Discretizing continuous-time controllers

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Context

- Controller $F(s)$ obtained from a design in continuous time.
- Need discrete approxmation in order to implement on a computer

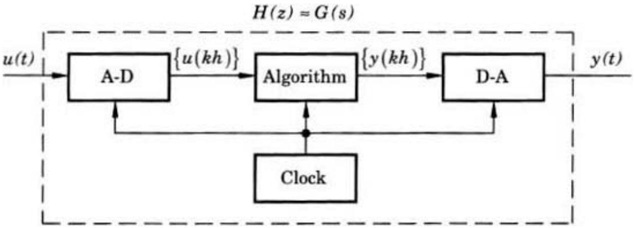
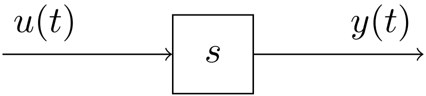


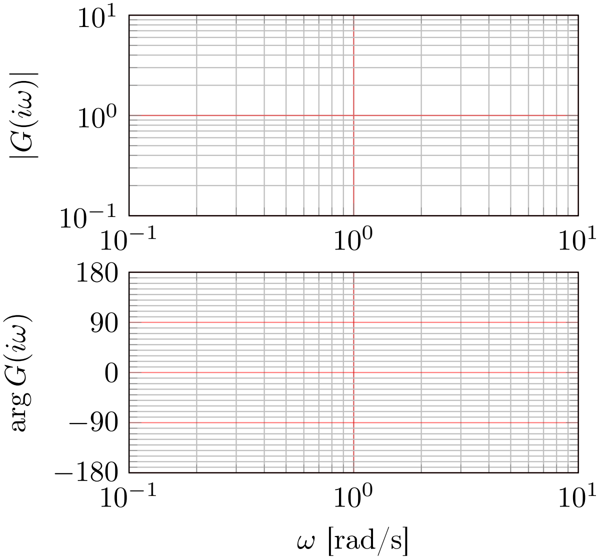
Figure 8.1 Approximating a continuous-time transfer function, $G(s)$, using a computer.

Source: Åström & Wittenmark

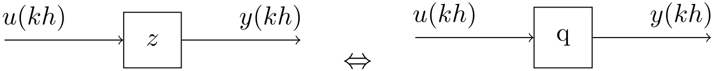
Warm-up exercise

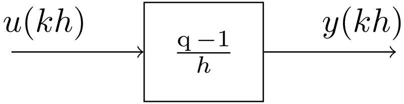


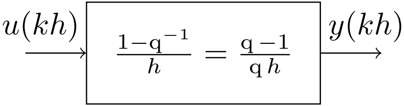
Draw the Bode diagram for the transfer function



Discrete-time differentiation







Discretization methods

1. Forward difference. Substitute
$$s = \frac{z-1}{h}$$
in $F(s)$ to get
$$F_d(z) = F(s')|_{s'=\frac{z-1}{h}}.$$
2. Backward difference. Substitute
$$s = \frac{z-1}{zh}$$
in $F(s)$ to get
$$F_d(z) = F(s')|_{s'=\frac{z-1}{zh}}.$$

Discretization methods, contd.

3. Tustin's method (also known as the bilinear transform). Substitute

$$s = \frac{2}{h}\frac{z-1}{z+1}$$

in $F(s)$ to get

$$F_d(z) = F(s')\big|_{s'=\frac{2}{h}\cdot\frac{z-1}{z+1}}.$$

4. Ramp invariance. This is similar to ZoH, which is step-invariant approximation. Since a unit ramp has z-transform $\frac{zh}{(z-1)^2}$ and Laplace-transform $1/s^2$, the discretization becomes

$$F_d(z) = \frac{(z-1)^2}{zh}\mathcal{Z}\left\{\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{F(s)}{s^2}\right\}\right\}.$$

Frequency warping using Tustin's

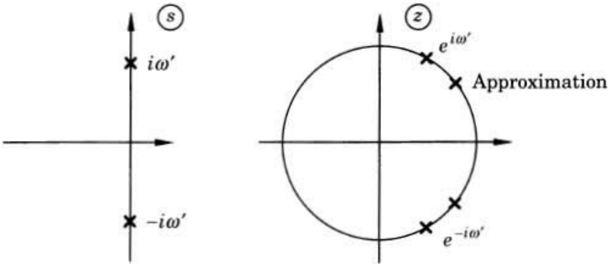


Figure 8.3 Frequency distortion (warping) obtained with approximation.

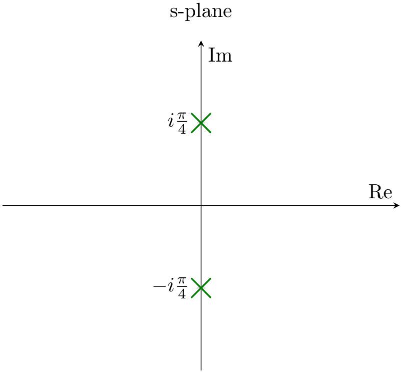
The infinite positive imaginary axis in the s-plane is mapped to the finite-length upper half of the unit circle in the z-plane.

Exercise

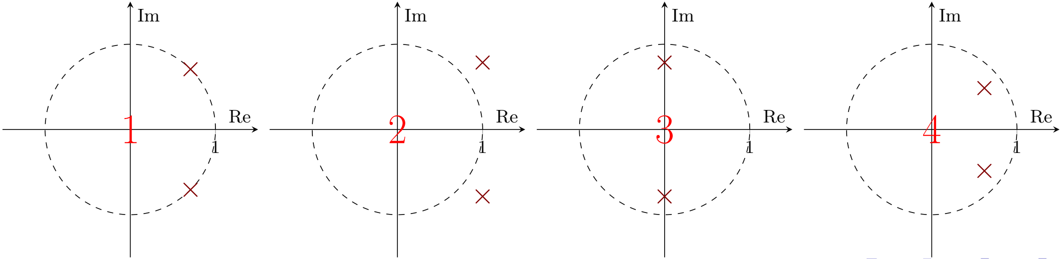
Find the discrete approximation of the lead-compensator $F(s) = \frac{s+b}{s+a}$, and determine the pole for

1. Forward difference. Substitute
$$F_d(z) = F(s')|_{s'=\frac{z-1}{h}}.$$
2. Backward difference. Substitute
$$F_d(z) = F(s')|_{s'=\frac{z-1}{zh}}.$$
3. Tustin's approximation
$$F_d(z) = F(s')|_{s'=\frac{2}{h}\cdot\frac{z-1}{z+1}}.$$

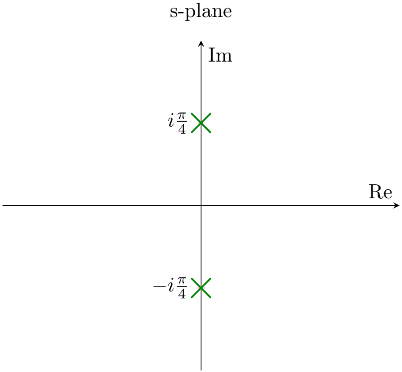
Forward difference exercise



Which of the below figures shows the correct mapping of the continuous-time poles using the **forward difference** $z = 1 + sh$ with $h = 1$?



Backward difference exercise



Which of the below figures shows the correct mapping of the continuous-time poles using the **backward difference** $z = \frac{1}{1-sh}$ with $h = 1$?