April 8, 2011

Instructions: Give concise answers, but clearly indicate your reasoning.

I. Let
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 4t & -1 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & -t \\ 1 & 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
, $B = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -1 & 0 \\ 2 - t & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$, and $C = \begin{bmatrix} -\cos(t) & 3 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$.

(a) Tell which of the following six products are defined (do not do any calculations, just tell which ones are defined): AB, BA, AC, CA, BC, CB.

BA and CA are defined, AB, AC, BC, and CB are not defined.

(b) Calculate det(A).

The easiest way is to expand down the third column of A, since that column contains two zeros. We find that

$$\det(A) = 0 - (-t) \cdot (4t \cdot 2 - (-1) \cdot 1) + 0 = 8t^2 + t.$$

II. Define what it means to say that a collection of vectors $\{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n\}$ is linearly independent.

(2) It means that $c_1X_1 + c_2X_2 + \cdots + c_nX_n = 0$ for constants c_i only when all the c_i are 0. [or]

It means that if $c_1X_1 + c_2X_2 + \cdots + c_nX_n = 0$ for constants c_i , then all the c_i are 0.

III. Write the system $x'_1 = 8x_1 + tx_2 + \cos(t)$, $x'_2 = x_2 - x_3$, $x'_3 = t + 2tx_2 - x_3$ in matrix form X' = PX + F.

(3) Do not proceed further with solving the system, just rewrite the general form X' = PX + F with X, P and F written as matrices with the correct dimensions and entries for this particular system.

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}' = \begin{bmatrix} 8 & t & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 2t & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \cos(t) \\ 0 \\ t \end{bmatrix}$$

IV. Write the second-order system x'' - 2x + y = 0, y'' + 2x - 3y = 0 as an equivalent system of first-order (3) equations.

We define new functions x_1 , x_2 , y_1 , and y_2 by $x_1 = x$, $x_2 = x'$, $y_1 = y$, and $y_2 = y'$. With these definitions, the second-order system becomes

$$\begin{aligned}
 x_1' &= x_2 \\
 x_2' &= 2x_1 - y_1 \\
 y_1' &= y_2 \\
 y_2' &= -2x_1 + 3y_1
 \end{aligned}$$

V. For the system
$$X' = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} X$$
, verify that $X = e^{-t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$ is a solution.

We have
$$X' = -e^{-t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$
, and we compute that

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \cdot e^{-t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = e^{-t} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = e^{-t} \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = -e^{-t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = X' .$$

VI. Bonus problem: Graph the hyperbola $x^2 - \frac{y^2}{2} = 1$, showing the numerical values of the intercepts and the equations of the asymptotes.

