A New Sinusoidal Oscillator Circuit Using a Single Current Conveyor

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ABSTRACT

A new sinusoidal oscillator circuit is presented using two capacitors, three resistors and a single current conveyor. The analytical expressions are obtained, both by assuming the current conveyor to be ideal and by taking the tracking errors into account. It has been shown that the slightly greater than unity value of loop gain required to maintain sustained oscillations is provided by taking the tracking errors into account. Simulation and experimental results are presented. The circuit presented generates perfectly sinusoidal waves in the audible frequency range and enjoys low sensitivity.

Keywords: CCII, Second generation current conveyor, Sinusoidal oscillator.

1. INTRODUCTION

The second generation current conveyor (CCII), introduced by Sedra and Smith[1], is now widely used for implementing a number of high performance electronic functions. The use of current conveyor as the active element in the realization of transfer function was introduced by Soliman[2]. Since then, a number of circuits using current conveyor have been reported[3-13]. In this paper, a new sinusoidal oscillator circuit is presented using two capacitors, three resistors and a single current conveyor. It has been shown that the slightly greater than unity value of loop gain required to maintain sustained oscillations is provided by taking the tracking errors into account. The circuit presented enjoys low sensitivity.

2. SECOND GENERATION CURRENT CONVEYOR (CCII)

The second generation current conveyor is a grounded three-port network whose black box representation is shown in Figure 1. In mathematical terms, the input-output characteristics of an ideal CCII is described by the following matrix equation:
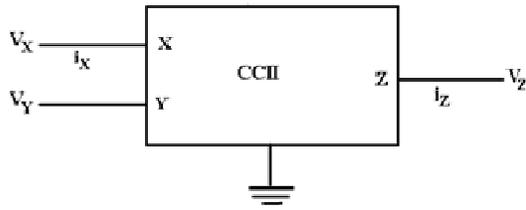
Figure 1: Block diagram of second generation current conveyor

$$\begin{bmatrix} i_Y \\ v_X \\ i_Z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \pm 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_Y \\ i_X \\ v_z \end{bmatrix} \tag{1}$$

Thus, the terminal Y exhibits an infinite input impedance. The voltage at X follows that applied at Y, and thus, the terminal X exhibits a zero input impedance. The conveyor includes a positive sign if $i_X = i_Z$, that is, if both i_X and i_Z either enter into the conveyor or come out of the conveyor, and includes a negative sign if $i_X = -i_Z$, that is, if i_X enters into the conveyor, i_Z comes out of it and vice-versa.

3. CIRCUIT CONFIGURATION AND ANALYSIS

3.1 Assuming the current conveyor to be ideal

Consider the circuit shown in Figure 2. The distribution of currents is shown in this figure. For an ideal current conveyor, we have

$$i_X = i_Z, i_Y = 0, v_X = v_Y \tag{2}$$

The potential at the terminal Z is

$$v_z = i.\frac{1}{Y_4} = (i_Z - i).\frac{1}{Y_1} + (2i_Z - i).\frac{1}{Y_3} \tag{3}$$

Solving, it gives

$$i = \left[\frac{Y_4(Y_3 + 2Y_1)}{Y_1Y_3 + Y_3Y_4 + Y_1Y_4} \right].i_Z \tag{4}$$

A direct analysis of the circuit shown in Figure 2 by taking $v_X = v_Y$ and using Equation (4) gives the characteristic equation as
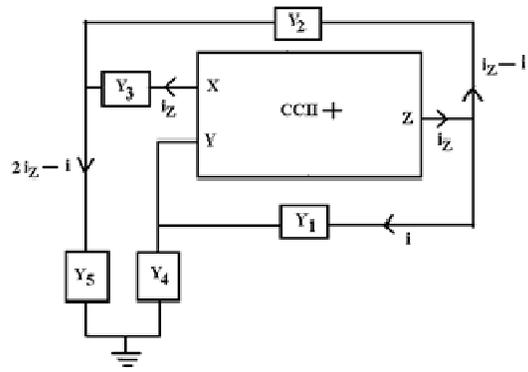

Figure 2: Block diagram of proposed sinusoidal oscillator circuit showing the current distribution, assuming the current conveyor to be ideal

$$Y_3(Y_1 + Y_4 - Y_2) + Y_4(Y_1 + Y_2) = 0 \tag{5}$$

Let
$$Y_1 = sC_1, Y_3 = sC_3, Y_2 = G_2, \ and \ Y_4 = G_4$$
where $s = j\omega$ and $G = 1/R$. Equation (5) then gives

$$-\omega^2 C_1 C_3 + j\omega[C_1G_4 + C_3(G_4 - G_2)] = -G_2G_4 \tag{6}$$

Equating imaginary parts on both sides of Equation (6), we get

$$\frac{R_4}{R_2} = \frac{C_1 + C_3}{C_3} \tag{7}$$

as the condition of oscillation. Equating real parts on both sides of Equation (6) and using the condition of oscillation as given by Equation (6), we get

$$\omega_0 = \sqrt{\frac{G_2 G_4}{C_1 C_3}} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{R_2 R_4 C_1 C_3}} \qquad (8)$$

as the frequency of oscillation. The corresponding circuit is shown in Figure 3.

3.2 When the tracking errors are taken into account

When the tracking errors are taken into account, the voltage and current relationships between input and output become

$$v_X = (1-\varepsilon_v)v_Y, i_Z = (1-\varepsilon_i)i_X \qquad (9)$$

The distribution of currents in this case is shown in Figure 3. The potential at the terminal Z is

$$v_Z = i.\frac{1}{Y_4} = (i_Z - i).\frac{1}{Y_1} + (i_Z + i_X - i).\frac{1}{Y_3} \quad (10)$$

Solving the above equation, we get

$$i = \frac{Y_4[(1-\varepsilon_i)Y_3 + (2-\varepsilon_i)Y_1]}{Y_1 Y_3 + Y_3 Y_4 + Y_1 Y_4}.i_X \qquad (11)$$

Again, taking $v_X = (1-\varepsilon_v)v_Y$, we get, on simplification, the characteristic equation as

$$Y_3[Y_1 + Y_4 - Y_2(1-\varepsilon_i)(1-\varepsilon_v)] + \\ Y_1 Y_4 + (2-\varepsilon_i)\varepsilon_v Y_1 Y_2 + Y_2 Y_4 = 0 \qquad (12)$$

When $Y_1 = sC_1, Y_3 = sC_3, Y_2 = G_2$, and $Y_4 = G_4$, Equation (12) gives

$$-\omega^2 C_1 C_3 + j\omega[C_3\{G_4 - G_2(1-\varepsilon_i)(1-\varepsilon_v)\} \\ +C_1 G_4 + (2-\varepsilon_i)\varepsilon_v C_1 G_2] = -G_2 G_4 \qquad (13)$$

Equating imaginary parts on both sides of Equation (13), we get

$$C_3[G_4 - G_2(1-\varepsilon_i)(1-\varepsilon_v) + \\ C_1[G_4 + G_2\varepsilon_v(2-\varepsilon_i)] = 0 \qquad (14)$$
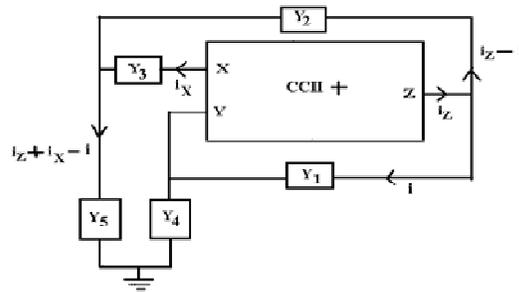

Figure 3: Block diagram of proposed sinusoidal oscillator circuit showing the current distribution, when the tracking errors are taken into account

Solving, Equation (14) gives

$$\frac{R_4}{R_2} = \frac{C_1 + C_3}{(1-\varepsilon_i)(1-\varepsilon_v)C_3 - (2-\varepsilon_i)\varepsilon_v C_1} \quad (15)$$

as the condition of oscillation.

Equating real parts on both sides of Equation (14) and using Equation (15), we get

$$\omega_0 = \sqrt{\frac{1}{R_2 R_4 C_1 C_3}} \qquad (16)$$

as the frequency of oscillation.

It is easy to see that the condition of oscillation as given by Equation (15) reduces to that given by Equation (7) for an ideal current conveyor when the tracking errors are neglected. A detailed calculation, by taking $\varepsilon_i = \varepsilon_v = 0.03$, shows that the ratio R_4/R_2 as demanded by Equation (15) for the circuit shown in Figure 2 to oscillate is about 6.8% higher than that demanded by Equation (7). This theoretical result has actually been verified experimentally.

4. $\omega_0 - $ **SENSITIVITY**

The various sensitivity figures are calculated using the sensitivity definition

$$S_x^{\omega_0} = \frac{x}{\omega_0} \cdot \frac{\partial \omega_0}{\partial x} \qquad (17)$$

where x is the element of variation. Using Equation (17), the $\omega_0 - $ sensitivity for the circuit shown in Figure 2 was calculated and in each case, it was found to be $-1/2$.

5. SIMULATION RESULT

A computer simulation of the circuit shown in Figure 2 is shown in Figure 4 using the condition of oscillation as given by Equation (7) and by taking $C_1 = C_3 = 0.1 \mu F$, $R_2 = 1$ k, $R_4 = 2$ k. and $C_3 = 0.3 \mu F$. It is seen that the oscillations eventually die out. But, when this circuit is simulated by using the condition of oscillation as given by Equation (15) and by taking $C_1 = C_3 = 0.1 \mu F$, $R_2 = 1$ k, and $R_4 = 2.135$ k, the circuit produces a pure sinusoidal wave.
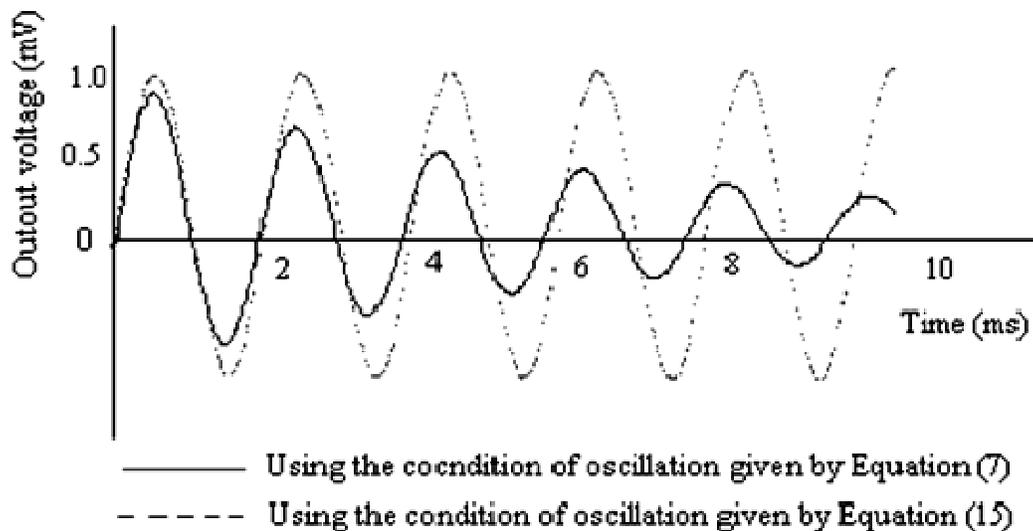

Figure 4: Computer simulation of the circuit shown in Figure 2 with the condition of oscillation given by Equations (7) and (15)

6. EXPERIMENTAL RESULT

The circuit shown in Figure 2 has been experimentally studied using AD844 in the laboratory using various values of circuit components that satisfy the condition of oscillation as given by Equation (16). The components used were accurate to $\pm 5\%$. The circuit is found to produce good, highly stable sinusoidal oscillations in the audible frequency range. The experimental data obtained by taking $C_1 = C_3 = 0.1\mu F$, $R_2 = 1$ k, and $R_4 = 2.135$ k is plotted in Figure 5 together with the simulated data to facilitate comparison. From Figure 5, it may be seen that the experimental data are in close agreement with the simulated curve. The minor deviation of the experimental curve from the simulated curve may be attributed to the mismatching of the component values used in the experiment.

7. CONCLUSIONS

A new current conveyor based sinusoidal oscillator circuit is presented. The circuit presented exhibits the following salient features:

1. It uses a single current conveyor.
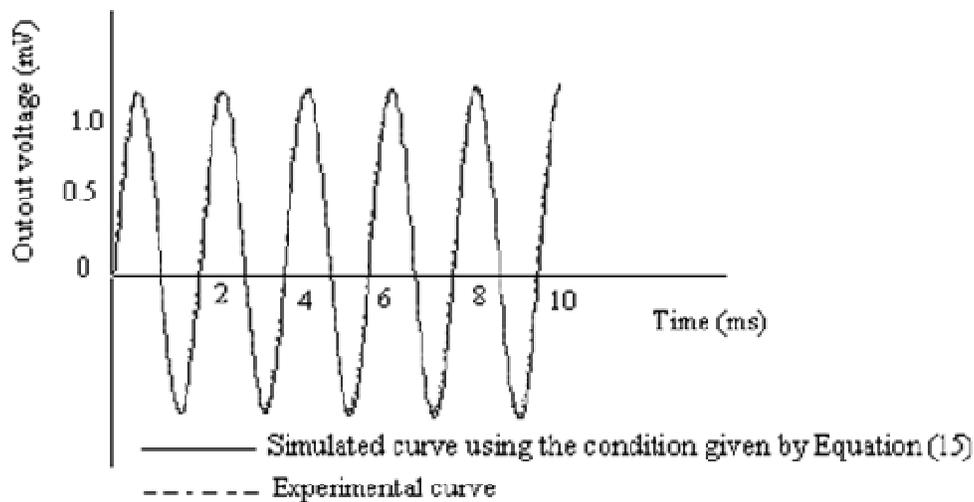2. It has low sensitivity characteristics.
3. Adjustment is easy.

Figure 5: Simulated and experimental curves for the circuit shown in Figure 2 using the condition of oscillation given by Equation (15)

It has been shown that the slightly greater than unity value of loop gain required to maintain sustained oscillation is provided by taking tracking errors into account.

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