

---

# **MATH 537, Fall 2020**

## **Ordinary Differential Equations**

Lecture #8

Chapter 3 Phase Portraits for Planar Systems

Instructor: Dr. Bo-Wen Shen\*

Department of Mathematics and Statistics  
San Diego State University

# Re-Review: Type (I) ODEs: $ax'' + bx' + cx = 0$

(A)  $y = e^{rt}$

$$ar^2 + br + c = 0$$

(B)

$$x'' + \frac{b}{a}x' + \frac{c}{a}x = 0$$

let

$$x' = y$$

obtain

$$y' = -\frac{c}{a}x - \frac{b}{a}y$$

define

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}; \quad A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -c/a & -b/a \end{pmatrix}$$

$$X' = AX$$

assume

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} x_0 \\ y_0 \end{pmatrix} e^{\lambda t};$$

eigenvalue  
problem

$$|A - \lambda I| = \begin{vmatrix} 0 - \lambda & 1 \\ -\frac{c}{a} & -\frac{b}{a} - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

Characteristic Equation

$$a\lambda^2 + b\lambda + c = 0$$

# Review: A Brief Summary for Type (I) ODEs

5

$$ay'' + by' + cy = 0$$

where  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  are constants and  $a \neq 0$ .

## Summary of Cases I–III

what is the most essential part?

Case	Roots of (2)	Basis of (1)	General Solution of (1)
I	Distinct real $\lambda_1, \lambda_2$	$e^{\lambda_1 x}, e^{\lambda_2 x}$	$y = c_1 e^{\lambda_1 x} + c_2 e^{\lambda_2 x}$

# Real Distinct Eigenvalues

Consider  $\begin{aligned} x' &= \lambda_1 x \\ y' &= \lambda_2 y \end{aligned}$   $A = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{pmatrix}$

$$A - \lambda I = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 - \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 - \lambda \end{pmatrix}$$

Let  $|A - \lambda I| = 0 \Rightarrow (\lambda_1 - \lambda)(\lambda_2 - \lambda) = 0$   $\lambda = \lambda_{1,2}$

Real distinct eigenvalues include:

- $\lambda_1 < 0 < \lambda_2$  (different signs): saddle
- $\lambda_1 < \lambda_2 < 0$  (both are negative): sink
- $0 < \lambda_1 < \lambda_2$  (both are positive): source

## Saddle ( $\lambda_1 < 0 < \lambda_2$ )

$$\begin{aligned}x' &= \lambda_1 x \\y' &= \lambda_2 y\end{aligned}$$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Let } |A - \lambda I| = 0 \Rightarrow$$

$$\lambda = \lambda_{1,2}$$

$$AX = \lambda X \Rightarrow$$

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda_1 x &= \lambda x \\ \lambda_2 y &= \lambda y\end{aligned}$$

Consider  $\lambda = \lambda_1$

$$\text{Obtain } \begin{aligned}\lambda_1 x &= \lambda_1 x \\ \lambda_2 y &= \lambda_1 y\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}x &: \text{any} \\ y &= 0\end{aligned}$$

$$V_1 = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

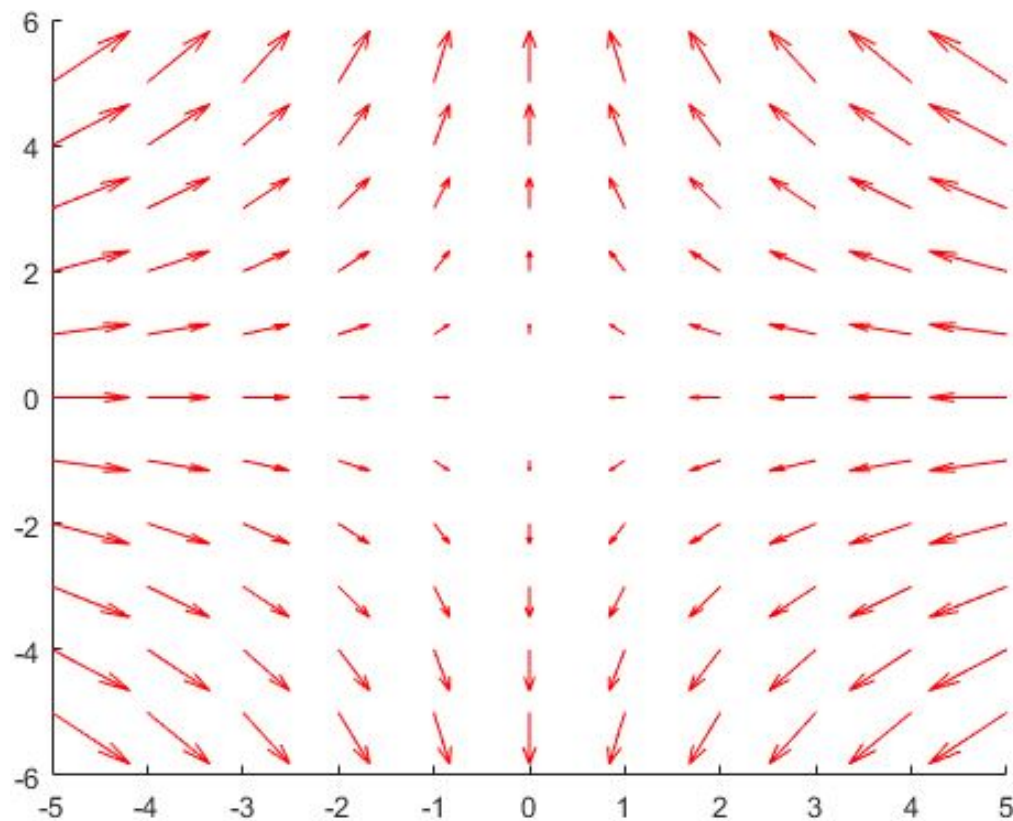
Similarly, for  $\lambda = \lambda_2$ , we have

$$V_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

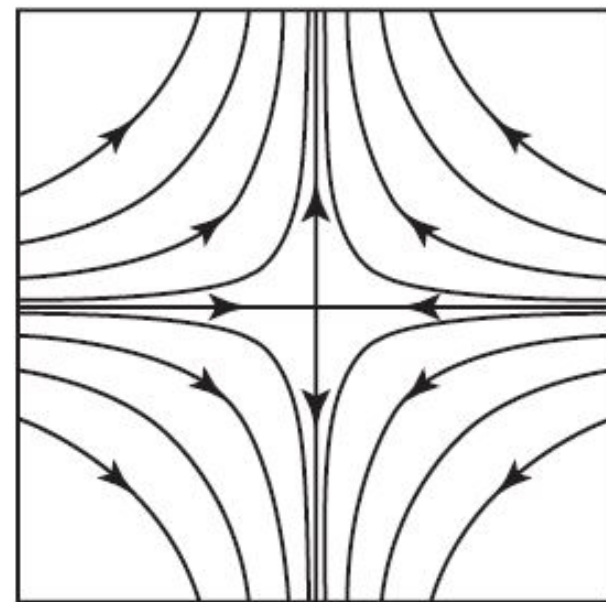
Thus, a general solution is written as

$$X(t) = \alpha X_1 + \beta X_2 = \alpha e^{\lambda_1 t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \beta e^{\lambda_2 t} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Section 3.1: Real Distinct Eigen Values



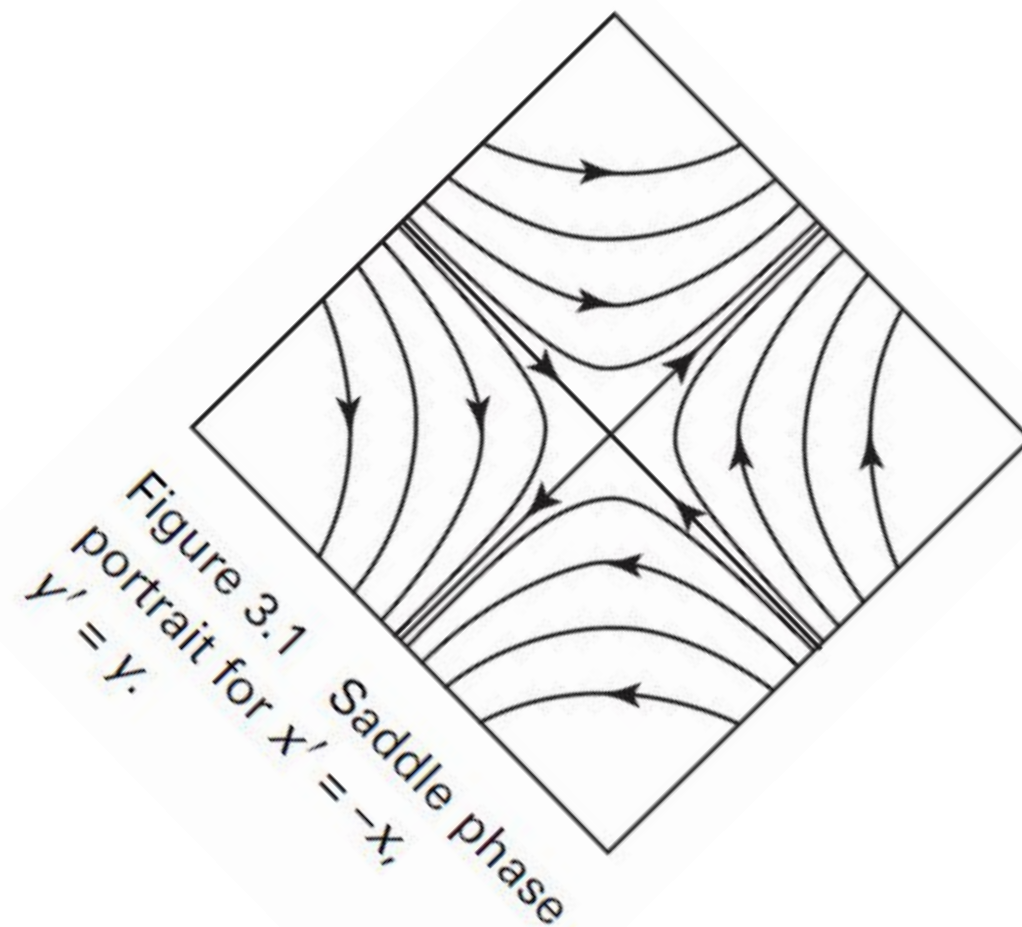
**MATLAB Plot for Figure 3.1**



**Figure 3.1** Saddle phase portrait for  $x' = -x$ ,  $y' = y$ .

## Section 3.1: Real Distinct Eigen Values

---



A saddle point

## Examples: Solve $|A - \lambda I| = 0$

**Example.** We return to the matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

define  $X = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}; \quad A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$

eigenvalue  
problem  $|A - \lambda I| = \begin{vmatrix} 1 - \lambda & 3 \\ 1 & -1 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0$

$$\lambda^2 - 4 = 0$$

$$\lambda = 2, -2$$



## Examples: Solve $|A - \lambda I| = 0$

Solve for  
eigenvectors

$$AV_0 = \lambda V_0$$

$$x_0 + 3y_0 = \lambda x_0$$

$$x_0 - y_0 = \lambda y_0$$

Consider  $\lambda = 2$

$$\begin{aligned} x_0 + 3y_0 &= 2x_0 \\ x_0 - y_0 &= 2y_0 \end{aligned}$$

$$x_0 = 3y_0$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_0 \\ y_0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3y_0 \\ y_0 \end{pmatrix} = y_0 \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Obtain

$$V_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

as an eigenvector associated with  $\lambda = 2$

Similarly,

$$V_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

as an eigenvector associated with  $\lambda = -2$

$$X = \alpha X_1 + \beta X_2 = \alpha e^{\lambda_1 t} V_1 + \beta e^{\lambda_2 t} V_2$$

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

## Saddle ( $\lambda_1 < 0 < \lambda_2$ )

$$X = \alpha X_1 + \beta X_2 = \alpha e^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + \beta e^{-2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$X \sim \alpha e^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = X_1(t) \text{ as } t \rightarrow \infty \text{ \& } \alpha \neq 0$$

$$X \sim \beta e^{-2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = X_2(t) \text{ as } t \rightarrow -\infty \text{ \& } \beta \neq 0$$

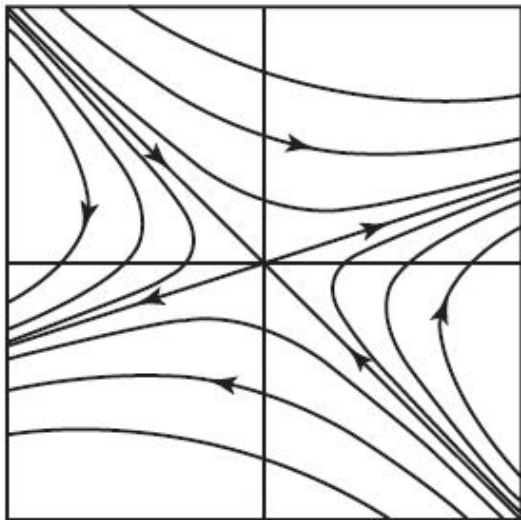
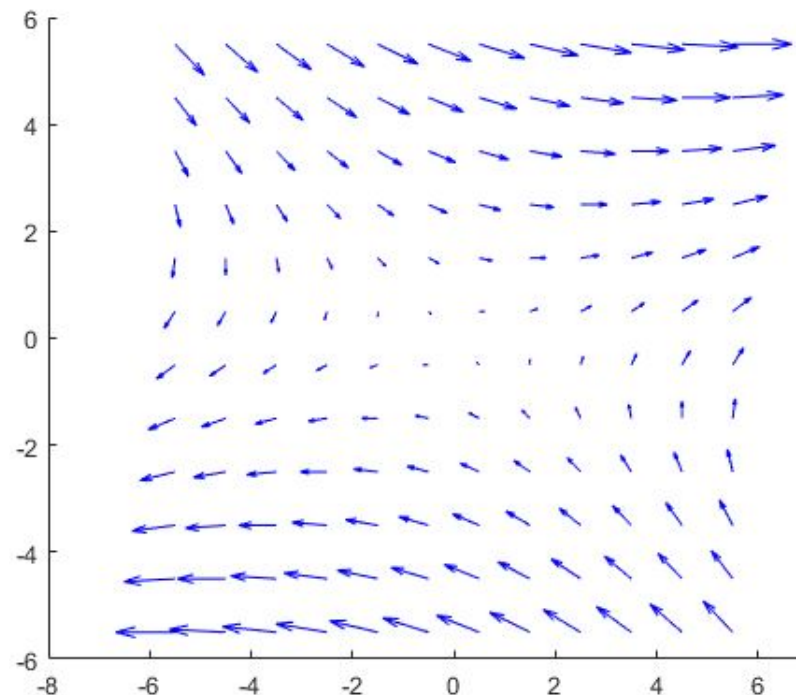


Figure 3.2 Saddle phase portrait for  $x' = x + 3y$ ,  $y' = x - y$ .



**MATLAB**

# Trajectory, Orbit, and Path: Slope

---

$$x' = ax + by \quad (= P(x, y)) \quad (1)$$

$$y' = cx + dy \quad (= Q(x, y)) \quad (2)$$

From (1-2) we see that the **slope** of a path passing through a point A: (X,Y) is

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy/dt}{dx/dt} = \frac{Q(x, y)}{P(x, y)} \quad (3)$$

- Note that (3) gives **no information about the orientation** of a path.
- Note further that we must have  $P(x, y) \neq 0$  at A.
- If  $P(x, y) = 0$  but  $Q(x, y) \neq 0$  at A, we can take  $dx/dy = P(x, y)/Q(x, y)$  instead of (3) and conclude from  $\frac{dx}{dy} = 0$  that the tangent of C at A is **vertical**.
- However, what can we do if both P and Q are zero at some point?

## Sink ( $\lambda_1 < \lambda_2 < 0$ ): move toward (0,0)

$$\begin{aligned} x' &= \lambda_1 x \\ y' &= \lambda_2 y \end{aligned} \quad A = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Let } |A - \lambda I| = 0 \Rightarrow \boxed{\lambda = \lambda_{1,2}} \quad V_1 = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad V_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Thus, a general solution is written as

$$X(t) = \alpha e^{\lambda_1 t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \beta e^{\lambda_2 t} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{aligned} x &= \alpha e^{\lambda_1 t} \\ y &= \beta e^{\lambda_2 t} \end{aligned}$$
$$\frac{\frac{dy}{dt}}{\frac{dx}{dt}} = \frac{\lambda_2 \beta e^{\lambda_2 t}}{\lambda_1 \alpha e^{\lambda_1 t}} = \frac{\lambda_2 \beta}{\lambda_1 \alpha} e^{(\lambda_2 - \lambda_1)t} \rightarrow \infty \text{ as } t \rightarrow \infty$$

- These solutions tend to the origin (a sink) tangentially to the y axis.
- $x$  tends to zero much quickly
- $\lambda_1$  ( $\lambda_2$ ) is referred to as the stronger (weaker) eigenvalue.

# Sink ( $\lambda_1 < \lambda_2 < 0$ )

$$\lambda_1 < \lambda_2 < 0$$

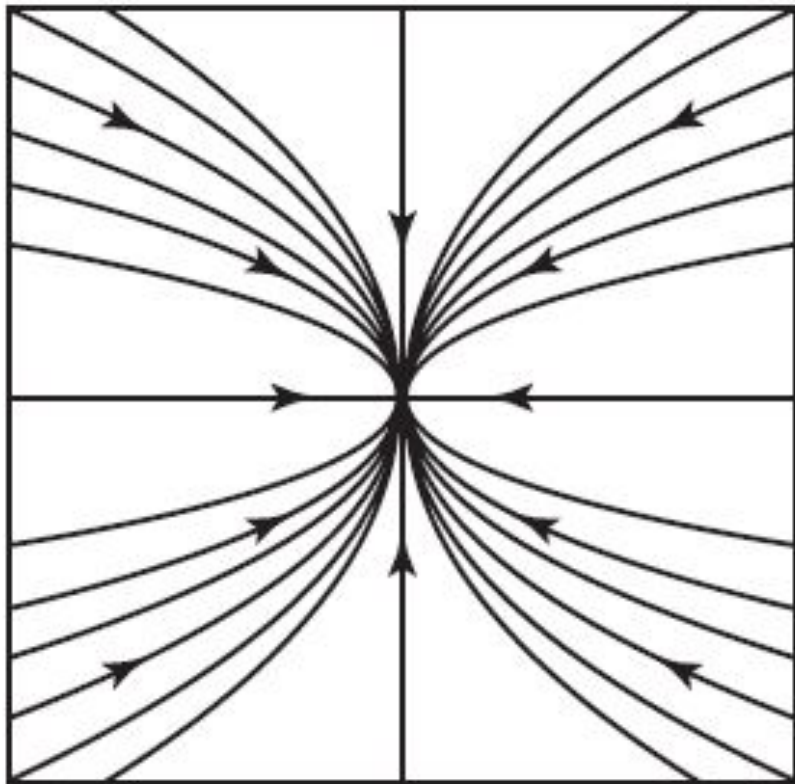
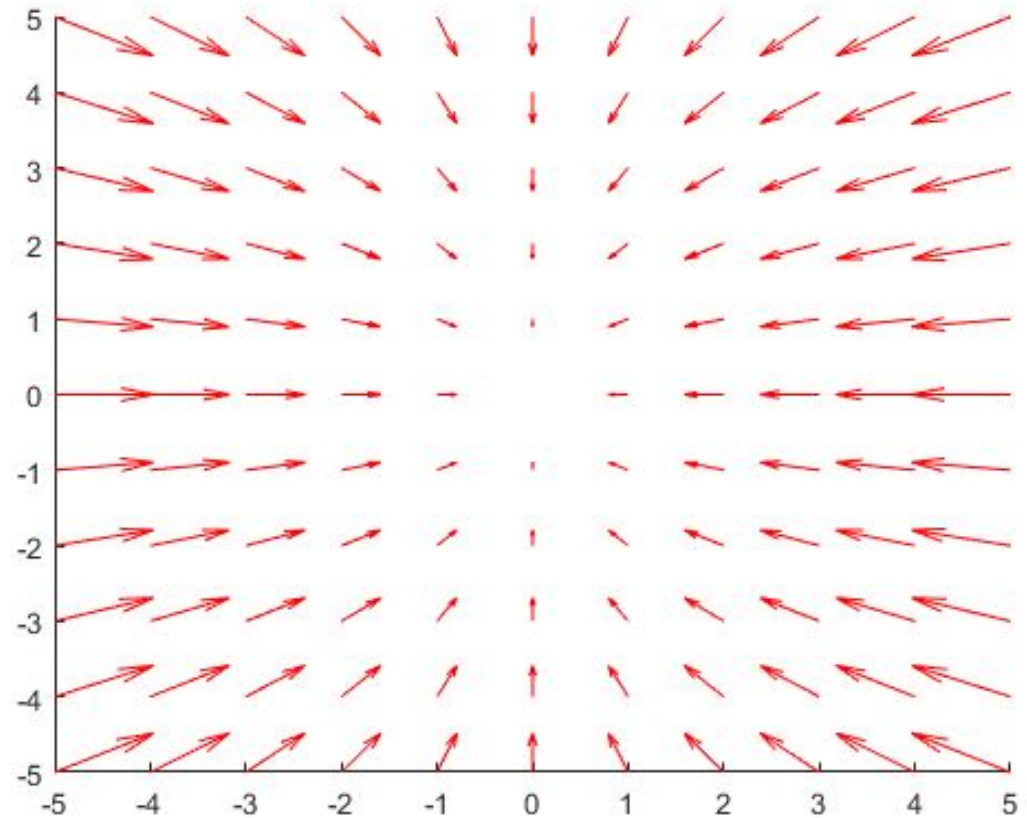


Figure 3.3 Phase portraits for (a) a sink

$$X' = -2x$$

$$Y' = -y$$



MATLAB Plot for Figure 3.3a

## Sink ( $\lambda_1 < \lambda_2 < 0$ ): a general case

Thus, a general solution is written as

$$X(t) = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \alpha e^{\lambda_1 t} \begin{pmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \end{pmatrix} + \beta e^{\lambda_2 t} \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$x = \alpha e^{\lambda_1 t} u_1 + \beta e^{\lambda_2 t} v_1$$

$$y = \alpha e^{\lambda_1 t} u_2 + \beta e^{\lambda_2 t} v_2$$

$$\frac{\frac{dy}{dt}}{\frac{dx}{dt}} = \frac{\lambda_1 \alpha e^{\lambda_1 t} u_1 + \lambda_2 \beta e^{\lambda_2 t} v_1}{\lambda_1 \alpha e^{\lambda_1 t} u_2 + \lambda_2 \beta e^{\lambda_2 t} v_2} = \frac{\lambda_1 \alpha e^{(\lambda_1 - \lambda_2)t} u_1 + \lambda_2 \beta v_1}{\lambda_1 \alpha e^{(\lambda_1 - \lambda_2)t} u_2 + \lambda_2 \beta v_2} \rightarrow \frac{v_2}{v_1} \text{ as } t \rightarrow \infty$$

- All solutions (except for those on the straight line corresponding the stronger eigenvalue) tend to the origin (a sink) tangentially to the straight-line solution corresponding to the weaker eigenvalue.
- $\lambda_1$  ( $\lambda_2$ ) is referred to as the stronger (weaker) eigenvalue.

## Source ( $0 < \lambda_1 < \lambda_2$ )

---

$$\begin{aligned}x' &= \lambda_1 x \\y' &= \lambda_2 y\end{aligned}$$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Let  $|A - \lambda I| = 0 \Rightarrow$

$$\lambda = \lambda_{1,2}$$

$$V_1 = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad V_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Thus, a general solution is written as

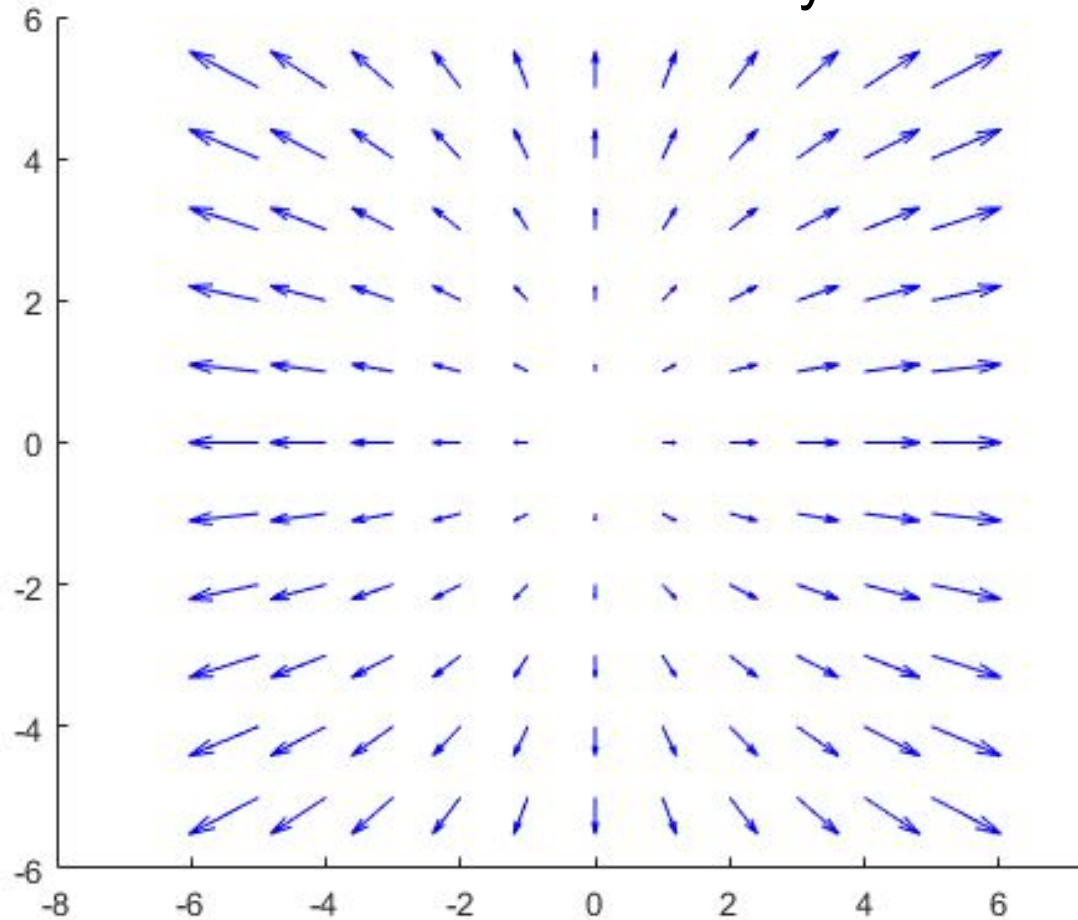
$$X(t) = \alpha X_1 + \beta X_2 = \alpha e^{\lambda_1 t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \beta e^{\lambda_2 t} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Source ( $0 < \lambda_1 < \lambda_2$ )

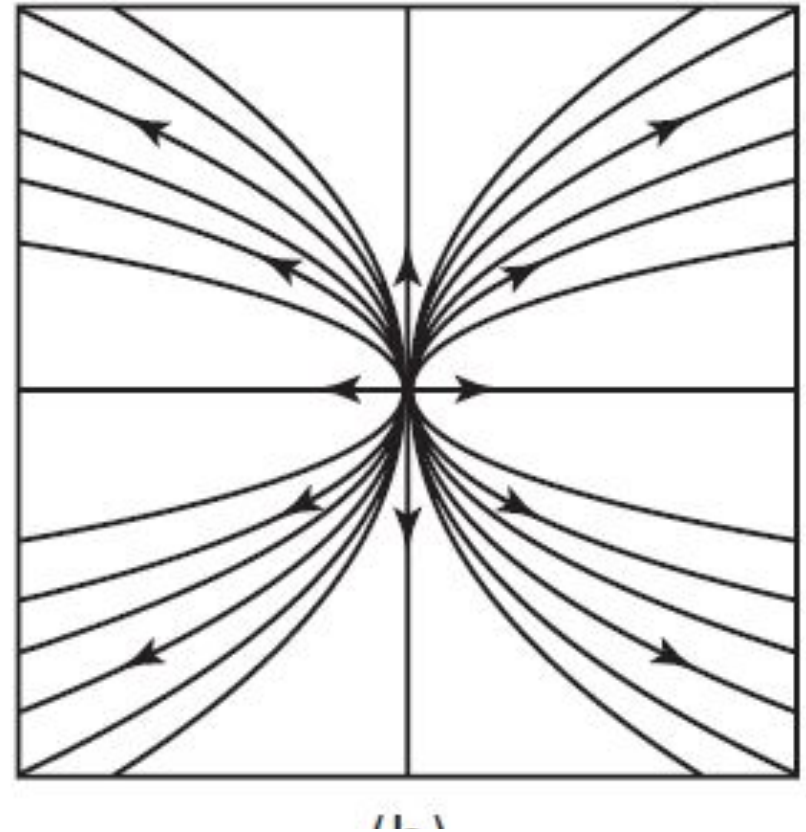
$$\lambda_1 > 0; \quad \lambda_2 > 0$$

$$X' = 2x$$

$$Y' = y$$



**MATLAB Plot for Figure 3.3b**



**Figure 3.3** Phase portraits for  
(b) a source.