

# Nonlinear Autonomous Dynamical systems of two dimensions

## Part C

### Limit Cycles

From equilibrium points

to **isolated** periodic trajectories

# The limit cycle solution

## Example 1.

$$\dot{x} = -y + \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}(1 - x^2 - y^2)$$

$$\dot{y} = x + \frac{y}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}(1 - x^2 - y^2)$$

$\Rightarrow$

$$x\dot{x} + y\dot{y} = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}(1 - x^2 - y^2)$$

$$x\dot{y} - y\dot{x} = x^2 + y^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \dot{r} = 1 - r^2$$

$$\dot{\theta} = 1$$

polar coord ( $x = r \cos \theta, y = r \sin \theta$ )

$$x^2 + y^2 = r^2$$

$$y/x = \tan \theta$$

$$x\dot{x} + y\dot{y} = r\dot{r}$$

$$x\dot{y} - y\dot{x} = r^2\dot{\theta}$$

(0,0) : equilibrium

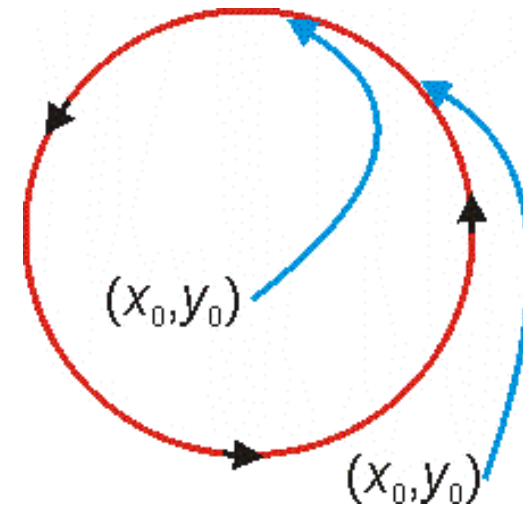
for  $r=1$  is  $dr/dt=0$ ,  
so  $r(t)=1$  is a solution

Solution

$$r = \frac{c - e^{-2t}}{c + e^{-2t}}, \quad c = (1 + r_0)/(1 - r_0)$$

$$\theta = t + \theta_0$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} r = 1, \quad \forall r_0, \theta_0$$



# The limit cycle solution

**Example 2.** Harmonic oscillator with damping

$$\dot{x} = y$$

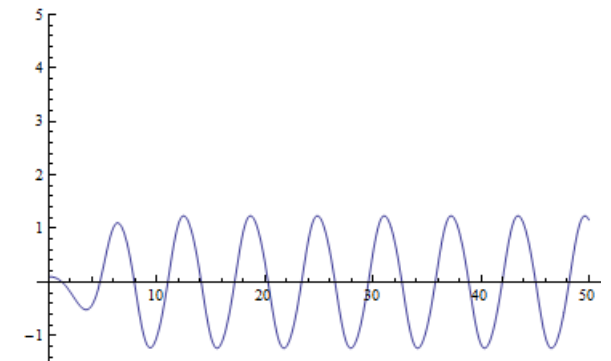
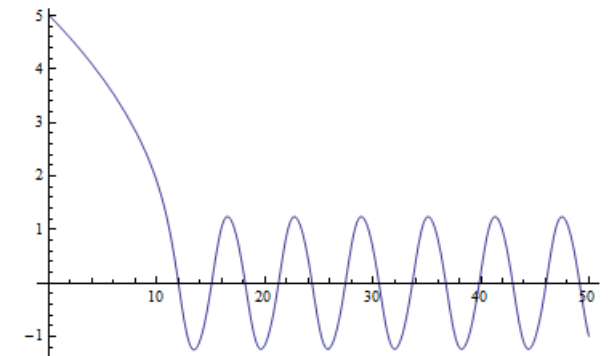
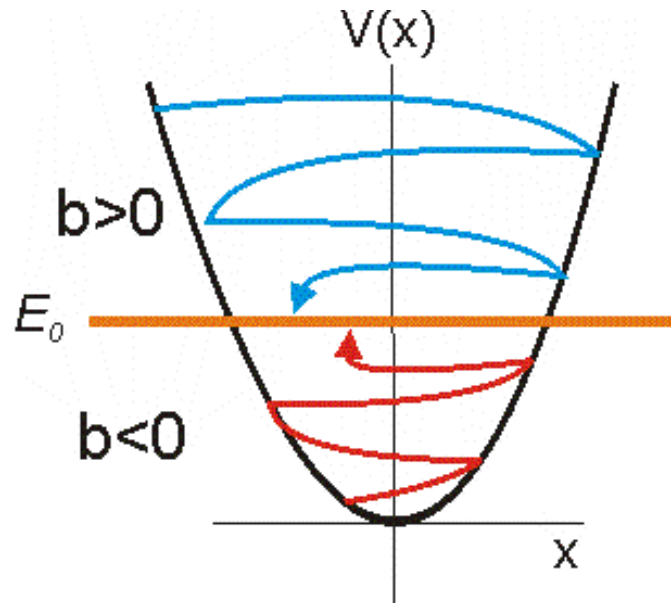
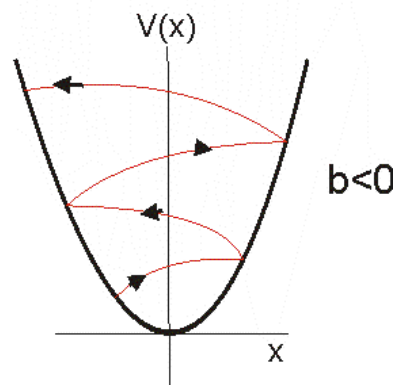
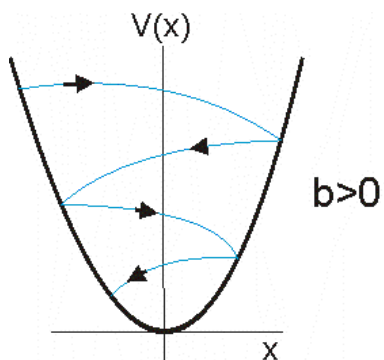
$$\dot{y} = -kx - by, \quad k > 0$$

$$E = \frac{1}{2} y^2 + \frac{1}{2} kx^2$$

$$b = b(x, y) = E - E_0 = \frac{1}{2} y^2 + \frac{1}{2} kx^2 - E_0$$

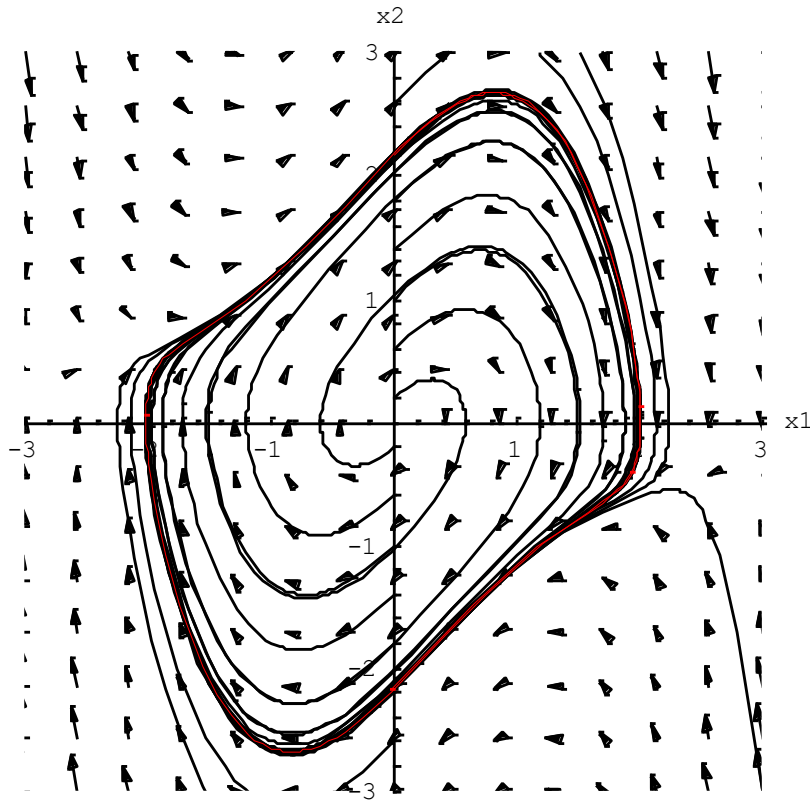
$$\dot{x} = y$$

$$\dot{y} = -kx - \left( \frac{1}{2} y^2 + \frac{1}{2} kx^2 - E_0 \right) y, \quad k > 0$$

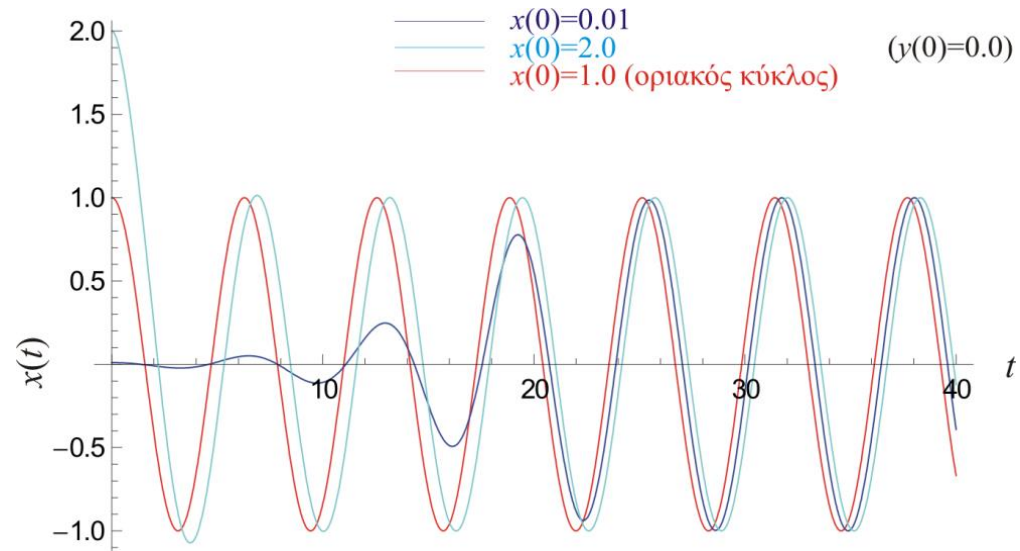


# The limit cycle solution

A **stable limit cycle** (LC) is an isolated closed phase space trajectory (or an isolated periodic solution) which is included in a domain  $D$  such that  $\forall (x_0, y_0) \in D$  the corresponding solution  $(x(t), y(t))$  tends asymptotically, as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ , to the solution of the LC.



- The vector field is smooth on the solution of LC
- **The domain included inside the LC should contain at least one equilibrium point (focus or node)**

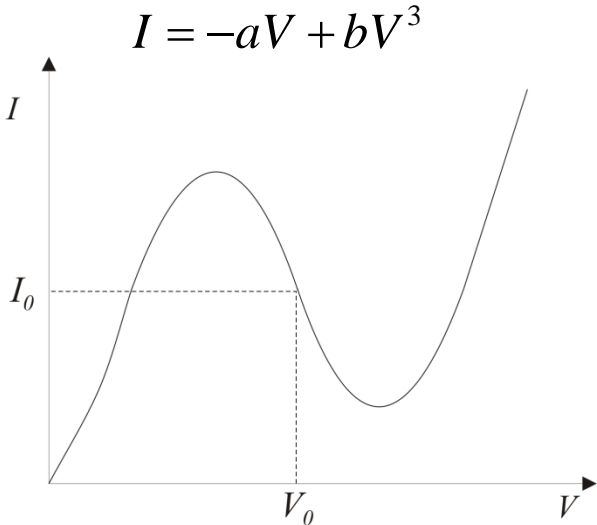
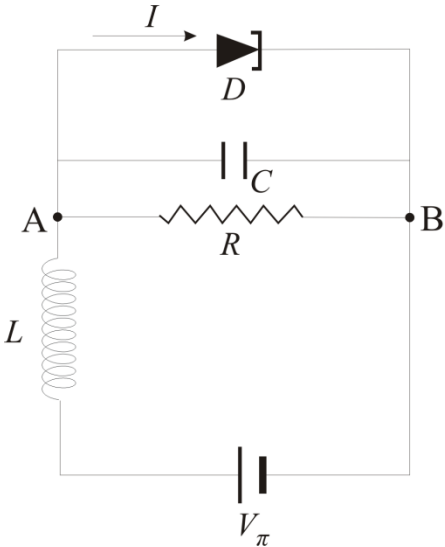


\* if the solution  $(x(t), y(t))$  tends asymptotically to the LC as  $t \rightarrow -\infty$ , the LC is called **unstable**

# The limit cycle solution

**example** : the van der Pol equation

$$\ddot{x} = \mu(1 - x^2)\dot{x} - x \quad x \sim V_{AB}, \quad \mu = \mu(R, L, C, \dots)$$



[cmath68.nb](http://cmath68.nb)

Production of electrical oscillation from a DC input.

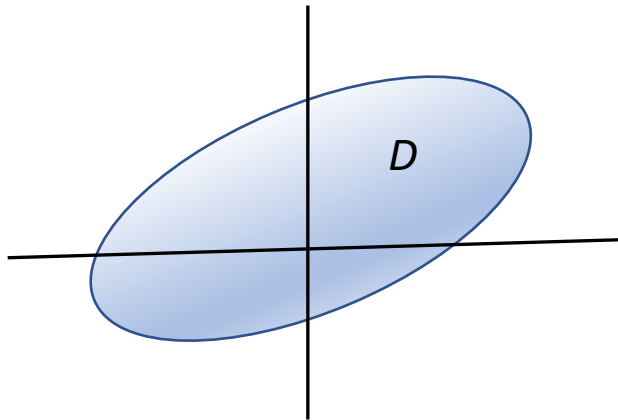
# Non-Existence of a limit cycle solution

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= f(x, y) \\ \dot{y} &= g(x, y)\end{aligned}$$

- No equilibrium points  $\Rightarrow$  No limit cycle solution (for 2D systems!)

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= x^2 + y^2 + 1 \\ \dot{y} &= x^2 - y^2\end{aligned}$$

- The negative criterion of Bendixson



$$\operatorname{div} \mathbf{f} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial g}{\partial y} \neq 0 \quad \forall (x, y) \in D \quad \Rightarrow$$

there does not exist a limit cycle solution which is located completely in the domain  $D$

$$\operatorname{div} \mathbf{f} < 0 \quad \text{or} \quad \operatorname{div} \mathbf{f} > 0$$

**Example**

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= x^3 - y^3 \\ \dot{y} &= -3x + 2y + y^3\end{aligned}$$

$$\rightarrow \operatorname{div} \mathbf{f} = 3x^2 + 3y^2 + 2 > 0 \quad \forall (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \quad \rightarrow \text{no Limit Cycle}$$

(0,0): equilibrium

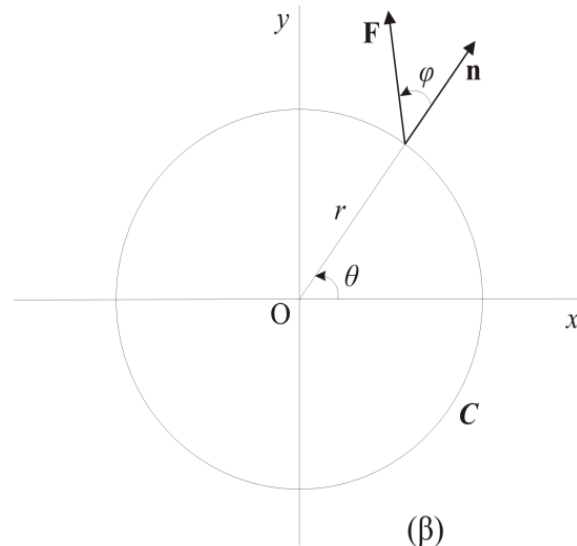
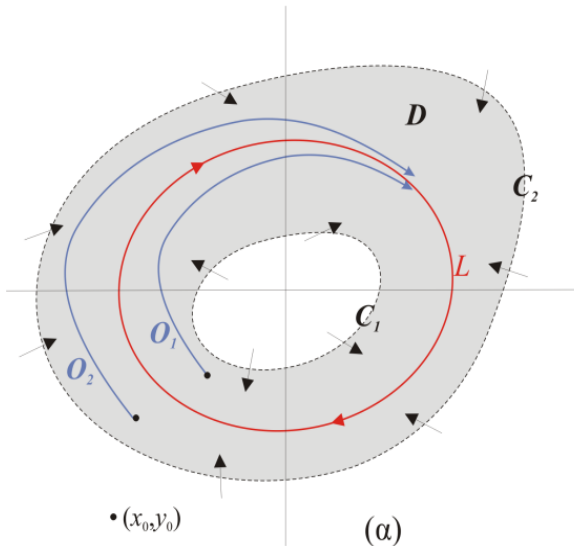
# Existence of a limit cycle solution

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x} &= f(x, y) \\ \dot{y} &= g(x, y) \\ \mathbf{F} &= (f, g) \end{aligned}$$

## The Poincare – Bendixson theorem

We consider a bounded single connected domain  $D \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ . If a phase space trajectory with initial conditions  $(x_0, y_0) \in D$  is bounded as  $t \rightarrow +\infty$  (or  $t \rightarrow -\infty$ ) in the domain  $D$  then

- The trajectory is closed (periodic solution) **or**
- The trajectory tends to a closed trajectory (limit cycle) as  $t \rightarrow +\infty$  (or  $t \rightarrow -\infty$ ) **or**
- The trajectory tends to an equilibrium point  $P \in D$  as  $t \rightarrow +\infty$  (or  $t \rightarrow -\infty$ )



If we can define a **ring** with borders  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  such that

- i) the ring does not contain an equilibrium
- ii) the flow is directed outward at the inner border  $C_1$
- iii) the flow is directed inward at the outer border  $C_2$

then there exist a limit cycle in the ring

$$\cos \varphi = \frac{\mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{F}}{|\cdot|} \rightarrow \begin{aligned} \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{F} < 0 & \text{ inward direction} \\ \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{F} > 0 & \text{ outward direction} \end{aligned}$$

$$\dot{x} = x + y - x(x^2 + 2y^2)$$

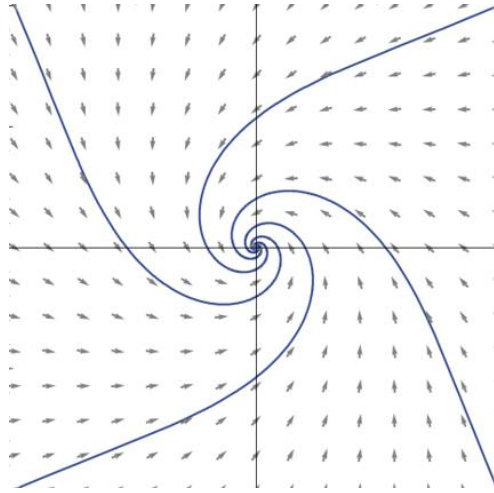
$$\dot{y} = -x + y - y(x^2 + 2y^2)$$

example

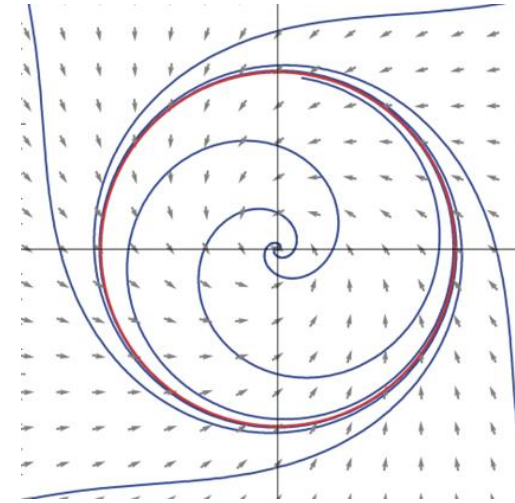


# The Hopf bifurcation

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x} &= f(x, y; \mu) \\ \dot{y} &= g(x, y; \mu), \quad \mu \in \mathbb{R} \end{aligned}$$



$\mu < \mu_0$ : stable focus



$\mu > \mu_0$ : unstable focus + Limit cycle

## Example

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x} &= -y + x(\mu - x^2 - y^2) \\ \dot{y} &= x + y(\mu - x^2 - y^2) \end{aligned} \quad \left( \begin{array}{l} \dot{r} = r(\mu - r^2) \\ \dot{\theta} = 1 \end{array} \right)$$

$(0,0)$ : equilibrium,  $\lambda = \mu \pm i$

