

# 1 Controllability and Observability

- Controllability

- Key idea in the definition: steer the system to any point in the state space within a finite time

- Cayley Halmilton theorem:  $A^n$  is linearly dependent on  $\{I, A, A^2, \dots, A^{n-1}\}$

Proof: Let  $p(\lambda) \triangleq \det(\lambda I - A) = \lambda^n + c_{n-1}\lambda^{n-1} + \dots + c_1\lambda + c_0$ . We have  $p(\lambda) = (\lambda - \lambda_1)^{m_1} \dots (\lambda - \lambda_p)^{m_p}$ . Thus

$$p(A) = A^n + c_{n-1}A^{n-1} + \dots + c_1A + c_0I \\ = (A - \lambda_1 I)^{m_1} \dots (A - \lambda_p I)^{m_p}$$

Take any eigenvector or generalized eigenvector  $t_i$ , we have  $p(A)t_i = 0$ . Therefore  $p(A)[t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n] = 0$ . But  $T = [t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n]$  is invertible, hence  $p(A) = 0$ , namely,  $A^n = -(c_{n-1}A^{n-1} + \dots + c_1A + c_0I)$ , which is a linear combination of  $\{I, A, A^2, \dots, A^{n-1}\}$ .

- Essential equations:

$$x(n) = A^n x(0) + \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} A^{n-1-j} B u(j) = A^n x(0) + [A^{n-1}B \quad A^{n-2}B \quad \dots \quad B] \begin{bmatrix} u(0) \\ u(1) \\ \vdots \\ u(n-1) \end{bmatrix}$$

and Cayley Halmilton theorem

- Theorem: The following statements are equivalent:

1.  $x(k+1) = Ax(k) + Bu(k)$  is controllable.

2. The columns of the controllability matrix  $P = [B \ AB \ A^2B \ \dots \ A^{n-1}B]$  span  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . (equivalence between 1

and 2: use  $x(n) = A^n x(0) + [A^{n-1}B \quad A^{n-2}B \quad \dots \quad B] \begin{bmatrix} u(0) \\ u(1) \\ \vdots \\ u(n-1) \end{bmatrix}$ )

3. The controllability matrix  $P = [B \ AB \ A^2B \ \dots \ A^{n-1}B]$  is rank  $n$  (full row rank). (equivalence between 2 and 3: rank  $n \Leftrightarrow$  spans  $\mathbb{R}^n$ )

4. The controllability grammian  $W_c(k_1) = \sum_{k=0}^{k_1} A^k B B^T (A^T)^k$  is positive definite, for some finite integer  $k_1$ . (3  $\Leftrightarrow$  4: consider  $W_c(n) = P P^T$ )

5. (Popov-Belevitch-Hautus (PBH) test) The matrix  $[A - \lambda I \ B]$  has full row rank at every eigenvalue,  $\lambda$ , of  $A$ . (intuition: if 5 does not hold, then  $\exists v$  such that  $v^T [A - \lambda I \ B] = 0 \Rightarrow v^T A = \lambda v^T, v^T B = 0$ , yielding  $v^T [B \ AB \ A^2B \ \dots \ A^{n-1}B] = 0$ , which violates the full row rank condition for  $P$ )

- Example 1: identify controllability of  $(A, B)$ :

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & \\ & \lambda_2 & 1 \\ & & \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix}, B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- The controllability property is invariant under any coordinate transformation:

$$(A, B) \text{ is controllable.} \iff (\bar{A}, \bar{B}) = (TAT^{-1}, TB) \text{ is controllable.}$$

where  $T$  is any nonsingular matrix. (Proof:  $\bar{P} = TP$  where  $T$  is invertible)

- If  $A$  is asymptotically stable,  $k_1$  can be set to  $\infty$  in the controllability grammian, and we may obtain the grammian by solving the Lyapunov equation

$$AW_c A^T - W_c = -BB^T$$

The solution is positive definite if and only if the system is controllable.

• Observability

- Key idea in the definition: knowing the outputs and the inputs can determine the initial state (Question: why initial state here?)
- Essential equations: assuming  $u(k) = 0$ , then  $y(0) = Cx(0)$ ,  $y(1) = Cx(1) = CAx(0)$ ,  $y(2) = Cx(2) = CA^2x(0), \dots$  (Question: what if  $u \neq 0$ ?)
- Theorem: the following statements are equivalent:

1.  $x(k+1) = Ax(k)$ ,  $y = Cx(k)$  is observable.
2. The observability grammian  $W_o(k_1) = \sum_{k=0}^{k_1} (A^T)^k C^T C A^k$  is positive definite, for some finite integer  $k_1$ .

3. The observability matrix  $Q = \begin{bmatrix} C \\ CA \\ CA^2 \\ \vdots \\ CA^{n-1} \end{bmatrix}$  is rank  $n$  (full column rank).

4. The matrix  $\begin{bmatrix} A - \lambda I \\ C \end{bmatrix}$  has full column rank at every eigenvalue,  $\lambda$ , of  $A$ .

- The observability property is invariant under any coordinate transformation:

$$(A, C) \text{ is observable. } \iff (\bar{A}, \bar{C}) = (TAT^{-1}, CT^{-1}) \text{ is observable.}$$

where  $T$  is any nonsingular matrix.

- If  $A$  is asymptotically stable,  $k_1$  can be set to  $\infty$  in the observability grammian, and we may look for the grammian by solving the Lyapunov equation

$$A^T W_o A - W_o = -C^T C$$

The solution is positive definite if and only if the system is observable.

• Example 2: analyze the controllability, observability, stabilizability, and detectability of the following systems

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$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & \\ & -2 & \\ & & 3/10 \end{bmatrix}, B = \begin{bmatrix} 23 \\ 0 \\ 3/20 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$C = [ 0 \quad 132 \quad 0 ]$$

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$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1 \\ & 0 \end{bmatrix}, B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$C = [ 0 \quad 1 ]$$

• the grammians for the time-invariant cases ( $t_0 = 0$ )

	Controllability Grammian	Observability Grammian
continuous time	$\int_0^t e^{A\tau} B B^T (e^{A\tau})^T d\tau$	$\int_0^t (e^{A\tau})^T C^T C e^{A\tau} d\tau$
Lyapunov equation (when $t \rightarrow \infty$ )	$AW_c + W_c A^T + B B^T = 0$	$A^T W_o + W_o A + C^T C = 0$
discrete time	$\sum_{k=0}^{k_1} A^k B B^T (A^T)^k$ for some $k_1$	$\sum_{k=0}^{k_1} (A^T)^k C^T C A^k$ for some $k_1$
Lyapunov equation (when $k_1 \rightarrow \infty$ )	$AW_c A^T - W_c + B B^T = 0$	$A^T W_o A - W_o + C^T C = 0$