
Lecture 19: Stability

ECE 481: Power Electronics

Prof. Daniel Costinett

Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

University of Tennessee Knoxville

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Announcements

- HW #8 due Tuesday, Nov 12
- Midterm Exam #2 posted on Tuesday
- Final Exam Schedule

Solution of block diagram

Manipulate block diagram to solve for $\hat{v}(s)$. Result is

$$\hat{v} = \hat{v}_{ref} \frac{G_c G_{vd} / V_M}{1 + H G_c G_{vd} / V_M} + \hat{v}_g \frac{G_{vg}}{1 + H G_c G_{vd} / V_M} - \hat{i}_{load} \frac{Z_{out}}{1 + H G_c G_{vd} / V_M}$$

which is of the form

→
$$\hat{v} = \hat{v}_{ref} \frac{1}{H} \frac{T}{1+T} + \hat{v}_g \frac{G_{vg}}{1+T} - \hat{i}_{load} \frac{Z_{out}}{1+T}$$

@ f such that T is "very large"

with $T(s) = H(s) G_c(s) G_{vd}(s) / V_M = \text{"loop gain"}$

→ $\hat{v} \approx \hat{v}_{ref} \frac{1}{H}$

Loop gain $T(s)$ = products of the gains around the negative feedback loop.

@ f such that $T \Rightarrow$ small } No attenuation of disturbances
} Poor tracking of reference

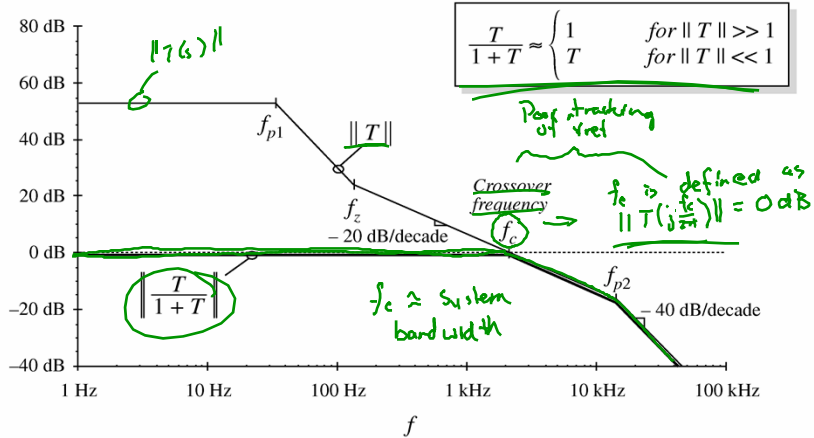
$\hat{v} = \hat{v}_{ref} \frac{1}{H} + \hat{v}_g \frac{G_{vg}}{1+T} - \hat{i}_{load} \frac{Z_{out}}{1+T}$
T is small

Approximating $1/(1+T)$ and $T/(1+T)$

$$\frac{T}{1+T} \approx \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } \|T\| \gg 1 \\ T & \text{for } \|T\| \ll 1 \end{cases}$$

$$\frac{1}{1+T(s)} \approx \begin{cases} \frac{1}{T(s)} & \text{for } \|T\| \gg 1 \\ 1 & \text{for } \|T\| \ll 1 \end{cases}$$

$\frac{\hat{V}}{\hat{V}_{ref}} = \frac{1}{H} \frac{T}{1+T}$
Ideal Gain
 $H=1$
Example: construction of $T/(1+T)$



Example: analytical expressions for approximate reference to output transfer function

At frequencies sufficiently less than the crossover frequency, the loop gain $T(s)$ has large magnitude. The transfer function from the reference to the output becomes

$$\frac{\hat{v}(s)}{\hat{v}_{ref}(s)} = \frac{1}{H(s)} \frac{T(s)}{1+T(s)} \approx \frac{1}{H(s)}$$

This is the desired behavior: the output follows the reference according to the ideal gain $1/H(s)$. The feedback loop works well at frequencies where the loop gain $T(s)$ has large magnitude.

At frequencies above the crossover frequency, $\|T\| < 1$. The quantity $T/(1+T)$ then has magnitude approximately equal to 1, and we obtain

$$\frac{\hat{v}(s)}{\hat{v}_{ref}(s)} = \frac{1}{H(s)} \frac{T(s)}{1+T(s)} \approx \frac{T(s)}{H(s)} = \frac{G_c(s)G_{vd}(s)}{V_M}$$

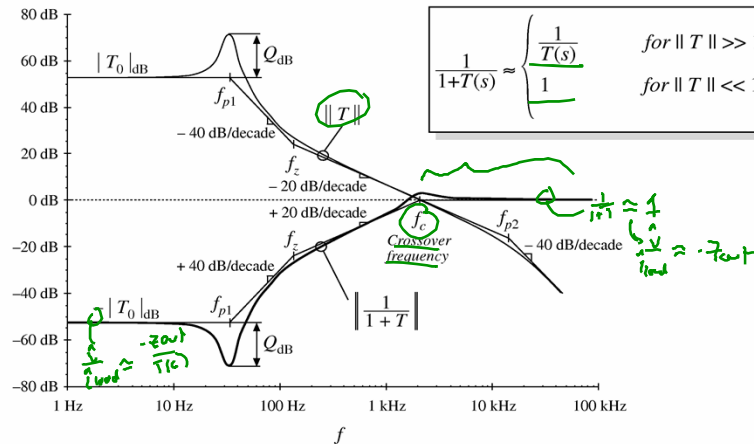
This coincides with the open-loop transfer function from the reference to the output. At frequencies where $\|T\| < 1$, the loop has essentially no effect on the transfer function from the reference to the output.

$$\frac{V}{V_{load}} = -Z_{out} \frac{1}{1+T}$$

if $Z_{out} = 1$



Same example: construction of $1/(1+T)$



Interpretation: how the loop rejects disturbances

Below the crossover frequency: $f < f_c$
and $\|T\| > 1$

Then $1/(1+T) \approx 1/T$, and
disturbances are reduced in
magnitude by $1/\|T\|$

$$\frac{1}{1+T(s)} \approx \begin{cases} \frac{1}{T(s)} & \text{for } \|T\| \gg 1 \\ 1 & \text{for } \|T\| \ll 1 \end{cases}$$

Above the crossover frequency: $f > f_c$
and $\|T\| < 1$

Then $1/(1+T) \approx 1$, and the
feedback loop has essentially
no effect on disturbances

Terminology: open-loop vs. closed-loop

Original transfer functions, before introduction of feedback ("open-loop transfer functions"):

$$\rightarrow G_{vd}(s) \quad G_{vg}(s) \quad Z_{out}(s) \rightarrow \text{open loop}$$

Upon introduction of feedback, these transfer functions become ("closed-loop transfer functions"):

$$\frac{1}{H(s)} \frac{T(s)}{1+T(s)} \quad \frac{G_{vg}(s)}{1+T(s)} \quad \frac{Z_{out}(s)}{1+T(s)} \rightarrow \text{closed loop}$$

The loop gain:

$$T(s) \rightarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{Designing with } G_c(s) \\ f_c, \gamma_m \text{ defined for } T(s) \end{array}$$

Determination of stability directly from $T(s)$

- Nyquist stability theorem: general result.
- A special case of the Nyquist stability theorem: the phase margin test

Allows determination of closed-loop stability (i.e., whether $1/(1+T(s))$ contains RHP poles) directly from the magnitude and phase of $T(s)$.

A good design tool: yields insight into how $T(s)$ should be shaped, to obtain good performance in transfer functions containing $1/(1+T(s))$ terms.

- (1) f_c ($\|T(j\omega_c)\| = 0 \text{ dB}$) is uniquely defined
- (2) $T(s)$ has no RHP poles

Def. mod for $T(s)$

9.4.1. The phase margin test

A test on $T(s)$, to determine whether $1/(1+T(s))$ contains RHP poles.

The crossover frequency f_c is defined as the frequency where

$$\|T(j2\pi f_c)\| = 1 \Rightarrow 0\text{dB}$$

The phase margin φ_m is determined from the phase of $T(s)$ at f_c , as follows:

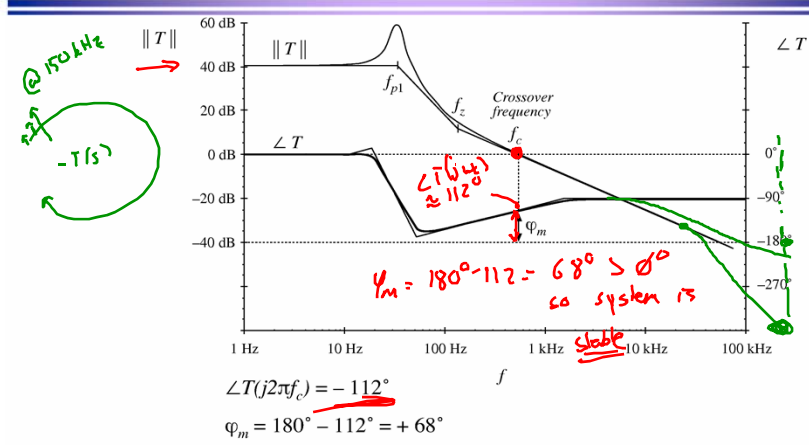
$$\varphi_m = 180^\circ + \angle T(j2\pi f_c)$$

If there is exactly one crossover frequency, and if $T(s)$ contains no RHP poles, then

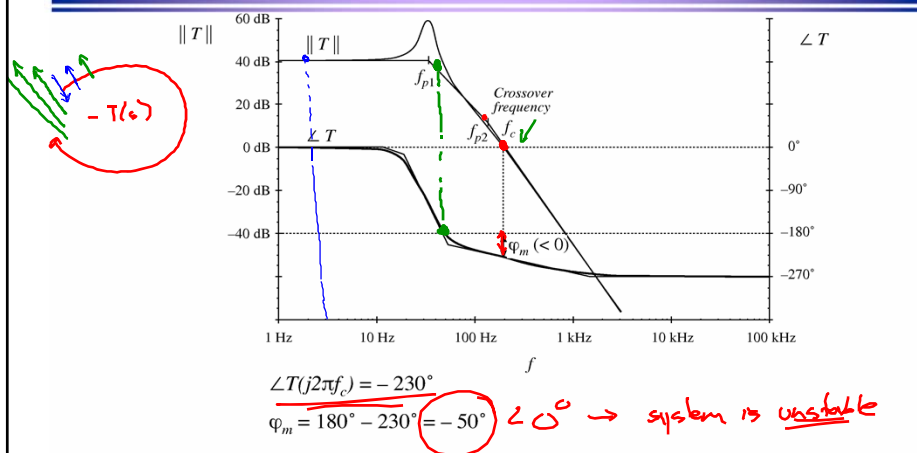
the quantities $T(s)/(1+T(s))$ and $1/(1+T(s))$ contain no RHP poles whenever the phase margin φ_m is positive.

System is stable if $\varphi_m > 0^\circ$

Example: a loop gain leading to a stable closed-loop system



Example: a loop gain leading to an unstable closed-loop system



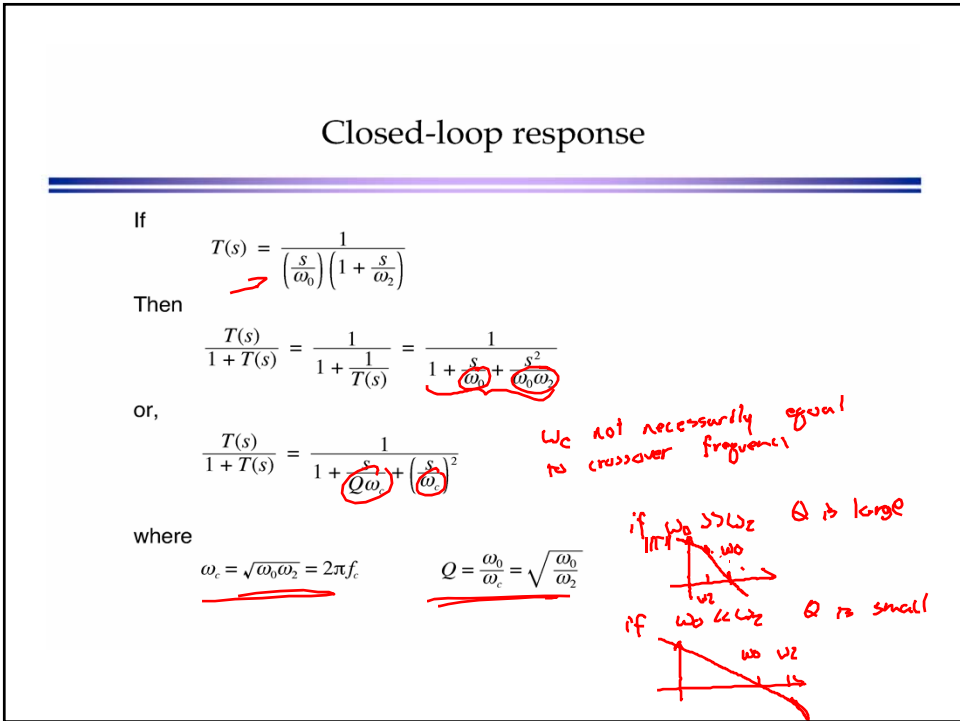
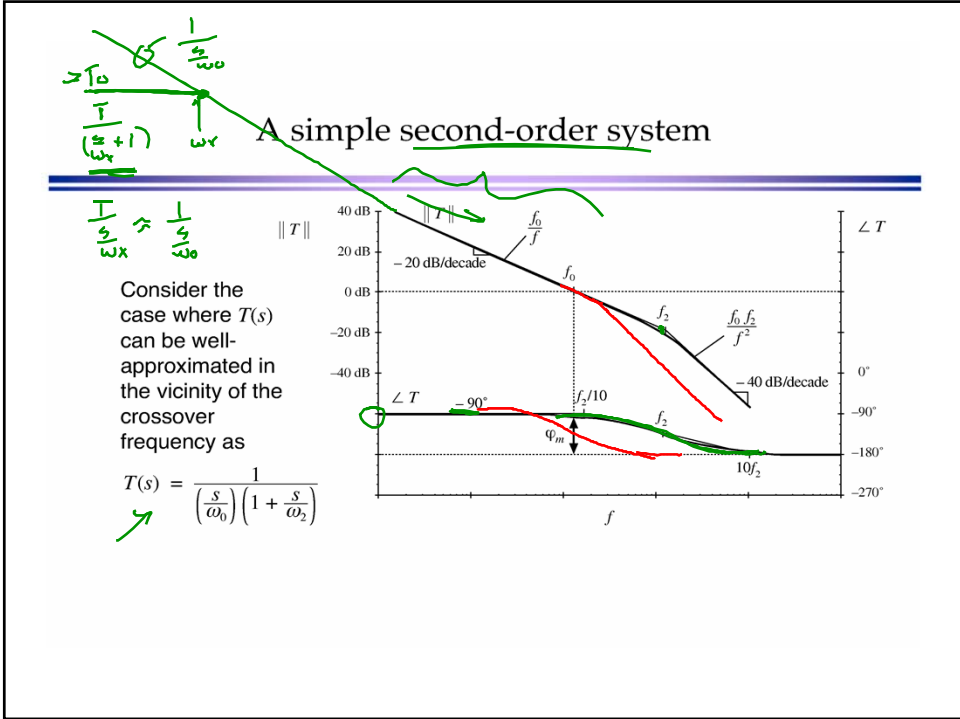
9.4.2. The relation between phase margin and closed-loop damping factor

How much phase margin is required?

A small positive phase margin leads to a stable closed-loop system having complex poles near the crossover frequency with high Q . The transient response exhibits overshoot and ringing.

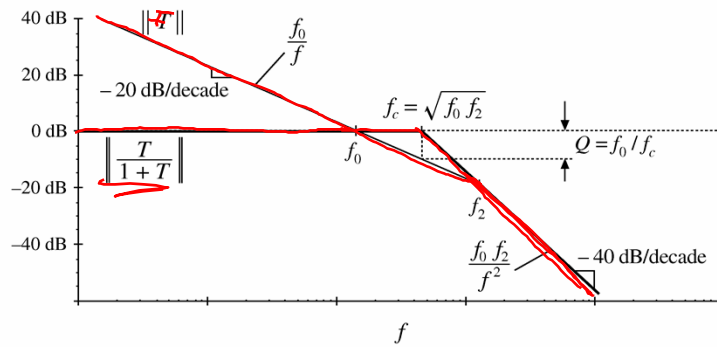
Increasing the phase margin reduces the Q . Obtaining real poles, with no overshoot and ringing, requires a large phase margin.

The relation between phase margin and closed-loop Q is quantified in this section.



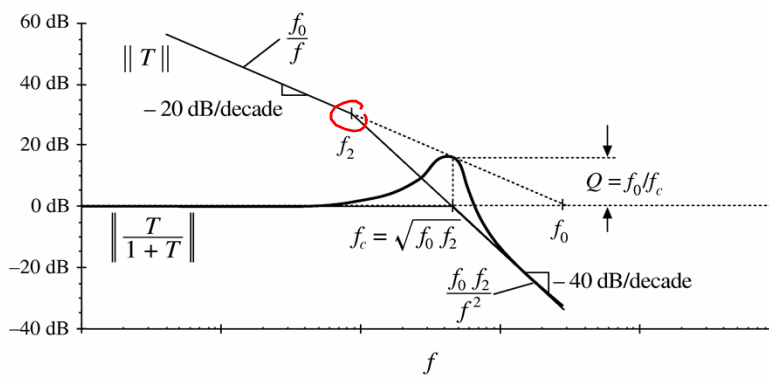
Low-Q case

$Q = \frac{\omega_0}{\omega_c} = \sqrt{\frac{\omega_0}{\omega_2}}$ low-Q approximation: $Q \omega_c = \omega_0$ $\frac{\omega_c}{Q} = \omega_2$



High-Q case

$\omega_c = \sqrt{\omega_0 \omega_2} = 2\pi f_c$ $Q = \frac{\omega_0}{\omega_c} = \sqrt{\frac{\omega_0}{\omega_2}}$



Q vs. φ_m

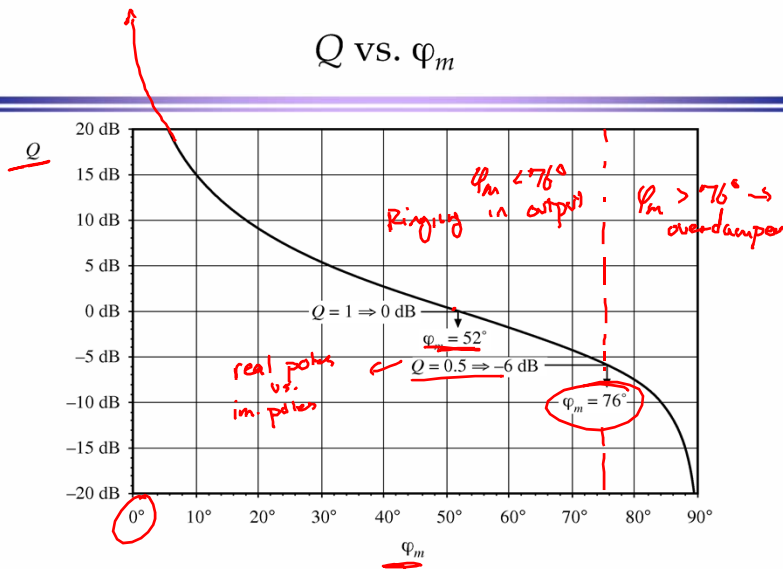
Solve for exact crossover frequency, evaluate phase margin, express as function of φ_m . Result is:

of closed loop system →

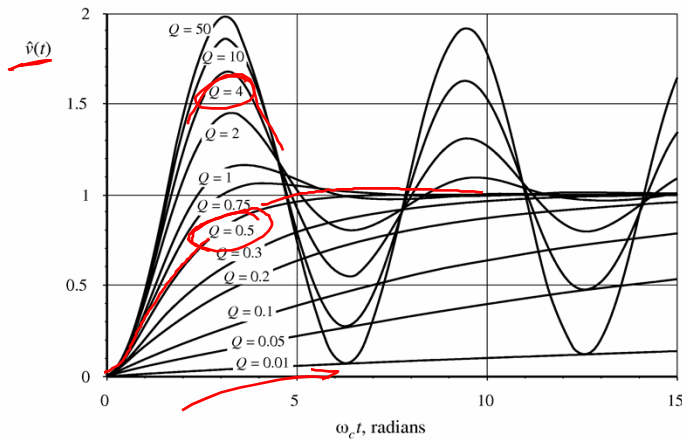
$$Q = \frac{\sqrt{\cos \varphi_m}}{\sin \varphi_m} \quad \varphi_m \text{ defined for } T(s)$$

$$\varphi_m = \tan^{-1} \sqrt{\frac{1 + \sqrt{1 + 4Q^4}}{2Q^4}}$$

Q vs. φ_m



Transient response vs. damping factor



Shape $T(s)$ on a bode plot
using $G_c(s)$

- (1) Large $T(s)$ at low frequencies
- (2) High $f_c \rightarrow (BW)_{CL}$
- (3) Adequate ϕ_m

9.5. Regulator design

Typical specifications:

- Reject Disturbance \rightarrow Minimize Effect of load current variations on output voltage regulation
This is a limit on the maximum allowable output impedance $\sim Z_{out} \frac{1}{1+T}$
- Minimize Effect of input voltage variations on the output voltage regulation
This limits the maximum allowable line-to-output transfer function $\sim \frac{1}{1+T}$
- Fast Transient response time $\rightarrow \uparrow f_c$
This requires a sufficiently high crossover frequency
- Low Overshoot and ringing $\rightarrow \uparrow \phi_m$
An adequate phase margin must be obtained

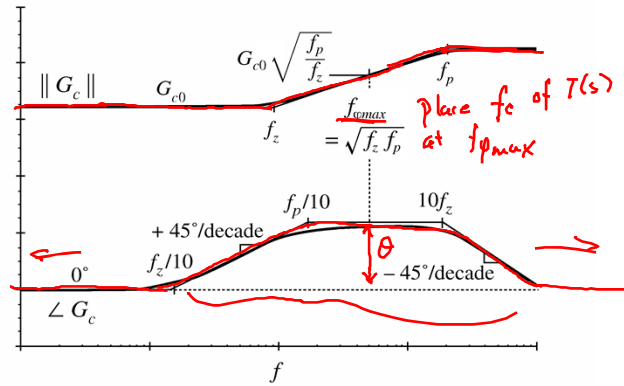
The regulator design problem: add compensator network $G_c(s)$ to modify $T(s)$ such that all specifications are met.

9.5.1. Lead (PD) compensator

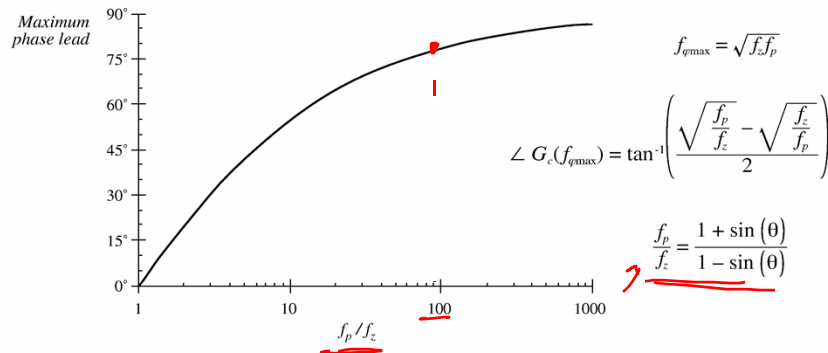
$$\rightarrow G_c(s) = G_{c0} \frac{\left(1 + \frac{s}{\omega_z}\right)}{\left(1 + \frac{s}{\omega_p}\right)}$$

$\omega_z \ll \omega_p$

Improves phase margin



Lead compensator: maximum phase lead



Lead compensator design

↳ provides phase lead

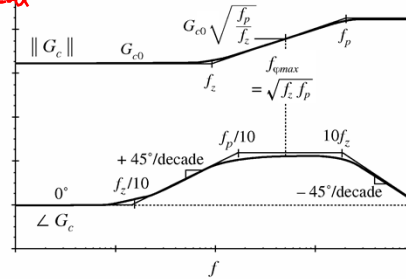
To optimally obtain a compensator phase lead of θ at frequency f_c , the pole and zero frequencies should be chosen as follows:

$$f_z = f_c \sqrt{\frac{1 - \sin(\theta)}{1 + \sin(\theta)}}$$

$$f_p = f_c \sqrt{\frac{1 + \sin(\theta)}{1 - \sin(\theta)}}$$

If it is desired that the magnitude of the compensator gain at f_c be unity, then G_{c0} should be chosen as

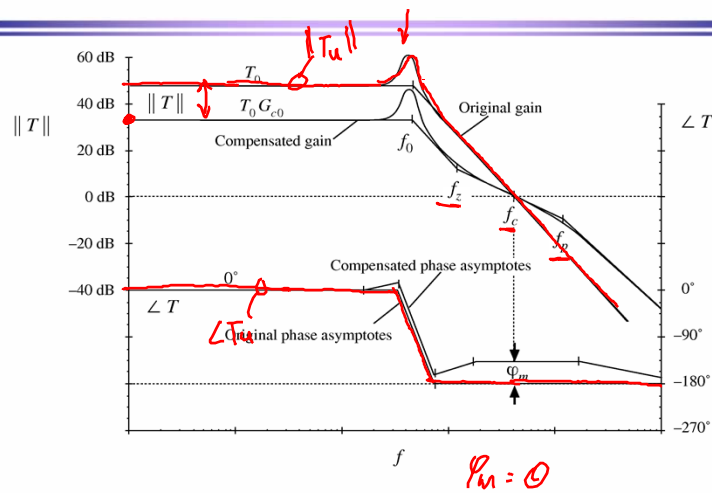
$$G_{c0} = \sqrt{\frac{f_z}{f_p}}$$



$$V = V_{\text{ref}} \frac{1}{1+T}$$

First, plot $T_u(s)$ → uncompensated loop gain (loop gain with $G_c(s)=1$)
Next, design $G_c(s)$ to shape $T(s)$

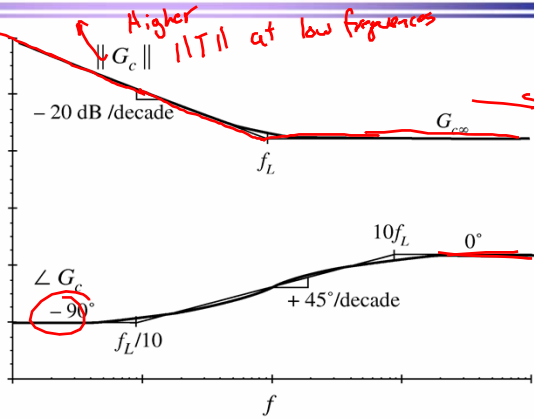
Example: lead compensation



9.5.2. Lag (PI) compensation

$$G_c(s) = G_{c\infty} \left(1 + \frac{\omega_L}{s} \right)$$

Improves low-frequency loop gain and regulation



Example: lag compensation

original (uncompensated) loop gain is

$$T_u(s) = \frac{T_{u0}}{\left(1 + \frac{s}{\omega_0} \right)}$$

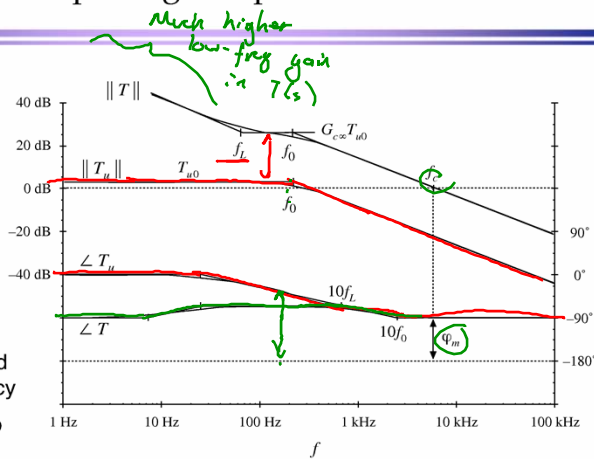
compensator:

$$G_c(s) = G_{c\infty} \left(1 + \frac{\omega_L}{s} \right)$$

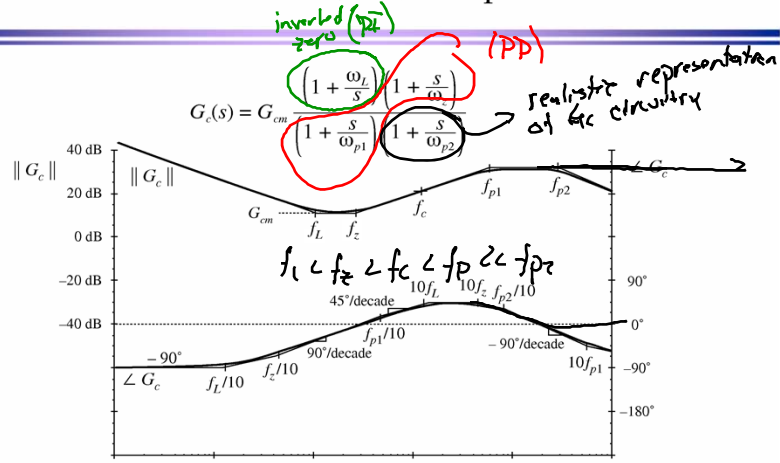
Design strategy: choose

$G_{c\infty}$ to obtain desired crossover frequency

ω_L sufficiently low to maintain adequate phase margin



9.5.3. Combined (PID) compensator



How high can f_c be? $f_c < \frac{f_c}{5}$ or $\frac{f_c}{10}$