

Basics in Celestial Mechanics - L5

Stability of Lagrangian points

We have proved the \exists of 5 equilibria for the equation of the "small" mass in the planar restricted circular 3BP in the rotating frame where the primaries are fixed at $P_1 = (-\mu, 0)$ and $P_2 = (1-\mu, 0)$

$$\ddot{z} + 2k\dot{z} = \nabla\Phi(z) \quad (z)$$

Claim: study local dynamics near $L_j, j=1\dots 5$
 \leadsto we linearised (z) at L_j

$$(z) \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} \dot{z} = w \\ \dot{w} = -2kw + \nabla\Phi(z) \end{cases} \quad (4 \text{ eqs})$$

$$z = (x, y) \quad w = (p, q) \quad \begin{cases} \dot{x} = p \\ \dot{y} = q \\ \dot{p} = 2q + \phi_x \\ \dot{q} = -2p + \phi_y \end{cases} \quad (*)$$

this part is linear

If $u = (x, y, p, q)$ then the equilibrium points are $u_j = (x_j, y_j, 0, 0)$ and the linearization of (*) at u_j is:

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = P \\ \dot{y} = Q \\ \dot{P} = 2Q + \phi_{xx}X + \phi_{xy}Y \\ \dot{Q} = -2P + \phi_{yx}X + \phi_{yy}Y \end{cases}$$

In a matrix notation, put $U = (X, Y, P, Q)$ and obtain:

$\dot{U} = AU$ with
 Hessian of Φ at u_j
 $a_j = \Phi_{xx}(u_j)$ $b_j = \Phi_{xy}(u_j)$
 $c_j = \Phi_{yy}(u_j)$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ a_j & b_j & 0 & 2 \\ b_j & c_j & -2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

• Eigenvalues of A : $\lambda / \lambda^4 - (a_j + c_j - 4)\lambda^2 + (a_j c_j - b_j^2) = 0$

Note that: $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ solution $\rightarrow -\lambda, \bar{\lambda}, -\bar{\lambda}$ are sols.



• Asymptotic Stability: every eigenv. has $\text{Re} < 0$

\Downarrow
impossible!

• Stability in the past: every eigenv has $\text{Re} \geq 0$

" in the future: " " $\text{Re} \leq 0$

In our case: stability in the past \Leftrightarrow stability in the future



(indeed $\text{Re } \lambda \geq 0 \forall \lambda \Leftrightarrow \text{Re } \lambda = 0 \forall \lambda$)

Computation of the eigenvalues of A

\rightarrow we first compute $\Phi_{xx}, \Phi_{xy}, \Phi_{yy}$

$$\nabla \phi(z) = z - (1-\mu) \frac{z-p_1}{|z-p_1|^3} - \mu \frac{z-p_2}{|z-p_2|^3}$$

\nearrow
 2×2
 matrix

$$\nabla^2 \phi(z) = \text{Id}_2 - (1-\mu) \frac{\text{Id}_2}{|z-p_1|^3} + 3(1-\mu) \frac{(z-p_1) \otimes (z-p_1)}{|z-p_1|^5} - \mu \frac{\text{Id}_2}{|z-p_2|^3} + 3\mu \frac{(z-p_2) \otimes (z-p_2)}{|z-p_2|^5}$$

with $W \otimes W = \begin{pmatrix} w_1^2 & w_1 w_2 \\ w_1 w_2 & w_2^2 \end{pmatrix}$

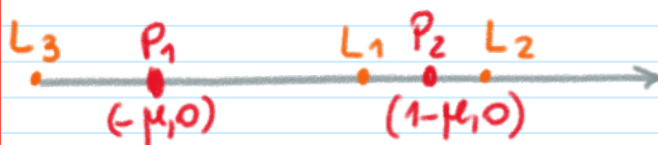
hence since $z - p_1 = \begin{pmatrix} x + \mu \\ y \end{pmatrix}$ $z - p_2 = \begin{pmatrix} x + \mu - 1 \\ y \end{pmatrix}$

$$\phi_{xx} = 1 - \frac{1-\mu}{p_1^3} + 3(1-\mu) \frac{(x+\mu)^2}{p_1^5} - \frac{\mu}{p_2^3} + 3\mu \frac{(x+\mu-1)^2}{p_2^5}$$

$$\phi_{xy} = \phi_{yx} = 3(1-\mu) \frac{(x+\mu)y}{p_1^5} + 3\mu \frac{(x+\mu-1)y}{p_2^5}$$

$$\phi_{yy} = 1 - \frac{1-\mu}{p_1^3} + 3(1-\mu) \frac{y^2}{p_1^5} - \frac{\mu}{p_2^3} + 3\mu \frac{y^2}{p_2^5}$$

When $L_1, L_2, L_3 : y=0$, hence $(x+\mu)^2 = p_1^2$
 $(x+\mu-1)^2 = p_2^2$



$$a_j = \phi_{xx} = 1 + 2 \left(\frac{1-\mu}{p_1^3} + \frac{\mu}{p_2^3} \right) > 0$$

$$b_j = 0$$

$$c_j = 1 - \left(\frac{1-\mu}{p_1^3} + \frac{\mu}{p_1^3} \right)$$

$$L_1 : p_1 < 1, p_2 < 1 \Rightarrow c_1 < 0$$

L_2, L_3 : we can compute $x_j c_j = \dots$ $\begin{cases} < 0 \text{ at } L_2 \\ > 0 \text{ at } L_3 \end{cases}$
hence $c_2 < 0$ and $c_3 < 0$

from: $\lambda^4 - (a_j + c_j - 4)\lambda^2 + (a_j c_j - b_j^2) = 0$

we have $(b_j = 0)$ $\lambda_{\pm}^2 = \frac{(a_j + c_j - 4) \pm \sqrt{(a_j + c_j - 4)^2 - 4 a_j c_j}}{2}$ $a_j c_j < 0$
 λ_{+}^2 is real and > 0

\Rightarrow we have 2 real eigenv.

with opposite sign $\Rightarrow L_1, L_2, L_3$ are unstable

(in Lyapunov sense)

$L_4, L_5: p_1 = p_2 = 1 \quad x + \mu = x + \mu - 1 = \frac{1}{2}$

$$y = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$$

hence $a_j = \frac{3}{4}, b_j = \frac{3\sqrt{2}}{4}(2\mu - 1), c_j = \frac{9}{4}$

the eq. in λ is: $\lambda^4 + \lambda^2 + \frac{27}{4}\mu(1-\mu) = 0$

$$\lambda_{\pm}^2 = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{1 - 27\mu(1-\mu)}}{2}$$

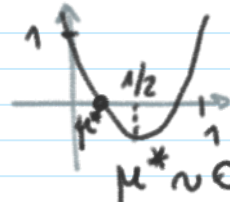
• if λ_{\pm}^2 are both negative \Rightarrow the linear system is stable

real and

non-linear?

• if $\lambda_{\pm}^2 > 0 \Rightarrow$ instability

Let $f(\mu) := 1 - 27\mu(1-\mu)$



• if $\mu \in (0, \mu^*]$, then λ_{\pm}^2 are real and $< 0 \Rightarrow$ 4 eigen. in $i\mathbb{R}$

(indeed $0 < f(\mu) < 1$)

• if $\mu \in (\mu^*, 1/2]$, then $\lambda_{\pm}^2 \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \mathbb{R}$

\Rightarrow 4 complex distinct eigenv.
 \leadsto 2 have $\text{Re} > 0$

\rightarrow unstable.

Concrete cases: $m_2 = \mu$, $m_1 = 1 - \mu$

$$\frac{m_1}{m_2} = \frac{1}{\mu} - 1$$

$$\text{linear stab.} \Leftrightarrow \mu < \mu^* \Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{\mu} - 1 > \frac{1}{\mu^*} - 1$$

$$\frac{\text{Sun}}{\text{Jupiter}} \sim 10^3 \quad \frac{\text{Earth}}{\text{Moon}} \sim 82 \quad \frac{24.6}{24.6}$$

\leadsto no hope to get it

Non-linear stability. Using "Lyapunov center theorem",

we can prove the \exists of periodic solutions near the eq. points for some range of μ
 \leadsto this periodic sols in the rotating frame correspond to quasi-periodic sols in the inertial reference system.

[Ambrosetti-Prodi, A Primer in nonlinear analysis, CAP. 7]