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ASYMPTOTIC UNBOUNDED ROOT LOCI-  
FORMULAE AND COMPUTATION

by

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# ASYMPTOTIC UNBOUNDED ROOT LOCI - FORMULAE AND COMPUTATION

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## ABSTRACT

We study the asymptotic behavior of the closed-loop eigenvalues (root loci) of a strictly proper, linear, time-invariant control system as the loop gain goes to  $\infty$ . We develop and use for this purpose the eigen-properties of restricted linear maps of the form  $A(\text{mod } S_2)|_{S_1}$  where  $A$  is

a map from  $\mathbb{C}^m$  to  $\mathbb{C}^m$  and  $S_1, S_2$  are subspaces of complimentary dimension. We suggest a numerically robust way of mechanizing the computation of our formulae using the singular value decomposition. Finally, some applications are indicated.

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## Section 1. Introduction

It is well known that high loop gain enhances the desirable effects of feedback, e.g. desensitization and disturbance attenuation. It is known also that practical control systems are driven to instability by high gain feedback. This paper presents a new geometric way of calculating and numerically stable way of computing the asymptotic behavior of unbounded root loci of a strictly proper, linear, time invariant control system shown in Figure 1 as loop gain  $\rightarrow \infty$  ( $k \rightarrow \infty$ ).

The asymptotic behavior of unbounded root loci has been studied extensively by Kouvaritakis and Shaked [3], Kouvaritakis [4], Kouvaritakis and Edmunds [5] and Owens [11,12]. We believe that our (mathematically) new approach leads to more explicit and simpler formulae. For an intrinsic algebraic-geometric picture of multivariable root loci we refer the reader to Brockett and Byrnes [10].

The present paper recognizes that the calculation of the asymptotes of the unbounded root loci is a process of identifying subspaces in the input space and 'modding out' subspaces in the output space of the open-loop control system where the effects of the  $O(k)$ ,  $O(k^{1/2})$ ,  $O(k^{1/3})$ , ... unbounded root loci dominate asymptotically (for this standard notation see [6]). To compute the asymptotes of the unbounded root loci we are led naturally to the use of numerically stable orthogonal projections and the singular value decomposition (see for instance, Golub and Reinsch [17], Stewart [1]).

The organization of the paper is as follows: In Section 2, we develop some properties of restricted linear maps of the form  $A(\text{mod } S_2) \Big|_{S_1}$ , where  $A$  is a map from  $\mathbb{C}^n$  to  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and  $S_1, S_2$  are subspaces of complimentary dimension. This development was motivated by Wonham [18]. In Section 3, we apply this theory

to the computation of the asymptotic values of the multivariable root loci. Using the results of van Dooren, et al [7] and the simple null structure assumption, we relate these asymptotic values to the structure at  $\infty$  of the Smith - McMillan form of the open loop transfer function. In Section 4, we derive a numerically stable method for computing the formulae of Section 3, using the singular value decomposition. We calculate formulae for the pivots and indicate robust computation to obtain them in Section 5. Concluding remarks on relaxing the assumptions of and extending our work are collected in Section 6.

### Notation

- i.  $R(A)$  stands for the range of a matrix  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times m}$  and  $\text{Ker} A$  stands for the kernel of  $A$ .
- ii.  $A^\dagger$  stands for (any) generalized (or pseudo-inverse) of  $A$ , defined as follows:

Let  $f_1, \dots, f_k \in \mathbb{C}^n$  be a basis for the  $R(A)$  with  $e_1, \dots, e_k$  chosen such that  $Ae_i = f_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, k$ . Complete the basis  $f_1, \dots, f_k$  to obtain a basis  $f_1, \dots, f_n$  of  $\mathbb{C}^n$ . Now, define

$$\begin{aligned} A^\dagger f_i &= e_i \quad i = 1, \dots, k \\ A^\dagger f_i &= \text{arbitrary} \quad i = k+1, \dots, n. \end{aligned}$$

## Section 2. Restrictions of a Linear Map

### 2.1 General Theory

Given a linear map  $A$  from  $\mathbb{C}^n$  to  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and a subspace  $S_2 \subset \mathbb{C}^n$  of dimension  $(n-m)$ , the operator  $A(\text{mod } S_2)$  is the linear map from  $\mathbb{C}^n$  to  $\mathbb{C}^n/S_2$  defined by the

following diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{C}^n & \xrightarrow{A} & \mathbb{C}^n \\ & \searrow & \downarrow P \\ (A \bmod S_2) = P \cdot A & & \mathbb{C}^n/S_2 \end{array}$$

Here,  $P$  stands for the canonical projection  $\mathbb{C}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n/S_2$ . The maps whose structure we will expose here are of the form  $A \bmod S_2 \big|_{S_1}$  where  $S_1 \subset \mathbb{C}^n$  is a subspace of dimension complimentary to  $S_2$  (namely,  $m$ ). Pictorially, we have for  $A \bmod S_2 \big|_{S_1}$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & i & & \\ & & \hookrightarrow & & \\ S_1 & \xrightarrow{i} & \mathbb{C}^n & \xrightarrow{A} & \mathbb{C}^n \\ & \searrow & & \downarrow P & \\ A \bmod S_2 \big|_{S_1} = P \cdot A \cdot i & & & & \mathbb{C}^n/S_2 \end{array}$$

Here  $i$  is the (canonical) inclusion map of  $S_1$  in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ . Note that if  $\hat{S}_2$  is any direct summand of  $S_2$  then  $\hat{S}_2$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{C}^n/S_2$ . Since  $\mathbb{C}^n/S_2$  is an abstract vector space, we will for the purpose of computation identify  $\mathbb{C}^n/S_2$  with  $\hat{S}_2$ . We have then the following representation theorem for  $A \bmod S_2 \big|_{S_1}$ .

**Theorem 2.1** (Representation Theorem)

Let the columns of  $T_1 \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times m}$  form a basis for  $S_1$ , and the columns of  $T_2 \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times m}$  form a basis for  $\hat{S}_2$ , some direct summand of  $S_2$ . Then, the matrix representation for  $A \bmod S_2 \big|_{S_1}$  with respect to the bases furnished by  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  is

$$(T_2^* T_2)^{-1} T_2^* A T_1 \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times m}. \quad (2.1)$$

**Proof:** Recall from elementary linear algebra [1, pg. 125] that

$T_2(T_2^* T_2)^{-1} T_2^* \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  is the matrix representation of the projection from  $\mathbb{C}^n$  onto  $\hat{S}_2$  with the columns of  $T_2$  as basis for  $\hat{S}_2$ . Since the columns of  $T_1$ ,  $T_2$  are chosen as bases for  $S_1, \hat{S}_2$  the result follows.  $\square$

Notes: (i)  $(T_2^* T_2)^{-1} T_2^*$  is a left inverse of  $T_2$ .

(ii) If the columns of  $\tilde{T}_1 \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times m}$  and  $\tilde{T}_2 \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times m}$  form bases for  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  (any other direct summand of  $S_2$ ), then the representations are related by  $(\tilde{T}_2^* \tilde{T}_2)^{-1} \tilde{T}_2^* A \tilde{T}_1 = P(T_2^* T_2)^{-1} T_2^* A T_1 Q$ .

where  $P, Q \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times m}$  are nonsingular matrices.

Definition 2.2  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  is an eigenvalue of  $A(\text{mod } S_2)|_{S_1}$  if  $\exists$  non-zero  $x \in S_1$  such that  $(A - \lambda I)x \text{ (mod } S_2) = 0$ ; equivalently,  $\exists x \in S_1 \ni (A - \lambda I)x \in S_2$ .

Proposition 2.3 (Generalized eigenvalue problem for eigenvalues of  $A(\text{mod } S_2)|_{S_1}$ ).

Let  $B \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times m}$ ;  $C \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$  be chosen so that  $R(B) = S_2$ ,  $\text{Ker } C = S_1$ . Then, the eigenvalues of  $A(\text{mod } S_2)|_{S_1}$  are precisely the solutions,  $\lambda$ , of the generalized eigenvalue problem

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} A - \lambda I & B \\ C & 0 \end{bmatrix} = 0 \quad (2.2)$$

Proof: Observe that  $\lambda$  is a solution of (2.2) iff  $\exists x \in \mathbb{C}^n, u \in \mathbb{C}^m$  not both zero such that

$$(A - \lambda I)x + Bu = 0$$

with

$$x \in \text{Ker } C. \quad \square$$

In fact solutions of all generalized eigenvalue problems can be obtained from Definition 2.1 as follows:

Proposition 2.4 (converse to Proposition 2.3)

The solutions  $\lambda$  of the generalized eigenvalue problem

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} A - \lambda I & B \\ C & D \end{bmatrix} = 0 \quad (2.3)$$

are the eigenvalues of

$$A - BD^{\dagger}C(\text{mod } B(\text{Ker } D)) \Big|_{C^{-1}(R(D))} \quad (2.4)$$

(Here,  $D^{\dagger}$  stands for any pseudo-inverse of  $D$ ,  $C^{-1}(R(D))$  stands for the inverse image under  $C$  of  $R(D)$  and  $B(\text{Ker } D)$  stands for the image under  $B$  of  $\text{Ker } D$ ).

Proof:  $\lambda$  is a solution of (2.3) iff  $\exists x \in \mathbb{C}^n, u \in \mathbb{C}^m$  not both zero such that

$$(A - \lambda I)x + Bu = 0 \quad (2.5)$$

$$Cx + Du = 0 \quad (2.6)$$

Note that  $Cx$  must belong to the range of  $D$  so that  $x \in C^{-1}(R(D))$  and the (non-unique) solution of (2.6) is

$$u = -D^{\dagger} C x + v \quad (2.7)$$

where  $v$  is any element of  $\text{Ker } D$ .

Use (2.7) in (2.5) to obtain

$$(A - BD^{\dagger}C - \lambda I)x + Bv = 0$$

with  $x \in C^{-1}(R(D))$  and  $v \in \text{Ker } D$ .

The converse is similar. □

We now specialize to the case when  $S_1 \oplus S_2 = \mathbb{C}^n$ . There is then a natural isomorphism  $\tilde{I}$  between  $S_1$  and  $\mathbb{C}^n/S_2$  as follows

$$\begin{array}{ccc} S_1 & \xrightarrow{i} & \mathbb{C}^n \xrightarrow{I} \mathbb{C}^n \\ & \searrow & \downarrow P \\ \tilde{I} = P \cdot I \cdot i & & \mathbb{C}^n/S_2 \end{array} \quad \tilde{I} := I(\text{mod } S_2) \Big|_{S_1}$$

It is clear that in this case there are  $m$  eigenvalues of  $A(\text{mod } S_2) \Big|_{S_1}$ . We explore their structure:

Definition 2.5  $A(\text{mod } S_2) \Big|_{S_1}$  is said to have simple null structure if



$\exists x \in S_1$  such that

$$A(\text{mod } S_2)x \neq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad A(\text{mod } S_2) \tilde{I}^{-1} A(\text{mod } S_2)x = 0.$$

- Comments: (i) The definition states that there are no generalized eigenvectors associated with the eigenvalue  $\lambda = 0$  of  $A(\text{mod } S_2)|_{S_1}$ .
- (ii) Definition 2.5 is useful for counting the number of non-zero (possibly repeated) eigenvalues of  $A(\text{mod } S_2)|_{S_1}$  as follows:

Proposition 2.6 (Number of non zero eigenvalues of  $A(\text{mod } S_2)|_{S_1}$ ).

If  $A(\text{mod } S_2)|_{S_1}$  has simple null structure the number (counting multiplicities) of its non-zero eigenvalues is equal to its rank, namely the dimension of  $R(A(\text{mod } S_2)|_{S_1})$ .

Definition 2.7 :  $A(\text{mod } S_2)|_{S_1}$  is said to have simple structure associated with an eigenvalue  $\lambda$  if  $A - \lambda I(\text{mod } S_2)|_{S_1}$  has simple null structure.

With these definitions on hand, one may state the Jordan canonical form theorem for the operator  $A(\text{mod } S_2)|_{S_1}$ .

Theorem 2.8 (Jordan Canonical form for  $A(\text{mod } S_2)|_{S_1}$ )

Assume  $S_1 \oplus S_2 = \mathbb{C}^n$  and identify  $\mathbb{C}^n/S_2$  with  $S_1$ . Then, there exists a choice of basis for  $S_1$  - the columns of  $T \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times m}$  such that the matrix representation of  $A(\text{mod } S_2)|_{S_1} : S_1 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n/S_2 \cong S_1$  is

$$(T^* T)^{-1} T^* A T = \text{diag} [J_1, \dots, J_p] \quad (2.8)$$

where  $J_i = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_i & 1 & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_i \end{bmatrix}$ .

Since  $(T^* T)^{-1} T^* = T^L$ , a left inverse of  $T$ , we may write (2.8) as

$$T^L A T = \text{diag} [J_1, \dots, J_p] \quad .$$

Proof: Follows exactly along the same lines as the regular Jordan canonical form theorem and is omitted. □

## 2.2. Specialization to Orthogonal Projections

For the purpose of numerically stable computation we specialize the above definitions and propositions to orthogonal bases and orthogonal projections. Let the subspace  $\hat{S}_2 \subset \mathbb{C}^n$  be the orthogonal complement of  $S_2$  and the columns of  $P_1, P_2 \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times m}$  form orthonormal basis for  $S_1, \hat{S}_2$  respectively. We will identify  $A(\text{mod } S_2)|_{S_1}$  with the representation furnished by  $P_1, P_2$ , namely  $P_2^* A P_1$  (by Theorem 2.1)  $\in \mathbb{C}^{m \times m}$ . We also denote  $P_2^* A P_1$  by  $A|_{S_1 \rightarrow \hat{S}_2}$ .

In these coordinates, the eigenvalues of  $A(\text{mod } S_2)|_{S_1}$  are the zeros of the polynomial

$$\det(\lambda P_2^* P_1 - P_2^* A P_1) = 0 \quad (2.9)$$

Definition 2.9 The adjoint of  $A|_{S_1 \rightarrow \hat{S}_2}$  is defined to be the linear map  $A^*|_{\hat{S}_2 \rightarrow S_1}$ .

The following proposition is now obvious:

Proposition 2.10 (Orthogonal decomposition of domain and range)

$$\begin{aligned} R(A|_{S_1 \rightarrow \hat{S}_2}) \overset{\perp}{\oplus} \eta(A^*|_{\hat{S}_2 \rightarrow S_1}) &= \hat{S}_2 \\ \eta(A|_{S_1 \rightarrow \hat{S}_2}) \overset{\perp}{\oplus} R(A^*|_{\hat{S}_2 \rightarrow S_1}) &= S_1 \end{aligned}$$

## Section 3. System Description, Assumptions and Main Formulae

The system under study is the system of Figures, where  $G(s)$  is the  $m \times m$  transfer function matrix of a linear, time-invariant, strictly proper control system assumed to have Taylor expansion about  $s = \infty$  (convergent  $\forall |s| > M$ ):

$$G(s) = \frac{G_1}{s} + \frac{G_2}{s^2} + \frac{G_3}{s^3} + \dots \quad (3.1)$$

with  $G_1, G_2, \dots \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ ;  $k$  real and positive. We consider the case when  $G(s)$  is a strictly proper rational transfer function matrix, i.e.  $G(s) \in \mathbb{R}(s)^{m \times m}$  (Formally, all the results of Section 3.1 go through for strictly proper irrational transfer functions with convergent Taylor series at  $s = \infty$ ). We study the closed loop poles of the system of Figure 1 as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ . The motivation is that  $G(s)$  represents the composition of a linear, time-invariant plant and controller and  $k$  represents high gain feedback; as  $k \rightarrow \infty$  the gain tends to  $\infty$  in all control channels. The one parameter curves traced on an appropriately defined Riemann surface [2] by the closed-loop eigenvalues (parametrized by  $k$ ) are referred to as the multivariable root loci. As  $k \rightarrow \infty$  some of the root loci tend to finite points in (copies of) the complex plane located at the (McMillan) zeros of the system (see for e.g. [3,4,5]), the others go to  $\infty$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$  and are referred to as the unbounded root loci of the system. We classify the unbounded root loci by the velocity (with  $k$ ) with which they tend to  $\infty$ :

Definition 3.1 An unbounded multivariable root locus  $s_n(k)$  is said to be an nth order unbounded root locus ( $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ ) if asymptotically

$$s_n(k) = \mu_n(k)^{1/n} + o(k^0) \quad (3.2)$$

where  $|\mu_n| < \infty$  and  $o(k^0)$  is a term of order 1.

We identify an nth order unbounded root locus with  $\mu_n$ , the coefficient of its asymptotic value.

Theorem 3.2 (Generalized eigenvalue problem for the nth order unbounded root locus)

$\mu_n = (-\lambda)^{1/n} \in \mathbb{C}$  is the coefficient of the asymptotic value of an nth order unbounded root locus iff  $\lambda$  is a solution of the generalized eigenvalue problem

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} G_n - \lambda I & G_{n-1} & \cdot & G_1 \\ \hline G_{n-1} & G_{n-2} & \cdot & 0 \\ \hline \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \hline G_2 & G_1 & \cdot & 0 \\ \hline G_1 & 0 & \cdot & 0 \end{bmatrix} = 0 \quad (3.3)$$

provided (3.3) is a polynomial equation in  $\lambda$ .

Proof: Assume, asymptotically, that the value  $s$  of the unbounded root locus is given by

$$s = \mu k^{1/n} + o(1) \quad (3.4)$$

with  $\mu \neq 0$ .

Using the standard method to find the terms in the asymptotic expansion of an implicitly defined variable [6, Chap. 3 esp. article 8] we rewrite  $\det(I + kG(s)) = 0$  asymptotically as:  $\exists e_1, e_2, \dots \in \mathbb{R}^m$  such that

$$\left[ I + \frac{kG_1}{s} + \frac{kG_2}{s^2} \dots \right] \left[ e_1 + \frac{e_2}{k^{1/n}} + \dots + \frac{e_n}{k^{\frac{n-1}{n}}} + \dots \right] = 0 \quad (3.5)$$

or using (3.4)

$$\left[ I + \frac{k^{\frac{n-1}{n}} G_1}{\mu} + \frac{k^{\frac{n-2}{n}} G_2}{\mu^2} \dots \right] \left[ e_1 + \frac{e_2}{k^{1/n}} + \dots + \frac{e_n}{k^{\frac{n-1}{n}}} \dots \right] = 0 \quad (3.6)$$

Equating terms of  $O(k^{\frac{n-1}{n}})$ ,  $O(k^{\frac{n-2}{n}})$ ,  $\dots$ ,  $O(1)$  we obtain from (3.6)

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} G_n + \mu^n I & G_{n-1} & \cdot & G_1 \\ \hline G_{n-1} & G_{n-2} & \cdot & 0 \\ \hline \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \hline G_2 & G_1 & \cdot & 0 \\ \hline G_1 & 0 & \cdot & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} e_1 \\ \mu e_2 \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \mu^{n-1} e_n \end{bmatrix} = 0 \quad (3.7)$$

(3.3) now follows readily from (3.7), provided of course that (3.3) is non-degenerate (i.e. depends on  $\lambda$ ).  $\square$

Comments: (i) There are  $n$  separate  $n$ th order root loci corresponding to the distinct  $n$ th roots of 1 associated with each solution of (3.3); so that these root loci constitute at  $\infty$ , an  $n$ -cycle of the Riemann surface of the system (see [8, pg. 32], [2, pg. 112]). (ii) The matrix of (3.4) is a triangular, block Toeplitz matrix so that (3.4) must admit of simplification. We take this up next:

### 3.1 Formulae for the asymptotic values of the unbounded root loci

#### 3.1.1 First-Order

Clearly, these are the negatives of the non-zero eigenvalues of  $G_1$

$$s_{i,1} = -\lambda_{i,1} k + 0(k^0).$$

#### 3.1.2 Second Order

These are given by

$$s_{i,2} = (-\lambda_{i,2} k)^{1/2} + 0(k^0)$$

where  $\lambda_{i,2}$  is a non zero solution of

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} G_2 - \lambda I & & G_1 \\ & \ddots & \\ & & G_1 & & 0 \end{bmatrix} = 0.$$

From Proposition 2.3, then  $\lambda_{i,2}$  is a non-zero eigenvalue of

$$G_2(\text{mod } R(G_1)) \Big|_{\eta(G_1)} \stackrel{\Delta}{=} \hat{G}_2$$

#### 3.1.3 Third Order

These are given by

$$s_{i,3} = (-\lambda_{i,3} k)^{1/3} + 0(k^0)$$

where  $\lambda_{i,3}$  is a nonzero solution of

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} G_3 - \lambda I & & G_2 & & G_1 \\ & \ddots & & \ddots & \\ & & G_2 & & 0 \\ & & & \ddots & \\ & & & & G_1 & & 0 & & 0 \end{bmatrix} = 0. \quad (3.8)$$

Proposition 3.3 (Third order eigenvalue formula)

$\lambda_{1,3}$  is a non-zero eigenvalue of

$$(G_3 - G_2 G_1^\dagger G_2)(\text{mod } R(G_1)) \quad (\text{mod } R(\hat{G}_2)) \Big|_{\eta(\hat{G}_2)}$$

where

$$\hat{G}_2 = G_2(\text{mod } R(G_1)) \Big|_{\eta(G_1)}$$

and  $G_1^\dagger$  is any pseudo inverse of  $G_1$ .

Remark: Pictorially, we have

$$\begin{array}{c} \eta(\hat{G}_2) \xrightarrow{i_2} \eta(G_1) \xrightarrow{i_1} C^m \xrightarrow{G_3 - G_2 G_1^\dagger G_2} C^m \\ \downarrow P_1 \\ C^m / R(G_1) \\ \downarrow P_2 \\ (C^m / R(G_1)) / R(\hat{G}_2). \end{array}$$

Proof: Let  $v_1, v_2, v_3 \in \mathbb{R}^m$  not all zero such that

$$(G_3 - \lambda I)v_1 + G_2 v_2 + G_1 v_3 = 0 \quad (3.9)$$

$$G_2 v_1 + G_1 v_2 = 0 \quad (3.10)$$

$$G_1 v_1 = 0 \quad (3.11)$$

(3.11) yields that  $v_1 \in \eta(G_1)$ . Next (3.10) yields that

$$v_1 \in \eta(G_2 (\text{mod } R(G_1)) \Big|_{\eta(G_1)}) \text{ i.e. } \eta(\hat{G}_2).$$

Further from (3.10), we obtain

$$v_2 = -G_1^\dagger G_2 v_1 + u_1 \quad (3.12)$$

where  $u_1$  is (any) vector belonging to  $\eta(G_1)$  and  $G_1^\dagger$  is a pseudo-inverse of  $G_1$ . Using (3.12) in (3.9) we obtain

$$(G_3 - G_2 G_1^\dagger G_2 - \lambda I) v_1 + G_2 u_1 + G_1 v_3 = 0.$$

$$\text{i.e. } (G_3 - G_2 G_1^\dagger G_2 - \lambda I) v_1 \bmod R(G_1) \bmod R(\hat{G}_2) = 0.$$

This proves the proposition.

#### 3.1.4 Fourth Order

These are of the form

$$s_{i,4} = (-\lambda_{i,4} k)^{1/4} + O(k^0)$$

Proposition 3.4 (Fourth order eigenlocus formula)  $\lambda_{1,4}$  is an eigenvalue of

$$(G_4 - G_3 G_1^\dagger G_2 - G_2 G_1^\dagger G_3 + G_2 G_1^\dagger G_2 G_1^\dagger G_2) \bmod R(G_1) \bmod R(\hat{G}_2) \bmod R(\hat{G}_3) \Big|_{\eta(\hat{G}_3)}$$

where

$$\hat{G}_3 \stackrel{\Delta}{=} (G_3 - G_2 G_1^\dagger G_2) \bmod R(G_1) \bmod R(\hat{G}_2) \Big|_{\eta(\hat{G}_2)}$$

and  $G_1^\dagger$  is any pseudo-inverse of  $G_1$ .

Proof: From Theorem 3.2,  $\lambda_{1,4}$  is the coefficient of a fourth order root locus if  $\exists v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4 \in \mathbb{R}^m$  not all zero such that

$$(G_4 - \lambda I) v_1 + G_3 v_2 + G_2 v_3 + G_1 v_4 = 0 \quad (3.13)$$

$$G_3 v_1 + G_2 v_2 + G_1 v_3 = 0 \quad (3.14)$$

$$G_2 v_1 + G_1 v_2 = 0 \quad (3.15)$$

$$G_1 v_1 = 0 \quad (3.16)$$

As before from (3.15), (3.16) we have  $v_1 \in \eta(\hat{G}_2)$  and  $v_2 = -G_1^\dagger G_2 v_1 + u_1$  for some  $u_1 \in \eta(G_1)$ . Using this in (3.14) we get

$$(G_3 - G_2 G_1^\dagger G_2) v_1 + G_2 u_1 + G_1 v_3 = 0 \quad (3.17)$$

Then,  $v_1 \in \eta(\hat{G}_3)$ ,  $u_1 \in \eta(\hat{G}_2)$  and

$$v_3 = -G_1^\dagger (G_3 - G_2 G_1^\dagger G_2) v_1 - G_1^\dagger G_2 u_1 + u_2 \quad (3.18)$$

for some  $u_2 \in \eta(G_1)$ .

Using (3.18) in (3.13) we obtain

$$(G_4 - G_3 G_1^\dagger G_2 - G_2 G_1^\dagger G_3 + G_2 G_1^\dagger G_2 G_1^\dagger G_2 - \lambda I) v_1 + (G_3 - G_2 G_1^\dagger G_2) u_1 + G_2 u_2 + G_1 v_4 = 0$$

or

$$(G_4 - G_3 G_1^\dagger G_2 - G_2 G_1^\dagger G_3 + G_2 G_1^\dagger G_2 G_1^\dagger G_2 - \lambda I) v_1 \pmod{R(G_1)} \pmod{R(\hat{G}_2)} \pmod{R(\hat{G}_3)} = 0$$

This proves the proposition.

### 3.1.5 Higher Order

We invite the reader to write formulae for the higher order root loci.

The basic idea is to solve the triangular algebraic equations as if  $G_1$  were invertible using any pseudo-inverse,  $G_1^\dagger$ . The non-uniqueness in this process is kept track of by successively restricting in the domain to  $\eta(G_1) \supset \eta(\hat{G}_2) \supset \dots$ . Also the conditions for the algebraic equations to have solutions are kept track of by successively modding out in the range  $R(G_1)$ ,  $R(\hat{G}_2)$ , ....

### 3.2 Simple Null Structure and Integer Order for All Unbounded Root Loci

In general, the branches of the algebraic function obtained from  $\det(I + kG(s)) = 0$  at  $s = \infty$  have asymptotic expansion (see [8])

$$s = \lambda(k)^{m/n} + O(k^0)$$

showing possible non-integral order, unbounded root loci.

However, we show now that under some simple assumptions the only unbounded root loci are those of integral order. First, some preliminaries



Notation: Define  $T_n \in \mathbb{R}^{nm \times nm}$  to be the block Toeplitz matrix:

$$T_n = \begin{pmatrix} G_n & G_{n-1} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & G_1 \\ & G_{n-1} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & 0 \\ & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ G_1 & 0 & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.19)$$

Assumption 1 (Non-degeneracy assumption)

There exists some  $n_0$  such that

$$\begin{pmatrix} I \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \in R(T_{n_0}) \quad (3.20)$$

Comments: (i) If (3.20) is satisfied for some  $n_0$  it is satisfied for all  $n \geq n_0$ . Hence, in the sequel we will understand that  $n_0$  is the smallest integer so that (3.20) is satisfied.

(ii) (3.20) implies in particular that no linear combination of outputs is identically zero and that the inputs are linearly independent. Further insight into the nature of this assumption follows from Proposition 3.5.

To study the behavior at  $s = \infty$  of  $G(s)$  perform the change of variables,  $w = 1/s$ . Then,

$$G(w) = G_1 w + G_2 w^2 + \dots \quad (3.21)$$

Recall that  $G(w)$  admits of a unique Smith-McMillan form  $\Lambda(w)$  given by

$$G(w) = M(w) \Lambda(w) N(w) \quad (3.22)$$

where  $M(w)$  and  $N(w)$  are unimodular matrices and

$$\Lambda(w) = \text{diag} \left( \frac{e_1(w)}{f_1(w)}, \dots, \frac{e_m(w)}{f_m(w)} \right) \quad (3.23)$$

with the  $e_i$  and  $f_i$  monic coprime polynomials, with  $e_i$  dividing  $e_{i+1}$  and  $f_{i+1}$  dividing  $f_i$  for all  $i$ . Further

Proposition 3.5 (Explication of Assumption 1)

Assumption 1  $\Leftrightarrow G(w)$  has normal rank  $m$ .

□

Proof: Is straightforward, see for e.g. [7] .

For any  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$ , which is either a pole or zero of  $G(w)$

$$\Lambda(w) = \Lambda_{\alpha}(w) \cdot \tilde{\Lambda}(w)$$

where

$$\Lambda_{\alpha} = \begin{bmatrix} (w-\alpha)^{\sigma_1} & & & & \\ & \ddots & & & \\ & & \ddots & & \\ & & & 0 & \\ & & & \ddots & \\ & & 0 & & \\ & & & \ddots & \\ & & & & (w-\alpha)^{\sigma_m} \end{bmatrix} \quad (3.24)$$

with  $\sigma_1 \leq \sigma_2 \leq \dots \leq \sigma_m$ .

The matrix  $\Lambda_{\alpha}(w)$  contains information about the order  $\omega_p(\omega_z)$  and degree  $\delta_p(\delta_z)$  of the pole (zero) at  $w = \alpha$  as follows

$$\omega_p = -\sigma_1 \text{ if } \sigma_1 \leq 0 \quad \delta_p = -\sum_{\sigma_i < 0} \sigma_i \quad (3.25)$$

$$\omega_z = \sigma_m \text{ if } \sigma_m \geq 0 \quad \delta_z = \sum_{\sigma_i > 0} \sigma_i \quad (3.26)$$

We are interested in the order and degree of the zero of  $G(w)$  at  $w = 0$ . A theorem of [7] relates  $\omega_z, \delta_z$  for the zero at  $w = 0$  to the ranks of the block Toeplitz matrices  $T_n$ , defined by (3.19). Define, for  $i \geq 1$  (with the understanding that  $T_0 = 0$ )

$$\rho_i = \text{rank } T_i - \text{rank } T_{i-1} \quad .$$

Then, we have

Theorem 3.6 [7] (Order and degree of zeros related to rank  $T_n$ )

$$\omega_z = \min \{i | \rho_i = m\} \quad (3.27)$$

$$\delta_z = \sum_{i=1}^{\omega_z} (m - \rho_i) + m \quad (3.28)$$

Corollary 3.7 (Further explication of Assumption 1) [7].

Let  $n_0$  be the smallest integer so that (3.20) is satisfied. Then,

$$n_0 = \omega_z.$$

Comment: The number of unbounded root loci of the system is  $\delta_z$ . We will show under Assumption 2, that  $\delta_z$  unbounded roots of the 1st, 2nd, ...,  $\omega_z$ th order are obtained. First, a preliminary proposition.

Proposition 3.8 (Connection between rank  $\hat{G}_n$  and rank  $T_n$ )

$$\text{rank } G_1 = \rho_1$$

$$\text{rank } \hat{G}_2 := \dim (R(\hat{G}_2)) = \rho_2 - \rho_1$$

$$\text{rank } \hat{G}_3 := \dim (R(\hat{G}_3)) = \rho_3 - \rho_2$$

and so on.

Proof: We leave it to the reader to verify that:

$$\text{rank } T_1 = \text{rank } G_1 = \rho_1$$

$$\text{rank } T_2 - \text{rank } T_1 = \text{rank } G_1 + \text{rank } \hat{G}_2 = \rho_2$$

$$\text{rank } T_3 - \text{rank } T_2 = \text{rank } G_1 + \text{rank } \hat{G}_2 + \text{rank } \hat{G}_3 = \rho_3$$

and so on. □

Recall from Proposition 2.6 that the connection between rank and number of non-zero eigenvalues is simple-null structure. Hence, we assume

Assumption 2 (Simple null structure)

Assume that

$$G_1$$

$$\hat{G}_2 := G_2 \bmod R(G_1) \Big|_{\eta(G_1)}$$

$$\hat{G}_3 := G_3 - G_2 G_1^\dagger G_2 \bmod R(\hat{G}_2) \bmod R(G_1) \Big|_{\eta(\hat{G}_2)}$$

etc. have simple null structure.



of non-zero eigenvalues of  $G_1, \hat{G}_2, \hat{G}_3, \dots$  is the same as  $\text{rank } G_1, \text{rank } \hat{G}_2, \text{rank } \hat{G}_3, \dots$ . Using this, we obtain

Theorem 3.11 (Asymptotic Unbounded Root Loci)

Under Assumptions 1 and 2 the only unbounded root loci of the system of Figure 1 are the 1st, 2nd, ...,  $n_o$ th order unbounded root loci specified by Theorem 3.2.

Proof: The proof is by counting. By Theorem 3.2 and the observations made above the number of 1st, 2nd, ...,  $n_o$ th order unbounded root loci is

$$\dim R(G_1) + 2 \dim R(\hat{G}_2) + \dots + n_o \dim R(\hat{G}_{n_o})$$

Using Proposition 3.8, this is rewritten as

$$\rho_1 + 2(\rho_2 - \rho_1) + \dots + n_o(\rho_{n_o} - \rho_{n_o-1}) \quad (3.29)$$

with  $\rho_{n_o} = m$  and  $n_o = \omega_z$  (by Theorem 3.6 and Corollary 3.7).

Simplifying (3.29) we obtain the number of 1st, ...,  $n_o$ th order unbounded root loci to be

$$m + \sum_{i=1}^{n_o} (m - \rho_i) = \delta_z.$$

This proves the theorem. □

Comments on dropping the simple null structure assumption

Consider the following example of the failure to Theorem 3.11 without the simple null structure assumption:

$$G_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad G_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad G_k = 0 \quad k \geq 3.$$

By Theorem 3.2 there are no first, second, .... order unbounded root loci. Also,

unbounded root loci. Also, by Theorem 3.6,  $\omega_z = 2$  and  $\delta_z = 3$ . Note that  $\det(I + kG(s)) = 0$  yields  $1 + \frac{k^2}{s^3} = 0$  so that there are three  $O(k^{2/3})$  root loci. To indicate the nature of the unbounded root loci in the absence of Assumption 2, consider

Proposition 3.12

Let  $G_i = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & & 0 \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & 1 \\ 0 & & & 0 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$  and let the  $(m,m)$ th element of

$G_\ell, g_{m,m}^{(\ell)} = 0$  for  $\ell = i+1, \dots, i+p$  and  $g_{m,m}^{i+p+1} \neq 0$ . Further, assume  $p < m-1$ .

Then the  $im + p + 1$  unbounded root loci for this system are of  $O(k^{m/im+p+1})$  with asymptotic values given by  $(-g_{m,m}^{i+p+1}) \frac{1}{im+p+1}$ .

Proof: Follows from the result in numerical analysis (see [9]) that asymptotically the eigenvalues of

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & & 0 \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & 1 \\ 0 & & & 0 \end{bmatrix} + B(\epsilon) \text{ where } B(\epsilon) \text{ is a } m \times m \text{ matrix}$$

of  $O(\epsilon)$  with  $\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{b_{mm}(\epsilon)}{\epsilon} \neq 0$  are of  $O(\epsilon^{1/m})$  with asymptotic values given

by  $\epsilon^{1/m} \left[ \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{b_{mm}(\epsilon)}{\epsilon} \right]^{1/m}$ . The details are messy and are omitted.  $\square$

Section 4. Robust computation of asymptotic values

For robust computation we use orthogonal projections and the singular value decomposition (see for e.g. [17]), which we restate. The reader is assumed to be familiar with the many desirable properties of the singular value decomposition (s.v.d) in numerical computation.

Proposition 4.1 (The Singular Value Decomposition) [17]

A matrix  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times m}$  of rank  $r$  may be decomposed as

$$A = [U_1 \ ; \ U_2] \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} V_1^* \\ - \\ V_2^* \end{bmatrix} \quad (4.2)$$

where  $U = [U_1 \ ; \ U_2] \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times m}$  with  $U_1 \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times r}$ ;  $U_2 \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times (m-r)}$

and  $V = [V_1 \ ; \ V_2] \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times m}$  with  $V_1 \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times r}$ ;  $V_2 \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times (m-r)}$

are unitary matrices and  $\Sigma_1 \in \mathbb{R}_+^{r \times r}$  is a diagonal matrix of positive real numbers.

Comment: The columns of  $V_1$ ,  $U_1$  represent orthogonal bases for the range spaces of  $A^*$ ,  $A$  respectively. The columns of  $V_2$ ,  $U_2$  represent orthogonal bases for the null spaces of  $A$ ,  $A^*$  respectively.

Notation: Denote the S.V.D. of  $G_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$  by

$$G_1 = [U_1^1 \ ; \ U_2^1] \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_1^1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} V_1^{1*} \\ - \\ V_2^{1*} \end{bmatrix} \quad (4.2)$$

where  $\Sigma_1^1 \in \mathbb{R}_+^{m_1 \times m_1}$  and the other matrices are real and of conformal dimensions.

Further let the S.V.D. of  $U_2^{1*} G_2 V_2^1 \in \mathbb{R}^{(m-m_1) \times (m-m_1)}$  be given by

$$U_2^{1*} G_2 V_2^1 = [U_1^2 \ ; \ U_2^2] \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_1^2 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} V_1^{2*} \\ - \\ V_2^{2*} \end{bmatrix} \quad (4.3)$$

where  $\Sigma_1^2 \in \mathbb{R}_+^{m_2 \times m_2}$

denote the S.V.D. of  $U_2^{2*} U_2^{1*} (G_3 - G_2 G_1^\dagger G_2) V_2^1 V_2^2 \in \mathbb{R}^{(m-m_1-m_2) \times (m-m_1-m_2)}$  by

$$U_2^{2*} U_2^{1*} (G_3 - G_2 G_1^\dagger G_2) V_2^1 V_2^2 = [U_1^3 \quad U_2^3] \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & 0 \\ & \ddots & & \\ & & 1 & \\ & & & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} V_1^{3*} \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & V_2^{3*} \end{bmatrix} \quad (4.4)$$

choosing for  $G_1^\dagger$ , the Moore-Penrose inverse,

$$[V_1^1 \quad V_2^1] \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & 0 \\ & (L_1)^{-1} & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ 0 & & & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} U_1^{1*} \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ U_2^{1*} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Then, using (2.9) to compute the asymptotes of the integral order asymptotic root loci computed in Section 3.1 we obtain

**Theorem 4.2** (Polynomial equations for the asymptotes of integral order unbounded root loci).

- (i)  $\mu_1 = (-\lambda) \neq 0 \in \mathbb{C}$  is the coefficient of the asymptotic value of a 1st order unbounded root locus iff

$$\det (-G_1 + \lambda I) = 0 \quad (4.5)$$

- (ii)  $\mu_2 = (-\lambda)^{1/2} \neq 0 \in \mathbb{C}$  is the coefficient of the asymptotic value of a 2nd order unbounded root locus iff

$$\det (\lambda U_2^{1*} V_2^1 - U_2^{1*} G_2 V_2^1) = 0 \quad (4.6)$$

- (iii)  $\mu_3 = (-\lambda)^{1/3} \neq 0 \in \mathbb{C}$  is the coefficient of the asymptotic value of a 3rd order unbounded root locus iff

$$\det (\lambda U_2^{2*} U_2^{1*} V_2^1 V_2^2 - U_2^{2*} U_2^{1*} (G_3 - G_2 G_1^\dagger G_2) V_2^1 V_2^2) \neq 0, \quad (4.7)$$

and so on.



Comments: (i) Note that equations (4.5), (4.6), (4.7) are solved by setting up generalized eigenvalue problems of dimension  $m$ ,  $m-m_1$ ,  $m-m_1-m_2$  respectively. They can in fact be set up as ordinary eigenvalue problems, since by Assumption 2,  $U_2^{1*} V_2^1$  and  $U_2^{2*} U_2^{1*} V_2^1 V_2^2$  are invertible.

(ii) Some geometrical insight into the computation procedures is obtained by expressing the solutions of (4.5), (4.6), (4.7) as the non-zero eigenvalues of

$$\begin{aligned} G_1 \\ G_2 \Big|_{\eta(G_1) \rightarrow \eta(G_1^*)} &= : \hat{G}_2 \quad ; \\ G_3 - G_2 \quad G_1^\dagger G_2 \Big|_{\eta(\hat{G}_2) \rightarrow \eta(\hat{G}_2^*)} &=: \hat{G}_3 \quad ; \quad \text{respectively.} \end{aligned}$$

Theorem (4.2) then identifies orthogonal subspaces of the input space ( $R^m$ ) and the output space ( $R^m$ ) for the computation of the integral order unbounded root loci.  $R(V_1^1)$ ,  $R(V_2^1 V_1^2)$ ,  $R(V_2^1 V_2^2 V_1^3)$ , ... are subspaces of the input space and  $R(U_1^1)$ ,  $R(U_2^1 U_1^2)$ ,  $R(U_2^1 U_2^2 U_1^3)$ , are subspaces of the output space associated with the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, ... order unbounded root loci respectively.

### Section 5: Pivots for the asymptotic root loci

For the integral order root loci the asymptotic series have the form given by (see [8])

$$s_{i,n} = (-k\lambda_i)^{1/n} + c_i + d_i k^{-1/n} + \dots \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots n_0 \quad (5.1)$$

with  $\lambda_i \neq 0$ ,  $c_i, d_i \in \mathbb{C}$ . By the pivot of the asymptotic root locus is meant the coefficient of the  $O(1)$  term of the asymptotic expansion of (5.1) i.e.  $c_i$ . Each cycle of the multivariable root locus at  $\infty$  has the same pivot. To make the calculation we need

Assumption 3 (Simple Structure)

Assume that  $\hat{G}_1, \hat{G}_2, \hat{G}_3, \dots, \hat{G}_{n_0}$  have simple structure associated with each of their eigenvalues.

Theorem 5.1 (Expression for the pivots)

Under assumptions 1,2,3 the  $n$ th order asymptotic unbounded root loci for the system of Figure 1 have the form (5.1) with  $c_i$  given by the solution of

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} G_{n+1} - c_i G_n & G_n - \lambda_i I & & & G_1 \\ G_n - \lambda_i I & G_{n-1} & & & G_1 \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ G_2 & & G_1 & 0 & 0 \\ G_1 & & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = 0. \quad (5.2)$$

Proof: Using the same technique as in the proof of Theorem 3.2 we get,

$$\text{with } \frac{k}{s^n} = \frac{1}{\mu^n} \left( 1 - \frac{nc}{\mu k^{1/n}} + O(k^{-2/n}) \right)$$

$$\left[ I + \frac{\frac{n-1}{k^n}}{\mu} G_1 + \frac{\frac{n-2}{k^n}}{\mu^2} G_2 + \dots + \frac{G_n}{\mu^n} - \frac{nG_n c}{\mu^{n+1} k^{1/n}} + \frac{G_{n+1}}{k^{1/n} \mu^{n+1}} + \dots \right]$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} e_1 + \frac{e_2}{k^{1/n}} + \dots & \frac{e_n}{k^{1/n}} + e_{n+1} + \dots \\ \frac{n-1}{k^n} & \frac{-1}{k^n} \end{bmatrix} = 0. \quad (5.3)$$

Equating terms of  $O(k^{-2/n}), \dots, O(1), O(k^{1/n})$ , one obtains equation (5.2)

with  $-\mu^n = \lambda_{i,n}$ . □

Comments: (i) For each of the  $n$ th root of  $\lambda_{i,n}$  the same value of  $c_i$  occurs from equation (5.2), justifying the term "pivot of the  $n$ -cycle for  $c_i$ ."

(ii) Equation (5.2) is triangular block Toeplitz and so admits of simplification. We take this up next.

### 5.1 Formulae for the pivots of the unbounded root loci

5.1.1 First Order:  $s = -\lambda_i k + c_i + O(k^{-1})$ .

$c_i$  are the solutions of

$$\det \left[ \begin{array}{c|c} G_2 - c_i G_1 & G_1 - \lambda_i I \\ \hline G_1 - \lambda_i I & 0 \end{array} \right] = 0 \quad (5.4)$$

where  $\lambda_i$  is a non-zero eigenvalue of  $G_1$ . This may be rewritten after row operations as

$$\det \left[ \begin{array}{c|c} G_2 - c_i \lambda_i I & G_1 - \lambda_i I \\ \hline G_1 - \lambda_i I & 0 \end{array} \right] = 0$$

so that by Proposition 2.3,  $c_i \lambda_i$  is an eigenvalue of

$$G_2 \bmod R(G_1 - \lambda_i I) \Big|_{\eta(G_1 - \lambda_i I)} \quad (5.5)$$

By Assumption 3, in analogy to Proposition (3.9) we have

$$R(G_1 - \lambda_i I) + \eta(G_1 - \lambda_i I) = \mathbb{R}^m$$

so that there are as many eigenvalues to the operator in (5.5) as the dimension of  $\eta(G_1 - \lambda_i I)$ .

5.1.2 Second Order:  $s = \sqrt{-\lambda_i k} + c_i + O(k^{-1/2})$ .

$c_i$  are the solutions of

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} G_3 - 2c_i G_2 & G_2 - \lambda_i I & G_1 \\ \hline G_2 - \lambda_i I & G_1 & 0 \\ \hline G_1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = 0. \quad (5.6)$$

Proposition 5.1 (Formula for second order pivots)

The second order pivots  $c_i$  corresponding to  $\lambda_i$  of (5.1), the coefficient of a second order unbounded root locus are  $\frac{1}{2\lambda_i}$  times the eigenvalues of

$$(G_3 - (G_2 - \lambda_i I) G_1^\dagger (G_2 - \lambda_i I)) \bmod (R(\hat{G}_2 - \lambda_i \hat{I})) \bmod R(G_1) \Big|_{\eta(\hat{G}_2 - \lambda_i \hat{I})} \quad (5.7)$$

where  $(\hat{G}_2 - \lambda_i \hat{I}) := G_2 - \lambda_i I \bmod R(G_1) \Big|_{\eta(G_1)}$ .

Proof: (5.6) may be rewritten as:]  $v_1, v_2, v_3 \in \mathbb{R}^m$  not all zero such that

$$\begin{bmatrix} G_3 - 2c_i \lambda_i I - 2c_i (G_2 - \lambda_i I) & G_2 - \lambda_i I & G_1 \\ \hline G_2 - \lambda_i I & G_1 & 0 \\ \hline G_1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ v_3 \end{bmatrix} = 0 \quad (5.8)$$

Adding  $2c_i$  times the second row of (5.8) to the first row of (5.8) and then subtracting  $2c_i$  times the third column of (5.8) from the second column of (5.8) we have

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} G_3 - 2c_i \lambda_i I & G_2 - \lambda_i I & G_1 \\ \hline G_2 - \lambda_i I & G_1 & 0 \\ \hline G_1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = 0 \quad (5.9)$$

(5.7) now follows readily from (5.9). □

Comment: As before by Assumption 3, there are as many pivots as there are  $\lambda_i$ 's for the second order unbounded root loci.

5.1.3. Third order  $s = (-\lambda_i k)^{1/3} + c_i + o(k^{-1/3})$

$c_i$  are the solutions of

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} G_4 - 3c_i G_3 & G_3 - \lambda_i I & G_2 & G_1 \\ \hline G_3 - \lambda_i I & G_2 & G_1 & 0 \\ \hline G_2 & G_1 & 0 & 0 \\ \hline G_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = 0 \quad (5.10)$$

Proposition 5.2 (Formula for third order pivots)

The third order pivots  $c_i$  corresponding to  $\lambda_i$  of (5.1), the coefficient of a third order unbounded root locus are  $\frac{1}{3\lambda_i}$  times the eigenvalues of

$$G_4 - (G_3 - \lambda_i I) G_1^\dagger G_2 - G_2 G_1^\dagger (G_3 - \lambda_i I) + G_2 G_1^\dagger G_2 G_1^\dagger G_2 \mod R(G_1) \mod R(\hat{G}_2) \mod R(\hat{G}_3 - \lambda_i \hat{I}) \Big|_{\eta(\hat{G}_3 - \lambda_i \hat{I})} \quad (5.11)$$

where  $\hat{G}_3 - \lambda_i \hat{I} := G_3 - \lambda I \mod R(G_1) \mod R(\hat{G}_2) \Big|_{\eta(\hat{G}_2)}$ .

Proof: Exactly as in Proposition 5.1. □

5.1.4 Higher order pivots  $s = (-\lambda_i k)^{1/n} + c_i + o(k^{-1/n})$

The extension of the foregoing procedure to higher order pivots is exactly as in Section 3.1 and is omitted.

## 5.2 Computation of the Pivots

The machinery introduced in Section 4 can be used to set up a procedure

for the computation of the pivots involving essentially multiplying  $G_2$ ,

$G_3 - (G_2 - \lambda_1 I)G_1^\dagger(G_2 - \lambda_1 I)$ , ..... by  $U_2^{1*}$ ,  $U_2^{2*}$   $U_2^{1*}$ , .... on the left and  $V_2^1$ ,  $V_2^1$   $V_2^2$ , ... on the right. The details are omitted.

## Section 6. Concluding Remarks

The above calculations of the asymptotes of the unbounded root loci may be applied to state a necessary and sufficient condition for the closed loop exponential stability of a strictly proper linear time-invariant system under arbitrarily high gain feedback  $k \geq k_0$  as follows:

### Theorem 6.1 (High gain stability)

If the strictly proper, linear time-invariant plant  $G(s)$  satisfies Assumptions 1,2,3; then the closed loop system of Figure 1 is exponentially stable for all  $k \geq k_0$  with all closed loop eigenvalues uniformly (for  $k \in [k_0, \infty]$ ) bounded away from the  $j\omega$ -axis for  $k \geq k_0$ , iff

- (i) the McMillan zeros of  $G(s)$  are in the  $\mathbb{C}_-$ .
- (ii) the non zero eigenvalues of  $G_1$  are in  $\mathbb{C}_+$
- (iii) the eigenvalues of  $G_2(\text{mod } R(G_1)) \Big|_{\eta(G_1)}$  are real and positive
- (iv) the pivots associated with each eigenvalue of  $G_2(\text{mod } R(G_1)) \Big|_{\eta(G_1)}$  have negative real part
- (v)  $\mathbb{R}^m = R(G_1) + R(G_2 \Big|_{\eta(G_1)})$ .

Comments: (i) Condition (v) of the theorem guarantees that only first and second order unbounded root loci exist.

(ii) Theorem 6.1 is the generalization to multi input - multi output of a well known theorem for single-input, single output systems (see [13]).

(iii) The proof is straight-forward from the preceding calculations.

The results of this paper are easily generalized to the case of proper rather than strictly proper plants. The Taylor series about  $s = \infty$  then is

$$G(s) = G_0 + \frac{G_1}{s} + \dots$$

and the calculations would begin with restriction in domain to  $\eta(G_0)$  and  $\text{mod}R(G_0)$  in the range.

The generalization to the case of proper irrational transfer functions analytic outside a compact disc is also immediate. Note, however, that there is no counterpart of the Smith McMillan theory of Section 3.2.

We have not investigated in our set-up the specialization of our computations to asymptotic Linear Quadratic regulators (see for e.g. [14], [15], [16]).

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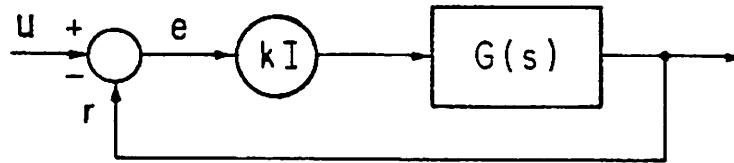


Figure 1. System configuration.