

# Math 3331 Differential Equations

## 8.4 Linear Systems

**Blerina Xhabli**

Department of Mathematics, University of Houston

`blerina@math.uh.edu`  
`math.uh.edu/~blerina/teaching.html`



## 8.4 Linear Systems

- Linear Systems: General Form
- Linear Systems: Matrix-Vector Notation
- Initial Value Problem
- Examples
- Worked out Examples from Exercises:
  - 13, 14



# Linear Systems: General Form

## General Form:

$$\begin{aligned}x_1' &= a_{11}(t)x_1 + \cdots + a_{1n}(t)x_n + f_1(t) \\x_2' &= a_{21}(t)x_1 + \cdots + a_{2n}(t)x_n + f_2(t) \\&\vdots \\x_n' &= a_{n1}(t)x_1 + \cdots + a_{nn}(t)x_n + f_n(t)\end{aligned}$$

- $a_{ij}(t), f_i(t)$ : known functions on interval  $I: \alpha < t < \beta$



# Linear Systems: Matrix-Vector Notation

## Matrix-vector notation:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{x} &= [x_1, \dots, x_n]^T \\ \mathbf{f}(t) &= [f_1(t), \dots, f_n(t)]^T \\ A(t) &= [a_{ij}(t)]_{nn}\end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbf{x}' = A(t)\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{f}(t) \quad (1)$$

- (1) is **homogeneous** if
$$\mathbf{f}(t) = 0$$
- (1) is **nonhomogeneous** if
$$\mathbf{f}(t) \neq 0$$
- (1) has constant coefficients if  $a_{ij}(t) = a_{ij}$  are constants



# Initial Value Problem

## Initial Value Problem:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}' &= A(t)\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{f}(t) \\ \mathbf{x}(t_0) &= \mathbf{x}_0 \end{aligned} \right\} (2)$$

**Thm.:** If  $a_{ij}(t)$ ,  $f_i(t)$  are continuous on  $I$  and  $t_0 \in I$ , then (2) has a unique solution on  $I$ .



## Example 1

$$\mathbf{Ex.}: \left\{ \begin{array}{l} x' = 3x - 5y \\ y' = -2x \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -5 \\ -2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

is hom., constant coefficients.



## Example 2

$$\mathbf{Ex.}: \left\{ \begin{array}{l} u' = \cos(t)v \\ v' = u + \sin t \end{array} \right\}$$

is nonhom., non-constant coefs.:

$$A(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \cos t \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{f}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \sin t \end{bmatrix}$$



# Example 3

**Ex.:**  $x' = xy$ ,  $y' = x$  is nonlinear





# Exercise 8.4.13

**Ex. 8.4.13:** If possible, place system in form (1), if not possible explain why.

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} x_1' = -2x_1 + x_2^2 \\ x_2' = 3x_1 - x_2 \end{array} \right\} \text{ cannot be placed because it is nonlinear.}$$



# Exercise 8.4.14

**Ex. 8.4.14:** Same as Ex. 8.4.13

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} x_1' = -2x_1 + 3tx_2 + \cos t \\ tx_2' = x_1 - 4tx_2 + \sin t \end{array} \right\} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} x_1' \\ x_2' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 3t \\ 1/t & -4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \cos t \\ (\sin t)/t \end{bmatrix}$$

