

Measurement of Self-Loop Function and Stability Test for Third-Order Sallen-Key Low-Pass Filters

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Outline

1. Research Background

- Motivation, objectives and achievements
- Self-loop function in a transfer function

2. Analysis of High-Order Transfer Functions

- Operating regions of second-order complex functions

3. Ringing Test for Unity-Gain Amplifiers

- Behaviors of op amps with feedback networks

4. Ringing Test for High-Order Low-Pass Filters

- Behaviors of Sallen-Key low-pass filters

5. Conclusions

1. Research Background

Noise in Electronic Systems

Performance of a system

Signal to
Noise Ratio:

$$\text{SNR} = \frac{\text{Signal power}}{\text{Noise power}}$$

Common types of noise:

- Electronic noise
- Thermal noise,
- Intermodulation noise,
- Cross-talk,
- Impulse noise,
- Shot noise, and
- Transit-time noise.

Performance of a device

Figure of
Merit:

$$F = \frac{\text{Output SNR}}{\text{Input SNR}}$$

Device noise:

- Flicker noise,
- Thermal noise,
- White noise.

Linear networks

- Overshoot,
- Ringing
- Oscillation noise



1. Research Background

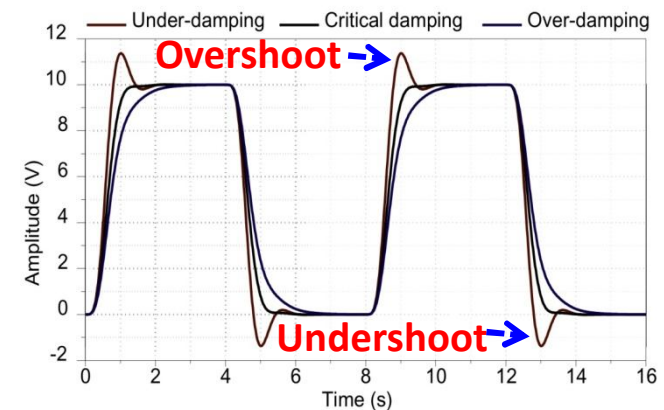
Motivation of Study

Ringing represents a **distortion** of a signal.

Ringing is **overshoot/undershoot voltage** or current when it's seen on time domain.

Ringing does the following things:

- **Causes EMI** noise,
 - **Increases** current flow,
 - **Consumes** the power,
 - **Decreases the** performance, and
 - **Damages** the devices.
- Ringing affects both **input** and **output** signals.



STABILITY TEST

1. Research Background

Objectives and Achievements

Objectives

- Investigation of operating regions of linear negative feedback networks
 - Over-damping (high delay in rising time)
 - Critical damping (max power propagation)
 - Under-damping (overshoot and ringing)

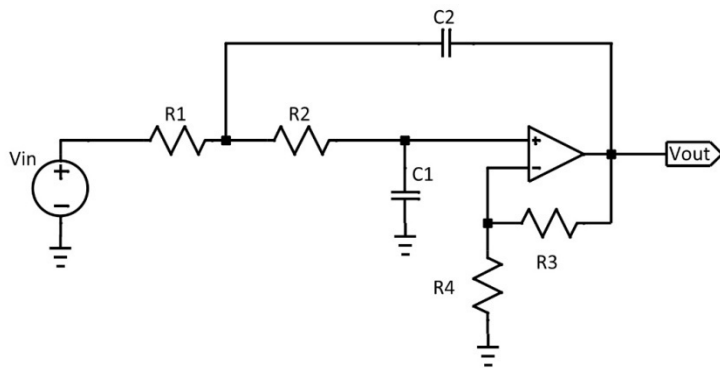
Achievements

- Measurement of self-loop function and stability test for 3rd-order Sallen-Key low-pass filters.

1. Research Background

Approaching Methods

2nd-order Sallen-Key LPF

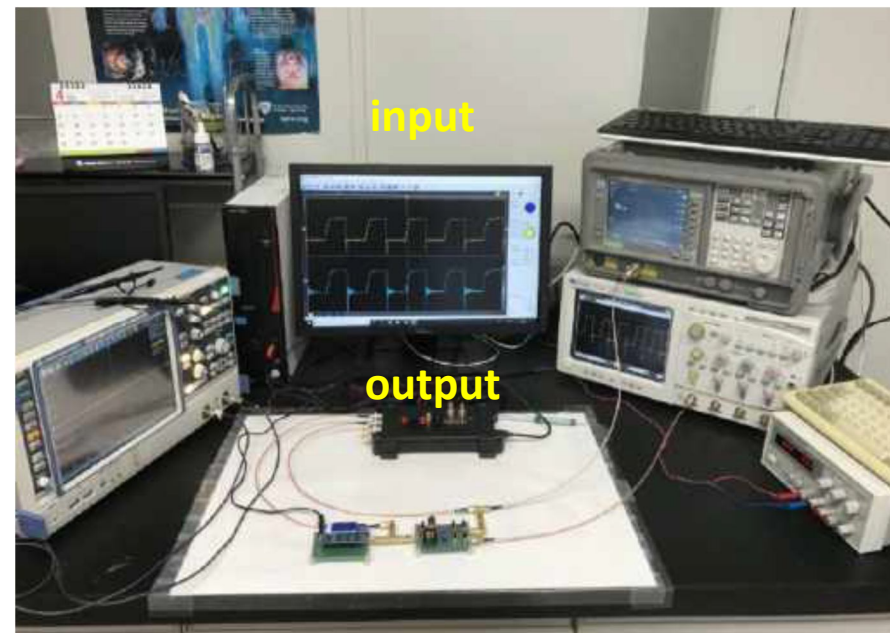
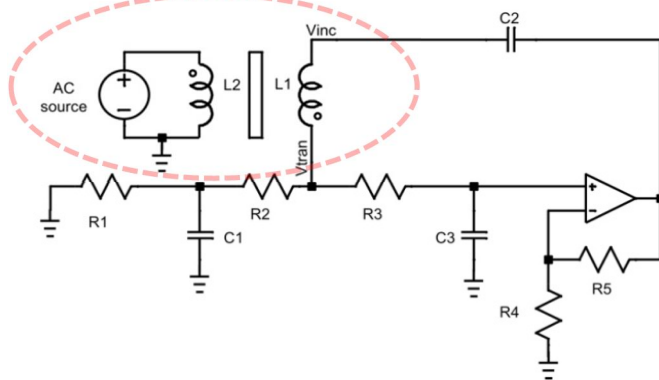


Balun transformer



Implemented circuit

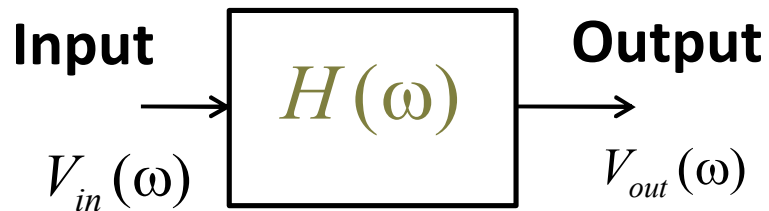
3rd-order Sallen-Key LPF



1. Research Background

Self-loop Function in A Transfer Function

Linear system



Model of a linear system

$$H(\omega) = \frac{b_0(j\omega)^n + \dots + b_{n-1}(j\omega) + b_n}{a_0(j\omega)^n + \dots + a_{n-1}(j\omega) + a_n}$$

Transfer function

$$H(\omega) = \frac{V_{out}(\omega)}{V_{in}(\omega)} = \frac{A(\omega)}{1 + L(\omega)}$$

$A(\omega)$: Open loop function

$H(\omega)$: Transfer function

$L(\omega)$: Self-loop function

Variable: angular frequency (ω)

○ Polar chart → Nyquist chart

○ Magnitude-frequency plot

○ Angular-frequency plot

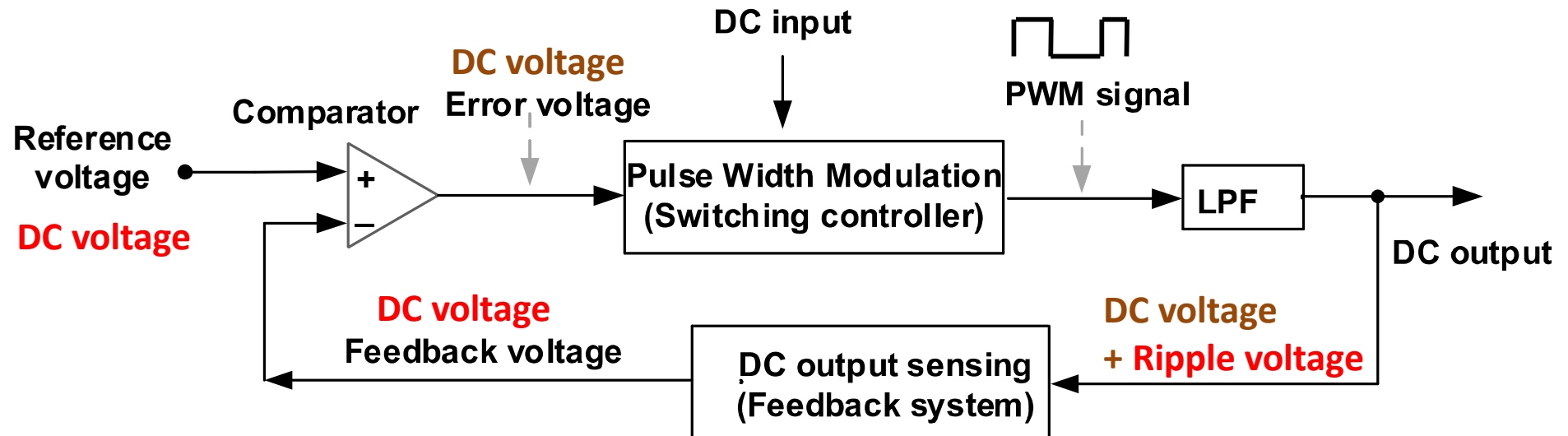
○ Magnitude-angular diagram → Nichols diagram

Bode plots

1. Research Background

Characteristics of Adaptive Feedback Network

Block diagram of a typical adaptive feedback system



Adaptive feedback is used to control the output source along with the decision source (**DC-DC Buck converter**).

Transfer function of an **adaptive feedback network** is **significantly different from** transfer function of a **linear negative feedback network**.

→ **Loop gain is independent** of frequency variable (**referent voltage, feedback voltage, and error voltage are DC voltages**).

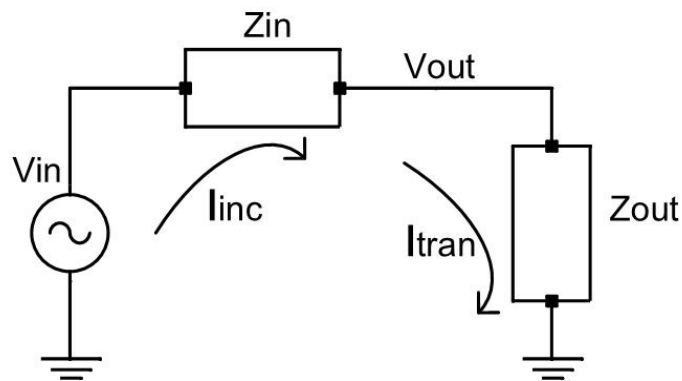
1. Research Background

Alternating Current Conservation

Transfer function

$$H(\omega) = \frac{V_{out}(\omega)}{V_{in}(\omega)} = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{Z_{in}}{Z_{out}}}$$

$$\Rightarrow L(\omega) = \frac{Z_{in}}{Z_{out}};$$



Simplified linear system

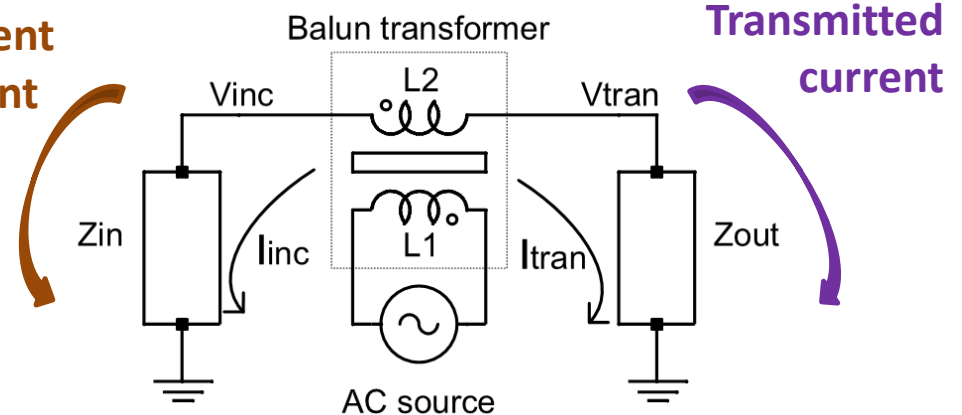
Self-loop function

$$\frac{V_{inc}}{Z_{in}} = -\frac{V_{trans}}{Z_{out}} \Rightarrow L(\omega) = -\frac{V_{inc}}{V_{trans}} = \frac{Z_{in}}{Z_{out}}$$



10 mH
inductance

Incident
current



Derivation of self-loop function

1. Research Background

Limitations of Conventional Methods

- **Middlebrook's measurement of loop gain**
→ Applying only in feedback systems (**DC-DC converters**).
- **Replica measurement of loop gain**
→ Using two identical networks (**not real measurement**).
- **Nyquist's stability condition**
→ Theoretical analysis for feedback systems (**Lab tool**)
- **Nichols Chart of Loop Gain**
→ Only used in feedback control theory (**Lab tool**)

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2. Analysis of High-Order Transfer Functions

- **Operating regions of second-order complex functions**

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2. Analysis of High-Order Transfer Functions

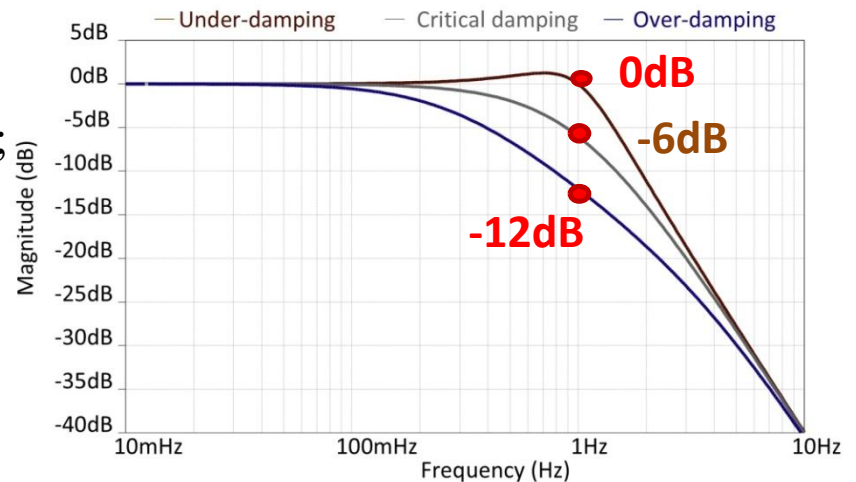
Operating Regions of 2nd-order Transfer Function

• **Under-damping:** $H_1(\omega) = \frac{1}{(j\omega)^2 + j\omega + 1}$;

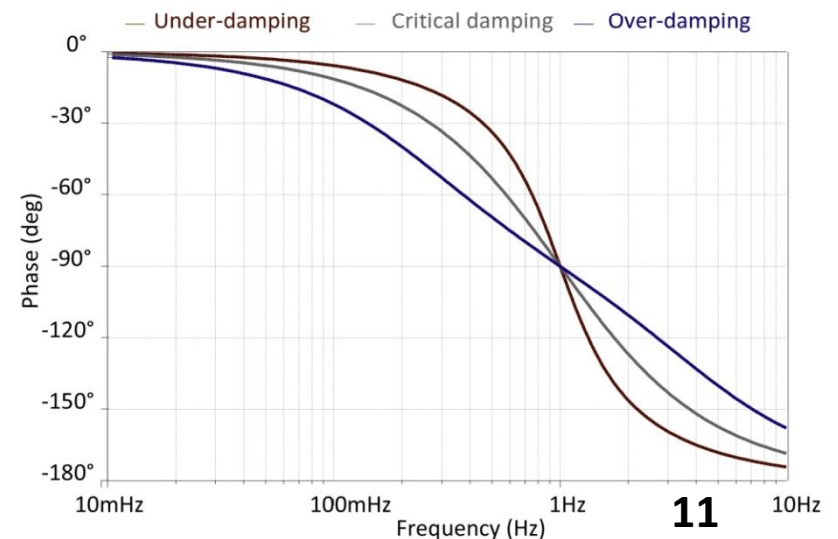
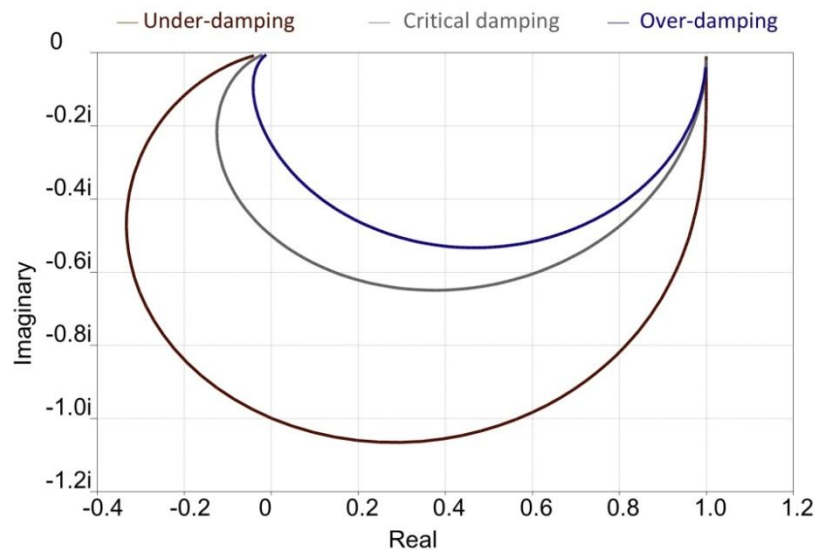
• **Critical damping:** $H_2(\omega) = \frac{1}{(j\omega)^2 + 2j\omega + 1}$;

• **Over-damping:** $H_3(\omega) = \frac{1}{(j\omega)^2 + 3j\omega + 1}$;

Bode plot of transfer function



Nyquist chart of transfer function



2. Analysis of High-Order Transfer Functions

Summary of 2nd-order Transfer Function

Second-order transfer function:
$$H(\omega) = \frac{1}{1 + a_0(j\omega)^2 + a_1j\omega}$$

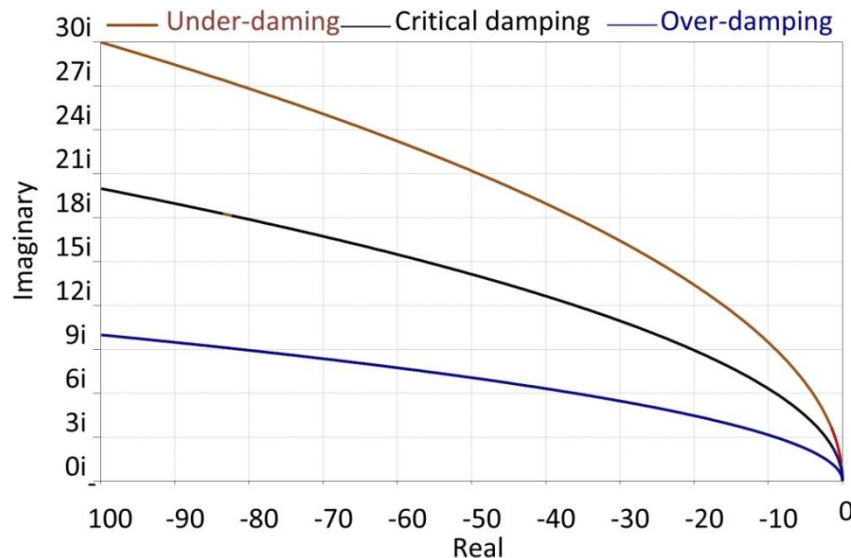
Case	Over-damping	Critical damping	Under-damping
Delta (Δ)	$\frac{1}{a_0} < \left(\frac{a_1}{2a_0}\right)^2 \Rightarrow \Delta = a_1^2 - 4a_0 > 0$	$\frac{1}{a_0} = \left(\frac{a_1}{2a_0}\right)^2 \Rightarrow \Delta = a_1^2 - 4a_0 = 0$	$\frac{1}{a_0} > \left(\frac{a_1}{2a_0}\right)^2 \Rightarrow \Delta = a_1^2 - 4a_0 < 0$
Module $ H(\omega) $	$\frac{1}{a_0} \sqrt{\omega^2 + \left(\frac{a_1}{2a_0} - \sqrt{\left(\frac{a_1}{2a_0}\right)^2 - \frac{1}{a_0}}\right)^2} \sqrt{\omega^2 + \left(\frac{a_1}{2a_0} + \sqrt{\left(\frac{a_1}{2a_0}\right)^2 - \frac{1}{a_0}}\right)^2}$	$\frac{1}{a_0} \left[\omega^2 + \left(\frac{a_1}{2a_0}\right)^2 \right] = -6dB$	$\frac{1}{a_0} \sqrt{\left(\omega - \sqrt{\frac{1}{a_0} - \left(\frac{a_1}{2a_0}\right)^2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{a_1}{2a_0}\right)^2} \sqrt{\left(\omega + \sqrt{\frac{1}{a_0} - \left(\frac{a_1}{2a_0}\right)^2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{a_1}{2a_0}\right)^2}$
Angular $\theta(\omega)$	$-\arctan\left(\frac{\omega}{\frac{a_1}{2a_0} - \sqrt{\left(\frac{a_1}{2a_0}\right)^2 - \frac{1}{a_0}}}\right) - \arctan\left(\frac{\omega}{\frac{a_1}{2a_0} + \sqrt{\left(\frac{a_1}{2a_0}\right)^2 - \frac{1}{a_0}}}\right)$	$-2 \arctan\left(\frac{2a_0\omega}{a_1}\right)$	$-\arctan\left(\frac{\omega - \sqrt{\frac{1}{a_0} - \left(\frac{a_1}{2a_0}\right)^2}}{\frac{a_1}{2a_0}}\right) - \arctan\left(\frac{\omega + \sqrt{\frac{1}{a_0} - \left(\frac{a_1}{2a_0}\right)^2}}{\frac{a_1}{2a_0}}\right)$
$\omega_{cut} = \frac{a_1}{2a_0}$	$ H(\omega_{cut}) < \frac{2a_0}{a_1}$ $\theta(\omega_{cut}) > -\frac{\pi}{2}$	$ H(\omega_{cut}) = \frac{2a_0}{a_1}$ $\theta(\omega_{cut}) = -\frac{\pi}{2}$	$ H(\omega_{cut}) > \frac{2a_0}{a_1}$ $\theta(\omega_{cut}) < -\frac{\pi}{2}$

2. Analysis of High-Order Transfer Functions

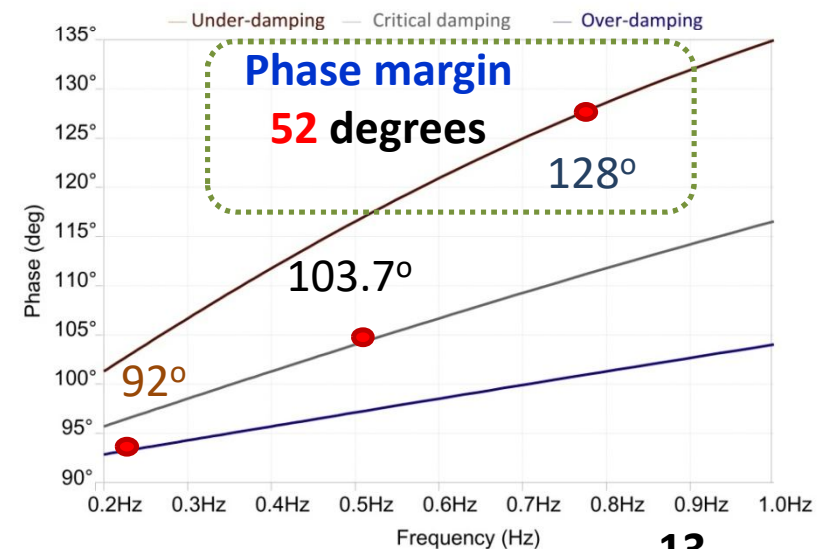
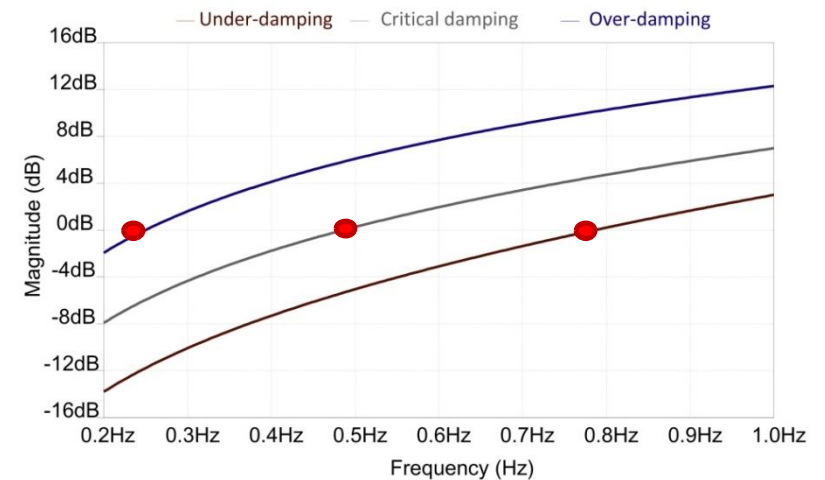
Operating regions of 2nd-order Self-loop Function

- **Under-damping:** $L_1(\omega) = (j\omega)^2 + j\omega;$
- **Critical damping:** $L_2(\omega) = (j\omega)^2 + 2j\omega;$
- **Over-damping:** $L_3(\omega) = (j\omega)^2 + 3j\omega;$

Nyquist chart of self-loop function



Bode plot of self-loop function



2. Analysis of High-Order Transfer Functions

Summary of 2nd-order Self-loop Function

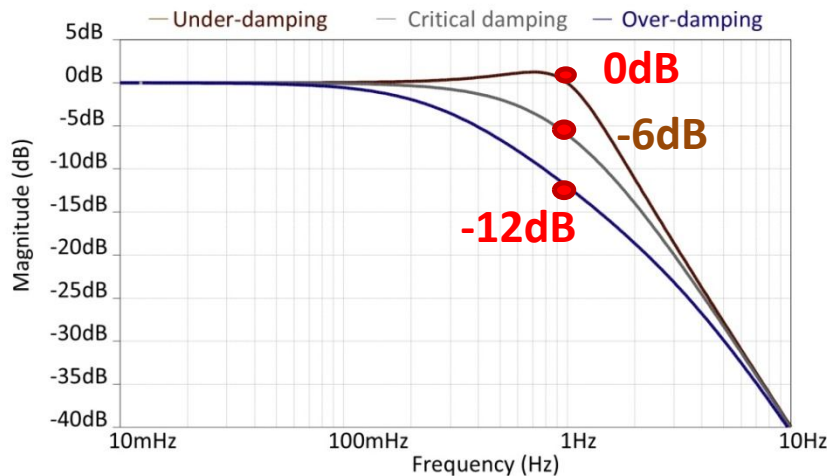
Second-order self-loop function: $L(\omega) = j\omega[a_0 j\omega + a_1]$

Case	Over-damping	Critical damping	Under-damping
Delta (Δ)	$\Delta = a_1^2 - 4a_0 > 0$	$\Delta = a_1^2 - 4a_0 = 0$	$\Delta = a_1^2 - 4a_0 < 0$
$ L(\omega) $	$\omega\sqrt{(a_0\omega)^2 + a_1^2}$	$\omega\sqrt{(a_0\omega)^2 + a_1^2}$	$\omega\sqrt{(a_0\omega)^2 + a_1^2}$
$\theta(\omega)$	$\frac{\pi}{2} + \arctan \frac{a_0\omega}{a_1}$	$\frac{\pi}{2} + \arctan \frac{a_0\omega}{a_1}$	$\frac{\pi}{2} + \arctan \frac{a_0\omega}{a_1}$
$\omega_1 = \frac{a_1}{2a_0}\sqrt{\sqrt{5}-2}$	$ L(\omega_1) > 1$ $\pi - \theta(\omega_1) > 76.3^\circ$	$ L(\omega_1) = 1$ $\pi - \theta(\omega_1) = 76.3^\circ$	$ L(\omega_1) < 1$ $\pi - \theta(\omega_1) < 76.3^\circ$
$\omega_2 = \frac{a_1}{2a_0}$	$ L(\omega_2) > \sqrt{5}$ $\pi - \theta(\omega_2) > 63.4^\circ$	$ L(\omega_2) = \sqrt{5}$ $\pi - \theta(\omega_2) = 63.4^\circ$	$ L(\omega_2) < \sqrt{5}$ $\pi - \theta(\omega_2) < 63.4^\circ$
$\omega_3 = \frac{a_1}{a_0}$	$ L(\omega_3) > 4\sqrt{2}$ $\pi - \theta(\omega_3) > 45^\circ$	$ L(\omega_3) = 4\sqrt{2}$ $\pi - \theta(\omega_3) = 45^\circ$	$ L(\omega_3) < 4\sqrt{2}$ $\pi - \theta(\omega_3) < 45^\circ$

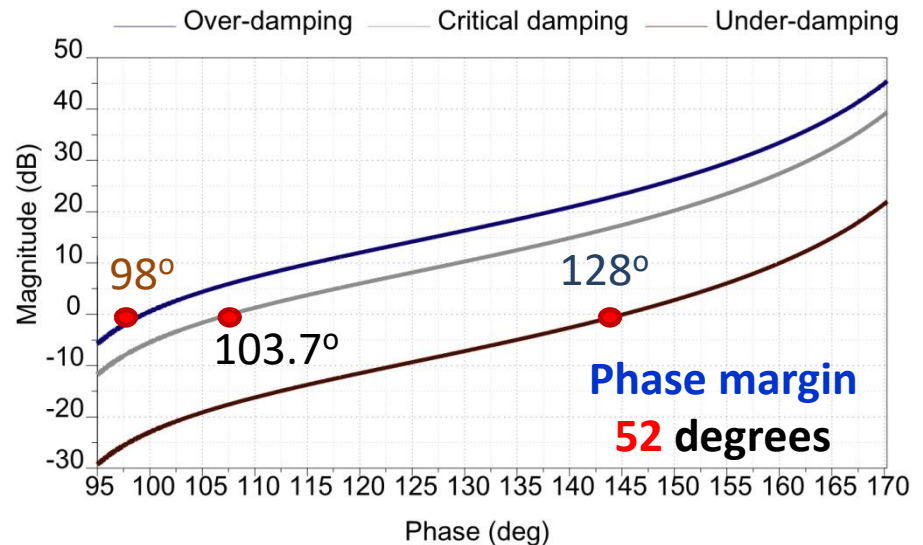
2. Analysis of High-Order Transfer Functions

Operating Regions of 2nd-order System

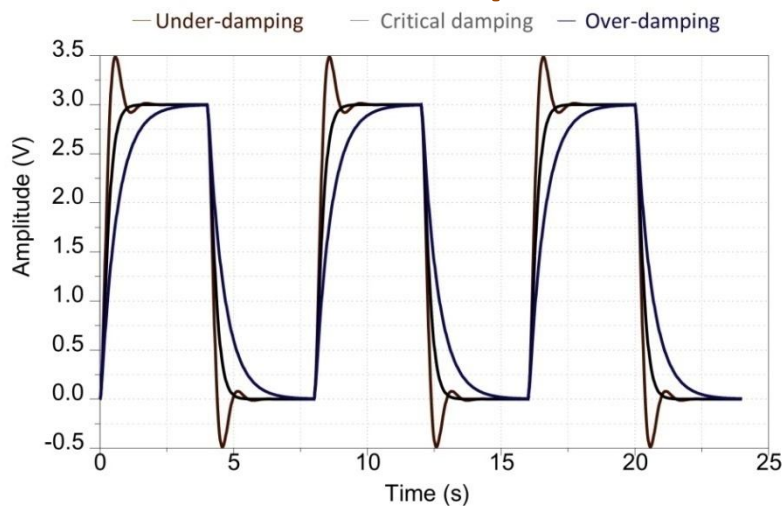
Bode plot of transfer function



Nichols plot of self-loop function



Transient response



Over-damping:

→ Phase margin is **88** degrees.

Critical damping:

→ Phase margin is **76.3** degrees.

Under-damping:

→ Phase margin is **52** degrees.

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3. Ringing Test for Unity-Gain Amplifiers

- **Behaviors of op amps with feedback networks**

4. Ringing Test for High-Order Low-Pass Filters

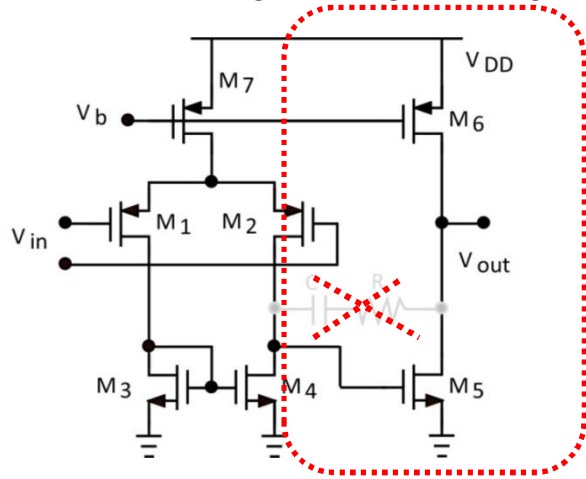
- Behaviors of Sallen-Key low-pass filters

5. Conclusions

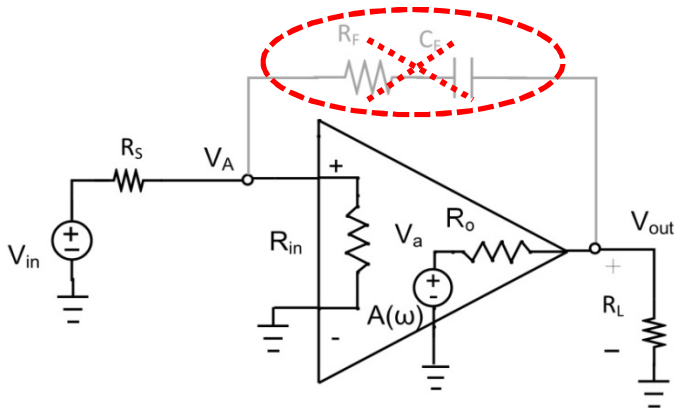
3. Ringing Test for Unity-Gain Amplifiers

Two-stage Op Amp without Miller's Capacitor

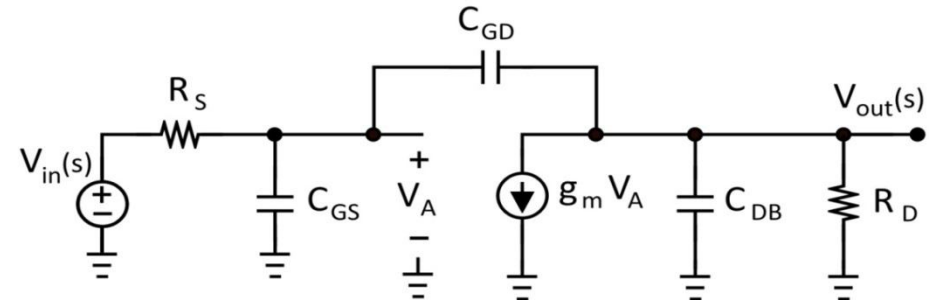
Without frequency compensation



Simplified model



Small signal model



Transfer function $H(\omega)$ and self-loop function $L(\omega)$

$$H(\omega) = \frac{b_0 j\omega + b_1}{a_0 (j\omega)^2 + a_1 j\omega + 1};$$

$$L(\omega) = a_0 (j\omega)^2 + a_1 j\omega$$

Where,

$$b_0 = R_D R_S \left[(C_{GD} + C_{DB})(C_{GS} + C_{GD}) - C_{GD}^2 \right]$$

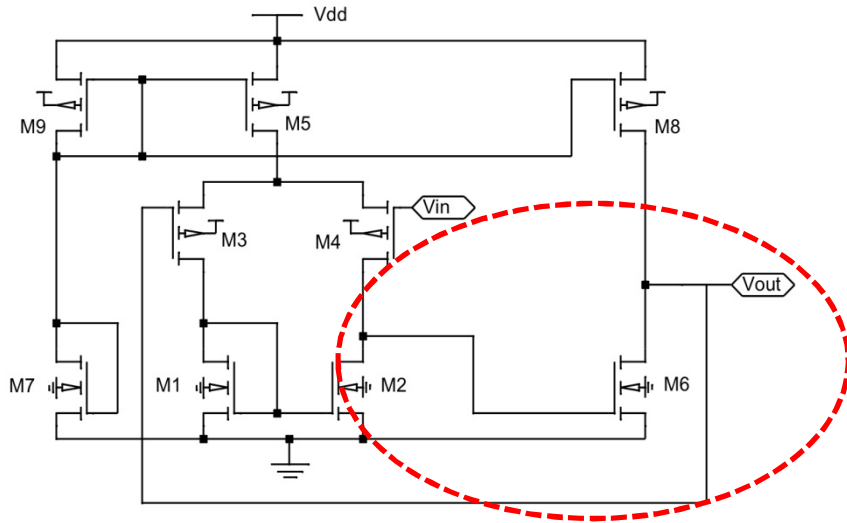
$$b_1 = \left[R_D (C_{GD} + C_{DB}) + R_S (C_{GS} + C_{GD}) + R_D R_S g_m C_{GD} \right]$$

$$a_0 = R_D C_{GD}; \quad a_1 = -R_D g_m;$$

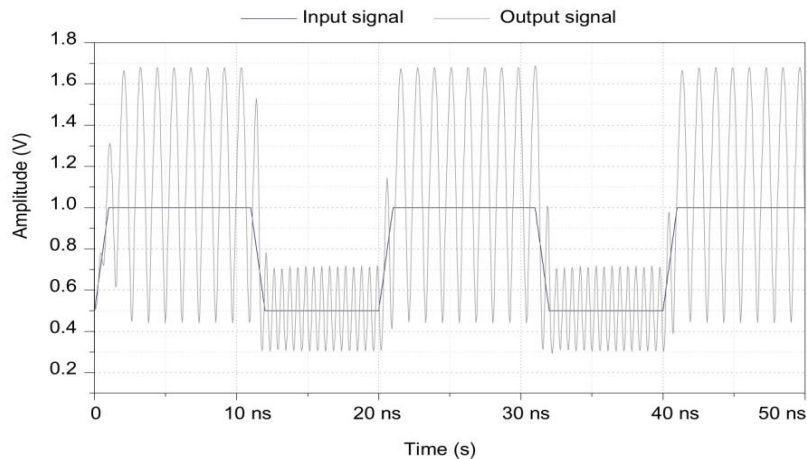
3. Ringing Test for Unity-Gain Amplifiers

Unity-Gain Amplifier without Miller's Capacitor

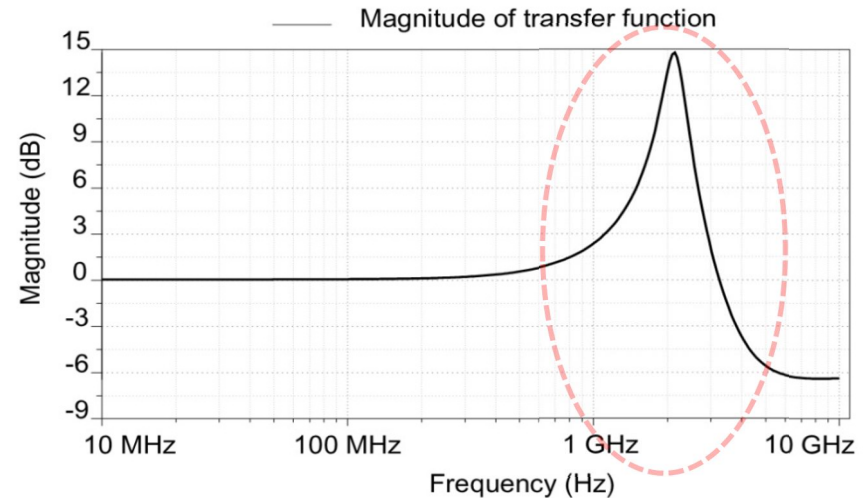
Unity-Gain Amplifier



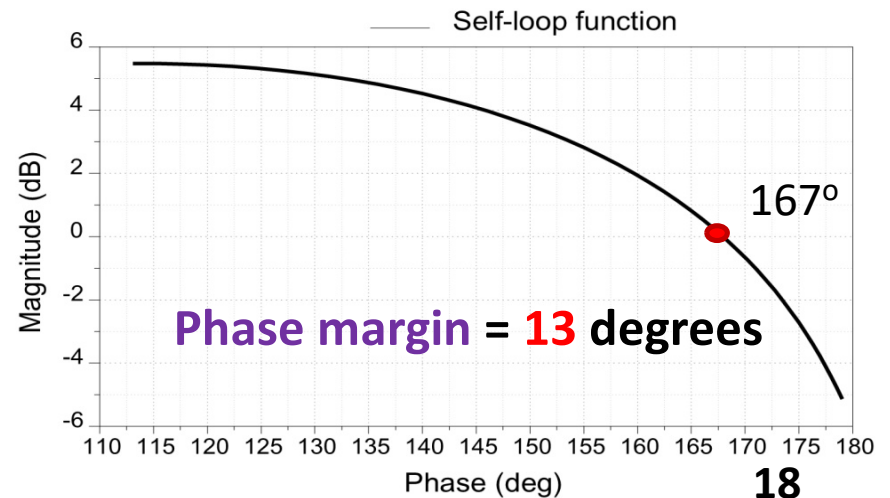
Transient response



Bode plot of transfer function



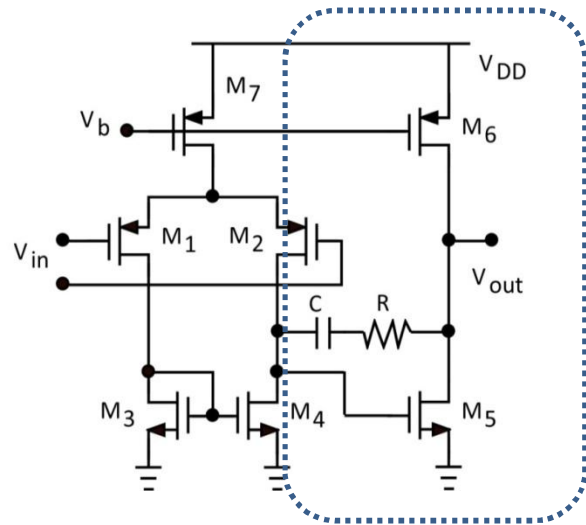
Nichols plot of self-loop function



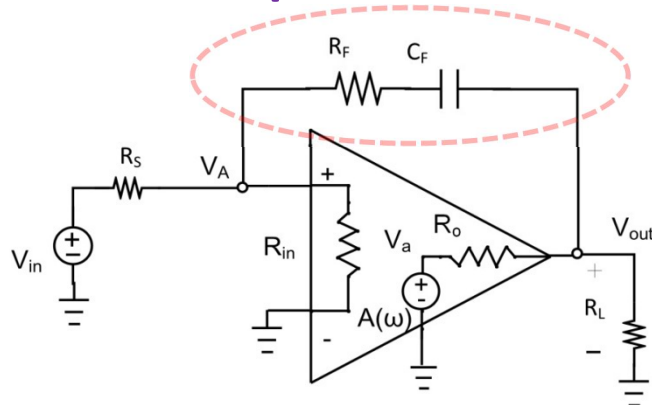
3. Ringing Test for Unity-Gain Amplifiers

Two-stage Op Amp with Frequency Compensation

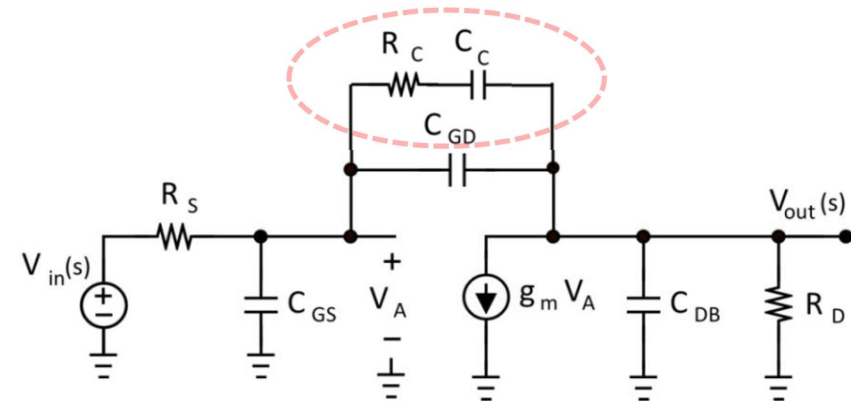
With Miller's capacitor and resistor



Simplified model



Small signal model



Transfer function

$$H(\omega) = \frac{b_0 (j\omega)^3 + b_1 (j\omega)^2 + b_2 j\omega + b_3}{a_0 (j\omega)^4 + a_1 (j\omega)^3 + a_2 (j\omega)^2 + a_3 j\omega + 1};$$

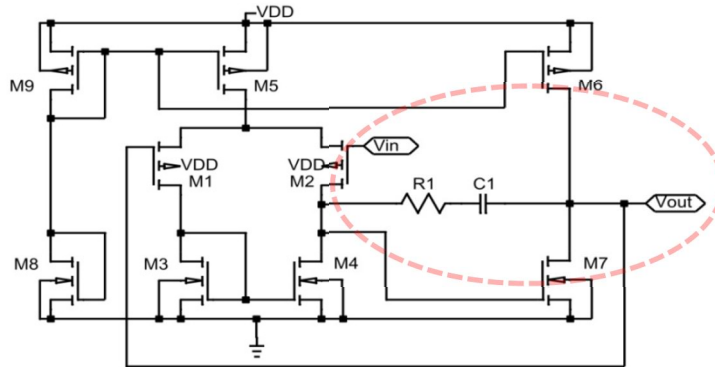
Self-loop function

$$L(\omega) = a_0 (j\omega)^4 + a_1 (j\omega)^3 + a_2 (j\omega)^2 + a_3 j\omega$$

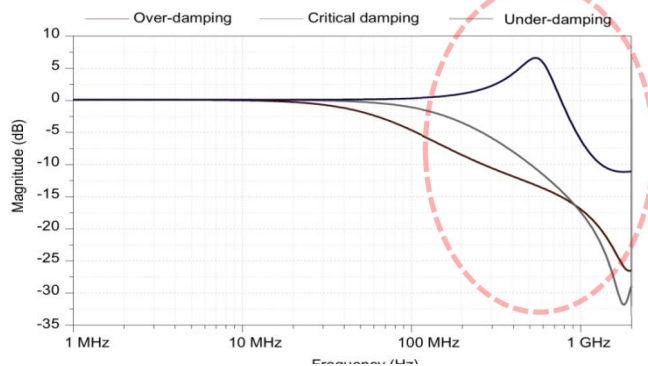
3. Ringing Test for Unity-Gain Amplifiers

Stability Test for Op Amp with Miller's Capacitor

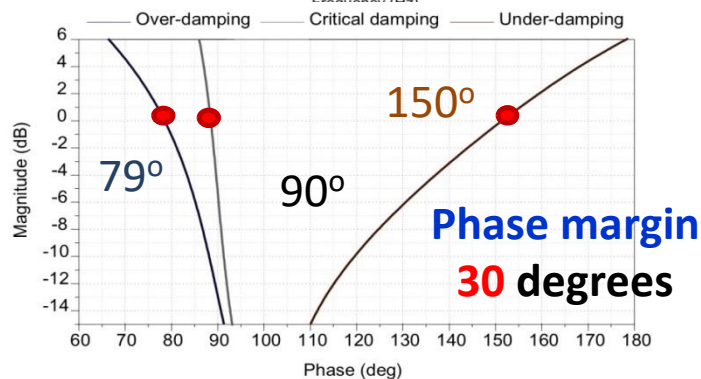
Unity-gain amplifier with Miller's capacitor



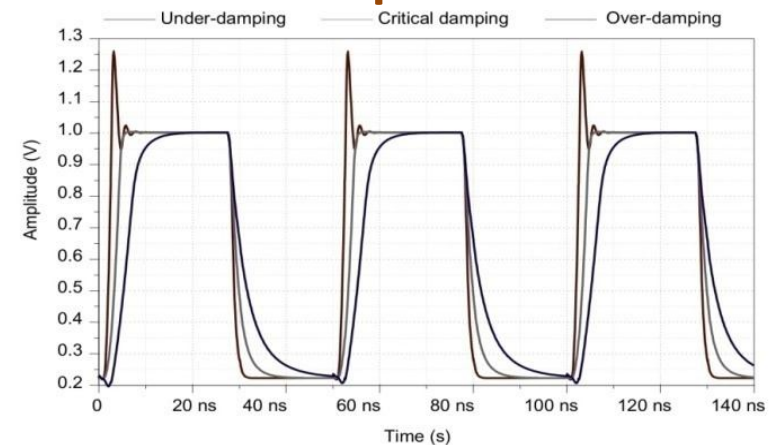
Bode plot of transfer function



Nichols plot of self-loop function



Transient response



Operating regions

Under-damping:

$R1 = 2 \text{ k}\Omega$, $C1 = 1 \text{ pF}$

Critical damping:

$R1 = 3.5 \text{ k}\Omega$, $C1 = 0.2 \text{ pF}$

Over-damping:

$R1 = 3.5 \text{ k}\Omega$, $C1 = 0.8 \text{ pF}$

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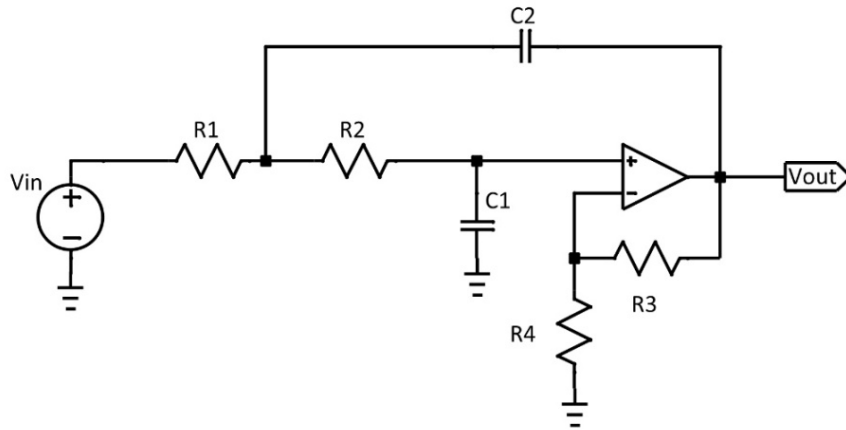
- Behaviors of Sallen-Key low-pass filters

5. Conclusions

4. Ringing Test for High-Order Low-Pass Filters

Review of 2nd-order Sallen-Key Low-pass Filter

2nd-order Sallen-Key LPF



Transfer function

$$H(\omega) = \frac{V_{out}}{V_{in}} = \frac{b_0}{a_0(j\omega)^2 + a_1j\omega + 1};$$

Self-loop function

$$L(\omega) = a_0(j\omega)^2 + a_1j\omega;$$

Operating regions

• **Over-damping:**

$$\frac{1}{R_1 R_2 C_1 C_2} < \frac{1}{4} \left(R_1 C_1 + R_1 C_1 - \frac{R_3}{R_4} R_1 C_2 \right)^2$$

• **Critical damping:**

$$\frac{1}{R_1 R_2 C_1 C_2} = \frac{1}{4} \left(R_1 C_1 + R_1 C_1 - \frac{R_3}{R_4} R_1 C_2 \right)^2$$

• **Under-damping:**

$$\frac{1}{R_1 R_2 C_1 C_2} > \frac{1}{4} \left(R_1 C_1 + R_1 C_1 - \frac{R_3}{R_4} R_1 C_2 \right)^2$$

Where:

$$\omega_0 = \sqrt{R_1 R_2 C_1 C_2};$$

$$a_0 = R_1 R_2 C_1 C_2;$$

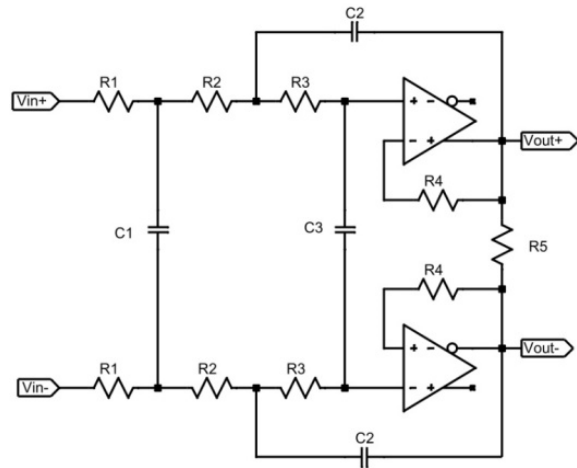
$$a_1 = R_1 C_1 + R_1 C_1 - \frac{R_3}{R_4} R_1 C_2;$$

$$b_0 = 1 + \frac{R_3}{R_4};$$

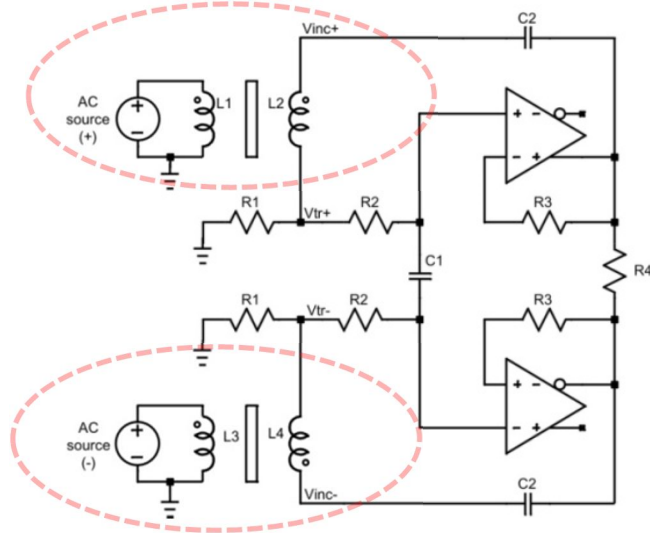
4. Ringing Test for High-Order Low-Pass Filters

Proposed Design of 3rd-Order Sallen-Key LPF

Differential 3rd-order Sallen-Key LPF



Derivation of self-loop function



Transfer function

$$H(\omega) = \frac{b_0}{a_0 (j\omega)^3 + a_1 (j\omega)^2 + a_2 j\omega + 1};$$

Self-loop function

$$L(\omega) = a_0 (j\omega)^3 + a_1 (j\omega)^2 + a_2 j\omega;$$

Where $b_0 = 1 + \frac{R_4}{R_5}$; $a_0 = R_1 C_1 R_2 C_2 R_3 C_3$;

$$a_1 = R_1 C_1 C_3 (R_2 + R_3) + R_3 C_2 C_3 (R_1 + R_2) - \frac{R_4}{R_5} R_1 C_1 R_2 C_2;$$

$$a_2 = R_1 (C_1 + C_3) + C_3 (R_2 + R_3) - \frac{R_4}{R_5} (R_1 + R_2) C_2;$$

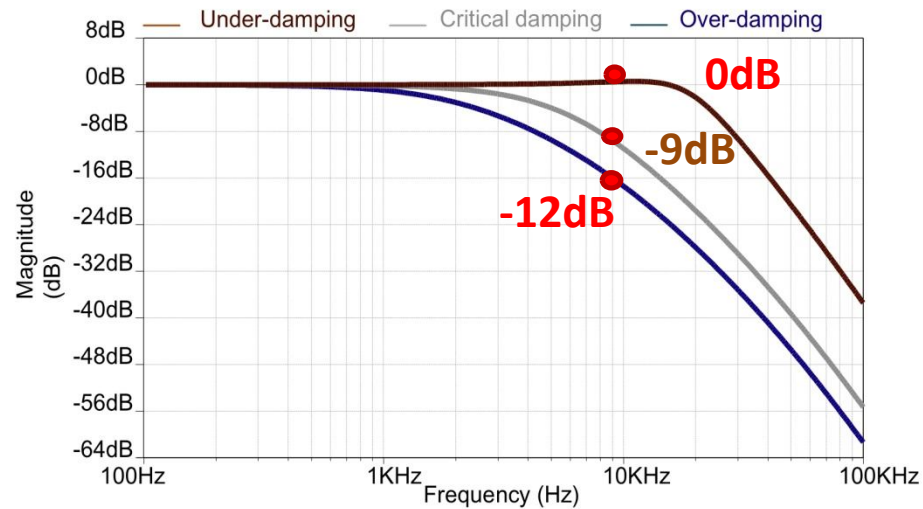
Component parameters

GBW = 10MHz, **fo = 10kHz**, DC gain (Ao) = 100000,
 R1 = R2 = R3 = 10 kΩ, R4 = 100 Ω, R5 = 100 kΩ, C1
 = 350 pF, C2 = 2 nF.

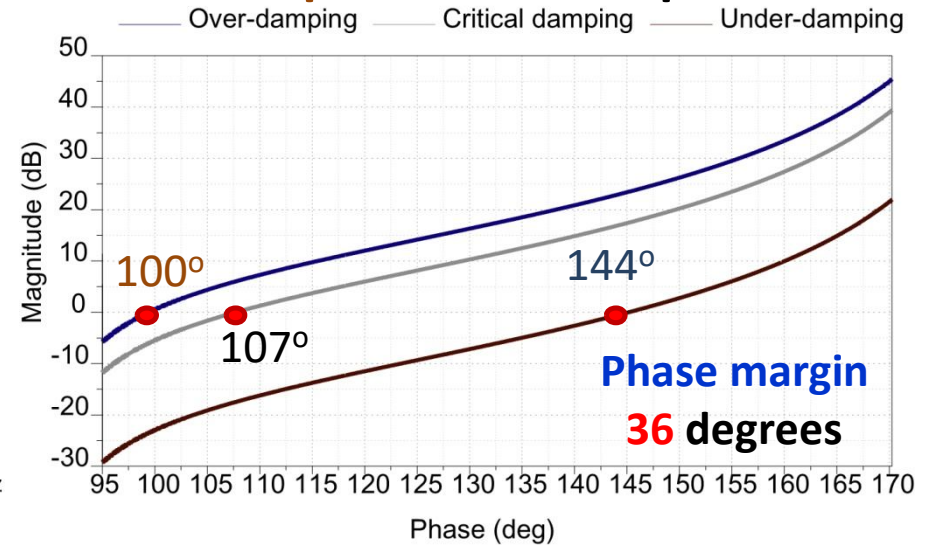
4. Ringing Test for High-Order Low-Pass Filters

Simulation Results of 3rd-Order Sallen-Key LPF

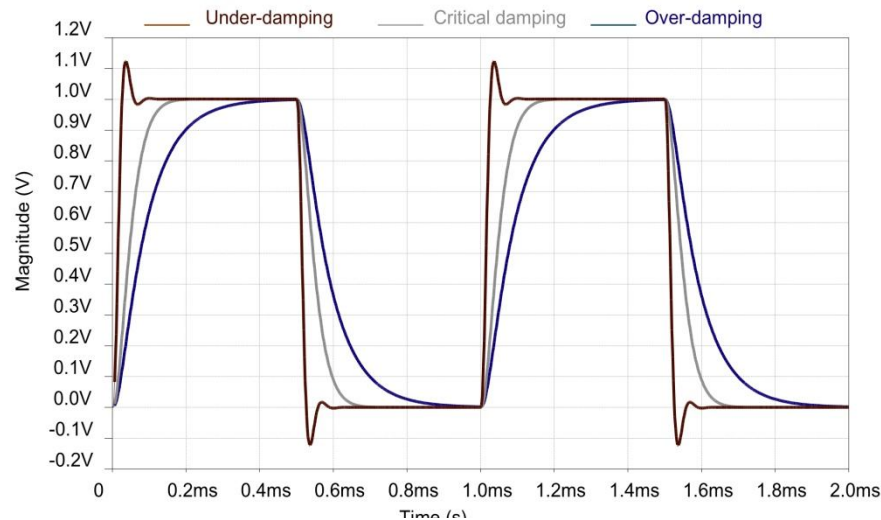
Bode plot of transfer function



Nichols plot of self-loop function



Transient response



Operating regions

Over-damping:

→ Phase margin is **80** degrees.

Critical damping:

→ Phase margin is **73** degrees.

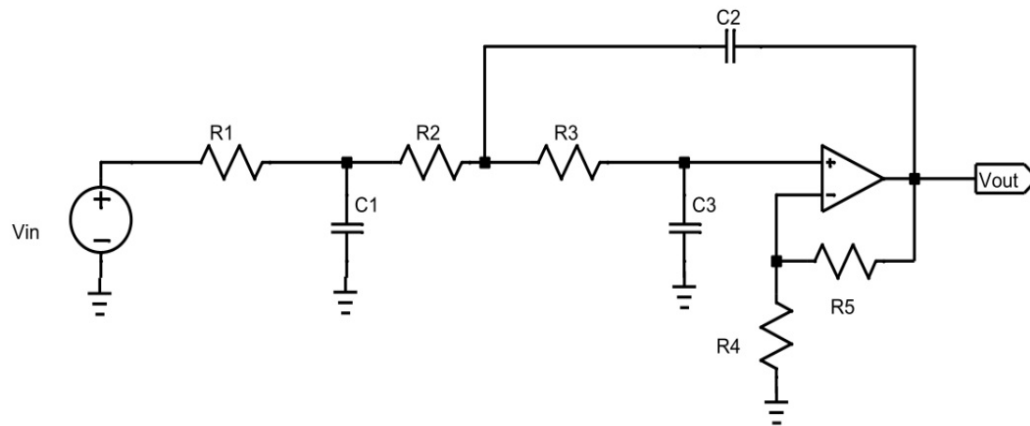
Under-damping:

→ Phase margin is **36** degrees.

4. Ringing Test for High-Order Low-Pass Filters

Implemented Circuit of 3rd-Order Sallen-Key LPF

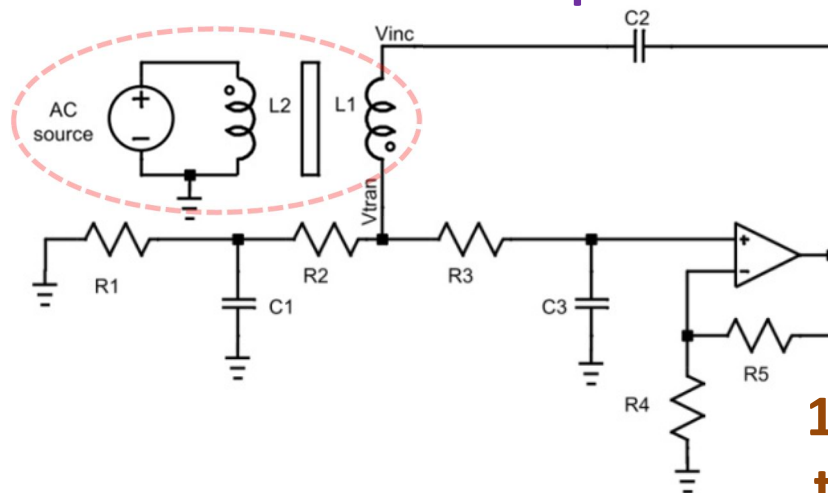
Single ended 3rd-order Sallen-Key LPF



Component parameters

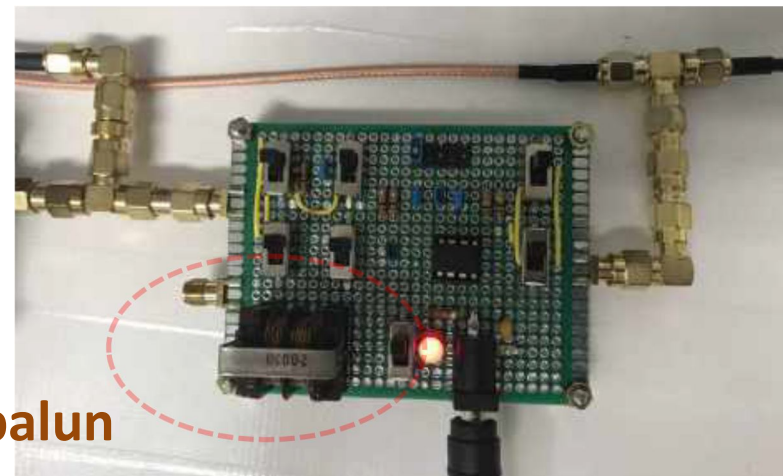
Op Amp: **LM358**; GBW = 10MHz,
 DC gain (A_o) = 100000,
 $R_1 = R_2 = R_3 = 10 \text{ k}\Omega$,
 $R_4 = 100 \Omega$, $R_5 = 100 \text{ k}\Omega$,
 $C_1 = 350 \text{ pF}$, $C_2 = 2 \text{ nF}$.

Derivation of self-loop function



10 mH balun transformer

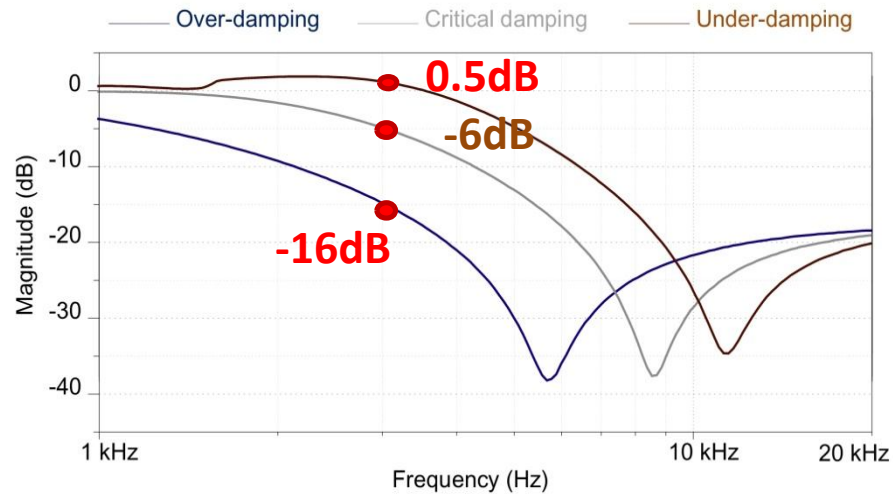
Implemented circuit



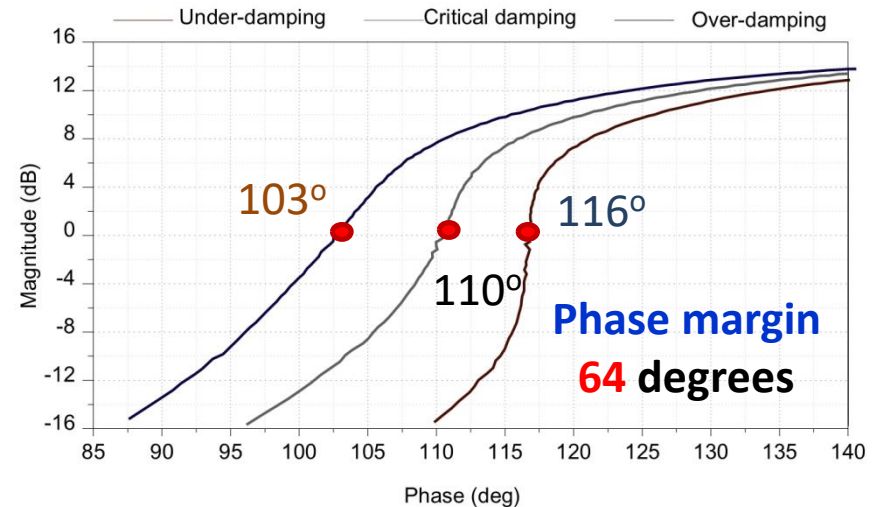
4. Ringing Test for High-Order Low-Pass Filters

Measurement Results of 3rd-Order Sallen-Key LPF

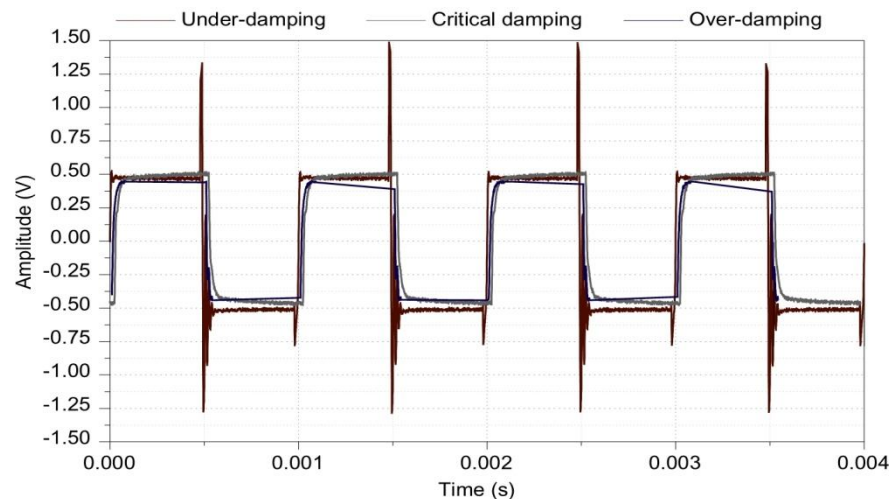
Bode plot of transfer function



Nichols plot of self-loop function



Transient response



Operating regions

- Over-damping:**
→ Phase margin is 77 degrees.
- Critical damping:**
→ Phase margin is 70 degrees.
- Under-damping:**
→ Phase margin is 64 degrees.

Outline

1. Research Background

- Motivation, objectives and achievements
- Self-loop function in a transfer function

2. Analysis of High-Order Transfer Functions

- Operating regions of second-order complex functions

3. Ringing Test for Unity-Gain Amplifiers

- Behaviors of op amps with feedback networks

4. Ringing Test for High-Order Low-Pass Filters

- Behaviors of Sallen-Key low-pass filters

5. Conclusions

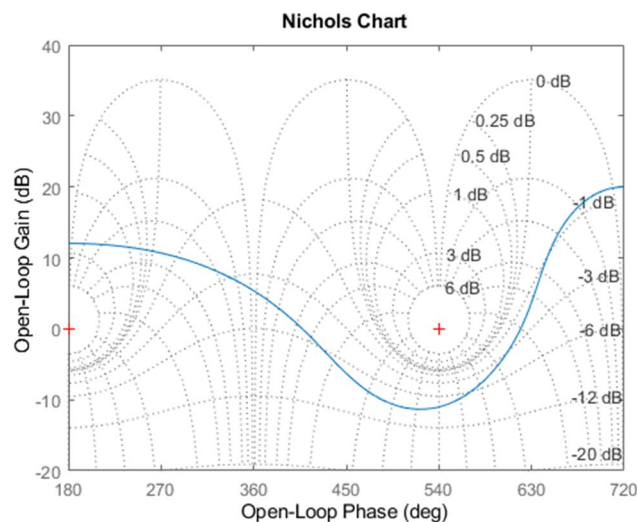
5. Comparison

Features	This work	Replica measurement	Middlebrook's method
Main objective	Self-loop function	Loop gain	Loop gain
Transfer function accuracy	Yes	No	No
Ringling Test	Yes	Yes	Yes
Operating region accuracy	Yes	No	No
Phase margin accuracy	Yes	No	No
Passive networks	Yes	No	No

5. Discussions

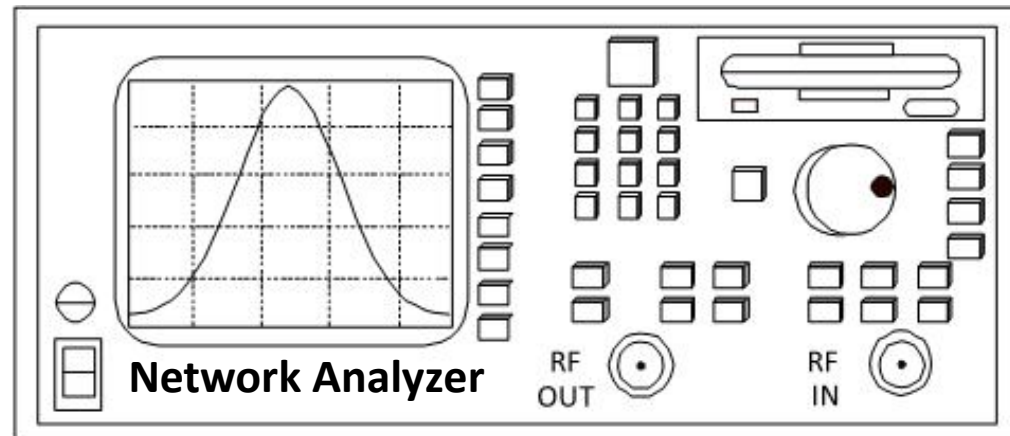
- Loop gain is **independent of** frequency variable.
- Loop gain in adaptive feedback network is **significantly different from** self-loop function in linear negative feedback network.

Nichols chart is **only used** in **MATLAB simulation**.



<https://www.mathworks.com/help/control/ref/nichols.html>

Nichols chart **isn't** used **widely** in practical measurements (**only used** in control theory).



➔ **(Technology limitations)**

5. Conclusions

This work:

- Proposal of alternating current conservation for deriving **self-loop function** in a transfer function
→ **Observation of self-loop function** can help us **optimize the behavior** of a high-order system.
- Implementations of circuits and measurements of self-loop functions for Sallen-Key low-pass filters
→ **Theoretical concepts of stability test** are verified by **laboratory simulations** and **practical experiments**.

Future of work:

- **Stability test** for **parasitic components** in transmission lines, printed circuit boards, physical layout layers

References

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Thank you very much!

ご清聴ありがとうございました。

