

# Lecture 3: Linear systems

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# Linear systems

- **Linear systems:**
  - **Exponential** of a matrix;
  - Linear systems with **constant** coefficients;
  - Linear system with **non-constant** real coefficients;
  - **Second order** linear equations;
  - **Linearization** and **stability** for **autonomous systems**.

# Linear systems

- Exponential of a matrix:
  - $\mathbb{M}_d(\mathbb{C})$ : vector space of  $d \times d$  matrices with entries in  $\mathbb{C}$ .
  - $GL_d(\mathbb{C}) \subset \mathbb{M}_d(\mathbb{C})$ : group of invertible matrices.
  - DEFINITION: Matrix norm

$$\|A\| = \max_{|y|=1} |Ay|.$$

# Linear systems

- **LEMMA: Properties of the norm**
  - $|Ay| \leq \|A\| |y|$  for all  $y \in \mathbb{C}^d$ ;
  - $\|A + B\| \leq \|A\| + \|B\|$  for all  $A, B \in \mathbb{M}_d(\mathbb{C})$ ;
  - $\|AB\| \leq \|A\| \|B\|$  for all  $A, B \in \mathbb{M}_d(\mathbb{C})$ .

# Linear systems

- **LEMMA: Jordan-Chevalley decomposition**
  - $A \in \mathbb{M}_d(\mathbb{C})$ .
  - There exists  $C \in GL_d(\mathbb{C})$  s.t.  $A$  has a **unique decomposition**

$$C^{-1}AC = D + N;$$

- $D$ : **Diagonal**;  $N$ : **Nilpotent** (i.e.,  $N^d = 0$ );

$$ND = DN.$$

# Linear systems

- Exponential of a matrix.
- DEFINITION:
  - For  $A \in \mathbb{M}_d(\mathbb{C})$ ,

$$e^A = \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{A^n}{n!}.$$

# Linear systems

- **Properties:**

- Exponential of the **sum**:  $A, B \in \mathbb{M}_d(\mathbb{C})$ ,

$$\text{If } AB = BA \Rightarrow e^{A+B} = e^A e^B.$$

- **Conjugation** and exponentiation:

- $A, B \in \mathbb{M}_d(\mathbb{C})$  and  $C \in GL_d(\mathbb{C})$  s.t.  $A = C^{-1}BC$ .

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$$e^A = C^{-1}e^B C.$$

- **PROOF:**

$$e^A = \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{A^n}{n!} = \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{(C^{-1}BC)^n}{n!} = \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{C^{-1}B^n C}{n!} = C^{-1}e^B C;$$

# Linear systems

- Exponential of a **diagonalizable matrix**:
  - $A$ : **diagonalizable**

$$A = C^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_d \end{pmatrix} C;$$

- $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_d \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $C \in GL_d(\mathbb{C})$ .
- $\Rightarrow$

$$e^A = C^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} e^{\lambda_1} & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & e^{\lambda_d} \end{pmatrix} C.$$



# Linear systems

- Exponential of a block matrix:
  - $A_j \in \mathbb{M}_{h_j}(\mathbb{C})$  for  $j = 1, \dots, p$ ;  $A$ : block matrix of the form

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} A_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & A_p \end{pmatrix}.$$

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$$e^A = \begin{pmatrix} e^{A_1} & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & e^{A_p} \end{pmatrix}.$$

# Linear systems

- **Derivative:**  $A \in \mathbb{M}_d(\mathbb{C})$ ,

$$\frac{d}{dt}e^{tA} = Ae^{tA} = e^{tA}A.$$

# Linear systems

- **Linear systems with constant coefficients**

- $A \in \mathbb{M}_d(\mathbb{C})$ : **independent** of  $t$ .
- $f \in \mathcal{C}^0([0, T])$ .
- **Linear ODE with constant coefficients:**

$$(*) \quad \begin{cases} \frac{dx}{dt} = Ax(t) + f(t), & t \in [0, T], \\ x(0) = x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d. \end{cases}$$

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$$|A(x - y)| \leq \|A\| |x - y| \quad \text{for all } x, y \in \mathbb{C}^d,$$

- **Cauchy-Lipschitz theorem**  $\Rightarrow$  there **exists a unique solution**  $x$  to  $(*)$ .
- If  $f = 0$ :  $(*)$  **autonomous** system of equations.

# Linear systems

- If  $d = 1$  (i.e.,  $A = a \in \mathbb{C}$ ), then by the method of integrating factors,

$$x(t) = e^{at} x_0 + \int_0^t e^{a(t-s)} f(s) ds.$$

- General case ( $d \geq 1$ ), if  $f = 0$ ,

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

# Linear systems

- For an arbitrary  $f$ ,

$$\frac{d}{dt}(e^{-tA}x) = e^{-tA}f(t),$$

- $\Rightarrow$

$$x(t) = e^{tA}x_0 + \int_0^t e^{(t-s)A}f(s)ds.$$

# Linear systems

- Linear system with non-constant real coefficients
  - Homogeneous case;
  - Inhomogeneous case.
- Homogeneous case:
  - $\mathbb{M}_d(\mathbb{R})$ : vector space of  $d \times d$  matrices with entries in  $\mathbb{R}$ .
  - PROPOSITION:
    - $A : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{M}_d(\mathbb{R})$ : continuous.
    - $S$ : linear subspace of  $C^1([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^d)$  of dimension  $d$ :

$$S = \left\{ x \in C^1([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^d) : x \text{ satisfies } \frac{dx}{dt} = A(t)x \right\}$$

# Linear systems

- **PROOF:**
  - $x, y \in S \Rightarrow$  for any  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\alpha x + \beta y \in C^1([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^d)$ : also a solution.
  - $\Rightarrow S$ : linear subspace of  $C^1([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^d)$ .

# Linear systems

- **Dimension of  $S = d$ :**
  - Define  $F : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  by  $F[x] = x(t_0)$  for some  $t_0 \in [0, T]$ .
  - $F$ : **linear**:

$$F[\alpha x + \beta y] = \alpha x(t_0) + \beta y(t_0) = \alpha F[x] + \beta F[y].$$

- $F$ : **injective**,

$$F[x] = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad x = 0;$$

- $x$  solves

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = A(t)x(t)$$

with the initial condition  $x(t_0) = 0$ .

- **Cauchy-Lipschitz theorem**  $\Rightarrow x = 0$ .



# Linear systems

- $F$ : **surjective**: for any  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d$ ,

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dx}{dt} = A(t)x(t), & t \in [0, T], \\ x(t_0) = x_0, \end{cases}$$

has a solution  $x \in \mathcal{C}^1([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^d)$ .

# Linear systems

- **PROPOSITION:**
  - $x_1, \dots, x_d \in S$ ;
  - $[x_1, \dots, x_d]$ :  $d \times d$  matrix with columns  $x_1, \dots, x_d \in \mathbb{R}^d$ ;
  - **det: determinant** of a matrix;
  - **Equivalent statements:**
    - (i)  $\{x_1, \dots, x_d\}$ : **basis** of  $S$ ;
    - (ii) **det** $[x_1(t), \dots, x_d(t)] \neq 0$  for all  $t \in [0, T]$ .
    - (iii) **det** $[x_1(t_0), \dots, x_d(t_0)] \neq 0$  for **some**  $t_0 \in [0, T]$ .

# Linear systems

- **PROOF:**
  - (i)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (ii).
  - (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii):  $\{x_1, \dots, x_d\}$ : basis of  $S \Rightarrow \{F[x_1], \dots, F[x_d]\}$ : basis of  $\mathbb{R}^d$ .
  - (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i):  $t_0$  s.t. (iii) holds;  $F : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ : **isomorphism** relative to  $t_0$ .
  - $F^{-1} : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow S$ : **isomorphism**  $\Rightarrow$   
 $x_1 = F^{-1}[x_1(t_0)], \dots, x_d = F^{-1}[x_d(t_0)]$ : basis of  $S$ .

# Linear systems

- **DEFINITION: Fundamental matrix**
  - If (i), (ii) or (iii): holds  $\Rightarrow x_1, \dots, x_d$ : **fundamental system** of solutions of the differential equation  $\frac{dx}{dt} = A(t)x$ .
  - $X = [x_1, \dots, x_d]$ : **fundamental matrix** of the equation.

# Linear systems

- **DEFINITION: Wronskian determinant**
  - $x_1, \dots, x_d \in S$ .
  - Wronskian determinant  $w \in \mathcal{C}^1([0, T]; \mathbb{R})$  of  $x_1, \dots, x_d$ :

$$w(t) = \det[x_1(t), \dots, x_d(t)].$$

# Linear systems

- **THEOREM:**

- $x_1, \dots, x_d \in S$ ;  $w \in C^1([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^d)$ : **Wronskian determinant** of  $x_1, \dots, x_d$ .
- $w$  solves the differential equation

$$(**) \quad \frac{dw}{dt} = (\operatorname{tr}A(t))w \quad \text{for } t \in [0, T].$$

- $\operatorname{tr}$ : trace of a matrix.

# Linear systems

- **PROOF:**

- If  $x_1, \dots, x_d$ : **linearly dependent**  $\rightarrow w = 0$  and **(\*\*)** trivially **holds**.
- Suppose that  $x_1, \dots, x_d$ : **linearly independent**, i.e.,  $w(t) \neq 0$  for all  $t \in [0, T]$ .
- $X : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{M}_d(\mathbb{R})$ : fundamental matrix having as columns the solutions  $x_1, \dots, x_d$ , i.e.,

$$X(t) = (x_{ij}(t))_{i,j=1,\dots,d}, \quad t \in [0, T],$$

$$x_j = (x_{1j}, \dots, x_{dj})^\top \text{ for } j = 1, \dots, d.$$

# Linear systems

- $z_j$ : solution of

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dz_j}{dt} = A(t)z_j(t), \\ z_j(t_0) = e_j, \end{cases}$$

$\{e_j\}_{j=1,\dots,d}$ : standard unit orthonormal basis in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ .



# Linear systems

- $\Rightarrow \{z_1, \dots, z_d\}$ : basis of the space of solutions to  $dz/dt = Az$ .
- There exists  $C \in GL_d(\mathbb{R}^d)$  s.t.

$$X(t) = CZ(t), \quad t \in [0, T],$$

$$Z = [z_1, \dots, z_d].$$

- $v(t) := \det Z(t)$  solves

$$\frac{dv}{dt}(t_0) = \text{tr}A(t_0).$$

- $Z(t_0) = I \Rightarrow v(t_0) = 1$ .

# Linear systems

- Definition of the **determinant** of a matrix  $\Rightarrow$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dv}{dt}(t) &= \frac{d}{dt} \sum_{\sigma \in S_d} (-1)^{\text{sgn } \sigma} \prod_{i=1}^d z_{i\sigma(i)}(t) \\ &= \sum_{\sigma \in S_d} (-1)^{\text{sgn } \sigma} \sum_{j=1}^d \frac{d}{dt} z_{j\sigma(j)}(t) \prod_{i \neq j} z_{i\sigma(i)}(t);\end{aligned}$$

$S_d$ : set of all permutations of the  $d$  elements  $\{1, 2, \dots, d\}$ ;  $\text{sgn } \sigma$ : signature of the permutation  $\sigma$ .

# Linear systems

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$$\prod_{i \neq j} z_{i\sigma(i)}(t_0) = 0 \quad \text{unless } \sigma = \text{identity};$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dz_{jj}}{dt}(t_0) &= (A(t_0)z_j(t_0))_j \\ &= \sum_{h=1}^d a_{jh}(t_0)z_{hj}(t_0) = \sum_{h=1}^d a_{jh}(t_0)\delta_{hj}(t_0) \\ &= a_{jj}(t_0). \end{aligned}$$

- $\Rightarrow$

$$\frac{dv}{dt}(t_0) = \sum_{j=1}^d a_{jj}(t_0) = \text{tr}A(t_0).$$

# Linear systems

- Differentiation of

$$w = \det X = \det(CZ) = (\det C) \det Z = (\det C)v;$$

- $\Rightarrow$

$$\frac{dw}{dt}(t_0) = (\det C) \frac{dv}{dt}(t_0) = (\det C) \operatorname{tr} A(t_0).$$

- $v(t_0) = 1 \Rightarrow$

$$\frac{dw}{dt}(t_0) = \operatorname{tr} A(t_0) w(t_0).$$

# Linear systems

- **REMARK:**

- $t_0 \in [0, T]$ .
- **Abel's** identity or **Liouville's** formula:

$$w(t) = w(t_0) e^{\int_{t_0}^t \operatorname{tr} A(s) ds} \quad \text{for } t \in [0, T].$$

- It suffices to check that the determinant of the fundamental matrix: **nonzero for one**  $t_0 \in [0, T]$ .

# Linear systems

- Inhomogeneous case
- Inhomogeneous linear differential equation:

$$(***) \quad \begin{cases} \frac{dx}{dt} = A(t)x + f(t); \end{cases}$$

- $A(t) \in C^0([0, T]; \mathbb{M}_d(\mathbb{R}))$  and  $f \in C^0([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^d)$ .
- $X$ : **fundamental matrix** for the homogeneous equation  $dx(t)/dt = A(t)x(t)$ ,

$$\frac{dX}{dt} = AX \quad \text{and} \quad \det X \neq 0 \quad \text{for all } t \in [0, T].$$

- Any solution  $x$  to the **homogeneous** equation:

$$x(t) = X(t)c, \quad t \in [0, T],$$

for some (column) vector  $c \in \mathbb{R}^d$ .

# Linear systems

- Method of integrating factors:  $c \in C^1([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^d)$ .

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$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{dX}{dt}c + X\frac{dc}{dt} = AXc + X\frac{dc}{dt} = Ax + X\frac{dc}{dt}.$$

- $\Rightarrow X\frac{dc}{dt} = f(t)$ .

- $X$ : invertible  $\Rightarrow$

$$\frac{dc}{dt} = X^{-1}f(t).$$

- $\Rightarrow$

$$c(t) = c_0 + \int_0^t X(s)^{-1}f(s)ds,$$

for some  $c_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d$ .

# Linear systems

- **THEOREM:**

- $X$ : **fundamental matrix** for the homogeneous equation  $dx/dt = Ax$ .
- For all  $c_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d$ ,

$$(***) \quad x(t) = X(t) \left( c_0 + \int_0^t X(s)^{-1} f(s) ds \right)$$

**solution** to (\*\*\*) .

- Any solution to (\*\*\*) : **of the form (\*\*\*)** for some  $c_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d$ .
- Formula (\*\*\*) : **Duhamel's formula**.



# Linear systems

- **PROOF:**
  - First statement: already proved.
  - Second statement:
    - $x_2$ : solution to (\*\*\*) .
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$$\frac{d}{dt}(x_2 - x(t)) = A(x_2 - x),$$

- $\Rightarrow x_2 - x = Xc_1$  for some  $c_1 \in \mathbb{R}^d$ .

# Linear systems

- **Second order linear equations**

- $d = 1$ :

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = f\left(t, x, \frac{dx}{dt}\right),$$

for a given scalar function  $f$ .

- Linear ODE if  $f$ : linear in  $x$  and  $dx/dt$ ,

$$f\left(t, x, \frac{dx}{dt}\right) = g(t) - p(t)\frac{dx}{dt} - q(t)x,$$

$g, p, q$ : functions of  $t$  but not of  $x$ .

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$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + p(t)\frac{dx}{dt} + q(t)x = g(t).$$

- **Initial conditions:**

$$x(t_0) = x_0, \quad \frac{dx}{dt}(t_0) = x'_0, \quad x_0, x'_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d.$$

# Linear systems

- **Homogeneous** if  $g = 0$  and **inhomogeneous** otherwise.
- ODE with constant coefficients:  $p(t)$  and  $q(t)$ : constant.
- Suppose  $p, q \in C^0([0, T])$ .
  - If **NOT**: points at which either  $p$  or  $q$  fail to be continuous: **singular points**.
  - **EXAMPLES**:

**Bessel's** equation:  $p(t) = \frac{1}{t}, q(t) = 1 - \frac{\nu}{t^2}$ , (at  $t = 0$ );

**Legendre's** equation:  $p(t) = \frac{2t}{1-t^2}, q(t) = \frac{n(n+1)}{1-t^2}, n \in \mathbb{N}$   
(at  $t = \pm 1$ ).

# Linear systems

- **THEOREM:**
  - Suppose that  $p, q, g \in \mathcal{C}^0([0, T], \mathbb{R}^d)$ .
  - There **exists a unique solution**  $x(t)$  on  $[0, T]$ .

# Linear systems

- **Structure of the general solution.**
- **DEFINITION:**
  - Two functions  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  on  $[0, T]$ : **linearly independent** if neither of them is a multiple of the other.
  - Otherwise,  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  on  $[0, T]$ : **linearly dependent**.
- **PROPOSITION:**
  - $w$ : **Wronskian determinant**

$$w(t) := x_1(t) \frac{dx_2}{dt}(t) - x_2(t) \frac{dx_1}{dt}(t) = \det \begin{pmatrix} x_1 & x_2 \\ \frac{dx_1}{dt} & \frac{dx_2}{dt} \end{pmatrix}.$$

- $w(t)$ : **not zero at some  $t_0 \in [0, T]$   $\Rightarrow$   $x_1$  and  $x_2$ : linearly independent.**

# Linear systems

- **PROOF:**

- Prove:  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ : linearly dependent  $\Rightarrow w(t) = 0$  for all  $t \in [0, T]$ .
- Suppose  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ : linearly dependent.
- **Nontrivial solution**  $(\alpha_1, \alpha_2)$ :

$$\begin{cases} \alpha_1 x_1 + \alpha_2 x_2 = 0, \\ \alpha_1 \frac{dx_1}{dt} + \alpha_2 \frac{dx_2}{dt} = 0, \end{cases} \quad \text{for all } t \in [0, T],$$

- $\Rightarrow$

$$w(t) = \det \begin{pmatrix} x_1 & x_2 \\ \frac{dx_1}{dt} & \frac{dx_2}{dt} \end{pmatrix} = 0, \quad \text{for all } t \in [0, T].$$

# Linear systems

- PROPOSITION:

- If  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ : solutions on  $[0, T]$ .
- $w(t)$ : either identically zero or not equal to zero at any point of  $[0, T]$ .

- PROOF:

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$$w'(t) = x_1 \frac{d^2 x_2}{dt^2} - x_2 \frac{d^2 x_1}{dt^2}.$$

- $x_1, x_2$ : solutions  $\Rightarrow$

$$\frac{d^2 x_i}{dt^2} = -p(t) \frac{dx_i}{dt} - q(t)x_i, \quad i = 1, 2.$$

- $\Rightarrow$

$$\frac{dw}{dt} = -p(t) \left( x_1 \frac{dx_2}{dt} - \frac{dx_1}{dt} x_2 \right) = -p(t)w(t).$$

- $w(t) = w(t_0)e^{-\int_{t_0}^t p(s)ds}$ : either identically zero or never vanishes depending on  $w(t_0)$ .

# Linear systems

- Structure of the general solution to the homogeneous system.
- **THEOREM:**
  - Suppose that  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ : solutions for  $g = 0$ .
  - Suppose that  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ : linearly independent.
  - **General solution:** of the form  $c_1x_1 + c_2x_2$ ;  $c_1$  and  $c_2$ : constant coefficients.



# Linear systems

- **PROOF:**
  - $\tilde{x}$ : arbitrary solution with the initial condition  $\tilde{x}(t_0) = \tilde{x}_0, d\tilde{x}/dt(t_0) = \tilde{x}'_0$ .
  - Consider the system of equations for  $(c_1, c_2)$

$$\begin{cases} c_1 x_1(t_0) + c_2 x_2(t_0) = \tilde{x}_0, \\ c_1 \frac{dx_1}{dt}(t_0) + c_2 \frac{dx_2}{dt}(t_0) = \tilde{x}'_0. \end{cases}$$

- $x_1 \frac{dx_2}{dt} - x_2 \frac{dx_1}{dt} \neq 0$  at  $t = t_0 \Rightarrow$  there exists a unique nontrivial solution  $(c_1, c_2) = (\tilde{c}_1, \tilde{c}_2)$ .
- **Existence and uniqueness theorem** for the initial value problem of the second order ODE  $\Rightarrow \tilde{c}_1 x_1 + \tilde{c}_2 x_2 = \tilde{x}$ .

# Linear systems

- **Linear  $n$ -th order ODE with constant coefficients**
- Solve a linear  $n$ -th order ODE with constant coefficients.
- Consider

$$\frac{d^n x}{dt^n} + a_{n-1} \frac{d^{n-1} x}{dt^{n-1}} + \dots + a_1 \frac{dx}{dt} + a_0 x = 0,$$

$a_i \in \mathbb{R}$  for  $i = 0, \dots, n - 1$ .

- General solution:

$$x(t) = c_1 x_1 + \dots + c_n x_n;$$

- $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^n$ : set of linearly independent solutions (a fundamental set of solutions) and  $c_i$ : constant coefficients.

# Linear systems

- $W(t)$ : **Wronskian determinant** of the set  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ ,

$$W(t) = \det \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 & \dots & x_n \\ \frac{dx_1}{dt} & & & \\ \vdots & & & \vdots \\ \frac{d^{n-1}}{dt^{n-1}} x_1 & \frac{d^{n-1}}{dt^{n-1}} x_2 & \dots & \frac{d^{n-1}}{dt^{n-1}} x_n \end{bmatrix}.$$

- If  $w(t_0) \neq 0$  for some  $t_0 \Rightarrow (x_1, \dots, x_n)$  forms a **fundamental set of solution**.
- Solve the equation through the **characteristic equation**

$$\lambda^n + a_{n-1}\lambda^{n-1} + \dots + a_1\lambda + a_0 = 0.$$

- Equation: derived by guessing a solution  $x(t) = e^{\lambda t}$  with  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ .

# Linear systems

- Characteristic equation:  $n$  complex roots  $\hat{\lambda}_j$  counted with their multiplicities  $l_j$ .
- Rewritten in the form

$$\prod_{j=1}^m (\lambda - \hat{\lambda}_j)^{l_j} = 0$$

with  $\sum_{j=1}^m l_j = n$ .

- General solution  $x(t)$ : linear combination of  $t^k e^{\hat{\lambda}_j t}$  for  $0 \leq k < l_j$  and  $j = 1, \dots, m$ .
- In particular, if  $m = n$ , then  $x(t)$ : linear combination of  $e^{\hat{\lambda}_j t}$ .

# Linear systems

- **THEOREM:**

- $\hat{\lambda}_j, 1 \leq j \leq m$ : zeros of the characteristic polynomial;
- $l_j$ : corresponding multiplicities.
- $n$  linearly independent solutions:

$$x_{j,k}(t) = t^k e^{\hat{\lambda}_j t}, \quad 0 \leq k < l_j, \quad 1 \leq j \leq m.$$

- Any other solution can be written as a linear combination of these solutions.

# Linear systems

- Reduction of order
- Method for finding a second solution to the homogeneous second order ODE when a first solution: known by reducing the order.
- $x_1$ : a solution.

$$x(t) = v(t)x_1(t).$$

$$\frac{dx}{dt}(t) = \frac{dv}{dt}x_1 + v\frac{dx_1}{dt}$$

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2}(t) = \frac{d^2v}{dt^2}x_1 + 2\frac{dv}{dt}\frac{dx_1}{dt} + v\frac{d^2x_1}{dt^2}.$$

# Linear systems

- $\Rightarrow$

$$\frac{d^2 v}{dt^2} + \left( p + 2 \frac{dx_1/dt}{x_1} \right) \frac{dv}{dt} = 0.$$

- $u = dv/dt \Rightarrow$  first order ODE

$$\frac{du}{dt} + \left( p + 2 \frac{dx_1/dt}{x_1} \right) u = 0.$$

- $\Rightarrow$

$$u(t) = ce^{-\int^t (p + 2 \frac{dx_1/dt}{x_1}) ds} = \frac{c}{(x_1(t))^2} e^{-\int^t p(s) ds}.$$

- $v = \int^t u(s) ds \Rightarrow$

$$x(t) = x_1(t) \int^t u(s) ds.$$

# Linear systems

- Example:

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$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} - 2t \frac{dx}{dt} - 2x = 0.$$

- $x_1(t) = e^{t^2}$ : solution.

- $x(t) = e^{t^2} v(t)$ :

$$\frac{d^2v}{dt^2} + 2t \frac{dv}{dt} = 0.$$

- Solution:

$$\frac{dv}{dt} = e^{-t^2},$$

- $\Rightarrow$

$$v(t) = \int_0^t e^{-s^2} ds = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2} \operatorname{erf}(t),$$

- erf: Gauss error function.

- $\Rightarrow$

$$x_2(t) = e^{t^2} \operatorname{erf}(t).$$



# Linear systems

- Linearization and stability for autonomous systems:
  - Linear systems;
  - Nonlinear systems.

# Linear systems

- **Linear systems**
- $A \in \mathbb{M}_d(\mathbb{R})$ : independent of  $t$ .
- Linear system of ODEs:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dx}{dt} = Ax(t), & t \in [0, +\infty[, \\ x(0) = x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d. \end{cases}$$

- There exists  $C \in GL_d(\mathbb{C})$  s.t.

$$C^{-1}AC = D + N,$$

where  $D$  is diagonal,  $N$  is nilpotent, and  $ND = DN$ .

- $\lambda_j, j = 1, \dots, J$ : (distinct) **eigenvalues** of  $A$ .
- $m_j$ : multiplicity of  $\lambda_j$ ;  $E_j = \ker(A - \lambda_j I)^{m_j}$ : **characteristic subspace** associated with  $\lambda_j$ .
- $\bigoplus E_j = \mathbb{C}^d$ .

# Linear systems

- **DEFINITION:**
- Linear system: **stable** if there exists a positive constant  $C_0$  s.t.

$$|x(t)| \leq C_0|x_0| \quad \text{for all } t \in [0, +\infty[.$$

- **LEMMA:**
- Linear system: **stable** iff  $\Re\lambda_j < 0$  or  $\Re\lambda_j = 0$  and  $N|_{E_j} = 0$  for  $j = 1, \dots, J$ .

# Linear systems

- **PROOF:**

- $\tilde{x}(t) = Cx(t)$  and  $\tilde{x}_0 = Cx_0$ .
- $\tilde{x}(t) = e^{tD+tN}\tilde{x}_0$ ,  $t \in [0, +\infty[$ .
- $DN = ND \Rightarrow$

$$\tilde{x}(t) = \left( \sum_{i=0}^{d-1} \frac{(tN)^i}{i!} \right) e^{tD}\tilde{x}_0, \quad t \in [0, +\infty[.$$

- $\tilde{x}_0$  belongs to the vector eigenspace associated with the eigenvalue  $\lambda_j \Rightarrow$

$$\tilde{x}(t) = e^{t\lambda_j} \left( \sum_{i=0}^{d-1} \frac{(tN)^i}{i!} \right) \tilde{x}_0, \quad t \in [0, +\infty[.$$

- $\Rightarrow x(t)$  satisfies the **stability estimate** for some positive constant  $C_0$  iff  $\Re\lambda_j < 0$  or  $\Re\lambda_j = 0$  and  $N|_{E_j} = 0$ .

# Linear systems

- **Nonlinear systems**
- **Autonomous** system:  $f \in \mathcal{C}^1$ ,

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dx}{dt} = f(x), \\ x(0) = x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d, \end{cases}$$

- $f(x^*) = 0$ :  $x^*$ : an **equilibrium point**.

# Linear systems

- **THEOREM: Local stability**
  - Suppose that **all the eigenvalues**  $\lambda$  of the **Jacobian**  $f'(x^*)$  of  $f$  **at  $x^*$ : negative real parts.**
  - There exists  $\delta > 0$  s.t. if  $|x_0 - x^*| \leq \delta$ , then

$$|x(t) - x^*| \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } t \rightarrow +\infty.$$

# Linear systems

- **PROOF:**
  - **Linearized system:**  $A = f'(x^*)$

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dy(t)}{dt} = Ay(t), & t \geq 0, \\ y(0) = x_0 - x^*. \end{cases}$$

- **Explicit** solution  $y(t) = e^{tA}(x_0 - x^*)$  for  $t \geq 0$ .
- $\Re \lambda < 0$  for any eigenvalue  $\lambda$  of  $f'(x^*)$ : negative real parts.
- There exists  $r > 0$  s.t.

$$|e^{tA}z| \leq C_0 e^{-rt}|z| \quad \text{for all } z \in \mathbb{R}^d,$$

$C_0$ : depends only on  $f$ .

# Linear systems

- Small perturbation of the linearized system:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dx}{dt} = A(x - x^*) + g(x), \\ x(0) = x^*, \end{cases}$$

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$$g(x) = |x - x^*|\epsilon(x), \quad \text{with } \epsilon \in C^0 \quad \text{and } \epsilon(x^*) = 0.$$



# Linear systems

- There exists  $\delta_0 > 0$  s.t. for all  $\delta \in ]0, \delta_0[$ ,

$$\sup\{|g(x)| : |x - x^*| \leq \delta\} < \frac{r\delta}{C_0}.$$

- It suffices to prove that if  $|x_0 - x^*| < \min(\delta, \delta/C_0)$ , then

$$|x(t) - x^*| \leq \delta \quad \text{for all } t \geq 0.$$

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$$x(t) - x^* = e^{tA}(x_0 - x^*) + \int_0^t e^{(t-s)A} g(x(s)) ds,$$

- $\Rightarrow$

$$\begin{aligned} |x(t) - x^*| &\leq e^{-rt} \left( C_0 |x_0 - x^*| + \int_0^t e^{-r(t-s)} C_0 |g(x(s))| ds \right) \\ &\leq e^{-rt} \left( C_0 |x_0 - x^*| + (1 - e^{-rt}) \frac{C_0}{r} \sup\{|g(x(s))| : 0 \leq s \leq t\} \right). \end{aligned}$$

# Linear systems

- For all  $t \geq 0$ ,

$$|x(t) - x^*| \leq \max \left( C_0 |x_0 - x^*|, \frac{C_0}{r} \sup\{|g(x(s))| : 0 \leq s \leq t\} \right).$$

- Introduce

$$T := \inf\{t > 0 : |x(t) - x^*| \geq \delta\}.$$

- Assume that  $T$ : finite  $\Rightarrow$

$$|x(t) - x^*| \leq \delta \quad \text{for all } t \in [0, T], \quad |x(T) - x^*| = \delta.$$

- $\Rightarrow$  Contradiction.

# Linear systems

- **DEFINITION:**

- A function  $V \in \mathcal{C}^1(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R})$ : **Lyapunov function** for the ODE if

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$$V(x^*) < V(x) \quad \text{for any } x \neq x^*;$$

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$$f(x) \cdot V'(x) \leq 0 \quad \text{for any } x \in \mathbb{R}^d.$$

# Linear systems

- **EXAMPLE:**

(i) Consider

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dx_1}{dt} = x_2, \\ \frac{dx_2}{dt} = -2x_1 - x_2. \end{cases}$$

- $x^* = (0, 0)$ : **equilibrium point** and

$$V(x) = x_1^2 + \frac{1}{2}x_2^2 : \quad \text{Lyapunov function.}$$

# Linear systems

(ii) Suppose that  $f(x) = -\nabla\Phi(x)$ . Suppose that the potential  $\Phi$ : smooth and there exists  $x^*$  s.t.  $\Phi(x^*) < \Phi(x)$  for any  $x \neq x^*$ . Then

$V = \Phi$  : Lyapunov function.

# Linear systems

- **THEOREM:**
  - Suppose that there exists a **Lyapunov function**  $V$ .
  - $\Rightarrow$  For any  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists  $\delta > 0$ , s.t.

$$\sup_{t \geq 0} |x(t) - x^*| \leq \epsilon$$

provided that  $|x_0 - x^*| \leq \delta$ .

# Linear systems

- **PROOF:**

- Condition on  $V$  implies that for fixed  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists  $\gamma > 0$  (sufficiently small) s.t.

$$\{x : |x - x^*| \leq 2\epsilon, V(x) \leq V(x^*) + \gamma\} \subset \{x : |x - x^*| \leq \epsilon\}.$$

- Choose  $\delta$  ( $0 < \delta < \epsilon$ ) s.t.

$$\{x : |x - x^*| \leq \delta\} \subset \{x : |x - x^*| \leq 2\epsilon, V(x) \leq V(x^*) + \gamma\}.$$

# Linear systems

- Fundamental property of a Lyapunov function  $V$ :

$$\frac{d}{dt} V(x(t)) = f(x(t)) \cdot V'(x(t)) \leq 0, \quad t \geq 0;$$

- $\Rightarrow$

$$V(x(t)) \leq V(x_0) \leq V(x^*) + \gamma \quad \text{if } |x_0 - x^*| \leq \delta.$$

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$$|x(s) - x^*| \leq 2\epsilon \quad \text{for all } s \geq 0,$$

since otherwise, there would exist  $t > 0$  s.t.  $|x(t) - x^*| = 2\epsilon$ .

- $V(x(t)) \leq V(x^*) + \gamma \Rightarrow$  contradiction.



# Linear systems

- **THEOREM: Global stability**

- Suppose that there exists  $V \in \mathcal{C}^1(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R})$  satisfying

$$V(x^*) < V(x) \quad \text{for any } x \neq x^*$$

s.t.

$$f(x) \cdot V'(x) < 0 \quad \text{for any } x \neq x^*.$$

- Suppose that the set  $\{x : V(x) \leq V(x^*)\}$ : bounded.
- $\Rightarrow$  The solution  $x(t)$  converges to  $x^*$  as  $t \rightarrow +\infty$ .

# Linear systems

- **PROOF:**

- $V(x(t)) \leq V(x_0) \Rightarrow \{x(t) : t \geq 0\}$ : bounded.

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$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^{+\infty} |f(x(t)) \cdot V'(x(t))| dt \\ &= \int_0^{+\infty} -f(x(t)) \cdot V'(x(t)) dt \leq V(x_0) - V^*; \end{aligned}$$

$$V^* := \lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} V(x(t)).$$

- $(x(t))_{t \geq 0}$ : bounded  $\Rightarrow V^* > -\infty$ .

# Linear systems

- $(t_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  s.t.  $x(t_n) \rightarrow \tilde{x}$  and  $f(x(t_n)) \cdot V'(x(t_n)) \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow +\infty$ .

- $\Rightarrow$

$$f(\tilde{x}) \cdot V'(\tilde{x}) = 0;$$

- $\Rightarrow \tilde{x} = x^*$ .