

# Project Report

Polytech Nice

---

## Simple Road Traffic Modeling

---

8th November 2023

Gerbaud Florent  
Fatima Rharrou

9-th october to 20-th December september 2023

Academic tutor : Didier Auroux



# Table of Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Presentation of the Subject</b>	<b>4</b>
1.1	Useful Definition . . . . .	4
1.1.1	Simple Road Traffic Modeling . . . . .	4
1.1.2	Using GitHub for Project Management . . . . .	5
<b>2</b>	<b>The equation for SMRT</b>	<b>5</b>
2.1	Differential Ordinary Equation . . . . .	5
2.1.1	Linear Model . . . . .	5
2.1.2	Newell's Model . . . . .	8
2.2	Partial Differential Equations . . . . .	8
<b>3</b>	<b>Project Objectives</b>	<b>8</b>
3.1	Problems Encountered . . . . .	8
<b>4</b>	<b>Types of Simulations Performed</b>	<b>8</b>
4.1	Simulation with Drunk Drivers . . . . .	8
4.2	Simulation with Unpredictable Drivers . . . . .	8
4.3	Simulation with Drivers Reacting Similarly . . . . .	8
4.4	Study of Equilibrium, Stability, and Instability of the Solution . . . . .	8
4.4.1	System Stability and Equilibrium for the Linear Model . . . . .	8
4.4.2	System Stability and Equilibrium for the Newell's Model . . . . .	11
<b>5</b>	<b>Summary</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Annexe</b>	<b>13</b>
6.1	Calculation of the Analytical solutions . . . . .	13
6.1.1	Linear Model for Two Cars . . . . .	13
6.1.2	Linear Model for Three Cars . . . . .	13

## List of Figures

1	<b><u>Road traffic :</u></b> In this picture, you can see an example of a road traffic phenomenon that we could study . . . . .	4
2	<b><u>Road traffic :</u></b> In this picture, you can see an example of a road traffic phenomenon that we could study . . . . .	5
3	View of the old window of temrec3D . . . . .	9
4	View of the new window of temrec3D . . . . .	9
5	View of the old window of temrec3D . . . . .	10
6	View of the new window of temrec3D . . . . .	10
7	<b><u>Road traffic :</u></b> In this picture, you can see an example of a road traffic phenomenon that we could study . . . . .	11

## List of Algorithms

1	$\dot{x}_1$ . . . . .	7
2	$\dot{x}_i$ . . . . .	7
3	sinusoidal_model . . . . .	7

# 1 Presentation of the Subject

## 1.1 Useful Definition

### Ordinary Differential Equation (ODE):

An ODE is a mathematical equation that relates a function to its derivatives with respect to one or more independent variables. ODEs are commonly represented given a function  $F$  of  $x$ ,  $y$ , and derivatives of  $y$ . Then, an equation of the form

$$F(x, y, y', \dots, y^{(n-1)}) = y^{(n)}$$

### What is Road Traffic Modeling

The Road Traffic modeling is the study of how vehicles behave on road networks, aiming to simulate and analyze various aspects of traffic flow, congestion, and driver behavior. This field involves creating mathematical and computer models to understand and predict traffic patterns, particularly in scenarios such as congestion, erratic driving, and other relevant factors affecting road transportation. Road traffic modeling plays a crucial role in urban planning, traffic management, and the development of intelligent transportation systems (you could see an exemple on the 1).



Figure 1: **Road traffic :** In this picture, you can see an example of a road traffic phenomenon that we could study

#### 1.1.1 Simple Road Traffic Modeling

Here explain what is the objective how we are going to do the study and so on

### 1.1.2 Using GitHub for Project Management

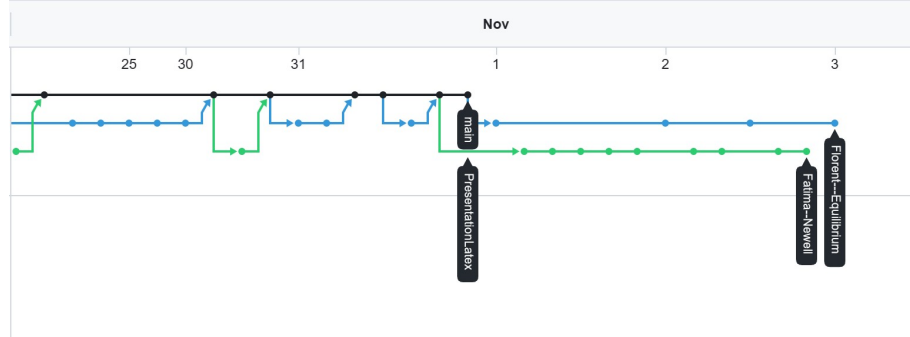


Figure 2: **Road traffic :** In this picture, you can see an example of a road traffic phenomenon that we could study

## 2 The equation for SMRT

### 2.1 Differential Ordinary Equation

In this part, the idea is to resolve two types of systems of Ordinary Differential Equations (ODEs) that allow us to simulate traffic flow. To achieve this, we will use the Euler Explicit method to numerically solve the solutions. The Euler Explicit method is given by the following equation :

- EDO to solve:  $y'(t) = f(t, y(t))$ .
- First step of the resolution:  $y_0 = y(t_0)$ .
- Recursive process to find the n-th solution of the EDO:  $y_{n+1} = y_n + hf(t_n, y_n)$

#### 2.1.1 Linear Model

##### Mathematical Theory:

In this section, we're going to explain the math behind our model for understanding how cars behave in traffic. To make things simple, we use a discrete model, which means we look at cars one at a time and how they interact on the road.

Each car's movement is governed by a basic equation:

$$\dot{x}_i(t) = V_i = \alpha_i(x_{i-1} - x_i)$$

In this equation,  $x_i(t)$  represents where the  $i$ -th car is at a given time,  $V_i$  is how fast the  $i$ -th car is going, and  $\alpha_i$  is a number that describes how that car behaves. The right side of the equation,  $\alpha_i(x_{i-1} - x_i)$ , tells us how the car's speed changes based on how close it is to the car in front.

When we put this equation to work for all the cars, we end up with a bunch of equations (one for each car), which helps us understand how they all move together in traffic. These equations give us a dynamic view of how cars influence each other as they drive.

The system of equations is written like this for each car, where  $i$  can be 1, 2, and so on, up to the number of cars:

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}_1 &= V_1 \\ \dot{x}_2(t) &= \alpha_2(x_1 - x_2) \\ &\vdots \\ \dot{x}_n(t) &= \alpha_n(x_{n-1} - x_n) \end{cases}$$

These equations help us understand how traffic flows and how individual cars influence one another on the road.

In the first part of the study, we consider  $\alpha_i$  as a constant. However, in the next part of the simulation, we define some functions  $\alpha_i(t)$ .

In fact, we have three types of simulations:

1. **Constant value:**

$$\alpha_i(t) = C_i$$

2. **Sinusoidal with noise:**

$$\alpha_i(t) = |W \cdot \sin(\omega t + \phi) + \mathcal{N}(0, 0.1)|$$

3. **Stochastic Driver Model:**

Consider a random driver model with an output labeled as  $\alpha_i(t)$ , which relies on various factors like the average, spread, and time  $t$ . This model produces a random noise part from a usual distribution with an average and spread of  $\sqrt{\text{spread}}$ . If a limit is given, the generated noise is confined within the interval  $[-\text{limit}, \text{limit}]$ .

**Mathematically, we can express this as:**

$$\alpha_i(t) = \begin{cases} |\mathcal{N}(\text{average}, \sqrt{\text{spread}})|, & \text{if } -\text{limit} \leq \alpha_i(t) \leq \text{limit}, \\ -\text{limit}, & \text{if } \alpha_i(t) < -\text{limit}, \\ \text{limit}, & \text{if } \alpha_i(t) > \text{limit}. \end{cases}$$

Here, average signifies the mean of the acceleration, and spread stands for the acceleration's spread. The limit is defined to prevent or create specific situations, like accidents, depending on the desired result.

**Implementation :**

---

**Algorithm 1**  $\dot{x}_1$ 

---

**Output:**

- $\dot{x}_1 = V_1$

**Algorithm:**

- $\dot{x}_1 = 130 \times \frac{1000}{3600}$
  - **return**  $\dot{x}_1$
- 

---

**Algorithm 2**  $\dot{x}_i$ 

---

**Input:**

- $t :=$  "time step"
- $x_i :=$  Table of position for the i-th Car
- $x_{i-1} :=$  Table of position for the (i-1)-th Car

**Output:**

- $\dot{x}_i = V_i$

**Algorithm:**

- $\dot{x}_i(t) = V_i = \alpha_i(x_{i-1}[t] - x_i[t])$
  - **return**  $\dot{x}_i$
- 

This algorithm allows to define an orthonormed local reference frame and we delete the lines to eliminate for reducing matrix

---

**Algorithm 3** sinusoidal\_model

---

**Input:**

- $W :=$  "Amplitude of the perturbation"
- $\omega :=$  "Angular frequency"
- $t :=$  "time"
- $\phi :=$  "Phase (in radians)"

**Output:**

- This function returns a value of acceleration ( $\alpha_i(t)$ ) following a sinusoidal model with random noise.

**Algorithm:**

- $\alpha_i(t) = |W \cdot \sin(\omega \cdot t + \phi) + N|$
  - $N :=$  "random noise such as  $N \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 0.01)$ "
  - **return**  $\alpha_i(t)$
-

### 2.1.2 Newell's Model

## 2.2 Partial Differential Equations

## 3 Project Objectives

### 3.1 Problems Encountered

## 4 Types of Simulations Performed

### 4.1 Simulation with Drunk Drivers

### 4.2 Simulation with Unpredictable Drivers

### 4.3 Simulation with Drivers Reacting Similarly

### 4.4 Study of Equilibrium, Stability, and Instability of the Solution

#### 4.4.1 System Stability and Equilibrium for the Linear Model

In this part, the idea is to study the distance difference between two cars in order to determine in which case the solutions is stable and if there is an equilibrium for the solution. For doing that, we studied the solutions of the following system of equation :

$$\begin{cases} \dot{d}_1 &= V_1 - \alpha_2 \cdot d_1 \\ &\vdots \\ \dot{d}_n &= \alpha_n \cdot d_{n-1} - \alpha_{n+1} \cdot d_n \end{cases}$$

So, In our context, for the two cars, we have a 1D system. With 3 cars, we have a 2D system of equations.

Now talk about the system stability and equilibrium :

**With 2 cars :**

So, the equation to study is the following one :

$$\dot{d}_1 = V_1 - \alpha_2 \cdot d_1$$

After the resolution (6.1.1) we obtain the next equation for  $d_1(t)$  :

$$d_1(t) = \frac{V_1 - V_1 \cdot e^{-\alpha_2(t-t_0)} + \alpha_2 \cdot d_1(t_0) \cdot e^{-\alpha_2(t-t_0)}}{\alpha_2}$$

The first intuition before seeing the equation was to think that when the  $\alpha_2 < 0$ , the solution is divergent because one car is go back and the other go forward. Now, if we study the Equation, the terms  $V_1$  and  $\alpha_2 \cdot d_1(t_0)$  are constant so they are not interesting.



However, it's important to note that both terms,  $e^{-\alpha_2(t-t_0)}$ , are exponential functions of time. If the value of  $\alpha_2$  is negative, these exponentials will increase exponentially over time. So we could easily see that the equation is stable and converge onto the equilibrium  $d_1(t) = \frac{V_1}{\alpha_2}$ . graphically we can see it by :

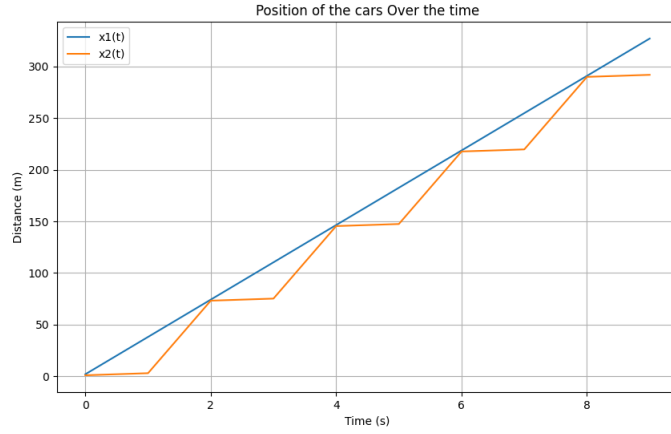


Figure 3: View of the old window of temrec3D

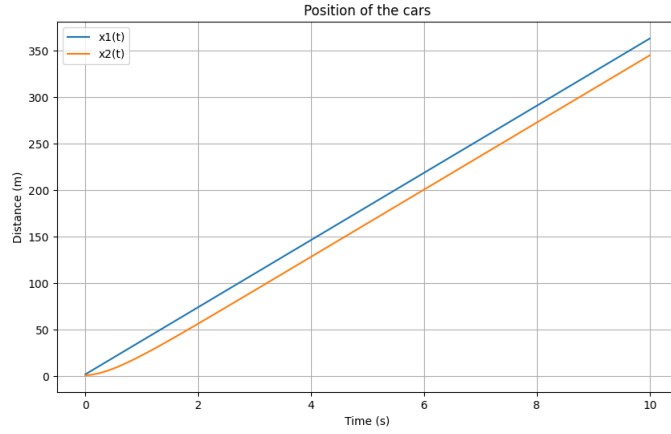


Figure 4: View of the new window of temrec3D

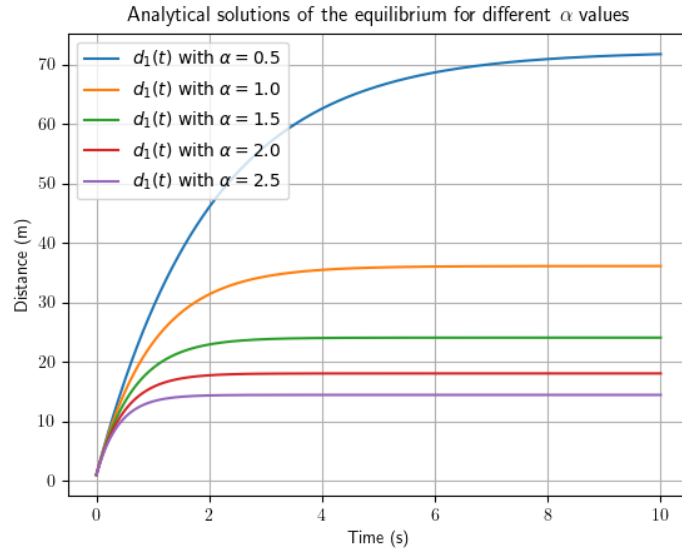


Figure 5: View of the old window of temrec3D

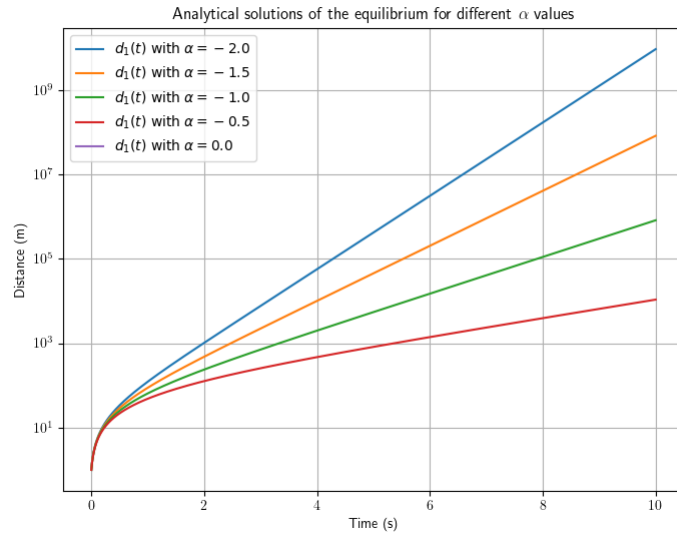


Figure 6: View of the new window of temrec3D

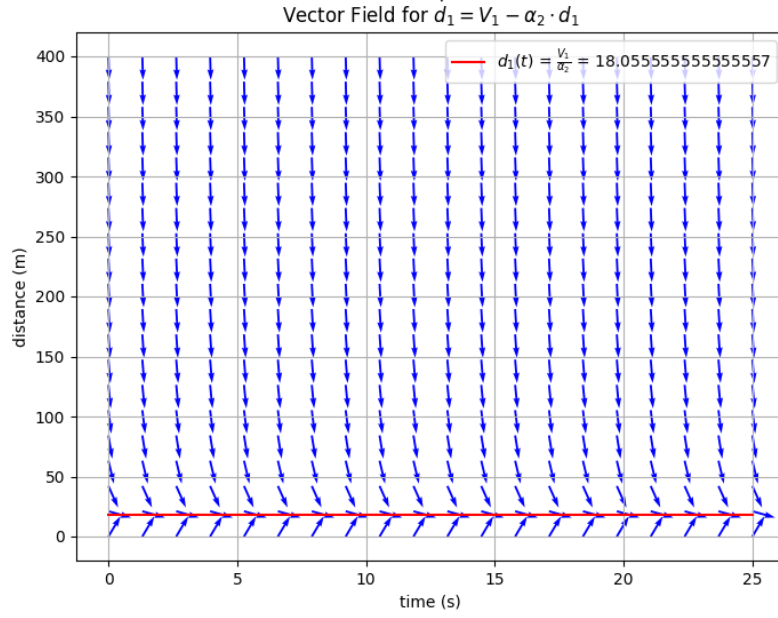


Figure 7: **Road traffic :** In this picture, you can see an example of a road traffic phenomenon that we could study

#### With 3 cars :

After the resolution (6.1.2) we obtain the next equation for  $d_1(t)$  and  $d_2(t)$  :

#### **4.4.2 System Stability and Equilibrium for the Newell's Model**

##### The Study of the equilibrium for two cars :

The objective here, as before, is to study the stability of the model. The 1D equation is as follows:

$$\dot{d}_1(t) = \dot{x}_1(t) - \dot{x}_2(t) = V_1 - V_2 + V_2 \cdot e^{-\frac{\alpha_2}{V_2^2}(d_1 - d_2^{sec})} = f(d_1, t),$$

$$\begin{cases} V_1 := \text{Maximum speed for car number 1,} \\ V_2 := \text{Maximum speed for car number 2,} \\ \alpha_2 := \text{capacity of acceleration for car number 2,} \\ d_2^{sec} := \text{security distance that car number 2 maintains.} \end{cases}$$

Firstly, let's determine the equilibrium:

$$\begin{aligned}
V_1 - V_2 + V_2 \cdot e^{-\frac{\alpha_2}{V_2}(d_1 - d_2^{sec})} &= 0 \\
e^{-\frac{\alpha_2}{V_2}(d_1 - d_2^{sec})} &= \frac{V_2 - V_1}{V_2} \\
e^{-\frac{\alpha_2}{V_2}d_1} &= \frac{V_2 - V_1}{V_2} e^{-\frac{\alpha_2}{V_2}d_2} \\
-\frac{\lambda_2}{V_2}d_1 &= \ln\left(\frac{V_2 - V_1}{V_2} e^{-\frac{\alpha_2}{V_2}d_2}\right) \\
d_1^* &= -\frac{V_2}{\lambda_2} \ln\left(\frac{V_2 - V_1}{V_2} e^{-\frac{\alpha_2}{V_2}d_2}\right)
\end{aligned}$$

The challenge with this equation is the inability to find an analytical solution. Consequently, we apply Lyapunov's Indirect Theorem to investigate the equilibrium.

In the context of 1D analysis, we begin by calculating  $f'(d_1, t)$ , which results in:

$$f'(d_1, t) = -\alpha_2 e^{-\frac{\alpha_2}{V_2}(d_1 - d_2^{sec})}$$

It is evident that  $f'(d_1, t)$  is negative for all values of  $\alpha_2$  greater than zero. Therefore, in our specific scenario, the equilibrium remains stable at all times, as negative acceleration is not considered.

From the equilibrium, we also observe that the equilibrium exists if and only if  $V_2 > V_1$ .

Clearly, the condition for a stable equilibrium is  $\alpha_2 > 0$  and  $V_2 > V_1$ .

#### The Study of the equilibrium for three cars :

$$\begin{cases} \dot{d}_1(t) = x_1(t) - x_2(t) = V_1 - V_2 + V_2 \cdot e^{-\frac{\alpha_2}{V_2}(d_1 - d_2^{sec})} = f(d_1, t), \\ \dot{d}_2(t) = x_2(t) - x_3(t) = V_2 - V_2 \cdot e^{-\frac{\alpha_2}{V_2}(d_1 - d_2^{sec})} - V_3 + V_3 \cdot e^{-\frac{\alpha_3}{V_3}(d_2 - d_3^{sec})} \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} V_1 := \text{Maximum speed for car number 1,} \\ V_2 := \text{Maximum speed for car number 2,} \\ \alpha_2 := \text{capacity of acceleration for car number 2,} \\ d_2^{sec} := \text{security distance that car number 2 maintains.} \end{cases}$$

again, we apply Lyapunov's Indirect Theorem to investigate the equilibrium.

We are going to calculate the Jacobienne matrix :

$$J_{\bar{x}} = \begin{pmatrix} -\alpha_2 e^{-\frac{\alpha_2}{V_2}(d_1 - d_2^{sec})} & 0 \\ \alpha_2 e^{-\frac{\alpha_2}{V_2}(d_1 - d_2^{sec})} & -\alpha_3 e^{-\frac{\alpha_3}{V_3}(d_2 - d_3^{sec})} \end{pmatrix}$$

However, in the 2D case, Lyapunov tells us that the equilibrium is stable if:

$$\begin{cases} Tr(J_{\bar{x}}) < 0 \\ \det(J_{\bar{x}}) > 0 \end{cases}$$

The both condition are respected iff  $\lambda_2 > 0, \lambda_3 > 0$

## 5 Summary

## 6 Annexe

### 6.1 Calculation of the Analytical solutions

#### 6.1.1 Linear Model for Two Cars

$$\dot{d}_1(t) = V_1 - \alpha_2 \cdot d_1$$

We use the variable separation method to Solve this EDO, so we obtain :

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{x(t_0)}^{x(t_f)} \frac{1}{V_1 - \alpha_2 \cdot d_1(t)} d d_1(t) &= \int_{t_0}^{t_f} dt \\ -\frac{1}{\lambda_2} [\ln |V_1 - \alpha_2 \cdot d_1(t)|]_{x(t_0)}^{x(t_f)} &= t_f - t_0 \\ -\frac{1}{\lambda_2} \ln \left| \frac{V_1 - \alpha_2 \cdot d_1(t_f)}{V_1 - \alpha_2 \cdot d_1(t_0)} \right| &= t_f - t_0 \end{aligned}$$

We could remove the  $|\cdot|$  because the sign is always the same. And we get :

$$\begin{aligned} \ln \left( \frac{V_1 - \alpha_2 \cdot d_1(t_f)}{V_1 - \alpha_2 \cdot d_1(t_0)} \right) &= -\lambda_2(t_f - t_0) \\ \frac{V_1 - \alpha_2 \cdot d_1(t_f)}{V_1 - \alpha_2 \cdot d_1(t_0)} &= e^{-\lambda_2(t_f - t_0)} \\ V_1 - \alpha_2 \cdot d_1(t_f) &= (V_1 - \alpha_2 \cdot d_1(t_0))e^{-\lambda_2(t_f - t_0)} \\ d_1(t) &= \frac{V_1 - [V_1 - \alpha_2 \cdot d_1(t_0)]e^{-\lambda_2(t_f - t_0)}}{\alpha_2} \end{aligned}$$

#### 6.1.2 Linear Model for Three Cars

The system under matricial form could be write like that :

$$\dot{D} = (t) \begin{pmatrix} -\alpha_2 & 0 \\ \alpha_2 & -\alpha_3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} d_1 \\ d_2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} V_1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

The first step is to perform the eigenvectors of the matrix:

$$\begin{vmatrix} X + \alpha_2 & 0 \\ \alpha_2 & X + \alpha_3 \end{vmatrix} = (X + \alpha_2)(X + \alpha_3) = X^2 + X(\alpha_3 + \alpha_2) + \alpha_2\alpha_3$$

by simple resolution of the second order polynomial, we could fin two eigenvalues:  
 $\lambda_1 = -\alpha_2, \lambda_2 = -\alpha_3$  we looking for the two eigen vectors :

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{cc|c} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \alpha_2 & -\alpha_3 + \alpha_2 & 0 \end{array} \right. \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{cc|c} -\alpha_2 + \alpha_3 & 0 & 0 \\ \alpha_2 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right.$$

It is easy to see that the two following vector are vector that verify the condition :

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} u_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \frac{\alpha_3 - \alpha_2}{\alpha_2} \end{pmatrix} \\ u_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \end{array} \right.$$

Then, we know that a general solution of the equation is :

$$\bar{D}(t) = \sum_{i=1}^2 X_i$$

where  $X_i = C_i e^{\lambda_i t} u_i$ ,

with  $C_i$  being constants to be determined, and  $u_i$  as the eigenvectors, **and**  $\lambda_i$  **the eigenvalues**.

So :

$$X_1 = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{C_1(\alpha_3 - \alpha_2)}{\alpha_2 e^{\alpha_2 t}} \\ \frac{C_1}{e^{\alpha_2 t}} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$X_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{C_2}{e^{\alpha_3 \cdot t}} \end{pmatrix}$$

Finally the general solution is given by :

$$\bar{X} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{C_1(\alpha_3 - \alpha_2)}{\alpha_2 e^{\alpha_2 t}} \\ \frac{C_1}{e^{\alpha_2 t}} + \frac{C_2}{e^{\alpha_3 \cdot t}} \end{pmatrix}$$

Then we are going to find for particular solution :

$$\begin{cases} \dot{d}_1 = 0 \\ \dot{d}_2 = 0 \end{cases} \iff \begin{cases} d_1^* = \frac{V_1}{\alpha_2} \\ d_2^* = \frac{V_1}{\alpha_3} \end{cases}$$

In clear, we have :

$$\begin{cases} \dot{d}_1(t) &= \frac{C_1(\alpha_3 - \alpha_2)}{\alpha_2 e^{\alpha_2 t}} + \frac{V_1}{\alpha_2} \\ \dot{d}_2(t) &= \frac{C_1}{e^{\alpha_2 t}} + \frac{C_2}{e^{\alpha_3 t}} + \frac{V_1}{\alpha_3} \end{cases}$$

we set the initial condition to  
 $d_1(0) = m, d_2(0) = n$  So we find easily  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  :

$$\begin{aligned} C_1 &= \frac{m\alpha_2 - V_1}{\alpha_3 - \alpha_2} \\ C_2 &= n - \frac{V_1}{\alpha_3} - C_1 \end{aligned}$$