

# Model-Free Analysis of Dynamical Systems Using Recurrent Sets

Towards a GPU-based Approach to Control

**Enrique Mallada**



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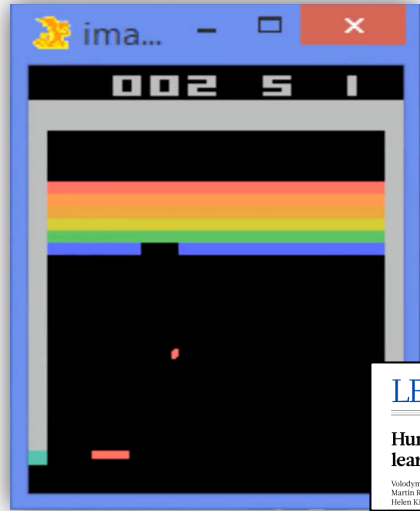
**Workshop on Uncertain Dynamical Systems**

**Kyoto, Japan**

**July 6, 2023**

# A World of Success Stories

2017 Google DeepMind's DQN



LETTER

doi:10.1038/nature14336

Human-level control through deep reinforcement learning

Vladimir Mnih<sup>1</sup>\*, Koray Kavukcuoglu<sup>2\*</sup>, David Silver<sup>1\*</sup>, Andrei A. Ruus<sup>1</sup>, Joel Veness<sup>1</sup>, Marc G. Bellemare<sup>1</sup>, Alex Graves<sup>1</sup>, Martin Riedmiller<sup>1</sup>, Andreas K. F. H. Fiedor<sup>1</sup>, Georg Ostrovski<sup>1</sup>, Srik Petersen<sup>1</sup>, Charles Beattie<sup>1</sup>, Amir Sadik<sup>1</sup>, Ioannis Antonoglou<sup>1</sup>, Helen King<sup>1</sup>, Dhruv Kumar<sup>1</sup>, Quan Vuong<sup>1</sup>, Shua Li<sup>1</sup> & Demis Hassabis<sup>1</sup>

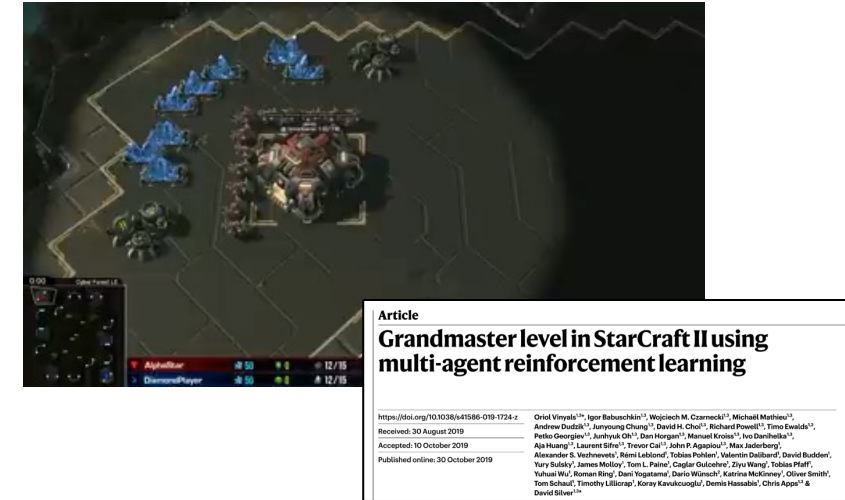
2017 AlphaZero – Chess, Shogi, Go



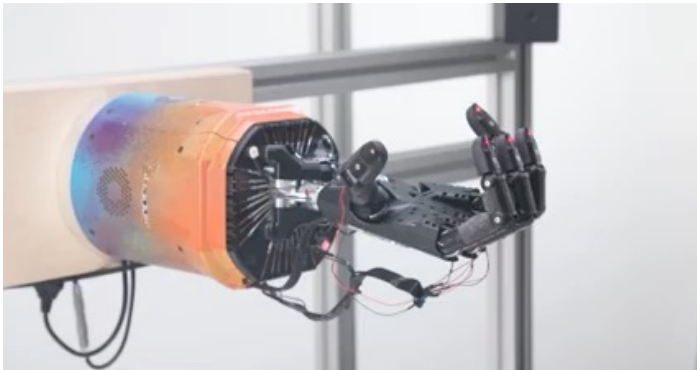
Boston Dynamics



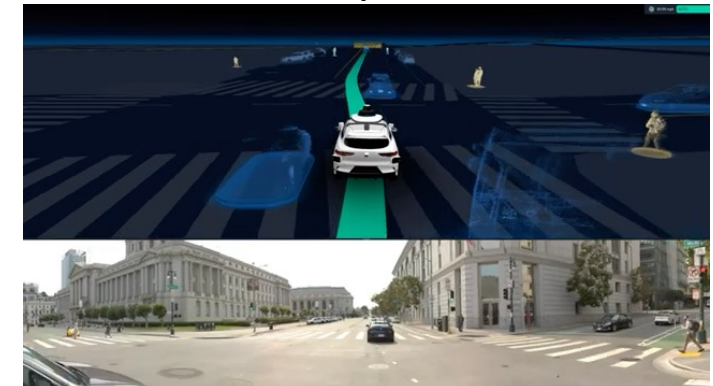
2019 AlphaStar – Starcraft II



OpenAI – Rubik's Cube



Waymo



# Reality Kicks In

## Angry Residents, Abrupt Stops: Waymo Vehicles Are Still Causing Problems in Arizona

RAY STERN | MARCH 31, 2021 | 8:26AM

GARY MARCUS BUSINESS 08.14.2019 09:00 AM

## DeepMind's Losses and the Future of Artificial Intelligence

Alphabet's DeepMind unit, conqueror of Go and other games, is losing lots of money. Continued deficits could imperil investments in AI.

AARIAN MARSHALL BUSINESS 12.07.2020 04:06 PM

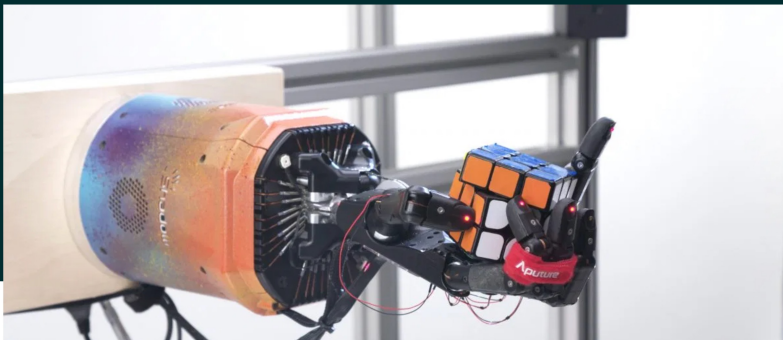
## Uber Gives Up on the Self-Driving Dream

The ride-hail giant invested more than \$1 billion in autonomous vehicles. Now it's selling the unit to Aurora, which makes self-driving tech.

## OpenAI disbands its robotics research team

Kyle Wiggers @Kyle\_L\_Wiggers July 16, 2021 11:24 AM

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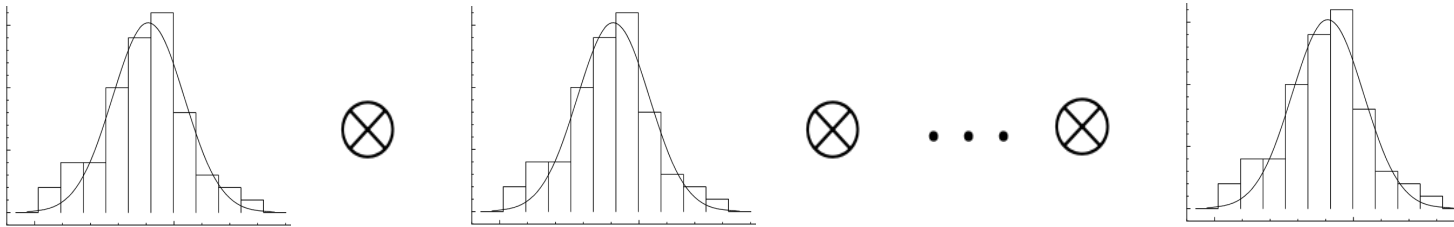
## Self-driving Uber car that hit and killed woman did not recognize that pedestrians jaywalk

The automated car lacked "the capability to classify an object as a pedestrian unless that object was near a crosswalk," an NTSB report said.



# Core challenge: The curse of dimensionality

- **Statistical: Sampling in  $d$  dimension with resolution  $\epsilon$**



Sample complexity:

$$O(\epsilon^{-d})$$

For  $\epsilon = 0.1$  and  $d = 100$ , we would need  **$10^{100}$**  points.

- **Computational: Verifying non-negativity of polynomials**

Copositive matrices:

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1^2 & \dots & x_d^2 \end{bmatrix} A \begin{bmatrix} x_1^2 & \dots & x_d^2 \end{bmatrix}^T \geq 0$$

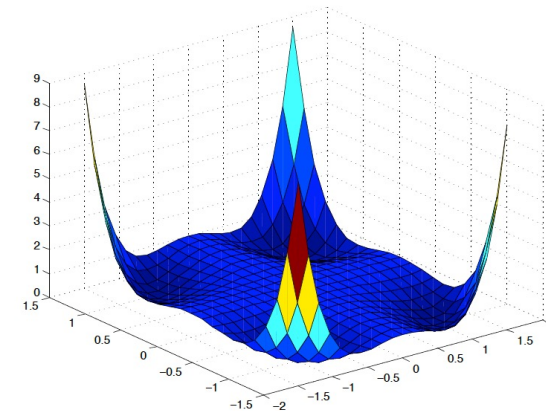
Murty&Kadabi [1987]: Testing co-positivity is NP-Hard

Sum of Squares (SoS):

$$z(x)^T Q z(x) \geq 0, \quad z_i(x) \in \mathbb{R}[x], \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^d, Q \succcurlyeq 0$$

Artin [1927] (Hilbert's 17<sup>th</sup> problem):

Non-negative polynomials are sum of square of *rational* functions



Motzkin [1967]:

$$p = x^4y^2 + x^2y^4 + 1 - 3x^2y^2$$

is nonnegative,

not a sum of squares,

but  $(x^2 + y^2)^2 p$  is SoS



# Question: Are we asking too much?

- Models are intrinsically valid across the ***entire domain***

**Q:** Can we provide local guarantees, and progressively expand as needed?

[arXiv '22] Shen, Bichuch, M - [CDC '23] Siegelmann, Shen, Paganini, M

- Lyapunov functions and control barrier functions require strict and exhaustive notions of ***invariance***

**Q:** Can we substitute invariance with less restrictive properties?

[arXiv '22] Shen, Bichuch, M - [CDC '23] Siegelmann, Shen, Paganini, M

- Control synthesis usually aims for the ***best*** (optimal) controller

**Q:** Can we focus on feasibility, rather than optimality?

[TAC '23, L4DC 22] Castellano, Min, Bazerque, M

[arXiv 22] Shen, Bichuch, M, *Model-free Learning of Regions of Attraction via Recurrent Sets*, **CDC 2022**, journal preprint arXiv:2204.10372.

[CDC 23] Siegelmann, Shen, Paganini, M, *A recurrence-based direct method for stability analysis and GPU-based verification of non-monotonic Lyapunov functions*, **submitted CDC 2023**

[L4DC 22] Castellano, Min, Bazerque, M, *Reinforcement Learning with Almost Sure Constraints*, **Learning for Dynamics and Control (L4DC) Conference, 2022**

[TAC 23] Castellano, Min, Bazerque, M, *Learning to Act Safely with Limited Exposure and Almost Sure Certainty*, **IEEE TAC, 2023**

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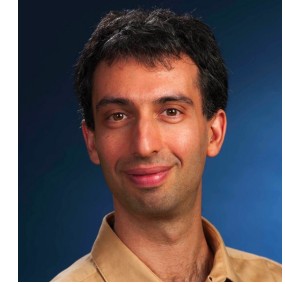
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**Yue Shen**



**Maxim Bichuch**



# Model-free Learning of Regions of Attractions via Recurrent Sets

Y Shen, M. Bichuch, and E Mallada, “Model-free Learning of regions of attraction via recurrent sets.” CDC 2022.

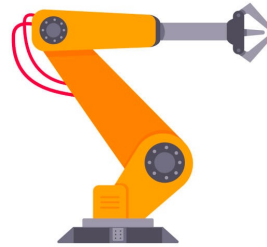
# Motivation: Estimation of regions of attraction

Having an approximation of the region of attraction allows us to

- **Test the limits of controller designs**  
especially for those based on (possibly linear) approximations of nonlinear systems



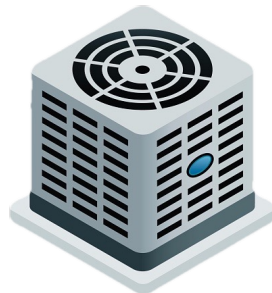
quadcopter



robot arm

...

- **Verify safety of certain operating condition**



HVAC system



power grids

...



# Problem setup

Continuous time dynamical system:  $\dot{x}(t) = f(x(t))$

- Initial condition  $x_0 = x(0)$ , solution at time  $t$ :  $\phi(t, x_0)$ .

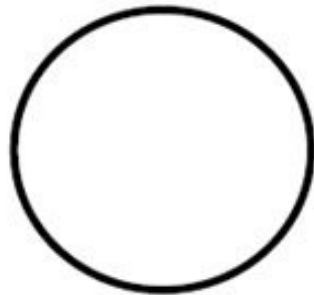
**$\Omega$ -Limit Set  $\Omega(f)$ :**

$$x \in \Omega(f) \iff \exists x_0, \{t_n\}_{n \geq 0}, \text{ s.t. } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} t_n = \infty \text{ and } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \phi(t_n, x_0) = x$$

## Types of $\Omega$ -limit set



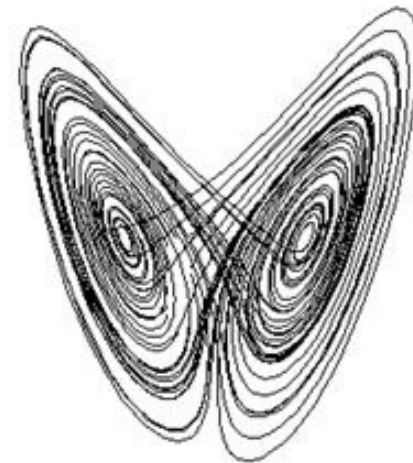
equilibrium



limit cycle



limit torus



chaotic attractor

# Problem setup

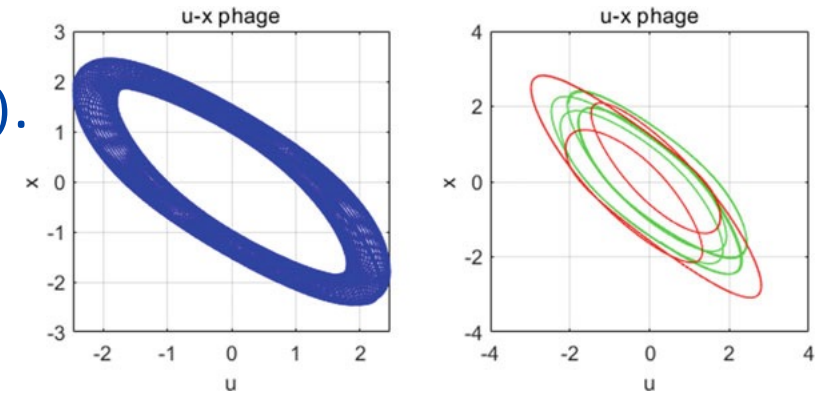
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- The  $\omega$ -limit set of the system:  $\Omega(f)$

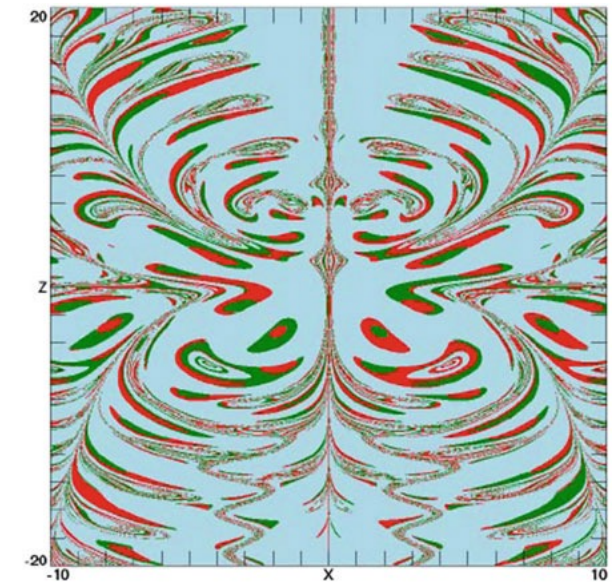
**Region of attraction (ROA) of a set  $S \subseteq \Omega(f)$ :**

$$\mathcal{A}(S) := \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R}^d \mid \liminf_{t \rightarrow \infty} d(\phi(t, x), S) = 0 \right\}$$

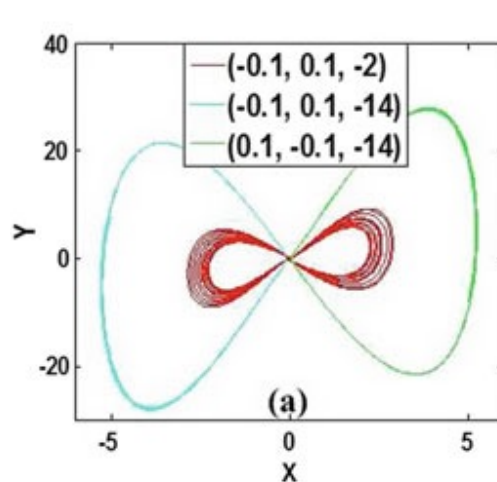
**Example II:** Limit set  $\Omega(f)$



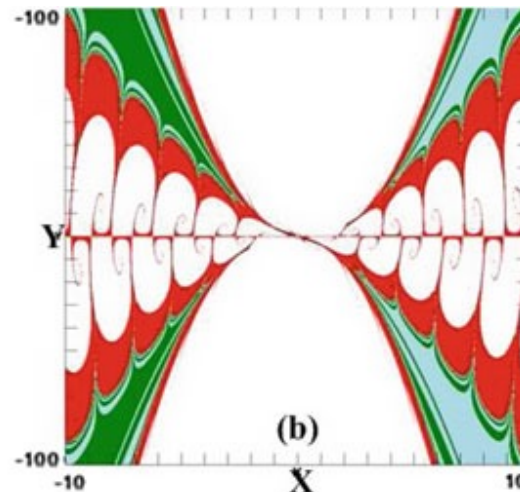
Basin of  $\mathcal{A}(\Omega)$



**Example I:** Limit set  $\Omega(f)$



Basin of  $\mathcal{A}(\Omega)$



# Problem setup

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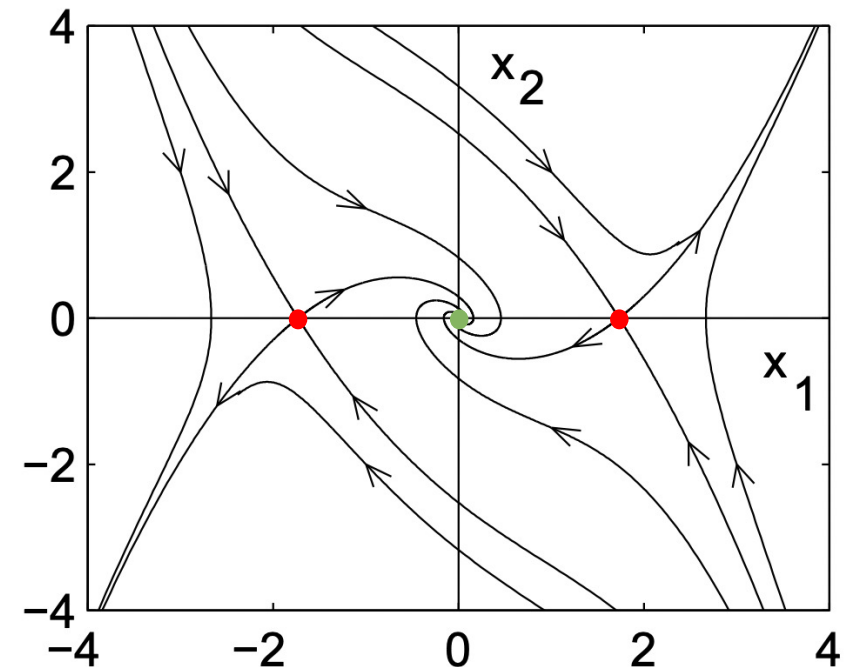
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## Example III

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_2 \\ -x_1 + \frac{1}{3}x_1^3 - x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Omega(f) = \{(0, 0), (-\sqrt{3}, 0), (\sqrt{3}, 0)\}$$



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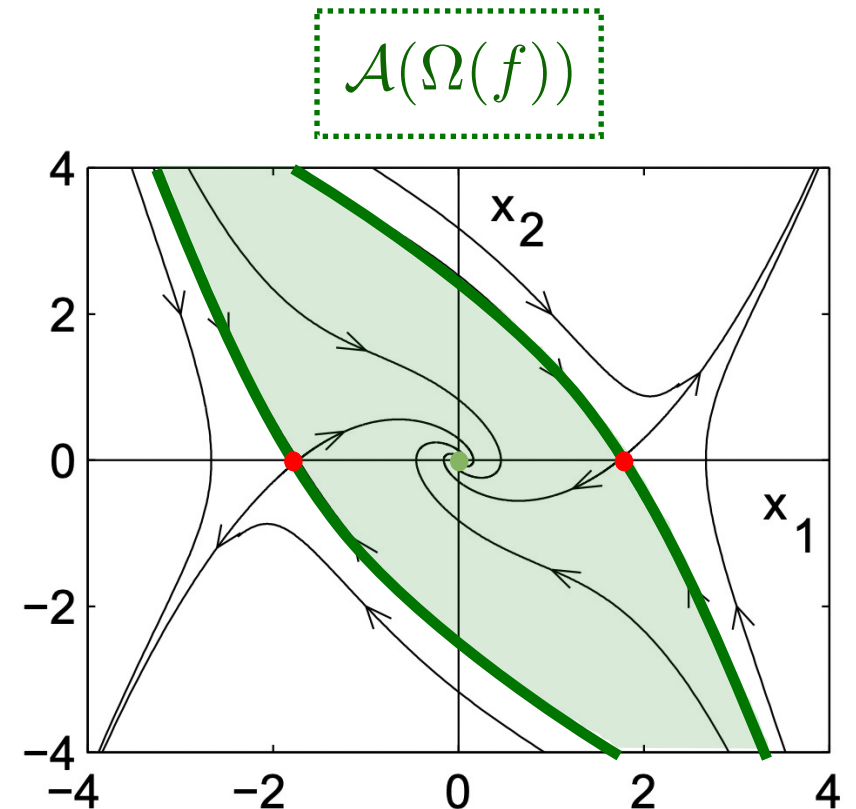
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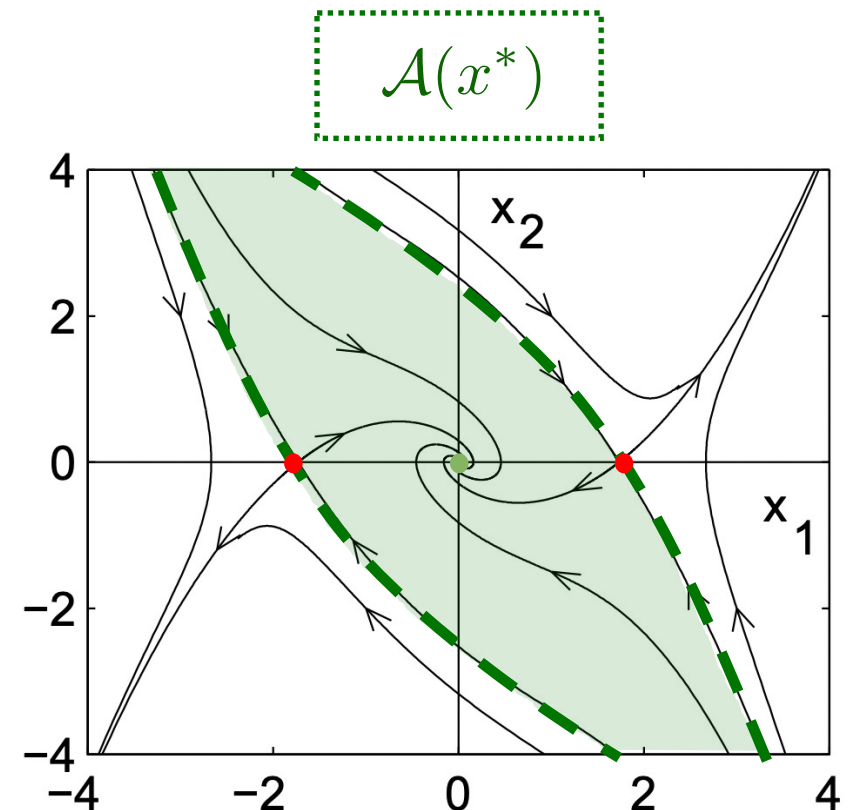
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Asymptotically stable equilibrium at  $x^* = (0, 0)$



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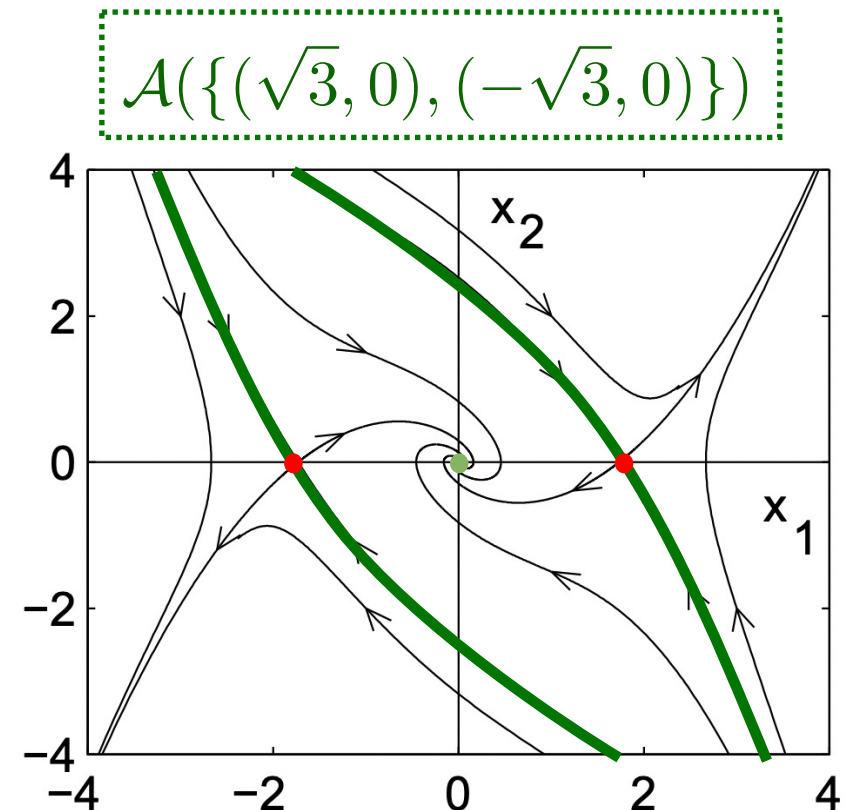
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Unstable equilibria  $\{(\sqrt{3}, 0), (-\sqrt{3}, 0)\}$



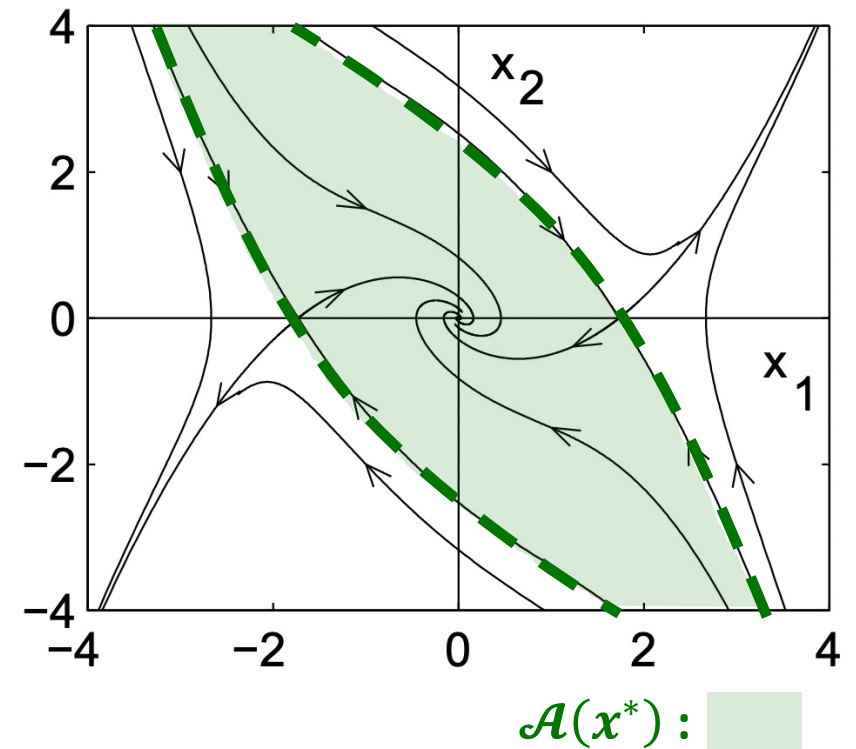
# Region of attraction of stable equilibria

Region of attraction (ROA) of a set  $S \subseteq \Omega(f)$ :

$$\mathcal{A}(S) := \left\{ x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d \mid \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \phi(t, x_0) \in S \right\}$$

**Assumption 1.** The system  $\dot{x}(t) = f(x(t))$  has an asymptotically stable equilibrium at  $x^*$ .

**Remark 1.** It follows from Assumption 1 that the **positively invariant ROA  $\mathcal{A}(x^*)$  is an open contractible set** [Sontag, 2013], i.e., the identity map of  $\mathcal{A}(x^*)$  to itself is null-homotopic [Munkres, 2000].



# Invariant sets

A set  $I \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$  is **positively invariant** if and only if:  $x_0 \in \mathcal{I} \implies \phi(t, x_0) \in \mathcal{I}, \quad \forall t \in \mathbb{R}^+$

Any trajectory starting in the set remains in inside it

- **Invariant sets guarantee stability**

**Lyapunov stability:** solutions starting "close enough" to the equilibrium (within a distance  $\delta$ ) remain "close enough" forever (within a distance  $\varepsilon$ ) )

- **Invariant sets further certify asymptotic stability via Lyapunov's direct method**

**Asymptotic stability:** solutions that start close enough not only remain close enough but also eventually converge to the equilibrium.)

- **Regions of attraction are invariant sets, and so are the outcome of most approximation methods!**

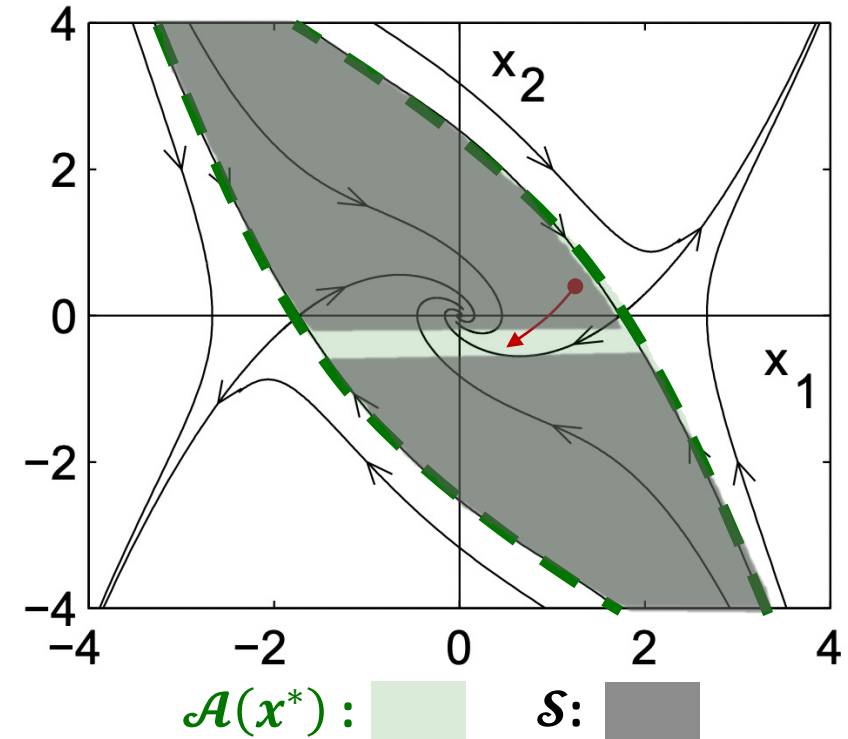


# Challenges of working with invariant set

Learning ROA  $\mathcal{A}(x^*)$  by finding an invariant set  $\mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathcal{A}(x^*)$

- $\mathcal{S}$  is topologically constrained
  - If  $\mathcal{S} \cap \Omega(f) = \{x^*\}$ , then  $\mathcal{S}$  is connected

Example 1:  $\mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathcal{A}(x^*)$  is not connected, not invariant!



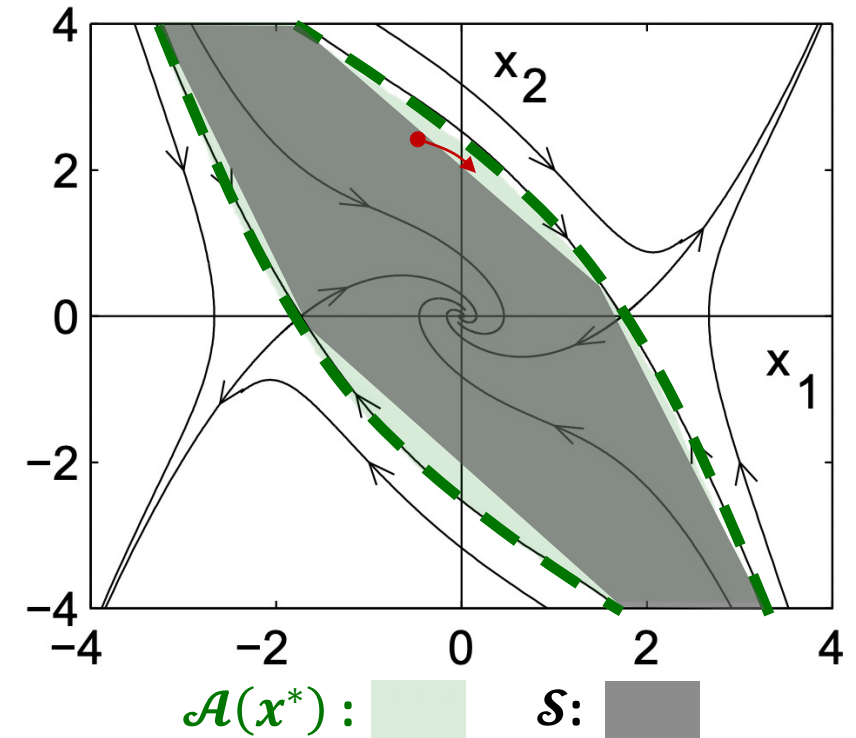
A not invariant trajectory: 

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- $\mathcal{S}$  is geometrically constrained
  - $f$  should point inwards for  $x \in \partial\mathcal{S}$

Example 2:  $\mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathcal{A}(x^*)$ ,  $f$  points outward on  $\partial\mathcal{S}$ , not invariant



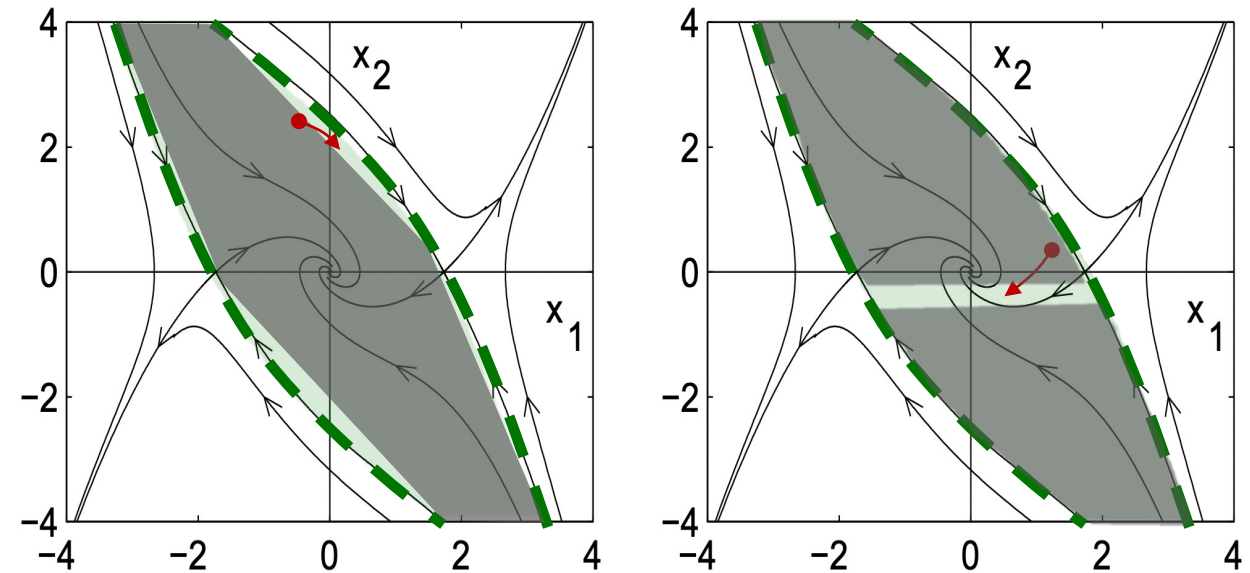
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**A subset of an invariant set is not necessary an invariant set**



$\mathcal{A}(x^*)$  :   $\mathcal{S}$  : 

A not invariant trajectory: 

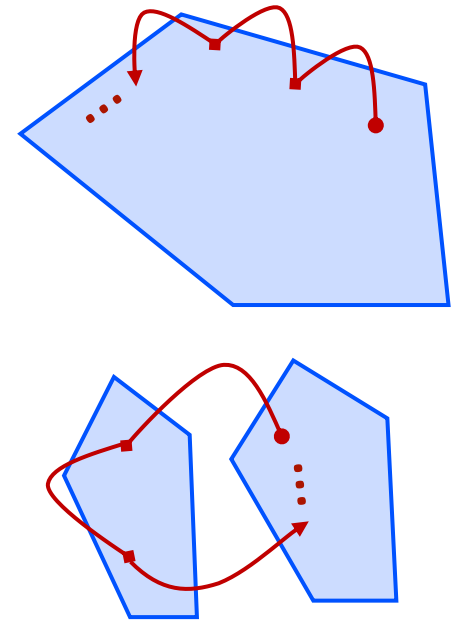
# Recurrent sets: Letting things go, and come back

A set  $\mathcal{R} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$  is **recurrent** if for any  $x_0 \in \mathcal{R}$  and  $t \geq 0$ ,  $\exists t' \geq t$  s.t.  $\phi(t', x_0) \in \mathcal{R}$ .

## Property of Recurrent Sets

- $\mathcal{R}$  need **not** be **connected**
- $\mathcal{R}$  does **not** require  $f$  to **point inwards** on all  $\partial\mathcal{R}$

Recurrent sets, while not invariant,  
guarantee that solutions that start in this set,  
will come back **infinitely often, forever!**



Recurrent set  $\mathcal{R}$ : 

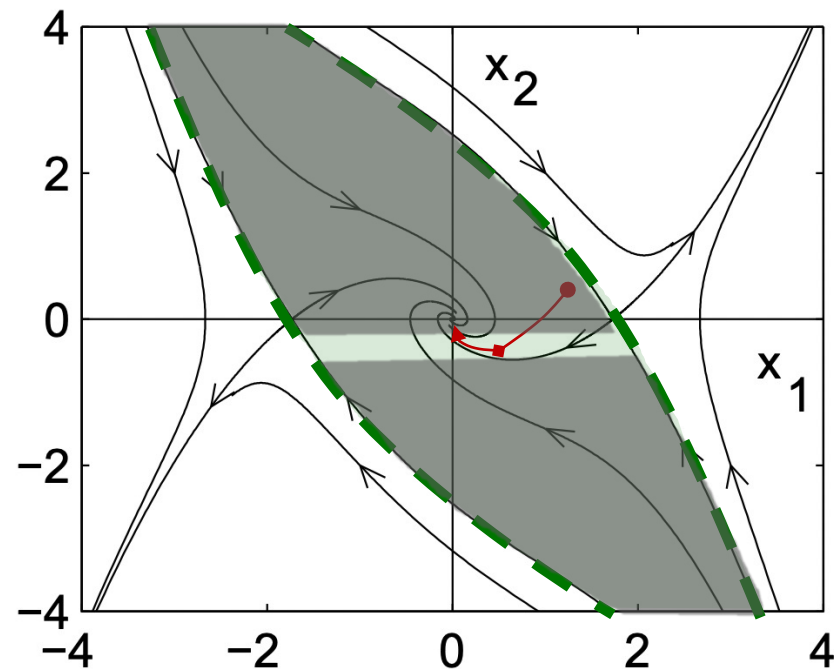
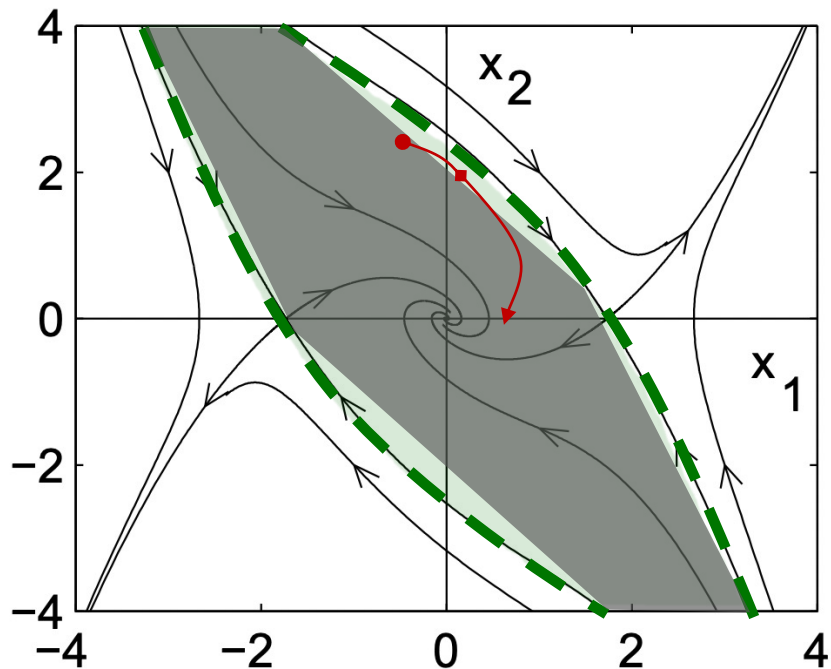
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Previous two good inner approximations of  $\mathcal{A}(x^*)$  are recurrent sets



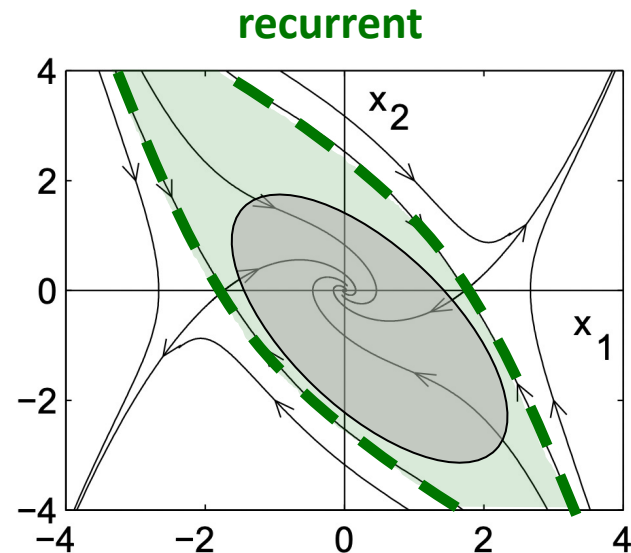
# Recurrent sets are subsets of the region of attraction

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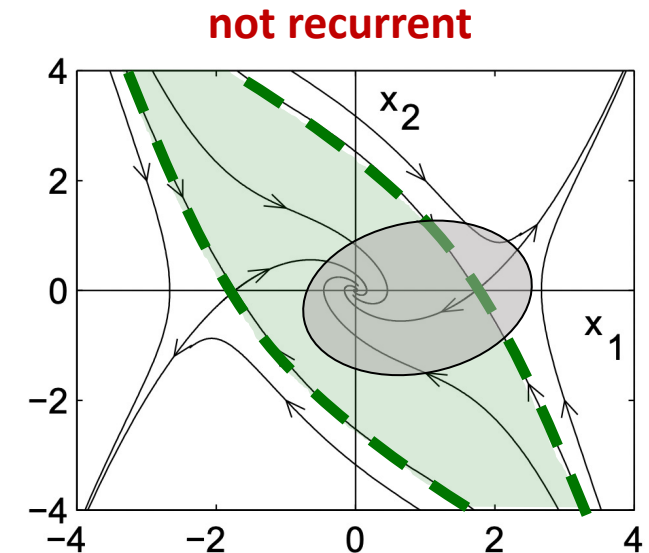
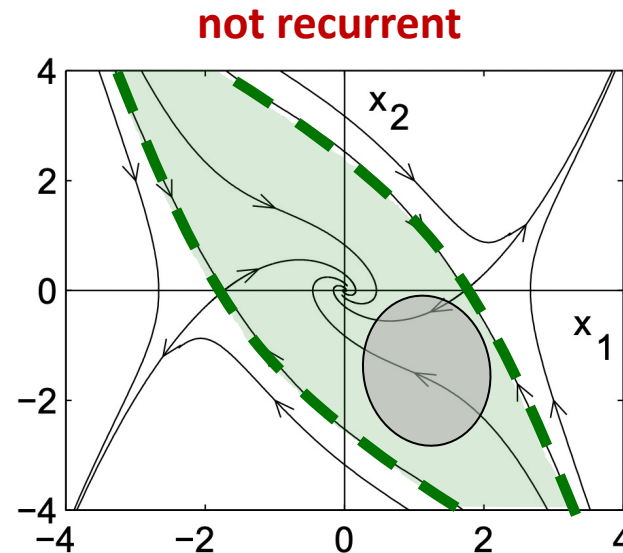
**Theorem 1.** Let  $\mathcal{R} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  be a compact set satisfying  $\partial\mathcal{R} \cap \Omega(f) = \emptyset$ .

Then:

$$\mathcal{R} \text{ is recurrent} \iff \begin{array}{l} \mathcal{R} \cap \Omega(f) \neq \emptyset \\ \mathcal{R} \subset \mathcal{A}(\mathcal{R} \cap \Omega(f)) \end{array}$$



$\mathcal{R}$ : 



$\mathcal{A}(x^*)$ : 

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**Proof:** [Sketch]

( $\Rightarrow$ )

- If  $x_0 \in \mathcal{R}$ , the solution  $\phi(t, x_0)$  visits  $\mathcal{R}$  infinitely often, forever.
- We can build a sequence  $\{x(t_n)\}_{n=0}^{\infty} \in \mathcal{R}$  with  $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} t_n = +\infty$
- Bolzano-Weierstrass  $\Rightarrow$  convergent subsequence  $x(t_{n_i}) \rightarrow \bar{x} \in \Omega(f) \cap \mathcal{R} \neq \emptyset$
- $\partial\mathcal{R} \cap \Omega(f) = \emptyset + \mathcal{R} \text{ recurrent} \Rightarrow \phi(t, x_0)$  leaves  $\mathcal{R}$  finitely many times

( $\Leftarrow$ ) Trivial.

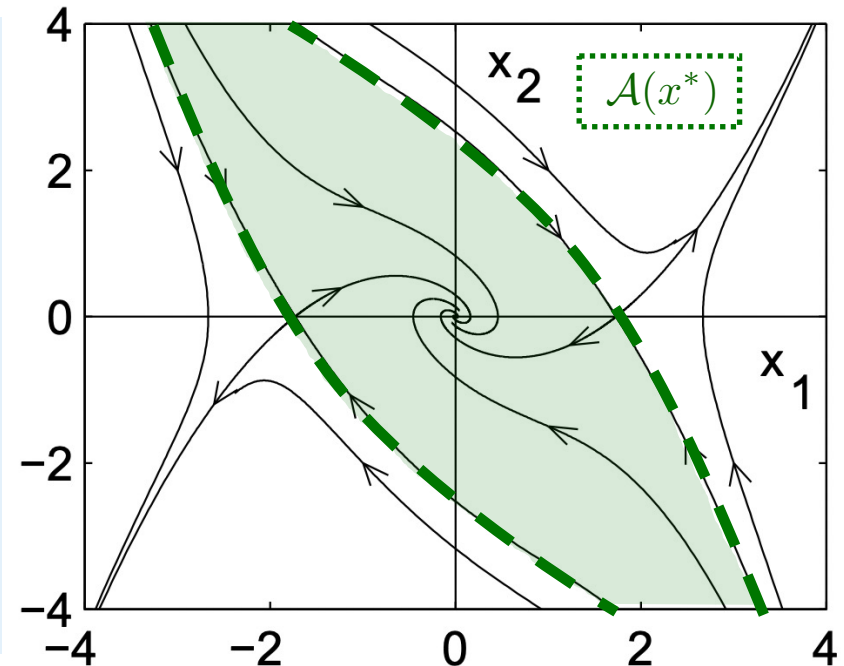
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**Assumption 2.** The  $\omega$ -limit set  $\Omega(f)$  is composed by **hyperbolic equilibrium points**, with only one of them, say  $x^*$ , being asymptotically stable.

**Corollary 2.** Let Assumptions 1 and 2 hold, and  $\mathcal{R} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  be a compact set satisfying  $\partial\mathcal{R} \cap \Omega(f) = \emptyset$  and  $\mathcal{R} \cap \Omega(f) = \{x^*\}$ . Then:

$$\boxed{\mathcal{R} \text{ is recurrent} \iff \mathcal{R} \subset \mathcal{A}(x^*)}$$

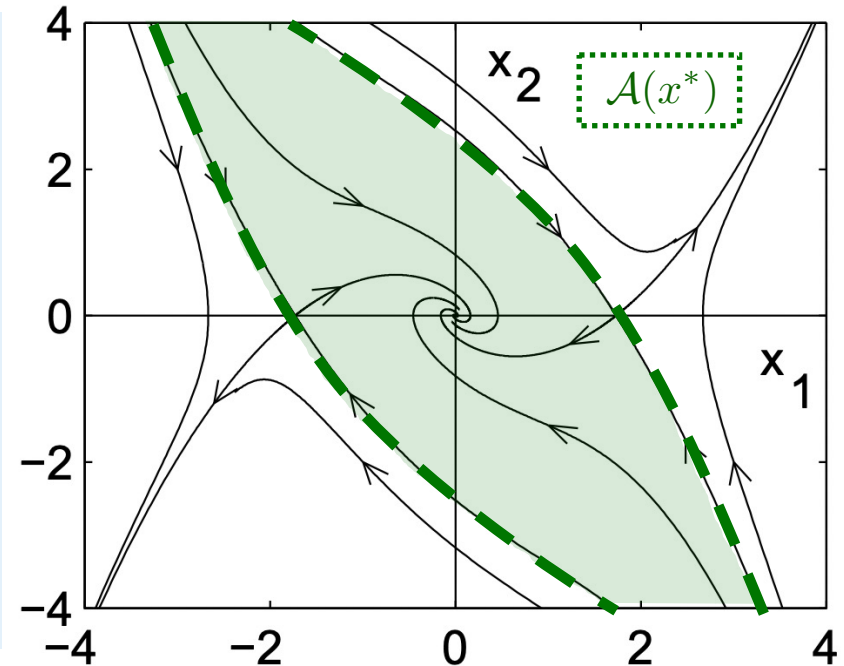


# Recurrent sets are subsets of the region of attraction

A set  $\mathcal{R} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$  is **recurrent** if for any  $x_0 \in \mathcal{R}$  and  $t \geq 0$ ,  $\exists t' \geq t$  s.t.  $\phi(t', x_0) \in \mathcal{R}$ .

**Corollary 2.** Let Assumptions 1 and 2 hold, and  $\mathcal{R} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  be a compact set satisfying  $\partial\mathcal{R} \cap \Omega(f) = \emptyset$  and  $\mathcal{R} \cap \Omega(f) = \{x^*\}$ . Then:

$$\boxed{\mathcal{R} \text{ is recurrent} \iff \mathcal{R} \subset \mathcal{A}(x^*)}$$



**Idea:** Use recurrence as a mechanism for finding inner approximations of  $\mathcal{A}(x^*)$

## Potential Issues:

- We do not know how long it takes to come back!
- We need to adapt results to trajectory samples

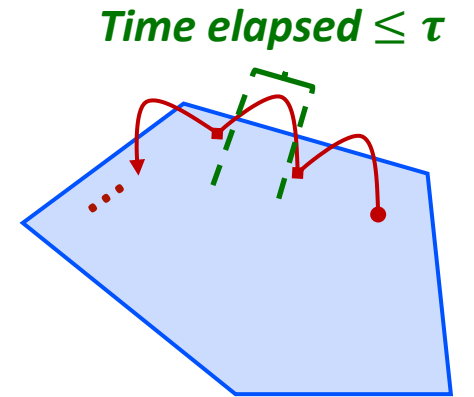
# $\tau$ -recurrent sets

A set  $\mathcal{R}$  is  **$\tau$ -recurrent** if for any  $x_0 \in \mathcal{R}$  and  $t \geq 0$ ,  $\exists t' \in [t, t + \tau]$  such that  $\phi(t', x_0) \in \mathcal{R}$

**Theorem 2.** Under Assumption 1, any compact set  $\mathcal{R}$  satisfying:

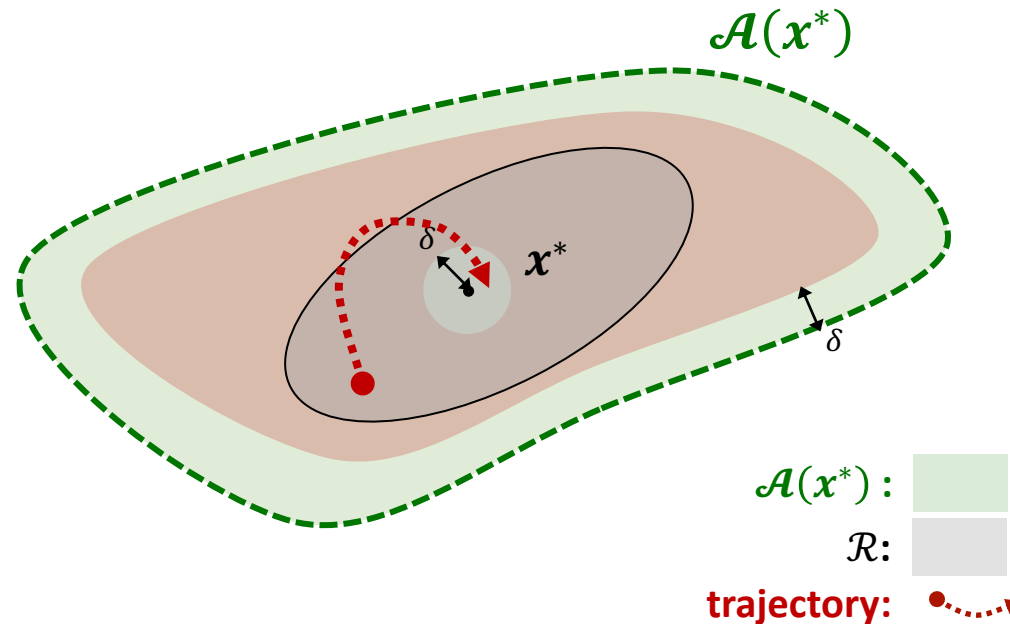
$$x^* + \mathcal{B}_\delta \subseteq \mathcal{R} \subseteq \mathcal{A}(x^*) \setminus \{\partial \mathcal{A}(x^*) + \text{int } \mathcal{B}_\delta\}$$

is  $\tau$ -recurrent for  $\tau \geq \bar{\tau}(\delta) := \frac{c(\delta) - \bar{c}(\delta)}{a(\delta)}$ .



$\tau$ -recurrent set  $\mathcal{R}$ : 

trajectory: 



$\mathcal{A}(x^*)$ : 

$\mathcal{R}$ : 

trajectory: 

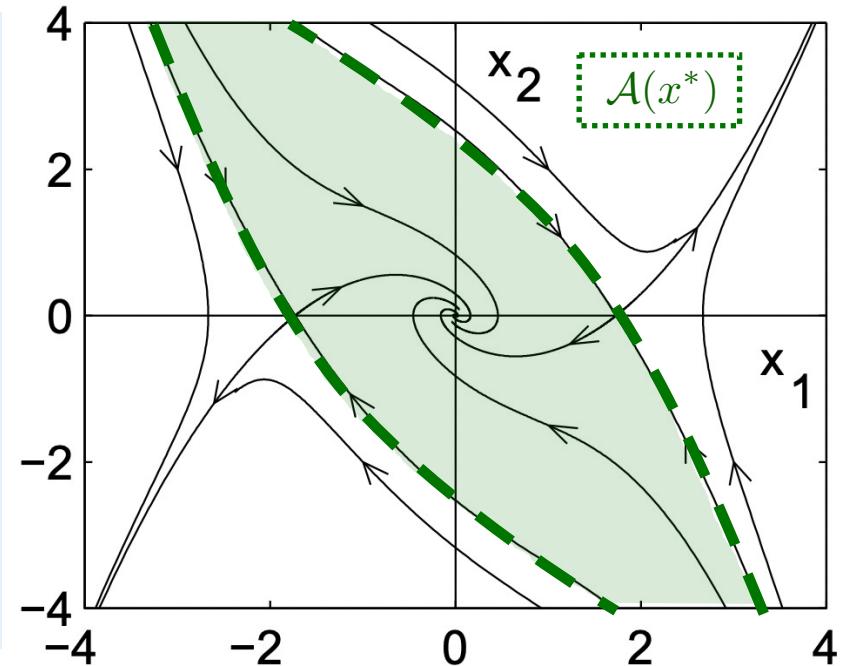


# Recurrent sets are subsets of the region of attraction

A set  $\mathcal{R} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$  is **recurrent** if for  $x_0 \in \mathcal{R}$ , for any  $t \geq 0 \Rightarrow \exists t' > t$ , s.t.  $\phi(t', x_0) \in \mathcal{R}$

**Corollary 2.** Let Assumptions 1 and 2 hold, and  $\mathcal{R} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  be a compact set satisfying  $\partial\mathcal{R} \cap \Omega(f) = \emptyset$  and  $\mathcal{R} \cap \Omega(f) = \{x^*\}$   
Then:

$$\boxed{\mathcal{R} \text{ is recurrent} \iff \mathcal{R} \subset \mathcal{A}(x^*)}$$



**Idea:** Use recurrence as a mechanism for finding inner approximations of  $\mathcal{A}(x^*)$

## Potential Issues:

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# Learning recurrent sets from k-length trajectory samples

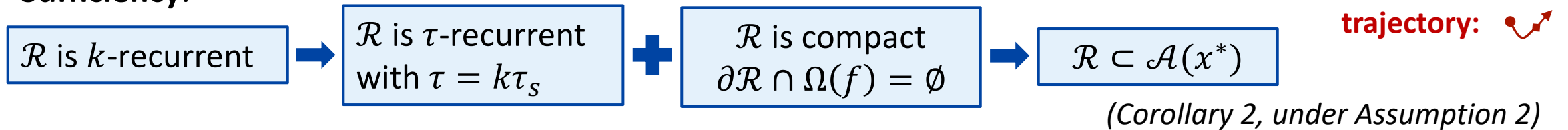
- Consider **finite length** trajectories:

$$x_n = \phi(n\tau_s, x_0), \quad x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d, n \in \mathbb{N},$$

where  $\tau_s > 0$  is the sampling period.

- A set  $\mathcal{R} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$  is **k-recurrent** if whenever  $x_0 \in \mathcal{R}$ , then  $\exists n \in \{1, \dots, k\}$  s.t.  $x_n \in \mathcal{R}$

**Sufficiency:**

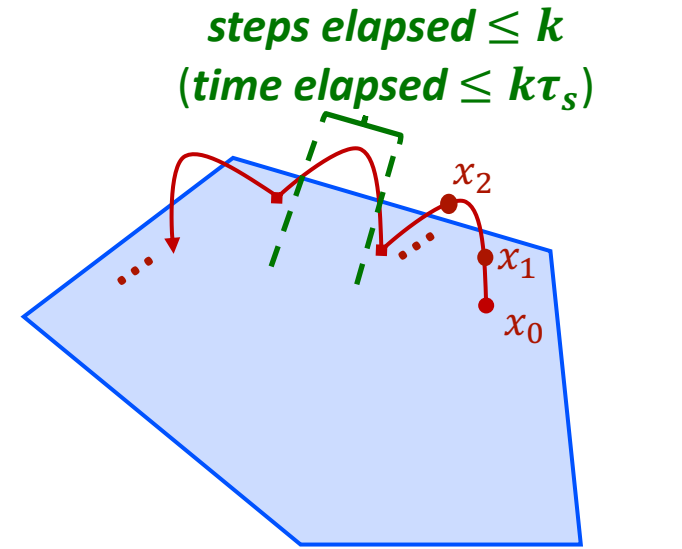


**Necessity:**

**Theorem 3.** Under Assumption 1, any compact set  $\mathcal{R}$  satisfying:

$$\mathcal{B}_\delta + x^* \subseteq \mathcal{R} \subseteq \mathcal{A}(x^*) \setminus \{\partial\mathcal{A}(x^*) + \text{int } \mathcal{B}_\delta\}$$

is  $k$ -recurrent for any  $k > \bar{k} := \bar{\tau}(\delta)/\tau_s$ .

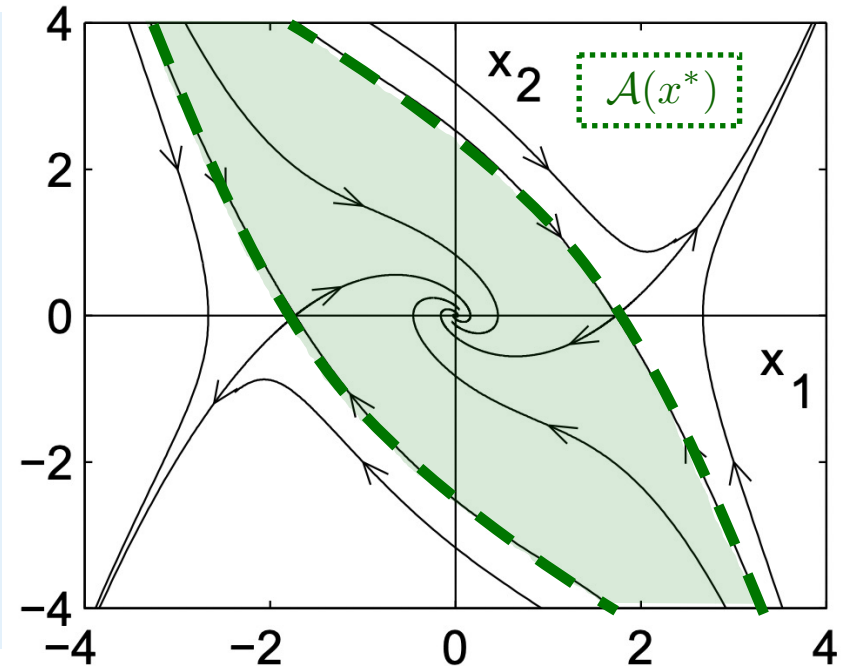


# Recurrent sets are subsets of the region of attraction

A set  $\mathcal{R} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$  is **recurrent** if for  $x_0 \in \mathcal{R}$ ,  $\phi(t, x_0) \notin \mathcal{R} \Rightarrow \exists t' > t$ , s.t.  $\phi(t', x_0) \in \mathcal{R}$

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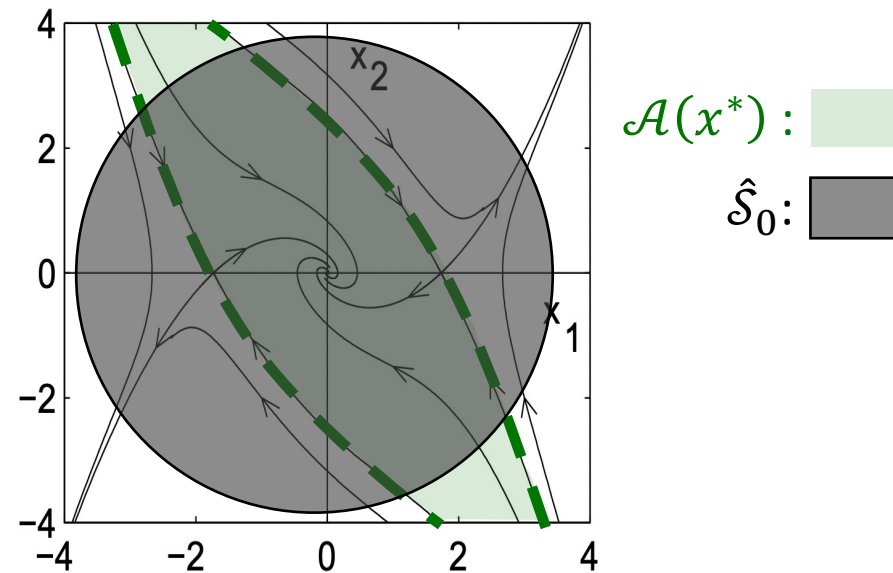


# Sphere approximations of RoA

**Algorithm:** Given  $k$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ :

**At each iteration  $t$**

- Sample trajectories of length  $k$  from the sphere  $\hat{\mathcal{S}}_t$  until recurrence is violated (counter-example)



$$\hat{\mathcal{S}}_t := \{x \mid \|x - x^*\|_2 \leq b_t\}$$

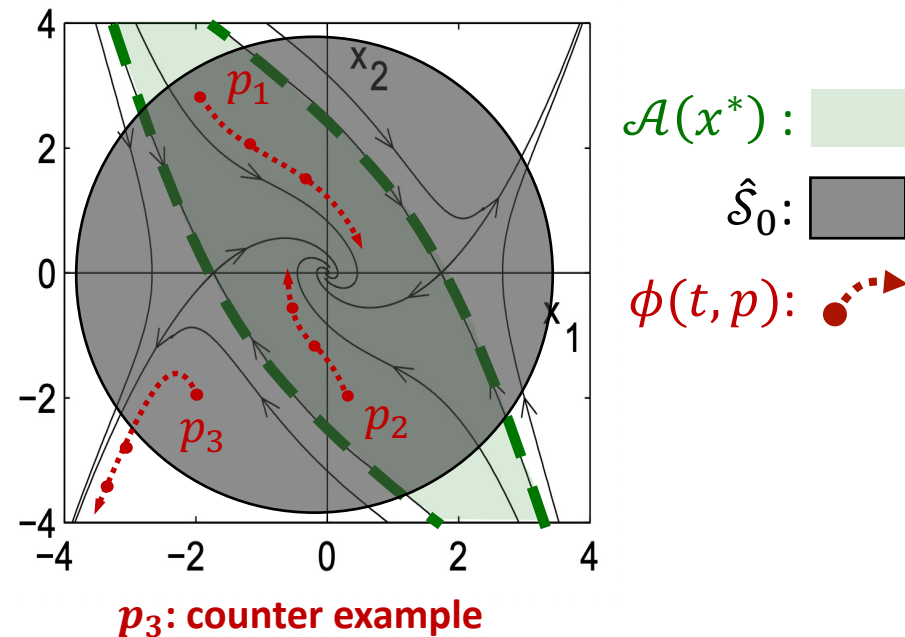
# Sphere approximations of RoA

**Algorithm:** Given  $k$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ :

**At each iteration  $t$**

- Sample trajectories of length  $k$  from the sphere  $\hat{\mathcal{S}}_t$  until recurrence is violated (counter-example)

$t = 0$



$$\hat{\mathcal{S}}_t := \{x \mid \|x - x^*\|_2 \leq b_t\}$$

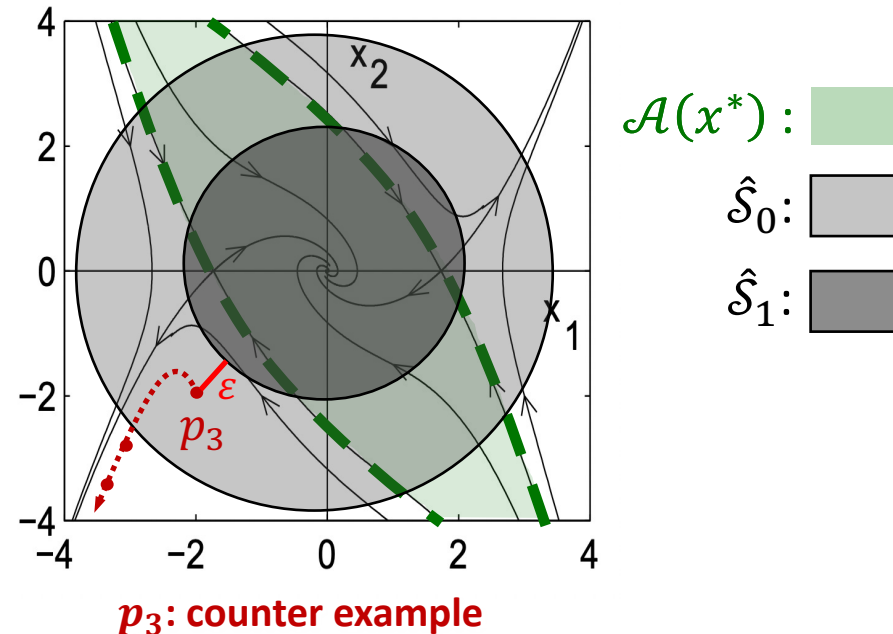
# Sphere approximations of RoA

**Algorithm:** Given  $k$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ :

**At each iteration  $t$**

- Sample trajectories of length  $k$  from the sphere  $\hat{\mathcal{S}}_t$  until recurrence is violated (counter-example)
- Update sphere  $\hat{\mathcal{S}}_{t+1}$  to exclude counter example point  $p_j$

$t = 0$



$$\hat{\mathcal{S}}_t := \{x \mid \|x - x^*\|_2 \leq b_t\}$$



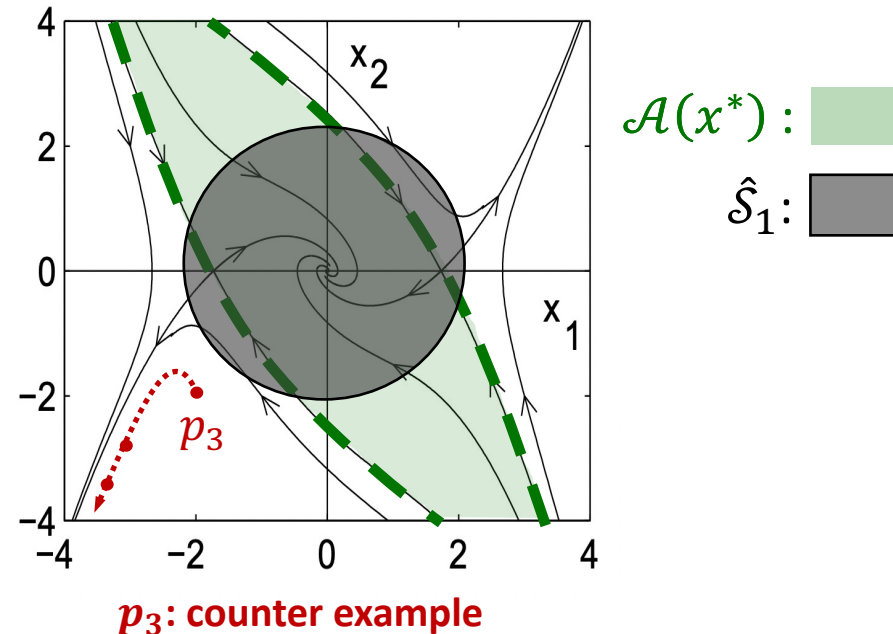
# Sphere approximations of RoA

**Algorithm:** Given  $k$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ :

**At each iteration  $t$**

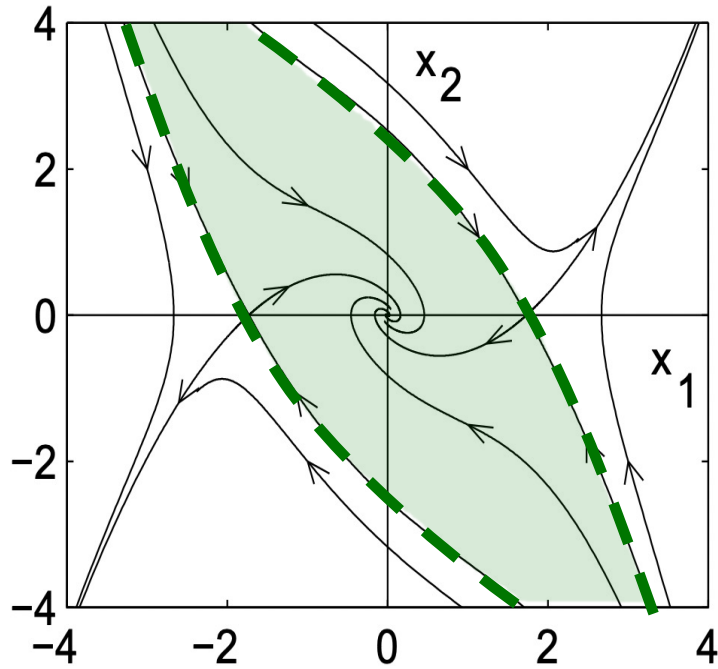
- Sample trajectories of length  $k$  from the sphere  $\hat{\mathcal{S}}_t$  until recurrence is violated (counter-example)
- Update sphere  $\hat{\mathcal{S}}_{t+1}$  to exclude counter example point  $p_j$ , and start again

$t = 1$

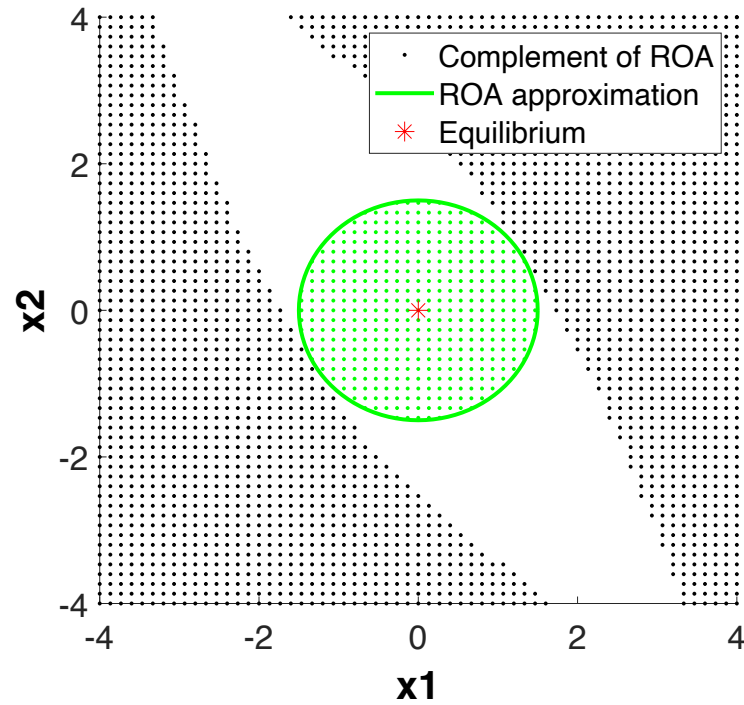


$$\hat{\mathcal{S}}_t := \{x \mid \|x - x^*\|_2 \leq b_t\}$$

# Algorithm Result - Sphere Approximations

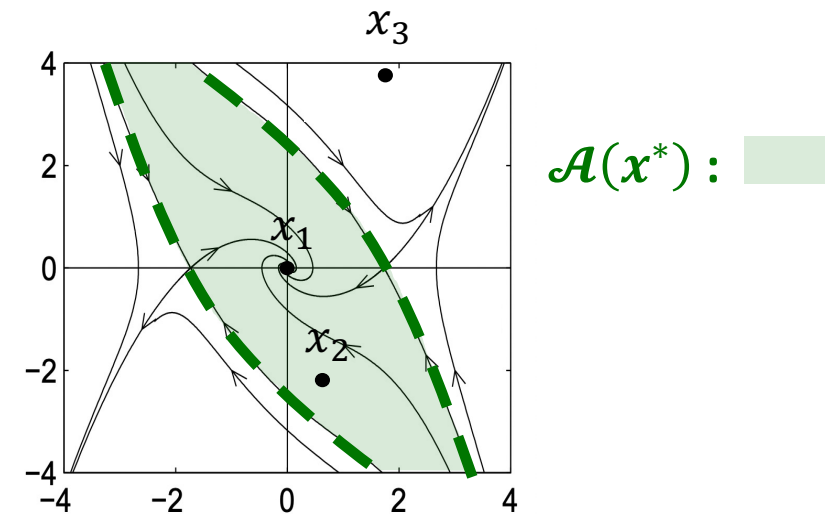


$\mathcal{A}(0)$  : 



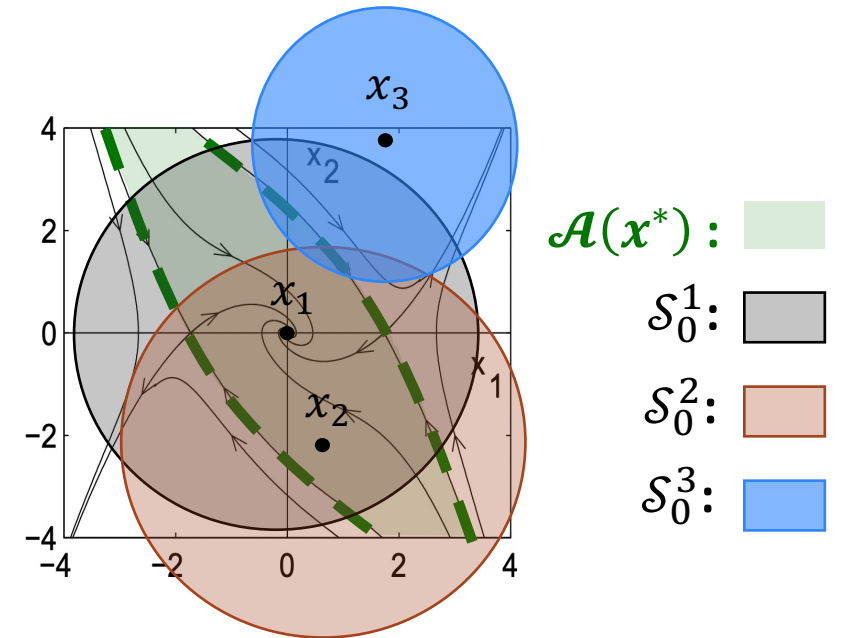
# Multi-center approximation

- Consider  $h \in \mathbb{N}^+$  center points  $x_q$  indexed by  $q \in \{1, \dots, h\}$ .
  - Let the first center point  $x_1 = x^* = 0$
  - Additional center point  $x_2, \dots, x_h$  can be designed chosen uniformly.



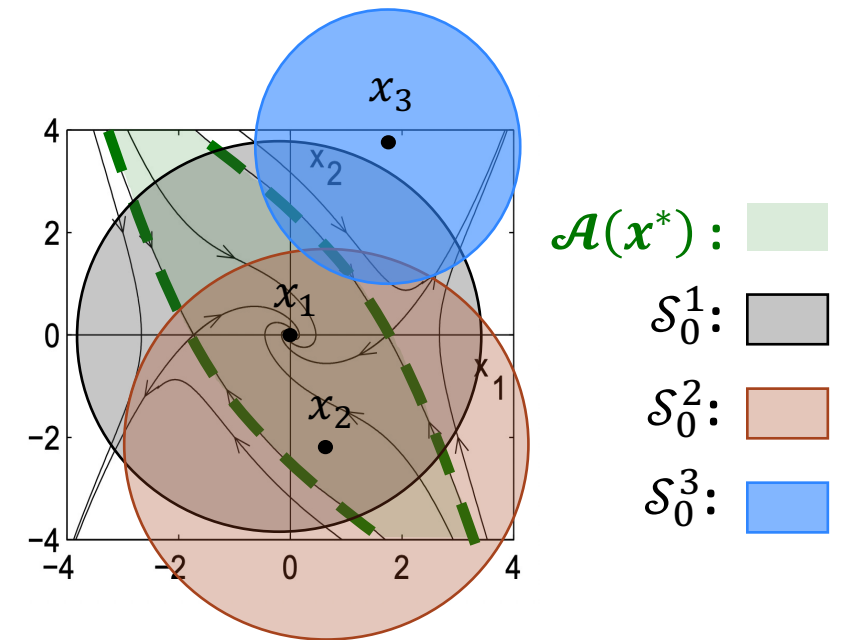
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- Respectively define approximations centered at each  $x_q$ 
  - $\mathcal{S}_t^q := \{x \mid \|x - x_q\|_2 \leq b_q^{(i)}\}$



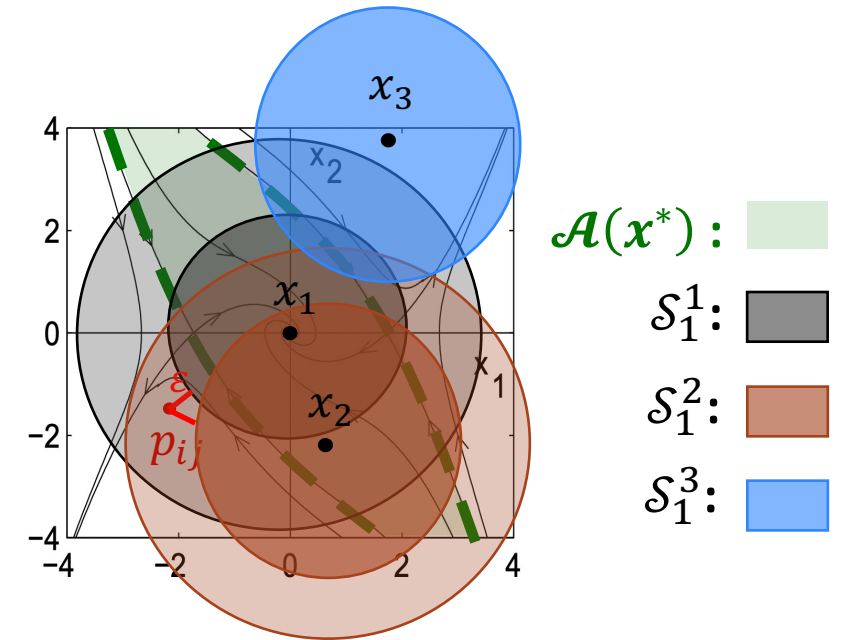
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- Multi-center approximation given by  $\hat{\mathcal{S}}_t = \bigcup_{q=1}^h \mathcal{S}_t^q$

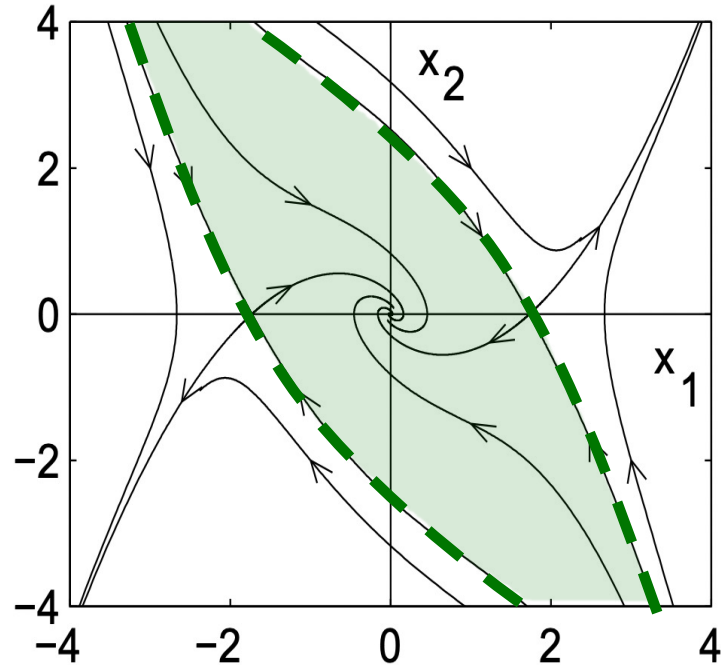


# Multi-center approximation

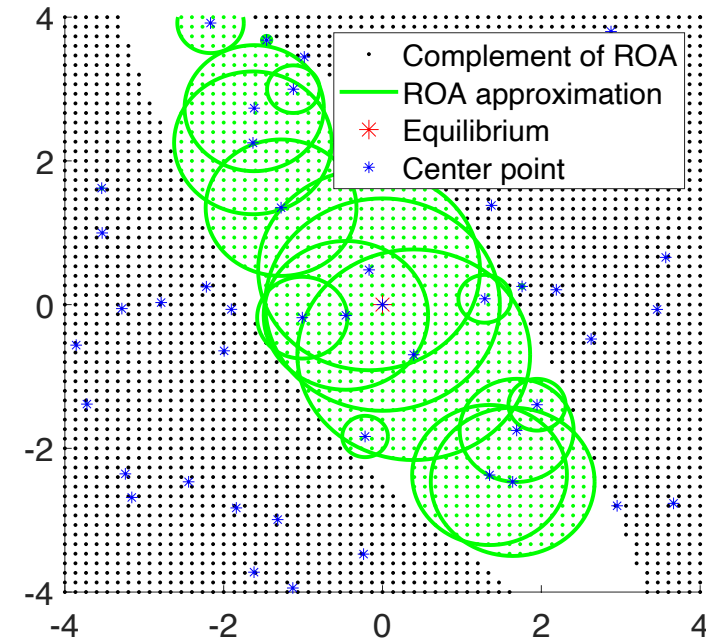
- Consider  $h \in \mathbb{N}^+$  center points  $x_q$  indexed by  $q \in \{1, \dots, h\}$ .
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  - $\mathcal{S}_t^q := \{x \mid \|x - x_q\|_2 \leq b_q^{(i)}\}$
- Multi-center approximation given by  $\hat{\mathcal{S}}_t = \bigcup_{q=1}^h \mathcal{S}_t^q$
- If  $p_{ij}$  is a counter-example w.r.t  $\hat{\mathcal{S}}_{\text{multi}}^{(i)}$ 
  - We shrink every  $\hat{\mathcal{S}}_q^{(i)}$  satisfying  $p_{ij} \in \hat{\mathcal{S}}_q^{(i)}$
  - For the rest approximations, we simply let  $\hat{\mathcal{S}}_q^{(i+1)} = \hat{\mathcal{S}}_q^{(i)}$



# Numerical illustrations – Multi-center approximation



$\mathcal{A}(x^*)$  : 

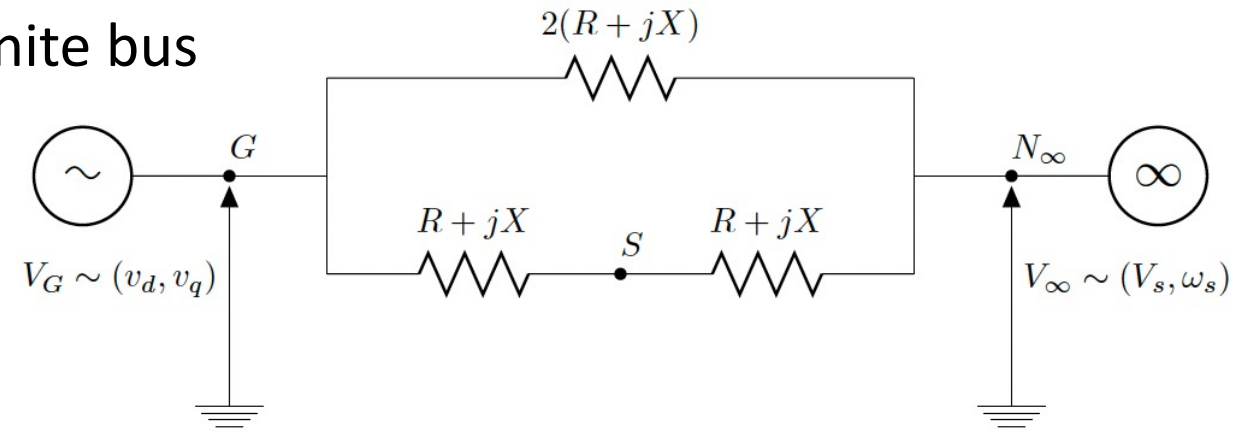


50 sphere approximation



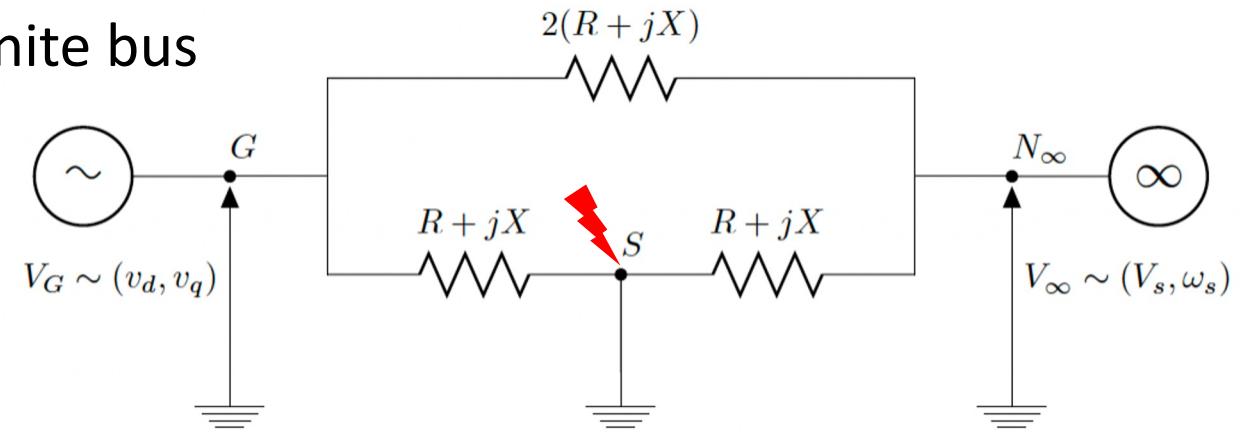
# Transient Stability Analysis

- Synchronous machine connected to infinite bus



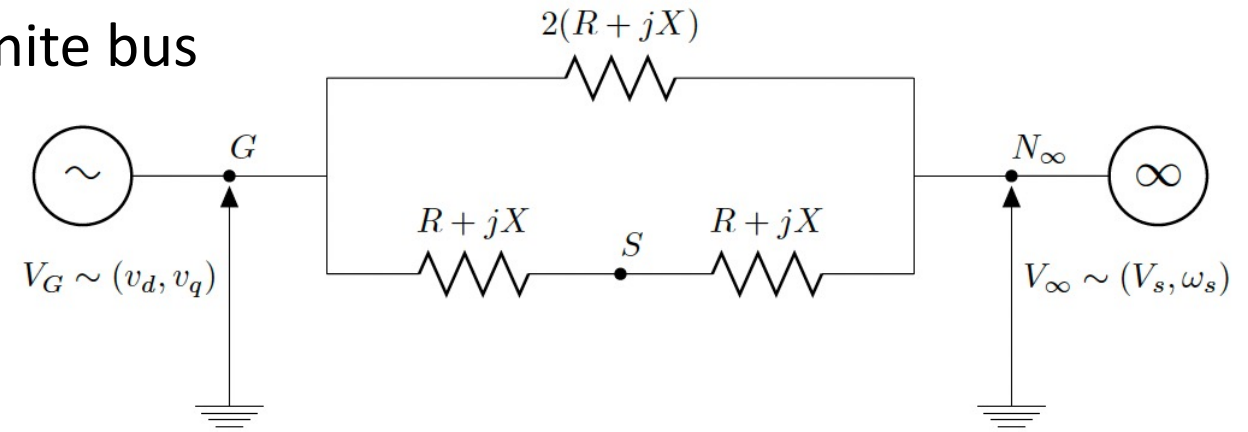
# Transient Stability Analysis

- Synchronous machine connected to infinite bus
- $t_1$  lower line is short-circuited



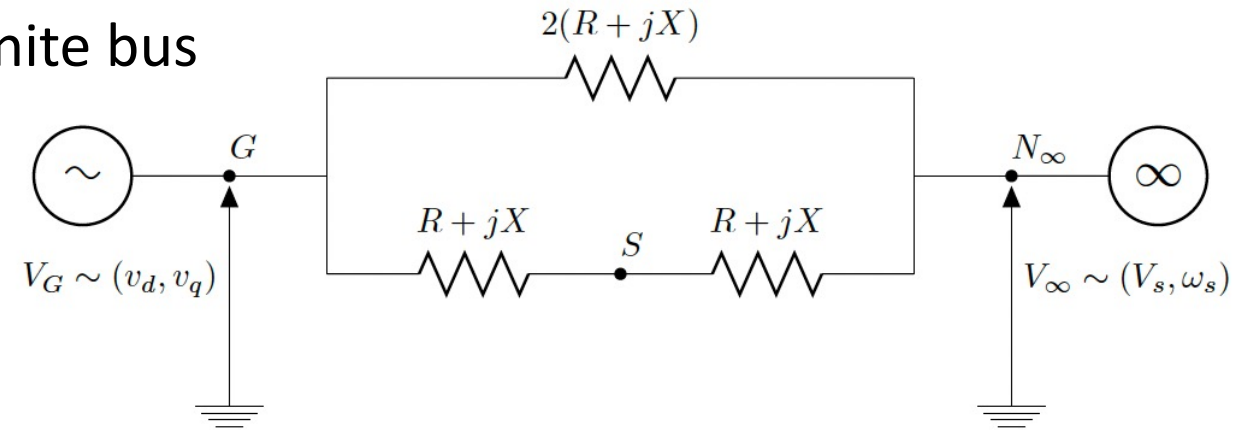
# Transient Stability Analysis

- Synchronous machine connected to infinite bus
- $t_1$  lower line is short-circuited
- $t_2$  fault is cleared



# Transient Stability Analysis

- Synchronous machine connected to infinite bus
- $t_1$  lower line is short-circuited
- $t_2$  fault is cleared



$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\delta}{dt} &= \omega - \omega_s \\ 2H \frac{d\omega}{dt} &= P_m - (v_d i_d + v_q i_q + e i_d^2 + r i_q^2) \\ T'_{d0} \frac{de'_q}{dt} &= -e'_q - (x_d - x'_d) i_d + E_{fd} \\ T_a \frac{dE_{fd}}{dt} &= -E_{fd} + K_a (V_{ref} - V_t) \\ T_g \frac{dP_m}{dt} &= -P_m + P_{ref} + K_g (\omega_{ref} - \omega) \\ i_q &= \frac{(X - x'_d) V_s \sin(\delta) - (R + r)(V_s \cos(\delta) - e'_q)}{(R + r)^2 + (X + x'_d)(X + x_q)} \end{aligned}$$

$$i_d = \frac{X - x_q}{R + r} i_q - \frac{1}{R + r} V_s \sin(\delta)$$

$$v_d = x_q i_q - r - i_d$$

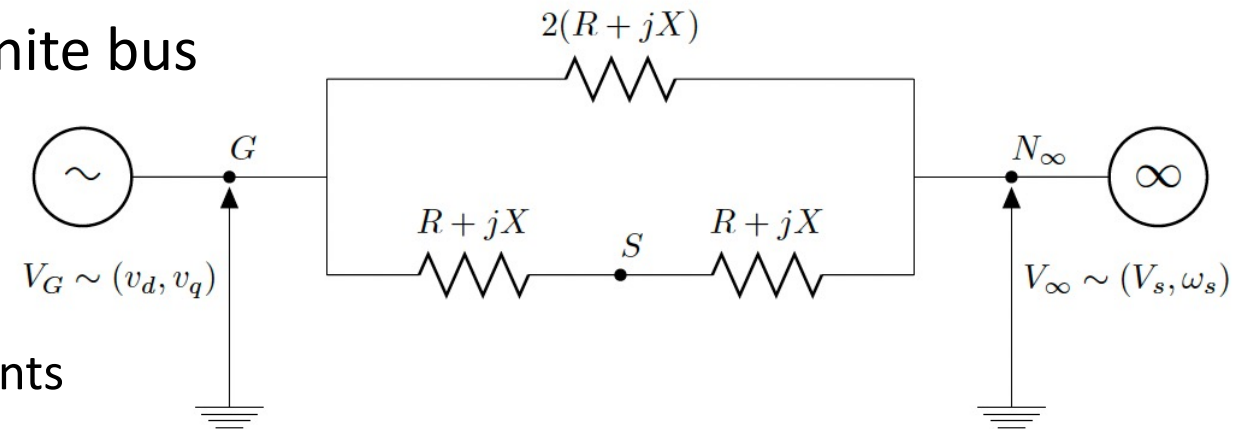
$$v_q = R i_q + X i_d + V_s \cos(\delta)$$

$$V_t = \sqrt{v_d^2 + v_q^2}$$

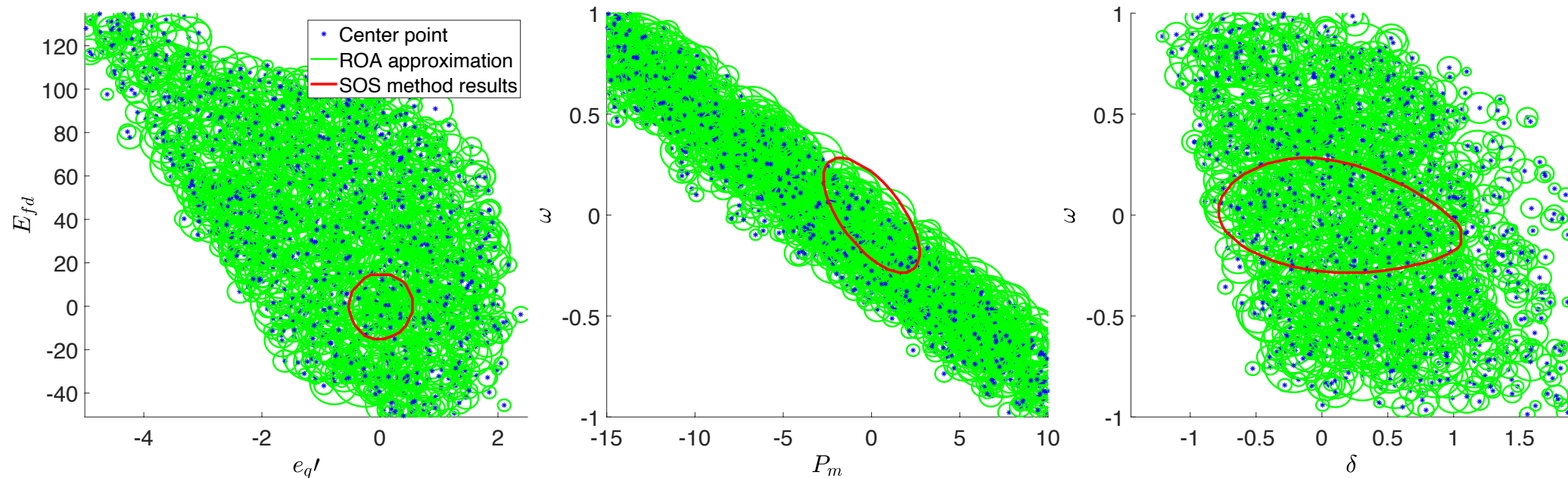
$T'_{d0} = 9.67$	$x_d = 2.38$	$x'_d = 0.336$	$x_q = 1.21$
$H = 3$	$r = 0.002$	$\omega_s = \omega_{ref} = 1$	$R = 0.01$
$X = 1.185$	$V_s = 1$	$T_a = 1$	$K_a = 70$
$V_{ref} = 1$	$T_g = 0.4$	$K_g = 0.5$	$P_{ref} = 0.7$

# Transient Stability Analysis

- Synchronous machine connected to infinite bus
- $t_1$  lower line is short-circuited
- $t_2$  fault is cleared



Multi-center in green:  $\tau_s = 1$ ,  $k = 40$ , 1.5K points



M. Tacchi et al *Power system transient stability analysis using SoS programming*, Power System Computation Conference (PSCC) 2018

Shen, Bichuch, M, *Model-free Learning of Regions of Attraction via Recurrent Sets*, Control and Decision Conference (CDC) 2022



**Roy Siegelmann**



**Yue Shen**



**Fernando Paganini**



# Recurrently Non-Increasing Lyapunov Functions

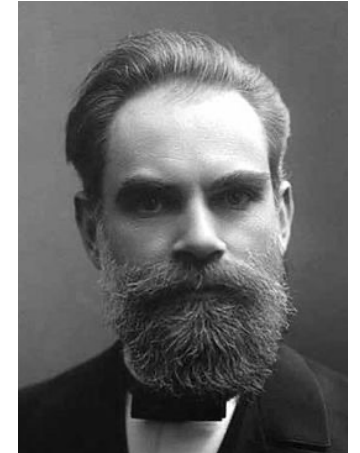
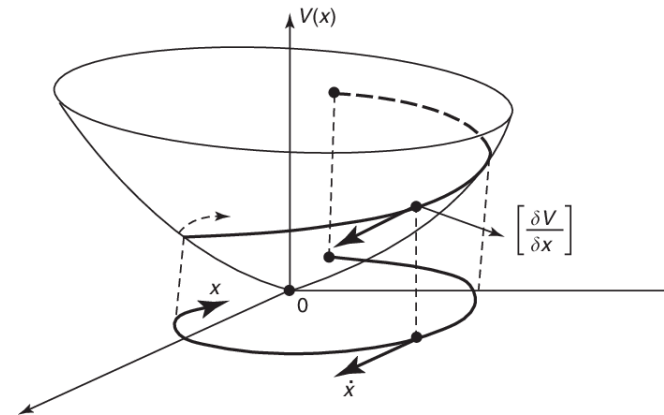
R. Siegelmann, Y. Shen, F. Paganini, and E. Mallada, “A recurrence-based direct method for stability analysis and GPU-based verification of non-monotonic Lyapunov functions”, submitted CDC 2023

# Lyapunov's Direct Method

**Key idea:** Make sub-level sets invariant to trap trajectories

**Theorem [Lyapunov '1892].** Given  $V: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ , with  $V(x) > 0, \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^d \setminus \{x^*\}$ , then:

- $\dot{V} \leq 0 \rightarrow x^*$  stable
- $\dot{V} < 0 \rightarrow x^*$  as. stable



**Challenge:** Couples shape of  $V$  and vector field  $f$

- Towards decoupling the  $V - f$  geometry
  - Controlling regions where  $\dot{V} \geq 0$  [Karafyllis '09, Liu et al '20]
  - Higher order conditions:  $g(V^{(q)}, \dots, \dot{V}, V) \leq 0$  [Butz '69, Gunderson '71, Ahmadi '06, Meigoli '12]
  - Discretization approach:  $V(x(T)) \leq V(x(0))$  [Coron et al '94, Aeyels et. al '98, Karafyllis '12]

Karafyllis, Kravaris, Kalogerakis. Relaxed Lyapunov criteria for robust global stabilisation of non-linear systems. International Journal of Control, 2009

Liu, Liberzon, Zharnitsky. Almost Lyapunov functions for nonlinear systems. Automatica, 2020

A Butz. Higher order derivatives of Lyapunov functions. IEEE Transactions on automatic control, 1969

Gunderson. A comparison lemma for higher order trajectory derivatives. Proceedings of the American Mathematical Society, 1971

Ahmadi. Non-monotonic Lyapunov functions for stability of nonlinear and switched systems: theory and computation, 2008

Meigoli, Nikravesh. Stability analysis of nonlinear systems using higher order derivatives of Lyapunov function candidates. Systems & Control Letters, 2012

Coron, Lionel Rosier. A relation between continuous time-varying and discontinuous feedback stabilization. J. Math. Syst., Estimation, Control, 1994

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Karafyllis. Can we prove stability by using a positive definite function with non sign-definite derivative? IMA Journal of Mathematical Control and Information, 2012

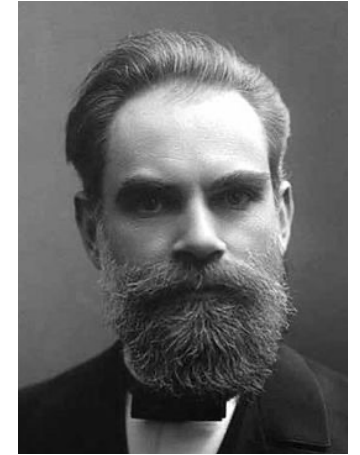
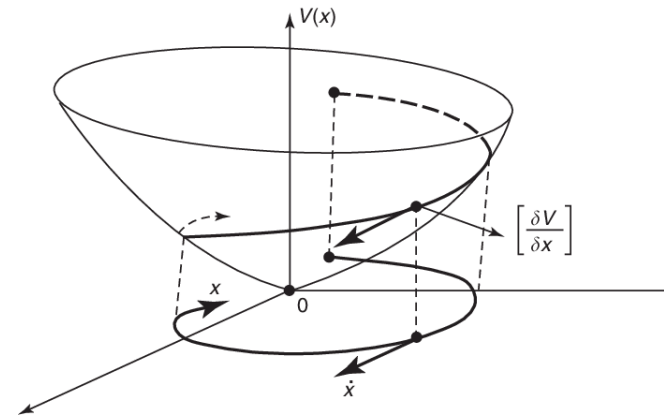


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**Question:** Can we provide stability conditions based on recurrence?

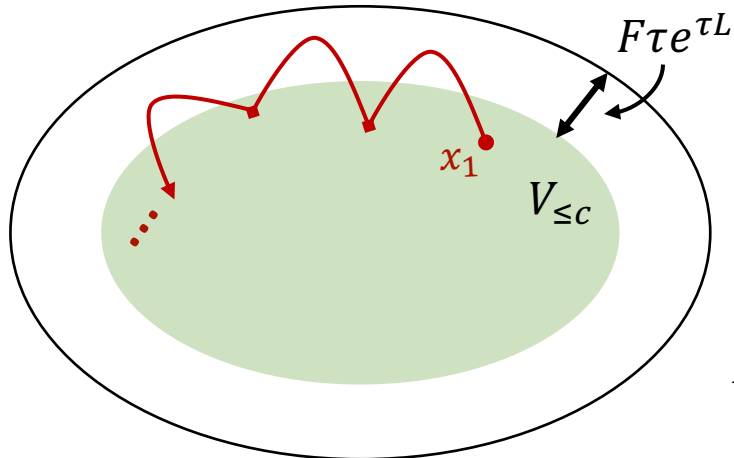
# Recurrently Decreasing Lyapunov Functions

A continuously differentiable function  $V: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  is a **recurrently non-increasing Lyapunov function** over intervals of length  $\tau$  if

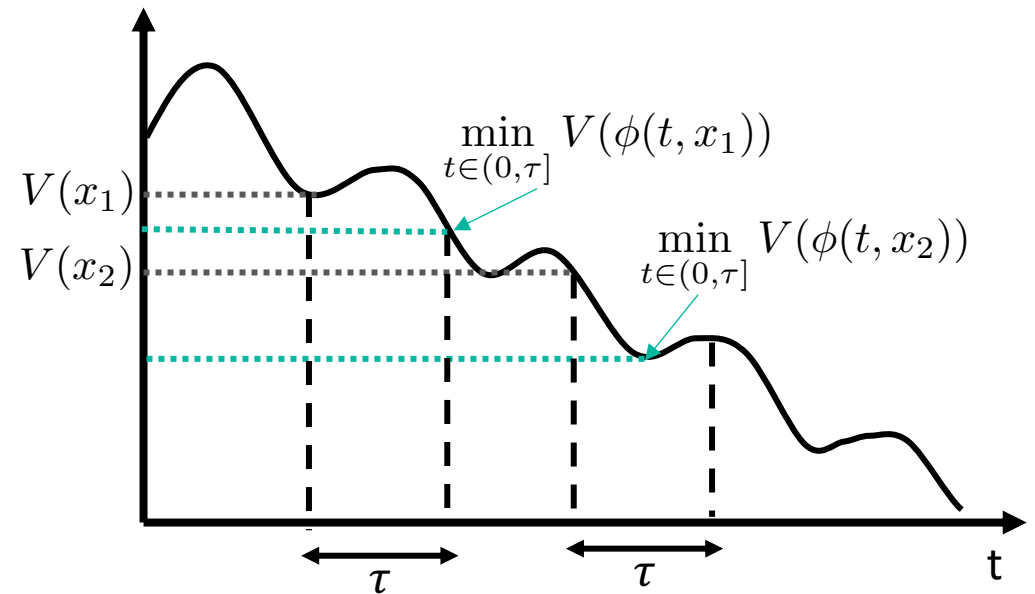
$$\mathcal{L}_f^{(0,\tau]} V(x) := \min_{t \in (0,\tau]} V(\phi(t, x)) - V(x) \leq 0 \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^d$$

## Preliminaries:

- Sub-level sets  $\{V(x) \leq c\}$  are  $\tau$ -recurrent sets.
- When  $f$  is globally  $L$ -Lipschitz, one can trap trajectories.



$$F = \max_{x \in S} \|f(x)\|$$



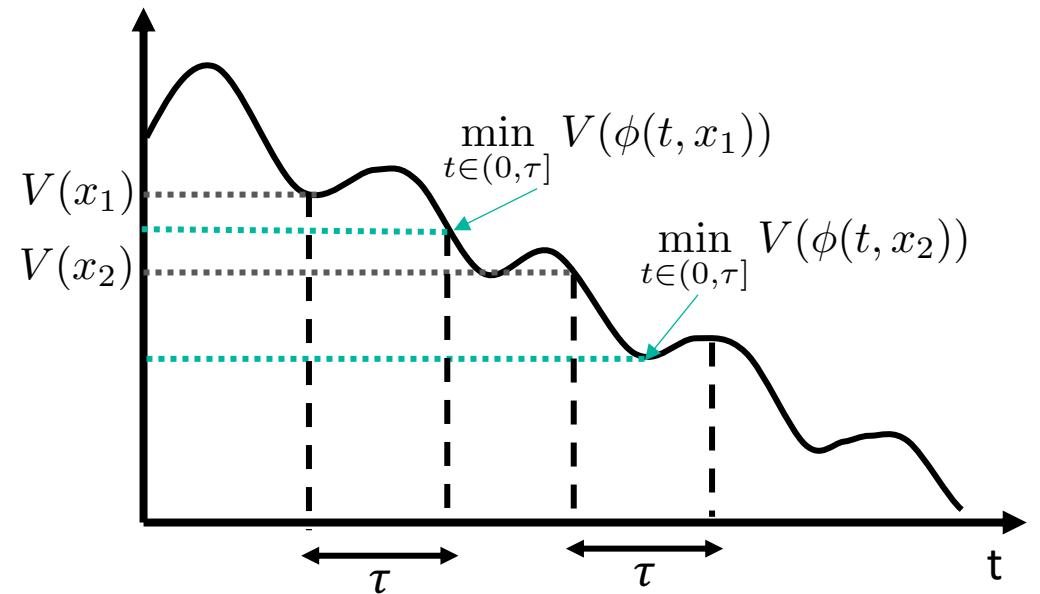
# Recurrently Non-Increasing Lyapunov Functions

A continuously differentiable function  $V: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  is a **recurrently non-increasing Lyapunov function** over intervals of length  $\tau$  if

$$\mathcal{L}_f^{(0,\tau]} V(x) := \min_{t \in (0,\tau]} V(\phi(t, x)) - V(x) \leq 0 \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^d \quad (*)$$

**Theorem [CDC 23\*]:** Let  $V: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$  be a recurrently non-increasing Lyapunov function over intervals of length  $\tau$ .

- Then when  $f$  is  $L$ -Lipschitz, the equilibrium  $x^*$  is stable.
- Further, if the **inequality is strict**, then  $x^*$  is asymptotically stable!



# Exponential Stability Analysis

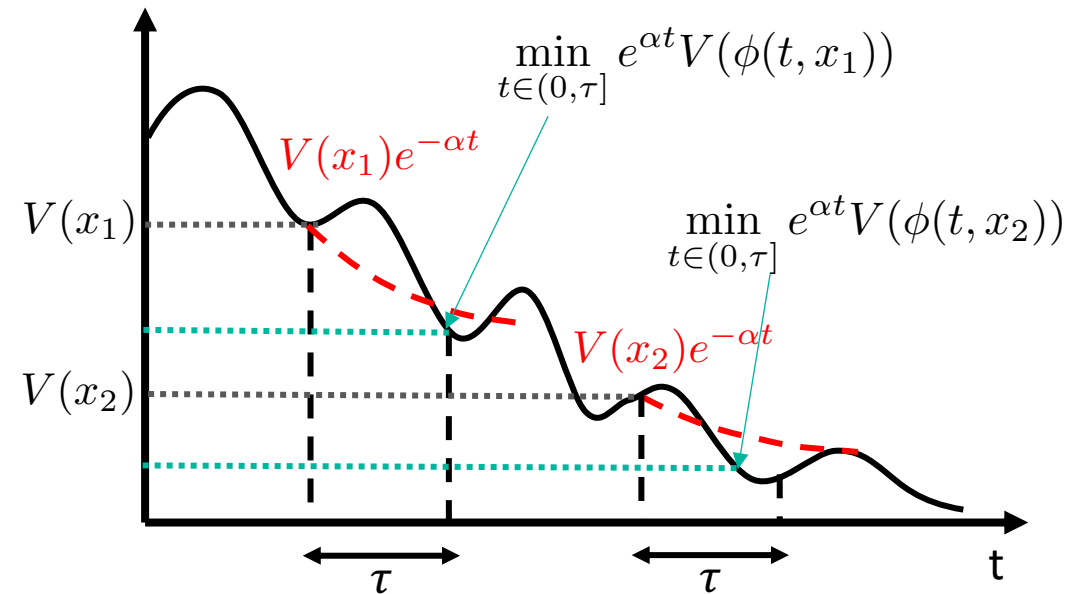
The function  $V: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  is  **$\alpha$ -exponentially** recurrently non-increasing Lyapunov function over intervals of length  $\tau$  if

$$\mathcal{L}_{f,\alpha}^{(0,\tau]} V(x) := \min_{t \in (0,\tau]} e^{\alpha t} V(\phi(t, x)) - V(x) \leq 0 \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^d$$

**Theorem [CDC 23\*]:** Let  $V: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$  satisfy

$$\alpha_1 ||x - x^*|| \leq V(x) \leq \alpha_2 ||x - x^*||.$$

Then, if  $V$  is  **$\alpha$ -exponentially** recurrently non-increasing Lyapunov function over intervals of length  $\tau$ , then  **$x^*$  is exponentially stable**.



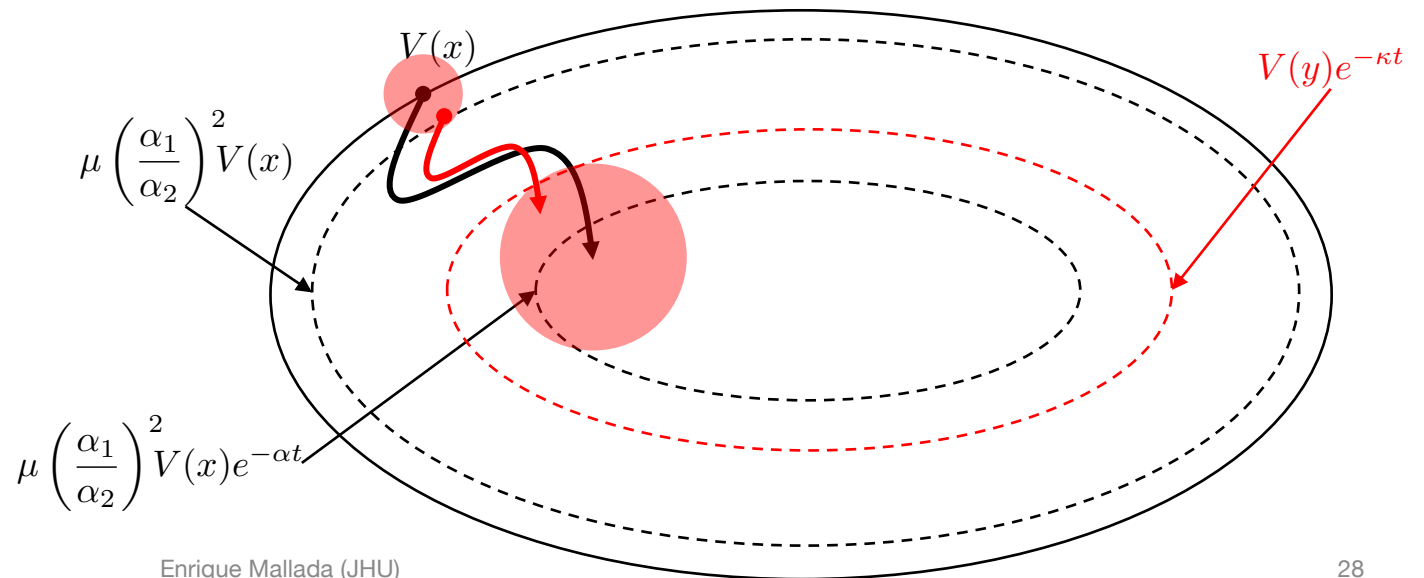
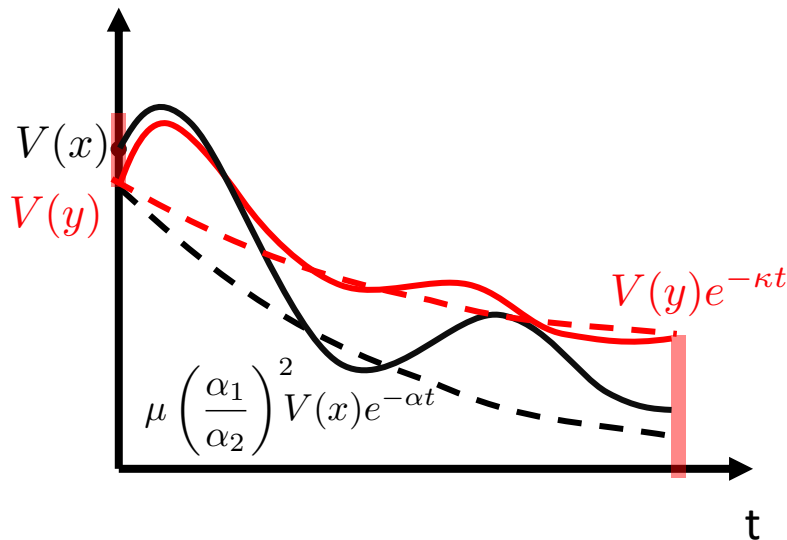
# Verification of Exponential Stability

**Proposition [CDC 23\*]:** Let  $V: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$  satisfy  $\alpha_1 \|x - x^*\| \leq V(x) \leq \alpha_2 \|x - x^*\|$ , and  $0 < \mu < 1$ . Then, whenever

$$\min_{t \in (0, \tau]} e^{\alpha t} V(\phi(x, t)) \leq \mu \left( \frac{\alpha_1}{\alpha_2} \right)^2 V(x)$$

if  $\exists \kappa, \rho > 0$  s.t.  $\rho < g(\kappa, \mu, \alpha_1, \alpha_2)$ , for all  $y$  with  $\|y - x\| \leq r := \frac{\rho}{\alpha_2} V(x)$

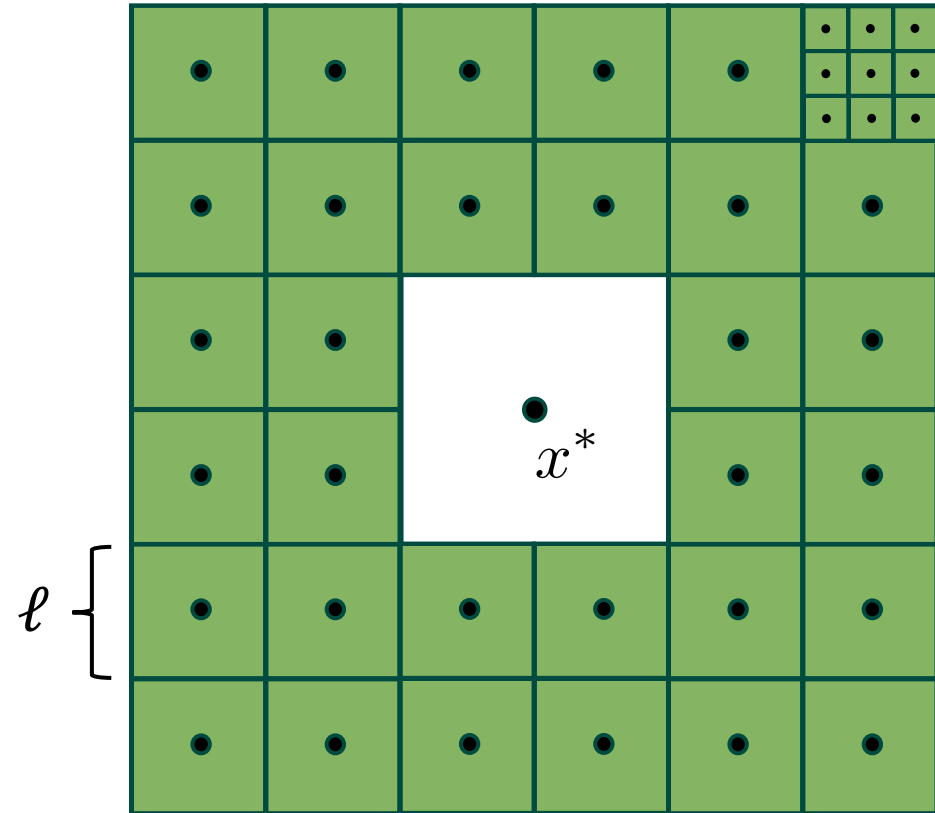
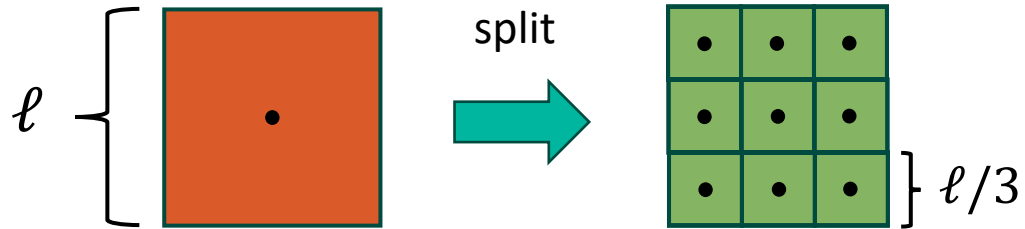
$$\min_{t \in (0, \tau]} e^{\kappa t} V(\phi(y, t)) \leq V(y)$$



# GPU-based Algorithm

- **Basic Algorithm:**

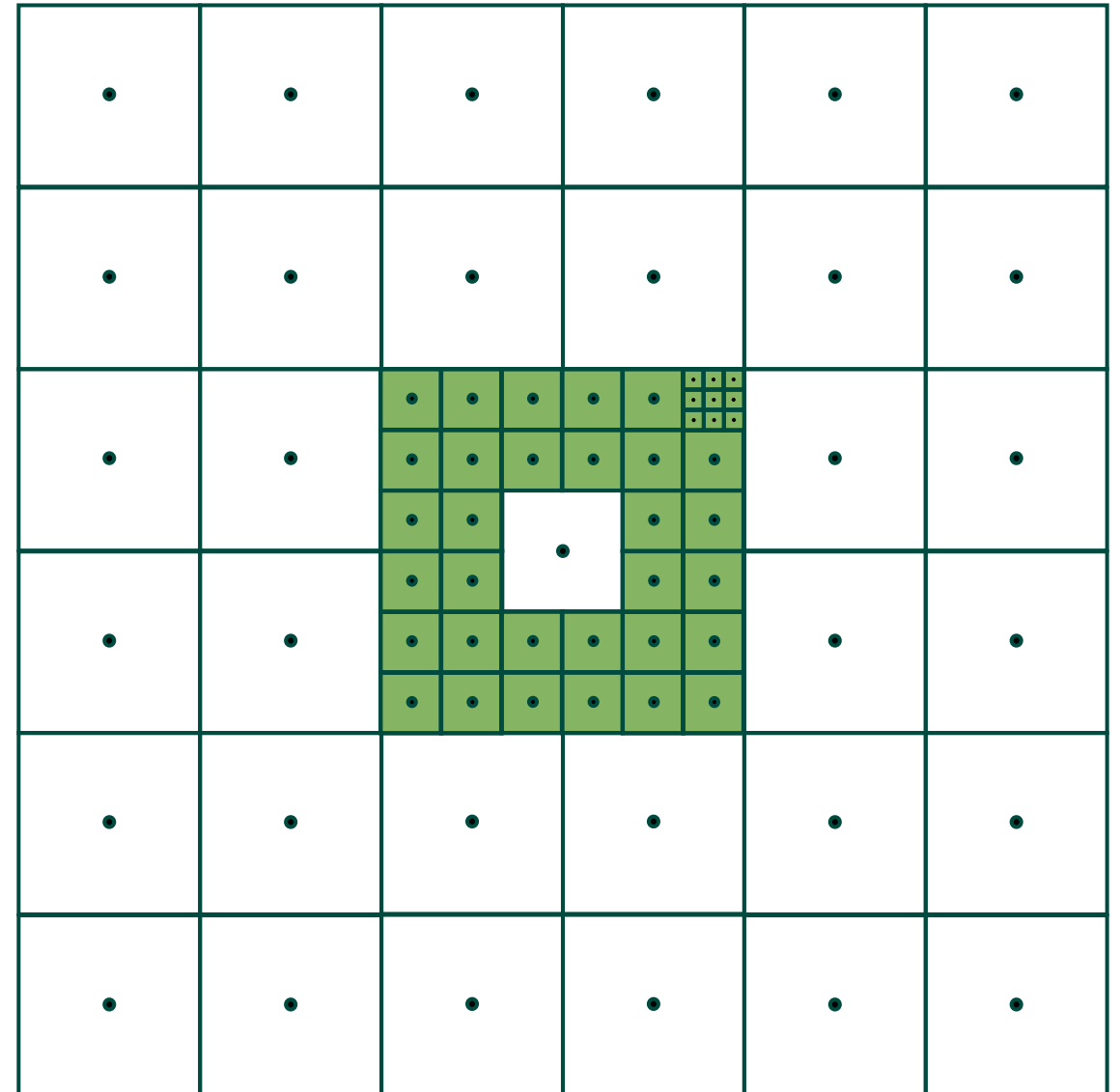
- Consider  $V(x) = ||x - x^*||_\infty$
- Build a grid of hypercubes surrounding  $x^*$
- Test the center point and find  $\kappa$  s.t. the verified radius is  $r \geq \ell/2$
- If one hypercube is **not verified**, split in  $3^d$  parts
- Repeat testing of new points



# GPU-based Algorithm

- **Basic Algorithm:**

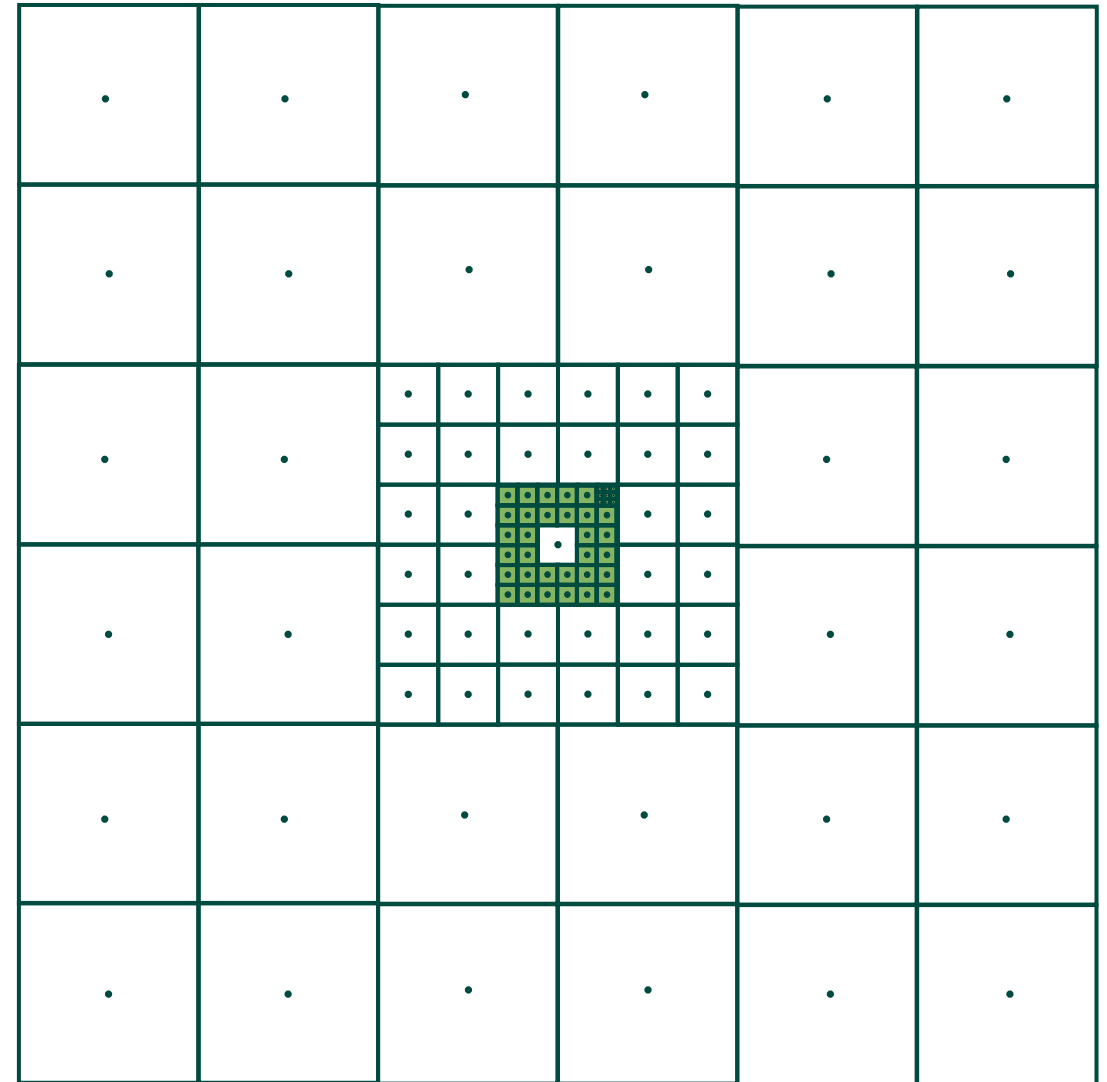
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- Exponentially expand to the following layer
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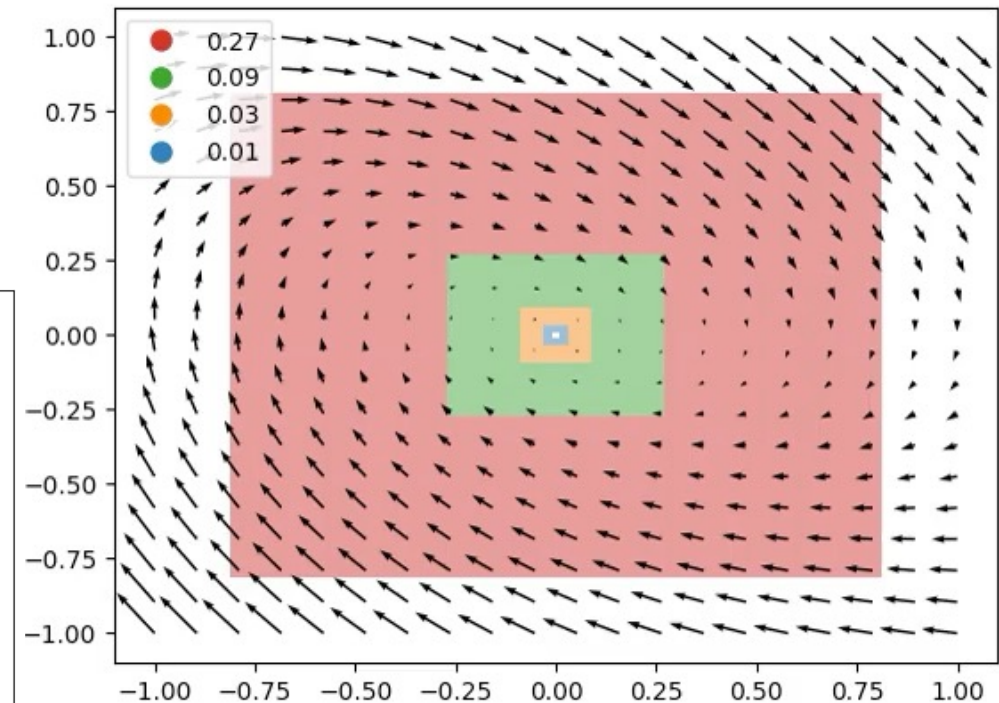
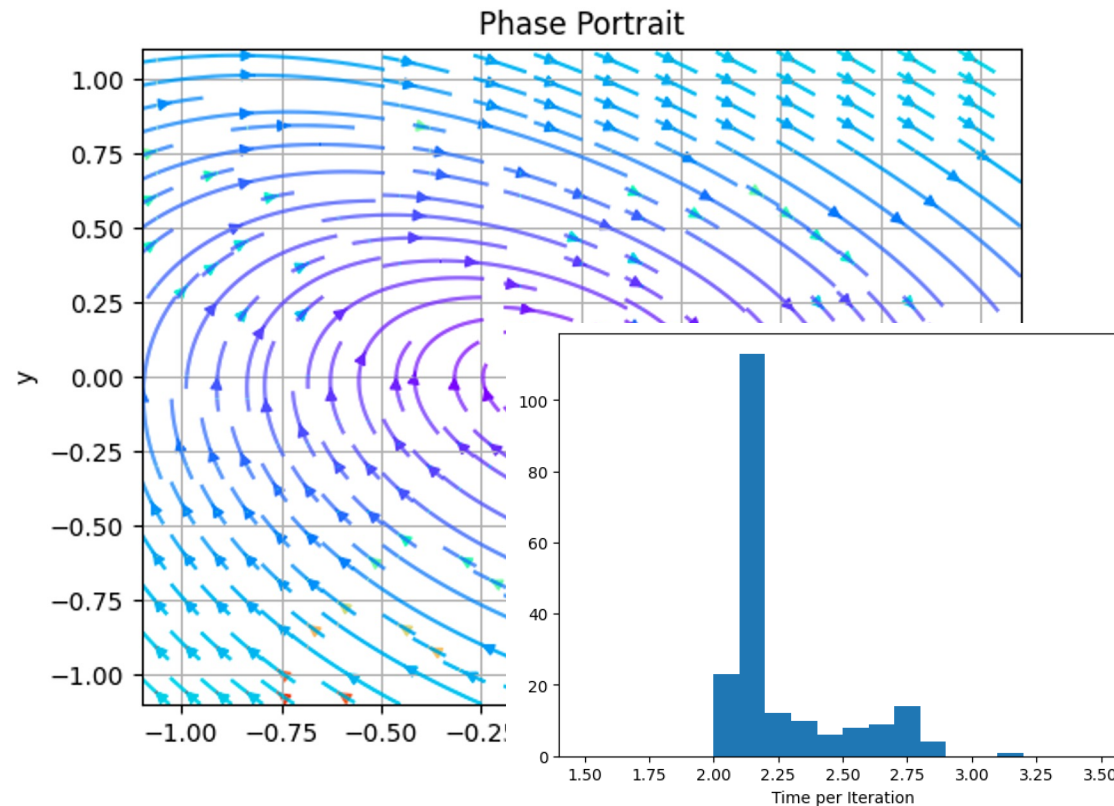
# Numerical Illustration

Consider the 2-d non-linear system:  
with  $B_{ij} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$

$$\dot{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} x + B \begin{bmatrix} x_1^2 \\ x_1 x_2 \\ x_2^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Parameter	Value
$L$	1.8
$\tau$	1.5
$\ell$	0.01

$$\sigma = 0.2$$

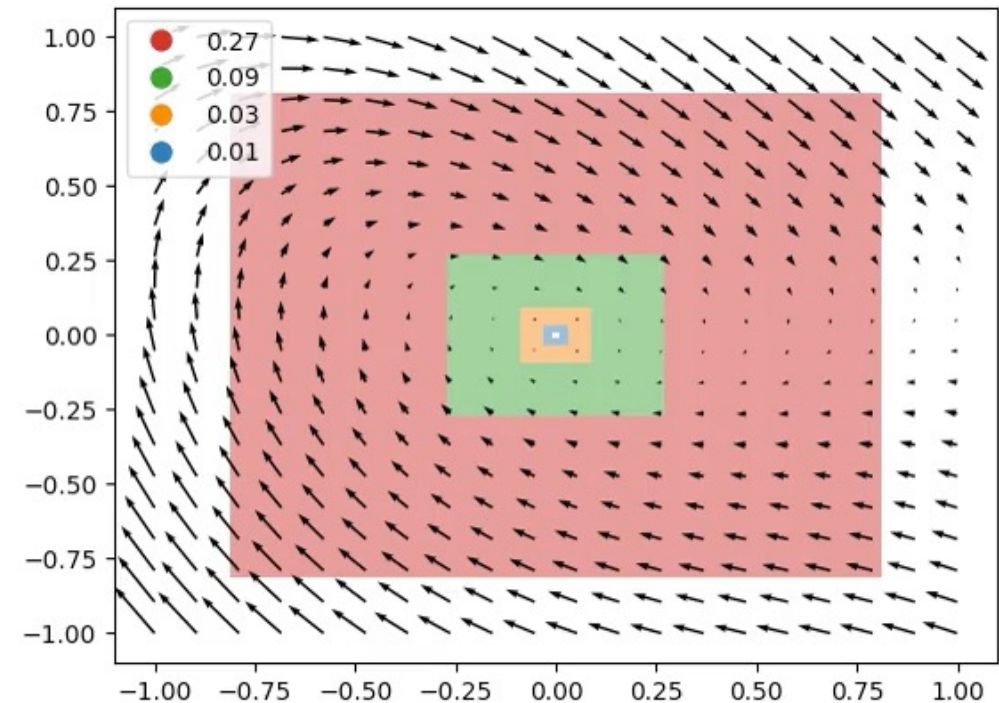
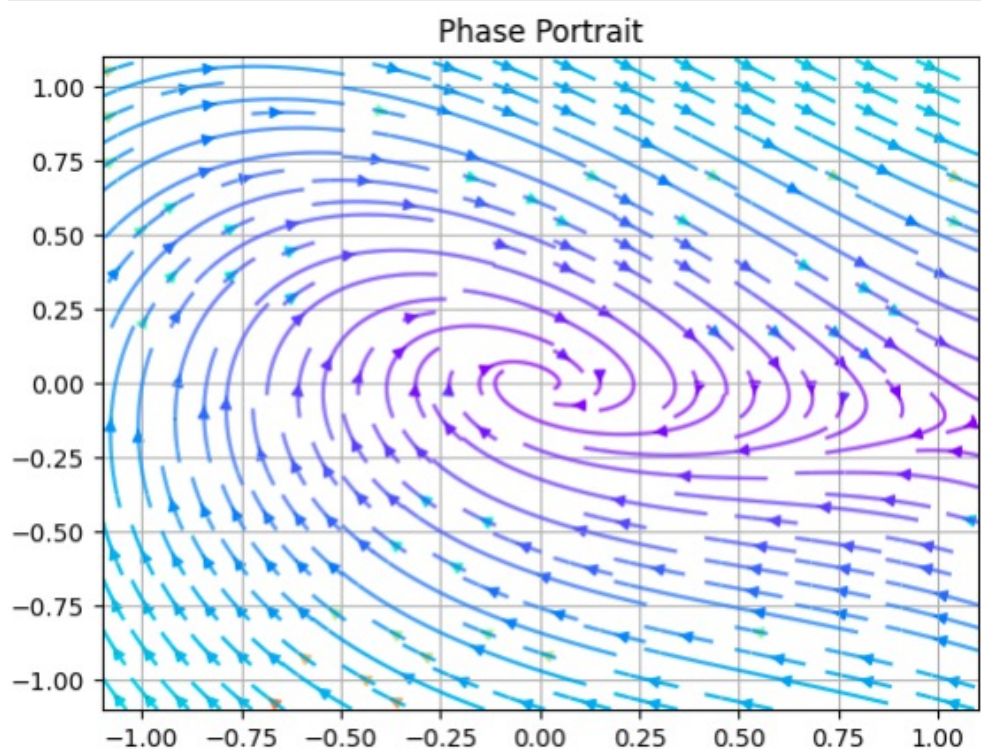


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$$\sigma = 0.5$$



# Conclusions and Future work

- **Takeaways**

- Proposed a **relaxed notion of invariance** known as **recurrence**.
- Provide **necessary and sufficient conditions** for a recurrent set to be an **inner approximation** of the ROA.
- Generalized Lyapunov Theory **for recurrently decreasing functions** using recurrent sets
- Our algorithms are **parallelizable via GPUs and progressive/sequential**.

- **Ongoing work**

- **Recurrent sets:** Sample complexity bounds, smart choice of multi-points, control recurrent sets, GPU implementation
- **Lyapunov functions:** Generalize other Lyapunov notions, Control Lyapunov Functions, Barrier Functions, Control Barrier Functions, etc.

# Thanks!

## Related Publications:

[arXiv 22] Shen, Bichuch, M, *Model-free Learning of Regions of Attraction via Recurrent Sets*, **CDC 2022**, journal preprint **arXiv:2204.10372**.

[CDC 23] Siegelmann, Shen, Paganini, M, *A recurrence-based direct method for stability analysis and GPU-based verification of non-monotonic Lyapunov functions*, **submitted CDC 2023**



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