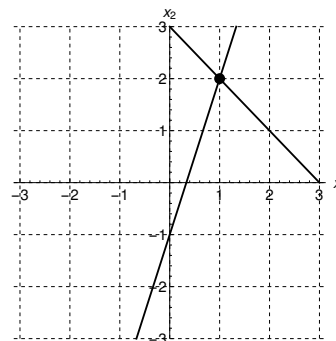


3. [14 points] In the following, the matrices  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$  are  $2 \times 2$  real-valued matrices. The vector  $\mathbf{x}$  is a  $2 \times 1$  vector  $\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix}$

- a. [7 points] If  $\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix}$  and the solution to  $\mathbf{Ax} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$  is illustrated in the figure to the right, what are the eigenvalues of  $\mathbf{A}$ ?



*Solution:* We see that the two lines shown are  $x_2 = 3 - x_1$  and  $x_2 = 3x_1 - 1$ . Because the right-hand side of the system of equations given is  $\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$ , the equations must be  $x_1 + x_2 = 3$  and  $-3x_1 + x_2 = -1$ . Therefore the rows of  $\mathbf{A}$  must be  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\begin{pmatrix} -3 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ , and because the solution shown is  $(1, 2)$ , the matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  must be  $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -3 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ . The eigenvalues are determined by  $(1 - \lambda)(1 - \lambda) + 3 = (\lambda - 1)^2 + 3 = 0$ , so that  $\lambda = 1 \pm i\sqrt{3}$ .

- b. [7 points] Suppose that  $\mathbf{B} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{B} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$ . What is the general solution to  $\mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{Bx}$ ?

*Solution:* These two systems tell us that the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of  $\mathbf{B}$  are  $\lambda = 3$  and  $\lambda = -2$ , with  $\mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$ . The general solution is therefore  $\mathbf{x} = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{3t} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} e^{-2t}$ .