

LPC analysis

From the source filter theory of speech production, the frequency response of the LP filter provides an approximation to the spectrum envelope of speech:

$$H(f) = \frac{g}{A(f)}$$

Where the system function for the LP filter is a complex polynomial of order p given by:

$$A(z) = 1 - \sum_{k=1}^p a_k z^{-k}$$

The frequencies of the formants can be estimated from $H(f)$ in different ways:

1. Estimate the frequencies of the peaks
2. Solve for the roots

We are going to use the 2nd one, solving the roots for the predictor polynomial $H(f)$.

The roots of $H(f)$, also called poles, always occur in pairs, one is the complex conjugate of the other (mirror image in the complex plane). Therefore, only half of the roots, conventionally between 0 and π (i.e. have a positive imaginary part) are selected.

A polynomial of order p has p roots. Each root is a complex number defined as:

$$r_k \exp(i2\pi \frac{f_k}{F_s}),$$

which represents a sinusoid of frequency f_k , and damping r_k .

The frequency f_k of a root α_k , can be computed as:

$$f_k = \frac{F_s}{2\pi} \tan^{-1} \left[\frac{\text{Im}(\alpha_k)}{\text{Re}(\alpha_k)} \right]$$

**The \tan^{-1} can be implemented by `np.angle`, which if you look at the source code, internally calls the function `np.arctan2()`