

# 2010 Exam solution

## Question 1

Given a closed system of 2 tanks containing a salt solution with constant flow between them of 10 L/min, find the amount of salt in each tank at time  $t$  if the first tank contains 30L, the second 50L, and the initial amount of salt in tank 1 is 10g and in tank 2 15g.

Write system of DEs in matrix form:

$$\vec{x}' = A\vec{x}, \quad \vec{x}(0) = \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ 15 \end{bmatrix}$$

where

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{5} \\ \frac{1}{3} & -\frac{1}{5} \end{bmatrix}$$

Find eigenvalues and eigenvectors of  $A$ .

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = \begin{vmatrix} -\frac{1}{3} - \lambda & \frac{1}{5} \\ \frac{1}{3} & -\frac{1}{5} - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = \lambda^2 + \frac{8}{15}\lambda = \lambda\left(\lambda + \frac{8}{15}\right)$$

Roots are  $\lambda_{1,2} = 0, -\frac{8}{15}$ . Find eigenvectors. For  $\lambda = 0$ :

$$A - \lambda_1 I = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{5} \\ \frac{1}{3} & -\frac{1}{5} \end{bmatrix}$$

Pick

$$\vec{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{5} \\ \frac{1}{3} \end{bmatrix}$$

such that  $(A - \lambda_1 I)\vec{v}_1 = \vec{0}$

For  $\lambda = -\frac{8}{15}$ :

$$A - \lambda_2 I = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{5} & \frac{1}{5} \\ \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} \end{bmatrix}$$

Pick

$$\vec{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

such that  $(A - \lambda_2 I)\vec{v}_2 = \vec{0}$ .

General solution is

$$\vec{x} = c_1 \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{5} \\ \frac{1}{3} \end{bmatrix} + c_2 e^{-\frac{8}{15}t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Find  $c_1, c_2$  that satisfy ICs.

$$\vec{x}(0) = \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ 15 \end{bmatrix} = c_1 \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{5} \\ \frac{1}{3} \end{bmatrix} + c_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 150 \\ 225 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3c_1 + 15c_2 \\ 5c_1 - 15c_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$c_1 = \frac{375}{8}, c_2 = \frac{5}{8}$$

Unique solution is

$$\vec{x} = \frac{375}{8} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{5} \\ \frac{1}{3} \end{bmatrix} + \frac{5}{8} e^{-\frac{8}{15}t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

## Question 2

Solve the DE

$$(1+t^2)y'' + 2ty' + \frac{3}{t^2} = 0$$

with ICs  $y(1) = 2, y'(1) = -1$ . Note: Use

$$\frac{A+Bt}{t(t^2+1)} = \frac{1}{t} + \frac{B-At}{t^2+1}$$

This is a separable equation in  $y'$ :

$$((1+t^2)y')' = -\frac{3}{t^2}$$

Integrate both sides:

$$(1+t^2)y' = \frac{3}{t} + c_1$$

Therefore:

$$y = \int \left( \frac{3}{t(1+t^2)} + \frac{c_1}{1+t^2} \right) dt$$

Simplify:

$$\frac{3}{t(1+t^2)} = \frac{A}{t} + \frac{B-At}{t^2+1}$$

$$A(t^2+1) + Bt - At^2 = 3$$

$$A = 3, B = 0$$

$$y = \int \left( \frac{3}{t} - \frac{3t}{t^2+1} + \frac{c_1}{t^2+1} \right) dt = 3 \ln |t| - \frac{3}{2} \ln |t^2+1| + c_1 \arctan t + c_2$$

Find  $c_1, c_2$  via ICs.

$$y'(1) = -1 \rightarrow (1+1) \cdot (-1) = \frac{3}{1} + c_1 \rightarrow c_1 = -5$$

$$y(1) = 2 \rightarrow 2 = -\frac{3}{2} \ln 2 - 5 \arctan 1 + c_2 \rightarrow c_2 = 2 + \frac{3}{2} \ln 2 + 5 \arctan 1$$

Unique solution is:

$$y = 3 \ln t - \frac{3}{2} \ln(t^2 + 1) - 5 \arctan t + 2 + \frac{3}{2} \ln 2 + 5 \arctan 1$$

### Question 3

Find the general solution to the DE:

$$2y^{(3)} - 2y'' + 25y' = \sin 2x + x$$

Solve associated homogeneous equation. Characteristic equation is

$$2\lambda^3 - 2\lambda^2 + 25\lambda = 0$$

$$\lambda(2\lambda^2 - 2\lambda + 25) = 0$$

Roots are

$$\lambda_{1,2,3} = 0, \frac{2 \pm 14i}{4} = \frac{1}{2} \pm \frac{7}{2}i$$

Therefore,

$$y_h = c_1 + c_2 e^{\frac{1}{2}x} \cos \frac{7x}{2} + c_3 e^{\frac{1}{2}x} \sin \frac{7x}{2}$$

Find particular solutions for each part of the RHS. For sine part, guess solution of the form:  $y_{p1} = A \cos 2x + B \sin 2x$ .

$$\begin{aligned} y'_{p1} &= -2A \sin 2x + 2B \cos 2x \\ y''_{p1} &= -4A \cos 2x - 4B \sin 2x \\ y^{(3)}_{p1} &= 8A \sin 2x - 8B \cos 2x \end{aligned}$$

Input in ODE:

$$16A \sin 2x - 16B \cos 2x + 8A \cos 2x + 8B \sin 2x - 50A \sin 2x + 50B \cos 2x = \sin 2x$$

$$\sin 2x (16A + 8B - 50A) + \cos 2x (-16B + 8A + 50B) = \sin 2x$$

Equate coefficients on both sides:

$$\begin{cases} \cos 2x: & 34B = 8A \rightarrow A = \frac{34}{8}B \\ \sin 2x: & -34A + 8B = 1 \rightarrow B = -\frac{2}{273}, A = -\frac{17}{546} \end{cases}$$

So:

$$y_{p1} = -\frac{17}{546} \cos 2x - \frac{2}{273} \sin 2x$$

For polynomial part, guess solution of the form:  $y_{p2} = Ax^3 + Bx^2 + Cx$ .

$$\begin{aligned} y'_{p2} &= 3Ax^2 + 2Bx + C \\ y''_{p2} &= 6Ax + 2B \\ y^{(3)}_{p2} &= 6A \end{aligned}$$

Input in ODE:

$$12A - 12Ax - 4B + 75Ax^2 + 50Bx + 25C = x$$

$$75Ax^2 + (-12A + 50B)x + (12A - 4B + 25C) = x$$

Equate coefficients on both sides:

$$A = 0, B = \frac{1}{50}, C = \frac{2}{625}$$

So:

$$y_{p2} = \frac{1}{50}x^2 + \frac{2}{625}x$$

General solution to the DE is:

$$c_1 + c_2 e^{\frac{1}{2}x} \cos \frac{7x}{2} + c_3 e^{\frac{1}{2}x} \sin \frac{7x}{2} - \frac{17}{546} \cos 2x - \frac{2}{273} \sin 2x + \frac{1}{50}x^2 + \frac{2}{625}x$$

where  $c_{1,2,3} \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $t > 0$ .

## Question 4

Find the solution to the following system of DEs with ICs:  $\vec{x}(0) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ .

$$\vec{x}' = A\vec{x}$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 4 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

Notice that the sum along each row is the same and equals 6. Therefore,  $A$  has an eigenvalue  $\lambda = 6$  with corresponding eigenvector  $\vec{v} = [1, 1, 1]^T$ .

Find the rest of the eigenvalues of  $A$ .

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = \begin{vmatrix} 1-\lambda & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 4-\lambda & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 4-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = (1-\lambda)[15 - 8\lambda + \lambda^2] - [5 - 2\lambda] + [-10 + 3\lambda] = 0$$

$$15 - 8\lambda + \lambda^2 - 15\lambda + 8\lambda^2 - \lambda^3 - 5 + 2\lambda - 10 + 3\lambda = 0$$

$$-\lambda^3 + 9\lambda^2 - 18\lambda = -\lambda(\lambda - 6)(\lambda - 3) = 0$$

$$\lambda_{1,2,3} = 0, 6, 3$$

Find eigenvectors. For  $\lambda_1 = 0$ :

$$A - \lambda_1 I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 4 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow[R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - R_1]{R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - R_1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 2 & -2 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Pick

$$\vec{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -5 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

s.t.  $(A - \lambda_1 I)\vec{v}_1 = \vec{0}$ . For  $\lambda_3 = 3$ :

$$A - \lambda_3 I = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_1 \rightarrow R_1 + 2R_2} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 4 & 5 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Pick:

$$\vec{v}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -5 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

s.t.  $(A - \lambda_3 I)\vec{v}_3 = 0$ . General solution to system of DEs is:

$$\vec{x} = c_1 \begin{bmatrix} -5 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 e^{6t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + c_3 e^{3t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -5 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

Find  $c_1, c_2, c_3$  that satisfy ICs. Define

$$\vec{c} = \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \end{bmatrix}, B = \begin{bmatrix} -5 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & -5 \\ 1 & 1 & 4 \end{bmatrix}, \vec{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

such that

$$B\vec{c} = \vec{b}$$

Find  $B^{-1}$ .

$$\det B = -5 \cdot (4 + 5) - 1 \cdot (4 - 1) + 1 \cdot (-5 - 1) = -5 \cdot 9 - 3 - 6 = -54$$

$$B^{-1} = -\frac{1}{54} \begin{bmatrix} (4+5) & -(4+5) & 0 \\ -(4-1) & (-20-1) & -(-5-1) \\ (-5-1) & -(25-1) & (-5-1) \end{bmatrix} = -\frac{1}{54} \begin{bmatrix} 9 & -9 & 0 \\ -3 & -21 & 6 \\ -6 & -24 & -6 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{18} & \frac{7}{18} & -\frac{1}{9} \\ \frac{1}{9} & \frac{4}{9} & \frac{1}{9} \end{bmatrix}$$

Therefore,

$$\vec{c} = B^{-1}\vec{b} = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{18} & \frac{7}{18} & -\frac{1}{9} \\ \frac{1}{9} & \frac{4}{9} & \frac{1}{9} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{17}{18} \\ \frac{14}{9} \end{bmatrix}$$

Unique solution is:

$$\vec{x} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} -5 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{17}{18} e^{6t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{14}{9} e^{3t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -5 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

## Question 5

Show that the eigenvalue problem

$$y'' + \lambda y' + y = 0$$

with boundary conditions  $y(0) = y(1) = 0$  has no real eigenvalues by considering the following cases:

1. Show that if  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $|\lambda| < 2$  then  $\lambda$  is not an eigenvalue.
2. Show that if  $\lambda = \pm 2$  then  $\lambda$  is not an eigenvalue.
3. Show that if  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $|\lambda| > 2$  then  $\lambda$  is not an eigenvalue.

Characteristic equation is:

$$u^2 + \lambda u + 1 = 0$$

$$u = \frac{-\lambda \pm \sqrt{\lambda^2 - 4}}{2}$$

Three cases to examine:

1. If  $\lambda^2 - 4 > 0$  (i.e.  $|\lambda| > 2$ ), there are two real roots:

$$u_{1,2} = \frac{-\lambda \pm \sqrt{\lambda^2 - 4}}{2}$$

and the general solution is

$$y = c_1 e^{\frac{-\lambda + \sqrt{\lambda^2 - 4}}{2}t} + c_2 e^{\frac{-\lambda - \sqrt{\lambda^2 - 4}}{2}t}$$

Check if there are  $c_1, c_2$  that satisfy ICs.

$$\begin{aligned} y(0) = 0 &= c_1 + c_2 \\ y(1) = 0 &= c_1 e^{\frac{-\lambda + \sqrt{\lambda^2 - 4}}{2}} + c_2 e^{\frac{-\lambda - \sqrt{\lambda^2 - 4}}{2}} \end{aligned}$$

These two conditions hold iff  $c_1 = c_2 = 0$ , i.e. there is no non-trivial solution and no eigenvalue in this case.

2. If  $\lambda^2 = 4$  (i.e.  $\lambda = \pm 2$ ), there is one double root ( $\lambda = -2$  or  $\lambda = 2$ ), and the solution is:

$$y_{\pm} = c_1 e^{\pm \lambda t} + c_2 t e^{\pm \lambda t}$$

Check if there are  $c_1, c_2$  that satisfy ICs.

$$\begin{aligned} y(0) = 0 &= c_1 \\ y(1) = 0 &= c_1 e^{\pm 2} + c_2 e^{\pm 2} \rightarrow c_2 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Again, there is no non-trivial solution and no eigenvalue in this case.

3. If  $\lambda^2 - 4 < 0$  (i.e.  $|\lambda| < 2$ ), there are two non-real roots:

$$u_{1,2} = \frac{-\lambda \pm \sqrt{4 - \lambda^2}i}{2}$$

and the general solution is:

$$y = c_1 e^{-\frac{\lambda}{2}t} \cos\left(\frac{\sqrt{4 - \lambda^2}}{2}t\right) + c_2 e^{-\frac{\lambda}{2}t} \sin\left(\frac{\sqrt{4 - \lambda^2}}{2}t\right)$$

Check if there are  $c_1, c_2$  that satisfy ICs.

$$\begin{aligned} y(0) = 0 &= c_1 \\ y(1) = 0 &= c_2 e^{-\frac{\lambda}{2}} \sin\left(\frac{\sqrt{4-\lambda^2}}{2}\right) \end{aligned}$$

Either  $c_2 = 0$  (which means no eigenvalue in this case), or

$$\sin\left(\frac{\sqrt{4-\lambda^2}}{2}\right) = 0$$

$$\frac{\sqrt{4-\lambda^2}}{2} = \pi n, \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

$$\lambda = \pm \sqrt{4 - 4\pi^2 n^2}$$

This doesn't yield a **real** eigenvalue.

In conclusion, the eigenvalue problem doesn't have any real eigenvalue.

## Question 6

Solve the following BVP:

$$9y_{xx} = y_{tt}, \quad x \in (0, 1), t > 0$$

with homogeneous BCs and ICs:  $y(x, 0) = \sin \pi x$ ,  $y_t(x, 0) = 3 \sin(2\pi x) - 4 \sin(3\pi x)$ .

Split the problem into a zero initial velocity and a zero initial position case.

Zero initial velocity, i.e. ICs are:  $y(x, 0) \equiv f(x) = \sin \pi x$ ,  $y_t(x, 0) \equiv 0$ .

In this case, solution is given by:

$$y_1(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} \cos \frac{n\pi a t}{L}$$

where

$$c_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx$$

Calculate  $c_n$ .

$$c_n = 2 \int_0^1 \sin(\pi x) \cdot \sin(n\pi x) dx$$

As sines of different frequencies are orthogonal, integral is non-zero only for  $n = 1$ .

$$c_1 = 2 \int_0^1 \sin^2(\pi x) dx = \frac{2}{\pi} \left[ \frac{\pi x}{2} - \frac{\sin(2\pi x)}{4} \right]_0^1 = \frac{2}{\pi} \cdot \frac{\pi}{2} = 1$$

Solution is therefore,

$$y_1(x, t) = \sin(\pi x) \cos(3\pi t)$$

Zero initial position, i.e. ICs are  $y(x, 0) \equiv 0$ ,  $y_t(x, 0) \equiv g(x) = 3 \sin(2\pi x) - 4 \sin(3\pi x)$ .

In this case, solution is given by:

$$y_2(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} k_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} \sin \frac{n\pi a t}{L}$$

where

$$k_n = \frac{2}{n\pi a} \int_0^L g(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx$$

Calculate  $k_n$ .

$$k_n = \frac{2}{3n\pi} \left[ 3 \int_0^1 \sin(2\pi x) \sin(n\pi x) dx - 4 \int_0^1 \sin(3\pi x) \sin(n\pi x) dx \right]$$

By means of orthogonality,

$$k_n = k_2 + k_3 = \frac{6}{6\pi} \int_0^1 \sin^2(2\pi x) dx - \frac{8}{9\pi} \int_0^1 \sin^2(3\pi x) dx$$

$$k_2 = \frac{1}{\pi} \cdot \frac{1}{2\pi} \left[ \frac{2\pi x}{2} - \frac{\sin(4\pi x)}{4} \right]_0^1, \quad k_3 = -\frac{8}{9\pi} \cdot \frac{1}{3\pi} \left[ \frac{3\pi x}{2} - \frac{\sin(6\pi x)}{4} \right]_0^1$$

$$k_2 = \frac{1}{2\pi}, \quad k_3 = -\frac{4}{9\pi}$$

Therefore,

$$y_2(x, t) = \sin(\pi x) \cos(3\pi t) + \frac{1}{2\pi} \sin(2\pi x) \sin(6\pi t) - \frac{4}{9\pi} \sin(3\pi x) \sin(9\pi t)$$