

Control Theory

Controllability (reachability) part 2

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Controllability definition and test

Definition

The system

LT1 $\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{Ax} + \mathbf{Bu}$

with initial condition $\mathbf{x}(0) = \mathbf{x}_0$ is **controllable** (or **reachable**) if there exists a final time $0 < \underline{t_1} < \infty$ and a control input $\underline{\mathbf{u}} : [0, \underline{t_1}] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$, such that for any $\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1 \in \mathbb{R}^n$ we have $\mathbf{x}(\underline{t_1}) = \mathbf{x}_1$.



Theorem

The system

LT1 $\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{Ax} + \mathbf{Bu}$

is **controllable** (or **reachable**) *if and only if* the matrix

$\mathbf{W}_r = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{B} & \mathbf{AB} & \dots & \mathbf{A}^{n-1}\mathbf{B} \end{bmatrix}$
has **full rank**.
Controllability matrix

Controllability: interpretation (1)

Assume A is complete (semisimple) with eigenvalues

$$\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$$

and eigenvectors

$$\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$$

define

$$T = [v_1 \ v_2 \ \dots \ v_n]$$

and

$$D = T^{-1}AT \quad \text{and} \quad E = T^{-1}B = \begin{pmatrix} e_1 \\ e_2 \\ \vdots \\ e_n \end{pmatrix}$$

Handwritten note: $\begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix} = D$

Transform the matrix

$$W_r = [B \ AB \ \dots \ A^{n-1}B] \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

into

$$\begin{aligned} T^{-1}W_r &= T^{-1} [B \ AB \ \dots \ A^{n-1}B] \\ &= [E \ \underbrace{T^{-1}AT}_{D} \underbrace{TT^{-1}B}_E \ \dots \ \underbrace{T^{-1}A^{n-1}T}_{D^{n-1}} \underbrace{T^{-1}B}_E] \\ &= [E \ DE \ \dots \ 0^{n-1}E] \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} e_1 & \lambda_1 e_1 & \dots & \lambda_1^{n-1} e_1 \\ e_2 & \lambda_2 e_2 & \dots & \lambda_2^{n-1} e_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ e_n & \lambda_n e_n & \dots & \lambda_n^{n-1} e_n \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{Vandermonde matrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} e_1 & e_2 & 0 \\ 0 & e_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \lambda_1 \\ 1 & \lambda_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{V} \end{aligned}$$

Handwritten note: $\det V = \prod_{i < j} (\lambda_j - \lambda_i)$

Controllability: interpretation (2)

$$\underline{T^{-1}U_r} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} e_1 & e_2 & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & e_n \end{bmatrix}}_{e_i \neq 0} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & \lambda_1 & & \lambda_1^{n-1} \\ 1 & \lambda_2 & & \lambda_2^{n-1} \\ & & \ddots & \\ 1 & \lambda_n & & \lambda_n^{n-1} \end{bmatrix}}_{\checkmark} \Rightarrow \det V = \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (\lambda_j - \lambda_i)$$

$\lambda_i \neq \lambda_j \quad i \neq j$

Controllability: interpretation (3)

Theorem

The system

$$LTI \quad \dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{B}u$$

is **controllable** (or **reachable**) if

1. \mathbf{B} is a vector
2. \mathbf{A} is complete (semisimple) with eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$, eigenvectors $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n$ and transformation matrix

$$\mathbf{T} = [\mathbf{v}_1 \ \mathbf{v}_2 \ \dots \ \mathbf{v}_n]$$

3. $\lambda_i \neq \lambda_j$ for all $i \neq j$ ✓
4. The vector $\mathbf{T}^{-1}\mathbf{B}$ has only non-zero entries ✓

Example: controllability interpretation

Consider

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} + \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{u}$$

$$\lambda_1 = -2$$

$$\lambda_2 = -1$$

For which values of a and b is this controllable?

$$V_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad V_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$T^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad E - T^{-1}B = \begin{pmatrix} a-b \\ b \end{pmatrix}$$

$$b \neq 0 \quad a \neq b$$

The End