

Prop. 2.24: If  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is continuous

with an attracting fixed pt.  $\bar{x}$ , then  $\bar{x}$  is a stable fixed point of  $x_{n+1} = f(x)$ .

proof: By assumption  $\bar{x}$  is an attractor. Let  $I = (a, b) \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  containing  $\bar{x}$  be the maximal interval s.t.  $\forall x \in I$ ,

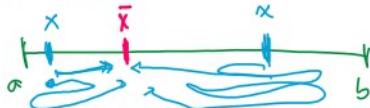
$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f^n(x) = \bar{x}.$$

By construction,  $I$  cannot contain any other fixed points. So  $\forall x \in I \setminus \{\bar{x}\}$ , either

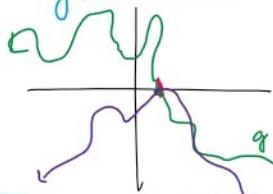
$$f(x) < x \quad \text{or} \quad f(x) > x.$$

$$I_l = (a, \bar{x}), \quad I_r = (\bar{x}, b).$$

Claim 1: For all  $x \in I_l$ , the orbit of  $x$  is monotonically inc., and  $\forall x \in I_r$  the orbit of  $x$  is mon. dec.



proof of claim: Define  $g: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  where  $g(x) = f(x) - x$ . Since  $f$  is continuous, so is  $g$ . The func.  $f$  cannot have periodic points in  $I \setminus \{\bar{x}\}$ ; otherwise this would not converge to  $\bar{x}$ . This implies that  $g$  has exactly one root, namely  $x = \bar{x}$ ,  $g(\bar{x}) = f(\bar{x}) - \bar{x} = 0$ .



Suppose  $g > 0$  on  $I_r$ . That is,  $\forall x \in I_r$   $f(x) > x$ .

For all  $x \in I_r$  and  $n \geq 1$

$$\rightarrow f^{n+1}(x) = f(f^n(x)) > f^n(x) > x.$$

Thus, the seq  $(f^n(x))_{n=0}^{\infty}$  is mono. inc.

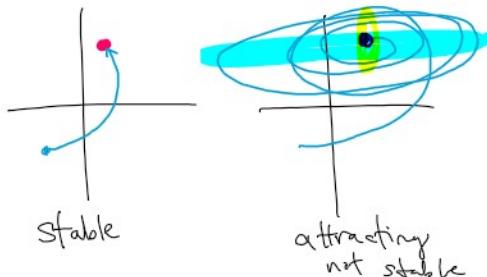
Since  $g > 0$  on  $I_r$ , it follows that  $x > \bar{x}$

$\forall x \in I_r$ . This shows that  $(f^n(x))$  does

not converge to  $\bar{x}$ , a contradiction.

Hence,  $g < 0$  on  $I_r$ . (Similar for  $I_l$ ).  $\square$

$$x > f(x)$$



Hence,  $g < 0$  on  $I$ . (similar to  $y$ )  
 $x > f(x)$

Back to the proof of Prop. 2.24.  
 Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Since  $f$  is continuous  
 there exists  $\delta > 0$  s.t.  $\|x - \bar{x}\| < \delta$   
 implies

$$\|f(x) - \bar{x}\| < \varepsilon.$$

We can choose  $\delta$  to be less than  $\varepsilon$ .  
 Thus,  $\delta \leq \varepsilon$ . Now, let  $x \in I \setminus \{\bar{x}\}$   
 s.t.  $\|x - \bar{x}\| < \delta$ . Either  $x \in I_r$  or  $x \in I_l$ .

The argument will be similar for both. We  
 choose to work with  $x \in I_r$ . Thus,

$$\|x - \bar{x}\| = x - \bar{x} > 0.$$

From Claim 1 it follows that:

$$\rightarrow x > f(x) > f^2(x) > \dots > \bar{x}.$$

For all  $n \geq 0$ ,  $\|f^n(x) - \bar{x}\| < \varepsilon$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \|f^n(x) - \bar{x}\| &= f^n(x) - \bar{x} && \xrightarrow{x \in I_l} \\ &< x - \bar{x} && = \bar{x} - f^n(x) \\ &= \|x - \bar{x}\| && < \bar{x} - x \\ &< \delta \leq \varepsilon. && \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $\bar{x}$  is stable.  $\square$

Ex: 2.25 in notes: good example of attracting  
 but not stable.

### 2.3: Periodic Orbits

Def: Let  $x$  be a fixed pt. of  $f: X \rightarrow X$ . A  
 point  $y \in X$  is called **forward asymptotic**  
 if  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f^n(y) = x$ .

The collection of all forward asymptotic  
 points is sometimes called a **stable set**.

Def: A periodic orbit  $O^+(x)$  of period  $p$  is  
 a **stable orbit** if each of its points  
 $x, f(x), f^2(x), \dots, f^{p-1}(x)$

a **stable orbit** if each  $\alpha^n$  of  
 $x, f(x), f^2(x), \dots$   
is a stable fixed pt. of  $f$ . A periodic orbit is **unstable** if it is not stable.

Prop. 2.28: Let  $f: X \rightarrow X$  be continuous.

Then a periodic orbit  $O^+(x)$  of period  $p$  is stable if and only if  $x$  is a stable fixed point of  $f^p$ .

proof: Proof in lecture notes.

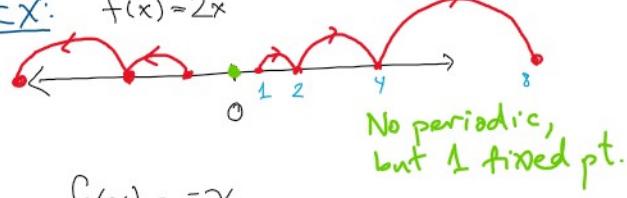
One can define attracting/repelling orbits in the same manner as above.

## Chapter 3: One-dim. systems.

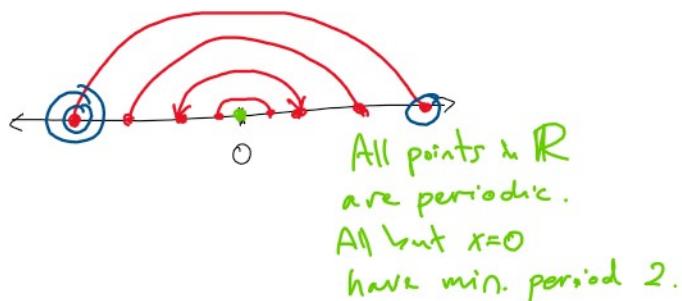
This chapter is focused on dynamical systems of the form  $f: I \rightarrow I$ , where  $I \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ .

Def. A **phase portrait** is a graph of the possible "paths" of the system.

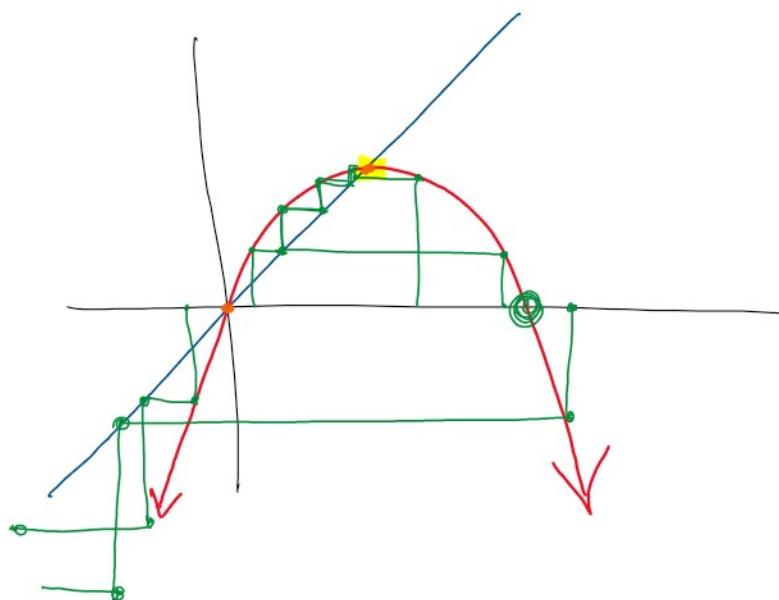
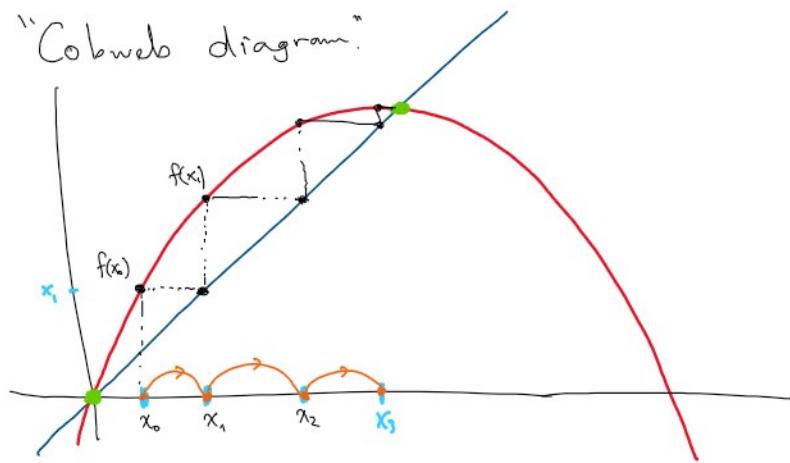
Ex:  $f(x) = 2x$



$f(x) = -x$

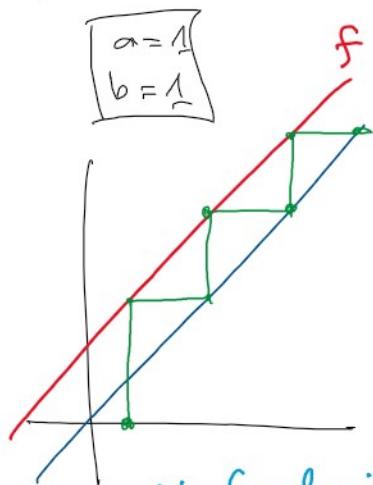


Ex: "Cobweb diagram."

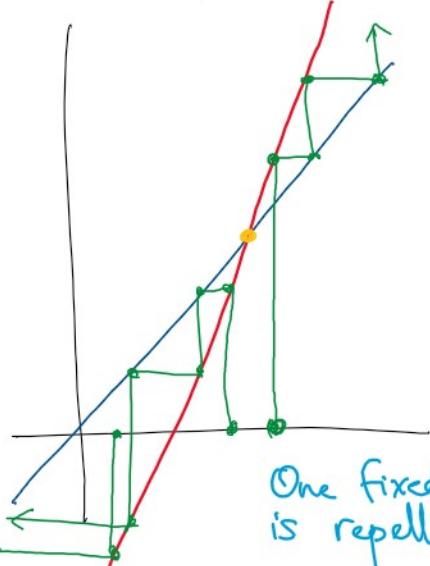


Ex: 3.2:  $f(x) = ax + b$

$$a=2, \quad b=-2.$$

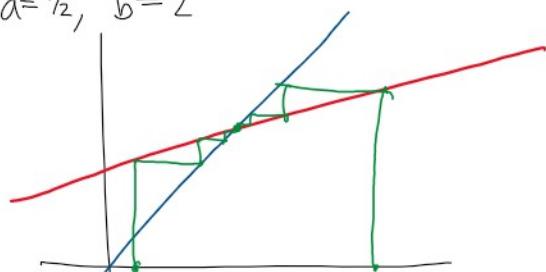


No fixed points.  
"Grows" indefinitely.

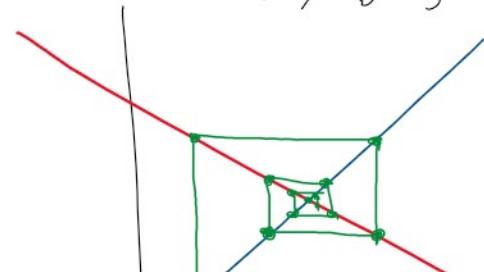


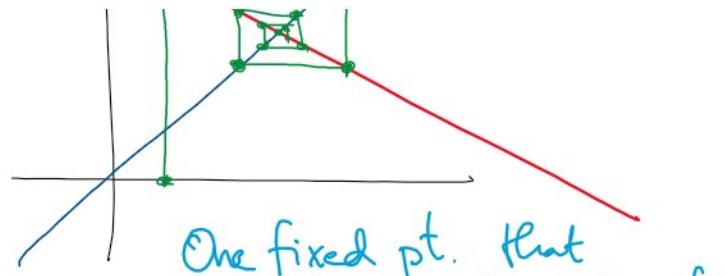
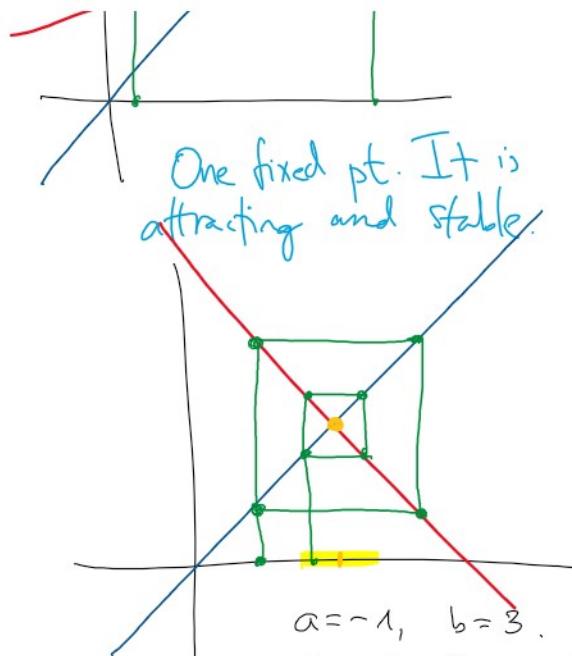
One fixed point. It  
is repelling.

$$a=\frac{1}{2}, \quad b=2$$



$$a=-\frac{1}{2}, \quad b=5$$





One fixed pt. and every other periodic with period 2.

This fixed is stable but not attracting  
Not repelling also.

Def: Let  $f: I \rightarrow I$  be continuously differentiable. A periodic point  $x$  of min. period  $p$  is **hyperbolic** if  $|f^{(p)}'(x)| \neq 1$ .

Recall, the open ball of radius  $r > 0$  about a point  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  is

$$B_r(x) = \{y \in \mathbb{R} \mid |x-y| < r\}.$$

Thm 3.5. Let  $f: I \rightarrow I$  be continuously differentiable, and suppose  $x \in I$  is a fixed point of  $f$ .

(i) If  $|f'(x)| < 1$ , then  $x$  is attracting and stable.

(ii) If  $|f'(x)| > 1$ , then  $x$  is repelling and unstable.

Proof: (i) We assume  $|f'(x)| < 1$ . Fix  $\epsilon > 0$ ,  $|f'(x)| < \lambda < 1$ . Since  $f'$  is continuous,  $\exists \delta > 0$  s.t.  $\forall y \in B_\delta(x)$

$$|f'(y) - 0| < \lambda = \epsilon$$

$$|f'(y)| < \lambda.$$

Now fix a choice of  $y \in B_\delta(x)$  with  $y \neq x$ . By the Mean Value Theorem there exists  $c$  in between  $x$  and  $y$  s.t.

$$\lambda > |f'(c)| = \frac{|f(x) - f(y)|}{|x-y|} \quad \text{MVT}$$

$$c \in B_\delta(x)$$

Therefore,

$c \in \overline{B_\delta(x)}$   
 Therefore,  
 $|x - f(y)| = |f(x) - f(y)| < \lambda|x - y| < \underline{|x - y|}$   
 This implies that  $f(y) \in B_\delta(x)$ . By MVT  
 $\exists c_1$  between  $f(y)$  and  $x$   
 $\lambda > |f'(c_1)| = \frac{|f(x) - f(f(y))|}{|x - f(y)|}$ .

Thus,

$$|x - f^2(y)| < \lambda|x - f(y)| < \lambda^2|x - y| \\ < |x - y|.$$

By induction:

$$|x - f^n(y)| < \boxed{\lambda^n} |x - y|.$$

Thus,  $f^n(y) \rightarrow x$ . Since this holds for all  $y \in B_\delta(x)$ ,  $x$  is attracting. By Prop. 2.24,  $x$  is stable.

(ii). Similar argument.  $|f'(x)| > 1$ , choose  $|\lambda| > |\lambda'| > 1$ .