

# AN INTRODUCTION TO SVD-DFT FREQUENCY ANALYSIS FOR TIME-VARYING SYSTEMS

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**Abstract.** The paper develops tools and methods for linear time-varying, discrete-time systems analysis. It consists of theoretical background, definitions and numerical algorithms for frequency characteristics approximation. The main method is based on Singular Value Decomposition *SVD*, Discrete Fourier Transform *DFT* and power density spectrum properties. A few illustrative numerical examples are included. Three different models have been analysed: oscillatory element, low pass filter and variable structure system. For better evaluation, results for presented method are compared with classical Bode characteristics.

**Keywords.** Discrete-time systems, Time-varying systems, Non-stationary systems.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Frequency methods are one of the most important tools for linear, time-invariant (LTI) systems analysis, nevertheless well-developed concepts and analytic methods of time-invariant systems cannot be applied to linear time-varying systems (LTV). As well the study of stability and dynamics problems are different on finite time horizon. The analysis for a set with infinite length is used essentially a frequency domain description. The tool, which is used to describe a system by its frequency-dependent amplification, is quite useful, but use for plants considered on a finite time interval is not known. This work presents tools for time-varying systems using approximation of classical, frequency methods.

One of the first attempts for analysis LTV systems in the frequency domain has been made by Zadeh (1950). The time-varying transfer function has been defined by extending the Laplace transform to the varying impulsive response. However, in general, no closed-form of the Zadeh's transfer function is known. Recent works of frequency aspects for LTV systems focuses on modal analysis. Ideas of varying eigenvalues or varying natural frequencies have been

used without a rigorous definition e.g. by Maia (1997). The concept of pseudo-modal parameters *PMP* was introduced and described by Liu (1999). The pseudo-modal parameters are related to the eigenvalues of the varying discrete-time state transition matrices by analogy to time-invariant systems.

An analysis of *SVD-DFT* gives not only natural frequencies, but also Bode characteristics (amplitude and phase). Nevertheless Bode characteristics are given by the finite set of frequencies (or singular vectors) and corresponding amplifications. The physical properties of the system are dependent not only on the poles but also on the zeros and on the gain of the system, which are neglected using *PMP*. The products of *SVD-DFT* analysis are the characteristics (amplitude and phase). It results in that, the information included in characteristics cannot be extracted for specific time samples. Extracting the exact nature of the varying sometimes is easier using *PMP*. An important advantage of *SVD-DFT* method is that, the characteristics calculated for LTI systems are almost identically as like classical Bode's diagrams. Moreover, as the result of analysis, the varying degree coefficient of the system is defined and computed. If the set of the system matrices have been taken by system identification, the coefficient gives an infor-

mation, whether the system is LTI, LTV or non-linear.

## 2. MODEL DESCRIPTION

Dynamic, discrete-time system can be given by set of difference equations, called the state space model

$$\mathbf{x}_p(k+1) = \mathbf{A}(k) \cdot \mathbf{x}_p(k) + \mathbf{B}(k) \cdot \mathbf{v}_p(k), \quad (1)$$

$$\mathbf{y}_p(k) = \mathbf{C}(k) \cdot \mathbf{x}_p(k), \quad k \in \mathbf{N}, \quad \mathbf{x}_p(0) = \mathbf{0}, \quad (2)$$

where  $\mathbf{x}_p(\cdot) \in (\mathbf{R}^n)^N$  is nominal state,  $\mathbf{v}_p(\cdot) \in (\mathbf{R}^m)^N$

is nominal control,  $\mathbf{y}_p(\cdot) \in (\mathbf{R}^p)^N$  is nominal output,

and  $\mathbf{A}(k) \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{R}^n)$ ,  $\mathbf{B}(k) \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{R}^m, \mathbf{R}^n)$ ,

$\mathbf{C}(k) \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{R}^n, \mathbf{R}^p)$  are system's matrices.

Alternatively, the system can be given as sum or matrix operator. Sum operator is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{y}_p(k) &= (\hat{\mathbf{C}} \cdot \mathbf{L}^F \cdot \hat{\mathbf{B}} [\mathbf{v}_p(\cdot)])(k) = \\ &\mathbf{C}(k) \cdot \left( \sum_{i=0}^{k-2} \left[ \prod_{j=i+1}^{k-1} \mathbf{A}(j) \right] \cdot \mathbf{B}(i) \cdot \mathbf{v}_p(i) + \mathbf{B}(k-1) \cdot \mathbf{v}_p(k-1) \right) \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

The operator  $\hat{\mathbf{C}} \cdot \mathbf{L}^F \cdot \hat{\mathbf{B}}$  is a compact and Hilbert-Schmidt operator from  $l_2$  into  $l_2$  and actually maps boundedly signals  $\mathbf{u}(k) \in \mathcal{U} = l_2[0, N]$  into signals  $y \in \mathcal{Y}$ .

Matrix operator is given by

$$\mathbf{L}^F = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \dots & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{0} & \dots & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{L}^p(1,1) & \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{0} & \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \ddots & \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{L}^p(1, N-2) & \dots & \mathbf{L}^p(N-2, N-2) & \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} \quad (4)$$

$$\mathbf{N}^F = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{I} \\ (\mathbf{N}^F)(1) \\ \vdots \\ (\mathbf{N}^F)(N-1) \end{bmatrix} \quad (5)$$

where

$$\mathbf{L}^p(i, k) = \prod_{j=i}^k \mathbf{A}(j) \quad (\mathbf{N}^F \mathbf{z})(k) = \prod_{j=0}^{k-1} \mathbf{A}(j) \cdot \mathbf{z} \quad (6)$$

and matrix operators  $\hat{\mathbf{B}}$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{C}}$  have diagonal form i.e.

$$\hat{\mathbf{B}} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{B}(0) & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \ddots & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{B}(N-1) \end{bmatrix} \quad \hat{\mathbf{C}} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{C}(0) & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \ddots & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{C}(N-1) \end{bmatrix} \quad (7)$$

where vectors  $\mathbf{x}_p(\cdot)$ ,  $\mathbf{y}_p(\cdot)$  and  $\mathbf{v}_p(\cdot)$  have following notation

$$\mathbf{x}_p(\cdot) = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_p(0) \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{x}_p(N-1) \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{y}_p(\cdot) = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{y}_p(0) \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{y}_p(N-1) \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{v}_p(\cdot) = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{v}_p(0) \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{v}_p(N-1) \end{bmatrix} \quad (8)$$

## 3. DISTRIBUTION THEOREMS

The method is based on Singular Value Decomposition of the system operator. This spectral decomposition is a generalisation for SVD of a matrix. For discrete-time systems and finite time horizon the operator is finite dimensional. In linear algebra, the SVD of a matrix describes it by a set of singular values  $\sigma_i$  and corresponding sets of singular input-vectors  $\mathbf{v}_i$  and output vectors  $\mathbf{u}_i$ . Any real or complex matrix  $\mathbf{X}$  can be written as  $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{U} \cdot \mathbf{\Sigma} \cdot \mathbf{V}^*$ , where  $\mathbf{\Sigma} = \text{diag}\{\sigma_i\}$  and  $\mathbf{U}$  and  $\mathbf{V}$  are composed from  $\mathbf{u}_i$  and  $\mathbf{v}_i$ , respectively.

**Theorem 1** For every operators  $\hat{\mathbf{C}}$ ,  $\mathbf{L}^F$ ,  $\hat{\mathbf{B}}$ , which define dynamical system on finite time horizon and matrices  $\mathbf{U}$ ,  $\mathbf{S}$ ,  $\mathbf{V}$ , products of singular value decomposition

$$\mathbf{U} \cdot \mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{V}^T = \hat{\mathbf{C}} \cdot \mathbf{L}^F \cdot \hat{\mathbf{B}} \quad (9)$$

the energy amplification for single input, single output systems (SISO), defined as output to input energy ratio at zero initial conditions, belong to following interval

$$\sigma_{\min}(\hat{\mathbf{C}} \cdot \mathbf{L}^F \cdot \hat{\mathbf{B}}) \leq k_e \leq \sigma_{\max}(\hat{\mathbf{C}} \cdot \mathbf{L}^F \cdot \hat{\mathbf{B}}) \quad (10)$$

where

$$k_e = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^N y^2(i)}{\sum_{i=1}^N v^2(i)}} = \sqrt{\frac{\mathbf{y}^T \cdot \mathbf{y}}{\mathbf{v}^T \cdot \mathbf{v}}} \quad (11)$$

is the energy amplification at  $\mathbf{x}_0 = \mathbf{0}$ .

**Proof:**

$$\sum_{i=1}^N y^2(i) = \mathbf{y}^T \cdot \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{v}^T \cdot \mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{S}^2 \cdot \mathbf{V}^T \cdot \mathbf{v}$$

Matrix  $\mathbf{V}$  is orthonormal base in  $\mathbf{R}^N$ ,  $\mathbf{S}$  is diagonal matrix, hence scalar product belong to interval (10).

Conclusion:  $H_2$  norm of the system  $\hat{\mathbf{C}} \cdot \mathbf{L}^F \cdot \hat{\mathbf{B}}$  can be computed as



$$\mathbf{S}(\omega_k) = \frac{1}{N} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^N 1 = 1$$

Which finish proof of (15).

**Theorem 6.** Discrete input-output power density spectrum of system, can be computed as a sum of spectral density column vectors of product  $\mathbf{U} \cdot \mathbf{S}$ .

The notation is following

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{S}_y(\omega_k) &= \frac{1}{N} \cdot \sum_{j=1}^N \left| \text{DFT}_k[\mathbf{u}_j \cdot s_{ij}] \right|^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{N} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^N \left| \sum_{n=1}^N u_{ni} \cdot \sigma_i \cdot e^{-j \cdot 2 \cdot \pi \cdot (k-1) \cdot (n-1) / N} \right|^2 \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

where  $\omega_k = \frac{k}{2 \cdot T_p \cdot N}$ ,  $T_p$  – sampling period,  $\sigma_i = s_{ii} - i$

– singular value of  $\mathbf{U} \cdot \mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{V}^T = \hat{\mathbf{C}} \cdot \mathbf{L}^F \cdot \hat{\mathbf{B}}$  decomposition.

## 5. AMPLITUDE AND PHASE CHARACTERISTICS APPROXIMATION

The relation between input and output power spectrum density and amplitude characteristics are described following.

$$\mathbf{S}_y(\omega_k) = |\mathbf{G}(\omega_k)|^2 \cdot \mathbf{S}_x(\omega_k) \quad (20)$$

taking into account theorem 5,

$$|\mathbf{G}(\omega_k)| = \sqrt{\mathbf{S}_y(\omega_k)} \quad (21)$$

and finally

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathbf{G}(\omega_k)| &= \sqrt{\frac{1}{N} \cdot \sum_{j=1}^N \sigma_j^2 \cdot \left| \text{DFT}_k[\mathbf{u}_j] \right|^2} \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{1}{N} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^N \left| \sigma_i \cdot \sum_{n=1}^N u_{ni} \cdot e^{-j \cdot 2 \cdot \pi \cdot (k-1) \cdot (n-1) / N} \right|^2} \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

Phase characteristics, can be approximated by

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(\omega_k) &= \arg \left( \sum_{j=1}^N \sigma_j \cdot \frac{\text{DFT}_k[\mathbf{u}_j]}{\text{DFT}_k[\mathbf{v}_j]} \right) \\ &= \arg \left( \sum_{i=1}^N \left( \frac{\sum_{n=1}^N u_{ni} \cdot e^{-j \cdot 2 \cdot \pi \cdot (k-1) \cdot (n-1) / N}}{\sum_{n=1}^N v_{ni} \cdot e^{-j \cdot 2 \cdot \pi \cdot (k-1) \cdot (n-1) / N}} \right) \right) \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

Operator's notation, for which has been defined fundamental frequency analysis tools, is useful for

description and simulation for time variant and time invariant systems and for a class of nonlinear systems all of these systems are defined on finite time horizon.

The analysis allow you to identify whether the system invariant is. If the system is variant the analysis shows how strong the varying is. For time-invariant systems power density spectrum of every corresponding column of matrices  $\mathbf{U}$  and  $\mathbf{V}$  is the same, for time varying systems is different. It is easy to account for. If the system is linear time-invariant, it will not introduce or modify normalized eigenvectors after passing the system, apart from shifting phase. It mean that a new frequencies will not be introduced into the spectrum. The degree of varying of the system can be defined as follows

$$S_{\text{var}} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N} \cdot \sum_{j=1}^N \left| \left| \text{DFT}_k[\mathbf{u}_j] \right|^2 - \left| \text{DFT}_k[\mathbf{v}_j] \right|^2 \right|_{(k)}} \quad (24)$$

For time invariant system value of the coefficient is equal to zero.

## 6. NUMERICAL EXAMPLES

Selected results of frequency characteristics approximation for time-varying systems using discrete operators, Singular Value Decomposition, and Discrete Fourier Transform for three different systems are presented below.

### 6.1. Oscillatory element with variable resonant frequency

The system is discretised analogue oscillatory, variable structure element. Oscillatory element is described by following differential equation

$$\frac{d^2 y(t)}{dt^2} + 2 \cdot \beta(t) \cdot \omega_0(t) \cdot \frac{dy(t)}{dt} + \omega_0^2(t) \cdot y(t) = k \cdot \omega_0^2(t) \cdot u(t),$$

corresponding transfer function in assumption, that  $\omega_0(t) = \omega_0$ ,  $\beta(t) = \beta$  are constant can be written as

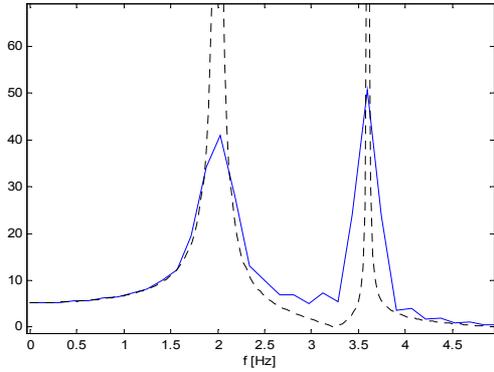
$$G_{\text{osc}}(s) = \frac{k \cdot \omega_0^2}{s^2 + 2 \cdot \beta \cdot \omega_0 \cdot s + \omega_0^2}.$$

Sampling period are equal to  $T=0.1s$  and simulation horizon  $N=64$  (time horizon 6.4s, resolution in frequency domain  $\Delta f=0.156\text{Hz}$ ).

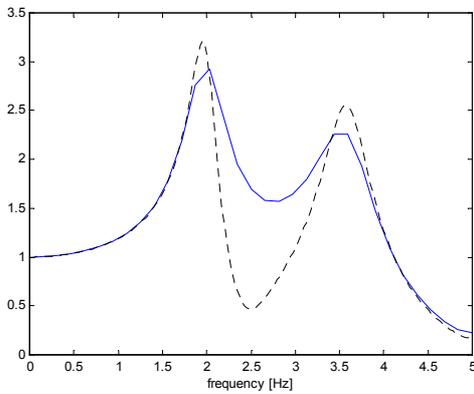
Resonant frequency before change ( $t \leq 3.2s$ ) is  $f_1=2\text{Hz}$  and after change ( $t > 3.2s$ ) is  $f_2=3.6\text{Hz}$ .

Gain  $k=1$  and damping factors are equal to  $\beta_1=4 \cdot 10^{-4}$ ,  $\beta_2=2.2 \cdot 10^{-4}$  (simulation on Figure 1a) and  $\beta_1=\beta_2=0.08 \cdot 10^{-4}$  (simulation on Figure 1b)

Time-invariant transfer function for average system is  $G_i(z) = \frac{1}{2} \cdot (G_1(z) + G_2(z))$  ( $G_1$  and  $G_2$  conversion have been done by zero order hold (ZOH) method).



(a)



(b)

Figure 1. Amplitude characteristics for damping factors  $\beta_1=4 \cdot 10^{-4}$ ,  $\beta_2=2.2 \cdot 10^{-4}$  (a) and  $\beta_1=\beta_2=0.08 \cdot 10^{-4}$  (b), determined using SVD-DFT method for time-varying (solid line) and for average time-invariant transfer function  $G_i(z)$  (dashed line).

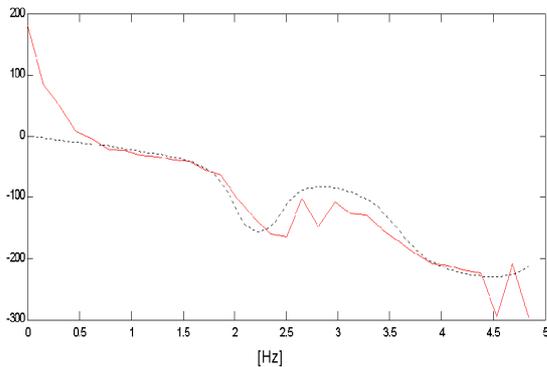


Figure 2. Phase characteristics for damping factors  $\beta_1=4 \cdot 10^{-4}$ ,  $\beta_2=2.2 \cdot 10^{-4}$ , determined using SVD-DFT method for time-varying (solid line) and for average time-invariant transfer function  $G_i(z)$  (dashed line).

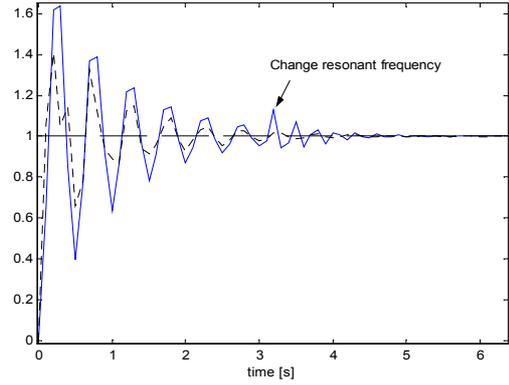


Figure 3. Step response for damping factors  $\beta_1=\beta_2=0.08 \cdot 10^{-4}$ , for time-varying system (solid line) and for average time-invariant transfer function  $G_i(z)$  (dashed line).

Computed value of nonlinearity coefficient  $S_{var}=1.5067$ .

## 6.2. Low pass, third order, minimal phase digital, time invariant filter

The system is given by zeros-poles model. Sampling period is equal to  $T_p=0.5s$ . System zeros and poles

$$z = \begin{bmatrix} 0.51 + 0.26i & 0.51 - 0.26i & 0.71 \end{bmatrix}^T$$

are

$$p = \begin{bmatrix} 0.58 + 0.39i & 0.58 - 0.39i & 0.55 & 0.72 \end{bmatrix}^T$$

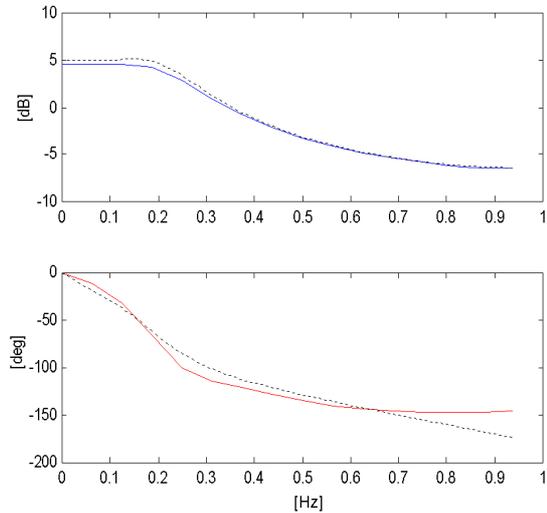


Figure 4. Bode characteristics, determined using SVD-DFT method (solid line) and using classical method (dashed line).

## 6.3. Variable structure, minimal phase, fourth order, time varying system

The system is described as zeros-poles model. Sampling period is equal to  $T_p=0.1s$ , time horizon is  $N=32$  steps. The structure has been changed after  $N_p$  steps.

System before change

$$z = \begin{bmatrix} 0.3403 + 0.0771i \\ 0.3403 - 0.0771i \\ -0.4317 \end{bmatrix} \quad p = \begin{bmatrix} 0.1085 + 0.7459i \\ 0.1085 - 0.7459i \\ 0.2652 + 0.0924i \\ 0.2652 - 0.0924i \end{bmatrix}$$

System after  $N_p$  steps

$$z = \begin{bmatrix} 0.3403 + 0.000771i \\ 0.3403 - 0.000771i \\ -0.4317 \end{bmatrix} \quad p = \begin{bmatrix} 0.1085 + 0.007459i \\ 0.1085 - 0.007459i \\ 0.2652 + 0.000924i \\ 0.2652 - 0.000924i \end{bmatrix}$$

Computed value of variability coefficient  $S_{var}=0.9442$  for  $N_p=3$  and  $S_{var}=1.2009$  for  $N_p=15$ .

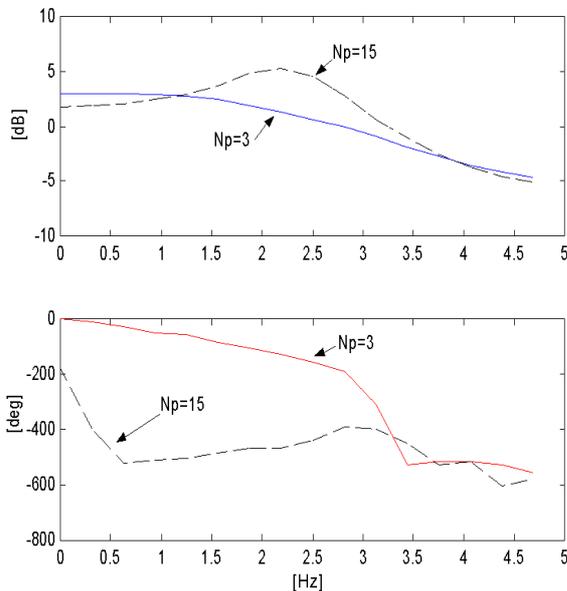


Figure 5. Bode characteristics, determined using SVD-DFT method for variable structure system. Solid line – change structure point  $N_p=3$ , and dashed line - change structure point  $N_p=15$

## 7. CONCLUSION

Frequency analysis is well-known. Its definition is clear and the area of applications is wide. In real life, very often model of the system can be varied, but it is possible to neglect it in some cases. The method which was presented could be using either for time-invariant or time-varying systems, always on finite time horizon. A few numerical examples of time-invariant systems have been computed in section 6. The results are quite similar to the classical analysis. The main advantage of the SVD-DFT method is existence of extension for analysis for time-varying systems. It is difficult to compare results for time-

varying systems, because classical Fourier Transform was not defined for such a systems. It is assumed, that one of another possible approximations could be weighted mean of transfer functions, which is used to compare with characteristics for time-varying systems with the new method. It should be clear, that the differences between characteristics are results of differences in computing. There do not exist reference characteristics for time-varying systems, defined on a finite time horizon, in fact. Another important thing is that, the method gives the information, wheather the system time-invariant, or time-varying is and about the strenght of this varying.

Newertheless, the results for practical applications look optimistically, for these methods. In spite of many advantages of the method, there exist a few weak points, which were appeared during simulations. There are a wide area of applications, for example: systems analysis, time-varying systems estimates, e.g. non-stationarity and non-linearity degree determining (relative and absolute). Applications in fast, real-time damage detection look very interesting.

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