

LMI Methods in Optimal and Robust Control

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Lecture 15: Nonlinear Systems and Lyapunov Functions

Our next goal is to extend LMI's and optimization to nonlinear systems analysis.

Today we will discuss

1. Nonlinear Systems Theory
 - 1.1 Existence and Uniqueness
 - 1.2 Contractions and Iterations
 - 1.3 Gronwall-Bellman Inequality
2. Stability Theory
 - 2.1 Lyapunov Stability
 - 2.2 Lyapunov's Direct Method
 - 2.3 A Collection of Converse Lyapunov Results

The purpose of this lecture is to show that Lyapunov stability can be solved **Exactly** via optimization of polynomials.

Ordinary Nonlinear Differential Equations

Computing Stability and Domain of Attraction

Consider: A System of Nonlinear Ordinary Differential Equations

$$\dot{x}(t) = f(x(t))$$

Problem: Stability

Given a **specific polynomial** $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$,

find the largest $X \subset \mathbb{R}^n$

such that for any $x(0) \in X$,

$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} x(t) = 0$.

└ Ordinary Nonlinear Differential Equations

$$\dot{x}(t) = f(x(t))$$

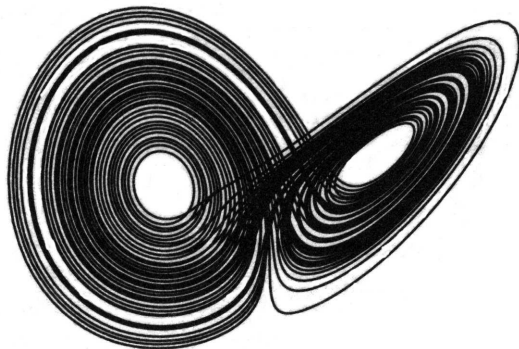
Problem: Stability

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such that for any $x(0) \in X$,
 $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} x(t) = 0$.

Linearity refers to the map from inputs to outputs vs. linearity in the RHS of the representation.

Nonlinear Dynamical Systems

Long-Range Weather Forecasting and the Lorenz Attractor



A model of atmospheric convection analyzed by E.N. Lorenz, *Journal of Atmospheric Sciences*, 1963.

$$\dot{x} = \sigma(y - x)$$

$$\dot{y} = rx - y - xz$$

$$\dot{z} = xy - bz$$

Nonlinear Dynamical Systems



A model of atmospheric convection analyzed by E.N. Lorenz, *Journal of Atmospheric Sciences*, 1963.

$$\dot{x} = \sigma(y - x) \quad \dot{y} = rx - y - xz \quad \dot{z} = xy - \beta z$$

Nonlinear Systems may have

- Multiple Equilibria
- Regions of Attraction
- Limit Cycles
- Chaos
- Invariant Manifolds
- Non-exponential stability
- Finite-Escape Time
- Implicit (vs Explicit) Algebraic Constraints

Stability and Periodic Orbits

The Poincaré-Bendixson Theorem and van der Pol Oscillator

An oscillating circuit model:

$$\dot{y} = -x - (x^2 - 1)y$$

$$\dot{x} = y$$

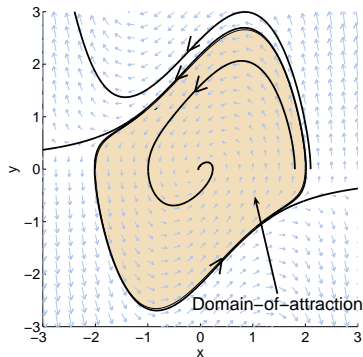


Figure: The van der Pol oscillator in reverse

Theorem 1 (Poincaré-Bendixson).

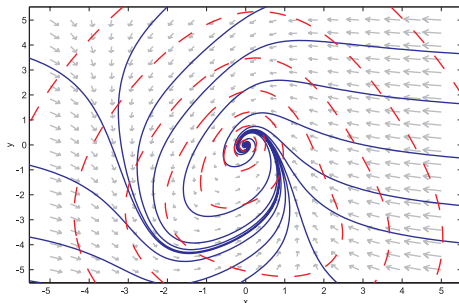
Invariant sets in \mathbb{R}^2 always contain a limit cycle or fixed point.

Stability of Ordinary Differential Equations

Consider

$$\dot{x}(t) = f(x(t))$$

with $x(0) \in \mathbb{R}^n$.



Theorem 2 (Lyapunov Stability).

Suppose there exists a continuous V and $\alpha, \beta, \gamma > 0$ where

$$\beta \|x\|^2 \leq V(x) \leq \alpha \|x\|^2$$

$$-\nabla V(x)^T f(x) \geq \gamma \|x\|^2$$

for all $x \in X$. Then any sub-level set of V in X is a **Domain of Attraction**.

A Sublevel Set: Has the form $V_\delta = \{x : V(x) \leq \delta\}$.

Do The Equations Have a Solution?

The Cauchy Problem

The first question people ask is the Cauchy problem:

For Autonomous (Uncontrolled) Systems:

Definition 3 (Cauchy Problem).

The Cauchy problem is to find a *unique, continuous* $x : [0, t_f] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ for some t_f such that \dot{x} is defined and $\dot{x}(t) = f(t, x(t))$ for all $t \in [0, t_f]$.

If f is continuous, the solution must be continuously differentiable.

Controlled Systems:

- For a controlled system, we have $\dot{x}(t) = f(x(t), u(t))$ and assume $u(t)$ is given.
 - ▶ This precludes feedback
- In this lecture, we focus on the autonomous system.
 - ▶ Including t complicates the analysis.
 - ▶ However, results are almost all the same.

Ordinary Differential Equations

Existence of Solutions

There exist many systems for which no solution exists or for which a solution only exists over a finite time interval.

Even for something as simple as

$$\dot{x}(t) = x(t)^2 \quad x(0) = x_0$$

has the solution

$$x(t) = \frac{x_0}{1 - x_0 t}$$

which clearly has escape time

$$t_e = \frac{1}{x_0}$$

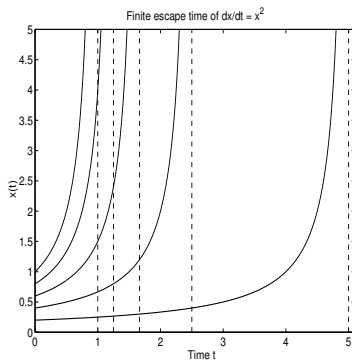


Figure: Simulation of $\dot{x} = x^2$ for several $x(0)$

Ordinary Differential Equations

Non-Uniqueness

A classical example of a system without a *unique* solution is

$$\dot{x}(t) = x(t)^{1/3} \quad x(0) = 0$$

For the given initial condition, it is easy to verify that

$$x(t) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad x(t) = \left(\frac{2t}{3}\right)^{3/2}$$

both satisfy the differential equation.

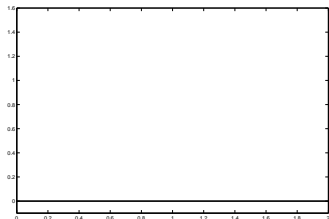


Figure: Matlab simulation of $\dot{x}(t) = x(t)^{1/3}$ with $x(0) = 0$

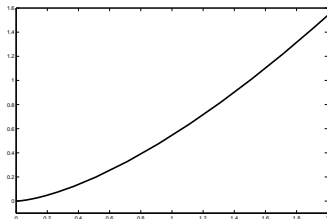


Figure: Matlab simulation of $\dot{x}(t) = x(t)^{1/3}$ with $x(0) = .000001$

Ordinary Differential Equations

- Systems without a unique solution are hard to simulate
- prone to numerical errors
- no smoothness with respect to initial conditions.

A classical example of a system without a *unique* solution is

$$\dot{x}(t) = x(t)^{3/2} \quad x(0) = 0$$

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Figure: Matlab simulation of $\dot{x}(t) = x(t)^{3/2}$ with $x(0) = 0$



Figure: Matlab simulation of $\dot{x}(t) = x(t)^{3/2}$ with $x(0) = .000001$

Ordinary Differential Equations

Non-Uniqueness

An Example of a system with *several solutions* is given by

$$\dot{x}(t) = \sqrt{x(t)} \quad x(0) = 0$$

For the given initial condition, it is easy to verify that for any C ,

$$x(t) = \begin{cases} \frac{(t-C)^2}{4} & t > C \\ 0 & t \leq C \end{cases}$$

satisfies the differential equation.

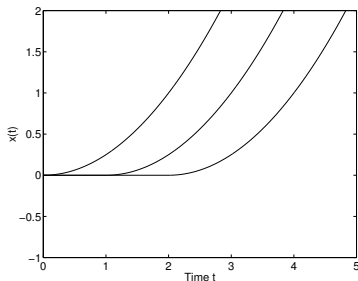


Figure: Several solutions of $\dot{x} = \sqrt{x}$

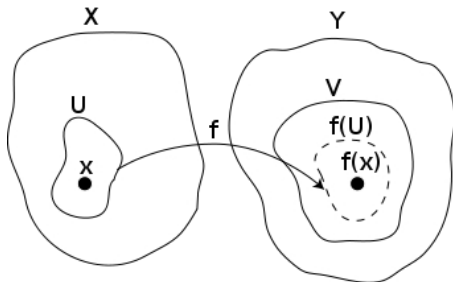
Continuity of a Function

Customary Notions of Continuity

Nonlinear Stability requires some additional Math Definitions.

Definition 4 (Continuity at a Point).

For normed spaces X, Y , a function $f : X \rightarrow Y$ is **continuous at the point** $x_0 \in X$ if for any $\epsilon > 0$, there exists a $\delta > 0$ such that $\|x - x_0\| < \delta$ (U) implies $\|f(x) - f(x_0)\| < \epsilon$ (V).



Ordinary Differential Equations

Customary Notions of Continuity

Definition 5 (Continuity on a Set of Points (B)).

For normed spaces X, Y , a function $f : A \subset X \rightarrow Y$ is **continuous on** B if it is continuous at any point $x_0 \in B$. A function is simply **continuous** if $B = A$.

Dropping some of the notation,

Definition 6 (Uniform Continuity on a Set of Points (B)).

$f : A \subset X \rightarrow Y$ is **uniformly continuous on** B if for any $\epsilon > 0$, there exists a $\delta > 0$ such that for $x, y \in B$, $\|x - y\| < \delta$ implies $\|f(x) - f(y)\| < \epsilon$.

Example: $f(x) = x^3$ is uniformly continuous on $B = [0, 1]$, but not $B = \mathbb{R}$

$$f'(x) = 3x^2 < 3 \text{ for } x \in [0, 1]$$

hence $|f(x) - f(y)| \leq 3|x - y|$. So given $\epsilon > 0$, choose $\delta < \frac{1}{3}\epsilon$.

Lipschitz Continuity

A Quantitative Notion of Continuity

Definition 7 (Lipschitz Continuity).

The function f is **Lipschitz continuous** on X if there exists some $L > 0$ such that

$$\|f(x) - f(y)\| \leq L\|x - y\| \quad \text{for any } x, y \in X.$$

The constant L is referred to as the Lipschitz constant for f on X .

Definition 8 (Local Lipschitz Continuity).

The function f is **Locally Lipschitz continuous** on X if for every $x \in X$, there exists a neighborhood, B of x such that f is Lipschitz continuous on B .

Definition 9.

The function f is **Globally Lipschitz** if it is Lipschitz on its entire domain.

Example: $f(x) = x^3$ is Locally Lipschitz on $[-1, 1]$ with $L = 3$.

- But $f(x) = x^3$ is NOT Globally Lipschitz on \mathbb{R}
- L is typically just a bound on the derivative.

A Theorem on Existence of Solutions

Existence and Uniqueness

Let $B(x_0, r)$ be the unit ball, centered at x_0 of radius r .

Theorem 10 (A Typical Existence Theorem).

Suppose $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ and there exist L, r such that for any $x, y \in B(x_0, r)$,

$$\|f(x) - f(y)\| \leq L\|x - y\|$$

and $\|f(x)\| \leq c$ for $x \in B(x_0, r)$. Let $t_f < \min\{\frac{1}{L}, \frac{r}{c}\}$. Then there exists a unique differentiable $x : [0, t_f] \mapsto \mathbb{R}^n$, such that $x(0) = x_0$, $x(t) \in B(x_0, r)$ and $\dot{x}(t) = f(x(t))$.

Solution Map: If solutions are well-defined, we may define the solution map $g : [0, t_f] \times \mathbb{R}^n$ as the unique functions such that

$$g(0, x) = x, \quad \dot{g}(t, x) = f(g(t, x))$$

└ A Theorem on Existence of Solutions

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$$\|f(x) - f(y)\| \leq L\|x - y\|$$

and $\|f(x)\| \leq c$ for $x \in B(x_0, r)$. Let $t_1 < \min\{\frac{1}{L}, \frac{r}{c}\}$. Then there exists a unique differentiable $x: [0, t_1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$, such that $x(0) = x_0$, $x(t) \in B(x_0, r)$ and $\dot{x}(t) = f(x(t))$.

Solution Map: If solutions are well-defined, we may define the solution map $g: [0, t_1] \times \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ as the unique functions such that

$$g(0, x) = x, \quad g(t, x) = f(g(t, x))$$

The solution map is a rather important conceptual tool

- An explicit representation of the solutions of the system (as opposed to solutions implicit in the ODE)
- Encodes every possible solution of the system
- It is almost impossible to find an analytic expression for the solution map (except for linear systems)

Counterexamples on Existence of Solutions

Theorem 11 (A Typical Existence Theorem).

Suppose $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ and there exist L, r such that for any $x, y \in B(x_0, r)$,

$$\|f(x) - f(y)\| \leq L\|x - y\|$$

and $\|f(x)\| \leq c$ for $x \in B(x_0, r)$. Let $t_f < \min\{\frac{1}{L}, \frac{r}{c}\}$. Then there exists a unique differentiable solution on interval $[0, t_f]$.

Recall:

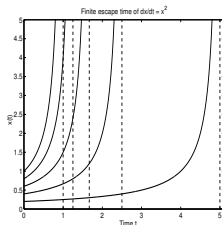
$$\dot{x}(t) = x(t)^2 \quad x(0) = x_0$$

has the solution

$$x(t) = \frac{x_0}{1 - x_0 t}$$

Lets take $r = 1$, $x_0 = 1$. Then $L = \sup_{x \in [0, 2]} |f'(x)| = 4$.
 $c = \sup_{x \in [0, 2]} |f(x)| = 4$. Then we have a solution for
 $t_f < \min\{\frac{1}{L}, \frac{r}{c}\} = \min\{\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4}\} = \frac{1}{4}$ and where $|x(t)| < 2$ for
 $t \in [0, t_f]$.

We can verify that the solution $x(t) = \frac{1}{1-t} < \frac{4}{3}$ for $t < t_f$.



Counterexamples on Existence of Solutions

Non-Uniqueness

Theorem 12 (A Typical Existence Theorem).

Suppose $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ and there exist L, r such that for any $x, y \in B(x_0, r)$,

$$\|f(x) - f(y)\| \leq L\|x - y\|$$

and $\|f(x)\| \leq c$ for $x \in B(x_0, r)$. Let $t_f < \min\{\frac{1}{L}, \frac{r}{c}\}$. Then there exists a unique differentiable solution on interval $[0, t_f]$.

Recall the system without a *unique* solution is

$$\dot{x}(t) = x(t)^{1/3} \quad x(0) = 0$$

The problem here is that $f'(x) = \frac{1}{3}x^{-2/3} = \frac{1}{3x^{2/3}}$.

$$L = \sup_{x \in [0, 2]} |f'(x)| = \sup_{x \in [0, 2]} \left| \frac{1}{3x^{2/3}} \right| = \infty$$

Since $\frac{1}{0} = \infty$. So there is no Lipschitz Bound.

Concepts of State and Solution Maps

Definition 13.

The **State** of the system ($x \in X$) is the knowledge needed to propagate the solution forward in time.

- For every state, one and only one solution should exist, and small changes in state should cause small changes in solution.

Examples:

NDEs: $x(t) \in \mathbb{R}^n$, PDEs: $x_{ss}(t, \cdot) \in L_2$, TDS: $x(t)$ and $x(t+s)$ for $s \in [-\tau, 0]$.

Definition 14.

The **Solution Map** $g : \mathbb{R}^+ \times X \rightarrow X$ is a function of both time and state.

- $g(x, t)$ is the state at time t if $x(0) = x$.

Examples:

NDEs: $\partial_t g(t, x) = f(g(t, x))$, $g(0, x) = x$

PDEs: $y_t(s, t) = A_0(s)y(s, t) + A_1(s)y_s(s, t) + A_2(s)y_{ss}(s, t)$, $y(s, t) = \int_a^s (s - \eta)g(x_{ss}, t)(\eta)d\eta$

TDS: $\partial_t \begin{bmatrix} g_1(\phi, t) \\ g_2(\phi, t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A_0 g_1(\phi, t) + A_1 g_2(\phi, t)(-\tau) \\ \partial_s g_2(\phi, t)(s) \end{bmatrix}$ and $x_t(s) = \begin{bmatrix} x(t) \\ x(t+s) \end{bmatrix}$ for $s \in [-\tau, 0]$.

Stability Definitions

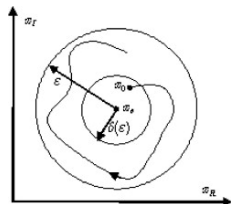
Whenever you are trying to prove stability, *Please* define your notion of stability!

Denote the set of bounded continuous functions by

$\bar{\mathcal{C}} := \{x \in \mathcal{C} : \|x(t)\| \leq r, r \geq 0\}$ with norm
 $\|x\| = \sup_t \|x(t)\|$.

We define $g : D \rightarrow \bar{\mathcal{C}}$ to be the *solution map*: $g(x_0, t)$ if

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} g(x_0, t) = f(g(x_0, t)) \quad \text{and} \quad g(x_0, 0) = x_0 \quad x_0 \in D$$



Definition 15.

The system is **locally Lyapunov stable** on D where D contains an open neighborhood of the origin if it defines a unique map $g : D \rightarrow \bar{\mathcal{C}}$ ($x \mapsto g(x, \cdot)$) which is continuous at the origin ($x_0 = 0$).

The system is locally Lyapunov stable on D if for any $\epsilon > 0$, there exists a $\delta(\epsilon)$ such that for $\|x(0)\| \leq \delta(\epsilon)$, $x(0) \in D$ we have $\|x(t)\| \leq \epsilon$ for all $t \geq 0$

Stability Definitions

Stability Definitions

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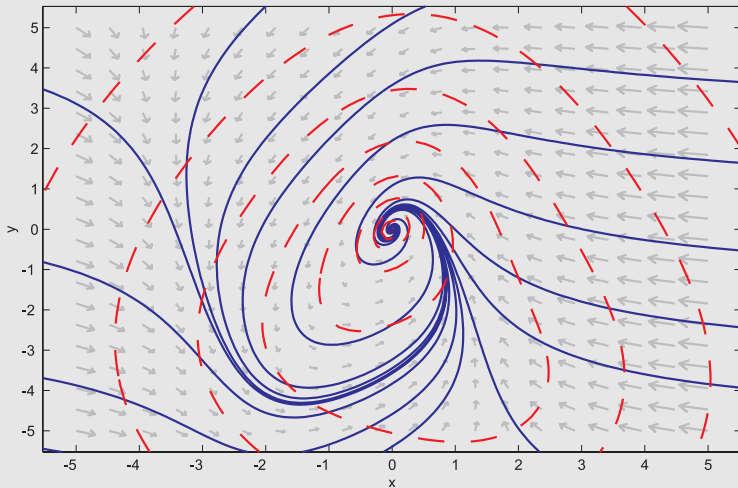
Denote the set of bounded continuous functions by $C := \{x \in \mathbb{C} : \|x(t)\| \leq r, t \geq 0\}$ with norm $\|x\| = \sup_t |x(t)|$.

We define $g : D \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ to be the **solution map**: $g(x_0, t)$ if $\frac{\partial}{\partial t} g(x_0, t) = f(g(x_0, t))$ and $g(x_0, 0) = x_0 \quad x_0 \in D$

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Stability Definitions

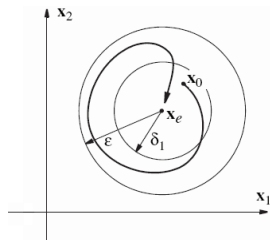
Definition 16.

The system is **globally Lyapunov stable** if it defines a unique map $g : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \bar{\mathcal{C}}$ which is continuous at the origin.

We define the subspace of bounded continuous functions which tend to the origin by $G := \{x \in \bar{\mathcal{C}} : \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} x(t) = 0\}$ with norm $\|x\| = \sup_t \|x(t)\|$.

Definition 17.

The system is **locally asymptotically stable** on D where D contains an open neighborhood of the origin if it defines a map $g : D \rightarrow G$ which is continuous at the origin.



Stability Definitions

Definition 18.

The system is **globally asymptotically stable** if it defines a map $g : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow G$ which is continuous at the origin.

Definition 19.

The system is **locally exponentially stable** on D if it defines a map $g : D \rightarrow G$ where

$$\|g(x, t)\| \leq Ke^{-\gamma t}\|x\|$$

for some positive constants $K, \gamma > 0$ and any $x \in D$.

Definition 20.

The system is **globally exponentially stable** if it defines a map $g : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow G$ where

$$\|g(x, t)\| \leq Ke^{-\gamma t}\|x\|$$

for some positive constants $K, \gamma > 0$ and any $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$.

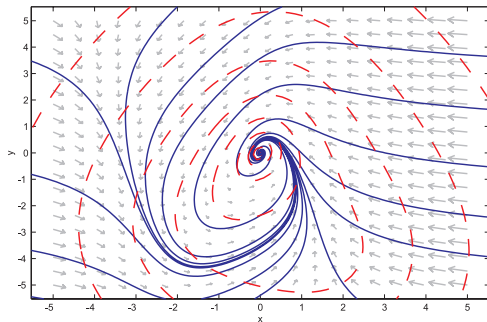
What are Lyapunov Functions?

Necessary and Sufficient Condition for Stability

Consider

$$\dot{x}(t) = f(x(t))$$

with $x(0) \in X$.



Theorem 21 (Lyapunov Stability).

Suppose there exists a V where

$$V(x) > 0 \text{ for } x \neq 0, \quad \text{and} \quad V(0) = 0$$

$$\dot{V}(x) = \nabla V(x)^T f(x) \leq 0$$

for all $x \in X$. Then any sub-level set of V in X is a **Domain of Attraction**.

Lyapunov Theorem for Lyapunov Stability

Consider the system:

$$\dot{x} = f(x), \quad f(0) = 0$$

Theorem 22.

Let $V : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a continuously differentiable function and D compact such that

$$V(0) = 0$$

$$V(x) > 0 \quad \text{for } x \in D, x \neq 0$$

$$\nabla V(x)^T f(x) \leq 0 \quad \text{for } x \in D.$$

- Then $\dot{x} = f(x)$ is well-posed and locally Lyapunov stable on the largest sublevel set $V_\gamma = \{x : V(x) \leq \gamma\}$ of V contained in D .
- Furthermore, if $\nabla V(x)^T f(x) < 0$ for $x \in D, x \neq 0$, then $\dot{x} = f(x)$ is locally asymptotically stable on the largest sublevel set $V_\gamma = \{x : V(x) \leq \gamma\}$ contained in D .

$$\text{Consider the system: } \dot{x} = f(x), \quad f(0) = 0$$

Theorem 22.

Let $V : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a continuously differentiable function and D compact such that

$$\begin{aligned} V(0) &= 0 \\ V(x) &> 0 & \text{for } x \in D, x \neq 0 \\ \nabla V(x)^T f(x) &\leq 0 & \text{for } x \in D. \end{aligned}$$

- * Then $\dot{x} = f(x)$ is well-posed and locally Lyapunov stable on the largest sublevel set $V_\gamma = \{x : V(x) \leq \gamma\}$ of V contained in D .
- * Furthermore, if $\nabla V(x)^T f(x) < 0$ for $x \in D, x \neq 0$, then $\dot{x} = f(x)$ is locally asymptotically stable on the largest sublevel set $V_\gamma = \{x : V(x) \leq \gamma\}$ contained in D .

Lecture 15

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Lyapunov Theorem for Lyapunov Stability

Proof Notes for Lyapunov Theorem

Sublevel Set: For a given Lyapunov function V and positive constant γ , we denote the set $V_\gamma = \{x : V(x) \leq \gamma\}$.

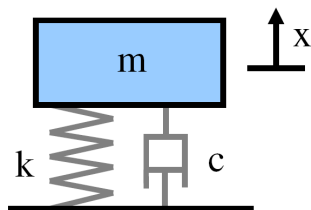
Existence: Denote the largest bounded sublevel set of V contained in the interior of D by V_{γ^*} . Because $\dot{V}(x(t)) = \nabla V(x(t))^T f(x(t)) \leq 0$, if $x(0) \in V_{\gamma^*}$, then $x(t) \in V_{\gamma^*}$ for all $t \geq 0$. Therefore since f is locally Lipschitz continuous on the compact V_{γ^*} , by the extension theorem, there is a unique solution for any initial condition $x(0) \in V_{\gamma^*}$.

Lyapunov Stability: Given any $\epsilon' > 0$, choose $\epsilon < \epsilon'$ with $B(\epsilon) \subset V_{\gamma^*}$, choose γ_i such that $V_{\gamma_i} \subset B(\epsilon)$. Now, choose $\delta > 0$ such that $B(\delta) \subset V_{\gamma_i}$. Then $B(\delta) \subset V_{\gamma_i} \subset B(\epsilon)$ and hence if $x(0) \in B(\delta)$, we have $x(t) \in V_{\gamma_i} \subset B(\epsilon) \subset B(\epsilon')$.

Asymptotic Stability:

- V monotone decreasing implies $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} V(x(t)) = 0$.
- $V(x) = 0$ implies $x = 0$.

Examples of Lyapunov Functions

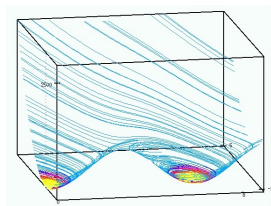


Mass-Spring:

$$\ddot{x} = -\frac{c}{m}\dot{x} - \frac{k}{m}x$$

$$V(x) = \frac{1}{2}m\dot{x}^2 + \frac{1}{2}kx^2$$

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{V}(x) &= \dot{x}(-c\dot{x} - kx) + kx\dot{x} \\ &= -c\dot{x}^2 - k\dot{x}x + kx\dot{x} \\ &= -c\dot{x}^2 \leq 0\end{aligned}$$



Pendulum:

$$\dot{x}_2 = -\frac{g}{l} \sin x_1 \quad \dot{x}_1 = x_2$$

$$V(x) = (1 - \cos x_1)gl + \frac{1}{2}l^2x_2^2$$

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{V}(x) &= glx_2 \sin x_1 - glx_2 \sin x_1 \\ &= 0\end{aligned}$$

A Lyapunov Function for Every Purpose ...

Mathematical Optimization and Curly's Law:

Curly: Do you know what the secret of life is?

Curly: One thing (**metric**). Just one thing. You stick to that (**metric**) and the rest don't mean ****.



Given a performance metric

- In a well-posed system, your current state tells you everything you need to know about the future (no inputs, disturbances).
- The Lyapunov function says how well that future performs in your metric.

Definition 23.

If $h : L_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$ is your metric and $g : X \rightarrow L_2$ is your solution map, the **Lyapunov Function** is $V(x) = h(g(x, \cdot))$.

Note: Lyapunov Functions are simpler than solution maps because they contain less information.

- $V : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$ vs. $g : X \times t \rightarrow X$
 - ▶ “the rest don't mean ****”
- It is impossible to find solution maps except for Linear ODEs.

Example: Some Solutions are Better than Others

Consider: Linear Ordinary Differential Equations with a regulated output:

$$\dot{x}(t) = Ax(t) + Bu(t) \qquad y(t) = Cx(t)$$

Question: Which solutions, $x(\cdot)$, are better?

Answer: Our metric is $\int_0^\infty \|y(t)\|^2 dt$

Question: How to compute $V(x) = \int_0^\infty \|Cg(x, t)\|^2 dt$?

Answer: The solution map is

$$x(t) = g(x_0, t) = e^{At}x_0,$$

Hence the performance is

$$V(x_0) = \int_0^\infty x_0^T e^{A^T t} C^T C e^{At} x_0 dt = x_0^T \left(\int_0^\infty e^{A^T t} C^T C e^{At} dt \right) x_0 = x_0^T P_o x_0$$

$V(x)$ is our first Lyapunov function. P_o is called the observability Grammian.

But to find it, we solve $\dot{V}(x) = -\|y(t)\|^2$ or

$$A^T P_o + P_o A = -C^T C$$

Lyapunov Theorem for Exponential Stability

Theorem 24.

Suppose there exists a continuously differentiable function V and constants $c_1, c_2, c_3 >$ and radius $r > 0$ such that the following holds for all $x \in B(r)$.

$$\begin{aligned}c_1 \|x\|^2 &\leq V(x) \leq c_2 \|x\|^2 \\ \nabla V(x)^T f(x) &\leq -c_3 \|x\|^2\end{aligned}$$

Then $\dot{x} = f(x)$ is exponentially stable on any ball contained in the largest sublevel set contained in $B(r)$.

Exponential Stability allows a quantitative prediction of system behavior.

Lyapunov Theorem for Exponential Stability

Theorem 24.

Suppose there exists a continuously differentiable function V and constants $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3 >$ and radius $r > 0$ such that the following holds for all $x \in B(r)$.

$$\alpha_1 \|x\|^2 \leq V(x) \leq \alpha_2 \|x\|^2$$

$$\nabla V(x)^T f(x) \leq -\alpha_3 \|x\|^2$$

Then $\dot{z} = f(z)$ is exponentially stable on any ball contained in the largest sublevel set contained in $B(r)$.

Exponential Stability allows a quantitative prediction of system behavior.

The proof of exponential stability is so short and so widely used, we give an overview

- Easily extended to PDEs, switched systems, delay systems, etc.

The Gronwall-Bellman Inequality

Proof of Exponential Stability

Lemma 25 (Gronwall-Bellman).

Let λ be continuous and μ be continuous and nonnegative. Let y be continuous and satisfy for $t \leq b$,

$$y(t) \leq \lambda(t) + \int_a^t \mu(s)y(s)ds.$$

Then

$$y(t) \leq \lambda(t) + \int_a^t \lambda(s)\mu(s) \exp \left[\int_s^t \mu(\tau)d\tau \right] ds$$

If λ and μ are constants, then

$$y(t) \leq \lambda e^{\mu t}.$$

For $\lambda(t) = y_0$, the condition is equivalent to

$$\dot{y}(t) \leq \mu(t)y(t), \quad y(0) = y_0.$$

└ The Gronwall-Bellman Inequality

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The application of Gronwall Bellman to Lyapunov functions is rather simple.

- It is important that the function $y(t)$ be a scalar
- We don't use vector-valued Lyapunov functions

$$\dot{V}(t) \leq \mu(t)V(t)$$

becomes

$$V(t) \leq V(0) + \int_0^t \mu(s)V(s)ds$$

Lyapunov Theorem

Exponential Stability

Proof.

We begin by noting that we already satisfy the conditions for existence, uniqueness and asymptotic stability and that $x(t) \in B(r)$.

Now, observe that

$$\dot{V}(x(t)) \leq -c_3 \|x(t)\|^2 \leq -\frac{c_3}{c_2} V(x(t))$$

Which implies by the **Gronwall-Bellman** inequality ($\mu = \frac{-c_3}{c_2}$, $\lambda = V(x(0))$) that

$$V(x(t)) \leq V(x(0))e^{-\frac{c_3}{c_2}t}.$$

Hence

$$\|x(t)\|^2 \leq \frac{1}{c_1} V(x(t)) \leq \frac{1}{c_1} e^{-\frac{c_3}{c_2}t} V(x(0)) \leq \frac{c_2}{c_1} e^{-\frac{c_3}{c_2}t} \|x(0)\|^2.$$



Problem Statement 1: Global Lypunov Stability

Given:

- Vector field, $f(x)$

Find: function V , non-negative scalars α_i, β_i such that $\sum_i \alpha_i = .01$, $\sum_i \beta_i = .01$ and

$$V(x) \geq \sum_{i=1}^p \alpha_i (x^T x)^i \quad \text{for all } x$$

$$V(x) \leq \sum_{i=1}^p \beta_i (x^T x)^i \quad \text{for all } x$$

$$\nabla V(x)^T f(x) \leq 0 \quad \text{for all } x$$

Conclusion:

- Lyapunov stability for any $x(0) \in \mathbb{R}^n$.
- Can replace $V(x) \leq \sum_{i=1}^p \beta_i (x^T x)^i$ with $V(0) = 0$ if it is well-behaved.

Given:
 • Vector field, $f(x)$

Find: function V , non-negative scalars α_i, β_i such that $\sum_i \alpha_i = \beta_i$, $\sum_i \beta_i = \beta_1$ and

$$V(x) \geq \sum_{i=1}^p \alpha_i (x^T x)^i \quad \text{for all } x$$

$$V(x) \leq \sum_{i=1}^p \beta_i (x^T x)^i \quad \text{for all } x$$

$$\nabla V(x)^T f(x) \leq 0 \quad \text{for all } x$$

Conclusion:

- Lyapunov stability for any $x(0) \in \mathbb{R}^n$.
- Can replace $V(x) \leq \sum_{i=1}^p \beta_i (x^T x)^i$ with $V(0) = 0$ if it is well-behaved.

Lecture 15

2023-11-27

Problem Statement 1: Global Lyapunov Stability

Strict Positivity and negativity is a bit more challenging in the nonlinear case

$$\geq \epsilon I$$

means

$$\geq \epsilon x^T x$$

which we relax to the weaker condition:

$$\geq \sum_{i=1}^p \alpha_i (x^T x)^i$$

Problem Statement 2: Global Exponential Stability

Given:

- Vector field, $f(x)$, exponent, p

Find: function V , positive scalars $\alpha, \beta, \delta > 0$, such that

$$V(x) \geq \alpha(x^T x)^p \quad \text{for all } x$$

$$V(x) \leq \beta(x^T x)^p \quad \text{for all } x$$

$$\nabla V(x)^T f(x) \leq -\delta V(x) \quad \text{for all } x$$

Conclusion:

- Exponential stability for any $x(0) \in \mathbb{R}^n$.

Convergence Rate:

$$\|x(t)\| \leq \sqrt[2p]{\frac{\beta}{\alpha}} \|x(0)\| e^{-\frac{\delta}{2p}t}$$

Problem Statement 2: Global Exponential Stability

Example

Consider: Attitude Dynamics of a rotating Spacecraft:

$$J_1 \dot{\omega}_1 = (J_2 - J_3) \omega_2 \omega_3$$

$$J_2 \dot{\omega}_2 = (J_3 - J_1) \omega_3 \omega_1$$

$$J_3 \dot{\omega}_3 = (J_1 - J_2) \omega_1 \omega_2$$

What about:

$$V(x) = \omega_1^2 + \omega_2^2 + \omega_3^2?$$

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla V(x)^T f(x) &= 2 \begin{bmatrix} \omega_1 \\ \omega_2 \\ \omega_3 \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} \frac{J_2 - J_3}{J_1} \omega_2 \omega_3 \\ \frac{J_3 - J_1}{J_2} \omega_3 \omega_1 \\ \frac{J_1 - J_2}{J_3} \omega_1 \omega_2 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \left(\frac{J_2 - J_3}{J_1} + \frac{J_3 - J_1}{J_2} + \frac{J_1 - J_2}{J_3} \right) \omega_1 \omega_2 \omega_3 \\ &= \left(\frac{J_2^2 J_3 - J_3^2 J_2 + J_3^2 J_1 - J_1^2 J_3 + J_2 J_1^2 - J_2^2 J_1}{J_1 J_2 J_3} \right) \omega_1 \omega_2 \omega_3 \end{aligned}$$

OK, maybe not. Try $u_i = -k_i \omega_i$.

Problem Statement 3: Local Exponential Stability

Given:

- Vector field, $f(x)$, exponent, p
- Ball of radius r , $B_r := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : x^T x \leq r^2\}$

Find: function V , positive scalars $\alpha, \beta, \delta > 0$, such that

$$V(x) \geq \alpha(x^T x)^p \quad \text{for all } x : x^T x \leq r^2$$

$$V(x) \leq \beta(x^T x)^p \quad \text{for all } x : x^T x \leq r^2$$

$$\nabla V(x)^T f(x) \leq -\delta V(x) \quad \text{for all } x : x^T x \leq r^2$$

Conclusion: A Domain of Attraction! of the origin

- Exponential stability for $x(0) \in V_\gamma := \{x : V(x) \leq \gamma\}$ if $V_\gamma \subset B_r$.

Sub-Problem: Given, V , r ,

\max_{γ} γ such that

$$V(x) \leq \gamma \quad \text{for all } x \in \{x^T x \leq r\}$$

Domain of Attraction

The van der Pol Oscillator

An oscillating circuit: (in reverse time)

$$\dot{x} = -y$$

$$\dot{y} = x + (x^2 - 1)y$$

Choose:

$$V(x) = x^2 + y^2, r = 1$$

Derivative

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla V(x)^T f(x) &= \begin{bmatrix} 2x \\ 2y \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} -y \\ -x - (x^2 - 1)y \end{bmatrix} \\ &= -xy + xy + (x^2 - 1)y^2 \\ &\leq 0 \quad \text{for } x^2 \leq 1\end{aligned}$$

Level Set:

$$V_{\gamma=1} = \{(x, y) : x^2 + y^2 \leq 1\} = B_1$$

So $B_1 = V_{\gamma=1}$ is a Domain of Attraction!

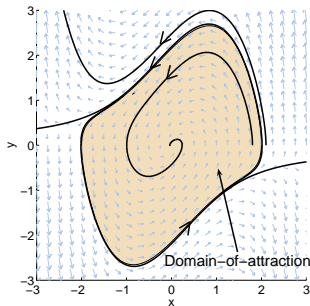
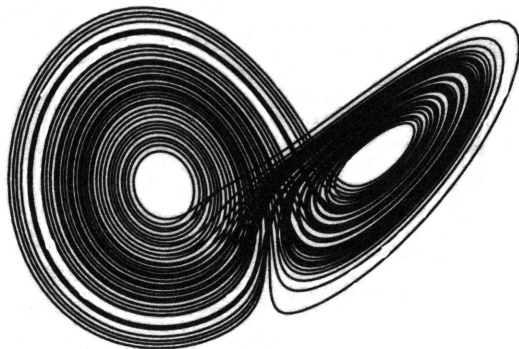


Figure: The van der Pol oscillator in reverse

Recall the Problem of Invariant Manifolds

Finding the Lorentz Attractor



A model of atmospheric convection analyzed by E.N. Lorenz, *Journal of Atmospheric Sciences*, 1963.

$$\dot{x} = \sigma(y - x)$$

$$\dot{y} = rx - y - xz$$

$$\dot{z} = xy - bz$$

Lyapunov Theorem

Invariance

Sometimes, we want to prove convergence to a set. Recall

$$V_\gamma = \{x, V(x) \leq \gamma\}$$

Definition 26.

A set, X , is **Positively Invariant** if $x(0) \in X$ implies $x(t) \in X$ for all $t \geq 0$.

Theorem 27.

Suppose that there exists some continuously differentiable function V such that

$$\begin{aligned} V(x) &> 0 \quad \text{for } x \in D, x \neq 0 \\ \nabla V(x)^T f(x) &\leq 0 \quad \text{for } x \in D. \end{aligned}$$

for all $x \in D$. Then for any γ such that the level set $X = \{x : V(x) = \gamma\} \subset D$, we have that V_γ is positively invariant.

Problem Statement 4: Invariant Regions/Manifolds

Given:

- Vector field, $f(x)$, exponent, p
- Ball of radius r , B_r

Find: function V , positive scalars $\alpha, \beta, \delta > 0$, such that

$$V(x) \geq \alpha(x^T x)^p \quad \text{for all } x : x^T x \geq r^2$$

$$V(x) \leq \beta(x^T x)^p \quad \text{for all } x : x^T x \geq r^2$$

$$\nabla V(x)^T f(x) \leq -\delta V(x) \quad \text{for all } x : x^T x \geq r^2$$

Conclusion: Choose γ such that $B_r \subset V_\gamma$. Then

- There exist a T such that $x(t) \in \{x : V(x) \leq \gamma\}$ for all $t \geq T$.

Sub-Problem: Given, V , r ,

$$\min_{\gamma} \gamma \quad \text{such that}$$
$$x^T x \geq r^2 \quad \text{for all } x \in \{V(x) \geq \gamma\}$$

Problem Statement 5: Controller Synthesis (Local)

Suppose

$$\dot{x}(t) = f(x(t)) + g(x(t))u(t) \quad u(t) = k(x(t))$$

Given:

- Vector fields, $f(x)$, $g(x)$, exponent, p

Find: functions, k , V , positive scalars $\alpha, \beta, \delta > 0$, such that

$$V(x) \geq \alpha(x^T x)^p \quad \text{for all } x : x^T x \leq r^2$$

$$V(x) \leq \beta(x^T x)^p \quad \text{for all } x : x^T x \leq r^2$$

$$\nabla V(x)^T f(x) + \nabla V(x)^T g(x)k(x) \leq 0 \quad \text{for all } x : x^T x \leq r^2 \quad (\text{BILINEAR})$$

Conclusion:

- Controller $u(t) = k(x(t))$ stabilizes the system for $x(0) \in \{x : V(x) \leq \gamma\}$ if $V_\gamma \subset B_r$.

Problem Statement 6: **Output** Feedback Controller Synthesis (Global Exponential)

Suppose

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}(t) &= f(x(t)) + g(x(t))u(t) & u(t) &= k(y(t)) \\ y(t) &= h(x(t))\end{aligned}$$

Given:

- Vector fields, $f(x)$, $g(x)$, $h(x)$ exponent, p

Find: function functions, k , V , positive scalars $\alpha, \beta, \delta > 0$, such that

$$V(x) \geq \alpha(x^T x)^p \quad \text{for all } x$$

$$V(x) \leq \beta(x^T x)^p \quad \text{for all } x$$

$$\nabla V(x)^T f(x) + \nabla V(x)^T g(x)k(h(x)) \leq -\delta V(x) \quad \text{for all } x$$

Conclusion:

- Controller $u(t) = k(y(t))$ exponentially stabilizes the system for any $x(0) \in \mathbb{R}^n$.

How to Solve these Problems?

General Framework for solving these problems

Convex Optimization of Functions: Variables $V \in \mathcal{C}[\mathbb{R}^n]$ and $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\max_{V, \gamma} \gamma$$

subject to

$$V(x) - x^T x \geq 0 \quad \forall x \in X$$

$$\nabla V(x)^T f(x) + \gamma x^T x \leq 0 \quad \forall x \in X$$

Going Forward

- Assume all functions are polynomials or rationals.
- Assume $X := \{x : g_i(x) \geq 0\}$ (Semialgebraic)