ECE 486: Control Systems

Lecture 14A: Bode Plots for Second-Order Systems

Key Takeaways

This lecture focuses on Bode plots for second order systems.

- Second-order differentiator $G(s) = s^2$: Phase is +180° and magnitude has slope +40dB/decade.
- Second-order integrator $G(s) = \frac{1}{s^2}$: Phase is -180° and magnitude has slope -40dB/decade:
- Second-order underdamped $G(s) = \frac{b_0}{s^2 + 2\zeta \omega_n s + \omega_n^2}$:
 - Magnitude is (approximately) flat up to the corner frequency ω_n and rolls off at -40dB/dec at high frequencies.
 - Phase plot transitions by ±180^o depending on the signs of the coefficients.
 - If damping is low ($\zeta \ll 1$) then the plot has a resonant peak of $|G(j\omega_n)| \approx \left|\frac{G(0)}{2\zeta}\right|$.

Bode Plot: Second-Order Differentiator

- Differentiator: $y(t) = \ddot{u}(t)$ $G(s) = \frac{s^2}{1} = s^2$
 - If $u(t) = \sin(\omega t)$ then $y(t) = -\omega^2 \sin(\omega t) = \omega^2 \sin(\omega t + \pi)$
 - This agrees with $|G(j\omega)| = \omega^2$ and $\angle G(j\omega) = \pi rad = +180^o$
- Magnitude has slope +40dB/decade and phase is +180°.

A Nth order differentiator G(s) = s^N has phase +90Ndeg and magnitude slope of +20NdB per decade.



Bode Plot: Second-Order Integrator

- Integrator: $\ddot{y}(t) = u(t)$ $G(s) = \frac{1}{s^2}$
 - If $u(t) = \sin(\omega t)$ then $y(t) = -\frac{1}{\omega^2}\sin(\omega t) = \frac{1}{\omega^2}\sin(\omega t \pi)$

[The form for y neglects integration constants.]

- This agrees with $|G(j\omega)| = \frac{1}{\omega^2}$ and $\angle G(j\omega) = -\pi rad = -180^{\circ}$
- Magnitude has slope -40dB/decade and phase is -180°.
- A Nth order integrator $G(s) = \frac{1}{s^N}$ has phase -90Ndeg and magnitude slope of -20NdB per decade.



Second-Order Underdamped Systems

Consider the a stable, second-order system:

 $\ddot{y}(t) + 2\zeta\omega_n \dot{y}(t) + \omega_n^2 y(t) = b_0 u(t)$

$$G(s) = \frac{b_0}{s^2 + 2\zeta\omega_n s + \omega_n^2}$$



Bode plots can be generated by Matlab:

Assume $b_0 > 0$.



Corner Frequency

Consider the a stable, second-order system: $\ddot{y}(t) + 2\zeta \omega_n \dot{y}(t) + \omega_n^2 y(t) = b_0 u(t)$ Assume $b_0 > 0$.

$$G(s) = \frac{b_0}{s^2 + 2\zeta\omega_n s + \omega_n^2}$$



Corner Frequency

Consider the a stable, second-order system: $\ddot{y}(t) + 2\zeta \omega_n \dot{y}(t) + \omega_n^2 y(t) = b_0 u(t)$ Assume $b_0 > 0$.

Corner Frequency:
$$\omega = \omega_n$$

 $G(j\omega_n) = \frac{b_0}{(j\omega_n)^2 + 2\zeta\omega_n(j\omega_n) + \omega_n^2}$
 $G(j\omega_n) = \frac{b_0}{2\zeta\omega_n^2 j} = -\frac{G(0)}{2\zeta} j$
 $\angle G(j\omega_n) = -90^o$
 $|G(j\omega_n)| = \frac{1}{2\zeta} |G(0)|$

Small ζ gives a resonant peak. This is associated with overshoot and oscillations.



 $G(s) = \frac{b_0}{s^2 + 2\zeta\omega_n s + \omega_n^2}$

Low-Frequency Approximation

Consider the a stable, second-order system: $\ddot{y}(t) + 2\zeta \omega_n \dot{y}(t) + \omega_n^2 y(t) = b_0 u(t)$ Assume $b_0 > 0$.

$$G(s) = \frac{b_0}{s^2 + 2\zeta\omega_n s + \omega_n^2}$$



Low Frequency: $\omega \leq \frac{\omega_n}{10}$ $G(j\omega) \approx \frac{b_0}{\omega_m^2}$

$$\angle G(j\omega) = 0^o$$

 $|G(j\omega)|=G(0)$



High-Frequency Approximation

Consider the a stable, second-order system: $\ddot{y}(t) + 2\zeta \omega_n \dot{y}(t) + \omega_n^2 y(t) = b_0 u(t)$ Assume $b_0 > 0$.

$G(s) = \frac{b_0}{s^2 + 2\zeta\omega_n s + \omega_n^2}$









High-Frequency Approximation

Consider the a stable, second-order system: $\ddot{y}(t) + 2\zeta \omega_n \dot{y}(t) + \omega_n^2 y(t) = b_0 u(t)$ Assume $b_0 > 0$.

$$G(s) = \frac{b_0}{s^2 + 2\zeta\omega_n s + \omega_n^2}$$



High Frequency: $\omega \ge 10\omega_n$ $G(j\omega) \approx \frac{b_0}{(j\omega)^2} = -\frac{b_0}{\omega^2}$ $\angle G(j\omega) \approx -180^o$

 $|G(j\omega)| \approx \frac{b_0}{\omega^2}$

Magnitude rolls-off at -40dB per decade (similar to 1/s²).



Middle-Frequency Approximation

Consider the a stable, second-order system: $\ddot{y}(t) + 2\zeta \omega_n \dot{y}(t) + \omega_n^2 y(t) = b_0 u(t)$

$$G(s) = \frac{b_0}{s^2 + 2\zeta\omega_n s + \omega_n^2}$$



Middle Frequency:

Assume $b_0 > 0$.

 $\frac{\omega_n}{10} \le \omega \le 10\omega_n$

- Straight line approximation to connect low/high freqs.
- Magnitude: Lines meet at corner frequency.
- Phase: Line passes through -90° at corner frequency.
- Low ζ gives resonant peak and sharp phase transition.



Resonance

• "Lightly" damped second-order system:

$$G(s) = \frac{16}{s^2 + 8\zeta s + 16}$$
 with $\zeta = 0.05$



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Resonance

• "Lightly" damped second-order system:

$$G(s) = \frac{16}{s^2 + 8\zeta s + 16}$$
 with $\zeta = 0.05$



General Second-Order Systems

We can draw Bode plots for the following cases using a similar procedure:

$$G(s) = \frac{b_0}{s^2 \pm 2\zeta \omega_n s \pm \omega_n^2} \text{ with } \zeta < 1$$
$$G(s) = \frac{s^2 \pm 2\zeta \omega_n s \pm \omega_n^2}{a_0} \text{ with } \zeta < 1$$

Bode plots for higher-order systems are discussed next. The approach can be used to sketch Bode plots for overdamped second-order systems (which can be expressed as a connection of two first-order systems).