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Samira Moftah Abo Ighrarah
 Department of Mathematics
 Faculty of Education, Bani
 Waleed University, Libya

Systems of difference equations

Samira Moftah Abo Ighrarah

Abstract

In mathematics, a system of differential equations is a finite set of differential equations. Such a system can be either linear or non-linear. In addition, such a system can be either a system of ordinary differential equations or a system of partial differential equations. Difference equation have played an important role in analysis of mathematical model of biology, physics. Economics and Engineering. Recently, there has been a great interest in studying properties of rational difference equation. Studying equilibrium properties requires studying the properties of a system of difference equation.

Keywords: Systems of difference equations: solution formula for some homogeneous, nonhomogeneous systems and autonomous systems

Introduction

In this section we are interested in finding solution of the following system of linear equations:

$$X_1(n+1) = a_{11}X_1(n) + a_{12}X_2(n) + \dots + a_{1k}X_k(n) + b_1$$

$$X_2(n+1) = a_{21}X_1(n) + a_{22}X_2(n) + \dots + a_{2k}X_k(n) + b_2$$

$$X_k(n+1) = a_{k1}X_1(n) + a_{k2}X_2(n) + \dots + a_{kk}X_k(n) + b_k$$

Or. Equivalently

$$X(n+1) = \begin{pmatrix} X_1(n+1) \\ X_2(n+1) \\ \vdots \\ X_k(n+1) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1k} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2k} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{k1} & a_{k2} & \cdots & a_{kk} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} X_1(n) \\ X_2(n) \\ \vdots \\ X_k(n) \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \vdots \\ b_k \end{pmatrix}$$

This system may be written in the form

$$X(n+1) = AX(n) + B \tag{1}$$

Where A is a nonsingular constant matrix, and b_j is in the set of all integer including zero.

The matrix A is called *the companion matrix* of Equation (1).

Theorem1

Let $k \in \mathbb{N}, k \geq 2$. A linear in inhomogeneous of k first order difference equations is given by Equation (1) . Then the solution is given by

$$X(n) = A^n X(0) + \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} A^j B \tag{2}$$

Corresponding Author:
Samira Moftah Abo Ighrarah
 Department of Mathematics
 Faculty of Education, Bani
 Waleed University, Libya

Where $A^0 = I$.

Proof

From (2),

$$\begin{aligned} X(n+1) &= A^{n+1}X(0) + \sum_{j=0}^n A^j B = A^{n+1}X(0) + A^n B + \dots + \\ &= A[A^n X(0) + A^{n-1}B + \dots + IB] + B = A[A^n X(0) + \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} A^j B] + B \end{aligned}$$

$$X(n+1) = AX(0) + B$$

Lemma 1

If $\lambda = 1$ is not an eigenvalue of a square matrix $\lambda = 1$, and be $n \in \mathbb{N}$, then

$$\sum_{j=0}^{n-1} A^j = (A^n - I)(A - I)^{-1}$$

Proof

Since $\lambda = 1$ is not an eigenvalue, then $|A - I| \neq 0$, i.e. $(A - I)^{-1}$ exists. For $n = 1$

$$\sum_{j=0}^{1-1} A^j = A^0 = I = (A^1 - I)(A - I)^{-1}$$

Assume that the formula holds for $n = k$, i.e

$$\sum_{j=0}^{k-1} A^j = (A^k - I)(A - I)^{-1}$$

Then for $n = k + 1$

$$\sum_{j=0}^k A^j = A^k + \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} A^j = A^k + (A^k - I)(A - I)^{-1}$$

$$[A^k(A - I) + (A^k - I)](A - I)^{-1} = (A^{k+1} - A^k + A^k - I)$$

Hence

$$\sum_{j=0}^k A^j = (A^{k+1} - I)(A - I)^{-1}$$

Corollary

If $\lambda = 1$ is not an eigenvalue of a square matrix $\lambda = 1$, and be $n \in \mathbb{N}$, then the solution

$$X(n+1) = AX(n) + B$$

Is given by

$$X(n) = A^n X(0) + (A^n - I)(A - I)^{-1} B$$

Proof

From the theorem 1

$$A^n X(0) + \left(\sum_{j=0}^{n-1} A^j \right) B X(n) = A^n X(0) + \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} A^j B =$$

$$A^n X(0) + (A^n - I)(A - I)^{-1} B$$

First Order System of Difference Equations

Consider the first order system of difference equation

$$X(n+1) = AX(n) + B(n) \quad A \neq 0$$

Theorem 2[3]

Let

$$X(n) = \begin{pmatrix} X_1(n) \\ X_2(n) \\ \vdots \\ X_k(n) \end{pmatrix}, \quad A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1k} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2k} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{k1} & a_{2k} & \cdots & a_{kk} \end{pmatrix}, \quad B(n) = \begin{pmatrix} b_1(n) \\ b_2(n) \\ \vdots \\ b_k(n) \end{pmatrix}$$

Then, the system of first order of difference equations

$$X(n+1) = AX(n) + B(n)$$

Has the solution

$$X(n) = A^n X(0) + \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} A^{n-1-j} B(j) \tag{4}$$

Proof

From (4), replace "n" by "n+1",

$$X(n+1) = A^{n+1} X(0) + \sum_{j=0}^n A^{n-j} B(j) = A^{n+1} X(0) + A^n B(0) + A^{n-1} B(1) + \cdots + AB(n-1) + B(n)$$

$$A[A^n X(0) + A^{n-1} B(0) + A^{n-2} B(1) + \cdots + B(n-1)] + B(n) =$$

$$A[A^n X(0) + \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} A^{n-1-j} B(j)] + B(n).$$

Thus, from (4)

$$X(n+1) = AX(n) + B(n)$$

First Order System of Difference Equations

Homogenous

We start the analysis with the discussion of the homogenous equation

$$X(n+1) = AX(n) \tag{5}$$

Where $n \geq 0$.

The general solution of the equation $X(n+1) = AX(n)$ is

$$X(n+1) = A^n X(0) \tag{6}$$

Where

$$A^j : R^j \rightarrow R, \quad j = 0, 1, \dots, n$$

Let $n=0$, then

$$X(n) = A^0 X(0)$$

Where

$$A^0 = I, \quad X(0) = (X_1(0), X_2(0), \dots, X_k(0)) \quad \text{are given}$$

Let $X(0) = c$, then the general solution can be written as

$$X(n) = A^n c, \quad n \in N \tag{7}$$

Where c is an arbitrary constant vector. To find the general solution of Equation (5), we need to find A^n .

Definition 1 ^[3]

The solution $X(n) = (X_1(n), X_2(n), \dots, X_k(n))$ are linearly independent for $n \geq 0$ if and if the matrix A is nonsingular ($\det A \neq 0$), for all $n \geq 0$.

Let $\Phi(n)$ a $k \times k$ matrix whose columns of $X(n) = A^n X(0)$, we write

$$\Phi(n) = (X_1(n), X_2(n), \dots, X_k(n))$$

Implies

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(n+1) &= (A(n)X_1(n), A(n)X_2(n), \dots, A(n)X_k(n)) \\ &= A(n)(X_1(n), X_2(n), \dots, X_k(n)) = A(n)\Phi(n) \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\Phi(n+1) = A(n)\Phi(n), \tag{9}$$

Definition 2 ^[4]

If $\Phi(n)$ is a matrix that is nonsingular for all $n \geq 0$ and satisfies the homogenous matrix system equation $\Phi(n+1) = A(n)\Phi(n)$, then it is said to be a *fundamental matrix* for system of equation $X(n) = A^n X(0)$.

Remark

If $\Phi(n)$ is a fundamental matrix and C is any nonsingular matrix, then $\Phi(n)C$ is also a fundamental matrix.

The Casoratian matrix $W(n)$ of $X^{(1)}, X^{(2)}, \dots, X^{(k)}$ with $k \geq 1$ is defined as

$$W(n) = \det \begin{pmatrix} X_1^{(1)}(n) & X_1^{(2)}(n) & \dots & X_1^{(k)}(n) \\ X_2^{(1)}(n) & X_2^{(2)}(n) & \dots & X_2^{(k)}(n) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ X_k^{(1)}(n) & X_k^{(2)}(n) & \dots & X_k^{(k)}(n) \end{pmatrix}$$

If $n = 0$, this implies that $\Phi(n) = I_k$, then $\Phi(n)$ is called a *principal fundamental matrix*.

Let $\Phi(n) = A^n$, then $X(n) = \Phi(n)C = A^n C$.

Where $C \in R^k$ is a constant vector. Then any linearly independent set of solutions of $X(n+1) = AX(n)$.

The general solution of this equation is defined to be

$$X(n) = \sum_{i=1}^k C_i X_i(n), \quad C_i \neq 0$$

Where

$$C_i = (C_1, C_2, \dots, C_k)^T \in R, \text{ and } X_i(n) = (X_1(n), X_2(n), \dots, X_k(n))^T \text{ is a fundamental matrix.}$$

Solution Formula Homogenous Systems

To find solution of the homogenous system $X(n) = AX(n-1)$, we need to find the eigenvalues of $A\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_k\}$, and eigenvectors $\{v_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, k\}$ that is satisfies

$$Av_i = \lambda_i v_i \rightarrow (A - \lambda_i I)v_i = 0$$

$$\text{Let } p = v_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, k, \quad \text{where } v_i = (v_{i1}, v_{i2}, \dots, v_{ik})^T.$$

Put

$$D = \text{diag}[\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_k]$$

$$D = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & \lambda_k \end{pmatrix}$$

Then $P^{-1}AP = D = \text{diag}[\lambda_i]_{i=1,2,\dots,k}$, equivalently $A = PDP^{-1}$ note that for all λ_i there exists unique eigenvector v , satisfies

$$(A - \lambda_i I)v_i = 0, \quad \text{for all } i = 1, 2, \dots, k.$$

To find the solution of system $X(n) = A^n X(0)$, we need to find A^n is follows as

$$A^n = PD^n P^{-1}$$

$$D^n = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1^n & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2^n & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & \lambda_k^n \end{pmatrix}$$

Where

Put

$$X_i(n) = v_i \lambda_i^n, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, k.$$

We obtain

$$X_i(n) = \sum C_i X_i(n) = \sum C_i v_i \lambda_i^n, \quad n \geq 0$$

For some constants C_1, C_2, \dots, C_k .

(9)

Definition 3 ^[9]

Let v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k be a set of k nonzero vectors (all the same dimension), these vectors are called linearly independent if the vector equation

$$C_1 v_1 + C_2 v_2 + \dots + C_k v_k = 0.$$

Has only the trivial solution.

Example

To find the general solution of

$$X(n+1) = AX(n),$$

With

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

We solve the equation

$$(A - \lambda_i I)v_i = 0,$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} -\lambda & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1-\lambda & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & -\lambda \end{vmatrix} = (1-\lambda)(\lambda^2 - 1) = 0 \rightarrow \lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = 1, \lambda_3 = -1$$

at $\lambda = 1$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_{11} \\ v_{21} \\ v_{31} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

At $\lambda = -1$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_{13} \\ v_{23} \\ v_{33} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow v_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

This implies that

$$P^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{2} & 0 & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} & 0 & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

Where

$$PAP^{-1} = D = \text{diag}(\lambda_i) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Note that

$$A^n = \text{diag}(\lambda_i^n) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & (-1)^n \end{pmatrix}$$

The general solution of equation

$$X(n) = A^n X(0) \text{ is}$$

$$X(n) = \sum_{i=1}^3 C_i v_i \lambda_i^n = C_1 v_1 \lambda_1^n + C_2 v_2 \lambda_2^n + C_3 v_3 \lambda_3^n = C_1 \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + C_2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + C_3 (-1)^n \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$X(n) = \begin{pmatrix} -C_1 + C_3(-1)^n \\ C_2 \\ C_1 + C_3(-1)^n \end{pmatrix}.$$

Suppose that

$$X(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

To find the solution $X(0)$ with initial value, then

$$-C_1 + C_3 = 2$$

$$C_2 = 0$$

$$C_1 + C_3 = 0$$

Solving this system gives $C_1 = -1, C_2 = 0$, and $C_3 = 1$, leading us to the solution.

$$\text{Let } X(n) = \Phi(n)\Phi^{-1}(0)X(0), \text{ where } \Phi(n) = (v_i \lambda_i^n, i = 1, 2, 3),$$

This given

$$\Phi(n) = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & (-1)^n \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & (-1)^n \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \Phi(0) = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

Thus

$$\Phi^{-1}(n) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{-1}{2} & 0 & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} & 0 & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix},$$

This given

$$X(n) = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & (-1)^n \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & (-1)^n \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{-1}{2} & 0 & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} & 0 & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

Then

$$X(n) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 + (-1)^n \\ 0 \\ -1 + (-1)^n \end{pmatrix}.$$

Example

To find the general solution of equation 8

$$X(n) = A^n X(0)$$

Where

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

Implies

$$|A - \lambda I| = \begin{vmatrix} \cos \theta - \lambda & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0, \quad \text{or} \quad \lambda^2 - 2\lambda \cos \theta + 1 = 0,$$

$$\lambda_{1,2} = \frac{2\cos \theta \pm \sqrt{4\cos^2 \theta - 4}}{2} = \cos \theta \pm i \sin \theta,$$

At

$$\lambda = \cos \theta + i \sin \theta, \quad \text{implies} \quad \begin{pmatrix} -i \sin \theta & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & -i \sin \theta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_{11} \\ v_{21} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

This given

$$v_{11} = -iv_{21} \quad \text{or} \quad v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

At

$$\lambda = \cos\theta - i\sin\theta, \quad \text{implies} \quad \begin{pmatrix} i\sin\theta & \sin\theta \\ -\sin\theta & i\sin\theta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_{12} \\ v_{22} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

This given

$$v_{12} = -\frac{1}{i}v_{22} \quad \text{or} \quad v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} i \\ 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

Hence

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} -i & i \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow P^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{i}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ -\frac{i}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix},$$

Where

$$PAP^{-1} = \text{diag}[\lambda_1, \lambda_2].$$

The general solution of this system is

$$\begin{aligned} X(n) &= \sum_{i=1}^2 C_i v_i \lambda_i^n = C_1 v_1 \lambda_1^n + C_2 v_2 \lambda_2^n = C_1 (\cos\theta + i\sin\theta)^n \begin{pmatrix} -i \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + C_2 (\cos\theta - i\sin\theta)^n \begin{pmatrix} i \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} -iC_1(\cos n\theta + i\sin n\theta) + iC_2(\cos n\theta - i\sin n\theta) \\ C_1(\cos n\theta + i\sin n\theta) + C_2(\cos n\theta - i\sin n\theta) \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

Let

$$X(0) = \begin{pmatrix} i \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{then} \quad \begin{pmatrix} -iC_1 + iC_2 \\ C_1 + C_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} i \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$-iC_1 + iC_2 = i, \quad C_1 + C_2 = 3,$$

$$\Rightarrow C_1 = 1, \quad C_2 = 2$$

Implies

$$X(n) = \begin{pmatrix} -i(\cos n\theta + i\sin n\theta) + 2i(\cos n\theta - i\sin n\theta) \\ (\cos n\theta + i\sin n\theta) + 2(\cos n\theta - i\sin n\theta) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3\sin n\theta + i\sin n\theta \\ 3\cos n\theta - i\sin n\theta \end{pmatrix}.$$

If $\lambda = \alpha + i\beta$ is an eigenvalue of A , then $\lambda = \alpha - i\beta$ is also an eigenvalue of A .

Some theorems pertaining to the eigenvalue problem

- The eigenvalues of a symmetric matrix are real.
- The eigenvalues of an anti-symmetric matrix are purely imaginary or zero.
- The eigenvalues of a unitary matrix have absolute value equals to one.

- If the eigenvalues of a square matrix are not distinct, the corresponding eigenvalue form a basis (i.e. they form a linearly independent set.)

If the system

$$\sum_{i=1}^k C_i v_i = b$$

consistent, we say that b is a linear combination of v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k . [2, 9].

Non-homogeneous First Order System of Difference Equation

Consider now the first order system of difference equation

$$X(n) = AX(n-1) + B(n) \quad (10)$$

Where

$$X(n) = (X_i(n), i=1,2,\dots,k)^T; \quad B(n) = (B_i(n), i=1,2,\dots,k)^T$$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1k} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2k} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{k1} & a_{k2} & \cdots & a_{kk} \end{pmatrix}$$

Theorem 3 [7]

Every solution $X(n)$ to the first order nonhomogeneous system (10) can be represented as the sum of the general solution $X_g(n)$ to the homogeneous system (5), and a particular solution to the nonhomogeneous system (10), $X_p(n)$:

$$X(n) = X_g(n) + X_p(n) = A^n C + X_p(n).$$

A particular solution can be found by iterating the difference equation backwards

$$X(n) = AX(n-1) + B(n)$$

$$X(n) = A(AX(n-2) + B(n-1)) + B(n) = A^2 X(n-2) + AB(n-1) + B(n)$$

$$\vdots$$

$$X(n) = A^n X(0) + A^{n-1} B(1) + A^{n-2} B(2) + \dots + AB(n-1) + B(n)$$

$$= A^n X(0) + \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} A^j B(n-j)$$

This suggests to take:

$$X_p(n) = \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} A^j B(n-j)$$

As particular solution. Then, we can write the general solution to the non-homogeneous system in the form

$$X(n) = A^n C + \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} A^j B(n-j)$$

For the initial value problem $X(0) = C$.

Example

Non-homogeneous First Order Matrix Difference Equations and the Steady State

An example of a non-homogeneous first order matrix difference equation is

$$X(n) = AX(n-1) + B$$

With additive constant vector B , the steady state of this system is a value X^* of the vector X which, if reached, would not be deviated from in terms of deviations from the steady state

$$X(n) = X(n-1) = X^*$$

In the difference equation and solving for X^* to obtain

$$X^* = [I - A]^{-1} B$$

Where I is the $k \times k$ identity matrix, and where it is assumed that $[I - A]$ is invertible. Then, the non-homogeneous equation can be rewritten in homogeneous form in terms of deviations from the steady state

$$[X(n) - X^*] = A[X(n-1) - X^*].$$

Stability of the First Order case

Definition 5

The first-order matrix difference equation $[X(n) - X^*] = A[X(n-1) - X^*]$ is stable, that is, $X(n)$ converges asymptotically to the steady state X^* .

Theorem 4^[8]

The first-order matrix difference equation $[X(n) - X^*] = A[X(n-1) - X^*]$ is stable if and only if all eigenvalues of the transition matrix A (whether real or complex) have an absolute value which is less than 1.

Stability of the Linear System

The eigenvalue can be real or complex value. If $\lambda = \alpha + i\beta$ is an eigenvalue

- Every solution is stable if all the eigenvalues of A have negative real part.
- Every solution is unstable if at least one eigenvalue of A has positive real part.
- Suppose that the eigenvalues of A are $\lambda_j = \alpha_j \pm i\beta_j$

If $\alpha \leq 0$, then every solution is stable if A has linearly independent eigenvectors for each λ_j , otherwise, every solution is unstable.

Lemma 2^[3]

The zero solution of the homogeneous system $X(n) = AX(n-1)$ is stable if and only if there exists $M > 0$ such that

$$\|A^n\| \leq M \quad \text{for all } n \geq 0$$

Theorem 5^[7]

For the homogeneous system $X(n) = AX(n-1)$ the following statements are true

- The zero solution is stable if and only if $\rho(A) \leq 1$ and the eigenvalues on the unit circle are semisimple.
- The zero solution is asymptotically stable if and only if $\rho(A) < 1$, where $\rho(A) = \max\{|\lambda| : \lambda \text{ is an eigenvalue of } A\}$.

Theorem 6^[3]

A hyperbolic matrix is a matrix with no eigenvalues on the unit circle. If A is a hyperbolic matrix, then the corresponding linear homogeneous difference equation $X(n) = AX(n-1)$ is also called *hyperbolic*.

Theorem 7^[3]

The zero solution of the hyper-linear difference equation $X(n) = AX(n-1)$ is called *saddle point* if there exist at least two eigenvalues of A , λ_u and λ_s , such that $|\lambda_u| > 1$ and $|\lambda_s| < 1$.

Solution and Stability of Higher-Order Cases

Matrix difference equations of higher order-that is, with a time lag longer than one period-can be solved, and their stability analyzed. By converting them into first –order form using a block matrix.

Example

Suppose we have the second-order equation

$$X(n) = AX(n-1) + BX(n-2)$$

With the variable vector X being $k \times 1$ matrix, and A and B being $k \times k$ matrix. This can be stacked in the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} X(n) \\ X(n-1) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ I & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} X(n-1) \\ X(n-2) \end{pmatrix}$$

Where I is the $k \times k$ identity matrix, and 0 is the zero matrix. Then denoting the $2k \times 1$ stacked vector of current and once-lagged variables as $Y(n)$ and $2k \times 2k$ block matrix as A , we have as before the solution

$$Y(n) = A^n Y(0)$$

Also as before. This stacked equation and thus the original second-order equations are stable if and only if all eigenvalues of the matrix A are smaller than unity in absolute value.

Autonomous Systems

We say that the two $k \times k$ matrices A and B are similar if there exists a nonsingular matrix P such that

$$P^{-1}AP = B$$

This implies that A and B have the same eigenvalues.

Diagonalizable Matrices**Theorem 6** ^[3]

A $k \times k$ square matrix is diagonalizable if and only if it has k linearly independent eigenvectors.

Proof

Let $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_k$ be the eigenvalues of D and let v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k be the corresponding linearly Independent eigenvectors of D . then form formula

$$\Phi(n) = PD^n = P \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1^n & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2^n & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & \lambda_k^n \end{pmatrix}$$

We have

$$\Phi(n) = [v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k] \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1^n & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2^n & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & \lambda_k^n \end{pmatrix} = [v_1 \lambda_1^n, v_2 \lambda_2^n, \dots, v_k \lambda_k^n].$$

Notice that since columns of $\Phi(n)$ are solution of the system $X(n) = AX(n-1)$, then $X(n) = v_i \lambda_i^n$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$, a solution of this system.

Hence, the general solution of $X(n) = AX(n-1)$ may be given by

$$X(n) = \sum_{i=1}^k C_i v_i \lambda_i^n$$

The Jordan Form:

If the matrix A is not diagonalizable, then

A has repeated eigenvalues, and one is not stable to generate k linearly independent eigenvectors.

If a $k \times k$ matrix A is not diagonalizable, then it is akin to the so-called Jordan form, i.e. $P^{-1}AP = J$, where

$$J = \text{diag}(J_1, J_2, \dots, J_r) \quad 1 \leq r \leq n \tag{11}$$

$$J_i = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_i & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_i & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & \lambda_i \end{pmatrix} \tag{12}$$

The matrix J_i is called a *Jordan block*. this matrix has only one eigenvector, $v_1 = (1,0,0,\dots,0)^T$.

Notice that J may be written as $J = \lambda I + N$, where

$$N = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Example

If A a 3×3 square matrix with an eigenvalue λ , then has one of the following four forms

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda \end{pmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda \end{pmatrix}, \quad C = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda \end{pmatrix}, \quad D = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda \end{pmatrix},$$

The matrix A is diagonalizable, then, it is has three eigenvalues

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The matrices B and C have two eigenvectors

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The matrix D has one eigenvector $v = (1,0,0)^T$.

Lemma 3 ^[3]

For any $\alpha > 0$, then A is similar to a matrix

$$B = \lambda I + \alpha N = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & \alpha & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda & \alpha & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & \alpha \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & \lambda \end{pmatrix}.$$

Example

Two-Dimensional systems

We start by deriving a particular solution for the autonomous system, with two-dimensional square matrix A .**Particular solution**The particular solution is the steady state, if it exists. Let $X(n) = X^*$ for all n . Then,

$$X^* = AX^* + B \Rightarrow X^*(I_2 - A) = B$$

If $(I_2 - A)$ is invertible,

$$X_p(n) = X^* = (I - A)^{-1}B \Rightarrow (I_2 - A)^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det(A)} \begin{pmatrix} 1 - a_{22} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & 1 - a_{11} \end{pmatrix}$$

Which is well defined as long as $\det(A) \neq 0$,

Or equivalently if and only if

$$1 - \text{tr}(A) + \det(A) \neq 0.$$

Complementary and general solutionsConsider for this purpose the homogeneous first order system $X(n) = A^n X(0)$ written as a two equation system

$$X(n) = AX(n-1)$$

Where

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$

Whose characteristic equation is given by

$$\lambda^2 - \text{tr}(A)\lambda + \det(A) = 0, \quad \text{where} \quad \text{tr}(A) = \sum_{i=1}^k a_{ii}.$$

Let the matrix of eigenvalues and eigenvectors of A be

$$D = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad P = [v_1, v_2] = \begin{pmatrix} v_{11} & v_{12} \\ v_{21} & v_{22} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Case 1: Distinct eigenvaluesObserve that M is of full rank (hence invertible) provided eigenvalues are distinct, $\lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2$.

$$AP = PA \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad A = PAP^{-1} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad P^{-1}AP = D$$

Distinct eigenvalues allow for a diagonalization of A (i.e. to transform A into a diagonal matrix A). Substituting into the homogeneous system

$$X(n) = PDP^{-1} X(n-1) \Rightarrow P^{-1} X(n) = DP^{-1} X(n-1)$$

$$\text{Put } Y(n) = P^{-1} X(n)$$

Explicitly, we obtain

$$Y(n) = DP^{-1} X(n-1) = DY(n-1).$$

The strategy is to derive a solution for $Y(n)$ to later recover, the solution of the original variable $X(n)$. The solution is determined since the matrix D is diagonal, given initial conditions,

$$Y(0) = P^{-1} X(0)$$

$$Y(n) = \begin{pmatrix} Y_1(0)\lambda_1^n \\ Y_2(0)\lambda_2^n \end{pmatrix}$$

$$X_g(n) = PY(n) = \begin{pmatrix} v_{11} & v_{12} \\ v_{21} & v_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} Y_1(0)\lambda_1^n \\ Y_2(0)\lambda_2^n \end{pmatrix} \quad (13)$$

More generally

$$X_i(n) = X_i + \sum_{j=1}^k v_{ij} Y_j(0) \lambda_j^n, \quad \text{for all } i=1,2,\dots,k$$

$$X_i(n) = X_i^* + p \sum_{j=1}^k Y_j(0) \lambda_j^n.$$

In matrix form, the general solution

$$X_i(n) = X_i^* + pD^n Y(0), \quad Y(0) = p^{-1} X(0).$$

Case 2: Repeated eigenvalue

Suppose Φ is not already a diagonal matrix, then, it is not diagonalizable whenever it has repeated eigenvectors are linearly independent.

i. If λ_i is an eigenvalue with multiplicity r_i for all i , then

$$(A - \lambda_i I_m)^{r_i} v_i = 0$$

ii. If λ_i distinct for some eigenvalue, then

$$(A - \lambda_i I_m)^{r_i} v_i = v_{i-1} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} (A - \lambda_i I_m) v_1 = v_1 \\ (A - \lambda_i I_m) v_2 = v_1 \\ \vdots \\ (A - \lambda_i I_m)^{r-1} v_i = v_1 \end{cases}$$

Example

Let A be the 3×3 square matrix, with $\lambda_1 = 2$, $\lambda_2 = \lambda_3 = 3$, then

$$\lambda_1 = 2, \Rightarrow (A - 2I_3) v_1 = 0$$

$$\lambda_2 = \lambda_3 = 3, \Rightarrow (A - 3I_3) v_3 = v_2 \Rightarrow (A - 3I_3)^2 v_3 = 0.$$

$$P = (v_1, v_2, v_3) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$D = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Case 3: Complex eigenvalues

If the conjugate complex eigenvalues are

$$\lambda_{1,2} = \alpha \pm i\beta,$$

Then A is similar to the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ -\beta & \alpha \end{pmatrix} = |\lambda| \begin{pmatrix} \cos \omega & \sin \omega \\ -\sin \omega & \cos \omega \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Where } |\lambda| = \sqrt{\alpha^2 + \beta^2}, \text{ with } \omega = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{\beta}{\alpha}\right).$$

If A has the Jordan form $A = PJP^{-1}$, then we make the variable transformation

$$Y(n) = P^{-1}X(n).$$

This implies that

$$Y(n+1) = AP^{-1}X(n+1) = P^{-1}APP^{-1}X(n) = JY(n)$$

(14)

Where has one of the following three forms

$$J = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Distinct or repeated semi simple real eigenvalues

$$J = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 1 \\ 0 & \lambda \end{pmatrix}$$

Repeated eigenvalues with one independent eigenvector, or

$$J = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ -\beta & \alpha \end{pmatrix}$$

Complex eigenvalue: $\lambda_{1,2} = \alpha \pm i\beta$.

Theorem 7 ^[7]

The homogeneous two-dimensional system has an asymptotically stable solution if and only if

Proof

The characteristic polynomial, $\rho(\lambda)$, of a 2×2 matrix is

$$\rho(\lambda) = \lambda^2 - \text{tr}(A) + \det A$$

This implies that

$$\lambda_{1,2} = \frac{\text{tr}(A) \pm \sqrt{\text{tr}^2(A) - 4 \det A}}{2}$$

Suppose that the zero point is asymptotically stable, then $|\lambda_{1,2}| < 1$. But, in the case of real root, this equivalent to the following two inequalities:

$$-2 - \text{tr}(A) < \sqrt{\text{tr}^2(A) - 4 \det A} < 2 - \text{tr}(A)$$

$$-2 - \text{tr}(A) < -\sqrt{\text{tr}^2(A) - 4 \det A} < 2 - \text{tr}(A) \dots$$

Equivalently

$$\text{tr}(A) < 1 + \det(A)$$

$$\text{tr}(A) < -1 - \det(A)$$

Combining both results gives, the first part of the stability condition

$$|\text{tr}A| < 1 + \det(A) < 2$$

The second part follows from the observation that $\det(A) = \lambda_1 \lambda_2$ and the assumption that $|\lambda_1 \lambda_2| < 1$.

If the roots are complex, the conjugate are complex, so that the second part of the stability $|\text{tr}A| < 1 + \det(A) < 2$ results from $\det A = \lambda_1 \lambda_2 = |\lambda_1| |\lambda_2| < 1$,

This implies that

$$\text{tr}^2(A) - 4 \det A < 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad 0 < \text{tr}(A) < 4 \det A$$

This can be used to show that

$$4(1 + \det A - \text{tr}(A)) > 4 + \text{tr}^2(A) - 4 \det A = (2 - \text{tr}(A))^2 > 0.$$

Which is the required inequality.

Conversely; if the stability condition $|\text{tr}A| < 1 + \det(A) < 2$ satisfied and if the roots are real, we have

$$\begin{aligned} -1 < \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{\text{tr}^2(A) - 4 \det A}}{2} < \lambda_1 &= \frac{\text{tr}(A) + \sqrt{\text{tr}^2(A) - 4 \det A}}{2} \\ < \frac{\text{tr}(A) + \sqrt{\text{tr}^2(A) + 4 - 4 \text{tr}(A)}}{2} &= \frac{\text{tr}(A) + \sqrt{(2 - \text{tr}(A))^2}}{2} < 1. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, for λ_2 . If the roots are complex, they are conjugate complex and we have

$$|\lambda_1|^2 = |\lambda_2|^2 = \lambda_1 \lambda_2 = \frac{\text{tr}^2(A) - \text{tr}^2(A) + 4 \det A}{4} = \det A < 1. [1, 2-5-6-9].$$

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