

# Lecture 13

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**Sketching root locus**

# Recap:

(Problem formulation)

- Plot in the complex s plane the locations of all roots of the equation

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$$1 + K \cdot F(s) = 0 \quad \text{where} \quad F(s) = \frac{M(s)}{D(s)} = \frac{\prod_{k=1}^m (s - \beta_k)}{\prod_{k=1}^n (s - \alpha_k)}$$

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as K varies from 0 to infinity.

- This plot is called the (positive) “root locus”.

# Recap:

(phase and magnitude conditions)

- Note that if a point  $s_0$  in the complex plane lays on the root locus, it has to satisfy

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$$1 + KF(s_0) = 0 \Leftrightarrow KF(s_0) = -1$$

which implies ~~Add WeChat powcoder~~ that these conditions hold:

magnitude condition:  $|K \cdot F(s_0)| = 1$

phase condition:  $\angle K \cdot F(s_0) = (2l + 1)\pi \quad \text{for } l = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$

# Main features of root locus

- Number of branches
- Open loop poles (starting points for K=0)
- Open loop zeros (limiting points for K infinity)
- Parts of real line that belong to root locus
- Asymptotes <https://powcoder.com> Add WeChat powcoder
- Breakaway point (branches intersect)
- Intersections with imaginary axis
- Angles of departure or arrival at poles/zeroes

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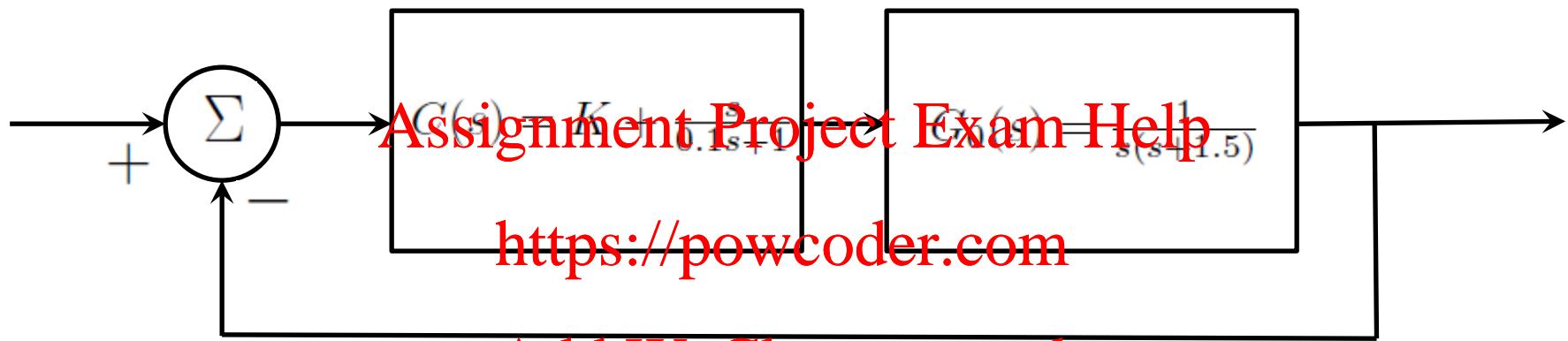
Number of branches  
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# Summary:

- The root locus will have  $L$  branches, where  $L$  is the maximum between numbers of poles/zeros of  $F(s)$ .  
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- If  $F$  is proper, then  $L$  is equal to the number of poles.  
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<https://powcoder.com>
- $F$  does not need to be proper in general, as it does not correspond to a model of physical system.

# Example:



Characteristic equation is:

$$\underbrace{0.1s^3 + 1.15s^2 + 2.5s}_{D(s)} + K \underbrace{(0.1s + 1)}_{M(s)} = 0$$

$$1 + K \frac{M(s)}{D(s)} = 0$$

We consider this example in detail.

# Example:

## ■ Consider the polynomial

$$0.1s^3 + 1.15s^2 + (0.1K + 2.5)s + K = 0 \Leftrightarrow 1 + K \frac{0.1s+1}{s(0.1s^2+1.15s+2.5)} = 0$$

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```
>> z = [-10];
>> r = roots([0.1,1.15,2.5])
r =
    -8.5895
    -2.9105
>> p = [0 r(1) r(2)];
>> g = 1;
>> F = zpk(z,p,g)
Zero/pole/gain:
    (s+10)
-----
s (s+8.589) (s+2.911)
```

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$$\Rightarrow F(s) = \frac{(s+10)}{s(s+8.5895)(s+2.9105)}$$

3 poles at:  $s = 0, -2.9105, -8.5895$   
1 zero at:  $s = -10$

Root locus has  $\max\{3,1\}=3$  branches in this example.

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Openlooppools/zeroes  
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# Summary:

- For very small values of K, root locus contains points close to the poles of  $F(s)$ :

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$$1 + KF(s) \underset{\text{https://powcoder.com}}{=} \frac{D(s) + KM(s)}{D(s)} \underset{K \approx 0}{\underset{\approx 0}{\underset{\approx 0}{=}}} D(s) = 0$$

- Zeroes of characteristic polynomial are the poles of the transfer function!
- We can say that branches “emanate from” open loop poles (poles as “sources”).

# Summary:

- For large values of K, root locus is close to zeros of  $F(s)$ :

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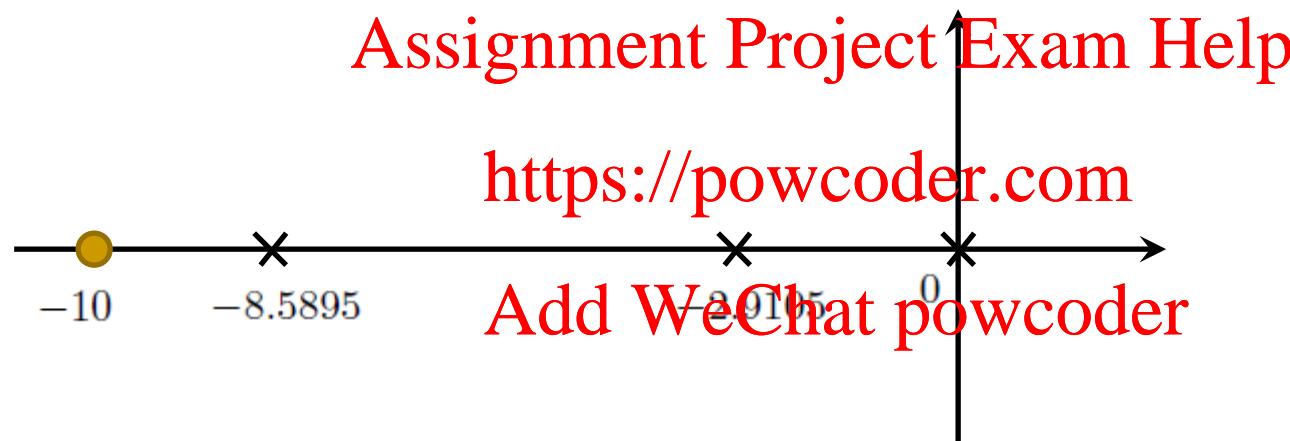
$$1 + KF(s) = \frac{1}{K} \frac{D(s) + M(s)}{D(s)} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } K \rightarrow \infty \quad M(s) = 0$$

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- We can say that zeroes are limits of branches of root locus as K grows to infinity (zeroes as “sinks”).

# Example:

- We enter the poles and zeros of  $F(s)$



Poles are denoted as crosses and zeros with circles.

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Real line segments on the root locus

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# Summary:

- We can quickly determine which parts of real axis belong to the root locus because of the phase condition.

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phase condition:

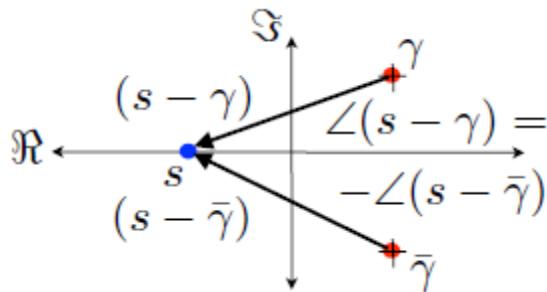
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 $\angle K \cdot F(s_0) = (2l+1)\pi$  for  $l = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$

# Summary:

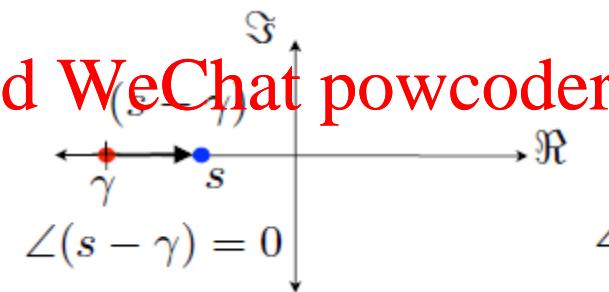
- A point on the real axis is a part of root locus iff it is to the left of an odd number of real poles and zeros

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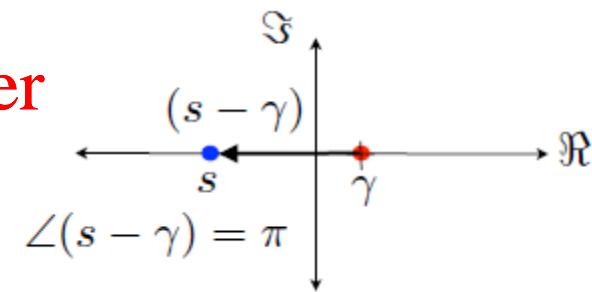
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Complex conjugate  
poles/zeros  
are irrelevant.



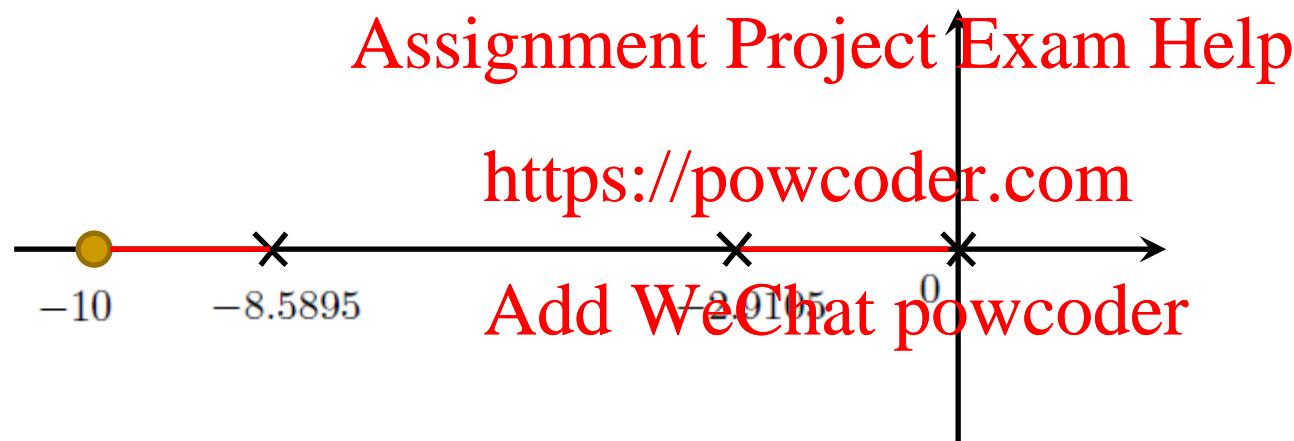
Phase condition does  
not hold when we are  
on the right



Phase condition holds  
when we are on the left

# Example:

- Red lines belong to root locus



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<https://sympot.com>

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# Asymptotes

- If  $n > m$  then the root locus has  $n-m$  branches that approach infinity along asymptotes that intersect the real axis at

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$$\sigma \doteq \frac{\sum_{k=1}^m \alpha_k - \sum_{k=1}^n \beta_k}{n - m}$$

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This is the real number in case poles and zeros occur in conjugate pairs pairs

and with angles

$$\eta_k \doteq \frac{(2k-1)\pi}{n-m} \text{ for } k = 1, \dots, n-m$$

the number of distinct asymptotes depends on the relative degree

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Situation  $m > n$  is discussed in lecture notes.

# Sketch of proof (see Ogata):

- As  $K \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $F(s) \rightarrow 0$  on each branch. Of the  $n$  branches,  $m$  terminate at zeros of numerator  $M(s)$ . The remaining  $n-m$  branches must therefore stretch indefinitely. Since  $n > m$ ,  $F(s) \rightarrow 0$  as  $|s| \rightarrow \infty$ .
- For large  $s$ , root locus approaches root locus of  $1 + K \frac{1}{s^{n-m}}$  but with origin shifted to  $\sigma$ .

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$\sigma$

$$F(s) = \frac{s^m + b_{m-1}s^{m-1} + \dots + b_1s + b_0}{s^n + a_{n-1}s^{n-1} + \dots + a_1s + a_0} = \frac{\prod_{k=1}^m (s - \beta_k)}{\prod_{k=1}^n (s - \alpha_k)}$$
$$= \frac{1}{s^{n-m} + (a_{n-1} - b_{m-1})s^{n-m-1} + \dots + d_1s + d_0 + \frac{c_{m-1}s^{m-1} + \dots + c_1s + c_0}{s^m + b_{m-1}s^{m-1} + \dots + b_1s + b_0}}$$

For large  $s$ :

$$\approx \frac{1}{(s - \sigma)^{n-m}} = \frac{1}{s^{n-m} - \sigma(n-m)s^{n-m-1} + \dots + (n-m)(-\sigma)^{n-m-1}s + (-\sigma)^{n-m}}$$

$$\sigma = -\frac{(a_{n-1} - b_{m-1})}{n-m} = \frac{\sum_{k=1}^n \alpha_k - \sum_{k=1}^m \beta_k}{n-m}$$

# Sketch of proof

- The phase condition for  $1 + K \frac{1}{s^{n-m}}$  is

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 $(n - m)\angle \frac{1}{s_0} = \angle - 1 = (2l + 1)\pi, l = 0, \pm 1, \dots,$   
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or equivalently Add WeChat powcoder

$$\angle s_0 = (2k - 1)\pi / (n - m), k = 1, 2, \dots, n - m$$

# Several typical cases

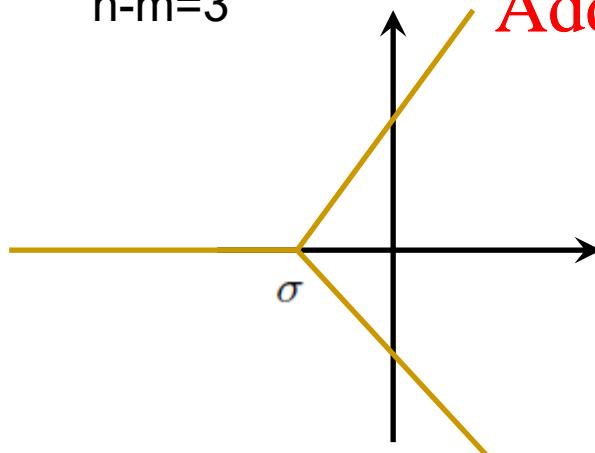
$n-m=1$



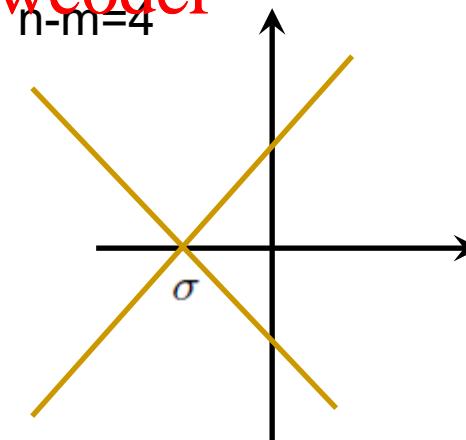
$n-m=2$

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$n-m=3$

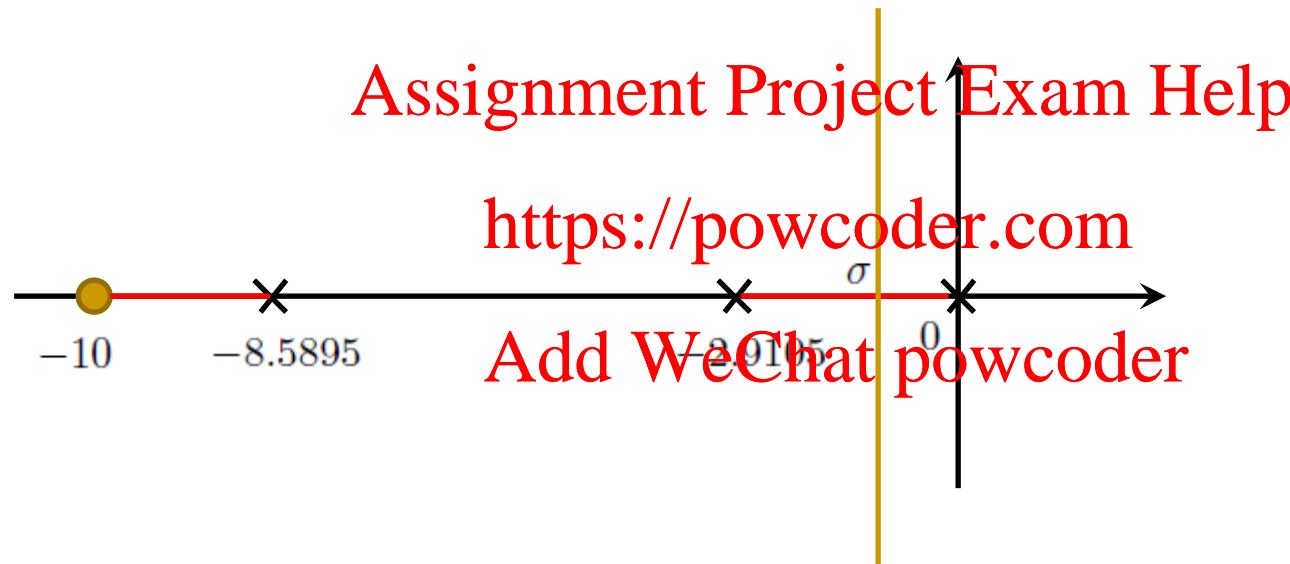


$n-m=4$



# Example:

- Since  $n-m=2$ , asymptotes are:



$$\sigma = \frac{0 - 8.5895 - 2.9105 + 10}{2} = -0.75 \quad \eta_1 = \frac{\pi}{2}, \eta_2 = \frac{3\pi}{2}$$

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Points where branches intersect  
(repeated roots of characteristic equation)  
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# Summary

- Consider a function  $f$  and suppose that

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- Then, we have <https://powcoder.com>

$$\frac{df}{ds}(s) = 2(s - \alpha)f(s) + (s - \alpha)^2 \frac{d\tilde{f}}{ds}(s)$$

$$f(\alpha) = 0$$

$$\frac{df}{ds}(\alpha) = 0$$

# Formula for repeated roots:

- Consider

$$f(s) = D(s) + KM(s) = 0$$

- K at which repeated roots occur:  
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$$\frac{dD}{ds} + K \frac{dM}{ds} = 0 \Rightarrow K = -\frac{\frac{dD}{ds}}{\frac{dM}{ds}}$$

$$D(s) - \frac{\frac{dD}{ds}}{\frac{dM}{ds}} M(s) = 0 \Leftrightarrow D(s) \frac{dM}{ds} - \frac{dD}{ds} M(s) = 0$$

# Alternative approach:

- We can alternatively consider:

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 $K(s) := \frac{D(s)}{M(s)}$

- Points where branches intersect can be obtained alternatively from

$$\frac{dK}{ds} = -\frac{\frac{dD}{ds}M(s) - D(s)\frac{dM}{ds}}{M(s)^2} = 0$$

NOTE: these points have to be on the root locus!

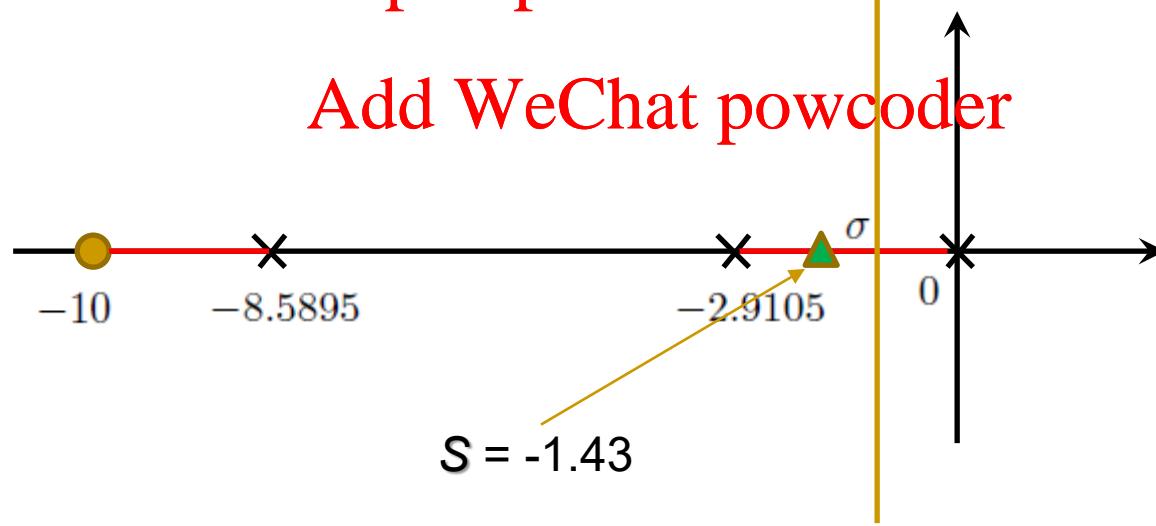
# Example:

## Solve

$$\frac{dK}{ds} = 0 \Leftrightarrow -0.02s^3 - 0.41s^2 - 2.3s - 2.5 = 0$$

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Intersection with imaginary axis  
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# Intersections with imaginary axis

- We can first compute the Routh array as a function of K.
- Then, we look for values of K for which some elements in the first column are equal to zero.
- Those values of K yield poles with zero real parts.
- With those values of K, we can find the purely imaginary poles of the closed loop, i.e. intersections with the imaginary axis.

# Example

- We computed the Routh array for the example in the last lecture:

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$$\begin{array}{c|cc} s^3 & 0.1 & (0.1K + 2.5) \\ s^2 & 1.15 & K \\ s^1 & \frac{3K}{230} + 2.5 & 0 \\ s^0 & K & \end{array}$$

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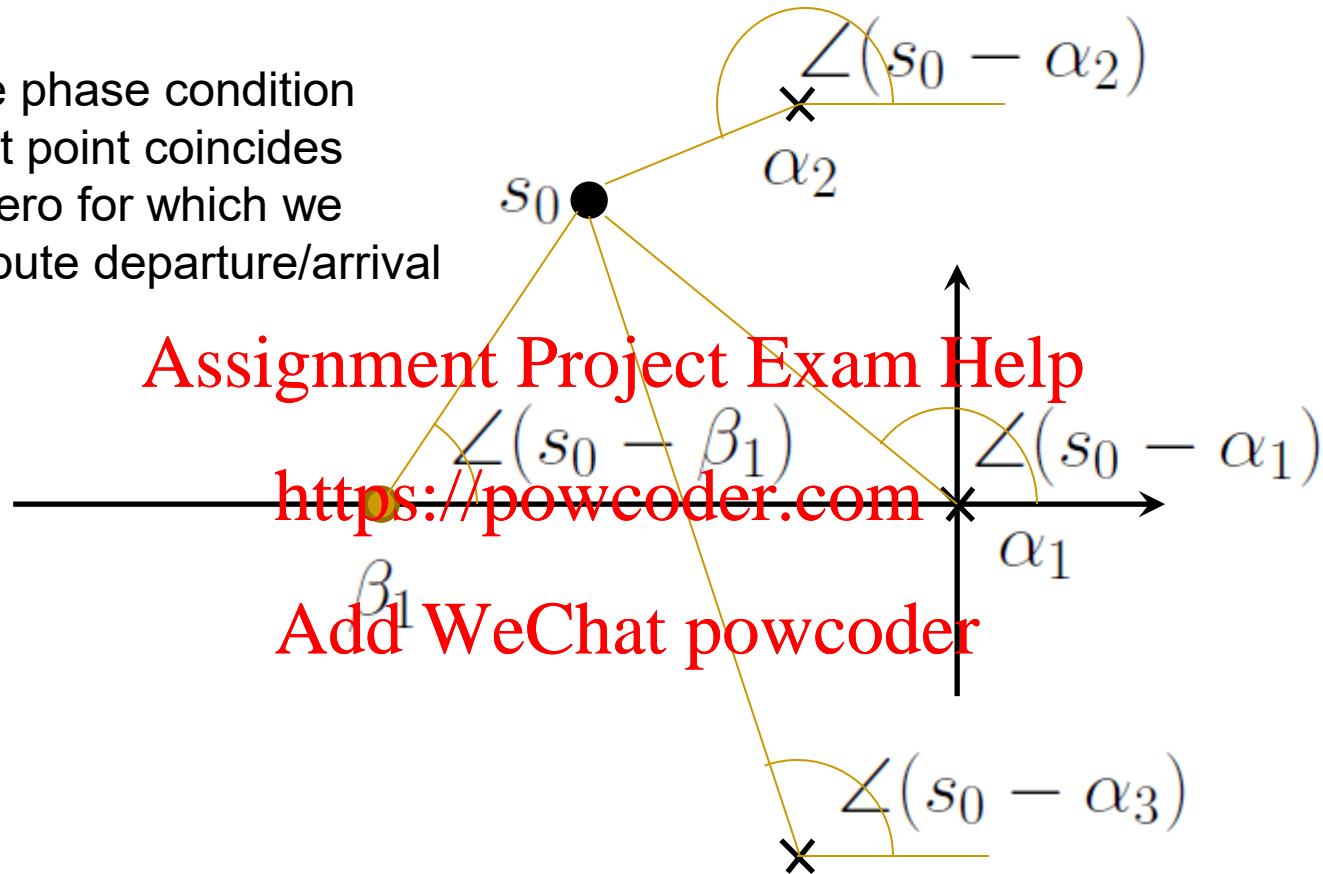
so stable if  $K > 0$  and  $\frac{3K}{230} + 2.5 > 0$   
(i.e. for all  $K > 0$ )

- Hence, no intersections with the imaginary axis.

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Arrival/departure angles  
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# Phase condition

We apply the phase condition when the test point coincides with a pole/zero for which we want to compute departure/arrival angle.



$$\begin{aligned} & \angle(s_0 - \beta_1) - \angle(s_0 - \alpha_1) - \angle(s_0 - \alpha_2) - \angle(s_0 - \alpha_3) = \\ & (2l + 1)\pi, l = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots \end{aligned}$$

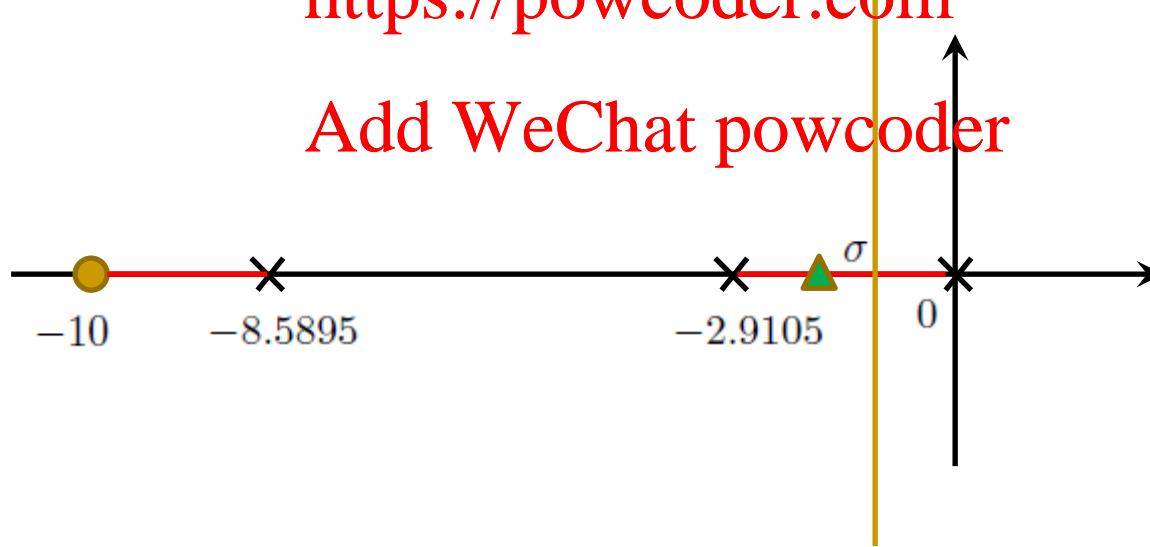
# Example

- In this example, since all poles and zeroes are on the real axis it is trivial to compute departure/arrival angles.

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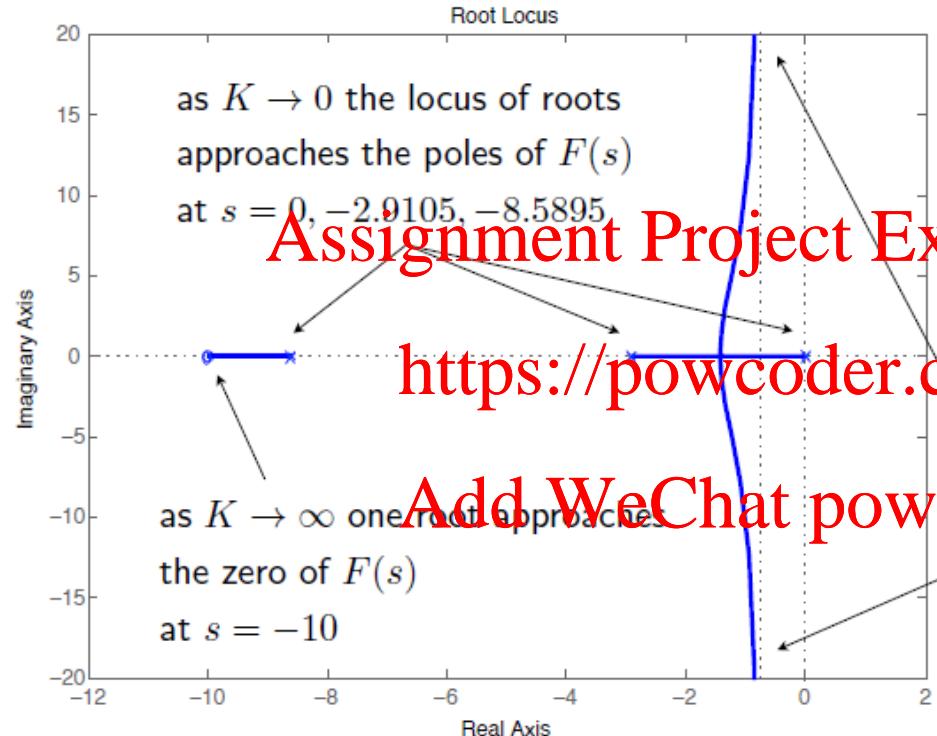
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# Example

## (completed root locus)



The plot shows that, starting from  $K=0$ , increasing  $K$  initially 'improves' the stability and performance properties of the closed-loop; these properties then 'degrade' as  $K$  increases beyond a certain point

```
>> z = [-10];
>> r = roots([0.1,1.15,2.5])
r =
-8.5895
-2.9105
>> p = [0 r(1) r(2)];
>> F = zpk(z,p,g)
Zero/pole/gain:
(s+10)
-----
s (s+8.589) (s+2.911)
>> rlocus(F);
```

as  $K \rightarrow \infty$  two ( $n - m = 2$ ) roots approach  $\infty$  along asymptotes that intersect the real axis at

$$\sigma = \frac{0 - 8.5895 - 2.9105 + 10}{2}$$

with angles  $\eta_1 = \frac{\pi}{2}$ ,  $\eta_2 = \frac{3\pi}{2}$

# Exercise:

- Plot the root locus for:

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$$1 + KF(s) = 0, \quad F(s) = \frac{(s-1)(s+2)}{s(s+3)(s+10)}$$

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# Conclusions

- We showed how to construct root locus of arbitrary systems via its main features:
  - Number of branches: open-loop poles/zeroes.
  - Segments of real line on root locus.
  - Asymptotes.
  - Intersections of branches.
  - Intersections with imaginary axis.
  - Multiple roots.
  - Angles of arrival/departure.

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