MECE 3350U Control Systems

# Lecture 11 The Root-Locus Method 1/2

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

- Understand the influence of uncertainties in a control system
- Understand the applications of the Root-Locus method
- Apply Root-Locus method to a given system

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#### Applications

A aircraft closed-loop roll angle controller must ensure that the response time is 1 sec and the maximum overshoot is less than 15%.



What happens the performance of the controller change is the mass of the aircraft changes during the flight?

#### Applications

You were requested to design a cruise speed controller for a high speed train. The mechanical team requires your controller to be over-damped so that acceleration and traction is minimized.



How would be controller perform if the friction between the wheels and the rail changes due to heat or snow?

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Influence of pole locations

To evaluate the influence of a parameter of interest k, we would have to compute the location of the poles for different values k.



The Root-Loci method provides an alternative tool for analysis.

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#### Influence of pole locations

The unknown parameter k affects the location of poles and therefore the response of the system to an input.

$$\xrightarrow{R(s)} \overbrace{\frac{12}{s(s+k)+1}}^{Y(s)} \xrightarrow{Y(s)}$$

What value of k should I choose to meet my system performance requirements? If the value of k is exactly as predicted, what is the effect of a variation of k on my system?

Brute-force method:



Controller design via root-locus

The damping ratio must be within a certain range.

The time for exponential decay to half is specified.

The undamped frequency of oscillation is specified.



#### The root-locus method

Consider the following closed-loop system:



The closed-loop transfer function is

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

And the characteristic equations is

$$1 + kG(s) = 0 \tag{2}$$

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The root-locus method

Example: How does the poles of the closed loop function change as a function of A?



$$\frac{Y(s)}{R(s)} = \frac{\frac{A}{s(s+1)}}{1 + \frac{A}{s(s+1)}}$$
The characteristic equation is
$$1 + A \frac{1}{s(s+1)} = 0 \rightarrow 1 + A \frac{Q(s)}{P(s)} = 0$$
When  $A = 0$ , the poles of the closed-loop satisfy  $P(s) = 0$ , i.e.,  $p_1 = 0$ ,  $p_2 = -1$ .
When  $A \rightarrow \infty$ , the poles of the closed-loop satisfy  $Q(s) = 0$ 

The root locus method

$$rac{Y(s)}{R(s)}=rac{rac{A}{s(s+1)}}{1+rac{A}{s(s+1)}}$$

Alternatively, the characteristic equation is

$$s^2 + s + A = 0 \tag{3}$$

Using the quadratic function, the roots are

#### The root locus method

To analyse the influence of a given parameter of interest k, the characteristic equation must in the format

$$1 + kH(s) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow k \text{ is the parameter of interest} \qquad \text{stondard form for root lows}$$

$$\Rightarrow H(s) \text{ is a function of } s$$
(5)

The root locus is the set of values of *s* for which 1 + kH(s) = 0 is satisfied as the real parameter *k* varies from 0 to  $\infty$ .

#### The root locus method

If k is the parameter of interest in the open loop transfer function, how do write the characteristic equation as 1 + kH(s) = 0?



The characteristic equations is



Angle requirement

$$1 + kG(s) = 0, \ kG(s) = -1 + j0$$
 (6)

If the open loop transfer function is

$$G(s) = k \frac{(s+z_1)(s+z_2)(s+z_3)\dots(s+z_m)}{(s+p_1)(s+p_2)(s+p_3)\dots(s+p_n)}$$
(7)

The magnitude requirement for root locus is

$$|G(s)| = k \frac{|s + z_1||s + z_2||s + z_3| \dots |s + z_m|}{|s + p_1||s + p_2||s + p_3| \dots |s + p_n|} = 1$$
(8)

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The angle requirement for root locus is

$$\angle G(s) = \angle (s+z_1) + \angle (s+z_2) + \dots$$
  
- [ \angle (s+p\_1) + \angle (s+p\_2) + \dots ] = 180° + \ell 360°

where  $\ell=1,2,3\,\ldots$ 

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## Angle requirement

Consider the function

$$W(s) = k \frac{s + 0.4}{s^2(s + 3.6)} \tag{9}$$

The root locus are the points where

$$\angle \left[ k \frac{s + 0.4}{s^2(s + 3.6)} \right] = 180^\circ + \ell 360^\circ \tag{10}$$

which can be rewritten as

$$\angle(s+0.4) - 2\angle(s) - \angle(s+3.6) = 180^\circ + \ell 360^\circ.$$
(11)

Since  $s = \sigma + j\omega$ 

$$\angle(\sigma + j\omega + 0.4) - 2\angle(\sigma + j\omega) - \angle(\sigma + j\omega + 3.6) = 180^{\circ} + \ell 360^{\circ}$$
(12)

and  $\angle s = an^{-1}(\omega/\sigma)$ , the root locus function is

$$\tan^{-1}\left(\frac{\sigma}{\omega+0.4}\right) - 2\tan^{-1}\left(\frac{\sigma}{\omega}\right) - \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{\sigma}{\omega+3.6}\right) = 180^{\circ} + \ell 360^{\circ} \quad (13)$$

**Rule 1**: As k varies from 0 to  $\infty$ , there are n lines (loci) where n is the degree of Q(s) or P(s), whichever is greater. ule)

$$1+k\left[\frac{\overline{Q(s)}}{P(s)}\right]=0$$

on ore **Rule 2**: As k varies from 0 to  $\infty$ , the roots of the characteristic equation move from the poles of H(s) (when P(s) = 0) to the zeros of H(s) (Q(s) = 0). Pros 2

$$P(s) + kQ(s) = 0, \qquad \frac{1}{k}P(s) + Q(s) = 0$$



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Rule 3: The root loci must be symmetrical with respect to the horizontal axis.

Rule 4: The a root cannot cross its path





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Rule 8: The angle of the asymptotes of the curves that go to infinity is

$$\theta = \frac{180^{\circ} + 360^{\circ}(q-1)}{n-m}, \ q = 1, 2, \dots, n-m$$
(14)

*n* is the order P(s), *m* is the order of Q(s) thus n - m is the number of unmatched poles.

The asymptote radiates out from the point  $s = \alpha$  on the real axis where



Rule 9: If there are a least two lines that go to infinity, then the sum of all the roots is constant.



Practical applications: As k increases, the real root moves to the left twice as fast as the conjugate roots approach the imaginary axis.

**Rule 10**: If the *k* sweeps from 0 to  $-\infty$ , the root loci can be drawn by reversing Rule 5 and adding a 180° to the asymptote angles.



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$$\frac{S+2}{2s+1}$$
 (s)  

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Determine the root-locus plot for the following transfer function.



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Determine the root-locus plot for the following transfer function.



Determine the root-locus plot for the following transfer function.



Exercise 53 
$$n = \frac{4}{m-2}$$
 O zeros  $\chi$  poles

Determine the root-locus plot for the following transfer function.

### Exercise 54 n-m=3-17 3 lines go to as -17 g=2,2,3

Determine the root-locus plot for the following transfer function.



Determine the root-locus plot for the following transfer function.



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Homework

check the solution with Metleb

Determine the root-locus plot for the following transfer function.

$$G(s) = \frac{K}{s(s+1)(s+2)}$$
(22)
$$Ms^{t}lab \quad code:$$

$$s = tf([1 \circ], [1])$$

$$H = 1/(s^{*}(s+1)^{*}(s+2))$$

$$\gamma \mid ocus (H)$$
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Exercise 57 Home work

Determine the root-locus plot for the following transfer function.



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Exercise 58 
$$n - m = 4 - 1 = 3$$

Determine the root-locus plot for the following transfer function.

Homework

A controller for closed-loop feedback system is to be designed to stabilize the system shown. In order to simply the controller, the electrical team recommended that a proportional controller should be used.



Can the system be stabilized if G(s) = k, with  $0 \le k < \infty$ ?

#### Exercise 59 - continued



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Next class...

• More on the root locus method

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