

# Introduction to Filters

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Digital Technium 123

Office Hours: 12:00-13:00 Mondays

You can view the notes for this presentation in [HTML](#) and [PDF](#).

The source code of this presentation is available in Markdown format from GitHub: [ft2.md](#).

The GitHub repository [EG-247 Resources](#) also contains the source code for all the Matlab/Simulink examples and the Laboratory Exercises.

## Scope and Background Reading

This session is Based on the section **Filtering** from Chapter 5 of [Benoit Boulet, Fundamentals of Signals and Systems](#) from the **Recommended Reading List**.

This material is an introduction to analogue filters. You will find much more in-depth coverage on Pages 11-1—1-48 of Karris.

## Agenda

- Frequency Selective Filters
- Ideal low-pass filter
- Butterworth low-pass filter
- High-pass filter
- Bandpass filter

## Introduction

- Filter design is an important application of Fourier transform
- Filtering is a rich topic often taught in graduate courses so we give only an introduction.
- Our introduction *will* illustrate the usefulness of the frequency domain viewpoint.
- We will explore how filters can shape the spectrum of a signal.

Other applications of the Fourier transform are sampling theory (introduced next week) and modulation.

## Frequency Selective Filters

### Frequency Selective Filters

An ideal frequency-selective filter is a system that let's the frequency components of a signal through undistorted while components at other components are completely cut off.

- The range of frequencies which are let through belong to the **pass Band**
- The range of frequencies which are cut-off by the filter are called the **stopband**
- A typical scenario where filtering is needed is when noise  $n(t)$  is added to a signal  $x(t)$  but that signal has most of its energy outside the bandwidth of a signal.

### Typical filtering problem

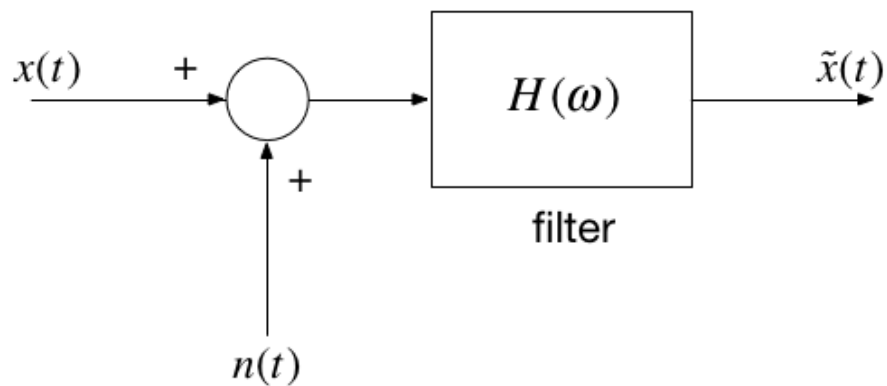


Figure 1: Typical filtering problem

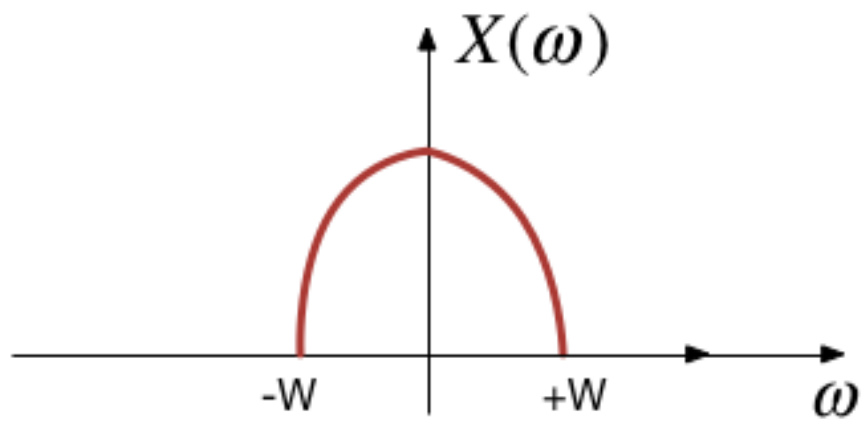


Figure 2: Signal

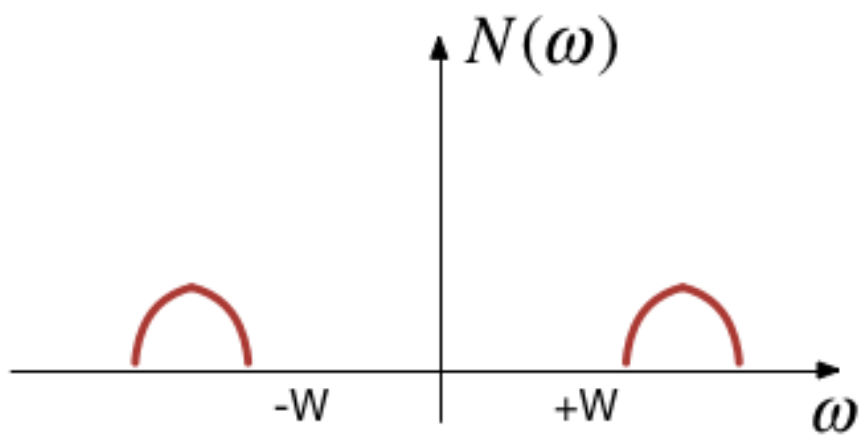


Figure 3: Noise

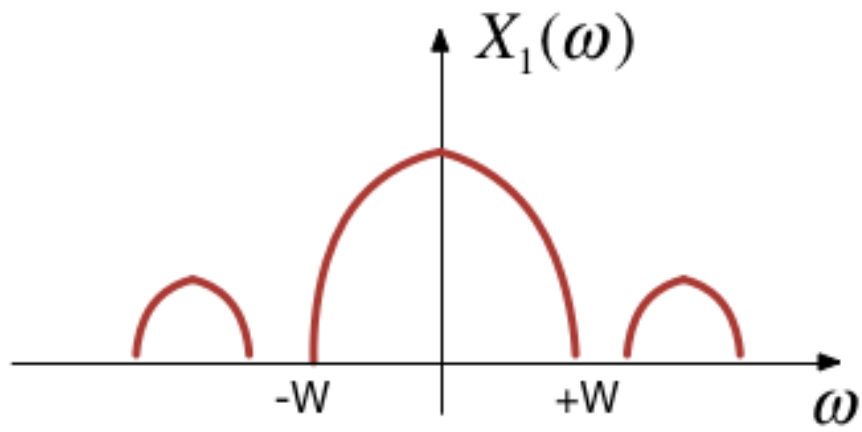


Figure 4: Signal plus noise

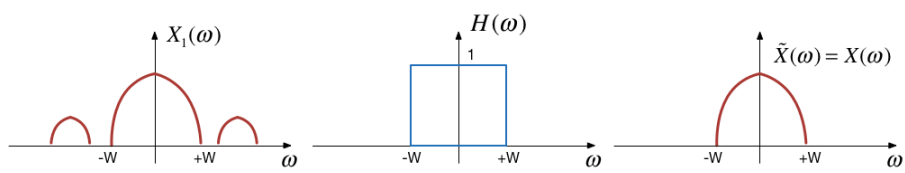


Figure 5: filtering

**Signal**

**Out-of Bandwidth Noise**

**Signal plus Noise**

**Filtering**

**Motivating example**

Filtering in Matlab using ‘built-in’ filter design techniques by David Dorran  
[YouTube](#).

For script see: [Filter Design Using Matlab Demo](#)

## **Ideal Low-Pass Filter**

### **Ideal Low-Pass Filter**

An ideal low pass filter cuts-off frequencies higher than its *cutoff frequency*,  $\omega_c$ .

$$H_{lp}(\omega) = \begin{cases} 1, & |\omega| < \omega_c \\ 0, & |\omega| \geq \omega_c \end{cases}$$

**Frequency response**

**Impulse response**

$$h_{lp}(t) = \frac{\omega_c}{\pi} \text{sinc}\left(\frac{\omega_c}{\pi} t\right)$$

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## **Filtering is Convolution**

The output of an LTI system with impulse response

$$h(t) \Leftrightarrow H(\omega)$$

subject to an input signal

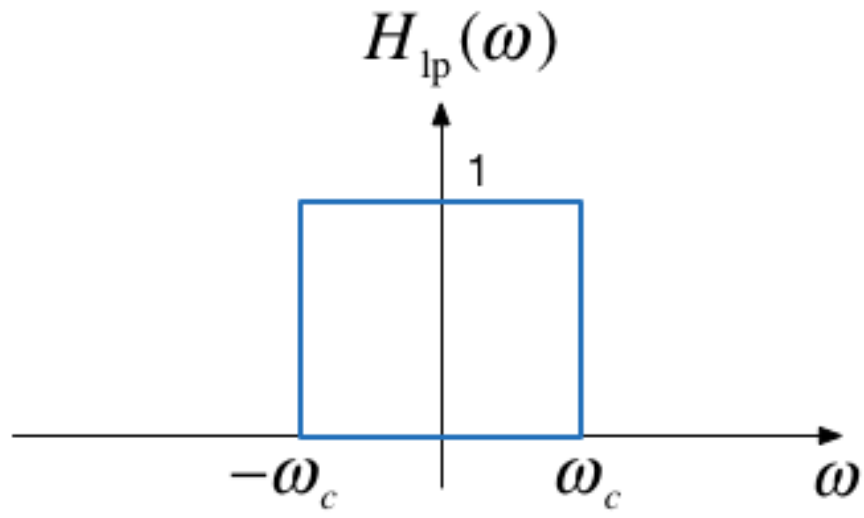


Figure 6: Ideal low-pass filter

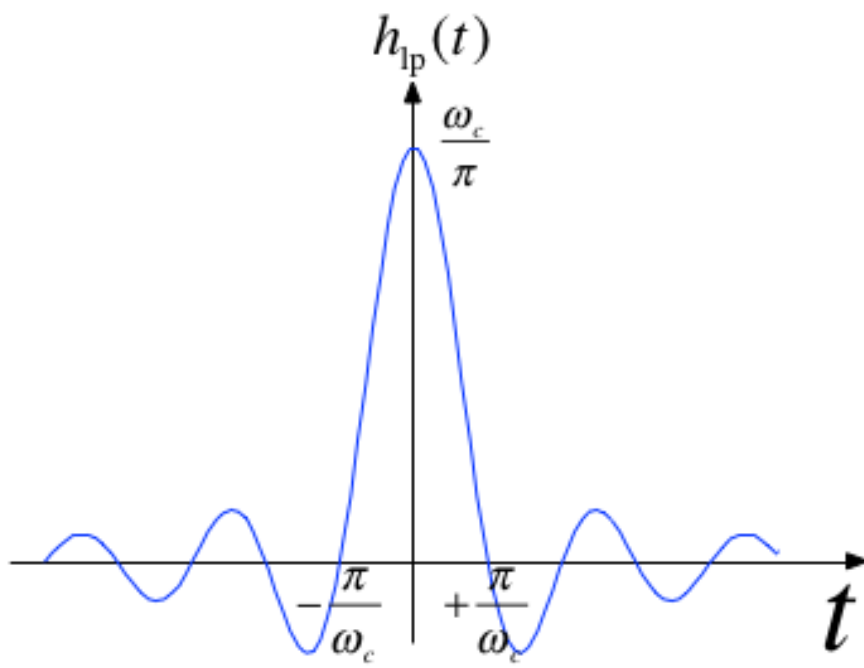


Figure 7: Impulse response of ideal low-pass filter

$$x(t) \Leftrightarrow X(\omega)$$

is given by

$$y(t) = h(t) * x(t) \Leftrightarrow Y(\omega) = H(\omega)X(\omega)$$

## Issues with the “ideal” filter

This is the step response:

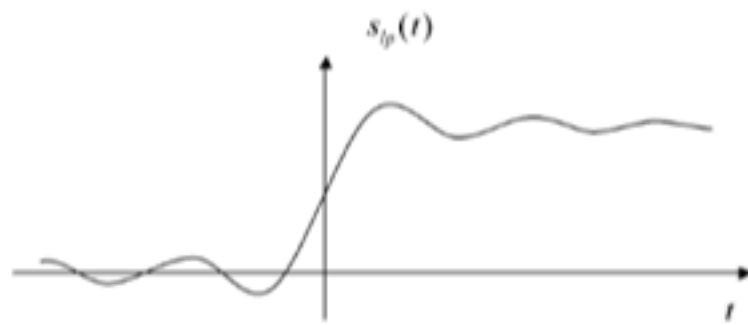


Figure 8: Step response of ideal filter

(reproduced from Boulet Fig. 5.23 p. 205)

Ripples in the impulse response would be undesirable, and because the impulse response is non-causal it cannot actually be implemented.

## Butterworth low-pass filter

### Butterworth low-pass filter

N-th Order Butterworth Filter

$$|H_B(\omega)| = \frac{1}{\left(1 + \left(\frac{\omega}{\omega_c}\right)^{2N}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}}$$

### Remarks

- DC gain is  $|H_B(j0)| = 1$

- Attenuation at the cut-off frequency is  $|H_B(j\omega_c)| = 1/\sqrt{2}$  for any  $N$

More about the Butterworth filter: [Wikipedia Article](#)

### Example 1: Second-order BW Filter

The second-order Butterworth Filter is defined by its *characteristic equation* (CE):

$$p(s) = s^2 + \omega_c\sqrt{2}s + \omega_c^2 = 0^*$$

Calculate the roots of  $p(s)$  (the poles of the filter transfer function) in both Cartesian and polar form.

**Note:** This has the same characteristic as a control system with damping ratio  $\zeta = 1/\sqrt{2}$  and  $\omega_n = \omega_c$ !

### Example 2

Derive the differential equation relating the input  $x(t)$  to output  $y(t)$  of the 2nd-Order Butterworth low-pass filter with cutoff frequency  $\omega_c$ .

### Example 3

Determine the frequency response  $H_B(\omega) = Y(\omega)/X(\omega)$

### Magnitude of frequency response of a 2nd-order Butterworth Filter

Generated with [butter2\\_ex.m](#)

### Bode-plot of a 2nd-order Butterworth Filter

Matlab:

```
wc = 100;
H = tf(wc^2,[1, wc*sqrt(2), wc^2])
bode(H)
```

Generated with [butter2\\_ex.m](#)



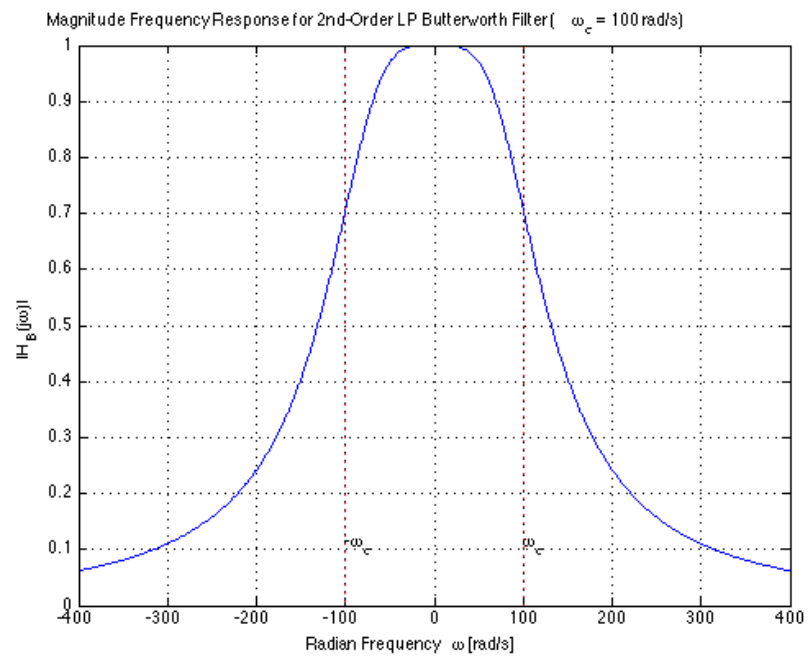


Figure 9: Magnitude response of Butterworth filter

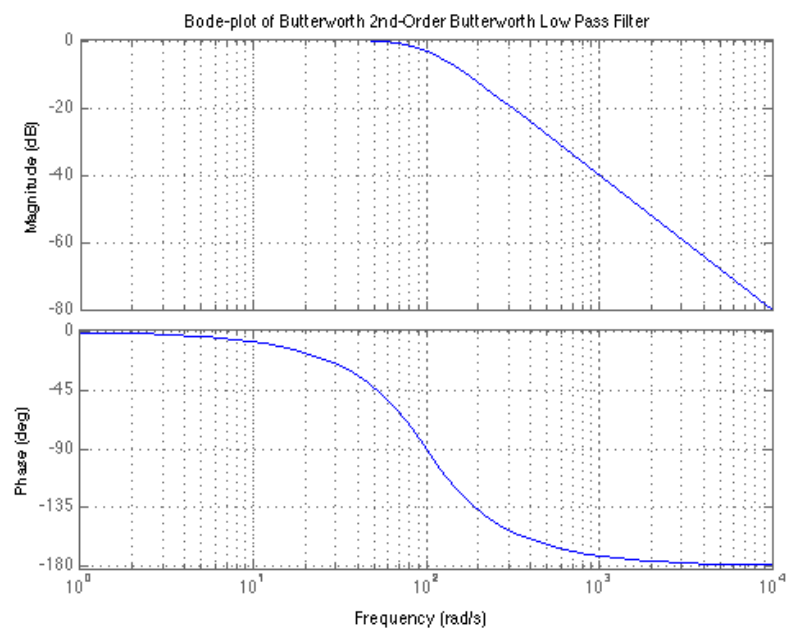


Figure 10: Bode plot of Butterworth filter

## Example 4

Determine the impulse response of the Butterworth filter.

You will find this Fourier transform pair useful:

$$e^{-at} \sin \omega_0 t u_0(t) \Leftrightarrow \frac{\omega_0}{(j\omega + a)^2 + \omega_0^2}$$

## Impulse response

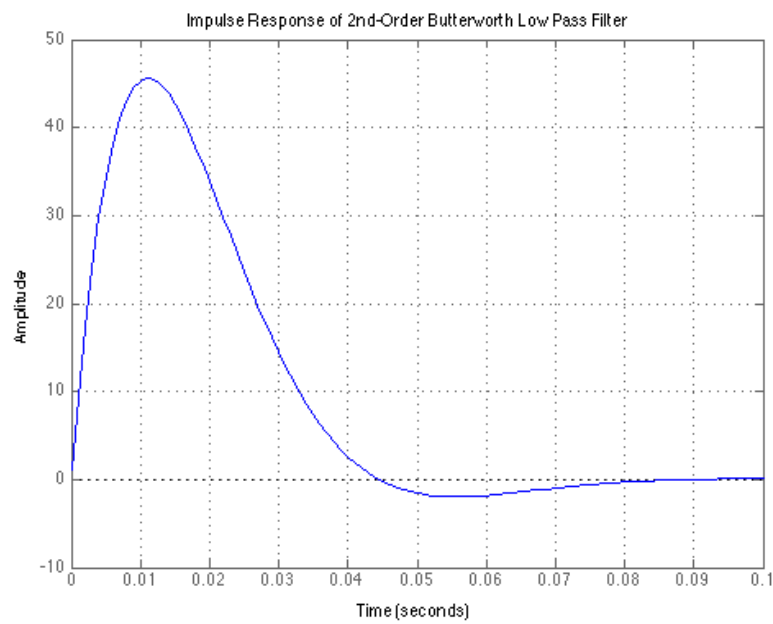


Figure 11: Impulse response of Butterworth filter

Matlab:

```
impz(h)
```

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## Step response of of a 2nd-order Butterworth Filter

Matlab:

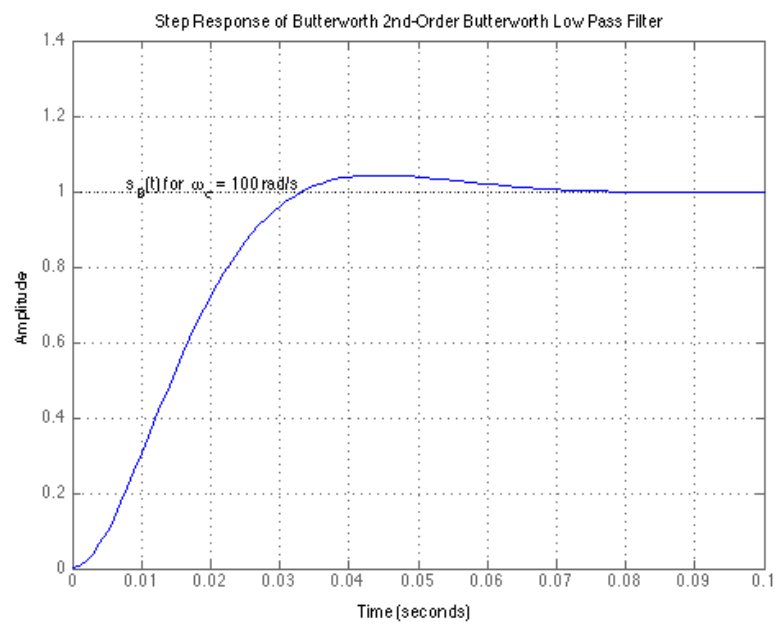


Figure 12: Step response of Butterworth filter

step(H)

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## High-pass filter

### High-pass filter

An ideal high-pass filter cuts-off frequencies lower than its *cutoff frequency*,  $\omega_c$ .

$$H_{\text{hp}}(\omega) = \begin{cases} 0, & |\omega| \leq \omega_c \\ 1, & |\omega| > \omega_c \end{cases}$$

### Frequency response

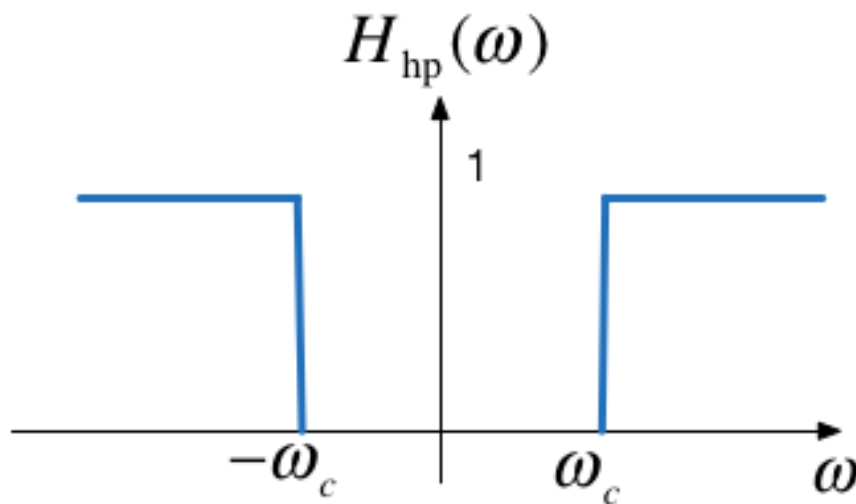


Figure 13: Frequency respons of a high-pass filter

### Responses

#### Frequency response

$$H_{\text{hp}}(\omega) = 1 - H_{\text{lp}}(\omega)$$

### Impulse response

$$h_{\text{hp}}(t) = \delta(t) - h_{\text{lp}}(t)$$

### Example 5

Determine the frequency response and impulse response of a 2nd-order butterworth highpass filter

### Magnitude of frequency response of a 2nd-order Butterworth High-Pass Filter

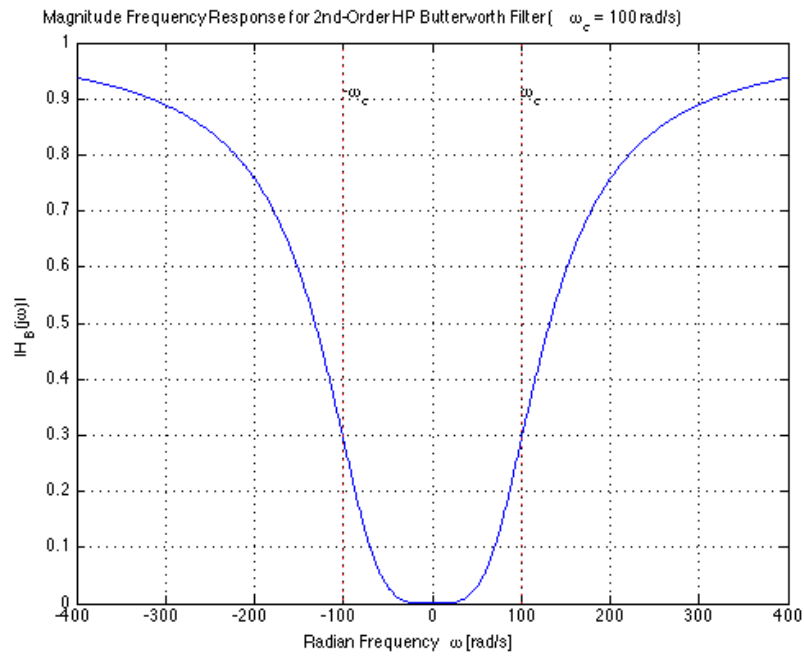


Figure 14: Magnitude of frequency response of a 2nd-order Butterworth high-pass filter

Generated with [butter2\\_ex.m](#)

## Bandpass filter

### Bandpass filter

An ideal bandpass filter cuts-off frequencies lower than its first *cutoff frequency*  $\omega_{c1}$ , and higher than its second *cutoff frequency*  $\omega_{c2}$ .

$$H_{bp}(\omega) = \begin{cases} 1, & \omega_{c1} < |\omega| < \omega_{c2} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

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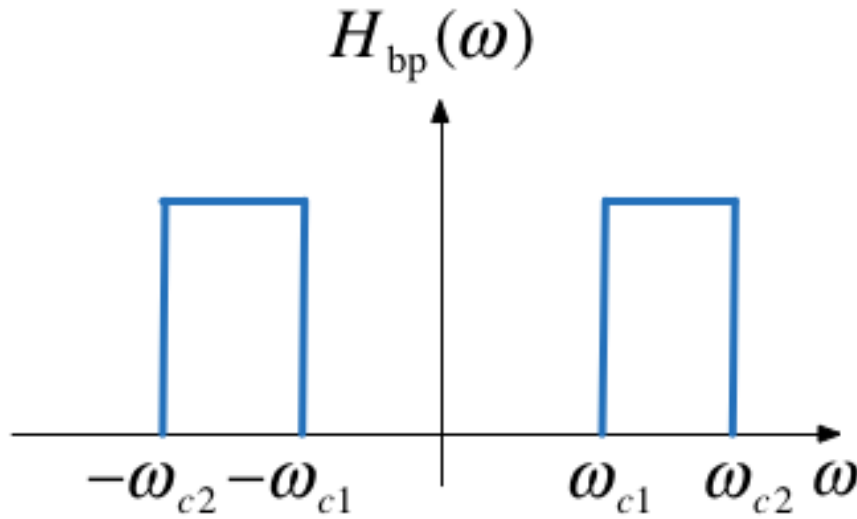


Figure 15: Bandpass filter

### Bandpass filter design

A bandpass filter can be obtained by multiplying the frequency responses of a low-pass filter by a high-pass filter.

$$H_{bp}(\omega) = H_{hp}(\omega)H_{lp}(\omega)$$

- The high-pass filter should have cut-off frequency of  $\omega_{c1}$
- The low-pass filter should have cut-off frequency of  $\omega_{c2}$

## Summary

- Frequency Selective Filters
- Ideal low-pass filter
- Butterworth low-pass filter
- High-pass filter
- Bandpass filter

*Next Session* – sampling theory

## Lab Work

In the lab we will look at frequency response analysis and filtering.