



# The Sylvester equation for congruence and some related equations

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# Outline

- 1 Definition. Goals. Related equations and some history.
- 2 Motivation
- 3 Necessary and sufficient conditions
- 4 The solution of  $AX + X^*B = 0$



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# Sylvester equation for congruence

$A \in \mathbb{F}^{m \times n}$ ,  $B \in \mathbb{F}^{n \times m}$ ,  $C \in \mathbb{F}^{m \times m}$  ( $\mathbb{F}$  an arbitrary field)

$$AX + X^*B = C$$

**Sylvester equation for  $\star$ -congruence**

$X \in \mathbb{F}^{n \times m}$ , unknown

( $\star = T$  or  $*$ )

(Other name in the literature: "Sylvester-transpose matrix equation")



# Solution of Sylvester equation for congruence

$$AX + X^*B = C \quad (\star = T \text{ or } *) \quad \text{Sylvester equation for congruence}$$

## GOALS:

- Find necessary and sufficient conditions for **consistency**.
- Find the **dimension** of the solution space.
- Find an **expression** for the solution.
- Find necessary and sufficient conditions for **uniqueness** of the solution.
- Find an (efficient) **algorithm** to compute the solution (when unique).



# Related equations and history

$$AX + X^*B = C \quad (* = T \text{ or } *) \quad \text{Sylvester equation for congruence}$$

(a) **Sylvester equation**:  $AX + XB = C$  ( $A, B$  must be **square!!**)

- Solution known since (at least) the 1950's (**Gantmacher**).
- Characterization of **consistency** and **uniqueness** of solution already known (**Roth, Gantmacher**).
- Efficient algorithm for the unique solution already known (**Bartels-Stewart**).
- Mathscinet:
  - **83** references containing "Sylvester equation" in the title.
  - **44** references containing "Sylvester matrix equation" in the title.
  - **227** references containing "Sylvester equation" anywhere.
  - **91** references containing "Sylvester matrix equation" anywhere.



## Related equations and history (II)

(b)  $AX \pm X^*A^* = C, \quad A \in \mathbb{F}^{m \times n}, C \in \mathbb{F}^{m \times m}:$

- [Hodges \(1957\)](#): Solution over finite fields.
- [Taussky-Wielandt \(1962\)](#): Eigenvalues of  $g(X) = A^T X + X^T A$ .
- [Lancaster-Rozsa \(1983\)](#), [Braden \(1999\)](#): Necessary and sufficient conditions for consistency. Closed-form formula for the solution (using projectors and generalized inverses) and dimension of the solution space.
- [Djordjević \(2007\)](#): Extends Lancaster-Rozsa to  $A, C, X$  bounded linear operators on Hilbert spaces (with closed rank).

(c)  $AX + X^*A = C, \quad A, C \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}:$

- [Ballantine \(1969\)](#):  $H = PA + AP^*$ , with  $H$  hermitian and  $A, P$  with certain structure.
- [DT-Dopico \(2011\)](#): Complete solution for  $C = 0$ . Related to the theory of (congruence) orbits.



## Related equations and history (III)

(d) The Sylvester equation for congruence:  $AX + X^*B = C$ :

- Necessary and sufficient conditions for **consistency**: [Wimmer \(1994\)](#), [Piao-Zhang-Wang \(2007, involved\)](#), [DT-Dopico \(2011, another proof of Wimmer's\)](#).
- Necessary and sufficient conditions for **unique solution**: [Byers-Kressner \(2006,  \$\star = T\$ \)](#), [Kressner-Schröder-Watkins \(2009,  \$\star = \*\$ \)](#).
- **Formula** for the solution: [Piao-Zhang-Wang \(2007, involved\)](#), [Cvetković-Ilić \(2008, operators with certain restrictions\)](#), [DT-Dopico-Guillery-Montealegre-Reyes \(submitted,  \$C = 0\$ \)](#).
- **Algorithm** for the (unique) solution: [DT-Dopico \(2011,  \$O\(n^3\)\$ \)](#), [Vorontsov-Ivanov \(2011\)](#), [Chiang-Chu-Lin \(2012\)](#).

(e)  $AXB + CX^*D = E$ :

- Numerical iterative methods to find the solution (when unique) or some structured solutions: [Wang-Chen-Wei \(2007\)](#), [Hajarian-Mehghan \(2010\)](#), [Xie-Liu-Yang \(2010\)](#), [Song-Chen \(2011\)](#).



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# Orbit theory

$$XA + AX^* = 0, \quad A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$$

Set:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{O}(A) &= \{ PAP^T : P \text{ nonsingular} \} && \text{Congruence orbit of } A \\ \mathcal{O}_s(A) &= \{ PAP^{-1} : P \text{ nonsingular} \} && \text{Similarity orbit of } A \end{aligned}$$

Then:

$$\begin{aligned} T_{\mathcal{O}(A)}(A) &= \{ XA + AX^T : X \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n} \} && \text{Tangent space of } \mathcal{O}(A) \text{ at } A \\ T_{\mathcal{O}_s(A)}(A) &= \{ XA - AX : X \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n} \} && \text{Tangent space of } \mathcal{O}_s(A) \text{ at } A \end{aligned}$$

$$(a) \text{ codim } \mathcal{O}(A) = \text{codim } T_{\mathcal{O}(A)}(A) = \dim(\text{solution space of } XA + AX^T = 0)$$

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# Reduction by congruence to anti-triangular form

$$\overbrace{\begin{bmatrix} X^* & I \\ I & 0 \end{bmatrix}}^P \begin{bmatrix} 0 & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{bmatrix} \overbrace{\begin{bmatrix} X & I \\ I & 0 \end{bmatrix}}^{P^*} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow A_{21}X + X^*A_{12} = -A_{22}.$$

Application: Anti-triangular form of palindromic pencils  $A + \lambda A^*$ .

(Analogous to:

$$\overbrace{\begin{bmatrix} I & X \\ 0 & I \end{bmatrix}}^P \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ 0 & A_{22} \end{bmatrix} \overbrace{\begin{bmatrix} I & -X \\ 0 & I \end{bmatrix}}^{P^{-1}} = \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & 0 \\ 0 & A_{22} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow A_{11}X - XA_{22} = A_{12} \rightsquigarrow \text{Sylvester equation}$$



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# Consistency

## Theorem (Wimmer 1994, DT-Dopico 2011)

Let  $\mathbb{F}$  be a field with  $\text{char } \mathbb{F} \neq 2$ ,  $A \in \mathbb{F}^{m \times n}$ ,  $B \in \mathbb{F}^{n \times m}$ ,  $C \in \mathbb{F}^{m \times m}$ . Then

$$AX + X^*B = C \quad \text{is consistent}$$

if and only if

$$P^* \begin{bmatrix} C & A \\ B & 0 \end{bmatrix} P = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & A \\ B & 0 \end{bmatrix},$$

for some nonsingular  $P$ .

(Compare with **Roth's criterion**:

" $AX - XB = C$  is consistent if and only if

$$P^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} A & C \\ 0 & B \end{bmatrix} P = \begin{bmatrix} A & 0 \\ 0 & B \end{bmatrix},$$

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# Consistency: proof

Wimmer's proof: Dimensionality arguments.

DT-Dopico's proof: Based on:

Theorem (Wimmer 1994, Syrmos-Lewis 1994, Beitia-Gracia 1996)

$A_1, A_2 \in \mathbb{F}^{m \times n}$ ,  $B_1, B_2 \in \mathbb{F}^{p \times k}$ ,  $C_1, C_2 \in \mathbb{F}^{m \times k}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} A_1 X + Y B_1 &= C_1 \\ A_2 X + Y B_2 &= C_2 \end{aligned} \quad \text{is consistent}$$

**if and only if**

$$P \begin{bmatrix} A_1 - \lambda A_2 & C_1 - \lambda C_2 \\ 0 & B_1 - \lambda B_2 \end{bmatrix} Q = \begin{bmatrix} A_1 - \lambda A_2 & 0 \\ 0 & B_1 - \lambda B_2 \end{bmatrix},$$

for some  $P, Q$  nonsingular.

# Uniqueness of solution

Theorem (Byers-Kressner 2006, Kressner-Schröder-Watkins 2009)

$A, B \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ . Then

$AX + X^*B = C$  has a **unique** solution

if and only if

- (1)  $A + \lambda B^*$  is regular, and
- (2)  $\star = T$ : If  $\mu \in \text{Spec}(A + \lambda B^T) \setminus \{-1\}$ , then  $1/\mu \notin \text{Spec}(A + \lambda B^T) \setminus \{-1\}$  and, if  $-1 \in \text{Spec}(A + \lambda B^T)$ , then it has algebraic multiplicity one.  
 $\star = *$ : If  $\mu \in \text{Spec}(A + \lambda B^*)$ , then  $1/\bar{\mu} \notin \text{Spec}(A + \lambda B^*)$ .



# Uniqueness of solution: Algorithm

Using  $\text{vec}$  and Gaussian elimination:  $M \cdot \text{vec}X = \text{vec}C \rightsquigarrow \mathbf{O}(n^6)$ !!!!

## Algorithm 1 (Solution of $AX + X^*B = C$ )

$A, B \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ ,  $A + \lambda B^*$  regular

**Step 1.** Compute the generalized Schur decomposition of  $A + \lambda B^*$  (with the QZ algorithm):

$$A = URV, \quad B^* = USV.$$

**Step 2.** Compute  $E = U^*C(U^*)^*$ .

**Step 3.** Solve  $RW + W^*S^* = E$ .

**Step 4.** Compute  $X = V^*WU^*$ .

Cost of Algorithm 1:  $76n^3 + O(n^2)$



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# The pencil $A + \lambda B^*$

Notation:  $\mathcal{S}(A, B) = \{X : AX + X^*B = 0\}$

## Lemma

If  $P(A + \lambda B^*)Q = \tilde{A} + \lambda \tilde{B}^*$  then there is a one-to-one linear map:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{S}(A, B) &\rightarrow \mathcal{S}(\tilde{A}, \tilde{B}) \\ X &\mapsto Y = Q^{-1}XP^*. \end{aligned}$$

**IDEA:** Reduce  $A + \lambda B^*$  to its Kronecker Canonical Form (KCF),  $K_1 + \lambda K_2^*$ , and solve  $K_1X + X^*K_2 = 0$ .

(Compare:

$AX - XB = 0$ : Depends on the Jordan canonical form of  $A, B$

$AX + X^*B = 0$ : Depends on the KCF of  $A + \lambda B^*$ .)



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# Partition into blocks

## Lemma

Let  $E = \text{diag}(E_1, \dots, E_d)$  and  $F^* = \text{diag}(F_1^*, \dots, F_d^*)$ , and partition  $X = [X_{ij}]_{i,j=1:d}$ . Then

$$EX + X^*F = 0$$

is equivalent to the set of equations

$$\begin{aligned} E_i X_{ij} + X_{ij}^* F_j &= 0 \\ E_j X_{ji} + X_{ji}^* F_i &= 0, \end{aligned}$$

for  $i, j = 1, \dots, d$ .

Note that we have:

$$\begin{aligned} i = j &\rightarrow E_i X_{ii} + X_{ii}^* F_i = 0 && (1 \text{ equation}) \\ i \neq j &\rightarrow \begin{cases} E_i X_{ij} + X_{ij}^* F_j = 0 \\ E_j X_{ji} + X_{ji}^* F_i = 0 \end{cases} && (\text{system of 2 equations}) \end{aligned}$$



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# Using the KCF

By particularizing to  $F + \lambda F^*$  as the KCF of  $A + \lambda B^*$ , i.e.: direct sum of blocks:

**Type 1:** “finite blocks”:  $J_k(\lambda_i) + \lambda I_k$

**Type 2:** “infinite blocks”:  $\lambda J_m(0) + I_m$

**Type 3:** “right singular blocks”:  $L_\varepsilon$

**Type 4:** “left singular blocks”:  $L_\eta$

we have to solve:

(a)  $EX + X^*F = 0$ , with  $E + \lambda F^*$  of **type 1–4**  $\rightsquigarrow$  **4 equations**

(b) 
$$\begin{aligned} E_i X + Y^* F_j &= 0 \\ E_j Y + X^* F_i &= 0 \end{aligned}$$
, with  $E_i + \lambda F_i^*$ ,  $E_j + \lambda F_j^*$  of **type 1–4**  $\rightsquigarrow$  **10 systems**



# The KCF of $A + \lambda B^*$

Let  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$ ,  $B \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times m}$ , set  $A + \lambda B^*$  with Kronecker canonical form

$$\begin{aligned}
 K_1 + \lambda K_2^* &= L_{\varepsilon_1} \oplus L_{\varepsilon_2} \oplus \cdots \oplus L_{\varepsilon_a} \\
 &\quad \oplus L_{\eta_1}^T \oplus L_{\eta_2}^T \oplus \cdots \oplus L_{\eta_b}^T \\
 &\quad \oplus (\lambda J_{u_1}(0) + I_{u_1}) \oplus (\lambda J_{u_2}(0) + I_{u_2}) \oplus \cdots \oplus (\lambda J_{u_c}(0) + I_{u_c}) \\
 &\quad \oplus (J_{k_1}(\mu_1) + \lambda I_{k_1}) \oplus (J_{k_2}(\mu_2) + \lambda I_{k_2}) \oplus \cdots \oplus (J_{k_d}(\mu_d) + \lambda I_{k_d}),
 \end{aligned}$$

where  $\varepsilon_1 \leq \varepsilon_2 \leq \cdots \leq \varepsilon_a$ ,  $\eta_1 \leq \eta_2 \leq \cdots \leq \eta_b$ , and  $u_1 \leq u_2 \leq \cdots \leq u_c$ .  
Then the dimension of the solution space of the matrix equation

$$AX + X^*B = 0$$

depends only on  $K_1 + \lambda K_2^*$ .



## Codimension count

## Theorem

The **dimension** of the solution space of  $AX + X^T B = 0$  is:

$$\begin{aligned} \dim \mathcal{S}(A, B) = & \sum_{i=1}^a \varepsilon_i + \sum_{\mu_i=1} \lfloor k_i/2 \rfloor + \sum_{\mu_j=-1} \lceil k_j/2 \rceil + \\ & \sum_{\substack{i,j=1 \\ i < j}}^a (\varepsilon_i + \varepsilon_j) + \sum_{\substack{i < j \\ \mu_i \mu_j = 1}} \min\{k_i, k_j\} \\ & + \sum_{i,j} (\eta_j - \varepsilon_i + 1) + \\ & a \sum_{i=1}^c u_i + a \sum_{i=1}^d k_i + \sum_{\substack{i,j \\ \mu_j=0}} \min\{u_i, k_j\} \end{aligned}$$

# Solution of $AX + X^*B = 0$

- **Explicit formulas** available. Depend on  $P, Q, K_1, K_2$ , where

$$P(A + \lambda B^*)Q = K_1 + \lambda K_2^*,$$

the *KCF* of  $A + \lambda B^*$ .

- Solution (and codimension count) **over**  $\mathbb{C}$ .



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