

More Phase Planes:

For linear systems $x' = Ax$, we covered most of the cases based on the eigenvalues of A .

We skipped: A has repeated eigenvalue
 A has 0 eigenvalue

If A has 1 eigenvalue with algebraic multiplicity of 2 (λ must be real)

A will have a special kind of node.

2 cases:

1) λ has geometric multiplicity 1: improper node

2) λ has geometric multiplicity 2: proper node

Ex: $A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$ $\lambda = 1$ $\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ (Alg mult: 2 geo. mult: 1)

we get an improper node which looks like a node but with exactly 1 asymptote.

If $\lambda > 0$ we get a source unstable.

If $\lambda < 0$ we get a sink asymptotically stable.

If $\lambda = 0$ we get something else.

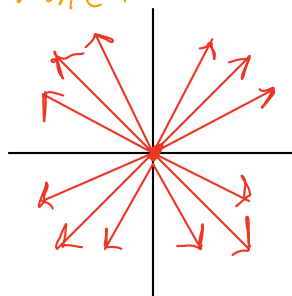
Ex: $x' = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} x$

eigenvalue: $\lambda = 1$

eigenvectors: $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

proper node: has straight lines in every direction.

Phase plane:



What if $\lambda=0$ is an eigenvalue?

EX:

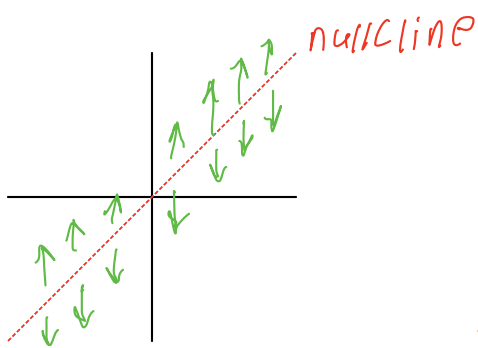
$$x' = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} x \quad \text{eigenvalues: } \lambda=1, 0$$

$$\text{eigenvectors: } \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{General soln: } \vec{x}(t) = C_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + C_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} e^t$$

Notice: if we have $C_2=0$ then the soln. does not depend on t . this means we have infinitely many equilibrium points.

These ∞ equilibria will lie on a nullcline which corresponds to the eigenvector for $\lambda=0$.



in this case the second eigenvalue is positive so solutions move away from the nullcline.

if the second eval. is negative the solns. would move towards it.

What if $\lambda=0$ is the only eigenvalue?

EX:

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

$$\lambda=0$$

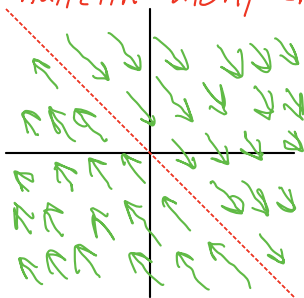
algebraic multiplicity: 2

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

geometric multiplicity: 1

$$\text{Gen. soln: } \vec{x}(t) = C_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + C_2 \left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} t + \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

nullcline along the eigenvector



solutions are parallel to the nullcline going in opposite directions across the nullcline.

What if we have: $\lambda=0$ algebraic multiplicity: 2
(only happens with 0 matrix) geometric multiplicity: 2

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

$$\lambda=0$$

$$\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\vec{x}' = \vec{0} \text{ for every point}$$

\therefore every point is

an equilibrium point.