

# Stability

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Monday, July 27<sup>th</sup>

Today:

- Stability
    - Scalar discrete-time
    - Vector discrete-time
    - Continuous-time
  - Maybe: Upper-Triangularization
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Intro:

This week we will be talking about Stability and Stabilizing Control.

Often times useful operating points of systems are UNStable, and we must design controls to stabilize the system.

E.g.,



Example:



Pendulum:

Linearize around upright equilibrium:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{\gamma} \\ \dot{\delta} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\delta X(t) &:= X(t) - \begin{bmatrix} \gamma \\ \delta \end{bmatrix} \\ \delta u(t) &:= u(t) - 0\end{aligned}$$

$$\dot{\delta}X(t) \approx \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ \frac{g}{L} & -\frac{\kappa}{M} \end{bmatrix} \delta X(t) + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{1}{ML} \end{bmatrix} \delta u(t)$$

Discretize:

$$\delta X_{k+1} = A_d \delta X_k + B_d \delta u_k \leftarrow$$

System is controllable.

Assume

$$\delta X_0 = \begin{bmatrix} -0.1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = X(t) - \begin{bmatrix} \gamma \\ \delta \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned}x_1(t) &= \gamma - 0.1 \\ x_2(t) &= 0\end{aligned}$$

⇒ Could solve optimal control problem to get to  $\delta X_u = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$   
but will that work?

In order to learn how to address this, we must first study Stability.

Stability:

$$x_u \in \mathbb{R}, u_k \in \mathbb{R}$$

Consider

$$\underline{x_{u+1} = \lambda x_u + b u_k}$$

$$x_k = \lambda^k x_0 + \lambda^{k-1} b u_0 + \lambda^{k-2} b u_1 + \dots + b u_{k-1}$$

$$= \lambda^k x_0 + \sum_{t=0}^{k-1} \lambda^{k-1-t} b u_t \quad \text{for } k=1, 2, \dots$$

Definition:

This system is stable

if the state remains bounded  
for any initial configuration  
and any bounded input sequence

Conversely: System is unstable if  
we can find any initial config. or any  
bounded input sequence such that  $|x_k| \rightarrow \infty$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$

For Scalar case:

IF  $|\lambda| > 1$ :

choose  $u_k \equiv 0 \quad \forall k$

$$|x_k| = |\lambda^k x_0| \rightarrow \infty \quad \text{as } k \rightarrow \infty$$

$\Rightarrow$  System unstable

IF  $|\lambda| < 1$ :

$$\begin{aligned} |x_k| &= |\lambda^k x_0 + \sum_{t=0}^{k-1} \lambda^{k-1-t} b u_t| \\ &\leq |\lambda^k x_0| + \left| \sum_{t=0}^{k-1} \lambda^{k-1-t} b u_t \right| \\ &\leq |\lambda^k x_0| + |b| \sum_{t=0}^{k-1} |\lambda^{k-1-t}| |u_t| \\ &\leq |\lambda^k x_0| + |b| M \sum_{t=0}^{k-1} |\lambda^{k-1-t}| \\ &\leq |x_0| + |b| M \sum_{t=0}^{k-1} |\lambda|^t \\ &\leq |x_0| + |b| M \frac{1}{1 - |\lambda|} \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow$  IF  $|\lambda| < 1$

$\Rightarrow$  System remains bounded  $\Rightarrow$  Stable

What if  $\lambda$  is complex?

$$|\lambda| = \sqrt{Re\{\lambda\}^2 + Im\{\lambda\}^2}$$

What if  $|\lambda| = 1$

If no control:

$$|x_k| = |\lambda^k x_0| = |x_0|$$

E.g.  $\lambda = 1$ , define  $u_k \equiv 1 \forall k$

$$\sum_{t=0}^{K-1} \lambda^{K-1-t} b u_t = K \cdot b \rightarrow \infty$$

as  $K \rightarrow \infty$

If  $|\lambda| = 1$ :

we call this Marginally Stable

Recap:

$$|\lambda| < 1 \Rightarrow \text{Stable}$$

$$|\lambda| > 1 \Rightarrow \text{Unstable}$$

$$|\lambda| = 1 \Rightarrow \text{Marginally Stable}$$

## Vector case:

Consider

$$x_n \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$u_n \in \mathbb{R}^m$$

$$x[k+1] = Ax[k] + Bu[k]$$

$$x[k] = A^k x[0] + \sum_{t=0}^{k-1} A^{k-1-t} Bu[t] \quad k=1, 2, \dots$$

$$A^k := \underbrace{A \cdot A \cdot A \cdots}_{k \text{ times}}$$

First assume:

$A$  diagonalizable

$$AV = V \Lambda \Rightarrow V^{-1}AV = \Lambda$$

$$z[k] = V^{-1}x[k]$$

$$x[k] = V z[k]$$

$$\begin{aligned} z[k+1] &= \underbrace{\Lambda}_{\text{Anew}} z[k] + \underbrace{V^{-1}Bu[k]}_{\text{Bnew}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$z_i[n+1] = \lambda_i z_i[n] + b_i u[n]$$

$b_i$  i<sup>th</sup> row of  $B_{new}$

For each scalar subsystem

$$|\lambda_i| < 1 \Rightarrow \text{Stable}$$

$$|\lambda_i| > 1 \Rightarrow \text{unstable}$$

$$|\lambda_i| = 1 \Rightarrow \text{marginally stable}$$

For whole system

$$\text{If } \exists i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$$

$$\text{with } |\lambda_i| > 1 \Rightarrow \text{unstable}$$

$$\text{If } |\lambda_i| < 1 \forall i \Rightarrow \text{stable}$$

What about the non-diagonalizable case?

For general (non-diagonalizable)

Linear discrete-time systems

The stability criterion is the same as the diagonalizable case.

General D.T. Linear System:

- Stable iff  $|x_i| < 1 \forall i$
- Marginally Stable iff  $|x_i| \leq 1$   
with at least one  $|x_i|=1$

We will prove (eventually)  
that all square matrices  
A can be upper-triangularized

$$T A T^{-1} = U = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & * & \cdots & * \\ 0 & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & \ddots & * \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Let } Z[u] = T X[u]$$

$$X[u] = T^{-1} Z[u]$$

$$Z[u+1] = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & * & \cdots & * \\ 0 & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & \ddots & * \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix} Z[u] + \text{New } U[u]$$

Start with "n<sup>th</sup>" dimension of  $\mathbf{z}[n]$

$$z_n[n+1] = \lambda_n z_n[n] + b_n u[n]$$

This subsystem is stable

$$\text{iff } |\lambda_n| < 1$$

$|\lambda_n| < 1 \Rightarrow z_n[n]$  bounded  
for any bounded input

Now:  $n-1$

$$z_{n-1}[n+1] = \lambda_{n-1} z_{n-1}[n] + (\underbrace{z_n[n] + b_{n-1} u[n]}_{\substack{\text{bounded} \\ \text{bound}}})$$

$$|\lambda_{n-1}| < 1 \Rightarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{sub system} \\ \text{is stable/bounded} \end{array} \quad \overbrace{u_{n-1}[n]}^{\substack{\text{bound}}}$$

Repeat for  $n-2, \dots, 1$

$\Leftrightarrow$  Entire system is stable

Iff Magnitude of all eigenvalues less than 1.

Recall: "bounded"  $u_k := \frac{|u_k|}{M} < M, \forall k$

If  $| \lambda_i | > 1$   
 $\Rightarrow$  System is unstable.

Recap: For Linear Discrete-time  
 System  $\downarrow$  bounded

$$X_{k+1} = AX_k + BU_k + C_k$$

Stable if all eigenvalues of  
 A have magnitude less than 1.

Continuous - Time

$$\begin{aligned} X(t) &\in \mathbb{R} \\ u(t) &\in \mathbb{R} \end{aligned}$$

$$\dot{X}(t) = \lambda X(t) + b u(t)$$

Assume w.l.o.g.  $t_0 = 0$

$$X(t) = e^{\lambda t} X(0) + b \int_0^t e^{\lambda(t-s)} u(s) ds$$

Assume:  $\operatorname{Re}\{\lambda\} > 0$ , choose  $u(t) = 0 \forall t$

$$\begin{aligned} |X(t)| &= |e^{\lambda t} X_0| = |e^{(\alpha + j\omega)t} X_0| \\ &= |e^{\alpha t} e^{j\omega t} X_0| \underset{\rightarrow \infty}{=} |e^{\alpha t}| |X_0| \text{ as } t \rightarrow \infty \end{aligned}$$

for  $\operatorname{Re} \{\lambda\} > 0 \Rightarrow$  System  
Unstable

Assume  $\operatorname{Re} \{\lambda\} < 0$

$$|X(t)| = |e^{\lambda t} x(0) + \int_0^t e^{\lambda(t-s)} b u(s) ds|$$

$$\leq |e^{\lambda t} x(0)| + \int_0^t |e^{\lambda(t-s)}| \cdot |b| \cdot |u(s)| ds$$

$$\leq |e^{\lambda t} x(0)| + |b| M \int_0^t |e^{\lambda(t-s)}| ds$$

$$= |e^{\lambda t} x(0)| + |b| M \int_0^t |e^{\alpha(t-s)}| ds$$

$$\leq |e^{\lambda t} x(0)| + |b| M \left( \frac{e^{\alpha t} - 1}{\alpha} \right)$$

$$\leq |x(0)| + |b| M \left( \frac{e^{\alpha t} - 1}{\alpha} \right)$$

$\operatorname{Re} \{\lambda\} < 0 \Rightarrow$  System is  
Stable

$\operatorname{Re} \lambda_3 = 0 \Rightarrow$  System  
is marginally  
stable.

Recap! for Scalar linear  
continuous-time Systems:

$\operatorname{Re} \lambda_3 < 0 \Rightarrow$  Stable

$\operatorname{Re} \lambda_3 > 0 \Rightarrow$  Unstable

$\operatorname{Re} \lambda_3 = 0 \Rightarrow$  Marginally  
stable

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We can show using  
diagonalization or triangulation

$$\dot{x}(t) = Ax(t) + Bu(t)$$

$x \in \mathbb{R}^n$

$u \in \mathbb{R}^m$

That for vector-valued, linear,  
continuous-time system:

If  $\operatorname{Re} \lambda_i < 0$  for all  
eigenvalues  $\Rightarrow$  stable

If  $\operatorname{Re} \lambda_i > 0$  for any  
eigenvalue  $\Rightarrow$  unstable