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# LECTURE 32

## Time Invariant ("Autonomous") Linear Systems.

I. Solution via Taylor Series

II. Solution via Eigenvalues & Eigenvectors

A) Algebraic Analysis

B) Comments

C) Geometric Analysis

D) Recommendation

III. Diagonal Form of a Matrix

## TIME INVARIANT (AUTONOMOUS)

## LINEAR SYSTEMS

Consider the system of differential equations with constant coefficients

$$\frac{d\vec{u}(t)}{dt} = A \vec{u}(t) \quad A: V = \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow V = \mathbb{R}^n$$

Find  $\vec{u}(t)$  subject to the initial condition  $\vec{u}(0) = \vec{u}_0$ .

Comment:

Here we develop the mathematical theory for a linear system represented by a constant  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$ .

There are two mathematical ways of solving this dynamical system problem, namely via

I. Taylor series method

II. Eigenvector method



## To Taylor Series Method

This method can be used for any matrix  $A$  as long as it is a constant matrix. Indeed one has

$$\frac{du(t)}{dt} = A u(t)$$

$$\frac{d^2 u(t)}{dt^2} = A \frac{du}{dt} = A^2 u(t)$$

$$\frac{d^3 u}{dt^3} = A^3 u$$

The Taylor series expansion around  $t=0$  yields

$$u(t) = u(0) + \left. \frac{du}{dt} \right|_0 t + \left. \frac{d^2 u}{dt^2} \right|_0 \frac{t^2}{2!} + \dots$$

$$= \left[ I + At + \frac{1}{2!} A^2 t^2 + \dots \right] \vec{u}(0)$$

$$\equiv e^{At}$$

whenever the series converges.

Thus one has

$$\boxed{\vec{u}(t) = e^{At} \vec{u}_0}$$

and

$$\vec{u}(t, +t_2) = e^{At_1} e^{At_2} \vec{u}_0 = e^{A(t_1+t_2)} \vec{u}_0$$

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One says that  $e^{At}$  is the time relation operator of the system. Aside from the fact that  $A$  is said to be the generator of time translations of the system, there is not too much one can say about it without examining the structure of the  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$ .

This deficiency is remedied by the

## II. Eigenvector Method

The virtue of this method is that it finds and uses the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of  $A$  and thereby reveals the internal mathematical and physical structure of the linear system. This means one will be able to predict the evolution

$\vec{u}(t)$  for all possible initial value  
 $\vec{u}(t=0) = \vec{u}_0$ .



## A) Algebraic Analysis

The motivation for the eigenvector method comes from the familiar one-dimensional equation

$$\frac{du}{dt} = Au,$$

Its solution is

$$u(t) = f(t)c$$

where  $c$  is an arbitrary constant and

$$f(t) = e^{At}$$

Q: How does one apply this method if  $A$  is  $n \times n$ ?

A: We are looking for an  $n$ -dimensional vector  $\vec{u}$ . This suggests that we look for solutions having the form

$$\vec{u}(t) = f(t)\vec{x}$$

where  $\vec{x}$  is a constant vector. Physically

this means that all components of

$\vec{u}(t)$  have the same time dependence.



Inserting this type of a solution into the equation

$$\frac{d\vec{u}}{dt} = A\vec{u}$$

yields

$$A f \vec{x} = \frac{df}{dt} \vec{x}$$

or

$$A \vec{x} = \frac{1}{f} \frac{df}{dt} \vec{x}$$

independent  
of time

This equation implies:

(i)  $\frac{1}{f} \frac{df}{dt} = \text{constant} = \lambda \Rightarrow f = e^{\lambda t}$

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

One must find values  $\lambda$  for which  $\mathcal{N}(A - \lambda I) \neq \{\vec{0}\}$

For each such value of  $\lambda$  the solution is

$$\vec{u}(t) = e^{\lambda t} \vec{x} \text{ where } \vec{x} \in \mathcal{N}(A - \lambda I)$$

### B) Comments

(i)  $\vec{u}(t) = e^{\lambda t} \vec{x}$  is called an eigenstate.  
(or an eigenmode if  $\lambda$  is complex.)



## Comment (continued)

(i'') The linearity of the system implies that the

$$a) \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{general} \\ \text{solution} \end{array} \right) = c_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} \vec{x}_1 + c_2 e^{\lambda_2 t} \vec{x}_2 + \dots + c_n e^{\lambda_n t} \vec{x}_n$$

b)  $c_1, \dots, c_n$  are determined by the initial condxn  $\vec{u}(0) = \sum_{k=1}^n c_k \vec{x}_k$  whenever there are  $n$  distinct eigenvalues

(iii) One obtains such a solution only for a time invariant system

(iv) For  $\lambda$  to be an eigenvalue of  $A$  the following conditions are equivalent

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(1)  $Ax = \lambda x$  has a nontrivial sol'n

(2)  $A - \lambda I$  is singular (columns form a linearly dependent set)

(3)  $A - \lambda I$  has linearly dependent rows

(4)  $\det|A - \lambda I| = 0$

## Example

$$\frac{d\vec{u}}{dt} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -5 \\ 2 & -3 \end{bmatrix} \vec{u} \text{ with } \vec{u}(0) = \begin{bmatrix} 8 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

## Algebraic analysis

Step 1.  $Ax = \lambda x$ 

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda^2 - \lambda - 2 = 0$$

$$(\lambda - 2)(\lambda + 1) = 0$$

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$$\lambda_1 = -1; \text{ compute } \vec{x}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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$$\lambda_2 = 2; \text{ compute } \vec{x}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Step 2. Write down the general solutions

$$\vec{u} = c_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 e^{\lambda_2 t} \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Step 3. Write down the solution which satisfies the initial conditions

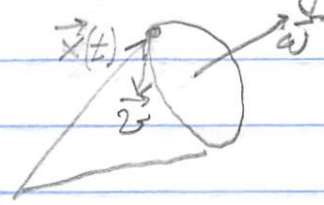
$$\vec{u}(0) = \begin{bmatrix} 8 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \vec{u}(t) = 3e^{\lambda_1 t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + 1e^{\lambda_2 t} \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 3e^{-t} + 5e^{2t} \\ 3e^{-t} + 2e^{2t} \end{bmatrix}$$



Consider the position-velocity relation

$$\vec{v} = \omega \times \vec{X}$$



$$\cdot [\vec{v}] = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\omega_3 & \omega_2 \\ \omega_3 & 0 & -\omega_1 \\ -\omega_2 & \omega_1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} \leftarrow \text{SKIP THIS IN CLASS}$$

$$[\vec{v}] = [\omega][\vec{X}]$$

Q: What are the corresponding particle trajectories?

A: They are the solutions to

$$\frac{d}{dt} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}}_{[\vec{X}]} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\omega_3 & \omega_2 \\ \omega_3 & 0 & -\omega_1 \\ -\omega_2 & \omega_1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}}_{[\vec{X}]}$$

This system can be solved using the power series method or the eigenvalue/eigenvector method.

TRY IT FOR  $\vec{\omega} = \omega_3 \vec{k}$ !

## c) Geometrical Analysis

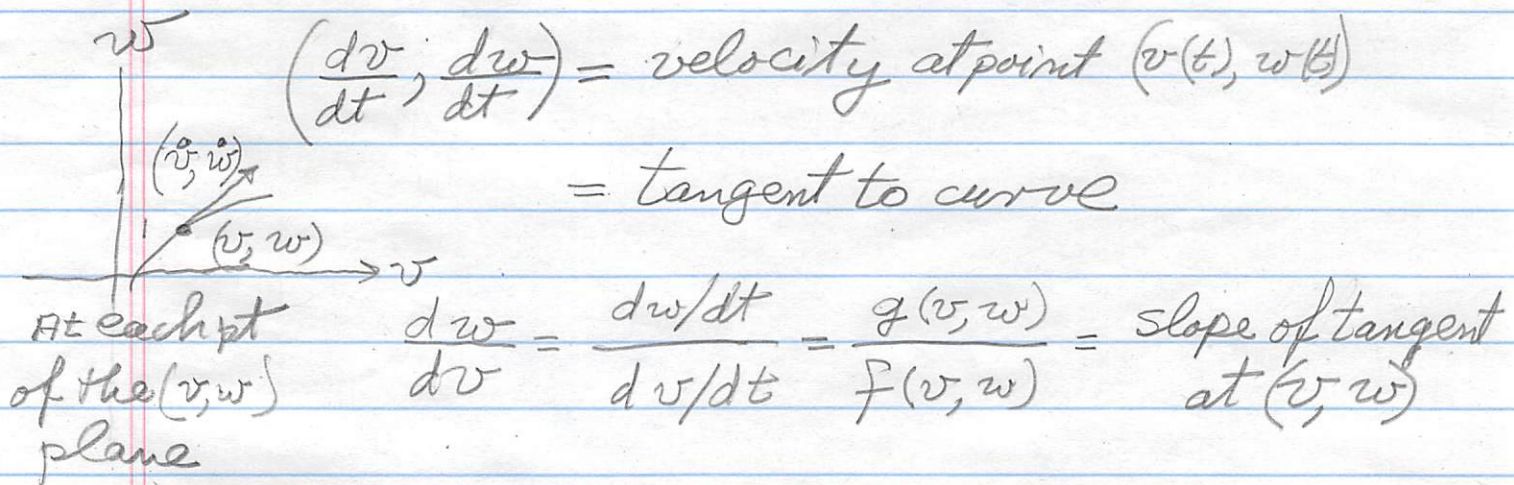
The geometrical method applies to linear as well as to non-linear systems.

Consider

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \frac{dv}{dt} &= f(v, w) = 4v - 5w \\ \frac{dw}{dt} &= g(v, w) = 2v - 3w \end{aligned} \right\} (*)$$

Here

$(v(t), w(t)) =$  position in  $V = \mathbb{R}^2$  as a fn of time.



### Problem

a) Sketch the phase portrait of Eq. (\*) for which one has

$$\frac{dw}{dv} = \frac{2v - 3w}{4v - 5w}$$

b) Exhibit the tangent at strategic pts.



Solution:

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$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} v \\ w \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -3 \\ 4 & -5 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v \\ w \end{bmatrix}; \quad \frac{dv}{dt} = 2v - 3w$$

$$\frac{dw}{dt} = 4v - 5w$$

$$A: \lambda_1 = -1 \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} v \\ w \end{bmatrix} \propto \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \lambda_2 = 2 \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} v \\ w \end{bmatrix} \propto \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

What is the phase space diagram in the  $v-w$  plane?

$$\frac{w}{v} = \frac{2}{5}$$

Let  $\begin{bmatrix} v \\ w \end{bmatrix} \in \mathcal{N}(A - \lambda_i I)$

Then

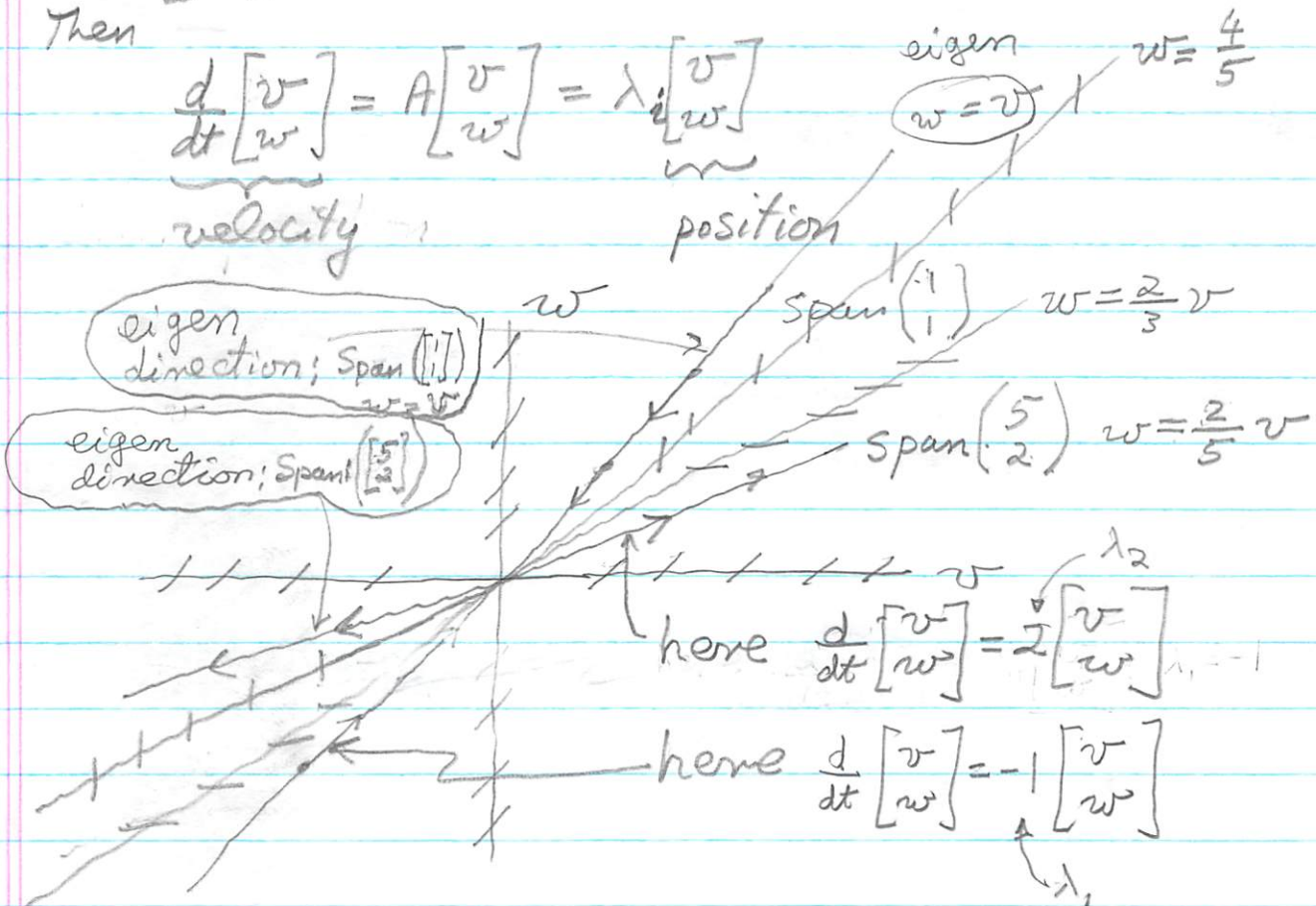
$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} v \\ w \end{bmatrix} = A \begin{bmatrix} v \\ w \end{bmatrix} = \lambda_i \begin{bmatrix} v \\ w \end{bmatrix}$$

velocity  $\rightarrow$  position

eigen  $w = \frac{4}{5}v$

eigen direction;  $\text{Span} \left( \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right)$   
 $w = v$

eigen direction;  $\text{Span} \left( \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right)$   
 $w = \frac{2}{5}v$



here  $\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} v \\ w \end{bmatrix} = 2 \begin{bmatrix} v \\ w \end{bmatrix}$

here  $\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} v \\ w \end{bmatrix} = -1 \begin{bmatrix} v \\ w \end{bmatrix}$

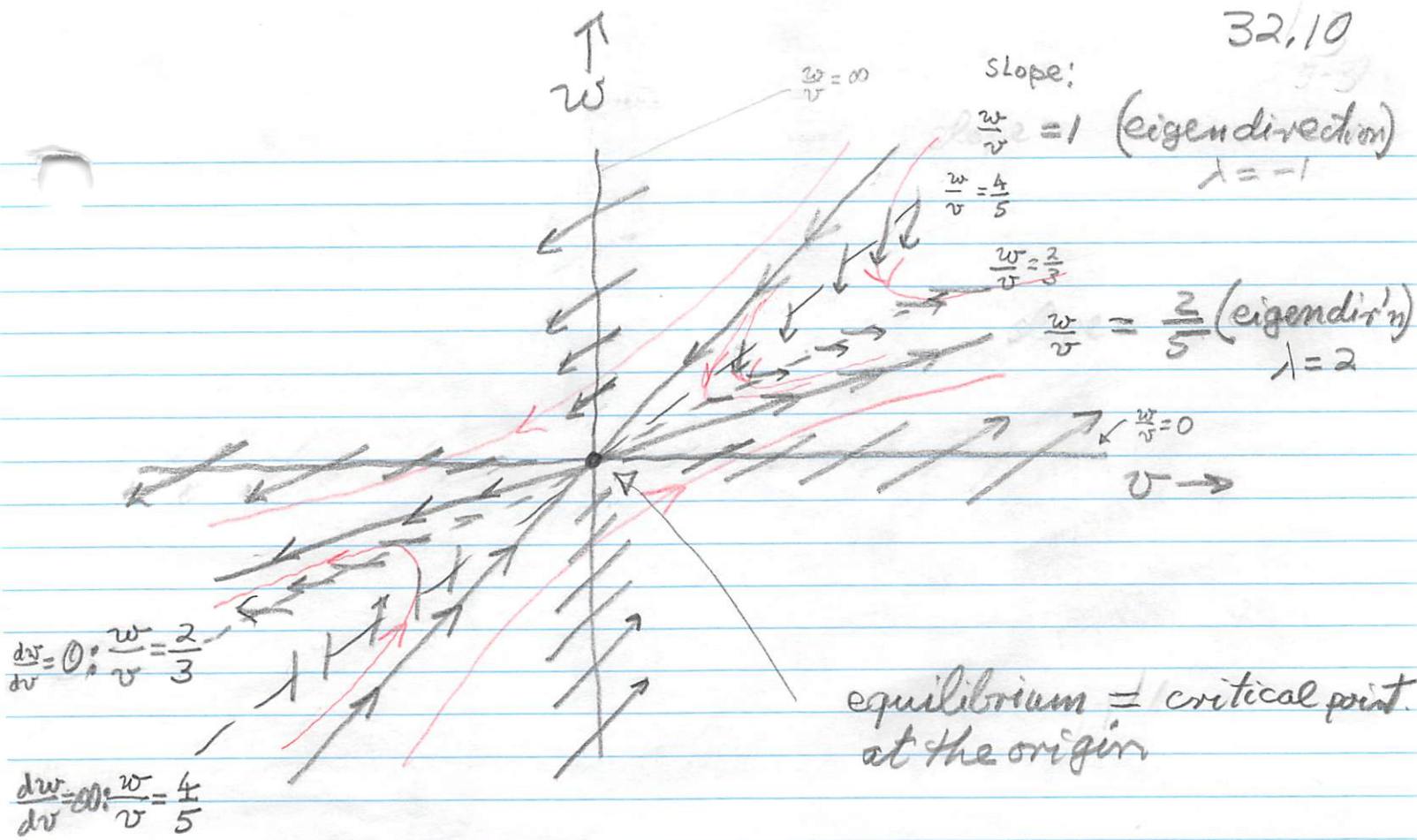
$$\frac{dw}{dv} = \frac{2v - 3w}{4v - 5w}$$

$$w = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{dw}{dv} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$w = \frac{2}{5}v \Rightarrow \frac{dw}{dv} = 0$$

$$v = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{dw}{dv} = \frac{3}{5}$$

$$w = \frac{4}{5}v \Rightarrow \frac{dw}{dv} = \infty$$



$$v = \frac{5}{4}w \quad \frac{dw}{dt} = (2 \cdot \frac{5}{4} - 3)w$$

$$= (\frac{5}{2} - 3)w = -\frac{1}{3}w$$

D) Recommendation:

Use "quiver" command in Matlab