



**UNIVERSITY**  
OF APPLIED SCIENCES

# BASIC CONTROL SYSTEMS

## 05 POLES AND ZEROS

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WHERE STUDENTS MATTER



# POLES AND ZEROS

## Theorem The Fundamental Theorem of Algebra

Let  $f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^k a_n x^n$  be a non-constant polynomial and  $a_n \in \mathbb{C}$ , then there exist a unique factorization such that:

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^k a_n x^n = r_0 \prod_{i=1}^k (x - r_i)$$

This fundamental theorem of algebra enables us to obtain a unique decomposition of a irreducible rational polynomial transfer function.

Numerator  
Denominator

## Definition Poles

The value(s) of  $s$  such that the denominator  $D(s) = 0$

## Definition Zeros

The value(s) of  $s$  such that the numerator  $N(s) = 0$

These guarantees: *the poles and zeros are either real or in complex conjugate pairs.*





# TRANSFER FUNCTIONS

- Transfer functions can be written as:

$$\frac{Y(s)}{X(s)} = \frac{b_m s^m + b_{m-1} s^{m-1} + \dots + b_2 s^2 + b_1 s + b_0}{a_n s^n + a_{n-1} s^{n-1} + \dots + a_2 s^2 + a_1 s + a_0}$$

- Or as: All coefficients  $a_n$  and  $b_m$  are real.

$$\frac{Y(s)}{X(s)} = \frac{b_m}{a_n} \cdot \frac{(s - z_1)(s - z_2) \dots (s - z_{m-1})(s - z_m)}{(s - p_1)(s - p_2) \dots (s - p_{p-1})(s - p_n)}$$

- Which is the same as:

$$H(s) = \underbrace{k_{pz}}_{\text{Additional gain}} \frac{(s - z_1)(s - z_2) \dots (s - z_{m-1})(s - z_m)}{(s - p_1)(s - p_2) \dots (s - p_{p-1})(s - p_n)}$$

Additional gain



# AN EXAMPLE

Input:  $x$ , Output:  $y$ ,

Assume 0 initial conditions.

Given an ODE:

$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + 2\frac{dy}{dt} - 8y = 3\frac{dx}{dt} + 1x$$

We do the Laplace transform:

$$s^2Y + 2sY - 8Y = 3sX + 1X$$

Define transfer function  $H$ :

$$H(s) = \frac{Y(s)}{X(s)} = \frac{3s + 1}{s^2 + 2s - 8} = 3 \frac{s + \frac{1}{3}}{(s + 4)(s - 2)}$$



# IDENTIFYING POLES AND ZEROS

$$H(s) = \frac{Y(s)}{X(s)} = \frac{1}{3} \frac{s + \frac{1}{3}}{(s + 4)(s - 2)}$$

According to the definitions:

Gain $K$	$\frac{1}{3}$
Zeros $z$	$-\frac{1}{3}$
Poles $p$	$-4, +2$

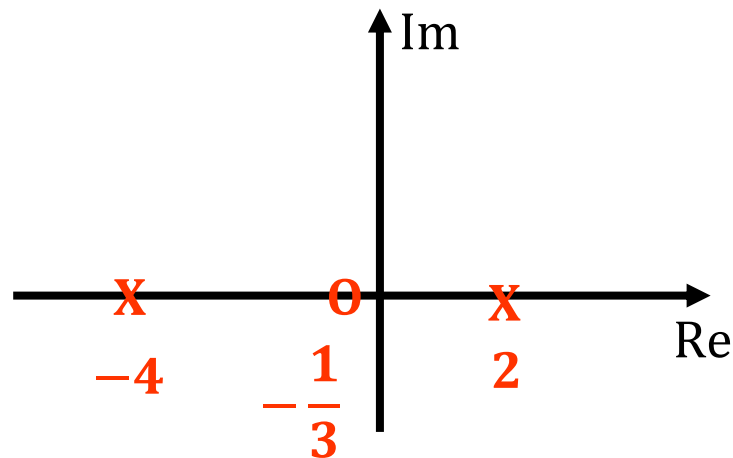
Obviously, when  $s = -4$  or  $2$  (POLE), we have  $H(s) \rightarrow \infty$

Obviously, when  $s = -\frac{1}{3}$  (ZERO), we have  $H(s) \rightarrow 0$

# DRAWING POLES AND ZEROS IN THE COMPLEX PLANE

Components	Values	
Gain $K$	$\frac{1}{3}$	We don't draw this here.
Zeros $s = z$	$-\frac{1}{3}$	<b>X</b>
Poles $s = p$	$-4, +2$	<b>O</b>

**s-domain**





# ADDITIONAL PROPERTY OF POLES AND ZEROS

We are modelling causal linear systems in the real world.



# ADDITIONAL PROPERTY OF POLES AND ZEROS

We are modelling causal linear systems in the real world.

This simple sentence tells us a lot!





# ADDITIONAL PROPERTY OF POLES AND ZEROS

We are modelling **causal linear systems** in the real world.

Number of zeros never  
more than number of poles

The system can be  
modeled by a *linear  
inhomogeneous* ODE

All coefficients are real

The poles and zeros with non-zero imaginary components always  
comes in **conjugate pairs**.

For all poles and zeros, if there exist a pole/zero  $\sigma + j\omega$  with  $\omega \neq 0$ , there  
must exist another pole/zero which is  $\sigma - j\omega$  with  $\omega \neq 0$  (the complex  
conjugate).



# CONTINUING OUR EXAMPLE

$$H(s) = \frac{Y(s)}{X(s)} = \frac{3s + 1}{s^2 + 2s - 8} = 3 \frac{s + \frac{1}{3}}{(s + 4)(s - 2)}$$

$$H(s) = \frac{\frac{11}{6}}{(s + 4)} + \frac{\frac{7}{6}}{(s - 2)}$$

Inverse Laplace transform:

$$h(t) = \frac{1}{6} (11e^{-4t} + 7e^{2t})$$

# TRANSFORM -> DECOMPOSE

What did we just do?

The process function  $h(t)$  can be decomposed to the summation of linearly independent exponentials:  $Ce^{\lambda t}$

In fact, with Laplace transform, we can decompose any linear system into linearly independent exponentials:

$$h(t) = \sum C e^{\lambda t}$$



# POLES ARE CRUCIAL

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$\lambda$  correspond to the **poles** of the transfer function.



# POLES ARE CRUCIAL

$\lambda$  correspond to the **poles** of the transfer function. So,

$$h(t) = \sum C e^{\lambda t} = \sum C e^{\sigma t} e^{j\omega t}$$

$\sigma$  - determines the decay(if stable) of the output signal

$\omega$  – determines the oscillation of the output signal



# POLES ARE CRUCIAL – RECALL EXAMPLE

$$H(s) = \frac{Y(s)}{X(s)} = \frac{3s + 1}{s^2 + 2s - 8} = 3 \frac{s + \frac{1}{3}}{(s + 4)(s - 2)}$$

$$H(s) = \frac{\frac{11}{6}}{(s + 4)} + \frac{\frac{7}{6}}{(s - 2)}$$

*pole: -4*      *pole: 2*

Inverse Laplace transform:

$$h(t) = \frac{1}{6} (11e^{-4t} + 7e^{2t})$$



# STABILITY

Is  $h(t)$  stable?

$$h(t) = \frac{1}{6} (11e^{-4t} + 7e^{2t})$$



# STABILITY

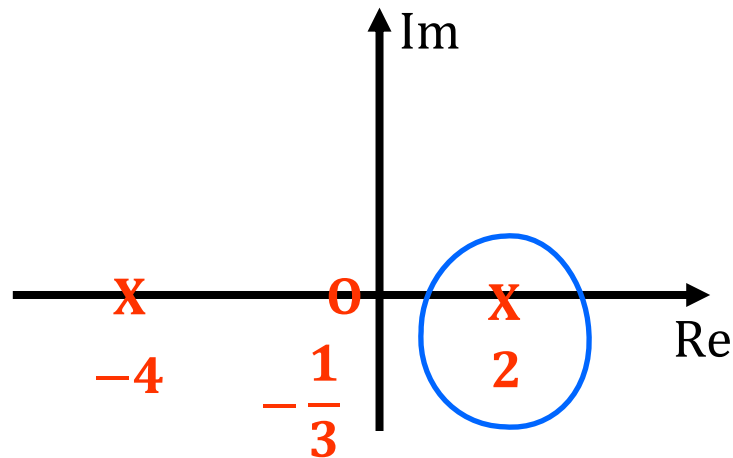
Is  $h(t)$  stable?

$$h(t) = \frac{1}{6} (11e^{-4t} + 7e^{2t})$$

Obviously not, if we look at  $h(t)$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ :

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{6} (11e^{-4t} + 7e^{2t}) = 0 + \infty$$

So not stable!





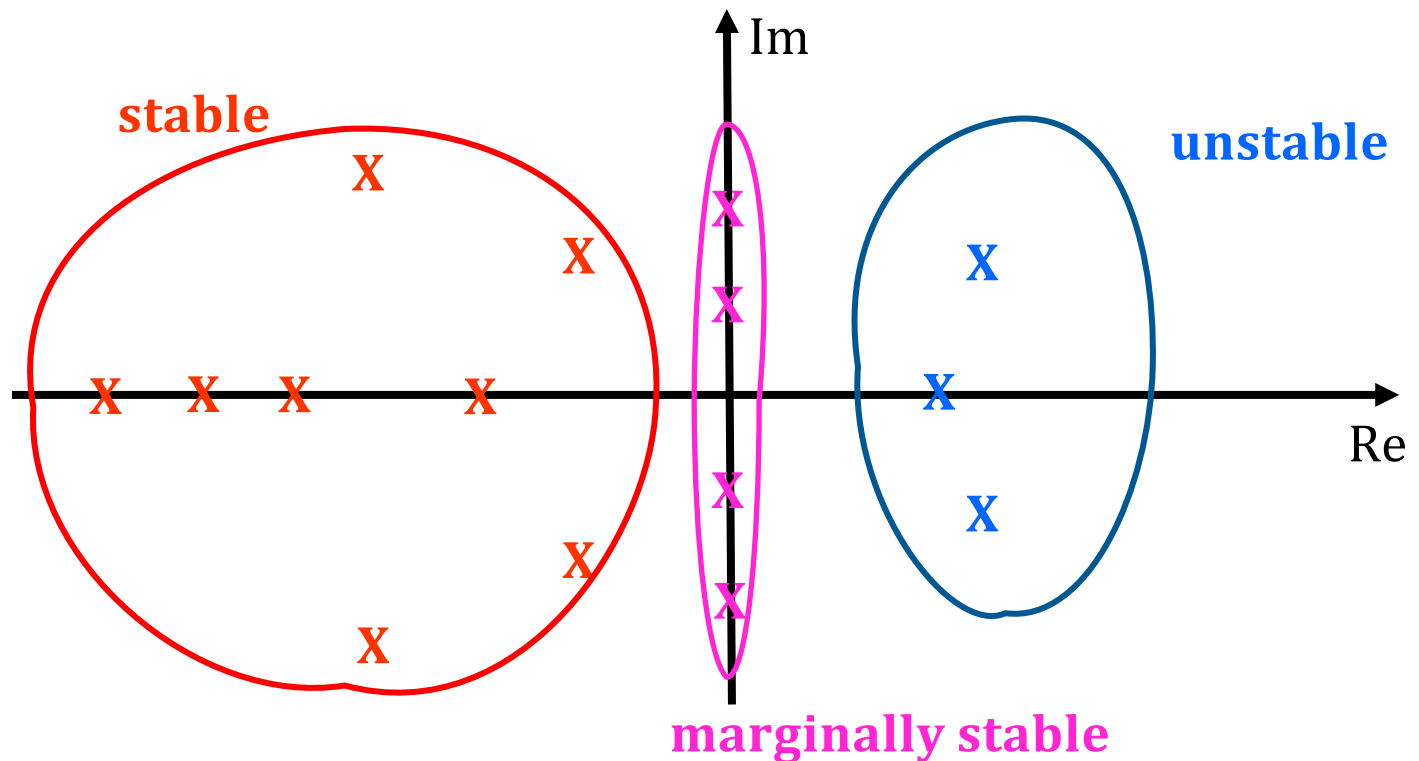


# STABILITY CRITERIA

Left Half Plane

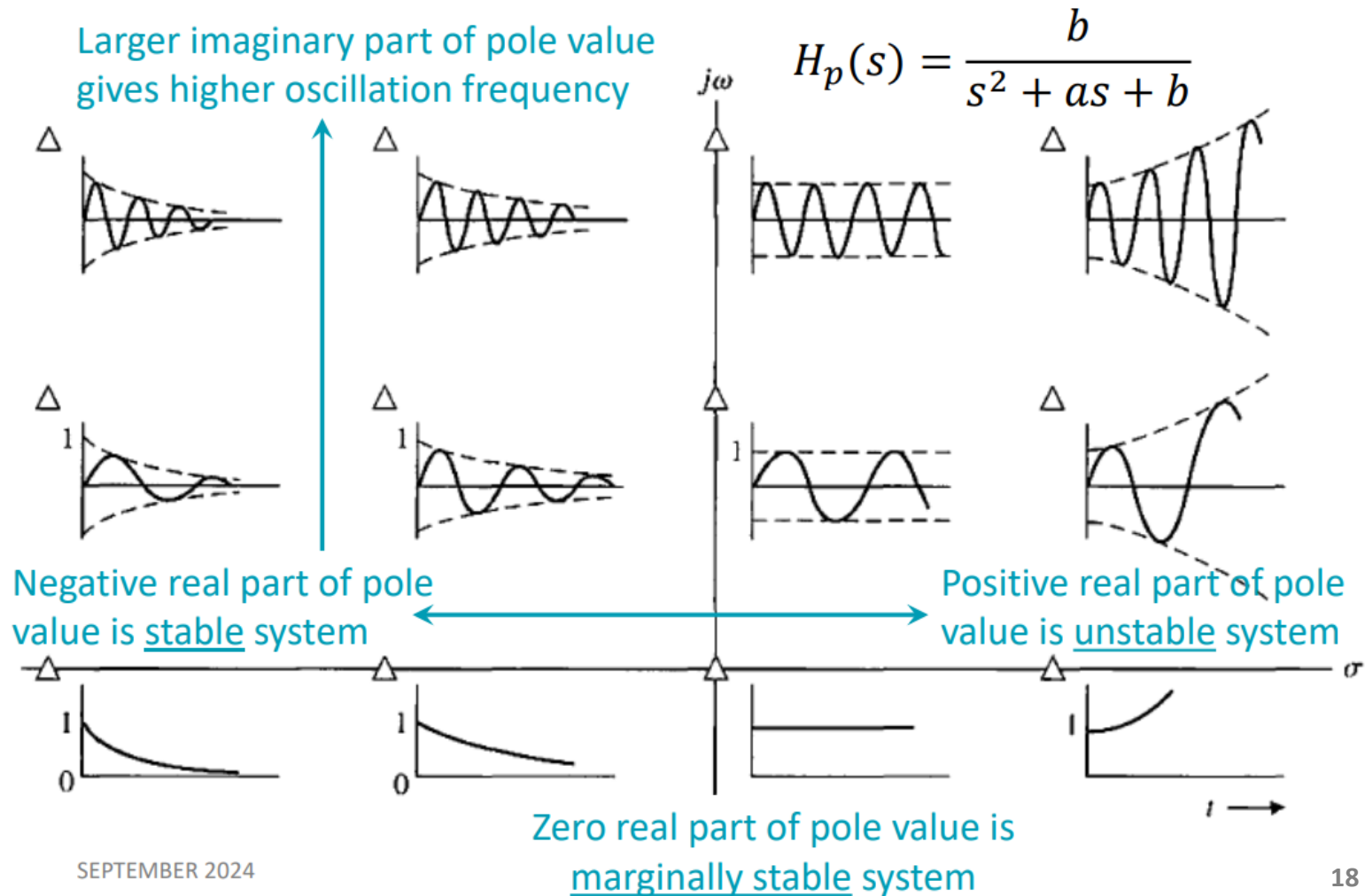
All poles should be in the open LHP of the s-plane.

**iff  $\forall \operatorname{Re}(p) < 0$ , stable!**





# POLES AND ZEROS

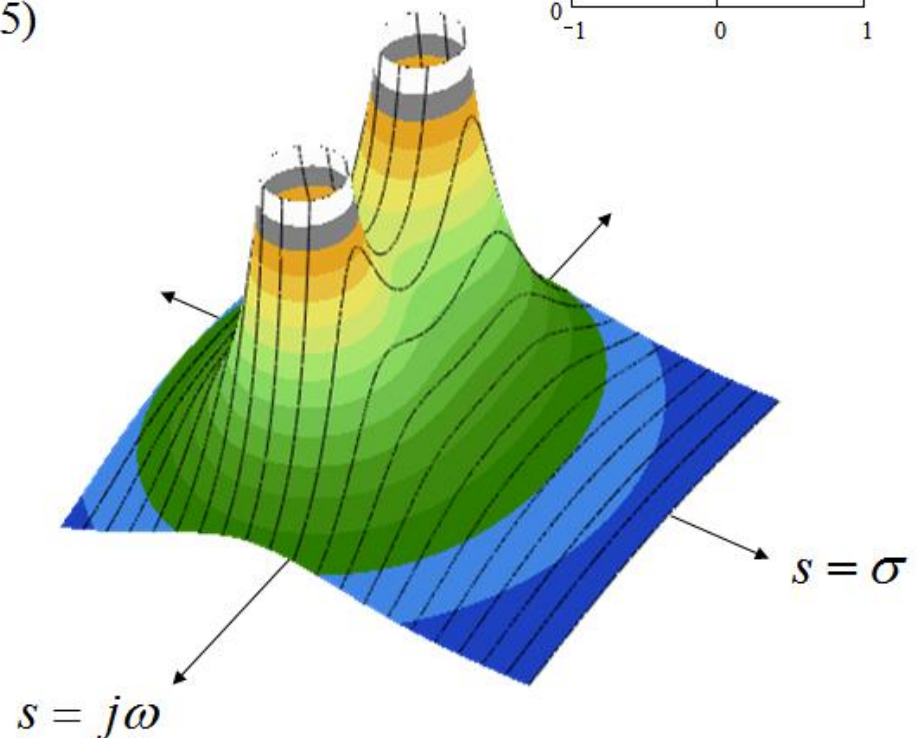
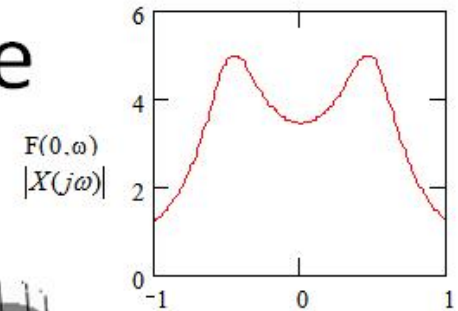
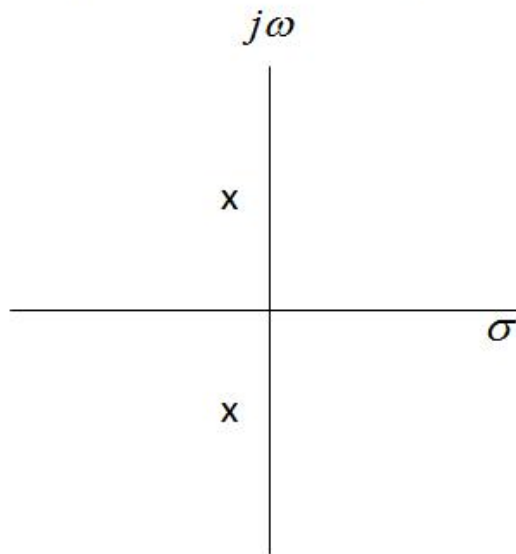


# Poles and zeros: Why we care!

## Filter Example

$$X(s) = \frac{1}{(s + .2 + j.5)(s + .2 - j.5)}$$

(poles at  $s = -.2 \pm j.5$ )

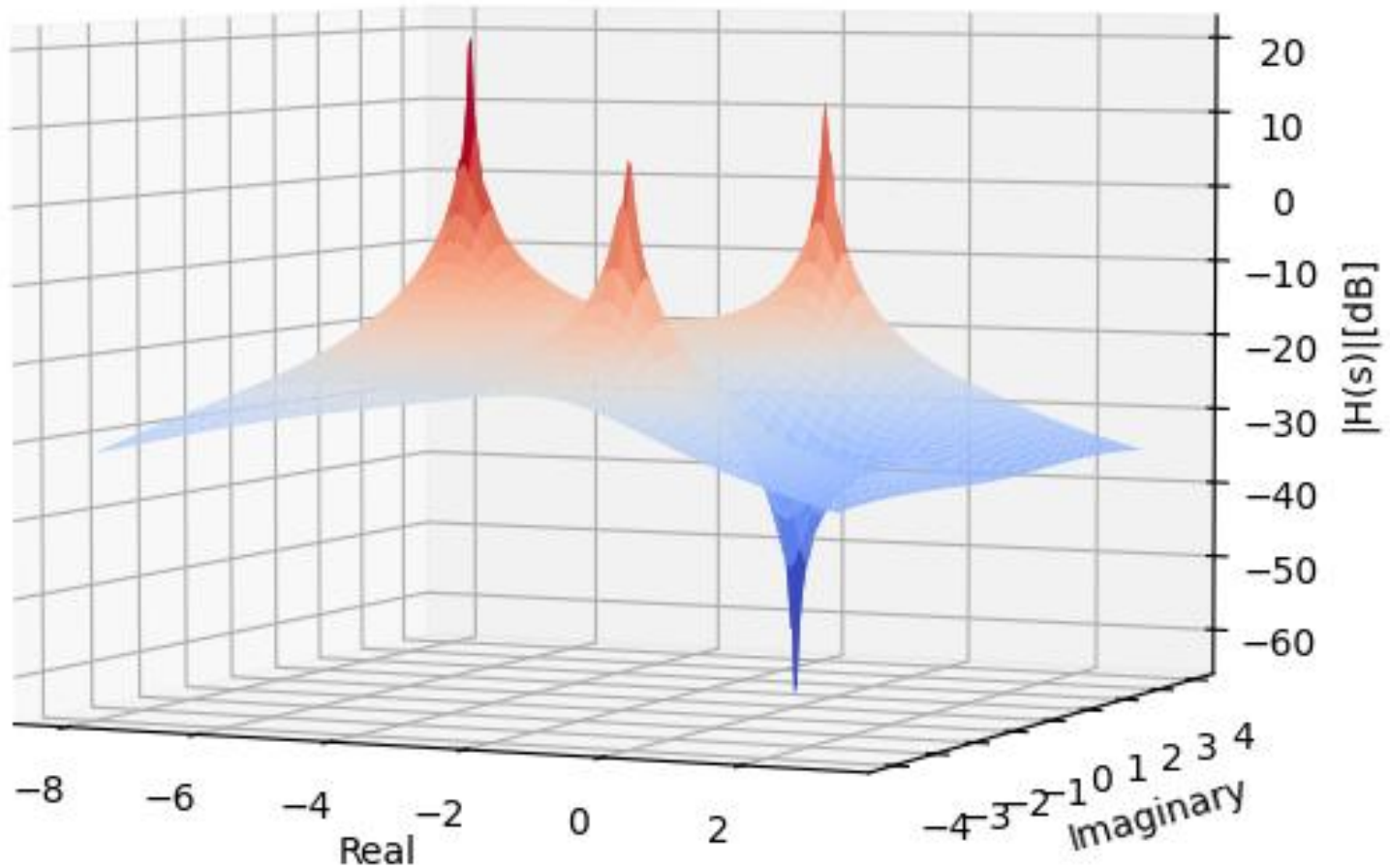




# Poles and zeros: Why we care!

$$\frac{s}{(s+5)(s^2+2s+7)}$$

(Visualization in log scale)



# SUMMARY

Transfer function:

$$H(s) = \frac{Y(s)}{X(s)}$$

Poles:

$s = p$  such that  $X(s = p) = 0$ , where  $|H(s)| \rightarrow \infty$

Zeros:

$s = z$  such that  $Y(s = z) = 0$ , where  $|H(s)| \rightarrow 0$

Stability criteria:

all poles in the open LHP



# HOMEWORK

Stage ONE exercises:

- Problem 1
- Problem 4



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# SELF-READING

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# Determination of the poles and zeros

- Step 1: rewrite the transfer function in such a way that the coefficient of the highest power becomes 1 (both for zeros and poles!)

– Examples:

Coefficient in the numerator is 0.1

$$G(s) = \frac{0,1s + 1}{s^2 + 7s + 12} =$$

Denominator coefficient of the highest power already is 1



# Determination of the poles and zeros

- Step 1: rewrite the transfer function in such a way that the coefficient of the highest power becomes 1 (both for zeros and poles!)
  - Examples:

$$G(s) = \frac{0,1s + 1}{s^2 + 7s + 12} = \frac{0,1(s + 10)}{s^2 + 7s + 12} =$$

# Determination of the poles and zeros

- Step 1: rewrite the transfer function in such a way that the coefficient of the highest power becomes 1 (both for zeros and poles!)
  - Examples:

$$G(s) = \frac{0,1s + 1}{s^2 + 7s + 12} = \frac{0,1(s + 10)}{s^2 + 7s + 12} = \frac{1}{10} \cdot \frac{s + 10}{s^2 + 7s + 12}$$

# Determination of the poles and zeros

- Step 1: rewrite the transfer function in such a way that the coefficient of the highest power becomes 1 (both for zeros and poles!)
  - Examples:

$$G(s) = \frac{0,1s + 1}{s^2 + 7s + 12} = \frac{0,1(s + 10)}{s^2 + 7s + 12} = \frac{1}{10} \cdot \frac{s + 10}{s^2 + 7s + 12}$$

$$G(s) = \frac{3s + 30}{5s^2 + 15s + 250} =$$

# Determination of the poles and zeros

- Step 1: rewrite the transfer function in such a way that the coefficient of the highest power becomes 1 (both for zeros and poles!)
  - Examples:

$$G(s) = \frac{0,1s + 1}{s^2 + 7s + 12} = \frac{0,1(s + 10)}{s^2 + 7s + 12} = \frac{1}{10} \cdot \frac{s + 10}{s^2 + 7s + 12}$$

$$G(s) = \frac{3s + 30}{5s^2 + 15s + 250} = \frac{3(s + 10)}{5(s^2 + 3s + 50)} = \frac{3}{5} \cdot \frac{s + 10}{s^2 + 3s + 50}$$

# Poles and zeros construction steps

- Step 1: rewrite the transfer function in such a way that the coefficient of the highest power becomes 1
- Step 2: rewrite the transfer function in its base parts – a constant, poles and zeros

$$G(s) = \frac{1}{10} \cdot \frac{s+10}{s^2+7s+12} = \frac{1}{10} \cdot \frac{s+10}{(s+3)(s+4)}$$

# Poles and zeros construction steps

- Step 1: rewrite the transfer function in such a way that the coefficient of the highest power becomes 1
- Step 2: rewrite the transfer function in its base parts – a constant, poles and zeros

$$G(s) = \frac{1}{10} \cdot \frac{s+10}{s^2 + 7s + 12} = \frac{1}{10} \cdot \frac{s+10}{(s+3)(s+4)}$$

$$G(s) = \frac{3}{5} \cdot \frac{s+10}{s^2 + 3s + 50} =$$

Sometimes the solution is complex  
→ results in two complex poles



# Poles and zeros construction steps

- Step 1: rewrite the transfer function in such a way that the coefficient of the highest power becomes 1
- Step 2: rewrite the transfer function in its base parts – a constant, poles and zeros

$$G(s) = \frac{1}{10} \cdot \frac{s+10}{s^2 + 7s + 12} = \frac{1}{10} \cdot \frac{s+10}{(s+3)(s+4)}$$

$$G(s) = \frac{3}{5} \cdot \frac{s+10}{s^2 + 3s + 50} = \frac{3}{5} \cdot \frac{s+10}{(s + \frac{3}{2} + \frac{13,8}{2} j)(s + \frac{3}{2} - \frac{13,8}{2} j)}$$

Sometimes the solution is complex  
→ results in two complex poles



# Poles and zeros construction steps

- Step 1: rewrite the transfer function in such a way that the coefficient of the highest power becomes 1
- Step 2: rewrite the transfer function in its base parts – a constant, poles and zeros
- Step 3: draw the poles and zeros in the (complex) s-plane; the constant is mentioned separately as K

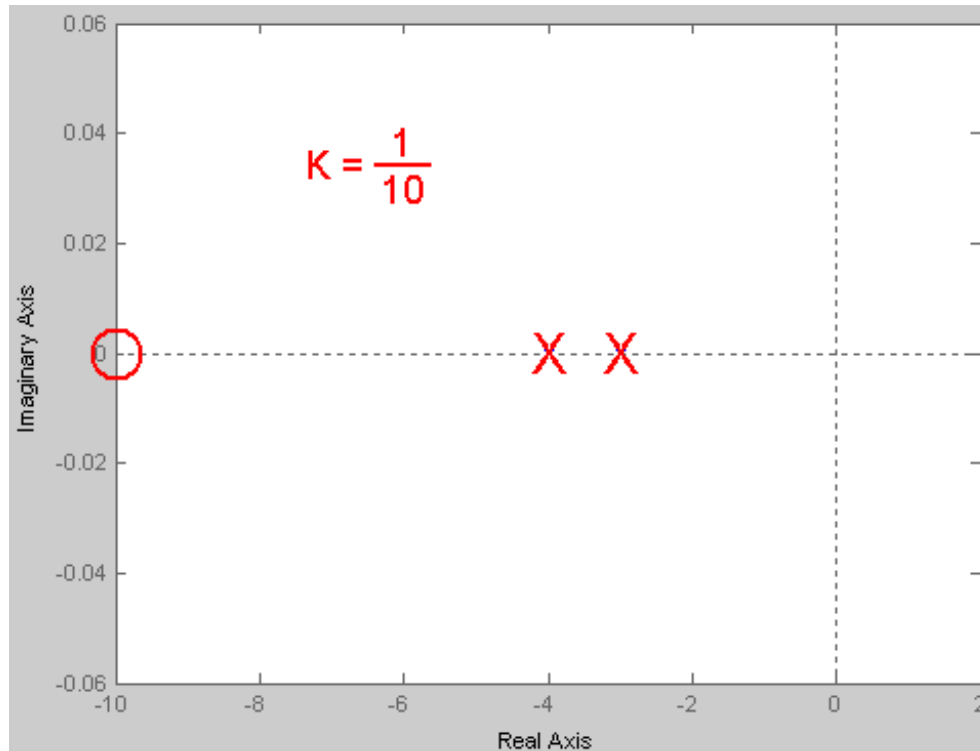




# Poles and zeros example

- Step 3: draw the poles and zeros in the (complex) s-plane; the constant is mentioned separately as K

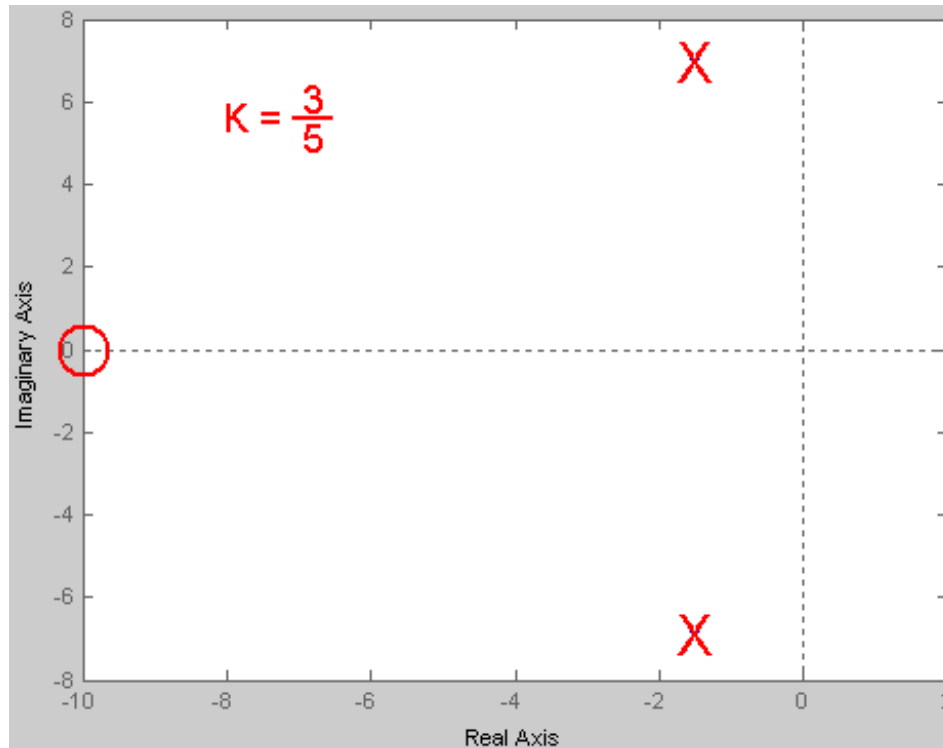
$$G(s) = \frac{1}{10} \cdot \frac{s+10}{(s+3)(s+4)}$$





# Poles and zeros example

$$G(s) = \frac{3}{5} \cdot \frac{s+10}{(s + \frac{3}{2} + \frac{13,8}{2} j)(s + \frac{3}{2} - \frac{13,8}{2} j)}$$





# Poles and zeros exercises

Draw the poles and zeros in the s-plane for:

1. 
$$H(s) = \frac{25s + 3}{4s^2 + 9s + 2}$$

2. 
$$H(s) = \frac{3s + 4}{s^2 + 6s + 8}$$

3. 
$$H(s) = \frac{2s + 1}{s^2 + 4s + 8}$$

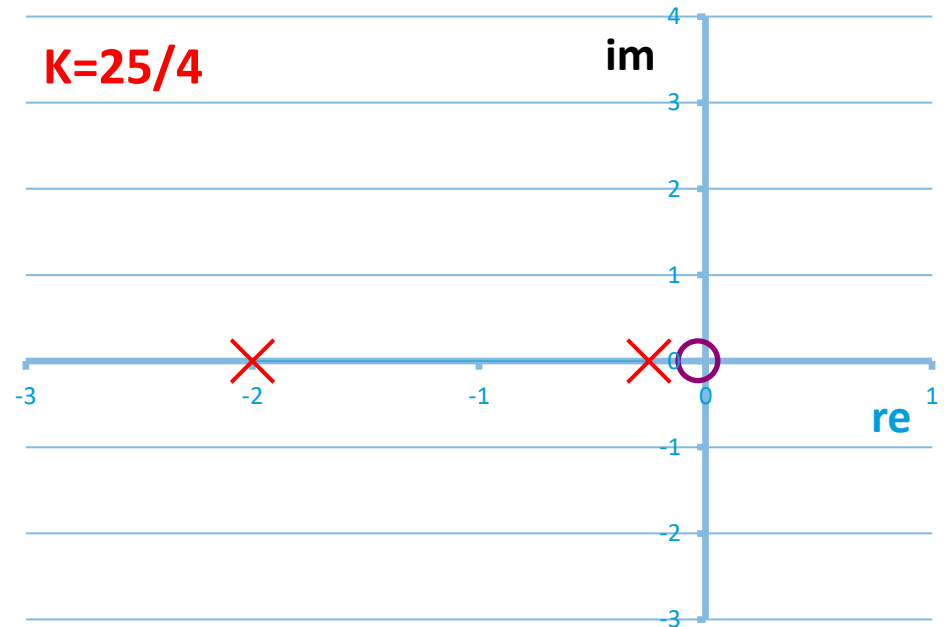


# Poles and zeros exercises

- Draw the poles and zeros in the s-plane for:

1.  $H(s) = \frac{25s + 3}{4s^2 + 9s + 2}$

- zero:  $-3/25$
- poles:  $-1/4$  and  $-2$
- $K = 25/4$



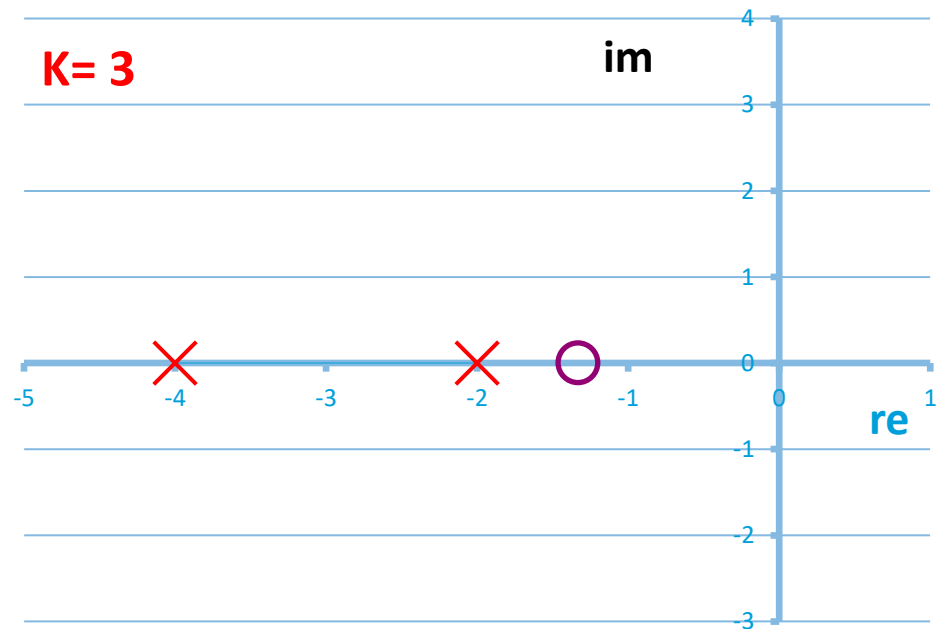


# Poles and zeros exercises

- Draw the poles and zeros in the s-plane for:

2.  $H(s) = \frac{3s + 4}{s^2 + 6s + 8}$

- zeros:  $-4/3$
- poles:  $-2$  and  $-4$
- $K = 3$



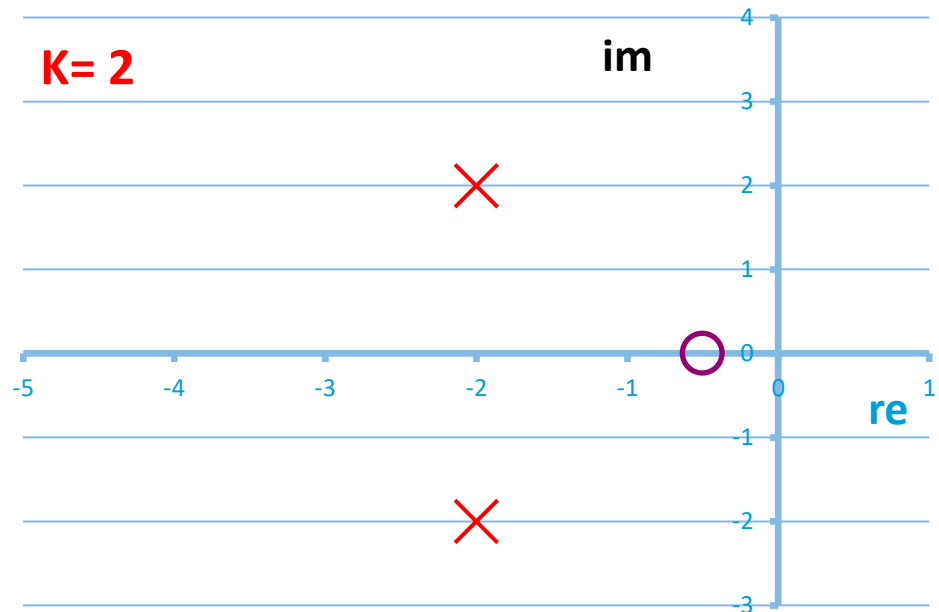


# Poles and zeros exercises

- Draw the poles and zeros in the s-plane for:

3.  $H(s) = \frac{2s + 1}{s^2 + 4s + 8}$

- zeros:  $-1/2$
- poles:  $-2+2j$   
and  $-2-2j$
- $K = 2$





# Poles and zeros exercises

4. Draw in the s-plane the poles and zeros of the transfer function  $H(s) = X(s)/F(s)$  and:

$$\frac{d^4 x(t)}{dt^4} + 2 \frac{d^3 x(t)}{dt^3} + 2 \frac{d^2 x(t)}{dt^2} = \frac{df(t)}{dt} + f(t)$$

All values at time = 0 are zero  
(so  $x'''(0)=x''(0)=0$ , etc.).



# Poles and zeros exercises

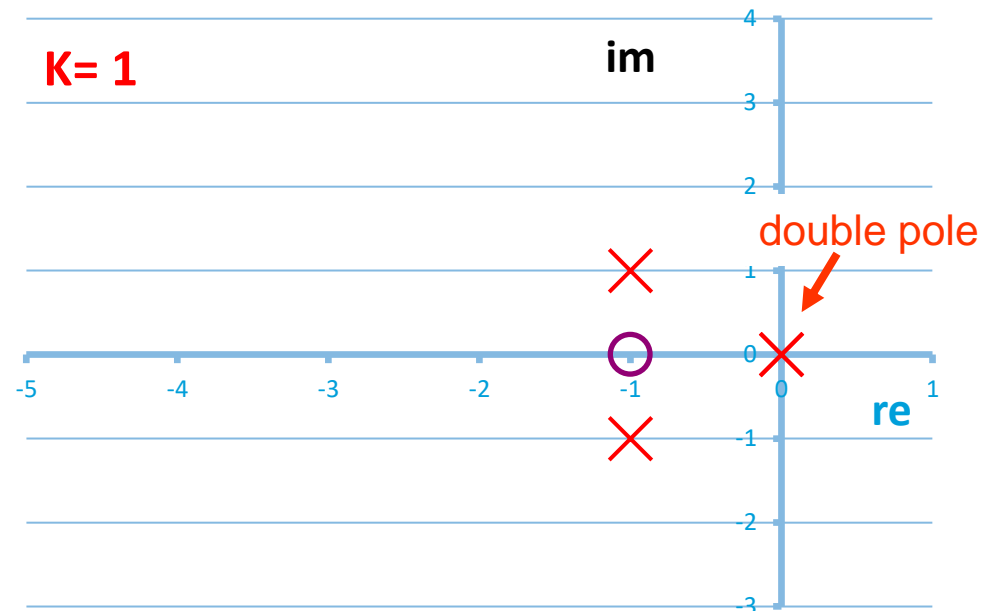
- Draw the poles and zeros in the s-plane for:

4. 
$$\frac{d^4 x(t)}{dt^4} + 2 \frac{d^3 x(t)}{dt^3} + 2 \frac{d^2 x(t)}{dt^2} = \frac{df(t)}{dt} + f(t)$$

Laplace  $\rightarrow s^4 + 2s^3 + 2s^2 = s + 1$

Transfer function:

$$H_s = \frac{s + 1}{s^4 + 2s^3 + 2s^2}$$
$$= \frac{s + 1}{s * s(s + 1 + j)(s + 1 - j)}$$

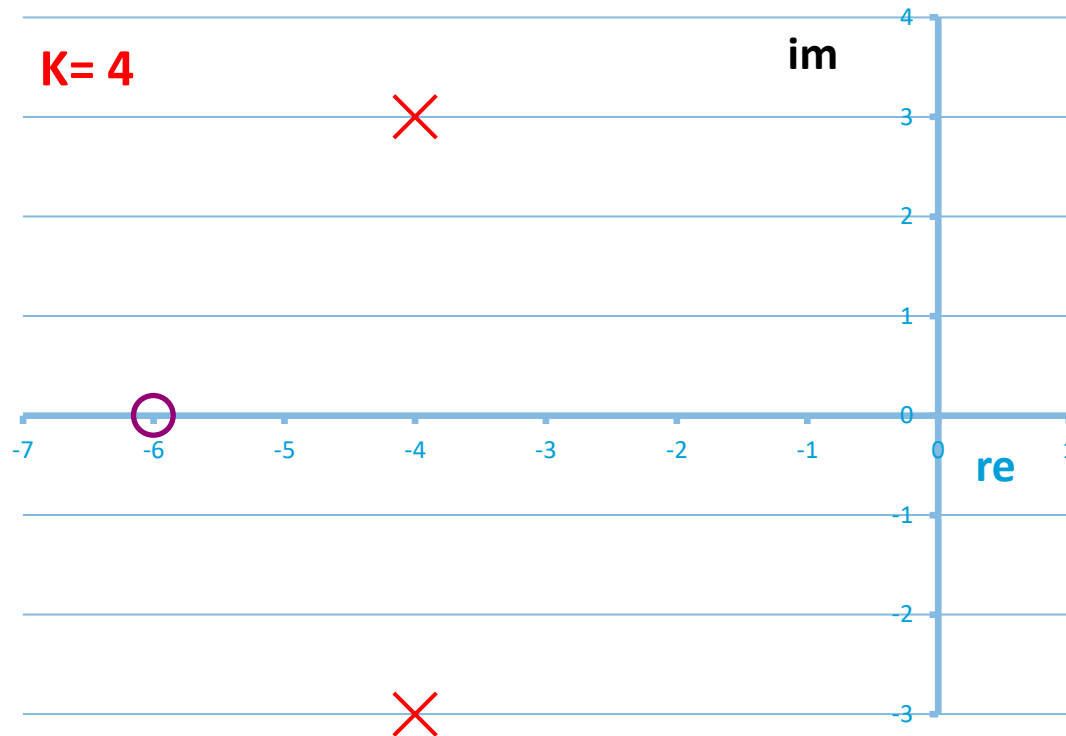






# Poles and zeros exercises

5. Find the differential equation for:



Assume that the initial conditions are zero.  
Input is  $x(t)$  and output is  $y(t)$ .

# Poles and zeros exercises

5. Find the differential equation



$$\frac{Y(s)}{X(s)} = 4 \frac{s + 6}{(s + 4 - 3i)(s + 4 + 3i)}$$



# Poles and zeros exercises

5. Find the differential equation

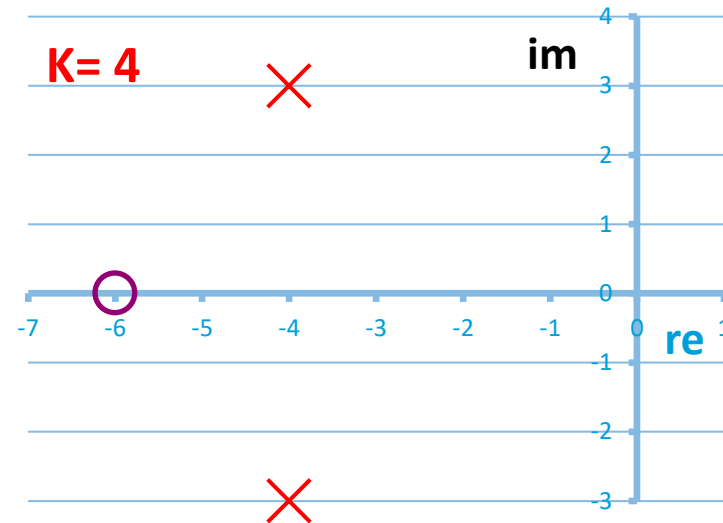


$$\frac{Y(s)}{X(s)} = 4 \frac{s + 6}{(s + 4 - 3i)(s + 4 + 3i)} = \frac{4s + 24}{s^2 + 8s + 25}$$



# Poles and zeros exercises

5. Find the differential equation



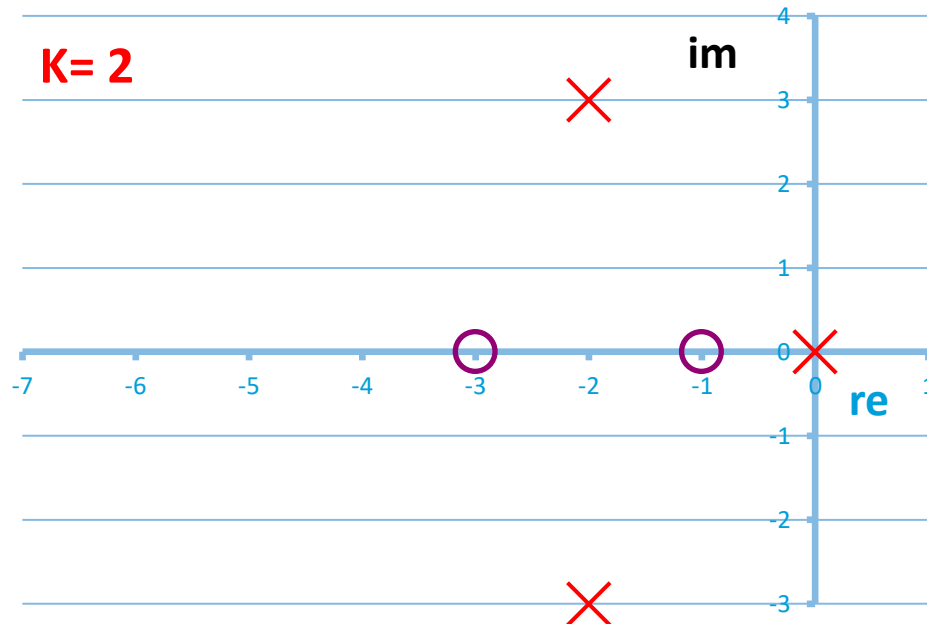
$$\frac{Y(s)}{X(s)} = 4 \frac{s + 6}{(s + 4 - 3i)(s + 4 + 3i)} = \frac{4s + 24}{s^2 + 8s + 25}$$

$$\frac{d^2 y(t)}{dt^2} + 8 \frac{dy(t)}{dt} + 25y = 4 \frac{dx(t)}{dt} + 24x(t)$$



# Poles and zeros exercises

6. Find the differential equation for:



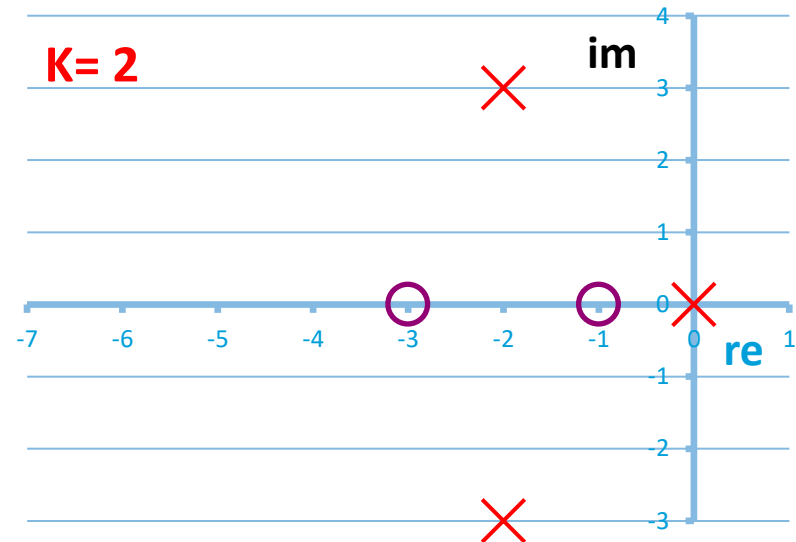
Assume that the initial conditions are zero.  
Input is  $x(t)$  and output is  $y(t)$ .



# Poles and zeros exercise

6. Find the differential equation

$$\frac{Y(s)}{X(s)} = 2 \frac{(s+1)(s+3)}{(s+2-3i)(s+2+3i)s}$$



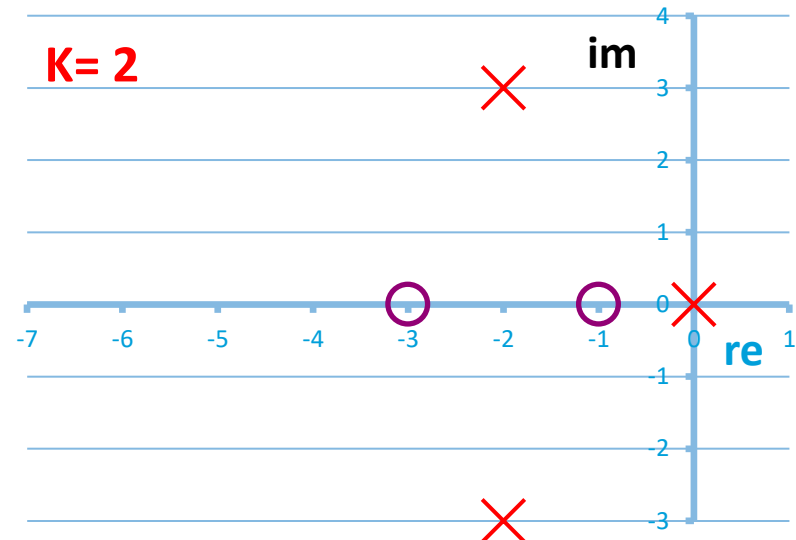


# Poles and zeros exercise

6. Find the differential equation

$$\frac{Y(s)}{X(s)} = 2 \frac{(s+1)(s+3)}{(s+2-3i)(s+2+3i)s}$$

$$\frac{Y(s)}{X(s)} = \frac{2s^2 + 8s + 6}{s^3 + 4s^2 + 13s}$$



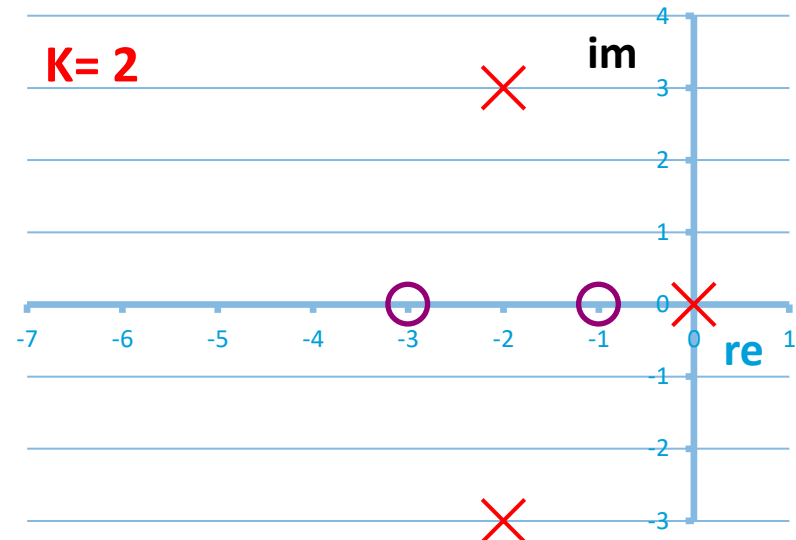


# Poles and zeros exercise

6. Find the differential equation

$$\frac{Y(s)}{X(s)} = 2 \frac{(s+1)(s+3)}{(s+2-3i)(s+2+3i)s}$$

$$\frac{Y(s)}{X(s)} = \frac{2s^2 + 8s + 6}{s^3 + 4s^2 + 13s}$$



$$\frac{d^3 y(t)}{dt^3} + 4 \frac{d^2 y(t)}{dt^2} + 13 \frac{dy(t)}{dt} = 2 \frac{d^2 x(t)}{dt^2} + 8 \frac{dx(t)}{dt} + 6x(t)$$



# Poles and zeros exercise

7. Draw the poles and zeros in the s-plane for the combination:

$$\frac{d^2 y(t)}{dt^2} + 8 \frac{dy(t)}{dt} + 15y(t) = 5 \frac{dx(t)}{dt} + 10x(t)$$

$$x(t) = 2t$$



# Poles and zeros exercises

7. Draw the poles and zeros in the s-plane for the combination:

$$\frac{d^2 y(t)}{dt^2} + 8 \frac{dy(t)}{dt} + 15y(t) = 5 \frac{dx(t)}{dt} + 10x(t) \quad \rightarrow$$

$$x(t) = 2t \quad \rightarrow$$

**Laplace  
Transform**



# Poles and zeros exercises

7. Draw the poles and zeros in the s-plane for the combination:

$$\frac{d^2 y(t)}{dt^2} + 8 \frac{dy(t)}{dt} + 15y(t) = 5 \frac{dx(t)}{dt} + 10x(t) \quad \Rightarrow \quad H(s) = \frac{5s + 10}{s^2 + 8s + 15}$$

$$x(t) = 2t \quad \Rightarrow \quad X(s) = \frac{2}{s^2}$$

$$H(s) = Y(s)/X(s) \rightarrow Y(s) = H(s) \cdot X(s)$$



# Poles and zeros exercises

7. Draw the poles and zeros in the s-plane for the combination:

$$\frac{d^2 y(t)}{dt^2} + 8 \frac{dy(t)}{dt} + 15y(t) = 5 \frac{dx(t)}{dt} + 10x(t) \quad \Rightarrow \quad H(s) = \frac{5s + 10}{s^2 + 8s + 15}$$

$$x(t) = 2t \quad \Rightarrow \quad X(s) = \frac{2}{s^2}$$

$$Y(s) = \frac{10s + 20}{s^2(s^2 + 8s + 15)}$$

$$Y(s) = 10 \frac{s + 2}{s^2(s + 3)(s + 5)}$$





# Poles and zeros exercises

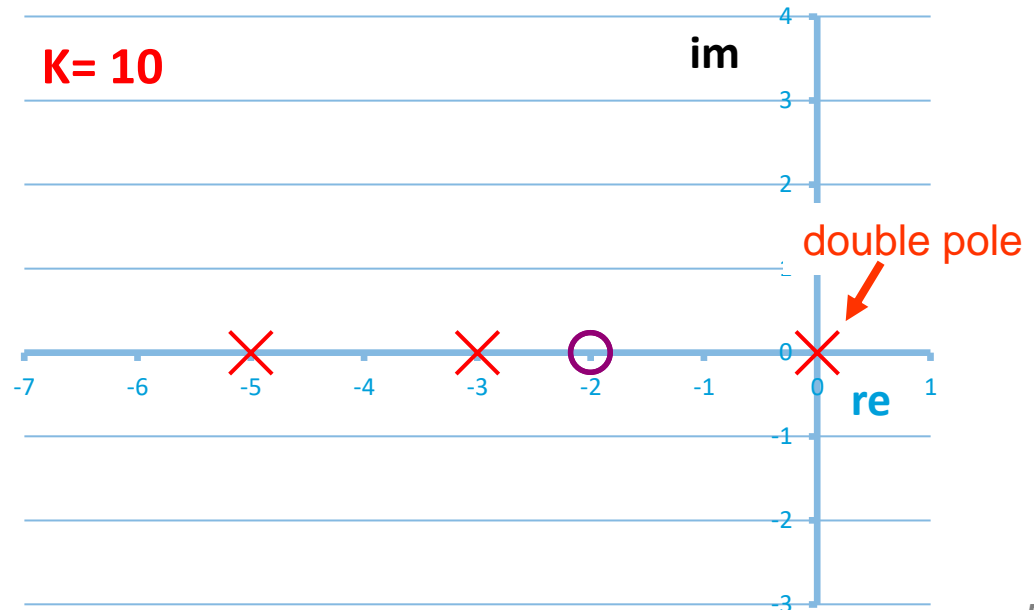
7. Draw the poles and zeros in the s-plane for the combination:

$$\frac{d^2 y(t)}{dt^2} + 8 \frac{dy(t)}{dt} + 15y(t) = 5 \frac{dx(t)}{dt} + 10x(t) \Rightarrow H(s) = \frac{5s + 10}{s^2 + 8s + 15}$$

$$x(t) = 2t \Rightarrow X(s) = \frac{2}{s^2}$$

$$Y(s) = \frac{10s + 20}{s^2(s^2 + 8s + 15)}$$

$$Y(s) = 10 \frac{s + 2}{s^2(s + 3)(s + 5)}$$



# Poles and zeros exercises

8. Draw the poles and zeros in the s-plane for the combination:

$$\frac{d^2 y(t)}{dt^2} + 5 \frac{dy(t)}{dt} + 4y(t) = 3 \frac{dx(t)}{dt} + 18x(t)$$

$$x(t) = 5 \cos(3t)$$



# Poles and zeros exercises

8. Draw the poles and zeros in the s-plane for the combination:

$$\frac{d^2 y(t)}{dt^2} + 5 \frac{dy(t)}{dt} + 4y(t) = 3 \frac{dx(t)}{dt} + 18x(t) \quad \rightarrow$$

$$x(t) = 5 \cos(3t) \quad \rightarrow$$

Laplace  
Transform



# Poles and zeros exercises

8. Draw the poles and zeros in the s-plane for the combination:

$$\frac{d^2 y(t)}{dt^2} + 5 \frac{dy(t)}{dt} + 4y(t) = 3 \frac{dx(t)}{dt} + 18x(t) \quad \Rightarrow \quad H(s) = \frac{3s + 18}{s^2 + 5s + 4}$$

$$x(t) = 5 \cos(3t) \quad \Rightarrow \quad X(s) = 5 \frac{s}{s^2 + 9}$$

Laplace  
Transform





# Poles and zeros exercises

8. Draw the poles and zeros in the s-plane for the combination:

$$\frac{d^2 y(t)}{dt^2} + 5 \frac{dy(t)}{dt} + 4y(t) = 3 \frac{dx(t)}{dt} + 18x(t) \quad \Rightarrow \quad H(s) = \frac{3s + 18}{s^2 + 5s + 4}$$

$$x(t) = 5 \cos(3t) \quad \Rightarrow \quad X(s) = 5 \frac{s}{s^2 + 9}$$

Laplace  
Transform

$$Y(s) = \frac{5s(3s + 18)}{(s^2 + 9)(s^2 + 5s + 4)}$$



# Poles and zeros exercises

8. Draw the poles and zeros in the s-plane for the combination:

$$\frac{d^2 y(t)}{dt^2} + 5 \frac{dy(t)}{dt} + 4y(t) = 3 \frac{dx(t)}{dt} + 18x(t) \quad \Rightarrow \quad H(s) = \frac{3s + 18}{s^2 + 5s + 4}$$

$$x(t) = 5 \cos(3t) \quad \Rightarrow \quad X(s) = 5 \frac{s}{s^2 + 9}$$

Laplace  
Transform

$$Y(s) = \frac{5s(3s + 18)}{(s^2 + 9)(s^2 + 5s + 4)}$$

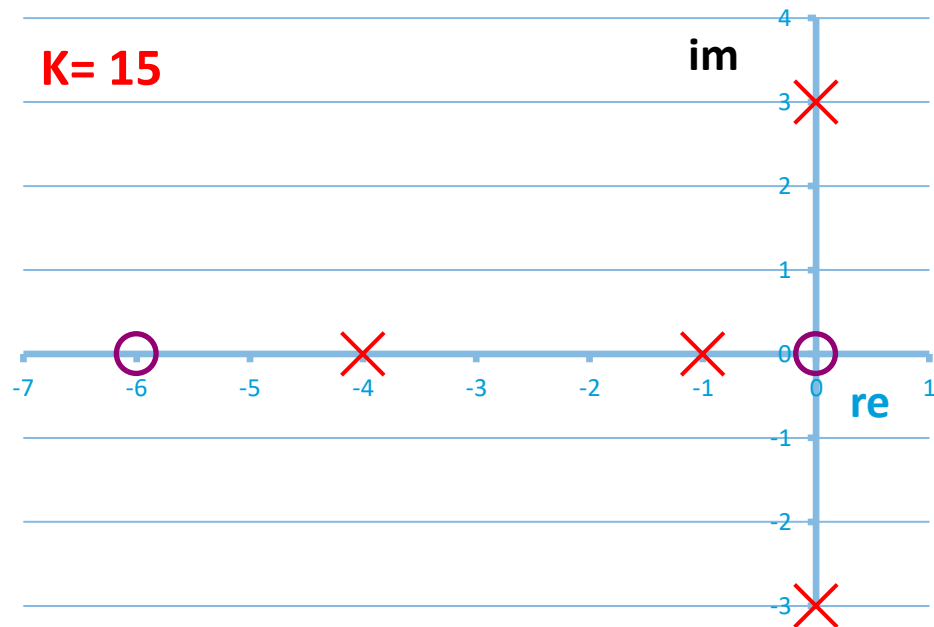
$$Y(s) = 15 \frac{s(s + 6)}{(s + 1)(s + 4)(s + 3j)(s - 3j)}$$



# Poles and zeros exercises

8. Draw the poles and zeros in the s-plane for the combination:

$$Y(s) = 15 \frac{s(s+6)}{(s+1)(s+4)(s+3j)(s-3j)}$$





# Matlab commands

$$H_s = \frac{(s + 7)}{s(s + 5)(s + 15)}$$

Define a system:

You can use:

```
>> sys=zpk(-7,[0 -5 -15],1);
```

or

```
>> sys=tf([1 7],[1 20 75 0]);
```

Another option is

```
>> s=tf('s');
```

```
>> sys = (s+7)/(s*(s+5)*(s+15));
```

Look at location of poles and zeros

```
>> pzmap(sys)
```

```
>> ltiview(sys)
```

