

**Homework 6**  
Math 2568

### Problem 1 (MATLAB)

§4.4, Exercise 3. (MATLAB) Choose the linear system in `pplane9` and set  $a = d$  and  $b = c$ . Verify that for these systems of differential equations:

- (a) When  $|a| < b$  typical trajectories approach the line  $y = x$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$  and the line  $y = -x$  as  $t \rightarrow -\infty$ .
- (b) Assume that  $b$  is positive,  $a$  is negative, and  $b < -a$ . With these assumptions show that the origin is a sink and that typical trajectories approach the origin tangent to the line  $y = x$ .

Graphs made in `pplane5` using the `axis('equal')` command verify these statements regarding linear systems where  $A = D$  and  $B = C$ . Figure 3a, uses  $A = D = -1$  and  $B = C = 2$ , and shows four sample trajectories which approach the line  $y = x$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ . Figure 3b graphs the linear system with  $A = D = -3$  and  $B = C = 2$ . It shows four sample trajectories, three of which approach the origin tangent to  $y = x$ . The fourth trajectory has an initial point  $0 < x_0 = -y_0$  and approaches the origin on the straight line  $y = -x$ , which is orthogonal to  $y = x$ .

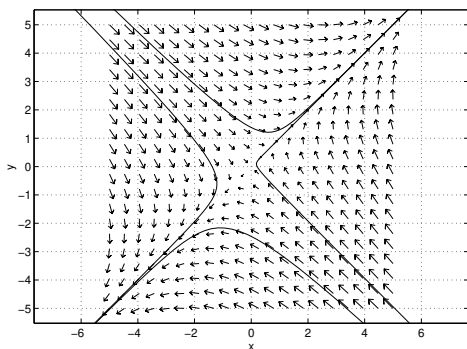


Figure 3a

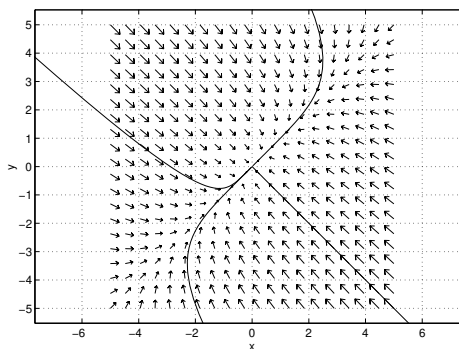


Figure 3b

## Problem 2

Determine which of the function pairs  $(x_1(t), y_1(t))$  and  $(x_2(t), y_2(t))$  are solutions to the given system of ordinary differential equations.

§4.4, Exercise 6. The ODE is:

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= 2x - 3y \\ \dot{y} &= x - 2y.\end{aligned}$$

The pairs of functions are:

$$(x_1(t), y_1(t)) = e^t(3, 1) \quad \text{and} \quad (x_2(t), y_2(t)) = (e^{-t}, e^{-t}).$$

**Answer:** Both function pairs are solutions to the given system.

**Solution:** To determine whether  $(x_1(t), y_1(t)) = (3e^t, e^t)$  is a solution to the system, compute the left hand sides of the equations:

$$\frac{dx_1}{dt}(t) = \frac{d}{dt}(3e^t) = 3e^t \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{dy_1}{dt}(t) = \frac{d}{dt}(e^t) = e^t.$$

Then compute the right hand sides of the equations:

$$2x_1(t) - 3y_1(t) = 2(3e^t) - 3e^t = 3e^t \quad \text{and} \quad x_1(t) - 2y_1(t) = 3e^t - 2e^t = e^t.$$

Since the left hand side of each equation equals the right hand side, the equations are consistent, and the pair of functions is a solution.

Similarly, to determine whether  $(x_2(t), y_2(t)) = (e^{-t}, e^{-t})$  is a solution to the system, compute the left hand sides of the equations:

$$\frac{dx_2}{dt}(t) = \frac{d}{dt}(e^{-t}) = -e^{-t} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{dy_2}{dt}(t) = \frac{d}{dt}(e^{-t}) = -e^{-t}.$$

Then compute the right hand sides of the equations:

$$2x_2(t) - 3y_2(t) = 2e^{-t} - 3e^{-t} = -e^{-t} \quad \text{and} \quad x_2(t) - 2y_2(t) = e^{-t} - 2e^{-t} = -e^{-t}.$$

Since the left hand side of each equation equals the right hand side, the equations are consistent, and the pair of functions is a solution.

## Problem 3

§4.5, Exercise 4. Find a solution to

$$\dot{X}(t) = CX(t)$$

where

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

and

$$X(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

**Hint:** Observe that

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

are eigenvectors of  $C$ .

**Answer:**

$$X(t) = \frac{3}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + \frac{1}{2} e^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

**Solution:** Note that if  $Cv = \lambda v$ , then  $X(t) = e^{\lambda t}v$  is a solution to  $\dot{X}(t) = CX(t)$ . Let

$$v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The eigenvalues corresponding to  $v_1$  and  $v_2$  are  $\lambda_1 = 0$  and  $\lambda_2 = 2$ . This can be verified by calculating  $Cv_1 = 0$  and  $Cv_2 = 2v_2$ . So,

$$X(t) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad X(t) = e^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

are both solutions to  $\dot{X}(t) = CX$ . By the principle of superposition,

$$X(t) = \alpha \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + \beta e^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

is also a solution. Substitute the given the initial condition into the equation to obtain

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = X(0) = \alpha \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + \beta \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Now, solve the linear system

$$\begin{aligned} 2 &= \alpha + \beta \\ 1 &= \alpha - \beta \end{aligned}$$

to find that  $\alpha = \frac{3}{2}$  and  $\beta = \frac{1}{2}$ .

## Problem 4 (MATLAB)

§4.5, Exercise 11.(MATLAB) Use MATLAB to verify that solutions to the system of linear differential equations

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dx}{dt} &= 2x + y \\ \frac{dy}{dt} &= y\end{aligned}$$

are linear combinations of the two solutions

$$U(t) = e^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad V(t) = e^t \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

More concretely, proceed as follows:

- By superposition, the general solution to the differential equation has the form  $X(t) = \alpha U(t) + \beta V(t)$ . Find constants  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  such that  $\alpha U(0) + \beta V(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .
- Graph the second component  $y(t)$  of this solution using the MATLAB `plot` command.
- Use `pplane9` to compute a solution via the **Keyboard input** starting at  $(x(0), y(0)) = (0, 1)$  and then use the `y vs t` command in `pplane9` to graph this solution.
- Compare the results of the two plots.
- Repeat steps (a)–(d) using the initial vector  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

(a) **Answer:** If  $\alpha = 1$  and  $\beta = 1$ , then

$$\alpha U(0) + \beta V(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

**Solution:** Solve the linear system

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha - \beta &= 0 \\ \beta &= 1.\end{aligned}$$

(b) Figure 11a shows  $y$  as a function of  $t$ . The figure was created by the MATLAB commands:

```
t = linspace(-8,2);  
y = exp(t);  
plot(t,y)
```

(c) Figure 11b shows the `pplane5` graph of the system, and Figure 11c shows the `y vs. t` graph.

(d) The two plots are identical, since the `pplane5` command `y vs. t` graphs the  $y$  component of the solution, which is precisely what we did by hand in (b).

(e) In this case,  $\alpha = 2$  and  $\beta = 1$ . Since the  $y$  component of  $U(t)$  is zero, the graphs of  $y(t)$  are identical to those in (b) and (c).

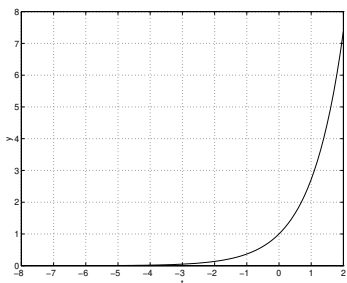


Figure 11a

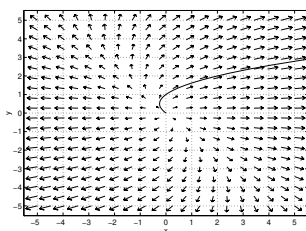


Figure 11b

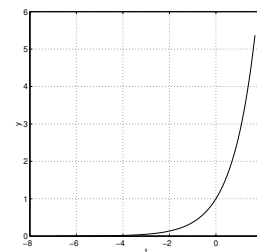


Figure 11c

## Problem 5

§4.5, Exercise 6. Let

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -3 & -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Show that  $C$  has no real eigenvectors.

A vector  $(x, y)$  is an eigenvector of  $C$  if

$$C \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \lambda \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$$

that is, if

$$(C - \lambda I_2) \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = 0.$$

In this case,

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 - \lambda & 2 \\ -3 & -1 - \lambda \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = 0.$$

This equation will have a nonzero solution  $(x, y)$  only if

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 - \lambda & 2 \\ -3 & -1 - \lambda \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$$

is not row equivalent to the identity matrix. Row reducing the matrix yields

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{2}{1-\lambda} \\ 0 & -1 - \lambda + \frac{6}{1-\lambda} \end{pmatrix}$$

so  $C$  has an eigenvector when

$$-1 - \lambda + \frac{6}{1-\lambda} = 0,$$

that is, when  $\lambda^2 = -5$ . Therefore,  $C$  has no real eigenvectors.

## Problem 6

§4.6, Exercise 1. For which values of  $\lambda$  is the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1-\lambda & 4 \\ 2 & 3-\lambda \end{pmatrix}$$

not invertible? **Note:** These values of  $\lambda$  are just the eigenvalues of the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 4 \\ 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

**Answer:** The matrix is not invertible when  $\lambda = 5$  or  $\lambda = -1$ .

**Solution:** Corollary 3.8.3 states that a matrix is not invertible if and only if the determinant is zero; in this case, if

$$(1-\lambda)(3-\lambda) - (2)(4) = \lambda^2 - 4\lambda - 5 = 0.$$

## Problem 7

Compute the determinant, trace, and characteristic polynomials for the given  $2 \times 2$  matrix.

§4.6, Exercise 2.  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 4 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

The determinant of the matrix is  $-1$ , the trace is  $0$ , and the characteristic polynomial is  $p(\lambda) = \lambda^2 - 1$ .

## Problem 8

Compute the eigenvalues for the given  $2 \times 2$  matrix.

§4.6, Exercise 6.  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & -5 \end{pmatrix}$ .

**Answer:** The eigenvalues of the matrix are  $\lambda_1 = -5$  and  $\lambda_2 = 1$ .

**Solution:** For any  $2 \times 2$  matrix  $A$ , the eigenvalues are the roots of the characteristic polynomials, which can be found by solving the equation  $\lambda^2 - \text{tr}(A)\lambda + \det(A) = 0$ . In this case, the characteristic polynomial of the matrix is  $\lambda^2 + 4\lambda - 5$ .

## Problem 9

Compute the eigenvalues for the given  $2 \times 2$  matrix.

§4.6, Exercise 8.  $\begin{pmatrix} 3 & -2 \\ 2 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

**Answer:** The matrix has a double eigenvalue at  $\lambda = 1$ .

**Solution:** The characteristic polynomial of the matrix is  $\lambda^2 - 2\lambda + 1$ . The eigenvalues are the roots of this polynomial.

## Problem 10 (MATLAB)

§4.6, Exercise 15. (MATLAB) The MATLAB command `eig` computes the eigenvalues of matrices. Use `eig` to compute the eigenvalues of  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 2.34 & -1.43 \\ \pi & e \end{pmatrix}$ .

**Answer:** The eigenvalues of  $A$  are  $\lambda \approx 2.5291 \pm 2.1111i$ .

**Solution:** Enter the matrix  $A$  into MATLAB and find its eigenvalues by typing

```
A = [2.34 -1.43; pi exp(1)];  
eig(A)
```