

**THE MARKUS-YAMABE CONJECTURE FOR DISCONTINUOUS  
PIECEWISE LINEAR DIFFERENTIAL SYSTEMS IN  $\mathbb{R}^n$   
SEPARATED BY A CONIC  $\times \mathbb{R}^{n-2}$**

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ABSTRACT. In 1960 Markus and Yamabe made the conjecture that if a  $C^1$  differential system  $\dot{x} = F(x)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  has a unique equilibrium point and  $DF(x)$  is Hurwitz for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , then the equilibrium point is a global attractor. This conjecture was completely solved in 1997 and it turned out to be true in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  and false in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  for all  $n \geq 3$ .

In [17] the authors extended the Markus–Yamabe conjecture to continuous and discontinuous piecewise linear differential systems in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  separated by a hyperplane, they proved for the continuous systems that the extended conjecture is true in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  and false in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  for all  $n \geq 3$ , but for discontinuous systems they proved that the conjecture is false in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  for all  $n \geq 2$ .

In this paper first we show that there are no continuous piecewise linear differential systems separated by a conic  $\times \mathbb{R}^{n-2}$  except the linear differential systems in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . And after we prove that the extended Markus–Yamabe conjecture to discontinuous piecewise linear differential systems in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  separated by a conic  $\times \mathbb{R}^{n-2}$  is false in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  for all  $n \geq 2$ .

1. INTRODUCTION AND STATEMENT OF THE RESULTS

Consider a  $C^1$  differential system  $\dot{x} = F(x)$  defined in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and having an equilibrium point at the origin of coordinates. If  $DF(0)$  is Hurwitz (i.e. the eigenvalues of  $DF(0)$  have negative real part), then by the Hartman-Grobman Theorem [11, 14] the origin is locally asymptotically stable. A natural question arises: which are the additional hypotheses that one may add to the function  $F$  in order that the origin is a global attractor.

Markus and Yamabe in 1960 (see [18]) made the following conjecture: If we have a  $C^1$  differential system  $\dot{x} = F(x)$  defined in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  such that  $DF(x)$  is Hurwitz for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , and having a unique equilibrium point at the origin of coordinates, then the origin is a global attractor.

This conjecture follows easily when  $n = 1$ . This conjecture when  $n = 2$  was proved independently by Gutierrez [12, 13] in 1993 and by Fessler [6, 7] in 1995. A simpler proof was then given by Glutsyuk in [9, 10]. The counterexample to Markus-Yamabe conjecture for  $n > 3$  was given by Bernat and Llibre in [3] and the counterexample for  $n \geq 3$  was given by Cima, van den Essen, Gasull, Hubbers and

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