

1. [12 points] Consider the system of differential equations  $\mathbf{x}' = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 3 & -4 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}$ .
- a. [6 points] Find the general solution to this system.<sup>1</sup>

- b. [6 points] Now suppose that we consider only initial conditions in the  $yz$ -plane (that is, we take  $\mathbf{x}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ y_0 \\ z_0 \end{pmatrix}$ ). Sketch the phase portrait for these initial conditions, in the  $yz$ -plane.

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<sup>1</sup>Possibly useful:  $\det\begin{pmatrix} a & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & b & c \\ 0 & d & e \end{pmatrix} = a(be - cd)$ .