Analyzing Feedback Systems with Signal-Flow Graphs

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PURPOSE

- Signal flow graphs facilitate finding transfer functions of linear systems
- They aid with an intuitive understanding
- Once the flow graph is drawn Mason's gain formula allows writing the transfer function by inspection of the graph
- They don't aid in analyzing the effects of nonlinearities or initial conditions

BLOCK DIAGRAM



CURRENT AMPLIFIER



SIGNAL-FLOW GRAPHS

Consists of nodes and branches:

- Signals flow along branches in direction of arrows
- Node signal is sum of all signals entering
- Signals at node drive all outgoing branches
- The signal at the output of a branch is the product of the signal on the node driving it times the transmittance of the branch

MASON'S GAIN FORMULA

- $G = \frac{\sum Gk}{\Delta} \frac{\Delta k}{\Delta}$
- $\Delta = 1 \sum L1 + \sum L2 \cdots$
- Gk = gain of kth forward path
- $\Delta k = \text{Value of } \Delta$ not touching kth forward path

INVERTING OP-AMP



SIGNAL-FLOW GRAPH



INVERTING AMPLIFIER TRANSFER FUNCTION

•
$$\frac{e2}{e1} = \frac{-KR2/(R1+R2)}{1+KR1/(R1+R2)}$$

•
$$\frac{e2}{e1} = -\frac{R2}{R1}$$

INVERTING AMPLIFIER



INVERTING AMPLIFIER TRANSFER FUNCTION

•
$$\frac{eo}{ei} = \frac{K(\frac{R1}{R1-R2}-1)}{1+\frac{R1K}{R1+R2}} = \frac{R2/(R1+R2)}{R1/(R1+R2)} = \frac{R2}{R1}$$

INTEGRATER

- {Int}f(t)dt <--->1/Ts
- Substitute z=1/sc for R2
- G(s) = 1/R1cs = 1/Ts

NONINVERTING OP-AMP



FLOW GRAPH NONINVERTING OP-AMP



NONINVERTING AMPLIFIER TRANSFER FUNCTION

•
$$\frac{eo}{ei} = \frac{K}{1 + KR1/(R1 + R2)} = 1 + \frac{R2}{R1}$$

LEAD-LAG NETWORK



FLOW GRAPH NONINVERTING AMPLIFIERS



TRANSFER FUNCTION

•
$$\frac{eo}{ei} = \frac{Tfwd(-K)}{1-KTfbk} = \frac{-Tfwd}{Tfbk}$$

• Let Z4 = R4 + 1/sc

•
$$\frac{eo}{ei} = \frac{R2 + R3Z4/(R3 + Z4)}{R1Z4/(R3 + Z4)} = \frac{R2 + R3}{R1}$$
 For Z4 ->∞
• $\frac{eo}{ei} = \frac{\frac{R2R3}{R2 + R3} + Z4}{Z4} \frac{R2 + R3}{R1}$
eo $\frac{(R2R3)}{R2 + R3} + R4 + 1/sc R2 + R3$ $sc \left[\frac{R2R3}{R2 + R3} + R4\right] + 1R2 + R3$

•
$$\frac{1}{ei} = \frac{R2+R3}{R4+1/sc}$$
 $\frac{1}{R1} = \frac{1R2+R3}{scR4+1}$ $\frac{1}{R1}$

GENERAL FORM OF LEAD-LAG EQUATION

•
$$A\frac{(STld+1)}{(STlg+1)}$$

• General form networks:

 $A \prod (Complex \ Conjugate \ roots) \prod (sTi + 1)$

 \prod (*Complex Conjugate roots*) \prod (*sTk* + 1)

MOST NETWORK TRANSFER FUNCTIONS

 $\mathsf{G}(\mathsf{S}) = \mathsf{A}_{\overline{\prod(STK+1)}}^{\underline{\prod(STi+1)}}$

GAIN THAT IS A FUNCTION OF FREQUENCY ALSO IMPLIES PHASE THAT IS A FUNCTION OF FREQUENCY

CONTINUED

- Examine term (ST +1) as S -> $j\omega$
- Term becomes ($j\omega T + 1$)
- At j ω T equal 1 amplitude is $\sqrt{2}$ and phase is 45 degrees
- When this term is in numerator phase positive
- When in denominator phase is negative

GRAPH db VERSUS LOG OF FREQUENCY

• Assymptotic gain versus frequency



OP-AMP LOADED WITH CABLE CAPACITANCE







OPEN LOOP GAIN

- $G(s)_{oL} = -kG_a(s) \bullet Tfbk$
- TYPICAL:
- $G_a(s) = \frac{1}{(sTd+1) \prod (sTi+1)}$ the terms $\prod (sTi+1)$ are above gain equals 1
- Tfbk = $\frac{\frac{R1}{(R1+R2+Ra)}}{\frac{sCc(R1+R2)Ra}{(Ra+R1+R2)}+1}$
- (R2+R1) >> Ra
- Tfbk = $\frac{R1/(R1+R2)}{(sCcRa+1)}$

STABILITY

 At the frequency where Tfbk•K•Ga(s), the open loop gain, equals 1 the phase should be significantly positive (say 45 degrees). If it is negative oscillation grows. Much below 45 degrees circuit rings on noise.

OPEN LOOP GAIN (CONT)

•
$$G(S) = \frac{\frac{R1}{R1+R2}}{(sCcRa+1)} \cdot \frac{K}{(sTd+1)\prod(sTi+1)}$$

- The (sTi + 1) terms add negative phase shift and limit maximum amplifier bandwidth
- CcRa is time constant caused by cable capacitance
- If it occurs before gain falls to one it adds between 45 and 90 degrees additional phase shift causing the amplifier to become unstable