

**Calculus (MATH11007): Sheet 13**  
**Coupled first order systems**

2013

1. For each of the following coupled first order systems, find the set of equilibrium points.  
 (The dependent variables,  $x$ ,  $y$  and  $v$ , are all real-valued.)

(a)  $\dot{x} = 3x + 2y,$   
 $\dot{y} = x.$

(d)  $\dot{x} = x - xy,$   
 $\dot{y} = x - 3y + 2xy.$

(b)  $\dot{x} = 3x + 2y + 1,$   
 $\dot{y} = x + 2y + 4.$

(e)  $\dot{x} = v,$   
 $\dot{v} = x - x^5.$

(c)  $\dot{x} = 3x + 6y,$   
 $\dot{y} = 2x + 4y.$

(f)  $\dot{x} = v,$   
 $\dot{v} = x + x^5.$

2. (a) Find the general solution of the following coupled first order system

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= -2x + 6y, \\ \dot{y} &= 6x + 7y.\end{aligned}$$

(b) Sketch the trajectories in the phase plane.  
 (c) Find the solution satisfying the initial condition  $x(0) = 1$ ,  $y(0) = 0$ .

3. (a) Find the general solution of the following coupled first order system

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= 6x + 2y, \\ \dot{y} &= 2x + 9y.\end{aligned}$$

(b) Sketch the trajectories in the phase plane.  
 (c) Find the solution satisfying the initial condition  $x(0) = 1$ ,  $y(0) = 0$ .

4. Consider the following pair of coupled equations:

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= x - y, \\ \dot{y} &= x + 3y.\end{aligned}$$

(a) Show that there is only one independent solution of the form  $\mathbf{v}e^{\lambda t}$  where  $\mathbf{v}$  is a constant vector. Find  $\mathbf{v}$  and  $\lambda$ .  
 (b) Find a second solution by using a trial solution of the form

$$\mathbf{w}te^{\lambda t} + \mathbf{z}e^{\lambda t}$$

where  $\mathbf{w}$  and  $\mathbf{z}$  are constant vectors and  $\lambda$  has the value you found in part (a).