

---

*MATH0488 – Stochastic Processes*

Stochastically perturbed bifurcation

Part 1 of 3: Buckling of perfect beam

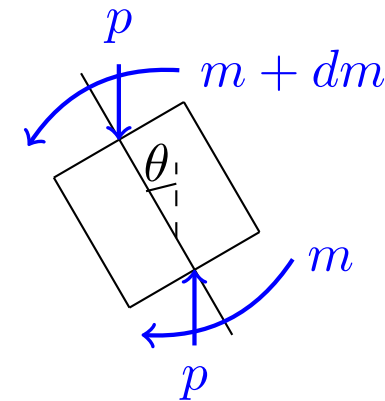
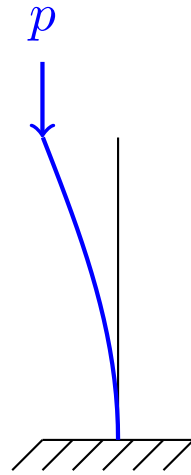
Maarten Arnst, Marco Lucio Cerquaglia, and Kavita Goyal

March 17, 2015

- Problem formulation.
- Linearized problem.
- Nonlinear problem.
- Finite-difference approximation.
- Assignment.
- References.

# Problem formulation

- We consider the following problem setting:



- ◆ Equilibrium:  $m - (m + dm) - p \sin(\theta) ds = 0 \implies -\frac{dm}{ds} - p \sin(\theta) = 0$ .
- ◆ Constitutive equation:  $\frac{d\theta}{ds} = \frac{m}{yj}$ .
- ◆ At the one end, the rod is fixed; at the other end, it is subjected to a constant vertical force  $p$ .

- Denoting by  $s$  the position along the beam, we obtain the following boundary-value problem:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{d^2\theta}{ds^2} + \lambda \sin(\theta) = 0 & \text{with } \lambda = \frac{p}{yj}, \\ \theta(0) = \frac{d\theta}{ds}(\ell) = 0 \end{cases}$$

to determine the angle  $\theta(s)$  that the tangent vector to the beam makes with the vertical axis as a function of the position  $s$  along the beam.

---

## Linearized problem

# Linearized problem

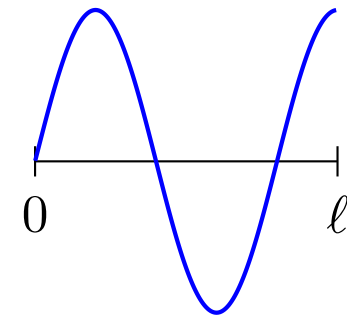
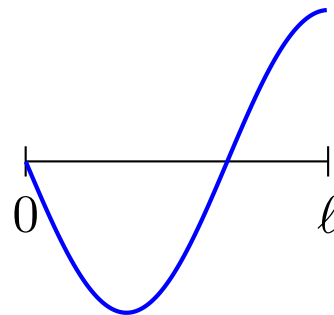
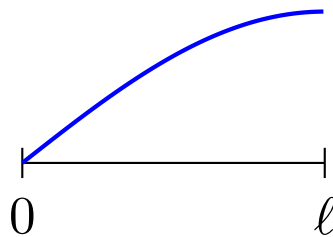
- The linearized problem “close to  $\theta = 0$ ” reads as follows:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{d^2\theta}{ds^2} + \lambda\theta = 0 & \text{with } \lambda = \frac{p}{yj}, \\ \theta(0) = \frac{d\theta}{ds}(\ell) = 0. \end{cases}$$

- The linearized problem admits for any  $\lambda$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  the **trivial solution**  $\theta = 0$ .
- Given a strictly positive value of  $\lambda$ , any linear combination of the two linearly independent elementary solutions  $\cos(\sqrt{\lambda}s)$  and  $\sin(\sqrt{\lambda}s)$ , that is,  $\theta(s) = a \cos(\sqrt{\lambda}s) + b \sin(\sqrt{\lambda}s)$ , solves the ODE. To satisfy  $\theta(0) = 0$ , the coefficient  $a$  must vanish. From  $\frac{d\theta}{ds}(\ell) = 0$ , it follows that the linearized problem has a **nontrivial solution** if and only if  $\sqrt{\lambda} \cos(\sqrt{\lambda}\ell) = 0$ , that is,

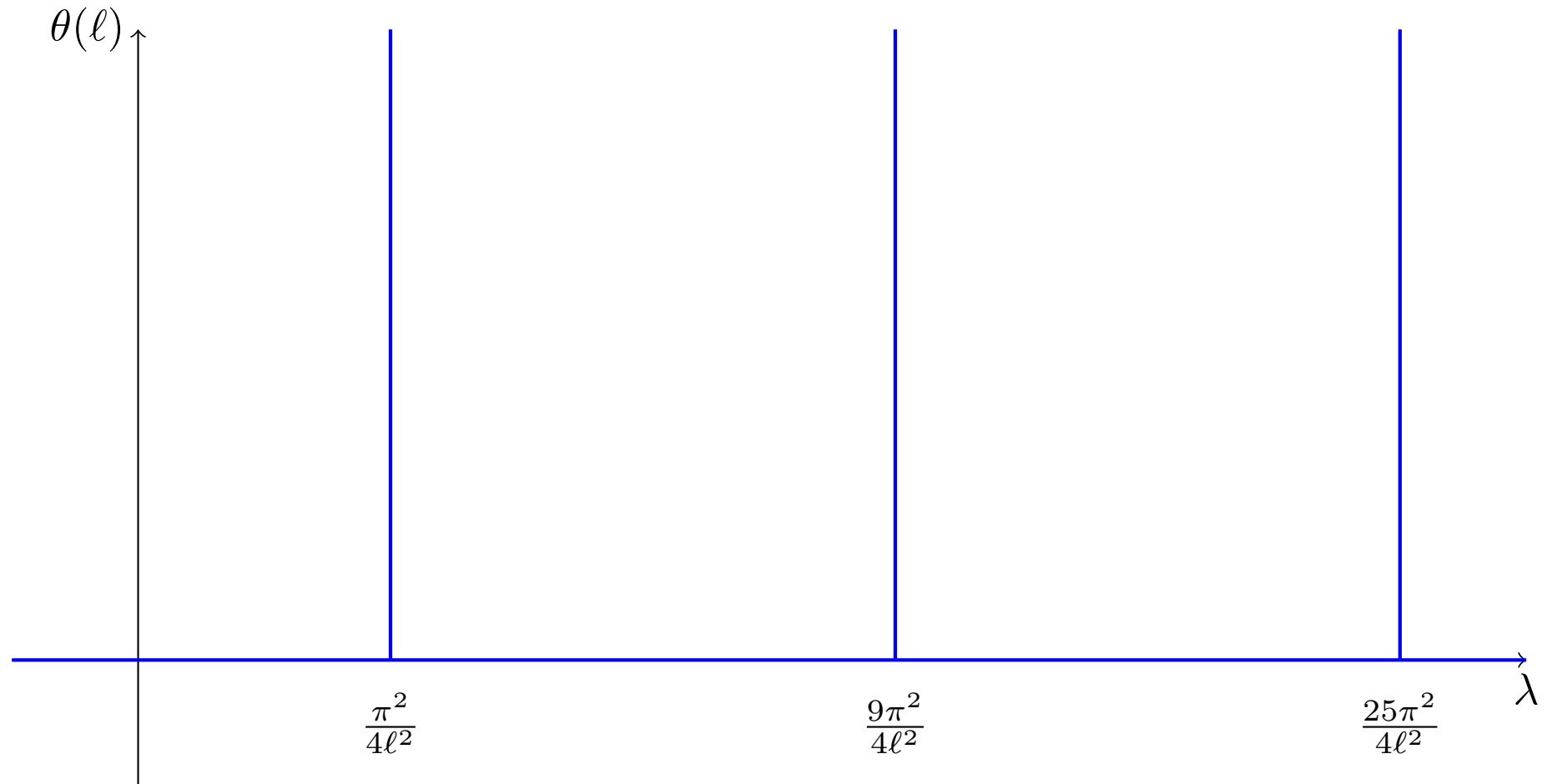
$$\lambda = \lambda_k = \frac{(2k+1)^2\pi^2}{4\ell^2}, \quad \phi_k(s) = \sin(\sqrt{\lambda_k}s), \quad k = 0, 1, \dots$$

and every solution  $\theta$  is a constant multiple of  $\phi_k$ .



# Linearized problem

- Schematic representation of the solution to the linearized problem:



- ◆ For any  $\lambda$  in  $\mathbb{R}$ , the linearized problem admits the trivial solution  $\theta = 0$ .
- ◆ For  $\lambda_k = \frac{(2k+1)^2 \pi^2}{4\ell^2}$  with  $k = 0, 1, \dots$ , the linearized problem becomes degenerate and admits as nontrivial solution any constant multiple of the corresponding  $\phi_k = \sin(\sqrt{\lambda_k} s)$ .

---

## Nonlinear problem

# Nonlinear problem

- Let us consider again our boundary-value problem

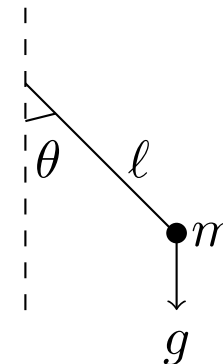
$$\begin{cases} \frac{d^2\theta}{ds^2} + \lambda \sin(\theta) = 0 & \text{with } \lambda = \frac{p}{yj}, \\ \theta(0) = \frac{d\theta}{ds}(\ell) = 0. \end{cases}$$

For nonlinear boundary-value problems, there is often little hope of finding explicit formulas for solutions. For this particular nonlinear boundary-value problem, it turns out that we can gain useful insight into the solutions through a “phase portrait” analysis, as described next.

- This two-dimensional system of first-order ODEs also appears in the study of the pendulum:

$$m\ell^2 \frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2} + \ell \sin(\theta)mg = 0$$

$$\implies \frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2} + \lambda \sin(\theta) = 0 \quad \text{with } \lambda = \frac{g}{\ell}$$

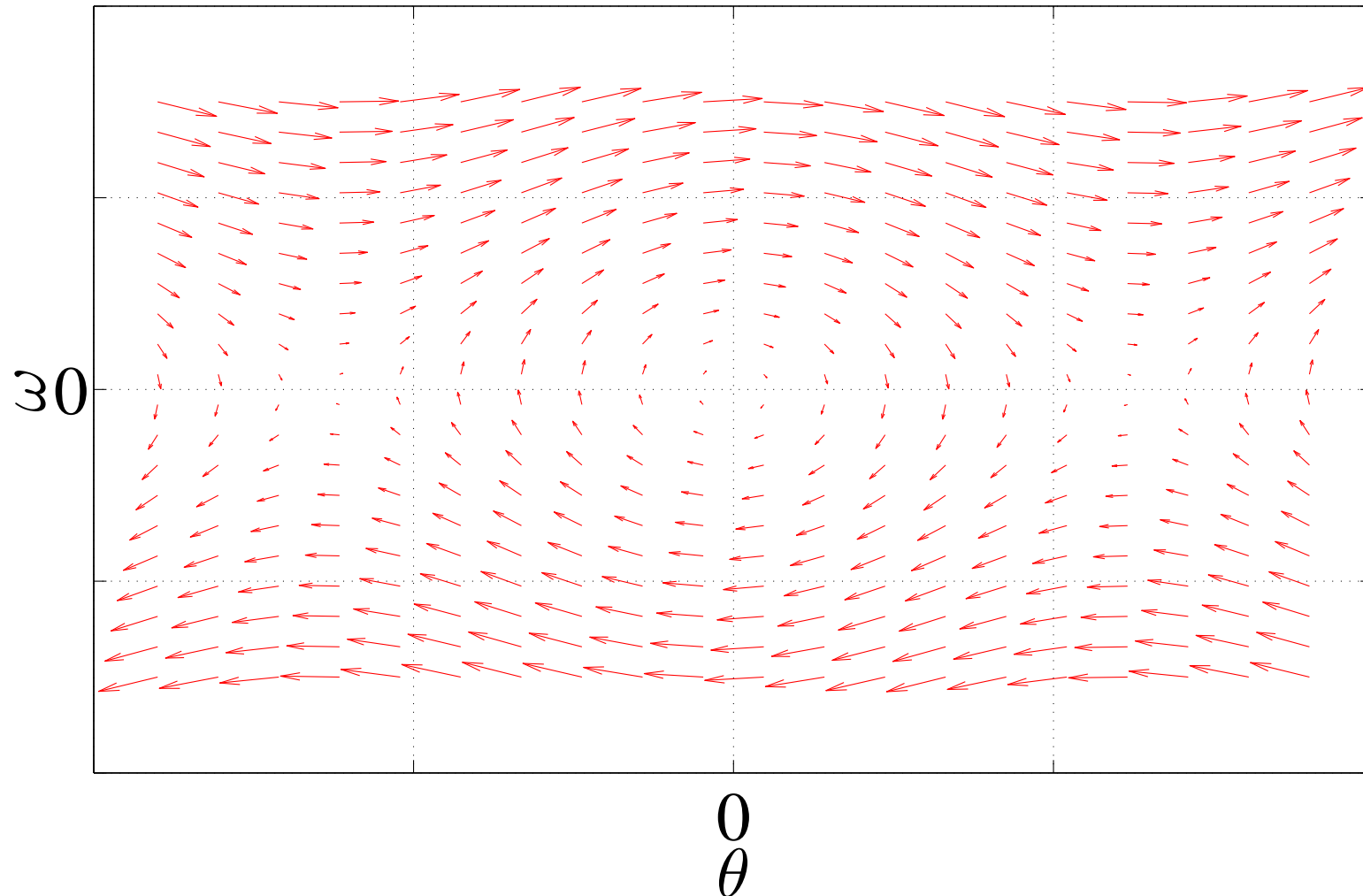


- Introducing the auxiliary variable  $\omega = \frac{d\theta}{ds}$ , we can write our one-dimensional second-order ODE equivalently as a two-dimensional system of first-order ODEs:

$$\begin{cases} \theta' = \omega, \\ \omega' = -\lambda \sin(\theta). \end{cases}$$

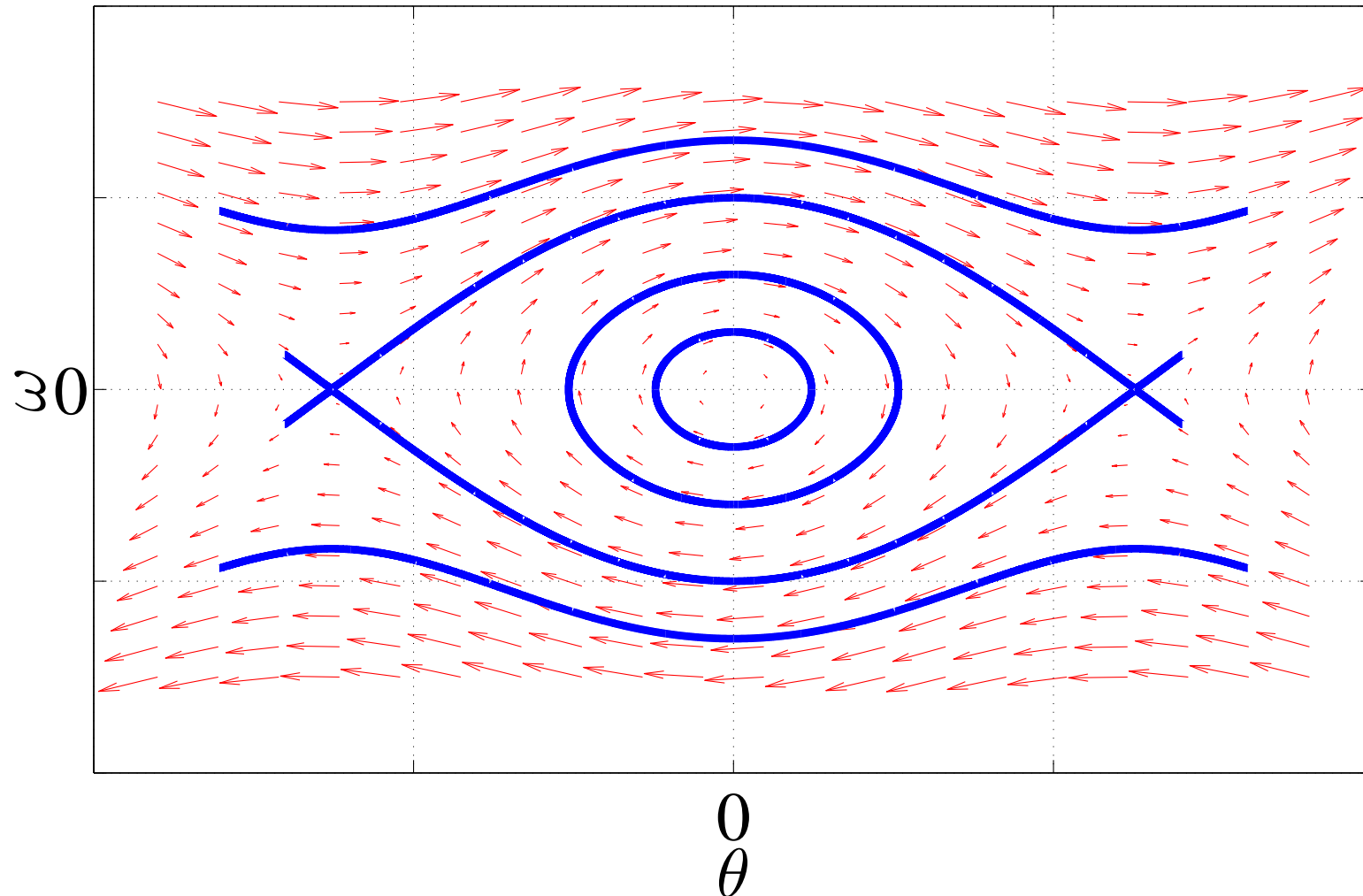


# Nonlinear problem



For a grid of points in the  $\theta - \omega$  plane, we represented at each point the derivatives  $\theta'$  and  $\omega'$  as a vector  $(\theta', \omega')$ . By flowing along the vector field thus obtained, we can trace out solutions  $(\theta(s), \omega(s))$ .

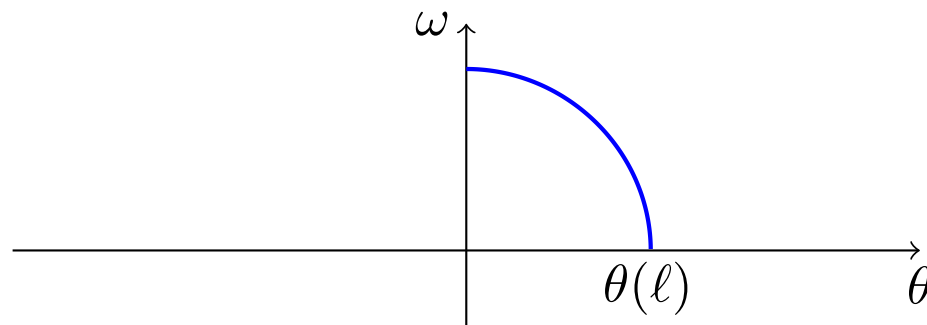
# Nonlinear problem



For a grid of points in the  $\theta - \omega$  plane, we represent at each point the derivatives  $\theta'$  and  $\omega'$  as a vector  $(\theta', \omega')$ . By flowing along the vector field thus obtained, we can trace out trajectories  $(\theta(s), \omega(s))$ .

# Nonlinear problem

- The boundary conditions in our boundary-value problem imply that we are interested only in trajectories that begin at  $s = 0$  on the  $\omega$ -axis (because  $\theta(0)$  must vanish) and cross at precisely  $s = \ell$  the  $\theta$ -axis (because  $\theta'(\ell) = \omega(\ell)$  must vanish).



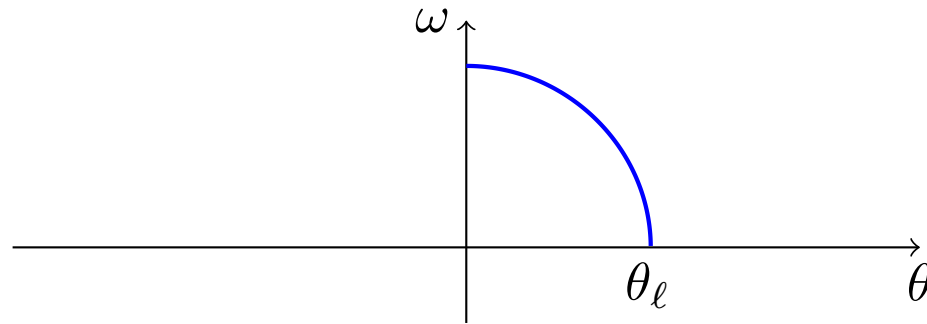
- To determine these trajectories, we proceed as follows. We note that the problem is conservative; specifically, multiplying the ODE with  $\theta'$  and integrating, we obtain

$$\theta'(\theta'' + \lambda \sin(\theta)) = 0 \implies \frac{1}{2}\omega^2 + \lambda(1 - \cos(\theta)) = \text{constant},$$

that is, along trajectories, the quantity  $\frac{1}{2}\omega^2 + \lambda(1 - \cos(\theta))$  is conserved.

# Nonlinear problem

- Along a trajectory that begins on the  $\omega$ -axis and crosses the  $\theta$ -axis at  $(\theta_\ell, 0)$ , we thus have



$$\frac{1}{2}\omega(s)^2 + \lambda(1 - \cos(\theta(s))) = \lambda(1 - \cos(\theta_\ell)) \implies \frac{d\theta}{ds}(s) = \omega(s) = \sqrt{2\lambda(\cos(\theta(s)) - \cos(\theta_\ell))}.$$

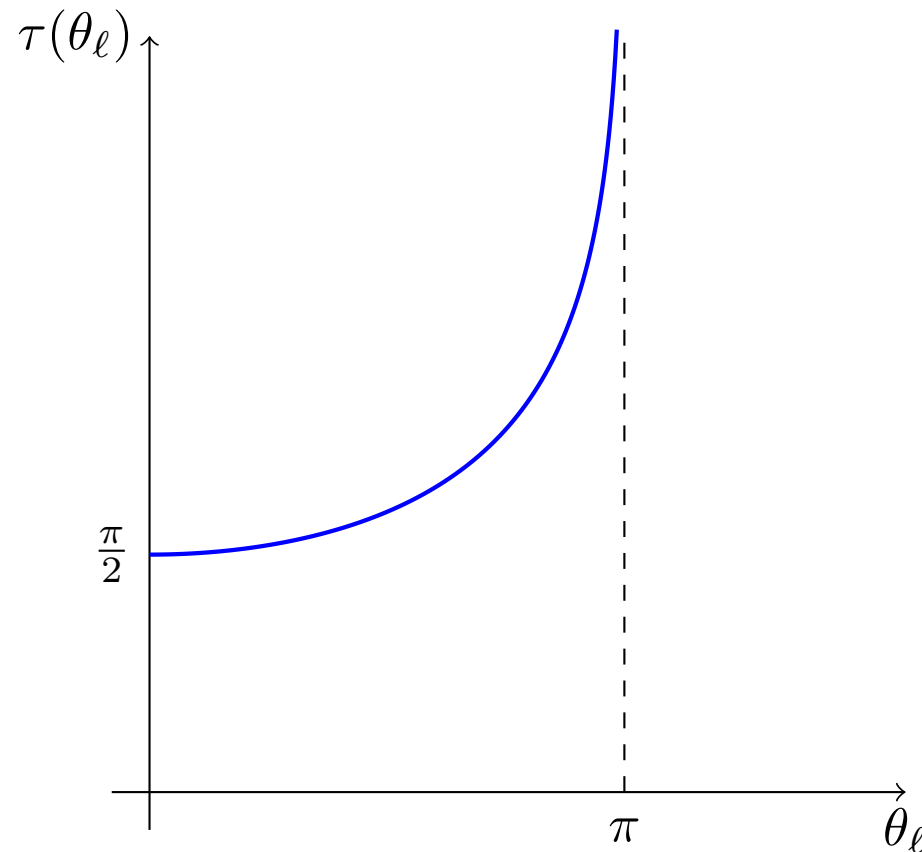
- This allows us to determine the distance traveled along a trajectory that begins on the  $\omega$ -axis and crosses the  $\theta$ -axis at  $(\theta_\ell, 0)$ :

$$s_\ell = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\lambda}} \int_0^{\theta_\ell} \frac{d\theta}{\sqrt{\cos(\theta(s)) - \cos(\theta_\ell)}} \equiv \frac{\tau(\theta_\ell)}{\sqrt{\lambda}}.$$

- For this trajectory to be a solution to our boundary-value problem, it must begin at  $s = 0$  on the  $\omega$ -axis and cross at precisely  $s = \ell$  the  $\theta$ -axis:

$$\ell = \frac{\tau(\theta(\ell))}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \implies \lambda = \frac{\tau(\theta(\ell))^2}{\ell^2}.$$

- The function  $\tau$  has the following form:



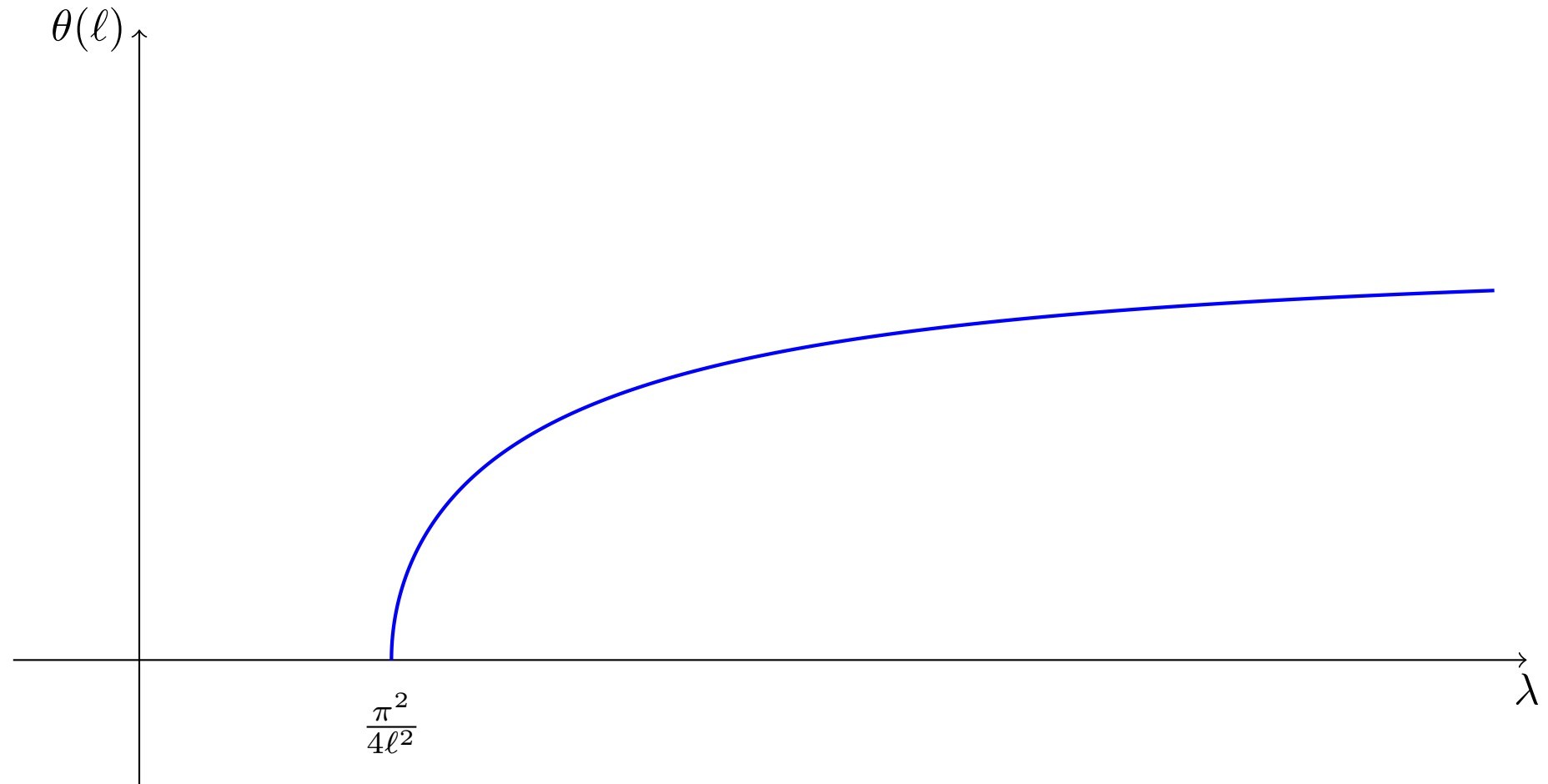
- We have  $\tau(0) = \frac{\pi}{2}$ . This can be understood from an analysis of the linearized problem:

$$\begin{cases} \theta'' + \lambda\theta = 0, \\ \theta(0) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \theta'(0) = \omega_0. \end{cases} \implies \theta(s) = \frac{\omega_0}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \sin(\sqrt{\lambda}s).$$

$$\theta'(s_\ell) = 0 \implies s_\ell = \frac{\pi}{2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}}.$$

# Nonlinear problem

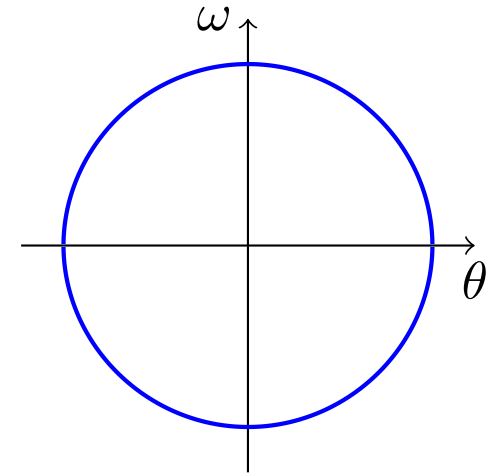
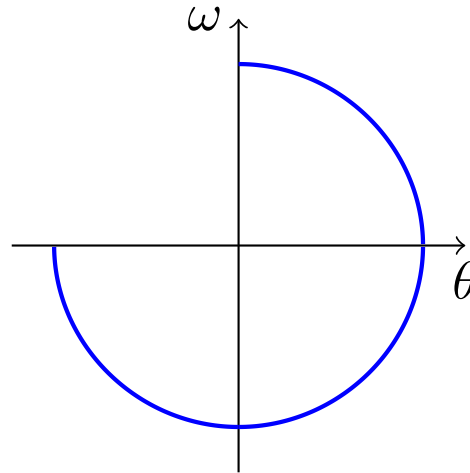
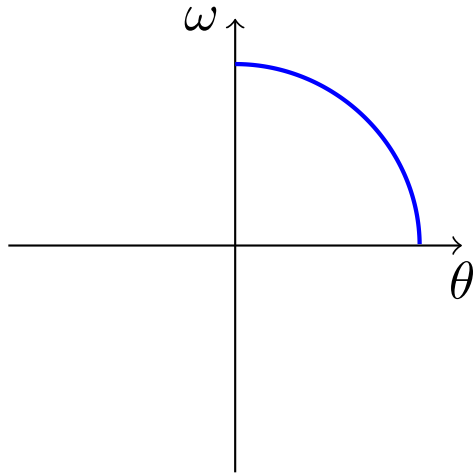
- This leads us to the following schematic representation of the nontrivial solutions found so far:



- ◆ For small  $\theta$  close to the trivial solution  $\theta = 0$ , the behavior of the nontrivial solution curve obtained for the nonlinear boundary-value problem resembles that obtained for the linearized problem. For larger  $\theta$ , the effect of the nonlinearity is to bend the nontrivial solution curve.

# Nonlinear problem

- Of course, to be a solution to the boundary-value problem, the trajectory may also encircle the origin before it crosses at  $s = \ell$  the  $\theta$ -axis:

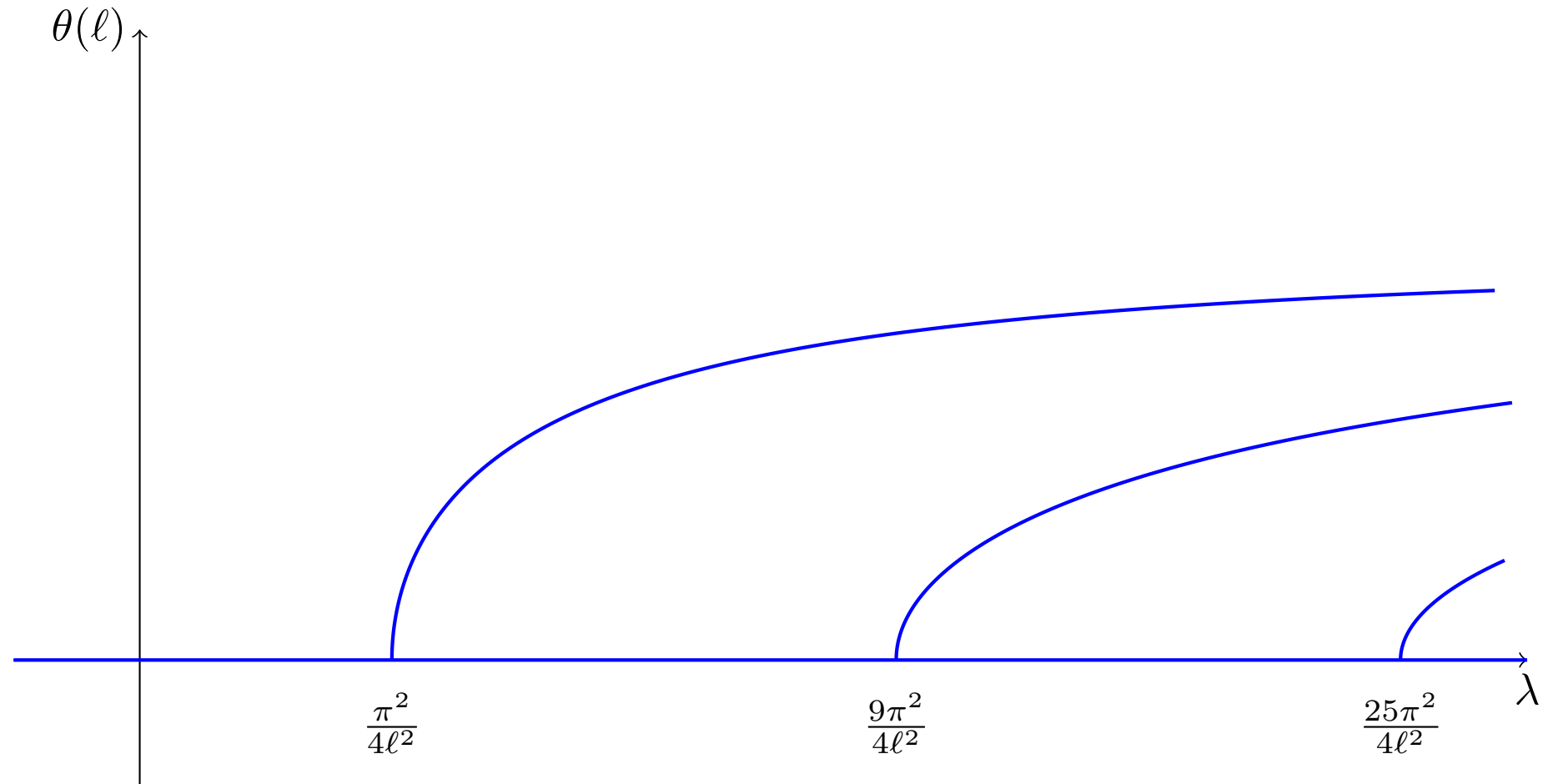


- This leads us to solutions that satisfy

$$\ell = \frac{(2k + 1)\tau(\theta(\ell))}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \implies \lambda = \frac{(2k + 1)^2 \tau(\theta(\ell))^2}{\ell^2} \quad k = 0, 1, \dots$$

# Nonlinear problem

- This leads us to the following schematic representation of the trivial and nontrivial solutions:



- ◆ We can observe that the trivial and nontrivial solution branches intersect at  $\lambda_k = \frac{(2k+1)^2\pi^2}{4\ell^2}$  with  $k = 0, 1, \dots$ . We refer to these intersections as **bifurcations**.



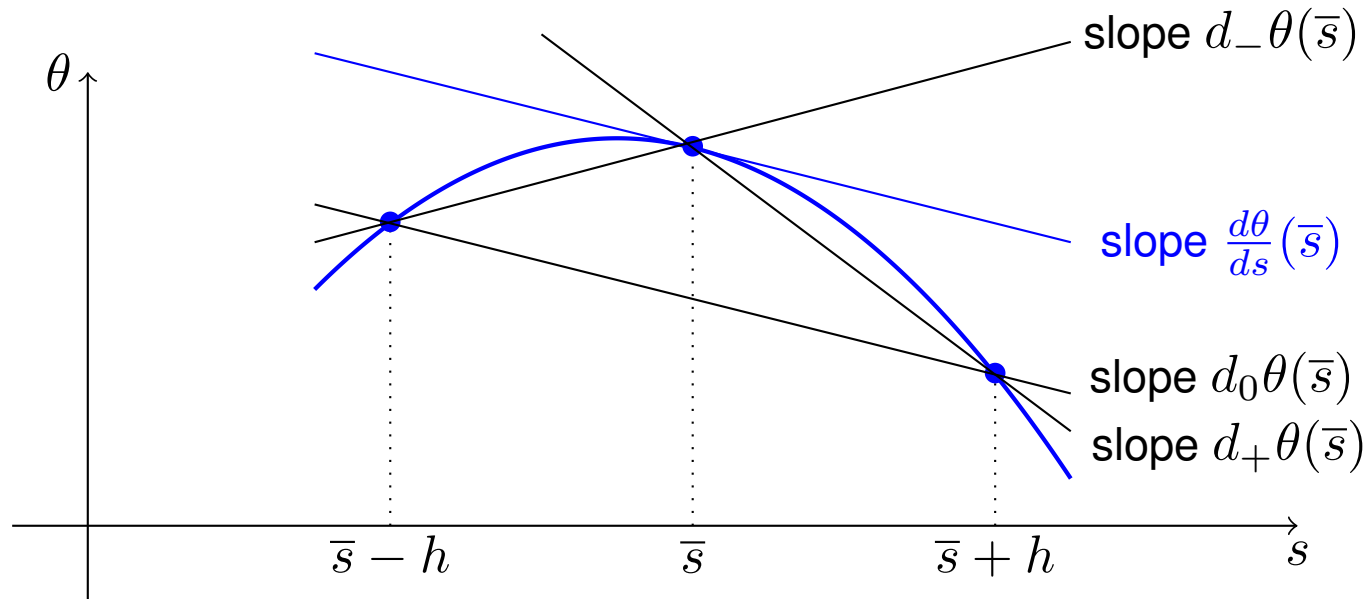
---

## Finite-difference approximation

# Finite-difference approximation

## Notion of finite-difference approximation

- Several finite-difference approximations of  $\frac{d\theta}{ds}(\bar{s})$ :



$$d_+ \theta(\bar{s}) = \frac{\theta(\bar{s} + h) - \theta(\bar{s})}{h}, \quad d_- \theta(\bar{s}) = \frac{\theta(\bar{s}) - \theta(\bar{s} - h)}{h}, \quad d_0 \theta(\bar{s}) = \frac{\theta(\bar{s} + h) - \theta(\bar{s} - h)}{2h}.$$

- Similar finite-difference approximations can be defined for higher order derivatives, for example,

$$\frac{d^2 \theta}{ds^2}(\bar{s}) \approx d_0^2 \theta(\bar{s}) = \frac{\theta(\bar{s} - h) - 2\theta(\bar{s}) + \theta(\bar{s} + h)}{h^2}.$$

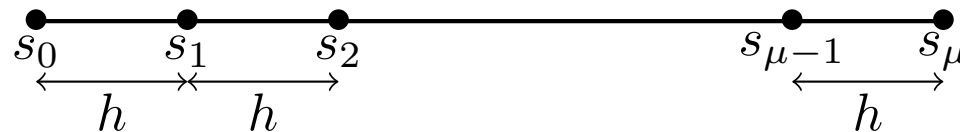
# Finite-difference approximation

## Finite-difference method for our boundary-value problem

- Let us consider again our boundary-value problem

$$\begin{cases} \theta'' + \lambda \sin(\theta) = 0, \\ \theta(0) = \theta'(\ell) = 0. \end{cases}$$

- We introduce grid points  $s_0, s_1, s_2, \dots, s_\mu$  as follows:



The grid spacing is denoted by  $h$ ; thus,  $s_j = jh$  for  $j = 0, \dots, \mu$  with  $\mu = \ell/h$ .

- A **finite-difference method** is then obtained by computing approximations  $\theta_0, \dots, \theta_\mu$  of the values  $\theta(s_0), \dots, \theta(s_\mu)$  taken by the exact solution at the grid points  $s_0, \dots, s_\mu$  by requiring

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\theta_{j-1} - 2\theta_j + \theta_{j+1}}{h^2} + \lambda \sin(\theta_j) = 0 & \text{for } j = 1, \dots, \mu - 1, \\ \theta_0 = \frac{\theta_{\mu-2} - 4\theta_{\mu-1} + 3\theta_\mu}{h} = 0. \end{cases}$$

This corresponds to replacing  $\frac{d^2\theta}{ds^2}(s_j)$  with  $\frac{\theta_{j-1} - 2\theta_j + \theta_{j+1}}{h^2}$  in the ODE and  $\frac{d\theta}{ds}(s_\mu)$  with  $\frac{\theta_{\mu-2} - 4\theta_{\mu-1} + 3\theta_\mu}{h}$  in the boundary condition at the edge point  $s_\mu = \ell$ .

# Finite-difference approximation

## Finite-difference method for our boundary-value problem (continued)

- The algebraic problem provided by the aforementioned finite-difference method can be written as

$$\underbrace{\frac{1}{h^2} \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1 & & & & \\ 1 & -2 & 1 & & & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & & \\ & & 1 & -2 & 1 & \\ & & & 1 - \frac{1}{3} & -2 + \frac{4}{3} & \end{bmatrix}}_{[K]} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \theta_1 \\ \theta_2 \\ \vdots \\ \theta_{\mu-2} \\ \theta_{\mu-1} \end{bmatrix}}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}^h} + \lambda \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \sin(\theta_1) \\ \sin(\theta_2) \\ \vdots \\ \sin(\theta_{\mu-2}) \\ \sin(\theta_{\mu-1}) \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{f}(\boldsymbol{\theta}^h)} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix};$$

hence, more compactly,

$$[K]\boldsymbol{\theta}^h + \lambda\mathbf{f}(\boldsymbol{\theta}^h) = \mathbf{0};$$

Please note that  $[K]$  is the above tridiagonal matrix premultiplied with  $1/h^2$ ; by contrast,  $\mathbf{f}(\boldsymbol{\theta}^h)$  is the above vector without premultiplication with  $\lambda$ .

# Finite-difference approximation

## Linearized problem

- Let us consider again the linearized problem

$$\begin{cases} \theta'' + \lambda\theta = 0, \\ \theta(0) = \theta'(\ell) = 0. \end{cases}$$

- The application of the aforementioned finite-difference method leads to the algebraic problem

$$\underbrace{\frac{1}{h^2} \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1 & & & & \\ 1 & -2 & 1 & & & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & & \\ & & & 1 & -2 & 1 \\ & & & & 1 - \frac{1}{3} & -2 + \frac{4}{3} \end{bmatrix}}_{[K]} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \theta_1 \\ \theta_2 \\ \vdots \\ \theta_{\mu-2} \\ \theta_{\mu-1} \end{bmatrix}}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}^h} + \lambda \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \theta_1 \\ \theta_2 \\ \vdots \\ \theta_{\mu-2} \\ \theta_{\mu-1} \end{bmatrix}}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}^h} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix};$$

hence, more compactly,

$$[K]\boldsymbol{\theta}^h + \lambda\boldsymbol{\theta}^h = \mathbf{0}.$$

- For any  $\lambda$  in  $\mathbb{R}$ , the discretized linearized problem admits the trivial solution  $\boldsymbol{\theta}^h = \mathbf{0}$ . For  $\lambda$  equal to one of the eigenvalues  $\lambda_k^h$  of the eigenproblem  $-[K]\boldsymbol{\phi}^h = \lambda_k^h\boldsymbol{\phi}^h$ , it becomes degenerate and admits as nontrivial solution any constant multiple of the corresponding eigenvector  $\boldsymbol{\phi}_k^h$ .

# Finite-difference approximation

## Nonlinear problem

- For a given  $\lambda$  in  $\mathbb{R}$ ,  $[K]\boldsymbol{\theta}^h + \lambda\mathbf{f}(\boldsymbol{\theta}^h) = \mathbf{0}$  can be solved by using the Newton-Raphson method, an iterative method that constructs a sequence of approximations  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_0^h, \boldsymbol{\theta}_1^h, \boldsymbol{\theta}_2^h, \dots$  to  $\boldsymbol{\theta}^h$ .

Specifically, given the  $i$ -th approximation  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_i^h$ , the nonlinear algebraic problem is linearized about  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_i^h$ ,

$$[K](\boldsymbol{\theta}_i^h + \Delta\boldsymbol{\theta}_i^h) + \lambda(\mathbf{f}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_i^h) + [Z]\Delta\boldsymbol{\theta}_i^h) = \mathbf{0},$$

to determine the next,  $(i + 1)$ -th, approximation  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_{i+1}^h$ :

$$\boldsymbol{\theta}_{i+1}^h = \boldsymbol{\theta}_i^h + \Delta\boldsymbol{\theta}_i^h \quad \text{where} \quad ([K] + \lambda[Z])\Delta\boldsymbol{\theta}_i^h = -([K]\boldsymbol{\theta}_i^h + \lambda\mathbf{f}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_i^h));$$

here,  $[Z]$  is the diagonal matrix  $\text{Diag}(\cos(\theta_j))$ . If there exist multiple solutions, the choice of the initial approximation  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_0^h$  will determine the one to which the Newton-Raphson method will converge.

- In a computation under “**load control**,” one repeats the aforementioned procedure for a sequence of increasing values of  $\lambda$ . To “follow” a particular “branch” of nontrivial solutions, one can systematically choose as initial approximation to the solution for a subsequent value of  $\lambda$  the final approximation to the solution obtained for the previous value of  $\lambda$ .
- If the aforementioned procedure is carried out for a value of  $\lambda$  **slightly larger than one of the eigenvalues**  $\lambda_k^h$ , then one can make the Newton-Raphson converge to a solution on the **corresponding “branch” of nontrivial solutions** by using as **initial approximation**  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_0^h$  **a multiple**  $\zeta\boldsymbol{\phi}_k^h$  **of the corresponding eigenvector**  $\boldsymbol{\phi}_k^h$ , where  $\zeta$  is an “appropriately” chosen constant.

- As part 1 of 3 of the project, you are invited to implement the aforementioned finite-difference method and carry out a computation under “load control” that follows the “branch” of nontrivial solutions associated with the smallest magnitude eigenvalue of the linearized problem.

Please exploit the sparsity structure: `sparse`, `eigs`, `spdiags`, `spy`, `speye`,...

To solve linear systems, please do not compute the system-matrix inverse, but use the backslash operator (`help \`).

- Please include in your report:
  - ◆ a figure analogous to the one on Slide 14,
  - ◆ figures that show the solution obtained for several values of  $\lambda$ ,
  - ◆ a description of how you proceeded to choose the grid spacing  $h$ , the number of iterations in the Newton-Raphson method, the value of  $\zeta$ , and other parameters,
  - ◆ a description of the steps that you took to make sure that your results are correct,
  - ◆ ...
- If you need some help, Marco Lucio ([marcolucio.cerquaglia@ulg.ac.be](mailto:marcolucio.cerquaglia@ulg.ac.be)), Kavita ([goyalkavita9@gmail.com](mailto:goyalkavita9@gmail.com)), and Maarten Arnst ([maarten.arnst@ulg.ac.be](mailto:maarten.arnst@ulg.ac.be)) are at your disposal.

## References consulted to prepare this lecture

- S.-N. Chow and H. Hale. *Methods of bifurcation theory*. Springer, 1982.
- W. Day, A. Karkowski, and G. Papanicolaou. Buckling of randomly imperfect beams. *Acta Applicandae Mathematicae*, 17:269–186, 1989.
- H. Kielhöfer. *Bifurcation theory: An introduction with applications to partial differential equations*. Springer, 2012.
- S. Krantz and H. Parks. *The implicit function theorem*. Springer, 2013.
- R. Leveque. *Finite difference methods for ordinary and partial differential equations*. SIAM, 2007.
- S. Strogatz. *Nonlinear dynamics and chaos*. Perseus Books, 1994.
- W. Wagner and P. Wriggers. A simple method for the calculation of post critical branches. *Engineering Computations*, 5:103–109, 1988.