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1. The system  $\frac{d\mathbf{x}}{dt} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -3 \\ 6 & -7 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}$  has solutions  $\mathbf{x}_1(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} e^{2t}$  and  $\mathbf{x}_2(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} e^{-5t}$ . Find the particular solution of the system that satisfies  $\mathbf{x}(0) = \begin{bmatrix} 8 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ .

*Solution.* The general solution of the DE is

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = C_1 \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} e^{2t} + C_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} e^{-5t}.$$

Using the initial conditions, we have

$$\begin{bmatrix} 8 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{x}(0) = C_1 \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} e^{2t} + C_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} e^{-5t}$$

and so we have the equations

$$3C_1 + C_2 = 8, \quad 2C_1 + 3C_2 = 0.$$

Taking 3 times the first equation minus the second gives  $9C_1 - 2C_1 = 24$  and so  $C_1 = 24/7$ . Substituting this into the second equation gives  $3C_2 = -48/7$  and so  $C_2 = -16/7$ . Thus, the particular solution is

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = \frac{24}{7} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} e^{2t} + \frac{-16}{7} C_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} e^{-5t}.$$

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2. Find the general solution of the system  $\frac{d\mathbf{x}}{dt} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 4 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}$ .

*Solution.* First, we find the eigenvalues, by solving

$$\begin{aligned} \det \left( \begin{bmatrix} 5 - \lambda & 4 \\ -1 & 1 - \lambda \end{bmatrix} \right) &= 0 \\ (1 - \lambda)(5 - \lambda) + 4 &= 0 \\ 9 - 6\lambda + \lambda^2 &= 0 \\ (\lambda - 3)^2 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we have a repeated eigenvalue of  $\lambda = 3, 3$ .

To find the eigenvectors, we look at

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 \\ -1 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

This matrix is, essentially, the equation  $v_1 + 2v_2 = 0$  twice, so  $v_1 = -2v_2$ . Letting  $v_2 = 1$ , we have  $v_1 = -2$ . This is the only linearly independent eigenvector, so we don't have enough eigenvectors. Notice that

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

so we can pick  $\mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ , and then

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 \\ -1 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Thus, the general solution to the system is

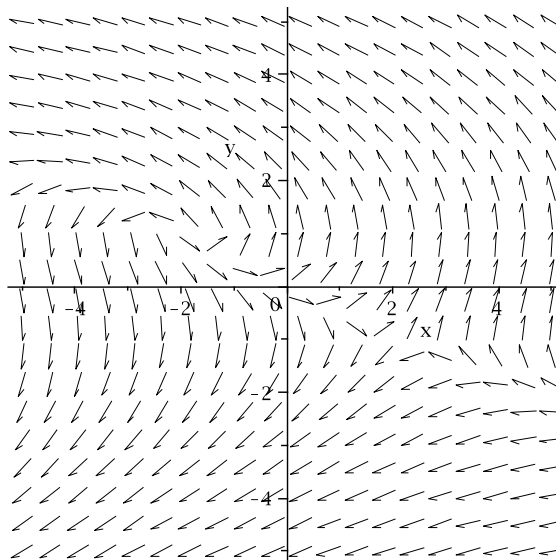
$$\mathbf{x}(t) = C_1 \left( \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} t + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right) e^{3t} + C_2 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} e^{3t}.$$

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3. Which of the following systems has the direction field given below? Give a (short) justification for your answer.

System 1  $\frac{dx}{dt} = 1 - y^2$ ,  $\frac{dy}{dt} = x + 2y$ .

System 2  $\frac{dx}{dt} = x - 2y$ ,  $\frac{dy}{dt} = 4x - x^3$ .



*Solution.* System 1 is the right system. It is not enough to find a property of the direction field that System 1 has. You must show that System 2 does not have this property.

There are many correct reasons possible, using nullclines, equilibrium solutions, or directions at points.

For example, System 2 has an equilibrium solution at (0,0) and the direction field does not, so System 2 cannot be correct.

System 2 has a  $y$ -nullcline (i.e., a curve where all the arrows are horizontal on the line  $x = 0$ ). Since there are non-horizontal arrows on the line  $x = 0$ , System 2 cannot be correct.

At the point (0, 1), System 2 has direction  $(-2, 0)$  but the direction field is going straight up (i.e., something like  $(0, 1)$ ), so System 2 cannot be correct.

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4. The system  $\frac{d\mathbf{x}}{dt} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & -2 & -2 \\ 7 & -4 & -2 \\ 3 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}$  has eigenvalues  $-2$  and  $1 \pm 2i$ . Find the general solution of this system.

*Solution.* We need to find 3 linearly independent solutions, by finding eigenvectors. For the eigenvalue  $\lambda = 2$ , we have to solve the system

$$\begin{bmatrix} 7 & -2 & -2 \\ 7 & -2 & -2 \\ 3 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ v_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

This gives us two equations,  $7v_1 - 2v_2 - 2v_3 = 0$  and  $3v_1 + v_2 + v_3 = 0$ . Taking the first equation plus twice the second gives  $13v_1 = 0$ , so  $v_1 = 0$ . Then the second or third equation gives  $v_2 + v_3 = 0$ , so we can take  $v_2 = 1$  and  $v_3 = -1$ .

For the eigenvalue  $\lambda = 1 + 2i$ , we have

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 - 2i & -2 & -2 \\ 7 & -5 - 2i & -2 \\ 3 & 1 & -1 - 2i \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ v_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Taking the first row minus the second gives the equation  $(-3 - 2i)v_1 + (3 + 2i)v_2 = 0$ , and so we have  $v_1 = v_2$ . Let  $v_1 = 1$ , so  $v_2 = 1$ . Substituting this into the first equation gives  $(4 - 2i) - 2 - 2v_3 = 0$  and so  $v_3 = (2 - 2i)/2 = 1 - i$ . Thus, the complex solution for this eigenvalue is

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 - i \end{bmatrix} e^{(1+2i)t}.$$

Now, we use Euler's formula,  $e^{(1+2i)t} = e^t e^{2it} = e^t(\cos 2t + i \sin 2t)$ , to find real and imaginary parts

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 - i \end{bmatrix} e^t(\cos 2t + i \sin 2t) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos 2t \\ \cos 2t \\ \cos 2t + \sin 2t \end{bmatrix} e^t + i \begin{bmatrix} \sin 2t \\ \sin 2t \\ \sin 2t - \cos 2t \end{bmatrix} e^t.$$

Thus, the general solution is

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = C_1 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} e^{2t} + C_2 \begin{bmatrix} \cos 2t \\ \cos 2t \\ \cos 2t + \sin 2t \end{bmatrix} e^t + C_3 \begin{bmatrix} \sin 2t \\ \sin 2t \\ \sin 2t - \cos 2t \end{bmatrix} e^t.$$

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5. For the following system, graph all nullclines (including direction arrows on the nullclines) and find all equilibrium points. You need only consider the region  $x \geq 0$  and  $y \geq 0$ .

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = x(3 - 2y - x), \quad \frac{dy}{dt} = y(2 - x - y).$$

*Solution.* In an effort to make solutions available quickly, I'm not drawing the graphics here. Feel free to ask me in class about this.

We find the nullclines by solving  $\frac{dx}{dt} = 0$ , i.e.  $x(3 - 2y - x) = 0$ , which gives  $x = 0$  and  $x + 2y = 3$ , and by solving  $\frac{dy}{dt} = 0$ , i.e.,  $y(2 - x - y) = 0$ , which gives  $y = 0$  and  $x + y = 2$ .

There are four equilibrium solutions (where  $\frac{dx}{dt}$  and  $\frac{dy}{dt}$  are both zero), namely  $(0, 0)$ ,  $(0, 2)$ ,  $(3, 0)$ , and  $(1, 1)$ .

On the  $x$ -nullcline  $x + 2y = 3$ , the arrow is up between  $(0, 3/2)$  and  $(1, 1)$  and down between  $(1, 1)$  and  $(3, 0)$ . On the  $y$ -nullcline  $x + y = 2$ , the arrow is left between  $(0, 2)$  and  $(1, 1)$  and right between  $(1, 1)$  and  $(2, 0)$ .