

goal: characterize controllability of LTI-DE  
using an eigenvector test

ref: Hespanha Ch 12.2

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• consider (LTI-DE)  $\dot{x}/x^+ = Ax + Bu$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $u \in \mathbb{R}^k$

and recall controllability matrix  $C = [B \ AB \ A^2B \ \dots \ A^{n-1}B]$   
 $\in \mathbb{R}^{n \times (n \cdot k)}$

characterizes controllability:

lem:  $\mathcal{R}[0, t] = \left\{ x(t) = \int_0^t e^{A(t-\tau)} B u(\tau) d\tau \mid u: [0, t] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k \right\}$   
 $= \mathcal{R}(C)$

def: we'll say (LTI-DE) is (completely) controllable

if  $\dim \mathcal{R}(\mathcal{C}) = n$  i.e.  $\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{C}) = \mathbb{R}^n$

thm: (LTI-DE) controllable  $\Leftrightarrow$  there is no eigenvector of  $A^T$  in the kernel of  $B^T$

pf: ( $\Rightarrow$ ) suppose  $\exists v \neq 0$  s.t.  $A^T v = \lambda v$  and  $B^T v = 0$

then  $\mathcal{C}^T v = \begin{bmatrix} B^T \\ B^T A^T \\ B^T (A^T)^2 \\ \vdots \\ B^T (A^T)^{n-1} \end{bmatrix} v = \begin{bmatrix} B^T v \\ \lambda B^T v \\ \lambda^2 B^T v \\ \vdots \\ \lambda^{n-1} B^T v \end{bmatrix} = 0 \in \mathbb{R}^{n \cdot k}$

so  $\dim \mathcal{N}(\mathcal{C}^T) \geq 1$ , which means  $\dim \mathcal{R}(\mathcal{C}^T) = n - \dim \mathcal{N}(\mathcal{C}^T) < n$   
 $= \dim \mathcal{R}(\mathcal{C})$

thm: (Popov-Belevitch-Hautus test - PBH)  $\in \mathbb{R}^{n \times (n+k)}$   
 (LTI-DE) is controllable  $\Leftrightarrow \forall \lambda \in \mathbb{C}: \text{rank} [A - \lambda I \ ; \ B] = n$

pf: equivalently,  $\dim \mathcal{N} \begin{bmatrix} A^T - \lambda I \\ B^T \end{bmatrix} = 0$ ,

i.e.  $\mathcal{N} \begin{bmatrix} A^T - \lambda I \\ B^T \end{bmatrix} = \{v \in \mathbb{R}^n : A^T v = \lambda v, B^T v = 0\} = \{0\}$

which is clearly equivalent to previous eigenvector test