

System Stability

$$\frac{Y(s)}{R(s)} = \frac{N(s)}{\Delta(s)}$$

System poles are given by roots (zeros) of  $\Delta(s)$

Note: For stability, we only care if poles are in LHP vs RHP, not exact locations

Routh-Hurwitz CriteriaStep 1

Expand  $\Delta(s) = 0$  into the form

$$\Delta(s) = a_n s^n + \dots + a_1 s + a_0$$

Step 2

Apply the Hurwitz Test - Examine the signs of all the coefficients of  $a_n, \dots, a_0$

If the coefficients are not all the same sign, or if some are missing, then there will be roots of  $\Delta(s)$  in the RHP

If all the coefficients are non-zero and the same sign the system may still be unstable

Ex

$$\Delta(s) = s^3 + \frac{1}{2}s^2 + \frac{7}{2}s + 4$$

$$= \underbrace{(s+1)}_{\text{LHP}} \underbrace{\left(s - \frac{1}{4} + j\frac{\sqrt{3}}{4}\right)}_{\text{RHP}} \underbrace{\left(s - \frac{1}{4} - j\frac{\sqrt{3}}{4}\right)}_{\text{RHP}}$$

$\therefore$  This system is unstable

Step 3

Use the Routh Criterion

3a) Construct the Routh array

$$\text{For } \Delta(s) = a_n s^n + \dots + a_1 s + a_0$$

Form:

$s^n$	$a_n$	$a_{n-2}$	$\vdots$	$a_1$	← row 0
$s^{n-1}$	$a_{n-1}$	$a_{n-3}$	$\vdots$	$a_0$	← row 1
$s^{n-2}$	$\delta_{2,1}$	$\delta_{2,2}$	$\delta_{2,3}$	...	← row 2
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	
$s^1$	$\delta_{2,1}$	$\delta_{2,2}$	$\delta_{2,3}$	...	
$s^0$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	

↑ Pivot Column

Note:  $\delta_{i,j}$   
Row ↑  
Col →

Where

$$\delta_{i,j} = - \frac{(\delta_{i-2,1} \delta_{i-1,j+1} - \delta_{i-1,1} \delta_{i-2,j+1})}{\delta_{i-1,1}}$$

3b) Apply the Routh criterion:

The characteristic polynomial  $\Delta(s)=0$  has roots in the RHP or on the  $j\omega$  axis if there are any zeros or sign changes in the pivot column of the Routh array

Ex

$$\Delta(s) = a_3 s^3 + a_2 s^2 + a_1 s + a_0 = 0, \quad a_i > 0, i=1,2,3,4$$

This passes the Hurwitz test, so construct the Routh array

$s^3$	$a_3$	$a_1$	$0$
$s^2$	$a_2$	$a_0$	$0$
$s^1$	$\delta_{2,1}$	$\delta_{2,2}=0$	
$s^0$	$\delta_{3,1}=a_0$		

$$\delta_{2,1} = \frac{a_1 a_2 - a_3 a_0}{a_2}$$

$$\delta_{2,2} = 0$$

Examine the pivot column  $a_3 > 0, a_2 > 0, a_0 > 0$  so for stability:

$$\delta_{2,1} > 0$$

a.k.a.:

$$a_2 a_1 - a_3 a_0 > 0$$

is required

Ex

$$\Delta(s) = a_2 s^2 + a_1 s + a_0 \quad \text{where} \quad a_i > 0, i=0,1,2$$

$s^2$	$a_2$	$a_0$
$s^1$	$a_1$	$0$
$s^0$	$a_0$	

Ex

$$\Delta(s) = s^4 + 10s^3 + s^2 + 15s + 3$$

This passes the Hurwitz test, so form the Routh array

$s^4$	1	1	3
$s^3$	10	15	0
$s^2$	$-1/2$	3	
$s^1$	7.5		
$s^0$	3		

$$\delta_{3,1} = \frac{(-1/2)(15) - (3)(10)}{(-1/2)}$$

$$= \frac{-7.5 - 30}{-1/2}$$

$$= 75$$

The pivot column has 2 sign changes so the system is unstable.

The actual roots of  $\Delta(s)$  are:

$$\begin{aligned} & -0.1976 \\ & -10.05 \\ & + 0.1218 \pm j1.2234 \end{aligned}$$

More Information from the Routh array:

1) The # of roots of  $\Delta(s)$  in the RHP equals the number

of sign changes in the pivot column

- ii) A row of zeros in the Routh array implies roots located symmetrically about the origin. These roots can be found from the auxiliary equation:

$s^n$				
$s^{n-1}$				
$s^2$	$a$	$b$	$0$	
$s^1$	$0$	$0$	$0$	
$s^0$				$1$

Take the auxiliary equation from here

$$\Delta_a(s) = as^2 + bs^0 = 0$$

$$= as^2 + b$$

Roots of  $\Delta_a(s) = 0$

$$\text{are } s_{1,2} = \pm \sqrt{\frac{-b}{a}}$$

$$= \pm j \sqrt{\frac{b}{a}}$$