

Optimal Error Feedback and Realization for Roundoff Noise Minimization in Linear Discrete-Time Systems with Full-Order State Observer Feedback

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Abstract—The optimization problem of error-feedback and realization to minimize the roundoff noise in a closed-loop system with full-order state observer feedback subject to l_2 -scaling constraints is investigated. It is shown that joint optimization of error-feedback and realization is not needed when utilizing a general-matrix error-feedback loop because the optimal error-feedback matrix, in closed-form, can be determined in advance. An analytic technique is developed for obtaining the optimal realization that minimizes the roundoff noise subject to l_2 -scaling constraints. A numerical example is presented to demonstrate the validity and effectiveness of the proposed technique.

1. INTRODUCTION

Due to finite precision nature of computer arithmetic, roundoff noise in fixed-point IIR digital filters occurs that in turn degrades the filter's performance. Error feedback (EF) is known as an effective technique for reducing finite-word-length (FWL) effects in IIR digital filters, and many EF methods have been proposed in the past [1]-[5]. On the other hand, it is known that the roundoff noise is critically dependent on the internal structure of the IIR filter, and several techniques for constructing a realization that minimizes the roundoff noise at the filter output subject to l_2 -scaling constraints have been explored by appropriately choosing a linear transformation for state-space coordinates [6],[7]. As a natural extension of the aforementioned methods, efforts have been made to develop new methods that combine EF and realization for achieving better performance [8]-[10]. Another relevant development was initiated in [11] where roundoff noise in a closed-loop system equipped with a state-estimate feedback controller is analyzed and an algorithm for realizing a state-estimate feedback controller which minimizes the roundoff noise subject to l_2 -scaling constraints is proposed. However, no EF is incorporated into the algorithm in [11].

In this paper, the roundoff noise in a closed-loop system equipped with full-order state observer feedback is analyzed in connection with EF, and the optimization problem of EF and realization for minimizing the roundoff noise in the closed-loop system subject to l_2 -scaling constraints is investigated.

2. SYSTEM MODEL AND PROBLEM FORMULATION

Consider a stable, controllable and observable linear discrete-time system $(\mathbf{A}_o, \mathbf{b}_o, \mathbf{c}_o)_n$ of order n described by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}(k+1) &= \mathbf{A}_o \mathbf{x}(k) + \mathbf{b}_o u(k) \\ y(k) &= \mathbf{c}_o \mathbf{x}(k) \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

where $\mathbf{x}(k)$ is an $n \times 1$ state-variable vector, $u(k)$ is a scalar input, $y(k)$ is a scalar output, and $\mathbf{A}_o, \mathbf{b}_o$ and $\mathbf{c}_o$ are real constant matrices of appropriate dimensions. The transfer function of the linear system in (1) is expressed as

$$H_o(z) = \mathbf{c}_o(z\mathbf{I}_n - \mathbf{A}_o)^{-1}\mathbf{b}_o \quad (2)$$

then the full-order state observer and associated state feedback law are modelled as

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\mathbf{x}}(k+1) &= \mathbf{F}_o \hat{\mathbf{x}}(k) + \mathbf{b}_o u(k) + \mathbf{g}_o y(k) \\ u(k) &= -\mathbf{k}_o \hat{\mathbf{x}}(k) + r(k) \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

where $\hat{\mathbf{x}}(k)$ is an $n \times 1$ state-variable vector in the full-order state observer with an $n \times 1$ gain vector $\mathbf{g}_o$, $r(k)$ is a scalar reference signal, $\mathbf{k}_o$ is a $1 \times n$ state-feedback coefficient vector and $\mathbf{F}_o = \mathbf{A}_o - \mathbf{g}_o \mathbf{c}_o$. Obviously, The full-order state observer and associated state feedback system in (3) is equivalent to

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\mathbf{x}}(k+1) &= \mathbf{R}_o \hat{\mathbf{x}}(k) + \mathbf{b}_o r(k) + \mathbf{g}_o y(k) \\ u(k) &= -\mathbf{k}_o \hat{\mathbf{x}}(k) + r(k) \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

where $\mathbf{R}_o = \mathbf{F}_o - \mathbf{b}_o \mathbf{k}_o$.

Next, we consider the FWL implementation of the system due to the quantizations that are performed before matrix-vector multiplication, and integrate an EF into the system for noise reduction purposes. Then, the model under these circumstances becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\mathbf{x}}(k+1) &= \mathbf{R}\mathbf{Q}[\tilde{\mathbf{x}}(k)] + \mathbf{b}r(k) + \mathbf{g}y(k) + \mathbf{D}\mathbf{e}(k) \\ u(k) &= -\mathbf{k}\mathbf{Q}[\tilde{\mathbf{x}}(k)] + r(k) \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

where $\mathbf{e}(k) = \tilde{\mathbf{x}}(k) - \mathbf{Q}[\tilde{\mathbf{x}}(k)]$ and $\mathbf{D}$ is an $n \times n$ EF matrix. The coefficient matrices $\mathbf{R}$, $\mathbf{b}$, $\mathbf{g}$, and $\mathbf{k}$ in (5) are representations of $\mathbf{R}_o$, $\mathbf{b}_o$, $\mathbf{g}_o$, and $\mathbf{k}_o$, respectively, with exact fractional B_c -bit. The FWL state-variable vector $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}(k)$ and each output $u(k)$ in (5) has B -bit fractional representations, while the reference input $r(k)$ and the signal $y(k)$ are $(B - B_c)$ -bit fractions. The quantizer $\mathbf{Q}[\cdot]$ in (5) rounds the B -bit fraction $\tilde{\mathbf{x}}(k)$ to $(B - B_c)$ -bit after the multiplications and additions, where the sign bit is not counted. It is assumed that the quantization error vector $\mathbf{e}(k)$ can be modeled as a Gaussian random process with zero mean and covariance $\sigma^2 \mathbf{I}_n$. A block diagram of a full-order state observer feedback system with EF is illustrated in Fig. 1.

With an equivalent state-space realization as specified in (17), the normalized noise gain is found to be

$$J_2(\mathbf{D}, \mathbf{T}) = \text{tr}[\mathbf{T}^T \mathbf{W}_4 \mathbf{T} \mathbf{D} \mathbf{D}^T] + \text{tr}[\mathbf{T}^T \mathbf{W}_4 \mathbf{T}] - 2 \text{tr}[\mathbf{T}^T (\mathbf{W}_3 \mathbf{b}_o \mathbf{k}_o + \mathbf{W}_4 \mathbf{F}_o)^T \mathbf{T} \mathbf{D}] \quad (20)$$

The problem considered here is to design the general EF matrix $\mathbf{D}$ and coordinate transformation matrix $\mathbf{T}$ to minimize $J_2(\mathbf{D}, \mathbf{T})$ in (20) subject to the l_2 -scaling constraints in (19).

3. ANALYTIC OPTIMIZATION TECHNIQUE

Notice that the normalized noise gain in (11) is equivalent to

$$J_1(\mathbf{D}) = \text{tr}[(\mathbf{D} - \mathbf{M})^T \mathbf{W}_4 (\mathbf{D} - \mathbf{M}) + \mathbf{W}_4 - \mathbf{M}^T \mathbf{W}_4 \mathbf{M}] \quad (21)$$

where $\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{F}_o + \mathbf{L} \mathbf{b}_o \mathbf{k}_o$ and $\mathbf{L}$ is an $n \times n$ matrix satisfying $\mathbf{W}_4 \mathbf{L} = \mathbf{W}_3$. With an equivalent state-space realization as specified in (17), the normalized noise gain in (21) can be expressed as

$$J_2(\mathbf{D}, \mathbf{T}) = \text{tr}[(\mathbf{T} \mathbf{D} - \mathbf{M} \mathbf{T})^T \mathbf{W}_4 (\mathbf{T} \mathbf{D} - \mathbf{M} \mathbf{T}) + \mathbf{T}^T (\mathbf{W}_4 - \mathbf{M}^T \mathbf{W}_4 \mathbf{M}) \mathbf{T}] \quad (22)$$

From (22), it is evident that the optimal choice of $\mathbf{D}$ is given by

$$\mathbf{D} = \mathbf{T}^{-1} \mathbf{M} \mathbf{T} \quad (23)$$

which reduces the normalized noise gain $J_2(\mathbf{D}, \mathbf{T})$ in (22) to

$$J_3(\mathbf{T}^{-1} \mathbf{M} \mathbf{T}, \mathbf{T}) = \text{tr}[\mathbf{T}^T (\mathbf{W}_4 - \mathbf{M}^T \mathbf{W}_4 \mathbf{M}) \mathbf{T}] \quad (24)$$

The above derivation clearly indicates that joint optimization of EF and realization is not needed because the optimal $\mathbf{D}$ has already been determined by the closed-form expression in (23), hence it is sufficient to optimize matrix $\mathbf{T}$ by minimizing $J_3(\mathbf{T}^{-1} \mathbf{M} \mathbf{T}, \mathbf{T})$ in (24).

The solution of minimizing $J_3(\mathbf{T}^{-1} \mathbf{M} \mathbf{T}, \mathbf{T})$ in (24) turns out to be fairly sensitive to how the EF matrix $\mathbf{D}$ is quantized in the system implementation. As a remedy for this sensitivity issue, we consider a regularized minimization problem with the objective function given by

$$J_4(\mathbf{T}) = \mu \text{tr}[\mathbf{T}^T \mathbf{W}_4 \mathbf{T}] + (1 - \mu) \text{tr}[\mathbf{T}^T (\mathbf{W}_4 - \mathbf{M}^T \mathbf{W}_4 \mathbf{M}) \mathbf{T}] = \text{tr}[\mathbf{T}^T \{\mathbf{W}_4 - (1 - \mu) \mathbf{M}^T \mathbf{W}_4 \mathbf{M}\} \mathbf{T}] \quad (25)$$

where $0 < \mu \leq 1$ is a regularization parameter that can be selected to make an appropriate trade-off between minimizing (24) and reducing $\text{tr}[\mathbf{T}^T \mathbf{W}_4 \mathbf{T}]$.

To minimize (25) with respect to matrix $\mathbf{T}$ subject to the l_2 -scaling constraints in (19), we define the Lagrange function

$$J_o(\mathbf{P}, \lambda) = \text{tr}[\mathbf{V}_\mu \mathbf{P}] + \lambda (\text{tr}[\mathbf{K} \mathbf{P}^{-1}] - n) \quad (26)$$

where $\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{T} \mathbf{T}^T$ and $\mathbf{V}_\mu = \mathbf{W}_4 - (1 - \mu) \mathbf{M}^T \mathbf{W}_4 \mathbf{M}$. The optimal coordinate transformation matrix $\mathbf{T}$ can be determined by solving the equations

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial J_o(\mathbf{P}, \lambda)}{\partial \mathbf{P}} &= \mathbf{V}_\mu - \lambda \mathbf{P}^{-1} \mathbf{K} \mathbf{P}^{-1} = \mathbf{0} \\ \frac{\partial J_o(\mathbf{P}, \lambda)}{\partial \lambda} &= \text{tr}[\mathbf{K} \mathbf{P}^{-1}] - n = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

which lead to

$$\mathbf{P} \mathbf{V}_\mu \mathbf{P} = \lambda \mathbf{K}, \quad \text{tr}[\mathbf{K} \mathbf{P}^{-1}] = n. \quad (28)$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{P} &= \sqrt{\lambda} \mathbf{V}_\mu^{-\frac{1}{2}} \left[\mathbf{V}_\mu^{\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{K} \mathbf{V}_\mu^{\frac{1}{2}} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{V}_\mu^{-\frac{1}{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \text{tr}[\mathbf{K} \mathbf{V}_\mu]^{\frac{1}{2}} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \theta_i \right) = n \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

where θ_i^2 for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ denote the eigenvalues of $\mathbf{K} \mathbf{V}_\mu$. Thus, we obtain

$$\mathbf{P} = \frac{1}{n} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \theta_i \right) \mathbf{V}_\mu^{-\frac{1}{2}} \left[\mathbf{V}_\mu^{\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{K} \mathbf{V}_\mu^{\frac{1}{2}} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{V}_\mu^{-\frac{1}{2}}. \quad (30)$$

Substituting (30) into (26) yields the minimum value of $J_o(\mathbf{P}, \lambda)$ as

$$\min_{\mathbf{P}, \lambda} J_o(\mathbf{P}, \lambda) = \frac{1}{n} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \theta_i \right)^2. \quad (31)$$

Referring to (30), the optimal coordinate transformation matrix $\mathbf{T}$ that minimizes (26) can be obtained in closed form as

$$\mathbf{T} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \theta_i \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{V}_\mu^{-\frac{1}{2}} \left[\mathbf{V}_\mu^{\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{K} \mathbf{V}_\mu^{\frac{1}{2}} \right]^{\frac{1}{4}} \mathbf{U}_o. \quad (32)$$

where $\mathbf{U}_o$ is an arbitrary $n \times n$ orthogonal matrix. From (18) and (32), we obtain

$$\bar{\mathbf{K}} = n \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \theta_i \right)^{-1} \mathbf{U}_o^T \left[\mathbf{V}_\mu^{\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{K} \mathbf{V}_\mu^{\frac{1}{2}} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{U}_o \quad (33)$$

Next, we choose the $n \times n$ orthogonal matrix $\mathbf{U}_o$ such that matrix $\bar{\mathbf{K}}$ in (33) satisfies the l_2 -scaling constraints in (19). To this end, we perform the eigenvalue-eigenvector decomposition

$$\left[\mathbf{V}_\mu^{\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{K} \mathbf{V}_\mu^{\frac{1}{2}} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} = \mathbf{Q} \text{diag}\{\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_n\} \mathbf{Q}^T \quad (34)$$

where $\mathbf{Q} \mathbf{Q}^T = \mathbf{I}_n$. As a result, we have

$$n \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \theta_i \right)^{-1} \left[\mathbf{V}_\mu^{\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{K} \mathbf{V}_\mu^{\frac{1}{2}} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} = \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{\Lambda}^{-2} \mathbf{Q}^T \quad (35)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{\Lambda} &= \text{diag}\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n\} \\ \lambda_i &= \left(\frac{\theta_1 + \theta_2 + \dots + \theta_n}{n \theta_i} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, \dots, n. \end{aligned}$$

Now, an $n \times n$ orthogonal matrix $\mathbf{Z}$ such that

$$(\mathbf{Z} \mathbf{\Lambda}^{-2} \mathbf{Z}^T)_{ii} = 1 \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, \dots, n. \quad (36)$$

can be obtained by numerical manipulations [7, p.278]. By choosing $\mathbf{U}_o = \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{Z}^T$ in (32), the optimal coordinate transformation matrix $\mathbf{T}$ satisfying (19) and (31) is constructed as

$$\mathbf{T} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \theta_i \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{V}_\mu^{-\frac{1}{2}} \left[\mathbf{V}_\mu^{\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{K} \mathbf{V}_\mu^{\frac{1}{2}} \right]^{\frac{1}{4}} \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{Z}^T. \quad (37)$$

Therefore, the optimal EF matrix D can easily be derived from (23) and (37).

4. A NUMERICAL EXAMPLE

Consider a linear discrete-time system specified by

$$\mathbf{A}_o = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0.339377 & -1.152652 & 1.520167 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{b}_o = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{c}_o = [0.093253 \quad 0.128620 \quad 0.314713].$$

Suppose that the full-order state observer has the poles at $z = 0.1532, 0.2861$ and 0.1137 , and that the poles of the regulator are placed at $z = 0.5067, 0.6023$ and 0.4331 . Under the circumstances, the coefficient vector of the full-order state observer and the gain vector of the state feedback were found to be

$$\mathbf{g}_o = [-0.006436 \quad 3.683651 \quad 5.083920]^T$$

$$\mathbf{k}_o = [0.471552 \quad -0.367158 \quad 3.062267].$$

The controllability and observability Gramians $\mathbf{K}$ and $\mathbf{W}_4$ relating to the closed-loop system in (6) were computed from (16) and (11) as

$$\mathbf{K} = \begin{bmatrix} 10.140736 & -9.324397 & 7.646117 \\ -9.324397 & 10.140736 & -9.324397 \\ 7.646117 & -9.324397 & 10.140736 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{W}_4 = 10 \begin{bmatrix} 0.946720 & 2.004689 & 1.053033 \\ 2.004689 & 4.432667 & 2.355278 \\ 1.053033 & 2.355278 & 1.389340 \end{bmatrix}.$$

By performing l_2 -scaling to the system with

$$\mathbf{T}_o = \text{diag}\{3.184452, 3.184452, 3.184452\}$$

so that $(\mathbf{T}_o^{-1} \mathbf{K} \mathbf{T}_o^{-T})_{ii} = 1$ is satisfied for $i = 1, 2, 3$, the normalized noise gain of the system without EF was computed from (11) as

$$J_1(\mathbf{0}) = \text{tr}[\mathbf{T}_o^T \mathbf{W}_4 \mathbf{T}_o] = 686.398739.$$

By setting $\mu = 0.01$ in (25), the optimal coordinate transformation matrix $\mathbf{T}$ and the optimal EF matrix D were computed from (37) and (23) as

$$\mathbf{T} = \begin{bmatrix} 3.956006 & -3.836672 & 2.965780 \\ -2.863405 & 0.513265 & -0.998894 \\ 0.404642 & 2.102568 & 0.813402 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{D} = \begin{bmatrix} -0.140440 & -0.394082 & 0.397784 \\ 1.071446 & -0.962399 & -0.025115 \\ 0.903949 & -0.229442 & -0.596136 \end{bmatrix}$$

respectively, with $J_4(\mathbf{T}) = 6.323423$. We observe that the normalized noise gain has been considerably reduced through the use of an optimal general EF matrix D and a separately optimized coordinate transformation matrix T .

The other results regarding the normalized noise gain $J_2(D, T)$ in (22) were summarized with those achieved by the analytic optimization method [12] in Table I where "Infinite Precision" shows the value of $J_2(D, T)$ derived from the optimal T and D , and "3-Bit Quantization (Integer Quantization)"

means the value of $J_2(D, T)$ where each entry of the optimal D was rounded to a power-of-two representation with 3 bits after the binary point (an integer).

TABLE I
PERFORMANCE COMPARISON FOR GENERAL MATRIX EF

Methods	Infinite Precision	3-Bit Quantization	Integer Quantization
Analytic [12]	11.635118	11.808013	15.337683
Proposed Analytic	5.541528	5.749012	12.711196

5. CONCLUSION

The optimization problem of EF and realization to minimize the roundoff noise in a closed-loop system with full-order state observer feedback subject to l_2 -scaling constraints has been investigated. It has been shown that joint optimization of EF and realization is not needed when utilizing a general-matrix EF loop, because the optimal EF matrix, in closed-form, can be determined in advance. An efficient analytic technique has been developed for obtaining the optimal realization that minimizes the roundoff noise. A case study has demonstrated the validity and effectiveness of the proposed technique.

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