

May 5, 2020

**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

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

where  $a(t)$  is a scalar periodic function with period  $T$  and  $A$  is a constant real  $2 \times 2$  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: combine explicit formulas for fundamental matrices on subintervals where  $A(t)$  is a constant matrix and the Chapman-Kolmogorov relation.

4. Consider the following linear system of ODE with periodic coefficients:

$$\frac{d\vec{r}(t)}{dt} = A(t)\vec{r}(t), \text{ with matrix } A(t) = (a + \sin^2(t)) \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Use Floquet theory to find for which real constants  $a$  its solutions are bounded. *Hint:* make a change of the time variable as in Exercise 2 to find a monodromy matrix.

**5. Exercise 2.21. p.58.** Consider the Hill equation  $y'' + a(t)y = 0$ ;  $a(t+p) = a(t)$ .with periodic  $a(t)$  with period  $p = 1$  having the form:

$$a(t) = \begin{cases} \omega^2, & m \leq t < m + \tau \\ & m + \tau \leq t < m + 1 \end{cases}$$

Here  $\tau \in (0, 1)$ ,  $\omega = \pi/\tau$ .

The vector form of the Hill equation is:

$$\begin{aligned} x' &= A(t)x \\ A(t) &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -a(t) & 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Consider the transfer matrix solution  $\Phi(t, 0)$  and show that its first column  $\Phi_1(t, 0)$  is periodic with period 2, and it's second column  $\Phi_2(t, 0)$  is unbounded with the first element equal to  $(-1)^n n(1 - \tau)$ .

### Some solutions

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

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

The characteristic multiplier is eigenvalue of the monodromy matrix denoted by  $\Phi(p, 0)$  in the course book, where  $p$  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  $t = \pi$  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:

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

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

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

$$\Phi(\pi, 0) = x(\pi) = \exp\left(\frac{1}{2}\pi + a\pi\right) = \exp(\pi(1/2 + a)).$$

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

**3. Solution:**

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

The monodromy matrix  $\Phi(p, 0) = \Phi(1, 0)$  is expressed as (using Chapman-Kolmogorov)

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(1, 0) &= \Phi(1, 1/2)\Phi(1/2, 0) \\ &= \exp((1 - 1/2)A_2) \exp((1/2)A_1) \end{aligned}$$

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

$$\begin{aligned} \text{We derive an explicit expression for } \Phi(1, 0) &= \exp(\alpha) \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1/2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1/2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \exp(\alpha) \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} & \frac{5}{4} \end{bmatrix}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} & \frac{5}{4} \end{bmatrix} = 1; \quad \text{Tr} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} & \frac{5}{4} \end{bmatrix} = 2.25.$$

$$\text{characteristic polynomial } p(\lambda) = \lambda^2 - \frac{9}{4}\lambda + 1$$

eigenvalues:  $\lambda_1 = \frac{9}{8} - \sqrt{\left(\frac{9}{8}\right)^2 - 1} = \frac{9}{8} - \frac{1}{8}\sqrt{17} > 0$ ,  $\lambda_2 = \frac{1}{8}\sqrt{17} + \frac{9}{8} > 0$   
and are simple.

The condition for boundedness of all solutions is  $\exp(\alpha) |\lambda_2| \leq 1$  or  $\exp(\alpha) \frac{1}{8} (\sqrt{17} + 9) \leq 1$  because  $\lambda_2$  is larger in absolute value.

It can be reformulated by taking logarithm of left and right hand sides as  $\alpha \leq \ln(8) - \ln(\sqrt{17} + 9) \approx -0.49493$ .

All solutions will tend to zero if and only if the strict inequality is valid  $\alpha < \ln(8) - \ln(\sqrt{17} + 9) \approx -0.49493$

4. Consider the following linear system of ODE with periodic coefficients:

$$\frac{d\vec{r}(t)}{dt} = A(t)\vec{r}(t), \text{ with matrix } A(t) = (a + \sin^2(t)) \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Use Floquet theory to find for which real constants  $a$  its solutions are bounded.

*Hint:* make a change of the time variable to find a monodromy matrix.

(4p)

**Solution.** Consider the equation in the form

$$\frac{1}{(a + \sin^2(t))} \frac{d\vec{r}(t)}{dt} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \vec{r}$$

Introduce anew time variable  $\tau(t) = \int_0^t (a + \sin^2(s)) ds$ . The change of variables in time differentiation will be

$$\frac{d}{dt} = \frac{d\tau(t)}{dt} \frac{d}{d\tau} = \frac{d\left(\int_0^t (a + \sin^2(s)) ds\right)}{dt} \frac{d}{d\tau} = (a + \sin^2(t)) \frac{d}{d\tau}$$

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

Therefore

$$\frac{1}{(a + \sin^2(t))} \frac{d\vec{r}(t)}{dt} = \frac{d\vec{r}(\tau)}{d\tau} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \vec{r} = B\vec{r}$$

and we have got a linear system of ODEs with constant coefficients in terms of the  $\tau$  variable and can solve it exactly. Its transfer matrix is  $\exp(\tau B)$  and

$$\vec{r}(\tau) = \exp(\tau B)r(0)$$

with  $\exp(0B) = I$ .

The transfer matrix for the original system is  $\Phi(t, 0) = \exp(\tau(t)B)$  with  $\tau(t) = at + \frac{1}{2}t - \frac{1}{4} \sin 2t$  and we observe that  $\exp(B\tau(0)) = I$ . The monodromy matrix of the original system will be  $\Phi(\pi, 0)$  because the period of the coefficients is  $p = \pi$ .

$$\Phi(\pi, 0) = \exp(\tau(\pi)B)$$

Eigenvalues of the matrix  $B$  are  $\lambda_1 = \frac{3}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{5}$  and  $\lambda_2 = \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{5} + \frac{3}{2}$  - both positive. Floquet multipliers are  $\exp(\lambda_1\tau(\pi))$  and  $\exp(\lambda_2\tau(\pi))$  and are semisimple. Floquet exponents are evidently  $\frac{1}{2\pi}(\lambda_1\tau(\pi))$  and  $\frac{1}{2\pi}(\lambda_2\tau(\pi))$ .

We must have  $\tau(\pi) \leq 0$  to have the both Floquet exponents non-positive and correspondingly to have Floquet multipliers not larger than 1.

It will imply by the Floquet theorem that solutions to the given system of ODE will be bounded because  $\lambda_1\tau(2\pi)$  and  $\lambda_2\tau(2\pi)$  are different (not multiple). Checking the values of the integral  $\tau(\pi) = \int_0^\pi (a + \sin^2(s))ds = a\pi + \frac{1}{2}\pi - \frac{1}{4}\sin 2\pi$  we observe that to have  $\tau(2\pi) \leq 0$ ,  $a$  must satisfy the inequality  $a \leq -1/2$ . The same idea would in fact work for any function instead of  $(a + \sin^2(s))$  in the definition of  $A(t)$ . See Exercise 2.

**5. Exercise 2.21. p.58.**

Consider the Hill equation  $y'' + a(t)y = 0$ ;  $a(t+p) = a(t)$ .with periodic  $a(t)$  with period  $p = 1$ . Vector form of the equation is:

$$\begin{aligned} x' &= A(t)x \\ A(t) &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -a(t) & 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ a(t) &= \begin{cases} \omega^2, & m \leq t < m + \tau \\ 0, & m + \tau \leq t < m + 1 \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Here  $\tau \in (0, 1)$ ,  $\omega = \pi/\tau$ .

Consider the transfer matrix solution  $\Phi(t, 0)$  and show that its first column  $\Phi_1(t, 0)$  is periodic with period 2, and it's second column  $\Phi_2(t, 0)$  is unbounded with  $\Phi_2(n, 0) = (-1)^n n(1 - \tau)$ .

**Solution.** The monodromy matrix has the followinf structure:

$$\Phi(1, 0) = \Phi(1, \tau)\Phi(\tau, 0) = \exp((1 - \tau)A_2) \exp(\tau A_1)$$

where according to the definition of  $A(t)$

$$A_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -\omega^2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = A(t), \quad t \in (0, \tau)$$

$$A_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = A(t), \quad t \in (\tau, 1)$$

Eigenvectors to  $A_1$  are:  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{i}{\omega} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \leftrightarrow i\omega, \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} \frac{i}{\omega} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \leftrightarrow -i\omega.$

Check the first of eigenvectors:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -\omega^2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{i}{\omega} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ i\omega \end{bmatrix} = i\omega \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{i}{\omega} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x_*(t) = \left( \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{i}{\omega} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \exp(i\omega t) \right) = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{i}{\omega} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} (\cos(\omega t) + i \sin(\omega t)) = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{i}{\omega} (\cos t\omega + i \sin t\omega) \\ \cos t\omega + i \sin t\omega \end{bmatrix}$$

$$; \operatorname{Re} x_*(t) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\omega} (\sin t\omega) \\ \cos t\omega \end{bmatrix}; \quad \operatorname{Im} x_*(t) = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{\omega} \cos t\omega \\ \sin t\omega \end{bmatrix}$$

We like to build using these two linearly independent solutions, one solution with initial data  $e_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  and one solution with initial data  $e_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ . It is easy to see that the following solutions satisfy these initial conditions and can be collected into the transfer matrix:

$$\Phi(t, 0) = [-\omega \operatorname{Im} x_*(t), \operatorname{Re} x_*(t)] = \begin{bmatrix} \cos t\omega & \frac{1}{\omega} (\sin t\omega) \\ -\omega \sin t\omega & \cos t\omega \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Phi(\tau, 0) = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \tau\omega & \frac{1}{\omega} (\sin \tau\omega) \\ -\omega \sin \tau\omega & \cos \tau\omega \end{bmatrix}$$

We woö calculate  $\Phi(t, \tau)$  for  $t \in (\tau, 1]$ .

$$A_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Then  $\Phi(t, \tau) = \exp\left((t - \tau) \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & t - \tau \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  according to formulas for a Jordan block.

$$\text{Then } \Phi(1, \tau) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 - \tau \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix};$$

The monodromy matrix is calculated as:

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(1, 0) &= \Phi(1, \tau)\Phi(\tau, 0) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 - \tau \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \cos \tau\omega & \frac{1}{\omega} (\sin \tau\omega) \\ -\omega \sin \tau\omega & \cos \tau\omega \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \cos \tau\omega - \omega (\sin \tau\omega) (1 - \tau) & \frac{1}{\omega} \sin \tau\omega + (\cos \tau\omega) (1 - \tau) \\ -\omega \sin \tau\omega & \cos \tau\omega \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

If  $\omega = \pi/\tau$ , then the monodromy matrix is

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi(1, 0) &= \begin{bmatrix} \cos \pi - \omega (\sin \pi) (1 - \tau) & \frac{1}{\omega} \sin \pi + (\cos \pi) (1 - \tau) \\ -\omega \sin \pi & \cos \pi \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -(1 - \tau) \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}\end{aligned}$$

Eigenvalues of this triangular monodromy matrix are both equal to  $\lambda_{1,2} = -1$ . The only eigenvector to  $\Phi(1, 0)$  is  $e_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ . Therefore there must exist unbounded solutions because the multiple  $\lambda_{1,2} = -1$  is not semisimple.

Therefore  $(\lambda_{1,2})^2 = 1$  and the solution with initial data equal to corresponding eigenvector  $e_1$  has the period  $2p = 2$  that is double period of the system. In this particular case the period of coefficients is  $p = 1$ .

$$\begin{aligned}A_1 v &= \lambda v, \quad v - \text{an eigenvector} \\ x_*(t) &= \exp(t\lambda)v \quad \text{is a solution to} \\ x' &= A_1 x\end{aligned}$$

This solution is the first column in  $\Phi(t, 0)$ , because the corresponding eigenvector  $e_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  - is the initial condition for the first column in  $\Phi(t, 0)$ .

In time points  $t = pn = n$  the second column in  $\Phi(t, 0)$  is equal to the second column in  $\Phi(1, 0)^n$  -  $n$  - th power of the monodromy matrix that coincides with  $\Phi(t, 0)$  for  $t$  equal to integer number of periods.

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi(1, 0)^2 &= \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -(1 - \tau) \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -(1 - \tau) \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2\tau + 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ \Phi(1, 0)^3 &= \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -(1 - \tau) \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}^3 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 3\tau - 3 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \\ \Phi(1, 0)^4 &= \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -(1 - \tau) \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}^4 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -4\tau + 4 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}\end{aligned}$$

We observe that  $\Phi(1, 0)^n = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & (-1)^n n (1 - \tau) \\ 0 & (-1)^n \end{bmatrix}$  and the exercise is finished.

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