

# OPTIMAL CONTROL



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# CONTROL ENGINEERING WITH PYTHON

-  Documents (GitHub)
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-  Mines ParisTech, PSL University

# SYMBOLS



Code



Worked Example



Graph



Exercise



Definition



Numerical Method



Theorem



Analytical Method



Remark



Theory



Information



Hint



Warning



Solution

# IMPORTS

```
from numpy import *  
from numpy.linalg import *  
from matplotlib.pyplot import *  
from scipy.integrate import solve_ivp  
from scipy.linalg import solve_continuous_are
```

# WHY OPTIMAL CONTROL?

## Limitations of Pole Assignment

- It is not always obvious what set of poles we should target (especially for large systems),
- We do not control explicitly the trade-off between “speed of convergence” and “intensity of the control” (large input values maybe costly or impossible).

Let

$$\dot{x} = Ax + Bu$$

where

- $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ ,  $B \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  and
- $x(0) = x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is given.

Find  $u(t)$  that minimizes

$$J = \int_0^{+\infty} x(t)^t Q x(t) + u(t)^t R u(t) dt$$

where:

- $Q \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  and  $R \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ ,
- (to be continued ...)

- $Q$  and  $R$  are **symmetric** ( $R^t = R$  and  $Q^t = Q$ ),
- $Q$  and  $R$  are **positive definite** (denoted “ $> 0$ ”)

$$x^t Q x \geq 0 \text{ and } x^t Q x = 0 \text{ iff } x = 0$$

and

$$u^t R u \geq 0 \text{ and } u^t R u = 0 \text{ iff } u = 0.$$



# HEURISTICS / SCALAR CASE

If  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $u \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$J = \int_0^{+\infty} qx(t)^2 + ru(t)^2 dt$$

with  $q > 0$  and  $r > 0$ .

When we minimize  $J$ :

- Only the relative values of  $q$  and  $r$  matters.
- Large values of  $q$  penalize strongly non-zero states:  
 $\Rightarrow$  fast convergence.
- Large values of  $r$  penalize strongly non-zero inputs:  
 $\Rightarrow$  small input values.

# HEURISTICS / VECTOR CASE

If  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $u \in \mathbb{R}^m$  and  $Q$  and  $R$  are diagonal,

$$Q = \text{diag}(q_1, \dots, q_n), \quad R = \text{diag}(r_1, \dots, r_m),$$

$$J = \int_0^{+\infty} \sum_i q_i x_i(t)^2 + \sum_j r_j u_j(t)^2 dt$$

with  $q_i > 0$  and  $r_j > 0$ .

Thus we can control the cost of each component of  $x$  and  $u$  independently.



# OPTIMAL SOLUTION

Assume that  $\dot{x} = Ax + Bu$  is controllable.

- There is an optimal solution; it is a linear feedback

$$u = -Kx$$

- The closed-loop dynamics is asymptotically stable.



# ALGEBRAIC RICCATI EQUATION

- The gain matrix  $K$  is given by

$$K = R^{-1} B^t \Pi,$$

where  $\Pi \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is the unique matrix such that  $\Pi^t = \Pi$ ,  $\Pi > 0$  and

$$\Pi B R^{-1} B^t \Pi - \Pi A - A^t \Pi - Q = 0.$$



# OPTIMAL CONTROL

Consider the double integrator  $\ddot{x} = u$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ \dot{x} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ \dot{x} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} u$$

(in standard form)



# PROBLEM DATA

```
A = array([[0, 1], [0, 0]])
```

```
B = array([[0], [1]])
```

```
Q = array([[1, 0], [0, 1]])
```

```
R = array([[1]])
```



## OPTIMAL GAIN

```
Pi = solve_continuous_are(A, B, Q, R)
```

```
K = inv(R) @ B.T @ Pi
```





## CLOSED-LOOP BEHAVIOR

It is stable:

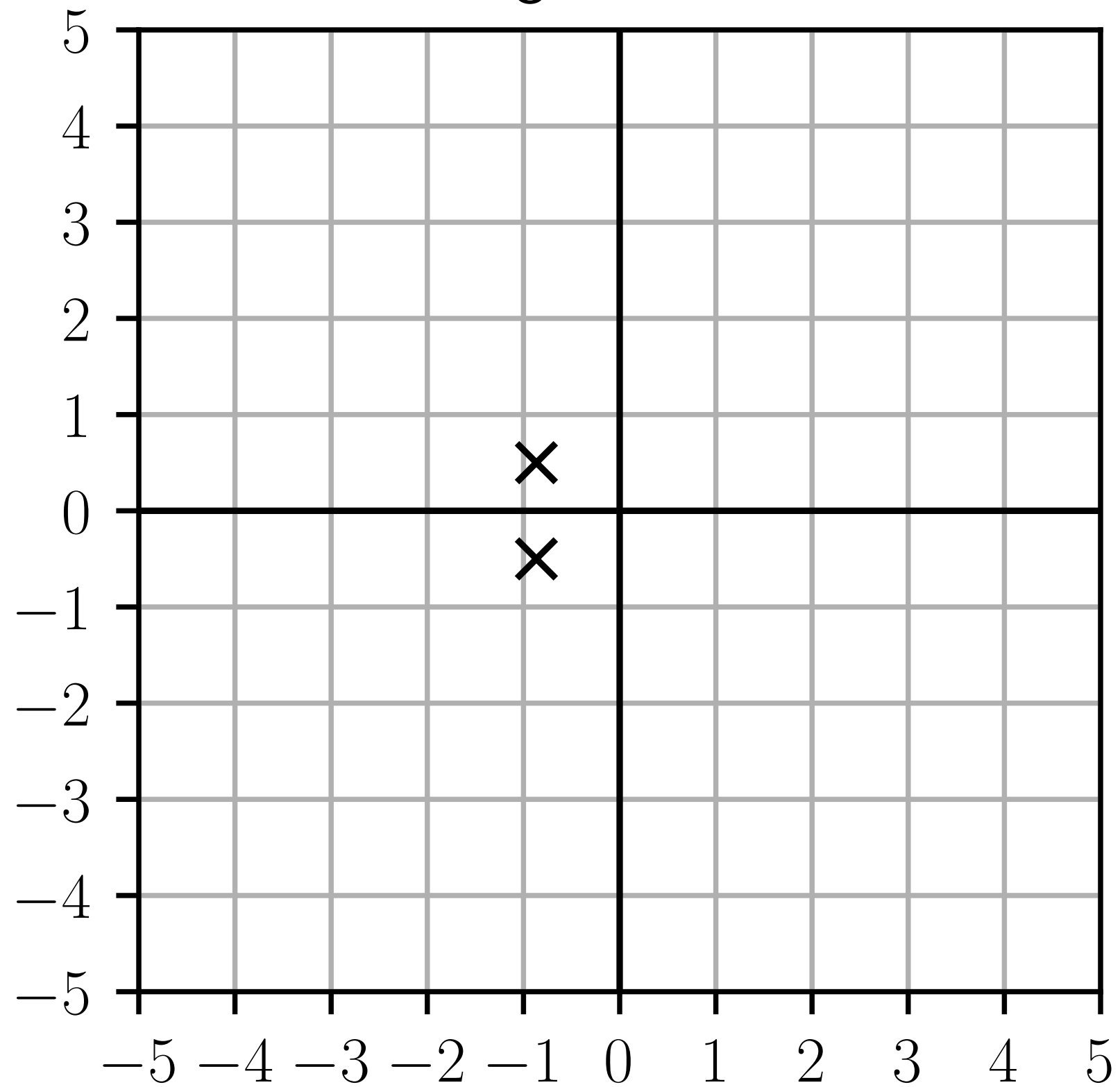
```
eigenvalues, _ = eig(A - B @ K)
assert all([real(s) < 0 for s in eigenvalues])
```



# EIGENVALUES LOCATION

```
figure()
x = [real(s) for s in eigenvalues]
y = [imag(s) for s in eigenvalues]
plot(x, y, "kx")
plot([0, 0], [-5, 5], "k")
plot([-5, 5], [0, 0], "k")
grid(True)
title("Eigenvalues")
axis("square")
axis([-5, 5, -5, 5])
xticks(arange(-5, 6)); yticks(arange(-5, 6))
```

# Eigenvalues



# SIMULATION

```
y0 = [1.0, 1.0]  
def f(t, x):  
    return (A - B @ K) @ x
```



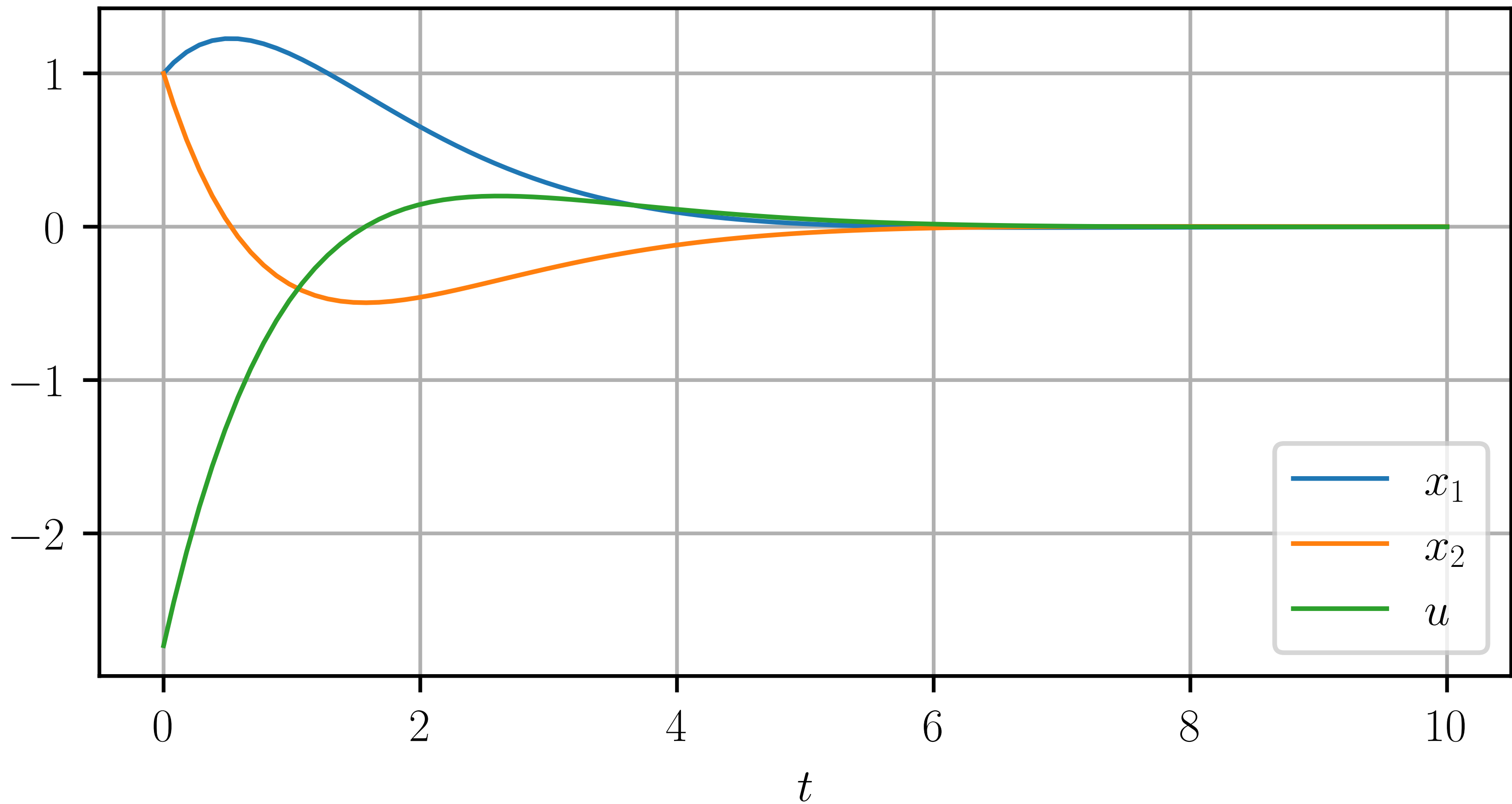
# SIMULATION

```
result = solve_ivp(  
    f, t_span=[0, 10], y0=y0, max_step=0.1  
)  
t = result["t"]  
x1 = result["y"][0]  
x2 = result["y"][1]  
u = - (K @ result["y"]).flatten() # vect. -> scalar
```



# INPUT & STATE EVOLUTION

```
figure()  
plot(t, x1, label="$x_1$")  
plot(t, x2, label="$x_2$")  
plot(t, u, label="$u$")  
xlabel("$t$")  
grid(True)  
legend(loc="lower right")
```





# OPTIMAL GAIN

```
Q = array([[10, 0], [0, 10]])  
R = array([[1]])  
Pi = solve_continuous_are(A, B, Q, R)  
K = inv(R) @ B.T @ Pi
```





## CLOSED-LOOP ASYMP. STAB.

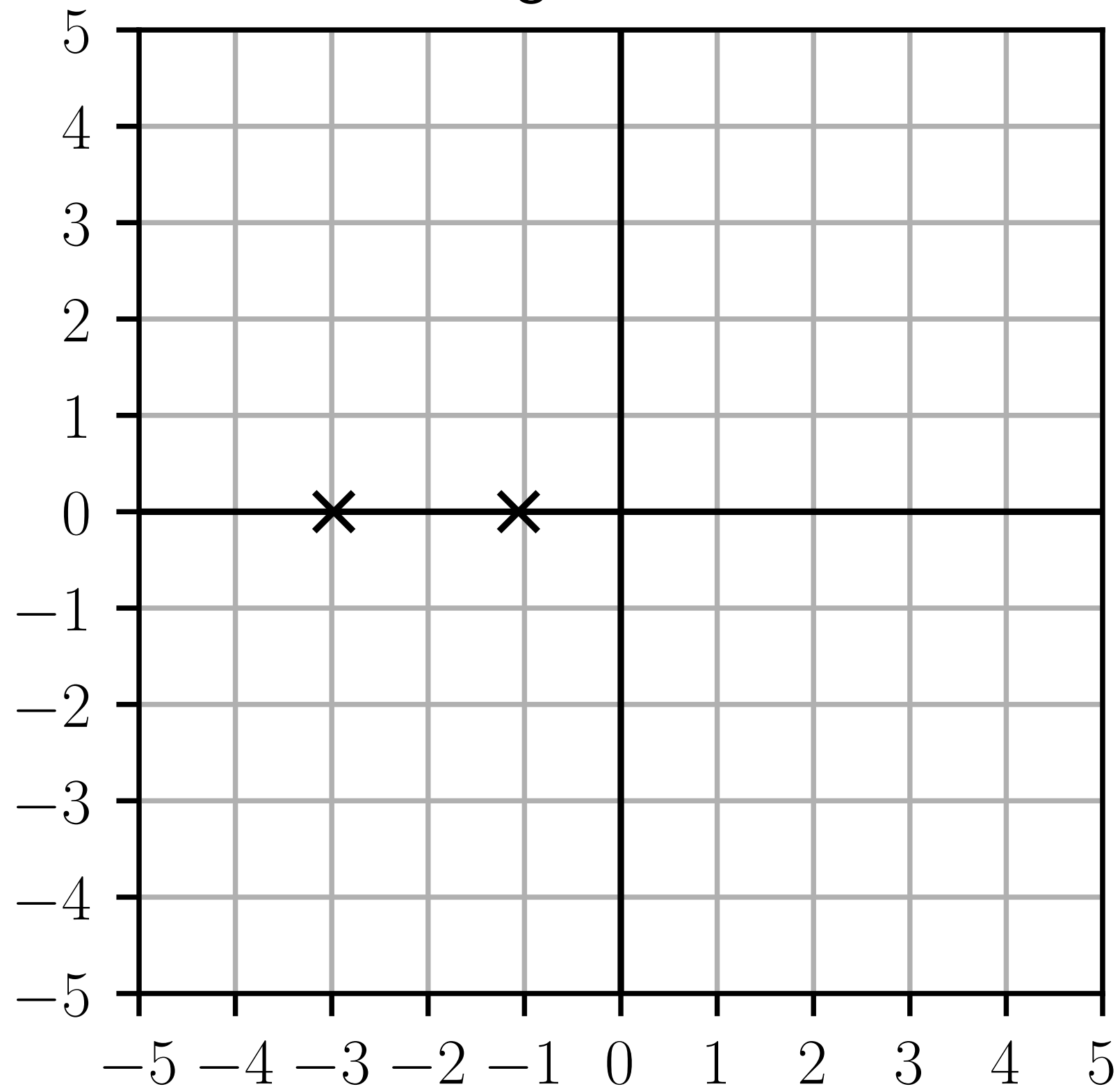
```
eigenvalues, _ = eig(A - B @ K)
assert all([real(s) < 0 for s in eigenvalues])
```



# EIGENVALUES LOCATION

```
figure()  
x = [real(s) for s in eigenvalues]  
y = [imag(s) for s in eigenvalues]  
plot(x, y, "kx")
```

# Eigenvalues





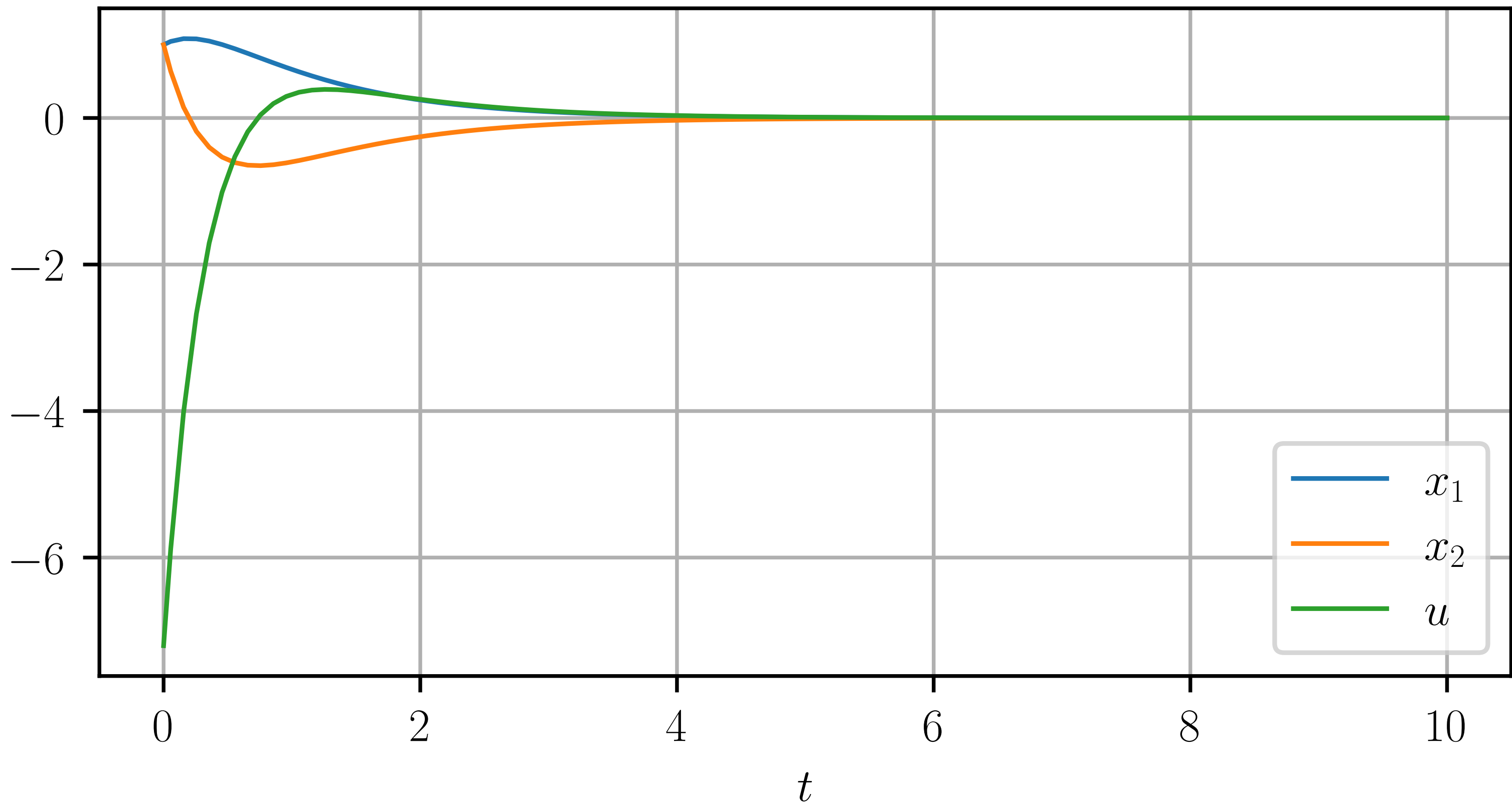
# SIMULATION

```
result = solve_ivp(  
    f, t_span=[0, 10], y0=y0, max_step=0.1  
)  
t = result["t"]  
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plot(t, u, label="$u$")  
xlabel("$t$")  
grid(True)  
legend(loc="lower right")
```





## OPTIMAL GAIN

```
Q = array([[1, 0], [0, 1]])  
R = array([[10]])  
Pi = solve_continuous_are(A, B, Q, R)  
K = inv(R) @ B.T @ Pi
```



## CLOSED-LOOP ASYMP. STAB.

```
eigenvalues, _ = eig(A - B @ K)  
assert all([real(s) < 0 for s in eigenvalues])
```

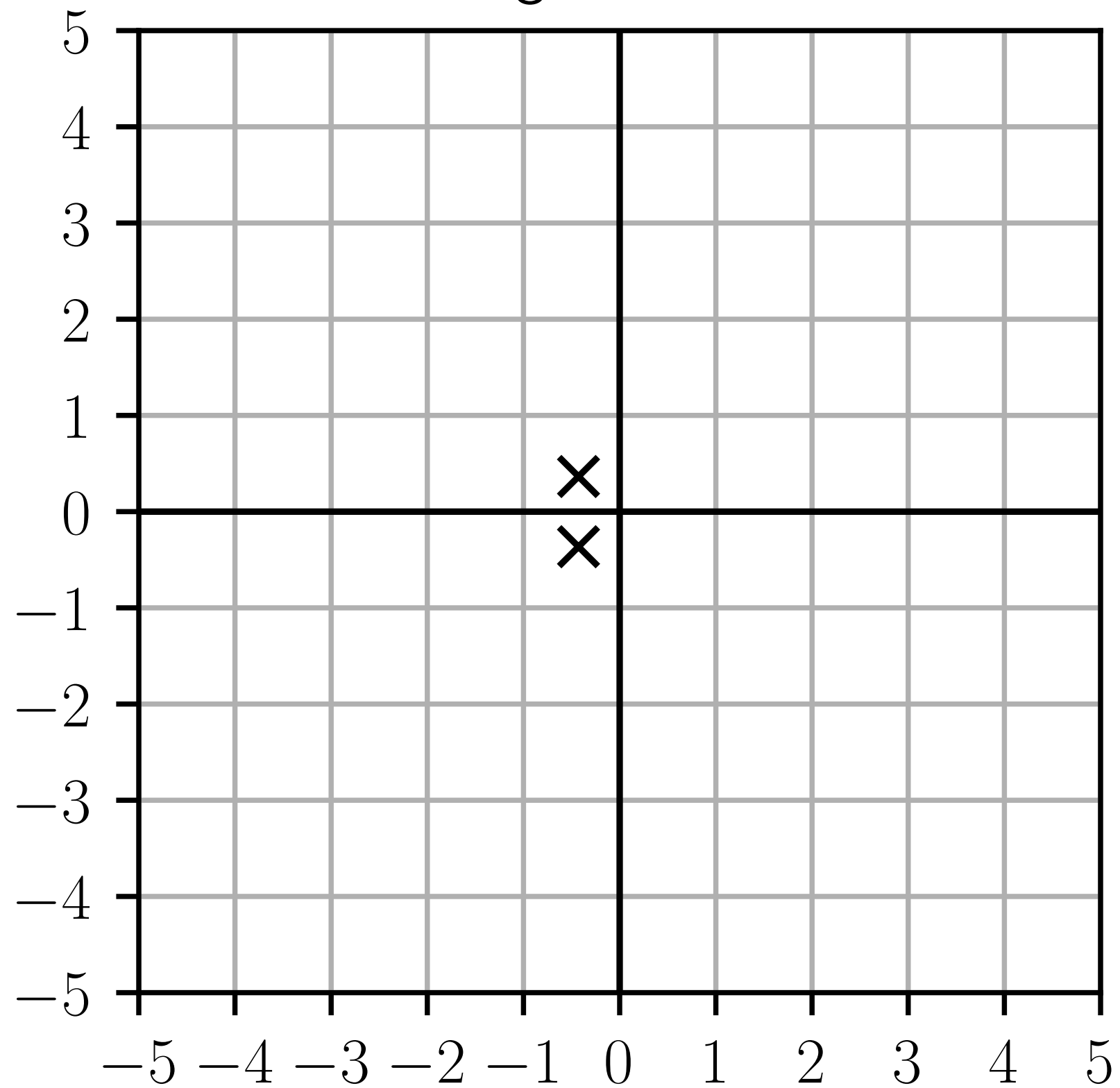




# EIGENVALUES LOCATION

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x = [real(s) for s in eigenvalues]  
y = [imag(s) for s in eigenvalues]  
plot(x, y, "kx")
```

# Eigenvalues





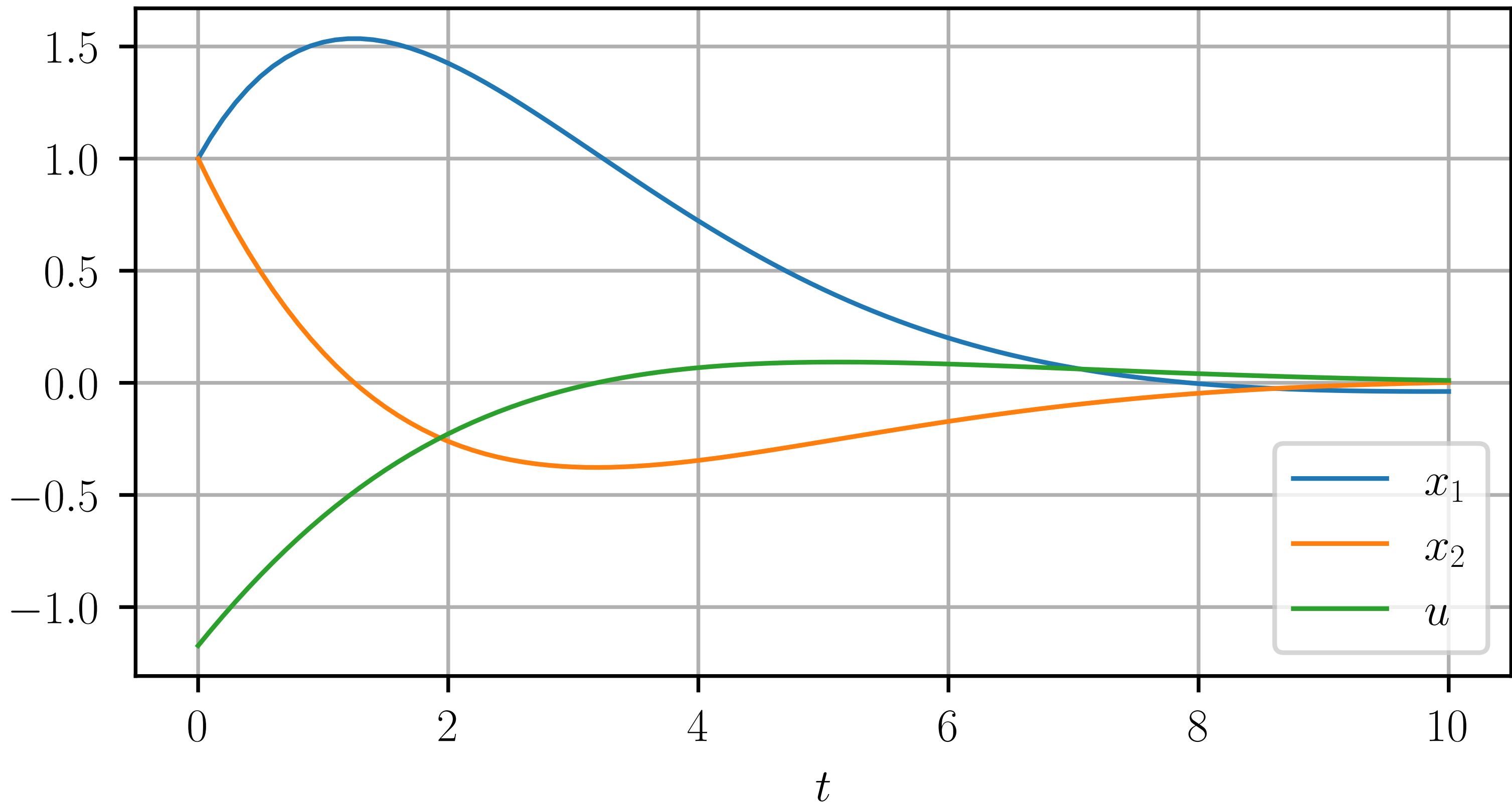
# SIMULATION

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# INPUT & STATE EVOLUTION

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plot(t, u, label="$u$")  
xlabel("$t$")  
grid(True)  
legend(loc="lower right")
```



# OPTIMAL VALUE

Consider the controllable dynamics

$$\dot{x} = Ax + Bu$$

and  $u(t)$  the control that minimizes

$$J = \int_0^{+\infty} x(t)^t Q x(t) + u(t)^t R u(t) dt.$$

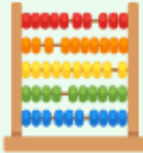
$$1 \text{ 🧮 } .$$

Let

$$j(x, u) := x^t Q x + u^t R u.$$

Show that

$$j(x(t), u(t)) = -\frac{d}{dt} x(t)^t \Pi x(t)$$

2. 

What is the value of  $J$ ?





**OPTIMAL VALUE**

# 1.

We know that  $u = -Kx$  where  $K = R^{-1}B^t\Pi$  and  $\Pi$  is a symmetric solution of

$$\Pi BR^{-1}B^t\Pi - \Pi A - A^t\Pi - Q = 0.$$

Since  $R$  is symmetric,

$$\Pi BR^{-1}B^t\Pi = \Pi B(R^{-1})^t R R^{-1} B^t\Pi = K^t R K$$

and thus

$$\Pi A + A^t\Pi = K^t R K - Q.$$

Since  $\dot{x} = (A - BK)x$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dt}x^t \Pi x &= x^t (\Pi(A - BK) + (A - BK)^t \Pi)x \\&= x^t (\Pi A + A^t \Pi - \Pi BK - (BK)^t \Pi)x \\&= x^t (K^t R K - Q - K^t R K - K^t R K)x \\&= x^t (-Q - K^t R K)x^t \\&= -x^t Q x - u^t R u \\&= -j(x, u).\end{aligned}$$

## 2.

Since the system is controllable, the optimal control makes the origin of the closed-loop system asymptotically stable. Consequently,  $x(t) \rightarrow 0$  when  $t \rightarrow +\infty$ . Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} J &= \int_0^{+\infty} j(x, u) dt \\ &= - \int_0^{+\infty} \frac{d}{dt} x^t \Pi x dt \\ &= - \left[ x^t \Pi x \right]_0^{+\infty} \end{aligned}$$