


AE4536: Buckling of structures

What is stability ?

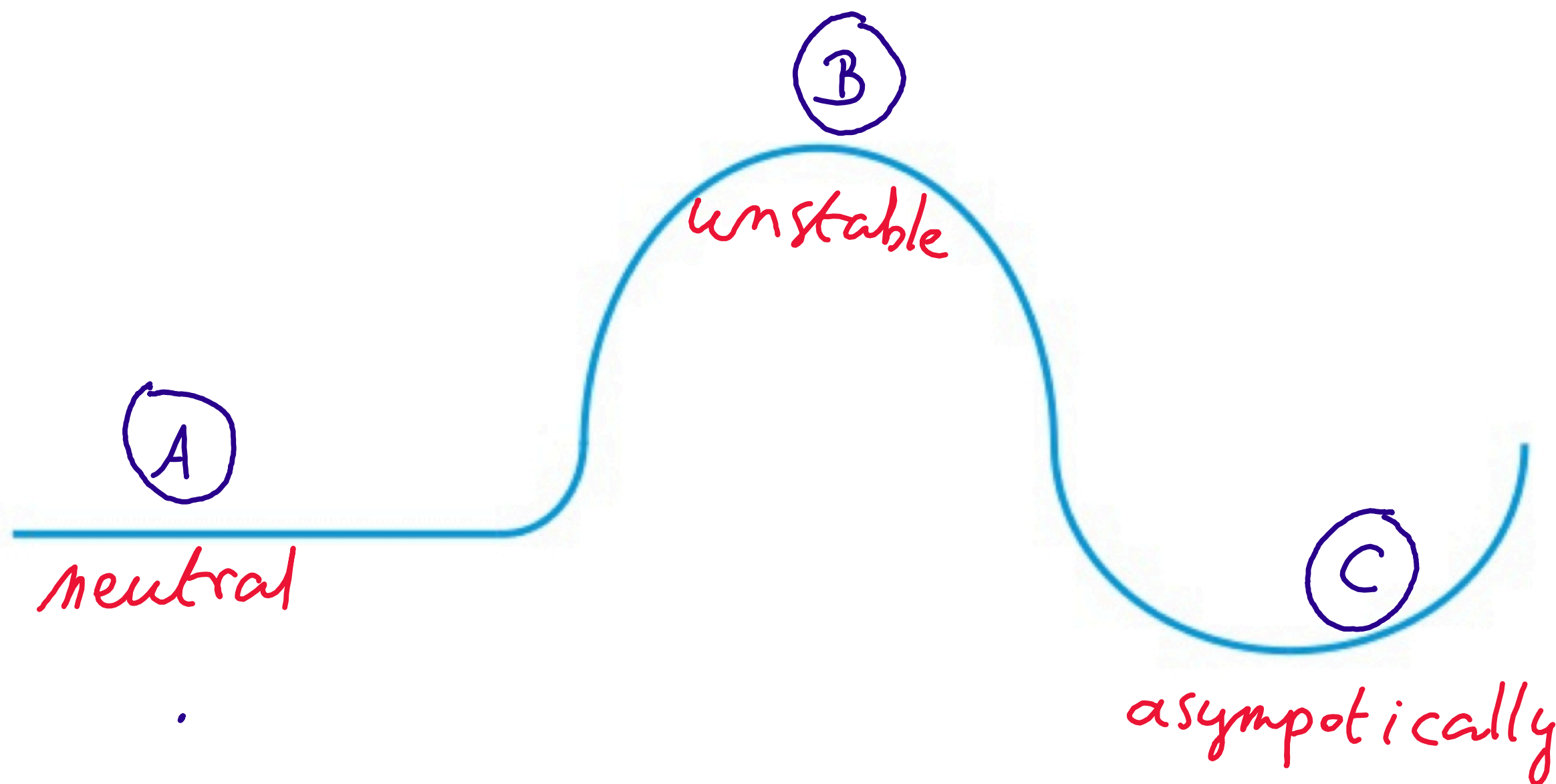
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30/08/13



Learning goals

- Concept of stability
- Types of stability of linear systems
- Stability of nonlinear linearised systems
- Liapunov criteria for stability
- Importance of potential energy

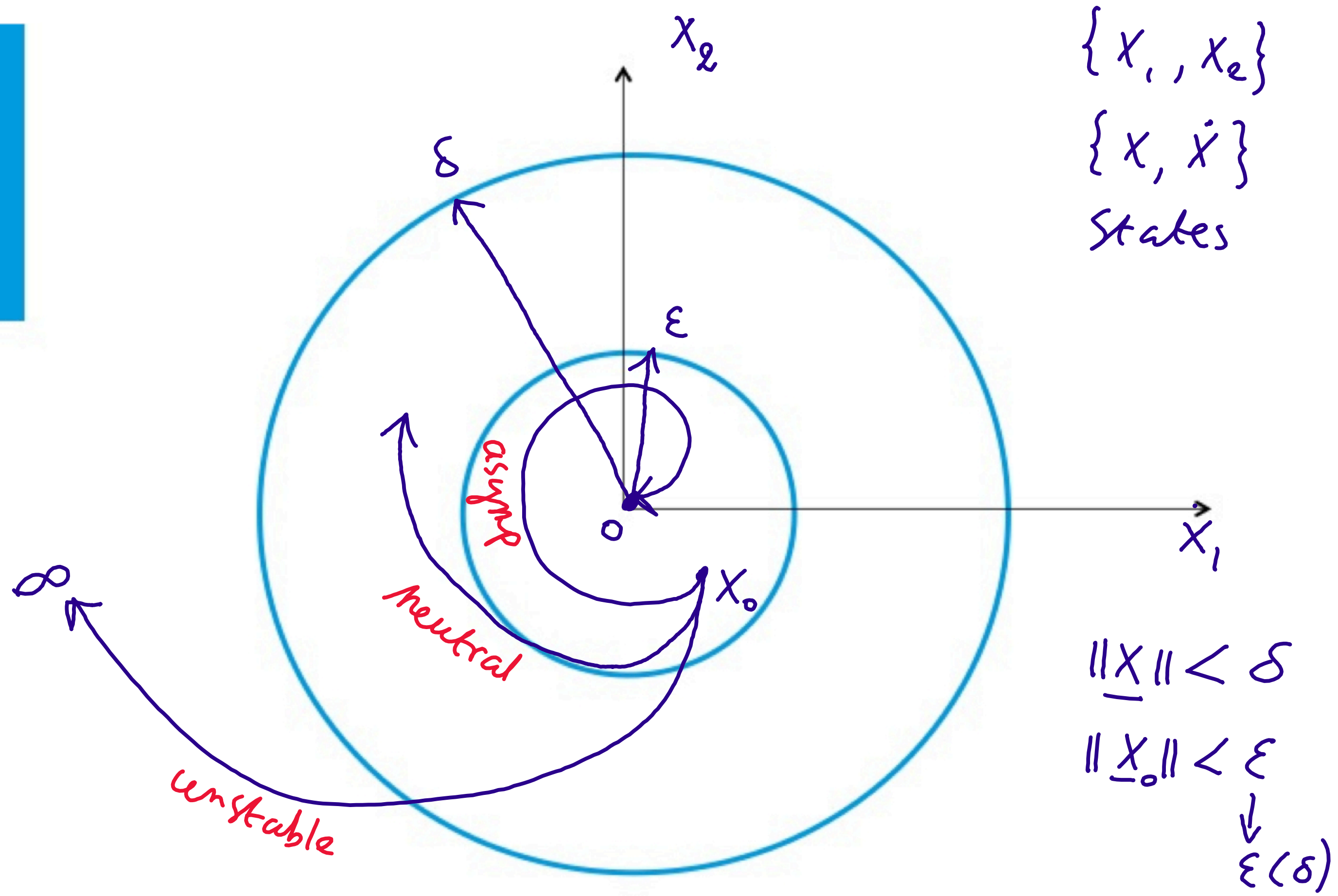
Ball analogy



Liapunov

- Alexandr Liapunov: 1857 – 1918
- Not to confuse with Sergei Liapunov, Russian composer and pianist
- Student of Chebyshev
- Defended a MSc thesis in 1884 *On the stability of ellipsoidal forms of equilibrium of rotating fluids*
- Defended a PhD thesis in 1892 on *The general problem of the stability of motion*





$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}_1 = a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 \\ \dot{x}_2 = a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 \end{cases}$$

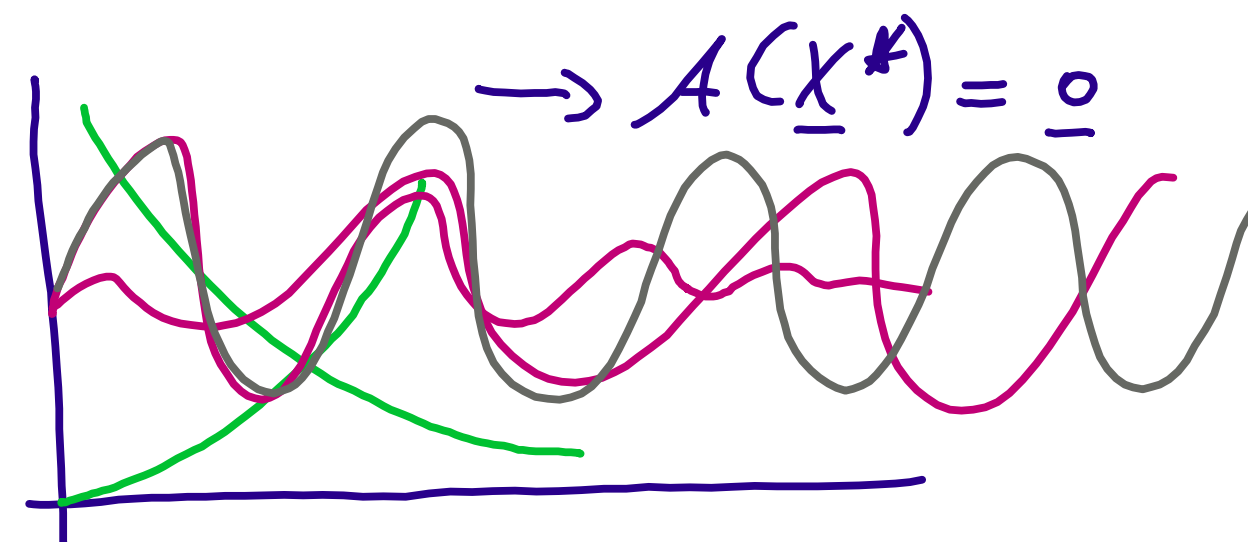
$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 \end{cases} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{cases} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{cases}_0 = \begin{cases} 0 \\ 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\dot{\underline{x}} = A(\underline{x})$$

$$A(\underline{a}) = \underline{0} \rightarrow \underline{x}^* = \underline{x} - \underline{a}$$

$$\begin{cases} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{cases} = \begin{cases} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \end{cases} e^{\lambda t} \rightarrow \sigma + i\omega$$



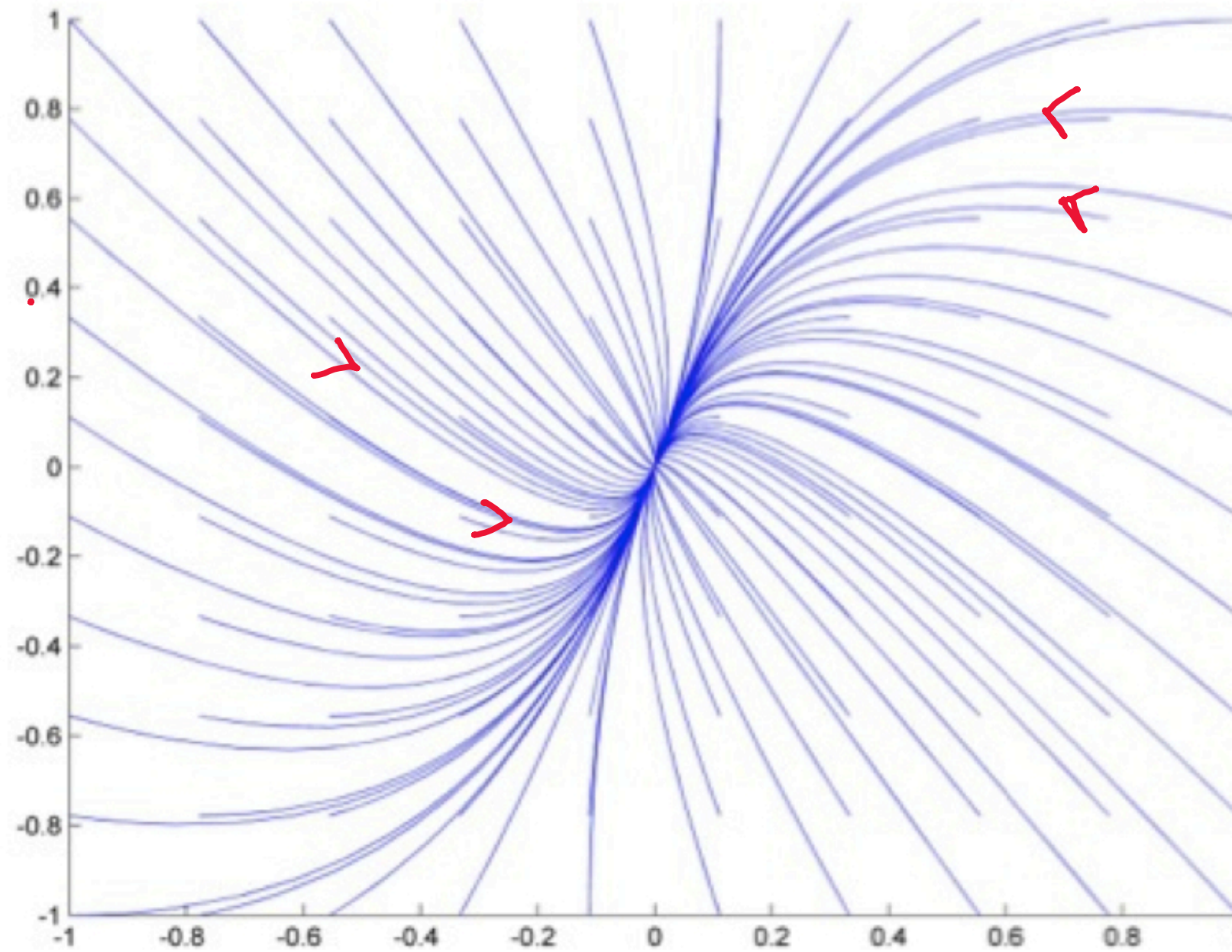
$$\begin{cases} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \end{cases} \lambda = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{cases} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} - \lambda & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} - \lambda \end{bmatrix} \begin{cases} \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \end{cases} = \underline{0}$$

$\det = 0$

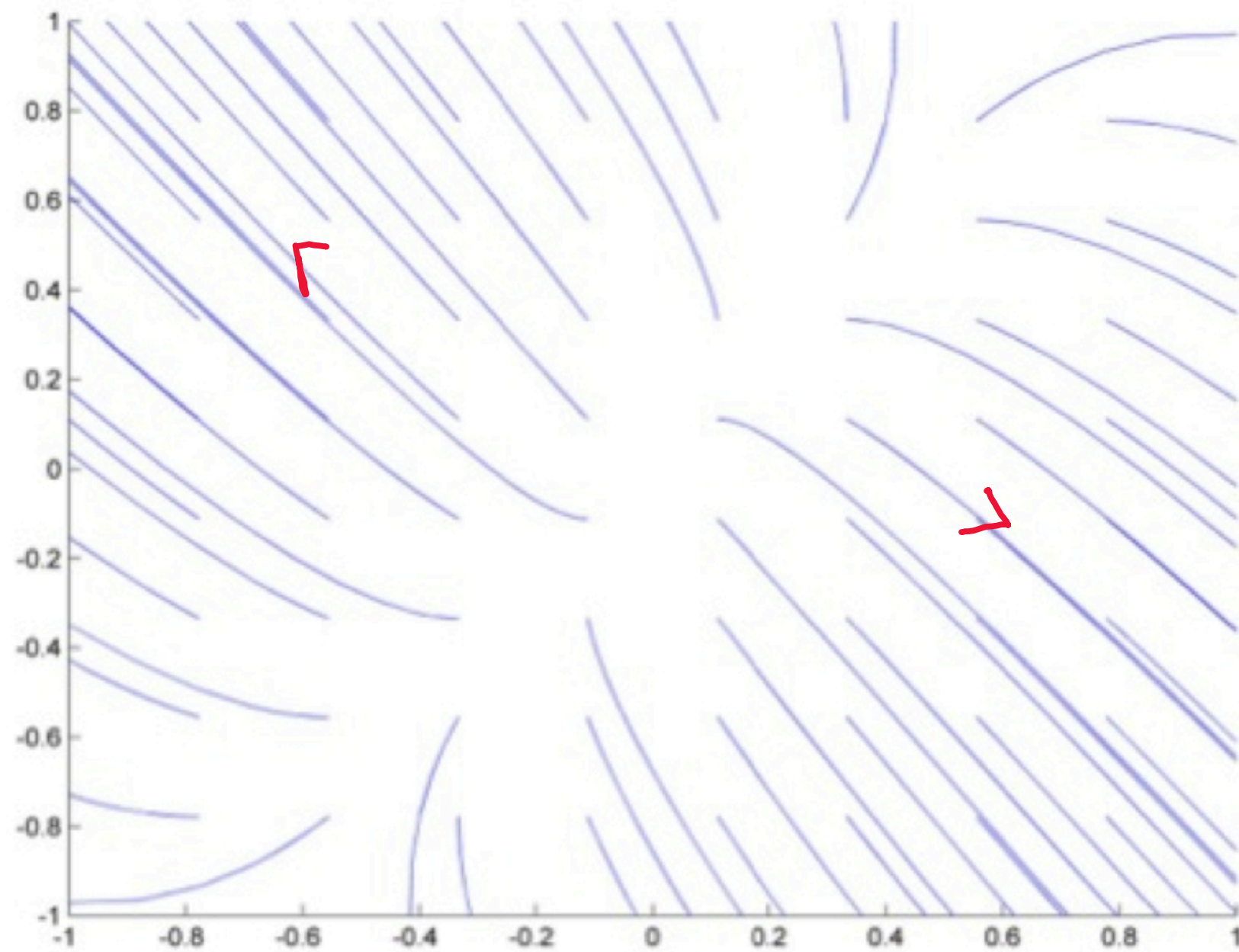
Stable node

λ real
 $\lambda < 0$



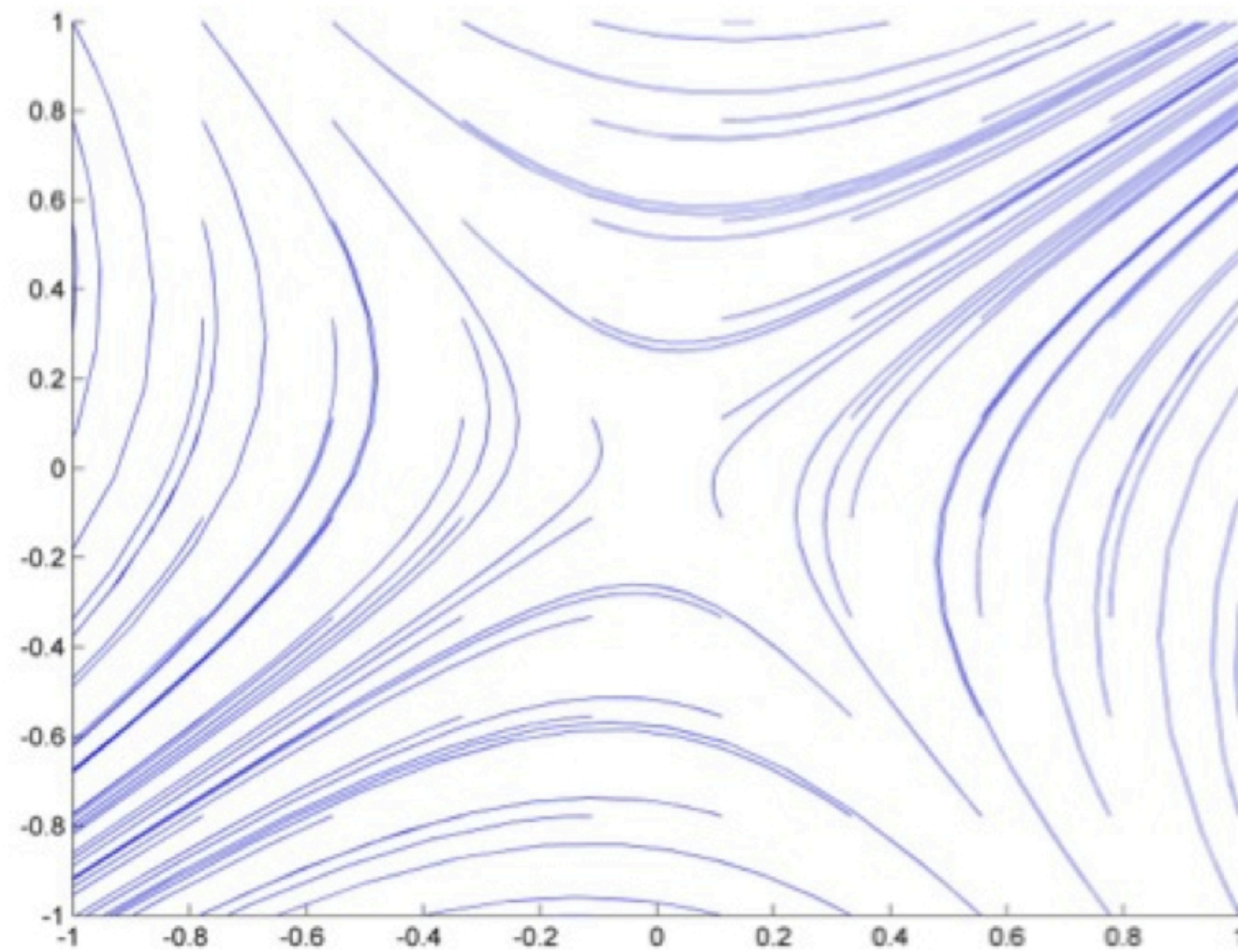
Unstable node

λ real
 $\lambda > 0$



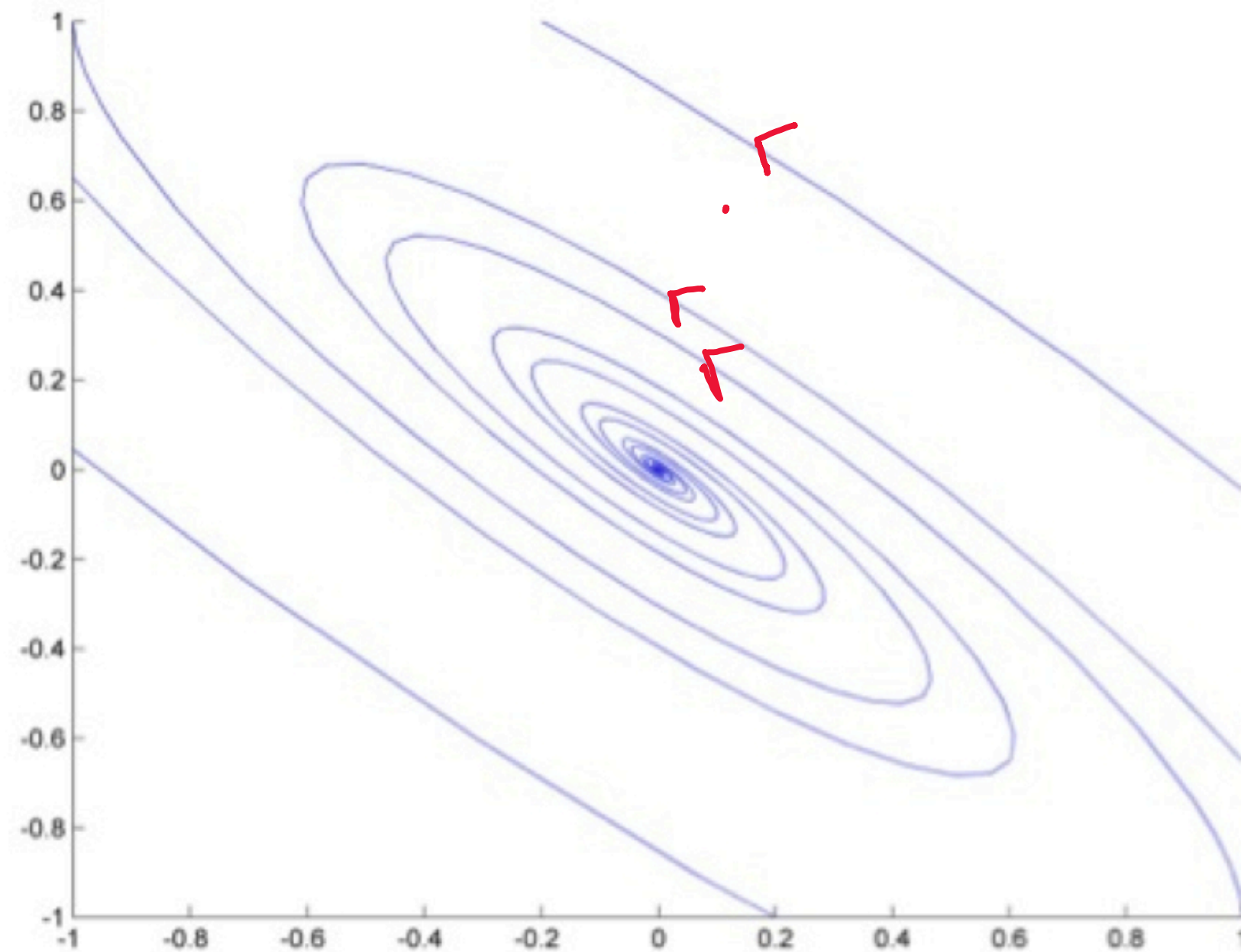
Saddle point

λ real
 $\lambda_1 > 0$
 $\lambda_2 < 0$



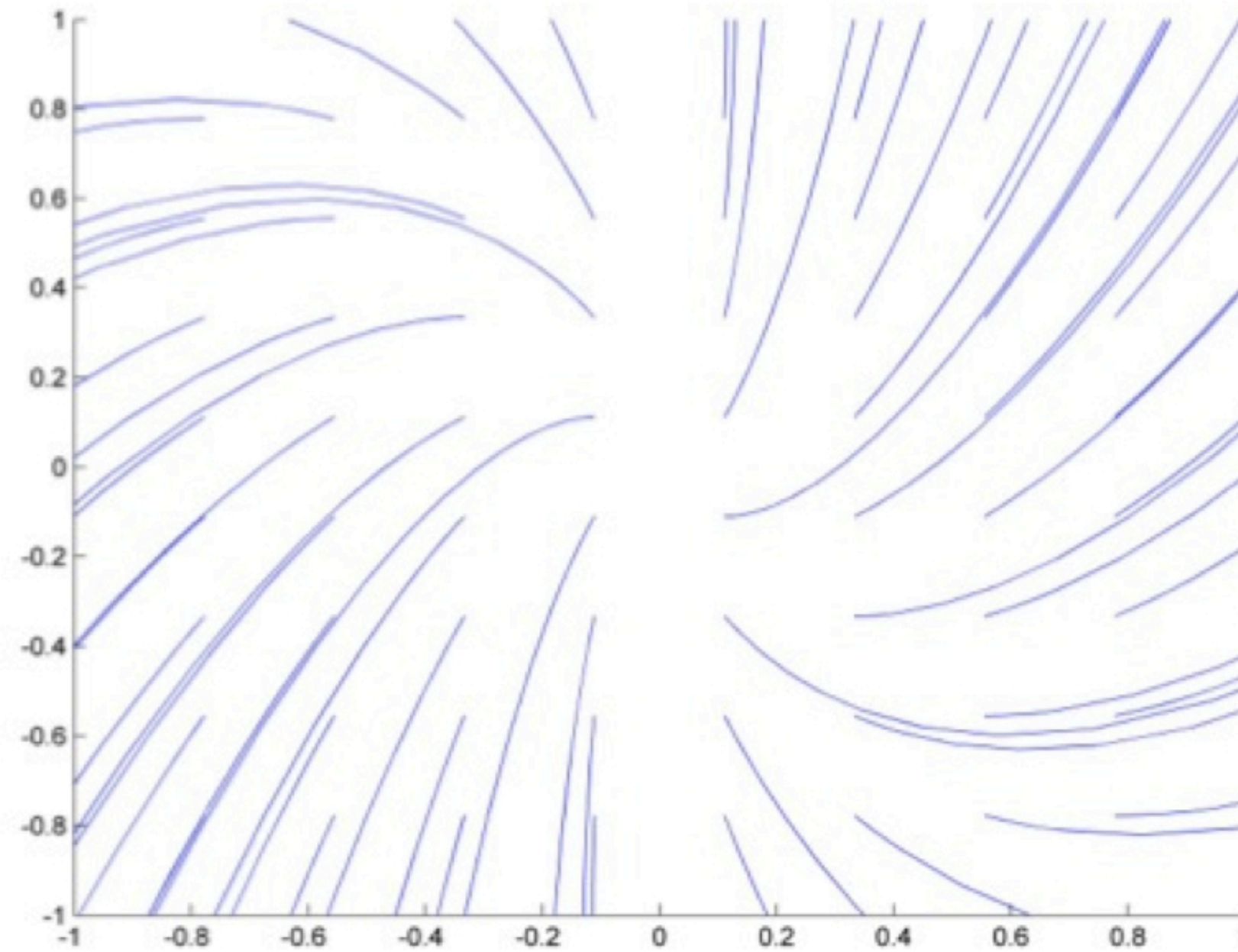
Stable focus

λ complex
 $\text{Re}(\lambda) < 0$



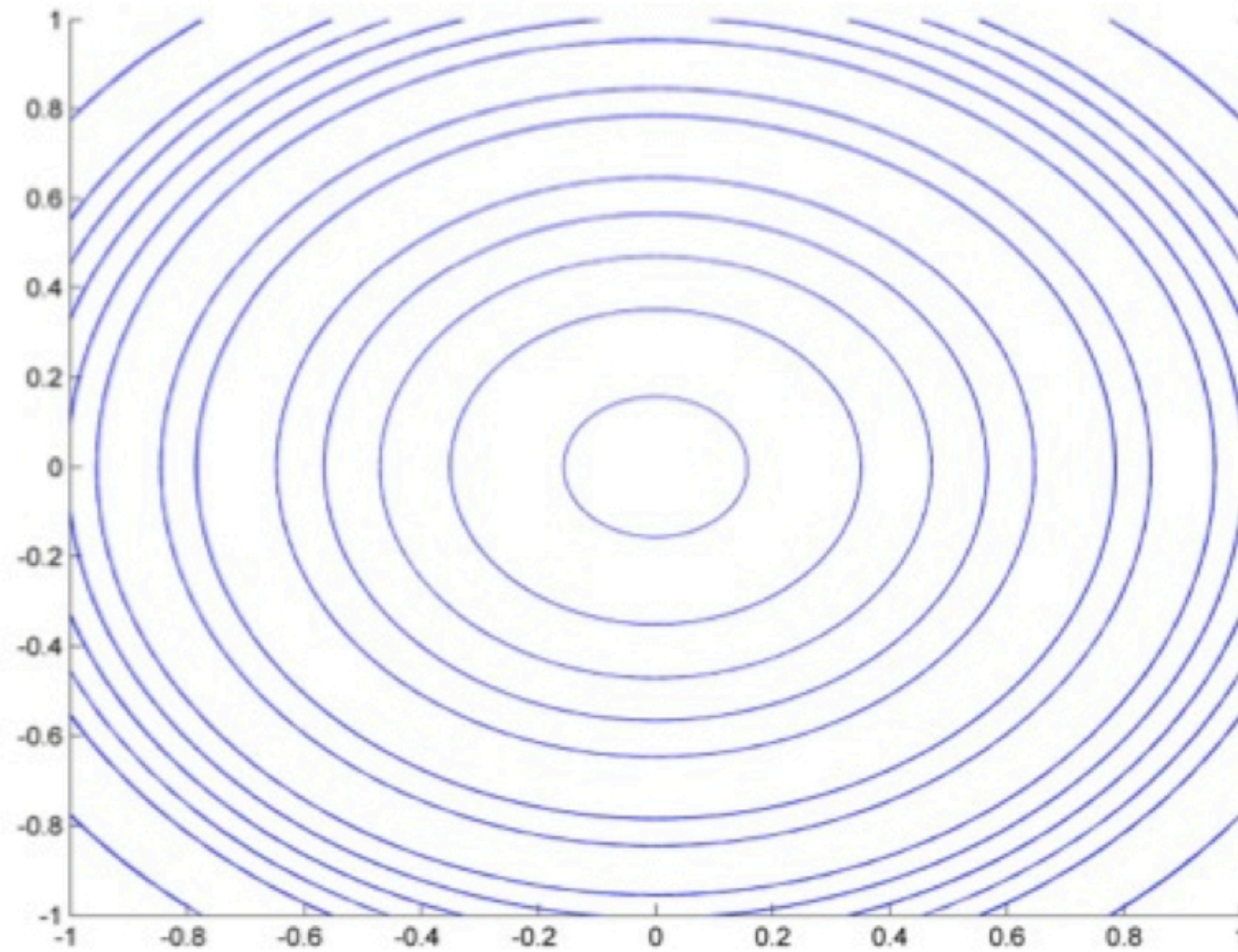
Unstable focus

λ complex
 $\text{Re}(\lambda) > 0$



Stable centre

λ imaginary



Linear stability

$$\lambda_1 < 0 \quad \wedge \quad \lambda_2 < 0$$

Asymptotically stable

$$\lambda_1 > 0 \quad \wedge \quad \lambda_2 > 0$$

Unstable

$$\lambda_1 < 0 \quad \wedge \quad \lambda_2 > 0$$

Unstable

$$\operatorname{Re}(\lambda_1) < 0$$

Asymptotically stable

$$\operatorname{Re}(\lambda_1) > 0$$

Unstable

$$\operatorname{Re}(\lambda_1) = 0$$

Neutrally stable

$$\dot{\underline{x}} = \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{lin}}}{A(\underline{x})} + \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{non lin}}}{R(\underline{x})}$$

$$R(\underline{x}_0) = O(\underline{x}_0)$$

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \end{cases} = \begin{cases} -2x + 2\sin y \\ -2x - 6\sin y + e^y \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} x \\ y \end{cases}_0 = \begin{cases} 0 \\ 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = -2x + 2(y - \frac{1}{3!}y^3) + \text{h.o.t.} \\ \dot{y} = -2x - (y - \frac{1}{2!}y^2) + x + y + \frac{1}{2!}y^2 + \text{h.o.t.} \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = -2x + 2y \\ \dot{y} = -2x + y \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = -2x + 2y \\ \dot{y} = -2x + y \end{cases}$$

Asymptotically \rightarrow OK

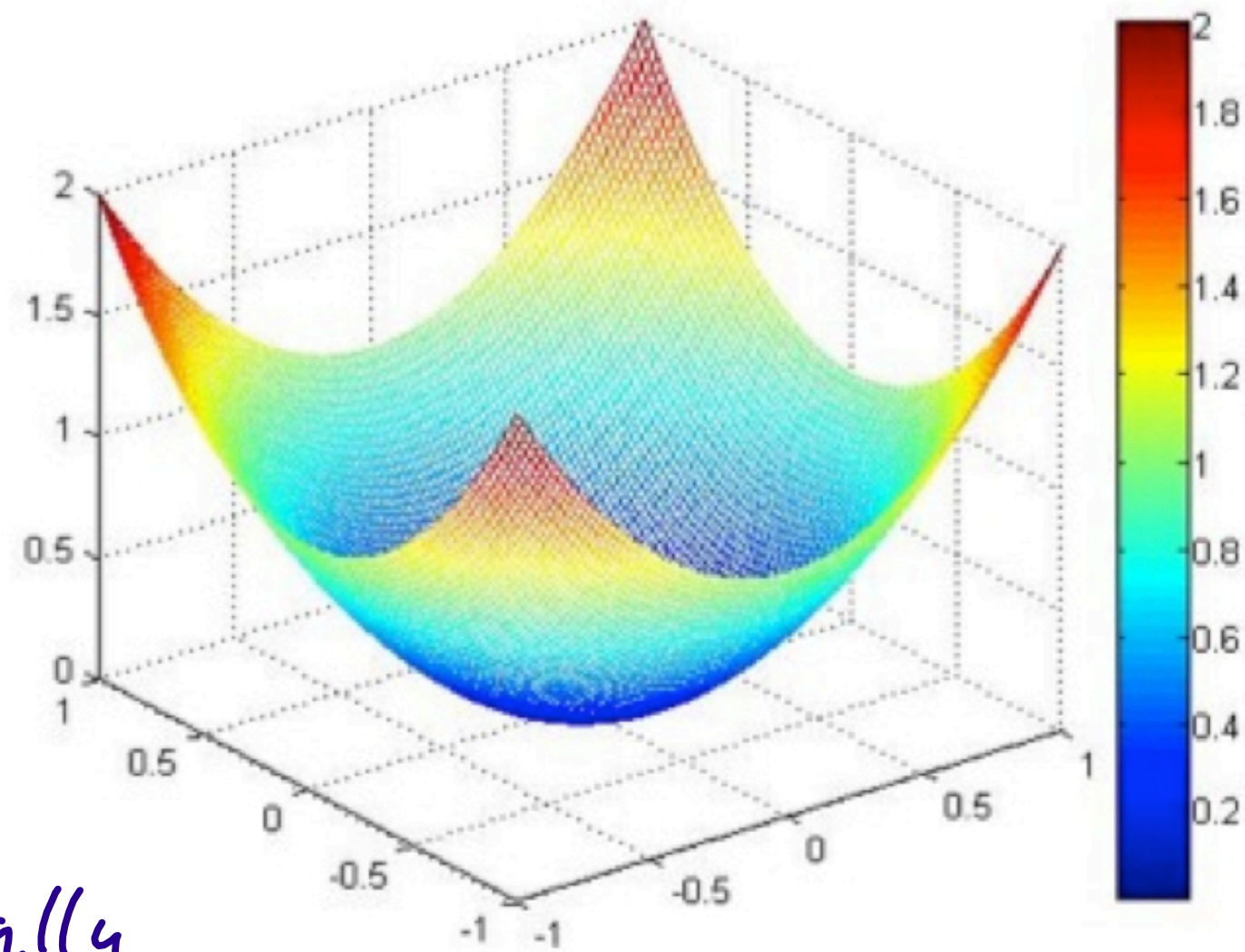
Neutrally \rightarrow no judgement

The Liapunov function

POSITIVE

- Function V and its derivatives are continuous near the origin
- $V(0) = 0$
- Function V has an isolated minimum at the origin
- $\dot{V} \leq 0$

$\dot{V} = 0$ neutral
 $\dot{V} < 0$ asymptotically



$$m\ddot{x} + kx = 0$$

$$\begin{cases} m\dot{x}_1 = x_2 \\ \dot{x}_2 = -kx_1 \end{cases}$$

$$V = a_1 x_1^2 + a_2 x_2^2$$

$$\dot{V} = 2a_1 x_1 \dot{x}_1 + 2a_2 x_2 \dot{x}_2$$

$$= 2a_1 x_1 \left(\frac{x_2}{m}\right) + 2a_2 x_2 (-kx_1) \leq 0$$

$$a_1 = \frac{1}{2}k, \quad a_2 = \frac{1}{2}\frac{1}{m}$$


$$V = \underbrace{\frac{1}{2}k x_1^2} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2}\frac{x_2^2}{m}} = E \quad \dot{E} = 0$$

$$\begin{cases} m\dot{X}_1 = X_2 & (1) \\ \dot{X}_2 = -f(X_1) & (2) \end{cases} \quad m\ddot{X} + \underbrace{f(X)}_{\rightarrow \text{nonlinear}} = 0$$

$$(1): (2) \quad m \frac{dX_1}{dX_2} = - \frac{X_2}{f(X_1)}$$

$$\underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \frac{X_2^2}{m}}_{Kin} + \underbrace{\int f(X_1) dX_1}_{P(X_1)} = E$$

Is $P(X_1)$ positive definite?



Summary

- **Concept of stability**
 - A system in equilibrium can be unstable, neutrally stable or asymptotically stable
 - The stability of a system is only valid in a certain region around an equilibrium point
- **Types of stability of linear systems**
 - The stability of a linear system is determined by the eigenvalues of the linear system
- **Stability of nonlinear linearised systems**
 - The stability of a nonlinear system can be analysed by linearising the system around an equilibrium point and investigating the eigenvalues
 - If all (real parts of) the eigenvalues are negative, the system is stable; if one is positive, the system is unstable; if zero, undecided
- **Liapunov criteria for stability**
 - If there exists a Liapunov function around an equilibrium point of a nonlinear system, then the system is stable
- **Importance of potential energy**
 - The stability of a nonlinear dynamic system can be determined solely by the positive definiteness of the potential energy