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**Math 21b: Linear Algebra and  
Differential Equations**

FORMULA AND THEOREM REVIEW

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May 5, 2010

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# 1 Linear Equations

## 1.1 Standard Representation of a Vector

$$\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

## 1.2 Reduced Row Echelon Form

- If a column contains a leading 1, then all the other entries in that column are 0.
- If a row contains a leading 1, then each row above it contains a leading 1 further to the left.

## 1.3 Elementary Row Operations

- Divide a row by a nonzero scalar.
- Subtract a multiple of a row from another row.
- Swap two rows.

## 1.4 Rank of a Matrix

The rank of a matrix  $A$  is the number of leading 1's in  $rref(A)$ .

## 1.5 Dot Product of Vectors

$$\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} = v_1w_1 + \cdots + v_nw_n$$

## 1.6 The Product $A\vec{x}$

$$A\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} \cdots & \vec{w}_1 & \cdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \cdots & \vec{w}_n & \cdots \end{bmatrix} \vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{w}_1 \cdot \vec{x} \\ \vdots \\ \vec{w}_n \cdot \vec{x} \end{bmatrix}$$

## 1.7 Algebraic Rules for $A\vec{x}$

- $A(\vec{x} + \vec{y}) = A\vec{x} + A\vec{y}$
- $A(k\vec{x}) = k(A\vec{x})$

## 2 Linear Transformations

### 2.1 Linear Transformations

A function  $T$  from  $\mathbb{R}^m$  to  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is called a linear transformation if there exists a matrix  $A$  such that

$$T(\vec{x}) = A\vec{x}$$

A transformation is called linear if and only if

- $T(\vec{v} + \vec{w}) = T(\vec{v}) + T(\vec{w})$
- $T(k\vec{v}) = kT(\vec{v})$

### 2.2 Scaling Matrix

A scaling matrix by  $k$  has the form:

$$\begin{bmatrix} k & 0 \\ 0 & k \end{bmatrix}$$

### 2.3 Orthogonal Projection onto a Line

$$\text{proj}_L(\vec{x}) = \left( \frac{\vec{x} \cdot \vec{w}}{\vec{w} \cdot \vec{w}} \right) \vec{w}$$

where  $\vec{w}$  is a vector parallel to the line  $L$ .

### 2.4 Reflection Matrix

A reflection matrix has the form:

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ b & -a \end{bmatrix}$$

### 2.5 Rotation Matrix

A rotation matrix has the form:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$$

### 2.6 Shear Matrix

A horizontal shear matrix has the form:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & k \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

and a vertical shear matrix has the form:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ k & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

## 2.7 Matrix Multiplication

The product of matrices  $BA$  is defined as the matrix of the linear transformation  $T(\vec{x}) = B(A\vec{x}) = (BA)\vec{x}$ .

- $(AB)C = A(BC)$
- $A(B + C) = AB + AC$
- $(kA)B = A(kB) = k(AB)$

## 2.8 Invertibility

An  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  is invertible if and only if:

1.  $rref(A) = I_n$
2.  $rank(A) = n$

or, more simply, if and only if  $det(A) \neq 0$ .

## 2.9 Finding the Inverse

1. Form the  $n \times (2n)$  matrix  $[A|I_n]$
2. Compute  $rref[A|I_n]$
3. If  $rref[A|I_n]$  is of the form  $[I_n|B]$  then  $A^{-1} = B$
4. If  $rref[A|I_n]$  is of another form, then  $A$  is not invertible

## 2.10 Properties of Invertible Matrices

If an  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  is invertible:

- The linear system  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$  has a unique solution  $\vec{x}$  for all  $\vec{b}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$
- $rref(A) = I_n$
- $rank(A) = n$
- $im(A) = \mathbb{R}^n$
- $ker(A) = \vec{0}$
- The column vectors of  $A$  are linearly independent and form a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^n$

### 3 Subspaces of $\mathbb{R}^n$ and Their Dimensions

#### 3.1 Image of a Function

$$\text{image}(f) = \{f(x) : x \text{ in } X\} = \{b \text{ in } Y : b = f(x), \text{ for some } x \text{ in } X\}$$

For a linear transformation  $T$ :

- The zero vector is in the image of  $T$
- If  $\vec{v}_1$  and  $\vec{v}_2$  are in the image of  $T$ , then so is  $\vec{v}_1 + \vec{v}_2$
- If  $\vec{v}$  is in the image of  $T$ , then so is  $k\vec{v}$

#### 3.2 Span

$$\text{span}(\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n) = \{c_1\vec{v}_1 + \dots + c_n\vec{v}_n : c_1 \dots c_n \text{ in } \mathbb{R}\}$$

#### 3.3 Kernel

The kernel of a linear transformation  $T$  is the solution set of the linear system:

$$A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$$

- The zero vector is in the kernel of  $T$
- If  $\vec{v}_1$  and  $\vec{v}_2$  are in the kernel; of  $T$ , then so is  $\vec{v}_1 + \vec{v}_2$
- If  $\vec{v}$  is in the kernel of  $T$ , then so is  $k\vec{v}$

#### 3.4 Subspaces of $\mathbb{R}^n$

A subset  $W$  of the vector space  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is a linear subspace if and only if:

1.  $W$  contains the zero vector
2.  $W$  is closed under addition
3.  $W$  is closed under scalar multiplication

The image and kernel of a linear transformation are linear subspaces.

#### 3.5 Linear Independence

1. If a vector  $\vec{v}_i$  in  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n$  can be expressed as a linear combination of the vectors  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_{i-1}$ , then  $\vec{v}_i$  is redundant.
2. The vectors  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n$  are linearly independent if no vector is redundant.
3. The vectors  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n$  form a basis of a subspace  $V$  if they span  $V$  and are linearly independent



### 3.6 Dimension

The number of vectors in a subspace  $V$  is the dimension of  $V$ .

### 3.7 Rank-Nullity Theorem

For an  $n \times m$  matrix  $A$ :

$$\dim(\ker A) + \dim(\operatorname{im} A) = m$$

### 3.8 Coordinates

For a basis  $\mathfrak{B} = (\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n)$  of a subspace  $V$ , any vector  $\vec{x}$  can be written as:

$$\vec{x} = c_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + c_n \vec{v}_n$$

$c_1, \dots, c_n$  are called the  $\mathfrak{B}$ -coordinates of  $\vec{x}$ , with

$$[\vec{x}]_{\mathfrak{B}} = \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\vec{x} = S[\vec{x}]_{\mathfrak{B}} \quad \text{and} \quad [\vec{x}]_{\mathfrak{B}} = S^{-1}\vec{x}$$

where  $S = [v_1 \cdots v_n]$

### 3.9 Linearity of Coordinates

- $[\vec{x} + \vec{y}]_{\mathfrak{B}} = [\vec{x}]_{\mathfrak{B}} + [\vec{y}]_{\mathfrak{B}}$
- $[k\vec{x}]_{\mathfrak{B}} = k[\vec{x}]_{\mathfrak{B}}$

### 3.10 Matrix of a Linear Transformation

The matrix  $B$  that transforms  $[\vec{x}]_{\mathfrak{B}}$  into  $[T(\vec{x})]_{\mathfrak{B}}$  is called the  $\mathfrak{B}$ -matrix of  $T$ :

$$[T(\vec{x})]_{\mathfrak{B}} = B[\vec{x}]_{\mathfrak{B}}, \quad \text{where } B = [[T(\vec{v}_1)]_{\mathfrak{B}} \cdots [T(\vec{v}_n)]_{\mathfrak{B}}]$$

### 3.11 Similar Matrices

Two matrices  $A$  and  $B$  are similar if and only if:

$$AS = SB \quad \text{or} \quad B = S^{-1}AS$$

## 4 Linear Spaces

### 4.1 Linear Spaces

A linear space  $V$  is a set with rules for addition and scalar multiplication that satisfies the following properties:

1.  $(f + g) + h = f + (g + h)$
2.  $f + g = g + f$
3. There exists a neutral element  $n$  in  $V$  such that  $f + n = f$
4. For each  $f$  in  $V$  there exists a  $g$  in  $V$  such that  $f + g = 0$
5.  $k(f + g) = kf + kg$
6.  $(c + k)f = cf + kf$
7.  $c(kf) = (ck)f$
8.  $1f = f$

### 4.2 Finding a Basis of a Linear Space $V$

1. Find a typical element  $w$  of  $V$  in terms of arbitrary constants.
2. Express  $w$  as a linear combination of elements in  $V$ .
3. If these elements are linearly independent, they will form a basis of  $V$ .

### 4.3 Isomorphisms

- A linear transformation  $T$  is an isomorphism if  $T$  is invertible.
- A linear transformation  $T$  from  $V$  to  $W$  is an isomorphism if and only if  $\ker(T) = 0$  and  $\text{im}(T) = W$ .
- Coordinate changes are isomorphisms.
- If  $V$  is isomorphic to  $W$ , then  $\dim(V) = \dim(W)$ .

## 5 Orthogonality and Least Squares

### 5.1 Orthogonality and Length

- Two vectors  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{w}$  are orthogonal if  $\vec{v} \cdot \vec{w} = 0$ .
- The length of a vector  $\vec{v}$  is  $\|\vec{v}\| = \sqrt{\vec{v} \cdot \vec{v}}$ .
- A vector  $\vec{u}$  is a unit vector if its length is 1.

### 5.2 Orthonormal Vectors

The vectors  $\vec{u}_1, \dots, \vec{u}_n$  are orthonormal if they are unit vectors orthogonal to each other.

$$\vec{u}_i \cdot \vec{u}_j = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i = j \\ 0 & \text{if } i \neq j \end{cases}$$

### 5.3 Orthogonal Projection onto a Subspace

If  $V$  is a subspace with an orthonormal basis  $\vec{u}_1, \dots, \vec{u}_n$ :

$$\text{proj}_V(\vec{x}) = (\vec{u}_1 \cdot \vec{x})\vec{u}_1 + \dots + (\vec{u}_n \cdot \vec{x})\vec{u}_n$$

### 5.4 Orthogonal Complement

The orthogonal complement  $V^\perp$  of a subspace  $V$  is the set of vectors  $\vec{x}$  orthogonal to all vectors in  $V$ :

$$V^\perp = \{\vec{x} \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^n : \vec{v} \cdot \vec{x} = 0, \text{ for all } \vec{v} \text{ in } V\}$$

- $V^\perp$  is a subspace of  $V$
- $V \cap V^\perp = \vec{0}$
- $\dim(V) + \dim(V^\perp) = n$
- $(V^\perp)^\perp = V$

### 5.5 Pythagorean Theorem

$$\|\vec{x} + \vec{y}\|^2 = \|\vec{x}\|^2 + \|\vec{y}\|^2$$

### 5.6 Cauchy-Schwarz Inequality

$$\|\vec{x} \cdot \vec{y}\| \leq \|\vec{x}\| \|\vec{y}\|$$

## 5.7 Angle Between Two Vectors

$$\theta = \arccos \frac{\vec{x} \cdot \vec{y}}{\|\vec{x}\| \|\vec{y}\|}$$

## 5.8 Gram-Schmidt Process

For a basis  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n$  of a subspace  $V$ :

$$\vec{u}_1 = \frac{1}{\|\vec{v}_1\|} \vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{u}_n = \frac{1}{\|\vec{v}_n^\perp\|}$$

where

$$\vec{v}_i^\perp = \vec{v}_i - (\vec{u}_1 \cdot \vec{v}_i) \vec{u}_1 - \dots - (\vec{u}_{i-1} \cdot \vec{v}_i) \vec{u}_{i-1}$$

## 5.9 QR Decomposition

For an  $n \times m$  matrix  $M$ ,  $M = QR$ , where  $Q$  is an  $n \times m$  matrix whose columns  $\vec{u}_1, \dots, \vec{u}_n$  are orthonormal and  $R$  has entries satisfying:

$$r_{11} = \|\vec{v}_1\|, \quad r_{jj} = \|\vec{v}_j^\perp\|, \quad r_{ij} = \vec{u}_i \cdot \vec{v}_j \text{ for } i < j$$

## 5.10 Orthogonal Transformation

A linear transformation  $T$  is considered orthogonal if it preserves the length of vectors, such that

$$\|T(\vec{x})\| = \|\vec{x}\|$$

- $T$  is orthogonal if the vectors  $T(\vec{e}_1), \dots, T(\vec{e}_n)$  form an orthonormal basis of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .
- The matrix  $A$  is orthogonal if  $A^T A = I_n$ .
- The matrix  $A$  is orthogonal if  $A^{-1} = A^T$ .
- A matrix  $A$  is orthogonal if its columns form an orthonormal basis of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .
- The product  $AB$  of two orthogonal matrices  $A$  and  $B$  is orthogonal.
- The inverse  $A^{-1}$  of an orthogonal matrix  $A$  is orthogonal.

## 5.11 Transpose

The transpose  $A^T$  of an  $m \times n$  matrix  $A$  is the  $n \times m$  matrix whose  $ij$ th entry is the  $ji$ th entry of  $A$ .

- $(AB)^T = B^T A^T$
- $(A^T)^{-1} = (A^{-1})^T$
- $\text{rank}(A) = \text{rank}(A^T)$ .

## 5.12 Symmetric and Skew Symmetric Matrices

- An  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  is symmetric if  $A^T = A$ .
- An  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  is skew-symmetric if  $A^T = -A$ .

## 5.13 Matrix of an Orthogonal Projection

The orthongonal projection onto a subspace  $V$  with an orthonormal basis  $\vec{u}_1, \dots, \vec{u}_n$  is

$$QQ^T, \quad \text{where } Q = [\vec{u}_1 \cdots \vec{u}_n]$$

or equivalently,

$$A(A^T A)^{-1} A^T \quad \text{where } A = [\vec{v}_1 \cdots \vec{v}_n]$$

## 5.14 Least-Squares Solution

The unique least-squares solution of a linear system  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$  where  $\ker(A) = \vec{0}$  is

$$\vec{x}^* = (A^T A)^{-1} A^T \vec{b}$$

## 5.15 Inner Product Spaces

The inner product of a linear space  $V$ , denoted  $\langle f, g \rangle$ , has the following properties:

- $\langle f, g \rangle = \langle g, f \rangle$
- $\langle f + h, g \rangle = \langle f, g \rangle + \langle h, g \rangle$
- $\langle cf, g \rangle = c\langle f, g \rangle$
- $\langle f, f \rangle > 0$

## 5.16 Norm and Orthongonality

The norm of an element  $f$  of an inner product space is

$$\|f\| = \sqrt{\langle f, f \rangle}$$

Two elements  $f$  and  $g$  of an inner product space are orthongonal if

$$\langle f, g \rangle = 0$$

## 5.17 Trace of a Matrix

The trace  $tr(A)$  of a matrix  $A$  is the sum of its diagonal entries.

## 5.18 Orthogonal Projection of an Inner Product Space

If  $g_1, \dots, g_n$  is an orthonormal basis of a subspace  $W$  of an inner product space  $V$ :

$$\text{proj}_W f = \langle g_1, f \rangle g_1 + \dots + \langle g_n, f \rangle g_n$$

## 5.19 Fourier Analysis

$$f_n(t) = a_0 \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + b_1 \sin(t) + c_1 \cos(t) + \dots + b_n \sin(nt) + c_n \cos(nt)$$

where

$$a_0 = \langle f, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \rangle = \frac{1}{\pi\sqrt{2}} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) dt$$
$$b_k = \langle f, \sin(kt) \rangle = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) \sin(kt) dt$$
$$c_k = \langle f, \cos(kt) \rangle = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) \cos(kt) dt$$

# 6 Determinants

## 6.1 Sarrus's Rule

For an  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$ , write the first  $n - 1$  columns to the right of  $A$ , then multiply along the diagonal to get  $2n$  products. Subtract the first  $n$  products, then add the second  $n$  products to get the determinant.

## 6.2 Patterns

- A pattern of an  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  is a way to choose  $n$  entries of  $A$  such that each entry is in a unique row and column.
- The product of a pattern is designated  $P$ .
- Two entries in a pattern are an inversion if one is located above and to the right of the other.
- The signature of a pattern is defined as  $\text{sgn } P = (-1)^{(\text{inversions in } P)}$

$$\det(A) = \sum (\text{sgn } P)(\text{prod } P)$$

### 6.3 Determinants and Gauss-Jordan Elimination

If  $B$  is an  $n \times n$  matrix obtained from applying an elementary row operation on an  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$ :

- If  $B$  is obtained by row division:  $\det(B) = \frac{1}{k}\det(A)$
- If  $B$  is obtained by row swap:  $\det(B) = -\det(A)$
- If  $B$  is obtained by row addition:  $\det(B) = \det(A)$

### 6.4 Laplace Expansion

Expansion down the  $j$ th column:

$$\det(A) = \sum_{i=1}^n (-1)^{i+j} a_{ij} \det(A_{ij})$$

Expansion along the  $i$ th row:

$$\det(A) = \sum_{j=1}^n (-1)^{i+j} a_{ij} \det(A_{ij})$$

### 6.5 Properties of the Determinant

- $\det(A^T) = \det(A)$
- $\det(AB) = \det(A)\det(B)$
- If  $A$  and  $B$  are similar, then  $\det(A) = \det(B)$
- $\det(A^{-1}) = \frac{1}{\det(A)} = \det(A)^{-1}$

## 7 Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors

### 7.1 Eigenvalues

$\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of an  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  if and only if

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

### 7.2 Characteristic Polynomial

$$\det(A - \lambda I_n) = (-1)^n \lambda^n + (-1)^{n-1} \text{tr}(A) \lambda^{n-1} + \dots + \det(A)$$

### 7.3 Algebraic Multiplicity

An eigenvalue  $\lambda$  has algebraic multiplicity  $k$  if it is a root of multiplicity  $k$  of the characteristic polynomial.

### 7.4 Eigenvalues, Determinant, and Trace

For an  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$

$$\det(A) = \lambda_1 \cdots \lambda_n = \prod_{k=1}^n \lambda_k$$
$$\operatorname{tr}(A) = \lambda_1 + \cdots + \lambda_n = \sum_{k=1}^n \lambda_k$$

### 7.5 Eigenspace

$$E_\lambda = \ker(A - \lambda I_n) = \{\vec{v} \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^n : A\vec{v} = \lambda\vec{v}\}$$

### 7.6 Eigenbasis

An eigenbasis for an  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  consists of the eigenvectors of  $A$  and forms a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

### 7.7 Geometric Multiplicity

The dimension of the eigenspace  $E_\lambda$  is the geometric multiplicity of the eigenvalue  $\lambda$ .

### 7.8 Diagonalization

1. Find the eigenvalues and corresponding eigenvectors of the matrix  $A$ .
2. Let  $S$  be the eigenbasis for  $A$  and  $D$  be a matrix with the eigenvalues of  $A$  along the diagonal.
3.  $D = S^{-1}AS$  and  $A = SDS^{-1}$

### 7.9 Powers of a Diagonalizable Matrix

If  $A = SDS^{-1}$ , then

$$A^t = SD^tS^{-1}$$



## 7.10 Stable Equilibrium

$\vec{0}$  is an asymptotically stable equilibrium for the system  $\vec{x}(t+1) = A\vec{x}(t)$  if

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \vec{x}(t) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} A^t = \vec{0}$$

# 9 Linear Differential Equations

## 9.1 Exponential Growth and Decay

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = kx, \quad x(t) = e^{kt}x_0$$

## 9.2 Linear Dynamical Systems

- Discrete model:  $\vec{x}(t+1) = B\vec{x}(t)$
- Continuous model:  $\frac{d\vec{x}}{dt} = A\vec{x}$

## 9.3 Continuous Dynamical Systems with Real Eigenvalues

$$\frac{d\vec{x}}{dt} = A\vec{x}, \quad \vec{x}(t) = c_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} \vec{v}_1 + \cdots + c_n e^{\lambda_n t} \vec{v}_n$$

where  $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n$  forms a real eigenbasis of  $A$  with eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$

## 9.4 Continuous Dynamical Systems with Complex Eigenvalues

$$\frac{d\vec{x}}{dt} = A\vec{x}, \quad \vec{x}(t) = e^{pt} S \begin{bmatrix} \cos(qt) & -\sin(qt) \\ \sin(qt) & \cos(qt) \end{bmatrix} S^{-1} \vec{x}_0$$

where  $p \pm iq$  are eigenvalues with eigenvectors  $\vec{v} \pm i\vec{w}$  and  $S = [\vec{w} \ \vec{v}]$ .

## 9.5 Strategy for Solving Linear Differential Equations

To solve an  $n$ th order linear differential equation with the form  $T(f) = g$ :

1. Find a basis  $f_1, \dots, f_n$  of  $\ker(T)$ .
2. Find a particular solution  $f_p$ .
3. The solutions  $f$  are in the form  $f = c_1 f_1 + \cdots + c_n f_n + f_p$ .

## 9.6 Eigenfunctions

A smooth function  $F$  is an eigenfunction of  $T$  if

$$T(f) = \lambda f$$

## 9.7 Characteristic Polynomial of a Linear Differential Operator

For  $T(f) = f^{(n)} + a_{n-1}f^{(n-1)} + \dots + a_1f + a_0f$ , the characteristic polynomial is defined as:

$$p_T(\lambda) = \lambda^n + a_{n-1}\lambda^{n-1} + \dots + a_1\lambda + a_0$$

If  $e^{\lambda t}$  is an eigenfunction of  $T$  with eigenvalue  $p_T(\lambda)$ :

$$T(e^{\lambda t}) = p_T(\lambda)e^{\lambda t}$$

## 9.8 Kernel of a Linear Differential Operator

If  $T$  is a linear differential operator with characteristic polynomial  $p_T(\lambda)$  with roots  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ , then the kernel of  $T$  is formed by

$$e^{\lambda_1 t}, e^{\lambda_2 t}, \dots, e^{\lambda_n t}$$

## 9.9 Characteristic Polynomial with Complex Solution

If the zeros of  $p_T(\lambda)$  are  $p \pm q$ , then the solutions to its differential equation are of the form

$$f(t) = e^{pt}(c_1 \cos(qt) + c_2 \sin(qt))$$

## 9.10 First-Order Linear Differential Equations

A differential equation of the form  $f'(t) - af(t) = g(t)$  has a solution of the form

$$f(t) = e^{at} \int e^{-at} g(t) dt$$

## 9.11 Strategy for Solving Linear Differential Equations

To solve the  $n$ th order linear differential equation  $T(f) = g$ :

1. Find  $n$  linearly independent solutions of  $T(f) = 0$ .
  - Write the characteristic polynomial  $p_T(\lambda)$  of  $T$  by replacing  $f^{(k)}$  with  $\lambda^k$
  - Find the solutions  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$  of the equation  $p_T(\lambda) = 0$ .
  - If  $\lambda$  is a solution of  $p_T(\lambda) = 0$ , then  $e^{\lambda t}$  is a solution of  $T(f) = 0$ .

- If  $\lambda$  is a solution of  $p_t(\lambda) = 0$  with multiplicity  $m$ , then  $e^{\lambda t}, te^{\lambda t}, t^2e^{\lambda t}, \dots, t^{m-1}e^{\lambda t}$  are the solutions of  $T(f) = 0$ .
- If  $p \pm iq$  are complex solutions of  $p_T(\lambda) = 0$ , then  $e^{pt} \cos(qt)$  and  $e^{pt} \sin(qt)$  are real solutions of  $T(f) = 0$ .

2. If  $T(f)$  is inhomogenous, find one particular solution  $f_p$  of the equation  $T(f) = g$ .

- If  $g$  is of the form  $g(t) = A \cos(\omega t) + B \sin(\omega t)$ ,  $g(t) = A \cos(\omega t)$ , or  $g(t) = A \sin(\omega t)$ , look for a particular solution of the form  $f_p(t) = P \cos(\omega t) + Q \sin(\omega t)$ .
- If  $g$  is of the form  $g(t) = a_0 + a_1 t + \dots + a_n t^n$ , look for a particular solution of the form  $f_p(t) = c_0 + c_1 t + \dots + c_n t^n$ .
- If  $g$  is constant, look for a particular solution of the form  $f_p(t) = c$ .
- If  $g$  is of the form  $g(t) = f'(t) - af(t)$ , use the formula  $f(t) = e^{at} \int e^{-at} g(t) dt$ .

3. The solutions of  $T(f) = g$  are of the form

$$f(t) = c_1 f_1(t) + c_2 f_2(t) + \dots + c_n f_n(t) + f_p(t)$$

where  $f_1, \dots, f_n$  are the solutions from Step 1 and  $f_p$  is the solution from Step 2.

## 9.12 Linearization of a Nonlinear System

If  $(a, b)$  is an equilibrium point of the system  $\begin{bmatrix} f(x, y) \\ g(x, y) \end{bmatrix}$ , such that  $f(a, b) = 0$  and  $g(a, b) = 0$ , then the system is approximated near  $(a, b)$  by the Jacobian matrix:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{du}{dt} \\ \frac{dv}{dt} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(a, b) & \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(a, b) \\ \frac{\partial g}{\partial x}(a, b) & \frac{\partial g}{\partial y}(a, b) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix}$$

## 9.13 The Heat Equation

$$f_t(x, t) = \mu f_{xx}(x, t)$$

has solutions of the form

$$f(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin(nx) e^{-n^2 \mu t} \quad \text{where } b_n = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} f(x, 0) \sin(nx) dx$$

## 9.14 The Wave Equation

$$f_{tt}(x, t) = c^2 f_{xx}(x, t)$$

has solutions of the form

$$f(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \sin(nx) \cos(nct) + \frac{b_n}{nc} \sin(nx) \sin(nct)$$

where  $a_n = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} f(x, 0) \sin(nx) dx$  and  $b_n = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} f_t(x, 0) \sin(nx) dx$ .