

# Nyquist Plots and Stability Margins

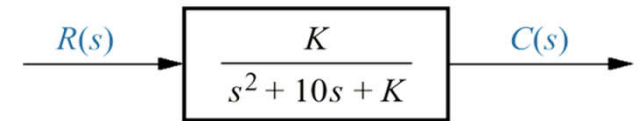
Dr. Mitch Pryor

# Lesson Objective

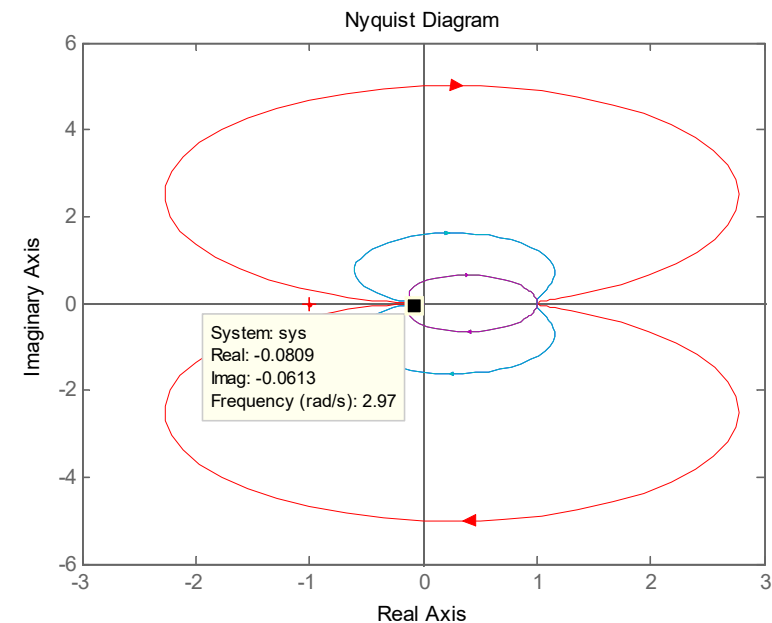
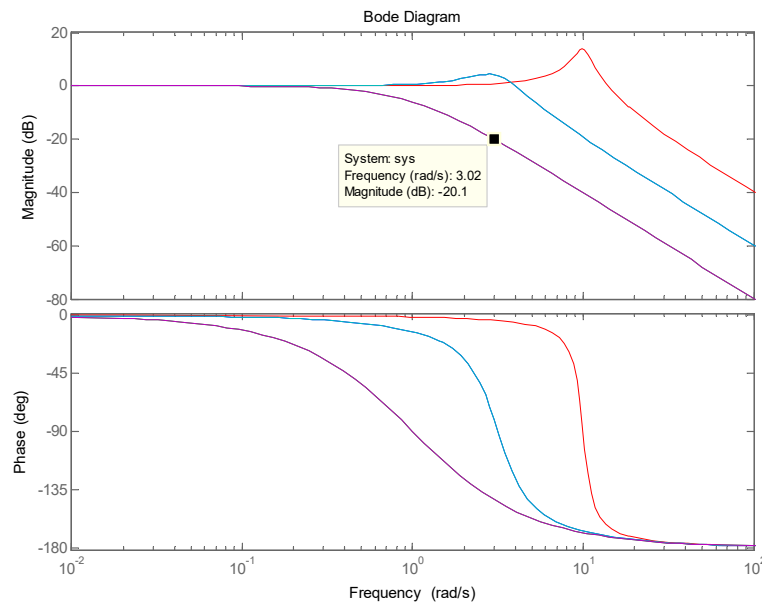
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- Define Nyquist Plots
- Review how to create them
  - Learn how complex poles impact the Nyquist Plot
  - Learn how poles at the origin impact the Nyquist Plot
  - Learn how zeros at the origin impact the Nyquist Plot
- Summarize why they are useful
  - Define the Loop Transfer Function
  - Define the Stability Margins (gain and phase)

# Nyquist plots vs. Bode Plots



- **Bode Plots** show the frequency vs amplitude and phase on different plots
- **Nyquist (Polar) Plots** display the frequency and amplitude on same plot
  - frequency (0 to infinity (or  $-\infty$  to infinity)) is the parameter that is plotted.
- **Nyquist Stability Criterion** defines a system's stability in the frequency domain.
  - The Nyquist plot changes with respect to a system variable in a way that controller designers can better see its impact on stability.
- Example plots  $K = 100$  (red),  $10$  (green),  $1$  (blue)



# Creating a Nyquist Plot

A simple example....

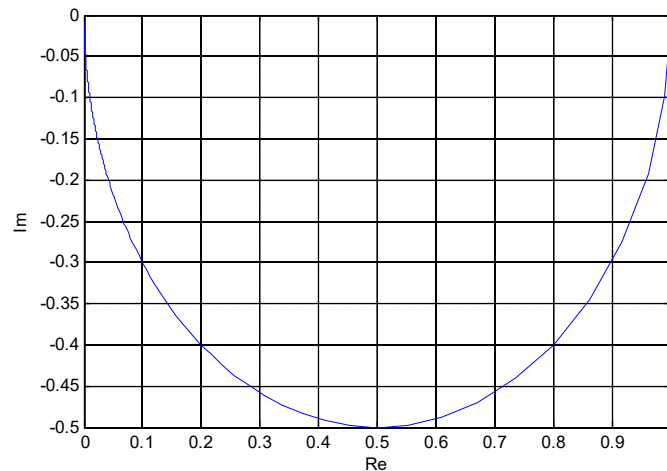
$$G(s) = G(j\omega) = \frac{1}{s+1} = \frac{1}{j\omega+1} = \frac{1}{j\omega+1} \left( \frac{1-j\omega}{1-j\omega} \right) = \frac{1-j\omega}{1+\omega^2}$$

Separate this into the real and imaginary components...

$$\text{Re}(G(j\omega)) = \frac{1}{1+\omega^2}$$

$$\text{Im}(G(j\omega)) = \frac{-\omega}{1+\omega^2}$$

```
w = [0:.1:100];  
  
for i=1:length(w)  
    re(i) = 1/(1+w(i)*w(i));  
    im(i) = -w(i)/(1+w(i)*w(i));  
end  
  
figure(1)  
plot( re, im );  
xlabel('Re'), ylabel('Im')  
grid on;
```



# Nyquist plots

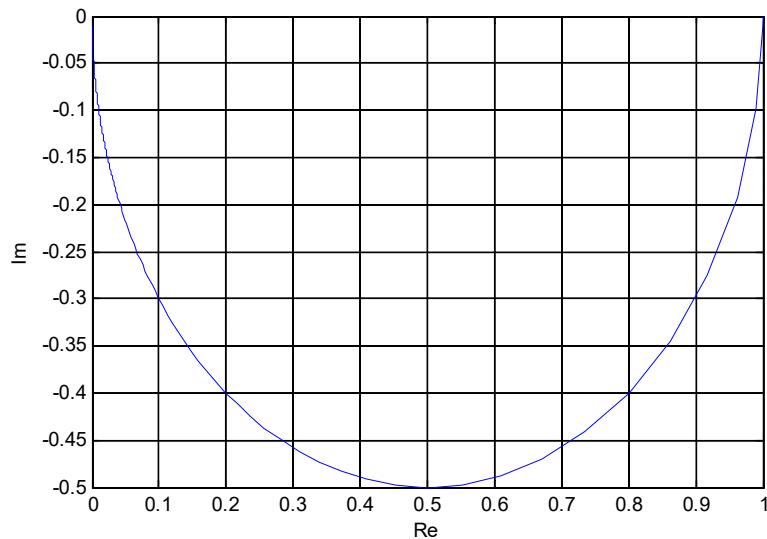
$$G(s) = G(j\omega) = \frac{1}{s+1} = \frac{1}{j\omega+1} = \frac{1-j\omega}{1+\omega^2}$$

## Manually

```
w = [0:.1:100];

for i=1:length(w)
    re(i) = 1/(1+w(i)*w(i));
    im(i) = -w(i)/(1+w(i)*w(i));
end

plot( re, im );
xlabel('Re'), ylabel('Im')
```



## Or

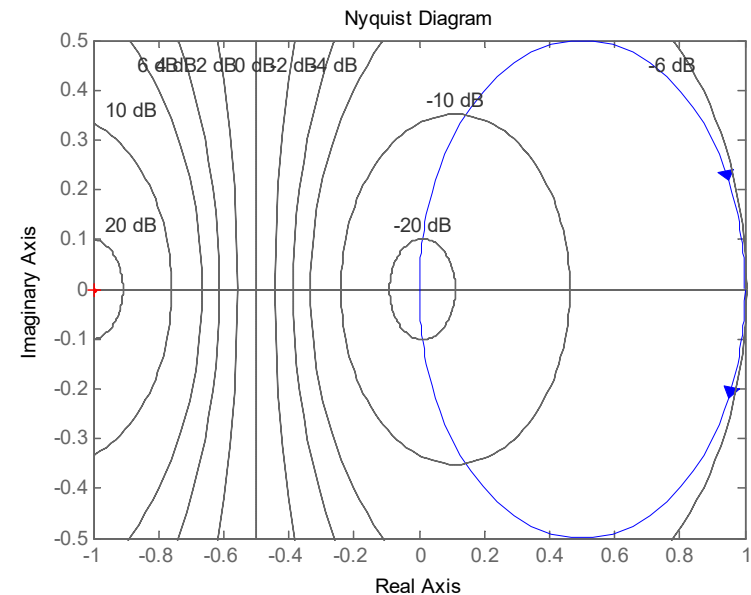
```
w = [0:.1:100];

for i=1:length(w)
    re(i) = real(1/(w(i)+1));
    im(i) = imag(1/(w(i)+1));
end

plot( re, im );
xlabel('Re'), ylabel('Im')
```

## Using MATLAB

```
num = [1]
den = [ 1 1 ]
sys = tf( num, den)
figure(2)
nyquist(sys)
```



# Nyquist for higher order systems

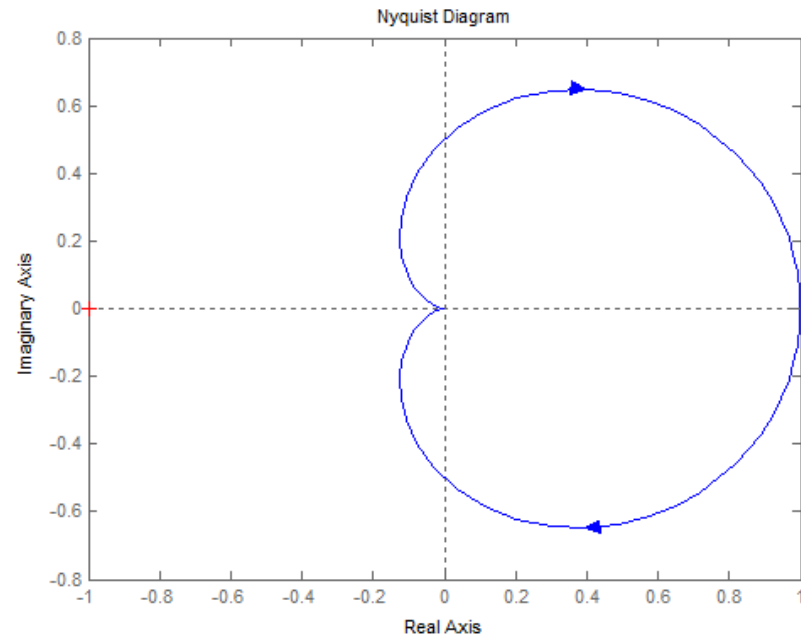
A 2<sup>nd</sup> order example....

$$\begin{aligned} G(j\omega) &= \frac{1}{(s+1)^2} = \frac{1}{(j\omega+1)^2} \\ &= \frac{1}{(j\omega+1)^2} \left( \frac{(1-j\omega)^2}{(1-j\omega)^2} \right) \\ &= \frac{1-2j\omega-\omega^2}{\omega^4+2\omega^2+1} \end{aligned}$$

Separate this into the real and imaginary components...

$$\operatorname{Re}(G(j\omega)) = \frac{1-\omega^2}{\omega^4+2\omega^2+1}$$

$$\operatorname{Im}(G(j\omega)) = \frac{-2j\omega}{\omega^4+2\omega^2+1}$$



...without MATLAB it can start to get a little complicated...

But there are some simple rules/patterns.

# Nyquist for Higher Order Systems

Consider a general transfer function...

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

with  $m$  zeroes and  $n$  poles. Assume (for the moment) that there are no poles at the origin..

$$G(j\omega) = \frac{(j\omega - z_1) \cdots (j\omega - z_m)}{(j\omega - p_1) \cdots (j\omega - p_n)}$$

As the frequency goes to zero, the value of  $G$  will be a finite real number (aka the zero frequency gain).

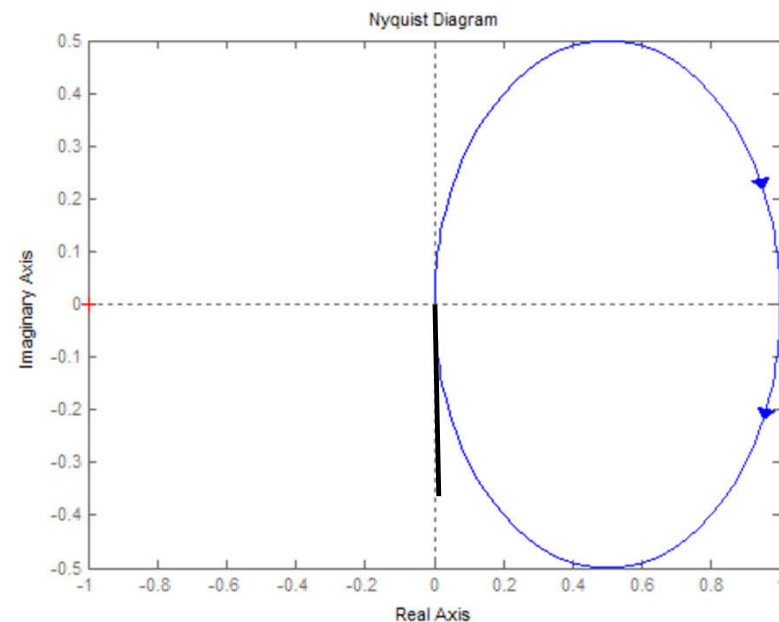
$$G(j\omega) = \frac{(-z_1)(-z_2) \cdots (-z_m)}{(-p_1)(-p_2) \cdots (-p_n)}$$

As the frequency becomes very large, the frequency terms will dominate.

$$G(j\omega) \approx \frac{(j\omega)^m}{(j\omega)^n} = \frac{1}{(j\omega)^{n-m}}$$

Systems of this form (where  $n > m$ ) will approach 0 as frequency increases. The angle of approach is determined by  $n-m$  and is given by  $-90(n-m)^\circ$ . For example:

$$G(s) = \frac{1}{s+1} \Rightarrow n - m = 1$$

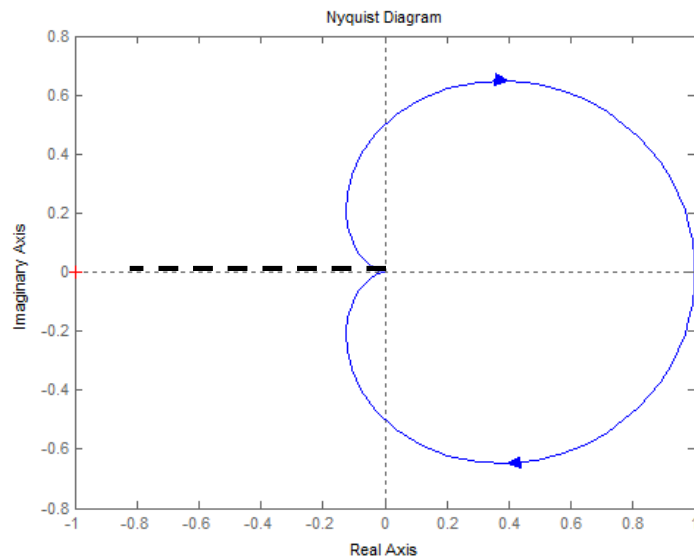


# Nyquist for Higher Order Systems

Some more examples showing the angle of approach is given by  $-90(n-m)^\circ$ .

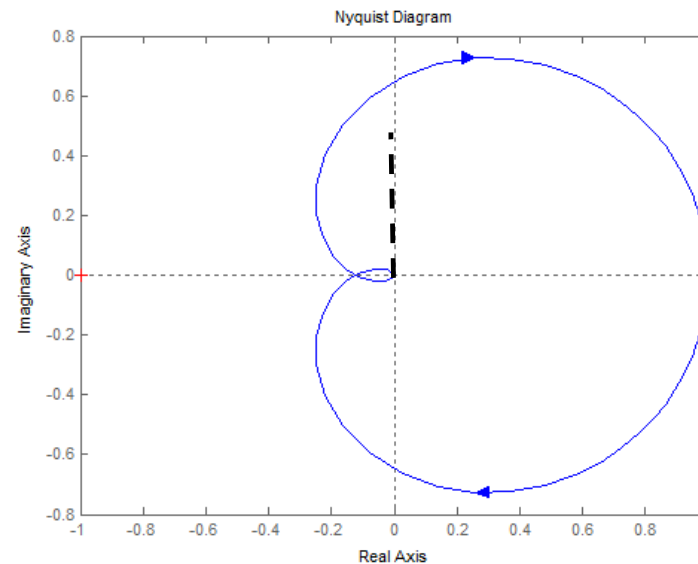
$$G(s) = \frac{1}{(s+1)^2} \Rightarrow n-m=2$$

$$-90(2-0)^\circ = -180^\circ$$



$$G(s) = \frac{1}{(s+1)^3} \Rightarrow n-m=3$$

$$-90(3-0)^\circ = -270^\circ$$



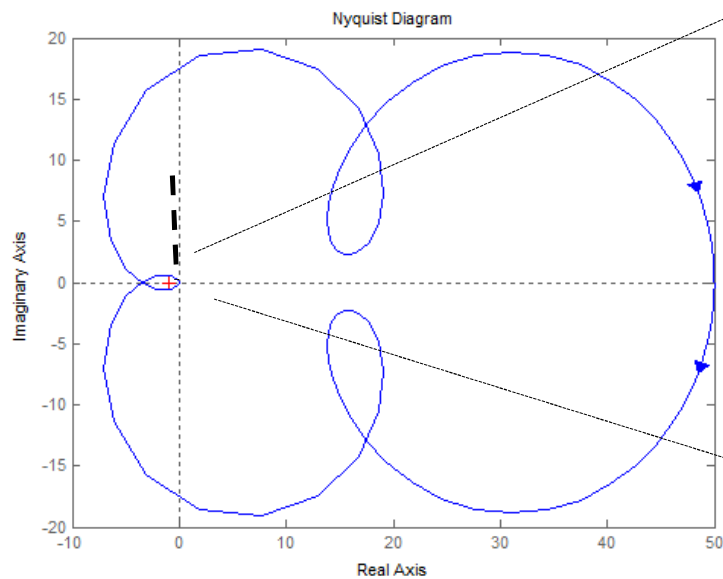


# Nyquist for Higher Order Systems

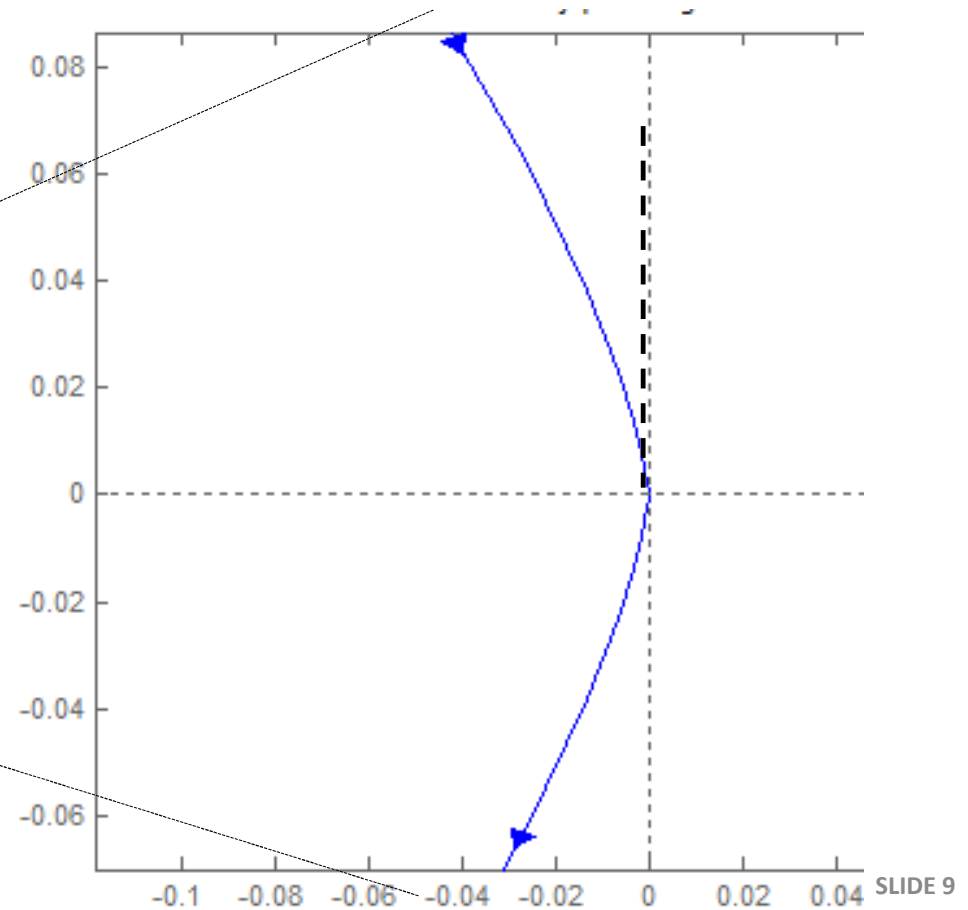
One last example showing the angle of approach is given by  $-90(n-m)^\circ$ .

$$G(s) = \frac{25 \times 10^6 (s + 5)(s + 10)}{(s + 1)(s + 50)^2 (s + 100)^2}$$

$$-90(5-2)^\circ = -270^\circ$$

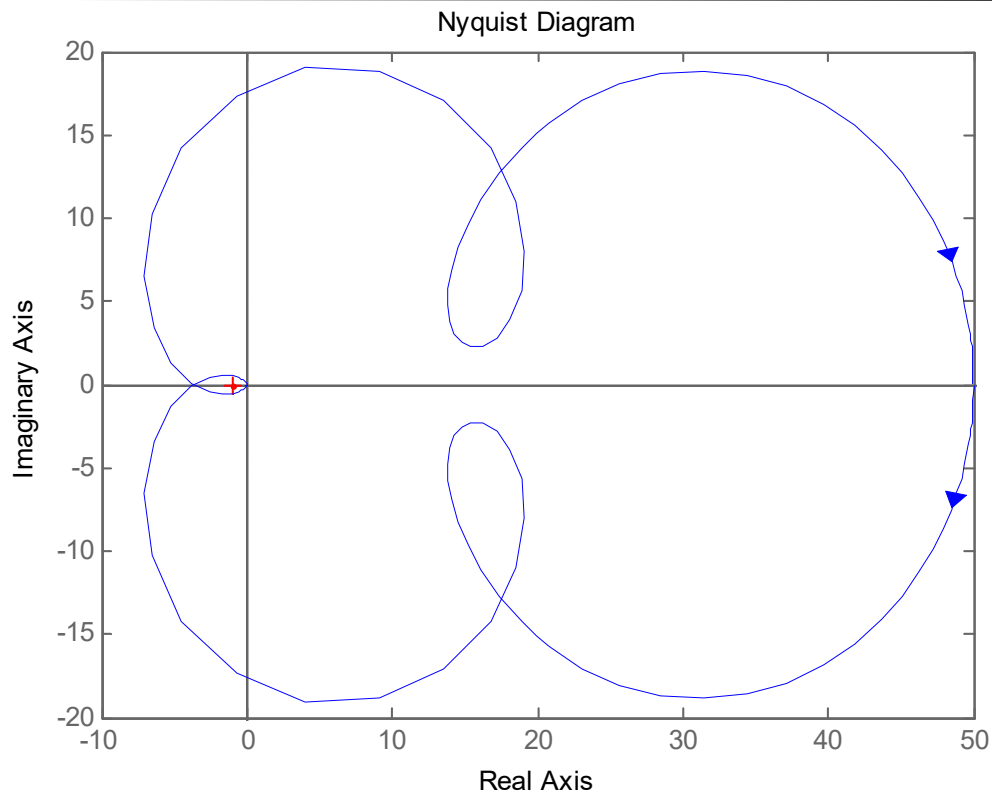


Note the arrows...



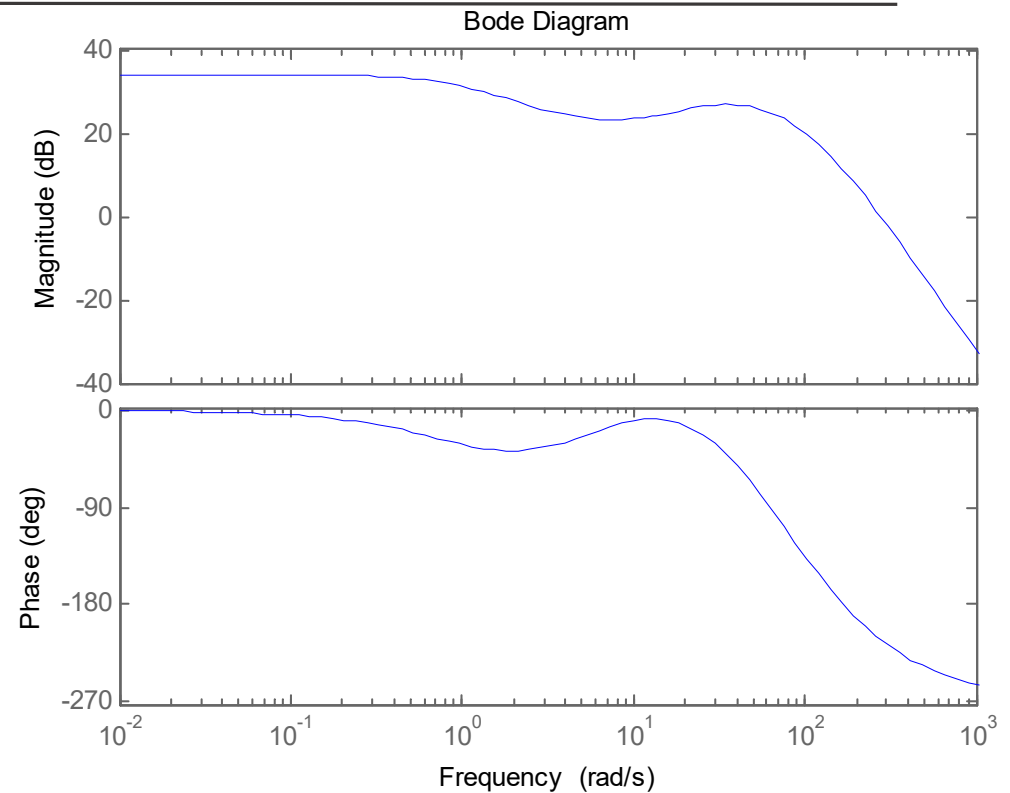
# Nyquist vs. Bode

$$G(s) = \frac{25 \times 10^6 (s + 5)(s + 10)}{(s + 1)(s + 50)^2 (s + 100)^2}$$



```
z = [ -5 -10 ];
p = [ -1 -50 -50 -100 -100 ];
k = 25000000;
sys = zpk( z, p, k )
```

```
nyquist( sys )
bode( sys )
```

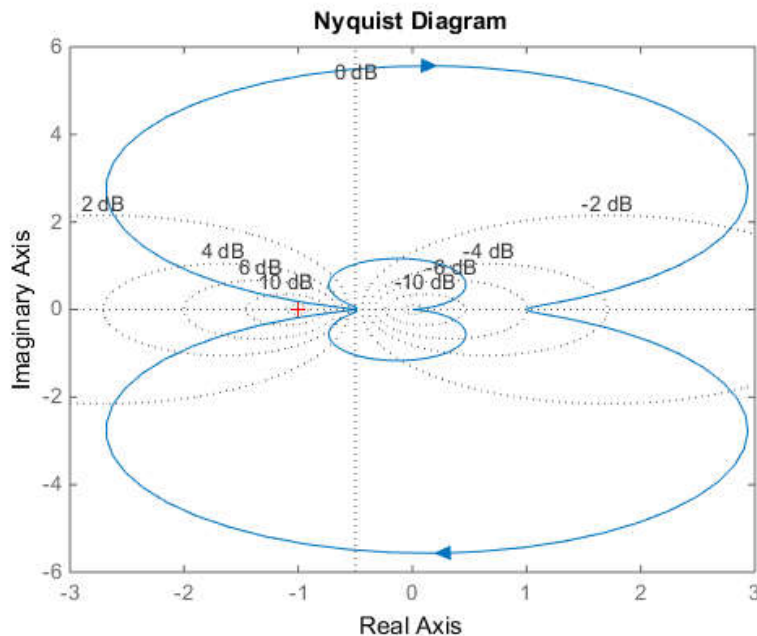


$$-90(5-2)^\circ = -270^\circ$$

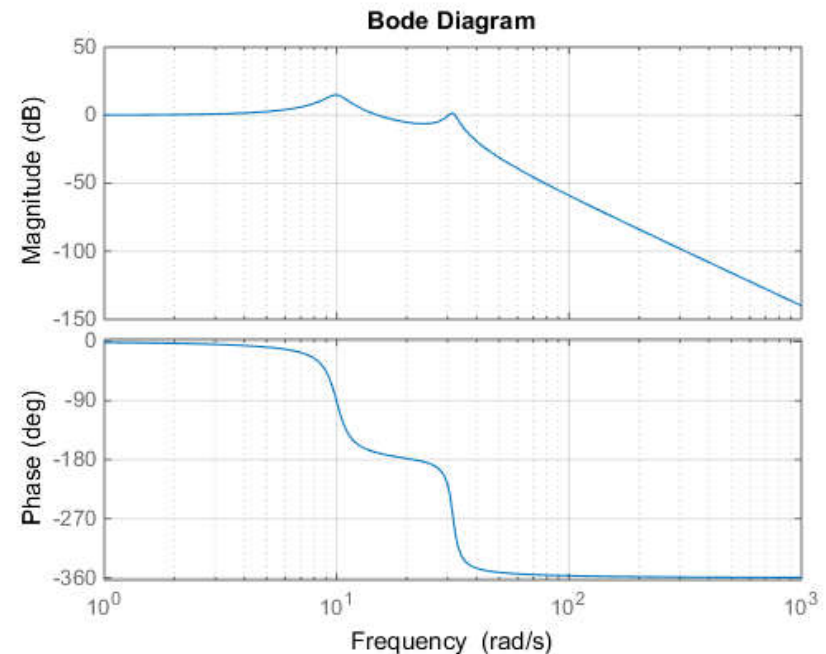
# Special cases: Complex roots

$$G(s) = \frac{10^5}{(s^2 + 2s + 100)(s^2 + 3s + 1000)}$$

Looking at the Bode Plot for the system...



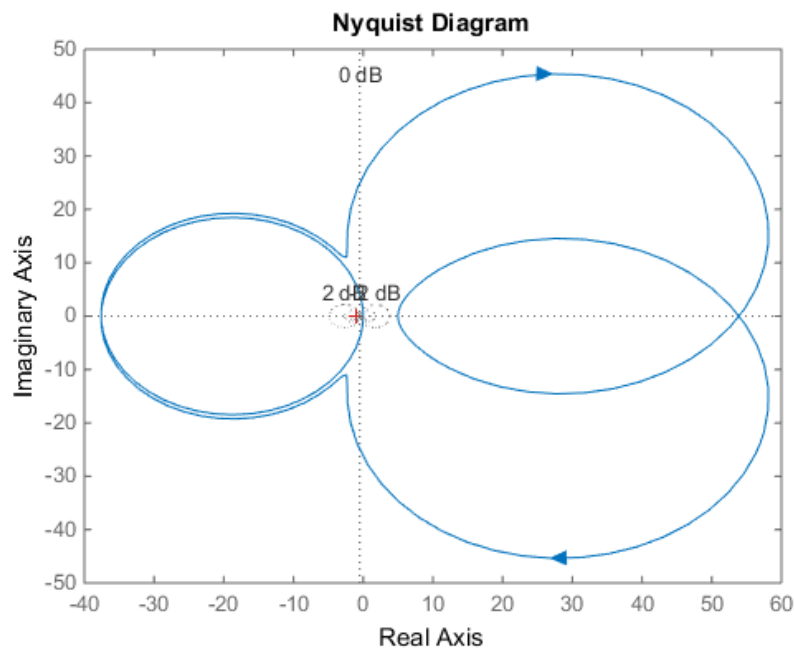
Still observe the increases in magnitude at times when the frequency increases.



See the final -360° phase lag as the frequency goes to infinity as expected.

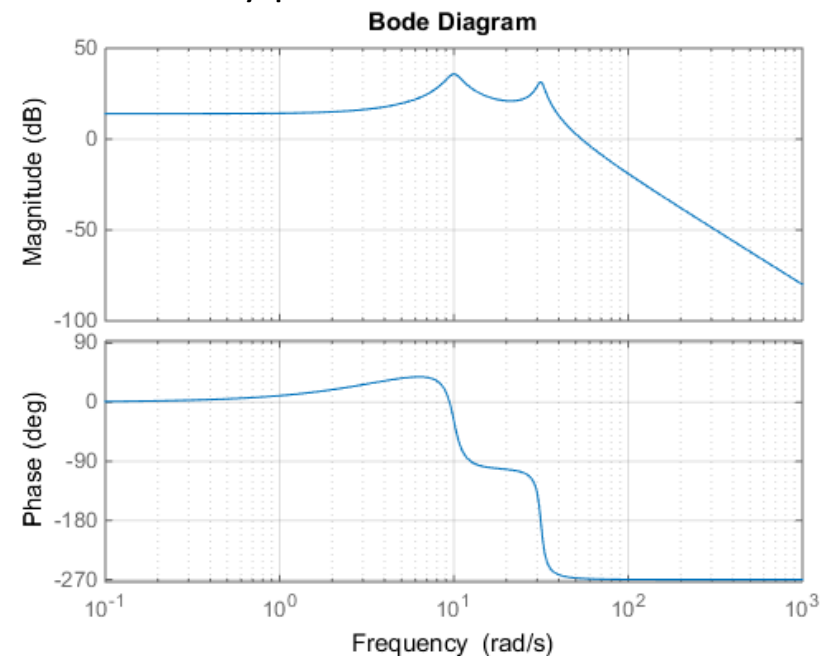
# Special cases: Complex roots

$$G(s) = \frac{10^5 (s + 5)}{(s^2 + 2s + 100)(s^2 + 3s + 1000)}$$



Now considering more complex systems, it is less clear why we care about Nyquist plots. We are getting to that.

The impact of a zero we should recognize on the Bode plot, but the response becomes harder to follow on the Nyquist Plot



You see the bulge, the rapid phase change and the  $-270^\circ$  phase lag as the frequency goes to infinity.

# Special cases: Zero(s) at Origin

Zero at the origin

Similar procedure, but note the frequency of the real and imaginary components when the frequency is 0.

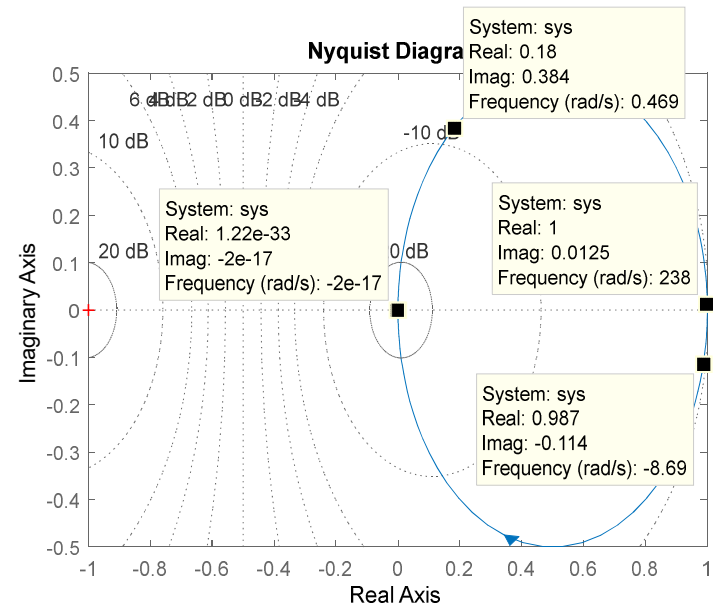
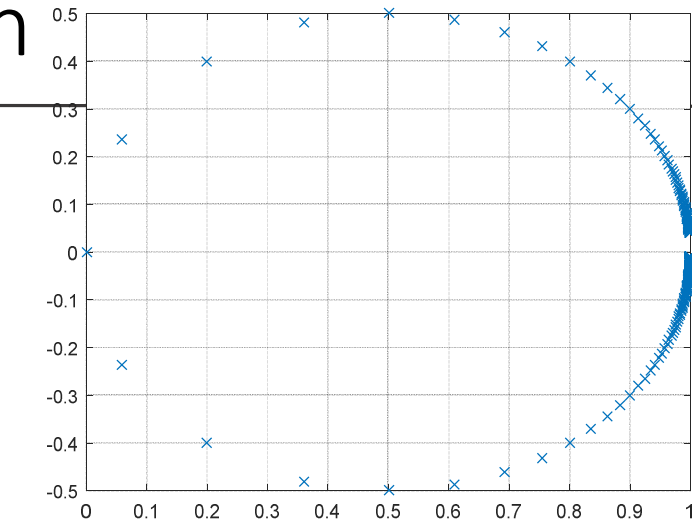
$$\begin{aligned}
 G(j\omega) &= \frac{j\omega}{(j\omega+1)(j\omega-1)} \\
 &= \frac{-\omega^2 - j\omega}{-\omega^2 - 1} \\
 &= \frac{\omega^2}{\omega^2 + 1} + j \frac{\omega}{\omega^2 + 1}
 \end{aligned}$$

```

clear all;
w(1) = 0-100i;
for c=2:500
    w(c) = w(c-1) + (0+0.25*i);
end

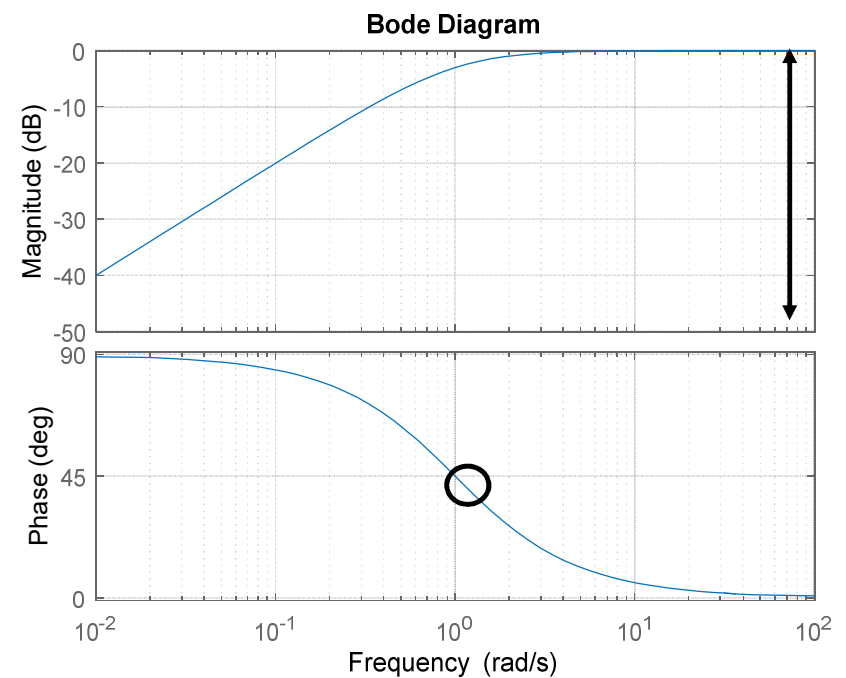
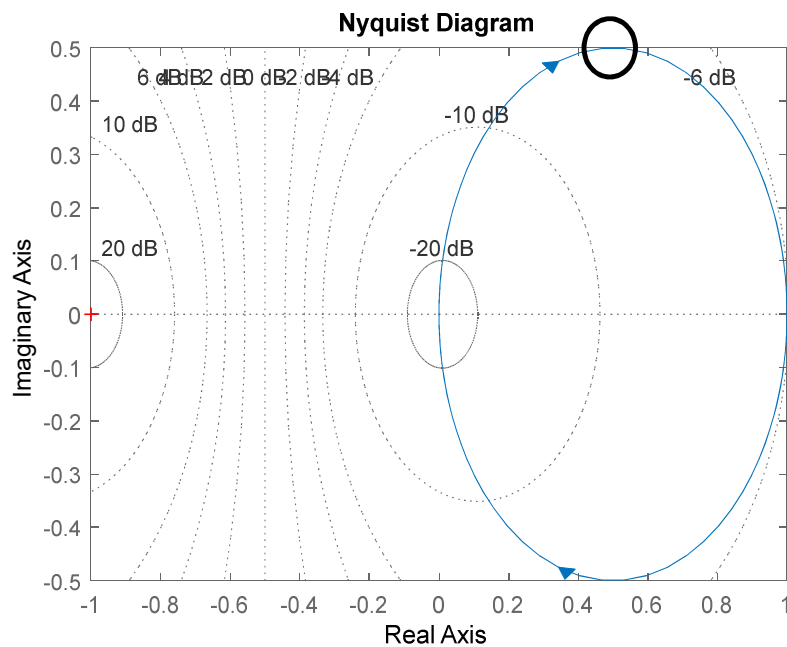
for i=1:length(w)
    re(i) = real( w(i)/(w(i)+1 ) );
    im(i) = imag( w(i)/(w(i)+1 ) );
end
figure(1); plot( re, im, 'x'); grid on;

sys = zpk( [0], [-1], 1 );
figure(2); nyquist( sys ); grid on;
    
```



# Special Case – Zero(s) at the origin

$$G(s) = \frac{s}{(s+1)} \Rightarrow n - m = 1$$



# Special cases – poles at origin

$$G(s) = \frac{1}{s(s+1)} \Rightarrow n - m = 2$$

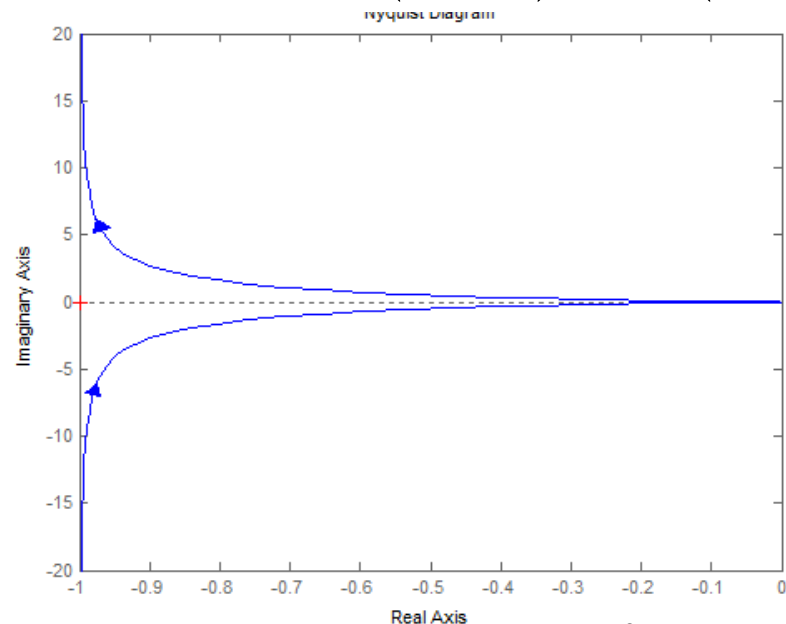
Now our gain approaches infinity as the frequency approaches 0 instead of a finite value

$$\begin{aligned} G(j\omega) &= \frac{1}{j\omega(j\omega+1)} \\ &= \frac{1}{(j\omega - \omega^2)} \left( \frac{(j\omega + \omega^2)}{(j\omega + \omega^2)} \right) \\ &= \frac{j\omega + \omega^2}{-\omega^4 - \omega^2} \end{aligned}$$

This one we can separate into real and imaginary components...

$$\operatorname{Re}(G(j\omega)) = \frac{\omega^2}{-\omega^2(\omega^2 + 1)} = \frac{1}{-(\omega^2 + 1)}$$

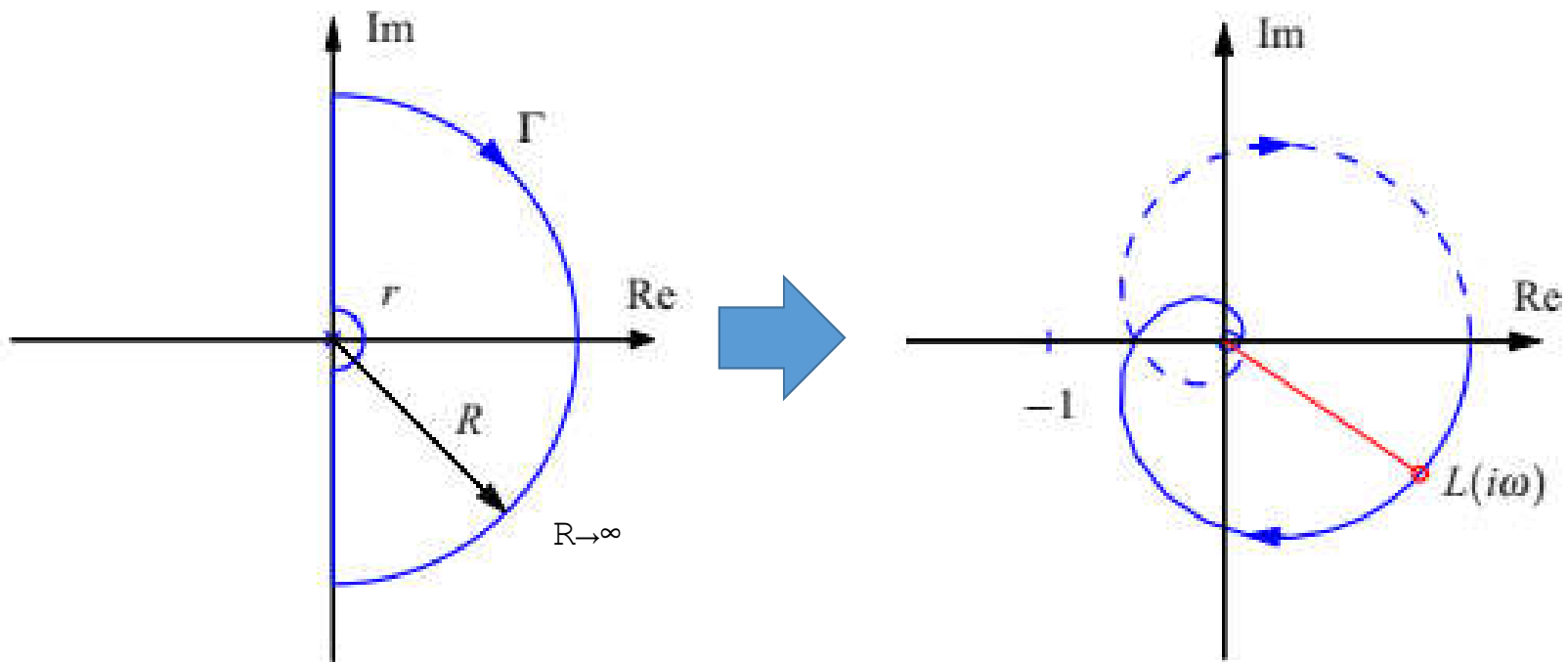
$$\operatorname{Im}(G(j\omega)) = \frac{\omega}{-\omega^2(\omega^2 + 1)} = \frac{1}{-\omega(\omega^2 + 1)}$$



The high frequency asymptote is still  $-180^\circ$

# The Nyquist D Contour

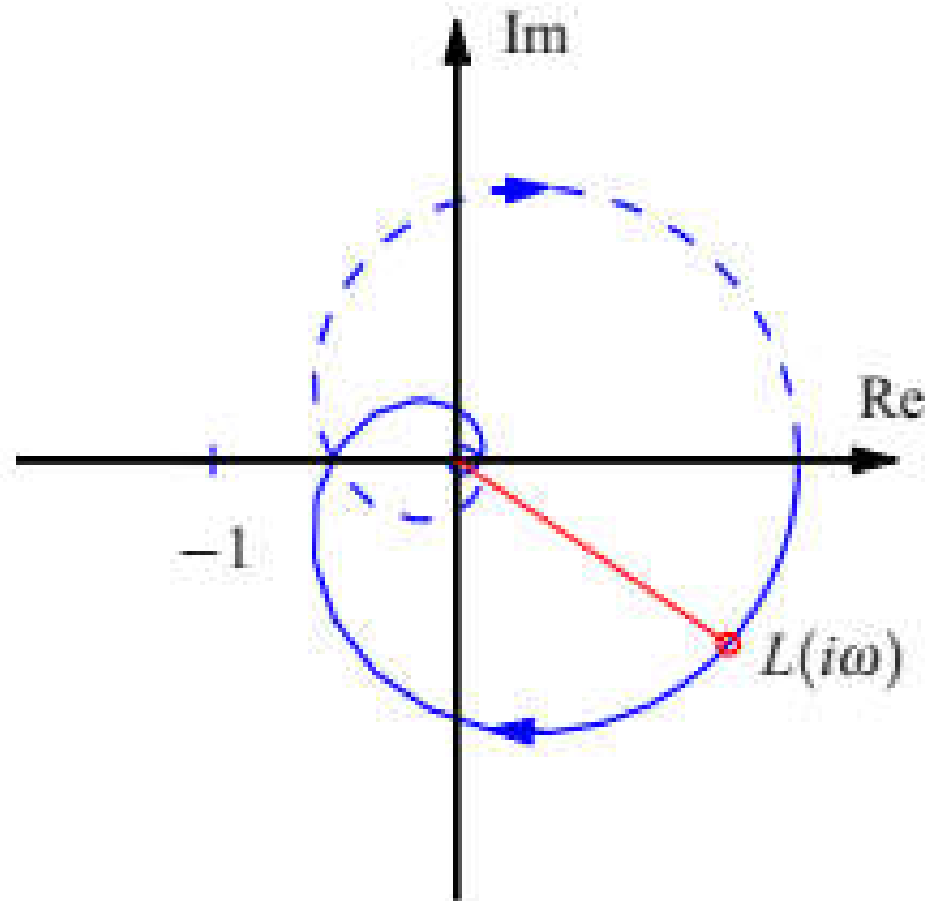
It has been helpful in when drawing the Nyquist to not just think of the frequencies from 0 to  $\infty$ , but from  $-\infty$  to  $\infty$ .





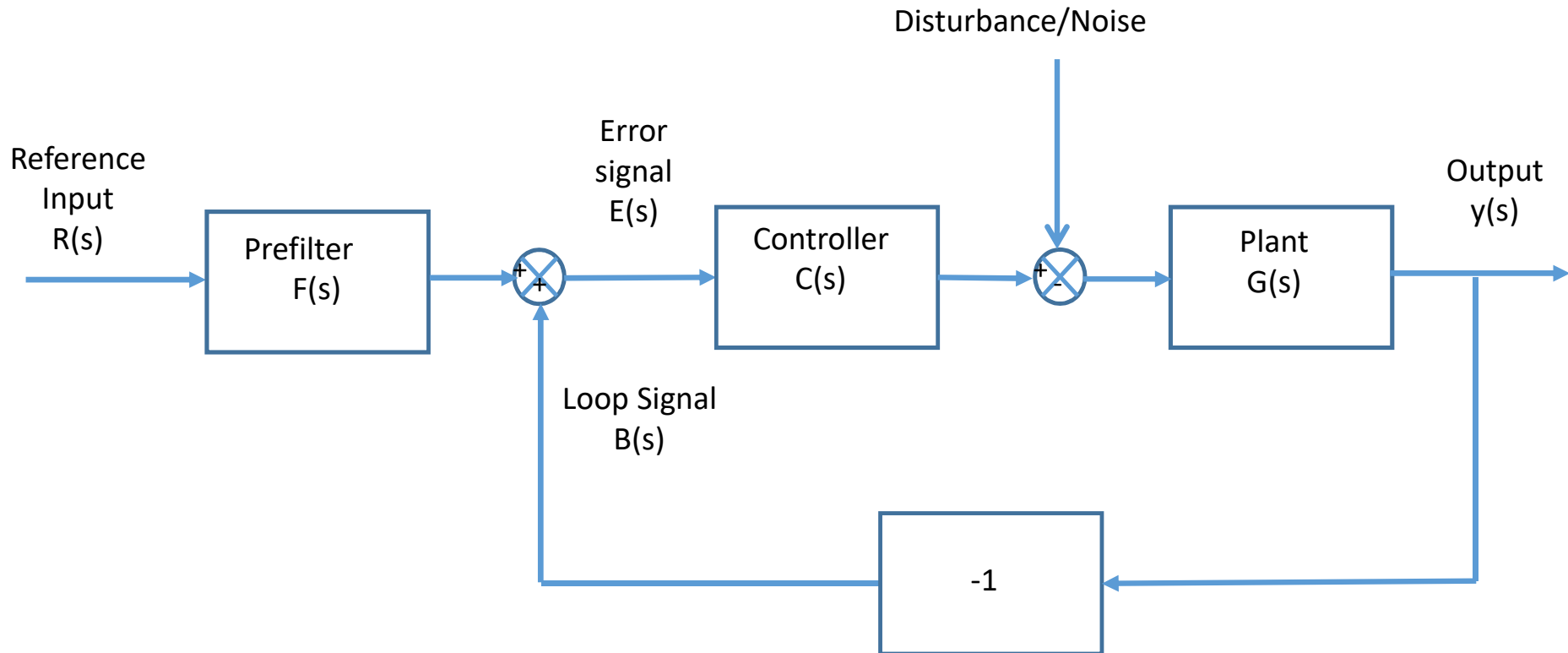
# So why are these useful?

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# Recall our closed system nomenclature...

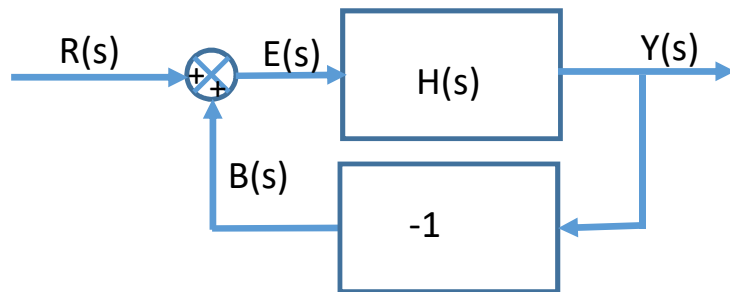
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\*not standardized. Nomenclature varies from textbook to textbook

# Recall our closed loop transfer function

Make a couple assumptions (no prefilter, no disturbance, etc.)



## Typical Control Blocks and Signals

$R(s)$  – Reference signal or desired output

$E(s)$  – Error signal

$H(s)$  – Often  $C(s) \cdot P(s)$

$C(s)$  – The control law that produces a  $u$  for the model or plant

$P(s)$  – The model of the system to be controlled or plant

$Y(s)$  – The output of the system

$B(s)$  – Loop transfer signal (last signal value prior to feedback)

We get...

$$T_{cl}(s) = \frac{Y(s)}{R(s)} = \frac{C(s)P(s)}{1 + C(s)P(s)}$$

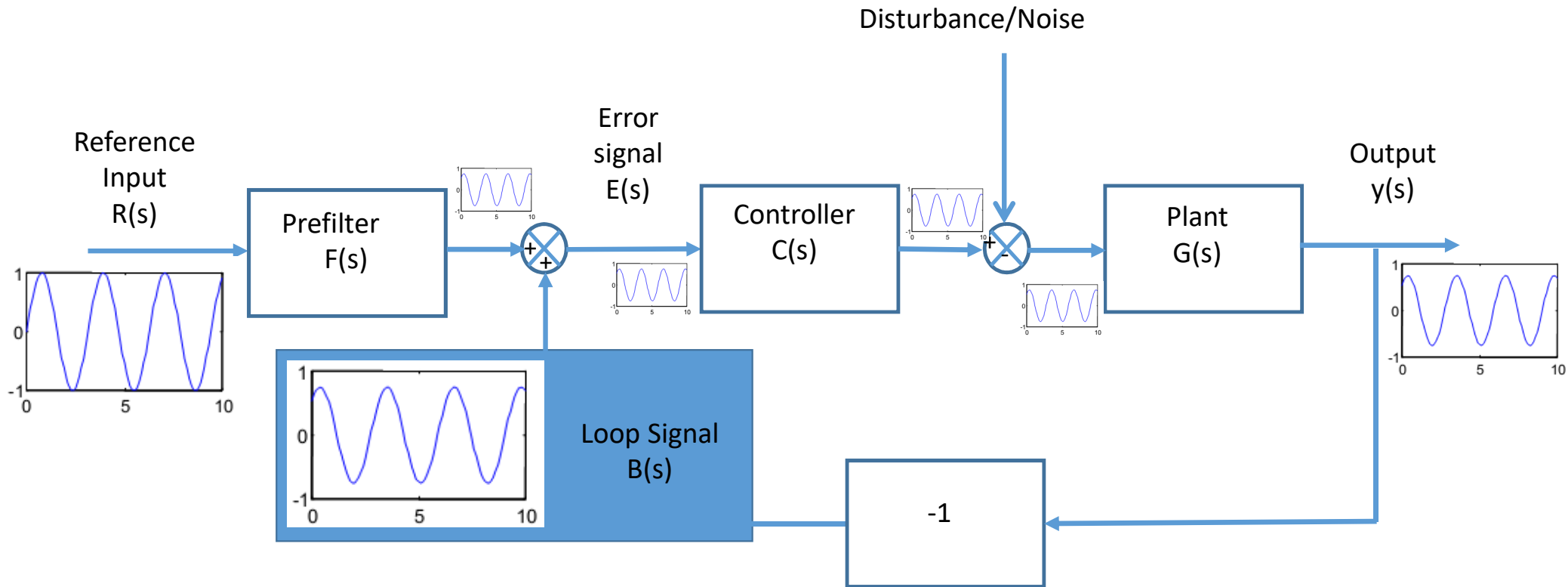
The system will be stable if all the roots of the CE are negative.

$$CE = \Delta(s) = 1 + C(s)P(s) = d_c(s)d_p(s) + n_c(s)n_p(s)$$

Given the calculation there is little insight into how to (re)design a system for stability.

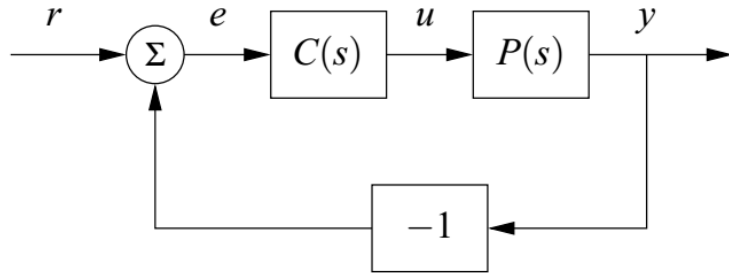
This is where the *Loop Transfer Function* **B(s)** can be helpful.

# Loop Transfer Function



\*not standardized. Nomenclature varies from textbook to textbook

# Previous method to determine stability...



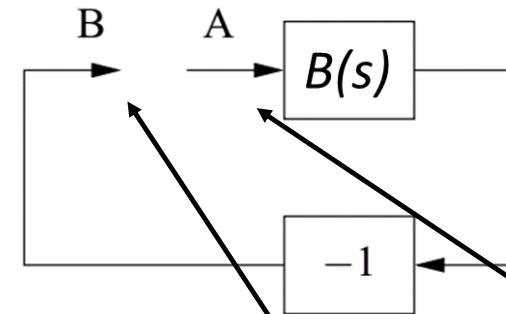
$$G_{yr}(s) = \frac{PC}{1+PC} = \frac{n_p(s)n_c(s)}{d_p(s)d_c(s) + n_p(s)n_c(s)}$$

Find the Characteristic Equation...

$$\lambda(s) = d_p(s)d_c(s) + n_p(s)n_c(s)$$

Ensure all the roots have a negative real part.

If it is not stable, there is little information here that helps us pick a better  $C(s)$



If we inject a signal with frequency  $\omega_o$  here...

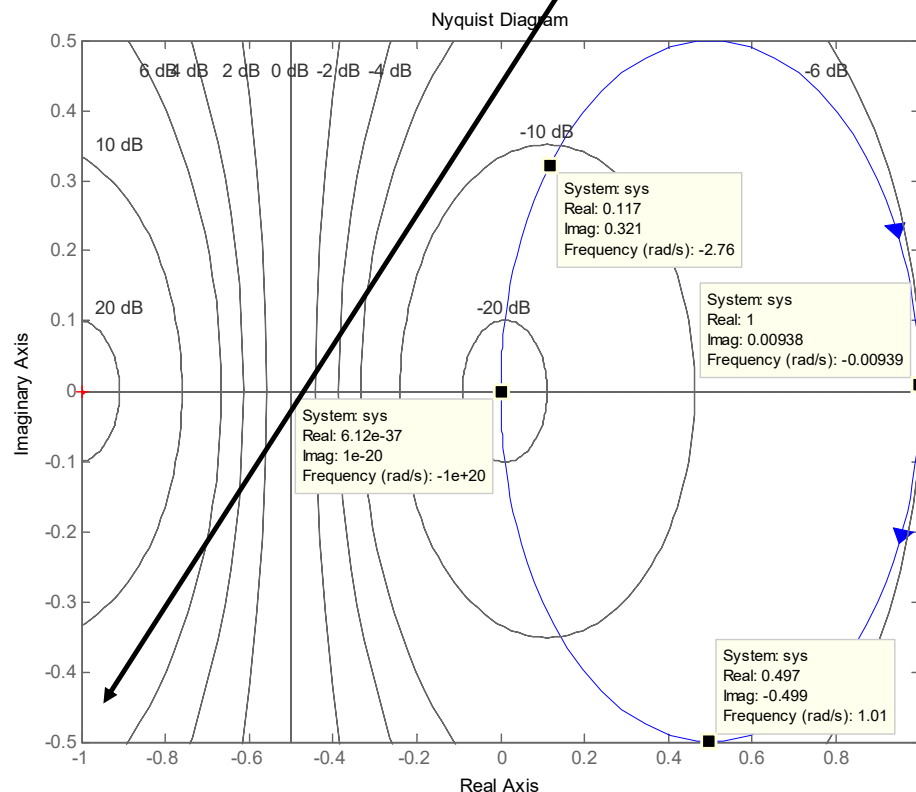
For a linear system we should get an output frequency  $\omega_o$  here...

It is reasonable that an oscillation can be *maintained* if the amplitude at B is the same as the amplitude at A. Thus...

$$B(i\omega) = -1$$

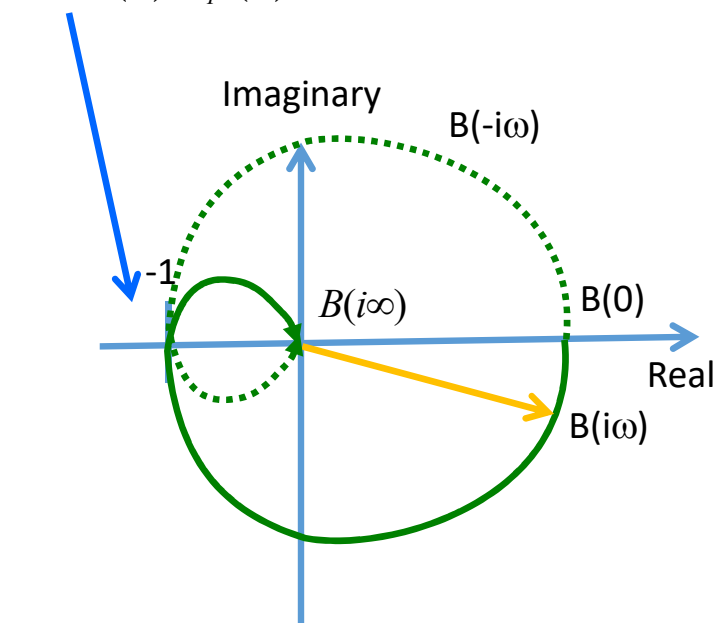
# Back to our Nyquist Plot...

Notice that MATLAB ensures -1 is shown on the Nyquist Plot... even if that didn't seem to make much sense...



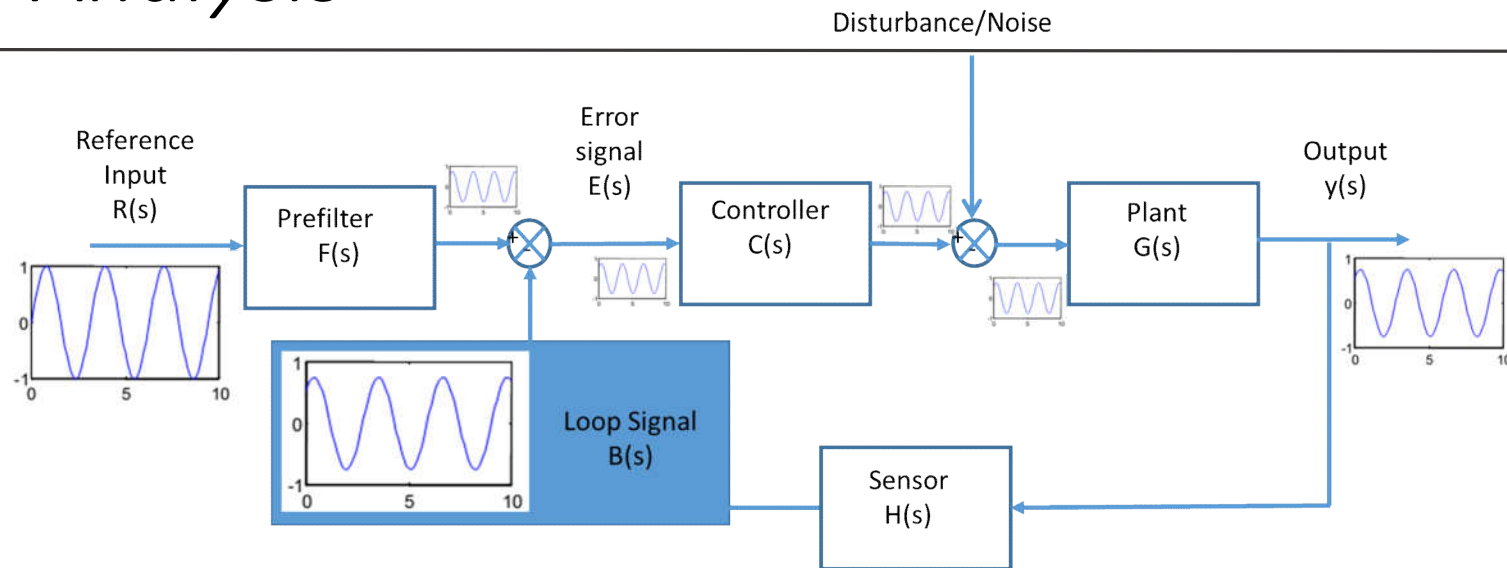
Plane of the Open Loop Transfer Function

$$B(i\omega_0) = \frac{n_c(s) n_p(s)}{d_c(s) d_p(s)} = -1$$



-1 is called the critical point

# Loop Analysis



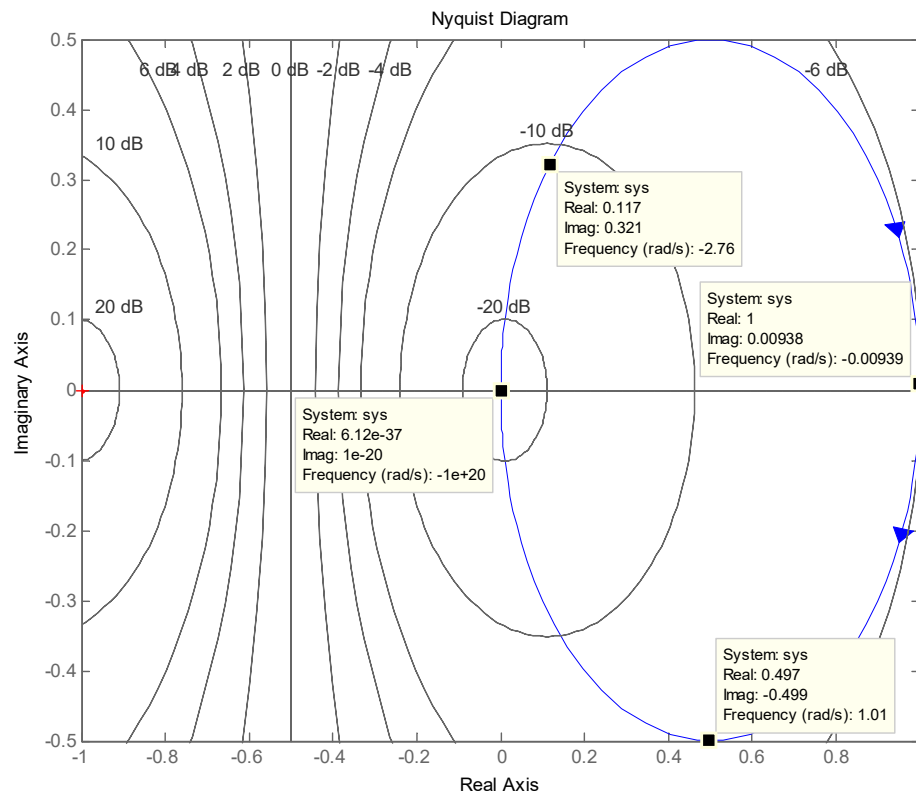
**Loop analysis:** trace how a sinusoidal signal propagates in the feedback loop and investigate if the propagating signal grows or decays.

This is the key concept supporting the **Nyquist Stability Theorem**.

Its key advantage over eigenanalysis and Lyapunov stability is it also provides insight into *how* stable we are since we can use it to define the **gain margin** and **phase margin** (aka the **stability margins**.)

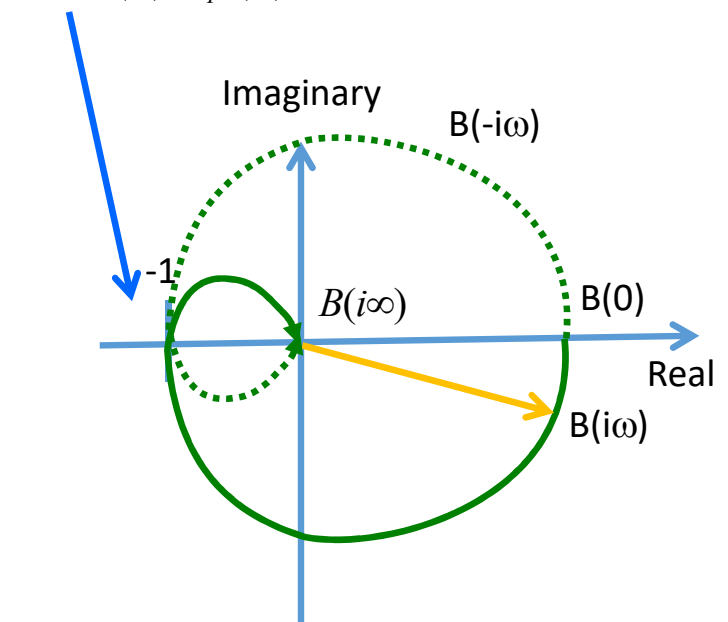
# Back to our Nyquist Plot...

Notice that MATLAB ensures -1 is shown on the Nyquist Plot... even if that didn't seem to make much sense...



Plane of the Open Loop Transfer Function

$$B(i\omega_0) = \frac{n_c(s) n_p(s)}{d_c(s) d_p(s)} = -1$$

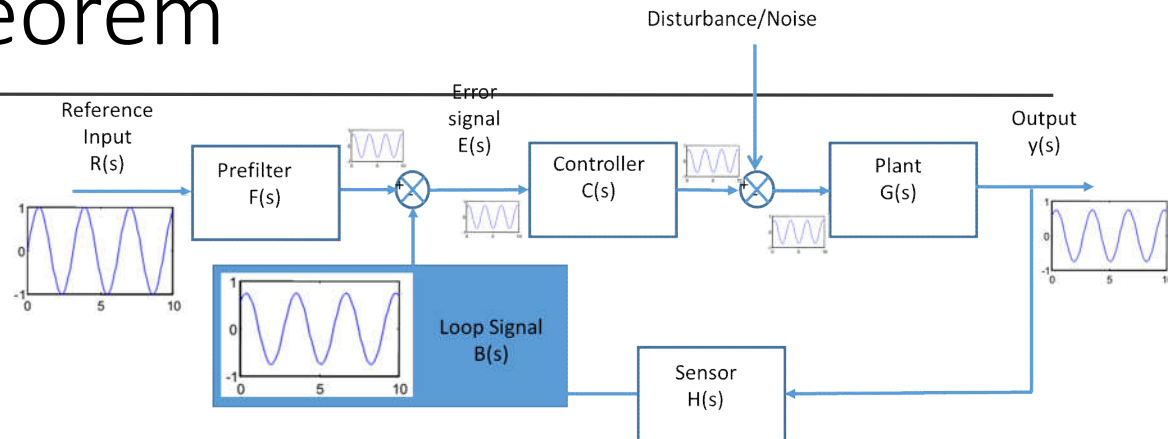
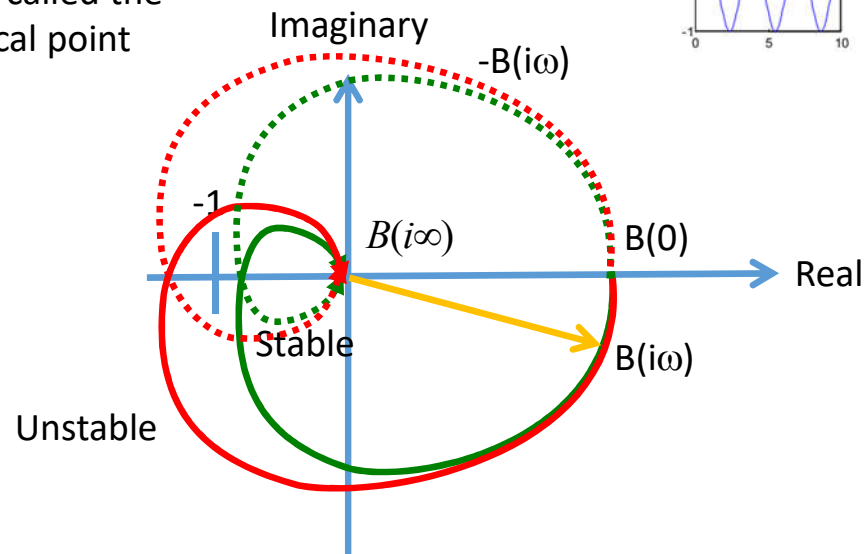


-1 is called the critical point



# Nyquist (simple) Theorem

-1 is called the critical point



Nyquist (simple) Theorem: If the Loop Transfer Function  $B(i\omega)$  has no poles in the *right hand side* (except for simple poles on the imaginary axis) then the system is stable iff there are no encirclements of the critical point, -1.

# Example, stable system

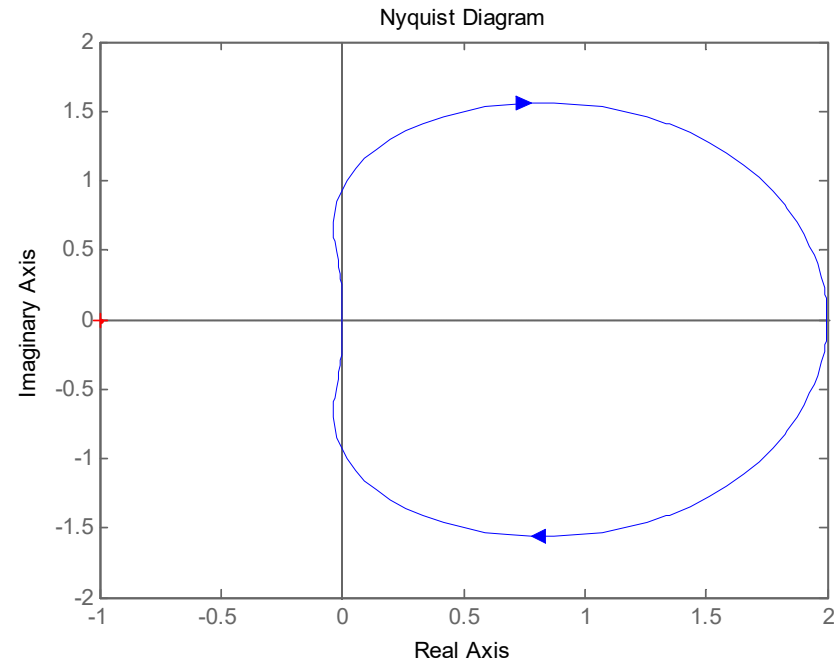
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$$B(s) = \frac{K(s^2 + 2s + 2)}{s^3 + 2s^2 + 2s + 1}$$

$$B(j\omega) = \frac{1(j\omega^2 + j\omega s + 2)}{j\omega^3 + 2j\omega^2 + 2j\omega + 1}$$

$$B(0) = 2$$

$$B(\infty) = B(-\infty) = 0$$



Will increasing K make this system unstable?

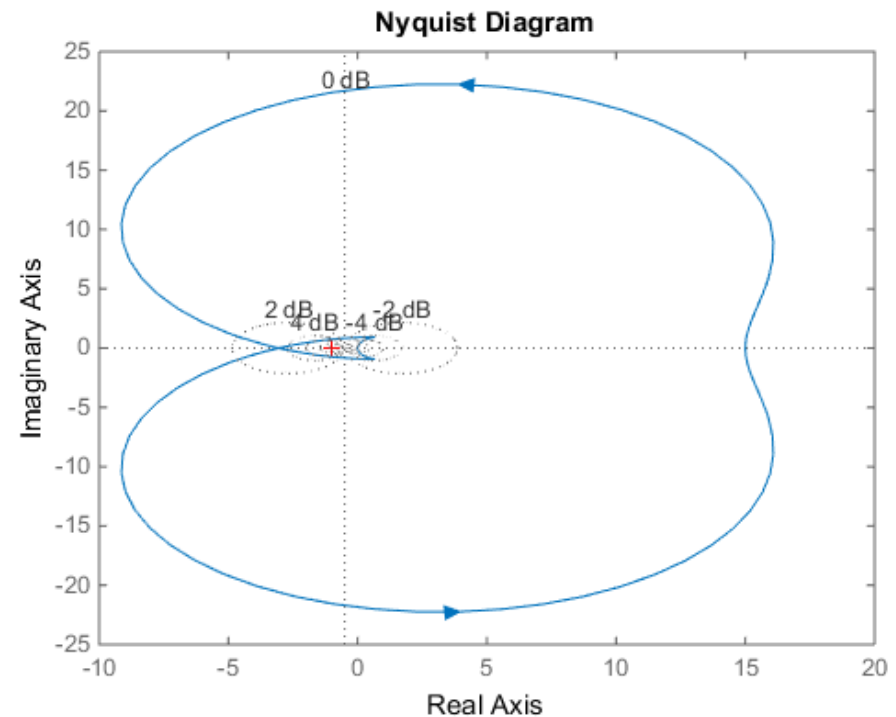
# Example, unstable system

$$B(s) = \frac{K(s^2 + s + 3)}{s^3 + 6s^2 - 2s + 2}$$

$$B(j\omega) = \frac{10(j\omega^2 + j\omega + 3)}{j\omega^3 + 6j\omega^2 - 2j\omega + 2}$$

$$B(0) = 15$$

$$B(\infty) = L(-\infty) = 0$$



Will decreasing K make this system stable?

# Example, Unstable System (Old School)

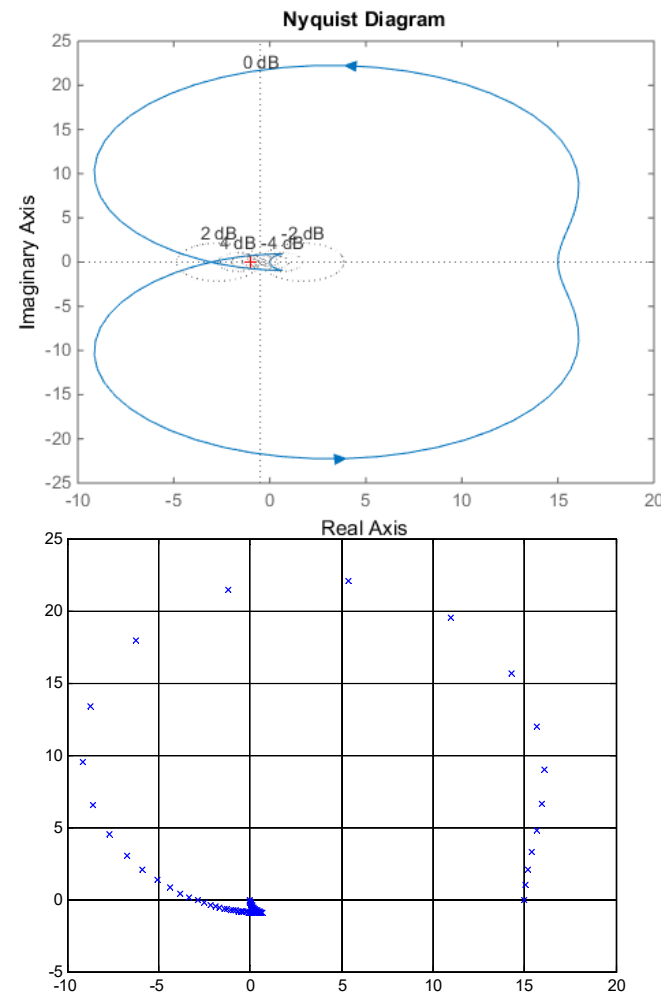
$$B(s) = \frac{K(s^2 + s + 3)}{s^3 + 6s^2 - 2s + 2}$$

$$B(j\omega) = \frac{10(j\omega^2 + j\omega + 3)}{j\omega^3 + 6j\omega^2 - 2j\omega + 2}$$

```
clear all;
f=[0:.05:500];
K = 10;

for j=1:length(f)
    w = 0 + 1i*f(j);
    Bnum = K*(w^2 + w + 3);
    Bden = w^3 + 6*w^2 - 2*w + 2;
    B = Bnum/Bden;

    re(j) = real(B);
    im(j) = imag(B);
end
plot( re, im, 'bx' );
```

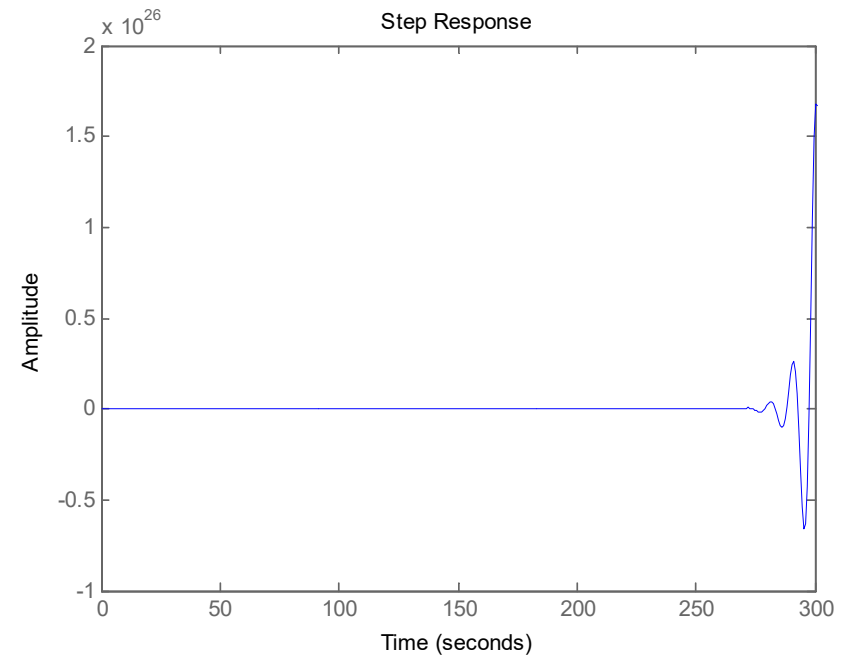
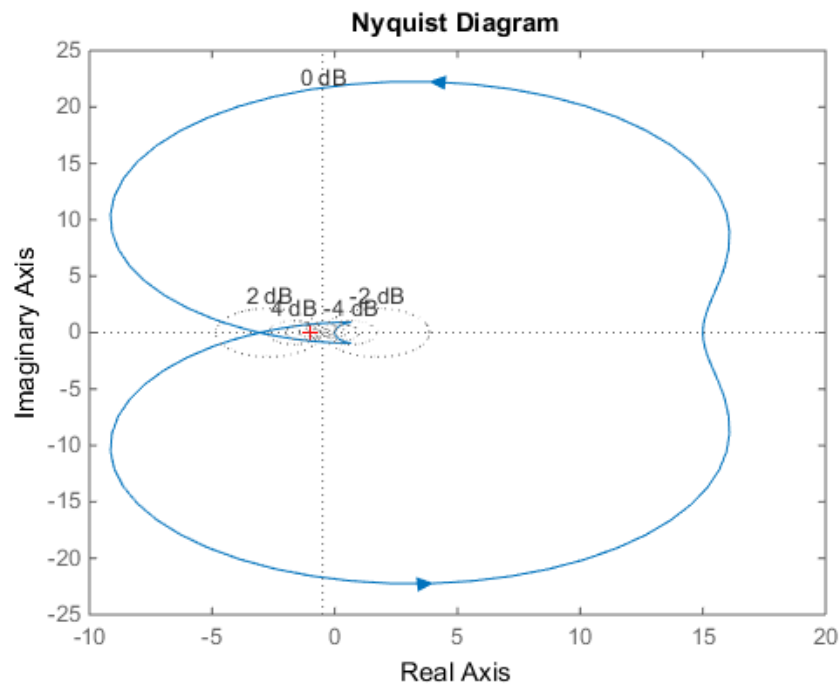


# Example, Unstable System

$$B(s) = \frac{K(s^2 + s + 3)}{s^3 + 6s^2 - 2s + 2}$$

$$B(j\omega) = \frac{10(j\omega^2 + j\omega + 3)}{j\omega^3 + 6j\omega^2 - 2j\omega + 2}$$

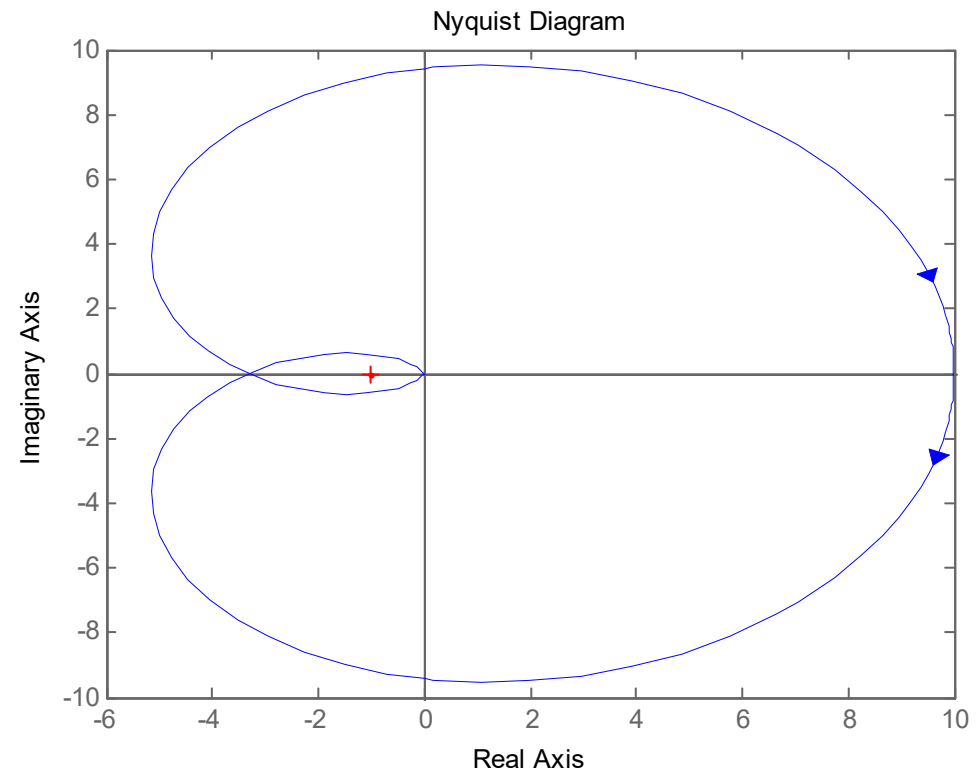
```
sys = tf( [10 10 30], [ 1 6 -2 3 ] );  
step( sys )
```



# Example, unstable system

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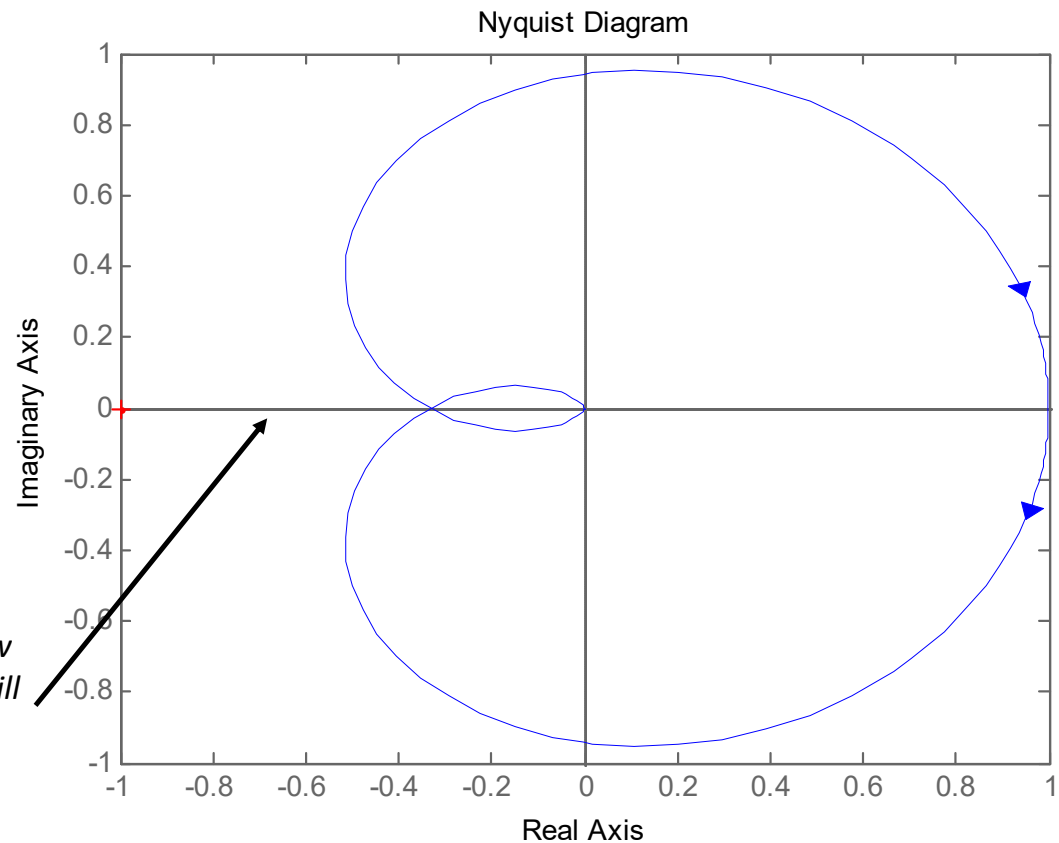
$$B(s) = \frac{10}{s(s^2 + 2s + 2)}$$



# But made stable by reducing the gain

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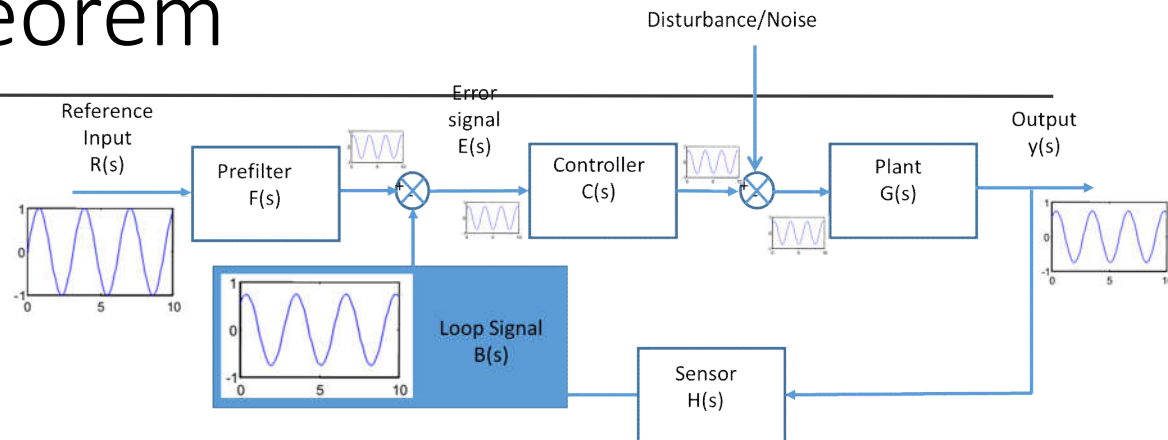
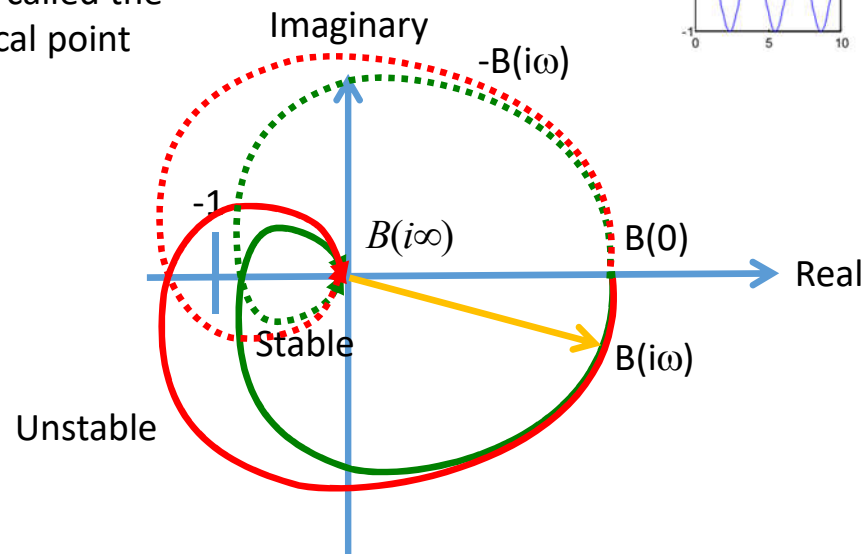
$$B(s) = \frac{1}{s(s^2 + 2s + 2)}$$



Foreshadows the notion of *stability gain margins*. How far can we push the gains for a given controller and still be stable?

# Nyquist (simple) Theorem

-1 is called the critical point



Nyquist (simple) Theorem: If the Loop Transfer Function  $B(i\omega)$  has no poles in the *right hand side* (except for simple poles on the imaginary axis) then the system is stable iff there are no encirclements of the critical point, -1.



# Nyquist's (full) Stability Theorem

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Nyquist (simple) stability Theorem required that  $B(s)$  have NO poles in the right half plane. In some cases this will not be true *even* when the closed loop transfer function  $T(s)$  is stable.

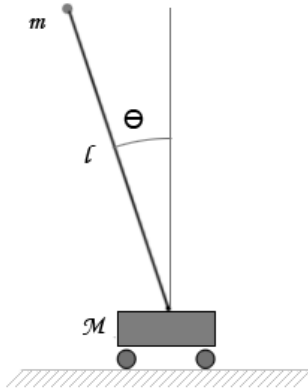
Thus, we need a more general (but slightly more complicated) theorem.

Nyquist Stability Theorem: Given a closed loop system with the loop transfer function  $B(s)$  with  $P$  poles in the right hand plane.

- Let  $N$  be the number of clockwise encirclements of  $-1$  by  $B(i\omega)$  minus the counterclockwise encirclements of  $-1$  by  $B(i\omega)$ . Then the closed loop system has  $Z=N+P$  zeros in the right half plane.

This requires that if a  $B(s)$  with  $P$  poles in the right hand plane, there must be  $P$  *counter-clockwise encirclements of  $-1$* .

# An example, Inverted Pendulum

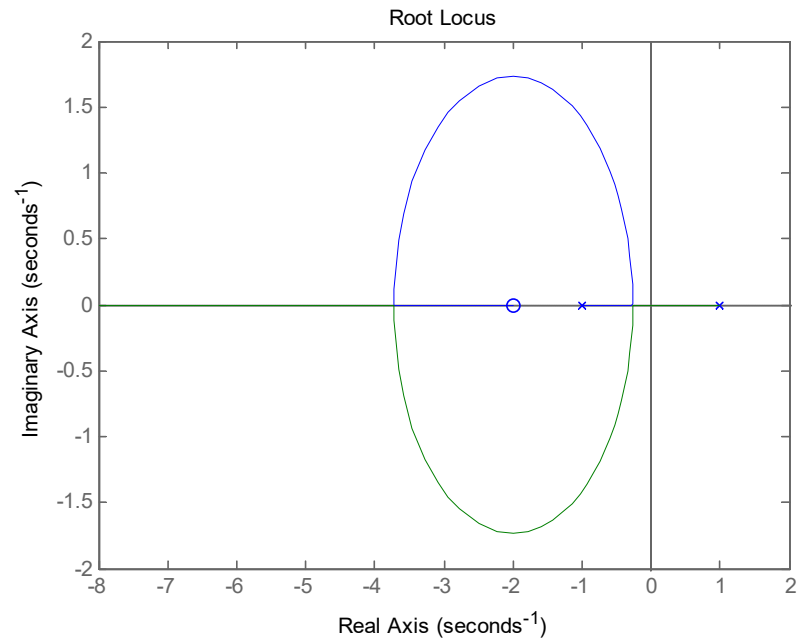


The old fashion way...

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

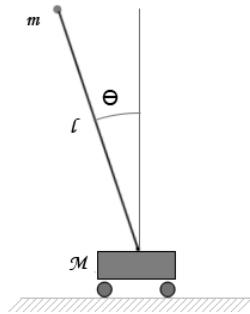
Note there is one pole in the RHP.

The Nyquist stability criterion dictates we should expect 1 counterclockwise encirclements of -1 if the system is stable...



...for what values of  $k$  is *the system stable*?

# An example, Inverted Pendulum

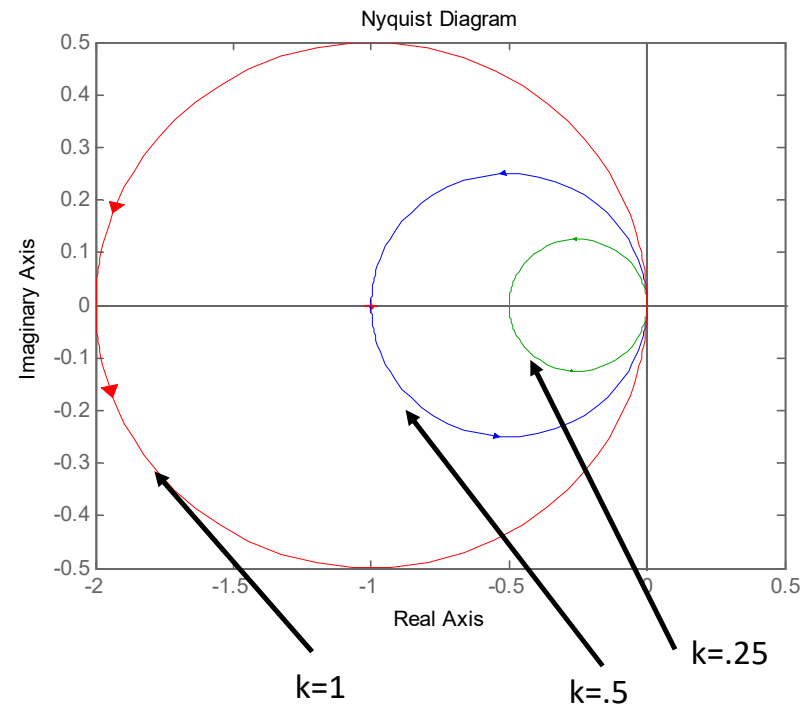


The old fashion way...

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

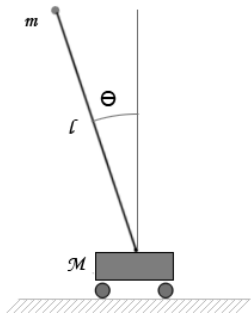
Note there is one pole in the RHP, we should expect 1 counterclockwise encirclement of -1 if the system is stable....

...for what values of  $k$  is the system stable?



Does this result make physical sense for this system?

# An example, Inverted Pendulum

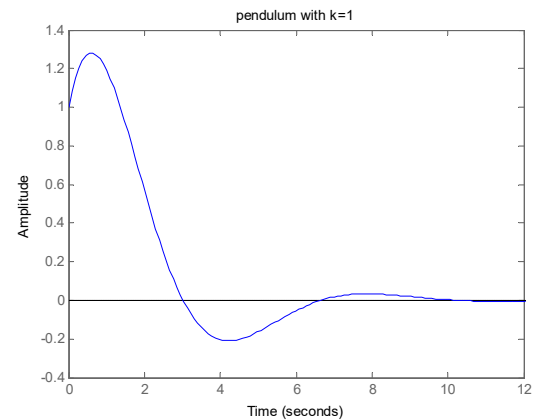
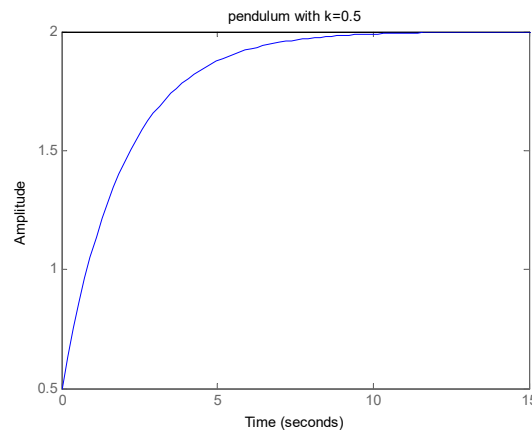
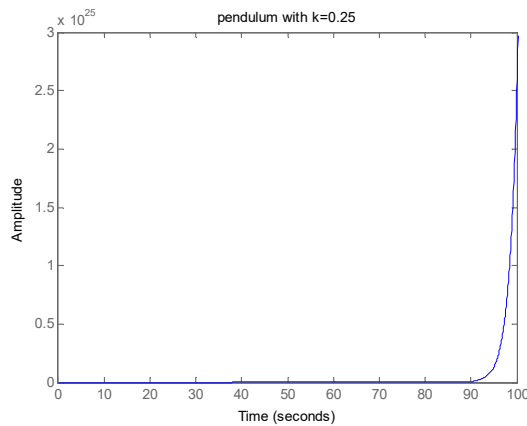
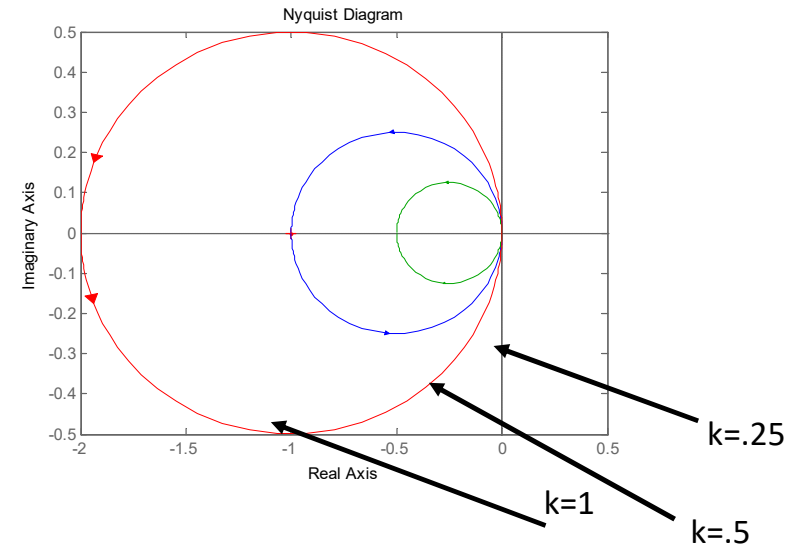


$$B(s) = \frac{k(s+2)}{s^2 - 1}$$

$$T_{cl}(s) = \frac{ks + 2k}{s^2 + ks + (2k - 1)}$$

The old fashioned way...

```
k=1;
sys = tf( [ k 2*k ], [ 1 k 2*k-1 ] );
impulse( sys );
title('pendulum with k=0.25');
```

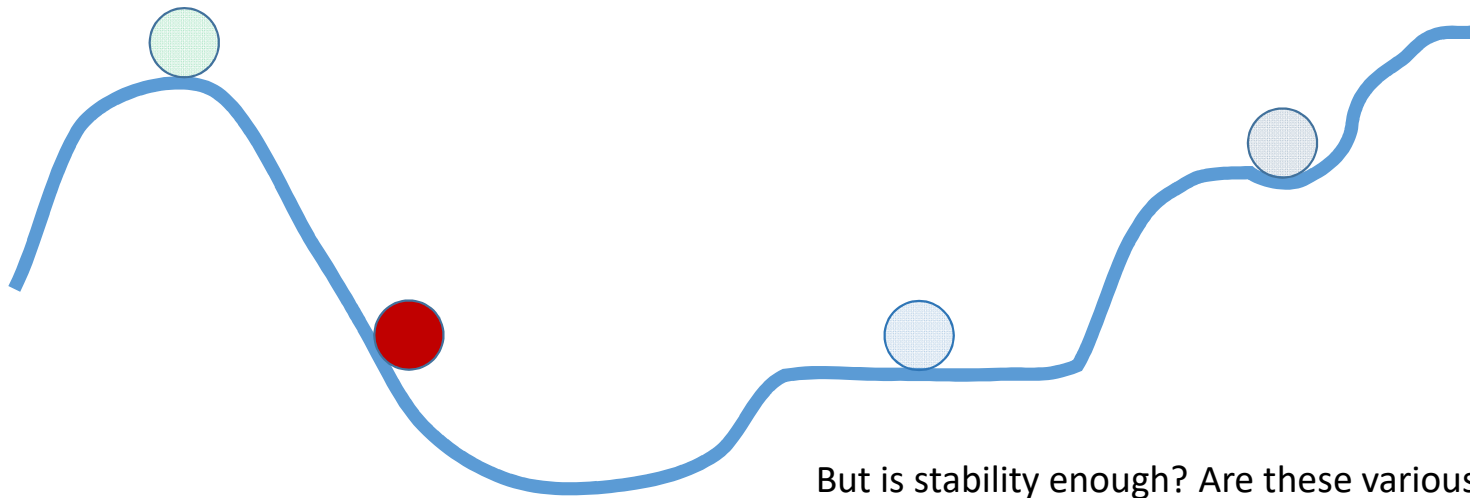


# Stability Margins

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Recall the definition of stability: A system's response to an input results in an output that stays arbitrarily near some value,  $a$ , for all of time greater than some value,  $t_f$ .

$$\|b - a\| < \delta \Rightarrow \|x(t; b) - x(t; a)\| < \varepsilon \text{ for all } t > 0$$



But is stability enough? Are these various stable points all equally stable?

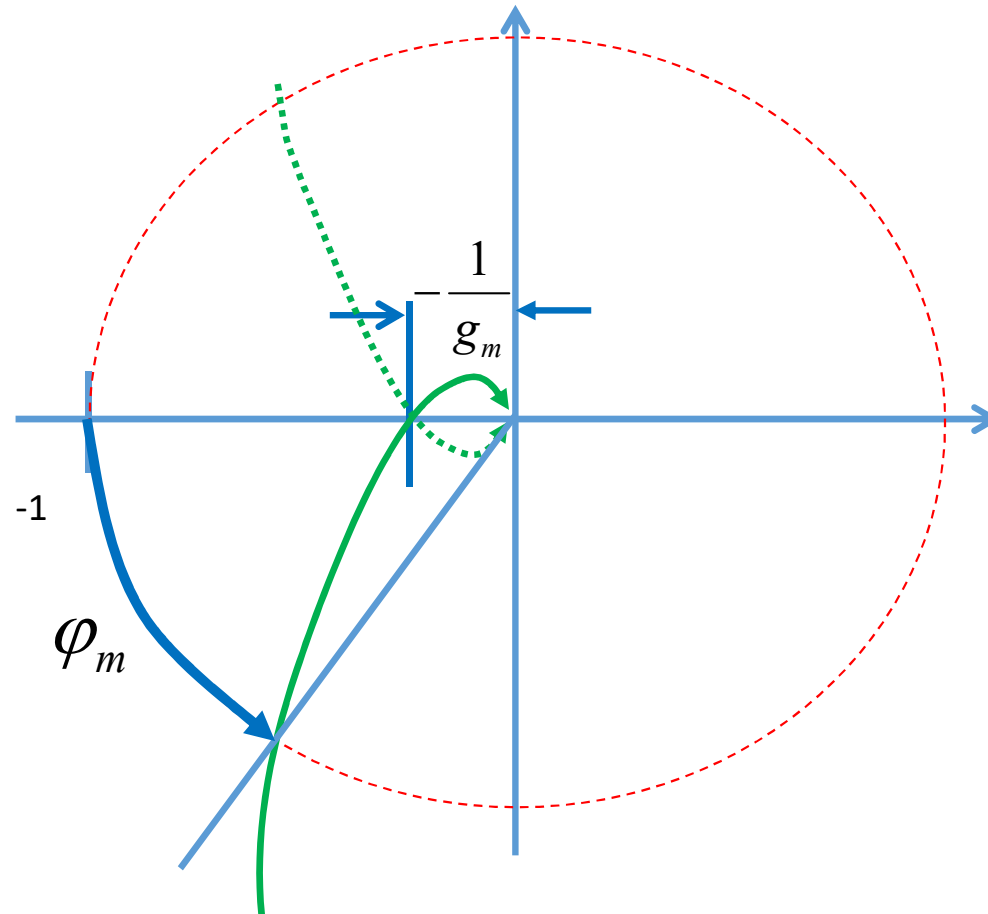
# Stability Margins Summary

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- Margins are the range from the current system design to the edge of instability. We will determine...
- Gain Margin
  - How much can gain be increased?
  - Formally: the smallest multiple amount the gain can be increased before the closed loop response is unstable.
- Phase Margin
  - How much further can the phase be shifted?
  - Formally: the smallest amount the phase can be increased before the closed loop response is unstable.
- Stability Margin
  - How far is the system from the critical point?

# Gain & Phase Margins

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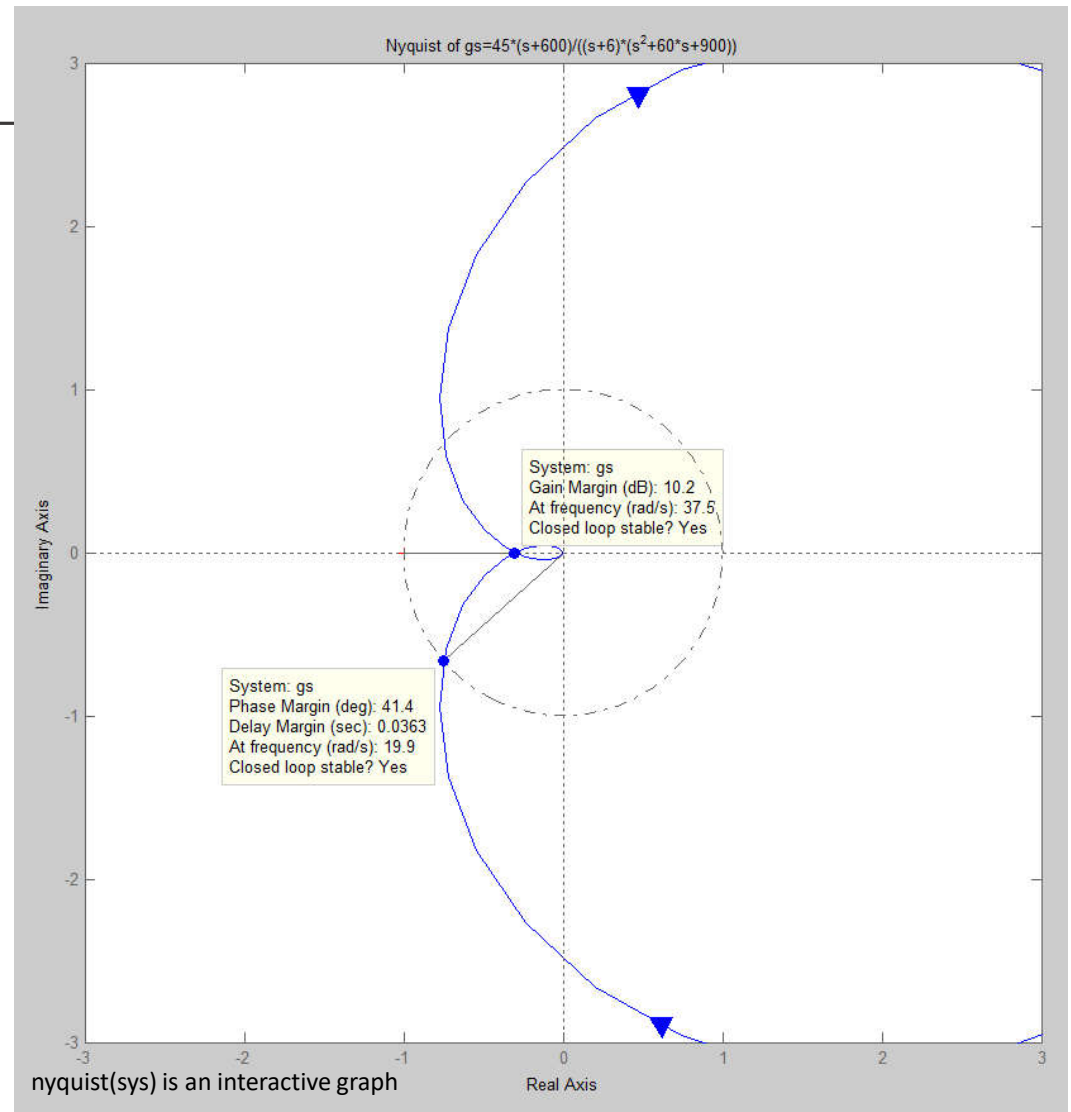


# Using MATLAB

$$B(s) = \frac{45(s + 600)}{(s + 6)(s^2 + 60s + 900)}$$

From the plot, the gain margin is 10.2 dB

The gain multiple is  $G = 10^{0.05 g_m} = 10^{0.05 \cdot 10.2} = 3.2359$



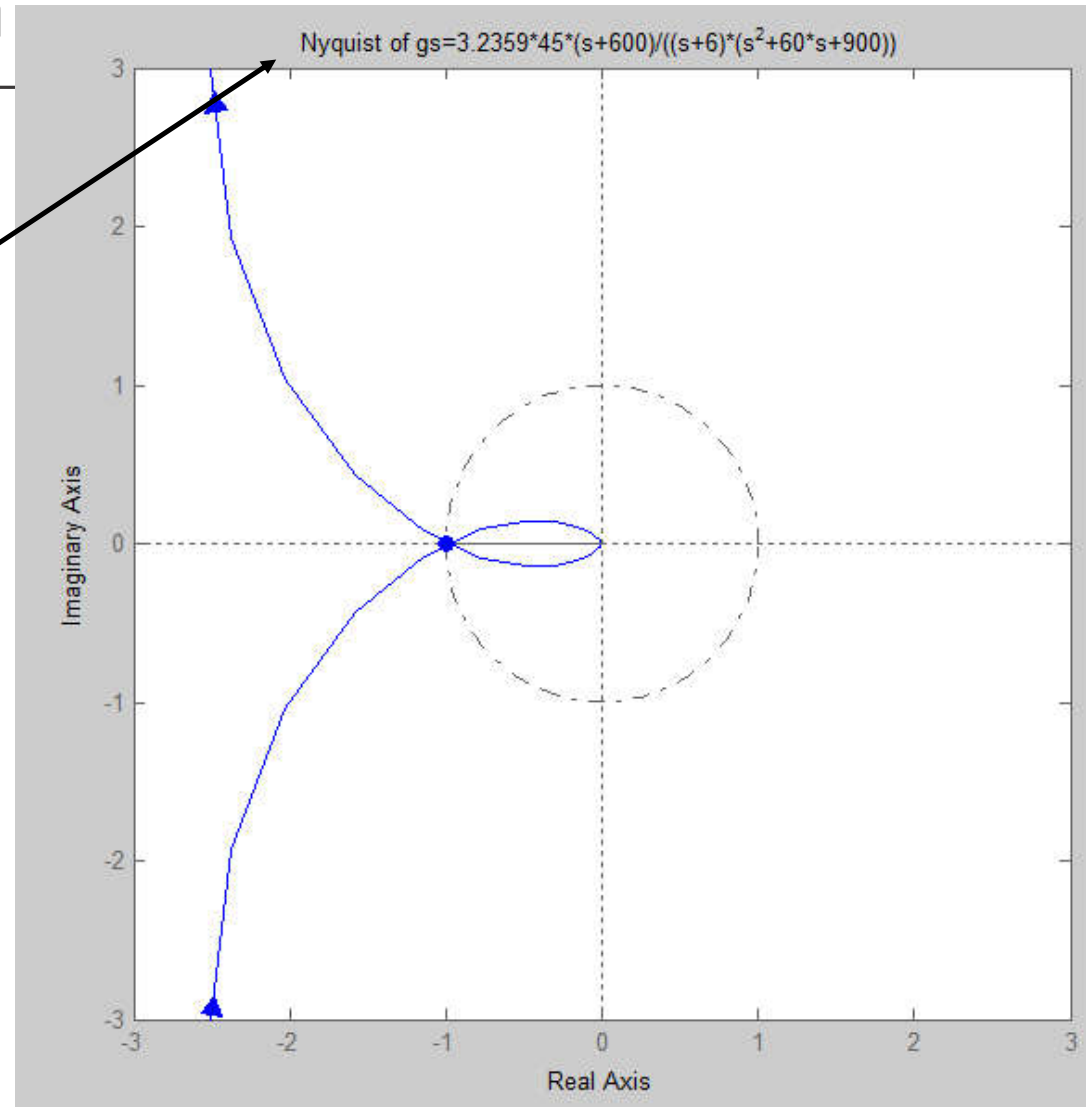


# Using the gain margin

$$B(s) = \frac{(3.2359 * 45)(s + 600)}{(s + 6)(s^2 + 60s + 900)}$$

Here the gain from the previous plot has been multiplied by 3.2359

*With this gain, the system is neutrally stable.*



# Using the gain margin

$$B(s) = \frac{(270)(s + 600)}{(s + 6)(s^2 + 60s + 900)}$$

Here the gain has been changed to 270.

*With this gain, the system is unstable.*

With this gain margin is now -5.36 dB

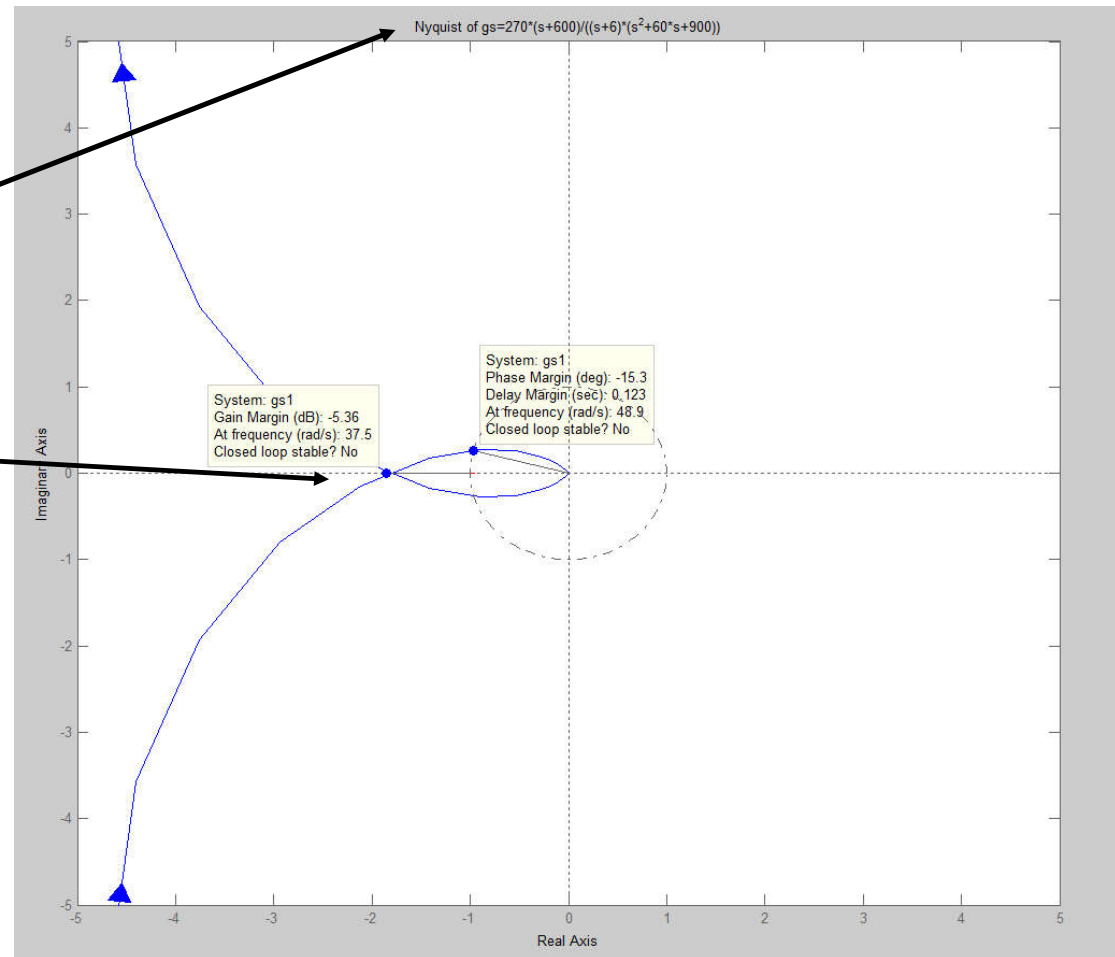
$$-5.36 = 20 \log_{10} x$$

$$10^{\frac{-5.36}{20}} = x$$

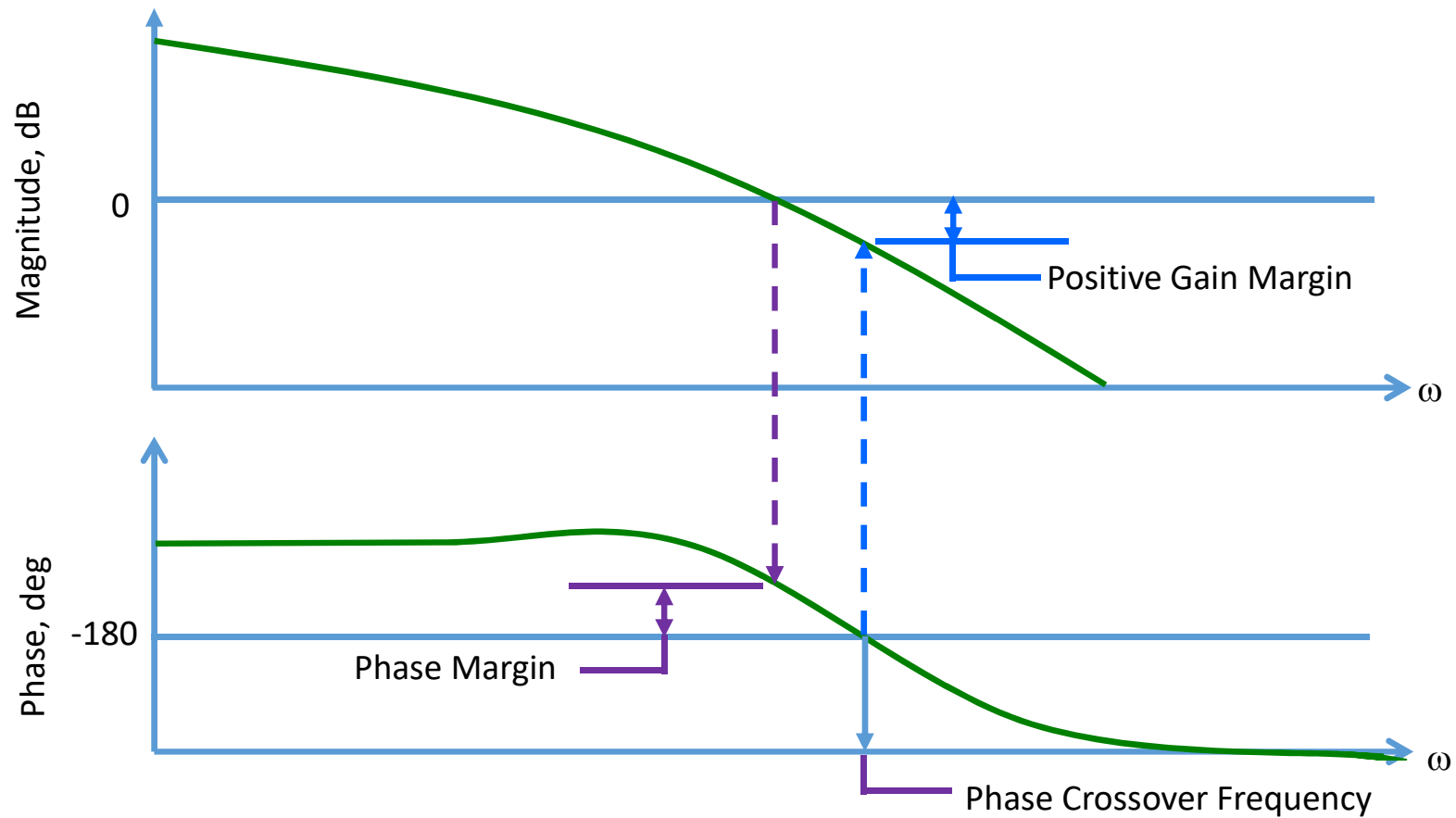
$$0.54 = x$$

And this is the correct gain multiplier, since

$$0.5393 = \frac{45 * 3.2359}{270} = \frac{K_{neutralstable}}{K}$$

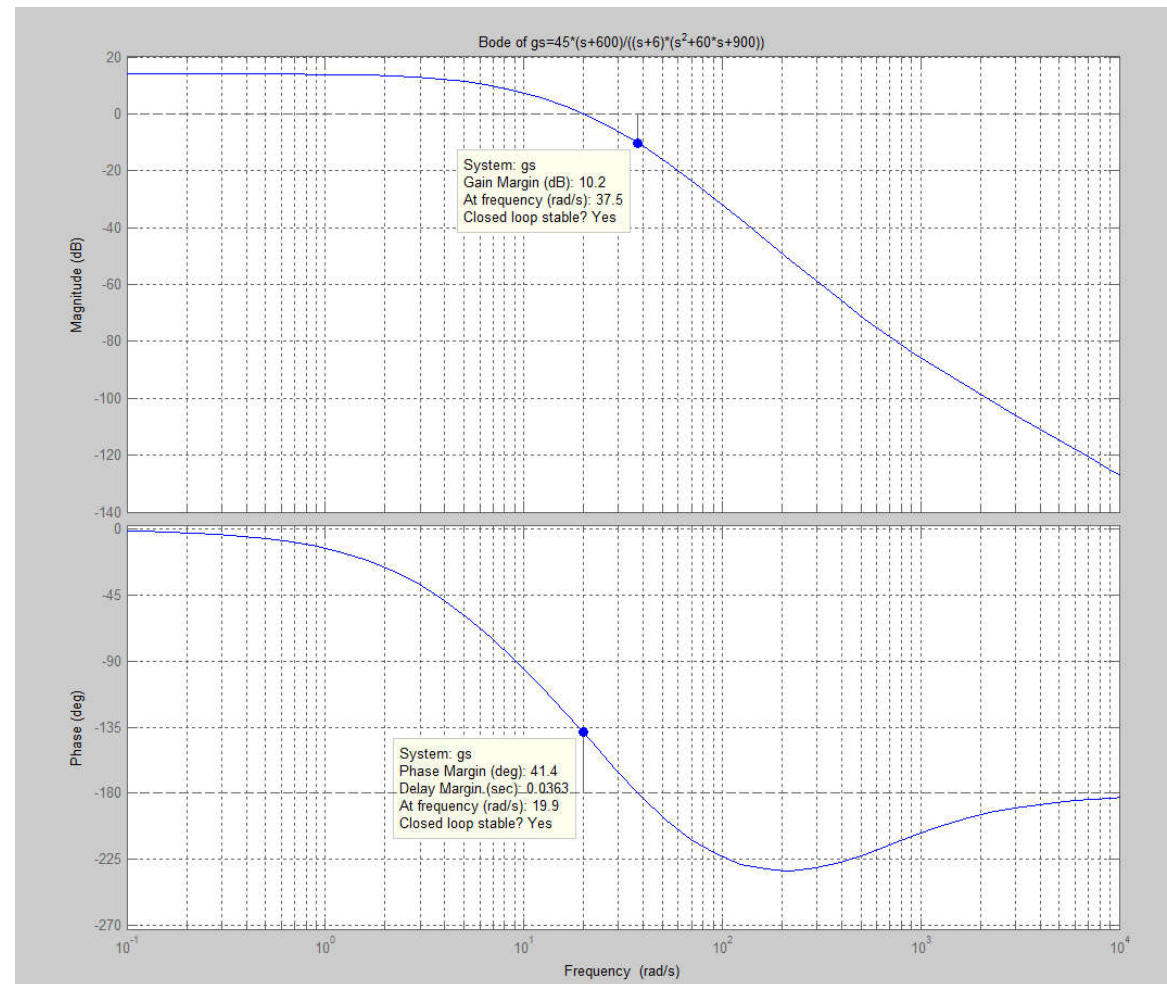


# Margins on a Bode Plot (for $B(s)$ !)



# Back to our example...

$$B(s) = \frac{45(s + 600)}{(s + 6)(s^2 + 60s + 900)}$$



# Summary

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- Examining the Loop Transfer Function  $B(s)$  is a common sense way to look at the response of a feedback system.
  - Can simplify stability analysis. Don't have to calculate  $T_{cl}(S)$
- By graphing real and imaginary components of the response as a function of frequency (Nyquist plot) we can determine the stability of the system.
- Nyquist plots can get complicated, but a combination of MATLAB, hand computations and symmetry make most problems solvable
- Using Nyquist plots we can roughly determine how stable we are by calculating the gain and phase margins.