

# Cours pour Master 1 systemes dynamiques II

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# Chapter I

## ☞ Definition

☞ Theorem 1 (Conservation of Energy) and its proof.

☞ Lemma and its proof

☞ Definition 2. A critical point

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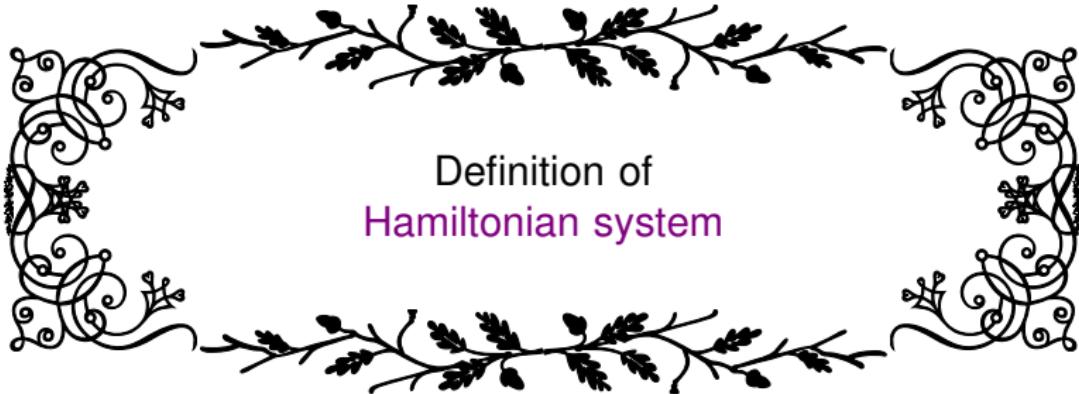
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# Whats a Hamiltonian system?



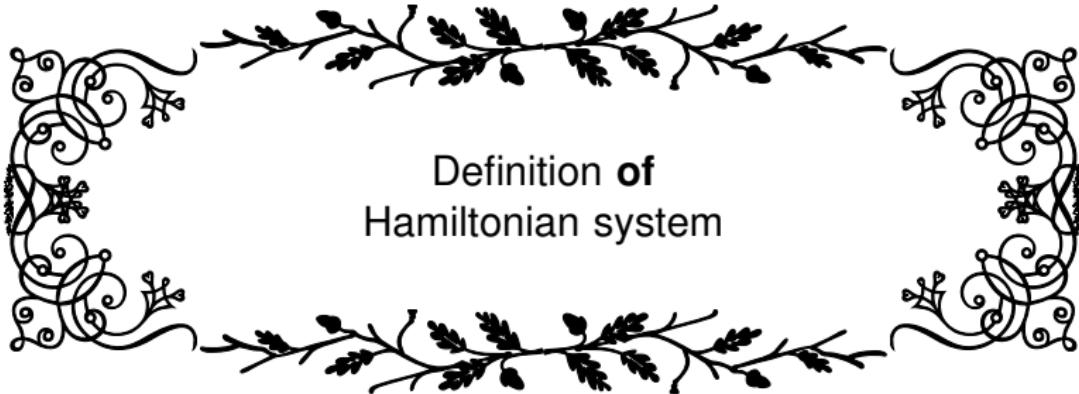
Definition of  
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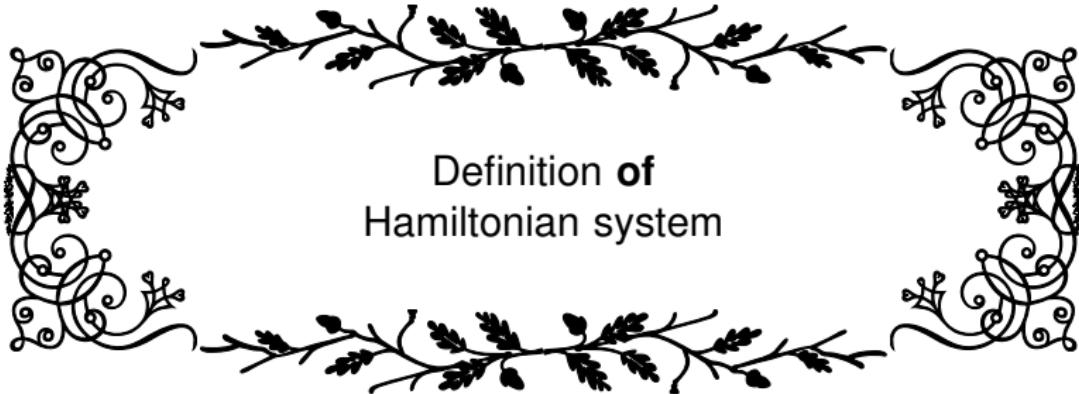
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In this section we study two interesting types of systems which arise in physical problems and from which we draw a wealth of examples of the general theory.

### Definition

Let  $E$  be an open subset of  $\mathbb{R}^{2n}$  and let  $H \in C^2(E)$  where  $H = H(x, y)$  with  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ .

A system of the form

$$\dot{x} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial y}, \quad \dot{y} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial x}. \quad (1)$$

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Where

$$\frac{\partial H}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \left( \frac{\partial H}{\partial x_1}, \frac{\partial H}{\partial x_2}, \dots, \frac{\partial H}{\partial x_n} \right)^T$$

and

$$\frac{\partial H}{\partial \mathbf{y}} = \left( \frac{\partial H}{\partial y_1}, \frac{\partial H}{\partial y_2}, \dots, \frac{\partial H}{\partial y_n} \right),$$

is called a **Hamiltonian system** with  $n$  degrees of freedom on  $E$ .

### Example

The Hamiltonian function

$$H(x, y) = x^2 - y^2 + z^2 - w^2 + 3.$$

is the energy function for the spherical pendulum

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= 2z, \\ \dot{y} &= -2w, \\ \dot{z} &= -2x, \\ \dot{w} &= -2y.\end{aligned}\tag{2}$$



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## Remark

*All Hamiltonian systems are conservative in the sense that the Hamiltonian function or the total energy  $H(x, y)$  remains constant along trajectories of the system.*

## Theorem (Conservation of Energy)

*The total energy  $H(x, y)$  of the Hamiltonian system (1) remains constant along trajectories of (1).*

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*The total energy  $H(x, y)$  of the Hamiltonian system (1) remains constant along trajectories of (1).*

## Proof.

The total derivative of the Hamiltonian function  $H(x, y)$  along a trajectory  $x(t), y(t)$  of (1) is

$$\frac{\partial H}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial H}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial t} = 0.$$

Thus,  $H(x, y)$  is constant along any solution curve of (1) and the trajectories of (1) lie on the surfaces  $H(x, y) = \text{constant}$ .  $\square$

We next establish some very specific results about the nature of the critical points of Hamiltonian systems with one degree of freedom. Note that the equilibrium points or critical points of the system (1) correspond to the critical points of the Hamiltonian function  $H(x, y)$  where  $\frac{\partial H}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial x} = 0$ . We may, without loss of generality, assume that the critical point in question has been translated to the origin.

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# Critical points of Hamiltonian systems

## Lemma

*the origin is a focus of the Hamiltonian system*

$$\dot{x} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial y}, \quad \dot{y} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial x}. \quad (3)$$

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## Proof.

Suppose that the origin is a stable **focus** for (3). Then, there is an  $\varepsilon > 0$  such that for  $0 < r_0 < \varepsilon$  and  $\theta_0 \in \mathbb{R}$ , the polar coordinates of the solution of (3) with  $r(0) = r_0$  and  $\theta(0) = \theta_0$  satisfy  $r(t, r_0, \theta_0) \rightarrow 0$  and  $|\theta(t, r_0, \theta_0)| \rightarrow \infty$  as  $t \rightarrow +\infty$ ; i.e., for  $(x_0, y_0) \in N_\varepsilon(0) \setminus \{0\}$ , the solution  $(x(t, x_0, y_0), y(t, x_0, y_0)) \rightarrow 0$  as  $t \rightarrow +\infty$ . Thus, by Theorem 1 and the continuity of  $H(x, y)$  and the solution, it follows that

$$H(x_0, y_0) = \lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} H(x(t, x_0, y_0), y(t, x_0, y_0)) = H(0, 0)$$

for all  $(x_0, y_0) \in N_\varepsilon(0)$ . Thus, the origin is not a strict local maximum or minimum of the function  $H(x, y)$ ; i.e., it is not true that  $H(x, y) > H(0, 0)$  or  $H(x, y) < H(0, 0)$  for all points  $(x, y)$  in a deleted neighborhood of the origin. A similar argument applies when the origin is an unstable focus of (3).

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# Critical point

## Definition

A critical point of the system  $\dot{x} = f(x)$  at which  $Df(x_0)$  has no zero eigenvalues is called a nondegenerate critical point of the system, otherwise, it is called a degenerate critical point of the system.

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## Theorem

*Any nondegenerate critical point of an analytic Hamiltonian system (3) is either a (topological) saddle or a center; furthermore,  $(x_0, y_0)$  is a (topological) saddle for (3) if it is a saddle of the Hamiltonian function  $H(x, y)$  and a strict local maximum or minimum of the function  $H(x, y)$  is a center for (3).*

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We assume that the critical point is at the origin. Thus,  $H_x(0, 0) = H_y(0, 0) = 0$  and the linearization of (1') at the origin is

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We see that  $\text{tr}A = 0$  and that  $\det A = H_{xx}(0)H_{yy}(0) - H_{xy}^2(0)$ . Thus, the critical point at the origin is a saddle of the function  $H(x, y)$  if  $\det A < 0$  if it is a saddle for the linear system (2) if it is a (topological) saddle for the Hamiltonian system (3). Also, if  $\text{tr}A = 0$  and  $\det A > 0$ , the origin is a center for the linear system (2). And then the origin is either a center or a focus for (3). Thus, if the nondegenerate critical point  $(0, 0)$  is a strict local maximum or minimum of the function  $H(x, y)$ , then  $\det A > 0$  and, according to the above lemma, the origin is not a focus for (3); i.e., the origin is a center for the Hamiltonian system (3).

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# Newtonian systems

One particular type of Hamiltonian system with one degree of freedom is the **Newtonian** system with one degree of freedom,

$$x'' = f(x)$$

where  $f \in C^1(a, b)$ . This differential equation can be written as a system in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ :

$$\dot{x} = y, \quad \dot{y} = f(x). \tag{4}$$

The total energy for this system  $H(x, y) = T(y) + U(x)$  where  $T(y) = y^2/2$  is the kinetic energy and

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- ☞ *The critical points of the Newtonian system all lie on the x-axis*
- ☞ *The point  $(x_0, 0)$  is a **critical point** of the Newtonian system (4) iff it is a **critical point** of the function  $U(x)$ , i.e., a zero of the function  $f(x)$ .*
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- ☞ finally, the phase portrait of (3) is symmetric with respect to the  $x$ -axis.

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# Newtonian systems

## Example

Let us construct the phase portrait for the undamped pendulum

$$x'' + \sin x = 0.$$

This differential equation can be written as a Newtonian system

$$\dot{x} = y, \quad \dot{y} = -\sin x. \quad (5)$$

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The graph of the function  $U(x)$  and the phase portrait for the undamped pendulum, which follows from Theorem 3, are shown in Figure 1 below. Note that the origin in the phase portrait for the undamped pendulum shown in Figure 1 corresponds to the stable equilibrium position of the pendulum hanging straight down. The critical points at  $(\pm\pi, 0)$  correspond to the unstable equilibrium position where the pendulum is straight up. Trajectories near the origin are nearly circles and are approximated by the solution curves of the linear pendulum  $x'' + x = 0$

# Newtonian systems

The closed trajectories encircling the origin describe the usual periodic motions associated with a pendulum where the pendulum swings back and forth. The separatrices connecting the saddles at  $(\pm\pi, 0)$  correspond to motions with total energy  $H = 2$  in which case the pendulum approaches the unstable vertical position as  $t \rightarrow +\infty$ .

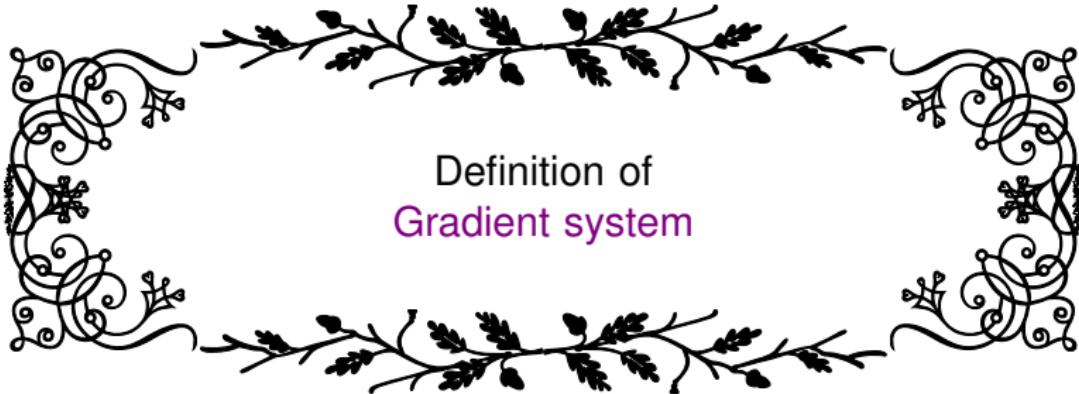
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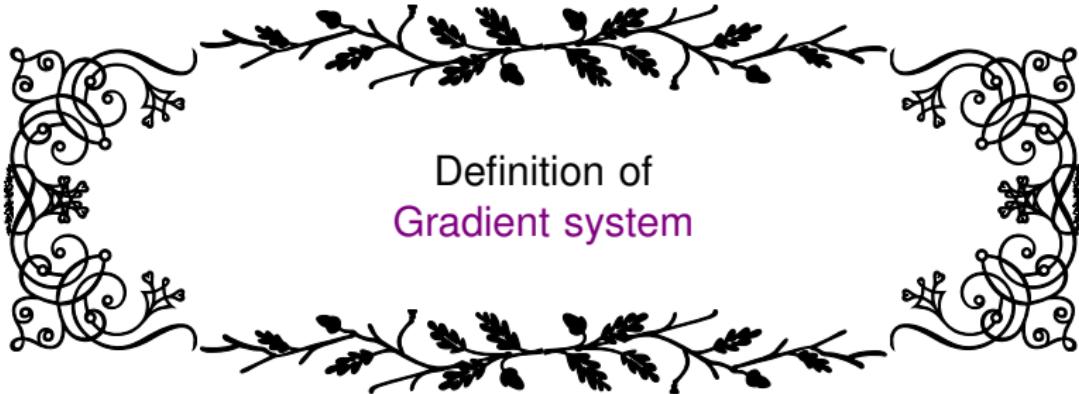
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# Whats a Gradient system?



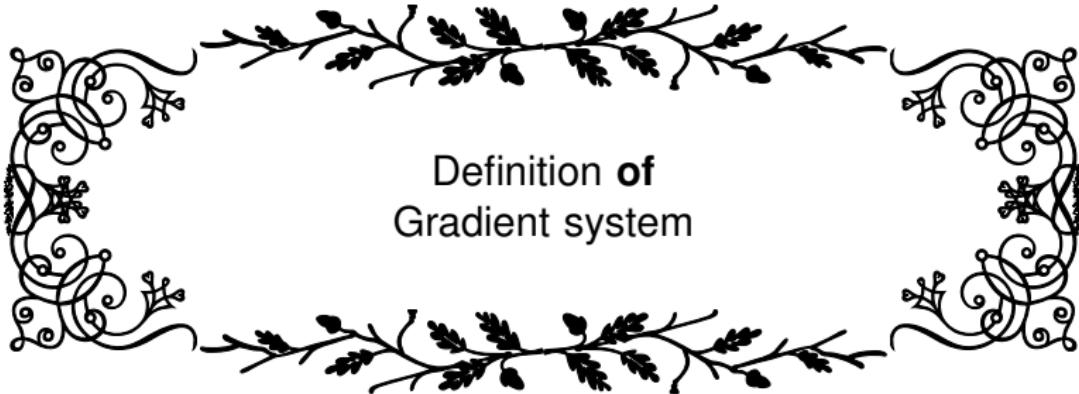
Definition of  
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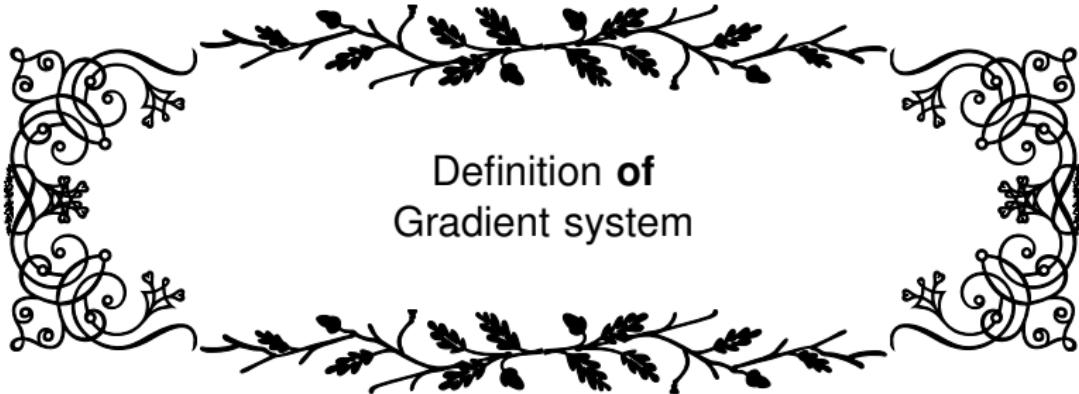
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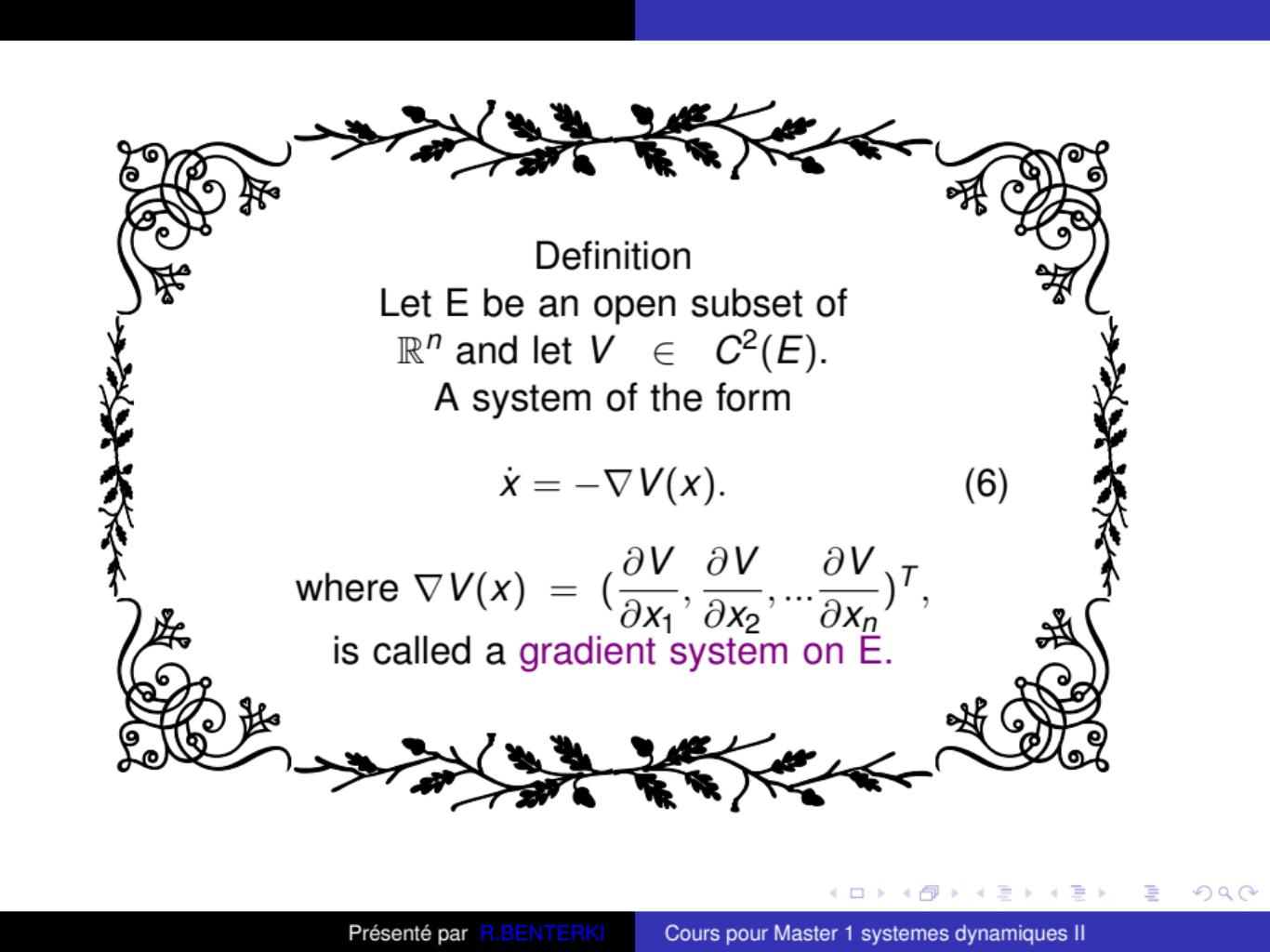


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Definition of  
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### Definition

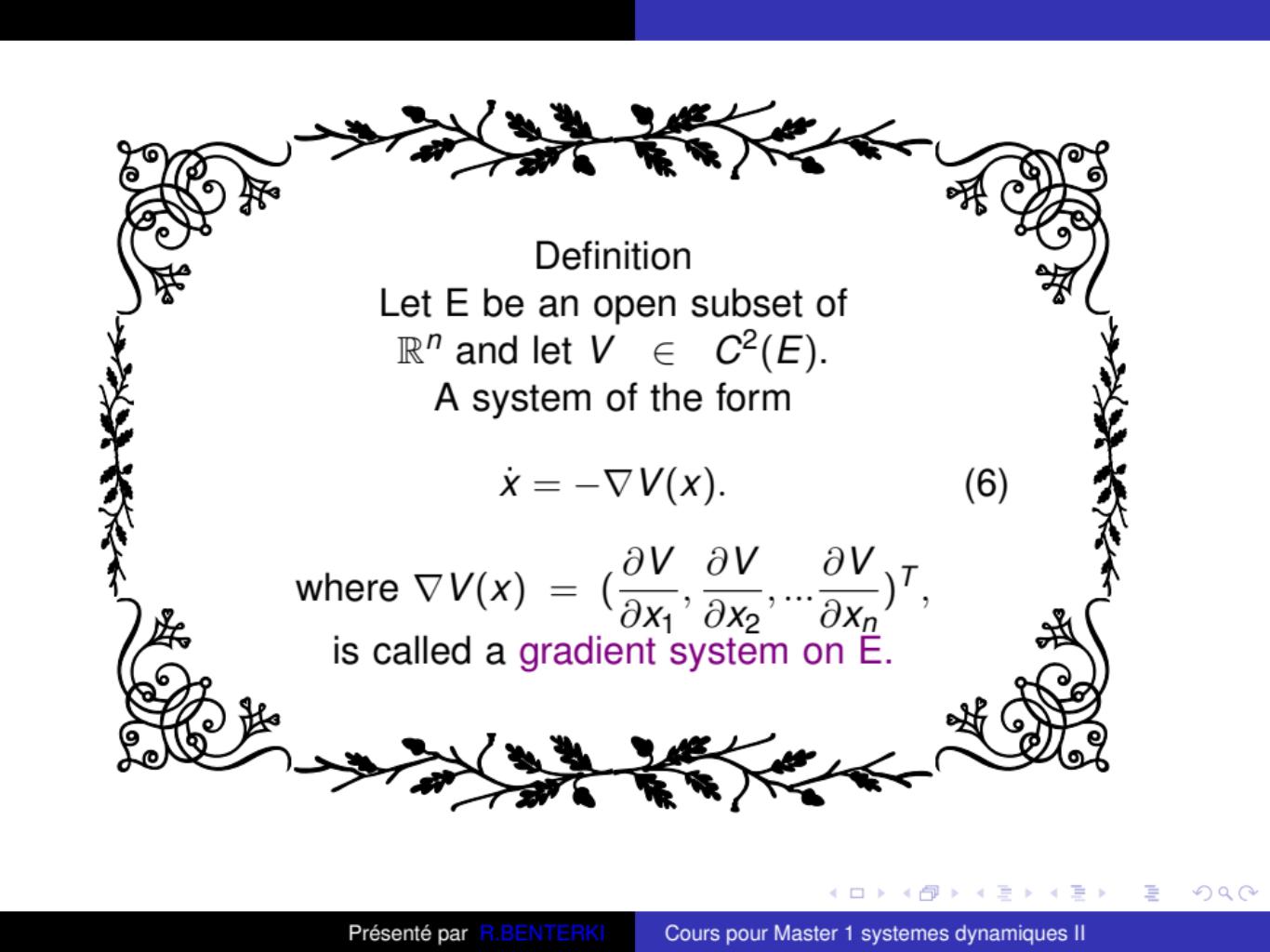
Let  $E$  be an open subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and let  $V \in C^2(E)$ .

A system of the form

$$\dot{x} = -\nabla V(x). \quad (6)$$

where  $\nabla V(x) = \left( \frac{\partial V}{\partial x_1}, \frac{\partial V}{\partial x_2}, \dots, \frac{\partial V}{\partial x_n} \right)^T$ ,

is called a **gradient system** on  $E$ .



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is called a **gradient system** on  $E$ .

Note that the equilibrium points or critical points of the gradient system (4) correspond to the critical points of the function  $V(x)$  where  $\text{grad}V(x) = 0$ .

Points where  $\text{grad } V(x) \neq 0$  are called regular points of the function  $V(x)$ .

At regular points of  $V(x)$ , the gradient vector  $\text{grad}V(x)$  is perpendicular to the level surface  $V(x) = \text{constant}$  through the point. And it is easy to show that at a critical point  $x_0$  of  $V(x)$ , which is a strict local minimum of  $V(x)$ , the function  $V(x) - V(x_0)$  is a strict Liapunov function for the system (4) in some neighborhood of  $x_0$ ; We therefore have the following theorem:

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## Theorem

*Any nondegenerate critical point of an analytic gradient system (4) on  $\mathbb{R}^2$  is either a **saddle** or a **node**; furthermore, if  $(x_0, y_0)$  is a **saddle** of the function  $V(x, y)$ , it is a **saddle** of (4) and if  $(x_0, y_0)$  is a strict **local maximum or minimum** of the function  $V(x, y)$ , it is respectively an **unstable** or a **stable node** for (4).*

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## Example (\*)

et  $V(x, y) = x^2(x - 1)^2 + y^2$ . The gradient system (4) then has the form

$$\dot{x} = -4x(x - 1)(x - 1/2), \quad \dot{y} = -2y. \quad (7)$$

There are critical points at  $(0, 0)$ ,  $(1/2, 0)$  and  $(1, 0)$ . It follows from the Theorem that  $(0, 0)$  and  $(1, 0)$  are stable nodes and that  $(1/2, 0)$  is a saddle for this system;. The level curves  $V(x, y) = \text{constant}$  and the trajectories of this system are shown in Figure 2.

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There is an interesting relationship between gradient and Hamiltonian systems, is considered in this section.

## Definition

Consider the planar system

$$\dot{x} = P(x, y), \quad \dot{y} = Q(x, y). \quad (8)$$

The **system orthogonal** to (??) is defined as the syste

$$\dot{x} = -Q(x, y), \quad \dot{y} = P(x, y). \quad (9)$$

It is Clear that, (??) and (??) have the same **critical points** and at regular points, trajectories of (??) are orthogonal to the trajectories of (??). Furthermore, **centers** of (??) correspond to **nodes** of (??), **saddles** of (??) correspond to **saddles** of (??), and **foci** of (??) correspond to **foci** of (??).

Also, if (??) is a Hamiltonian system with  $P = H_y$ , and  $Q = -H_x$ , then (??) is a gradient system and conversely.

## Theorem

*The system (??) is a Hamiltonian system if the system (??) orthogonal to (??) is a gradient system.*

*In higher dimensions, we have that if (1) (Hami syst) is a Hamiltonian system with  $n$  degrees of freedom then the system*

$$\dot{x} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial y}, \quad \dot{y} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial x}. \quad (10)$$

*orthogonal to (1) is a gradient system in  $\mathbb{R}^{2n}$  and the trajectories of the gradient system (??) cross the surfaces  $H(x, y) = \text{constant}$  orthogonally.*

*In Example (\*) if we take  $H(x, y) = V(x, y)$ , then Figure 2 illustrates the orthogonality of the trajectories of the Hamiltonian and gradient flows, the Hamiltonian flow swirling clockwise.*

The proof (Exercice)