

Strongly Exponentially Separated Linear Systems

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- 2 Exponential dichotomy

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Exponential separation

Let $A(t)$, $t \in I$ be a (possibly unbounded) $n \times n$ continuous matrix.

Exponential separation

The linear system $\dot{x} = A(t)x$ is said to be **exponentially separated** of rank r on the interval I if there exist two non-trivial, invariant subspaces $V_s(t)$, $V_u(t)$ such that $\mathbb{R}^n = V_s(t) \oplus V_u(t)$, $\text{rank } V_s(t) = r$, and constants $k \geq 1$, $\alpha > 0$ such that for any pair of non zero solutions $x(t) \in V_s(t)$ and $y(t) \in V_u(t)$ it results

$$\frac{|x(t)|}{|x(s)|} \frac{|y(s)|}{|y(t)|} \leq ke^{-\alpha(t-s)}$$

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$V_s(t)$: **stable space** and $V_u(t)$: **unstable space**. $P(t)$: proj. on \mathbb{R}^n :
 $\mathcal{R}P(t) = V_s(t)$, $\mathcal{N}P(t) = V_u(t) \Rightarrow X(t, s) : V_{s,u}(s) \rightarrow V_{s,u}(t)$

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Proposition

An ES linear system on $[T, \infty)$, $T > 0$ is also ES on $[0, \infty)$ with the same rank. Similarly, an ES linear system on $(-\infty, T]$, $T < 0$ is also ES on $(-\infty, 0]$ with the same rank.

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Proposition

For exponentially separated systems on \mathbb{R}_+ the stable subspace is uniquely defined (for a given dimension) and for exponentially separated systems on \mathbb{R}_- the unstable subspace is uniquely defined. The other subspace can be any complement.

Proposition (Adriano, 1995)

When the Lyapunov exponents are distinct, they vary continuously with respect to perturbations of the coefficient matrix if and only if the system is integrally separated

Proposition

A system is ES on \mathbb{R} if and only

- if it is ES on \mathbb{R}_+ and \mathbb{R}_- ,
- the respective ranks are the same
- the stable subspace on \mathbb{R}_+ and the unstable subspace on \mathbb{R}_- intersect in $\{0\}$ at $t = 0$.

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Since $X(t, s)P(s) \in \mathcal{R}P(t)$ and $X(t, s)(\mathbb{I} - P(s)) \in \mathcal{N}P(t)$ we get
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- i) $X(t, s)P(s) = P(t)X(t, s)$, for all $s, t \in I$;
- ii) $\|X(t, s)P(s)\| \leq ke^{-\alpha(t-s)}$, for all $s \leq t \in I$;
- iii) $\|X(s, t)[\mathbb{I} - P(t)]\| \leq ke^{-\alpha(t-s)}$, for all $s \leq t \in I$;

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Perron, 1930; Massera and Shaffer, 1966; Coppel 1978...

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Indeed, write $x := X(s, 0)P(0)\xi$, $y := X(t, 0)(\mathbb{I} - P(0))\eta$ and set $x(t) = X(t, 0)P(0)\xi$, $y(t) = X(t, 0)(\mathbb{I} - P(0))\eta$:

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and the inequality follows. Viceversa, replace x and y with $x(s) := X(s, 0)x \in \mathcal{R}P(s)$ and $y(t) := X(t, 0)y \in \mathcal{N}P(t)$. ED implies ES with the same projection (and hence rank)

Strong exponential separation

Writing $P(s)x$ and $(\mathbb{I} - P(s))y$ instead of x, y resp. we get:

$$|X(t, s)P(s)x| |X(s, t)(\mathbb{I} - P(t))y| \leq Ke^{-\alpha(t-s)} |P(s)x| |(\mathbb{I} - P(t))y|.$$

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$\dot{x} = A(t)x$ is **Strongly Exponentially Separated** with projection $P(t) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$, if it is exponentially separated with projection $P(t)$ and $P(t)$ is bounded.

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Strong exponential separation condition

$\dot{x} = A(t)x$ is Strongly Exponentially Separated with projection $P(t) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ if and only if

$$|X(t, s)P(s)| |X(s, t)(\mathbb{I} - P(s))| \leq Ke^{-\alpha(t-s)}.$$

Proposition

If $\dot{x} = A(t)x$ is ES (resp. SES) with projection $P(t)$ and $Q(t)$ is another projection with $\mathcal{R}Q(t) = \mathcal{R}P(t)$, then $\dot{x} = A(t)x$ is ES (resp. SES) with projection $Q(t)$

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Example: $\dot{u} = u + e^t v$, $\dot{v} = 2v$ has the two solutions $x(t) = (e^t, 0)$, $y(t) = (e^{3t}, 2e^{2t})$ and $\frac{|x(t)|}{|x(s)|} \frac{|y(s)|}{|y(t)|} \leq Ke^{-2(t-s)}$, for $0 \leq s \leq t$. So it is ES with projection $P(t) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -\frac{1}{2}e^t \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$. But $P(t)$ is not bounded hence the system is not SES.

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Proposition

If $\dot{x} = A(t)x$ is SES on I with projection $P(t)$ then its adjoint system $\dot{x} = -A(t)^*x$ is SES on I with projection $\mathbb{I} - P(t)^*$.

Proof. A fundamental system of $\dot{x} = -A(t)^*x$ is
 $Y(t, s) = X(s, t)^*$ and

$$\begin{aligned} Y(t, s)[\mathbb{I} - P(s)^*] &= X(s, t)^*[\mathbb{I} - P(s)^*] = [(\mathbb{I} - P(s))X(s, t)]^* \\ &= [X(s, t)(\mathbb{I} - P(t))]^* \\ Y(s, t)P(t)^* &= X(t, s)^*P(t)^* = [P(t)X(t, s)]^* = [X(t, s)P(s)]^* \end{aligned}$$

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Conclusion is obvious.

Example

Consider the system

$$\dot{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 & -e^t \\ 0 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} x$$

A fundamental matrix is

$$X(t) = \begin{pmatrix} e^{3t} & 0 & e^{2t} \\ 0 & e^{2t} & e^t \\ 0 & 0 & e^t \end{pmatrix} := (x(t), y_1(t), y_2(t))$$

Take $V_s(t) = \text{span}\{y_1(t), y_2(t)\}$, $V_u(t) = \text{span}\{x(t)\}$. Let $y(t) = \alpha y_1(t) + \beta y_2(t)$, $\alpha^2 + \beta^2 \neq 0$. We have (take the ℓ^1 -norm)

$$\begin{aligned} |\alpha| + |\beta| &\leq |y(t)e^{-2t}| = |\beta| + |\alpha + \beta e^{-t}| + |\beta e^{-t}| \leq |\alpha| + 3|\beta| \\ |x(t)| &= e^{3t} \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$e^{-(t-s)} \leq \frac{|y(t)| |x(s)|}{|y(s)| |x(t)|} \leq \frac{|\alpha| + 3|\beta|}{|\alpha| + |\beta|} e^{-(t-s)} \leq 3e^{-(t-s)}$$

Hence

$$e^{-(t-s)} \leq \frac{|y(t)|}{|y(s)|} \frac{|x(s)|}{|x(t)|} \leq \frac{|\alpha| + 3|\beta|}{|\alpha| + |\beta|} e^{-(t-s)} \leq 3e^{-(t-s)}$$

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The system is ES but not SES. A fundamental matrix of the adjoint system is

$$Y(t) = X(t)^{-1,*} X(0)^* = \begin{pmatrix} e^{-3t} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-2t} & 0 \\ e^{-t} - e^{-2t} & e^{-t} - e^{-2t} & e^{-t} \end{pmatrix}$$

and we have

$$Y(t)(\mathbb{I} - P(0)^*) = \begin{pmatrix} e^{-3t} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -e^{-2t} & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$Y(t)P(0)^* = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-2t} & 0 \\ e^{-t} & e^{-t} - e^{-2t} & e^{-t} \end{pmatrix}$$

so $V_s^*(t) = \text{span}\{u(t)\}$, $V_u^*(t) = \text{span}\{v_1(t), v_2(t)\}$ with

$$u(t) := \begin{pmatrix} e^{-3t} \\ 0 \\ -e^{-2t} \end{pmatrix}, \quad v_1(t) := \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ e^{-t} \end{pmatrix}, \quad v_2(t) := \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ e^{-2t} \\ -e^{-2t} \end{pmatrix}$$

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But (with the ℓ^1 -norm)

$$e^{-2t} \leq |u(t)| = e^{-2t}(1 + e^{-t}) \leq 2e^{-2t}, \quad |v_2(t)| = 2e^{-2t}.$$

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The adjoint system is not ES with projection $(\mathbb{I} - P(t)^*)$.

Kinematic similarity and reducibility

- 1) Systems $\dot{x} = A(t)x$ and $\dot{y} = B(t)y$ are **kinematically similar** if there exists a bounded, invertible continuously differentiable matrix function $S(t)$ with bounded inverse such that the transformation $x = S(t)y$ takes $\dot{x} = A(t)x$ and $\dot{y} = B(t)y$.
- 2) A system is **reducible** if it is kinematically similar to a block diagonal system

$$\dot{y} = \begin{pmatrix} A_1(t) & 0 \\ 0 & A_2(t) \end{pmatrix} y.$$

- 3) A system is reducible if and only if it has a fundamental matrix $X(t)$ such that $P(t) = X(t)PX^{-1}(t)$ is bounded, where P is a projection of rank $\neq 0, n$.

Proposition

If $\dot{x} = A(t)x$ is ES with projection $P(t)$ and $A(t)$ is bounded, then $P(t)$ is bounded. Thus $\dot{x} = A(t)x$ is reducible and SES.

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$P(t) = S(t)PS^{-1}(t)$, where $P = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{I}_r & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ with $r =$ the rank of

$P(t)$. Then the transformation $x = S(t)y$ takes $\dot{x} = A(t)x$ into a system for which a fundamental matrix is $Y(t) = S^{-1}(t)X(t)$ which commutes with P . So the transformed system has the form

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{y}_1 &= A_1(t)y_1 \\ \dot{y}_2 &= A_2(t)y_2\end{aligned}$$

and hence $\dot{x} = A(t)x$ is reducible.

Roughness

Preliminary Lemma

Let $X_1(t, s)$, $X_2(t, s)$ be the transition matrices of the systems $\dot{x}_1 = A_1(t)x_1$, $\dot{x}_2 = A_2(t)x_2$. Suppose there exist positive constants K and α such that $|X_1(t, s)||X_2(s, t)| \leq Ke^{-\alpha(t-s)}$, $s \leq t \in J$. Then there exists $\delta > 0$ such that if $|C_i(t)| \leq \delta$, $i = 1, 2$, the fundamental matrices $\tilde{X}_1(t, s)$, $\tilde{X}_2(t, s)$ of the perturbed linear systems $\dot{x}_1 = [A_1(t) + C_1(t)]x_1$ and $\dot{x}_2 = [A_2(t) + C_2(t)]x_2$ satisfy:

$$|\tilde{X}_1(t, s)||\tilde{X}_2(t, s)| \leq Ke^{-(\alpha-2K\delta)(t-s)}$$

$$s \leq t \in J.$$

Sketch of proof

Let $\dot{x}_2(t) = A_2(t)x_2(t)$, $x_2(t) \neq 0$. Set $p(t) = \frac{d}{dt} \log |x_2(t)|$. Then

$$|X_1(t)| |x_2(s)| = |X_1(t)| |X_2(s, t)x_2(t)| \leq Ke^{-\alpha(t-s)} |x_2(t)|$$

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$$\begin{aligned} |\tilde{X}_1(t)| &\leq Ke^{-(\alpha - K\delta)(t-s)} \frac{|x_2(t)|}{|x_2(s)|} \Leftrightarrow \\ |\tilde{X}_1(t)| |X_2(s, t)x_2(t)| &\leq Ke^{-(\alpha - K\delta)(t-s)} |x_2(t)| \end{aligned}$$

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Hence $|\tilde{X}_1(t)| |X_2(s, t)| \leq Ke^{-(\alpha - K\delta)(t-s)}$. Now we take $x_1(t) \neq 0$ such that $\dot{x}_1(t) = [A_1(t) + C_1(t)]x_1(t)$ and apply a similar argument as the above to get the result.

Roughness

R-Theorem

Suppose $\dot{x} = A(t)x$ is SES on an interval J with projection $P(t)$. Then $\exists \delta > 0$ such that if $|B(t)| \leq \delta$, the perturbed system $\dot{x} = [A(t) + B(t)]x$ is also strongly exponentially separated with projection $Q(t)$ of the same rank and there exists a constant N such that $|Q(t) - P(t)| \leq N\delta, \forall t \in J$.

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Sketch of proof. Let $T(t)$ be a kinematic similarity that takes $\dot{x} = A(t)x$ into $\dot{x}_1 = A_1(t)x_1, \dot{x}_2 = A_1(t)x_2$. If we apply the same transformation to the perturbed system we get

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}_1 &= [A_1(t) + C_{11}(t)]x_1 + C_{12}(t)x_2, & |C_{11}(t)|, |C_{12}(t)| &\leq \tilde{\delta} \\ \dot{x}_2 &= C_{21}(t)x_1 + [A_2(t) + C_{22}(t)]x_2, & |C_{21}(t)|, |C_{22}(t)| &\leq \tilde{\delta}\end{aligned}$$

Now we apply the transformation $S(t) = \begin{pmatrix} I & H_{12}(t) \\ H_{21}(t) & I \end{pmatrix}$.

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Exp Separation in upper triangular systems

We write

$$\text{triang}(A_{ij}) = \begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} & A_{13} & \dots & A_{1k} \\ 0 & A_{22} & A_{23} & \dots & A_{2k} \\ 0 & 0 & A_{33} & \dots & A_{3k} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & A_{kk} \end{pmatrix}$$

and

$$\text{diag}(A_i) = \begin{pmatrix} A_1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & A_2 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & A_3 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & A_k \end{pmatrix}$$

A Lemma

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- i) If a upper-triangular system $\dot{x} = \text{triang}(A_{ij})x$ is SES on J the projection at $t = 0$ can be taken as:

$$P(0) = \text{triang}(P_{ij})x$$

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Proposition

Suppose $A_{ij}(t)$ is bounded for $i < j$. If $\dot{x} = \text{diag}(A_{ii}(t))x$ is SES then also $\dot{x} = \text{triang}(A_{ij}(t))x$ is SES.

Proof. Let $S = \text{diag}(\beta^{i-1}I_{n_i})$ and $Sy = x$. We get

$$\dot{y} = \text{triang}(\beta^{j-i}A_{ij}(t))y. \quad (1)$$

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Boundedness and SES assumption cannot be easily removed.

Examples

$$\dot{u} = u + \beta e^t v, \quad \dot{v} = 0$$

Examples

$\dot{u} = u + \beta e^t v, \quad \dot{v} = 0$ The diagonal system is SES, with projection $P(t) = \text{diag}(0, 1)$. If the β -triangular system is SES the projection $Q(t)$ is close to $P(t) = \text{diag}(0, 1)$. So we can assume $\ker Q(0) = \ker P(0) = \langle e_1 \rangle$. That is $Q(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & a \\ 0 & b \end{pmatrix}$ and $b^2 = 1, ab = a$. The only choices are $(a, b) = (0, -1)$ or $a \in \mathbb{R}$ and $b = 1$. The fundamental matrix of the β -triangular system is

$$Y_\beta(t) = \begin{pmatrix} e^t & \beta t e^t \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

then either $Y_\beta(t)Q(0)Y_\beta^{-1}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -\beta te^t \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$ or
 $= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & (a + \beta t)e^t \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$. In both cases $Q(t)$ is not bounded.

Proposition

Suppose $\dot{x} = \text{triang}(A_{ij}(t))x$ is SES. Then $\dot{x} = \text{diag}(A_{ii}(t))x$ is SES.

The transition matrices $X(t, s)$ of the diagonal and $\tilde{X}(t, s)$ of the upper triangular, system are:

$$\begin{pmatrix} X_1(t, s) & * & \dots & * \\ 0 & X_2(t, s) & \dots & * \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & X_m(t, s) \end{pmatrix}$$

where $* = 0$ for $X(t, s)$ and $* = W_{ij}(t, s)$, $i < j$, for $\tilde{X}(t, s)$.

Similarly the projections $P(t)$, $\tilde{P}(t)$ of the ES are like

$$\begin{pmatrix} P_1(t) & * & \dots & * \\ 0 & P_2(t) & \dots & * \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & P_m(t) \end{pmatrix}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} & |X(t, s)P(s)| |X(t, s)[\mathbb{I} - P(s)]| \\ & \leq |\tilde{X}(t, s)\tilde{P}(s)| |\tilde{X}(t, s)[\mathbb{I} - \tilde{P}(s)]| \leq Ke^{-\alpha(t-s)}. \end{aligned}$$

Corollary

Suppose $a_{ij}(t)$, $1 \leq i < j \leq n$ are bounded. Then $\dot{x} = \text{triang}(a_{ij}(t))x$ is ES if and only if its diagonal part $\dot{x}_i = a_{ii}(t)x_i$, $1 \leq i \leq n$ is ES. Moreover $\dot{x}_i = a_{ii}(t)x_i$ is ES if and only if the set $\mathcal{I} = \{1, \dots, n\}$ can be split into the disjoint union $\mathcal{I} = \mathcal{I}_1 \dot{\cup} \mathcal{I}_2$ and there exist $K \geq 1$ and $\alpha > 0$ such that

$$\int_s^t a_i(u) - a_j(u) du \leq K - \alpha(t - s)$$

for any $i \in \mathcal{I}_1$ and $j \in \mathcal{I}_2$ and for all $s \leq t$, $s, t \in I$.

Hamiltonian systems

If $\dot{x} = A(t)x$, $x \in \mathbb{R}^{2n}$, is Hamiltonian then its fundamental matrix $X(t)$ is symplectic, that is

$$X(t)^* J X(t) = J, \quad \text{where} \quad J = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & I_n \\ -I_n & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

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Theorem

Let $\dot{x} = A(t)x$ be a linear Hamiltonian system, where $A(t)$ is bounded and piecewise continuous. If $\dot{x} = A(t)x$ is SES on an interval $I = \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R}_+, \mathbb{R}_-$ and the stable and unstable subspaces have the same dimension ($= n$). Then it has an exponential dichotomy on I with stable subspace of dimension n .

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Proof on \mathbb{R}_+ . Write

$$X(t) = \begin{pmatrix} X_{11}(t) & X_{12}(t) \\ X_{21}(t) & X_{22}(t) \end{pmatrix}$$

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$$\begin{pmatrix} X_{11}(t) \\ X_{21}(t) \end{pmatrix} = Q(t)R(t) = \begin{pmatrix} Q_{11}(t) \\ Q_{21}(t) \end{pmatrix} R_{11}(t).$$

where the columns of $Q(t)$ are orthonormal and $R(t)$ is upper triangular with positive diagonal entries.

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$$G(t) = \begin{pmatrix} Q_{11}(t) & -Q_{21}(t) \\ Q_{21}(t) & Q_{11}(t) \end{pmatrix}$$

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$$\dot{y} = B(t)y, \quad B(t) = G(t)^{-1}[A(t)G(t) - \dot{G}(t)]$$

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Can be proved: $G(B + B^*)G^* = A + A^*$. Hence

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It follows that $\dot{x} = A(t)x$ and $\dot{y} = B(t)y$ are kinematically similar. Hence both $\dot{x} = A(t)x$ and $\dot{y} = B(t)y$ have an ED or not. Since a fundamental matrix of $\dot{x} = A(t)x$ is $X(t)$, a fundamental matrix of $\dot{y} = B(t)y$ is $Y(t) = G^{-1}(t)X(t) = R(t)$. So $B(t) = \dot{R}(t)R(t)^{-1}$ is block upper triangular. Write $\dot{y} = B(t)y$ as

$$\begin{cases} \dot{y}_1 = B_{11}(t)y_1 + B_{12}(t)y_2 \\ \dot{y}_2 = B_{22}(t)y_2 \end{cases}$$

where $B_{11} = \dot{R}_{11}(t)R_{11}(t)^{-1}$ and

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where $B_{11} = \dot{R}_{11}(t)R_{11}(t)^{-1}$ and $B_{22} = \dots = -B_{11}^*$.

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Theorem

Let $\dot{x} = \begin{pmatrix} A_1(t) & C(t) \\ 0 & A_2(t) \end{pmatrix} x$ be an upper triangular system, with $C(t)$ bounded. If the diagonal system $\begin{cases} \dot{x}_1 = A_1(t)x_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 = A_2(t)x_2 \end{cases}$ has an ED on $I = \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R}_+, \mathbb{R}_-$ with projection of rank r then the triangular system has an ED on I with projection of rank r .

- Since $B_{22}(t) = -B_{11}^*(t)$ is lower diagonal we reverse order of the last n variables. This corresponds to replace y_2 with, say $J_n y_2$, $J_n^2 = \mathbb{I}$. The equations become $\dot{z}_1 = B_{11}(t)z_1 + B_{12}(t)J_n z_2$, $\dot{z}_2 = J_n B_{22}(t)J_n z_2$, where $J_n B_{22}(t)J_n$ is upper triangular with the same diagonal elements as $B_{22}(t)$ which are the opposite of those of $B_{11}(t)$.

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- the transformed system is SES on \mathbb{R}_+ , hence so is the diagonal system $\dot{z}_1 = C_1(t)z_1$, $\dot{z}_2 = -C_1(t)z_2$ where $C_1(t)$ is obtained from $B_{11}(t)$ changing to 0 all out-of-diagonal terms.

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- This diagonal system reads $\dot{z}_j = c_j z_j$, $1 \leq j \leq 2n$ (little change of notation, hopefully you don't mind) with $c_{j+n} = -c_j$, $1 \leq j \leq n$.

It follows that $\{1, \dots, 2n\} = \mathcal{I} \dot{\cup} \mathcal{I}^c$, where

$$i \in \mathcal{I}, j \in \mathcal{I}^c \Leftrightarrow \int_s^t c_i(u) - c_j(u) du \leq K - \alpha(t - s)$$

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for any $s \leq t$. One proves that i and $i + n \bmod 2n$ cannot belong both to \mathcal{I} or \mathcal{I}^c . Let $i \in \mathcal{I}_1$. Then $i + n \in \mathcal{I}_2$ and so

$$2 \int_s^t c_i(u) du = \int_s^t c_i(u) - c_{i+n}(u) \leq K - \alpha(t - s)$$

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the diagonal system (and hence also the original) has an ED on \mathbb{R}_+ with projection of rank n . Similar arguments works on \mathbb{R}_- . When $I = \mathbb{R}$, the system has an ED on both half-lines. A careful study of the intersection of the stable space for \mathbb{R}_+ and the unstable space for \mathbb{R}_- show that they intersect in the 0 vector and hence the ED is on \mathbb{R} .

The end

Thanks for the attention

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