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GENERIC PROPERTIES OF RETARDED FUNCTIONAL DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS¹

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Consider the retarded functional differential equation (RFDE)

$$\dot{x}(t) = f(x_t)$$

where as in [1], $x_t(\theta) = x(t + \theta)$, $-1 \le \theta \le 0$, $x_t \in C = C([-1, 0], \mathbb{R}^n)$, and $f \in X = C^{\infty}(C, \mathbb{R}^n)$. Oliva [5] showed fixed points of (1) generically are hyperbolic; here we generalize to the theorem of Kupka [2], Markus [3] and Smale [7]. With an appropriate Whitney (Baire) topology on X, we have

THEOREM 1. The set of $f \in X$ for which

1. all fixed points and all periodic solutions of (1) are hyperbolic,

2. all global unstable manifolds are injectively immersed in C, and

3. all global unstable and local stable manifolds intersect transversally

is a residual subset of X.

The restriction to the local stable manifold in 3. is necessary as we lack backwards existence and uniqueness.

If we consider only equations

(2)
$$\dot{x}(t) = F(x(t-\tau_1), x(t-\tau_2), \dots, x(t-\tau_p)),$$
$$0 \le \tau_1 < \tau_2 < \dots < \tau_p \le 1 \text{ fixed},$$

with $F \in C^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}^{np}, \mathbb{R}^n)$, we obtain

THEOREM 2. Let $\tau_1 = 0$. Then the set of $F \in C^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}^{np}, \mathbb{R}^n)$ for which 1., 2. and 3. above hold is a residual set.

The question of what happens when $\tau_1 > 0$ seems to be open.

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