

**Partial Fraction Expansion for HP15c CE**  
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**Introduction:**

This software pac calculates the **partial fraction expansion of a transfer function** as implemented by Wayne Scott in the program **PF** in the **POLY** folder of the classic software package [HP 48 Goodies Disk, Vol. 1](#)

**Who is this for?**

This software pac is for anyone in dire need of performing a partial fraction expansion (I am looking at you Control Systems students). You provide the transfer function, and this program gives you the expansion. Since the program is (almost) a direct rehosting of the original from HP48 to HP15c, I'll just paste the original description which is clear and succinct enough.

PF will do a Partial Fraction expansion on a transfer function.

Example:

$$\frac{s + 5}{(s-4)(s+2)(s-1)^3} = \frac{1/18}{(s-4)} + \frac{5/270}{(s+2)} - \frac{2/3}{(s-1)^3} - \frac{1/9}{(s-1)^2} - \frac{2/27}{(s-1)}$$

2: { 1 5 }

1: { 4 -2 1 1 1 }

PF

1: { 5.5555e-2 1.85185e-2 -.6666 -.11111 -.074074 }

Repeated poles are supported but they must be listed in order.

The output is a list of the values of the fraction in the same order as the poles were entered.

**Why am I doing this?**

The HP48 **PF** program came in clutch when I was in engineering school in the mid-90s, and it saved my hide more than once during homework and tests. This is my way of saying thank you and giving back.

## Main Program:

### Pre-requisite:

Matrix A must be allocated as a 2xN array in the following format:

- Row 1 has the **coefficients** of the polynomial in the numerator (but A[1,1] must always be 0.0)<sup>1</sup>
- Row 2 has the **roots** of the polynomial in the denominator (repeated roots must be listed together)

Using the example from PF on the previous page, Matrix A would look like this:

Size: A [2 5]

```
[0      0      0      1      5]
[4     -2      1      1      1]
```

Note that the root of  $(s-r)$  is  $r$  and the root of  $(s+r)$  is  $-r$ , so mind the signs when transcribing from transfer function into the A matrix.

### Running Program:

Once Matrix A is populated, run *Program A* via **GSB A** (or just **A** if in User-Mode)

The program will utilize all 5 matrices during runtime but C, D and E are temporary place-holders and can be safely deallocated to save space.

### Results:

Answer will be placed in Matrix B of size [1 N]. Continuing with the example, Matrix B would look like this:

Size: B [1 5]

```
[0.055555      0.0185185      -0.074074      -0.11111      -0.6666 ]
```

Numerically, this expansion would be written down as:

$$\frac{0.055555}{(s-4)} + \frac{0.0185185}{(s+2)} + \frac{-0.074074}{(s-1)} + \frac{-0.11111}{(s-1)^2} + \frac{-0.6666}{(s-1)^3}$$

Note: Unlike the original PF, this program will report the expansion for the repeated roots in **ascending** order.

### Memory Limitations:

Given that the polynomial multiplies are done via matrix multiplies (easier implementation via native functions, namely  $X*Y$ ) there is a limitation on the number of partial fractions possible. For **default** mode, denominator cannot be larger than order 4. For **15.2** mode, the largest denominator order is 7. Since switching modes does not destroy the memory, the user can go between default and 15.2 modes to run the program with no penalty.

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<sup>1</sup> This is because the order of the numerator must always be less than N. If not, perform a polynomial division first.