

Lecture 1: Some basics

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Some basics

- What is a **differential equation** ?
- Some **methods of resolution**:
 - Separation of variables;
 - Change of variables;
 - Method of integrating factors.
- Important **examples of ODEs**:
 - Autonomous ODEs;
 - Exact equations;
 - Hamiltonian systems.

Some basics

- Ordinary differential equation (ODE): equation that contains one or more **derivatives** of an **unknown function** $x(t)$.
- Equation may also contain x itself and constants.
- ODE of order n if the **n -th derivative** of the unknown function is the **highest** order derivative in the equation.

Some basics

- Examples of ODEs:
 - **Membrane equation** as a neuron model:

$$C \frac{dx(t)}{dt} + gx(t) = f(t),$$

$x(t)$: membrane potential, i.e., the voltage difference between the inside and the outside of the neuron; $f(t)$: current flow due to excitation; C : capacitance; g : conductance (the inverse of the resistance) of the membrane.

- **Linear** ODE of **order 1**.

Some basics

- **Theta model**: one-dimensional model for the **spiking of a neuron**.

$$\frac{d\theta(t)}{dt} = 1 - \cos\theta(t) + (1 + \cos\theta(t))f(t);$$

$f(t)$: inputs to the model.

- $\theta \in [0, 2\pi]$; $\theta = \pi$ the neuron spikes \rightarrow produces an action potential.
- Change of variables, $x(t) = \tan(\theta(t)/2)$, \rightarrow **quadratic model**

$$(*) \quad \frac{dx(t)}{dt} = x^2(t) + f(t).$$

- **Population growth** under competition for resources:

$$(**) \quad \frac{dx(t)}{dt} = rx(t) - \frac{r}{k}x^2(t);$$

r and k : positive parameters; $x(t)$: number of cells at time instant t ,
 $rx(t)$: growth rate and $-(r/k)x^2(t)$: death rate.

- $(*)$ and $(**)$: **Nonlinear** ODEs of **order 1**.

Some basics

- **FitzHugh-Nagumo model:**

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dV}{dt} = f(V) - W + I, \\ \frac{dW}{dt} = a(V - bW); \end{cases}$$

- V : membrane potential, W : recovery variable, and I : magnitude of stimulus current.
- $f(V)$: polynomial of third degree, and a and b : constant parameters.
- **FitzHugh-Nagumo model**: two-dimensional simplification of the **Hodgkin-Huxley model** of spike generation in squid giant axons.
- **Mathematical properties** of **excitation** and **propagation** from the electrochemical properties of sodium and potassium ion flow.
- **System of nonlinear ODEs of order 1.**

Some basics

- **Langevin equation** of motion for a single particle:

$$\frac{dx(t)}{dt} = -ax(t) + \eta(t);$$

- $x(t)$: position of the particle at time instant t , $a > 0$: coefficient of friction, and η : random variable that represents some uncertainties or stochastic effects perturbing the particle.
- **Diffusion-like motion** from the probabilistic perspective of a single microscopic particle moving in a fluid medium.
- **Linear stochastic ODE of order 1.**

Some basics

- **Vander der Pol equation:**

$$\frac{d^2x(t)}{dt^2} - a(1 - x^2(t))\frac{dx(t)}{dt} + x(t) = 0;$$

- a : positive parameter, which controls the nonlinearity and the strength of the damping.
- Generate waveforms corresponding to **electrocardiogram patterns**.
- **Nonlinear ODE of order 2.**

Some basics

- **Higher order ODEs:** $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+2}$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$.
- **ODE of order n :**

$$F(t, x(t), \frac{dx}{dt}(t), \dots, \frac{d^n x}{dt^n}(t)) = 0;$$

- x : real-valued unknown function and $dx(t)/dt, \dots, d^n x(t)/dt^n$: its derivatives.
- $\varphi \in \mathcal{C}^n(I)$: solution of the differential equation if I : **open interval**, for all $t \in I$,

$$(t, \varphi(t), \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial t}(t), \dots, \frac{\partial^n \varphi}{\partial t^n}(t)) \in \Omega$$

and

$$F(t, \varphi(t), \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial t}(t), \dots, \frac{\partial^n \varphi}{\partial t^n}(t)) = 0.$$

- x : **vector** valued function, $x(t) \in \mathbb{R}^d$, $\rightarrow \Omega \subset \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^{(n+1)d}$.

Some basics

- n -th order ODE:

$$(***) \quad x^{(n)}(t) = f\left(t, x, \frac{dx}{dt}, \dots, \frac{d^{n-1}x}{dt^{n-1}}\right), \quad t \in I.$$

- $x(t) \in \mathbb{R}^d$ and $f : I \times \mathbb{R}^{nd} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$.
- **Initial condition:**

$$(x(t_0), x'(t_0), x''(t_0), \dots, x^{(n-1)}(t_0))^T.$$

- **Reduce the high order ODE (***) into a first order ODE:**

$$y(t) := (x(t), dx(t)/dt, \dots, d^{n-1}x(t)/dt^{n-1})^T \in \mathbb{R}^{nd}$$

and

$$F(t, y) := (y_2, \dots, y_n, f(t, y_1, \dots, y_n))^T$$

for $y = (y_1, \dots, y_n)^T \in \mathbb{R}^{nd}$ and $y_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$.

- (***) equivalent to the following first order ODE:

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = F(t, y(t)).$$

Some basics

- **EXAMPLE:**
 - Consider the **second order ODE:**

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + p(t)\frac{dx}{dt} + q(t)x(t) = g(t).$$

- \Rightarrow

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ \frac{dx}{dt} \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{dx}{dt} \\ -p(t)\frac{dx}{dt} - q(t)x(t) + g(t) \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -q(t) & -p(t) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ \frac{dx}{dt} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ g(t) \end{bmatrix}.\end{aligned}$$

Some basics

- ODEs:
 - **Existence** of solutions;
 - **Uniqueness** of solutions with suitable initial conditions;
 - **Regularity** and **stability** of solutions (e.g. dependence on the initial conditions, large time stability, higher regularity);
 - **Computation** of solutions.
- Existence of solutions: **fixed point** theorems; **implicit function theorem** in Banach spaces.
- Uniqueness: more difficult.
- Explicit solutions: only in a very few special cases.
- **Numerical solutions**.

Some basics

- Some methods of resolution:
 - Separation of variables;
 - Change of variables;
 - Method of integrating factors.

Some basics

- **Separation of variables:**
 - I and J : open intervals;
 - $f \in \mathcal{C}^0(I)$ and $g \in \mathcal{C}^0(J)$: continuous functions.
 - Solutions to the first order equation

$$(***) \quad \frac{dx}{dt} = f(t)g(x).$$

- $t_0 \in I$ and $x_0 \in J$.
- $g(x_0) = 0$ for some $x_0 \in J \rightarrow x(t) = x_0$ for $t \in I$: solution to (***) .
- Suppose $g(x_0) \neq 0 \rightarrow g \neq 0$ in a neighborhood of $x_0 \Rightarrow$

$$\frac{dx}{g(x)} = f(t)dt.$$

- Integration \Rightarrow

$$\int \frac{dx}{g(x)} = \int f(t)dt + c;$$

c : constant uniquely determined by the **initial condition**.

Some basics

- F and G : primitives of f and $1/g$.
- $G'(x) \neq 0 \Rightarrow G$: strictly monotonic \rightarrow invertible.
- Solution:

$$x(t) = G^{-1}(F(t) + c).$$

- Method of separation of variables.
- (***) : separable equation.

Some basics

- **EXAMPLE:**

- Consider the following ODE:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{1 + 2t}{\cos x(t)}, \\ x(0) = \pi. \end{cases}$$

- $g(x) = 1/\cos x$ and $f(t) = 1 + 2t$.
- g : defined for $x \neq \pi/2 + k\pi, k \in \mathbb{Z}$.
- **Separation of variables,**

$$\cos x dx = 1 + 2t dt.$$

- Integration,

$$\sin x(t) = t^2 + t + C,$$

for some constant $C \in \mathbb{R}$.

- Initial condition $x(0) = \pi \Rightarrow C = 0$.

Some basics

- Taking the arcsin $\Rightarrow x(t) = \arcsin(t^2 + t)$: **not the solution** because $x(0) = \arcsin(0) = 0$.
- arcsin: inverse of sin on $[-\pi/2, \pi/2]$; $x(t)$: takes the values in a neighborhood of π .
- $w(t) = x(t) - \pi \rightarrow w(0) = x(0) - \pi = 0 \Rightarrow w(t) = -\arcsin(t^2 + t)$.
- **Correct solution:**

$$x(t) = \pi - \arcsin(t^2 + t).$$

Some basics

- **Change of variables:**
 - Consider the following ODE:

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = f\left(\frac{x(t)}{t}\right);$$

$f : I \subset \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$: continuous function on some open interval $I \subset \mathbb{R}$.

- **change of variable** $x(t) = ty(t)$; $y(t)$: **new unknown function**,

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = y(t) + t \frac{dy}{dt} = f(y(t)),$$

- **Separable equation** for y :

$$\frac{dy}{f(y) - y} = \frac{dt}{t}.$$

- Solution by the method of **separation of variables**.

Some basics

- **EXAMPLE:**

- Consider

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{t^2 + x^2}{xt}.$$

- $f(s) = s + 1/s$ with $s = x/t$.
- Change of variable: $y(t) = x(t)/t \Rightarrow ydy = dt/t$
- \Rightarrow

$$(1/2)y^2 = \ln t + C.$$

- \Rightarrow

$$x(t) = \pm t\sqrt{2(\ln t + C)}.$$

Some basics

- Method of integrating factors

- Consider

$$\frac{dx(t)}{dt} = f(t).$$

- Integration

$$x(t) = x(0) + \int_0^t f(s) ds.$$

- Consider

$$\frac{dx}{dt} + p(t)x(t) = g(t);$$

p and g : functions of t .

- Left-hand side: expressed as the derivative of the unknown quantity ← Multiply by $\mu(t)$.

Some basics

- $\mu(t)$ s.t.

$$\mu(t) \frac{dx}{dt} + \mu(t)p(t)x(t) = \frac{d}{dt}(\mu(t)x(t)).$$

- Taking derivatives \Rightarrow

$$(1/\mu)d\mu/dt = p(t) \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{d}{dt} \ln \mu(t) = p(t).$$

- Integration \Rightarrow

$$\mu(t) = \exp\left(\int_0^t p(s)ds\right),$$

up to a multiplicative constant.

- Transformed equation:

$$\frac{d}{dt}(\mu(t)x(t)) = \mu(t)g(t).$$

- \Rightarrow

$$x(t) = \frac{1}{\mu(t)} \left(\int_0^t \mu(s)g(s)ds \right) + \frac{C}{\mu(t)};$$

C : determined from the initial condition $x(0) = x_0$.

- $\mu(t)$: **integrating factor**.

Some basics

- **EXAMPLE:**

- Consider

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{1}{t+1}x(t) = (1+t)^2, & t \geq 0, \\ x(0) = 1. \end{cases}$$

- $p(t) = 1/(t+1)$ and $g(t) = (1+t)^2$.
- **Integrating factor:**

$$\mu(t) = \exp\left(\int_0^t p(s)ds\right) = e^{\ln(t+1)} = t+1.$$

- \Rightarrow

$$x(t) = \frac{1}{t+1} \int_0^t (s+1)^3 ds + \frac{C}{t+1} = \frac{(t+1)^3}{4} + \frac{C - \frac{1}{4}}{t+1}.$$

- Initial condition $x(0) = 1 \Rightarrow C = 1$.

Some basics

- **EXAMPLE:** (Bernoulli's equation)

- Consider

$$\frac{dx}{dt} + p(t)x(t) = g(t)x^\alpha(t).$$

- $\alpha \notin \{0, 1\}$.
- **Change of variable:** $x = z^{\frac{1}{1-\alpha}}$,

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{1}{1-\alpha} z^{\frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}} \frac{dz}{dt}.$$

- **Linear equation:**

$$\frac{dz}{dt} + (1-\alpha)p(t)z(t) = (1-\alpha)g(t).$$

- Solved by the method of **integrating factors**.

Some basics

- Important examples of ODEs:
 - Autonomous ODEs;
 - Exact equations;
 - Hamiltonian systems.

Some basics

- **Autonomous ODEs:**
 - **DEFINITION:** $\frac{dx(t)}{dt} = f(t, x(t))$: **autonomous** if f :
independent of t .
 - Any ODE can be **rewritten as an autonomous** ODE on a **higher-dimensional space.**
 - $y = (t, x(t)) \rightarrow$ autonomous ODE

$$\frac{dy(t)}{dt} = F(y(t));$$

- $$F(y) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ f(t, x(t)) \end{pmatrix}.$$

Some basics

- **Exact equations:**

- $\Omega = I \times \mathbb{R} \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ with $I \subset \mathbb{R}$: open interval.
- $f, g \in \mathcal{C}^0(\Omega)$.
- Solution $x \in \mathcal{C}^1(I)$ of the ODE:

$$f(t, x(t)) + g(t, x(t)) \frac{dx}{dt} = 0$$

satisfying the initial condition $x(t_0) = x_0$ for some $(t_0, x_0) \in \Omega$.

- **Differential form:**

$$\omega = f(t, x)dt + g(t, x)dx.$$

- **DEFINITION:** Differential form: **exact** if there exists $F \in \mathcal{C}^1(\Omega)$ s.t.

$$\omega = dF = \frac{\partial F}{\partial t}dt + \frac{\partial F}{\partial x}dx.$$

- F : **potential** of ω .
- Differential equation: **exact equation**.

Some basics

- **THEOREM: Implicit function theorem**
 - Suppose that $F(t, x)$: continuously differentiable in a neighborhood of $(t_0, x_0) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^d$ and $F(t_0, x_0) = 0$.
 - Suppose that $\partial F / \partial x(t_0, x_0) \neq 0$.
 - Then there exists a $\delta > 0$ and $\epsilon > 0$ s.t. for each t satisfying $|t - t_0| < \delta$, there exists a **unique** x s.t. $|x - x_0| < \epsilon$ for which $F(t, x) = 0$.
 - This correspondence defines a function $x(t)$ continuously differentiable on $\{|t - t_0| < \delta\}$ s.t.

$$F(t, x) = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = x(t).$$

Some basics

- **THEOREM:**

- Suppose that ω : **exact form** with potential F s.t.

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial x}(t_0, x_0) \neq 0.$$

- $F(t, x) = F(t_0, x_0)$ implicitly defines a function $x \in \mathcal{C}^1(I)$ for some open interval I containing t_0 , which solves

$$f(t, x(t)) + g(t, x(t)) \frac{dx}{dt} = 0$$

with the initial condition $x(t_0) = x_0$.

- Solution: **unique** on I .

Some basics

- **PROOF:**

- Suppose without loss of generality that $F(t_0, x_0) = 0$.
- **Implicit function theorem** \Rightarrow there exists $\delta, \eta > 0$ and $x \in \mathcal{C}^1(t_0 - \delta, t_0 + \delta)$ s.t.
 $\{(t, x) \in \Omega : |t - t_0| < \delta, |x - x_0| < \eta,$

$$F(t, x) = 0\} = \{(t, x(t)) \in \Omega : |t - t_0| < \delta\}.$$

- By differentiating the identity $F(t, x(t)) = 0$,

$$\begin{aligned} 0 = \frac{d}{dt} F(t, x(t)) &= \frac{\partial F}{\partial t}(t, x(t)) + \frac{\partial F}{\partial x}(t, x(t)) \frac{dx}{dt} \\ &= f(t, x(t)) + g(t, x(t)) \frac{dx}{dt}. \end{aligned}$$

- $\Rightarrow x(t)$: solution of the differential equation.
- $x(t_0) = x_0$.
- If $z \in \mathcal{C}^1(I)$: solution s.t. $z(t_0) = x_0$, then

$$\frac{d}{dt} F(t, z(t)) = 0 \implies F(t, z(t)) = F(t_0, z(t_0)) = 0 \implies z(t) = x(t).$$

Some basics

- **DEFINITION:**

- $f, g \in \mathcal{C}^1(\Omega)$.
- Differential form $\omega = f dt + g dx$: **closed** in Ω if

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial g}{\partial t}$$

for all $(t, x) \in \Omega$.

- **PROPOSITION:**

- Exact differential form $\omega = f dt + g dx$ with a potential $F \in \mathcal{C}^2$: **closed** if

$$\frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial t \partial x} = \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial x \partial t}$$

for all $(t, x) \in \Omega$.

- Converse: also **true** if Ω : simply connected.
- Closed forms always have a potential (at least locally).

Some basics

- **EXAMPLE:**

- Consider

$$tx^2 + x - t \frac{dx}{dt} = 0.$$

- $f(t, x) = tx^2 + x$ and $g(t, x) = -t$.
- **Not exact:**

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = 2xt + 1 \neq \frac{\partial g}{\partial t} = -1.$$

- **EXAMPLE:**

- Consider

$$t + \frac{1}{x} - \frac{t}{x^2} \frac{dx}{dt} = 0$$

- **Exact** equation with the **potential function** F :

$$F(t, x) = \frac{t^2}{2} + \frac{t}{x} + C, \quad C \in \mathbb{R}.$$

- $F(t, x) = 0$ implicitly defines the solutions (locally for $t \neq 0$ and $x \neq 0$ s.t. $\partial F / \partial x(t, x) \neq 0$).

Some basics

- **Hamiltonian systems:**
 - **DEFINITION:**
 - M : subset of \mathbb{R}^d and $H : \mathbb{R}^d \times M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$: \mathcal{C}^1 function.
 - **Hamiltonian system** with Hamiltonian H : **first-order system of ODEs**

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dp}{dt} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial q}(p, q), \\ \frac{dq}{dt} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p}(p, q). \end{cases}$$

- **EXAMPLE:**
 - Harmonic oscillator with Hamiltonian

$$H(p, q) = \frac{1}{2} \frac{p^2}{m} + \frac{1}{2} kq^2;$$

m and k : positive constants.

- Given a potential V , Hamiltonian systems of the form:

$$H(p, q) = \frac{1}{2} p^\top M^{-1} p + V(q);$$

M : symmetric positive definite matrix and \top : transpose.

Some basics

- **Invariant** for a system of ODEs:

- **DEFINITION:**

- $\Omega = I \times D$; $I \subset \mathbb{R}$ and $D \subset \mathbb{R}^d$.

- Consider

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = f(t, x(t));$$

- $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$.
- $F : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$: **invariant** if $F(x(t)) = \text{Constant}$.
- $(t, x) \in I \times D$: **stationary point** if $f(t, x) = 0$.

Some basics

- **Example:**
 - Lotka-Volterra's ODEs:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{du}{dt} = u(v - 2), \\ \frac{dv}{dt} = v(1 - u). \end{cases}$$

- Dynamics of biological systems in which two species interact: one as a predator and the other as prey.
- Define

$$F(u, v) := \ln u - u + 2 \ln v - v.$$

- $F(u, v)$: **invariant**.
- $(u, v) = (1, 2)$ and $(u, v) = (0, 0)$: **stationary points**.

Some basics

- Differentiation with respect to time,

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dt}F(u, v) &= \frac{1}{u} \frac{du}{dt} - \frac{du}{dt} + \frac{2}{v} \frac{dv}{dt} - \frac{dv}{dt} \\ &= v - 2 - \frac{du}{dt} + 2(1 - u) - \frac{dv}{dt} \\ &= (v - 2) - u(v - 2) + 2(1 - u) + v(1 - u) \\ &= (v - 2)(1 - u) + (2 - v)(1 - u) \\ &= 0.\end{aligned}$$

Some basics

- **LEMMA:**
 - Hamiltonian H : **invariant** of the associated Hamiltonian system.

- **PROOF:**

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$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dt}H(p(t), q(t)) &= \frac{\partial H}{\partial p}(p(t), q(t)) \frac{dp}{dt} + \frac{\partial H}{\partial q}(p(t), q(t)) \frac{dq}{dt} \\ &= -\frac{\partial H}{\partial p}(p(t), q(t)) \frac{\partial H}{\partial q}(p(t), q(t)) + \frac{\partial H}{\partial q}(p(t), q(t)) \frac{\partial H}{\partial p}(p(t), q(t)) \\ &= 0.\end{aligned}$$

- $H(p, q)$: **invariant** of the associated system of equations.

Some basics

- **EXAMPLE:**

- Consider

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dp}{dt} = -\sin q, \\ \frac{dq}{dt} = p. \end{cases}$$

- $H(p, q) = \frac{1}{2}p^2 - \cos q$:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial H}{\partial q} = \sin q = -\frac{dp}{dt} \\ \frac{\partial H}{\partial p} = p = \frac{dq}{dt} \end{cases}$$

Some basics

- **Equivalent expression** for Hamiltonian systems:

- $x = (p, q)^\top$ ($p, q \in \mathbb{R}^d$);

$$J = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & I \\ -I & 0 \end{pmatrix};$$

I : $d \times d$ identity matrix.

- $J^{-1} = J^\top$.
- Rewrite the Hamiltonian system in the form

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = J^{-1} \nabla H(x).$$

Some basics

- **DEFINITION Symplectic linear mapping**
 - Matrix $A \in \mathbb{R}^{2d} \times \mathbb{R}^{2d}$ (linear mapping from \mathbb{R}^{2d} to \mathbb{R}^{2d}): **symplectic** if $A^\top J A = J$.
- **DEFINITION Symplectic mapping**
 - Differentiable map $g : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{2n}$: **symplectic** if the **Jacobian matrix** $g'(p, q)$: **everywhere symplectic**, i.e., if

$$g'(p, q)^\top J g'(p, q) = J.$$

- Taking the transpose of both sides of the above equation,

$$g'(p, q)^\top J^\top g'(p, q) = J^\top;$$

- Or equivalently,

$$g'(p, q)^\top J^{-1} g'(p, q) = J^{-1}.$$

Some basics

- **THEOREM:**
 - If g : symplectic mapping, then it preserves the Hamiltonian form of the equation.

Some basics

- **PROOF:**

- $x = (p, q)^\top$, $y = g(p, q)^\top$; $G(y) := H(x)$.

- **Chain rule** \Rightarrow

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial}{\partial x} H(x) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} G(y) = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} G(y) \frac{\partial y}{\partial x}(x) \\ &= (\nabla_y G(y))^\top g'^\top(p, q).\end{aligned}$$

Some basics

- \Rightarrow

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dy}{dt} &= \mathbf{g}'^\top(p, q) \frac{dx}{dt} \\ &= \mathbf{g}'^\top(p, q) J^{-1} \left(\frac{\partial H(x)}{\partial x} \right)^\top \\ &= \mathbf{g}'^\top J^{-1} \mathbf{g}' \nabla_y G(y) \\ &= J^{-1} \nabla_y G(y).\end{aligned}$$

- \Rightarrow

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = J^{-1} \nabla_y G(y).$$

Some basics

- DEFINITION:

- Flow:

$$\phi_t(p_0, q_0) = (p(t, p_0, q_0), q(t, p_0, q_0));$$

- $\phi_t : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{2d}$, $U \subset \mathbb{R}^{2d}$;
 - p_0 and q_0 : initial data at $t = 0$.

Some basics

- **THEOREM:** Poincaré's theorem
 - H : twice differentiable.
 - Flow ϕ_t : symplectic transformation.

Some basics

- **PROOF:**

- $y_0 = (p_0, q_0)$.

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$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{d}{dt} \left(\left(\frac{\partial \phi_t}{\partial y_0} \right)^\top J \left(\frac{\partial \phi_t}{\partial y_0} \right) \right) \\ &= \left(\frac{\partial \phi_t}{\partial y_0} \right)'^\top J \left(\frac{\partial \phi_t}{\partial y_0} \right) + \left(\frac{\partial \phi_t}{\partial y_0} \right)^\top J \left(\frac{\partial \phi_t}{\partial y_0} \right)' \\ &= \left(\frac{\partial \phi_t}{\partial y_0} \right)^\top \nabla^2 H J^{-\top} J \left(\frac{\partial \phi_t}{\partial y_0} \right) + \left(\frac{\partial \phi_t}{\partial y_0} \right)^\top J J^{-1} \nabla^2 H \left(\frac{\partial \phi_t}{\partial y_0} \right) \\ &= 0; \end{aligned}$$

- $\nabla^2 H$: Hessian matrix of $H(p, q)$ (symmetric).

Some basics

- $\partial\phi_t/\partial y_0$ at $t = 0$: **identity map** \Rightarrow

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$$\left(\frac{\partial\phi_t}{\partial y_0}\right)^\top J \left(\frac{\partial\phi_t}{\partial y_0}\right) = J$$

for all t and all (p_0, q_0) .

Some basics

- **Symplecticity** of the flow: **characteristic property** of the Hamiltonian system.
- **THEOREM:**
 - $f : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{2n}$: continuously differentiable.
 - $\frac{dx}{dt} = f(x)$: **locally Hamiltonian** iff $\phi_t(x)$: **symplectic** for all $x \in U$ and for all sufficiently small t .

Some basics

- **PROOF:**

- Necessity \Leftarrow Poincaré's Theorem.
- Suppose that ϕ_t : symplectic; prove local existence of a Hamiltonian H s.t. $f(x) = J^{-1}\nabla H(s)$.
- $\frac{\partial \phi_t}{\partial y_0}$: solution of

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = f'(\phi_t(y_0))y;$$

- \Rightarrow

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \left(\left(\frac{\partial \phi_t}{\partial y_0} \right)^\top J \left(\frac{\partial \phi_t}{\partial y_0} \right) \right) &= \left(\frac{\partial \phi_t}{\partial y_0} \right)^\top [f'(\phi_t(y_0))^\top J + Jf'] \left(\frac{\partial \phi_t}{\partial y_0} \right) \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

- Putting $t = 0$; $J = -J^\top \Rightarrow Jf'(y_0)$: symmetric matrix for all y_0 .
- **Integrability lemma** $\Rightarrow Jf(y)$: can be written as the gradient of a function H .

Some basics

- **LEMMA: Integrability lemma**

- $D \subset \mathbb{R}^d$: open set; $g : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d \in \mathcal{C}^1$.
- Suppose that the Jacobian $g'(y)$: **symmetric** for all $y \in D$.
- For every $y_0 \in D$, there exists a neighborhood of y_0 and a function $H(y)$ s.t.

$$g(y) = \nabla H(y)$$

on this neighborhood.

Some basics

- **PROOF:**

- Suppose that $y_0 = 0$, and consider a ball around y_0 : contained in D .
- Define

$$H(y) = \int_0^1 y^\top g(ty) dt.$$

- Differentiation with respect to y_k , and **symmetry assumption**:

$$\frac{\partial g_i}{\partial y_k} = \frac{\partial g_k}{\partial y_i}$$

- \Rightarrow

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial H}{\partial y_k} &= \int_0^1 (g_k(ty) + y^\top \frac{\partial g}{\partial y_k}(ty)t) dt \\ &= \int_0^1 \frac{d}{dt}(tg_k(ty)) dt = g_k(y) \end{aligned}$$

- \Rightarrow

$$\nabla H = g.$$

Some basics

- Gradient system:

-

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -\nabla F(x);$$

- F : potential function.
- LEMMA:
 - Hamiltonian system: gradient system iff H : harmonic.

Some basics

- **PROOF:**

- Suppose that H : harmonic, i.e.,

$$\frac{\partial^2 H}{\partial p^2} + \frac{\partial^2 H}{\partial q^2} = 0.$$

- Jacobian of $J^{-1}\nabla H$: **symmetric**

$$(J^{-1}\nabla H)' = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{\partial^2 H}{\partial p \partial q} & -\frac{\partial^2 H}{\partial q^2} \\ \frac{\partial^2 H}{\partial p^2} & \frac{\partial^2 H}{\partial p \partial q} \end{pmatrix}$$

- Integrability lemma \Rightarrow there exists V s.t. $J^{-1}\nabla H = \nabla V \Rightarrow$ Hamiltonian system: gradient system.

Some basics

- Suppose that Hamiltonian system: gradient system.
- There exists V s.t.

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial p} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial q} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial V}{\partial q} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial p}.$$

- \Rightarrow

$$\Delta H := \frac{\partial^2 H}{\partial p^2} + \frac{\partial^2 H}{\partial q^2} = 0.$$

Some basics

- **EXAMPLE:**
 - Hamiltonian system with $H(p, q) = p^2 - q^2$: **gradient system**.