

9.3 Locally Linear Systems

Thm The critical point $\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ of $\vec{x}' = A\vec{x}$ is

1. asymptotically stable if the eigenvalues r_1 and r_2 are real and negative or have a negative real part
2. stable but not asymptotically stable if r_1 and r_2 are pure imaginary.
3. unstable if r_1 and r_2 are real and either is positive or if they have positive real part.

In the case that $r_1 < r_2 < 0$ or $r_1 > r_2 > 0$, the critical point $\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ is called a node (or improper node).

When $r_1 = r_2 = r$ we found that either $\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ was a proper node when there were 2 linearly independent eigenvectors or an improper node if only one eigenvector was found.

When $r_1, r_2 = \lambda \pm i\mu$, $\lambda \neq 0$, $\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ is a spiral point. Since the trajectories either spiral in to or out from it.

Finally, if $\lambda = 0$ then $\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ is the center of the periodic trajectory.

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Consider the harmonic oscillator $m\ddot{x} = -kx$ same as x'' $k > 0$

$$x_1 = x, \quad x_2 = x_1'$$

$$\text{so } \begin{aligned} x_1' &= x_2 \\ x_2' &= -\frac{k}{m}x_1 \end{aligned} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}' = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -\frac{k}{m} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{eigenvalues of } A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -\frac{k}{m} & 0 \end{bmatrix} : \quad \begin{vmatrix} -r & 1 \\ -\frac{k}{m} & -r \end{vmatrix} = (-r)^2 + \frac{k}{m} = 0$$

$$r = \pm i\sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}$$

$\Rightarrow$ pure imaginary.

$\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ is the center.

What would happen if even the slightest amount of damping was present?

$$m\ddot{x} = -c\dot{x} - kx \quad c > 0, k > 0$$

$$x_1 = x, \quad x_2 = x_1'$$

$$x_1' = x_2$$

$$x_2' = -\frac{k}{m}x_1 - \frac{c}{m}x_2$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}' = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -\frac{k}{m} & -\frac{c}{m} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -\frac{k}{m} & -\frac{c}{m} \end{bmatrix} \text{ has eigenvalues given by } \begin{vmatrix} -r & 1 \\ -\frac{k}{m} & -\frac{c}{m} - r \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

$$= (-r)(-\frac{c}{m} - r) + \frac{k}{m} = 0$$

$$= r^2 + \frac{c}{m}r + \frac{k}{m} = 0$$

$$r = \frac{-\frac{c}{m} \pm \sqrt{(\frac{c}{m})^2 - 4\frac{k}{m}}}{2} = -\frac{c}{2m} \pm \sqrt{(\frac{c}{2m})^2 - \frac{k}{m}}$$

Assuming $(\frac{c}{2m})^2 < \frac{k}{m}$ then the eigenvalues are complex with real part $-\frac{c}{2m}$.

In this case, $\vec{x}=\vec{0}$ is a spiral point.

This is an important example - it is a special case where slightly changing the system leads to an asymptotically different solution.

small change $\rightarrow$ big difference.

Another place this can occur is if $r_1 = r_2 = r$ is a repeated real eigenvalue of some matrix A . A slight change in A will either result in $r_1 \neq r_2$ but real (critical point becomes an improper node if it was not already) or $r_1, r_2 = \lambda \pm i\mu$ (critical point becomes a spiral point or even a center)

Break

The system $\vec{x}' = A\vec{x} + \vec{g}(\vec{x})$ can be nonlinear near linear since otherwise it could be recast as $\vec{x}' = \bar{A}\vec{x} + \vec{b}$ where $\vec{b}$ is a constant vector.

$\vec{x}' = A\vec{x} + \vec{g}(\vec{x})$ is almost linear

1. $\vec{x}=\vec{0}$ is an isolated critical point

Consider the system $\vec{x}' = A\vec{x} + \vec{g}(\vec{x})$. This can be assumed to be non linear since otherwise it could be rewritten as $\vec{x}' = \bar{A}\vec{x} + \vec{k}$ for some constant vector $\vec{k}$.

Suppose $\vec{x}^0$ is a critical point of $\vec{x}' = A\vec{x} + \vec{g}(\vec{x})$ and set $\vec{x} = \vec{u} + \vec{x}^0$. Then

$$\vec{u}' = A\vec{u} + A\vec{x}^0 + \vec{g}(\vec{u} + \vec{x}^0)$$

Notice that $\vec{u} = \vec{0}$ is a critical point of this system since $A\vec{0} + A\vec{x}^0 + \vec{g}(\vec{x}^0) = \vec{0} + \vec{0} = \vec{0}$.

If $\vec{g}(\vec{x})$ becomes "small" as $\vec{x} \rightarrow \vec{x}^0$ then we would expect the behavior of the solution near $\vec{x}^0$ to resemble the solutions of a linear system.

If $\vec{g}(\vec{x})$ has first partial derivatives at $\vec{x}^0$ and if

$$\lim_{\vec{x} \rightarrow \vec{x}^0} \frac{\|\vec{g}(\vec{x})\|}{\|\vec{x}\|} = 0$$

then we say $\vec{x}' = A\vec{x} + \vec{g}(\vec{x})$ is a locally linear system in the neighborhood of $\vec{x}^0$.

Thm 9.3.2 Allows us to draw conclusions and understand the behavior of a locally linear system near $\vec{x}^0$.

$\Rightarrow$ Assumes $\vec{x} = \vec{u} + \vec{x}^0$ substitution has been done so critical point is $\vec{u} = \vec{0}$

In general, the system $\begin{cases} x' = F(x, y) \\ y' = G(x, y) \end{cases}$ will be locally linear

near a critical point (x_0, y_0) when F and G both have continuous partial derivatives up to order 2.

Using a Taylor series expansion in 2 variables it is possible to show that when $\vec{x} = \vec{u} + \vec{x}^0$ the system

$$\begin{aligned} x' = F(x, y) & \quad \text{becomes} \quad u_1' = F_x(x_0, y_0)u_1 + F_y(x_0, y_0)u_2 + \eta_1(x, y) \\ y' = G(x, y) & \quad u_2' = G_x(x_0, y_0)u_1 + G_y(x_0, y_0)u_2 + \eta_2(x, y) \end{aligned}$$

or

$$\vec{u}' = J(\vec{x}^0) \vec{u} + \vec{\eta}(\vec{x})$$

where the Jacobian matrix J evaluated at $\vec{x}^0$ is given by

$$J(\vec{x}^0) = \begin{bmatrix} F_x(x_0, y_0) & F_y(x_0, y_0) \\ G_x(x_0, y_0) & G_y(x_0, y_0) \end{bmatrix}$$

The vector $\vec{\eta}(\vec{x})$ has the property that $\lim_{\vec{x} \rightarrow \vec{x}^0} \frac{\|\vec{\eta}(\vec{x})\|}{\|\vec{x} - \vec{x}^0\|} = 0$
so we can neglect it near the critical point $\vec{x}^0$.

This means the behavior of $\vec{u}' = J(\vec{x}^0) \vec{u}$ near $\vec{u} = 0$ matches the behavior of $\vec{x}' = \begin{bmatrix} F(\vec{x}) \\ G(\vec{x}) \end{bmatrix}$ near $\vec{x}^0$.

$$\text{Ex. } \frac{dx}{dt} = \underbrace{x - y + xy}_F$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \underbrace{3x - 2y - xy}_G$$

$$F_x = 1 + y \quad F_y = -1 + x$$

$$G_x = 3 - y \quad G_y = -2 - x$$

$$\text{Critical points: } \quad \textcircled{1} \quad 0 = x - y + xy \quad \textcircled{2} \quad 0 = 3x - 2y - xy$$

Clearly $(0,0)$ is a critical pt.

From $\textcircled{1}$ we have $y = x + xy = x(1+y)$

$$\text{so } x = \frac{y}{1+y} \quad \text{if } y \neq -1$$

Substituting this into $\textcircled{2}$ we have

$$0 = 3\left(\frac{y}{1+y}\right) - 2y - \left(\frac{y}{1+y}\right)y = (3y - 2y(1+y) - y^2) \frac{1}{1+y}$$

so

$$0 = 3y - 2y - 2y^2 - y^2 = y - 3y^2 = y(1 - 3y)$$

Thus $y = 0$ or $y = \frac{1}{3}$.

If $y = 0$ we have $x = 0$.

$$\text{If } y = \frac{1}{3}, \text{ we have } x = \frac{\frac{1}{3}}{1 + \frac{1}{3}} = \frac{\frac{1}{3}}{\frac{4}{3}} = \frac{1}{4}$$

Critical points are $(0,0)$, $(\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{3})$.

$$\text{At } (0,0): \begin{bmatrix} F_x(0,0) & F_y(0,0) \\ G_x(0,0) & G_y(0,0) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 3 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\vec{X} = \vec{U} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{so locally linear system is } \boxed{\vec{U}' = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 3 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \vec{U}}$$

Eigenvalues are $-\frac{1}{2} \pm i \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \rightarrow$ c.p. is attracting spiral point

$$A \left(\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{3} \right) \begin{bmatrix} F_x \left(\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{3} \right) & F_y \left(\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{3} \right) \\ G_x \left(\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{3} \right) & G_y \left(\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{3} \right) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4/3 & -3/4 \\ 8/3 & -9/4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\vec{X} = \vec{U} + \begin{bmatrix} 1/4 \\ 1/3 \end{bmatrix}$$

and locally linear system is

$$\vec{U}' = \begin{bmatrix} 4/3 & -3/4 \\ 8/3 & -9/4 \end{bmatrix} \vec{U}$$

Eigenvalues are $\frac{-11 \pm \sqrt{697}}{24}$

One is positive and one is negative

so c.p. is a saddle point