# New Solvable Nonlinear Matrix Evolution Equations

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This article is part of the special issue published in honour of Francesco Calogero on the occasion of his 70th birthday

#### Abstract

We introduce an extension of the factorization-decomposition technique that allows us to manufacture new solvable nonlinear matrix evolution equations. Several examples of such equations are reported.

### 1 Introduction

Solvable and/or integrable nonlinear matrix equations are of course interesting "in se". However they are also important in the context of solvable and/or integrable nonlinear dynamical systems. Indeed recently some techniques were introduced to associate solvable (integrable) many body problems with solvable (integrable) matrix equations; namely one can obtain solvable dynamical equations for N particles on a line [1], or, via convenient parametrizations of matrices in terms of vectors (see [2],[3]), solvable (integrable) rotation-invariant Newtonian equations of motion for particles in an arbitrary n-dimensional space (see [2],[4],[5]).

In this paper we show how to construct new solvable nonlinear matrix evolution equations through a new extension of the decomposition-factorization techniques (see f.i. [6]). We illustrate this new technique only in the simplest case (LU decomposition-factorization and  $2 \otimes 2$  block matrices). It is plain that this technique could be extended to different and more complex cases. A subsequent paper will be devoted to a deeper investigation (more equations, explicit solutions). In the following Section we set the notation and we give the explicit LU decomposition-factorization of  $2 \otimes 2$  block matrices. In Section 3 we illustrate the technique to construct solvable nonlinear matrix equations. In Section 4 we give examples of such equations, namely systems of first order solvable nonlinear matrix equations (obtained through suitable reductions).

## 2 A parameterization of block matrices

Let us consider here and in the following  $2 \otimes 2$  block matrices, namely:

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} M_1 & M_2 \\ M_3 & M_4 \end{pmatrix} , \tag{1}$$

where all the entries  $M_k$ , (k=1,2,3,4), are square matrices of arbitrary order. Now consider the matrix-subspaces  $\tilde{U}$  and  $\tilde{L}$  of (respectively)  $upper\ (lower)$  type, say  $U\in \tilde{U}$  if

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} U_1 & U_2 \\ 0 & U_4 \end{pmatrix} , \qquad (2a)$$

 $W \in \tilde{W}$  if

$$W = \begin{pmatrix} W_1 & 0 \\ W_3 & W_4 \end{pmatrix} . \tag{2b}$$

Let us assume that all the involved matrices depend on a parameter t (time). Moreover we assume that two of the six matrices  $U_k, W_k$  are preassigned (constant known matrices or time dependent matrices whose evolution is known). In the following we shall assume that  $W_1$  and  $W_4$  are preassigned (of course different choices could give different results).

Given an arbitrary  $2 \otimes 2$  block matrix M, there is a *unique* way to decompose it as a *sum* of a pair of matrices (of *upper* and *lower* type), and as well a *unique* way to decompose it as a *product* (with a given order) of a pair of such matrices. Indeed

$$M = A + B (3a)$$

where  $A\in \tilde{U}$  :

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} A_1 & A_2 \\ 0 & A_4 \end{pmatrix} , \tag{3b}$$

and  $B \in \tilde{W}$ :

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} B_1 & 0 \\ B_3 & B_4 \end{pmatrix} , \tag{3c}$$

with known (preassigned)  $B_1, B_4$ , clearly entails

$$M_1 = A_1 + B_1, \ M_2 = A_2, \ M_3 = B_3, \ M_4 = A_4 + B_4,$$
 (4a)

which are trivially inverted to read

$$A_1 = M_1 - B_1, A_2 = M_2, \quad A_3 = M_3, \quad A_4 = M_4 - B_4.$$
 (5a)

And likewise

$$M = YX$$
, (6a)

where  $X \in \tilde{U}$ :

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} X_1 & X_2 \\ 0 & X_4 \end{pmatrix} , \tag{6b}$$

and  $Y \in \tilde{W}$ :

$$Y = \begin{pmatrix} Y_1 & 0 \\ Y_3 & Y_4 \end{pmatrix} , \tag{6c}$$

with known (preassigned )  $Y_1, Y_4$ , clearly entails

$$M_1 = Y_1 X_1 (7a)$$

$$M_2 = Y_1 X_2 \tag{7b}$$

$$M_3 = Y_3 X_1 (7c)$$

$$M_4 = Y_3 X_2 + Y_4 X_4 (7d)$$

which can be easily inverted:

$$X_1 = Y_1^{-1} M_1 (8a)$$

$$X_2 = Y_1^{-1} M_2$$
, (8b)

$$Y_3 = M_3 M_1^{-1} Y_1 (8c)$$

$$X_4 = Y_4^{-1} \left( M_4 - M_3 M_1^{-1} M_2 \right) . \tag{8d}$$

There are two obvious generalizations of the here introduced technique:

- one could consider block matrices of higher order,
- one could consider other factorization (f.i. QR instead of LU).

## 3 Derivation of solvable nonlinear matrix evolution equations

Let us consider a time dependent  $2 \otimes 2$  block matrix L(t)

$$L = \begin{pmatrix} L_1 & L_2 \\ L_3 & L_4 \end{pmatrix} . (9)$$

Let us also consider  $\tilde{L} = f(L)$ , a scalar, but otherwise arbitrary, function of the matrix L. With no loss of generality we can assume

$$\tilde{L} = \sum_{n = -\infty}^{\infty} c_n L^n \,\,\,(10)$$

where the coefficients  $c_n$  are scalars, possibly known functions of time. Now decompose  $\tilde{L}$  as a *sum* of a pair of matrices (of *upper* and *lower* type):

$$\tilde{L} = \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{L}_1 & \tilde{L}_2 \\ \tilde{L}_3 & \tilde{L}_4 \end{pmatrix} = A + B = \begin{pmatrix} A_1 & A_2 \\ 0 & A_4 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} B_1 & 0 \\ B_3 & B_4 \end{pmatrix} , \tag{11}$$

where the matrices  $B_1, B_4$  are known (preassigned, constant or possibly dependent on time).

Let us also introduce the matrices X(t), Y(t) via the evolution equations

$$\dot{X} = AX, \ \dot{Y} = YB, \tag{12a}$$

with the initial conditions

$$X(0) = I, \ Y(0) = I.$$
 (12b)

**Remark 1.** The above initial conditions are chosen just for sake of simplicity: arbitrary initial conditions yield the same results.

Obviously  $X \in \tilde{U}, Y \in \tilde{W}$ .

Let us show the above equations in detail:

$$\dot{X}_1 = A_1 X_1 \ , \tag{13}$$

$$\dot{X}_2 = A_1 X_2 + A_2 X_4 , \qquad (14)$$

$$\dot{X}_4 = A_4 X_4 \ , \tag{15}$$

$$\dot{Y}_3 = Y_3 B_1 + Y_4 B_3 \; ; \tag{16}$$

and

$$\dot{Y}_1 = Y_1 B_1 ,$$
 (17a)

$$\dot{Y}_4 = Y_4 B_4 \ . \tag{17b}$$

Given that  $B_1, B_4$  are known matrices, then also  $Y_1, Y_4$  are known (time dependent) matrices.

Now consider the matrix P(t):

$$P = YX . (18)$$

Note that

$$P(t=0) = P_0 = I . (19)$$

Obviously

$$\dot{P} = \dot{Y}X + Y\dot{X} = YBX + YAX = Y\tilde{L}X = Y\left(\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n L^n\right)X. \tag{20}$$

Taking into account that

$$YL^{n}X = YX(X^{-1}LY^{-1})YX(X^{-1}LY^{-1})YX....(X^{-1}LY^{-1})YX$$
 (21)

$$= (P(X^{-1}LY^{-1}))^n P, (22)$$

we have

$$\dot{P} = \left(\sum_{n = -\infty}^{\infty} c_n \left(P\left(X^{-1}LY^{-1}\right)\right)^n\right) P . \tag{23}$$

Setting

$$\bar{L} = (X^{-1}LY^{-1}) ,$$
 (24)

we have

$$\dot{\bar{L}} = X^{-1} \left( -AL + \dot{L} - LB \right) Y^{-1}$$
 (25)

Thus, if

$$\dot{L} = AL + LB , \qquad (26)$$

then

$$\dot{\bar{L}} = 0, \quad \bar{L} = L(t=0) = L_0 \ .$$
 (27)

Note that

$$L(t) = X(t)L_0Y(t) . (28)$$

Eq. (23) now reads

$$\dot{P} = \left(\sum_{n = -\infty}^{\infty} c_n \left(PL_0\right)^n\right) P \ . \tag{29}$$

Setting

$$\tilde{P} = PL_0 , \qquad (30)$$

we have

$$\dot{\tilde{P}} = \sum_{n = -\infty}^{\infty} c_n \tilde{P}^{n+1} , \qquad (31a)$$

with

$$\tilde{P}_0 = L_0 \ . \tag{31b}$$

The first order matrix equation (31a) (with the initial condition (31b)), involves just one matrix, thus, in principle, is solvable.

Then the nonlinear matrix equation (26), is also solvable.

## Sketch of the procedure

Aim: solve

$$\dot{L} = AL + LB \,\,, \tag{32a}$$

with

$$L = \begin{pmatrix} L_1 & L_2 \\ L_3 & L_4 \end{pmatrix} , \tag{32b}$$

$$A + B = \begin{pmatrix} A_1 & A_2 \\ 0 & A_4 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} B_1 & 0 \\ B_3 & B_4 \end{pmatrix} = \tilde{L} = \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{L}_1 & \tilde{L}_2 \\ \tilde{L}_3 & \tilde{L}_4 \end{pmatrix} , \qquad (32c)$$

where

$$\tilde{L} = \sum_{n = -\infty}^{\infty} c_n L^n \,\,\,\,(32d)$$

and the matrices  $B_1, B_4$  (possibly depending on time) are known matrices.

Steps:

- given the initial data  $L_0$ , solve (31a,31b), finding P(t);
- decompose P(t) according to (18) (unique decomposition!), finding X(t), Y(t);
- according to (28), find the solution L(t) of (32).

## 4 Examples

•  $\tilde{L} = L$ ,  $B_4, B_1$  constant matrices:

$$\dot{L}_1 = (L_1)^2 + 2L_2L_3 + L_1B_1 - B_1L_1 , \qquad (33)$$

$$\dot{L}_2 = L_1 L_2 + L_2 L_4 + L_2 B_4 - B_1 L_2 , \qquad (34)$$

$$\dot{L}_3 = 2L_4L_3 + L_3B_1 - B_4L_3 \,\,\,\,(35)$$

$$\dot{L}_4 = (L_4)^2 + L_4 B_4 - B_4 L_4 \ . \tag{36}$$

Reductions and second order equations:

Setting

$$L_4 = 0, \ L_3 = C,$$
 (37)

$$B_1 = B_4 = I (38)$$

we get

$$\dot{L}_1 = (L_1)^2 + 2L_2C \,\,\,\,(39)$$

$$\dot{L}_2 = L_1 L_2 \ . \tag{40}$$

This simple system can be cast as second order matrix evolution equation in two ways:

$$\ddot{L}_2 = 2\dot{L}_2 L_2^{-1} \dot{L}_2 + 2L_2 C L_2 , \qquad (41)$$

$$\ddot{L}_1 = \dot{L}_1 L_1 + 2L_1 \dot{L}_1 - (L_1)^3 . (42)$$

Setting

$$L_{4} = 0, (43)$$

and

$$S = L_2 L_3 (44)$$

we get

$$\dot{S} = L_1 S - B_1 S + S B_1 \ , \tag{45}$$

$$\dot{L}_1 = (L_1)^2 + 2S + L_1 B_1 - B_1 L_1 \ . \tag{46}$$

Again this first order system can be cast as second order matrix evolution equation in two ways:

$$\ddot{S} = 2\dot{S}S^{-1}\dot{S} + 2S^2 + 2\dot{S}S^{-1}B_1S - 2SB_1S^{-1}\dot{S} 
-2SB_1S^{-1}B_1S + (B_1)^2S + S(B_1)^2,$$
(47)

$$\ddot{L}_{1} = \dot{L}_{1}L_{1} + 2L_{1}\dot{L}_{1} - (L_{1})^{3} + 
+ L_{1}B_{1}L_{1} + B_{1}(L_{1})^{2} - 2(L_{1})^{2}B_{1} + 
+ 2\dot{L}_{1}B_{1} - 2B_{1}\dot{L}_{1} + 
- (B_{1})^{2}L_{1} - L_{1}(B_{1})^{2} + B_{1}L_{1}B_{1}.$$
(48)

•  $\tilde{L} = L^2$ ,  $B_4$ ,  $B_1$  constant matrices:

$$\dot{L}_1 = (L_1)^3 + 2L_2L_3L_1 + L_1L_2L_3 + 2L_2L_4L_3 + L_1B_1 - B_1L_1 , \qquad (49)$$

$$\dot{L}_2 = (L_1)^2 L_2 + L_2 L_3 L_2 + L_1 L_2 L_4 + L_2 (L_4)^2 + L_2 B_4 - B_1 L_2 , \qquad (50)$$

$$\dot{L}_3 = 2(L_4)^2 L_3 + L_3 L_2 L_3 + L_4 L_3 L_1 + L_3 B_1 - B_4 L_3 , \qquad (51)$$

$$\dot{L}_4 = (L_4)^3 + L_3 L_2 L_4 + L_4 B_4 - B_4 L_4 \ . \tag{52}$$

Reductions and second order equations:

Setting:

$$L_1 = 0, \ L_4 = 0 \ , \tag{53}$$

we get

$$\dot{L}_2 = L_2 L_3 L_2 + L_2 B_4 - B_1 L_2 , (54)$$

$$\dot{L}_3 = L_3 L_2 L_3 + L_3 B_1 - B_4 L_3 \ . \tag{55}$$

The above first order system can be cast as a second order matrix evolution equation:

$$\ddot{L}_{2} = 3\left(\dot{L}_{2} - L_{2}B_{4} + B_{1}L_{2}\right)(L_{2})^{-1}\left(\dot{L}_{2} - L_{2}B_{4} + B_{1}L_{2}\right) 
+2\left(\dot{L}_{2} - L_{2}B_{4} + B_{1}L_{2}\right)B_{4} - 2B_{1}\left(\dot{L}_{2} - L_{2}B_{4} + B_{1}L_{2}\right) + 
+L_{2}\left(B_{4}\right)^{2} - 2B_{1}L_{2}B_{4} + \left(B_{1}\right)^{2}L_{2}.$$
(56)

•  $\tilde{L} = L^{-1}, B_4, B_1$  constant matrices:

$$\dot{L}_{1} = \left(L_{1} - L_{2} (L_{4})^{-1} L_{3}\right)^{-1} L_{1} 
- (L_{1})^{-1} L_{2} \left(L_{4} - L_{3} (L_{1})^{-1} L_{2}\right)^{-1} L_{3} + 
- L_{2} (L_{4})^{-1} L_{3} \left(L_{1} - L_{2} (L_{4})^{-1} L_{3}\right)^{-1} 
+ L_{1} B_{1} - B_{1} L_{1},$$
(57)

$$\dot{L}_{2} = \left(L_{1} - L_{2} (L_{4})^{-1} L_{3}\right)^{-1} L_{2} 
- (L_{1})^{-1} L_{2} \left(L_{4} - L_{3} (L_{1})^{-1} L_{2}\right)^{-1} L_{4} 
+ L_{2} B_{4} - B_{1} L_{2} ,$$
(58)

$$\dot{L}_{3} = \left(L_{4} - L_{3} (L_{1})^{-1} L_{2}\right)^{-1} L_{3} 
-L_{3} \left(L_{1} - L_{2} (L_{4})^{-1} L_{3}\right)^{-1} 
+L_{3} B_{1} - B_{4} L_{3} ,$$
(59)

$$\dot{L}_4 = \left(L_4 - L_3 (L_1)^{-1} L_2\right)^{-1} L_4 
+ L_4 B_4 - B_4 L_4 .$$
(60)

## Acknowledgements

It is a pleasure to thank F. Calogero and P.M. Santini for useful suggestions and discussions.

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