

# Algebraic Riccati equations

Note Title

2025-05-16

To compute optimal control we need to solve

$$A^*X + XA + Q - XGX = 0 \quad \text{Algebraic Riccati equation}$$

$$G = BR^{-1}B^* \quad Q \succ 0 \quad R \succ 0$$

$$A, X, Q, G \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$$

We need  $X$  s.t.  $\Lambda(A - GX) \subset LHP$ ,  $X = X^*$   
 (We also need to prove that such a solution exists unique)

Assumptions:  $(A, B)$  and  $(A^*, Q)$  are controllable

$(A, B)$  controllable  $\Leftrightarrow (A, G)$  controllable

because controllable  $\Leftrightarrow \text{rk}[B, AB, A^2B, \dots] = n$

and  $B, G$  have some column space.

Observation: Riccati equation  $\Leftrightarrow$

$$\begin{bmatrix} A & -G \\ -Q & -A^* \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I_n \\ X \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} I_n \\ X \end{bmatrix} (A - GX) \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} A - GX = A - GX \\ -Q - A^*X = X(A - GX) \end{cases}$$

i.e.  $\begin{bmatrix} I_n \\ X \end{bmatrix}$  is H-invariant, where  $H = \begin{bmatrix} A & -G \\ -Q & -A^* \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}^{2n \times 2n}$

(the Hamiltonian of the system)

Lemma: Suppose  $\text{Im } U$ ,  $U = \begin{bmatrix} U_1 \\ U_2 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}^{2n \times n}$  is H-invariant,  
 and  $U_1 \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  is invertible. Then,  $X = U_2 U_1^{-1}$   
 solves the algebraic Riccati equation. If  $\text{Im } U$  is

Associated to eigenvalues  $\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n\}$ , then

$$\Lambda(H-GX) = \{\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n\}.$$

Proof:

$$\begin{bmatrix} A & -G \\ -Q & -A^* \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} U_1 \\ U_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} U_1 \\ U_2 \end{bmatrix} S \iff \begin{bmatrix} A & -G \\ -Q & -A^* \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} U_1 \\ U_2 \end{bmatrix} U_1^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} U_1 \\ U_2 \end{bmatrix} U_1^{-1} S U_1^{-1}$$

$$\begin{matrix} 2n \times 2n & 2n \times n & 2n \times n & n \times n \end{matrix} \iff \begin{bmatrix} A & -G \\ -Q & -A^* \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I \\ X \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} I \\ X \end{bmatrix} U_1^{-1} S U_1^{-1}$$

$$\iff \begin{cases} A-GX = U_1 S U_1^{-1} \\ -Q-A^*X = X U_1 S, U_1^{-1} = X(A-GX) \end{cases} \quad \text{Underlined in red is the A.N.E.}$$

$$\Lambda(H-GX) = \Lambda(S) = \{\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n\} \quad \square$$

To understand existence of solutions, we study the matrix  $H$

Def: A Hamiltonian matrix is one of the form

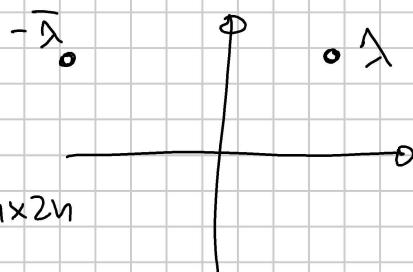
$$\begin{bmatrix} A & -G \\ -Q & -A^* \end{bmatrix}, \text{ with } G=G^*, Q=Q^*$$

$$\text{Hamiltonian matrices} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} H_{11} & H_{12} \\ H_{21} & H_{22} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}^{2n \times 2n} : H_{11} = -H_{22}^*, H_{12} = H_{12}^*, H_{21} = H_{21}^* \right\}$$

Lemma: Let  $H$  be Hamiltonian,  $\lambda \in \Lambda(H)$ . Then,  $-\bar{\lambda} \in \Lambda(H)$ , and the two have the same algebraic multiplicity.

i.e.  $\Lambda(H)$  is symmetric

w.r.t. the imaginary axis



Proof: Let  $J = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & I_n \\ -I_n & 0 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}^{2n \times 2n}$

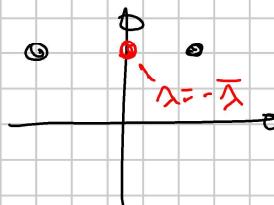
$$J^{-1}HJ = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -I_n \\ I_n & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A & -G \\ -Q & -A^* \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & I \\ -I & 0 \end{bmatrix} =$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} Q & A^* \\ A & -G \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & I \\ -I & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A^* & Q \\ G & A \end{bmatrix} = -H^*$$

So  $\Lambda(H) = \Lambda(-H^*)$      $\lambda \in \Lambda(H) \Rightarrow \lambda \in \Lambda(-H^*) \Rightarrow -\bar{\lambda} \in \Lambda(H)$

D

So the spectrum of  $H$  is symmetric w.r.t imaginary axis.



If there are no imaginary eigenvalues, then  $\Lambda(H)$  has  $n$  eigenvalues in LHP and  $n$  in RHP

Theorem: Under our assumptions ( $Q \succ 0$   $G \succ 0$   $(A, G)$  contr.  $(A^*, Q)$  contr.)

then  $H$  has no purely imaginary eigenvalues.

Proof: Suppose by contradiction

$$\begin{bmatrix} A & -G \\ -Q & -A^* \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \end{bmatrix} i\omega \quad \text{w} \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} (A - i\omega I)z_1 = Gz_2 \\ -(A - i\omega I)^* z_2 = Qz_1 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} z_1^*(A - i\omega I)z_1 = z_2^* G z_2 \\ -z_1^*(A - i\omega I)^* z_2 = z_1^* Q z_1 \end{cases}$$

real since  $G, Q \succ 0$

$$\underbrace{z_1^* Q z_1}_V + \underbrace{z_2^* G z_2}_U = 0 \Rightarrow Qz_1 = Gz_2 = 0$$

$\begin{bmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \end{bmatrix}$  eigenvector  $\Rightarrow z_1, z_2$  not both zero.

If  $z_1 \neq 0$ , then we can write

$$z_1^* [(A - i\omega I)^* Q] = 0 \quad z_1^* [A^* + i\omega I Q] = 0$$

$\Rightarrow (A^*, Q)$  not controllable because  $z_1(A^*)^* Q = 0$

This contradicts controllability of  $(A^*, Q)$

If instead  $z_2 \neq 0$ , then we get  $z_2^* [A - i\omega I G] = 0$

This contradicts controllability of  $(A, G)$ .  $\square$

Together, these results imply that  $H$  has  $n$  eigenvalues in the LHP and  $n$  in the RHP, counted with algebraic multiplicity

$\Rightarrow \exists$  the (unique) invariant subspace of  $H$  associated to the LHP, i.e.  $\exists! U = \text{Im} \begin{bmatrix} U_1 \\ U_2 \end{bmatrix}$  such that

$$H \begin{bmatrix} U_1 \\ U_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} U_1 \\ U_2 \end{bmatrix} S, \quad \Lambda(S) \in \text{LHP}$$

$U$  is called stable invariant subspace.

We still need to prove that  $U_1$  is invertible for this subspace.

Theorem: Under our assumptions,  $U_1$  is invertible

Proof: in the notes, not too illuminating.  $\square$

Properties of the subspace  $U = \text{Im} \begin{bmatrix} U_1 \\ U_2 \end{bmatrix}$ .

Lemma: Let  $\begin{bmatrix} U_1 \\ U_2 \end{bmatrix}$  be a basis matrix for the stable

invariant subspace of a Hamiltonian matrix, then

$$\begin{bmatrix} V_1^* & 0_2^* \end{bmatrix} J \begin{bmatrix} V_1 \\ V_2 \end{bmatrix} = 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow V^* J V = 0 \text{ for all } v \in U$$

$U \times 2n \quad 2n \times n \quad 2n \times n$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & I \\ -I & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Proof: Let  $H = V \begin{bmatrix} J_1 \\ J_2 \end{bmatrix} V^{-1}$  be a Jordan form,

where  $\Lambda(J_1) \subset LHP$ ,  $\Lambda(J_2) \subset RHP$   $J, J_2 \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$

If  $V = \begin{bmatrix} V_1 & V_2 \end{bmatrix}_{2n}$ , then  $U = \text{Im } V_1$ , so  $\begin{bmatrix} V_1 \\ V_2 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $V_1$

span the same subspace.

$$J = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & I \\ -I & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} J^{-1} &= -J \\ J^* &= -J \end{aligned}$$

We want to show that  $JV_1$  is the left invariant subspace for  $H$  associated to the unstable eigenvalues

$$V_1^* J^* H = (-J_1)^* J^*$$

$$J^* H = -J H = H^* J$$

$$V_1^* J^* H = V_1^* H^* J = (HV_1)^* J = (V_1 J_1)^* J = J_1^* V_1^* J = (-J_1)^* V_1^* J$$

RHP

$\Rightarrow (JV_1)^*$  spans the left invariant subspace for  $H$  associated to its eigenvalues in the RHP

$V_1$  and  $JV_1$  are orthogonal because they are the left and right invariant subspaces associated to disjoint eigenvalues

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} V_1 & V_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} J_1 & \\ & J_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} V_1 & V_2 \end{bmatrix}^{-1}$$

$\text{Im } V_1 = \text{Im first } n \text{ columns of } V$   
 is the inv. subspace associated to eigenvalues in  $J_1$ ,

$\text{Im of last } n \text{ rows of } W = V^{-1}$  is the inv. subspace associated  
 to eigenvalues in  $J_2$

$$V^{-1} = W = \begin{bmatrix} W_1 \\ W_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$V = \begin{bmatrix} V_1 & V_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$W_2 \cdot V_1 = 0$$

$$\boxed{\quad} \boxed{\quad} = \boxed{\quad}$$

□

$$\Rightarrow 0 = [U_1^* \ U_2^*] \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} U_1 \\ U_2 \end{bmatrix} = U_1^* U_2 - U_2^* U_1 = 0$$

With this, we can prove symmetry of  $X = U_2 U_1^{-1}$ :

$$X^* - X = U_1^{-*} U_2^* - U_2 U_1^{-1} = U_1^{-*} (U_2^* U_1 - U_1^* U_2) U_1^{-1} = 0.$$

$\Rightarrow X$  is symmetric.

One way to compute invariant subspaces: through the  
 reordered Schur form.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -x & 1 \end{bmatrix} H \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ x & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A - Gx & -G \\ 0 & (A - Gx)^* \end{bmatrix}$$

$\in \text{LHP}$

$\in \text{RHP}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -x & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A & -G \\ -Q & -A^* \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ x & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A & -G \\ -xA - Q & xG - A^* \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ x & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} A - GX & -G \\ -xA - Q + xGX - A^*x & -(A - GX)^* \end{bmatrix}.$$

"0"

