

- What is the general solution to the scalar DE

$$y' = ay?$$

- You can solve this using various methods, but it's easy to see that the gen. soln. is

$$y(t) = ce^{at}$$

- The general solution of $\vec{x}' = A\vec{x}$,

where A is an $n \times n$ matrix, is

$$\vec{x}(t) = e^{At} \vec{c},$$

where \vec{c} is a vector of arbitrary constants.

- If there is an initial condition

$\vec{x}(0) = \vec{x}_0$, then the exact solution is

$$\vec{x}(t) = e^{At} \vec{x}_0$$

- But wait! Back in 6.1, we said that the general solution to $\vec{x}' = A\vec{x}$ is

$$\vec{x}(t) = X(t) \vec{c},$$

where $X(t)$ is ~~the~~^a fundamental matrix

- This says that $e^{At} = X(t)$!

Ex: Find the general solution to

$$\vec{x}' = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \vec{x}$$

$$A^2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}, A^3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, A^4 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$A^5 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = A$$

$$\Rightarrow e^{At} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} t - \frac{t^2}{2!} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$+ \frac{t^3}{3!} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{t^4}{4!} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} + \dots$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1 - \frac{t^2}{2!} + \frac{t^4}{4!} - \dots & t - \frac{t^3}{3!} + \frac{t^5}{5!} - \dots \\ -t + \frac{t^3}{3!} - \frac{t^5}{5!} + \dots & 1 - \frac{t^2}{2!} + \frac{t^4}{4!} - \dots \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} \cos t & \sin t \\ -\sin t & \cos t \end{bmatrix}$$

\Rightarrow the general solution is

$$\vec{x}(t) = e^{At} \vec{c} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos t & \sin t \\ -\sin t & \cos t \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= c_1 \begin{bmatrix} \cos t \\ -\sin t \end{bmatrix} + c_2 \begin{bmatrix} \sin t \\ \cos t \end{bmatrix}$$

• We know e^{At} is one fundamental matrix, but is there a way to construct e^{At} from any fundamental matrix? Yes:

- Given a fundamental matrix $X(t)$, we know the general solution is

$$\vec{x}(t) = X(t) \vec{c}$$

- Given the initial condition $\vec{x}(0) = \vec{x}_0$, the following holds:

$$\vec{x}(0) = X(0) \vec{c} = \vec{x}_0$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{c} = X(0)^{-1} \vec{x}_0$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{x}(t) = X(t) X(0)^{-1} \vec{x}_0$$

- Since the exact (unique) solution to

$$\vec{x}' = A \vec{x}, \quad \vec{x}(0) = \vec{x}_0$$

can be written as $\vec{x}(t) = e^{At} \vec{x}_0$, we see that

$$e^{At} = X(t) X(0)^{-1}$$

• Now we're actually equipped to solve non homogeneous equations:

$$\vec{x}' = A \vec{x} + \vec{f}(t)$$

• Similar to the integrating factor method:

$$\Rightarrow \vec{x}' - A\vec{x} = \vec{f}(t)$$

$$\Rightarrow e^{-At}(\vec{x}' - A\vec{x}) = e^{-At}\vec{f}(t)$$

~~$$\frac{d}{dt} [e^{-At}\vec{x}] = e^{-At}\vec{f}(t)$$~~

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt} [e^{-At}\vec{x}] = e^{-At}\vec{f}(t)$$

$$\Rightarrow e^{-At}\vec{x} = \int_0^t e^{-As}\vec{f}(s)ds + \vec{c}$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{x}(t) = e^{At}\vec{c} + e^{At}\int_0^t e^{-As}\vec{f}(s)ds$$

• So, given the system $\vec{x}' = A\vec{x} + \vec{f}(t)$,
the general solution is

$$\vec{x}(t) = e^{At}\vec{c} + e^{At}\int_0^t e^{-As}\vec{f}(s)ds$$

If initial conditions are supplied: $\vec{x}(0) = \vec{x}_0$,
then the exact solution is

$$\vec{x}(t) = e^{At}\vec{x}_0 + e^{At}\int_0^t e^{-As}\vec{f}(s)ds$$

Ex: Find the general solution to

$$\vec{x}' = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \vec{x} + \begin{bmatrix} t \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Recall that

$$e^{At} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos t & \sin t \\ -\sin t & \cos t \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow e^{-At} = (e^{At})^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos t & -\sin t \\ \sin t & \cos t \end{bmatrix}$$

The integral in the general solution is

$$\int_0^t \begin{bmatrix} \cos(s) & -\sin(s) \\ \sin(s) & \cos(s) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} s \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} ds = \int_0^t \begin{bmatrix} s \cos(s) \\ s \sin(s) \end{bmatrix} ds$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} t \sin t + \cos t - 1 \\ -t \cos t + \sin t \end{bmatrix}$$

Then the full general solution is

$$\vec{x}(t) = e^{At} \vec{c} + e^{At} \int_0^t e^{-As} f(s) ds$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} \cos t & \sin t \\ -\sin t & \cos t \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$+ \begin{bmatrix} \cos t & \sin t \\ -\sin t & \cos t \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} t \sin t + \cos t - 1 \\ -t \cos t + \sin t \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \cos t & \sin t \\ -\sin t & \cos t \end{bmatrix}}_{\vec{x}_h} \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{bmatrix} + \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 - \cos t \\ \sin t - t \end{bmatrix}}_{\vec{x}_p}$$

• There is even another way to calculate e^{At}

- Recall that with the homogeneous problem $\vec{x}' = A\vec{x}$, $\vec{x}(0) = \vec{x}_0$, the change of variable $\vec{x} = P\vec{u}$ gives a decoupled system

$$\vec{u}' = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \lambda_2 & \\ 0 & & \ddots \\ & & & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix} \vec{u}$$

with solution

$$\vec{u}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} e^{\lambda_1 t} & & 0 \\ & e^{\lambda_2 t} & \\ 0 & & \ddots \\ & & & e^{\lambda_n t} \end{bmatrix} \vec{u}_0$$

To get back in terms of \vec{x} , we calculated

$$\vec{x}(t) = P\vec{u}(t) = P \begin{bmatrix} e^{\lambda_1 t} & & 0 \\ & e^{\lambda_2 t} & \\ 0 & & \ddots \\ & & & e^{\lambda_n t} \end{bmatrix} P^{-1} \vec{x}_0$$

- We already know that $\vec{x}(t) = e^{At} \vec{x}_0$ is the exact solution, so...

$$e^{At} = P e^{Dt} P^{-1}$$

- Only if A is diagonalizable!

6.7 Nonhomogeneous Linear Systems

- You can extend the methods of undetermined coefficients and variation of parameters to systems of DE's

Ex: Find the general solution to

$$\vec{x}' = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \vec{x} + \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix}$$

we've calculated the solution to the homogeneous equation $\vec{x}' = A\vec{x}$ before:

$$\vec{x}_h(t) = c_1 e^{3t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 e^{-t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Since the forcing function $\vec{f}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix}$ is constant, we guess that the particular solution is also:

$$\vec{x}_p(t) = \begin{bmatrix} A \\ B \end{bmatrix}$$

Substituting into the DE:

$$\vec{x}'_p = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \vec{x}_p + \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A \\ B \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A \\ B \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ -9 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} A \\ B \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

So, the general solution is

$$\vec{x}(t) = \vec{x}_h(t) + \vec{x}_p(t) = c_1 e^{3t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 e^{-t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

• In general, undetermined coefficients for systems only works for $\vec{f}(t)$ with components in the same families as from sec. 4.4, i.e.

- polynomials
- exponentials
- sin and cos
- sums and products of these

Ex: Find the general solution to

$$\vec{x}' = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \vec{x} + \begin{bmatrix} t - 2 \\ 4t - 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

We know what \vec{x}_h is, so let's find \vec{x}_p . Since the components of $\vec{f}(t)$ are polynomials, we guess

$$\vec{x}_p(t) = \begin{bmatrix} at + b \\ ct + d \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \vec{x}_p' = \begin{bmatrix} a \\ c \end{bmatrix}$$