

ELL 333

Multivariable Control

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Stability

- often, unstable (not stable) situations catch attention.

example: falling bicycle,
power grid blackout

- As a performance specification for system design, stability is often desired
 - ↳ come to a consensus on how to decide if system is stable or not
 - ↳ how to make unstable systems stable (or vice versa).

What do we mean by stability?

~~one notion~~ System is at a point

↳ Apply a disturbance

↳ if it returns to that point as time goes on, then system is stable.

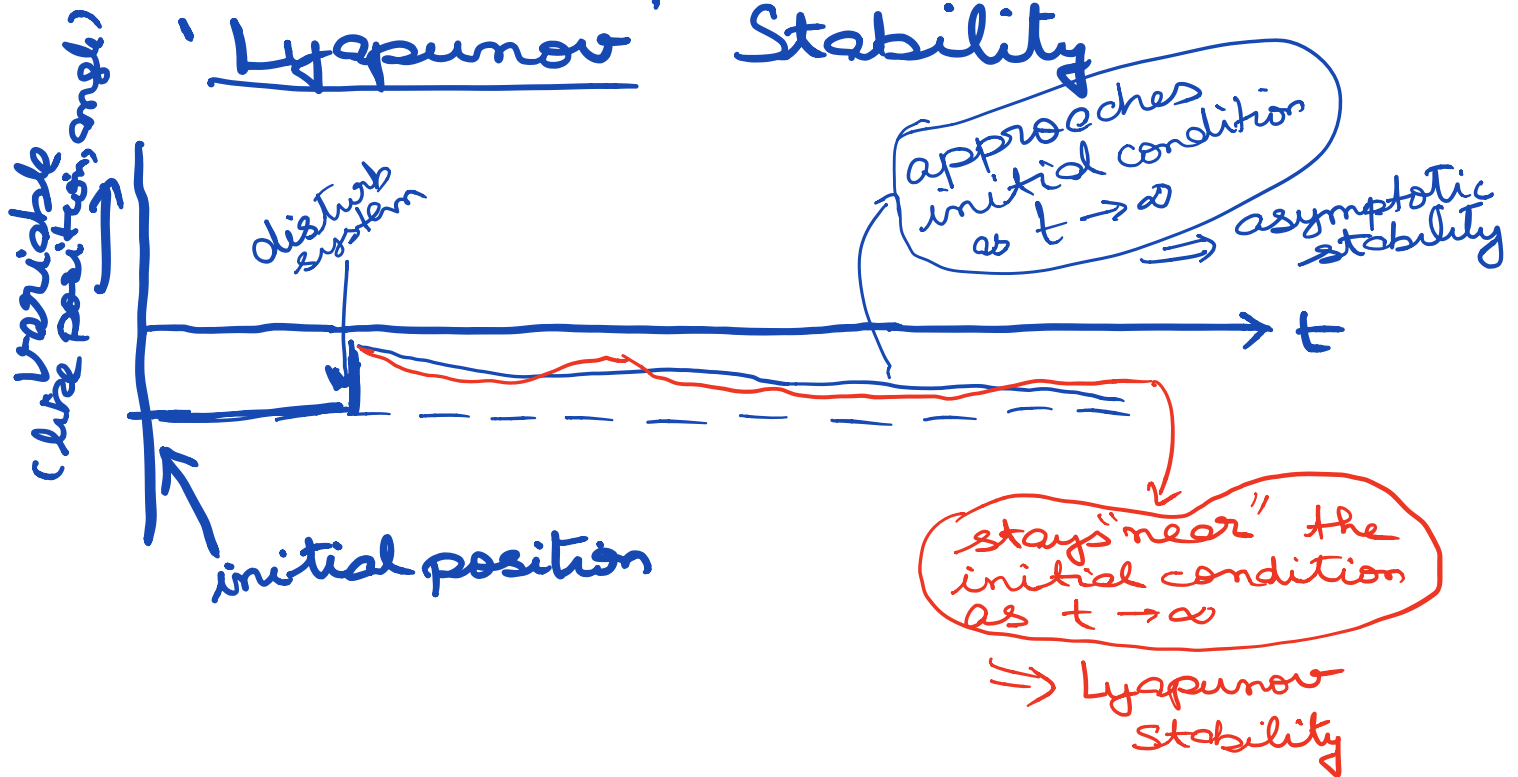
example: pendulum with friction.

~~$\ddot{x} + \tau x + \sin x = 0$~~
 $\ddot{x} + \tau x + \sin x = 0$
↳ friction

(without friction, it continues to oscillate)

We want to talk about

Lyapunov Stability



What is not stable is unstable.

↳ How this works for linear systems?

↳ How to apply to nonlinear systems?

↳ Lyapunov Theorem

Lyapunov function
(generalized energy)

* This also works for linear systems.

↳ Lyapunov-based methods used in many areas of control.