

Bifurcations in One Dimension

Objectives:

1. Introduce bifurcations
2. Bifurcation analysis

Example 1: Exponential growth/decay

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \boxed{ky}, \text{ where } k \in (-\infty, \infty) \text{ is a parameter}$$

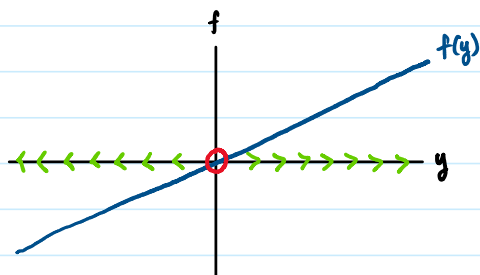
$\downarrow$
 $f(y)$

- We know that $f(y) < 0$ if $k < 0$,
 $f(y) > 0$ if $k > 0$, and
 $f(y) = 0$ if $k = 0$.

- Equilibrium: • critical points; $0 = ky \rightarrow y^* = 0$
• Equilibrium solution $\rightarrow y(t) = y^* = 0$

- Stability: • $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = k \rightarrow y(t) = 0$ is stable if $k < 0$,
unstable if $k > 0$, and
unknown if $k = 0$.
• If $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = 0$, then $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} = 0 \rightarrow$ not a semi-stable equilibrium

- Phase diagram for $k > 0$:



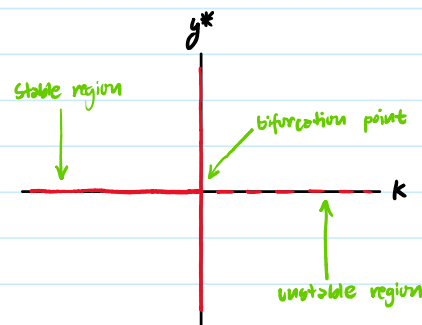
- Phase diagram for $k = 0$:



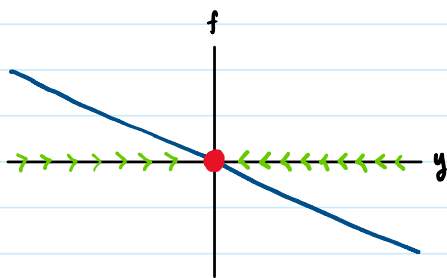
- Phase diagram for $k < 0$:

- In this example, the bifurcation is the change in equilibrium stability.

- Bifurcation diagram



- The bifurcation point is at $k = 0$, where the stability changes.



Example 2:

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \boxed{y^2 + b}, \text{ where } b \in (-\infty, \infty) \text{ is a parameter}$$

$\downarrow$
 $f(y)$

- Equilibriums: • critical points; $0 = y^2 + b \rightarrow y = \pm\sqrt{-b}$
 $y_1^* = -\sqrt{-b}, y_2^* = +\sqrt{-b}$
- Equilibrium solutions $\rightarrow y(t) = -\sqrt{-b}$
 $y(t) = +\sqrt{-b}$

- $\rightarrow$ If $b > 0$, then there are no equilibriums.
- $\rightarrow$ If $b = 0$, then there is only one equilibrium.
- $\rightarrow$ If $b < 0$, then there are two equilibriums

- Stability: • $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$

- If $b = 0$, then the equilibrium is $y(t) = 0$.

$$\left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right|_{y=0} = 0 \rightarrow \text{semi-stable (maybe).}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} = 2 \rightarrow \left. \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} \right|_{y=0} > 0 \rightarrow \text{increasing, } \frac{dy}{dt} > 0$$

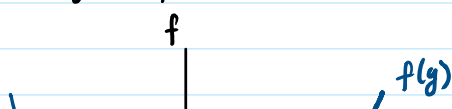
So, solutions around $y(t) = 0$ is increasing.

- If $b < 0$, then the equilibriums are $y(t) = -\sqrt{-b}$ and $y(t) = +\sqrt{-b}$.

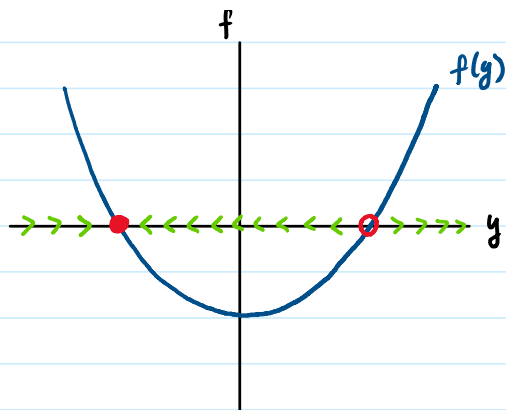
$$\left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right|_{y=-\sqrt{-b}} = -2\sqrt{-b} < 0 \rightarrow y(t) = -\sqrt{-b} \text{ is stable.}$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right|_{y=+\sqrt{-b}} = 2\sqrt{-b} > 0 \rightarrow y(t) = +\sqrt{-b} \text{ is unstable.}$$

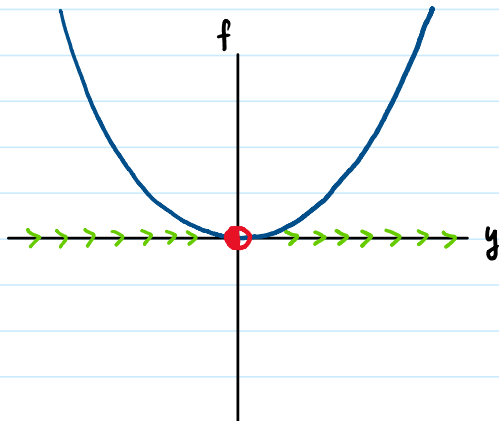
- Phase diagram for $b < 0$:



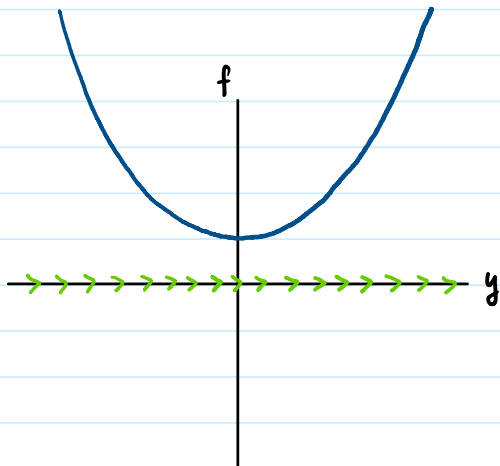
- In this example, the bifurcation is the change in the number of equilibriums.



• Phase diagram for $b = 0$:

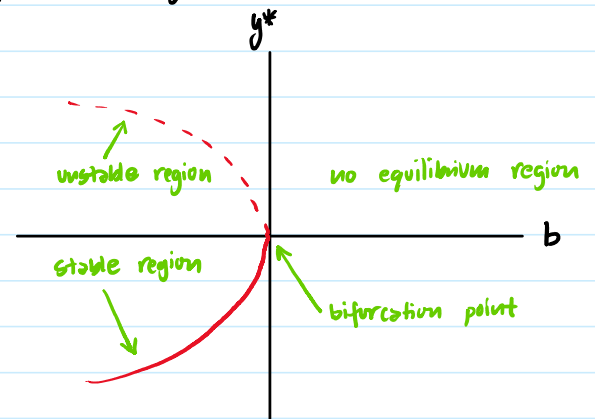


• Phase diagram for $b > 0$:



is the change in the number of equilibriums.

• Bifurcation diagram



• the bifurcation point is at $b = 0$, where the number of equilibrium points changes.

Definitions:

- A bifurcation is the change in the number of equilibriums or the stability of equilibriums as a parameter changes.
- A bifurcation point is the parameter value on which the change has occurred.