

Sample Problems for Third In-Class Exam
Math 246, Spring 2008, Professor David Levermore

(1) Consider the matrices

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} -i2 & 1+i \\ 2+i & -4 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 7 & 6 \\ 8 & 7 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Compute the matrices

(a) \mathbf{A}^T ,

Solution. The transpose of \mathbf{A} is

$$\mathbf{A}^T = \begin{pmatrix} -i2 & 2+i \\ 1+i & -4 \end{pmatrix}.$$

(b) $\overline{\mathbf{A}}$,

Solution. The conjugate of \mathbf{A} is

$$\overline{\mathbf{A}} = \begin{pmatrix} i2 & 1-i \\ 2-i & -4 \end{pmatrix}.$$

(c) \mathbf{A}^* ,

Solution. The adjoint of \mathbf{A} is

$$\mathbf{A}^* = \begin{pmatrix} i2 & 2-i \\ 1-i & -4 \end{pmatrix}.$$

(d) $5\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}$,

Solution. The difference of $5\mathbf{A}$ and \mathbf{B} is given by

$$5\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} -i10 & 5+i5 \\ 10+i5 & -20 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 7 & 6 \\ 8 & 7 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -7-i10 & -1+i5 \\ 2+i5 & -27 \end{pmatrix}.$$

(e) \mathbf{AB} ,

Solution. The product of \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{B} is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{AB} &= \begin{pmatrix} -i2 & 1+i \\ 2+i & -4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 7 & 6 \\ 8 & 7 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} -i2 \cdot 7 + (1+i) \cdot 8 & -i2 \cdot 6 + (1+i) \cdot 7 \\ (2+i) \cdot 7 - 4 \cdot 8 & (2+i) \cdot 6 - 4 \cdot 7 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 8-i6 & 7-i5 \\ -18+i7 & -16+i6 \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

(f) \mathbf{B}^{-1} .**Solution.** Observe that it is clear that \mathbf{B} has an inverse because

$$\det(\mathbf{B}) = \det \begin{pmatrix} 7 & 6 \\ 8 & 7 \end{pmatrix} = 7 \cdot 7 - 6 \cdot 8 = 49 - 48 = 1.$$

The inverse of \mathbf{B} is given by

$$\mathbf{B}^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det(\mathbf{B})} \begin{pmatrix} 7 & -6 \\ -8 & 7 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 7 & -6 \\ -8 & 7 \end{pmatrix}.$$

(2) Consider the matrix

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 3 \\ 4 & -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

(a) Find all the eigenvalues of \mathbf{A} .**Solution.** The characteristic polynomial of \mathbf{A} is given by

$$p(z) = z^2 - \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{A})z + \det(\mathbf{A}) = z^2 - 2z - 15 = (z - 1)^2 - 16.$$

The eigenvalues of \mathbf{A} are the roots of this polynomial, which are 1 ± 4 , or simply -3 and 5 .(b) For each eigenvalue of \mathbf{A} find all of its eigenvectors.**Solution (using the Cayley-Hamilton method from notes).** One has

$$\mathbf{A} + 3\mathbf{I} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 3 \\ 4 & 2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{A} - 5\mathbf{I} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 3 \\ 4 & -6 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Every nonzero column of $\mathbf{A} - 5\mathbf{I}$ has the form

$$\alpha_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{for some } \alpha_1 \neq 0.$$

These are all the eigenvectors associated with -3 . Similarly, every nonzero column of $\mathbf{A} + 3\mathbf{I}$ has the form

$$\alpha_2 \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{for some } \alpha_2 \neq 0.$$

These are all the eigenvectors associated with 5 .

(3) Solve each of the following initial-value problems.

$$(a) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 5 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} x(0) \\ y(0) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Solution. The characteristic polynomial of $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 5 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$ is given by

$$p(z) = z^2 - \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{A})z + \det(\mathbf{A}) = z^2 - z - 12 = (z + 3)(z - 4).$$

The eigenvalues of \mathbf{A} are the roots of this polynomial, which are -3 and 4 . These have the form $\frac{1}{2} \pm \frac{7}{2}$. One therefore has

$$\begin{aligned} e^{t\mathbf{A}} &= e^{\frac{1}{2}t} \left[\mathbf{I} \cosh\left(\frac{7}{2}t\right) + (\mathbf{A} - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{I}) \frac{\sinh\left(\frac{7}{2}t\right)}{\frac{7}{2}} \right] \\ &= e^{\frac{1}{2}t} \left[\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cosh\left(\frac{7}{2}t\right) + \begin{pmatrix} \frac{3}{5} & 2 \\ 5 & -\frac{3}{2} \end{pmatrix} \frac{\sinh\left(\frac{7}{2}t\right)}{\frac{7}{2}} \right] \\ &= e^{\frac{1}{2}t} \begin{pmatrix} \cosh\left(\frac{7}{2}t\right) + \frac{3}{7}\sinh\left(\frac{7}{2}t\right) & \frac{4}{7}\sinh\left(\frac{7}{2}t\right) \\ \frac{10}{7}\sinh\left(\frac{7}{2}t\right) & \cosh\left(\frac{7}{2}t\right) - \frac{3}{7}\sinh\left(\frac{7}{2}t\right) \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

The solution of the initial-value problem is therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} x(t) \\ y(t) \end{pmatrix} &= e^{t\mathbf{A}} \begin{pmatrix} x(0) \\ y(0) \end{pmatrix} = e^{t\mathbf{A}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= e^{\frac{1}{2}t} \begin{pmatrix} \cosh\left(\frac{7}{2}t\right) + \frac{3}{7}\sinh\left(\frac{7}{2}t\right) & \frac{4}{7}\sinh\left(\frac{7}{2}t\right) \\ \frac{10}{7}\sinh\left(\frac{7}{2}t\right) & \cosh\left(\frac{7}{2}t\right) - \frac{3}{7}\sinh\left(\frac{7}{2}t\right) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= e^{\frac{1}{2}t} \begin{pmatrix} \cosh\left(\frac{7}{2}t\right) - \frac{1}{7}\sinh\left(\frac{7}{2}t\right) \\ -\cosh\left(\frac{7}{2}t\right) + \frac{13}{7}\sinh\left(\frac{7}{2}t\right) \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

$$(b) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -4 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} x(0) \\ y(0) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Solution. The characteristic polynomial of $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -4 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ is given by

$$p(z) = z^2 - \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{A})z + \det(\mathbf{A}) = z^2 - 2z + 5 = (z - 1)^2 + 4.$$

The eigenvalues of \mathbf{A} are the roots of this polynomial, which are $1 \pm i2$. One therefore has

$$\begin{aligned} e^{t\mathbf{A}} &= e^t \left[\mathbf{I} \cos(2t) + (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{I}) \frac{\sin(2t)}{2} \right] \\ &= e^t \left[\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cos(2t) + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -4 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \frac{\sin(2t)}{2} \right] \\ &= e^t \begin{pmatrix} \cos(2t) & \frac{1}{2}\sin(2t) \\ -2\sin(2t) & \cos(2t) \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

The solution of the initial-value problem is therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} x(t) \\ y(t) \end{pmatrix} &= e^{t\mathbf{A}} \begin{pmatrix} x(0) \\ y(0) \end{pmatrix} = e^{t\mathbf{A}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= e^t \begin{pmatrix} \cos(2t) & \frac{1}{2}\sin(2t) \\ -2\sin(2t) & \cos(2t) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= e^t \begin{pmatrix} \cos(2t) + \frac{1}{2}\sin(2t) \\ -2\sin(2t) + \cos(2t) \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

(4) Compute $e^{t\mathbf{A}}$ for $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 4 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$.

Solution. The characteristic polynomial of \mathbf{A} is given by

$$p(z) = z^2 - \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{A})z + \det(\mathbf{A}) = z^2 - 2z - 3 = (z - 1)^2 - 4.$$

The eigenvalues of \mathbf{A} are the roots of this polynomial, which are 1 ± 2 . One then has

$$\begin{aligned} e^{t\mathbf{A}} &= e^t \left[\mathbf{I} \cosh(2t) + (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{I}) \frac{\sinh(2t)}{2} \right] \\ &= e^t \left[\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cosh(2t) + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 4 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \frac{\sinh(2t)}{2} \right] \\ &= e^t \begin{pmatrix} \cosh(2t) & 2\sinh(2t) \\ \frac{1}{2}\sinh(2t) & \cosh(2t) \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

(5) Find a general solution for each of the following systems.

(a) $\frac{d}{dt} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -4 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$

Solution. The characteristic polynomial of $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -4 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$ is given by

$$p(z) = z^2 - \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{A})z + \det(\mathbf{A}) = z^2 - 2z + 1 = (z - 1)^2.$$

The eigenvalues of \mathbf{A} are the roots of this polynomial, which is 1, a double root. One therefore has

$$\begin{aligned} e^{t\mathbf{A}} &= e^t [\mathbf{I} + (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{I})t] = e^t \left[\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -4 \\ 1 & -2 \end{pmatrix} t \right] \\ &= e^t \begin{pmatrix} 1 + 2t & -4t \\ t & 1 - 2t \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

A general solution is therefore given by

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} x(t) \\ y(t) \end{pmatrix} &= e^{t\mathbf{A}} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{pmatrix} = e^t \begin{pmatrix} 1 + 2t & -4t \\ t & 1 - 2t \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= e^t \begin{pmatrix} c_1(1 + 2t) - 4c_2t \\ c_1t + c_2(1 - 2t) \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

$$(b) \frac{d}{dt} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -5 \\ 4 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$$

Solution. The characteristic polynomial of $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -5 \\ 4 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$ is given by

$$p(z) = z^2 - \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{A})z + \det(\mathbf{A}) = z^2 + 16.$$

The eigenvalues of \mathbf{A} are the roots of this polynomial, which are $\pm i4$. One therefore has

$$\begin{aligned} e^{t\mathbf{A}} &= \left[\mathbf{I} \cos(4t) + \mathbf{A} \frac{\sin(4t)}{4} \right] = \left[\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cos(4t) + \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -5 \\ 4 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \frac{\sin(4t)}{4} \right] \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \cos(4t) + \frac{1}{2} \sin(4t) & -\frac{5}{4} \sin(4t) \\ \sin(4t) & \cos(4t) - \frac{1}{2} \sin(4t) \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

A general solution is therefore given by

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} x(t) \\ y(t) \end{pmatrix} &= e^{t\mathbf{A}} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos(4t) + \frac{1}{2} \sin(4t) & -\frac{5}{4} \sin(4t) \\ \sin(4t) & \cos(4t) - \frac{1}{2} \sin(4t) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \left(\cos(4t) + \frac{1}{2} \sin(4t) \right) - c_2 \frac{5}{4} \sin(4t) \\ c_1 \sin(4t) + c_2 \left(\cos(4t) - \frac{1}{2} \sin(4t) \right) \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

$$(c) \frac{d}{dt} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 4 \\ -5 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$$

Solution. The characteristic polynomial of $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 4 \\ -5 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ is given by

$$p(z) = z^2 - \operatorname{tr}(\mathbf{A})z + \det(\mathbf{A}) = z^2 - 6z + 25 = (z - 3)^2 + 16.$$

The eigenvalues of \mathbf{A} are the roots of this polynomial, which are $3 \pm i4$. One therefore has

$$\begin{aligned} e^{t\mathbf{A}} &= e^{3t} \left[\mathbf{I} \cos(4t) + (\mathbf{A} - 3\mathbf{I}) \frac{\sin(4t)}{4} \right] \\ &= e^{3t} \left[\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \cos(4t) + \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 4 \\ -5 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \frac{\sin(4t)}{4} \right] \\ &= e^{3t} \begin{pmatrix} \cos(4t) + \frac{1}{2} \sin(4t) & \sin(4t) \\ -\frac{5}{4} \sin(4t) & \cos(4t) - \frac{1}{2} \sin(4t) \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

A general solution is therefore given by

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} x(t) \\ y(t) \end{pmatrix} &= e^{t\mathbf{A}} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{pmatrix} = e^{3t} \begin{pmatrix} \cos(4t) + \frac{1}{2} \sin(4t) & \sin(4t) \\ -\frac{5}{4} \sin(4t) & \cos(4t) - \frac{1}{2} \sin(4t) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= e^{3t} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \left(\cos(4t) + \frac{1}{2} \sin(4t) \right) + c_2 \sin(4t) \\ -c_1 \frac{5}{4} \sin(4t) + c_2 \left(\cos(4t) - \frac{1}{2} \sin(4t) \right) \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

(6) Sketch the phase portrait for each of the systems in Problem 5.

- (a) **Solution.** Because the characteristic polynomial of \mathbf{A} is $p(z) = (z - 1)^2$, one sees that $\mu = 1$ and $\delta = 0$. Because

$$\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{I} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -4 \\ 1 & -2 \end{pmatrix},$$

we see that the eigenvectors associated with 1 are

$$\alpha \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{for some } \alpha \neq 0.$$

Because $\mu = 1 > 0$, $\delta = 0$, and $a_{21} > 0$ the phase portrait is a *counterclockwise twist source*. The origin is thereby *unstable*. The phase portrait should show there is one trajectory that emerges from the origin on each side of the line $y = x/2$. Every other trajectory emerges from the origin with a clockwise twist.

- (b) **Solution.** Because the characteristic polynomial of \mathbf{A} is $p(z) = z^2 + 16$, one sees that $\mu = 0$ and $\delta = -16$. There are no real eigenpairs. Because $\mu = 0$, $\delta = -16 < 0$, and $a_{21} > 0$ the phase portrait is a *counterclockwise center*. The origin is thereby *stable*. The phase portrait should indicate a family of counterclockwise elliptical trajectories that go around the origin.

- (c) **Solution.** Because the characteristic polynomial of \mathbf{A} is $p(z) = (z - 3)^2 + 16$, one sees that $\mu = 3$ and $\delta = -16$. There are no real eigenpairs. Because $\mu = 3$, $\delta = -16 < 0$, and $a_{21} < 0$ the phase portrait is a *clockwise spiral source*. The origin is thereby *unstable*. The phase portrait should indicate a family of clockwise spiral trajectories that emerge from the origin.

- (7) Transform the equation $\frac{d^3u}{dt^3} + t^2\frac{du}{dt} - 3u = \sinh(2t)$ into a first-order system of ordinary differential equations.

Solution: Because the equation is third order, the first order system must have dimension three. The simplest such first order system is

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x_2 \\ x_3 \\ \sinh(2t) + 3x_1 - t^2x_2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{where} \quad \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} u \\ u' \\ u'' \end{pmatrix}.$$

(8) Consider the vector-valued functions $\mathbf{x}_1(t) = \begin{pmatrix} t^2 + 3 \\ 2t \end{pmatrix}$, $\mathbf{x}_2(t) = \begin{pmatrix} t^3 \\ 3t^2 \end{pmatrix}$.

(a) Compute the Wronskian $W[\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2](t)$.

Solution.

$$W[\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2](t) = \det \begin{pmatrix} t^2 + 3 & t^3 \\ 2t & 3t^2 \end{pmatrix} = 3t^4 + 9t^2 - 2t^4 = t^4 + 9t^2.$$

(b) Find $\mathbf{A}(t)$ such that $\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2$ is a fundamental set of solutions to $\frac{d\mathbf{x}}{dt} = \mathbf{A}(t)\mathbf{x}$ wherever $W[\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2](t) \neq 0$.

Solution. Let $\mathbf{\Psi}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} t^2 + 3 & t^3 \\ 2t & 3t^2 \end{pmatrix}$. Because $\frac{d\mathbf{\Psi}(t)}{dt} = \mathbf{A}(t)\mathbf{\Psi}(t)$, one has

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{A}(t) &= \frac{d\mathbf{\Psi}(t)}{dt} \mathbf{\Psi}(t)^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 2t & 3t^2 \\ 2 & 6t \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} t^2 + 3 & t^3 \\ 2t & 3t^2 \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \\ &= \frac{1}{t^4 + 9t^2} \begin{pmatrix} 2t & 3t^2 \\ 2 & 6t \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3t^2 & -t^3 \\ -2t & t^2 + 3 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{t^4 + 9t^2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & t^4 + 9t^2 \\ -6t^2 & 4t^3 + 18t \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

(9) Consider two interconnected tanks filled with brine (salt water). The first tank contains 100 liters and the second contains 50 liters. Brine flows with a concentration of 2 grams of salt per liter flows into the first tank at a rate of 3 liters per hour. Well stirred brine flows from the first tank to the second at a rate of 5 liters per hour, from the second to the first at a rate of 2 liters per hour, and from the second into a drain at a rate of 3 liters per hour. At $t = 0$ there are 5 grams of salt in the first tank and 20 grams in the second. Give an initial-value problem that governs the amount of salt in each tank as a function of time.

Solution: The rates work out so there will always be 100 liters of brine in the first tank and 50 liters in the second. Let $S_1(t)$ be the grams of salt in the first tank and $S_2(t)$ be the grams of salt in the second tank. These are governed by the initial-value problem

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dS_1}{dt} &= 2 \cdot 3 + \frac{S_2}{50} 2 - \frac{S_1}{100} 5, & S_1(0) &= 2, \\ \frac{dS_2}{dt} &= \frac{S_1}{100} 5 - \frac{S_2}{50} 2 - \frac{S_2}{50} 3, & S_2(0) &= 20. \end{aligned}$$

You could leave the answer in the above form. It can however be simplified to

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dS_1}{dt} &= 6 + \frac{S_2}{25} - \frac{S_1}{20}, & S_1(0) &= 2, \\ \frac{dS_2}{dt} &= \frac{S_1}{20} - \frac{S_2}{10}, & S_2(0) &= 20. \end{aligned}$$

(10) Consider the system

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x - xy \\ 4y - xy - 2y^2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

(a) Find all of its stationary point.

Solution. Stationary points satisfy

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= x - xy = x(1 - y), \\ 0 &= 4y - xy - 2y^2 = y(4 - x - 2y). \end{aligned}$$

The top equation above shows that either $x = 0$ or $y = 1$. When $x = 0$ the bottom equation shows that

$$0 = y(4 - 2y),$$

whereby either $y = 0$ or $y = 2$. Hence, $(0, 0)$ and $(0, 2)$ are stationary points. When $y = 1$ the bottom equation shows that

$$0 = 1(4 - x - 2) = 2 - x,$$

whereby $x = 2$. Hence, $(2, 1)$ is a stationary point. All the stationary points of the system are therefore

$$(0, 0), \quad (0, 2), \quad (2, 1).$$

(b) Compute the coefficient matrix of the linearization associated with each stationary point.

Solution. Because

$$\begin{pmatrix} f(x, y) \\ g(x, y) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x - xy \\ 4y - xy - 2y^2 \end{pmatrix},$$

the matrix of partial derivatives is

$$\begin{pmatrix} \partial_x f(x, y) & \partial_y f(x, y) \\ \partial_x g(x, y) & \partial_y g(x, y) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 - y & -x \\ -y & 4 - x - 4y \end{pmatrix}.$$

By evaluating this matrix at each of the stationary points, you find the coefficient matrices

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{A} &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 \end{pmatrix} && \text{at } (0, 0), \\ \mathbf{A} &= \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ -2 & -4 \end{pmatrix} && \text{at } (0, 2), \\ \mathbf{A} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -2 \\ -1 & -2 \end{pmatrix} && \text{at } (2, 1), \end{aligned}$$

This is all you were asked to do. However, if you had been asked to classify the type and stability of each stationary point then you can easily see that $(0, 0)$ is a nodal source (the eigenvalues are 1 and 4) and is thereby unstable, $(0, 2)$ is a nodal sink (the eigenvalues are -1 and -4) and is thereby asymptotically stable, while $(2, 1)$ is a saddle (the eigenvalues are $-1 - \sqrt{3}$ and $-1 + \sqrt{3}$) and is thereby unstable.

(11) Suppose you know that for some first-order planar system of nonlinear ordinary differential equations:

- its stationary points are $(0, 0)$, $(4, -2)$, and $(4, 2)$;
- for $(0, 0)$ the coefficient matrix of the linearization has eigenvalues -2 and -1 with respective eigenvectors

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix};$$

- for $(4, -2)$ the coefficient matrix of the linearization has eigenvalues 2 and 1 with respective eigenvectors

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix};$$

- for $(4, 2)$ the coefficient matrix of the linearization has eigenvalues 1 and -1 with respective eigenvectors

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Sketch a plausible phase portrait for the system. Identify the type and stability of each stationary point.

Solution. The type and stability of each stationary point are determined as follows.

- The stationary point $(0, 0)$ has two negative simple real eigenvalues. It therefore is a *nodal sink* and thereby is *asymptotically stable*.
- The stationary point $(4, -2)$ has two positive simple real eigenvalues. It therefore is a *nodal source* and thereby is *unstable*.
- The stationary point $(4, 2)$ has one negative and one positive real eigenvalue. It therefore is a *saddle* and thereby is *unstable*.

There are many plausible phase portraits that one might draw. One was given in the review session. They all however have the following features.

- Near the nodal sink $(0, 0)$ there is one trajectory that approaches $(0, 0)$ tangent to each side of the line $y = -x$. Every other trajectory approaches $(0, 0)$ tangent to the line $y = x$.
- Near the nodal source $(4, -2)$ there is one trajectory that emerges from $(4, -2)$ tangent to each side of the line $y = -x + 2$. Every other trajectory emerges from $(4, -2)$ tangent to the line $x = 4$.
- Near the saddle $(4, 2)$ there is one trajectory that emerges from $(4, 2)$ tangent to each side of the line $y = x - 2$. There is also one trajectory that approaches $(4, 2)$ tangent to each side of the line $x = 4$.