

# Frequency-response shapes for loudspeakers [1]

# I

In the following high-pass filter functions  $G(s)$ , the order of the function is denoted by  $N$  and the frequency at which the magnitude of the response is  $1/\sqrt{2}$  (that is, 3 dB below the pass-band level) is denoted by  $\omega_{3\text{dB}}$ .

**Synchronous.**

$$G(s) = \left( \frac{s}{s + \omega_0} \right)^N$$

where

$$\omega_0 = \omega_{3\text{dB}} \sqrt{2^{1/N} - 1}$$

**Bessel.** The Bessel polynomials are generated from the following power series in  $s$ :

$$B_n(s) = \sum_{k=0}^n a_k s^k$$

where  $s = j\omega$  and

$$a_k = \frac{(2n - k)!}{2^{n-k} k! (n - k)!}$$

Also, we define a frequency scaling factor  $\gamma$  such that

$$|B_n(j\gamma)| = a_0 \sqrt{2} = \frac{2n!}{2^{n-1/2} n!}$$

## **Bessel polynomials**

1<sup>st</sup>-order:  $B_1(s) = s + 1$

2<sup>nd</sup>-order:  $B_2(s) = s^2 + 3s + 3$

3<sup>rd</sup>-order:  $B_3(s) = s^3 + 6s^2 + 15s + 15$

4<sup>th</sup>-order:  $B_4(s) = s^4 + 10s^3 + 45s^2 + 105s + 105$

5<sup>th</sup>-order:  $B_5(s) = s^5 + 15s^4 + 105s^3 + 420s^2 + 945s + 945$

6<sup>th</sup>-order:  $B_6(s) = s^6 + 21s^5 + 210s^4 + 1260s^3 + 4725s^2 + 10395s + 10395$

If the real parts of the roots or poles are  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_N$  and the imaginary parts of the roots or poles are  $\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_N$ , then

$$\omega_n = \frac{\gamma}{\sqrt{\alpha_n^2 + \beta_n^2}}$$

$$Q_n = \frac{\sqrt{\alpha_n^2 + \beta_n^2}}{2\alpha_n}$$

**Odd order**

$$G(s) = \frac{s^N}{\left(s^2 + \frac{\omega_1}{Q_1}s + \omega_1^2\right)\left(s^2 + \frac{\omega_2}{Q_2}s + \omega_2^2\right) \cdots \left(s^2 + \frac{\omega_{(N-1)/2}}{Q_{(N-1)/2}}s + \omega_{(N-1)/2}^2\right)(s + \omega_{(N+1)/2})}$$

**Even order**

$$G(s) = \frac{s^N}{\left(s^2 + \frac{\omega_1}{Q_1}s + \omega_1^2\right)\left(s^2 + \frac{\omega_2}{Q_2}s + \omega_2^2\right) \cdots \left(s^2 + \frac{\omega_{N/2}}{Q_{N/2}}s + \omega_{N/2}^2\right)}$$

**Butterworth.**

**Odd order**

$$G(s) = \frac{s^N}{\left(s^2 + \frac{\omega_{3dB}}{Q_1}s + \omega_{3dB}^2\right)\left(s^2 + \frac{\omega_{3dB}}{Q_2}s + \omega_{3dB}^2\right) \cdots \left(s^2 + \frac{\omega_{3dB}}{Q_{(N-1)/2}}s + \omega_{3dB}^2\right)(s + \omega_{3dB})}$$

The poles lie on a circle of radius  $\omega_{3dB}$ , each at an angle of  $\theta_n$  to the real axis, where

$$Q_n = \frac{1}{2 \cos \theta_n}$$

and

$$\theta_n = \pm \frac{n}{N} \pi, \quad n = 1, 2, \cdots (N-1)/2$$

**Even order**

$$G(s) = \frac{s^N}{\left(s^2 + \frac{\omega_{3dB}}{Q_1}s + \omega_{3dB}^2\right)\left(s^2 + \frac{\omega_{3dB}}{Q_2}s + \omega_{3dB}^2\right) \cdots \left(s^2 + \frac{\omega_{3dB}}{Q_{N/2}}s + \omega_{3dB}^2\right)}$$

where

$$\theta_n = \pm \frac{2n-1}{2N} \pi, \quad n = 1, 2, \cdots N/2$$

**Chebyshev. Chebyshev polynomials**

$$\begin{aligned}
1^{\text{st}}\text{-order: } C_1(\Omega) &= \Omega \\
2^{\text{nd}}\text{-order: } C_2(\Omega) &= 2\Omega^2 - 1 \\
3^{\text{rd}}\text{-order: } C_3(\Omega) &= 4\Omega^3 - 3\Omega \\
4^{\text{th}}\text{-order: } C_4(\Omega) &= 8\Omega^4 - 8\Omega^2 + 1 \\
5^{\text{th}}\text{-order: } C_5(\Omega) &= 16\Omega^5 - 20\Omega^3 + 5\Omega \\
6^{\text{th}}\text{-order: } C_6(\Omega) &= 32\Omega^6 - 48\Omega^4 + 18\Omega^2 - 1
\end{aligned}$$

where

$$\Omega = \frac{\omega}{\omega_P}$$

and  $\omega_P$  is the pass-band limit which is defined as the frequency at which the final 0 dB crossing occurs before roll-off. Let  $R$  be the maximum permitted magnitude of the pass band ripples in dB. Thus we define a ripple factor by

$$\varepsilon = \sqrt{10^{0.1 R} - 1}$$

Also, we define a frequency scaling factor  $\gamma$  by

$$\gamma = \frac{\omega_{3\text{dB}}}{\omega_P} = \cosh\left(\frac{1}{N} \operatorname{arccosh}\left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon}\right)\right)$$

and then find the roots of the polynomial

$$1 + \varepsilon^2 C_N^2$$

so that the imaginary parts of the roots  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_N$  give the real parts of the poles and the real parts of the roots  $\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_N$  give the imaginary parts of the poles. Then

$$\omega_n = \frac{\gamma}{\sqrt{\alpha_n^2 + \beta_n^2}}$$

$$Q_n = \frac{\sqrt{\alpha_n^2 + \beta_n^2}}{2\alpha_n}$$

**Odd order**

$$G(s) = \frac{s^N}{\left(s^2 + \frac{\omega_1}{Q_1}s + \omega_1^2\right)\left(s^2 + \frac{\omega_2}{Q_2}s + \omega_2^2\right) \cdots \left(s^2 + \frac{\omega_{(N-1)/2}}{Q_{(N-1)/2}}s + \omega_{(N-1)/2}^2\right)(s + \omega_{(N+1)/2})}$$

**Even order**

$$G(s) = \frac{s^N}{\left(s^2 + \frac{\omega_1}{Q_1}s + \omega_1^2\right)\left(s^2 + \frac{\omega_2}{Q_2}s + \omega_2^2\right) \cdots \left(s^2 + \frac{\omega_{N/2}}{Q_{N/2}}s + \omega_{N/2}^2\right)}$$

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## References

- [1] Zverev AI. Handbook of Filter Synthesis. New Jersey: Wiley; 1967.