

**Practice Exam 2**

*No calculators. Show your work. Clearly mark each answer.*

1. (20 points) Find the general solution for the problem

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dx}{dt} &= x \\ \frac{dy}{dt} &= x + 2y.\end{aligned}$$

Solve with initial conditions  $x(0) = 1$ ,  $y(0) = 3$ .

**Solution:**

The system is decoupled. From the first equation we have that

$$x(t) = c_1 e^t, \quad c_1 \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Thus the second equation takes the form

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = c_1 e^t + 2y.$$

This is a linear equation and has the form

$$y = y_H + y_p,$$

where  $y_H$  is the general solution to a homogeneous equation

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = 2y$$

and  $y_p$  is any particular solution to the original equation. Thus

$$y_H = c_2 e^{2t}, \quad c_2 \in \mathbb{R}$$

and  $y_p = A e^t$  for some  $A$  we need to find out. Inserting it into the equation we have

$$A e^t = 2A e^t + c_1 e^t \quad \Rightarrow \quad A = -c_1.$$

Hence the general solution of the second equation is

$$y(t) = c_2 e^{2t} - c_1 e^t.$$

From the initial condition  $x(0) = 1$ , we find that  $c_1 = 1$  and from  $y(0) = 3$  that  $c_2 = 4$ . Thus the solution to the above initial value problem is

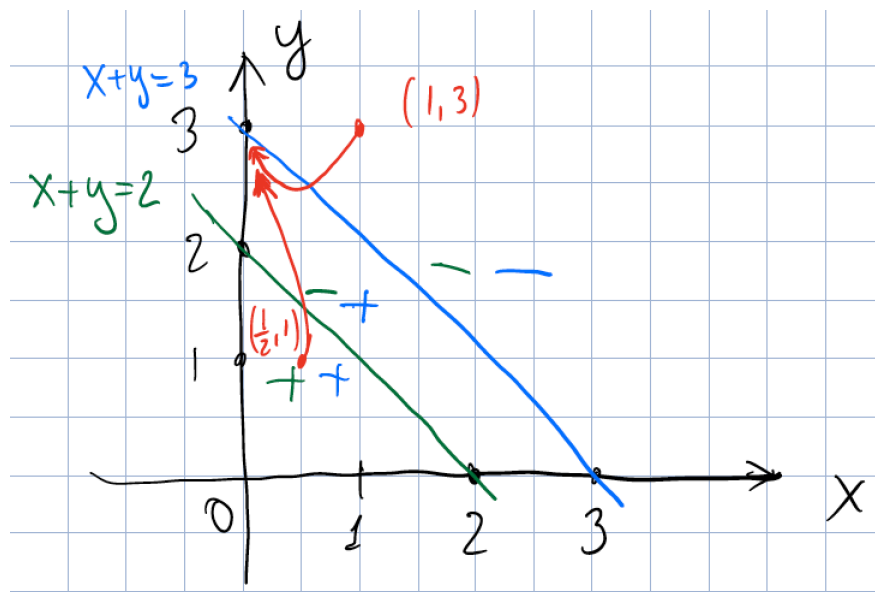
$x(t) = e^t, \quad y(t) = 4e^{2t} - e^t.$
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2. (20 points) The following system describe a pair of competing species. Describe the long-time likely outcome of the competition by plotting the direction field.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dx}{dt} &= x(2 - x - y) \\ \frac{dy}{dt} &= y(3 - x - y).\end{aligned}$$

Draw the curves  $x(t)$  and  $y(t)$  if  $x(0) = 0.5$ ,  $y(0) = 1$  and  $x(0) = 1$ ,  $y(0) = 3$  in the phase plane.

**Solution:** see the sketch. In summary no matter where you start the solution approaches the equilibrium solution  $x = 0$  and  $y = 3$ .



3. (20 points) Consider the linear system  $\vec{Y}' = A\vec{Y}$  where  $\vec{Y} = (x(t), y(t))^T$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & -2 \\ 1 & 7 \end{pmatrix}$$

Find the general solution. Sketch the solution curves in the phase plane.

**Solution:** The characteristic polynomial is

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} 4 - \lambda & -2 \\ 1 & 7 - \lambda \end{pmatrix} = (4 - \lambda)(7 - \lambda) + 2 = \lambda^2 - 11\lambda + 30 = (\lambda - 5)(\lambda - 6).$$

Hence the matrix  $A$  has two real eigenvalues  $\lambda_1 = 5$  and  $\lambda_2 = 6$ . Thus in order to use straight line solution method we need to find the corresponding eigenvectors.

For  $\lambda_1 = 5$  we have

$$\begin{pmatrix} 4 - 5 & -2 \\ 1 & 7 - 5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -2 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Thus the corresponding eigenvector  $\vec{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

For  $\lambda_2 = 6$  we have

$$\begin{pmatrix} 4 - 6 & -2 \\ 1 & 7 - 6 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & -2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Thus the corresponding eigenvector  $\vec{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$ . Hence the straight line solution is

$$\vec{Y}(t) = c_1 e^{5t} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} + c_2 e^{6t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{R}.$$

4. (20 points) Consider the linear system  $\vec{Y}' = A\vec{Y}$  where  $\vec{Y} = (x(t), y(t))^T$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Find the general solution. Solve for  $x(0) = 1, y(0) = 2$ .

**Solution:** The characteristic polynomial is

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} 2 - \lambda & -1 \\ 1 & 2 - \lambda \end{pmatrix} = (2 - \lambda)^2 + 1.$$

The roots are

$$(2 - \lambda)^2 = -1 \Rightarrow 2 - \lambda = \pm i \Rightarrow \lambda = 2 \pm i.$$

Hence the matrix  $A$  has two complex eigenvalues  $\lambda_1 = 2 + i$  and  $\lambda_2 = 2 - i$ . Thus in order to find the solution we need just one eigenvalue, say  $\lambda_1 = 2 + i$  and the corresponding eigenvector.

For  $\lambda = 2 + i$  we have

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 - (2 + i) & -1 \\ 1 & 2 - (2 + i) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -i & -1 \\ 1 & -i \end{pmatrix}.$$

Thus the corresponding eigenvector  $\vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -i \end{pmatrix}$ . Hence using the Euler formula

$$\vec{Y}(t) = C e^{(2+i)t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -i \end{pmatrix} = C e^{2t} (\cos t + i \sin t) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -i \end{pmatrix} = C e^{2t} \left[ \begin{pmatrix} \cos t \\ \sin t \end{pmatrix} + i \begin{pmatrix} \sin t \\ -\cos t \end{pmatrix} \right]$$

Since both real and complex parts are the solution, the general solution is

$$\vec{Y}(t) = C_1 e^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} \cos t \\ \sin t \end{pmatrix} + C_2 e^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} \sin t \\ -\cos t \end{pmatrix}$$

To obtain the solution to initial value  $x(0) = 1, y(0) = 2$ , i.e.  $\vec{Y}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ , from the solution for  $t = 0$  we have

$$\vec{Y}(0) = C_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + C_2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Which give us  $C_1 = 1$  and  $C_2 = -2$ . Thus, the solution to initial value problem is

$$\vec{Y}(t) = e^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} \cos t \\ \sin t \end{pmatrix} - 2e^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} \sin t \\ -\cos t \end{pmatrix}.$$

5. (20 points) A 200-gallon tank initially contains 2 pounds of sugar. Suppose water containing 0.5 pounds of sugar per gallon flows through one pipe into the tank at a rate of 5 gallons per minute. The water in the tank is kept well mixed and well-mixed solution leaves the bottom of the tank at rate 10 gallons per minute into a second 300-gallon tank that initially has no sugar. The water in the second tank is kept well mixed and well-mixed solution leaves the bottom of the tank at rate 10 gallons per minute.

Make a sketch of the problem and set up the initial value problem for the amount of sugar in the both tanks at time  $t$  (do not solve it).

**Solution.** Let  $C_1(t)$  denote the amount of sugar (in pounds) in the first tank at time  $t$ . Thus  $C_1(0) = 2$  and

$$\frac{dC_1}{dt} = C_1^{in} - C_1^{out}.$$

The amount of sugar that gets in  $C_1^{in} = 5 \text{ gal/min} * 0.5 \text{ lb/gal} = 2.5 \text{ lb/min}$ . The volume of the first tank varies in time, and decreases at the rate of 5 gallons per minute. The amount of sugar that gets out  $C_1^{out} = C_1(t)/(200 - 5t) \text{ lb/gal} * 10 \text{ gal/min} = 10C_1(t)/(200 - 5t) \text{ lb/min}$ . Thus the differential equation for the first tank is

$$\frac{dC_1}{dt} = 2.5 - \frac{10C_1(t)}{200 - 5t}.$$

The situation for the second tank is similar. Let  $C_2(t)$  denote the amount of sugar (in pounds) in the second tank at time  $t$ . Thus  $C_2(0) = 0$  and

$$\frac{dC_2}{dt} = C_2^{in} - C_2^{out}.$$

The amount of sugar that gets in

$$C_2^{in} = 10 \text{ gal/min} * C_1(t)/(200 - 5t) \text{ lb/gal}.$$

The volume of the second tank does not change in time and stays at 300 gallons. The amount of sugar that gets out  $C_2^{out} = C_2(t)/300 \text{ lb/gal} * 10 \text{ gal/min} = C_2(t)/30 \text{ lb/min}$ . Thus the differential equation for the second tank is

$$\frac{dC_2}{dt} = \frac{10C_1(t)}{200 - 5t} - \frac{C_2(t)}{30}.$$

Thus the initial value problem is

$\begin{aligned}\frac{dC_1}{dt} &= 2.5 - \frac{10C_1(t)}{200 - 5t} \\ \frac{dC_2}{dt} &= \frac{10C_1(t)}{200 - 5t} - \frac{C_2(t)}{30} \\ C_1(0) &= 2, \quad C_2(0) = 0.\end{aligned}$
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The above system is actually decoupled and can be easily solved.