

Lecture 25. Nonhomogeneous linear systems of DEs with constant coefficients: Method of variation of parameters.

We will show how to solve a nonhomog. linear system of DEs

$$\vec{y}' = P(t)\vec{y} + \vec{g}(t), \quad (1)$$

where \vec{y}, \vec{g} are $n \times 1$ vectors and $P(t)$ is an $n \times n$ matrix, provided that we know the complementary sol'n \vec{y}_c , i.e.

$$\vec{y}'_c = P(t)\vec{y}_c. \quad (2)$$

Since one can solve (2) by the method of Lecture 24 for $P(t) = \text{const}$ matrix, our examples will consider ~~that~~ case only. However, the same method works for $P(t) \neq \text{const}$.

Suppose we know a FS of solutions of (2): $\{\vec{y}_1(t), \dots, \vec{y}_n(t)\}$. Then:

$$\vec{y}'_1 = P\vec{y}_1, \quad \vec{y}'_2 = P\vec{y}_2, \quad \dots \quad \vec{y}'_n = P\vec{y}_n \quad (3a)$$

Combining these into columns, we have:

$$[\vec{y}'_1, \vec{y}'_2, \dots, \vec{y}'_n] = [P\vec{y}_1, P\vec{y}_2, \dots, P\vec{y}_n], \text{ or}$$

$$\underbrace{[\vec{y}_1, \dots, \vec{y}_n]}_{\Psi(t)}' = P \underbrace{[\vec{y}_1, \dots, \vec{y}_n]}_{\text{fundamental matrix (lec. 23)}} \quad (3b)$$

$\Psi(t)$ $\xrightarrow{\hspace{10em}}$ fundamental matrix (lec. 23)

or $\boxed{\underline{\Psi}' = P \underline{\Psi}}$ (3c)

$\begin{matrix} \nearrow & \nearrow & \nwarrow \\ n \times n & n \times n & n \times n \end{matrix}$

Let us recall that the general solution of (2) can be represented as

$$\vec{y}_c = c_1 \vec{y}_1 + c_2 \vec{y}_2 + \dots + c_n \vec{y}_n$$

$$= [\vec{y}_1, \vec{y}_2, \dots, \vec{y}_n] \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ \vdots \\ c_n \end{pmatrix} = \underline{\Psi} \vec{c}, \quad (4)$$

VERY IMPORTANT FACT, p. 22-6

where $\vec{c} = \text{const vector}$.

Then, similarly to the Method of Variation of parameters for a scalar DE, we look for a solution of (1) in the form

$$\vec{y} = \underline{\Psi}(t) \vec{u}(t), \quad (5)$$

where $\underline{\Psi}(t)$ is a fundamental matrix of (2) (which solves (3c)) and $\vec{u}(t)$ is a vector to be found.

Substitute (5) into (1):

$$(\underline{\Psi} \vec{u})' = P(\underline{\Psi} \vec{u}) + \vec{g} \Rightarrow$$

$$\underline{\Psi}' \vec{u} + \underline{\Psi} \vec{u}' = \underline{\Psi} P \vec{u} + \vec{g} \Rightarrow$$

\uparrow same by (3c) \uparrow

$$\underline{\Psi} \vec{u}' = \vec{g} \Rightarrow \vec{u}' = \underline{\Psi}^{-1} \vec{g}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\vec{u}(t) = \vec{u}(t_0) + \int_{t_0}^t \underline{\Psi}^{-1}(s) \vec{g}(s) ds} \quad (6)$$

Therefore, a particular sol'n of (1) is:

$$\vec{y}(t) = \Psi(t) \left[\vec{u}(t_0) + \int_{t_0}^t \Psi^{-1}(s) \vec{g}(s) ds \right] \quad (7).$$

Note 1: In (7), $\vec{u}(t_0)$ can be found to satisfy a given initial condition as follows:

$$\vec{y}(t_0) = \Psi(t_0) \left[\vec{u}(t_0) + \int_{t_0}^{t_0} \dots \right] \Rightarrow$$

$$\vec{y}(t_0) = \Psi(t_0) \vec{u}(t_0) \Rightarrow$$

$$\boxed{\vec{u}(t_0) = \Psi^{-1}(t_0) \cdot \vec{y}(t_0)}. \quad (8)$$

Note 2: If no initial condition is specified, then in (7) one can take the indefinite integral.

Note 3: In (6), (7), and (8) we know that $\Psi(t_0)^{-1}$ exists because $\Psi(t_0)$ is a fundamental matrix and hence $W(t_0) = \det \Psi(t_0) \neq 0$.

Ex. 1 Use the method of variation of parameters to solve the given IVP.

$$\vec{y}' = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 5 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \vec{y} + \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \vec{y}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Sol'n: 1) Find a fundamental matrix.
a) Find eigenvalues:

$$\begin{vmatrix} -2-\lambda & 5 \\ 1 & 2-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda = \pm 3$$

skip details

b) Find eigenvectors:

$$\lambda = 3 \quad \begin{pmatrix} -2-3 & 5 \\ 1 & 2-3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow x_1 - x_2 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{x}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda = -3 \quad \begin{pmatrix} -2+3 & 5 \\ 1 & 2+3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow x_1 + 5x_2 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{x}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Psi(t) = [e^{3t} \vec{x}_1, e^{-3t} \vec{x}_2] = \begin{pmatrix} e^{3t} & -5e^{-3t} \\ e^{3t} & e^{-3t} \end{pmatrix}$$

2) Find $\vec{u}(t_0)$ from (8).

(This step can be skipped if you are not given an initial condition.)

$$\vec{y}(t_0) = \Psi(t_0) \cdot \vec{u}(t_0)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -5 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \vec{u}_0 \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

We can use Ψ^{-1} from p. 217 of textbook or find c_1, c_2 by inspection:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow c_1 = \frac{1}{2}, c_2 = -\frac{1}{2}$$

$$\text{So } \vec{u}_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1/2 \\ -1/2 \end{pmatrix}$$

3) Find the integral term in (7).

Formula for A^{-1} from p. 217

a) Find $\Psi^{-1}(s) = \begin{pmatrix} e^{3s} & -5e^{-3s} \\ e^{3s} & e^{-3s} \end{pmatrix}^{-1}$

$$= \frac{1}{e^{3s} \cdot e^{-3s} - (-5e^{-3s}) \cdot e^{3s}} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} e^{-3s} & 5e^{-3s} \\ -e^{3s} & e^{3s} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \frac{1}{6} \begin{pmatrix} e^{-3s} & 5e^{-3s} \\ -e^{3s} & e^{3s} \end{pmatrix}$$

b) Find $\Psi^{-1}(s) \vec{g}(s) = \frac{1}{6} \begin{pmatrix} e^{-3s} & 5e^{-3s} \\ -e^{3s} & e^{3s} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 3/2 e^{-3s} \\ -1/2 e^{3s} \end{pmatrix}$$

c) Integrate: integrate each entry

$$\int_{t_0 \rightarrow 0}^t \begin{pmatrix} 3/2 e^{-3s} \\ -1/2 e^{3s} \end{pmatrix} ds = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{2} e^{-3s} \Big|_0^t \\ -\frac{1}{6} e^{3s} \Big|_0^t \end{pmatrix} = -\frac{1}{6} \begin{pmatrix} 3(e^{-3t}-1) \\ e^{3t}-1 \end{pmatrix}$$

4) Put everything together (as per Eq. (7)):

$$\vec{y}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} e^{3t} & -5e^{-3t} \\ e^{3t} & e^{-3t} \end{pmatrix} \left[\begin{pmatrix} 1/2 \\ -1/2 \end{pmatrix} - \frac{1}{6} \begin{pmatrix} 3e^{-3t}-3 \\ e^{3t}-1 \end{pmatrix} \right]$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} e^{3t} & -5e^{-3t} \\ e^{3t} & e^{-3t} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 - \frac{1}{2} e^{-3t} \\ -\frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{6} e^{3t} \end{pmatrix} = \dots$$
 (can multiply out if needed...)

HW: Sec. 4.8

15, 16, 17, 18. ← solve IVP by MoVoP
(λ 's are real & distinct),

EC: Show that if you write a scalar DE-2 as a lin system and apply a MoVoP to it, you will get the same eqs. for u_1, u_2 (where $\vec{u} = \begin{pmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \end{pmatrix}$) as in Sec. 3.9.