

Name _____

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Math 2250-1
Quiz 13 SOLUTIONS
December 9, 2011

1) Consider the first order system of differential equations

$$\begin{aligned}x'(t) &= y \\ y'(t) &= -4 \sin(x) - 5y.\end{aligned}$$

1a) Find the equilibrium solutions.

(2 points)

Equilibrium solutions are constant solutions so we must simultaneously have $y = 0$, $-4 \sin(x) - 5y = 0$, which is equivalent to $y = 0$, $\sin(x) = 0$.

Thus the equilibrium solutions are $(n\pi, 0)$ where n ranges through the integers. (You might recognize this first order system as possibly arising from a damped pendulum problem.)

1b) Linearize the first order system above at the equilibrium solution $(x, y) = (0, 0)$. Classify this critical point, making sure to include whether or not it is stable. (If there was more time and it was asked, could you draw a qualitatively accurate phase portrait near this point?)

(8 points)

In general if (x_e, y_e) is an equilibrium solution and if we write $x(t) = x_e + u(t)$, $y(t) = y_e + v(t)$ then the linearized equation for $[u(t), v(t)]^T$ uses the Jacobian matrix for $[F(x, y), G(x, y)]^T$:

$$\begin{aligned}J(x, y) &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} F & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} F \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} G & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} G \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -4 \cos(x) & -5 \end{bmatrix} \\ J(0, 0) &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -4 & -5 \end{bmatrix}.\end{aligned}$$

So the linearized system is

$$\begin{aligned}\begin{bmatrix} u'(t) \\ v'(t) \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -4 & -5 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u(t) \\ v(t) \end{bmatrix} \\ |J - \lambda I| &= \begin{vmatrix} -\lambda & 1 \\ -4 & -5 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = \lambda(\lambda + 5) + 4 = \lambda^2 + 5\lambda + 4 = (\lambda + 4)(\lambda + 1) = 0\end{aligned}$$

So the eigenvalues are $\lambda = -4, -1$. Thus $(0, 0)$ is a stable (improper) node, aka nodal sink. Could you find the eigenbasis for the Jacobian matrix, the general solution to the linearized problem, and could you sketch a qualitatively accurate phase portrait for the linearized system?

