

QUESTION

- (i) Set up the following system of linear differential equations as a matrix problem:

$$\frac{dx}{dt} + y + z = 3x \quad \frac{dy}{dt} + 6y + z = x \quad \frac{dz}{dt} + y = 2z.$$

- (ii) Write down the general form of the solution to the problem.
- (iii) Find the particular solution subject to the initial conditions $\frac{dx}{dt} = -218$, $\frac{dy}{dt} = -78$, $\frac{dz}{dt} = 52$ when $t = 0$.

ANSWER

- (i)

$$D \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & -6 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix}$$

- (ii) The general solution has form

$$k_1 \mathbf{v}_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} + k_2 \mathbf{v}_2 e^{\lambda_2 t} + k_3 \mathbf{v}_3 e^{\lambda_3 t}$$

where $\{\mathbf{v}_i\}$ = eigenvectors and $\{\lambda_i\}$ = eigenvalues of A

Solve $|A - \lambda I| = 0$ for λ

$$\begin{vmatrix} 3 - \lambda & -1 & -1 \\ - & -6 - \lambda & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 2 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = (3 - \lambda)[(-6 - \lambda)(2 - \lambda) - 1] - [-(2 - \lambda) - 1] \\ = (3 - \lambda)(-6 - \lambda)(2 - \lambda)$$

Eigenvalues $\lambda = -6, 2, 3$.

$$\lambda_1 = -6 \text{ solve } \begin{pmatrix} 9 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 8 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$8x = y = 8z, \quad \mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 8 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_2 = 2 \text{ solve } \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & -8 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$y = 0, \ x = z, \ \mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_3 = 3 \text{ solve } \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & -9 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$-y = z, \ x = 8y, \ \mathbf{v}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Solution is

$$\begin{aligned} x &= k_1 e^{-6t} + k_2 e^{2t} + 8k_3 e^{3t} \\ y &= 8k_1 e^{-6t} + k_3 e^{3t} \\ z &= k_1 e^{-6t} + k_2 e^{2t} - k_3 e^{3t} \end{aligned}$$

(iii) When $t = 0$,

$$D \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -6k_1 & +2k_2 & +24k_3 \\ -48k_1 & & +3k_3 \\ -6k_1 & +2k_2 & -3k_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Solve } \begin{pmatrix} -6 & 2 & 24 \\ -48 & 0 & 3 \\ -6 & 2 & -3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} k_1 \\ k_2 \\ k_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -218 \\ -78 \\ 52 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ the initial conditions.}$$

$$\begin{array}{lll} \text{row(1)-row(3)} & 27k_3 = -270 & k_3 = -10 \\ \text{row(2)} & -48k_1 - 30 = -78 & k_1 = 1 \\ \text{row(3)} & -6 + 2k_2 + 30 = 52 & k_2 = 14 \end{array}$$

Therefore the particular solution is

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} e^{-6t} + 14e^{2t} - 80e^{3t} \\ 8e^{-6t} - 10e^{3t} \\ e^{-6t} + 14e^{2t} + 10e^{3t} \end{pmatrix}$$