

## 1 Problem Set

1. Show that the two given vector functions are solutions to the linear system of ODE's  $\vec{y}' = A\vec{y}$  where  $A$  is the given matrix.

(a)  $\vec{y}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} 2e^{2t} \\ 5e^{2t} \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\vec{z}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} e^t \\ 3e^t \end{pmatrix}$  where  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 7 & -2 \\ 15 & -4 \end{pmatrix}$ .

**Solution:**  $\vec{y}'(t) = \begin{pmatrix} 4e^{2t} \\ 10e^{2t} \end{pmatrix}$ , and

$$\begin{aligned} A\vec{y} &= \begin{pmatrix} 7 \times 2e^{2t} - 2 \times 5e^{2t} \\ 15 \times 2e^{2t} - 4 \times 5e^{2t} \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 4e^{2t} \\ 10e^{2t} \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \vec{y}' \end{aligned}$$

$\vec{z}'(t) = \begin{pmatrix} e^t \\ 3e^t \end{pmatrix}$ , and

$$\begin{aligned} A\vec{z} &= \begin{pmatrix} 7e^t - 2 \times 3e^t \\ 15e^t - 4 \times 3e^t \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} e^t \\ 3e^t \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \vec{z}' \end{aligned}$$

(b)  $\vec{y}(t) = e^{-3t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\vec{z}(t) = e^t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$  where  $A = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -2 \\ -2 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

**Solution:**  $\vec{y}'(t) = -3e^{-3t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = e^{-3t} \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$ , and

$$\begin{aligned} A\vec{y} &= e^{-3t} \begin{pmatrix} -1 - 2 \\ -2 - 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= e^{-3t} \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \vec{y}' \end{aligned}$$

$$\vec{z}'(t) = e^t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ and}$$

$$\begin{aligned} A\vec{z} &= e^t \begin{pmatrix} -1 + 2 \\ -2 + 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= e^t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \vec{z}' \end{aligned}$$

(c) (Challenge)  $\vec{y}(t) = e^{-t} \begin{pmatrix} \cos 2t \\ \sin 2t \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\vec{z}(t) = e^{-t} \begin{pmatrix} -\sin 2t \\ \cos 2t \end{pmatrix}$  where  $A = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -2 \\ 2 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

**Solution:** You can derive  $\vec{y}$  and  $\vec{z}$  just like a usual product of functions:

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{y}'(t) &= -e^{-t} \begin{pmatrix} \cos 2t \\ \sin 2t \end{pmatrix} + e^{-t} \begin{pmatrix} -2 \sin 2t \\ 2 \cos 2t \end{pmatrix} \\ &= e^{-t} \begin{pmatrix} -\cos 2t - 2 \sin 2t \\ -\sin 2t + 2 \cos 2t \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} A\vec{y} &= e^{-t} \begin{pmatrix} -\cos 2t - 2 \sin 2t \\ 2 \cos 2t - \sin 2t \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \vec{y}' \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{z}'(t) &= -e^{-t} \begin{pmatrix} -\sin 2t \\ \cos 2t \end{pmatrix} + e^{-t} \begin{pmatrix} -2 \cos 2t \\ -2 \sin 2t \end{pmatrix} \\ &= e^{-t} \begin{pmatrix} \sin 2t - 2 \cos 2t \\ -\cos 2t - 2 \sin 2t \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} A\vec{z} &= e^{-t} \begin{pmatrix} \sin 2t - 2 \cos 2t \\ -2 \sin 2t - \cos 2t \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \vec{z}' \end{aligned}$$

2. In each case of Problem 1:

- Write down the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of  $A$  **without** reapplying the algorithm for finding them but just using what is already given. (Part (c) is still “Challenge” here.)

**Solution:** Based on the solution of the differential equation:

(a)  $\lambda_1 = 2$  with corresponding eigenvector  $\vec{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$ , and

$\lambda_2 = 1$  with corresponding eigenvector  $\vec{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$

(b)  $\lambda_1 = -3$  with corresponding eigenvector  $\vec{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ , and

$\lambda_2 = 1$  with corresponding eigenvector  $\vec{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$

(c)  $\lambda_1 = -1 - 2i$  with corresponding eigenvector  $\vec{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ i \end{pmatrix}$ , and

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

- Write down the **general** solution to the given system, **without** resolving the problem but just using what is already given.

**Solution:** We can take linear combinations of the solutions:

(a)  $C_1 \begin{pmatrix} 2e^{2t} \\ 5e^{2t} \end{pmatrix} + C_2 \begin{pmatrix} e^t \\ 3e^t \end{pmatrix}$

(b)  $C_1 e^{-3t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + C_2 e^t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$

(c)  $C_1 e^{-t} \begin{pmatrix} \cos 2t \\ \sin 2t \end{pmatrix} + C_2 e^{-t} \begin{pmatrix} -\sin 2t \\ \cos 2t \end{pmatrix}$

3. Find two different solutions of the system, and then write the general solution:

(a)  $\vec{y}' = A\vec{y}$  where  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

**Solution:** In each case, we want to find the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of the matrix  $A$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Det}(A - \lambda I) &= \begin{vmatrix} 1 - \lambda & 2 \\ 2 & 1 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} \\
 &= (1 - \lambda)^2 - 4 \\
 &= (3 - \lambda)(-1 - \lambda)
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence the eigenvalues of  $A$  are 3 and  $-1$ .

We must find non zero solution  $\vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{pmatrix}$  to:  $A\vec{v} = 3\vec{v}$ ,  $A\vec{v} = \vec{v}$

We can rewrite the first one:  $\left( \begin{array}{cc|c} -2 & 2 & 0 \\ 2 & -2 & 0 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \left( \begin{array}{cc|c} -2 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \left( \begin{array}{cc|c} -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right).$

In terms of equations:  $-v_1 + v_2 = 0$ .

So we can select  $\vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

For the second one, we can rewrite:  $\left( \begin{array}{cc|c} 2 & 2 & 0 \\ 2 & 2 & 0 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \left( \begin{array}{cc|c} 2 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \left( \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right).$

In terms of equations:  $v_1 + v_2 = 0$ .

So we can select  $\vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

Hence the two particular solutions:

$$\vec{y}(t) = e^{3t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \vec{z}(-t) = e^t \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

The general solution is any linear combinations of these two solutions:

$$C_1 e^{3t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + C_2 e^t \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ where } C_1 \text{ and } C_2 \text{ are any real numbers.}$$

(b)  $\vec{y}' = A\vec{y}$  where  $A = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 3 \\ -3 & -1 \end{pmatrix}.$

**Solution:** Characteristic polynomial of the matrix:

$$p(\lambda) = (-1 - \lambda)^2 + 9, \text{ The roots of which are } \lambda = -1 \pm 3i$$

We look for a complex vector  $z = (z_1, z_2)^T$  that is eigenvector corresponding to the eigenvalue  $-1 - 3i$ :

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 3 \\ -3 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \end{pmatrix} = -1 - 3i \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Which simplifies to

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3i & 3 \\ -3 & 3i \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$z = (1, -i)^T$  is a solution, therefore

$$z(t) = e^{(-1-3i)t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -i \end{pmatrix}$$

is a complex values solution to our initial equation.

Taking the real and imaginary parts of  $z$ , we find:

$$y^1(t) = e^{-t} \begin{pmatrix} \cos 3t \\ -\sin 3t \end{pmatrix}, y^2(t) = e^{-t} \begin{pmatrix} -\sin 3t \\ -\cos 3t \end{pmatrix}$$

And the general solution is:

$$y(t) = C_1 e^{-t} \begin{pmatrix} \cos 3t \\ -\sin 3t \end{pmatrix} + C_2 e^{-t} \begin{pmatrix} -\sin 3t \\ -\cos 3t \end{pmatrix}$$

(c) (Challenge)  $\vec{y}' = A\vec{y}$  where  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$ .

**Solution:** Characteristic polynomial:

$$p(\lambda) = \lambda^2 - 4\lambda + 5.$$

The roots are  $\lambda = 2 \pm i$

Eigenvector for the eigenvalue  $2 + i$ :

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \end{pmatrix} = (2 + i) \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Which simplifies to:

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 - i & -1 \\ 2 & 1 - i \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$z = (1, -1 - i)^T$  is a solution, therefore

$$z(t) = e^{(2+i)t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 - i \end{pmatrix} = e^{2t}(\cos t + i \sin t) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 - i \end{pmatrix}$$

is a complex values solution to our initial equation.

Taking the real and imaginary parts of  $z$ , we find:

$$y^1(t) = e^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} \cos t \\ -\cos t + \sin t \end{pmatrix}, y^2(t) = e^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} \sin t \\ -\cos t - \sin t \end{pmatrix}$$

And the general solution is:

$$y(t) = C_1 e^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} \cos t \\ -\cos t + \sin t \end{pmatrix} + C_2 e^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} \sin t \\ -\cos t - \sin t \end{pmatrix}$$

4. Solve the initial value problem:

(a)  $\vec{y}'(t) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 6 & -3 \end{pmatrix} \vec{y}(t), \vec{y}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}.$

**Solution:** Characteristic polynomial:

$$p(\lambda) = \lambda^2 + 2\lambda - 15 = (\lambda + 5)(\lambda - 3).$$

The roots are  $\lambda_1 = -5$  and  $\lambda_2 = 3$

Corresponding eigenvectors:

$$v_1 = (1, -3)^T, \text{ and } v_2 = (1, 1)^T$$

Hence the two particular solutions:

$$\vec{y}_1(t) = e^{-5t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \vec{y}_2(t) = e^{3t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

The general solution is any linear combinations of these two solutions:

$$\vec{y}(t) = C_1 e^{-5t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} + C_2 e^{3t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ where } C_1 \text{ and } C_2 \text{ are any real numbers.}$$

The I.V. becomes:

$$\begin{pmatrix} C_1 + C_2 \\ -3C_1 + C_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} C_1 \\ C_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1/2 \\ 1/2 \end{pmatrix}$$

So the final solution is:

$$\vec{y}(t) = \frac{1}{2} e^{-5t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} + \frac{1}{2} e^{3t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

(b) (Challenge)  $\vec{y}'(t) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \vec{y}(t), \vec{y}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}.$

**Solution:** This is the same equation as 3.b. The general solution is:

$$y(t) = C_1 e^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} \cos t \\ -\cos t + \sin t \end{pmatrix} + C_2 e^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} \sin t \\ -\cos t - \sin t \end{pmatrix}$$

The I.V. becomes:

$$\begin{pmatrix} C_1 \\ -C_1 - C_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} C_1 \\ C_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}$$

So the final solution is:

$$y(t) = 2e^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} \cos t \\ -\cos t + \sin t \end{pmatrix} - 4e^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} \sin t \\ -\cos t - \sin t \end{pmatrix}$$

## 2 True / False

1. (Neither-nor or either?)  $\vec{y}$  in  $\vec{y}' = A\vec{y}$  where  $A_{2 \times 2}$  is the following object:

- A function  $y(t)$  whose derivative is  $y'(t)$ .

**False**

- A vector  $\vec{y}$  whose derivative is  $\vec{0}$

**False**

- A vector function  $\vec{y} = \begin{pmatrix} y_1(t) \\ y_2(t) \end{pmatrix}$  whose derivative is  $\vec{y}' = \begin{pmatrix} y_1'(t) \\ y_2'(t) \end{pmatrix}$

**True**

- (Generalize correctly) If we end up with two different real eigenvalues  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$  of  $A_{2 \times 2}$ , then in analogy with what we have learned before, the two fundamental solutions to the system of DE's  $\vec{y}' = A\vec{y}$  are  $y_1(t) = e^{\lambda_1 t}$  and  $y_2(t) = e^{\lambda_2 t}$ .

**False**

The educated guess will be:

$$\vec{y}(t) = e^{\lambda_1 t} \vec{v}_1 \text{ and } \vec{z}(t) = e^{\lambda_2 t} \vec{v}_2$$

where  $\vec{v}_1$  and  $\vec{v}_2$  are eigenvectors associated to the eigenvalues  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$

- (No double-counting!) The algorithm for solving an I.V.P.  $\vec{y}' = A\vec{y}$ ,  $y_1(0) = 8, y_2(0) = 64$ , for some  $A_{2 \times 2}$  with two distinct real eigenvalues involves solving two quadratic equations (one for each  $y_1(t)$  and  $y_2(t)$ ), two linear systems to find the two eigenvectors, and one additional linear system to address the given I.V.

**False**

There is only one quadratic equation to solve to find the two eigenvalues.

- (SOS) Euler's formula for  $e^{(a+ib)t}$  rescues the solutions to the homogeneous linear DE systems whose auxiliary equation refuses to have any real roots.

**True**

We can then use the real and imaginary parts of the solution to be the real solutions to our initial equation.

- (What is imagined may turn out to be real!) If  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ , the imaginary part of  $5ti + 10$  is  $5ti$ .

**False**

The imaginary part is  $5t$ .

- (With the speed of light) If  $A = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$ , then the auxiliary (or characteristic) equation of  $A$  is  $\lambda^2 - (a+d)\lambda + \text{Det}(A) = 0$ , where  $a+d$  is called the trace of  $A$  and is denoted by  $\text{tr}(A)$ . (Finally! Googling on my phone can help me with definitions and names!)

**True**

$$\text{Det}(A - \lambda I) = \begin{vmatrix} a - \lambda & b \\ c & d - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = (a - \lambda)(d - \lambda) - bc = \lambda^2 - (a + d)\lambda + ad - bc$$

- (Short of a shortcut formula) We did not come up with a direct final formula for the solutions to the linear DE system  $\vec{y}' = A\vec{y}$  because we still have find the eigenvectors of  $A$  by solving systems of linear equations.

**True**

- (Only for OH visitors who know what we are talking about!) The shortcut formula for solving a quadratic equation  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$  with integer coefficients  $a, b, c$  with which Zvezda has been showing off in class works efficiently roughly 50% of the time because  $b$  has an equal chance of being even (good!) or odd (bad!).

**True**

If  $b$  is even, then  $b = 2k$  where  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , then the roots are given by  $x_{1,2} = \frac{-k \pm \sqrt{k^2 - ac}}{a}$  and if  $a = 1$  this further simplifies to  $x_{1,2} = -k \pm \sqrt{k^2 - c}$ , which will win fair and square about 50% of the time in terms of speed over using the regular quadratic formula.