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EE 16B  
Spring 2022  
Lecture 13  
3/11/2022

## LECTURE 13

- stability:
  - discrete-time
  - continuous-time

Definition: We say that a system is (bounded-input, bounded state) stable if state  $x$  is bounded for any initial condition and bounded disturbance pair. Unstable otherwise: i.e. unstable if  $x$  grows unbounded for some initial condition and bounded input pair.

When is  $x[i+1] = \lambda x[i] + e[i]$  stable?

- $|\lambda| > 1$  : UNSTABLE

any nonzero initial condition and zero input enough for unboundedness:  $x[l] = \lambda^l x[0]$

- $|\lambda| = 1$  : UNSTABLE

can find bounded inputs that lead to unbdd. states. Example:  $\lambda=1$ ,  $e[i]=1$  for all  $i$ :

$$x[1] = x[0] + 1$$

$$x[2] = x[1] + 1 = x[0] + 2$$

⋮

$$x[l] = x[0] + l$$

Note: there may be other bounded inputs with which the states remain bounded (e.g.,  $e[i] = (-1)^i$  in the example above), but one bounded input that makes the state unbounded is enough for instability per definition above.

Example above is for  $\lambda=1$  only, but for any  $\lambda$  with  $|\lambda|=1$  (including complex  $\lambda$  on unit circle), a bounded input of the form  $e[i] = \lambda^i$  will drive  $x$  unbounded.

- $|\lambda| < 1$  : STABLE (to be shown today)

Claim: If  $|\lambda| < 1$  then for any  $x[0]$  and any bounded input  $e$ , the solutions of

$$x[i+1] = \lambda x[i] + e[i]$$

remain bounded.

Proof:

$$x[1] = \lambda x[0] + e[0]$$

$$x[2] = \lambda x[1] + e[1] = \lambda^2 x[0] + \lambda e[0] + e[1]$$

$$\begin{aligned} x[3] &= \lambda x[2] + e[2] = \lambda^3 x[0] + \lambda^2 e[0] \\ &\quad + \lambda e[1] \\ &\quad - e[2] \end{aligned}$$

⋮

$$x[l] = \underbrace{\lambda^l x[0]}_{\text{bounded}} + \sum_{k=0}^{l-1} \lambda^k e[l-1-k] \quad (1)$$

and  $\rightarrow 0$   
as  $l \rightarrow \infty$   
 $bcl | \lambda | < 1$

Show the summation term is also bounded when  $e$  is bounded, that is, there is a number  $M$  such that

$$|e[i]| \leq M \text{ for all } i.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \sum_{k=0}^{l-1} \lambda^k e[l-1-k] \right| &\leq \sum_{k=0}^{l-1} \underbrace{|\lambda^k e[l-1-k]|}_{= |\lambda|^k |e[l-1-k]|} \\ &\leq \sum_{k=0}^{l-1} M |\lambda|^k \leq M \end{aligned}$$

Recall:

$$1+x+x^2+x^3+\dots = \frac{1}{1-x}$$

if  $|x| < 1$  (geometric series)

$$= M \sum_{k=0}^{L-1} |x|^k$$

bounded and converges to  
 $\frac{1}{1-|x|}$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{L-1} |x|^k \leq \frac{1}{1-|x|}$$

monotonically  
as  $L \rightarrow \infty$   
when  $|x| < 1$

$$\left| \sum_{k=0}^{L-1} 2^k e^{[L-1-k]} \right| \leq \frac{M}{1-|x|}, \text{ therefore bounded.}$$

Both terms on the right hand side of (1) are bounded,  
therefore  $x[l]$  remains bounded.

↗  $\square$

## Vector Case:

Basis  
(2) end of proof

$$\vec{x}[l+1] = A \vec{x}[l] + \vec{e}[l] \quad \vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n, \vec{e} \in \mathbb{R}^n \\ A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$$

Solution (by recursion as in scalar case above):

$$\vec{x}[l] = A^l \vec{x}[0] + \sum_{k=0}^{L-1} A^k \vec{e}[L-1-k]$$

$\underbrace{\phantom{A^L}}$   
 $= \underbrace{A \cdot A \cdots A}_{L \text{ times}}$

When does  $\vec{x}[l]$  remain bounded? No immediate answer b/c / A is matrix.

Split into scalar eq's:

$$\vec{y} := V^{-1} \vec{x} \quad \text{where } V = [\vec{v}_1 \dots \vec{v}_n]$$

... (Eq'n 3)

$$\vec{x} = V \vec{y} \quad (4)$$

evalues of  $A$ ,  
assumed linearly independent  
so  $V^{-1}$  exists (i.e.,  $A$   
is diagonalizable)

$$\vec{y}[i+1] = V^{-1} \vec{x}[i+1]$$

$$= V^{-1} (A \vec{x}[i] + \vec{e}[i]) \quad \text{by (2)}$$

$$= V^{-1} A \vec{x}[i] + V^{-1} \vec{e}[i]$$

$$= \underbrace{V^{-1} A V}_{\begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix}} \vec{y}[i] + V^{-1} \vec{e}[i] \quad \text{by (4)}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix}$$

because  $A \vec{v}_i = \lambda_i \vec{v}_i$

$$y_k[i+1] = \lambda_k y_k[i] + (V^{-1} \vec{e}[i])_k$$

scalar eqn

$|\lambda_k| < 1 \Rightarrow y_k$  bounded  
when  $e$  is bounded

$$k=1, \dots, n$$

$$A[\vec{v}_1 \dots \vec{v}_n] = [\lambda_1 \vec{v}_1 \dots \lambda_n \vec{v}_n]$$

$$\underbrace{V}_{= [\vec{v}_1 \dots \vec{v}_n]} = [\vec{v}_1 \dots \vec{v}_n] \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$AV = V \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$V^{-1}AV = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix}$$

Therefore if  $|\lambda_k| < 1$  for all  $k$ , then  $\vec{y}$  is bounded,  
so  $\vec{x} = V \vec{y}$  also bounded.

What if  $A$  is not diagonalizable?

We can still bring it to an upper-triangular form (will see how next week):

$$\vec{y}[i+1] = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 * & \cdots * \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & \vdots \\ \vdots & & \ddots \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & \lambda_n * \end{bmatrix} \vec{y}[i] + V^{-1} \vec{e}[i].$$

$V$ : appropriate matrix we'll see next week

\* : some number ("stuff")

- $y_n[i+1] = \lambda_n y_n[i] + (V^{-1} \vec{e}[i])_n$

$|\lambda_n| < 1 \Rightarrow y_n$  bounded (by scalar result above)

- $y_{n-1}[i+1] = \lambda_{n-1} y_{n-1}[i] + \underbrace{\star y_n[i]}_{\text{bounded by first bullet above}} + \underbrace{(V^{-1} \vec{e}[i])_{n-1}}_{\text{also bounded}}$

treat this sum as a bounded input

$|\lambda_{n-1}| < 1 \Rightarrow y_{n-1}$  is bounded

- $y_{n-2}[i+1] = \lambda_{n-2} y_{n-2}[i] + \underbrace{\star y_{n-1}[i]}_{\text{bounded by previous two bullets}} + \underbrace{\star y_n[i]}_{\star} + \underbrace{(V^{-1} \vec{e}[i])_{n-2}}_{n-2}$

$|\lambda_{n-2}| < 1 \Rightarrow y_{n-2}$  bounded

Conclusion: Discrete-time system ( $Z$ ) is stable if each eigenvalue  $\lambda_k$ ,  $k=1,\dots,n$ , of  $A$  satisfies

$$|\lambda_k| < 1,$$

i.e., all eigenvalues strictly inside the unit circle in the complex plane.

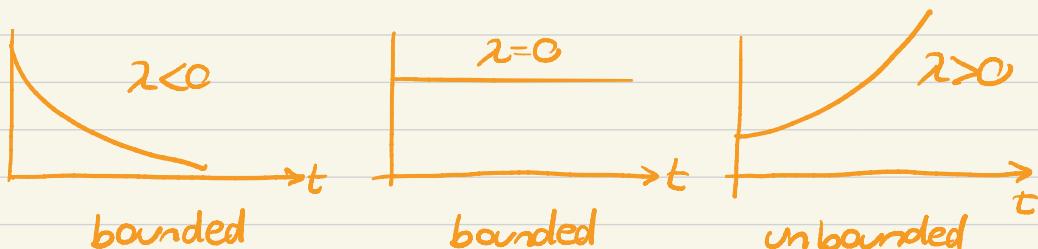
## Stability of continuous-time systems

Same stability definition that's at the very top (agnostic to continuous- or discrete-time), but different conditions for stability.

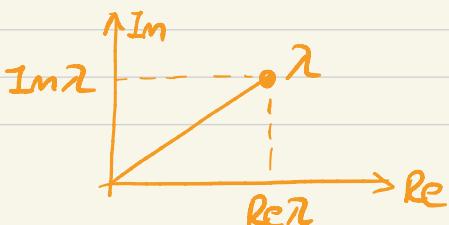
Scalar case first:  $\frac{d}{dt}x(t) = \lambda x(t) + w(t)$  <sup>← disturbance</sup>

$$x(t) = e^{\lambda t}x(0) + \int_0^t e^{(\lambda - \tau)t}w(\tau)d\tau$$

When is  $e^{\lambda t}$  bounded?



What about complex  $\lambda$ ?



$$\lambda = \text{Re}\lambda + j\text{Im}\lambda$$
$$e^{\lambda t} = e^{(\text{Re}\lambda + j\text{Im}\lambda)t}$$

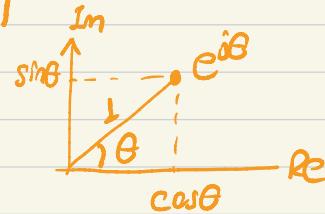
$$= e^{(Re\lambda)t} e^{j(Im\lambda)t}$$

$$\Rightarrow |e^{\lambda t}| = |e^{(Re\lambda)t}| \cdot |e^{j(Im\lambda)t}|$$

Recall  $e^{j\theta} = \cos\theta + j\sin\theta$

and  $|e^{j\theta}| = \sqrt{(\cos\theta)^2 + (\sin\theta)^2}$

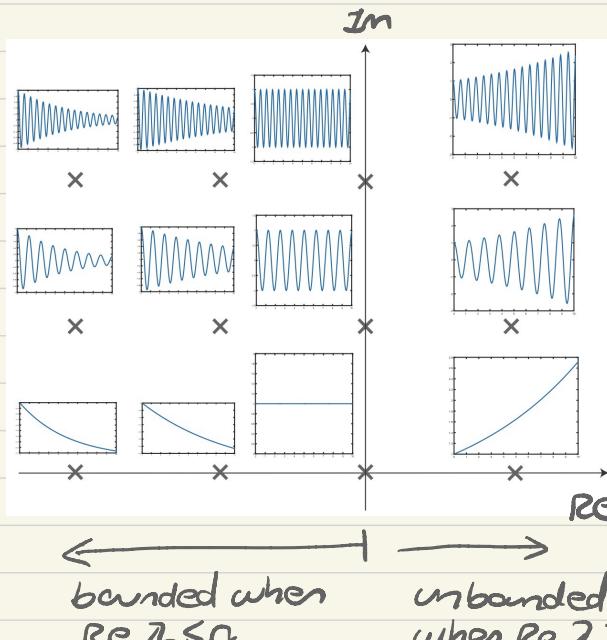
$= 1$  for any  $\theta$ .



Therefore  $|e^{j(Im\lambda)t}| = 1$  (view  $(Im\lambda)t$  as  $\theta$  above).

$$\Rightarrow |e^{\lambda t}| = |e^{(Re\lambda)t}| \underbrace{|e^{j(Im\lambda)t}|}_{=1} = |e^{(Re\lambda)t}|.$$

Bounded if  $Re\lambda \leq 0$ ; unbounded if  $Re\lambda > 0$ .



$e^{\lambda t}$  for various values of  $\lambda$  in the complex plane (only real part of  $e^{\lambda t}$  shown when complex)

Note the oscillations when  $\lambda$  is complex. This is because  $e^{\lambda t} = e^{(Re\lambda)t} e^{j(Im\lambda)t} = e^{(Re\lambda)t} (\cos(Im\lambda)t) + j \sin(Im\lambda)t$ .

envelope: oscillations when  
 decaying  $\text{Im } \lambda \neq 0$ .  
 when  $\text{Re } \lambda < 0$ , Only the real  
 constant when part,  
 $\text{Re } \lambda = 0$ , growing  $\cos((\text{Im } \lambda)t)$   
 when  $\text{Re } \lambda > 0$  shown in the  
 plots above

## Back to stability of

$$\frac{d}{dt} x(t) = \lambda x(t) + w(t)$$

- $\text{Re } \lambda > 0$ : UNSTABLE

nonzero  $x(0)$  and  $w(t)=0$  enough  
for unbounded state:

$$x(t) = x(0) e^{2t}$$

- $\text{Re } \lambda = 0$ : UNSTABLE

$$x(t) = \underbrace{e^{2t} x(0)}_{\text{bounded}} + \underbrace{\int_0^t e^{2(t-\tau)} w(\tau) d\tau}_{\substack{\text{can be driven} \\ \text{unbounded by a} \\ \text{suitable choice of } w}}$$

Example:  $\lambda=0 \Rightarrow x(t) = x(0) + \int_0^t w(\tau) d\tau$

$$w(\tau) = 1 \Rightarrow x(t) = x(0) + t$$

unbounded

- $\text{Re } \lambda < 0$ : STABLE

proof similar to discrete-time with

$$x(t) = e^{2t} x(0) + \int_0^t e^{2(t-\tau)} w(\tau) d\tau$$

$\underbrace{\text{bounded}}_{\text{and } \rightarrow 0} \quad \underbrace{\text{can derive a bound on this}}_{\text{when } w \text{ bounded, i.e.,}} \\ |w(\tau)| \leq M \text{ for some } M.$

vector Case: Similar arguments to discrete-time (with diagonalization or upper triangulation)

lead to the conclusion that

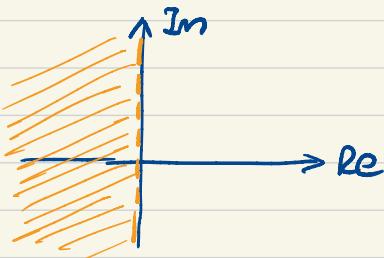
$$\frac{d}{dt} \vec{x}(t) = A_c \vec{x}(t) + \vec{w}(t)$$

is stable if  $\operatorname{Re} \lambda_k < 0$  for each eigenvalue  $\lambda_k$  of  $A_c$ ,  $k=1, \dots, n$ .

Summary:

continuous-time

$$\frac{d}{dt} \vec{x}(t) = A_c \vec{x}(t) + \vec{w}(t)$$

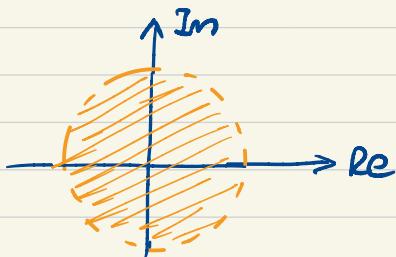


stability condition

$\operatorname{Re} \lambda_k < 0$   
for each eigenvalue  
of  $A_c$ ,  $k=1, \dots, n$

discrete-time

$$\vec{x}[i+1] = A_d \vec{x}[i] + \vec{w}[i]$$



$|z_k| < 1$   
for each eigenvalue  
of  $A_d$ ,  $k=1, \dots, n$

i.e. eigenvalues must be in the shaded regions above.