

complex eigenvalues: Consider the first order system

$$\mathbf{x}'(t) = A \mathbf{x}$$

Let $A_{2 \times 2}$ have complex eigenvalues $\lambda = p \pm q i$. For $\lambda = p + q i$ let the eigenvector be $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b} i$.

Then we know that we can use the complex solution $e^{\lambda t} \mathbf{v}$ to extract two real vector-valued solutions, by taking the real and imaginary parts of the complex solution

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{z}(t) &= e^{\lambda t} \mathbf{v} = e^{(p+qi)t} (\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b} i) \\ &= e^{p t} (\cos(q t) + i \sin(q t)) (\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b} i) \\ &= [e^{p t} \cos(q t) \mathbf{a} - e^{p t} \sin(q t) \mathbf{b}] \\ &\quad + i [e^{p t} \sin(q t) \mathbf{a} + e^{p t} \cos(q t) \mathbf{b}] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\mathbf{z}}' &= A \bar{\mathbf{z}} \\ \bar{\mathbf{x}}' + i \bar{\mathbf{y}}' &= A \mathbf{x} + i A \mathbf{y} \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the general real solution is a linear combination of the real and imaginary parts of the solution above:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}(t) &= c_1 e^{p t} [\cos(q t) \mathbf{a} - \sin(q t) \mathbf{b}] \\ &\quad + c_2 e^{p t} [\sin(q t) \mathbf{a} + \cos(q t) \mathbf{b}] \end{aligned} = e^{p t} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{a} & \mathbf{b} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \cos q t + c_2 \sin q t \\ -c_1 \sin q t + c_2 \cos q t \end{bmatrix}$$

We can rewrite $\mathbf{x}(t)$ as

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = e^{p t} \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & b_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \cos(q t) & \sin(q t) \\ -\sin(q t) & \cos(q t) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Breaking that expression down from right to left, what we have is:

- parametric circle of radius $\sqrt{c_1^2 + c_2^2}$, with angular velocity $\omega = -q$:

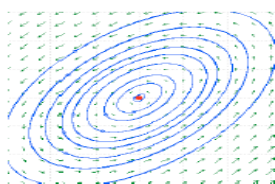
$$\begin{bmatrix} \cos(q t) & \sin(q t) \\ -\sin(q t) & \cos(q t) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

- transformed into a parametric ellipse by a matrix transformation of \mathbb{R}^2 :

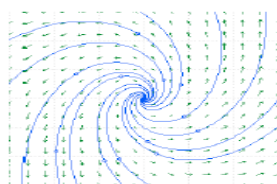
$$\begin{bmatrix} a_1 & b_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \cos(q t) & \sin(q t) \\ -\sin(q t) & \cos(q t) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

- possibly transformed into a shrinking or growing spiral by the scaling factor $e^{p t}$, depending on whether $p < 0$ or $p > 0$. If $p = 0$, curve remains an ellipse.

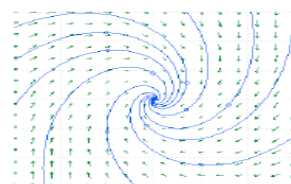
Thus $\mathbf{x}(t)$ traces out a stable spiral ("spiral sink") if $p < 0$, and unstable spiral ("spiral source") if $p > 0$, and an ellipse ("stable center") if $p = 0$:



center
 $\text{Re}(\lambda) = 0$



spiral source
 $\text{Re}(\lambda) > 0$



spiral sink
 $\text{Re}(\lambda) < 0$

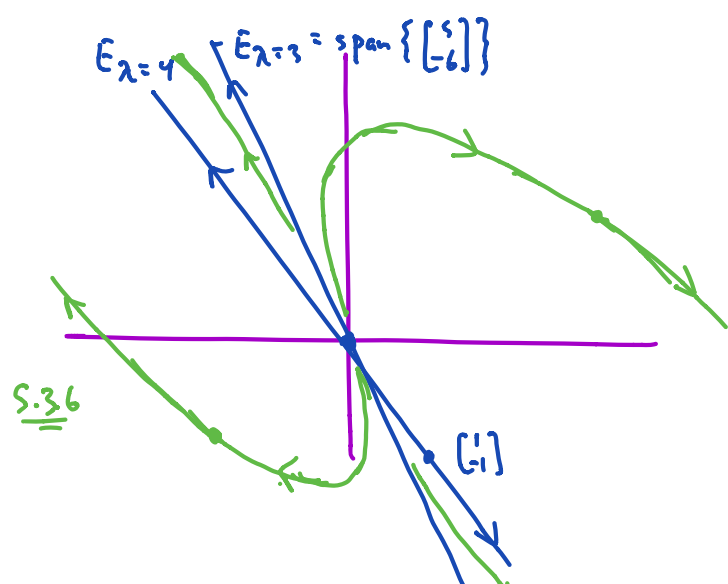
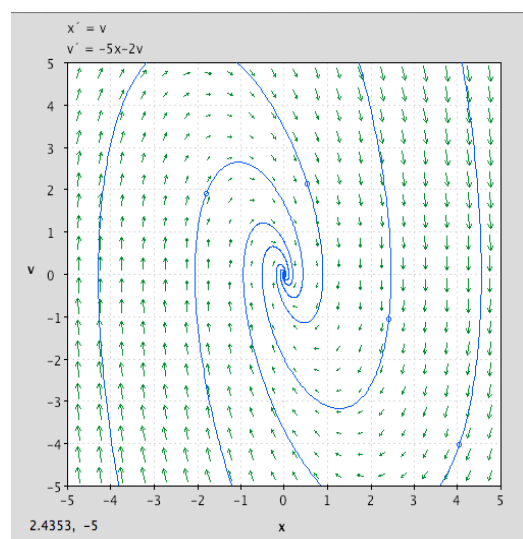
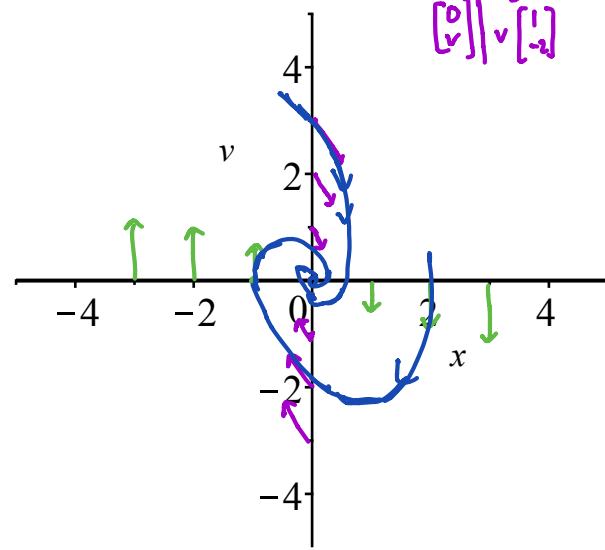
Exercise 4) Do the eigendata analysis, find the general solution, and use tangent vectors just along the two axes to sketch typical solution curve trajectories, for this system from your homework due today:

$$\begin{bmatrix} x'(t) \\ v'(t) \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -5 & -2 \end{bmatrix}} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ v \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} x' \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

pt	tang vect
$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$	$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix}$
$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$	$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$
$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$	$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\begin{vmatrix} -\lambda & 1 \\ -5 & -2-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = \lambda(\lambda+2)+5 \\ = \lambda^2+2\lambda+5 \\ = (\lambda+1)^2+4=0 \\ (\lambda+1)^2=-4 \\ \lambda+1=\pm 2i \\ \lambda=-1\pm 2i$$

$e^{\lambda t} \vec{v}$
spiral sink



check: $\begin{bmatrix} 9 & 5 \\ -6 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix} = 4 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \checkmark$
 $\begin{bmatrix} 9 & 5 \\ -6 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ -6 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 15 \\ -18 \end{bmatrix} = 3 \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ -6 \end{bmatrix} \checkmark$

4 5.3.6 $\begin{bmatrix} x_1' \\ x_2' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 9 & 5 \\ -6 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} \}$ DE soln $\begin{bmatrix} x_1(t) \\ x_2(t) \end{bmatrix} = c_1 e^{4t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 e^{3t} \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ -6 \end{bmatrix}$

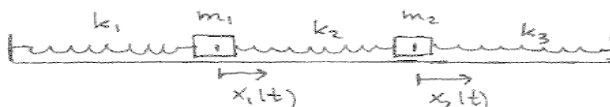
$\lambda = 4, 3$
 $E_{\lambda=4} = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

$E_{\lambda=3} = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ -6 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

as $t \rightarrow \infty$ dominates
 as $t \rightarrow -\infty$ shrinks slowest

5.4 Mass-spring systems: untethered mass-spring trains, and forced oscillation non-homogeneous problems.

Consider the mass-spring system below, with no damping. Although we draw the picture horizontally, it would also hold in vertical configuration if we measure displacements from equilibrium in the underlying gravitational field.



$m_1 x_1'' = -k_1 x_1 + k_2 (x_2 - x_1)$
 $m_2 x_2'' = -k_2 (x_2 - x_1) - k_3 x_2$

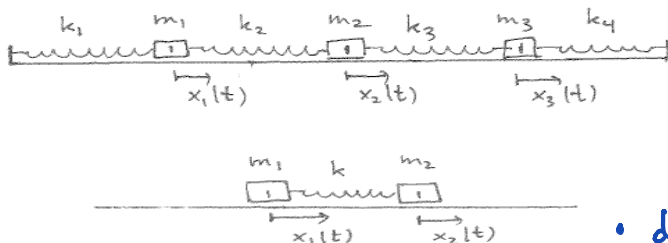
Let's make sure we understand why the natural system of DEs and IVP for this system is

$m_1 x_1''(t) = -k_1 x_1 + k_2 (x_2 - x_1) = (-k_1 - k_2)x_1 + k_2 x_2$
 $m_2 x_2''(t) = -k_2 (x_2 - x_1) - k_3 x_2 = k_2 x_1 - (k_2 + k_3)x_2$
 $x_1(0) = a_1, \quad x_1'(0) = a_2$
 $x_2(0) = b_1, \quad x_2'(0) = b_2$
 4 IC's. equiv. to 4 1st order DE's.

Exercise 1a) What is the dimension of the solution space to this homogeneous linear system of differential equations? Why? (Hint: after deriving the system of second order differential equations write down an equivalent system of first order differential equations.)

4!

1b) What if one had a configuration of n masses in series, rather than just 2 masses? What would the dimension of the homogeneous solution space be in this case? Why? Examples:



- dim soln space = 6.
- 6 IC's uniquely determine soln
- equivalent to system of 6 1st order linear DE's.
- dim soln space = 4
- 4 IC's uniquely det soln
- equiv. to system of 4 1st order linear DE's

We can write the system of DEs for the system at the top of the previous page in matrix-vector form:

$$\begin{bmatrix} m_1 x_1''(t) \\ m_2 x_2''(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} m_1 & 0 \\ 0 & m_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1''(t) \\ x_2''(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -k_1 - k_2 & k_2 \\ k_2 & -k_2 - k_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

We denote the diagonal matrix on the left as the "mass matrix" M , and the matrix on the right as the spring constant matrix K (although to be completely in sync with Chapter 5 it would be better to call the spring matrix $-K$). All of these configurations of masses in series with springs can be written as

$$M \mathbf{x}''(t) = K \mathbf{x}. \quad \bullet \quad \mathbf{x}''(t) = M^{-1} K \mathbf{x} = A \mathbf{x}.$$

If we divide each equation by the reciprocal of the corresponding mass, we can solve for the vector of accelerations:

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1''(t) \\ x_2''(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{k_1 + k_2}{m_1} & \frac{k_2}{m_1} \\ \frac{k_2}{m_2} & -\frac{k_2 + k_3}{m_2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix},$$

which we write as

$$\mathbf{x}''(t) = A \mathbf{x}.$$

(You can think of A as the "acceleration" matrix.)

Notice that the simplification above is mathematically identical to the algebraic operation of multiplying the first matrix equation by the (diagonal) inverse of the diagonal mass matrix M . In all cases:

$$M \mathbf{x}''(t) = K \mathbf{x} \Rightarrow \mathbf{x}''(t) = A \mathbf{x}, \text{ with } A = M^{-1}K.$$

How to find a basis for the solution space to conserved-energy mass-spring systems of DEs

$$\mathbf{x}''(t) = A \mathbf{x}.$$

Based on our previous experiences, the natural thing for this homogeneous system of linear differential equations is to try and find a basis of solutions of the form

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = e^{r t} \mathbf{y}$$

We would maybe also think about first converting the second order system to an equivalent first order system of twice as many DE's, one for each position function and one for each velocity function. But let's try the substitution directly, in analogy to what we did for higher order single linear differential equations back in Chapter 3.

Now, in the present case of systems of masses and springs we are assuming there is no damping. Thus, the total energy - consisting of the sum of kinetic and potential energy - will always be conserved. Any two complex solutions of the form

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = e^{r t} \mathbf{v}^{\pm} = e^{(a \pm i \omega) t} (\vec{u} \pm i \vec{w}) = e^{a t} (\cos \omega t + i \sin \omega t) (\vec{u} \pm i \vec{w})$$

would yield two real solutions $\mathbf{X}(t), \mathbf{Y}(t)$ where

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = \mathbf{X}(t) \pm i \mathbf{Y}(t).$$

Because of conservation of energy ($TE = KE + PE$ must be constant), neither $\mathbf{X}(t)$ nor $\mathbf{Y}(t)$ can grow or decay exponentially - if a solution grew exponentially the total energy would also grow exponentially; if it decayed exponentially the total energy would decay exponentially. SO, we must have $a = 0$. In other words, in order for the total energy to remain constant we must actually have

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = e^{i \omega t} \mathbf{y}.$$

Substituting this $x(t)$ into the homogeneous DE

$$\mathbf{x}''(t) = A \mathbf{x}$$

yields the necessary condition

$$-\omega^2 e^{i \omega t} \mathbf{y} = e^{i \omega t} A \mathbf{y}.$$

So \mathbf{y} must be an eigenvector, with non-positive eigenvalue $\lambda = -\omega^2$,

$$A \mathbf{y} = -\omega^2 \mathbf{y}.$$

And since row reduction will find real eigenvectors for real eigenvalues, we can find eigenvectors \mathbf{y} with real entries. And the two complex solutions

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = e^{\pm i \omega t} \mathbf{y} = \cos(\omega t) \mathbf{y} \pm i \sin(\omega t) \mathbf{y}$$

yield the two real solutions

$$\mathbf{X}(t) = \cos(\omega t) \mathbf{y}, \quad \mathbf{Y}(t) = \sin(\omega t) \mathbf{y}.$$

So, we skip the exponential solutions altogether, and go directly to finding homogeneous solutions of the form above. We just have to be careful to remember that \mathbf{y} is an eigenvector with eigenvalue $\lambda = -\omega^2$, i.e.

$$\omega = \sqrt{-\lambda}.$$

$$A \vec{v} = \lambda \vec{v}, \quad \cos \omega t \vec{v}, \quad \sin \omega t \vec{v}$$

Note: In analogy with the scalar undamped oscillator DE

$$x''(t) + \omega_0^2 x = 0$$

where we could read off and check the solutions

$$\cos(\omega_0 t), \sin(\omega_0 t)$$

directly without going through the characteristic polynomial, it is easy to check that

$$\cos(\omega t) \underline{v}, \sin(\omega t) \underline{v}$$

each solve the conserved energy mass spring system

$$\underline{x}''(t) = A \underline{x}$$

as long as

$$-\omega^2 \underline{v} = A \underline{v}$$

This leads to the

$$\lambda = -\omega^2$$

$$-\lambda = \omega^2 \Rightarrow \omega = \sqrt{-\lambda}$$

Solution space algorithm: Consider a very special case of a homogeneous system of linear differential equations,

$$\underline{x}''(t) = A \underline{x}$$

If $A_{n \times n}$ is a diagonalizable matrix and if all of its eigenvalues are negative, then for each eigenpair

$(\lambda_j, \underline{v}_j)$ there are two linearly independent solutions to $\underline{x}''(t) = A \underline{x}$ given by

$$\underline{x}_j(t) = \cos(\omega_j t) \underline{v}_j \quad \underline{y}_j(t) = \sin(\omega_j t) \underline{v}_j$$

with

$$\omega_j = \sqrt{-\lambda_j}$$

This procedure constructs $2n$ independent solutions to the system $\underline{x}''(t) = A \underline{x}$, i.e. a basis for the solution space.

Remark: What's amazing is that the fact that if the system is conservative, the acceleration matrix will always be diagonalizable, and all of its eigenvalues will be non-positive. In fact, if the system is tethered to at least one wall (as in the first two diagrams on page 1), all of the eigenvalues will be strictly negative, and the algorithm above will always yield a basis for the solution space. (If the system is not tethered and is free to move as a train, like the third diagram on page 1, then $\lambda = 0$ will be one of the eigenvalues, and will yield the constant velocity and displacement contribution to the solution space, $(c_1 + c_2 t) \underline{v}$, where \underline{v} is the corresponding eigenvector. Together with the solutions from strictly negative eigenvalues this will still lead to the general homogeneous solution.)

$$x'' + \frac{k}{m} x = 0$$

Shortcut:
try $\cos \omega t \underline{v}$ in the DE

$$\Rightarrow \underline{x}''(t) = -\omega^2 \cos \omega t \underline{v}$$

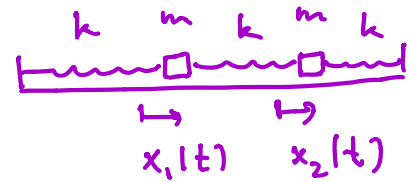
$$\& A \underline{x} = A \cos \omega t \underline{v} = \cos \omega t A \underline{v}$$

$$\text{for } \underline{x}''(t) = A \underline{x} \quad \text{you want } A \underline{v} = -\omega^2 \underline{v}$$

Exercise 2) Consider the special case of the configuration on page one for which $m_1 = m_2 = m$ and $k_1 = k_2 = k_3 = k$. In this case, the equation for the vector of the two mass accelerations reduces to

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1''(t) \\ x_2''(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{2k}{m} & \frac{k}{m} \\ \frac{k}{m} & -\frac{2k}{m} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \frac{k}{m} \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1 \\ 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}.$$



a) Find the eigendata for the matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1 \\ 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

b) Deduce the eigendata for the acceleration matrix A which is $\frac{k}{m}$ times this matrix.

c) Find the 4-dimensional solution space to this two-mass, three-spring system.

$$a) \begin{vmatrix} -2-\lambda & 1 \\ 1 & -2-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = (\lambda+2)^2 - 1 = (\lambda+3)(\lambda+1)$$

$$\lambda = -1, -3.$$

$$E_{\lambda=-1} \quad \begin{array}{cc|c} -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$E_{\lambda=-3} \quad \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$b) \quad A\vec{v} = \lambda\vec{v}$$

$$(cA)\vec{v} = (c\lambda)\vec{v}$$

if mult matrix by c

- eigenvectors stay the same
- eigenvalues scale by c .

$$\text{so for } \frac{k}{m} \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1 \\ 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \lambda = -\frac{k}{m}, -\frac{3k}{m}$$

$$E_{\lambda=-\frac{k}{m}} = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

$$E_{\lambda=-\frac{3k}{m}} = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

$$\omega_1 = \sqrt{-\lambda} = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}$$

$$\omega_2 = \sqrt{-\lambda} = \sqrt{\frac{3k}{m}}.$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1(t) \\ x_2(t) \end{bmatrix} = (c_1 \cos(\omega_1 t) + c_2 \sin(\omega_1 t)) \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + (c_3 \cos \omega_2 t + c_4 \sin \omega_2 t) \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

solution The general solution is a superposition of two "fundamental modes". In the slower mode both masses oscillate "in phase", with equal amplitudes, and with angular frequency $\omega_1 = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}$. In the faster mode, both masses oscillate "out of phase" with equal amplitudes, and with angular frequency

$\omega_2 = \sqrt{\frac{3k}{m}}$. The general solution can be written as

in phase, equal amplitude oscillations ... "slow mode"

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1(t) \\ x_2(t) \end{bmatrix} = C_1 \cos(\omega_1 t - \alpha_1) \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + C_2 \cos(\omega_2 t - \alpha_2) \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

out of phase (equal amplitude) oscillations, "fast mode"

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1(t) \\ x_2(t) \end{bmatrix} = (c_1 \cos(\omega_1 t) + c_2 \sin(\omega_1 t)) \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + (c_3 \cos(\omega_2 t) + c_4 \sin(\omega_2 t)) \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Exercise 3) Show that the general solution above lets you uniquely solve each IVP uniquely. This should reinforce the idea that the solution space to these two second order linear homogeneous DE's is four dimensional.

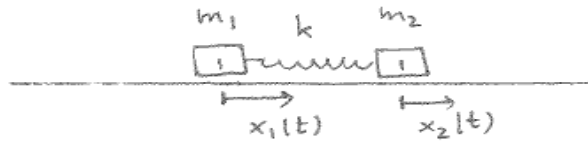
$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1''(t) \\ x_2''(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{2k}{m} & \frac{k}{m} \\ \frac{k}{m} & -\frac{2k}{m} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x_1(0) = a_1, \quad x_1'(0) = a_2$$

$$x_2(0) = b_1, \quad x_2'(0) = b_2$$

if $c_3, c_4 = 0$

Exercise 4) Consider a train with two cars connected by a spring:



4a) Derive the linear system of DEs that governs the dynamics of this configuration (it's actually a special case of what we did before, with two of the spring constants equal to zero)

4b) Find the eigenvalues and eigenvectors. Then find the general solution. For $\lambda = 0$ and its corresponding eigenvector \underline{v} verify that you get two solutions

$$\underline{x}(t) = \underline{v} \text{ and } \underline{x}(t) = t \underline{v},$$

rather than the expected $\cos(\omega t)\underline{v}$, $\sin(\omega t)\underline{v}$. Interpret these solutions in terms of train motions. You will use these ideas in some of your homework problems.