

Bode Plots



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Interesting facts:

- Alexander Graham Bell, who invented the telephone in 1876, could never talk to his wife on the phone (she was deaf).
 - Bell considered the telephone an intrusion and refused to put one in his office.
- * The unit Bel turned out to be too large in practice \rightarrow deciBel (i.e., one tenth of a Bel).

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For example, if $P_1 = 20 \text{ W}$ and $P_{\text{ref}} = 1 \text{ W}$,

$$P_1 = 10 \log_{10} (20 \text{ W}/1 \text{ W}) = 10 \log_{10} (20) = 13 \text{ dB}.$$

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- * The gain of a voltage-to-voltage amplifier is often expressed in dB. In that case, the ratio V_o^2/V_i^2 is considered (since $P \propto V^2$ or $P \propto I^2$ for a resistor).

$$A_V \text{ in dB} = 10 \log_{10} |V_o/V_i|^2 = 20 \log_{10} |V_o/V_i|,$$

- * “dBm” is a related unit used to describe voltages with a reference of 1 mV.

$$\text{For example, } 2.2 \text{ V: } 20 \log_{10} \left(\frac{2.2 \text{ V}}{1 \text{ mV}} \right) = 6.85 \text{ dBm}.$$

Example



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Let \hat{V}_i and \hat{V}_o be the input and output amplitudes.

If $\hat{V}_i = 2.5$ mV and $A_V = 36.3$ dB, compute \hat{V}_o in dBm and mV.

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$$\text{Since } \widehat{V}_o \text{ (dBm)} = 20 \log_{10} \left(\frac{\widehat{V}_o}{1 \text{ mV}} \right),$$

$$\widehat{V}_o = 10^x \times 1 \text{ mV, where } x = \frac{1}{20} \widehat{V}_o \text{ (in dBm)}$$

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$$\rightarrow \widehat{V}_o = 162.5 \text{ mV.}$$

Example



Let \widehat{V}_i and \widehat{V}_o be the input and output amplitudes.

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$$\rightarrow \widehat{V}_o = 162.5 \text{ mV.}$$

Method 2:

$$A_V = 36.3 \text{ dB}$$

$$\rightarrow 20 \log_{10} A_V = 36.3 \rightarrow A_V = 65.$$

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$$\widehat{V}_o = A_V \times \widehat{V}_i = 65 \times 2.5 \text{ mV} = 162.5 \text{ mV.}$$

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$$\widehat{V}_o = A_V \times \widehat{V}_i = 65 \times 2.5 \text{ mV} = 162.5 \text{ mV.}$$

$$\widehat{V}_o \text{ in dBm} = 20 \log_{10} \left(\frac{162.5 \text{ mV}}{1 \text{ mV}} \right) = 44.2 \text{ dBm.}$$

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Industrial area	75 dB
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Industrial area	75 dB
Commercial area	65 dB
Residential area	55 dB
Silence zone	50 dB





- * The transfer function of a circuit such as an amplifier or a filter is given by,

$$H(s) = V_o(s)/V_i(s), \quad s = j\omega.$$

$$\text{e.g., } H(s) = \frac{K}{1 + s\tau} = \frac{K}{1 + j\omega\tau}$$

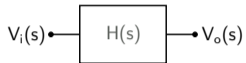


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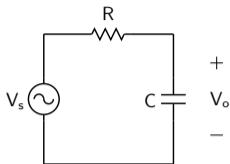
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- * $H(j\omega)$ is a complex number, and a complete description of $H(j\omega)$ involves
 - (a) a plot of $|H(j\omega)|$ versus ω (Bode magnitude plot),
 - (b) a plot of $\angle H(j\omega)$ versus ω (Bode phase plot).



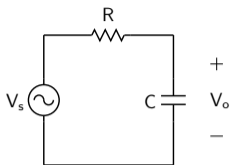
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- * Bode gave simple rules which allow construction of the above plots in an approximate (asymptotic) manner.

A simple transfer function



$$V_o = \frac{(1/sC)}{R + (1/sC)} V_s,$$
$$\rightarrow H(s) = \frac{1}{1+sRC} = \frac{1}{1 + (j\omega/\omega_0)},$$
$$\omega_0 = \frac{1}{RC}.$$

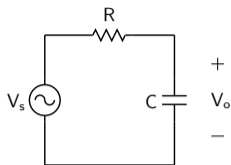
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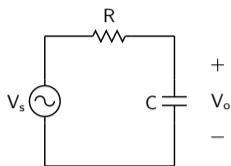


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For $\omega \ll \omega_0$, $\frac{\omega}{\omega_0} \ll 1$, $|H(j\omega)| \rightarrow 1$.

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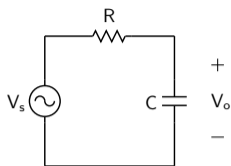
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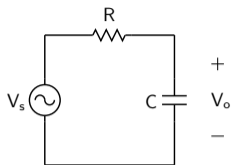
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- * The magnitude and phase of $H(j\omega)$ are given by,

$$|H(j\omega)| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + (\omega/\omega_0)^2}}, \quad \angle H(j\omega) = -\tan^{-1} \left(\frac{\omega}{\omega_0} \right).$$

A simple transfer function



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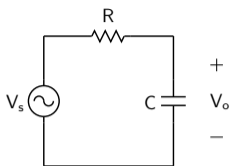
$$\text{For } \omega \gg \omega_0, \frac{\omega}{\omega_0} \gg 1, H(j\omega) \approx \frac{1}{j \frac{\omega}{\omega_0}}, \text{ and } |H(j\omega)| \rightarrow \frac{1}{\omega}.$$

- * The magnitude and phase of $H(j\omega)$ are given by,

$$|H(j\omega)| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + (\omega/\omega_0)^2}}, \quad \angle H(j\omega) = -\tan^{-1} \left(\frac{\omega}{\omega_0} \right).$$

- * We are generally interested in a large variation in ω (several orders), and its effect on $|H|$ and $\angle H$.

A simple transfer function



$$V_o = \frac{(1/sC)}{R + (1/sC)} V_s,$$
$$\rightarrow H(s) = \frac{1}{1+sRC} = \frac{1}{1 + (j\omega/\omega_0)},$$
$$\omega_0 = \frac{1}{RC}.$$

- * The circuit behaves like a low-pass filter.

$$\text{For } \omega \ll \omega_0, \frac{\omega}{\omega_0} \ll 1, |H(j\omega)| \rightarrow 1.$$

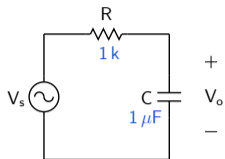
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- * We are generally interested in a large variation in ω (several orders), and its effect on $|H|$ and $\angle H$.
- * The magnitude ($|H|$) varies by orders of magnitude as well.
The phase ($\angle H$) varies from 0 (for $\omega \ll \omega_0$) to $-\pi/2$ (for $\omega \gg \omega_0$).

A simple transfer function: magnitude



$$V_o = \frac{(1/sC)}{R + (1/sC)} V_s,$$

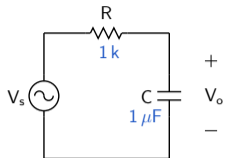
$$\rightarrow H(s) = \frac{1}{1+sRC} = \frac{1}{1+(j\omega/\omega_0)},$$

$$\omega_0 = \frac{1}{RC} = 10^3 \text{ rad/s}.$$

$$|H(j\omega)| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+(\omega/\omega_0)^2}}$$

$$\angle(H(j\omega)) = -\tan^{-1}\left(\frac{\omega}{\omega_0}\right)$$

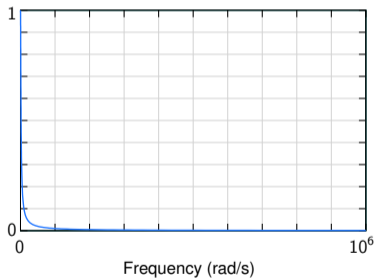
A simple transfer function: magnitude



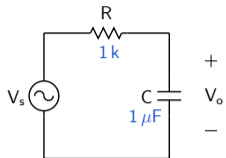
$$V_o = \frac{(1/sC)}{R + (1/sC)} V_s,$$
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$$|H(j\omega)| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+(\omega/\omega_0)^2}}$$

$$\angle(H(j\omega)) = -\tan^{-1}\left(\frac{\omega}{\omega_0}\right)$$



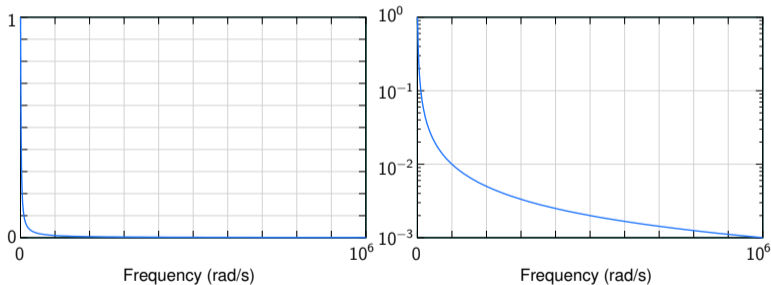
A simple transfer function: magnitude



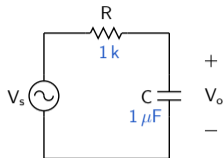
$$V_o = \frac{(1/sC)}{R + (1/sC)} V_s,$$
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$$\omega_0 = \frac{1}{RC} = 10^3 \text{ rad/s}.$$

$$|H(j\omega)| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+(\omega/\omega_0)^2}}$$

$$\angle(H(j\omega)) = -\tan^{-1}\left(\frac{\omega}{\omega_0}\right)$$



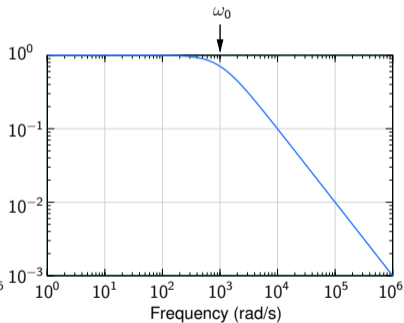
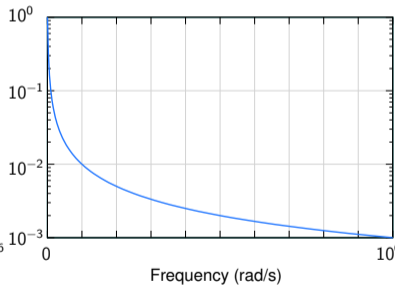
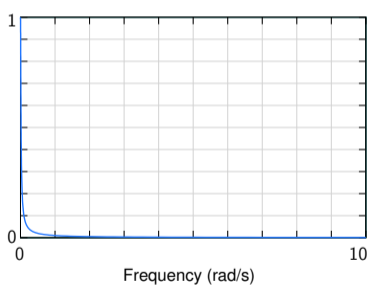
A simple transfer function: magnitude



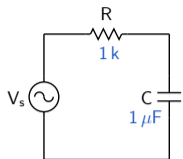
$$V_o = \frac{(1/sC)}{R + (1/sC)} V_s,$$
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A simple transfer function: magnitude

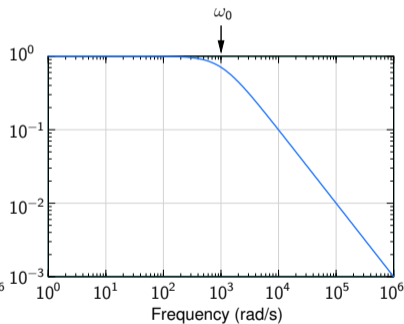
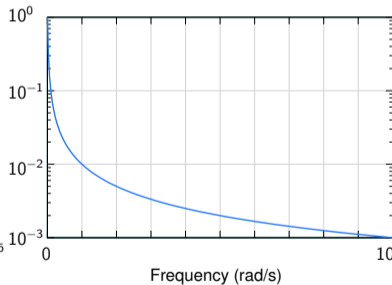
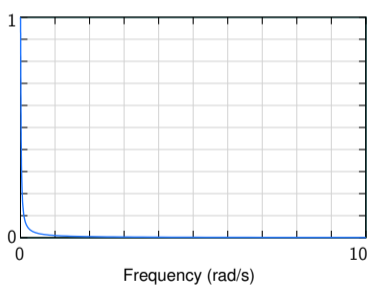


+
V_o
-

$$V_o = \frac{(1/sC)}{R + (1/sC)} V_s,$$
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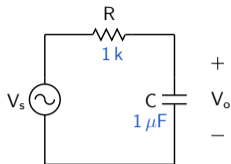
$$|H(j\omega)| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + (\omega/\omega_0)^2}}$$

$$\angle(H(j\omega)) = -\tan^{-1}\left(\frac{\omega}{\omega_0}\right)$$



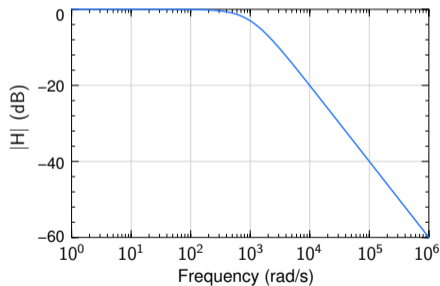
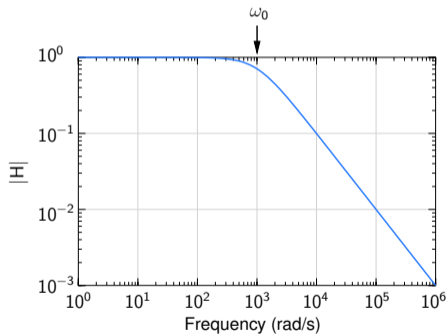
Since ω and $|H(j\omega)|$ vary by several orders of magnitude, a linear ω - or $|H|$ -axis is not appropriate $\rightarrow \log |H|$ is plotted against $\log \omega$.

A simple transfer function: magnitude

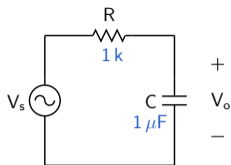


$$V_o = \frac{(1/sC)}{R + (1/sC)} V_s,$$
$$\rightarrow H(s) = \frac{1}{1+sRC} = \frac{1}{1 + (j\omega/\omega_0)},$$
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$$|H(j\omega)| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + (\omega/\omega_0)^2}}$$
$$\angle(H(j\omega)) = -\tan^{-1}\left(\frac{\omega}{\omega_0}\right)$$



A simple transfer function: magnitude



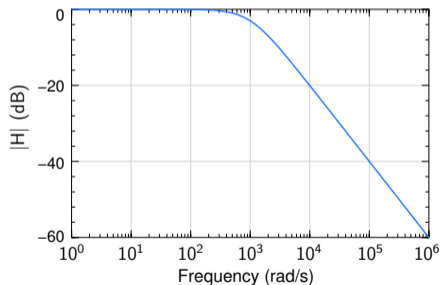
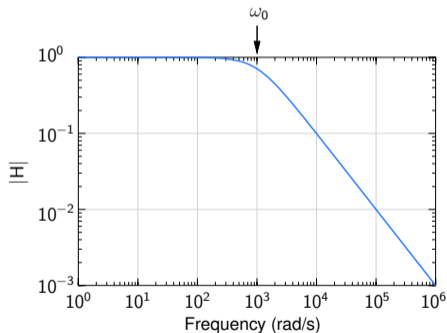
$$V_o = \frac{(1/sC)}{R + (1/sC)} V_s,$$

$$\rightarrow H(s) = \frac{1}{1+sRC} = \frac{1}{1+(j\omega/\omega_0)},$$

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$$|H(j\omega)| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+(\omega/\omega_0)^2}}$$

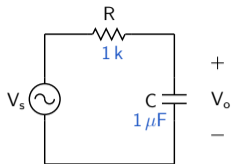
$$\angle(H(j\omega)) = -\tan^{-1}\left(\frac{\omega}{\omega_0}\right)$$



Note that the *shape* of the plot does not change.

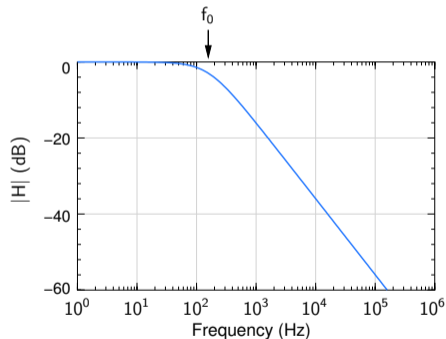
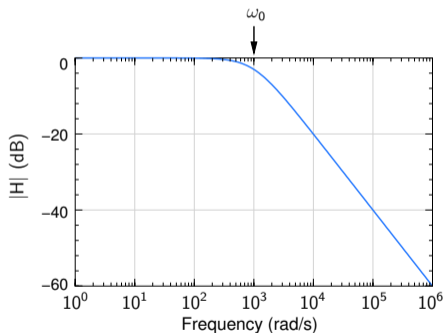
$|H|$ (dB) = $20 \log |H|$ is simply a scaled version of $\log |H|$.

A simple transfer function: magnitude

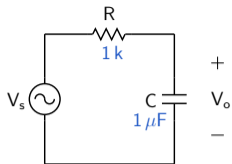


$$V_o = \frac{(1/sC)}{R + (1/sC)} V_s,$$
$$\rightarrow H(s) = \frac{1}{1+sRC} = \frac{1}{1 + (j\omega/\omega_0)},$$
$$\omega_0 = \frac{1}{RC} = 10^3 \text{ rad/s}, f_0 = 159 \text{ Hz}.$$

$$|H(j\omega)| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + (\omega/\omega_0)^2}}$$
$$\angle(H(j\omega)) = -\tan^{-1}\left(\frac{\omega}{\omega_0}\right)$$

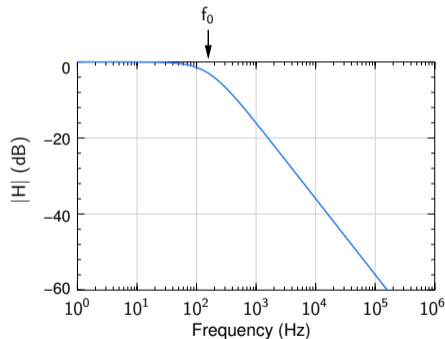
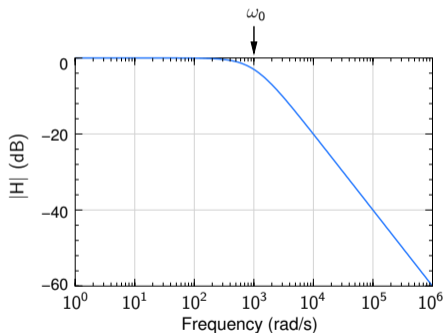


A simple transfer function: magnitude



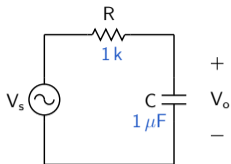
$$V_o = \frac{(1/sC)}{R + (1/sC)} V_s,$$
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$$|H(j\omega)| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + (\omega/\omega_0)^2}}$$
$$\angle(H(j\omega)) = -\tan^{-1}\left(\frac{\omega}{\omega_0}\right)$$



Since $\omega = 2\pi f$, $\log \omega = \log(2\pi) + \log f$ which causes a shift in the x direction, but the *shape* of the plot does not change.

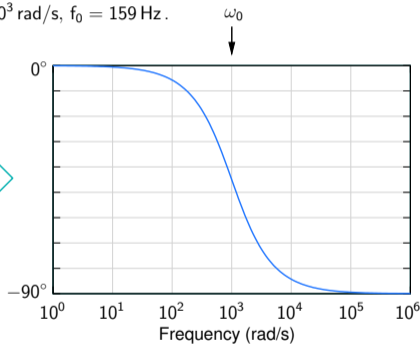
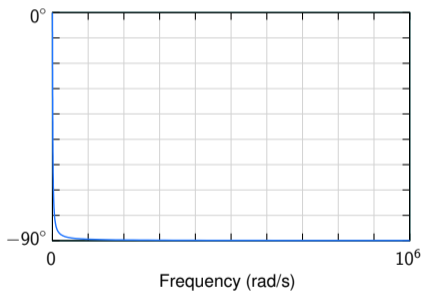
A simple transfer function: phase



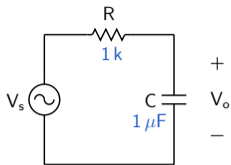
$$V_o = \frac{(1/sC)}{R + (1/sC)} V_s,$$
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$$\omega_0 = \frac{1}{RC} = 10^3 \text{ rad/s}, f_0 = 159 \text{ Hz}.$$

$$|H(j\omega)| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + (\omega/\omega_0)^2}}$$

$$\angle(H(j\omega)) = -\tan^{-1}\left(\frac{\omega}{\omega_0}\right)$$



A simple transfer function: phase



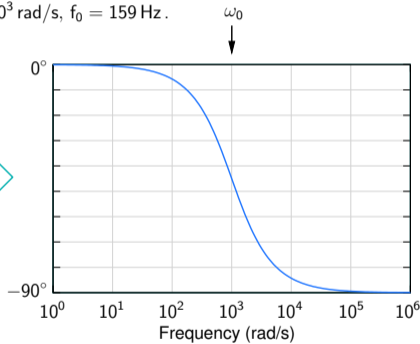
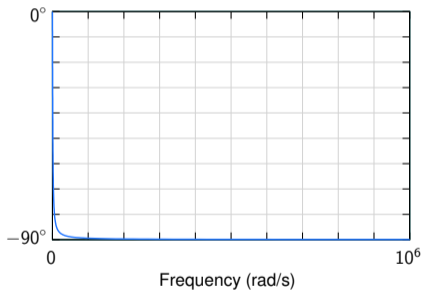
$$V_o = \frac{(1/sC)}{R + (1/sC)} V_s,$$

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$$\omega_0 = \frac{1}{RC} = 10^3 \text{ rad/s}, f_0 = 159 \text{ Hz}.$$

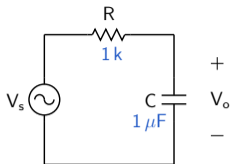
$$|H(j\omega)| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + (\omega/\omega_0)^2}}$$

$$\angle(H(j\omega)) = -\tan^{-1}\left(\frac{\omega}{\omega_0}\right)$$



- * Since $\angle H = -\tan^{-1}(\omega/\omega_0)$ varies in a limited range (0° to -90° in this example), a linear axis is appropriate for $\angle H$.

A simple transfer function: phase



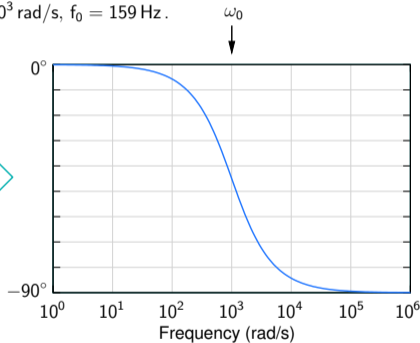
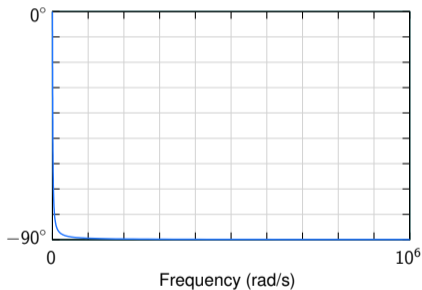
$$V_o = \frac{(1/sC)}{R + (1/sC)} V_s,$$

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$$|H(j\omega)| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + (\omega/\omega_0)^2}}$$

$$\angle(H(j\omega)) = -\tan^{-1}\left(\frac{\omega}{\omega_0}\right)$$



- * Since $\angle H = -\tan^{-1}(\omega/\omega_0)$ varies in a limited range (0° to -90° in this example), a linear axis is appropriate for $\angle H$.
- * As in the magnitude plot, we use a log axis for ω , since we are interested in a wide range of ω .

Consider $H(s) = \frac{K(1 + s/z_1)(1 + s/z_2) \cdots (1 + s/z_M)}{(1 + s/p_1)(1 + s/p_2) \cdots (1 + s/p_N)}$.

$$\text{Consider } H(s) = \frac{K(1 + s/z_1)(1 + s/z_2) \cdots (1 + s/z_M)}{(1 + s/p_1)(1 + s/p_2) \cdots (1 + s/p_N)} .$$

$-z_1, -z_2, \dots$ are called the “zeros” of $H(s)$.

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(In addition, there could be terms like s, s^2, \dots in the numerator.)

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We will assume, for simplicity, that the zeros and poles are real and distinct.

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Construction of Bode plots involves

- (a) computing approximate contribution of each pole/zero as a function of ω .

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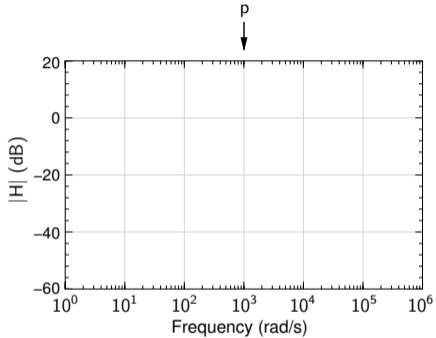
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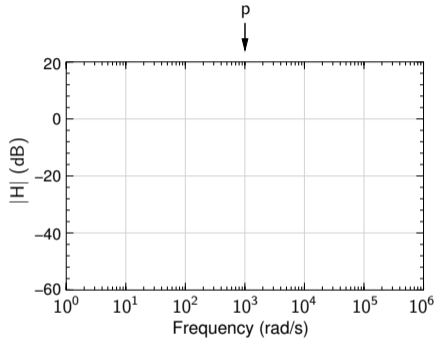
Construction of Bode plots involves

- (a) computing approximate contribution of each pole/zero as a function of ω .
- (b) combining the various contributions to obtain $|H|$ and $\angle H$ versus ω .



Consider $H(s) = \frac{1}{1 + s/p} \rightarrow H(j\omega) = \frac{1}{1 + j(\omega/p)}, |H(j\omega)| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + (\omega/p)^2}}$.

In this example, $p = 10^3$ rad/s.

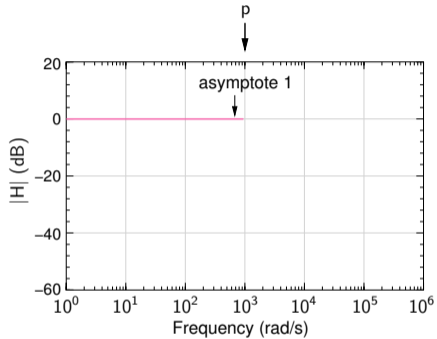


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In this example, $p = 10^3$ rad/s.

Asymptote 1:

$\omega \ll p: |H| \rightarrow 1, 20 \log |H| = 0$ dB.

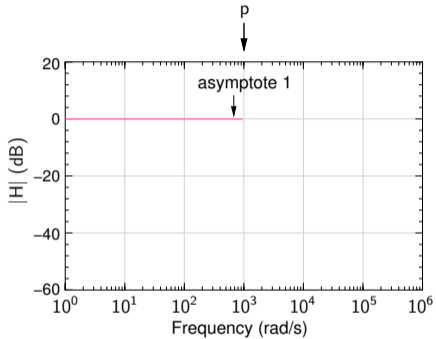


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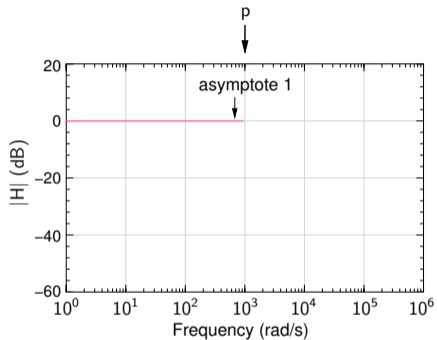
In this example, $p = 10^3$ rad/s.

Asymptote 1:

$$\omega \ll p: |H| \rightarrow 1, 20 \log |H| = 0 \text{ dB.}$$

Asymptote 2:

$$\omega \gg p: |H| \rightarrow \frac{1}{\omega/p} = \frac{p}{\omega} \rightarrow |H| = 20 \log p - 20 \log \omega \text{ (dB)}$$



$$\text{Consider } H(s) = \frac{1}{1 + s/p} \rightarrow H(j\omega) = \frac{1}{1 + j(\omega/p)}, |H(j\omega)| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + (\omega/p)^2}}.$$

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$$\omega \ll p: |H| \rightarrow 1, 20 \log |H| = 0 \text{ dB.}$$

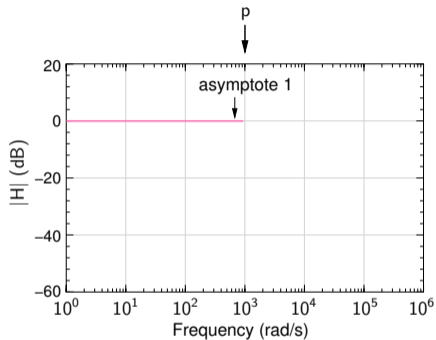
Asymptote 2:

$$\omega \gg p: |H| \rightarrow \frac{1}{\omega/p} = \frac{p}{\omega} \rightarrow |H| = 20 \log p - 20 \log \omega \text{ (dB)}$$

Consider two values of ω : ω_1 and $10\omega_1$.

$$|H|_1 = 20 \log p - 20 \log \omega_1 \text{ (dB)}$$

$$|H|_2 = 20 \log p - 20 \log (10\omega_1) \text{ (dB)}$$



$$\text{Consider } H(s) = \frac{1}{1 + s/p} \rightarrow H(j\omega) = \frac{1}{1 + j(\omega/p)}, |H(j\omega)| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + (\omega/p)^2}}$$

In this example, $p = 10^3$ rad/s.

Asymptote 1:

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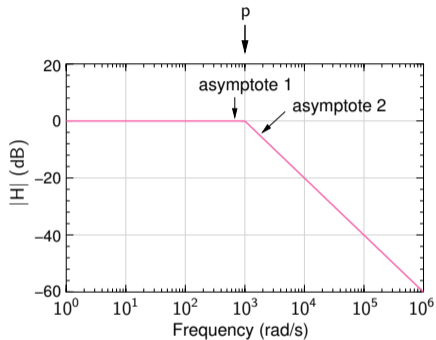
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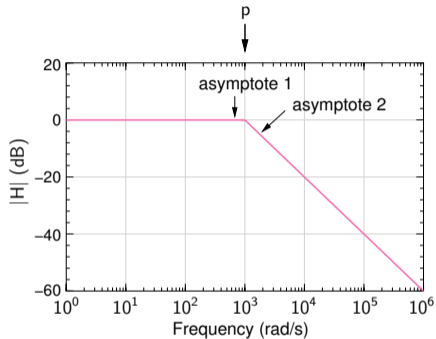
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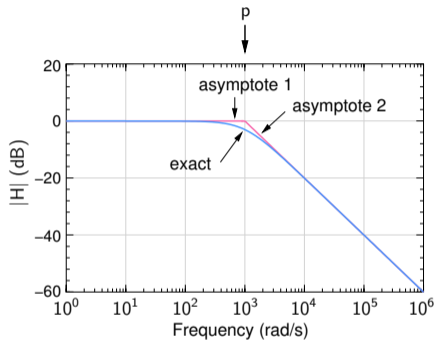
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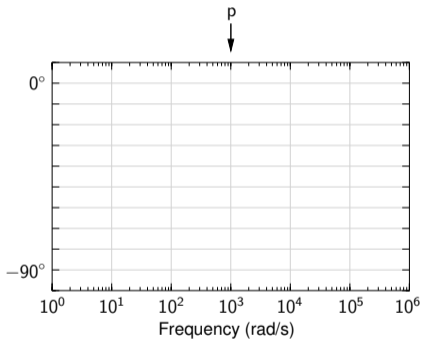
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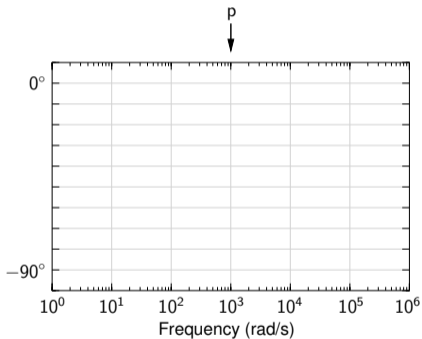
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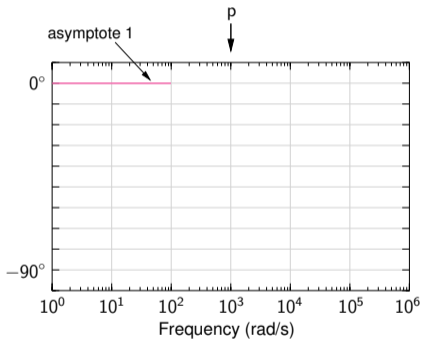


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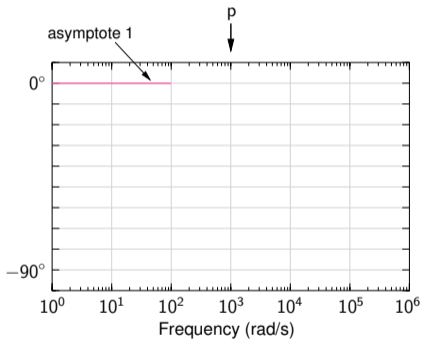


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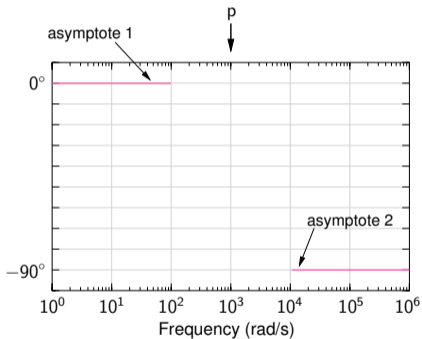
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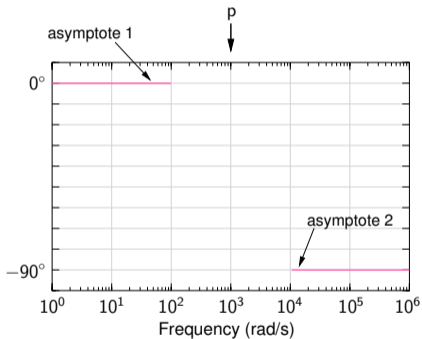
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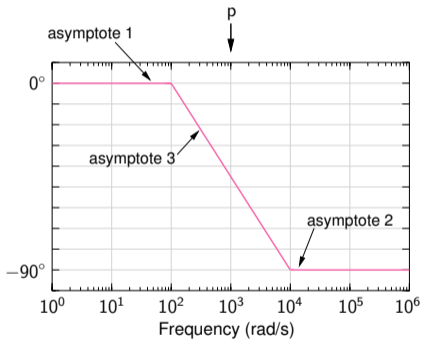
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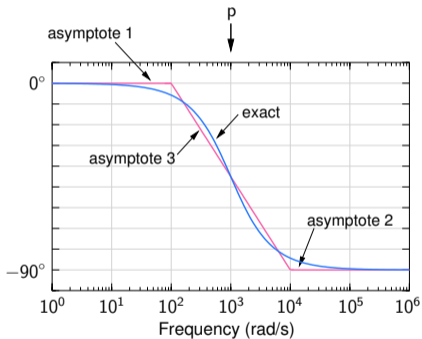
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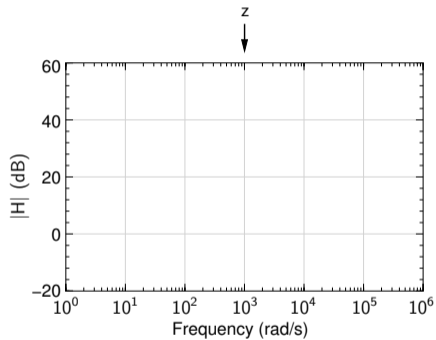
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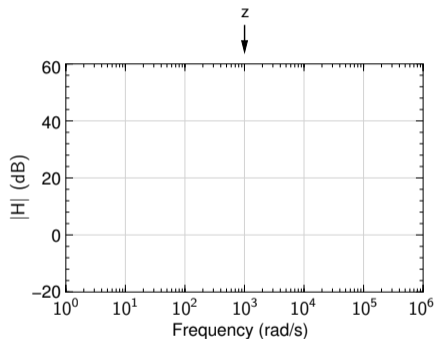
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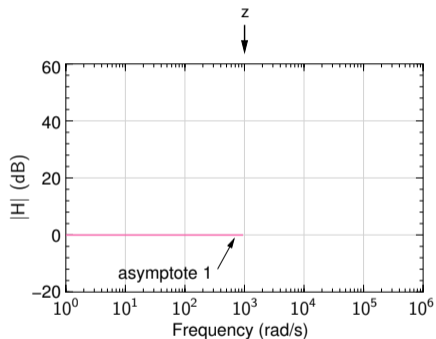


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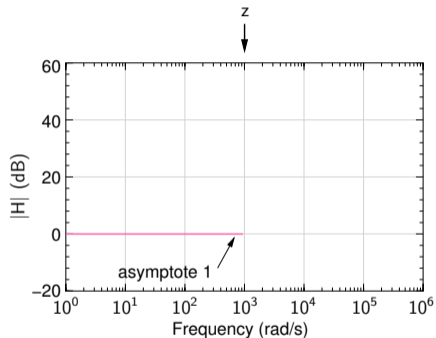


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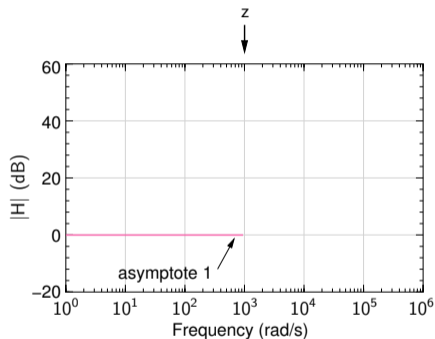
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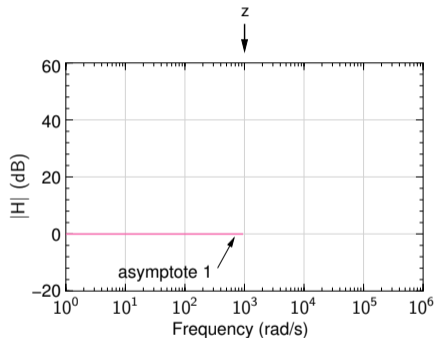
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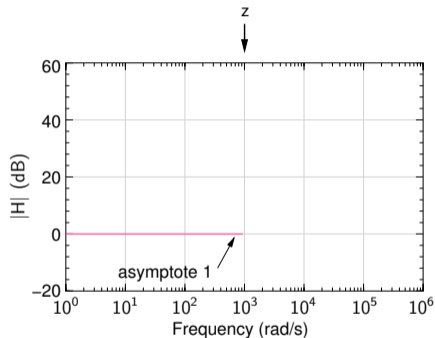
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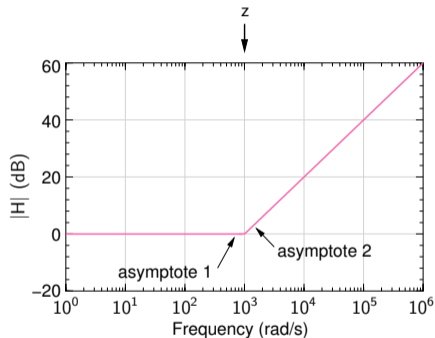
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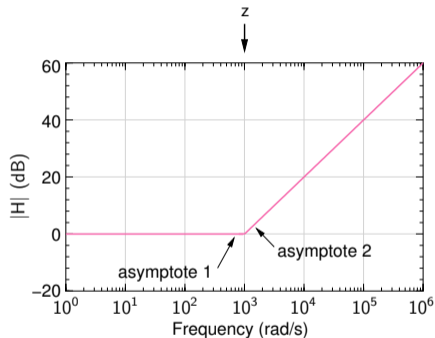
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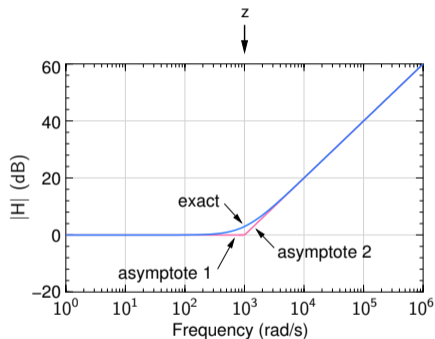
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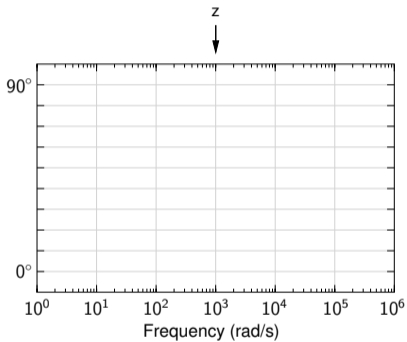
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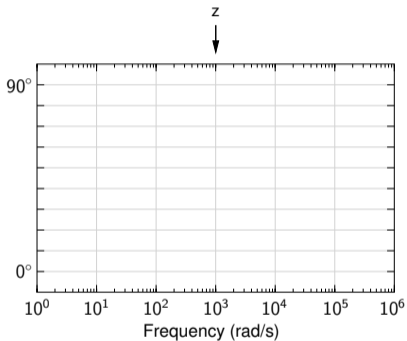
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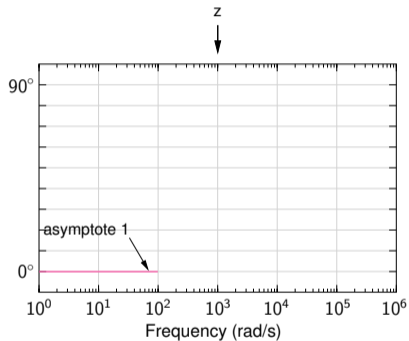


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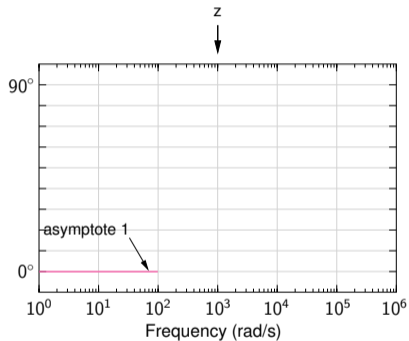


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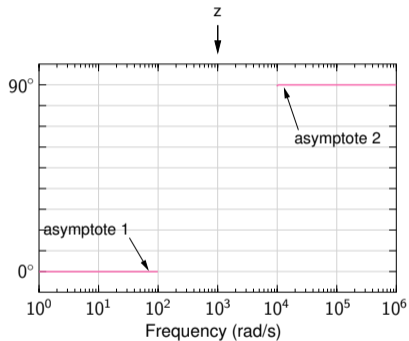
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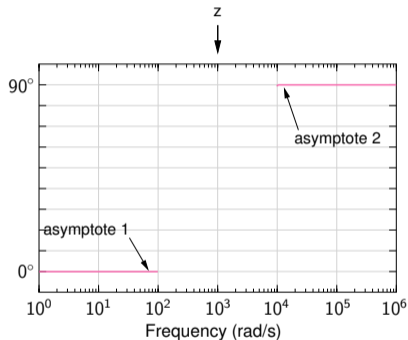
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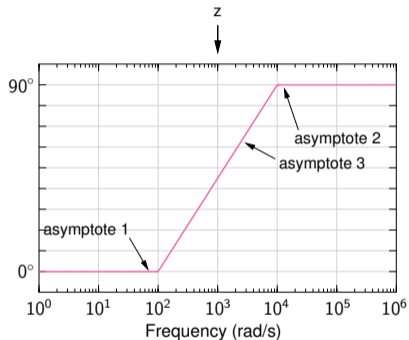
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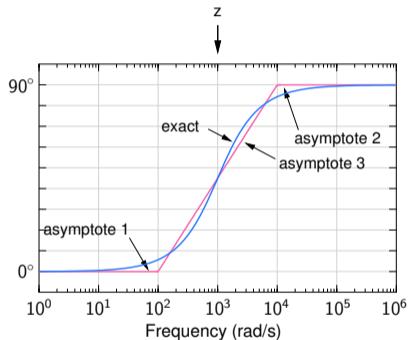
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In this example, $z = 10^3$ rad/s.

Asymptote 1:

$\omega \ll z$ (say, $\omega < z/10$): $\angle H = 0$.

Asymptote 2:

$\omega \gg z$ (say, $\omega > 10z$): $\angle H = \pi/2$.

Asymptote 3:

For $z/10 < \omega < 10z$, $\angle H$ is assumed to vary linearly with $\log \omega$
 \rightarrow at $\omega = z$, $\angle H = \pi/4$ (which is also the actual value of $\angle H$).

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$20 \log |H| = 20 \log K$ (a constant), and $\angle H = 0$.

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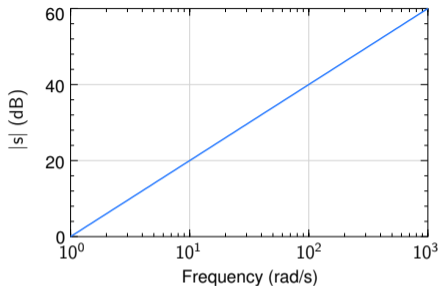
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Contribution of K (constant), s , and s^2



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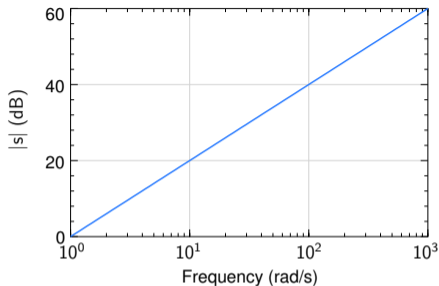
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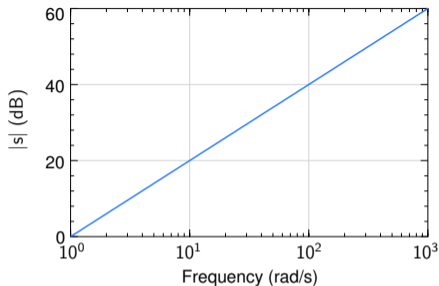
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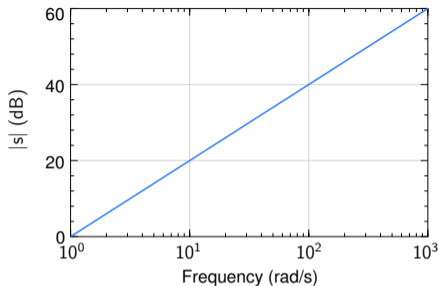
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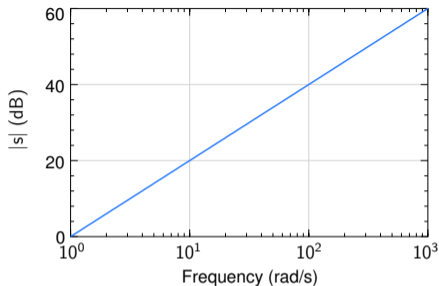
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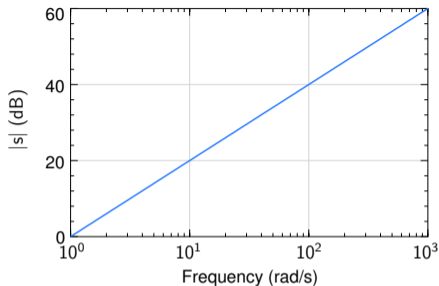
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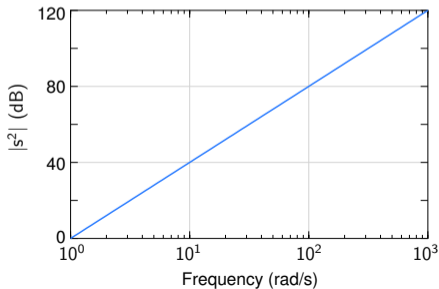
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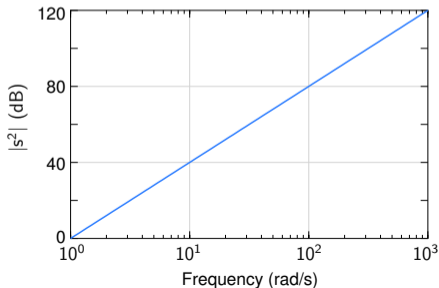
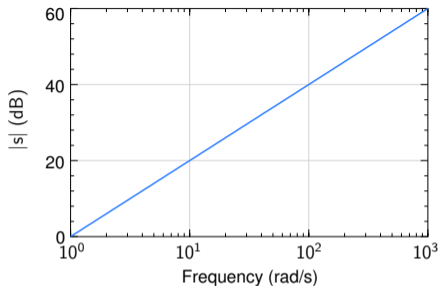
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Consider $H(s) = H_1(s) \times H_2(s)$.

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Phase:

$H_1(j\omega)$ and $H_2(j\omega)$ are complex numbers.

At a given ω , let $H_1 = K_1 \angle \alpha = K_1 e^{j\alpha}$, and $H_2 = K_2 \angle \beta = K_2 e^{j\beta}$.

Then, $H_1 H_2 = K_1 K_2 e^{j(\alpha+\beta)} = K_1 K_2 \angle (\alpha + \beta)$.

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In the Bode phase plot, the contributions due to H_1 and H_2 also get added.

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In the Bode phase plot, the contributions due to H_1 and H_2 also get added.

The same reasoning applies to more than two terms as well.

Consider $H(s) = \frac{10s}{(1 + s/10^2)(1 + s/10^5)}$.

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Let $H(s) = H_1(s) H_2(s) H_3(s) H_4(s)$, where

$$H_1(s) = 10,$$

$$H_2(s) = s,$$

$$H_3(s) = \frac{1}{1 + s/p_1}, p_1 = 10^2 \text{ rad/s},$$

$$H_4(s) = \frac{1}{1 + s/p_2}, p_2 = 10^5 \text{ rad/s}.$$

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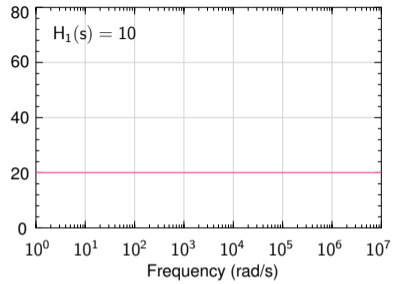
$$H_2(s) = s ,$$

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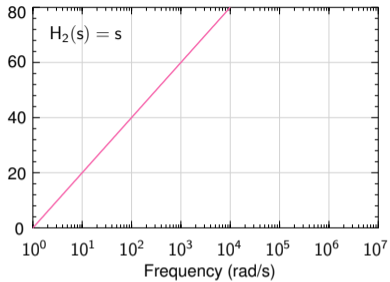
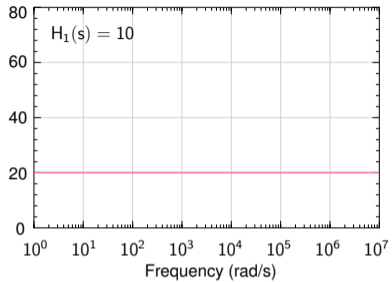
$$H_4(s) = \frac{1}{1 + s/p_2} , p_2 = 10^5 \text{ rad/s}.$$

We can now plot the magnitude and phase of H_1 , H_2 , H_3 , H_4 *individually* versus ω and then simply add them to obtain $|H|$ and $\angle H$.

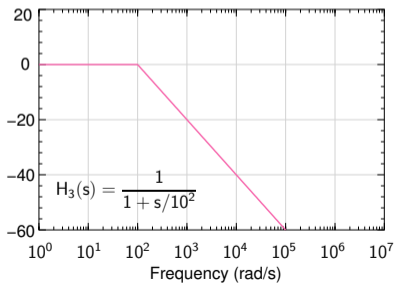
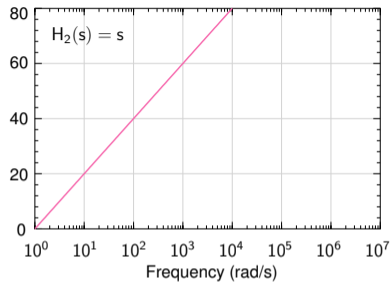
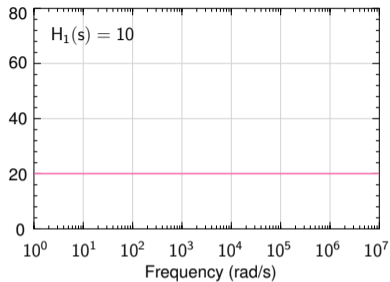
Magnitude plot ($|H|$ in dB)



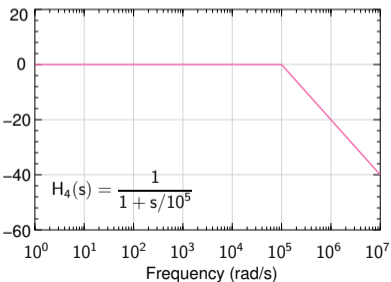
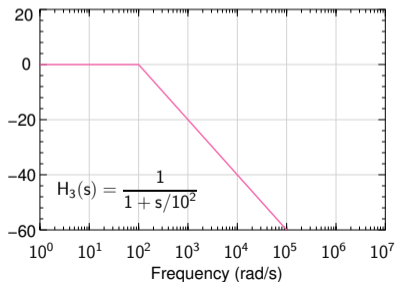
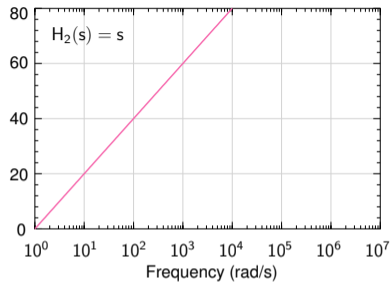
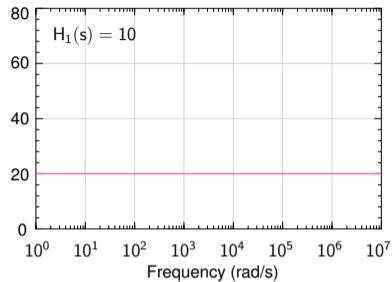
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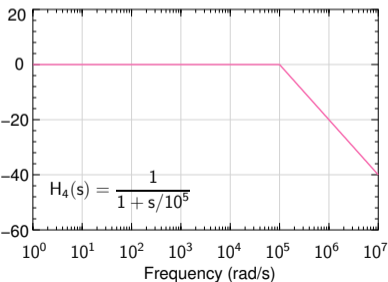
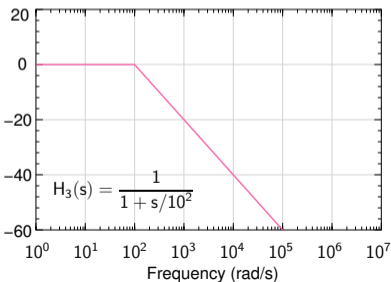
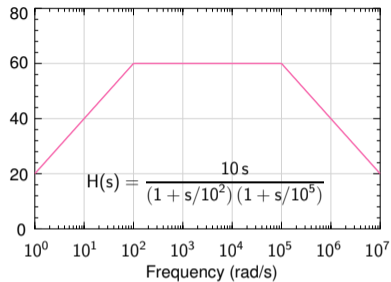
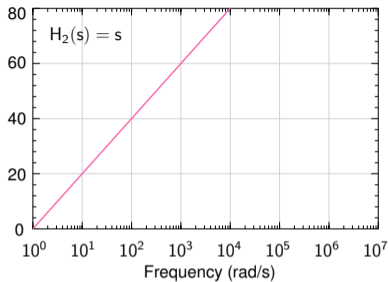
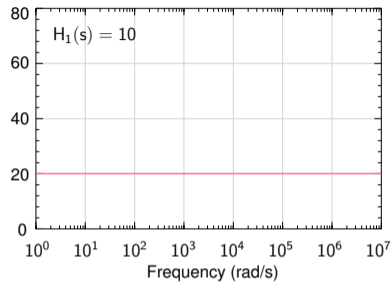
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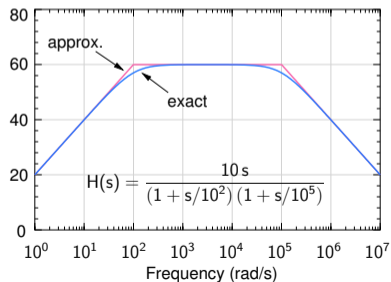
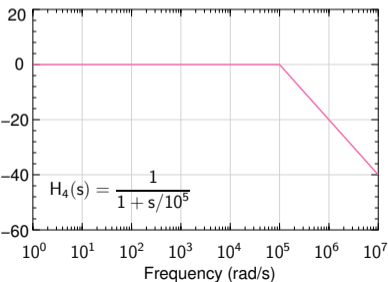
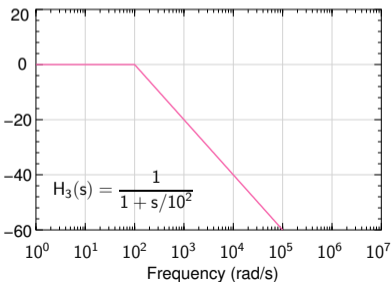
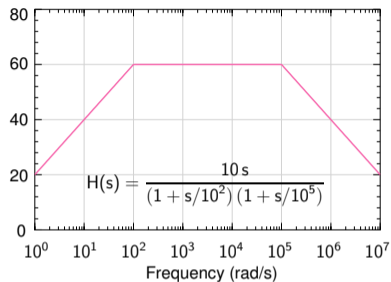
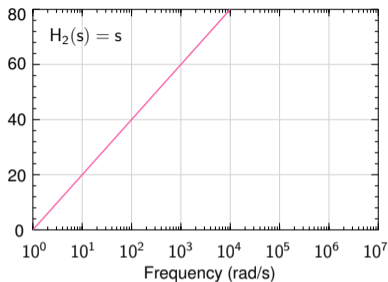
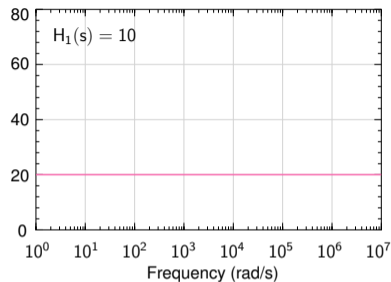
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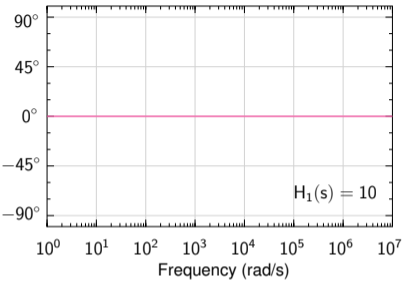
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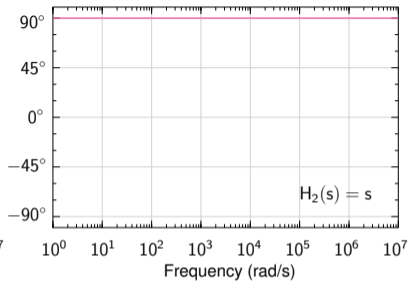
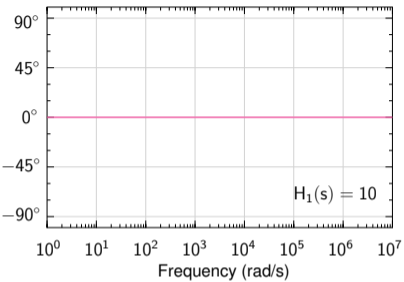
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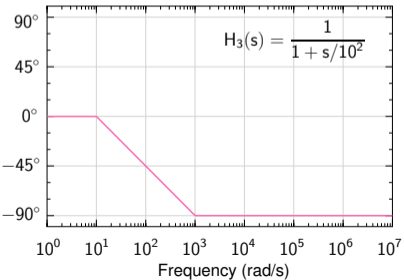
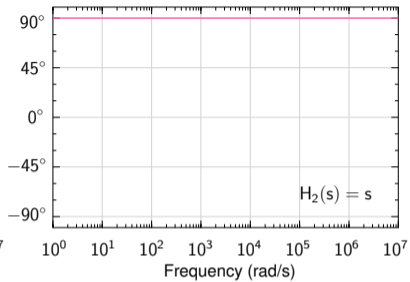
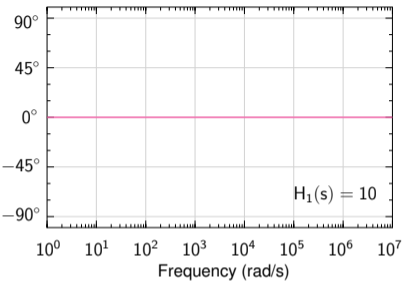
Phase plot



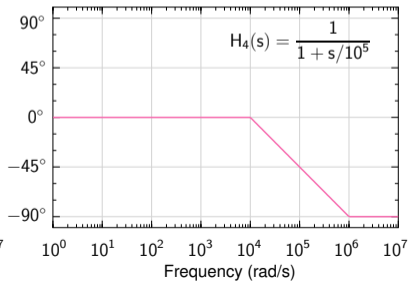
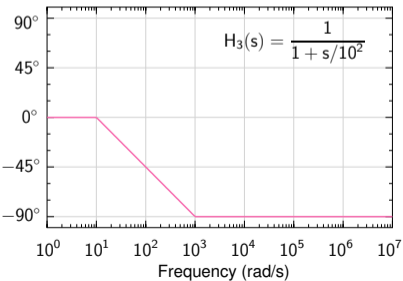
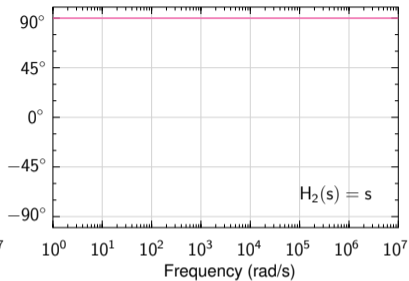
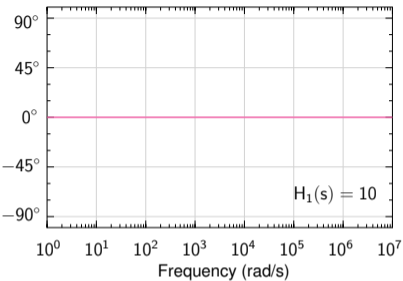
Phase plot



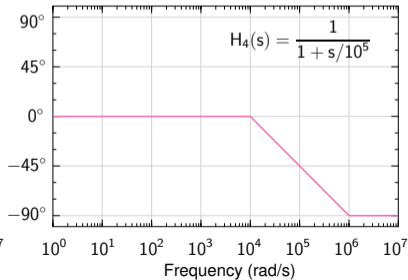
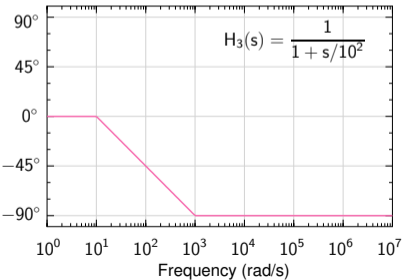
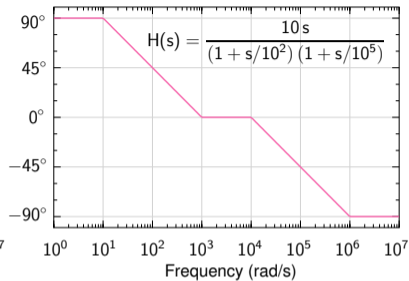
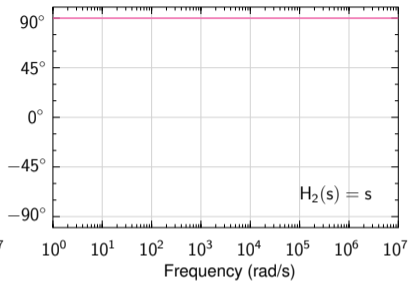
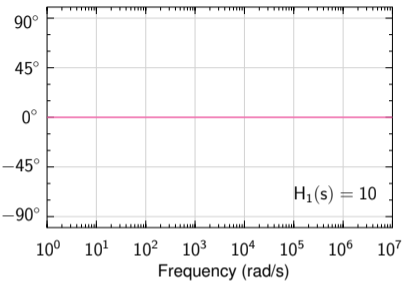
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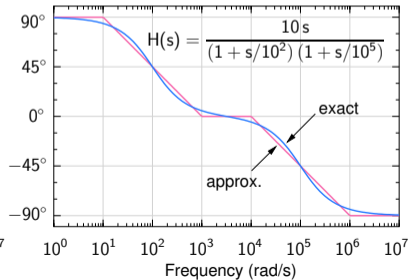
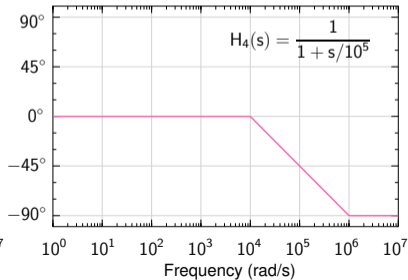
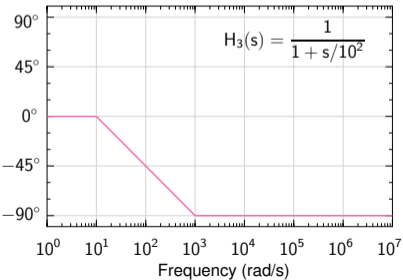
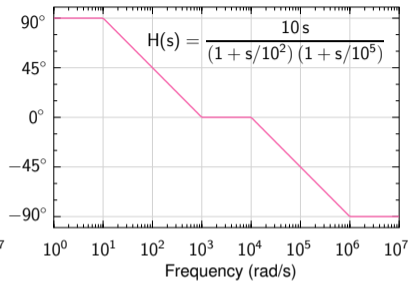
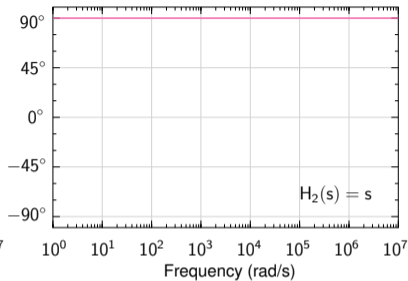
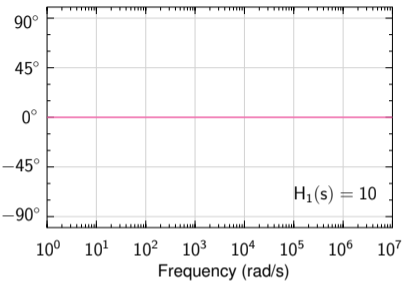
Phase plot



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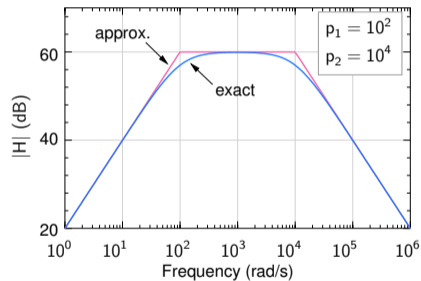
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- * When the poles and zeros are not sufficiently separated, the Bode approximation should be used only for a rough estimate, followed by a numerical calculation. However, even in such cases, it does give a good idea of the *asymptotic* magnitude and phase plots, which is valuable in amplifier design.

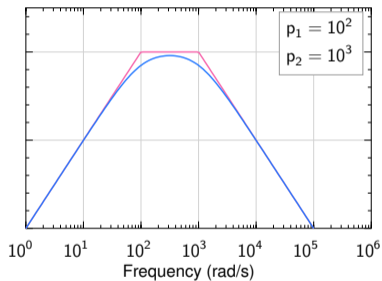
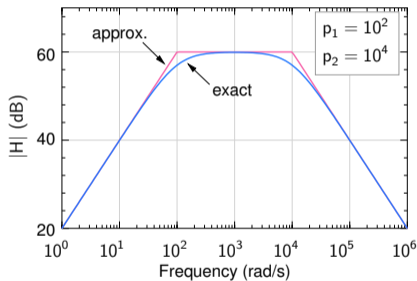
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$$\text{Consider } H(s) = \frac{10s}{(1 + s/p_1)(1 + s/p_2)}.$$



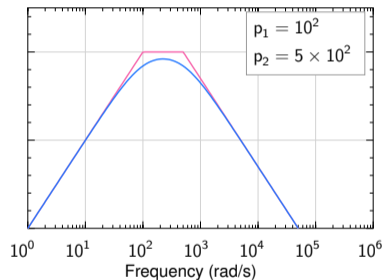
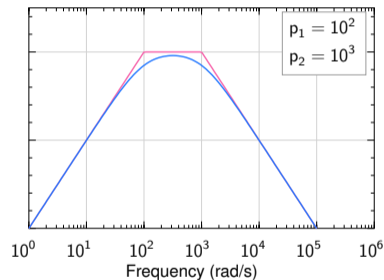
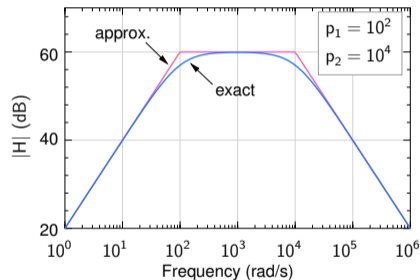
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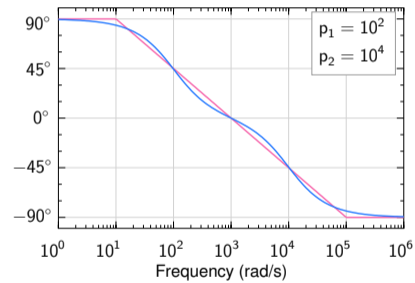
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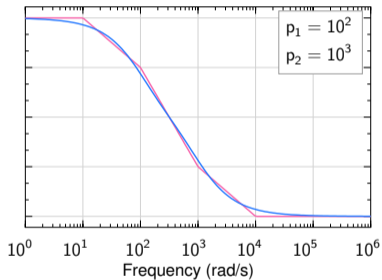
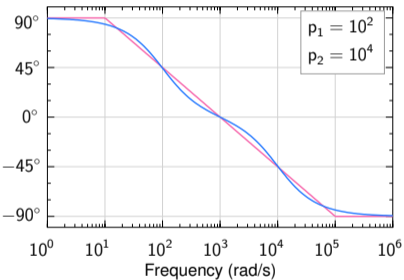
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