

**Mathematics 215 Solutions to Midterm #2**

1. Let  $x_1 = x, x_2 = y, \mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{g}(t) = e^t \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \underline{\underline{A}} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 4 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$ . Then the given nonhomogeneous linear system of differential equations becomes

$$\mathbf{x}' = \underline{\underline{A}}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{g}(t) \quad (1).$$

First we find the general solution of the homogeneous system

$$\mathbf{x}' = \underline{\underline{A}}\mathbf{x}. \quad (2)$$

Then  $\mathbf{x} = \xi e^{\lambda t}$  solves (2) iff  $\underline{\underline{A}}\xi = \lambda\xi$ . For a nontrivial solution, it is necessary that  $p(\lambda) = \det(\underline{\underline{A}} - \lambda I) = (2 - \lambda)(-3 - \lambda) + 4 = \lambda^2 + \lambda - 2 = (\lambda + 2)(\lambda - 1) = 0$ . Hence

the matrix  $\underline{\underline{A}}$  has eigenvalues  $\lambda = \lambda_1 = 1, \lambda = \lambda_2 = -2$ . Let  $\xi^{(1)} = \begin{bmatrix} \xi_1^{(1)} \\ \xi_2^{(1)} \end{bmatrix}$  be an

eigenvector corresponding to the eigenvalue  $\lambda_1 = 1$ . Then  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 4 & -4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \xi_1^{(1)} \\ \xi_2^{(1)} \end{bmatrix} = 0$ .

Hence,  $\xi_2^{(1)} = \xi_1^{(1)}$ , and, without loss of generality, one can choose  $\xi_2^{(1)} = \xi_1^{(1)} = 1$

so that  $\xi^{(1)} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ . Let  $\xi^{(2)} = \begin{bmatrix} \xi_1^{(2)} \\ \xi_2^{(2)} \end{bmatrix}$  be an eigenvector corresponding to the

eigenvalue  $\lambda_2 = -2$ . Then  $\begin{bmatrix} 4 & -1 \\ 4 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \xi_1^{(2)} \\ \xi_2^{(2)} \end{bmatrix} = 0$ . Hence,  $\xi_2^{(2)} = 4\xi_1^{(2)}$ , and, without

loss of generality, one can choose  $\xi_1^{(2)} = 1$  so that  $\xi^{(2)} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$ .

Consequently, the general solution of (2) is given by  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}_h = c_1 e^t \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 e^{-2t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$

Now, we seek a particular solution of (1) of the form  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}_p = \xi e^t + \eta t e^t$  (3).

Then  $\mathbf{x}'_p = \xi e^t + \eta e^t + \eta t e^t, \underline{\underline{A}}\mathbf{x}_p = \underline{\underline{A}}\xi e^t + \underline{\underline{A}}\eta t e^t$ . Thus (3) solves (1) iff

$$\underline{\underline{A}}\eta = \eta, \quad (4)$$

$$(\underline{\underline{A}} - I)\xi = \eta - \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (5)$$

From (4), it follows that  $\eta = \alpha \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  with  $\alpha$  to be determined so that (5) has a

solution. Let  $\xi = \begin{bmatrix} \xi_1 \\ \xi_2 \end{bmatrix}$  Then (5) becomes

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 4 & -4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \xi_1 \\ \xi_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ \alpha - 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (6)$$

But (6) has a solution iff  $\alpha - 1 = 4\alpha \Leftrightarrow \alpha = -\frac{1}{3}$ . Then  $\xi_1 - \xi_2 = -\frac{1}{3}$  (7). Without loss of generality, a particular solution of (7) is given by  $\xi_2 = 0, \xi_1 = -\frac{1}{3}$ . Thus

$\mathbf{x}_p = -\frac{1}{3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} e^t - \frac{1}{3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} t e^t$ , and hence the general solution of (1) is given by

$\mathbf{x} = -\frac{1}{3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} e^t - \frac{1}{3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} t e^t + c_1 e^t \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 e^{-2t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$ . From the given initial conditions,

one has  $x_1(0) = -\frac{1}{3} + c_1 + c_2 = 1, \quad x_2(0) = c_1 + 4c_2 = 0 \Rightarrow c_1 = \frac{16}{9}, c_2 = -\frac{4}{9}$ . Thus the solution of the given IVP is given by

$$x = -\frac{1}{3} t e^t + \frac{13}{9} e^t - \frac{4}{9} e^{-2t}, \quad y = -\frac{1}{3} t e^t + \frac{16}{9} e^t - \frac{16}{9} e^{-2t}.$$

2. (a)  $f(t) = u_0(t) - 2u_h(t) + u_{2h}(t)$ . Let  $F(s)$  be the Laplace transform of  $f(t)$ .

$$\text{Then } F(s) = \frac{1}{s} [1 - 2e^{-hs} + e^{-2hs}].$$

- (b) Let  $Y(s)$  be the Laplace transform of  $y(t)$ . Then  $(s^2 + 1)Y(s) = F(s)$ , i.e.,

$$Y(s) = \frac{1}{s(s^2 + 1)} [1 - 2e^{-hs} + e^{-2hs}]. \text{ Now use partial fractions. Then}$$

$$\frac{1}{s(s^2 + 1)} = \frac{A}{s} + \frac{Bs + C}{s^2 + 1} \text{ for some particular constants } A, B, C. \text{ Letting } s \rightarrow 0, \text{ one}$$

immediately sees that  $A = 1$ . Letting  $s \rightarrow \infty$ , one sees that

$$B + A = 0 \Rightarrow B = -1. \text{ Since } \frac{1}{s(s^2 + 1)} \text{ is an odd function of } s, \text{ it then follows that}$$

$$C = 0. \text{ Thus } Y(s) = \left[ \frac{1}{s} - \frac{s}{s^2 + 1} \right] [1 - 2e^{-hs} + e^{-2hs}]. \text{ Since the Laplace transform of}$$

$\cos t$  is  $\frac{s}{s^2 + 1}$ , it follows that the solution of the initial value problem is given by

$$y(t) = f(t) - \cos t + 2u_h(t) \cos(t - h) - u_{2h}(t) \cos(t - 2h).$$

- (c) If  $h = 2\pi$ , then

$$y(t) = \begin{cases} 1 - \cos t, & 0 \leq t < 2\pi \\ -1 + \cos t, & 2\pi \leq t < 4\pi \\ 0, & t \geq 4\pi \end{cases}$$

Note, of course, that the solution and its first derivative are both continuous. A sketch of the solution is given on the next page.

(c)

