

1. (a) Solve  $3x + 2y = 0$  and  $x = 0$  to find the equilibrium point is  $(x, y) = (0, 0)$ .
- (b) Solve  $3x + 2y + 1 = 0$  and  $x + 2y + 4 = 0$  to find the equilibrium point is  $(x, y) = (\frac{3}{2}, -\frac{11}{4})$ .
- (c) Solve  $3x + 6y = 0$  and  $2x + 4y = 0$  to find the equilibrium points lie along the line  $x = -2y$  and are given parametrically by  $(x, y) = (t, -\frac{1}{2}t)$  for all values of the parameter  $t$ .
- (d) Solve  $x(1-y) = 0$  and  $x - 3y + 2xy = 0$  to find the equilibrium points are  $(x, y) = (0, 0)$  and  $(x, y) = (1, 1)$ .
- (e) Solve  $v = 0$  and  $x - x^5 = 0$  to find the equilibrium points are  $(x, v) = (0, 0)$  and  $(x, v) = (\pm 1, 0)$ .
- (f) Solve  $v = 0$  and  $x + x^5 = 0$  to find the equilibrium point is  $(x, v) = (0, 0)$ .

2. (a) The coupled equations may be written

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 6 \\ 6 & 7 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}.$$

Seek a solution of the form  $\mathbf{x} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{a}e^{\lambda t}$ . This requires

$$\left[ \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 6 \\ 6 & 7 \end{pmatrix} - \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right] \mathbf{a} = 0.$$

A non-trivial solution is admissible if  $\begin{vmatrix} -2 - \lambda & 6 \\ 6 & 7 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0$ . Thus  $(\lambda + 2)(\lambda - 7) - 36 = 0$ , which factorises to  $(\lambda - 10)(\lambda + 5) = 0$ . Hence there are two distinct values for  $\lambda$ , namely  $\lambda = -5$  and  $\lambda = 10$ .

When  $\lambda = 10$ ,  $\begin{pmatrix} -12 & 6 \\ 6 & -3 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{a} = 0$  and so  $\mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ .

When  $\lambda = -5$ ,  $\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 6 \\ 6 & 12 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{a} = 0$  and so  $\mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

The general solution is then

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} e^{10t} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-5t}, \quad (1)$$

where  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  are constants.

- (b) The phase plane is given in figure 1
- (c) At  $t = 0$ ,  $(x, y) = (1, 0)$  and so from (1),

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Thus  $c_1 = 1/5$  and  $c_2 = -2/5$  and the solution is

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{5} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} e^{10t} - \frac{2}{5} \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-5t},$$

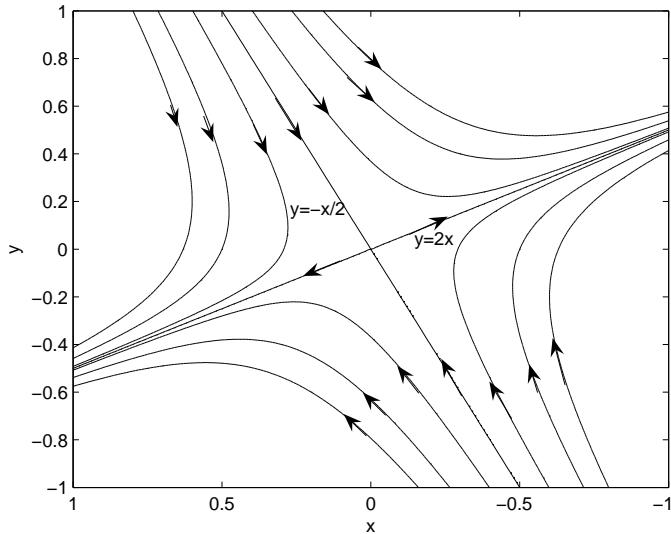


Figure 1: The phase plane for question 2(b).

3. (a) The coupled equations may be written

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 2 \\ 2 & 9 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}.$$

Seek a solution of the form  $\mathbf{x} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{a} e^{\lambda t}$ . This requires

$$\left[ \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 2 \\ 2 & 9 \end{pmatrix} - \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right] \mathbf{a} = 0.$$

A non-trivial solution is admissible if  $\begin{vmatrix} 6 - \lambda & 2 \\ 2 & 9 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0$ . Thus  $(\lambda - 6)(\lambda - 9) - 4 = 0$ , which factorises to  $(\lambda - 10)(\lambda - 5) = 0$ . Hence there are two distinct values for  $\lambda$ , namely  $\lambda = 5$  and  $\lambda = 10$ .

When  $\lambda = 10$ ,  $\begin{pmatrix} -4 & 2 \\ 2 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{a} = 0$  and so  $\mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ .

When  $\lambda = 5$ ,  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{a} = 0$  and so  $\mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

The general solution is then

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} e^{10t} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{5t}, \quad (2)$$

where  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  are constants.

(b) The phase plane is given in figure 2

(c) At  $t = 0$ ,  $(x, y) = (1, 0)$  and so from (2),

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Thus  $c_1 = 1/5$  and  $c_2 = -2/5$  and the solution is

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{5} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} e^{10t} - \frac{2}{5} \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-5t},$$

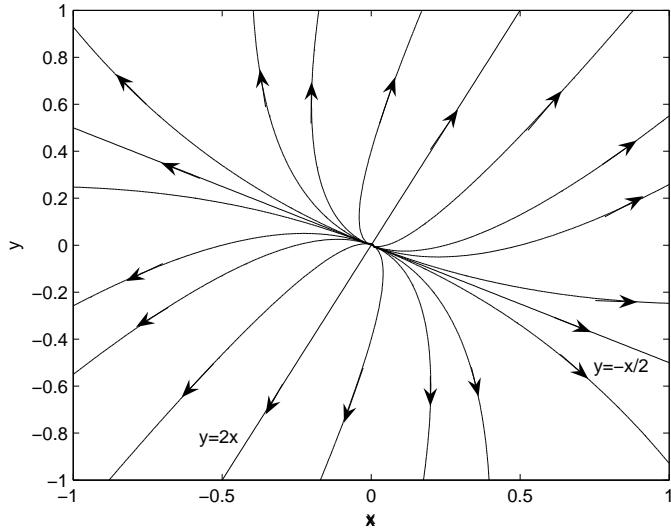


Figure 2: The phase plane for question 3(b).

4. (a) The coupled equations may be written

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}.$$

Seek a solution of the form  $\mathbf{x} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{v} e^{\lambda t}$ . This requires

$$\left[ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} - \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right] \mathbf{v} = 0.$$

A non-trivial solution is admissible if  $\begin{vmatrix} 1 - \lambda & -1 \\ 1 & 3 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0$ . Thus  $(\lambda - 1)(\lambda - 3) + 1 = 0$ , which factorises to  $(\lambda - 2)^2 = 0$ . Hence there is one two distinct value for  $\lambda$ , namely  $\lambda = 2$ .

When  $\lambda = 2$ ,  $\begin{pmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{v} = 0$  and so  $\mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

(b) Now seek an additional solution of the form  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{w} t e^{2t} + \mathbf{z} e^{2t}$ . The derivative is then given by  $\frac{d\mathbf{x}}{dt} \equiv \mathbf{w} (1 + 2t) e^{2t} + 2\mathbf{z} e^{2t}$  and the governing equation is then of the form

$$\mathbf{w} (1 + 2t) e^{2t} + 2\mathbf{z} e^{2t} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} (\mathbf{w} t e^{2t} + \mathbf{z} e^{2t}).$$

Equating the terms in  $e^{2t}$  and  $t e^{2t}$ , we deduce

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{w} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{z} = \mathbf{w}.$$

So we find that  $\mathbf{w} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{z} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 - b \\ b \end{pmatrix}$ , for any  $b$ .

So the general solution can be written

$$\mathbf{x} = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} e^{2t} + c_2 \left( \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} t e^{2t} + \begin{pmatrix} -1 - b \\ b \end{pmatrix} e^{2t} \right),$$

where  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  are constants. Then by writing  $c_3 = c_1 - bc_2$ , we find

$$\mathbf{x} = c_3 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} e^{2t} + c_2 \left( \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} t e^{2t} + \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} e^{2t} \right).$$