

AI Accelerated Digital Filter Design: Butterworth, Chebyshev, Elliptic, and General IIR Filters

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Music 320 Extensions - Digital Filter Design





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Outline

- Example Classic Analog Filters (Butterworth, Chebyshev, Elliptic)
- Digitizing Analog Filters (two ways)
- Relating s and z planes
- Classic Analog Filter Design
 - Butterworth (maximally flat passband, smooth rolloff)
 - Chebyshev (equiripple passband, Butterworth stopband [or vice versa])
 - Elliptic (equiripple passband and stopband)
- Butterworth Filters in Python, Faust, and C++
- General Digital Filter Design (not starting from Analog)

AI was used *throughout* for

- LaTeX typesetting
- Python code for all figures
- Python and C++ functions for filter design (not in `scipy.signal`)
- In general, Claude 3.5 Sonnet was used (often in Cursor or VS Code)



[Analog Examples](#)

[Derivations](#)

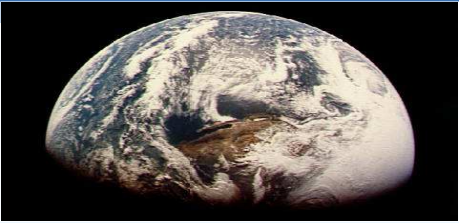
[Butterworth](#)

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Classic Analog Lowpass Filters



Butterworth Analog Lowpass Prototype Example

● Outline

● Analog Examples

● **Butterworth Analog**

● Chebyshev1 Analog

● Elliptic Analog

● Overlays

● Order 5

● Python for Figures

● s and z planes

● Sampled IRs

● Bilinear Transform

● $z \approx 1 + sT$ at Low Freq

● Derivations

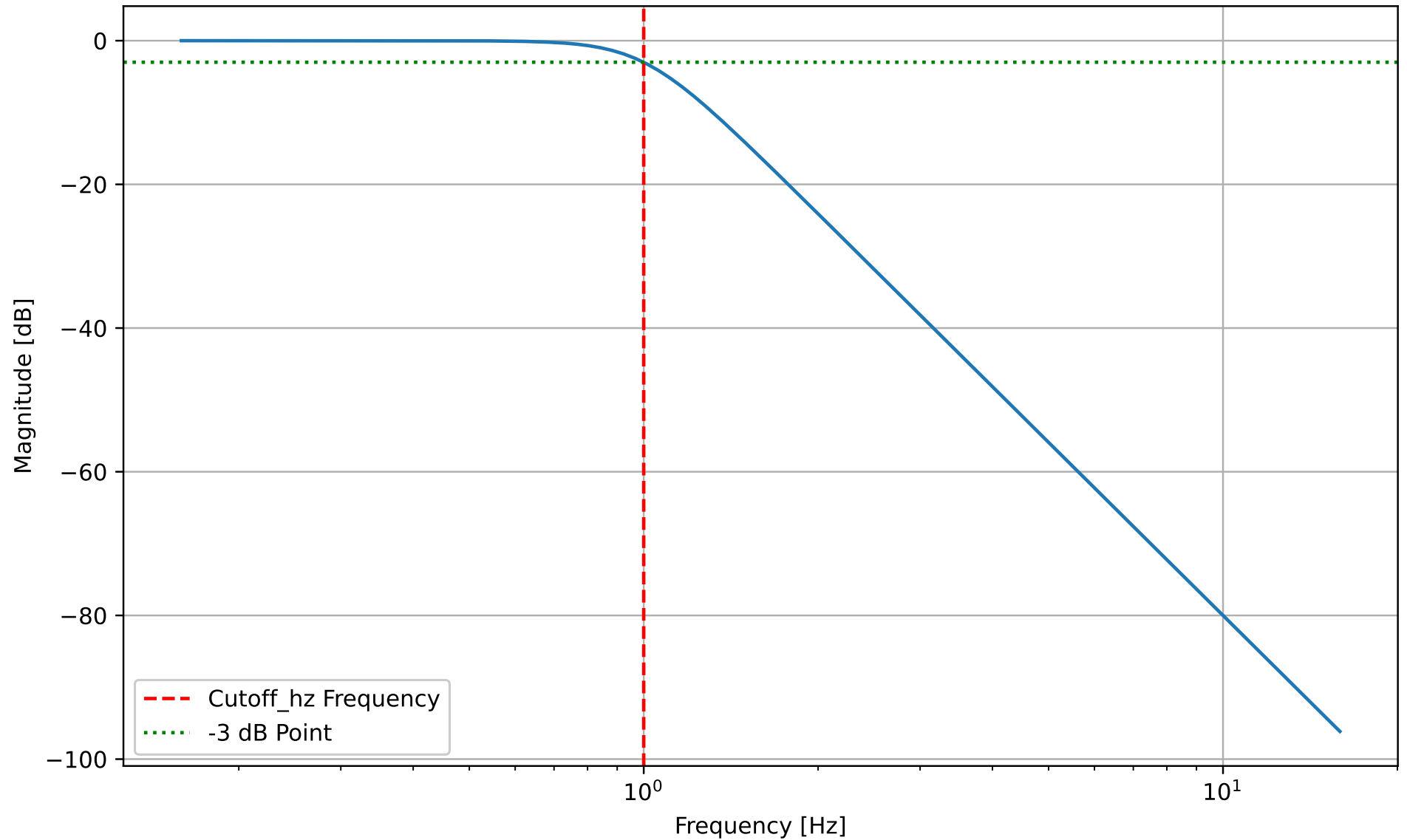
● Butterworth

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Bode Plot of Order 4 Butterworth Lowpass Filter





Chebyshev1 Analog Lowpass Prototype Example

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Derivations

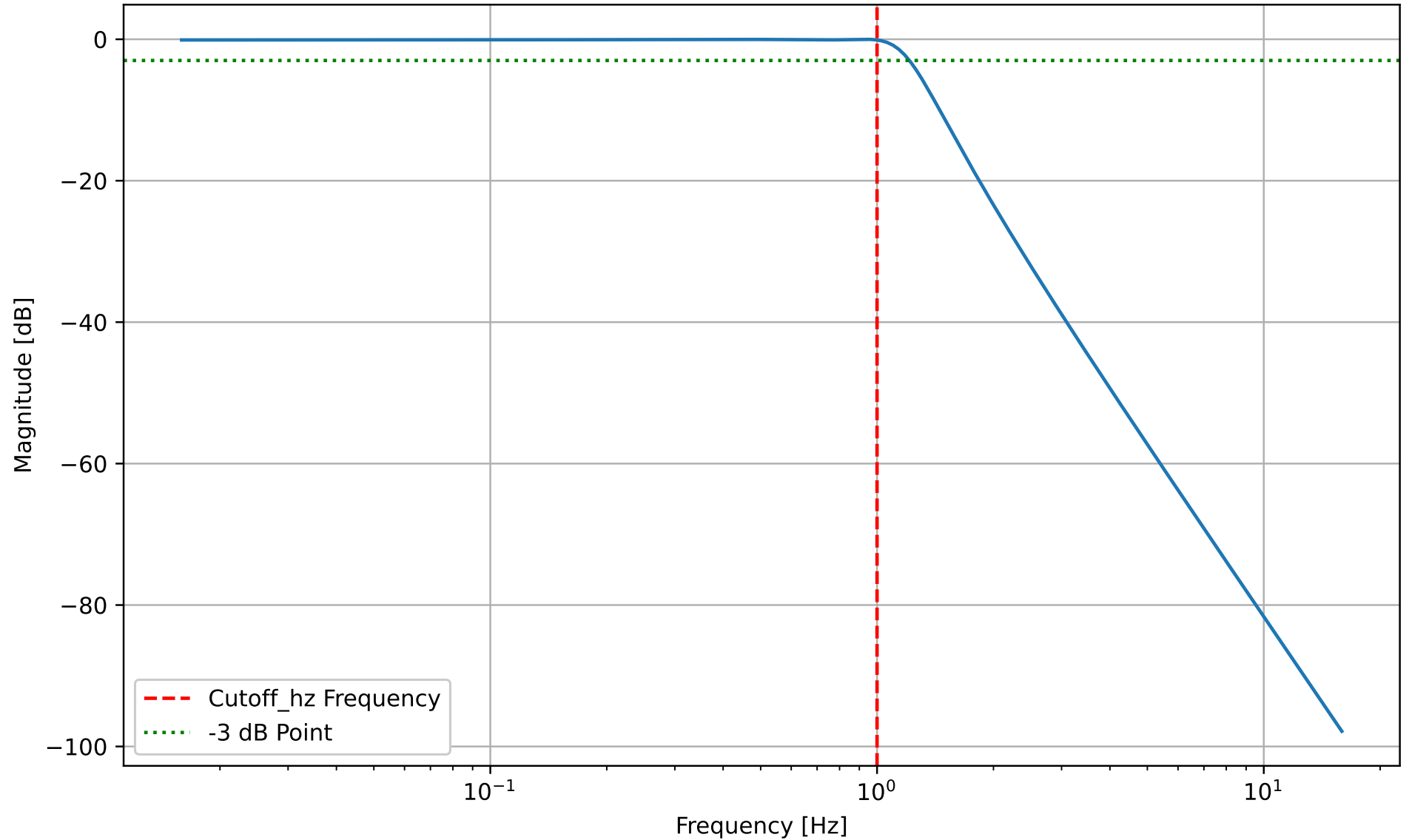
Butterworth

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Bode Plot of Order 4 Chebyshev Type I Lowpass Filter





Elliptic Analog Lowpass Prototype Example

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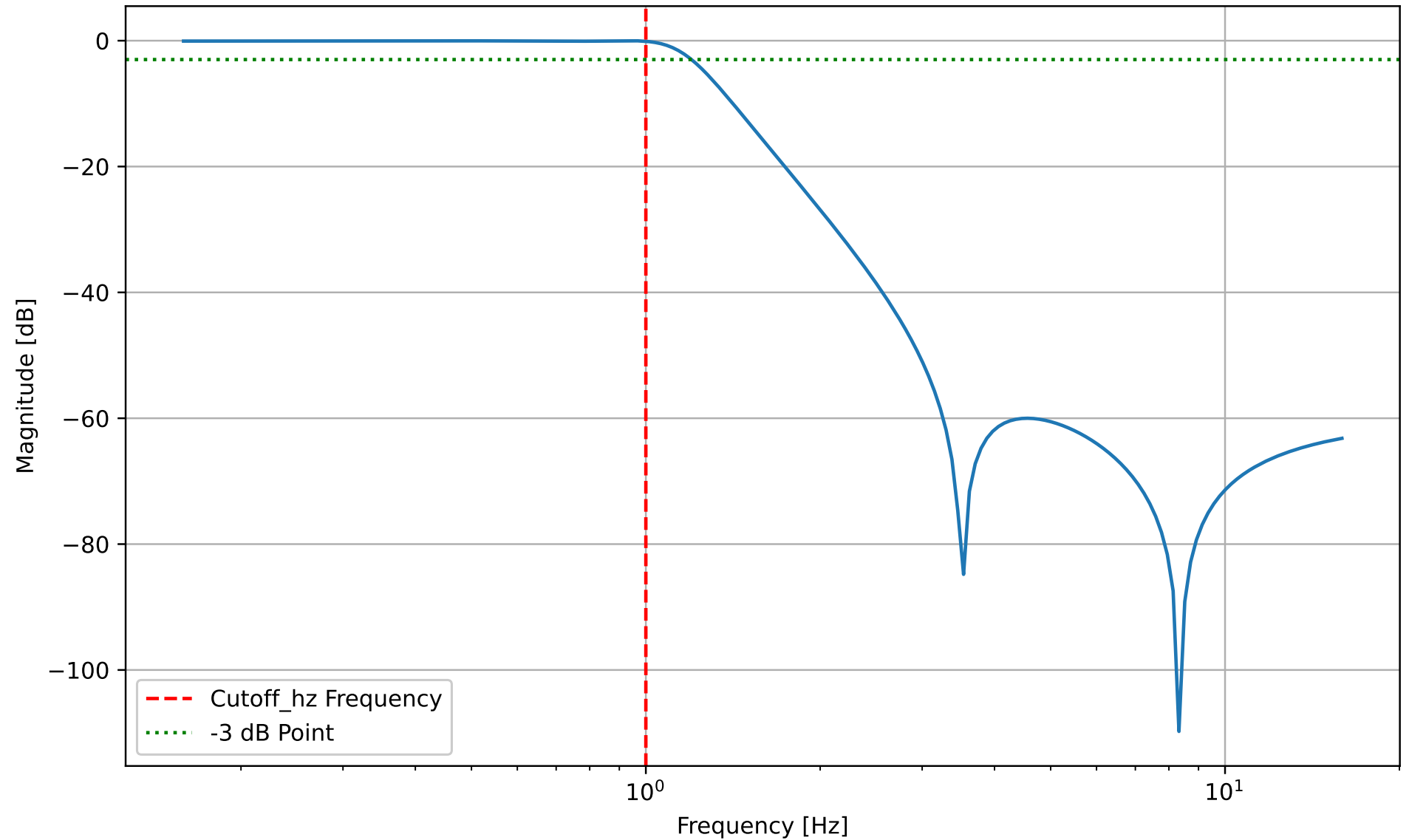
Butterworth

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Elliptic

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Bode Plot of Order 4 Elliptic (Cauer) Lowpass Filter





Butterworth, Chebyshev I, and Elliptic Analog Lowpasses Overlaid

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- Elliptic Analog
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- Python for Figures
- s and z planes
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- $z \approx 1 + sT$ at Low Freq

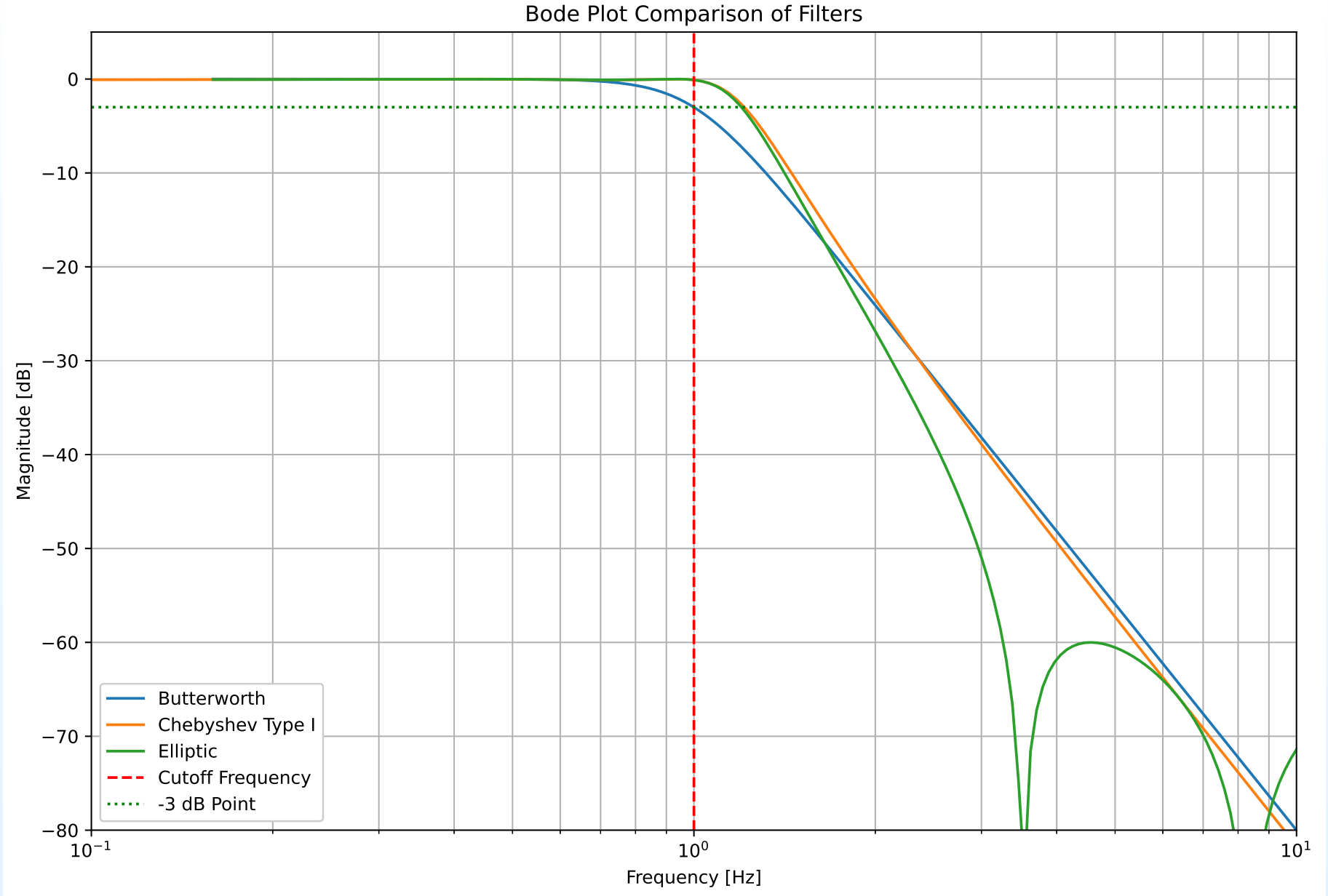
Derivations

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Butterworth, Chebyshev I and II, Elliptic Analog Lowpasses, Wikipedia

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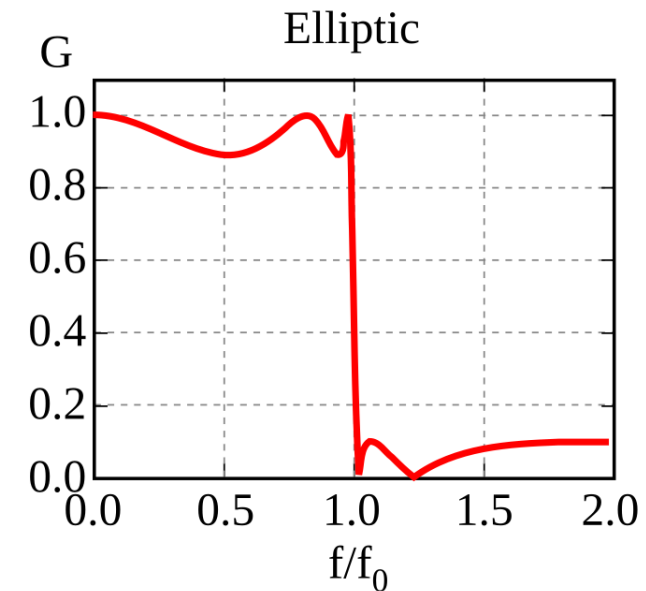
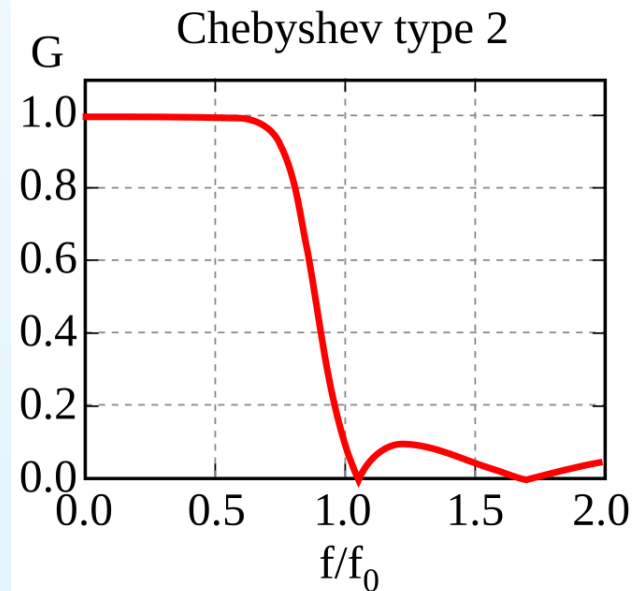
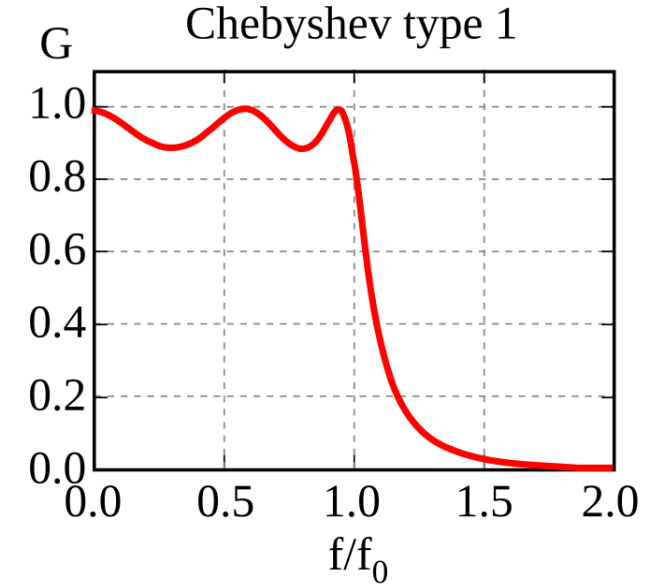
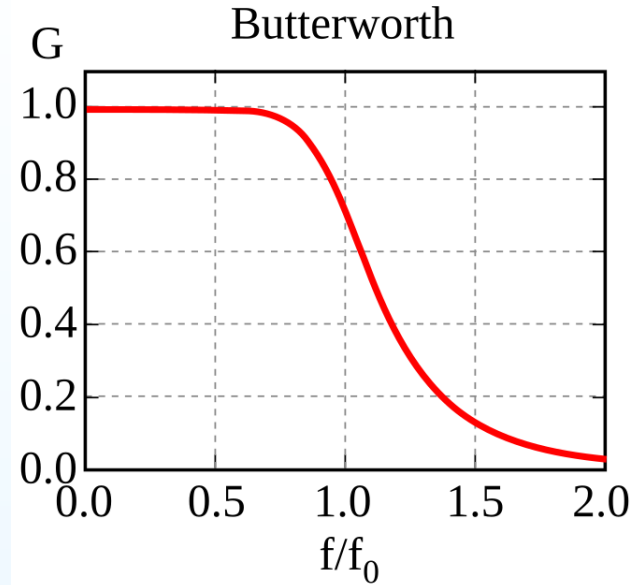
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Python Main Program Used Above (by Claude 3.5 Sonnet)

```
1 order = 4 # Filter order
2 cutoff_hz = 1 # Cutoff_hz frequency in Hz
3 ripple = 0.1 # Passband ripple in dB
4 sb_att = 60 # Stopband attenuation (ripple) in dB
5
6 wB, HB = butterworth_lowpass(order, cutoff_hz)
7 title = f'Order {order} Butterworth Lowpass'
8 plot_bode(wB, HB, title, save_path="...")
9
10 wC1, HC1 = chebyshev1_lowpass(order, cutoff_hz, ripple)
11 title = f'Order {order} Chebyshev Type I Lowpass'
12 plot_bode(wC1, HC1, title, save_path="...")
13
14 wE, HE = elliptic_lowpass(order, cutoff_hz, ripple, sb_att)
15 title = f'Order {order} Elliptic (Cauer) Lowpass'
16 plot_bode(wE, HE, title, save_path="...")
17
18 ...
```



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Python for Filter Design (by Claude 3.5 Sonnet)

```
1 def butterworth_lowpass(order, cutoff_hz):
2     w, H = signal.freqs(*signal.butter(order, cutoff_hz * 2 *
      ↪ np.pi, btype='lowpass', analog=True))
3     return w, H
```

```
1 def chebyshev1_lowpass(order, cutoff, ripple):
2     w, H = signal.freqs(*signal.cheby1(order, ripple,
      ↪ cutoff_hz * 2 * np.pi, btype='lowpass', analog=
      ↪ True))
3     return w, H
```

```
1 def elliptic_lowpass(order, cutoff, ripple,
      ↪ stopband_attenuation):
2     w, H = signal.freqs(*signal.ellip(order, ripple,
      ↪ stopband_attenuation, cutoff_hz * 2 * np.pi, btype
      ↪ ='lowpass', analog=True))
3     return w, H
```



The s and z Planes

Generalized sinusoids in continuous and discrete time:

Continuous Time

$$\begin{aligned}
 e^{st} &= e^{(\sigma + j\omega)t} \\
 &= e^{\sigma t} e^{j\omega t} \\
 &= e^{-t/\tau} [\cos(\omega t) + j \sin(\omega t)]
 \end{aligned}$$

Laplace Transform

$$X_c(s) = \int_0^{\infty} x_c(t) e^{-st} dt$$

Fourier Transform (FT) ($s = j\omega$)

$$X_c(j\omega) = \int_0^{\infty} x_c(t) e^{-j\omega t} dt$$

Discrete Time when $z = e^{sT}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 z^n &= (e^{sT})^n = (e^{\sigma T + j\omega T})^n \\
 &= e^{\sigma nT} e^{j\omega nT} \\
 &= e^{-nT/\tau} [\cos(\omega nT) + j \sin(\omega nT)]
 \end{aligned}$$

z Transform

$$X_d(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x_d(n) z^{-n}$$

Discrete Time FT (DTFT) ($z = e^{j\omega T}$)

$$X_d(e^{j\omega T}) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x_d(n) e^{-j\omega T n}$$

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Generalized Sinusoids e^{st} in the s Plane

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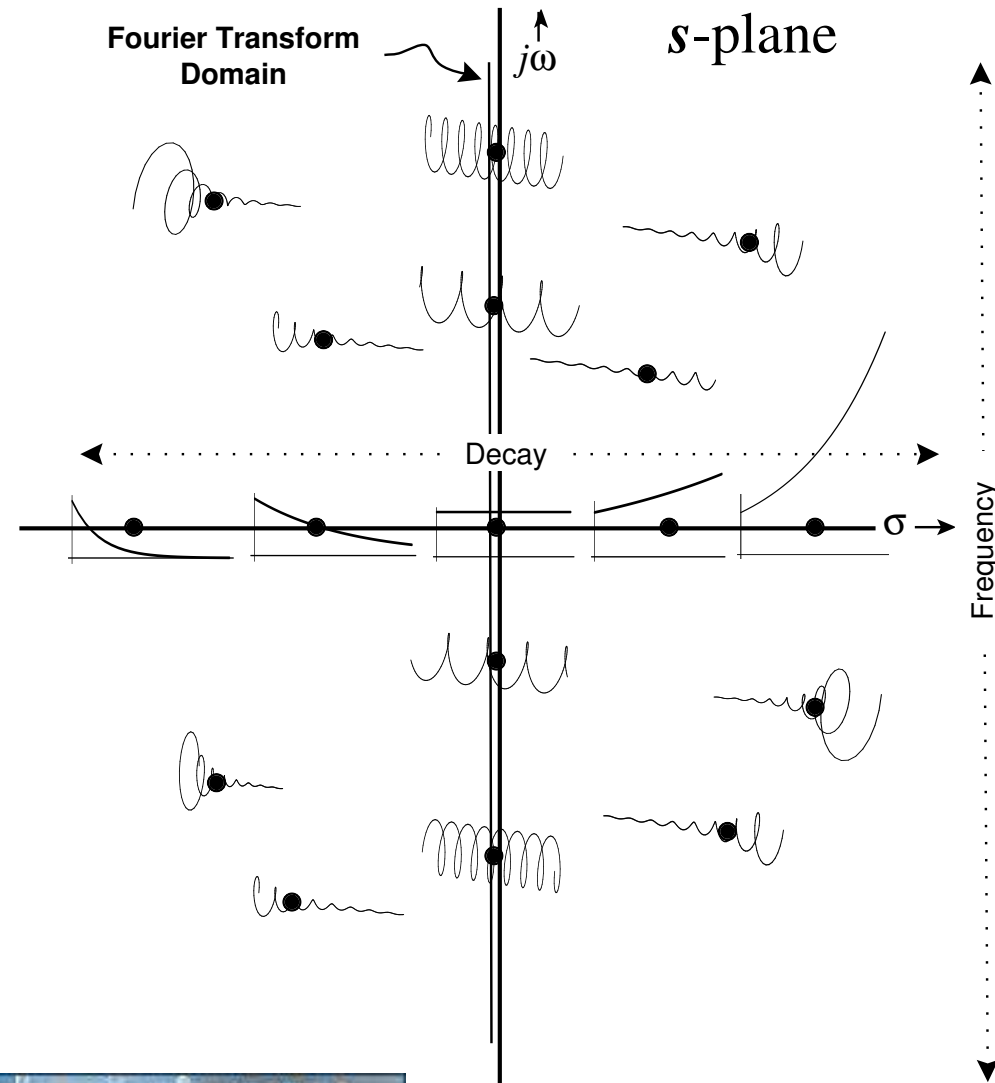
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Domain of Laplace transforms





Generalized Sinusoids z^n in the z Plane

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Derivations

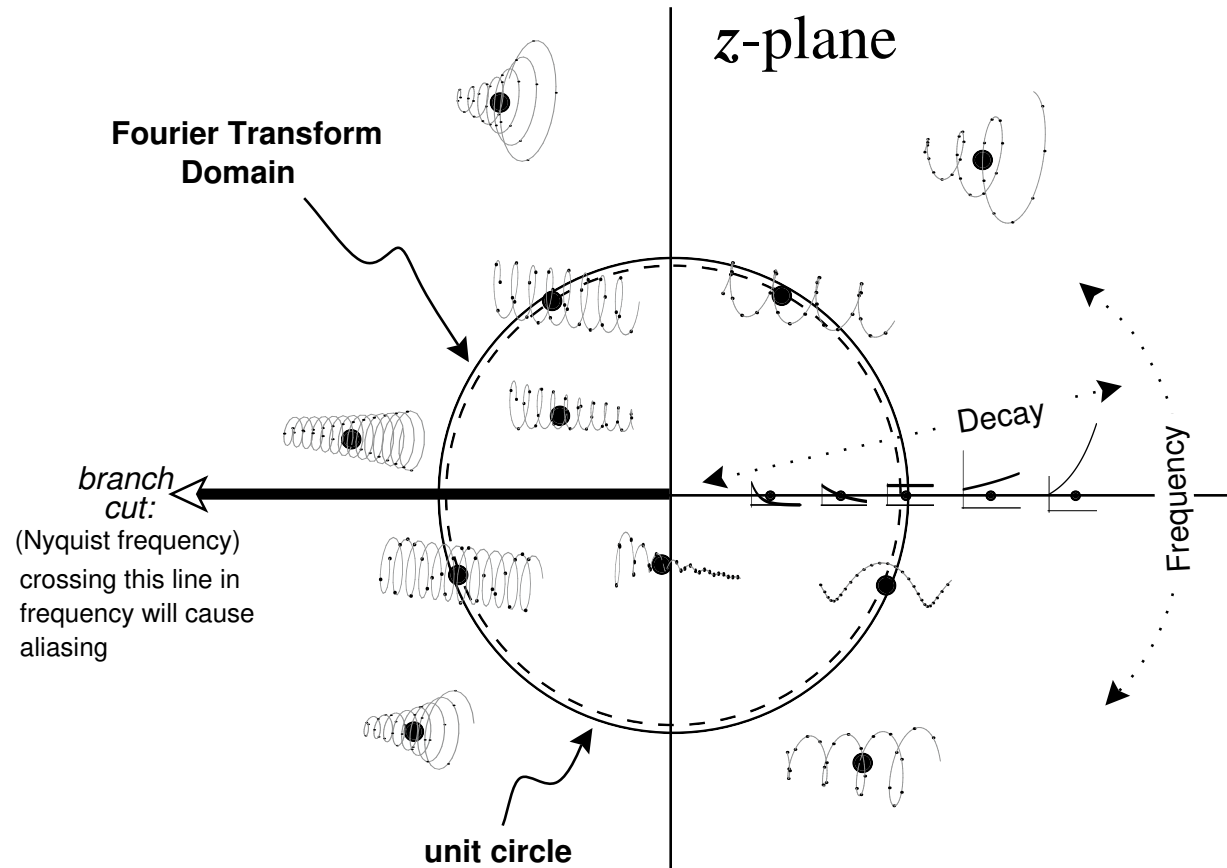
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Domain of z -transforms





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Impulse Invariance Filter Digitization

The Impulse Invariance Method for digitizing analog filters effectively *samples* their *impulse response*.

An analog transfer function is always a *rational* function of s :

$$H(s) = \frac{B(s)}{A(s)}$$

- $B(s)$ = numerator polynomial having roots called the *zeros* of $H(s)$
- $A(s)$ = denominator polynomial having roots called the *poles* of $H(s)$.

In *partial fractions*,

$$H(s) = \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{K_i}{s + s_i}. \quad (1)$$

The impulse response $h(t)$ is the *inverse Laplace transform* of (1):

$$h(t) = \sum_{i=1}^N K_i e^{-s_i t}$$



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- *s* and *z* planes
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- Bilinear Transform
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Impulse Invariance Method, Continued

We have

$$h(t) = \sum_{i=1}^N K_i e^{-s_i t}$$

Let's now *sample* $h(t)$ at intervals of T seconds:

$$h(nT) = \sum_{i=1}^N K_i e^{-s_i nT} = \sum_{i=1}^N K_i (e^{-s_i T})^n \triangleq \sum_{i=1}^N K_i z_i^n$$

We see that each *analog pole* at $s = -s_i$ maps to a *digital pole* at

$$z_i = e^{-s_i T}.$$

While the *analog zeros* do not map in a simple way to the z plane, the *pole residues* K_i are preserved unchanged.



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Bilinear Transform

An alternative to *sampling* in the time-domain for *systems* (as opposed to signals) is to start in the *frequency domain* and apply the *Bilinear Transform*:

$$s = \alpha \frac{1 - z^{-1}}{1 + z^{-1}} \quad z^{-1} = \frac{1 - s/\alpha}{1 + s/\alpha}$$

- α is any positive constant
- Setting $\alpha = 2/T$ matches *low frequencies* relative to the sampling rate f_s
- More generally, α can map *any one frequency* exactly
- See also Cayley (1846) and Möbius transforms
- Can show:
 - Analog frequency axis $s = j\omega$ (vertical axis in the s plane) maps exactly *once* to the digital frequency axis $z = e^{j\omega T}$ (unit circle in the z plane) \Rightarrow *no aliasing*
 - The *left half* of the s plane (stability region for *poles*) maps to the *interior* of the unit circle in the z plane (its stability region) \Rightarrow *stability preserved*



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Oversampling Gives $z \approx 1 + sT$

At low frequencies and dampings, *i.e.*, near $s \approx 0$ and $z \approx 1$, we have the following low-frequency approximations (low relative to the sampling rate):

- **Basic Sampling:**

$$z = e^{sT} = 1 + sT + \frac{(sT)^2}{2!} + \frac{(sT)^3}{3!} + \dots \approx \boxed{1 + sT}$$

- **Bilinear Transform:**

$$z = \frac{1 + s/\alpha}{1 - s/\alpha} = \left(1 + \frac{s}{\alpha}\right) \left[1 + \frac{s}{\alpha} + \left(\frac{s}{\alpha}\right)^2 + \dots\right] \approx 1 + 2\frac{s}{\alpha} = \boxed{1 + sT}$$

when $\alpha = 2/T$

It is good to oversample sufficiently so that there is no audible difference between the z -planes of signals and systems digitized separately by ordinary sampling and the bilinear transform (or even *multiple* bilinear transforms, as in **Wave Digital Filters**)





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Classic Analog Filters Derived



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● IIR Filter Design

● Reference

● Taylor Series

● IIR Case

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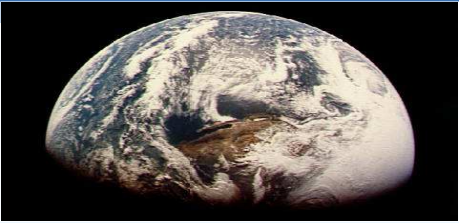
Elliptic

General Filters

IIR Digital Filter Design

Digitizing **Analog Prototypes** (Lowpass, Highpass, Bandpass) typically starts with

- Butterworth
 - Maximally flat passband
 - Poles on a *circle* in s and z planes
 - All zeros at *infinity* in the s plane
 - All zeros at $z = -1$ in the z plane
- Chebyshev Type I
 - Equiripple passband (“Chebyshev in the Passband”)
 - Poles along an *ellipse* in the s plane
 - “Butterworth in the Stopband”
 - All zeros at *infinity* in the s plane
 - All zeros at $z = -1$ in the z plane
- Chebyshev Type II
 - “Chebyshev in the Stopband”
 - “Butterworth in the Passband”
 - Zeros along *frequency axis*
 $s = j\omega$ or $z = e^{j\omega T}$
- Elliptic (Cauer)
 - “Chebyshev in the Stopband”
 - “Chebyshev in the Passband”
 - Poles along *ellipse*
 - Zeros along *frequency axis*
- See also MIT Open CourseWare, and
 - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Butterworth_filter
 - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chebyshev_filter
 - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elliptic_filter



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- IIR Case

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IIR Digital Filter Design Reference

My go-to book:

Digital Filter Design

T. W. Parks and C. S. Burrus

John Wiley and Sons, Inc., New York, 1987

The derivations below follow Parks and Burrus, using mostly the same notation.



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Taylor Series Expansion

Any transfer function $F(\omega)$ can be expanded as a Taylor series:

$$F(\omega) = K_0 + K_1 \omega + K_2 \omega^2 + K_3 \omega^3 + \dots,$$

where

$$K_0 = F(0), \quad K_1 = \left. \frac{dF(\omega)}{d\omega} \right|_{\omega=0}, \quad K_2 = \left. \frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2 F(\omega)}{d\omega^2} \right|_{\omega=0},$$

The *power response*

$$\mathcal{F}(j\omega) = F(\omega) \cdot \overline{F(\omega)}$$

expands as a polynomial in ω^2 with *real coefficients*:

$$\mathcal{F}(\omega) = k_0 + k_2 \omega^2 + k_4 \omega^4 + \dots$$

$\mathcal{F}(\omega)$ is *maximally flat about dc* when $k_2 = k_4 = k_6 = \dots = k_{2N} = 0$, where N is the filter order. That is, *all degrees of freedom* in the filter (other than scaling) are used to *flatten* the power response near dc (0 Hz).



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Rational Function Form

An order N filter power response can also be expressed as a *rational function* of ω^2 :

$$\mathcal{F}(j\omega) = \frac{d_0 + d_2 \omega^2 + d_4 \omega^4 + \dots + d_{2M} \omega^{2M}}{c_0 + c_2 \omega^2 + c_4 \omega^4 + \dots + c_{2N} \omega^{2N}}, \quad M \leq N \quad (1)$$

In any passband, we can define the error $E(\omega)$ as the *deviation* from a gain of 1:

$$\mathcal{F}(j\omega) = 1 + E(\omega) \quad (2)$$

Combining (1) and (2) gives:

$$d_0 + d_2 \omega^2 + \dots + d_{2M} \omega^{2M} = c_0 + c_2 \omega^2 + \dots + c_{2N} \omega^{2N} + E(\omega)[c_0 + c_2 \omega^2 + \dots] \quad (3)$$

Padé Approximation (to the constant d_0/c_0) zeros as many leading terms as possible in the series expansion of the error. (This also yields the *maximally flat passband*.) Thus, we set

$$\begin{aligned} c_0 &= d_0 & c_2 &= d_2 & \dots & c_{2M} &= d_{2M} \\ c_{2M+2} &= 0 & c_{2M+4} &= 0 & \dots & c_{2N-2} &= 0 \\ c_{2N} &= \text{nonzero} & & & & & \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$



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Butterworth Filters



Butterworth Power Response

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● Butterworth Power Response

● Butterworth Transfer Function

● Butterworth Poles

● Butterworth Biquads

● Butterworth Pole Plots

● FAUST Butterworth Filters

● FAUST Test Program

● Analog Biquad

● Biquad Q

● Corner Resonance

● Bode Plots

● Bode Plots

● Butterworth Bode Plots

● Corner Resonance

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General Filters

The power response of the normalized N th-order Butterworth filter is given by

$$\mathcal{F}(j\omega) = \frac{1}{1 + \omega^{2N}}$$

- cutoff frequency is normalized to $\omega = 1$
- To set cutoff frequency ω_c , use $\mathcal{F}(j\omega/\omega_c)$
- *All zeros at infinity* so that filter “rolls off” $-6N$ dB/octave above cutoff
- The general case gets $d_0 = 1$, $c_0 = 1$, $c_k = 0$ for $0 < k < 2N$, and $c_{2N} = 1$
- Lowpass passband is *maximally flat*
(Padé approximation to $\mathcal{F}(j\omega) \approx 1$ about dc)



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● Butterworth Power Response

● Butterworth Transfer Function

● Butterworth Poles

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● Bode Plots

● Butterworth Bode Plots

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Butterworth Transfer Function

Power response of the normalized N th-order Butterworth filter:

$$\mathcal{F}(j\omega) = \frac{1}{1 + \omega^{2N}}$$

Recall that

$$\mathcal{F}(j\omega) \triangleq F(j\omega) \overline{F(j\omega)} = F(s) F(-s)|_{s=j\omega}$$

Thus, in the s -domain, we have

$$F(s)F(-s) = \frac{1}{1 + [(s/j)^2]^N} = \frac{1}{1 + (-s^2)^N},$$

where $s \triangleq \sigma + j\omega$.



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- Butterworth Transfer Function
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Pole Locations

We have

$$F(s)F(-s) = \frac{1}{1 + (-s^2)^N}$$

The locations of the N poles are therefore given by

$$\sigma_k = -\cos\left(\frac{k\pi}{2N}\right), \quad \omega_k = \sin\left(\frac{k\pi}{2N}\right)$$

for N values of k where

$$k = \pm 1, \pm 3, \pm 5, \dots, \pm(N-1) \quad \text{for } N \text{ even,}$$

$$k = 0, \pm 2, \pm 4, \dots, \pm(N-1) \quad \text{for } N \text{ odd.}$$



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Factored Form of $F(s)$

Even $F(s)$ has the partially factored form

$$F(s) = \prod_k \frac{1}{s^2 + 2 \cos(k\pi/2N)s + 1}$$

for $k = 1, 3, 5, \dots, N - 1$.

For N odd, $F(s)$ has a single real pole:

$$F(s) = \frac{1}{s + 1} \prod_k \frac{1}{s^2 + 2 \cos(k\pi/2N)s + 1}$$



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General Filters

Butterworth Poles in s and z Planes

Claude 3.5 Sonnet Prompt 1:

(Dictating by voice, then editing “airplane” to “s-plane” etc. in the prompt)

“Write a python script that plots the poles of a Butterworth filter on the left in the s-plane and on the right in the z-plane, given the filter order as a parameter. The filter cutoff frequency is 1 rad/s, and the sampling rate for the z-plane case is another parameter between 2 and 10 rad/s.”

(Result: Excellent, except that all poles were plotted in the lower half-plane.)

Prompt 2:

“This is a good start. However, the Butterworth poles should be in the left-half plane, not the bottom-half. Also please draw the unit circle with a dashed line. All poles should lie on it.”

(Result: Nailed it.)

Final Tweaks:

I placed the Python file in its own directory, cd'd there, typed “cursor .”, and dictated “This plot is nice, but the z-plane case on the right should mention the sampling rate in its title. Also, the plot should be saved to the file ButterworthPoles.eps



Butterworth Poles in s and z Planes Plotted

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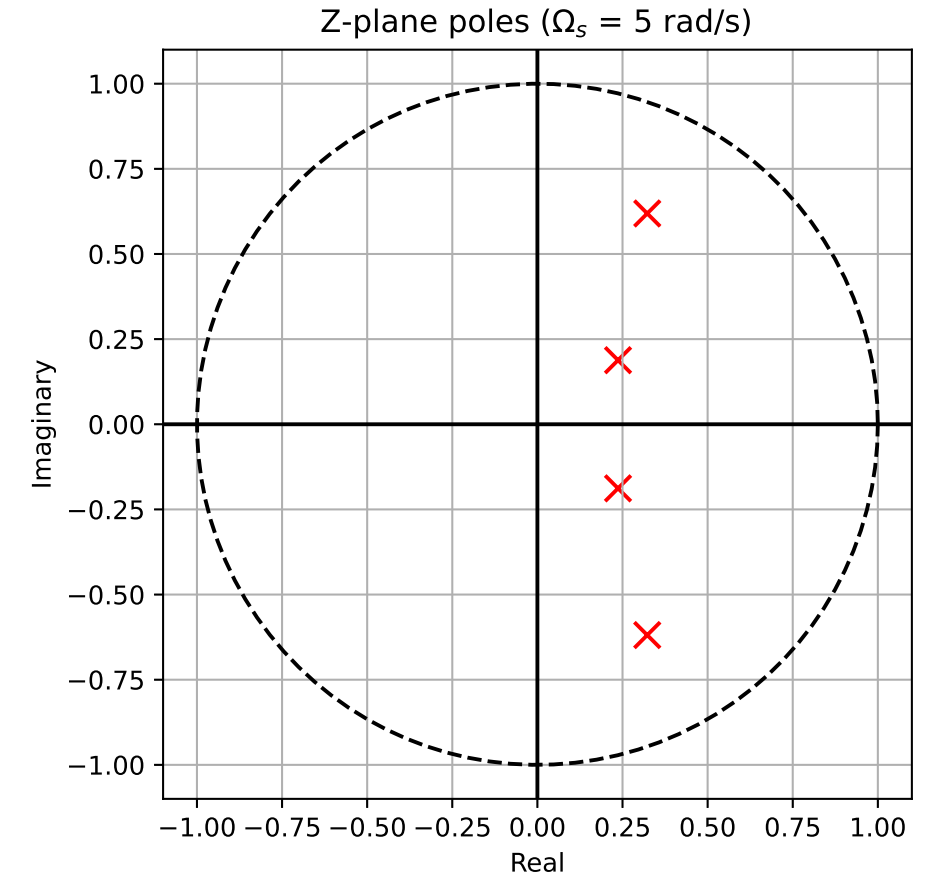
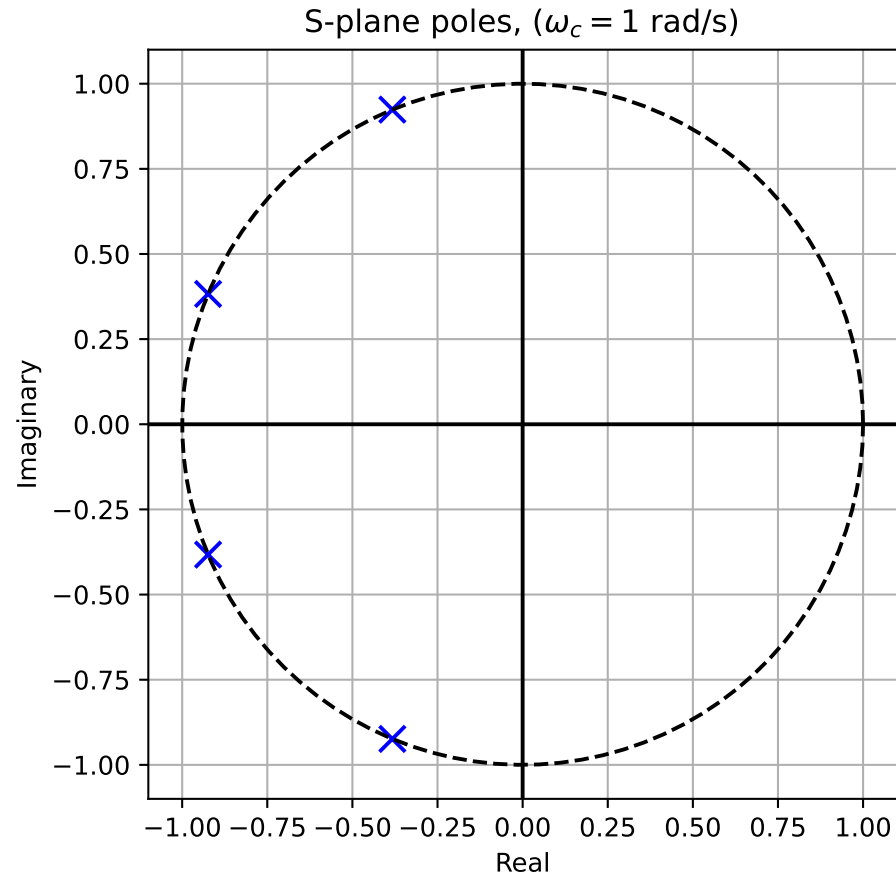
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- Butterworth Transfer Function
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- FAUST Test Program
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- Biquad Q
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Result:






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Butterworth Filters in FAUST

Perhaps the easiest path to Butterworth filters in C++ is via FAUST:

- <https://faustlibraries.game.fr/libs/filters/#filowpass>
- ...

The *graphic equalizer* filter bank is also based on Butterworth band-splits:

- <https://faustlibraries.game.fr/libs/filters/#fifilterbank>
- Arbitrary spectral partitions are supported
- Bands sum to a *constant magnitude frequency response* when all gains are 1
- *Odd-order* Butterworth band-splits are required
- Reference:

“Tree-structured complementary filter banks using all-pass sections”

Regalia et al., IEEE Trans. Circuits & Systems, CAS-34:1470-1484, Dec. 1987



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Try this in the <https://faustide.gamede.fr>:

```
import("stdfaust.lib");
cutoff = hslider("cutoff",5000,20,10000,1);
process = ba.pulsen(1, 10000) : fi.lowpass(3,cutoff);
```



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Normalized Second-Order Analog Lowpass

The transfer function of a *normalized* second-order lowpass can be written as

$$H_l(s) = \frac{1}{\tilde{s}^2 + \frac{1}{Q}\tilde{s} + 1}, \quad \tilde{s} \triangleq \frac{s}{\omega_c},$$

where the normalization $\tilde{s} = s/\omega_c$ maps the desired corner frequency ω_c to 1, and the “quality factor” Q is defined as

$$Q \triangleq \frac{\omega_c}{2\alpha}$$

where α is minus the real part of the complex-conjugate pole locations p and \bar{p} :

$$p, \bar{p} = -\alpha \pm j\sqrt{\omega_c^2 - \alpha^2}$$



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A Word About Q

- We defined the “quality factor” Q for a second-order (potentially *resonant*) *lowpass* as

$$Q \triangleq \frac{\omega_c}{2\alpha}$$

where ω_c is the *corner frequency* and α is minus the poles’ real part.

- The Q of a resonance is normally defined as *center frequency over bandwidth*
https://ccrma.stanford.edu/~jos/filters/Quality_Factor_Q.html
- A real pole at $s = -\alpha$ in fact has its -3dB points at $\omega = \pm\alpha$, giving 3dB *bandwidth* 2α radians per second (centered on $\omega = 0$)
- Shifting that pole up to $s = -\alpha + j\omega_c$ gives a *complex* resonator with bandwidth 2α
- Adding that to a pole at $s = -\alpha - j\omega_c$ gives a *real* resonator, which we can view as the *superposition* of two complex resonators, each having bandwidth 2α
- In this way, 2α may be regarded as the bandwidth of the *corner resonance* at ω_c , even when the resonance is not prominent, such as for $Q \leq \sqrt{2}/2$, as we’ll see:



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Corner Resonance

- The normalized second-order *Butterworth* lowpass has poles on the unit circle of the s plane at $p, \bar{p} = (-1 \pm j)\sqrt{2}/2$
- Therefore, $\alpha = \sqrt{2}/2$ so that $Q = 1/\sqrt{2}$ for this case
- Larger Q values give the “corner resonance” effect often used in music synthesizers
- Let’s now plot the *magnitude frequency response* of some second-order filter sections, with and without corner-resonance:



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- A *Bode plot* draws the *magnitude frequency response* as *dB* versus some *log frequency*
- In the intro, we saw Bode plots showing the magnitude frequency-response of various Butterworth, Chebyshev, and Elliptic lowpass filters
- We can ask any good chatbot to make a Bode plot of `scipy.signal.freqs(B,A)`
- In *MATLAB* or *Octave*, we can say

```
sys = tf(1,[1,sqrt(2),1]);  
bode(sys);
```



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Bode Plots for Second-Order Butterworth Filters

- Normalized Second-Order Butterworth Lowpass/Bandpass/Highpass/Notch:
 - `bode(tf([0 0 1],[1,sqrt(2),1])); % lowpass`
 - `bode(tf([0 1 0],[1,sqrt(2),1])); % bandpass`
 - `bode(tf([1 0 0],[1,sqrt(2),1])); % highpass`
 - `bode(tf([1 0 1],[1,sqrt(2),1])); % notch`
- These variations are normally brought out in second-order “state variable filters”
- Do not confuse “state variable filters” with “state variable representations” of linear systems:
https://ccrma.stanford.edu/~jos/filters/State_Space_Realization.html
https://ccrma.stanford.edu/~jos/StateSpace/State_Space_Models.html
https://ccrma.stanford.edu/~jos/pasp/State_Space_Models.html
- The “state variable filter” is just a particular biquad structure:
<https://ccrma.stanford.edu/~jos/svf/>



Bode Plots for Second-Order Butterworth Filters

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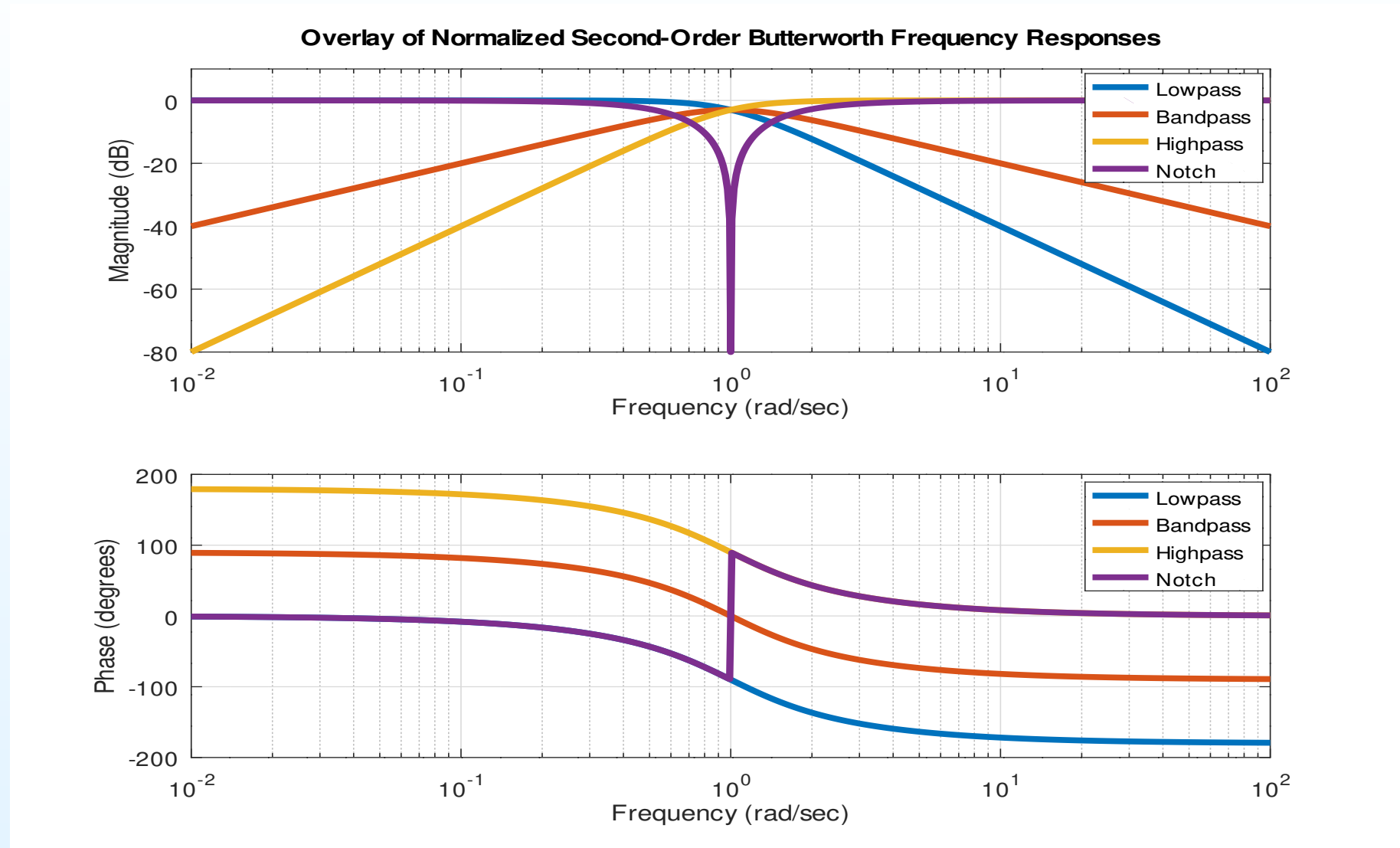
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Overlay of normalized 2nd-order Butterworth lowpass, bandpass, highpass, and notch.



Bode Plots for Second-Order Lowpass Filters with Corner Resonance

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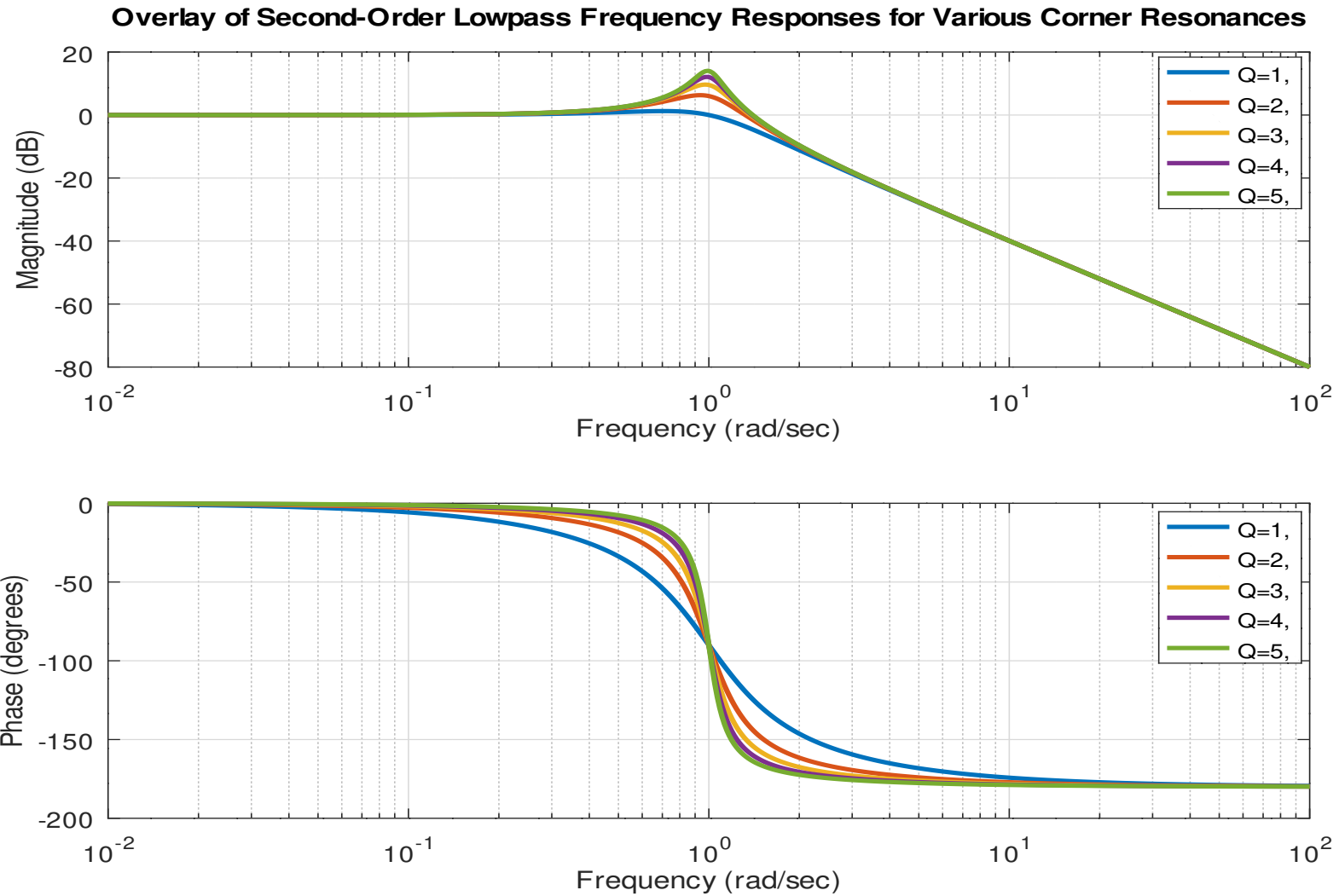
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Overlay of second-order lowpass frequency responses for $Q=1,2,3,4,5$.



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Chebyshev Filters



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Chebyshev Filter Transfer Function

The Chebyshev filter power response is defined by:

$$|\mathcal{F}(j\omega)|^2 = \frac{1}{1 + \varepsilon^2 C_N^2(\omega)}, \quad (9)$$

where $C_N(\omega)$ is an N th-order, real-valued function of the real variable ω :

$$C_N(\omega) = \cos(N \cos^{-1}(\omega)). \quad (10)$$

Note that $C_0 = 1$ and $C_1 = \omega$.

We'll later use an intermediate complex variable $\phi = \cos^{-1}(\omega)$ to find the poles:

$$C_N(\omega) = \cos(N\phi), \quad \text{where } \omega = \cos(\phi) \quad (11)$$

We can check (<https://chatgpt.com/share/673fa853-e3f8-800f-a59c-d63738f6561e>) that

$$C_{N+1}(\omega) = 2\omega C_N(\omega) - C_{N-1}(\omega) \quad (12)$$

Thus, $C_N(\omega)$ is an N th-order polynomial. We call it the N th-order *Chebyshev Polynomial*.



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Chebyshev Polynomial Examples

Using the recursion (12) we have

$$C_0 = 1,$$

$$C_1 = \omega,$$

$$C_2 = 2\omega^2 - 1,$$

$$C_3 = 4\omega^3 - 3\omega,$$

$$C_4 = 8\omega^4 - 8\omega^2 + 1,$$

⋮

(13)

Useful identities for developing these polynomials are

$$C_N^2 = \frac{1}{2}[C_{2N} + 1], \tag{14}$$

$$C_{MN} = C_M(C_N(\omega)) \quad \text{where M and N are coprime.}$$



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Poles of $\mathcal{F}(s)$

From (9) above, the poles of $\mathcal{F}(s)$ occur when

$$1 + \varepsilon^2 C_N^2 \left(\frac{s}{j} \right) = 0.$$

Define $\cos(\phi) = s/j = -js$ and recall from (11) that $C_N(s/j) = \cos(N\phi)$:

$$0 = 1 + \varepsilon^2 C_N^2 (\cos(\phi)) = 1 + \varepsilon^2 C_N^2 (N\phi).$$

Solving for ϕ yields N solutions ϕ_m :

$$\phi_m = \frac{1}{N} \arccos \left(\frac{\pm j}{\varepsilon} \right) + \frac{m\pi}{N}, \quad m = 0, 1, 2, \dots, N - 1.$$

The poles are then given by

$$s_m = j \cos(\phi_m), \quad m = 0, 1, 2, \dots, N - 1.$$



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Chebyshev Poles in s Plane

The poles may be written more explicitly as¹

$$\begin{aligned} s_m &= j \cos(\phi_m) \\ &= \pm \sinh \left(\frac{1}{N} \operatorname{arcsinh} \left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon} \right) \right) \sin(\theta_m) + j \cosh \left(\frac{1}{N} \operatorname{arcsinh} \left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon} \right) \right) \cos(\theta_m) \end{aligned}$$

with

$$\theta_m = \frac{\pi}{2} \frac{2m + 1}{N}, \quad m = 0, 1, 2, \dots, N - 1.$$

Since an ellipse centered at $s = 0$ in the complex plane can be described by

$$s = a \sin(\theta) + jb \cos(\theta), \quad \theta \in [-\pi, \pi]$$

(where a and b are the semi-axis lengths, one major and one minor when $a \neq b$), we find that the poles lie on an *ellipse* in s -space centered at $s = 0$.

¹See Wikipedia page for “Chebyshev Filter”.



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Chebyshev Poles in s and z Planes

Cursor Prompt (Claude 3.5 Sonnet):

“This is great, now please add a function `plot_chebyshev_poles` that does the same thing for Chebeshev filter poles, which are on an ellipse inside the unit circle. If you need formulas, let me know.”

(It asked for formulas, which I pasted from this LaTeX source.)

Needed Tweaks:

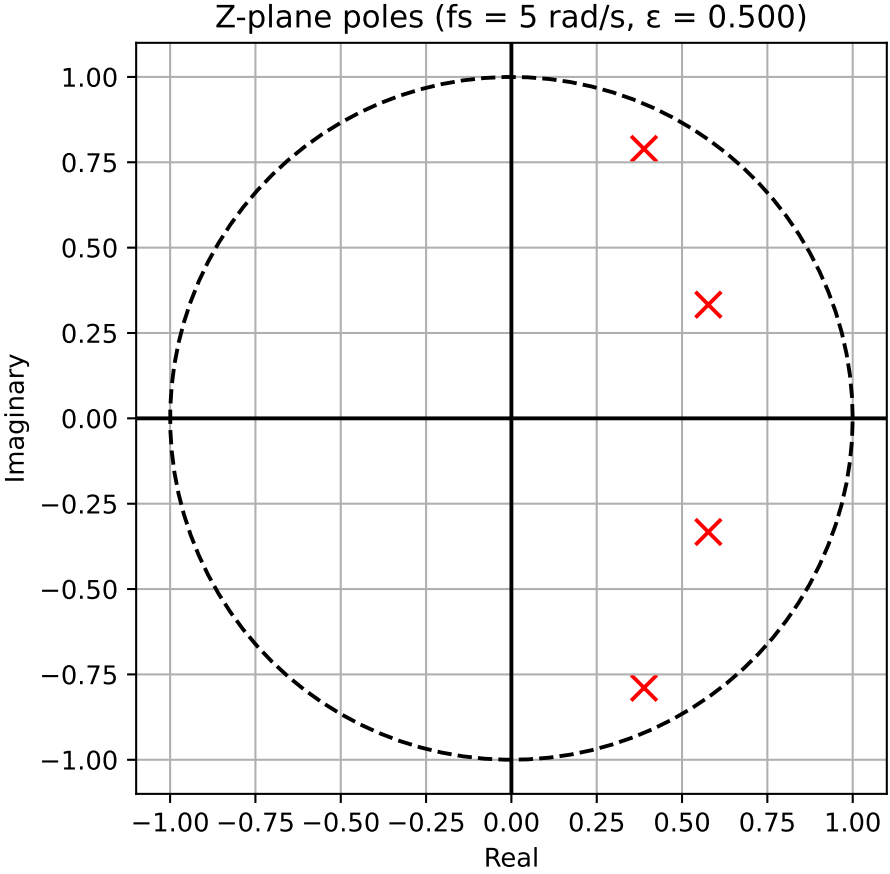
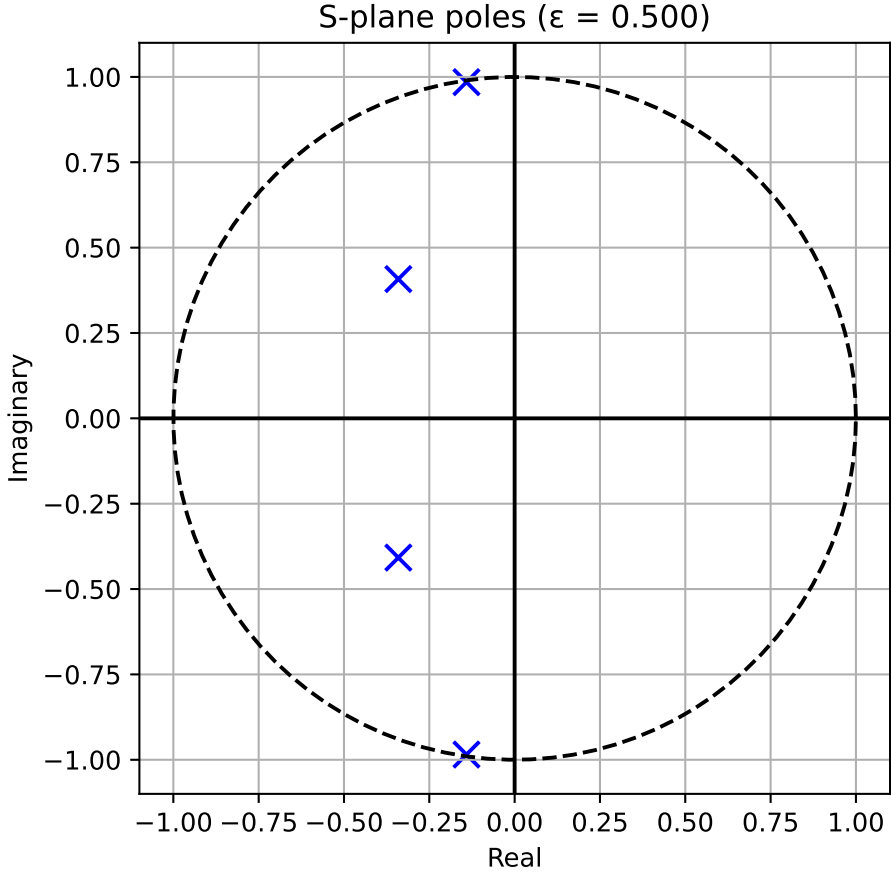
- Sign error in the pole real-parts (one-character fix)
- Keep the Butterworth test as an option instead of replacing it



Chebyshev Poles in s and z Planes Plotted

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Result:





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Elliptic Function (Cauer) Filters



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Introduction to Elliptic Functions

Elliptic (Cauer) filters are based on *Jacobian elliptic functions*, which generalize the normal trigonometric and hyperbolic functions. The elliptic integral of the first kind is defined as

$$u(\phi, k) = \int_0^\phi \frac{dy}{\sqrt{1 - k^2 \sin^2(y)}} \quad (7.59)$$

The trigonometric sine of the inverse of this function is defined as the Jacobian elliptic sine of u with modulus k :

$$\text{sn}(u, k) = \sin(\phi(u, k)) \quad (7.60)$$

For details, see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elliptic_filter

Features of Elliptic Filters (Lowpass, Highpass, Bandpass, Bandstop):

- Chebyshev (equiripple) in both passband and stopband (*two* ripple parameters)
- Sharpest possible transition from passband to stopband or vice versa
- Much “phase distortion” (*e.g.*, “ringing”) at passband corners
- Optimal passband-ripple, stopband-ripple, and transition-width tradeoffs



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General Digital Filter Design



Example Driving Problem: Real-Time Filter Design in an Audio Plugin

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(Red-Bordered Buttons Added to **Plugin GUI Magic's** Equalizer Example)





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- Frequency Sampling

1. *Draw or Load* Your Desired Magnitude Frequency Response
2. Make it *Minimum Phase* (so the filter will be *causal*)
3. Inverse-FFT gives the Desired Impulse Response (IR)
4. “Window” the IR to the Affordable FIR length (smoothing the Frequency Response)
5. Use *Convolution* to implement the FIR filter (typical for Amp Cabinets and such)



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- Equation-Error Filter Design: Minimize $\|\hat{A}(\omega)H(\omega) - \hat{B}(\omega)\|$
 - E.g., `invfreqz` in MATLAB and Octave
 - We need C++ for an Audio Plugin!
(or some easily embedded filter-design language)
 - AI Chatbots translate *well known languages* to C++ very well
 - They also write good starting *unit tests*
 - Speed Bumps:
 - MATLAB is proprietary (and no longer even precisely documented)
 - Octave is GPL (but contributing authors could be asked for permission)
 - Python is mostly BSD, but has no `invfreqz` yet in `scipy.signal`
 - **Plan:** Implement `invfreqz` from scratch in Python and translate to C++
 - **Method:** Paste the algorithm description² into Claude 3.5 Sonnet and debug
 - **This actually worked!**

²https://ccrma.stanford.edu/~jos/filters/FFT_Based_Equation_Error_Method.html



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Claude 3.5 Sonnet Converts LaTeX Description of `invfreqz` to Python

1. *Prompt 1:*

Following is a LaTeX description of a fast equation-error algorithm. Please write a Python implementation.

<LaTeX source of algorithm description>

2. *Prompt 2:*

Write a separate test program in Python which uses `scipy.freqz` to generate three different test examples of progressing complexity. That way, the original and estimated filter coefficients can be compared. A good source of example starting filters would be `scipy.signal.butter` and `scipy.signal.cheby1` etc.

3. This was the starting test program for the one in my `scipy` fork:

https://github.com/josmithiii/scipy/blob/jos/scipy/signal/test_invfreqz_jos.py



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Claude 3.5 Sonnet Converts a *Paper Abstract* to Working Python

Prompt: Write a Python function that designs a *spectral tilt filter* as described in this paper abstract:³

We derive closed-form expressions for the poles and zeros of approximate fractional integrator/differentiator filters, which correspond to spectral roll-off filters having any desired log-log slope to a controllable degree of accuracy over any bandwidth. The filters can be described as a **uniform exponential distribution of poles along the negative-real axis of the s plane, with zeros interleaving them. Arbitrary spectral slopes are obtained by sliding the array of zeros relative to the array of poles, where each array maintains periodic spacing on a log scale.** The nature of the slope approximation is close to Chebyshev optimal in the interior of the pole-zero array, approaching conjectured Chebyshev optimality over all frequencies in the limit as the order approaches infinity. Practical designs can arbitrarily approach the equal-ripple approximation by enlarging the pole-zero array band beyond the desired frequency band. The spectral roll-off slope can be robustly modulated in real time by varying only the zeros controlled by one slope parameter. Software implementations are provided in matlab and Faust.

³<https://ccrma.stanford.edu/~jos/spectilt/spectilt.pdf>





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- The test `__main__` block can conveniently use `numpy`, `scipy`, and `matplotlib` functions for test displays and subsequent interactive development
- Chatbots:
 - are trained on a *lot* of Python, and it's a relatively simple language,
 - are *not yet good* at signal processing (even simple polynomial algebra), and
 - tend to fall apart on low-level signal-processing details
- I influence them to work in terms of *well documented high-level APIs* such as functions in `scipy.signal` rather than writing C++ from scratch
- Translation from Python to C++ has been mostly smooth
- Eigen3 gets used a lot



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invfreqz.py Today

`invfreqz.py` is working now in the `jos scipy` fork at

https://github.com/josmithiii/scipy/blob/jos/scipy/signal/test_invfreqz_jos.py
(pull-request in preparation)

Features:

- New `min_phase` option for creating minimum phase desired frequency response
- New `stabilize` option for reflecting unstable poles into the unit circle
- New `method` argument for selecting other methods besides equation-error:
 - Equation-error method (default)
 - Steiglitz-McBride (original iterative method)
 - Prony's method (least-squares numerator)
 - Padé-Prony method (impulse-response-matching numerator)
 - Maybe: "Recursive Gauss-Newton iterations" [$\text{Hessian}(n) \approx \sum_n \nabla_n \nabla_n^T$]
 - Maybe: *Neural map* from desired frequency response to starting poles and zeros
- All but Steiglitz-McBride are passing their unit tests
- It remains to decide what to finally do and integrate the proposed final version into `_filter_design.py` for a `scipy` pull request



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scipy.cpp Today

Since Claude uses `scipy.signal` functions in its generated Python, we need those translated to C++ as well. Translated so far by Claude (most were fast):

- `tf2zpk` - convert transfer function to zero-pole-gain (ZPK) representation
- `zpk2tf` - inverse of `tf2zpk`
- `tf2sos` - convert transfer function to second-order-sections (sos)
- `sos2tf` - inverse of `tf2sos`
- `zpk2sos` - zero-pole-gain (ZPK) directly to SOS
- `roots` - compute the roots of a polynomial (uses Eigen3)
- `bilinear` - convert analog IIR filter to digital using bilinear transform
- `bilinear_zpk` - bilinear transform for zeros, poles, and gain
- `lp2lp_zpk` - lowpass to lowpass frequency scaling for analog zeros, poles, and gain
- Unit Tests for all (`Catch2`) — *This is very important* — *Claude can write most of them*
- Status:
 - Working through what's needed now in `_filter_design.py` and its dependencies
 - A complete `scipy.signal.cpp` would nice to complete from there
 - Other `scipy` subdirectories, such as `fft` and `linalg`, are in much better shape



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General Filter Design Summary

- Translating Python to C++ for real-time use is greatly facilitated by Chatbots
- Claude 3.5 Sonnet has been the clear winner for me
- They all struggle with sample-level signal processing, and polynomial algebra
- Several `scipy.signal._filter_design` functions are done and tested
- In general, Python is a good intermediate language for new C++ DSP functions
 - Pushes chatbots away from sample-level code
 - Facilitates visual test plots using `matplotlib` etc.
 - Encourages simpler C++ using Eigen3 etc.
- `invfreqz` is now available in Python on GitHub
- `scipy.signal.cpp` seems about half done
- These overheads (including all *links*) are available on the JOS Home Page (as well as the ADC website)

Summary of Resources Online

- JOS Home Page (Videos, Overheads, including these):
<https://ccrma.stanford.edu/~jos/>
- Equation-Error Minimization for Filter Design:
https://ccrma.stanford.edu/~jos/filters/FFT_Based_Equation_Error_Method.html
- `invfreqz` for Python in JOS *scipy* fork:
https://github.com/josmithiii/scipy/blob/jos/scipy/signal/test_invfreqz_jos.py
- Spectral Tilt Filters:
<https://ccrma.stanford.edu/~jos/spectilt/spectilt.pdf>