Example, continued



Problem: determine the range of values the scalar gain K can take, for which the closed-loop system is stable.

Let's write down the transfer function from R to Y:

$$\frac{Y}{R} = \frac{\text{forward gain}}{1 + \text{loop gain}}$$
$$= \frac{K \cdot \frac{s+1}{s^3 + 2s^2 - s}}{1 + K \cdot \frac{s+1}{s^3 + 2s^2 - s}} = \frac{K(s+1)}{s^3 + 2s^2 - s + K(s+1)}$$
$$= \frac{Ks + K}{s^3 + 2s^2 + (K-1)s + K}$$

Now we need to test stability of $p(s) = s^3 + 2s^2 + (K-1)s + K$.