

★ Matrices and Linear Systems

A system of n first-order linear differential eqns. can be written:

$$\underline{x}' = \underline{P}(t) \underline{x} + \underline{f}(t)$$

\underline{x} : $n \times 1$ vector of variables $\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}$

$\underline{P}(t)$: $n \times n$ matrix

$\underline{f}(t)$: $n \times 1$ vector called forcing term

When $\underline{f}(t) = \underline{0}$ the eqn is called homogeneous

Example:

$$\begin{aligned} x_1' &= 4x_1 - 3x_2 + t^2 \\ x_2' &= 6x_1 - 7x_2 - e^t \end{aligned}$$

Turns into the system

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1' \\ x_2' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -3 \\ 6 & -7 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} t^2 \\ -e^t \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\underline{x}' = \underline{P} \underline{x} + \underline{f}(t)$$

A solution of a system of eqns is a function that satisfies the differential eqn.

Ex: Verify that $\underline{x}_1 = e^{2t} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$, $\underline{x}_2 = e^{-5t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$

are solutions to

$$\underline{x}' = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -3 \\ 6 & -7 \end{bmatrix} \underline{x}$$

(a) $\underline{x}'_1 = 2e^{2t} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$

so verify

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{x}'_1 &= \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -3 \\ 6 & 7 \end{bmatrix} \underline{x}_1 \\ 2e^{2t} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} &\stackrel{?}{=} \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -3 \\ 6 & 7 \end{bmatrix} e^{2t} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \\ e^{2t} \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} &\stackrel{?}{=} e^{2t} \begin{bmatrix} 4 \cdot 3 - 3 \cdot 2 \\ 6 \cdot 3 + 7 \cdot 2 \end{bmatrix} \\ &\stackrel{?}{=} e^{2t} \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Yes \underline{x}_1 is a solution

Exercise: show that $\underline{x}_2 = e^{-5t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$

is also a solution

\underline{x}_1 and \underline{x}_2 are fundamental solutions for this system.

Note: A system of n eqns has n fundamental solns.

All linear combinations are also solutions

$$\underline{x}(t) = c_1 \underline{x}_1(t) + c_2 \underline{x}_2(t)$$

$$= c_1 e^{2t} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 e^{-5t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

where c_1 and c_2 are constants that relate to the initial conditions.

Principle of Superposition

The fundamental solutions must be linearly independent

Use the Wronskian to check linear independence

$$\underline{x}_1 = e^{2t} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3e^{2t} \\ 2e^{2t} \end{bmatrix} \quad \underline{x}_2 = e^{-5t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} e^{-5t} \\ 3e^{-5t} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} W &= \begin{vmatrix} 3e^{2t} & e^{-5t} \\ 2e^{2t} & 3e^{-5t} \end{vmatrix} = 3e^{2t} \cdot 3e^{-5t} - 2e^{2t} e^{-5t} \\ &= 9e^{-3t} - 2e^{-3t} \\ &= 7e^{-3t} \end{aligned}$$

$W \neq 0$ so \underline{x}_1 and \underline{x}_2 are linearly independent

Initial Value Problem: (IVP)

$$\underline{x}' = \underline{P}(t)\underline{x} \quad \text{and} \quad \underline{x}(a) = \underline{b}$$

initial condition

Example:

$$\underline{x}' = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -3 \\ 6 & -7 \end{bmatrix} \underline{x} \quad \text{and} \quad \underline{x}(0) = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Recall the fundamental solutions were:

$$\underline{x}_1 = e^{2t} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \underline{x}_2 = e^{-5t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

The general solution is

$$\underline{x}(t) = c_1 e^{2t} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 e^{-5t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Goal: Find c_1 and c_2 so that $\underline{x}(t)$ satisfies the initial condition

$$\underline{x}(0) = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$c_1 e^{2 \cdot 0} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 e^{-5 \cdot 0} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$c_1 \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

By inspection $\rightarrow c_1 = 1 \quad c_2 = -1$

Formally, we can write:

$$c_1 \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3c_1 + c_2 \\ 2c_1 + 3c_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$3c_1 + c_2 = 2$$

$$2c_1 + 3c_2 = -1$$

First solve in terms of c_2

$$c_2 = 2 - 3c_1$$

Now plug into 2nd eqn and solve for c_1

$$2c_1 + 3(2 - 3c_1) = -1$$

$$2c_1 + 6 - 9c_1 = 6 - 7c_1 = -1$$

$$7 = 7c_1$$

$$\boxed{c_1 = 1}$$

Plug back into eqn for c_2

$$c_2 = 2 - 3c_1 = 2 - 3 \cdot 1 = -1$$

$$\boxed{c_2 = -1}$$

So the solution to the IVP is

$$\underline{x}(t) = e^{2t} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} - e^{-5t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$