



**Solution to Homework 1**  
**Mathematical Systems Theory, SF2832**  
**Fall 2013**  
**For your reference only**

1. Find the state transition matrix for the following systems

(a)  $\dot{x}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & t^2 \end{bmatrix} x(t)$   
 ..... (2p)

**Answer:** omitted.

(b)  $\dot{x}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ -k & -1 - 2k & -2 - k \end{bmatrix} x(t),$   
 where the constant  $k > 1$ . ..... (3p)

**Answer:** omitted.

- (c) Let

$$\dot{x} = A(t)x$$

and

$$\dot{z} = K(t)z.$$

If  $\Phi_z(t, s) = \Phi_x^T(s, t)$ , where  $\Phi(\cdot, \cdot)$  denote the state transition matrix, what is  $K(t)$ ? ..... (2p)

**Answer:**  $K(t) = -A^T(t)$  since  $\dot{\Phi}_x^T(s, t) = (\dot{\Phi}_x(s, t))^T = (-\Phi_x(s, t)A(t))^T$ .

2. Consider the rotational motion of a point  $x$  in  $R^3$  with respect to the origin:

$$\dot{x} = \omega(t) \times x,$$

where  $\omega(t) = (\omega_1(t), \omega_2(t), \omega_3(t))^T$  is the angular velocity, and “ $\times$ ” is the vector cross product.

- (a) Express the kinematics of  $x(t)$  in the form of  $\dot{x} = A(t)x$ . ..... (2p)

**Answer:**  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\omega_3 & \omega_2 \\ \omega_3 & 0 & -\omega_1 \\ -\omega_2 & \omega_1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$

- (b) Use (a) to show that  $\|x(t)\|^2 = \|x(t_0)\|^2 \forall t \geq 0$ , i.e. the distance to the origin does not change over time (you are not supposed to use dot and cross products to show this). ..... (3p)

**Answer:**  $\|x(t)\|^2 = x(t_0)^T \Phi^T(t, t_0) \Phi(t, t_0) x(t_0)$ . Since  $A(t)^T = -A(t)$ , we have  $\dot{\Phi}^T(s, t) = \Phi^T(t, s)$  (by 1.c above,  $K(t) = -A(t)^T = A(t)$ ). Thus,  $x(t_0)^T \Phi^T(t, t_0) \Phi(t, t_0) x(t_0) = x(t_0)^T \Phi(t_0, t) \Phi(t, t_0) x(t_0) = x(t_0)^T x(t_0)$ .

3. Consider

$$\dot{x} = Ax + Bu, \quad x \in R^n$$

where  $A$  and  $B$  are constant matrices. Show that if  $x(0) \in \mathcal{R}$ , then  $x(t) \in \mathcal{R}, \forall t \geq 0$ , and for all  $u(t)$  such that the solution is unique.  $\mathcal{R}$  is defined as  $\mathcal{R} = \text{Im}(B, AB, \dots, A^{n-1}B)$ . (3p)

**Answer:**  $x(t) = e^{At}x(0) + \int_0^t e^{A(t-s)}Bu(s)ds = e^{At}x(0) + (B \int_0^t u(s) + \dots + A^k B \int_0^t \frac{(t-s)^k}{k!} u(s)ds + \dots) e^{At}x(0) \in \mathcal{R}$  if  $x(0) \in \mathcal{R}$ , and the second term is also in  $\mathcal{R}$  by definition of  $\mathcal{R}$  and Cayley-Hamilton Theorem.

4. Assume

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x} &= Ax \\ y &= cx \end{aligned}$$

is observable, where  $x \in R^n$  and  $y \in R$ .

(a) Let  $\bar{x}_i = cA^{i-1}x, i = 1, \dots, n$ . What is  $\bar{A}$  and  $\bar{c}$  under the new coordinates? Use the characteristic polynomial of  $A$  to express elements of  $\bar{A}$  if necessary. (3p)

**Answer:** Since the system is observable, the new coordinates are well defined. We can easily see that  $\dot{\bar{x}}_i = cA^{i-1}\dot{x} = cA^i x = \bar{x}_{i+1}, i = 1, \dots, n-1$ , and  $\dot{\bar{x}}_n = cA^n x = c(-a_n A^{n-1} - \dots - a_1 I)x = -a_n \bar{x}_n - \dots - a_1 \bar{x}_1$ . We use Cayley-Hamilton to derive the last equality.

(b) Show the n-tuple integrator system

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x}_1 &= x_2 \\ &\vdots \\ \dot{x}_{n-1} &= x_n \\ \dot{x}_n &= u \\ y &= x_1 \end{aligned}$$

is both reachable and observable. .... (2p)

**Answer:** omitted.