



$X(t)$
— $u(t)$

1. Translating System of Differential Equations from Continuous Time to Discrete Time

Working through this question will help you better understand differential equations with inputs, and the sampling of a continuous-time system of differential equations into a discrete-time view. These concepts are important for control, since it is often easier to think about doing what we want in discrete-time. This question should initially feel similar to [dis02B](#), and in later subparts, we extend our analysis to the case of a vector differential equation.

(a) Consider the scalar system below:

$$\frac{dx(t)}{dt} = \lambda x(t) + u(t). \quad (1)$$

Further suppose that our input $u(t)$ of interest is piecewise constant over durations of width Δ . This is the same case we considered in [dis02B](#). In other words:

$$u(t) = u(i\Delta) = u_d[i] \text{ if } t \in (i\Delta, (i+1)\Delta]. \quad (2)$$

Similarly, for $x(t)$,

$$x(t) = x(i\Delta) = x_d[i] \quad (3)$$

Let's revisit the solution for eq. (1), when we're given the initial conditions at t_0 , i.e. we know the value of $x(t_0)$ and want to solve for $x(t)$ at any time $t \geq t_0$:

$$x(t) = e^{\lambda(t-t_0)} x(t_0) + \int_{t_0}^t u(\theta) e^{\lambda(t-\theta)} d\theta \quad (4)$$

where $\Delta(t) = t - t_0$. Given that we start at $t = \Delta i$, where $x(t) = x_d[i]$, and satisfy eq. (1) where do we end up at $x_d[i+1]$?

$$\begin{aligned}
 & t_0 = i\Delta \\
 x_d[i+1] &= x((i+1)\Delta) \\
 &= e^{\lambda\Delta} x_d[i] + \int_{i\Delta}^{(i+1)\Delta} u(\theta) e^{\lambda(t-\theta)} d\theta \\
 &= e^{\lambda\Delta} x_d[i] + u_d[i] \int_{i\Delta}^{(i+1)\Delta} e^{\lambda(t-\theta)} d\theta \\
 &= e^{\lambda\Delta} x_d[i] + \frac{e^{\lambda\Delta} - 1}{\lambda} u_d[i]
 \end{aligned}$$

(b) Suppose we now have a continuous-time system of differential equations, that forms a vector differential equation. We express this with an input in vector form:

$$\frac{d\vec{x}(t)}{dt} = A\vec{x}(t) + \vec{b}u(t) \quad (5)$$

where $\vec{x}(t)$ is n -dimensional. Suppose further that the matrix A has distinct and non-zero eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$, with corresponding eigenvectors $\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n$. We collect the eigenvectors together and form the matrix $V = [\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n]$. (Hint: What's the significance of this information?)

If we apply a piecewise constant control input $u_d[i]$ as in (2), and sample the system $\vec{x}(t)$ at time intervals $t = i\Delta$, what are the corresponding A_d and \vec{b}_d in:

$$\vec{x}_d[i+1] = A_d \vec{x}_d[i] + \vec{b}_d u_d[i]$$

(Hint: Define terms $\Lambda_e^\Delta = \begin{bmatrix} e^{\lambda_1 \Delta} & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & & \vdots \\ \vdots & & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & \dots & e^{\lambda_n \Delta} \end{bmatrix}$, $\Lambda^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\lambda_1} & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & & \vdots \\ \vdots & & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & \dots & \frac{1}{\lambda_n} \end{bmatrix}$),

$$V = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{v}_1 & \dots & \vec{v}_n \\ \lambda_1 & \dots & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\vec{x}(t) = V \vec{y}(t) \quad A = V \Lambda V^{-1}$$

$$V \frac{d\vec{y}}{dt} = AV\vec{y} + \vec{b}u(t)$$

$$\frac{dy_k(t)}{dt} = \lambda_k y_k(t) + (V^{-1} \vec{b})_k u(t) \quad \text{part a}$$

$$\frac{d\vec{y}}{dt} = \underbrace{V^{-1}AV}_{\Lambda} \vec{y} + V^{-1} \vec{b} u(t)$$

$$t_0 = i\Delta, \quad t = (i+1)\Delta$$

$$y_{k_d}[i+1] = e^{\lambda_k \Delta} y_{k_d}[i] + \frac{e^{\lambda_k \Delta} - 1}{\lambda_k} (V^{-1} \vec{b})_k u_d[i]$$

$$\vec{y}_d[i+1] = \begin{bmatrix} e^{\lambda_1 \Delta} & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & e^{\lambda_n \Delta} \end{bmatrix} \vec{y}_d[i] + \begin{bmatrix} \frac{e^{\lambda_1 \Delta} - 1}{\lambda_1} & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & \frac{e^{\lambda_n \Delta} - 1}{\lambda_n} \end{bmatrix} V^{-1} \vec{b} u_d[i]$$

$$\vec{y}_d[i+1] = \Lambda_e^\Delta \vec{y}_d[i] + \Lambda^{-1}(\Lambda_e^\Delta - \mathbf{I})V^{-1}\vec{b}u_d[i] \quad \vec{X}(t) = V\vec{y}(t)$$

$$\vec{X}_d[i+1] = V\Lambda_e^\Delta V^{-1}\vec{X}_d[i] + V\Lambda^{-1}(\Lambda_e^\Delta - \mathbf{I})V^{-1}\vec{b}u_d[i] \quad = V^{-1}\vec{X}(t)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} x_1(t) \\ x_2(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1(t) \\ x_2(t) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}x_1(t) = ax_1(t) + bx_2(t)$$

(c) In the previous part, we had a matrix A which was diagonalizable using a eigenbasis. You might recall from Homework 4, that for critically damped systems we had $A = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & \beta \\ 0 & \lambda \end{bmatrix}$ (a non-diagonalizable matrix). Assuming the input $u(t) = 0$, consider the system of differential equations given by

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} x_1(t) \\ x_2(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & \beta \\ 0 & \lambda \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1(t) \\ x_2(t) \end{bmatrix} \quad (43)$$

Assuming that we know the solution at $t = \Delta i$, where $x(\Delta i) = x_d[i]$, find A_d such that we have a solution in the discrete time system for eq. (43)

$$\vec{x}_d[i+1] = A_d \vec{x}_d[i] \quad (44)$$

(Hint: From 1(a) we know for $t \geq t_0$

$$\frac{dx(t)}{dt} = \lambda x(t) + u(t) \quad (45)$$

with initial conditions $x(t) = x(t_0)$ for $t = t_0$, has solution of the form)

$$x(t) = e^{\lambda(t-t_0)} x(t_0) + \int_{t_0}^t e^{\lambda(t-\theta)} u(\theta) d\theta$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} x_2(t) = \lambda x_2(t)$$

$$x_2(t) = e^{\lambda(t-t_0)} x_{2d}[i]$$

$$A_d = \begin{bmatrix} e^{\lambda\Delta} & \beta\Delta e^{\lambda\Delta} \\ 0 & e^{\lambda\Delta} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} x_1(t) &= \lambda x_1(t) + \beta x_2(t) \\ &= \lambda x_1(t) + \beta x_{2d}[i] e^{\lambda(t-t_0)} \end{aligned}$$

$$t_0 = i\Delta, \quad t = (i+1)\Delta$$

$$x_2(t) = e^{\lambda(t-t_0)} x_{2d}[i]$$

$$x_1(t) = e^{\lambda(t-i\Delta)} x_{1d}[i] + \int_{i\Delta}^t e^{\lambda(t-\theta)} x_{2d}[i] d\theta$$

$$= e^{\lambda\Delta} x_{1d}[i] + \beta \int_{i\Delta}^{(i+1)\Delta} e^{\lambda(t-\theta)} d\theta$$

$$= e^{\lambda\Delta} x_{1d}[i] + \beta \Delta e^{\lambda\Delta}$$

(e) Consider the discrete-time system

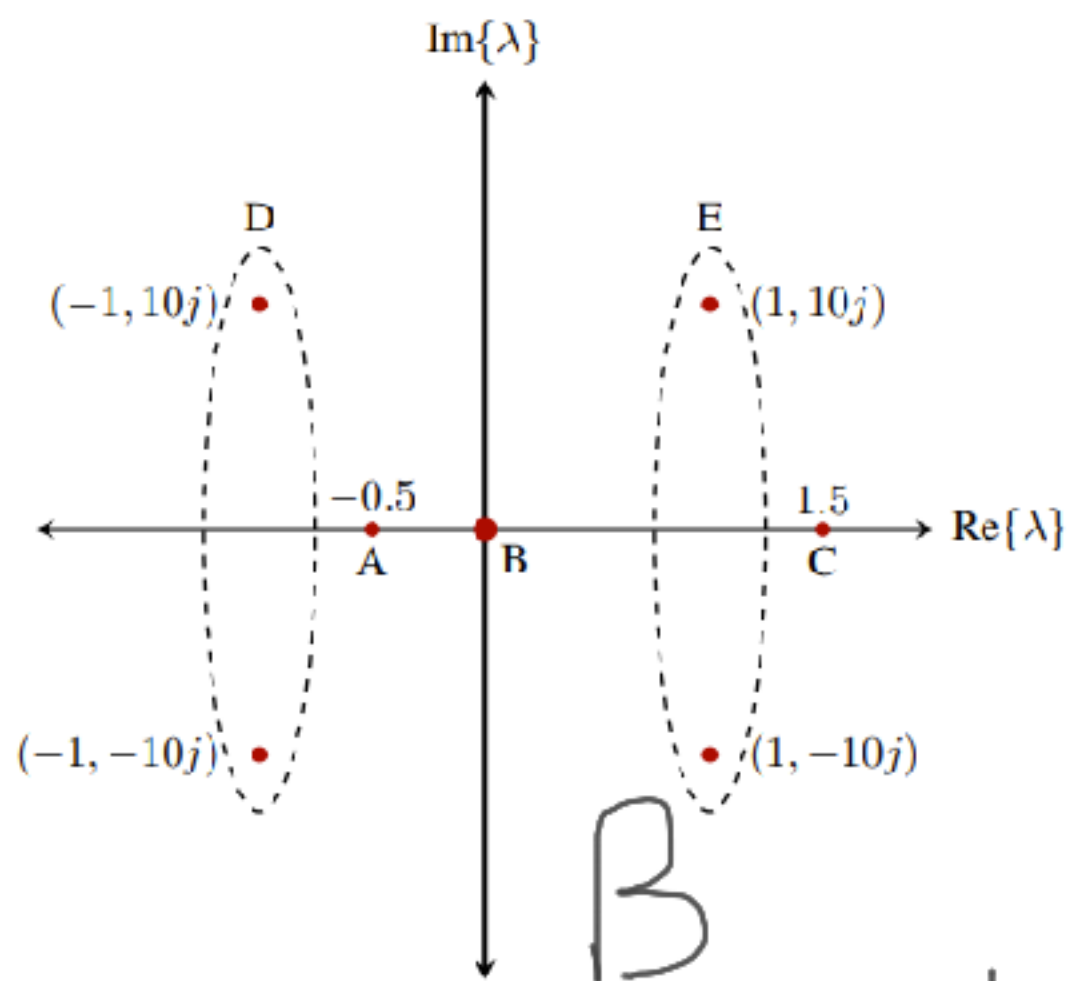
$$\vec{x}_d[i + 1] = A_d \vec{x}_d[i] + \vec{b}_d u_d[i] \quad (78)$$

Suppose that $x'_d[0] = x'_0$. **Unroll the implicit recursion to write $x'_d[i + 1]$ as a sum that involves x'_0 and the $u_d[j]$ for $j = 0, 1, \dots, i$.** You don't need to worry about what A_d and \vec{b}_d actually are in terms of the original parameters.

(Hint: If we have a scalar difference equation, how would you solve the recurrence?)

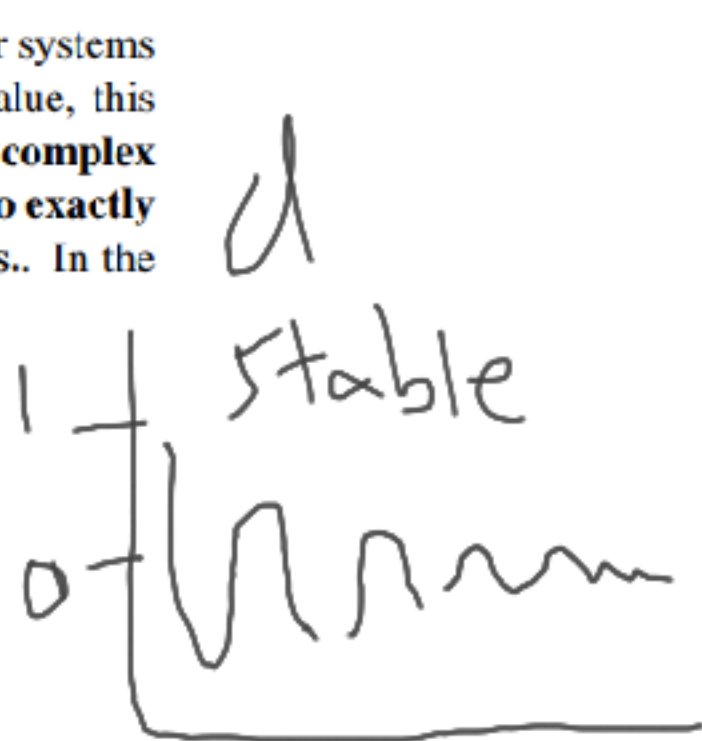
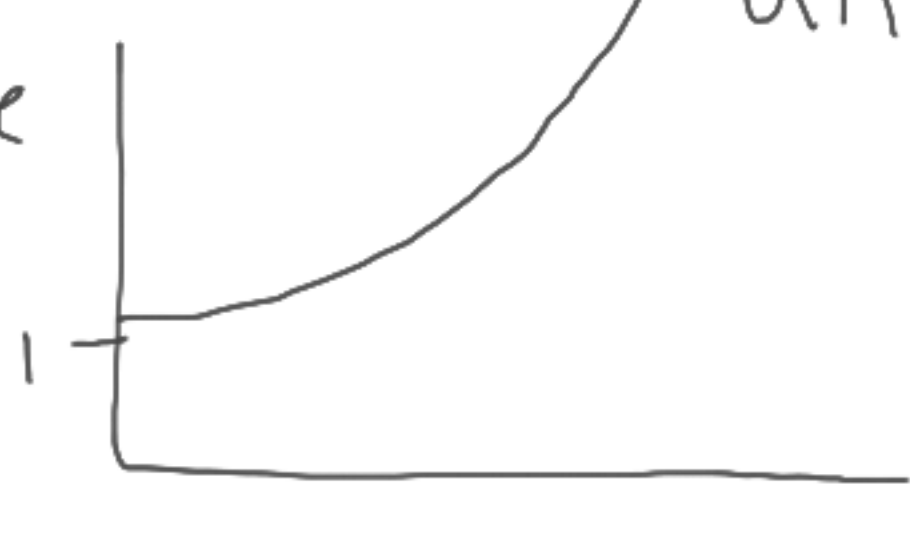
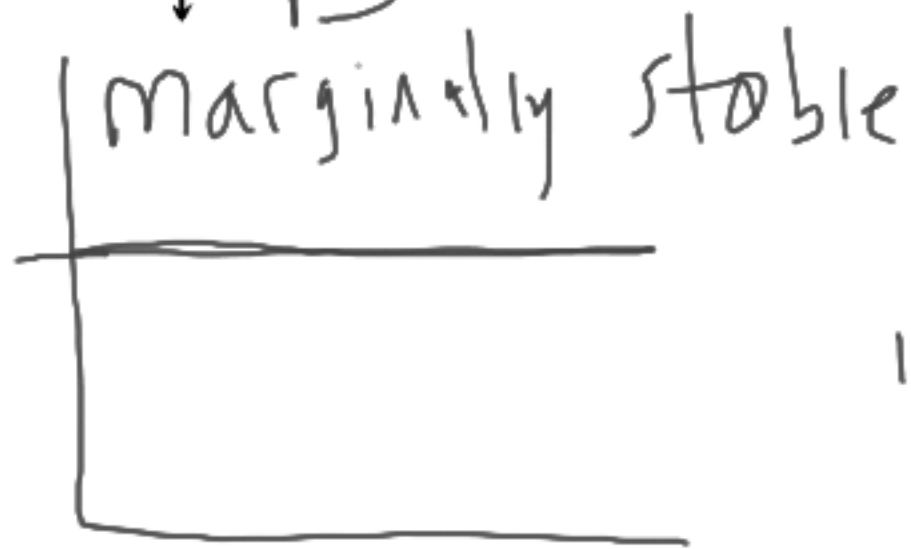
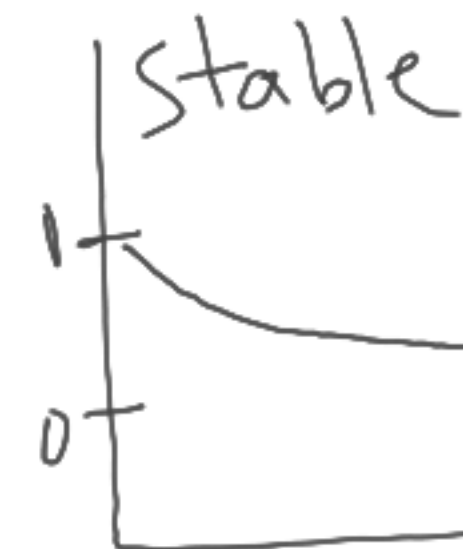
2. Continuous-time System Responses

We have a differential equation $\frac{d\vec{x}(t)}{dt} = A\vec{x}(t)$, where A is a real matrix and has eigenvalues λ . For systems (A, B, C) it is a scalar differential equation, whereas for D, E which have more than 1 eigenvalue, this equation is a vector differential equation. **For each set of λ values plotted on the real-imaginary complex plane, sketch $x_1(t)$ with an initial condition of $x_1(0) = 1$. Do we have sufficient information to exactly plot $x_1(t)$ for each vector differential equation? If not, sketch a couple of possible solutions..** In the scalar case, $x_1(t) \equiv x(t)$.



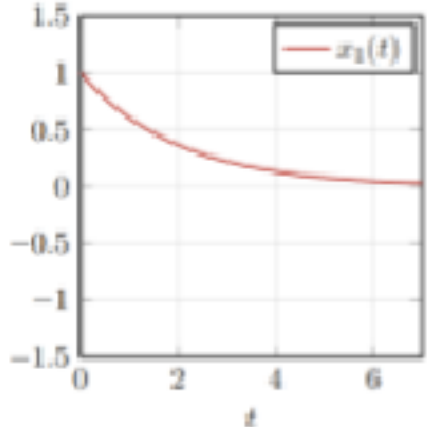
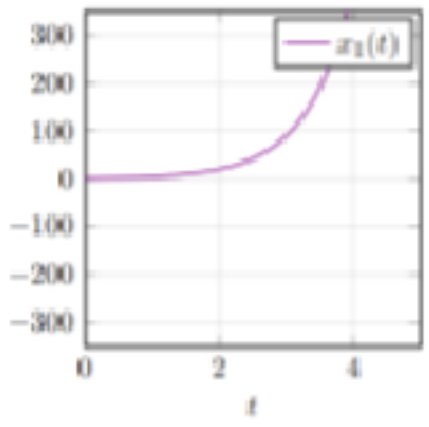
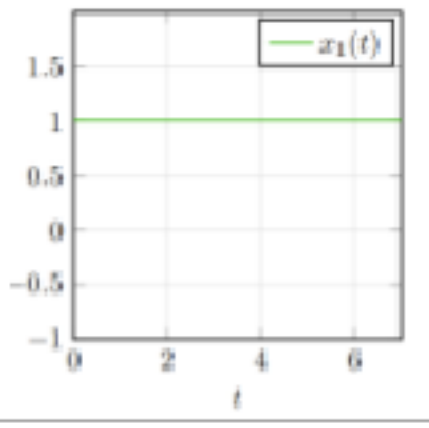

A

B



$$\frac{d}{dt}x(t) = \lambda x(t)$$

$$e^{\lambda t} \quad e^{-0.5t}$$

 <p>A line graph with a red line labeled $x_1(t)$. The vertical axis ranges from -1.5 to 1.5 with increments of 0.5. The horizontal axis is labeled t and ranges from 0 to 6 with increments of 2. The red line starts at (0, 1) and decays exponentially towards the horizontal axis at $y=0$.</p>	<p>Stable</p>
 <p>A line graph with a purple line labeled $x_1(t)$. The vertical axis ranges from -300 to 300 with increments of 100. The horizontal axis is labeled t and ranges from 0 to 4 with increments of 2. The purple line starts at (0, 0) and increases exponentially, reaching approximately 300 at $t=4$.</p>	<p>Unstable</p>
 <p>A line graph with a green line labeled $x_1(t)$. The vertical axis ranges from -1 to 1.5 with increments of 0.5. The horizontal axis is labeled t and ranges from 0 to 6 with increments of 2. The green line is a constant horizontal line at $y=1$.</p>	<p>Marginally Stable</p>
 <p>A photograph showing two brown horses in a stable. They are standing behind metal bars, looking towards the camera.</p>	<p>Horse Stable</p>

When $\lambda = \cancel{0} \ 0$
 Are you stable?



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