

**F1.2UE2**



## **Department of Mathematics**

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**F1.2UE2**

**Differential Equations and Linear Algebra**

**Duration: 2 Hours**

**March 2003**

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**Attempt all questions.**

**A University approved calculator may be used  
for basic computations, but  
appropriate working must be shown to obtain full credit.**

**Mathematical Formulae are supplied.**

**Question 1 (15 Marks)**

Find the general solution of the following differential equations:

(a)

$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} - 3\frac{dy}{dt} - 4y = 0;$$

(b)

$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + 2\frac{dy}{dt} + 5y = 3e^{2t}.$$

**Question 2 (15 Marks)**

Consider the flow of an electrical current  $I(t)$  in a simple series circuit, as shown in Figure 1. The resistor has resistance  $R = 8$  Ohms, the capacitor has capacitance  $C = 1/16$  Farads and the inductor has inductance  $L = 1$  Henrys. A battery or power source provides an impressed voltage of  $V(t) = \sin(2t)$  volts at any given time. The rate of change of total charge,  $Q(t)$  Coulombs, in the capacitor at time  $t$ , is thus governed by the linear, non-homogeneous second order differential equation,

$$\frac{d^2Q}{dt^2} + 8\frac{dQ}{dt} + 16Q = \sin(2t). \quad (1)$$

If initially,  $Q(0) = 1$  and  $Q'(0) = 0$ , find the solution to the differential equation (1) which satisfies these initial conditions, and describe how the solution,  $Q(t)$ , evolves in time.

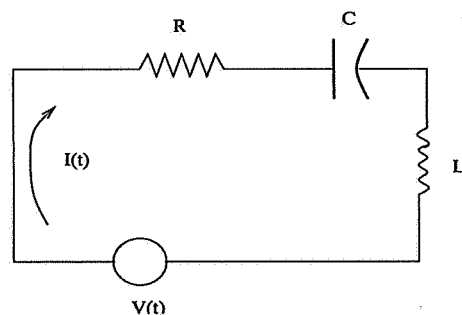


Figure 1: Simple LCR electrical circuit.

**Question 3 (10 Marks)**

Find the general solution of the differential equation

$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} - 6\frac{dy}{dt} + 9y = e^{3t}.$$

**Question 4 (10 Marks)**

(a) Find the Laplace transform of the function

$$f(t) = e^{3t} \cos(5t),$$

stating any formula from the Laplace transform table you have used.

(b) Find the inverse Laplace transform of the function

$$\bar{f}(s) = \frac{1}{s^2 + 2s + 2}.$$

**Question 5 (15 Marks)**

Consider the damped spring system shown in figure 2, which consists of a mass which slides on the horizontal surface, and is attached to a spring, which is fixed to a vertical wall at the other end. Suppose that the mass, initially at rest in the equilibrium position, is acted upon by an external forcing function  $f(t)$ , so that the initial value problem for the motion of the mass is

$$y'' + 4y' + 5y = f(t), \quad \text{with } y(0) = 0, \quad y'(0) = 0. \quad (2)$$

Use the Laplace transform to determine the solution to this initial value problem in the case when the external force is:

(a)  $f(t) = 1$  for all  $t \geq 0$ , i.e. a constant unit force;(b)  $f(t) = \delta(t)$  for all  $t \geq 0$ , i.e. the mass is given a sharp hammer blow at time  $t = 0$ .

In both cases (a) and (b) sketch the behaviour of the solution for all  $t \geq 0$ .

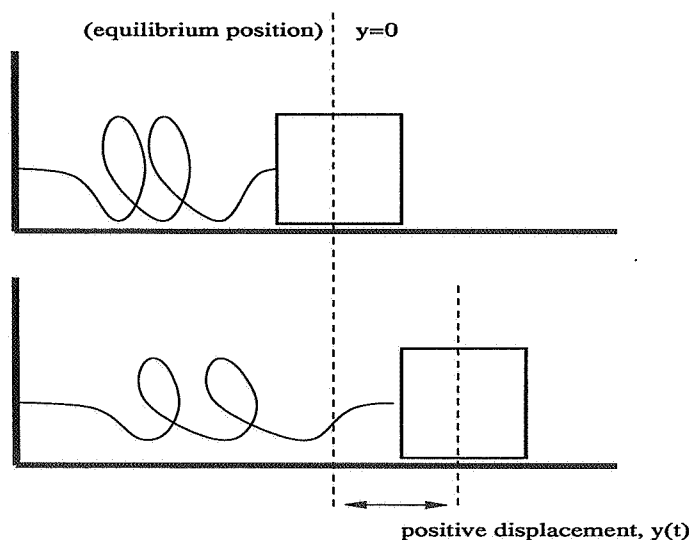


Figure 2: Simple damped, mass-spring system.

**Question 6 (10 Marks)**

Consider the electrical circuit in figure 3.

Kirchoff's loop rule, Ohm's law and Kirchoff's node rule applied to the left closed loop, the right closed loop, and at the nodes P and Q, respectively, tell us that the unknown currents,  $I_1$ ,  $I_2$  and  $I_3$ , in the electrical circuit in figure 3, satisfy the system of equations

$$\begin{aligned} 20I_1 + 10I_2 &= 80, \\ 10I_2 + 25I_3 &= 90, \\ I_1 - I_2 + I_3 &= 0, \\ -I_1 + I_2 - I_3 &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Use Gaussian elimination to solve the system of equations and determine  $I_1$ ,  $I_2$  and  $I_3$ .

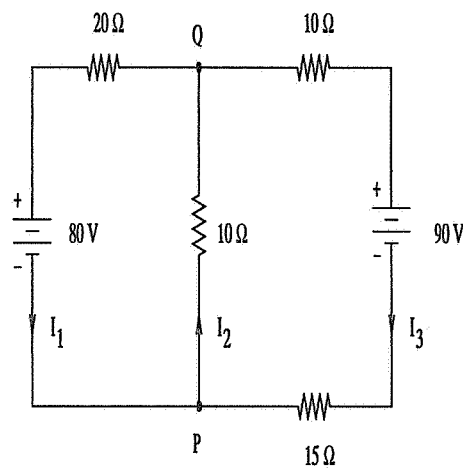


Figure 3: Complex electrical circuit in equilibrium.

**Question 7 (10 Marks)**

Find the eigenvalues of the matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

In addition, find the eigenvector corresponding to the eigenvalue  $\lambda = 2$ .

**Question 8 (15 Marks)**

Two identical simple pendula oscillate in the plane as shown in Figure 4. Both pendula consist of light rods of length  $\ell = 10$  and are suspended from the same ceiling a distance  $L = 15$  apart, with equal masses  $m = 1$  attached to their ends. The angles the pendula make to the downward vertical are  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2$ , and they are coupled through the spring shown which has stiffness coefficient  $k = 1$ . The spring has unstretched length  $L = 15$ . You may also assume that the acceleration due to gravity  $g = 10$ .

- (a) Assuming that the oscillations of the spring remain small in amplitude, so that  $|\theta_1| \ll 1$  and  $|\theta_2| \ll 1$ , by applying Newton's second law and Hooke's law, show that the coupled pendula system gives rise to the system of differential equations

$$\frac{d^2\Theta}{dt^2} = A\Theta, \quad \text{where } A = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 1 \\ 1 & -2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (4)$$

and

$$\Theta = \begin{pmatrix} \theta_1 \\ \theta_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

is the vector of unknown angles for each of the pendula shown in Figure 4.

- (b) By looking for a solution of the form  $\Theta(t) = Ce^{i\omega t}$  for a constant vector  $C$ , show that solving the system of differential equations (4) reduces to solving the eigenvalue problem

$$(A + \omega^2 I)C = 0. \quad (5)$$

- (c) Solve the eigenvalue problem (5) in part (b) above, stating clearly the eigenvalues and associated eigenvectors.
- (d) Hence enumerate the possible modes of oscillation of the masses corresponding to each eigenvalue-eigenvector pair.
- (e) Finally, write down the general solution of the system of equations (4).

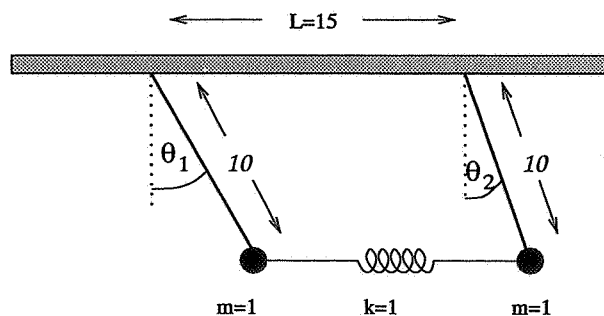


Figure 4: Simple coupled pendula system.

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QUESTION  
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SOLUTION  
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(a) Auxillary Equation:  $\lambda^2 - 3\lambda - 4 = 0$

$\Leftrightarrow \lambda = 4 \text{ or } \lambda = -1$

$\Rightarrow y(t) = C_1 e^{4t} + C_2 e^{-t}$

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(b) AE:  $\lambda^2 + 2\lambda + 5 = 0 \Leftrightarrow \lambda = -1 \pm 2i$

$\Rightarrow y_{CF}(t) = e^{-t}(C_1 \sin 2t + C_2 \cos 2t)$

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Try particular integral of form

$y_{PI}(t) = Ae^{2t}$

subst  $y_{PI}$  into differential equation  $\Rightarrow A = \frac{3}{13}$

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$\Rightarrow$  general solution is

$y(t) = e^{-t}(C_1 \sin 2t + C_2 \cos 2t) + \frac{3}{13} e^{2t}$

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1<sup>st</sup>: AE :  $\lambda^2 + 8\lambda + 16 = 0 \Leftrightarrow \lambda = -4$  (twice)

$\Rightarrow Q_{CF}(t) = (C_1 + C_2 t)e^{-4t}$

2<sup>nd</sup>: Try particular integral of form

$Q_{PI} = A \sin 2t + B \cos 2t.$

Substituting this into full non-homogeneous differential equation  $\Rightarrow$

$-4(A \sin 2t + B \cos 2t) + 8(2A \cos 2t - 2B \sin 2t) + 16(A \sin 2t + B \cos 2t) = \sin 2t$

Equating coefficients of  $\sin 2t$  &  $\cos 2t \Rightarrow$

$$\begin{cases} 12A - 16B = 1 \\ 16A + 12B = 0 \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow A = \frac{3}{100} \text{ \& } B = -\frac{1}{25}$$

Hence general soln is

$Q(t) = (C_1 + C_2 t)e^{-4t} + \frac{3}{100} \sin 2t - \frac{1}{25} \cos 2t$

3<sup>rd</sup>: using initial data

$Q(0) = 1 \Leftrightarrow 1 = C_1 - \frac{1}{25} \Leftrightarrow C_1 = \frac{26}{25}$

$Q'(0) = 0 \Leftrightarrow 0 = C_2 - 4C_1 + \frac{6}{100} \Leftrightarrow C_2 = \frac{41}{10}$

Finally  $\Rightarrow$  soln to IVP is  $Q(t) = \left(\frac{26}{25} + \frac{41}{10}t\right)e^{-4t} + \frac{3}{100} \sin 2t - \frac{1}{25} \cos 2t$

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SOLUTION  
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Looking at the final solution we see that it is a linear combination of an exponentially decaying part (the first term), which will die out very fast, and a pure oscillatory part (the last two terms) which will eventually represent the long-time solution & equilibrium state (driven by the alternating voltage source).

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SOLUTION  
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1st:  $y_{CF}(t) = (C_1 + C_2 t) e^{3t}$

2nd: Try a particular integral of form

$$y_{PI}(t) = At^2 e^{3t}$$

Substituting this into differential equation

$$\begin{aligned} & (2A + 6At + 6At + 9At^2) e^{3t} \\ & - 6(2At + 3At^2) e^{3t} \\ & + 9At^2 e^{3t} = e^{3t} \quad \Leftrightarrow A = \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow$  general soln is  $y(t) = (C_1 + C_2 t + \frac{1}{2} t^2) e^{3t}$ .

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(a)  $f(t) = e^{3t} \cos 5t$

Factor of  $e^{3t} \Rightarrow$  we can use the shift theorem, so first use table of Laplace transforms to find LT of  $\cos st$ :

$$\mathcal{L}\{\cos 5t\} = \frac{s}{s^2 + 25}$$

now using the shift th<sup>m</sup>,  $\mathcal{L}\{e^{3t} f(t)\} = \bar{f}(s-3)$ ,

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{L}\{e^{3t} \cos 5t\} = \frac{s-3}{(s-3)^2 + 25}$$

(b)  $\bar{f}(s) = \frac{1}{s^2 + 2s + 2}$

Since for the quadratic form in the denominator  $b^2 - 4ac < 0 \Rightarrow$  rather than factorize into complex roots, complete the square instead:

$$s^2 + 2s + 2 = (s+1)^2 + 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \bar{f}(s) = \frac{1}{(s+1)^2 + 1}$$

From table of LTs, since  $\mathcal{L}\{\sin t\} = \frac{1}{s^2 + 1}$ , then via the shift th<sup>m</sup>,

$$\mathcal{L}\{e^{-t} \sin t\} = \frac{1}{(s+1)^2 + 1} \Rightarrow \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{\bar{f}(s)\} = e^{-t} \sin t.$$

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$$y'' + 4y' + 5y = f(t), \quad y(0) = y'(0) = 0.$$

Take Laplace Transform of differential equation & using the initial conditions  $\Rightarrow$

$$s^2 \bar{y}(s) - sy(0) - y'(0) + 4(s\bar{y}(s) - y(0)) + 5\bar{y}(s) = \bar{f}(s)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (s^2 + 4s + 5) \bar{y}(s) = \bar{f}(s)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \bar{y}(s) = \frac{\bar{f}(s)}{s^2 + 4s + 5}$$

(a)  $f(t) = 1 \Rightarrow \bar{f}(s) = \frac{1}{s}$ .

Hence  $\bar{y}(s) = \frac{1}{s} \cdot \frac{1}{s^2 + 4s + 5}$

$$\frac{1}{s} \cdot \frac{1}{s^2 + 4s + 5} \equiv \frac{A}{s} + \frac{Bs + C}{s^2 + 4s + 5} \quad (\text{using partial fractions})$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 1 \equiv A(s^2 + 4s + 5) + (Bs + C)s$$

Equating like powers of s:

$$s^0: \quad 1 = 5A \Leftrightarrow A = 1/5$$

$$s^1: \quad 0 = 4A + C \Leftrightarrow C = -4/5$$

$$s^2: \quad 0 = A + B \Leftrightarrow B = -1/5$$

$$\Rightarrow \bar{y}(s) = \frac{1}{5} \cdot \frac{1}{s} - \frac{1}{5} \cdot \frac{s + 4}{s^2 + 4s + 5}$$

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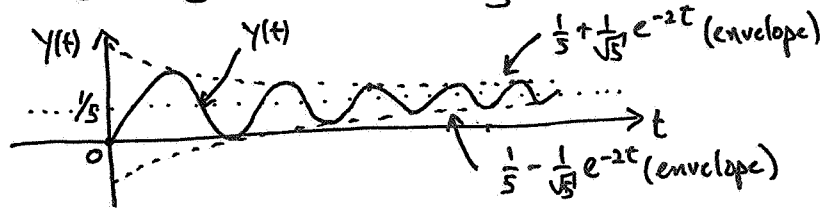
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QUESTION  
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SOLUTION  
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$$\Leftrightarrow \bar{y}(s) = \frac{1}{s} \cdot \frac{1}{s} - \frac{1}{s} \cdot \frac{(s+2)}{(s+2)^2+1} - \frac{1}{s} \cdot \frac{2}{(s+2)^2+1}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow y(t) = \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{5} e^{-2t} \cos t - \frac{2}{5} e^{-2t} \sin t.$$

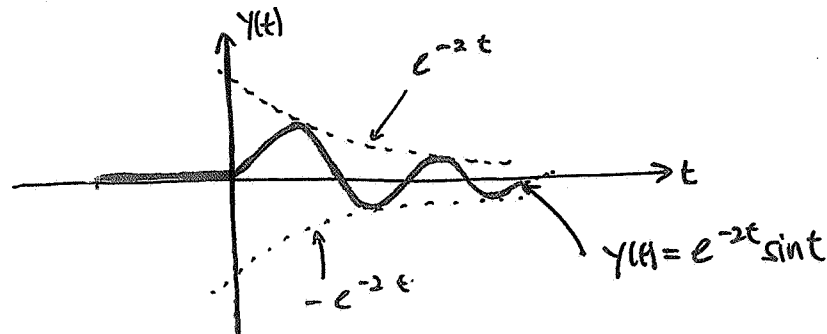


$$(b) \quad \bar{y}(s) = \frac{1}{(s^2+4s+5)} = \frac{1}{(s+2)^2+1}$$

Using table of Laplace transforms

$$\mathcal{L}\{e^{-2t} \sin t\} = \frac{1}{(s+2)^2+1}$$

$$\Rightarrow y(t) = \begin{cases} e^{-2t} \cdot \sin t, & t \geq 0, \\ 0, & t < 0. \end{cases}$$



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Augmented matrix

$$H = \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 20 & 10 & 0 & 80 \\ 0 & 10 & 25 & 90 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & -1 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} R_3 \rightarrow 20R_3 - R_1 \\ R_4 \rightarrow 20R_4 + R_1 \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow H = \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 20 & 10 & 0 & 80 \\ 0 & 10 & 25 & 90 \\ 0 & -30 & 20 & -80 \\ 0 & 30 & -20 & 80 \end{array} \right) \quad \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{l} R_3 \rightarrow 20R_3 - R_1 \\ R_4 \rightarrow 20R_4 + R_1 \end{array}} \right\} 3$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} R_3 \rightarrow R_3 + 3R_2 \\ R_4 \rightarrow R_4 - 3R_2 \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow H = \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 20 & 10 & 0 & 80 \\ 0 & 10 & 25 & 90 \\ 0 & 0 & 95 & 190 \\ 0 & 0 & -15 & -190 \end{array} \right) \quad \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{l} R_3 \rightarrow R_3 + 3R_2 \\ R_4 \rightarrow R_4 - 3R_2 \end{array}} \right\} 3$$

$$R_4 \rightarrow R_4 + R_3 \Rightarrow H = \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 20 & 10 & 0 & 80 \\ 0 & 10 & 25 & 90 \\ 0 & 0 & 95 & 190 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) \quad \left. \vphantom{R_4 \rightarrow R_4 + R_3} \right\} 2$$

(i.e. last equation redundant).

Using back substitution  $\Rightarrow$

$$I_3 = 2, \quad I_2 = 4 \quad \& \quad I_1 = 2.$$

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Eigenvalues are the solutions to the characteristic equation:

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \det \begin{pmatrix} 2-\lambda & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 2-\lambda & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 2-\lambda \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (2-\lambda)((2-\lambda)^2 - 1) + 1 \cdot (-1)(2-\lambda) = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (2-\lambda)(\lambda^2 - 4\lambda + 2) = 0$$

Hence  $\lambda = 2$ <sup>①</sup> or  $\lambda^2 - 4\lambda + 2 = 0$ <sup>②</sup>

$$\textcircled{2} \Leftrightarrow \lambda = \frac{4 \pm \sqrt{16-8}}{2} = 2 \pm \sqrt{2}$$

Hence the eigenvalues of A are

$$\lambda_1 = 2, \quad \lambda_2 = 2 + \sqrt{2}, \quad \lambda_3 = 2 - \sqrt{2}$$

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QUESTION  
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SOLUTION

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For  $\lambda_1 = 2$ ,  $(A - \lambda I) \underline{x} = \underline{0}$

$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 2-\lambda_1 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 2-\lambda_1 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 2-\lambda_1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} -x_2 = 0 \\ -x_1 - x_3 = 0 \\ -x_2 = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow x_2 = 0 \text{ \& } x_3 = -x_1.$$

Hence evec corres to  $\lambda = 2$  is

$$\underline{x} = \alpha \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ for arbitrary } \alpha \neq 0.$$

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(a)  $|\theta| \ll 1 \Rightarrow \sin \theta \approx \theta$

Equating tangential forces in each pendulum

$$m l \ddot{\theta}_1 = -mg\theta_1 + kl(\theta_2 - \theta_1)$$

$$m l \ddot{\theta}_2 = -mg\theta_2 - kl(\theta_2 - \theta_1)$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{2cm}}$  mass  $\times$  tangential acceleration    
  $\underbrace{\hspace{2cm}}$  force due to gravity    
  $\underbrace{\hspace{2cm}}$  force due to spring

$$\Leftrightarrow \ddot{\mathbf{H}} = A \mathbf{H} \quad \text{with } A \equiv \begin{pmatrix} -g/l & -k/m & k/m \\ k/m & -g/l & -k/m \end{pmatrix}$$

and  $\mathbf{H} = \begin{pmatrix} \theta_1 \\ \theta_2 \end{pmatrix}$ . With  $l=10, m=1, k=1,$

&  $g=10 \Rightarrow A = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 1 \\ 1 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$ .

(b) Looking for a solution of the form  $\mathbf{H} = C e^{i\omega t}$ ,

$$\Rightarrow (i\omega)^2 C e^{i\omega t} = A C e^{i\omega t}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (A + \omega^2 I) C = 0.$$

Eigenvalues are given by the characteristic equation  $\det(A + \omega^2 I) = 0$

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(c), (d)  $\Leftrightarrow \det \begin{pmatrix} -2+\omega^2 & 1 \\ 1 & -2+\omega^2 \end{pmatrix} = 0$

$\Leftrightarrow (\omega^2 - 2)^2 - 1 = 0$

$\Leftrightarrow (\omega^2)^2 - 4\omega^2 + 3 = 0$

$\Leftrightarrow \omega_1^2 = 3 \quad \text{or} \quad \omega_2^2 = 1$

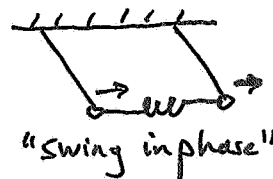
Corresponding eigenvectors:

$\omega_1^2 = 1$ :  $(A + \omega_1^2 I)C = 0$

$\Leftrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{pmatrix} = \underline{0} \Leftrightarrow c_1 = c_2$

$\Rightarrow$  corres evec is  $C^{(1)} = \alpha \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  for arbitrary  $\alpha \neq 0$ , & corres mode of oscillation is

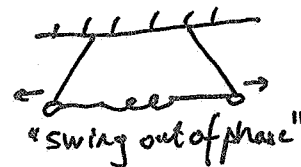
$\textcircled{H}^{(1)}(t) = \alpha \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{it}$



$\omega_2^2 = 1$ :  $\Leftrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{pmatrix} = \underline{0}$

$\Rightarrow$  corres evec is  $C^{(2)} = \beta \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\beta \neq 0$  arbitrary, & corres mode of oscillation is

$\textcircled{H}^{(2)}(t) = \beta \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{3it}$



(e) General solution:

$\textcircled{H}(t) = k_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{it} + k_2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} e^{3it}$ ,  $k_1, k_2$  arb complex constants.



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