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• **Profile of A**:

- \triangleright Remains constant at its low-frequency value for $ω ≤ ω_1$
- \succ Then drops @ 20 dB/decade till ω_2
- \succ Followed by a drop @ 40 dB/decade till ω_3
- > Then drops @ 60 dB/decade
- Finally crosses 0 dB at ω (= ω_T : unity-gain cutoff frequency) slightly less than $10\omega_3$
- Profile of ϕ :
 - \triangleright Remains zero till $\omega_1/10$
 - > Then drops @ 45 %decade

- \triangleright Reaches -90° at $10\omega_1$
- > Stays constant at -90° till $\omega_2/10^{\circ}$
- \succ Then starts to drop again @ 45 %decade till $10\omega_3$
- ightharpoonup Reaches -180° at $10\omega_2$ (= $\omega_3/10$) and -270° at $10\omega_3$
- Gain Margin (GM) and Phase Margin (PM):
 - > Extremely important terms with regard to stability of a system
 - From the sign and magnitude of these terms, the stability of the system can be predicted

- $ightharpoonup GM = A (dB) (when \phi = -180^{\circ})$
- $PM = 180^{\circ} |\phi| (when A = 0 dB)$
- ➤ In our example, *GM is positive* (as shown in the figure)
- This is *potentially a dangerous situation*, and characterizes a *highly unstable system*
 - For positive GM, with each pass around the loop, the output amplitude will keep on growing
- > On the contrary, if GM were negative, with each pass around the loop, the output amplitude would have decreased

- The system would have come out of any unwanted oscillations
- The GM dictates the maximum amount of feedback that can be allowed for the system to remain stable
- For an unconditionally stable system, GM must be negative
 - \Rightarrow A must be negative when $\phi = -180^{\circ}$
- ➤ With regard to phase, when A crossed 0 dB, \$\phi\$ is close to -270°
 - \Rightarrow PM is negative, with a value of \sim -90°

- This also implies that when ϕ crossed -180° , A of the system was greater than unity (0 dB)
 - A potentially dangerous situation in terms of stability
- > Therefore, for an unconditionally stable system, PM must be positive
- The two conditions with regard to GM and PM are actually correlated
- > Rule of Thumb:
 - For a stable system, GM ~ -10 dB and PM ~ 45° are generally good enough

Compensation

• Basic Idea:

- To tailor the gain characteristic of a system, having three or more poles, such that it would be stable for any value of the feedback factor f, all the way up to unity (referred to as the unity feedback system, where the entire output is fed back to the input)
- ➤ After compensation, the system will become either conditionally (f < 1) or unconditionally stable (f = 1)

- Two widely used methods:
 - ➤ Dominant Pole Compensation (DPC)
 - ➤ Pole Zero Compensation (PZC)
- Dominant Pole Compensation (DPC):
 - This technique introduces a *dominant pole* (*DP*) into the system
 - ➤ Also known as *Miller Compensation Scheme*
 - ➤ This *DP* is chosen such that the *compensated* gain characteristic meets the *first pole* of the uncompensated system at 0 dB, with a slope of -20 dB/decade