
EE 40 – Frequency Response

Reading Material:
Chapter 9

The Transfer Function

Transfer function of a circuit or system describes the **output response** to an **input excitation** as a function of the angular frequency ω .

$$\mathbf{H}(\omega) = \frac{\mathbf{V}_{\text{out}}(\omega)}{\mathbf{V}_{\text{in}}(\omega)} \quad \text{Voltage Gain}$$

Other Transfer Functions

Current gain: $\mathbf{H}_I(\omega) = \frac{\mathbf{I}_{\text{out}}(\omega)}{\mathbf{I}_{\text{in}}(\omega)}$

Transfer impedance: $\mathbf{H}_Z(\omega) = \frac{\mathbf{V}_{\text{out}}(\omega)}{\mathbf{I}_{\text{in}}(\omega)}$

$$\mathbf{H}(\omega) = M(\omega) e^{j\phi(\omega)},$$

Transfer admittance: $\mathbf{H}_Y(\omega) = \frac{\mathbf{I}_{\text{out}}(\omega)}{\mathbf{V}_{\text{in}}(\omega)}$

where by definition,

$$M(\omega) = |\mathbf{H}(\omega)|, \quad \phi(\omega) = \tan^{-1} \left\{ \frac{\Im[\mathbf{H}(\omega)]}{\Re[\mathbf{H}(\omega)]} \right\}$$

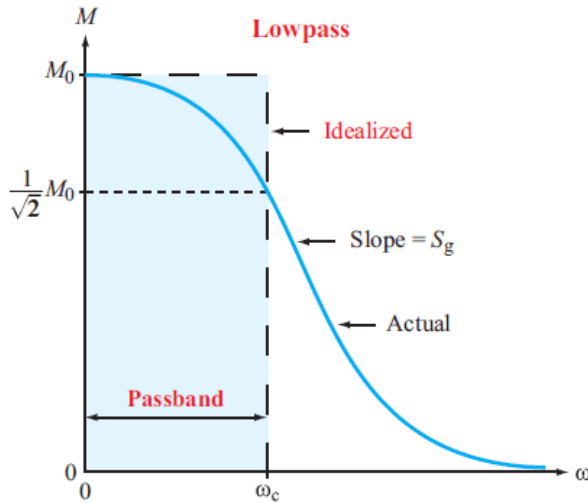


Magnitude

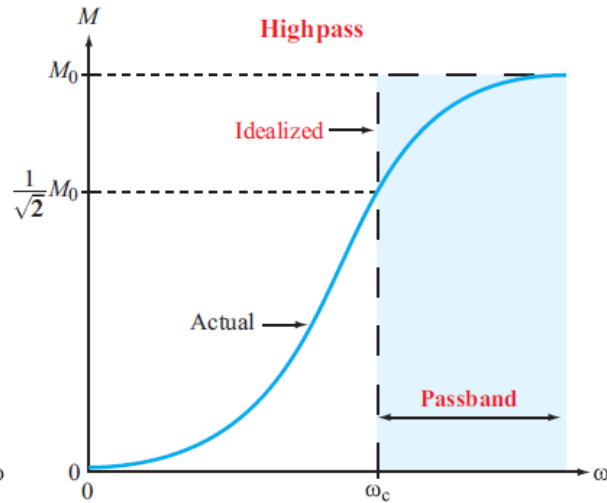


Phase

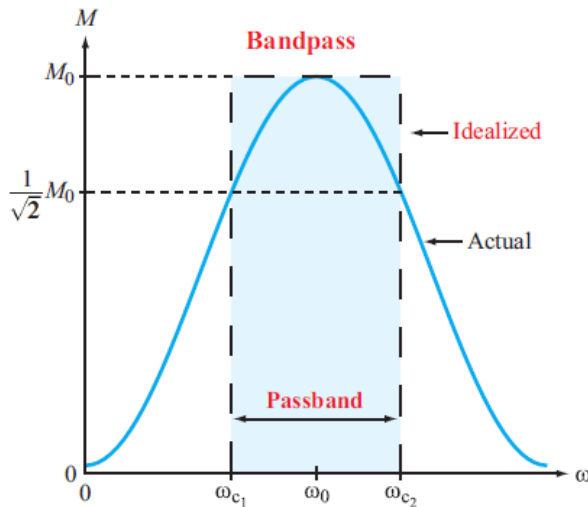
Filters



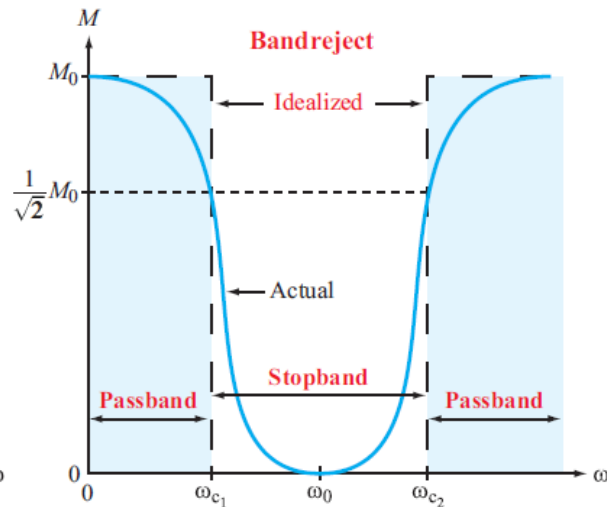
(a) Lowpass filter



(b) Highpass filter

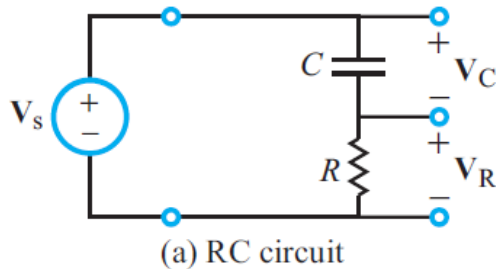


(c) Bandpass filter



(d) Bandreject filter

RC Low-pass filter



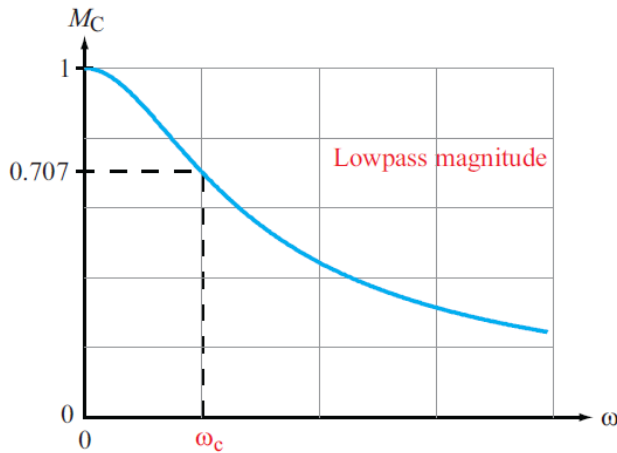
Lowpass Filter

Application of voltage division gives

$$V_C = \frac{V_s Z_C}{R + Z_C} = \frac{V_s / j\omega C}{R + \frac{1}{j\omega C}}.$$

The transfer function corresponding to V_C is

$$H_C(\omega) = \frac{V_C}{V_s} = \frac{1}{1 + j\omega RC},$$



Corner Frequency ω_c

The corner frequency ω_c is defined as the angular frequency at which $M(\omega)$ is equal to $1/\sqrt{2}$ of the reference peak value,

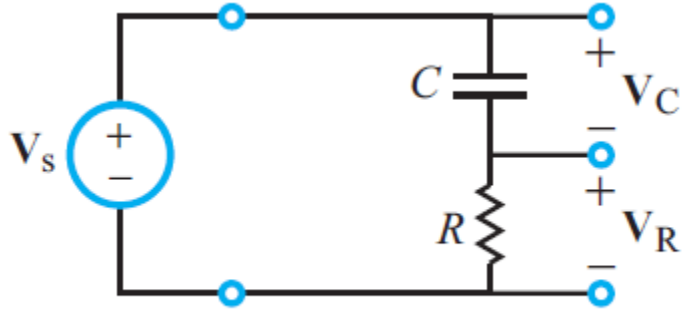
$$M_C^2(\omega_c) = \frac{1}{1 + \omega_c^2 R^2 C^2} = \frac{1}{2},$$

leads to

$$\omega_c = \frac{1}{RC}.$$

$$M(\omega_c) = \frac{M_0}{\sqrt{2}} = 0.707 M_0. \quad (9.5)$$

RC High-pass filter



(a) RC circuit

The output across R in Fig. 9-5(a) leads to

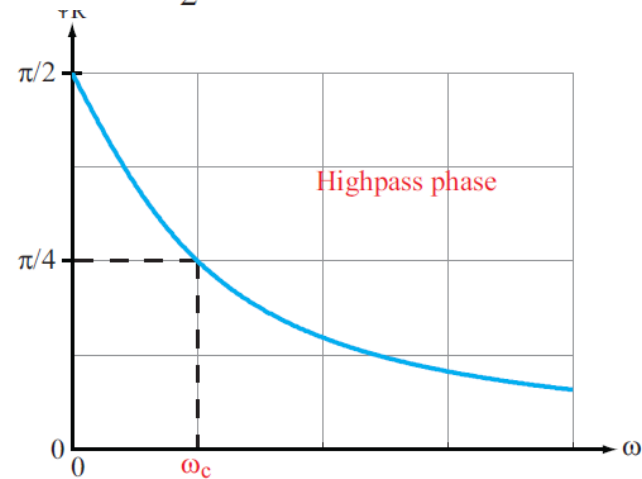
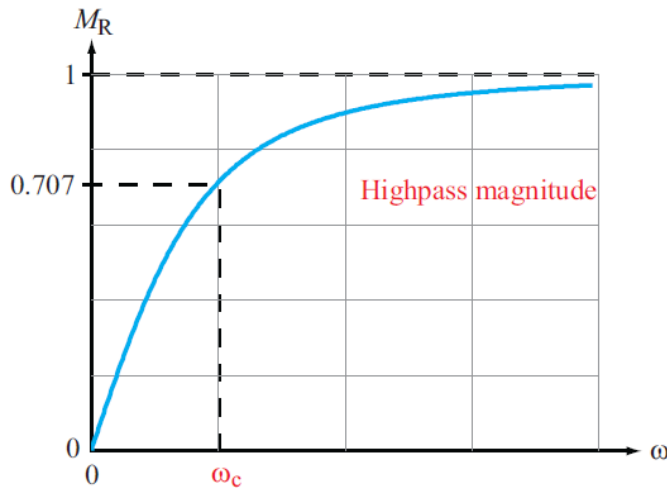
$$\mathbf{H}_R(\omega) = \frac{\mathbf{V}_R}{\mathbf{V}_s} = \frac{j\omega RC}{1 + j\omega RC}.$$

The magnitude and phase angle of $\mathbf{H}_R(\omega)$ are given by

$$M_R(\omega) = |\mathbf{H}_R(\omega)| = \frac{\omega RC}{\sqrt{1 + \omega^2 R^2 C^2}}$$

and

$$\phi_R(\omega) = \frac{\pi}{2} - \tan^{-1}(\omega RC).$$

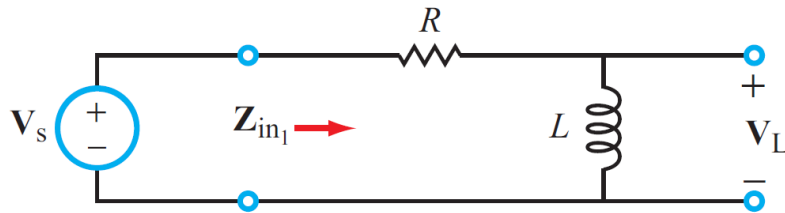


(c) Magnitude and phase angle of $\mathbf{H}_R(\omega) = \mathbf{V}_R / \mathbf{V}_s$

Resonance

Resonant Frequency ω_0

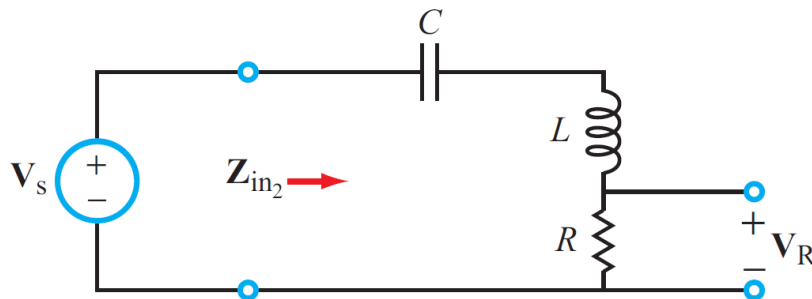
Resonance is a condition that occurs when the input impedance or input admittance of a circuit containing reactive elements is purely real, and the angular frequency at which it occurs is called the *resonant frequency* ω_0 . Often (but not always) the



(a) First-order RL filter

$$\mathbf{Z}_{in1} = R + j\omega L.$$

$$\text{Im} [\mathbf{Z}_{in1}] = 0 \text{ when } \omega = 0$$



(b) Series RLC circuit

$$\text{Im} [\mathbf{Z}_{in2}] = 0 \text{ requires that } \mathbf{Z}_L = -\mathbf{Z}_C \\ \text{or, equivalently, } \omega_2 = 1/LC$$

The dB scale

If G is defined as the power gain,

$$G = \frac{P}{P_0},$$

then the corresponding gain in dB is defined as

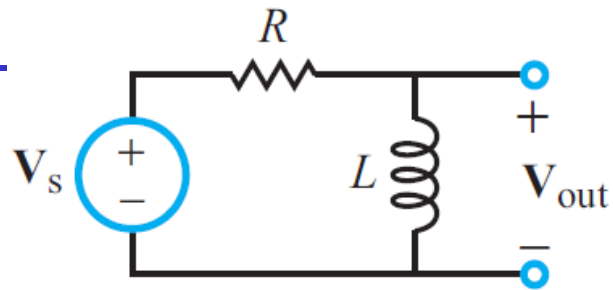
$$G \text{ [dB]} = 10 \log G = 10 \log \left(\frac{P}{P_0} \right) \quad (\text{dB}).$$

$$G \text{ [dB]} = 10 \log \left(\frac{\frac{1}{2} |\mathbf{V}|^2 R}{\frac{1}{2} |\mathbf{V}_0|^2 R} \right) = 20 \log \left(\frac{|\mathbf{V}|}{|\mathbf{V}_0|} \right)$$

$$G = XY \rightarrow G \text{ [dB]} = X \text{ [dB]} + Y \text{ [dB]}.$$

$$G = \frac{X}{Y} \rightarrow G \text{ [dB]} = X \text{ [dB]} - Y \text{ [dB]}.$$

RL Filter - Magnitude



(a) RL circuit

$$\mathbf{V}_{\text{out}} = \frac{j\omega L \mathbf{V}_s}{R + j\omega L},$$

which leads to

$$\mathbf{H} = \frac{\mathbf{V}_{\text{out}}}{\mathbf{V}_s} = \frac{j\omega L}{R + j\omega L} = \frac{j(\omega/\omega_c)}{1 + j(\omega/\omega_c)}, \quad (9.33)$$

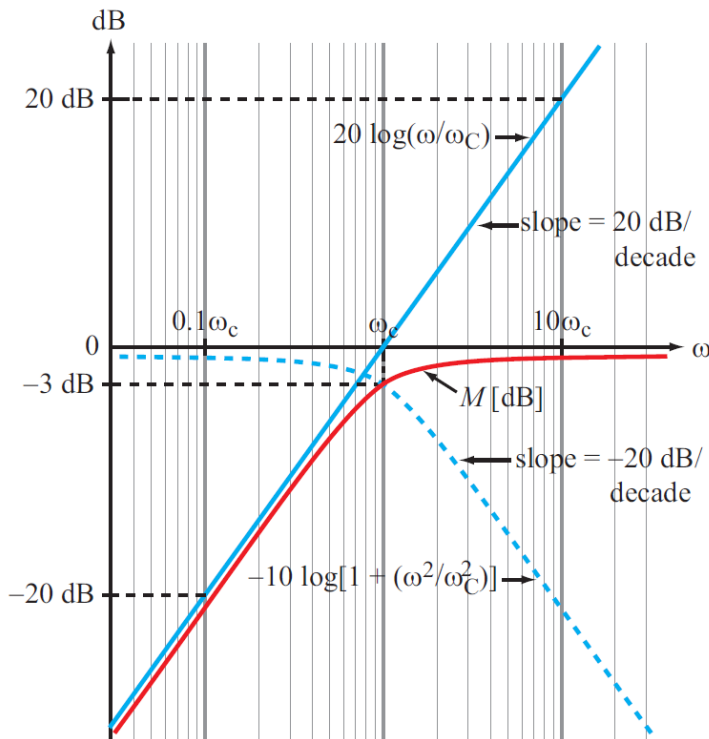
with $\omega_c = R/L$.

(b) The magnitude of \mathbf{H} is given by

$$M = |\mathbf{H}| = \frac{(\omega/\omega_c)}{|1 + j(\omega/\omega_c)|} = \frac{(\omega/\omega_c)}{\sqrt{1 + (\omega/\omega_c)^2}}. \quad (9.34)$$

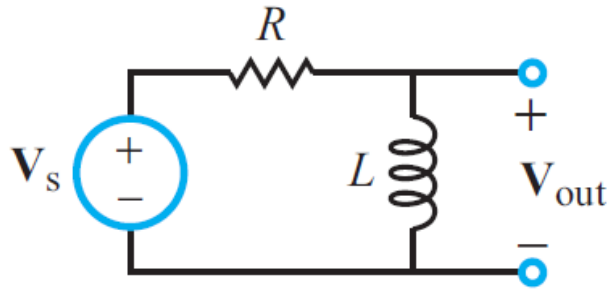
Since H is a voltage ratio, the appropriate dB scaling factor is 20, so

$$\begin{aligned} M [\text{dB}] &= 20 \log M \\ &= 20 \log(\omega/\omega_c) - 20 \log[1 + (\omega/\omega_c)^2]^{1/2} \\ &= 20 \log(\omega/\omega_c) - 10 \log[1 + (\omega/\omega_c)^2]. \end{aligned} \quad (9.35)$$



(b) Magnitude plot

RL Filter - Phase

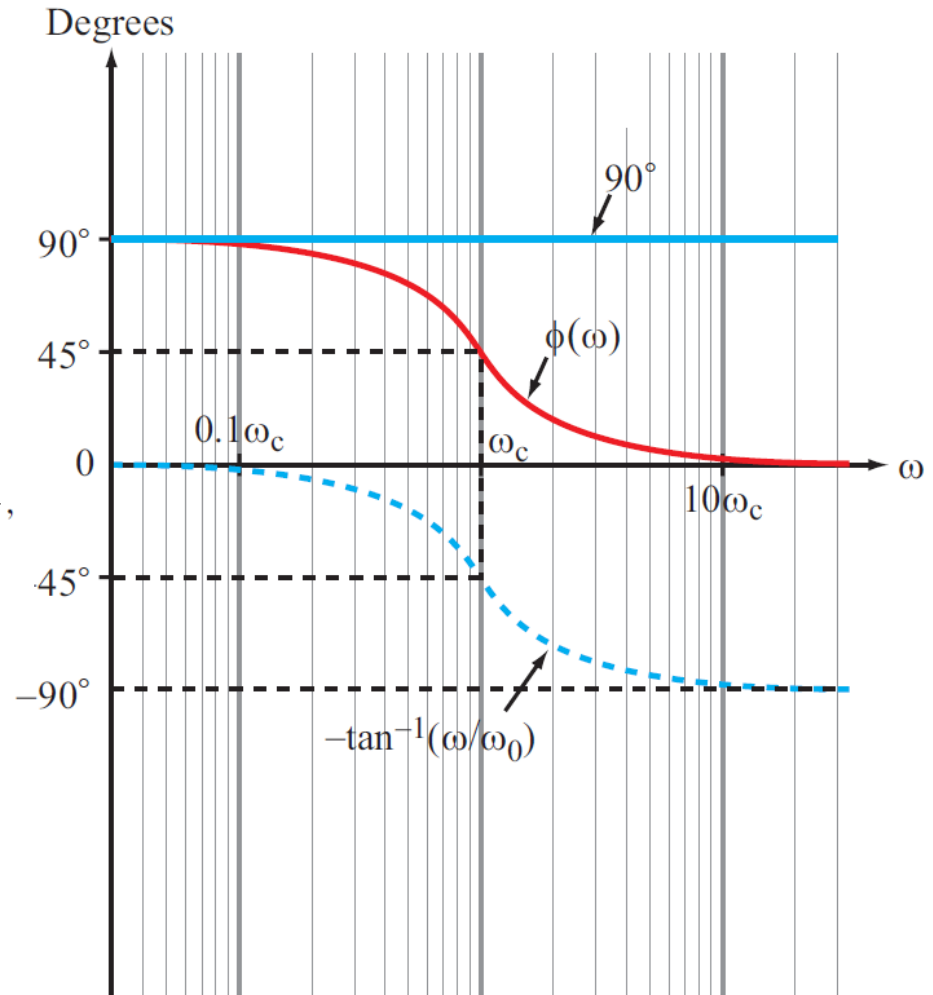


(a) RL circuit

$$\mathbf{H} = \frac{\mathbf{V}_{out}}{\mathbf{V}_s} = \frac{j\omega L}{R + j\omega L} = \frac{j(\omega/\omega_c)}{1 + j(\omega/\omega_c)},$$

with $\omega_c = R/L$.

$$\phi(\omega) = 90^\circ - \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{\omega}{\omega_c}\right)$$

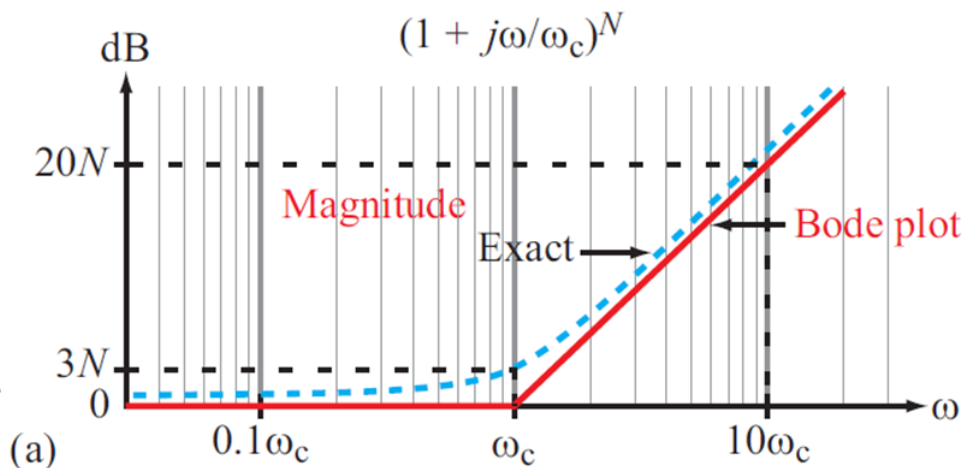


(c) Phase plot

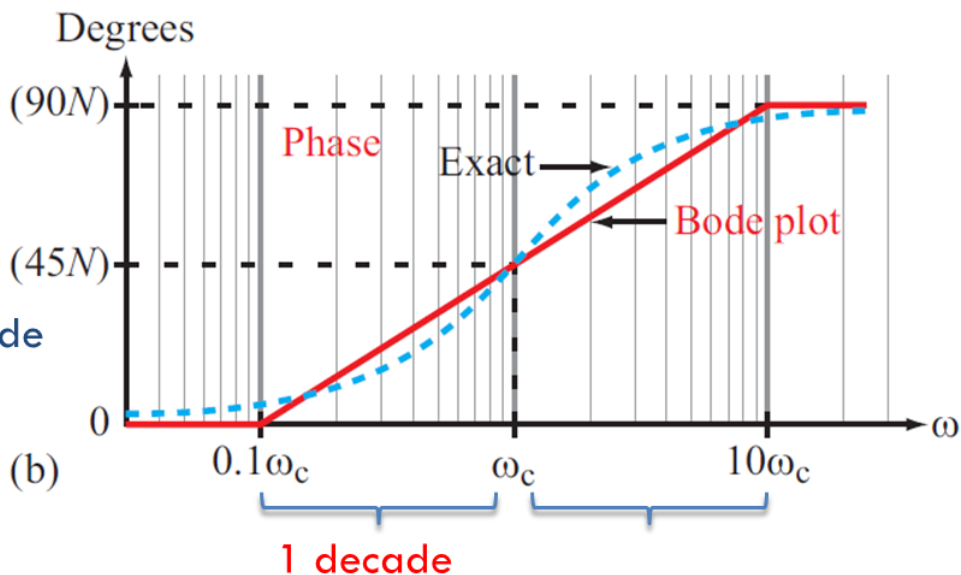
Bode Plots – Straight Line Approximations

Simple zero: $H = (1 + j\omega/\omega_c)^N$

Bode Magnitude Slope = **20N** dB per decade



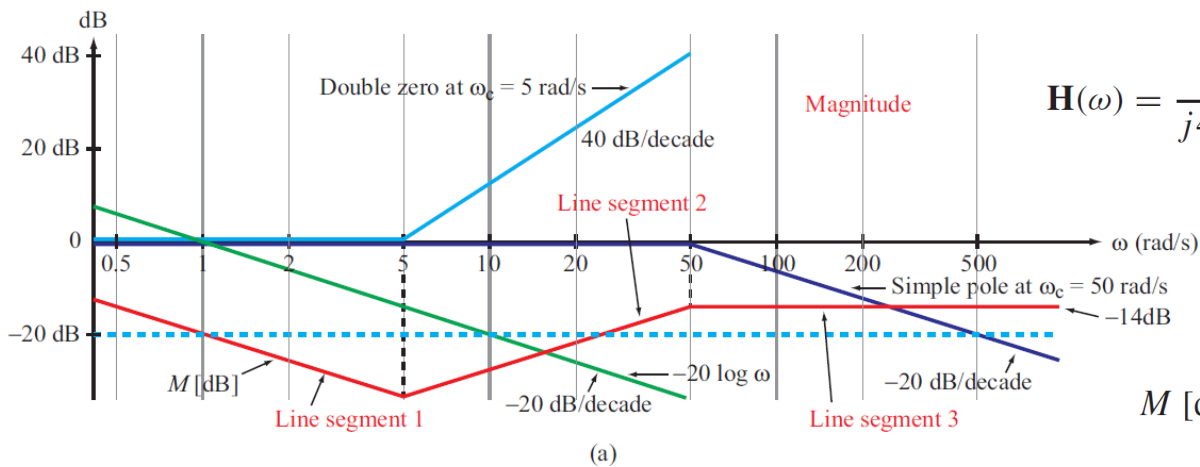
Bode Phase Slope = **45N** degrees per decade



Bode Factors

Factor	Bode Magnitude	Bode Phase
Constant K	$20 \log K$ 0 dB	$\pm 180^\circ$ if $K < 0$ 0° if $K > 0$
Zero @ Origin $(j\omega)^N$	0 dB slope = $20N$ dB/decade	$(90N)^\circ$ 0°
Pole @ Origin $(j\omega)^{-N}$	0 dB slope = $-20N$ dB/decade	0° $(-90N)^\circ$
Simple Zero $(1 + j\omega/\omega_c)^N$	0 dB slope = $20N$ dB/decade	0° $(90N)^\circ$
Simple Pole $\left(\frac{1}{1 + j\omega/\omega_c}\right)^N$	0 dB slope = $-20N$ dB/decade	0° $(-90N)^\circ$
Quadratic Zero $[1 + j2\xi\omega/\omega_c + (j\omega/\omega_c)^2]^N$	0 dB slope = $40N$ dB/decade	0° $(180N)^\circ$
Quadratic Pole $\frac{1}{[1 + j2\xi\omega/\omega_c + (j\omega/\omega_c)^2]^N}$	0 dB slope = $-40N$ dB/decade	0° $(-180N)^\circ$

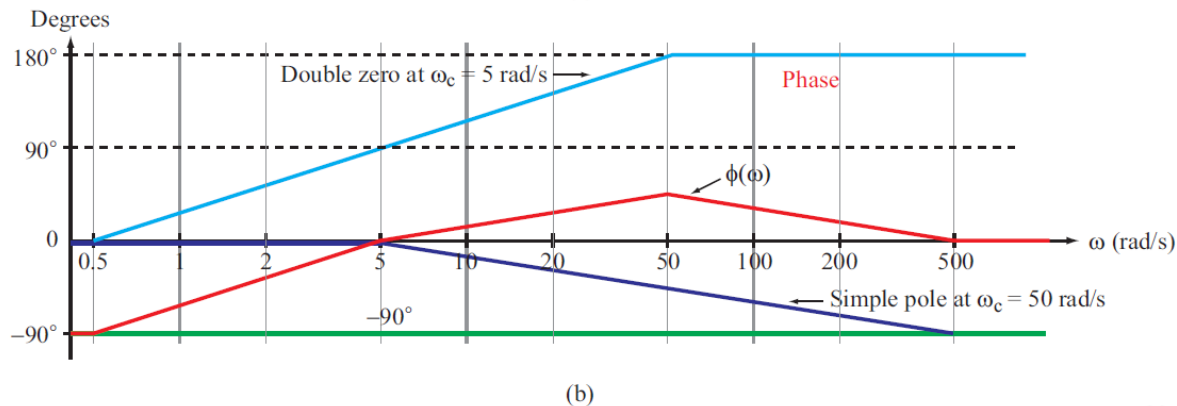
Example: Bode Plots



$$\mathbf{H}(\omega) = \frac{400(1 + j\omega/5)^2}{j4000\omega(1 + j\omega/50)} = \frac{-j0.1(1 + j\omega/5)^2}{\omega(1 + j\omega/50)}$$

$$M [\text{dB}] = 20 \log |\mathbf{H}|$$

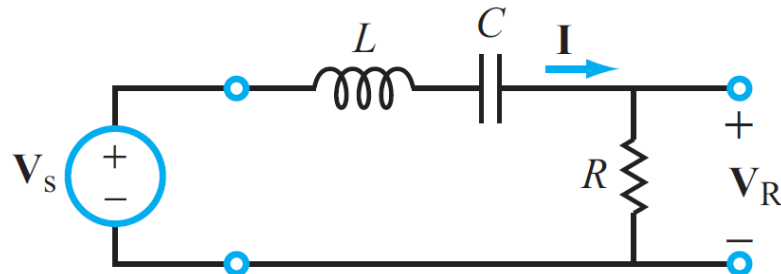
$$\begin{aligned} &= 20 \log 0.1 + 40 \log |1 + j\omega/5| \\ &\quad - 20 \log \omega - 20 \log |1 + j\omega/50| \\ &= -20 \text{ dB} + 40 \log |1 + j\omega/5| \\ &\quad - 20 \log \omega - 20 \log |1 + j\omega/50|. \end{aligned}$$



$$\phi = -90^\circ + 2 \tan^{-1} \frac{\omega}{5} - \tan^{-1} \frac{\omega}{50}$$

Bandpass RLC Filter

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{I} &= \frac{\mathbf{V}_s}{R + j(\omega L - \frac{1}{\omega C})} \\ &= \frac{j\omega C \mathbf{V}_s}{(1 - \omega^2 LC) + j\omega RC} \end{aligned}$$



$$\mathbf{H}_{BP}(\omega) = \frac{\mathbf{V}_R}{\mathbf{V}_s} = \frac{R\mathbf{I}}{\mathbf{V}_s} = \frac{j\omega RC}{(1 - \omega^2 LC) + j\omega RC}$$

$$M_{BP}(\omega) = |\mathbf{H}_{BP}(\omega)| = \frac{\omega RC}{\sqrt{(1 - \omega^2 LC)^2 + \omega^2 R^2 C^2}}$$

$$\phi_R(\omega) = 90^\circ - \tan^{-1} \left[\frac{\omega RC}{1 - \omega^2 LC} \right]$$

$$\omega_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{LC}}.$$

$$B = \omega_{c2} - \omega_{c1} = \frac{R}{L}.$$

$$\omega_{c1} = -\frac{R}{2L} + \sqrt{\left(\frac{R}{2L}\right)^2 + \frac{1}{LC}},$$

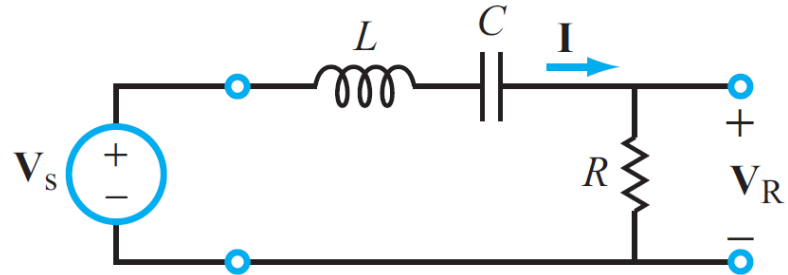
$$\omega_{c2} = \frac{R}{2L} + \sqrt{\left(\frac{R}{2L}\right)^2 + \frac{1}{LC}}.$$

Filter Q

Quality Factor Q : characterizes degree of selectivity of a circuit

$$Q = 2\pi \left(\frac{W_{\text{stor}}}{W_{\text{diss}}} \right) \bigg|_{\omega=\omega_0},$$

where W_{stor} is *the maximum energy that can be **stored*** in the circuit at resonance ($\omega = \omega_0$), and W_{diss} is *the **energy dissipated*** by the circuit during a single period T .

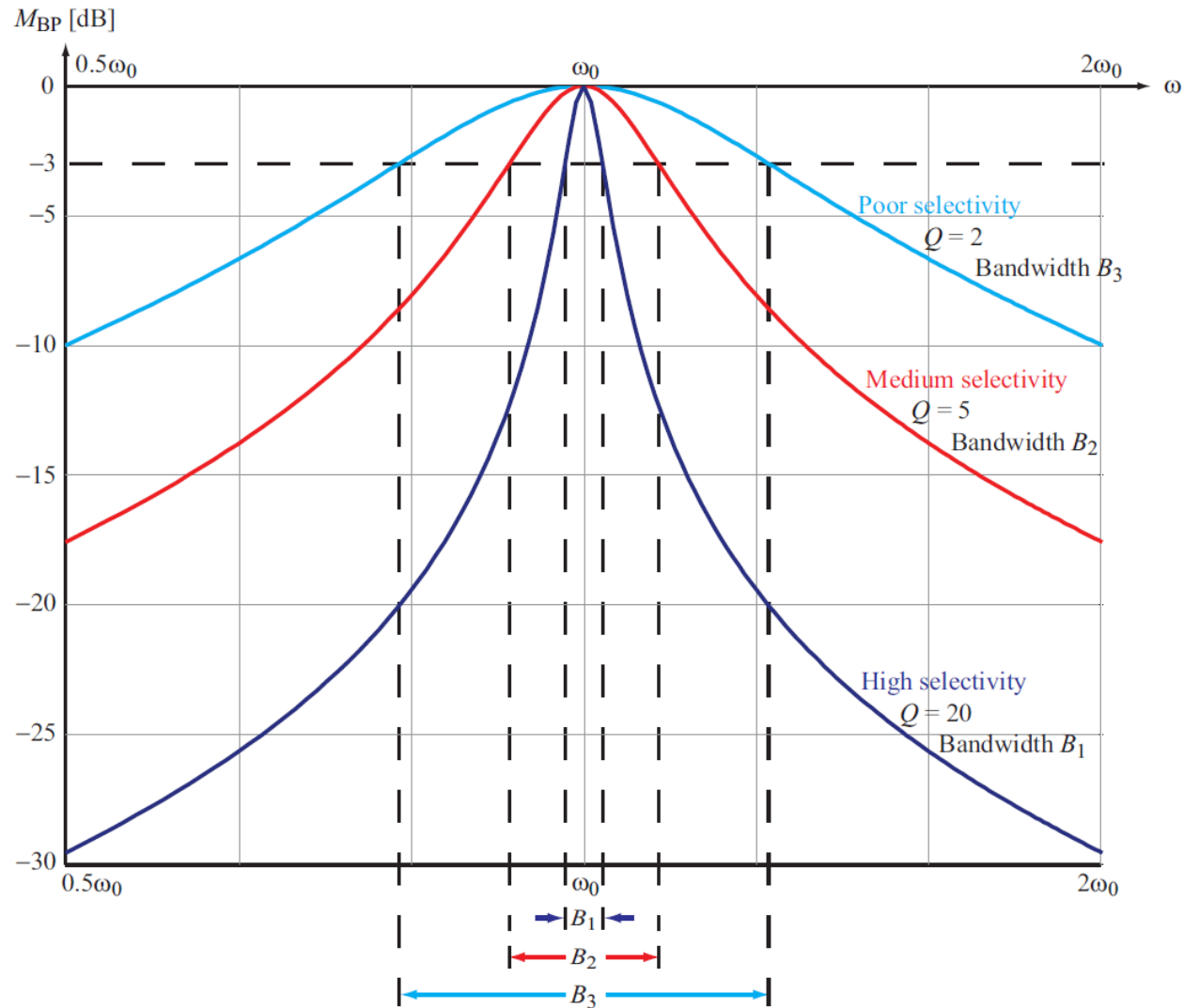


$$Q = \frac{\omega_0 L}{R} = \frac{\omega_0}{B},$$

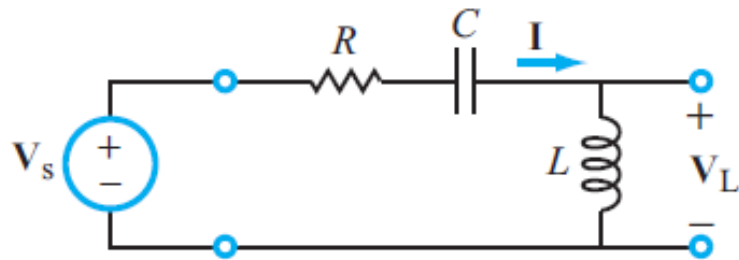
Resonant frequency

Bandwidth

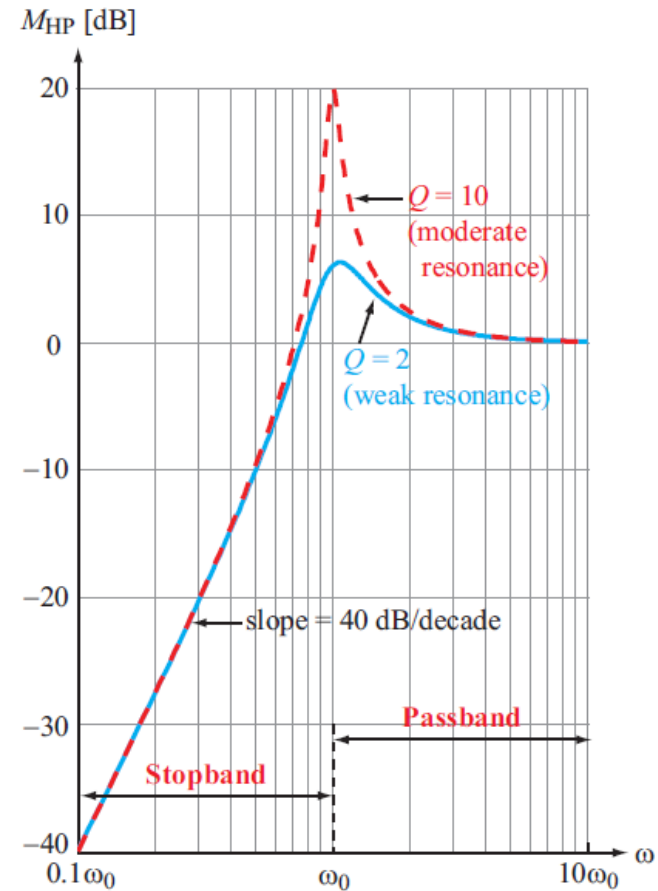
Effect of Q



Highpass Filter

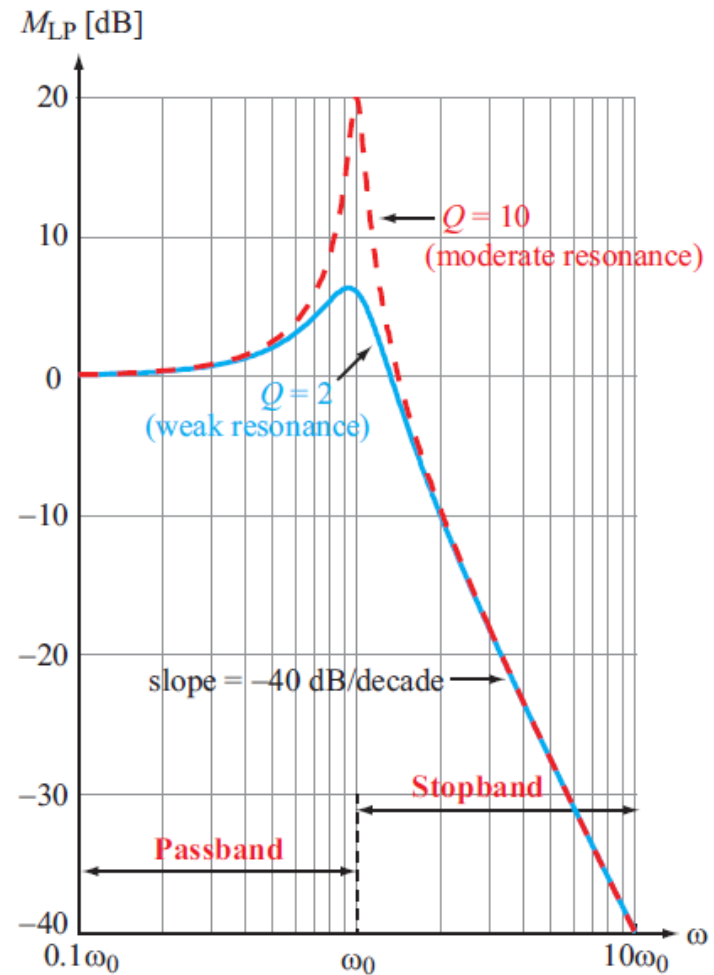
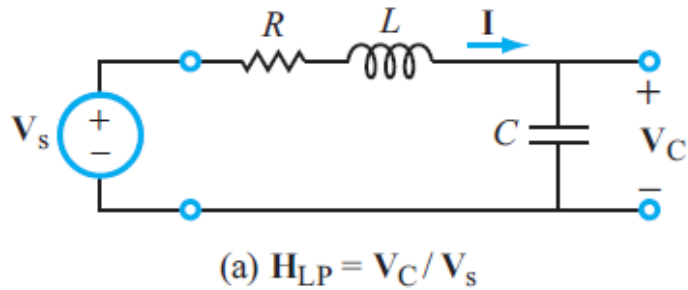


(a) $H_{HP} = V_L / V_s$

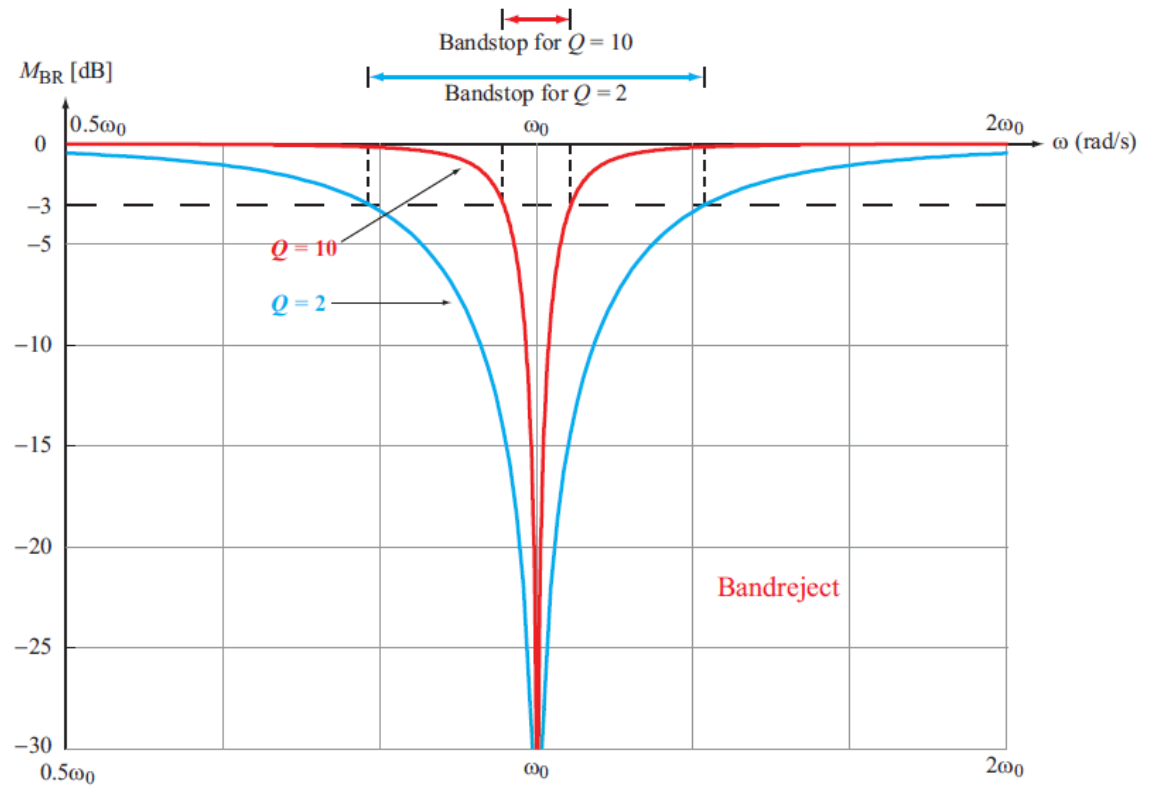
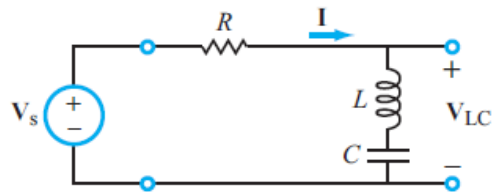


(b) Magnitude spectrum

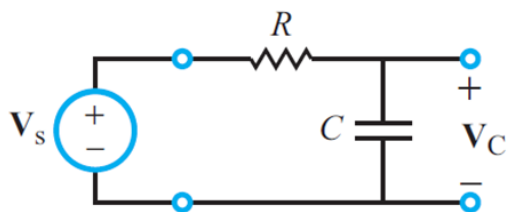
Lowpass Filter



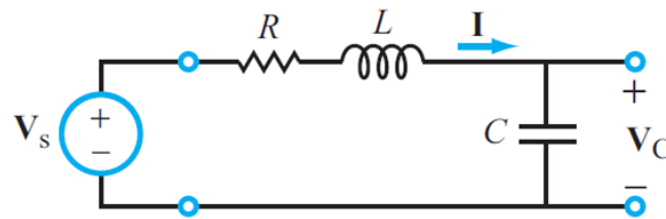
Bandreject Filter



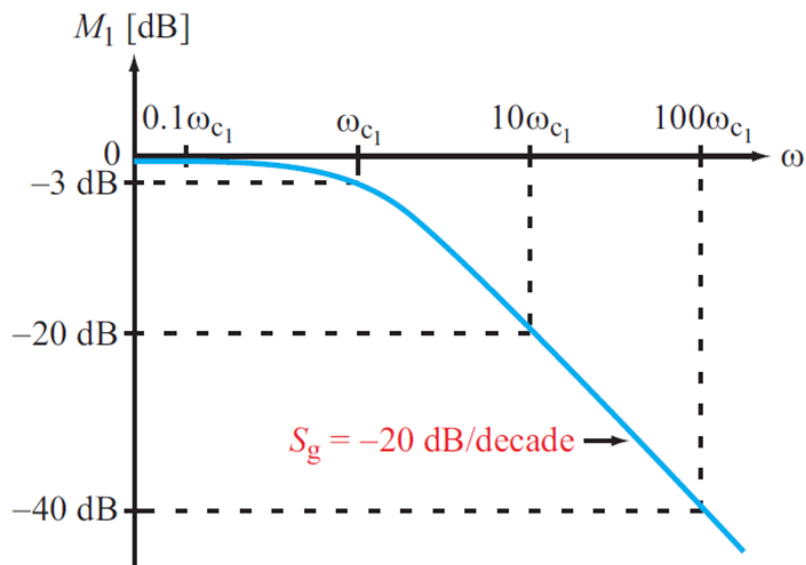
Filter Order



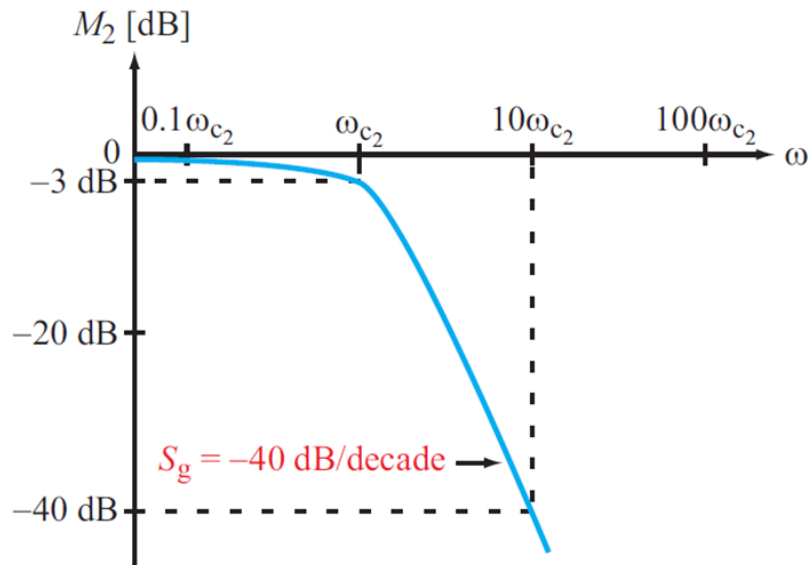
(a) First-order filter



(c) Second-order filter



(b) Response of first-order filter



(d) Response of second-order filter

Active Filter - Lowpass

$$\mathbf{V}_{\text{out}} = -\frac{\mathbf{Z}_f}{\mathbf{Z}_s} \mathbf{V}_s$$

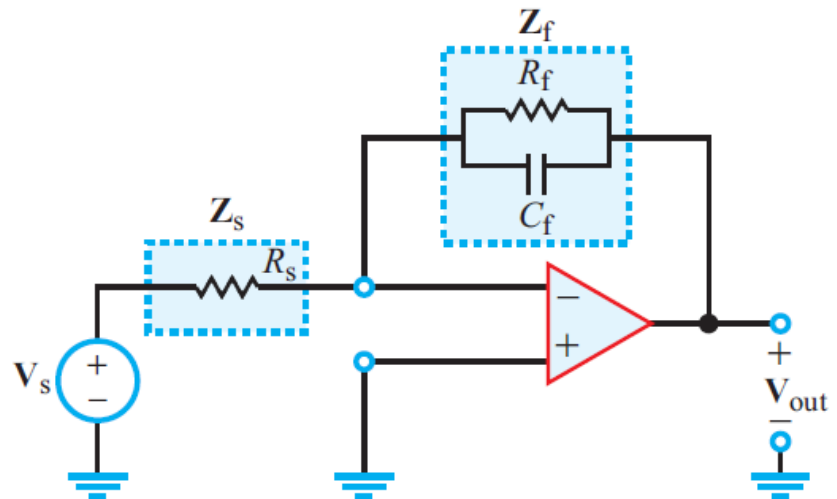
$$\mathbf{Z}_f = R_f \parallel \left(\frac{1}{j\omega C_f} \right) = \frac{R_f}{1 + j\omega R_f C_f}. \quad (9.87b)$$

The transfer function of the circuit, which we soon will recognize as that of a lowpass filter, is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{H}_{\text{LP}}(\omega) = \frac{\mathbf{V}_{\text{out}}}{\mathbf{V}_s} &= -\frac{\mathbf{Z}_f}{\mathbf{Z}_s} = -\frac{R_f}{R_s} \left(\frac{1}{1 + j\omega R_f C_f} \right) \\ &= G_{\text{LP}} \left(\frac{1}{1 + j\omega/\omega_{\text{LP}}} \right), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$G_{\text{LP}} = -\frac{R_f}{R_s}, \quad \omega_{\text{LP}} = \frac{1}{R_f C_f}.$$



Active Filter - Highpass

$$\mathbf{Z}_s = R_s - \frac{j}{\omega C_s} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{Z}_f = R_f, \quad (9.90)$$

as shown in Fig. 9-24, we would obtain the highpass-filter transfer function given by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{H}_{\text{HP}}(\omega) &= \frac{\mathbf{V}_{\text{out}}}{\mathbf{V}_s} = -\frac{\mathbf{Z}_f}{\mathbf{Z}_s} = -\frac{R_f}{R_s - j/\omega C_s} \\ &= G_{\text{HP}} \left[\frac{j\omega/\omega_{\text{HP}}}{1 + j\omega/\omega_{\text{HP}}} \right], \end{aligned} \quad (9.91)$$

$$G_{\text{HP}} = -\frac{R_f}{R_s} \quad \text{and} \quad \omega_{\text{HP}} = \frac{1}{R_s C_s}.$$

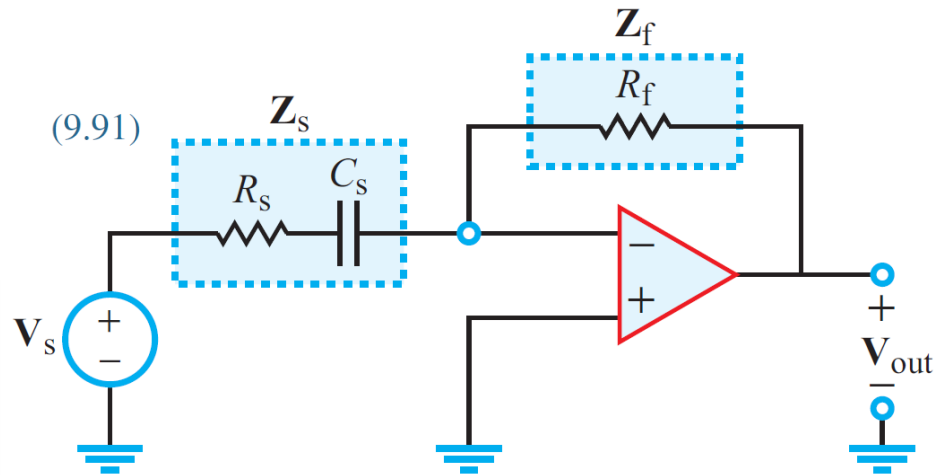
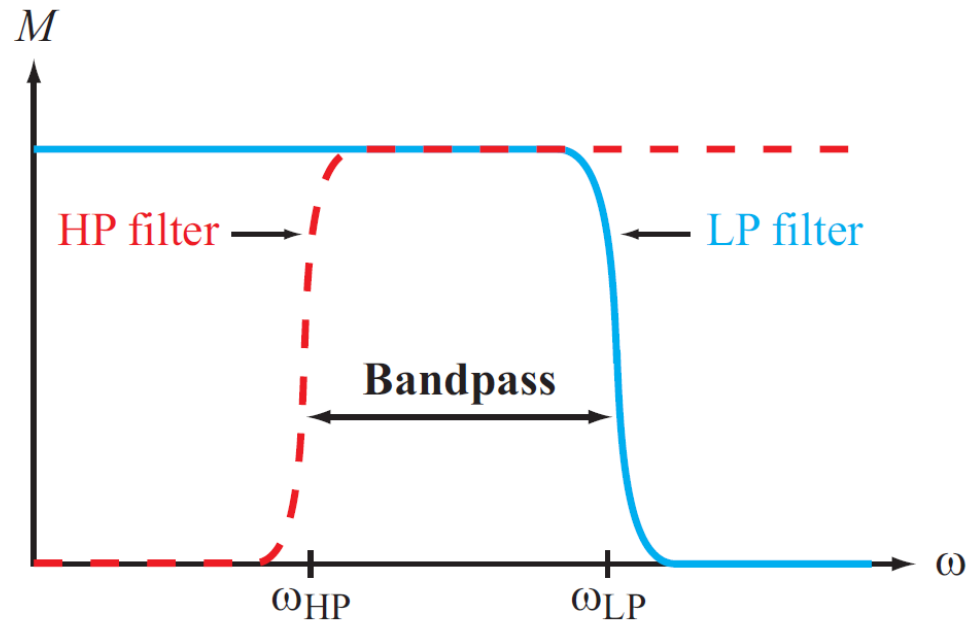
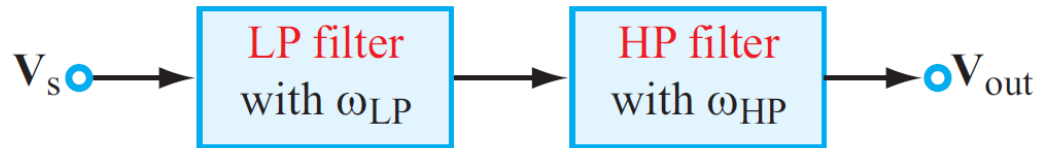


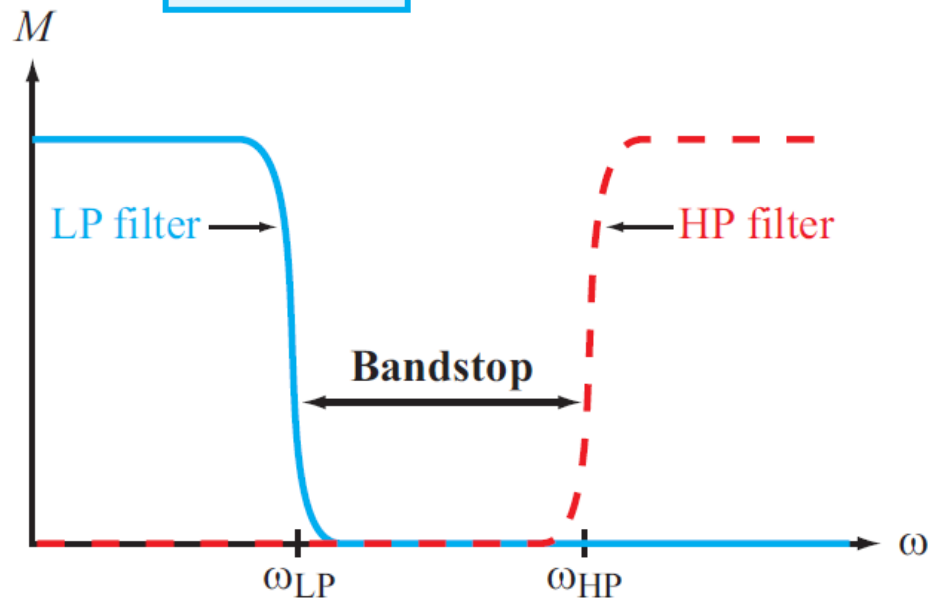
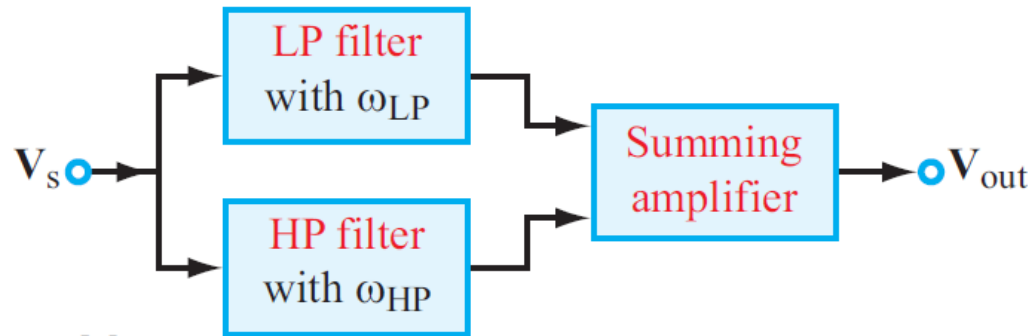
Figure 9-24: Single-pole active highpass filter.

Cascading Filters



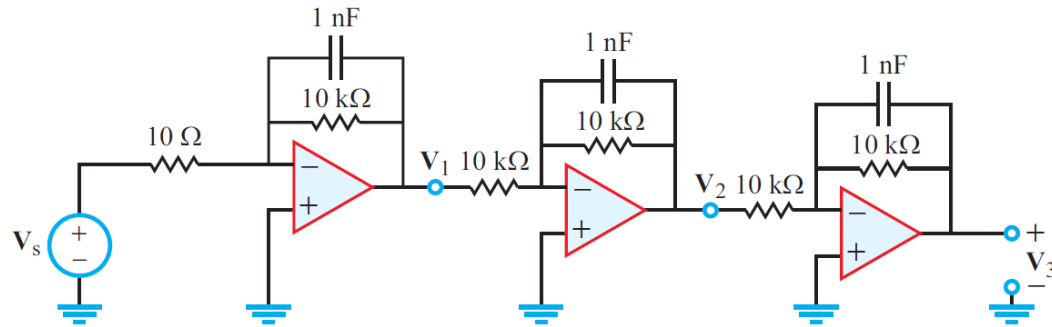
(a) Bandpass filter

Cascading Filters



(b) Bandreject filter

Example: 3rd order lowpass filter



(a) Circuit diagram

