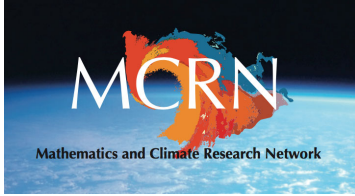


Introduction to Multiflows

Richard McGehee
 School of Mathematics
 University of Minnesota
 Mathematics of Climate Seminar
 November 12, 2024





<https://sites.google.com/view/math-climate>

1

Multiflows

Well-posed Problems

According to Wikipedia

The mathematical term **well-posed problem** stems from a definition given by 20th-century French mathematician Jacques Hadamard. He believed that mathematical models of physical phenomena should have the properties that:

1. a solution exists,
2. the solution is unique,
3. the solution's behaviour changes continuously with the initial conditions.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Well-posed_problem



Jacques Hadamard
https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/as/Hadamard_2_cropped.jpg

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Multiflows

Well-posed Problems

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The mathematical term **well-posed problem** stems from a definition given by 20th-century French mathematician Jacques Hadamard. He believed that mathematical models of **physical phenomena** should have the properties that:

1. a solution exists,
2. **the solution is unique,**
3. the solution's behaviour changes continuously with the initial conditions.

Metaphysical Preference?



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Well-posed_problem

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Multiflows

Well-posed Problems

Basic Theorem from Dynamical Systems

If f is a smooth vector field in Euclidean space, then the initial value problem

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = f(y), \quad y(0) = x$$

satisfies the following conditions:

1. a solution exists,
2. the solution is unique,
3. the solution's behavior changes continuously with the initial conditions.



i.e., the initial value problem is **well-posed**.

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Multiflows

Well-posed Problems

Basic Theorem from Dynamical Systems

If f is a **smooth** vector field in Euclidean space, then the initial value problem

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = f(y), \quad y(0) = x$$

satisfies the following conditions:

1. a solution exists,
2. the solution is unique,
3. the solution's behavior changes continuously with the initial conditions.



What if f isn't smooth?
 What if it is only continuous?
 What happens?

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Multiflows

Example from Sophomore Calculus

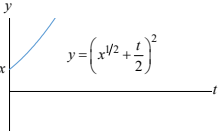
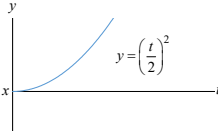



$$\frac{dy}{dt} = |y|^{1/2}, \quad y(0) = x$$

not smooth
 not even Lipschitz continuous

Case: $y \geq 0$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = y^{1/2}, \quad y^{-1/2} dy = dt, \quad \int y^{-1/2} dy = \int dt, \quad 2y^{1/2} = t + c$$



$$y(0) = x \Rightarrow 2x^{1/2} = c \Rightarrow 2y^{1/2} = t + 2x^{1/2} \Rightarrow y = \left(x^{1/2} + \frac{t}{2}\right)^2$$



Note that $y = 0$ is also a solution when $x = 0$.

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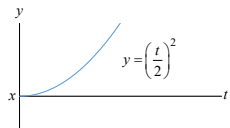
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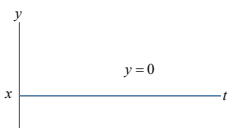
Multiflows

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = |y|^{1/2}, \quad y(0) = x$$

There are two solutions satisfying $y(0) = 0$:

$$y(t) = \left(\frac{t}{2}\right)^2$$




$$y(t) = 0$$


Actually, there are an infinite number.

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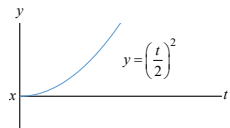
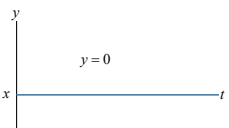
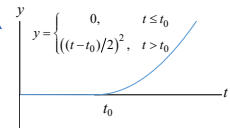
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$$\frac{dy}{dt} = |y|^{1/2}, \quad y(0) = x$$

This is a solution for any t_0 :

$$y(t) = \begin{cases} 0, & t \leq t_0 \\ ((t-t_0)/2)^2, & t > t_0 \end{cases}$$




Who cares?

A different solution for every t_0 .

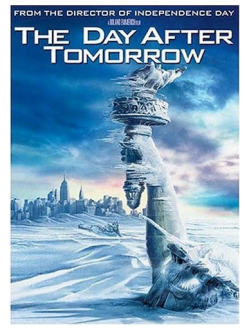
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Multiflows

Who cares?

Hollywood!



FROM THE DIRECTOR OF INDEPENDENCE DAY
THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW

20th Century Fox 2004

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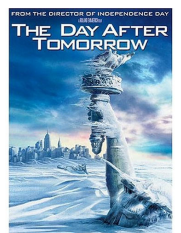
Multiflows

Dansgaard-Oeschger Events

“Global warming” can cause the Northern Hemisphere to cool.

Melting glaciers can lower the salinity of the North Atlantic, causing a decrease in the flow of the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation (AMOC), slowing the heat transfer to the Northern Hemisphere.

This phenomenon happened twenty times during the last 80,000 years.

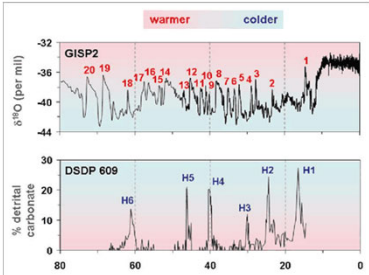


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Multiflows

Heinrich and Dansgaard-Oeschger events



$\delta^{18}\text{O}$ (per mil)

warmer colder

GISP2

20 19 18 17 16 14 12 10 8 7 6 5 4 3 2

% serial carbonate

DSDP 609

H6 H5 H4 H3 H2 H1

Years before present (in thousands)

<http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/paleo/abrupt/data3.html>

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Multiflows

Current Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation weakest in last millennium

The Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation (AMOC)—one of Earth’s major ocean circulation systems—redistributes heat on our planet and has a major impact on climate. Here, we compare a variety of published proxy records to reconstruct the evolution of the AMOC since about AD 400. A fairly consistent picture of the AMOC emerges: **after a long and relatively stable period, there was an initial weakening starting in the nineteenth century, followed by a second, more rapid, decline in the mid-twentieth century, leading to the weakest state of the AMOC occurring in recent decades.**

NATURE GEOSCIENCE | VOL 14 | MARCH 2021 | 118–120 | www.nature.com/naturegeoscience118



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Multiflows

Heinrich and Dansgaard-Oeschger events

GISSP2
DSDP 609

Years before present (in thousands)

<http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/paleo/abrupt/data3.html>

What caused the oscillations?

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Multiflows

What caused the D-O oscillations?

They could be self-oscillations in the natural dynamics of ocean circulation.

Pierre Welander, A simple heat-salt oscillator, *Dynamics of Atmospheres and Oceans* 6 (1982) 233-242.

R/V Weelander is a 23-foot-long Beach Master work boat, informally named in honor of Professor Pierre Welander (1925–1996).

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Multiflows

Welander Model

atmosphere: T_A, S_A

shallow ocean: $T(t), S(t)$

deep ocean: T_0, S_0

mixing with atmosphere

temperature: $\dot{T} = k_T(T_A - T) - k(\rho)T$

salinity: $\dot{S} = k_S(S_A - S) - k(\rho)S$

density: $\rho = -\alpha T + \gamma S$

mixing with deep ocean

Pierre Welander, *Dynamics of Atmospheres and Oceans* 6 (1982).

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Multiflows

Welander Model

$\dot{T} = k_T(T_A - T) - k(\rho)T$

$\dot{S} = k_S(S_A - S) - k(\rho)S$

$\rho = -\alpha T + \gamma S$

The function k

$$k(\rho) = \frac{k_1 + k_0}{2} + \frac{k_1 - k_0}{\pi} \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{\rho - \varepsilon}{\delta}\right)$$

Limit as $\delta \rightarrow 0$

$$k(\rho) = \begin{cases} k_0, & \rho < \varepsilon \\ k_1, & \rho > \varepsilon \end{cases}$$

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Multiflows

Welander Model

$\dot{T} = k_T(T_A - T) - k(\rho)T$

$\dot{S} = k_S(S_A - S) - k(\rho)S$

$\rho = -\alpha T + \gamma S$

Welander chose scientifically reasonable values and dimensionless variables and constants.

$\dot{T} = 1 - T - k(\rho)T$

$\dot{S} = \beta(1 - S) - k(\rho)S$

$\rho = -\alpha T + S$

$$k(\rho) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{2}{\pi} \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{\rho - \varepsilon}{\delta}\right)$$

$\alpha = 0.8$

$\beta = 0.5$

ε : small parameter

Limit as $\delta \rightarrow 0$

$$k(\rho) = \begin{cases} 0, & \rho < \varepsilon \\ 1, & \rho > \varepsilon \end{cases}$$

Welander simulated the case $\delta = 0$, finding a periodic orbit, and concluded the same would hold for $\delta > 0$.

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Multiflows

Welander Model

$\dot{T} = 1 - T - k(\rho)T$

$\dot{S} = \beta(1 - S) - k(\rho)S$

$\rho = -\alpha T + S$

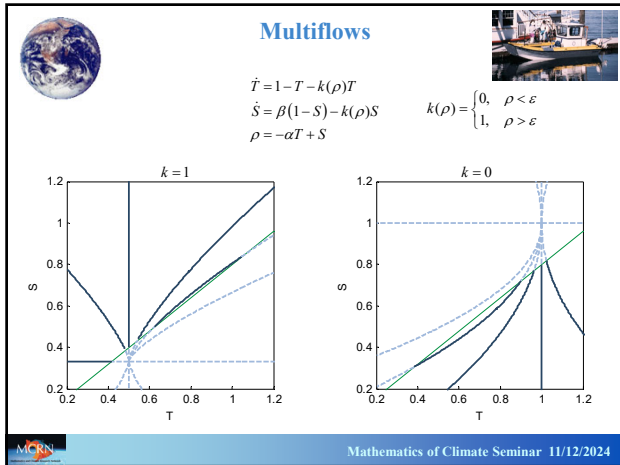
$$k(\rho) = \begin{cases} 0, & \rho < \varepsilon \\ 1, & \rho > \varepsilon \end{cases}$$

Rest point for $k = 0$: $(T, S) = (1, 1)$

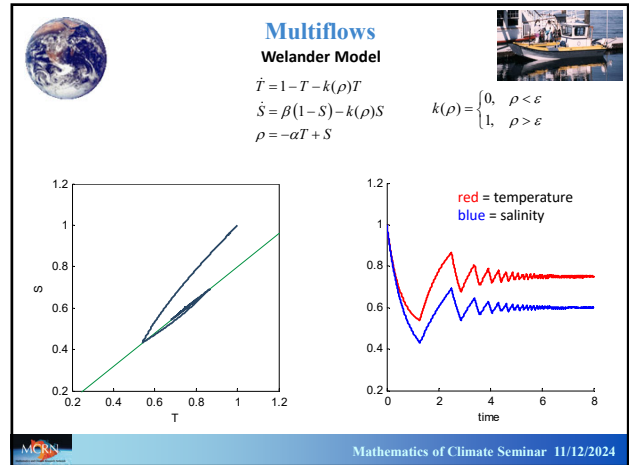
Rest point for $k = 1$: $(T, S) = (1/2, \beta/(1 + \beta))$

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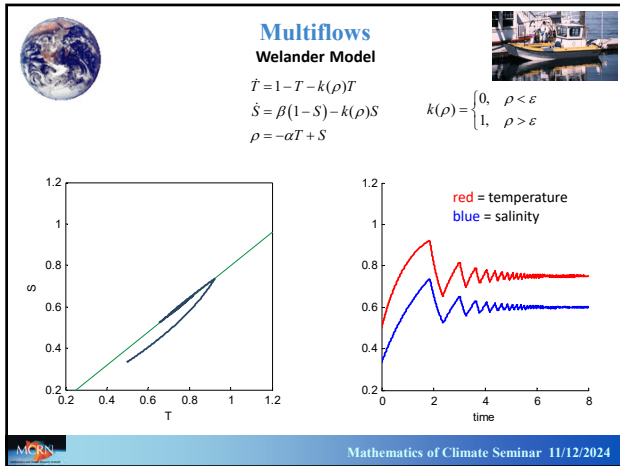
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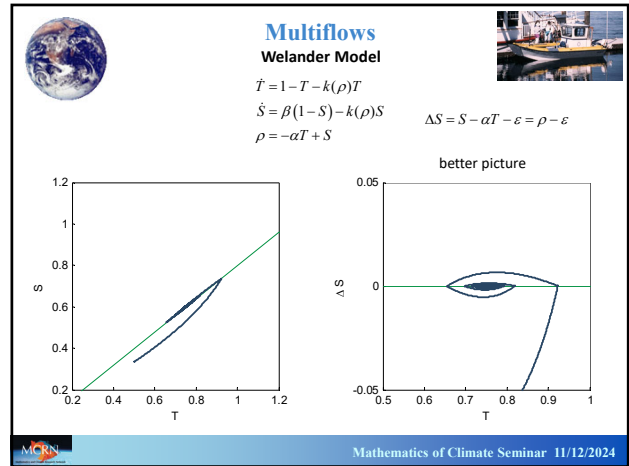
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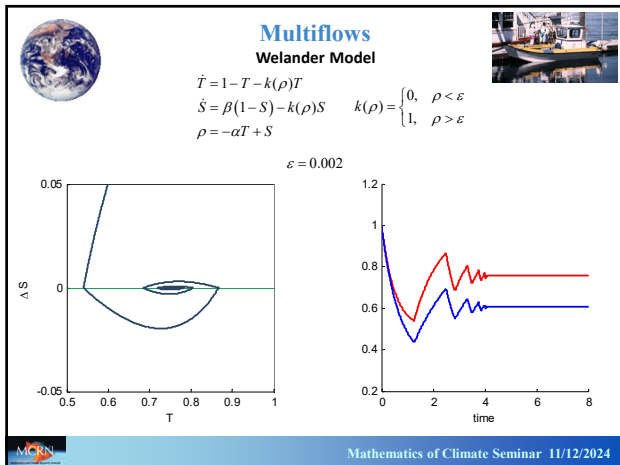
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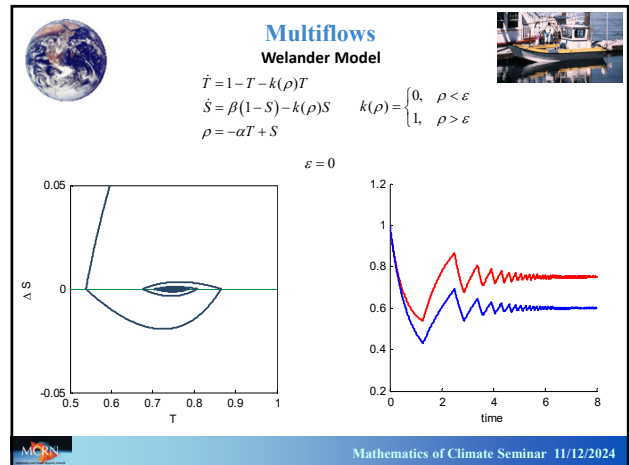
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Multiflows
Welander Model

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{T} &= 1 - T - k(\rho)T \\ \dot{S} &= \beta(1-S) - k(\rho)S \\ \dot{\rho} &= -\alpha T + S \end{aligned} \quad k(\rho) = \begin{cases} 0, & \rho < \varepsilon \\ 1, & \rho > \varepsilon \end{cases}$$

$\varepsilon = -0.002$

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Multiflows
Welander Model

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{T} &= 1 - T - k(\rho)T \\ \dot{S} &= \beta(1-S) - k(\rho)S \\ \dot{\rho} &= -\alpha T + S \end{aligned} \quad k(\rho) = \begin{cases} 0, & \rho < \varepsilon \\ 1, & \rho > \varepsilon \end{cases}$$

$\varepsilon = -0.02$

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Multiflows
Welander Model

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{T} &= 1 - T - k(\rho)T \\ \dot{S} &= \beta(1-S) - k(\rho)S \\ \dot{\rho} &= -\alpha T + S \end{aligned} \quad k(\rho) = \begin{cases} 0, & \rho < \varepsilon \\ 1, & \rho > \varepsilon \end{cases}$$

$\varepsilon = -0.02$

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Multiflows
Heinrich and Dansgaard-Oeschger events

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Multiflows

Welander found the discontinuous limit easier to analyze. He assumed that the self-oscillations he found in the discontinuous limit held for the smooth system with a small parameter.

Juliann Leifeld, 2016:
Welander's assumption was correct.

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Multiflows
Filippov Systems

Roughly

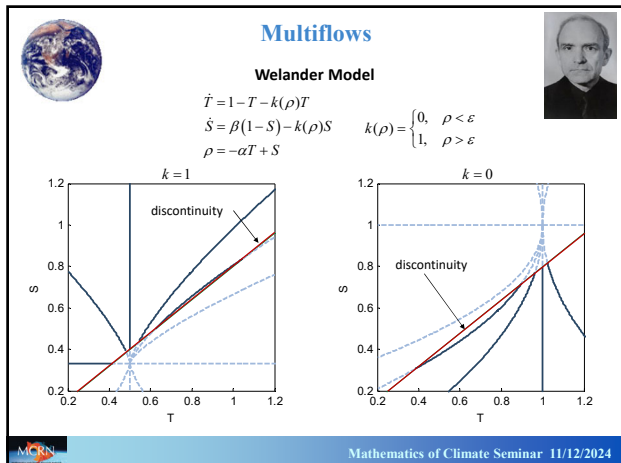
- The Euclidean space is partitioned by a finite number of sets.
- The boundaries are codimension 1.
- The vector field can be thought of as a finite number of vector fields, each defined and smooth on a partition set, including the boundary.
- The individual vector fields take different values on the boundaries.

A.F. Filippov*

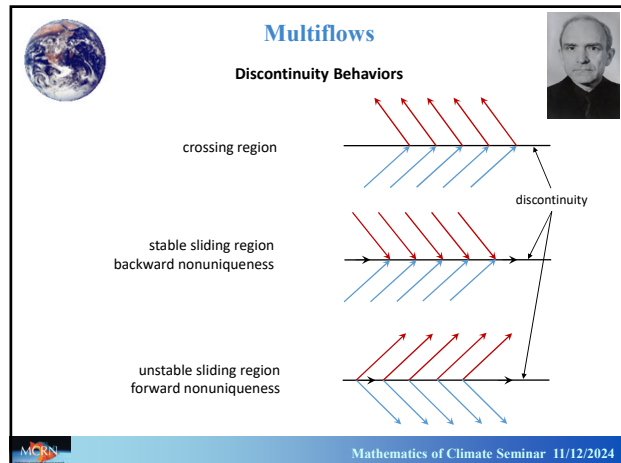
*<https://alchetron.com/Aleksai-Fedorovich-Filippov>

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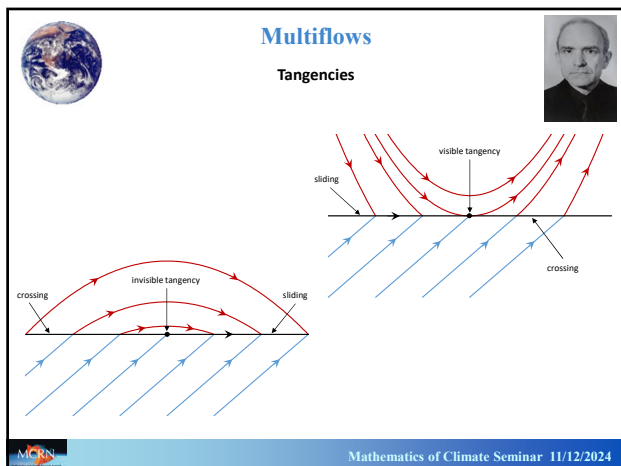
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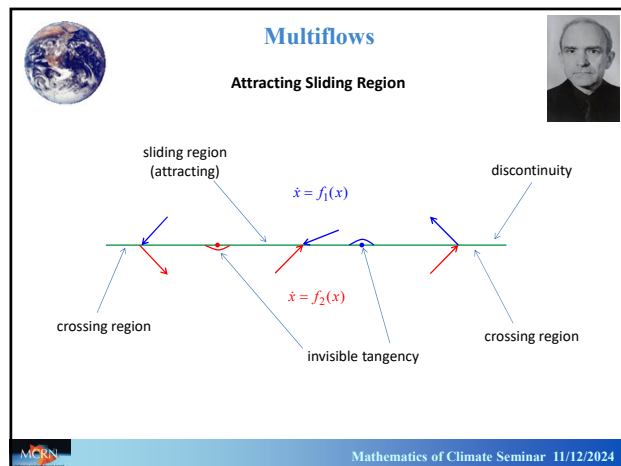
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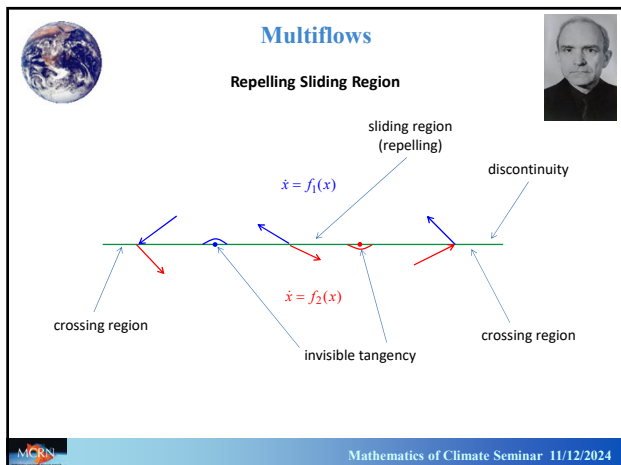
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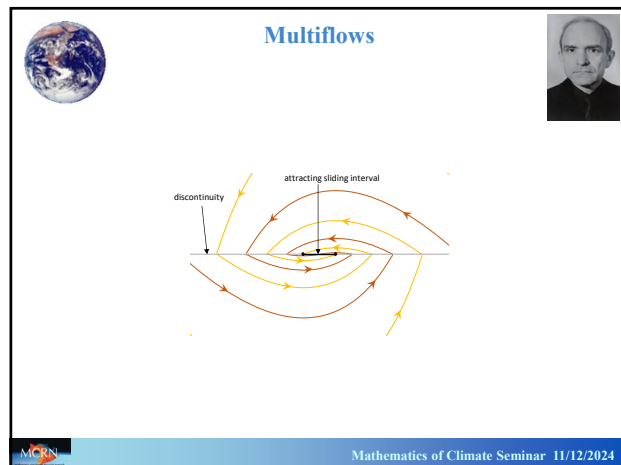
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Multiflows

discontinuity, attracting sliding interval, fused focus

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Multiflows

discontinuity, attracting sliding interval, fused focus, repelling sliding interval

Looks a lot like a Hopf bifurcation!

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Multiflows

Conley Index Theory
Inside the annulus, there is an attracting set that "looks like" a circle.

Question
Is there a Conley theory for Filippov systems?
If so, what good would it be?

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Multiflows Relations

Definitions
A relation on a set X is a subset of $X \times X$.

Let f and g be relations on a set X . The composition of f and g is the relation $f \circ g = \{(x, z) \in X \times X : \text{there exists } y \in X \text{ with } (x, y) \in g \text{ and } (y, z) \in f\}$.

Theorem
If f and g are closed relations on a compact metric space X , then $f \circ g$ is closed.

Note
The space of closed relations on a compact metric space X , together with composition as the binary operator, is a semigroup with identity $\text{id} = \{(x, y) \in X \times X : x = y\}$.

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Multiflows

Definition
Let X be a compact metric space.
A multiflow on X is a subset Φ of $[0, \infty) \times X \times X$ satisfying
(1) Φ is closed,
(2) $\Phi^0 = \text{id}$,
(3) $\Phi^{t+s} = \Phi^t \circ \Phi^s$,
where
 $\Phi^t = \{(x, y) \in X \times X : (t, x, y) \in \Phi\}$

Note
A multiflow Φ determines a semigroup homomorphism from $[0, \infty)$ to the space of closed relations: $t \mapsto \Phi^t$.

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Multiflows

Theorem: (Cameron Thieme 2020) A flow restricted to a compact set is a multiflow.

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Multiflows

Multiflow Examples


Theorem: (McGehee 2018) A continuous vector field generates a multiflow.

Lipschitz continuous vector fields generate flows.
 Continuous vector fields might not.
 Why?
 Uniqueness of solutions disappears.
 Example:

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = |y|^{1/2}, \quad y(0) = x$$


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Multiflows

Multiflow Examples


Theorem: (Cameron Thieme 2020) Filippov Systems generate multiflows.

Theorem: (Kate Meyer 2019) Certain control systems generate multiflows. Specifically, the system


$$\frac{dx}{dt} = f(x) + g(t), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n, \quad f \text{ is smooth, } \|g\|_\infty \leq r,$$

generates a multiflow.



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Multiflows


So what?

I.e., so we show that something generates a multiflow. **What good is that?**



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Multiflows

So what?

I.e., so we show that something generates a multiflow. **What good is that?**


What is "good"?

Modeling Dogma
 A **good** model is well-posed.



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Multiflows


So what?

I.e., so we show that something generates a multiflow. **What good is that?**

What is "good"?


Modeling Dogma
 A **good** model is well-posed.

Heresy Avoidance
 A bad model is **pretty good** if it says something nice about a "nearby" good model.

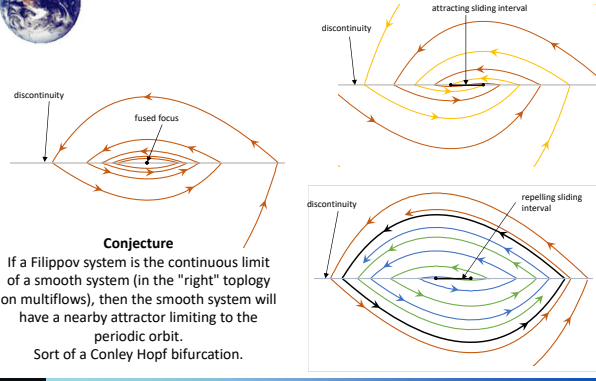


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Multiflows




Conjecture
 If a Filippov system is the continuous limit of a smooth system (in the "right" topology on multiflows), then the smooth system will have a nearby attractor limiting to the periodic orbit.
 Sort of a Conley Hopf bifurcation.



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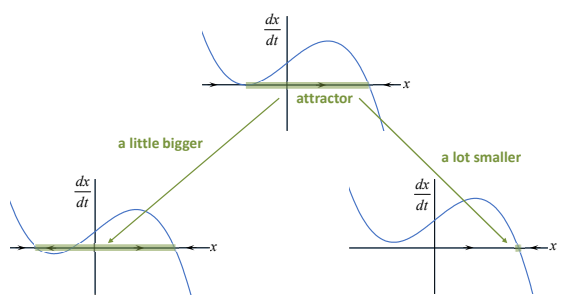
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Multiflows


Semicontinuity of Attractors

As parameters change, attractors can get a little bigger or a little smaller or a lot smaller, but they can't get a lot bigger.




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Multiflows

Multiflows



Cameron Thieme, PhD Thesis, 2020

Thieme gave a definition of semicontinuity in a one-parameter family of multiflows.


Thieme gave conditions concluding that Conley Theory is valid for these one-parameter families.

Welander's model satisfies the Thieme's definition and conditions.

Welander's "nearby" smooth model has an attractor with the topology of (homotopic to) a circle.


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Multiflows

Open Questions



Can Thieme's definition and conditions be generalized further?

Are there other interesting examples?


- Arctic sea ice?
- Controlling epidemics?
- Adaptive chemotherapy?

McGehee's Pipedream

Can singular perturbation problems (aka fast-slow systems) be formulated as multiflow systems?

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Multiflows

Well-posed Problems

According to Wikipedia

The mathematical term **well-posed problem** stems from a definition given by 20th-century French mathematician Jacques Hadamard. He believed that mathematical models of physical phenomena should have the properties that:




1. a solution exists,
2. the solution is unique,
3. the solution's behaviour changes continuously with the initial conditions.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Well-posed_problem

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Multiflows

Not-Too-Badly Posed Problem

The mathematical term **well-posed problem** stems from a definition given by 20th-century French mathematician Jacques Hadamard. He believed that mathematical models of physical phenomena should have the properties that:

1. a solution exists,
2. the solution is unique,
3. the solution's behaviour changes continuously with the initial conditions.

Avoiding Heresy:
A mathematical model is **not-too-badly-posed** if it can be described as a multiflow. I.e., uniqueness can be abandoned and continuity with initial conditions can be replaced by semicontinuity with nearby systems.

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Multiflows



Thank-you!

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