

diffusion  
Laplacian  
consensus

SYSM 6302

CLASS 20

# Processes on Networks

(Dynamics & Control)

- A state that evolves over time
  - ↑ everything we need to know to describe the system
  - ↑ follows a rule to find the state at the next moment in time
  - ↙ differential or difference equation
- The state typically describes the nodes of the network, but sometimes represents edges.
- The topology of the network (the location of edges between nodes), indicates which nodes/states have an effect on other nodes/states
- In simple models, nodes pass their state to their neighbors. More sophisticated models have nodes pass some function of their state, or have a way to preserve their own state

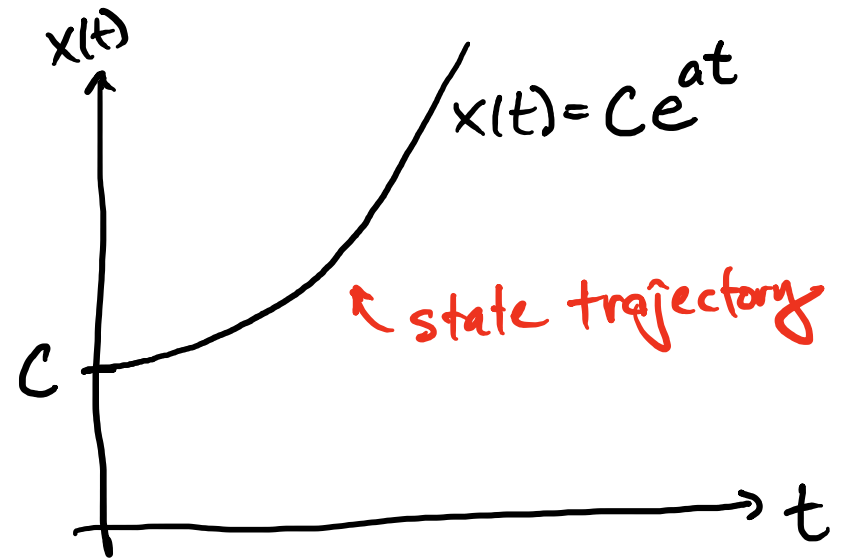
# Solutions to Differential Equations

$$\dot{x}(t) = ax(t) \Rightarrow \frac{dx}{dt} = ax \Rightarrow \int \frac{dx}{x} = \int a dt \Rightarrow \ln(x) = at + \tilde{c}$$

$\uparrow x(t) \in \mathbb{R} \quad \uparrow a \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\Rightarrow x(t) = e^{at + \tilde{c}} = Ce^{at}$$

$$x(0) = Ce^{a \cdot 0} = C$$



# General Network Dynamics

Note: we are assuming an undirected graph

$$\dot{x}_i = \underbrace{f_i(x_i)}_{\text{intrinsic dynamics of the node itself}} + \sum_{j=1}^n \underbrace{A_{ij}}_{\text{due to connectivity}} \underbrace{g_{ij}(x_i, x_j)}_{\text{A}_{ij} \text{ term only includes contribution from node } j \text{ if there is an edge between } i \text{ and } j}$$

↑  
the time rate of change of the state of node  $i$

→ often we assume the same form for all nodes:

$$\dot{x}_i = f(x_i) + \sum_{j=1}^n A_{ij} g(x_i, x_j)$$

# Diffusion

→ Physical diffusion follows a pressure differential

→ Rate of exchange between nodes  $\sim x_j - x_i$    
 ← if  $x_i = x_j$  nothing flows   
 ← if  $x_i > x_j$  flow is out, so negative

$$\dot{x}_i = \sum_{j=1}^n A_{ij} C (x_j - x_i)$$

no intrinsic dynamics   
 ← simple passing of state ← conservation of "state"

$$= C \sum_j A_{ij} x_j - C x_i \sum_j A_{ij}$$

sum of row  $i = k_i$

$$= C \sum_j A_{ij} x_j - C x_i k_i = C \sum_j (A_{ij} - \delta_{ij} k_i) x_j$$

$\delta_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & i=j \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

$$\dot{x}_i = c \sum_j (A_{ij} - \delta_{ij} k_i) x_j$$

$$\dot{x} = c \underbrace{(A - D)}_{= -L} x, \quad D = \begin{pmatrix} k_1 & & \\ & k_2 & \\ & & \ddots \\ & & & k_n \end{pmatrix}$$

$= -L \leftarrow$  the Laplacian

$$\frac{dx}{dt} + c L x = 0$$

$\leftarrow$  Analogous to diffusion of a gas

time derivative  $\downarrow$       spatial derivative  $\downarrow$

$$\frac{dx}{dt} + c \nabla^2 x = 0$$

# Properties of the Laplacian

① Let  $x(t) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i(t) v_i$  ← eigenvectors of  $L$

recall  $a_i(t) \in \mathbb{R}$   
 $v_i \in \mathbb{R}^n$

$$\frac{dx}{dt} + cLx = 0 \quad \rightarrow \quad \sum_i \frac{da_i}{dt} v_i + cL \sum_i a_i v_i = 0$$

$$\sum_i \left[ \frac{da_i}{dt} + cL a_i \right] v_i = 0$$

$$\sum_i \left[ \frac{da_i}{dt} + c\lambda_i a_i \right] v_i = 0$$

← since  $L$  is symmetric

$$\langle v_i, v_j \rangle = \begin{cases} 1 & i=j \\ 0 & i \neq j \end{cases}$$

$$\langle \quad, v_j \rangle = \langle 0, v_j \rangle$$

$$a_i(t) = a_i(0) e^{-c\lambda_i t}$$

$$\frac{da_i}{dt} + c\lambda_i a_i = 0 \quad \text{for } i=1, 2, \dots, n$$

② It is possible to show that  $L$  is positive semi-definite

$\Rightarrow \lambda_i \geq 0$  (eigenvalues of  $L$  are non negative)

① + ②:  $a_i(t) = a_i(0) e^{-c\lambda_i t}$ ,  $\lambda_i \geq 0 \rightarrow$  all  $a_i(t)$  converge

$\Rightarrow x(t) = \sum_i a_i(t) v_i \rightarrow$  equilibrium

$$\text{let } x^* = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow Lx^* = (D-A)x^* = \left[ \begin{pmatrix} k_1 & & \\ & k_2 & \\ & & \ddots \\ & & & k_n \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} A \end{pmatrix} \right] \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\rightarrow \sum_j (D_{ij} - A_{ij}) x_j^* = k_i - A_{i1} - A_{i2} - \dots - A_{in} = 0 \quad \forall i$$

$\Rightarrow x^*$  is the eigenvector of  $L$  with  $\lambda = 0$



Thus  $x(t) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i(t) v_i \rightarrow x^*$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$

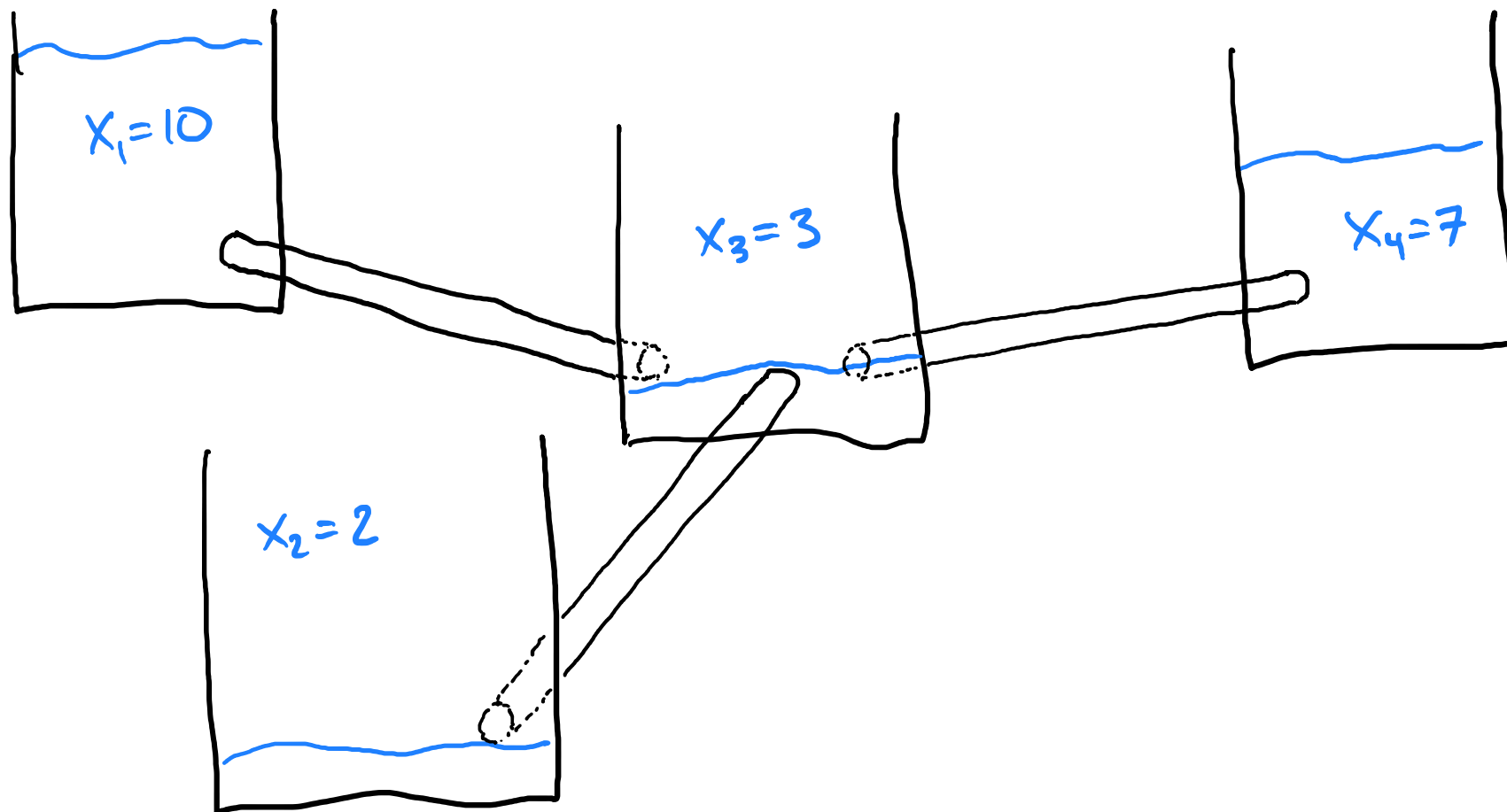
$$a_i(t) \rightarrow 0 \quad \forall \lambda_i > 0$$

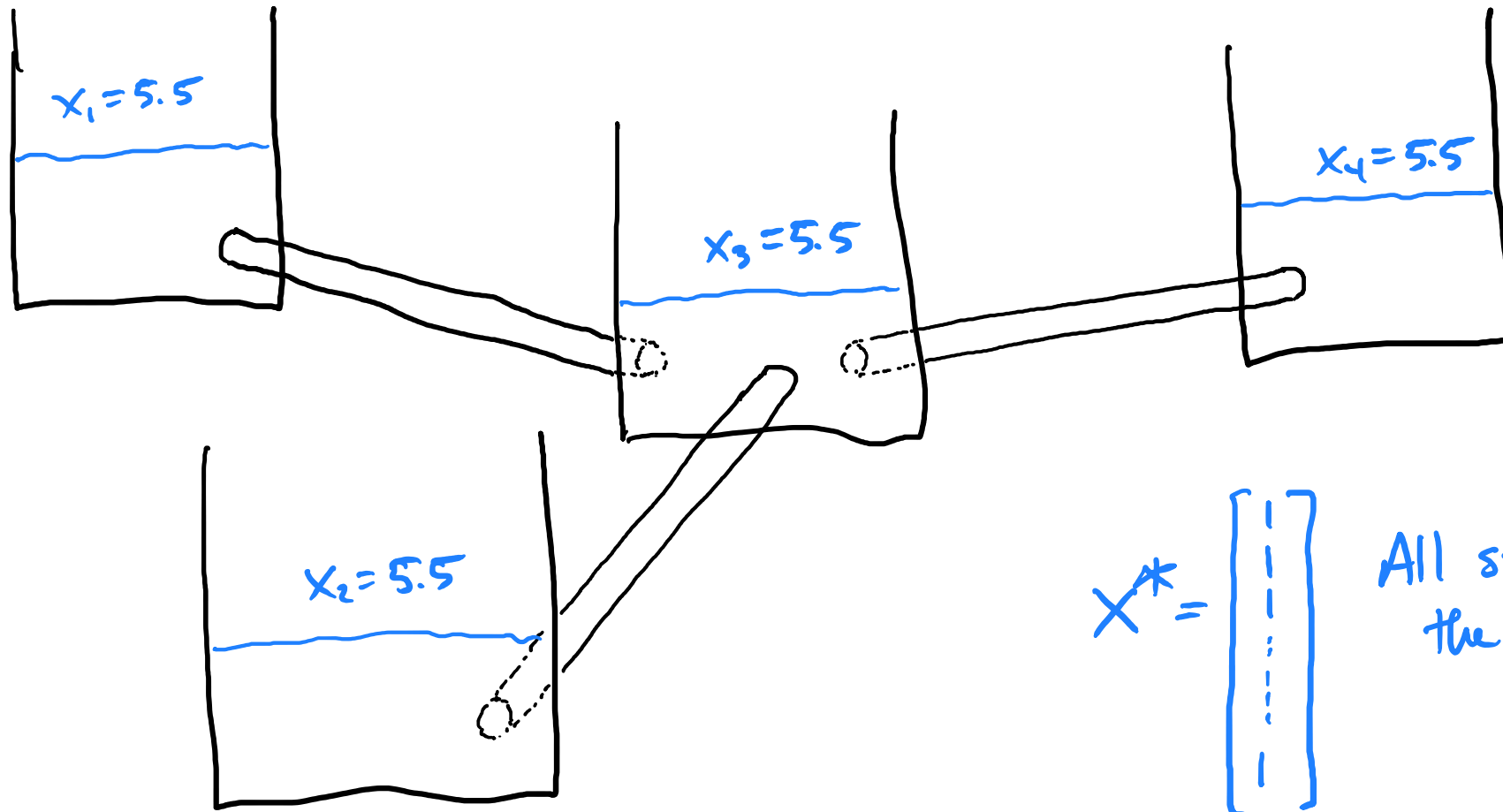
$$a_i(t) \rightarrow a_i(0) \quad \forall \lambda_i = 0$$

③ The multiplicity of  $\lambda=0$  is equal to the number of components of  $A$ .

$$L x_i^* = (D - A) x_i^* = \left[ \begin{array}{c|c} \begin{matrix} k_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & k_\ell \end{matrix} & \\ \hline & \begin{matrix} k_{\ell+1} & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & k_n \end{matrix} \end{array} \right] - \left[ \begin{array}{c|c} \begin{matrix} A_1 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & A_2 \end{matrix} \end{array} \right] \begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

we can find a permutation to order the nodes by component



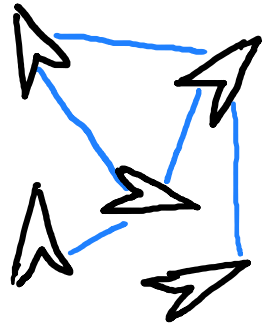


$$x^* = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

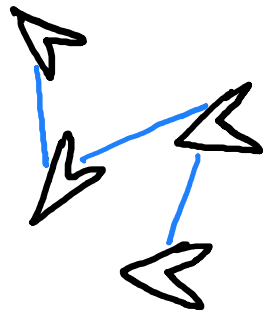
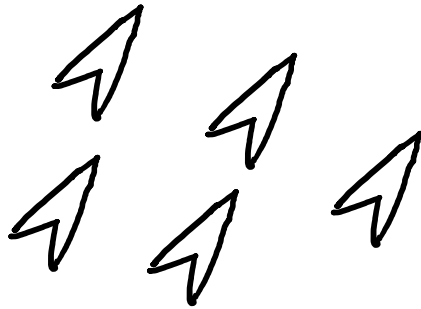
All states are  
the same!

# Consensus

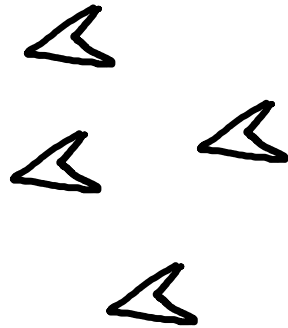
$$\dot{x}_i = \sum_{j=1}^n A_{ij} (x_j - x_i) \Rightarrow \dot{X} = -LX$$



$\xrightarrow{t}$



$\xrightarrow{t}$



Directed graphs require having a directed spanning tree to reach consensus.

For switching topologies, the union of graphs must be jointly connected (undirected) or have a minimum spanning tree (directed) in some finite time interval.

Designation of leader / follower