

Elementary proof of the Routh-Hurwitz test

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19 January 2010

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Introduction

The Routh-Hurwitz test enables you to find out if a polynomial is stable without having to find all its roots.

$$p(s) = a_n s^n + a_{n-1} s^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 s + a_0 \quad (a_i \in \mathbb{R}, s_i \in \mathbb{C}) \quad (1)$$

Example

Let's consider a simple polynomial:

$$f(s) = s^4 + 3s^3 - 5s^2 + s - 7 \quad (2)$$

To find out if this polynomial is stable we need to find its Routh-table.