

Lecture – 22

# *Pole Placement Observer Design*

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# Outline

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- Philosophy of observer design
- Full-order observer
- Reduced (Minimum) order observer

# Philosophy of Observer Design

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- In practice all the state variables are not available for feedback. Possible reasons include:
  - Non-Availability of sensors
  - Expensive sensors
  - Available sensors are not acceptable (due to high noise, high power consumption etc.)
- A state observer estimates the state variables based on the measurements of the output over a period of time.
- The system should be “observable”.

# *Full-order Observer Design*

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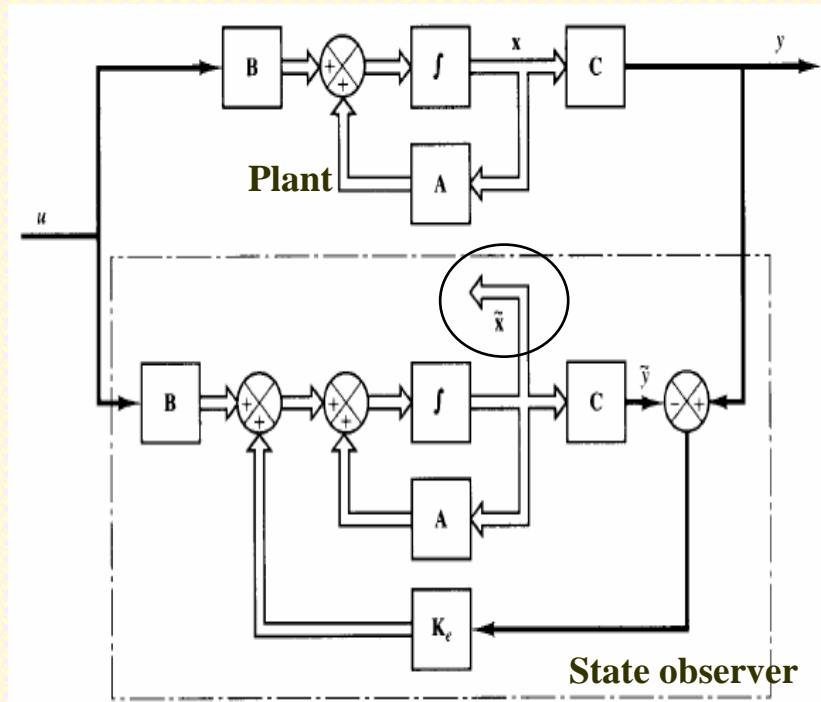
# State Observer Block Diagram

**Plant :**  $\dot{X} = AX + BU$   
 $y = CX$  (single output)

Let the observed state be  $\tilde{X}$ . Let the observer dynamics be

$$\dot{\tilde{X}} = \tilde{A}\tilde{X} + \tilde{B}U + K_e y$$

**Error :**  $E \triangleq (X - \tilde{X})$



Ref: K. Ogata: *Modern Control Engineering*, 3rd Ed., Prentice Hall, 1999

# Observer Design: Concepts

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Error Dynamics:

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{E} &= \dot{X} - \dot{\tilde{X}} \\ &= (AX + BU) - (\tilde{A}\tilde{X} + \tilde{B}U + K_e y)\end{aligned}$$

Add and Subtract  $\tilde{A}X$  and substitute  $y = CX$

$$\begin{aligned}&= AX - \tilde{A}X + \tilde{A}X - \tilde{A}\tilde{X} + BU - \tilde{B}U - K_e CX \\ &= (A - \tilde{A})X + \tilde{A}(X - \tilde{X}) + (B - \tilde{B})U - K_e CX\end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \dot{E} = \tilde{A}E + (A - \tilde{A} - K_e C)X + (B - \tilde{B})U$$

**Strategy:** 1. Make the error dynamics independent of  $X$   
2. Eliminate the effect of  $U$  from error dynamics

# Observer Design: Concepts

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- This leads to:  $\tilde{A} = A - K_e C$

$$\tilde{B} = B$$

- Error dynamics:  $\dot{E} = \tilde{A}E = (A - K_e C)E$

- Observer dynamics

$$\dot{\tilde{X}} = A\tilde{X} + BU + K_e \underbrace{(y - C\tilde{X})}_{\text{Residue}}$$

## Observer Design: Full Order

- **Goal:** Obtain gain  $K_e$  such that the error dynamics are asymptotically stable with sufficient speed of response.

- $\tilde{A}^T = A^T - C^T K_e^T$ . Hence the problem here becomes the same as the pole placement problem!

Necessary and sufficient condition for the existence of  $K_e$ :

The system should be completely observable!



# Comparison with Pole Placement Design

## Controller Design

- Dynamics

$$\dot{X} = (A - BK)X$$

- Objective

$$X(t) \rightarrow 0, \text{ as } t \rightarrow \infty$$

## Observer Design

- Dynamics

$$\dot{E} = \tilde{A}E = (A - K_e C)E$$

- Objective

$$E(t) \rightarrow 0, \text{ as } t \rightarrow \infty$$

- Notice that

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda(A - K_e C) &= \lambda \left[ (A - K_e C)^T \right] \\ &= \lambda \left( A^T - C^T K_e^T \right) \end{aligned}$$

# Observer Design as a Dual Problem

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Consider the dual problem with *input*  $v$  and *output*  $y^*$

$$\dot{Z} = A^T Z + C^T v$$

$$y^* = B^T Z$$

Pole placement design for this problem

with desired observer roots at  $\mu_1 \cdots \cdots \mu_n$  yields

$$\left| sI - (A^T - C^T K_o) \right| = (s - \mu_1) \cdots (s - \mu_n)$$

Now equating observer characteristic equation  
to the RHS of the above equation

we get 
$$K_e = K_o^T$$

# Observer Design: Method – 1

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- For systems of low order ( $n \leq 3$ )
- Check Observability
- Define  $K_e = [k_1 \ k_2 \ k_3]^T$
- Substitute this gain in the desired characteristic polynomial equation
$$\left| sI - (A - K_e C) \right| = (s - \mu_1) \cdots (s - \mu_n)$$
- Solve for the **gain elements** by equating the like powers on both sides

## Observer Design: Method – 2

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Step:1  $|sI - A| = s^n + a_1s^{n-1} + a_2s^{n-2} + \dots + a_{n-1}s + a_n$   
find  $a_i$ 's

Step:2  $(s - \mu_1) \dots (s - \mu_n) = s^n + \alpha_1s^{n-1} + \alpha_2s^{n-2} + \dots + \alpha_n$   
find  $\alpha_i$ 's

Step:3 Follow a similar approach as in pole placement control design (i.e. Bass-Gura approach) to compute the observer gain.

## Observer Design: Method - 2

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$$K_e = (WN^T)^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} (\alpha_n - a_n) \\ (\alpha_{n-1} - a_{n-1}) \\ \vdots \\ (\alpha_1 - a_1) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Where } N = \begin{bmatrix} C^T & A^T C^T & \dots & (A^T)^{n-1} C^T \end{bmatrix}$$

$$W = \begin{bmatrix} a_{n-1} & \dots & a_1 & 1 \\ \vdots & & \ddots & 0 \\ a_1 & \ddots & \dots & \vdots \\ 1 & \dots & \dots & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Observer Design: Method – 3

## Ackerman's Formula

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$$K_e = \phi(A) \begin{bmatrix} C \\ CA \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ CA^{n-2} \\ CA^{n-1} \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\phi(A) = A^n + \alpha_1 A^{n-1} + \dots + \alpha_{n-1} A + \alpha_n I$$

## Example: Observer Design

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$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 20.6 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}; B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}; C = [0 \quad 1]$$

Assume the desired eigen values of the observer

$$\mu_1 = -1.8 + 2.4j; \mu_2 = -1.8 - 2.4j$$

**Step : 1** observability  $n = 2$

$$\begin{bmatrix} C^T & A^T C^T \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}; \quad \text{rank} = 2$$

**Step : 2** Characteristic equation

$$|sI - A| = \begin{vmatrix} s & -20.6 \\ -1 & s \end{vmatrix} = s^2 - 20.6 = s^2 + a_1s + a_2 = 0$$

# Example: Observer Design

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$$a_1 = 0; \quad a_2 = -20.6$$

**Step : 3** Desired Characteristic Equation

$$(s + 1.8 - 2.4j)(s + 1.8 + 2.4j) = s^2 + 3.6s + 9 = s^2 + \alpha_1 s + \alpha_2 = 0$$

$$\alpha_1 = 3.6; \quad \alpha_2 = 9$$

**Step : 4** Observer gain

$$K_e = (WN^T)^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_2 - a_2 \\ \alpha_1 - a_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 9 + 20.6 \\ 3.6 - 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$K_e = \begin{bmatrix} 29.6 \\ 3.6 \end{bmatrix}$$



# Separation Principle

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System dynamics  $\dot{X} = AX + BU$   
 $y = CX$

State feedback control based on observed state is  $U = -K\tilde{X}$

State equation  $\dot{X} = AX - BK\tilde{X} = (A - BK)X + BK(X - \tilde{X})$

**error**  $E(t) = X - \tilde{X}$

hence  $\dot{X} = (A - BK)X + BKE$

observer error equation

$$\dot{E} = (A - K_e C)E$$

# Separation Principle

Combined equation: 
$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{X} \\ \dot{E} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A - BK & BK \\ 0 & A - K_e C \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} X \\ E \end{bmatrix}$$

Characteristic equation for the Observer-State-Feedback system

$$\begin{vmatrix} sI - A + BK & -BK \\ 0 & sI - A + K_e C \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

$$|sI - A + BK| |sI - A + K_e C| = 0$$

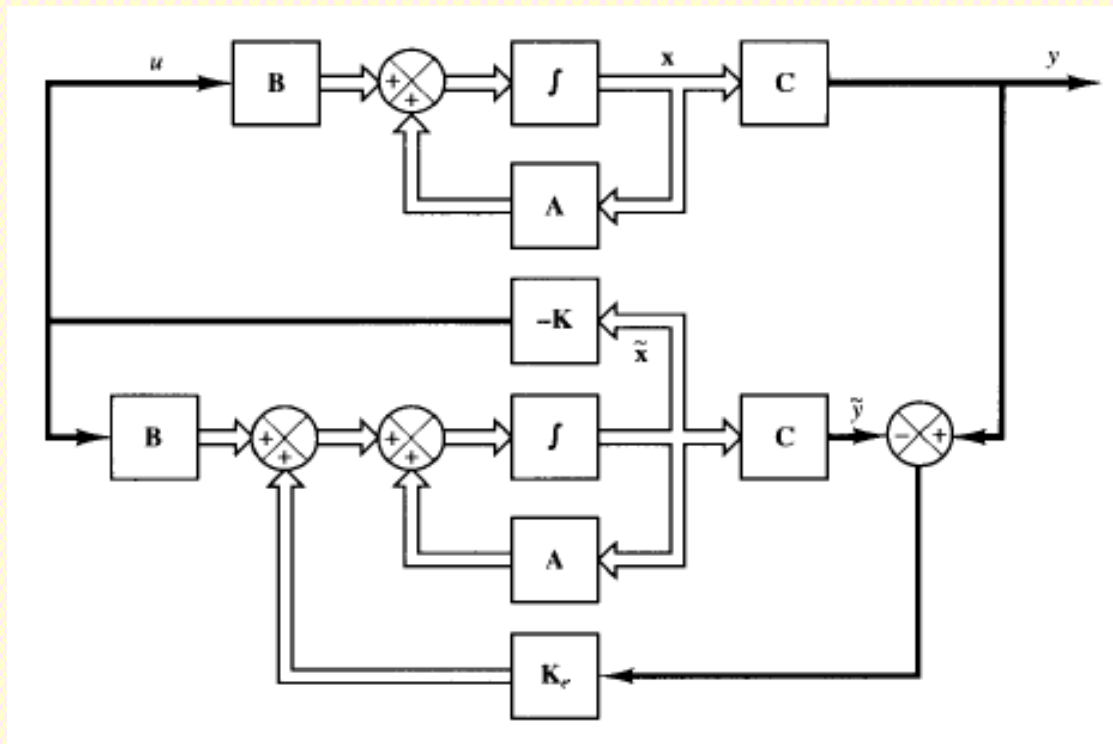
Poles due to  
controller

Poles due to  
Observer

Hence Observer design and  
Pole placement are  
independent of each other!

This is known as “Separation  
Theorem”.

# Closed Loop System



**Ref:** K. Ogata:  
*Modern Control  
Engineering*, 3rd  
Ed., Prentice Hall,  
1999

**Fig:** Observed State feedback Control System

# *Reduced-order Observer Design*

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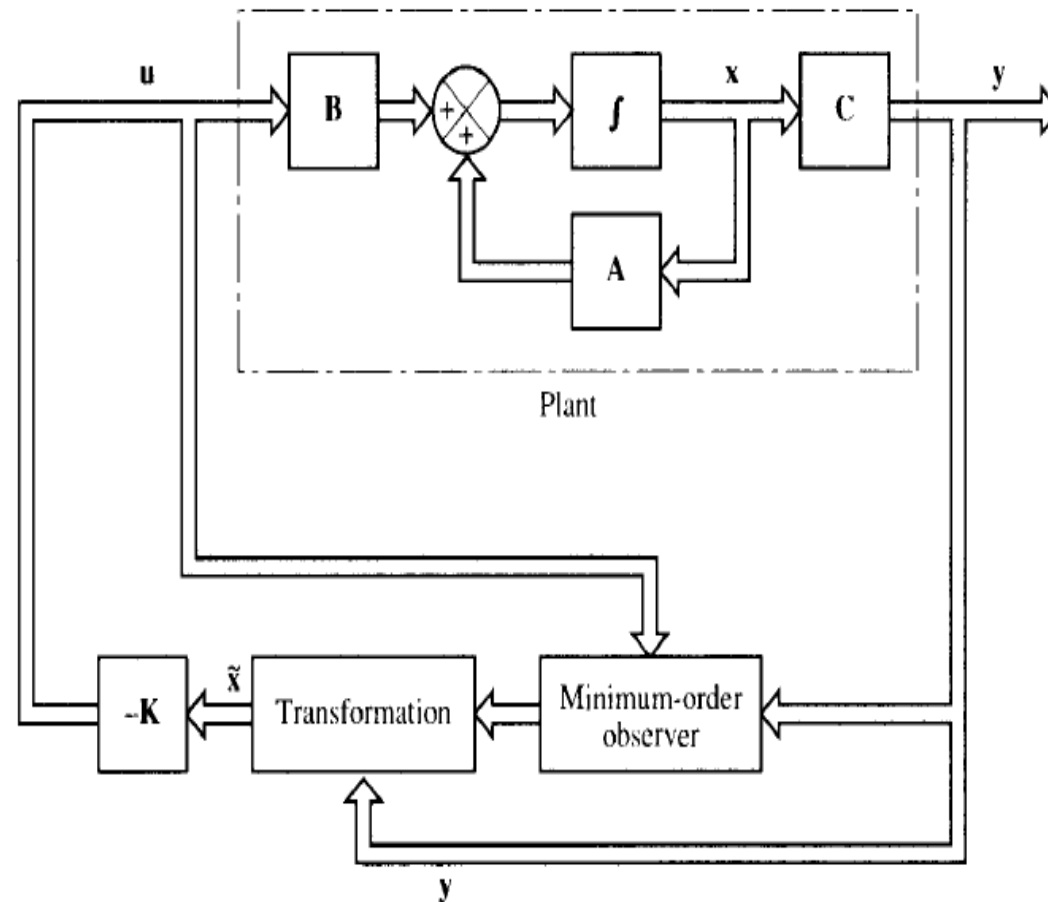
## Reduced Order Observer

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- Some of the state variables may be accurately measured .
- Suppose  $X$  is an  $n$  - vector and the output  $y$  is an  $m$  - vector that can be measured .
- We need to estimate only  $(n-m)$  state variables.
- The reduced-order observer becomes  $(n-m)$ th order observer.

# Block diagram:

State feedback control with minimum order observer



**Ref :** *K. Ogata: Modern Control Engineering, 3rd Ed., Prentice Hall, 1999*

# State Equation for the Reduced order observer

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$$\text{Let } m = 1, \quad \dot{X} = AX + Bu$$

$$y = CX$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_a \\ \dot{X}_b \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A_{aa} & A_{ab} \\ A_{ba} & A_{bb} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_a \\ X_b \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} B_a \\ B_b \end{bmatrix} u$$

$$y = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_a \\ X_b \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x_a = \text{scalar} \quad , \quad X_b = (n-1) \text{ vector}$$

# State Equation for the Reduced order observer

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- The equation for the measured portion of the state,

$$\dot{x}_a = A_{aa}x_a + A_{ab}X_b + B_a u$$

$$\dot{x}_a - A_{aa}x_a - B_a u = A_{ab}X_b$$

- The equation for the unmeasured portion of the state,

$$\dot{X}_b = A_{ba}x_a + A_{bb}X_b + B_b u$$

- Terms  $A_{ba}x_a$  and  $B_b u$  are "known quantities"



# Full order and Reduced order observer comparison

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- State/output equation for the full order observer :

$$\dot{X} = AX + Bu$$

$$y = CX$$

- State/output equation for the reduced order observer:

$$\dot{X}_b = A_{bb}X_b + A_{ba}x_a + B_b u$$

$$\dot{x}_a - A_{aa}x_a - B_a u = A_{ab}X_b$$

# Full order and Reduced order observer comparison

Full – Order State Observer	Reduced Order State observer
$\tilde{X}$	$\tilde{X}_b$
$A$	$A_{bb}$
$Bu$	$A_{ba}x_a + B_b u$
$y$	$\dot{x}_a - A_{aa}x_a - B_a u$
$C$	$A_{ab}$
$K_e (n \times 1 \text{ matrix})$	$K_e [(n-1) \times 1 \text{ matrix}]$

**Fig :** List of Necessary Substitutions for Writing the Observer Equation for the Reduced Order State Observer.

# Observer Equation

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- Full order Observer equation :

$$\dot{\tilde{X}} = (A - K_e C)\tilde{X} + Bu + K_e y$$

- Making substitutions from the table,

$$\dot{\tilde{X}}_b = (A_{bb} - K_e A_{ab})\tilde{X}_b + A_{ba}x_a + B_b u + K_e (\dot{x}_a - A_{aa}x_a - B_a u)$$

*i.e.*

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{\tilde{X}}_b - K_e \dot{x}_a &= (A_{bb} - K_e A_{ab})\tilde{X}_b + (A_{ba} - K_e A_{aa})y + (B_b - K_e B_a)u \\ &= (A_{bb} - K_e A_{ab})(\tilde{X}_b - K_e y) \\ &\quad + [(A_{bb} - K_e A_{ab})K_e + A_{ba} - K_e A_{aa}]y + (B_b - K_e B_a)u\end{aligned}$$

# Observer Equation

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- Define

$$X_b - K_e y = (X_b - K_e x_a) \triangleq \eta$$

$$\tilde{X}_b - K_e y = (\tilde{X}_b - K_e x_a) \triangleq \tilde{\eta}$$

- Then  $\dot{\tilde{\eta}} = (A_{bb} - K_e A_{ab})\tilde{\eta} + [(A_{bb} - K_e A_{ab})K_e + A_{ba} - K_e A_{aa}]y + (B_b - K_e B_a)u$

This is reduced order observer.

# Observer Error Equation

We have:

$$\dot{X}_b = A_{bb}X_b + (A_{ba}x_a + B_b u)$$

$$\dot{\tilde{X}}_b = (A_{bb} - K_e A_{ab})\tilde{X}_b + (A_{ba}x_a + B_b u) + K_e A_{ab}X_b$$

Subtracting:

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{X}_b - \dot{\tilde{X}}_b &= (A_{bb}X_b - K_e A_{ab}X_b) - (A_{bb} - K_e A_{ab})\tilde{X}_b \\ &= (A_{bb} - K_e A_{ab}) \underbrace{(X_b - \tilde{X}_b)}_E\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{i.e. } \dot{E} = (A_{bb} - K_e A_{ab})E$$

$$\text{where } E \triangleq (X_b - \tilde{X}_b) = (\eta - \tilde{\eta})$$

# Gain Matrix Computation

## Necessary Condition

The error dynamics can be chosen provided the rank of matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_{ab} \\ A_{ab}A_{bb} \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ A_{ab}A_{bb}^{n-2} \end{bmatrix} \text{ is } (n-1). \text{ This is complete observability condition}$$

## Characteristic Equation:

$$\begin{aligned} |sI - A_{bb} + K_e A_{ab}| &= (s - \mu_1)(s - \mu_2)\dots\dots(s - \mu_{n-1}) \\ &= s^{n-1} + \hat{\alpha}_1 s^{n-2} + \dots\dots\dots + \hat{\alpha}_{n-2} s + \hat{\alpha}_{n-1} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

where  $\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_{n-1}$  are desired eigenvalues of error dynamics

# The Characteristic Equation

$$K_e = \hat{Q} \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\alpha}_{n-1} - \hat{a}_{n-1} \\ \hat{\alpha}_{n-2} - \hat{a}_{n-2} \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \hat{\alpha}_1 - \hat{a}_1 \end{bmatrix} = (\hat{W}\hat{N}^T)^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\alpha}_{n-1} - \hat{a}_{n-1} \\ \hat{\alpha}_{n-2} - \hat{a}_{n-2} \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \hat{\alpha}_1 - \hat{a}_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

where

$$\hat{N} = \left[ A_{ab}^T \mid A_{bb}^T A_{ab}^T \mid \dots \mid (A_{bb}^T)^{n-2} A_{ab}^T \right]: (n-1) \times (n-1) \text{ matrix.}$$

$$\hat{W} = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{a}_{n-2} & \hat{a}_{n-3} & \dots & \hat{a}_1 & 1 \\ \hat{a}_{n-3} & \hat{a}_{n-4} & \dots & 1 & 0 \\ \cdot & \cdot & & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & & \cdot & \cdot \\ \hat{a}_1 & 1 & & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}: (n-1) \times (n-1) \text{ matrix.}$$

# The Characteristic Equation

- $\hat{a}_1, \hat{a}_2, \dots, \hat{a}_{n-2}$  are coefficients in the characteristic equation

$$|sI - A_{bb}| = s^{n-1} + \hat{a}_1 s^{n-2} + \dots + \hat{a}_{n-2} s + \hat{a}_{n-1} = 0.$$

- **Ackermann's formula:**  $K_e = \phi(A_{bb})$

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_{ab} \\ A_{ab} A_{bb} \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ A_{ab} A_{bb}^{n-3} \\ A_{ab} A_{bb}^{n-2} \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $\phi(A_{bb}) = A_{bb}^{n-1} + \hat{\alpha}_1 A_{bb}^{n-2} + \dots + \hat{\alpha}_{n-2} A_{bb} + \hat{\alpha}_{n-1} I$



# Separation Principle

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- The system characteristic equation can be derived as

$$\left|sI - A + BK\right| \left|sI - A_{bb} + K_e A_{ab}\right| = 0$$

Poles due to pole placement

Poles due to reduced order Observer

- Therefore the pole-placement design and the design of the reduced order observer are independent of each other.

# Example

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**Problem :** Consider the system

$$\dot{X} = AX + Bu$$

$$y = CX$$

where

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ -6 & -11 & -6 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad C = [1 \ 0 \ 0]$$

Assume that the output  $y$  can be accurately measured.

Design minimum order observer assuming that the desired eigen values are:

$$\mu_1 = -2 + j2\sqrt{3}, \quad \mu_2 = -2 - j2\sqrt{3}$$

# Example

Characteristic equation:

$$\begin{aligned} |sI - A_{bb} + K_e A_{ab}| &= (s - \mu_1)(s - \mu_2) \\ &= (s + 2 - j2\sqrt{3})(s + 2 + j2\sqrt{3}) = s^2 + 4s + 16 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Ackermann's formula:

$$K_e = \phi(A_{bb}) \begin{bmatrix} A_{ab} \\ A_{ab} A_{bb} \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $\phi(A_{bb}) = A_{bb}^2 + \hat{\alpha}_1 A_{bb} + \hat{\alpha}_2 I = A_{bb}^2 + 4 A_{bb} + 16I$

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} x_a \\ X_b \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_a \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ -6 & -11 & -6 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

## Example

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$$\text{Here } A_{aa} = 0, \quad A_{ab} = [1 \quad 0], \quad A_{ba} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -6 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A_{bb} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -11 & -6 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B_a = 0, \quad B_b = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} K_e &= \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -11 & -6 \end{bmatrix}^2 + 4 \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -11 & -6 \end{bmatrix} + 16 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 5 & -2 \\ 22 & 17 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 17 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

# Example

Observer equation:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\tilde{\eta}} = & (A_{bb} - K_e A_{ab}) \tilde{\eta} + \left[ (A_{bb} - K_e A_{ab}) K_e + A_{ba} - K_e A_{aa} \right] y \\ & + (B_b - K_e B_a) u \quad \left( \text{Note: } \tilde{\eta} \triangleq \tilde{X}_b - K_e y = \tilde{X}_b - K_e x_1 \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$A_{bb} - K_e A_{ab} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -11 & -6 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 17 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -28 & -6 \end{bmatrix}$$

Substituting various values,

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{\tilde{\eta}}_2 \\ \dot{\tilde{\eta}}_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -28 & -6 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\eta}_2 \\ \tilde{\eta}_3 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 13 \\ -52 \end{bmatrix} y + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} u$$

## Example :

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$$\begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\eta}_2 \\ \tilde{\eta}_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{x}_2 \\ \tilde{x}_3 \end{bmatrix} - K_e y$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \tilde{x}_2 \\ \tilde{x}_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\eta}_2 \\ \tilde{\eta}_3 \end{bmatrix} + K_e x_1$$

If the observed state feedback is used, then

$$u = -K\tilde{X} = -K \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \tilde{x}_2 \\ \tilde{x}_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $K$  is the state feedback matrix.

## Comment

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- Reduced order observers are computationally efficient.
- Reduced order observers may converge faster.
- Sometimes its advisable to use a full-order observer even if its possible to design a reduced-order observer.

## References

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- K. Ogata: *Modern Control Engineering*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ed., Prentice Hall, 1999.
- B. Friedland: *Control System Design*, McGraw Hill, 1986.



**Thanks for the Attention...!**

