

Consider the linear control system

$$(1) \quad \dot{x}(t) = A(t)x(t) + B(t)u(t)$$

with  $x(t_0) = x_0$ ,  $x(t) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $u(t) \in \mathbb{R}^m$  and  $A(\cdot)$  and  $B(\cdot)$  matrix-valued functions. If  $A(t)$  has elements that are continuous functions of  $t$  on  $[t_0, t_1]$  then the (transition) matrix

$$(2) \quad \underline{\Phi}(t, t_0) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} M_k(t, t_0) \quad t_0 \leq t \leq t_1$$

exists and satisfies the homogeneous differential equation

$$(3) \quad \dot{\underline{\Phi}}(t, t_0) = A(t)\underline{\Phi}(t, t_0)$$

$$\underline{\Phi}(t_0, t_0) = \underline{\mathbb{1}} \quad \text{the } n \times n \text{ identity matrix.}$$

Here the  $M_k$  are defined recursively as,

$$M_0(t, t_0) \equiv \underline{\mathbb{1}}$$

(4)

$$M_k(t, t_0) = \underline{\mathbb{1}} + \int_{t_0}^t A(\sigma) M_{k-1}(\sigma, t_0) d\sigma$$

$$k = 1, 2, 3, \dots \quad t_0 \leq t \leq t_1$$

leading to the series formula (due to Peano and Baker)

$$\underline{\Phi}(t, t_0) = \underline{\mathbb{1}} + \int_{t_0}^t A(\sigma) d\sigma + \int_{t_0}^t \int_{t_0}^{\sigma_1} A(\sigma_1) A(\sigma) d\sigma d\sigma_1$$

(5)

$$+ \int_{t_0}^t \int_{t_0}^{\sigma_1} \int_{t_0}^{\sigma_2} A(\sigma_1) A(\sigma_2) A(\sigma) d\sigma d\sigma_2 d\sigma_1$$

$$+ \dots$$

which reduces to the usual series formula for  $e^{A(t-t_0)}$  when  $A(t) \equiv A$  a constant.

The transition matrix gives the solution

$$x(t) = \underline{\Phi}(t, t_0) x_0$$

for the homogeneous differential equation

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

obtained by setting  $u(t) \equiv 0$  in (1). To solve (1) for general  $u(\cdot)$ , let  $z(t) = (\underline{\Phi}(t, t_0))^{-1} x(t)$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{z}(t) &= \frac{d}{dt} (\underline{\Phi}(t, t_0)^{-1}) x(t) + \underline{\Phi}(t, t_0)^{-1} \frac{d}{dt} x(t) \\ &= - \underline{\Phi}(t, t_0)^{-1} \frac{d \underline{\Phi}(t, t_0)}{dt} \underline{\Phi}(t, t_0)^{-1} x(t) \\ &\quad + \underline{\Phi}(t, t_0)^{-1} (A(t) x(t) + B(t) u(t)) \end{aligned}$$

(6)

$$\begin{aligned} &= - \underline{\Phi}^{-1} A \underline{\Phi} \underline{\Phi}^{-1} x + \underline{\Phi}^{-1} A x + \underline{\Phi}^{-1} B u \\ &= \underline{\Phi}^{-1}(t, t_0) B(t) u(t) \end{aligned}$$

which is easily integrated to obtain

$$(7) \quad z(t) = \int_{t_0}^t \underline{\Phi}^{-1}(\sigma, t_0) B(\sigma) u(\sigma) d\sigma + z(t_0).$$

Recall  $z(t_0) = \underline{\Phi}(t_0, t_0)^{-1} x(t_0) \equiv x(t_0) = x_0$ .

Expressing  $x$  in terms of  $z$  we obtain

(8)

$$\begin{aligned}
 x(t) &= \Phi(t, t_0) x_0 + \Phi(t, t_0) \int_{t_0}^t \Phi^{-1}(\sigma, t_0) B(\sigma) u(\sigma) d\sigma \\
 &= \Phi(t, t_0) x_0 + \int_{t_0}^t \Phi(t, \sigma) B(\sigma) u(\sigma) d\sigma
 \end{aligned}$$

where we have used the easily verified properties

$$\Phi^{-1}(\tau, s) = \Phi(s, \tau)$$

$$\Phi(t, s) \Phi(s, \tau) = \Phi(t, \tau)$$

for any  $t, s, \tau$  (order immaterial).

Equation (8) is the famous variation of constants formula due to Laplace.

### § 1.1. Reachability / Accessibility Problem

Given  $t_1 > t_0$  and  $x_1 \in \mathbb{R}^n$  does there exist a control  $u(\cdot)$  that drives system (1) from  $x(t_0) = x_0$  to  $x(t_1) = x_1$ ? Usually one restricts the class of allowable controls to (piecewise) continuous, smooth etc.

Accessibility of  $x_1$  is equivalent to solvability for  $u(\cdot)$  of the equation

$$x_1 - \Phi(t_1, t_0)x_0 = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \Phi(t_1, \sigma) B(\sigma) u(\sigma) d\sigma,$$

equivalently,

$$(9) \quad L(u) \triangleq - \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \Phi(t_0, \sigma) B(\sigma) u(\sigma) d\sigma = x_0 - \Phi(t_0, t_1)x_1.$$

Here  $L: \mathcal{U} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  is a linear map which takes the vector space of (continuous) control functions  $u: [t_0, t_1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  into the vector space  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

Thus  $(x_1, t_1)$  is accessible from  $(x_0, t_0)$

iff  $(x_0 - \Phi(t_0, t_1)x_1) \in \mathcal{R}(L)$  the range space of  $L$ . The system (1) is accessible if  $\mathcal{R}(L) = \mathbb{R}^n$ .

Computing  $\mathcal{R}(L)$  is made easy by the use of the concept of adjoint.

Given two vector spaces  $V$  and  $W$  equipped with inner products  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_V$  and  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_W$  respectively, the adjoint of a linear map  $L: V \rightarrow W$  is the linear map  $L^*: W \rightarrow V$  defined by

$$\langle L^*(w), v \rangle_V = \langle w, L(v) \rangle_W$$

$\forall v \in V$  and  $w \in W$ .

Concretely if  $V = \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $W = \mathbb{R}^m$  then the  
 Euclidean inner products on  $V$  and  $W$  define  
 $L^* = L^T$  the transpose for  $L$  a matrix:  $\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ .  
 (often I denote transpose by a <sup>superscript</sup> prime instead  
 of a superscript  $T$ ).

Claim:  $\mathcal{R}(L) = \mathcal{R}(LL^*)$

Proof: Homework Exercise 1.

This result is extremely useful when  $L$  is  
 a linear map from an infinite dimensional space into  
 a finite dimensional space. Then  $LL^*$  is representable  
 as a matrix and it is easy to check what the range  
 of  $LL^*$  is.

gf  $V = \mathcal{U} = \{ u: [t_0, t_1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m : \text{continuous} \}$

and inner product on  $\mathcal{U}$  is  $\langle u_1(\cdot), u_2(\cdot) \rangle_{\mathcal{U}} = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} u_1'(\sigma) u_2(\sigma) d\sigma$ ,

and  $W = \mathbb{R}^n$  with inner product,  $\langle x, y \rangle_W = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i y_i$ .

then for

$$(10) \quad L(u) = - \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \Phi(t_0, \sigma) B(\sigma) u(\sigma) d\sigma$$

$L^*(x)$  is a function  $\in \mathcal{U}$

$$L^*(x)(t) = - B'(t) \Phi(t_0, t) x$$

Then  $L L^* : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  is given by

$$11) \quad L L^* = W(t_0, t_1) = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \underline{\Phi}(t_0, \sigma) B(\sigma) B(\sigma)' \underline{\Phi}'(t_0, \sigma) d\sigma$$

By the previous claim,  $\mathcal{R}(L) = \mathcal{R}(W(t_0, t_1))$ .

We give the proof of this special case.

proof: ( $\Rightarrow$ ) Let  $x \in \mathcal{R}(W(t_0, t_1))$ , i.e.  $\exists \eta \in \mathbb{R}^n$  s.t.

$$x = W(t_0, t_1) \eta$$

choose  $u(t) = L^* \eta$ . Then  $L(u) = L L^* \eta = x$

by assumption. Hence  $x \in \mathcal{R}(L)$ .

$$\text{Thus } \mathcal{R}(W(t_0, t_1)) \subseteq \mathcal{R}(L)$$

( $\Leftarrow$ ) Suppose  $x_1 \notin \mathcal{R}(W)$ . We wish to show that  $x_1 \notin \mathcal{R}(L)$ . We will do this by contradiction. So assume  $x_1 \in \mathcal{R}(L)$ .

Since  $x_1 \notin \mathcal{R}(W)$ ,  $\exists x_2 \in \text{Ker}(W^*)$ ,

$$\text{s.t. } x_2' x_1 \neq 0 \quad \left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{Fredholm alternative} \\ \text{— see homework 1} \end{array} \right]$$

~~But~~ But  $L(u) = x_1$  for some  $u \in \mathcal{U}$ , by hypothesis.

$$\text{Then } x_2' \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \underline{\Phi}(t_0, \sigma) B(\sigma) u(\sigma) d\sigma \neq 0$$

On the other hand  $x_2 \in \text{Ker}(W^*) = \text{Ker}(W)$  because  $W$  is symmetric.  $\Rightarrow x_2' W x_2 = 0$

$$\Leftrightarrow \int_{t_0}^{t_1} x_2' \Phi(t_0, \sigma) B(\sigma) B'(\sigma) \Phi'(t_0, \sigma) x_2 d\sigma = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \| B'(\sigma) \Phi'(t_0, \sigma) x_2 \|^2 d\sigma = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow B'(\sigma) \Phi'(t_0, \sigma) x_2 = 0 \quad \text{by continuity of integrand.}$$

$\Rightarrow$  contradiction!

Hence  $x_1 \notin \mathcal{R}(L)$ .

From the two parts we have shown

$$\mathcal{R}(W) \subseteq \mathcal{R}(L)$$

$$\mathcal{R}(L) \subseteq \mathcal{R}(W)$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{R}(W) = \mathcal{R}(L) \quad \square$$

The symmetric matrix  $W$  is called the accessibility Gramian.

Definition The system (1) is said to be accessible from  $(x_0, t_0)$  if any  $(x_1, t_1)$   $t_1 > t_0$  is accessible from  $(x_0, t_0)$ .

From what we have shown accessibility of the

system is equivalent to  $\mathcal{R}(W) = \mathbb{R}^n$  i.e.

$W$  is invertible.

A control which drives (1) from  $(x_0, t_0)$  to  $(x_1, t_1)$

is given by

$$(12) \quad u_0(t) = -B'(t) \Phi'(t_0, t) \eta_0$$

for  $\eta_0$  such that

$$\bar{W}(t_0, t_1) \eta_0 = x_0 - \bar{\Phi}(t_0, t_1) x_1$$

If the system is accessible then  $W$  is

invertible and  $\eta_0 = \bar{W}^{-1}(t_0, t_1) \cdot [x_0 - \bar{\Phi}(t_0, t_1) x_1]$ .

## p 1.2. Optimality

$u_0$  is better than any other control  $u_1$

in the sense that

$$\int_{t_0}^{t_1} u_0'(t) u_0(t) dt \leq \int_{t_0}^{t_1} u_1'(t) u_1(t) dt$$

for  $L(u_1) = x_0 - \bar{\Phi}(t_0, t_1) x_1$ .



proof:  $L(u_1) = L(u_0) \Rightarrow L(u_1 - u_0) = 0.$

$$\eta_0' L(u_1 - u_0) = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \langle \eta_0, L(u_1 - u_0) \rangle_{\mathbb{R}^n} = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \langle L^* \eta_0, u_1 - u_0 \rangle_{\mathcal{U}} = 0$$

(from definition of adjoint)

$$\Leftrightarrow \langle u_0, u_1 - u_0 \rangle_{\mathcal{U}} = 0$$

Then  $0 \leq \langle u_1 - u_0, u_1 - u_0 \rangle_{\mathcal{U}}$

$$= \langle u_1, u_1 \rangle - \langle u_0, u_1 - u_0 \rangle - \langle u_1, u_0 \rangle$$

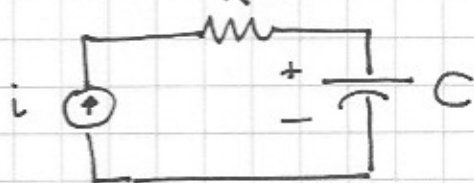
$$= \langle u_1, u_1 \rangle - \langle u_1, u_0 \rangle$$

$$= \langle u_1, u_1 \rangle - \langle u_1 - u_0 + u_0, u_0 \rangle$$

$$= \langle u_1, u_1 \rangle - \langle u_1 - u_0, u_0 \rangle - \langle u_0, u_0 \rangle$$

$$= \langle u_1, u_1 \rangle - \langle u_0, u_0 \rangle \quad \square$$

Example (Charging a capacitor.)



voltage across capacitance =  $v$

capacitance =  $C$

$$C \frac{dv}{dt} = i$$

minimize  $I^2 R$  losses <sup>resistive</sup> during charging from  $V_0$  to  $V_1$ .

↔  $\min_i \int_0^{t_1} R i^2(t) dt$

$v(0) = V_0$   
 $v(t_1) = V_1$

Here  $A(t) \equiv 0$        $B(t) \equiv \frac{1}{C}$       state =  $v$

control =  $i$

$$W(0, t_1) = \int_0^{t_1} \frac{1}{C^2} dt = \frac{t_1 - 0}{C^2} = \frac{t_1}{C^2}$$

$$\eta = C^2 \frac{V_0 - V_1}{t_1}$$

$$i_0(t) = -\frac{1}{C} C^2 \frac{(V_0 - V_1)}{t_1}$$

$$= \frac{C(V_1 - V_0)}{t_1} = \text{constant} \quad (\text{optimal charging current})$$

If  $V_0 = 0$ , a short, one can see that over  $[0, t_1]$

$$\text{efficiency} = \frac{\text{energy stored}}{\text{energy delivered}}$$

$$= ? \quad \leftarrow \text{compute this!} \quad \square$$

Show that

$$\frac{dW}{dt}(t, t_1) = A(t)W(t, t_1) + W(t, t_1)A'(t) - B(t)B'(t)$$

$$W(t_1, t_1) = 0$$

$$W(t_0, t_1) = W(t_0, t) + \bar{\Phi}(t_0, t)W(t, t_1)\bar{\Phi}'(t_0, t)$$

where  $W^{-1}$  exists

$$\frac{dW^{-1}}{dt}(t, t_1) = -A'(t)W^{-1}(t, t_1) - W^{-1}(t, t_1)A(t) + W^{-1}(t, t_1)B(t)B'(t)W^{-1}(t, t_1)$$

a Riccati type equation