

## Previously on control

- ODE models, solutions, equilibria
- Designing controller, PID, State feedback

$$\frac{d}{dt} x(t) = 0$$

- Hurwitz condition  $t \rightarrow \infty$  for linear systems  $\dot{x} = Ax$

## Today • Requirements

### Stability

### Asymptotic stability

- General method for proving stability
- Relationship to invariants
- Balls, sub-level sets

## What are requirements for a control system

- (0) State variables stay bounded
- (1) Invariance  $\forall x(0) \in \Theta \quad \forall t \quad x(t) \in \mathcal{I}_{\Theta}$  ← Some nice set
- (2) Sets of invariants
- (3) Convergence to equilibria
- (4) Small inputs to  $\dot{x} = f(x, u)$  produce small outputs BIBO

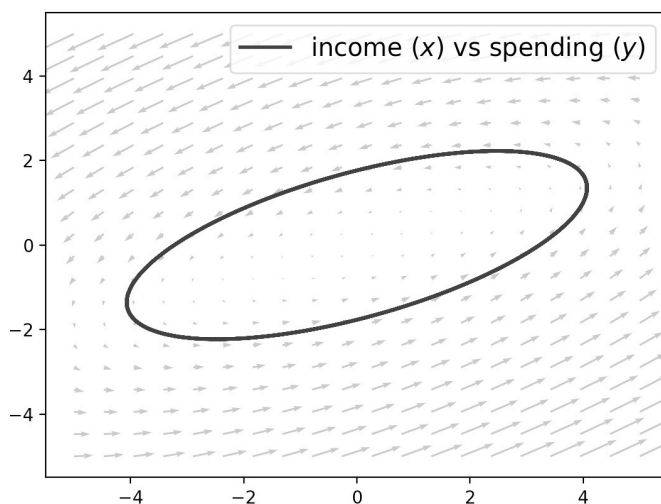
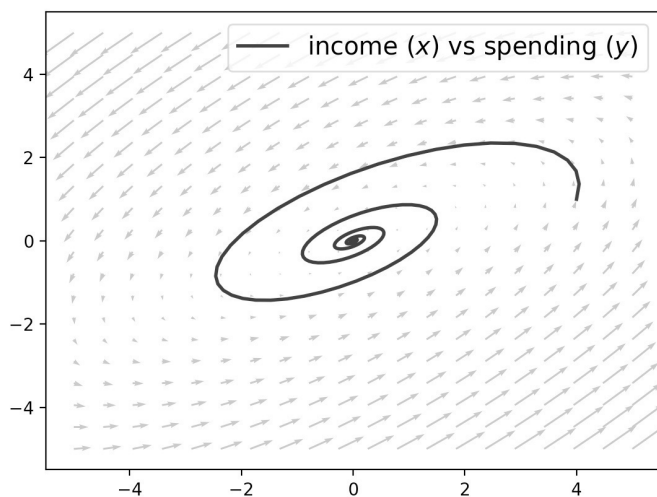
Setup. We are studying an ODE  $\dot{x} = f(x)$   
 $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$   $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$

Assume that the origin  $\vec{0} \in \mathbb{R}^n$   
 is an equilibrium, i.e.  $f(\vec{0}) = \vec{0}$   
 if not apply appropriate coordinate transform to  $f$ .

You have already seen that for linear systems  
 $f(x) = Ax$

$\dot{x} = Ax$  is asymptotically stable at  $\vec{0}$  ~~iff~~  
 for every eigenvalue  $\lambda_i$  of  $A$   $\text{Re}(\lambda_i) < 0$   
Hurwitz criterion.

Today: General nonlinear systems.

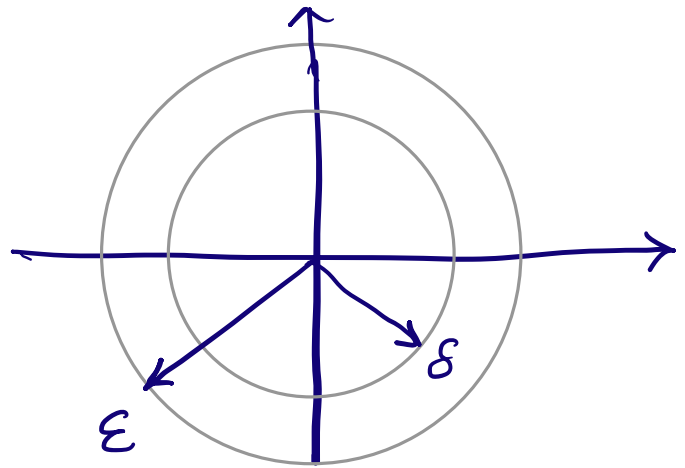


Def.  $B_r \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  is the ball of radius  $r$  centered at  $\vec{0}$   
 i.e.  $B_r = \{x \mid |x| \leq r\}$   
 $\uparrow$  Some norm

## Def. Lyapunov Stability

The system  $\dot{x} = f(x)$  is <sup>Lyapunov</sup> stable (Lyapunov stable) if  $\forall \epsilon > 0 \exists \delta > 0$  such that if  $x(0) \in B_\delta$  then  $\forall t \ x(t) \in B_\epsilon$ .

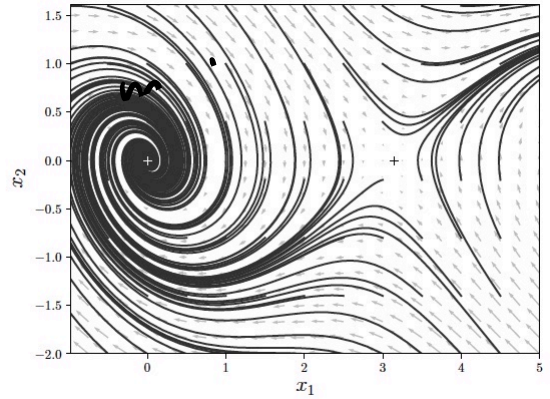
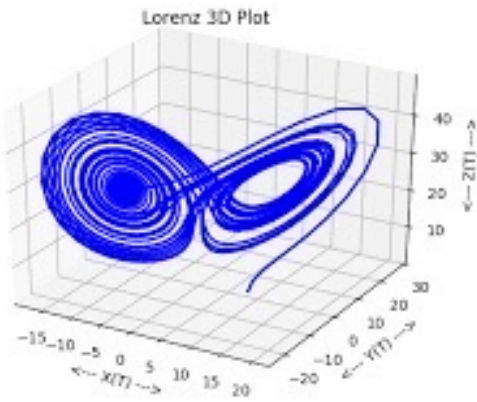
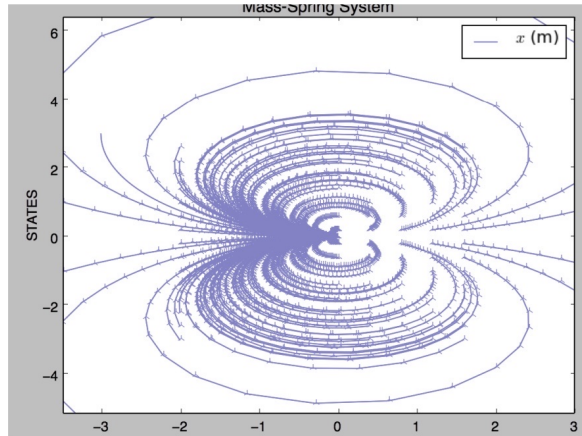
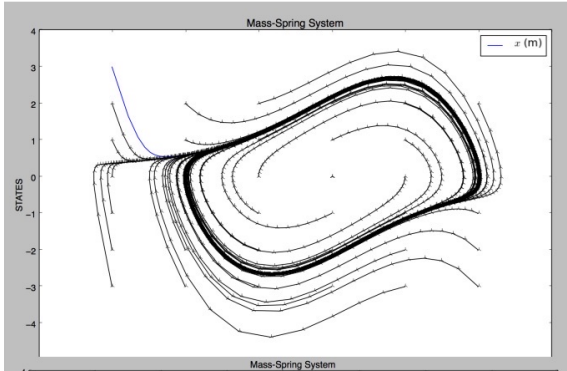
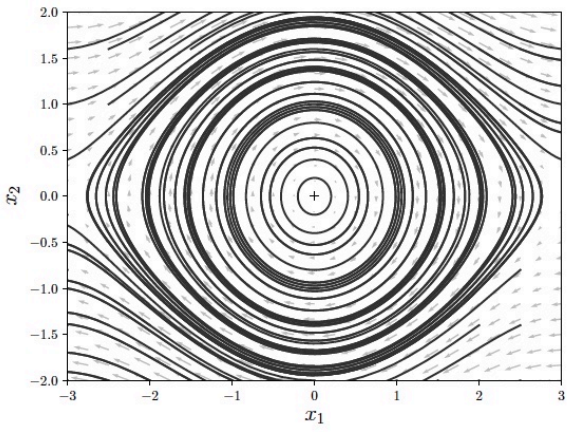
Otherwise the system is unstable



Def. The system is asymptotically stable if

it is Lyapunov stable and  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} x(t) \rightarrow 0$ .

Stable / Unstable /  
Asymptotically stable?



$$B(x, r) = \{x' \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid |x - x'|_p \leq r\}$$

If  $r_2 \geq r_1$  then  $B(x, r_1) \subseteq B(x, r_2)$

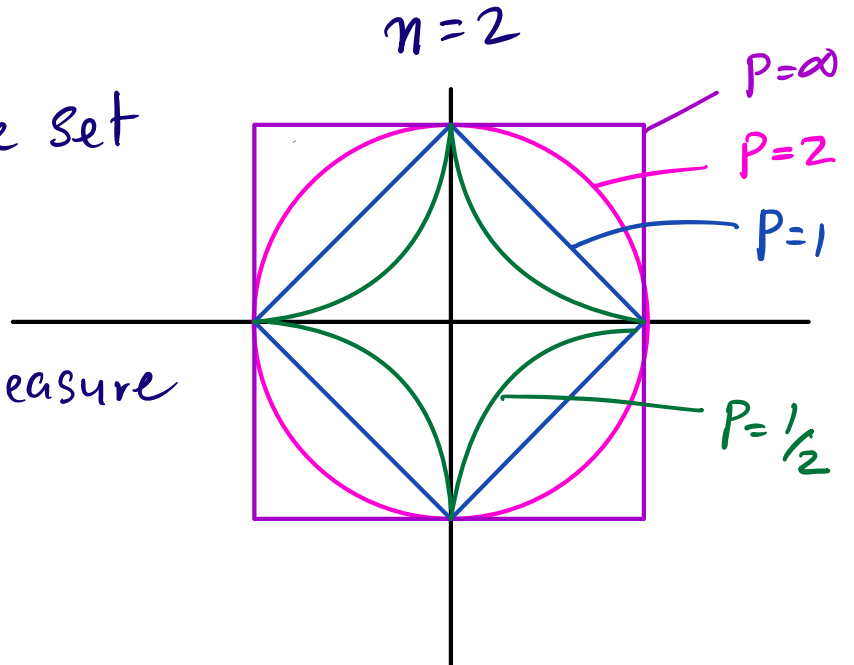
Parameters defining the set

$x$  : center

$r$  : radius

$p$  : norm / distance measure

$n$  : dimension

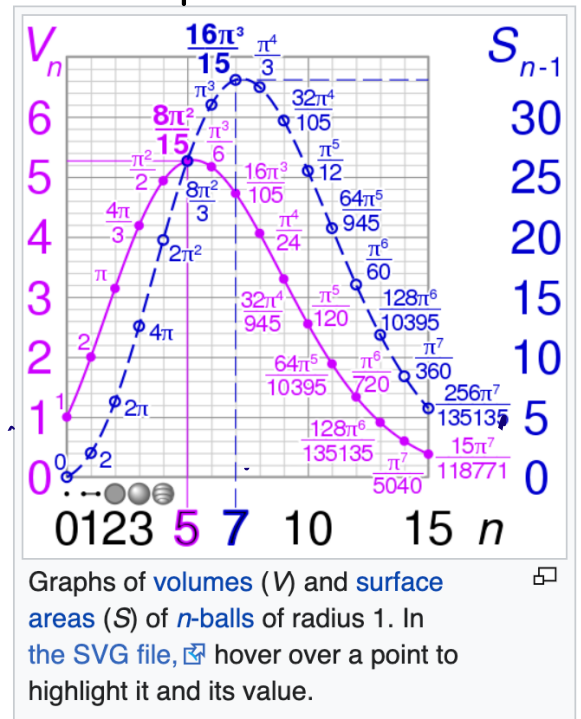


Factoid

for  $r=1$

What is the volume of an  $n$ -dimensional sphere of unit radius

$n=1$	2
2	$\pi$
3	$\frac{4}{3}\pi$
⋮	



## Relating Invariance & Stability

Recall.  $I \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  is an invariant of  $x_{t+1} = f(x_t)$   
provided  $x_0 \in I$  and  $f(I) \subseteq I$

How is Lyapunov stability related to invariance?

How to prove stability?

How do you prove a program like this terminates?

While ( $x \geq 0$ )  
 $x = f(x)$

Do you think this is easy?  
Example

While ( $n > 1$ )  
 $f(n) = n/2$  if  $n \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$   
 $= 3n+1$  if  $n \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$

Does this always end with  $n=1$ ?

Generally proving termination is undecidable but we try to find a ranking function  $R: X \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$   
energy function

Such that  $\forall x \quad R(x) \geq 0$   
and  $R(f(x)) < R(x)$

Similar idea for ODEs

Thm. Suppose there exists a positive definite, radially unbounded, continuous function  $V: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$  such that

$\dot{V} \leq 0$  then  $\dot{x} = f(x)$  is Lyapunov stable.

$\dot{V} < 0$  then  $\dot{x} = f(x)$  is asymptotically stable.

Positive definite:  $\forall x \neq 0 \quad V(x) > 0$

Radially unbounded:  $x \rightarrow \infty \quad V(x) \rightarrow \infty$

$\dot{V}$ ?  $V: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad V(x)$



$V$  is a function of the state  $V(x)$   
and  $x$  state is a function of time  
So, really  $V(x(t))$

$$\dot{V} = \frac{d}{dt} V(x(t)) = \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{dx(t)}{dt} = \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} \cdot f(x)$$

Example

$$\dot{x} = -a \sin^2(x) = f(x)$$

$$V(x) = x^3 + 6$$

Note. we never solved the ODE!

$V$ : Lyapunov function

$$\text{Ex.} \quad \dot{x} = -x \quad \dot{y} = -y$$

$$\text{Candidate} \quad V = \frac{x^2 + y^2}{2}$$

$$\dot{V} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial V}{\partial y} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -x \\ -y \end{bmatrix} = [x \quad y] \begin{bmatrix} -x \\ -y \end{bmatrix} = -(x^2 + y^2)$$

$\vec{0}$  is globally asymptotically stable

$$\text{EX} \quad \begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -x + y^2 \\ -2y + 3x^2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{How many equilibria?}$$

$$\text{Consider} \quad V(x, y) = \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{y^2}{4} \quad \text{P.D. \& R.U.}$$

$$\dot{V}(x, y) = \begin{bmatrix} x & y/2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -x + y^2 \\ -2y + 3x^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= -x^2 + xy^2 - y^2 + \frac{3x^2y}{2}$$

$$= -x^2 \left(1 - \frac{3}{2}y\right) - y^2(1 - x)$$

This is -ve  $\forall x < 1 \quad y < 2/3$

$\therefore$  origin is asymptotically stable but not globally

# Level sets and Sublevel-sets

for any function  $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

and  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ , the a-level set of  $f$  is the set  $L_a = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid f(x) = a\}$

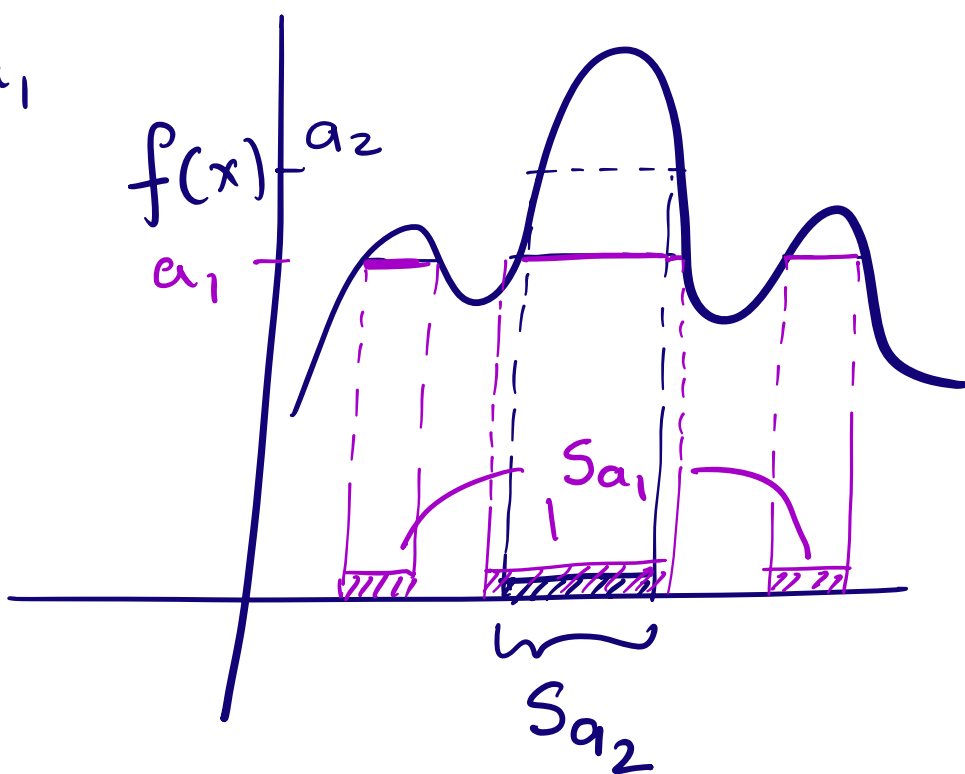
a-sublevel set  $S_a = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid f(x) \leq a\}$

Obviously  $a_1 \leq a_2 \Rightarrow$

$$S_{a_2} \subseteq S_{a_1}$$

$$B(0, r) = S_r$$

for  $|x|$



Corollary. Consider a nonlinear system  $\dot{x} = f(x)$  and suppose  $V$  is a Lyapunov function. Then every sublevel set  $L_c$  containing  $x(0)$  is an invariant.

How to find Lyapunov functions?

Guess a template (e.g. quadratic)

$$V(x) = a_1 x_1^2 + a_2 x_1 x_2 + a_3 x_2^2 + a_4 x_1 + a_5 x_2 + a_6$$

Then solve for parameters  $a_1 \dots a_6$  with constraints

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial x} \cdot f(x) \leq 0$$

Can often be solved using

Convex optimization

For linear systems  $\dot{x} = Ax$   $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$   
Thm there is always a quadratic  
Lyapunov function if the system is  
stable.

Quadratic function  $x^T x = [x_1 \ x_2] \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$

$x^T P x$ ,  $P \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  =  $x_1^2 + x_2^2$   
general quadratic form (unknown  $P$ )

$V(x) := x^T P x$  Gussed form

$\dot{V}(x) = \dot{x}^T P x + x^T P \dot{x}$  [chain rule]  
 $= (Ax)^T P x + x^T P (Ax)$

$= x^T (A^T P + P A) x$

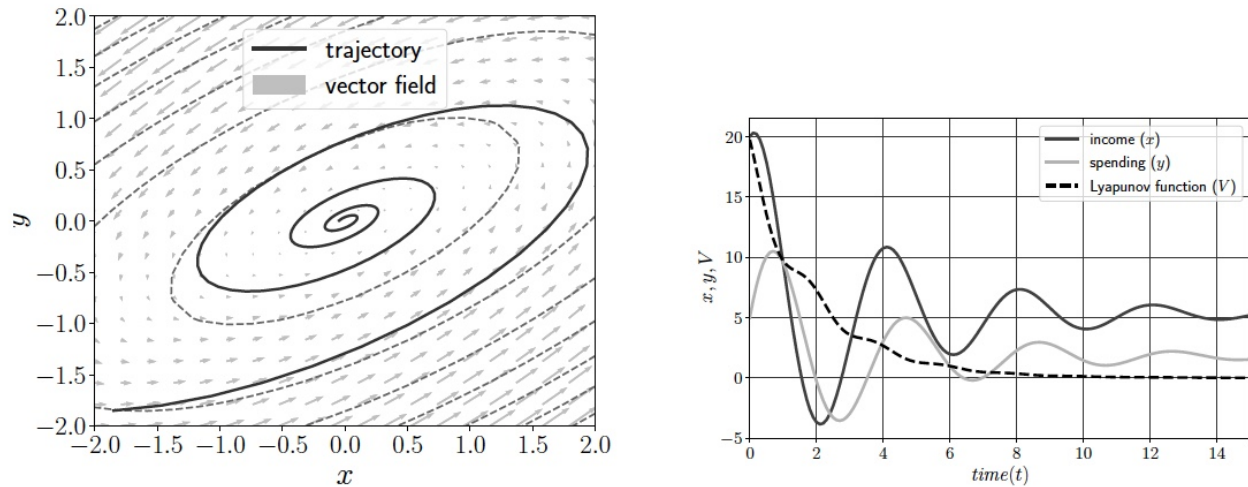
Set this to

$= -x^T Q x$

that is Fix  $Q$  to be positive definite  
and symmetric matrix  $\mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$

e.g.  $Q = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & 1 & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots \end{bmatrix} = I$

Solve for  $P$  in  $A^T P + P A = -Q$   
Lyapunov equation.



**Figure 3.8**

Trajectories of the simple economy model. *Left:* Phase portrait for the model of Equation (3.24) for  $\alpha = 3, \beta = 1.5, k = .1$ , and  $g_0 = 3$ . the sublevel sets of the Lyapunov function are shown in dotted lines. *Right:* Evolution of the solutions over time.

Summary ◦ Definitions of Stability and Asymptotic Stability

- Lyapunov's method for proving stability of Nonlinear systems
- Relationship to invariants ◊ Sub-level sets

Additional reading

Proof of Lyapunov's Method

Proof. (a) Fix  $\varepsilon > 0$ . We have to find

$\delta_\varepsilon > 0$  such that for any  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$

if  $|x_0| \leq \delta_\varepsilon$  then  $\forall t > 0$

$$|\xi(x_0, t)| \leq \varepsilon.$$

Pick  $a > 0$  such that

$$S_a \subseteq B(0, \varepsilon) \quad [\text{why } \exists a? \text{ by continuity of } V]$$

Pick  $\delta_\varepsilon$  such that  $B(0, \delta_\varepsilon) \subseteq S_a$

Now consider any  $|x_0| \leq \delta_\varepsilon$

$$V(\xi(x_0, t)) \leq V(\xi(x_0, 0)) = V(x_0) \leq a$$

By def of  $S_a$   $\xi(x_0, t) \in S_a \subseteq B(0, \varepsilon)$

$$\text{i.e. } |\xi(x_0, t)| \leq \varepsilon$$

(b) Consider any  $\infty$  traj with  $|\xi(x_0, 0)| \leq \delta_\varepsilon$

As  $V(\xi(t)) \geq 0$  and decreasing as  $t \rightarrow \infty$   
 $\exists$  a limit  $c \geq 0$ .

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \dot{V}(\xi(x_0, t)) = c$$

If  $c = 0$  then  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \dot{V}(\xi(x_0, t)) = 0$

and since  $V(x) = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \xi(x_0, t) = 0 \quad \text{A.S.}$$

Else  $c > 0$ . — (#)

That is system evolves in the donut  $O := B(0, \varepsilon) \setminus B(0, r)$  for some small but +ve  $r$ .

As this set is compact

Let  $d = \max_{x \in O} \dot{V}(x) < 0$  [slowest rate of decrease]

Thus  $\forall t \quad V(\xi(x_0, t)) \leq V(\xi(x_0, 0)) + d \cdot t$

But then for any  $d$  such we can find  $a t$  so that  $V(\xi(x_0, t)) < c$  which contradicts (#).



