## uc3m Universidad Carlos III de Madrid Departamento de Matemáticas

## An overview on the solvability of Sylvester-like equations

Fernando De Terán

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## The Sylvester equation: AX + XD = 0



James Joseph Sylvester (London, 1814–1897)

#### ANALYSE MATHÉMATIQUE. — Sur l'équation en matrices px = xq; par M. Sylvester.

« Soient p et q deux matrices de l'ordre ω.

» Pour résoudre l'équation px = xq, on obtiendra  $\omega^2$  équations homogénes linéaires entre les  $\omega^2$  éléments de l'inconnue x et les éléments de pet de q, de sorte que, afin que l'équation donnée soit résoluble, les éléments de p et de q doivent être liés ensemble par une et une seule équation.

» Mais, si l'équation identique en p est écrite sous la forme

 $p^{\omega} + \mathbf{B}p^{\omega-1} + \mathbf{C}p^{\omega-2} + \ldots + \mathbf{L} = \mathbf{o},$ 

Comptes Rendus Acad. Sci. 99 (1884)

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$$X \in \mathbb{C}^{m imes n} \rightsquigarrow A \in \mathbb{C}^{m imes m}, D \in \mathbb{C}^{n imes n}$$

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- the solvability, and
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We want to obtain conditions on the coefficient matrices A, B, C, D, E.

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## Uniqueness and the linear system

 $M = B^{\top} \otimes A + (D^{\top} \otimes C) \Pi$ : the matrix of the linear system (over  $\mathbb{C}$ ).

 $(\Pi : an appropriate permutation matrix).$ 



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Sylvester:

 $\widetilde{AX} - XD = E \Leftrightarrow (PAP^{-1})(PXQ^{-1}) - (PXQ^{-1})(QDQ^{-1}) = PEQ^{-1} \Leftrightarrow \widetilde{A}Y - Y\widetilde{D} = \widetilde{E}.$ 

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► \*-Sylvester:  $AX + X^*D = E \Leftrightarrow (PAQ)(Q^{-1}XP^*) + (Q^{-1}XP^*)^*(Q^*DP^*) = PEP^* \Leftrightarrow \widetilde{A}Y + Y^*\widetilde{D} = \widetilde{E}.$ 

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Generalized \*-Sylvester: ???

Solvability:

Theorem [Roth'52] AX - XD = E is consistent iff

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc} A & E \\ 0 & D \end{array}\right] = P \left[\begin{array}{cc} A & 0 \\ 0 & D \end{array}\right] P^{-1}$$

(Roth's criterion)

for some invertible P.



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(If AX - XD = E then  $P = \begin{bmatrix} I & X \\ 0 & I \end{bmatrix}$ ).



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#### Theorem [Gantmacher'59]

AX - XD = E has a unique solution, for every right-hand side E iff A and D have disjoint spectra.

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#### Theorem [Gantmacher'59]

AX - XD = E has a unique solution, for every right-hand side E iff A and D have disjoint spectra.

The coefficient matrix of the associated linear system is square  $(mn \times mn)$ .

## The generalized Sylvester equation: consistency

Theorem [Dmytryshyn-Kågström'15] AXB - CXD = E is consistent iff

$$P_1^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} A & E \\ 0 & D \end{bmatrix} P_2 = \begin{bmatrix} A & 0 \\ 0 & D \end{bmatrix}, \quad P_2^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} C & 0 \\ 0 & I \end{bmatrix} P_3 = \begin{bmatrix} C & 0 \\ 0 & I \end{bmatrix}, \quad P_3^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} I & 0 \\ 0 & D \end{bmatrix} P_1 = \begin{bmatrix} I & 0 \\ 0 & D \end{bmatrix},$$

for some  $P_1, P_2, P_3$  invertible.

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for some  $P_1, P_2, P_3$  invertible.

Comes from a more general result on systems of Sylvester equations:

$$AXB - CXD = E \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} AZ - YD = E, \\ CX - Y = 0, \\ Z - XD = 0. \end{cases}$$

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Comes from a more general result on systems of Sylvester equations:

$$AXB - CXD = E \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} AZ - YD &= E, \\ CX - Y &= 0, \\ Z - XD &= 0. \end{cases}$$

Provide the Kronecker canonical form of  $A + \lambda C$  and  $B + \lambda D$  in:



Theorem [Chu'87]

AXB - CXD = E has a unique solution (for any *E*) iff:  $A + \lambda C$  and  $D + \lambda B$  are regular and have disjoint spectra.

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# The generalized Sylvester equation: uniqueness $\mathbb{P}^{n}A, C \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}, B, D \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}.$

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#### Open problem: Characterize:

- the **uniqueness** of solution when pq = mn and, more in general,
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#### **Open problem:** Characterize:

- **•** the **uniqueness** of solution when pq = mn and, more in general,
- the existence of at most one solution.

Answer: Analyze the solution of the homogeneous equation given in [Kosir'92].



DT-Iannazzo-Poloni-Robol.

Solvability and uniqueness criteria for generalized Sylvester-type equations. LAA 542 (2018) 501-521. <ロ><日><日><日><日><日><日><日><日><日><日><日><日><10</td>

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

Theorem [Wimmer'94], [DT-Dopico'11]  $AX + X^*D = E$  is consistent iff

$$\mathbf{P}^{\star}\left[\begin{array}{cc} E & A \\ D & 0 \end{array}\right]\mathbf{P} = \left[\begin{array}{cc} 0 & A \\ D & 0 \end{array}\right],$$

for some nonsingular *P*.



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Size: Most general setting.

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

Theorem [Wimmer'94], [DT-Dopico'11]  $AX + X^*D = E$  is consistent iff

$$\mathbf{P}^{\star} \left[ \begin{array}{cc} \mathbf{E} & \mathbf{A} \\ \mathbf{D} & \mathbf{0} \end{array} \right] \mathbf{P} = \left[ \begin{array}{cc} \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{A} \\ \mathbf{D} & \mathbf{0} \end{array} \right]$$

for some nonsingular P.

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

Size: Most general setting.

**Open problem**: What happens for char  $\mathbb{F} = 2$ ?

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## The \*-Sylvester equation: uniqueness

 $A, D \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times m}$ 

#### Theorem [DT-lannazzo'24]

 $AX + X^*D = 0$  has a unique solution iff  $A + \lambda D^*$  has full column rank, and

▶  $\star = \top$ :  $\Lambda(A + \lambda D^{\star}) \setminus \{-1\}$  is reciprocal free and  $m_a(-1, A + \lambda D^{\star}) \leq 1$ .

•  $\star = *: \Lambda(A + \lambda D^*)$  is \*-reciprocal free.

#### **Definition:** $\mathscr{S} \in \mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\}$ is:

- (a) reciprocal free if  $\lambda \mu \neq 1$ , for any  $\lambda, \mu \in \mathscr{S}$ .
- (b) \*-reciprocal free if  $\lambda \overline{\mu} \neq 1$ , for any  $\lambda, \mu \in \mathscr{S}$ .

 $m_a(\mu, A + \lambda D^*)$ : algebraic multiplicity of  $\mu$  in  $A + \lambda D^*$ .

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Generalizes the characterization in [Byers-Kressner'06], [Kressner-Schröder-Watkins'09] for m = n ( $A + \lambda D^*$  must be regular).

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# Generalized $\star$ -Sylvester: $n \times n$ coefficients (uniqueness)

The "magic" pencil: 
$$\mathscr{Q}(\lambda) := egin{bmatrix} \lambda D^{\star} & B^{\star} \\ A & \lambda C \end{bmatrix}$$
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#### Theorem [DT-lannazzo'16]

The equation  $AXB + CX^*D = E$ , with  $A, B, C, D \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  has a **unique** solution, for every *E*, if and only if:

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(i)  $\mathscr{Q}(\lambda)$  is regular;

(ii-a) if  $\star = \top$ ,  $\Lambda(\mathcal{Q}) \setminus \{\pm 1\}$  is reciprocal free and  $m_a(\pm 1, \mathcal{Q}) \leq 1$ ; (ii-b) if  $\star = *$ ,  $\Lambda(\mathcal{Q})$  is \*-reciprocal free.



#### FDT, B. lannazzo.

Uniqueness of solution of a generalized \*-Sylvester matrix equation. LAA, 493 (2016) 323-335.

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The matrix of the linear system is square.

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## Generalized \*-Sylvester: coefficients with any size

$$\mathscr{Q}(\lambda) := \begin{bmatrix} \lambda D^{\star} & B^{\star} \\ A & \lambda C \end{bmatrix}.$$

Theorem [DT-Iannazzo'24, in preparation]

The equation  $AXB + CX^*D = 0$ , with  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{p \times m}, B \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times q}, C \in \mathbb{C}^{p \times n}, D \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times q}$  has only the trivial solution if and only if:

- (a)  $\mathscr{Q}(\lambda)$  has full column rank.
- (b-T) If  $\star = \top$ , the set  $\Lambda(\mathscr{Q}) \setminus \{0, \infty, \pm 1\}$  is reciprocal free and  $m_a(1, \mathscr{Q}) = m_a(-1, \mathscr{Q}) \leq 1$ .
- (b-\*) If  $\star = *$ , the set  $\Lambda(\mathscr{Q}) \setminus \{0, \infty\}$  is \*-reciprocal free.
  - (c) If  $0, \infty$  are e-vals of  $\mathcal{Q}$ , at least one of them is **semisimple**.

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- (d) At least one of A, C has full column rank.
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Solution  $\forall E$ .

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Solution  $\forall E$ .

For at least one solution, replace  $\mathscr{Q}(\lambda)$  by  $\mathscr{Q}^{\sharp}(\lambda) = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda C^{\star} & B \\ A^{\star} & \lambda D \end{bmatrix}$ .

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## Transformation on $AXB + CX^*D = E$

 $AXB + CX^*D = E$  is equivalent to:

 $(R_2AS_1)Y(S_2^{\star}BR_1^{\star}) + (R_2CS_2)Y^{\star}(S_1^{\star}DR_1^{\star}) = R_2ER_1^{\star},$  where  $Y = S_1^{-1}XS_2^{-\star}.$ 

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 $\mathbb{P}$  Corresponds to a block diagonal strict equivalence of  $\mathscr{Q}(\lambda)$ :

$$\begin{bmatrix} \lambda (S_1^* D R_1^*)^* & (S_2^* B R_1^*)^* \\ R_2 A S_1 & \lambda (R_2 C S_2) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} R_1 & 0 \\ 0 & R_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \lambda D^* & B^* \\ A & \lambda C \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} S_1 & 0 \\ 0 & S_2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

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## A summary of known results

**S**: Solvable, for given A, B, C, D, E.

**US**: Unique solution, for given *A*, *B*, *C*, *D*, *E*.

SR: Solvable, for any E.

**OR**: At most one solution, for any E (i.e.: the homogeneous eq. has only the trivial solution).

**UR**: Unique solution, for any *E*.

	AXB - CXD = E		$AXB + CX^*D = E$	
	square coefficients	general coefficients	square coefficients	general coefficients
S	[DK16]	[K92],[DK16]	[DK16]	[DK16]
US	[Chu87]	[K92]	[DI16]	open
SR	same as <b>US</b>	[DIPR18] (using [K92])	same as <b>US</b>	[DI24]
OR	same as <b>US</b>	[K96]	same as <b>US</b>	[DI24]
UR	same as <b>US</b>	[DIPR18] (using [K92])	same as <b>US</b>	[DIPR18]

[DI16]: DT-Iannazzo'16; [DI24]: DT-Iannazzo'24; [DIPR18]: DT-Iannazzo-Poloni-Robol'18; [DK16]: Dmytryshyn-Kågström'16; [K92]: Kosir'92; [K96]: Kosir'96.

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## Explicit expression for the solution

(Up to the change matrices leading to the canonical form).

Equation	Reference	
AX + XD = 0	[Gantmacher'59]	
AXB + CXD = 0	[Kosir'92]	
$AX + X^*D = 0$	[DT-Dopico-Guillery-Montealegre-Reyes'13]	
$AXB + CX^*D = 0$	open	

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