

2.8b stability in first-order systems

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Recall: $x_{t+1} = f(x_t)$ is ^{locally asymptotically} stable at an equilibrium \bar{x} if $|f'(\bar{x})| < 1$
unstable at an equilibrium \bar{x} if $|f'(\bar{x})| > 1$.

What is the equivalent for first-order systems?

Thm: Let $X(t+1) = F(X(t))$ be a system of n first-order equations,

$$X(t) = (x_1(t), \dots, x_n(t))^T, F = (f_1, \dots, f_n)^T, \text{ and } f_i = f_i(x_1, \dots, x_n).$$

Let \bar{X} be an equilibrium of the system. Then linearization of the system about \bar{X} and letting $U(t) = X(t) - \bar{X}$ gives a system

$$U(t+1) = J U(t),$$

where J is the Jacobian matrix of F at \bar{X} ,

$$J(\bar{X}) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_1}(\bar{X}) & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_2}(\bar{X}) & \dots & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_n}(\bar{X}) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f_n}{\partial x_1}(\bar{X}) & \dots & \dots & \frac{\partial f_n}{\partial x_n}(\bar{X}) \end{pmatrix}$$

Then \bar{X} is locally asymptotically stable if $|\lambda_i| < 1 \forall$ eigenvalues λ_i
and unstable if some $|\lambda_i| > 1$.

proof sketch: For $X(0)$ s.t. $|\bar{X} - X(0)| < \epsilon$, with ϵ sufficiently small,

can approximate $X(t+1) = F(X(t))$ by the Taylor series of F

$$X(t+1) \approx F(\bar{X}) + \underbrace{J(\bar{X})}_{\text{Jacobian}} (X(t) - \bar{X}) + \frac{1}{2} (X(t) - \bar{X})^T \underbrace{H(\bar{X})}_{\text{Hessian}} (X(t) - \bar{X}) + \dots$$

$\Rightarrow X(t+1) - \bar{X} \approx J(\bar{X})(X(t) - \bar{X})$ for $X(t)$ sufficiently close to \bar{X} .

$$U(t+1) \approx J(\bar{X})U(t)$$


$$\Rightarrow U(t) = [J(\bar{X})]^t U(0).$$

If all eigenvalues $|\lambda_i| < 1$, then $\rho(J(\bar{X})) < 1$.

If $\rho(J(\bar{X})) < 1$, then $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} [J(\bar{X})]^t \rightarrow 0$, so $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} X(t) = \bar{X}$.

If $|\lambda_i| > 1$ for some i , then so long as $[X(0) - \bar{X}] \cdot V_i \neq 0$, where

V_i is the eigenvector associated with $|\lambda_i| > 1$, then $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} |U(t)| = \infty$.

Of course, the linearization may break down as $|X(t) - \bar{X}|$ grows, but $X(t)$ will still leave a sufficiently small ball around \bar{X} , so \bar{X} is unstable. 

Thm 2.10 Let $J \in \mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2}$. Then $|\lambda_i| < 1 \forall$ eigenvalues λ_i iff $|\text{Tr}(J)| < 1 + \det(J) < 2$.

And $|\lambda_i| > 1$ for some eigenvalue λ_i if at least one of the following is true:

$$\text{Tr}(J) > 1 + \det(J), \quad \text{Tr}(J) < -1 - \det(J), \quad \det(J) > 1.$$

proof. Let $\tau = \text{Tr}(J)$ and $\delta = \det(J)$.

The characteristic eqn of a 2×2 matrix is

$$p(\lambda) = \lambda^2 - \tau\lambda + \delta = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda_{1,2} = \frac{\tau \pm \sqrt{\tau^2 - 4\delta}}{2}$$

Forward Case 1: $|\lambda_i| < 1, \lambda_{1,2} \in \mathbb{R}$

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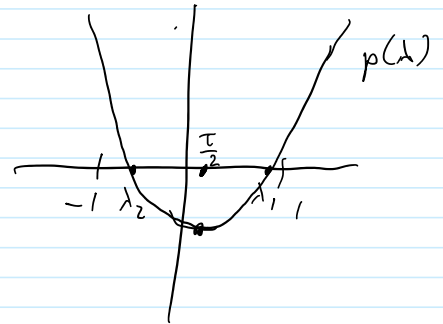
$$\Rightarrow \tau^2 \geq 4\delta. \text{ Also, } \tau = \lambda_1 + \lambda_2, \quad |\tau| \leq |\lambda_1| + |\lambda_2| < 2.$$

Furthermore, the function $p(\lambda)$ is a parabola with vertex at $\frac{\tau}{2}$, and zeros at λ_1 and λ_2 . WLOG, $\lambda_2 < \lambda_1$.

$$\text{Therefore, } -1 < \lambda_2 \leq \frac{\tau}{2} \leq \lambda_1 < 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \left| \frac{\tau}{2} \right| < 1, \text{ so } 4 > \tau^2 \geq 4\delta \Rightarrow \delta < 1.$$

$$\text{Also, } \left| \frac{\tau}{2} - 1 \right| > \left| \frac{\tau}{2} - \lambda_1 \right| \text{ and } \left| \frac{\tau}{2} + 1 \right| > \left| \frac{\tau}{2} - \lambda_2 \right|$$



Recall $|\tau| < 2$, so $\frac{\tau}{2} - 1 < 0$.

$$\Rightarrow \left| 1 - \frac{\tau}{2} \right| > \left| \frac{\tau}{2} - \lambda_1 \right| \text{ and } \left| 1 + \frac{\tau}{2} \right| > \left| \frac{\tau}{2} - \lambda_2 \right|$$

$$\Rightarrow \left| 1 \pm \frac{\tau}{2} \right| > \left| \frac{\tau}{2} - \lambda_i \right|$$

$$\text{Rt } \left| \frac{\tau}{2} - \lambda_i \right| = \frac{\sqrt{\tau^2 - 4\delta}}{2}, \text{ so}$$

$$\left| 1 - \frac{\tau}{2} \right| > \frac{\sqrt{\tau^2 - 4\delta}}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \left| 1 - \frac{\tau}{2} \right| + \frac{\tau^2}{4} > \frac{\tau^2 - 4\delta}{4}$$

$$\Rightarrow |1 - \tau| > -\delta$$

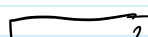
$$\Rightarrow 1 + \delta > |\tau|$$

$$\Rightarrow |\tau| < 1 + \delta.$$

Furthermore, $\delta = \lambda_1 \lambda_2$, so $|\delta| < 1 \Rightarrow 1 + \delta < 2$

Forward case 2: $|\lambda_i| < 1$ and $\bar{\lambda}_1 = \lambda_2$ are complex conjugates

$$\text{Then } \tau^2 < 4\delta$$



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$$\lambda_{1,2} = \frac{\tau}{2} \pm i \frac{\sqrt{4\delta - \tau^2}}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow |\lambda_i|^2 = \frac{\tau^2}{4} + \delta - \frac{\tau^2}{4} = \delta.$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 < \delta < 1.$$

$$\text{But } |\tau| < 2\sqrt{\delta} \leq 1 + \delta$$

$$(a^2 + b^2 \geq 2ab)$$

$$\Rightarrow |\tau| < 1 + \delta < 2.$$

Backward case 1: $|\tau| < 1 + \delta < 2$ and $\lambda_i \in \mathbb{R}$, so $\tau^2 \geq 4\delta$.

$$\text{Let } \lambda_1 = \frac{\tau}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{\tau^2 - 4\delta}}{2}, \quad \lambda_2 = \frac{\tau}{2} - \frac{\sqrt{\tau^2 - 4\delta}}{2}, \quad \text{so } \lambda_2 \leq \lambda_1.$$

$$\text{Note } |\tau| < 1 + \delta$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 - |\tau| > -\delta$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(1 - \frac{|\tau|}{2}\right)^2 > \frac{\tau^2}{4} - \delta \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 - \frac{|\tau|}{2} > \frac{\sqrt{\tau^2 - 4\delta}}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 > \frac{|\tau|}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{\tau^2 - 4\delta}}{2} \geq \lambda_1$$

$$\text{and } -1 < \frac{-|\tau|}{2} - \frac{\sqrt{\tau^2 - 4\delta}}{2} \leq \lambda_2, \quad \text{so } -1 < \lambda_2 \leq \lambda_1 < 1.$$

Backward case 2: $|\tau| < 1 + \delta < 2$ and λ_i are complex conjugates.

$$\text{Then } |\lambda_i|^2 = \delta < 1.$$



Thm 2.11 (Jury conditions, Schur-Cohn criterion, $n=3$)

Suppose $p(\lambda) = \lambda^3 + a_1\lambda^2 + a_2\lambda + a_3$, $a_1, a_2, a_3 \in \mathbb{R}$ is a polynomial

Then the solutions $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3$ of $p(\lambda) = 0$ satisfy $|\lambda_i| < 1$ iff

$$(1) \quad p(1) = 1 + a_1 + a_2 + a_3 > 0$$

$$(2) \quad (-1)^3 p(-1) = 1 - a_1 + a_2 - a_3 > 0,$$

$$(3) \quad 1 - (a_3)^2 > |a_2 - a_3 a_1|$$

(Necessary + sufficient conditions for $n=3$)

Thm 2.12 If the solutions $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ of $p(\lambda) = 0$, where

$p(\lambda) = \lambda^n + a_1\lambda^{n-1} + \dots + a_{n-1}\lambda + a_n$ satisfy $|\lambda_i| < 1$, then

$$(1) \quad p(1) = 1 + a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n > 0$$

$$(2) \quad (-1)^n p(-1) = 1 - a_1 + a_2 - \dots + (-1)^n a_n > 0$$

$$(3) \quad |a_n| < 1.$$

(Necessary but not sufficient)

Def. 2.9 Let \bar{x} be an equilibrium of $x(t+1) = f(x(t))$

and let $J(\bar{x})$ be the Jacobian matrix at \bar{x} , \bar{x} is

hyperbolic if $|\lambda_i| \neq 1 \quad \forall$ eigenvalues λ_i of $J(\bar{x})$.

Otherwise, it is **non hyperbolic**.

Ex. 2.15: Consider a predator-prey system

(prey) $x_{t+1} = x_t(a - x_t - y_t)$, $a > 0$

(predator) $y_{t+1} = y_t(b + x_t)$, $0 < b < 1$

Equilibria are $(0,0)$, $(a-1,0)$, and $(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) = (1-b, a+b-2)$

$$J = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [x(a-x-y)] & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} [x(a-x-y)] \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [y(b+x)] & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} [y(b+x)] \end{pmatrix}$$

$$J = \begin{pmatrix} a-2x-y & -x \\ y & b+x \end{pmatrix}$$

$$J(0,0) = \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & b \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_{1,2} = a, b$$

Since $0 < b < 1$, $(0,0)$ is locally asymptotically stable if $a < 1$.

Intuitively, everything dies

$$J(a-1,0) = \begin{pmatrix} 2-a & 1-a \\ 0 & a+b-1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_{1,2} = 2-a, a+b-1$$

Need $1 < a < 2-b$ to be locally asymptotically stable and nonnegative.

prey survives, but predator goes extinct

$$J(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) = \begin{pmatrix} b & -2 \\ \bar{y} & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

After some algebra using the Jury conditions for $n=2$, find $2 < a+b < 3$ to be locally asymptotically stable and nonnegative

prey survives, and predator survives