BECOME A MEMBER

ON STEADY

The Bright Side of
Mathematics

Ordinary Differential Equations - Part 19

System of linear differential equations: (of first order)

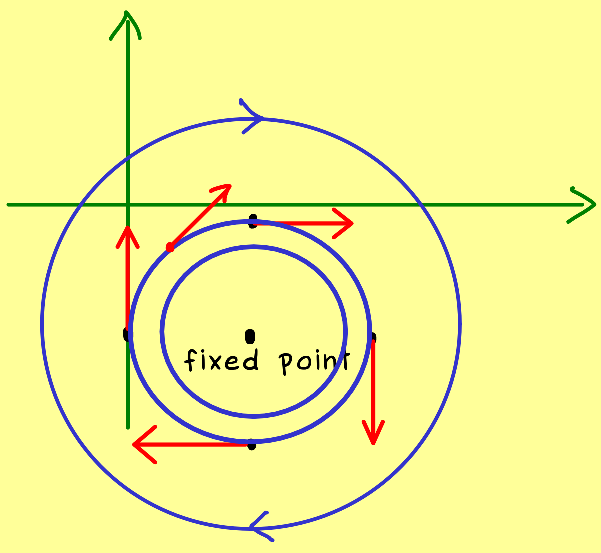
$$\dot{x} = A(t)\,x + b(t) \quad \text{with} \quad \begin{array}{l} I \ni t \longmapsto A(t) \in \mathbb{R}^{n\times n} \\ I \ni t \longmapsto b(t) \in \mathbb{R}^{n} \end{array}$$

interval in $\mathbb{R}$ — continuous

- solutions are global $\alpha : I \to \mathbb{R}^n$
- autonomous systems: $A(t) = A$, $b(t) = b$

example: $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$, $b = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

$$v(x) = Ax + b$$



- corresponding homogeneous system

$$\dot{x} = A(t)\,x$$

Fact: If $\alpha : I \to \mathbb{R}^n$, $\beta : I \to \mathbb{R}^n$ are two solutions of $\dot{x} = A(t)\,x$,

$$(\alpha + \beta)^{\boldsymbol{\cdot}}(t) = \dot{\alpha}(t) + \dot{\beta}(t) = A(t)\,\alpha(t) + A(t)\,\beta(t)$$

$$= A(t)\,\big(\alpha(t) + \beta(t)\big)$$

$$(\lambda \cdot \alpha)^{\boldsymbol{\cdot}}(t) = A(t)\,\big(\lambda \cdot \alpha(t)\big) \quad \rightsquigarrow \quad \boxed{\text{linear combinations of solutions are solutions}}$$

Proposition: The solution set of the corresponding homogeneous system

$$S_0 := \left\{ \alpha : I \to \mathbb{R}^n \text{ continuously differentiable} \;\middle|\; \dot{\alpha}(t) = A(t)\,\alpha(t) \text{ for all } t \in I \right\}$$

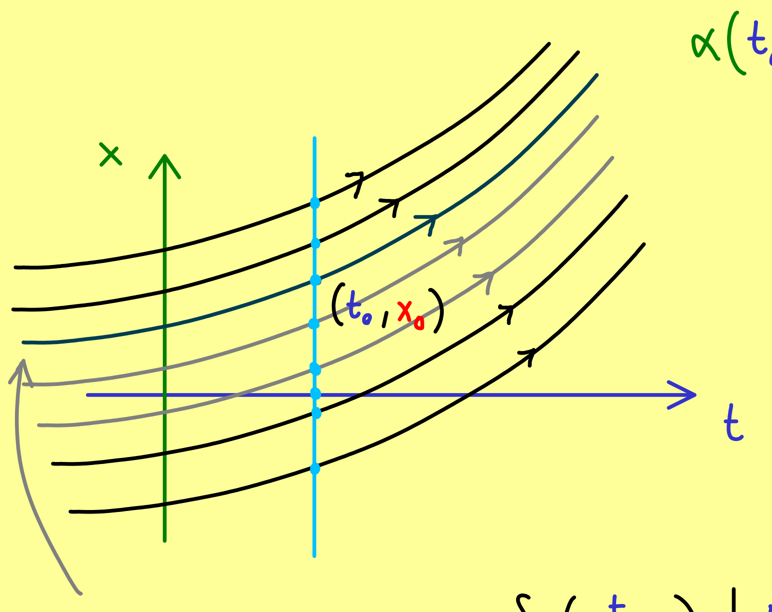
forms an n-dimensional $\mathbb{R}$-vector space.

Proof: S_0 is a subspace in the $\mathbb{R}$-vector space $C^1(I, \mathbb{R}^n)$.

What about the dimension of S_0?

$$(\mathrm{IVP}^{t_0}_{x_0}) \quad \boxed{\begin{array}{l} \dot{x} = A(t)\,x \\ x(t_0) = x_0 \end{array}} \xrightarrow{\text{Picard-Lindelöf theorem (special version)}} \text{unique solution } \alpha : I \to \mathbb{R}^n, \; \alpha(t_0) = x_0$$

extended phase portrait:



extended orbit at (t_0, x_0) : $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} t \\ \alpha(t) \end{pmatrix} \;\middle|\; t \in I \text{ where } \alpha \text{ is unique solution of } (\mathrm{IVP}^{t_0}_{x_0}) \right\}$

define a map: $\ell : S_0 \to \mathbb{R}^n$, $\alpha \mapsto \alpha(t_0)$ — linear map!

$\hookrightarrow$ surjective (every $(\mathrm{IVP}^{t_0}_{x_0})$ has a solution)

$\hookrightarrow$ injective $\left(\ell(\alpha) = \ell(\beta) \Rightarrow \alpha(t_0) = \beta(t_0) \overset{\text{uniqueness}}{\Longrightarrow} \alpha = \beta \text{ on } I \right)$

$$\Longrightarrow \quad \ell : S_0 \to \mathbb{R}^n \quad \text{isomorphism}$$

$$\Longrightarrow \quad \dim(S_0) = \dim(\mathbb{R}^n) = n \qquad \square$$