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# Graph models and Kirchoff's laws. Modified nodal analysis.

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## A system in equilibrium

From earlier: Consider a system of springs and masses in equilibrium.

To obtain our system of equations, we applied three equations (Strang, sec. 2.1):

- 1) The forces should be in equilibrium.  $\mathbf{f} = \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{w}$
- 2) Hooke's law for springs.  $\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{C}\mathbf{e}$ .
- 3) Relation between elongation of springs and displacements of masses  $\mathbf{e} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{u}$ .

( $\mathbf{u}$  displacements,  $\mathbf{w}$  tension in the springs (internal forces),  $\mathbf{e}$  elongation of the springs,  $\mathbf{f}$  external forces on the masses. )

The system is on the form: 
$$\begin{bmatrix} -\mathbf{C}^{-1} & \mathbf{A} \\ \mathbf{A}^T & \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{w} \\ \mathbf{u} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{f} \end{bmatrix},$$
 where  $\mathbf{C}$  is a diagonal matrix with positive entries on the diagonal.

This yields  $\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{C} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{f} + \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{C} \mathbf{b}$ .

"Stiffness matrix"  $\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{C} \mathbf{A}$  is symmetric positive definite if the columns of  $\mathbf{A}$  are linearly independent.



## Incidence matrix $\mathbf{A}$

$\mathbf{A}$  is the so called "incidence matrix". [NOTES - EXAMPLES]

In our example, the structure was simply a line. Can have a "graph" instead. Will develop these graph models further and apply it to electric circuits. (Strang, Section 2.4).

Numbers  $u_i$  can represent the heights of the nodes, the pressure at the nodes, or the voltages at the nodes, dependent on the applications. Common language: "potentials".

**Au**: the "potential difference", i.e the difference across an edge.

The nullspace of  $\mathbf{A}$  contains the vector that solve  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{u} = 0$ . If we do not set any potential  $u_i$ , the nullspace is a line. The columns of  $\mathbf{A}$  is a line, it has dimension 1. The columns of  $\mathbf{A}$  are linearly dependent and  $\mathbf{A}^T\mathbf{A}$  is singular.

In our example with masses, we fixed one location. For electrical circuits, we say that we "ground one node". This will remove one column of  $\mathbf{A}$ , and the remaining columns will be linearly independent. Then  $\mathbf{A}^T\mathbf{A}$  is invertible.



## Kirchoff's laws

Consider one node with brach currents  $w_1, \dots, w_l$  entering this node.

- Kirchoff's current law (KCL):  $w_1 + \dots + w_l = 0$ .

Sum of all branch current entering a node equals zero.

Consider one loop with brach voltages (or voltage drops)  $e_1, \dots, e_n$ .

- Kirchoff's voltage law (KVL):  $e_1 + \dots + e_n = 0$ .

Sum of all branch voltages in a loop equals zero.

In a practical network, many nodes and loops. Need a systematic way to derive all these equations for a given network.



## Equations

Kirchoff's current law (KCL) yields

$$\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{0}.$$

Kirchoff's voltage law is automatically satisfied with

$$\mathbf{e} = -\mathbf{A}\mathbf{u}.$$

Ohm's law yields

$$\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{C}\mathbf{e},$$

where  $\mathbf{C}$  is a diagonal matrix with entries  $c_i > 0$ , where  $c_i$  is the conductance in branch  $i$ .

(have  $c_i = 1/R_i$ , where  $R_i$  is the resistance value.  $e_i = R_i w_i$ ).

## Adding current and voltage sources

Adding voltage sources and current sources to the system, yields the modifications:

- $\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{f}$  (current source in  $\mathbf{f}$ ),
- $\mathbf{e} = \mathbf{b} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{u}$ , (voltage source in  $\mathbf{b}$ ).
- Ohm's law,  $\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{C}\mathbf{e}$  remains the same.

As a large system, this reads:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{C}^{-1} & \mathbf{A} \\ \mathbf{A}^T & \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{w} \\ \mathbf{u} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{b} \\ \mathbf{f} \end{bmatrix}.$$

where  $\mathbf{C}$  is a diagonal matrix with positive entries on the diagonal (the conductances).  $\mathbf{A}$  is the incidence matrix.

This yields

$$\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{C}\mathbf{A}\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{C}\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{f}.$$

"Stiffness matrix"  $\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{C}\mathbf{A}$  is symmetric positive definite if the columns of  $\mathbf{A}$  are linearly independent - "ground a node".

# The graph Laplacian matrix

The matrix  $\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A}$  turns out to have a very specific form:

- On the diagonal:

$$(\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A})_{jj} = \text{degree} = \text{number of edges meeting at node } j.$$

- Off the diagonal:

$$(\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{A})_{jk} = \begin{cases} -1 & \text{if nodes } j \text{ and } k \text{ share an edge.} \\ 0 & \text{if no edge goes between nodes } j \text{ and } k. \end{cases}$$

And for  $\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{C} \mathbf{A}$ :

- On the diagonal changes to  $(\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{C} \mathbf{A})_{jj} = \text{sum of all conductivities in edges meeting at node } j.$
- Off the diagonal: the  $-1$  changes to the negative of the conductivity in the branch between node  $j$  and  $k$ .

# Modified Nodal Analysis (MNA)

Will switch to notation more common in engineering context.

- Let  $\mathbf{A}_R = -\mathbf{A}^T$ , with  $\mathbf{A}$  incidence matrix of Strang, i.e. opposite sign convention and transposed. We will call  $\mathbf{A}_R$  the incidence matrix of the resistive branches.
- Introduce  $\mathbf{A}_V$  and  $\mathbf{A}_I$  for all voltage source and current source branches.
- Assume  $N_R$  resistive branches,  $N_V$  voltage source branches,  $N_I$  current source branches. With  $m$  nodes,  $\mathbf{A}_R$  is  $m \times N_R$ ,  $\mathbf{A}_V$  is  $m \times N_V$ ,  $\mathbf{A}_I$  is  $m \times N_I$ .
- Let

$\mathbf{i}_V$ : branch currents through voltage sources ( $N_V \times 1$ ).

$\mathbf{l}$ : vector of values of all current sources ( $N_I \times 1$ ).

$\mathbf{E}$ : vector of values of all voltage sources ( $N_V \times 1$ ).

Also, change notation such that the node potentials, denoted  $u_i$ , vector  $\mathbf{u}$ , in Strang, will in MNA be called  $\mathbf{e}$ ; and  $\mathbf{e}$ .

And, change notation such that the  $\mathbf{C}$  matrix is denoted  $\mathbf{G}$ .

## Modified Nodal Analysis (MNA), contd

We obtain the system

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A}_R \mathbf{G} \mathbf{A}_R^T & \mathbf{A}_V \\ \mathbf{A}_V^T & \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{e} \\ \mathbf{i}_V \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -\mathbf{A}_I \mathbf{I} \\ \mathbf{E} \end{bmatrix}.$$

- $\mathbf{A}_R$ ,  $\mathbf{A}_V$  and  $\mathbf{A}_I$  incidence matrices for resistive, voltage source and current source branches, respectively.
  - $\mathbf{G}$  diagonal matrix with conductances (inverse of resistances).
  - $\mathbf{I}$ : vector of values of all current sources,  $\mathbf{E}$ : vector of values of all voltage sources.
  - $\mathbf{e}$ : vector of node potentials,  $\mathbf{i}_V$ : branch currents through voltage sources.
- NOTES:
- How to get to this system.
  - Example from Strang in this notation.



## Modified Nodal Analysis (MNA)

- Handout by Dr. Hanke on MNA can be downloaded from the course webpage.
- Translation table there not updated. Conversion should be:

Strang	MNA
$u$	$\mathbf{e}$
$\mathbf{e}$	$\mathbf{I}_R$
$w$	$\mathbf{i}$
$C$	$\mathbf{G}$
$A$	$-\mathbf{A}_R^T$



## RLC circuits and AC analysis

R - resistor, L - inductor, C - capacitor.  
Voltage drops  $V$ , current  $I$ . (Strang's notation).  
Characteristic equations:

$$V = RI, \quad I = C \frac{dV}{dt}, \quad V = L \frac{dI}{dt}$$

(if capacitance value  $C$  and self-inductance value  $L$  are constant).

Assume sinusoidal forcing term of fixed frequency  $\omega$ .

Typical voltage  $V(t) = \hat{V} \cos(\omega t) = \Re(\hat{V}e^{j\omega t})$ . Current  $I(t) = \Re(\hat{I}e^{j\omega t})$ .

Since

$$\frac{d}{dt}e^{j\omega t} = j\omega e^{j\omega t},$$

we get the simple algebraic law

$$\hat{V} = Z\hat{I},$$

with  $Z = 1/R$  for resistors,  $Z = j\omega L$  for inductors and  $Z = 1/(j\omega C)$  for capacitors.



## $j\omega$ analysis - Strang's approach

Same system as before:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{C}^{-1} & \mathbf{A} \\ \mathbf{A}^T & \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{w} \\ \mathbf{u} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{b} \\ \mathbf{f} \end{bmatrix}.$$

But now, the diagonal matrix  $\mathbf{C}$  contains the complex impedances  $Z$ .

Consider an example where branch 1 has a resistor with resistance  $R_1$ , branch 2 a inductor with self-inductance  $L_2$ , branch 3 a capacitor with capacitance  $C_3$  and finally, branch 4 a resistor with resistance  $R_4$ .  
Then:

$$\mathbf{C} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/R_1 & & & \\ & 1/(j\omega L_2) & & \\ & & j\omega C_3 & \\ & & & 1/R_4 \end{bmatrix}.$$



## $j\omega$ analysis by MNA

Before, we had incidence matrices  $\mathbf{A}_R$ ,  $\mathbf{A}_V$  and  $\mathbf{A}_I$ , for resistive branches, voltage source branches and current source branches, respectively. Now, introduce also the incidence matrix  $\mathbf{A}_C$  for capacitive branches, and  $\mathbf{A}_L$  for inductive branches.

The admittances  $Y$  are the inverses of the impedances  $Z$ . Introduce the diagonal matrices  $\mathbf{Y}_R$ ,  $\mathbf{Y}_C$  and  $\mathbf{Y}_L$  that contain the admittances of the resistive, capacitive and inductive branches, respectively.  
(Before,  $\mathbf{Y}_R = \mathbf{G}$ ).

The system can now be written as

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A}_R \mathbf{Y}_R \mathbf{A}_R^T + \mathbf{A}_C \mathbf{Y}_C \mathbf{A}_C^T + \mathbf{A}_L \mathbf{Y}_L \mathbf{A}_L^T & \mathbf{A}_V \\ \mathbf{A}_V^T & \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{e} \\ \mathbf{i}_V \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -\mathbf{A}_I \\ \mathbf{E} \end{bmatrix}.$$

(Derivation in NOTES on board).



## Transient analysis by MNA

Now, let us do the full transient analysis.  
We find the equations (notes on board):

$$\mathbf{A}_C \frac{d}{dt} (\mathbf{C} \mathbf{A}_C^T \mathbf{e}) + \mathbf{A}_R \mathbf{G} \mathbf{A}_R^T \mathbf{e} + \mathbf{A}_L \mathbf{i}_L + \mathbf{A}_V \mathbf{i}_V = -\mathbf{A}_I$$

$$\mathbf{L} \frac{d\mathbf{i}_L}{dt} + \frac{d\mathbf{L}}{dt} \mathbf{i}_L - \mathbf{A}_L^T \mathbf{e} = \mathbf{0}$$

And, as before

$$\mathbf{A}_V^T \mathbf{e} = \mathbf{E}$$

where  $\mathbf{G}$ ,  $\mathbf{C}$  and  $\mathbf{L}$  are the diagonal matrices with conductivities, capacitances and self-inductances. Assuming that  $\mathbf{C}$  and  $\mathbf{L}$  are constant, we get

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A}_C \mathbf{C} \mathbf{A}_C^T & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{L} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} \frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{e} \\ \mathbf{i}_L \\ \mathbf{i}_V \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A}_R \mathbf{G} \mathbf{A}_R^T & \mathbf{A}_L & \mathbf{A}_V \\ -\mathbf{A}_L^T & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{A}_V^T & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{e} \\ \mathbf{i}_L \\ \mathbf{i}_V \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -\mathbf{A}_I \\ \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{E} \end{bmatrix}.$$

