
Linear System Theory
Problem Set 2
Normed Spaces, ODEs, and Linear Time-Varying Systems

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Exercise 1. (Norms, [45 points in total])

1. [15 **points**] Let $C([t_0, t_1], \mathbb{R}^n)$ be the space of all continuous functions from $[t_0, t_1]$ to \mathbb{R}^n . Prove that for $f \in C([t_0, t_1], \mathbb{R}^n)$, $\|f\|_\infty := \max_{t \in [t_0, t_1]} \|f(t)\|_p$ satisfies the axioms of the norm, where $\|x\|_p$ is the p -norm of $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$.
2. [10 **points**] Given a matrix $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$, verify that the induced matrix norms $\|A\|_2, \|A\|_\infty$ are equivalent, by showing that they satisfy the following inequalities:

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \|A\|_\infty \leq \|A\|_2 \leq \sqrt{m} \|A\|_\infty.$$

Hint: The induced p -norm of a matrix A is given by:

$$\|A\|_p = \sup_{\|x\|_p \neq 0} \frac{\|Ax\|_p}{\|x\|_p}$$

3. [20 **points**] Consider a set of functions f_n in $C([0, 1], \mathbb{R})$ defined as:

$$f_n : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad \text{s.t.} \quad f_n(x) = \begin{cases} n - n^2 x & 0 \leq x \leq \frac{1}{n} \\ 0 & \text{elsewhere} \end{cases}$$

for $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Compute the 1-norm, 2-norm and ∞ -norm of the functions for each n , as defined below:

$$\|f\|_1 := \int_0^1 |f(x)| dx, \quad \|f\|_2 := \sqrt{\int_0^1 |f(x)|^2 dx}, \quad \|f\|_\infty := \max_{t \in [0, 1]} |f(t)|.$$

Based on your computations, what can you say about equivalence of these norms?

Solution 1.1

- $\forall f, g \in C([t_0, t_1], \mathbb{R}^n), \|f + g\|_\infty \leq \|f\|_\infty + \|g\|_\infty$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \forall f, g \in C([t_0, t_1], \mathbb{R}^n), \|f + g\|_\infty &= \max_{t \in [t_0, t_1]} \|f + g\|_p \\
 &\leq \max_{t \in [t_0, t_1]} \{\|f\|_p + \|g\|_p\} \\
 &\leq \max_{t \in [t_0, t_1]} \|f\|_p + \max_{t \in [t_0, t_1]} \|g\|_p \\
 &= \|f\|_\infty + \|g\|_\infty
 \end{aligned}$$

- $\forall f \in C([t_0, t_1], \mathbb{R}^n), \forall a \in \mathbb{R}, \|af\| = |a| \|f\|$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \forall f \in C([t_0, t_1], \mathbb{R}^n), \forall a \in \mathbb{R}, \|af\| &= \max_{t \in [t_0, t_1]} \|af\|_p \\
 &= \max_{t \in [t_0, t_1]} |a| \|f\|_p \\
 &= |a| \max_{t \in [t_0, t_1]} \|f\|_p \\
 &= |a| \|f\|_\infty
 \end{aligned}$$

- $\|f\| = 0 \Leftrightarrow f = 0$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Rightarrow: \|f\| = 0 &\Rightarrow \max_{t \in [t_0, t_1]} \|f\|_p = 0, \|f\|_p \geq 0 \Rightarrow \|f\|_p = 0, \forall t \in [t_0, t_1] \Rightarrow f = 0 \\
 \Leftarrow: f = 0 &\Rightarrow \|f\|_p = 0, \forall t \in [t_0, t_1] \Rightarrow \max_{t \in [t_0, t_1]} \|f\|_p = 0 \Rightarrow \|f\| = 0
 \end{aligned}$$

Solution 1.2

Define x_{max} and $(Ax)_{max}$ to simplify further notation:

$$\begin{aligned}
 x_{max} &= \max_{i \in \{1, \dots, n\}} |x_i| \\
 (Ax)_{max} &= \max_{j \in \{1, \dots, m\}} |(Ax)_j|
 \end{aligned}$$

Then, start with $\|A\|_2^2$:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|A\|_2^2 &= \left(\sup_{x \neq 0} \frac{\|Ax\|_2}{\|x\|_2} \right)^2 = \sup_{x \neq 0} \frac{\|Ax\|_2^2}{\|x\|_2^2} = \sup_{x \neq 0} \frac{\sum_{i=1}^m (Ax)_i^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2} \geq \sup_{x \neq 0} \frac{\sum_{i=1}^m (Ax)_i^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n x_{max}^2} \\
 &= \sup_{x \neq 0} \frac{1}{n} \frac{\sum_{i=1}^m (Ax)_i^2}{x_{max}^2} \geq \sup_{x \neq 0} \frac{1}{n} \frac{(Ax)_{max}^2}{x_{max}^2} = \sup_{x \neq 0} \frac{1}{n} \left(\frac{(Ax)_{max}}{x_{max}} \right)^2 \\
 &= \frac{1}{n} \left(\sup_{x \neq 0} \frac{(Ax)_{max}}{x_{max}} \right)^2 = \frac{1}{n} \left(\sup_{x \neq 0} \frac{\|Ax\|_\infty}{\|x\|_\infty} \right)^2 = \frac{1}{n} \|A\|_\infty^2 \\
 &\Rightarrow \|A\|_2 \geq \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \|A\|_\infty \\
 \|A\|_2^2 &= \left(\sup_{x \neq 0} \frac{\|Ax\|_2}{\|x\|_2} \right)^2 = \sup_{x \neq 0} \frac{\|Ax\|_2^2}{\|x\|_2^2} = \sup_{x \neq 0} \frac{\sum_{i=1}^m (Ax)_i^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2} \leq \sup_{x \neq 0} \frac{\sum_{i=1}^m (Ax)_{max}^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2} \\
 &= \sup_{x \neq 0} \frac{m (Ax)_{max}^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2} = m \sup_{x \neq 0} \frac{(Ax)_{max}^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2} \leq m \sup_{x \neq 0} \frac{(Ax)_{max}^2}{x_{max}^2} = m \sup_{x \neq 0} \left(\frac{(Ax)_{max}}{x_{max}} \right)^2 \\
 &= m \left(\sup_{x \neq 0} \frac{(Ax)_{max}}{x_{max}} \right)^2 = m \left(\sup_{x \neq 0} \frac{\|Ax\|_\infty}{\|x\|_\infty} \right)^2 = m \|A\|_\infty^2 \\
 &\Rightarrow \|A\|_2 \leq \sqrt{m} \|A\|_\infty
 \end{aligned}$$

Solution 1.3

$$\forall x \in \left[0, \frac{1}{n}\right], \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, n - n^2x \geq 0 \Rightarrow f_n(x) \geq 0, \forall x \in [0, 1] \Rightarrow |f_n(x)| = f_n(x), \forall x \in [0, 1]$$

Compute norms:

- $\|f\|_1$

$$\|f\|_1 = \int_0^1 |f_n(x)| \, dx = \int_0^1 f_n(x) \, dx = \int_0^{\frac{1}{n}} (n - n^2x) \, dx = nx - \frac{1}{2}n^2x^2 \Big|_0^{\frac{1}{n}} = \frac{1}{2}$$

- $\|f\|_2$

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\|_2^2 &= \int_0^1 |f_n(x)|^2 \, dx = \int_0^{\frac{1}{n}} (n - n^2x)^2 \, dx \\ &= \int_0^{\frac{1}{n}} (n^4x^2 - 2n^3x + n^2) \, dx = \frac{1}{3}n^4x^3 - n^3x^2 + n^2x \Big|_0^{\frac{1}{n}} = \frac{1}{3}n \\ \|f\|_2 &= \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}n} \end{aligned}$$

- $\|f\|_\infty$

$$\|f\|_\infty = \max_{t \in [0,1]} |f_n(t)| = \max_{t \in [0,1/n]} n - n^2t = n$$

Equivalence test:

- Equivalence of $\|f_n\|_1$ and $\|f_n\|_\infty$

$$\forall m_l > 0, \exists f_n \in C([0, 1], \mathbb{R}) \text{ and } n > \frac{1}{2m_l}, m_l \|f_n\|_\infty = m_l \cdot n > m_l \cdot \frac{1}{2m_l} = \frac{1}{2} = \|f_n\|_1$$

Therefore, $\|f_n\|_1$ and $\|f_n\|_\infty$ are not equivalent.

- Equivalence of $\|f_n\|_2$ and $\|f_n\|_\infty$

$$\forall m_l > 0, \exists f_n \in C([0, 1], \mathbb{R}) \text{ and } n > \frac{1}{3m_l^2}, m_l \|f_n\|_\infty = m_l \cdot n > \sqrt{\frac{1}{3n}} \cdot n = \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}}n = \|f_n\|_2$$

Therefore, $\|f_n\|_1$ and $\|f_n\|_\infty$ are not equivalent.

- Equivalence of $\|f_n\|_1$ and $\|f_n\|_2$

$$\forall m_l > 0, \exists f_n \in C([0, 1], \mathbb{R}) \text{ and } n > \frac{3}{4m_l^2}, m_l \|f_n\|_2 = m_l \cdot \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}n} > m_l \cdot \sqrt{\frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{3}{4m_l^2}} = \frac{1}{2} = \|f_n\|_1$$

Therefore, $\|f_n\|_1$ and $\|f_n\|_2$ are not equivalent.

To conclude, none of them is equivalent to another.

Exercise 2. (Banach fixed point theorem [25 points in total])

1. [20 points] Let $(X, \|\cdot\|)$ be a Banach space, and $f : X \rightarrow X$. Assume that there exists $\alpha \in [0, 1)$ such that, for all $x, y \in X$,

$$\|f(x) - f(y)\| \leq \alpha \|x - y\|.$$

Show that there exists a unique point \bar{x} such that $f(\bar{x}) = \bar{x}$.

Hint: Given an arbitrary initial point x , consider the sequence of iterates $f^{[n]}(x) = f(f^{[n-1]}(x))$, where the first iterate is given by $f^{[0]}(x) = x$. You can start by showing that this sequence is Cauchy.

2. [5 points] Now assume f is a linear map. Given the condition in the first part of Exercise 2, what can you conclude about the induced norm of f ?

Solution 2.1

$$\begin{aligned} f^{[0]}(x) &= x \\ f^{[1]}(x) &= f(f^{[0]}(x)) = f(x) \\ f^{[2]}(x) &= f(f^{[1]}(x)) = f(f(x)) \\ &\vdots \\ f^{[n]}(x) &= f(f^{[n-1]}(x)) = f(\cdots f(f(x))) \end{aligned}$$

$\forall p \geq q \geq 0, p, q \in \mathbb{N} :$

$$\begin{aligned} \|f^{[p]}(x) - f^{[q]}(x)\| &= \left\| f(f^{[p-1]}(x)) - f(f^{[q-1]}(x)) \right\| \\ &\leq \alpha \|f^{[p-1]}(x) - f^{[q-1]}(x)\| \\ &\vdots \\ &\leq \alpha^q \|f^{[p-q]}(x) - f^{[0]}(x)\| \\ &= \alpha^q \|f^{[p-q]}(x) - x\| \end{aligned}$$

$\forall k \in \mathbb{N} :$

$$\begin{aligned} \|f^{[k]}(x) - x\| &= \|f^{[k]}(x) - f(x) + f(x) - x\| \\ &\leq \|f^{[k]}(x) - f(x)\| + \|f(x) - x\| \\ &\leq \alpha \|f^{[k-1]}(x) - x\| + \|f(x) - x\| \\ &\leq \alpha^2 \|f^{[k-2]}(x) - x\| + (1 + \alpha) \|f(x) - x\| \\ &\vdots \\ &\leq \alpha^{k-1} \|f^{[1]}(x) - x\| + (1 + \alpha + \cdots + \alpha^{k-2}) \|f(x) - x\| \\ &\leq (1 + \alpha + \cdots + \alpha^{k-2} + \alpha^{k-1}) \|f(x) - x\| \\ &= \frac{1 - \alpha^k}{1 - \alpha} \|f(x) - x\| \end{aligned}$$

$\forall \epsilon > 0, \exists N = \left\lceil \log_{\alpha} \left(\frac{\epsilon(1-\alpha)}{\|f(x)-x\|} + \alpha^m \right) \right\rceil \in \mathbb{N}$ ($\lceil t \rceil$ means the smallest integer greater than t), $\forall m \geq N$,

$$\begin{aligned} \|f^{[m]}(x) - f^{[N]}(x)\| &\leq \alpha^N \|f^{[m-N]}(x) - x\| \\ &\leq \alpha^N \cdot \frac{1 - \alpha^{m-N}}{1 - \alpha} \cdot \|f(x) - x\| \\ &= \frac{\alpha^N - \alpha^m}{1 - \alpha} \|f(x) - x\| \\ N &> \log_{\alpha} \left(\frac{\epsilon(1-\alpha)}{\|f(x)-x\|} + \alpha^m \right) \\ \Rightarrow \|f^{[m]}(x) - f^{[N]}(x)\| &< \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $\{f^{[i]}\}_{i=0}^{\infty}$ is a Cauchy sequence. Note that given an arbitrary initial point x , we can compute the value of $\|f(x) - x\|$ so we treat $\|f(x) - x\|$ as a known constant in the proof above. Because $(X, \|\cdot\|)$ is a Banach space, $\{f^{[i]}\}_{i=0}^{\infty}$ converges to a point \bar{x} .

Next, we prove the uniqueness: For the sake of contradiction, assume there exist $\bar{x}_1, \bar{x}_2 \in X, \bar{x}_1 \neq \bar{x}_2$ such that $f(\bar{x}_1) = \bar{x}_1$ and $f(\bar{x}_2) = \bar{x}_2$.

$$\|f(\bar{x}_2) - f(\bar{x}_1)\| = \|\bar{x}_2 - \bar{x}_1\| \leq \alpha \|\bar{x}_2 - \bar{x}_1\|$$

Since $\alpha \in [0, 1), \alpha \neq 1$. The above inequality never holds, which leads to contradiction, so \bar{x} is unique.

Solution 2.2

Let F be the representation of linear map $f(\cdot)$. $\forall x, y \in X$:

$$\|f(x) - f(y)\| = \|Fx - Fy\| = \|F(x - y)\| \leq \alpha \|x - y\| \Rightarrow \frac{\|F(x - y)\|}{\|x - y\|} \leq \alpha$$

$\forall u \in X, \exists x, y \in X$ such that $u = x - y$.

$$\|F\| = \sup_{u \neq 0} \frac{\|Fu\|}{\|u\|} \leq \sup_{u \neq 0} \alpha = \alpha$$

Therefore, the induced norm of f is bounded by α .

Exercise 3. (Ordinary differential equations [30 points in total])

1. [12 points] Consider the following ordinary differential equation (ODE)

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_1(t) \\ \dot{x}_2(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -x_1(t) + e^t \cos(x_1(t) - x_2(t)) \\ -x_2(t) + \sin(x_1(t) - x_2(t)) \end{bmatrix},$$

where $x_i(t) \in \mathbb{R}$, $\forall i$. Prove or disprove the following statements:

- (a) This system is globally Lipschitz,
- (b) This system admits a unique solution.

Hint: You may assume that functions with bounded derivatives are Lipschitz.

2. [18 points] Consider the following ordinary differential equation (ODE)

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_1(t) \\ \dot{x}_2(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \sin(t) x_1(t) + x_1(t) x_2(t) \\ -2 x_2(t) \end{bmatrix},$$

where $x_i(t) \in \mathbb{R}$, $\forall i$. Prove or disprove the following statements:

- (a) This system is globally Lipschitz,
- (b) This system admits a unique solution.

Solution 3.1

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x} &= p(x, t) \\ \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial p_1}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial p_1}{\partial x_2} \\ \frac{\partial p_2}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial p_2}{\partial x_2} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 - e^t \sin(x_1 - x_2) & e^t \sin(x_1 - x_2) \\ \cos(x_1 - x_2) & -1 - \cos(x_1 - x_2) \end{bmatrix} \\ \left| \frac{\partial p_1}{\partial x_1} \right| &= |-1 - e^t \sin(x_1 - x_2)| \leq 1 + |e^t \sin(x_1 - x_2)| \leq 1 + e^t \\ \left| \frac{\partial p_1}{\partial x_2} \right| &= |e^t \sin(x_1 - x_2)| \leq e^t \\ \left| \frac{\partial p_2}{\partial x_1} \right| &= |\cos(x_1 - x_2)| \leq 1 \\ \left| \frac{\partial p_2}{\partial x_2} \right| &= |-1 - \cos(x_1 - x_2)| \leq 1 + |-\cos(x_1 - x_2)| \leq 2 \end{aligned}$$

The function $p(x, t)$ is differentiable in x and the derivative is bounded (since each element is bounded), which leads to the conclusion that $p(x, t)$ is globally Lipschitz. It is also obvious that $p(x, t)$ is continuous in t . From (a) we know that $p(x, t)$ is globally Lipschitz with respect to x . Per **Theorem 3.6**, the system admits a unique solution.

Solution 3.2

Consider two states

$$\hat{x} = \begin{bmatrix} c \\ c \end{bmatrix}, \theta = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, c \gg 0$$

$$\|p(\hat{x}, t) - p(\theta, t)\|_\infty = \left\| \begin{bmatrix} -3 \sin(t)c + c^2 \\ -2c \end{bmatrix} \right\|_\infty = -3 \sin(t)c + c^2 \geq c^2 - 3c$$

$$\forall k \in \mathbb{R}, \exists c = k + 3, \|p(\hat{x}, t) - p(\theta, t)\|_\infty \geq c^2 - 3c = kc = k \|\bar{x} - \theta\|_\infty$$

Therefore, the system is not globally Lipschitz continuous in x .

$$p_2(x_2(t), t) = \dot{x}_2(t) = -2x_2(t) \Rightarrow x_2(t) = e^{-2t}x_2(0)$$

$p_2(x_2(t), t)$ is piecewise continuous in t and Lipschitz continuous in $x_2 \Rightarrow x_2(t)$ admits unique solution.

$$p_1(x_1(t), t) = \dot{x}_1(t) = -3 \sin(t)x_1(t) + x_1(t)e^{-2t}x_2(0) = (e^{-2t}x_2(0) - 3 \sin(t))x_1(t)$$

$p_1(x_1(t), t)$ is piecewise continuous in t and Lipschitz continuous in $x_1 \Rightarrow x_1(t)$ admits unique solution.

Therefore, the system admits unique solution.