



ECE 486 Control Systems

Lecture 17: Nyquist Stability Examples;
Phase and Gain Margins from Nyquist Plots.

Liangjing Yang

Assistant Professor, ZJU-UIUC Institute

liangjingyang@intl.zju.edu.cn

Checklist



Wk	Topic	Ref.
1	✓ Introduction to feedback control	Ch. 1
	✓ State-space models of systems; linearization	Sections 1.1, 1.2, 2.1–2.4, 7.2, 9.2.1
2	✓ Linear systems and their dynamic response	Section 3.1, Appendix A
	✓ Transient and steady-state dynamic response with arbitrary initial conditions	Section 3.1, Appendix A
3	✓ National Holiday Week	
4	✓ System modeling diagrams; prototype second-order system	Sections 3.1, 3.2, lab manual
	✓ Transient response specifications	Sections 3.3, 3.14, lab manual
5	✓ Effect of zeros and extra poles; Routh-Hurwitz stability criterion	Sections 3.5, 3.6
	✓ Basic properties and benefits of feedback control; Introduction to Proportional-Integral-Derivative (PID) control	Section 4.1–4.3, lab manual
6	✓ Review A	
	✓ Term Test A	
7	✓ Introduction to Root Locus design method	Ch. 5
	✓ Root Locus continued; introduction to dynamic compensation	Root Locus
8	✓ Lead and lag dynamic compensation	Ch. 5
	✓ Introduction to frequency-response design method	Sections 5.1–5.4, 6.1

Modeling

Analysis

Design

Root Locus

Frequency Response

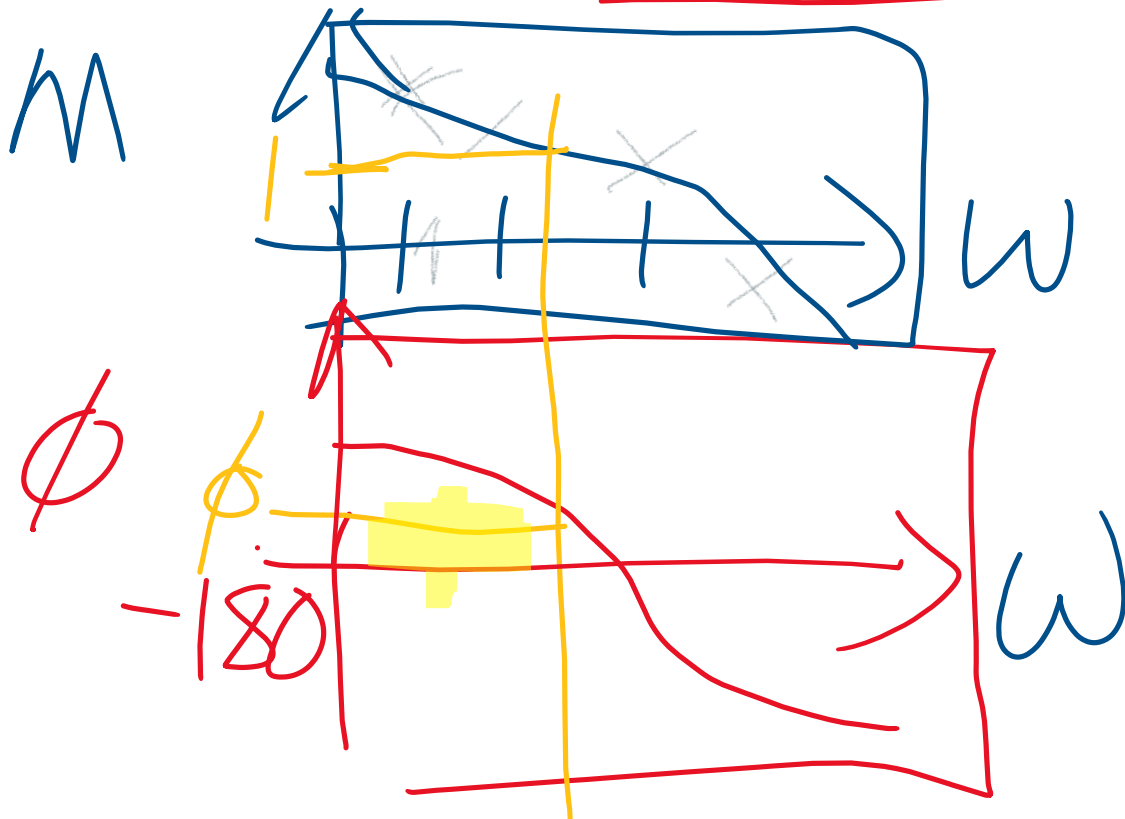
State-Space

Wk	Topic	Ref.
9	Bode plots for three types of transfer functions	Section 6.1
	Stability from frequency response; gain and phase margins	Section 6.1
10	Control design using frequency response: PD and Lead	Ch. 6
	Control design using frequency response continued; PI and lag, PID and lead-lag	Frequency Response
11	Nyquist stability criterion	Ch. 6
	Nyquist stability; gain and phase margins from Nyquist plots	Ch. 6
12	Review B	
	Term Test B	
13	Introduction to state-space design	Ch. 7
	Controllability, stability, and pole-zero cancellations; similarity transformation; conversion of controllable systems to Controller Canonical Form	Ch. 7
14	Pole placement by full state feedback	Ch. 7
	Observer design for state estimation	Ch. 7
15	Joint observer and controller design by dynamic output feedback; separation principle	State-Space
	In-class review	Ch. 7
16	END OF LECTURES: Revision Week	
	Final	

Lecture Overview

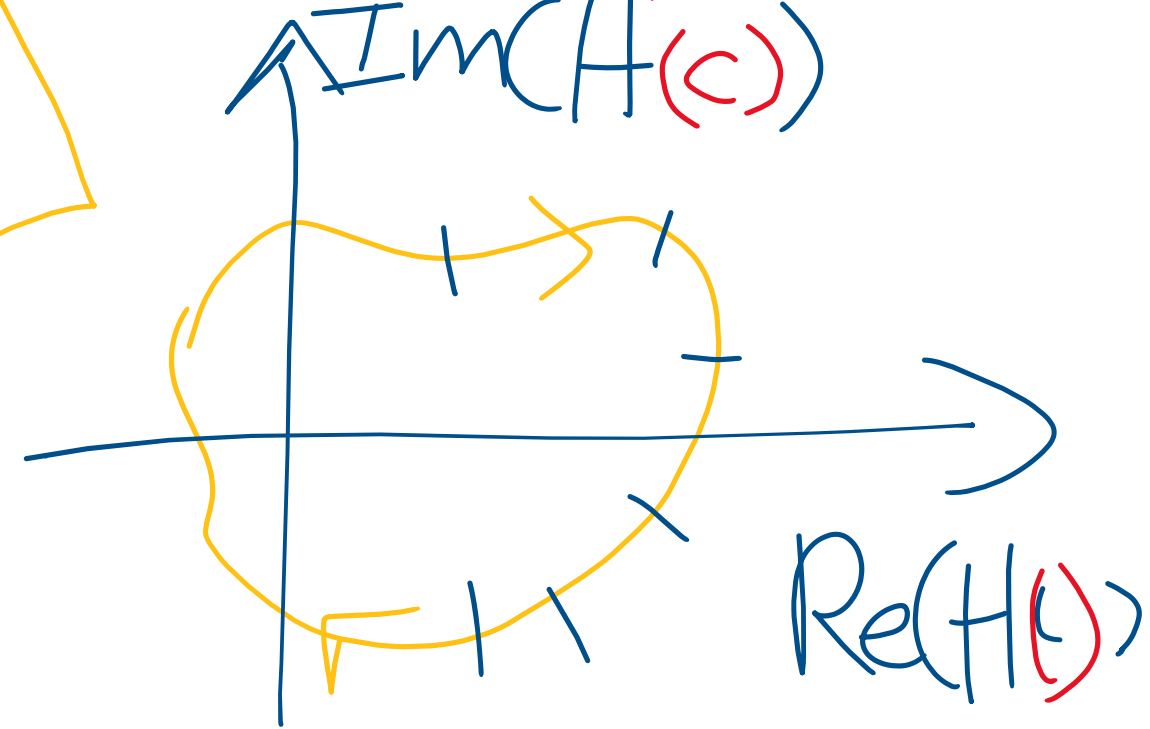
- Review: Nyquist stability criterion
- Today's topic: Phase and Gain Margin from Nyquist Plot

Stability Margin



Review: Nyquist Plot

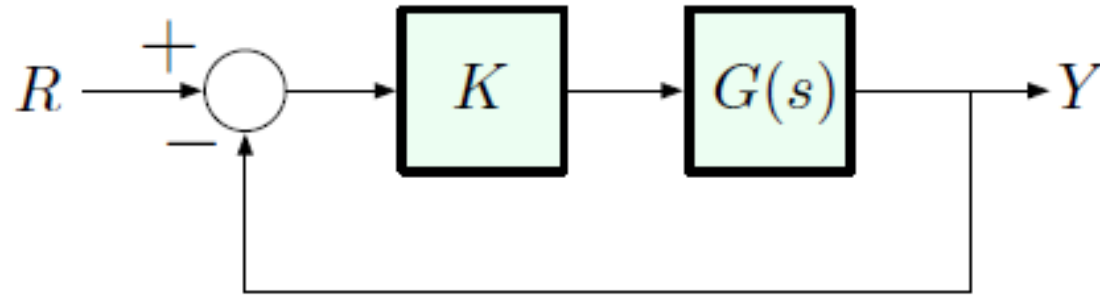
$$N = Z - P$$



$$H(s) = \frac{(s - z_1) \cdots (s - z_m)}{(s - p_1)(s - p_2) \cdots (s - p_n)}$$

Review: Nyquist Stability Criterion

$$N = Z - P$$

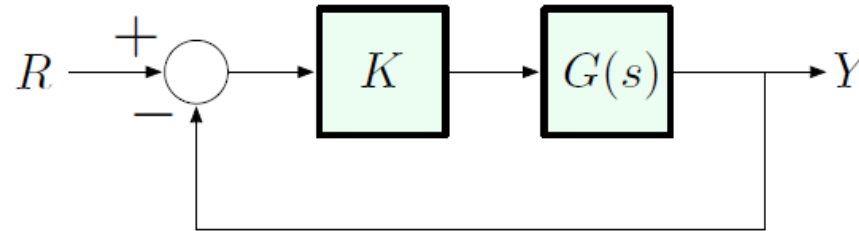


Goal: count the number of RHP poles (if any) of the closed-loop transfer function

$$\frac{KG(s)}{1 + KG(s)}$$

based on frequency-domain characteristics of the plant transfer function $G(s)$

Review: The Nyquist Theorem



Nyquist Theorem (1928) Assume that $G(s)$ has no poles on the imaginary axis*, and that its Nyquist plot does not pass through the point $-1/K$. Then

$$N = Z - P$$

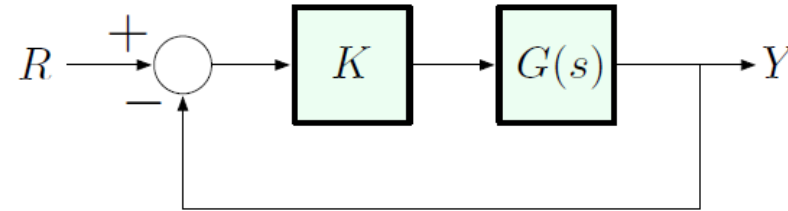
$$\cancel{Z} = N + P$$

$\#(\odot \text{ of } -1/K \text{ by Nyquist plot of } G(s))$

$$= \#(\text{RHP closed-loop poles}) - \#(\text{RHP open-loop poles})$$

* Easy to fix: draw an infinitesimally small circular path that goes *around* the pole and stays in RHP

Review: The Nyquist Stability Criterion



$$\underbrace{N}_{\#(\odot \text{ of } -1/K)} = \underbrace{Z}_{\#(\text{unstable CL poles})} - \underbrace{P}_{\#(\text{unstable OL poles})}$$

$$Z = N + P$$

$$Z = 0 \iff N = -P$$

Nyquist Stability Criterion. Under the assumptions of the Nyquist theorem, the closed-loop system (at a given gain K) is stable *if and only if* the Nyquist plot of $G(s)$ encircles the point $-1/K$ P times *counterclockwise*, where P is the number of unstable (RHP) open-loop poles of $G(s)$.

Review: Apply Nyquist Criterion

Workflow:



Bode M and ϕ -plots \longrightarrow Nyquist plot

Advantages of Nyquist over Routh–Hurwitz

- ▶ can work directly with experimental frequency response data (e.g., if we have the Bode plot based on measurements, but do not know the transfer function)
- ▶ less computational, more geometric (came 55 years after Routh)

Example 1

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

(no open-loop RHP poles)

Characteristic equation:

$$(s+1)(s+2) + K = 0 \iff s^2 + 3s + K + 2 = 0$$

From Routh, we already know that the closed-loop system is stable for $K > -2$.

We will now reproduce this answer using the Nyquist criterion.

Strategy:

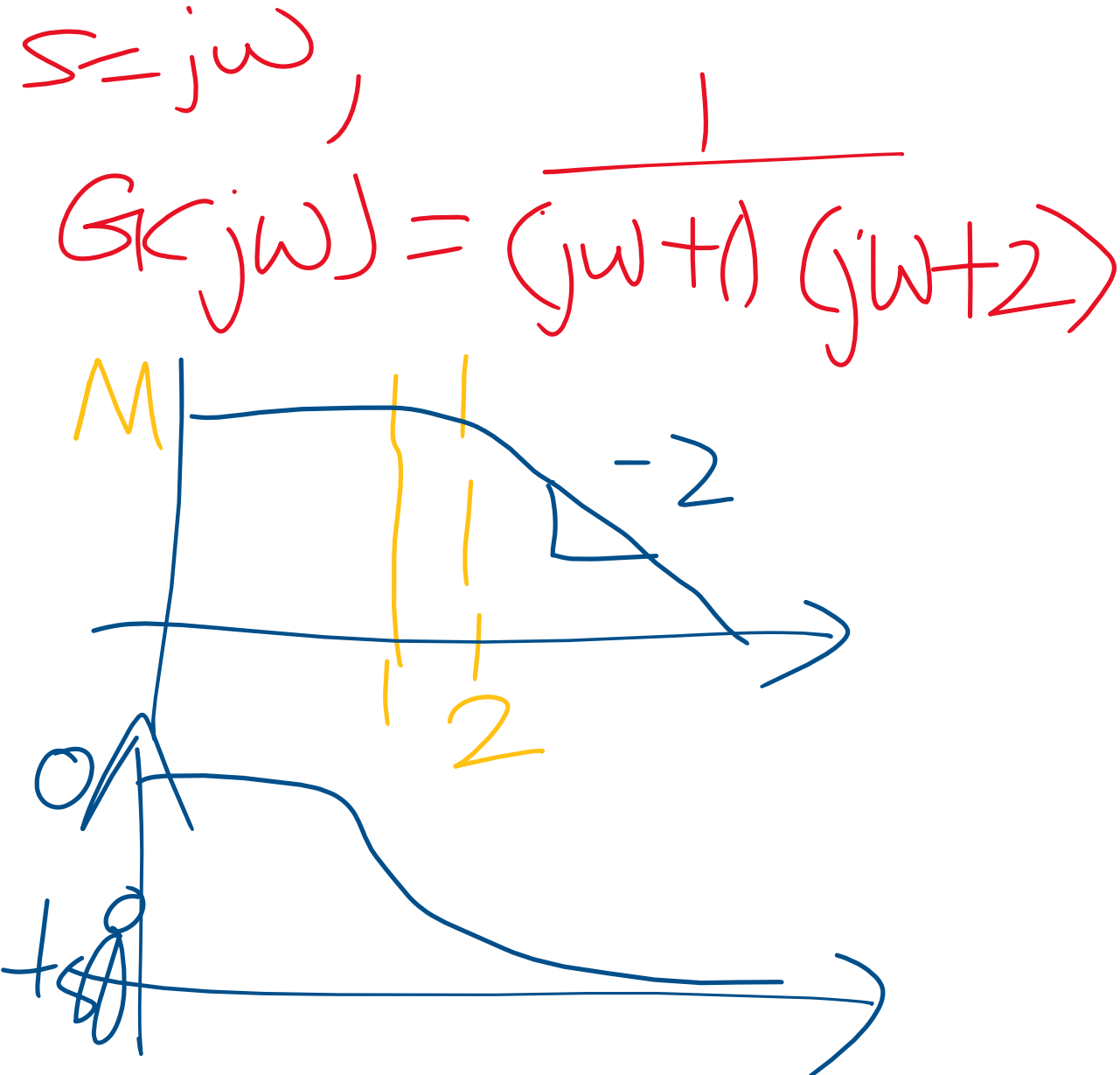
- ▶ Start with the Bode plot of G
- ▶ Use the Bode plot to graph $\text{Im } G(j\omega)$ vs. $\text{Re } G(j\omega)$ for $0 \leq \omega < \infty$
- ▶ This gives only a *portion* of the entire Nyquist plot

$$(\text{Re } G(j\omega), \text{Im } G(j\omega)), \quad -\infty < \omega < \infty$$

- ▶ Symmetry:

$$G(-j\omega) = \overline{G(j\omega)}$$

— Nyquist plots are always *symmetric w.r.t. the real axis*!!



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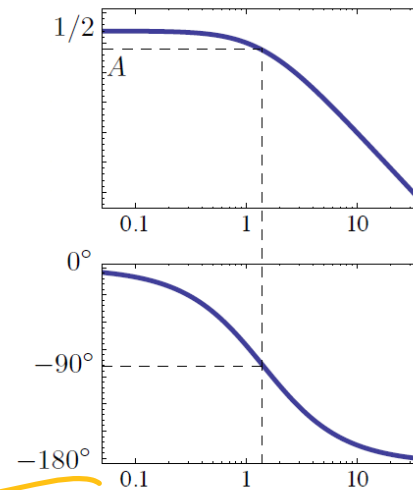
$$(\text{Re } G(j\omega), \text{Im } G(j\omega)), \quad -\infty < \omega < \infty$$

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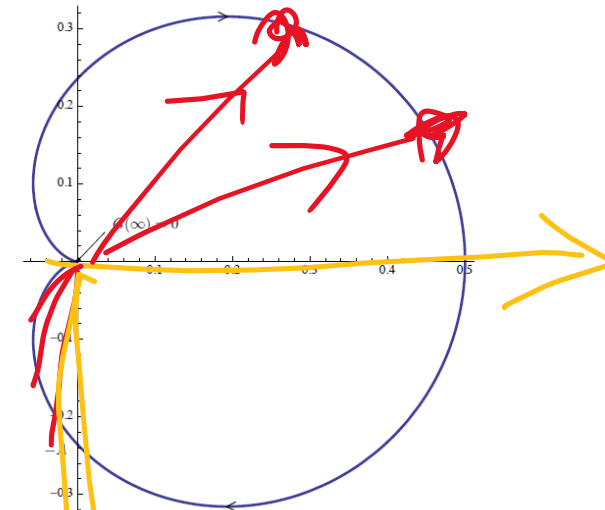
$$G(-j\omega) = \overline{G(j\omega)}$$

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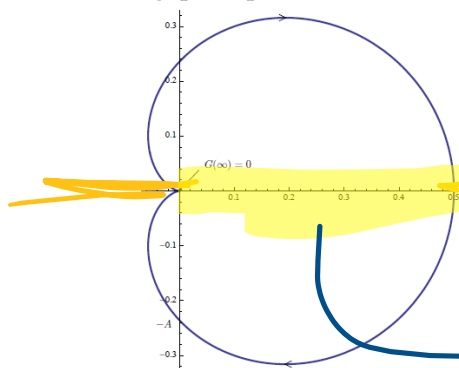
Bode plot:



Nyquist plot:



Nyquist plot:



$$\begin{aligned} \#(\odot \text{ of } -1/K) &= \#(\text{RHP CL poles}) - \underbrace{\#(\text{RHP OL poles})}_{=0} \\ &= \#(\text{RHP CL poles}) \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow K \in \mathbb{R}$ is stabilizing if and only if

$$\#(\odot \text{ of } -1/K) = 0$$

- ▶ If $K > 0$, $\#(\odot \text{ of } -1/K) = 0$
- ▶ If $0 < -1/K < 1/2$, $\#(\odot \text{ of } -1/K) > 0 \Rightarrow$
closed-loop stable for $K > -2$

unstable

Example 2

$$N = Z - P = 1$$

$$G(s) = \frac{1}{(s-1)(s^2+2s+3)} = \frac{1}{s^3+s^2+s-3}$$

#(RHP open-loop poles) = 1 at $s = 1$

Routh: the characteristic polynomial is

$$s^3 + s^2 + s + K - 3 \quad \text{— 3rd degree}$$

— stable if and only if $K - 3 > 0$ and $1 > K - 3$.

Stability range: $3 < K < 4$

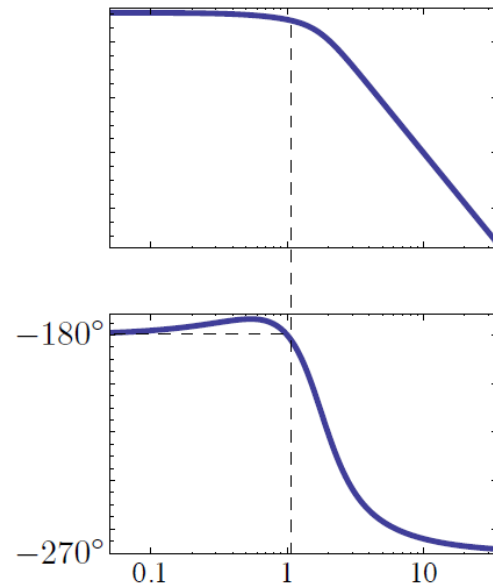
Let's see how to spot this using the Nyquist criterion ...

Example 2

$$G(s) = \frac{1}{(s-1)(s^2+2s+3)}$$

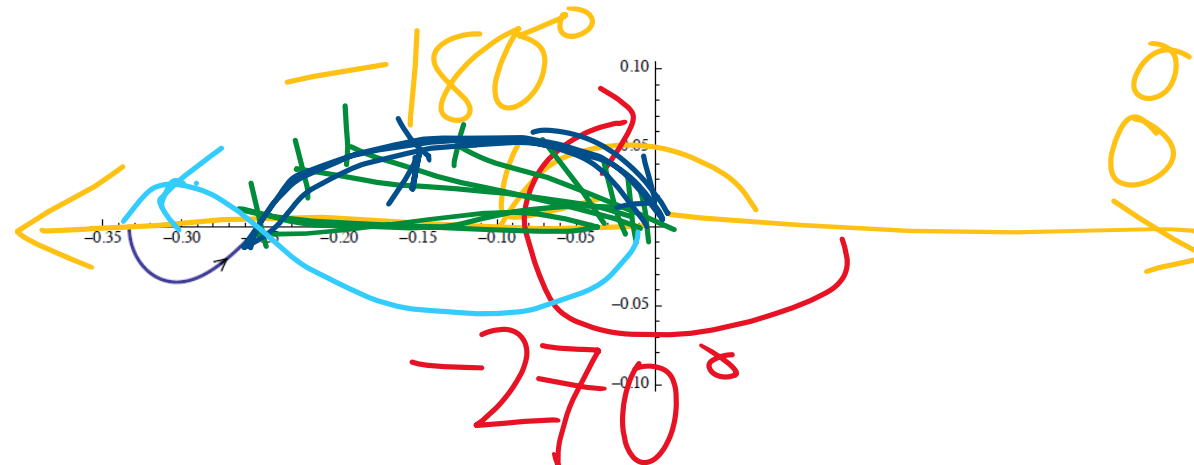
(1 open-loop RHP pole)

Bode plot:



Nyquist plot:

$$\begin{aligned}\omega = 0 & \quad M = 1/3, \phi = -180^\circ \\ \omega = 1 & \quad M = 1/4, \phi = -180^\circ \\ \omega \rightarrow \infty & \quad M \rightarrow 0, \phi \rightarrow -270^\circ\end{aligned}$$



Example 2

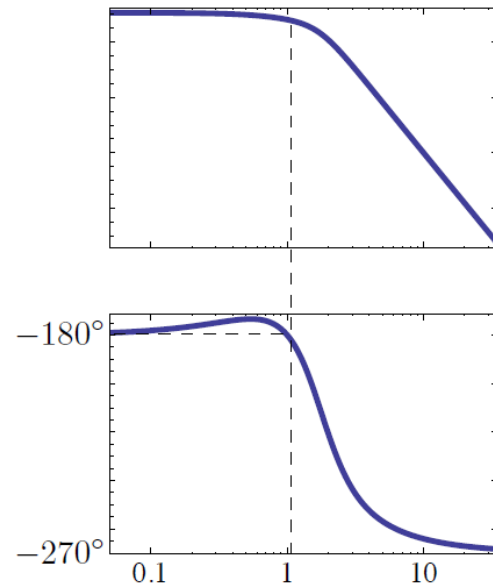
$$G(s) = \frac{1}{(s-1)(s^2+2s+3)}$$

(1 open-loop RHP pole)

$$N = Z - P$$

$$N = -1$$

Bode plot:

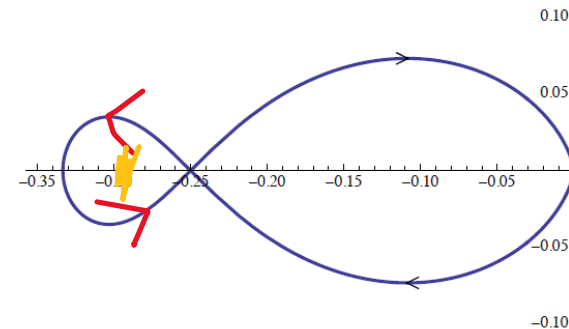


Nyquist plot:

$$\omega = 0 \quad M = 1/3, \phi = -180^\circ$$

$$\omega = 1 \quad M = 1/4, \phi = -180^\circ$$

$$\omega \rightarrow \infty \quad M \rightarrow 0, \phi \rightarrow -270^\circ$$



$K \in \mathbb{R}$ is stabilizing if and only if

$$\#(\odot \text{ of } -1/K) = -1$$

Which points $-1/K$ are encircled once \odot by this Nyquist plot?

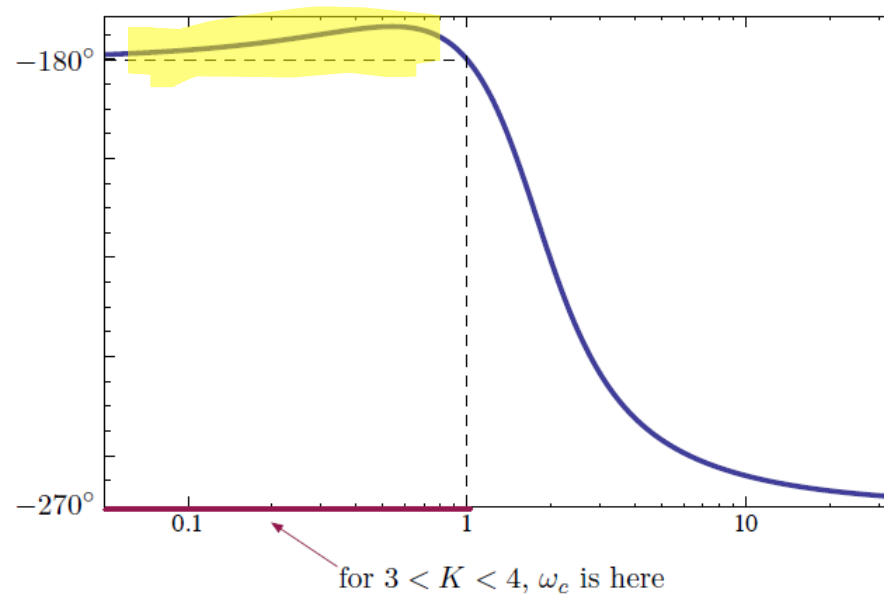
$$\begin{aligned} \#(\odot \text{ of } -1/K) &= \#(\text{RHP CL poles}) \\ &\quad - \underbrace{\#(\text{RHP OL poles})}_{=1} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{only } -1/3 < -1/K < -1/4 \\ \implies 3 < K < 4 \end{aligned}$$

Example 2

Closed-loop stability range for $G(s) = \frac{1}{(s-1)(s^2+2s+3)}$ is
 $3 < K < 4$ (using either Routh or Nyquist).

We can interpret this in terms of phase margin:



So, in this case, $\text{stability} \iff \text{PM} > 0$ (typical case).

Example 3

$$N = Z - \left[\begin{array}{c} P \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{array} \right]$$

$$G(s) = \frac{s-1}{(s+2)(s^2-s+1)} = \frac{s-1}{s^3+s^2-s+2}$$

Open-loop poles:

$$s = -2 \quad (\text{LHP})$$

$$s^2 - s + 1 = 0$$

$$\left(s - \frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{3}{4} = 0$$

$$s = \frac{1}{2} \pm j\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \quad (\text{RHP})$$

\therefore 2 RHP poles

Example 3

$$G(s) = \frac{s-1}{(s+2)(s^2-s+1)} = \frac{s-1}{s^3+s^2-s+2}$$

Open-loop poles:

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$$s^2 - s + 1 = 0$$

$$\left(s - \frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{3}{4} = 0$$

$$s = \frac{1}{2} \pm j\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \quad (\text{RHP})$$

\therefore 2 RHP poles

$= P$

$\Rightarrow N = -2$

$$G(s) = \frac{s-1}{(s+2)(s^2-s+1)} = \frac{s-1}{s^3+s^2-s+2}$$

Routh:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{char. poly. } & s^3 + s^2 - s + 2 + K(s-1) \\ & s^3 + s^2 + (K-1)s + (2-K) \quad (\text{3rd-order}) \end{aligned}$$

— stable if and only if

$$\begin{aligned} & a_1 a_2 > a_3 \\ & (K-1) > 0 \\ & 2-K > 0 \\ & (K-1) > (2-K) \end{aligned}$$

— stability range is $3/2 < K < 2$

Example 3

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

(2 open-loop RHP poles)

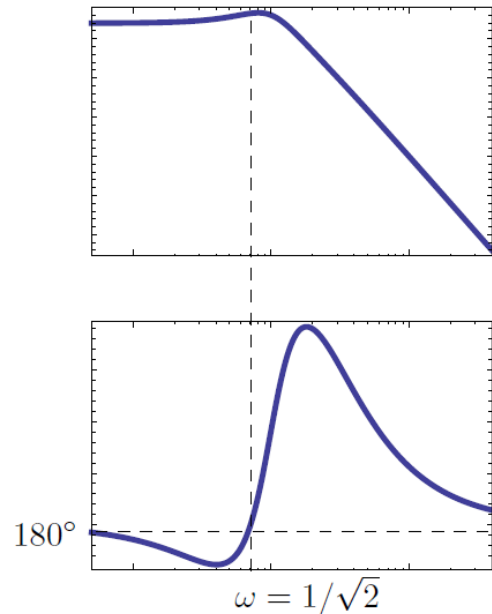
Bode plot (tricky, RHP poles/zeros)

$\phi = 180^\circ$ when:

- ▶ $\omega = 0$ and $\omega \rightarrow 0$
- ▶ $\omega = 1/\sqrt{2}$:

$$\begin{aligned} & \left. \frac{j\omega - 1}{(j\omega - 1)((j\omega)^2 - j\omega + 1)} \right|_{\omega=1/\sqrt{2}} \\ &= \frac{\frac{j}{\sqrt{2}} - 1}{\left(\frac{j}{\sqrt{2}} + 2\right)\left(-\frac{1}{2} - \frac{j}{\sqrt{2}} + 1\right)} \\ &= \frac{\frac{j}{\sqrt{2}} - 1}{-\frac{3}{2}\left(\frac{j}{\sqrt{2}} - 1\right)} = -\frac{2}{3} \end{aligned}$$

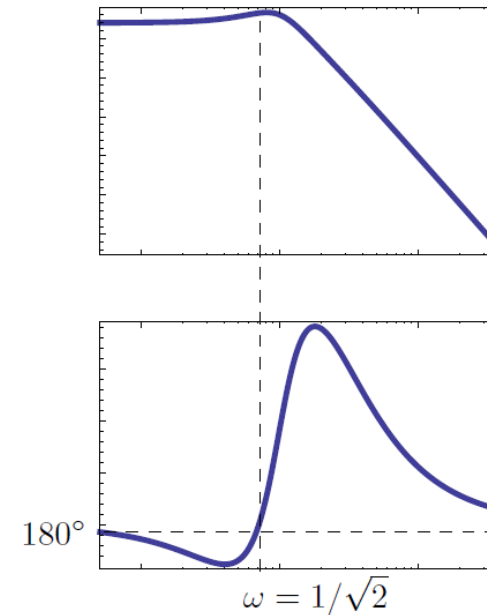
(need to guess this, e.g., by mouseclicking in Matlab)



$$G(s) = \frac{s-1}{s^3 + s^2 - s + 2}$$

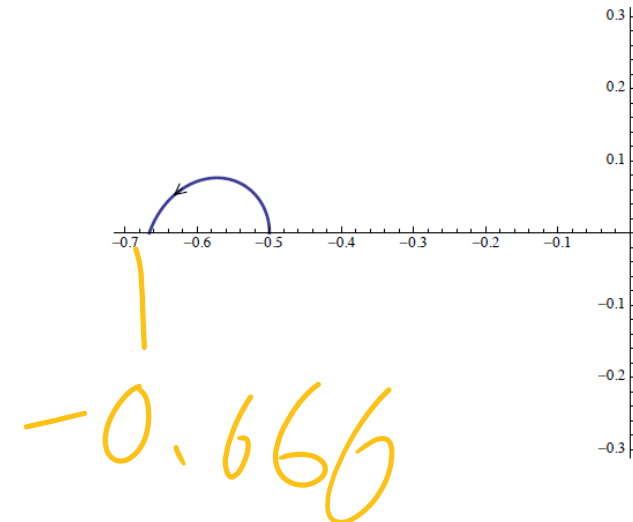
(2 open-loop RHP poles)

Bode plot:



Nyquist plot:

$$\begin{aligned} \omega = 0 & \quad M = 1/2, \phi = 180^\circ \\ \omega = 1/\sqrt{2} & \quad M = 2/3, \phi = 180^\circ \\ \omega \rightarrow \infty & \quad M \rightarrow 0, \phi \rightarrow 180^\circ \end{aligned}$$

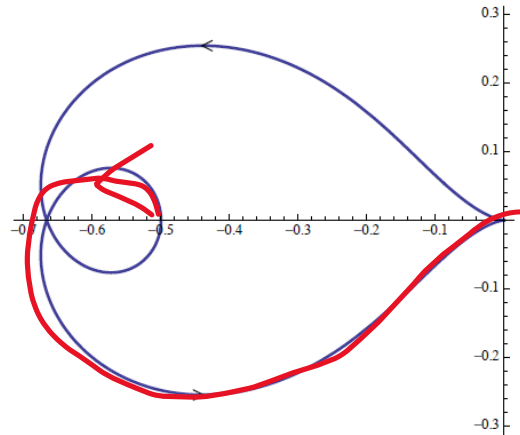


Example 3

$$G(s) = \frac{s-1}{s^3 + s^2 - s + 2}$$

(2 open-loop RHP poles)

Nyquist plot:



$$\begin{aligned} \#(\odot \text{ of } -1/K) \\ &= \#(\text{RHP CL poles}) \\ &\quad - \underbrace{\#(\text{RHP OL poles})}_{=2} \end{aligned}$$

$K \in \mathbb{R}$ is stabilizing if and only if

$$\#(\odot \text{ of } -1/K) = -2$$

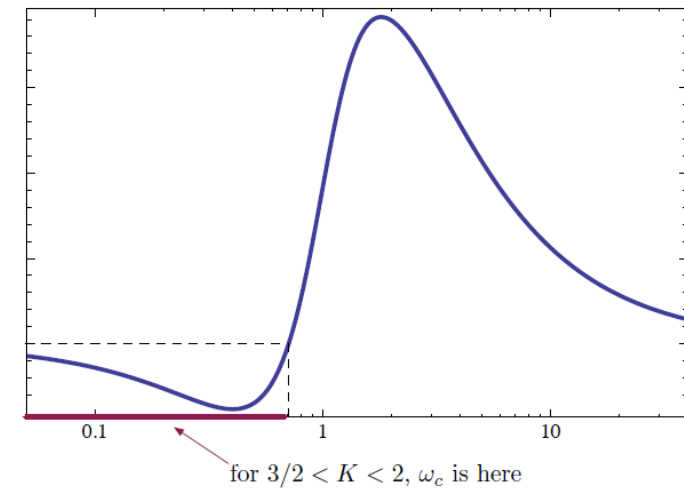
Which points $-1/K$ are encircled twice \odot by this Nyquist plot?

only $-2/3 < -1/K < -1/2$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{3}{2} < K < 2$$

CL stability range for $G(s) = \frac{s-1}{s^3 + s^2 - s + 2}$: $K \in (3/2, 2)$

We can interpret this in terms of phase margin:

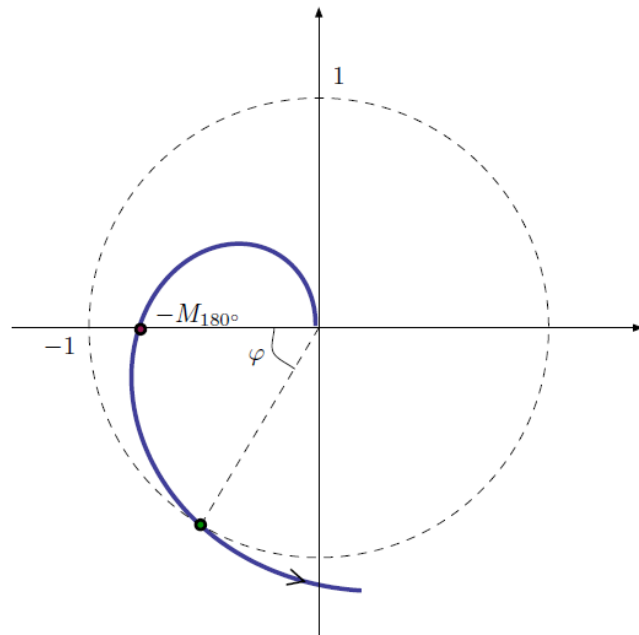


So, in this case, **stability** \iff **PM** < 0 (atypical case; Nyquist criterion is the only way to resolve this ambiguity of Bode plots).

Stability Margins

How do we determine stability margins (GM & PM) from the Nyquist plot?

GM & PM are defined relative to a given K , so consider Nyquist plot of $KG(s)$ (we only draw the $\omega > 0$ portion):



How do we spot GM & PM?

- ▶ $GM = 1/M_{180^\circ}$
 - if we divide K by M_{180° , then the Nyquist plot will pass through $(-1, 0)$, giving $M = 1, \phi = 180^\circ$
- ▶ $PM = \varphi$
 - the phase difference from 180° when $M = 1$