

## Reachability standard form

- *Property.* Each linear system  $\mathcal{S} = \{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{C}, \mathbf{D}\}$  (continuous or discrete-time) which is NOT completely reachable can be given the “Reachability standard form”, that is it can be transformed to an equivalent system  $\bar{\mathcal{S}} = \{\bar{\mathbf{A}}, \bar{\mathbf{B}}, \bar{\mathbf{C}}, \bar{\mathbf{D}}\}$  where matrices  $\bar{\mathbf{A}} = \mathbf{T}^{-1}\mathbf{A}\mathbf{T}$ ,  $\bar{\mathbf{B}} = \mathbf{T}^{-1}\mathbf{B}$ ,  $\bar{\mathbf{C}} = \mathbf{C}\mathbf{T}$  and  $\bar{\mathbf{D}} = \mathbf{D}$  have the following structure:

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{\mathbf{A}} &= \begin{bmatrix} \bar{\mathbf{A}}_{1,1} & \bar{\mathbf{A}}_{1,2} \\ 0 & \bar{\mathbf{A}}_{2,2} \end{bmatrix}, & \bar{\mathbf{B}} &= \begin{bmatrix} \bar{\mathbf{B}}_1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ \bar{\mathbf{C}} &= [\bar{\mathbf{C}}_1 \quad \bar{\mathbf{C}}_2], & \bar{\mathbf{D}} &= \mathbf{D}\end{aligned}$$

- Let  $\rho = \dim(\mathcal{X}^+) < n$ . The transformation matrix  $\mathbf{T}$  to be used for obtaining the reachability standard form is the following:

$$\mathbf{T} = [\mathbf{T}_1, \mathbf{T}_2], \quad \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{T} \bar{\mathbf{x}}$$

where  $\mathbf{T}_1$ , with dimensions  $n \times \rho$ , is a base matrix of the reachability subspace  $\mathcal{X}^+$ , and where  $\mathbf{T}_2$ , with dimensions  $n \times (n - \rho)$ , is a free matrix such that  $\mathbf{T}$  is a full rank transformation matrix.

- *Property.* The subsystem of dimension  $\rho$  characterized by matrices  $\bar{\mathbf{A}}_{1,1}$  and  $\bar{\mathbf{B}}_1$  is completely reachable.
- The subsystem  $(\bar{\mathbf{A}}_{1,1}, \bar{\mathbf{B}}_1, \bar{\mathbf{C}}_1)$ , called reachable subsystem, describes completely the dynamics of the given system when the initial state belongs to the reachable subspace:

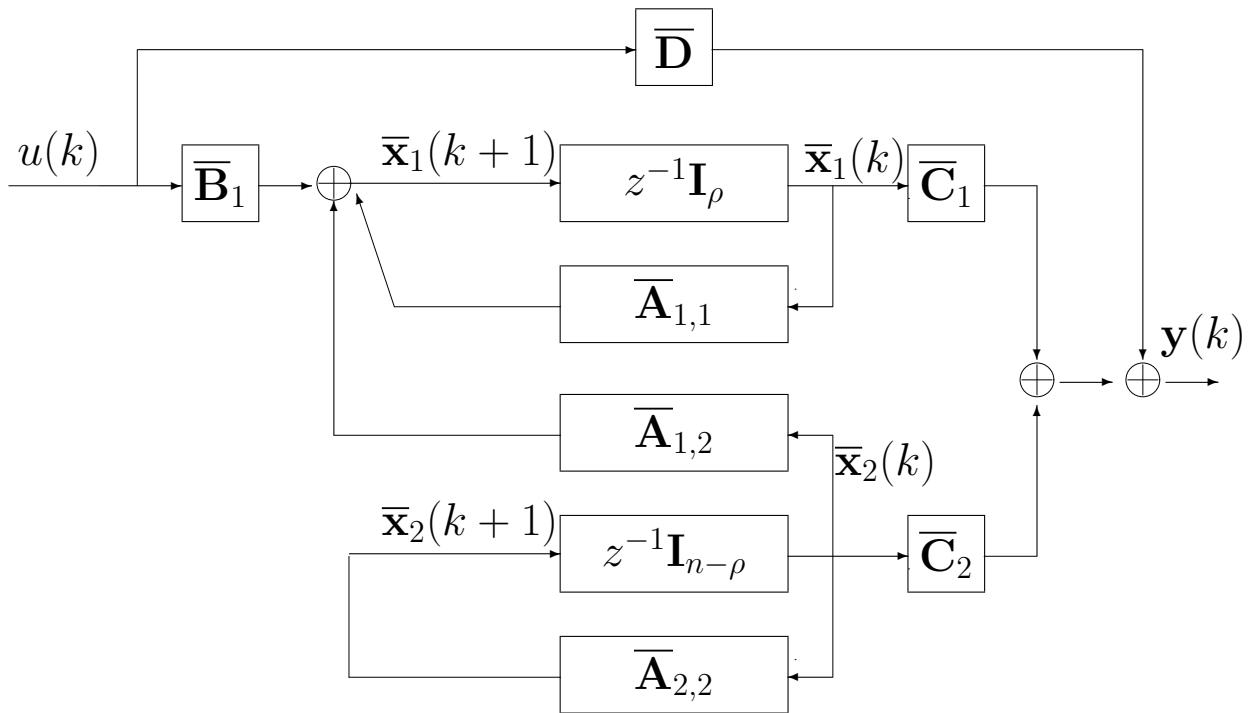
$$\text{if } \mathbf{x}_2(0) = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathbf{x}_2(t) = 0, \quad \forall t \geq 0$$

- The subsystem  $(\bar{\mathbf{A}}_{2,2}, 0, \bar{\mathbf{C}}_2)$ , characterized by matrices  $\bar{\mathbf{A}}_{2,2}$ ,  $\bar{\mathbf{B}}_2 = 0$  and  $\bar{\mathbf{C}}_2$ , called not reachable subsystem, has a dynamics which depends only on the initial state  $\bar{\mathbf{x}}_2(0)$  and is not influenced by the input signal  $\mathbf{u}$ .
- The eigenvalues of matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  are split in two parts: the eigenvalues of the reachable part (the eigenvalues of matrix  $\bar{\mathbf{A}}_{1,1}$ ) and the eigenvalues of the not reachable part (the eigenvalues of matrix  $\bar{\mathbf{A}}_{2,2}$ ).

- Acting on the input  $u$  it is not possible to change in any way the dynamics of the not reachable part of the system.
- For discrete systems, the transformed state vector  $\bar{\mathbf{x}}(k)$  is divided in two parts: the *reachable* part  $\bar{\mathbf{x}}_1$  and the *not reachable* part  $\bar{\mathbf{x}}_2$ :  $\bar{\mathbf{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} \bar{\mathbf{x}}_1 & \bar{\mathbf{x}}_2 \end{bmatrix}^T$  where  $\dim(\bar{\mathbf{x}}_1) = \rho$ . The system equations can be written as follows:

$$\begin{cases} \bar{\mathbf{x}}_1(k+1) = \bar{\mathbf{A}}_{1,1}\bar{\mathbf{x}}_1(k) + \bar{\mathbf{A}}_{1,2}\bar{\mathbf{x}}_2(k) + \bar{\mathbf{B}}_1\mathbf{u}(k) \\ \bar{\mathbf{x}}_2(k+1) = \bar{\mathbf{A}}_{2,2}\bar{\mathbf{x}}_2(k) \\ \mathbf{y}(k) = \bar{\mathbf{C}}_1\bar{\mathbf{x}}_1(k) + \bar{\mathbf{C}}_2\bar{\mathbf{x}}_2(k) + \bar{\mathbf{D}}\mathbf{u}(k) \end{cases}$$

The corresponding block scheme is:



- A similar decomposition holds also for linear continuous-time systems.
- *Property.* The transfer matrix  $\mathbf{H}(z)$  [or  $\mathbf{H}(s)$ ] of a linear dynamic system, is always equal to the transfer matrix of the reachable part of the system.

Proof. The transfer matrix  $\mathbf{H}(z) = \mathbf{C}(z\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1}\mathbf{B} = \bar{\mathbf{C}}(z\mathbf{I} - \bar{\mathbf{A}})^{-1}\bar{\mathbf{B}}$  is:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{H}(z) &= \begin{bmatrix} \bar{\mathbf{C}}_1 & \bar{\mathbf{C}}_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} z\mathbf{I} - \bar{\mathbf{A}}_{1,1} & -\bar{\mathbf{A}}_{1,2} \\ 0 & z\mathbf{I} - \bar{\mathbf{A}}_{2,2} \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \bar{\mathbf{B}}_1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \bar{\mathbf{C}}_1 & \bar{\mathbf{C}}_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} (z\mathbf{I} - \bar{\mathbf{A}}_{1,1})^{-1} & * * * \\ 0 & (z\mathbf{I} - \bar{\mathbf{A}}_{2,2})^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \bar{\mathbf{B}}_1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \\ &= \bar{\mathbf{C}}_1(z\mathbf{I} - \bar{\mathbf{A}}_{1,1})^{-1}\bar{\mathbf{B}}_1 \end{aligned}$$

**Example.** Let us consider the following discrete system:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{x}(k+1) = \overbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}}^{\mathbf{A}} \mathbf{x}(k) + \overbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}^{\mathbf{B}} u(k) \\ y(k) = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{C}} \mathbf{x}(k) \end{array} \right.$$

The reachable matrix of the system is:

$$\mathcal{R}^+ = \left[ \begin{array}{cc|cc|:c|:c|:c} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right], \quad \mathcal{X}^+ = \text{Im} \mathcal{R}^+ = \text{Im} \left[ \begin{array}{ccc} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

The system is not completely reachable and therefore it is possible to give the system a reachability standard form. Using the following matrix:

$$\mathbf{T} = [\mathbf{T}_1 \quad \mathbf{T}_2] = \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right], \quad \mathbf{T}^{-1} = \mathbf{T}$$

the transformed system has the following form:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \bar{\mathbf{x}}(k+1) = \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & 0 \end{array} \right] \bar{\mathbf{x}}(k) + \left[ \begin{array}{cc} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \end{array} \right] u(k) \\ y(k) = [1 \quad 1 \quad 1 \mid 1] \bar{\mathbf{x}}(k) \end{array} \right.$$

The zeros shown in bold are the structural zeros of the reachability standard form. The not reachable part is characterized by a zero eigenvalue. The transfer matrix  $\mathbf{H}(z)$  of the system is equal to the transfer matrix of the reachable part of the system:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{H}(z) &= \mathbf{C}(z\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1}\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{C}_1(z\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A}_{11})^{-1}\mathbf{B}_1 \\ &= \mathbf{C}_1 \left[ \begin{array}{ccc} z-1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & z & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & z \end{array} \right]^{-1} \mathbf{B}_1 = [1 \quad 1 \quad 1] \left[ \begin{array}{ccc} (z-1)^{-1} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & z^{-1} & z^{-2} \\ 0 & 0 & z^{-1} \end{array} \right] \mathbf{B}_1 \\ &= \left[ (z-1)^{-1} \quad z^{-1} \quad (z^{-1} + z^{-2}) \right] \left[ \begin{array}{cc} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{array} \right] = \left[ \frac{1}{z-1} \quad \frac{z+1}{z^2} \right] \end{aligned}$$