

# Homogeneous Linear Systems

Thm. Let  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3$  be distinct eigenvalues of  $A$  with corresponding eigenvectors  $K_1, K_2, K_3$ . Then the general solution to  $X' = AX$  is

$$X = c_1 K_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} + c_2 K_2 e^{\lambda_2 t} + c_3 K_3 e^{\lambda_3 t}$$

Ex. Solve  $\frac{dx}{dt} = 2x + 3y$ ,  $X(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$   $X' = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} X$

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = \begin{vmatrix} 2-\lambda & 3 \\ 2 & 1-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = (2-\lambda)(1-\lambda) - 6 = \lambda^2 - 3\lambda - 4$$

$$= (\lambda - 4)(\lambda + 1) = 0$$

$$\lambda = 4, -1$$

$$\lambda_1 = 4: (A - 4I)K = 0$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -2 & 3 \\ 2 & -3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$2a - 3b = 0$$

$$a = \frac{3}{2}b$$

$$K_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_2 = -1: (A - (-1)I)K = 0$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 3 \\ 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$2a + 2b = 0$$

$$b = -a$$

$$K_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$X = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} e^{4t} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-t}$$

$$X(0) = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$3c_1 + c_2 = 5$$

$$2c_1 - c_2 = 0$$

$$5c_1 = 5$$

$$c_1 = 1$$

$$\rightarrow 2 - c_2 = 0$$

$$c_2 = 2$$

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} e^{4t} + 2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-t}$$



$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -4x + y + z$$

Ex. Solve

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = x + 5y - z$$

$$\frac{dz}{dt} = y - 3z$$

$$\rightarrow X' = \begin{pmatrix} -4 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 5 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 \end{pmatrix} X$$

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = \begin{vmatrix} -4-\lambda & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 5-\lambda & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -3-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = (-4-\lambda) \begin{vmatrix} 5-\lambda & -1 \\ 1 & -3-\lambda \end{vmatrix} - 1 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -3-\lambda \end{vmatrix} + 0 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -3-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = \sim \sim$$

$$= (-4-\lambda) [(5-\lambda)(-3-\lambda) + 1] - (-3-\lambda-1)$$

$$= (-4-\lambda) [(5-\lambda)(-3-\lambda) + 1] - (-4-\lambda)$$

$$= (-4-\lambda) [(5-\lambda)(-3-\lambda) + 1 - 1] = (-4-\lambda)(5-\lambda)(-3-\lambda) = 0$$

$$\lambda_1 = -4 \quad \lambda_2 = 5 \quad \lambda_3 = -3$$

$$\lambda_1 = -4: (A + 4I)K = 0$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 9 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$b + c = 0 \rightarrow c = -b$$

$$a + 9b - c = 0$$

$$a + 9b + b = 0$$

$$a = -10b$$

$$K_1 = \begin{pmatrix} -10 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_2 = 5: (A - 5I)K = 0$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -9 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -8 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$a - c = 0 \rightarrow a = c$$

$$b - 8c = 0 \rightarrow b = 8c$$

$$K_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 8 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_3 = -3: (A + 3I)K = 0$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 8 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$-a + b + c = 0$$

$$b = 0$$

$$-a + c = 0$$

$$a = c$$

$$K_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$X = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} -10 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-4t} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 8 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{5t} + c_3 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-3t}$$

When eigenvalues are not distinct, things change

→ If  $\lambda_1$  repeats twice and has two eigenvectors, the solution is

$$X = c_1 K_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} + c_2 K_2 e^{\lambda_1 t}$$

Ex. Solve  $X' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 & 2 \\ -2 & 1 & -2 \\ 2 & -2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} X$

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = \begin{vmatrix} 1-\lambda & -2 & 2 \\ -2 & 1-\lambda & -2 \\ 2 & -2 & 1-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = (1-\lambda) \begin{vmatrix} 1-\lambda & -2 \\ -2 & 1-\lambda \end{vmatrix} - (-2) \begin{vmatrix} -2 & -2 \\ 2 & 1-\lambda \end{vmatrix} + 2 \begin{vmatrix} -2 & 1-\lambda \\ 2 & -2 \end{vmatrix}$$

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

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

$$= (1-\lambda)(1-\lambda+2)(1-\lambda-2) + 8(\lambda+1) = (\lambda+1) \left[ -(1-\lambda)(3-\lambda) + 8 \right]$$

$$= (\lambda+1)(-\lambda^2 + 4\lambda + 5) = -(\lambda+1)(\lambda^2 - 4\lambda - 5)$$

$$= -(\lambda+1)^2(\lambda-5) = 0$$

$$\lambda_1 = 5 \quad \lambda_2 = -1$$

$$\lambda_1 = 5: (A - 5I)K = 0$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -4 & -2 & 2 \\ -2 & -4 & -2 \\ 2 & -2 & -4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$-4a - 2b + 2c = 0$$

$$-2a - 4b - 2c = 0$$

$$\frac{-2a - 4b - 2c = 0}{-6a - 6b = 0} \rightarrow b = -a$$

$$\rightarrow -2a + 4a - 2c = 0$$

$$2a - 2c = 0$$

$$a = c$$

$$K_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_2 = -1: (A + I)K = 0$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & -2 & 2 \\ -2 & 2 & -2 \\ 2 & -2 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$2a - 2b + 2c = 0$$

$$b = a + c$$

$$K_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad K_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$X = C_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{5t} + C_2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-t} + C_3 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} e^{-t}$$



If  $\lambda$  repeats twice and has eigenvector  $K$ , the solutions are  $X_1 = Ke^{\lambda t}$  and  $X_2 = Kte^{\lambda t} + Pe^{\lambda t}$  where  $P$  is given by

$$(A - \lambda I)P = K$$

Ex. Solve  $X' = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -18 \\ 2 & -9 \end{pmatrix} X$

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = \begin{vmatrix} 3-\lambda & -18 \\ 2 & -9-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = (3-\lambda)(-9-\lambda) + 36 = \lambda^2 + 6\lambda - 27 + 36 = \lambda^2 + 6\lambda + 9 \\ = (\lambda + 3)^2 = 0 \rightarrow \lambda = -3$$

$\lambda = -3: (A + 3I)K = 0$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 6 & -18 \\ 2 & -6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$2a - 6b = 0$$

$$a = 3b$$

$$K = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$(A + 3I)P = K$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 6 & -18 \\ 2 & -6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} p \\ q \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$2p - 6q = 1$$

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} 1/2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$X = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-3t} + c_2 \left[ \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} t e^{-3t} + \begin{pmatrix} 1/2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} e^{-3t} \right]$$



If  $\lambda$  repeats three times and has eigenvector

$K$ , the solutions are  $X_1 = Ke^{\lambda t}$ ,

$X_2 = Kte^{\lambda t} + Pe^{\lambda t}$ , and

$X_3 = K \frac{t^2}{2} e^{\lambda t} + Pte^{\lambda t} + Qe^{\lambda t}$ , where  $Q$  is given by

$$(A - \lambda I)Q = P$$