

# Minimal Controller Structure for Generic Pole Placement

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- Introduction
- Minimal controller
- Structured systems
- Main results - 3 cases
- Interconnection of sub-systems with different input output structure.
- Conclusion

System is represented using higher order Differential Algebraic Equation (DAE).

$$\left[ R_N \frac{d^N}{dt} + \cdots + R_1 \frac{d}{dt} + R_0 \right] w = 0$$

(i.e)  $R\left(\frac{d}{dt}\right)w = 0$ , where  $R(s) = \left[ R_N s^N + \cdots + R_1 s + R_0 \right]$

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**Pole placement:**

Plant laws :  $P\left(\frac{d}{dt}\right)w = 0$

Controller laws:  $K\left(\frac{d}{dt}\right)w = 0$

**Control:** Choose  $K(s)$  such that  $\begin{bmatrix} P(s) \\ K(s) \end{bmatrix}$  is square, nonsingular and has determinant  $d(s)$  as prescribed:

Roots of  $d(s)$  = desired closed loop system poles.

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We seek only **generic** results.

Hence only **structural aspects** of the system are relevant.

This is captured in a **bipartite graph**.

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Example:

Plant matrix:

$$P(s) = \begin{bmatrix} s+1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & s+2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Controller matrix:

$$K(s) = [a(s) \quad 0 \quad b(s)]$$

Closed loop poles: Determinant of  $\begin{bmatrix} s+1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & s+2 \\ a(s) & 0 & b(s) \end{bmatrix} = a(s)(s+2) + b(s)(s+1)$ .

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- Some entries of  $K(s)$  could be zero.
- This is motivated by a [minimum sensor-actuator network](#) design issue.

Given  $P(s) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}[s]$ , associate an edge weighted bipartite graph  $G = (\mathcal{R}, \mathcal{C}, E)$  as follows.

$\mathcal{R}$  and  $\mathcal{C}$  denote the **rows** and **columns** of  $P(s)$

An edge between vertex  $v_i \in \mathcal{R}$  and  $v_j \in \mathcal{C}$  **exists** if the  $(i, j)$ th entry of  $P(s)$  is **non-zero**.

Edges are classified as constant and nonconstant depending on corresponding entries in  $P(s)$ .

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### Definition

Consider a system of LTI ODEs  $P(\frac{d}{dt})w = 0$  with  $P \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}[s]$ .

- Classify the nonzero entries in  $P(s)$  as constant and nonconstant and then associate the graph  $G(\mathcal{R}, \mathcal{C}; E)$  to the polynomial matrix  $P(s)$ .
- Such association partitions the set of all polynomial matrices into equivalence classes and each class is identified by the corresponding graph.
- $G(\mathcal{R}, \mathcal{C}; E)$  captures the *structure of the LTI system*.

Henceforth a system will be described by a graph.

System laws:

$$a_{11}\dot{w}_1 + b_{11}w_1 + a_{12}\dot{w}_2 + b_{12}w_2 = 0$$

$$a_{21}\dot{w}_1 + b_{21}w_1 + b_{22}w_2 = 0$$

$$b_{31}w_1 + a_{32}\dot{w}_2 + b_{32}w_2 + a_{33}\dot{w}_3 + b_{33}w_3 \\ + a_{34}\dot{w}_4 + b_{34}w_4 = 0$$

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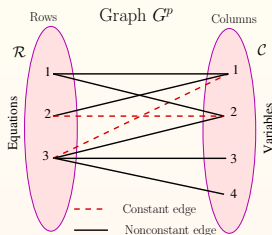


Figure: Graph for  $P(s)$

Associated polynomial matrix:

$$P(s) = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11}s + b_{11} & a_{12}s + b_{12} & 0 & 0 \\ a_{21}s + b_{21} & b_{22} & 0 & 0 \\ b_{31} & a_{32}s + b_{32} & a_{33}s + b_{33} & a_{34}s + b_{34} \end{bmatrix}$$

- **Often**, when uncontrollable, small perturbation  $\rightarrow$  controllable.
- ‘Generically controllable’  $\equiv$  controllable for almost all values **for that structure**.
- For example,  $\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$  is generically nonsingular for real numbers  $a, b, c, d$ .  
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(Singular only when  $ad = bc$ .)
- But,  $\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  is generically singular.
- If coefficients are any real numbers, two nonzero polynomials of any degree are ‘generically’ coprime. (Coefficients have to satisfy an equation for a common root.)
- For ‘generic’ situations, perhaps can conclude **without** numerical calculation.
- Useful in the analysis of large scale systems.
- Generic/structural conditions are necessary conditions in **specific** case.

## Problem 1: control perspective

Given : Plant structure :=  $G^p(\mathcal{R}_p, \mathcal{C}; E_p)$ .

Find a controller structure :=  $G^k(\mathcal{R}_k, \mathcal{C}; E_k)$  which satisfies the following properties.

- Arbitrary pole placement is generically achievable with this controller structure.
- The total number of edges in  $G^k(\mathcal{R}_k, \mathcal{C}; E_k)$  is minimum.



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## Problem 2: graph perspective

Given : a graph  $G^p(\mathcal{R}_p, \mathcal{C}; E_p)$ .

Find a graph  $G^k(\mathcal{R}_k, \mathcal{C}; E_k)$  such that the following are satisfied.

- 1 In  $G(\mathcal{R}_p \cup \mathcal{R}_k, \mathcal{C}; E_p \cup E_k)$  there exists a perfect matching.
- 2 Every edge  $e \in E_p$  that is admissible in  $G(\mathcal{R}_p \cup \mathcal{R}_k, \mathcal{C}; E_p \cup E_k)$  is in some cycle involving an edge  $e_k$  from  $E_k$  such that  $e_k$  is admissible in  $G(\mathcal{R}_p \cup \mathcal{R}_k, \mathcal{C}; E_p \cup E_k)$ .
- 3  $G^k(\mathcal{R}_k, \mathcal{C}; E_k)$  has the minimum number of edges amongst all graphs that satisfy conditions 1 and 2.

An edge  $e$  is admissible  $:\equiv e$  is contained in some perfect matching.

Both the problems are the same.

## Matchings in Bipartite graph

- A set of edges in a graph  $G = (\mathcal{R}, \mathcal{C}; E)$  is a matching  $M$  if **no two edges have a common end vertex**.
- $M$  is a **perfect** matching  $\implies |M| = |\mathcal{R}| = |\mathcal{C}|$ .
- Let  $G$  be the bipartite graph associated to a square polynomial matrix  $P(s)$ .  
A perfect matching  $M \implies$  a **non-zero** term in the **determinant expansion** of  $P$ .
- The determinant expansion of  $P$  is the sum over all perfect matchings in  $G$  (with suitable signs).
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$$A_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 5 & -43 \\ 0 & 7 & * \\ 0 & 0 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$$

$G^p(\mathcal{R}_p, \mathcal{C}; E_p) := \text{Plant}$  and  $G^k(\mathcal{R}_k, \mathcal{C}; E_k) := \text{Controller}$ .

$\mathfrak{L}_p$  and  $\mathfrak{L}_k \rightarrow$  Equivalence classes of polynomial matrices with graphs  $G^p$  and  $G^k$ .

$\mathcal{R} := \mathcal{R}_P \cup \mathcal{R}_K$  and  $E := E_p \cup E_k$ .

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$A(s) := \begin{bmatrix} P(s) \\ K(s) \end{bmatrix}$ , for  $P \in \mathfrak{L}_p$  and  $K \in \mathfrak{L}_k$  and  $\chi_{PK}(s) :=$  determinant of  $A(s)$ .



## Pole placement for structured system

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Then the following are equivalent.

- 1 Arbitrary pole placement is possible generically using controllers having structure  $G^k$ .
- 2 Every nonconstant plant edge in  $G_a^{\text{aut}}$  is in some cycle containing controller edges in  $G_a^{\text{aut}}$ .

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In our problem there is no controller structure to begin with.

Rather we propose a controller structure which is minimal and satisfies the above conditions.

- A path in a graph is assumed to be maximal, i.e. it is **not properly** contained in another path.
- Vertices with degree of incidence equal to one are referred as degree-one vertices.
- Since paths are maximal, the terminals of a path are degree-one vertices.

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## Lemma

Assume a plant,  $G^p(\mathcal{R}_p, \mathcal{C}; E_p)$ . Remove all inadmissible edges. Suppose there are **no cycles**. Then plant is structurally controllable if and only if every path whose terminal is in  $\mathcal{R}_p$  has **length one** and is a **constant edge**.

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- Plant is controllable  $\Rightarrow$  in  $G_p$  all paths containing **at least one non-constant** plant edge has **both its terminals in  $\mathcal{C}$** .
- The next step to **propose** a controller is to **complete all these paths to cycles** using controller edges.

Assume (WLOG) that the graph of the plant after removing inadmissible edges is connected.

- $G^p(\mathcal{R}_p, \mathcal{C}; E_p) :=$  Controllable plant after removing the inadmissible edges. Assume  $G^p(\mathcal{R}_p, \mathcal{C}; E_p)$  is **connected** and has **no cycles** and **only non-constant edges**.

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- $N_p :=$  Minimum number of paths required to cover the  $\mathcal{R}_p$  vertices.  
 $\mathcal{C}_p \subseteq \mathcal{C} :=$  vertices that are covered by the  $N_p$  paths and  
 $e_{\text{mimo}} := |\mathcal{C}_p| - |\mathcal{R}_p|$ .  
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Define  $e_p$  by
  - $e_p := |n_t| - e_{\text{mimo}}$ , if  $e_{\text{mimo}} < N_p$  and
  - $e_p := e_{\text{mimo}}$ , if  $e_{\text{mimo}} \geq N_p$ .



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Then a minimal controller  $G^k(\mathcal{R}_k, \mathcal{C}; E_k)$ , with  $|\mathcal{R}_k| = |\mathcal{C}| - |\mathcal{R}_p|$ , that generically achieves arbitrary pole placement has  $e_p + |\mathcal{R}_k|$  edges.

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## Graph with cycles

Given:  $G_a$  with all edges admissible. The merged-cycles graph  $G_{nc}$  is obtained as follows. Initialize  $G_{nc} := G_a$ .

While there exists a cycle in  $G_{nc}$ , repeat:

- Let edges,  $e_i \subset E$  between vertices  $r_i \subset \mathcal{R}$  and  $c_i \subset \mathcal{C}$  form a cycle.
- Merge all vertices in  $r_i$  into one single vertex  $r_{m_i}$  and vertices in  $c_i$  to vertex  $c_{m_i}$ .
- The edge  $e_{m_i}$  between  $r_{m_i}$  and  $c_{m_i}$  is representative of all the edges in  $e_i$ .
- If at least one of the edges in  $e_i$  is a non-constant plant edge, then the edge  $e_{m_i}$  is also a non-constant plant edge.

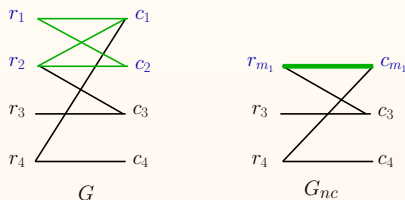


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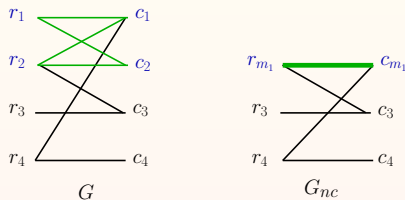


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The resulting graph is called the merged-cycles graph  $G_{nc}$ .  $G_{nc}$  is independent of the sequence of merging the cycles.

- For arbitrary pole placement, all non-constant plant edges in  $G_a^p$  should form a cycle with controller edges or be inadmissible in  $G^{\text{aut}}$ .
- It is enough to perform this check on the simplified graph  $G_{nc}$ , due to the following result.

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### Proposition

Consider cycles  $\mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{C}_2$  in a bipartite graph  $G(\mathcal{R}, \mathcal{C}; E)$ . Let  $e(\mathcal{C})$  denote the set of edges in  $\mathcal{C}$ . Then the set  $e(\mathcal{C}_1) \cup e(\mathcal{C}_2) - e(\mathcal{C}_1) \cap e(\mathcal{C}_2)$  is also a cycle.

So even if one edge from a cycle of plant edges is in a new cycle with controller edges then the rest of plant edges also will also be in another new cycle with controller edges.

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### Proposition

Consider cycles  $\mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{C}_2$  in a bipartite graph  $G(\mathcal{R}, \mathcal{C}; E)$ . Let  $e(\mathcal{C})$  denote the set of edges in  $\mathcal{C}$ . Then the set  $e(\mathcal{C}_1) \cup e(\mathcal{C}_2) - e(\mathcal{C}_1) \cap e(\mathcal{C}_2)$  is also a cycle.

So even if one edge from a cycle of plant edges is in a new cycle with controller edges then the rest of plant edges also will also be in another new cycle with controller edges.

### Definition

In a graph  $G$ , the distance between two vertices  $v_1$  and  $v_2$  denoted as  $\text{dist}(v_1, v_2)$  is defined as the minimum number of edges between  $v_1$  and  $v_2$ .



$G_{nc}(\mathcal{R}_p, \mathcal{C}, E_p) :=$  Plant and assume cycles are merged in  $G_{nc}$ . Assume  $G_{nc}$  is connected and has no constant plant edges.

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$\mathcal{C}_p \subseteq \mathcal{C} :=$  vertices that are covered by the  $N_p$  paths and  $e_{\text{mimo}} := |\mathcal{C}_p| - |\mathcal{R}_p|$ .

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- (i)  $e_p := |n_t| - e_{\text{mimo}}$  if  $e_{\text{mimo}} < N_p$ .
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Define  $\gamma$  through the sets  $\mathcal{C}_m$  and  $A$  as follows:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \mathcal{C}_m &:= \{v \in \mathcal{C} \setminus \mathcal{C}_p \mid v \text{ is a merged vertex in } G_{nc}\}. \\ A &:= \{v \in n_t \mid v \text{ is not a merged vertex and} \\ &\quad \text{dist}(v, v_1) = 2 \text{ for some } v_1 \in \mathcal{C}_m\}. \\ \gamma &:= |\mathcal{C}_m| - |A|. \end{aligned} \right\}$$

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Done to ensure a merged edge is not made inadmissible.

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Then the minimal controller that generically achieves arbitrary pole placement,  $G^k(\mathcal{R}_k, \mathcal{C}; E_k)$ , with  $|\mathcal{R}_k| = |\mathcal{C}| - |\mathcal{R}_p|$ , has  $|E_k| = e_p + \gamma + |\mathcal{R}_k|$ .

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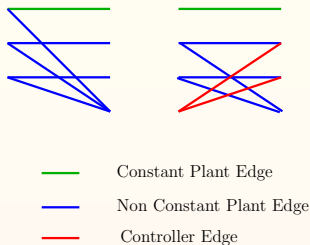


Figure:  $G^p$  with constant edge



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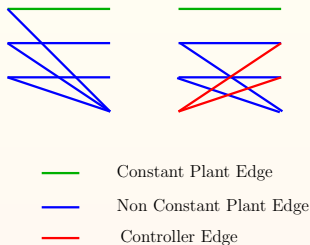


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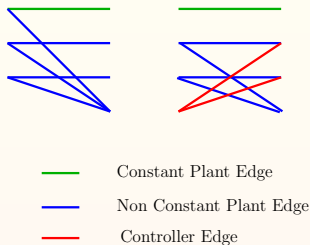


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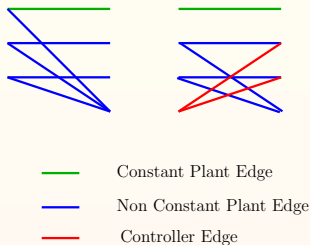


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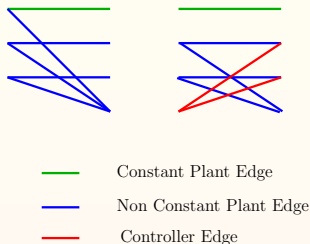


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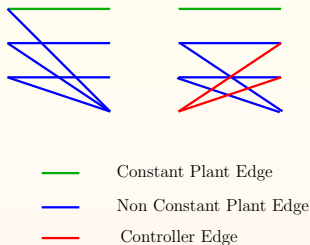


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Since there is a constant plant edge we cover only  $\mathcal{R}_p^c$  vertices and hence  $N_p = 1$  and consequently  $k_{\min} = 2$ .

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## Graph with cycles and constant plant edges: Main Result-III

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We analyse the following three cases.

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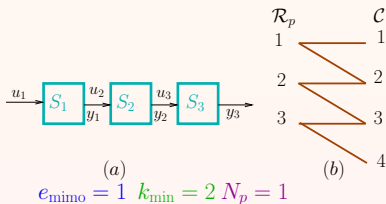
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| ② $d(v) \leq 2$ for all $v \in \mathcal{C}$ .                                      | $\implies$ | ② MISO                     |
| ③ $d(v) \leq 2$ for all $v \in \mathcal{R}_p$ .                                    |            | ③ SIMO                     |

- Consider three subsystems of the plant that are connected in each of the above cases.
- Assume each subsystem  $S_i$  has transfer function  $\frac{n_i(s)}{d_i(s)}$ . The differential equation for each  $S_i$  is  $d(\frac{d}{dt})y_i = n(\frac{d}{dt})u_i$ .
- Let  $P(\frac{d}{dt})w = 0$  be the plant.

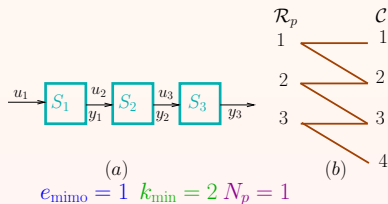
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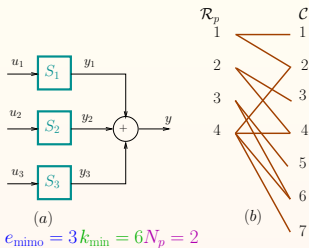
Series cascade: SISO



$$P = \begin{bmatrix} * & & & \\ & * & & \\ & & * & \\ & & & * & * \end{bmatrix}$$

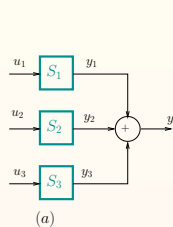


## MISO



$$e_{\text{mimo}} = 3k_{\text{min}} = 6N_p = 2$$

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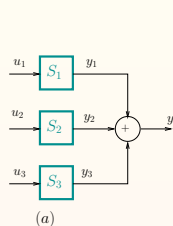


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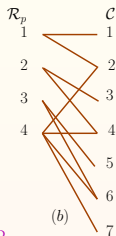


$$P = \begin{bmatrix} * & * & & & & & \\ & & * & * & & & \\ & & & & * & * & \\ & * & & * & & * & * \\ & & & & & & * \end{bmatrix}$$

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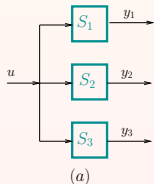


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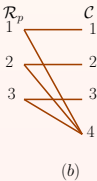


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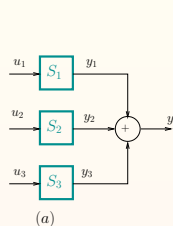
## SIMO



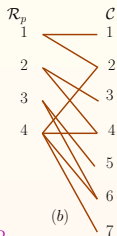
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## MISO

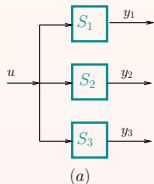


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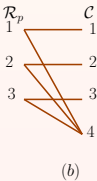


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## Lemma

$G^p(\mathcal{R}_p, \mathcal{C}; E_p) :=$  controllable plant. Assume  $G^p$  is connected, has no cycles and has no constant plant edges.  $d := |\mathcal{C}| - |\mathcal{R}_p|$ .

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$\mathcal{C}_p \subseteq \mathcal{C} :=$  vertices are covered by the  $N_p$  paths and  $e_{\text{mimo}} := |\mathcal{C}_p| - |\mathcal{R}_p|$ .

Then  $1 \leq e_{\text{mimo}} \leq \min(d, 2p - 1)$ .

- In the SISO and SIMO case, the lower bound of  $e_{\text{mimo}}$  is achieved.
- In the MISO case, the upper bound of  $e_{\text{mimo}}$  is achieved.

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- No of controller edges for SIMO is more than SISO as  $N_p$  is more.  
Note  $e_{\text{mimo}}$  is same for both cases.

Assume a controllable plant with  $n$  subsystems.

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SISO	1	1		2
MISO	$n$	$n$ even: $n/2$	$n$ odd: $(n+1)/2$	$2n$
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- $N_p \uparrow \Rightarrow k_{\text{min}} \uparrow$ . Due to need to ‘feed back’ more number of plant outputs or assign larger number of plant inputs.
- $e_{\text{mimo}}$  is higher if the plant is more under-determined, i.e. more number of controller equations are required in order to make the closed loop system autonomous.
- In this sense,  $e_{\text{mimo}}$  is the extent of Multi-Input-Multi-Output structure within a system.

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- Arbitrary pole placement is same as ensuring the polynomial matrix corresponding to the closed loop is square, nonsingular, and, in fact, unimodular. Thus we addressed the question of **unimodular completion** using the **least number of nonzero entries** in the completion.

# Thank you!

Please write to us for further queries:

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