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Lecture03f

Introduction to the Matrix Exponential



Lecture is on YouTube

The YouTube video entitled 'Introduction to the Matrix Exponential' that covers this lecture is located at https://youtu.be/e_guF0dwwA4.

Outline

- Definition of the Matrix Exponential
- Properties of the Matrix Exponential

Definition of the Matrix Exponential

Recall the definition of the exponential function (the standard exponent with no matrices)

$$e^x = \exp(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} x^k$$

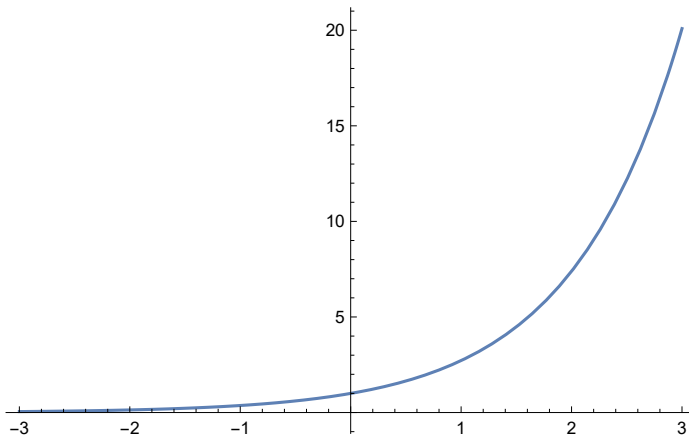
where $x = \text{scalar}$

Writing out several terms of this expression yields

$$\begin{aligned} e^x &= \frac{1}{0!} x^0 + \frac{1}{1!} x^1 + \frac{1}{2!} x^2 + \frac{1}{3!} x^3 + \dots \\ &= 1 + \frac{1}{1!} x^1 + \frac{1}{2!} x^2 + \frac{1}{3!} x^3 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

In[]:= **Plot[Exp[x], {x, -3, 3}]**

Out[]:=



Before we explore the solution to a state space system, it is appropriate to investigate the matrix exponential. This is a matrix function on square matrices which is analogous to the ordinary exponential function.

$$e^X = \exp(X) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} X^k \quad (\text{Eq.1})$$

where $X = n - \text{by} - n$ square matrix

Writing out several terms of this expression yields

$$\begin{aligned} e^X &= \frac{1}{0!} X^0 + \frac{1}{1!} X^1 + \frac{1}{2!} X^2 + \frac{1}{3!} X^3 + \dots \\ &= I + \frac{1}{1!} X + \frac{1}{2!} X^2 + \frac{1}{3!} X^3 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

We note that this is the same definition as the scalar exponential but we note that terms such as X^2, X^3 , are shorthand for matrix multiplication of $X X$ and $X X X$, respectively. They do not mean element-wise multiplication.

Example: Diagonal Matrix

Consider the special case of a diagonal matrix

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} 2t & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \cos(t) \end{pmatrix}$$

We can compute the matrix exponential by applying Eq.1

$$\begin{aligned} e^X &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} X^k \\ &= I + \frac{1}{1!} X + \frac{1}{2!} X^2 + \frac{1}{3!} X^3 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

We now make the observation that because X is diagonal, then matrix multiplication becomes element-wise multiplication. Please be careful to note that this is only because X is diagonal, this is not true in general.

$$X^k = \begin{pmatrix} (2t)^k & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3^k & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \cos^k(t) \end{pmatrix}$$

Substituting this into our expression yields

$$\begin{aligned} e^X &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \frac{1}{1!} \begin{pmatrix} (2t)^1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3^1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \cos^1(t) \end{pmatrix} + \frac{1}{2!} \begin{pmatrix} (2t)^2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \cos^2(t) \end{pmatrix} + \frac{1}{3!} \begin{pmatrix} (2t)^3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3^3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \cos^3(t) \end{pmatrix} + \dots \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 + \frac{1}{1!} (2t)^1 + \frac{1}{2!} (2t)^2 + \frac{1}{3!} (2t)^3 + \dots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 + \frac{1}{1!} 3^1 + \frac{1}{2!} 3^2 + \frac{1}{3!} 3^3 + \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 + \frac{1}{1!} \cos^1(t) + \frac{1}{2!} \cos^2(t) + \frac{1}{3!} \cos^3(t) + \dots \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} (2t)^k & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} (3)^k & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} (\cos(t))^k \end{pmatrix} \\ e^X &= \begin{pmatrix} e^{2t} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & e^3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & e^{\cos(t)} \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

So we see that for a case of a diagonal X matrix, we can compute the matrix exponential by simply exponentiating each element on the main diagonal.

Mathematica provides the 'MatrixExp' function to compute the matrix exponent

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} 2t & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \cos[t] \end{pmatrix};$$

`MatrixExp[X] // MatrixForm`

`Clear[X]`

$$\begin{pmatrix} e^{2t} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & e^3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & e^{\cos[t]} \end{pmatrix}$$

If we consider a general X matrix (not diagonal), we see that computing the matrix exponential is significantly more difficult (but Mathematica's `MatrixExp` still calculates it correctly).

$$\text{In[]:= } A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix};$$

`MatrixExp[A] // MatrixForm`

`Out[]//MatrixForm=`

$$\begin{pmatrix} e \cos[\sqrt{2}] & \sqrt{2} e \sin[\sqrt{2}] \\ -\frac{e \sin[\sqrt{2}]}{\sqrt{2}} & e \cos[\sqrt{2}] \end{pmatrix}$$

Properties of the Matrix Exponential

From the definition of the matrix exponential (Eq.1), we can show several properties of the matrix exponential

Standard Properties of the Matrix Exponential

$$e^0 = I \quad (0 = \text{zero matrix}, I = \text{identity matrix})$$

$$e^{X^T} = (e^X)^T$$

$$e^{aX} e^{bX} = e^{(a+b)X}$$

$$e^X e^{-X} = I$$

$$\text{if } XY = YX \text{ then } e^X e^Y = e^Y e^X = e^{(X+Y)}$$

Derivatives of the Matrix Exponential

One of the most interesting properties is once again related to derivatives of the matrix exponential. Consider the matrix exponential e^{At} . We now take the derivative of this with respect to t

$$\frac{d}{dt}[e^{At}] = \frac{d}{dt}\left[\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} (At)^k\right]$$

$$= \frac{d}{dt}\left[I + \frac{1}{1!} At + \frac{1}{2!} (At)^2 + \frac{1}{3!} (At)^3 + \frac{1}{4!} (At)^4 + \dots\right]$$

$$= 0 + \frac{1}{1!} A + \frac{1}{2!} 2 (At) A + \frac{1}{3!} 3 (At)^2 A + \frac{1}{4!} 4 (At)^3 A + \dots$$

$$\text{note: } \frac{2}{2!} = \frac{1}{1!}, \frac{3}{3!} = \frac{1}{2!}, \text{ etc.}$$

$$= A + \frac{1}{1!} (A t) A + \frac{1}{2!} (A t)^2 A + \frac{1}{3!} (A t)^3 A + \dots$$

$$= A \left[I + \frac{1}{1!} (A t) + \frac{1}{2!} (A t)^2 + \frac{1}{3!} (A t)^3 + \dots \right] \quad \text{or} \quad = \left[I + \frac{1}{1!} (A t) + \frac{1}{2!} (A t)^2 + \frac{1}{3!} (A t)^3 + \dots \right] A$$

$$= A \left[\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} (A t)^k \right] \quad \text{or} \quad = \left[\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} (A t)^k \right] A$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} [e^{At}] = A e^{At} = e^{At} A \quad (\text{Eq.2})$$

Example

Consider the matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix};$$

We can compute e^{At}

eAt = MatrixExp[A t];

We can now take the derivative of this. Note that we can take the derivative element-wise.

deAtdt = D[eAt, t];

deAtdt // MatrixForm

$$\begin{pmatrix} e^t \cos[\sqrt{2} t] - \sqrt{2} e^t \sin[\sqrt{2} t] & 2 e^t \cos[\sqrt{2} t] + \sqrt{2} e^t \sin[\sqrt{2} t] \\ -e^t \cos[\sqrt{2} t] - \frac{e^t \sin[\sqrt{2} t]}{\sqrt{2}} & e^t \cos[\sqrt{2} t] - \sqrt{2} e^t \sin[\sqrt{2} t] \end{pmatrix}$$

We can now use the Eq.2 to check the calculation of the derivative.

check1 = A.eAt;

check2 = eAt.A;

check1 == deAtdt

check2 == deAtdt

True

True

Similarity Transformation and the Matrix Exponential

Another extremely useful property of the matrix exponential is related to similarity transformations (see YouTube video entitled 'Similarity Transformation and Diagonalization' <https://youtu.be/wvRlvDY-Dlgw>). Consider a matrix which is similar to another (ie $\tilde{A} = P^{-1} A P$ for some invertible P).

$$e^{\tilde{A}} = e^{P^{-1} A P}$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} (P^{-1} A P)^k$$

$$= I + \frac{1}{1!} P^{-1} A P + \frac{1}{2!} (P^{-1} A P)^2 + \frac{1}{3!} (P^{-1} A P)^3 + \dots \quad \text{note: } P^{-1} P = I$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= P^{-1} P + \frac{1}{1!} P^{-1} A P + \frac{1}{2!} (P^{-1} A P) (P^{-1} A P) + \frac{1}{3!} (P^{-1} A P) (P^{-1} A P) (P^{-1} A P) + \dots \\
&= P^{-1} P + \frac{1}{1!} P^{-1} A P + \frac{1}{2!} (P^{-1} A P P^{-1} A P) + \frac{1}{3!} (P^{-1} A P P^{-1} A P P^{-1} A P) + \dots \\
&= P^{-1} P + \frac{1}{1!} P^{-1} A P + \frac{1}{2!} P^{-1} A^2 P + \frac{1}{3!} P^{-1} A^3 P + \dots \\
&= P^{-1} \left(I + \frac{1}{1!} A + \frac{1}{2!} A^2 + \frac{1}{3!} A^3 + \dots \right) P \\
&= P^{-1} \left(\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} (A)^k \right) P \\
&= P^{-1} e^A P
\end{aligned}$$

So we obtain

$$e^{P^{-1} A P} = P^{-1} e^A P \quad (\text{Eq.3})$$

for P non-singular

Example

Once again consider the matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix};$$

Now consider a similarity transformation of

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ -2 & -6 \end{pmatrix};$$

We can quickly check that $e^{P^{-1} A P} = P^{-1} e^A P$

```
MatrixExp[Inverse[P].A.P] == Inverse[P].MatrixExp[A].P
```

```
True
```

With this framework in place, we will now investigate how the matrix exponential plays a role in solving state space systems (AKA systems of linear ordinary differential equations)

-Lecture03g: Solutions to State Space Systems

As a corollary, we will then investigate how to compute the matrix exponential using various techniques in

-Lecture03h: Computing the Matrix Exponential Using the Laplace Technique

-Lecture03i: Computing the Matrix Exponential Using the Modal Technique