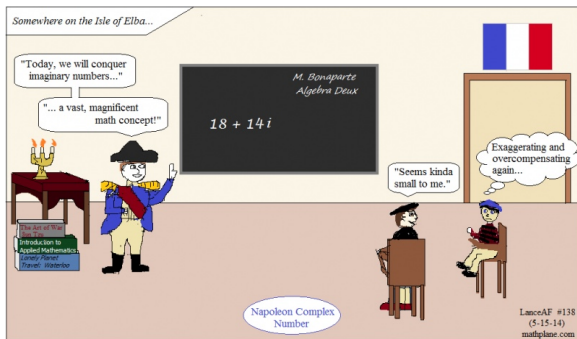


# MATH 226:Differential Equations



Class 16: March 24, 2025



# Notes on Assignment 10

## Assignment 11

## Our Main Agenda

Solve  $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{X}$  where  $\mathbf{A}$  is an  $n \times n$  matrix of constants and  $\mathbf{X}$  is an  $n$ -dimensional vector of functions.

## Results So Far

Theorem: The set of solutions is an  $n$ -dimensional vector space.

We can find some solutions of the form  $e^{\lambda t} \vec{v}$  where  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\vec{v}$  is an associated eigenvector.

Distinct eigenvalues give rise to linearly independent solutions.

## Outstanding Questions

How to handle complex eigenvalues.

How to find  $n$  linearly independent solutions to  $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{X}$  when there are not enough of the form  $e^{\lambda t} \vec{v}$ .

**Current Goal:**  
**Continue Study of Linear  
Homogeneous Systems  
With Constant Coefficients**

$$X' = A X$$

**$2 \times 2$  Case**

Theorem: If  $\lambda$  and  $\mu$  are distinct eigenvalues (real or complex) of a  $2 \times 2$  matrix  $A$  having corresponding eigenvectors  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$ , then every solution of  $\mathbf{x}' = A \mathbf{x}$  is a linear combination of  $e^{\lambda t} \vec{v}$  and  $e^{\mu t} \vec{w}$ .

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$$

**Characteristic Polynomial** of  $A$  is  $\det(A - \lambda I) =$   
 $\lambda^2 - (a + d)\lambda + ad - bc$   
 $\lambda^2 - \text{Trace}(A) \lambda + \text{Det } A$

**Characteristic Equation:**  $\det(A - \lambda I) = 0$   
**Eigenvalues** Are Roots of Characteristic Polynomial

$$\lambda = \frac{(a + d) \pm \sqrt{(a + d)^2 - 4(ad - bc)}}{2}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{(a + d) \pm \sqrt{(a - d)^2 + 4bc}}{2}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{(a + d) \pm \sqrt{(a - d)^2 + 4bc}}{2}$$

### Possibilities

2 Real Unequal Roots

2 Complex Roots

1 Real Double Root

### More About 2 Real Unequal Roots Case

$$\mathbf{x}' = A \mathbf{x}$$

The Origin (0,0) is an equilibrium and is called a **NODE**

## More About 2 Real Unequal Roots Case $\mathbf{x}' = A \mathbf{x}$

The Origin (0,0) is an equilibrium and is called a **NODE**

$\lambda_1, \lambda_2 < 0$       Node is Asymptotically Stable  
**NODAL SINK**

$\lambda_1, \lambda_2 > 0$       Node is Unstable  
**NODAL SOURCE**

Opposite Sign      Node is Unstable  
**SADDLE POINT**

Nodal Sink       $\begin{bmatrix} -7 & 3 \\ 2 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$        $\lambda = -1, -8$

Nodal Source       $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ -1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$        $\lambda = 3, 2$

Saddle Point       $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$        $\lambda = 3, -1$



$\lambda = 0$  is an eigenvalue for a matrix **A**  
**if and only if**  
 $\det(\mathbf{A}) = 0$ .

## ZERO AS AN EIGENVALUE

Example: Richardson Arms Race Model

With Parallel Stable Lines

$$x' = -mx + ay + r$$

$$y' = bx - ny + s$$

$$\text{Slope of } \mathbf{L} = \frac{m}{a}$$

$$\text{Slope of } \mathbf{L}' = \frac{b}{n}$$

$$\text{Parallel if } \frac{m}{a} = \frac{b}{n}$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -m & a \\ b & -n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$mn = ab \Leftrightarrow mn - ab = 0 \Leftrightarrow \det(A) = 0$$

$$\text{Characteristic Equation: } \lambda^2 + (m+n)\lambda + (mn - ab) = 0$$

$$\lambda^2 + (m+n)\lambda = 0$$

$$\lambda(\lambda + (m+n)) = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda = 0, \lambda = -(m+n)$$

## ZERO AS AN EIGENVALUE EXAMPLE

$$m = 3, a = 6, n = 8, b = 4$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -3 & 6 \\ 4 & -8 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} -3 - \lambda & 6 \\ 4 & -8 - \lambda \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= (-3 - \lambda)(-8 - \lambda) - 24 = \lambda^2 + 11\lambda + 24 - 24$$

$$= \lambda^2 + 11\lambda = \lambda(\lambda + 11)$$

$$\lambda = 0, \lambda = -11$$

For  $\lambda = -11$  :

$$\begin{bmatrix} 8 & 6 \\ 4 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$4v_1 + 3v_2 = 0$$

$$\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

For  $\lambda = 0$  :

$$\begin{bmatrix} -3 & 6 \\ 4 & -8 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$-3w_1 + 6w_2 = 0$$

$$\vec{w} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\lambda = -11, \vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\lambda = 0, \vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

General Solution To

$$x' = -3x + 6y$$

$$y' = 4x = 8y$$

$$\text{is } \mathbf{x} = C_1 e^{0t} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + C_2 e^{-11t} \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x = 2C_1 - 3C_2 e^{-11t}$$

$$y = C_1 + 4C_2 e^{-11t}$$

Particular Solution:  $(x_0, y_0)$  at  $t = 0$

$$x_0 = 2C_1 - 3C_2$$

$$y_0 = C_1 + 4C_2$$

$$\begin{array}{l|l} 2C_1 - 3C_2 = x_0 & 8C_1 - 12C_2 = 4x_0 \\ -2C_1 - 8C_2 = -2y_0 & 3C_1 + 12C_2 = 3y_0 \\ \hline \text{Add Equations} & \text{Add Equations} \\ -11C_2 = x_0 - 2y_0 & 11C_1 = 4x_0 + 3y_0 \end{array}$$

$$C_1 = \frac{4x_0 + 3y_0}{11}, C_2 = \frac{-x_0 + 2y_0}{11}$$

$$x = 2\left(\frac{4x_0 + 3y_0}{11}\right) - 3\left(\frac{-x_0 + 2y_0}{11}\right)e^{-11t}$$

$$y = \frac{4x_0 + 3y_0}{11} + 4\left(\frac{-x_0 + 2y_0}{11}\right)e^{-11t}$$

Consider the system of first order linear homogeneous differential equations

$$x'(t) = 2x(t) + py(t)$$

$$y'(t) = -1x(t) + 3y(t)$$

where  $p$  is any real number.

Then for any initial condition  $x(0) = x_0, y(0) = y_0$ , there is a unique solution of the system  $x = f(t), y = g(t)$  satisfying the initial condition.

The values of  $f(t)$  and  $g(t)$  will be **real** numbers for all  $t$ .

## Complex Eigenvalues

Begin with an example  $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{X}$  where

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & p \\ -1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Here  $\det(A - \lambda I) = (2 - \lambda)(3 - \lambda) + p = \lambda^2 - 5\lambda + 6 + p$

$$\lambda = \frac{5 \pm \sqrt{25 - 4(6 + p)}}{2} = \frac{5 \pm \sqrt{1 - 4p}}{2}$$

## Complex Eigenvalues

$$\lambda = \frac{5 \pm \sqrt{25 - 4(6 + p)}}{2} = \frac{5 \pm \sqrt{1 - 4p}}{2}$$

Some Cases

1.  $p = 0$ :  $\lambda = \frac{5 \pm 1}{2} = 3$  or  $2$  (source)
2.  $p = 1/4$ :  $\lambda = \frac{5}{2}$  Double Root (Next Time)
3.  **$p = 5/2$** :  $\lambda = \frac{5 \pm \sqrt{1-10}}{2} = \frac{5 \pm \sqrt{-9}}{2} = \frac{5 \pm 3i}{2}$   
 $\lambda = \frac{5+3i}{2}$  or  $\lambda = \frac{5-3i}{2}$ . (**Complex Conjugates**)  
 $\lambda = \frac{5}{2} + \frac{3}{2}i$  or  $\frac{5}{2} - \frac{3}{2}i$

For a quadratic polynomial, the quadratic formula shows we will have a conjugate pair of roots for  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$  when  $b^2 - 4ac < 0$ .



## Some Basic Facts About Complex Numbers

A **complex number**  $z$  is an expression of the form  $a + bi$  where  $a$  and  $b$  are real numbers and  $i^2 = -1$ .

$a$  is called the real part of the complex number,  
 $b$  is called the imaginary part.

Treat complex numbers as if they were real for the purposes of arithmetic except whenever you encounter  $ii$ , replace it with  $-1$ .

### Arithmetic

Use Associative and Commutative Laws

$$z = a + bi, w = c + di$$

$$\text{SUM: } z + w = (a + bi) + (c + di) = (a + c) + (b + d)i$$

### PRODUCT

$$zw = (a + bi)(c + di) = ac + adi + bci + bdi^2 = (ac - bd) + (ad + bc)i$$

## Powers of $i$

$$i^2 = -1, i^3 = i^2 i = -i, i^4 = i^2 i^2 = (-1)(-1) = 1$$

Thus

$$+i = i^1 = i^5 = i^9 = i^{13} = i^{17} = \dots$$

$$-1 = i^2 = i^6 = i^{10} = i^{14} = \dots$$

$$-i = i^3 = i^7 = i^{11} = i^{15} = \dots$$

$$+1 = i^4 = i^8 = i^{12} = i^{16} = \dots$$

In general,  $i^k = i^{k+4}$ .

## Working with Conjugates

$$\bar{z} = a - bi$$

Then.  $\overline{z + w} = \bar{z} + \bar{w}$  (Conjugate of sum is sum of conjugates)  
 $\overline{zw} = \bar{z}\bar{w}$ . (Conjugate of product is product of conjugates)

$$\text{Note } \overline{z^2} = \overline{z \cdot z} = \bar{z}\bar{z} = (\bar{z})^2.$$

It follows that if

$$A\vec{v} = \lambda\vec{v}, \text{ then } A\vec{\bar{v}} = \bar{\lambda}\vec{\bar{v}}$$

$$\overline{(A\vec{v})} = A\vec{\bar{v}} \text{ since } A \text{ is real.}$$

Thus

$$A\vec{\bar{v}} = \overline{(A\vec{v})} = \overline{\lambda\vec{v}} = \bar{\lambda}\vec{\bar{v}}$$

If  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $A$  with eigenvector  $\vec{v}$ , then  
 $\bar{\lambda}$  is also an eigenvalue of  $A$  with eigenvector  $\vec{\bar{v}}$

Theorem: If  $z$  is a root of a polynomial with real coefficients, then so is  $\bar{z}$ .

Example: Suppose  $z$  is a root of  $x^7 - 4x^3 + \pi x - 7$

$$\text{Then } z^7 - 4z^3 + \pi z - 7 = 0$$

$$\text{Hence } \overline{z^7 - 4z^3 + \pi z - 7} = \bar{0} = 0$$

$$\text{So } \overline{z^7} - \overline{4z^3} + \overline{\pi z} - \bar{7} = 0$$

$$\text{implying } (\bar{z})^7 - 4(\bar{z})^3 - \pi\bar{z} - 7 = 0$$

## How To Find Eigenvectors

Example:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & \frac{5}{2} \\ -1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}, \lambda = \frac{5}{2} \pm \frac{3}{2}i.$$

We want  $\vec{v}$

$$A - \lambda I = \begin{pmatrix} 2 - \frac{5}{2} - \frac{3}{2}i & \frac{5}{2} \\ -1 & 3 - \frac{5}{2} - \frac{3}{2}i \end{pmatrix} \text{ using } \lambda = \frac{5}{2} + \frac{3}{2}i$$

$$A - \lambda I = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{2} - \frac{3}{2}i & \frac{5}{2} \\ -1 & \frac{1}{2} - \frac{3}{2}i \end{pmatrix}$$

## How To Find Eigenvectors

$$A - \lambda I = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{2}i - \frac{3}{2}i & \frac{5}{2} \\ -1 & \frac{1}{2} - \frac{3}{2}i \end{pmatrix}$$

First, Check that the determinant is 0:

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = (-\frac{1}{2}i - \frac{3}{2}i)(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{3}{2}i) - (-1)(\frac{5}{2})$$

$$= -1\frac{1}{4} + \frac{3}{4}i - \frac{3}{4}i - \frac{9}{4} + \frac{5}{2} = 0.$$

Second, to find a vector  $\vec{v}$  with  $(A - \lambda I)\vec{v} = \vec{0}$ , use the second equation

$$-1v_1 + (\frac{1}{2} - \frac{3}{2}i)v_2 = 0$$

$$\text{so } v_1 = \frac{(1-3i)}{2}v_2$$

$$\text{Let } v_2 = 2. \text{ Then } v_1 = 1 - 3i \text{ so } \vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 - 3i \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 - 3i \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Finally, check that  $A\vec{v} = (\frac{5}{2} + \frac{3}{2}i)\vec{v}$ :

$$A\vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & \frac{5}{2} \\ -1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 - 3i \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 - 6i + 5 \\ -1 + 3i + 6 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 7 - 6i \\ 5 + 3i \end{pmatrix}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{5 + 3i}{2} \vec{v} &= \frac{5 + 3i}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 - 3i \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{5+3i}{2}(1 - 3i) \\ \frac{5+3i}{2}(2) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2}(5 - 15i + 3i + 9) \\ 5 + 3i \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 7 - 6i \\ 5 + 3i \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$