On Limit Irreducibility Sets of Linear Differential Systems

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We consider the linear systems of the form

$$\dot{x} = A(t)x, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n, \quad t \in I = [0, +\infty), \tag{1}$$

with piecewise continuous bounded coefficients $(||A(t)|| \le a \text{ for } t \in I)$. Along with original systems (1) we will consider perturbed systems (1_{A+Q}) with piecewise continuous perturbations Q defined on I and satisfying either the condition

$$||Q(t)|| \le C_Q e^{-\sigma t}, \ \sigma > 0, \ t \ge 0,$$
 (2)

or the more general condition

$$\lambda[Q] \equiv \lim_{t \to +\infty} t^{-1} \ln \|Q(t)\| \le -\sigma < 0.$$
(3)

If $\sigma = 0$ in (2), (3), then we additionally suppose that $Q(t) \to 0$ as $t \to +\infty$.

Following Yu. S. Bogdanov [1], we say that systems (1_A) and (1_{A+Q}) are asymptotically equivalent (Lyapunov's equivalent, reducible) if there exists a Lyapunov transformation

$$x = L(t)y, \quad \max\left\{\sup_{t \in I} \|L(t)\|, \sup_{t \in I} \|L^{-1}(t)\|, \sup_{t \in I} \|\dot{L}(t)\|\right\} < +\infty,$$

reducing one of them to the other.

The sets $N_2(a, \sigma)$, $N_3(a, \sigma)$, $a \ge 0$, $\sigma \ge 0$, are said to be the irreducibility sets if they consist of all systems (1_A) with the following properties [2]:

- 1) the norm of the coefficient matrix A is less than or equal to a on I;
- 2) for each system $(1_A) \in N_i(a, \sigma)$, i = 2, 3, there exists a system (1_{A+Q}) with the matrix Q satisfying either the condition (2) or the more general condition (3), respectively, which cannot be reduced to system (1_A) .

If Q satisfies (2) or (3) with $\sigma > 2a$, then $\|\int_t^{+\infty} Q(u) du\| \le Ce^{-\sigma_1 t}$ for some C > 0 and $\sigma_1 > 2a$, therefore [3,5] systems (1_A) and (1_{A+Q}) are asymptotically equivalent, and, therefore, the sets $N_2(a, \sigma)$, $N_3(a, \sigma)$ are empty for all $\sigma > 2a$.

We have [6] the following

Theorem 1. The following strict inclusions are valid for the irreducibility sets $N_2(a, \sigma)$ and $N_3(a, \sigma)$:

$$N_i(a_1, \sigma) \subset N_i(a_2, \sigma) \ \forall 0 \le a_1 < a_2, \ \forall \sigma \in [0, 2a_2], \ i = 2, 3.$$

The limit irreducibility sets

$$N_i(\sigma) \equiv \lim_{a \to +\infty} N_i(a, \sigma), \ i = 2, 3,$$

were defined in [4]. The properties of these sets treated as functions of the parameter σ are similar to the properties of the irreducibility sets $N_i(a, \sigma)$, i = 2, 3. By Theorem 1, the limit irreducibility sets are defined as the union of appropriate irreducibility sets

$$\lim_{a \to +\infty} N_i(a, \sigma) = \bigcup_{a \ge 0} N_i(a, \sigma),$$

and, by virtue of their definition, they are related by the inclusions $N_2(\sigma) \subseteq N_3(\sigma)$ for all $\sigma \ge 0$. The following statements are valid [6].

Theorem 2. The limit irreducibility sets $N_2(\sigma)$ and $N_3(\sigma)$ coincide for $\sigma = 0$ and do not coincide for any $\sigma > 0$, i.e., $N_3(\sigma) \setminus N_2(\sigma) \neq \emptyset$ for any $\sigma > 0$.

Theorem 3. The limit irreducibility sets $N_2(\sigma)$ and $N_3(\sigma)$ of linear differential n-dimensional systems (1_A) satisfy the strict inclusions

$$N_i(\sigma_2) \subset N_i(\sigma_1) \quad \forall 0 \le \sigma_1 < \sigma_2, \quad i = 2, 3.$$

Theorem 4. The limit irreducibility sets satisfy the relations

$$\begin{split} & \lim_{\sigma \to \sigma_0 + 0} N_i(\sigma) \subset N_i(\sigma_0) \ \forall \sigma_0 \ge 0, \ i = 2, 3, \\ & \lim_{\sigma \to \sigma_0 - 0} N_2(\sigma) \supset N_2(\sigma_0) \ \forall \sigma_0 > 0, \\ & \lim_{\sigma \to \sigma_0 - 0} N_3(a, \sigma) = N_3(a, \sigma_0) \ \forall \sigma_0 > 0. \end{split}$$

Theorem 5. The limit sets $N_2(\sigma)$ and $N_3(\sigma)$ are invariant under Lyapunov transformations.

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