

1. (25) Let $A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$ which has characteristic polynomial $\lambda(\lambda - 2)^2$. Find all solutions to $y' = Ay$.

Answer: The eigenspaces are the span of $(1 \ -2 \ 1)^T$ for $\lambda = 0$ and the span of $(1 \ -1 \ 0)^T$ for $\lambda = 2$. So we need to use generalized eigenvectors. $(A - 2I)^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 & 6 \\ -4 & -4 & -12 \\ 2 & 2 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$ so for example, $(0 \ 3 \ -1)^T$ is in the Null space of $(A - 2I)^2$ but not in the Null space of $A - 2I$. We have $(A - 2I)(0 \ 3 \ -1)^T = (4 \ -4 \ 0)^T$. So the general solution is:

$$y(t) = c_1(1 \ -2 \ 1)^T + c_2e^{2t}(1 \ -1 \ 0)^T + c_3e^{2t}((0 \ 3 \ -1)^T + (4t \ -4t \ 0)^T)$$

2. (25) Solve the system $x' = 3x + 2y$, $y' = -x + y$, $x(0) = 1$, $y(0) = 0$. Give a rough sketch of the resulting orbit.

Answer: Let $A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$. Then A has eigenvalues $2 \pm i$. An eigenvector for $2 + i$ is $(1 + i \ -1)^T$. So if we set $c = \cos t$ and $s = \sin t$ then a complex solution is

$$e^{2t}(\cos t + i \sin t)(1 + i \ -1)^T = e^{2t}(c - s, -c)^T + ie^{2t}(s + c, -s)^T$$

Taking real and imaginary parts, we see that the general solution is

$$(x \ y)^T = c_1e^{2t}(c - s, -c)^T + c_2e^{2t}(s + c, -s)^T$$

Setting $t = 0$ we see that $(1 \ 0)^T = c_1(1 \ -1)^T + c_2(1 \ 0)^T$ so $c_1 = 0$ and $c_2 = 1$. So the solution is $x = e^{2t}(\cos t + \sin t)$, $y = -e^{2t} \sin t$. The orbit is a spiral, spiralling outward. Since $x'(0) = 3$ and $y'(0) = -1$ it is spiraling clockwise.

3. (25) Find all stationary points of $x' = x - x^3 + xy(x - 1)$, $y' = -2y$ and sketch the orbits near each stationary point. For full credit your sketches should account for the eigenvectors. Comment on the stability near each stationary point. For 5 points extra credit, draw a plausible global sketch of the orbits in a region of the xy plane including all your stationary points.

Answer: $y' = 0$ implies $y = 0$ and then $x' = 0$ implies $x - x^3 = 0$ so $x = 0, \pm 1$. So the three stationary points are $(0, 0)$, $(1, 0)$ and $(-1, 0)$. The linearization is $\begin{pmatrix} 1 - 3x^2 + 2xy - y & x(x - 1) \\ 0 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$. At $(0, 0)$ this is $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$ so it is a saddle which flows outward in the x direction (since e_1 is the eigenvector for 1) and flows inward in the y direction. Of course $(0, 0)$ is unstable. At $(1, 0)$ this is $\begin{pmatrix} -2 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$ so this is asymptotically stable and for each direction you have an orbit approaching $(1, 0)$ with that limiting tangent. At $(-1, 0)$ this is $\begin{pmatrix} -2 & 2 \\ 0 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$ so this is asymptotically stable. But here the only eigenvector is e_1 so all orbits approach $(-1, 0)$ tangent to the x axis. Note in fact that the x and y axes are unions of orbits.

4. (25) Find all solutions to $x' = x + y + 1$, $y' = 2x + 2y + e^t$.

Answer: Solutions to the homogeneous system are $c_1(1 \ -1) + c_2e^{3t}(1 \ 2)$. The method of judicious guessing implies a guess $x = at + b + ce^t$ and $y = dt + f + ge^t$. We need the t terms because 0 is an eigenvalue for the homogeneous system. Plugging in we get $a + ce^t = (a + d)t + b + f + 1 + (c + g)e^t$ and $d + ge^t = (2a + 2d)t + 2b + 2f + (2c + 2g + 1)e^t$ which has solutions $a = 2/3$, $d = -2/3$, $f = -1/3 - b$, $c = -1/2$, $g = 0$. So the general solution is: $(x, y) = c_1(1, -1) + c_2e^{3t}(1, 2) + 1/3(2t - 1, -2t) - e^t/2(1, 0)$