

# V. HOMOGENEOUS SYSTEMS WITH CONSTANT COEFFICIENTS, TWO DIFFICULTIES:

1.  $A$  has complex eigenvalues and complex eigenvectors.
2.  $A$  has an eigenvalue of multiplicity greater than 1.

# 1. Complex Eigenvalues/Vectors

**Example 1:** Find the general solution of

$$\mathbf{x}' = \begin{pmatrix} -3 & -2 \\ 4 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}.$$

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = \begin{vmatrix} -3 - \lambda & -2 \\ 4 & 1 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = \lambda^2 + 2\lambda + 5.$$

The eigenvalues are:

$$\lambda_1 = -1 + 2i, \quad \lambda_2 = -1 - 2i.$$

$$A - \lambda I = \begin{pmatrix} -3 - \lambda & -2 \\ 4 & 1 - \lambda \end{pmatrix}$$

For  $\lambda_1 = -1 + 2i$ : Solve

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|c} -2 - 2i & -2 & 0 \\ 4 & 2 - 2i & 0 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow$$

The solution set is:

$$x_2 = -(1 + i)x_1, \quad x_1 \text{ arbitrary}$$

Set  $x_1 = 1$ . Then, for  $\lambda_1 = -1 + 2i$ :

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 - i \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} + i \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

and, for  $\lambda_2 = -1 - 2i$ :

$$\mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} - i \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$\lambda_1 = -1 + 2i$$

$$A - (-1 + 2i)I = \begin{pmatrix} -2-2 & -2 \\ 4 & 2-2i \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -2-2i & -2 & | & 0 \\ 4 & 2-2i & | & 0 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{2}i & -\frac{1}{2} & | & 0 \\ 1 & \frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{2}i & | & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{2}i & | & 0 \\ -\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{2}i & -\frac{1}{2} & | & 0 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{2}i & | & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$x_1 = \left(-\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}i\right)x_2, \quad x_2 \text{ free.}$$

$$\text{Set } x_2 = 2: \quad \vec{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} -1+i \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + i \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\vec{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} - i \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Solutions:

$$u_1(t) = e^{(-1+2i)t} \left[ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} + i \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \right]$$

$$u_2(t) = e^{(-1-2i)t} \left[ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} - i \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \right]$$

Complex-valued! We want real-valued solutions (see Section 3.3 Case III).

From 3.3,

$$e^{i\theta} = \cos \theta + i \sin \theta \quad (\text{Euler's formula})$$

$$e^{-i\theta} = \cos \theta - i \sin \theta$$

$$\begin{aligned} \circ e^{(-1+2i)t} &= e^{-t} e^{2it} \\ &= e^{-t} [\cos 2t + i \sin 2t] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \circ e^{(-1-2i)t} &= e^{-t} e^{-2it} \\ &= e^{-t} [\cos 2t - i \sin 2t] \end{aligned}$$

## Solutions

$$\mathbf{u}_1 = e^{\lambda_1 t} \mathbf{v}_1 =$$

$$= e^{(-1+2i)t} \left[ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} + i \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \right] =$$

$$e^{-t} (\cos 2t + i \sin 2t) \left[ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} + i \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \right]$$

$$= e^{-t} \left[ \cos 2t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} - \sin 2t \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \right] +$$

$$i e^{-t} \left[ \cos 2t \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} + \sin 2t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \right].$$

$$\mathbf{u}_2 = e^{\lambda_2 t} \mathbf{v}_2$$

$$= e^{(-1-2i)t} \left[ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} - i \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \right] =$$

$$e^{-t} (\cos 2t - i \sin 2t) \left[ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} - i \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \right]$$

$$= e^{-t} \left[ \cos 2t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} - \sin 2t \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \right] -$$

$$i e^{-t} \left[ \cos 2t \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} + \sin 2t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \right].$$



## Fundamental set:

$$x_1 = \frac{u_1 + u_2}{2}$$

$$\vec{x}_1 = e^{-t} \left[ \cos 2t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} - \sin 2t \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \right]$$

$$x_2 = \frac{u_1 - u_2}{2i}$$

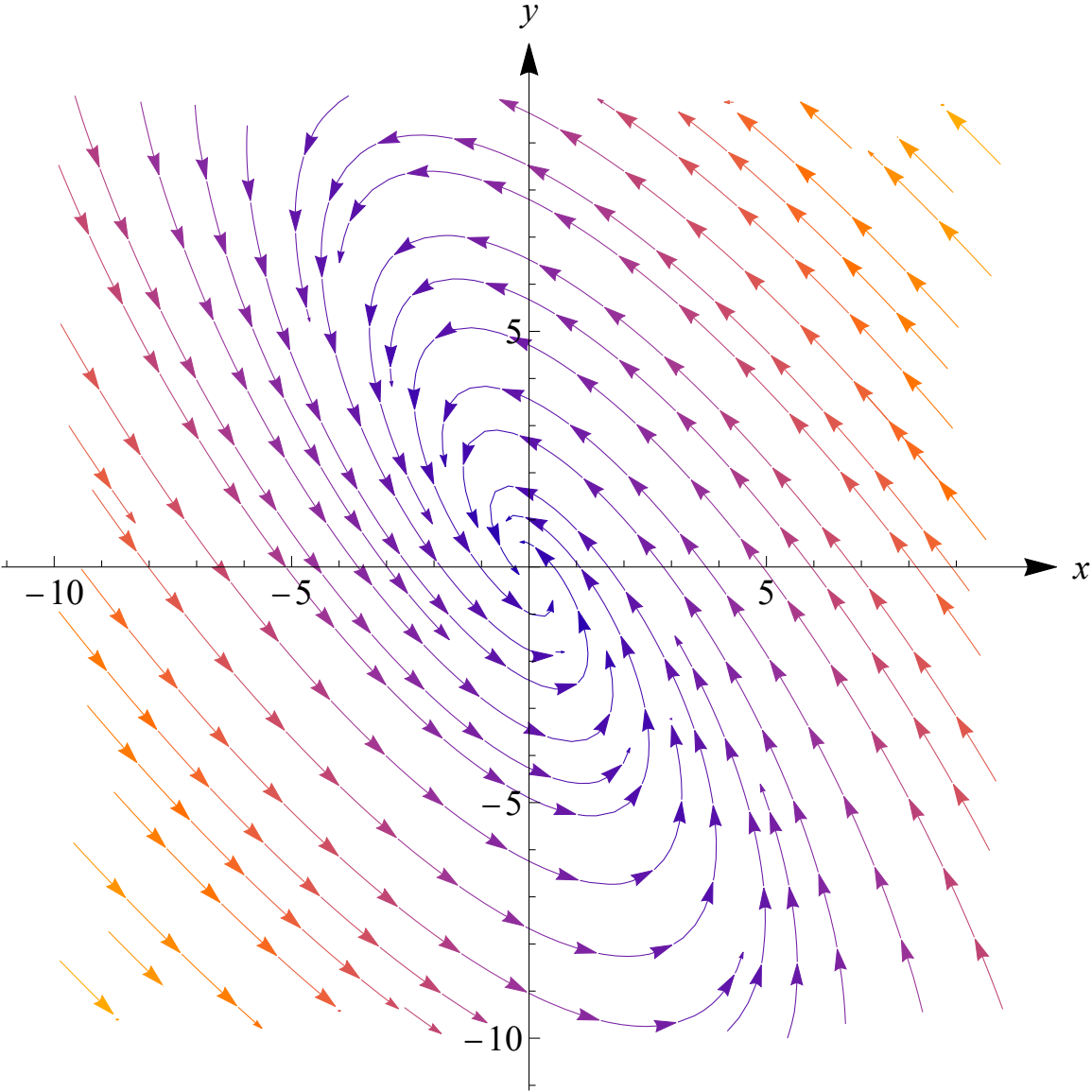
$$\vec{x}_2 = e^{-t} \left[ \cos 2t \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} + \sin 2t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \right]$$

## General solution:

$$\mathbf{x} = C_1 e^{-t} \left[ \cos 2t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} - \sin 2t \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \right] +$$

$$C_2 e^{-t} \left[ \cos 2t \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} + \sin 2t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \right]$$

# Graphs



**Example 2:** Find the general so-

lution of

$$\mathbf{x}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -5 \\ 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}.$$

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 - \lambda & -5 \\ 2 & 3 - \lambda \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= \lambda^2 - 4\lambda + 13.$$

Characteristic equation:

$$\lambda^2 - 4\lambda + 13 = 0$$

Eigenvalues:

$$\lambda_1 = 2 + 3i, \quad \lambda_2 = 2 - 3i.$$

$$A - \lambda I = \begin{pmatrix} 1 - \lambda & -5 \\ 2 & 3 - \lambda \end{pmatrix}$$

For  $\lambda_1 = 2 + 3i$ : Solve

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|c} -1 - 3i & -5 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 - 3i & 0 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow$$

Eigenvectors:

$$\lambda_1 = 2 + 3i, \quad \mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + i \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$\lambda_2 = 2 - 3i, \quad \mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} - i \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

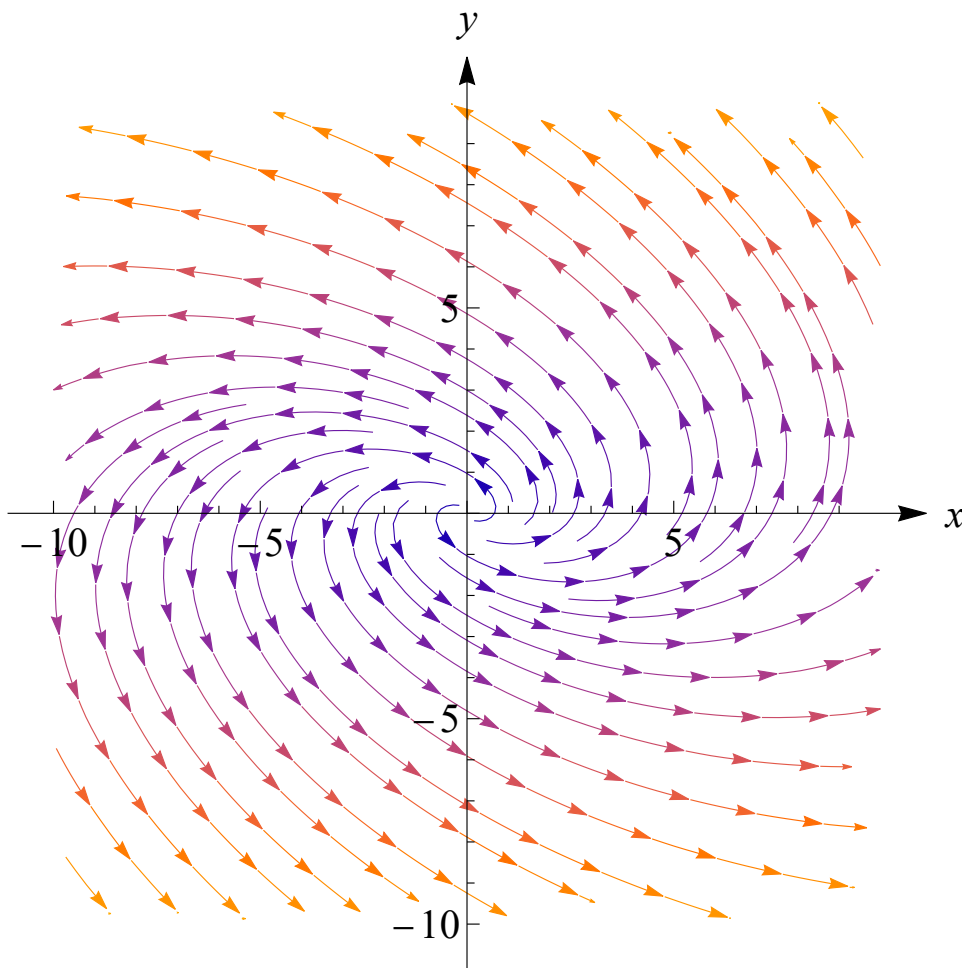
**Fundamental set:**

$$\mathbf{x}_1 = e^{2t} \left[ \cos 3t \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} - \sin 3t \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right]$$

$$\mathbf{x}_2 = e^{2t} \left[ \cos 3t \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \sin 3t \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \right]$$

## General solution:

$$\mathbf{x} = C_1 e^{2t} \left[ \cos 3t \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} - \sin 3t \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right] +$$
$$C_2 e^{2t} \left[ \cos 3t \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \sin 3t \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \right]$$





**Summary:**  $\mathbf{x}' = A\mathbf{x}$ ,  $A$   $n \times n$  const.

$a + ib$ ,  $a - ib$  complex eigenvalues.

$\vec{\alpha} + i \vec{\beta}$ ,  $\vec{\alpha} - i \vec{\beta}$  corresponding  
eigenvectors.

Independent (complex-valued) solu-  
tions:

$$\mathbf{u}_1 = e^{(a+ib)t} \begin{pmatrix} \vec{\alpha} + i \vec{\beta} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{u}_2 = e^{(a-ib)t} \begin{pmatrix} \vec{\alpha} - i \vec{\beta} \end{pmatrix}$$



**Corresponding real-valued solutions, fundamental set:**

$$\mathbf{x}_1 = e^{at} \left[ \cos bt \vec{\alpha} - \sin bt \vec{\beta} \right]$$

$$\mathbf{x}_2 = e^{at} \left[ \cos bt \vec{\beta} + \sin bt \vec{\alpha} \right]$$

**General solution:**

$$\mathbf{x} = C_1 e^{at} \left[ \cos bt \vec{\alpha} - \sin bt \vec{\beta} \right] +$$

$$C_2 e^{at} \left[ \cos bt \vec{\beta} + \sin bt \vec{\alpha} \right]$$

**Example 3:** Determine a fundamental set of solution vectors of

$$\mathbf{x}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -4 & -1 \\ 3 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}.$$

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 - \lambda & -4 & -1 \\ 3 & 2 - \lambda & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} =$$

$$-\lambda^3 + 6\lambda^2 - 21\lambda + 26 = -(\lambda - 2)(\lambda^2 - 4\lambda + 13).$$

The eigenvalues are:

$$\lambda_1 = 2, \quad \lambda_2 = 2 + 3i, \quad \lambda_3 = 2 - 3i.$$

$$A - \lambda I = \begin{pmatrix} 1 - \lambda & -4 & -1 \\ 3 & 2 - \lambda & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 - \lambda \end{pmatrix}$$

$\lambda_1 = 2$ : Solve

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} -1 & -4 & -1 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 3 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & -4 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) \quad \begin{array}{l} x_2 = 0 \\ x_1 = -x_3 \text{ arb.} \end{array}$$

Set  $x_3 = -1$ ,  $\vec{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$

Soln  $e^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$A - \lambda I = \begin{pmatrix} 1 - \lambda & -4 & -1 \\ 3 & 2 - \lambda & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 - \lambda \end{pmatrix}$$

For  $\lambda_2 = 2 + 3i$ : Solve

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} -1 - 3i & -4 & -1 & 0 \\ 3 & -3i & 3 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 - 3i & 0 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 - 3i & 0 \\ 1 - i & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 - 3i & -4 & -1 & 0 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 - 3i & 0 \\ 0 & -1 - i & 3i & 0 \\ 0 & -3 + 3i & 10 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 - 3i & 0 \\ 0 & -1 - i & 3i & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

$$x_2 = \frac{3i}{1+i} x_3$$

$$= \frac{3i}{1+i} \cdot \frac{1-i}{1-i} x_3$$

$$= \left( \frac{3}{2} - \frac{3}{2}i \right) x_3$$

$$v_1 = \left( -\frac{5}{2} + \frac{3}{2}i \right) x_3$$

The solution set is:

$$x_1 = \left(-\frac{5}{2} + \frac{3}{2}i\right)x_3, \quad x_2 = \left(\frac{3}{2} - \frac{3}{2}i\right)x_3,$$

$x_3$  arbitrary.

$$v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -5 + 3i \\ 3 - 3i \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + i \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

and

$$v_3 = \begin{pmatrix} -5 - 3i \\ 3 + 3i \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} - i \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Now

$$\mathbf{u}_1 = e^{(2+3i)t} \left[ \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + i \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right]$$

and

$$\mathbf{u}_2 = e^{(2-3i)t} \left[ \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} - i \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right]$$

convert to:

$$\mathbf{x}_1 = e^{2t} \left[ \cos 3t \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} - \sin 3t \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right]$$

and

$$\mathbf{x}_2 = e^{2t} \left[ \cos 3t \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \sin 3t \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \right]$$

Fundamental set of solution vectors:

$$\mathbf{x}_1 = e^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\mathbf{x}_2 = e^{2t} \left[ \cos 3t \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} - \sin 3t \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right],$$

$$\mathbf{x}_3 = e^{2t} \left[ \cos 3t \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \sin 3t \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \right].$$

General solution:

$$\mathbf{x} = C_1 \mathbf{x}_1 + C_2 \mathbf{x}_2 + C_3 \mathbf{x}_3$$

On Exam 3, 2x2 Yes. !!  
3x3 No. <sup>21</sup>

## 2. Repeated Eigenvalues

**Example 1:** Find a fundamental

set of solutions of

$$\mathbf{x}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -3 & 3 \\ 3 & -5 & 3 \\ 6 & -6 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}.$$

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 - \lambda & -3 & 3 \\ 3 & -5 - \lambda & 3 \\ 6 & -6 & 4 - \lambda \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= 16 + 12\lambda - \lambda^3 = -(\lambda - 4)(\lambda + 2)^2.$$

Eigenvalues:  $\lambda_1 = 4$ ,  $\lambda_2 = \lambda_3 = -2$



$$\lambda_1 = 4: \quad (A - 4I) = \begin{pmatrix} -3 & -3 & 3 \\ 3 & -9 & 3 \\ 6 & -6 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Solve:

$$(A - 4I)\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} -3 & -3 & 3 \\ 3 & -9 & 3 \\ 6 & -6 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} -3 & -3 & 3 & 0 \\ 3 & -9 & 3 & 0 \\ 6 & -6 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 3 & -9 & 3 & 0 \\ 6 & -6 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -12 & 6 & 0 \\ 0 & -12 & 6 & 0 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 + x_2 - x_3 &= 0 \\ 2x_2 - x_3 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x_2 &= \frac{1}{2}x_3 \\ x_1 &= \frac{1}{2}x_3 \end{aligned} \quad \text{arb}$$

$$\text{Set } x_3 = 2 \quad \vec{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Soln } \vec{x}_1 = e^{4t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_2 = \lambda_3 = -2:$$

$$A - (-2)I = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -3 & 3 \\ 3 & -3 & 3 \\ 6 & -6 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 3 & -3 & 3 & 0 \\ 3 & -3 & 3 & 0 \\ 6 & -6 & 6 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

which row reduces to

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right).$$

Solution set:

$$x_1 = x_2 - x_3, \quad x_2, \quad x_3 \quad \text{arbitrary}$$

$$\text{Set } x_2 = 1, \quad x_3 = 0 : \quad \mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix};$$

$$\text{Set } x_2 = 0, \quad x_3 = 1 : \quad \mathbf{v}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Fundamental set:

$$\left\{ e^{4t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}, e^{-2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, e^{-2t} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}.$$

$$y''' - 12y' - 16y = 0$$

**Example 2:** Find a fundamental

set of solutions of  $\mathbf{x}' = \begin{pmatrix} -4 & 1 \\ -4 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \det(A - \lambda I) &= \begin{vmatrix} -4 - \lambda & 1 \\ -4 & -\lambda \end{vmatrix} \\ &= \lambda^2 + 4\lambda + 4. \end{aligned}$$

Characteristic equation:

$$\lambda^2 + 4\lambda + 4 = 0$$

Eigenvalues:

$$\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = -2.$$

$$\text{Eigenvectors: } A - \lambda I = \begin{pmatrix} -4 - \lambda & 1 \\ -4 & -\lambda \end{pmatrix}$$

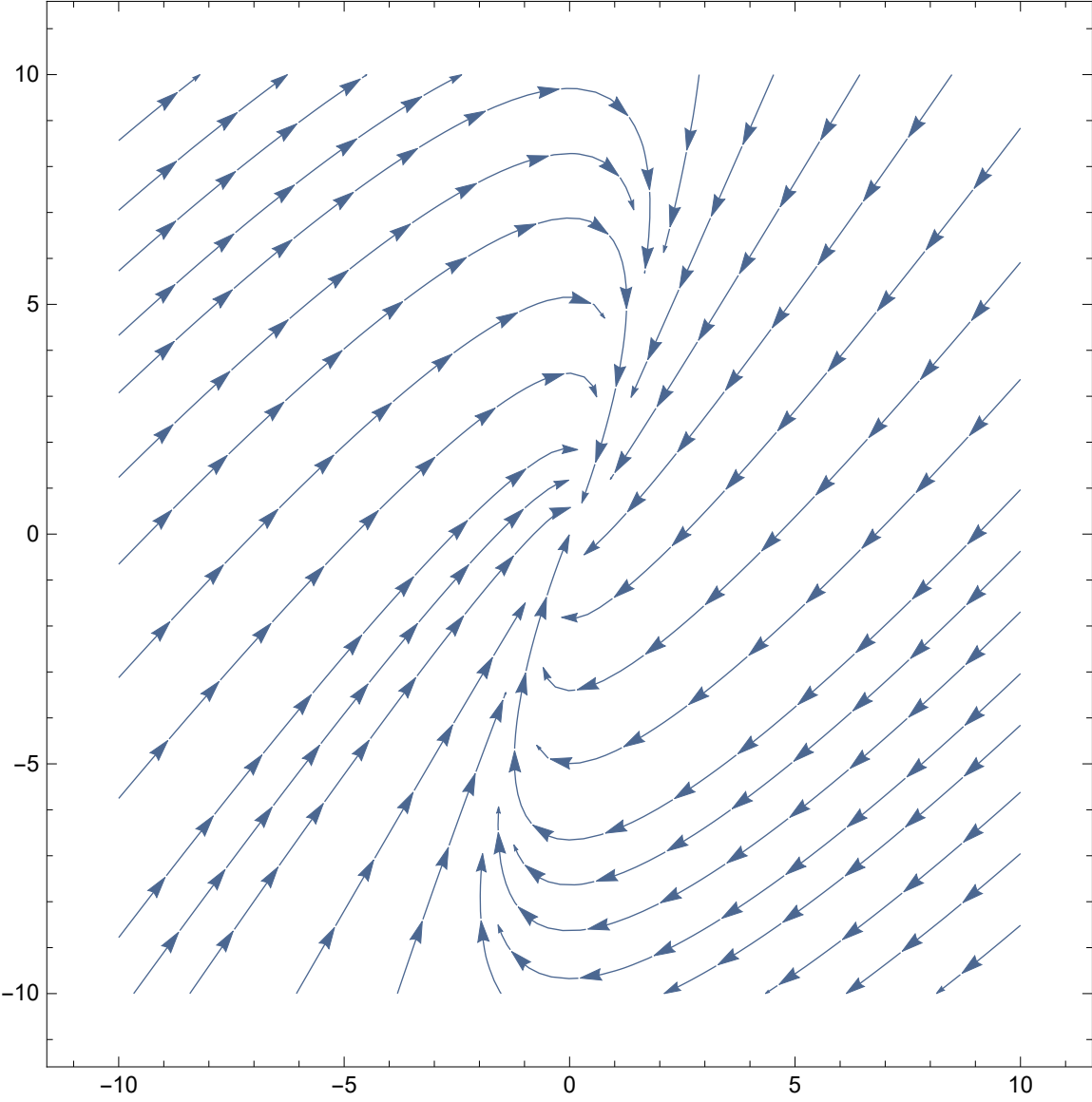
$\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = -2$ : Solve

$$(A - (-2)I)\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 1 \\ -4 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|c} -2 & 1 & 0 \\ -4 & 2 & 0 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow$$

**Problem:** Only one eigenvector and only one solution! We need another solution.

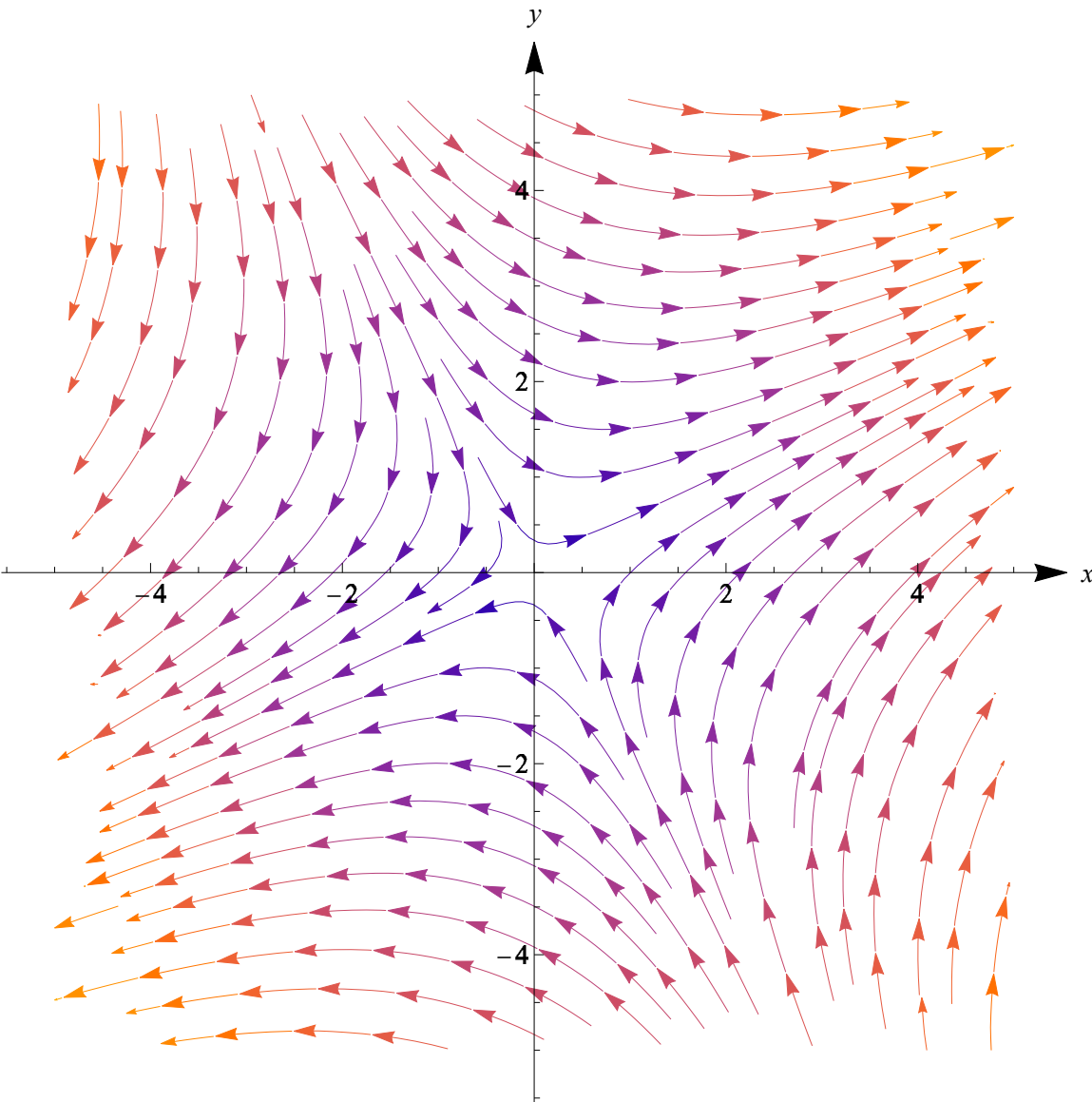
# Graphs



Graphs – See Example 1, pg 61:

two independent eigenvectors and graph

pg. 65.





**Example 3:** Find a fundamental

set of solutions of

$$\mathbf{x}' = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 6 & 2 \\ 0 & -1 & -8 \\ 1 & 0 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}.$$

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = \begin{vmatrix} 5 - \lambda & 6 & 2 \\ 0 & -1 - \lambda & -8 \\ 1 & 0 & -2 - \lambda \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= -36 + 15\lambda + 2\lambda^2 - \lambda^3 = -(\lambda + 4)(\lambda - 3)^2.$$

Eigenvalues:  $\lambda_1 = -4$ ,  $\lambda_2 = \lambda_3 = 3$ .

$$\lambda_1 = -4: \quad A - (-4)I = \begin{pmatrix} 9 & 6 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 & -8 \\ 1 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 9 & 6 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & -8 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & -8 & 0 \\ 0 & 6 & -18 & 0 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & -8 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

$$x_1 = -2x_3, \quad x_2 = \frac{8}{3}x_3, \quad x_3 \text{ arbitrary}$$

$$\text{Set } x_3 = -3: \quad \mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ -8 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{x}_1 = e^{-4t} \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ -8 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_2 = \lambda_3 = 3:$$

$$A - 3I = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 6 & 2 \\ 0 & -4 & -8 \\ 1 & 0 & -5 \end{pmatrix}$$

Solve

$$(A - 3I)\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 6 & 2 \\ 0 & -4 & -8 \\ 1 & 0 & -5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 2 & 6 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & -4 & -8 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & -5 & 0 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & -5 & 0 \\ 0 & -4 & -8 & 0 \\ 2 & 6 & 2 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 2 & 6 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & -4 & -8 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & -5 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

which row reduces to

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & -5 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right).$$

$x_1 = 5x_3$ ,  $x_2 = -2x_3$ ,  $x_3$  arbitrary

Set  $x_3 = 1$ :  $\mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

**NOTE:** Only one eigenvector here!

**Solutions:**

$$\mathbf{x}_1 = e^{-4t} \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ -8 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{x}_2 = e^{3t} \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

**Problem:** Only two solutions!

**We need a third solution  $\mathbf{x}_3$  which is independent of  $\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2$ .**

# Lesson from linear equations

## Example:

$$y''' + y'' - 8y' - 12y = 0$$

Characteristic equation:

$$r^3 + r^2 - 8r - 12 = (r - 3)(r + 2)^2 = 0.$$

Fundamental set:  $\{e^{3t}, e^{-2t}, te^{-2t}\}$

Write the equation in system form:

Equivalent system:  $\mathbf{x}' = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 12 & 8 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}$

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = \begin{vmatrix} -\lambda & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda & 1 \\ 12 & 8 & -1 - \lambda \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= -\lambda^3 - \lambda^2 + 8\lambda + 12\lambda$$

characteristic equation:

$$\lambda^3 + \lambda^2 - 8\lambda - 12 = (\lambda - 3)(\lambda + 2)^2$$

Eigenvalues:  $\lambda_1 = 3$ ,  $\lambda_2 = \lambda_3 = -2$

Recall  $y \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} y \\ y' \\ y'' \end{pmatrix}$       equation  $y_1 = e^{3t} \rightarrow$       System  $\begin{pmatrix} e^{3t} \\ 3e^{3t} \\ 9e^{3t} \end{pmatrix} = e^{3t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 9 \end{pmatrix}$

$y_2 = e^{-2t} \rightarrow$   $\begin{pmatrix} e^{-2t} \\ -2e^{-2t} \\ 4e^{-2t} \end{pmatrix} = e^{-2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$

$$y_3 = t e^{-2t} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} t e^{-2t} \\ e^{-2t} - 2t e^{-2t} \\ -4e^{-2t} + 4t e^{-2t} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= e^{-2t} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} + t e^{-2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

↑  
eigenvector  
for -2

$\vec{y}_3$  has the form

$$e^{-2t} \vec{w} + t e^{-2t} \vec{v}$$



Fundamental set:

$$\mathbf{x}_1 = e^{3t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 9 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{x}_2 = e^{-2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\mathbf{x}_3 = e^{-2t} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} + te^{-2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

**Look at the solution vector  $\mathbf{x}_3$**

$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$  is an eigenvector for  $-2$

**Question:** What is the vector  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}$

$\vec{x}_3$  has the form

$$e^{-2t} \vec{w} + te^{-2t} \vec{v}$$

$\vec{v}$   $\leftarrow$  eigenvector

$$[A - (-2)I] \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 12 & 8 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$=$$

$A - (-2I)$  “maps”  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}$  onto  
the eigenvector  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$ .

$$\mathbf{w} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}$$

is called a **generalized eigenvector**.

The third solution has the form

$$\mathbf{x}_3 = e^{-2t}\mathbf{w} + te^{-2t}\mathbf{v}$$

## Back to Example 3.

$$\mathbf{x}' = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 6 & 2 \\ 0 & -1 & -8 \\ 1 & 0 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}.$$

Solutions:

$$\mathbf{x}' = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 6 & 2 \\ 0 & -1 & -8 \\ 1 & 0 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}.$$

The third solution has the form

$$\mathbf{x}_3 = e^{3t} \mathbf{w} + te^{3t} \mathbf{v}$$

To find  $\mathbf{w}$ , solve

$$(A-3I)\mathbf{w} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 6 & 2 \\ 0 & -4 & -8 \\ 1 & 0 & -5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \\ w_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 2 & 6 & 2 & 5 \\ 0 & -4 & -8 & -2 \\ 1 & 0 & -5 & 1 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & -5 & 1 \\ 0 & -4 & -8 & -2 \\ 2 & 6 & 2 & 5 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow$$

$$\rightarrow \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & -5 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 1/2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right).$$

Solution set:

$$w_1 = 1 + 5w_3, \quad w_2 = \frac{1}{2} - 2w_3, \quad w_3 \text{ arbitrary}$$

$$\text{Set } w_3 = 0: \quad \mathbf{w} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1/2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

The third solution is:

$$\mathbf{x}_3 = e^{3t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1/2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + te^{3t} \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Fundamental set:

$$\mathbf{x}_1 = e^{-4t} \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ -8 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{x}_2 = e^{3t} \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\mathbf{x}_3 = e^{3t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1/2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + te^{3t} \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Back to Example 2.

$$\mathbf{x}' = \begin{pmatrix} -4 & 1 \\ -4 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}$$

Solution:  $\mathbf{x}_1 = e^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$

The second solution has the form

$$\mathbf{x}_2 = e^{2t} \mathbf{w} + te^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Solve:

$$(A - (-2)I)\mathbf{w} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 1 \\ -4 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|c} -2 & 1 & 1 \\ -4 & 2 & 2 \end{array} \right)$$



Fundamental set:

$$\mathbf{x}_1 = e^{-2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\mathbf{x}_2 = e^{-2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} + te^{-2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Eigenvalues of multiplicity

2:

Given  $\mathbf{x}' = A\mathbf{x}$ .

Suppose that  $A$  has an eigenvalue  $\lambda$  of multiplicity 2. Then exactly one of the following holds:

1.  $\lambda$  has two linearly independent eigenvectors,  $\mathbf{v}_1$  and  $\mathbf{v}_2$ . Corresponding linearly independent solution vectors of the differential system are

$$\mathbf{x}_1(t) = e^{\lambda t} \mathbf{v}_1 \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{x}_2(t) = e^{\lambda t} \mathbf{v}_2.$$

(See Example 1, p. 12)

2.  $\lambda$  has only one eigenvector  $\mathbf{v}$ .

(See Examples 2 and 3.) Then a

linearly independent pair of solution

vectors corresponding to  $\lambda$  is:

$$\mathbf{x}_1(t) = e^{\lambda t} \mathbf{v} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{x}_2(t) = e^{\lambda t} \mathbf{w} + t e^{\lambda t} \mathbf{v}$$

where  $\mathbf{w}$  is a vector that satisfies

$$(A - \lambda I)\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{v}.$$

The vector  $\mathbf{w}$  is called a **general-**

**ized eigenvector** corresponding to

the eigenvalue  $\lambda$ .

## Examples

Find a fundamental set of solutions and the general solution.

$$1. \quad \mathbf{x}' = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 5 \\ -1 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}.$$

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = \begin{vmatrix} 2 - \lambda & 5 \\ -1 & 4 - \lambda \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= \lambda^2 - 6\lambda + 13$$

Eigenvalues:  $3 + 2i$ ,  $3 - 2i$

$$(A - \lambda I) = \begin{pmatrix} 2 - \lambda & 5 \\ -1 & 4 - \lambda \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_1 = 3 + 2i, \quad \mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + i \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Fundamental set:

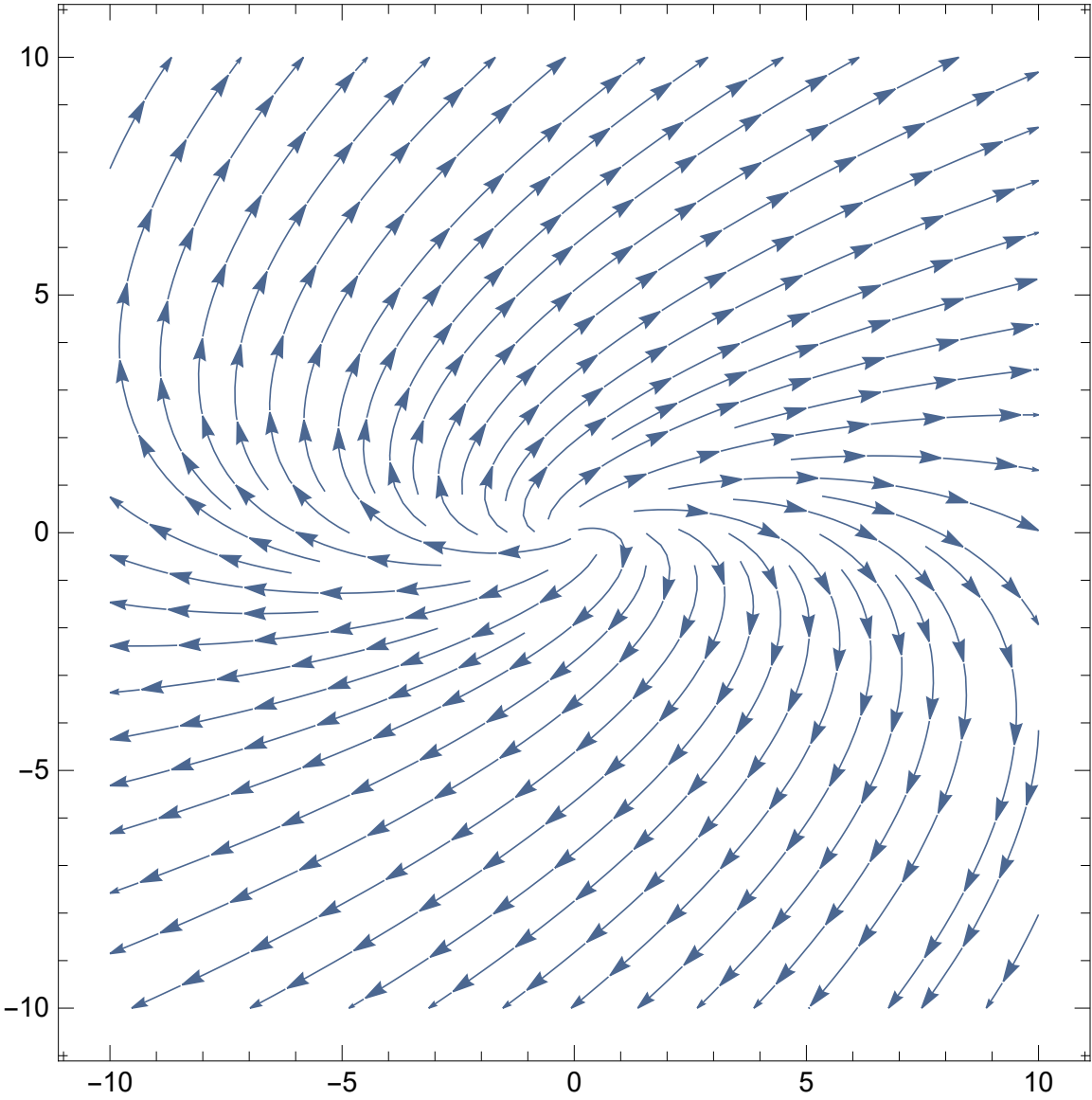
$$\mathbf{x}_1 = e^{3t} \left[ \cos 2t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} - \sin 2t \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right]$$

$$\mathbf{x}_2 = e^{3t} \left[ \cos 2t \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \sin 2t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right]$$

General solution:

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = C_1 \mathbf{x}_1 + C_2 \mathbf{x}_2$$

# Graphs





$$2. \quad \mathbf{x}' = \begin{pmatrix} -4 & 1 & -2 \\ 2 & -3 & 2 \\ 2 & -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}.$$

HINT:  $-3$  is an eigenvalue and  $-2$  is an eigenvalue of multiplicity 2

Characteristic eqn:  $(\lambda+3)(\lambda+2)^2=0$

$$(A - \lambda I) = \begin{pmatrix} -4 - \lambda & 1 & -2 \\ 2 & -3 - \lambda & 2 \\ 2 & -1 & -\lambda \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_1 = -3 : \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$(A - \lambda I) = \begin{pmatrix} -4 - \lambda & 1 & -2 \\ 2 & -3 - \lambda & 2 \\ 2 & -1 & -\lambda \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_2 = \lambda_3 = -2 : \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} -2 & 1 & -2 & 0 \\ 2 & -1 & 2 & 0 \\ 2 & -1 & 2 & 0 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow$$

Fundamental set:

$$e^{-3t} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad e^{-2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad e^{-2t} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

General solution:

$\mathbf{x} =$

$$C_1 e^{-3t} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + C_2 e^{-2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + C_3 e^{-2t} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

3. 
$$\mathbf{x}' = \begin{pmatrix} -3 & 1 & -1 \\ -7 & 5 & -1 \\ -6 & 6 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}.$$

HINT: 4 is an eigenvalue and  $-2$   
is an eigenvalue of multiplicity 2

Characteristic eqn:  $(\lambda - 4)(\lambda + 2)^2 = 0$

$$(A - \lambda I) = \begin{pmatrix} -3 - \lambda & 1 & -1 \\ -7 & 5 - \lambda & -1 \\ -6 & 6 & -2 - \lambda \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_1 = 4 : \quad \mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$(A - \lambda I) = \begin{pmatrix} -3 - \lambda & 1 & -1 \\ -7 & 5 - \lambda & -1 \\ -6 & 6 & -2 - \lambda \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_2 = \lambda_3 = -2 : \quad \mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$(A - \lambda I) = \begin{pmatrix} -3 - \lambda & 1 & -1 \\ -7 & 5 - \lambda & -1 \\ -6 & 6 & -2 - \lambda \end{pmatrix}$$

$$[A - (-2)I]\mathbf{w} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$



$$\text{Fund. Set: } e^{4t} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad e^{-2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$e^{-2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} + te^{-2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

General solution:

$$\mathbf{x} = C_1 e^{4t} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + C_2 e^{-2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} +$$

$$C_3 \left[ e^{-2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} + te^{-2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right]$$

$$4. \quad \mathbf{x}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ 2 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}$$

Characteristic polynomial:

$$\begin{aligned} \det(A - \lambda I) &= \begin{vmatrix} 1 - \lambda & -2 \\ 2 & 5 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} \\ &= \lambda^2 - 6\lambda + 9 \end{aligned}$$

Characteristic equation:

$$\lambda^2 - 6\lambda + 9 = (\lambda - 3)^2 = 0$$

Eigenvalues:  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = 3$

Eigenvectors:

$$(A-3I)\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & -2 \\ 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|c} -2 & -2 & 0 \\ 2 & 2 & 0 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow$$

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|c} -2 & -2 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 & -1 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow$$

Fundamental set:

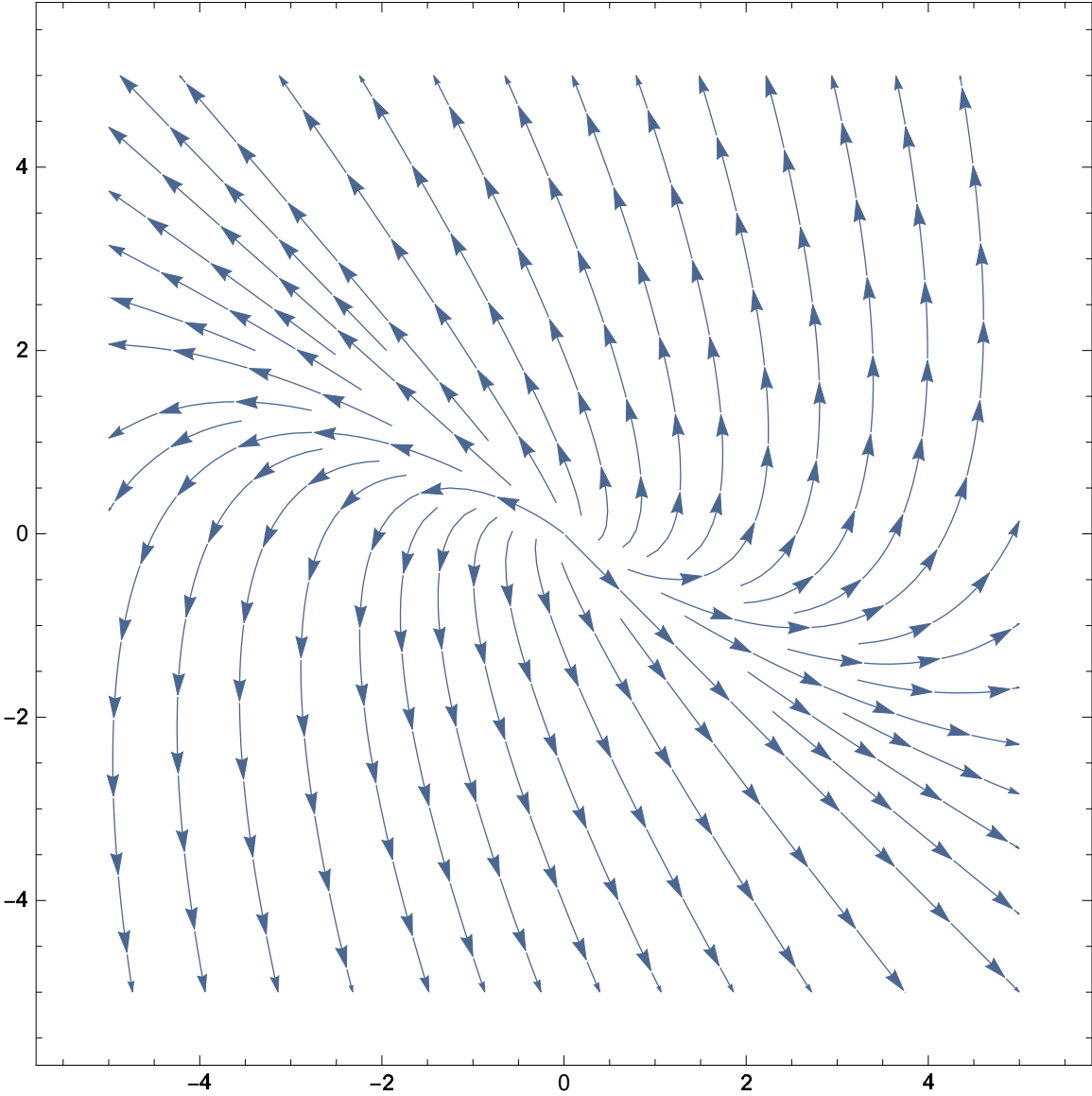
$$\mathbf{x}_1 = e^{3t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{x}_2 = e^{3t} \begin{pmatrix} -1/2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + te^{3t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

General solution:

$$\mathbf{x} = C_1 e^{3x} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} + C_2 \left[ e^{3t} \begin{pmatrix} -1/2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + te^{3t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \right]$$

# Graphs



$$5. \quad \mathbf{x}' = \begin{pmatrix} -3 & -2 \\ 4 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}.$$

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = \begin{vmatrix} -3 - \lambda & -2 \\ 4 & 1 - \lambda \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= \lambda^2 + 2\lambda + 5.$$

Characteristic equation:

$$\lambda^2 + 2\lambda + 5 = 0$$

Eigenvalues:

$$\lambda_1 = -1 + 2i, \quad \lambda_2 = -1 - 2i.$$

Eigenvectors:

$$\lambda_1 = -1 + 2i, \quad \mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} + i \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

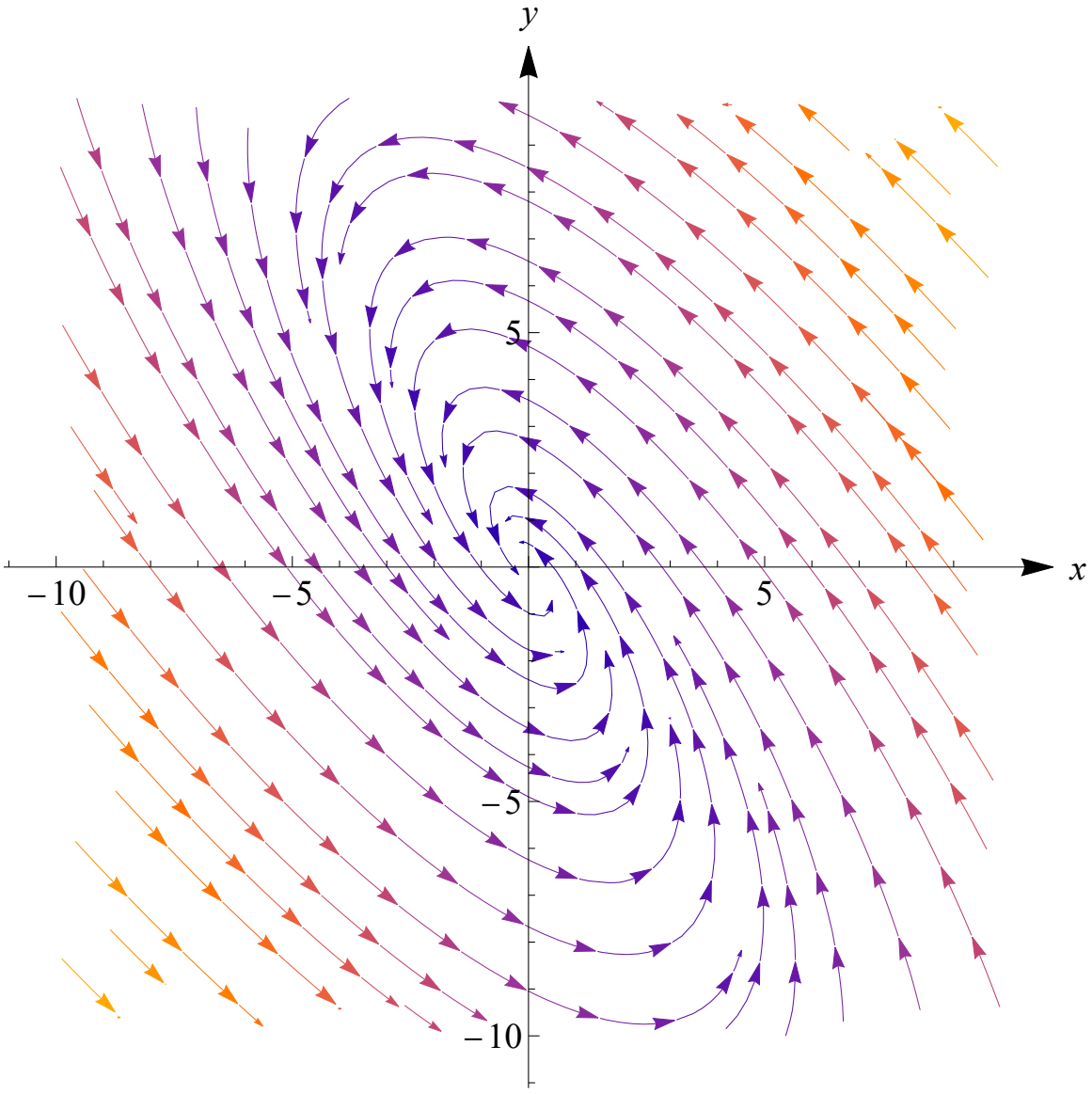
$$\lambda_2 = -1 - 2i, \quad \mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} - i \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

**General solution:**

$$\mathbf{x} = C_1 e^{-t} \left[ \cos 2t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} - \sin 2t \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \right] + \\ C_2 e^{-t} \left[ \cos 2t \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} + \sin 2t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \right]$$



# Graphs



## Eigenvalues of Multiplicity 3.

Given the differential system

$$\mathbf{x}' = A\mathbf{x}.$$

Suppose that  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $A$  of multiplicity 3. Then exactly one of the following holds:

**1.**  $\lambda$  has three linearly independent eigenvectors  $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3$ . Then three linearly independent solution vectors of the system corresponding to  $\lambda$  are:

$$\mathbf{x}_1(t) = e^{\lambda t} \mathbf{v}_1, \quad \mathbf{x}_2(t) = e^{\lambda t} \mathbf{v}_2,$$

$$\mathbf{x}_3(t) = e^{\lambda t} \mathbf{v}_3.$$

2.  $\lambda$  has two linearly independent eigenvectors  $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2$ . Then three linearly independent solutions of the system corresponding to  $\lambda$  are:

$$\mathbf{x}_1(t) = e^{\lambda t} \mathbf{v}_1, \quad \mathbf{x}_2(t) = e^{\lambda t} \mathbf{v}_2$$

and

$$\mathbf{x}_3(t) = e^{\lambda t} \mathbf{w} + te^{\lambda t} \mathbf{v}$$

where  $\mathbf{v}$  is an eigenvector corresponding to  $\lambda$  and  $(A - \lambda I)\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{v}$ .

That is:  $(A - \lambda I)^2 \mathbf{w} = 0$ .

3.  $\lambda$  has only one (independent) eigenvector  $\mathbf{v}$ . Then three linearly independent solutions of the system have the form:

$$\mathbf{x}_1 = e^{\lambda t} \mathbf{v}, \quad \mathbf{x}_2 = e^{\lambda t} \mathbf{w} + te^{\lambda t} \mathbf{v},$$

$$\mathbf{v}_3(t) = e^{\lambda t} \mathbf{z} + te^{\lambda t} \mathbf{w} + t^2 e^{\lambda t} \mathbf{v}$$

where

$$(A - \lambda I)\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{w} \quad \& \quad (A - \lambda I)\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{v}, \quad i.e.$$

$$(A - \lambda I)^3 \mathbf{z} = 0 \quad \& \quad (A - \lambda I)^2 \mathbf{w} = 0$$

## Example:

$$y''' - 6y'' + 12y' - 8y = 0$$

Char. eqn.:  $(r - 2)^3 = 0$

Char. roots:  $r_1 = r_2 = r_3 = 2$

Fundamental set:

$$\{e^{2t}, te^{2t}, t^2e^{2t}\}$$

Corresponding system:

$$\mathbf{x}' = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 8 & -12 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}$$

Fundamental set:

$$\mathbf{x}_1 = e^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{x}_2 = e^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} + te^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\mathbf{x}_3 = e^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + te^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix} + t^2 e^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

Find the general solution of

$$\mathbf{x}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}$$

given that  $\lambda^3 - 3\lambda^2 + 4 = 0$  is the characteristic equation.



# Eigenvectors

# Examples

1. Find a fundamental set of solutions of

$$\mathbf{x}' = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 4 & 2 \\ 4 & 5 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}$$

given that  $\lambda_1 = 10$ ,  $\lambda_2 = \lambda_3 = 1$  are the eigenvalues of the coefficient matrix.

# Eigenvectors

2. Find a fundamental set of solutions of

$$\mathbf{x}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 5 \\ -4 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}$$

**3(a)** Find a fundamental set of solutions of

$$y''' - 3y'' + 4y = 0 \quad (*)$$

**3(b)** The linear differential system equivalent to (\*) is

$$\mathbf{x}' = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ -4 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}$$

Find a fundamental set of solutions of the system

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = \begin{vmatrix} -\lambda & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda & 1 \\ -4 & 0 & 3 - \lambda \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= \lambda^3 - 3\lambda^2 + 4$$

Eigenvalues:

$$\lambda_1 = 2, \lambda_2 = 1, \lambda_3 = -2$$

Eigenvectors: