# Introduction to Systems: Skydiving



Newton's 2<sup>nd</sup> Law:

$$ma = F(t) = -mg - \mu v$$

noting that a = x'' and v = x', we can rewrite this as

$$x'' + \frac{\mu}{m}x' = -g$$
  $\left.\right\} 2^{nd}$  order ODE, one unknown function

or equivalently,

$$x' = v$$
 $v' = -\frac{\mu}{m}v - g$   $\left. \right\} 1^{st}$  order ODEs, two unknown functions

How do we find two unknown functions simultaneously?

$$x \rightarrow x_1, \ v \rightarrow x_2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \begin{array}{c} x_1' = x_2 \\ x_2' = -\frac{\mu}{m}x_2 - g \end{array}$$

Using matrix notation:

$$\frac{\mathsf{d}}{\mathsf{d}\,t}\left[\begin{array}{c} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{array}\right] = \left[\begin{array}{cc} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & -\frac{\mu}{m} \end{array}\right] \left[\begin{array}{c} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{array}\right] + \left[\begin{array}{c} 0 \\ g \end{array}\right]$$

= **A** $\vec{x}$  + constant vector

General Inhomogeneous IVP:

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}t}\vec{x} = \mathbf{A}(t)\vec{x} + \vec{f}(t), \qquad \vec{x}(t_0) = x_0$$

where **A** is an  $n \times n$  matrix, and both  $\vec{x}$  and  $\vec{f}$  are  $n \times 1$  column vectors.

#### Equivalence of problems

For every  $n^{th}$  order linear ODE, there is a corresponding system of n 1<sup>st</sup> order linear ODEs.

$$a_n(t)x^{(n)}(t) + a_{n-1}(t)x^{(n-1)}(t) + \cdots + a_0(t)x(t) = h(t)$$

can be expressed as

$$\frac{\mathsf{d}}{\mathsf{d}t}\vec{x} = \mathbf{A}(t)\vec{x} + \vec{f}(t)$$

with

$$\vec{x}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ x' \\ \vdots \\ x^{(n-1)} \end{bmatrix}$$

ex: Rewrite 
$$x''' + x' + x = t^2$$
 as a matrix expression of the form  $\frac{d}{dt}\vec{x} = A\vec{x} + \vec{b}(t)$ 

$$\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} \qquad \begin{aligned} x_1 &= x \\ x_2 &= x' \\ x_3 &= x'' \end{aligned} \qquad \frac{d}{dt}\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x' \\ x'' \\ x''' \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{A}\vec{x} + \vec{b}(t)$$

$$x' &= x_2$$

$$x'' &= x_3$$

$$x''' &= -x' - x + t^2$$

$$\mathbf{A} = \left[ \begin{array}{ccc} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

$$ec{b} = \left[ egin{array}{c} 0 \ 0 \ t^2 \end{array} 
ight]$$

ex: Rewrite the matrix expression  $\frac{d}{dt}\vec{x}(t) = \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 \end{vmatrix} \vec{x}$  as a singe second order ODE.

$$x_1' = 2x_1 + 3x_2 \tag{1}$$

$$x_2' = 4x_1 + 5x_2 \tag{2}$$

isolate one of the variables (e.g.,  $x_2$ )

(1) 
$$x_2 = \frac{1}{3} (x_1' - 2x_1)$$
 (3)

sub back into remaining equation

(2) 
$$x_2' = 4x_1 + \frac{5}{3}(x_1' - 2x_1) \stackrel{\text{(3)}}{=} \frac{1}{3}(x_1'' - 2x_1')$$

$$4x_1 - \frac{10}{3}x_1 + \frac{5}{3}x_1' = \frac{1}{3}x_1'' - \frac{2}{3}x_1' \qquad \left| -\frac{1}{3}x_1'' + \frac{7}{3}x_1' + \frac{2}{3}x_1 = 0 \right|$$

$$-\frac{1}{3}x_1'' + \frac{7}{3}x_1' + \frac{2}{3}x_1 = 0$$

#### Equivalence of problems

For every system of m coupled  $n^{th}$  order linear ODE, there is a corresponding system of  $m \cdot n$  1<sup>st</sup> order linear ODEs.

ex: m=2, constant coefficients

$$a_n x^{(n)} + c_n y^{(n)} + a_{n-1} x^{(n-1)} + c_{n-1} y^{(n-1)} + \dots + a_0 x + c_0 y = h(t)$$
  
$$b_n y^{(n)} + d_n x^{(n)} + b_{n-1} y^{(n-1)} + d_{n-1} x^{(n-1)} + \dots + b_0 y + d_0 x = g(t)$$

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}t}\vec{x} = \mathbf{A}(t)\vec{x} + \vec{f}(t) \quad \text{with} \quad \vec{x}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ x' \\ \vdots \\ x^{(n-1)} \\ y \\ y' \\ \vdots \\ y^{(n-1)} \end{bmatrix}$$

ex: Rewrite the system 
$$x'' + \alpha(2x - y) = 0$$
  $y'' + \beta(3y - 2x) = 0$  as a matrix expression of the form  $\frac{d}{dt}\vec{x} = \mathbf{A}\vec{x}$ 

$$\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{c} x_1 = x \\ x_2 = x' \\ x_3 = y \\ x_4 = y' \end{array} \qquad \qquad \frac{d}{dt}\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x' \\ x'' \\ y' \\ y'' \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{A}\vec{x}$$

$$x' = x_2$$
  
 $x'' = -\alpha(2x - y) = -\alpha(2x_1 - x_3)$   
 $y' = x_4$ 

$$y'' = -\beta(3y - 2x) = -\beta(3x_3 - 2x_1) \qquad \mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -2\alpha & 0 & \alpha & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 2\beta & 0 & -3\beta & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

## Skydiving: Homogeneous Solutions

Suppose we want to solve  $v'' + \frac{\mu}{m}v' = 0$  Guess  $v(t) = e^{rt}$ 

$$r^{2} + \frac{\mu}{m}r = 0$$
  $r\left(r + \frac{\mu}{m}\right) = 0$   $r\left(t + \frac{\mu}{m}\right) = 0$   $r = 0, -\frac{\mu}{m}$   $r = 0, -\frac{\mu}{$ 

What about for the vector expression? two LI homogeneous solutions  $\rightarrow$  two LI vectors

$$ec{x}(t) = c_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 e^{-\frac{\mu}{m}t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -\frac{\mu}{m} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= c_1 \vec{x}_1(t) + c_2 \vec{x}_2(t)$$

#### Homogeneous Problem and Superposition

Suppose  $\vec{x}_1(t), \vec{x}_2(t), \ldots, \vec{x}_k(t)$  all solve the homogeneous problem

$$\frac{\mathsf{d}}{\mathsf{d}t}\vec{x} = \mathbf{A}(t)\vec{x}$$

Then

$$\vec{x}(t) = c_1 \vec{x}_1(t) + c_2 \vec{x}_2(t) + \dots + c_k \vec{x}_k(t)$$

also solves the same homogeneous problem.

$$\frac{d}{dt}\vec{x} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} c_i \frac{d}{dt} \vec{x}_i = \sum_{i=1}^{n} c_i \mathbf{A}(t) \vec{x}_i$$
$$= \mathbf{A}(t) \sum_{i=1}^{n} c_i \vec{x}_i$$
$$= \mathbf{A}(t) \vec{x}(t)$$

## Finding the solution vectors $\vec{x}_i$

Given

$$\frac{\mathsf{d}}{\mathsf{d}t}\vec{x} = \mathbf{A}\vec{x},$$

we want to find one of its solution vectors.

For a scalar equation, if we have y' = ay then we know the solution is  $v = ce^{at}$ .

Lets guess  $\vec{x}(t) = e^{\lambda t} \vec{v}$ , and plug it into the ODE

$$\lambda e^{\lambda t} \vec{v} = \mathbf{A} e^{\lambda t} \vec{v}$$
  
 $\lambda \vec{v} = \mathbf{A} \vec{v}$ 

 $\vec{v}$  is an eigenvector of **A**, and  $\lambda$  is its associated eigenvalue.

### Eigenvectors/Eigenvalues

- $\bullet$  A  $n \times n$  matrix has n eigenvalues and eigenvectors (except in some special situations that we will not consider)
- The eigenvalues are obtained from the roots of the characteristic polynomial obtained from

$$\det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda \mathbf{I}) = 0,$$

where "det" is short for "determinant" and I is the  $n \times n$  identity matrix

The eigenvectors are computed by solving the linear system

$$(\mathbf{A} - \lambda \mathbf{I})v = 0$$

once each of the eigenvalues  $\lambda$  is found.

• the eigenvectors are not unique, defined up to arbitrary mulitplicative constant

Find the eigenvalues/vectors associated with

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}x}{\mathrm{d}t} = -3x - 2y$$
$$\frac{\mathrm{d}y}{\mathrm{d}t} = -2x - 6y$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -3 & -2 \\ -2 & -6 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\det \left( \begin{bmatrix} -3 - \lambda & -2 \\ -2 & -6 - \lambda \end{bmatrix} \right) = 0$$

$$(3 + \lambda)(6 + \lambda) - 4 = 0$$

$$\lambda^2 + 9\lambda + 18 - 4 = 0$$

$$\lambda^2 + 9\lambda + 14 = 0$$

$$\lambda = \frac{-9 \pm \sqrt{81 - 4 \cdot 14}}{2} = \frac{-9 \pm \sqrt{81 - 56}}{2}$$

$$= \frac{-9 \pm \sqrt{25}}{2} = \frac{-9 \pm 5}{2}$$

$$\lambda_{1,2} = -2, -7$$

Find the eigenvalues/vectors associated with 
$$\frac{\frac{dx}{dt} = -3x - 2y}{\frac{dy}{dt} = -2x - 6y}$$

$$\underline{\lambda_1 = -2:} \quad \mathbf{A}\vec{v}_1 = -2\vec{v}_1$$

$$(\mathbf{A}+2\mathbf{I})\vec{v}_1=\vec{0}$$

$$\left| egin{array}{ccc} -1 & -2 \ -2 & -4 \end{array} \right| \ ec{v}_1 = ec{0}$$

Augmented matrix: 
$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & -2 & 0 \\ -2 & -4 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

row 2 and row 1 are linearly dependent:  $R_2 - 2R_1 \rightarrow R_2$ 

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc|c} -1 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array}\right]$$

$$\vec{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$-1x - 2y = 0$$

$$-1x - 2y = 0$$

$$x = -2y$$

$$\vec{x}_1(t) = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} e^{-2t}$$

Find the eigenvalues/vectors associated with 
$$\frac{\frac{dx}{dt} = -3x - 2y}{\frac{dy}{dt} = -2x - 6y}$$

$$\underline{\lambda_2 = -7:} \quad \mathbf{A}\vec{v}_2 = -7\vec{v}_2$$

$$(\mathbf{A} + 7\mathbf{I})\vec{v}_2 = \vec{0}$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} 4 & -2 \\ -2 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \vec{v}_2 = \vec{0}$$

Augmented matrix:  $\begin{bmatrix} 4 & -2 & 0 \\ 1 & -4 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ 

row 2 and row 1 are linearly dependent:  $R_2 + 2R_1 \rightarrow R_2$ 

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 4 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array}\right]$$

$$4x - 2y = 0$$

$$\vec{v}_2 = \left[ \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ 2 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\vec{x}_2(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} e^{-7t}$$

x = v/2

• Linear  $n^{th}$  order DEs can be converted to a system of  $n 1^{st}$  order DEs

- Homogeneous system:  $\frac{d}{dt}\vec{x} = \mathbf{A}(t)x$ 
  - Need to find *n* linearly independent solutions  $\{\vec{x}_1(t), \vec{x}_2(t), \ldots, \vec{x}_n(t)\}$
  - These solution vectors are based on the eigenvectors/eigenvalues of A
  - $\vec{x}_i(t) = e^{\lambda_i t} \vec{v}_i$

Finding eigenvalues/eignevectors, we need to solve

$$det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda \mathbf{I}) = 0$$
 and  $(\mathbf{A} - \lambda \mathbf{I})v = 0$