Optimum Ordering and Pole-Zero Pairing of the Cascade Form IIR Digital Filter

- There are many possible cascade realizations of a higher order IIR transfer function obtained by different pole-zero pairings and ordering.
- Each one of these realizations will have different output noise power due to product round-offs.
- It is of interest to determine the cascade realization with the lowest output noise power.

Consider the scaled cascade structure shown below:

```
\[
\begin{array}{c}
\frac{e_1[n]}{e_2[n]} \\
\frac{e_3[n]}{e_4[n]}
\end{array}
\]
```

```
\[
\begin{array}{c}
x[n] \\
\sum_{\ell=1}^{R} h_{\ell} z^{-\ell}
\end{array}
\]
```

```
\[
\begin{array}{c}
h_{\ell} z^{-\ell} \\
1 + a_{\ell} z^{-1} + a_{\ell+1} z^{-2}
\end{array}
\]
```

The scaled noise transfer functions are given by:

\[
G_\ell(z) = \prod_{j=\ell}^{R} H_j(z), \quad \ell = 1, 2, \ldots, R
\]

\[
G_{R+1}(z) = 1
\]

where

\[
H_j(z) = \frac{b_{0j} + b_{1j} z^{-1} + b_{2j} z^{-2}}{1 + a_{\ell} z^{-1} + a_{\ell+1} z^{-2}}
\]

The output noise power spectrum due to product round-off is given by:

\[
P_{\gamma\gamma}(\omega) = \sigma_0^2 \left[ \sum_{\ell=1}^{R+1} k_{\ell} \left| G_\ell(e^{j\omega}) \right|^2 \right]
\]

and the output noise variance is thus:

\[
\sigma_0^2 = \sigma_0^2 \left[ \sum_{\ell=1}^{R+1} k_{\ell} \left( \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \left| G_\ell(e^{j\omega}) \right|^2 d\omega \right) \right]
\]

Recall:

\[
\beta_0 = \frac{1}{\alpha_1}, \quad \beta_r = \frac{\alpha_r}{\alpha_{r+1}}, \quad r = 1, 2, \ldots, R
\]

Thus:

\[
\prod_{\ell=1}^{R} \beta_{\ell} = \frac{\alpha_{\ell}}{\alpha_{R+1}} = \frac{\|F\|_p}{\|I\|_p}
\]

Substituting the above in:

\[
P_{\gamma\gamma}(\omega) = \sigma_0^2 \left[ \sum_{\ell=1}^{R+1} k_{\ell} \left| G_\ell(e^{j\omega}) \right|^2 \right]
\]
Optimum Ordering and Pole-Zero Pairing

we get

\[ P_{yy}(\omega) = \sigma^2 \left[ k_{R+1} ||H||^2_{p} + \sum_{i=1}^{R} k_i ||F_i||^2 ||G_i(\omega)|^2 \right] \]

• The output noise variance is now given by

\[ \sigma^2 = \frac{\sigma^2}{||H||^2_{p} + \sum_{i=1}^{R} k_i ||F_i||^2 ||G_i||^2} \]

Optimum Ordering and Pole-Zero Pairing

• Thus every term in the expressions for \( P_{yy}(\omega) \) and \( \sigma^2 \) includes the transfer functions of all \( R \) sections in the cascade realization

• To minimize the output noise power, the norms of \( H(z) \) should be minimized for all values of \( i \) by appropriately pairing the poles and zeros

Optimum Ordering and Pole-Zero Pairing

• The scaling transfer function \( F_i(z) \) contains a product of section transfer functions, \( H_i(z) \), \( i = 1,2,\ldots,\ell-1 \) whereas, the noise transfer function \( G_i(z) \) contains the product of section transfer functions \( H_i(z) \), \( i = \ell, \ell + 1, \ldots, R \)

Optimum Ordering and Pole-Zero Pairing

• Pole-Zero Pairing Rule -

• First, the complex pole-pair closest to the unit circle should be paired with the nearest complex zero-pair

• Next, the complex pole-pair that is closest to the previous set of poles should be matched with its nearest complex zero-pair

• Continue this process until all poles and zeros have been paired

Optimum Ordering and Pole-Zero Pairing

• Illustration of pole-zero pairing

Optimum Ordering and Pole-Zero Pairing

• The suggested pole-zero pairing is likely to lower the peak gain of the section characterized by the paired poles and zeros

• Lowering of the peak gain in turn reduces the possibility of overflow and attenuates the round-off noise

Optimum Ordering and Pole-Zero Pairing

• Illustration of pole-zero pairing
Optimum Ordering and Pole-Zero Pairing

- After the appropriate pole-zero pairings have been made, the sections need to be ordered to minimize the output round-off noise.
- A section in the front part of the cascade has its transfer function \( H_i(z) \) appear more frequently in the scaling transfer expressions for \( P_{yy}(\omega) \) and \( \sigma_y^2 \).

On the other hand, a section near the output end of the cascade has its transfer function \( H_i(z) \) appear more frequently in the noise transfer function expressions.

The best locations for \( H_i(z) \) obviously depends on the type of norms being applied to the scaling and noise transfer functions.

A careful examination of the expressions for \( P_{yy}(\omega) \) and \( \sigma_y^2 \) reveals that if the \( L_2 \)-scaling is used, then ordering of paired sections does not affect too much the output noise power since all norms in the expressions are \( L_2 \)-norms.

This fact is evident from the results of the two examples presented earlier.

If \( L_\infty \)-scaling is being employed, the sections with the poles closest to the unit circle exhibit a peaking magnitude response and should be placed closer to the output end.

The ordering rule in this case is to place the least peaked section to the most peaked section starting at the input end.

The ordering is exactly opposite if the objective is to minimize the peak noise and an \( L_2 \)-scaling is used.

Ordering has no effect on the peak noise if \( L_\infty \)-scaling is used.

The M-file `zp2sos` can be used to determine the optimum pole-zero pairing and ordering according the above discussed rule.

The output round-off noise variances of unscaled digital filters do not provide a realistic picture of the performances of these structures in practice.

This is due to the fact that introduction of scaling multipliers can increase the number of error sources and the gain for the noise transfer functions.

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Signal-to-Noise Ratio in Low-Order IIR Filters

• Therefore the digital filter structure should first be scaled before its round-off noise performance is analyzed
• In many applications, the round-off noise variance by itself is not sufficient, and a more meaningful result is obtained by computing instead the signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) for performance evaluation

• The computation of the SNR for the first- and second-order IIR structures are considered here
• Most conclusions derived from the detailed analysis of these simple structures are also valid for more complex structures
• Methods followed here can be easily extended to the general case

Signal-to-Noise Ratio in Low-Order IIR Filters

Consider the causal unscaled first-order filter shown below

\[ x[n] \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow y[n] = x[n] + y[n] \]

• Its output round-off noise variance was computed earlier and is given by

\[ \sigma_y^2 = \frac{\sigma_x^2}{1-\alpha^2} \]

Signal-to-Noise Ratio in Low-Order IIR Filters

• Assume the input \( x[n] \) to be a WSS random signal with a uniform probability density function and a variance \( \sigma_x^2 \)
• The variance \( \sigma_y^2 \) of the output signal \( y[n] \) generated by this input is then

\[ \sigma_y^2 = \sigma_x^2 \left( \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} h^2[n] \right) = \sigma_x^2 \left( \frac{1}{1-\alpha^2} \right) \]

Signal-to-Noise Ratio in Low-Order IIR Filters

• The SNR of the unscaled filter is then

\[ \text{SNR} = \frac{\sigma_y^2}{\sigma_o^2} = \frac{\sigma_x^2}{\sigma_o^2} \]

• \( \text{SNR} \) is independent of \( \alpha \)
• However, this is not a valid result since the adder is likely to overflow in an unscaled structure

Signal-to-Noise Ratio in Low-Order IIR Filters

• The scaled structure is shown below along with its round-off error analysis model assuming quantization after addition of all products

\[ x[n] \rightarrow K \rightarrow e[n] \rightarrow y[n] + y[n] \]
Signal-to-Noise Ratio in Low-Order IIR Filters

- With the scaling multiplier present, the output signal power becomes
  \[ \sigma_y^2 = \frac{K^2 \sigma_x^2}{1 - \alpha^2} \]
- The signal-to-noise ratio is then
  \[ SNR = \frac{K^2 \sigma_x^2}{\sigma_o^2} \]

Signal-to-Noise Ratio in Low-Order IIR Filters

- To guarantee no overflow, we choose
  \[ K = \frac{1}{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |f[n]|} \]
- To evaluate the SNR we need to know the type of input \(x[n]\) being applied
- If \(x[n]\) is uniformly distributed with \(|x[n]| \leq 1\)
  its variance is given by
  \[ \sigma_x^2 = \frac{1}{3} \]

Signal-to-Noise Ratio in First-Order IIR Filters

| Input type               | SNR  | Typical SNR, dB (b = 12, |\(\alpha| = 0.95) |
|-------------------------|------|--------------------------|
| WSS, white uniform density | \(\frac{(1-|\alpha|)^2}{2\sigma_o^2}\) | 52.24 |
| WSS, white Gaussian density (\(\sigma_x^2 = 1/9\)) | \(\frac{(1-|\alpha|)^2}{2\sigma_x^2}\) | 47.97 |
| Sinusoid, known frequency | \(\frac{(1-|\alpha|)^2}{2\sigma_o^2}\) | 69.91 |

Signal-to-Noise Ratio in Second-Order IIR Filters

- Consider the causal unscaled second-order IIR filter given below
  \[ x[n] \quad \alpha \quad \beta \quad y[n] \]

- Since the scaling multiplier coefficient \(K\) depends on the pole location and the type of scaling being followed, the SNR will thus reflect this dependence
- The scaling transfer function is given by
  \[ F(z) = H(z) = \frac{1}{1 - \alpha z^{-1}} \]
  with a corresponding impulse response
  \[ f[n] = z^{-1} \{F(z)\} = \alpha^n \mu[n] \]

- The SNR in dB is given by
  \[ SNR_{dB} = 20 \log_{10}(\frac{1}{1-|\alpha|}) + 6.02 + 6.02b \]
Signal-to-Noise Ratio in Second-Order IIR Filters

- Its scaled version along with the round-off noise analysis model, assuming quantization after addition of all products, is shown below.

\[ y[n] = Kx[n] + e[n] - \alpha y[n-1] - \beta y[n-2] \]

Signal-to-Noise Ratio in Second-Order IIR Filters

- For a WSS input with a uniform probability density function and a variance \( \sigma_x^2 \), the signal power at the output is given by

\[ \sigma_y^2 = \sigma_x^2 \left( K^2 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} h^2[n] \right) \]

- The round-off noise power at the output is given by

\[ \sigma_e^2 = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} h^2[n] \]

Signal-to-Noise Ratio in Second-Order IIR Filters

- If the poles of \( H(z) \) are at \( z = re^{\pm j\theta} \), then

\[ F(z) = H(z) = \frac{1}{1 - 2r \cos \theta z^{-1} + r^2 z^{-2}} \]

- Corresponding impulse response is given by

\[ h[n] = \frac{r^n \sin(n+1)\theta}{\sin \theta} \cdot \mu[n] \]

Signal-to-Noise Ratio in Second-Order IIR Filters

- The magnitude response of the unscaled second-order section to a sinusoidal input is given by

\[ |H(e^{j\theta})| = \left[ \frac{1}{(1-r^2)(1-2r \cos \theta + r^2)} \right]^{1/2} \]

- But, \( |H(e^{j\theta})| \) cannot be greater than \( \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |h[n]| \) as the latter is the largest possible value of the output \( y[n] \) for an input \( x[n] \) with \( |x[n]| \leq 1 \).
Signal-to-Noise Ratio in Second-Order IIR Filters

- Moreover,
  \[
  \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |h[n]| = \frac{1}{\sin \theta} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} r^n |\sin(n+1)\theta| \\
  \leq \frac{1}{\sin \theta} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} r^n = \frac{1}{(1-r)\sin \theta}
  \]
- A tighter upper bound on \(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |h[n]|\) is given by
  \[
  \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |h[n]| \leq \frac{4}{\pi(1-r^2)\sin \theta}
  \]

Bounded Real Transfer Function

- If the input and the output to the digital filter are \(x[n]\) and \(y[n]\), respectively with \(X(e^{j\omega})\) and \(Y(e^{j\omega})\) denoting their DTFTs, then the equivalent condition for the BR property is given by
  \[
  |Y(e^{j\omega})|^2 \leq |X(e^{j\omega})|^2
  \]
- Integrating the above from \(-\pi\) to \(\pi\), dividing by \(2\pi\), and applying Parseval’s relation we get
  \[
  \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} y^2[n] \leq \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} x^2[n]
  \]

Signal-to-Noise Ratio in Second-Order IIR Filters

- Therefore
  \[
  (1-r)^2(1-2r \cos \theta + r^2) \geq K^2 \geq \frac{\pi^2(1-r^2)^2 \sin^2 \theta}{16}
  \]
- Bounds on the SNR for the all-pole second-order section can also be derived for various types of inputs

Bounded Real Transfer Function

- **Bounded Real Transfer Function**
- A causal stable real coefficient transfer function \(H(z)\) is defined to be a bounded real (BR) function if it satisfies the following condition:
  \[
  |H(e^{j\omega})| \leq 1, \quad \text{for all values of } \omega
  \]

Bounded Real Transfer Function

- Thus, a digital filter characterized by a BR transfer function is passive as, for all finite-energy inputs,
  \[
  \text{Output energy} \leq \text{Input energy}
  \]
- If \(|H(e^{j\omega})| = 1\) for all values of \(\omega\) then it is a lossless system
- A causal stable transfer function \(H(z)\) with \(|H(e^{j\omega})| = 1\) is called a lossless bounded real (LBR) transfer function
Requirements for Low Coefficient Sensitivity

• A causal stable digital filter with a transfer function $H(z)$ has low coefficient sensitivity in the passband if it satisfies the following conditions:
  1. $H(z)$ is a bounded-real transfer function
  2. There exists a set of frequencies $\omega_k$ at which $|H(e^{j\omega_k})| = 1$
  3. The transfer function of the filter with quantized coefficients remains bounded real

Requirements for Low Coefficient Sensitivity

• Any causal stable transfer function can be scaled to satisfy the first two conditions
  • Let the digital filter structure $\mathcal{N}$ realizing the BR transfer function $H(z)$ be characterized by $R$ multipliers with coefficients $m_i$
  • Let the nominal values of these multiplier coefficients assuming infinite precision realization be $m_i(0)$

Requirements for Low Coefficient Sensitivity

• Because of the third condition, regardless of the actual values of $m_i$ in the immediate neighborhood of their design values $m_i(0)$, the actual transfer function remains BR
  • Consider $|H(e^{j\omega_k})|$ which for multiplier values $m_i$ is equal to 1
  • The third condition implies that if the coefficient $m_i$ is quantized, then $|H(e^{j\omega_k})|$ can only become less than 1

Requirements for Low Coefficient Sensitivity

• A plot of $|H(e^{j\omega_k})|$ will thus appear as indicated below

Requirements for Low Coefficient Sensitivity

• Since $|H(e^{j\omega})|$ is bounded above by unity, the frequencies $\omega_k$ must be in the passband

Requirements for Low Coefficient Sensitivity

• Thus the plot of $|H(e^{j\omega_k})|$ will have a zero-valued slope at $m_i = m_i(0)$
  • i.e. $\left. \frac{\partial |H(e^{j\omega_k})|}{\partial m_i} \right|_{m_i = m_i(0)} = 0$
  • The first-order sensitivity of $|H(e^{j\omega})|$ with respect to each multiplier coefficient is zero at all frequencies $\omega_k$ where $|H(e^{j\omega_k})|$ assumes its maximum value of unity
Requirements for Low Coefficient Sensitivity

- Since all frequencies $\omega_k$, where the magnitude function is exactly equal to unity, are in the passband of the filter and if these frequencies are closely spaced, it is expected that the sensitivity of the magnitude function to be very small at other frequencies in the passband.

A digital filter structure satisfying the conditions for low coefficient sensitivity is called a **structurally bounded** system.

- Since the output energy of such a structure is also less than or equal to the input energy for all finite energy input signals, it is also called a **structurally passive** system.

Low Passband Sensitivity
IIR Digital Filter

- Let $G(z)$ be an $N$-th order causal BR IIR transfer function given by

$$G(z) = \frac{P(z)}{D(z)} = \frac{p_0 + p_1 z^{-1} + \cdots + p_N z^{-N}}{1 + d_1 z^{-1} + \cdots + d_N z^{-N}}$$

with a power-complementary transfer function $H(z)$ given by

$$H(z) = \frac{Q(z)}{D(z)} = \frac{q_0 + q_1 z^{-1} + \cdots + q_N z^{-N}}{1 + d_1 z^{-1} + \cdots + d_N z^{-N}}$$

- Power-complementary property implies that

$$\left|G(e^{j\omega})\right|^2 + \left|H(e^{j\omega})\right|^2 = 1$$

- Thus, $H(z)$ is also a BR transfer function.

- We determine the conditions under which $G(z)$ and $H(z)$ can be expressed in the form

$$G(z) = \frac{1}{2} \{A_0(z) + A_1(z)\}$$

$$H(z) = \frac{1}{2} \{A_0(z) - A_1(z)\}$$

where $A_0(z)$ and $A_1(z)$ are stable allpass functions.

- $G(z)$ must have a symmetric numerator, i.e.,

$$p_n = p_{N-n}$$

- $H(z)$ must have an anti-symmetric numerator, i.e.,

$$q_n = -q_{N-n}$$
Low Passband Sensitivity
IIR Digital Filter

• Symmetric property of the numerator of \( G(z) \) implies
  \[ P(z^{-1}) = z^N P(z) \]

• Likewise, antisymmetric property of the numerator of \( H(z) \) implies
  \[ Q(z^{-1}) = -z^N Q(z) \]

Low Passband Sensitivity
IIR Digital Filter

• By analytic continuation, the power-complementary condition can be rewritten as
  \[ G(z^{-1})G(z) + H(z^{-1})H(z) = 1 \]
  which is equivalent to
  \[ [P(z) + Q(z)][P(z^{-1}) - Q(z^{-1})] = z^{-N} D(z^{-1}) D(z) \]

Low Passband Sensitivity
IIR Digital Filter

• Using the relations \( P(z^{-1}) = z^{-N} P(z) \) and \( Q(z^{-1}) = -z^N Q(z) \) we can write
  \[ P(z) - Q(z) = z^{-N} [P(z^{-1}) + Q(z^{-1})] \]

• Let \( z = \xi_k, 1 \leq k \leq N \), denote the zeros of \([P(z) + Q(z)]\)
• Then \( z = \frac{1}{\xi_k}, 1 \leq k \leq N \), are the zeros of \([P(z) - Q(z)]\)

Low Passband Sensitivity
IIR Digital Filter

• Let \( z = \xi_k, 1 \leq k \leq r \), be the \( r \) zeros of \([P(z) + Q(z)]\) inside the unit circle, and the remaining \( N-r \) zeros, \( z = \xi_k, r+1 \leq k \leq N \), be outside the unit circle
• Then the \( N \) zeros of \( D(z) \) are given by
  \[ z = \begin{cases} \xi_k, & 1 \leq k \leq r \\ \frac{1}{\xi_k}, & r+1 \leq k \leq N \end{cases} \]

Low Passband Sensitivity
IIR Digital Filter

• To identify the above zeros of \( D(z) \) with the appropriate allpass transfer functions \( A_0(z) \) and \( A_1(z) \) we observe that these allpass functions can be expressed as
  \[ A_0(z) = G(z) + H(z) = \frac{P(z) + Q(z)}{D(z)} \]
  \[ A_1(z) = G(z) - H(z) = \frac{P(z) - Q(z)}{D(z)} \]
Low Passband Sensitivity
IIR Digital Filter

• Therefore, the two allpass transfer functions can be expressed as

\[
A_0(z) = \prod_{k=r+1}^{N} \left( \frac{z^{-1} - (\xi_k^r)^{-1}}{1 - \xi_k^{-1} z^{-1}} \right)
\]

\[
A_1(z) = \prod_{k=k}^{N} \left( \frac{z^{-1} - \xi_k^{2r}}{1 - \xi_k^{-1} z^{-1}} \right)
\]

Low Passband Sensitivity
IIR Digital Filter

• In order to arrive at the above expressions, it is necessary to determine the transfer function \(H(z)\) that is power-complementary to \(G(z)\)

- Let \(U(z)\) denote the \(2N\)-th degree polynomial

\[
U(z) = P^2(z) - z^{-N} D(z) D(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{2N} u_n z^{-n}
\]

Low Passband Sensitivity
IIR Digital Filter

• After \(Q(z)\) has been determined, we form the polynomial \([P(z) + Q(z)]\), find its zeros \(z = \xi_k\), and then determine the two allpass functions \(A_0(z)\) and \(A_1(z)\)

- It can be shown shown that IIR digital transfer functions derived from analog Butterworth, Chebyshev and elliptic filters via the bilinear transformation can be decomposed into the sum of allpass functions

Low Passband Sensitivity
IIR Digital Filter

• For lowpass-highpass filter pairs, the order \(N\) of the transfer function must be odd with the orders of \(A_0(z)\) and \(A_1(z)\) differing by 1

- For bandpass-bandstop filter pairs, the order \(N\) of the transfer function must be even with the orders of \(A_0(z)\) and \(A_1(z)\) differing by 2

Low Passband Sensitivity
IIR Digital Filter

• A simple approach to identify the poles of the two allpass functions for odd-order digital Butterworth, Chebyshev, and elliptic lowpass or highpass transfer functions is as follows

- Let \(z = \lambda_k, 0 \leq k \leq N - 1\) denote the poles of \(G(z)\) or \(H(z)\)
Low Passband Sensitivity
IIR Digital Filter

• Let \( \theta_k \) denote the angle of the pole \( \lambda_k \)
• Assume that the poles are numbered such that \( \theta_k < \theta_{k+1} \) \( \lambda_{2k+1} < \lambda_{2k+1} \)
• Then the poles of \( A_0(z) \) are given by \( \lambda_{2k} \)
and the poles of \( A_1(z) \) are given by \( \lambda_{2k+1} \)

\[ G(z) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{0.491 z^{-1} (0.8828 - 0.557 z^{-1} + z^{-2})}{1 - 0.491 z^{-1} (1 - 0.557 z^{-1} + 0.8828 z^{-2}) + 0.539 - 0.762 z^{-1} + z^{-2}} \right) \]

Low Passband Sensitivity
IIR Digital Filter

• Example - Consider the parallel allpass realization of a 5-th order elliptic lowpass filter with the specifications: \( \omega_p = 0.4\pi \), \( \alpha_p = 0.5 \) dB, and \( \alpha_s = 40 \) dB
• The transfer function obtained using MATLAB is given by
\[ G(z) = \frac{0.528 + 0.0797 z^{-1} + 0.1295 z^{-2}}{(1 - 0.491 z^{-1} (1 - 0.762 z^{-1} + 0.539 z^{-2})) \times (1 - 0.557 z^{-1} + 0.8828 z^{-2})} \]

Low Passband Sensitivity
IIR Digital Filter

• A 5-multiplier realization using a signed 7-bit fractional sign-magnitude representation of each multiplier coefficient is shown below

Low Passband Sensitivity
IIR Digital Filter

• The gain response of the filter with infinite precision multiplier coefficients and that with quantized coefficients are shown below
Low Passband Sensitivity
IIR Digital Filter

- Passband details of the parallel allpass realization and a direct form realization