

# MATH 226: Differential Equations

## DIFFERENTIAL EQUATION

HOW TO FIND

$e^{At}$

$$e^{At} = 1 + \frac{At}{1!} + \frac{(At)^2}{2!} + \frac{(At)^3}{3!} + \cdots + \frac{(At)^n}{n!}$$

$$= \sum_{i=0}^n \frac{1}{n!} A^n t^n$$

Class 22: April 7, 2025



Notes on Assignment 13

Assignment 15

Sample Exam 2

Notes on Sample Exam 2

Matrix Exponential Power Series

Computing Matrix Exponential From a Fundamental Matriix

# Announcements

**Exam 2: Wednesday, November 16**

## Defective Matrices

Suppose  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of an  $n \times n$  Matrix  $A$  with algebraic multiplicity 3 and geometric multiplicity 1.

Let  $\mathbf{v}$  be an eigenvector associated with  $\lambda$  and  $\mathbf{w}$  and  $\mathbf{u}$  are vectors such that

$$(A - \lambda I)\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{v}$$

$$(A - \lambda I)\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{w}$$

. Then

- ▶ (1)  $\{\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{u}\}$  is a linearly independent set of vectors
- ▶ (2) Each of  $e^{\lambda t}\mathbf{v}$ ,  $te^{\lambda t}\mathbf{v} + e^{\lambda t}\mathbf{w}$ , and  $\frac{t^2}{2}e^{\lambda t}\mathbf{v} + te^{\lambda t}\mathbf{w} + e^{\lambda t}\mathbf{u}$ , is a solution of  $\mathbf{X}' = A\mathbf{X}$ .
- ▶ (3)  $\{e^{\lambda t}\mathbf{v}, te^{\lambda t}\mathbf{v} + e^{\lambda t}\mathbf{w}, \frac{t^2}{2}e^{\lambda t}\mathbf{v} + te^{\lambda t}\mathbf{w} + e^{\lambda t}\mathbf{u}\}$  is a linearly independent set of solutions.

$\{\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{u}\}$  is a linearly independent set of vectors.

Proof:

Use  $(A - \lambda I)\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$ ,  $(A - \lambda I)\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{v}$ ,  $(A - \lambda I)\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{w}$

Suppose (\*)  $C_1\mathbf{v} + C_2\mathbf{w} + C_3\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{0}$  for some constants  $C_1, C_2, C_3$

Multiply (\*) by  $(A - \lambda I)$ :

$$C_1(A - \lambda I)\mathbf{v} + C_2(A - \lambda I)\mathbf{w} + C_3(A - \lambda I)\mathbf{u} = (A - \lambda I)\mathbf{0}$$

$$(**): 0 + C_2\mathbf{v} + C_3\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{0}$$

Multiply (\*\*) by  $(A - \lambda I)$ :  $C_3\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$  Thus  $C_3 = 0$

(\*\*) becomes  $C_2\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$

Thus  $C_2 = 0$

Then (\*) becomes  $C_1\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$  and hence  $C_1 = 0$ .

Each of  $e^{\lambda t}\mathbf{v}$ ,  $te^{\lambda t}\mathbf{v} + e^{\lambda t}\mathbf{w}$ , and  $\frac{t^2}{2}e^{\lambda t}\mathbf{v} + te^{\lambda t}\mathbf{w} + e^{\lambda t}\mathbf{u}$ , is a solution of

Proof:

From  $(A - \lambda I)\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$ ,  $(A - \lambda I)\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{v}$ ,  $(A - \lambda I)\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{w}$

We have  $A\mathbf{v} = \lambda\mathbf{v}$

$$\mathbf{X}' = A\mathbf{X}. \quad A\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{v} + \lambda\mathbf{w}$$

$$A\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{w} + \lambda\mathbf{u}$$

We'll show  $\mathbf{X} = te^{\lambda t}\mathbf{v} + e^{\lambda t}\mathbf{w}$  is a solution of  $\mathbf{X}' = A\mathbf{X}$ .

$$\mathbf{X}' = e^{\lambda t}\mathbf{v} + t\lambda e^{\lambda t}\mathbf{v} + \lambda e^{\lambda t}\mathbf{w}$$

$$\text{while } A\mathbf{X} = te^{\lambda t}A\mathbf{v} + e^{\lambda t}A\mathbf{w} = t\lambda e^{\lambda t}\mathbf{v} + e^{\lambda t}\mathbf{v} + \lambda e^{\lambda t}\mathbf{w}$$

$\{e^{\lambda t}\mathbf{v}, te^{\lambda t}\mathbf{v} + e^{\lambda t}\mathbf{w}, \frac{t^2}{2}e^{\lambda t}\mathbf{v} + te^{\lambda t}\mathbf{w} + e^{\lambda t}\mathbf{u}\}$  is a linearly independent set of solutions.

Proof: Suppose

$$C_1 e^{\lambda t}\mathbf{v} + C_2 (te^{\lambda t}\mathbf{v} + e^{\lambda t}\mathbf{w}) + C_3 (\frac{t^2}{2}e^{\lambda t}\mathbf{v} + te^{\lambda t}\mathbf{w} + e^{\lambda t}\mathbf{u}) = 0$$

Evaluate at  $t = 0$

$$C_1 1\mathbf{v} + C_2 (0\mathbf{v} + 1\mathbf{w}) + C_3 (0\mathbf{v} + 0\mathbf{w} + 1\mathbf{u}) = 0$$

$$C_1\mathbf{v} + C_2\mathbf{w} + C_3\mathbf{u} = 0$$

## Major Goal:

### Study Systems of First Order Linear Differential Equations

$$\mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{P}(t) \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{g}(t)$$

where  $\mathbf{P}(t)$  is a square matrix of continuous functions  
and  $\mathbf{g}(t)$  is a vector of continuous functions.

**Special Case:**  $\mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}$

where  $\mathbf{A}$  is a square matrix of constants.

For each eigenvector  $\mathbf{v}$  associated with an eigenvalue  $\lambda$  of the  
matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ :

$$e^{\lambda t} \mathbf{v}$$

is a solution.



## Matrix Exponential Function

Our very first example in the course

$x' = ax$  where  $a$  is a constant

has a solution of the form  $x = e^{at}$

By analogy,  $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{X}$

"ought" to have a solution of the form

$$\mathbf{X} = e^{\mathbf{A}t}$$

But What is the Exponential of a Matrix?

Applying Exponential Function to a Matrix

Recall that the square of a matrix is not the matrix of squares.

So we don't expect to get the matrix of exponentials.

Begin with the expression for  $e^{at}$  as a power series:

$$e^{at} = 1 + at + \frac{a^2 t^2}{2!} + \frac{a^3 t^3}{3!} + \frac{a^4 t^4}{4!} + \dots = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{a^k t^k}{k!}$$

This series converges absolutely for all  $a$  and  $t$ .

Let's define  $e^{At}$  as

$$e^{At} = I + At + \frac{A^2 t^2}{2!} + \frac{A^3 t^3}{3!} + \frac{A^4 t^4}{4!} + \dots = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{A^k t^k}{k!}$$

We can compute each term in this series; it will be an  $n \times n$  matrix if  $A$  is an  $n \times n$  matrix.

$$e^{At} = I + At + \frac{A^2 t^2}{2!} + \frac{A^3 t^3}{3!} + \frac{A^4 t^4}{4!} + \dots = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{A^k t^k}{k!}$$

Some Properties of  $e^{At}$ :

1.  $e^{A0} = e^0 = I$
2.  $(e^{At})' = 0 + A + \frac{A^2}{2!}2t + \frac{A^3}{3!}3t^2 + \frac{A^4}{4!}4t^3 \dots +$   
 $= A + A^2 t + \frac{A^3}{2!}t^2 + \frac{A^4}{3!}t^3 + \dots$   
 $= A(I + At + \frac{A^2}{2!}t^2 + \frac{A^3}{3!}t^3 + \dots)$   
 $= Ae^{At}$   
 so  $e^{At}$  is a solution of  $\mathbf{x}' = A\mathbf{x}$ .
3. Each column is a solution
4. Columns are linearly independent
5.  $e^{-At} = (e^{At})^{-1}$  (Matrix Inverse)
6.  $e^{A(s+t)} = e^{As}e^{At}$
7.  $e^{(A+B)t} = e^{At}e^{Bt}$  if  $AB = BA$
8.  $Ae^{At} = e^{At}A$

Computing  $e^{At}$  via Power Series

Need  $A, A^2, A^3, A^4, \dots$

Note:  $A^2 = AA, A^3 = AA^2, A^4 = AA^3, \text{etc}$

Example  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$

$$A^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 7 & 10 \\ 15 & 22 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A^3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 7 & 10 \\ 15 & 22 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 37 & 54 \\ 81 & 118 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A^6 = \begin{pmatrix} 5743 & 8370 \\ 12555 & 18298 \end{pmatrix}$$

Not so easy to see what  $e^{At}$  actually looks like!

Try a different example:  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$

[ See *Maple* "Matrix Exponential Power Series" ]

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} c & d \\ -(a+2c) & -(b+2d) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A^2 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -2 \\ 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}, A^3 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ -3 & -4 \end{pmatrix}, A^4 = \begin{pmatrix} -3 & -4 \\ 4 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

$A^k$

$k$  even

$k$  odd

$$\begin{pmatrix} -(k-1) & -k \\ k & k+1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} k-1 & k \\ -k & -(k+1) \end{pmatrix}$$

General Formula:  $A^k = \begin{pmatrix} (-1)^{k+1}(k-1) & (-1)^{k+1}k \\ (-1)^k k & (-1)^k(k+1) \end{pmatrix}$

Our Example:  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$

Found:  $A^k = \begin{pmatrix} (-1)^{k+1}(k-1) & (-1)^{k+1}k \\ (-1)^k k & (-1)^k(k+1) \end{pmatrix}$

Upper Left: 0, -1, 2, -3, 4, -5, . . .

Upper Right: 1, -2, 3, -4, 5, . . .

Lower Left: -1, 2, -3, 4, -5, . . .

Lower Right: -2, 3, -4, 5, . . .

Power Series:

$$e^{At} = I + At + \frac{A^2 t^2}{2!} + \frac{A^3 t^3}{3!} + \frac{A^4 t^4}{4!} + \dots = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{A^k t^k}{k!}$$

Examine Upper Right Entries:

$$\begin{aligned} & 0 + 1t - 2\frac{t^2}{2!} + 3\frac{t^3}{3!} - 4\frac{t^4}{4!} + 5\frac{t^5}{5!} - 6\frac{t^6}{6!} + \dots \\ &= t \left[ 1 - t + \frac{t^2}{2!} - \frac{t^3}{3!} + \frac{t^4}{4!} - \frac{t^5}{5!} + \dots \right] = te^{-t} \end{aligned}$$

Work out other three entries:

$$e^{At} = \begin{pmatrix} e^{-t}(t+1) & te^{-t} \\ -te^{-t} & (1-t)e^{-t} \end{pmatrix}$$

**THERE'S GOT TO BE A BETTER WAY!**

## An Alternative Way To Compute $e^{At}$

Idea: Let  $\Phi$  be any fundamental solution matrix for  $\mathbf{x}' = A\mathbf{x}$  with  
$$\Phi(0) = I.$$

Then  $\Phi(t)$  and  $e^{At}$  are both solutions of  $\mathbf{x}' = A\mathbf{x}$  which satisfy the same initial condition.

The Uniqueness of Solutions Theorem implies  $\Phi(t) \equiv e^{At}$

How to find  $\Phi$ .

1. Use Eigenvalue/ Eigenvector approach to find a full linearly independent set of solutions to  $X' = Ax$ .
2. Enter them as columns in a matrix in a matrix  $X(t)$  (This is a fundamental matrix)
3.  $X(t)$  is invertible for all  $t$ . Thus  $X(0)$  is an invertible matrix of constants
4. Define  $\Phi(t) = X(t) [X(0)]^{-1}$

$$\text{Then } \Phi(0) = X(0) [X(0)]^{-1} = I$$

$$\text{and } \Phi'(t) = X'(t) [X(0)]^{-1} = AX(t) [X(0)]^{-1} = A\Phi(t)$$

so  $\Phi$  is also a solution.

Using this approach for  $\mathbf{x}' = A\mathbf{x}$  where  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = \det \begin{pmatrix} -\lambda & 1 \\ -1 & -2 - \lambda \end{pmatrix} = 2\lambda + \lambda^2 + 1 = (\lambda + 1)^2$$

$\lambda = -1$  is double root; algebraic multiplicity = 2

To find eigenvectors:  $(A - \lambda I) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$  which reduces to

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ so } \mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Geometric Multiplicity = 1.

$$\text{One solution is } e^{-1t}\mathbf{v} = e^{-t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

To find another, solve  $(A - \lambda I)\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{v}$  for  $\mathbf{w}$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ implies } \begin{aligned} w_1 + w_2 &= 1 \\ -w_1 - w_2 &= -1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Choose } \mathbf{w} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$



$$\mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \mathbf{w} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Solutions are  $e^{-t}\mathbf{v}$ ,  $te^{-t}\mathbf{v} + e^{-t}\mathbf{w}$

$$\mathbf{x}_1 = e^{-t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} e^{-t} \\ -e^{-t} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{x}_2 = te^{-t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} + e^{-t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} te^{-t} + e^{-t} \\ -te^{-t} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} e^{-t}(t+1) \\ e^{-t}(-t) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{X}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} e^{-t} & e^{-t}(t+1) \\ -e^{-t} & e^{-t}(-t) \end{pmatrix} \text{ so } \mathbf{X}(\mathbf{0}) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Then } [\mathbf{X}(\mathbf{0})]^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} e^{At} = \Phi(t) &= \mathbf{X}(t)[\mathbf{X}(\mathbf{0})]^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} e^{-t} & e^{-t}(t+1) \\ -e^{-t} & e^{-t}(-t) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} e^{-t}(t+1) & te^{-t} \\ -e^{-t}t & e^{-t}(1-t) \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

## Review

### The Matrix Exponential

$$e^{At} = I + At + A^2 \frac{t^2}{2!} + A^3 \frac{t^3}{3!} + \dots + A^k \frac{t^k}{k!} + \dots$$

$e^{At}$  is an  $n \times n$  matrix

Each column of  $e^{At}$  is a solution of  $\mathbf{x}' = A\mathbf{x}$

The columns form a linearly independent set

Some Other Nice Properties:

$$e^{A \times 0} = I$$

$$(e^{At})' = Ae^{At}$$

$$e^{-At} = (e^{At})^{-1}$$

$$e^{A(r+s)} = e^{Ar}e^{As}$$

## *Review*

$e^{At}$  has wonderful properties but it is hard to compute via the power series definition.

## **Alternate Way To Compute Matrix Exponential $e^{At}$**

$$e^{At} = X(t)(X(0))^{-1}$$

**where  $X(t)$  is any Fundamental Matrix for  $x' = Ax$ .**

How To Find  $X$ ?

Use eigenvalue/eigenvector approach.

## Nonhomogeneous Systems

Recall Solution of  $x' = ax + g(t)$

$$x' - ax = g(t)$$

Multiply by integrating factor  $e^{-at}$

$$(xe^{-at})' = e^{-at}g(t)$$

$$xe^{-at} = \int e^{-at}g(t) dt + C$$

$$x = e^{at} \int e^{-at}g(t) dt + Ce^{at}$$

$$x = e^{at} \int_0^t e^{-as}g(s) ds + Ce^{at}$$

Evaluate at  $t = 0$ :

$$x = e^{at} \int_0^t e^{-as}g(s) ds + x(0)e^{at}$$

## Nonhomogeneous Systems

$$x' = ax + g(t) \text{ has solution } x = e^{at} \int_0^t e^{-as} g(s) ds + e^{at} x(0)$$

$$\mathbf{X}' = A\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{g}(t) \text{ has solution}$$

$$\mathbf{X} = e^{At} \int_0^t e^{-As} \mathbf{g}(s) ds + e^{At} \mathbf{X}(0)$$

$$\mathbf{X} = \Phi(t) \int_0^t \Phi^{-1}(s) \mathbf{g}(s) ds + \Phi(t) \mathbf{X}(0)$$

We can also write the solution as

$$\mathbf{X}(t) \int_{t_0}^t \mathbf{X}^{-1}(s) \mathbf{g}(s) ds + \mathbf{X}(t) \mathbf{X}^{-1}(t_0)$$

where  $\mathbf{X}$  is any fundamental solution of  $\mathbf{X}' = A\mathbf{X}$