# Polynomial system solving and/by multidimensional realization theory

'Back to the Roots'

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# Why Study Polynomial Equations?

- fundamental mathematical objects
- powerful modelling tools
- ubiquitous in Science and Engineering (often hidden)



Systems and Control Signal Processing Computational Biology Kinematics/Robotics



# Polynomial root-finding has a long and rich history. . .





Etienne Bézout (1730-1783)



Carl Friedrich Gauss (1777-1755)



Jean-Victor Poncelet (1788-1867)



Evariste Galois (1811-1832)



Arthur Cayley (1821-1895)



Leopold Kronecker (1823-1891)



Edmond Laguerre (1834-1886)



James J. Sylvester (1814-1897)



Francis S. Macaulay (1862-1937)



David Hilbert (1862-1943)

# . . . leading to Algebraic Geometry and Computer Algebra

- large body of literature
- emphasis not (anymore) on solving equations
- computer algebra: symbolic manipulations (e.g., Gröbner Bases)
- numerical issues!







Wolfgang Gröbner (1899-1980)



Bruno Buchberger

# Back to the roots! Let's use linear algebra!?

- comprehensible and accessible language
- intuitive geometric interpretation
- computationally powerful framework
- well-established methods and stable numerics



Eigenvalue decompositions are at the core of root-finding

Eigenvalue equation

$$
Av=\lambda v
$$

and eigenvalue decomposition

$$
A = V \Lambda V^{-1}
$$

Enormous importance in (numerical) linear algebra and apps

- 'understand' the action of matrix A
- at the heart of a multitude of applications: oscillations, vibrations, quantum mechanics, data analytics, graph theory, and **many** more

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From eigenvalues to roots . . . and back

Characteristic Polynomial The eigenvalues of A are the roots of

 $p(\lambda) = |A - \lambda I|$ 

### Companion Matrix Solving

$$
q(x) = 7x^3 - 2x^2 - 5x + 1 = 0
$$

leads to

$$
\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \ 0 & 0 & 1 \ -1/7 & 5/7 & 2/7 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \ x \ x^2 \end{bmatrix} = x \begin{bmatrix} 1 \ x \ x^2 \end{bmatrix}
$$

# The Sylvester Matrix is used for finding common roots of multiple univariate polynomials

Consider two polynomial equations

$$
f(x) = x3 - 6x2 + 11x - 6 = (x - 1)(x - 2)(x - 3)
$$
  
\n
$$
g(x) = -x2 + 5x - 6 = -(x - 2)(x - 3)
$$

Common roots if  $|S(f, g)| = 0$ 

$$
S(f,g) = \begin{bmatrix} -6 & 11 & -6 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -6 & 11 & -6 & 1 \\ -6 & 5 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -6 & 5 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -6 & 5 & -1 \end{bmatrix}
$$



James Joseph Sylvester

### Sylvester's construction can be understood from

$$
\begin{array}{c}\n f(x)=0 \\
 x \cdot f(x)=0 \\
 g(x)=0 \\
 x \cdot g(x)=0\n\end{array}\n\begin{bmatrix}\n 1 & x & x^2 & x^3 & x^4 \\
 -6 & 11 & -6 & 1 & 0 \\
 -6 & 5 & -1 & 1 \\
 -6 & 5 & -1 & 1 \\
 -6 & 5 & -1 & 1 \\
 -6 & 5 & -1 & 1 \\
 -6 & 5 & -1 & 1 \\
 -6 & 5 & -1 & 1 \\
 4^1 & x^2 & x^3 & 1 \\
 x^4_1 & x^4_2 & x^4_3 & x^4_4\n\end{bmatrix} = 0
$$

where  $x_1 = 2$  and  $x_2 = 3$  are the common roots of f and g

The vectors in the Vandermonde-like null space  $K$  obey a 'shift structure':

$$
\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ x \\ x^2 \\ x^3 \end{bmatrix} x = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ x^2 \\ x^3 \\ x^4 \end{bmatrix}
$$

The Vandermonde-like null space  $K$  is not available directly, instead we compute Z, for which  $ZV = K$ . We now have

> $KD = K$  $ZVD = ZV$

leading to the generalized eigenvalue problem

$$
ZV=ZVD
$$

## Realization Theory Essentials



State-space formulation of linear dynamical system:

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{rcll} x_{k+1} &=& Ax_k + Bu_k \\ y_k &=& Cx_k + Bu_k \end{array}\right. \quad \text{with} \quad \left\{\begin{array}{rcll} x_k &\in& \mathbb{R}^n \\ u_k &\in& \mathbb{R}^m \\ y_k &\in& \mathbb{R}^p \end{array}\right.
$$

Controllability and Observability Matrices:

$$
\begin{array}{rcl}\nC_i & = & \left[ \begin{array}{cccc} B & AB & \dots & A^{i-1}B \end{array} \right] \\
O_i & = & \left[ \begin{array}{ccc} C^T & (CA)^T & \dots & (CA^{i-1})^T \end{array} \right]^T\n\end{array}
$$

and the corresponding Gramians:

$$
\begin{array}{ccc} P & = & \mathcal{CC}^* \\ Q & = & \mathcal{O}^*\mathcal{O} \end{array}
$$

that solve the Lyapunov equations

$$
APA^* - P = -BB^*
$$
  

$$
A^*QA - Q = -C^*C
$$

**Impulse Response:** Markov parameters  $g_k$ 

$$
g_k = \begin{cases} D & k = 0\\ CA^{k-1}B & k > 0 \end{cases}
$$

Transfer function:

$$
\begin{array}{rcl}\nG(q) & = & \sum_k g_k q^{-k} \\
 & = & C(qI - A)^{-1}B + D\n\end{array}
$$

# Linear Realization Theory

Impulse response experiment: Markov parameters  $g_k$ 

$$
g_k = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \mathsf{D} & k = 0 \\ \mathsf{CA}^{k-1} \mathsf{B} & k > 0 \end{array} \right.
$$

Hankel matrix from data:

H = g<sup>1</sup> g<sup>2</sup> g<sup>3</sup> g<sup>4</sup> . . . g<sup>2</sup> g<sup>3</sup> g<sup>4</sup> . . . . . . g<sup>3</sup> g<sup>4</sup> . . . . . . . . . g4 . = OC



Andrei Andreyevich Markov



Leopold Kronecker

 $rank(H) = Mc$ Millan Degree

# Realization Theory – Algorithm

## Algorithm (Realization Theory)

**input:** Markov parameters  $g_k, \quad k = 0, \ldots, K$ output: (Minimal order) realization  $(A_r, B_r, C_r, D_r)$ 

1 The matrix  $D_r$  is easily found as

 $D_r = g_0$ .

2 Construct the (block-)Hankel matrix  $H_{i,j}$ 

$$
H_{i,j} = \begin{bmatrix} g_1 & g_2 & g_3 & g_4 & \cdots \\ g_2 & g_3 & g_4 & \cdots & \cdots \\ g_3 & g_4 & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots \\ g_4 & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots \end{bmatrix}
$$

# Realization Theory – Algorithm

1 Perform an SVD on  $H_{i,j} = U\Sigma V^T$  and take

$$
\mathcal{O}_i = \mathsf{U} \Sigma^{1/2}, \n\mathcal{C}_j = \Sigma^{1/2} \mathsf{V}^{\mathsf{T}}.
$$

The rank of the block Hankel matrix, the minimal order of the underlying system, is equal to the number of nonzero singular values.

2  $C_r$  is formed from the first  $p$  rows of  $\mathcal{O}_i$ , while  $\mathsf{B}_r$  is formed from the first  $m$  columns of  $C_j$ .

# Realization Theory – Algorithm

1 From the observability matrix

$$
\underline{\mathcal{O}}_i A = \overline{\mathcal{O}}_i,
$$

 $A<sub>r</sub>$  can be calculated as

$$
A_r = \left(\underline{\mathcal{O}}_i\right)^{\dagger} \overline{\mathcal{O}}_i.
$$

Analogously,  $A_r$  can also be calculated as

 $|\mathcal{C}_j(\mathcal{C}_j|)^{\dagger}$  .

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Generalizing the Sylvester matrix to the multivariate case leads to the Macaulay matrix

Consider the system  $p(x, y) = x^2 + 3y^2 - 15 = 0$  $q(x, y) = y - 3x^3 - 2x^2 + 13x - 2 = 0$ ÷.

Matrix representation of the system: Macaulay matrix M

 1 x y x <sup>2</sup> xy y <sup>2</sup> x <sup>3</sup> x <sup>2</sup>y xy <sup>2</sup> y 3 p(x,y) −15 1 3 x·p(x,y) −15 1 3 y·p(x,y) −15 1 3 q(x,y) −2 13 1 −2 −3 

$$
p(x, y) = x2 + 3y2 - 15 = 0q(x, y) = y - 3x3 - 2x2 + 13x - 2 = 0
$$





#### 1 x y x xy y  $x^3$   $x^2y$   $xy^2$   $y^3$   $x^4$   $x^3y$   $x^2y^2$   $xy^3$   $y^4$   $x^5$   $x^4y$   $x^3y^2x^2y^3$   $xy^4$ y  $\rightarrow$  $d = 3$  $\begin{array}{|c|c|c|}\n\hline\n\rho & = & 15 & 1 & 3 \\
\hline\n\text{np} & = & 15 & 3\n\end{array}$  $\exp$   $-15$  15  $1$  3 yp − 15 1 3  $q = 2$  13 1 − 2 − 3  $d = 4$ x 2 p − 15 1 3  $xyp$   $1$  3 y 2 p  $-15$   $-15$   $-15$   $-1$   $-3$  $\vert xq \vert = 2$  13 1 − 2 − 3 yq  $-2$  13 1 − 2 − 3  $d = 5$ x 3 p  $-$  15  $$ x 2 yp  $\rightarrow$  15  $\rightarrow$  3 xy 2 p  $\rho$   $\vert$  1 3 p  $\rho$   $\vert$  1 3 x 2 q  $-2$  13 1  $-2$   $-3$  $x \times yq$   $-2$   $-3$   $13$   $1$   $-2$   $-3$ q  $-2$  13 1  $-2$   $-3$ ↓

 $-$  Macaulay coefficient matrix  $M$ :



– solutions generate vectors in null space

 $MK = 0$ 

– number of solutions  $m =$  nullity

Multivariate Vandermonde basis for the null space:



## Select the 'top' m linear independent rows of K





### Shifting the selected rows gives (shown for 3 columns)





### simplified:



$$
f_{\rm{max}}
$$

$$
\left[\begin{array}{cc} x_1 & & \\ & x_2 & \\ & & x_3 \end{array}\right] =
$$

 $\rightarrow$  "shift with  $x'' \rightarrow$ 

$$
\left[ \begin{array}{cc|cc} x_1 & x_2 & x_3 \\ x_1^2 & x_2^2 & x_3^2 \\ x_1y_1 & x_2y_2 & x_3y_3 \\ x_1y_1 & x_2^2y_2 & x_3^2y_3 \\ x_1^4 & x_2^4 & x_4^4 \\ x_1^3y_1 & x_2^3y_2 & x_3^3y_3 \end{array} \right]
$$

– finding the x-roots: let  $D_x = diag(x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_s)$ , then

$$
S_1 K D_x = S_x K,
$$

where  $S_1$  and  $S_x$  select rows from K wrt. shift property

– reminiscent of Realization Theory

We have

$$
\boxed{S_1 \ K D_x = \boxed{S_x \ K}
$$

However,  $K$  is not known, instead a basis  $Z$  is computed that satisfies

 $ZV = K$ 

Which leads to

 $(S_xZ)V = (S_1Z)VD_x$ 

It is possible to shift with  $y$  as well...

We find

$$
S_1 \mathsf{K} D_y = S_y \mathsf{K}
$$

with  $D_v$  diagonal matrix of y-components of roots, leading to

$$
(S_y Z)V = (S_1 Z)VD_y
$$

Some interesting results:

- $-$  same eigenvectors  $V!$
- $(S_{\mathsf{y}}Z)^{-1}(S_{1}Z)$  and  $(S_{\mathsf{x}}Z)^{-1}(S_{1}Z)$  commute

### Algorithm

- 1 Fix a monomial ordering scheme
- 2 Construct coefficient matrix M to sufficiently large dimensions
- 3 Compute basis for nullspace of  $M$ : nullity s and  $Z$
- 4 Find s linear independent rows in Z
- 5 Choose shift function, e.g., x
- 6 Solve the GEVP

$$
(S_2Z)V=(S_1Z)VD_x
$$

 $S_1$  selects linear independent rows in Z;  $S_2$  the rows that are 'hit' by the shift

 $(S_1 Z$  and  $S_2 Z$  can be rectangular as long as  $S_1 Z$  contains s linear independent rows)

## The null space is an  $nD$  state sequence

The null space of the Macaulay matrix is the interface between polynomial system and nD state space description

– nD state-space model (for  $n = 2$ )

$$
v(k+1, l) = A_x v(k, l)
$$
  

$$
v(k, l+1) = A_y v(k, l)
$$

– null space of Macaulay matrix: nD state sequence

$$
\left(\begin{array}{c|c|c|c|c|c|c} \vert & \vert \\ \hline V_{00} & V_{10} & V_{01} & V_{20} & V_{11} & V_{02} & V_{30} & V_{21} & V_{12} & V_{03} \\ \vert & \vert \end{array}\right)^{T} = \left(\begin{array}{c|c|c} \vert & \vert \\ V_{00} & A_{x}V_{00} & A_{y}V_{00} & \vert & \cdots & A_{x}^{3}V_{00} & A_{x}^{2}A_{y}V_{00} & A_{x}A_{y}^{2}V_{00} & A_{y}^{3}V_{00} \\ \vert & \vert \end{array}\right)^{T}
$$

– shift-invariance property, e.g., for y:

$$
\begin{pmatrix}\n-v_{00}- \\
-v_{10}- \\
-v_{01}- \\
-v_{02}-\n\end{pmatrix} A_y^T = \begin{pmatrix}\n-v_{01}- \\
-v_{11}- \\
-v_{02}- \\
-v_{12}- \\
-v_{12}- \\
-v_{03}-\n\end{pmatrix},
$$

 $-$  corresponding  $nD$  system realization

$$
v(k + 1, l) = A_x v(k, l)v(k, l + 1) = A_y v(k, l)v(0, 0) = v00
$$

- choice of basis null space leads to different system realizations
- eigenvalues of  $A_x$  and  $A_y$  invariant: x and y components of roots

# Roots at infinity? Mind the Gap!

- dynamics in the null space of  $M(d)$  for increasing degree d
- nilpotency gives rise to a 'gap'
- mechanism to count and separate affine from infinity



Roots at infinity lead to nD descriptor systems

Weierstrass Canonical Form decouples affine/infty

$$
\left[\begin{array}{c} \mathsf{v}(k+1) \\ \hline \mathsf{w}(k-1) \end{array}\right] = \left[\begin{array}{c|c} A & 0 \\ \hline 0 & E \end{array}\right] \left[\begin{array}{c} \mathsf{v}(k) \\ \hline \mathsf{w}(k) \end{array}\right]
$$

nD descriptor state-space model

 $v(k + 1, l) = A_x v(k, l)$  $v(k, l + 1) = A_y v(k, l)$  $w(k - 1, l) = E_x w(k, l)$  $w(k, l - 1) = E_y w(k, l)$ 

with nilpotent  $E_x$  and  $E_y$ 

# Polynomial root-finding is a question in linear algebra and multidimensional realization theory

- Solving multivariate polynomials
	- Macaulay formulation makes it a linear algebra question
	- Realization theory in null space of Macaulay matrix
	- nD autonomous (descriptor) state-space models
- Decisions made based upon (numerical) rank
	- $-$  # roots (nullity)
	- $-$  # affine roots (column reduction)
- Mind the Gap phenomenon: affine vs. infinity roots
- Not discussed
	- multiplicity of roots
	- column-space based method
	- over-constrained systems

# Polynomial Optimization Problems are EVPs

$$
\min_{x,y} x^{2} + y^{2}
$$
  
s.t.  $y - x^{2} + 2x - 1 = 0$ 



Lagrange multipliers give conditions for optimality:

$$
L(x, y, z) = x^2 + y^2 + z(y - x^2 + 2x - 1)
$$

we find

$$
\begin{array}{rcl}\n\partial L/\partial x = 0 & \rightarrow & 2x - 2xz + 2z = 0 \\
\partial L/\partial y = 0 & \rightarrow & 2y + z = 0 \\
\partial L/\partial z = 0 & \rightarrow & y - x^2 + 2x - 1 = 0\n\end{array}
$$

Observations:

- everything remains polynomial
- system of polynomial equations
- shift with objective function to find minimum/maximum

Let

$$
A_xV=xV
$$

and

$$
A_yV=yV
$$

then find min/max eigenvalue of

$$
(A_x^2 + A_y^2)V = (x^2 + y^2)V
$$

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## Recent advances in the Macaulay spirit

Computing state-recursion polynomials

Batselier K., Wong N., "Computing the state recursion polynomials for discrete linear mD systems", Automatica, vol. 64, pp.254-261, 2016.

"The CPD appears to be the joint EVD of the multiplication tables" Vanderstukken J., Stegeman A., De Lathauwer L., "Systems of polynomial equations, higher-order tensor decompositions and multidimensional harmonic retrieval: A unifying framework." (two-part paper), KU Leuven ESAT-STADIUS TR 17-133 and TR 17-134, 2017.

Block-shifting with an objective function Vermeersch C., De Moor B., "Globally Optimal Least-Squares ARMA Model Identification is an Eigenvalue Problem", IEEE Control Systems Letters, 3:4, 1062–1067, 2019.

Exploring the non-autonomous case

Vergauwen B., Agudelo M., De Moor B., "Order estimation of two dimensional systems based on rank decisions", IEEE CDC 2018.

Adapting the choice of basis for improved numerical stability Telen S., Mourrain B., Van Barel M., "Solving Polynomial Systems via Truncated Normal Forms", SIAM J Matrix Anal Appl, 39:3, 1421–1447, 2018.

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# Conclusions

- bridging the gap between algebraic geometry and engineering
- finding roots: linear algebra and realization theory!
- extension to over-constrained systems
- polynomial optimization: extremal eigenvalue problems

# Open Problems

Many challenges remain

- exploiting sparsity and structure of  $M$
- efficient (more direct) construction of the eigenvalue problem
- algorithms to find the minimizing solution efficiently (inverse power method?)

Dreesen P., Batselier K., De Moor B., "Multidimensional realisation theory and polynomial system solving", Int J Control, 91:12, pp. 2692–2704, 2018. (arXiv 1805.02253)

# Thank you for listening!

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