



## z Transform (Digital Systems Made eZ)

ELEC 3004: **Systems**: Signals & Controls  
 Drs. Surya Singh and Paul Pounds  
 (Most of the slides are from Paul – **Thanks Paul!**)

Lecture 11

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### Today:

Week	Date	Lecture Title
1	27-Feb	Introduction
	1-Mar	Systems Overview
2	6-Mar	Signals & Signal Models
	8-Mar	System Models
3	13-Mar	Linear Dynamical Systems
	15-Mar	Sampling & Data Acquisition
4	20-Mar	Time Domain Analysis of Continuous Time Systems
	22-Mar	System Behaviour & Stability
5	27-Mar	Signal Representation
	29-Mar	Holiday
6	10-Apr	Frequency Response
	12-Apr	<b>z-Transform</b>
7	17-Apr	Analog Filters & IIR Systems
	19-Apr	FIR Systems
8	24-Apr	Discrete-Time Signals
	26-Apr	Discrete-Time Systems
9	1-May	Digital Filters
	3-May	Fourier Transform & DTFT
10	8-May	State-Space
	10-May	Controllability & Observability
11	15-May	Introduction to Digital Control
	17-May	Stability of Digital Systems
12	22-May	PID & Computer Control
	24-May	Information Theory & Communications
13	29-May	Applications in Industry
	31-May	Summary and Course Review

**New!**  
Revised order

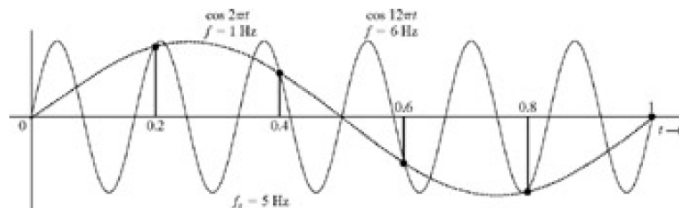


## Announcements:

- Assignment 1 Solutions:
  - Questions 1-5:
    - “all or nothing”
    - Okay... **0 or 3 or 5 points**  
(+ 1-2 bonus for something truly exceptional)
- Lab 2 (Experiment 3)
  - Is to give you a “feeling” / “intuition” for digital systems
  - Feels a little “ahead” of it’s time
  - ➔ We are rerunning it again next week ☺  
(for those who want to do it “post-theory”)
- Lab 3 (Experiment 4)
  - **Will run on Week 9!**
  - ∴ Week 8 has the ANZAC holiday



## Refresher: Aliasing & Sampling

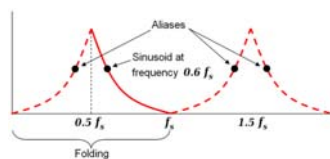


- Nyquist:

$$f_h < \frac{f_s}{2}$$

- Spectral Folding:

$$f_{\text{image}}(N) = f - N f_s$$



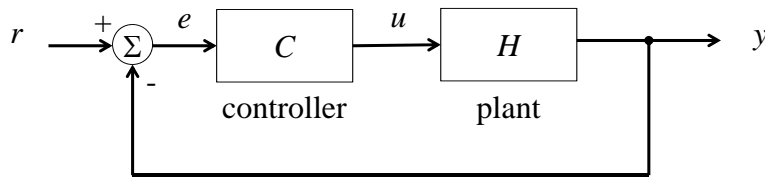
**Quick Background:**  
**Pole-Zero Diagrams & The Root Locus**

- The transfer function for a closed-loop system can be easily calculated:

$$y = CH(r - y)$$

$$y + CHy = CHR$$

$$\therefore \frac{y}{r} = \frac{CH}{1 + CH}$$



**Quick Background:**  
**Pole-Zero Diagrams & The Root Locus**

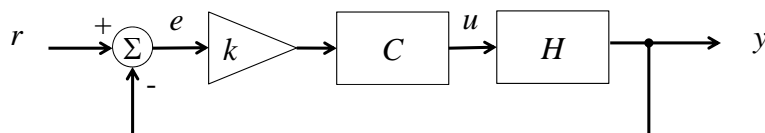
- We often care about the effect of increasing gain of a control compensator design:

$$\frac{y}{r} = \frac{kCH}{1 + kCH}$$

Multiplying by denominator:

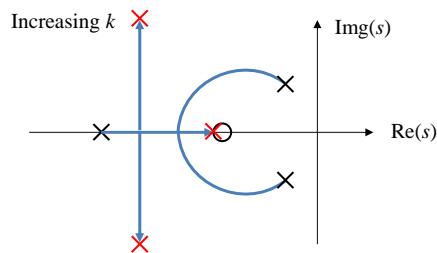
$$\frac{y}{r} = \frac{kC_n H_n}{C_d H_d + kC_n H_n}$$

characteristic polynomial



## Quick Background: Pole-Zero Diagrams & The Root Locus

- Pole positions change with increasing gain
  - The trajectory of **closed-loop poles** on the pole-zero plot with changing  $k$  is called the “root locus”
  - This is sometimes quite complex



(In practice you'd plot these with computers)



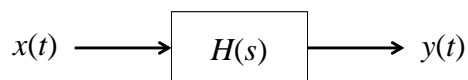
## Coping with Complexity

- Transfer functions help control complexity
  - Recall the Laplace transform:

$$\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = \int_0^{\infty} f(t)e^{-st} dt = F(s)$$

where

$$\mathcal{L}\{\dot{f}(t)\} = sF(s)$$



Is there a something similar for sampled systems?



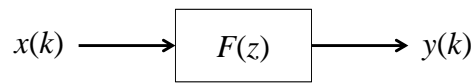
## The $z$ -transform

- The discrete equivalent is the  $z$ -Transform<sup>†</sup>:

$$\mathcal{Z}\{f(k)\} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} f(k)z^{-k} = F(z)$$

and

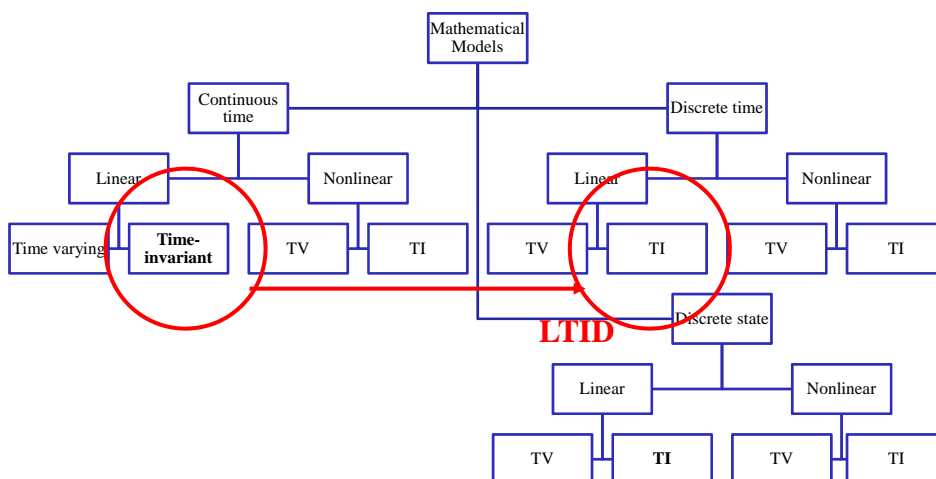
$$\mathcal{Z}\{f(k-1)\} = z^{-1}F(z)$$



Convenient!

<sup>†</sup>This is not an approximation, but approximations are easier to derive

## What about the Discrete Domain? [Lecture 4-Slide 10]



## The z-transform

- Some useful properties
  - **Delay by  $n$  samples:**  $\mathcal{Z}\{f(k - n)\} = z^{-n}F(z)$
  - **Linear:**  $\mathcal{Z}\{af(k) + bg(k)\} = aF(z) + bG(z)$
  - **Convolution:**  $\mathcal{Z}\{f(k) * g(k)\} = F(z)G(z)$

So, all those block diagram manipulation tools you know and love will work just the same!



## The z-transform

- In practice, you'll use look-up tables or computer tools (ie. Matlab) to find the z-transform of your functions

$F(s)$	$F(kt)$	$F(z)$
$\frac{1}{s}$	1	$\frac{z}{z - 1}$
$\frac{1}{s^2}$	$kT$	$\frac{Tz}{(z - 1)^2}$
$\frac{1}{s + a}$	$e^{-akT}$	$\frac{z}{z - e^{-aT}}$
$\frac{1}{(s + a)^2}$	$kT e^{-akT}$	$\frac{zT e^{-aT}}{(z - e^{-aT})^2}$
$\frac{1}{s^2 + a^2}$	$\sin(akT)$	$\frac{z \sin aT}{z^2 - (2 \cos aT)z + 1}$



## Final value theorem

- An important question: what is the steady-state output a stable system at  $t = \infty$ ?
  - For continuous systems, this is found by:
    - $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} x(t) = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} sX(s)$
  - The discrete equivalent is:
    - $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} x(k) = \lim_{z \rightarrow 1} (1 - z^{-1})X(z)$
  - (Provided the system is stable)



## An example!

- Back to our difference equation:
$$y(k) = x(k) + Ax(k - 1) - By(k - 1)$$
becomes
$$Y(z) = X(z) + Az^{-1}X(z) - Bz^{-1}Y(z)$$
$$(z + B)Y(z) = (z + A)X(z)$$

which yields the transfer function:

$$\frac{Y(z)}{X(z)} = \frac{z + A}{z + B}$$

Note: It is also not uncommon to see systems expressed as polynomials in  $z^{-n}$



This looks familiar...

- Compare:

$$\frac{Y(s)}{X(s)} = \frac{s+2}{s+1} \text{ vs } \frac{Y(z)}{X(z)} = \frac{z+A}{z+B}$$

How are the Laplace and  $z$  domain representations related?



Consider the simplest system

- Take a first-order response:

$$f(t) = e^{-at} \Rightarrow \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = \frac{1}{s+a}$$

- The discrete version is:

$$f(kT) = e^{-akT} \Rightarrow \mathcal{Z}\{f(k)\} = \frac{z}{z - e^{-aT}}$$

The equivalent system poles are related by

$$z = e^{sT}$$

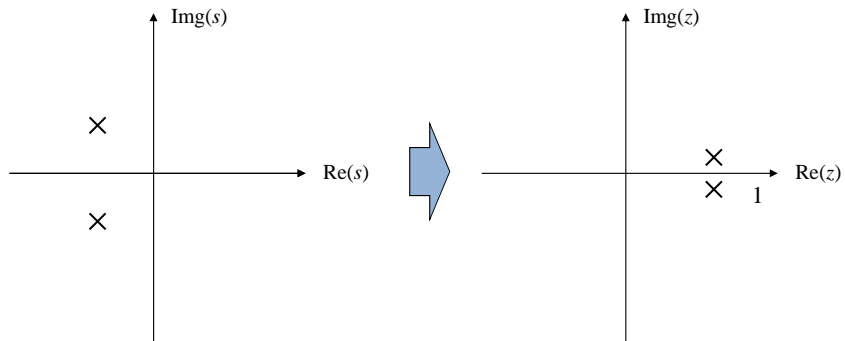
That sounds somewhat profound... but what does it mean?





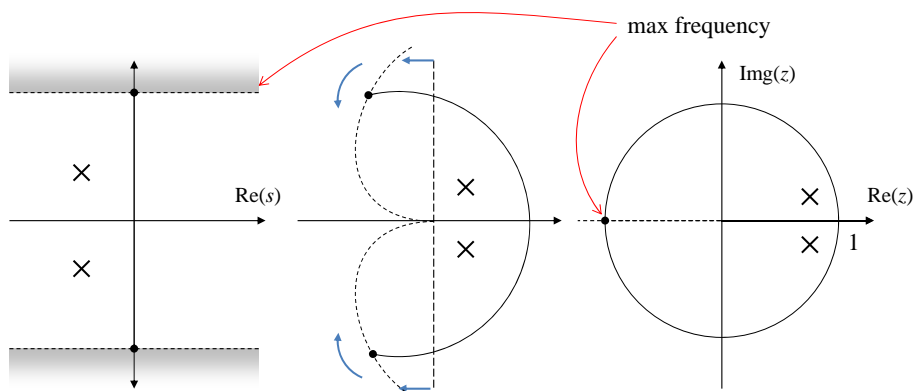
## The $z$ -Plane

- $z$ -domain poles and zeros can be plotted just like  $s$ -domain poles and zeros:



## Deep insight #1

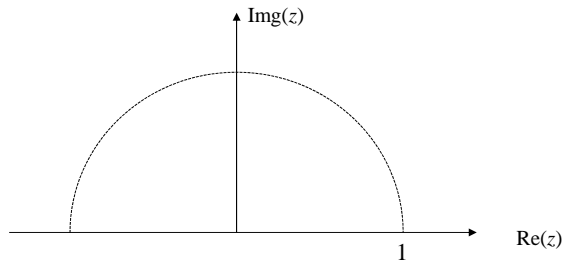
The mapping between continuous and discrete poles and zeros acts like a distortion of the plane



## The $z$ -plane

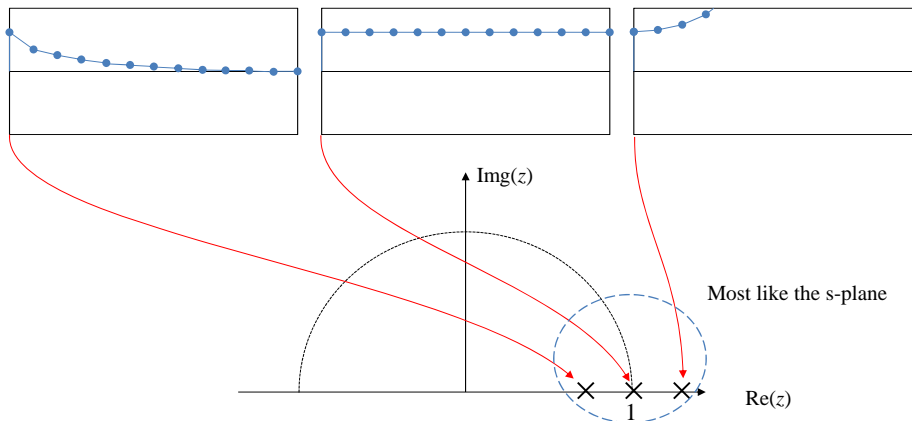
- We can understand system response by pole location in the  $z$ -plane

[Adapted from Franklin, Powell and Emami-Naeini]



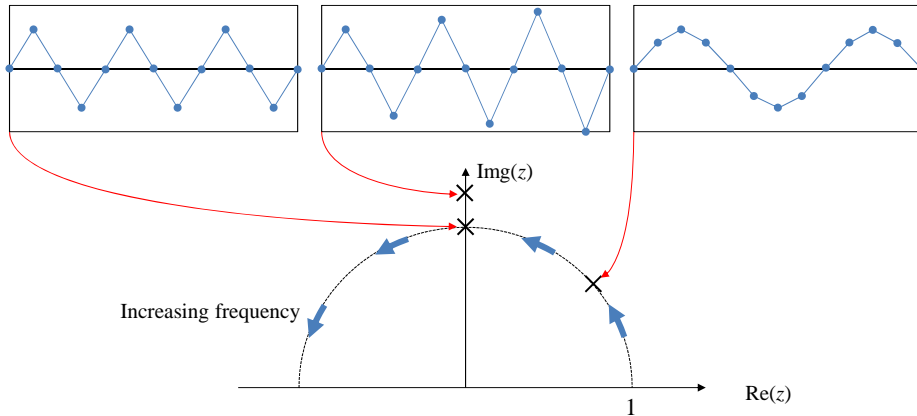
## Effect of pole positions

- We can understand system response by pole location in the  $z$ -plane



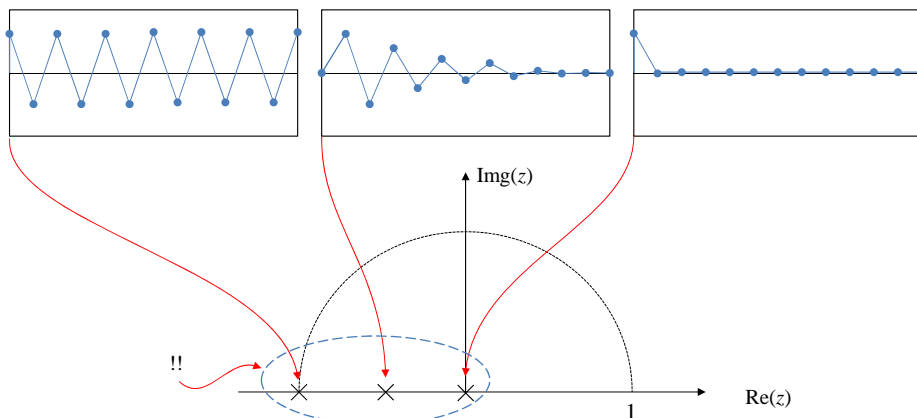
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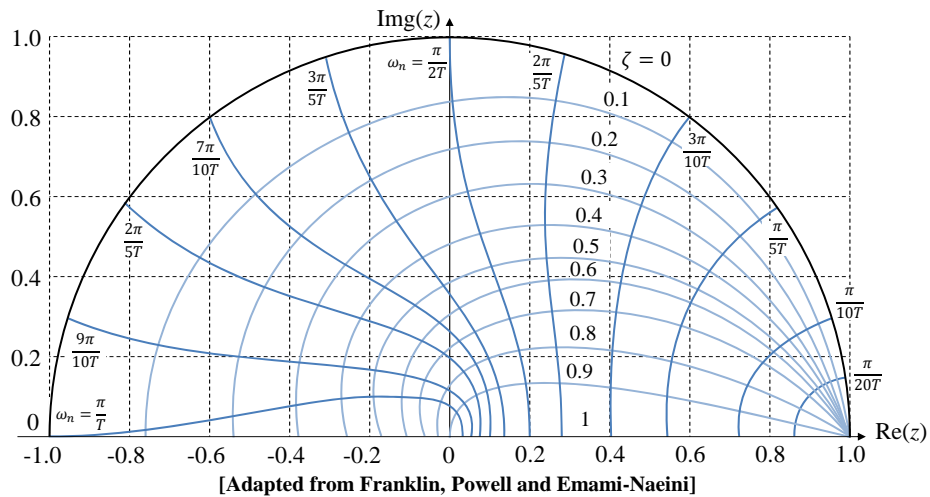
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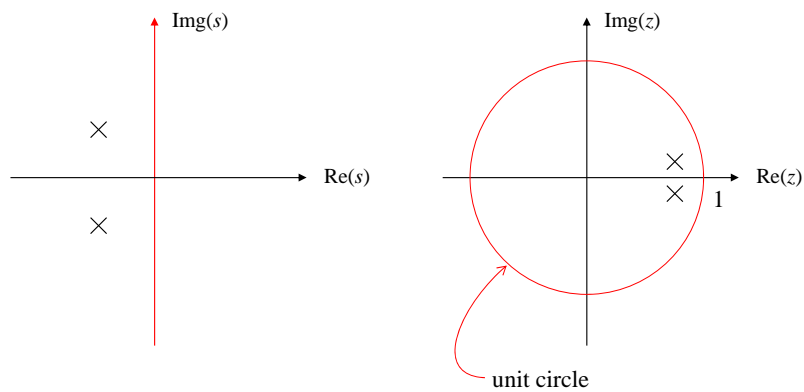
## Damping and natural frequency

$$z = e^{sT} \text{ where } s = -\zeta\omega_n \pm j\omega_n\sqrt{1-\zeta^2}$$



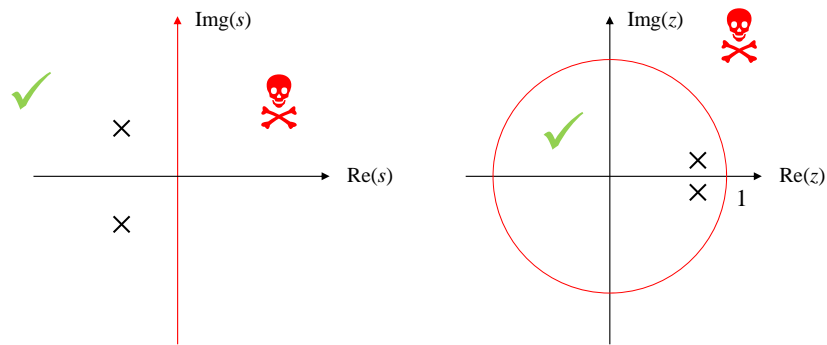
## z-plane stability

- In the z-domain, the unit circle is the system stability bound



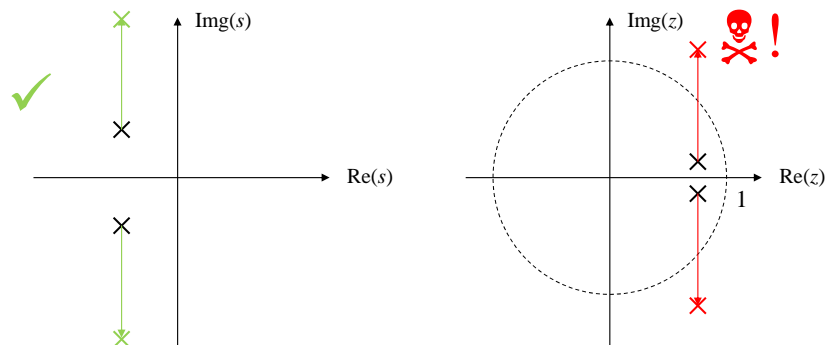
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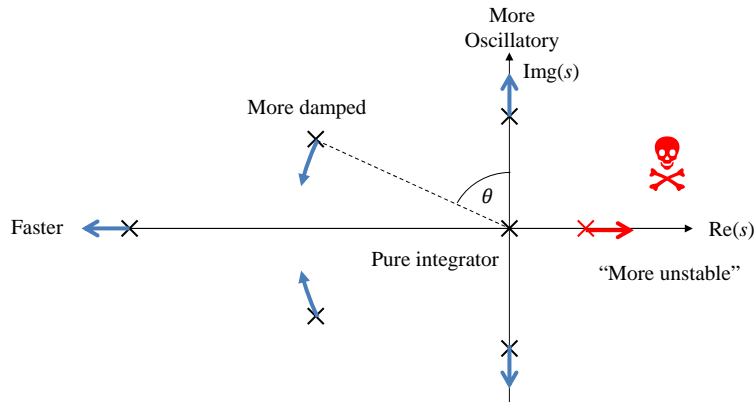
### z-plane stability

- The  $z$ -plane root-locus in closed loop feedback behaves just like the  $s$ -plane:



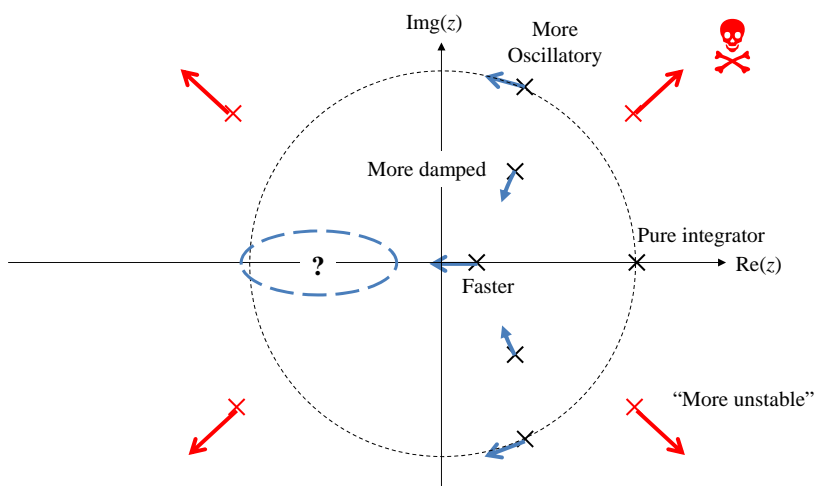
## Recall dynamic responses

- Moving pole positions change system response characteristics



## Recall dynamic responses

- Ditto the z-plane:



## Deep insight #2

- Gains that stabilise continuous systems can actually **destabilise** digital systems!

