

Mthe 237  
Lecture 35  
Nov. 29, 2017

Topics: • Time-advance map  
• Variation of Parameters for  
First-Order Systems

Consider the system of differential equations

$$\underline{\dot{x}} = A(t)\underline{x}, \quad A(t) \text{ continuous over } I.$$

Last time, we discussed the maps

$$\Psi_{I, t_0}: \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Solutions of} \\ \underline{\dot{x}} = A(t)\underline{x} \end{array} \right\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^r$$

$\varphi \longmapsto \varphi(t_0)$

that are defined for all  $t_0 \in I$ .

We showed previously (as a consequence of the Existence and Uniqueness Theorem) that for each  $t_0 \in I$ ,

$\Psi_{I, t_0}$  is an isomorphism of vector spaces.

Def. Let  $t_0, t_1 \in I$ . The map

$$g_{t_0}^{t_1} = \Psi_{I, t_1} \circ \Psi_{I, t_0}^{-1} : \mathbb{R}^r \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^r$$

is called the time-transition map from  $t_0$  to  $t_1$   
for the system  $\underline{\dot{x}} = A(t)\underline{x}$ .

The maps  $g_{t_0}^{t_1}$  are vector space isomorphisms.

Notation: In control theory, these maps are denoted by  $\Phi(t_1, t_0)$  and called state-transition maps. The notation  $g_{t_0}^{t_1}$  comes from the branch of pure mathematics called dynamical systems.

Example: 
$$\begin{pmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \end{pmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}}_A \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\exp(A(t-t_0)) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos(t-t_0) & \sin(t-t_0) \\ -\sin(t-t_0) & \cos(t-t_0) \end{pmatrix}.$$

The solution with  $\underline{x}(t_0) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$  is

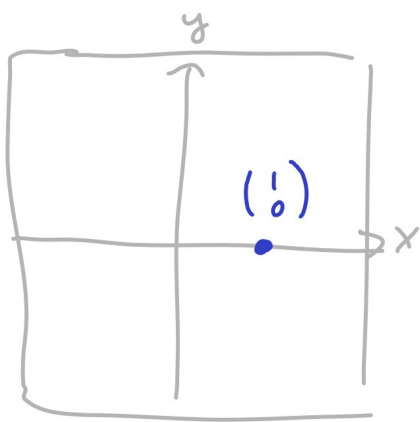
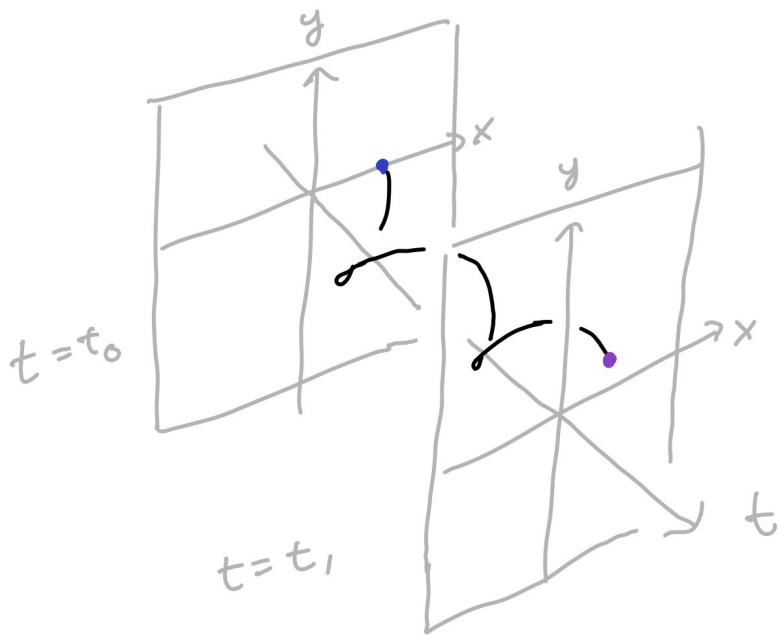
$$\varphi: t \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} \cos(t-t_0) \\ -\sin(t-t_0) \end{pmatrix}$$

Thus,  $\Psi_{t_0}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \varphi$

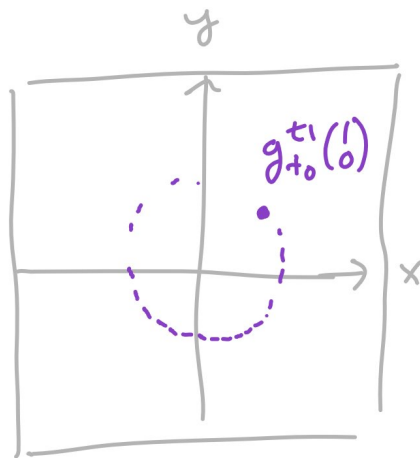
and

$$g_{t_0}^{t_1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \Psi_{t_1}^{-1}(\varphi) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos(t_1-t_0) \\ -\sin(t_1-t_0) \end{pmatrix}$$

The map  $g_{t_0}^{t_1}$  applied to  $\begin{pmatrix} x_0 \\ y_0 \end{pmatrix}$  "finds the solution passing through  $\begin{pmatrix} x_0 \\ y_0 \end{pmatrix}$  at  $t_0$ " and "sees what point that solution passes through at  $t_1$ ".



$\xrightarrow{g_{t_0}^{t_1}}$



## § Properties of $g_{t_0}^{t_1}$

### Theorem

(a) For any  $t_0, t_1, t_2 \in I$ ,

$$g_{t_1}^{t_2} g_{t_0}^{t_1} = g_{t_0}^{t_2}.$$

(b) For any  $t_0, t_1 \in I$ ,

$$g_{t_1}^{t_0} g_{t_0}^{t_1} = \text{Identity map on } \mathbb{R}^r$$

(c) The solution to the system of differential equations

$$\dot{\underline{x}} = A(t)\underline{x}, \quad \underline{x}(t_0) = \underline{x}_0$$

is given by

$$\underline{x}: t \mapsto g_{t_0}^t \underline{x}_0$$

(d) If  $t \mapsto A(t)$  is a constant function, then

$$g_{t_0}^t = \exp(A(t-t_0)) \quad \text{for all } t \in I. \\ \text{and any } t_0 \in I$$

(e) For any  $t_0 \in I$ , the function

$$t \mapsto g_{t_0}^t$$

is a differentiable (matrix-valued) function.

Its derivative with respect to  $t$  is denoted

by  $\dot{g}_{t_0}^t$ .

$\dot{g}_{t_0}^t$  satisfies  $\dot{g}_{t_0}^t = A(t)g_{t_0}^t$ .

Proof:

$$(a) \quad g_{t_1}^{t_2} g_{t_0}^{t_1} = \left( \bar{\Psi}_{t_2} \cdot \bar{\Psi}_{t_1}^{-1} \right) \cdot \left( \bar{\Psi}_{t_1} \cdot \bar{\Psi}_{t_0}^{-1} \right) \\ = \bar{\Psi}_{t_2} \cdot \bar{\Psi}_{t_0}^{-1} = g_{t_0}^{t_2}.$$

$$(b) \quad g_{t_1}^{t_0} g_{t_0}^{t_1} = \left( \bar{\Psi}_{I_{t_0}} \circ \bar{\Psi}_{I_{t_1}}^{-1} \right) \circ \left( \bar{\Psi}_{I_{t_1}} \circ \bar{\Psi}_{I_{t_0}}^{-1} \right) \\ = \text{Identity map on } \mathbb{R}^r.$$

(c) The solution of

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

$$\text{with } \underline{x}(t_0) = \underline{x}_0 \quad \text{is} \quad \bar{\Psi}_{I_{t_0}}^{-1}(\underline{x}_0) = \varphi.$$

Then, for any  $t \in I$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(t) &= \bar{\Psi}_{I_t}(\varphi) = \bar{\Psi}_{I_t}(\bar{\Psi}_{I_{t_0}}^{-1}(\underline{x}_0)) \\ &= (\bar{\Psi}_{I_t} \circ \bar{\Psi}_{I_{t_0}}^{-1})(\underline{x}_0) \\ &= g_{t_0}^t \underline{x}_0. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the solution may be written as

$$t \mapsto g_{t_0}^t \underline{x}_0, \quad t \in I.$$

(d) For any  $t \in I$ ,  $t_0 \in I$ , the maps

$$\exp(A(t-t_0)) \quad \text{and} \quad g_{t_0}^t$$

are linear maps  $\mathbb{R}^r \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^r$ . Let  $(\underline{e}_1, \dots, \underline{e}_r)$  be a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^r$ .

To show that  $\exp(A(t-t_0)) = g_{t_0}^t$ , it is enough to show that

$$\exp(A(t-t_0)) \underline{e}_j = g_{t_0}^t \underline{e}_j \quad \text{for all } j = 1, \dots, r$$

(By linearity, it then would follow that  $\exp(A(t-t_0)) \underline{v} = g_{t_0}^t \underline{v}$  for all  $\underline{v} \in \mathbb{R}^r$ .)

But,  $t \mapsto \exp(A(t-t_0)) \underline{e}_j$  and  $t \mapsto g_{t_0}^t \underline{e}_j$  are both solutions of the system of differential equations

$$\dot{\underline{x}} = A(t) \underline{x}, \quad \underline{x}(t_0) = \underline{e}_j.$$

Therefore, by the uniqueness theorem,

$$\exp(A(t-t_0)) \underline{e}_j = g_{t_0}^t \underline{e}_j \quad \text{for all } t \in I.$$

The conclusion follows.

(e) Fix a basis  $(\underline{e}_1, \dots, \underline{e}_r)$  of  $\mathbb{R}^r$ .

Let  $\varphi_j = \Psi_{t_0}^{-1}(\underline{e}_j)$ . Then for any  $t \in I$ ,

$$\begin{bmatrix} g_{t_0}^t \\ \underline{e}_1, \dots, \underline{e}_r \end{bmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} | & & | \\ \varphi_1(t) & \dots & \varphi_r(t) \\ | & & | \end{pmatrix}$$

Since  $\varphi_j$  are solutions of a system of differential equations, they are differentiable functions of  $t$ . Therefore,  $t \mapsto g_{t_0}^t$  is also a differentiable function of  $t$ .

By definition,

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{g}_{t_0}^t &= \begin{pmatrix} | & & | \\ \dot{\varphi}_1 & \cdots & \dot{\varphi}_r \\ | & & | \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} | & & | \\ A(t)\varphi_1 & \cdots & A(t)\varphi_r \\ | & & | \end{pmatrix} \\ &= A(t) \begin{pmatrix} | & & | \\ \varphi_1 & \cdots & \varphi_r \\ | & & | \end{pmatrix} \\ &= A(t) g_{t_0}^t \end{aligned}$$

□

### § Computing $g_{t_0}^{t_1}$

In the case  $\dot{\underline{x}} = A\underline{x}$ , where  $A$  does not depend on  $t$ , the previous proposition shows that

$$g_{t_0}^{t_1} = \exp(A(t_1 - t_0)).$$

In general, to compute  $g_{t_0}^{t_1}$  one needs to be able to explicitly find solutions of

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

Then, for any basis  $(\underline{e}_1, \dots, \underline{e}_r)$  of  $\mathbb{R}^r$ , let

$$\varphi_j = \Psi_{t_0}^{-1}(\underline{e}_j) \quad (\varphi_j \text{ is the solution passing through } \underline{e}_j \text{ at time } t_0.)$$

write out

$$\varphi_j(t) = \begin{pmatrix} \varphi_{1j}(t) \\ \vdots \\ \varphi_{rj}(t) \end{pmatrix}, \quad t \in I$$

$\varphi_{ij}: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

in the basis  $(\underline{e}_1, \dots, \underline{e}_r)$ .

The matrix of  $g_{t_0}^{t_1}$  with respect to the basis  $(\underline{e}_1, \dots, \underline{e}_r)$  is then

$$\left[ g_{t_0}^{t_1} \right]_{(\underline{e}_1, \dots, \underline{e}_r)}^{(\underline{e}_1, \dots, \underline{e}_r)} = \begin{pmatrix} | & & | \\ \varphi_1(t_1) & \dots & \varphi_r(t_1) \\ | & & | \end{pmatrix}.$$

Example: This is a continued example to illustrate the previous procedure. In general, it is hard to solve  $\underline{\dot{x}} = A(t)\underline{x}$ .

Let  $\underline{e}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\underline{e}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ . Suppose in basis  $(\underline{e}_1, \underline{e}_2)$ , the system of equations  $\underline{\dot{x}} = A\underline{x}$  becomes



$$\begin{pmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} t & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{t} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}, \quad t > 0.$$

$\dot{x} = tx$ . Separate variables

$$\frac{1}{x} \frac{dx}{dt} = t.$$

Integrate

$$\ln|x| = t^2/2 + \text{const.}$$

$$x(t) = A e^{t^2/2}.$$

$\dot{y} = \frac{1}{t} y$ . Separate variables

$$\frac{1}{y} \frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{1}{t}.$$

$$\ln|y| = \ln|t|$$

$$y = B t.$$

The solution satisfying  $\underline{x}(t_0) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \underline{e}_1$

will have  $\begin{pmatrix} A e^{t_0^2/2} \\ B t_0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{matrix} A = e^{-t_0^2/2} \\ B = 0 \end{matrix}$

$$u_1: t \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} \exp\left(\frac{t^2 - t_0^2}{2}\right) \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The solution satisfying  $\underline{x}(t_0) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \underline{e}_2$

will have  $\begin{pmatrix} A e^{t_0^2/2} \\ B t_0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{matrix} A = 0 \\ B = \frac{1}{t_0} \end{matrix}$

$$\varphi_2: t \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{t}{t_0} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Then, } \begin{bmatrix} g_{t_0}^{t_1} \\ \end{bmatrix} \begin{matrix} (\underline{e}_1, \underline{e}_2) \\ (\underline{e}_1, \underline{e}_2) \end{matrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ \varphi_1(t_1) & \varphi_2(t_1) \\ | & | \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} \exp\left(\frac{t_1^2 - t_0^2}{2}\right) & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{t_1}{t_0} \end{pmatrix}.$$

### § Variation of Parameters

This is a technique for solving nonhomogeneous linear systems of differential equations.

$$\underline{\dot{x}} = A(t)\underline{x} + \underline{F}(t).$$

Motivation: Solution of the associated homogeneous system  $\underline{\dot{x}} = A(t)\underline{x}$ ,  $\underline{x}(t_0) = \underline{x}_0$  is

$$t \mapsto g_{t_0}^t \underline{x}_0.$$

Try to look for a solution of

$$\underline{\dot{x}} = A(t)\underline{x} + \underline{F}(t)$$

of the form

$$\underline{x}: t \mapsto g_{t_0}^t \underline{u}(t).$$

Differentiating with respect to  $t$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}\underline{\dot{x}}(t) &= \dot{g}_{t_0}^t \underline{u}(t) + g_{t_0}^t \underline{\dot{u}}(t) \\ &= A(t) g_{t_0}^t \underline{u}(t) + g_{t_0}^t \underline{\dot{u}}(t) \\ &= A(t) \underline{x}(t) + g_{t_0}^t \underline{\dot{u}}(t).\end{aligned}$$

We see that  $\underline{x}$  is a solution of

$$\underline{\dot{x}} = A(t) \underline{x} + \underline{F}(t) \quad \text{if and only if}$$

$$g_{t_0}^t \underline{\dot{u}}(t) = \underline{F}(t) \quad \text{for all } t \in I$$

So that we require that

$$\begin{aligned}\underline{\dot{u}}(t) &= (g_{t_0}^t)^{-1} \underline{F}(t) \\ &= g_{t_0}^t \underline{F}(t)\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\underline{u}(t) = \underline{u}(t_0) + \int_{t_0}^t g_{\tau}^{t_0} \underline{F}(\tau) d\tau.$$

Finally,

$$\begin{aligned}\underline{x}(t) &= g_{t_0}^t \underline{u}(t) = g_{t_0}^t \underline{u}(t_0) + g_{t_0}^t \int_{t_0}^t g_{\tau}^{t_0} \underline{F}(\tau) d\tau \\ &= g_{t_0}^t \underline{u}(t_0) + \int_{t_0}^t g_{\tau}^t \underline{F}(\tau) d\tau\end{aligned}$$

We have

$$\underline{x}(t_0) = g_{t_0}^{t_0} \underline{u}(t_0) + 0, \text{ so } \underline{u}(t_0) = \underline{x}(t_0).$$

Theorem.

The solution of

$$\dot{\underline{x}} = A(t) \underline{x} + \underline{F}(t), \quad \underline{x}(t_0) = \underline{x}_0$$

is

$$\underline{x}: t \mapsto g_{t_0}^t \underline{x}_0 + \int_{t_0}^t g_{\tau}^t \underline{F}(\tau) d\tau.$$

In the special case when  $A(t)$  is constant with  $t$ ,

the solution of

$$\dot{\underline{x}} = A \underline{x} + \underline{F}(t), \quad \underline{x}(t_0) = \underline{x}_0$$

is

$$\underline{x}: t \mapsto \exp(A(t-t_0)) \underline{x}_0 + \int_{t_0}^t \exp(A(t-\tau)) \underline{F}(\tau) d\tau.$$

Example.

$$\begin{pmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} t \\ t^2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \underline{x}(t_0) = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

In this example,  $x$  and  $y$  are "unlinked", but let's solve it using the variation of parameters method we just developed.

$$\exp(A(t-t_0)) = \begin{pmatrix} e^{2(t-t_0)} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{3(t-t_0)} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \exp(A(t-\tau)) \begin{pmatrix} \tau \\ \tau^2 \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} e^{2(t-\tau)} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{3(t-\tau)} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \tau \\ \tau^2 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \tau e^{2(t-\tau)} \\ \tau^2 e^{3(t-\tau)} \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

$$\int_{t_0}^t \exp(A(t-\tau)) \begin{pmatrix} \tau \\ \tau^2 \end{pmatrix} d\tau$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} \int_{t_0}^t \tau e^{2(t-\tau)} d\tau \\ \int_{t_0}^t \tau^2 e^{3(t-\tau)} d\tau \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\int_{t_0}^t \underbrace{\tau}_u \underbrace{e^{2(t-\tau)}}_{v'} d\tau = -\frac{1}{2} \tau e^{2(t-\tau)} \Big|_{t_0}^t - \int_{t_0}^t \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) e^{2(t-\tau)} d\tau$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2} t + \frac{1}{2} t_0 e^{2(t-t_0)}$$

$$- \frac{1}{4} e^{2(t-\tau)} \Big|_{t_0}^t$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2} t + \frac{1}{2} t_0 e^{2(t-t_0)} - \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} e^{2(t-t_0)}$$

$$= \frac{2t_0+1}{4} e^{2(t-t_0)} - \frac{2t+1}{4}$$

$$\int_{t_0}^t \underbrace{\tau^2}_u \underbrace{e^{3(t-\tau)}}_{v'} d\tau = -\frac{1}{3} \tau^2 e^{3(t-\tau)} \Big|_{t_0}^t - \int_{t_0}^t \left(-\frac{2}{3}\right) \tau e^{3(t-\tau)} d\tau$$

$$= -\frac{1}{3} t^2 + \frac{1}{3} t_0^2 e^{3(t-t_0)}$$

$$+ \frac{2}{3} \int_{t_0}^t \underbrace{\tau}_u \underbrace{e^{3(t-\tau)}}_{v'} d\tau$$

$$\int_{t_0}^t \tau e^{3(t-\tau)} d\tau = -\frac{1}{3} \tau e^{3(t-\tau)} \Big|_{t_0}^t - \int_{t_0}^t \left(-\frac{1}{3}\right) e^{3(t-\tau)} d\tau$$

$$= -\frac{1}{3} t + \frac{1}{3} t_0 e^{3(t-t_0)} - \frac{1}{9} e^{3(t-\tau)} \Big|_{t_0}^t$$

So that

$$\int_{t_0}^t \tau^2 e^{3(t-\tau)} d\tau = -\frac{1}{3} t^2 + \frac{1}{3} t_0^2 e^{3(t-t_0)} \\ - \frac{2}{9} t + \frac{2}{9} t_0 e^{3(t-t_0)} - \frac{2}{27} \\ + \frac{2}{27} e^{3(t-t_0)} \\ = \frac{9t_0^2 + 6t_0 + 2}{27} e^{3(t-t_0)} - \frac{9t^2 + 6t + 2}{27}$$

Finally, the solution is

$$\underline{x}(t) = \exp(A(t-t_0)) \underline{x}_0 + \int_{t_0}^t \exp(A(t-\tau)) F(\tau) d\tau \\ = \begin{pmatrix} 4e^{2(t-t_0)} \\ 5e^{3(t-t_0)} \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2t_0+1}{4} e^{2(t-t_0)} - \frac{2t+1}{4} \\ \frac{9t_0^2+6t_0+2}{27} e^{3(t-t_0)} - \frac{9t^2+6t+2}{27} \end{pmatrix} \\ = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2t_0+17}{4} e^{2(t-t_0)} - \frac{2t+1}{4} \\ \frac{9t_0^2+6t_0+137}{27} e^{3(t-t_0)} - \frac{9t^2+6t+2}{27} \end{pmatrix}.$$