

Lyapunov equations

Note Title

2025-05-02

$$A^*W + WA + Q = 0 \quad (L)$$

$$A, Q \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n} \quad Q = Q^*$$

$$W \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n} \text{ unknown}$$

Special case of $AX - XB = C$

Unique solution if and only if $\Lambda(A^*) \cap \Lambda(-A) = \emptyset$

This holds in particular if $\Lambda(A) \subset \text{LHP}$ (open)

because in this case $\Lambda(A^*) \subset \text{LHP}$ $\Lambda(-A) \subset \text{RHP}$

Lemma Suppose (L) has a unique solution W , then $W = W^*$

Proof: Transpose (L), to obtain

$$A^*W + WA + Q = 0 \Rightarrow W^*A + A^*W^* + Q = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow W^* \text{ also solves (L)}$$

$$\Rightarrow W^* = W. \quad \square$$

Lemma: Suppose $\Lambda(A) \subset \text{LHP}$. Then, the solution W can be expressed as an integral

$$W = \int_0^\infty \exp(A^*t) Q \exp(At) dt.$$

(Note that the integral converges:

$$\exp(At) = V \begin{bmatrix} \exp(\lambda_1 t) & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \exp(\lambda_n t) \end{bmatrix} V^{-1}$$

$$\exp\left(\begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix} t\right) = \begin{bmatrix} e^{\lambda_1 t} & & \\ & e^{\lambda_2 t} & \\ & & \frac{1}{(k-1)!} e^{\lambda_k t} t^{k-1} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{exponential decay}$$

Proof: differentiate

$$\frac{d}{dt} \exp(A^*t) Q \exp(At) = A^* \exp(A^*t) Q \exp(At) + \exp(A^*t) Q \exp(At) \cdot A$$

Integrate both sides:

$$\left[\exp(A^*t) Q \exp(At) \right]_0^\infty = A^* \int_0^\infty \exp(A^*t) Q \exp(At) dt + \int_0^\infty \exp(A^*t) Q \exp(At) dt A$$

$\infty \quad 0$
 $\downarrow \quad \downarrow$
 $0 - Q$

$$= A^* W + W A$$

Lemma: suppose $\Lambda(A) \subset \text{LHP}$, and $Q \succeq 0$ (positive semidef.)

Then, $W \succeq 0$. (And $Q \succ 0 \Rightarrow W \succ 0$)

Proof:

$$W = \int_0^\infty \exp(A^*t) Q \exp(At) dt$$

The integrand is $\succeq 0 \Rightarrow W \succeq 0$.

Lemma: Suppose $Q \succ 0, W \succ 0$. Then, $\Lambda(A) \subset \text{LHP}$

Proof: $Ax = x\lambda$ eigenvector/value pair

$$x^* (A^* W + W A + Q) x = 0$$

$$\lambda^* x^* W x + x^* W x \lambda + x^* Q x = 0$$

$$2\text{Re}(\lambda) = \lambda^* + \lambda = - \frac{x^* Q x}{x^* W x} < 0. \quad \square$$

This is useful to prove that $\Lambda(A) \subset \text{LHP}$ without actually computing the eigenvalues

Def: a continuous-time linear dynamical system is the ODE

$$\begin{cases} x(0) = x_0 \\ \dot{x}(t) = Ax(t) \end{cases}$$

We know that

$$x(t) = \exp(At) \cdot x_0$$

and that

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} x(t) = 0 \text{ iff } \lambda(A) \subset \text{LHP}$$

Suppose you have $W > 0, Q > 0$ s.t. $A^*W + WA + Q = 0$

Original experiment: define the energy function $V(x) = x^*Wx$ for a given $W > 0$. Then, we show that $V(x(t))$ is decreasing:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} V(x(t)) &= \frac{d}{dt} x(t)^* W x(t) = x(t)^* A^* W x(t) + x(t)^* W A x(t) \\ &= x(t)^* (A^* W + W A) x(t) = x(t)^* (-Q) x(t) < 0 \end{aligned}$$

One can prove that $V(x(t)) \rightarrow 0$, and this implies $x(t) \rightarrow 0$

This proves: if there are $W, Q > 0$ s.t. $A^*W + WA + Q = 0$, then $x(t) \rightarrow 0$.

There is an analogous theory for discrete-time dynamical systems: consider a sequence of vectors

$$\begin{cases} x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n \\ x_{k+1} = Ax_k \end{cases}$$

$$x_k = A^k x_0$$

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} x_k = 0 \text{ iff } \lambda(A) \subset \text{Disc}$$

$$\text{Disc} = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| < 1\}$$

Stein equation (discrete-time Lyapunov equation)

$$W - A^*WA = Q \quad (S)$$

Expression for its solution:

$$W = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (A^*)^k Q A^k \quad \text{converging if } \Lambda(A) \subset \text{Disc}$$

$$W = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (A^*)^k Q A^k = Q + A^* \left(\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (A^*)^k Q A^k \right) A = Q + A^* W A$$

Given A, Q, W that satisfy (S):

- if $\Lambda(A) \subset \text{Disc}$, $Q > 0 \Rightarrow W > 0$: from the formula for W
- if $Q > 0, W > 0 \Rightarrow \Lambda(A)$ disc:

$$Ax = x\lambda$$

$$x^* (W - A^* W A) x = x^* Q x$$

$$x^* W x - \bar{\lambda} x^* W x \lambda = x^* Q x$$

$$(1 - \bar{\lambda} \lambda) = \frac{x^* Q x}{x^* W x} > 0$$

Given $W > 0, Q > 0, A$ that satisfy (S),

Define $V(x) = x^* W x$. We show that $V(x_k)$ is decreasing:

$$\begin{aligned} V(x_{k+1}) - V(x_k) &= x_{k+1}^* W x_{k+1} - x_k^* W x_k = \\ &= x_k^* (A^* W A - W) x_k = -x_k^* Q x_k < 0 \end{aligned}$$

Control systems

Inverted pendulum:



one degree of freedom,
angle θ

Equations of motion:

$$\cancel{mg} \sin \theta = m \ddot{\theta}$$

$$\ddot{\vartheta} = g \sin \vartheta \approx g \vartheta \quad \text{if } \vartheta \text{ is small}$$

Define the state: $x(t) = \begin{bmatrix} \vartheta(t) \\ \dot{\vartheta}(t) \end{bmatrix}$

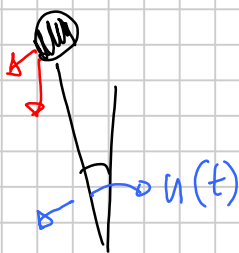
$$\dot{x}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{\vartheta}(t) \\ \ddot{\vartheta}(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{\vartheta}(t) \\ g \vartheta(t) \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ g & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_A \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \vartheta(t) \\ \dot{\vartheta}(t) \end{bmatrix}}_{x(t)} = A x(t)$$

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

Is this system stable? I.e. if you start from $x(0) = x_0 \neq 0$, does the system converge to $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} x(t) = 0$?

$$\lambda(A) = \text{zeros of } \det \begin{pmatrix} x & 1 \\ g & x \end{pmatrix} = \text{zeros of } x^2 - g = \{ \pm \sqrt{g} \} \notin \text{LHP}$$

Let us add an additional force to keep the system stable:



$$\ddot{\vartheta}(t) = g \cdot \vartheta(t) + u(t)$$

$$x(t) = \begin{bmatrix} \vartheta(t) \\ \dot{\vartheta}(t) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\dot{x}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{\vartheta}(t) \\ \ddot{\vartheta}(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{\vartheta}(t) \\ g \vartheta(t) + u(t) \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ g & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_A \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \vartheta(t) \\ \dot{\vartheta}(t) \end{bmatrix}}_{x(t)} + \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}}_B u(t)$$

$$\dot{x}(t) = A x(t) + B u(t)$$

We can choose $u(t) = Fx(t) = \begin{bmatrix} f_1 & f_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \theta(t) \\ \dot{\theta}(t) \end{bmatrix}$

If we add this control function to the system,

$$\dot{x}(t) = Ax(t) + BFx(t) = \left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ g & 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} f_1 & f_2 \end{bmatrix} \right) x(t)$$

$$\dot{x}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ g+f_1 & f_2 \end{bmatrix} x(t)$$

$$\det \left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ g+f_1 & f_2 \end{bmatrix} - xI \right) = x^2 - f_2 x - (f_1 + g)$$

If $f_2 = 0$, then $\det((A+BF) - xI) = \text{zeros of } x^2 - (f_1 + g)$

$\nexists$ LHP for any choice of f .

$\Rightarrow$ just observing the position is not sufficient to stabilize the system.

General theory:

$$\dot{x}(t) = Ax(t) + Bu(t) \quad x: [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \text{ state}$$

$$A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}, B \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times m} \quad u: [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m \text{ control}$$

$$m \leq n$$

EX: self-driving car, drone

EX: heating control