

8.4 - Matrix Exponential

Recall that $e^x = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^k}{k!} = 1 + x + \frac{1}{2}x^2 + \frac{1}{6}x^3 + \dots$ This is the power series representation for the exponential function. In the same way, we can define a matrix exponential.

$$e^{3x} = 1 + 3x + \frac{1}{2}(3x)^2 + \frac{1}{6}(3x)^3 + \dots$$

Definition: For any $n \times n$ matrix A ,

$$I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad e^{At} = I + At + \frac{A^2 t^2}{2!} + \dots + \frac{A^k t^k}{k!} + \dots = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} A^k \frac{t^k}{k!}$$

Example: Compute e^{At} and e^{-At} .

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A^2 = AA = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = I$$

$$A^3 = AA^2 = A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}; \quad A^4 = II = I$$

$$e^{At} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & t \\ t & 0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \frac{t^2}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{t^2}{2} \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{t^3}{6} \\ \frac{t^3}{6} & 0 \end{pmatrix} + \dots$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 1 + \frac{1}{2}t^2 + \frac{1}{24}t^4 + \dots & t + \frac{1}{6}t^3 + \frac{1}{5!}t^5 + \dots \\ t + \frac{1}{6}t^3 + \frac{1}{5!}t^5 + \dots & 1 + \frac{1}{2}t^2 + \frac{1}{24}t^4 + \dots \end{pmatrix}$$

$$e^{At} = \begin{pmatrix} \cosh t & \sinh t \\ \sinh t & \cosh t \end{pmatrix}$$

In general, $e^{A+B} \neq e^A e^B$. But if
 $\underline{AB = BA}$, then $e^{A+B} = e^A e^B$.
 - A & B commute

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Since A commutes with itself ($AA = AA$),
 $e^{At} e^{-At} = e^{At - At} = e^{\mathbf{0} \leftarrow \text{matrix}} = I$
 so $(e^{At})^{-1} = e^{-At} = e^{A(-t)}$

$$\text{so } e^{-At} = \begin{pmatrix} \cosh t & -\sinh t \\ -\sinh t & \cosh t \end{pmatrix}$$

Consider $X' = AX$. If $X = e^{At}C$, then $X' = \frac{d}{dt}(e^{At}C)$. To find $\frac{d}{dt}(e^{At})$, we use the definition:

$$\frac{d}{dt}(e^{At}) = \frac{d}{dt} \left(I + At + A^2 \frac{t^2}{2!} + A^3 \frac{t^3}{3!} + \dots \right) = A + A^2 t + \frac{1}{2} A^3 t^2 + \frac{1}{6} A^4 t^3 + \dots$$

$$= A \left(1 + At + \frac{1}{2} A^2 t^2 + \frac{1}{6} A^3 t^3 + \dots \right)$$

$$= A e^{At}$$

$$\text{so } \vec{x} = e^{At} \vec{c} \Rightarrow \vec{x}' = A e^{At} \vec{c} = A \vec{x}$$

$$\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{A}e^{\mathbf{A}t}\mathbf{C}$$

So for $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{X}$, with $\mathbf{A}$ containing constant entries, $\mathbf{X} = e^{\mathbf{A}t}\mathbf{C}$ is a solution. (Note: $\mathbf{C}$ is a column matrix of arbitrary coefficients.)

Example: Use the matrix exponential to find the general solution of the given system.

$$\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{X}$$

$$\text{For } \mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad e^{\mathbf{A}t} = \begin{pmatrix} \cosh t & \sinh t \\ \sinh t & \cosh t \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{so } \boxed{\vec{\mathbf{X}} = \begin{pmatrix} \cosh t & \sinh t \\ \sinh t & \cosh t \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{C}}$$

This works when $\mathbf{A}^k$ is nice — either has patterns or if $\mathbf{A}^k = \mathbf{O}$ for some k .

Initial-value problems

$e^{\mathbf{A}t} = \Phi$ is the fundamental matrix for the system, so variation of parameters yields, the general solution

$$\mathbf{X} = e^{\mathbf{A}t}\mathbf{C} + e^{\mathbf{A}t} \int_{t_0}^t e^{-\mathbf{A}s}\mathbf{F}(s)ds$$

Note: $e^{-\mathbf{A}s}$ is $e^{\mathbf{A}t}$ with t replaced by $-s$. In our work, we will take $t_0 = 0$.

Example: Find the general solution of the given system.

$$X' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} X + \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad A^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A^3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 8 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1^3 & 0 \\ 0 & 2^3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$e^{At} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} t & 0 \\ 0 & 2t \end{pmatrix} + \left(\frac{\frac{1}{2}t^2}{\frac{2^2}{2!}t^2} \right) + \left(\frac{\frac{1}{3!}t^3}{\frac{2^3}{3!}t^3} \right) + \dots$$

$$e^{At} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 + t + \frac{1}{2}t^2 + \frac{1}{3!}t^3 + \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 + (2t) + \frac{(2t)^2}{2!} + \frac{(2t)^3}{3!} + \dots \end{pmatrix}$$

$$e^{At} = \begin{pmatrix} e^t & 0 \\ 0 & e^{2t} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\vec{X} = e^{At} \vec{C} \Rightarrow \vec{X} = \begin{pmatrix} e^t & 0 \\ 0 & e^{2t} \end{pmatrix} \vec{C}$$

$$\int_{t_0}^t e^{-As} \vec{F}(s) ds = \int_0^t \begin{pmatrix} e^{-s} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-2s} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} ds$$

$$= \int_0^t \begin{pmatrix} 3e^{-s} \\ -e^{-2s} \end{pmatrix} ds = \begin{pmatrix} -3e^{-s} \\ \frac{1}{2}e^{-2s} \end{pmatrix} \Big|_0^t$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} -3e^{-t} + 3 \\ \frac{1}{2}e^{-2t} - \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\vec{X} = \begin{pmatrix} e^t & 0 \\ 0 & e^{2t} \end{pmatrix} \vec{C} + \begin{pmatrix} e^t & 0 \\ 0 & e^{2t} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -3e^{-t} + 3 \\ \frac{1}{2}e^{-2t} - \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} x(t) \\ y(t) \end{pmatrix} = \vec{X} = \begin{pmatrix} e^t & 0 \\ 0 & e^{2t} \end{pmatrix} \vec{C} + \begin{pmatrix} -3 + 3e^t \\ \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}e^{2t} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\vec{X} = \begin{pmatrix} c_1 e^t - 3 + 3e^t \\ c_2 e^{2t} + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}e^{2t} \end{pmatrix}$$

Relabeling c_1, c_2

$$\vec{X} = c_3 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} e^t + c_4 \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{2t} + \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

Sometimes if A isn't "nice" we can make it nice.

Example: Solve the given system by diagonalizing the coefficient matrix.

$$X' = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -3 & 6 \end{pmatrix} X$$

- 1st - find eigenvalues & eigenvectors

$$\begin{vmatrix} 2-\lambda & 1 \\ -3 & 6-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda^2 - 8\lambda + 15 = 0$$

$$\lambda = 3, 5$$

$$\lambda_1 = 3 : \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ -3 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \vec{K}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_2 = 5 : \begin{pmatrix} -3 & 1 \\ -3 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \vec{K}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

- Form a matrix P that has columns $\vec{K}_1$ & $\vec{K}_2$.

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Find $P^{-1}AP$. $P^{-1} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3/2 & -1/2 \\ -1/2 & 1/2 \end{pmatrix}$

$$P^{-1}AP = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -3 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 5 \\ 3 & 15 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 0 \\ 0 & 10 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$P^{-1}AP = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

So $P^{-1}AP = D$, a diagonal matrix.

Note: then $P P^{-1} A P P^{-1} = P D P^{-1} \Rightarrow A = P D P^{-1}$

and $A^k = (P D P^{-1})^k = \underbrace{(P D P^{-1})(P D P^{-1}) \dots (P D P^{-1})}_{k \text{ times}}$

$$A^k = P D^k P^{-1} \text{ with } D^k = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1^k & & 0 \\ & \lambda_2^k & \\ 0 & & \lambda_n^k \end{pmatrix}$$

Then $e^{At} = \underbrace{P P^{-1}}_I + \underbrace{P D P^{-1}}_1 t + \frac{1}{2} \underbrace{P D^2 P^{-1}}_2 t^2 + \dots$

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

For $A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -3 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$, $e^{At} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} e^{3t} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{5t} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3/2 & -1/2 \\ -1/2 & 1/2 \end{pmatrix}$

So $\vec{X} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{3}{2}e^{3t} - \frac{1}{2}e^{5t} & -\frac{1}{2}e^{3t} + \frac{1}{2}e^{5t} \\ \frac{3}{2}e^{3t} - \frac{3}{2}e^{5t} & -\frac{1}{2}e^{3t} + \frac{3}{2}e^{5t} \end{pmatrix} \vec{C}$

