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SHORT COMMUNICATION

MATRIX PENCIL AND SYSTEM POLES*

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Abstract. Poles of a linear time-invariant system can be extracted from a matrix pencil constructed from the transient response of the system. Three subspace filtering techniques applicable to the matrix pencil method are presented briefly in a unified way.

Zusammenfassung. Die Pole eines linearen, zeitinvarianten Systems lassen sich aus einem Matrixpencil gewinnen, der aus der Sprungantwort des Systems konstruiert wird. Es werden in aller Kürze drei Unterraum-Filtertechniken vereinheitlicht vorgestellt, die auf diese Matrixpencil-Methode anzuwenden sind.

Résumé. Les pôles d'un système linéaire invariant dans le temps peuvent être extraits de matrices 'pencil' construites à partir de la réponse transitoire du système. Trois méthodes de filtrage de sous-espace, applicable à cette méthode, sont présentées brièvement et d'une manière unifiée.

Key words. System identification, transient processing, matrix pencil, subspace decomposition.

1. Introduction

It is known that the transient response of linear time-invariant (LTI) system can be generally described by

$$y(t) = \sum_{i=1}^d (b_{i,0} + tb_{i,1} + \dots + t^{m(i)-1} b_{i,m(i)-1}) \exp(s_i t), \quad (1.1)$$

where $m(i)$ is the multiplicity of the pole s_i , $M = \sum_{i=1}^d m(i)$, which is the order of the system or the total number of poles, d is the number of distinct poles. For a defective system, $m(i) > 1$ for at least

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one i . In matrix form, $y(t)$ can be written as

$$y(t) = A(t)\mathbf{b}, \quad (1.2)$$

where

$$A(t) = [A_1(t), \dots, A_d(t)], \quad (1.3)$$

$$A_i(t) = [\exp(s_i t), \dots, t^{m(i)-1} \exp(s_i t)], \quad (1.4)$$

$$\mathbf{b} = [b_1^T, \dots, b_d^T]^T, \quad (1.5)$$

$$b_i^T = [b_{i,0}, \dots, b_{i,m(i)-1}]. \quad (1.6)$$

The superscript \top denotes the transposition. Note that $A(t)$ is completely determined by s_i , d and $m(i)$. Given $A(t)$, \mathbf{b} can be obtained in a least squares sense by

$$\mathbf{b} = A^+ \mathbf{y}, \quad (1.7)$$

where the superscript $+$ denotes the Moore-Penrose inverse [1] and

$$A = [A^T(t_0), \dots, A^T(t_{N-1})]^T, \quad (1.8)$$

$$y = [y(t_0), \dots, y(t_{N-1})]^T, \quad (1.9)$$

in which t_0, \dots, t_{N-1} can be any distinct sample times but $N \geq M$.

In this short paper, we will present that the parameters s_i , d and $m(i)$ can be obtained from a matrix pencil constructed from the uniformly sampled data $y_k = y(T_s k)$. T_s is the sampling interval. In particular, three subspace filtering techniques proposed in [3, 7] are shown in a unified way.

2. Matrix pencil method

We define two matrices Y_0 and Y_1 as

$$Y_0 = [y_{L-1} \ y_{L-2} \ \dots \ y_0] \\ = \begin{bmatrix} y_{L-1} & y_{L-2} & \dots & y_0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ y_{N-2} & y_{N-3} & \dots & y_{N-L-1} \end{bmatrix} \\ ((N-L) \times L), \quad (2.1)$$

$$Y_1 = [y_L \ y_{L-1} \ \dots \ y_1] \\ = \begin{bmatrix} y_L & y_{L-1} & \dots & y_1 \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ y_{N-1} & y_{N-2} & \dots & y_{N-L} \end{bmatrix} \\ ((N-L) \times L), \quad (2.2)$$

where $M \leq L \leq N - M$. Then the following analytical decomposition can be shown (see Appendix A):

$$Y_0 = Z_L Z_R, \quad (2.3)$$

$$Y_1 = Z_L Z Z_R, \quad (2.4)$$

where Z_L is a rank- M $(N-L) \times M$ matrix, Z_R a rank- M $M \times L$ matrix and Z the companion matrix of the polynomial $\sum_{m=0}^M c_m z^{-m}$ with $c_0 = 1$. c_m 's are the M coefficients of the M -order linear prediction equation of y_k .

It is known that Z has d distinct eigenvalues $\{z_i = \exp(s_i T_s), i = 1, \dots, d\}$, each of algebraic

multiplicity (AM) equal to $m(i)$ and geometric multiplicity (GM) equal to one. It should be noted that Y_0 and Y_1 have the same column space and the same row space, and each of them has the rank M , which implies that M can be estimated by the number of dominant singular values of Y_0 and Y_1 (e.g., see [4, 5]).

In the following, we show three algorithms for extracting the poles z_i (hence s_i , d and $m(i)$) from Y_0 and Y_1 , assuming M is known.

Direct algorithm [3]

Y_0 can be numerically (e.g., using SVD [1]) decomposed into

$$Y_0 = Y_L Y_R, \quad (2.5)$$

where Y_L is a rank- M $(N-L) \times M$ matrix (spanning the column space of Y_0) and Y_R a rank- M $M \times L$ matrix (spanning the row space of Y_0). Specifically, $Y_L = Z_L Y$ and $Y_R = Y^{-1} Z_R$, where Y is an $M \times M$ nonsingular matrix (which can be arbitrary otherwise). Now the $M \times M$ matrix P_1 , defined by

$$P_1 = Y_L^+ Y_1 Y_R^+, \quad (2.6)$$

where $Y_L^+ = (Y_L^H Y_L)^{-1} Y_L^H$ and $Y_R^+ = Y_R^H (Y_R Y_R^H)^{-1}$, becomes $P_1 = Y^{-1} Z_L^+ Z_L Z Z_R Z_R^+ Y = Y^{-1} Z Y$. Since P_1 is a similar transform of Z , P_1 has the same eigenvalues as Z , i.e., d distinct eigenvalues $\{z_i | i = 1, \dots, d\}$ each of AM $m(i)$ and GM one.

Subspace estimation (SE) algorithm [7]

Both Y_0 and Y_1 can be alternatively numerically [1] decomposed into

$$\begin{bmatrix} Y_0 \\ Y_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} X_0 \\ X_1 \end{bmatrix} X_R, \\ (2(N-L) \times L) \quad (2(N-L) \times M) \quad (M \times L) \quad (2.7)$$

where

$$\text{span} \begin{bmatrix} X_0 \\ X_1 \end{bmatrix} = \text{span} \begin{bmatrix} Z_L \\ Z_L Z \end{bmatrix} = \text{span} \begin{bmatrix} Y_0 \\ Y_1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad (2.8)$$

which indicates the subspace estimation process (for both Y_0 and Y_1) inherent in the SE algorithm. Since $X_0 = Z_L X$ and $X_1 = Z_L Z X$, where X is an $M \times M$ nonsingular matrix, the $M \times M$ matrix P_2 , defined by

$$P_2 = X_0^+ X_1, \tag{2.9}$$

where $X_0^+ = (X_0^H X_0)^{-1} X_0^H$, becomes $P_2 = X^{-1} Z_L^+ Z_L Z X = X^{-1} Z X$. Therefore, P_2 is similar to Z and has d distinct eigenvalues $\{z_i | i = 1, \dots, d\}$ each of AM $m(i)$ and GM one. X_0 and X_1 are a pair of compressed matrices from Y_0 and Y_1 unless $L = M$.

Subspace estimation and subspace fitting (SESF) algorithm [7]

Further matrix compression can be made on X_0 and X_1 before retrieving the poles. Since X_0 and X_1 should have the same column space, there exist two $M \times M$ nonsingular matrices T_0 and T_1 such that

$$X_0 T_0 - X_1 T_1 = 0, \tag{2.10}$$

which indicates a subspace fitting process inherent in the SESF algorithm. Numerically [1], $\begin{bmatrix} T_0 \\ T_1 \end{bmatrix}$ can be the M non-principal right singular vectors of $[X_0, X_1]$. From (2.10), $T_0 T_1^{-1} = X_0^+ X_1$. Hence, the $M \times M$ matrix P_3 , defined by

$$P_3 = T_0 T_1^{-1}, \tag{2.11}$$

is P_2 and has d distinct eigenvalues $\{z_i | i = 1, \dots, d\}$ each of AM $m(i)$ and GM one.

3. Discussions

In the matrix pencil method, L is a free parameter subject to $M \leq L \leq N - M$. A proper value for L should be such that the column (or row) space of Y_0 and Y_1 has the largest dimension so that the maximum noise components fall into the noise subspace (which is automatically discarded in the numerical computations of the above three

algorithms). But for $\frac{1}{3}N \leq L \leq \frac{2}{3}N$, the robustness of the estimated poles to noise is relatively invariant [2, 3]. On the other hand, a large dimension of Y_0 and Y_1 implies that more computations are needed in performing subspace filtering. It is clear that the three algorithms are in increasing order of computation. Consistent with Roy's observation [7] for wave direction finding, we found [2] that for estimating poles from transient responses, the extra computation used in the SESF algorithm makes it the most robust to noise. But for SNR above a threshold, the three algorithms are equally accurate [2].

If the signal is known to be oversampled, the matrix pencil method can be modified [2] to yield more accurate poles than the well-known Prony's method, without using subspace filtering.

Comparing to the SVD Prony's method [5, 6], the matrix pencil method has been shown in [3] to be more efficient in computation as well as more robust to noise.

Finally, we mention that the above matrix pencil approach is a special case of using a set of matrices as defined in the following:

$$\begin{aligned} Y_{0,G} &= [y_{L-G} \ y_{L-G-1} \ \dots \ y_0], \\ Y_{1,G} &= [y_{L-G+1} \ y_{L-G} \ \dots \ y_1], \\ &\vdots \\ Y_{G,G} &= [y_L \ y_{L-1} \ \dots \ y_G], \end{aligned}$$

where $L - M + 1 \geq G \geq 1$. These matrices can be analytically decomposed into

$$\begin{aligned} Y_{0,G} &= Z_L Z_{RG}, \\ Y_{1,G} &= Z_L Z Z_{RG}, \\ &\vdots \\ Y_{G,G} &= Z_L Z^G Z_{RG}, \end{aligned}$$

where Z_{RG} is a rank- M $M \times (L - G + 1)$ matrix. It is clear that the previous three algorithms can be applied to any pair in the matrix set $\{Y_{0,G}, Y_{1,G}, \dots, Y_{G,G}\}$ to extract the poles $\{z_i | i = 1, \dots, d\}$. However, an efficient way of utilizing the whole matrix set $\{Y_{i,G} | i = 0, 1, \dots, G\}$

$G = 1, 2, \dots, L - M + 1$ to yield better estimates of $\{z_i | i = 1, \dots, d\}$ has not yet been found.

Appendix

Since y_k is the transient response of an order- M LTI system, y_k satisfies, for a unique set of coefficients c_m 's,

$$y_k = - \sum_{m=1}^M c_m y_{k-m} \quad (\text{A.1})$$

or, equivalently,

$$y_k = - \sum_{m=1}^M c_m y_{k-m}, \quad (\text{A.2})$$

which implies that y_j for any j can be written as a linear combination of the M independent (assuming $M \leq N - L$) vectors y_0, y_1, \dots, y_{M-1} . Hence, there is an $M \times (L - M)$ matrix Z'_R such that

$$Y_0 = [y_{M-1} \ y_{M-2} \ \dots \ y_0] [Z'_R, I_{M \times M}], \quad (\text{A.3})$$

where $I_{M \times M}$ is the $M \times M$ identity matrix. Defining $Z_L = [y_{M-1} \ y_{M-2} \ \dots \ y_0]$ and $Z_R = [Z'_R, I_{M \times M}]$ yields (2.3).

Equation (2.4) follows from

$$Y_1 = [y_M \ y_{M-1} \ \dots \ y_1] Z_R = Z_L Z Z_R, \quad (\text{A.4})$$

where

$$Z = \begin{bmatrix} -c_1 & 1 & & & \\ -c_2 & & 1 & & \\ \vdots & & & \ddots & \\ \vdots & & & & 1 \\ -c_M & & & & 0 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (\text{A.5})$$

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