

Bode Plots (ESSENTIALS)

Bode Straight-Line Plots

- (A) Bode plots of LTI Systems with non-zero Real Poles and Zeros, assuming no Integrator and Differentiator in the system.**

In constructing or reading Bode plots, it is often more convenient to express the system transfer function as

$$G(s) = K_{dc} \frac{\left(\frac{s}{z_1} + 1\right)\left(\frac{s}{z_2} + 1\right) \cdots \left(\frac{s}{z_M} + 1\right)}{\left(\frac{s}{p_1} + 1\right)\left(\frac{s}{p_2} + 1\right) \cdots \left(\frac{s}{p_N} + 1\right)}$$

where

$$\left(\frac{s}{z_m} + 1\right) \text{ is a zero factor of } G(s)$$

$$\left(\frac{s}{p_n} + 1\right) \text{ is a pole factor of } G(s)$$

K_{dc} is the DC (or static) gain of $G(s)$

i. Bode plots of a zero factor: $G_z(s) = \left(\frac{s}{z_m} + 1\right)$

Zero Location : $s = -z_m$

Frequency Response : $G_z(j\omega) = \left(\frac{j\omega}{z_m} + 1\right)$

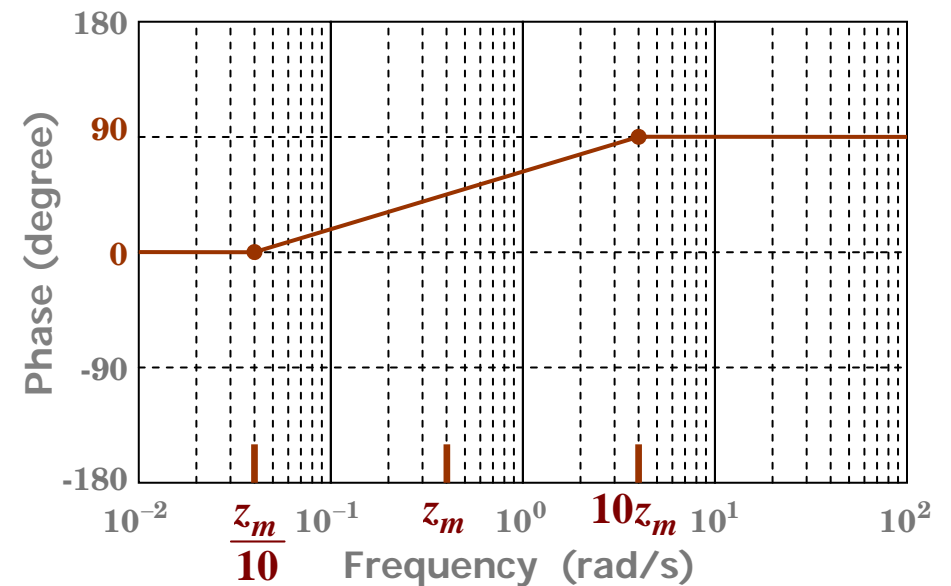
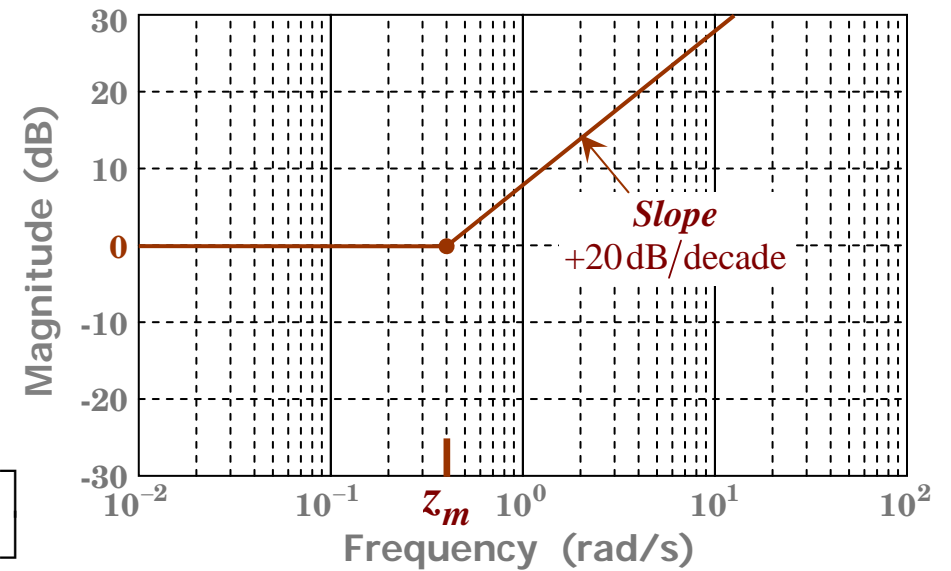
Magnitude Response : $\begin{cases} |G_z(j\omega)| = (\omega^2/z_m^2 + 1)^{0.5} \\ |G_z(j\omega)|_{dB} = 20\log_{10}[(\omega^2/z_m^2 + 1)^{0.5}] \end{cases}$

Corner Frequency : $\omega = z_m$ rad/s

DC Gain : $\begin{cases} |G_z(j0)| = \left|\frac{j0}{z_m} + 1\right| = 1 \\ |G_z(j0)|_{dB} = 0 \end{cases}$

LO-Frequency Phase : $\lim_{\omega \rightarrow 0} \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{\omega}{z_m}\right) = 0^\circ$

HI-Frequency Phase : $\lim_{\omega \rightarrow \infty} \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{\omega}{z_m}\right) = 90^\circ$



ii. Bode plots of a pole factor: $G_p(s) = \left(\frac{s}{p_n} + 1\right)^{-1}$

Pole Location : $s = -p_n$

Frequency Response : $G_p(j\omega) = \left(\frac{j\omega}{p_n} + 1\right)^{-1}$

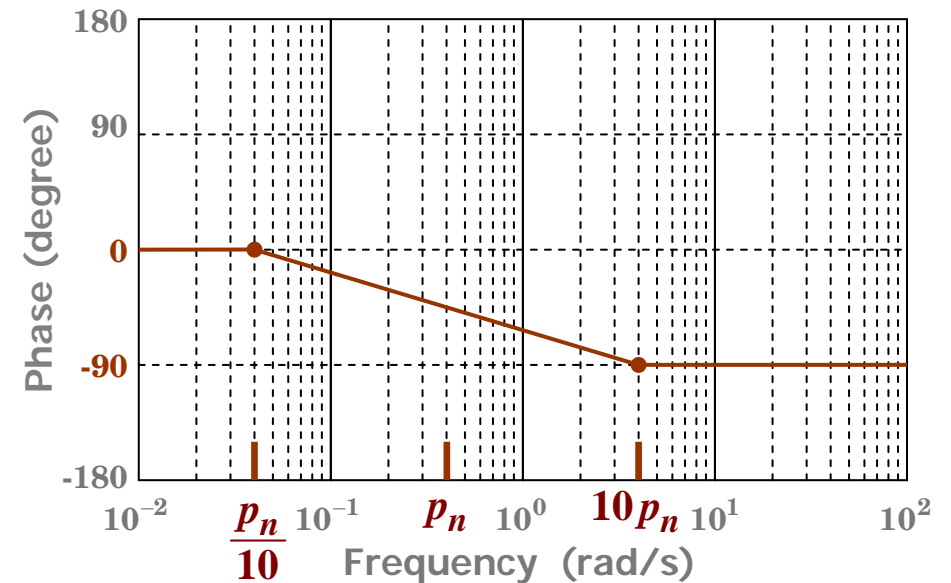
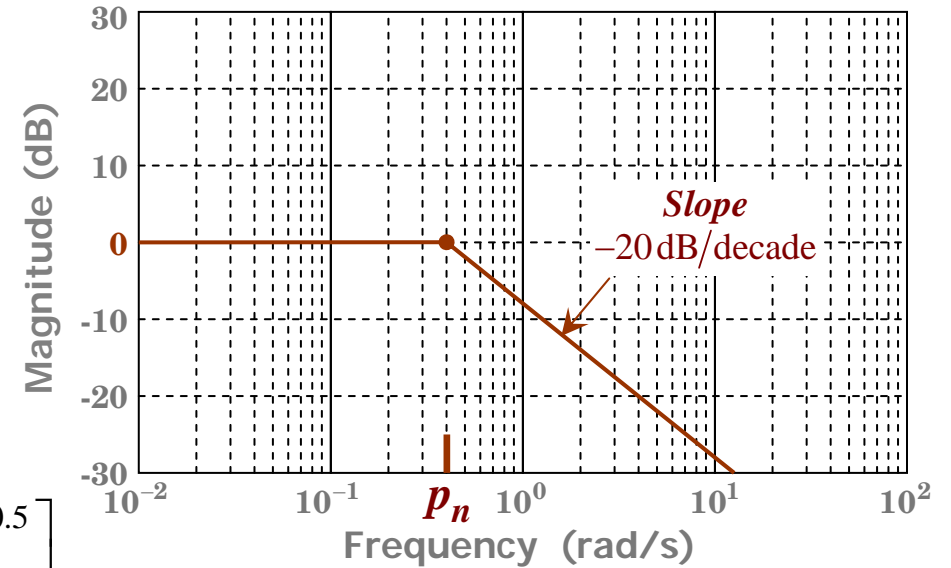
Magnitude Response : $\begin{cases} |G_p(j\omega)| = (\omega^2/p_n^2 + 1)^{-0.5} \\ |G_p(j\omega)|_{dB} = -20\log_{10}\left[(\omega^2/p_n^2 + 1)^{0.5}\right] \end{cases}$

Corner Frequency : $\omega = p_n$ rad/s

DC Gain : $\begin{cases} |G_p(j0)| = \left|\frac{j0}{p_n} + 1\right|^{-1} = 1 \\ |G_p(j0)|_{dB} = 0 \text{ dB} \end{cases}$

LO-Frequency Phase : $\lim_{\omega \rightarrow 0} -\tan^{-1}\left(\frac{\omega}{p_n}\right) = 0^\circ$

HI-Frequency Phase : $\lim_{\omega \rightarrow \infty} -\tan^{-1}\left(\frac{\omega}{p_n}\right) = -90^\circ$



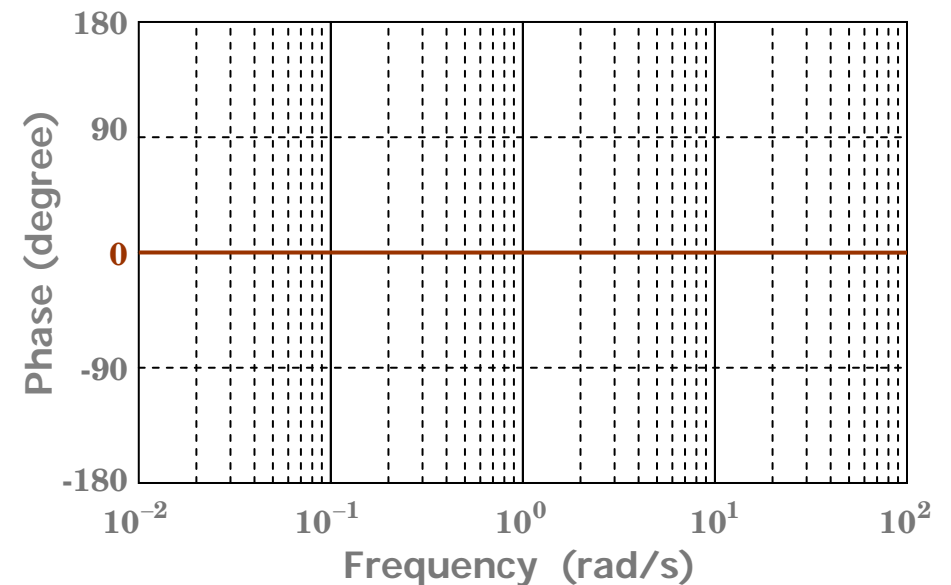
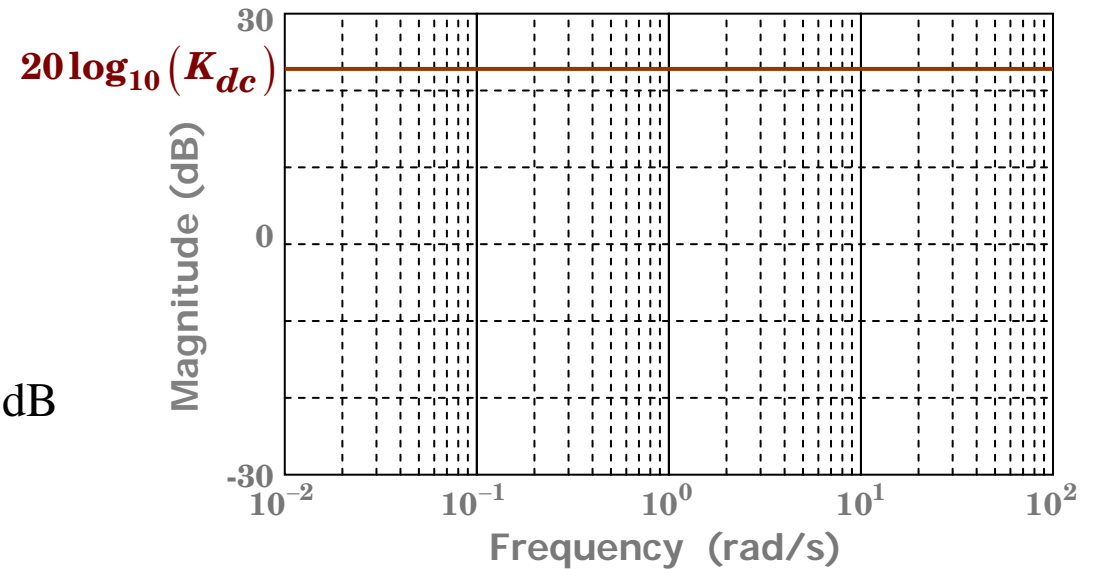
iii. Bode plots of DC gain: $G_{dc}(s) = K_{dc}$

Frequency : $G_{dc}(j\omega) = K_{dc}$
 Response :

Magnitude : $\begin{cases} |G_{dc}(j\omega)| = K_{dc} \\ |G_{dc}(j\omega)|_{dB} = 20\log_{10}(K_{dc}) \text{ dB} \end{cases}$
 Response :

Phase : $\angle G_{dc}(j\omega) = 0^\circ$
 Response :

The magnitude and phase responses are both straight lines with zero gradient.



(B) Bode plots of Integrator: $G_i(s) = \frac{K_i}{s}$

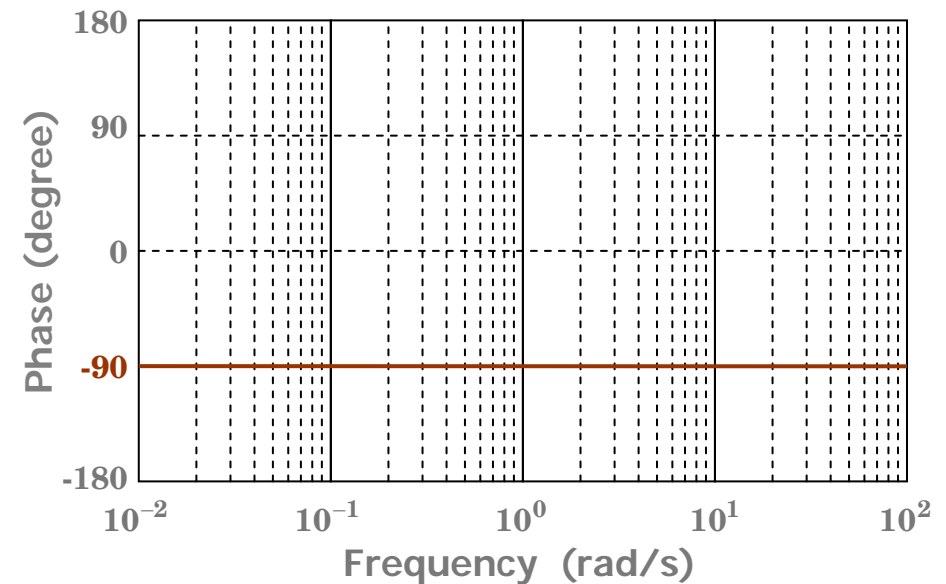
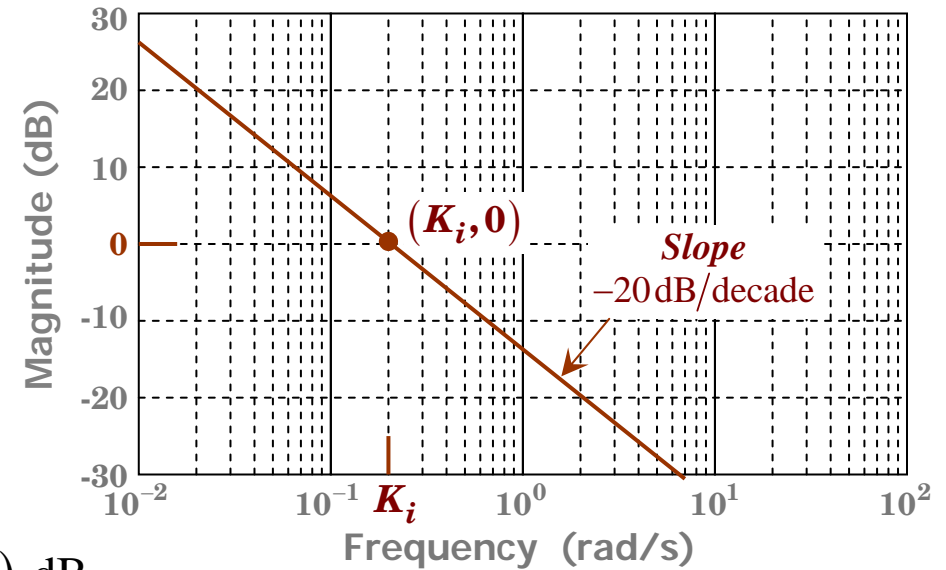
Frequency : $G_i(j\omega) = \frac{K_i}{j\omega}$
 Response

Magnitude : $\begin{cases} |G_i(j\omega)| = \frac{K_i}{\omega} \\ |G_i(s)|_{dB} = 20\log_{10}(K_i) - 20\log_{10}(\omega) \text{ dB} \end{cases}$
 Response

The magnitude response is a straight line with slope -20dB/decade . At $\omega = K_i$ rad/s, its value is 0 dB.

Phase : $\begin{cases} \angle G_i(j\omega) = -\tan^{-1}\left(\frac{\omega}{0}\right) \\ = -90^\circ \end{cases}$
 Response

The phase response is a straight line with zero gradient.



(C) Bode plots of Differentiator: $G_d(s) = K_d s$

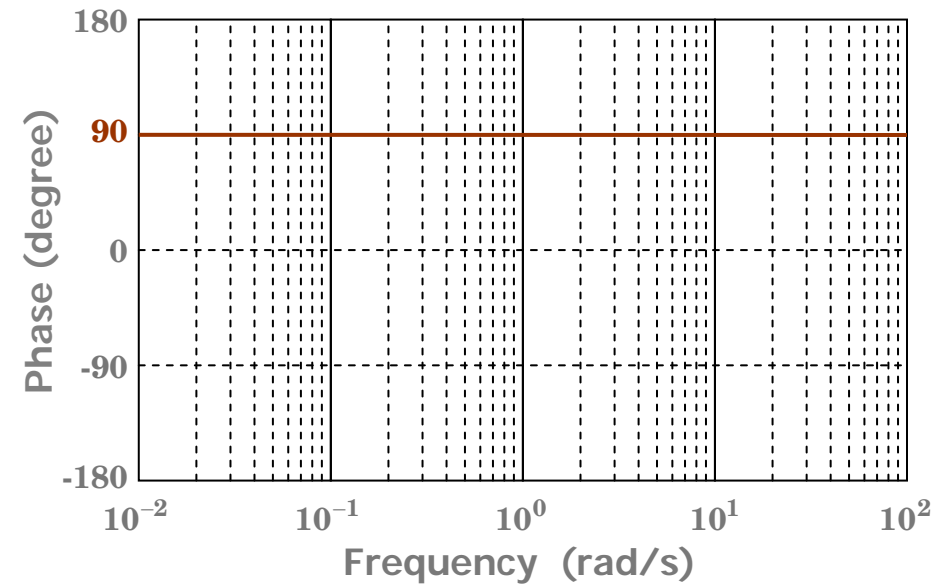
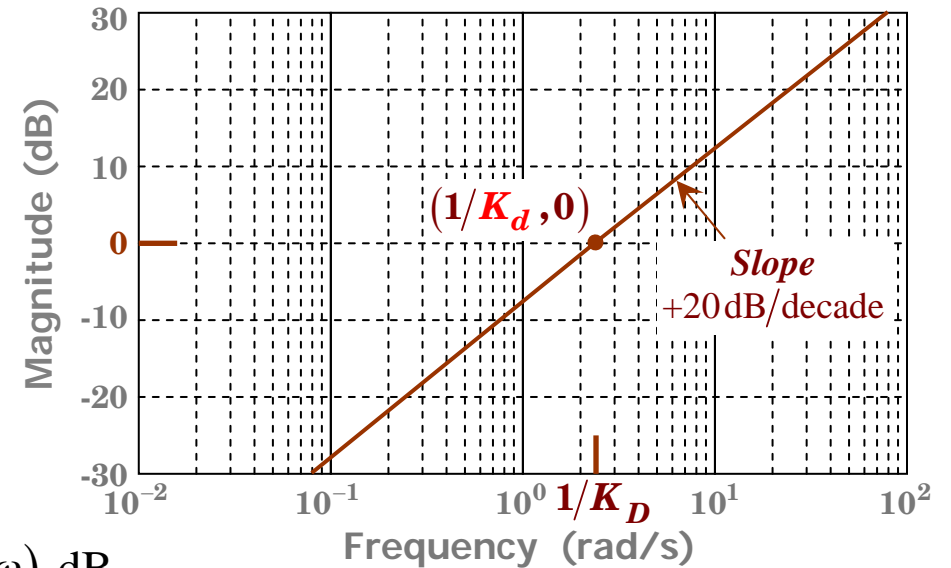
Frequency : $G_d(j\omega) = jK_d\omega$
 Response

Magnitude : $\begin{cases} |G_d(j\omega)| = K_d\omega \\ |G_d(s)|_{dB} = 20\log_{10}(K_d) + 20\log_{10}(\omega) \text{ dB} \end{cases}$
 Response

The magnitude response is a straight line with slope 20dB/decade. At $\omega = \frac{1}{K_d}$ rad/s, its value is 0 dB.

Phase : $\begin{cases} \angle G_d(j\omega) = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{\omega}{0}\right) \\ = 90^\circ \end{cases}$
 Response

The phase response is a straight line with zero gradient.



(D) Bode magnitude plot for second-order systems with complex poles and unity DC gain:

$$G(s) = \frac{\omega_n^2}{s^2 + 2\zeta\omega_n s + \omega_n^2}; \quad 0 \leq \zeta < 1$$

To construct the straight-line approximation, set $\zeta = 1$ so that

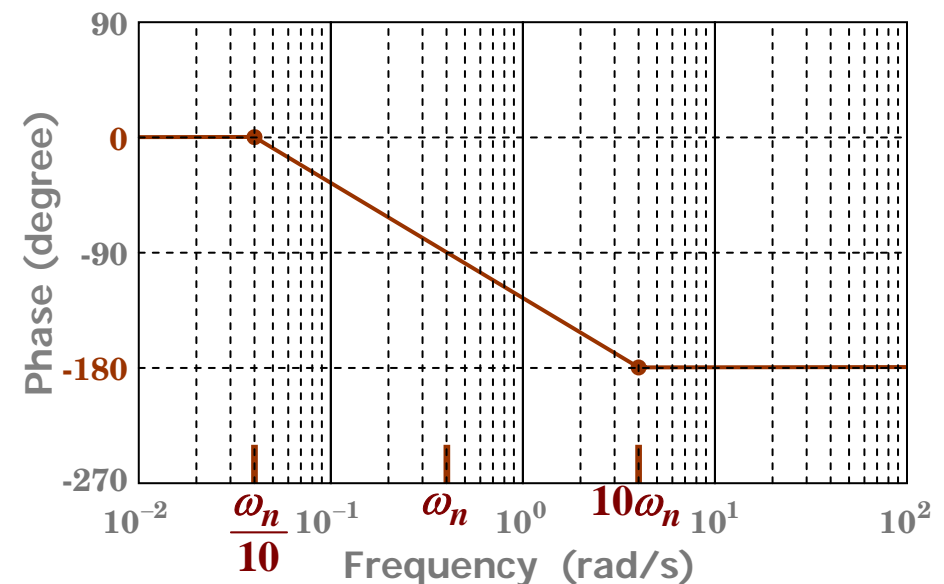
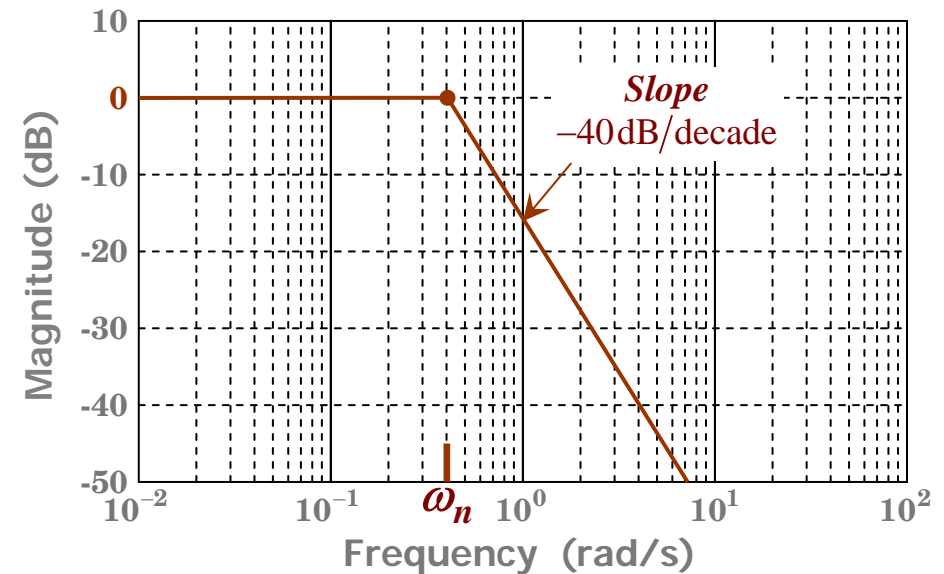
$$G(s)|_{\zeta=1} = \frac{\omega_n^2}{(s + \omega_n)^2} = \left(\frac{s}{\omega_n} + 1\right)^{-1} \left(\frac{s}{\omega_n} + 1\right)^{-1}$$

is a product of two pole factors, with each having the features given in (A)(ii).

LO-Frequency : $\lim_{\omega \rightarrow 0} -2 \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{\omega}{p_n} \right) = 0^\circ$

HI-Frequency : $\lim_{\omega \rightarrow \infty} -2 \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{\omega}{\omega_n} \right) = -180^\circ$

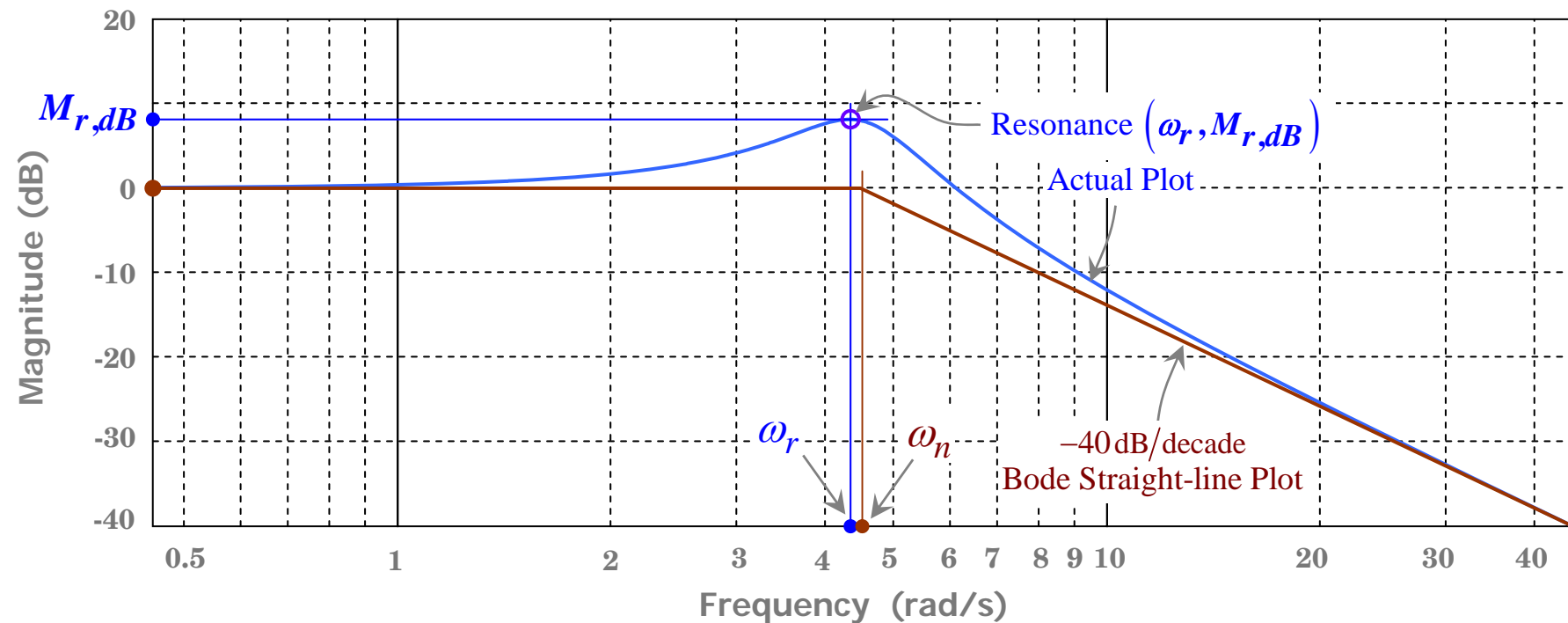
Note that the value of ζ cannot be determined from the Bode straight-line plot. Additional information is needed to evaluate ζ .



$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Resonance frequency: } \omega_r = \omega_n \sqrt{1 - 2\zeta^2} \\ \text{Resonance peak: } M_r = \frac{1}{2\zeta \sqrt{1 - \zeta^2}} \end{array} \right\} \dots \text{iff } \zeta < \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = 0.7071$$

REMARKS: (1) If $G(s) = \frac{K\omega_n^2}{s^2 + 2\zeta\omega_n s + \omega_n^2}$, then $M_r = \frac{K}{2\zeta \sqrt{1 - \zeta^2}}$

(2) Both ω_r and M_r do not exist if $\zeta \geq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = 0.7071$



(E) Rewriting $G(s)$ to facilitate plotting and interpretation of Bode Straight-Line diagram

i. **System without Integrator or Differentiator:** $G(s) = K \frac{(s + z_1)(s + z_2) \cdots (s + z_M)}{(s + p_1)(s + p_2) \cdots (s + p_N)}$

$$G(s) = K_{dc} \frac{\left(\frac{s}{z_1} + 1\right)\left(\frac{s}{z_2} + 1\right) \cdots \left(\frac{s}{z_M} + 1\right)}{\left(\frac{s}{p_1} + 1\right)\left(\frac{s}{p_2} + 1\right) \cdots \left(\frac{s}{p_N} + 1\right)}; \quad \underbrace{K_{dc} = K \cdot \frac{z_1 z_2 \cdots z_M}{p_1 p_2 \cdots p_N}}_{\text{DC Gain}}$$

The Bode straight-line plot of $G(s)$ always begins with a horizontal line at low frequency with $|G(j\omega)|_{dB} = 20\log_{10}(K_{dc})$.

ii. **System with N INTEGRATORS:** $G(s) = \frac{K_i}{s^N} \cdot K \frac{(s + z_1)(s + z_2) \cdots (s + z_M)}{(s + p_1)(s + p_2) \cdots (s + p_N)}$

$[K_i$ is the combined gain of the N cascaded integrators]

$$G(s) = \frac{K_I}{s^N} \cdot \frac{\left(\frac{s}{z_1} + 1\right)\left(\frac{s}{z_2} + 1\right) \cdots \left(\frac{s}{z_M} + 1\right)}{\left(\frac{s}{p_1} + 1\right)\left(\frac{s}{p_2} + 1\right) \cdots \left(\frac{s}{p_N} + 1\right)}; \quad \underbrace{K_I = K_i K \cdot \frac{z_1 z_2 \cdots z_M}{p_1 p_2 \cdots p_N}}_{\text{Modified Integrator Gain}}$$

The Bode straight-line plot of $G(s)$ always begins with a line of slope $-20N$ dB/decade at low frequency, and $K_I = \tilde{\omega}^N |G(j\tilde{\omega})| = \tilde{\omega}^N \cdot 10^{|G(j\tilde{\omega})|_{dB}/20}$ where $(\tilde{\omega}, |G(j\tilde{\omega})|_{dB})$ is a point on this line.

Since $G(0) = \infty$, the term DC gain does not make particular sense.

iii. System with N DIFFERENTIATORS: $G(s) = K_d s^N \cdot K \frac{(s+z_1)(s+z_2)\cdots(s+z_M)}{(s+p_1)(s+p_2)\cdots(s+p_N)}$
[K_d is the combined gain of the N cascaded differentiators]

$$G(s) = K_D s^N \cdot \frac{\left(\frac{s}{z_1} + 1\right)\left(\frac{s}{z_2} + 1\right)\cdots\left(\frac{s}{z_M} + 1\right)}{\left(\frac{s}{p_1} + 1\right)\left(\frac{s}{p_2} + 1\right)\cdots\left(\frac{s}{p_N} + 1\right)}; \quad \underbrace{K_D = K_d K \cdot \frac{z_1 z_2 \cdots z_M}{p_1 p_2 \cdots p_N}}_{\text{Modified Differentiator Gain}}$$

The Bode straight-line plot of $G(s)$ always begins with a line of slope $+20N$ dB/decade at low frequency, and $K_D = \frac{|G(j\tilde{\omega})|}{\tilde{\omega}^N} = \frac{10^{|G(j\tilde{\omega})|_{dB}/20}}{\tilde{\omega}^N}$ where $(\tilde{\omega}, |G(j\tilde{\omega})|_{dB})$ is a point on this line.

Since $G(0) = 0$, the term DC gain does not make particular sense.

(F) Asymptotic Phase $\left[\angle G(j\omega) \right]$

$$\lim_{\omega \rightarrow \infty} \angle G(j\omega) = \underbrace{\left[\text{Number of POLES} - \text{Number of ZEROS} \right]}_{\text{Inclusive of Integrators and Differentiators}} \times (-90^\circ)$$

$$\lim_{\omega \rightarrow 0} \angle G(j\omega) = \left[\text{Number of Integrators} - \text{Number of Differentiators} \right] \times (-90^\circ)$$

(G) Asymptotic SLOPE of dB-Gain $\left[|G(j\omega)|_{dB} \right]$

$$\lim_{\omega \rightarrow \infty} \left[\text{slope of } |G(j\omega)|_{dB} \right] = \underbrace{\left[\text{Number of POLES} - \text{Number of ZEROS} \right]}_{\text{Inclusive of Integrators and Differentiators}} \times (-20 \text{ dB/decade})$$

$$\lim_{\omega \rightarrow 0} \left[\text{slope of } |G(j\omega)|_{dB} \right] = \left[\text{Number of Integrators} - \text{Number of Differentiators} \right] \times (-20 \text{ dB/decade})$$
