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A REMARK TO THE FLOQUET THEOREM FOR SYSTEMS
OF LINEAR DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

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Abstract: The Floquet theorem on the connection between a differential equation $y' = A(t)y$ and a linear differential equation with constant coefficients without the assumption of $A(t)$ periodic is given in this paper.

Key words: transformation, fundamental system.

MS Classification: 34C20, 34C25.

We consider a linear differential equation

$$y' = A(t)y, \quad (1)$$

where $A(t)$ is an $n \times n$ matrix of continuous functions such that $A[\psi(t)] \varphi'(t) = A(t)$, $t \in (-\infty, \infty)$. We suppose that the function $\psi(t)$ is increasing from $-\infty$ to ∞ on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$, $\varphi'(t) \neq 0$ and $\psi(t) > t$ for every $t \in (-\infty, \infty)$.

Lemma 1. Let $Y(t)$ be a fundamental matrix for the differential equation (1). Then a composite function $Y[\psi(t)]$ is also a fundamental matrix for (1).

Proof. Setting $Z(t) = Y[\varphi(t)]$ we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} Z'(t) &= Y'[\varphi(t)]\varphi'(t) = A[\varphi(t)]Y[\varphi(t)]\varphi'(t) = \\ &= A[\varphi(t)]\varphi'(t)Y[\varphi(t)] = A(t)Z(t). \end{aligned}$$

Thus $Z(t) = Y[\varphi(t)]$ is a fundamental matrix for (1).

Lemma 2. To fundamental matrices $Y(t)$, $Y[\varphi(t)]$ there exists a nonsingular constant matrix H such that

$$Y[\varphi(t)] = Y(t)H(t), \quad t \in (-\infty, \infty). \quad (2)$$

Proof. It is obvious, it is a property of a linear space of fundamental matrices for (1).

Lemma 3. All constant matrices H satisfying (2) are similar.

Proof. If $Y(t)$, $Y_1(t)$ are two fundamental matrices for (1) then there exist nonsingular constant matrices H , H_1 such that

$$Y[\varphi(t)] \equiv Y(t)H,$$

$$Y_1[\varphi(t)] \equiv Y_1(t)H_1.$$

Since there is a constant matrix C such that

$$Y_1(t) = Y(t)C$$

it follows that

$$Y_1[\varphi(t)] \equiv Y[\varphi(t)]C \equiv Y(t)HC.$$

Since $Y_1[\varphi(t)] \equiv Y_1(t)H_1 \equiv Y(t)CH_1$ we get

$$Y(t)HC \equiv Y(t)CH_1$$

or

$$HC \equiv CH_1$$

hence

$$H_1 \equiv C^{-1}HC.$$

Conversely, if $Y(t)$ is a fundamental matrix for (1) satisfying (2) and $H_1 = C^{-1}HC$ then since $Y_1(t) \equiv Y(t)C$ is a fundamental matrix for (1) the following identity is hold

$$Y_1[\varphi(t)] \equiv Y[\varphi(t)]C \equiv Y(t)H(t)C \equiv Y(t)CH_1 \equiv Y_1(t)H_1.$$

Theorem. Any fundamental matrix $Y(t)$ for the equation (1) may be written as

$$Y(t) = P(t)\exp\{F(t)S\}, \quad (3)$$

where $P(t)$ is a nonsingular $n \times n$ matrix such that $P[\varphi(t)] = P(t)$, $t \in (-\omega, \omega)$, and S is a constant matrix and $F(t)$ is an increasing solution of the Abel functional equation $F[\varphi(t)] - F(t) = 1$.

Conversely, if $P(t)$ and S satisfy (3) with a fundamental matrix $Y(t)$ of (1) and with an increasing solution $F(t)$ of the Abel functional equation, then

$$P(t) + PSF'(t) - A(t)P(t) = 0 \text{ for } t \in (-\omega, \omega),$$

and under the transformation

$$y(t) = P(t)w(t), \quad t \in (-\omega, \omega) \quad (4)$$

the differential equation (1) reduces to

$$w' = SF'(t)w, \quad t \in (-\omega, \omega). \quad (5)$$

Proof. a) Let $Y(t)$ be a fundamental matrix for (1), and H a constant matrix satisfying $Y[\varphi(t)] = Y(t)H(t)$. We know [1], [2] that there exists a matrix S such that $H = \exp S$. Thus if we set

$$P(t) = Y(t)\exp\{-F(t)S\}$$

we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} P[\varphi(t)] &= Y[\varphi(t)]\exp\{-F[\varphi(t)]S\} = Y(t)H\exp\{-F(t)S - S\} = \\ &= Y(t)\exp S \exp\{-F(t)S - S\} = Y(t)\exp\{-F(t)S\} = P(t). \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$P[\varphi(t)] = P(t)$$

and we have

$$Y(t) = P(t)\exp\{F(t)S\}.$$

b) Let $P(t) = Y(t)\exp\{-F(t)S\}$. Since $Y' = A(t)Y$ and $(\exp\{-F(t)S\})' = \exp\{-F(t)S\}F'(t)S$ we have

$$P'(t) = Y'(t)\exp\{-F(t)S\} - Y(t)\exp\{-F(t)S\}F'(t)S$$

or

$$P'(t) - A(t)Y(t)\exp\{-F(t)S\} + Y(t)\exp\{-F(t)S\}F'(t)S = 0.$$

After arrangements we obtain

$$P'(t) - A(t)P(t) + P(t)F'(t)S = 0.$$

Hence

$$F'(t)S = P^{-1}(t)(A(t)P(t) - P'(t)) \text{ for } t \in (-\infty, \infty). \quad (6)$$

With respect to (1) and the transformation

$$y = Pw \quad (7)$$

we get

$$(y') \equiv P'w + Pw' = APw$$

or

$$AP - P' = Pw'w^{-1}$$

and inserting into (7) we get

$$w' = F'(t)Sw, \quad t \in (-\infty, \infty). \quad (8)$$

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