

# Sections 10.1/10.2 Homogeneous Linear System of Ordinary Differential Equations

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

represents a system of homogeneous first order linear differential equations with constant coefficients

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1'(t) \\ x_2'(t) \\ \vdots \\ x_n'(t) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & \cdots & a_{nn} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1(t) \\ x_2(t) \\ \vdots \\ x_n(t) \end{pmatrix}$$

$\mathbf{A}$                        $\mathbf{X}$

**example:**

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix}' = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 4 \\ -1 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$x_1' = 2x_1 + 4x_2$$

$$x_2' = -x_1 + 6x_2$$

**Assume the solution vector has the form:**

$$\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{V}e^{rt} \quad (\mathbf{X} \text{ and } \mathbf{V} \text{ vectors}) \quad \mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{X} \Rightarrow r\mathbf{V}e^{rt} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{V}e^{rt}$$

$$\mathbf{X}' = r\mathbf{V}e^{rt}$$

$$r\mathbf{V} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{V}$$

$$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{V}e^{rt}$$

$$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{V} = r\mathbf{V}$$

(matrix)(vector) = (constant)(same vector)

$$\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{V}e^{\lambda t}$$

$r = \lambda$  **eigenvalue**

$\mathbf{V}$  **eigenvector**

The solutions vary based on the nature of the eigenvalues

**Distinct Real Eigenvalues**

$\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$  :  $n$  distinct eigenvalues with corresponding eigenvectors  $\mathbf{V}_1, \mathbf{V}_2, \dots, \mathbf{V}_n$

$$\mathbf{X} = c_1 \mathbf{V}_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} + c_2 \mathbf{V}_2 e^{\lambda_2 t} + \dots + c_n \mathbf{V}_n e^{\lambda_n t}$$

**Repeated Eigenvalues (with  $n$  linearly independent eigenvectors)**

Say  $n = 2, \lambda_1 = \lambda_2$  with 2 linearly independent eigenvectors  $\mathbf{V}_1$  and  $\mathbf{V}_2$   
call it  $\lambda$

$$\mathbf{X} = c_1 \mathbf{V}_1 e^{\lambda t} + c_2 \mathbf{V}_2 e^{\lambda t}$$

**Repeated Eigenvalues (with  $< n$  linearly independent eigenvectors)**

Say  $n = 2, \lambda_1 = \lambda_2$  with only one eigenvector  $\mathbf{V}_1$   
call it  $\lambda$

$$\mathbf{X}_1 = \mathbf{V}_1 e^{\lambda t} \quad \mathbf{X}_2 = \mathbf{V}_1 t e^{\lambda t} + \mathbf{V}_2 e^{\lambda t}$$

$\mathbf{V}_2$  found by solving  $(\mathbf{A} - \lambda \mathbf{I}) \mathbf{V}_2 = \mathbf{V}_1$

**Solution**

$$\mathbf{X} = c_1 \mathbf{X}_1 + c_2 \mathbf{X}_2 = c_1 \mathbf{V}_1 e^{\lambda t} + c_2 [\mathbf{V}_1 t e^{\lambda t} + \mathbf{V}_2 e^{\lambda t}]$$

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

represents a system of first order linear differential equations  
 where:

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1(t) \\ x_2(t) \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 4 \\ -1 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathbf{X}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

initial condition

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix}' = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 4 \\ -1 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$x_1' = 2x_1 + 4x_2$$

$$x_2' = -x_1 + 6x_2$$

1) Find the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of  $\mathbf{A}$ .

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 4 \\ -1 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{vmatrix} 2-\lambda & 4 \\ -1 & 6-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

$$(2-\lambda)(6-\lambda) + 4 = 0$$

$$12 - 8\lambda + \lambda^2 + 4 = 0$$

$$\lambda^2 - 8\lambda + 16 = 0$$

or use:  
2x2 Characteristic Equation Shortcut  
 $\lambda^2 - (\text{trace}(\mathbf{A}))\lambda + \det(\mathbf{A}) = 0$   
 $\lambda^2 - 8\lambda + 16 = 0$

$$(\lambda - 4)^2 = 0$$

**Repeated eigenvalue**

$$\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = 4$$

Solve:  $(\mathbf{A} - 4\mathbf{I}) \mathbf{V}_1 = \mathbf{0}$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -2 & 4 \\ -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{matrix} | \\ 0 \end{matrix} \xrightarrow{\frac{1}{2}R_1} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{matrix} | \\ 0 \end{matrix} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{matrix} | \\ 0 \end{matrix}$$

$-v_1 + 2v_2 = 0 \quad v_1 = 2v_2$   
 $v_2$  is free let  $v_2 = 1$

$$\mathbf{V}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

**Eigenvalue with multiplicity 2 and only 1 eigenvector**

Solution # 1

$$\mathbf{X}_1 = \mathbf{V}_1 e^{\lambda t} \quad \mathbf{V}_1 \text{ found by solving } (\mathbf{A} - \lambda_1 \mathbf{I}) \mathbf{V}_1 = \mathbf{0}$$

Solution # 2

$$\mathbf{X}_2 = \mathbf{V}_1 t e^{\lambda t} + \mathbf{V}_2 e^{\lambda t} \quad \mathbf{V}_2 \text{ found by solving } (\mathbf{A} - \lambda_1 \mathbf{I}) \mathbf{V}_2 = \mathbf{V}_1$$

Full Solution

$$\mathbf{X} = c_1 \mathbf{X}_1 + c_2 \mathbf{X}_2$$

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Solve:  $(\mathbf{A} - 4\mathbf{I}) \mathbf{V}_2 = \mathbf{V}_1$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -2 & 4 \\ -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{array}{c} 2 \\ 1 \end{array} \xrightarrow{\frac{1}{2}R_1} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{array}{c} -v_1 + 2v_2 = 1 \\ v_2 \text{ is free} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} v_1 = 2v_2 - 1 \\ \text{let } v_2 = 1 \end{array} \quad \boxed{\mathbf{V}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}}$$

$$\mathbf{X}_1 = \mathbf{V}_1 e^{\lambda t} \Rightarrow \mathbf{X}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{4t}$$

$$\mathbf{X}_2 = \mathbf{V}_1 t e^{\lambda t} + \mathbf{V}_2 e^{\lambda t} \Rightarrow \mathbf{X}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} t e^{4t} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{4t}$$

Full Solution

$$\mathbf{X} = c_1 \mathbf{X}_1 + c_2 \mathbf{X}_2$$

$$\boxed{\mathbf{X} = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-4t} + c_2 \left[ \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} t e^{4t} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{4t} \right]}$$

$$\mathbf{X}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathbf{X}(0) = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2c_1 & c_2 \\ c_1 & c_2 \end{pmatrix} \stackrel{\text{set}}{=} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

initial condition

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 & 6 \end{pmatrix} R_1 \leftrightarrow R_2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 6 \\ 2 & 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} R_2 - 2R_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 6 \\ 0 & -1 & -13 \end{pmatrix} \begin{array}{c} c_1 + c_2 = 6 \\ c_2 = 13 \end{array} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -7 \\ 13 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{X} = -7 \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{4t} + 13 \left[ \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} te^{4t} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{4t} \right]$$

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} e^{4t} + \begin{pmatrix} 26 \\ 13 \end{pmatrix} te^{4t}$$

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} -e^{4t} + 26te^{4t} \\ 6e^{4t} + 13te^{4t} \end{pmatrix}$$

**Check:**

$$\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} -4e^{4t} + 26e^{4t} + 104te^{4t} \\ 24e^{4t} + 13e^{4t} + 52te^{4t} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 22 & 104 \\ 37 & 52 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} e^{4t} \\ te^{4t} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} -e^{4t} + 26te^{4t} \\ 6e^{4t} + 13te^{4t} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 26 \\ 6 & 13 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} e^{4t} \\ te^{4t} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{X} \quad \checkmark$$

$$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 4 \\ -1 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 26 \\ 6 & 13 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} e^{4t} \\ te^{4t} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 22 & 104 \\ 37 & 52 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} e^{4t} \\ te^{4t} \end{pmatrix}$$