

APMA 0350: Applied Ordinary Differential Equations

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Fall 2022

1 Lecture 1: What is a differential equation?

Part I - Introduction to the course

- Professor Peyam Tabrizian
- Office Hours Tu 12:15-1:15 pm, Th and F 1:15-2:15
- Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/c/DrPeyam/community>

Part II - What is a Differential equation?

A differential equation (ODE) is an equation that involves one or more derivatives of a function y

Examples:

1. $y' = 2y$
2. $y'' + 5y' + 6y = 0$
3. $(y''')^2 = \sin(y^3) + y + t^2$ (where t is independent variable)
4.
$$\begin{cases} x'(t) = 2x(t) - 3y(t) \\ y'(t) = 5x(t) + 6y(t) \end{cases}$$
5. Partial differential equations (studied in APMA 0360): $\frac{d^2 u}{dx dt} + u = \left(\frac{du}{dx}\right)^2$

Applications: ODEs are used to model and describe many types of processes

1. Biology (epidemiology, ecology, cancer research, COVID)
2. Climate Research (flooding and wildfires)
3. Economics (stock market, options pricing, wealth and income distribution)
4. Engineering and Physics (from mass-spring systems to aircraft design)
5. Neuroscience and Computer Science (models of brain activity patterns, deep learning networks, traffic control)
6. Modeling outbreak of a Zombie Attack
7. Chemical Reactions (the PDE that got the PhD!)

From Peyam's PhD advisor: "If you can solve all differential equations, then you can solve the universe." \implies DiffEqs are hard to solve but each equation is like its own universe

Part III - The most basic example

Example 1: Solve $y' = 2y$ with $y(0) = 3$

Solution:

1. Isolate y

$$y' = 2y \implies \frac{y'}{y} = 2$$

2. Recognise that the LHS is a derivatives

$$\begin{aligned} (\ln |y|)' &= 2 \\ \ln |y| &= 2t + C \\ |y| &= e^{2t+C} = e^C e^{2t} \\ y &= \pm e^C e^{2t} = C e^{2t} \end{aligned}$$

3. Initial condition

$$y(0) = 3 \implies C e^0 = 3 \implies C = 3$$

$$\boxed{y(t) = 3e^{2t}}$$

Fact: The general solution of $y' = ky$ is

$$\boxed{y(t) = C e^{kt}}$$

Part IV - Classification

Order: the highest derivative that appears

Example:

1. $y' = 2y + 1$ is first-Order
2. $y'' + 5y' + 6y = 0$ is second-order (second derivative)
3. $t^5y''' - 4y' + y = t^3$ is third-order

Homogeneous: if the right hand side is 0 *Inhomogeneous*: the right hand is not 0

1. $y'' + 5y' + 6y = 0$ is homogeneous
2. $y'' + 5y' + 6y = t^2$ is inhomogeneous
3. $y'' + 5y' + 6y + 2t = 2t$ is homogeneous (the $2t$ terms cancel)

Classifications of ODEs (from easiest to hardest): *Constant coefficient*:

1. $y'' + 5y' + 6y = 0$
2. $y'' + 5t' + 6y = e^{2t}$
3. NOT $t^2y'' + 2y' + 3y = 0$

Linear DE: the coefficients can depend on t but not on y

1. $y' + ty = 0$
2. $t^2y'' + \sin ty' + 2y = 0$
3. $y'' + 5y' + 6y = 3$

2 A summary of the first half of the course, the notes for which were lost:


Lecture Sep 9: Direction Fields

Direction field: A way of qualitatively studying the behaviour of an ODE by plotting the tangent lines at each point. When you draw a line through a point, following the slope arrows, you create a plot of the ODE's solution with that point as the initial condition - Can be generated with the dfield app (<https://aeb019.hosted.uark.edu/dfield.html>)

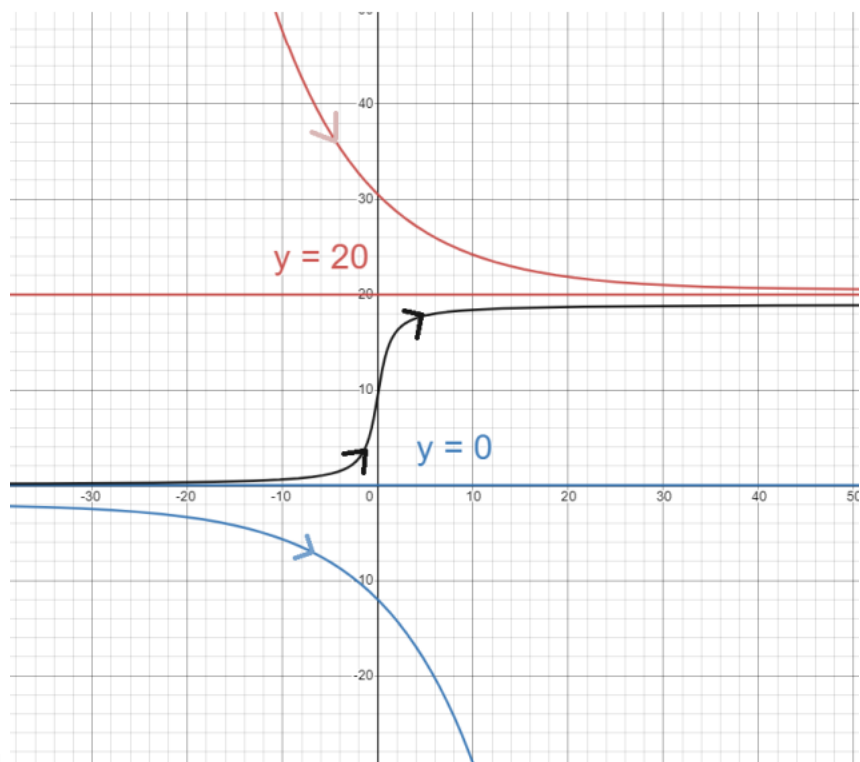
Lecture Sep 12: Qualitative methods

Autonomous ODE: the right-hand-side doesn't depend on t Special case: Logistic equation $y' = \alpha y(1 - \frac{y}{\beta})$ Where α is the growth rate and β is the limiting factor.

Equilibrium Solutions: the lines where $f(y) = 0$ To determine what happens at these solutions, we draw a *bifurcation diagram*

y	$-\infty$	0
$3y$	$-$	0
$1 - y/20$	$+$	0
$y' = 3y(1 - y/20)$	$-$	0
y		

For the logistic equation $y' = 3y(1 - \frac{y}{20})$, the bifurcation diagram is



Which gives us the graph

Classifying solutions:

- If the solutions go towards an equilibrium point from each side, it is *stable*
- If the solutions move away, it is *unstable*
- If the solutions approach from one side and are repelled from the other, it is *bistable*

Lecture Sep 14: Existence and uniqueness

Existence and Uniqueness Theorem: Given (t_0, y_0) , consider the ODE

$$\begin{cases} y' = f(y, t) \\ y(t_0) = y_0 \end{cases}$$

If f and $f_y = \partial f / \partial y$ are continuous near (t_0, y_0) , then the ODE has a unique solution $y = y(t)$ for some $t \in (-\delta, \delta)$, $\delta > 0$

3 Lecture: Oct 21

Part I - Classifying Equilibrium Points of Nonlinear ODEs

Example 1: Classify the equilibrium points of

$$\begin{cases} x' = -x + xy \\ y' = -8y + 4xy \end{cases}$$

To find the equilibrium points, set $x' = 0$ and $y' = 0$

In this equation,

$$\begin{cases} x' = -x(1 - y) = 0 \\ y' = -y(8 - 4x) = 0 \end{cases} \implies (0, 0) \quad (2, 1)$$

Linearization:

$$\nabla F(x, y) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial(-x+xy)}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial(-x+xy)}{\partial y} \\ \frac{\partial(-8y+4xy)}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial(-8y+4xy)}{\partial y} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1+y & x \\ 4y & -8+4x \end{bmatrix}$$

Case 1: $(0, 0)$

$$\nabla F(0, 0) = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -8 \end{bmatrix}$$

The eigenvalues of this are $\lambda = -1$ and $\lambda = -8$, both of which are less than zero so the solution is a sink and the point $(0, 0)$ is **stable**.

Note: For a complex negative eigenvalue (e.g. $\lambda = -2 + 3i$), there will be a spiral sink which is also stable

Case 2: $(2, 1)$

$$\nabla F(2, 1) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ 4 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Eigenvalues:

$$\lambda^2 - 8 = 0 \implies \lambda = \pm 2\sqrt{2}$$

In this case, one eigenvalue is positive and the other is negative so this is a **semi-stable saddle point**

Stability cases summary:

- If the eigenvalues are both negative, we have a sink
- If both positive, unstable
- If one positive and one negative, saddle point
- If 0, "screwed"

Part II - Application Number 1: Competing Species

Recall: Logistic equation

$$y' = 3t \left(1 - \frac{y}{20} \right)$$

(the growth of a population with limited resources, where 3 is the growth rate and 20 is the limiting factor)

Guiding question: What if you have two coexisting animal species?

$$\begin{cases} x(t) = \text{population of rabbits} \\ y(t) = \text{population of sheep} \end{cases}$$

Note: The two species do not prey on each other but compete for the same limited resources

1. Logistic Approach:

$$\begin{cases} x' = 3x(1 - \frac{x}{1.5}) \\ y' = 2y(1 - \frac{y}{2}) \end{cases} = \begin{cases} x' = 3x - 2x^2 \\ y' = 2y - y^2 \end{cases}$$

However, this model does not account for competition for limited resources

2. A better model!

$$\begin{cases} x' = 3x - 2x^2 - xy \\ y' = 2y - y^2 - xy \end{cases}$$

Here, the xy term accounts for the interaction between the two populations (if either were 0, the term would go to zero)

Part III - Equilibria

Example 2: Find the equilibrium points of the model

$$\begin{cases} x' = x(3 - 2x - y) = 0 \\ y' = y(2 - y - x) = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} x = 0 \implies y = \{0, 2\} \implies \boxed{(0, 0) \quad (0, 2)} \\ 3 - 2x - y = 0 \implies (y = 0 \implies x = \frac{3}{2}) \\ \text{OR } \left(2 - y - x = 0 \implies \begin{cases} 3 - 2x - y = 0 \\ 2 - y - x = 0 \end{cases} \implies x = 1, \quad y = 1 \right) \implies \boxed{(\frac{3}{2}, 0) \quad (1, 1)} \end{cases}$$

Thus, the four possible outcomes:

1. $(0, 0)$ - Both die
2. $(0, 2)$ - Sheep win
3. $(\frac{3}{2}, 0)$ - Bunnies win
4. $(1, 1)$ - Coexistence

To classify each point, we use the linearization:

$$\nabla F(x, y) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial(3x-2x^2-xy)}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial(3x-2x^2-xy)}{\partial y} \\ \frac{\partial(2y-y^2-xy)}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial(2y-y^2-xy)}{\partial y} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3-4x-y & -x \\ -y & 2-2y-x \end{bmatrix}$$

Thus,

1. $F(0, 0) = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \implies \lambda = \{3, 2\} \implies$ the system is unstable
2. $F(0, 2) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -2 & -2 \end{bmatrix} = \lambda = \{1, -2\} \implies$ the system is semistable so the sheep will survive
3. $F(\frac{3}{2}, 0) = \begin{bmatrix} -3 & -\frac{3}{2} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix} \implies \lambda = \{-3, \frac{1}{2}\} \implies$ the system is also a saddle so the bunnies survive

4 Lecture: Oct 24

Part I - Rabbits and Sheep Model Recap

Our model, where x is the population of rabbits and y is the population of sheep:

$$\begin{cases} x' = 3x - 2x^2 - xy \\ y' = 2y - y^2 - xy \end{cases}$$

Equilibrium points: $(0, 0)$, $(0, 2)$, $(\frac{3}{2}, 0)$, $(1, 1)$

Part II - Classification continued

$$\nabla F(x, y) = \begin{bmatrix} 3-4x-y & -x \\ -y & 2-2y-x \end{bmatrix}$$

"Again, this is applied math. There is no reason we add this term. It just works. And if it doesn't, we work harder and make up a different term that just works"

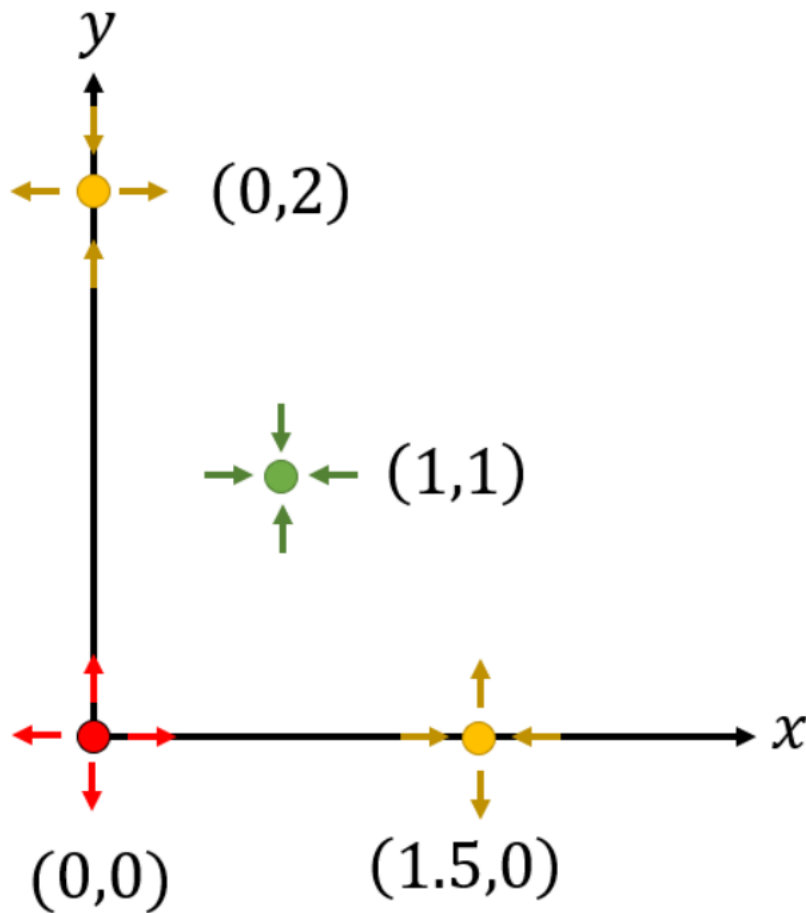
$$\nabla F(1, 1) = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Eigenvalues:

$$|A - \lambda I| = (-2 - \lambda)(-1 - \lambda) - 1 = \lambda^2 + 3\lambda + 1 = 0$$

$$\lambda = \frac{-3 \pm \sqrt{9 - 4(1)}}{2} = -\frac{3}{2} \pm \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2}$$

Here, both eigenvalues are negative so $(1, 1)$ is stable



Note: We do not know which directions of the saddle are positive and which are negative

To draw the rest of the picture, we need to the region $x \in [0, \frac{3}{2}]$ and $y \in [0, 2]$ because those coordinates are the limiting factors of the system

Part III - Nullclines

We want to study the behavior of solutions on the axes $x = 0, y = 0, x = 1.5, y = 2$

Nullclines: axes where x' or y' is 0

- Case 1: $x = 0$ (no rabbits)

$$\begin{cases} x' = 0 \\ y' = 2y - y^2 \end{cases}$$

As a result, we are only concerned with vertical movement on the axis.

Looking at the sign of y' , we see that it will be positive $[0, 2]$ and negative $[2, \infty]$

Therefore, the arrows will be moving up on the y -axis up to 2 and decreasing above 2, so we also now know the orientation of the saddle point.

Interpretation: if there are no rabbits, the population of sheep will simply increase until they hit their own carrying capacity (which is exactly what we expect!)

- Case 2: $y = 0$ (no sheep)

$$\begin{cases} x' = 3x - 2x^2 \\ y' = 0 \end{cases}$$

So x will increase until it reaches $x = \frac{3}{2}$

- Case 3: $y = 2$ (sheep reached limiting pop)

$$\begin{cases} x' = x - 2x^2 \\ y' = -2x \end{cases}$$

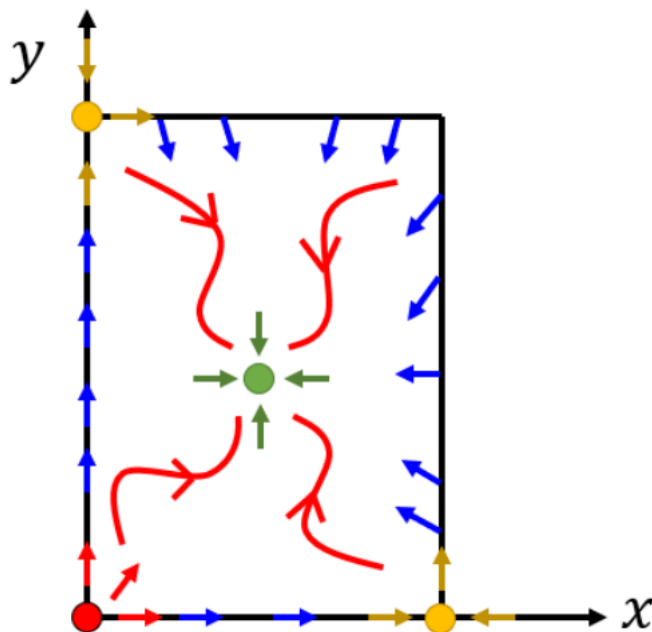
The sign of y' is negative, so on this axis the arrows are pointing down. And, because x' is positive $[0, \frac{1}{2}]$ and negative $[\frac{1}{2}, 1.5]$, the arrows also point roughly towards the centre of the region

- Case 4: $x = 1.5$ (saddle)

$$\begin{cases} x' = -\frac{3}{2}y \\ y' = \frac{1}{2}y - y^2 \end{cases}$$

The sign of x' is negative so the arrows point to the left, and y' is positive on $[0, \frac{1}{2}]$ and negative $[\frac{1}{2}, 2]$

From all of this, we can fill in the graph from earlier and draw a few solutions:



Epic conclusion: the species will not go extinct! they will happily coexist and eventually reach the equilibrium $(1, 1)$

BUT: we missed the case where there is a periodic orbit around the equilibrium point and where the two species struggle for eternity

Part IV - Periodic Orbits

To rule out the possibility of periodic orbits, we just need to examine the behaviour of the system at the axes of the equilibrium point.

- Case 1: $x = 1$

$$\begin{cases} x' = 2x - 2x^2 \\ y' = 1 - x \end{cases}$$

So on the axis $y = 1$, if $x < 1$, the arrows are pointing up, and if $x > 1$, they are pointing down.

- Case 2: $y = 1$

$$\begin{cases} x' = 1 - y \\ y' = -y + y^2 \end{cases}$$

So on the axis $x = 1$, if $y < 1$, the arrows are pointing to the right (increasing) and if $y > 1$, they are pointing to the left (x decreasing)

Completing the picture, we see that no periodic orbit is possible!

5 Lecture: Oct 26

Part I - Chemical Tanks

Assume there are three chemical tanks in series.

- Tank 1: $Q_1(t)$ kg salt, 2L water
- Tank 2: $Q_2(t)$ kg salt, 4L water
- Tank 3: $Q_3(t)$ kg, 3L water
- The first tank has an input of 6L/min of water and 1/3 kg/L salt
- Each minute, 4L salinated water flows from the first tank to the second and from the second to the third
- The third tank has an output of 12 L/min

Set up a system in the form $Q'(t) = A Q(t) + b$

1. $Q'_1(t) = 6\left(\frac{1}{3}\right) - 4\left(\frac{Q_1(t)}{2}\right) = 2 - 2Q_1(t)$
2. $Q'_2(t) = 4\left(\frac{Q_1(t)}{2}\right) - 4\left(\frac{Q_2(t)}{4}\right) = 2Q_1(t) - Q_2(t)$
3. $Q'_3(t) = 4\left(\frac{Q_2(t)}{4}\right) - 12\left(\frac{Q_3(t)}{3}\right) = Q_2(t) - 4Q_3(t)$

So, the system is

$$\begin{cases} Q'_1 = -2Q_1 + 2 \\ Q'_2 = 2Q_1 - Q_2 \\ Q'_3 = Q_2 - 4Q_3 \end{cases}$$

So,

$$Q' = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -4 \end{bmatrix} Q(t) + \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Part II - Matrix Exponentials

Example 2: Use matrix exponentials to solve $x' = Ax$ where

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 7 & -1 \\ 9 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad x(0) = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solution:

$$\begin{vmatrix} 7 - \lambda & -1 \\ 9 & 1 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = (7 - \lambda)(1 - \lambda) + 9 = \lambda^2 - 8\lambda + 16 = 0$$
$$(\lambda - 4)^2 = 0 \implies \lambda = 4$$

$$e^{At} = e^{4t} e^{(A-4I)t} = e^{4t} (I + (A - 4I)t)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & e^{4t} \left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -1 \\ 9 & -3 \end{bmatrix} \right) \\ &= e^{4t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 + 3t & -t \\ 9t & 1 - 3t \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

$$x(t) = C_1 e^{4t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 + 3t \\ 9t \end{bmatrix} + C_2 e^{4t} \begin{bmatrix} -t \\ 1 - 3t \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x(0) = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = C_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + C_2 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \implies C_1 = 2, \quad C_2 = 3$$

$$x(t) = 2e^{4t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 + 3t \\ 9t \end{bmatrix} + 3e^{4t} \begin{bmatrix} -t \\ 1 - 3t \end{bmatrix} = \boxed{e^{4t} \begin{bmatrix} 2 + 3t \\ 3 + 9t \end{bmatrix}}$$

Part III - Euler's Method

Example 3: Apply Euler's method with $N = 2$ to find y_0, y_1, y_2 on $[2, 6)$ where

$$\begin{cases} y' = y^2 - 2t \\ y(2) = 1 \end{cases}$$

Solution:

$$h = \frac{6 - 2}{2} = 2$$

$$y_0 = 1$$

$$y_1 = y_0 + hy'(2) = 1 + 2(1 - 4) = -5$$

$$y_2 = y_1 + hy'(4) = -5 + 2(25 - 8) = -5 + 34 = 29$$

Part IV - Phase Portraits

Example 4: Sketch the phase portrait of $x' = Ax$ where

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

Solution:

$$\lambda = 3 \pm 2i$$

$$\vec{v}_{3+2i} = \begin{bmatrix} -2i \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$e^{(3+2i)t} \begin{bmatrix} -2i \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = e^{3t} (\cos(2t) + i \sin(2t)) \left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} - i \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

$$x(t) = C_1 \left(e^{3t} \cos(2t) \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \sin(2t) \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right) + C_2 e^{3t} \left(\cos(2t) \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \sin(2t) \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right)$$