

#### Asst. Prof. Dr.Ing. Mohammed Nour A. Ahmed

mnahmed@eng.zu.edu.eg

https://mnourgwad.github.io

Lecture 14: Pole placement (Regulator Problem)





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Zagazig University | Faculty of Engineering | Computer and Systems Engineering Department | Zagazig, Egypt

Lecture 14 Pole placement (Regulator Problem)

• Introduce the concept of controllability of dynamic systems.

• Explain pole placement using the state feedback approach.

### Controllability

The system  $(\Phi, \Gamma)$  is *controllable* if there is a control input sequence  $u(0), u(1) \dots u(n-1)$  that can move the system from an arbitrary initial state  $x(0) = x_i$  to an arbitrary final state  $x(n) = x_f$ .



• The system state equation is

 $x(k+1) = \Phi x(k) + \Gamma u(k)$ 

• Iterating this equation for *n* steps, we find

$$x(1) = \Phi x_i + \Gamma u(0)$$
  

$$x(2) = \Phi x(1) + \Gamma u(1)$$
  

$$= \Phi^2 x_i + \Phi \Gamma u(0) + \Gamma u(1)$$
  

$$\vdots$$
  

$$x(n) = \Phi^n x_i + \begin{bmatrix} \Gamma & \Phi \Gamma & \cdots & \Phi^{n-1} \Gamma \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u(n-1) \\ \vdots \\ u(1) \\ u(0) \end{bmatrix}$$

To have x(n) = x<sub>f</sub>, we must be able to solve the following n equations for the control sequence u(k).

$$\begin{bmatrix} \Gamma & \Phi \Gamma & \cdots & \Phi^{n-1} \Gamma \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u(n-1) \\ \vdots \\ u(1) \\ u(0) \end{bmatrix} = x_f - \Phi^n x_i$$

• Note that, for **single-input** systems, the following matrix is of size n x n.

$$\Delta_c = \begin{bmatrix} \Gamma & \Phi \Gamma & \cdots & \Phi^{n-1} \Gamma \end{bmatrix}$$

- The system is *controllable* if the above equations have a solution for the control sequence. This is achieved if the matrix  $\Delta_c$ , called the *controllability* matrix, is nonsingular or, more generally, has full rank *n*.
- Matrix rank = the number of linearly independent columns or rows.

• Check the controllability of the system

$$x(k+1) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} x(k) + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} u(k)$$

The controllability matrix :

$$\Delta_c = \begin{bmatrix} \Gamma & \Phi \Gamma \end{bmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \text{rank} = 2 \Rightarrow \text{system is controllable}$$

• MATLAB functions to compute the controllability matrix and check its rank:

CO = ctrb(A,B) rank(CO)

• Check the controllability of the system

$$x(k+1) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} x(k) + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} u(k)$$
$$\Delta_{c} = \begin{bmatrix} \Gamma & \Phi \Gamma \end{bmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \text{rank} = 1 \Rightarrow \text{system is not controllable}$$

• In order to understand why this system is not controllable, rewrite the state equation as:

$$x_1(k+1) = x_1(k) + u(k)$$
$$x_2(k+1) = x_2(k) + u(k)$$

• If  $x_1(0) = x_2(0)$ , then  $x_1(k) = x_2(k)$  for all k. Suppose that we want  $x_{1f} \neq x_{2f}$ , there is no input sequence to achieve this final state. Hence, this system is not completely state controllable.

### **State feedback & Pole Placement**

• In the state feedback approach, instead of using controllers with fixed configuration in the forward path,

 control signal u(k) is a calculated as a *linear combination of the measured state* variables.

- Using state feedback, the poles or eigenvalues of the closed-loop system can be placed at specified locations (also called pole assignment or allocation).
- Poles can arbitrarily be placed if and only if the system is *controllable*.

# State feedback block diagram

• A linear system ( $\Phi,\Gamma,C$ ) with constant state feedback gain matrix K:



• The control signal *u(k)* is simply a linear combination of all state variables:

$$u(k) = -Kx(k).$$

- It is assumed, for now, that the reference input *r(k)* is zero (i.e. a regulator problem) and that all the states are available for feedback that is, we have access to the complete state x(k) for all k.
- The objective of the state feedback design is to determine the matrix **K** 
  - for single-input systems, K is a row vector of size 1 x n.

• The linear system and the feedback control law are given by:

$$x(k+1) = \Phi x(k) + \Gamma u(k),$$
  

$$y(k) = Cx(k)$$
  

$$u(k) = -Kx(k)$$

Substituting by u(k) in the state equation yields the closed-loop state equation

$$x(k+1) = \overbrace{(\Phi - \Gamma K)}^{\Phi_{cl}} x(k)$$
$$y(k) = Cx(k)$$

Where  $\Phi_{cl} = \Phi - \Gamma K$ , is the state matrix of the closed-loop system.

### Theorem: State feedback

If the pair  $(\Phi, \Gamma)$  is **controllable**, then

there exists a feedback gain matrix *K* that arbitrarily assigns the closed-loop system poles to any set  $[\lambda_1, \lambda_2, ..., \lambda_n]$ .

That is the eigenvalues of the closed-loop state matrix

$$\Phi_{cl} = \Phi - \Gamma K$$

can be arbitrarily assigned.

pole placement by equating coefficients

1. Evaluate the desired characteristic polynomial from the specified eigenvalues using the expression

$$\prod_{i=1}^{n} (\lambda - \lambda_i) = 0$$

2. Evaluate the closed-loop characteristic polynomial using the expression

 $\det[\lambda I - (\Phi - \Gamma K)] = 0.$ 

Compare the two polynomials in 1 & 2 to get the entries of the gain matrix
 K.

Assign the eigenvalues  $\{0.3\pm j0.2\}$  to the pair

$$\Phi = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \Gamma = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

#### **Solution:**

• For the given eigenvalues, the desired characteristic polynomial is

$$\Delta = (\lambda - 0.3 + j0.2)(\lambda - 0.3 - j0.2) = \lambda^2 - 0.6\lambda + 0.13$$

• The closed-loop state matrix is

$$\Phi_{cl} = \Phi - \Gamma K = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} (k_1 & k_2) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 3 - k_1 & 4 - k_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

• The closed-loop characteristic polynomial is

$$\begin{vmatrix} \lambda I - A_{cl} \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} \lambda & -1 \\ -(3 - k_1) & \lambda - (4 - k_2) \end{vmatrix} = 0$$
$$\Rightarrow \lambda^2 - (4 - k_2)\lambda - (3 - k_1) = 0$$

• Comparing with the desired characteristic polynomial,

$$\Delta = \lambda^2 - 0.6\lambda + 0.13$$

• Gives

$$k_1 = 3.13, \quad k_2 = 3.4$$

• To check, use MATLAB commands:

# Controllable canonical form

- The algebra for finding the state feedback gain matrix K for systems with n > 2 becomes quite tedious.
- However, it is specially simple if the system matrices happen to be in the **controllable canonical form**.
- For a third order system, this form is:

$$\Phi = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \Gamma = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad C = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Design a feedback controller for the pair

$$\Phi = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \Gamma = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

to obtain the eigenvalues {0.1, 0.4±j0.4}.

#### Answer

• For the given eigenvalues, the desired characteristic polynomial is

$$\Delta = (\lambda - 0.1)(\lambda - 0.4 + j0.4)(\lambda - 0.4 - j0.4)$$
  
=  $\lambda^3 - 0.9\lambda^2 + 0.4\lambda - 0.032.$ 

• The closed-loop state matrix is

$$\begin{split} \Phi_{cl} &= \Phi - \Gamma K = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} k_1 & k_2 & k_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 - k_1 & 2 - k_2 & 3 - k_3 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ & \left| \lambda I - \Phi_{cl} \right| = \begin{vmatrix} \lambda - 1 + k_1 & k_2 - 2 & k_3 - 3 \\ -1 & \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & \lambda \end{vmatrix} = \lambda^2 (\lambda - 1 + k_1) + \lambda (k_2 - 2) + (k_3 - 3) \\ &= \lambda^3 + (k_1 - 1)\lambda^2 + (k_2 - 2)\lambda + (k_3 - 3) \\ &\implies k_1 = 0.1, \quad k_2 = 2.4, \quad k_3 = 2.968 \end{split}$$

# Selecting desired pole locations

- The locations of the poles (eigenvalues) in the z-plane are directly related to the transient response of the system.
- For example, the smaller is the distance of the pole from the origin, the faster is the response associated with it.
- Also, the contours of constant damping ratio (which determines percent overshoot) are spirals as shown.



= 0.7

## Note on selecting desired pole locations!

- Seeking a closed-loop response that is much faster than the slowest component response (often the plant) will lead to high gains for the state feedback matrix and consequently to a high control effort which may saturate one or more components.
- For example, if all closed-loop eigenvalues are placed at the origin of the complex plane (i.e. deadbeat control), the resulting control law can assume unacceptably high values.

#### Thanks for your attention. Questions?

Asst. Prof. Dr.Ing. Mohammed Nour A. Ahmed

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Robotics Research Interest Group (zuR<sup>2</sup>IG) Zagazig University | Faculty of Engineering | Computer and Systems Engineering Department | Zagazig, Egypt



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