

2D Homogeneous Linear Systems with
Constant Coefficients:
a zero eigenvalue \Rightarrow a line of equilibria

Xu-Yan Chen

Systems of Diff Eqs: $\frac{d\vec{x}}{dt} = A\vec{x}$

where $\vec{x}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} x_1(t) \\ x_2(t) \end{bmatrix}$, A is a 2×2 real constant matrix

Things to explore:

- ▶ General solutions
- ▶ Initial value problems
- ▶ Geometric figures
 - ▶ Solutions graphs x_1 vs t & x_2 vs t
 - ▶ Direction fields in the (x_1, x_2) plane
 - ▶ Phase portraits in the (x_1, x_2) plane
- ▶ Stability/instability of equilibrium $(x_1, x_2) = (0, 0)$

2D Systems: $\frac{d\vec{x}}{dt} = A\vec{x}$

What if we have a zero eigenvalue?

Assume that the eigenvalues of A are: $\lambda_1 = 0, \lambda_2 \neq 0$.

Solution Method: (nothing new)

- ▶ Find an eigenvector \vec{u}_1 for λ_1 , by solving

$$(A - \lambda_1 I)\vec{x} = 0$$

- ▶ Find an eigenvector \vec{u}_2 for λ_2 , by solving

$$(A - \lambda_2 I)\vec{x} = 0.$$

- ▶ General solutions are

$$\vec{x}(t) = C_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} \vec{u}_1 + C_2 e^{\lambda_2 t} \vec{u}_2$$

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Phase portraits & stability

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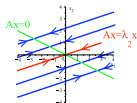
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- ▶ $\lambda_1 = 0, \lambda_2 < 0$
⇒ Attractive line of equilibria,
stable,
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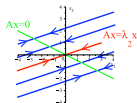
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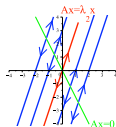
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- ▶ $\lambda_1 = 0, \lambda_2 < 0$
⇒ Attractive line of equilibria,
stable,
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- ▶ $\lambda_1 = 0, \lambda_2 > 0$
⇒ Repulsive line of equilibria,
unstable



Example 1 (an attractive line of equilibria).

Consider $\vec{x}' = A\vec{x}$, where $A = \begin{bmatrix} -3 & -6 \\ -1 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$.

(a) Find general solutions of $\vec{x}' = \begin{bmatrix} -3 & -6 \\ -1 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \vec{x}$.

(b) Solve the initial value problem $\vec{x}' = \begin{bmatrix} -3 & -6 \\ -1 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \vec{x}$, $\vec{x}(0) = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$.

(c) Sketch the phase portrait.

(d) Is the equilibrium $(0, 0)$ stable, asymptotically stable, or unstable?

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$$A\vec{x} = 0 \Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} -3 & -6 \\ -1 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = x_2 \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

\Rightarrow An eigenvector $\vec{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$.

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- Eigenvectors of A for $\lambda_2 = -5$, by solving $(A - \lambda_2 I)\vec{x} = 0$:

$$(A + 5I)\vec{x} = 0 \Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -6 \\ -1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = x_2 \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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- General solutions: $\vec{x}(t) = C_1 \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + C_2 e^{-5t} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

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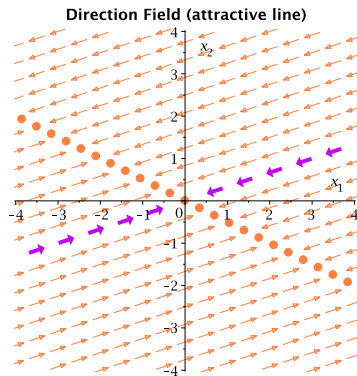
$$\vec{x}(t) = \frac{7}{5} \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{8}{5} e^{-5t} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Example 1 (c) Phase portrait of $\frac{d\vec{x}}{dt} = \begin{bmatrix} -3 & -6 \\ -1 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \vec{x}$

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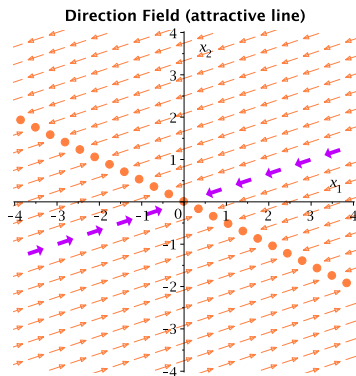
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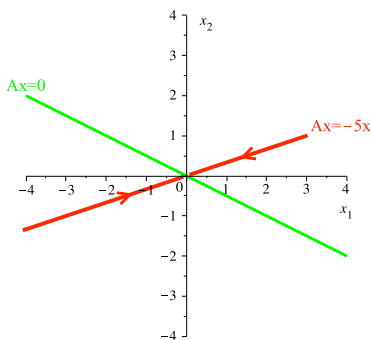
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- $C_1 \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ are eigenvectors of $\lambda_1 = 0$. These are equilibria.
- $C_2 e^{-5t} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ decays to the origin, along the eigenspace of $\lambda_2 = -5$.



Phase Portrait (attractive line of equilibria)

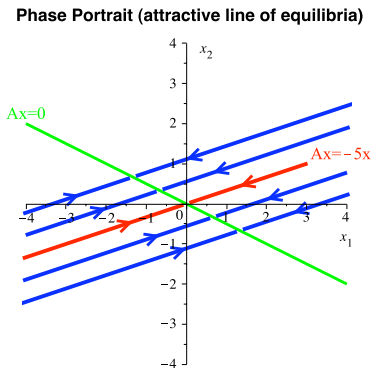
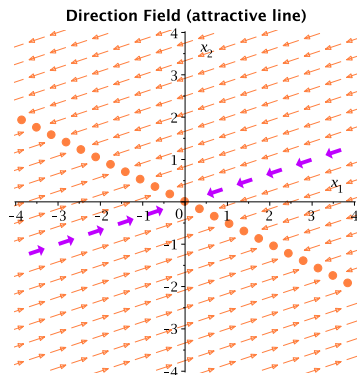


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General solutions: $\vec{x}(t) = C_1 \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + C_2 e^{-5t} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

When C_1 and C_2 are both $\neq 0$: $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \vec{x}(t) = C_1 \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$.

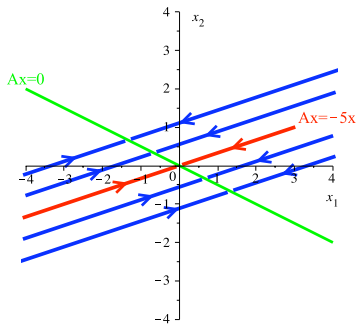
The solution trajectories are lines parallel to the eigenspace of $\lambda_2 = -5$.



Example 1 (d) Is the equilibrium $(0,0)$ stable, asymptotically stable, or unstable?

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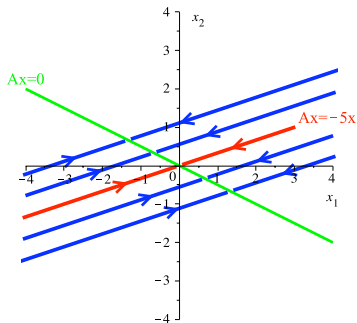
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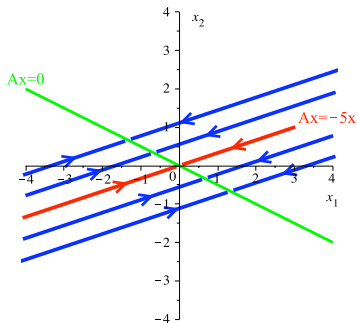


Every equilibrium is stable, but not asymptotically stable.

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Phase Portrait (attractive line of equilibria)



Every equilibrium is stable, but not asymptotically stable.

We have an *attractive line of equilibria*, when $\lambda_1 = 0$, $\lambda_2 < 0$.

Example 2 (a repulsive line of equilibria).

Consider $\vec{x}' = A\vec{x}$, where $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 6 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$.

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(c) Sketch the phase portrait.

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► Eigenvalues of A , by solving $\det(A - \lambda I) = 0$:

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$$A\vec{x} = 0 \Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 6 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = x_2 \begin{bmatrix} -1/2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

\Rightarrow An eigenvector $\vec{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$.

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- ▶ Eigenvectors of A for $\lambda_2 = 5$, by solving $(A - \lambda_2 I)\vec{x} = 0$:

$$(A - 5I)\vec{x} = 0 \Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} -3 & 1 \\ 6 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = x_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1/3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ \Rightarrow \text{An eigenvector } \vec{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

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- ▶ General solutions: $\vec{x}(t) = C_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} + C_2 e^{5t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$

Example 2 (b) Solve $\frac{d\vec{x}}{dt} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 6 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \vec{x}$, $\vec{x}(0) = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$

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$$\begin{aligned} \vec{x}(0) = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} &\Rightarrow C_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} + C_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \\ \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} C_1 \\ C_2 \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} C_1 \\ C_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3/5 \\ 7/5 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ The solution to the initial value problem:

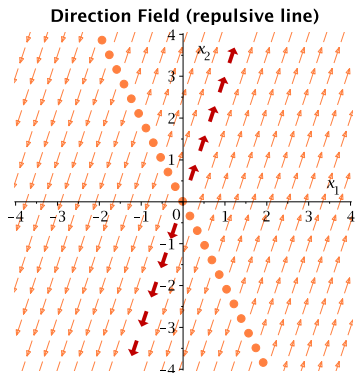
$$\vec{x}(t) = \frac{3}{5} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{7}{5} e^{5t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Example 2 (c) Phase portrait of $\frac{d\vec{x}}{dt} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 6 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \vec{x}$

General solutions: $\vec{x}(t) = C_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} + C_2 e^{5t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$

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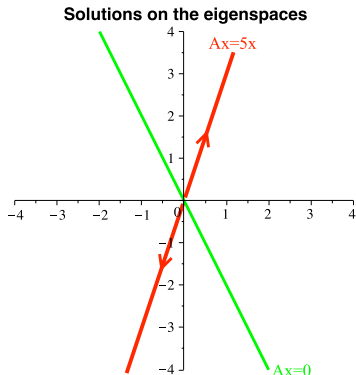
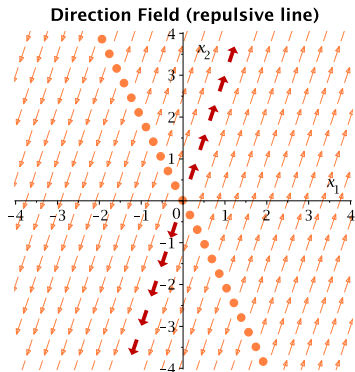
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- $C_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$ are eigenvectors of $\lambda_1 = 0$. These are equilibria.
- $C_2 e^{5t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$ grows, along the eigenspace of $\lambda_2 = 5$.

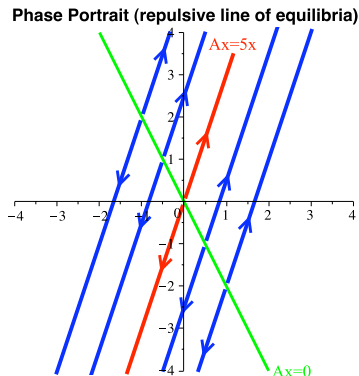
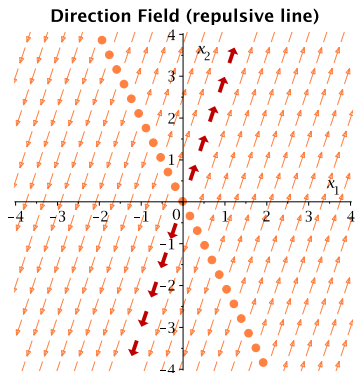


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General solutions: $\vec{x}(t) = C_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} + C_2 e^{5t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$

When $C_1 \neq 0$ and $C_2 \neq 0$: All these solutions grow to infinity.

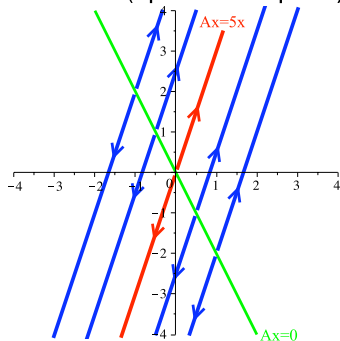
The trajectories are lines parallel to the eigenspace of $\lambda_2 = 5$.



Example 2 (d) Are the equilibria stable, asymptotically stable, or unstable?

General solutions: $\vec{x}(t) = C_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} + C_2 e^{5t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$

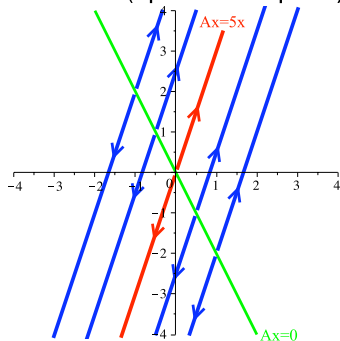
Phase Portrait (repulsive line of equilibria)



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Phase Portrait (repulsive line of equilibria)

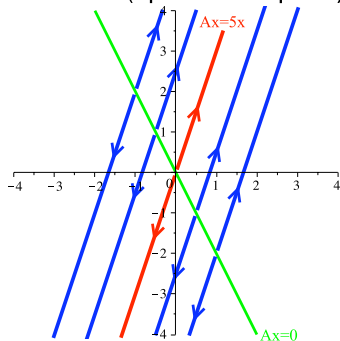


Every equilibrium is unstable.

Example 2 (d) Are the equilibria stable, asymptotically stable, or unstable?

General solutions:
$$\vec{x}(t) = C_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} + C_2 e^{5t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Phase Portrait (repulsive line of equilibria)



Every equilibrium is unstable.

We have a *repulsive line of equilibria*, when $\lambda_1 = 0$, $\lambda_2 > 0$.