# **Systems Dynamics**

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Lecture 4 Stability of Discrete-Time Dynamic Systems

#### 4. Stability of Discrete-Time Dynamic Systems

4.1 Stability of Linear Discrete-Time Systems

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# Stability of Linear Discrete-Time Systems

# Stability of Linear Discrete-Time Systems

Analysis of the Free State Movement

• Given the linear time-invariant discrete-time dynamic system

$$\begin{cases} x(k+1) = Ax(k) + Bu(k) \\ y(k) = Cx(k) + Du(k) \end{cases}$$

• In **equilibrium** conditions:

$$\begin{aligned} x(0) &= \bar{x} \\ u(k) &= \bar{u}, \ k \ge 0 \\ \implies x(k) &= A^k \ \bar{x} + \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} A^{k-i-1} B \bar{u} = \bar{x}, \ \forall k \ge 0 \end{aligned}$$

#### • Perturbing the equilibrium conditions:

$$\begin{aligned} x(0) &= \bar{x} + \delta \bar{x} &\implies x(k) \neq \bar{x}, k \ge 0 \\ u(k) &= \bar{u}, k \ge 0 &\implies \text{perturbed state movement} \\ &\implies x(k) = A^k \ (\bar{x} + \delta \bar{x}) \ + \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} A^{k-i-1} B \bar{u} \\ &= \bar{x} + A^k \ \delta \bar{x} \end{aligned}$$

Hence:

$$\delta x(k) = A^k \delta \bar{x}$$

• Also, recall that:

 $x_l(k) = A^k x(0)$ 

### Stability and $A^k$

- The stability properties do not depend on the specific value taken on by the equilibrium state  $\bar{x}$
- Hence, the stability properties are a structural property of the linear dynamic system as a whole
- The stability properties depend on the time-behaviour of the  $n \times n$  elements of the matrix  $A^k$ :
  - Stability  $\iff$  all elements of  $A^k$  are bounded  $\forall k \ge 0$
  - Asymptotic stability  $\iff \lim_{k \to \infty} A^k = 0$
  - Instability  $\iff$  at least one element of  $A^k$  diverges

## Stability of Linear Systems via Analysis of the Free State Movement (cont.)

Recall that the matrix  $A^k$  can be expressed as a sum of the so-called **response modes** (**Part 2**):

- Let  $\lambda_1, \ldots, \lambda_{\sigma}$  the **distinct** eigenvalues of A and  $n_i$  the **algebraic multiplicity** of such eigenvalues (with  $\sum_{i=1}^{\sigma} n_i = n$ ).
- If  $\lambda_i \neq 0$ ,  $i = 1, \dots \sigma$  then

$$A^{k} = \sum_{i=1}^{\sigma} \left[ A_{i0} \lambda_{i}^{k} \mathbb{1}(k) + \sum_{l=1}^{n_{i}-1} A_{il} l! \begin{pmatrix} k \\ l \end{pmatrix} \lambda_{i}^{k-l} \mathbb{1}(k-l) \right]$$

+ if  $\lambda_j \,=\, 0\,,\; \lambda_j \in \{\lambda_1,\ldots,\lambda_\sigma\}$  then the corresponding response modes are

$$A_{j0} \cdot \delta(k) + \sum_{l=1}^{n_j-1} A_{jl} \, l! \, \delta(k-l)$$

• The matrices  $A_{il}$  can be determined as

$$A_{il} = \frac{1}{l!} \frac{1}{(n_i - 1 - l)!} \lim_{z \to \lambda_i} \left\{ \frac{d^{n_i - 1 - l}}{dz^{n_i - 1 - l}} \left[ (z - \lambda_i)^{n_i} (zI - A)^{-1} \right] \right\}$$

where  $l = 0, 1, 2, \ldots, n_i - 1$ .

#### Stability and $A^k$

Using the response modes

$$A^{k} = \sum_{i=1}^{\sigma} \sum_{l=0}^{n_{i}-1} \left[ A_{il} l! \begin{pmatrix} k \\ l \end{pmatrix} \lambda_{i}^{k-l} \mathbf{1}(k-l) \right]$$

For the stability analysis, the **boundedness of the free-state movement** has to be ascertained. Since the matrices  $A_{jl}$  does not depend on k, it suffices to **analyse the boundedness of the terms** 

$$\binom{k}{l} \lambda_i^{k-l} \mathbf{1}(k-l) \qquad l = 0, \, 1, \, 2, \, \dots, \, n_i - 1$$

where  $n_i$  is the **algebraic multiplicity** of the eigenvalue  $\lambda_i$ .

# Stability of Linear Discrete-Time Systems

**Stability Criterion Based on Eigenvalues** 









### **Asymptotically Stable**

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 & 0\\ 0 & 1/2 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = \frac{1}{2}$$
$$A^k = \begin{bmatrix} (1/2)^k & 0\\ 0 & (1/2)^k \end{bmatrix}$$



Response modes for  $x_1(k)$ and  $x_2(k)$ 



#### **Asymptotically Stable**





#### Response mode for $x_1(k)$



Response mode for  $x_2(k)$ 



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## Stability & Behaviour of Response Modes: Example 3

#### Stable (not asymptotically)

 $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = 1$  $A^k = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ 



Response modes for  $x_1(k)$ and  $x_2(k)$ 



### Stability & Behaviour of Response Modes: Example 4

#### Unstable

 $A = \left| \begin{array}{cc} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{array} \right|$  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = 1$  $A^k = \left[ \begin{array}{cc} 1 & k \\ 0 & 1 \end{array} \right]$ 



#### Response mode for $x_1(k)$



Response mode for  $x_2(k)$ 



#### Algebraic vs Geometrical Multiplicity of an Eigenvalue

- Let  $\bar{\lambda}$  be an **eigenvalue** of A.
- The **eigenvectors** of A associated with  $\bar{\lambda}$  are the nonzero vectors in the **nullspace** of  $A \bar{\lambda}I$ , called **the eigenspace** of A for  $\bar{\lambda}$  and denoted by

$$\operatorname{null}\left(A - \bar{\lambda} I\right) = \mathcal{E}_A\left(\bar{\lambda}\right)$$

- The **geometric multiplicity** of the eigenvalue  $\bar{\lambda}$  of A is the dimension of  $\mathcal{E}_A(\bar{\lambda})$ .
- The algebraic multiplicity of the eigenvalue  $\overline{\lambda}$  of A is the multiplicity of  $\overline{\lambda}$  as a root of the characteristic polynomial of  $A p_A(z) = \det(zI A)$ .

### Diagonalisable Matrices – Algebraic vs Geometrical Multiplicity of an Eigenvalue

- In general, an eigenvalue's algebraic and geometric multiplicity can differ. However, the geometric multiplicity can never exceed the algebraic one.
- Let  $\lambda_1, \ldots, \lambda_\sigma$  the distinct eigenvalues of A and  $n_i$  the algebraic multiplicity of such eigenvalues. Of course  $\sum_{i=1}^{\sigma} n_i = n$
- If for every eigenvalue of A, the geometric multiplicity equals the algebraic multiplicity, then A is said to be **diagonalisable**.

#### **Stability Criterion**

Given the system x(k+1) = Ax(k) and denoting by  $\lambda_i$ , i = 1, ..., n the eigenvalues of matrix A.

- $|\lambda_i| < 1, \, \forall \, i = 1, \dots n$   $\iff$  The system is as. stable
- $\exists i, 1 \leq i \leq n : |\lambda_i| > 1 \implies$  The system is unstable
- $|\lambda_i| \le 1, \forall i = 1, \dots n$  $\exists j, 1 \le j \le n : |\lambda_j| = 1$   $\} \implies$  The system is not as. stable
  - $\lambda_j$ :  $|\lambda_j| = 1$  have algebraic multiplicity = 1, then the system is stable (not as.)
  - $\lambda_j$ :  $|\lambda_j| = 1$  have algebraic multiplicity > 1 and the same value as geometrical multiplicity, then the system is stable (not as.)
  - $\lambda_j$ :  $|\lambda_j| = 1$  have algebraic multiplicity > 1, but the geometrical multiplicity is different, then the system is unstable

# Stability of Linear Discrete-Time Systems

Analysis of the Characteristic Polynomial

## Stability by Analysing the Characteristic Polynomial

- The previous complete stability criterion requires checking whether the eigenvalues of matrix A belong to the unit circle in the complex plane
- A number of techniques exist to perform the check above **without explicitly** calculating the eigenvalues of matrix A
- Considering the characteristic polynomial

 $p_A(z) = \det(zI - A) = \varphi_0 z^n + \varphi_1 z^{n-1} + \dots + \varphi_{n-1} z + \varphi_n$ 

a suitable **bi-linear transformation** allows to reduce the problem of checking whether the roots of polynomial  $p_A(z)$  belong to the unit circle in the complex plane to an **equivalent problem** of checking whether the roots of a suitable polynomial  $q_a(w)$  belong to the complex left half-plane

• This equivalent problem can then be solved by using the **Routh-Hurwitz** technique (see the course *Fundamentals of Automatic Control*)

### **Use of the Bi-linear Transformation**





## Use of the Bi-linear Transformation (cont.)

#### Substitute

$$z = \frac{w+1}{w-1}, \ z, \ w \in \mathbb{C}$$

into

$$p_A(z) = \varphi_0 z^n + \varphi_1 z^{n-1} + \dots + \varphi_{n-1} z + \varphi_n$$

thus obtaining

$$q_A(w) = (w-1)^n \left[ \varphi_0 \frac{(w+1)^n}{(w-1)^n} + \varphi_1 \frac{(w+1)^{n-1}}{(w-1)^{n-1}} + \cdots + \varphi_{n-1} \frac{(w+1)}{(w-1)} + \varphi_n \right]$$

and hence one gets

$$q_A(w) = q_0 w^n + q_1 w^{n-1} + \dots + q_{n-1} w + q_n$$

with suitable coefficients  $q_0, q_1, \ldots, q_n$ .

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### Use of the Bi-linear Transformation. Example 1

Given

$$p_A(z) = z^3 + 2z^2 + z + 1$$

one gets

$$q_A(w) = (w-1)^3 \left[ \frac{(w+1)^3}{(w-1)^3} + 2 \frac{(w+1)^2}{(w-1)^2} + \frac{w+1}{w-1} + 1 \right]$$

and after some algebra

 $q_A(w) = 5 w^3 + w^2 + 3 w - 1$ 



Hence, there is one root of  $q_A(w)$  on the complex right-half plane which in turn implies that one of the roots of  $p_A(z)$  lies outside the unit circle.

### Use of the Bi-linear Transformation. Example 2

Given

$$p_A(z) = z^2 + az + b$$

with  $a, b \in R$ . Thus, one gets:

$$q_A(w) = (w-1)^2 \left[ \frac{(w+1)^2}{(w-1)^2} + a \frac{(w+1)}{(w-1)} + b \right]$$

and after some easy algebra

$$q_A(w) = (1+b+a)w^2 + 2(1-b)w - a + 1 + b$$

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
2 \\
1 \\
0 \\
0 \\
1 \\
(1+b-a)
\end{array} (1+b-a) \\
(1+b-a) \\
(1+b-a) \\
1+b-a>0
\end{array} \Longrightarrow \begin{cases}
1+b+a>0 \\
2(1-b)>0 \\
1+b-a>0
\end{cases} \Longrightarrow \begin{cases}
b>-a-1 \\
b<1 \\
b>a-1
\end{cases}$$

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## Use of the Bi-linear Transformation. Example 2 (cont.)

The stability condition has a nice geometric interpretation:

 $\begin{cases} b > -a - 1 \\ b < 1 \\ b > a - 1 \end{cases}$ 



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# Lecture 4 Stability of Discrete-Time Dynamic Systems

END