

# ENGI 9420 Engineering Analysis

## Assignment 5 Questions

2012 Fall

due in class on 2012 November 05 (Monday)

[Stability analysis, gradient operators; Chapters 4 and 5]

---

1. Use Liénard's theorem to determine the stability of the solutions of the equation [10]

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + \left(x^2 - \frac{1}{3}\right)\frac{dx}{dt} + x^5 = 0$$

[Note that the associated linear system has a zero eigenvalue, which is an indeterminate form.]

---

2. Find all limit cycles of the system of differential equations [10]

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = x - x^3 - xy^2, \quad \frac{dy}{dt} = y - y^3 - yx^2$$

Hints: Compute  $\frac{d}{dt}(x^2 + y^2)$ ; a limit cycle must be the orbit of a periodic solution that passes through no critical points of the system and encloses a critical point.]

---

3. Use the Poincaré-Bendixon theorem to prove the existence of a non-trivial periodic solution of the differential equation [10]

$$\frac{d^2z}{dt^2} + (z^2 - 1)\frac{dz}{dt} + 2\left(\frac{dz}{dt}\right)^3 + z = 0$$

4. Show that the system of differential equations [10]

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = x^3 - xy^2 - x^2 + y, \quad \frac{dy}{dt} = 2x^2y + y^3 + 2xy + y + 1$$

has no non-trivial periodic solution.

---

5. Show that the system of differential equations [10]

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = 5x - xy^2 - y^3, \quad \frac{dy}{dt} = 4y - x^2y + x^3$$

has no non-trivial periodic solution entirely inside the circle  $x^2 + y^2 = 9$ .

---

6. For the vector field  $\vec{F} = e^{-kr} \vec{r}$ , where  $\vec{r} = [x \ y \ z]^T$  and  $k$  is a positive constant,
- Find the curl of  $\vec{F}$  in Cartesian coordinates. [3]
  - Find the curl of  $\vec{F}$  while remaining in spherical polar coordinates throughout. [2]
  - Work in Cartesian coordinates to find the divergence of  $\vec{F}$  as a function of  $r$ . [2]
  - Work in spherical polar coordinates to find the divergence of  $\vec{F}$  as a function of  $r$ . [3]
  - find where  $\text{div } \vec{F} = 0$  and classify this surface. [2]
  - find where the magnitude  $F$  of the vector field  $\vec{F}$  attains its maximum value. [2]
  - show that  $V(r) = \frac{-(1+kr)}{k^2} e^{-kr}$  is a potential function for the vector field  $\vec{F}$ . [3]
  - find the work done to move a particle from the origin to a place where  $\text{div } \vec{F} = 0$ . [3]
- [Note that work done is  $\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \vec{F} \cdot \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} dt$  .]
- 

7. A cylindrical parabolic coordinate system  $(u, v, w)$  is defined by

$$x = uv, \quad y = \frac{u^2 - v^2}{2}, \quad z = w$$

- (a) Find the Jacobian  $\frac{\partial(x, y, z)}{\partial(u, v, w)} = \text{abs} \left( \det \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial x}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial u} & \frac{\partial z}{\partial u} \\ \frac{\partial x}{\partial v} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial v} & \frac{\partial z}{\partial v} \\ \frac{\partial x}{\partial w} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial w} & \frac{\partial z}{\partial w} \end{pmatrix} \right)$  [3]

that allows the conversion of a volume differential  $dV$  from Cartesian coordinates to these cylindrical polar coordinates.

- Find the scale factors  $h_u, h_v, h_w$  for this cylindrical parabolic coordinate system. [3]
  - Let the unit vectors of the cylindrical parabolic coordinate system be  $\hat{u}, \hat{v}, \hat{w}$ . [3]  
Find an expression for the gradient in this cylindrical parabolic coordinate system.
  - Find an expression for the Laplacian  $\nabla^2 f$  in this cylindrical parabolic coordinate system. [3]
  - Sketch on the same  $x$ - $y$  plane any three members of each of the two families of coordinate curves  $u = \text{constant}$  and  $v = \text{constant}$ . [3]
-

8. The location of a particle at any time  $t > 0$  is given in cylindrical polar coordinates by  
 $\rho(t) = 2 - e^{-t}$ ,  $\phi(t) = t$ ,  $z(t) = e^{-t}$ .

Find the acceleration  $\bar{\mathbf{a}}(t)$  in cylindrical polar coordinates. [5]

---

9. The location of a particle at any time  $t > 0$  is given in spherical polar coordinates by

$$r(t) = 2, \quad \theta(t) = \frac{\pi}{6}, \quad \phi(t) = t.$$

- (a) Find the velocity  $\bar{\mathbf{v}}(t)$  and speed  $v(t)$  in spherical polar coordinates. [4]  
(b) Find the acceleration  $\bar{\mathbf{a}}(t)$  in spherical polar coordinates. [3]  
(c) Describe the motion of the particle (what sort of path does it follow?) [3]
- 

[Return to the index of assignments](#)

[On to the solutions](#)

---