

**Electric Engineering II**  
**EE 326**  
**Lecture 9**  
**Stability**

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# Understanding Poles and Zeros

The transfer function provides a basis for determining important system response characteristics without solving the complete differential equation

$$H(s) = \frac{b_m s^m + b_{m-1} s^{m-1} + \dots + b_1 s + b_0}{a_n s^n + a_{n-1} s^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 s + a_0}$$

It is often convenient to factor the polynomials in the numerator and denominator, and to write the transfer function in terms of those factors:

$$H(s) = \frac{N(s)}{D(s)} = K \frac{(s - z_1)(s - z_2) \dots (s - z_{m-1})(s - z_m)}{(s - p_1)(s - p_2) \dots (s - p_{n-1})(s - p_n)},$$

$$H(s) = \frac{N(s)}{D(s)} = K \frac{(s - z_1)(s - z_2) \dots (s - z_{m-1})(s - z_m)}{(s - p_1)(s - p_2) \dots (s - p_{n-1})(s - p_n)},$$

$$K = b_m/a_n$$

the  $z_i$ 's are the roots of the equation

$$N(s) = 0,$$

and are defined to be the system *zeros*,  
and the  $p_i$ 's are the roots of the equation

$$D(s) = 0,$$

and are defined to be the system *poles*.

## Example

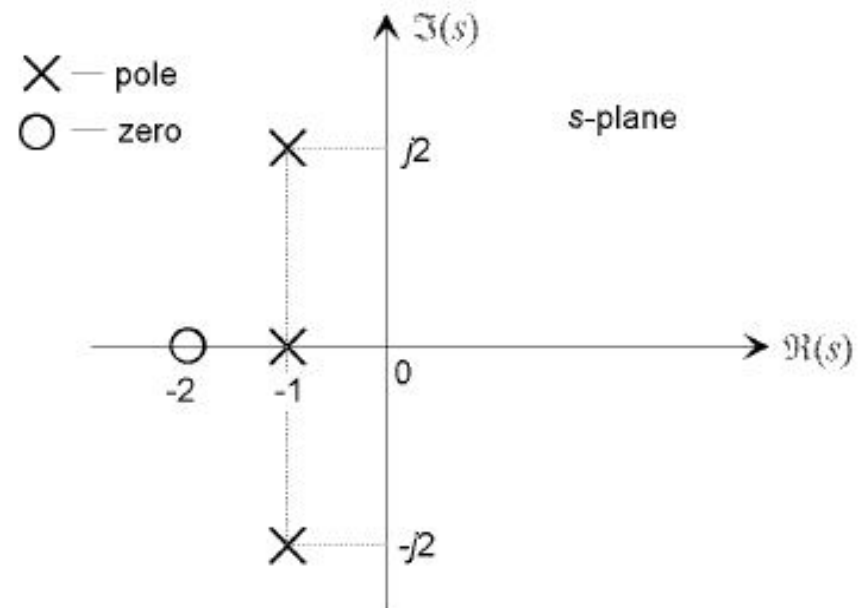
A system has a pair of complex conjugate poles  $p_1, p_2 = -1 \pm j2$ , a single real zero  $z_1 = -4$ , and a gain factor  $K = 3$ . Find the differential equation representing the system.

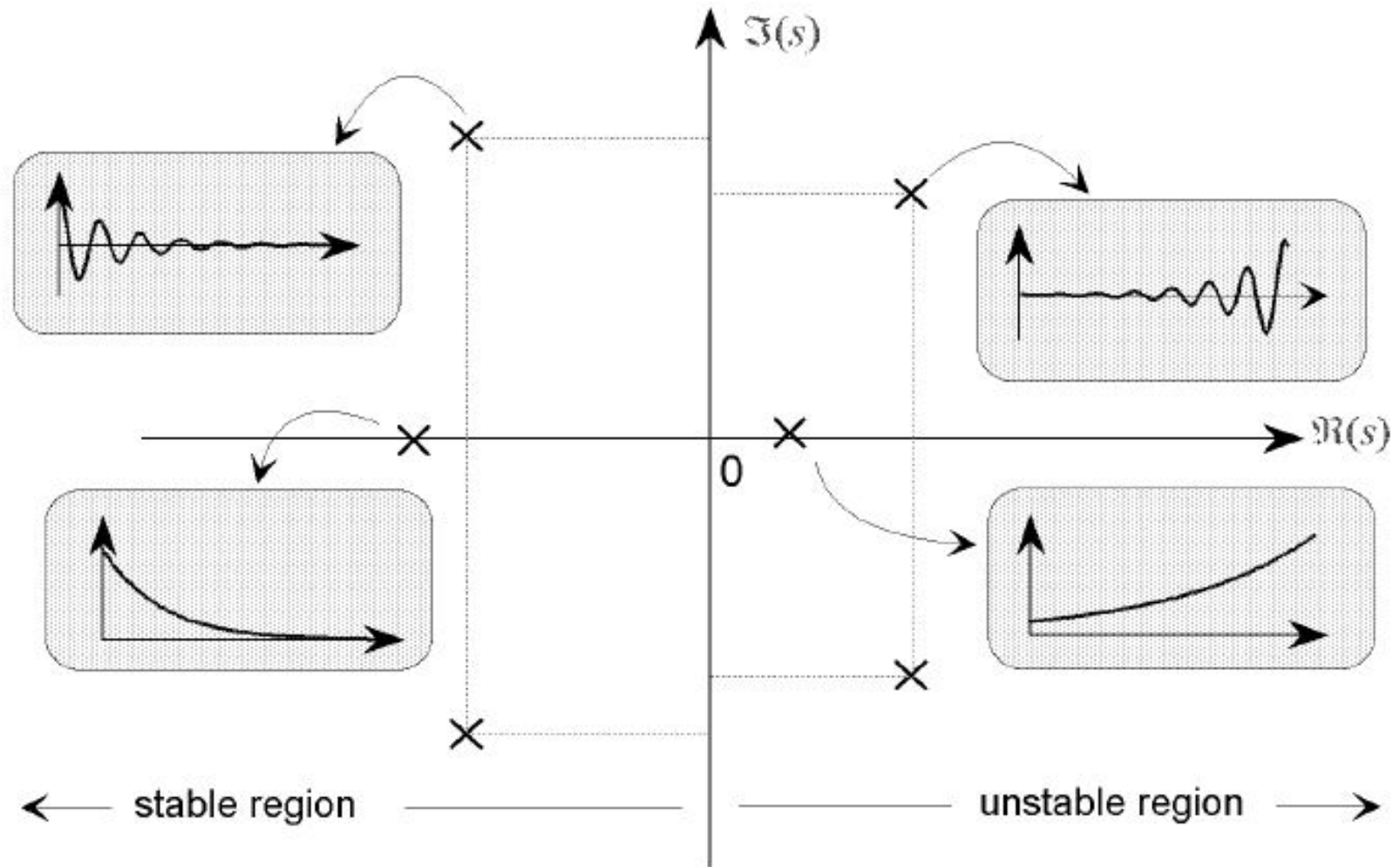
$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + 2\frac{dy}{dt} + 5y = 3\frac{du}{dt} + 12u$$

the poles and zeros of a transfer function may be complex, and the system dynamics may be represented graphically by plotting their locations on the complex  $s$ -plane, whose axes represent the real and imaginary parts of the complex variable  $s$ . Such plots are known as *pole-zero plots*.

$$H(s) = \frac{(3s + 6)}{(s^3 + 3s^2 + 7s + 5)}$$

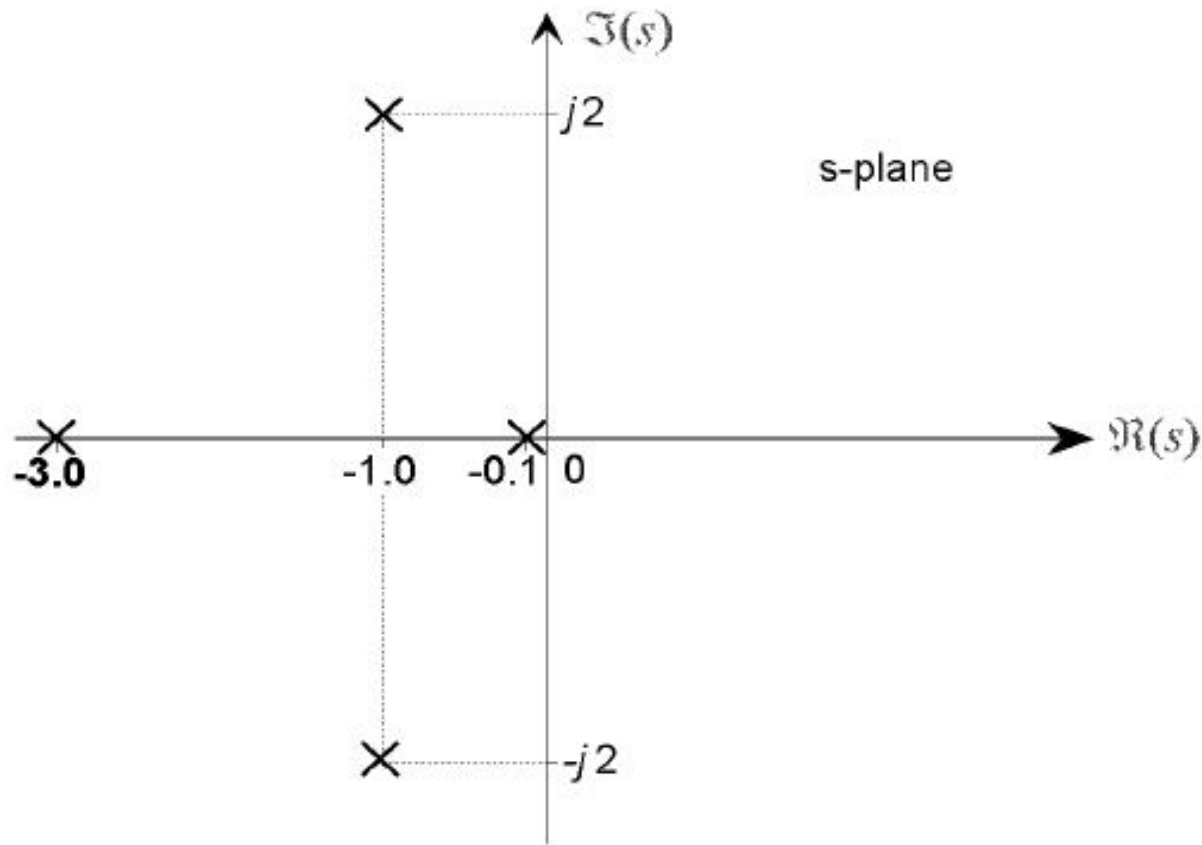
$$= 3 \frac{(s - (-2))}{(s - (-1))(s - (-1 - 2j))(s - (-1 + 2j))}$$





## Example

Comment on the expected form of the response of a system with a pole-zero plot shown in Fig.



The two real poles correspond to decaying exponential terms

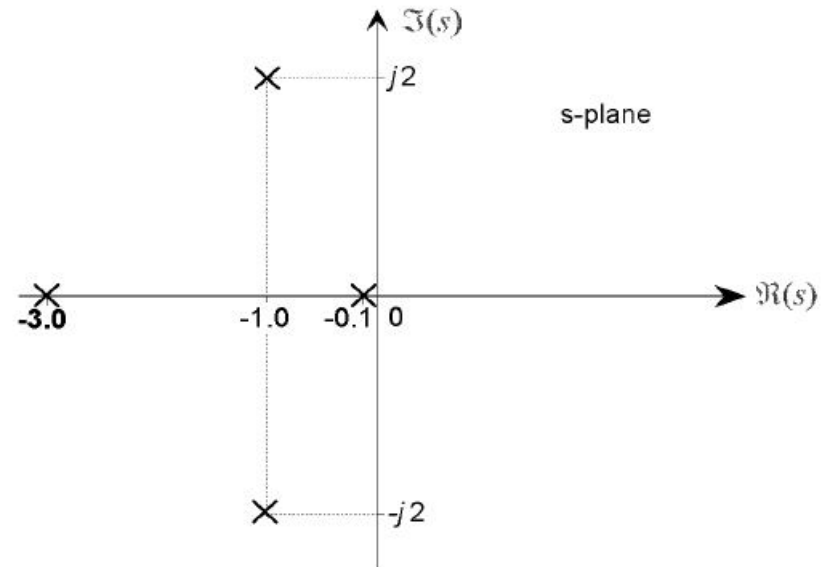
$$C_1 e^{-3t} \text{ and } C_2 e^{-0.1t}$$

and the complex conjugate pole pair introduce an oscillatory component

$$A e^{-t} \sin(2t + \phi)$$

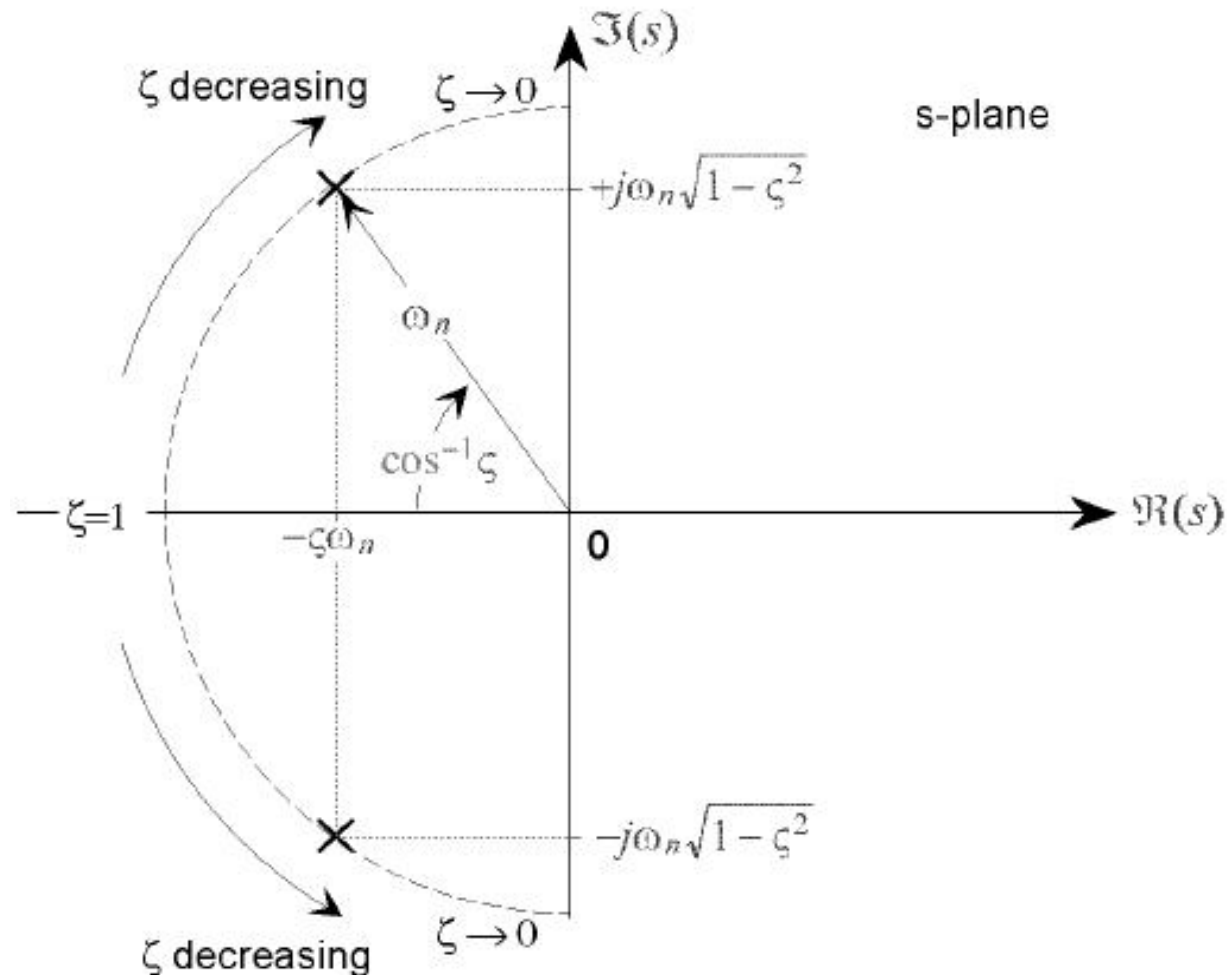
so that the total homogeneous response is

$$y_h(t) = C_1 e^{-3t} + C_2 e^{-0.1t} + A e^{-t} \sin(2t + \phi)$$

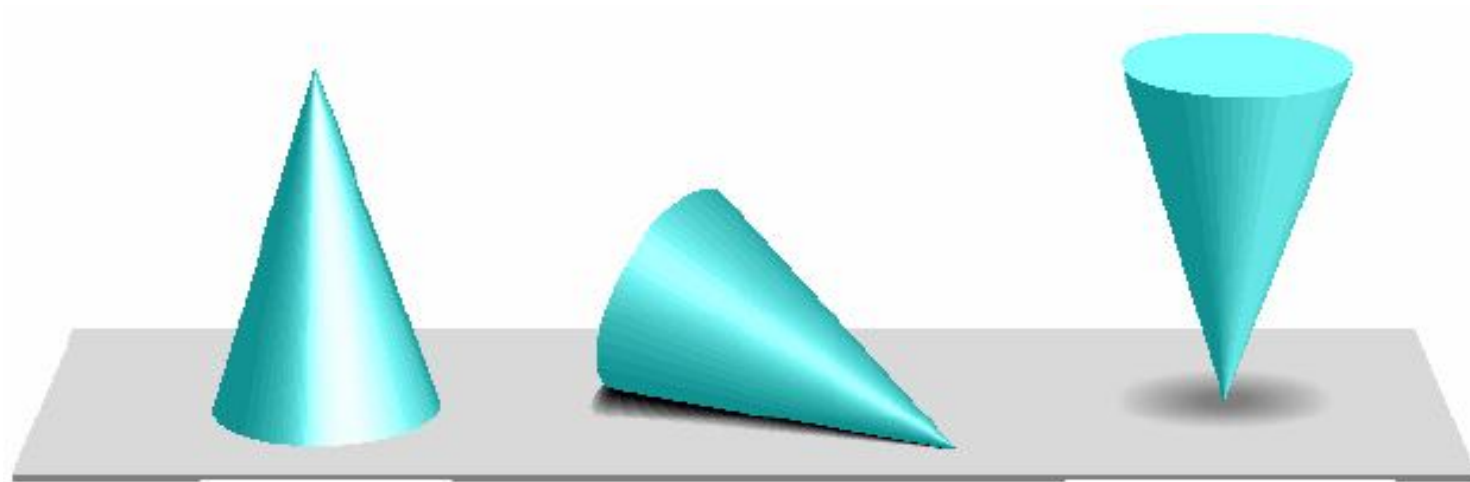




1. The term  $e^{-3t}$ , with a time-constant  $\tau$  of 0.33 seconds, decays rapidly and is significant only for approximately  $4\tau$  or 1.33seconds.
2. The response has an oscillatory component  $Ae^{-t} \sin(2t + \phi)$  defined by the complex conjugate pair, and exhibits some overshoot. The oscillation will decay in approximately four seconds because of the  $e^{-t}$  damping term.
3. The term  $e^{-0.1t}$ , with a time-constant  $\tau = 10$  seconds, persists for approximately 40 seconds. It is therefore the *dominant* long term response component in the overall homogeneous response.



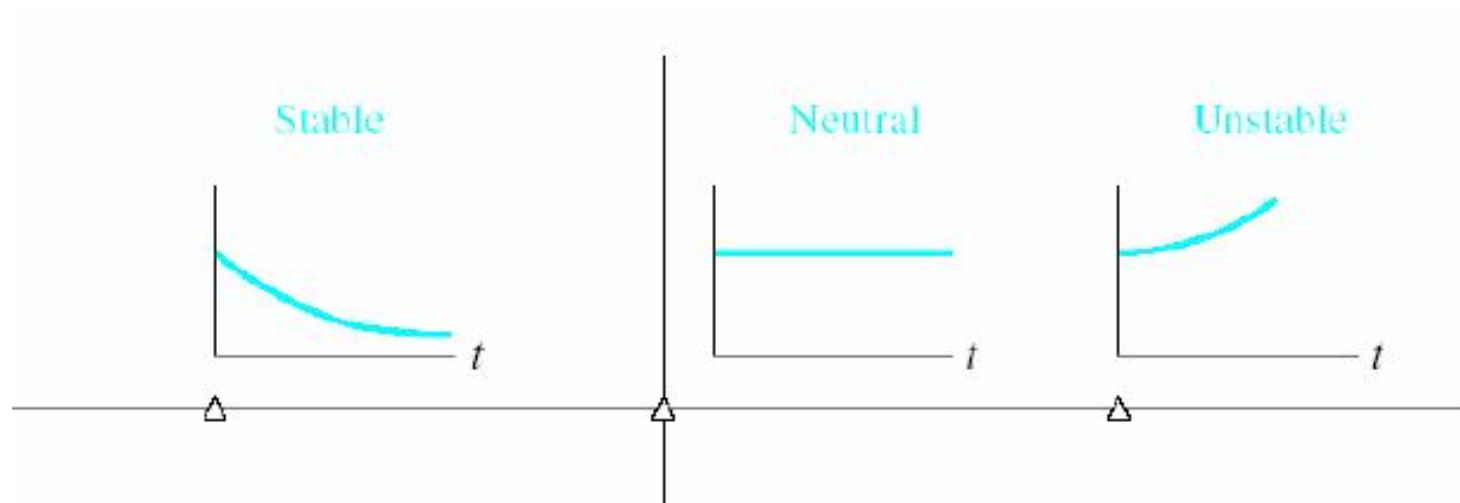
# The Concept of Stability



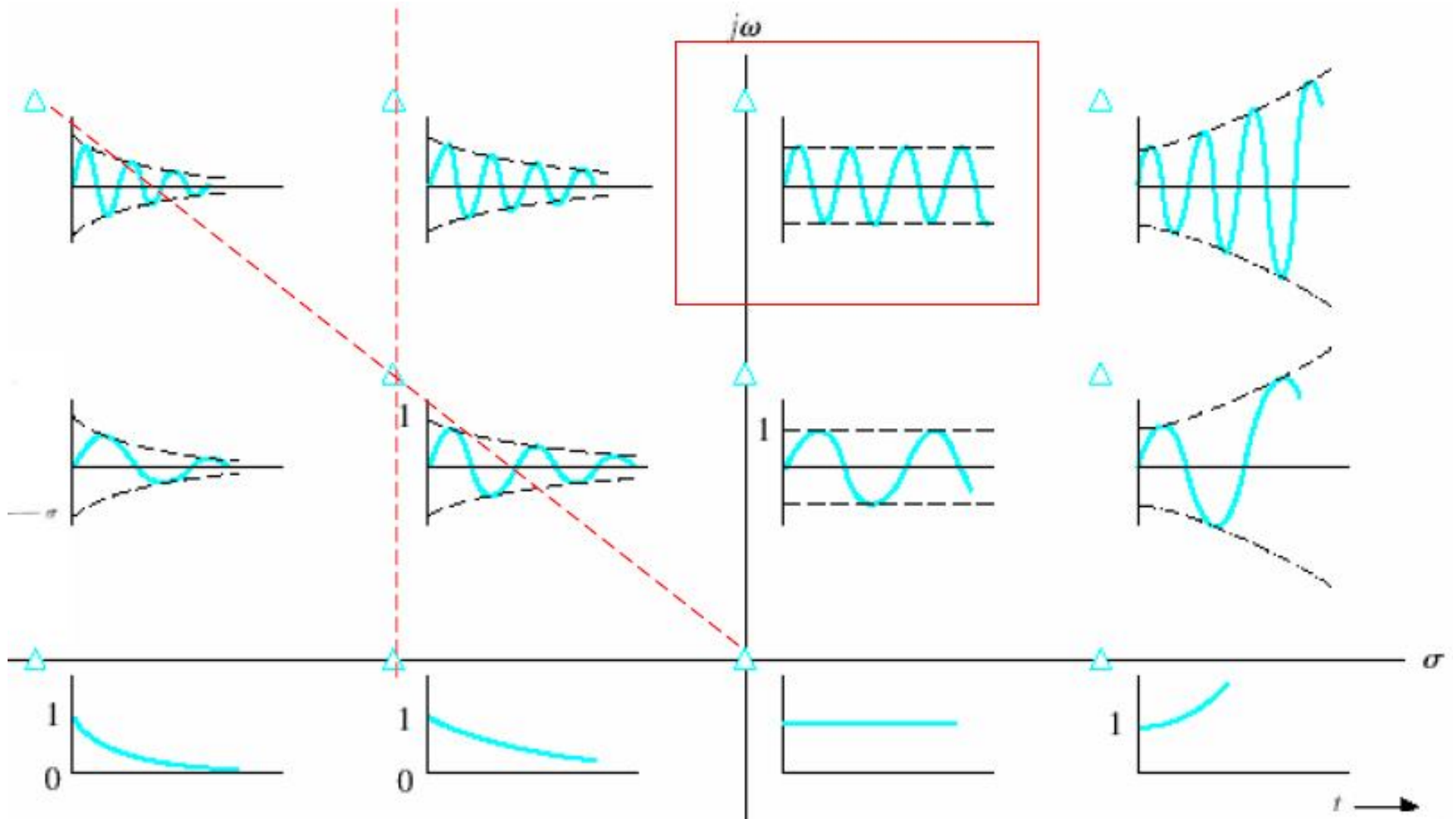
(a) Stable

(b) Neutral

(c) Unstable



# S-Plane and Transient Response



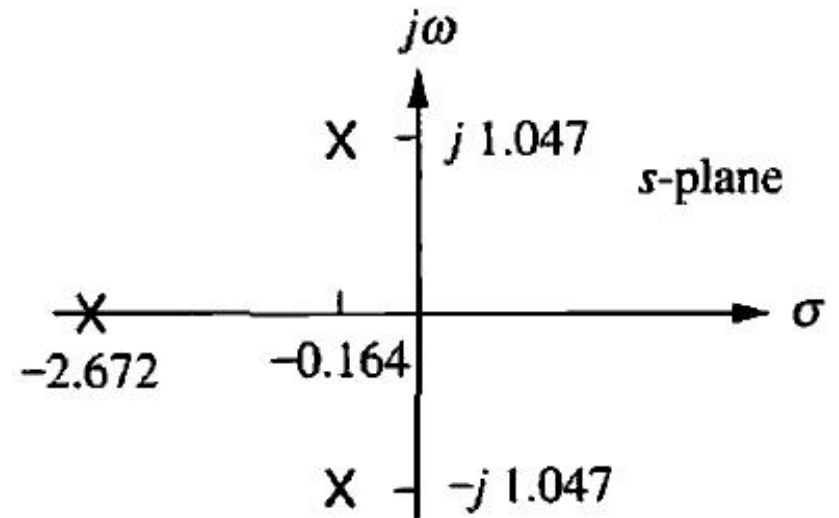
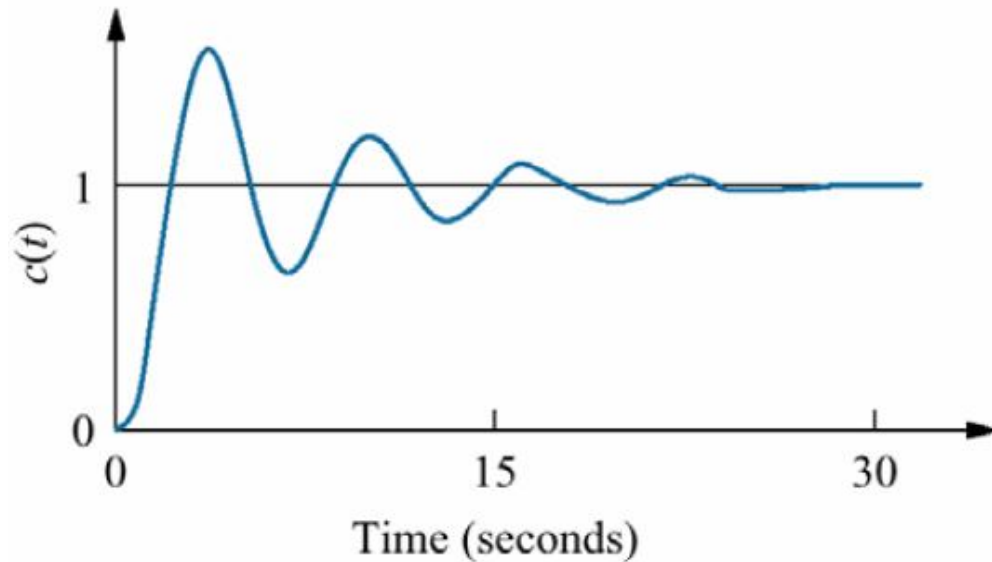
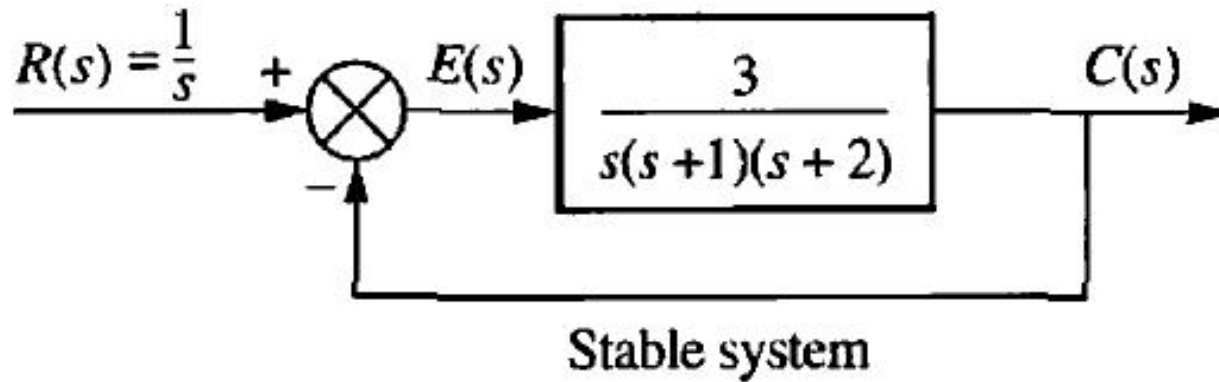
**Stable**

**Unstable**

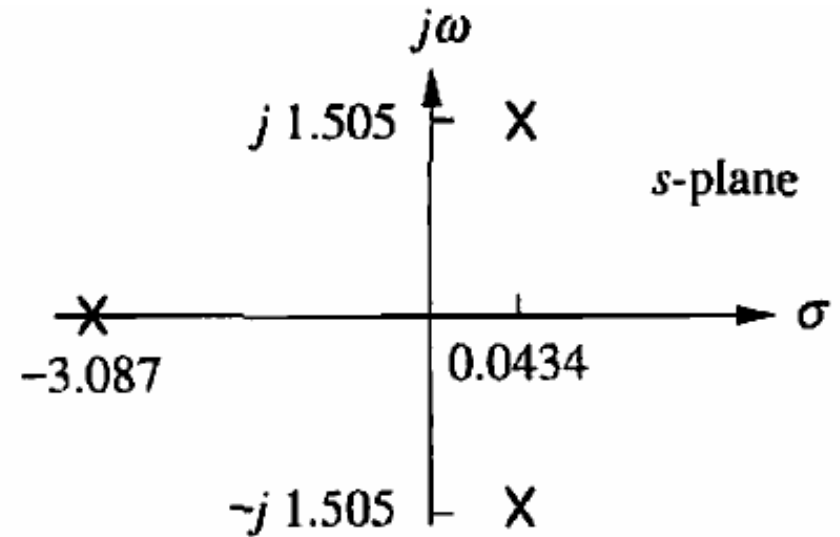
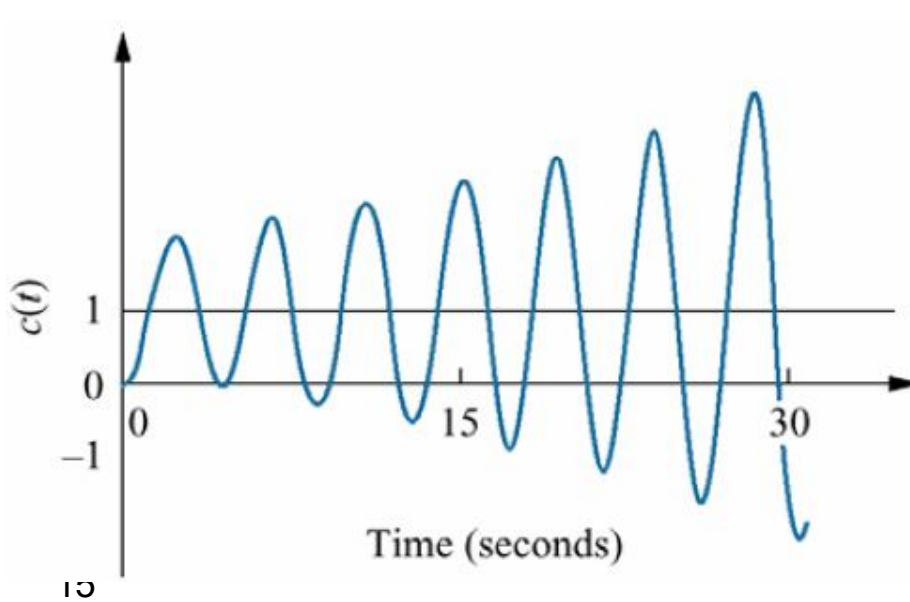
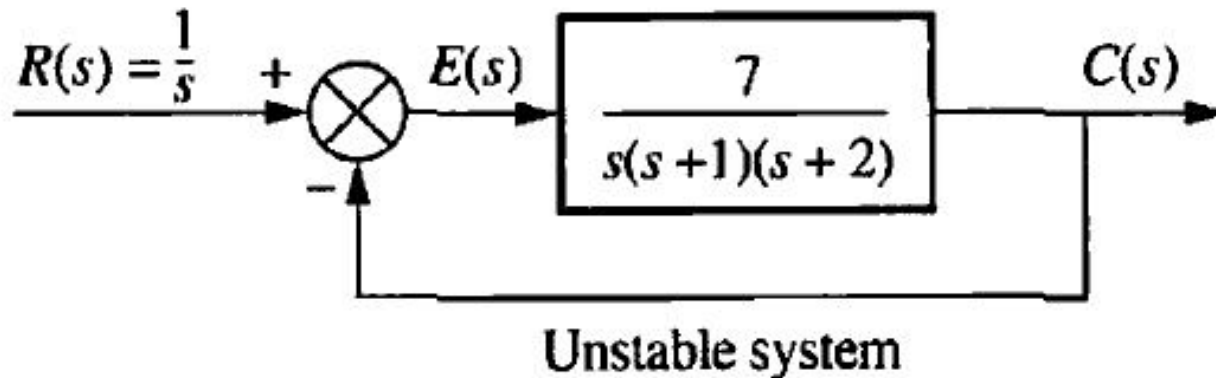
# Definitions of Stability

- **BIBO stability:** A system is said to be BIBO stable if for any bounded input, its output is also bounded.
- **Absolute stability:** Stable /Unstable
- **Relative stability:** Degree of stability (i.e.how far from instability)
- A **stable** linear system described by a T.F.is such that **all its poles have negative real parts**

# Feedback and Stability

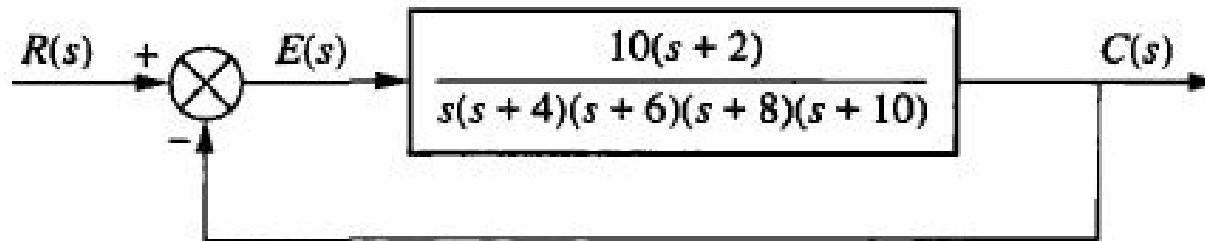


# Feedback and Stability

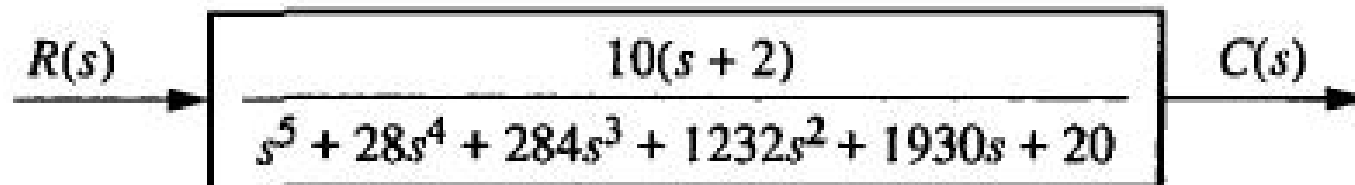


For a stable system, the roots of the characteristic equation must have negative real parts.

It is not always a simple matter to determine if a feedback control system is stable. Unfortunately, a typical problem that arises is shown



Although we know the poles of the forward transfer function, we do not know the location of the poles of the equivalent closed-loop system without factoring or otherwise solving for the roots.





# Routh-Hurwitz Criterion



Edward Routh, 1831 (Quebec)-  
1907 (Cambridge, England)



Adolf Hurwitz, 1859  
(Germany)-1919 (Zurich)

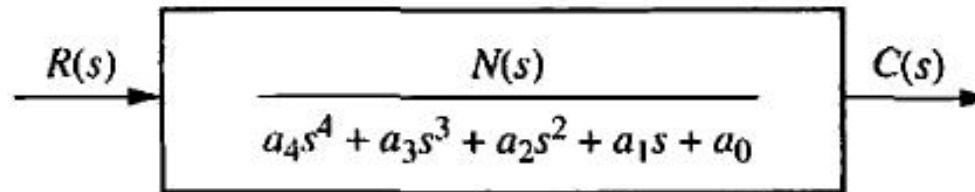
# Routh-Hurwitz Criterion

A method that yields stability information without the need to solve for the closed-loop system poles. Using this method, we can tell how many closed-loop system poles are in the left half-plane, in the right half-plane, and on the  $j\omega$ -axis. (**Notice that we say how many, not where.**) We can find the number of poles in each section of the  $s$ -plane, but we cannot find their coordinates. The method is called the **Routh-Hurwitz criterion** for stability

The method requires two steps:

- (1) Generate a data table called a *Routh table* and
- (2) interpret the Routh table to tell how many closed-loop system poles are in the left half-plane, the right half-plane, and on *the  $j\omega$ -axis*.

# Generating a Basic Routh Table



Since we are interested in the system poles, we focus our attention on the denominator. We first create the Routh table

$s^4$	$a_4$	$a_2$	$a_0$
$s^3$	$a_3$	$a_1$	$0$
$s^2$			
$s^1$			
$s^0$			

Begin by labeling the rows with powers of  $s$  from the highest power of the denominator of the closed-loop transfer function

$s^4$	$a_4$	$a_2$	$a_0$
$s^3$	$a_3$	$a_1$	0
$s^2$			
$s^1$			
$s^0$			

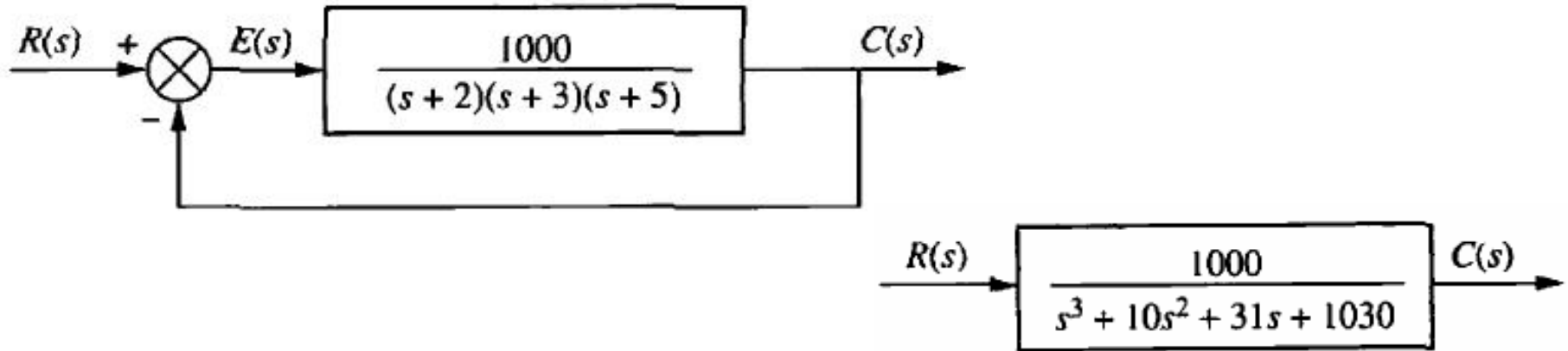
Next start with the coefficient of the highest power of  $s$  in the denominator and list, horizontally in the first row, every other coefficient.

In the second row, list horizontally, starting with the next highest power of  $s$ , every coefficient that was skipped in the first row.

**TABLE 6.2** Completed Routh table

$s^4$	$a_4$	$a_2$	$a_0$
$s^3$	$a_3$	$a_1$	0
$s^2$	$-\frac{\begin{vmatrix} a_4 & a_2 \\ a_3 & a_1 \end{vmatrix}}{a_3} = b_1$	$-\frac{\begin{vmatrix} a_4 & a_0 \\ a_3 & 0 \end{vmatrix}}{a_3} = b_2$	$-\frac{\begin{vmatrix} a_4 & 0 \\ a_3 & 0 \end{vmatrix}}{a_3} = 0$
$s^1$	$-\frac{\begin{vmatrix} a_3 & a_1 \\ b_1 & b_2 \end{vmatrix}}{b_1} = c_1$	$-\frac{\begin{vmatrix} a_3 & 0 \\ b_1 & 0 \end{vmatrix}}{b_1} = 0$	$-\frac{\begin{vmatrix} a_3 & 0 \\ b_1 & 0 \end{vmatrix}}{b_1} = 0$
$s^0$	$-\frac{\begin{vmatrix} b_1 & b_2 \\ c_1 & 0 \end{vmatrix}}{c_1} = d_1$	$-\frac{\begin{vmatrix} b_1 & 0 \\ c_1 & 0 \end{vmatrix}}{c_1} = 0$	$-\frac{\begin{vmatrix} b_1 & 0 \\ c_1 & 0 \end{vmatrix}}{c_1} = 0$

## Example 1



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$s^3$	1	31	0
$s^2$	<del>10</del> 1	<del>1030</del> 103	0
$s^1$	$-\frac{\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 31 \\ 1 & 103 \end{vmatrix}}{1} = -72$	$-\frac{\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix}}{1} = 0$	$-\frac{\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{vmatrix}}{1} = 0$
$s^0$	$-\frac{\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 103 \\ -72 & 0 \end{vmatrix}}{-72} = 103$	$-\frac{\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -72 & 0 \end{vmatrix}}{-72} = 0$	$-\frac{\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -72 & 0 \end{vmatrix}}{-72} = 0$

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$s^3$	1	31	0
$s^2$	<del>10</del> 1	<del>1030</del> 103	0
$s^1$	$\frac{-\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 31 \\ 1 & 103 \end{vmatrix}}{1} = -72$	$\frac{-\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix}}{1} = 0$	$\frac{-\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{vmatrix}}{1} = 0$
$s^0$	$\frac{-\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 103 \\ -72 & 0 \end{vmatrix}}{-72} = 103$	$\frac{-\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -72 & 0 \end{vmatrix}}{-72} = 0$	$\frac{-\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -72 & 0 \end{vmatrix}}{-72} = 0$

If the closed-loop transfer function has all poles in the left half of the s-plane, the system is stable. Thus, a system is stable if there are no sign changes in the first column of the Routh table.

## Example 2

$$P(s) = 3s^7 + 9s^6 + 6s^5 + 4s^4 + 7s^3 + 8s^2 + 2s + 6$$



# Routh-Hurwitz Criterion: Special Cases

## Zero Only in the First Column

If the first element of a row is zero, division by zero would be required to form the next row. To avoid this phenomenon, an epsilon,  $\epsilon$ , is assigned to replace the zero in the first column. The value  $\epsilon$  is then allowed to approach zero from either the positive or the negative side, after which the signs of the entries in the first column can be determined.

# Stability via Epsilon Method

$$T(s) = \frac{10}{s^5 + 2s^4 + 3s^3 + 6s^2 + 5s + 3}$$

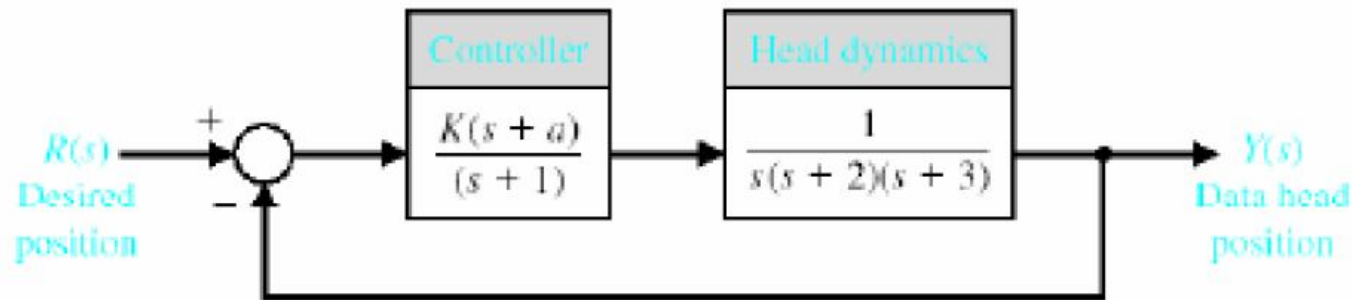
				$\epsilon = +$	$\epsilon = -$
$s^5$	1	3	5	+	+
$s^4$	2	6	3	+	+
$s^3$	$\theta \epsilon$	$\frac{7}{2}$	0	+	-
$s^2$	$\frac{6\epsilon - 7}{\epsilon}$	3	0	-	+
$s^1$	$\frac{42\epsilon - 49 - 6\epsilon^2}{12\epsilon - 14}$	0	0	+	+
$s^0$	3	0	0	+	+

$$D(s) = s^3 + 3s^2 + 3s + (1 + k)$$

$s^3$	1	3
$s^2$	3	$1 + k$
$s^1$	$b_1 = (8 - k) / 3$	
$s^0$	$c_1 = 1 + k$	

For Stable system

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \frac{8 - k}{3} > 0 \Rightarrow 8 > k \\ 1 + k > 0 \Rightarrow k > -1 \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow 8 > k > -1$$



$$1 + GC(s) = 1 + \frac{K(s+a)}{s(s+1)(s+2)(s+3)} = 0$$

$$\begin{array}{l}
 s^4 \left| \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & 11 & Ka \\
 s^3 & 6 & (K+6) \end{array} \right.
 \end{array}
 \quad \text{where } b_3 = \frac{60-K}{6} \quad \text{and } c_3 = \frac{b_3(K+6) - 6Ka}{b_3}$$

$$b_3 > 0 \Rightarrow K < 60$$

$$(60-K)(K+6) - 36Ka > 0 \Rightarrow a < \frac{(60-K)(K+6)}{36K}$$

$$\text{With } K = 40, a < 0.639$$