

Sketch, By Hand, The Bode Plot For The Following Transfer Functions Using The Steps Below: 1. $G(s) = \frac{s+1}{s+102}$.

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Understanding how to analyze and sketch Bode plots by hand is a fundamental skill in control systems engineering and signal processing. Bode plots provide a graphical representation of a system's frequency response, illustrating how the magnitude and phase of a transfer function vary with frequency. This knowledge is crucial for designing, analyzing, and troubleshooting control systems, filters, and various electronic circuits.

In this article, we will walk through the detailed process of sketching the Bode plot of the transfer function $G(s) = \frac{s+1}{s+102}$, by hand, using systematic steps. We will cover the entire procedure—from breaking down the transfer function into basic components to plotting the approximate magnitude and phase responses. By the end of this guide, you'll have a comprehensive understanding of how to approach similar problems confidently.

Understanding the Transfer Function $G(s) = \frac{s+1}{s+102}$

Before diving into the Bode plot construction, it is essential to understand the nature of the transfer function.

What does this transfer function represent?

- Numerator ($s+1$): This indicates a zero at $s = -1$.
- Denominator ($s+102$): Represents a pole at $s = -102$.
- Overall behavior: The system has a zero relatively close to the origin and a pole far to the left on the real axis, which influences the frequency response.

Significance in control systems

- The transfer function characterizes how the system amplifies or attenuates signals at different frequencies.
- The zero tends to increase the magnitude at higher frequencies, while the pole causes attenuation.

Step-by-Step Process to Sketch the Bode Plot

Creating an accurate Bode plot by hand involves several systematic steps. The main idea is to decompose the transfer function into basic components, analyze each separately, and then combine the results.

Step 1: Express the transfer function in a form suitable for Bode plot analysis

Rewrite $G(s)$ as:

$$G(s) = \frac{s + 1}{s + 102}$$

- Both numerator and denominator are first-order terms involving s .

Step 2: Identify corner (break) frequencies

- Zero at $s = -1$: Corner frequency $\omega_z = 1$ rad/sec.
- Pole at $s = -102$: Corner frequency $\omega_p = 102$ rad/sec.

These frequencies are critical because the slope of the magnitude plot changes at these points.

Step 3: Break down the transfer function into basic components

Express $G(s)$ as a product:

$$G(s) = (s + 1) \times \frac{1}{s + 102}$$

Or, more precisely, as a combination of:

- A zero at $\omega_z = 1$ rad/sec
- A pole at $\omega_p = 102$ rad/sec

Step 4: Determine the low-frequency (DC) gain

- At very low frequencies ($\omega \rightarrow 0$):

$$G(j0) = \frac{j0 + 1}{j0 + 102} = \frac{1}{102}$$

- Convert to magnitude in decibels (dB):

$$20 \times \log_{10} \left(\frac{1}{102} \right) \approx 20 \times (-2.0086) \approx -40.17 \text{ dB}$$

- The initial magnitude at $\omega \rightarrow 0$ is approximately -40.17 dB.

Plotting the Magnitude Response

Step 5: Understand the asymptotic magnitude response

The magnitude response of the transfer function is influenced by its zeros and poles:

- Zero at $\omega_z = 1 \text{ rad/sec}$: Adds a +20 dB/decade slope starting at $\omega = 1$.
- Pole at $\omega_p = 102 \text{ rad/sec}$: Adds a -20 dB/decade slope starting at $\omega = 102$.

Step 6: Sketch the magnitude plot

a. Start at the low-frequency magnitude:

- At $\omega \rightarrow 0$, magnitude $\approx -40.17 \text{ dB}$.

b. Slope before the zero:

- For $\omega < 1 \text{ rad/sec}$, the slope is approximately 0 dB/decade (flat), since neither zero nor pole influences the magnitude.

c. At $\omega = 1 \text{ rad/sec}$:

- The zero contributes a +20 dB/decade slope.
- Draw a straight line starting from $\omega = 1$, with slope +20 dB/decade.

d. Between $\omega = 1$ and $\omega = 102 \text{ rad/sec}$:

- The slope remains +20 dB/decade.

e. At $\omega = 102 \text{ rad/sec}$:

- The pole contributes a -20 dB/decade slope.
- The slope changes from +20 to 0 dB/decade.

f. For $\omega > 102 \text{ rad/sec}$:

- The slope stays at 0 dB/decade.

Step 7: Plotting points

- Plot the initial magnitude at very low frequencies ($\sim -40 \text{ dB}$).
- Use the asymptotes to sketch the lines, noting the slope change at each corner frequency.
- Calculate approximate magnitude at key points:

- At $\omega = 1 \text{ rad/sec}$:

$$20 \log_{10} \left(\frac{\sqrt{1^2 + 1^2}}{102} \right) \approx -40 \text{ dB}$$

- At $\omega = 102 \text{ rad/sec}$:

$$\left[20 \times \log_{10} \left(\frac{\sqrt{102^2 + 1}}{102} \right) \approx 0, \text{dB} \right]$$

- These points guide the sketch.

Plotting the Phase Response

Step 8: Understand the phase contributions

- Zero at $(\omega_z = 1, \text{rad/sec})$: Phase increases from 0° to $+90^\circ$, centered around (ω_z) .
- Pole at $(\omega_p = 102, \text{rad/sec})$: Phase decreases from 0° to -90° , centered around (ω_p) .

Step 9: Approximate phase plot

- At frequencies much lower than (ω_z) :

$$\left[\text{Phase} \approx 0^\circ \right]$$

- Around $(\omega = 1, \text{rad/sec})$:

$$\left[\text{Phase} \approx +45^\circ \right]$$

- At $(\omega \gg \omega_z)$ but $(\ll \omega_p)$:

$$\left[\text{Phase} \approx +90^\circ \right]$$

- Around $(\omega = 102, \text{rad/sec})$:

$$\left[\text{Phase} \approx +45^\circ \right]$$

- At frequencies much higher than (ω_p) :

$$\left[\text{Phase} \approx 0^\circ \right]$$

- The total phase will therefore start at 0° , rise to $+45^\circ$, then $+90^\circ$, then decrease back to $+45^\circ$, and finally return to 0° .

Step 10: Sketch the phase plot

- Draw smooth curves connecting these approximate phase points, emphasizing the gradual transition around the corner frequencies.

Summary of Key Points for Hand Sketching

Aspect	Details
Low-frequency magnitude	$\sim -40 \text{ dB}$
Zero at $\omega = 1 \text{ rad/sec}$	Slope changes to $+20 \text{ dB/decade}$
Pole at $\omega = 102 \text{ rad/sec}$	Slope changes back to 0 dB/decade
Phase at low ω	$\sim 0^\circ$
Phase at $\omega = 1 \text{ rad/sec}$	$\sim +45^\circ$
Phase at $\omega = 102 \text{ rad/sec}$	$\sim 0^\circ$

Final Tips for Hand Sketching Bode Plots

- Always identify corner frequencies first.
- Use asymptotic lines to approximate the magnitude response.
- Mark key points at corner frequencies for both magnitude and phase.
- Remember the phase contributions of zeros and poles are additive.
- Keep the plots smooth and continuous, reflecting the physical behavior.

Conclusion

Sketching Bode plots by hand for transfer functions like $G(s) = (s + 1) / (s + 102)$ is an essential skill for engineers working

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the initial steps to sketch the Bode plot for the transfer function $G(s) = (s+1)/(s+102)$?

First, express $G(s)$ in terms of its magnitude and phase, identify the corner (break) frequencies, and determine the low-frequency (DC) gain and the asymptotic slopes before and after the corner frequencies.

How do you find the corner frequency for the transfer function $G(s) = (s+1)/(s+102)$?

The corner frequency is determined by the pole or zero location. Since the zero is at $s = -1$ and the pole at $s = -102$, the dominant corner frequency is at $\omega = 102 \text{ rad/sec}$, where the magnitude and

phase begin to change significantly.

What is the magnitude at low frequencies for $G(s) = (s+1)/(s+102)$?

At very low frequencies (ω approaching 0), $G(j\omega) \approx (j\omega + 1)/(j\omega + 102)$. The magnitude approaches $1/102$, since the numerator approaches 1 and the denominator approaches 102.

How do you determine the slope of the Bode magnitude plot for $G(s) = (s+1)/(s+102)$ after the corner frequency?

The zero at $s = -1$ introduces a +20 dB/decade slope, and the pole at $s = -102$ introduces a -20 dB/decade slope. Since the pole dominates at high frequencies, the slope becomes -20 dB/decade after the corner frequency at 102 rad/sec.

What is the phase angle of $G(s) = (s+1)/(s+102)$ at frequencies much lower than 1 rad/sec?

At low frequencies, both s terms are negligible compared to constants, so the phase is approximately 0° , since the transfer function behaves like a ratio of real positive constants.

How do you sketch the hand-drawn Bode plot for $G(s) = (s+1)/(s+102)$?

Start by plotting the magnitude at low frequency (approximately -40 dB), then draw a straight line with a slope of 0 dB/decade up to the corner frequency at 102 rad/sec, where the slope begins to decrease to -20 dB/decade. For the phase, begin at 0° , increase to about $+45^\circ$ near the zero at 1 rad/sec, then decrease back toward 0° after the pole at 102 rad/sec, following the standard phase shift rules.

Additional Resources

Sketch, By Hand, The Bode Plot For The Following Transfer Functions Using The Steps Below: $G(s) = (s + 1) / (s + 102)$

Introduction

In the realm of control systems and signal processing, Bode plots serve as a fundamental tool for analyzing the frequency response of linear, time-invariant (LTI) systems. These plots, comprising magnitude and phase graphs, enable engineers and researchers to assess system stability, bandwidth, and transient response characteristics. While software tools like MATLAB or Python libraries facilitate rapid and precise Bode plot generation, understanding how to sketch these plots by hand remains an essential skill that deepens one's conceptual grasp of system behavior.

This article delves into the systematic process of sketching Bode plots for a specific transfer

function, $G(s) = (s + 1) / (s + 102)$. We examine each step in detail, from pole-zero analysis to asymptotic approximations, culminating in an accurate hand-drawn Bode plot. Such an approach not only enhances comprehension but also provides a foundation for troubleshooting and designing control systems.

Understanding the Transfer Function

Before embarking on the plotting process, it is crucial to interpret the transfer function:

$$G(s) = \frac{s + 1}{s + 102}$$

- Type: First-order transfer function with a zero at $(s = -1)$ and a pole at $(s = -102)$.
- Physical Significance: The zero introduces a phase lead at higher frequencies, while the pole causes phase lag and magnitude attenuation beyond its corner frequency.
- Frequency Domain Substitution: Replace (s) with $(j\omega)$, where (ω) is the angular frequency in rad/sec, to analyze the frequency response.

Step 1: Identify Poles and Zeros

Poles: Values of (s) that make the denominator zero:

$$s + 102 = 0 \rightarrow s = -102$$

Zeros: Values of (s) that make the numerator zero:

$$s + 1 = 0 \rightarrow s = -1$$

These are located on the real axis in the complex plane, influencing the system's response across the frequency spectrum.

Step 2: Determine Key Frequencies and Asymptotes

The key frequencies are the pole and zero corner frequencies, where the magnitude and phase begin to change notably:

- Zero corner frequency: $(\omega_z = |s| = 1)$ rad/sec
- Pole corner frequency: $(\omega_p = 102)$ rad/sec

These points serve as the anchors for the asymptotic approximations of the Bode plots.

Step 3: Break Down the Transfer Function

Express the magnitude and phase contributions explicitly:

$$G(j\omega) = \frac{j\omega + 1}{j\omega + 102}$$

The magnitude is:

$$|G(j\omega)| = \frac{\sqrt{\omega^2 + 1}}{\sqrt{\omega^2 + 102^2}}$$

The phase is:

$$\angle G(j\omega) = \arctan\left(\frac{\omega}{1}\right) - \arctan\left(\frac{\omega}{102}\right)$$

Step 4: Calculate Low-Frequency Behavior ($\omega \ll 1$)

At very low frequencies ($\omega \rightarrow 0$):

- Magnitude:

$$|G(j0)| = \frac{\sqrt{0 + 1}}{\sqrt{0 + 102^2}} = \frac{1}{102} \approx -40.16, \text{ dB}$$

- Phase:

$$\arctan(0) - \arctan(0) = 0^\circ$$

Implication: The system starts with a flat magnitude at approximately $-40, \text{ dB}$, with zero phase shift.

Step 5: Approximate Behavior at High Frequencies ($\omega \gg 102$)

At very high frequencies ($\omega \rightarrow \infty$):

- Magnitude:

$$|$$

$$|G(j\omega)| \approx \frac{\omega}{\omega} = 1$$

- Magnitude in dB:

$$20 \log_{10} 1 = 0 \text{ dB}$$

- Phase:

$$\arctan(\infty) - \arctan(\infty) = 90^\circ - 90^\circ = 0^\circ$$

Implication: At high frequencies, the magnitude approaches 0 dB, and the phase returns to zero, indicating a flat response.

Step 6: Asymptotic Approximation of Magnitude Plot

Using the corner frequencies:

- Below $(\omega = 1)$ rad/sec: Magnitude $\approx (-40 \text{ dB})$
- Between (1) and (102) rad/sec: Slope increases by +20 dB/decade starting at the zero.
- Above (102) rad/sec: Slope decreases by -20 dB/decade due to the pole.

The asymptotic magnitude plot:

- Starts at (-40 dB) at $(\omega \rightarrow 0)$.
- Rises with a +20 dB/decade slope after $(\omega = 1)$ rad/sec (zero at $(s = -1)$).
- After $(\omega = 102)$ rad/sec, the slope decreases by 20 dB/decade, returning to 0 dB at high frequencies.

Step 7: Asymptotic Approximation of Phase Plot

Phase contributions:

- Zero at $(s = -1)$:
- Phase increases from 0° to $+90^\circ$, centered at $(\omega = 1)$.
- Pole at $(s = -102)$:
- Phase decreases from 0° to -90° , centered at $(\omega = 102)$.

Approximate phase plot:

- From $\omega = 0$: 0°
- At $\omega = 1$: phase approximately $+45^\circ$
- For $1 < \omega < 102$: phase transitions from $+45^\circ$ to 0°
- At $\omega = 102$: phase approximately -45°
- Beyond $\omega = 102$: phase approaches -90°

Step 8: Sketching the Bode Magnitude Plot

Using the asymptotes:

1. Start at approximately -40 dB at very low frequencies.
2. Zero influence: At $\omega = 1$, the magnitude begins to increase with a slope of $+20 \text{ dB/decade}$.
3. Pole influence: At $\omega = 102$, the slope decreases by 20 dB/decade , flattening out to 0 dB at high frequencies.
4. Plot points: Mark the magnitude at key frequencies:

- $\omega = 0.1$: $\approx -40 \text{ dB}$
- $\omega = 1$: $\approx -40 + 20 \times \log_{10}(1/0.1) = -40 + 20 \times 1 = -20 \text{ dB}$
- $\omega = 102$: $\approx -20 + 20 \times \log_{10}(102/1) \approx -20 + 20 \times 2.0086 \approx -20 + 40.17 = 20.17 \text{ dB}$

Adjust these points for accuracy in the sketch.

Step 9: Sketching the Bode Phase Plot

1. Starting at 0° for very low frequencies.
2. Approaching $\omega = 1$: phase increases smoothly towards $+45^\circ$.
3. At $\omega = 102$: phase decreases towards -45° .
4. At very high frequencies: phase approaches -90° .

Use smooth transition curves (Bode's approximation) to connect the key points.

Step 10: Finalizing and Interpreting the Plot

- The combined magnitude and phase plots reveal the system's frequency response characteristics.
- The zero at $s = -1$ introduces a mid-frequency boost.
- The pole at $s = -102$ attenuates high-frequency signals.
- The phase shift indicates a lagging response at high frequencies, with a net phase shift approaching -90° .

Understanding these plots informs design decisions, such as stability margins and bandwidth limitations.

Conclusion

Sketching Bode plots by hand for a transfer function like $G(s) = (s + 1) / (s + 102)$ is a valuable exercise that combines analytical insight with graphical intuition. Through step-by-step analysis—identifying poles and zeros, determining key frequencies, constructing asymptotes, and interpreting phase shifts—engineers can accurately visualize the system's frequency response without reliance solely on computational tools.

This methodical approach fosters a deeper understanding of system dynamics, essential for control system design, stability analysis, and signal processing

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