then the equilibrium point is said to be unstable



# Definitions

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## Convergent Equilibrium

$$\text{If } \exists \delta : \|X(0) - X_e\| < \delta \Rightarrow \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} X(t) = X_e$$

## Asymptotically Stable

If an equilibrium point is both stable and convergent, then it is said to be asymptotically stable.

# Definitions

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## **Exponentially Stable**

$$\exists \alpha, \lambda > 0: \quad \|X(t) - X_e\| \leq \alpha \|X(0) - X_e\| e^{-\lambda t} \quad \forall t > 0$$

whenever  $\|X(0) - X_e\| < \delta$

## **Convention**

The equilibrium point  $X_e = 0$

(without loss of generality)

# Definitions

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A function  $V : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is said to be **positive semi definite** in  $D$  if it satisfies the following conditions:

$$(i) \ 0 \in D \text{ and } V(0) = 0$$

$$(ii) \ V(X) \geq 0, \ \forall X \in D$$

$V : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is said to be **positive definite** in  $D$  if condition (ii) is replaced by  $V(X) > 0$  in  $D - \{0\}$

$V : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is said to be **negative definite (semi definite)** in  $D$  if  $-V(X)$  is positive definite.

# Lyapunov Stability Theorems

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## **Theorem – 1 (Stability)**

Let  $X = 0$  be an equilibrium point of  $\dot{X} = f(X)$ ,  $f : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ .

Let  $V : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuously differentiable function such that:

- (i)  $V(0) = 0$
- (ii)  $V(X) > 0$ , in  $D - \{0\}$
- (iii)  $\dot{V}(X) \leq 0$ , in  $D - \{0\}$

Then  $X = 0$  is "stable".

# Lyapunov Stability Theorems

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## **Theorem – 2 (Asymptotically stable)**

Let  $X = 0$  be an equilibrium point of  $\dot{X} = f(X)$ ,  $f : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ .

Let  $V : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuously differentiable function such that:

- (i)  $V(0) = 0$
- (ii)  $V(X) > 0$ , in  $D - \{0\}$
- (iii)  $\dot{V}(X) < 0$ , in  $D - \{0\}$

Then  $X = 0$  is "asymptotically stable".

# Lyapunov Stability Theorems

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## **Theorem – 3 (Globally asymptotically stable)**

Let  $X = 0$  be an equilibrium point of  $\dot{X} = f(X)$ ,  $f : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ .

Let  $V : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuously differentiable function such that:

- (i)  $V(0) = 0$
- (ii)  $V(X) > 0$ , in  $D - \{0\}$
- (iii)  $V(X)$  is "radially unbounded"
- (iv)  $\dot{V}(X) < 0$ , in  $D - \{0\}$

Then  $X = 0$  is "globally asymptotically stable".

# Lyapunov Stability Theorems

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## **Theorem – 3 (Exponentially stable)**

Suppose all conditions for asymptotic stability are satisfied.

In addition to it, suppose  $\exists$  constants  $k_1, k_2, k_3, p$ :

$$(i) \quad k_1 \|X\|^p \leq V(X) \leq k_2 \|X\|^p$$

$$(ii) \quad \dot{V}(X) \leq -k_3 \|X\|^p$$

Then the origin  $X = 0$  is "exponentially stable".

Moreover, if these conditions hold globally, then the origin  $X = 0$  is "globally exponentially stable".

# Example:

## Pendulum Without Friction

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- System dynamics 
$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_2 \\ - (g / l) \sin x_1 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$x_1 \triangleq \theta, \quad x_2 \triangleq \dot{\theta}$$

- Lyapunov function 
$$V = KE + PE$$
$$= \frac{1}{2} m (\omega l)^2 + mgh$$
$$= \frac{1}{2} ml^2 x_2^2 + mg(1 - \cos x_1)$$



## Pendulum Without Friction

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$$\begin{aligned}\dot{V}(X) &= (\nabla V)^T f(X) \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial V}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial V}{\partial x_2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} f_1(X) & f_2(X) \end{bmatrix}^T \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} mgl \sin x_1 & ml^2 x_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_2 & -\frac{g}{l} \sin x_1 \end{bmatrix}^T \\ &= mglx_2 \sin x_1 - mglx_2 \sin x_1 = 0\end{aligned}$$

$$\dot{V}(X) \leq 0 \quad (\text{nsdf})$$

**Hence, it is a “stable” system.**

## Pendulum With Friction

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Modify the previous example by adding the friction force  $kl\dot{\theta}$

$$ma = -mg \sin \theta - kl\dot{\theta}$$

Defining the same state variables as above

$$\dot{x}_1 = x_2$$

$$\dot{x}_2 = -\frac{g}{l} \sin x_1 - \frac{k}{m} x_2$$

## Pendulum With Friction

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$$\begin{aligned}\dot{V}(X) &= (\nabla V)^T f(X) \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial V}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial V}{\partial x_2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} f_1(X) & f_2(X) \end{bmatrix}^T \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} mgl \sin x_1 & ml^2 x_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_2 & -\frac{g}{l} \sin x_1 - \frac{k}{m} x_2 \end{bmatrix}^T \\ &= -kl^2 x_2^2 \\ \dot{V}(X) &\leq 0 \quad (\text{nsdf})\end{aligned}$$

**Hence, it is also just a “stable” system.  
(A frustrating result..!)**

# Analysis of Linear Time Invariant System

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System dynamics:  $\dot{X} = AX, \quad A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$

Lyapunov function:  $V(X) = X^T P X, \quad P > 0$  (pdf)

Derivative analysis: 
$$\begin{aligned}\dot{V} &= \dot{X}^T P X + X^T P \dot{X} \\ &= X^T A^T P X + X^T P A X \\ &= X^T (A^T P + P A) X\end{aligned}$$

# Analysis of Linear Time Invariant System

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For stability, we aim for  $\dot{V} = -X^T Q X$  ( $Q > 0$ )

By comparing  $X^T (A^T P + P A) X = -X^T Q X$

For a non-trivial solution

$$PA + A^T P + Q = 0$$

**(Lyapunov Equation)**

# Analysis of Linear Time Invariant System

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**Theorem :** The eigenvalues  $\lambda_i$  of a matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  satisfy  $\text{Re}(\lambda_i) < 0$  if and only if for any given symmetric *pdf* matrix  $Q$ ,  $\exists$  a unique *pdf* matrix  $P$  satisfying the Lyapunov equation.

**Proof:** Please see Marquez book, pp.98-99.

**Note :**  $P$  and  $Q$  are related to each other by the following relationship:

$$P = \int_0^{\infty} e^{A^T t} Q e^{A t} dt$$

However, the above equation is seldom used to compute  $P$ . Instead  $P$  is directly solved from the Lyapunov equation.

# Analysis of Linear Time Invariant Systems

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- Choose an arbitrary symmetric positive definite matrix  $Q$  ( $Q = I$ )
- Solve for the matrix  $P$  from the *Lyapunov equation* and verify whether it is positive definite
- Result: If  $P$  is positive definite, then  $\dot{V}(X) < 0$  and hence the origin is “asymptotically stable”.

# Lyapunov's Indirect Theorem

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Let the linearized system about  $X = 0$  be  $\Delta\dot{X} = A(\Delta X)$ .

The theorem says that if all the eigenvalues  $\lambda_i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, n$ ) of the matrix  $A$  satisfy  $\text{Re}(\lambda_i) < 0$  (i.e. the linearized system is exponentially stable), then for the nonlinear system the origin is locally exponentially stable.



# Instability theorem

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Consider the autonomous dynamical system and assume  $X=0$  is an equilibrium point. Let  $V : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  have the following properties:

(i)  $V(0) = 0$

(ii)  $\exists X_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , arbitrarily close to  $X = 0$ , such that  $V(X_0) > 0$

(iii)  $\dot{V} > 0 \quad \forall X \in U$ , where the set  $U$  is defined as follows

$$U = \{X \in D : \|X\| \leq \varepsilon \text{ and } V(X) > 0\}$$

Under these conditions,  $X=0$  is unstable

# Summary

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- Motivation
- Notions of Stability
- Lyapunov Stability Theorems
- Stability Analysis of LTI Systems
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## References

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**Thanks for the Attention...!**

