



上海交通大學  
SHANGHAI JIAO TONG UNIVERSITY

# Chapter 5: Root Locus



# Key conditions for Plotting Root Locus

Given open-loop transfer function  $G_k(s)$

Characteristic equation

$$G_k(s) = \frac{K_g \prod_{i=1}^m (s + z_i)}{\prod_{j=1}^n (s + p_j)} = -1$$

Magnitude Condition and Argument Condition

$$K_g = \frac{\prod_{j=1}^n |(s + p_j)|}{\prod_{i=1}^m |(s + z_i)|}$$

$$\angle \sum_{i=1}^m (s + z_i) - \angle \sum_{j=1}^n (s + p_j) = \pm(2k + 1)\pi, k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$



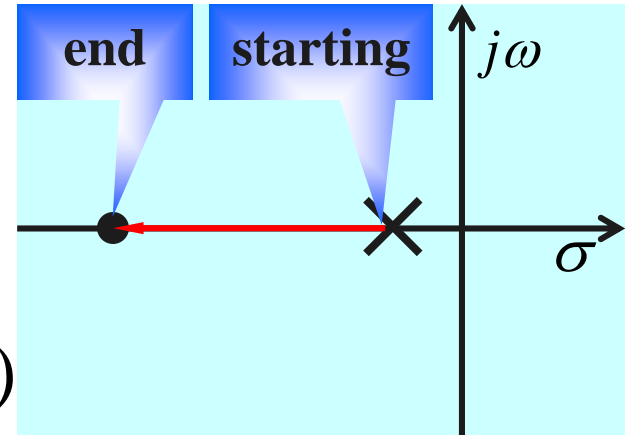
# 5-3 Rules for Plotting Root Locus

## 5.3.1 Rules

### Rule 1: Starting and end points

1) For  $K_g=0$ , we can get from magnitude equation that

$$K_g = \frac{|s + p_1| \dots |s + p_n|}{|s + z_1| \dots |s + z_m|} \quad s = -p_j \quad (j = 1, 2 \dots n)$$



2) For  $K_g \rightarrow +\infty$ , it may result in one of the following facts

$$s = -z_i \quad (i = 1, 2 \dots m)$$

$$s \rightarrow \infty \quad (n > m)$$

Using Magnitude Equation

**Rule #1: The locus starts at a pole for  $K_g=0$  and finishes at a zero or infinity when  $K_g=+\infty$ .**



# Poles and zeros at infinity

$G_k(s)$  has a zero at infinity if  $G_k(s \rightarrow +\infty) \rightarrow 0$

$G_k(s)$  has a pole at infinity if  $G_k(s \rightarrow +\infty) \rightarrow +\infty$

## Example

$$G_k(s) = \frac{K}{s(s+1)(s+2)}$$

This open-loop transfer function has three poles, 0, -1, -2. It has no finite zeros.

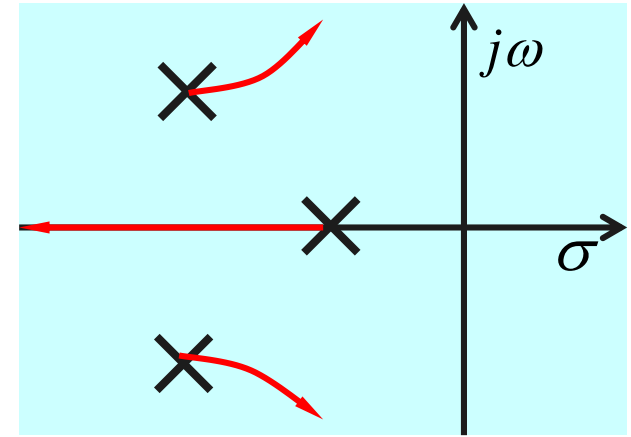
For large  $s$ , we can see that  $G_k(s) \approx \frac{K}{s^3}$ .

So this open-loop transfer function has three ( $n-m$ ) zeros at infinity.



## Rule 2: Number of segments

**Rule #2: The number of segments equals to the number of poles of open-loop transfer function.**  
*m* segments end at the zeros, and  $(n-m)$  segments goes to infinity.



Sometimes,  $\max\{m,n\}$

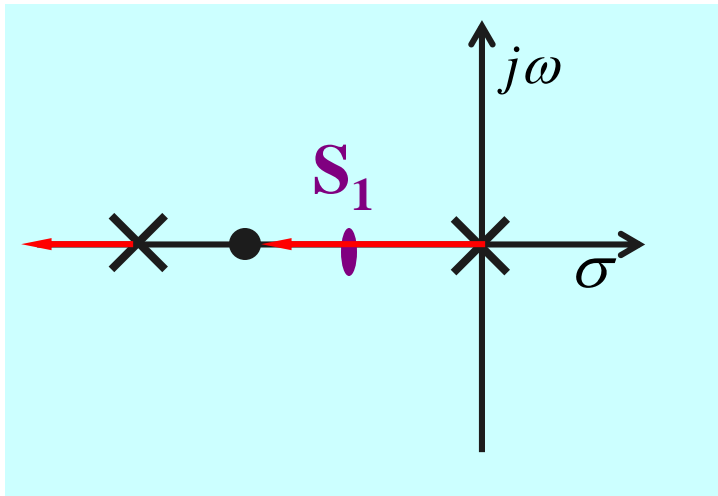
## Rule 3: Symmetry rule

**Rule #3: The loci are symmetrical about the real axis since complex roots are always in conjugate pairs.**



## Rule 4: Segments of the real axis

Segments of the real axis to the left of an odd number of poles and zeros are segments of the root locus, remembering that complex poles or zeros have no effect.

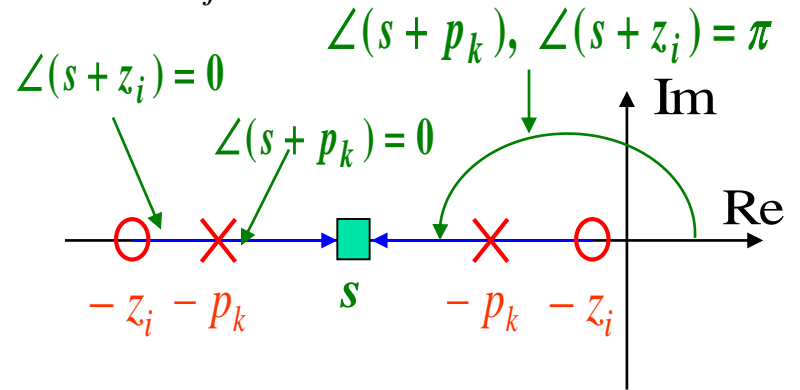
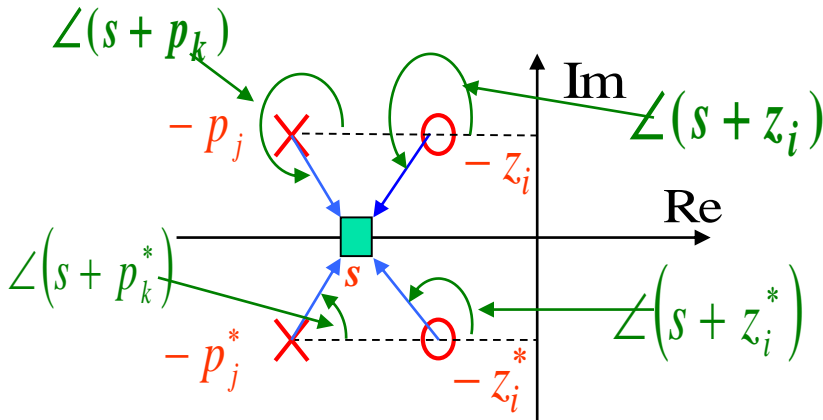


Using Argument Equation



# Example Argument equation

$$\angle G_k(s) = \pm(2k+1)\pi \Rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^m \angle(s+z_i) - \sum_{j=1}^n \angle(s+p_j) = \pm(2k+1)\pi$$



**For complex zeros and poles**

**For real zeros and poles on the right**

$$\angle(s+p_k) + \angle(s+p_k^*) = 360^\circ$$

$$\angle(s+p_k) = \pi$$

$$\angle(s+z_i) + \angle(s+z_i^*) = 360^\circ$$

$$\angle(s+z_i) = \pi$$

**Real-axis segments are to the left of an odd number of real-axis finite poles/zeros.**



## 5. Asymptotes of locus as $s$ Approaches infinity

The asymptotes intersect the real axis at  $\sigma$ , where

$$\sigma = \frac{(-p_1 - p_2 - \dots - p_n) - (-z_1 - z_2 - \dots - z_m)}{n - m}$$

$$= \frac{\sum_{j=1}^n (-p_j) - \sum_{i=1}^m (-z_i)}{n - m}$$

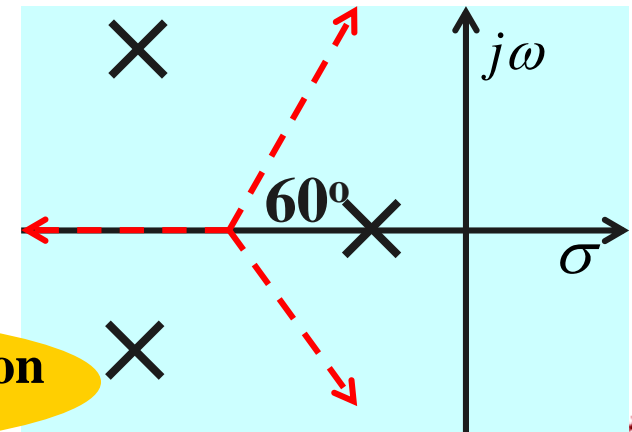
The intercept  $\sigma$  can be obtained by applying the theory of equations.

The angle between asymptote and positive real axis is

$$\phi = \frac{\pm 180^\circ(2k + 1)}{n - m} \quad (k = 0, 1, 2, \dots)$$

To obey the symmetry rules, the negative real axis is one asymptote when  $n - m$  is odd.

Using Argument Equation







## Example

$$G_k(s) = \frac{K}{s(s+1)(s+2)}$$

This open-loop transfer function has three finite poles and three zeros at infinity.

$(n-m)$  segments go to zeros at infinity.

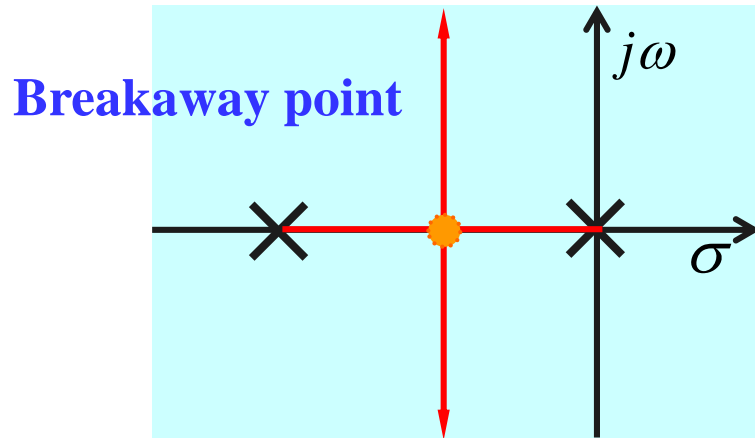
$$\begin{aligned} |G_k(s)| &= \left| \frac{1}{s(s+1)(s+2)} \right| = \frac{1}{K_g} \rightarrow 0, K_g \rightarrow +\infty \\ &\approx \frac{1}{s^3} \rightarrow 0 \quad \phi = 60^\circ, -60^\circ, 180^\circ \end{aligned}$$

Assume the root of closed-loop system  $s_l$  at infinity has the same angle to each finite zero or pole.

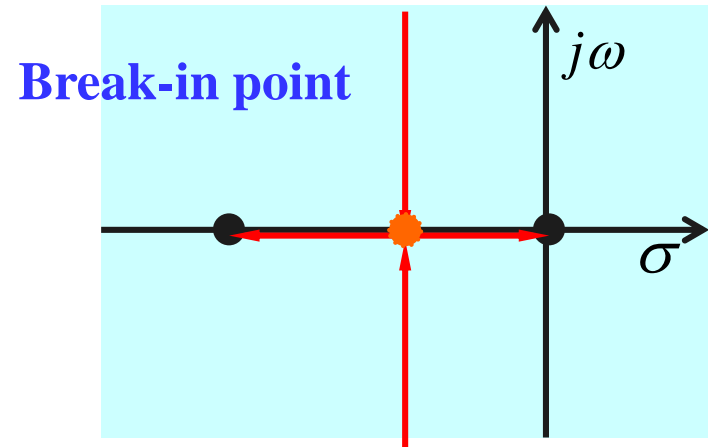
$$(n-m)\phi = \pm 180^\circ(2k+1) \quad k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$



## Rule 6: Breakaway and Break-in Points on the Real Axis



When the root locus has segments on the real axis between two poles, there must be a point at which the two segments **break away** from the real axis and enter the complex region.



For two finite zeros or one finite zero and one at infinity, the segments are **coming from** complex region and enter the real axis.

Using Magnitude Equation



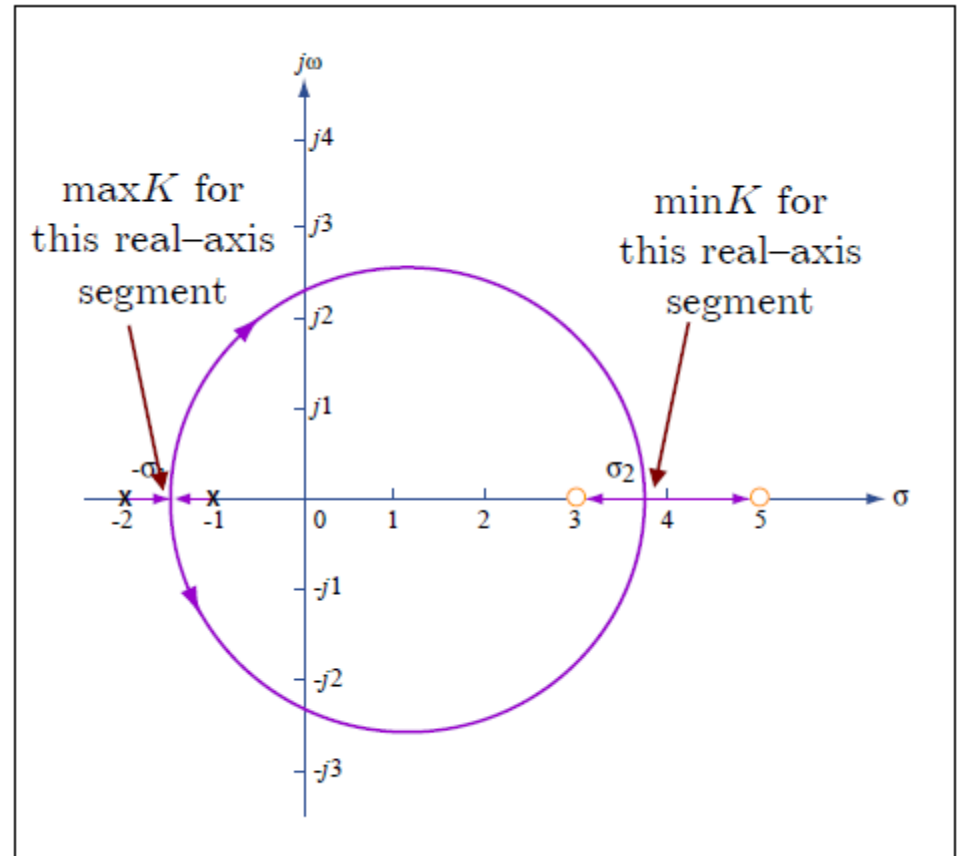
## Breakaway point

$K_g$  starts with **zero** at the poles.

There is a point somewhere the  $K_g$  for the two segments **simultaneously reach a maximum value.**

## Break-in point

The break-in point is that the value of  $K_g$  is a minimum between two zeros.



How?

- Express  $K_g$  as a function of  $s$
- Differentiating the function with respect to  $s$  equals to zero and solve for  $s$



## Characteristic equation

$$1 + G_k(s) = 1 + \frac{K_g Z(s)}{P(s)} = \frac{F(s)}{P(s)} = 0 \quad \longrightarrow \quad K_g = -\frac{P(s)}{Z(s)}$$

Assuming there are  $r$  repeated roots at the point  $s_1$ ,  $F(s)$  can be rewritten into

$$F(s) = P(s) + K_g Z(s) \\ = (s - s_1)^r (s - s_2) \Lambda (s - s_{n-r})$$

$$\left. \frac{dF(s)}{ds} \right|_{s=s_1} = \frac{dP(s)}{ds} + K_g \frac{dZ(s)}{ds} = 0$$

$$\longrightarrow K_g = -\frac{P'(s)}{Z'(s)} = -\frac{P(s)}{Z(s)}$$

Use the following necessary condition

$$P(s)Z'(s) - P'(s)Z(s) = 0$$

With the solution of  $s$ , we can get  $K_g$ .

For positive  $K_g$ , the corresponding point may be the breakaway or break-in point.



## Example

$$G_k(s) = K_g \frac{(s-3)(s-5)}{(s+1)(s+2)} = K_g \frac{Z(s)}{P(s)}$$

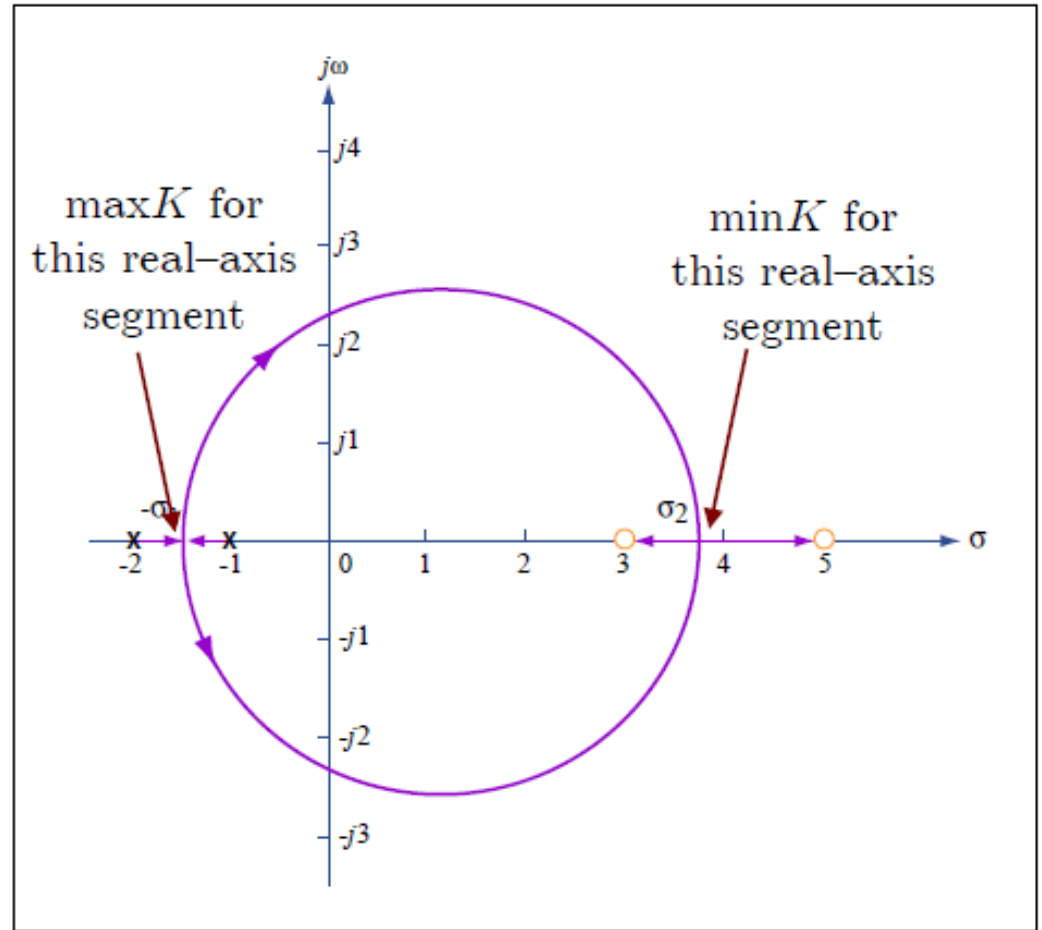
$$P(s)Z(s) - P(s)Z(s) \\ = 11s^2 - 26s - 61 = 0$$

$$s_1 = -1.45, s_2 = 3.82$$

Alternatively, we  
can solve

$$\sum \frac{1}{s + z_i} = \sum \frac{1}{s + p_j}$$

for real  $s$ .





# Rule 7: The point where the locus crosses the imaginary axis

**Rule #7: The point may be obtained by substituting  $s=j\omega$  into the characteristic equation and solving for  $\omega$ .**

**Example :**

$$G_k(s) = \frac{k}{(s+1)[(s+2)^2 + 6]}$$

**Characteristic equation**

$$(s+1)[(s+2)^2 + 6] + k = 0$$



**Substitute  $s=j\omega$**

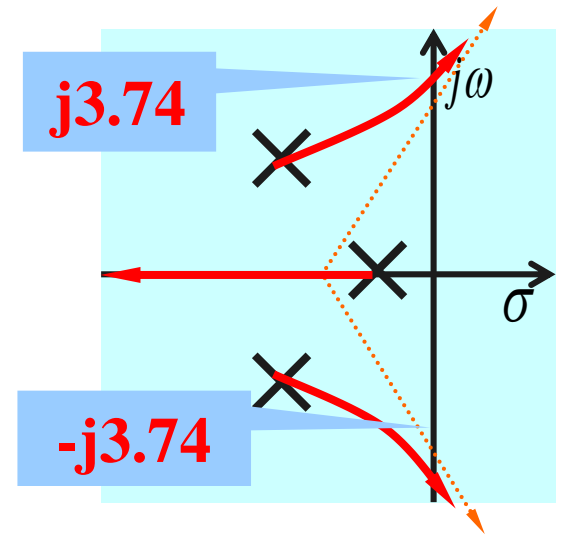
$$(10 + K - 5\omega^2) - j(\omega^3 - 14\omega) = 0$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \parallel \\ 0 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \parallel \\ 0 \end{array}$$

$$\omega = \sqrt{14} = 3.74, k = 60$$

$$s = \pm j3.74$$





## (2) Utilize Routh's Stability Criterion

Characteristic equation:  $s^3 + 5s^2 + 14s + (10 + k) = 0$

Routh array

$$s^3 \quad 1 \quad 14$$

$$s^2 \quad 5 \quad 10+k \quad \longrightarrow \quad 5s^2 + 70 = 0$$

$$s^1 \quad \frac{70 - (10+k)}{5} = 0 \quad s_{1,2} = \pm j3.74$$

$$s^0 \quad 10+k$$

$$k = 60$$



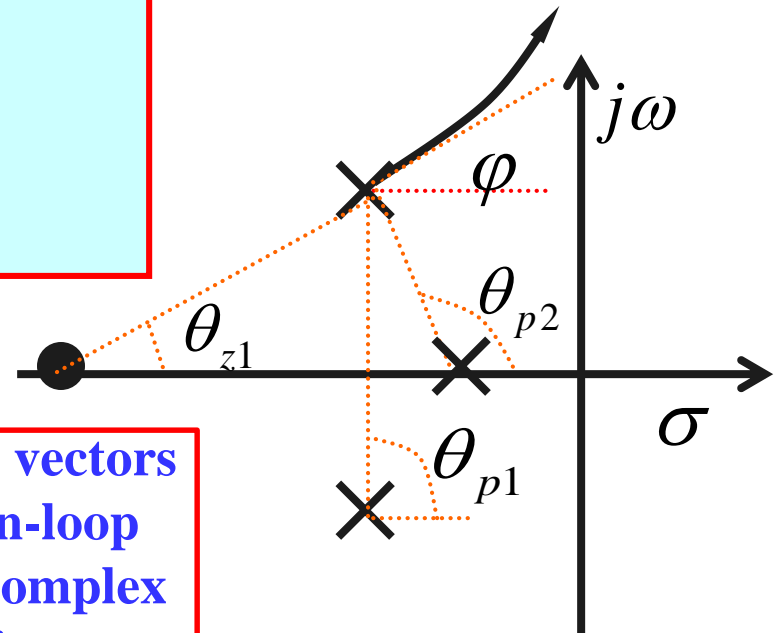
## 8. The angles of emergence and entry

The angle of emergence from complex poles is given by

$$\varphi_{pj} = \pm 180^\circ(2k + 1) - (\sum \theta_{pj} - \sum \theta_{zj})$$

Angles of the vectors from all other open-loop poles to the pole in question

Angles of the vectors from the open-loop zeros to the complex pole in question





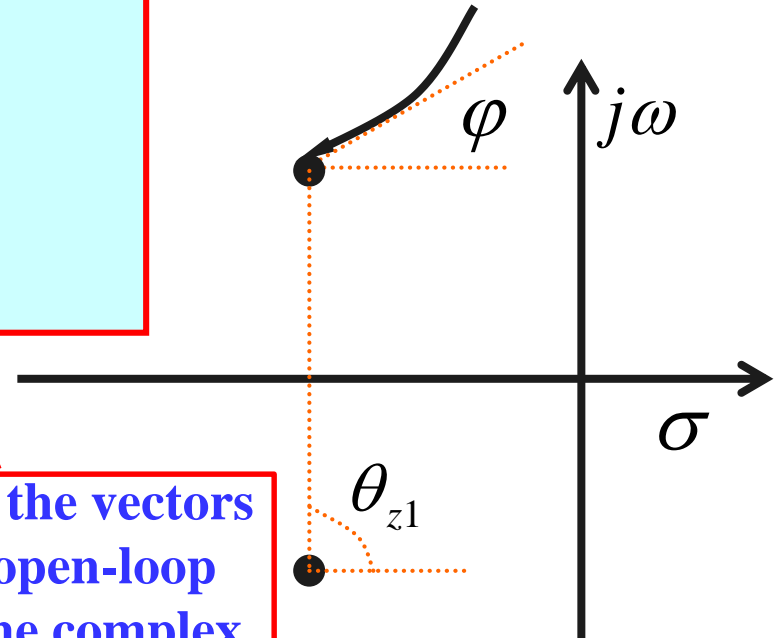


The angle of entry into a complex zero is given by

$$\varphi_{z_i} = \pm 180^\circ(2k + 1) - (\sum \theta_{z_i} - \sum \theta_{p_j})$$

Angles of the vectors from all other open-loop zeros to the zero in question

Angles of the vectors from the open-loop poles to the complex zero in question

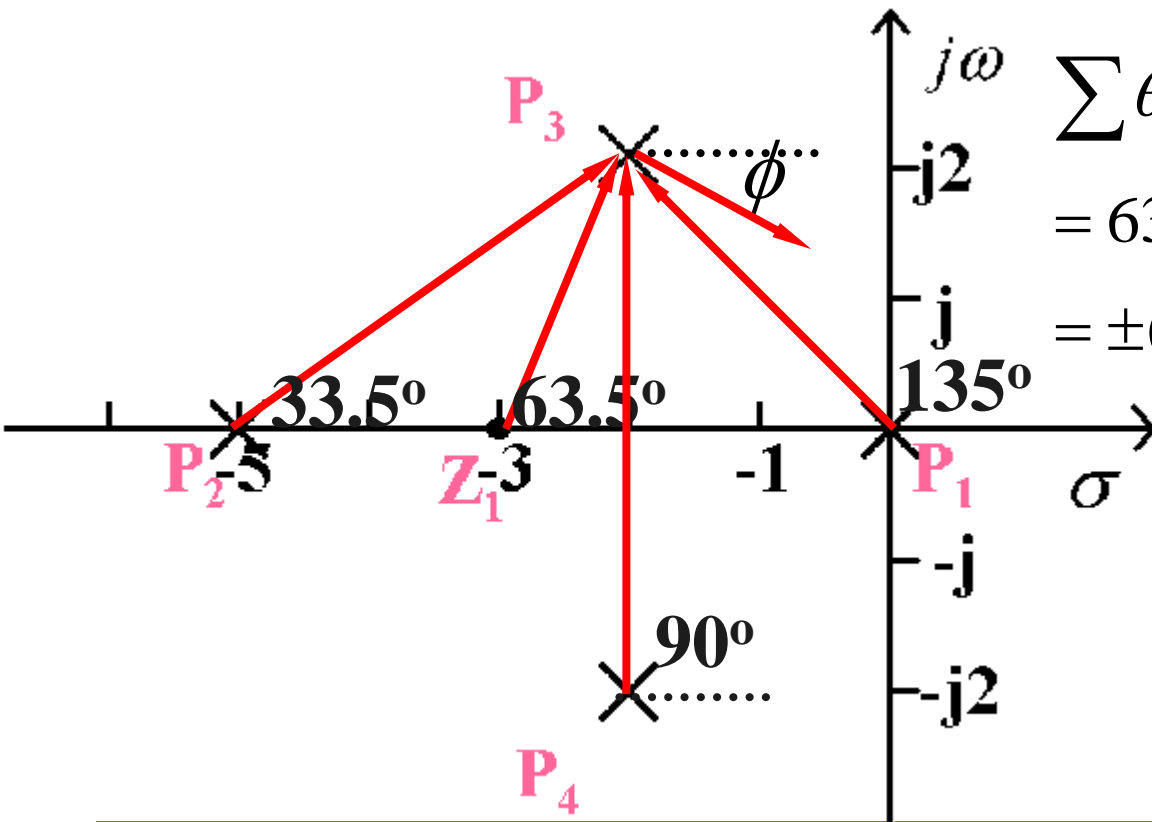




## Example: Given the open-loop transfer function

$$G(s)H(s) = \frac{K(s+3)}{s(s+5)[(s+2)^2 + 4]}$$

draw the angle of emergence from complex poles.



$$\begin{aligned} \sum \theta_{z_i} - \sum \theta_{p_j} \\ = 63.5^\circ - (135^\circ + 90^\circ + 33.5^\circ + \phi) \\ = \pm(2k+1)180^\circ \end{aligned}$$

$$\phi = -15^\circ \text{ or } -375^\circ$$



**Rule 9: The gain at a selected point  $s_t$  on the locus is obtained by applying Magnitude Equation**

$$K_g = \frac{\prod_{j=1}^n |(s_t + p_j)|}{\prod_{i=1}^m |(s_t + z_i)|}$$

To locate a point with specified gain, use **trial and error**.  
Moving  $s_t$  toward the poles reduces the gain. Moving  $s_t$  away from the poles increases the gain.

**Rule 10: The sum of real parts of the closed-loop poles is constant, independent of  $K_g$ , and equal to the sum of the real parts of the open-loop poles.**



# Summary

	<b>Content</b>	<b>Rules</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Continuity and Symmetry</b>	<b>Symmetry Rule</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Starting and end points Number of segments</b>	<i>n</i> segments start from <i>n</i> open-loop poles, and end at <i>m</i> open-loop zeros and ( <i>n-m</i> ) zeros at infinity.
<b>3</b>	<b>Segments on real axis</b>	<b>On the left of an odd number of poles or zeros</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Asymptote</b>	<i>n-m</i> segments: $\alpha = \frac{(2k+1)}{n-m} \pi, k = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots, K$
<b>5</b>	<b>Asymptote</b>	$\sigma = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^n (-p_j) - \sum_{i=1}^m (-z_i)}{n-m}$



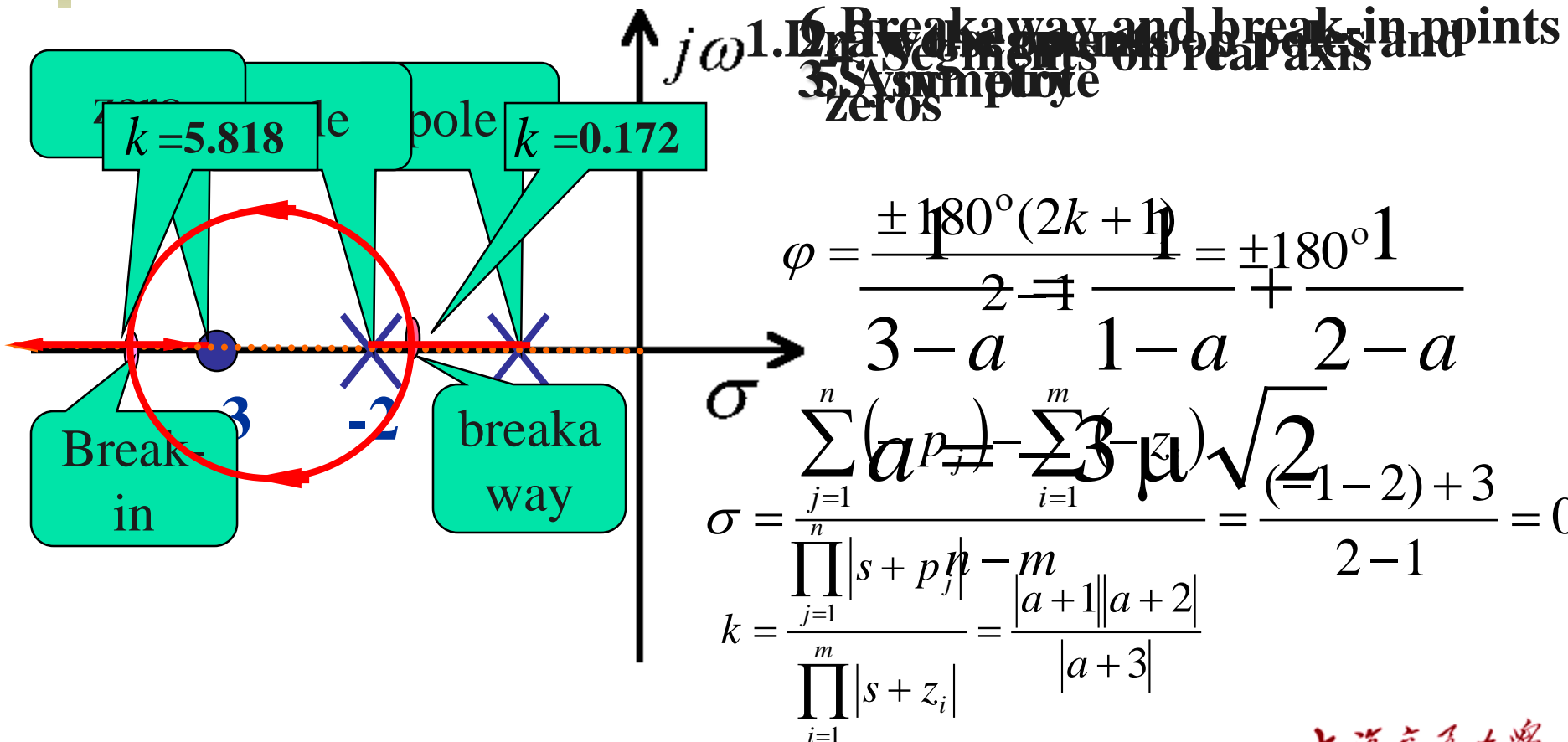


6	<b>Breakaway and break-in points</b>	$\frac{d[F(s)]}{ds} = 0 \quad F(s) = P(s) + K_g Z(s) = 0$ $P(s)Z(s) - K_g = 0$ $\sum_{i=1}^m \frac{1}{z_i - \delta} = \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{1}{p_j - \delta}$
7	<b>Angle of emergence and entry</b>	<b>Angle of emergence</b> $\varphi_p = \mu\pi(2k + 1) + \sum_{i=1}^m \theta_i - \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq p}}^n \varphi_j$ <b>Angle of entry</b> $\theta_z = \pm\pi(2k + 1) + \sum_{j=1}^n \varphi_j - \sum_{\substack{i=1 \\ i \neq z}}^m \theta_i$
8	<b>Cross on the imaginary axis</b>	<b>Substitute <math>s = j\omega</math> to characteristic equation and solve</b> <b>Routh's formula</b>



**Example 5.2.1: Given the open-loop transfer function, please draw the root locus.**

$$G(s)H(s) = \frac{k(s+3)}{(s+1)(s+2)}$$



$$\varphi = \frac{\pm 180^\circ (2k + 1)}{2 - 1} = \pm 180^\circ 1$$

$$\sigma = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^n (a_{p_j}) - \sum_{i=1}^m (a_{z_i})}{n - m} = \frac{(-1 - 2) + 3}{2 - 1} = 0$$

$$k = \frac{\prod_{j=1}^n |s + p_j|}{\prod_{i=1}^m |s + z_i|} = \frac{|a + 1||a + 2|}{|a + 3|}$$



## Example 5.2.2:

$$G(s)H(s) = \frac{k}{(s+1)^2(s+1+j18)(s+1-j18)}$$

$$s^4 + 4s^3 + 24s^2 + 40s + 19 + k = 0$$

$$s^4 \quad \quad \quad 1 \quad \quad \quad 24 \quad \quad 19 + k$$

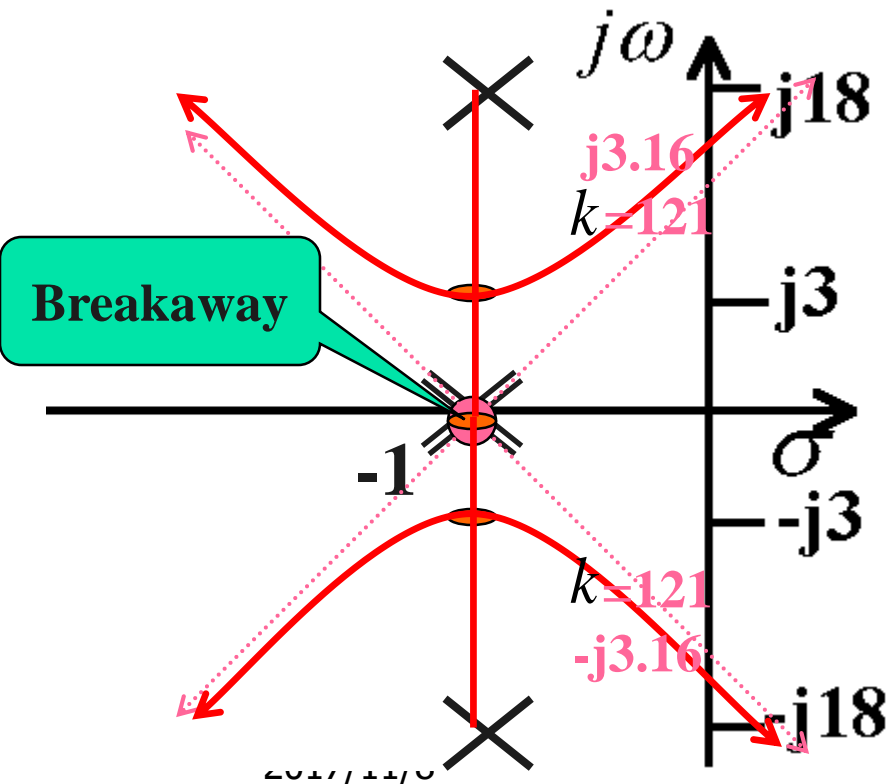
$$s^3 \quad \quad \quad 4 \quad \quad \quad 40 \quad \quad 0$$

$$s^2 \quad \quad \quad 14 \quad \quad \quad 19 + k$$

$$s^1 \quad \quad \quad \frac{484 - 4k}{14} \quad \quad \quad 0$$

$$s^0 \quad \quad \quad 19 + k$$

17. Find poles where the locus crosses the imaginary axis  
 2. No significant breakaway



$$14s^2 + 140 = 0$$

$$s = \pm j3.16$$

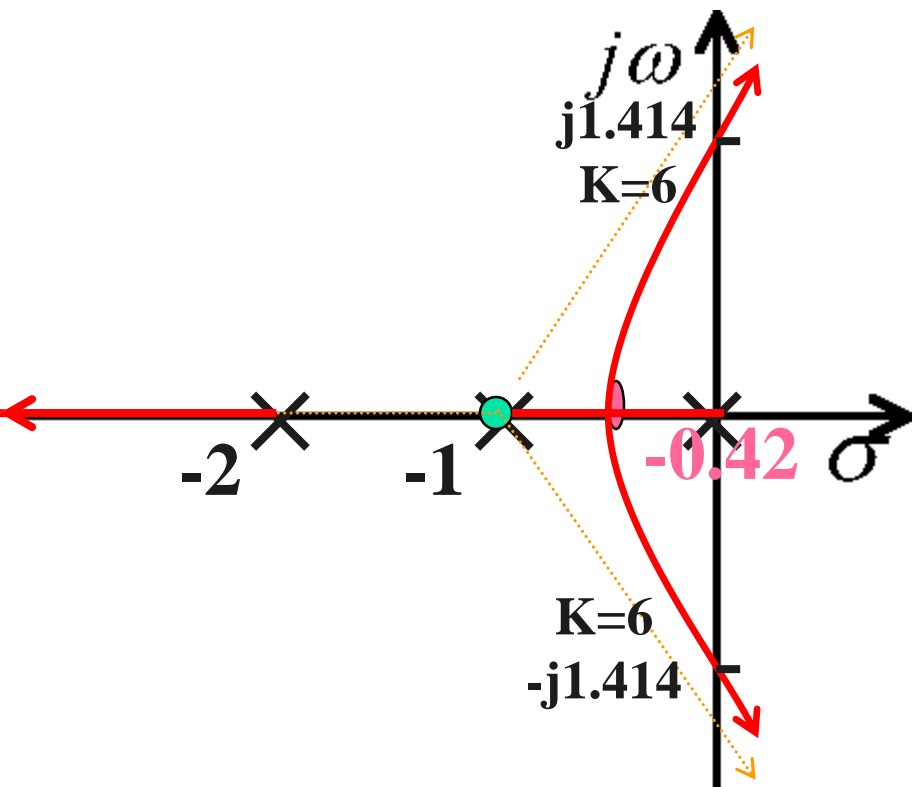
$$484 - 4k = 0 \text{ get } k = 121$$



### Example 5.2.3

$$G(s)H(s) = \frac{K}{s(s+1)(s+2)}$$

5. Points across the imaginary axis  
 4. asymptotic poles and zeros



$$P(s)Z(s) = \frac{K}{s(s+1)(s+2)}$$

$$y^{\text{elds}} [3s^2 + 6s + 2] \equiv \theta 60^\circ, 180^\circ$$

$$\text{solution } s^2 + 2s + 4K = 0 \Rightarrow s_2 = -1.58$$

$$\sigma_s = -\frac{1}{3-0} = -1$$

$$s^2 \quad 3 \quad K \quad 3s^2 + 6 = 0$$

$$s^1 \quad \frac{6-K}{3} \quad = 0$$

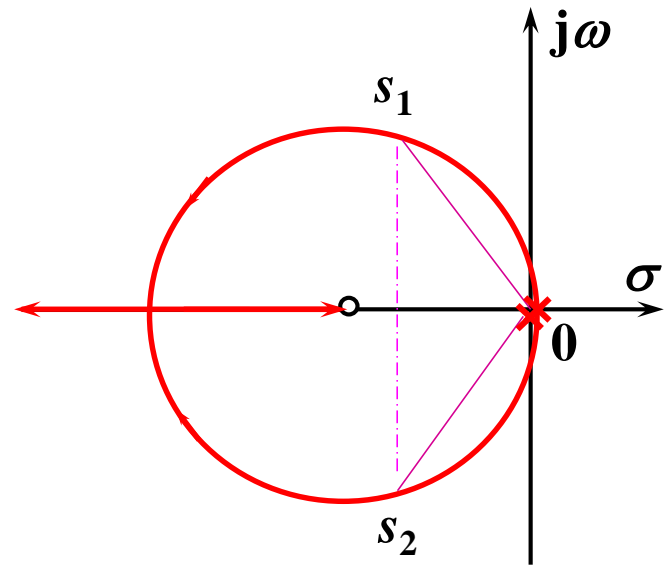
$$s^0 \quad K \quad K=6$$





## Example 5.2.4

$$G(s) = \frac{K^*(s+1)}{s^2}$$





## Example 5.2.5

