

Week 8 summary:

- We can write a system of two 1<sup>st</sup> order linear ODEs

$$\begin{cases} x_1' = a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + b_1 & x_1(t_0) = d_1 \\ x_2' = a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + b_2 & x_2(t_0) = d_2 \end{cases} \quad \text{as}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1' \\ x_2' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} x_1(t_0) \\ x_2(t_0) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} d_1 \\ d_2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{or just}$$

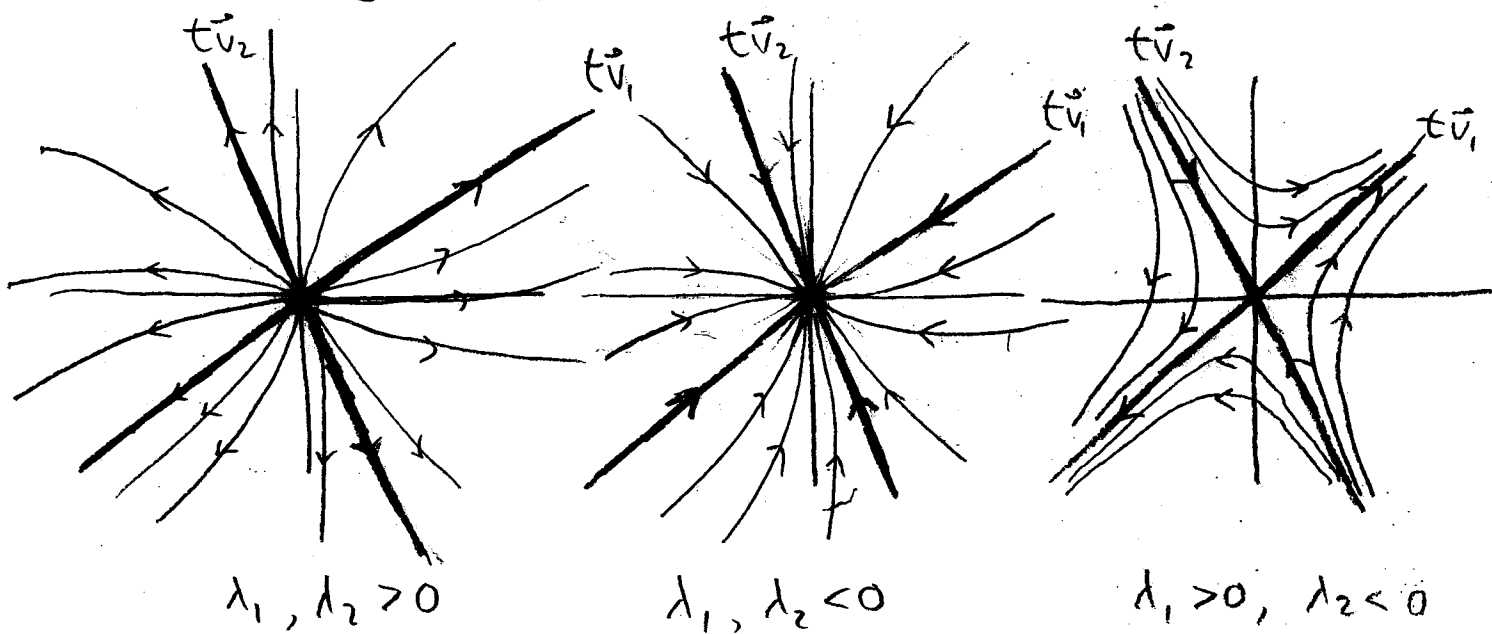
$$\vec{x}' = A\vec{x} + \vec{b}, \quad \vec{x}(t_0) = \vec{d}$$

- When the eigenvalues are real & distinct, the general solution is

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

- We can visualize the solutions via a phase plot ( $x_2$  vs.  $x_1$ ).

Examples (say  $|\lambda_1| > |\lambda_2|$ )



2

This week: Complex & repeated eigenvalues

Example: (Complex eigenvalues):  $\vec{x}' = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{2} & 1 \\ -1 & -\frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix} \vec{x}$

← call this  $A$ .

Recall that  $\lambda_1 = -\frac{1}{2} + i$        $\lambda_2 = -\frac{1}{2} - i$

$$\vec{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ i \end{pmatrix} \quad \vec{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -i \end{pmatrix}.$$

As before, we have two solutions:  $\vec{x}_1(t) = e^{(-\frac{1}{2}+i)t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ i \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\vec{x}_2(t) = e^{(-\frac{1}{2}-i)t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -i \end{pmatrix}$ .

but we'd prefer to write these using sines & cosines,

Recall Euler's formula:  $e^{it} = \cos t + i \sin t$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{x}_1(t) &= e^{-\frac{1}{2}t} e^{it} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ i \end{pmatrix} = e^{-\frac{1}{2}t} (\cos t + i \sin t) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ i \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} e^{-t/2} \cos t \\ -e^{-t/2} \sin t \end{pmatrix}}_{\vec{u}(t)} + i \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} e^{-t/2} \sin t \\ e^{-t/2} \cos t \end{pmatrix}}_{\vec{w}(t)} = \vec{u}(t) + i \vec{w}(t). \end{aligned}$$

Check:  $\vec{u}(t)$  and  $\vec{w}(t)$  both satisfy the ODE

$$\text{i.e., } \vec{u}' = A\vec{u} \quad \text{and} \quad \vec{w}' = A\vec{w}.$$

These are 2 "distinct" (not scalar multiples of each other) solutions.

Therefore, the general solution is  $\vec{x}(t) = C_1 \vec{u}(t) + C_2 \vec{w}(t)$ .

$$\text{i.e., } \vec{x}(t) = C_1 \begin{pmatrix} e^{-t/2} \cos t \\ -e^{-t/2} \sin t \end{pmatrix} + C_2 \begin{pmatrix} e^{-t/2} \sin t \\ e^{-t/2} \cos t \end{pmatrix}$$

Recall the "1D" case, when  $r = a + bi$

$$\text{We had a soln } x_1(t) = e^{at} e^{ibt} = e^{at} (\cos bt + i \sin bt) = \underbrace{e^{at} \cos bt}_{u(t)} + i \underbrace{e^{at} \sin bt}_{w(t)}$$

And the general solution was  $x_1(t) = C_1 u(t) + C_2 w(t) = e^{at} (A \cos bt + B \sin bt)$ .

It's really the same thing!

Let's plot this solution:

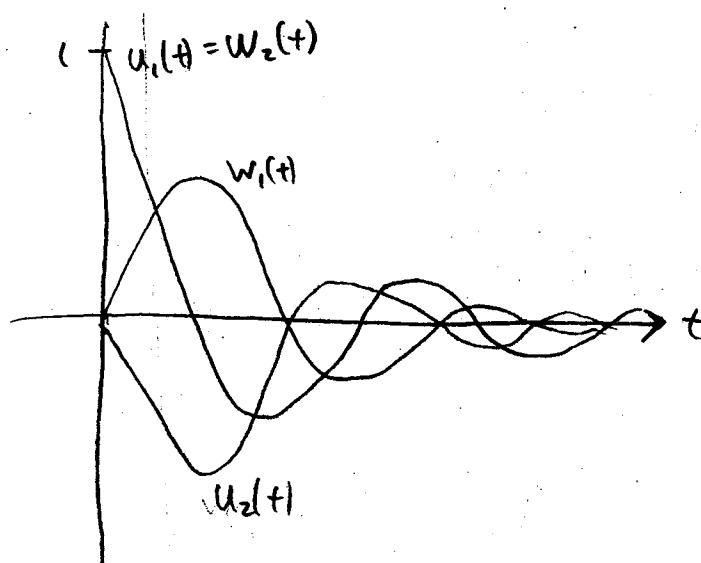
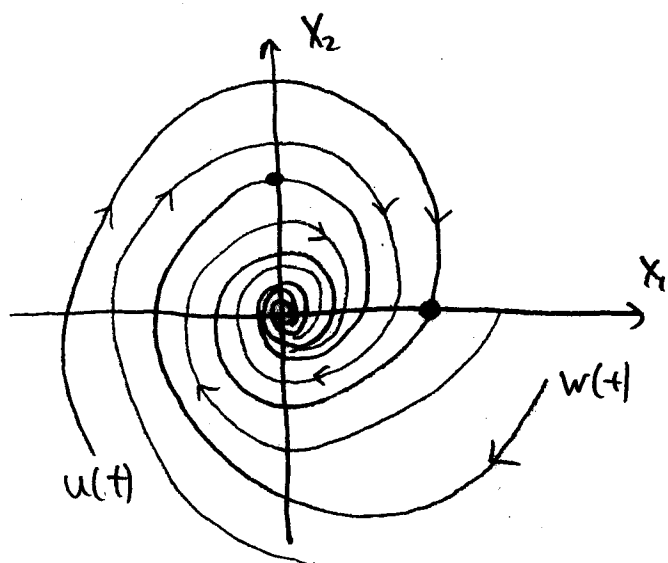
$$\vec{x}(t) = C_1 \begin{pmatrix} e^{-t/2} \cos t \\ -e^{-t/2} \sin t \end{pmatrix} + C_2 \begin{pmatrix} e^{-t/2} \sin t \\ e^{-t/2} \cos t \end{pmatrix} = C_1 e^{-t/2} \begin{pmatrix} \cos t \\ -\sin t \end{pmatrix} + C_2 e^{-t/2} \begin{pmatrix} \sin t \\ \cos t \end{pmatrix}$$

Note: The curves  $\begin{pmatrix} \cos t \\ -\sin t \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\begin{pmatrix} \sin t \\ \cos t \end{pmatrix}$  are (clockwise) circles.

(In vector calculus, we wrote these as, e.g.,  $c(t) = (\cos t, \sin t)$ .)

Then,  $u(t) = e^{-t/2} \begin{pmatrix} \cos t \\ -\sin t \end{pmatrix}$  is a decaying spiral, starting at  $(1, 0)$ .

and  $w(t) = e^{-t/2} \begin{pmatrix} \sin t \\ \cos t \end{pmatrix}$  is a decaying spiral, starting at  $(0, 1)$ .



Phase plot of the system  $\vec{x}' = A\vec{x}$

Component plots.

Note: This "decayed" because  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2}t} = 0$ .

Here, the real part of  $\lambda_{1,2} = a + bi$  was  $a = -\frac{1}{2} < 0$ , and so

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} e^{at} = 0.$$

(If the real part was  $a > 0$ , then  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} e^{at} = \infty$ , and

the spiral would be expanding (but still clockwise).

4

Summary of method

Suppose we wish to solve  $\vec{X}' = A\vec{X}$ , and  $\lambda_{1,2} = a \pm bi$ .

We have 2 solutions:  $\vec{X}_1(t) = e^{(a+bi)t} \vec{v}_1$ , and  $\vec{X}_2(t) = e^{(a-bi)t} \vec{v}_2$ .

Take one of these (say  $\vec{X}_1(t)$ ), and write it as  $\vec{X}_1(t) = \vec{u}(t) + i\vec{w}(t)$

The general solution is  $\vec{X}(t) = C_1 \vec{u}(t) + C_2 \vec{w}(t)$ .

The phase plot will be spiraling circles/ellipses: (need not be perfect circles!)

decaying if  $a < 0$

expanding if  $a > 0$

stable if  $a = 0$  (see next example).

Example: (Ellipses, purely imaginary eigenvalues, i.e.  $a=0$ ):

Consider the system  $\vec{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1/2 & -5/4 \\ 2 & -1/2 \end{pmatrix} \vec{X}$ ,  $\vec{X}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$

Check:  $|A - \lambda I| = \lambda^2 + \frac{9}{4} = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda_1 = \frac{3}{2}i, \lambda_2 = -\frac{3}{2}i$ ,

and  $\vec{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 2-6i \end{pmatrix}, \vec{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 2+6i \end{pmatrix}$ .

We have 2 solutions:  $\vec{X}_1(t) = e^{3t/2} \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 2-6i \end{pmatrix}, \vec{X}_2(t) = e^{-3t/2} \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 2+6i \end{pmatrix}$ .

Separate  $\vec{X}_1(t)$  into real & imaginary parts: ( $\vec{X}_1(t) = \vec{u}(t) + i\vec{w}(t)$ )

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{X}_1(t) &= (\cos \frac{3}{2}t + i \sin \frac{3}{2}t) \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 2-6i \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 5 \cos \frac{3}{2}t \\ 2 \cos \frac{3}{2}t + 6 \sin \frac{3}{2}t \end{pmatrix}}_{\vec{u}(t)} + i \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 5 \sin \frac{3}{2}t \\ 2 \sin \frac{3}{2}t - 6 \cos \frac{3}{2}t \end{pmatrix}}_{\vec{w}(t)} = \vec{u}(t) + i\vec{w}(t). \end{aligned}$$

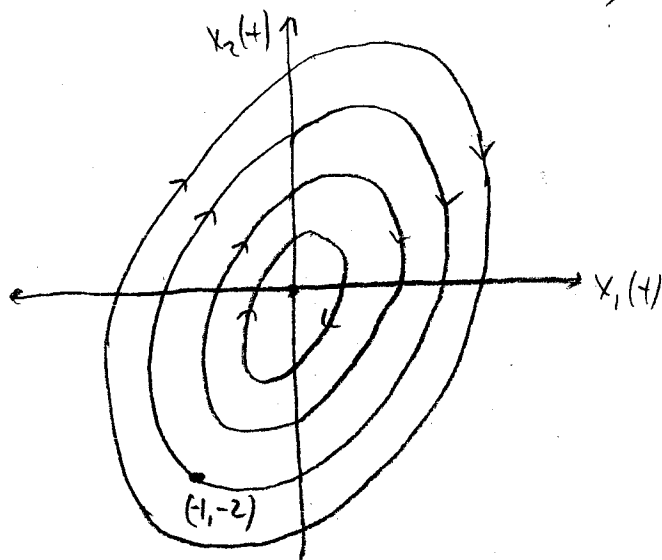
Thus, the general solution is

$$\vec{x}(t) = C_1 \begin{pmatrix} 5 \cos \frac{3}{2}t \\ 2 \cos \frac{3}{2}t + 6 \sin \frac{3}{2}t \end{pmatrix} + C_2 \begin{pmatrix} 5 \sin \frac{3}{2}t \\ 2 \sin \frac{3}{2}t - 6 \cos \frac{3}{2}t \end{pmatrix}$$

Let's plot the curve satisfying  $\vec{x}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$

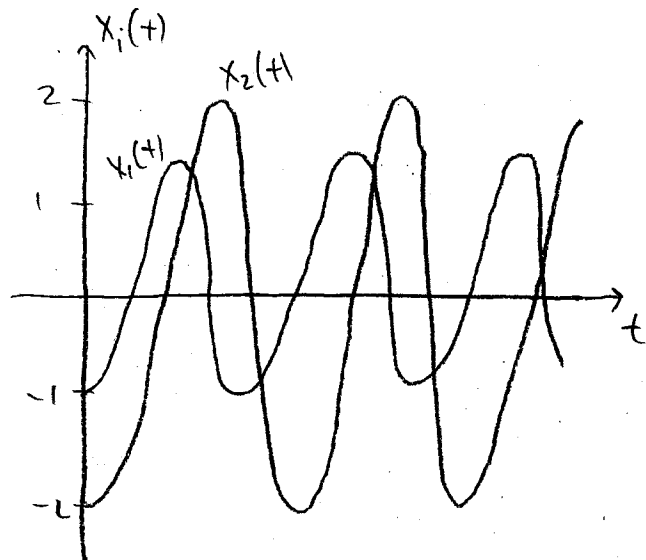
$$\vec{x}(0) = C_1 \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + C_2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -6 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow C_1 = -\frac{1}{5}, \quad C_2 = \frac{4}{15}$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1(t) = -\cos \frac{3}{2}t + \frac{4}{3} \sin \frac{3}{2}t, \quad x_2(t) = -2 \cos \frac{3}{2}t - \frac{2}{3} \sin \frac{3}{2}t$$



Phase portrait

(Plugged  $(x_1(t), x_2(t))$  into  
wolframAlpha)



Component plots

(Plugged  $x_1(t)$  &  $x_2(t)$   
into WolframAlpha)