

ELEC 3500
Control Systems
Lecture 9: State-Variable Feedback: Reachability
and Pole Placement by Ackermann's Formula

Instructor: Dr. Bosen Lian
Electrical and Computer Engineering
Auburn University
Fall 2025

□ State-Variable Feedback (SVFB)

$$\dot{x} = Ax + \underline{B}u$$

$$y = Cx + Du$$

$$x \in \mathbb{R}^n, \quad u \in \mathbb{R}^m, \quad m < n$$

$$y \in \mathbb{R}^p, \quad p < n,$$

$$u = -kx + v$$

v is another external input

$$\dot{x} = Ax + Bu \rightarrow \text{closed-loop dynamics}$$

$$= \underline{(A - BK)}x + Bv$$

A_c

$$y = Cx + Du$$

$$= \underline{(C - DK)}x + Dv$$

C_c

$$sX(s) = A_c X(s) + Bv$$

$$X(s) = (sI - A_c)^{-1} Bv$$

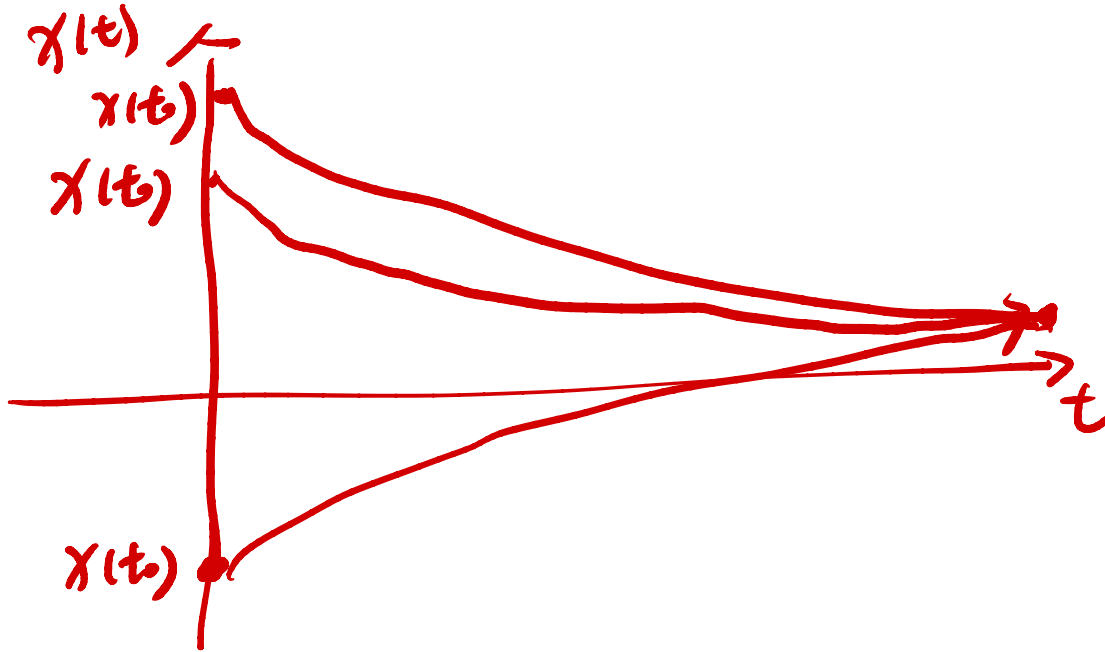
$$\Delta_c(s) = (sI - A_c)^{-1}$$

□ State-Variable Feedback (SVFB)

$$H_c(s) = C_c (sI - A_c)^{-1} B + D$$

□ Reachability

A system is said to be REACHABLE (sometimes called CONTROLLABLE) if the control input $u(t)$ can be selected to drive the state $x(t)$ from any given initial condition to any desired final value.



Reachable matrix

$$U = [B \quad AB \quad A^2B \quad \dots \quad A^{n-1}B], \text{ } n \text{ is the state dimension}$$

A system is reachable if only if $\text{rank}(U) = n$

For example, $\dot{x} = Ax + Bu$ with

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 9 & 0 \end{bmatrix}_{2 \times 2} \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$U = [B \quad \underline{AB}] = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -2 \\ -2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{rank}(U) = 2$$

reachable

□ SVFB Pole Placement and Ackermann's Formula

POLE-PLACEMENT problem

Select K such that $\Delta_c(s) = |sI - A_c| = |sI - (A - BK)|$ has prescribed poles.

ACKERMANN'S FORMULA

$$K = e_n U^{-1} \Delta_D(A),$$

where $e_n = [0 \ 0 \ \dots \ 0 \ 1]$ is the last row of the $n \times n$ identity matrix, and $\Delta_D(s)$ is the DESIRED characteristic polynomial. The desired characteristic polynomial evaluated at the plant matrix A is $\Delta_D(A)$, which is a MATRIX POLYNOMIAL.

n is state dimension

□ Example 1

The angle subsystem of the inverted pendulum is given for some specific values of parameters by

$$\dot{x} = \underline{A}x + \underline{B}u = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 9 & 0 \end{bmatrix} x + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} u$$

Design a SVFB K that will give a closed-loop POV of 4% with a settling time of $t_s = 1$ sec.

$$u = -Kx$$

By Ackermann's formula,

$$K = e_2 U^{-1} \Delta_D(A)$$

$$e_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$U^{-1} = [B \ AB]^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -2 \\ -2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} = \frac{1}{-4} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

To find $\Delta_D(A)$, we need to find $\Delta_D(s)$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\frac{1}{2} \\ -\frac{1}{2} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Delta_D(s) = s^2 + 2\xi\omega_n + \omega_n^2$$

POV = 4% $\rightarrow \xi = 0.7$

settling time 1s $\rightarrow t_s = 1s = 5\tau = 5 \cdot \frac{1}{\alpha} \rightarrow \alpha = 5$

$$\omega_n = \frac{\alpha}{\xi} = \frac{5}{0.7} = 7.07$$

$$\hookrightarrow \Delta_D(s) = \underline{s^2 + 10s + 50}$$

$$\Delta_D(A) = \Delta_D(s) \big|_{s=A}$$

$$= A^2 + 10 \cdot A + 50 \cdot I_{2 \times 2}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 59 & 10 \\ 90 & 59 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$K = e_2 u^{-1} \Delta_D(A) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -0.5 \\ -0.5 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 59 & 10 \\ 90 & 59 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} -29.5 & -5 \end{bmatrix}$$

To double-check if the k results in the above
POV -4%, $t_s = 1s$

$$\Delta(s) = \begin{vmatrix} sI - (A - BK) \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= s^2 + 10s + 50 //$$