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# **Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors**

**NDSU ECE 463/663**

**Lecture #4**

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Please visit [Bison Academy](#) for corresponding  
lecture notes, homework sets, and solutions

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# Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors

In Linear Algebra, you cover eigenvalues ( $\lambda$ ) and eigenvectors ( $\Lambda$ )

- Eigenvalues:  $|\lambda I - A| = 0$
- Eigenvectors:  $A\Lambda = \lambda\Lambda$

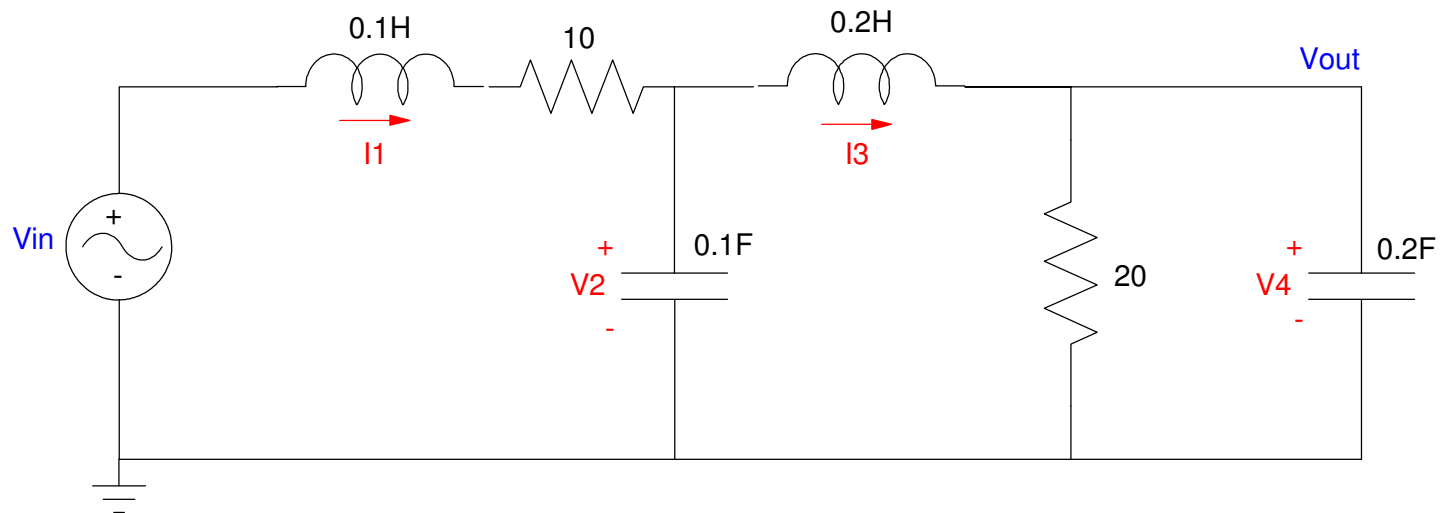
What does this mean?

- Eigenvalues tell you *how* a system behaves
  - Eigenvectors tell you *what* behaves that way
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# RLC Circuit Example: (Lecture #3)

$$sX = AX + BU$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} sI_1 \\ sV_2 \\ sI_3 \\ sV_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -100 & -10 & 0 & 0 \\ 10 & 0 & -10 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 & 0 & -5 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 & -0.25 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I_1 \\ V_2 \\ I_3 \\ V_4 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} V_{in}$$



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## Eigenvalues:

Eigenvalues and poles are the same thing

The transfer function to  $V_4$  is

$$Y = V_4 = \left( \frac{2500}{(s+98.50)(s+0.5025)(s^2+0.7525s+75.38)} \right) V_{in}$$

The eigenvalues of the A matrix are

$$A_4 = [-100, -10, 0, 0; 10, 0, -10, 0; 0, 5, 0, -5; 0, 0, 5, -0.25]$$

$$\begin{array}{cccc} -100.0000 & -10.0000 & 0 & 0 \\ 10.0000 & 0 & -10.0000 & 0 \\ 0 & 5.0000 & 0 & -5.0000 \\ 0 & 0 & 5.0000 & -0.2500 \end{array}$$

`eig(A4)`

$$\begin{array}{l} -98.9950 \\ -0.3763 + 8.6740i \\ -0.3763 - 8.6740i \\ -0.5025 \end{array}$$

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## Eigenvalues tell you *how* the system behaves

- The real part tells you the 2% settling time
- The complex part tells you the frequency of oscillation
- The damping ratio tells you the overshoot for a step input

`eig(A4)`

```
-98.9950  
-0.3763 + 8.6740i  
-0.3763 - 8.6740i  
-0.5025
```

- *Something* decays as  $\exp(-98.995t)$
  - *Something* decays as  $\exp(-0.3763t) \cos(8.6740t)$
  - *Something* decays as  $\exp(-0.5025t)$
-

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# Eigenvalues specify what the transient response looks like

Example: Impulse Response

$$Y = \left( \frac{2500}{(s+98.50)(s+0.5025)(s^2+0.7525s+75.38)} \right)$$
$$= \left( \frac{a}{s+98.50} \right) + \left( \frac{b\angle-\phi}{s+0.3763+j8.674} \right) + \left( \frac{b\angle\phi}{s+0.3763-j8.674} \right) + \left( \frac{c}{s+0.5025} \right)$$

Take the inverse LaPlace transform

$$y(t) = ae^{-98.995t} + 2be^{-0.3763t} \cos(8.6740t + \phi) + ce^{-0.5025t}$$



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## Eigenvectors

The eigenvectors tell you *what* behaves that way.

The transient response will be

$$X(t) = a_1\Lambda_1e^{\lambda_1t} + a_2\Lambda_2e^{\lambda_2t} + a_3\Lambda_3e^{\lambda_3t} + a_4\Lambda_4e^{\lambda_4t}$$

where

$a_i$  are constants determined by the initial condition,

$\Lambda_i$  are the eigenvectors of  $A$ , and

$\lambda_i$  are the eigenvalues of  $A$ .

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## Eigenvectors (cont'd)

At  $t=0$ , you get

$$X(0) = a_1\Lambda_1 + a_2\Lambda_2 + a_3\Lambda_3 + a_4\Lambda_4$$

or

$$X_0 = \Lambda A$$

$$A = \Lambda^{-1}X_0$$

In short,

- The eigenvalues tell you how the system behaves,
  - The eigenvectors tell you what behaves that way,
  - The initial condition tells you how much you excite each eigenmode.
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## Circuit Example:

Each eigenvalue has a corresponding eigenvector

- denoted by color

### Eigenvalues

$$V = \text{eig}(A)$$

**-98.9950**   **-0.3763 + 8.6740i**   **-0.3763 - 8.6740i**   **-0.5025**

### Eigenvectors

$$[M, V] = \text{eig}(A)$$

M = (eigenvector matrix)

**-0.9950**   **-0.0705 + 0.0061i**   **-0.0705 - 0.0061i**   **-0.0710**  
**0.1000**   **0.7075**   **0.7075**   **0.7067**  
**-0.0050**   **-0.0439 - 0.6076i**   **-0.0439 + 0.6076i**   **-0.0355**  
**0.0003**   **-0.3498 + 0.0304i**   **-0.3498 - 0.0304i**   **0.7031**

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## Translation:

- If you make the initial condition proportional to the first eigenvector, only the first eigenvalue appears (all other terms are zero)

Let

$$X_0 = \begin{bmatrix} I_1(0) \\ V_2(0) \\ I_3(0) \\ V_4(0) \end{bmatrix} = 2 \begin{bmatrix} -0.9950 \\ 0.1000 \\ -0.0050 \\ 0.0003 \end{bmatrix} = 2\Lambda_1$$

then

$$X(t) = X_0 \cdot e^{-98.995t}$$

$$X(t) = 2\Lambda_1 \cdot e^{\lambda_1 t}$$

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## Eigenvalue at -98.995

```
X0 = 2*M(:,1)
```

```
I1    -1.9899
```

```
V2     0.2000
```

```
I3    -0.0101
```

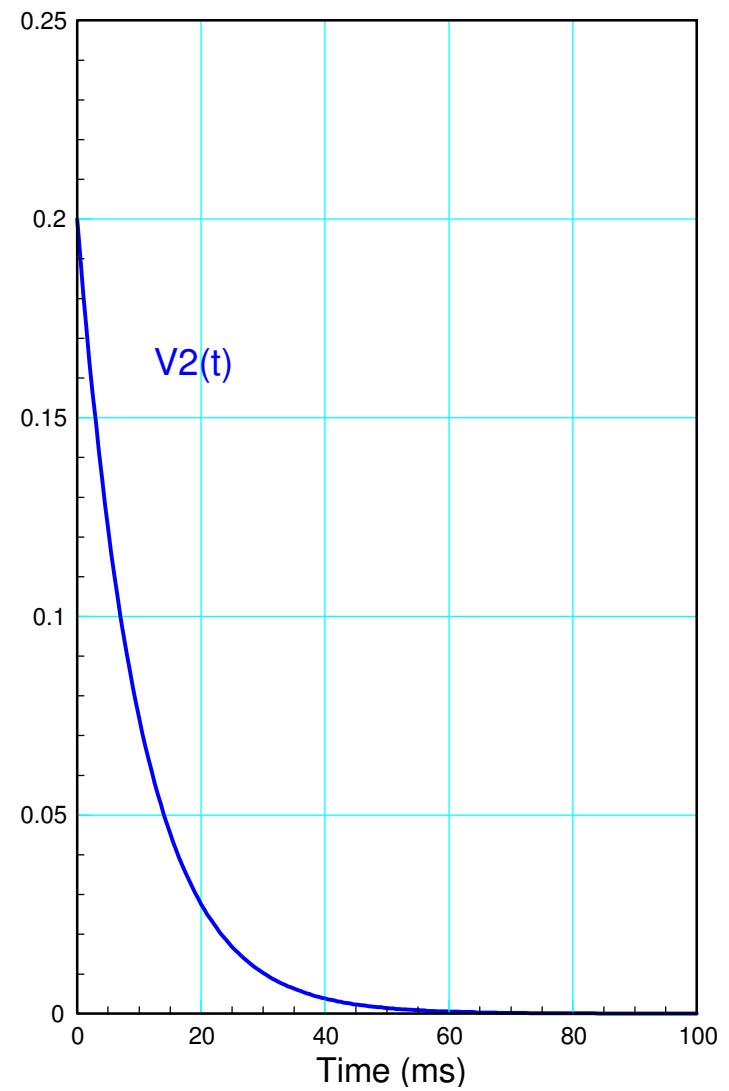
```
V4     0.0005
```

```
G = ss(A4, X0, C4, D4);
```

```
t = [0:200]' / 200 * 0.1;
```

```
X = impulse(G, t);
```

```
plot(t, X(:,2))
```



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$$\lambda = -0.3763 + 8.6740i$$

```
X0 = 2*real(M(:,2))
```

```
I1 -0.1410
```

```
V2 1.4151
```

```
I3 -0.0877
```

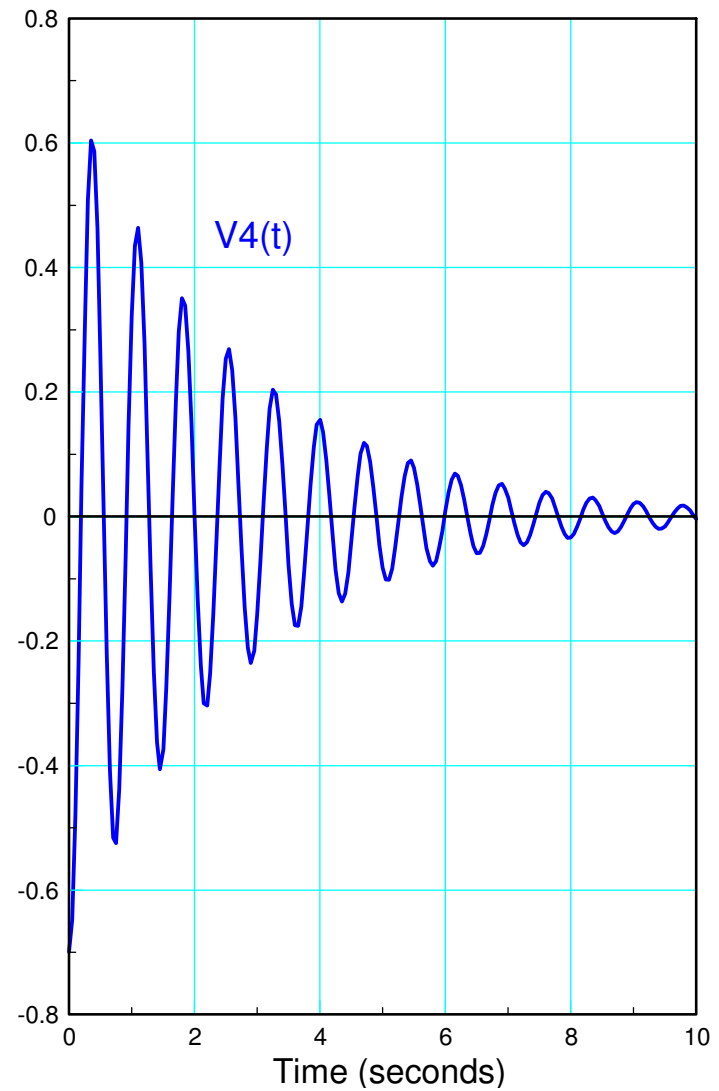
```
V4 -0.6996
```

```
G = ss(A4, X0, C4, D4);
```

```
t = [0:200]' / 200 * 0.1;
```

```
X = impulse(G, t);
```

```
plot(t, X)
```



---

$$\lambda = -0.3763 + 8.6740i$$

```
X0 = imag(2*M(:,2))
```

```
I1    0.0123
```

```
V2    0
```

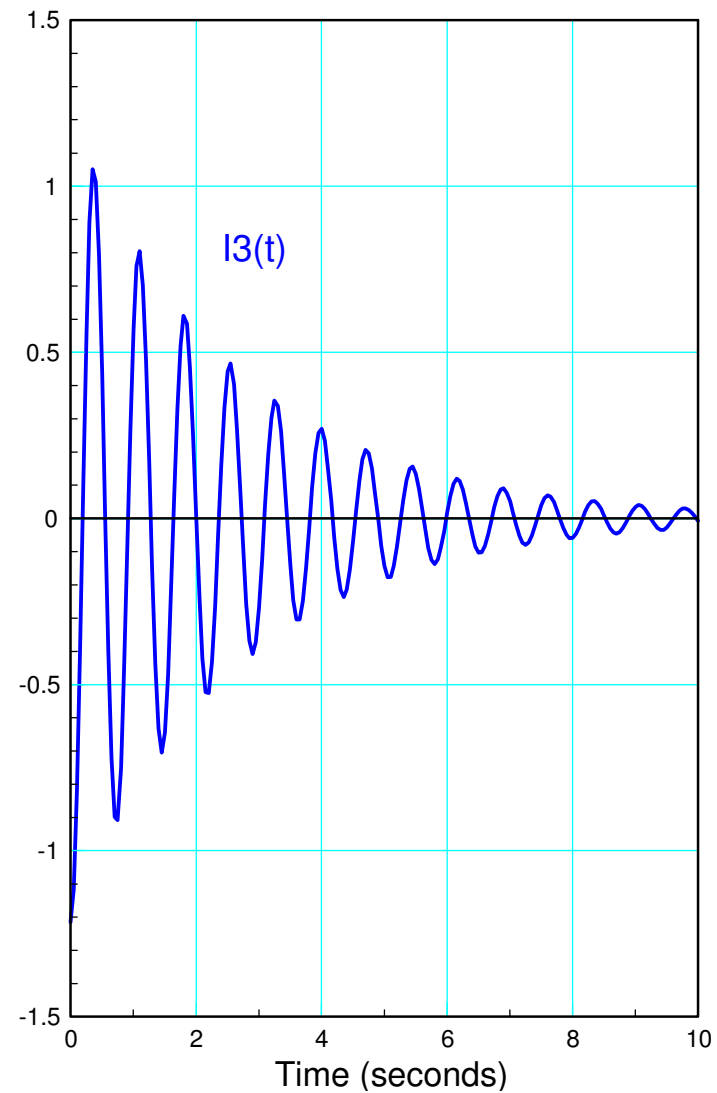
```
I3   -1.2152
```

```
V4    0.0608
```

```
G = ss(A4, X0, C4, D4);
```

```
X = impulse(G, t);
```

```
plot(t, X(:, [3]))
```



# Eigenvalue = -0.5025

```
X0 = 2*M(:,4)
```

```
I1    -0.1420
```

```
V2     1.4133
```

```
I3    -0.0710
```

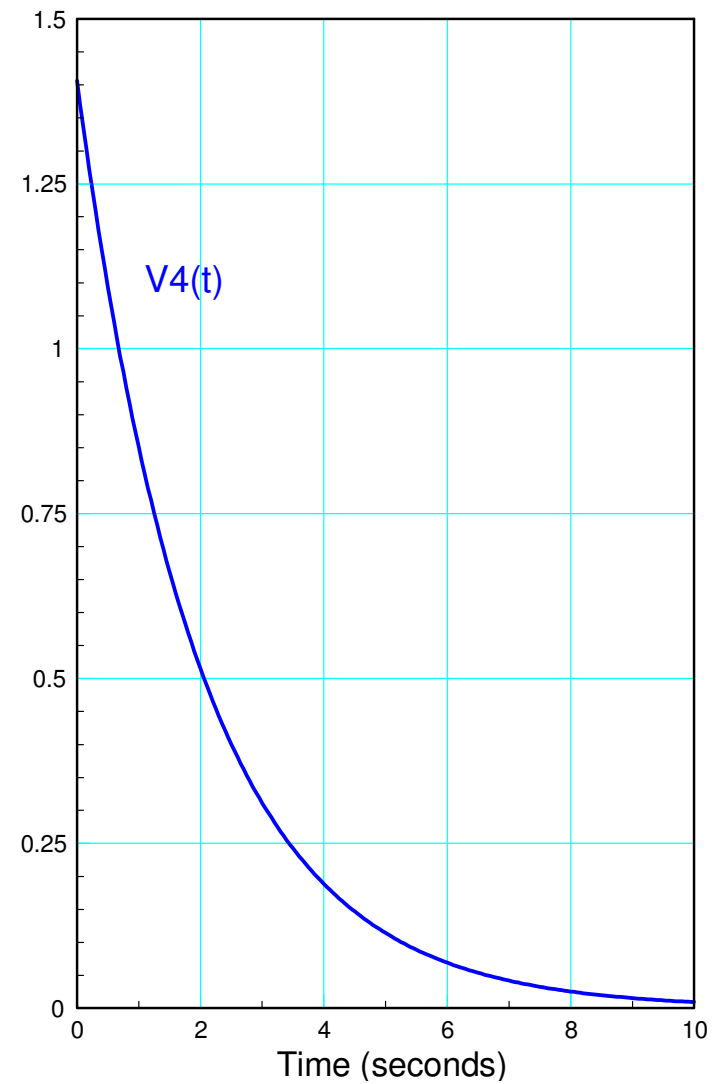
```
V4     1.4062
```

```
G = ss(A4, X0, C4, D4);
```

```
X = impulse(G, t);
```

```
plot(t, X(:, [4]))
```

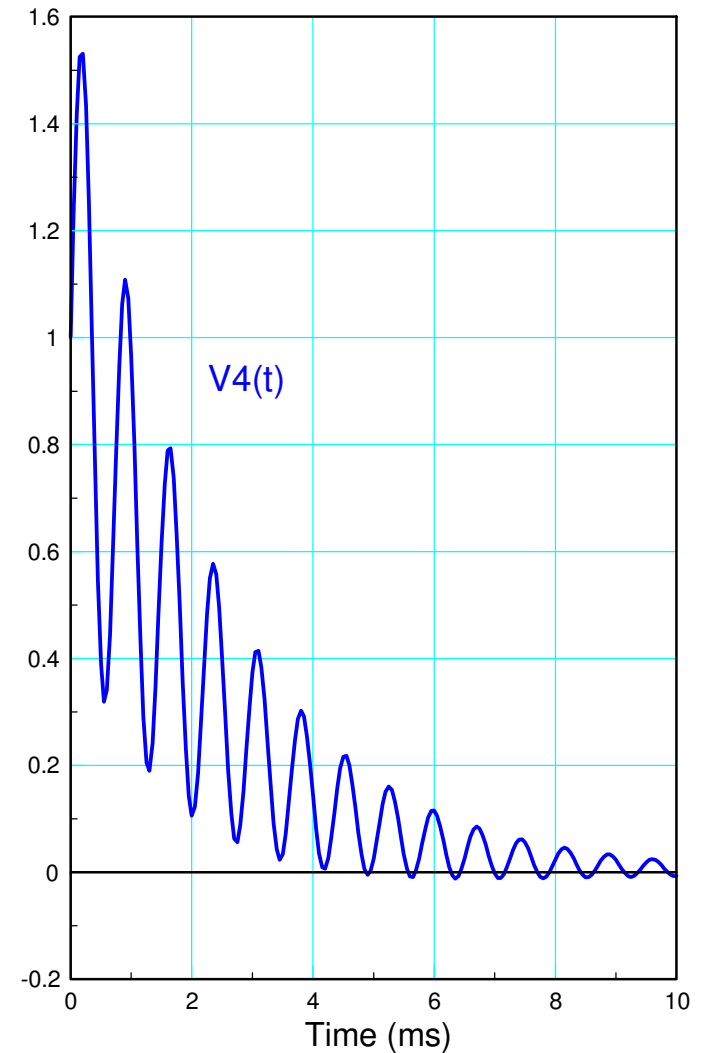
```
[t, X(:, 4)]
```



## Random Initial Condition

- All four eigenvectors are excited
- All four modes show up in the output
- The fast poles decay quickly
- The slow (dominant) pole eventually wins

```
X0 = ones(4,1);  
G = ss(A4, X0, C4, D4);  
  
t = [0:200]' / 200 * 10;  
X = impulse(G, t);  
plot(t, X(:,4))
```



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# Example 2: 10-Stage RC Filter

From lecture #3

10000000000

-----  
(s+39.31) (s+36.72) (s+32.67) (s+27.51) (s+21.69) (s+15.75) (s+10.2) (s+5.539) (s+2.181) (s+0.4234)

A is a 10x10 matrix:

A10

-20.2000	10.0000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10.0000	-20.2000	10.0000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	10.0000	-20.2000	10.0000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	10.0000	-20.2000	10.0000	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	10.0000	-20.2000	10.0000	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	10.0000	-20.2000	10.0000	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	10.0000	-20.2000	10.0000	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	10.0000	-20.2000	10.0000	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10.0000	-20.2000	10.0000	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10.0000	-20.2000	10.0000
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10.0000	-10.2000





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## Eigenvalues:

- Eigenvalues are Poles
- They tell you *how* the system behaves

10000000000

-----  
(s+39.31) (s+36.72) (s+32.67) (s+27.51) (s+21.69) (s+15.75) (s+10.2) (s+5.539) (s+2.181) (s+0.4234)

eig(A10)

-39.3115            *something decays as  $\exp(-39.3115t)$*

-36.7248

-32.6698

-27.5068

-21.6946

-15.7496

-10.2000

-5.5390

-2.1806

-0.4234

*something decays as  $\exp(-0.4234t)$       dominant pole*



---

# Eigenvectors

- Eigenvectors tell you *what* behaves that way

A is a 10x10 matrix

- It has 10 eigenvalues
- It has 10 eigenvectors

```
>> [a,b] = eig(A10)
```

```
a =    eigenvector
```

<b>fast</b>									<b>slow</b>
<b>-0.1286</b>	-0.2459	0.3412	0.4063	0.4352	0.4255	0.3780	0.2969	-0.1894	<b>0.0650</b>
<b>0.2459</b>	0.4063	-0.4255	-0.2969	-0.0650	0.1894	0.3780	0.4352	-0.3412	<b>0.1286</b>
<b>-0.3412</b>	-0.4255	0.1894	-0.1894	-0.4255	-0.3412	-0.0000	0.3412	-0.4255	<b>0.1894</b>
<b>0.4063</b>	0.2969	0.1894	0.4352	0.1286	-0.3412	-0.3780	0.0650	-0.4255	<b>0.2459</b>
<b>-0.4352</b>	-0.0650	-0.4255	-0.1286	0.4063	0.1894	-0.3780	-0.2459	-0.3412	<b>0.2969</b>
<b>0.4255</b>	-0.1894	0.3412	-0.3412	-0.1894	0.4255	0.0000	-0.4255	-0.1894	<b>0.3412</b>
<b>-0.3780</b>	0.3780	-0.0000	0.3780	-0.3780	0.0000	0.3780	-0.3780	-0.0000	<b>0.3780</b>
<b>0.2969</b>	-0.4352	-0.3412	0.0650	0.2459	-0.4255	0.3780	-0.1286	0.1894	<b>0.4063</b>
<b>-0.1894</b>	0.3412	0.4255	-0.4255	0.3412	-0.1894	0.0000	0.1894	0.3412	<b>0.4255</b>
<b>0.0650</b>	-0.1286	-0.1894	0.2459	-0.2969	0.3412	-0.3780	0.4063	0.4255	<b>0.4352</b>

```
diag(b) - eigenvalues
```

<b>-39.3115</b>	-36.7248	-32.6698	-27.5068	-21.6946	-15.7496	-10.2000	-5.5390	-2.1806	<b>-0.4234</b>
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# Matlab Simulation (Heat.m)

- Dynamic simulation of a 10-stage RC filter

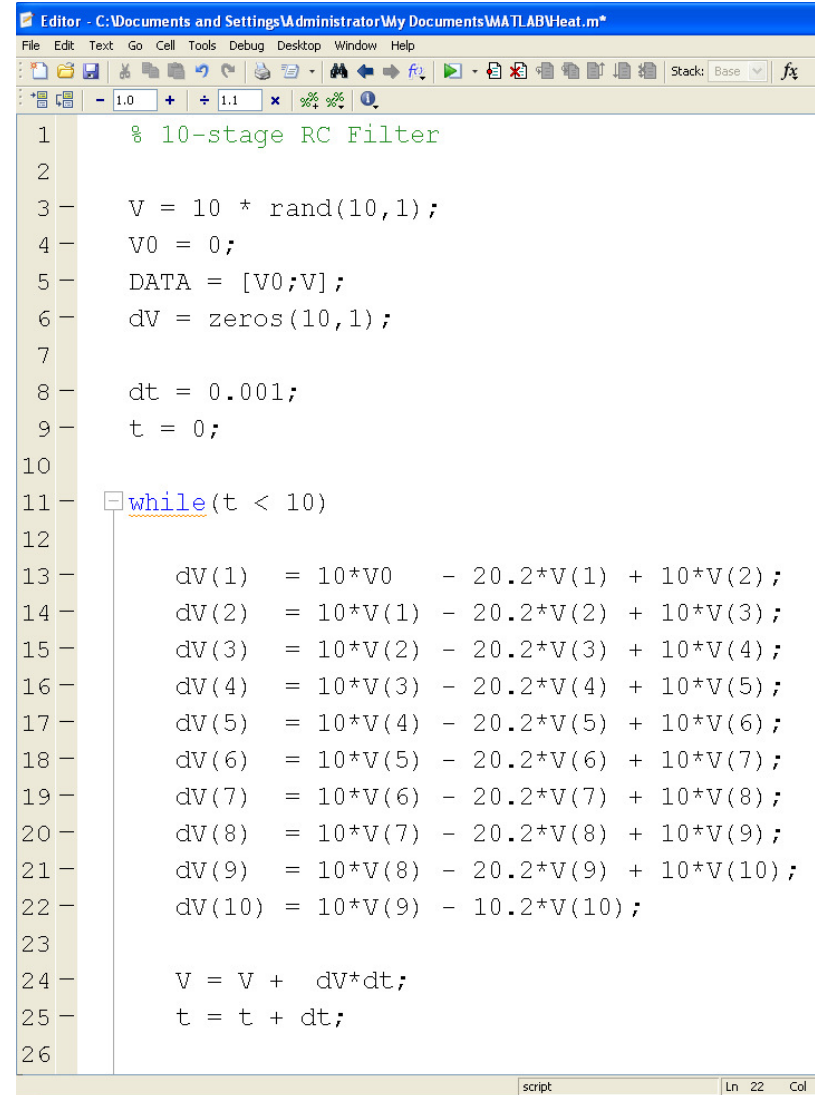
Set the forcing function to zero

- Line #4

Set the initial condition

- Line #3

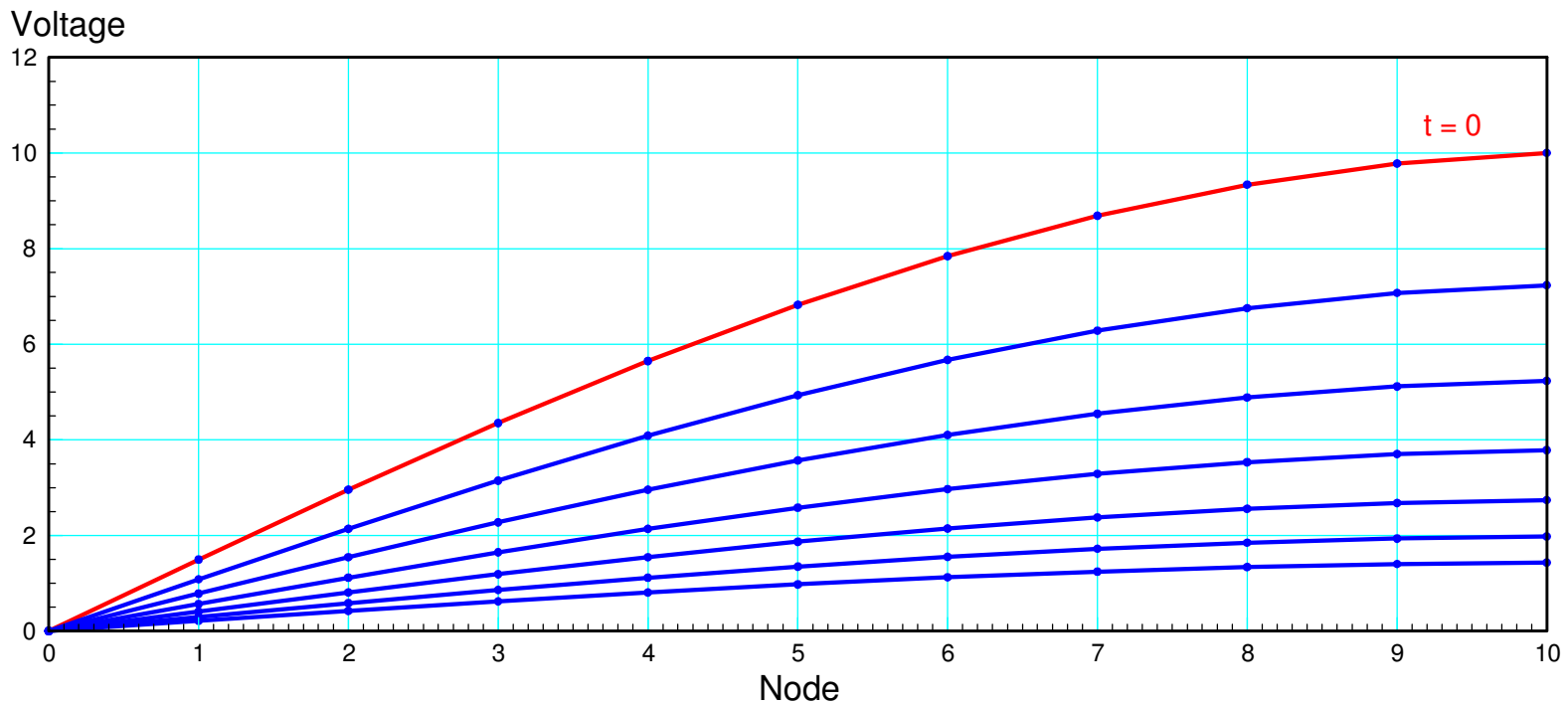
you can see the natural response



```
Editor - C:\Documents and Settings\Administrator\My Documents\MATLAB\Heat.m*
File Edit Text Go Cell Tools Debug Desktop Window Help
Stack: Base fx
- 1.0 + + 1.1 x
1 % 10-stage RC Filter
2
3 V = 10 * rand(10,1);
4 V0 = 0;
5 DATA = [V0;V];
6 dV = zeros(10,1);
7
8 dt = 0.001;
9 t = 0;
10
11 while(t < 10)
12
13     dV(1) = 10*V0 - 20.2*V(1) + 10*V(2);
14     dV(2) = 10*V(1) - 20.2*V(2) + 10*V(3);
15     dV(3) = 10*V(2) - 20.2*V(3) + 10*V(4);
16     dV(4) = 10*V(3) - 20.2*V(4) + 10*V(5);
17     dV(5) = 10*V(4) - 20.2*V(5) + 10*V(6);
18     dV(6) = 10*V(5) - 20.2*V(6) + 10*V(7);
19     dV(7) = 10*V(6) - 20.2*V(7) + 10*V(8);
20     dV(8) = 10*V(7) - 20.2*V(8) + 10*V(9);
21     dV(9) = 10*V(8) - 20.2*V(9) + 10*V(10);
22     dV(10) = 10*V(9) - 10.2*V(10);
23
24     V = V + dV*dt;
25     t = t + dt;
26
```

## Eigenvalue = -0.5025

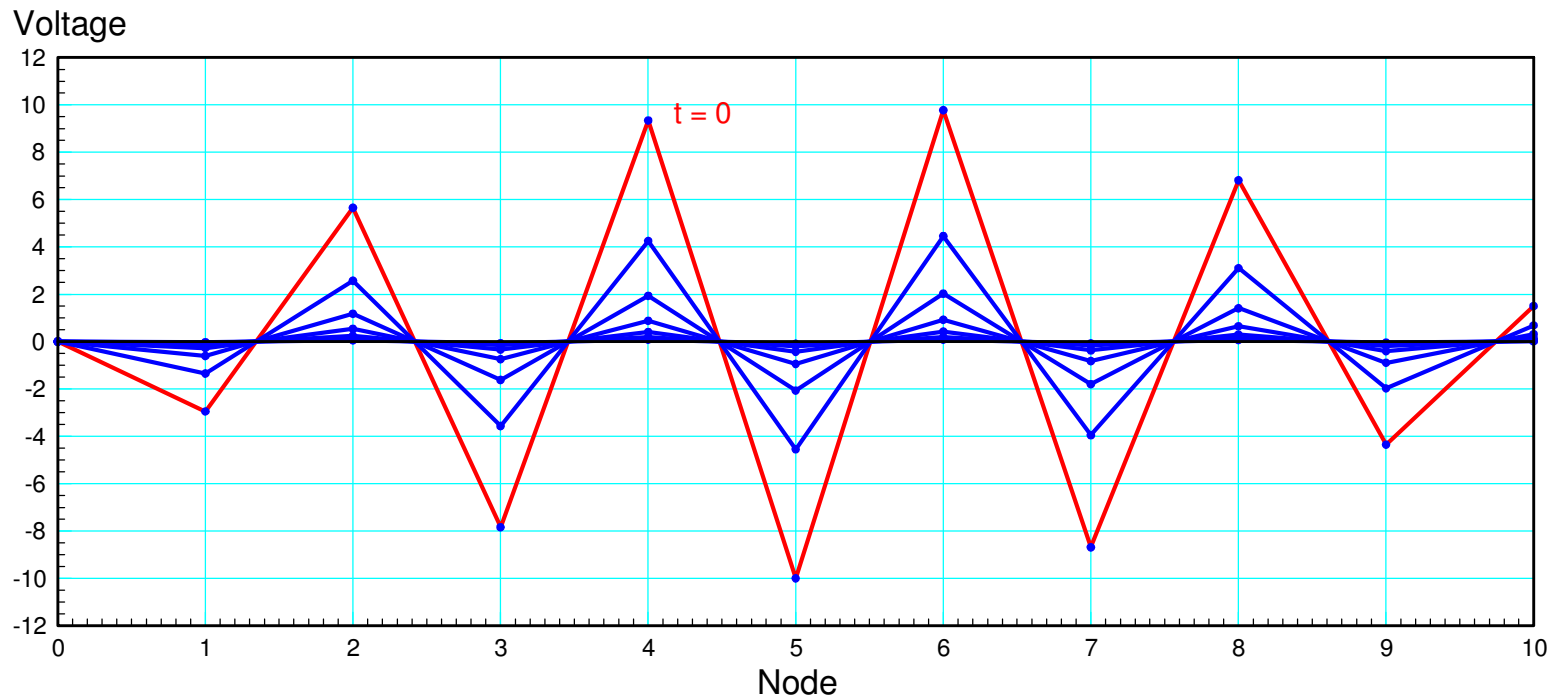
- Set the forcing function to zero ( $V_0 = 0$ )
- Make the initial condition proportional to the slow eigenvector
- The shape stays the same (the eigenvector)
- The amplitude decays as  $\exp(-0.5025t)$



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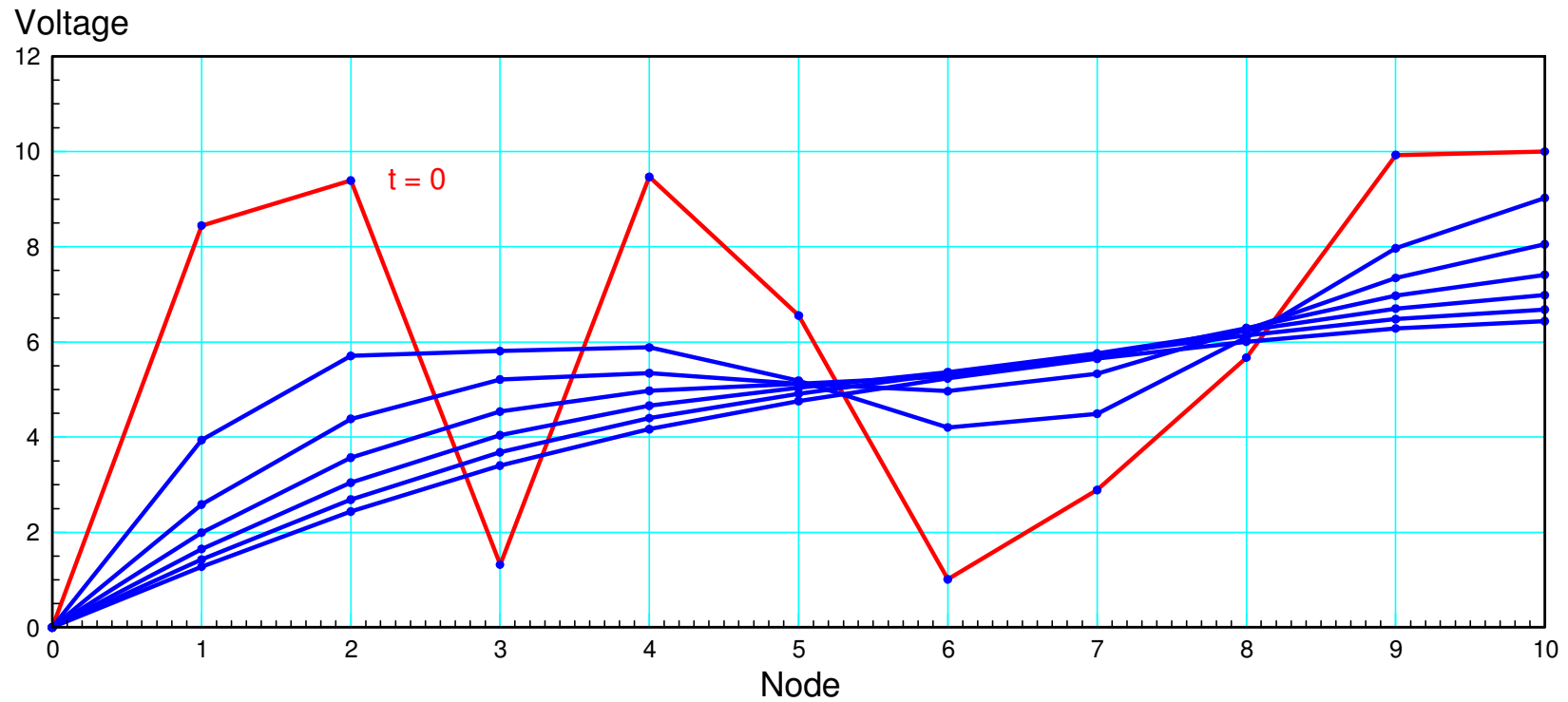
## Eigenvalue = -39.31

- Set the forcing function to zero ( $V_0 = 0$ )
- Make the initial condition proportional to the fast eigenvector
- The shape stays the same (the eigenvector)
- The amplitude decays as  $\exp(-39.31t)$



# Random Initial Condition

- All 10 modes are excited
- The fast modes decay quickly
- Leaving the slow (dominant) mode



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## Summary:

- Very few people understand what eigenvalues are
- Even fewer understand eigenvectors.

They are useful though

- Eigenvalues are poles. They tell you *how* the system behaves
- Eigenvectors tell you *what* behaves that way

For the rest of the course, we'll be only looking at eigenvalues

- Specifically, we'll look at the dominant pole
  - If the dominant pole is stable, the system is stable
  - If the dominant pole has a 2% settling time of 4 seconds, the system has a 2% settling time of 4 seconds (worst case)
-