



## Nearest Singular Polynomials<sup>†</sup>

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The nearest singular polynomial with a multiple zero of multiplicity  $k \geq 2$  is considered based on the minimization of a quadratic form. Some recursive relations between the polynomials determining the multiple zeros for consecutive  $k$ 's are presented.

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### 1. Introduction

Some problems have been studied based on the minimization of a quadratic form (Corless *et al.*, 1995; Karmarkar and Lakshman, 1996a; Karmakar and Lakshman, 1996b; Zhi Lihong and Wu Wenda, 1997). One of them is to find the nearest singular polynomial with a double zero to a given polynomial. In this paper, we will consider the case of the nearest singular polynomial with a multiple zero of multiplicity  $k$  for any positive integer  $k \geq 2$ . This is not only a natural generalization of Zhi Lihong and Wu Wenda (1997), but we will also derive some recursive relations related to the determination of nearest singular polynomials for consecutive  $k$ 's.

In Section 2, we will give a suitable expression for the quadratic form in terms of the undetermined multiple zero  $c$  and its conjugate which leads to an easy factorization of its derivatives with respect to  $c$  and  $\bar{c}$ . The factored form of its first derivative is given in Section 3. In Section 4, some recursive relations for the factors of the first derivative are derived for consecutive  $k$ 's. In Section 5, we will determine which factor is useful for our purpose. Numerical examples are given in Section 6.

### 2. Expressions for the Quadratic Form

The problem considered is the following: given a monic polynomial  $f$

$$f = x^m + \sum_{j=1}^m f_j x^{m-j}, \quad f_j \in \mathcal{C},$$

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find a monic polynomial  $h(x)$  of the form

$$h = (x - c)^k \left( x^{m-k} + \sum_{j=1}^{m-k} \phi_j x^{m-k-j} \right), \quad c, \phi_j \in \mathcal{C},$$

such that

$$\mathcal{N} := \| f - h \|^2$$

is minimized, where

$$\| p(x) \|^2 = \sum_{j=0}^k |p_j|^2$$

for any

$$p(x) = \sum_{j=0}^k p_j x^{k-j}, \quad p_j \in \mathcal{C}.$$

Since

$$f(x) - h(x) = \sum_{j=1}^m \left( f_j - \sum_{i=0}^k \binom{k}{i} (-1)^i c^i \phi_{j-i} \right) x^{m-j},$$

where  $\phi_{-k+1} = \phi_{-k+2} = \dots = \phi_{-1} = 0, \phi_0 = 1, \phi_{m-k+1} = \phi_{m-k+2} = \dots = \phi_m = 0$ , we have

$$\mathcal{N} = \sum_{j=1}^m \left| f_j - \sum_{i=0}^k \binom{k}{i} (-1)^i c^i \phi_{j-i} \right|^2. \tag{2.1}$$

Let  $r := f - g - A\phi$ , where

$$\begin{aligned} f &= (f_1, \dots, f_m)^T, \\ g &= (a_{21}, \dots, a_{k1}, 0, \dots, 0)^T, \\ \phi &= (\phi_1, \dots, \phi_{m-k})^T, \\ A &= (a_{ij})_{m \times (m-k)}, \\ a_{ij} &= \binom{k}{i-j} (-1)^{i-j} c^{i-j}. \end{aligned}$$

Here, as usual

$$\binom{p}{q} = 0 \quad \text{if } q > p \text{ or } q < 0.$$

It is easy to see that the  $j$ th component of  $r$  is the coefficient of  $x^{m-j}$  in  $f(x) - h(x)$ . Thus

$$\mathcal{N} = r^* r = (f - g - A\phi)^* (f - g - A\phi). \tag{2.2}$$

For any  $c$ ,  $\mathcal{N}$  attains its minimum  $\mathcal{N}_m$  when  $\phi$  is the least squares solution of the equation

$$f - g - A\phi = 0,$$

i.e.

$$\phi = A^+(f - g), \tag{2.3}$$

where  $A^+$  is the Penrose inverse of  $A$ .

In the following, we assume  $\phi = A^+(f - g)$ . Consequently

$$\begin{aligned} r &= (I - AA^+)(f - g), \\ \mathcal{N}_m &= (f - g)^*(I - AA^+)(f - g). \end{aligned} \tag{2.4}$$

Note that  $\mathcal{N}_m$  depends on  $c$  only. Our problem becomes finding  $c$  such that  $\mathcal{N}_m$  is minimized.

Since the columns of  $A$  are linearly independent, we have

$$A^+ = (A^*A)^{-1}A^*.$$

Let  $L$  be an  $m \times m$  bi-diagonal Toeplitz matrix

$$L = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & & \\ -c & 1 & & & \\ & -c & 1 & & \\ & & & \ddots & \\ & & & & -c & 1 \end{bmatrix}. \tag{2.5}$$

It is easy to check that for any positive integer  $k$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} L^k &= (l_{ij}^{(k)}), & l_{ij}^{(k)} &= \binom{k}{i-j} (-1)^{i-j} c^{i-j}, \\ L^{-k} &= (l_{ij}^{(-k)}), & l_{ij}^{(-k)} &= \binom{i-j+k-1}{k-1} c^{i-j}. \end{aligned}$$

The submatrix composed of the first  $m - k$  columns of  $L^k$  is  $A$ . We partition  $L^k$  and  $L^{-k}$  correspondingly:

$$L^k = (A \ B), \quad L^{-k} = \begin{pmatrix} U \\ V \end{pmatrix},$$

and let  $W := U(I - V^*(VV^*)^{-1}V)$ ; then

$$A^*AW = A^*(I - BV)(I - V^*(VV^*)^{-1}V) = A^*(I - V^*(VV^*)^{-1}V) = A^*$$

and

$$W = (A^*A)^{-1}A^* = A^+.$$

Now  $r$  and  $\mathcal{N}_m$  become

$$\begin{aligned} r &= (I - AA^+)(f - g) = V^*(VV^*)^{-1}V(f - g), \\ \mathcal{N}_m &= (f - g)^*V^*(VV^*)^{-1}V(f - g). \end{aligned} \tag{2.6}$$

It is easy to see that

$$V(f - g) = [\psi_1 \cdots \psi_k]^T := \psi, \quad \psi_i = \frac{1}{(k-1)!} (c^{i-1} f(c))^{(k-1)}.$$

$\psi$  can also be expressed as the following:

$$\psi = \Omega J \eta,$$

where

$$\Omega = (\Omega_{ij}), \quad \Omega_{ij} = \frac{1}{(k-j)!} \binom{i-1}{j-1} c^{i-j}, \quad J = (\delta_{i,k+1-j})$$

$$\eta = [f(c)f'(c) \cdots f^{(k-1)}(c)]^T. \tag{2.7}$$

Therefore,

$$\mathcal{N}_m = \eta^* J \Omega^* (V V^*)^{-1} \Omega J \eta = \eta^* (J \Omega^{-1} V V^* (\Omega^{-1})^* J)^{-1} \eta. \tag{2.8}$$

Let

$$\Lambda := J \Omega^{-1} V V^* (\Omega^{-1})^* J = (\lambda_{ij}), \tag{2.9}$$

then

$$\lambda_{ij} = \frac{\partial^{i+j-2}}{\partial c^{i-1} \partial \bar{c}^{j-1}} q, \quad q = \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} (c\bar{c})^j. \tag{2.10}$$

Hence

$$\mathcal{N}_m = \eta^* \Lambda^{-1} \eta. \tag{2.11}$$

which is true for any  $k$ . We will write it with index  $k$  as

$$\mathcal{N}_m^{(k)} = \eta_k^* \Lambda_k^{-1} \eta_k. \tag{2.12}$$

Equation (2.12) is the expression for the quadratic form used in the following discussion.

### 3. First Derivative

For any matrix or vector  $M = (m_{ij})$ , we will use the notation  $\frac{\partial M}{\partial c} = \left(\frac{\partial m_{ij}}{\partial c}\right)$ .

**THEOREM 1.**

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{N}_m^{(k)}}{\partial c} = \frac{1}{(\det \Lambda_k)^2} P_{k+1} \bar{P}_k, \tag{3.1}$$

where

$$P_i := \det \begin{pmatrix} \Lambda_{i-1} & \eta_{i-1} \\ \omega_{i-1}^* & f^{(i-1)} \end{pmatrix}, \quad i = k, k + 1, \tag{3.2}$$

and  $\omega_{i-1}^*$  is the  $i$ th row of  $\Lambda_i$  upon deletion of its last element.

**PROOF.** Let  $\xi_k := \Lambda_k^{-1} \eta_k$ , i.e.  $\eta_k = \Lambda_k \xi_k$ . Now

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \Lambda_k}{\partial c} \xi_k + \Lambda_k \frac{\partial \xi_k}{\partial c} - \frac{\partial \eta_k}{\partial c} &= 0, \\ \Lambda_k \frac{\partial \xi_k}{\partial c} &= -\frac{\partial \Lambda_k}{\partial c} \Lambda_k^{-1} \eta_k + \frac{\partial \eta_k}{\partial c}. \end{aligned}$$

For  $i < k$ , the  $i$ th row of  $\frac{\partial \Lambda_k}{\partial c}$  is the  $(i+1)$ th row of  $\Lambda_k$ ; the  $k$ th row of  $\frac{\partial \Lambda_k}{\partial c}$  is the  $(k+1)$ th row of  $\Lambda_{k+1}$  (upon deletion of its last element) which we denote by  $\omega_k^*$ . Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \Lambda_k \frac{\partial \xi_k}{\partial c} &= - \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & & & \\ & & 1 & & \\ & & & \ddots & \\ & & & & 1 \\ & & \omega_k^* \Lambda_k^{-1} & & \end{bmatrix} \eta_k + \frac{\partial \eta_k}{\partial c} \\ &= -[f'(c) \cdots f^{(k-1)}(c) \omega_k^* \Lambda_k^{-1}]^T + [f'(c) \cdots f^{(k-1)}(c) f^{(k)}(c)]^T \\ &= [0 \cdots 0 \ f^{(k)}(c) - \omega_k^* \Lambda_k^{-1} \eta_k], \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \mathcal{N}_m^{(k)}}{\partial c} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial c}(\eta_k^* \xi_k) = \eta_k^* \Lambda_k^{-1} [0 \ \dots \ 0 \ f^{(k)}(c) - \omega_k^* \Lambda_k^{-1} \eta_k]^T \\ &= (f^{(k)}(c) - \omega_k^* \Lambda_k^{-1} \eta_k) \frac{\det \Lambda_{k-1}}{\det(\Lambda_k)} (f^{(k-1)}(c) - \omega_{k-1}^* \Lambda_{k-1}^{-1} \eta_{k-1})^* \\ &= \frac{1}{(\det \Lambda_k)^2} \det \begin{pmatrix} \Lambda_k & \eta_k \\ \omega_k^* & f^{(k)}(c) \end{pmatrix} \left( \det \begin{pmatrix} \Lambda_{k-1} & \eta_{k-1} \\ \omega_{k-1}^* & f^{(k-1)}(c) \end{pmatrix} \right)^* \\ &= \frac{1}{(\det \Lambda_k)^2} P_{k+1} \overline{P}_k. \end{aligned}$$

So we have equation (3.1).  $\square$

### 4. Recursive Relations

In the following, we will prove some recursive relations between  $\Lambda_k$  and  $P_k$ .

**THEOREM 2.**

$$\det \Lambda_k \frac{\partial^2}{\partial c \partial \bar{c}} \det \Lambda_k - \frac{\partial}{\partial c} \det \Lambda_k \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{c}} \det \Lambda_k = \det \Lambda_{k-1} \det \Lambda_{k+1}. \tag{4.1}$$

**PROOF.** We have

$$\begin{aligned} \det \Lambda_{k+1} &= \det \begin{pmatrix} \Lambda_{k-1} & u_1 & u_2 \\ u_1^* & \alpha & \xi \\ u_2^* & \beta & \eta \end{pmatrix} = \det \Lambda_{k-1} \left( \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \xi \\ \beta & \eta \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} u_1^* \\ u_2^* \end{pmatrix} \Lambda_{k-1}^{-1} (u_1 \ u_2) \right) \\ &= \det \Lambda_{k-1} (\alpha - u_1^* \Lambda_{k-1}^{-1} u_1) (\eta - u_2^* \Lambda_{k-1}^{-1} u_2) \\ &\quad - \det \Lambda_{k-1} (\beta - u_2^* \Lambda_{k-1}^{-1} u_1) (\xi - u_1^* \Lambda_{k-1}^{-1} u_2) \\ \det \Lambda_k &= \det \begin{pmatrix} \Lambda_{k-1} & u_1 \\ u_1^* & \alpha \end{pmatrix} = \det \Lambda_{k-1} (\alpha - u_1^* \Lambda_{k-1}^{-1} u_1). \end{aligned}$$

In  $\det \Lambda_k$ , the partial derivative of the  $i$ th row with respect to  $c$  is the  $(i + 1)$ th row for  $i < k$ , and the  $k$ th row of  $\frac{\partial \det \Lambda_k}{\partial c}$  is the  $(k + 1)$ th row of  $\det \Lambda_{k+1}$  upon deletion of its last element; similarly for the derivatives of the columns with respect to  $\bar{c}$ . Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial c} \det \Lambda_k &= \det \begin{pmatrix} \Lambda_{k-1} & u_1 \\ u_2^* & \beta \end{pmatrix} = \det \Lambda_{k-1} (\beta - u_2^* \Lambda_{k-1}^{-1} u_1), \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{c}} \det \Lambda_k &= \det \begin{pmatrix} \Lambda_{k-1} & u_2 \\ u_1^* & \xi \end{pmatrix} = \det \Lambda_{k-1} (\xi - u_1^* \Lambda_{k-1}^{-1} u_2), \\ \frac{\partial^2}{\partial c \partial \bar{c}} \det \Lambda_k &= \det \begin{pmatrix} \Lambda_{k-1} & u_2 \\ u_2^* & \eta \end{pmatrix} = \det \Lambda_{k-1} (\eta - u_2^* \Lambda_{k-1}^{-1} u_2). \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we get equation (4.1).  $\square$

In an analogous fashion, we derive Theorems 3 and 4.

**THEOREM 3.**

$$P_k \frac{\partial^2}{\partial c \partial \bar{c}} P_k - \frac{\partial}{\partial c} P_k \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{c}} P_k = P_{k-1} P_{k+1}. \tag{4.2}$$

THEOREM 4.

$$\det \Lambda_k \frac{\partial}{\partial c} P_k - P_k \frac{\partial}{\partial c} \det \Lambda_k = \det \Lambda_{k-1} P_{k+1}. \tag{4.3}$$

**5. The Useful Factor**

Let  $c = a + ib$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are real, and consider  $\mathcal{N}_m^{(k)}$  as a real rational function of the real variables  $a$  and  $b$ . The problem is to find the real solutions of the system

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{N}_m^{(k)}}{\partial a} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial \mathcal{N}_m^{(k)}}{\partial b} = 0. \tag{5.1}$$

Because

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{N}_m^{(k)}}{\partial c} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial \mathcal{N}_m^{(k)}}{\partial a} - i \frac{\partial \mathcal{N}_m^{(k)}}{\partial b} \right), \quad \frac{\partial \mathcal{N}_m^{(k)}}{\partial \bar{c}} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial \mathcal{N}_m^{(k)}}{\partial a} + i \frac{\partial \mathcal{N}_m^{(k)}}{\partial b} \right), \tag{5.2}$$

it is sufficient to consider

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{N}_m^{(k)}}{\partial c} = 0 \tag{5.3}$$

for determining  $c$ . The trace  $T$  and determinant  $D$  of the Hessian matrix can be expressed as

$$T = 4 \frac{\partial^2 \mathcal{N}_m^{(k)}}{\partial c \partial \bar{c}}, \quad D = 4 \left( \left( \frac{\partial^2 \mathcal{N}_m^{(k)}}{\partial c \partial \bar{c}} \right)^2 - \frac{\partial^2 \mathcal{N}_m^{(k)}}{\partial c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \mathcal{N}_m^{(k)}}{\partial \bar{c}^2} \right). \tag{5.4}$$

By Theorem 1, we consider  $P_k = 0$  and  $P_{k+1} = 0$  separately.

THEOREM 5.  $\mathcal{N}_m^{(k)}$  attains its local minimum at  $c$  satisfying  $P_k = 0$  if

$$(\det \Lambda_{k-1})^4 P_{k+1} \overline{P_{k+1}} - (\det \Lambda_k)^4 P_{k-1} \overline{P_{k-1}} > 0. \tag{5.5}$$

PROOF. If  $P_k = 0$ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial P_k}{\partial c} &= \frac{\det \Lambda_{k-1} P_{k+1}}{\det \Lambda_k}, \quad \frac{\partial \overline{P_k}}{\partial c} = -P_{k-1} P_{k+1} / \frac{\partial P_k}{\partial c} = -\frac{\det \Lambda_k}{\det \Lambda_{k-1}} P_{k-1}, \\ T &= 4 \frac{P_{k+1}}{(\det \Lambda_k)^2} \frac{\partial \overline{P_k}}{\partial \bar{c}} = 4 \frac{P_{k+1}}{(\det \Lambda_k)^2} \frac{\det \Lambda_{k-1} \overline{P_{k+1}}}{\det \Lambda_k} = 4 \frac{\det \Lambda_{k-1}}{(\det \Lambda_k)^3} P_{k+1} \overline{P_{k+1}} \geq 0, \\ D &= 4 \left( \left( \frac{\det \Lambda_{k-1}}{(\det \Lambda_k)^3} P_{k+1} \overline{P_{k+1}} \right)^2 - \frac{P_{k-1} \overline{P_{k-1}} P_{k+1} \overline{P_{k+1}}}{(\det \Lambda_k)^2 (\det \Lambda_{k-1})^2} \right) \\ &= 4 \frac{P_{k+1} \overline{P_{k+1}}}{(\det \Lambda_{k-1})^2 (\det \Lambda_k)^6} ((\det \Lambda_{k-1})^4 P_{k+1} \overline{P_{k+1}} - (\det \Lambda_k)^4 P_{k-1} \overline{P_{k-1}}). \end{aligned}$$

So  $\mathcal{N}_m^{(k)}$  attains its local minimum at  $c$  satisfying  $P_k = 0$  if  $D > 0$ , i.e.,

$$(\det \Lambda_{k-1})^4 P_{k+1} \overline{P_{k+1}} - (\det \Lambda_k)^4 P_{k-1} \overline{P_{k-1}} > 0. \quad \square$$

For  $P_{k+1} = 0$  we have the following conclusion.

THEOREM 6. For  $c$  satisfying  $P_{k+1} = 0$ , the trace is non-positive.

**Table 1.**  $\mathcal{N}_m = 0.1763296120$ .

Zeros of $h$	Zeros of $f$
0.580 685 7529 (double)	0, 1
-1.050 883 646	-1
-0.0747 216 6958 + 0.9804 509 313 <i>i</i>	<i>i</i>
-0.0747 216 6958 - 0.980 450 9313 <i>i</i>	- <i>i</i>

**Table 2.**  $\mathcal{N}_m = 0.5075634529$ .

Zeros of $h$	Zeros of $f$
0.3642294253 + 0.3642294253 <i>i</i> ( triple )	0, 1, <i>i</i>
-0.9744637807 + 0.03279153516 <i>i</i>	-1
0.03279153516 - 0.9744637807 <i>i</i>	- <i>i</i>

PROOF. If  $P_{k+1} = 0$  then

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2 \mathcal{N}_m^{(k)}}{\partial c \partial \bar{c}} &= \frac{\overline{P_k}}{(\det \Lambda_k)^2} \frac{\partial P_{k+1}}{\partial \bar{c}}, \\ \frac{\partial P_{k+1}}{\partial \bar{c}} \det \Lambda_{k-1} &= \frac{\partial \det \Lambda_k}{\partial \bar{c}} \frac{\partial P_k}{\partial c} + \det \Lambda_k \frac{\partial^2 P_k}{\partial c \partial \bar{c}} \\ &\quad - \frac{\partial P_k}{\partial \bar{c}} \frac{\partial \det \Lambda_k}{\partial c} - P_k \frac{\partial^2 \det \Lambda_k}{\partial c \partial \bar{c}}, \\ \frac{\partial \det \Lambda_k}{\partial \bar{c}} \frac{\partial P_k}{\partial c} - P_k \frac{\partial^2 \det \Lambda_k}{\partial c \partial \bar{c}} &= \frac{P_k}{\det \Lambda_k} \frac{\partial \det \Lambda_k}{\partial c} \frac{\partial \det \Lambda_k}{\partial \bar{c}} - P_k \frac{\partial^2 \det \Lambda_k}{\partial c \partial \bar{c}} \\ &= -P_k \frac{\det \Lambda_{k+1} \det \Lambda_{k-1}}{\det \Lambda_k}, \\ \det \Lambda_k \frac{\partial^2 P_k}{\partial c \partial \bar{c}} - \frac{\partial P_k}{\partial \bar{c}} \frac{\partial \det \Lambda_k}{\partial c} &= \det \Lambda_k \frac{\partial^2 P_k}{\partial c \partial \bar{c}} - \frac{\det \Lambda_k}{P_k} \frac{\partial P_k}{\partial c} \frac{\partial P_k}{\partial \bar{c}} = \frac{\det \Lambda_k}{P_k} P_{k-1} P_{k+1} = 0. \end{aligned}$$

So we have

$$T = 4 \frac{\partial^2 \mathcal{N}_m^{(k)}}{\partial c \partial \bar{c}} = -4 \frac{\det \Lambda_{k+1}}{(\det \Lambda_k)^3} P_k \overline{P_k} \leq 0. \quad \square$$

We conclude that it is sufficient to consider those zeros of  $P_k = 0$  which are not zeros of  $P_{k+1} = 0$ . As for zeros of  $P_{k+1} = 0$ , they are candidates for  $c$  with a multiplicity higher than  $k$ . By a repeated use of Theorems 3 and 4, the common zeros of  $P_k = 0$  and  $P_{k+1} = 0$  are zeros of  $P_j = 0$  for all  $m \geq j > k$ .

### 6. Numerical Examples

EXAMPLE 1.  $f = x^5 - x$ .

For  $k = 2$  (cf. Zhi Lihong and Wu Wenda (1997)), there are four nearest singular polynomials due to the geometry of the zeros of  $f$ ; one of them is

$$\begin{aligned} h \approx &x^5 + 0.03895547966x^4 + 0.06708530296x^3 + 0.1155277233x^2 \\ &- 0.8010494959x + 0.3426130279. \end{aligned}$$

The zeros of  $h$  are shown in Table 1. The other three cases can be obtained by rotation with an angle  $\pi/2$ ,  $\pi$  and  $3\pi/2$  respectively.

For  $k = 3$ , there are four nearest singular polynomials; one of them is

$$h \approx x^5 + (-0.1510160305 - 0.1510160305i)x^4 - 0.311275054ix^3 + (0.3858582928 - 0.3858582928i)x^2 - 0.5746952045x + 0.09187090467 + 0.09187090467i$$

with the roots shown in Table 2.  $c = 0$  is the common zero of  $P_4$  and  $P_5$ , for  $k = 4, 5$ ; the nearest singular polynomial is

$$h = x^5, \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{N}_m = 1.$$

EXAMPLE 2.

$$\begin{aligned} f &= (x - 0.89 - 0.03i)(x - 0.88 + 0.02i)(x - 0.87)(x - 1) \\ &= x^4 + (-3.64 - 0.01i)x^3 + (4.9637 + 0.0273i)x^2 + (-3.005606 - 0.024782i)x \\ &\quad + 0.681906 + 0.007482i. \end{aligned}$$

For  $k = 2$  (cf. Zhi Lihong and Wu Wenda (1997)), the nearest singular polynomial of  $f$  is unique:

$$\begin{aligned} h \approx x^4 + (-3.639999897 - 0.01000012076i)x^3 + (4.963700115 + 0.02729986094i)x^2 \\ + (-3.005605870 - 0.02478216008i)x + 0.6819061456 + 0.007481815756i, \end{aligned}$$

with these roots shown in Table 3.

For  $k = 3$ , the nearest singular polynomial with a zero of multiplicity 3 is also unique:

$$\begin{aligned} h \approx x^4 + (-3.639968566 - 0.01002119406i)x^3 + (4.963698969 + 0.02730077333i)x^2 \\ + (-3.005622319 - 0.02477096306i)x + 0.6819004541 + 0.007485892787i. \end{aligned}$$

The zeros of  $h$  are shown in Table 4. For  $k = 4$ , the nearest singular polynomial with a zero of multiplicity 4 is:

$$\begin{aligned} h \approx x^4 + (-3.637528548 - 0.009999075252i)x^3 + (4.961817732 + 0.02727894127i)x^2 \\ + (-3.008080147 - 0.02480691942i)x + 0.6838580852 + 0.007519618582i. \end{aligned}$$

The zeros of  $h$  are shown in Table 5.

**Table 3.**  $\mathcal{N}_m = 0.1552760144 \times 10^{-12}$ .

Zeros of $h$	Zeros of $f$
$0.8768135619 - 0.01006779565i$ (double)	$0.88 - 0.02i, 0.87$
$0.8866786823 + 0.02982563187i$	$0.89 + 0.03i$
$0.9996940915 + 0.0003100788900i$	1

**Table 4.**  $\mathcal{N}_m = 0.3311925673 \times 10^{-8}$ .

Zeros of $h$	Zeros of $f$
$0.8817735725 + 0.002337412033i$ (triple)	$0.89 + 0.03i, 0.88 - 0.02i, 0.87$
$0.9946478484 + 0.003008957959i,$	1

**Table 5.**  $\mathcal{N}_m = 0.004425554008$ .

Zeros of $h$	Zeros of $f$
$0.9093821369 + 0.002499768813i$	$0.89 + 0.03i, 0.88 - 0.02i, 0.87, 1$



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