

Week 2 Tutorial

Question 1. Consider the translational mechanical system shown in Figure 1, where $y_1(t)$ and $y_2(t)$ denote the displacements of the associated masses from their static equilibrium positions, and $f(t)$ represents a force applied to the first mass m_1 .

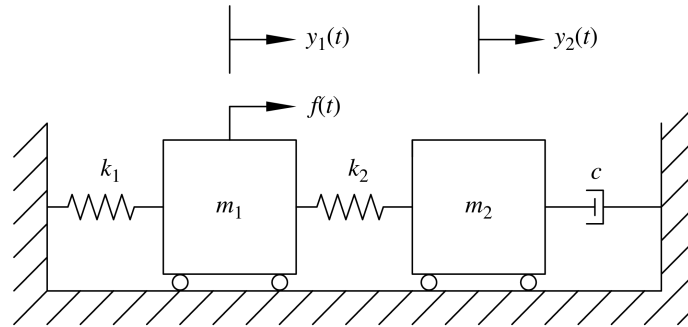


Figure 1: Translational mechanical system.

The system's parameters are the masses m_1 and m_2 , viscous damping coefficient c , and spring stiffnesses k_1 and k_2 . The input is the applied force $u(t) = f(t)$, and the outputs are taken as the mass displacements.

Derive a valid state-space realization for the mechanical system. That is, specify the state variables and derive the coefficient matrices A , B , C , and D .

Solution 1.

1. Newton's second law applied to each mass yields:

$$m_1 \ddot{y}_1(t) + k_1 y_1(t) - k_2 [y_2(t) - y_1(t)] = f(t),$$

$$m_2 \ddot{y}_2(t) + c \dot{y}_2(t) + k_2 [y_2(t) - y_1(t)] = 0.$$

Define the state variables:

$$x_1(t) = y_1(t), \quad x_2(t) = y_2(t) - y_1(t), \quad x_3(t) = \dot{y}_1(t), \quad x_4(t) = \dot{y}_2(t).$$

The state-space representation is:

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 \\ -\frac{k_1}{m_1} & \frac{k_2}{m_1} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -\frac{k_2}{m_2} & 0 & -\frac{c}{m_2} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}(t) + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \frac{1}{m_1} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} u(t),$$

$$\mathbf{y}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}(t) + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} u(t).$$

Question 2. Consider the electrical network shown in Figure 2. The two inputs are the independent voltage and current sources $v_{in}(t)$ and $i_{in}(t)$, and the single output is the inductor voltage $v_L(t)$.

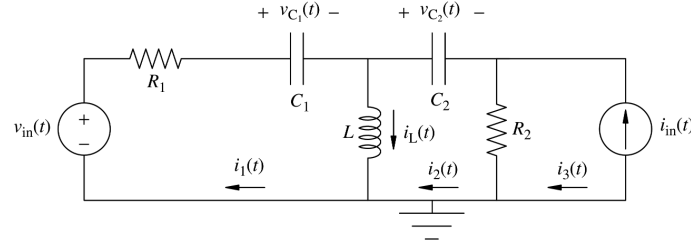


Figure 2: Electrical Circuit.

Using clockwise circulating mesh currents $i_1(t)$, $i_2(t)$, and $i_3(t)$, Kirchhoff's voltage and current laws yield:

$$\begin{aligned} R_1 i_1(t) + v_{C_1}(t) + L \frac{d}{dt} [i_1(t) - i_2(t)] &= v_{in}(t), \\ L \frac{d}{dt} [i_2(t) - i_1(t)] + v_{C_2}(t) + R_2 [i_2(t) - i_3(t)] &= 0, \\ i_3(t) &= -i_{in}(t), \\ i_L(t) &= i_1(t) - i_2(t). \end{aligned}$$

Derive a valid state-space realization for the electrical network. That is, specify the state variables and derive the coefficient matrices A , B , C , and D .

Solution 2.

1. Define the state variables:

$$x_1(t) = v_{C_1}(t), \quad x_2(t) = v_{C_2}(t), \quad x_3(t) = i_L(t),$$

and inputs:

$$u_1(t) = v_{in}(t), \quad u_2(t) = i_{in}(t).$$

2. State equations:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_1(t) \\ \dot{x}_2(t) \\ \dot{x}_3(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{(R_1+R_2)C_1} & -\frac{1}{(R_1+R_2)C_1} & \frac{R_2}{(R_1+R_2)C_1} \\ -\frac{1}{(R_1+R_2)C_2} & -\frac{1}{(R_1+R_2)C_2} & -\frac{R_1}{(R_1+R_2)C_2} \\ -\frac{R_2}{(R_1+R_2)L} & \frac{R_1}{(R_1+R_2)L} & -\frac{R_1 R_2}{(R_1+R_2)L} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1(t) \\ x_2(t) \\ x_3(t) \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{(R_1+R_2)C_1} & -\frac{R_2}{(R_1+R_2)C_1} \\ \frac{1}{(R_1+R_2)C_2} & -\frac{R_2}{(R_1+R_2)C_2} \\ \frac{R_2}{(R_1+R_2)L} & \frac{R_1 R_2}{(R_1+R_2)L} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_1(t) \\ u_2(t) \end{bmatrix}.$$

3. Output equation:

$$y(t) = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{R_2}{(R_1+R_2)} & \frac{R_1}{(R_1+R_2)} & -\frac{R_1 R_2}{(R_1+R_2)} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1(t) \\ x_2(t) \\ x_3(t) \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \frac{R_2}{(R_1+R_2)} & \frac{R_1 R_2}{(R_1+R_2)} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_1(t) \\ u_2(t) \end{bmatrix}.$$

Question 3. Consider the matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

1. Compute the characteristic polynomial of A and find the eigenvalues of A .
2. Compute three linearly independent eigenvectors for A .
3. Find a similarity transformation L such that $\hat{A} = L^{-1}AL$ is a diagonal matrix.
4. Compute e^{At} as a function of t .
5. Compute $\sin(At)$ as a function of t .

Solution 3.

1. Compute the characteristic polynomial:

$$\det(sI - A) = \det \begin{bmatrix} s-2 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & s-1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & s-3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Expanding along the third row:

$$\det(sI - A) = (s-3) \times \det \begin{bmatrix} s-2 & 0 \\ -1 & s-1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Compute the determinant of the 2×2 matrix:

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} s-2 & 0 \\ -1 & s-1 \end{bmatrix} = (s-2)(s-1) - 0 = s^2 - 3s + 2$$

Thus:

$$\det(sI - A) = (s-3)(s^2 - 3s + 2).$$

Factorizing:

$$\det(sI - A) = (s-3)(s-2)(s-1).$$

Hence, the eigenvalues are $\lambda = 3, 2, 1$.

2. Solve $Av = \lambda v$ for each eigenvalue λ :

For $\lambda = 3$:

$$(A - 3I)v = 0 \implies \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} v = 0.$$

A solution is $v_1 = [0, 0, 1]^\top$.

For $\lambda = 2$:

$$(A - 2I)v = 0 \implies \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} v = 0.$$

A solution is $v_2 = [1, 1, 0]^\top$.

For $\lambda = 1$:

$$(A - I)v = 0 \implies \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} v = 0.$$

A solution is $v_3 = [0, 1, 0]^\top$.

3. Let $M = [v_1, v_2, v_3]$ be the matrix of eigenvectors:

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Note that

$$AM = M\Lambda, \implies A = M\Lambda M^{-1},$$

hence, $L = M$ and $\hat{A} = \Lambda$ where

$$\hat{A} = \Lambda = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

4. Compute e^{At} :

$$e^{At} = M e^{\hat{A}t} M^{-1},$$

where

$$e^{\hat{A}t} = \begin{bmatrix} e^{3t} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{2t} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & e^t \end{bmatrix}.$$

To compute M^{-1} , first find the determinant of M :

$$\det(M) = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = 0 \cdot \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix} - 1 \cdot \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{vmatrix} + 0 \cdot \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{vmatrix}.$$

$$\det(M) = 0 - 1(-1) + 0 = 1.$$

Since $\det(M) = 1$, the cofactor matrix is:

$$\text{Cofactor matrix} = \text{adj}(M) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Thus the inverse matrix is:

$$M^{-1} = \text{adj}(M) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Now compute $Me^{\hat{A}t}$:

$$Me^{\hat{A}t} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} e^{3t} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{2t} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & e^t \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & e^{2t} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{2t} & e^t \\ e^{3t} & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Finally:

$$e^{At} = Me^{\hat{A}t}M^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & e^{2t} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{2t} & e^t \\ e^{3t} & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} e^{2t} & 0 & 0 \\ e^{2t} - e^t & e^t & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & e^{3t} \end{bmatrix}.$$

5. Compute $\sin(At)$:

$$\sin(At) = M \sin(\hat{A}t)M^{-1},$$

where

$$\sin(\hat{A}t) = \begin{bmatrix} \sin(3t) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sin(2t) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \sin(t) \end{bmatrix}.$$

Now compute $M \sin(\hat{A}t)$:

$$M \sin(\hat{A}t) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \sin(3t) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sin(2t) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \sin(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \sin(2t) & 0 \\ 0 & \sin(2t) & \sin(t) \\ \sin(3t) & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Finally:

$$e^{At} = M \sin(\hat{A}t)M^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \sin(2t) & 0 \\ 0 & \sin(2t) & \sin(t) \\ \sin(3t) & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \sin(2t) & 0 & 0 \\ \sin(2t) - \sin(t) & \sin(t) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \sin(3t) \end{bmatrix}.$$