

# Math 3331 Differential Equations

## 8.2 Geometric Interpretation of Solutions

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## 8.2 Geometric Interpretation of Solutions

- Definitions
  - Autonomous system and Phase Space Plot
  - Planar Autonomous System
- Example: Predator-Prey System
- Worked out Examples from Exercises:
  - 1, 3, 17, 22, 23, 24, 25



# Autonomous system and Phase Space Plot

## Autonomous system:

$$\mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}), \quad \mathbf{x} = [x_1, \dots, x_n]^T$$

For any  $t$ :  $\mathbf{x}(t) \in \mathbf{R}^n$

$\Rightarrow$  RHS doesn't depend explicitly on  $t$ .

- **Tangent vectors:**

$$\mathbf{x}'(t) = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}(t))$$

- **Vector field:**  $\mathbf{x} \rightarrow \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$

- **$\mathbf{R}^n$ : phase space**  
( $n = 2$ : phase plane)

- **Trajectory:** Curve

$$\{\mathbf{x}(t) \mid t \in I\} \text{ in } \mathbf{R}^n$$

$I$ : interval on which  $\mathbf{x}(t)$  is defined

- $\mathbf{x}(t)$  solution  $\Rightarrow \mathbf{x}(t - t_0)$  solution: *same trajectory!*
- If existence and uniqueness, trajectories don't intersect



# Planar Autonomous System

## Planar Autonomous system

$$x' = f(x, y)$$

$$y' = g(x, y)$$

⇒ RHSs  $f$  and  $g$  don't depend explicitly on  $t$ .

- The  $xy$ -plane is the **phase plane**
- The solution curve  $t \rightarrow (x(t), y(t))$  is a **trajectory** (or **phase plane plot**).

- Tangent vector:

$$(x'(t), y'(t)) = (f(x(t), y(t)), g(x(t), y(t)))$$

- Vector field:

$$(x, y) \rightarrow (f(x, y), g(x, y))$$



# Predator-Prey System

## Example: Lotka-Volterra's predator-prey equations

$$R' = (a - bF)R \quad (1)$$

$$F' = (-c + dR)F$$

$$a, b, c, d > 0$$

$R$ : number of rabbits

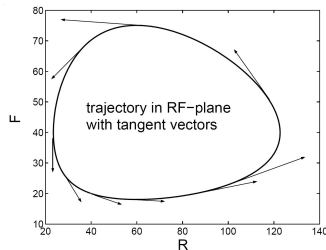
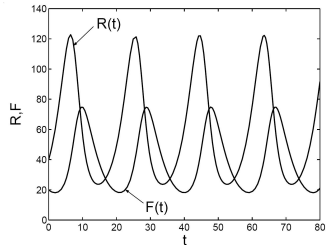
$F$ : number of foxes

Parameters:

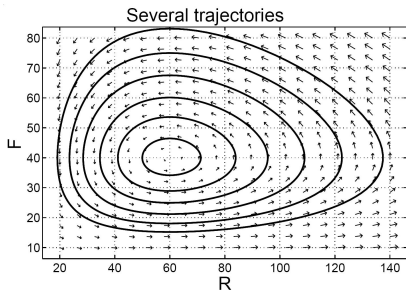
$$a = 0.4, b = 0.01$$

$$c = 0.3, d = 0.005$$

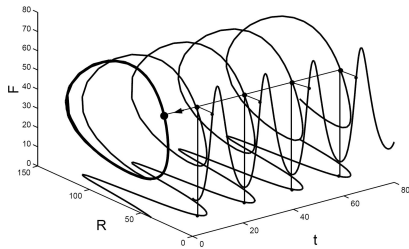
$$\text{IC: } R(0) = 40, F(0) = 20$$



# Predator-Prey System (cont.)



## Composite Graph



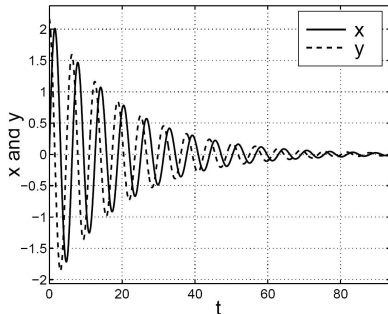
# Example

$$\text{Ex.}: \begin{aligned} x' &= y \\ y' &= -x - 0.1y \end{aligned}$$

$$x(0) = 0, y(0) = 2$$

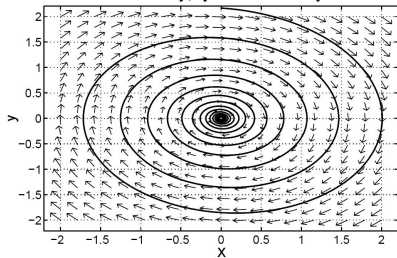
## time plots

$$x' = y, y' = -x - 0.1y$$



## trajectory and vector field

$$x' = y, y' = -x - 0.1y$$



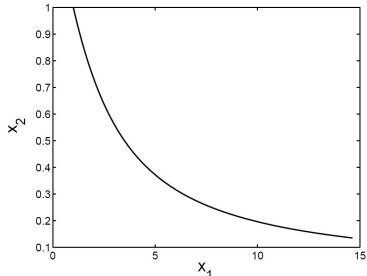
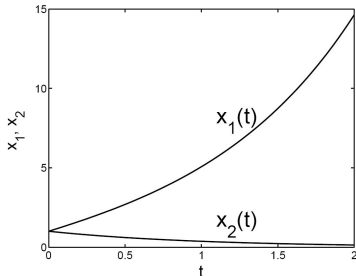
# Exercise 8.2.1

**Ex. 8.2.1:** Plot (i)  $x_1(t), x_2(t)$  and (ii) the curve  $t \rightarrow (x_1(t), x_2(t))$  for

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = [2e^t - e^{-t}, e^{-t}]^T, \text{ i.e. } x_1(t) = 2e^t - e^{-t}, x_2(t) = e^{-t}$$

Matlab commands:

```
t=linspace(0,2,100);x1=2*exp(t)-exp(-t);x2=exp(-t);
figure(1),plot(t,x1,'k',t,x2,'k--'),xlabel('t'),ylabel('x_1 and x_2')
figure(2),plot(x1,x2,'k'),xlabel('x_1'),ylabel('x_2'),axis([0 15 0 1])
```

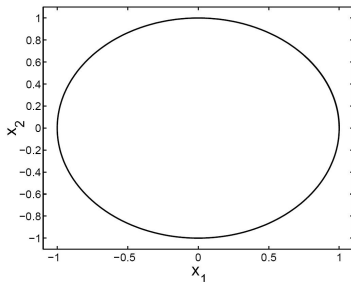
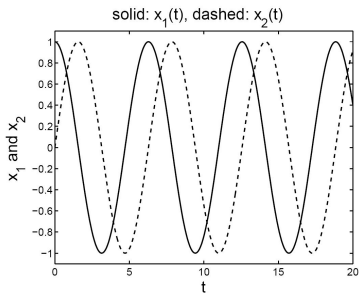




# Exercise 8.2.3

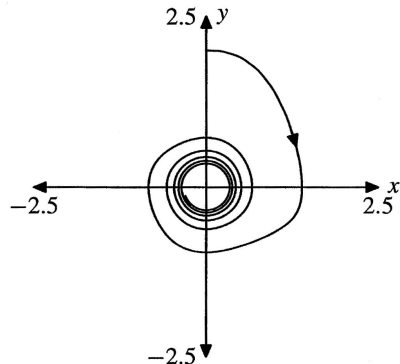
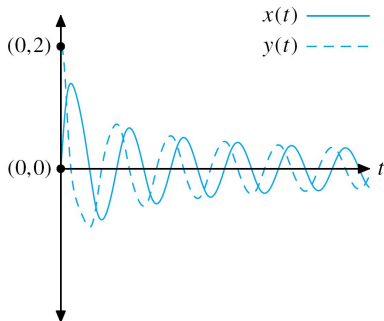
**Ex. 8.2.3:** Same as Ex. 8.2.1 for

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = [\cos t, \sin t]^T, \text{ i.e. } x_1(t) = \cos t, x_2(t) = \sin t$$



# Exercise 8.2.22

Plot  $t \rightarrow (x(t), y(t))$  in the  $xy$ -plane.

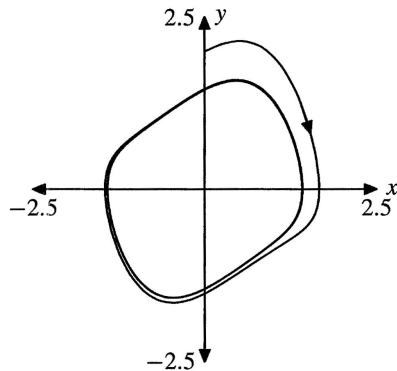
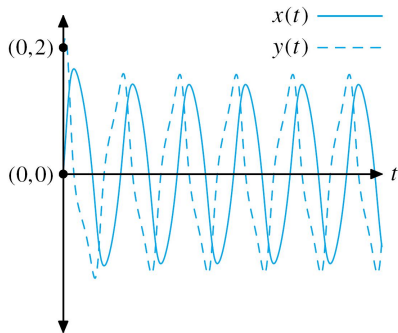


Initially,  $x(0) = 0$  and  $y(0) = 2$ , then  $y$  decays as  $x$  increases, thereafter both  $x$  and  $y$  oscillate as they decay toward zero.



# Exercise 8.2.23

Plot  $t \rightarrow (x(t), y(t))$  in the  $xy$ -plane.

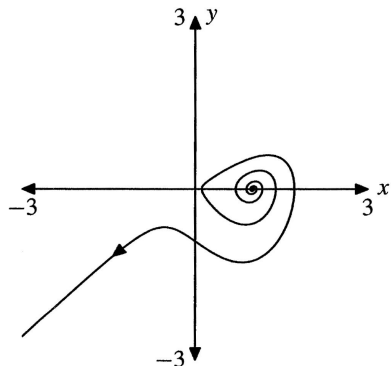
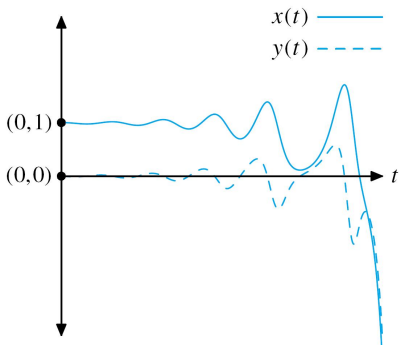


Initially,  $x(0) = 0$  and  $y(0) = 2$ . Shortly thereafter,  $y$  decays as  $x$  increases. Soon, both  $x$  and  $y$  begin a seemingly periodic motion.



# Exercise 8.2.24

Plot  $t \rightarrow (x(t), y(t))$  in the  $xy$ -plane.

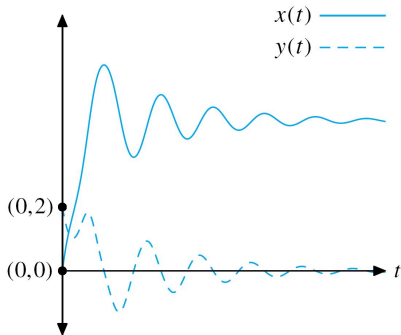


At first,  $x$  oscillates mildly about 1, while  $y$  oscillates mildly about zero. This would indicate a turning about  $(1, 0)$  in the phase plane. The oscillations grow larger until both  $x$  and  $y$  shoot off to  $-\infty$ . One possible solution follows.

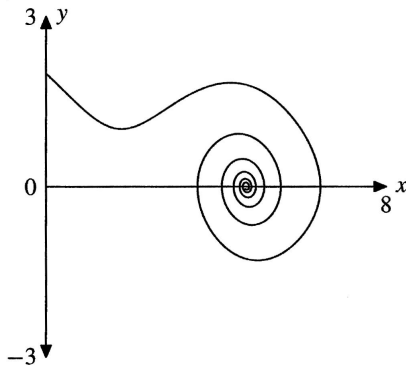


# Exercise 8.2.25

Plot  $t \rightarrow (x(t), y(t))$  in the  $xy$ -plane.



Initially,  $x(0) = 0$  and  $y(0) = 2$ . Thereafter,  $x$  increases rapidly, then decays asymptotically in an oscillatory manner to about 5 or 6. Meanwhile,  $y$  decays, eventually oscillating about zero. One possible solution follows.



# Exercise 8.2.17

**Ex. 8.2.17:** Plot (i) solutions  $x(t), y(t)$  of IVP as functions of  $t$ , (ii) trajectory

IVP:  $x' = -6x + 10y$ ,  $y' = -5x + 4y$ ,  $x(0) = 5$ ,  $y(0) = 1$ . Use *pplane6*:

