# HÖHERE LEHRANSTALT FÜR ELEKTROTECHNIK



# COMA Control Engineering with Maxima

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#### 1 Introduction

#### 1.1 Notions

**Maxima:** Open-Source descendant of the computeralgebra-system *Macsyma*, which initially was developed 1967–1982 at the MIT by order of the US Department of Energy. 1989 a version of Macsyma was published with the name *Maxima* under the *GNU General Public Licence*, which is now being developed further by an independent group of users. Maxima is written in Lisp and contains many aspects of functional programming.

Due to its power and free availability there is no reason to use it *not*.

**wxMaxima:** One of several graphical user interfaces for Maxima. It enables input and editing expressions in a working window, as well as the documenting calculations with text and images. Maxima outputs results and (on demand) graphics into that working window.

Working sessions can be saved, loaded and re-executed; the most common commands are accessible via menus and control buttons (for notorious mouse-clickers). Working sessions can be exported as HTML or as LTEX-file. On exporting to HTML, every Maxima-output will be saved as a particular GIF-graphic. Export to LTEX may require some corrections by hand of the resulting TEX-file.

On installing Maxima, wxMaxima is automatically installed as the standard user interface.

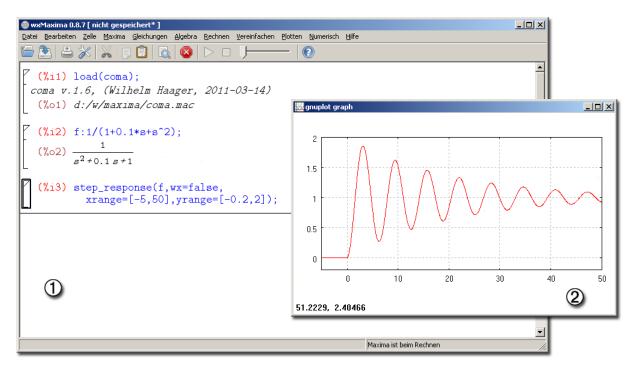
#### **COMA** (*COntrol engineering with MAxima*):

Control engineering package for Maxima, it comprises basic methods for sytem analysis in time-, frequency- and Laplace-domain, controller design, as well as state space methods (under development)

- Inverse Laplace-transform of transfer functions of arbitrary order (the built-in function ilt in general fails at orders higher than two).
- Unit step responses
- Nyquist diagrams and Bode plots
- Poles and Zeros, root locus plots
- Stability investigations: stability limit, Hurwitz criterion, stable regions in the parameter plane, phase margin, gain margin
- Optimization and controller design: ISE-criterion (integral of squared error), gain optimum
- State space: Conversion into a transfer function, canonical forms, controllability, observability

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#### 1.2 wxMaxima User Interface



- ① ... Working window for input and output
- ② ... Gnuplot output window

## 1.3 Basic Concepts of the Package COMA

- The Laplace variable is considered to be always s, the time variable always t; in functions concerning the frequency response, the angular frequency is  $\omega$ . In frequency responses s is automatically replaced by  $j\omega$ . Transfer functions are rational functions in the variable s, time delays are not supported, they can be approximated by Padé approximations.
- All functions, which take a transfer function as a parameter, can also take (without explicit notice) a *list* of transfer functions as a parameter; in that case the result will also be a list, of which the elements correspond to the particular transfer functions. That is particularly important in graphics, where a couple of curves shall be drawn into a single diagram.
   The list to be plotted need not have only *functions* (transfer functions), but can also con
  - tain graphic objects of the Gnuplot interface *Draw* (explicit, parametric, implicit, polar, points, polygon, rectangle, ellipse, label). Thus diagrams can be provided with labels, legends and other graphical elements; furthermore a direct comparison with measured values is possible.
- Additional to the plotted functions, all plot routines can have optional parameters in the form *option* = *value*, which allow to adapt the graphic with respect to colors, line widths, scale, graphic type, output, etc.

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#### 2 Plot Routines

Maxima uses the program *Gnuplot* [2] for drawing graphics, which is called at the generation of the graphic. Herein the graphic is drawn either in a seperate Gnuplot window (when calling the routines plot2d, plot3d,...) or directly inot the wxMaxima working window (when calling the routines wxplot2d, wxplot3d,...).

Two different Gnuplot interfaces exist, the standard functions of Maxima with the radical plot in the names of the routines, as well as the functions of the package *Draw* with the radical draw in the names of the routines.

The plot routines of *COMA* don't use the standard functions of Maxima (plot2d, plot3d, wxplot2d, wxplot3d), but the functions of the additional package *Draw* (draw2d, draw3d, wxdraw2d und wxdraw3d), [1], chapter 48. Those functions are a little bit more complicated in their application, but they offer much more possibilities to datapt the graphics according to special requirments by the use of options.

All plot routines take as parameter a single function or *list* of functions, additional optional parameters have the form *option=value*.

## 2.1 Options of the Gnuplot-Interface Draw

```
terminal=target output target, possible values: screen (default), jpg,
                             png, eps, eps_color
          file_name=string
                           name of the output file, default: maxima_outext
                   color=c plot color
            line_width=w linewidth
          xrange=[x1,x2]
                            plot range in x-direction
          yrange=[y1,y2]
                            plot range in y-direction
           zrange=[z1,z2]
                            plot range in z-direction
         logx=true/false
                            logarithmic scale of the x-axis
         logy=true/false
                            logarithmic scale of the y-axis
         logz=true/false logarithmic scale of the z-axis
         grid=true/false
                           inclusion of grid lines
   enhanced3d=true/false
                           coloring of surfaces in 3D-plots
                            width and height of the graphic
dimensions=[width, height]
```

Important options of the Gnuplot-interface Draw

A complete list of the options can be found in the Maxima manual [1].

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#### 2.2 Additional Options of COMA

```
determines the output:
true ... output into the wxMaxima working window
false ... output into a seperate Gnuplot window
ratio height/width of the diagram; the value -1 results
in same scale of the x-axis and the y-axis

color=[c1,c2,...] list of colors, which are applied for the particular
elements to be plotted respectively

line_width=[w1,w2,...] list of linewidths, applied to the elements respectively

:

Global variable:

plot_defaults list containing options in the form option=value
```

Additional options of COMA

The variable plot\_defaults is a list containing default values for settings in the form of key-value pairs. Contrary to the list draw\_defaults of the Gnuplot-interface *Draw* plot\_defaults can contain also othe options, which are *not* part of *Draw*.

#### **2.3 Plot**

The function plot performs a two-dimensional depiction of functions f(x) in one variable or a three-dimensional depiction of functions f(x, y) in two variables.

```
plot (f(x), opts) plotting the function f(x) in a two-dimensional coordinate system

plot (f(x,y), opts) plotting the function f(x,y) in 3D-representation

Instead of a single function f, also a list of functions [f_1, f_2, \ldots] can be plotted.
```

Plot routines for 2D und 3D graphics

The functions of the package *Draw* (wxdraw2d, draw2d, wxdraw3d, draw3d) are called internally with appropriate parameters. Thus the (convenient) call of

Each function is preceded with an element of the options color and linewidth, the other options are put in front of the parameter list. The value of the option aspect\_ratio, which does

not exist in the routines of the package *Draw*, is passed to Gnuplot via the option user\_preamble in appropriate form.

List containing default values for the graphics options

(%i1) plot\_defaults;

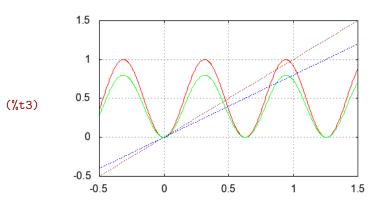
(%o1) [grid=true,dimensions=[440,270],wx=true,
aspect\_ratio=0.6,color=[red,blue,green,goldenrod,
violet,gray50,dark-cyan,dark-orange,sea-green,
dark-pink]]

List of color names

(%i2) col:[red,green,brown,blue];

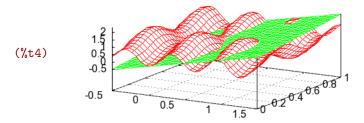
(%o2) [red, green, brown, blue]

Plotting a list of four functions in *one* single variable; internally the function wxdraw2d is called. The names of the variables can be different.



Plotting a list of two functions in *two* variables each; internally the function wxdraw3d is called.

The option surface\_hide=true suppresses hidden lines.



plot evaluates the function to be plotted *f* before points are calculated. In order to evaluate the function for every particular point, it has to be *quoted*. That is especially important e.g. for characteristic values of transfer functions (section 7), which can only be calculated numerically.

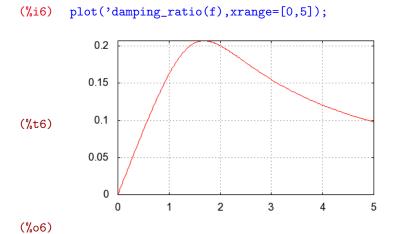
Transfer function with a special dependence of the damping on the parameter a

(%i5)  $f:(s+a)/(s^3+a*s^2+2*s+a);$ 

(%05) 
$$\frac{s+a}{s^3 + a s^2 + 2s + a}$$

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The damping can only be calculated numerically, which requires a to have a fixed value. Thus f has to be quoted to avoid being evaluated too early.



#### 2.4 Contour Lines

The function contourplot draws isolines of a function f(x, y). Contrary to contour\_plot, which is part of Maxima, it uses the Gnuplot interface Draw, like all plot routines of the package COMA. It also has the same options.

contourplot(f(x,y),x,y,opts) Plotting of isolines of the function f(x,y) contours=[z1,z2,...] Determining the function values for the isolines

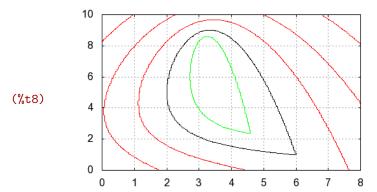
Contour Lines

Transfer function with two parameters a and b

Isolines for the damping in dependence on the parameters a and b, the black line at damping 0 represents the stability limit, green lines represent stable areas, red lines unstable areas.

%i7)  $f:1/(s^5+s^4+6*s^3+a*s^2+b*s+1);$ 

$$\frac{1}{s^5 + s^4 + 6s^3 + as^2 + bs + 1}$$



## 3 Transfer functions

*COMA* provides the following functions for convenient generation of transfer functions, primarily for testing and experimenting:

rantranf(n)	<i>n</i> -th order random transfer function, of wich the numerator and denominator coefficients are numbers between 1 and 10		
${\tt stable\_rantranf}(n)$	Stable random transfer function (only up to 6th order)		
gentranf(c,k,d,n)	$n$ -th order transfer function, (numerator of $k$ -th order) with the numerator coefficients $c_i$ and the denominator coefficients $d_i$		
tranftype(F(s))	Type of the transfer function $F(s)$ as a string		
ntranfp(F(s))	Yields true, if all coefficients of the transfer function $F(s)$ evaluate to numbers.		
$closed_loop(Fo(s))$	Calculation of the closed loop transfer function $F_W(s)$ from the open loop $F_O(s)$		
open_loop(Fw(s))	Calculation of the open loop transfer function $F_O(s)$ from the closed loop $F_W(s)$		
$time_delay(T,n,[k])$	n-th order Padé approximation for a time delay system. The order of the numerator $k$ is optional.		
$impedance\_chain(Z1,Z2,[n])$			
	transfer function of an impedance chain with the impedances $Z1, Z2, \ldots$ and an (optional) repeat factor $n$		
transfer_function(eqs,vars,u			
	Calculation of the transfer function from the equations <i>eqs</i> in the variables <i>vars</i> with the inputs <i>u</i> and the outputs <i>y</i>		
$\mathtt{standard\_form}(F(s),n)$	Transforms the transfer function $F(s)$ into one of four canonical forms, which is determined by $n$		

Generation of transfer cunctions

The function stable\_rantranf(n) searches denominator coefficients randomly between 1 and 10, until a *stable* transfer function is found, which is becoming more difficult at higher orders, at seventh order computing time is increasing heavily. Thus stable\_rantranf is working only for transfer functions up to sixth order.

Higher orders can be attained by multiplication of several lower order transfer functions. However, in that case the coefficients are not confined to the range 1...10 any more.

```
Generation of a list of fourth order
                                                   (%i1) fli:makelist(rantranf(3),k,1,4);
random transfer functions, the orders on
                                                  (%o1) \begin{bmatrix} \frac{6s^2 + 10s + 2}{5s^3 + 6s^2 + 5s + 3}, \frac{7}{s^3 + 6s^2 + 6s + 4}, \\ 10s^2 + 10s + 7, 2s^2 + s + 4 \end{bmatrix}
the numerators are lower, at least by
one.
                                                   8s^3 + 5s^2 + 10s + 1, 7s^3 + 7s^2 + 7s + 10
Stability test of the transfer functions
                                                             stablep(fli);
                                                   (%i2)
(section 7)
                                                   (\%02)
                                                              [true, true, true, false]
Generation of a list of stable random
                                                             fli:makelist(stable_rantranf(3),k,1,4);
                                                  (%i3)
transfer functions
                                                            \begin{bmatrix} \frac{6}{7s^3 + 9s^2 + 10s + 10}, \frac{6s + 7}{5s^3 + 9s^2 + 8s + 4}, \\ 8 & 7s^2 + 7s + 3 \end{bmatrix}
All are stable.
                                                   (%i4) stablep(fli);
                                                   (\%04)
                                                              [true, true, true]
List of transfer functions
                                                   (%i5) fo: [k/s, 5/(s*(s+3)), 1-b/s];
                                                  (%o5) \left[\frac{k}{s}, \frac{5}{s(s+3)}, 1 - \frac{b}{s}\right]
Calculation of the closed loop transfer
                                                  (%i6) fw:closed_loop(fo);
functions
                                                            \left[\frac{k}{s+k}, \frac{5}{s^2+3s+5}, \frac{s-b}{2s-b}\right]
                                                   (%06)
Determining the types of the transfer
                                                             tranftype(fw);
                                                   (%i7)
functions as strings
                                                   (%07)
                                                              [PT1,PT2,PDT1]
Check, whether all coefficients of the
                                                             ntranfp(fw);
                                                   (%i8)
transfer functions evaluate to numbers
                                                  (%08)
                                                              [false, true, false]
Back-calculation to the open loop
                                                  (%i9) open_loop(fw);
transfer functions
                                                  (%09) \left[\frac{k}{s}, \frac{5}{s^2 + 3s}, \frac{s - b}{s}\right]
```

gentranf(a,k,b,n) produces a general transfer function with indexed coefficients in the form

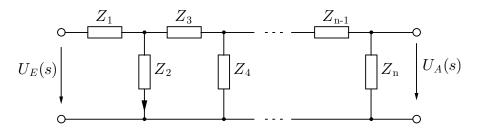
$$\frac{a_0 + a_1 s + a_2 s^2 + \dots + a_k s^k}{b_0 + b_1 s + b_2 s^2 + \dots + b_n s^n}.$$
 transfer function with general coefficients  $a_i$  and  $b_i$  
$$\binom{\text{\%10}}{b_5 s^5 + b_4 s^4 + b_3 s^3 + b_2 s^2 + b_1 s + b_0}$$

Time delay systems have transcendental transfer functions, inverse Laplave transform of control loops containing time delays is not possible analytically in general.

time\_delay(T,n,k) yields a n-th order Padé approximation of a time delay system with the transfer function  $G(s)=e^{-sT}$ . The declaration k of the numerator order is optional, its default is n-1.

Fifth order Padé approximation of the transfer function of a time delay  $G(s) = \exp(-sT)$  (%i11) time\_delay(T,5);  $\frac{5s^4T^4 - 120s^3T^3 + 1260s^2T^2 - 6720sT + 15120}{s^5T^5 + 25s^4T^4 + 300s^3T^3 + 2100s^2T^2 + 8400sT + 15120}$ 

impedance\_chain calculates the transfer function of an impdance chain with arbitrary impedances (of even number); the last (optional integer valued) parameter determines the number of repetitions of the impedanc chain.



transfer function of an impedance chain consisting of four elements

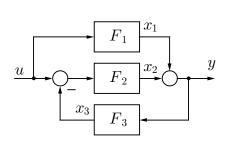
(%o12) 
$$\frac{1}{s^2 C^2 R^2 + (s^3 C^2 L + 3s C) R + s^2 C L + 1}$$

transfer function of an impedance chain repeated four times

(%o13) 
$$\frac{1}{s^4 C^4 R^4 + 7 s^3 C^3 R^3 + 15 s^2 C^2 R^2 + 10 s C R + 1}$$

transfer\_function(eqs, vars, u, y) calculates the transfer function from a list of linear equations eqs, e.g. from a block diagram. vars is a list containing the used variables according to which the system of equations is to be solved, u is the input, y is the output.

Also multivariable systems can be calculated: When u and y are *lists* of variables, the corresponding transfer matrix is calculated.



$$x_1 = F_1 \cdot u$$

$$x_2 = F_2 \cdot (u - x_3)$$

$$x_3 = F_3 \cdot y$$

$$y = x_1 + x_2$$

System of linear equations from the block diagram

Calculation of the transfer function from the equations

(%o14) 
$$[x1 = uF1, x2 = (u - x3)F2, x3 = yF3, y = x2 + x1]$$
  
(%i15) transfer\_function(eqs, [x1,x2,x3,y],u,y);

(%o15) 
$$\frac{F2 + F1}{F2F3 + 1}$$

standard\_form(F(s),n) divides numerator and denominator of F(s) in dependence of n by a partitually coefficient, thus making one of the leading or last coefficients to 1:

```
n = 1 \dots leading numerator coefficient of F(s)
```

 $n = 2 \dots$  last numerator coefficient of F(s)

n = 3 ... leading denominator coefficient of F(s)

 $n = 4 \dots$  last denominator coefficient of F(s) (default)

(%i16) 
$$F:(2*s+3)/(4*s^2+5*s+6)$$
;

(%o16) 
$$\frac{2s+3}{4s^2+5s+6}$$

Canonical forms, making the leading or last *numerator* coefficient to 1:

(%o17) 
$$\left[\frac{s+1.5}{2.0\,s^2+2.5\,s+3.0}, \frac{0.667\,s+1}{1.3333\,s^2+1.6667\,s+2.0}\right]$$

Canonical forms, making the leading or last *denominator* coefficient to 1:

(%o18) 
$$\left[\frac{0.5s + 0.75}{s^2 + 1.25s + 1.5}, \frac{0.333s + 0.5}{0.667s^2 + 0.833s + 1}\right]$$

# 4 Laplace Transform, step response

Maxima provides the function laplace(f,t,s) for Laplace transform, inverse Laplace transform is performed with ilt(f,s,t). The coefficients of the numerator and denominator polynomials can have symbolic values. However, ilt fails at denominator polynomials of third or higher order, if no zeros can be found analytically.

The function nilt of the package *COMA* calculates the zeros of the denominator polynomial *numerically* using allroots, thus rational functions of (nearly) arbitrary order can be backtransformed; however, the polynomial coefficients have to evaluate to numbers in that case.

```
laplace (ft, timevar, lapvar)

Laplace transform of the function ft (part of Maxima)

ilt (fs, lapvar, timevar)

inverse Laplace transform of fs (part of Maxima)

nilt (fs, lapvar, timevar)

inverse Laplace transform of fs with numerically calculated poles

step_response (F(s), opts)

Plotting the unit step response of the transfer function F(s)
```

Laplace transform

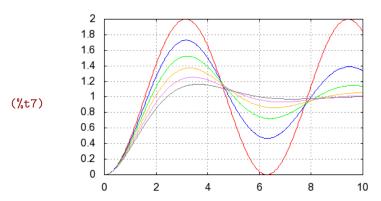
Laplace transform of a function (%i1) laplace(t^2\*sin(a\*t),t,s); (%o1)  $\frac{8as^2}{(s^2+a^2)^3} - \frac{2a}{(s^2+a^2)^2}$ Inverse Laplace transform (%i2) ilt $(1/(s^3+2*s^2+2*s+1),s,t);$ (%02)  $e^{-\frac{t}{2}}\left(\frac{\sin\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}t}{2}\right)}{\sqrt{3}} - \cos\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}t}{2}\right)\right) + e^{-t}$ The coefficients can also have symbolic  $ilt(1/((s+a)^2*(s+b)),s,t);$ (%i3) values.  $\frac{e^{-b\,t}}{b^2 - 2\,a\,b + a^2} + \frac{t\,e^{-a\,t}}{b - a} - \frac{e^{-a\,t}}{b^2 - 2\,a\,b + a^2}$ (%03) ilt(1/(s^3+2\*s^2+3\*s+1),s.t): Inverse Laplace transform fails, if no (%i4) zeros of the denominator polynomial (%04) ilt  $\left(\frac{1}{s^3 + 2s^2 + 3s + 1}, s, t\right)$ can be found analytically. nilt calculates the zeros of the (%i5) nilt(1/(s^3+2\*s^2+3\*s+1),s,t); denominator numerically, thus arbitrary (%05)  $-0.148e^{-0.785t}\sin(1.3071t)$ order transfer functions can be  $-0.545e^{-0.785t}\cos(1.3071t) + 0.545e^{-0.43t}$ back-transformed.

Generation of a list of PT2-elements with increasing damping ratio

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{(\%66)} & \big[\frac{1}{s^2+2.0\,10^{-4}s+1}, \frac{1}{s^2+0.2\,s+1}, \frac{1}{s^2+0.4\,s+1}, \\ \frac{1}{s^2+0.6\,s+1}, \frac{1}{s^2+0.8\,s+1}, \frac{1}{s^2+1.0\,s+1}\big] \end{array}$$

Plotting the step responses; unless the option xrange is given explicitely, the time range is chosen automatically.

(%i7) step\_response(pt2li)\$



PT1-element with additional time delay in Padé approximation

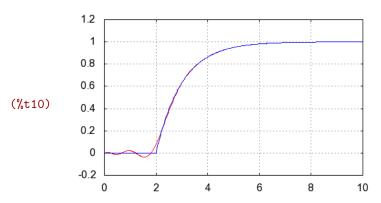
(%i8) F:time\_delay(2,5)\*1/(1+s);

(%08) 
$$\frac{5 s^4 - 60 s^3 + 315 s^2 - 840 s + 945}{(s+1) \left(2 s^5 + 25 s^4 + 150 s^3 + 525 s^2 + 1050 s + 945\right)}$$

Calculation of the exact step response of a PT1-element with additional time delay

(%09) 
$$(1 - e^{2-t})$$
 unit\_step  $(t - 2)$ 

Comparison of the exact step response with the Padé approximation; the exact step response is included as a graphical object explicit.



# **5 Frequency responses**

```
bode_plot(F(s),opts) Bode plot of F(j\omega)

magnitude_plot(F(s),opts) Magnitude plot of the Bode diagram of F(j\omega)

logy=false Option for magnitude_plot, yields linear scale of the magnitude

phase_plot(F(s),opts) Phase plot of the Bode diagram of F(j\omega)

phase(F(s)) Phase shift of the frequency responsees F(j\omega) in degree nyquist_plot(F(s),opts) Frequency response locus of F(j\omega)
```

Frequency responses

Parameters are transfer functions F(s) depending on the Laplace variable s; the plot routines replace s by  $j\omega$  automatically.

Unless the options xrange and yrange are declared explicitly, the scale is chosen automatically. The axes of Bode plots plot can be linearly-scaled using the option logx=false and logy=false. bode\_plot requires a *list of two ranges* for the option yrange, one for the magnitude plot and one for the phase plot each.

Frequency response locus plots (nyquist\_plot) have the same scale in x-direction and y-direction by default (aspect\_ratio=-1), which results in an undistorted image.

Contrary to the Maxima function carg, which calculates the argument of a complex number (in radiant) always in the interval  $-\pi...\pi$ , phase calculates the actual phase shift between input and output, which can attain arbitrarily high values; every pole and every zero produce a phase shift of  $\pi/2$  (or 90 degrees) with the appropriate sign.

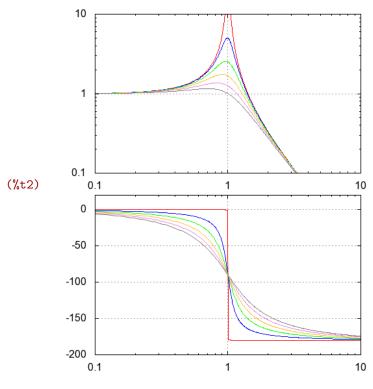
At resonance a significant phase shift is occurring in a small frequency range. In order to attain – especially in frequency response locus plots – a smooth curve, the number of primarily calculated points has to be increased eventually, which can be set with the option nticks=value (default 500).

List of PT2-elements with increasing daming ratio

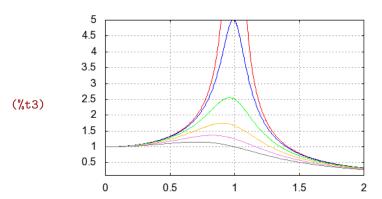
```
(%i1) fli:create_list(1/(s^2+2*d*s+1), d, [0.0001,0.1,0.2,0.3,0.4,0.5]); (%o1)  [\frac{1}{s^2+2.010^{-4}s+1}, \frac{1}{s^2+0.2s+1}, \frac{1}{s^2+0.4s+1}, \frac{1}{s^2+0.6s+1}, \frac{1}{s^2+0.8s+1}, \frac{1}{s^2+1.0s+1}]
```

Bode plots of the PT2-elements, the ranges of the y-axes have to be declared in a *list*.

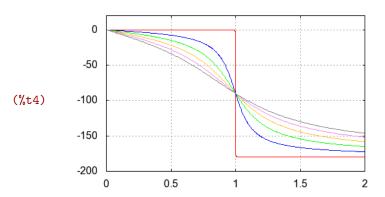
(%i2) bode\_plot([fli],yrange=[[0.1,10],[-200,20]])\$



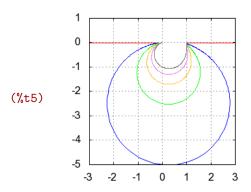
Magnitude plots of the PT2-elements with both axes scaled linearly



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Phase plots of the PT2-elements with both axes scaled linearly; the y-axis is scaled linearly by default. 

Frequency response locus plots of the PT2-elements; eventually the number of primarily calculated points has to be increased with the option nticks.



Third order transfer function

(%i6) f:2/(1+2\*s+2\*s^2+s^3);

(%o6) 
$$\frac{2}{s^3 + 2s^2 + 2s + 1}$$

Phase shift of  $F(j\omega)$  by splitting the frequency response into linear and quadratic factors and addition of the partial phase shifts.

(%i7) phase(f);

(%07)

 $57.296 \left(-1.0 \operatorname{atan2} \left(1.0 \omega, 1.0 - 1.0 \omega^2\right) - 1.0 \operatorname{atan} \left(1.0 \omega\right)\right)$ 

A frequency response locus can be marked and labelled with graphical objects points and label; arbitrary positions of the labels can be determined with some tricky considerations: the label for a point lies in a certain distance from the point in orthogonal direction of the curve.

Attention: points and vectors are defined here as lists, not as matrices.

List of  $\omega$ -values for marking and labelling of the frequency response locus (%i8) omegali:makelist(0.1\*k,k,1,10); (%o8) [0.1,0.2,0.3,0.4,0.5,0.6,0.7,0.8,0.9,1.0] 

Replacement of s by  $j\omega$  (%i9) fom:ev(f,s=%i\*omega); (%o9)  $\frac{2}{-i\omega^3 - 2\omega^2 + 2i\omega + 1}$  Position of a point on the curve (list of x-and y-coordinate):  $(\%o10) \left[\frac{2(1-2\omega^2)}{(2\omega-\omega^3)^2 + (1-2\omega^2)^2}, \frac{2(\omega^3-2\omega)}{(2\omega-\omega^3)^2 + (1-2\omega^2)^2}\right]$ 

Differentiation gives the direction of the curve.

(%o11) 
$$\left[\frac{16\omega^7 - 12\omega^5 - 8\omega}{\omega^{12} + 2\omega^6 + 1}, -\frac{6\omega^8 - 20\omega^6 - 6\omega^2 + 4}{\omega^{12} + 2\omega^6 + 1}\right]$$

Unit vector orthogonal to the curve

(%i11) abl:ratsimp(diff(dot,omega));

(%o12) 
$$\begin{bmatrix} 6\omega^8 - 20\omega^6 - 6\omega^2 + 4 \\ \sqrt{36\omega^4 + 16\omega^2 + 16}\sqrt{\omega^{12} + 2\omega^6 + 1}, \\ 16\omega^7 - 12\omega^5 - 8\omega \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{16\omega^{4} + 16\omega^{2} + 16\sqrt{\omega^{12} + 2\omega^{6} + 1}}{\sqrt{36\omega^{4} + 16\omega^{2} + 16\sqrt{\omega^{12} + 2\omega^{6} + 1}}}$$

Position for the label of a point

(%i13) lab:dot+0.3\*ovec\$

The marks are defined as graphic object points.

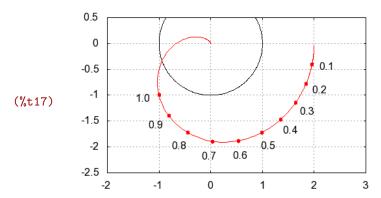
The labels are defined as graphic object label.

Unit circle as parametric curve

(%i16) circ:parametric(cos(t),sin(t),t,0,2\*%pi);

(%o16) parametric  $(\cos(t), \sin(t), t, 0, 2\pi)$ 

Frequency response locus plot with labelled points and the unit circle



# 6 Investigations in the Complex s-Plane

#### 6.1 Poles/Zeros-Distribution

poles (F(s)) Poles of the transfer function F(s)zeros (F(s)) Zeros of the transfer function F(s)poles\_and\_zeros (F(s), opts) Image of the Poles/zeros-distribution of the transfer function F(s) in the complex s-plane

Poles/Zeros-Distribution

The function poles and zeros return the poles and zeros of the transfer function as list elements. poles\_and\_zeros draws the poles/zeros distribution in the complex s-plane. Herein a pole is indicated by a  $\times$  mark, a zero by a  $\circ$  mark. In order to attain an undistorted image, the scales in x-direction any y-direction are the same by default (aspect\_ratio=-1).

List of random transfer functions (%i1) fli:makelist(stable\_rantranf(5),k,1,2);  $\left[\frac{2s^5 + 6s^4 + 9s^3 + 10s^2 + 5s + 1}{3s^2 + 5s + 10}\right]$  $\frac{2s^5 + 2s^4 + 10s^3 + 6s^2 + 4s + 1}{2s^5 + 2s^4 + 10s^3 + 6s^2 + 4s + 1}$ Zeros (%i2) zeros(fli); [[0.484i - 1.125, -0.484i - 1.125],[1.6245 i - 0.833, -1.6245 i - 0.833]]Poles (%i3) poles(fli); [[0.208i - 0.39, -0.208i - 0.39, 1.2235i - 0.305,-1.2235i - 0.305, -1.609, [0.576i - 0.151, -0.576i - 0.151, -0.327, 2.0685 i - 0.185, -2.0685 i - 0.185(%i4) poles\_and\_zeros(fli)\$

Pole/zero distribution in the complex s-plane

## 6.2 Root locus plots

```
root_locus(F(s,k),opts) Root locus plot of a transfer function F(s,k) with one free parameter k in the s-plane trange=[min,max] Range for the free parameter k, default: [0.001,100] nticks=n Number of calculated points, default: 500
```

Root locus plots

root\_locus draws the root locus of a transfer function F(s) in dependence of a free parameter k, which need not be (unlike in "classical" root loci) the open loop gain, but can be an arbitrary parameter influencing the transfer function. If several transfer functions are given in a list, the names of the parameters can be different, nervertheless their *ranges* have to be the same for all transfer functions, determinded by the option trange.

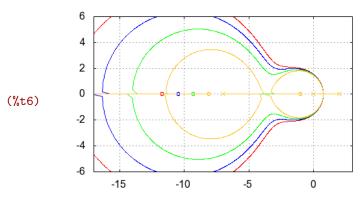
The plot points are distributed over the parameter range logarithmically, thus only positive values for the range are allowed.

The starting points of the root loci are indicated by a  $\times$  mark, the endpoints are indicated by a  $\circ$  mark. If the free parameter is the open loop gain, its starting value is sufficiently small, its end value is sufficiently large, starting and ending points represent the poles and zeros of the open loop transfer function respectively.

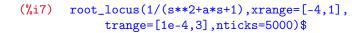
List of transfer functions with various zeros a and a variating gain k

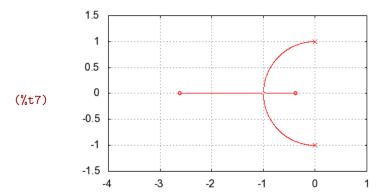
(%i5) fli:closed\_loop(makelist(k\*((s-a)\*(s+1))) /(s\*(s-2)\*(s+7)),a,-11,-8));  
(%o5) 
$$[\frac{ks^2 + 12ks + 11k}{s^3 + (k+5)s^2 + (12k-14)s + 11k}, \frac{ks^2 + 11ks + 10k}{s^3 + (k+5)s^2 + (11k-14)s + 10k}, \frac{ks^2 + 10ks + 9k}{s^3 + (k+5)s^2 + (10k-14)s + 9k}, \frac{ks^2 + 9ks + 8k}{s^3 + (k+5)s^2 + (9k-14)s + 8k}]$$

Root locus plots in dependence on the open loop gain k with various values of the open loop zero a



Root locus plot of a PT2-element with the damping ratio as parameter





7 Stability Behavior 20

# 7 Stability Behavior

## 7.1 Stability

$\mathtt{stablep}(F(s))$	Checks the stability of the system with the der transfer function $F(s)$
$stability_limit(F(s,k))$	Calculation of the stability limit of the transfer function $F(s,k)$ with respect to the parameter $k$
hurwitz(p(s))	Calculation of the Hurwitz-determinants of the polynomial $p(s)$
$stable_area(F(s,a,b),a,b,opts)$	Plot of the stability limit of the transfer function $F(s, a, b)$ in the $a/b$ -parameter plane

Stability

The function stability\_limit(F(s,k)) yields conditions in the form k=value, omega=value,

for imaginary poles, which is equivalent to the stability limit for common systems. Herein omega gives the angular frequeny of the undamped oscillaion at the stability limit.

Exact conditions for stability are provided by the *Hurwitz-criterion*: All zeros of the polynomial p(s) have a negative realpart (i. e. in exactly that case the transfer function with the denominator p(s) is stable), if all Hurwitz determinants have a value greater zero. The function hurwitz(p(s)) yields a list of the Hurwitz determinants, the coefficients of p(s) can have symbolic values.

stable\_area plots the stability limit of a transfer function with respect to two parameters a and b in the a/b-parameter plane. Unless the options xrange and yrange are given explicitely, the axes range from 0 to 1.

The relative stability can be validated with the phase margin  $\alpha_r$  or the gain margin  $A_r$ , the corresponding angular frequencies are the gain crossover frequency  $\omega_D$  and the phase crossover frequency  $\omega_r$  respectively.

```
Random transfer function (%i1) f:stable_rantranf(5);  \frac{4s^2+9s+6}{2s^5+6s^4+9s^3+10s^2+5s+1}  Calculation of the closed loop transferfunction with a controller gain of k (%o2)  \frac{4ks^2+9s+6}{2s^5+6s^4+9s^3+(4k+10)s^2+(9k+5)s+6k+1}
```

Calculation of the stability limit; the result is a list containing the limit gain k and the angular frequency of the undamped oscillation  $\omega$ .

The Hurwitz criterion provides exact results; the sytem is stable if and only if all elements if the resulting list are positive.

Generation of a list of gains; above, at and below the stability limit

Calculation of the transfer functions of the corresponding *open* loops,

as well as of the closed loops.

Checking the stability, stablep yields false in the limit case.

Plotting the step responses; the period of the undamped oscillation at the stability limit according to  $T=2\pi/\omega$  yields (almost exactly) the value 5.

(%i3) lim:stability\_limit(fw,k);

(%o3)  $[[k = 0.468, \omega = 1.2554]]$ 

(%i4) ratsimp(hurwitz(denom(fw)));

(%o4)  $[34-8k, -32k^2-196k+172, -288k^3-988k^2-776k+610, -1728k^4-6216k^3-5644k^2+2884k+610]$ 

(%i5) kli:ev([1.1\*k,k,0.9\*k],lim);

(%o5) [0.515, 0.468, 0.422]

(%i6) foli:create\_list(k\*f,k,kli);

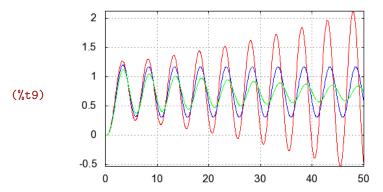
(%66) 
$$[\frac{0.515 (4s^2 + 9s + 6)}{2s^5 + 6s^4 + 9s^3 + 10s^2 + 5s + 1}, \\ 0.468 (4s^2 + 9s + 6) 0.422 (4s^2 + 9s + 6) \\ 2s^5 + 6s^4 + 9s^3 + 10s^2 + 5s + 1, \\ 2s^5 + 6s^4 + 9s^3 + 10s^2 + 5s + 1$$

(%i7) fwli:closed\_loop(foli)\$

(%i8) stablep(fwli);

(%08) [false,true,true]

(%i9) step\_response(fwli,xrange=[0,50])\$



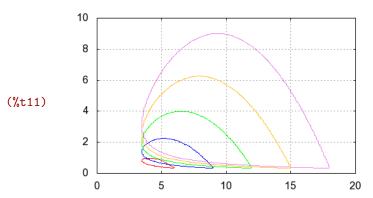
List of PT5-elements with two free parameters a and b

(%i10) fli:makelist( $1/(s^5+3*s^4+k*s^3+a*s^2+b*s+1),k,2,6$ );

(%010) 
$$\left[ \frac{1}{s^5 + 3s^4 + 2s^3 + as^2 + bs + 1}, \frac{1}{s^5 + 3s^4 + 3s^3 + as^2 + bs + 1}, \frac{1}{s^5 + 3s^4 + 5s^3 + as^2 + bs + 1}, \frac{1}{s^5 + 3s^4 + 5s^3 + as^2 + bs + 1}, \frac{1}{s^5 + 3s^4 + 6s^3 + as^2 + bs + 1} \right]$$

Plotting the borders of the stable areas in the a/b-parameter plane





## 7.2 Relative Stability

$gain\_crossover(F(s))$	Calculation of the gain crossover frequencies $\omega_D$ of $F(j\omega)$ for which holds $ F(j\omega_D) =1$
$phase_margin(F(s))$	Calculation of the phase margin $\alpha_r$ of $F(j\omega)$ in degree
$phase\_crossover(F(s))$	Calculation of the phase crossover frequency $\omega_r$ of $F(j\omega)$ for which holds $\arg F(j\omega_r) = -\pi$
$gain_margin(F(s))$	Calculation of the gain margin $A_r$ of $F(j\omega)$
damping(F(s))	(absolute) damping of $F(j\omega)$ (negative realpart of the rightmost pole)
$damping_ratio(F(s))$	minimum damping ratio of all pole pairs of $F(j\omega)$

Relative Stability

```
Gain crossover frequencies \omega_D; multiple
                                           (%i12) float(gain_crossover(foli));
values are possible (especially at
                                           (%o12) [[\omega = 1.3052], [\omega = 1.2554], [\omega = 1.1755]]
occurence of resonance).
Phase margins \alpha_r in degree, unstable
                                           (%i13) phase_margin(foli);
control loops have a negative value.
                                           (\%013) [-9.1522, 8.6316110<sup>-6</sup>, 15.194]
Phase crossover frequencies \omega_r, multiple
                                           (%i14) float(phase_crossover(foli));
values are possible.
                                           (%o14) [[\omega = 1.2554], [\omega = 1.2554], [\omega = 1.2554]]
Gain margins A_r, unstable control loops
                                           (%i15) gain_margin(foli);
have a value less than 1.
                                           (%o15) [0.909, 1.0, 1.1111]
The damping is the negative realpart of
                                           (%i16) damping(fwli);
the rightmost pole or pole pair.
                                           (%o16) [-0.0232, 1.54999 \, 10^{-8}, 0.0249]
```

8 Optimization 23

# 8 Optimization

The performance index according to the ISE-criterion can be calculated according to Parseval's theorem directly in the Laplace domain [6]:

$$I_{ISE} = \int_0^\infty e^2(t) dt = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{-i\infty}^{i\infty} E(s) \cdot E(-s) ds$$

Herein e(t) is a function tending to zero with increasing time, usually the deviation of the controlled variable from its stationary value. According to [5] the calculation of the integral can be performed algebraically.

ise(E(s)) Performance index of the function e(t) according to the ISE-criterion

Integral performance indexes

Differentiation of the integral with respect to the free parameters (e. g. controller parameters) and setting the results zo zero yield the optimum values of the parameters.

```
(%i1) f:1/(s**3+a*s**2+b*s+1);
transfer function with two free
parameters a and b
                                                         \frac{1}{s^3 + as^2 + bs + 1}
                                                (%01)
Calculation of the deviation from the
                                                (%i2) x:ratsimp((1-f)/s);
stationary value at input step function
                                                          \frac{s^2 + as + b}{s^3 + as^2 + bs + 1}
                                                (%02)
Preformance index according to the
                                                          iise:ise(x);
                                                (%i3)
ISE-criterion
                                                          a b^2 - b + a^2
                                                (%03)
Differentiation with respect to the
                                                (%i4)
                                                          abl:ratsimp(jacobian([iise],[a,b]));
parameters a and b (Calculation of the
                                                           \left(\frac{a^2\,b - 2\,a}{2\,a^2\,b^2 - 4\,a\,b + 2} \quad \frac{a^2\,b^2 - 2\,a\,b - a^3 + 1}{2\,a^2\,b^2 - 4\,a\,b + 2}\right)
Jacobian matrix)
                                                (\%04)
Confinement to real solutions of systems
                                                          realonly:true;
                                                (%i5)
of equations
                                                (\%05)
Solving the equations with respect to a
                                                          res:solve(abl[1],[a,b]);
                                                (%i6)
and b, the expressions are assumed to be
                                                         [[a = 1, b = 2]]
                                                (\%06)
set to zero.
Substituting the solutions into f yields
                                                         fopt:ev(f,res);
                                                (%i7)
the "optimum" transfer function.
                                                          \frac{1}{s^3 + s^2 + 2s + 1}
                                                (\%07)
```

9 Controller Design 24

# 9 Controller Design

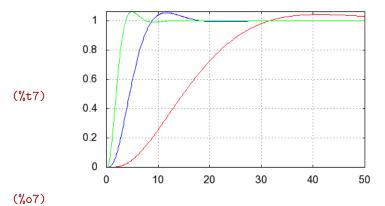
gain\_optimum(Fs(s),Fr(s)) Calculation of a controller according to the gain optimum.

Controller Design

gain\_optimum calculates the parameters of an optimum controller  $F_R(s)$  for a given plant  $F_{(s)}$ . The structure of the controller and the names of its parameters are freely chooseable on principal. It depends on the reasonableness of the assumtions for the controller, whether solutions for the controller parameters are found actually (e.g. a PT1-controller will presumeably not yield soutions).

```
Transfer function of a plant
                                                  (%i1) fs:2/((1+5*s)*(1+s)**2*(1+0.3*s));
                                                  (%o1)
List of an I-, PI- and a PID-controller
                                                            [fri,frpi,frpid]:[1/(s*Ti),
                                                  (%i2)
                                                             kr*(1+1/(s*Tn)),(1+s*Ta)*(1+s*Tb)/(s*Tc)];
                                                            \left[\frac{1}{s\,Ti},kr\left(\frac{1}{s\,Tn}+1\right),\frac{(s\,Ta+1)\,(s\,Tb+1)}{s\,Tc}\right]
Gain optimum for the I-controller
                                                            g1:gain_optimum(fs,fri);
                                                  (%i3)
                                                  (%o3) [Ti = \frac{146}{5}, Ti = 0]
Gain optimum for the PI-controller; the
                                                  (%i4) g2:gain_optimum(fs,frpi);
zero of the controller approximately
                                                  (%04) [kr = \frac{206057}{349320}, Tn = \frac{206057}{40190}]
compensates the dominating pole of the
plant.
Gain optimum for the PID-controllerr;
                                                             g3:gain_optimum(fs,frpid);
                                                  (%i5)
the zeros of the controller approximately
                                                 (%o5)  [Ta = \frac{4019\sqrt{53}\sqrt{67}\sqrt{1297}\sqrt{35765423} - 55265693971}{730\sqrt{53}\sqrt{67}\sqrt{1297}\sqrt{35765423} - 12006960570}, \\ Tb = \frac{\sqrt{164722913143681} + 22787789}{7126660}, Tc = \frac{1289808}{356333}] 
compensate the two dominating poles of
the plant.
                                                  (%i6) reli:float(ev([fri,frpi,frpid],[g1,g2,g3]));
Substituting the results into the
controllers
```

The step responses confirm about 5% overshoot and rise times in the amount of about 4.7 times the sum of the remaining time constants.



The plant can also have symbolic coefficients.

The results are formulas for the optimum controller parameters.

(%08) 
$$\frac{2}{(as+1)(bs+1)(s^2+1)}$$

(%i9) gain\_optimum(fs,frpi);

(%09) 
$$[kr = \frac{b^2 + a^2 - 1}{4ab},$$

$$Tn = \frac{b^3 + ab^2 + (a^2 - 1)b + a^3 - a}{b^2 + ab + a^2 - 1} ]$$

10 State Space 26

# 10 State Space

System: [A,B,C,D]Definition of a linear system as a list of state matrices A, B, C und Dsystemp(A,B,C[,D])Checks, whether system is a valid system constiting of systemp(system) state matrices. nsystemp(A,B,C[,D])Cecks, whether *system* forms a valid linear system, nsystemp(system) wherein all matrix elements evaluate to numbers.  $transfer_function(A,B,C[,D])$ transfer\_function(System) Calculation of the transfer function (or transfer matrix) from the state matrices controller\_canonical\_form(f) Calculation of the state matrices according to the controller canonical from the transfer function *f* observer\_canonical\_form(f) Calculation of the state matrices according to the observer canonical from the transfer function *f* controllability\_matrix(A,B)controllability\_matrix(System) Calculation of the controllability matrix observability\_matrix(A,C)observability\_matrix(System) Calculation of the observability matrix

State space representation

The notion *system* means a subsumption of the four state matrices **A** (system matrix), **B** (input matrix), **C** (output matrix) and **D** (transit matrix) into a list. The transit matrix **D** can be omitted for systems not capable of following input steps, in systems with one input and one output **D** can be a scalar value d.

All funcions, which can have a *system* as the parameter, can also receive the particular state matrices as parameters (without subsumption into a list).

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Electrical quadripole with state equations:

$$U_{E} \downarrow U_{C1} \downarrow C \qquad U_{C2} \downarrow C \qquad \frac{\operatorname{d}i_{2}}{\operatorname{d}t} = \frac{1}{L} \cdot (u_{C1} - u_{C1} - u_{C1})$$

$$U_{C1} \downarrow C \qquad U_{C2} \downarrow C \qquad U_{C3} \qquad \frac{\operatorname{d}u_{C1}}{\operatorname{d}t} = \frac{1}{C} \cdot (i_{2} - i_{1})$$

$$\frac{\operatorname{d}u_{C2}}{\operatorname{d}t} = \frac{1}{C} \cdot i_{2}$$

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}i_1}{\mathrm{d}t} = \frac{1}{L} \cdot (u_e - R \cdot i_1 - u_{C1})$$

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}i_2}{\mathrm{d}t} = \frac{1}{L} \cdot (u_{C1} - u_{C2} - R \cdot i_2)$$

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}u_{C1}}{\mathrm{d}t} = \frac{1}{C} \cdot (i_2 - i_1)$$

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}u_{C2}}{\mathrm{d}t} = \frac{1}{C} \cdot i_2$$

From the state equations the state matrices **A**, **B** and **C** are resulting directly; a direct transit from the input voltage  $U_E$  to the output voltage  $U_A$  does not exist, thus **D** = 0 and can be omitted.

System matrix A of the circuit (%i1) A:matrix([-R/L,0,-1/L,0],[0,-R/L,1/L,-1/L],[1/C1,-1/C1,0,0],[0,1/C1,0,0]);

$$\text{(\%o1)} \quad \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{R}{L} & 0 & -\frac{1}{L} & 0\\ 0 & -\frac{R}{L} & \frac{1}{L} & -\frac{1}{L}\\ \frac{1}{C1} & -\frac{1}{C1} & 0 & 0\\ 0 & \frac{1}{C1} & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Input matrix B of the circuit (%i2) B:matrix([1/L],[0],[0]);

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{L} \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Output matrix C of the circuit (%i3) C:matrix([0,0,0,1]);

(%03) (0 0 0 1)

Subsumption of the state matrices into a (%i4) circuit: [A,B,C]; system

 $(\%04) \quad \begin{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{R}{L} & 0 & -\frac{1}{L} & 0\\ 0 & -\frac{R}{L} & \frac{1}{L} & -\frac{1}{L}\\ \frac{1}{C1} & -\frac{1}{C1} & 0 & 0\\ 0 & \frac{1}{C1} & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{L} \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} ]$ 

The list of state matrices are forming a (%i5) systemp(circuit); valid System ...

(%o5) true

... however, their elements do not (%i6) nsystemp(circuit); eveluate to numbers.

(%06) false

transfer\_function calculates the transfer function (or the transfer matrix in multivariable systems) from the state matrices. That function is "polymorphic" in a certain sense: if the parameters are no state matrices but a list of linear equations and lists of variables, the transfer function is calculated from those equations (section 3).

... as well as particular state matrices are possible.

(%i8) transfer\_function(A,B,C);

(%08)  $\frac{1}{s^2 C 1^2 R^2 + \left(2s^3 C 1^2 L + 3s C 1\right) R + s^4 C 1^2 L^2 + 3s^2 C 1 L + 1}$ 

Direct calculation of an impedance chain yields the same result expectedly.

(%i9) f:impedance\_chain(R+s\*L,1/(s\*C1),2);

 $\frac{1}{s^2C1^2R^2 + \left(2s^3C1^2L + 3sC1\right)R + s^4C1^2L^2 + 3s^2C1L + 1}$ (%09)

The calculation of the state matrices from the transfer function can be performed according to the controller canonical form or the observer canonical form:

Controller canonical form of the state matrices

(%i10) circ1:controller\_canonical\_form(f);

(%o10) 
$$\begin{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ -\frac{1}{C1^{2}L^{2}} & -\frac{3R}{C1L^{2}} & -\frac{C1^{2}R^{2}+3C1L}{C1^{2}L^{2}} & -\frac{2R}{L} \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \left( \frac{1}{C1^{2}L^{2}} & 0 & 0 & 0 \right), 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{C1^2L^2} & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Observer canonivcal foem of the state matrices

(%i11) circ2:observer\_canonical\_form(f);

$$\begin{array}{llll} \text{(\%o11)} & [ \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & -\frac{1}{C1^2L^2} \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & -\frac{3R}{C1L^2} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -\frac{C1^2R^2+3C1L}{C1^2L^2} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -\frac{2R}{L} \\ \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{C1^2L^2} \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, 0 ] \\ \end{array}$$

Controllability matrix

(%i12) h1:ratsimp(controllability\_matrix(A,B));

$$\text{(\%o12)} \quad \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{L} & -\frac{R}{L^2} & \frac{C1R^2 - L}{C1L^3} & -\frac{C1R^3 - 2LR}{C1L^4} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{C1L^2} & -\frac{2R}{C1L^3} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{C1L} & -\frac{R}{C1L^2} & \frac{C1R^2 - 2L}{C1^2L^3} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{C1^2L^2} \end{pmatrix}$$

Observability matrix

(%i13) h2:observability\_matrix(circuit);

(%o13) 
$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{C1} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -\frac{R}{C1L} & \frac{1}{C1L} & -\frac{1}{C1L} \\ \frac{1}{C1^2L} & \frac{R^2}{C1L^2} - \frac{2}{C1^2L} & -\frac{R}{C1L^2} & \frac{R}{C1L^2} \end{pmatrix}$$

The system is controllable and observable.

(%i14) [rank(h1),rank(h2)];

(%014) [4,4]

11 Various Functions 29

#### 11 Various Functions

The routines of the package *COMA* use several auxiliary functions which are not specific to control engineering, but can be useful in various ways.

Various functions

coefficient\_list builds a list of the polynomial coefficients in increasing order:

```
Polynomial in the variable x (%i1) p:5*(x+y)^2+a*x^5; (%o1) 5(y+x)^2+ax^5

List containing the polynomial (%i2) coefficient_list(p,x); coefficients (%o2) [5y^2,10y,5,0,0,a]
```

The function chop removes all numbers from an expression, which are less than  $10^{-10}$ . That is useful for "ironing out" numeric bugs:

An associative array (hash), consisting of key-value pairs, is implemented as a list. It is well suited for saving preferences ("options") and for named parameters of functions (e. g. graphic routines).

Some routines facilitate the handling of associative arrays:

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```
List of key-value pairs
                                     (%i5)
                                             opts:[color=blue,height=700,width=400];
                                             [color=blue,height=700,width=400]
                                     (%05)
Replacing a value
                                     (%i6)
                                             set_option(color=red,opts);
                                     (%06)
                                             [height=700,width=400,color=red]
Unless a key exists, a new key-value pair
                                     (%i7)
                                             set_option(title="Test",opts);
is generated.
                                             [height=700,width=400,color=red,title=Test]
                                     (\%07)
Removing a key-value pair
                                     (%i8)
                                             delete_option(color,opts);
                                     (%08)
                                             [height=700,width=400,title=Test]
Checking, whether a key exists
                                             option_exists(height,opts);
                                     (%i9)
                                     (%09)
                                             true
Reading a hash value
                                     (%i10) get_option(height,opts);
                                     (%o10) 700
Returning a default value, unless a key
                                     (%i11) get_option(color,opts,red);
exists
                                     (%o11) red
```

The function <code>get\_option</code> to read out a value would not be not neccessary on principal, for that purpose the Maxima function <code>assoc</code> is available. Contrary to <code>assoc</code>, <code>get\_option</code> accepts also lists, which not only contain key-value pairs, but also any arbitrary expression (which is used internally by other by other COMA-functions).

Bibliography 31

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