Lecture 19: Nyquist plots

- the frequency response of the OLTF may also be displayed as a polar plot in an Argand diagram.
- for example, consider again the OLTF from the previous lecture:

$$GH(s) = \frac{K}{s(s+1)^2}$$
(19.1)

• where $A(\omega) = |GH(\omega)|$ and $\phi(\omega) = ph[GH(i\omega)]$. A polar plot of $A(\omega)$ vs $\phi(\omega)$ for K = 1 gives:



19.1 Nyquist stability criterion

- this stability test employs the OLTF displayed in polar form, and is based on Cauchy's argument principle from complex variable theory.
- consider the characteristic equation:

$$A(s) = 1 + GH(s) = 1 + \frac{K(s + z_1)(s + z_2)...(s + z_m)}{(s + p_1)(s + p_2)...(s + p_n)}$$

= $\frac{K(s + z_1)(s + z_2)...(s + z_n)}{(s + p_1)(s + p_2)...(s + p_n)}$ (19.2)

note that the numerator of A(s) is of the same order as the denominator, and that the **poles** of A(s) are the same as the open-loop poles. Stability is determined by the closed-loop poles, which are the **zeros** of A(s).

suppose now that the poles and zeros of some A(s) are as follows in the s-plane, and that A(s) is evaluated for values of s on an arbitrary closed contour in the s-plane. The contour may enclose poles or zeros, but not pass through them. This contour will map into the A(s) plane as a closed curve:



• we can write the characteristic equation in the following form

$$A(s) = \frac{K|s+z_1||s+z_2|...|s+z_n|}{|s+p_1||s+p_2|...|s+p_n|} e^{i(\phi_1+\phi_2+...+\phi_n-\theta_1-\theta_2...-\theta_n)}$$
(19.3)

• thus, A(s) can be written in terms of a magnitude and phase $A(s) = |A(s)|e^{i\alpha}$ with the phase given by

$$\alpha = ph[A(s)] = ph(s+z_1) + ph(s+z_2)...+ph(s+z_n)$$

-ph(s+p_1) - ph(s+p_2)...-ph(s+p_n) (19.4)
= \phi_1 + \phi_2 + \dots + \phi_n - \theta_1 - \theta_2 - \theta_n

• in terms of the example, this becomes:

$$\alpha = \phi_1 + \phi_2 - \theta_1 - \theta_2$$

- when there are no singularities within the contour (as above), the phases of the vectors from poles and zeros outside the contour will vary somewhat, but will have a *net change of zero over one complete contour*.
- however, when there are singularities within the contour, the phase from each singularity inside the contour will undergo a net change of 360°, and will induce similar cyclic changes in α . These correspond to encirclements of the origin by the closed curve in the A(s) plane.
- if we travel clockwise along *C* in *s* space, zeros of *A*(*s*) inside the contour *C* will lead to clockwise encirclements of the origin; poles will cause anticlockwise encirclements

examples:



• in this case the contour *C* encloses 1 zero of A(s), thus ϕ_2 goes through -360° (clockwise) and $\theta_1, \theta_2, \phi_1$ go through 0° . α therefore goes through -360° .



• here the contour *C* encloses 2 zeros of A(s), thus ϕ_1 and ϕ_2 each go through -360° (clockwise) and θ_1 , θ_2 go through 0° . α therefore goes through -720° .



- here the contour *C* encloses 1 pole of A(s), thus θ_1 goes through -360° (clockwise) and ϕ_1, ϕ_2, θ_2 go through 0° . α therefore goes through 360° .
- now, we are interested in the number of zeros of A(s) in the RHP, since these determine the closed loop stability of our system. Hence we make the contour C encircle the entire RHP:



- if the RHP contains a pole or zero of A(s)=1+GH(s) then the evaluation of A(s) will encircle the origin.
- alternatively, since A(s) = 1+GH(s), the plot of the OLTF GH(s) is simply that of A(s) shifted to the left by 1, the evaluation of GH(s) will encircle the point -1+i0 if the RHP contains a pole or zero. For example:



- as we know, any real system must have the order of the numerator of GH(s) less than or equal to the order of the denominator.
- consider the evaluation of GH(s) at some point on an arc of infinite radius:

$$\left[GH(s)\right]_{s\to\infty} = \left[\frac{K(s+z_1)(s+z_2)...(s+z_m)}{(s+p_1)(s+p_2)...(s+p_n)}\right]_{s\to\infty}$$
(19.5)

- 1. Because *all* poles and zeros are infinitely far from all points on this arc, the phase angles from *all* these poles and zeros will be the same.
- 2. all terms in the numerator $|s + z_m|$ will tend to ∞ and those in the denominator $|s + p_n|$ will tend to 0

both the magnitude and phase of *GH*(*s*) are therefore dependent on the relative order of the numerator and denominator (ie. the relative number of OLP's than OLZ's):

$$\left[GH\left(s\right)\right]_{s\to\infty} = \left[\frac{K\left(s+z_{1}\right)\left(s+z_{2}\right)\ldots\left(s+z_{m}\right)}{\left(s+p_{1}\right)\left(s+p_{2}\right)\ldots\left(s+p_{n}\right)}\right]_{s\to\infty} \sim \left|s^{m-n}\right|_{s\to\infty} e^{i(m-n)\theta}$$
(19.6)

• when the order of the numerator is less than that of the denominator (ie. there are more OLP's than OLZ's):

$$\left[GH(s)\right]_{s\to\infty} \sim \left|\frac{1}{s^{n-m}}\right|_{s\to\infty} e^{i(m-n)\theta} = 0$$
(19.7)

- ie. an arc of infinite radius in the s plane maps onto the origin in the GH(s) plane
- when the order of the numerator is the same as that of the denominator (ie. there are the same number of OLP's and OLZ's):

$$\left[GH(s)\right]_{s\to\infty} \sim \left|s^{0}\right|_{s\to\infty} e^{0} = 1$$
(19.8)

- ie. an arc of infinite radius in the *s* plane maps onto the point 1 in the *GH*(*s*) plane
- thus, depending on the relative order of the numerator and denominator, GH(s) will evaluate to either zero or a constant on the arc of infinite radius. Thus, any encirclements of the point -1+i0 will only occur for that part of the contour C lying on the $i\omega$ axis ie. we can use the OLFR.
 - ⇒ hence the evaluation can be completed by plotting the open-loop frequency response $GH(i\omega)$ for $\omega \to -\infty$ to $\omega \to +\infty$.
- we can now state the Nyquist stability Criterion:

If a system is open-loop stable, it will be closed-loop stable if the point -1+i0 in the $GH(i\omega)$ plane is not encircled in a clockwise sense for $\omega \to -\infty$ to $\omega \to +\infty$.

If a system is open-loop unstable, it will be closed-loop stable if the point -1+i0 in the $GH(i\omega)$ plane is encircled <u>anticlockwise</u> a number of times at least equal to the number of poles of $GH(i\omega)$ in the RHP for $\omega \to -\infty$ to $\omega \to +\infty$.

• that is, the number of zeros of A(s) = 1 + GH(s) in the RHP (the number of unstable closed-loop poles), is given by

$$Z = N + P \tag{19.9}$$

• where N = the number of **clockwise** encirclements of -1+i0 and P = the number of poles of GH(s) in the RHP.