

Ex 74 If

$$L(t) = \begin{pmatrix} x(t) & y(t) \\ y(t) & -x(t) \end{pmatrix},$$

find an antisymmetric matrix $M(t)$ s.t. the Lax equation $\dot{L} + [L, M] = 0$ is equivalent to the system of ODE's

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = g y \\ \dot{y} = -g x \end{cases}$$

where $g(x, y, t)$ is some function of x, y, t .

- 2) Using only the symmetry properties of L , together with the Lax eqn, show that the eigenvalues of L do not depend on t .
- 3) Deduce the (otherwise fairly obvious) fact that if $x(t), y(t)$ evolve according to the above system of ODE's, then the value of $x(t)^2 + y(t)^2$ remains constant.

1) Let

$$M(t) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & m(x, y, t) \\ -m(x, y, t) & 0 \end{pmatrix} = m \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

be a general 2×2 antisymmetric real matrix.

$$\begin{aligned} 0 = \dot{L} + [L, M] &= \begin{pmatrix} \dot{x} & \dot{y} \\ \dot{y} & -\dot{x} \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} x & y \\ y & -x \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & m \\ -m & 0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & m \\ -m & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x & y \\ y & -x \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \dot{x} & \dot{y} \\ \dot{y} & -\dot{x} \end{pmatrix} + m \left(\begin{pmatrix} -y & x \\ x & y \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} y & -x \\ -x & -y \end{pmatrix} \right) \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \dot{x} & \dot{y} \\ \dot{y} & -\dot{x} \end{pmatrix} - 2m \begin{pmatrix} y & -x \\ -x & -y \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} \dot{x} = 2m y \\ \dot{y} = -2m x \end{cases} \quad \text{hence } g = 2m.$$

$$M(t) = \frac{g(x, y, t)}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

(There are many ways to answer, here's one (reminder of chapter 10))

2) L is real symmetric, therefore it has real eigenvalues: $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$
($L^T = L = L^+$)

$$L\psi = \lambda\psi \quad (\text{all functions of } t)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}: \quad \dot{L}\psi + L\dot{\psi} = \dot{\lambda}\psi + \lambda\dot{\psi}$$

$$\Rightarrow \dot{\lambda}\psi = (L - \lambda)\dot{\psi} + \dot{L}\psi$$

$$= (L - \lambda)\dot{\psi} + \underset{\substack{\text{(Lax} \\ \text{eqn)}}}{ML\psi - LM\psi}$$

$$\underset{L\psi = \lambda\psi}{=} (L - \lambda)(\dot{\psi} + M\psi)$$

Take inner product w/ ψ (i.e. ψ^+ (row) (column)):

$$\dot{\lambda} \psi^+ \psi = \psi^+ (L - \lambda)(\dot{\psi} + M\psi)$$

$$= ((L - \lambda)^+ \psi)^+ (\dot{\psi} + M\psi)$$

$$\underset{L=L^+, \lambda \in \mathbb{R}}{=} ((L - \lambda)\psi)^+ (\dot{\psi} + M\psi)$$

$$\underset{(L - \lambda)\psi = 0}{=} 0.$$

$\psi \neq 0 \Rightarrow \psi^+ \psi = \|\psi\|^2 \neq 0$. Then $\dot{\lambda} = 0$.

$$3) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \text{tr}(L^2) = \text{tr}(\dot{L}L + L\dot{L}) = 2 \text{tr}([M, L]L)$$
$$= 2 \text{tr}(ML^2) - 2 \text{tr}(LML) = 0$$

by cyclicity of the trace.

Now calculate

$$\text{tr}(L^2) = \text{tr}\left(\begin{pmatrix} x & y \\ y & -x \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x & y \\ y & -x \end{pmatrix}\right) = \text{tr}\left(\begin{pmatrix} x^2 + y^2 & 0 \\ 0 & x^2 + y^2 \end{pmatrix}\right)$$
$$= 2(x^2 + y^2)$$

Hence $x(t)^2 + y(t)^2$ does not depend on t .

Ex 75

Let $q_{i+3} \equiv q_i$ and $p_{i+3} \equiv p_i$. A Lax pair of matrices L and M are given by

$$L = \begin{pmatrix} p_1 & b_1 & b_3 \\ b_1 & p_2 & b_2 \\ b_3 & b_2 & p_3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad M = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & b_1 & -b_3 \\ -b_1 & 0 & b_2 \\ b_3 & -b_2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

where $\dot{p}_i = \dot{q}_i$ and $b_i = \exp[c(q_i - q_{i+1})]$ for some real constant c . Use the Lax equation $\dot{L} + [L, M] = 0$ to find the constant c and to obtain equations of motion in the form $\ddot{q}_i = f_i(q)$, for some functions $f_i(q)$ that you should determine.

$$\left[\dot{q} = \frac{dq}{dt}, \quad \ddot{q} = \frac{d^2q}{dt^2} \text{ etc.} \right]$$

$$\dot{L} = \begin{pmatrix} \dot{p}_1 & \dot{b}_1 & \dot{b}_3 \\ \dot{b}_1 & \dot{p}_2 & \dot{b}_2 \\ \dot{b}_3 & \dot{b}_2 & \dot{p}_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$[M, L] = \begin{pmatrix} 2(b_1^2 - b_3^2) & b_1 p_2 - b_2 b_3 - b_1 p_1 + b_2 b_3 & b_1 b_2 - b_3 p_3 + b_3 p_1 - b_1 b_2 \\ b_1(p_2 - p_1) & 2(b_2^2 - b_1^2) & -b_1 b_3 + b_2 p_3 + b_1 b_3 - b_2 p_2 \\ b_3(p_1 - p_3) & b_2(p_3 - p_2) & 2(b_3^2 - b_2^2) \end{pmatrix}$$

where the red entries have been worked out using the fact that $L = L^T$, $M = -M^T \Rightarrow [M, L] = [M, L]^T$.

Entries $i+1, i$

(i defined mod 3)

$$\dot{b}_i = b_i(p_{i+1} - p_i) \Leftrightarrow (\ln \dot{b}_i) = p_{i+1} - p_i$$

Plug in $b_i = e^{c(q_i - q_{i+1})}$, $\dot{q}_i = p_i$: $c(p_i - p_{i+1}) = p_{i+1} - p_i$

$$\Rightarrow (c = -1)$$

Entries i, i

$$\dot{p}_i = 2(b_i^2 - b_{i-1}^2)$$

Plug in $p_i = \dot{q}_i$, $b_i = e^{q_{i+1} - q_i}$:

$$\ddot{q}_i = 2(e^{2(q_{i+1} - q_i)} - e^{2(q_i - q_{i-1})}) \equiv f_i(q).$$

