

## Lec 35 part 1

## Sequences

TODAY: Iterated maps.

discrete time  
dynamical systems

- Iterated maps.
- cobwebbing.
  - stability of fixed points
  - periodic cycles:  
e.g. logistic maps.

§. Iterated maps.

Some sequences are given by a special type of recursive relation in the form

$$x_{n+1} = g(x_n), \quad g(\cdot) \text{ a given function.}$$

- Iterated maps appear:

$$x_{n+1} = g(x_n)$$

$$\Rightarrow x_0, x_1 = g(x_0), x_2 = g(x_1) = g(g(x_0))$$

$$x_3 = g(x_2) = g(g(x_1)) = g(g(g(x_0)))$$

⋮

$$x_n = \underbrace{g(g(g \dots g(x_0) \dots))}_{\text{iterated } n\text{-times}} = g^{[n]}(x_0)$$

notation for n-th iteration

e.g.  $x_{n+1} = \frac{1}{2}x_n \Rightarrow x_n = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n x_0$

- A geometric way to understand iterated maps:

Use the graph of  $y = g(x)$  &  $y = x$

to keep track of

$n$ -th iteration of  $g$  to  $v$ .

the sequence

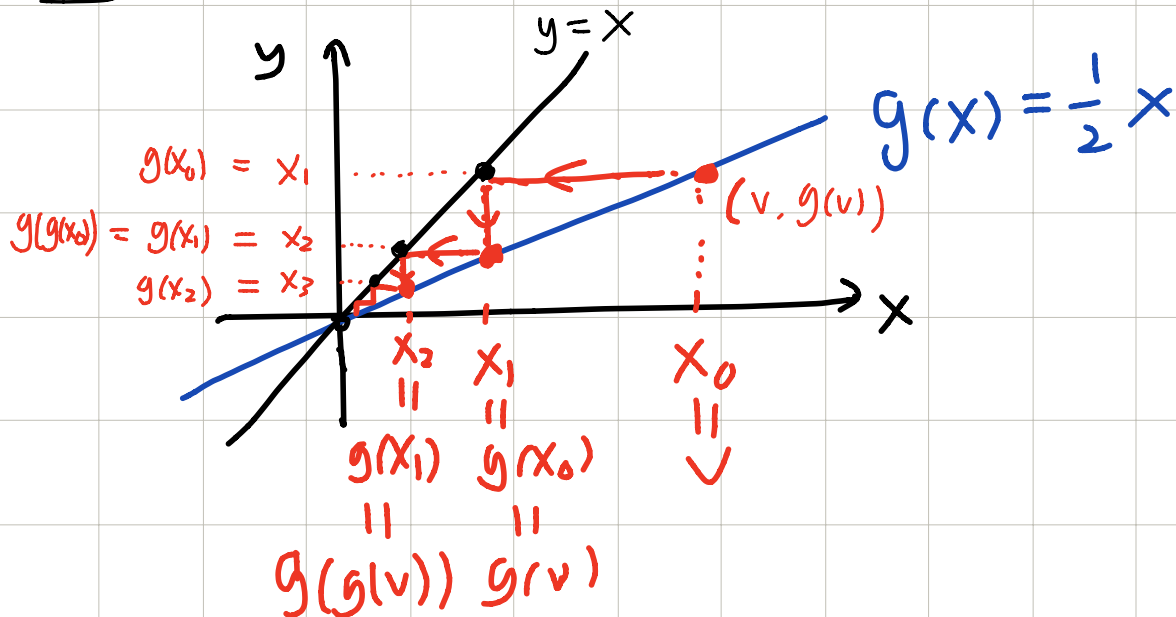
$$x_0 = v, x_1 = g(v), x_2 = g(g(v)), \dots, x_n = g^{[n]}(v), \dots$$

(equivalently,  $x_0 = v$

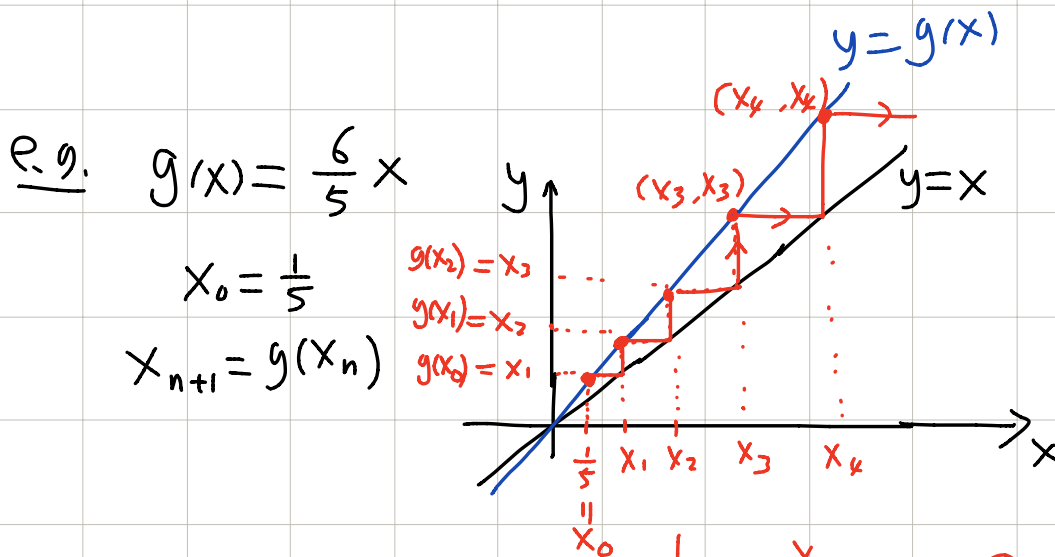
$$x_{n+1} = g(x_n), \text{ for all } n \geq 1.)$$

「 We draw some "Cob webs" 」

e.g.,  $X_n = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n v \Leftrightarrow X_0 = v \text{ \& } X_{n+1} = g(X_n), g(x) = \frac{1}{2}x.$



Here, we see that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} X_n = 0$



We see that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} X_n = \infty.$

# Cobwebbing

(1) start with  $(v, 0)$  .  $x_0 = v$

(2) move vertically to  $(v, g(v))$

↕ on the graph of  $y = g(x)$  .

(3) move horizontally to  $(g(v), g(v))$

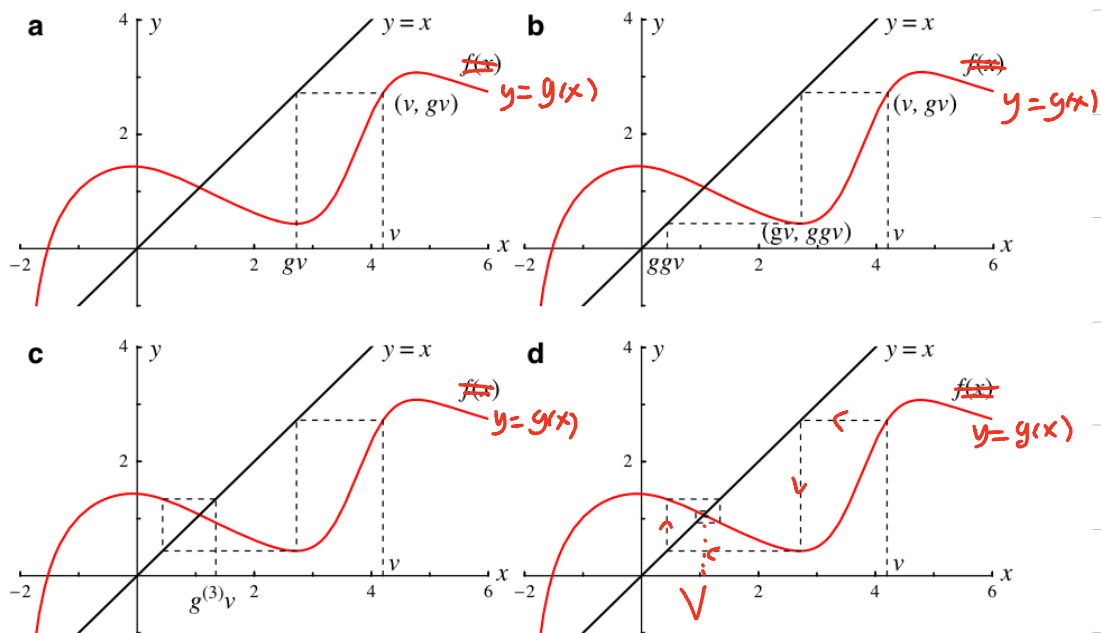
↔ on the line  $y = x$

(4) move vertically to  $(g(v), g(g(v)))$

↕ on the graph  $y = g(x)$  .

(5) repeat (3) & (4).

·x· Use ARROW to show direction



- limits of sequences given by iterated maps

Here, the limit

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} g^{[n]}(v) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \underbrace{g(g(g \dots (g(v)) \dots))}_{n\text{-iteration}}$$

is a point,  $V$ , where the graph  $y = g(x)$  intersects with the line  $y = x$

In other words,

$$\text{If } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} g^{[n]}(v) = V \text{ then } g(V) = V.$$

\* Fixed point of  $g$

= a point  $V$  with  $g(V) = V$

= a point where  $y = g(x)$  &  $y = x$  intersect.

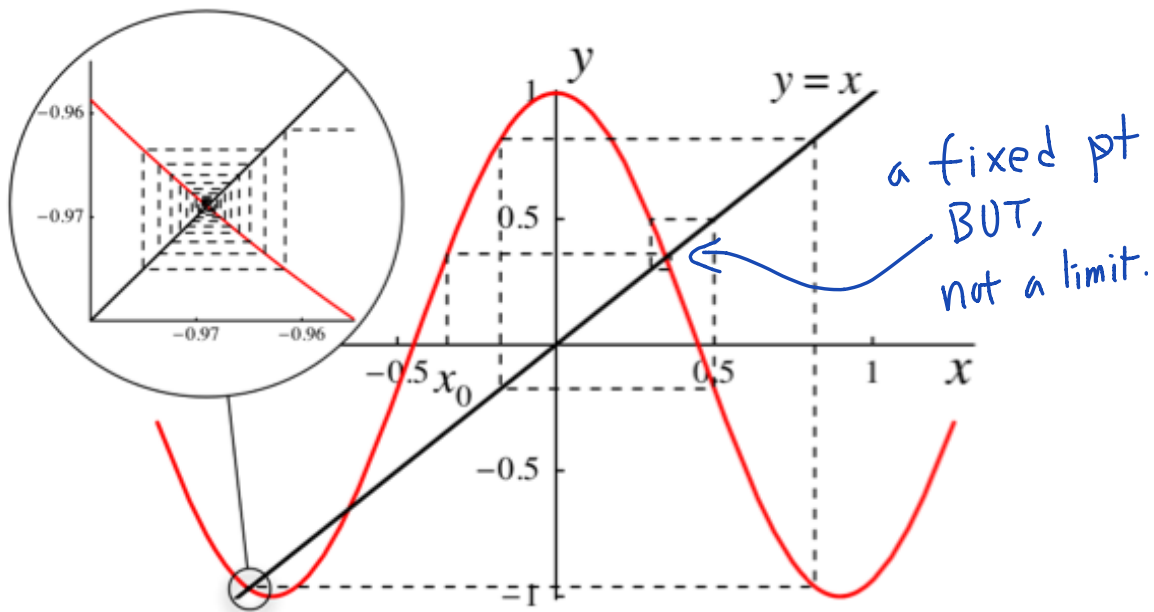
$$\bullet \quad V = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} g^{[n]}(x_0) \implies g(V) = V$$

i.e.  $V$  is a fixed point under the map  $g$ .

BUT,  
 $g(v) = v \not\Rightarrow v = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} g^{[n]}(x_0)$   
 WRONG for some  $x_0$ .

∴ a fixed point may NOT be a limit  
 of a sequence given by the iterated maps

e.g.,



**Figure 10.16.** After some detours, the cobweb converges to the leftmost point of  
 on  $\tilde{z}$  between  $y = \cos(\frac{7}{2}x)$  and the line  $y = x$  for the initial value  $x_0 = -0.343$ .

a fixed point  
 & the limit of a sequence

When draw Cobwebs,  
it is IMPORTANT to identify  
the fixed points, i.e.  
where  $y=g(x)$  &  $y=x$   
intersect,  
because they are Candidates for limits

\* Fixed points are important (for finding limits)  
for iterated maps,  
like critical points are important for  
finding max/min.

Fixed points are not necessarily limits,  
like critical points are not necessarily max/min.

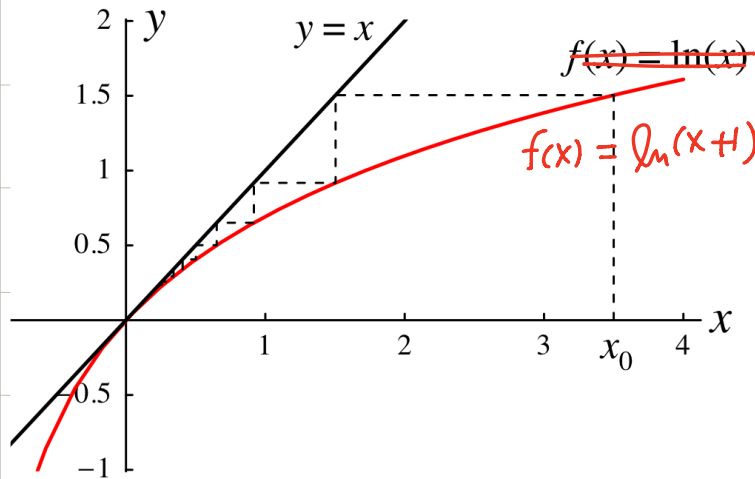
• Cobwebs may be used to find limits.

e.g.

$$x_0 = 3.5$$

$$x_{n+1} = f(x_n)$$

$$f(x) = \ln(x+1)$$



$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = 0.$$

### Application

Find limits of sequences given by  
 some recursion relations of type  

$$x_{n+1} = f(x_n).$$

EX.  $a_{n+1} = \frac{1}{3} a_n^2 + \frac{2}{3}$

Find the  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$

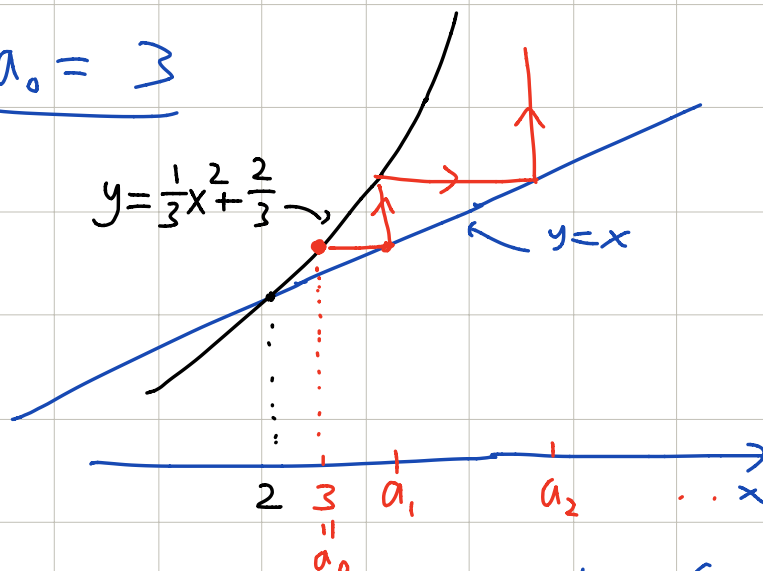
(a) If  $a_0 = 1.5$

(b) If  $a_0 = 3$





(b) If  $a_0 = 3$



If  $a_0 = 3$ , then  $a_k \rightarrow +\infty$ .

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} a_k = \infty \quad \square (b)$$

WARNING Finding limits using cobwebs

works well

ONLY for the case

· drawing the graph of  $y = g(x)$

· find the fixed points

are NOT too complicated/difficult.

Now, we find a condition when a fixed point can be a limit.

## §. Stability of a fixed point.

**DEF**

A fixed point  $\bar{v}$  for  $y = g(x)$

is called stable

if once  $x_k = g^{[k]}(v)$  is close enough to  $\bar{v}$  for some  $k$ ,

then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} g^{[k]}(v) = \bar{v}$ .

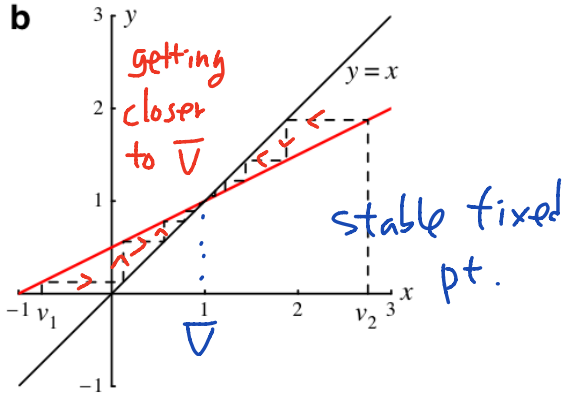
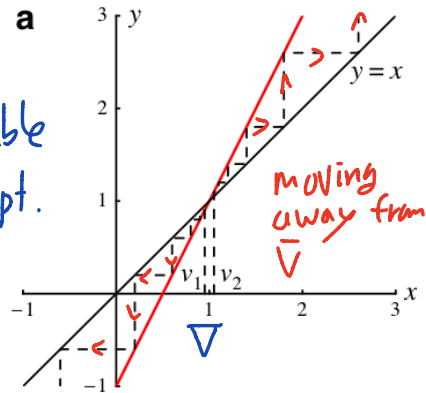
Otherwise, called unstable.

∴ ONLY stable points can be

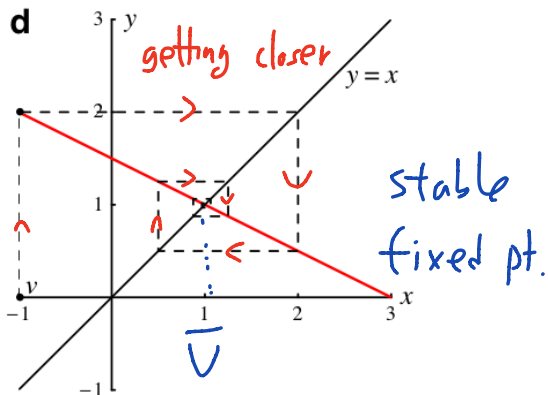
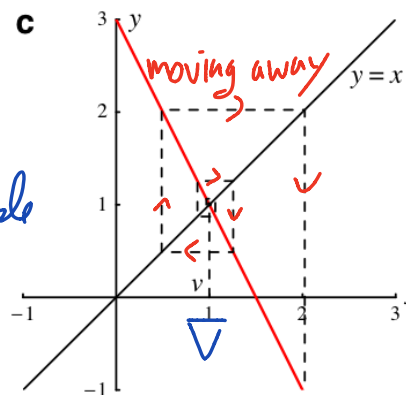
the limit of an iterated map sequence.

unless the sequence is constant after certain  $n$ ,  
(i.e.  $a_n = a_{n+1} = \dots = \dots \forall n \geq N$ )

e.g.  
unstable  
fixed pt.



unstable  
fixed pt



∴ From these examples, we see  
the stability is related to the angle of intersection  
(between  $y=g(x)$  &  $y=x$ )

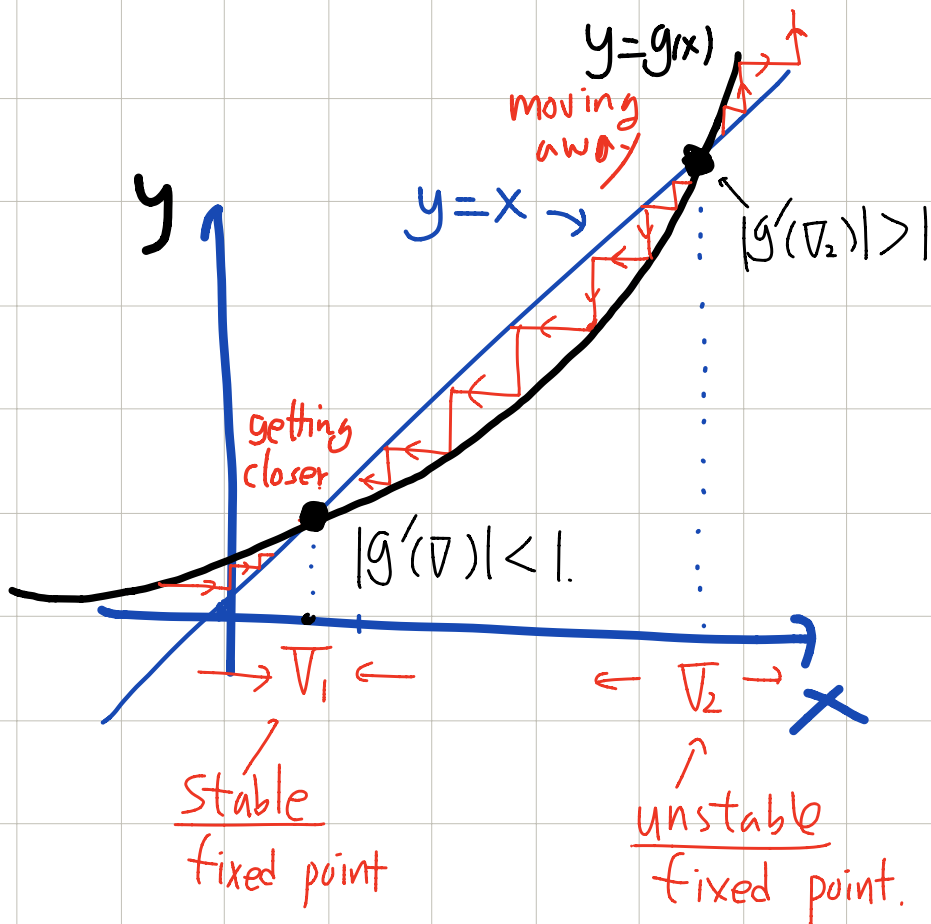
• A test to check stability

$\bar{v}$  a fixed point,  $g(\bar{v}) = \bar{v}$

• stable if  $-1 < g'(\bar{v}) < 1$ .  
Strict inequalities

• unstable if  $g'(\bar{v}) > 1$  or  $g'(\bar{v}) < -1$ .

∴ A point of this test: No need to draw graphs to check stability.  
Compute the derivative.



- Near a fixed pt  $v$ ,  $g(v) = v$ .  
 for  $x$  close to  $v$
- $$\frac{|g(x) - v|}{|x - v|} = \frac{|g(x) - g(v)|}{|x - v|} \approx |g'(v)|$$
- for  $|x - v|$  small

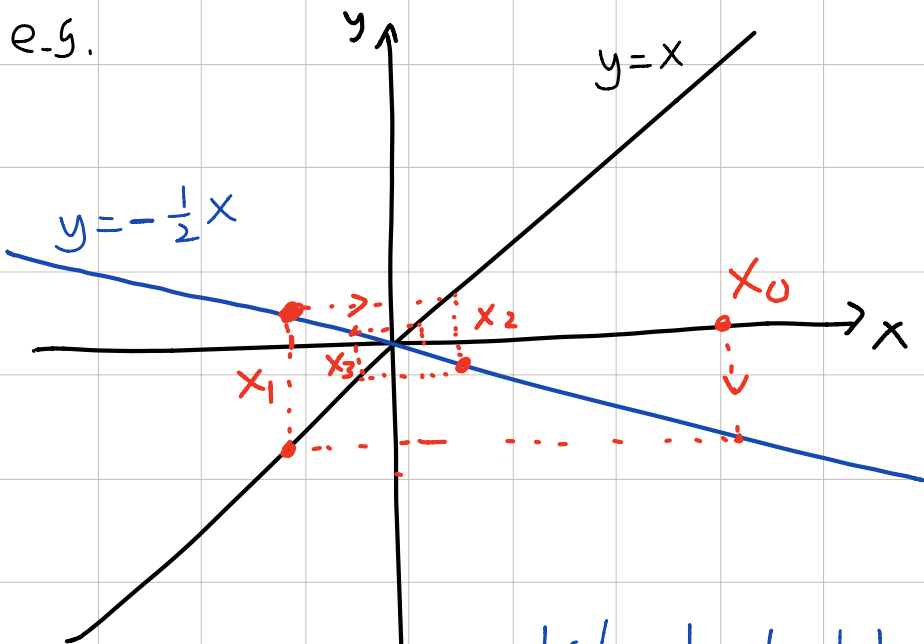
Therefore, (for  $x$  close to  $v$ )

- $|g'(v)| < 1 \implies |g(x) - v| < |x - v|$

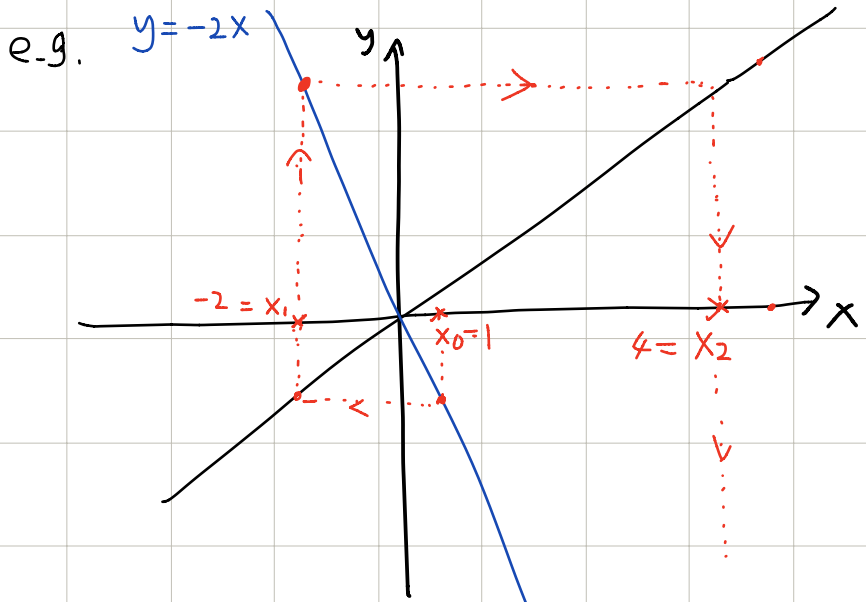
get closer  
 to  $v$   
 ∴ stable

- $|g'(v)| > 1 \implies |g(x) - v| > |x - v|$

move away  
 from  $v$ .  
 ∴ unstable



Fixed point  $|g'(0)| = |-\frac{1}{2}| = \frac{1}{2} < 1$   
 $\nabla = 0 \therefore$  stable fixed pt.



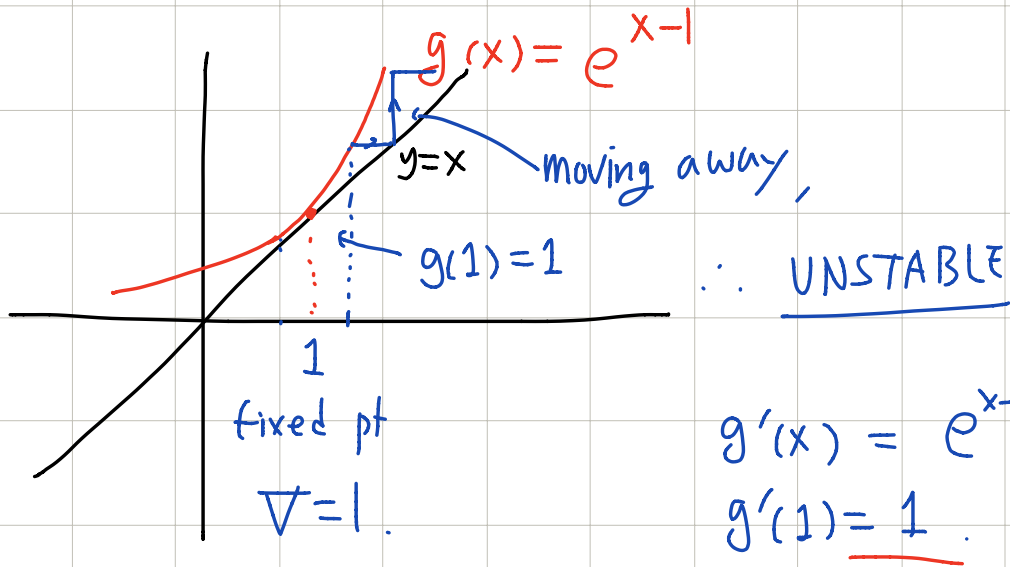
Fixed point  $g'(0) = -2 < -1$ .  
 $\nabla = 0 \therefore$  unstable fixed pt.

# BE CAREFUL

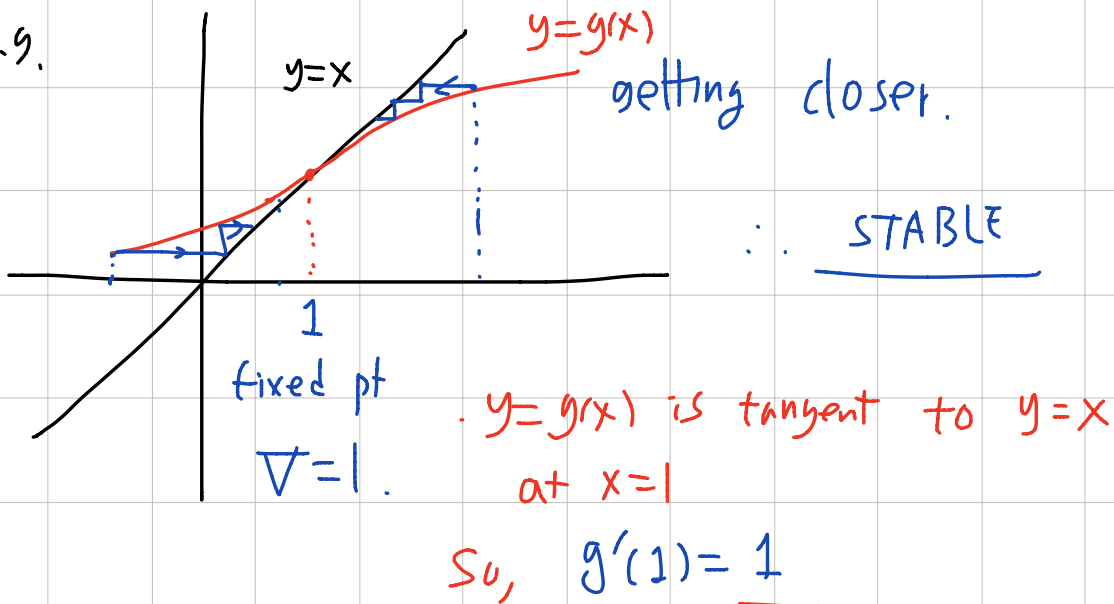
The above test does NOT work.

if  $g'(V) = 1$  or  $-1$

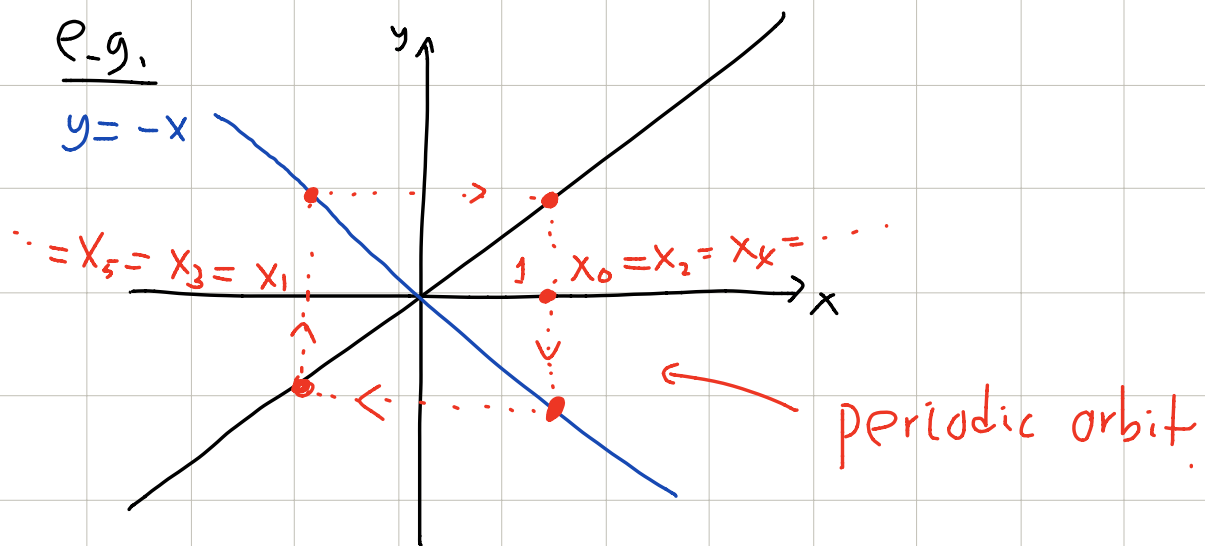
e.g.



e.g.



An interesting case  
unstable, but has periodic orbits nearby.



In this case, the sequence is  
(1, -1, 1, -1, 1, -1, ...)



e.g. unstable, but still traps the sequence nearby.

