

# OPAMP Stability

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An op amp having a low-frequency gain of  $10^3$  and a single-pole rolloff at  $10^4$  rad/s is connected in a negative feedback loop via a feedback network having a transmission  $k$  and a two-pole rolloff at  $10^4$  rad/s. Find the value of  $k$  above which the closed-loop amplifier becomes unstable.

1. Find the OPAMP gain  $G(s)$

**Solution:** The given oscillator has a low frequency gain  $10^3$  and a single-pole rolloff at  $10^4$  rad/s. So we have a open loop amplifier gain

$$G(s) = \frac{10^3}{1 + \frac{s}{10^4}} \quad (1.1)$$

2. Find the feedback  $H(s)$

**Solution:**

$$H(s) = \frac{k}{\left(1 + \frac{s}{10^4}\right)^2} \quad (2.1)$$

3. Find the loop-gain.

**Solution:** The loop gain is given by

$$L(s) = G(s)H(s) = \frac{10^3 k}{\left(1 + \frac{s}{10^4}\right)^3} \quad (3.1)$$

and the various gains summarised in Table 3

Parameters	Definition	For given case
Open loop gain	G	$\frac{10^3}{1 + \frac{s}{10^4}}$
Feedback factor	H	$\frac{k}{\left(1 + \frac{s}{10^4}\right)^2}$
Loop gain	GH	$\frac{10^3 k}{\left(1 + \frac{s}{10^4}\right)^3}$
Transfer Function	$\frac{G}{1+GH}$	$\frac{\frac{10^3}{1 + \frac{s}{10^4}}}{1 + \frac{1}{\left(1 + \frac{s}{10^4}\right)^3}}$

TABLE 3

4. Find the condition for stability.

**Solution:** For stability,  $(GM)_{dB}$  &  $PM > 0$ .  
For the given system :

$$\angle G(j\omega)H(j\omega) = \angle \frac{10^3 k}{\left(1 + \frac{j\omega}{10^4}\right)^3} = -3 \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{\omega}{10^4} \right) \quad (4.1)$$

So the phase crossover frequency is,

$$180^\circ = \left| -3 \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{\omega_{180}}{10^4} \right) \right| \quad (4.2)$$

$$\Rightarrow \omega_{180} = \sqrt{3} \times 10^4 \quad (4.3)$$

The Loop gain at  $\omega_{180}$  is  $|G(j\omega_{180})H(j\omega_{180})|$ .

(i)  $GM_{dB} > 0$

$$\Rightarrow |G(j\omega_{180})H(j\omega_{180})| < 1 \quad (4.4)$$

$$\Rightarrow \left| \frac{10^3 k}{\left(1 + \frac{j\omega}{10^4}\right)^3} \right| < 1 \quad (4.5)$$

$$\left| \frac{10^3 k}{(1 - \sqrt{3}j)^3} \right| < 1 \quad (4.6)$$

$$\frac{10^3 |k|}{\left| \sqrt{1 + \sqrt{3}^2} \right|^3} < 1 \quad (4.7)$$

$$\frac{10^3 |k|}{8} < 1 \quad (4.8)$$

$$\Rightarrow |k| < 0.008 \quad (4.9)$$

(ii)  $PM = \phi_m = 180^\circ + \angle L(j\omega_{gc}) > 0$  i.e..  
 $180^\circ - 3 \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{\omega_{gc}}{10^4} \right) > 0$ .

Gain crossover frequency  $\omega_{gc}$ ,

$$|G(j\omega_{gc})H(j\omega_{gc})| = 1 \quad (4.10)$$

$$\left| \frac{10^3 k}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{\omega_{gc}^2}{10^8}}} \right| = 1 \quad (4.11)$$

$$\Rightarrow \omega_{gc} = \sqrt{10^8 (10^2 k^{\frac{2}{3}} - 1)} \quad (4.12)$$

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Now,

$$\phi_m = 180^\circ - 3 \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{\sqrt{10^8 (10^2 k^{\frac{2}{3}} - 1)}}{10^4} \right) > 0 \quad (4.13)$$

$$\sqrt{10^8 (10^2 k^{\frac{2}{3}} - 1)} < \sqrt{3} \times 10^4 \quad (4.14)$$

$$10^2 k^{\frac{2}{3}} < 4 \quad (4.15)$$

$$\Rightarrow |k| < 0.008 \quad (4.16)$$

From (i) and (ii) the value of k above which the system becomes unstable is 0.008.

5. Design the feedback circuit  $H$ .

**Solution:**

$$H(s) = \frac{V_f}{V_0} = \frac{k}{\left(1 + \frac{s}{10^4}\right)^2} = k \left( \frac{1}{1 + \frac{2s}{10^4} + \frac{s^2}{10^8}} \right) \quad (5.1)$$

This is of the form,

$$k \left( \frac{1}{1 + sR_1C_1 + s^2L_1C_1} \right) = k \left( \frac{\frac{1}{sC_1}}{R_1 + sL_1 + \frac{1}{sC_1}} \right) \quad (5.2)$$

This can be realized using the circuit,

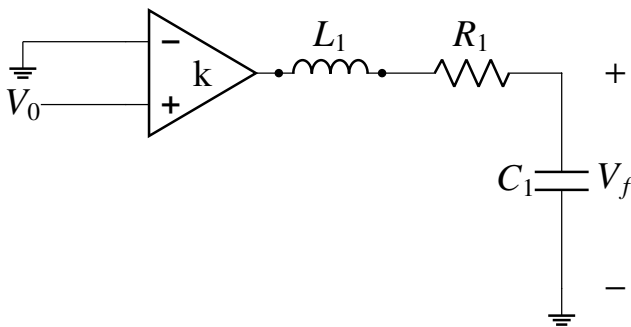


Fig. 5

A set of values that satisfy these equations are,

$$R_1 = 200\Omega \quad (5.3)$$

$$C_1 = 1\mu F \quad (5.4)$$

$$L_1 = 10mH \quad (5.5)$$

6. Design the closed loop circuit. You may choose a suitable value of  $k$  such that the system is stable.

**Solution:** Let  $k=0.001$ . The closed loop gain

is  $T(s)$ .

$$T(s) = \frac{\frac{10^3}{1 + \frac{s}{10^4}}}{1 + \frac{1}{\left(1 + \frac{s}{10^4}\right)^3}} \quad (6.1)$$

$$= \frac{10^7 s^2 + 2 \times 10^{11} s + 10^{15}}{s^3 + 3 \times 10^4 s^2 + 3 \times 10^8 s + 2 \times 10^{12}} \quad (6.2)$$

The final circuit would be:

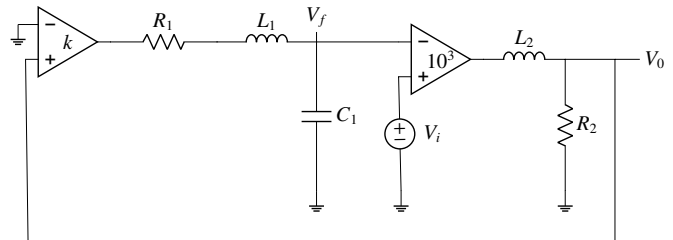


Fig. 6

$$R_1 = 200\Omega \quad (6.3)$$

$$C_1 = 1\mu F \quad (6.4)$$

$$L_1 = 10mH \quad (6.5)$$

$$L_2 = 1\mu F \quad (6.6)$$

$$R_2 = 100\Omega \quad (6.7)$$

$$k = 10^{-3} \quad (6.8)$$

7. Sketch the Bode plot of the closed loop system

**Solution:** The following code gives the Bode plot of the closed loop system

```
codes/ee18btech11006/ee18btech11006_1.py
```

Code Plot:

8. Find the output of the circuit for an appropriate input using spice.

**Solution:** The following readme file provides necessary instructions to simulate the circuit in spice.

```
codes/ee18btech11006/spice/README
```

The following netlist simulates the given circuit.

```
codes/ee18btech11006/spice/ee18btech11006.net
```

The following code plots the output from the spice simulation which is shown in Fig. 8.4.

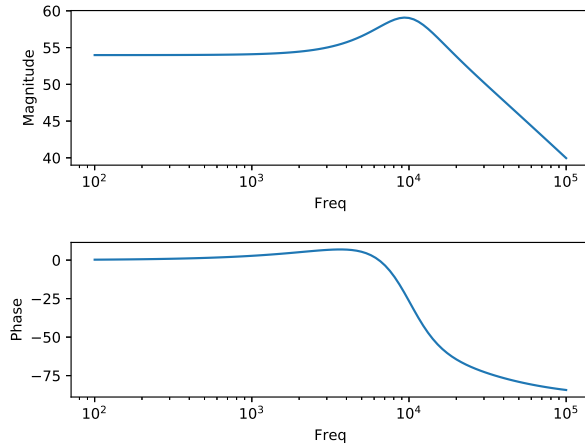


Fig. 7

```
codes/ee18btech11006/spice/
ee18btech11006_spice.py
```

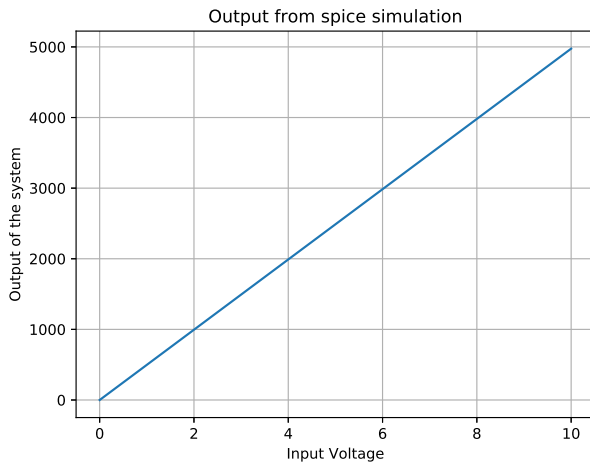


Fig. 8.4

**Verification:** The Output of the system would be :

$$Y(s) = T(s)X(s) \quad (8.1)$$

$$X(s) = \frac{A}{s} \quad (8.2)$$

$$Y(s) = A \frac{10^7 s^2 + 2 \times 10^{11} s + 10^{15}}{s^4 + 3 \times 10^4 s^3 + 3 \times 10^8 s^2 + 2 \times 10^{12} s} \quad (8.3)$$

The following python codes plot the inverse Laplace of  $Y(s)$  giving the time domain output for different values of  $A$ .

```
codes/ee18btech11006/spice/
ee18btech11006_2.py
```

On plotting, we obtain the given figure.  
Hence verified that the designed circuit does

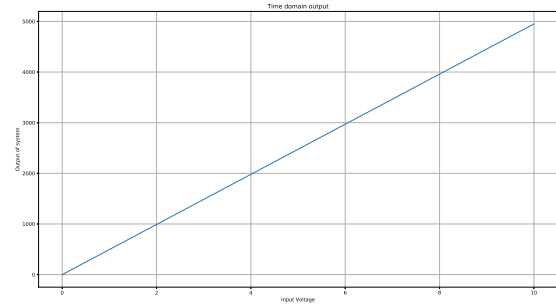


Fig. 8.5

represent the given system.