

# NBA Lecture 5

## Numerical continuation of connecting orbits in ODEs

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## Contents

1. Point-to-point connections.
2. Continuation of homoclinic orbits of ODEs.
3. Continuation of invariant subspaces.
4. Detection of higher-order singularities.
5. Cycle-to-cycle connections in 3D ODEs.

## 1. Point-to-point connections

- Consider a **family of ODEs**

$$\dot{x} = f(x, \alpha), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n, \alpha \in \mathbb{R},$$

having equilibria  $x^-$  and  $x^+$ ,  $f(x^\pm, \alpha) = 0$ .

**Def. 1** An orbit  $\Gamma = \{x = x(t) : t \in \mathbb{R}\}$ , where  $x(t)$  is a solution to the ODE system at some  $\alpha$ , is called **heteroclinic** between  $x^-$  and  $x^+$  if

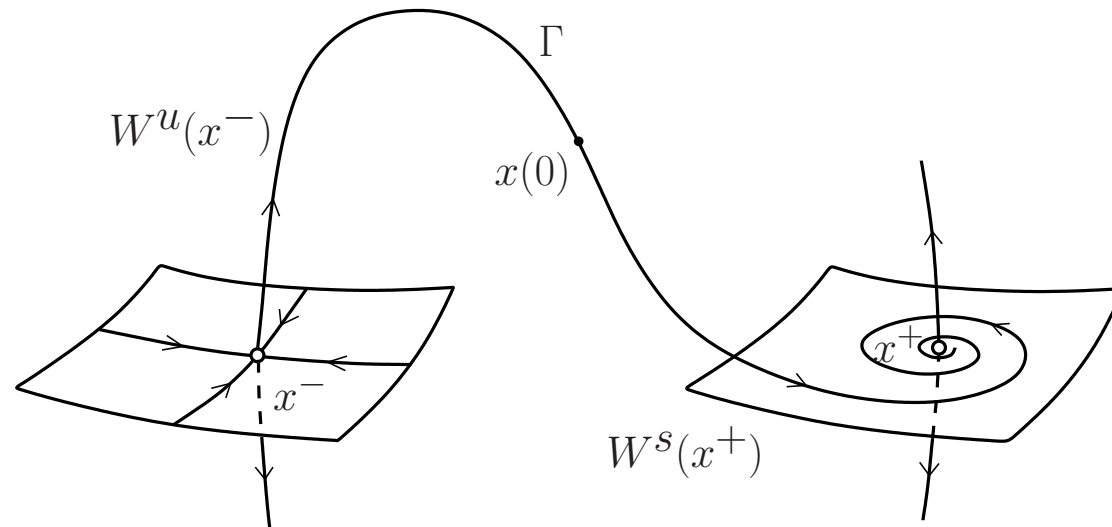
$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \pm\infty} x(t) = x^\pm.$$

If  $x^\pm = x^0$ , it is called **homoclinic** to  $x^0$ .

- Introduce **unstable** and **stable invariant sets**

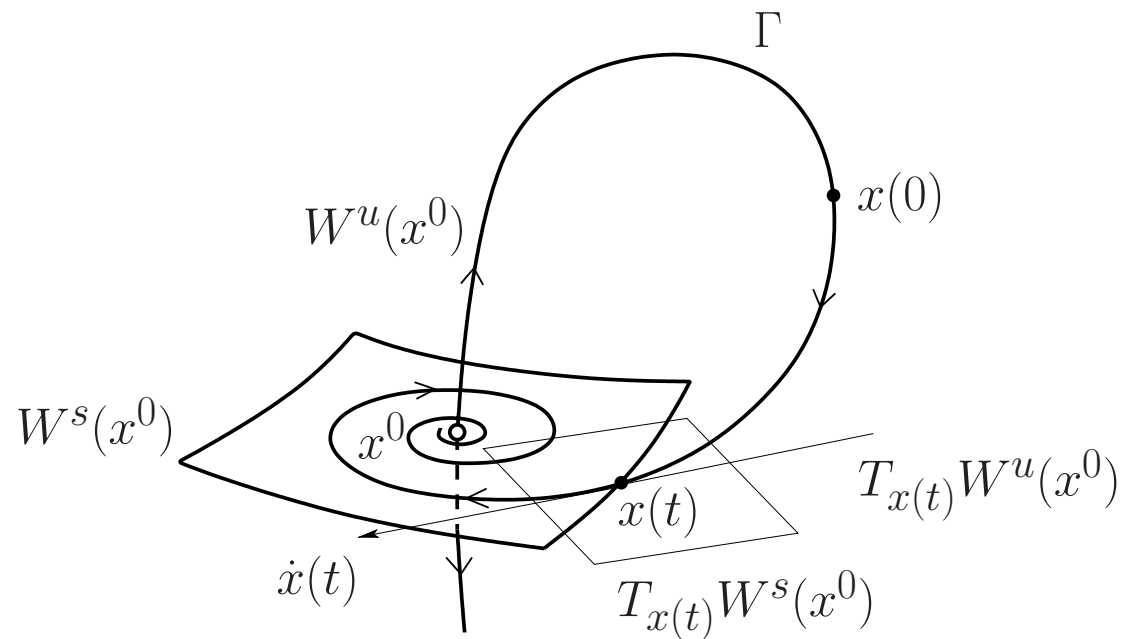
$$W^u(x^-) = \{x(0) \in \mathbb{R}^n : \lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} x(t) = x^-\},$$

$$W^s(x^+) = \{x(0) \in \mathbb{R}^n : \lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} x(t) = x^+\}.$$



- Then  $\Gamma \subset W^u(x^-) \cap W^s(x^+)$ .

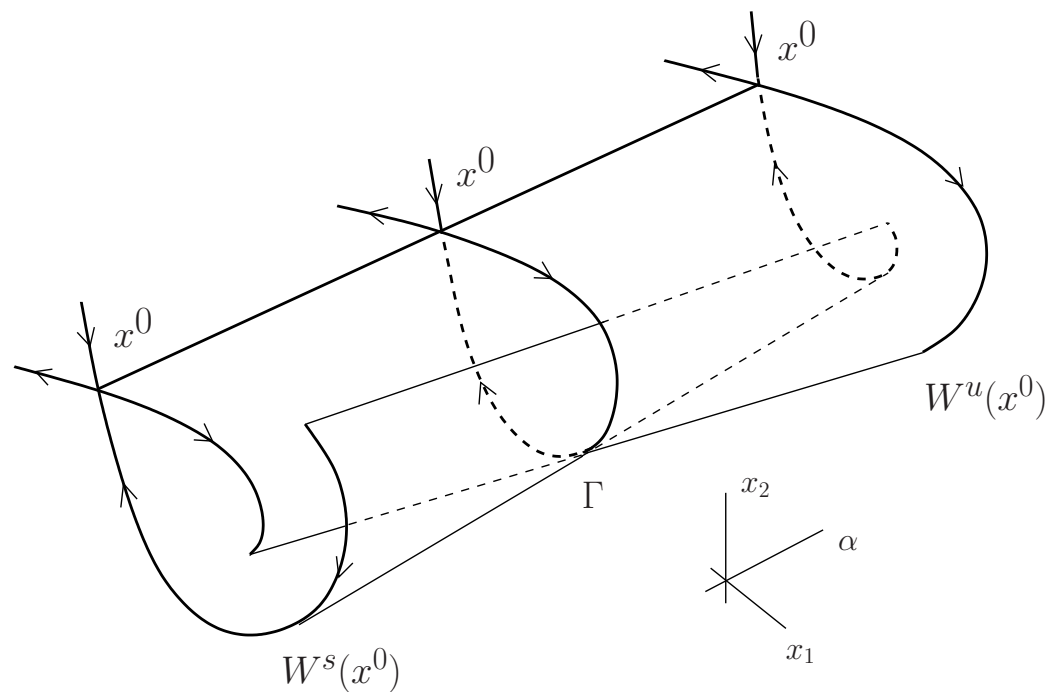
- The intersection of  $W^u(x^0)$  and  $W^s(x^0)$  cannot be transversal along a homoclinic orbit  $\Gamma$ , since  $\dot{x}(t) \in T_{x(t)}W^u(x^0) \cap T_{x(t)}W^s(x^0)$ .



- Homoclinic orbits exist in generic ODE families only at isolated parameter values.

**Def. 2** A homoclinic orbit  $\Gamma$  is called **regular** if

- $f_x(x^0)$  has no eigenvalues with  $\Re(\lambda) = 0$ ;
- $\dim(T_{x(t)}W^u(x^0) \cap T_{x(t)}W^s(x^0)) = 1$ ;
- The intersection of the **traces** of  $W^u(x^0)$  and  $W^s(x^0)$  along  $\Gamma$  is transversal in the  $(x, \alpha)$ -space.



## 2. Continuation of homoclinic orbits of ODEs

- **Homoclinic problem**

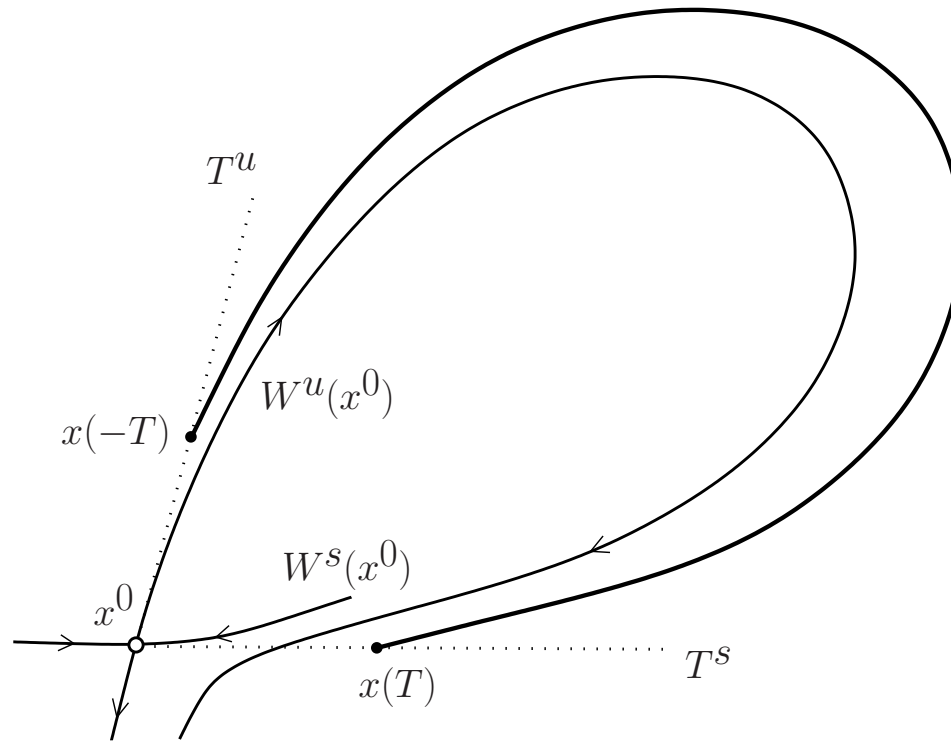
$$\begin{cases} f(x^0, \alpha) = 0, \\ \dot{x}(t) - f(x(t), \alpha) = 0, \\ \lim_{t \rightarrow \pm\infty} x(t) - x^0 = 0, \quad t \in \mathbb{R}, \\ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \langle \dot{y}(t), x(t) - y(t) \rangle dt = 0, \end{cases}$$

where  $y$  is a reference homoclinic solution.

- **Truncate with the projection boundary conditions:**

$$\begin{cases} f(x^0, \alpha) = 0, \\ \dot{x}(t) - f(x(t), \alpha) = 0, \quad t \in [-T, T] \\ L_s^\top(x^0, \alpha)(x(-T) - x^0) = 0, \\ L_u^\top(x^0, \alpha)(x(+T) - x^0) = 0, \\ \int_{-T}^T \langle \dot{y}(t), x(t) - y(t) \rangle dt = 0, \end{cases}$$

where the columns of  $L_s$  and  $L_u$  span the orthogonal complements to  $T^u = T_{x^0}W^u(x^0)$  and  $T^s = T_{x^0}W^s(x^0)$ , resp.



- Assume the eigenvalues of  $A = f_x(x^0, \alpha)$  are arranged as follows:

$$\Re(\mu_{n_s}) \leq \dots \leq \Re(\mu_1) < 0 < \Re(\lambda_1) \leq \dots \leq \Re(\lambda_{n_u})$$

If  $V^* = \{v_1^*, \dots, v_{n_s}^*\}$  and  $W^* = \{w_1^*, \dots, w_{n_u}^*\}$  span the stable and unstable eigenspaces of  $A^\top$ , then  $L_s = [V^*]$  and  $L_u = [W^*]$ .



- Let  $(\mu, \lambda)$  satisfy  $\Re(\mu_1) < \mu < 0 < \lambda < \Re(\lambda_1)$  and
$$\omega = \min(|\mu|, \lambda).$$

**Th. 1 (Beyn)** *There is a locally unique solution to the truncated problem for a regular homoclinic orbit with the  $(x(\cdot), \alpha)$ -error that is  $O(e^{-2\omega T})$ .*

## Remarks:

1. If  $W^u$  is **one-dimensional**, one can use the explicit boundary conditions

$$\begin{aligned}x(-T) - (x^0 + \varepsilon w_1) &= 0, \\ \langle w_1^*, x(T) - x^0 \rangle &= 0,\end{aligned}$$

where  $Aw_1 = \lambda_1 w_1$  and  $A^\top w_1^* = \lambda_1 w_1^*$ , without the integral phase condition.

2. Implemented in MATCONT with possibilities to start

- (i) from a large period cycle;

- (ii) by homotopy.

- (iii) from codim 2 BT-bifurcations of equilibria.

### 3. Continuation of invariant subspaces

**Th. 2 (Smooth Schur Block Factorization)** *Any parameter-dependent matrix  $A(s) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  with nontrivial stable and unstable eigenspaces can be written as*

$$A(s) = Q(s) \begin{bmatrix} R_{11}(s) & R_{12}(s) \\ 0 & R_{22}(s) \end{bmatrix} Q^T(s),$$

where  $Q(s) = [Q_1(s) \quad Q_2(s)]$  such that

- $Q(s)$  is orthogonal, i.e.  $Q^T(s)Q(s) = I_n$ ;
- the eigenvalues of  $R_{11}(s) \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$  are the unstable eigenvalues of  $A(s)$ , while the eigenvalues of  $R_{22}(s) \in \mathbb{R}^{(n-m) \times (n-m)}$  are the remaining  $(n - m)$  eigenvalues of  $A(s)$ ;
- the columns of  $Q_1(s) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$  span the eigenspace  $\mathcal{E}(s)$  of  $A(s)$  corresponding to its  $m$  unstable eigenvalues;
- the columns of  $Q_2(s) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times (n-m)}$  span the orthogonal complement  $\mathcal{E}^\perp(s)$ .
- $Q_i(s)$  and  $R_{ij}(s)$  have the same smoothness as  $A(s)$ .

Then holds the **invariant subspace relation**:

$$Q_2^T(s)A(s)Q_1(s) = 0.$$

## CIS-algorithm [Dieci & Friedman]

- Define

$$\begin{bmatrix} T_{11}(s) & T_{12}(s) \\ T_{21}(s) & T_{22}(s) \end{bmatrix} = Q^T(0)A(s)Q(0)$$

for small  $|s|$ , where  $T_{11}(s) \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ .

- Compute  $Y \in \mathbb{R}^{(n-m) \times m}$  satisfying the **Riccati matrix equation**

$$YT_{11}(s) - T_{22}(s)Y + YT_{12}(s)Y = T_{21}(s).$$

- Then  $Q(s) = Q(0)U(s)$  where

$$U(s) = [U_1(s) \quad U_2(s)]$$

with

$$U_1(s) = \begin{pmatrix} I_m \\ Y \end{pmatrix} (I_{n-m} + Y^T Y)^{-\frac{1}{2}},$$

$$U_2(s) = \begin{pmatrix} -Y^T \\ I_{n-m} \end{pmatrix} (I_{n-m} + Y Y^T)^{-\frac{1}{2}},$$

so that columns of  $Q_1(s) = Q(0)U_1(s)$  and  $Q_2(s) = Q(0)U_2(s)$  form orthogonal bases in  $\mathcal{E}(s)$  and  $\mathcal{E}^\perp(s)$ .

- In MATCONT, two Riccati equations are included in the defining BVCP to compute  $L_s = [V^*]$  and  $L_u = [W^*]$ .

## 4. Detection of higher-order homoclinic singularities

- fold or Hopf bifurcations of  $x^0$ ;
- special eigenvalue configurations (e.g.  $\sigma = \Re(\mu_1) + \Re(\lambda_1) = 0$  or  $\mu_1 - \mu_2 = 0$ );
- change of global topology of  $W^s$  and  $W^u$  (orbit and inclination flips);
- higher nontransversality.

## 5. Cycle-to-cycle connections in 3D ODEs

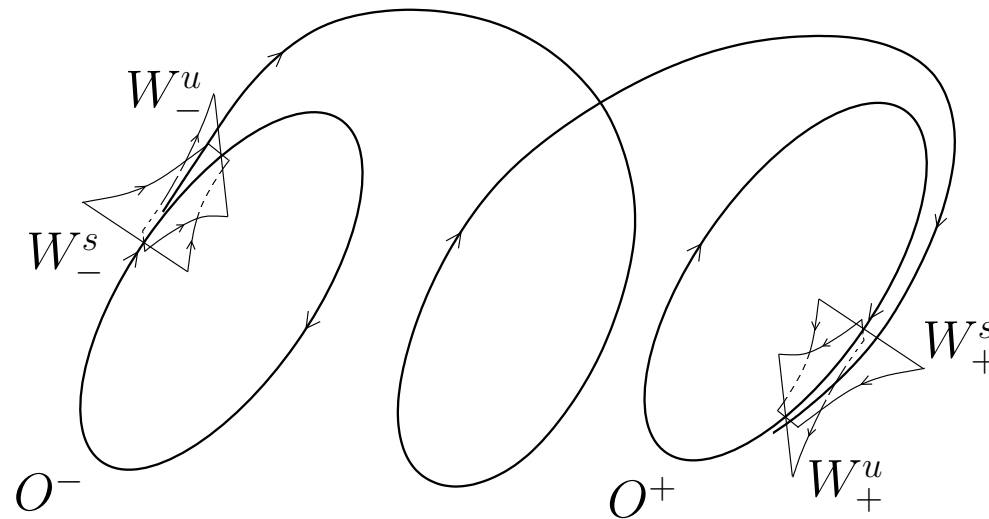
$$\dot{x} = f(x, \alpha), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n, \alpha \in \mathbb{R}^p.$$

- Let  $O^-$  be a limit cycle with only one (trivial) multiplier satisfying  $|\mu| = 1$  and having  $\dim W_-^u = m_u^-$ .
- Let  $O^+$  be a limit cycle with only one (trivial) multiplier satisfying  $|\mu| = 1$  and having  $\dim W_+^s = m_s^+$ .
- Let  $x^\pm(t)$  be periodic solutions (with minimal periods  $T^\pm$ ) corresponding to  $O^\pm$  and  $M^\pm$  the corresponding **monodromy matrices**, i.e.  $M(T^\pm)$  where

$$\dot{M} = f_x(x^\pm(t), \alpha)M, \quad M(0) = I_n.$$

## Isolated families of connecting orbits

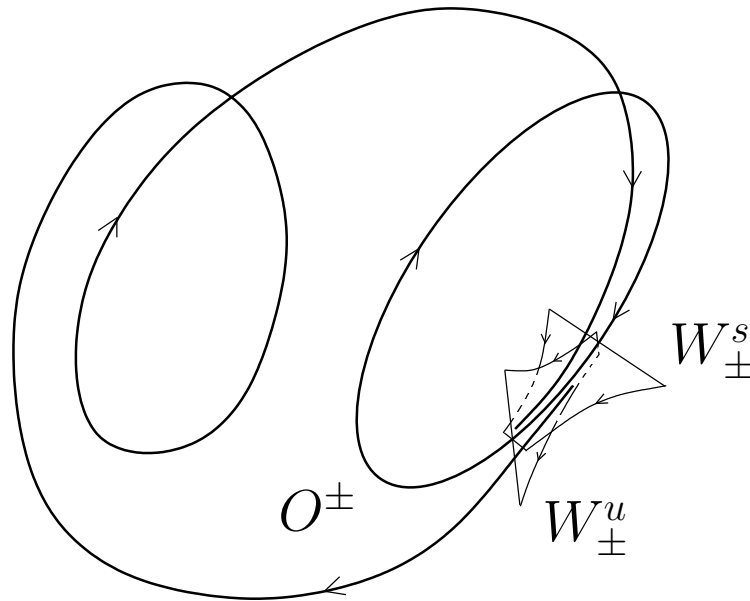
- **Beyn's equality:**  $p = n - m_s^+ - m_u^- + 2$ .
- Heteroclinic cycle-to-cycle connections in  $\mathbb{R}^3$



heteroclinic orbit



- Homoclinic cycle-to-cycle connections in  $\mathbb{R}^3$



- homoclinic orbit to a hyperbolic cycle  $\Rightarrow$  infinite number of cycles (**Poincaré homoclinic structure**).

## Truncated BVCP

- The connecting solution  $u(t)$  is **truncated** to an interval  $[\tau_-, \tau_+]$ .
- The points  $u(\tau_+)$  and  $u(\tau_-)$  are required to belong to the linear subspaces that are tangent to the stable and unstable invariant manifolds of  $O^+$  and  $O^-$ , respectively:

$$\begin{cases} L_+^T(u(\tau_+) - x^+(0)) = 0, \\ L_-^T(u(\tau_-) - x^-(0)) = 0. \end{cases}$$

- Generically, the truncated BVP composed of the ODE, the above projection BC's, and a phase condition on  $u$ , has a unique solution family  $(\hat{u}, \hat{\alpha})$ , provided that the ODE has a connecting solution family satisfying the phase condition and Beyn's equality.

**Th. 3 (Pampel–Dieci–Rebaza)** *If  $u$  is a generic connecting solution to the ODE at parameter value  $\alpha$ , then the following estimate holds:*

$$\|(u|_{[\tau_-, \tau_+]}, \alpha) - (\hat{u}, \hat{\alpha})\| \leq Ce^{-2 \min(\mu_- |\tau_-|, \mu_+ |\tau_+|)},$$

where

- $\|\cdot\|$  is an appropriate norm in the space  $C^1([\tau_-, \tau_+], \mathbb{R}^n) \times \mathbb{R}^p$ ,
- $u|_{[\tau_-, \tau_+]}$  is the restriction of  $u$  to the truncation interval,
- $\mu_{\pm}$  are determined by the eigenvalues of the monodromy matrices  $M^{\pm}$ .

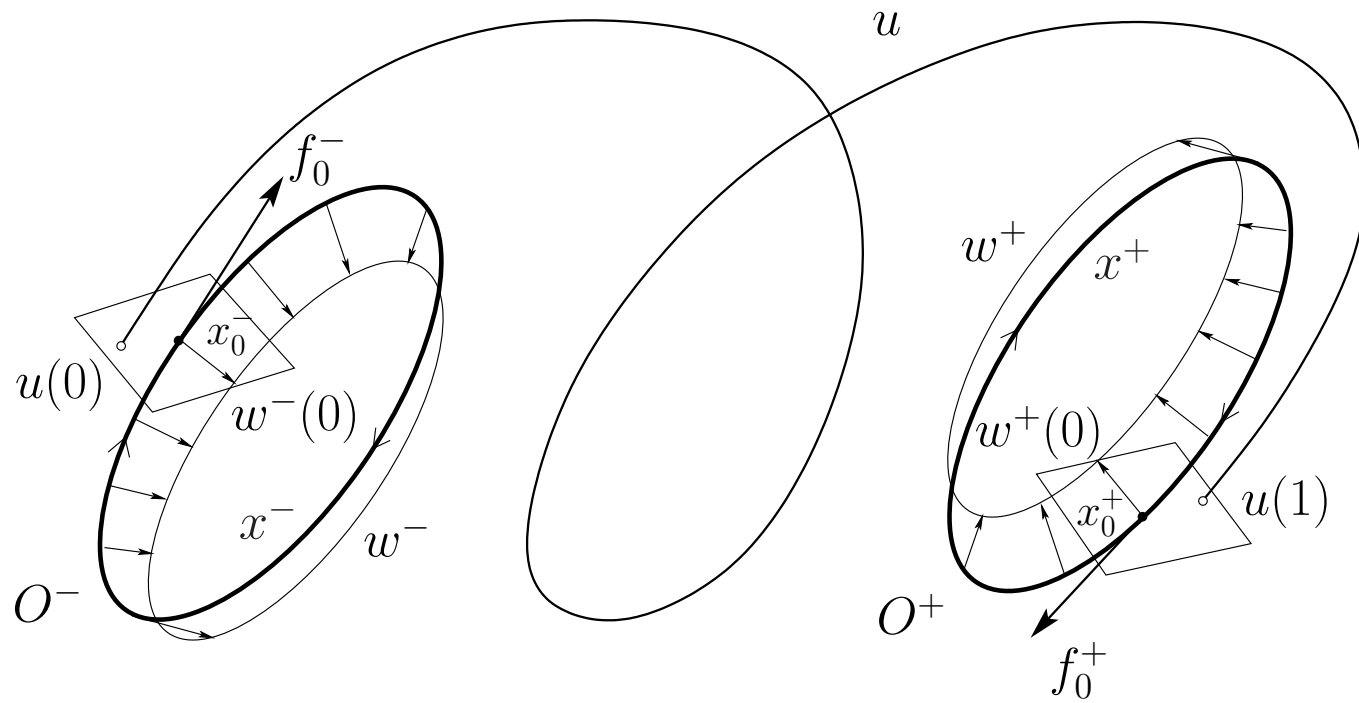
**Adjoint variational equation:**  $\dot{w} = -f_x^{\top}(x^{\pm}(t), \alpha)w, \quad w \in \mathbb{R}^n.$

Let  $N(t)$  be the solution to

$$\dot{N} = -f_x^{\top}(x^{\pm}(t), \alpha)N, \quad N(0) = I_n.$$

Then  $N(T^{\pm}) = [M^{-1}(T^{\pm})]^{\top}.$

## The defining BVCP in 3D: Geometry



## Cycle-related equations:

- Periodic solutions:

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}^\pm - f(x^\pm, \alpha) = 0, \\ x^\pm(0) - x^\pm(T^\pm) = 0. \end{cases}$$

- Adjoint eigenfunctions:  $\mu^+ = \frac{1}{\mu_u^+}$ ,  $\mu^- = \frac{1}{\mu_s^-}$ .

$$\begin{cases} \dot{w}^\pm + f_u^\top(x^\pm, \alpha)w^\pm = 0, \\ w^\pm(T^\pm) - \mu^\pm w^\pm(0) = 0, \\ \langle w^\pm(0), w^\pm(0) \rangle - 1 = 0, \end{cases}$$

or equivalently

$$\begin{cases} \dot{w}^\pm + f_u^\top(x^\pm, \alpha)w^\pm + \lambda^\pm w^\pm = 0, \\ w^\pm(T^\pm) - s^\pm w^\pm(0) = 0, \\ \langle w^\pm(0), w^\pm(0) \rangle - 1 = 0, \end{cases}$$

where  $\lambda^\pm = \ln |\mu^\pm|$ ,  $s^\pm = \text{sign}(\mu^\pm)$ .

- Projection BC:  $\langle w^\pm(0), u(\tau_\pm) - x^\pm(0) \rangle = 0$ .

## Connection-related equations:

- The equation for the connection:

$$\dot{u} - f(u, \alpha) = 0 .$$

- We need the base points  $x^\pm(0)$  to move freely and independently upon each other along the corresponding cycles  $O^\pm$ .
- We require the end-point of the connection to belong to a plane orthogonal to the vector  $f(x^+(0), \alpha)$ , and the starting point of the connection to belong to a plane orthogonal to the vector  $f(x^-(0), \alpha)$ :

$$\langle f(x^\pm(0), \alpha), u(\tau_\pm) - x^\pm(0) \rangle = 0 .$$

## The defining BVCP in 3D

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \dot{x}^\pm - T^\pm f(x^\pm, \alpha) = 0, \\ x^\pm(0) - x^\pm(1) = 0, \\ \dot{w}^\pm + T^\pm f_u^\top(x^\pm, \alpha)w^\pm + \lambda^\pm w^\pm = 0, \\ w^\pm(1) - s^\pm w^\pm(0) = 0, \\ \langle w^\pm(0), w^\pm(0) \rangle - 1 = 0, \\ \dot{u} - T f(u, \alpha) = 0, \\ \langle f(x^+(0), \alpha), u(1) - x^+(0) \rangle = 0, \\ \langle f(x^-(0), \alpha), u(0) - x^-(0) \rangle = 0, \\ \langle w^+(0), u(1) - x^+(0) \rangle = 0, \\ \langle w^-(0), u(0) - x^-(0) \rangle = 0, \\ \|u(0) - x^-(0)\|^2 - \varepsilon^2 = 0. \end{array} \right.$$

There is an efficient **homotopy method** to find a starting solution.