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**Pole Shifting Theorem in Control  
Theory**

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Dedication.

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# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>2</b>
1.1	Basics . . . . .	2
1.1.1	Systems of First Order Differential Equations . . . . .	2
1.1.2	Linear System With Control . . . . .	8
1.2	Controllable pairs . . . . .	10
1.2.1	Discrete-time systems . . . . .	10
1.2.2	Continuous-time systems . . . . .	12
1.2.3	Decomposition theorem . . . . .	14
<b>2</b>	<b>The Pole Shifting Theorem</b>	<b>18</b>
	<b>Bibliography</b>	<b>22</b>

# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Basics

Pole shifting theorem is one of the basic results of the theory of linear dynamical systems with linear feedback. It claims that in case of controllable systems one can achieve an arbitrary asymptotic behavior by a suitably chosen feedback. To understand this crucial theorem, we must first describe few basic concepts.

### 1.1.1 Systems of First Order Differential Equations

*Remark.* Let  $f(t)$  be a function of time  $t \in \mathbb{R}^+$ . We will denote its derivative with respect to  $t$  by

$$\dot{f}(t) = \frac{d}{dt}f(t) .$$

**Definition.** A system of linear differential equations of order of one with constant coefficients is a system

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}_1(t) &= a_{1,1}x_1(t) + \dots + a_{1,n}x_n(t) \\ &\vdots \\ \dot{x}_n(t) &= a_{n,1}x_1(t) + \dots + a_{n,n}x_n(t) .\end{aligned}$$

The system can be written in a matrix form

$$\dot{x}(t) = Ax(t) ,$$

where  $x(t) = (x_1(t), \dots, x_n(t))^T \in \mathbb{C}^n$  is a **state vector** (shortly **state**) of the system. The matrix  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ ,  $A = (a_{i,j})$  is a **fundamental matrix** of the system. The **initial condition** of the system is the state  $x(0)$ .

This system is also called a **linear autonomous system**.

We will use the matrix form, as it is a very compact way of describing the system.

To express solution of this system in similarly compact way we will establish the notion of a matrix exponential.

**Definition.** Let  $X$  be a real or complex square matrix. The exponential of  $X$ , denoted by  $e^X$ , is the square matrix of the same type defined by the series

$$e^X = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} X^k ,$$

where  $X^0$  is defined to be the identity matrix  $I$  of the same type as  $X$ .

For this definition to make sense, we need to show that the series converges for any real or complex square matrix. Firstly, we will define what does it mean for a matrix series to converge. In this text, we will be using Frobenius norm to describe the notion of the convergence of a matrix series.

**Definition. Frobenius norm** is a matrix norm, denoted by  $\|\cdot\|_F$ , which for an arbitrary  $n \times m$  matrix  $A$  is defined as

$$\|A\|_F = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^m |a_{i,j}|^2}.$$

*Remark.* In what follows,  $\mathbb{K}$  will denote a field of either real or complex numbers.

**Lemma 1.** Then Frobenius norm satisfies following statements for any matrices  $A, B, C \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times m}$ ,  $D \in \mathbb{K}^{m \times o}$  and any scalar  $\alpha \in \mathbb{K}$ .

1.  $\|A + B\|_F \leq \|A\|_F + \|B\|_F$ ,
2.  $\|\alpha A\|_F = |\alpha| \|A\|_F$ ,
3.  $\|A\|_F \geq 0$  with equality occurring if and only if  $A = O_{n \times m}$ ,
4.  $\|CD\|_F \leq \|C\|_F \|D\|_F$ .

*Proof.* First three points can be simply shown using the definition of the Frobenius form and properties of the absolute value.

The forth point follows from the Cauchy–Schwarz inequality

$$\|CD\|_F^2 = \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^o \|c_i d_j\|_2^2 \leq \sum_{i=1}^m \|c_i\|_2^2 \sum_{j=1}^o \|d_j\|_2^2 = \sum_{i=1}^m \|c_i\|_2^2 \sum_{j=1}^o \|d_j\|_2^2 = \|C\|_F^2 \|D\|_F^2,$$

where  $\|\cdot\|_2$  denotes the Euclidean norm, and  $c_i, d_i$  denote the  $i$ -th column of the matrices  $C$  and  $D$  respectively.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.** Absolute value of any element of a matrix is always less than or equal to the Frobenius norm of the matrix. In particular, for a matrix  $A^k = (a_{i,j}^{(k)})_{n \times n}$ , where  $A \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times n}$ , for every position  $(i, j)$  it holds  $|a_{i,j}^{(k)}| \leq \|A^k\|_F \leq \|A\|_F^k$ .

*Proof.* Obviously, for an arbitrary element of the matrix  $X = (x_{i,j})_{n \times m}$  we can write

$$|x_{i,j}| \leq \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^m |x_{i,j}|^2} = \|X\|_F.$$

It follows

$$|a_{i,j}^{(k)}| \leq \|A^k\|_F \leq \|A\|_F^k,$$

where second inequality follows from Lemma 1.4.  $\square$

*Corollary 1.* Let us have  $A^k = (a_{i,j}^{(k)})_{n \times n}$ . Then the series  $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{b^k}{k!} a_{i,j}^{(k)}$  converges absolutely for any  $b \in \mathbb{K}$ .

*Proof.* By Lemma 2, for any  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have

$$\sum_{k=0}^N \left| \frac{b^k}{k!} a_{i,j}^{(k)} \right| \leq \sum_{k=0}^N \frac{|b|^k}{k!} |a_{i,j}^{(k)}| \leq \sum_{k=0}^N \frac{|b|^k}{k!} \|A\|_F^k = \sum_{k=0}^N \frac{\|bA\|_F^k}{k}$$

Then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left| \frac{b^k}{k!} a_{i,j}^{(k)} \right| = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=0}^N \left| \frac{b^k}{k!} a_{i,j}^{(k)} \right| \leq \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=0}^N \frac{\|bA\|_F^k}{k} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{\|bA\|_F^k}{k} = e^{\|bA\|_F}$$

$\square$

**Definition.** A matrix sequence  $\{A_k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$  of  $n \times m$  matrices is said to **converge** to  $n \times m$  matrix  $A$ , denoted by  $A_k \rightarrow A$ , if

$$\forall \varepsilon \in \mathbb{R}, \varepsilon > 0 \quad \exists n_0 \in \mathbb{N} \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq n_0 : \|A_n - A\|_F < \varepsilon .$$

**Lemma 3.** A matrix sequence  $\{A_k = (a_{i,j}^{(k)})_{n \times m}\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$  converges to a matrix  $A = (a_{i,j})_{n \times m}$  if and only if it converges elementwise, in other words

$$\forall i \in \{1, \dots, n\} \quad \forall j \in \{1, \dots, m\} : a_{i,j}^{(k)} \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} a_{i,j} .$$

*Proof.* Let  $A_k \rightarrow A$ . Then we can for any  $\varepsilon > 0$  find such  $n_0$  that  $\|A_n - A\|_F < \varepsilon$  for every  $n \geq n_0$ . Using Lemma 2 we can write

$$|a_{i,j}^{(n)} - a_{i,j}| \leq \|A_n - A\|_F < \varepsilon .$$

It follows that  $\{A_k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$  converges to  $A$  elementwise.

Conversely, let  $\varepsilon$  be a positive real number. For every position  $(i, j)$  we find such  $n_{i,j}$  that

$$\forall n \geq n_{i,j} : |a_{i,j}^{(n)} - a_{i,j}| < \frac{\varepsilon}{\sqrt{nm}} .$$

We put  $N_0 = \min\{n_{i,j}\}$ . Now  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq N_0$  we have

$$\|A_n - A\|_F = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^m |a_{i,j}^{(n)} - a_{i,j}|^2} < \sqrt{nm \frac{\varepsilon^2}{nm}} = \varepsilon .$$

□

**Claim 1.** The definition of the matrix exponential makes sense, that is, the matrix series  $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} X^k$  converges for any matrix  $X$ .

*Proof.* Let  $X^k = (x_{i,j}^{(k)})_{n \times n}$ . By Corollary 1 every element of matrix  $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} X^k = \left( \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} x_{i,j}^{(k)} \right)_{n \times n}$  converges absolutely. Therefore the matrix series converges elementwise to some matrix  $Y$  (we denote this matrix by  $e^X$ ). □

**Lemma 4.** Let  $\{A_k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$  be a matrix sequence, where  $A_k \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times m}$ ,  $B \in \mathbb{K}^{r \times n}$  and  $C \in \mathbb{K}^{m \times s}$ . If  $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} A_k$  converges, then also  $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} B A_k C$  converges, and the following equality holds

$$B \left( \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} A_k \right) C = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} B A_k C .$$

*Proof.* We know that for  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  it is true

$$\sum_{k=0}^N B A_k C = B \left( \sum_{k=0}^N A_k \right) C .$$

We want to now show that the left hand side converges to  $B \left( \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} A_k \right) C$ . Let  $\varepsilon_1 \in \mathbb{R}^+$  be fixed. Since the series  $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} A_k$  converges, we can find  $N_0$  such that for every  $N \in \mathbb{N}, N \geq N_0$  it holds

$$\left\| \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} A_k - \sum_{l=0}^N A_l \right\| < \varepsilon_1 .$$



Then

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| B \left( \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} A_k \right) C - \sum_{l=0}^N B A_l C \right\|_F &= \left\| B \left( \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} A_k \right) C - B \left( \sum_{l=0}^N A_l \right) C \right\|_F = \\ &= \left\| B \left( \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} A_k - \sum_{l=0}^N A_l \right) C \right\|_F = \|B\|_F \left\| \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} A_k - \sum_{l=0}^N A_l \right\|_F \|C\|_F < \|B\|_F \|C\|_F \varepsilon_1 . \end{aligned}$$

That concludes the proof that  $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} B A_k C$  converges to  $B \left( \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} A_k \right) C$ .  $\square$

**Definition.** Let us have a matrix function  $X(t): \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{K}^{n \times m}$ . Then the derivative of the function is

$$\frac{d}{dt} X(t) = \left( \frac{d}{dt} x_{i,j}(t) \right)_{n \times m} = \left( \dot{x}_{i,j}(t) \right)_{n \times m} .$$

**Lemma 5.** Let  $A$ ,  $B$  and  $X$  be real or complex  $n \times n$  matrices. Then

1. If  $AB = BA$ , then  $e^A B = B e^A$ ,
2. If  $R$  is invertible, then  $e^{R^{-1} X R} = R^{-1} e^X R$ ,
3.  $\frac{d}{dt} e^{tX} = X e^{tX}$ , for  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ ,
4. If  $AB = BA$ , then  $e^{A+B} = e^A e^B$ .

*Proof.* 1. Because of the convergence of the matrix exponential, we can use Lemma 4 and we get

$$e^A B = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} A^k B \stackrel{AB=BA}{=} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} B A^k = B \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} A^k = B e^A .$$

2. Following from Lemma 4, we have

$$e^{R^{-1} X R} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} (R^{-1} X R)^k = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} R^{-1} X^k R = R^{-1} \left( \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} X^k \right) R = R^{-1} e^X R .$$

3. The elements of the matrix  $e^{tX} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^k}{k!} X^k = (e_{i,j}(t))_{n \times n}$  are equal to

$$e_{i,j}(t) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^k}{k!} a_{i,j}^{(k)} ,$$

where  $X^k = (a_{i,j}^{(k)})_{n \times n}$ . By Corollary 1 the series  $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^k}{k!} a_{i,j}^{(k)}$  is absolutely convergent for every  $t \in \mathbb{K}$ . We can now differentiate the individual elements (see Pick et al. [2019], Věta 8.2.2.)

$$\frac{d}{dt} e_{i,j}(t) = \frac{d}{dt} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^k}{k!} a_{i,j}^{(k)} = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{t^{k-1}}{(k-1)!} a_{i,j}^{(k)} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^k}{k!} a_{i,j}^{(k+1)} .$$

Using Lemma 4 we get the desired result

$$\frac{d}{dt} e^{tX} = \left( \frac{d}{dt} e_{i,j}(t) \right)_{n \times n} = \left( \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^k}{k!} a_{i,j}^{(k+1)} \right)_{n \times n} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^k}{k!} X^{k+1} = X \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^k}{k!} X^k = X e^{tX} .$$

4. Let us denote elements of matrix  $A^k B^l = (\alpha_{i,j}^{(k,l)})_{n \times n}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}
e^A e^B &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} A^k \cdot \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{l!} B^l = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{1}{k!} A^k \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{l!} B^l \right) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k! l!} A^k B^l \\
&= \left( \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k! l!} \alpha_{i,j}^{(k,l)} \right)_{n \times n} = \left( \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{l=0}^k \frac{1}{l! (k-l)!} \alpha_{i,j}^{(l, k-l)} \right)_{n \times n} \\
&= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{l=0}^k \frac{1}{l! (k-l)!} A^l B^{k-l} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{l=0}^k \binom{k}{l} \frac{1}{k!} A^l B^{k-l} \\
&= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} (A+B)^k = e^{A+B}.
\end{aligned}$$

The second and the third equalities hold by Lemma 4, and the penultimate equality holds by the assumption  $AB = BA$ . The crucial point is the fifth equality in which we reorder the elements of the series as depicted in Figure 1.1. The equality holds as long as the original series is absolutely

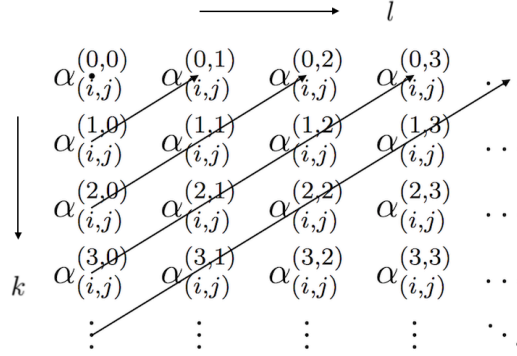


Figure 1.1

convergent. This follows from the inequality

$$\sum_{k=0}^N \sum_{l=0}^M \left| \frac{1}{k! l!} \alpha_{i,j}^{(k,l)} \right| \leq \sum_{k=0}^N \frac{\|A\|_F^k}{k!} \sum_{l=0}^M \frac{\|B\|_F^l}{l!} = \left( \sum_{k=0}^N \frac{\|A\|_F^k}{k!} \right) \cdot \left( \sum_{l=0}^M \frac{\|B\|_F^l}{l!} \right),$$

and the fact that the expression on the rightmost side is bounded by  $e^{\|A\|_F} e^{\|B\|_F}$  for  $M, N \rightarrow \infty$ . □

**Lemma 6.** For any  $\alpha \in \mathbb{K}$  we have  $e^{\alpha I} = e^{\alpha} I$ .

*Proof.* Follows straight from the definition of the matrix exponential. □

Now, using properties in Lemma 5, we can see that  $\dot{x}(t) = Ax(t)$  is solved by  $x(t) = e^{tA}x(0)$ . The solution is unique which follows from intermediate calculus.

Typically, we require the autonomous system to stabilize itself back into its stable state after some disturbances.

**Definition.** The linear autonomous system  $\dot{x}(t) = Ax(t)$  is **stable**, if for any initial state  $x(0) \in \mathbb{K}^n$  the system converges to 0 for  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .

Let us now discuss under what circumstances is a linear autonomous system stable.

Let  $A$  be a real or complex matrix. Then there is a regular matrix  $R \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times n}$  such that the matrix

$$J = R^{-1}AR$$

is in the Jordan normal form. By substituting  $x(t) = Ry(t)$ , which is equivalent to changing the basis of our system, we get

$$\begin{aligned} Ry(t) &= ARy(t) \\ \dot{y}(t) &= R^{-1}ARy(t) \\ \dot{y}(t) &= Jy(t) \end{aligned}$$

and therefore the unique solution is

$$y(t) = e^{tJ}y(0) ,$$

where  $y(0) = R^{-1}x(0)$ . It is sufficient to determine when  $y(t)$  does converge to  $o$ , because since  $R$  is an invertible matrix,  $x(t)$  converges to  $o$  if and only if  $y(t)$  converges to  $o$ .

We know that every Jordan block  $J_{\lambda,n}$  in the matrix  $J$  can be decomposed as  $J_{\lambda,n} = \lambda I_n + N_n$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  where  $N_n$  is  $n \times n$  nilpotent matrix satisfying  $n_{i,j} = \delta_{i,j-1}$ . For example, in case of  $n = 4$  we have

$$N_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, (N_4)^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, (N_4)^3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

It is also true that  $(N_n)_{i,j}^k = \delta_{i,j-k}$  and  $(N_n)^n = O_{n \times n}$ , since every right multiplication by matrix  $N$  shifts the multiplied matrix's columns to the right by one column, that is, it maps matrix  $(v_1, \dots, v_n)$  onto  $(o, v_1, \dots, v_{n-1})$ .

By Lemma 5, for each Jordan block  $J_{\lambda,n}$ , we now have

$$e^{tJ_{\lambda,n}} = e^{t(\lambda I + N)} = e^{t\lambda I} e^{tN} = e^{\lambda t} e^{tN}.$$

Let  $\lambda = a + ib$  where  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then we have

$$e^{tJ_{\lambda,n}} = e^{at} e^{ibt} e^{tN}.$$

We know that  $|e^{ibt}| = 1$  and that

$$e^{tN} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^k}{k!} N^k = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \frac{t^k}{k!} N^k$$

since  $(N_n)^n = O_{n \times n}$ . Therefore, we can see that every element of matrix  $e^{tN}$  is a polynomial in  $t$  of degree less than  $n$ . It follows that  $e^{tJ_{\lambda,n}}$  approaches  $O_{n \times n}$  for  $t \rightarrow \infty$  if and only if

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} e^{at} t^{n-1} = 0.$$

This holds for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  if and only if  $a < 0$ .

Because any block diagonal matrix to the power of any natural number preserves its block form, we can write

$$J = \begin{pmatrix} J_{\lambda_1, n_1} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & J_{\lambda_2, n_2} & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & J_{\lambda_r, n_r} \end{pmatrix}, \quad e^J = \begin{pmatrix} e^{J_{\lambda_1, n_1}} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & e^{J_{\lambda_2, n_2}} & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & e^{J_{\lambda_r, n_r}} \end{pmatrix},$$

where zeroes in the matrices represent zero matrices of appropriate sizes. Therefore, since  $y(0)$  is a constant vector, we see that  $y(t) = e^{tJ}y(0)$  converges to 0 if (and only if, because of the uniqueness of the solution) all the eigenvalues  $\lambda_i$  of the matrix  $A$  have negative real parts. As the last step, we calculate  $x(t) = Ry(t)$  and  $x(0) = Ry(0)$ . We formulate this result into a theorem.

**Theorem 1.** *The system  $\dot{x} = Ax(t)$  is stable if and only if all eigenvalues of the matrix  $A$  have negative real parts.*

*Example.* Consider higher order differential equation

$$x^{(n)}(t) + a_1x^{(n-1)}(t) + \dots + a_{n-1}x'(t) + a_nx(t) = 0,$$

where  $x(t): \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ . This equation can be solved as a system of linear differential equations of first order  $\dot{z}(t) = Az(t)$  by choosing fundamental matrix  $A$  and state vector  $z(t)$  as follows

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1 \\ -a_n & -a_{n-1} & -a_{n-2} & \cdots & -a_1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad z(t) = \begin{pmatrix} x(t) \\ x'(t) \\ \vdots \\ x^{(n-1)}(t) \end{pmatrix}.$$

### 1.1.2 Linear System With Control

**Definition.** *A continuous dynamical linear system with control  $u$  is a system of linear differential equations of first order with constant coefficients in the form*

$$\dot{x}(t) = Ax(t) + Bu(t),$$

where  $x(t) \in \mathbb{K}^n$  is a **state vector** (shortly **state**) of the system,  $A \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times n}$  is a **fundamental matrix** of the system,  $B \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times m}$  is a **control matrix** of the system and  $u(t) \in \mathbb{K}^m$  is a **control vector** of the system. The **initial condition** of the system is the state  $x(0)$ .

We will call this system shortly  $(A, B)$  system.

In a general case, this is called an **open-loop control** system because the control is not dependent on previous state of the system.

We can imagine this system as follows. The first part of the right-hand side,  $Ax(t)$ , of the equation  $\dot{x}(t) = Ax(t) + Bu(t)$  can be thought of as the model of the machine or the event that we want to control and the second part,  $Bu(t)$ , as our control mechanism. The  $B$  matrix is then our “control board” and the control vector  $u(t)$  is us deciding, which “levers” and “buttons” we want to push.

Of course, if we want this system to be self-regulating, we cannot input our own values into  $u(t)$ , and therefore  $u(t)$  has to be calculated from the current state of our system.

**Definition.** Let us have linear differential system with control  $u(t)$  defined as

$$u(t) = Fx(t) ,$$

where  $F \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$  is a **feedback matrix**. This system is then called a **closed-loop control system** or a **linear feedback control system**.

We will call this system shortly  $(A, B, F)$  system.

The feedback control system can be expressed as a first order linear differential system

$$\dot{x}(t) = Ax(t) + BFx(t) = (A + BF)x(t) .$$

**Definition.** The linear feedback system  $(A, B, F)$  is **stable**, if the linear autonomous system  $\dot{x}(t) = (A + BF)x(t)$  is stable.

As discussed in the first section, we now know that the system is stable (converges to 0 for  $t \rightarrow \infty$ ) if all the eigenvalues of matrix  $A + BF$  have negative real parts.

Therefore, the system can stabilize itself if we find such matrix  $F \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  that all the eigenvalues of the matrix  $A + BF$  have negative real parts. This requirement can be expressed through the characteristic polynomial of the matrix  $A + BF$ , since roots of the characteristic polynomial of a matrix are precisely eigenvalues of the matrix.

**Definition.** Let  $A$  be a  $n \times n$  matrix. Then the **characteristic polynomial** of  $A$ , denoted by  $\chi_A$ , is defined as

$$\chi_A(s) = \det(sI_n - A) .$$

Through our observations we got to a conclusion, that we need to find a feedback matrix  $F$  such that the characteristic polynomial of the matrix  $A + BF$  is

$$\chi_{A+BF} = (x - \lambda_1)(x - \lambda_2) \cdots (x - \lambda_n) ,$$

where all its roots  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n \in \mathbb{C}$  have negative real parts. This leads to an important definition.

**Definition.** Let  $\mathbb{K}$  be a field and let  $A \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times n}$ ,  $B \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times m}$ ,  $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$ . We say that polynomial  $\chi$  is **assignable for the pair**  $(A, B)$  if there exists such matrix  $F \in \mathbb{K}^{m \times n}$  that

$$\chi_{A+BF} = \chi .$$

The pole shifting theorem states, that if  $A$  and  $B$  are “sensible” in a sense that we will discuss in the next section, then an arbitrary monic polynomial  $\chi$  of degree  $n$  can be assigned to the pair  $(A, B)$ . It also claims that it is immaterial over what field  $A$  and  $B$  are.

## 1.2 Controllable pairs

In this section we will establish the notion of controllability. We will first explain this concept for *discrete-time systems* and then we will show that the requirement for controllability of *continuous-time systems* is the same as the one for *discrete-time systems*.

### 1.2.1 Discrete-time systems

Let us have a continuous dynamical system  $\dot{x}(t) = A_1 x(t)$ , where  $A_1$  is a real or complex square matrix. We *discretize* the time, that is, instead of using continuous real time values of  $x(t)$  and  $\dot{x}(t)$ , we are interested in these values only at discrete *sampling times*  $0, \delta, 2\delta, \dots, k\delta, \dots$  where  $\delta \in \mathbb{R}^+$ . We will denote the states at each sampling time as follows

$$x_k = x(k\delta), k \in \mathbb{N}_0.$$

The solution of this system is precisely  $x(t) = e^{tA_1}x(0)$ , as discussed in previous sections. For some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  we get  $x_k = x(k\delta) = e^{k\delta A_1}x(0)$  and  $x_{k+1} = e^{(k+1)\delta A_1}x(0) = e^{\delta A_1 + k\delta A_1}x(0)$  which by Lemma 5.5 equals  $x_{k+1} = e^{\delta A_1 + k\delta A_1}x(0) = e^{\delta A_1}e^{k\delta A_1}x(0) = e^{\delta A_1}x_k$ .

Using Lemma 5 we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} x_{k+1} &= e^{(k+1)\delta A_1}x(0) \\ &= e^{\delta A_1 + k\delta A_1}x(0) \\ &= e^{\delta A_1}e^{k\delta A_1}x(0) \\ &= e^{\delta A_1}x_k \\ &= Ax_k \end{aligned}$$

by choosing  $A = e^{\delta A_1}$ . We see that we can calculate the next value of  $x$  from its previous value. We will now define this system. The definition holds for any field  $\mathbb{K}$ .

**Definition.** A discrete dynamical linear system is a system of equations

$$x_{k+1} = Ax_k, k \in \mathbb{N}_0,$$

where  $x_k \in \mathbb{K}^n$  is a **state vector** (shortly **state**) of the system, the matrix  $A \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times n}$  is a **fundamental matrix** of the system. The **initial condition** of the system is the state  $x(0)$ .

Similarly, we can define a discrete dynamical linear system with control.

**Definition.** A discrete dynamical linear system with control  $u$  is a system of equations

$$x_{k+1} = Ax_k + Bu_k, k \in \mathbb{N}_0,$$

where  $x_k \in \mathbb{K}^n$  is a **state vector** (shortly **state**) of the system,  $A \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times n}$  is a fundamental matrix,  $B \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times m}$  is a control matrix,  $u_k \in \mathbb{K}^m$  is a control vector. The **initial condition** of the system is the state  $x_0$ .

We will call this system **discrete**  $(A, B)$  system.

**Definition.** We say that a state  $x$  can be **reached** in time  $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$  if there exists such a sequence of control vectors  $u_0, u_1, \dots, u_{k-1}$  that for the initial condition  $x_0 = o$  we get  $x = x_k$ .

States that we can reach in time  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  in an open-loop control discrete-time systems can be derived as follows. The initial condition is  $x_0 = o$  and we can choose arbitrary  $u_0, u_1, \dots, u_k$ . Then for  $k = 1$  we have

$$x_1 = Ax_0 + Bu_0 = Bu_0 \in \text{Im}B .$$

For  $k = 2$  we get

$$x_2 = Ax_1 + Bu_1 = ABu_0 + Bu_1 \in \text{Im}(AB|B) .$$

It is clear, that for every  $k \in \mathbb{N}$

$$x_k \in \text{Im}(A^{k-1}B | \dots | AB | B) .$$

We can observe that

$$\text{Im}(B|AB | \dots | A^k B) \subseteq \text{Im}(B|AB | \dots | A^{k+1} B), \quad \forall k \in \mathbb{N} .$$

By the Cayley–Hamilton theorem we know that  $\chi_A(A) = O_{n \times n}$ . That means, that  $A^n$  can be expressed as a linear combination of matrices  $\{I, A, \dots, A^{n-1}\}$  which implies that  $A^n B$  can be expressed as a linear combination of matrices  $\{B, AB, \dots, A^{n-1}B\}$ . We now see that

$$\text{Im}(B|AB | \dots | A^n B) \subseteq \text{Im}(B|AB | \dots | A^{n-1} B) .$$

It follows

$$\text{Im}(B|AB | \dots | A^{n-1} B) = \text{Im}(B|AB | \dots | A^{n-1} B | A^n B) . \quad (1.1)$$

For an arbitrary  $k \in \mathbb{N}, k > n$  we have

$$A^k B = A^{k-n} A^n B = A^{k-n} \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \alpha_i A^i B = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \alpha_i A^{k-n+i} B \in \text{Im}(B|AB | \dots | A^{k-1} B) ,$$

for some  $\alpha_0, \dots, \alpha_{n-1} \in \mathbb{K}$ . Therefore, it holds

$$\text{Im}(B|AB | \dots | A^k B) = \text{Im}(B|AB | \dots | A^{n-1} B) ,$$

and all the states we could reach in time  $k$  are already in the space

$$\text{Im}(B|AB | \dots | A^{n-1} B) .$$

**Definition.** Let  $\mathbb{K}$  be a field and let  $A \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times n}$ ,  $B \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times m}$ ,  $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$ . We define **reachable space**  $\mathcal{R}(A, B)$  of the pair  $(A, B)$  as  $\text{Im}(B|AB | \dots | A^{n-1} B)$ .

We have seen that by left multiplying  $\mathcal{R}(A, B)$  by  $A$ , we get a subspace which is already included in  $\mathcal{R}(A, B)$ . This leads to an important property of some subspaces.

**Definition.** Let  $V$  be a vector space,  $W$  be its subspace and let  $f$  be a mapping from  $V$  to  $V$ . We call  $W$  an **invariant subspace** of  $f$  if  $f(W) \subseteq W$ .

We also say that  $W$  is  **$f$ -invariant**. When  $f = f_A$  for some matrix  $A$ , we also shortly say that  $W$  is  **$A$ -invariant**.

*Remark.*  $\mathcal{R}(A, B)$  is an  $A$ -invariant subspace.

The maximum dimension of  $\mathcal{R}(A, B)$  is, of course,  $n$ . This leads us to important property of pair  $(A, B)$ , where we want to be able to get the system into any state in state space by controlling it with our control  $u$ , i.e., choosing appropriate  $u_k, k \in \{0, \dots, n-1\}$ . Therefore, we desire that  $\mathcal{R}(A, B) = \mathbb{K}^n$ . The equivalent condition is  $\dim \mathcal{R}(A, B) = n$ .

**Definition.** Let  $\mathbb{K}$  be a field and let  $A \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times n}$ ,  $B \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times m}$ ,  $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$ . The pair  $(A, B)$  is **controllable** if  $\dim \mathcal{R}(A, B) = n$ .

### 1.2.2 Continuous-time systems

*Remark.* In this section we assume, that  $\mathbb{K}$  is a field of either real or complex numbers and that  $A \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times n}$ ,  $B \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times m}$ .

We will now show that the condition for controllability of *discrete-time systems* also characterizes controllable *continuous-time systems*. For this we have to express solution of such system using matrices  $A^i B$  for  $i \in \mathbb{N}_0$ .

We utilize matrix exponential in solving system of inhomogeneous linear system  $\dot{x}(t) = Ax(t) + Bu(t)$ . By left multiplying it by  $e^{-tA}$  we get

$$\begin{aligned} e^{-tA} \dot{x}(t) - e^{-tA} Ax(t) &= e^{-tA} Bu(t) \\ \frac{d}{dt}(e^{-tA} x(t)) &= e^{-tA} Bu(t) . \end{aligned}$$

Note, we used  $-AA = A(-A) \Rightarrow e^{-tA} A = A e^{-tA}$  from Lemma 5. After integrating both sides with respect to  $t$  on interval  $(t_0, t_1)$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} [e^{-tA} x(t)]_{t_0}^{t_1} &= \int_{t_0}^{t_1} e^{-tA} Bu(t) dt \\ e^{-t_1 A} x(t_1) - e^{-t_0 A} x(t_0) &= \int_{t_0}^{t_1} e^{-tA} Bu(t) dt \\ x(t_1) &= e^{(t_1-t_0)A} x(t_0) + \int_{t_0}^{t_1} e^{(t_1-t)A} Bu(t) dt . \end{aligned}$$

Now it is clear that in system where  $x(0) = o$  can every state in time  $t \in \mathbb{R}^+$  be expressed as

$$x(t) = \int_0^t e^{(t-s)A} Bu(s) ds . \quad (1.2)$$

**Definition.** We say that a state  $x \in \mathbb{K}^n$  can be **reached in the time  $t$** , if there exists a control  $u(x): [0, t] \rightarrow \mathbb{K}^m$  such that

$$x = \int_0^t e^{(t-s)A} Bu(s) ds .$$

The set of all states that can be reached in the time  $t$  is denoted by  $\mathcal{R}^t$ . The set  $\mathcal{R} = \cup_{t \in \mathbb{R}^+} \mathcal{R}^t$  of all states that can be reached, is called a **reachable space**.



**Definition.** A  $n$ -dimensional continuous-time linear system is **controllable**, if  $\mathcal{R} = \mathbb{K}^n$ .

**Theorem 2.** The  $n$ -dimensional continuous-time linear system is controllable if and only if  $\dim \mathcal{R}(A, B) = n$ .

*Proof.* From the discussion above we have

$$x(t) = \int_0^t e^{(t-s)A} B u(s) ds = \int_0^t \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(t-s)^k}{k!} A^k B u(s) ds .$$

The  $n$ -dimensional vector  $w^{(k)}(s) = A^k B u(s)$  has elements

$$w_i^{(k)}(s) = \sum_{j=1}^m \alpha_{i,j}^{(k)} u_j(s) ,$$

where  $\alpha_{i,j}^{(k)}$  is the element of the matrix  $A^k B$  on the position  $(i, j)$ . Therefore, the elements of  $x(t)$  are

$$x_i(t) = \int_0^t \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(t-s)^k}{k!} w_i^{(k)}(s) ds = \int_0^t \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=1}^m \frac{(t-s)^k}{k!} \alpha_{i,j}^{(k)} u_j(s) ds .$$

Now, in order to be able to modify this expression, we will prove that the series  $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(t-s)^k}{k!} \alpha_{i,j}^{(k)} u_j(s)$  is absolutely convergent for every position  $(i, j)$ . This follows from the fact that for any  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  by Lemma 2 we have

$$\sum_{k=0}^N \left| \frac{(t-s)^k}{k!} \alpha_{i,j}^{(k)} u_j(s) \right| \leq \sum_{k=0}^N \frac{|t-s|^k}{k!} |\alpha_{i,j}^{(k)}| |u_j(s)| \leq |u_j(s)| \|B\|_F \sum_{k=0}^N \frac{\|(t-s)A\|_F^k}{k!} .$$

This gives us

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left| \frac{(t-s)^k}{k!} \alpha_{i,j}^{(k)} u_j(s) \right| = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=0}^N \left| \frac{(t-s)^k}{k!} \alpha_{i,j}^{(k)} u_j(s) \right| \leq |u_j(s)| \|B\|_F e^{\|(t-s)A\|_F} .$$

Because of the absolute convergence, we can now swap the integral and the series:

$$\begin{aligned} x_i(t) &= \int_0^t \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=1}^m \frac{(t-s)^k}{k!} \alpha_{i,j}^{(k)} u_j(s) ds = \int_0^t \sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(t-s)^k}{k!} \alpha_{i,j}^{(k)} u_j(s) ds \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^m \int_0^t \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(t-s)^k}{k!} \alpha_{i,j}^{(k)} u_j(s) ds = \sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \int_0^t \frac{(t-s)^k}{k!} \alpha_{i,j}^{(k)} u_j(s) ds \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \alpha_{i,j}^{(k)} \int_0^t \frac{(t-s)^k}{k!} u_j(s) ds = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=1}^m \alpha_{i,j}^{(k)} \int_0^t \frac{(t-s)^k}{k!} u_j(s) ds \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=1}^m \frac{\alpha_{i,j}^{(k)}}{k!} v_j^{(k)}(t) , \end{aligned}$$

where  $v^{(k)}(t) = \int_0^t (t-s)^k u(s) ds$  is a vector of length  $m$ . Therefore, we have

$$x(t) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} A^k B v^{(k)}(t) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} A^k B \int_0^t (t-s)^k u(s) ds .$$

By the Cayley-Hamilton theorem it then holds

$$x(t) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{i!} A^i B v^{(i)}(t) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \frac{1}{i!} \alpha_{i,j} A^j B v^{(i)}(t) = \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{i!} \alpha_{i,j} A^j B v^{(i)}(t) .$$

The third equality follows from the absolute convergence of the resulting series. This can be shown in a similar way as above.

Now it is clear that

$$x(t) \in \text{Im}(B|AB| \dots |A^{n-1}B) = \mathcal{R}(A, B) .$$

If the system is controllable then  $x(t)$  can be equal to any of the vectors of an arbitrary basis of  $\mathbb{K}^n$ . Therefore, we know that  $n$  linearly independent vectors belong into  $\mathcal{R}(A, B)$ , and naturally it follows  $\dim \mathcal{R}(A, B) = n$ .

The “if” part of the proof is adapted from Sontag [1998], Theorem 3.

Conversely, if controllability fails, then there exists a non-trivial complement  $\mathcal{S}$  to the reachable space  $\mathcal{R}$ . For any time  $t \in \mathbb{R}^+$  and any vector  $\rho \in \mathcal{S}$  it holds  $\rho^T x(t) = 0$ . Let us put  $\tau = \rho^T$ . By choosing the control  $u(t) = B^* e^{(t-s)A^*} \tau^*$  on the interval  $[0, t]$ , where “\*” indicates conjugate transpose, we get by equation (1.2)

$$0 = \tau x(t) = \int_0^t \tau e^{(t-s)A} B B^* e^{(t-s)A^*} \tau^* ds = \int_0^t \|B^* e^{(t-s)A^*} \tau^*\|^2 .$$

This implies that the norm

$$0 = \|B^* e^{(t-s)A^*} \tau^*\|^2 = \|\tau e^{(t-s)A} B\|^2$$

and hence

$$0 = \tau e^{(t-s)A} B = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(t-s)^k}{k!} \tau A^k B$$

which by similar usage of Cayley-Hamilton as above implies that there exists a vector  $\rho$  perpendicular on  $\mathcal{R}(A, B)$  and therefore  $\dim \mathcal{R}(A, B)$  cannot be equal to  $n$ .  $\square$

### 1.2.3 Decomposition theorem

**Lemma 7.** *Let  $W$  be an invariant subspace of linear mapping  $f: V \rightarrow V$ . Then there exists a basis  $C$  of  $V$  such that*

$$[f]_C^C = \begin{pmatrix} F_1 & F_2 \\ 0 & F_3 \end{pmatrix} ,$$

where  $F_1$  is  $r \times r$ ,  $r = \dim W$ .

*Proof.* Let  $(w_1, \dots, w_r)$  be an arbitrary basis of the subspace  $W$ . We complete this sequence into basis  $C$  of  $V$  with vectors  $v_1, \dots, v_{n-r}$  where  $n = \dim V$ , thus  $C = (w_1, \dots, w_r, v_1, \dots, v_{n-r})$ . We know that

$$[f]_C^C = ([f(w_1)]_C, \dots, [f(w_r)]_C, [f(v_1)]_C, \dots, [f(v_{n-r})]_C) .$$

Since  $W$  is an  $A$ -invariant subspace, it holds that  $f(w_i) \in W$  and therefore, because of our choice of the basis  $C$ , the matrix  $[f]_C^C$  is of the desired form.  $\square$

If  $(A, B)$  is not controllable, then there exists a part of the state space that is not affected by the input. This can be shown using the following theorem.

**Theorem 3.** *Let  $(A, B)$  represent a dynamical system and let  $\dim \mathcal{R}(A, B) = r \leq n$ . Then there exists invertible  $n \times n$  matrix  $T$  over  $\mathbb{K}$  such that the matrices  $\tilde{A} := T^{-1}AT$  and  $\tilde{B} := T^{-1}B$  have the block structure*

$$\tilde{A} = \begin{pmatrix} A_1 & A_2 \\ 0 & A_3 \end{pmatrix} \quad \tilde{B} = \begin{pmatrix} B_1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (1.3)$$

where  $A_1 \in \mathbb{K}^{r \times r}$  and  $B_1 \in \mathbb{K}^{r \times m}$ .

*Proof.* We know that  $\mathcal{R}(A, B)$  is an  $A$ -invariant subspace (Remark 1.2.1). Using Lemma 7 on the matrix mapping  $f_A$  we get a basis  $C$  for which it holds that

$$[f_A]_C^C = [\text{id}]_C^K [f_A]_K^K [\text{id}]_K^C = [\text{id}]_C^K A [\text{id}]_K^C$$

is in a block triangular form. By putting  $T = [\text{id}]_K^C = C$  we get that  $\tilde{A} = [f_A]_C^C$  is now in the desired form.

Consider now matrix mapping  $f_B$ . We have

$$\tilde{B} = TB = [\text{id}]_C^{K_n} [f_B]_{K_n}^{K_m} = [f_B]_C^{K_m} = ([f_B(e_1)]_C, \dots, [f_B(e_m)]_C).$$

Since  $f_B(e_i)$  is  $i$ -th column of matrix  $B$  and trivially by definition of a reachable space it holds  $\text{Im}(B) \subseteq \mathcal{R}(A, B)$ , we see that  $\tilde{B}$  is in the requested form.  $\square$

We achieved the new form of matrices  $A$  and  $B$  by changing the basis of our state space. We now define the relation between  $(A, B)$  and  $(\tilde{A}, \tilde{B})$ .

**Definition.** *Let  $(A, B)$  and  $(\tilde{A}, \tilde{B})$  be pairs as in Theorem 3 above. Then  $(A, B)$  is similar to  $(\tilde{A}, \tilde{B})$ , denoted  $(A, B) \sim (\tilde{A}, \tilde{B})$ , if there exists an invertible matrix  $T$  for which it holds that*

$$\tilde{A} = T^{-1}AT \quad \text{and} \quad \tilde{B} = T^{-1}B.$$

**Lemma 8.** *Let  $A$  and  $B$  be similar matrices, that is, there exists an invertible matrix  $R$  such that  $A = R^{-1}BR$ . Then  $\chi_A = \chi_B$ .*

*Proof.* We will use properties of the matrix determinant:

$$\begin{aligned} \chi_A &= \det(sI - A) = \det(sI - R^{-1}BR) \\ &= \det(sR^{-1}IR - R^{-1}BR) = \det(R^{-1}(sI - B)R) \\ &= (\det R)^{-1} \det(sI - B) \det R = \det(sI - B) \\ &= \chi_B. \end{aligned}$$

$\square$

**Lemma 9.** *If  $(A, B) \sim (\tilde{A}, \tilde{B})$ , then the assignable polynomials for the pairs  $(A, B)$  and  $(\tilde{A}, \tilde{B})$  are the same.*

*Proof.* Let  $T$  be a regular matrix over  $\mathbb{K}$  such that  $\tilde{A} = T^{-1}AT$  and  $\tilde{B} = T^{-1}B$ . Then for any feedback matrix  $F$  we have

$$T^{-1}(A + BF)T = T^{-1}ATT^{-1}BFT = \tilde{A} + \tilde{B}\tilde{F} ,$$

where  $\tilde{F} = FT$ . It follows from Lemma 8 that

$$\chi_{A+BF} = \chi_{\tilde{A}+\tilde{B}\tilde{F}} .$$

□

Theorem 3 has the following interesting consequence. Let  $(A, B)$  be a dynamical system with initial condition  $x(0) = o$ , and let  $T$  be a regular matrix over  $\mathbb{K}$  as in Theorem 3. By changing the basis by putting  $x(t) = Ty(t)$  we get

$$T\dot{y}(t) = ATy(t) + Bu(t) ,$$

which we can rewrite as

$$\dot{y}(t) = T^{-1}ATy(t) + T^{-1}Bu(t) = \tilde{A}y(t) + \tilde{B}u(t) .$$

This gives us

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{y}_1(t) &= A_1y_1(t) + A_2y_2(t) + B_1u(t) \\ \dot{y}_2(t) &= A_3y_2(t) \end{aligned} ,$$

where  $y(t) = (y_1(t), y_2(t))^T$ ,  $y_1(t) \in \mathbb{K}^r$ ,  $y_2(t) \in \mathbb{K}^{n-r}$ . The component  $\dot{y}_2(t)$  cannot be controlled and it is, for the initial condition  $y(0) = Tx(0) = o$ , always equal to  $o$ , since it does not depend on the control vector  $u(t)$ .

It is also true that the system  $(A_1, B_1)$  from Theorem 3 is a controllable pair, which we will state as a lemma.

**Lemma 10.** *The pair  $(A_1, B_1)$  is controllable.*

*Proof.* We know that  $\dim \mathcal{R}(A, B) = r$ . We desire  $\dim \mathcal{R}(A_1, B_1) = r$ . We will show that  $\mathcal{R}(\tilde{A}, \tilde{B}) = \mathcal{R}(A, B)$  and that each vector in  $\mathcal{R}(\tilde{A}, \tilde{B})$  has its last  $n - r$  elements equal to 0 and that  $\mathcal{R}(\tilde{A}, \tilde{B})$  restricted on its first  $r$  coordinates is equal to  $\mathcal{R}(A_1, B_1)$ . First, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{R}(\tilde{A}, \tilde{B}) &= \text{Im}(\tilde{A}^{n-1}\tilde{B} | \dots | \tilde{A}\tilde{B} | \tilde{B}) \\ &= \text{Im}((T^{-1}AT)^{n-1}T^{-1}B | \dots | T^{-1}ATT^{-1}B | T^{-1}B) \\ &= \text{Im}(T^{-1}A^{n-1}B | \dots | T^{-1}AB | T^{-1}B) \\ &= \{(T^{-1}A^{n-1}B | \dots | T^{-1}AB | T^{-1}B) \cdot v | v \in \mathbb{K}^{n \cdot m}\} \\ &= \{T^{-1}(A^{n-1}B | \dots | AB | B) \cdot v | v \in \mathbb{K}^{n \cdot m}\} \\ &= T^{-1} \cdot \{(A^{n-1}B | \dots | AB | B) \cdot v | v \in \mathbb{K}^{n \cdot m}\} \\ &= T^{-1} \cdot (\text{Im}(A^{n-1}B | \dots | AB | B)) \\ &= T^{-1} \cdot (\mathcal{R}(A, B)) , \end{aligned}$$

where the mapping  $\cdot : \mathbb{K}^{n \times m} \times V \rightarrow W$ , where  $V, W$  are vector spaces, is defined as  $A \cdot V = \{Av | v \in V\}$ . Since  $T$  is an invertible matrix, which preserves linear independence, we have

$$\dim \mathcal{R}(\tilde{A}, \tilde{B}) = \dim(T^{-1}\mathcal{R}(A, B)) = \dim(\mathcal{R}(A, B)) = r .$$

Now let us focus on the structure of  $\mathcal{R}(\tilde{A}, \tilde{B})$ . We know that the last  $n-r$  rows of  $\tilde{B}$  are  $o$ . Also, because of structure of  $\tilde{A}$ , for an arbitrary matrix  $X \in \mathbb{K}^{r \times m}$  we have that

$$\tilde{A} \begin{pmatrix} X \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} A_1 & A_2 \\ 0 & A_3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} X \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} A_1 X \\ 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

where again are the last  $n-r$  rows equal to  $o$ . Therefore, for any positive integer  $k$  we have

$$\tilde{A}^k \tilde{B} = \begin{pmatrix} A_1^k B_1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, A_1^k B_1 \in \mathbb{K}^{r \times r}.$$

It follows

$$\mathcal{R}(\tilde{A}, \tilde{B}) = \left( \begin{pmatrix} A_1^{n-1} B_1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \middle| \cdots \middle| \begin{pmatrix} A_1 B_1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \middle| \begin{pmatrix} B_1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right).$$

By Cayley–Hamilton theorem we therefore again have that the restriction to first  $r$  coordinates (those which are not 0) of  $\mathcal{R}(\tilde{A}, \tilde{B})$  are equal to  $\mathcal{R}(A_1, B_1)$ . Finally, it follows that

$$\dim \mathcal{R}(A_1, B_1) = \dim \mathcal{R}(\tilde{A}, \tilde{B}) = \dim \mathcal{R}(A, B) = r.$$

□

Now we can see that the decomposition described in Theorem 3 decomposes the matrix  $A$  into the “controllable” and the “uncontrollable” parts  $A_1$  and  $A_3$  respectively.

*Corollary 2.* Let  $(A, B)$  be a dynamical system, and let  $T$  be a regular matrix and  $\tilde{A} = T^{-1}AT$  as in Theorem 3. Then it holds

$$\chi_A = \chi_{\tilde{A}} = \chi_{A_1} \chi_{A_3} = \chi_c \chi_u.$$

*Proof.* Follows from Theorem 3 and Lemma 8. □

**Definition.** The polynomials  $\chi_c$  and  $\chi_u$  are respectively the **controllable** and the **uncontrollable parts** of the characteristic polynomial  $\chi_A$  with respect to the pair  $(A, B)$ . In case  $r = 0$  we put  $\chi_c = 1$  and in case  $r = n$  we put  $\chi_u = 1$ .

For this definition to be correct, we need to show that polynomials  $\chi_{A_1}$  and  $\chi_{A_3}$  are not dependent on the choice of the regular matrix  $T$  from Theorem 3. Since  $\chi_{A_3} = \chi_A / \chi_{A_1}$ , it is sufficient only to show that  $\chi_{A_1}$  is independent of the choice.

**Lemma 11.**  $\chi_c$  is independent of the choice of the basis for  $\mathcal{R}(A, B)$ .

*Proof.* By definition we have  $\chi_c = \chi_{A_1}$  where  $A_1$  is some matrix for a specific decomposition of matrix  $A$  thanks to basis  $C$  used in a proof of Theorem 3. Consider different basis  $D$  which suffices the conditions from the said proof. Then we obtain a similar matrix  $\tilde{B} = [id]_D^K A [id]_K^D$ . We denote the  $r \times r$  matrix in the top left corner of  $\tilde{B}$  by  $B_1$ . We want to show  $\chi_{A_1} = \chi_{B_1}$ .

Let us have matrices

$$A' = \begin{pmatrix} A_1 & 0 \\ 0 & I_{n-r} \end{pmatrix} \quad A'' = \begin{pmatrix} B_1 & 0 \\ 0 & I_{n-r} \end{pmatrix}$$

It holds

$$\chi_{A'}(s) = \chi_{A_1} \cdot s^n \quad \chi_{A''}(s) = \chi_{B_1} \cdot s^n$$

Therefore, it is sufficient to prove  $\chi_{A'} = \chi_{A''}$  which according to Lemma 8 holds if  $A'$  and  $A''$  are similar. Since  $A' =$  □

## 2. The Pole Shifting Theorem

The following chapter is based on the fifth chapter of Sontag [1998].

**Definition.** The **controller form** associated to the pair  $(A, b)$  is the pair

$$A^b = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 \\ \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1 \\ \alpha_1 & \alpha_2 & \alpha_3 & \cdots & \alpha_n \end{pmatrix}, \quad b^b = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $s^n - \alpha_n s^{n-1} - \cdots - \alpha_2 s - \alpha_1$  is the characteristic polynomial of  $A$ .

**Lemma 12.** The characteristic polynomial of  $A^b$  is  $s^n - \alpha_n s^{n-1} - \cdots - \alpha_2 s - \alpha_1$ .

*Proof.* Can be shown using simple properties of the matrix determinant.  $\square$

**Lemma 13.** The pair  $(A^b, b^b)$  is controllable.

*Proof.* Because of the form of the matrix  $A^b$  and  $b^b$  is  $(A^b)^k b^b$  equal to the last column of  $(A^b)^k$  which creates vectors of form

$$(0 \ 0 \ \cdots \ 0 \ 1 \ \beta_{k-1} \ \cdots \ \beta_1)^T$$

for some  $\beta_1, \dots, \beta_{k-1} \in \mathbb{K}$ . Therefore  $\mathcal{R}(A^b, b^b) = n$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 14.** Let  $\mathbb{K}$  be a field and let  $A_1, A_2 \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times n}$ ,  $b_1, b_2 \in \mathbb{K}^n$ , such that the pairs  $(A_1, b_1), (A_2, b_2)$  are controllable. The pairs  $(A_1, b_1), (A_2, b_2)$  are similar if and only if characteristic polynomials of  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  are the same.

*Proof.* TODO  $\square$

**Corollary 3.** If the **single-input** ( $m = 1$ ) pair  $(A, b)$  is controllable, then it is similar to its controller form.

*Proof.* Follows from Lemmas 12, 13 and 14.  $\square$

**Theorem 4.** Let  $\mathbb{K}$  be a field. Let  $A \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times n}$ ,  $B \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times m}$ . The assignable polynomials for the pair  $(A, B)$  are precisely of the form

$$\chi_{AB+F} = \chi \chi_u$$

where  $\chi$  is an arbitrary monic polynomial of degree  $r = \dim \mathcal{R}(A, B)$  and  $\chi_u$  is the uncontrollable part of the assignable polynomial.

In particular, the pair  $(A, B)$  is controllable if and only if every  $n$ th degree monic polynomial can be assigned to it.

*Proof.* By Theorem 3 and Lemma 9 we can assume that the pair  $(A, B)$  is in the same form as  $(\tilde{A}, \tilde{B})$  in (1.3). Let us write  $F = (F_1, F_2) \in \mathbb{K}^{m \times n}$ , where  $F_1 \in \mathbb{K}^{m \times r}$ ,  $F_2 \in \mathbb{K}^{m \times (n-r)}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} A + BF &= \begin{pmatrix} A_1 & A_2 \\ 0 & A_3 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} B_1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} (F_1 \ F_2) = \begin{pmatrix} A_1 & A_2 \\ 0 & A_3 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} B_1 F_1 & B_1 F_2 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} A_1 + B_1 F_1 & A_2 + B_1 F_2 \\ 0 & A_3 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

It follows

$$\chi_{A+BF} = \chi_{A_1+B_1 F_1} \chi_{A_3} = \chi_{A_1+B_1 F_1} \chi_u$$

We see that any assignable polynomial is a multiple of the uncontrollable part  $\chi_u$ .

Conversely, we want to show that the first factor can be made arbitrary by a suitable choice of  $F_1$ . This does make sense only for  $r > 0$ , otherwise the assignable polynomial is equal to  $\chi_u$ , which cannot be changed by modifying the matrix  $F$ . Assume that we are given a monic polynomial  $\chi$ . If we find such a matrix  $F_1$  that

$$\chi_{A_1+B_1 F_1} = \chi$$

then by putting  $F = (F_1, 0)$  we get the desired characteristic polynomial, that is,  $\chi_{A+BF} = \chi \chi_u$ . Since the pair  $(A_1, B_1)$  is controllable as shown in Lemma 10, it is sufficient only to prove that controllable systems can be assigned an arbitrary monic polynomial  $\chi$  or respective degree. Therefore, from this point on, we assume that the pair  $(A, B)$  is controllable.

We will first prove the theorem for the case  $m = 1$  and then we will express a general case as the case  $m = 1$ . That will conclude the proof.

Let  $m = 1$ . By Lemmas 9 and 10 we can consider the pair  $(A, b)$  to be in the controller form. For a vector

$$f = (f_1 \ f_2 \ \dots \ f_n)$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} A + bf &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \\ \alpha_1 & \alpha_2 & \alpha_3 & \dots & \alpha_n \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} (f_1 \ f_2 \ \dots \ f_n) \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \\ \alpha_1 + f_1 & \alpha_2 + f_2 & \alpha_3 + f_3 & \dots & \alpha_n + f_n \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

One can see that given a monic polynomial

$$\chi = s^n - \beta_n s^{n-1} - \dots - \beta_2 s - \beta_1,$$

we can choose

$$f = \begin{pmatrix} \beta_1 - \alpha_1 & \beta_2 - \alpha_2 & \dots & \beta_n - \alpha_n \end{pmatrix} ,$$

and then it holds  $\chi_{A+bf} = \chi$ . We have shown that for the case  $m = 1$ , a controllable pair  $(A, b)$  can be assigned an arbitrary monic polynomial of degree  $n$ .

For a general case, where  $m$  is arbitrary, we choose any vector  $v \in \mathbb{K}^m$  such that  $Bv \neq o$ , and let  $b = Bv$ . We will use the fact that a pair  $(A + BG, b)$  can be assigned the same polynomials as a pair  $(A, B)$ , because for any  $f \in \mathbb{K}^{1 \times n}$  it holds

$$A + BG + bf = A + BG + Bvf = A + B(G + vf)$$

and therefore, for  $F = G + vf$  we have

$$\chi_{A+BG+bf} = \chi_{A+BF} .$$

Using the result for  $m = 1$ , the proof will be concluded by showing that the pair  $(A + BG, b)$  is controllable.

Let us have an arbitrary sequence of linearly independent vectors  $\{Bv = x_1, \dots, x_k\}$ ,  $x_i \in \mathbb{K}^n$ , where

$$x_i = Ax_{i-1} + Bu_{i-1}, \quad i \in \{1, \dots, k\} \quad (2.1)$$

for some  $u_i \in \mathbb{K}^m$ , and  $x_0 = o$ . Consider  $k$  to be as large as possible. We denote  $\mathcal{V} = \text{Im}(x_1, \dots, x_k)$ . By maximality of  $k$  we have  $x_{k+1} \in \mathcal{V}$ , which implies that

$$Ax_k + Bu = x_{k+1} \in \mathcal{V} \quad (2.2)$$

for any  $u \in \mathbb{K}^m$ . Therefore, in particular for  $u = o$ , we get

$$Ax_k \in \mathcal{V} . \quad (2.3)$$

It follows by (2.2) and (2.3) and the maximality of  $k$ , that for any  $u \in \mathbb{K}^m$  it holds

$$Bu = x_{k+1} - Ax_k \in \mathcal{V} ,$$

which implies that the column space  $\mathcal{B} = \text{Im}B$  is included in  $\mathcal{V}$ . Following from this and the equality (2.1), we have

$$Ax_{i-1} = x_i - Bu_{i-1} \in \mathcal{V}$$

for  $i \in \{1, \dots, k\}$ . This result together with the equation (2.3) shows that for any  $i \in \{1, \dots, k\}$  it is true  $Ax_i \in \mathcal{V}$ . This means, that  $\mathcal{V}$  is an  $A$ -invariant subspace containing  $\mathcal{B}$ . Using these two facts and the fact that for any two matrices  $A_{n \times m}, B_{m \times o}$  it holds  $A(\text{Im}(B)) = \{Av | v \in \text{Im}(B)\} = \text{Im}(AB)$ , one can then construct a sequence

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{B} &\subseteq \mathcal{V} \\ A\mathcal{B} &\subseteq A\mathcal{V} \subseteq \mathcal{V} \\ A^2\mathcal{B} &\subseteq A(A\mathcal{V}) \subseteq \mathcal{V} \\ &\vdots \\ A^k\mathcal{B} &\subseteq \mathcal{V} . \end{aligned}$$



We can now see

$$\mathcal{V} \supseteq \text{Im}(B|AB|A^2B|\dots|A^k B) = \mathcal{R}(A, B) .$$

Using this relation, we observe that

$$\dim \mathcal{R}(A, B) \leq \dim \mathcal{V} = k \leq \dim \mathbb{K}^n = n .$$

Since the pair  $(A, B)$  is by the assumption controllable (meaning  $\dim \mathcal{R}(A, B) = n$ ) we arrive at conclusion  $n = k$ .

Finally, we need to show that

$$\dim \mathcal{R}(A + BG, x_1) = n .$$

Let us define a linear mapping  $g: \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$  by equation  $g(x_i) = u_i$ . This definition is correct and unique since the vectors  $v_i$  form a basis for  $\mathcal{V}$  (see Barto and Tůma [2019]). Let  $G$  be the matrix of the linear mapping  $g$ . Then for every  $i \in \{1, \dots, k = n\}$  we have

$$(A + BG)x_i = Ax_i + BGx_i = Ax_i + Bu_i = x_{i+1} .$$

It follows

$$\mathcal{R}(A + BG, x_1) = \text{Im}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) .$$

Finally, by linear independence of the vectors  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ , it is proved that  $\dim \mathcal{R}(A + BG, x_1) = n$ . We have shown that the pair  $\mathcal{R}(A + BG, Bv)$  is controllable, and thus the proof is concluded.  $\square$

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