## EECS 16B Designing Information Devices and Systems II Fall 2021 Discussion Worksheet

The following notes are useful for this discussion: Note 7 on Transfer Function Plots and Note 8 on Bode Plots.

## 1. Plotting and Combining Transfer Functions

Recall that any transfer function can be written in polar form as

$$
\begin{equation*}
H(\mathrm{j} \omega)=|H(\mathrm{j} \omega)| \mathrm{e}^{\mathrm{j} \measuredangle H(\mathrm{j} \omega)} \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $|H(\mathrm{j} \omega)|$ and $\measuredangle H(\mathrm{j} \omega)$ are real functions of $\omega$ giving the magnitude and phase of the transfer function, respectively. To see how transfer functions combine, consider two $H_{1}(\mathrm{j} \omega)$ and $H_{2}(\mathrm{j} \omega)$.

$$
\begin{align*}
H_{1}(\mathrm{j} \omega) & =\left|H_{1}(\mathrm{j} \omega)\right| \mathrm{e}^{\mathrm{j} \measuredangle H_{1}(\mathrm{j} \omega)}  \tag{2}\\
H_{2}(\mathrm{j} \omega) & =\left|H_{2}(\mathrm{j} \omega)\right| \mathrm{e}^{\mathrm{j} \measuredangle H_{2}(\mathrm{j} \omega)}  \tag{3}\\
H_{1}(\mathrm{j} \omega) \cdot H_{2}(\mathrm{j} \omega) & =\left|H_{1}\right| \mathrm{e}^{\mathrm{j} \measuredangle H_{1}}\left|H_{2}\right| \mathrm{e}^{\mathrm{j} \measuredangle H_{2}}=\left|H_{1}\right|\left|H_{2}\right| \mathrm{e}^{\mathrm{j}\left(\measuredangle H_{1}+\measuredangle H_{2}\right)}  \tag{4}\\
\frac{H_{1}(\mathrm{j} \omega)}{H_{2}(\mathrm{j} \omega)} & =\frac{\left|H_{1}\right| \mathrm{e}^{\mathrm{j} \measuredangle H_{1}}}{\left|H_{2}\right| \mathrm{e}^{\mathrm{j} \measuredangle H_{2}}}=\frac{\left|H_{1}\right|}{\left|H_{2}\right|} \mathrm{e}^{\mathrm{j}\left(\measuredangle H_{1}-\measuredangle H_{2}\right)} \tag{5}
\end{align*}
$$

As you can see, magnitudes of transfer functions multiply and divide while the phases add and subtract. In this problem we will plot the transfer function of fig. 1a.

(a) An LR filter in the "time-domain".

(b) An LR filter in the "phasor-domain".

Figure 1: Circuit schematic of LR filter in both domains.
(a) First, solve for $H(\mathrm{j} \omega)$. Then, write expressions for $|H(\mathrm{j} \omega)|$ and $\measuredangle H(\mathrm{j} \omega)$. For now, you can keep it in terms of $R$ and $L$.
(b) What is the cutoff frequency for this circuit? Mark it on the log-log plots of part item (c) with a vertical line. Note that the values of the circuit elements are given in fig. 2a.
Recall that a transfer function of the form $H(\mathrm{j} \omega)=\frac{k}{1+\mathrm{j} \omega / \omega_{c}}$ is defined to have a cutoff frequency of $\omega_{c}$.
(c) Sketch plots of the magnitude and phase of this transfer function. We have provided a table with the transfer function evaluated at a few representative points around the cutoff frequency to help you plot the transfer function by hand. You can join these points with a curve to arrive at a reasonable estimation of the transfer function.

| $\omega$ | $10^{4}$ | $10^{5}$ | $10^{6}$ | $10^{7}$ | $10^{8}$ |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\|H(\mathrm{j} \omega)\|$ | 1.00 | 0.995 | 0.707 | 0.100 | 0.01 |
| $\measuredangle H(\mathrm{j} \omega)$ | $-0.6^{\circ}$ | $-6^{\circ}$ | $-45^{\circ}$ | $-84^{\circ}$ | $-89^{\circ}$ |


(d) Now suppose we want to compose the filter from fig. 2a with the filter from earlier (fig. 1a). You may recognize the first filter from the previous discussion. Use $R=1 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ and $C=1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ for the RC filter. We can compose two circuits by connecting the output of the first circuit into the second circuit, through a unity gain buffer. For this problem, the transfer function of the LR filter from this worksheet fig. 1a is $H_{1}$, and the transfer function of the other RC filter is $H_{2}$. The transfer function of the composed circuit is:

$$
\begin{equation*}
H(\mathrm{j} \omega)=H_{1}(\mathrm{j} \omega) \cdot H_{2}(\mathrm{j} \omega) \tag{6}
\end{equation*}
$$


(a) An RC high-pass filter in the "time-domain".

(b) An RC high-pass filter in the "phasor-domain".
i. Draw this circuit.
ii. Plot the magnitude of the composed circuit. Below is a log-log plot with the magnitudes of $\left|H_{1}(\mathrm{j} \omega)\right|$ and $\left|H_{2}(\mathrm{j} \omega)\right|$ drawn to assist you.

ii. Plot the phase of the composed circuit. Below is a semi-log plot with the phases $\measuredangle H_{1}(\mathrm{j} \omega)$ and $\measuredangle H_{2}(\mathrm{j} \omega)$ drawn to assist you.

Semi-log plot of transfer function phase


## 2. Bode Plots (straight-line approximations) and filters

Our eventual goal is to construct Bode plots of the following circuit, with $L=100 \mu \mathrm{H}, C=1 \mu \mathrm{~F}, R_{1}=$ $100 \Omega$, and $R_{2}=1 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ : To do this we will leverage the fact that Bode plots can be composed in systematic


Figure 3
ways.
Before we dive into the problem, let's consider a modification of the magnitude plot that will help us work with multiple magnitude plots at once. Namely, instead of plotting $|H(\mathrm{j} \omega)|$ vs. $\omega$ where the $y$-axis is on a logarithmic scale, we plot $20 \log _{10}(|H(\mathrm{j} \omega)|)$ vs. $\omega$ instead, and now the $y$-axis is on a linear scale.
Why would we want to do this? Well, when combining magnitude transfer functions, we end up multiplying them. But we really want to add two plots graphically for simplicity, not multiply them, so we will just plot and add the logarithms. (The constant multiple 20 is there for convention reasons, related to decibels.)


Notice that we do not need to do this for the phase plots, since their $y$ axes are naturally in linear scale, and combining plots can already be done by addition. Now we are ready to begin working on the problems.
(a) Consider the first half of this circuit:


We learned in the previous discussion that the transfer function is given by

$$
\begin{equation*}
H_{1}(\mathrm{j} \omega)=\frac{\widetilde{V}_{\text {out }, 1}}{\widetilde{V}_{\mathrm{in}, 1}}=\frac{1}{1+\mathrm{j} \omega \frac{L}{R_{1}}} \tag{7}
\end{equation*}
$$

and the cutoff frequency $\omega_{c, 1}$ is given by

$$
\begin{equation*}
\omega_{c, 1}=\frac{R_{1}}{L}=\frac{100 \Omega}{100 \mu \mathrm{H}}=1 \times 10^{6} \frac{\mathrm{rad}}{\mathrm{~s}} \tag{8}
\end{equation*}
$$

and plots of the transfer function are given by


On these grids, draw the Bode plots (piecewise linear approximations) for magnitude and phase.
(b) Consider the second half of the circuit:


We learned in the previous discussion that the transfer function is given by

$$
\begin{equation*}
H_{2}(\mathrm{j} \omega)=\frac{\widetilde{V}_{\text {out }, 2}}{\widetilde{V}_{\mathrm{in}, 2}}=\frac{j \omega R_{2} C}{1+j \omega R_{2} C} \tag{9}
\end{equation*}
$$

and the cutoff frequency $\omega_{c, 2}$ is given by

$$
\begin{equation*}
\omega_{c, 2}=\frac{1}{R_{2} C}=\frac{1}{(1 \mathrm{k} \Omega) \cdot(1 \mu \mathrm{~F})}=1 \times 10^{3} \frac{\mathrm{rad}}{\mathrm{~s}} \tag{10}
\end{equation*}
$$

and plots of the transfer function are given by


On these grids, draw the Bode plots (piecewise linear approximations) for magnitude and phase.
(c) Now, we will put this circuit together. Recall the diagram in fig. 3:

We saw earlier in the discussion that the transfer function is

$$
\begin{equation*}
H(\mathrm{j} \omega)=\frac{\widetilde{V}_{\text {out }}}{\widetilde{V}_{\mathrm{in}}}=H_{1}(\mathrm{j} \omega) H_{2}(\mathrm{j} \omega) \tag{11}
\end{equation*}
$$

and the transfer function plots are given by


Plot of $\measuredangle H(\mathrm{j} \omega)$.


Note that the green (solid) line overlaps parts of the red (dashed) and blue (dotted) lines. (On these grids, draw the Bode plots (piecewise linear approximations) for magnitude and phase.
Hint: Recall that

$$
\begin{align*}
20 \log _{10}(H(\mathrm{j} \omega) \mid) & \left.=20 \log _{10}\left(\left|H_{1}(\mathrm{j} \omega) H_{2}(\mathrm{j} \omega)\right|\right)=20 \log _{10}| | H_{1}(\mathrm{j} \omega)| | H_{2}(\mathrm{j} \omega) \mid\right)  \tag{12}\\
& \left.=20 \log _{10}\left|H_{1}(\mathrm{j} \omega)\right|\right)+20 \log _{10}\left(\left|H_{2}(\omega)\right|\right)  \tag{13}\\
\measuredangle H(\mathrm{j} \omega) & =\measuredangle H_{1}(\mathrm{j} \omega)+\measuredangle H_{2}(\mathrm{j} \omega) . \tag{14}
\end{align*}
$$

## Contributors:

- Alex Devonport.
- Nathan Lambert.
- Anant Sahai.
- Kareem Ahmad.
- Neelesh Ramachandran.
- Druv Pai.

