

Ch 7 and 9

Suppose an object moves in the 2D plane (the  $x_1, x_2$  plane) so that it is at the point  $(x_1(t), x_2(t))$  at time  $t$ . Suppose the object's velocity is given by

$$\begin{aligned} x_1'(t) &= ax_1 + bx_2, \\ x_2'(t) &= cx_1 + dx_2 \end{aligned}$$

Or in matrix form 
$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix}' = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

To solve, find eigenvalues and corresponding eigenvectors:

$$\begin{vmatrix} a - \tau & b \\ c & d - \tau \end{vmatrix} = (a - \tau)(d - \tau) - bc = \tau^2 - (a + d)\tau + ad - bc = 0.$$

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

Case 1:  $(a+d)^2 - 4(ad-bc) > 0$

Hence the general solutions is 
$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{pmatrix} e^{\tau_1 t} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \end{pmatrix} e^{\tau_2 t}$$

Case 1a:  $\tau_1 > \tau_2 > 0$

Case 1b:  $\tau_1 < \tau_2 < 0$

Case 1c:  $\tau_2 < 0 < \tau_1$

Case 2:  $(a+d)^2 - 4(ad-bc) = 0$

Case 2i: Two independent eigenvectors:

The general solution is 
$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{pmatrix} e^{\tau t} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \end{pmatrix} e^{\tau t}$$

Case 2ii: One independent eigenvectors:

The general solution is 
$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{pmatrix} e^{\tau t} + c_2 \left[ \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{pmatrix} t + \begin{pmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \end{pmatrix} \right] e^{\tau t}$$

Case 2a:  $\tau > 0$

Case 2b:  $\tau < 0$

Case 3:  $(a+d)^2 - 4(ad-bc) < 0$ . I.e.,  $\tau = \lambda \pm i\mu$

Suppose the eigenvector corresponding to this eigenvalue is

$$\begin{pmatrix} v_1 + iw_1 \\ v_2 + iw_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{pmatrix} + i \begin{pmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Then general solution is

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \cos(\mu t) - w_1 \sin(\mu t) \\ v_2 \cos(\mu t) - w_2 \sin(\mu t) \end{pmatrix} e^{\lambda t} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \sin(\mu t) + w_1 \cos(\mu t) \\ v_2 \sin(\mu t) + w_2 \cos(\mu t) \end{pmatrix} e^{\lambda t}$$

Case 3a:  $\lambda > 0$

Case 3a:  $\lambda < 0$

Case 3a:  $\lambda = 0$

one repeated root  
Also diagonal

2nd soln

2 real e. values  
e. vector

Two complex e. values