

Steps to find n solutions of $x' = Ax$ whose initial conditions are linearly independent.

Step 1: Find the eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_r$ and their algebraic multiplicities, $n_1, n_2, \dots, n_r$ ($\lambda_i \neq \lambda_j$ if $i \neq j$).

Step 2: For each eigenvalue λ_i find n_i linearly independent solutions of

$$(A - \lambda_i I)^{n_i} v = 0$$

Call these solutions $v_1^{(i)}, \dots, v_{n_i}^{(i)}$

Step 3: For each eigenvalue λ_i , set

$$x_l^{(i)} = e^{\lambda_i t} \sum_{k=0}^{n_i-1} \frac{t^k}{k!} (A - \lambda_i I)^k v_l^{(i)}$$

$$1 \leq l \leq n_i, \quad 1 \leq i \leq r$$

These $x_e^{(i)}$ are n solutions of $x' = Ax$ whose initial conditions are linearly independent

Step 4 If some eigenvalues are complex, keep only one per pair of complex conjugates. Then take real and imaginary part of any solution left.

Step 5: The general solution is a linear combination of the n solutions you have after step 4

Step 6: Impose the initial conditions to get the constants from Step 5

Fact: Let λ be an eigenvalue of

A with algebraic multiplicity m .

Let v be a non-zero solution of

$$(A - \lambda I)^m v = 0. \text{ Let}$$

$$x = e^{\lambda t} \left(\sum_{k=0}^{m-1} \frac{t^k}{k!} (A - \lambda I)^k v \right)$$

then $x' = Ax$

proof:

$$x' = \lambda e^{\lambda t} \left(\sum_{k=0}^{m-1} \frac{t^k}{k!} (A - \lambda I)^k v \right) +$$

$$e^{\lambda t} \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} \frac{t^{k-1}}{(k-1)!} (A - \lambda I)^k v$$

$$Ax = e^{\lambda t} \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} \frac{t^k}{k!} A (A - \lambda I)^k v =$$

$$Ax = e^{\lambda t} \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} \frac{t^k}{k!} (A - \lambda I)^{k+1} v + \\ + \lambda e^{\lambda t} \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} \frac{t^k}{k!} (A - \lambda I)^k v$$

Examples 1) Solve

$$x_1' = -x_1 + x_2$$

$$x_1(0) = 1$$

$$x_2' = 3x_2$$

$$x_2(0) = 2$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_1 = -1$$

$$n_1 = 1$$

$$\lambda_2 = 3$$

$$n_2 = 1$$

$$\boxed{\lambda_1 = -1} \quad (A - \lambda_1 I)^{n_1} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(A - \lambda_1 I)^{n_1} v = 0 \quad \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$v = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\boxed{\lambda_2 = 3} \quad (A - \lambda_2 I)^{n_2} = \begin{bmatrix} -4 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\boxed{\lambda_2 = 3} \quad (A - \lambda_2 I)^{n_2} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$v = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

λ	mult	vectors
-1	1	$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$
3	1	$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$

$$x = c_1 e^{-t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 e^{3t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

Set $t=0$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = c_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{aligned} c_2 &= \frac{1}{2} \\ c_1 &= \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

$$x = \frac{1}{2} e^{-t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{1}{2} e^{3t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x_1 = \frac{1}{2} e^{-t} + \frac{1}{2} e^{3t}$$

$$x_2 = 2e^{3t}$$

Example: $x_1' = x_1 - 4x_2$

$$x_2' = x_1 + x_2$$

$$x_3' = -2x_3$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -4 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$P(\lambda) = \det \begin{bmatrix} 1-\lambda & -4 & 0 \\ 1 & 1-\lambda & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -2-\lambda \end{bmatrix} = (1-\lambda)(1-\lambda)(-2-\lambda) -$$

$$-(-4)(-2-\lambda) = (-2-\lambda)[(1-\lambda)^2 + 4] = 0$$

$$\lambda_1 = -2 \quad \lambda_2 = 1+2i \quad \lambda_3 = 1-2i$$

$$\boxed{\lambda_1 = -2} \quad A - (-2)I = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -4 & 0 \\ 1 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad v = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\boxed{\lambda_2 = 1+2i} \quad A - (1+2i)I = \begin{bmatrix} -2i & -4 & 0 \\ 1 & -2i & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -3-2i \end{bmatrix}$$

$$[2i]$$

$$v = \begin{bmatrix} 2i \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x_1 = e^{-2t} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad x_2 = e^{(1+2i)t} \begin{bmatrix} 2i \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} =$$

$$= e^t e^{2it} \begin{bmatrix} 2i \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = e^t \begin{bmatrix} 2i e^{2it} \\ e^{2it} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} =$$

$$= e^t \begin{bmatrix} 2i(\cos 2t + i \sin 2t) \\ \cos 2t + i \sin 2t \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = e^t \begin{bmatrix} 2i \cos 2t - 2 \sin 2t \\ \cos 2t + i \sin 2t \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= e^t \begin{bmatrix} -2 \sin 2t \\ \cos 2t \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + i e^t \begin{bmatrix} 2 \cos 2t \\ \sin 2t \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

General solution

$$x = c_1 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} e^{-2t} + c_2 \begin{bmatrix} -2 \sin 2t \\ \cos 2t \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} e^t + c_3 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \cos 2t \\ \sin 2t \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} e^t$$

Example: $x_1' = 2x_1 + x_2$

$$x_2' = 2x_2 + x_3$$

Example: $x_1' = 2x_1 + x_2$

$x_2' = 2x_2 + x_3$

$x_3' = x_3$

$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

Eigenvalue	Multiplicity
2	2
1	1

$\lambda_1 = 1$ $A - I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ $v = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

$\lambda_2 = 2$ $n_2 = 2$ $(A - 2I)^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}^2 =$

$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

are two linearly independent solutions

of $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} v = 0$.

$x_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} e^t$

$\lambda = 2$

$m = 2$

$v = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$
 $\text{then } \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

$$x_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} e^t \quad \boxed{\lambda=2} \quad \boxed{m=2} \quad \text{then } \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x = e^{\lambda t} \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} \frac{t^k}{k!} (A - \lambda I)^k v$$

$$x_2 = e^{2t} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} e^{2t}$$

$$x_3 = e^{2t} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\} =$$

$$x_3 = e^{2t} \left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

the general solution is

$$x = c_1 e^t \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} e^{2t} + c_3 e^{2t} \begin{bmatrix} t \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$