

**Problem [1].** Consider the system given by:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad C = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (1)$$

(a) Find the transfer function of this system and hence the differential equations describing the system in terms of inputs and outputs (i.e. no states)

(b) Determine controllability from  $u_1, u_2$  and  $u$ . If any of these systems is not controllable, find a basis for the controllable space.

**Solution**

(a)

$$H(s) = C(sI - A)^{-1}B = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{s^3 + s^2 + 2s + 1} & \frac{s^3 + s + 1}{s^4 + 2s^3 + 3s^2 + 3s + 1} \\ \frac{s^2 + s + 2}{s^3 + s^2 + 2s + 1} & \frac{1}{s^3 + s^2 + 2s + 1} \end{bmatrix} \quad (2)$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{p_{11}(s)}{q_{11}(s)} & \frac{p_{12}(s)}{q_{11}(s)} \\ \frac{p_{21}(s)}{q_{11}(s)} & \frac{p_{22}(s)}{q_{11}(s)} \end{bmatrix} \quad (3)$$

where  $q_{12}(s) = q_{11}(s)(s + 1)$ .

Since the system has two inputs and two outputs, we have:

$$\begin{bmatrix} Y_1(s) \\ Y_2(s) \end{bmatrix} = H(s) \begin{bmatrix} U_1(s) \\ U_2(s) \end{bmatrix} \quad (4)$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{p_{11}(s)}{q_{11}(s)} & \frac{p_{12}(s)}{q_{11}(s)} \\ \frac{p_{21}(s)}{q_{11}(s)} & \frac{p_{22}(s)}{q_{11}(s)} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} U_1(s) \\ U_2(s) \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \quad (5)$$

We now treat each output independently to find the differential equations relating them to both inputs,  $u_1$  and  $u_2$ . For  $y_1$  we have:

$$(s + 1)q_{11}(s)Y_1(s) = (s + 1)p_{11}(s)U_1(s) + p_{12}(s)U_2(s) \Rightarrow \quad (6)$$

$$(s^4 + 2s^3 + 3s^2 + 3s + 1)Y_1(s) = (s + 1)U_1(s) + (s^3 + s + 1)U_2(s) \Rightarrow \quad (7)$$

$$y_1^{(4)} + 2y_1^{(3)} + 3y_1^{(2)} + 3\dot{y}_1 + y_1 = \dot{u}_1 + u_1 + u_2^{(3)} + \dot{u}_2 + u_2 \quad (8)$$

Similarly, for  $y_2$ :

$$q_{11}(s)Y_2(s) = p_{21}(s)U_1(s) + p_{22}(s)U_2(s) \Rightarrow \quad (9)$$

$$(s^3 + s^2 + 2s + 1)Y_2(s) = (s^2 + s + 2)U_1(s) + U_2(s) \Rightarrow \quad (10)$$

$$y_2^{(3)} + y_2^{(2)} + 2\dot{y}_2 + y_2 = u_1^{(2)} + \dot{u}_1 + 2u_1 + u_2 \quad (11)$$

(b) *Controllability from  $u$ :*

$$\mathcal{R}_4(A, B) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & -2 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (12)$$

which, easily seen, has 4 linearly independent columns  $\Rightarrow \text{rank}(\mathcal{R}_4(A, B)) = 4 \Rightarrow \mathbb{X}^{\text{contr}} = \text{im}\mathcal{R}_4(A, B) = \mathbf{R}^4$  so the system is completely controllable from  $u$ .

*Controllability from  $u_1$ :* We construct the new controllability matrix using the first column of  $B$  only:

$$\mathcal{R}_4(A, B(:, 1)) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (13)$$

Note that we do not actually need to recompute the controllability matrix  $\mathcal{R}_4(A, B(:, 1))$ , since it can be extracted directly from  $\mathcal{R}_4(A, B)$  by eliminating even columns. Since:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = - \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} - 2 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (14)$$

$\mathcal{R}_4(A, B(:, 1))$  has only 3 linearly independent columns so its rank is 3 and the system is not completely controllable from  $u_1$ . The dimension of the controllable subspace is 3 and a basis for  $\mathbb{X}^{\text{contr}}$  is:

$$\left( \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right) \quad (15)$$

To show that the three vectors in (15) are linearly independent, take the matrix:

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (16)$$

and check whether one of the  $3 \times 3$  submatrices resulting from a row elimination from (16) has a non-zero determinant. Indeed, if we eliminate row 3, the determinant of the remaining  $3 \times 3$  matrix is  $-1$ , so the three vectors in (15) are linearly independent and form a basis for the controllable subspace.

*Controllability from  $u_2$ :* We now take the second column if be only and form:

$$\mathcal{R}_4(A, B(:, 2)) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & -2 \\ 1 & 0 & -2 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (17)$$

All 4 columns are linearly independent so  $\text{rank}(\mathcal{R}_4(A, B(:, 2))) = 4$  and the system is completely controllable from  $u_2$ .

**Problem [2].** Consider the inverted penduli system given in the *Case Studies* for the following values of the parameters:  $M = 2$ ,  $m = 1$ ,  $\ell_1 = 1$ ,  $\ell_2 = 1$ ,  $g = 10$ .

(a) Is the system stable? (b) Is the system controllable? Find the dimension and a basis for the controllable space. Is it possible to transfer each one of the initial states

$$\tilde{x} = [1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0]^T, \quad \hat{x} = [1 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0]^T, \quad \bar{x} = [0 \ 0 \ 1 \ 1]^T$$

to the zero state? Furthermore, is it possible to transfer the state of the system from the initial state  $\hat{x}$  to the final state  $\bar{x}$ ? Justify your answers. ■

**Solution.**

(a) From given values of the system parameters we have:  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ -15 & -5 & 0 & 0 \\ -5 & -15 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ -\frac{1}{2} \\ -\frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}$

The eigenvalues of matrix A are  $\pm 4.4721i$  and  $\pm 3.1623i$ , so since there are eigenvalues with real part 0, the system is *not stable*.

(b) Throughout the rest of the problem, we use the equivalence between the reachability and controllability concepts. The reachability (controllability) matrix is:

$$R_4(A, B) = [ B, AB, A^2B, A^3B ] = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -0.5 & 0 & 10 \\ 0 & -0.5 & 0 & 10 \\ -0.5 & 0 & 10 & 0 \\ -0.5 & 0 & 10 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

So we see that  $\text{rank } R_4(A, B) = 2$ , since  $R_4(A, B)$  has only 2 linearly independent columns; it follows

that  $\text{im } R_4(A, B) = \mathbf{im}([v_1, v_2])$ , where  $v_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ .

$\bar{x} = v_1$ ,  $\hat{x} = v_2$  while  $\tilde{x}$  is not in the span of the basis vectors of the reachable subspace. So  $\bar{x}$  and  $\hat{x}$  are reachable states while  $\tilde{x}$  is not.

In general, to determine whether it is possible to transfer the state of the system from an initial state  $\hat{x}$  at time 0 to a final state  $\bar{x}$  at time  $T$ , we need to determine whether there exists an input  $u$  such that:

$$\bar{x} = e^{AT}\hat{x} + \int_0^T e^{A(T-\tau)}Bu(\tau)d\tau \Rightarrow \quad (18)$$

according to the reachability definition, we have to determine whether  $\bar{x} - e^{AT}\hat{x} \in \mathbb{X}^{\text{reach}}$ .

We know  $\bar{x} \in \mathbb{X}^{\text{reach}}$  and  $e^{AT}\hat{x} \in A\mathbb{X}^{\text{reach}} \subset \mathbb{X}^{\text{reach}}$  (recall that  $e^{AT} = I + AT + A^2\frac{T^2}{2} + \dots$ ). Using this and the fact that  $\mathbb{X}^{\text{reach}}$  is a linear subspace, we conclude that  $\bar{x} - e^{AT}\hat{x} \in \mathbb{X}^{\text{reach}}$ , so there is a trajectory from  $\hat{x}$  to  $\bar{x}$ . Furthermore, since  $\tilde{x}$  is not reachable, it cannot be transferred to the zero state.

**Problem [3].** Consider the RLC system given in the *Case Studies* with the following values of the parameters:  $C_1 = C_2 = 1$ ,  $R = R_1 = R_2 = 1$ ,  $L_1 = L_2 = 1$ . Consider also the states:

$$\hat{x} = [0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0]^T, \quad \tilde{x} = [0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 1]^T$$

(a) Is the system stable? Is the system controllable? Find the dimension and a basis for the controllable space.

(b) Explain whether there exists an input  $\hat{u}$  which will transfer the state of the system from 0 to  $\hat{x}$ . Is it possible to transfer the state of the system from  $\hat{x}$  to  $\tilde{x}$ ? Justify your answer. ■

**Solution.**

(a)

From the given circuit we have:

$$\dot{x}_1 = -x_1 - x_2 - x_3 + u_1$$

$$\dot{x}_2 = x_1 - x_2$$

$$\dot{x}_3 = -x_1 - x_3 - x_4 + u_2$$

$$\dot{x}_4 = x_3 - x_4$$

Thus we have  $A = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ . The eigenvalues of  $A$  are

$\lambda_{1,2} = -\frac{3}{2} \pm \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}i$  and  $\lambda_{3,4} = -\frac{1}{2} \pm \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}i$ , and hence the system is stable. The reachability matrix is:

$$R_4(A, B) = [ B, AB, A^2B, A^3B ] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & -1 & 1 & 2 & -1 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -2 & -1 & 3 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 2 & 1 & -2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & -2 & 3 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Clearly the first 4 columns of this matrix are linearly independent and thus the system is completely reachable given both inputs  $u_1$  and  $u_2$ . A basis for the reachable space is any basis for  $\mathbb{R}^4$ .

(b) Since the system is reachable there exist inputs that will drive the system from the zero state to any state in  $\mathbb{R}^4$ .

If we wish to drive the system from state  $x_1$  at  $t = 0$  to state  $x_2$  at  $t = T$ , there must exist an input  $u(t)$  such that

$$x_2 = e^{AT}x_1 + \int_0^T e^{A(T-\tau)}Bu(\tau)d\tau \Rightarrow x_2 - e^{AT}x_1 \in \mathbb{X}^{\text{reach}}$$

Therefore since  $A\mathbb{X}^{\text{reach}} \subset \mathbb{X}^{\text{reach}}$  the above relationship implies that any two states in the reachable subspace can be joined by a state trajectory for an appropriate input. In this case the reachable subspace is the whole space and thus the given states can indeed be joined by a state trajectory.