

Lecture 10: Matrix Algebra (3/4)

Dr Gavin M Abernethy

Further Mathematics, Signals and Systems

Lecture 10: The State Variable Description

Today we shall cover:

- Obtaining the **state variable** description of systems of ODEs.
- This is a systematic way of writing a system of ODEs as a matrix equation.

Motivation

- Analysing a circuit may result in a set of ODEs.
- It is possible to solve such systems (i.e. to find a formula for the output) using eigenvalues and eigenvectors.
- But for these techniques to be applied, the system needs to be written as a set of first-order ODEs in the form:

$$\frac{dx_i}{dt} = f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$$

which can then be stated as a matrix equation:

$$\dot{\underline{x}} = A\underline{x} + B\underline{u}$$

- This can be achieved with a **state variable description**.

Theory: The Goal

So, given an ordinary differential equation (ODE) initial value problem of order n .

For example:

$$\frac{d^4x(t)}{dt^4} + a_3\frac{d^3x(t)}{dt^3} + a_2\frac{d^2x(t)}{dt^2} + a_1\frac{dx(t)}{dt} + a_0x(t) = 0$$

The goal is to **rewrite this as a set of n first-order ODEs**:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \frac{dx_1(t)}{dt} = \dots & \frac{dx_2(t)}{dt} = \dots \\ \frac{dx_3(t)}{dt} = \dots & \frac{dx_4(t)}{dt} = \dots \end{array}$$

Theory: The Method

- 1 We define a new set of variables, x_i , called **state variables**.
- 2 Every variable, *apart from external inputs*, generates an additional state variable for each derivative.
- 3 Rearrange to a set of equations for the **derivative of each state variable**, in terms of the state variables and external inputs.

$$\frac{dx_1}{dt} = \dots, \quad \frac{dx_2}{dt} = \dots, \quad \frac{dx_3}{dt} = \dots$$

- 4 Representing these as a single matrix equation:

The state variable description

$$\dot{\underline{x}} = A\underline{x} + B\underline{u}$$

Theory: External control inputs

The state variable description

$$\dot{\underline{x}} = A\underline{x} + B\underline{u}$$

- \underline{x} is the vector containing the state variables x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n .
- $\dot{\underline{x}}$ is the vector containing the first derivative of each state variable $\dot{x}_1, \dot{x}_2, \dots, \dot{x}_n$.
- **External control inputs** are encoded in their own vector $B\underline{u}$.
- If there is no control input for the problem, the state variable description is just:

$$\dot{\underline{x}} = A\underline{x}$$

Theory: Output vector

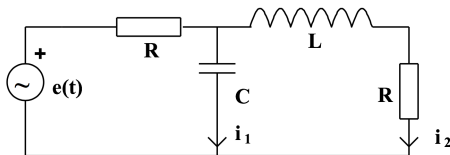
- We may also choose to define some output measurements.
- An output vector $\underline{\mathbf{y}}$ can encode both the **control inputs** and the **measured outputs**, constructed from a linear combination of the state variable and control input vectors:

Output vector:

$$\underline{\mathbf{y}} = \mathbf{C}\underline{\mathbf{x}} + \mathbf{D}\underline{\mathbf{u}}$$

Example 1

Determine the state variable description of the circuit shown.



The currents in this circuit are described by a pair of ODEs:

$$\frac{di_1(t)}{dt} = -\frac{i_1(t)}{CR} - \frac{di_2(t)}{dt} + \frac{1}{R} \frac{de(t)}{dt}$$

$$\frac{d^2 i_2(t)}{dt^2} = -\frac{R}{L} \frac{di_2(t)}{dt} + \frac{i_1(t)}{LC}$$

L , C and R are positive constants and $e(t)$ is an **external input**.

Example 1 - Solution

- This is in effect a third-order system:
- Dependent variable i_1 is differentiated **once** in the equations, so it generates **one** state variable.
- Dependent variable i_2 is differentiated **twice**, and so generates **two** state variables.

$$x_1 \equiv i_1, \quad x_2 \equiv i_2, \quad x_3 \equiv \frac{di_2}{dt}$$

Differentiating these:

$$\frac{dx_1}{dt} = \frac{di_1}{dt}, \quad \frac{dx_2}{dt} = \frac{di_2}{dt}, \quad \frac{dx_3}{dt} = \frac{d^2i_2}{dt^2}$$

Example 1 - Solution

We want a set of equations for the derivative of each state variable, in terms only of the state variables (and the input), and **not featuring any derivatives.**

Substituting into the original equations:

$$\frac{dx_1}{dt} = -\frac{x_1}{CR} - x_3 + \frac{1}{R} \frac{de}{dt}$$

$$\frac{dx_2}{dt} = x_3$$

$$\frac{dx_3}{dt} = -\frac{R}{L}x_3 + \frac{x_1}{LC}$$

Note: Any set of linear ODEs can be manipulated into this **canonical form** of first order ODEs written explicitly as:

$$\dot{x}_i = f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$$

Example 1 - Solution

To see how we can represent this set of equations in matrix form, we need to rewrite them with the coefficients of all state variables (including zeros) in the **same correct order** (x_1 , then x_2 , then x_3):

$$\frac{dx_1}{dt} = -\frac{1}{CR}x_1 + 0x_2 - x_3 + 1 \times \frac{1}{R} \frac{de}{dt}$$

$$\frac{dx_2}{dt} = 0x_1 + 0x_2 + 1x_3 + 0 \times \frac{1}{R} \frac{de}{dt}$$

$$\frac{dx_3}{dt} = \frac{x_1}{LC} + 0x_2 - \frac{R}{L}x_3 + 0 \times \frac{1}{R} \frac{de}{dt}$$

Example 1 - Solution

Then putting these equations as the rows of a matrix:

$$\begin{aligned}\begin{pmatrix} \dot{x}_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 \\ \dot{x}_3 \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{CR}x_1 + 0x_2 - x_3 + 1 \times \frac{1}{R} \frac{de}{dt} \\ 0x_1 + 0x_2 + 1x_3 + 0 \times \frac{1}{R} \frac{de}{dt} \\ \frac{x_1}{LC} + 0x_2 - \frac{R}{L}x_3 + 0 \times \frac{1}{R} \frac{de}{dt} \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{CR}x_1 + 0x_2 - x_3 \\ 0x_1 + 0x_2 + 1x_3 \\ \frac{x_1}{LC} + 0x_2 - \frac{R}{L}x_3 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \times \frac{1}{R} \frac{de}{dt} \\ 0 \times \frac{1}{R} \frac{de}{dt} \\ 0 \times \frac{1}{R} \frac{de}{dt} \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{CR} & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ \frac{1}{LC} & 0 & -\frac{R}{L} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \left(\frac{1}{R} \frac{de}{dt} \right)\end{aligned}$$

Example 1 - Solution

Hence: $\dot{\underline{\mathbf{x}}} = A\underline{\mathbf{x}} + B\underline{\mathbf{u}}$

where

$$\underline{\mathbf{x}} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad A = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{CR} & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ \frac{1}{LC} & 0 & -\frac{R}{L} \end{pmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \underline{\mathbf{u}} = \left(\frac{1}{R} \frac{de}{dt} \right)$$

- The column vector $\underline{\mathbf{x}}$ is the vector of **state variables**.
- $\dot{\underline{\mathbf{x}}} = A\underline{\mathbf{x}} + B\underline{\mathbf{u}}$ is the **state variable description** or **state variable equations**.
- $A\underline{\mathbf{x}}$ represents the internal feedback (or internal control).
- $B\underline{\mathbf{u}}$ encodes the single external “control”.

Example 2

A control system is modelled by the following fourth-order ordinary differential equation:

$$\frac{d^4x(t)}{dt^4} + a_3 \frac{d^3x(t)}{dt^3} + a_2 \frac{d^2x(t)}{dt^2} + a_1 \frac{dx(t)}{dt} + a_0x(t) = 0$$

where $x(t)$ is a scalar and the **output** of the system.

There is **no external control input** in this example.

In the case of a system described by a single n^{th} order ordinary differential equation without external control, the state equations will be of the form $\dot{\underline{x}} = A\underline{x}$, and A will have special properties.

Example 2 - Solution

The dependent variable x is differentiated **four** times, so it generates **four** state variables:

$$x_1 \equiv x, \quad x_2 \equiv \frac{dx}{dt}, \quad x_3 \equiv \frac{d^2x}{dt^2}, \quad x_4 \equiv \frac{d^3x}{dt^3}$$

Differentiating:

$$\frac{dx_1}{dt} = \frac{dx}{dt}, \quad \frac{dx_2}{dt} = \frac{d^2x}{dt^2}, \quad \frac{dx_3}{dt} = \frac{d^3x}{dt^3}, \quad \frac{dx_4}{dt} = \frac{d^4x}{dt^4}$$

Then substitute in the original ODE, and rearrange to obtain equations for $\frac{dx_i}{dt}$ in terms of x_i .

Example 2 - Solution

$$\frac{dx_1}{dt} = x_2$$

$$\frac{dx_2}{dt} = x_3$$

$$\frac{dx_3}{dt} = x_4$$

$$\frac{dx_4}{dt} = -a_0x_1 - a_1x_2 - a_2x_3 - a_3x_4$$

This may be written as $\dot{\underline{x}} = A\underline{x}$, where:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ -a_0 & -a_1 & -a_2 & -a_3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \underline{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{pmatrix}$$

Example 2 - Solution

In this case, there is no $D\underline{u}$ term because there is no control input.

The state variable matrix A is in **companion form**.

Companion form

A **companion matrix** A consists of 1's in the entries that are one above the diagonal, any real numbers in the bottom row entries, and zeros elsewhere.

This is a standard feature of A when $\dot{\underline{x}} = A\underline{x}$ is obtained from a single n^{th} order ODE.

Example 2 - Solution

The output, as specified, is the original variable x which is identical to state variable x_1 . The output vector is:

$$\underline{y} = (x) = (x_1) = (1x_1 + 0x_2 + 0x_3 + 0x_4) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\therefore \underline{y} = C\underline{x}$$

$$\text{where } C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \underline{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{pmatrix}$$

As with the state variable description,

No control input \implies no $D\underline{u}$ term in the output.

Eigenmode solutions to systems without external control

A system without external control has a state variable representation $\dot{\underline{\mathbf{x}}} = A\underline{\mathbf{x}}$, where A is a square matrix.

Eigenmodes

For each eigenvalue λ_i and eigenvector $\underline{\mathbf{b}}_i$ pair for A , the corresponding **eigenmode** is:

$$\underline{\mathbf{x}}(t) = c_i \underline{\mathbf{b}}_i e^{\lambda_i t} \quad \text{where } c_i \text{ is any scalar.}$$

These time-dependent functions describe natural vibrations of the system where all parts move at the same frequency.

Example of calculating eigenmodes

The state variables for a certain electronic system are given by:

$$\dot{\underline{\mathbf{x}}} = A\underline{\mathbf{x}}, \quad \text{where} \quad A = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

The eigenvalue and eigenvector pairs for A are:

$$\lambda_1 = 1, \quad \underline{\mathbf{b}}_1 = \alpha \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}; \quad \lambda_2 = 6, \quad \underline{\mathbf{b}}_2 = \beta \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Therefore there are two eigenmodes:

$$\underline{\mathbf{x}}_1 = e^t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}; \quad \underline{\mathbf{x}}_2 = e^{6t} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

or any scalar multiples of each of these.

Eigenmode solutions to systems without external control

What does it mean to “solve” a system?

Eigenmode solutions to systems without external control

- “Solving” means obtaining a function for the state variables \underline{x} , so that if we know some initial conditions then we can predict the value of all of the state variables at any future time.
- Adding the eigenmodes of the state variable matrix, scaled by some particular constants, gives the full solution.

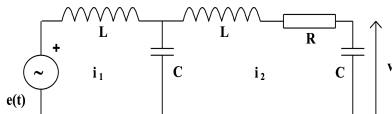
Solution from eigenmodes:

$$\underline{x}(t) = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i \underline{b}_i e^{\lambda_i t} \quad (\text{but what should the value of } c_i \text{ be?})$$

- To actually find the specific values of the constants c_i , we will need a diagonalisation technique that we shall see next week.

Example 3

Determine the state variable description of this circuit:



$$e(t) = L \frac{di_1(t)}{dt} + \frac{1}{C} \int_0^t (i_1(t) - i_2(t)) dt$$

$$\frac{1}{C} \int_0^t (i_2(t) - i_1(t)) dt + Ri_2(t) + L \frac{di_2(t)}{dt} + \frac{1}{C} \int_0^t i_2(t) dt = 0$$

$$v(t) = \frac{1}{C} \int_0^t i_2(t) dt$$

$e(t)$ is an input; R , C , L are constants; and the output is $z = L \frac{di_2}{dt}$

Example 3 - Solution

Before introducing the state variables, differentiate these equations to remove the integrals:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{de}{dt} &= L \frac{d^2 i_1}{dt^2} + \frac{1}{C}(i_1 - i_2) \\ \frac{1}{C}(i_2 - i_1) + R \frac{di_2}{dt} + L \frac{d^2 i_2}{dt^2} + \frac{1}{C} i_2 &= 0 \\ \frac{dv}{dt} &= \frac{1}{C} i_2\end{aligned}$$

Rearranging,

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d^2 i_1}{dt^2} &= -\frac{1}{LC} i_1 + \frac{1}{LC} i_2 + \frac{1}{L} \frac{de}{dt} \\ \frac{d^2 i_2}{dt^2} &= \frac{1}{LC} i_1 - \frac{2}{LC} i_2 - \frac{R}{L} \frac{di_2}{dt} \\ \frac{dv}{dt} &= \frac{1}{C} i_2\end{aligned}$$

Example 3 - Solution

i_1 and i_2 are each differentiated **twice**, and so generate **two** state variables **each**.

v is differentiated **once**, generating **one** additional state variable.

Hence define five state variables x_1, \dots, x_5 :

$$x_1 \equiv i_1, \quad x_2 \equiv \frac{di_1}{dt}, \quad x_3 \equiv i_2, \quad x_4 \equiv \frac{di_2}{dt}, \quad x_5 \equiv v.$$

Differentiating:

$$\frac{dx_1}{dt} = \frac{di_1}{dt}, \quad \frac{dx_2}{dt} = \frac{d^2 i_1}{dt^2}, \quad \frac{dx_3}{dt} = \frac{di_2}{dt}$$

$$\frac{dx_4}{dt} = \frac{d^2 i_2}{dt^2}, \quad \frac{dx_5}{dt} = \frac{dv}{dt}$$

Example 3 - Solution

Substitute in the original equations to obtain equations for $\frac{dx_i}{dt}$ in terms of x_j :

$$\frac{dx_1}{dt} = x_2$$

$$\frac{dx_2}{dt} = -\frac{1}{LC}x_1 + \frac{1}{LC}x_3 + \frac{1}{L}\frac{de}{dt}$$

$$\frac{dx_3}{dt} = x_4$$

$$\frac{dx_4}{dt} = \frac{1}{LC}x_1 - \frac{2}{LC}x_3 - \frac{R}{L}x_4$$

$$\frac{dx_5}{dt} = \frac{1}{C}x_3$$

and we have $z = Lx_4$ as a measured output.

Example 3 - Solution

Explicitly writing in all the coefficients:

$$\frac{dx_1}{dt} = 0x_1 + 1x_2 + 0x_3 + 0x_4 + 0x_5 + 0\frac{de}{dt}$$

$$\frac{dx_2}{dt} = -\frac{1}{LC}x_1 + 0x_2 + \frac{1}{LC}x_3 + 0x_4 + 0x_5 + \frac{1}{L}\frac{de}{dt}$$

$$\frac{dx_3}{dt} = 0x_1 + 0x_2 + 0x_3 + 1x_4 + 0x_5 + 0\frac{de}{dt}$$

$$\frac{dx_4}{dt} = \frac{1}{LC}x_1 + 0x_2 - \frac{2}{LC}x_3 - \frac{R}{L}x_4 + 0x_5 + 0\frac{de}{dt}$$

$$\frac{dx_5}{dt} = 0x_1 + 0x_2 + \frac{1}{C}x_3 + 0x_4 + 0x_5 + 0\frac{de}{dt}$$

Example 3 - Solution

The state variable description is therefore:

$$\dot{\underline{\mathbf{x}}} = \underline{\mathbf{A}}\underline{\mathbf{x}} + \underline{\mathbf{B}}\underline{\mathbf{u}}$$

where

$$\underline{\mathbf{A}} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{-1}{LC} & 0 & \frac{1}{LC} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{LC} & 0 & \frac{-2}{LC} & \frac{-R}{L} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{C} & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \underline{\mathbf{x}} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \underline{\mathbf{B}} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \underline{\mathbf{u}} = \left(\frac{1}{L} \frac{de}{dt} \right)$$

Example 3 - Solution

There is one true output $z = Lx_4$ and the control input is $\frac{1}{L} \frac{de}{dt}$.

The output vector \underline{y} can encode both of these:

$$\begin{aligned}\underline{y} &= \begin{pmatrix} z \\ \frac{1}{L} \frac{de}{dt} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} Lx_4 \\ \frac{1}{L} \frac{de}{dt} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} Lx_4 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{1}{L} \frac{de}{dt} \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 0x_1 + 0x_2 + 0x_3 + Lx_4 + 0x_5 \\ 0x_1 + 0x_2 + 0x_3 + 0x_4 + 0x_5 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \times \frac{1}{L} \frac{de}{dt} \\ \frac{1}{L} \frac{de}{dt} \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & L & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \left(\frac{1}{L} \frac{de}{dt} \right)\end{aligned}$$

Example 3 - Solution

or

$$\underline{\mathbf{y}} = C\underline{\mathbf{x}} + D\underline{\mathbf{u}}$$

where

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & L & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \underline{\mathbf{x}} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{pmatrix}, \quad D = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \underline{\mathbf{u}} = \left(\frac{1}{L} \frac{de}{dt} \right)$$

Summary

After today, you should be able to ...

- Determine the appropriate number of state variables for a system.
- Obtain the state variable description.
- Obtain a suitable output vector if appropriate.
- Write down the eigenmodes for a system without external control.

This Week

This week's lecture corresponds to Section 4.3 of the Course Notes.

Before this week's tutorial:

- Attempt Tutorial sheet 10

In the following lecture we will use these ideas to help us **solve** systems of ODEs.

Extra Question: Tutorial Sheet 10, Question 1(a)

A control system with internal feedback has external control inputs $e_1(t)$ and $e_2(t)$. The output voltages $v_1(t)$ and $v_2(t)$ obey:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d^2 v_1}{dt^2} &= 4v_1 - 5v_2 + 5e_1 \\ \frac{dv_2}{dt} &= 6v_1 - 6v_2 + 3\frac{dv_1}{dt} + 2e_2\end{aligned}$$

It is possible to measure both inputs and v_1 only.

Obtain the state variable equations in the form $\dot{\mathbf{x}} = A\mathbf{x} + B\mathbf{u}$ where A is a 3×3 matrix, \mathbf{x} is a 3-dimensional vector of suitably-defined state variables, B is a 3×2 matrix, and \mathbf{u} is a 2-dimensional vector of the external controls.

Also obtain a suitable output vector (encoding the true output and the control input) in the form $\mathbf{y} = C\mathbf{x} + D\mathbf{u}$.