

MECE 3350U  
Control Systems

Lecture 20  
Stability Margins

## Videos in this lecture

Lecture: <https://youtu.be/IXSLZ-B0Zn0>

Exercise 117: <https://youtu.be/HUtiPTA8Mq0>

Exercise 118: <https://youtu.be/cpr9s0k1aMQ>

Exercise 119: <https://youtu.be/96mQDIujFEU>

Exercise 120: <https://youtu.be/PDJ-VSWXfng>

Exercise 121: [https://youtu.be/\\_j88ycAA0Fs](https://youtu.be/_j88ycAA0Fs)

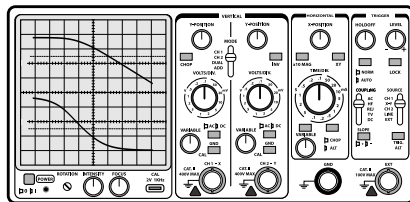
## Outline of Lecture 20

By the end of today's lecture you should be able to

- Calculate the gain and phase margin of a system
- Obtain the gain and phase margin from a Bode plot
- Quantify the stability of an open-loop transfer function

## Applications

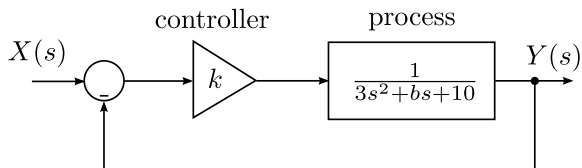
We wish to develop a closed-loop controller for a system whose dynamics is unknown. The frequency response of the open-loop system has been obtained experimentally using an oscilloscope.



What does it tell us about its closed-loop stability?

## Applications

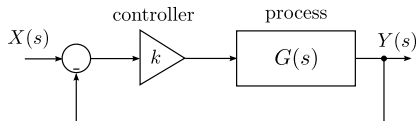
The controller gain  $k$  has been specified to the process shown.



If  $b$  changes during operation, how can we ensure that the system remains stable?

## Bode vs Nyquist plots

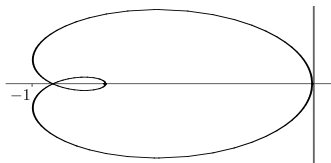
The closed loop system



$$T(s) = \frac{kG(s)}{1 + kG(s)}$$

might be stable for only a range of values of  $k$ .

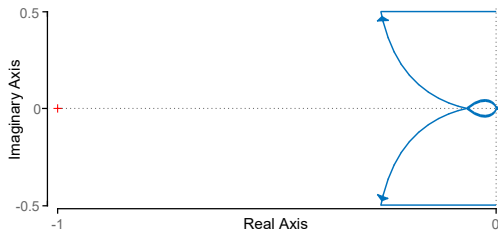
The proximity of the  $L(j\omega)$  locus to  $-1 + j0$  is a measure of the relative stability of the system.



## Bode vs Nyquist plot

Consider the open-loop transfer function

$$L(j\omega) = \frac{k}{j\omega(j\omega\tau_1 + 1)(j\omega\tau_2 + 1)}$$

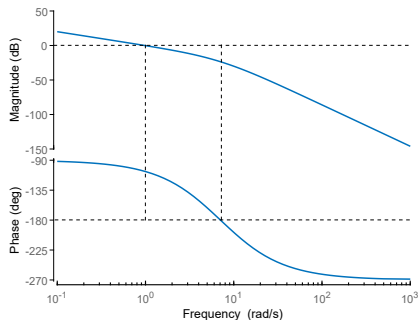


As  $k$  is increased, the Nyquist plot approaches  $-1 + 0j$  and eventually encircles the 1 point.

The point  $-1 + 0j$  can also be expressed in polar form as  $1 \angle -180^\circ$

## Bode vs Nyquist plot

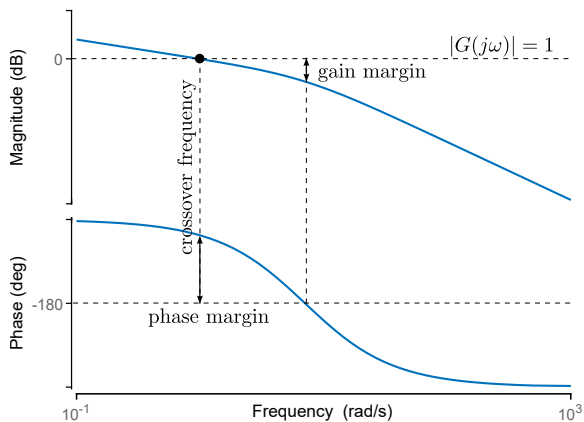
$$L(j\omega) = \frac{k}{j\omega(j\omega\tau_1 + 1)(j\omega\tau_2 + 1)}$$



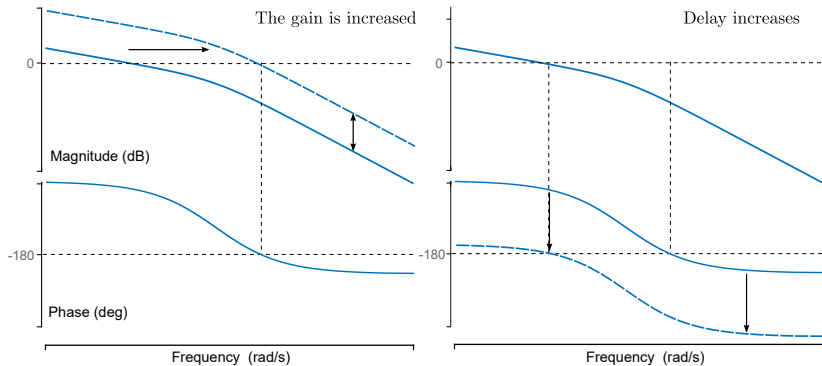
**Gain margin:** The increase in the loop gain when  $\phi = -180^\circ$  that results in  $|L(j\omega)| = 1$  or 0 dB.

**Phase margin:** The amount of phase shift at the crossover frequency that results in  $\angle L(j\omega) = -180^\circ$ .

## Gain and phase margins



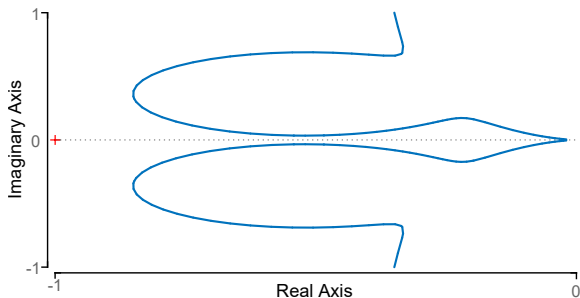
## Gain and phase margins



True or false?

The following open-loop transfer function is closed-loop stable for any  $k > 0$ .

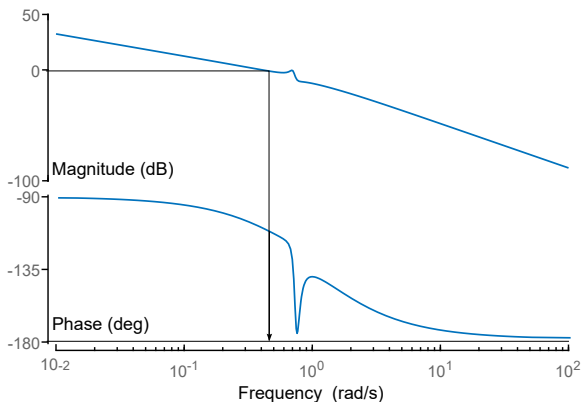
$$L(s) = k \frac{s^2 + 0.1s + 0.5}{s(s+1)(s^2 + 0.05s + 0.5)}$$



True or false?

The following open-loop transfer function is closed-loop stable for any  $k > 0$ .

$$L(s) = k \frac{s^2 + 0.1s + 0.5}{s(s + 1)(s^2 + 0.05s + 0.5)}$$



## Phase margin

As an example, consider the open-loop second-order system

$$G(s) = \frac{\omega_n^2}{s(s + 2\zeta\omega_n)} \rightarrow \frac{\omega_n^2}{j\omega(j\omega + 2\zeta\omega_n)} \quad (1)$$

**Step 1** - Find the crossover frequency (0 dB)

At the crossover frequency  $\omega = \omega_c$ , the magnitude is 1. Find  $\omega_c$  that gives

$$\frac{\omega_n^2}{\omega_c \sqrt{\omega_c^2 + 4\zeta^2\omega_n^2}} = 1.$$

**Step 2** - Find the phase of  $G(j\omega)$  at  $\omega_c$  for  $\omega_c$  found in Step 1, i.e.  $\angle G(j\omega_c)$

$$\phi = -90^\circ - \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{\omega_c}{2\zeta\omega_n} \right)$$

**Step 3** - The margin phase is  $PM = 180 - |\phi|$

If  $PM < 0$ , the system is closed-loop unstable.

## Gain margin

Consider the same open-loop second-order system

$$G(s) = \frac{\omega_n^2}{s(s + 2\zeta\omega_n)} \rightarrow \frac{\omega_n^2}{j\omega(j\omega + 2\zeta\omega_n)}$$

**Step 1** - Find the frequency  $\omega_f$  where  $\angle|G(j\omega)| = -180^\circ$

$$G(j\omega) = \frac{\omega_n^2}{j\omega(j\omega + 2\zeta\omega_n)} = \frac{\omega_n^2}{-\omega_f^2 + j2\zeta\omega_n\omega_f} \times \frac{-\omega_f^2 - j2\zeta\omega_n\omega_f}{-\omega_f^2 - j2\zeta\omega_n\omega_f}$$

$$G(j\omega) = -\frac{\omega_n^2\omega_f^2}{\omega_f^4 + 4\zeta^2\omega_n^2\omega_f^2} - j\frac{2\zeta\omega_n^3\omega_f}{\omega_f^4 + 4\zeta^2\omega_n^2\omega_f^2}$$

At  $\omega_f$ ,  $\Im[G(j\omega_f)] = 0$  (imaginary part is zero)

$$-\frac{2\zeta\omega_n^3\omega_f}{\omega_f^4 + 4\zeta^2\omega_n^2\omega_f^2} = 0$$

$\omega_f = 0$  Not a valid frequency

$\omega_f = \infty$  What does it mean?

$\omega_f = \text{constant}$ . Proceed to Step 2

## Gain margin

**Step 2** - Find the gain of  $G(j\omega)$  at  $\omega = \omega_c$ , i.e.,  $|G(j\omega_f)| = k_{MG}$

$$k_{MG} = \frac{\omega_n^2}{\omega_f \sqrt{\omega_f^2 + 4\zeta^2 \omega_n^2}}$$

Then gain margin in Decibels is

$$MG = -20 \log(k_{MG})$$

→  $MG > 0$ : Stable. The gain can be multiplied by  $k_{MG}$  **dB** before the system becomes marginally stable (or  $MG$  dB can be added before instability);

→  $MG = 0$  The system is marginally stable.

→  $MG < 0$ : Unstable. The gain can be divided by  $k_{MG}$  dB before the system becomes marginally stable (or  $MG$  dB must be subtracted to achieve stability).

## Exercise 117

A unit feedback control system has a loop transfer function

$$L(s) = \frac{k}{s(s+2)(s+10)}$$

For  $k = 50$ , determine the cross over frequency, the gain margin, and the phase margin.

## Exercise 117 - continued

$$L(s) = \frac{k}{s(s+2)(s+10)}$$

## Exercise 117 - continued

$$L(s) = \frac{k}{s(s+2)(s+10)}$$

## Exercise 118

A unit feedback control system has a loop transfer function

$$L(s) = \frac{k}{(s + 1)^2}$$

Determine the gain  $k$  so that the phase margin is  $60^\circ$

## Exercise 118 - continued

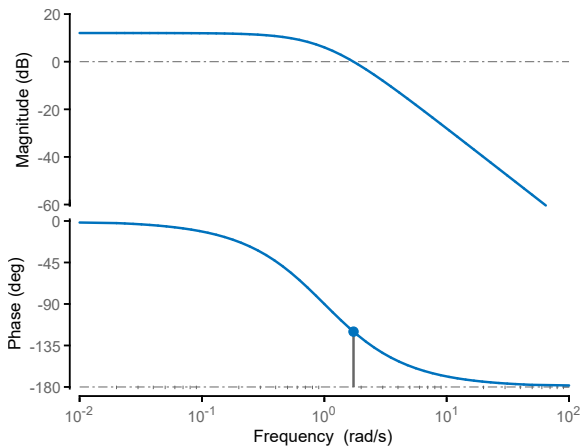
$$L(s) = \frac{k}{(s+1)^2}$$

## Exercise 118 - continued

$$L(s) = \frac{k}{(s+1)^2}$$

## Exercise 118 - continued

Bode plot for  $k = 4$ .



## Exercise 119

A system has a loop transfer function

$$T(s) = 10.5 \frac{1 + s/5}{s(1 + s/2)(1 + s/10)}$$

Show that the crossover frequency is 5 rad/s and that the phase margin is  $40^\circ$

## Exercise 119 - continued

$$T(s) = 10.5 \frac{1 + s/5}{s(1 + s/2)(1 + s/10)}$$

## Exercise 119 - continued

$$T(s) = 10.5 \frac{1 + s/5}{s(1 + s/2)(1 + s/10)}$$

## Exercise 120 - continued

Consider a unit feedback system with the loop transfer function

$$L(s) = \frac{k}{s(s+1)(s+4)}$$

- (a)** For  $k = 5$ , show that the gain margin is 12 dB
- (b)** If we wish to achieve a gain margin of 20 dB, determine the value of  $k$

## Exercise 120 - continued

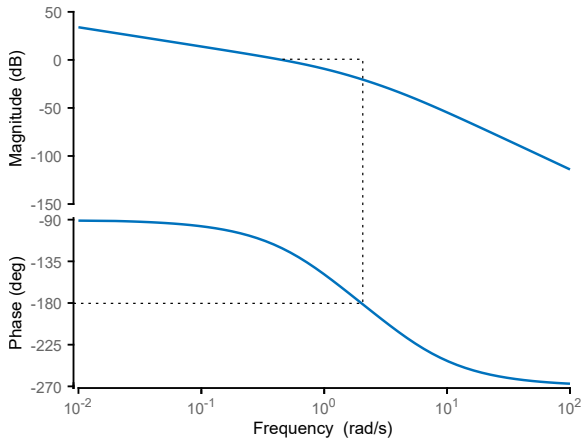
$$L(s) = \frac{k}{s(s+1)(s+4)}$$

## Exercise 120 - continued

$$L(s) = \frac{k}{s(s+1)(s+4)}$$

## Exercise 120 - continued

Bode diagram for  $k = 2$ .



## Exercise 121 - Using Matlab

Consider a unit feedback system with a proportional controller such that the loop transfer function is

$$L(s) = k \frac{s^2 + 0.1s + 0.5}{s(s + 1)(s + 2)(s^2 + 0.05s + 0.5)}$$

with

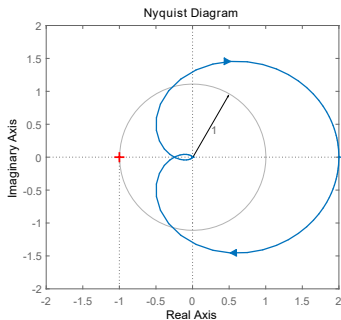
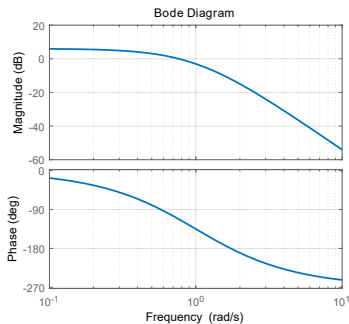
Using Matlab, plot the phase and gain margins for  $0 \leq k \leq 10$ . Specify the maximum value of  $k$  that results in a stable closed loop system.

## Matlab code for Exercise 121

```
clear all; close all;
s = tf([1 0],[1]);
i = 1;
for k = 1:0.05:10;
H = k * (s2 + 0.1 * s + 0.5)/(s * (s + 1) * (s2 + 0.05 * s + 0.5) * (s + 2));
[Gm,Pm,Wcg,Wcp] = margin(H);
PhaseM(i) = Pm;
GainM(i) = Gm;
K(i) = k;
i = i+1;
end
yyaxis left
plot(K, PhaseM);
yyaxis right
plot(K, GainM);
yyaxis left
title('Phase and gain margins')
xlabel('k')
ylabel('phase margin [deg]')
yyaxis right
ylabel('Gain Margin [dB]')
```

## Skills check 50 - From 2018 final examination

The Bode and Nyquist plots of a given transfer function  $G(s)$  are shown below. Identify the gain and phase margins of  $G(s)$  on each diagram (3 marks):



## Skills check 51 - From 2018 final examination

Consider the following transfer function:

$$G(s) = \frac{200}{(s + 1)(s^2 + 5s + 100)}$$

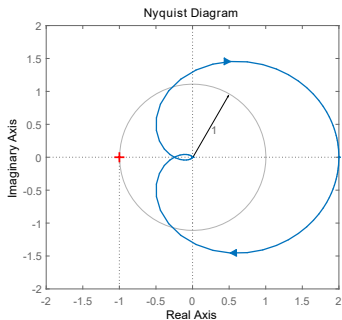
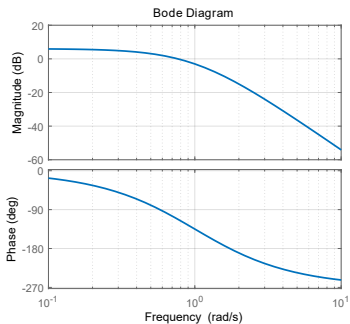
- (a) Calculate the phase and magnitude of  $G(s)$  at 1 rad/s.
- (b) Calculate the phase margin.
- (c) Draw the Bode plot of  $G(s)$ . Based on the Bode plot, specify the approximate gain at the cut-off frequencies and at  $10^3$  rad/s .
- (d) Calculate the gain margin (4 marks).

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Answers: (a) 3dB,  $-50^\circ$ , (b)  $144^\circ$ , (d) 8.87 dB

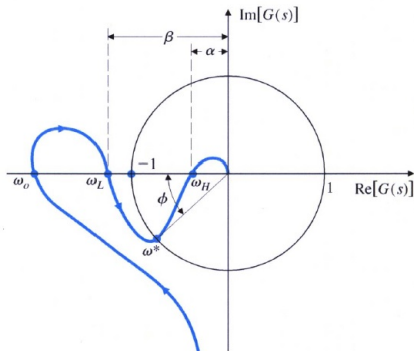
## Skills check 52 - From 2018 final examination

The Bode and Nyquist plots of a given transfer function  $G(s)$  are shown below. Identify the gain and phase margins of  $G(s)$  on each diagram (3 marks):



## Skills check 53 - From 2018 deferred final examination

The Nyquist plot for a control system resembles the one shown below. What are the gain and phase margins ? (3 marks).



Answers:  $\text{GM} = 1/\alpha$ , and  $1/\beta$ .  $\text{P.M} = \phi$

## Student course feedback survey

<https://www.cci-survey.ca/ontariotechu/ca/>

Next class...

- Space state models