

## 2024.3 Question 6

1. (a) We have

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{dx - y}{dt} &= \frac{dx}{dt} - \frac{dy}{dt} \\
&= (-x + 3y + u) - (x + y + u) \\
&= -2x + 2y \\
&= -2(x - y).
\end{aligned}$$

This is a differential equation for  $x - y$  in terms of  $t$ , and hence it solves to

$$x - y = Ae^{-2t}.$$

If  $x = y = 0$  for some  $t > 0$ , then it must be the case that  $A = 0$ , giving  $x - y = 0$ , and  $x = y$ . Therefore, for  $t = 0$ , we must also necessarily have  $x_0 = y_0$ .

- (b) Given that
- $x_0 = y_0$
- , we must have
- $x = y$
- for all
- $t > 0$
- . Hence,

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{dx}{dt} &= -x + 3x + u \\
\frac{dx}{dt} &= 2x + u \\
\frac{dx}{2x + u} &= dt \\
\ln|2x + u| &= 2t + C \\
2x + u &= Ae^{2t}.
\end{aligned}$$

Since at  $t = 0$ ,  $x = x_0$ , we must have  $A = 2x_0 + u$ , and hence

$$2x + u = (2x_0 + u)e^{2t},$$

and rearranging gives

$$u = \frac{2(x_0e^{2t} - x)}{1 - e^{2t}}.$$

The particle is at origin at time  $t = T > 0$ , and hence  $x = y = 0$  for  $t = T$ , and hence

$$u = \frac{2x_0e^{2T}}{1 - e^{2T}}.$$

This ensures the particle is at origin as well since this ensures the particle is at  $x = 0$  for  $t = T$ , and  $y = x$  so  $y = 0$  as well.

2. (a) Consider
- $\frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{dz}{dt} - 2\frac{dy}{dt}$
- , and we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{dx + z - 2y}{dt} &= \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{dz}{dt} - 2\frac{dy}{dt} \\
&= (4y - 5z + u) + (x - 2y + u) - 2(x - 2z + u) \\
&= 4y - 5z + u + x - 2y + u - 2x + 4z - 2u \\
&= -x - z + 2y,
\end{aligned}$$

and hence

$$x + z - 2y = Ae^{-t}.$$

Since the particle is at the origin at some time  $t > 0$ , we must have  $A = 0$ , and hence

$$x + z - 2y = 0,$$

which means  $y = \frac{x+z}{2}$  for all time  $t$ .

At time  $t = 0$ ,  $y_0 = \frac{x_0+z_0}{2}$ , and so  $y_0$  is the mean of  $x_0$  and  $z_0$ .

(b) Since  $2y = x + z$ , we must have

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = 2(x + z) - 5z + u = 2x - 3z + u,$$

and

$$\frac{dz}{dt} = x - (x + z) + u = -z + u.$$

Hence, considering  $\frac{dx}{dt} - \frac{dz}{dt}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dx - z}{dt} &= \frac{dx}{dt} - \frac{dz}{dt} \\ &= (2x - 3z + u) - (-z + u) \\ &= 2(x - z), \end{aligned}$$

which gives

$$x - z = Ae^{2t}.$$

Since the particle is at the origin for some  $t > 0$ , we must have  $A = 0$ . This means  $x = z$  for all  $t$ , and further we have  $x = y = z$  for all  $t$  since  $2y = x + z$ .

At  $t = 0$ , this means  $x_0 = y_0 = z_0$  as desired.

(c) Given that  $x_0 = y_0 = z_0$ , all previous parts still apply, since the boundary condition of  $2y = x + z$  and  $x = z$  holds for  $t = 0$ . Hence,  $x = y = z$  for all  $t$ , and

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dx}{dt} &= -x + u \\ \frac{dx}{x - u} &= -dt \\ \ln|x - u| &= -t + C \\ x - u &= Ae^{-t}. \end{aligned}$$

At  $t = 0$ ,  $x = x_0$ , we must have  $A = x_0 - u$ , and hence

$$x - u = (x_0 - u)e^{-t},$$

and rearranging gives

$$u = \frac{x_0 e^{-t} - x}{1 - e^{-t}}.$$

The particle is at origin at a time  $t = T > 0$ , and hence  $x = y = z = 0$  for  $t = T$ , and hence

$$u = \frac{x_0 e^{-T}}{1 - e^{-T}} = \frac{x_0}{1 + e^T}.$$

This ensures the particle is at origin as well since this ensures the particle is at  $x = 0$  for  $t = T$ , and  $x = y = z$ , so  $y = z = 0$  as well.