
8. Frequency Domain Analysis – Nyquist & Bode

8.1 Introduction

- Previous work, both in this module and the first year EE114 module, concentrated on time-domain analysis, where the output of a system and its behavior were viewed and analysed from the perspective of time.
- The **frequency response** method offers a practical and important alternative approach to the design and analysis of a system.
- Here, the **response of a system is considered for sinusoidal inputs across the whole range of frequencies**.
- The resulting output waveforms for a **linear** system are sinusoidal in steady-state. They differ from the inputs only in **amplitude** and **phase angle**.
- **Frequency response is a steady-state output**. Thus, performance measures such as peak overshoot, settling time, etc. are not used here.
- One advantage of the frequency response method is the ready availability of sinusoid test signals for various ranges of frequencies and amplitudes.
- Thus the experimental determination of the frequency response of a system is easily obtained and is the most reliable and uncomplicated method for the **experimental analysis of a system**.
- A second advantage is that the transfer function describing the sinusoidal steady-state behaviour of a system can be obtained by simply replacing s with $j\omega$ in the system transfer function, i.e. $G(s) \rightarrow G(j\omega)$.
- This property exists because of the close relationship between Laplace and Fourier transforms – see text book for details.
- The magnitude and phase of the complex function $G(j\omega)$ are readily represented by graphical plots that provide important insight into the analysis and design of control systems.
- Here, we are going to consider two different graphical plots, namely the **Nyquist diagram**, and the **Bode plots**. Also, we are only considering continuous-time systems for now.
- *In the case of Bode plots, you will cover (or have already done so!) some examples of these in your circuits module EE215.*

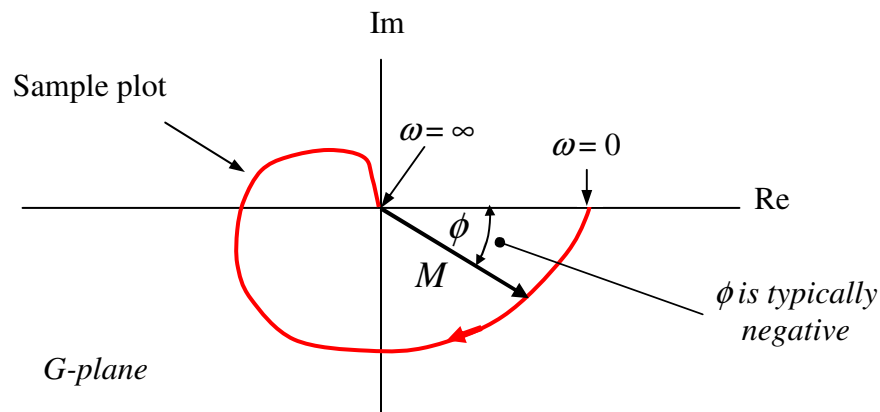
8.2 The Nyquist Diagram

The Nyquist Diagram

- We start with the transfer function $G(s)$ and set $s = j\omega$ to get the frequency response function:

$$G(j\omega) = M \angle \phi \quad (\text{in polar form})$$

- The **Nyquist diagram** gives the **polar plot** as ω varies from $-\infty$ to ∞ .
- *Note – in these lecture notes, the Nyquist plot is only shown for the range 0 to ∞ . The other half ($\omega = -\infty$ to 0) is obtained from symmetry about the real axis. In Matlab, the complete plot is usually shown.*
- A sample Nyquist plot is shown below:



Simple Nyquist Diagram Examples

- The best way of illustrating the Nyquist diagram and Nyquist's criterion is using examples.
- **Example 8.1** – Determine the Nyquist diagram for $G(s) = \frac{k}{1 + sT}$, where T is simply a constant value. Initially assume that $k=1$.
- **Solution:** Substituting $s = j\omega$ gives:

$$G(j\omega) = \frac{1}{1 + j\omega T} = \frac{1 - j\omega T}{1 + \omega^2 T^2} \equiv X + jY$$

$$\text{Thus: } X = \frac{1}{1 + \omega^2 T^2}, \quad Y = \frac{-\omega T}{1 + \omega^2 T^2} \Rightarrow \frac{Y}{X} = -\omega T$$

1、使用 $X + jY$ 的笛卡尔形式

- Substituting the last result into the equation for X gives:

$$X = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{Y^2}{X^2}} = \frac{X^2}{X^2 + Y^2}$$

- Cross-multiplying gives: $X^2 + Y^2 = X$
- By *completing the square*[†], we obtain the expression: $(X - \frac{1}{2})^2 + Y^2 = (\frac{1}{2})^2$ 圆

[†] *Completing the square works as follows:*

Consider the quadratic equation $s^2 + as + b = 0$. We want to complete the square so as to express the equation in the format $(s + x)^2 = y$. How do we do this?

Simple rule: $x = \frac{a}{2}$, i.e. half the coefficient of s , and $y = (\frac{a}{2})^2 - b$.

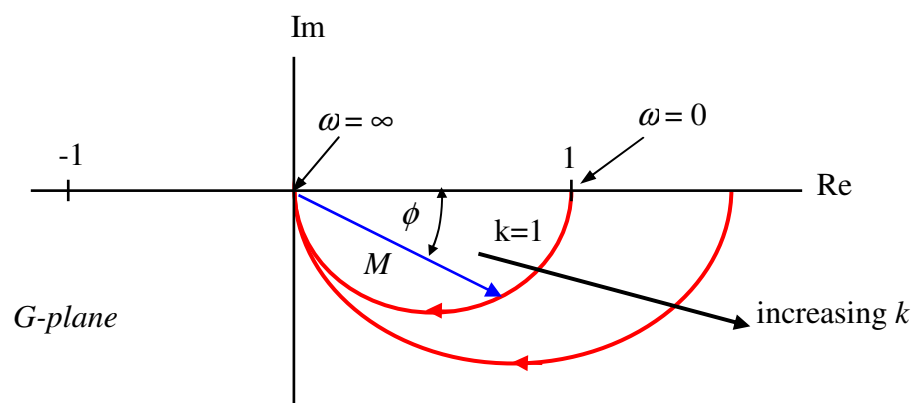
This is easily verified as follow:

$$(s + \frac{a}{2})^2 = (\frac{a}{2})^2 - b \Rightarrow s^2 + as + (\frac{a}{2})^2 = (\frac{a}{2})^2 - b \Rightarrow s^2 + as + b = 0$$

- $(X - \frac{1}{2})^2 + Y^2 = (\frac{1}{2})^2$ represents a circle with centre $(\frac{1}{2}, 0)$ and radius $\frac{1}{2}$. This is the equation of **the nyquist plot for gain $k = 1$** .
- For general value of k , it is easily shown that the equation for the Nyquist plot is:

$$X^2 + Y^2 = kX \text{ or } (X - \frac{k}{2})^2 + Y^2 = (\frac{k}{2})^2$$

- Hence the following Nyquist diagram:



2、使用极坐标形式

比较通用，但是麻烦

- An alternative (and quicker) method** for obtaining the Nyquist plot is through the **use of polar form**, as opposed to the Cartesian form of $X + jY$. Thus:

$$GH(j\omega) = \frac{1}{1 + j\omega T} = \frac{1 \angle 0^\circ}{\sqrt{1 + (\omega T)^2} \angle \tan^{-1}(\omega T)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + (\omega T)^2}} \angle -\tan^{-1}(\omega T) \equiv M \angle \phi$$

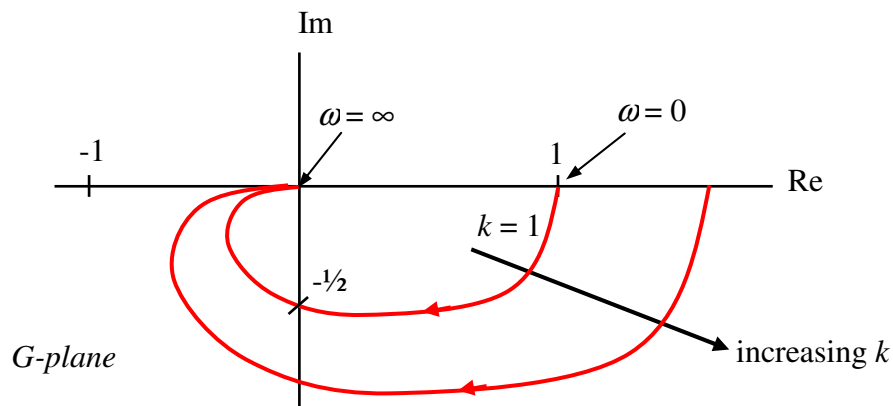
- When $\omega = 0$, $M = 1$ and $\phi = 0^\circ$.
- When $\omega = \infty$, $M = 0$ and $\phi = -90^\circ$.
- When $\omega = \frac{1}{T}$, $M = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ and $\phi = -45^\circ$.
- Thus, for $k = 1$, the plot starts at a phase $\phi = 0^\circ$ and a magnitude $M = 1$ and ends at $\phi = -90^\circ$ and $M = 0$.
- Using a number of other values for ω , we can easily trace out the Nyquist plot, as shown earlier.
- **Example 8.2** - Use Nyquist's criterion to determine the range of values of k for which the system is stable, given that $G(s) = \frac{1}{(1 + sT)^2}$.

- **Solution (using polar form):**

$$GH(j\omega) = \frac{1}{(1 + j\omega T)^2} = \frac{1 \angle 0^\circ}{\left(\sqrt{1 + (\omega T)^2}\right)^2 \angle 2 \cdot \tan^{-1}(\omega T)}$$

$$\Rightarrow GH(j\omega) = \frac{1}{1 + (\omega T)^2} \angle -2 \cdot \tan^{-1}(\omega T)$$

- For $\omega = 0$, $GH(j0) = 1 \angle 0^\circ$
- For $\omega = \frac{1}{T}$, $GH(j\frac{1}{T}) = \frac{1}{2} \angle -90^\circ$
- For $\omega \rightarrow \infty$, $GH(j\infty) \rightarrow \frac{1}{\infty} \angle -180^\circ = 0 \angle -180^\circ$
- We can now deduce that the Nyquist plot starts at $(1, j0)$, passes through $(0, -j\frac{1}{2})$ and approaches the origin along the **negative real axis**, since the angle of the end point is -180° (had it been -90° , for example, then it would have been approaching along the negative imaginary axis instead!).
- As gain k increases, the magnitude (which is the distance from the origin to the curve) will move out along a radial line as shown in the diagram below:



- For combinations of systems (e.g. first-order systems),

$$G(s) = G_1(s)G_2(s)G_3(s)$$

represent each in polar form:

$$G(s) = r_1 e^{j\theta_1} r_2 e^{j\theta_2} r_3 e^{j\theta_3} = r_1 r_2 r_3 e^{j(\theta_1 + \theta_2 + \theta_3)}$$

- Example

$$G(s) = \frac{1}{(1+sT)^2} = \frac{1}{1+sT} \cdot \frac{1}{1+sT}$$

- Each term is represented by a semi-circle and the resultant plot is obtained by **multiplying** the magnitudes and **adding** the phase angles:

$$\text{Start: Magnitude (M)} = 1.1 = 1 \quad \& \quad \text{Phase } (\phi) = 0^\circ + 0^\circ = 0^\circ$$

$$\text{End: Magnitude (M)} = 0.0 = 0 \quad \& \quad \text{Phase } (\phi) = -90^\circ + -90^\circ = -180^\circ$$

- Thus the resultant plot (for $k = 1$) starts at $(1, j0)$ and ends at the origin (i.e. zero magnitude) with a phase angle of -180° (as before!).

- Example 8.3** – Plot the Nyquist diagram for $G(s) = \frac{k}{(1+sT)^3}$. Initially assume $k=1$.

- Solution:** Here, we will deduce the plot from that of the first-order system:

$$G(s) = \frac{1}{(1+sT)^3} = \frac{1}{1+sT} \cdot \frac{1}{1+sT} \cdot \frac{1}{1+sT}$$

- Magnitude is:

$$|G(j\omega)| = \frac{1}{|1+j\omega T|} \cdot \frac{1}{|1+j\omega T|} \cdot \frac{1}{|1+j\omega T|} = 1/\left(\sqrt{1+\omega^2 T^2}\right)^3$$

- Phase is:

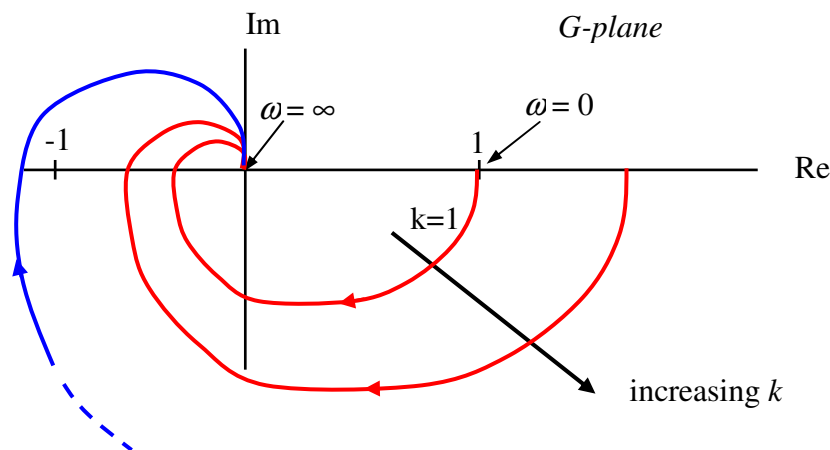
$$Phase(G(j\omega)) = -\tan^{-1}(\omega T) - \tan^{-1}(\omega T) - \tan^{-1}(\omega T) = -3\tan^{-1}(\omega T)$$

- The resultant plot is obtained by multiplying the magnitudes and adding the phase angles:

Start: Magnitude (M) = 1.1.1 = 1

End: Phase (ϕ) = $-90^\circ + -90^\circ + -90^\circ = -270^\circ$

- In between the start and end points, need to put values for ω into expressions for magnitude and phase.
- Thus the resultant plot (for $k = 1$) starts at (1, j0) and ends at the origin (i.e. zero magnitude) with a phase angle of -270° as shown below:



- As gain k increases the magnitude (which is the distance from the origin to the curve) will move out along a radial line.

Numerical example

Plot the frequency response of the system:

$$G(s) = \frac{1+10s}{(1+s)(1+2s)(1+4s)} = \frac{1}{1+s} \cdot \frac{1}{1+2s} \cdot \frac{1}{1+4s} \cdot \frac{1+10s}{1}$$

Magnitude:

$$|G(j\omega)| = \frac{1}{|1+j\omega|} \cdot \frac{1}{|1+j\omega 2|} \cdot \frac{1}{|1+j\omega 4|} \cdot |1+j\omega 10| = \frac{\sqrt{1+\omega^2 100}}{\sqrt{1+\omega^2} \sqrt{1+\omega^2 4} \sqrt{1+\omega^2 16}}$$

Phase:

$$Phase(G(j\omega)) = -\tan^{-1}(\omega) - \tan^{-1}(2\omega) - \tan^{-1}(4\omega) + \tan^{-1}(10\omega)$$

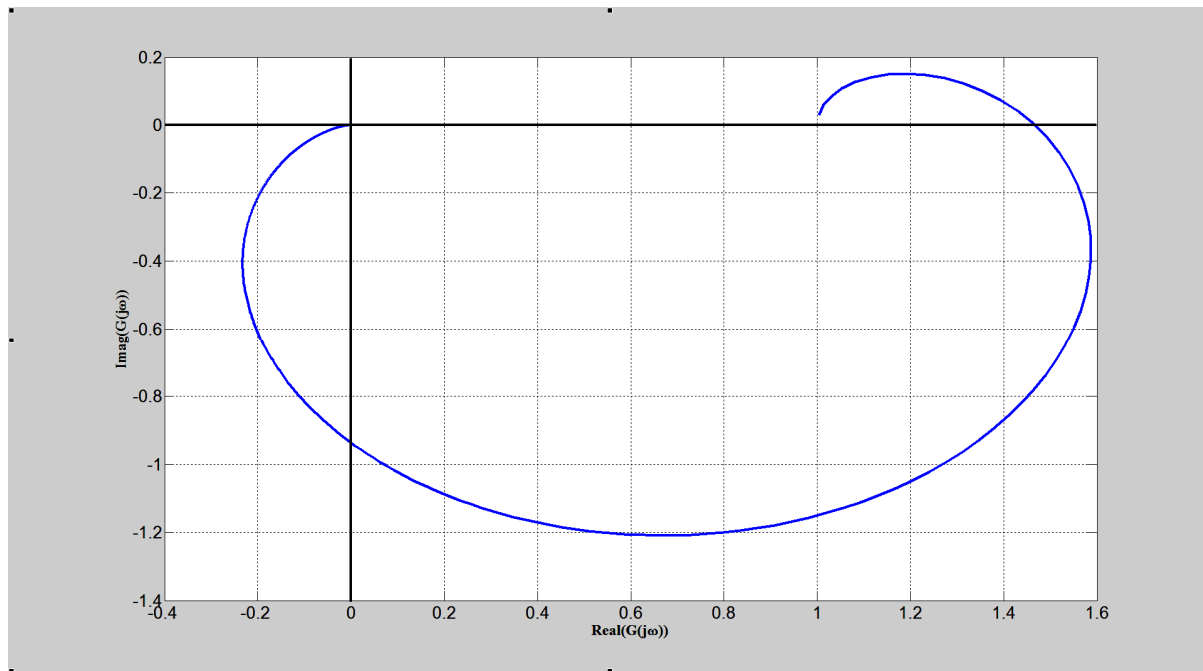


Figure generated using:

`sys = zpk([-1/10],[-1 -1/2 -1/4],1.25) ----> Zero/pole/gain:`
`1.25 (s+0.1)`

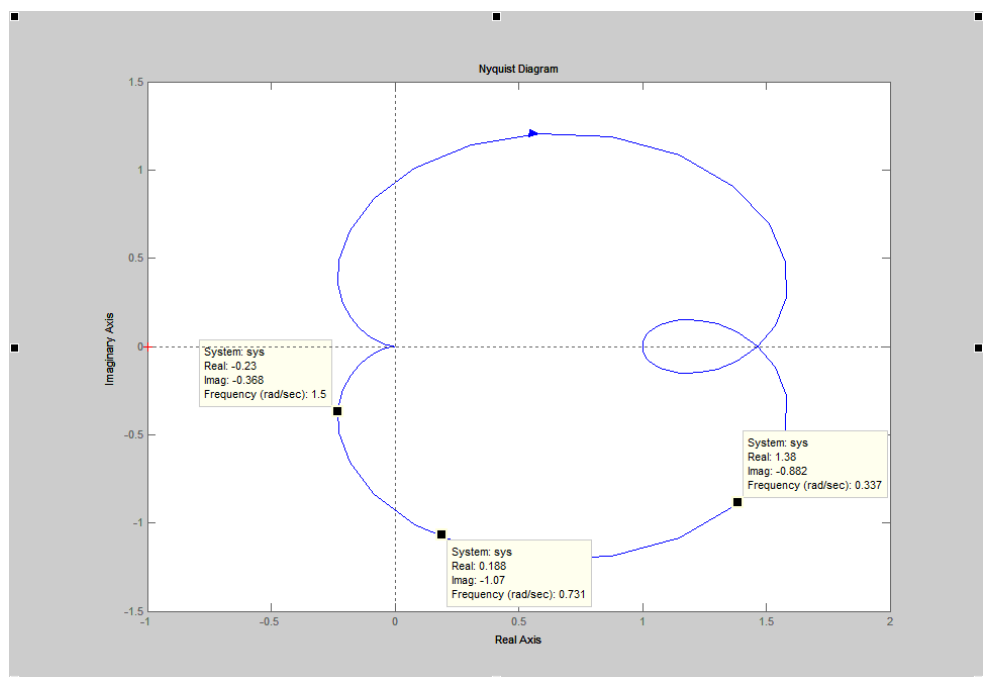
`(s+1) (s+0.5) (s+0.25)`

`w = 0.01*(1:10000);`
`H = freqresp(sys,w);`
`NewH = squeeze(H);`
`Mag = abs(NewH);`
`Ang = angle(NewH);`
`polar(Ang,Mag)`

OR

`ReH = real(NewH);`
`ImH = imag(NewH);`

`nyquist(sys) ---->`



A key issue is choosing the correct frequency points!

Initially, choose $\omega = 0, \infty, 0.01, 0.1, 1, 10, 100$, then fill in gaps in plot!

8.3 Bode Diagrams

- Bode diagrams are an alternative means of representing frequency plots.
- They are much easier to draw than polar frequency plots as they are essentially asymptotic diagrams which consist of straight lines.
- In Bode diagrams, the magnitude (in decibels, dB) and the phase angle are plotted separately as functions of frequency. Thus, two diagrams are required.
- The gain in decibels is given by $M_{dB} = 20 \log_{10} |GH(j\omega)|$.
- Since the logarithm of a product is the sum of the logarithms of the factors, i.e. $\log(ab) = \log(a) + \log(b)$, combining factors is a matter of simple addition.
- Hence the Bode Diagram is a very useful technique for complex transfer functions.
- The table below shows several values of M and their dB equivalent:

M	1	2	4	8	10	0.5	0.1
M_{dB}	0	6	12	18	20	-6	-20

Amplification
(+ve dB, $M > 1$)
 Attenuation
(-ve dB, $M < 1$)

- Note that doubling M is equivalent to +6 dB and halving M gives -6 dB.
- Note also that $M \times 10$ is equivalent to +20 dB and $M / 10$ gives -20 dB.
- To fit a wide range on to the frequency response graphs, we use logarithm scale graph paper.
- Hence, we plot magnitude and phase against $\log_{10}\omega$ rather than ω itself.

Simple Bode Diagram Examples

- **Example 8.7** – Determine the Bode diagram for the low pass filter (LPF) given by the transfer function:

$$G(s) = \frac{1}{1 + s\tau}, \quad G(j\omega) = \frac{1}{1 + j\omega\tau}$$

where τ is simply a constant value (it actually represents the time constant of the filter network).

- The logarithmic gain is given by:

$$M_{dB} = 20 \log |G(j\omega)| = 20 \log \left(\frac{1}{1 + (\omega\tau)^2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} = -10 \log(1 + (\omega\tau)^2) \quad **$$

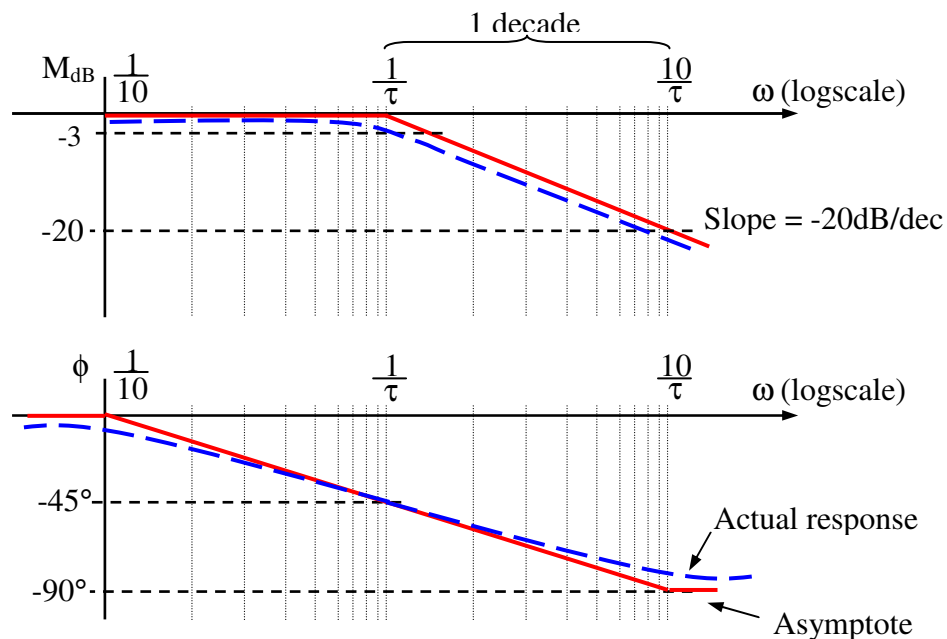
Recall that: $20 \log_{10}(1/X)^Y = -20 Y \log_{10}(X)$

- The phase is: $\phi = -\tan^{-1}(\omega\tau)$
- For $\omega \ll \frac{1}{\tau}$ (i.e. $\omega\tau \ll 1$): $\phi = 0^\circ$ and $M_{dB} = -10 \log(1) = 0 \text{ dB}$
- For $\omega \gg \frac{1}{\tau}$ (i.e. $\omega\tau \gg 1$): $\phi = -90^\circ$ and

$$M_{dB} = -10 \log (\omega\tau)^2 = -20 \log (\omega\tau) \text{ dB} \Rightarrow M_{dB} = -20 \log (\omega) - 20 \log (\tau)$$

This is equivalent to $y = mx + c$, i.e. M_{dB} is a straight line of slope -20 dB / decade

- For $\omega = \frac{1}{\tau}$: $\phi = -45^\circ$ and $M_{dB} = -10 \log(2) \approx -3 \text{ dB}$ (from **)
- Hence, the **asymptotic Bode diagram** for the LPF can now be drawn as follows:



- Note that $\omega = \frac{1}{\tau}$ is often referred to as the **corner frequency** or the **break frequency**.
- Here, the bandwidth is $\frac{1}{\tau}$. In general, it is defined as the frequency range over which $M_{dB} > -3 \text{ dB}$.

- A piecewise linear phase approximation is not as easy because the high and low frequency asymptotes don't intersect. Instead we use a rule that follows the exact function fairly closely, but is also arbitrary. Its main advantage is that it is easy to remember. The rule can be stated as: ***Follow the low frequency asymptote until one tenth the break frequency ($0.1 \frac{1}{\tau}$) then decrease linearly to meet the high frequency asymptote at ten times the break frequency ($10 \frac{1}{\tau}$).*** Note that there is no error at the break frequency and about 5.7° of error at one tenth and ten times the break frequency.
- **Exercise:** Sketch the Bode diagram for a system with transfer function $(1+5s)^{-1}$. Note that analytical detail is not required!
- **Example 8.8** – Determine the Bode diagram for the transfer function of a pure integrator, $G(j\omega) = \frac{1}{j\omega\tau}$.

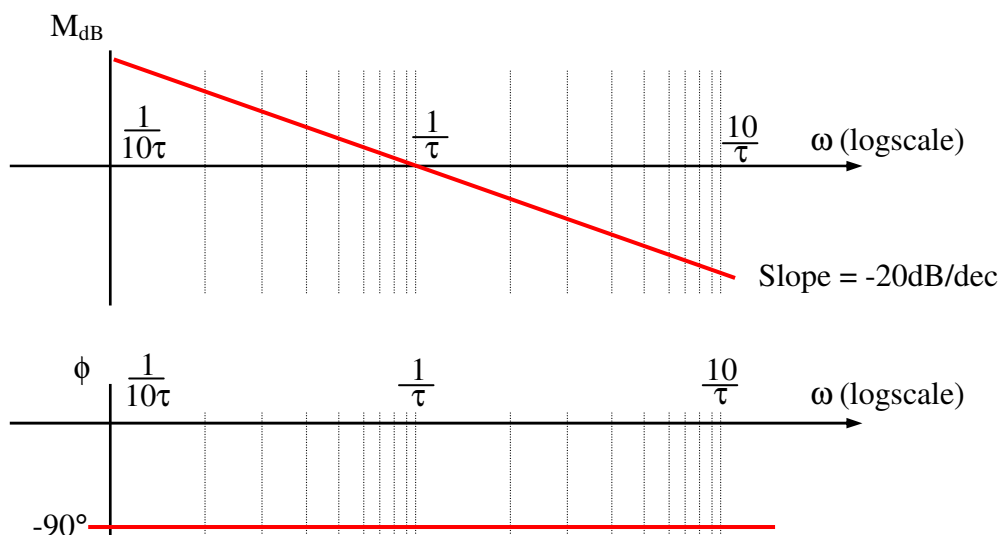
- **Solution:**

$$\phi = -90^\circ \quad \text{and}$$

$$M_{dB} = -20 \log(\omega\tau) \text{ dB} = -20 \log(\omega) - 20 \log(\tau)$$

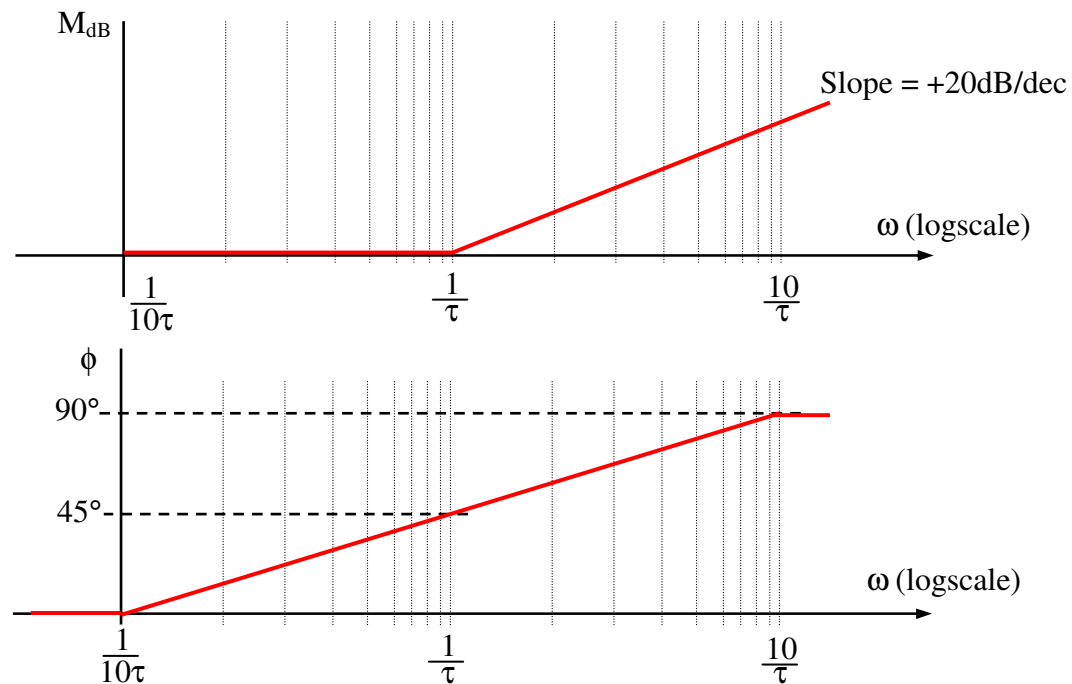
i.e. M_{dB} is a straight line of slope -20 dB / decade

- For $\omega = \frac{1}{\tau}$, the logarithmic gain is 0 dB.
- Hence, the asymptotic Bode diagrams for the pure integrator can now be drawn as follows:

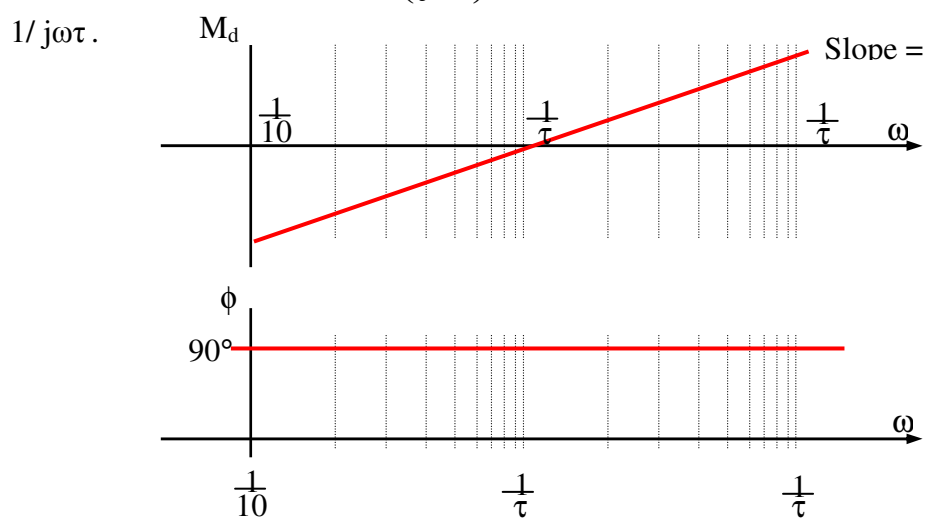


- **Exercise:** Sketch the Bode diagram for a system with transfer function $(0.2s)^{-1}$.
- **Example 8.9** – Determine the Bode diagram for the transfer function $G(j\omega) = 1 + j\omega\tau$.

- **Solution:** Note that $\log\left(\frac{1}{1+j\omega\tau}\right) = -\log(1+j\omega\tau)$.
- Hence the bode diagram for $1+j\omega\tau$ is simply the negative of the plot for $1/(1+j\omega\tau)$.



- **Exercise:** Sketch the Bode diagram for a system with transfer function $(1+5s)$.
- **Example 8.10** – Determine the Bode diagram for the transfer function $G(j\omega) = j\omega\tau$.
- **Solution:** Again, note that $\log\left(\frac{1}{j\omega\tau}\right) = -\log(j\omega\tau) \Rightarrow$ negative of the plot for $1/j\omega\tau$.



- **Exercise:** Sketch the Bode diagram for a system with transfer function $(0.2s)$.

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- One of the main advantages of using Bode plots is that the frequency response of more complicated networks can easily be constructed by superposition (see example below).
 - The Bode diagrams in the last four examples provide the *basic building blocks* for more complicated transfer functions.
 - **Note** – you should be able to easily and quickly sketch the bode diagrams of the basic building blocks.
 - **The shape of each one will always remain the same - only the break frequency value will differ for different examples.**
 - **Example 8.11** – Determine the asymptotic Bode diagram for the following transfer function:

$$GH(j\omega) = \frac{50}{j\omega(5 + j\omega)^2}$$

- **Solution:** In order to facilitate the sketching of Bode diagrams it is often desirable to express the transfer function in terms such as:

$$\frac{j\omega}{\omega_1} \text{ or } 1 + \frac{j\omega}{\omega_1}$$

where ω_1 is then the break frequency, i.e. the frequency at which the gain is 0 dB.

- Thus, we rewrite the transfer function as follows:

$$GH(j\omega) = \frac{1}{\frac{j\omega}{2} \left(1 + \frac{j\omega}{5}\right)^2}$$

- The factors of this transfer function are an integrator and two identical first-order LPFs.
- Thus, we can construct the Bode diagram of the transfer function from the Bode diagrams of the individual factors as shown in the next diagram.

- **Alternatively:**
$$\frac{50}{j\omega(5 + j\omega)^2} = \frac{2}{j\omega \left(1 + \frac{j\omega}{5}\right)^2}.$$

This consists of one integrator (breakpoint of 1 rad/s), two LPFs (as before) and a gain of 2. The gain needs to be converted to dB, i.e. $20\log_{10}(2) = 6\text{dB}$. This corresponds to a straight line on the gain plot only at 6dB. Adding all the terms together will result in the same final bode diagrams as with the previous breakdown.

