

Functions of linear maps (matrices)

1. Given a scalar polynomial
 $q(\lambda) = q_k \lambda^k + q_{k-1} \lambda^{k-1} + \dots + q_1 \lambda + q_0$, we
 define the associated matrix-valued
function (here polynomial) of a matrix
argument by

$$q(A) = \sum_{j=0}^k q_j A^j$$

where $A^0 = I$ the identity matrix.
 Since powers are involved, A is
 required to be square.

Immediately, we verify that
 if $\lambda \in \text{spectrum}(A)$ then $q(\lambda) \in \text{spectrum}$
 of $q(A)$.

proof: Suppose λ, x s.t.
 $Ax = \lambda x$.

Then $A^j x = \lambda^j x$ for $j = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

Hence $q(A)x = q(\lambda)x$ \square

In fact one can say more. For an $n \times n$
 matrix A , if $\text{spectrum}(A) = \{\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n\}$
 then $\text{spectrum}(q(A)) = \{q(\lambda_1), q(\lambda_2), \dots, q(\lambda_n)\}$

This brings us to the question of ^{how} would one define $f(A)$ for a square matrix A , for a 'general' function f . One approach is to consider the following:

suppose,
$$f(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k x^k \quad x \in \mathbb{C}$$
with coefficients $a_k \in \mathbb{C}$, the complex numbers, is a convergent power series expansion for $x \in D_\rho$, a disk of radius $\rho > 0$ centered at 0 in the complex plane.

Then we define,

$$(*) \quad f(A) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k A^k.$$

This definition makes sense provided we limit A to lie in a suitable set of matrices allowing convergence of the series $(*)$ just as we limit $x \in D_\rho$. We postpone details of this for later. We will also discuss later, alternatives to the definition $(*)$.

One particular matrix-valued function is of great importance in this course, namely the exponential. Recall that the scalar exponential is defined by the expansion

$$e^x = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^k}{k!}$$

This is a convergent series expansion. For the matrix exponential we simply define,

$$e^A = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{A^k}{k!}$$

Remark

Whereas for a scalar x, y

$$e^x e^y = e^y e^x = e^{x+y}$$

(prove this), the analogous result does not ~~hold~~ hold for matrix arguments, i.e. for matrices A, B , in general,

$$e^A e^B \neq e^{B+A}$$

This only holds if $AB=BA$.

2. The importance of the matrix exponential derives from the following fact

$$(**) \quad \frac{d}{dt} e^{tA} = A e^{tA} = e^{tA} A \quad \forall t \in \mathbb{R}$$

We "prove" this as follows:

$$\frac{d}{dt} e^{tA} = \frac{d}{dt} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(tA)^k}{k!}$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{d}{dt} \frac{(tA)^k}{k!}$$

(assuming
 $\frac{d}{dt}$ can
be done

term-by-term)

$$= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{k t^{k-1} A^k}{k!}$$

$$= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{t^{k-1} A^k}{(k-1)!}$$

$$= A \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^l A^l}{l!} = \left(\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^l A^l}{l!} \right) A$$

$$= A e^{tA} = e^{tA} A.$$

This property of the exponential has

an immediate consequence.

Theorem: Suppose

(1) $\dot{x} = Ax$
is a linear time invariant (LTI) differential equation (i.e. A is a constant matrix). Then a solution to (1) with initial condition $x(0) = x_0$

is given by

$$x(t) = e^{tA} x_0.$$

Proof: (a)
$$e^{0A} x_0 = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(0A)^k}{k!} x_0 = I x_0 = x_0$$

(b)
$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x}(t) &= \frac{d}{dt} e^{tA} x_0 \\ &= e^{tA} A x_0 = A e^{tA} x_0 \\ &= A x(t). \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

We have existence of a solution.

This is the only solution. Formally,

Theorem

Suppose $x(t)$ and $y(t)$ both satisfy a LTI differential equation

$$\dot{x}(t) = A x(t)$$

$$x(0) = x_0$$

Then $x(t) \equiv y(t) \quad \forall t$

Proof:

Let us denote

$$\|v\| = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n v_i^2 \right)^{1/2}$$

the Euclidean norm. Observe that, for any component v_i of v ,

$$v_i \leq |v_i| \leq \|v\|.$$

By hypothesis,

$$z(t) = x(t) - y(t)$$

satisfies,

$$z(0) = 0$$

and

$$\dot{z}(t) = \dot{x}(t) - \dot{y}(t)$$

$$= A x(t) - A y(t)$$

$$= A z(t)$$

Then, letting $p(t) = \|z(t)\|$
 $= (z^T(t) z(t))^{1/2}$

where the superscript T denotes transpose,
 we have

$$\frac{d}{dt} p^2 = \frac{d}{dt} (z^T(t) z(t))$$

$$= \dot{z}^T(t) z(t) + z^T(t) \dot{z}(t)$$

$$= z^T(t) A^T z(t) + z^T(t) A z(t)$$

$$= 2 z^T A z$$

$$= 2 \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n z_i a_{ij} z_j$$

$$\leq 2 \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \|z\| |a_{ij}| \|z\|$$

$$\leq 2 \|z\|^2 n^2 \max_{i,j} |a_{ij}|$$

Let $\eta = 2n^2 \max_{i,j} |a_{ij}|$. Then we have

$$\frac{d}{dt} p^2 \leq \eta p^2$$

Let $\theta(t) = p^2(t) \exp(-t\eta)$, we see that,

$$\frac{d}{dt} \theta(t) = \left(\frac{d}{dt} p^2 - \eta p^2 \right) e^{-t\eta}$$

$$\leq 0 \quad (\text{exponential } \rightarrow 0)$$

$$\Rightarrow \theta(t) \leq \theta(0)$$

But $\theta(0) = p^2(0) = 0$ (by hypothesis)
and

$$\theta(t) \geq 0 \quad (\text{by definition})$$

Hence $\theta(t) \equiv 0 \quad \forall t$

$$\Rightarrow z(t) \equiv 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x(t) \equiv y(t) \quad \square$$

Remarks

If we replace the given LTI differential equation by a linear time-varying differential equation of the form

$$\dot{x}(t) = A(t)x(t), \quad x(0) = x_0$$

then, the conclusions of the above

theorem can be extended to this LTV setting as well, provided $A(t)$ is continuous in t on interval of interest, η is replaced by $\eta(t) = \max_{\substack{i, j \\ \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}}} |a_{ij}(t)|$ and

the integrating factor $e^{-t\eta}$ is replaced by $\exp\left(-\int_0^t \eta(\sigma) d\sigma\right)$ in the proof.

Thus we get uniqueness of solutions to time-varying linear systems of ordinary differential equations in a straightforward way. To have existence, we need to replace the e^{tA} for LTI system by a suitable (family of) linear maps (matrices). What might this be? We answer this question in a constructive way in the next subsection.

3. Solving Linear Time Varying Systems

Consider the system

$$\dot{x}(t) = A(t)x(t) \quad ; \quad x(t_0) = x_0$$

The clock time at which the system is initialized is t_0 and is crucial to keep track of since $A(\cdot)$ is time-varying.

Integrating both sides of the differential equation we get,

$$x(t) - x(t_0) = \int_{t_0}^t A(\sigma) x(\sigma) d\sigma$$

or

$$x(t) = x_0 + \int_{t_0}^t A(\sigma) x(\sigma) d\sigma,$$

with time horizon of interest

specified as $t \in [t_0, t_1]$. We are interested in solving the above integral equation for arbitrary initial conditions. Suppose we denote by $\phi_k(t, t_0)$ the solution for initial condition

$x_0 = e_k =$ standard basis vector in \mathbb{R}^n with 1 in k^{th} place and 0 elsewhere.

Then

$$\phi_k(t, t_0) = e_k + \int_{t_0}^t A(\sigma) \phi_k(\sigma, t_0) d\sigma.$$

By arranging such solutions in

$$\underline{\Phi}(t, t_0) = \left[\phi_1(t, t_0), \phi_2(t, t_0), \dots, \phi_n(t, t_0) \right]$$

we obtain matrix, called transition matrix of the LTV system, also referred to in earlier literature as the matrizant and it has to satisfy

$$\underline{\Phi}(t, t_0) = \underline{I} + \int_{t_0}^t A(\sigma) \underline{\Phi}(\sigma, t_0) d\sigma$$

where $\underline{I} = [e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n]$ is the identity matrix.

$$\text{Clearly } \underline{\Phi}(t_0, t_0) = \underline{I}.$$

How do we solve the above integral equation for the transition matrix?
We state

→ (Transition Matrix)

Theorem: Let $A(\cdot)$ be a square matrix whose elements are continuous functions of time on the interval $t_0 \leq t \leq t_1$. Define the sequence of matrix-valued functions defined recursively by:

$$S_0(t, t_0) = I$$

$$S_k(t, t_0) = I + \int_{t_0}^t A(\sigma) S_{k-1}(\sigma, t_0) d\sigma$$

$k=1, 2, \dots$

(This is a sequence of partial sums of a matrix series.) Then the sequence converges uniformly on the given interval $[t_0, t_1]$. Moreover the limit, denoted by $\Phi(t, t_0)$ satisfies the matrix differential equation

$$\dot{\Phi}(t, t_0) = A(t) \Phi(t, t_0)$$

$$\Phi(t_0, t_0) = I$$

and the solution to the LTV system

$$\dot{x}(t) = A(t) x(t)$$

$$x(t_0) = x_0$$

is $x(t) = \Phi(t, t_0) x_0$

Remark The theorem as stated can be found R.W. Brockett, - Finite Dimensional Linear Systems, John Wiley and Sons Inc, New York, 1970, and with minor variations, in many other places. Our proof follows Brockett.

Proof. For a series of scalar function of $t \in [t_0, t_1]$ of the form $x_1(t) + x_2(t) + x_3(t) + \dots$, we say the series converges absolutely and uniformly on the interval $[t_0, t_1]$ if there exists a sequence of positive constants c_i such that

$$|x_i(t)| \leq c_i \quad \forall t \in [t_0, t_1]$$

and series $c_1 + c_2 + c_3 + \dots$ converges.

Convergence of the latter is simply convergence of the sequence $\mu_1, \mu_2, \mu_3, \dots$ of

partial sums $\mu_k = \sum_{i=1}^k c_i \quad k=1, 2, \dots$

Let $\eta(t) = \max_{i,j=1,2,\dots,n} |a_{ij}(t)|$

Let $\gamma(t) = \int_{t_0}^t \eta(\sigma) d\sigma$.

For any $n \times n$ matrices A, B , the product $C = AB = [c_{ij}]$ satisfies,

$$|c_{ij}| = \left| \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik} b_{kj} \right| \leq \sum_{k=1}^n |a_{ik}| |b_{kj}|$$

$$\leq \sum_{\substack{\ell, m \\ = 1, 2, \dots, n}} \max |a_{\ell m}| \max_{\substack{r, s \\ = 1, 2, \dots, n}} |b_{rs}|$$

$$= n \max_{\ell, m} |a_{\ell m}| \max_{r, s} |b_{rs}|$$

It follows that

$$\left(S_k(t, t_0) - S_{k-1}(t, t_0) \right)_{i,j}$$

$$= \left(\int_{t_0}^t A(\sigma_1) \int_{t_0}^{\sigma_1} A(\sigma_2) \dots \int_{t_0}^{\sigma_{k-1}} A(\sigma_k) d\sigma_k d\sigma_{k-1} \dots d\sigma_1 \right)_{i,j}$$

$$\leq \int_{t_0}^t \int_{t_0}^{\sigma_1} \dots \int_{t_0}^{\sigma_{k-1}} n^{k-1} \eta(\sigma_1) \eta(\sigma_2) \dots \eta(\sigma_k) d\sigma_k \dots d\sigma_1$$

$$= n^{k-1} \frac{\gamma^k(t)}{k!}$$

the (i, j) th element of

Thus each term in the ~~series~~ series

$$M_0(t, t_0) + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} M_k(t, t_0) - M_{k-1}(t, t_0)$$

is smaller than the corresponding term in the series

$$1 + \gamma(t) + \frac{n^2 \gamma^2(t)}{2!} + \frac{n^3 \gamma^3(t)}{3!} + \dots$$

But the latter converges for all n to

$$1 - \frac{1}{n} + \frac{e^{n\gamma(t)}}{n} + \dots$$

So each element of the matrix series must converge too.

To show that the limit Φ actually satisfies the differential equation, observe that term-by-term differentiation is permitted (because of uniform convergence) and

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \Phi(t, t_0) &= \frac{d}{dt} \left(\mathbf{I} + \int_{t_0}^t A(\sigma_1) d\sigma_1 \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \int_{t_0}^t A(\sigma_1) \int_{t_0}^{\sigma_1} A(\sigma_2) d\sigma_2 d\sigma_1 \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \dots \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$= 0 + A(t) + A(t) \int_{t_0}^t A(\sigma_2) d\sigma_2$$

+ ...

$$= A(t) [\Phi(t, t_0)]$$

The expression

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{\Phi}(t, t_0) &= I + \int_{t_0}^t A(\sigma_1) d\sigma_1 \\ &+ \int_{t_0}^t A(\sigma_1) \int_{t_0}^{\sigma_1} A(\sigma_2) d\sigma_2 d\sigma_1 \\ &+ \dots\end{aligned}$$

is known as the Peano-Baker series.

Remark

special case :

$$\text{suppose } A(t) = a(t) \bar{A}$$

where \bar{A} is a constant matrix. Then

$$\bar{\Phi}(t, t_0) = \exp\left(\bar{A} \int_{t_0}^t a(\sigma) d\sigma\right)$$