2E2 Tutorial Sheet 14 Second Term¹

10 February 2006

Useful facts:

• The first order differential equation y' = ry + f(t) has solution

$$y = Ce^{rt} + e^{rt} \int_0^t f(\tau)e^{-r\tau}d\tau \tag{1}$$

• To solve the inhomogeneous system $\mathbf{y}' = A\mathbf{y} + \mathbf{g}$ substitute

$$\mathbf{y} = f_1 \mathbf{x}_1 + f_2 \mathbf{x}_2 \tag{2}$$

where bfx_1 and \mathbf{x}_2 are the eigenvectors of A. You should also split \mathbf{g} up as $\mathbf{g} = h_1\mathbf{x}_1 + h_2\mathbf{x}_2$. This will give you two independant first order inhomogeneous equations, one for \mathbf{x}_1 and one for \mathbf{x}_2 .

• Here is an example of converting the second order differential equation y'' + 2y' + 7y = 0 into a system first order differential equations. First rename $y_1 = y$ and define $y_2 = y'_1$, now, $y'_2 = y''_1$ which we know from the original equation:

$$y_1'' = y'' = -2y' - 7y (3)$$

but y' is y_2 and y is y_1 , hence

$$y_1' = y_2 y_2' = -7y_1 - 2y_2$$
 (4)

¹Conor Houghton, houghton@maths.tcd.ie and http://www.maths.tcd.ie/~houghton/ 2E2.html

Questions

1. (2) Find the solution to

$$y' - 2y = -t \tag{5}$$

2. (3) Find the general solution to

$$y'_1 = 5y_2 - 23$$

 $y'_2 = 5y_1 + 15.$ (6)

with $y_1(0) = -3$ and $y_2(0) = 5$.

3. (2) Find the general solution to

$$y_1' = y_1 + 3y_2 + e^t$$

 $y_2' = 3y_1 + y_2$ (7)

4. (1) Rewrite y'' + 4y' - 3y = 0 as a system of two first order differential equations.