

# LECTURE 12: Difference equations + Revision

## First order difference equations:

i)  $X_{t+1} = ax_t + b \Leftrightarrow X_{t+1} - ax_t = b:$

Solution:  $X_t = \begin{cases} a^t \cdot (x_0 - \frac{b}{1-a}) + \frac{b}{1-a}, & a \neq 1 \\ x_0 + bt, & a = 1 \end{cases}$

ii)  $X_{t+1} = ax_t + b_t \Leftrightarrow X_{t+1} - ax_t = b_t:$

Solution:  $X_t = X_t^h + X_t^p$   
 $= a^t \cdot C + X_t^p$   
 $= a^t (x_0 - x_0^p) + x_t^p$

## Second order difference equations:

i) Homogeneous:  $x_{t+2} + ax_{t+1} + bx_t = 0$

Char. eqn:  $r^2 + ar + b = 0 \Rightarrow r = \frac{-a \pm \sqrt{a^2 - 4b}}{2}$

$a^2 - 4b > 0: r_1 \neq r_2 \Rightarrow x_t = C_1 \cdot r_1^t + C_2 \cdot r_2^t$

$a^2 - 4b = 0: r \Rightarrow x_t = C_1 \cdot r^t + C_2 \cdot t \cdot r^t = (C_1 + C_2 t) r^t$

$a^2 - 4b < 0: x_t = (\sqrt{b})^t \cdot (C_1 \cdot \cos \theta t + C_2 \cdot \sin \theta t)$   
 with  $\theta = \arccos(-a/2b)$

ii) Inhomogeneous:  $x_{t+2} + ax_{t+1} + bx_t = c_t, c_t \neq 0$

Solution:  $x_t = x_t^h + x_t^p$  } particular solution of inhomogeneous diff. eqn.  
 Solution of  $x_{t+2} + ax_{t+1} + bx_t = 0$   
 = homogeneous part

### Example I: First order

$x_{t+1} = \frac{1}{2}x_t + t \Leftrightarrow x_{t+1} - \frac{1}{2}x_t = t$

Solution:  $x_t = x_t^h + x_t^p = \underline{C \cdot (\frac{1}{2})^t + 2t - 4}$

$x_t^h$ :  $x_{t+1} - \frac{1}{2}x_t = 0$  }  $r - \frac{1}{2} = 0 \Rightarrow r = \frac{1}{2}$   
 $x_t = C \cdot (\frac{1}{2})^t$  }  $x_{t+1} = \frac{1}{2}x_t$   
 $x_t^h = \underline{C \cdot (\frac{1}{2})^t}$

$x_t^p$ :  $x_{t+1} - \frac{1}{2}x_t = t \rightarrow \begin{cases} b_t = t \\ b_{t+1} = t+1 \end{cases}$

Guess:  $\begin{cases} x_t = At + B \\ x_{t+1} = A(t+1) + B = At + A + B \end{cases}$

$(At + A + B) - \frac{1}{2}(At + B) = t$

$(A - \frac{1}{2}A)t + (A + B - \frac{1}{2}B) = t$

$(A - \frac{1}{2}A)t + (A + B - \frac{1}{2}B) = 1 \cdot t + 0$

$\frac{1}{2}A = 1, A + \frac{1}{2}B = 0 \Rightarrow A = 2, B = -4 \Rightarrow x_t^p = \underline{2t - 4}$

Example 2: Second order

$$x_{t+2} - 4x_{t+1} + 4x_t = 0, \quad x_0 = 2, \quad x_1 = 3$$

Solution:

Char. eqn:  $r^2 - 4r + 4 = 0$   
 $r = \frac{4 \pm \sqrt{4^2 - 4 \cdot 1 \cdot 4}}{2} = \underline{2}$   
(double root)

$$x_t = \underline{C_1 \cdot 2^t + C_2 \cdot t \cdot 2^t}$$

$$x_0 = 2: \quad C_1 \cdot 2^0 + C_2 \cdot 0 \cdot 2^0 = 2 \Rightarrow C_1 = 2$$

$$x_1 = 3: \quad C_1 \cdot 2^1 + C_2 \cdot 1 \cdot 2^1 = 3 \Rightarrow 2C_1 + 2C_2 = 3$$

$$\underline{C_1 = 2}, \quad \underline{C_2 = -1/2}$$

$$x_t = 2 \cdot 2^t + (-1/2) t \cdot 2^t \\ = \underline{\underline{2^{t+1} - t \cdot 2^{t-1}}}$$

Example 3: Inhomogeneous second order

$$x_{t+2} + 2x_{t+1} + x_t = 5$$

Solution:  $x_t = x_t^h + x_t^p = \underline{\underline{C_1 \cdot (-1)^t + C_2 t \cdot (-1)^t + 5/4}}$

$x_t^h$ :  $x_{t+2} + 2x_{t+1} + x_t = 0$

$$r^2 + 2r + 1 = 0$$

$$\underline{\underline{r = -1}} \text{ (double root)}$$

$$x_t^h = \underline{\underline{C_1 \cdot (-1)^t + C_2 \cdot t \cdot (-1)^t}}$$

$x_t^p$ :  $x_{t+2} + 2x_{t+1} + x_t = 5$

Guess:  $x_t = A$

$$A + 2A + A = 5 \Rightarrow A = \underline{\underline{5/4}}$$

$$\underline{\underline{x_t^p = 5/4}}$$

Example: System of first order eqn's

$$\left. \begin{aligned} x_{t+1} &= x_t + 2y_t \\ y_{t+1} &= 3x_t \end{aligned} \right\} \text{ with } \begin{aligned} x_0 &= 1 \\ y_0 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Solution:

$$x_{t+1} = x_t + 2y_t = x_t + 2 \cdot (3x_{t-1}) = x_t + 6x_{t-1}$$

or

$$x_{t+2} = x_{t+1} + 2y_{t+1} = x_{t+1} + 2 \cdot (3x_t) = x_{t+1} + 6x_t$$

$$x_{t+2} = x_{t+1} + 6x_t$$

$$x_{t+2} - x_{t+1} - 6x_t = 0$$

$$r^2 - r - 6 = 0 \Rightarrow r = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{1 - 4 \cdot (-6)}}{2} = \frac{1 \pm 5}{2} \\ = \underline{3, -2}$$

$$x_t = c_1 \cdot 3^t + c_2 \cdot (-2)^t$$

$$y_t = 3 \cdot x_{t-1} = 3 \cdot (c_1 \cdot 3^{t-1} + c_2 \cdot (-2)^{t-1}) = \underline{c_1 \cdot 3^t + 3c_2 \cdot (-2)^{t-1}}$$

Exam Dec. '09:

1. a)  $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ t \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -t \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$

$\det(A) \neq 0$   
 $\uparrow$   
lin. independent

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & -t \\ t & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 3 & -1 \end{vmatrix} = 1 \cdot (-1+3) - t(-2+3t) + 1(-2+t) \\ = 2 + 2t - 3t^2 - 2t + t = -3t^2 + 3t$$

$$\det(r) = 0 \Leftrightarrow -3t^2 + 3t = 0 \Leftrightarrow -3t(t-1) = 0 \\ \underline{t=0, t=1}$$

$t=0,1$ : linearly dependent  
 $t \neq 0,1$ : ——— independent

b)  $c_1 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + c_2 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$

$$c_1 + 2c_2 = 0 \Rightarrow c_1 = -2c_2$$

$$0 \cdot c_1 + c_2 = -1 \Rightarrow c_2 = -1$$

$$\underline{c_1 = 2, c_2 = -1}$$

c)  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  diagonalizable?

Eigenvalues:  $\begin{vmatrix} 1-\lambda & 2 \\ 0 & 1-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0$

$$(1-\lambda) \cdot (1-\lambda) = 0$$

$$\lambda = 1 \text{ (double root)}$$

Do we have two lin. independent eigenvectors?

$\lambda = 1: (A - \lambda I) = \begin{pmatrix} 1-\lambda & 2 \\ 0 & 1-\lambda \end{pmatrix}_{\lambda=1} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \leftarrow \text{rk} = 1$   
 Eigenvectors:  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \underline{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$   
 free var =  $2 - 1 = 1$

1 linearly ind. eigenvector  $\Rightarrow$  too few  $\Rightarrow$  not diag.

2.  $f(x_1, x_2, x_3) = x_1 + x_2^2 + x_3^3 - x_1 x_2 - 3x_3$

a) Stationary points:  $\underline{(2, 1, 1)}, \underline{(2, 1, -1)}$

$$f'_{x_1} = f'_1 = 1 - x_2 = 0 \quad x_2 = 1$$

$$f'_2 = 2x_2 - x_1 = 0 \quad x_1 = 2$$

$$f'_3 = 3x_3^2 - 3 = 0 \quad x_3^2 = 1 \rightarrow x_3 = \pm 1$$

b) Classification: local max / local min / ~~stationary~~ saddle point.

Compute the Hessian:

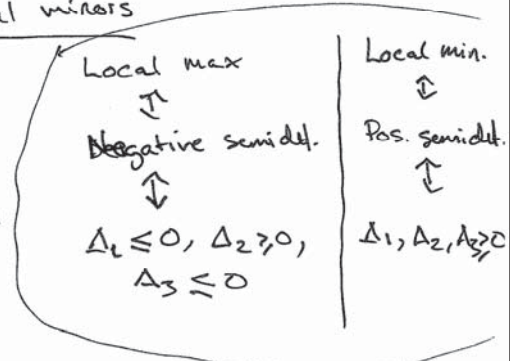
$$f'' = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 6x_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Leading principal minors

$$D_1 = 0$$

$$D_2 = -1 < 0$$

$\Downarrow$   
not local max/min



Conclusion:  $\left. \begin{matrix} (2, 1, 1) \\ (2, 1, -1) \end{matrix} \right\}$  are saddle points

$$f(x,y;p) = -px + e^{x+y^2}$$

c) Is  $f$  convex/concave as a function of  $(x,y)$ .

$f''$  pos. semidef.  $\Leftrightarrow f$  convex  $\cup$   
 $f''$  neg. semidef.  $\Leftrightarrow f$  concave  $\cap$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} f'_x &= -p + e^{x+y^2} \\ f'_y &= e^{x+y^2} \cdot 2y \end{aligned} \right\} f'' = \begin{pmatrix} e^{x+y^2} & e^{x+y^2} \cdot 2y \\ e^{x+y^2} \cdot 2y & e^{x+y^2} \cdot 2y \cdot 2y + e^{x+y^2} \cdot 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Leading Principal Min:

$$D_1 = 1 \cdot e^{x+y^2} > 0$$

$$D_2 = \left( 1 \cdot (4y^2 + 2) - (2y)^2 \right) (e^{x+y^2})^2$$

$$= (4y^2 + 2 - 4y^2) e^{2(x+y^2)}$$

$$= 2e^{2(x+y^2)} > 0 \Rightarrow f \text{ is } \underline{\underline{\text{convex}}} \text{ in } (x,y)$$

d)  $f(x,y;p) = -px + e^{x+y^2}$

Stationary pts:

$$\begin{aligned} f'_x = -p + e^{x+y^2} = 0 &\Rightarrow e^x = p \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x = \ln p, & p > 0 \\ \text{no sol'n}, & p \leq 0 \end{cases} \\ f'_y = e^{x+y^2} \cdot 2y = 0 &\Rightarrow y = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Assume  $p > 0$ :

$$x^*(p) = \ln p, \quad y^*(p) = 0 \quad \text{global min. (since } f \text{ convex)}$$

$$f^*(p) = f(\ln p, 0; p) = -p \ln p + e^{\ln p + 0} = \underline{\underline{-p \ln p + p}}$$

e)  $\frac{d}{dp} (f^*(p)) = -1 \cdot \ln p - p \cdot \frac{1}{p} + 1 = \underline{\underline{-\ln p}}$   
 // envelope thm.

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial p} \Big|_{(x,y) = (x^*(p), y^*(p))} = -x^*(p) = \underline{\underline{-\ln p}}$$

3. a)  $x' + at \cdot x = 2t$ ,  $a \neq 0$

$$(x' + atx) e^{\frac{1}{2}at^2} = 2t e^{\frac{1}{2}at^2} \quad \left| \text{IF} = e^{\int at dt} = e^{\frac{1}{2}at^2} \right.$$

$$(x \cdot e^{\frac{1}{2}at^2})' = 2t \cdot e^{\frac{1}{2}at^2}$$

$$x \cdot e^{\frac{1}{2}at^2} = \int 2t e^{\frac{1}{2}at^2} dt = \int 2t \cdot e^u \cdot \frac{du}{at}$$

$$x \cdot e^{\frac{1}{2}at^2} = \int \frac{2}{a} \cdot e^u du$$

$$x \cdot e^{\frac{1}{2}at^2} = \frac{2}{a} \cdot e^u + C$$

$$x \cdot e^{\frac{1}{2}at^2} = \frac{2}{a} \cdot e^{\frac{1}{2}at^2} + C$$

$$x = \frac{2}{a} + C \cdot e^{-\frac{1}{2}at^2}$$

$$u = \frac{1}{2}at^2$$

$$du = \frac{1}{2} \cdot a \cdot 2t = at \cdot dt$$

$$dt = \frac{du}{at}$$

If  $a=0$ :  $x' = 2t \Rightarrow x = \int 2t dt = \underline{t^2 + C}$

b)  $x'' + 2x' + x = 4e^t$ ,  $x(0) = 1$ ,  $x'(0) = 2$

$$x = x_h + x_p = \underline{C_1 e^{-t} + C_2 t e^{-t}} + e^t = \underline{t e^{-t} + e^t}$$

$$x_h: r^2 + 2r + 1 = 0 \rightarrow r = -1$$

$$x_h = \underline{C_1 e^{-t} + C_2 t e^{-t}}$$

$$x_p: \left. \begin{array}{l} x = A e^t \\ x' = A e^t \\ x'' = A e^t \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} A e^t + 2A e^t + A e^t = 4e^t \\ 4A e^t = 4e^t \\ \underline{A = 1} \end{array}$$

$$x_p = \underline{e^t}$$

$x(0) = 1$ :  $C_1 \cdot 1 + C_2 \cdot 0 \cdot e^0 + e^0 = 1$

$$C_1 + 1 = 1 \Rightarrow \underline{C_1 = 0} \rightarrow \cancel{x_2 t e^{-t}}$$

$$x = C_2 t e^{-t} + e^t$$

$$x' = C_2 e^{-t} + C_2 t e^{-t} \cdot (-1) + e^t$$

$x'(0) = 2$ :  $C_2 \cdot e^0 + C_2 \cdot 0 \cdot e^0 \cdot (-1) + e^0 = 2$

$$C_2 + 1 = 2 \Rightarrow \underline{C_2 = 1}$$

c)  $x_{t+1} - x_t = r x_t + s, \quad x_0 = \underline{100S}$

$$x_{t+1} - (1+r)x_t = s$$

$$x_t = C \cdot (1+r)^t + \frac{s}{1-(1+r)} = C \cdot (1+r)^t - \frac{s}{r}$$

$$x_0 = C \cdot \left(1 - \frac{s}{r}\right) = 100S \Rightarrow C = \frac{s}{r} + 100S = s \left(100 + \frac{1}{r}\right)$$

$$\underline{x_t = s \cdot \left(100 + \frac{1}{r}\right) (1+r)^t - \frac{s}{r}}$$

$$\begin{cases} C_1 \cdot 1 + 0 + 0 = 1 \\ C_1 \cdot (-1) + C_2 \cdot (-1) + 1 = 1 \\ \cancel{1} - C_2 \cdot \cancel{1} = 1 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} C_1 = 1 \\ C_2 = -1 \end{cases}$$

$$\underline{= (-1)^t - t(-1)^t + t}$$

d)  $x_{t+2} + 2x_{t+1} + x_t = \underline{4t+4}, \quad \underline{x_0=1, x_1=1}$

$$x_t = x_t^h + x_t^p = C_1 \cdot (-1)^t + C_2 \cdot t \cdot (-1)^t + t$$

$x_t^h$ :  $r^2 + 2r + 1 = 0$

$$r = -1 \Rightarrow x_t^h = C_1 \cdot (-1)^t + C_2 \cdot t \cdot (-1)^t$$

$x_t^p$ :  $x_t = At + B$

$$x_{t+1} = A(t+1) + B = At + A + B$$

$$x_{t+2} = A(t+2) + B = At + 2A + B$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} (At + 2A + B) + 2(At + A + B) + (At + B) &= 4t + 4 \\ 4A \cdot t + (4A + 4B) &= 4t + 4 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$A=1 \quad B=0 \Rightarrow \underline{x_t^p = t}$$