

# FEEDBACK CONTROL & CONTROLLABILITY

WE STUDIED THE HOMOGENEOUS SYSTEM IN DETAIL  $\dot{x} = Ax$

- THE FORCE-FREE RESPONSE  $x_0(t) = e^{At} x(0)$  (NO INPUT)
- STABILITY / EIGENVALUES  $\det(\lambda I - A) = 0$
- EIGENVALUES / DIAGONALIZATION

WE ALSO COMPUTED THE FORCED-RESPONSE (ZERO INITIAL STATE)

$$x_f = \int_{t_0}^t e^{A(t-\tau)} Bu(\tau) d\tau$$

(A WEIGHTED SUM OF THE INPUT SIGNAL, BY WEIGHTING FUNCTION  $e^{A(t-\tau)} B$ , A CONVOLUTION)

$$\dot{x} = Ax + Bu$$

BECAUSE THE SYSTEM IS LINEAR, THE COMPLETE SYSTEM RESPONSE IS GIVEN BY THE SUPERPOSITION OF THE RESPONSES

$x(t) = x_u(t) + x_f(t)$
GIVEN $x(0) = x_0$
AND $u(t)$ for $t \geq 0$

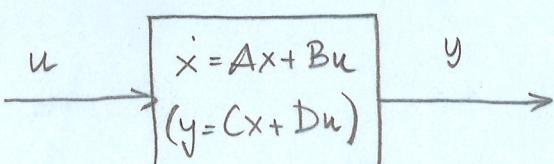
The idea of adding the controls means that we are interested in designing a function  $u(t)$  such that we can transfer the system from any initial state to any final state

$$\dot{x} = Ax + Bu \quad \text{WITH THE USUAL DIMENSIONS}$$

$$(y = Cx + Du)$$

↳ the density of a mixture  
as weighted sum of the densities  
of the pure components with  
weights the concentrations in the mixture

$$\begin{cases} x \in \mathbb{R}^{N_x} \\ A \in \mathbb{R}^{N_x \times N_x} \\ u \in \mathbb{R}^{N_u} \\ B \in \mathbb{R}^{N_x \times N_u} \\ y \in \mathbb{R}^{N_y} \\ C \in \mathbb{R}^{N_y \times N_x} \end{cases}$$



OUR NEXT QUESTIONS

- IS THE SYSTEM CONTROLLABLE ?  
(We only checked stability)
- IF YES, HOW TO DESIGN  $u(t)$  OPTIMALLY?

?

## ONE, FORMAL, DEFINITION OF CONTROLLABILITY

"A linear and time invariant system  $\dot{x}(t) = Ax(t) + Bu(t)$  is said to be controllable if and only if, it is possible to transfer the system from any arbitrary initial state  $x(t_0) = x_0$  to any other final state  $x(t_f)$ , in a finite time ( $t_f < \infty$ ), only by choosing an appropriate control  $u(t)$ "

↓ READ THIS AS "the control  $u(t)$  is capable of influencing all the states through the integral

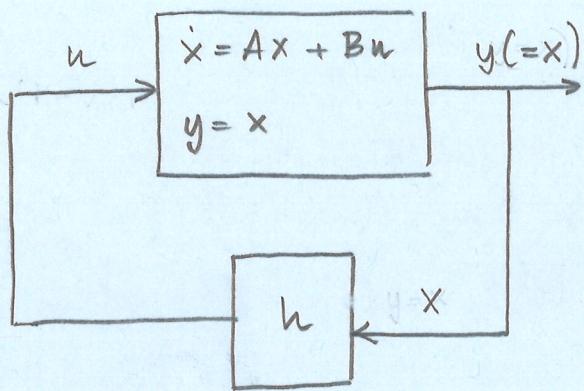
$$\int_{t_0}^{t_f} e^{A(t-\tau)} Bu(\tau) d\tau$$

WE WILL MAKE A SIMPLIFYING ASSUMPTION AND ASSUME THAT WE CAN MEASURE ALL OF OUR STATE VARIABLES  $\Rightarrow$  THAT IS  $y = x$ , OR  $y = Ix$  WITH MATRIX  $C = I$

WE ARE ALSO ASSUMING THAT THERE IS NO INPUT FEEDTHROUGH  $\Rightarrow$  THAT IS  $D = [0]$  (the input does not affect the measure)

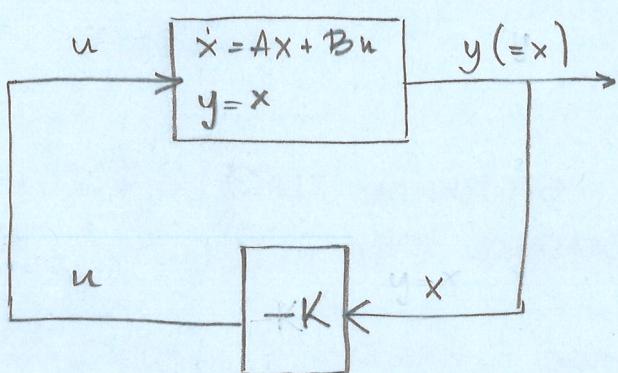
The main idea is to design an input (a control)  $u(t)$  which is a function of the state itself

$$\Rightarrow u(t) = h(x(t))$$



### STATE FEEDBACK CONTROL

- the question, how?
- How to define/choose  $h$ , in such a way that  $u(t) = h(x(t))$  is optimal



→ Function  $h = -K$  is optimal in some sense for linear systems

$$u(t) = -Kx(t)$$

DIMENSIONS OF  $K$ ?

$$\begin{matrix} & \overset{N_x}{\text{Nx}} \\ \left[ \begin{array}{c|c} & \\ \hline u & K \end{array} \right] & \underset{N_x}{\text{Nx}} \end{matrix} \rightarrow K \in \mathbb{R}^{N_x \times N_x}$$

SO AMONG ALL POSSIBLE FUNCTIONS

$h$  THAT CAN TRANSFORM THE STATE

TO MAKE AN INPUT SIGNAL, IT TURNS OUT THAT A SIMPLE MATRIX IS OPTIMAL FOR LINEAR SYSTEMS

→ ONLY ONE CONDITION 'CONTROLLABILITY'

THE FEEDBACK CONTROL LAW IS GIVEN A MATRIX  $K \in \mathbb{R}^{N_u \times N_x}$

- In general matrix  $K$  depends on time ( $K = K(t)$ )
- For the zero-set-point case, we have  $u(t) = \underbrace{-K(t)x(t)}$



$K(t)$  IS THE CLOSED  
LOOP GAIN MATRIX

THERE EXIST SEVERAL PROCEDURES TO DETERMINE MATRIX  $K(t)$

- THEY DEPEND ON THE SPECIFIC CONTROL OBJECTIVE
- The first objective could be: IMPOSE PREDETERMINED DYNAMICS  
TO THE CLOSED-LOOP SYSTEM

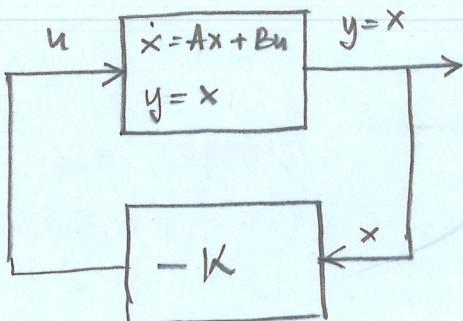


BY CHOOSING ITS EIGENVALUES



This leads to —

A CONSTANT DYNAMIC MATRIX  
 $K \neq K(t)$



$$\dot{x} = Ax + Bu$$

$$u = -Kx \text{ for some } K$$

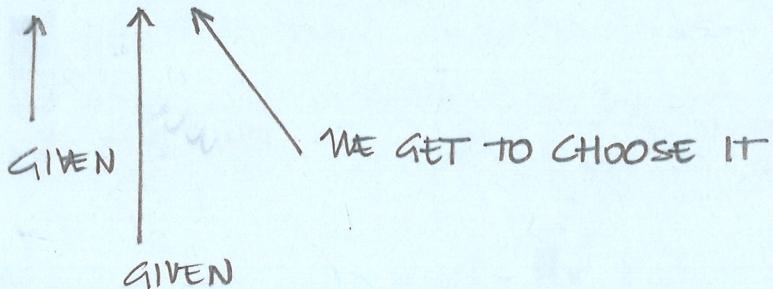
By substituting we get

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= Ax + B(-Kx) \\ &= Ax - BKx \\ &= (A - BK)x\end{aligned}$$

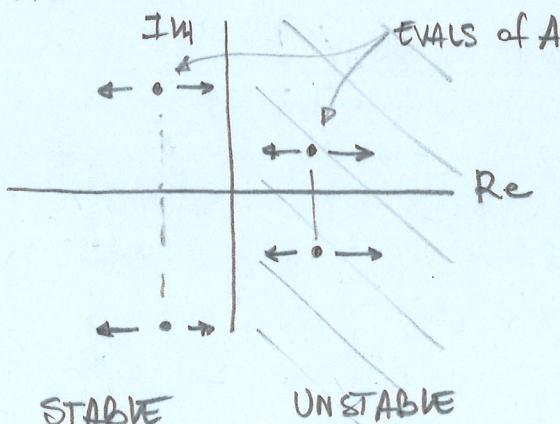
WE HAVE A 'NEW' A MATRIX, FOR THE SYSTEM WITH FEEDBACK CONTROL

THIS IS AN HOMOGENEOUS SYSTEM, WE KNOW HOW TO TREAT IT

$$A_{FB} = (A - BK)$$



WE CAN SELECT K SO THAT WE CAN PLACE THE EIGENVALUES OF  $A_{FB}$  WHERE EVER WE WANT THEM



- If the original system was unstable, we use K to make it stable
- If the original system was already stable, we use K to make it faster to reach steady-state

ALL THIS, AGAIN, ASSUMING THAT THE SYS IS CONTROLLABLE (3)

### CASE 1

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

STABLE AND  
CONTINUABLE

or

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

UNSTABLE AND CONTINUABLE  
(WE CAN STABILIZE)

### CASE 1

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} [u]$$

STABLE AND UNCONTINUABLE

or

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} [u]$$

UNSTABLE AND UNCONTINUABLE

### CASE 3

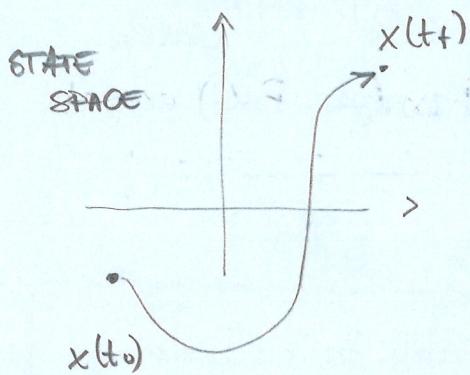
$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & +1 \\ 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} [u]$$

??

IN SUMMARY, WITH MATRIX  $K$  (the controller) WE CHANGE THE DYNAMICS OF THE SYSTEM

"CONTROLLABILITY": The pair  $(A, B)$  is said to be controllable

(THE SYSTEM IS CONTROLLABLE) if for any initial condition  $x_0$  and for any final condition  $x(t_f)$ , we can compute a  $u(t)$  that transfers the system from  $x_0 \rightarrow x(t_f)$  in finite time, and the design of  $u$  is based on some matrix  $K$



FOR SIMPLICITY, CONTROLLABILITY MEANS THAT WE CAN CHOOSE  $K$  SO THAT WE CAN PLACE THE EIGENVALUES OF  $A+BK$  ANY WHERE

~ WHEN IS THE SYSTEM CONTROLLABLE?

~ HOW TO TEST FOR CONTROLLABILITY?

Whether a system is controllable only depends on  $\overbrace{A \text{ and } B}$  the pair

- ON THE DYNAMICS OF THE HOMOGENEOUS SYSTEM  
(ITS STABILITY PROPERTIES), VIA MATRIX  $A$

- ON HOW THE CONTROLS WERE BUILT, VIA MATRIX  $B$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -0.4 & 0 \\ 0.2 & -0.2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 & 0.2 \\ -0.5 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

`>> help ctrb`

(COMPUTES THE CONTROLLABILITY MATRIX)

`>> ctrb(A, B)`  $([B \ AB \ A^2B \ \dots \ A^{N-1}B])$

THE SYSTEM  $(A, B)$  IS CONTROLLABLE IFF THE CONTROLLABILITY MATRIX IS FULL RANK

`>> isequal(ranrk(ctrb(A, B)), 2)`

## ONE, FORMAL, DEFINITION OF CONTROLLABILITY

"The system  $\dot{x}(t) = Ax(t) + Bu(t)$  is said to be controllable if and only if, given any arbitrary set of  $N_x$  real or complex conjugate pairs of numbers,  $\bar{\lambda}_1, \bar{\lambda}_2, \dots, \bar{\lambda}_{N_x}$ , there exists a feedback dynamic matrix  $K \in \mathbb{R}^{N_u \times N_x}$  such that the eigenvalues of the closed loop matrix  $(A - BK)$  equal  $\{\bar{\lambda}_1, \bar{\lambda}_2, \dots, \bar{\lambda}_{N_x}\}$ .

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

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

Thus, controllability means that it is possible to arbitrary assign the eigenvalues of the closed-loop system, by a constant feedback of the state.

## THE CONTROLLABILITY MATRIX

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} B & AB & A^2B & A^3B & \dots & \underbrace{A^{N-1}B} \end{bmatrix}$$

APPEND MORE  
COLUMNS

DIMENSIONS?

THIS MATRIX NEED BE FULL RANK → IT MUST HAVE  $N_x$  COLUMN

→ SYSTEM IS CONTROLLABLE IF AND ONLY IF  $\text{rank}(C) = N_x$

→ IT IS A SIMPLE CRITERION

→ ON/OFF (Not quantitative)

- system is controllable

- system is not controllable

INDEPENDENT COLUMNS FOR THE SYSTEM TO BE CONTROLLABLE

If this is not the case, it means that there exist some directions in  $\mathbb{R}^{N_x}$  that cannot be reached

→ HENCE, THE UNCONTROLLABILITY

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \rightsquigarrow C$$

\* BY HAND

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \rightsquigarrow C$$

\* IN MATLAB

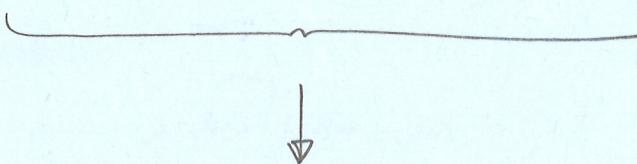
1. THE SYSTEM IS CONTROLLABLE

2. ARBITRARY PLACE THE EIGENVALUES OF  $(A - KB)$  (Closed-loop)  
(there exists a matrix  $K$  that allows to do that)

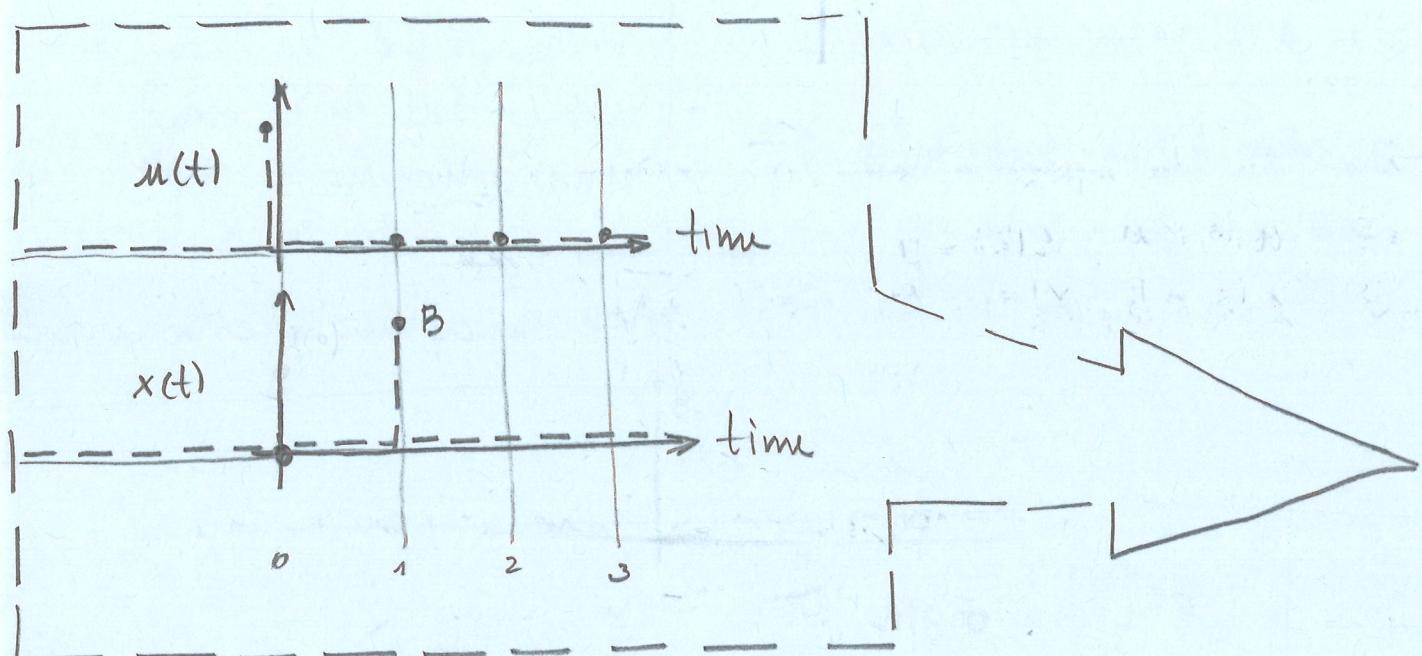
3. REACHABILITY  $\rightsquigarrow$  CAN TRANSFER THE STATE FROM ANY INITIAL VALUE  $x(0)$  TO ANY FINAL VALUE  $x(t_f)$   
INFINITE TIME  $t_f < \infty$

$$R_t = \left\{ \xi \in \mathbb{R}^{N_x} \mid \exists \text{ an input such that } x(t) = \xi \right\} = \mathbb{R}^{N_x}$$

The system is controllable if the control  $u(t)$  can influence all the states through the integral  $\int_{t_0}^t e^{A(t-\tau)} B u(\tau) d\tau$



THE INTEGRAL TERM ALLOW THE INFLUENCE OF  $u(t)$  TO REACH ALL POSSIBLE STATE VALUES  $x(t) \in \mathbb{R}^{N_x}$



$$x_{k+1} = \tilde{A}x_k + \tilde{B}u_k$$

$$\begin{array}{lll} k=0 & x_0 = 0, u_0 = 1 & \Rightarrow x_1 = \cancel{Ax_0} + \cancel{Bu_0} = B \\ & x_1 = B, u_1 = 0 & \Rightarrow x_2 = \cancel{Ax_1} + \cancel{Bu_1} = AB \\ k=1 & x_2 = AB, u_2 = 0 & \Rightarrow x_3 = \cancel{Ax_2} + \cancel{Bu_2} = A^2B \end{array}$$



$$C = [B \ AB \ A^2B \ \dots \ A^{N_{x-1}}B] \quad \text{The controllability matrix}$$

WE SWITCH TO BUILD INTUITION ON  $C$  TO DISCRETE-TIME

$$\dot{x} = Ax + Bu \quad \rightsquigarrow x_{k+1} = \tilde{A}x_k + \tilde{B}u_k$$

THEY DIFFER FROM THE  
ORIGINAL (CONTINUOUS-TIME)  
MATRICES  $A$  AND  $B$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{DISCRETE-TIME SYSTEM MATRICES} \\ \tilde{A} = e^{At} \\ \tilde{B} = \int_0^{At} e^{At} B dt \end{array} \right.$$

We start with the system at time 0,  $x(0) = 0$ , then ...

$$\begin{array}{c|c|c|c|c|c|c} u(0) = 1 & , u(1) = 0 & , u(2) = 0 & , u(3) = 0 & , \dots & , u(n) = 0 \\ x(0) = 0 & , x(1) = B & , x(2) = AB & , x(3) = AAB & , \dots & , x(n) = A^{n-1}B \\ \hline & = Ax_1 & & = Ax_2 & & & \end{array}$$

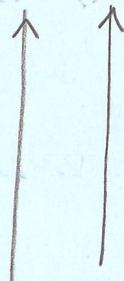
GRAPHICALLY

The system starts at the origin, then moves along  $B$ , then along  $AB$ , then along  $A^2B$ , ..., covering the space

IF IT HAS MOVED OVER ALL DIRECTIONS, OR IF  $C$  IS FULL RANK,  
THEN WE CAN CLAIM THAT THE SYSTEM IS CONTROLLABLE

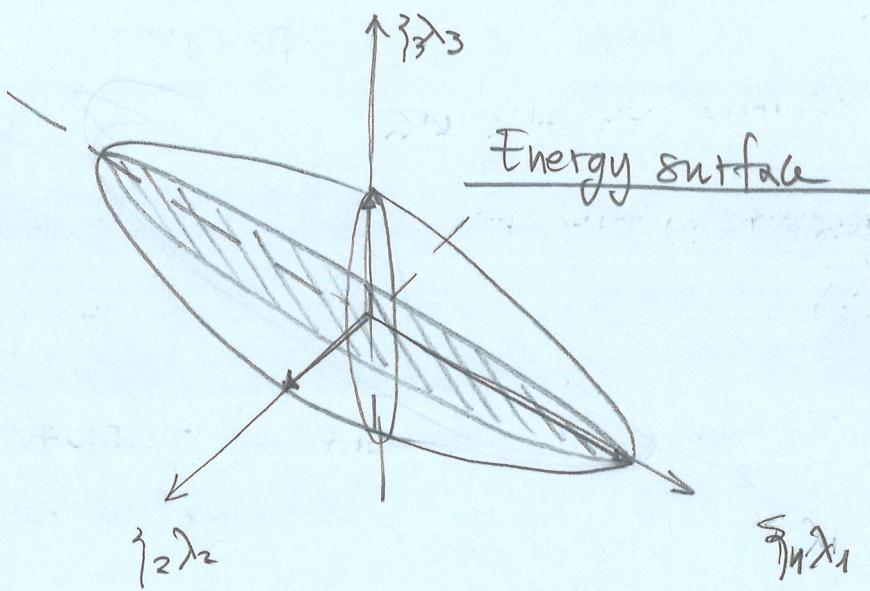
→ This explains why a controllability matrix has  
that form  $C = [B \ AB \ A^2B \ \dots \ A^{N_{x-1}}B]$

$$\gg [U, \Sigma, V] = \text{svd}(\underbrace{\text{ctrb}(A, B)}_C)$$



DIAGONAL MATRIX OF SINGULAR VALUES  
(largest to smallest)

COLUMNS ARE SINGULAR VECTORS (most controllable to least)



THE CONTROLLABILITY TEST IS ON/OFF, WE DISCUSS SOME ALTERNATIVES

CONSIDER THE SOLUTION  $x(t) = \underbrace{e^{At}x(0)}_{\text{unforced response}} + \underbrace{\int_{t_0=0}^t e^{A(t-\tau)} Bu(\tau)d\tau}_{\text{forced response}}$

THE CONTROLLABILITY GRAMIAN

$$W_c(0,t) = \int_0^t e^{A\tau} B B^T e^{A^T \tau} d\tau$$

DIMENSIONS?

$N \times N_x$ , SHOW THIS!

MATRIX  $W_c(0,t)$  IT IS REAL VALUED AND SYMMETRIC

$\Rightarrow$  REAL AND POSITIVE EIGENVALUES

WE ARE INTERESTED IN THE EIGENDECOMPOSITION OF  $W_c(0,t)$

$\gg \text{eig}(W_c(0,t))$  (EIGENVALUES AND EIGENVECTORS)

$$W_c \xi = \lambda \xi$$

WE CAN SORT THE EIGENVALUES

$\Rightarrow$  THE EIGENVECTORS ASSOCIATED

TO THE LARGEST EIGENVALUES  
ARE <sup>THE</sup> MOST CONTROLLABLE DIRECTIONS

IN STATE SPACE

$\Rightarrow$  THE SYSTEM MOVES MORE WITH  
THE SAME AMOUNT OF CONTROL  
ENERGY

FOR DISCRETE-TIME

$$W_t \approx C C^T$$

THE EMPIRICAL  
GRAMIAN

$\Rightarrow$  ITS EIGENVALUES AND EIGENVECTORS ARE THE SINGULAR  
VALUES AND VECTORS OF THE CONTROLLABILITY MATRIX

$$\underbrace{[A - \lambda I]}_{\text{columns}} [B]$$

WE HAVE  $N_x$  LINEARLY INDEPENDENT COLUMNS  
FOR CONTROLLABILITY OF  $(A, B)$  TO HOLD, FOR  
ANY  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$

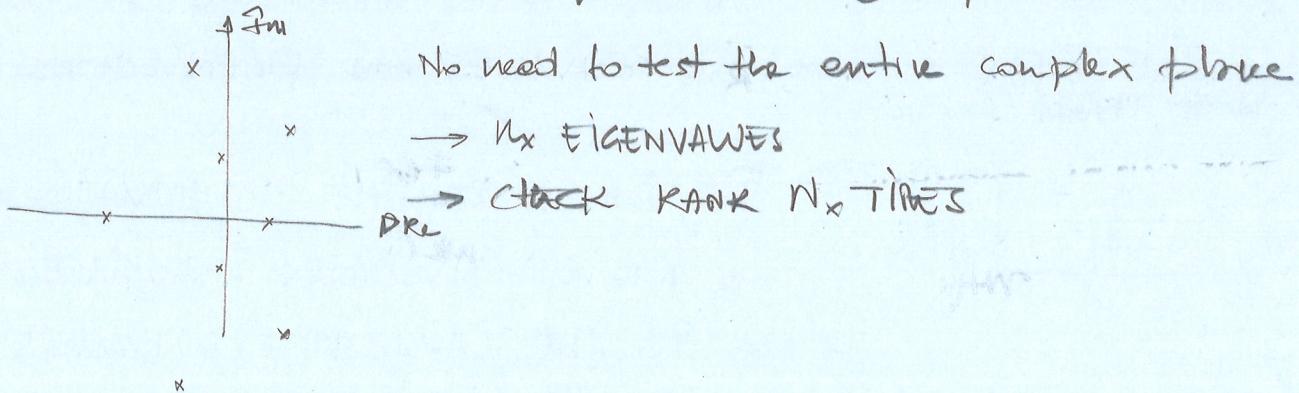
↓ That means that the columns must span  $\mathbb{R}^{N_x}$

↓ THE DETERMINANT OF  $(A - \lambda I)$  EQUAL TO ZERO IS THE  
DEFINITION OF THE EIGENVALUES OF  $A$

THUS  $(A - \lambda I)$  IS ALWAYS FULL RANK EXCEPT FOR  
THOSE VALUES OF  $\lambda$  THAT ARE EIGENVALUES OF  $A$

WHEN  $\lambda = \text{EIGENVALUE}$  THEN THE RANK DROPS

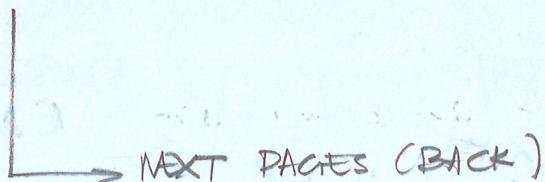
→ THIS IMPLIES THAT THE CONDITION CAN BE CHECKED ONLY FOR  
 $\lambda = \text{EIGENVALUES}$  (as they are the only responsible for rank drop)



→ CHECK RANK  $N_x$  TIMES

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WE ALSO GAIN INSIGHT ABOUT CONTROLLABLE EIGENDIRECTIONS



## POPOV - BELEVITCH - HANTUS CONTROLLABILITY TEST

$\rightarrow (A, B)$  IS CONTROLLABLE IFF  $\text{RANK} \left[ (A - \lambda I) \begin{matrix} B \\ \vdots \end{matrix} \right] = N_x$  for all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$

$N_{x \times N_x} \quad N_{x \times N_n}$

CONSIDER MATRIX  $(A - \lambda I)$ , ITS DETERMINANT IS  $\det(A - \lambda I)$   
 AND IT IS ZERO FOR ALL LAMBDAS THAT ARE EIGENVALUES OF A  
 $\rightsquigarrow$  ITS RANK IS ALWAYS  $N_x$ , EXCEPT WHEN  $\lambda$  IS AN EIGENVALUE OF A

STATE

SO, WE CAN REPHRASE THE CONTROLLABILITY TEST

$\rightarrow (A, B)$  IS CONTROLLABLE IFF  $\text{rank} \left[ (A - \lambda I) \begin{matrix} B \\ \vdots \end{matrix} \right] = N_x$  for all  $\lambda \in \sigma(A)$   
 (with  $\sigma(A)$  the spectrum of  $A$ )

WHEN  $\lambda_i \in \sigma(A)$ , THE RANK OF  $(A - \lambda I)$  DROPS (BY 1, OR MORE)

HOW DO I REINSTATE FULL RANK?

$\rightarrow$  NOTE THAT  $(A - \lambda I)$  IS RANK DEFICIENT IN THE EIGENVECTOR  
 DIRECTION ASSOCIATED TO  $\lambda_i$  (IT'S NOT THE NULL SPACE)

Why?

$$\text{rank}(A) + \text{null}(A) = n$$

$\rightarrow$  MATRIX B NEEDS TO TAKE AT LEAST ONE COMPONENT IN THE  
 DIRECTION OF THAT EIGENVECTOR, WHILE STILL BEING  
 LINEARLY INDEPENDENT ON THE OTHER COLUMNS

$\rightsquigarrow$  IF B IS A RANDOM VECTOR, THEN  $(A, B)$  IS CONTROLLABLE  
 WITH HIGH PROBABILITY (ALMOST SURELY)  
 (WHO SAID THAT?)

$\rightarrow$  From the PBH test, we get information on the minimum  
 n° of controls that are needed to make the system  
 controllable. (multiplicity of the eigenvalues of A)

SUPPOSE THAT  $[(A - \lambda I) B]$  IS RANK DEFICIENT BY 1

$\Rightarrow \text{rank}([(A - \lambda I) B]) = Nx - 1$  (happens for evals with multiplicity one)

HOW DO WE TAKE UP FOR THAT DROP IN RANK? LINEARLY

$\Rightarrow B$  MUST PROVIDE AT LEAST ONE COLUMN THAT IS INDEPENDENT OF THE COLUMNS OF  $(A - \lambda I)$   $\Rightarrow$  THUS, INCREASE RANK BY 1

$\Rightarrow B$  MUST NOT HAVE COLUMNS IN THE RANGE OF  $(A - \lambda I)$

$B \notin \text{range}(A - \lambda I)$

$\downarrow$  SAME AS COLUMN SPACE

IF WE TAKE THIS CONDITION BE ALL EIGENVALUES, THAT IS

$B \notin \text{range}(A - \lambda_1 I)$

$B \notin \text{range}(A - \lambda_2 I)$

:

$B \in \text{range}(A - \lambda_{Nx} I)$

$\Rightarrow B \notin \bigcup_{i=1}^{Nx} \text{range}(A - \lambda_i I)$

THIS IS THE SPACE SPANNED BY THE COLUMNS OF  $A - \lambda_i I$   
 $(A - \lambda_i I) v = 0 \Leftarrow$  EIGENVECTORS OF  $A$   
ARE IN THE NULL SPACE

WE MUST FIND A BASIS FOR THIS SPACE ('OTH' IN TATIAS)

↑  
Generates an orthonormal basis for this space