

m 11

# Phase plane analysis.

We consider  $\frac{dy}{dt} = Ay$  where  $A$  is a  $2 \times 2$

matrix. Now  $y(t) = \begin{pmatrix} y_1(t) \\ y_2(t) \end{pmatrix}$  may be thought of as the position of a particle at time  $t$  in the  $y_1, y_2$  plane called the phase plane.

The graph of  $y(t)$  is the trajectory or orbit.

Then, the equation gives the velocity vector on the left in terms of the position vector on the right.

Ex.

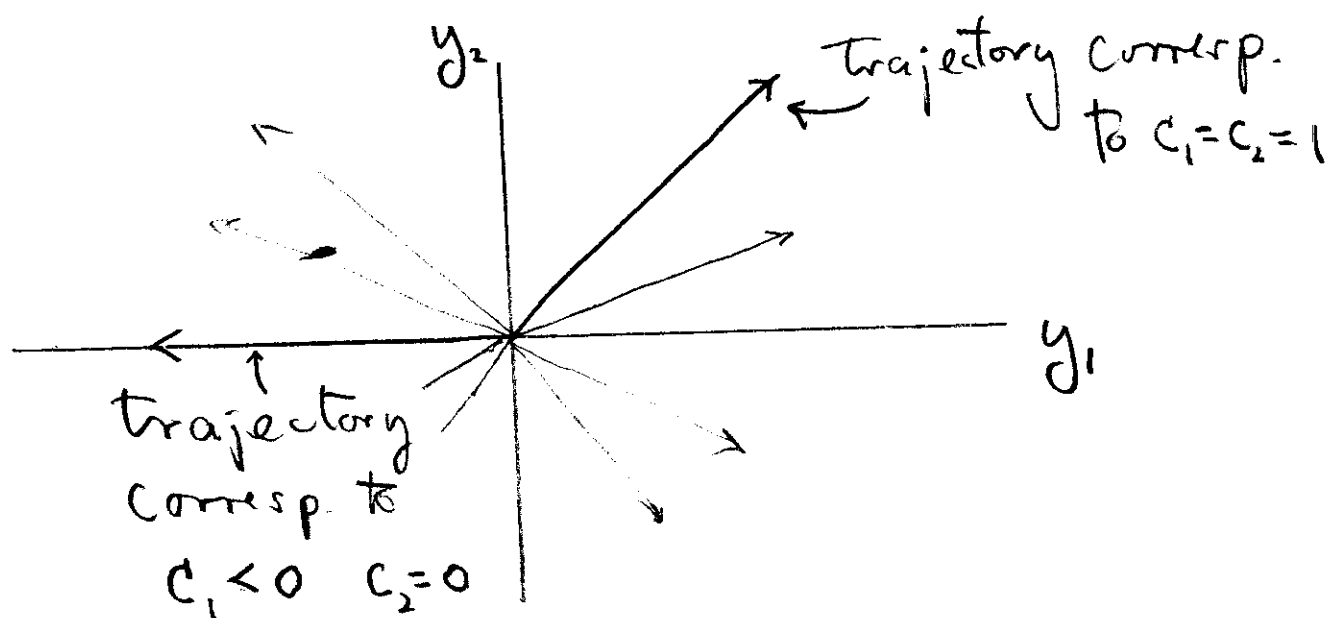
$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} y$$

$$\frac{dy_1}{dt} = y_1$$

$$\frac{dy_2}{dt} = y_2$$

Now,  $\frac{dy_1}{dt} = y_1$  is one of the first differential equations in elementary courses (radioactive decay, population growth, etc) and has solution  $y_1 = ce^t$ . So the solutions to the system are

$$y = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} e^t \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ e^t \end{pmatrix}.$$



When all trajectories go away (such as here) or toward (if eg.  $A = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$ ) with limiting direction the origin is a proper node.

The analysis of the "phase portrait" for a system centers on the critical points, i.e. those points  $\begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \end{pmatrix}$  such that  $Ay = 0$ .

These are points in the "flow" where the particle stops (has 0 velocity). If  $A$  is nonsingular, this will only be the origin.

Ex.  $\frac{dy}{dt} = Ay$        $A = \begin{pmatrix} -3 & 1 \\ 1 & -3 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\lambda_1 = -2$$

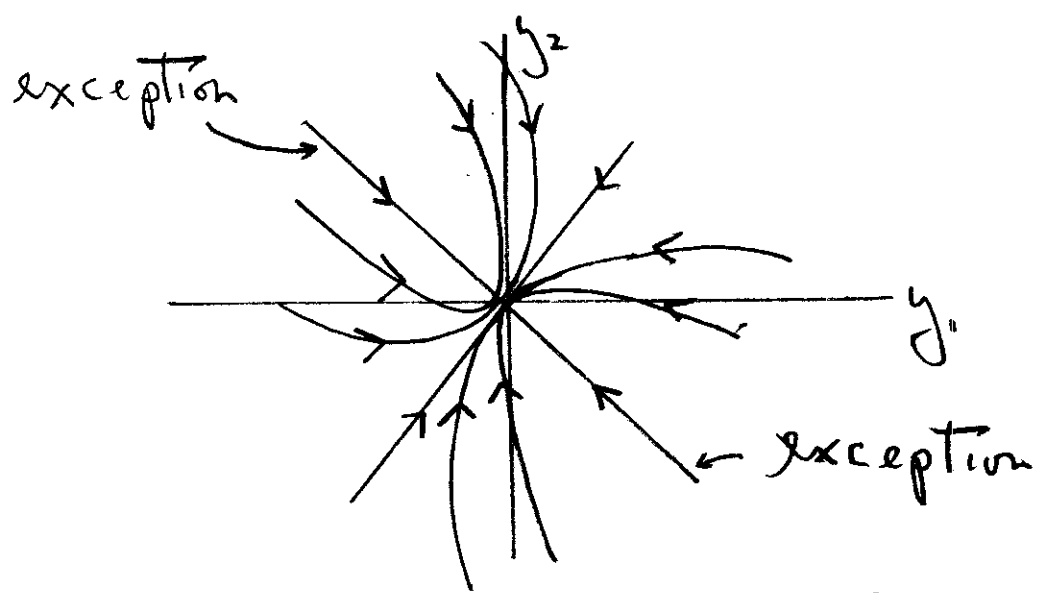
$$\lambda_2 = -4$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

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

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

Then the origin is called an improper node since all trajectories, except 2, have the same limiting direction (in this example inward).

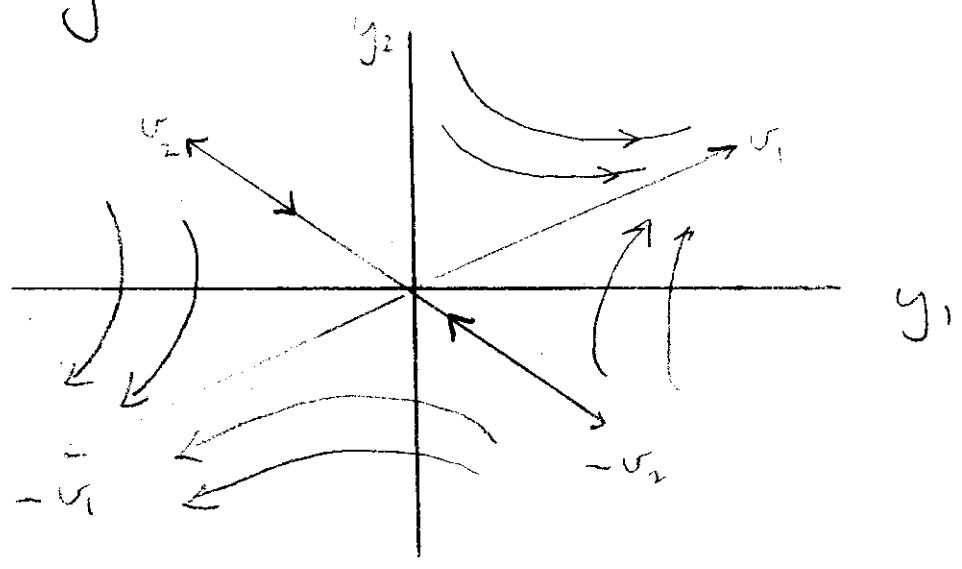


(all except 2 are tangent to line  $y_1 = y_2$ ).

Ex. If the eigenvalues have different signs, the origin is a saddle point.

$\frac{dy}{dt} = Ay$       say  $\lambda_1 > 0$     eigenvector  $v_1$   
 $\lambda_2 < 0$       "      "       $v_2$

Solution  $y = c_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} v_1 + c_2 e^{\lambda_2 t} v_2$



Ex. If in  $\frac{dy}{dt} = Ay$   $A$  has complex roots  $\lambda = a \pm bi$  with corresponding respective eigenvectors  $x = u \pm iv$  where  $u$  is the real part of the vector  $x$  and  $v$  the imaginary part, then the system has complex basis vectors  $e^{(a+bi)t}(u+iv)$  and  $e^{(a-bi)t}(u-iv)$ .

Now, taking real and imaginary parts in the equation  $\frac{dy}{dt} = Ay$  we see that the real part and imaginary parts are solutions.

To find the real and imaginary parts of  $e^{(a+bi)t}(u+iv)$  we write

$$e^{at}(\cos bt + i \sin bt)(u + iv).$$

Taking real part we get

$$e^{at}((\cos bt)u - (\sin bt)v)$$

Taking imaginary parts

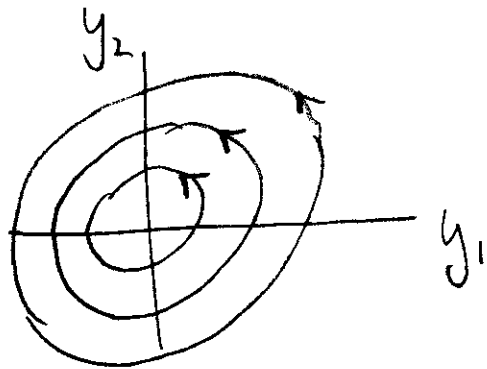
$$e^{at} ((\cos bt)v + (\sin bt)u).$$

Thus the real general solution is

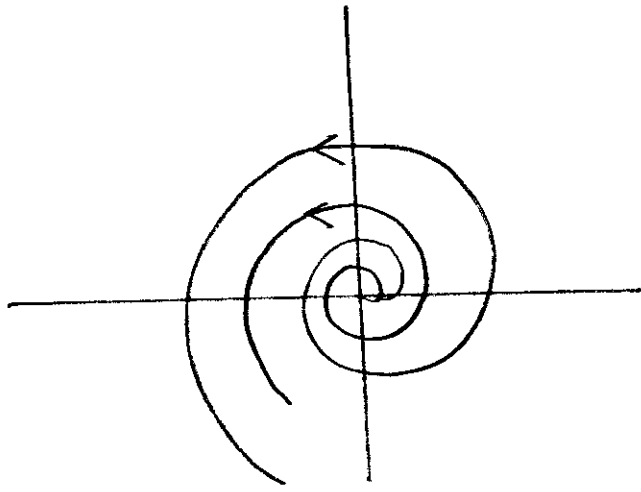
$$e^{at} \left( C_1 ((\cos bt)u - (\sin bt)v) + C_2 ((\cos bt)v + (\sin bt)u) \right)$$

If  $a = 0$  (ie.  $\lambda$  pure imaginary)

The origin is called a center and the trajectories are ellipses.



If  $a \neq 0$  the origin is a spiral point



Ex (Text p. 144)

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} y$$

$$\lambda_1 = -1 + i$$

$$\lambda_2 = -1 - i$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ i \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -i \end{pmatrix}$$

Using  $a = -1$   $b = 1$   $u = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$   $v = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

We find the real general solution

$$e^{-t} \left( c_1 \left( (\cos t) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} - (\sin t) \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right) + c_2 \left( (\cos t) \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + (\sin t) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right) \right)$$

How do we know which way the spiral goes??



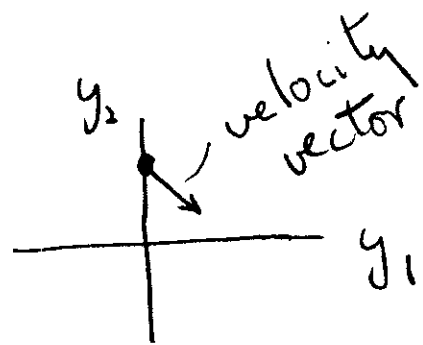
It's easy!

First, since  $e^{-t} \rightarrow 0$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ , we can eliminate ① and ③.

Next, we take a convenient point, say  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  in the phase plane and check the velocity at that point by  $\frac{dy}{dt} = Ay$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

so the answer is ②.



Ex. If in  $\frac{dy}{dt} = Ay$  both eigenvalues are the same  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = \lambda$  then the origin is a degenerate node.

In this case, if  $v$  is a corresponding eigenvector, we get one basis solution  $e^{\lambda t} v$ .

To get a second, we substitute

$$tve^{\lambda t} + ue^{\lambda t}$$

where  $u$  is unknown.

$$\lambda tve^{\lambda t} + ve^{\lambda t} + \lambda ue^{\lambda t} = A(tve^{\lambda t} + ue^{\lambda t}).$$

Since  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue with eigenvector  $v$ ,

$$\lambda tve^{\lambda t} = A tve^{\lambda t} \quad \text{in the above eqn so}$$

$$\cancel{ve^{\lambda t}} + \lambda \cancel{ue^{\lambda t}} = A \cancel{ue^{\lambda t}}$$

$$\Rightarrow v = Au - \lambda u$$

$$\Rightarrow (A - \lambda I)u = v$$

Recall that  $\lambda$  and  $v$  were given eigenvalue and eigenvector and  $u$  is unknown. We solve this system for  $u$ .