

Problem Sheet 4 with solutions

You should prepare starred question, marked by * to discuss with your personal tutor.

- 1.* **Recap** — The following second order differential equation describes the time evolution of the linear elongation $x(t)$ of a damped harmonic oscillator

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + 2k\frac{dx}{dt} + \omega^2x = 0,$$

where k and ω are positive constants representing the damping of the medium and the intrinsic frequency of the system, respectively. Rewrite this equation as a system of two coupled linear first order ODEs and find the solution in terms of the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of the system.

This problem is done as an example in the lectures. By defining $u = \frac{dx}{dt}$, we can convert this second order linear ODE into a system of 2 first order linear ODEs:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ u \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -\omega^2 & -2k \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ u \end{pmatrix}$$

The eigen values are

$$\lambda_{1,2} = -k \pm \sqrt{k^2 - \omega^2}$$

And the eigenvectors are

$$\vec{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \lambda_1 \end{pmatrix}; \quad \vec{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \lambda_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

So we have for the general solution

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ u \end{pmatrix} = c_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \lambda_1 \end{pmatrix} + c_2 e^{\lambda_2 t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \lambda_2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

2. Consider systems of two linear ODEs with constant coefficients given by:

$$\frac{d\mathbf{y}}{dt} = A\mathbf{y}, \quad \text{where } \mathbf{y} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and } A \text{ is a } 2 \times 2 \text{ matrix.}$$

Find the general solution of the following systems:

$$(a) \quad A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -2 \\ 2 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Obtaining eigenvalues and eigenvectors we have:

$$\lambda_1 = -1 \implies \vec{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_2 = 2 \implies \vec{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

So we have for the general solution

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = c_1 e^{-t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + c_2 e^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$(b) \ A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ 3 & -4 \end{pmatrix}$$

Obtaining eigenvalues and eigenvectors we have:

$$\lambda_1 = -1 \implies \vec{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_2 = -2 \implies \vec{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

So we have for the general solution

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = c_1 e^{-t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + c_2 e^{-2t} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$(c) \ A = \begin{pmatrix} 5/4 & 3/4 \\ 3/4 & 5/4 \end{pmatrix}$$

Obtaining eigenvalues and eigenvectors we have:

$$\lambda_1 = \frac{1}{2} \implies \vec{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_2 = 2 \implies \vec{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

So we have for the general solution

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = c_1 e^{\frac{1}{2}t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} + c_2 e^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$(d) \ A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -2 \\ 4 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Obtaining eigenvalues and eigenvectors we have:

$$\lambda_1 = 1 + 2i \implies \vec{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1-i \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_2 = 1 - 2i \implies \vec{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1+i \end{pmatrix}$$

So we have for the general solution

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = c_1 e^{(1+2i)t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1-i \end{pmatrix} + c_2 e^{(1-2i)t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1+i \end{pmatrix}.$$

Defining $A_1 = c_1 + c_2$ and $A_2 = i(c_1 - c_2)$ as new real constants of integration, we can write the general solution as

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = A_1 e^t \begin{pmatrix} \cos 2t \\ \sin 2t \end{pmatrix} + A_2 e^t \begin{pmatrix} \sin 2t \\ -\cos 2t \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$(e) \quad A = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -4 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Obtaining eigenvalues and eigenvectors we have:

$$\lambda_1 = -1 + 2i \implies \vec{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -i \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_2 = -1 - 2i \implies \vec{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ i \end{pmatrix}$$

So we have for the general solution

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = c_1 e^{(-1+2i)t} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -i \end{pmatrix} + c_2 e^{(-1-2i)t} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ i \end{pmatrix}.$$

Defining $A_1 = c_1 + c_2$ and $A_2 = i(c_1 - c_2)$ as new real constants of integration, we can write the general solution as

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = A_1 e^{-t} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \cos 2t \\ \sin 2t \end{pmatrix} + A_2 e^{-t} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \sin 2t \\ -\cos 2t \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$(f) \quad A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -5 \\ 1 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Obtaining eigenvalues and eigenvectors we have:

$$\lambda_1 = i \implies \vec{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 2-i \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_2 = -i \implies \vec{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 2+i \end{pmatrix}$$

So we have for the general solution

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = c_1 e^{it} \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 2-i \end{pmatrix} + c_2 e^{-it} \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 2+i \end{pmatrix}.$$

Defining $A_1 = c_1 + c_2$ and $A_2 = i(c_1 - c_2)$ as new real constants of integration, we can write the general solution as

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = A_1 \begin{pmatrix} 5 \cos t \\ 2 \cos t + \sin t \end{pmatrix} + A_2 \begin{pmatrix} 5 \sin t \\ -\cos t + 2 \sin t \end{pmatrix}.$$

3. Find the solution for the following inhomogeneous system of ODEs with $x(0) = y(0) = 0$:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

First we find the general solution to the corresponding homogenous ODE. Obtaining eigenvalues and eigenvectors we have:

$$\lambda_1 = 1 \implies \vec{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_2 = 4 \implies \vec{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

So we have for the general solution

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = c_1 e^t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} + c_2 e^{4t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then looking for a PI of the form $\begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix}$, we have:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \implies \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

So the general solution is

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = c_1 e^t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + c_2 e^{4t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Given $x(0) = y(0) = 0$ we have $c_1 + c_2 = -2$ and $-2c_1 + c_2 = 1$, which results in $c_1 = c_2 = -1$.

4. * Find the general solution for the following system of ODEs in terms of its eigenvalues and eigenvectors:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix}.$$

Characterise the asymptotic behavior of the system.

Obtaining eigenvalues using the characteristic equation:

$$-\lambda(\lambda^2 - 1) + (\lambda + 1) + (\lambda + 1) = 0 \implies \lambda_{1,2} = -1 \text{ (repeated)} \text{ and } \lambda_3 = 2$$

$$\lambda_3 = 2 \implies \vec{v}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_{1,2} = -1 \implies v_{1x} + v_{1y} + v_{1z} = 0 \implies \vec{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \vec{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

So even though we have a repeated eigenvalue, there are 3 linearly independent eigenvalues and the matrix A is diagonalisable (no need to use Jordan normal form). So we have

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = c_1 e^{-t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + c_2 e^{-t} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + c_3 e^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$