
Comparison Lemma Example

Using Comparison lemma. Show that the solution of the state equation

$$\dot{x}_1 = -x_1 + \frac{2x_2}{1+x_2^2}, \quad \dot{x}_2 = -x_2 + \frac{2x_1}{1+x_1^2} \quad (1)$$

satisfies the inequality

$$\|x(t)\|_2 \leq e^{-t} \|x(0)\|_2 + \sqrt{2}(1 - e^{-t}). \quad (2)$$

First we define a new variable $V = \|x\|_2^2 = x_1^2 + x_2^2$, which is positive definite function.

The derivative of V becomes

$$\dot{V} = 2x_1\dot{x}_1 + 2x_2\dot{x}_2 = -2x_1^2 - 2x_2^2 + \frac{4x_1x_2}{1+x_2^2} + \frac{4x_1x_2}{1+x_1^2} \quad (3)$$

$$\leq -2V + 4|x|_1 \frac{|x|_2}{1+x_2^2} + 4|x|_2 \frac{|x|_1}{1+x_1^2} \quad (4)$$

$$\leq -2V + 2|x|_1 + 2|x|_2 \quad \text{since } \frac{|y|}{1+y^2} \leq \frac{1}{2} \quad (5)$$

$$\leq -2V + 2\sqrt{2}\sqrt{V} \quad \text{since } \|x\|_1 \leq \sqrt{2}\|x\|_2 \quad (6)$$

Let us define a new variable $W = \sqrt{V} = \|x\|_2$. The derivative becomes

$$\dot{W} = \frac{\dot{V}}{2\sqrt{V}} \leq -W + \sqrt{2} \quad \forall V \neq 0 \quad (7)$$

At $V = 0$, we have

$$\frac{|W(t+h) - W(t)|}{h} = \frac{|W(t+h)|}{h} = \frac{1}{h} \|x(t+h)\|_2 \quad (8)$$

From example 3.9 in Khalil it can be seen that

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{1}{h} \int_t^{t+h} \|f(x(\tau))\|_2 d\tau = 0 \quad (9)$$

Thus

$$D^+W(t) \leq -W(t) + \sqrt{2} \quad t \geq 0 \quad (10)$$

Let $u(t)$ be the solution to the differential equation

$$\dot{u} = -u + \sqrt{2}, \quad u(0) = \|x(0)\|_2 \quad (11)$$

The comparison lemma then states that

$$\|x(t)\|_2 \leq u(t) = \exp^{-t} \|x(0)\|_2 + \sqrt{2}(1 - \exp^{-t}) \quad (12)$$