

## 5.3 Solution Curves / Phase Portraits

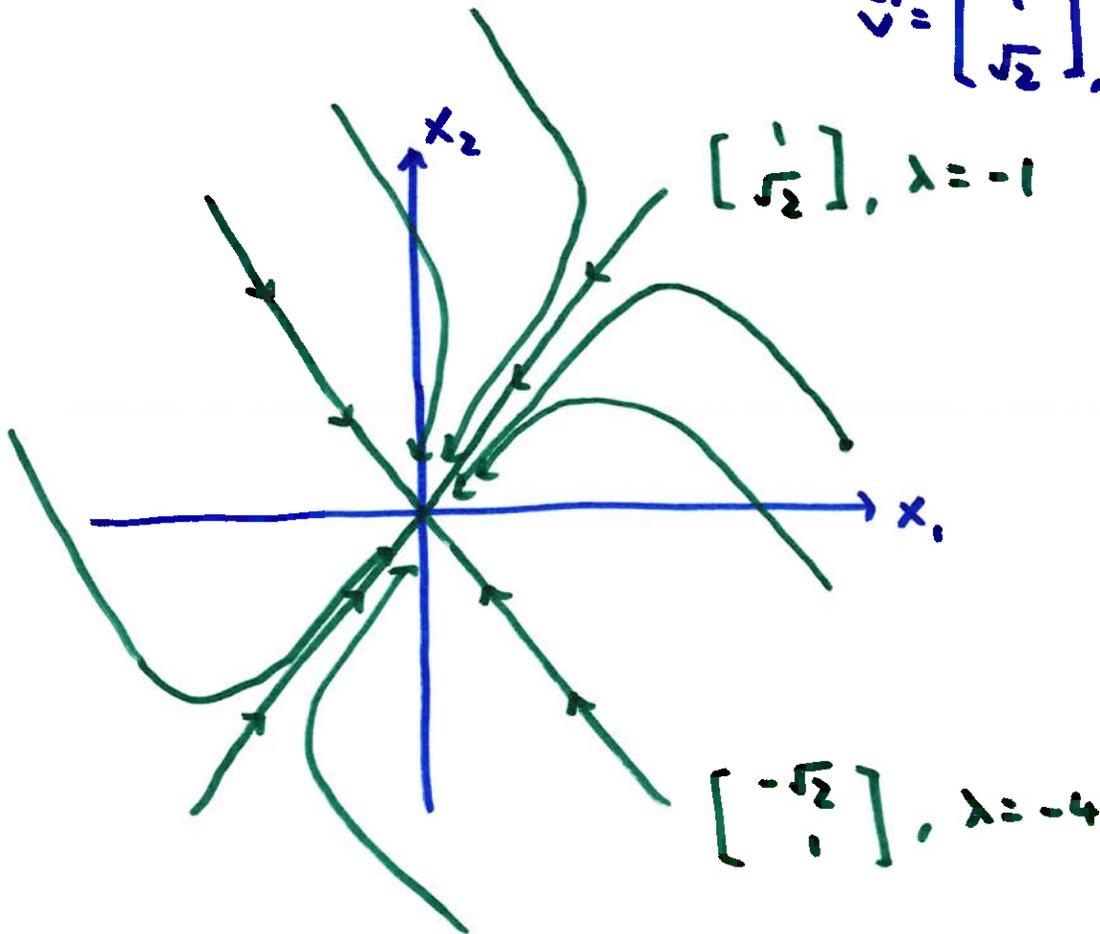
Summary of  $\vec{x}' = A\vec{x}$

$\lambda$ 's are real and distinct

$$\vec{x}' = \begin{bmatrix} -3 & \sqrt{2} \\ \sqrt{2} & -2 \end{bmatrix} \vec{x}$$

$$\lambda = -1, -4$$

$$\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -\sqrt{2} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



which one is asymptote  
into origin?

origin is  $t \rightarrow \infty$

because  $e^{\lambda t} \rightarrow 0$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$

as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $e^{-t} > e^{-4t}$

so, the eigenvector w/  $\lambda = -1$   
is more important  $\rightarrow$  asymptote

the origin is a

nodal sink

point

solutions  
go into origin

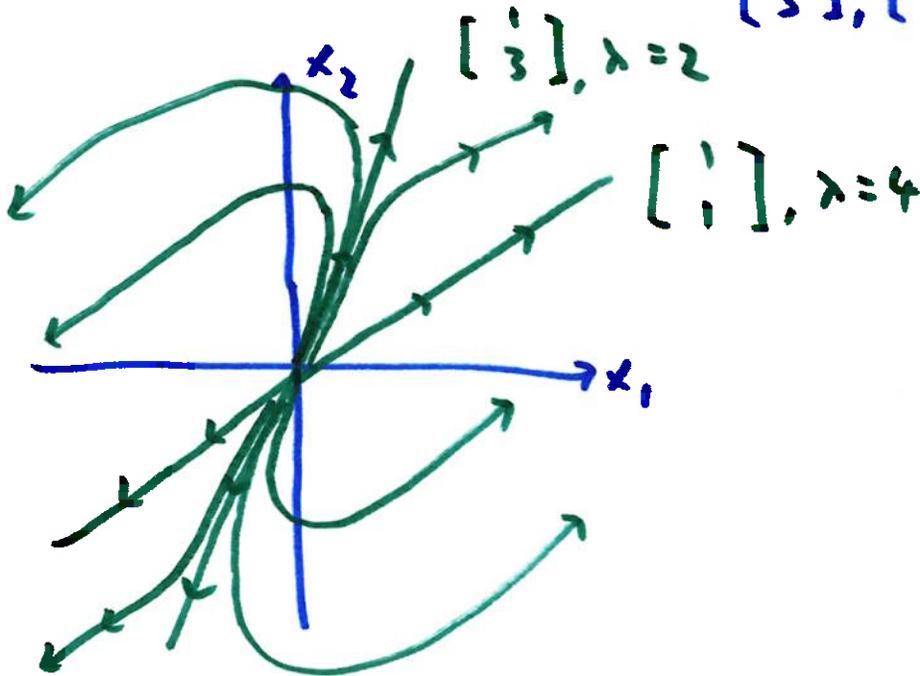
often also called improper nodal sink

↑ follow asymptote into/out of origin

$$\vec{x}' = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & -1 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \vec{x}$$

$$\lambda = 2, 4$$

$$\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



origin:  $t = -\infty$

$$e^{+2t} > e^{4t}$$

solutions follow  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$  ( $\lambda=2$ )

when they leave origin

origin is an

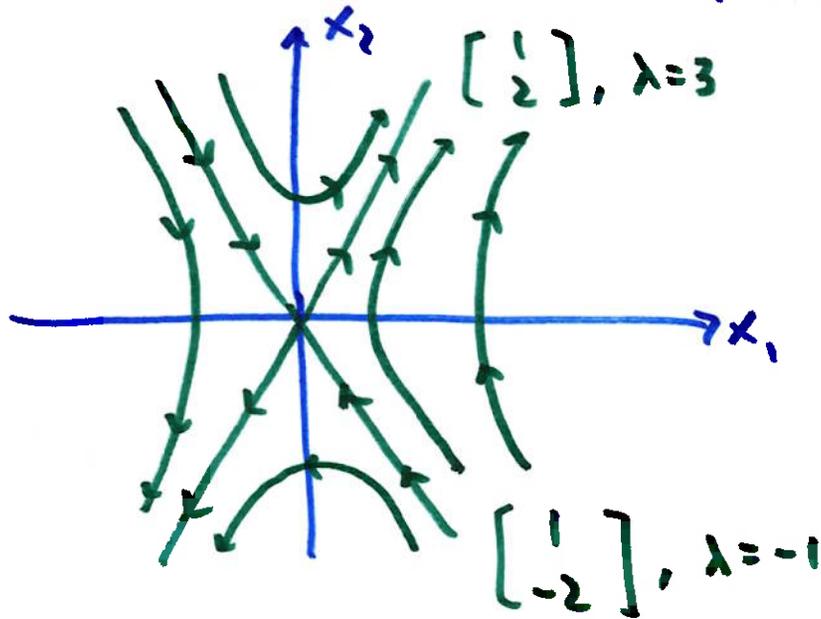
improper nodal source

$\lambda$ 's real and have opposite signs

$$\vec{x}' = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \vec{x}$$

$$\lambda = 3, -1$$

$$\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

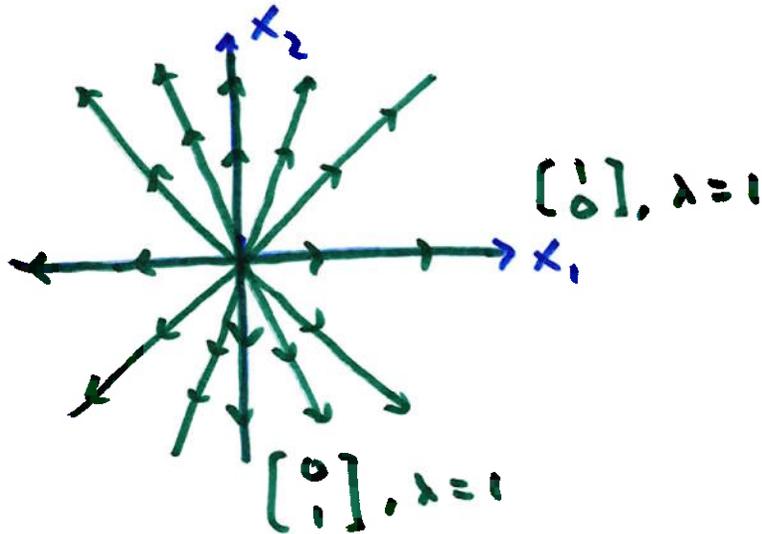


origin is a saddle point

$\lambda$ 's are real and repeated

$$\vec{x}' = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \vec{x}$$

$$\lambda = 1, 1 \quad \vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{enough eigenvectors}$$



origin is a  
proper nodal source  

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no preferred asymptote

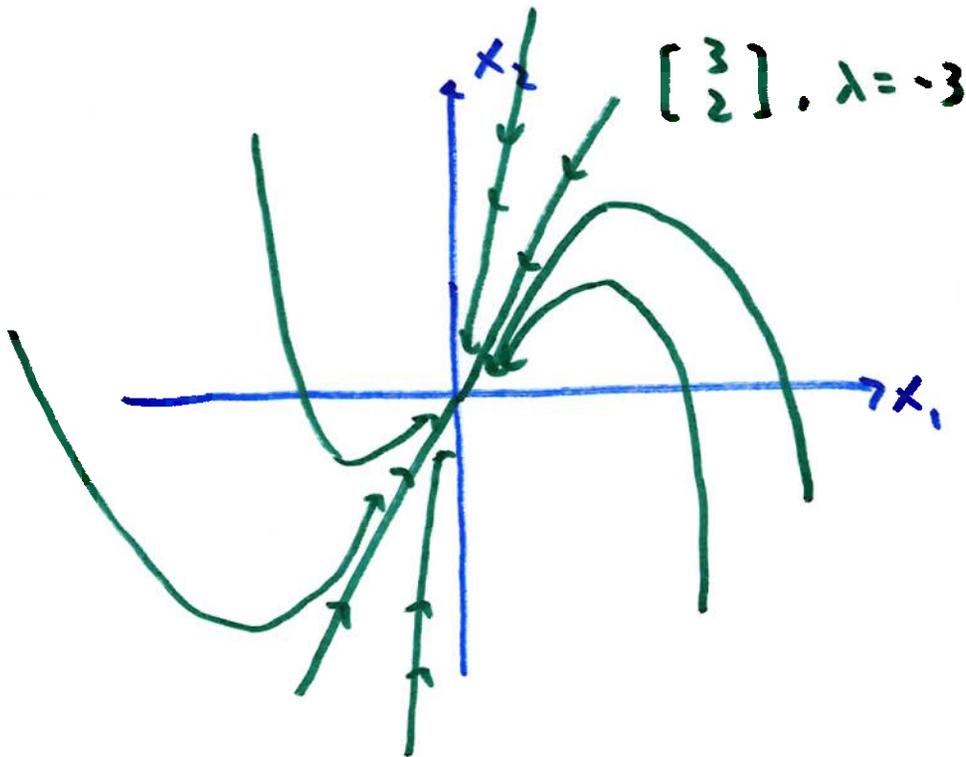
both  $\lambda$ 's are the same, so both eigenvectors are equally important  $\rightarrow$  solutions are along linear combos of them

$$\dot{x} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -4 \\ 4 & -7 \end{bmatrix} x$$

$$\lambda = -3, -3$$

$$\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

defect of one



no 2nd straight line  
solution visible

"S" shape is typical  
("incomplete" spiral)

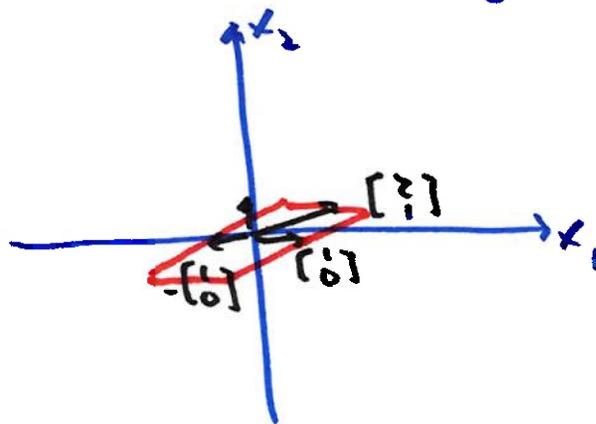
improper nodal sink



## ellipse orientation

eigenvectors  $\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + i \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} - i \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

form a parallelogram with  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \pm \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$



ellipse is inside the parallelogram



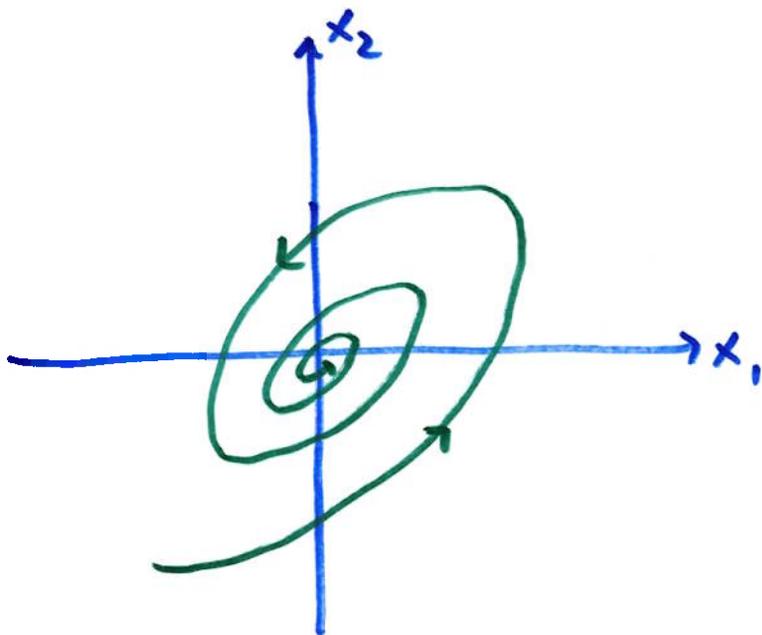
$$\vec{x}' = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 5 & -3 \end{bmatrix} \vec{x}$$

$$\lambda = -1+i, \quad -1-i$$
$$\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 2+i \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \begin{bmatrix} 2-i \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

orient the "ovals" the same way as in previous case

this time, real part of  $\lambda$  is  $-1$  so  $e^{-t}$  factor drives solutions into origin

ovals shrink as they go



Spiral source/sink

one unusual case: one eigenvalue is 0

$$\vec{x}' = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \vec{x}$$

$$\lambda = 0, 5$$

$$\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

general solution:  $\vec{x} = c_1 \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 e^{5t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$

everything on this line  
is solution to  $\vec{x}' = A\vec{x}$   
(a whole line of equilibria)

