

# Basic idea of variation of parameters

**Aim lecture:** We intro the method of variation of parameters to extend our DE techniques to some inhomogeneous eqns.

Let  $A \in M_{nn}(\mathbb{C})$ . Recall

## Fact

For any  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{C}^n$ ,  $\mathbf{y}(t) = \exp(tA)\mathbf{w}$  is a soln to  $\frac{d\mathbf{y}}{dt} = A\mathbf{y}$ .

We think of  $\mathbf{w}$  as a parameter & now vary it with time, i.e. replace it with the vector-valued fn  $\mathbf{w}(t)$ . The product rule gives

# Variation of parameters formula

$$\frac{d}{dt}(\exp(tA)\mathbf{w}(t)) = \frac{d}{dt}[\exp(tA)]\mathbf{w}(t) + \exp(tA)\frac{d\mathbf{w}}{dt} = A\exp(tA)\mathbf{w}(t) + \exp(tA)\frac{d\mathbf{w}}{dt}$$

Hence  $\mathbf{y}(t) = \exp(tA)\mathbf{w}(t)$  is a soln to the DE

$$\frac{d\mathbf{y}}{dt} = A\mathbf{y}(t) + \mathbf{v}(t) \quad (*)$$

where

$$\mathbf{v}(t) = \exp(tA)\frac{d\mathbf{w}}{dt} \quad (**).$$

To find a particular soln to (\*), we just need to solve (\*\*) for  $\mathbf{w}(t)$  in terms of  $\mathbf{v}(t)$  by integrating  $\exp(-tA)\mathbf{v}(t)$ . This gives

## Formula

The soln to  $\frac{d\mathbf{y}}{dt} = A\mathbf{y}(t) + \mathbf{v}(t)$ ,  $\mathbf{y}(0) = \mathbf{y}_0$  is given by

$$\mathbf{y}(t) = \exp(tA)\mathbf{y}_0 + \exp(tA) \int_0^t \exp(-sA)\mathbf{v}(s)ds.$$

## Example

**E.g.** Find the Jordan canonical form  $J = C^{-1}AC$  of

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

& hence solve

$$\frac{d\mathbf{y}}{dt} = A\mathbf{y}(t) + e^{4t} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

given the initial condn  $\mathbf{y}(0) = \mathbf{0}$ .

**A**

Hence the decomposition into gen e-spaces has form  $\mathbb{R}^3 = E_{-1}(1) \oplus E_2(2)$ .

# Compute gen e-spaces

$$\underline{\lambda = -1}$$

$$\ker(A + I) = \ker \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 4 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\underline{\lambda = 2} \ker(A - 2I) = \ker \begin{pmatrix} -3 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} =$$

$$\ker(A - 2I)^2 = \ker \begin{pmatrix} 9 & 0 & 0 \\ -2 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} =$$

Jordan form tableaux wrt  $\lambda = -1$  &  $2$  are  $\square$  and  $\begin{matrix} \square \\ \square \end{matrix}$

# The Jordan canonical form & exponential matrix

For the length 2 Jordan chain use the seed  $(0, 1, 0)^T$  & note

$$(A - 2I) \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} =$$

We find  $A = CJC^{-1}$  where  $J = J_1(-1) \oplus J_2(2)$  &  $C$  is the change of co-ords matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} 9 & 0 & 0 \\ -2 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Hence

$$\exp(tA) = C \exp(tJ) C^{-1} = C \begin{pmatrix} e^{-t} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{2t} & te^{2t} \\ 0 & 0 & e^{2t} \end{pmatrix} C^{-1}$$

# Soln to the DE

We compute  $\mathbf{y}(t) = \exp(tA)\mathbf{y}(0) + \exp(tA) \int_0^t \exp(-sA)e^{4s}(0, 1, 1)^T ds = \exp(tA) \int_0^t \exp(-sA)e^{4s}(0, 1, 1)^T ds$  as follows.

$$\begin{aligned}\exp(-sA)e^{4s} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} &= C \exp(-sJ)e^{4s} C^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = e^{4s} C \exp(-sJ) \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= e^{4s} C \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ e^{-2s} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = e^{2s} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}\end{aligned}$$

$$\int_0^t \exp(-sA)e^{4s} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} ds = \frac{1}{2}(e^{2t} - 1) \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Hence

$$\mathbf{y}(t) = \exp(tA) \frac{1}{2}(e^{2t} - 1) \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{2}(e^{2t} - 1) C \exp(tJ) C^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} =$$

# E-vectors & solns to DEs

In the previous example, we did not need to compute the Jordan canonical form for  $A$  to solve  $\frac{dy}{dt} = A\mathbf{y}(t) + \mathbf{v}(t)$ . This is because  $\mathbf{v}(t)$  turned out to be a scalar function times an e-vector of  $A$ . We could then have used

## Prop

Let  $A \in M_{nn}(\mathbb{C})$  and  $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{C}^n$  be an e-vector with e-value  $\lambda$ . Then

$$\exp(tA)\mathbf{v} = e^{\lambda t}\mathbf{v}.$$

**Proof.**

$$\begin{aligned}\exp(tA)\mathbf{v} &= \sum_{i \geq 0} \frac{1}{i!} t^i A^i \mathbf{v} \\ &= \sum_{i \geq 0} \frac{1}{i!} t^i \lambda^i \mathbf{v} = e^{\lambda t} \mathbf{v}.\end{aligned}$$

## Example repeated

We re-compute  $\mathbf{y}(t) = \exp(tA) \int_0^t \exp(-sA) e^{4s} \mathbf{v} ds$  for the e-vector  $\mathbf{v} = (0, 1, 1)^T$  of  $A$  with e-value 2 as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} \exp(-sA) e^{4s} \mathbf{v} &= \\ \int_0^t \exp(-sA) e^{4s} \mathbf{v} ds &= \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\mathbf{y}(t) =$$