
Filters in the s-Plane

NDSU ECE 376

Lecture #26

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Please visit [Bison Academy](#) for corresponding lecture notes, homework sets, and solutions

LaPlace Transforms

Circuits with inductors or capacitors are described by differential equations

$$V = L \frac{dI}{dt}$$

$$I = C \frac{dV}{dt}$$

LaPlace transforms assume

$$y = e^{st}$$

giving

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = s e^{st} = s y$$

Differential Equations and Transfer Functions

With the LaPlace assumption, you can turn differential equations into transfer functions

Example:

$$\frac{d^3y}{dt^3} + 7\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + 9\frac{dy}{dt} + 15y = 10\frac{dx}{dt} + 3x$$

Using LaPlace notation

$$s^3Y + 7s^2Y + 9sY + 15Y = 10sX + 3X$$

or

$$Y = \left(\frac{10s+3}{s^3+7s^2+9s+15} \right) X$$

$G(s)$ is called the *transfer function*

$$G(s) = \left(\frac{10s+3}{s^3+7s^2+9s+15} \right)$$

Note that this goes both ways:

Example: Find the differential equation relating X and Y

$$Y = \left(\frac{10s+3}{s^3+7s^2+9s+15} \right) X$$

Solution: Cross multiply

$$(s^3 + 7s^2 + 9s + 15)Y = (10s + 3)X$$

Replace each 's' with $\frac{d}{dt}$

$$\frac{d^3y}{dt^3} + 7\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + 9\frac{dy}{dt} + 15y = 10\frac{dx}{dt} + 3x$$

Analyzing Filtes for Sinusoidal Inputs

$G(s)$ is the gain at all frequencies.

- For a specific frequency, substitute $s \rightarrow j\omega$
 - Exprss X in phasor form (real = cosine, imag = -sine)
 - Output = Gain * Input
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Example: Find $y(t)$:

$$Y = \left(\frac{10s+3}{s^3+7s^2+9s+15} \right) X$$

$$x(t) = 2 \cos(4t) + 3 \sin(4t)$$

Solution: Express X using phasor notation

$$X = 2 - j3$$

$$s = j4$$

$$Y = \left(\frac{10s+3}{s^3+7s^2+9s+15} \right)_{s=j4} X = (-0.138 - j0.372)(2 - j3)$$

$$Y = -1.394 - j0.330$$

$$y(t) = -1.394 \cos(4t) + 0.330 \sin(4t)$$

Example 2: Multiple Inputs

- Use superposition

Example: Find $y(t)$

$$Y = \left(\frac{10s+3}{s^3+7s^2+9s+15} \right) X$$

$$x(t) = 3 \cos(4t) + 5 \sin(6t)$$

Solution: Treat this as two separate problems:

$$x_1(t) = 3 \cos(4t)$$

$$x_2(t) = 5 \sin(6t)$$

$$x_1(t) = 3 \cos(4t)$$

$$Y = \left(\frac{10s+3}{s^3+7s^2+9s+15} \right)_{s=j4} (3 + j0) = 0.415 - j1.117$$

$$y_1(t) = 0.415 \cos(4t) + 1.117 \sin(4t)$$

$$x_2(t) = 5 \sin(6t)$$

$$Y = \left(\frac{10s+3}{s^3+7s^2+9s+15} \right)_{s=j6} (0 - j5) = -0.642 + j0.640$$

$$y_2(t) = -0.642 \cos(6t) - 0.640 \sin(6t)$$

$$y(t) = y_1 + y_2$$

Filter Analysis: Bode Plots

Easy:

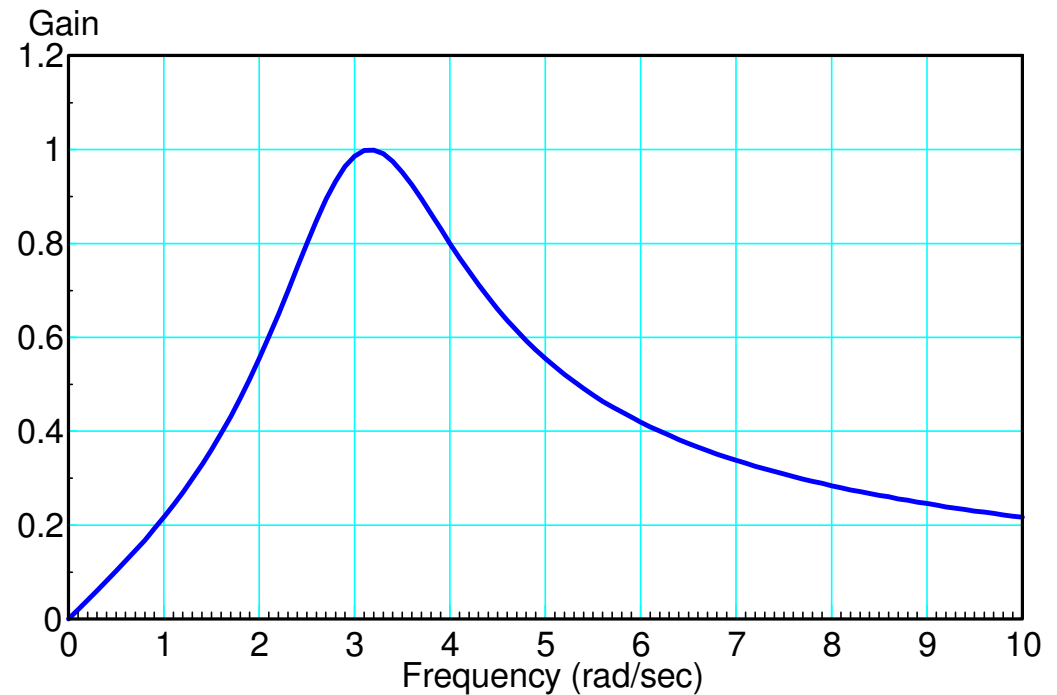
- Plug in $s = j\omega$
- Plot gain vs. frequency

Example:

$$G(s) = \left(\frac{2s}{s^2 + 2s + 10} \right)$$

Matlab Code:

```
w = [0:0.01:10]';  
s = j*w;  
G = 2*s ./ (s.^2 + 2*s + 10);  
plot(w, abs(G));  
xlabel('Frequency (rad/sec)');  
ylabel('Gain');
```



Filter Design: Poles and Zeros

In general, $G(s)$ will have a numerator and a denominator polynomial

- The zeros are the roots of the numerator polynomial
- The poles are the roots of the denominator polynomial.

$$G(s) = k \left(\frac{z(s)}{p(s)} \right)$$

Graphically, this is

$$G(s) = k \cdot \frac{\Pi(\text{distance from the zeros to } j\omega)}{\Pi(\text{distance from the poles to } j\omega)}$$

meaning

- **Place zeros near frequencies where you want the gain to be small**
 - **Place poles near frequencies where you want the gain to be large**
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Types of Filters

Filters are categorized into different types:

Filter Type	Characteristic	Example
Low-Pass	Low-frequency gain is large (pass) High-frequency gain is small (reject)	$\left(\frac{10}{s+10} \right)$
High-Pass	High-frequency gain is large (pass) Low-frequency gain is small (reject)	$\left(\frac{10s}{s+10} \right)$
Band-Pass	High-frequency gain is small Low frequency gain is small Mid-range frequency is large	$\left(\frac{2s}{(s+1+j50)(s+1-j50)} \right)$

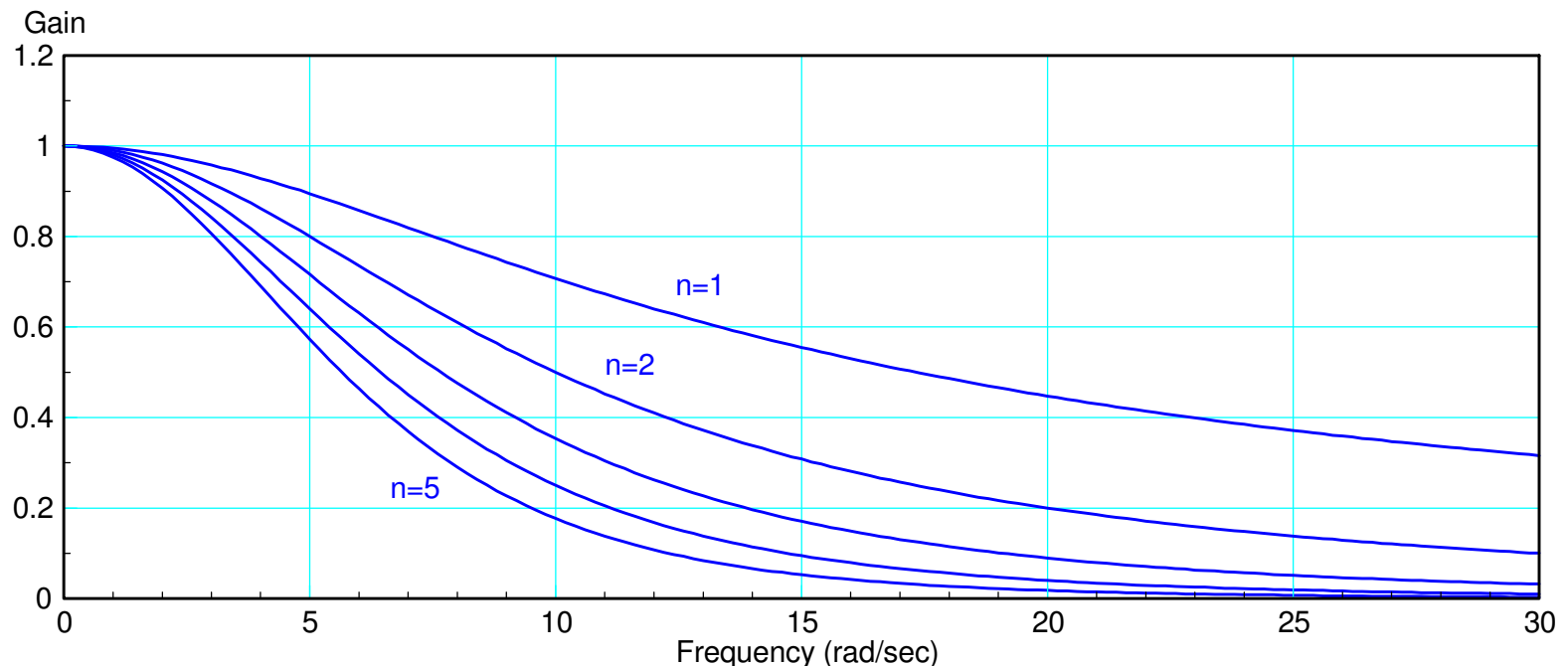
A filter's order is the number of poles the filter has. In general, the more poles a filter has, the better the filter.

RC Filter:

Closest approximation to an ideal low-pass filter with

- Gain < 1
- No zeros
- Poles can only be real

Example: $G(s) = \left(\frac{10}{s+10} \right)^n$



Butterworth Filter

Closest approximation to an ideal low-pass filter with

- Gain < 1
- No zeros
- Poles can be real or complex

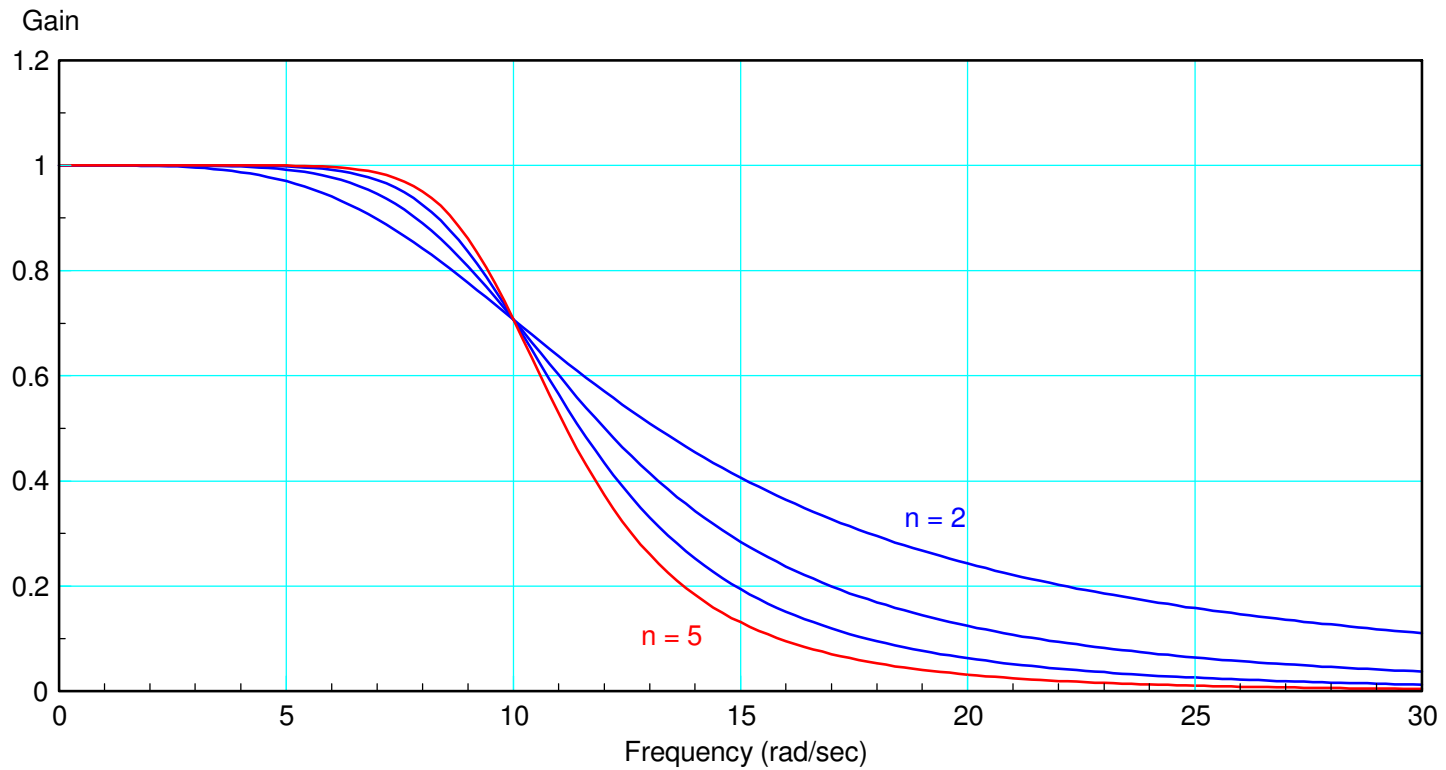
Solution: Pole Locations for Corner = 1 rad/sec

	N=2	N=3	N=4	N=5	N=6
zeros	none	none	none	none	none
poles	$-1 \angle \pm 45^{\circ}$	-1 $-1 \angle \pm 60^{\circ}$	$-1 \angle \pm 22.5^{\circ}$ $-1 \angle \pm 67.5^{\circ}$	-1 $-1 \angle \pm 36^{\circ}$ $-1 \angle \pm 72^{\circ}$	$-1 \angle \pm 15^{\circ}$ $-1 \angle \pm 45^{\circ}$ $-1 \angle \pm 75^{\circ}$

Butterworth Example:

- 5th-Order Butterworth filter
- Corner = 10 rad/sec

$$G(s) = \left(\frac{10^5}{(s+10)(s+10\angle\pm 36^\circ)(s+10\angle\pm 72^\circ)} \right)$$



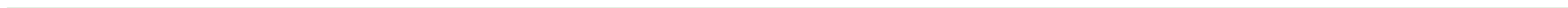
Chebyshev Filter

Closest approximation to an ideal low-pass filter with

- Gain $< 1 + \epsilon$
- No zeros
- Poles can be real or complex

Solution: Pole location for $\epsilon = 0.02$ and corner = 1 rad/sec

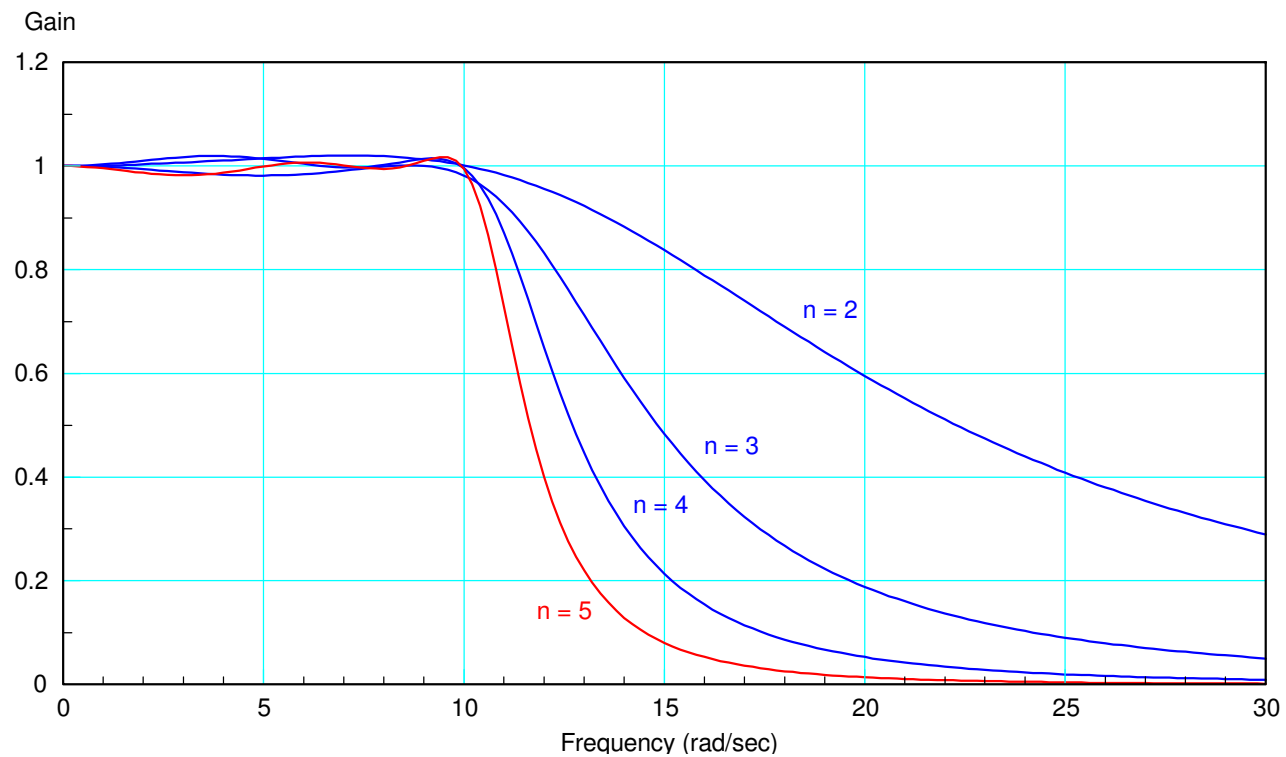
	N=2	N=3	N=4	N=5	N=6
zeros	none	none	none	none	none
poles	$-1.60 \angle \pm 50.7^\circ$	-0.85 $-1.21 \angle \pm 69.5^\circ$	$-0.72 \angle \pm 38.5^\circ$ $-1.11 \angle \pm 77.8^\circ$	-0.48 $-0.76 \angle \pm 59.3^\circ$ $-1.06 \angle \pm 82.0^\circ$	$-0.47 \angle \pm 36.1$ $-0.81 \angle \pm 69.8$ $-1.04 \angle \pm 84.4$



Chebyshev Example:

- 5th-Order Butterworth filter
- Corner = 10 rad/sec

$$G(s) = \left(\frac{4.8 \cdot 7.6^2 \cdot 10.6^2}{(s+4.8)(s+7.6\angle\pm 59.3^\circ)(s+10.6\angle\pm 82^\circ)} \right)$$

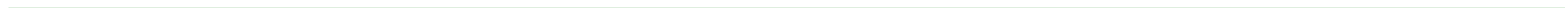


Filter Design with *fminsearch*()

Another way to design filters is to use the function *fminsearch*

Problem: Find { a,b,c,d,e } so that

$$G(s) = \left(\frac{a}{(s^2+bs+c)(s^2+ds+e)} \right) \approx \begin{cases} 1 & \omega < 4 \\ 0 & \textit{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



```
function [ J ] = costf( z )
    a = z(1);
    b = z(2);
    c = z(3);
    d = z(4);
    e = z(5);

    w = [0:0.01:10]';
    s = j*w;
    Gideal = 1 .* (w < 4);

    G = a ./ ( (s.^2 + b*s + c) .* (s.^2 + d*s + e) );

    E = abs(Gideal) - abs(G);

    J = sum(E.^2);

end
```

Minimizing the cost:

```
>> [a,b] = fminsearch('costf',10*rand(1,5))
```

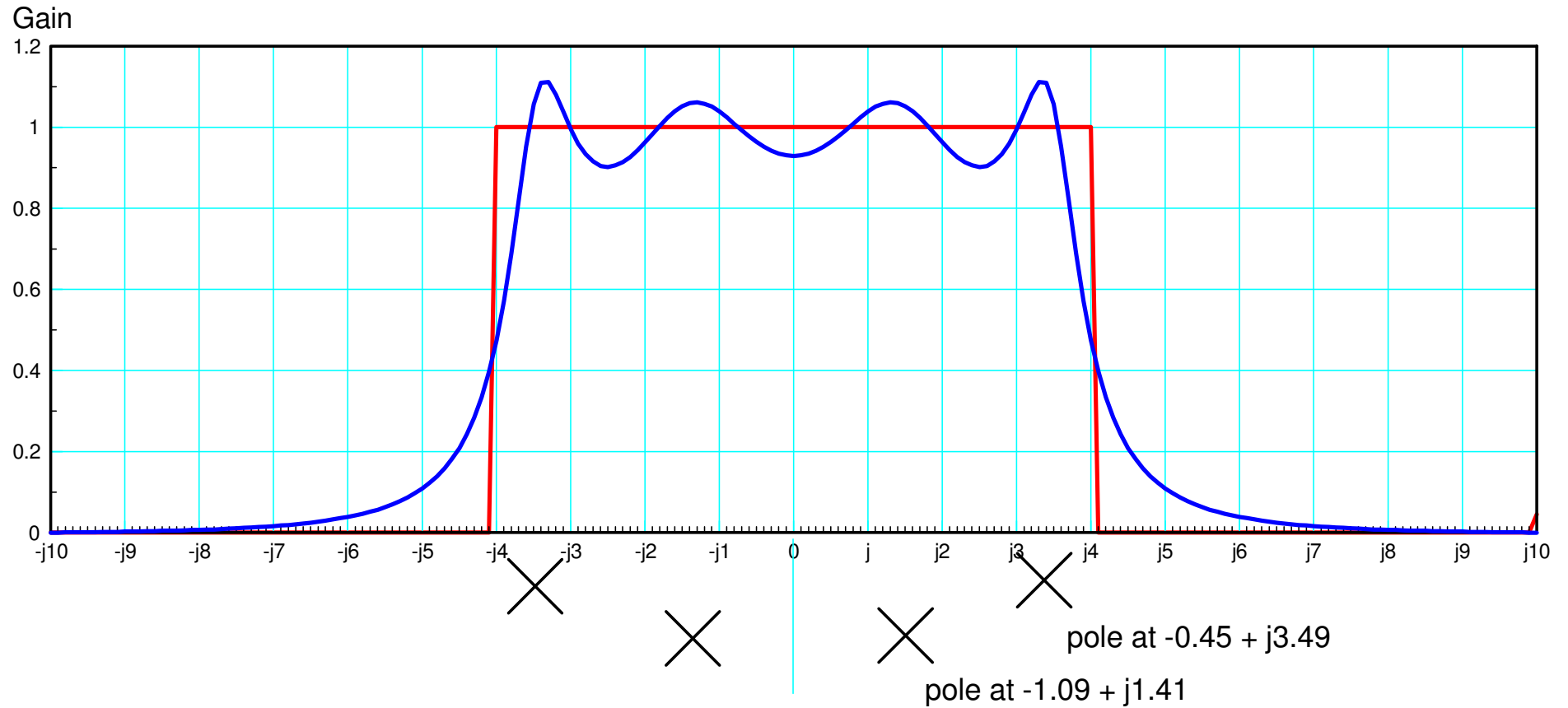
```
a =    36.6716    0.8314   12.3599    2.1860    3.1799
```

```
b =    13.0720
```

meaning

$$G(s) = \left(\frac{36.67}{(s^2 + 0.8314s + 12.3599)(s^2 + 2.1860s + 3.1799)} \right)$$

The gain vs. frequency and pole location looks like:



Summary

Filters are circuits whose gain changes with frequency

Phasors make filter analysis easy

- Assumes sinusoidal inputs
- Requires the use of complex numbers

Filter design is a little harder

- Place poles close to frequencies you want to pass
 - Place zeros close to frequencies you want to reject
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