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DIPARTIMENTO DI ELETTRONICA  
INFORMAZIONE E BIOINGEGNERIA

# 1D Digital filters

# Filter definition in MATLAB

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1. Given  $H(z) = B(z) / A(z)$ :

- $[H(\omega), \omega] = \text{freqz}(B(z), A(z), N, \text{'whole'})$ : for both FIR and IIR.
- $h(n) = \text{filter}(B(z), A(z), \delta(n))$ : precise with FIR, only an approximation for IIR.

2. Given  $h(n)$ :

- $H(k) = \text{fft}(h)$

# Filter definition in MATLAB

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- $H(k)$  is defined over  $N$  samples.
- The DFT is PERIODIC:
  - In frequency domain, period =  $F_s$ ,  $f = [0, F_s)$  or  $f = [-F_s/2, F_s/2)$  [Hz]
  - In angular frequency domain, period =  $2\pi F_s$ ,  $\omega = [0, 2\pi F_s)$  or  $\omega = [-\pi F_s, \pi F_s)$  [rad/s]
  - In normalized frequency, period = 1,  $\tilde{f} = [0, 1)$  or  $\tilde{f} = [-0.5, 0.5)$
  - In normalized angular frequency, period =  $2\pi$ ,  $\tilde{\omega} = [0, 2\pi)$  or  $\tilde{\omega} = [-\pi, \pi)$

*How to relate the MATLAB result with the actual Fourier spectrum?*

→ *How to express MATLAB samples as real frequencies in Hz  
or normalized frequencies?*

# MATLAB metrics conversion

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The N-th sample in MATLAB corresponds to the maximum frequency over one period of the periodic spectrum.

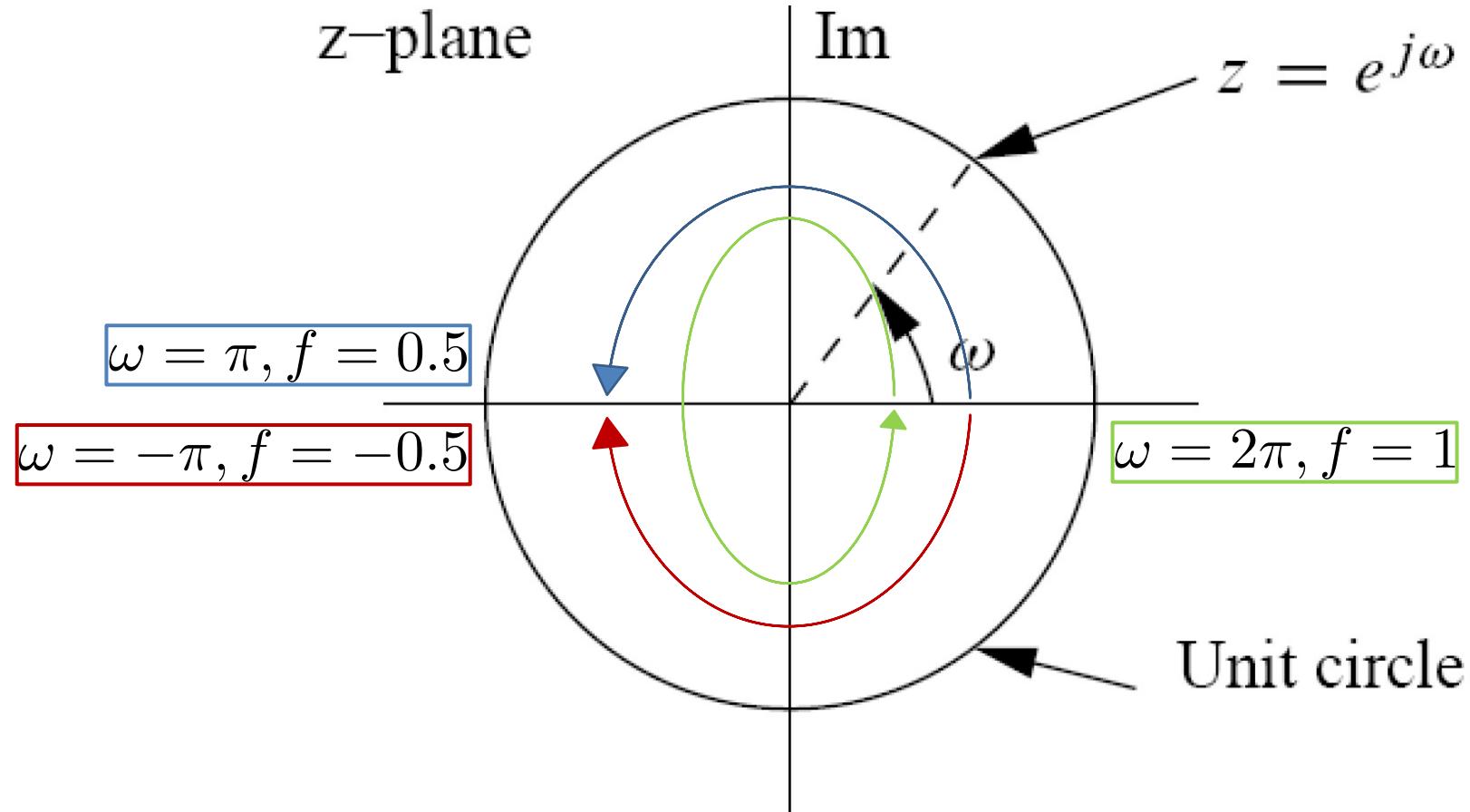


Given the array of MATLAB samples:  $\mathbf{n} = [0, 1, 2, \dots, N - 1]$

- The frequency axis [Hz] = [0,  $F_s$ ] is obtained as  $\mathbf{n} \cdot \frac{F_s}{N}$
- The angular frequency axis [rad/s] = [0,  $2\pi F_s$ ] is obtained as  $\mathbf{n} \cdot \frac{2\pi F_s}{N}$
- The normalized frequency axis = [0, 1) is obtained as  $\mathbf{n} \cdot \frac{1}{N}$
- The normalized angular frequency axis = [0,  $2\pi$ ) is obtained as  $\mathbf{n} \cdot \frac{2\pi}{N}$

**LEARNING BY HEART IS NOT NEEDED!** Just think at the units of measure

# From Z domain to normalized frequency domain



To pass from normalized domain to real frequency domain, multiply by  $F_s$

# FIR vs IIR filters in MATLAB

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Given a FIR filter and an input signal  $x(n)$ ,

the output  $y(n)$  is obtained by:

- Function ‘conv’ if filter is expressed in time domain
- Function ‘filter’ if you have  $H(z)$  or  $h(n)$
- The product of ‘fft’s in frequency domain
- The product of signal ‘fft’ and filter ‘freqz’ in f domain

Given an IIR filter and an input signal  $x(n)$ ,

the output  $y(n)$  is obtained by:

- You cannot use ‘conv’! The result will be just an approximation because the filter has infinite duration
- Function ‘filter’ if you have  $H(z)$

# Zeros and poles recall

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$$\begin{aligned} H(z) &= \frac{\sum_{k=0}^N b_k z^{-k}}{\sum_{k=0}^D a_k z^{-k}} = z^{D-N} \frac{b_0}{a_0} \frac{\prod_{i=1}^N (z - z_i)}{\prod_{i=1}^D (z - p_i)} \\ &= \frac{b_0}{a_0} \frac{\prod_{i=1}^N (1 - z_i z^{-1})}{\prod_{i=1}^D (1 - p_i z^{-1})} \end{aligned}$$

- $z_i$  = roots of numerator, called ‘zeros’
- $p_i$  = roots of denominator, called ‘poles’

# Zeros and poles recall: *the poles*

---

- The poles are associated with the autoregressive part of the filter → they generate IIR filters.
- The filter amplitude response enhances frequencies which are near the poles.
- If poles are outside the unit circle and the filter is causal, the system is unstable.

# Zeros and poles recall: *the zeros*

---

- The zeros are associated with the moving average part of the filter → they generate FIR filters
- The filter amplitude response attenuates frequencies which are near the zeros
- Zeros influence also the phase of the filter:
  - Minimum phase zeros if  $z < 1$
  - Maximum phase zeros if  $z \geq 1$

# Filter design using zeros&poles

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- Place poles close to the unit circle in frequencies that must be emphasized
- Place zeros according to the desired phase response
  - The closer they are to the unit circle, the higher the frequency attenuation

# Filter design using zeros&poles

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Open ‘zogui.m’



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# Remarkable LTI filters

# Magnitude square function

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- The magnitude response of a LTI system is:

$$M(f) = |H(f)|^2 = H(f) \cdot H^*(f) = H(z) \cdot H^*(z^{-1}) \Big|_{|z|=1}$$

- Given a generic rational transfer function

$$H(z) = \frac{b_0}{a_0} \frac{\prod_{i=1}^N (1 - z_i z^{-1})}{\prod_{i=1}^D (1 - p_i z^{-1})}$$



$$M(z) = H(z)H^*(z^{-1}) = \frac{|b_0|^2}{|a_0|^2} \frac{\prod_{i=1}^N (1 - z_i z^{-1})(1 - z_i^* z)}{\prod_{i=1}^D (1 - p_i z^{-1})(1 - p_i^* z)}$$

# Magnitude square function

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$$M(z) = H(z)H^*(z^{-1}) = \frac{|b_0|^2}{|a_0|^2} \frac{\prod_{i=1}^N (1 - z_i z^{-1})(1 - z_i^* z)}{\prod_{i=1}^D (1 - p_i z^{-1})(1 - p_i^* z)}$$

- For each zero  $z_i$  of  $H(z)$ , there is another zero at  $\frac{1}{z_i^*}$
- For each pole  $p_i$  of  $H(z)$ , there is another pole at  $\frac{1}{p_i^*}$
- $M(z)$  presents poles and zeros in conjugate reciprocal pairs

# Magnitude square function

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- Given a magnitude response requirement  $M(z)$  for  $H(z)$
- Given stability and causality requirements for  $H(z)$

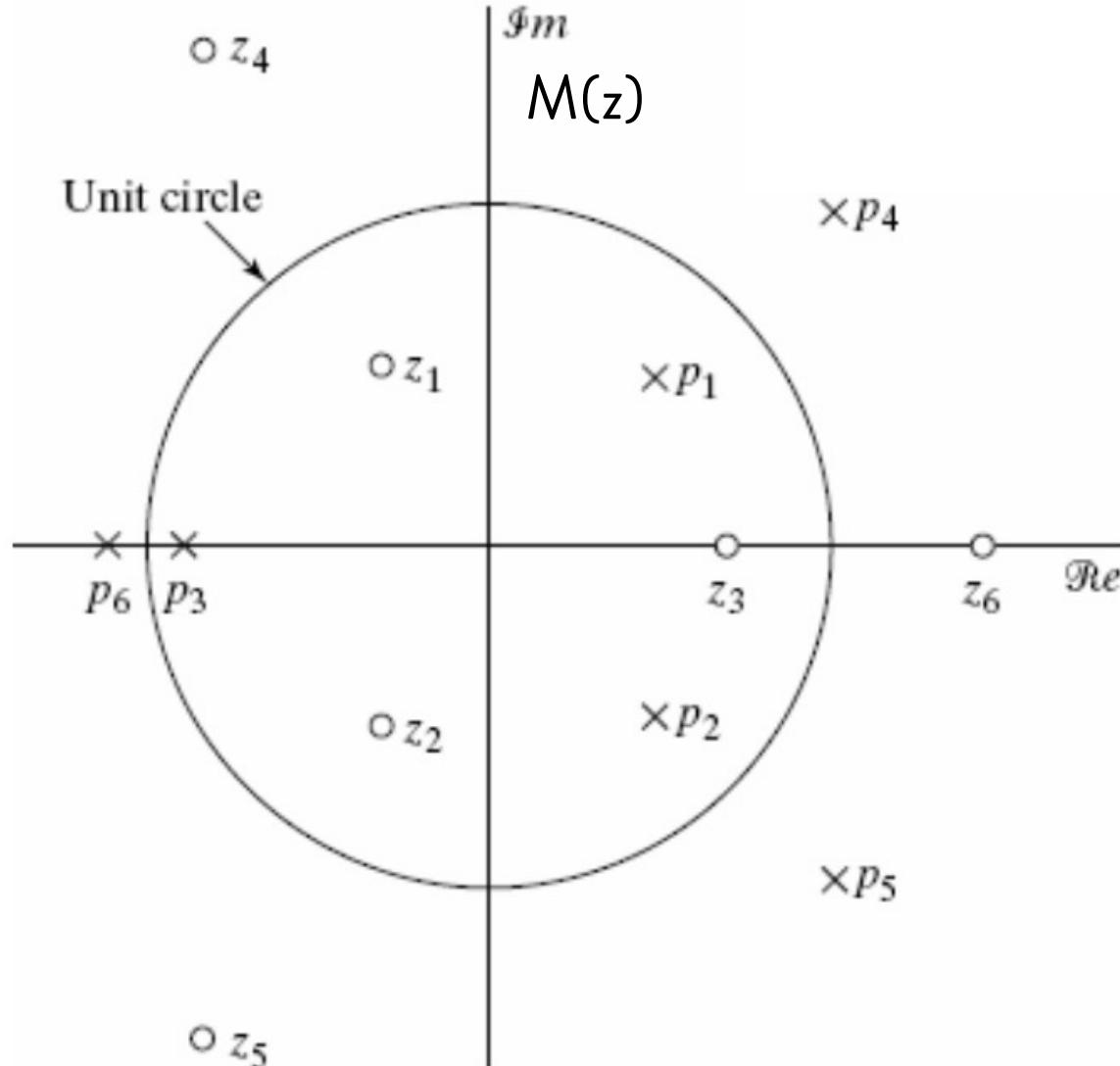


- The poles of  $H(z)$  are those of  $M(z)$  inside the unit circle and are uniquely identified
- The zeros of  $H(z)$  are **not** uniquely identified
- Given a causal FIR filter  $H(z)$  of order  $N$ , it has the same magnitude response  $M(z)$  of the causal FIR filter:

$$G(z) = z^{-N} H^*(z^{-1})$$

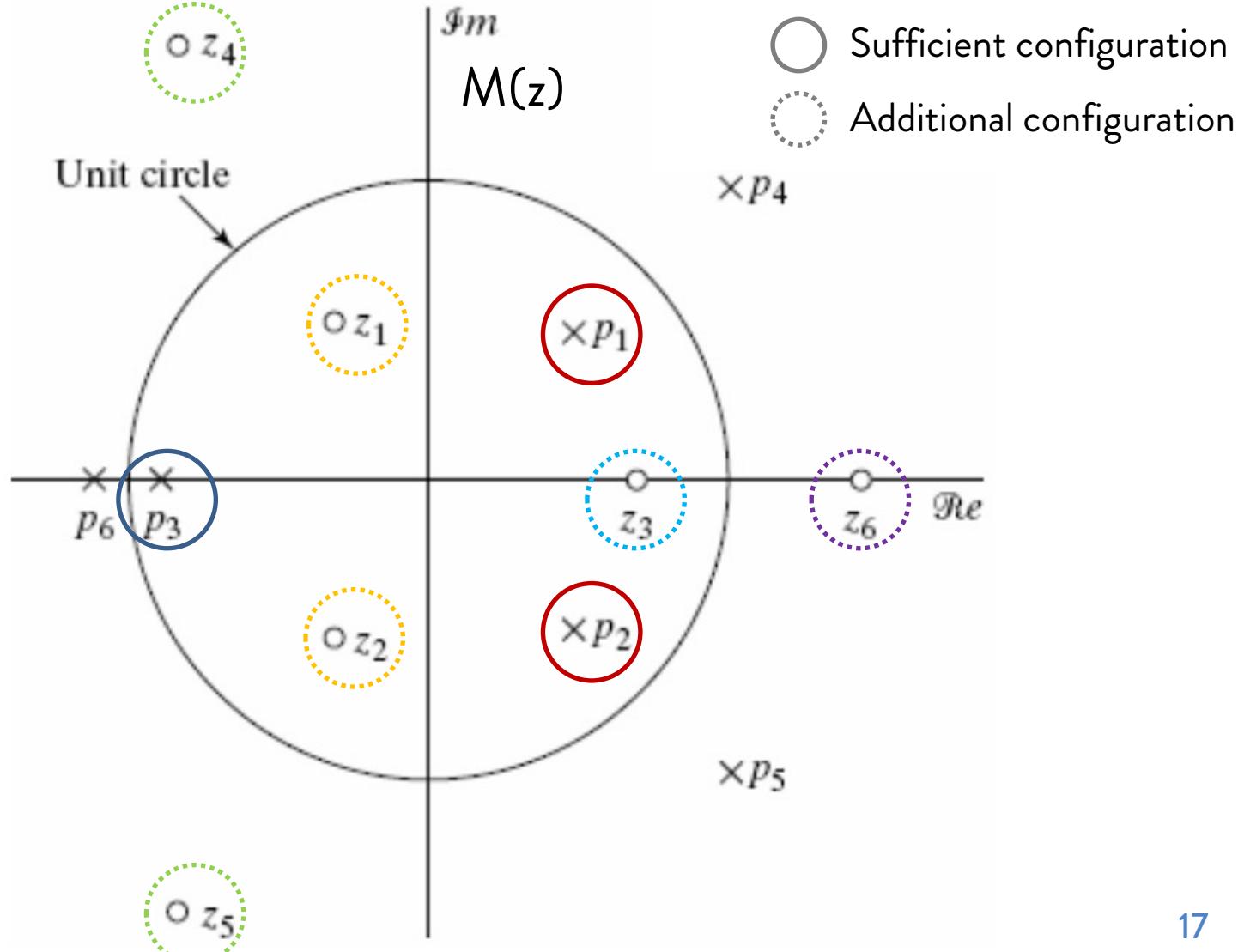
# From $M(z)$ to $H(z)$

How to get a **causal stable** system with **real** coefficients?



# From $M(z)$ to $H(z)$

How to get a **causal stable** system with **real** coefficients?



# Ex 20: magnitude response

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- Given the filters:

$$H_1(z) = \frac{2(1 - z^{-1})(1 + 0.5z^{-1})}{(1 - 0.8e^{j\pi/4}z^{-1})(1 - 0.8e^{-j\pi/4}z^{-1})}$$

$$H_2(z) = \frac{(1 - z^{-1})(1 + 2z^{-1})}{(1 - 0.8e^{j\pi/4}z^{-1})(1 - 0.8e^{-j\pi/4}z^{-1})}$$

- Derive  $A(z)$  and  $B(z)$  for  $H_1(z)$  and  $H_2(z)$
- Plot the zeros and the poles in the Z-plane using ‘zplane’
- Plot in the same figure the magnitude responses as a function of normalized omega in  $[0, 2\pi]$ , using  $N = 1024$  samples
- How are the magnitudes related? Why?

# Allpass filters

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Allpass filters are designed to have constant gain and any phase response:

$$|H_{ap}(f)| = |H_{ap}(z)| \Big|_{|z|=1} = 1$$

- Given the previous considerations, a generic causal allpass filter is:

$$H_{ap}(z) = z^{-K} e^{j\phi} \frac{A(z)}{\tilde{A}(z)}, \quad K \geq 0$$

where

$$A(z) = 1 + a_1 z^{-1} + a_2 z^{-2} + \dots + a_N z^{-N}$$

$$\tilde{A}(z) = z^{-N} A^*(z^{-1}) = a_N^* + a_{N-1}^* z^{-1} + \dots + a_2^* z^{2-N} + a_1^* z^{1-N} + z^{-N}$$

# Allpass filters

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- Given an allpass filter:

$$H_{ap}(z) = \frac{1 + a_1 z^{-1} + a_2 z^{-2} + \dots + a_N z^{-N}}{a_N^* + a_{N-1}^* z^{-1} + \dots + a_2^* z^{2-N} + a_1^* z^{1-N} + z^{-N}}$$

a general form to represent an **allpass real** valued impulse response is:

$$H_{ap}(z) = c_0 \prod_{k=1}^{M_r} \frac{z^{-1} - d_k}{1 - d_k z^{-1}} \prod_{k=1}^{M_c} \frac{(z^{-1} - e_k)(z^{-1} - e_k^*)}{(1 - e_k^* z^{-1})(1 - e_k z^{-1})}$$

Zeros and poles occur in conjugate reciprocal pairs

# Allpass filter properties

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- The cascade of two allpass filters is again an allpass filter
- Each pole of an allpass system is associated with a conjugate reciprocal zero
- The magnitude of many cascaded allpass filters is always the same

# Ex 21: allpass systems

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- Write a MATLAB function ‘allpass.m’ like this:  
‘[z\_out, p\_out, b\_out, a\_out] = allpass(b,a)’
- Inputs: b, a = numerator and denominator of  $H(z)$
- Outputs: z\_out, p\_out, b\_out, a\_out = zeros, poles, numerator, denominator of the allpass transfer function related to  $H(z)$
- Use the function ‘allpass’ to compute the allpass transfer function  $H_{ap}(z)$  related to the causal filter  $H(z) = \frac{1 + 3z^{-1}}{1 - 0.5z^{-1}}$
- Plot the amplitude of  $H_{ap}(f)$  vs normalized frequencies in  $[0, 1)$ , using  $N = 512$  samples
- Is the filter stable? How do you expect the phase to behave?

# Minimum phase filters

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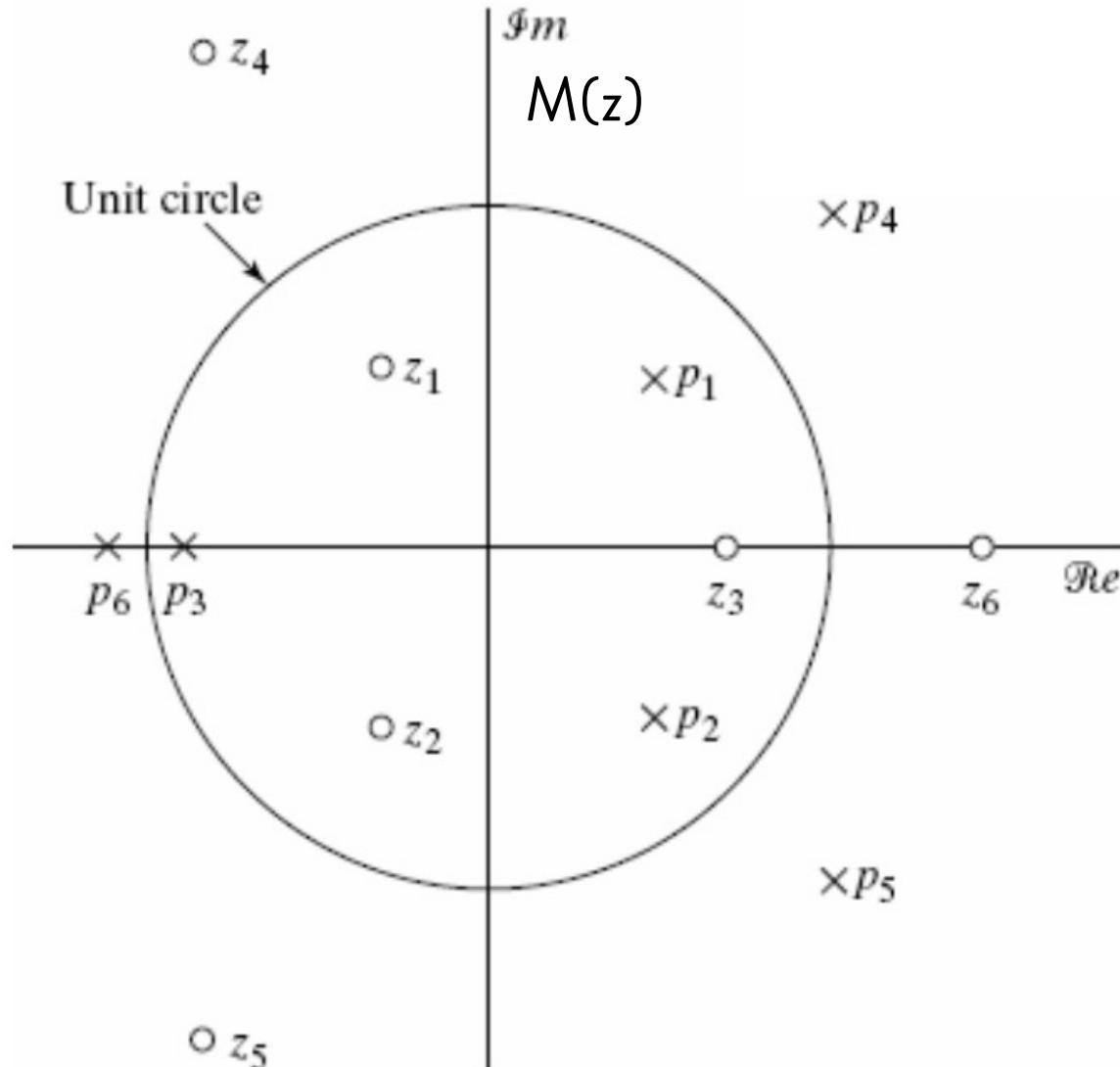
- Minimum phase filters are such that both  $H(z)$  and  $1/H(z)$  are stable and causal



- The poles must be inside the unit circle
- The zeros must be inside the unit circle
- Given a square magnitude response  $M(z)$ , there is a **unique** system whose zeros and poles are inside the unit circle and it is called minimum phase system

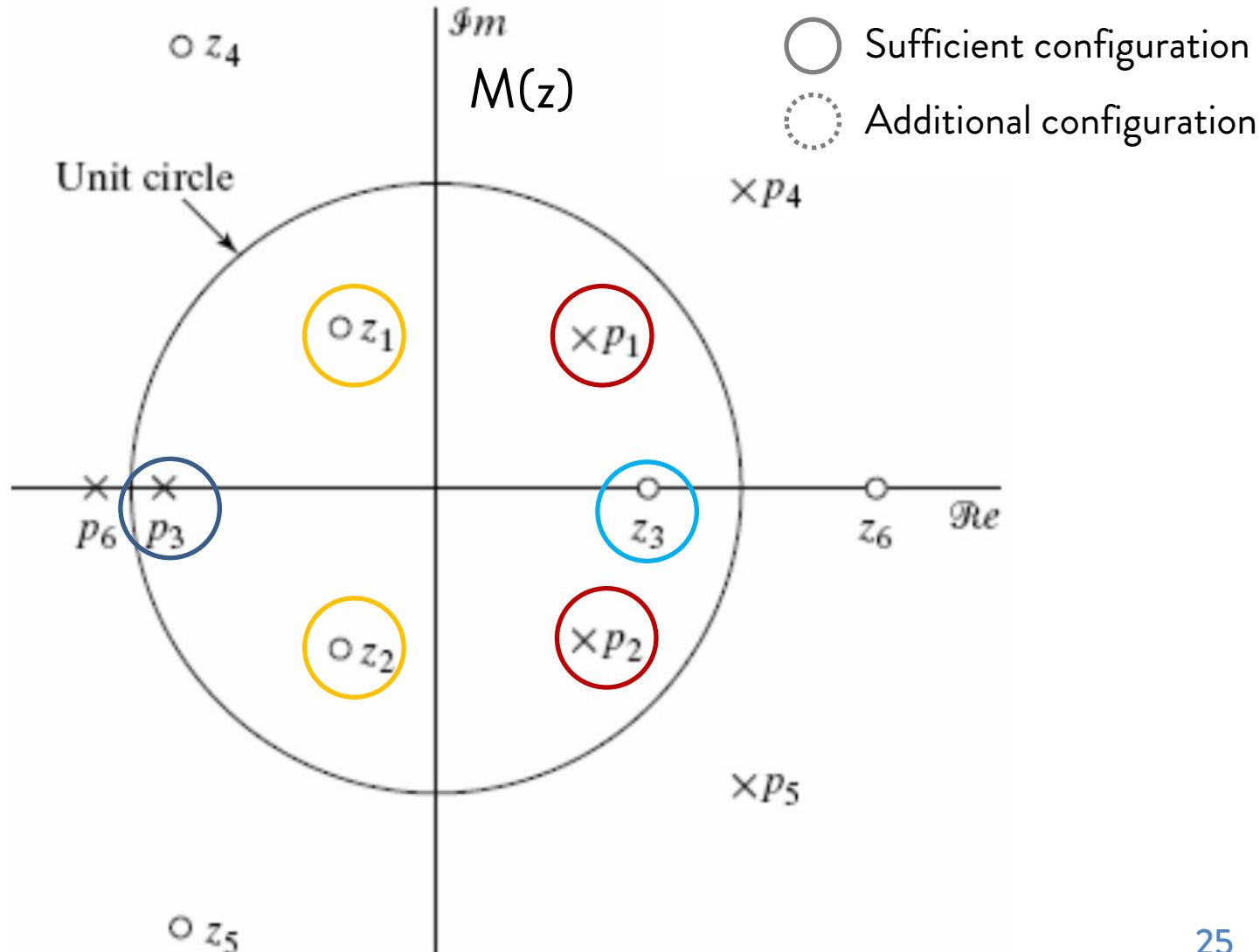
# From $M(z)$ to $H(z)$

How to get a **minimum phase** system with real coefficients?



# From $M(z)$ to $H(z)$

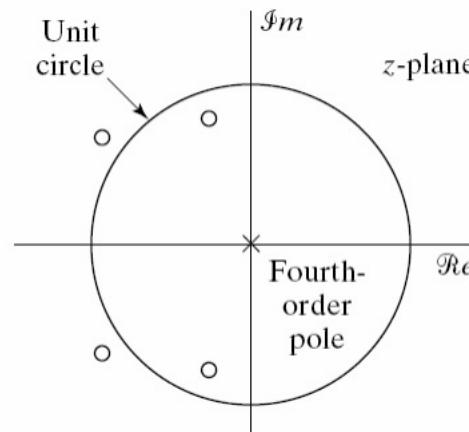
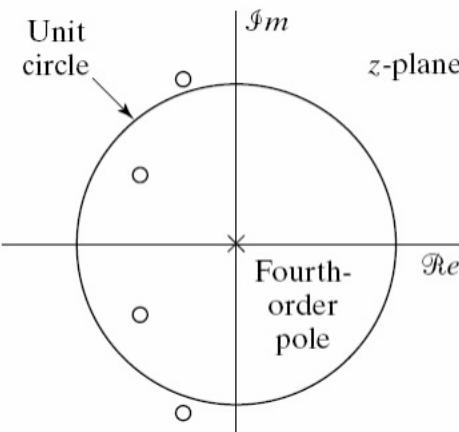
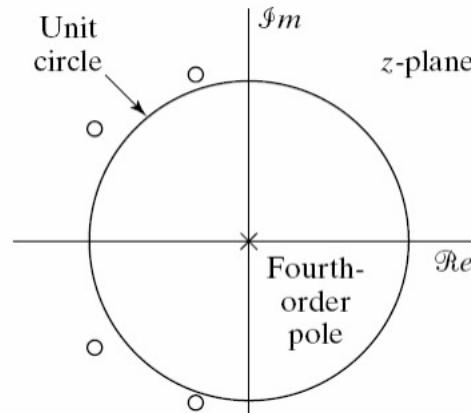
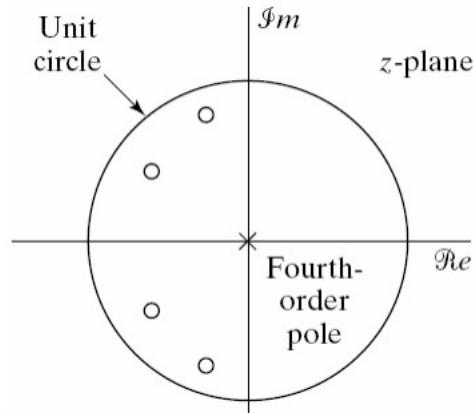
How to get a **minimum phase** system with real coefficients?



# From $M(z)$ to $H(z)$

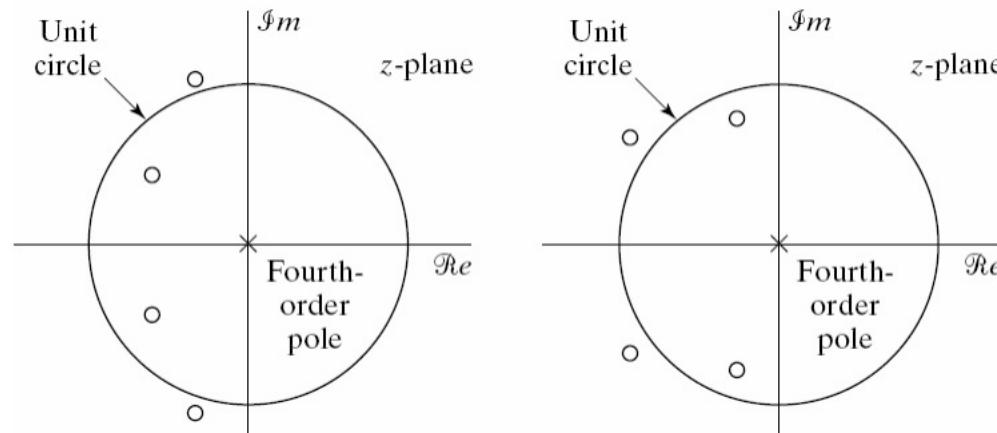
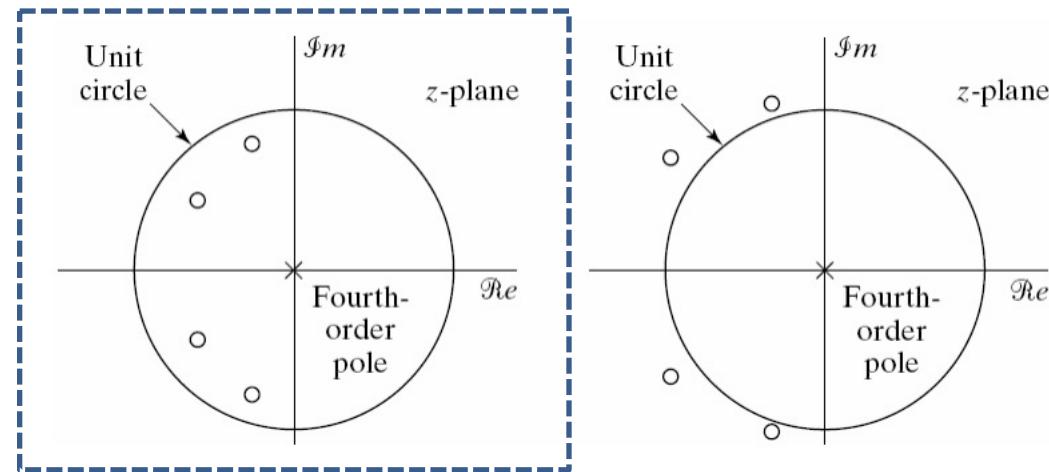
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*Which is the **minimum phase** system?*



# From $M(z)$ to $H(z)$

Which is the **minimum phase** system?



# Ex 22: minimum phase systems

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- Write a MATLAB function ‘typeOfFilter(b, a)’ that receives as input the numerator and denominator coefficients of a causal filter  $H(z)=B(z)/A(z)$  and it returns:
  - -1 if the filter is not stable
  - 1 if the filter is stable and it is minimum phase
  - 0 if the filter is stable but it is not minimum phase
- If you test this function on a FIR filter, which can be the possible outputs?
- Test the function on  $H(z) = \frac{1 - 2z^{-1} - 0.5z^{-3} + 0.2z^{-4}}{1 + 0.08z^{-1} + 2z^{-3}}$

# Properties of Allpass – Minimum phase filters

Any rational causal stable system can be decomposed into the multiplication of a minimum phase system and an allpass system

$$H(z) = H_{min}(z)H_{ap}(z)$$

- $H_{min}(z)$  contains:
  - the poles and zeros of  $H(z)$  that lie inside the unit circle
  - zeros that are conjugate reciprocals of the zeros of  $H(z)$  lying outside the unit circle.
- $H_{ap}(z)$  contains:
  - all the zeros of  $H(z)$  that lie outside the unit circle
  - poles which are conjugate reciprocals of the zeros of  $H(z)$  lying outside the unit circle

# Ex 23: Allpass-minimum phase conversion

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- Given the filter with  $B(z)=[1, -1.98, 1.77, -0.17, 0.21, 0.34]$ ,  
 $A(z)=[1, 0.08, 0.40 ,0.27]$
- Compute the allpass-minimum phase decomposition of  $H(z)$
- Check the results using ‘zplane’
- Plot the amplitude of  $H_{ap}(f)$  (DTFT) vs normalized angular frequencies in  $[0, 2\pi]$ , using  $N = 1024$  samples
- Plot the first 50 samples of  $h_{min}(n)$



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# Digital filters' design

# How to design filters

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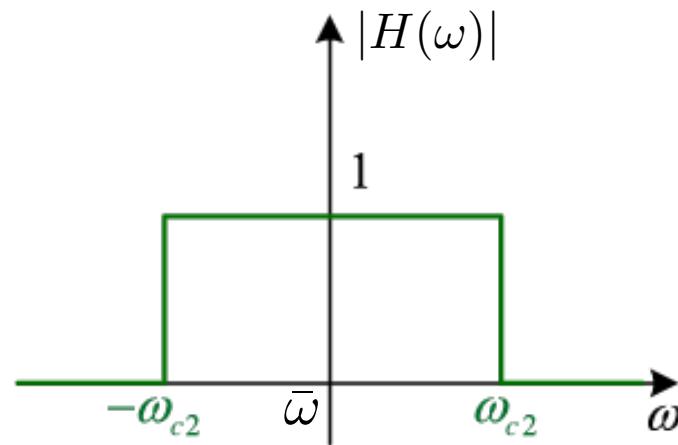
1. Specify always the characteristics of the filter in frequency domain, not in time domain (e.g., lowpass, highpass, bandpass..)
2. Approximate these properties using a discrete-time system  
→ find the filter coefficients
3. Realize the system using finite precision arithmetic

# Ideal filter

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Ideal filter:

- low-pass if  $\bar{\omega} = 0$
- band-pass if  $0 < \bar{\omega} < \pi$
- high-pass if  $\bar{\omega} = \pi$

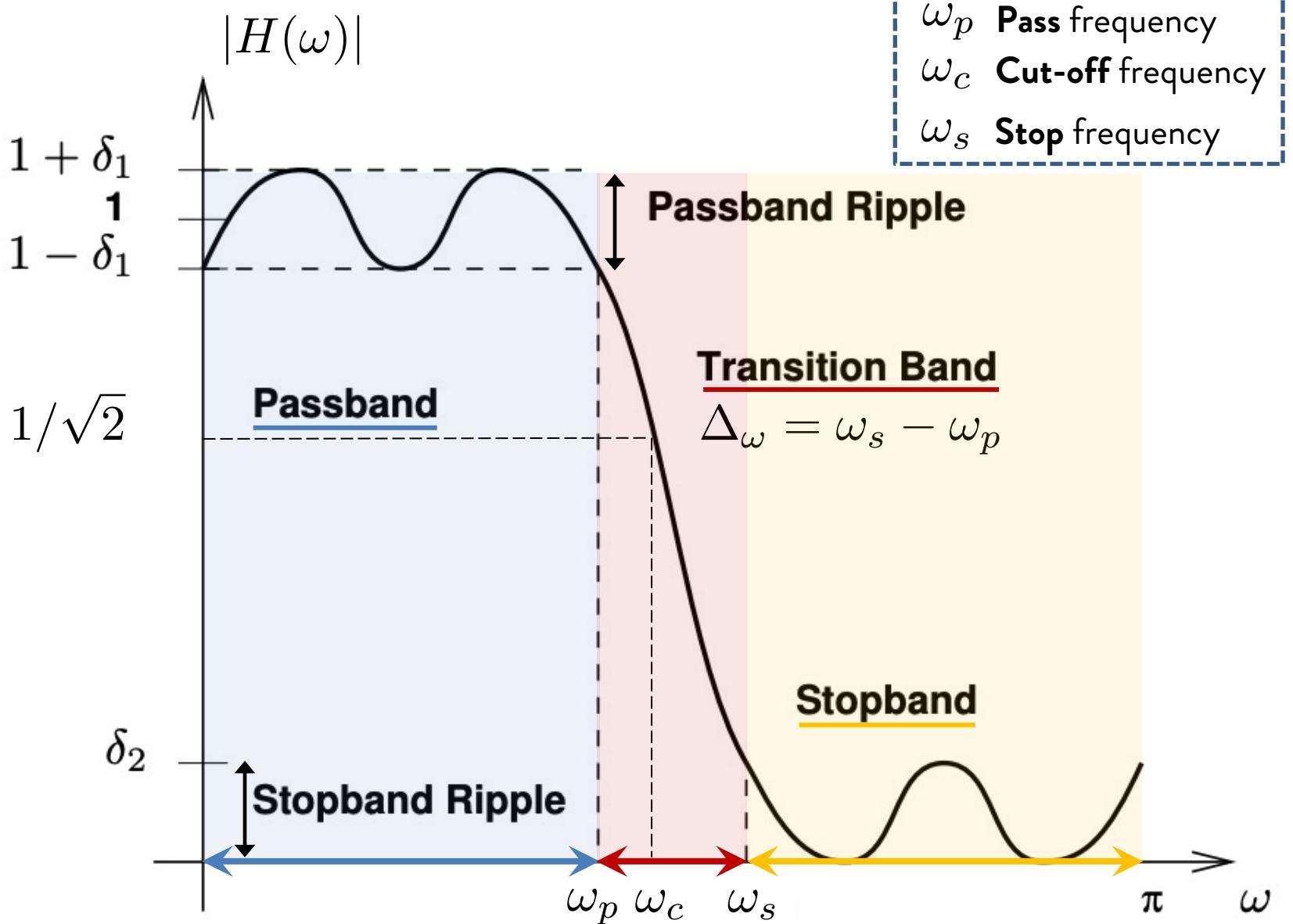


The impulse response of this filter is  $\approx$  the sinc function.

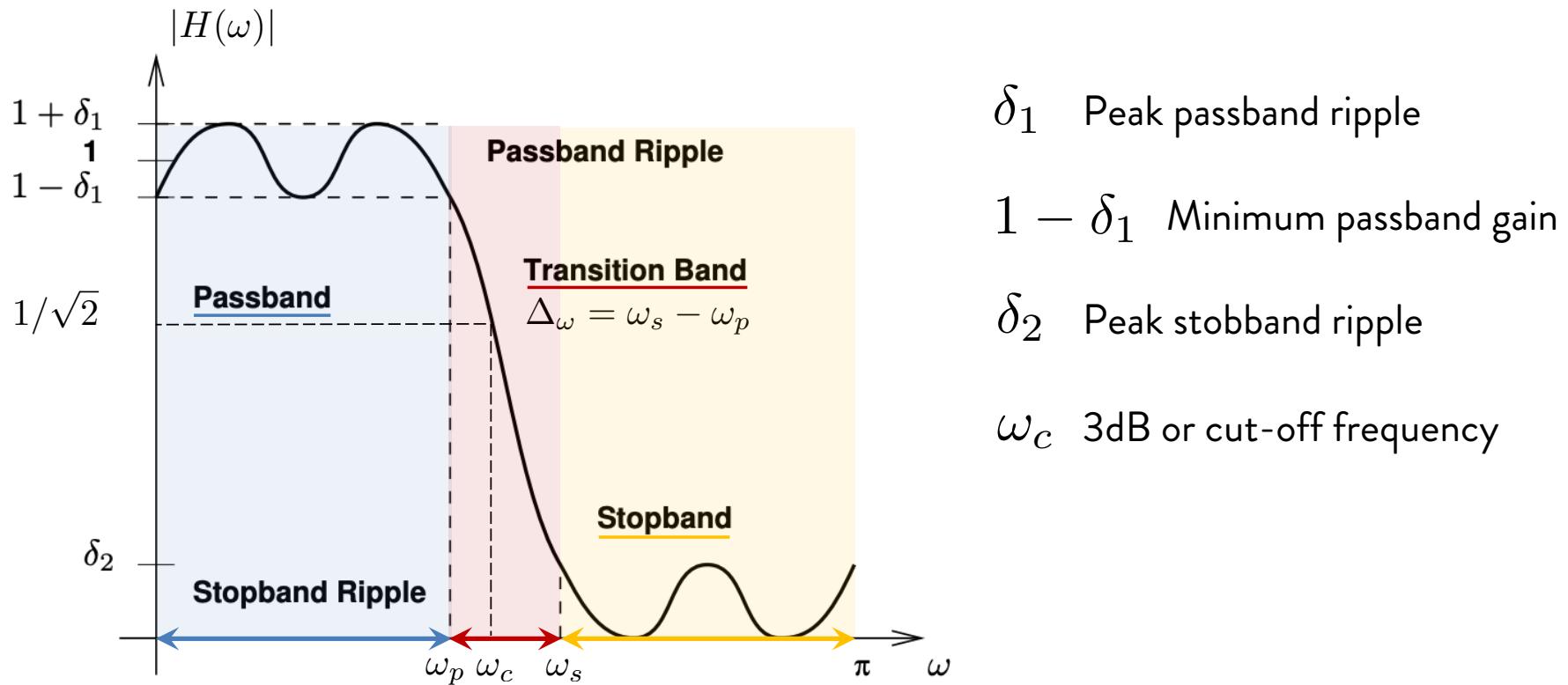
It is non-causal with an infinite delay →

Real systems can only approximate it

# Real filters



# Real filters



Towards ideal filters:

- Peak ripple  $\rightarrow 0$
- Transition band  $\rightarrow 0$

# IIR vs FIR filters

---

FIR:

- Only zeros
- Always stable
- Can be linear phase
- It should be high order for best performances

IIR:

- Poles and zeros
- May be unstable
- Difficult to control phase
- Lower order (1/10-th of FIR) for high performances

# IIR vs FIR

## FIR:

- Only zeros
- Always stable
- Can be linear phase
- It should be high order for best performances

## IIR:

- Poles and zeros
- May be unstable
- Difficult to control phase
- Lower order (1/10-th of FIR) for high performances



We saw IIR design with poles&zeros

*How to design FIR filters?*

# FIR filter design: windowing method

---

The ideal filter has an infinite time duration and infinite delay.

Idea: obtain a FIR filter by truncating an infinite duration impulse response

- Given the ideal  $h_i(n)$ , build  $h(n) = h_i(n)w(n)$
- $w(n)$  is a finite duration window
  - in frequency domain, product becomes convolution
- $H(f)$  is a blurred version of the ideal filter  $H_i(f)$

# FIR filter design: windowing method

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How to choose the window?

- As short as possible (in time) to minimize the cost of the FIR filter
- As narrow as possible in frequency to approach the ideal filter

# FIR filter design: windowing method

---

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# FIR filter design: windowing method

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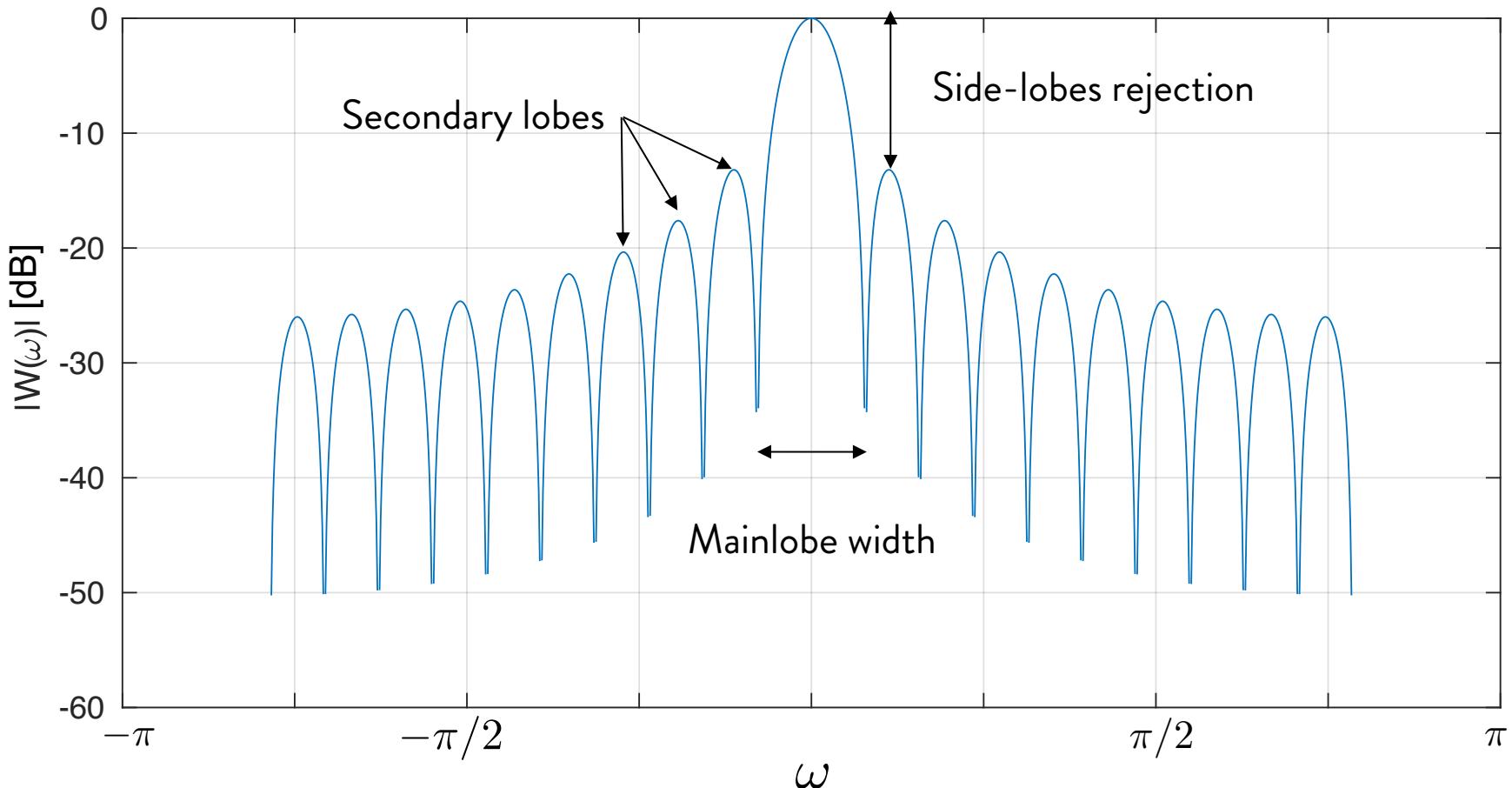
Even though these requirements conflict each other, a good window is defined as the one introducing the minimum distortion.

→ Without considering the filter cost,  $W(f)$  should look like a  $\delta(f)$ :

- its energy must be concentrated around  $f = 0$
- $W(f)$  should decay fast as frequency increases

# FIR filter design: windowing method

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# FIR filter design: windowing method

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Every window is characterized by:

- Main-lobe width: it decreases as the window length increases
- Side-lobes rejection: ratio between the main-lobe peak and 1° secondary lobe peak [dB]
- Side-lobes roll off: asymptotic decay of the side-lobe peaks vs frequency octave [dB/octave] or frequency decade [dB/decade]

Examples of windows:

- Rectangular → ‘rectwin’ in MATLAB
- Hanning → ‘hann’ in MATLAB
- Hamming → ‘hamming’ in MATLAB
- Blackman → ‘blackman’ in MATLAB and many others...

# Window design in MATLAB

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- You can use the function ‘window’ to design windows:  
 $w = \text{window}(@\text{window\_name}, N_{\text{samples}})$
- Otherwise, you can call specific functions named as the window, for instance:
  - $\text{rect\_w} = \text{rectwin}(N_{\text{samples}})$
  - $\text{hamming\_w} = \text{hamming}(N_{\text{samples}})$
  - $\text{hann\_w} = \text{hann}(N_{\text{samples}})$
  - ...

# FIR design in MATLAB

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‘fir1’ is used to implement window-based FIR filter design

```
h = fir1(filter_order,cut-off,filter_type,window_type(filter_order+1))
```

NB:

- ‘cut-off’ sets the 6dB point (when  $|H(f)|$  is 6dB lower than the maximum peak)
- ‘cut-off’ for MATLAB is between 0 and 1, but 1 corresponds to half the sampling frequency!

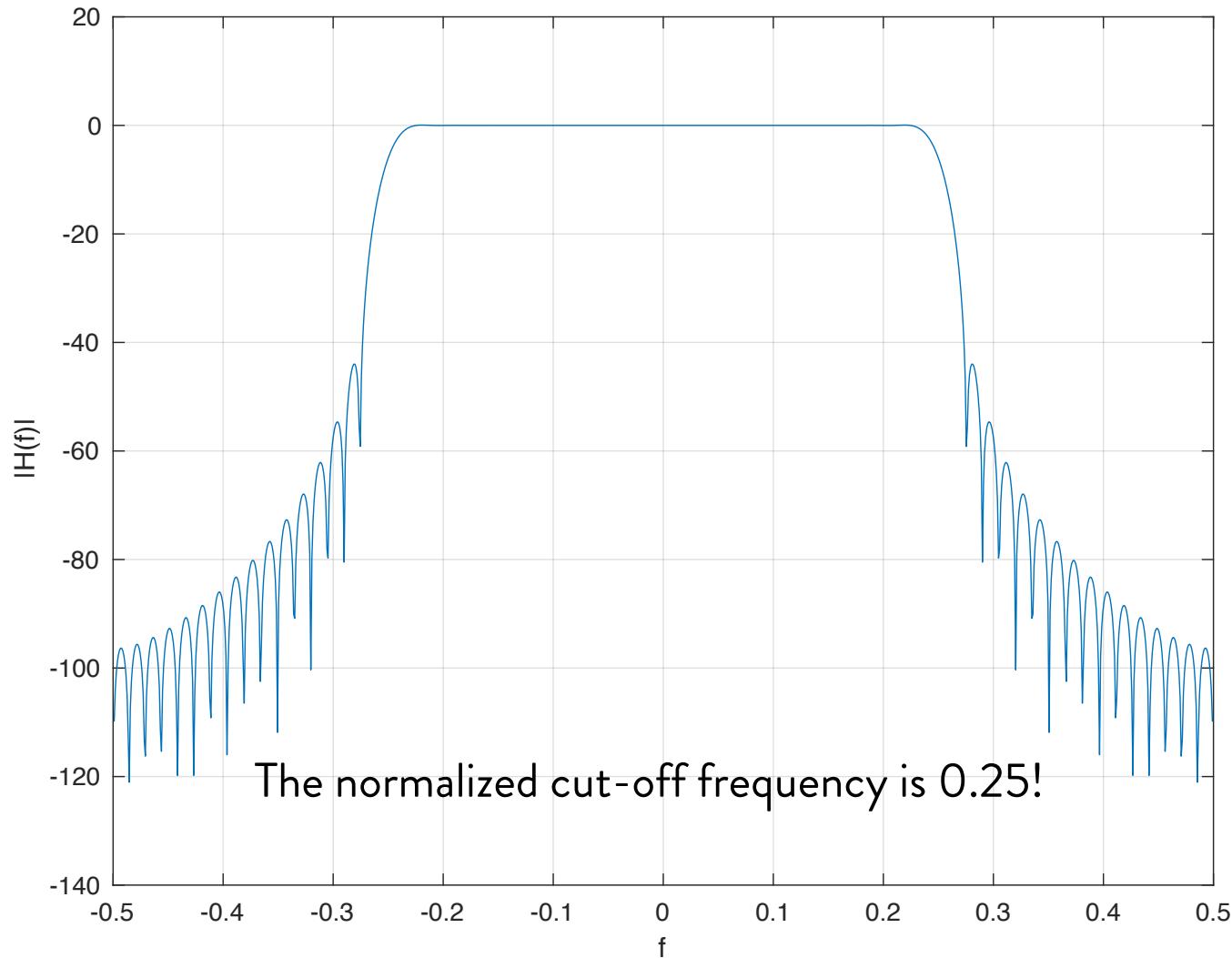
$$\text{MATLAB Cut-off} = 1 \leftrightarrow \text{normalized frequency} = 0.5$$

- ‘filter\_order’ corresponds to the number of samples - 1

# FIR design in MATLAB:fir1

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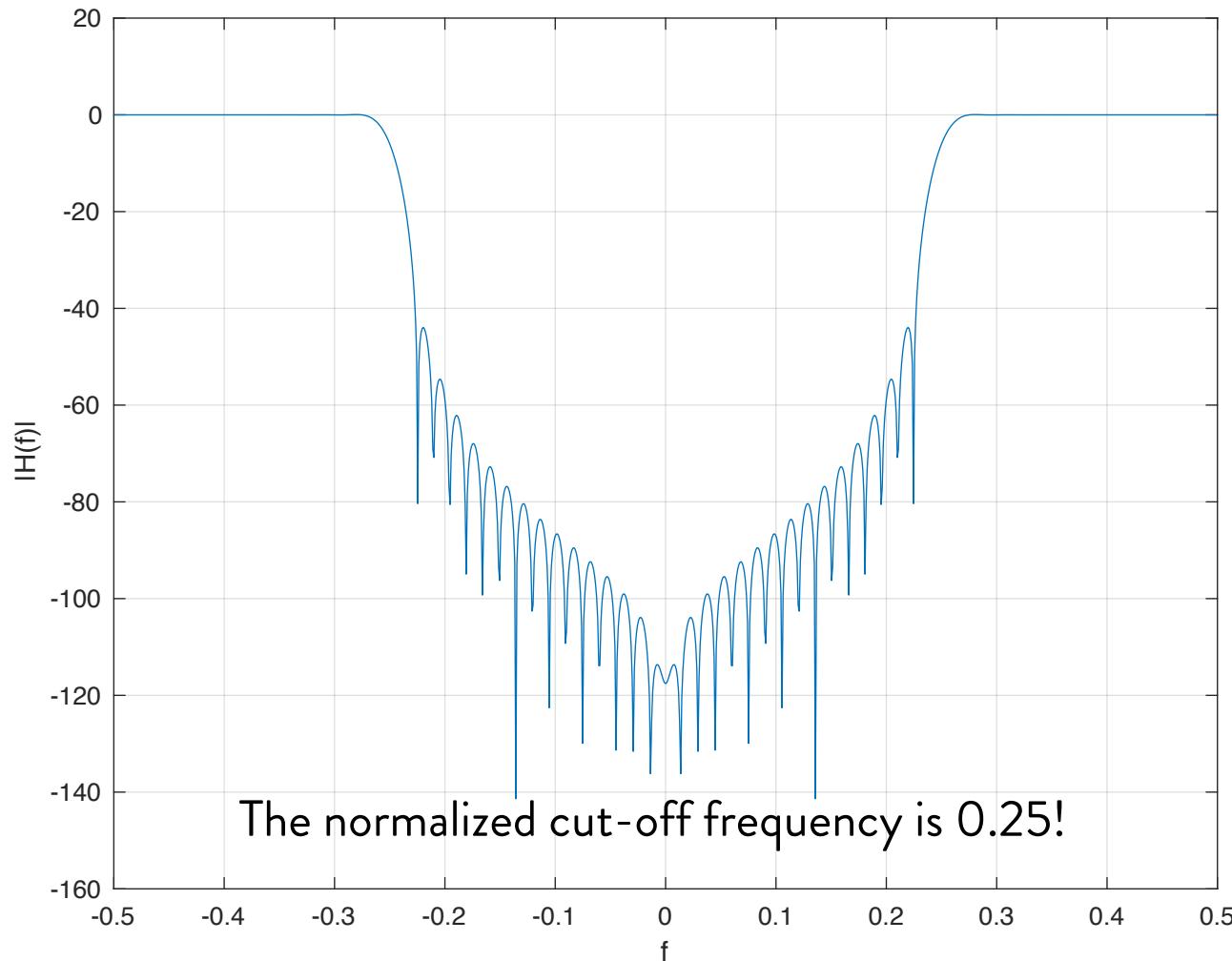
Low-pass: ‘`h = fir1(66, 0.5, hann(67))`’



# FIR design in MATLAB:fir1

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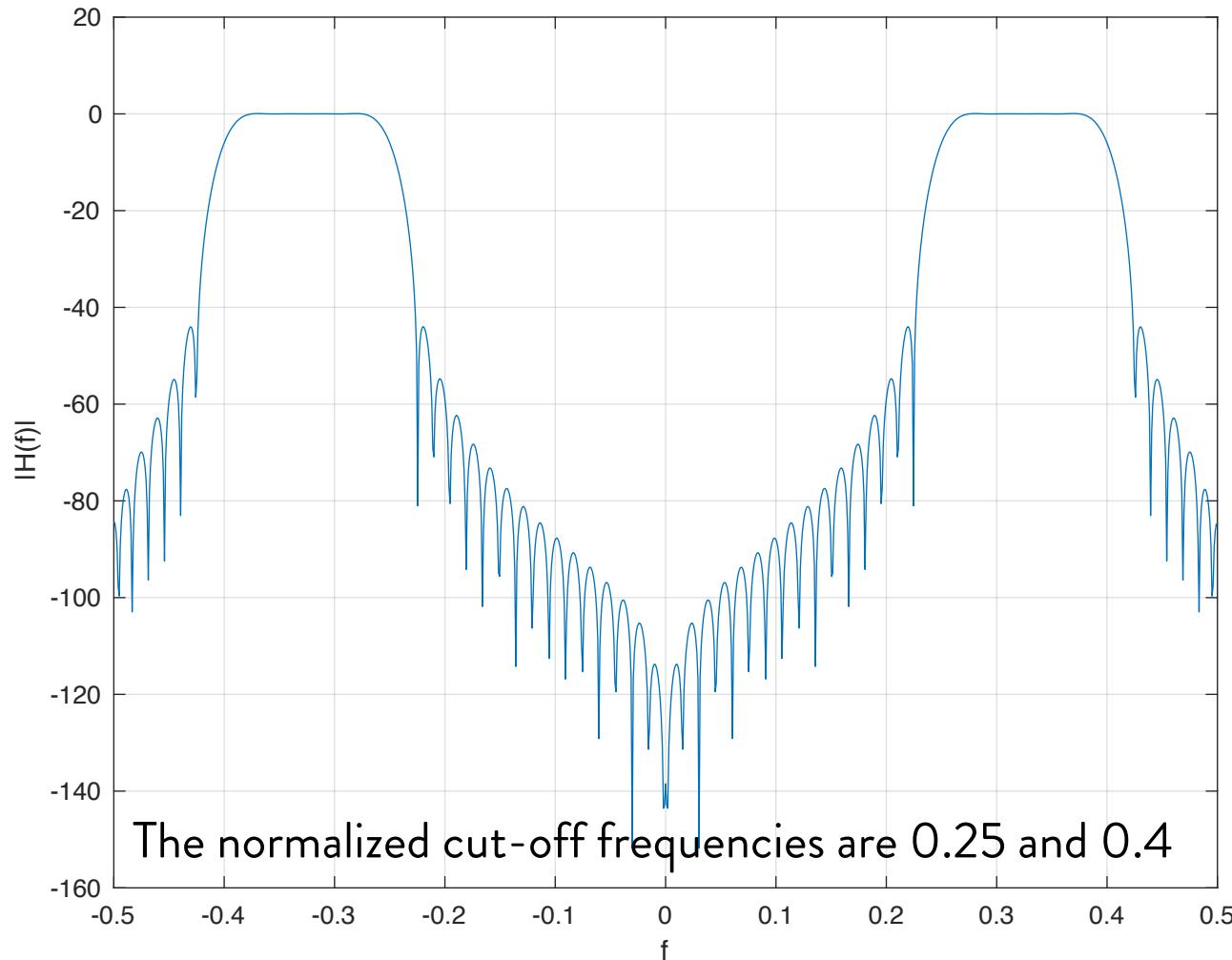
High-pass: ‘`h = fir1(66, 0.5, ‘high’, hann(67))`



# FIR design in MATLAB:fir1

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Band-pass: ‘`h = fir1(66, [0.5, 0.8], hann(67))`



# Ex 24: windowing

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- Given  $x$  as a cosine wave sampled at  $F_s = 8\text{KHz}$ , defined from 0 to 1 second, amplitude 1.5, frequency 1.1KHz, phase 45 deg
- Compute  $y$  as  $x$  filtered with a low-pass filter with normalized cut-off frequency of 0.4 and 64 samples
- Plot the amplitude of  $H(f)$  vs normalized frequencies in  $[-0.5, 0.5]$
- Apply a Hanning window to select the first 512 samples of  $y$
- Plot the amplitude of the DFT of the windowed  $y$  vs frequency in Hz, defined in  $[-F_s/2, F_s/2]$ .
- If you change the cut-off frequency to 0.05, what do you expect to see in the spectrum of  $y$ ?