



# Systems in equilibrium. Graph models and Kirchoff's laws.

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## A system in equilibrium

[Material from Strang, sections 2.1 and 2.2].

Consider a system of springs and masses in equilibrium.

[NOTES]

To obtain our system of equations, we have applied three equations:

- 1) The forces should be in equilibrium.
- 2) Hooke's law for springs.
- 3) Relation between spring length and mass positions  $x_i$ .

The system is on the form:  $\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} -\mathbf{C}^{-1} & \mathbf{A} \\ \mathbf{A}^T & \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{F} \\ \mathbf{x} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{b} \\ \mathbf{f} \end{bmatrix}$ , where the columns of  $\mathbf{A}$  are linearly independent, and  $\mathbf{C}$  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.

Strang works with displacements  $u_i$  instead of positions  $x_i$ . In this case, replacing  $\mathbf{x}$  by  $\mathbf{u}$  in the system, we will have  $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{0}$ . [NOTES]

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## Minimization

We have

$$\mathbf{K}\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{f}, \text{ with } \mathbf{K} = \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{C} \mathbf{A}$$

From earlier:

The solution to  $\mathbf{K}\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{f}$  is the  $\mathbf{u}$  that minimizes the quadratic form

$$P(\mathbf{u}) = 1/2 \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{K} \mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{f}.$$

- Stretching increases the internal energy,  $1/2 \mathbf{e}^T \mathbf{C} \mathbf{e} = 1/2 \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{K} \mathbf{u}$ . ( $\mathbf{e}$  is the elongation of the spring).
- The masses loose potential energy by  $\mathbf{f}^T \mathbf{u}$  (force times displacement, work done by external forces).

This is NOT a conserved system: external forces (in our example gravitational forces) are active.

Hence, the configuration of this system at equilibrium is the configuration that minimizes the potential energy of the system.

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## 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 2.3).

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".

$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{u}$ : 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.

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

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## Kirchoff's laws

Consider one node with branch 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 branch 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.

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## 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.  $e_i = R_i w_i$ ).

- ▶  $m$  edges,  $n$  nodes. Ground one node.  $\mathbf{A}$  is  $m \times (n - 1)$ .
- ▶ Node potentials  $\mathbf{u}$ , branch currents  $\mathbf{w}$ , branch voltages (or voltage drops)  $\mathbf{e}$ ,

$$\mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_{n-1} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{w} = \begin{pmatrix} w_1 \\ \vdots \\ w_m \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{e} = \begin{pmatrix} e_1 \\ \vdots \\ e_m \end{pmatrix}$$

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## 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".

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# Modified Nodal Analysis (MNA)

It is common in engineering context to work systematically with incidence matrices also for voltage source and current source branches.

We will denote

- $\mathbf{A}_R = \mathbf{A}$ , the incidence matrix of the resistive branches.
- $\mathbf{A}_V$  the incidence matrix for all voltage source branches.
- $\mathbf{A}_I$  the incidence matrix for all 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  $N_R \times m$ ,  $\mathbf{A}_V$  is  $N_V \times m$ ,  $\mathbf{A}_I$  is  $N_I \times m$ .
- Let
  - $\mathbf{i}_V$ : branch currents through voltage sources ( $N_V \times 1$ ).
  - $\mathbf{I}$ : vector of values of all current sources ( $N_I \times 1$ ).
  - $\mathbf{E}$ : vector of values of all voltage sources ( $N_V \times 1$ ).

The notation we will use differs slightly from common MNA notation (mainly s.t.  $\mathbf{A}_R^{MNA} = -\mathbf{A}_R^T$  etc).

Choosing our notation to stay closer to the notation of Strang.

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## Modified Nodal Analysis (MNA), contd

We obtain the system

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

- $\mathbf{A}_R$ ,  $\mathbf{A}_V$  and  $\mathbf{A}_I$  incidence matrices for resistive, voltage source and current source branches, respectively.
- $\mathbf{C}$  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.
- $\mathbf{u}$ : vector of node potentials,  $\mathbf{i}_V$ : branch currents through voltage sources.

NOTES:

- How to get to this system.
- Example earlier done with Strang's notation in this notation.

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## 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.

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## $j\omega$ 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:

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

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## $j\omega$ 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,  $\mathbf{Y}_R = \mathbf{C}$ ).

The system can now be written as

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

(Derivation in NOTES on board).