

2E2 Tutorial Sheet 10 Solutions¹

15 January 2006

Questions

1. (2) Find the general solution for the system

$$\frac{dy_1}{dt} = 3y_1 + y_2 \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{dy_2}{dt} = y_1 + 3y_2 \quad (2)$$

Solution: The eigenvectors and eigenvalues of

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3)$$

are $\lambda_1 = 4$ with

$$\mathbf{x}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (4)$$

and $\lambda_2 = 2$ with

$$\mathbf{x}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (5)$$

so the general soln is

$$\mathbf{y} = \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \end{pmatrix} = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{4t} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{2t}. \quad (6)$$

2. (3) Find the solution of the system

$$\frac{dy_1}{dt} = 3y_1 + 4y_2 \quad (7)$$

$$\frac{dy_2}{dt} = 4y_1 - 3y_2 \quad (8)$$

with $y_1(0) = 2$ and $y_2(0) = -1$.

he characteristic equation is

$$\begin{vmatrix} 3 - \lambda & 4 \\ 4 & -3 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0 \quad (9)$$

so

$$(3 - \lambda)(-3 - \lambda) - 16 = 0 \quad (10)$$

or

$$\lambda^2 + 2\lambda - 48 - 25 = 0 \quad (11)$$

Solve this gives us $\lambda = \pm 5$. Taking the $\lambda = 5$ first

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ 4 & -3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} = 5 \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} \quad (12)$$

so the first equation is $3a + 4b = 5a$ or $a = 2b$, the other equation is $4a - 3b = 5b$ which is also $a = 2b$. Taking $a = 2$ an eigenvalue 5 eigenvector is,

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (13)$$

Taking $\lambda = -5$ next

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ 4 & -3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} = -5 \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} \quad (14)$$

so the first equation is $3a + 4b = -5a$ or $2a = -b$, the other equation is $4a - 3b = -5b$ which is also $2a = -b$. Taking $a = 1$ an eigenvalue -5 eigenvector is,

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (15)$$

Hence, the solution is

$$\mathbf{y} = C_1 \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{5t} + C_2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} e^{-5t} \quad (16)$$

or

$$y_1 = 2C_1 e^{5t} + C_2 e^{-5t} \quad (17)$$

$$y_2 = C_1 e^{5t} - 2C_2 e^{-5t} \quad (18)$$

So, for $t = 0$ we have

$$y_1(0) = 2 = 2C_1 + C_2 \quad (19)$$

$$y_2(0) = -1 = C_1 - 2C_2 \quad (20)$$

giving $C_1 = 3/5$ and $C_2 = 4/5$ so

$$y_1 = \frac{6}{5} e^{5t} + \frac{4}{5} e^{-5t} \quad (21)$$

$$y_2 = \frac{3}{5} e^{5t} - \frac{8}{5} e^{-5t} \quad (22)$$

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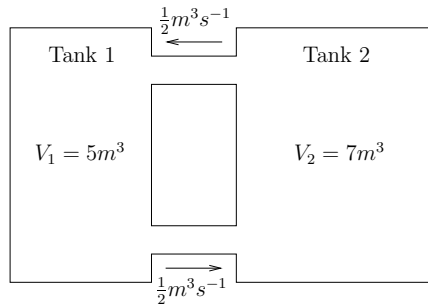


Figure 1: Two containers with flow between them.

3. (3) As illustrated in Fig. 1, two large containers are connected and American style sandwich spread is pumped between them at a rate of $1/2 m^3 s^{-1}$. One container has volume $5m^3$, the other $7m^3$. Both are full of spread. Initially the smaller container contains pure jam, the second container has $5m^3$ of jam and $2m^3$ of peanut butter. Assume perfect mixing and so on.

- (i) Write down the differential equation for $y_1(t)$ and $y_2(t)$, the amount of peanut butter in the first and second container.
(ii) Solve it to find $y_1(t)$ and $y_2(t)$ explicitly.
(iii) Use the initial data to find the values of the constants in the solution.

Solution: Well if there is y_1 peanut butter in the small container then the concentration of the spread in the small container is $y_1/5$ and so $y_1/10$ is flowing out per second. In the same way $y_2/7$ is the concentration of peanut butter in the second tank and so $y_2/14$ per second is going from the large tank to the small one. This means the equations are

$$y_1' = -\frac{1}{10}y_1 + \frac{1}{14}y_2 \quad (23)$$

$$y_2' = \frac{1}{10}y_1 - \frac{1}{14}y_2 \quad (24)$$

This equation can be rewritten

$$\mathbf{y}' = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{10} & \frac{1}{14} \\ \frac{1}{10} & -\frac{1}{14} \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{y} \quad (25)$$

We work out the eigenvalues

$$\left| \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{10} - \lambda & \frac{1}{14} \\ \frac{1}{10} & -\frac{1}{14} - \lambda \end{pmatrix} \right| = \left(\frac{1}{10} + \lambda \right) \left(\frac{1}{14} + \lambda \right) - \frac{1}{140} \quad (26)$$

$$= \lambda^2 + \frac{6}{35}\lambda = 0 \quad (27)$$

This means that there are two eigenvalues, $\lambda_1 = 0$ and $\lambda_2 = -6/35$. The corresponding eigenvectors are given by

$$\begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{10} & \frac{1}{14} \\ \frac{1}{10} & -\frac{1}{14} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} = 0 \quad (28)$$

which has solutions of the form $a = 10$ and $b = 14$ for λ_1 and

$$\begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{10} & \frac{1}{14} \\ \frac{1}{10} & -\frac{1}{14} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} = -\frac{6}{35} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} \quad (29)$$

for λ_2 . This has solution $a = -1$ and $b = 1$. Thus, the general solution is

$$\begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \end{pmatrix} = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 10 \\ 14 \end{pmatrix} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-\frac{6}{35}t} \quad (30)$$

For part (iii), matching with $y_1(0) = 0$ and $y_2(0) = 2$, this gives $c_1 = 1/12$ and $c_2 = 5/6$ and hence

$$\begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{12} \begin{pmatrix} 10 \\ 14 \end{pmatrix} + \frac{5}{6} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-\frac{6}{35}t} \quad (31)$$

By the way, clearly the exponentially decaying part goes away with time so that

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{y} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{5}{6} \\ \frac{1}{6} \end{pmatrix} \quad (32)$$