

# MA 532 Homework 6

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1. This problem is about the transpose of a matrix,  $A^\top$ . Recall that  $(A+B)^\top = A^\top + B^\top$ ;  $(cA)^\top = cA^\top$ ; and  $(A_1A_2 \dots A_k)^\top = A_k^\top \dots A_2^\top A_1^\top$  (in other words, the transpose of a product is the product, in reverse order, of the transposes).

Let  $A$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix.  $A$  is *skew-symmetric* if  $A^\top = -A$ , and  $A$  is *orthogonal* if  $A^\top A = I$ .

- (a) Using the infinite series definition, show that  $(e^{tA})^\top = e^{tA^\top}$ .
- (b) Using part (a), show: If  $S$  is skew-symmetric, then  $e^{tS}$  is orthogonal.
- (c) Let  $S$  be a  $3 \times 3$  skew-symmetric matrix whose entries are not all 0.
- Show that the eigenvalues of  $S$  are 0 and  $\pm\beta i$ ,  $\beta > 0$ . Hint:

$$S = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & a & b \\ -a & 0 & c \\ -b & -c & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

- Let  $x(t)$  be a solution of  $\dot{x} = Sx$ . Show that  $x(t + \frac{2\pi}{\beta}) = x(t)$ .
  - Let  $v$  be an eigenvector of  $S$  for the eigenvalue 0. Try to explain intuitively why multiplication by  $e^{tS}$  is just rotation about the direction  $v$ , through an angle of size  $\beta t$ .
- (d) Let  $v$  be a vector in  $R^3$  with  $v \neq 0$ . Consider the differential equation  $\dot{x} = v \times x$ . (The  $\times$  means cross product.)
- Find a  $3 \times 3$  matrix  $S$  such that  $\dot{x} = Sx$ . Show that  $S$  is skew-symmetric.
  - By (c), the eigenvalues of  $S$  are 0 and  $\pm\beta i$ . What is the eigenvector for the eigenvalue 0? How is  $\beta$  related to the length of  $v$ ?

2. Let  $A$  be an invertible  $n \times n$  matrix, and let  $b$  be a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Consider the differential equation

$$\dot{x} = Ax + b, \quad x(0) = x_0. \quad (1)$$

- (a) Show that the change of coordinates  $u = x + A^{-1}b$  converts this differential equation to

$$\dot{u} = Au, \quad u(0) = x_0 + A^{-1}b. \quad (2)$$

- (b) The solution of (2) is of course  $u = e^{tA}u(0)$ . By undoing the change of coordinates find the solution of (1).

3. Let  $A$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix, and let  $f$  be a continuous function from an interval  $J$  that contains 0 to  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Consider the differential equation

$$\dot{x} = Ax + f(t), \quad x(0) = x_0. \quad (3)$$

- (a) Show that the solution of (3) is

$$x = e^{tA}x_0 + \int_0^t e^{(t-s)A}f(s) ds. \quad (4)$$

Suggestion: Rewrite (3) as  $\dot{x} - Ax = f(t)$ , multiply both sides by  $e^{-tA}$ , recognize the left-hand side as a derivative, and integrate.

- (b) In (3), suppose  $A$  is invertible and  $f(t)$  is a constant vector  $b$ . Try to rewrite (4) to equal your solution to 2(b).

4. In the course of proving Floquet's Theorem, we showed that if  $C$  is an invertible  $n \times n$  matrix, then there is a matrix  $L$ , possibly complex, such that  $e^L = C$ .

Another version of this result states that if  $C$  is a real invertible  $n \times n$  matrix, then there is a real matrix  $L$  such that  $e^L = C^2$ . In this problem we will prove some steps in this result.

- (a) Let

$$J = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ -\beta & \alpha \end{pmatrix}$$

with  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  real numbers and  $\beta > 0$ . Let  $r = (\alpha^2 + \beta^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ , and choose  $\theta$  such that  $\cos \theta = \alpha/r$  and  $\sin \theta = \beta/r$ . Then  $r > 0$  and

$$J = r \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

Let  $K = \ln rI + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \theta \\ -\theta & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . Show that  $e^K = J$ .

- (b) Let

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} J & I \\ 0 & J \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} J & 0 \\ 0 & J \end{pmatrix} \left( \begin{pmatrix} I & 0 \\ 0 & I \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & J^{-1} \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right).$$

Find a real matrix  $L$  such that  $e^L = C$ . (Part (a) and work we did in class when we proved Floquet's Theorem should help.)