

Solution (#1686) (i) The only equilibrium is $(x, y) = (0, 0)$. If $x(0) = \varepsilon_1$ and $y(0) = \varepsilon_2$ then we see

$$(x(t), y(t)) = (\varepsilon_1 e^t, \varepsilon_2 e^t)$$

and so this equilibrium is not stable. All perturbations lead to movement away from the origin.

(ii) The only equilibrium is $(x, y) = (0, 0)$. If $x(0) = \varepsilon_1$ and $y(0) = \varepsilon_2$ then we see

$$(x(t), y(t)) = (\varepsilon_1 e^{-t}, \varepsilon_2 e^{-t})$$

and so this equilibrium is stable. All perturbations lead to movement towards the origin.

(iii) The only equilibrium is $(x, y) = (0, 0)$. If $x(0) = \varepsilon_1$ and $y(0) = \varepsilon_2$ then we see

$$(x(t), y(t)) = (\varepsilon_1 e^t, \varepsilon_2 e^{-t})$$

and so this equilibrium is not stable – as perturbation with any non-zero x -component will move away from the origin.

(iv) The only equilibrium is we see $(x, y) = (0, 0)$. Say $x(0) = \varepsilon_1$ and $y(0) = \varepsilon_2$, then

$$x(t) = \varepsilon_1 \cosh t + \varepsilon_2 \sinh t, \quad y(t) = \varepsilon_2 \cosh t + \varepsilon_1 \sinh t$$

and the equilibrium is not stable. All perturbations lead to movement away from the origin.

(v) The only equilibrium is $(x, y) = (0, 0)$. Say $x(0) = \varepsilon_1$ and $y(0) = \varepsilon_2$ then

$$x(t) = \varepsilon_1 \cos t + \varepsilon_2 \sin t, \quad y(t) = \varepsilon_2 \cos t - \varepsilon_1 \sin t.$$

The equilibrium is stable as all perturbations lead to movements near the origin – specifically on elliptical paths (#1165).