

## 10. Signal Filtering

Signal filtering is an important function for a practical system, especially when the system is operated around a noisy environment. In system engineering to eliminate external noises, the filter is often designed as an LTI system described by the following equation:

$$\begin{aligned} y^{(n)}(t) + a_{n-1}y^{(n-1)}(t) + \cdots + a_1\dot{y}(t) + a_0y(t) \\ = b_m u^{(m)}(t) + b_{m-1}u^{(m-1)}(t) + \cdots + b_1\dot{u}(t) + b_0u(t) \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

which is stable and thus the initial conditions can be neglected. As a result, the frequency response is given as

$$Y(s) = H(s)U(s) \quad (2)$$

where  $U(s)$  and  $Y(s)$  are the Laplace transforms of input  $u(t)$  and output  $y(t)$ . The transfer function of the system is

$$H(s) = \frac{b_m s^m + \cdots + b_1 s + b_0}{s^n + a_{n-1} s^{n-1} + \cdots + a_1 s + a_0} = \frac{b_m (s - z_1) \cdots (s - z_m)}{(s - p_1) \cdots (s - p_m)} \quad (3)$$

where  $p_k, k=1,2,\dots,n$ , are the poles and  $z_j, j=1,2,\dots,m$ , are the zeros. To guarantee the system stability, all the poles  $p_k$  should be located in the left-half complex plane. Let  $s=j\omega$ , then (2) becomes

$$Y(j\omega) = H(j\omega)U(j\omega) \quad (4)$$

where  $U(j\omega)$  and  $Y(j\omega)$  are the Fourier transforms of  $u(t)$  and  $y(t)$ . It is known that

$$u(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} U(j\omega) e^{j\omega t} d\omega = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left( \frac{1}{2\pi} U(j\omega) e^{j\omega t} \right) d\omega \quad (5)$$

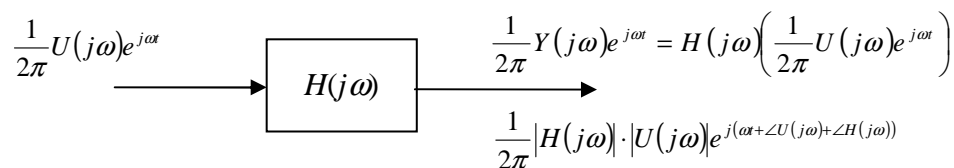
$$y(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} Y(j\omega) e^{j\omega t} d\omega = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left( \frac{1}{2\pi} Y(j\omega) e^{j\omega t} \right) d\omega \quad (6)$$

which implies the input  $u(t)$  and output  $y(t)$  are respectively formed by an infinite number of components  $\frac{1}{2\pi} U(j\omega) e^{j\omega t}$  and  $\frac{1}{2\pi} Y(j\omega) e^{j\omega t}$  at frequency  $\omega$ . From (4),

it is true that

$$\frac{1}{2\pi} Y(j\omega) e^{j\omega t} = H(j\omega) \left( \frac{1}{2\pi} U(j\omega) e^{j\omega t} \right) \quad (7)$$

which is depicted in the following figure. Obviously, if  $|H(j\omega)| \ll 1$ , then the output component at  $\omega$  is highly decreased. That means the system filter out the input component at  $\omega$ .



From (4), the frequency response in magnitude can be expressed as the following form

$$|Y(j\omega)| = |H(j\omega)||W(j\omega)| \tag{8}$$

i.e.,

$$|Y(j\omega)|_{dB} = |H(j\omega)|_{dB} + |W(j\omega)|_{dB} \tag{9}$$

where  $|\bullet|_{dB} = 20 \log_{10} |\bullet|$ , and the frequency response in phase as

$$\angle Y(j\omega) = \angle H(j\omega) + \angle W(j\omega) \tag{10}$$

The frequency response given by (9) and (10) is often demonstrated by the Bode plot

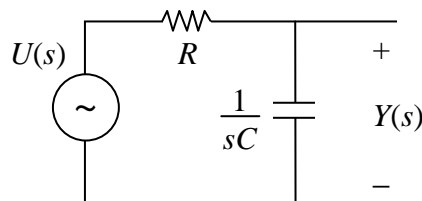
of  $H(s) = \left. \frac{Q(s)}{P(s)} \right|_{s=j\omega}$ .

There are three basic filters, named as lowpass, highpass and bandpass filters, to purposely let the low-, high- and band-frequency signals filter through.

The simplest lowpass filter is an RC circuit, as depicted in the following figure, and its transfer function is

$$H(s) = \frac{Y(s)}{U(s)} = \frac{1}{1 + sRC} \tag{11}$$

where  $U(s)$  and  $Y(s)$  are the input and output voltage signals.

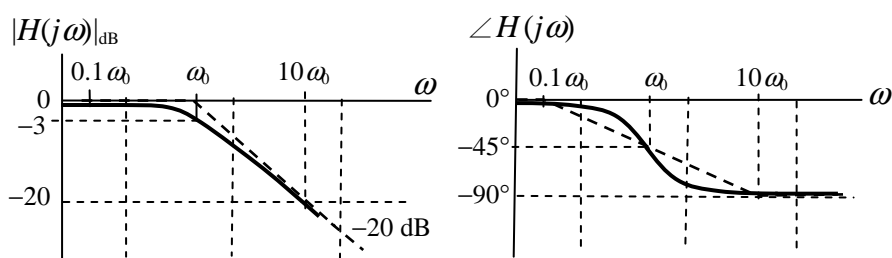


Let  $\omega_0 = \frac{1}{RC}$ , then the transfer function is rearranged as  $H(s) = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{s}{\omega_0}}$  and

its Fourier transform is

$$H(j\omega) = \frac{1}{1 + j\frac{\omega}{\omega_0}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{\omega}{\omega_0}\right)^2}} \angle \left( -\tan^{-1} \frac{\omega}{\omega_0} \right) \quad (12)$$

The Bode plots of magnitude and phase are given in the following figures. From  $|H(j\omega)|_{dB}$ , it is clear that when  $\omega > 10\omega_0$ , the output  $|Y(j\omega)| = |H(j\omega)| |U(j\omega)|$  will be highly decreased and less than 10% (or  $-20dB$ ) of  $|U(j\omega)|$ . Since  $|H(j\omega_0)|_{dB} \approx -3dB$ , we call the frequency  $\omega_0$  as 3dB point or cutoff frequency. Sometimes,  $\omega_0$  is also called the bandwidth of the lowpass filter.



In addition the simplest *RC* lowpass filter, sometimes we will use a filter of higher order, such as a second order filter  $H(s) = \frac{1}{1 + as + bs^2}$  to keep the low-frequency component of the input signal and filter out the undesired high-frequency noise. An example is given below.

**Example:**

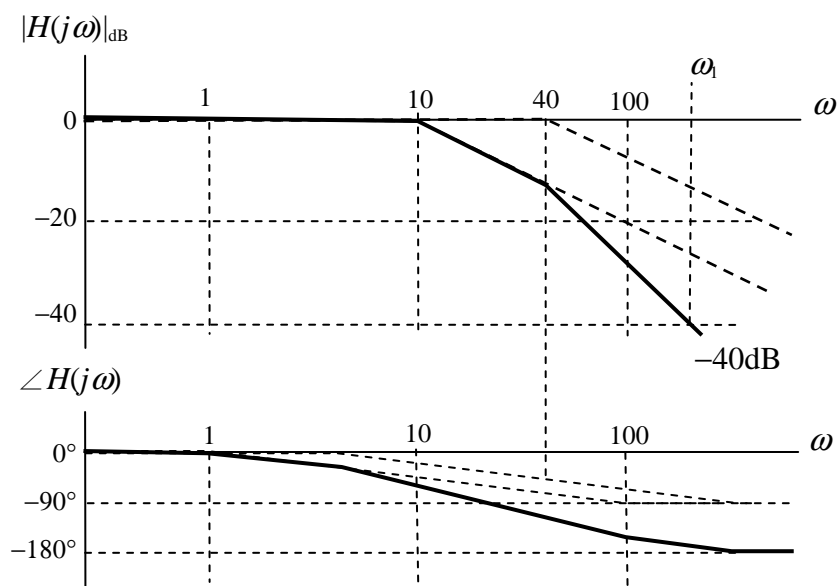
Consider a second order filter  $H(s) = \frac{1}{\left(1 + \frac{s}{10}\right)\left(1 + \frac{s}{40}\right)}$  and draw the Bode

plot. What is the range that  $|Y(j\omega)|$  is less than 1% of  $|U(j\omega)|$ ?

**Sol:**

The fourier transform is  $H(j\omega) = \frac{1}{\left(1 + j\frac{\omega}{10}\right)\left(1 + j\frac{\omega}{40}\right)}$ , including two basic

types  $\left(1 + j\frac{\omega}{10}\right)^{-1}$  and  $\left(1 + j\frac{\omega}{40}\right)^{-1}$ , whose Bode plot is shown as below:

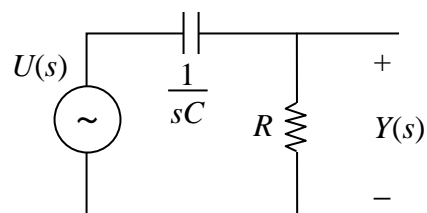


The range for  $|Y(j\omega)| < 0.01|U(j\omega)|$  is the range that  $|H(j\omega)|_{dB} < -40dB$ . From the Bode plot, it is the range of frequency higher than  $\omega_1 \approx 200$  rad/s. The frequency can be also calculated by

$$|H(j\omega_1)| = \frac{1}{\left|1 + j\frac{\omega_1}{10}\right| \cdot \left|1 + j\frac{\omega_1}{40}\right|} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\left(1 + \frac{\omega_1^2}{100}\right)\left(1 + \frac{\omega_1^2}{1600}\right)}} = 0.01,$$

which results in  $\omega_1 = 198$  rad/s. That means if  $\omega > 198$  rad/s, then  $|Y(j\omega)|$  is less than 1% of  $|U(j\omega)|$ .

The RC circuit can be also used as a highpass filter if the output is the resistance voltage, shown on the right, whose transfer function is

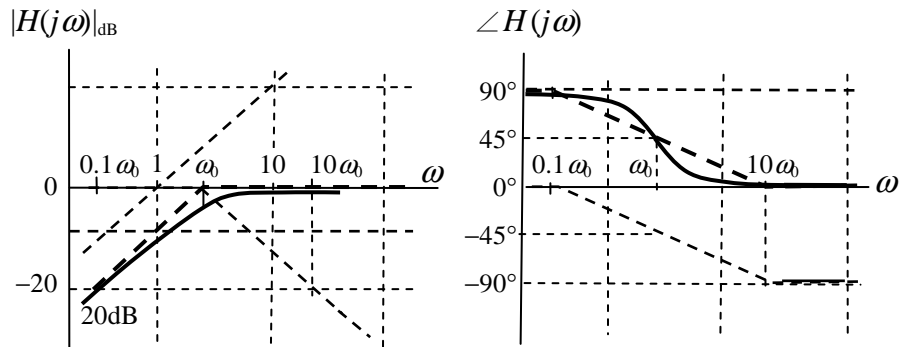


$$H(s) = \frac{V_o(s)}{V_s(s)} = \frac{sRC}{1 + sRC} \tag{13}$$

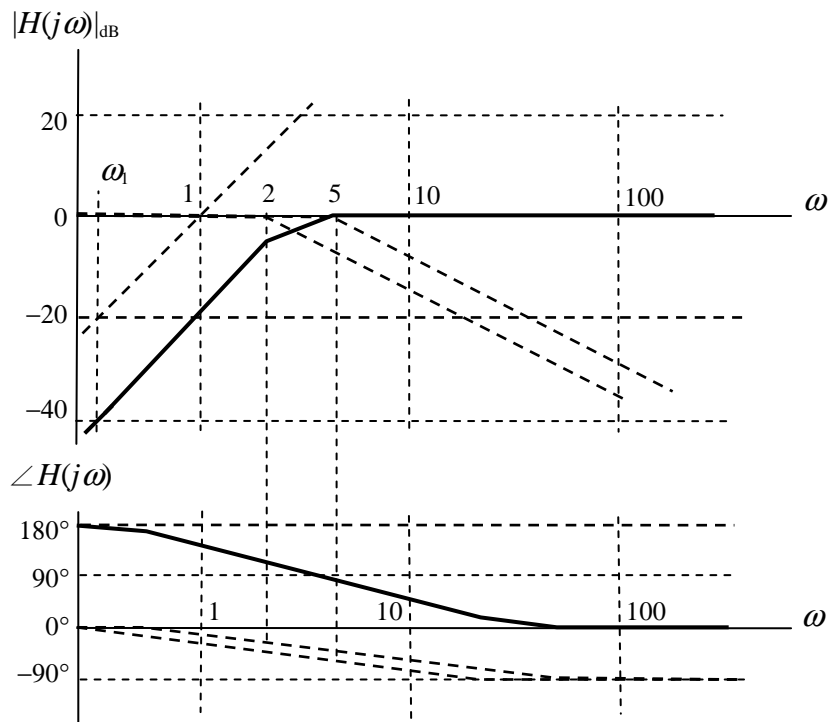
Let  $\omega_0 = \frac{1}{RC}$ , then the Fourier transform is

$$H(j\omega) = \frac{j\omega/\omega_0}{1 + j\frac{\omega}{\omega_0}} = \frac{\omega/\omega_0}{\sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{\omega}{\omega_0}\right)^2}} \angle \left(90^\circ - \tan^{-1} \frac{\omega}{\omega_0}\right) \quad (14)$$

Assume  $10 > \omega_0 > 1$ , then the Bode plot can be obtained as below.

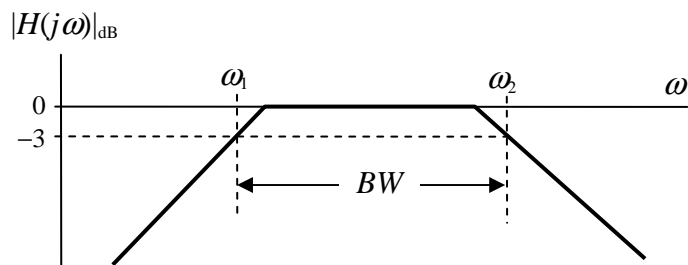


In addition the simplest *RC* highpass filter, sometimes we will use a filter of higher order, such as a second order filter  $H(s) = \frac{bs^2}{1 + as + bs^2}$  to keep the high-frequency component of the input signal and filter out the undesired low-frequency noise. For example, the Bode plot of  $H(s) = \frac{s^2/10}{\left(1 + \frac{s}{2}\right)\left(1 + \frac{s}{5}\right)}$  is



Since  $\frac{1}{1+as+bs^2}$  is a lowpass filter and  $\frac{bs^2}{1+as+bs^2}$  is a highpass filter, it

implies that  $\frac{as}{1+as+bs^2}$  is a bandpass filter whose Bode plot is shown as below:



### Exercise:

Draw the Bode plot of the following system:

- (A)  $\dot{y}(t) + 0.02y(t) = 0.1u(t)$ .
- (B)  $\ddot{y}(t) + 0.07\dot{y}(t) + 0.001y(t) = 0.01\dot{u}(t) - 0.05u(t)$ .
- (C)  $\ddot{y}(t) + 0.05\dot{y}(t) + 0.02y(t) = 0.1u(t)$ .

## [補充資料] Bode Plot

In signal analysis, the Bode plot of  $H(j\omega)$  includes  $|H(j\omega)|_{dB}$  and  $\angle H(j\omega)$  respect to  $\omega$  and scaled as  $\log_{10}\omega$ . Some fundamental types of  $Q(s)$  and  $P(s)$  for  $s=j\omega$  are listed below:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} Q_1(s) = K > 0 \\ Q_2(s) = K < 0 \\ Q_3(s) = s \\ Q_4(s) = 1 + \frac{s}{a}, \quad a > 0 \\ Q_5(s) = 1 - \frac{s}{a}, \quad a > 0 \\ Q_6(s) = \left(\frac{s}{\omega_n}\right)^2 + 2\xi\left(\frac{s}{\omega_n}\right) + 1, \quad 0 \leq \xi < 1, \quad \omega_n > 0 \\ Q_7(s) = \left(\frac{s}{\omega_n}\right)^2 - 2\xi\left(\frac{s}{\omega_n}\right) + 1, \quad 0 \leq \xi < 1, \quad \omega_n > 0 \end{array} \right. \quad (1)$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} P_1(s) = 1 + \frac{s}{a}, \quad a > 0 \\ P_2(s) = \left(\frac{s}{\omega_n}\right)^2 + 2\xi\left(\frac{s}{\omega_n}\right) + 1, \quad 0 < \xi < 1, \quad \omega_n > 0 \end{array} \right. \quad (2)$$

For  $Q_1(s) = K > 0$  we have

$$|Q_1(j\omega)|_{dB} = 20 \log_{10} K = M \quad \text{dB} \quad (3)$$

$$\angle Q_1(j\omega) = 0^\circ \quad (4)$$

where  $M > 0$  for  $K > 1$ ,  $M = 0$  for  $K = 1$  and  $M < 0$  for  $0 < K < 1$ . As for  $Q_2(s) = K < 0$ , we have  $|Q_2(j\omega)|_{dB} = |Q_1(j\omega)|_{dB}$  and  $\angle Q_2(j\omega) = \pm 180^\circ$ . Their Bode plots are shown in the next page where the  $\omega$ -axis is scaled as  $\log_{10}\omega$ .

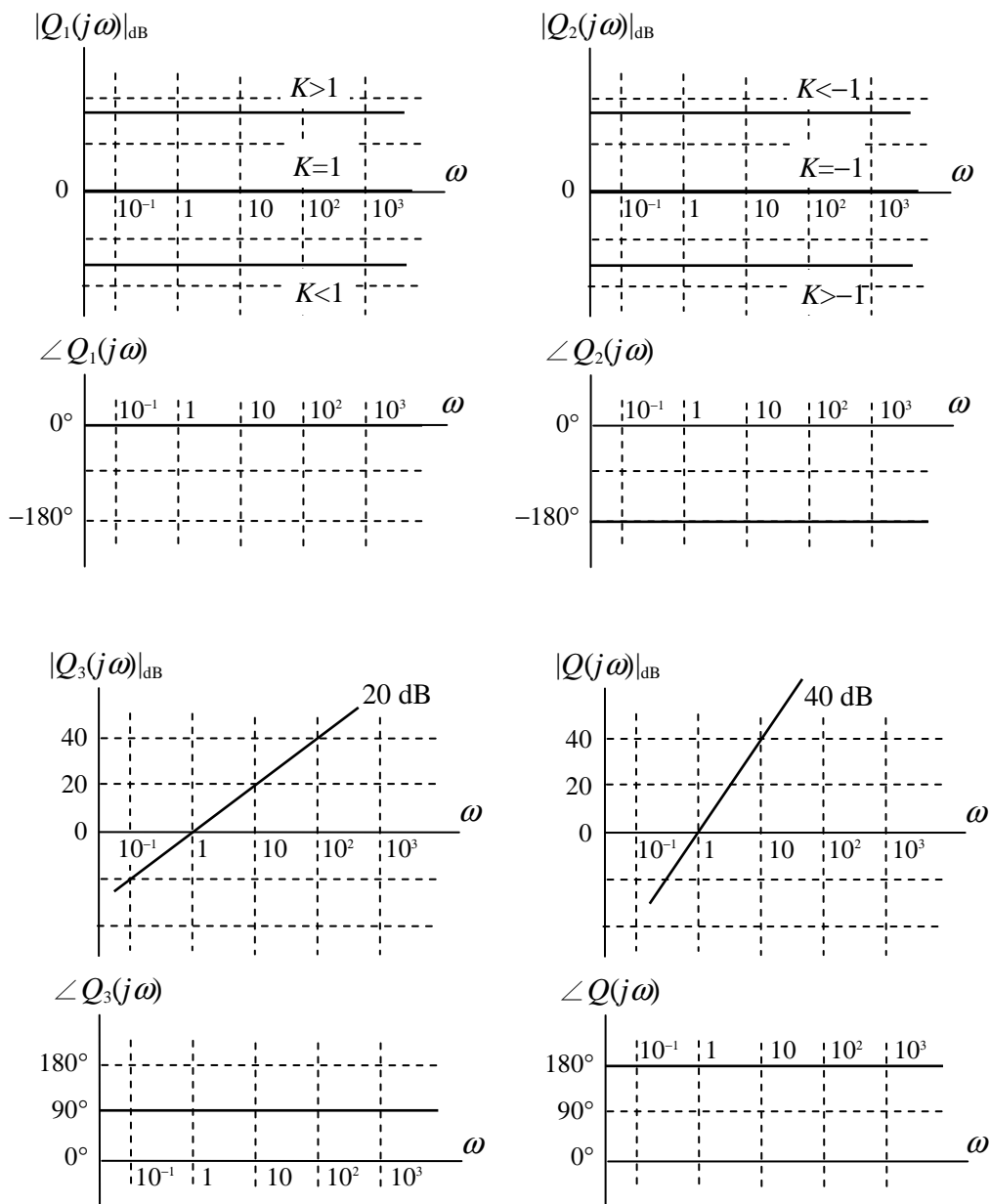
For  $Q_3(s) = s$ , which implies a zero is located at  $s=0$ , its Fourier transform is  $Q_3(j\omega) = \omega \angle 90^\circ$ , i.e., the phase is  $90^\circ$  and the magnitude in dB is

$$|Q_3(j\omega)|_{dB} = 20 \log_{10} \omega \quad \text{dB} \quad (5)$$

a straight line with slope 20dB/dec. If  $Q(s) = s^n$ , the Fourier transform is  $Q(j\omega) = \omega^n \angle (n \cdot 90^\circ)$  whose phase is  $n \cdot 90^\circ$  and magnitude in dB is

$$|Q(j\omega)|_{dB} = 20 \log_{10} \omega^n = 20n \log_{10} \omega \quad \text{dB} \quad (6)$$

a straight line with slope  $20n$ dB/dec. Note that their magnitude is 0dB at  $\omega=1$ .



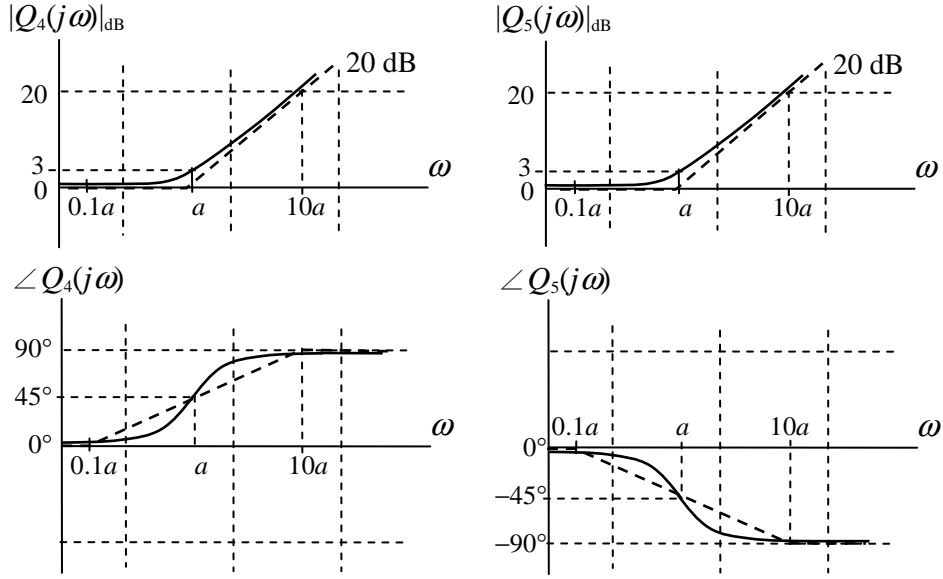
For  $Q_4(s) = 1 + \frac{s}{a}$ ,  $a > 0$ , i.e., the system contains a zero at  $s = -a < 0$  in the left-half complex plane, its Fourier transform is

$$Q_4(j\omega) = 1 + j\frac{\omega}{a} = \sqrt{1 + \frac{\omega^2}{a^2}} \angle \tan^{-1} \frac{\omega}{a} \quad (7)$$

whose phase is  $\angle \tan^{-1} \frac{\omega}{a}$  and magnitude in dB is

$$|Q_4(j\omega)|_{dB} = 20 \log_{10} \sqrt{1 + \frac{\omega^2}{a^2}} = 10 \log_{10} \left( 1 + \frac{\omega^2}{a^2} \right) \text{ dB} \quad (8)$$





It is obtained that

$$\begin{cases} \angle Q_4(j0^+) = \angle \tan^{-1} \frac{0^+}{a} \rightarrow 0^\circ \\ |Q_4(j0^+)|_{dB} = 10 \log_{10} \left( 1 + \frac{0^+}{a^2} \right) \rightarrow 0 \text{ dB} \end{cases}, \text{ for } \omega \rightarrow 0 \quad (9)$$

$$\begin{cases} \angle Q_4(ja) = \angle \tan^{-1} \frac{a}{a} = 45^\circ \\ |Q_4(ja)|_{dB} = 10 \log_{10} \left( 1 + \frac{a^2}{a^2} \right) = 3.01 \text{ dB} \end{cases}, \text{ for } \omega = a \quad (10)$$

$$\begin{cases} \angle Q_4(j\infty) = \angle \tan^{-1} \frac{\infty}{a} \rightarrow 90^\circ \\ |Q_4(j\omega)|_{dB, \omega \rightarrow \infty} = 10 \log_{10} \left( 1 + \frac{\omega^2}{a^2} \right) \Big|_{\omega \rightarrow \infty} \text{ dB} \end{cases}, \text{ for } \omega \rightarrow \infty \quad (11)$$

Note that the magnitude in (11) can be further calculated as

$$\begin{aligned} |Q_4(j\omega)|_{dB, \omega \rightarrow \infty} &= 10 \log_{10} \left( \frac{\omega^2}{a^2} \right) \Big|_{\omega \rightarrow \infty} = 20 \log_{10} \left( \frac{\omega}{a} \right) \Big|_{\omega \rightarrow \infty} \\ &= 20 \log_{10} \omega \Big|_{\omega \rightarrow \infty} - 20 \log_{10} a \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

For  $Q_5(s) = 1 - \frac{s}{a}$ ,  $a > 0$ , i.e., i.e., the system contains a zero at  $s = a > 0$  in the right-half complex plane, its Fourier transform is

$$Q_5(j\omega) = 1 - j \frac{\omega}{a} = \sqrt{1 + \frac{\omega^2}{a^2}} \angle \left( -\tan^{-1} \frac{\omega}{a} \right) \quad (13)$$

whose phase is  $-\angle \tan^{-1} \frac{\omega}{a}$  and magnitude in dB is the same as  $|Q_4(j\omega)|_{dB}$ .

For  $Q_6(s) = \left(\frac{s}{\omega_n}\right)^2 + 2\xi\left(\frac{s}{\omega_n}\right) + 1$ ,  $1 > \xi \geq 0$ ,  $\omega_n > 0$ , i.e., the system has two

conjugate complex zeros in the left-half complex plane, its Fourier transform is

$$\begin{aligned} Q_6(j\omega) &= \left(1 - \frac{\omega^2}{\omega_n^2}\right) + j2\xi \frac{\omega}{\omega_n} \\ &= \sqrt{\left(1 - \frac{\omega^2}{\omega_n^2}\right)^2 + \left(2\xi \frac{\omega}{\omega_n}\right)^2} \angle \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{2\xi\omega_n\omega}{\omega_n^2 - \omega^2}\right) \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

whose phase is  $\angle \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{2\xi\omega_n\omega}{\omega_n^2 - \omega^2}\right)$  and magnitude in dB is

$$\begin{aligned} |Q_6(j\omega)|_{dB} &= 20 \log_{10} \sqrt{\left(1 - \frac{\omega^2}{\omega_n^2}\right)^2 + \left(2\xi \frac{\omega}{\omega_n}\right)^2} \\ &= 10 \log_{10} \left(1 + (4\xi^2 - 2)\frac{\omega^2}{\omega_n^2} + \frac{\omega^4}{\omega_n^4}\right) \text{ dB} \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

it can be obtained that

$$\begin{cases} \angle Q_6(j0^+) = \angle \tan^{-1} \frac{0^+}{\omega_n^2} \rightarrow 0^\circ \\ |Q_6(j0^+)|_{dB} = 10 \log_{10} \left(1 + (4\xi^2 - 2)\frac{0^+}{\omega_n^2} + \frac{0^+}{\omega_n^4}\right) \rightarrow 0 \text{ dB} \end{cases}, \text{ for } \omega \rightarrow 0 \quad (16)$$

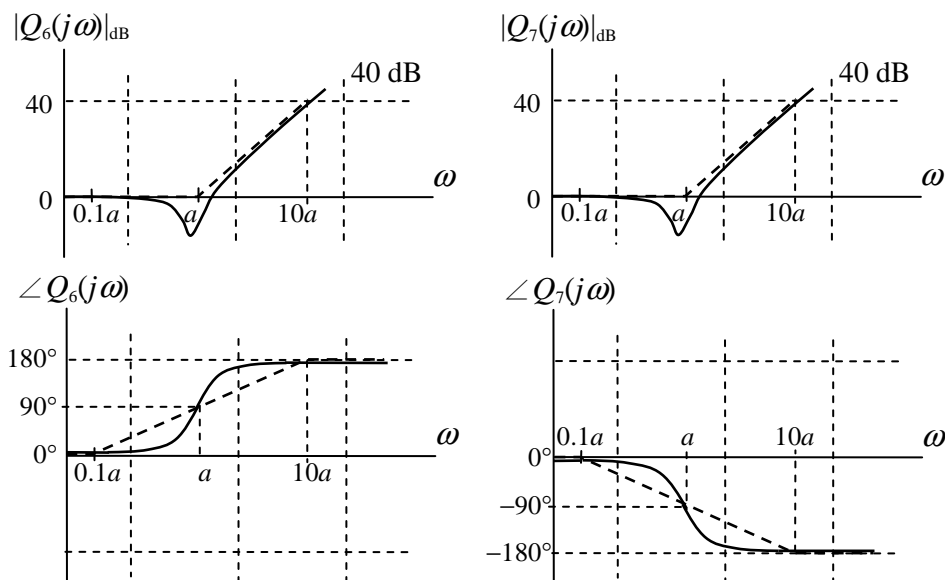
$$\begin{cases} \angle Q_6(j\omega_n) = \angle \tan^{-1} \infty = 90^\circ \\ |Q_6(j\omega_n)|_{dB} = 10 \log_{10} (4\xi^2) = 6.02 + 20 \log_{10} \xi \text{ dB} \end{cases}, \text{ for } \omega = \omega_n \quad (17)$$

$$\begin{cases} \angle Q_6(j\infty) = \angle \tan^{-1} \frac{\infty}{-\infty} \rightarrow 180^\circ \\ |Q_6(j\omega)|_{dB, \omega \rightarrow \infty} = 10 \log_{10} \left(1 + (4\xi^2 - 2)\frac{\omega^2}{\omega_n^2} + \frac{\omega^4}{\omega_n^4}\right)_{\omega \rightarrow \infty} \text{ dB} \end{cases}, \quad \text{for } \omega = \omega_n \quad (18)$$

Note that the magnitude in (28) can be approximated as

$$\begin{aligned}
 |Q_6(j\omega)|_{dB, \omega \rightarrow \infty} &= 10 \log_{10} \left( \frac{\omega^4}{\omega_n^4} \right)_{\omega \rightarrow \infty} = 40 \log_{10} \left( \frac{\omega}{\omega_n} \right)_{\omega \rightarrow \infty} \\
 &= 40 \log_{10} \omega \Big|_{\omega \rightarrow \infty} - 40 \log_{10} \omega_n
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{19}$$

with slope 40 dB/dec.



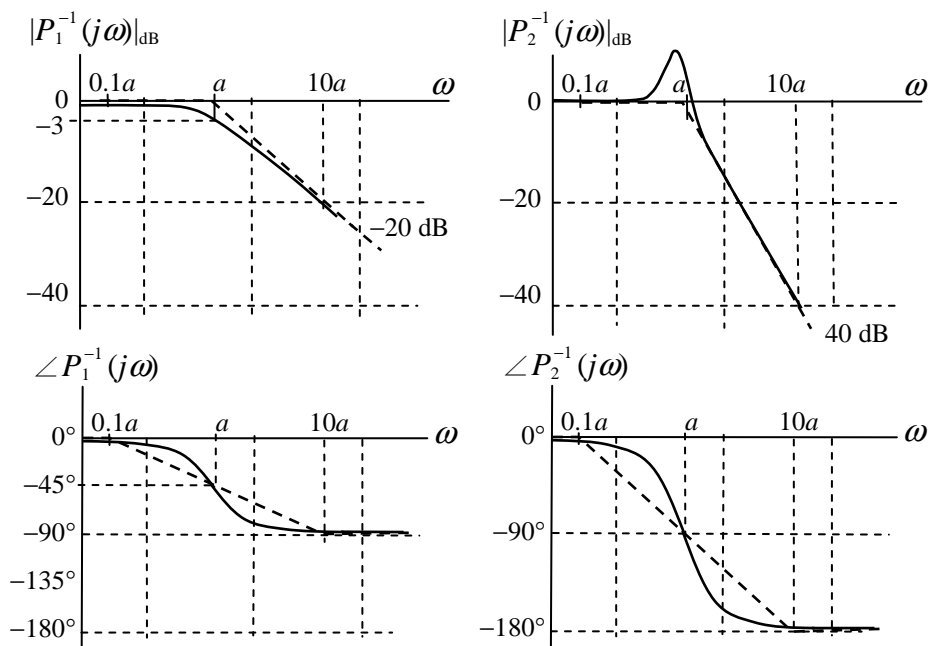
For  $Q_7(s) = \left(\frac{s}{\omega_n}\right)^2 - 2\xi\left(\frac{s}{\omega_n}\right) + 1$ ,  $1 > \xi \geq 0$ ,  $\omega_n > 0$ , the system has two conjugate

zeros in the left half plane, its Fourier transform is

$$\begin{aligned}
 Q_7(j\omega) &= \left(1 - \frac{\omega^2}{\omega_n^2}\right) - j2\xi \frac{\omega}{\omega_n} \\
 &= \sqrt{\left(1 - \frac{\omega^2}{\omega_n^2}\right)^2 + \left(2\xi \frac{\omega}{\omega_n}\right)^2} \angle \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{-2\xi\omega_n\omega}{\omega_n^2 - \omega^2} \right)
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{20}$$

whose phase is  $\angle Q_7(j\omega) = -\angle Q_6(j\omega)$  and magnitude in dB is the same as  $|Q_6(j\omega)|_{dB}$ .

For  $P(s)$  in (12), where  $P_1(s) = Q_4(s)$  and  $P_2(s) = Q_6(s)$ , the Bode plots of  $P_1^{-1}(s)$  and  $P_2^{-1}(s)$  are given in the following figure.



**Example**

Draw the Bode plot of  $H(s) = \frac{50s(s-2)}{(s+10)(s^2+8s+25)}$ .

**Sol:**

Re-express the transfer function as

$$H(s) = \frac{-0.4s\left(1 - \frac{s}{2}\right)}{\left(1 + \frac{s}{10}\right)\left(\left(\frac{s}{5}\right)^2 + 1.6\left(\frac{s}{5}\right) + 1\right)}$$

and then we obtain the Fourier transform in the following

$$H(j\omega) = \frac{-0.4(j\omega)\left(1 - j\frac{\omega}{2}\right)}{\left(1 + j\frac{\omega}{10}\right)\left(\left(1 - \frac{\omega^2}{5^2}\right) + j1.6\left(\frac{\omega}{5}\right)\right)}$$

which includes five fundamental types:

$$Q_2(j\omega) = -0.4, \quad Q_3(j\omega) = j\omega, \quad Q_5(j\omega) = 1 - j\frac{\omega}{2}$$

$$P_1(j\omega) = 1 + j\frac{\omega}{10}, \quad P_2(j\omega) = \left(1 - \frac{\omega^2}{5^2}\right) + j1.6\left(\frac{\omega}{5}\right)$$

represented by the dashed lines in the following Bode plot.

