# Lecture 1 Root Locus

- What is Root-Locus? : A graphical representation of closed loop poles as a system parameter varied.
- Based on Root-Locus graph we can choose the parameter for stability and the desired transient response.

# How does the Root-Locus graph look-like?

#### - For the system



The location of poles as a function of  $K\ {\rm can}\ {\rm be}\ {\rm calculated}\ {\rm as}$ 

К	Pole 1	Pole 2	
0	-10	0	
5	-9.47	-0.53	
10	-8.87	-1.13	
15	-8.16	-1.84	
20	-7.24	-2.76	
25	-5	-5	
30	-5 + j2.24	-5 - j2.24	
35	-5 + j3.16	-5 - j3.16	
40	-5 + j3.87	-5 - j3.87	
45	-5 + j4.47	-5 - j4.47	
50	-5 + j5	-5 - j5	

#### **Our First Root Locus**

#### The corresponding root locus can be drawn



## **Drawing the Root Locus**

- How do we draw root locus
  - for more complex systems,
  - and without calculating poles.
- We exploit the properties of Root-Locus to do a rough sketch.
- Therefore, lets explore the properties of root locus.

## **Properties of Root Locus**

#### For the closed loop system



• The transfer function is

$$T(s) = \frac{KG(s)}{1 + KG(s)H(s)}$$

• For a given K,  $s^*$  is a pole if  $1 + KG(s^*)H(s^*) = 0$ 

which is equivalent to

$$\begin{split} &- |KG(s^*)H(s^*)| = 1, \\ &- \angle KG(s^*)H(s^*) = (2m+1)\pi \end{split}$$

Since K is real and positive these conditions would be equivalent to

$$-\angle G(s^*)H(s^*) = (2m+1)\pi -K = \frac{1}{|G(s^*)H(s^*)|}$$

# Number of Branches and Symmetry

• The number of branches of the root locus equals the number of closed loop poles

![](_page_5_Figure_3.jpeg)

 Since the poles appear as complex conjugate pairs, root locus is symmetric about real axis

## **Real Axis Segments**

![](_page_6_Figure_2.jpeg)

- Which parts of real line will be a part of root locus?
- Remember the angle condition  $\angle G(\sigma)H(\sigma) = (2m+1)\pi$

$$\angle G(\sigma)H(\sigma) = \sum \angle (\sigma - z_i) - \sum \angle (\sigma - p_i)$$

- The angle contribution of off-real axis poles and zeros is zero. (Because they appear in complex pairs).
- What matters is the the real axis poles and zeros.
- Rule: If the total number of open loop poles and zeros on the right of a point is odd then that point is part of root-locus.

#### **Real Axis Segments: Examples**

• Example 1

1

![](_page_7_Figure_3.jpeg)

The real axis segments: [-2, -1] and [-4, -3]• Example 2

![](_page_7_Figure_5.jpeg)

The real axis segments: [-2, -1] and [3, 5]

### **Start and End Points**

• Lets write

$$H(s) = \frac{N_H(s)}{D_H(s)} \qquad \qquad G(s) = \frac{N_G(s)}{D_G(s)}$$

Therefore

$$T(s) = \frac{KG(s)}{1 + KG(s)H(s)} = \frac{KN_G(s)D_H(s)}{D_G(s)D_H(s) + KN_G(s)N_H(s)}$$

As a result,

- when K is close to zero

$$T(s) \approx \frac{KN_G(s)D_H(s)}{D_G(s)D_H(s)}$$

i.e. the closed loop poles are essentially the the poles of  ${\cal G}(s){\cal H}(s).$ 

- when K is large

$$T(s) \approx \frac{KN_G(s)D_H(s)}{KN_G(s)N_H(s)}$$

i.e. the closed loop poles are essentially the zeros of G(s)H(s).

**Conclusion**: The root locus begins at the finite and infinite poles of G(s)H(s) and ends at the finite and infinite zeros of G(s)H(s).

## **Behavior** at **Infinity**

• What if the number of (finite) open loop poles are more than (finite) open loop zeros, e.g.,

$$KG(s)H(s) = \frac{K}{s(s+1)(s+2)}$$

– The poles are at 0,-1,-2

- The zeros are at  $s \to \infty$ .
- $\bullet$  Let s approach to  $\infty$  then

$$KG(s)H(s) \approx \frac{K}{s^3}$$

- Skipping the details, the asymptotes are calculated using formulas:
  - The real axis intercept: The point where the asymptotes merge on the real axis

$$\sigma_a = \frac{\Sigma finite poles - \Sigma finite zeros}{\# finite poles - \# finite zeros}$$

- The angles with real line:

$$\theta_a = \frac{(2m+1)\pi}{\#finitepoles - \#finitezeros}$$

## **Asymptotes: Example**

• Consider the unity feedback system

![](_page_10_Figure_3.jpeg)

• The real axis intercept for the asymptotes:

$$\sigma_a = \frac{(-1-2-4) - (-3)}{4-1} = -\frac{4}{3}$$

• The angles

$$\theta_a = \frac{(2m+1)\pi}{3}$$

which yields  $\frac{\pi}{3}$ ,  $\pi$  and  $\frac{5\pi}{3}$ 

![](_page_10_Figure_9.jpeg)

## **Break-away and Break-in Points**

![](_page_11_Figure_2.jpeg)

- Break-away point: The point where root-locus leaves the real axis.
- Break-in point: The point where root locus enters the real axis.
- $\bullet$  Variation of K as a function of  $\sigma$

![](_page_12_Figure_1.jpeg)

 Note that the curves have their local maximum and minimum points at break-away and break-in points. So the derivative of

$$K = -\frac{1}{G(\sigma)H(\sigma)}$$

should be equal to zero at break-away and break-in points.

#### Break-away and Break-in Points: Example

Find the break-away and break-in point of the following figure

![](_page_13_Figure_3.jpeg)

Solution: From the figure

$$K(s)H(s) = \frac{K(s-3)(s-5)}{(s+1)(s+2)} = \frac{K(s^2 - 8s + 15)}{s^2 + 3s + 1}$$

On the real axis

$$K = -\frac{\sigma^2 + 3\sigma + 2}{\sigma^2 - 8\sigma + 15}$$

Differentiating K with respect to  $\sigma$  and equating to

zero

$$\frac{dK}{d\sigma} = \frac{11\sigma^2 - 26\sigma - 61}{(\sigma^2 - 8\sigma + 15)^2} = 0$$

which is achieved for  $\sigma_1 = -1.45$  and  $\sigma_2 = 3.82$ .

 it can be shown that a break-away or break-in point satisfy

$$\Sigma \frac{1}{\sigma + z_i} = \Sigma \frac{1}{\sigma + p_i}$$

• Applying this formula to our problem, we obtain

$$\frac{1}{\sigma - 3} + \frac{1}{\sigma - 5} = \frac{1}{\sigma + 1} + \frac{1}{\sigma + 2}$$

which would yield

$$11\sigma^2 - 26\sigma - 61 = 0$$

(same as what we obtained before)

# $j\omega$ Axis Crossings

- Use Routh-Hurwitz to find  $j\omega$  axis crossings.
- $\bullet$  When we have  $j\omega$  axis crossings, the Routh-table has all zeros at a row.
- Find the K value for which a row of zeros is achieved in the Routh-table.

Example: Consider

$$T(s) = \frac{K(s+3)}{s^4 + 7s^3 + 14s^2 + (8+K)s + 3K}$$

The Routh table

<i>s</i> <sup>4</sup>	1	14	3 <i>K</i>
s <sup>3</sup>	7	8 + K	
$s^2$	90 - K	21 <i>K</i>	
$s^1$	$\frac{-K^2 - 65K + 720}{90 - K}$		
$s^0$	21 <i>K</i>		

The row  $s^1$  is zero for K = 9.65. For this K, the previous row polynomial is

$$(90 - K)s^2 + 21K = 80.35s^2 + 202.7 = 0$$

whose roots are  $s = \pm j1.59$ .

### **Angles of Departure and Arrival**

• Angles of Departure from Open Loop Poles

![](_page_16_Figure_3.jpeg)

$$\theta_1 = \theta_2 + \theta_3 - \theta_4 - \theta_5 + \theta_6 - (2k+1)180^{\circ}$$

#### • Angles of Departure form Open Loop Zeros

![](_page_17_Figure_2.jpeg)

$$\theta_2 = \theta_1 - \theta_3 + \theta_4 + \theta_5 - \theta_6 + (2k+1)180^o$$

## **Angle of Departure: Example**

#### Consider the system

![](_page_18_Figure_3.jpeg)

The root locus for this system

![](_page_18_Figure_5.jpeg)

from this figure

$$-\theta_1 - \theta_2 + \theta_3 - \theta_4 = -\theta_1 - 90^o + \arctan(\frac{1}{1}) - \arctan(\frac{1}{2}) = 180^o$$
  
from which we obtain  $\theta_1 = -108.4^o$ .

## **Root Locus Example**

Problem: Sketch the Root-Locus of the system

![](_page_19_Figure_3.jpeg)

- The number of branches: 2
- Open Loop Poles: -2, -4 (starting points)
- Open Loop Zeros: 2 + j4, 2 j4 (ending points)
- Real Axis segments: [-4, -2].
- Number of finite poles = Number of Finite Zeros  $\Rightarrow$  No Asymptotes
- Break-away point: Take the derivative of  $K = -\frac{1}{\sigma}$

$$\frac{dK}{d\sigma} = -\frac{d}{d\sigma} \frac{(\sigma+2)(\sigma+4)}{\sigma^2 - 4\sigma + 20} = \frac{-10s^2 + 24s + 152}{(\sigma^2 - 4\sigma + 20)^2}$$

equating to zero we obtain  $\sigma_b = -2.87$  and K = 0.0248.

- $j\omega$  axis crossing occurs for K = 1.5 and at  $\pm j3.9$ .
- The root locus crosses  $\zeta=0.45$  line for K=0.417 at  $3.4 \angle 116.7^o$

#### The resulting Root Locus:

![](_page_20_Figure_2.jpeg)

# **Root Locus Example 2**

**Problem:** Sketch the Root-Locus of the third order system

![](_page_21_Figure_3.jpeg)

- Number of branches: 3
- Open Loop Poles: 0, -1 10 (Starting points)
- Open Loop Zero: -1.5 (One of the end points)
- Real Axis Segments: [-1, 0] and [-10 1.5]
- Asymptotes:  $\sigma_a = \frac{-11 (-1.5)}{3 1} = -4.75$  and  $\theta_a = \frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{3\pi}{2}$ .
- Break-in, away points: The derivative of  $K = -\frac{1}{G(\sigma)}$  yields

$$\frac{2\sigma^3 + 15.5\sigma^2 + 33\sigma + 15}{()^2}$$

equating to zero we obtain

- $-\sigma_1 = -0.62$  with gain K = 2.511 (Break-away point)
- $-\sigma_2 = -4.4$  with gain K = 28.89 (Break-away point)

 $-\sigma_3 = -2.8$  with gain K = 27.91 (Break-in point)

#### The resulting root locus

![](_page_22_Figure_3.jpeg)