

# Introduction to Pseudospectra and their Applications

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# Motivation

Consider the problem

$$\frac{du}{dt} = Au, \quad u(0) = u_0.$$

Solution is formally

$$u(t) = e^{tA}u_0.$$

Interpretation depends on the context.

- A operator on a finite dimensional space  $\mathcal{H}$ .

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- A a bounded operator on an infinite dimensional Hilbert or Banach space.
- A unbounded and generator of a semigroup on an infinite dimensional Hilbert or Banach space.

I will limit the discussion to the first two cases.

# Motivation

A result in the finite dimensional case.  $A$  an  $N \times N$  matrix with

$$\operatorname{Re} \lambda < 0 \quad \text{for all } \lambda \in \sigma(A).$$

Then

$$u(t) = e^{tA}u_0 \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } t \rightarrow \infty$$

for all initial conditions  $u_0$ .

Some questions.

- How **fast** will the solution approach zero.

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It is this last quantitative question we will try to answer.



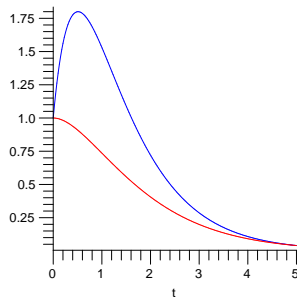
# Motivation

An example:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 5 \\ 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

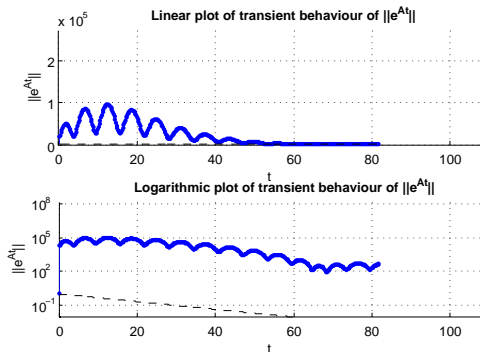
We plot  $\|e^{tA}\|$  and  $\|e^{tB}\|$  as functions of  $t$ .

Which is which?



# Motivation

Here is an example from real life: Boeing aircraft wing flutter.  
Matrix is  $55 \times 55$ .



# Motivation—Resolvent and Spectrum

Operator equation  $Ax - \lambda x = b$ ,  $\lambda \notin \sigma(A)$ . Solution

$$x = (A - \lambda I)^{-1}b.$$

Perturb right hand side,  $\|u\| \leq \varepsilon$ , i.e. consider  $Ay - \lambda y = b + u$ . We have

$$\|x - y\| \leq \varepsilon \|(A - \lambda I)^{-1}\|.$$

Thus the effect depends on the norm of the resolvent. It may be large far from the spectrum. Recall general result:

$$\|(A - zI)^{-1}\| \geq \frac{1}{\text{dist}(z, \sigma(A))}$$

# Definition of Pseudospectrum

## Definition

Let  $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ . The  $\varepsilon$ -pseudospectrum of  $A$  is given by

$$\sigma_\varepsilon(A) = \sigma(A) \cup \{z \in \mathbf{C} \setminus \sigma(A) \mid \|(A - zI)^{-1}\| > \varepsilon^{-1}\}.$$

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## Theorem

*Let  $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Then the following three statements are equivalent.*

- (i)  $z \in \sigma_\varepsilon(A)$ .
- (ii) *There exists  $B \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  with  $\|B\| < \varepsilon$  such that  $z \in \sigma(A + B)$ .*
- (iii)  $z \in \sigma(A)$  or there exists  $v \in \mathcal{H}$  with  $\|v\| = 1$  such that  $\|(A - zI)v\| < \varepsilon$ .

# Definition of Pseudospectrum, Finite Dimension

Let  $T$  be an  $N \times N$  matrix. The eigenvalues of  $(T^*T)^{1/2}$  are called the singular values of  $T$ . The smallest singular value is denoted  $s_{\min}(T)$ .

## Theorem

*Assume that  $\mathcal{H}$  is finite dimensional and  $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ . Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Then  $z \in \sigma_\varepsilon(T)$  if and only if  $s_{\min}(T - zI) < \varepsilon$ .*

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Since the singular values of a matrix can be computed numerically, this result provides a method for plotting the pseudospectra of a given matrix. One chooses a finite grid of points in the complex plane, and evaluates  $s_{\min}(T - zI)$  at each point. Plotting level curves for these points provides a picture of the pseudospectra of  $T$ .

# Properties of $\sigma_\varepsilon(A)$

Define  $D_\delta = \{z \in \mathbf{C} \mid |z| < \delta\}$ .

## Proposition

*Let  $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ . Each  $\sigma_\varepsilon(A)$  is a bounded open subset of  $\mathbf{C}$ . We have  $\sigma_{\varepsilon_1}(A) \subset \sigma_{\varepsilon_2}(A)$  for  $0 < \varepsilon_1 < \varepsilon_2$ . Furthermore,  $\bigcap_{\varepsilon > 0} \sigma_\varepsilon(A) = \sigma(A)$ . For  $\delta > 0$  we have  $D_\delta + \sigma_\varepsilon(A) \subseteq \sigma_{\varepsilon+\delta}(A)$ . We have  $\sigma_\varepsilon(A^*) = \overline{\sigma_\varepsilon(A)}$ .*



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### Proposition

Let  $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  and assume that  $V \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  is invertible. Let  $\kappa = \text{cond}(V) (= \|V\| \cdot \|V^{-1}\|)$ . Let  $B = VAV^{-1}$ . Then

$$\sigma(B) = \sigma(A),$$

and for  $\varepsilon > 0$  we have

$$\sigma_{\varepsilon/\kappa}(A) \subseteq \sigma_\varepsilon(B) \subseteq \sigma_{\kappa\varepsilon}(A).$$

# Properties of $\sigma_\varepsilon(A)$

## Proposition

Let  $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Then

$$\{z \mid \text{dist}(z, \sigma(A)) < \varepsilon\} \subseteq \sigma_\varepsilon(A).$$

If  $A$  is normal, then

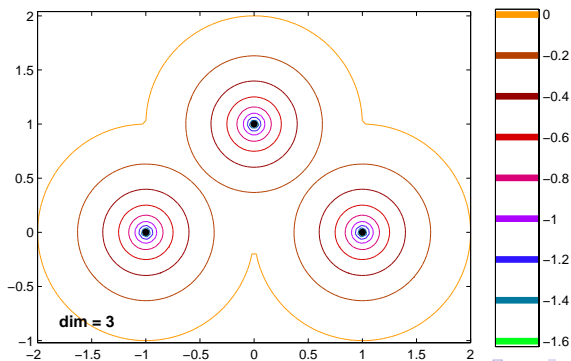
$$\sigma_\varepsilon(A) = \{z \mid \text{dist}(z, \sigma(A)) < \varepsilon\}.$$

# Example 1

Take

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & i \end{bmatrix}$$

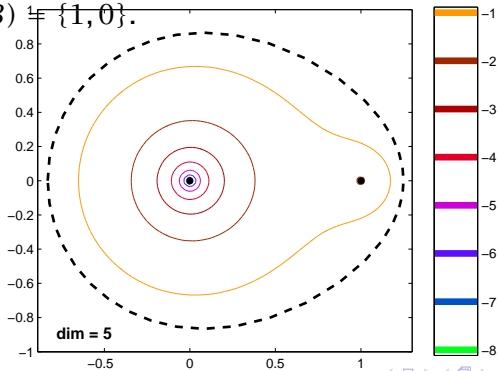
with  $\sigma(A) = \{1, -1, i\}$ .



## Example 2

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

We have  $\sigma(B) = \{1, 0\}$ .



## Example 2

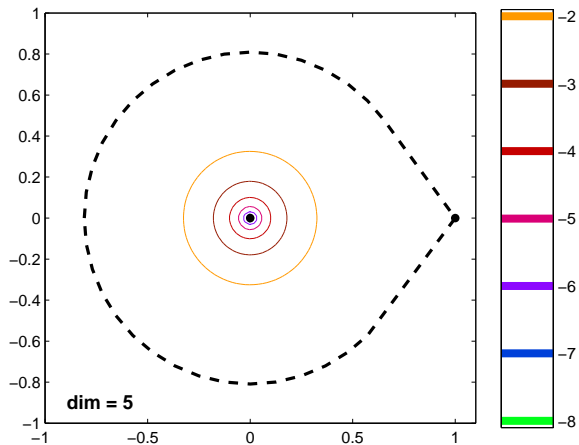
Let us look at the Jordan canonical form of this matrix. We have  $J = Q^{-1}BQ$ , where

$$J = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad Q = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

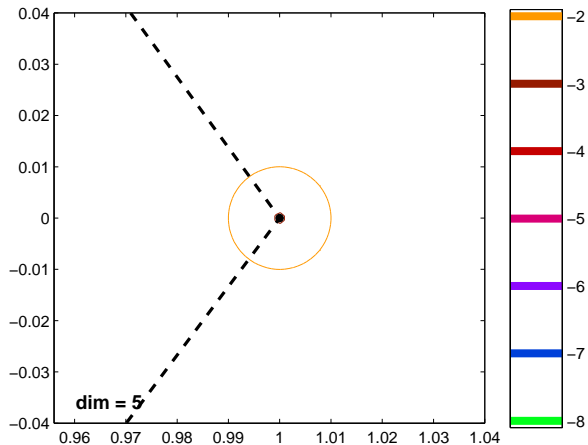
We have

$$\text{cond}(Q) = 3 + 2\sqrt{2} \approx 5.828427125.$$

## Example 2



## Example 2



## Example 3

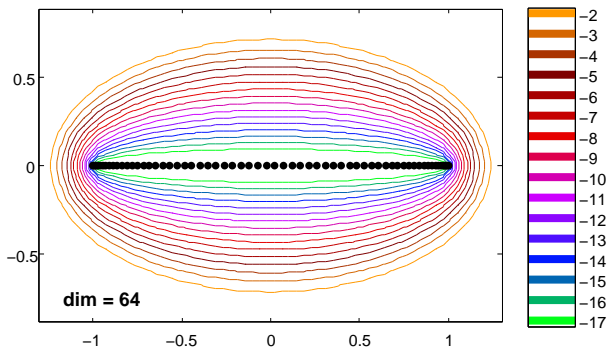
A Toeplitz matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ 1/4 & 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1/4 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1/4 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

We have  $A = SDS^{-1}$  with  $D$  diagonal.

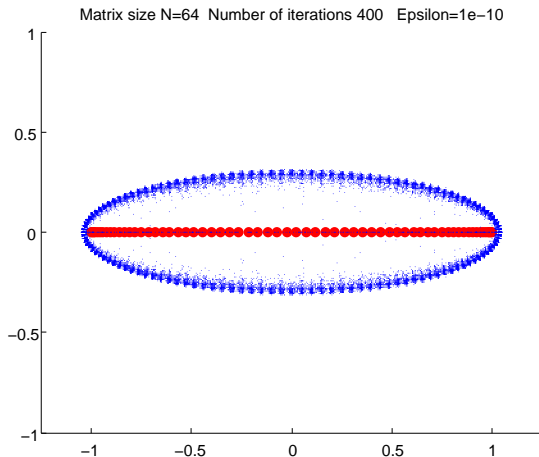


# Example 3



## Example 3

$A + E$ ,  $E$  random matrix with  $\|E\| < 10^{-10}$ . Plot of spectra:  
blue. Spectrum of  $A$ : red.



# Some definitions

## Definition

Let  $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ . The numerical range of  $A$  is the set

$$W(A) = \{\langle u, Au \rangle \mid \|u\| = 1\}.$$

## Theorem (Toeplitz-Hausdorff)

*The numerical range  $W(A)$  is always a convex set. If  $\mathcal{H}$  is finite dimensional, then  $W(A)$  is a compact set.*

## Proposition

*Let  $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ . Then  $\sigma(A) \subseteq \text{cl}(W(A))$ .*

## Some definitions

### Definition

We define the following quantities.

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha(A) &= \sup\{\operatorname{Re} z \mid z \in \sigma(A)\}, \\ \alpha_\varepsilon(A) &= \sup\{\operatorname{Re} z \mid z \in \sigma_\varepsilon(A)\}, \\ \omega(A) &= \sup\{\operatorname{Re} z \mid z \in W(A)\}.\end{aligned}$$

We recall the relations

$$(A - zI)^{-1} = \int_0^\infty e^{-tz} e^{tA} dt \quad \text{for } \operatorname{Re} z \text{ sufficiently large.}$$

$$e^{tA} = \frac{-1}{2\pi i} \int_\gamma e^{tz} (A - zI)^{-1} dz$$

where  $\gamma$  is a simple closed contour enclosing  $\sigma(A)$ .

# Estimates on $\|e^{tA}\|$

We have the following results from semigroup theory:

## Theorem

$$\alpha(A) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t} \log \|e^{tA}\|$$

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$$\omega(A) = \frac{d}{dt} \|e^{tA}\| \Big|_{t=0} = \lim_{t \downarrow 0} \frac{1}{t} \log \|e^{tA}\|$$

# Estimates on $\|e^{tA}\|$

Some simple estimates:

$$\|e^{tA}\| \geq e^{t\alpha(A)} \quad \text{for all } t \geq 0$$

$$\|e^{tA}\| \leq e^{t\omega(A)} \quad \text{for all } t \geq 0$$

An estimate based on pseudospectra:

## Theorem

*For all  $\varepsilon > 0$  we have*

$$\sup_{t \geq 0} \|e^{tA}\| \geq \frac{\alpha_\varepsilon(A)}{\varepsilon}$$

# Estimates on $\|e^{tA}\|$

Define the Kreiss constant

$$\mathcal{K}(A) = \sup_{\varepsilon > 0} \frac{\alpha_\varepsilon(A)}{\varepsilon}$$

## Theorem (Kreiss Matrix Theorem)

*If  $A$  is an  $N \times N$  matrix, then we have*

$$\|e^{tA}\| \leq eN\mathcal{K}(A).$$



# Estimates on $\|e^{tA}\|$

## Some further results

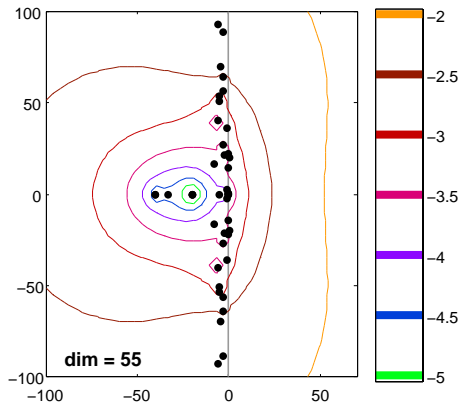
### Theorem

Let  $a = \operatorname{Re} z$ . Let  $K = \operatorname{Re} z \|(A - zI)^{-1}\|$ . Then for  $\tau > 0$  we have

$$\sup_{0 \leq t \leq \tau} \|e^{tA}\| \geq e^{at} \left(1 + \frac{e^{at} - 1}{K}\right)^{-1}$$

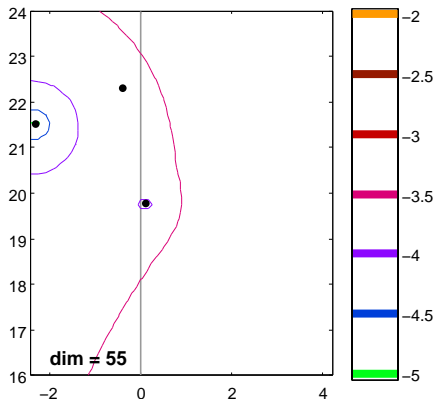
# Some examples

Unstable Boeing wing flutter matrix.



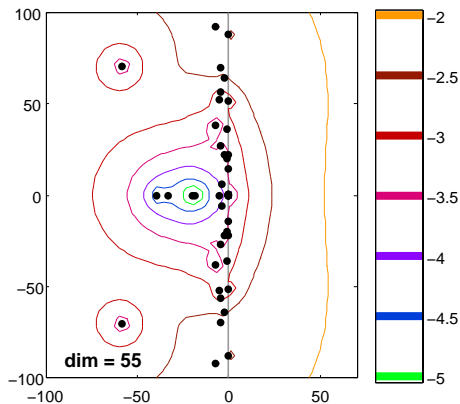
## Some examples

Unstable Boeing wing flutter matrix. Close-up near eigenvalue with  $\text{Re } z > 0$



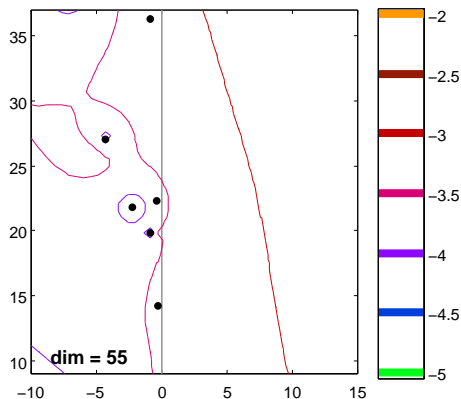
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Stable Boeing wing flutter matrix.



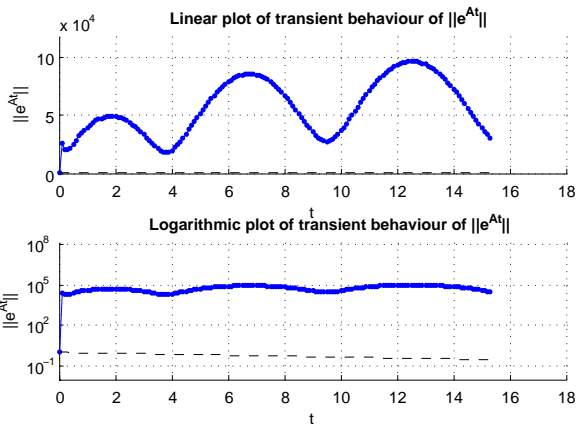
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Stable Boeing wing flutter matrix. Close-up near eigenvalue with  $\text{Re } z \sim 0$



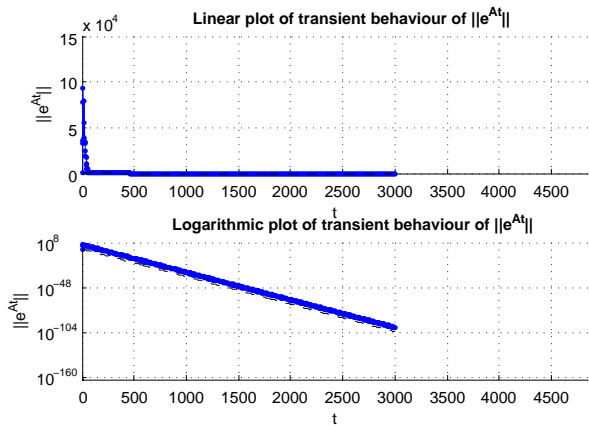
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Stable Boeing wing flutter matrix. Initial behavior.



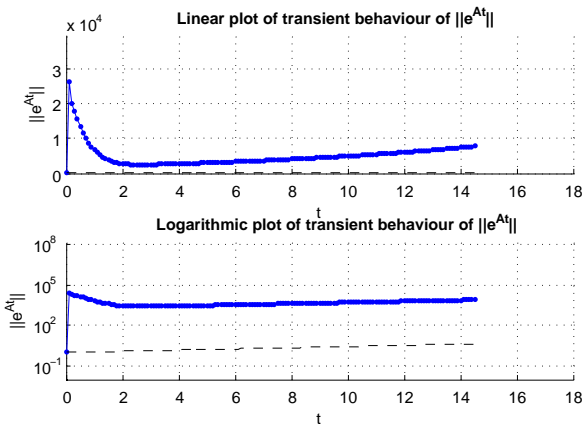
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Stable Boeing wing flutter matrix. Long time behavior.



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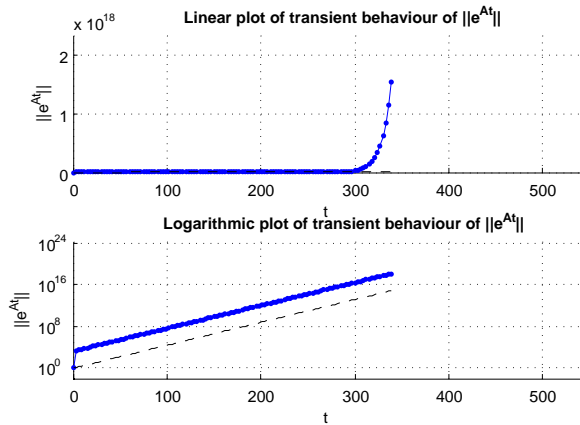
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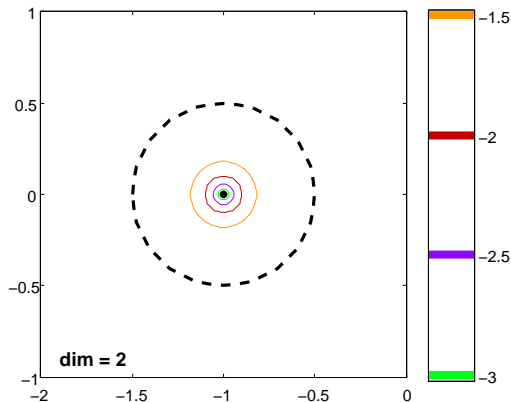


# The first examples

Matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Boundary of numerical range included.



# The first examples

Matrix

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 5 \\ 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

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