

# Matrix Exponential

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# 1 Matrix Exponential

Power series converges for all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  in scalar exponential function:

$$e^\lambda = 1 + \lambda + \frac{1}{2!}\lambda^2 + \frac{1}{3!}\lambda^3 + \dots$$

For any matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ , **define** its matrix exponential:

$$e^A := I_n + A + \frac{1}{2!}A^2 + \frac{1}{3!}A^3 + \dots \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$$

and matrix power series **always converges**.

## 1.1 Computing Matrix Exponential Directly

- When  $A$  is nilpotent:

$$A^n = \mathbf{0}, n > N \text{ where } N \text{ is certain number}$$

therefore  $e^A$  only depends on the first  $N$  terms

- When  $A$  is idempotent:  $A^2 = A$ , there is an analytic solution:

$$e^A = I + (e - 1)A$$

- When  $A$  is of rank one, simply use Dyadic expansion:

$$A = uv^T$$

## 1.2 Computing Matrix Exponential by Jordan Form

Using the Jordan Canonical Form:

$$A = T \begin{bmatrix} J_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & J_q \end{bmatrix} T^{-1} \Rightarrow e^A = T \begin{bmatrix} e^{J_1} & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & e^{J_q} \end{bmatrix} T^{-1}$$

## 1.3 Computing Matrix Exponential by Matlab

Use Matlab command:

$$\text{expm}()$$

note there is an "m".

# 2 Properties of Matrix Exponential

For any  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$

- $e^0 = I$
- invariant of eigenvalue:  $Av = \lambda v \Rightarrow e^A v = e^\lambda v$
- $e^{A^T} = (e^A)^T$

- $e^{TAT^{-1}} = Te^AT^{-1}$  for nonsingular  $T \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$
- $\det(e^A) = e^{\text{tr } A} = e^{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \dots}$
- If  $A, B \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  commute, i.e.,  $AB = BA$ , then
$$e^{A+B} = e^A e^B = e^B e^A$$

Tip: commute indicate that eigenvectors of both  $A$  and  $B$  are in the same direction

- $(e^A)^{-1} = e^{-A}$
- If  $A$  is skew symmetric ( $A^T = -A$ ),  $e^A$  is orthogonal:  $(e^A)(e^A)^T = I$

### 3 Baker-Campbell-Hausdorff Formula

For  $X, Y \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ , we have

$$e^{X+Y} \neq e^X \cdot e^Y$$

unless  $X$  and  $Y$  commute. For any  $X, Y \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ , we can write

$$e^X e^Y = e^Z$$

for some  $Z = \log(e^X e^Y) \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3}$  given by

$$Z = X + Y + \frac{1}{2}[X, Y] + \frac{1}{12}[X, [X, Y]] - \frac{1}{12}[Y, [X, Y]] - \frac{1}{24}[Y, [X, [X, Y]]] - \dots$$

where  $[X, Y] := XY - YX$  is the **Lie bracket** of  $X$  and  $Y$ .

### 4 Matrix Exponential Representation of 3D Rotations

For  $\omega = [\omega_1 \ \omega_2 \ \omega_3]^T \in \mathbb{R}^3$ , define a skew-symmetric matrix  $\Omega$ :

$$\Omega = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\omega_3 & \omega_2 \\ \omega_3 & 0 & -\omega_1 \\ -\omega_2 & \omega_1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3}$$

then  $\Omega v = \omega \times v$  for  $v \in \mathbb{R}^3$ , where  $\times$  denotes cross product of vectors. For any nonzero vector  $\omega \in \mathbb{R}^3$ ,  $e^\Omega \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3}$  is an orthogonal matrix that represents the rotation around the axis  $\omega$  by the angle  $\|\omega\|$ . More precisely,

$$e^\Omega = I_3 + \frac{\sin(\|\omega\|)}{\|\omega\|} \Omega + \frac{1 - \cos(\|\omega\|)}{\|\omega\|^2} (\omega \omega^T - \|\omega\|^2 I_3)$$

Here is an example:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma & -\omega \\ \omega & \sigma \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\omega \\ \omega & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

therefore:

$$e^A = \underbrace{e^\sigma}_{\text{magnitude change}} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \cos \omega & -\sin \omega \\ \sin \omega & \cos \omega \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{pure rotation}}$$

## 5 Time Indexed Case

### 5.1 Time Indexed Matrix Exponential

The following power series converges for all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  and all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ :

$$f(\lambda) := e^{\lambda t} = 1 + t\lambda + \frac{1}{2!}t^2\lambda^2 + \frac{1}{3!}t^3\lambda^3 + \dots$$

For any square matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ , define

$$e^{At} := I_n + tA + \frac{1}{2!}t^2A^2 + \frac{1}{3!}t^3A^3 + \dots$$

- The matrix power series converges for all  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  and all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$
- For fixed  $A$ ,  $e^{At}$  can be viewed as a matrix-valued function of time  $t$

### 5.2 Time Derivative of Matrix Exponential

The scalar function  $e^{\lambda t}$  as **a function of**  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  has the derivative:

$$\frac{d}{dt}e^{\lambda t} = \lambda e^{\lambda t}$$

For fixed  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ ,  $e^{At}$  as a matrix-valued function of  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  satisfies

$$\frac{d}{dt}e^{At} = A \cdot e^{At} = e^{At} \cdot A$$

Tip: why this is commute?

### 5.3 Properties of Matrix Exponential with Time Index

For any  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  and any  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ :

- $Av = \lambda v \Rightarrow e^{At}v = e^{\lambda t}v$
- $e^{A^T t} = (e^{At})^T$
- $\det(e^{At}) = e^{(\text{tr } A)t}$
- If  $A, B \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  commute, i.e.,  $AB = BA$ , then

$$e^{(A+B)t} = e^{At}e^{Bt} = e^{Bt}e^{At}$$

- $e^{A(t_1+t_2)} = e^{At_1}e^{At_2} = e^{At_2}e^{At_1}, \forall t_1, t_2 \in \mathbb{R}$
- $(e^{At})^{-1} = e^{-At}$
- If  $A$  is skew symmetric, then  $e^{At}$  is orthogonal for all  $t$

## 5.4 Computing Time-Indexed Matrix Exponential

Three methods can be taken:

- use the **definition**:

$$e^{At} := I_n + tA + \frac{1}{2!}t^2A^2 + \frac{1}{3!}t^3A^3 + \dots$$

- use the **Jordan canonical form**:

$$A = T \begin{bmatrix} J_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & J_q \end{bmatrix} T^{-1} \Rightarrow e^{At} = T \begin{bmatrix} e^{J_1 t} & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & e^{J_q t} \end{bmatrix} T^{-1}$$

- the Laplace transform of  $e^{At}$  as a function of time  $t$  is

$$\mathcal{L}[e^{At}] = (sI - A)^{-1} \Rightarrow e^{At} = \mathcal{L}^{-1}[(sI - A)^{-1}]$$

Here are two examples:

$$A_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\omega \\ \omega & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad e^{A_1 t} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\omega t) & -\sin(\omega t) \\ \sin(\omega t) & \cos(\omega t) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad (sI - A_2)^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{s-1} & \frac{1}{(s-1)(s+2)} & \frac{1}{(s-1)(s+2)^2} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{s+2} & \frac{1}{(s+2)^2} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{s+2} \end{bmatrix}$$