

Exercises on linear ODE with periodic coefficients.

1. Find the characteristic (Floquet) multiplier for the scalar linear equation with periodic coefficient: (4p)

$$x' = (a + \sin^2 t)x$$

Find also those values of the parameter a that imply that all solutions tend to zero with $t \rightarrow +\infty$.

2. Calculate monodromy matrix and Floquet exponents for the 2-dim system

$$x' = a(t)Ax$$

where $a(t)$ is a scalar periodic function with period T and A is a constant real 2×2 matrix. Discuss conditions implying that all solutions tend to zero or stay bounded with $t \rightarrow +\infty$.

Hint: make a change of time variable $t \rightarrow \tau = \int_{t_0}^t a(s)ds$.

3. Compute the monodromy matrix for the system with the following periodic matrix $A(t)$ with period 1.

$$A(t) = \begin{cases} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha & 1 \\ 0 & \alpha \end{bmatrix} = A_1, & 0 \leq t < 1/2 \\ \begin{bmatrix} \alpha & 0 \\ 1 & \alpha \end{bmatrix} = A_2, & 1/2 \leq t < 1 \end{cases}$$

Hint: use the same idea as in the Exercise 2 and combine explicit formulas for fundamental matrices on subintervals where $A(t)$ is a constant matrix.

Some solutions

1. Find the characteristic multiplier for the scalar linear equation with periodic coefficient: (4p)

$$x' = (a + \sin^2 t)x$$

1. The characteristic multiplier is eigenvalue of the monodromy matrix denoted by $M = e^{TR}$ in the course book, where T is the period of the right hand side in the equation. One builds a monodromy matrix (it will be a number in our case with one scalar equation) of solutions to initial value problems with initial data $x(0)$ that are standard basis vectors in R^n calculated in the time point T - equal to the period of the right hand side. In our case we have just one scalar equation, so the monodromy matrix will be a number. We find the value of the solution to I.V.P. to the given equation with initial data $x(0) = 1$ at the time $t = 2\pi$ that is a period of the right hand side in our case. The equation is linear, so the solution is found with help of a primitive function of the coefficient:

$$P(t) = \int_0^t (a + \sin^2 s) ds = \frac{1}{2}t + at - \frac{1}{4} \sin 2t.$$

$$x(t) = \exp(P(t))x(0) = \exp\left(\frac{1}{2}t + at - \frac{1}{4} \sin 2t\right) x(0).$$

The monodromy "matrix" in our case is the value of the solution $x(t)$ in $t = 2\pi$ such that $x(0) = 1$.

$$x(2\pi) = \exp\left(\frac{1}{2}2\pi + a2\pi\right) = \exp(\pi(1 + 2a)).$$

The characteristic multiplier is the same number: $\exp(\pi(1 + 2a))$. Solutions will tend to zero in the case $a < -1/2$, that makes $\exp(\pi(1 + 2a)) < 1$.

3. Answer:

The monodromy matrix $M(t_0)$ with initial point $t_0 = 0$ is expressed as $M(0) = \exp((1/2) A_2) \exp((1/2) A_1)$

The expression will be more complicated if the initial time point t_0 is chosen inside one of the intervals $(0, 1/2)$, $(1/2, 1)$.

1. The monodromy matrix $M(t_0)$ with initial point $t_0 \in [0, 1/2]$ is expressed as $M(t_0) = \exp(t_0 A_1) \exp((1/2) A_2) \exp((1/2 - t_0) A_1)$

The monodromy matrix $M(t_0)$ with initial point $t_0 \in [1/2, 1]$ is expressed as $M(t_0) = \exp((t_0 - 1/2) A_2) \exp((1/2) A_1) \exp((1 - t_0) A_2)$

Here $\exp(tA_1) = \exp(\alpha t) \begin{bmatrix} 1 & t \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$, $\exp(tA_2) = \exp(\alpha t) \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ t & 1 \end{bmatrix}$