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# **Gain Compensation and Nichols Charts**

**ECE 461/661 Controls Systems**

**Jake Glower - Lecture #36**

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

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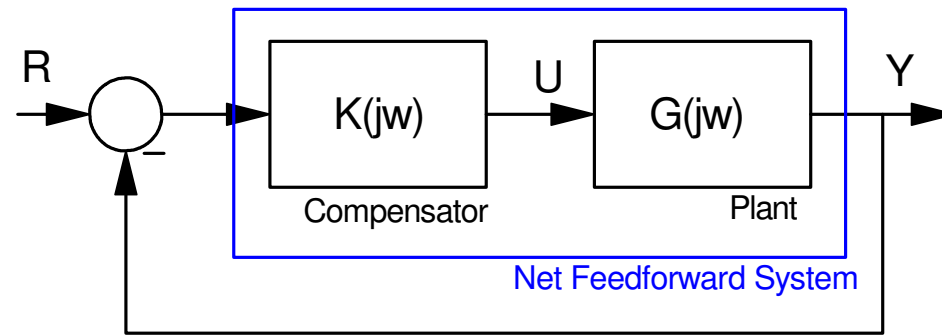
## Stability & Feedback

Consider the following feedback system.

- If the net phase shift is 0 degrees, you have positive feedback
- If the loop gain at that frequency is more than one, the gain is infinity

$$Gain = a + a^2 + a^3 + \dots$$

**The loop gain must be less than one when the open-loop phase is 180 degrees**



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**Gain Margin:** How much you can increase the gain before the system just goes unstable.

**Resonance:** The maximum closed-loop gain

- A measure of the damping ratio

$$M_m = \frac{1}{2\zeta\sqrt{1-\zeta^2}} \quad 0 < \zeta < 0.7$$

- A measure of the distance to -1

**M-Circle:**

- All points where the closed-loop gain is constant:  $M_m$
  - "Keep Away" region if the resonance must be  $< M_m$
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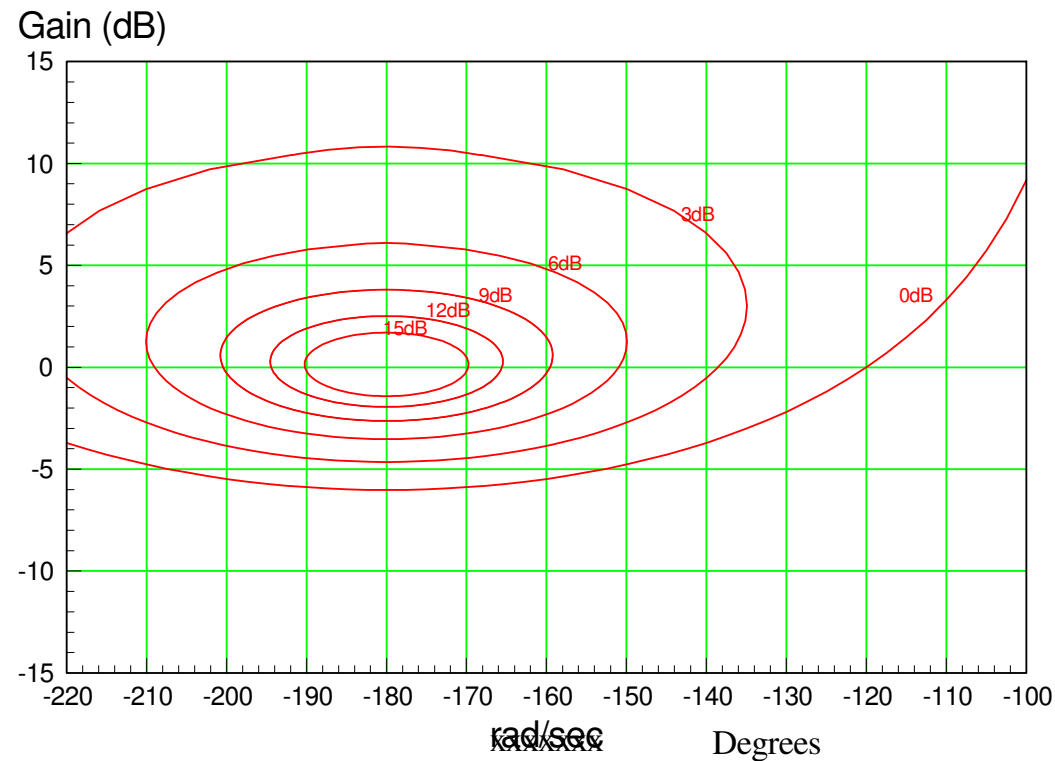
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## Nichols Charts:

Plots  $G(j\omega)$  as

- X-axis: Phase in degrees
- Y-axis: Gain in dB

M-circles show the corresponding closed-loop gain



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# Nichols Charts and Gain Compensation

Adjust the gain of  $G(j\omega)$  until

- You are stable

*Gain < 0dB when the phase is 180 degrees*

- You are tangent to the M-circle

*Maximum closed-loop gain = resonance =  $M_m$*

```
function [] = Nichols2(Gw, Mm)
    Gwp = unwrap(angle(Gw))*180/pi;
    Gwm = 20*log10(abs(Gw));
    % M-Circle
    phase = [0:0.01:1]' * 2*pi;
    Mcl = Mm * exp(j*phase);
    Mol = Mcl ./ (1 - Mcl);
    Mp = unwrap(angle(Mol))*180/pi - 360;
    Mm = 20*log10(abs(Mol));
    plot(Gwp, Gwm, 'b', Mp, Mm, 'r');
    xlabel('Phase (degrees)');
    ylabel('Gain (dB)');
    xlim([-220, -120]);
    ylim([-30, 20]);
end
```

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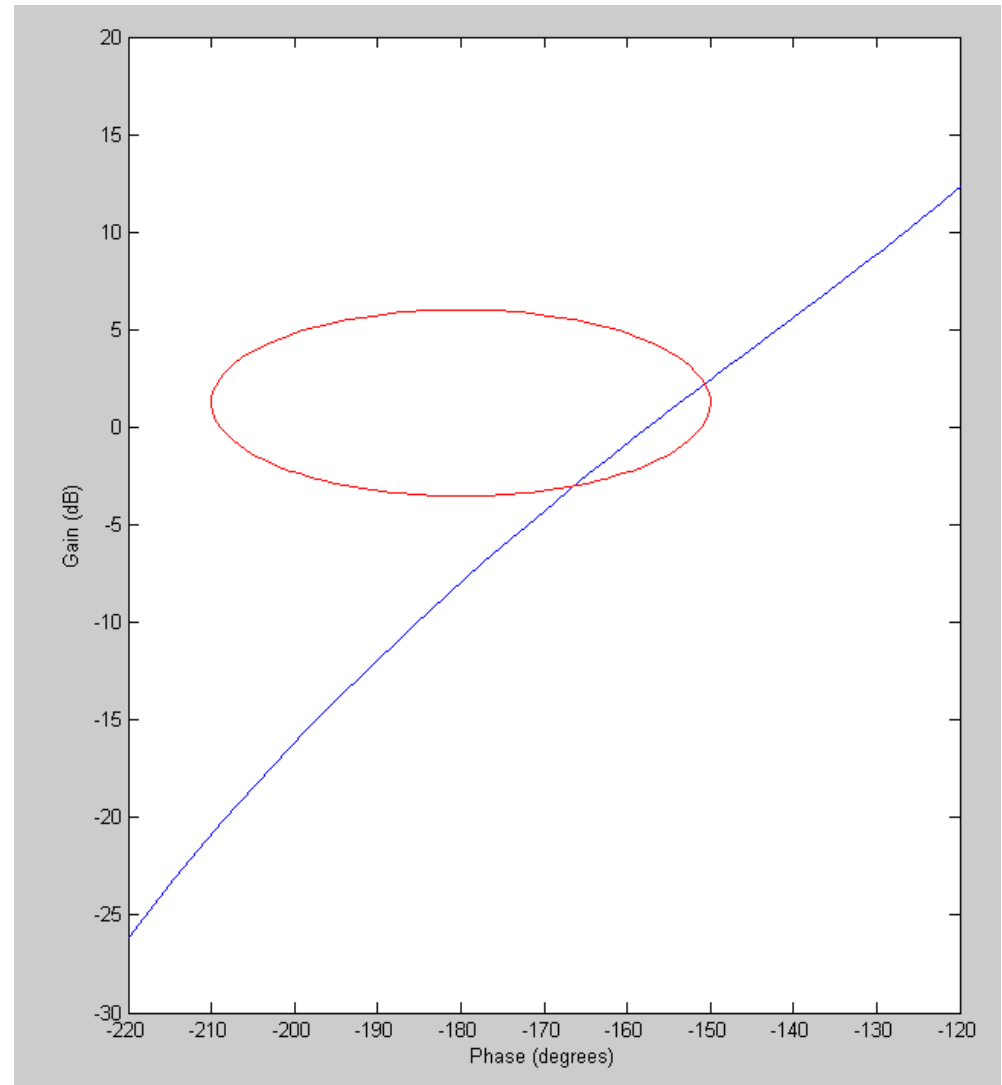
**Example:** Find a gain, k, so that

$$G(s) = \left( \frac{2000}{s(s+5)(s+20)} \right)$$

- Has a resonance of 6dB or less, and
- K is as large as possible.,

```
G = zpk([], [0, -5, -20], 1000);  
w = logspace(-2, 2, 200)';  
Gw = Bode2(G, w);
```

```
Nichols2(Gw, 2);
```

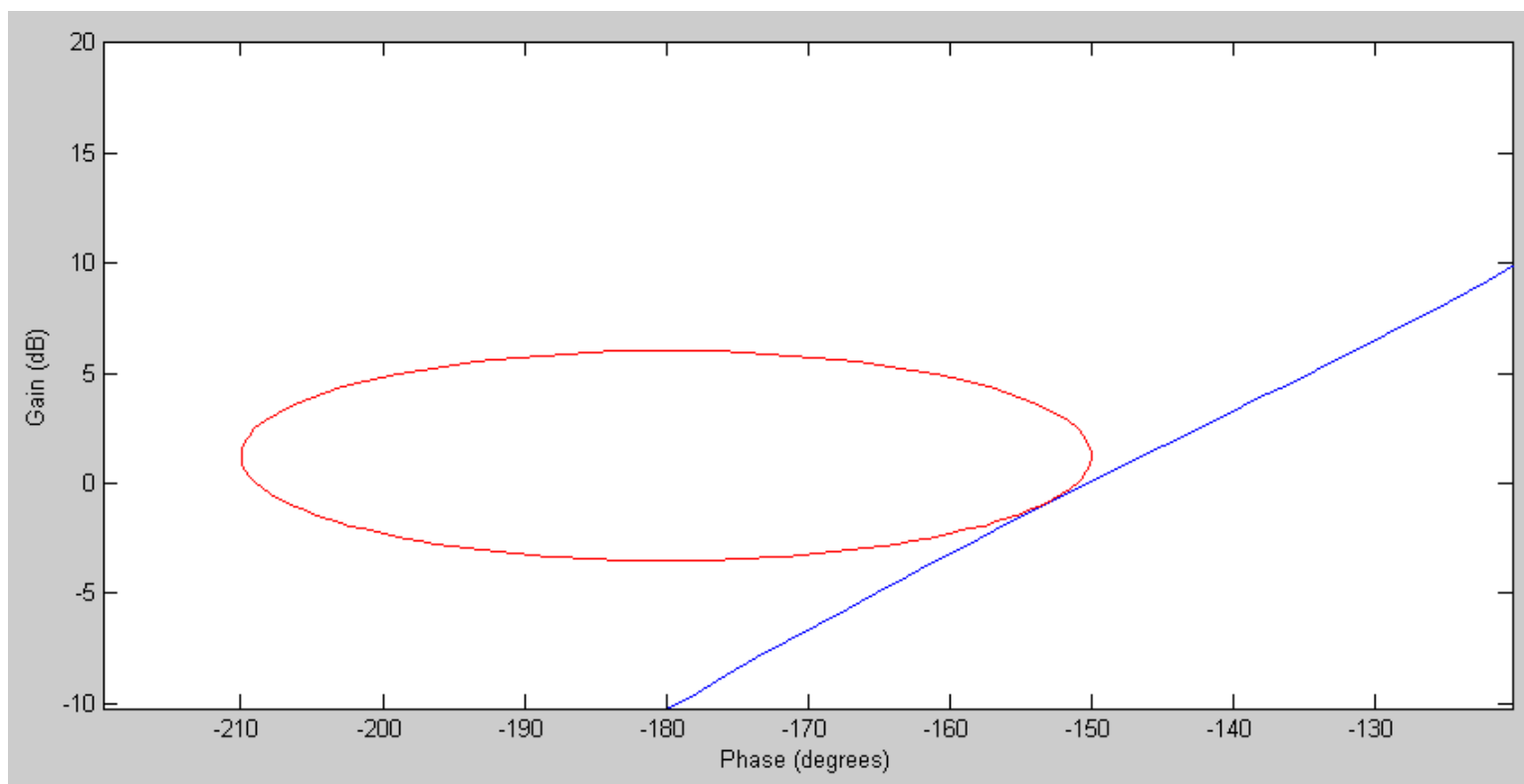


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## Adjust the gain until you are tangent

- and stable

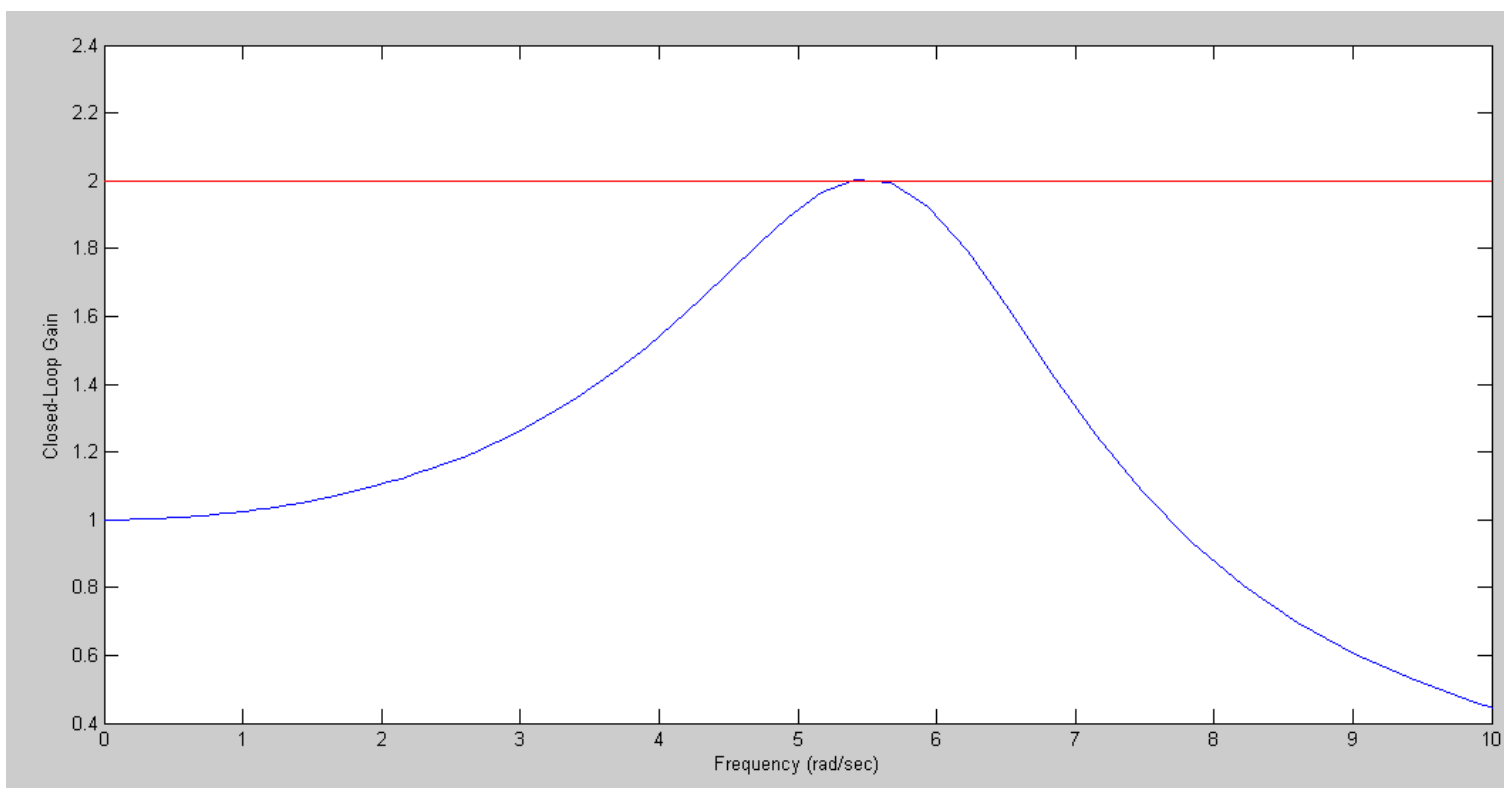
```
Nichols2(Gw*0.9, 2);  
Nichols2(Gw*0.8, 2);  
Nichols2(Gw*0.78, 2);  
Nichols2(Gw*0.77, 2);
```



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You can check your answer by plotting the closed-loop gain with this value of K:

```
k = 0.77;  
Gw_cl = Gw*k ./ (1 + Gw*k) ;  
plot(w,abs(Gw_cl));  
xlabel('Frequency (rad/sec)');  
ylabel('Closed-Loop Gain');
```



Closed-Loop Gain of  $G \cdot K$ . K was chosen so that the maximum gain was 2.000

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# Gain Compensation When G(s) Isn't Specified

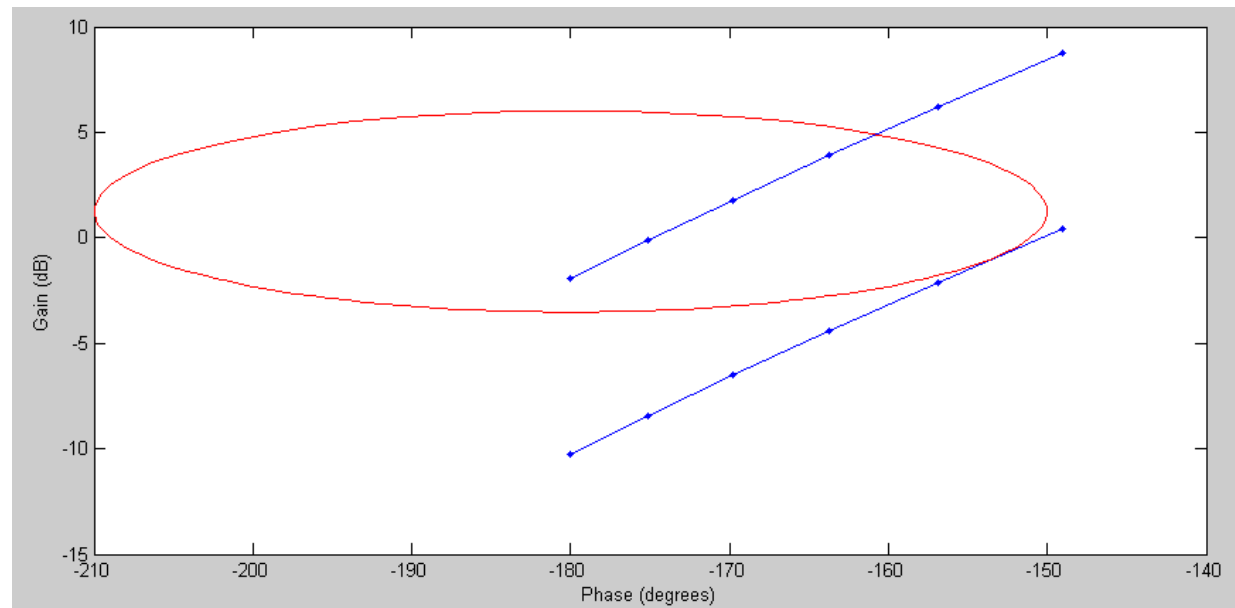
Given

Freq	5	6	7	8	9	10
Gain (dB)	8.77	6.21	3.9	1.8	-0.14	-1.94
Phase (deg)	-149.04	-156.89	-163.75	-169.8	-175.17	-180

Find k for Mm = 2

```
dB = [ ... ]';  
P = [ ... ]';  
Gw = 10.^(dB/20) .*  
exp(j*pi*P/180);  
Nichols2(Gw, 2);  
Nichols2(Gw*0.3, 2);  
Nichols2(Gw*0.35, 2);  
Nichols2(Gw*0.38, 2);
```

This results in k = 0.38

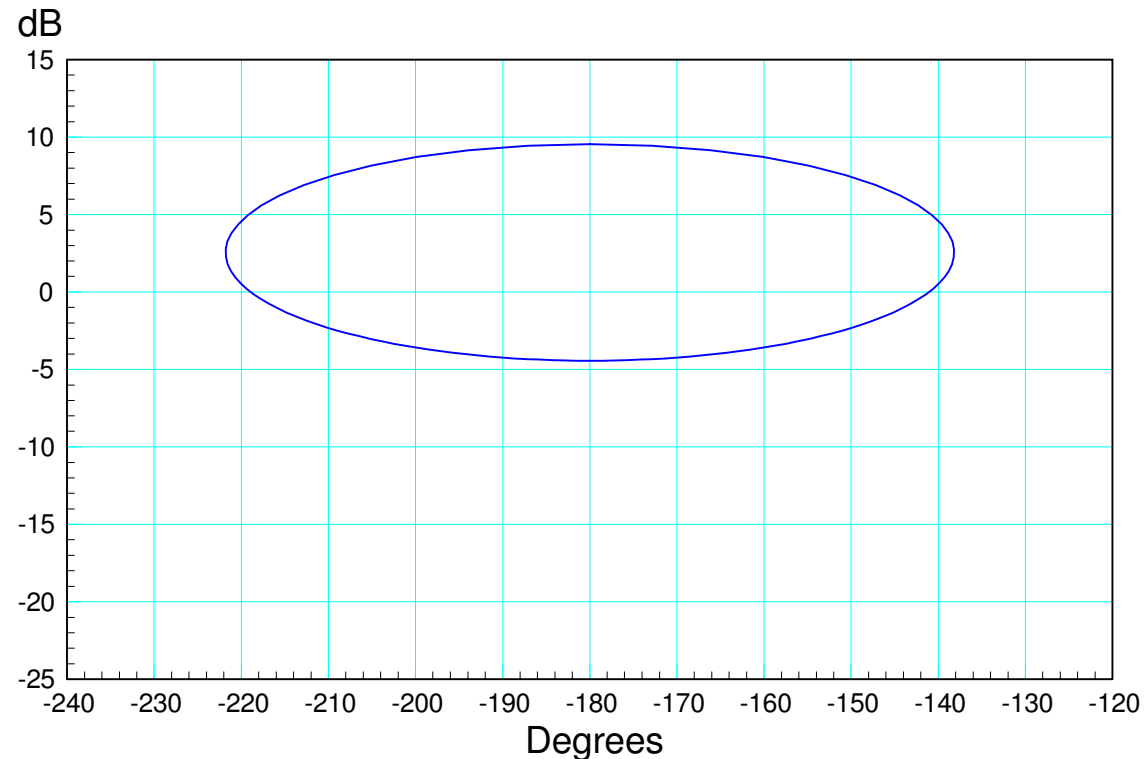


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Handout: The gain vs. frequency for  $G(j\omega)$  is measured:

rad/sec	0	5	6	7	8
Gain	15dB	10dB	0dB	-10dB	-20dB
degrees	0	-120	-150	-170	-190

Determine Gain of M-Circle. Maximum Gain for Stability, k for Mm



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# Nyquist Diagram

A Nyquist diagram is similar to a Nichols chart. In this case, you plot

- x-axis:  $\text{real}(G(j\omega))$
- y-axis:  $\text{imag}(G(j\omega))$
- m-circles: constant closed-loop gain

```
function [] = Nyquist2(Gw, Mm)
    Gwp = unwrap(angle(Gw))*180/pi;
    Gwm = 20*log10(abs(Gw));
    % M-Circle
    phase = [0:0.01:1]' * 2*pi;
    Mcl = Mm * exp(j*phase);
    Mol = Mcl ./ (1 - Mcl);

    plot(real(Gw), imag(Gw), 'b', real(Mol), imag(Mol), 'r', -1, 0, 'r+');
    xlabel('real');
    ylabel('imag');
    xlim([-2, 0.5]);
    ylim([-2, 0.5]);
end
```

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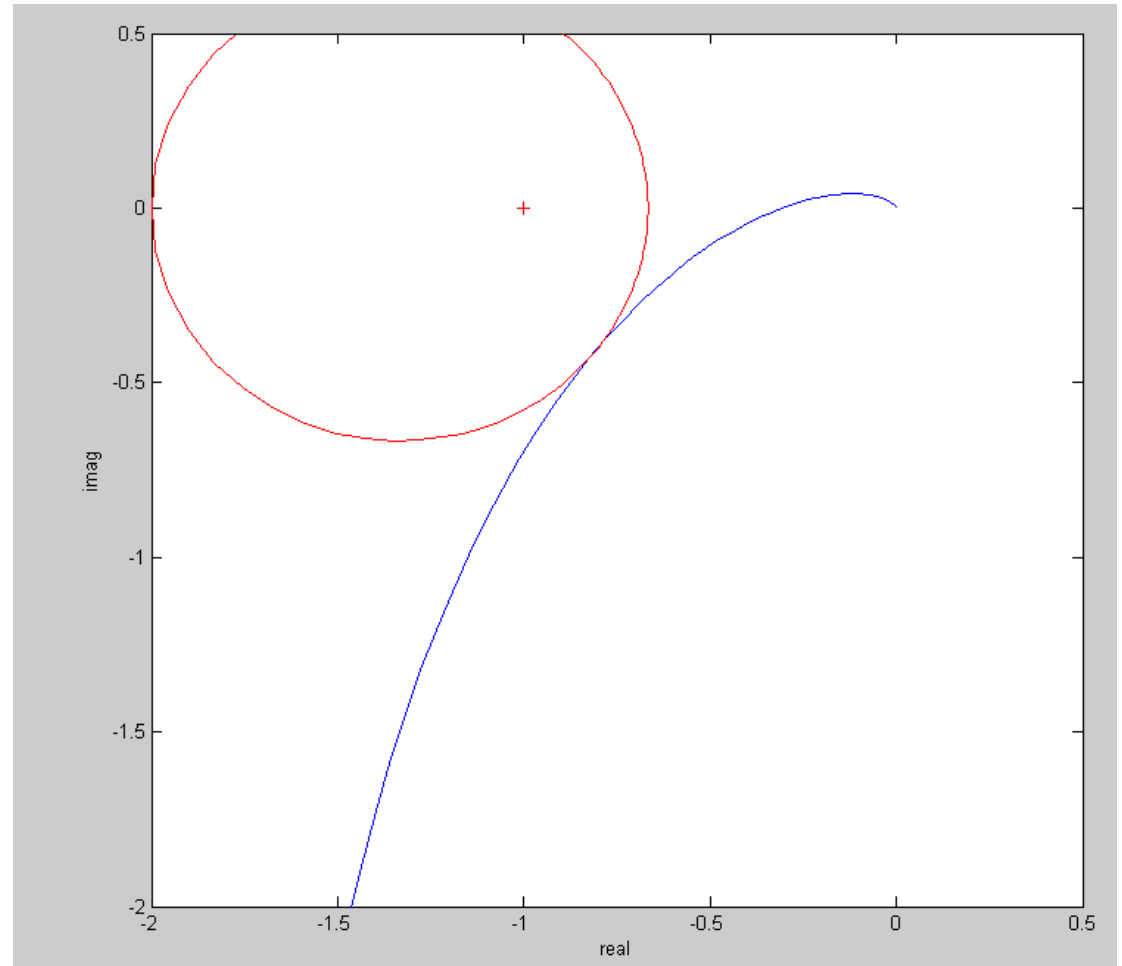
# Nyquist

## Calling sequence

```
w = logspace(-2,2,200)';  
G = zpk([], [0,-5,-20], 1000);  
Gw = Bode2(G,w);  
Nyquist2(Gw, 2);  
Nyquist2(Gw*0.9, 2);  
Nyquist2(Gw*0.77, 2);
```

## Note

- The M-circle is a circle  
*hence the name*
- The circle isn't centered on -1



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# Inverse Nyquist Diagram

## Plot

- x-axis:  $\text{real}(1/G(j\omega))$
- y-axis:  $\text{imag}(1/G(j\omega))$
- m-circles: constant closed-loop gain

```
function [] = InverseNyquist2(Gw, Mm)
    Gwp = unwrap(angle(Gw))*180/pi;
    Gwm = 20*log10(abs(Gw));
    % M-Circle
    phase = [0:0.01:1]' * 2*pi;
    Mcl = Mm * exp(j*phase);
    Mol = Mcl ./ (1 - Mcl);

    plot(real(1./Gw), imag(1./Gw), 'b', real(1./Mol),
         imag(1./Mol), 'r', -1, 0, 'r+');
    xlabel('real');
    ylabel('imag');
    xlim([-2, 0.5]);
    ylim([-1, 1.5]);
end
```

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# Inverse Nyquist

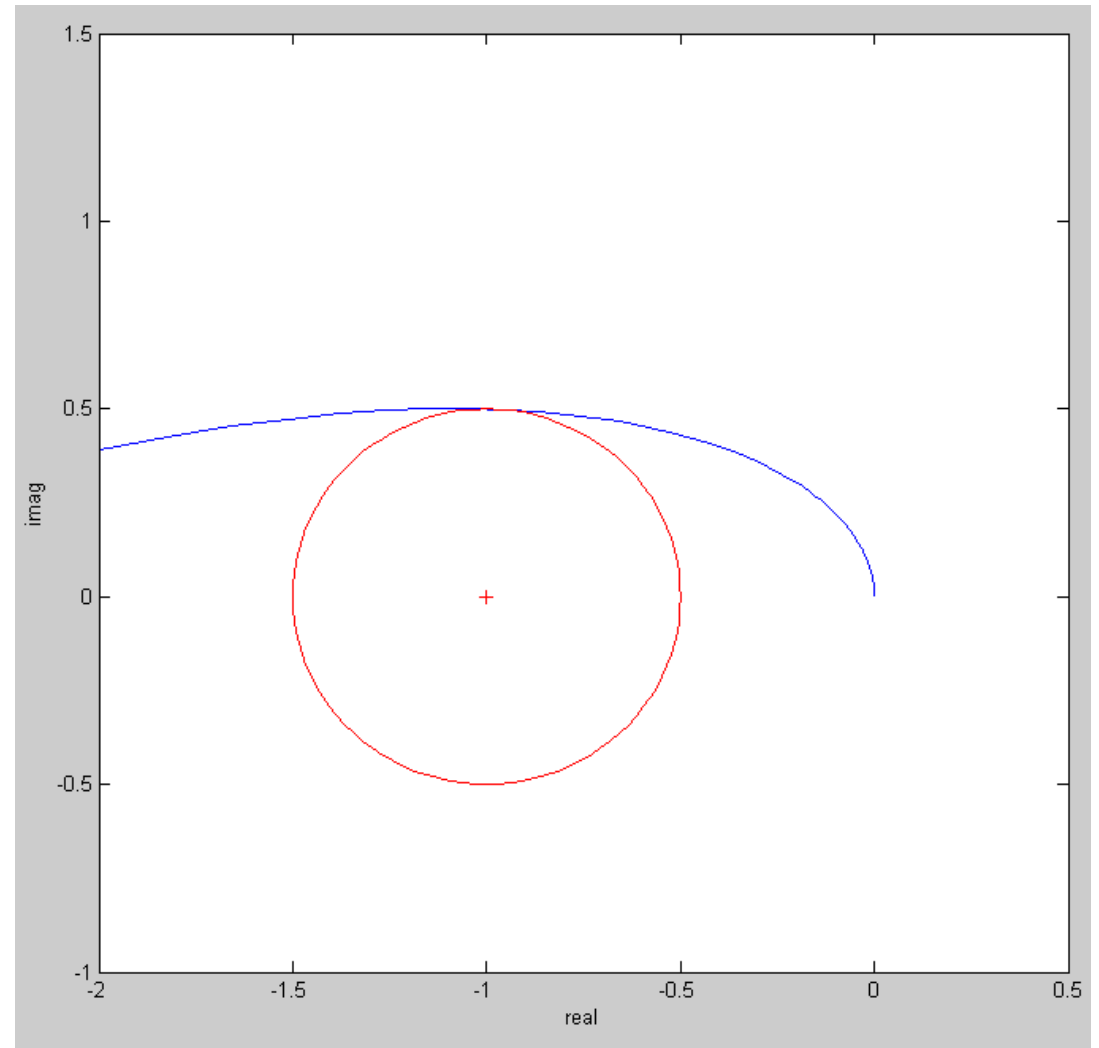
The calling sequence is

```
w = logspace(-2,2,200)';  
G = zpke([], [0,-5,-20], 1000);  
Gw = Bode2(G,w);  
InverseNyquist2(Gw, 2);  
InverseNyquist2(Gw*0.9, 2);  
InverseNyquist2(Gw*0.77, 2);
```

Note:

- M-circles are circles
- Centered on -1

$M_m = 1/\text{distance to } -1$



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## Summary:

The goal in gain compensation is to keep away from -1

Different charts map this distance using m-circles

- Nichols: phase vs. gain in dB
- Nyquist: real vs. imag for  $G(j\omega)$
- Inverse Nyquist: real vs. imag for  $1/G(j\omega)$

Gain Compensation:

- Crank up the gain until you are tangent to the m-circle,
  - And stable
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