Spring 2022

Math 337

Lecture Linear Systems Solutions

1. (5pts) For the linear system,

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -4 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}, \qquad \mathbf{x}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 10 \end{pmatrix},$$

we first find the eigenvalues and eigenvectors by solving:

$$\begin{vmatrix} \lambda & 1 \\ -4 & 5-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = \lambda^2 - 5\lambda + 4 = (\lambda - 1)(\lambda - 4) = 0.$$

This is a companion matrix, so $\lambda_1 = 1$ has the corresponding eigenvector $\xi_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$. Similarly,

 $\lambda_2 = 4$ has the corresponding eigenvector $\xi_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$. It follows that the general solution satisfies:

$$x(t) = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^t + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} e^{4t}.$$

To satisfy the initial conditions, we solve:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 10 \end{pmatrix},$$

which is readily solved to give $c_1 = -2$ and $c_2 = 3$. Thus, the unique solution to the initial value is given by:

$$x(t) = \begin{pmatrix} -2\\ -2 \end{pmatrix} e^t + \begin{pmatrix} 3\\ 12 \end{pmatrix} e^{4t}.$$

Since both values of λ are positive, this is an unstable node. Below is a phase portrait showing the trajectories of this system, where the eigenvectors are shown in black.



2. (5pts) For the linear system,

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \begin{pmatrix} -3 & 5\\ -2 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}, \qquad \mathbf{x}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} -2\\ 2 \end{pmatrix},$$

we first find the eigenvalues and eigenvectors by solving:

$$\begin{vmatrix} -3 - \lambda & 5 \\ -2 & -1 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = \lambda^2 + 4\lambda + 13 = (\lambda + 2)^2 + 9 = 0,$$

which has eigenvalues, $\lambda = -2 \pm 3i$. For $\lambda = -2 + 3i$, we solve:

$$A - \lambda I = \begin{pmatrix} -1 - 3i & 5\\ -2 & 1 - 3i \end{pmatrix} \xi_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0\\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{so} \quad \xi_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 5\\ 1 + 3i \end{pmatrix} \quad \left(\text{or} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 - 3i\\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

It follows that

$$x_1(t) = e^{-2t} \begin{pmatrix} 5\\1+3i \end{pmatrix} \left(\cos(3t) + i\sin(3t)\right) = e^{-2t} \left[\begin{pmatrix} 5\cos(3t)\\\cos(3t) - 3\sin(3t) \end{pmatrix} + i \begin{pmatrix} 5\sin(3t)\\\sin(3t) + 3\cos(3t) \end{pmatrix} \right].$$

The general real solution from the real and imaginary parts satisfies:

$$x(t) = e^{-2t} \left[c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 5\cos(3t) \\ \cos(3t) - 3\sin(3t) \end{pmatrix} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} 5\sin(3t) \\ \sin(3t) + 3\cos(3t) \end{pmatrix} \right]$$

From the initial conditions, we have $5c_1 = -2$ or $c_1 = -\frac{2}{5}$. Also, $c_1 + 3c_2 = 2$ or $c_2 = \frac{4}{5}$. The unique solution to this IVP becomes:

$$x(t) = e^{-2t} \begin{pmatrix} -2\cos(3t) + 4\sin(3t) \\ 2\cos(3t) + 2\sin(3t) \end{pmatrix}.$$

Since eigenvalues λ are complex with a negative real value, this is a stable spiral (clockwise). Below is a phase portrait showing the trajectories of this system.



3. (6pts) For the linear system,

$$\frac{dx_1}{dt} = -2x_1 + 4x_2 + 2,$$

$$\frac{dx_2}{dt} = x_1 + x_2 - 4,$$

we find equilibria by solving:

$$\begin{pmatrix} -2 & 4 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_{1e} \\ x_{2e} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Adding 2 times the 2^{nd} row to the first gives, $6x_{2e} = 6$ or $x_{2e} = 1$. It follows that $x_{1e} = 3$, so $(x_{1e}, x_{2e}) = (3, 1)$ is the equilibrium.

Make the change of variables, $z_1 = x_1 - x_{1e}$ and $z_2 = x_2 - x_{2e}$, then the new system becomes:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \dot{z}_1 \\ \dot{z}_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 4 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

We find the eigenvalues and eigenvectors by solving:

$$\begin{vmatrix} -2 - \lambda & 4 \\ 1 & 1 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = \lambda^2 + \lambda - 6 = (\lambda + 3)(\lambda - 2) = 0,$$

which has eigenvalues, $\lambda_1 = -3$ and $\lambda_2 = 2$. For $\lambda_1 = -3$, we solve:

$$A + 3I = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 4 \\ 1 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \xi_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{so} \quad \xi_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Similarly, for $\lambda_2 = 2$, we solve:

$$A - 2I = \begin{pmatrix} -4 & 4\\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \xi_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0\\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{so} \quad \xi_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1\\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

It follows that the general solution in the translated system satisfies:

$$z(t) = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-3t} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{2t},$$

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$$x(t) = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-3t} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{2t} + \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Since $\lambda_1 < 0 < \lambda_2$, this is an saddle node. Below is a phase portrait showing the trajectories of this system, where the eigenvectors are shown in black. The eigenvectors intersect at the equilibrium point.

