

# Worksheet 26

Sections 306 and 310  
MATH 54

Nov 27, 2018

**Exercise 1.** Find a general solution of the system  $\mathbf{x}'(t) = A\mathbf{x}(t)$  for the given matrix  $A$ . You can use the fact that the eigenvalues of  $A$  are  $2$ ,  $2 + i$ , and  $2 - i$ .

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & -5 & -5 \\ -1 & 4 & 2 \\ 3 & -5 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Exercise 2.** For the coupled mass-spring system governed by (10) on page 536 of the book, assume  $m_1 = m_2 = 1\text{kg}$ ,  $k_1 = k_2 = k_3 = 1\text{ N/m}$  and assume initially that  $x_1(0) = 0\text{ m}$ ,  $x'_1(0) = 0\text{ m/s}$ ,  $x_2(0) = 2\text{m}$  and  $x'_2(0) = 0\text{ m/s}$ . Find the normal frequencies and solve the initial value problem.

**Exercise 3.** Determine whether the given vector functions are linearly independent or linearly dependent on  $(-\infty, \infty)$ .

(a) Show that the Cauchy-Euler equation  $at^2y'' + bty' + cy = 0$  can be written as system

$$t\mathbf{x}' = A\mathbf{x}$$

with a constant coefficient matrix  $A$ , by setting  $x_1 = y/t$  and  $x_2 = y'$ .

(b) Show that for  $t > 0$  any system of the form above has nontrivial solutions of the form  $\mathbf{x}(t) = t^r \mathbf{u}$  if and only if  $r$  is an eigenvalue of  $A$  and  $\mathbf{u}$  is a corresponding eigenvector.