

# Analyse Hamiltonienne d'instabilité à inertie équatoriale

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# OUTLINE

1. L'ENERGIE et LA STABILITE
2. La stabilité de la "RIGID BODY" TOURNANT
3. Critères pour LA STABILITE SYMETRIQUE EQUATORIALE

# 1. L'ENERGIE ET LA STABILITE

## MAIN IDEA:

- For systems that **conserve energy**, the stability of **fixed points** (i.e. time independent solutions) is closely related to the behaviour of the **energy function(a)** near the fixed point.

- If a system is in canonical Hamiltonian form and the Hamiltonian function( $\mathcal{H}$ ) does not depend *explicitly* on time, then:
  - The Hamiltonian is conserved in time.
  - Steady state solutions are critical points of the Hamiltonian function( $\mathcal{H}$ ).
- For many systems, the Hamiltonian is the total energy (kinetic energy  $T$  plus potential energy  $U$ ).

- Example: If the state of the system is described by generalized coordinate  $\mathbf{q}(t) = (q_1(t), \dots, q_n(t))$  and its conjugate momentum  $\mathbf{p}(t) = (p_1(t), \dots, p_n(t))$ , and the Hamiltonian function is  $H(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{p})$ , then Hamilton's Equations are

$$\frac{dq_i}{dt} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_i}, \quad \frac{dp_i}{dt} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial q_i}$$

(cf. Newton's equations  $m \frac{dq_i}{dt} = p_i, \quad \frac{dp_i}{dt} = -\frac{\partial U(\mathbf{q})}{\partial q_i}$ )

- Therefore,

$$\frac{dH}{dt} = \sum_i^n \left( \frac{\partial H}{\partial q_i} \frac{dq_i}{dt} + \frac{\partial H}{\partial p_i} \frac{dp_i}{dt} \right) = 0$$

$$\frac{dq_i}{dt} = \frac{dp_i}{dt} = 0 \iff \nabla_{(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{p})} H = 0$$

- What does this have to do with **stability**?
  - Stability of a steady solution means that if the system **starts** close enough to the steady solution, it will **remain** close for all time.
  - Mathematically (**Lyapunov**):  
Steady state **(Q, P)** is stable with respect to the **norm**  
 $\|(\mathbf{q} - \mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{p} - \mathbf{P})\|$  if:

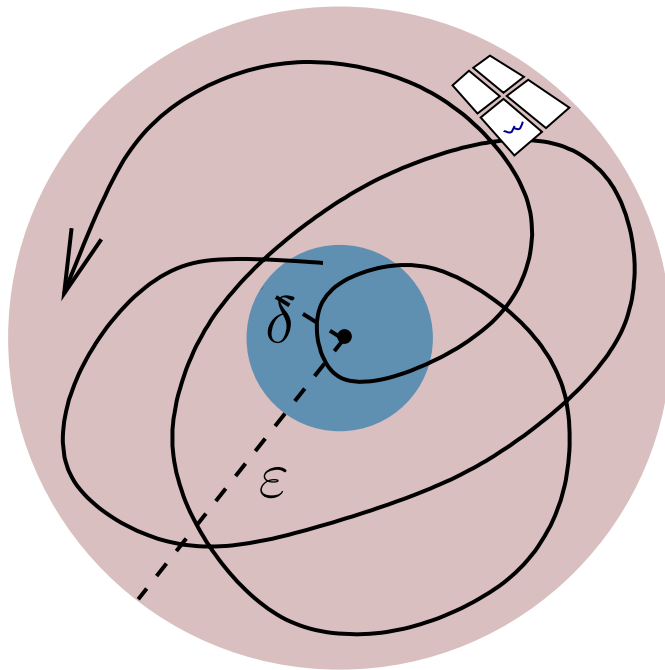
for every  $\varepsilon$ , there is a  $\delta$  such that,

if  $\|(\mathbf{q}(t = 0), \mathbf{p}(t = 0)) - (\mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{P})\| < \delta$ ,

then  $\|(\mathbf{q}(t), \mathbf{p}(t)) - (\mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{P})\| < \varepsilon$  for all times  $t$ .

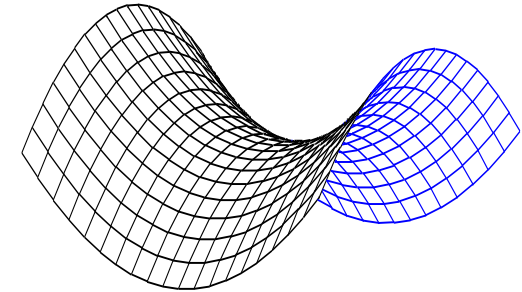
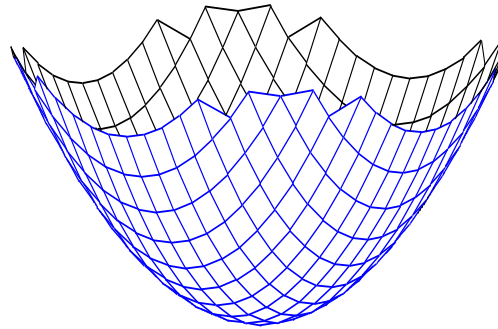
- Norm might be **Euclidean norm** (distance)

$$\|(\mathbf{q} - \mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{p} - \mathbf{P})\| \equiv \sqrt{\sum_i [(q_i - Q_i)^2 + (p_i - P_i)^2]}$$

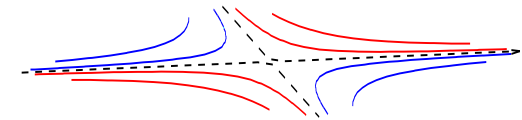
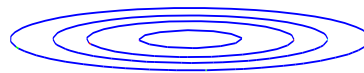


- Black line is trajectory of system through **phase space** (the space of all states  $(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{p})$ )  
(← these balls are at least 3-dimensional)

- In the neighbourhood of a critical point, the Hamiltonian can have one of two geometries, corresponding to stability and instability:



Phase space  
level curves →



“bowl”

“saddle”

Point is **stable**

Point is **unstable**



- Hamilton's equations can be generalized to **non-canonical** forms; i.e. systems for which the state of the system  $\mathbf{x}$  is not described by conjugate pairs of coordinates and momenta.
- In that case, the equations (still) take the form

$$\frac{d\mathbf{x}}{dt} = \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x}) \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} H(\mathbf{x})$$

but the matrix  $\mathbf{J} \neq \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \mathbf{I}_n \\ -\mathbf{I}_n & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  and is **not invertible**.

- Therefore, fixed points **might not** be critical points of the Hamiltonian!

- However ... in non-canonical systems, there exist other conserved functionals called **Casimir invariants**.
- They may be thought of as **constraints** on the dynamics:
  - Fixed points are critical points of the Hamiltonian **given the constraints of the Casimir invariants**.
  - Equivalently, fixed points are points at which there exists a Casimir invariant  $C(\mathbf{x})$  such that the surface of constant Hamiltonian  $H(\mathbf{x})$  is **tangent** to the surface of constant  $C(\mathbf{x})$ .  
  
(cf. the method of **Lagrange multipliers** for finding extrema of constrained systems).
- For stability, we look at the geometry of  $H(\mathbf{x}) + C(\mathbf{x})$  near the fixed point.

## 2. EXAMPLE: LA “RIGID BODY” TOURNANT

(e.g. Arnold, V. I. *Mathematical Methods of Classical Mechanics*)

- The rotational properties of a free rigid body are characterized by its moments of inertia  $I_1$ ,  $I_2$ , and  $I_3$  about its three principal axes.
- The state of the system is given by  $\mathbf{m} = (m_1, m_2, m_3)$ , the body's angular momentum about each of its principal axes. The Hamiltonian is the kinetic energy

$$H(\mathbf{m}) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{m_1^2}{I_1} + \frac{m_2^2}{I_2} + \frac{m_3^2}{I_3} \right)$$

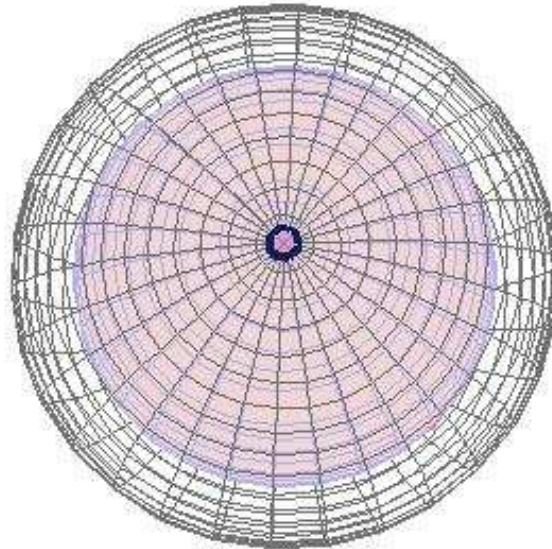
and the Casimir is total angular momentum

$$C(\mathbf{m}) = m_1^2 + m_2^2 + m_3^2$$

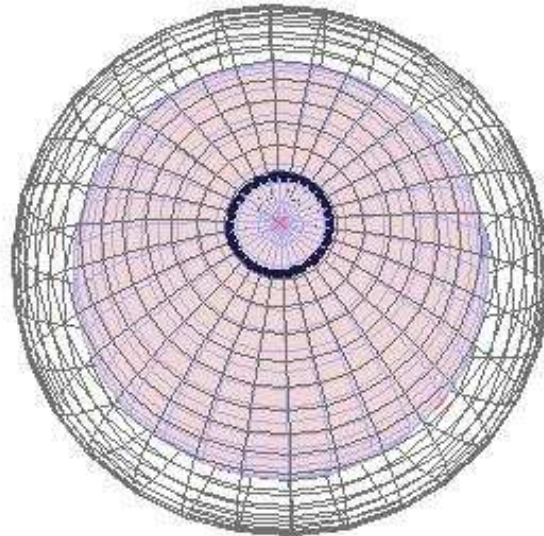
- The **trajectories** of the system through phase space (i.e. the three dimensional space of angular momentum) are thus the **intersections** of a **sphere** (angular momentum), and an **ellipsoid** (kinetic energy).
- Fixed points are points at which the sphere and the ellipsoid are tangent.
- If the moments of inertia are all different, the only fixed points correspond to rotation strictly about one of the principal axes.
- Are these fixed points **STABLE** or **UNSTABLE**?

- Rotation about the **lightest** axis . . .

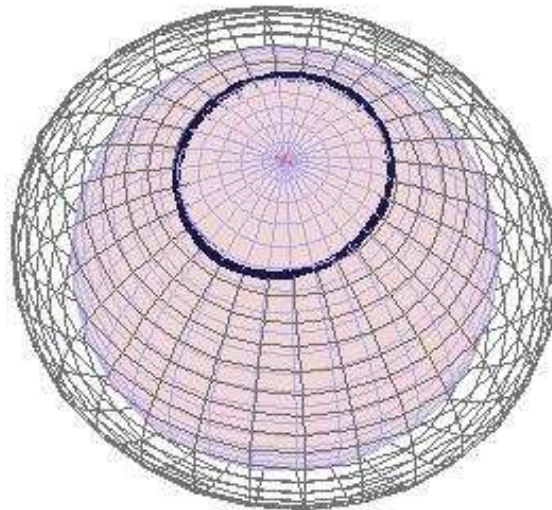
- Rotation about the **lightest** axis . . .



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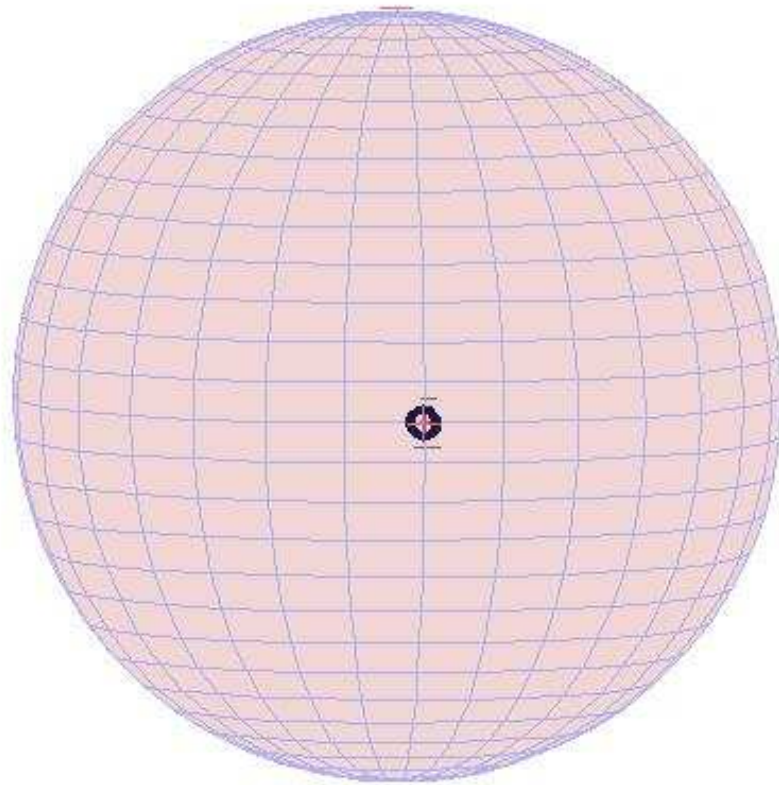


- Rotation about the **lightest** axis is

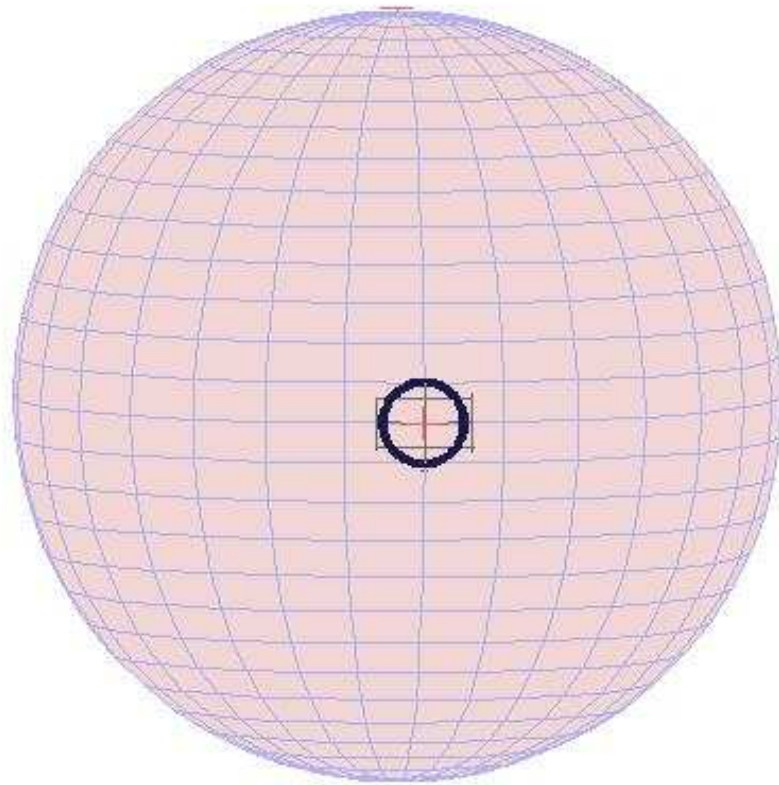
⇒ **STABLE!**

- Rotation about the **heaviest** axis . . .

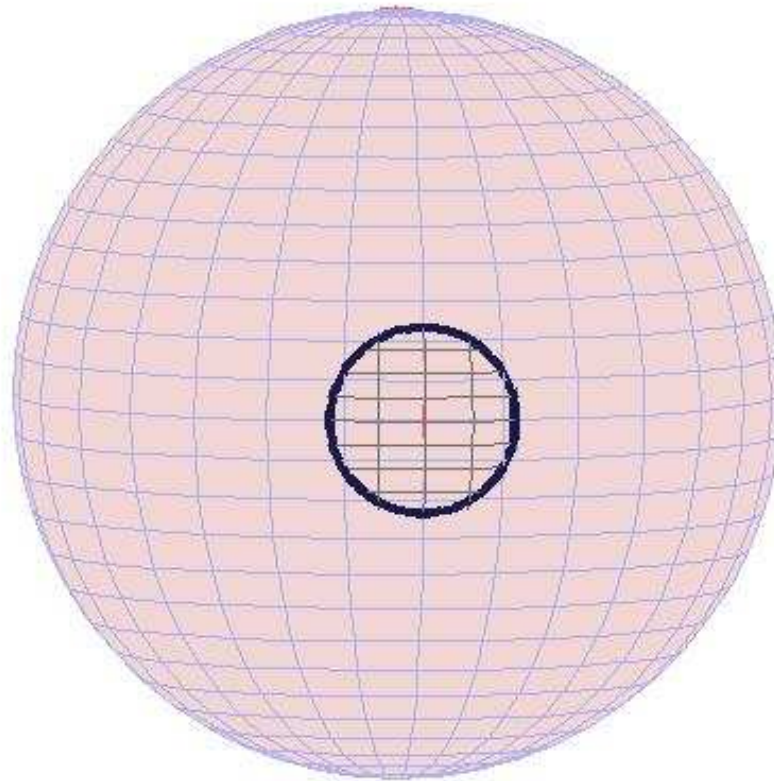
- Rotation about the **heaviest** axis . . .



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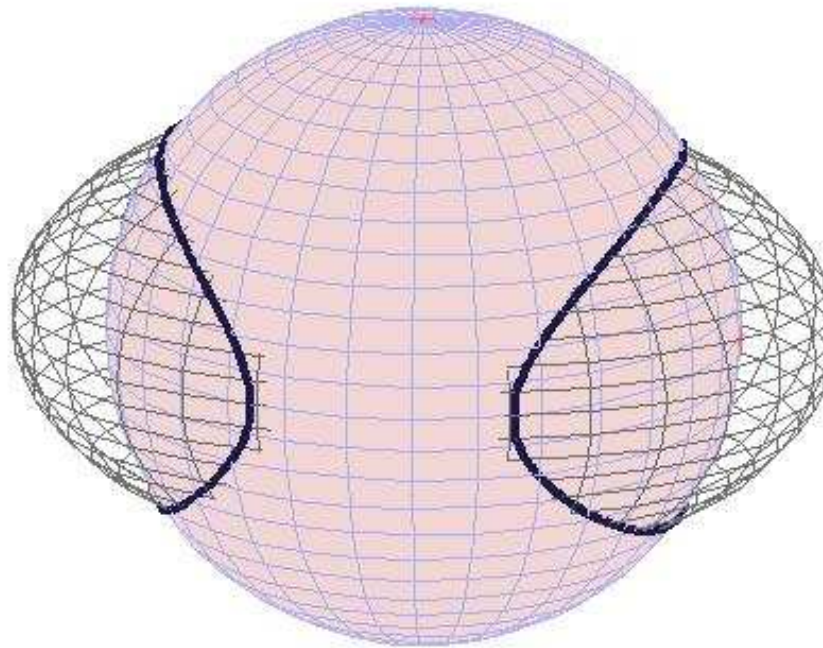


- Rotation about the **heaviest** axis is

⇒ **STABLE!**

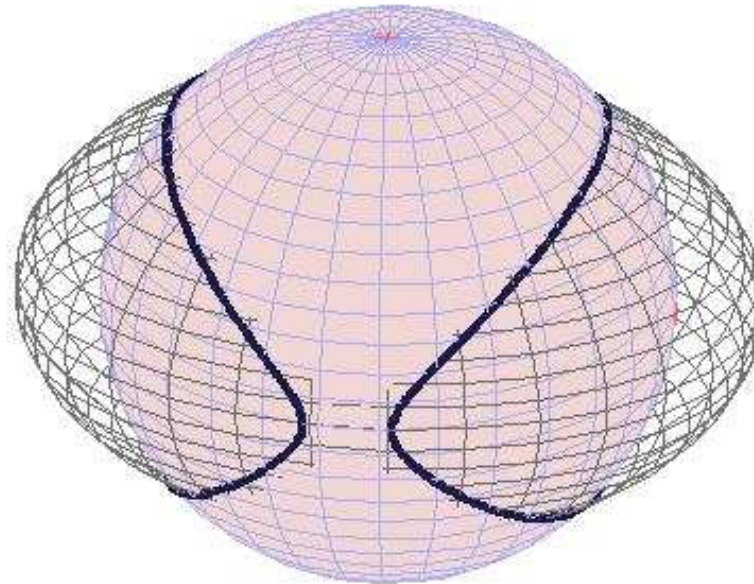
- Rotation about the **middle** axis . . .

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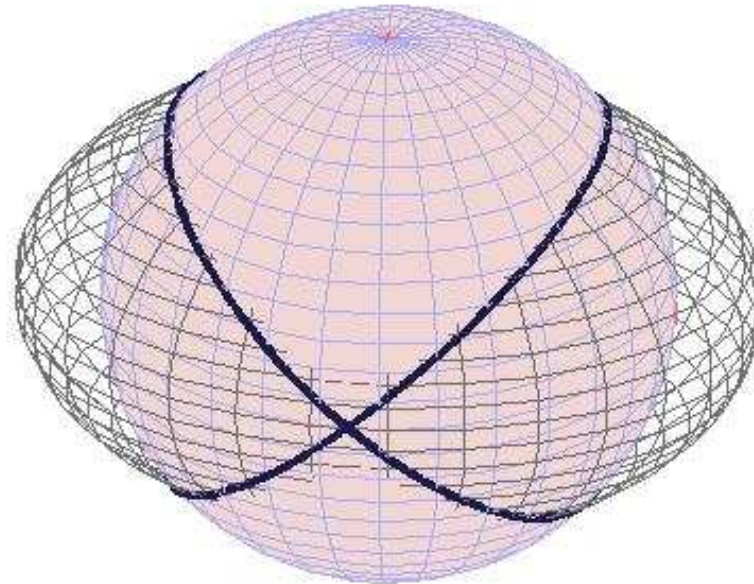




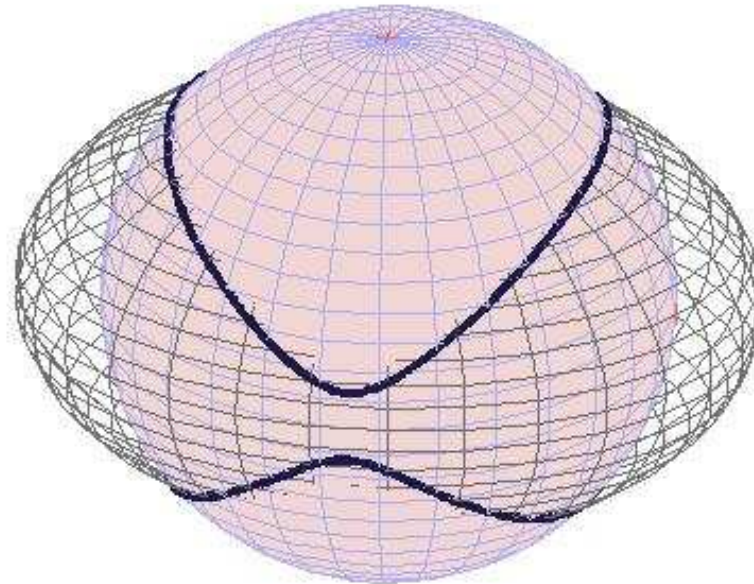
- Rotation about the **middle** axis . . .



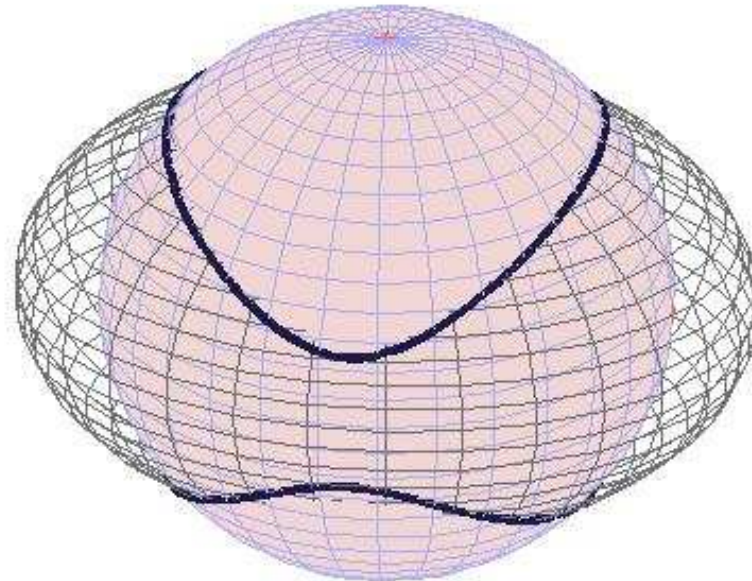
- Rotation about the **middle** axis . . .



- Rotation about the **middle** axis . . .



- Rotation about the **middle** axis . . .



- Rotation about the **middle** axis is

⇒ **UNSTABLE!**

### 3. LA STABILITE SYMETRIQUE EQUATORIALE

- Hamiltonian methods can also apply to the **partial differential equations** of **fluid mechanics**.
- The independent variables are continuous functions of time *and* space, and the Hamiltonian is a **functional** of the independent variables.
- Hamiltonian fluid systems written in **Eulerian** variables (velocity, temperature, entropy, etc.) are **non-canonical**.
- The Casimirs are commonly functionals of **Lagrangian invariants** like **potential vorticity** and **entropy**.

- Consider the problem of the stability of a **zonal** (east-west) flow in the equatorial atmosphere.
- Instability in equatorial zonal flows is a significant process in shaping the dynamics in the equatorial stratosphere during solstice seasons, and in organizing moist convection in the equatorial troposphere.
- If the flow is **adiabatic** and **inviscid**, it can be described by a non-canonical Hamiltonian system of equations.
- If the system is also assumed to be **independent of longitude**, its stability characteristics can be determined with the “**energy-Casimir**” method.
- We use the **anelastic approximation** on the **equatorial  $\beta$ -plane**.

- The state of the system is described by  $\mathbf{x} = (m, \zeta, \theta)$ , where  $m$  is the component of **absolute angular momentum** corresponding to zonal motion,  $\zeta$  is the component of **relative vorticity** in the zonal direction (corresponding to meridional and vertical motion), and  $\theta$  is **potential temperature**.
- The Hamiltonian is:

$$\mathcal{H} = \iint \left\{ \rho_0 \left( \frac{1}{2} \beta y^2 - \gamma z \right) m + \frac{1}{2\rho_0} \left[ \left( \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial z} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} \right)^2 \right] + \rho_0 \pi_0 \theta \right\} dy dz$$

where  $(y, z)$  are latitude and altitude,  $(0, \gamma, \beta y)$  is the local planetary rotation vector,  $\psi$  is a streamfunction for motion in the  $(y, z)$  plane, and  $\pi_0(z)$  and  $\rho_0(z)$  are prescribed pressure and density fields.



- The Casimirs are functionals of the form

$$\mathcal{C} = \iint C(m, \theta) dy dz$$

where  $C(m, \theta)$  is an arbitrary twice differentiable function.

- Steady states  $\mathbf{X} = (M(y, z), 0, \Theta(y, z))$  satisfy the thermal wind equation

$$\left( \frac{d\pi_0}{dz} \right) \frac{\partial \Theta}{\partial y} - \beta y \frac{\partial M}{\partial z} + \gamma \frac{\partial M}{\partial y} = 0$$

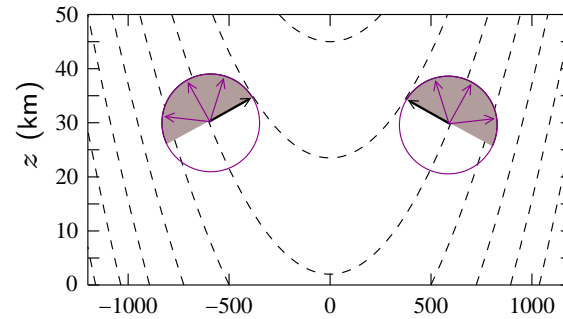
- **Step 1:** Find the Casimirs which are tangent to the Hamiltonian at the fixed points. These give relations between the derivatives of  $C(m, \theta)$  and the steady state functions  $M$  and  $\Theta$ .
- **Step 2:** Find conditions under which  $\mathcal{H} + \mathcal{C}$  has a **minimum** at the basic state. These are conditions on the second derivatives of  $C(m, \theta)$  and in turn on the gradients of  $M$  and  $\Theta$ , and in particular on the **potential vorticity**  $Q = \frac{1}{\rho_0} \partial(\Theta, M)$ .
- **Step 3:** We can then define a norm on the displacements  $\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{X}$  with respect to which the conditions found in Step 2 are **sufficient** for Lyapunov stability.

⇒ Stability Conditions

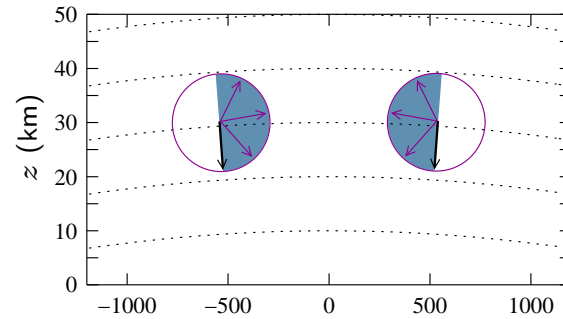
$$\frac{1}{Q} \partial(\Theta, -\frac{1}{2}\beta y^2 + \gamma z) > 0$$

$$\frac{1}{Q} \frac{\partial M}{\partial y} < 0$$

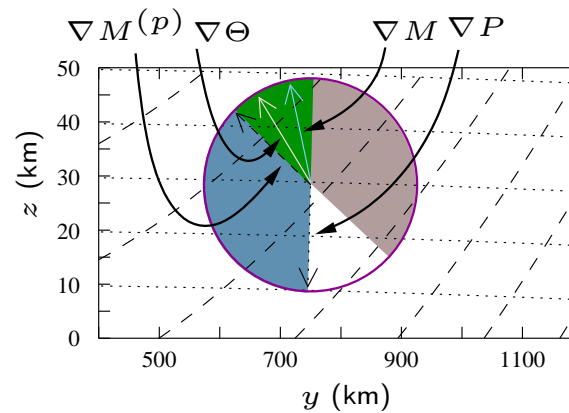
$$\frac{y}{Q} > 0$$



STATIC  
STABILITY



INERTIAL  
STABILITY



SYMMETRIC  
STABILITY

## SOMMAIRE

- In **Hamiltonian systems**, there is a direct connection between the **geometry** of the energy functional near fixed points and their **stability** properties.
- **Non-canonical** Hamiltonian systems have additional invariants (besides energy) called **Casimir invariants**. Fixed points are critical points of the Hamiltonian given the Casimir invariants as **constraints**.
- The **free rotations of a rigid body** are an example of a system described by a non-canonical Hamiltonian system of equations. Rotation about the principal axis of intermediate moment of inertia is an unstable fixed point.

- Inviscid, adiabatic **fluid systems** in Eulerian variables are also non-canonical Hamiltonian.
- Longitudinally symmetric zonal flows at the equator are stable if the **potential vorticity** has the sign of latitude, and the **absolute zonal angular momentum** increases towards the equator.