



**Definition 1** (RC and CRC). Let  $p(x) \in \mathbb{R}[x]$ . The root classification (RC) of  $p(x)$  is denoted by  $[[n_1; n_2; \dots]; [m_1; j_1; m_1; m_2; j_2; m_2; \dots]]$  where  $n_k$  are the multiplicities of the distinct real roots of  $p(x)$ , and  $m_k$



## 2.2. Sturm-Habicht Sequence and Related Sequences

Let  $p(x) = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_0$  and  $q(x) = b_m x^m + b_{m-1} x^{m-1} + \dots + b_0$  be two real polynomials with  $n = \deg(p) > m = \deg(q)$ .

In this section, we introduce the concept of subresultant sequence which comes from Sylvester (1853) and Collins (1967), the concept of Sturm-Habicht sequence which was

**Remark 11.** The relationship between the discriminant sequence  $[D_1; \dots; D_n]$  of  $p$  and the principal Sturm-Habicht coefficients of  $p$  and 1 is:  $D_j = a_n \text{stha}_{n-j} (=$

**Proposition 14.** *Let  $p \in \mathbb{R}[x]$  have revised sign list  $\text{rsl}(p)$ . If the number of non-vanishing elements in  $\text{rsl}(p)$  is  $s$ , and the number of sign changes in  $\text{rsl}(p)$  is  $v$ , then  $p(x)$  has  $v$  pairs of distinct complex conjugate roots and  $s - 2v$  distinct real roots.*

**Proposition 15.** *If  $\mathbb{C}^j(p)$  has  $k$  distinct roots with respective multiplicities  $n_1$*

Since each of  $D_4; D_5; D_6$  can be positive, zero or negative, there are 27 possible realizations of this sign list to examine. Let us consider the following example sign list: the case  $D_4 < 0; D$

mapping  $\odot$  from a sign list to a revised sign list. Therefore the existing algorithms require the inverse mapping  $\odot^{-1}$ . However,  $\odot$  is not injective, so  $\odot^{-1}$  is multivalued, and more importantly is difficult to compute.

As an example, consider the polynomial  $p_6 := x^6 + ax^2 + bx + c$ , whose discriminant sequence was given in (3). One condition (among many) for  $p_6$  having no real roots is that its revised sign list be  $[1; j \ 1; j \ 1; j \ 1; j \ 1; j \ 1]$ . According to the special structure of the discriminant sequence of  $p_6$ , we have

$$\odot^{-1}[1; j \ 1; j \ 1; j \ 1; j \ 1] = f[1; 0; 0; 1; j \ 1; j \ 1]; [1; 0; 0; 1; 0; j \ 1]; [1; 0; 0; 0; j \ 1; j \ 1]g :$$

Therefore, the given condition is transferred to the following:

$$[D_4 > 0 \wedge D_5 < 0 \wedge D_6 < 0] \_ [D_4 > 0 \wedge D_5 = 0 \wedge D_6 < 0] \_ [D_4 = 0 \wedge D_5 < 0 \wedge D_6 < 0] :$$

This case, already cumbersome, is none the less relatively simple because of the nature of the polynomial. However, if the polynomial were a general parametric polynomial, it would be very difficult to find  $\odot^{-1}[1; j \ 1; j \ 1; j \ 1; j \ 1]$ , and of course more so for higher degrees. Consequently, it would be a great improvement to avoid revised sign lists.

The second point concerns the realizability of the conditions obtained by the inverse mapping  $\odot^{-1}$ . We continue with the example of  $x^6 + ax^2 + bx + c$ .

**Example 18.** 6



where  $z_{n-m} = (j+1)^{(n-m)(n-m-1)/2}$ .

The main theorem for the improved CRC algorithm requires the following lemmas which can be found in Basu, Pollack & Roy (2003). Let  $\text{Ind}(q=p)$  be the Cauchy index of  $q=p$  on  $\mathbb{R}$ .

**Lemma 21.** *Given two polynomials  $p(x); q(x)$  in  $\mathbb{R}[x]$ , we have  $\text{TaQ}(q;p) = \text{Ind}(p'q=p)$ .*

**Lemma 22.** *Let  $p(x); q(x)$  be the two polynomials in Section 2.2. We have*

$$\text{PmV}([\text{sRes}_n(p;q); \text{sRes}_{n-1}(p;q); \dots; \text{sRes}_0(p;q)]) = \text{Ind}(q=p) :$$

The main theorem is the following

**Theorem 23.** *Let  $D = [D_1; \dots; D_n]$  be the discriminant sequence of a real polynomial  $p(x)$  of degree  $n$ , and let  $\ell$  be the maximal subscript such that  $D_\ell \neq 0$ . If  $\text{PmV}(D) = r$ , then  $p(x)$  has  $r+1$  distinct real roots and  $\frac{1}{2}(n-r-1)$  pairs of distinct complex conjugate roots.*

**Proof.** We first prove that

$$\# f^{\otimes 2} \mathbb{R}j p^{\otimes} = 0g = \text{PmV}([D_1; \dots; D_n]) + 1 :$$

Observe that  $\# f^{\otimes 2} \mathbb{R}j p^{\otimes} = 0g = \text{TaQ}(1;p)$ . Then from Lemma 21, we have  $\text{TaQ}(1;p) = \text{Ind}(p'=p)$ . By Lemma 22,

$$\text{Ind}(p'=p) = \text{PmV}([\text{sRes}_n(p;p'); \text{sRes}_{n-1}(p;p'); \dots; \text{sRes}_0(p;p')]) :$$

By Remark 13,

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{PmV}([\text{sRes}_n(p;p'); \text{sRes}_{n-1}(p;p'); \dots; \text{sRes}_0(p;p')]) \\ &= \text{PmV}([\text{sgn}(a_n); D_1=a_n; \dots; D_n=a_n]) = 1 + \text{PmV}([D_1=a_n; \dots; D_n=a_n]) ; \end{aligned}$$

since  $\text{sgn}(a_n)$  and  $D_1=a_n = na_n$  have the same sign. Finally,

$$1 + \text{PmV}([D_1=a_n; \dots; D_n=a_n]) = 1 + \text{PmV}([D_1; \dots; D_n])$$

**Example 25.** We give an example of the use of the above corollary, by proving the non-realizability of condition (4) from a different point of view. The condition is equivalent to the sign list  $[1; 0; 0; 0; j-1; j-1]$ , which has revised sign list  $[1; j-1; j-1; j-1; j-1]$ . Since

$$\text{PmV}([1; 0; 0; 0; j-1; j-1])$$

Let  $p(x) = a_n x^n + \dots + a_1 x + a_0$  be a real parametric polynomial with  $a_n \neq 0$ . The algorithm starts from generating all possible RCs for  $p(x)$  using `AllListsReal`. Then for each RC  $L$ , we find the conditions on the parametric coefficients of  $p(x)$  such that  $L$  is realized.

We first compute all possible sign lists of  $p(x)$  for  $p(x)$  having  $L$  as its RC.

### Algorithm 1. GenAllSL

Input: A real parametric polynomial  $p(x)$  and an RC  $L$ .

Output: The set of all the sign lists of  $p(x)$  that lead to the RC given by  $L$ .

Procedure:

$[n; \ell; r] \leftarrow \text{RCInfo}(L)$ .

$\triangleright$  Compute the discriminant sequence  $D = [D_1; \dots; D_n]$  of  $p$ .

$\triangleright$  Compute the set  $S_0$  of all possible sign lists from  $D$ : for  $1 < k \leq n$ , if  $D_k \in \mathbb{R}$ , then  $D_k \neq \text{sgn}(D_k)$ ; otherwise,  $D_k \neq f_j 1; 0; 1g$ . For example, if  $D = [1; j 2; a]$ , then  $S_0 = f[1; j 1; j 1]; [1; j 1; 0]; [1; j 1; 1]g$ .

$\triangleright$  Compute  $S = f s \in S_0 \mid \text{MaxSubs}(s) = \ell; \text{PmV}(s) = \text{PmV}(\text{rsl}(s)) = r_j 1g$ ,

$\triangleright$  Return  $S$ .

Then  $S = \text{GenAllSL}(p; L)$  is the set of all possible sign lists of  $p(x)$  for  $p(x)$  having  $L$  as its RC. In order to make the multiplicities of the roots of  $p(x)$  be those specified by  $L$ , we also have to determine the possible sign lists of the polynomials in the  $\Phi_j$  sequence of  $p(x)$  (Definition 6), except for the following *termination conditions*: if the RC of  $p(x)$  is  $L$  and is such that  $[n; \ell; r] = \text{RCInfo}(L)$ , then these cases are

- (1)  $n = \ell$ ,
- (2)  $\ell = 1$ ,
- (3)  $\ell = 2$  and  $r = 0$ ,
- (4)  $n_j \ell = 1$ ,
- (5)  $r = 0$  and  $n_j \ell = 2$ .

For other cases,  $\Phi^1(p) = \mathcal{E}_{n-\ell}(p)$ , the  $(n_j \ell)$ th multiple factor of  $p(x)$  (Definition 7). By Proposition 15, the RC of  $\Phi^1(p)$  would be  $L_1 = \text{MinusOne}(L)$ . Then we can call `GenAllSL` recursively. This is the basis of the following algorithm which generates the conditions for  $p(x)$  having  $L$  as its root classification. The output conditions are a sequence of *mixed lists*. Each mixed list consists of a polynomial in the  $\Phi$ -sequence of  $p(x)$ , followed by all of its possible sign lists. We denote the empty sequence by `NULL`. Notice that if `NULL` is returned, then  $L$  is not realizable.

### Algorithm 2. Cond

Input: a real parametric polynomial  $p(x)$ ; an RC  $L$ .

Output: A sequence of mixed lists (the conditions for  $p(x)$  having  $L$  as its RC).

Procedure:

$[n; \ell; r] \leftarrow \text{RCInfo}(L)$

$S \leftarrow \text{GenAllSL}(p; L)$

if  $S = \emptyset$

    return `NULL`

else if  $[n; \ell; r]$  meets one of the *termination cases*

    return  $[p; \text{Op}(S)]$

else

C  $\bar{A}$  Cond



$$\begin{aligned}
& [p_6, [1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0]] \\
(10) & [[], [1, -1, 1, -1, 1, -1]], \text{ if and only if} \\
& [p_6, [1, 0, 0, 0, 1, -1], [1, 0, 0, -1, 1, -1], [1, 0, 0, 1, 0, -1], \\
& [1, 0, 0, 0, 0, -1], [1, 0, 0, 1, -1, -1], [1, 0, 0, 1, 1, -1]]
\end{aligned}$$

where

$$(\#1) \ p_6: =x^6+a*x^2+b*x+c,$$

and its discriminant sequence is:

$$\begin{aligned}
& [1, 0, 0, a^3, 256*a^5+1728*c^2*a^2-5400*a*c*b^2+1875*b^4, \\
& -1024*a^6*c+256*a^5*b^2-13824*c^3*a^3+43200*c^2*a^2*b^2 \\
& -22500*b^4*c*a+3125*b^6-46656*c^5]
\end{aligned}$$

$$(\#2) \ p_6: =4*a*x^2+5*b*x+6*c,$$

and its discriminant sequence is:

$$[1, 25*b^2-96*a*c]$$

Let us explain the CRC of  $p_6$  with respect to the improved algorithm. First, the algorithm CRC calls the function AllListsReal to generate all possible root classifications (RCs) for a polynomial of degree 6. There are 23 RCs as follows. For the sake of simplicity, the order of them has been changed.

$$\begin{aligned}
& [ [[3, 3], []], [[2, 4], []], [[2, 2, 2], []], [[1, 5], []], [[1, 2, 3], []], \\
& [[1, 1, 4], []], [[1, 1, 2, 2], []], [[1, 1, 1, 3], []], [[1, 1, 1, 1, 2], []], \\
& [[1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1], []], [[4], [1, -1]], [[2], [2, -2]], [[], [3, -3]], \\
& [[6], []], [[1, 1, 1, 1], [1, -1]], [[1, 1, 2], [1, -1]], [[1, 3], [1, -1]], \\
& [[2, 2], [1, -1]], [[1, 1], [2, -2]], [[1, 1], [1, -1, 1, -1]], [[2], \\
& [1, -1, 1, -1]], [[], [1, -1, 2, -2]], [[], [1, -1, 1, -1, 1, -1]] ]
\end{aligned}$$

Second, in a \for-loop", for each RC  $L$  above and  $p_6$ , the algorithm Cond is called to generate the conditions for  $p_6$

lists of  $p_6$  for  $p_6$  having  $L$  as its RC, and it turns out that  $S = \{[1;0;0; j; 1;0;0]g$ . Because  $S \notin ;$  and  $[n; ;r]$  does not meet the termination conditions, Cond also has to compute all possible sign lists of  $\Phi^1(p_6)$  which is  $p$

- $[p_6, [1, 0, -1, 0, 0, 1], [1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1], [1, 0, -1, -1, 0, 1],$   
 $[1, 0, 0, -1, 0, 1], [1, 0, -1, -1, -1, 1], [1, 0, 0, -1, -1, 1],$   
 $[1, 0, -1, 1, 1, 1], [1, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1], [1, 0, -1, 0, 1, 1],$   
 $[1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1], [1, 0, -1, -1, 1, 1], [1, 0, 0, -1, 1, 1]]$
- (9)  $[[2], [2, -2]],$  if and only if  
 $[p_6, [1, 0, -1, 0, 0, 0]], [p_{63}, [1, 1, -1], [1, 0, -1], [1, -1, -1]]$
- (10)  $[[2], [1, -1, 1, -1]],$  if and only if  
 $[p_6, [1, 0, -1, 1, 1, 0], [1, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0], [1, 0, -1, 0, 1, 0],$   
 $[1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0], [1, 0, -1, -1, 1, 0], [1, 0, 0, -1, 1, 0]]$
- (11)  $[[], [1, -1, 2, -2]],$  if and only if  
 $[p_6, [1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0], [1, 0, -1, 1, 0, 0]]$
- (12)  $[[], [1, -1, 1, -1, 1, -1]],$  if and only if  
 $[p_6, [1, 0, 0, 1, 0, -1], [1, 0, -1, 0, 0, -1], [1, 0, 0, 0, 0, -1],$   
 $[1, 0, -1, 1, -1, -1], [1, 0, 0, 1, -1, -1], [1, 0, -1, 1, 1, -1],$   
 $[1, 0, 0, 1, 1, -1], [1, 0, -1, 0, 1, -1], [1, 0, 0, 0, 1, -1],$   
 $[1, 0, -1, -1, 1, -1], [1, 0, 0, -1, 1, -1], [1, 0, -1, 1, 0, -1]]$

where

(#1)  $p_{62} = -9*c*a^3 - 180*d*c*a + 192*d*b^2 + Q1*x + Q2*x^2,$

(#2)  $p_6 = x^6 + a*x^3 + b*x^2 + c*x + d,$

(#3)  $p_{63} = -3*a*x^3 - 4*b*x^2 - 5*c*x - 6*d,$

and

$Q1 = 160*c*b^2 - 18*b*a^3 - 150*a*c^2 - 144*a*d*b,$

$Q2 = -27*a^4 + 108*d*a^2 - 240*a*b*c + 128*b^3,$



$$[1;0;0;1;j;1;j;1], [j \ a^2 = 0 \wedge D_4 > 0 \wedge D_5 < 0 \wedge D_6 < 0]$$

$$[1;0;j;1;1;1;j;1], [j \ a^2 < 0 \wedge D_4 > 0 \wedge D_5 > 0 \wedge D_6 < 0]$$

$$[1;0;0;1;1;j;1], [j \ a^2 = 0 \wedge D_4 > 0 \wedge D_5 > 0 \wedge D_6 < 0]$$

$$[1;0;j;1;0;1;j;1], [j \ a^2 < 0 \wedge D_4 = 0 \wedge D_5 > 0 \wedge D_6 < 0]$$

$$[1;0;0;0;1;j;1], [j \ a^2 = 0 \wedge D_4 = 0 \wedge D_5 > 0 \wedge D_6 < 0]$$

$$[1;0;j;1;j;1;1;j;1], [j \ a^2 < 0 \wedge D_4 < 0 \wedge D_5 > 0 \wedge D_6 < 0]$$

$$[1;0;0;j;1;1;D_4], [j \ a^2 = 0 \wedge D_4 < 0 \wedge D_5 > 0 \wedge D_6 < 0]$$

$$[1;0;j;1;1;0;j;1], [j \ a^2 < 0 \wedge D_4 > 0 \wedge D_5 = 0 \wedge D_6 < 0]$$

Simplifying by hand or by QEPCAD (Brown, 2004), we conclude that case (12) holds,  $D_6 < 0 \wedge [D_4 > 0 \_ D_5 > 0 \_ [D_4 = 0 \wedge D_5 = 0]]$ .

Finally, by combining the conditions for case (11) and case (12), we obtain the desired result:  $(8x)[p_6 > 0], [D_4 > 0 \wedge D_5 = 0 \wedge D_6 = 0] \_ [D_4 = 0 \wedge D_5 = 0 \wedge D_6 < 0] \_ [D_4 > 0 \wedge D_6 < 0] \_ [D_5 > 0 \wedge D_6 < 0]$ .

**Example 29.** Find the conditions on  $a; b; c; d$  such that  $(8x)[x^8 + ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d > 0]$ .  
 $[D_4 + [B] D$

## 7. Conclusion

In this paper, we have proposed an improved algorithm for the automatic computation of the complete root classification of a real parametric polynomial, and a new test for non-realizable conditions. However, some issues deserve further consideration. For example,

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