

1. *Step function output*

(1 points)

Write down a representation of an autonomous linear time-invariant system that can give a step function output.

Solution: The continuous-time system, defined by

$$\frac{d}{dt}y = 0$$

and the discrete-time system, defined by

$$\sigma y = y$$

have constant output $y(0)e^{0t}$ and $y(0)1^t$, for $t \geq 0$. □

2. *Sine function output*

(1 points)

Write down a representation of an autonomous LTI system that can give a sine with frequency ω output.

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Solution: A sine with frequency ω can be written as $ce^{i\omega t} + \bar{c}e^{-i\omega t}$, for some $c \in \mathbb{C}$. For the continuous-time system, we have

$$p(s) = (s - i\omega)(s + i\omega) = s^2 + \omega^2 \implies \frac{d}{dt}y + \omega^2 y = 0.$$

For the discrete-time system, we have $p(z) = (z - e^{i\omega})(z + e^{-i\omega}) = z^2 - 2\cos(\omega)z + 1 \implies \sigma^2 y - 2\cos(\omega)y = 0$

3. $y \stackrel{?}{\in} \mathcal{B}(A, C)$

(2 points)

Check if $y_d = (2, 3, 5, 9, 17, 33, 64)$ is a possible output of the system defined by the state space representation

$$x(t+1) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} x(t), \quad y(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} x(t). \quad (\text{SS})$$

If y_d is not a possible output of the system, suggest a way of correcting it, so that the corrected signal is.

Solution: $y_d = (y_d(1), \dots, y_d(T)) \in \mathcal{B}(A, C)$ if and only if there is $x(0)$, such that $y_d(t) = CA^t x(0)$, for $t = 1, \dots, T$. Written in a matrix form, this condition is the following system of linear equations

$$\begin{bmatrix} y_d(1) \\ y_d(2) \\ \vdots \\ y_d(T) \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} C \\ CA \\ \vdots \\ CA^{T-1} \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathcal{O}} x(0). \quad (*)$$

For the given example, we have

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 5 \\ 9 \\ 17 \\ 33 \\ 64 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 4 \\ 1 & 8 \\ 1 & 16 \\ 1 & 32 \\ 1 & 64 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1(0) \\ x_2(0) \end{bmatrix},$$

which has no solution, so that $y_d \notin \mathcal{B}(A, C)$. A way of correcting y_d , so that it becomes an output of $\mathcal{B}(A, C)$, is to solve (*) in a least-squares sense, and define the corrected output $\hat{y} = \mathcal{O}\hat{x}(0)$, where $\hat{x}(0) = (\mathcal{O}^\top \mathcal{O})^{-1} \mathcal{O}^\top y_d$ is the least-squares approximate solution of (*). \hat{y} has the property that $\|y_d - \hat{y}\|_2$ is minimized over all outputs \hat{y} of $\mathcal{B}(A, C)$. □

4. $y \stackrel{?}{\in} \ker(P(z))$ (2 points)

Check if $y_d = (2, 3, 5, 9, 17, 33, 64)$ is a possible output of the system defined by the difference equation

$$2y(t) - 3y(t+1) + y(t+2) = 0. \quad (\text{KER})$$

If y_d is not a possible output of the system, suggest a way of correcting it, so that the corrected signal is.

Solution: $y_d = (y_d(1), \dots, y_d(T)) \in \ker(P(z))$ if and only if

$$P_0 y(t) + P_1 y(t+1) + \dots + P_n y(t+n) = 0, \quad \text{for } t = 1, \dots, T-n.$$

Written in a matrix form, this condition is the following system of linear equations

$$\begin{bmatrix} P_0 & P_1 & \dots & P_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} y(1) & y(2) & \dots & y(T-n) \\ y(2) & y(3) & \dots & y(T-n+1) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ y(n+1) & y(n+2) & \dots & y(T) \end{bmatrix} = 0. \quad (**)$$

For the given example, we have

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & -3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 & 5 & 9 & 17 \\ 3 & 5 & 9 & 17 & 33 \\ 5 & 9 & 17 & 33 & 64 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \neq 0,$$

so that $y_d \notin \ker(P(z))$. An ad hoc way of correcting y_d in the specific example is to set $y_d(7) = 65$. \square

5. $\mathcal{B}(A, C) \stackrel{?}{=} \ker(P(z))$ (2 points)

Check if the system defined by (SS) is the same system as the one defined by (KER).

Solution: We need to verify that the eigenvalues $z_1 = 1$ and $z_2 = 2$ of A are the same as the roots of $P(z)$. Indeed,

$$(z-1)(z-2) = z^2 - 3z + 2,$$

so that the two representations define the same system. \square

6. $\mathcal{B}(A_1, C_1) + \mathcal{B}(A_2, C_2)$ (2 points)

Let \mathcal{B} be the system obtained by adding the outputs of two autonomous LTI systems \mathcal{B}_1 and \mathcal{B}_2 of orders n_1 and n_2 . Is \mathcal{B} linear time-invariant? What is its order?

Solution: \mathcal{B} is linear because the sum of two subspaces is a subspace. \mathcal{B} is also time-invariant because, for any $y \in \mathcal{B}$, it follows that $y = y_1 + y_2$, where $y_1 \in \mathcal{B}_1$ and $y_2 \in \mathcal{B}_2$, but $\sigma^\tau y_1 \in \mathcal{B}_1$ and $\sigma^\tau y_2 \in \mathcal{B}_2$ for all τ , so that

$$\sigma^\tau y = \sigma^\tau y_1 + \sigma^\tau y_2 \in \mathcal{B}.$$

The order of \mathcal{B} is

$$n = n_1 + n_2 - \text{"\# of common poles of } \mathcal{B}_1 \text{ and } \mathcal{B}_2 \text{"}.$$

\square

7. Fast method for computing A^{100} (4 points)

How many scalar multiplications requires the direct computation of A^{100} as $\underbrace{A \cdots A}_{100}$ for a 2×2 matrix A ?

Suggest a faster method. Using the method, find a good approximation of $\begin{bmatrix} -1/4 & 1/4 \\ -3/2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{100}$.

Solution: The matrix product AB , for $A, B \in \mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2}$, requires 8 multiplications, so that A^{100} requires 99×8 multiplications. A fast method is obtained by the eigenvalue decomposition $A = V\Lambda V^{-1}$ of A , because

$$A^{100} = V\Lambda^{100}V^{-1} = V \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1^{100} & \\ & \lambda_2^{100} \end{bmatrix} V^{-1},$$

requires only $2 \times 99 + 12$ multiplications once the eigenvalue decomposition is computed. In the example the eigenvalues of A are $1/2$ and $1/4$. We have $(1/2)^{100} < 10^{-30}$ and $(1/4)^{100} < 10^{-60}$, so that $A^{100} \approx 0$. \square

8. A thermometer reading 21°C , which has been inside a house for a long time, is taken outside. After one minute the thermometer reads 15°C ; after two minutes it reads 11°C . What is the outside temperature? (According to Newton's law of cooling, an object of higher temperature than its environment cools at a rate that is proportional to the difference in temperature.)

Solution: Let $y(t)$ be the reading of the thermometer at time t and let \bar{u} be the environmental temperature. From Newton's law of cooling, we have that

$$\frac{d}{dt}y = a(\bar{u} - y)$$

for some unknown constant $a \in \mathbb{R}$, $a > 0$, which describes the cooling process. Integrating the differential equation, we obtain an explicit formula for y in terms of the constant a , the environmental temperature \bar{u} , and the initial condition $y(0)$

$$y(t) = e^{-at}y(0) + (1 - e^{-at})\bar{u}, \quad \text{for } t \geq 0 \quad (1)$$

The problem is to find \bar{u} from (1) given that $y(0) = 21$, $y(1) = 15$, and $y(2) = 11$. Substituting the data in (1), we obtain a nonlinear system of two equations in the unknowns \bar{u} and $f := e^{-a}$

$$\begin{cases} y(1) = fy(0) + (1 - f)\bar{u} \\ y(2) = f^2y(0) + (1 - f^2)\bar{u} \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

We may stop here and declare that the solution can be computed by a method for solving numerically a general nonlinear system of equations.

System (2), however, can be solved without using “nonlinear” methods. Define Δy to be the temperature increment from one measurement to the next, *i.e.*, $\Delta y(t) := y(t) - y(t - 1)$, for all t . The increments satisfy the homogeneous differential equation $\frac{d}{dt}\Delta y(t) = a\Delta y(t)$, so that

$$\Delta y(t + 1) = e^{-a}\Delta y(t) \quad \text{for } t = 0, 1, \dots \quad (3)$$

From the given data we evaluate

$$\Delta y(0) = y(1) - y(0) = 15 - 21 = -6, \quad \Delta y(1) = y(2) - y(1) = 11 - 15 = -4.$$

Substituting in (3), we find the constant $f = e^{-a} = 2/3$. With f known, the problem of solving (2) in \bar{u} is linear, and the solution is found to be $\bar{u} = 3^{\circ}\text{C}$. \square