

5.17. (The Gronwall inequality)

Let $v(t)$ be a nonnegative function such that

$$v(t) \leq C + A \int_0^t v(s) ds \quad \text{for } 0 \leq t \leq T$$

for some constants C, A . Prove that

$$v(t) \leq C \exp(At) \quad \text{for } 0 \leq t \leq T. \quad (5.3.19)$$

Define

$$g(t) = A \exp\left(-\int_0^t A ds\right) \int_0^t v(s) ds = A \exp(-At) \int_0^t v(s) ds$$

and compute

$$\begin{aligned} g'(t) &= A \exp(-At) \left[-A \int_0^t v(s) ds + v(t) \right] \\ &\leq A \exp(-At) \left[-A \int_0^t v(s) ds + C + A \int_0^t v(s) ds \right] \\ &= AC \exp(-At) \end{aligned}$$

Integrating,

$$g(t) \leq AC \int_0^t \exp(-As) ds = AC \left[\frac{1}{A} (1 - e^{-At}) \right] = C (1 - e^{-At})$$

Thus,

$$A \int_0^t v(s) ds = \exp(At) g(t) \leq e^{At} C (1 - e^{-At})$$

Finally,

$$v(t) \leq C + e^{At} C (1 - e^{-At}) = C \exp(At)$$