

# Static output feedback pole assignment of 2-input, 2-output, 4<sup>th</sup> order systems in Grassmann space

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## Abstract

It is presented in this paper that the static output feedback (SOF) pole-assignment problem of some linear time-invariant systems can be completely resolved by parametrization in real Grassmann space. For the real Grassmannian parametrization, the so-called Plücker matrix is utilized as a linear matrix formula formulated from the SOF variable's coefficients of a characteristic polynomial constrained in Grassmann space. It is found that the exact SOF pole assignability is determined by the linear independency of columns of Plücker sub-matrix and by full-rank of that sub-matrix. It is also presented that previous diverse pole-assignment methods and various computation algorithms of the real SOF gains for 2-input, 2-output, 4<sup>th</sup> order systems are unified in a deterministic way within this real Grassmannian parametrization method.

*Key words* : Exact pole assignment, Grassmann space, Plücker matrix, static output feedback, real SOF gains

## 1. Introduction

The 2-input, 2-output systems are a small class of general multivariable systems that are commonly encountered in practical applications such as gas-turbine fuel oil control in airplane systems, reel-to-reel tape drivers, artificial ventilation systems for respiratory failure patients, etc. However, the necessary and sufficient condition of exact pole-assignment by static output feedback (SOF) in 2-input, 2-output,  $n^{\text{th}}$  order strictly proper linear time-invariant systems, has been not known, and also stable computation algorithms covering whole solutions of the exact real SOF gains have been not developed [1]–[6].

The study of SOF pole-assignment for the exact pole locations was pioneered by Kimura [3], where it is proved that if  $m + p > n$  in  $m$ -input,  $p$ -output,  $n^{\text{th}}$  order system, the pole-assignment by SOF can always be available in controllable and observable systems over distinct poles, provided that slight modification of the poles to be assigned is tolerable. A decade later, within the same state space frame of Kimura, a sufficient condition of exact pole-assignment (EPA) was derived by Fletcher and Magni without furnishing stable computation algorithms [7]–[9].

We propose in this paper a new EPA method based on the real Grassmannian space frame for

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resolving the SOF pole-assignment together with its related computation problems in frequency domain. In mathematical viewpoint, the basic coordinate setting for solving the nonlinear SOF equations for pole-assignment is naturally carried out in the specific Grassmann space without introducing the general affine space [10],[11]. For the real parametrization in Grassmann space, the Plücker matrix formula  $Lk = a$  is introduced [12]–[15]. In this paper, the exact pole assignability of 2-input, 2-output, 4<sup>th</sup> order strictly proper linear systems (simply, (2,2,4) systems) is examined. Through the real Grassmannian parametrization approach, a necessary and sufficient condition is explicitly derived for the exact pole assignability and the real SOF gains of EPA for the desired pole positions are always algebraically computable in a deterministic way, which can generalize and unify previous diverse methods for SOF pole-assignment and various computation algorithms of the real SOF gains.

## II. Preliminaries

Regarding the pole assignabilities by SOF, the following two classifications are widely used: exact pole-assignment (EPA) and generic pole-assignment (GPA) [15].

**Definition 1.** An  $n^{\text{th}}$  order linear system with rational transfer function matrix  $G(s) = N_R(s)D_R(s)^{-1}$  is exactly pole assignable by real SOF if any  $n^{\text{th}}$  order monic polynomial  $p_c(s) = s^n + a_1s^{n-1} + \dots + a_n$  with coefficients  $\{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  can be achieved by the closed-loop characteristic equation using some real SOF  $K$ .

**Definition 2.** An  $n^{\text{th}}$  order linear system with rational transfer function matrix  $G(s)$  is generically pole assignable by real SOF if the coefficient set  $\{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$  of the achievable closed-loop characteristic polynomial  $p_c(s)$  by real SOF  $K$ , is open and dense in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

In Definitions 1 and 2,  $N_R(s)$  and  $D_R(s)$  are right coprime polynomial matrices. In this section, a specific construction algorithm of  $Lk = a$  for the (2,2,4) systems is introduced [5]. Consider a (2,2,4) system described by

$$y(s) = G(s)u(s) \tag{1}$$

where  $G(s)$  is a strictly proper rational transfer function matrix.

A feedback control input  $u(s) = -Ky(s)$  is applied to the systems. It is easily shown that the desired 4<sup>th</sup> order closed-loop characteristic polynomial  $p_c(s)$  is written by

$$p_c(s) = p(s)\det[I + KG(s)] \tag{2}$$

where  $p(s) = s^4 + b_1s^3 + \dots + b_4$  is an open-loop characteristic polynomial.

Equation (2) can be expressed as follows through matrix theory

$$\begin{aligned} p(s)\det[I + KG(s)] &= p(s)\det[\lambda I + KG(s)]_{\lambda=1} \\ &= p(s)[\lambda^2 + \text{tr}(KG(s))\lambda + \det(KG(s))]_{\lambda=1} \tag{3} \\ &= p(s)[1 + \text{tr}(KG(s)) + \det(KG(s))] \\ &= p(s)[1 + \text{tr}(KG(s)) + \det(K)\det(G(s))] \end{aligned}$$

From the signal flow graph viewpoint, the elements of  $K$  and  $G(s)$  can be written as below [1],[6],

$$K = \begin{bmatrix} k_1 & k_2 \\ k_3 & k_4 \end{bmatrix}, \quad G(s) = \frac{1}{p(s)} \begin{bmatrix} f_1(s) & f_3(s) \\ f_2(s) & f_4(s) \end{bmatrix},$$

where  $f_i(s), (i = 1, \dots, 4)$  is a numerator polynomial of  $G_i(s)$ .

And over the desired closed-loop characteristic polynomial  $p_c(s)$ , the Equation (3) becomes

$$p_c(s) = \prod_{i=1}^4 (s - s_i) = p(s) + \sum_{i=1}^5 f_i(s)k_i \tag{4}$$

where  $s_1, \dots, s_4$  are closed-loop poles and  $f_i(s) = f_{i1}s^3 + f_{i2}s^2 + f_{i3}s + f_{i4}$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, 4$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} f_5(s) (&:= p(s)\det(G(s))) = f_{52}s^2 + f_{53}s + f_{54}, \text{ and} \\ k_5 (&:= \det(K)) = k_1k_4 - k_2k_3. \end{aligned}$$

Equating the coefficients of the same orders on both sides of Equation (4) yields

$$Lk = a \tag{5}$$

where

$$L = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ b_1 f_{11} & \cdots & f_{41} & 0 \\ b_2 f_{12} & \cdots & f_{42} f_{52} \\ b_3 f_{13} & \cdots & f_{43} f_{53} \\ b_4 f_{14} & \cdots & f_{44} f_{54} \end{bmatrix}, k = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ k_1 \\ \vdots \\ k_4 \\ k_5 \end{bmatrix}, a = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \\ a_4 \end{bmatrix}$$

In Equations (4) and (5), it is known that the numerical construction algorithm of the Plücker matrix formula  $Lk = a$  in (2,2,4) systems is implemented by the following procedure:

**1<sup>st</sup> column of  $L$ :** Filled by the coefficients of an open-loop characteristic polynomial  $p(s)$ .

**2<sup>nd</sup> column of  $L$ :** Filled by the coefficients of  $p(s)G_1(s)$ , which is matched with the gain  $k_1$ .

⋮

**5<sup>th</sup> column of  $L$ :** Filled by the coefficients of  $p(s)G_4(s)$ , which is matched with the gain  $k_4$ .

**6<sup>th</sup> column of  $L$ :** Filled by the coefficients of the interacting factor  $p(s)(G_1(s)G_4(s) - G_2(s)G_3(s))$ , which is matched with the gain  $k_5$ .

For the reduced formula, Equation (4) is rearranged into

$$\sum_{i=1}^5 f_i(s)k_i = p_c(s) - p(s) \tag{6}$$

And equating the coefficient of the same orders on both sides of Equation (6) yields

$$L_{\text{sub}}k_{\text{sub}} = a_{\text{sub}} \tag{7}$$

where

$$L_{\text{sub}} = \begin{bmatrix} f_{11} \cdots f_{41} & 0 \\ f_{12} \cdots f_{42} f_{52} \\ f_{13} \cdots f_{43} f_{53} \\ f_{14} \cdots f_{44} f_{54} \end{bmatrix}, k_{\text{sub}} = \begin{bmatrix} k_1 \\ \vdots \\ k_4 \\ k_5 \end{bmatrix}, a_{\text{sub}} = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 - b_1 \\ a_2 - b_2 \\ a_3 - b_3 \\ a_4 - b_4 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Remark 1.** In algebraic geometry, the elements  $[1 k_1 \cdots k_5]^t$  of  $k$  in Equation (5) are named

inhomogeneous Plücker coordinates of Grassmann space  $\text{Grass}(2,4)$ , constrained in a quadratic equation  $k_5 - k_1 k_4 + k_2 k_3 = 0$ , whose solution set is called Grassmann variety.

**Remark 2.** The general Plücker matrix formula  $Lk = a$  for general  $(m,p,n)$  systems can be numerically constructed through the application of Binet–Cauchy theorem to determinantal matrix formula  $\det[I + KG(s)]$  and its comparisons with the signal flow graph analysis of the closed-loop determinant  $\Delta$  in Mason’s gain formula [14].

### III. Main Result

In Theorem 1, the necessary and sufficient condition for the exact pole assignability of (2,2,4) systems is explicitly provided for the Plucker matrix formula in Equation (7).

**Theorem 1.** The 2-input, 2-output, 4<sup>th</sup> order strictly proper linear systems are exactly pole assignable if and only if the last column  $\ell_5$  in  $L$  is zero under  $\text{rank}(L_{\text{sub}}) = 4$ . ■

**Proof:** The sufficient condition is obviously obtained by setting  $l_5$  to be zero in  $L_{\text{sub}}$  of Equation (7). If  $l_5$  is zero, then  $K_{\text{sub}}$  can be obtained under the condition  $\text{rank}(L_{\text{sub}}) = 4$  for any given  $a_{\text{sub}}$  regardless of the relation for  $k_5$ . So EPA is satisfied.

Next, we will prove the necessary condition by contradiction. Assume that  $l_5$  is not zero and the (2,2,4) system is exactly pole assignable. Because  $\text{rank}(L_{\text{sub}}) = 4$ , there happen three cases for the matrix  $L_{\text{sub}}$  when  $l_5$  is not zero.

**Case 1.** One of 4 columns,  $\ell_1, \dots, \ell_4$  in  $L_{\text{sub}}$  is zero.

**Case 2.** Some 2 columns of  $L_{\text{sub}}$  are linearly dependent.

**Case 3.** Every two columns of  $L_{\text{sub}}$  are linearly independent

**Case 1:** If one of the 1<sup>st</sup> 4 columns of  $L_{\text{sub}}$ ,

$\ell_i (i=1, \dots, 4)$ , is zero under  $\text{rank}(L_{\text{sub}}) = 4$ , then the four real SOF variables except  $k_i$  variable are always determined from  $L_{\text{sub}} k_{\text{sub}} = a_{\text{sub}}$ . Putting the four values in the 5 variable quadratic equation (QE), the QE  $k_5 - k_1 k_4 + k_2 k_3 = 0$  is reduced into a 1 variable 1<sup>st</sup> order linear equation. Thus, the real solution-set of the SOF equations,  $Lk = a$  and QE, is complete on the real field R except a singular zero-value point where the gain multiplied to  $k_i$  in the QE is zero.

**Case 2:** In Case 2, there are three situations.

*i) Two columns,  $\{\ell_1, \ell_4\}$  or  $\{\ell_2, \ell_3\}$  in  $L_{\text{sub}}$  are linearly dependent.*

If two columns of  $L_{\text{sub}}$ ,  $\{\ell_1, \ell_4\}$  or  $\{\ell_2, \ell_3\}$  are linearly dependent, then from  $L'_{\text{sub}} k'_{\text{sub}} = a'_{\text{sub}}$ , four SOF variables where one combined variable X is represented by  $X = k_1 + \gamma k_4$  or  $X = k_2 + \delta k_3$  for real constants  $\gamma$  and  $\delta$ , are always determined by real values. Putting the four real values into  $k_5 - k_1 k_4 + k_2 k_3 = 0$ , the QE is reduced into a 1 variable 2<sup>nd</sup> order equation. Thus by the algebraic character of the 1 variable 2<sup>nd</sup> order equation constructed for some real vector  $a$ , these (2,2,4) systems are NPA with some real-disconnected interval on the SOF gain variables in R.

*ii) Two columns,  $\ell_5$  and one column of  $\{\ell_1, \ell_2, \ell_3, \ell_4\}$  in  $L_{\text{sub}}$  are linearly dependent.*

If two columns in  $L_{\text{sub}}$ ,  $\{\ell_i, \ell_5\} (i=1, \dots, 4)$  are linearly dependent, then from  $L'_{\text{sub}} k'_{\text{sub}} = a'_{\text{sub}}$ , four variables where a combined variable X is represented by  $X := k_5 + \lambda k_i$  for real constant  $\lambda$ , are always determined by real values. Putting the four real values into  $k_5 - k_1 k_4 + k_2 k_3 = 0$ , the QE is reduced into a 1 variable 1<sup>st</sup> order equation with a singular point. For example, let  $k_i = k_2$ , then from  $X := k_5 + \lambda k_i = \alpha_1 \alpha_4 - \alpha_3 k_2 + \lambda k_2 = \alpha_X$ , the  $k_2$  is obtained by

$$k_2 = \frac{\alpha_1 \alpha_4 - \alpha_X}{\alpha_3 - \lambda}$$

In this case,  $k_i$  is one of  $\{k_1, k_2, k_3, k_4\}$  and

$\alpha_X, \alpha_1, \alpha_3, \alpha_4$  indicate the real values of  $X, k_1, k_3, k_4$ , respectively, in  $L'_{\text{sub}} k'_{\text{sub}} = a'_{\text{sub}}$ . In this way, the SOF  $k_2$  has a singular point at  $\alpha_3 = \lambda$  for a special real vector  $a$ . Thus, these (2,2,4) systems are exactly pole assignable except a singular point at  $k_i$ .

*iii) Two columns,  $\{\ell_1, \ell_2$  (or  $\ell_3\})$  or  $\{\ell_4, \ell_2$  (or  $\ell_3\})$  in  $L_{\text{sub}}$  are linearly dependent.*

If two columns in  $L_{\text{sub}}$ ,  $\{\ell_1, \ell_2$  (or  $\ell_3\})$  or  $\{\ell_4, \ell_2$  (or  $\ell_3\})$ , are linearly independent, then from  $L'_{\text{sub}} k'_{\text{sub}} = a'_{\text{sub}}$ , four SOF variables where one combined variable X is represented by  $X := k_i + \rho k_j$  for real constant  $\rho$ , are always determined by real values. Putting the four real values in  $k_5$ , the QE is reduced into a 1 variable 1<sup>st</sup> order equation with a singular point. For example, let  $k_i = k_1$  and  $k_j = k_2$  then from  $X := k_1 + \rho k_2 = \alpha_X$ ,  $k_5$  is obtained by  $\alpha_5 = k_1 \alpha_4 - \alpha_3 (\alpha_X - k_1) / \rho$ . Therefore,  $k_1$  is given by

$$k_1 = \frac{\alpha_5 + \alpha_3 \alpha_X}{\alpha_4 - \alpha_3 / \rho}$$

In this case, the SOF  $k_1$  has a singular point at  $\alpha_4 + \alpha_3 / \rho = 0$  for a special real vector  $a$ . Thus, these (2,2,4) systems are exactly pole assignable except a singular point at  $k_i$  and  $k_j$ .

**Case 3:** If every 2 columns of  $L'_{\text{sub}}$  are linearly independent under  $\text{rank}(L_{\text{sub}}) = 4$ , then from the 1<sup>st</sup> 4 diagonalized matrix  $L'_{\text{sub}}$  in  $L'_{\text{sub}} k'_{\text{sub}} = a'_{\text{sub}}$ , 2~4 variables among  $k'_1, \dots, k'_4$  in  $k'_{\text{sub}}$  become linear functions over the last remaining variable,  $k'_5$ .

*i) 4 variable linear function case:*

In  $L'_{\text{sub}}$  by rank-nullity theorem,  $\text{rank}(L'_{\text{sub}}) + \text{null}(L'_{\text{sub}}) = \text{number of columns of } L'_{\text{sub}}$ . Thus, the 1<sup>st</sup> 4 variables in  $L'_{\text{sub}} k'_{\text{sub}} = a'_{\text{sub}}$  depend upon the last 1 variable  $k'_5$ .

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \beta_1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \beta_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & \beta_3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & \beta_4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} k'_1 \\ k'_2 \\ k'_3 \\ k'_4 \\ k'_5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha'_1 \\ \alpha'_2 \\ \alpha'_3 \\ \alpha'_4 \end{bmatrix}$$

In this case, let  $\beta_1 \ell_1' + \beta_2 \ell_2' + \beta_3 \ell_3' + \beta_4 \ell_4' = \ell_5'$  where  $\ell_i'$  indicates the  $i^{\text{th}}$  column of  $L'_{\text{sub}}$ , then all 4 variables  $k_1', \dots, k_4'$  are linear functions on the variable  $k_5'$ . Thus the QE,  $k_5 - k_1 k_4 + k_2 k_3 = 0$  is always reduced into a 1 variable 2<sup>nd</sup> order equation of  $k_5'$  constructed through arbitrary selection of 4 variables among 5 variables in the QE for some real vector  $a$ .

*ii) 3 variable linear function case:*

In the same way as i), 3 variables among 4 variables  $k_1', \dots, k_4'$  in  $L'_{\text{sub}} k'_{\text{sub}} = a'_{\text{sub}}$  depend upon the last 1 variable  $k_5'$ . For example, let  $\beta_2 \ell_2' + \beta_3 \ell_3' + \beta_4 \ell_4' = \ell_5'$ , then 3 variables  $k_2', k_3', k_4'$  have linear functions with the variable  $k_5'$ . Thus the QE,  $k_5 - k_1 k_4 + k_2 k_3 = 0$  is always reduced into a 1 variable 2<sup>nd</sup> order equation of  $k_5'$  constructed through arbitrary selection of 3 variables among 5 variables in the QE for some real vector  $a$ .

*iii) 2 variable linear function case:*

In the same way as ii), 2 variables among 4 variables  $k_1', \dots, k_4'$  in  $L'_{\text{sub}} k'_{\text{sub}} = a'_{\text{sub}}$  depend upon the last 1 variable  $k_5'$ . For example, let  $\beta_3 \ell_3' + \beta_4 \ell_4' = \ell_5'$ , then 2 variables  $k_3', k_4'$  have linear functions with the variable  $k_5'$ . Thus the QE,  $k_5 - k_1 k_4 + k_2 k_3 = 0$  is always reduced into a 1 variable 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> order equation of  $k_5'$  constructed through arbitrary selection of 2 variables among 5 variables in the QE for some real vector  $a$ .

For the above three cases, 2-input, 2-output, 4<sup>th</sup> order strictly proper linear systems are not exactly pole assignable if  $l_5$  is not zero. This is contradictory to the assumption. ■

**Remark 3.** The necessary and sufficient condition for the EPA of (2,2,4) systems given in Theorem 1 is equivalent to the condition,  $\det(G(s))=0$  (called, rank-one systems) and no linear combination of the set of  $\{G_i(s)\}$  vanishes [11],[15].

### IV. Numerical Example

Consider a 2-input, 2-output, 4<sup>th</sup> order strictly proper system [16] with the system matrices given by

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, C = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

First, exact pole assignability is checked using the condition in Theorem 1.

**Step 1:** The system transfer function  $G(s)$  ( $:= C(sI - A)^{-1}B$ ) is obtained by

$$G(s) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{s^2 - 1}{s^4 - s^2 - 1} & \frac{1}{s^4 - s^2 - 1} \\ \frac{s^3 - s}{s^4 - s^2 - 1} & \frac{s}{s^4 - s^2 - 1} \end{bmatrix}$$

From Equation (5),  $Lk = a$  is constructed by

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} k_1 \\ k_2 \\ k_3 \\ k_4 \\ k_5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \\ a_4 \end{bmatrix} \tag{8}$$

without constraint of  $k_5$ . In the rank test,  $\text{rank}(L_{\text{sub}}) = 4$ , and the last column,  $l_5$  of  $L_{\text{sub}}$  is zero. Thus, the condition for EPA in Theorem 1 is satisfied. So, this SOF system has EPA feature by real SOF. Next, the control gain  $K$  is obtained since the system satisfies pole assignability.

**Step 2:** From arbitrary desired pole positions of  $(s+1)^2(s+2)^2=0$ , the real coefficients of the closed-loop characteristic polynomial  $p_c(s)$  are obtained by  $a_1 = 6, a_2 = 13, a_3 = 12, a_4 = 4$ . From  $\text{rank}(L'_{\text{sub}}) = 4$ , the reduced row echelon form  $L'_{\text{sub}} k'_{\text{sub}} = a'_{\text{sub}}$  is obtained by

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} k_1 \\ k_2 \\ k_3 \\ k_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 14 \\ 6 \\ 19 \\ 8 \end{bmatrix} \tag{9}$$

From Equation (9),  $k_5$  is calculated with

$k_5 = 14 \times 18 - 6 \times 19$  and the real solution  $K$  is directly obtained by

$$K = \begin{bmatrix} k_1 & k_2 \\ k_3 & k_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 14 & 6 \\ 19 & 18 \end{bmatrix}$$

## V. Conclusion

It is presented that the static output feedback pole-assignment problem and its related stabilization problem of 2-input, 2-output, 4<sup>th</sup> order strictly proper linear systems can be completely resolved by the real Grassmannian parameterization method within Plücker matrix formula  $Lk = a$ , as a self-contained algorithm in Grassmann space. In this paper, the necessary and sufficient condition was provided for the exact pole assignability of static output feedback problem in 2-input, 2-output, 4<sup>th</sup> order linear systems. Furthermore, it can be shown that previous diverse pole-assignment methods and various computation algorithms of real gains are unified using this real Grassmannian parametrization method.

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