

Raj Senani · D. R. Bhaskar  
V. K. Singh · R. K. Sharma

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# Preface

*Sinusoidal oscillators and waveform generators* have numerous applications in electronics, instrumentation, measurement, communications, control systems, and signal processing, due to which they have continued to remain a dominant and popular topic of research in the Circuits and Systems literature. Consequently, well over 1500 research papers have so far been published on the analysis, synthesis, and design of oscillators and wave form generators in various international journals. By contrast, only a handful of books have so far been written on oscillators, which suffer from one or more of the following limitations: (1) a number of books are more than a decade old; (2) several of the books deal with very specific types of sinusoidal oscillators only and, hence, have a very limited coverage; (3) a number of books deal with only general issues related to oscillators; (4) even those books which have been written after 2004 do not deal with oscillators and waveform generators using new electronic circuit building blocks which find very prominent space in modern analog circuits journals; (5) as far as could be known, there is no book written so far on non-sinusoidal relaxation oscillators or waveform generators. By contrast, the present monograph is intended to cover a wide variety of sinusoidal oscillators and waveform generators, using a variety of modern electronic circuit building blocks, which do not appear to have been dealt in any of the available books so far. This monograph is intended to provide the following:

- Single-source reference on sinusoidal oscillators and waveform generators using classical as well as modern electronic circuit building blocks (such as operational transconductance amplifiers, current conveyors and their numerous variants, current feedback operational amplifiers, differential difference amplifiers, four-terminal floating nullors, unity gain voltage/current followers, operational transresistance amplifiers, current differencing buffered amplifiers, current differencing transconductance amplifiers, current follower transconductance amplifiers, voltage differencing inverting buffered amplifier, voltage differencing differential input buffered amplifiers, and numerous others).

- State-of-the-art review of a large variety of sinusoidal oscillators and non-sinusoidal waveform generators/relaxation oscillators.
- A catalogue of over 600 chosen topologies of oscillators and waveform generators, from amongst those evolved during the last four decades, with their design details and their salient performance features/limitations highlighted.
- A comprehensive collection of well over 1500 references on oscillators and waveform generators for readers interested in further studies.
- A number of interesting research problems in almost every chapter of the monograph for the research-oriented readers.
- A useful reference for educators, students, researchers, practicing engineers, and hobbyists who have an interest in the design of sinusoidal oscillators and non-sinusoidal waveform generators/relaxation oscillators.

Lastly, we must acknowledge that in a monograph based upon over 1500 published research papers, there might have been some inadvertent omissions of some references; however, the same is not intentional. Aggrieved authors, whose works might have been omitted, are most welcome to bring to our attention (using the e-mail ID: [senani@ieee.org](mailto:senani@ieee.org)) any missing reference(s) which we would surely like to include in the next edition of this monograph. Any other suggestions are also most welcome!

New Delhi, India  
July 07, 2015

Raj Senani  
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V. K. Singh  
R. K. Sharma

# Acknowledgements

After having written a monograph on *Current Feedback Operational Amplifiers and Their Applications* and another on *Current Conveyors: Variants, Applications and Hardware Implementations*, both published by Springer, it was rather obvious for the first author to think about writing a monograph on *Sinusoidal Oscillators*—a topic on which he and his several collaborators have worked extensively and quite intimately. Having convinced ourselves about this, we then set out to write this monograph and proposed the same to Charles Glaser, the Executive Editor, Springer, who gave us the signal to go ahead.

Let us admit that writing this monograph did not turn out to be an easy task! All the four authors went through a lot of difficulties and turmoil in their personal lives, one by one, during the entire period in which the preparation of the manuscript took place. Nevertheless, with the kind support and understanding of Charles Glaser, we somehow persisted and completed the assignment, though somewhat later than anticipated.

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The authors have been involved in teaching a number of ideas contained in the present monograph to their students in the UG courses on *Linear Integrated Circuits* and *Bipolar and CMOS Analog Integrated Circuits* and PG courses on *Signal Acquisition and Conditioning* and *Advanced Network Synthesis*, during



which a persistent query from our students has been as to *in which book the material taught to them could be found?* We thank our numerous students for this and do hope that this monograph provides an answer to their query.

New Delhi, India

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# Abbreviations

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| A/D      | Analog to digital   |
| ABB      | Active building block   |
| AD       | Analog devices  |
| ADC      | Analog to digital converter                                   |
| AGC      | Automatic gain control  |
| AGPE     | All grounded passive elements                                 |
| AM       | Analog multiplier   |
| AP       | All pass  |
| APF      | All-pass filter   |
| BDI      | Bilinear discrete integrator                                  |
| BDI-DOCC | Balanced dual input–dual output current conveyor              |
| BE       | Band elimination  |
| BiCMOS   | Bipolar complementary metal oxide semiconductor               |
| BIT      | Built-in testing  |
| BJT      | Bipolar junction transistor                                   |
| BO-CCII  | Balanced output-current conveyor, second generation           |
| BO-COA   | Balanced-output current operational amplifier                 |
| BOICCI   | Balanced output inverting current conveyor, second generation |
| BOOA     | Balanced output op-amps                                       |
| BO-OTA   | Balanced-output-operational transconductance amplifier        |
| BO-VOA   | Balanced-output voltage mode operational amplifier            |
| BP       | Band pass   |
| BPF      | Band-pass filter  |
| BR       | Band reject   |
| BS       | Band stop   |
| BSF      | Band stop filter  |
| BW       | Bandwidth   |
| C/f      | Capacitance-to-frequency                                      |
| C/T      | Capacitance-to-time period                                    |

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| CAB       | Configurable analog block  |
| CB        | Complementary bipolar  |
| CC        | Current conveyor   |
| CCC       | Composite current conveyor   |
| CC-CBTA   | Current controlled current backward transconductance amplifier                         |
| CC-CC     | Current-controlled current conveyor  |
| CC-CFOA   | Current controlled current feedback operational amplifier                              |
| CCCCTA    | Current controlled current conveyor transconductance amplifier                         |
| CC-CDBA   | Current-controlled current differencing buffered amplifier                             |
| CC-CD-CCC | Current-controlled current differencing current copy conveyor                          |
| CC-CDTA   | Current-controlled current differencing transconductance amplifier                     |
| CC-CFA    | Current-controlled current feedback amplifier  |
| CC-CFOA   | Current-controlled current feedback operational amplifier                              |
| CCCII     | Controlled current conveyor, second generation   |
| CCCS      | Current controlled current source  |
| CCDDCC    | Current controlled differential difference current conveyor                            |
| CCDDCC    | Current controllable differential difference current conveyor                          |
| CCDDCCTA  | Current controlled differential difference current conveyor transconductance amplifier |
| CCI       | Current conveyor, first generation   |
| CCII      | Current conveyor, second generation  |
| CCIII     | Current conveyor, third generation   |
| CCO       | Current controlled oscillator  |
| CCTA      | Current controlled transconductance amplifier  |
| CCVS      | Current controlled voltage source  |
| CCW       | Counterclockwise   |
| CDA       | Complimentary differential amplifier   |
| CDBA      | Current differencing buffered amplifier  |
| CDIBA     | Current differencing inverting buffered amplifier                                      |
| CDTA      | Current differencing transconductance amplifier  |
| CDU       | Current differencing unit  |
| CE        | Characteristic equation  |
| CF        | Current follower   |
| CFA       | Current feedback amplifier   |
| CFBCCII   | Controlled fully balanced current conveyor, second generation                          |
| CFC       | Current feedback conveyor  |
| CFOA      | Current feedback operational amplifier   |
| CFTA      | Current follower transconductance amplifier  |
| CG-CCCTA  | Current gain controlled current controlled transconductance amplifier                  |
| CM        | Current mode; also, current mirror   |
| CMOS      | Complementary metal oxide semiconductor  |
| CMRR      | Common mode rejection ratio  |

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| CO       | Condition of oscillation  |
| COA      | Current mode operational amplifier or current-mode output                   |
| CPFSK    | Continuous phase frequency shift keying                                     |
| CR       | Current repeater  |
| CTTA     | Current through transconductance amplifier                                  |
| CVC      | Current voltage conveyor  |
| CW       | Clockwise   |
| D/A      | Digital to analog   |
| DAC      | Digital to analog converter   |
| DBTA     | Differential-input buffered transconductance amplifier                      |
| DC       | Direct current  |
| DCC      | Differential current conveyor   |
| DCC-CFA  | Double current-controlled current feedback amplifier                        |
| DCCCTA   | Differential current controlled conveyor transconductance amplifier         |
| DCFDCCII | Digitally controlled fully differential current conveyor, second generation |
| DCVC     | Differential current voltage conveyor                                       |
| DDA      | Differential difference amplifiers  |
| DDCC     | Differential difference current conveyor                                    |
| DDCCC    | Differential difference complimentary current conveyor                      |
| DDCCFA   | Differential difference complimentary current feedback amplifier            |
| DDCCTA   | Differential difference current conveyor transconductance amplifiers        |
| DDOFA    | Differential difference operational floating amplifier                      |
| DDOMA    | Differential difference operational mirrored amplifier                      |
| DIBO-COA | Differential input balanced output-current operational amplifier            |
| DIBO-OTA | Differential input balanced output operational transconductance amplifier   |
| DIBO-VOA | Differential input balanced output-voltage mode operational amplifier       |
| DI-COA   | Differential input current mode operational amplifier                       |
| DIDO     | Differential input differential output                                      |
| DI-OTA   | Differential input-operational transconductance amplifier                   |
| DISO     | Differential-input-single-output  |
| DI-VOA   | Differential input voltage (mode) operational amplifier                     |
| DOCC     | Dual output current conveyor  |
| DO-DVCC  | Dual-output-differential voltage current conveyor                           |
| DOICCH   | Dual output inverting current conveyor, second generation                   |
| DPDT     | Double-pole double-throw  |
| DRAM     | Dynamic random access memory  |
| DVCC     | Differential voltage current conveyor                                       |
| DVCC+    | Differential voltage current conveyor (positive-type)                       |

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| DVCCC   | Differential voltage complimentary current conveyor                         |
| DVCCCTA | Differential voltage current-controlled conveyor transconductance amplifier |
| DVCCII  | Differential voltage current conveyor, second generation                    |
| DVCCS   | Differential voltage controlled current source                              |
| DVCCTA  | Differential voltage current conveyor transconductance amplifier            |
| DVCFA   | Differential voltage current feedback amplifier                             |
| DVCFOA  | Differential voltage current feedback operational amplifier                 |
| DVCVS   | Differential voltage controlled voltage source                              |
| DVTA    | Differential voltage transconductance amplifier                             |
| DXCCII  | Dual-X current conveyor, second generation                                  |
| ECC     | Extended current conveyor   |
| ECC     | Electronically controlled current conveyor                                  |
| ECCII   | Electronically tunable current conveyor, second generation                  |
| ECO     | Explicit current output   |
| ELIN    | Externally linear but internally nonlinear                                  |
| FAC     | Floating admittance converter   |
| FBCCII  | Fully balanced current conveyor, second generation                          |
| FBDDA   | Fully balanced differential difference amplifier                            |
| FC      | Floating capacitance  |
| FCC     | Floating current conveyor   |
| FCCNR   | Floating current controlled negative resistance                             |
| FCCPR   | Floating current controlled positive resistance                             |
| FDCC    | Fully differential current conveyor   |
| FDCCII  | Fully differential current conveyor, second generation                      |
| FDCFOA  | Fully differential current feedback operational amplifier                   |
| FDNC    | Frequency-dependent negative conductance                                    |
| FDNR    | Frequency-dependent negative resistance                                     |
| FDPR    | Frequency-dependent positive resistance                                     |
| FET     | Field effect transistor   |
| FGPIC/  | Floating generalized positive immittance converter/inverter                 |
| FGPII   |   |
| FI      | Floating immittance or floating inductance or floating impedance            |
| FM      | Frequency modulation  |
| FO      | Frequency of oscillation  |
| FPAA    | Field programmable analog array   |
| FPBW    | Full power bandwidth  |
| FPGA    | Field programmable gate array   |
| FSK     | Frequency shift keying  |
| FTFN    | Four-terminal-floating-nullor   |
| FVCR    | Floating voltage controlled resistor  |
| GBP     | Gain bandwidth product  |
| GC      | Grounded capacitor  |
| GCC     | Generalized current conveyor  |

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| GCFTA     | Generalized current follower transconductance amplifier                         |
| GFTC      | Generalized frequency/time period converter                                     |
| GI        | Grounded impedance  |
| GIC       | Generalized impedance converter   |
| GNIC      | Generalized negative impedance converter  |
| GNII      | Generalized negative impedance inverter   |
| GPIC      | Generalized positive impedance converter  |
| GPII      | Generalized positive impedance inverter   |
| GVC       | Generalized voltage conveyor  |
| HP        | High pass   |
| HPF       | High-pass filter  |
| IC        | Integrated circuit  |
| ICC       | Inverting current conveyor  |
| ICCI      | Inverting current conveyor, second generation                                   |
| ICCI      | Inverting current conveyor, third generation                                    |
| INIC      | Current inversion negative impedance converter                                  |
| KHN       | Kerwin–Huelsman–Newcomb   |
| L/f       | Inductance-to-frequency   |
| L/T       | Inductance-to-time period   |
| LC        | Inductance-capacitance  |
| LDI       | Lossless discrete integrator  |
| LHS       | Left hand side  |
| LNA       | Low noise amplifier   |
| LP        | Low pass  |
| LPF       | Low-pass filter   |
| MCC-CDTA  | Modified current controlled current differencing transconductance amplifier     |
| MCCCI     | Multi-output controlled current conveyor, second generation                     |
| MCCII     | Modified current conveyor, third generation                                     |
| MCFOA     | Modified current feedback operational amplifier                                 |
| MDAC      | Multiplying digital-to-analog converter   |
| MDCC      | Modified differential current conveyor  |
| MDO-DDCC  | Modified dual output-differential difference current conveyor                   |
| MICCI     | Modified inverting current conveyor, second generation                          |
| MIDCC     | Multiple input differential current conveyor                                    |
| MIMO      | Multiple-input–multiple-output  |
| MISO      | Multiple-input–single-output  |
| MMCC      | Multiplication-mode current conveyor  |
| MOCC      | Multiple output current conveyor  |
| MO-CCCA   | Multiple output current-controlled current amplifier                            |
| MO-CCCDTA | Multi-output-current-controlled current differencing transconductance amplifier |
| MO-CCCTTA | Multiple output current controlled current through transconductance amplifier   |



|        |   |
|--------|---|
| MOCCII | Multiple output current conveyor, second generation |
| MOCF   | Multiple output current follower                    |
| MOSFET | Metal oxide semiconductor field effect transistor   |
| MOTA   | Multi-output operational transconductance amplifier |
| MRC    | MOS resistive circuit                               |
| MSO    | Multi-phase sinusoidal oscillator                   |
| MTC    | Mixed translinear cell                              |
| NAM    | Nodal admittance matrix                             |
| NE     | Node equation                                       |
| NF     | Notch filter  |
| NIC    | Negative impedance converter                        |
| NMOS   | N-type metal oxide semiconductor                    |
| OC     | Operational conveyor                                |
| OCC    | Operational current conveyor                        |
| OFA    | Operational floating amplifier                      |
| OFC    | Operational floating conveyor                       |
| OFCC   | Operational floating current conveyor               |
| OLTF   | Open loop transfer function                         |
| OMA    | Operational mirrored amplifier                      |
| OTA    | Operational transconductance amplifier              |
| OTA-C  | Operational-transconductance-amplifier-capacitor    |
| OTRA   | Operational transresistance amplifier               |
| PCA    | Programmable current amplifier                      |
| PIC    | Positive impedance converter                        |
| PII    | Positive impedance inverter                         |
| PLL    | Phase locked loop                                   |
| PM     | Phase modulation                                    |
| PMOS   | P-type metal oxide semiconductor                    |
| QO     | Quadrature oscillator                               |
| R/f    | Resistance-to-frequency                             |
| R/T    | Resistance-to-time period                           |
| RC     | Resistance-capacitance                              |
| RHS    | Right hand side                                     |
| SCCO   | Single-capacitor-controlled oscillator              |
| SCIC   | Summing current immittance converter                |
| SCO    | Switched capacitor oscillator                       |
| SEC    | Single element controlled                           |
| SECO   | Single-element-controlled oscillator                |
| SFG    | Signal flow graph                                   |
| SIFO   | Single input five output                            |
| SIMO   | Single input multiple output                        |
| SIO    | Switched current oscillator                         |
| SISO   | Single input single output                          |
| SR     | Slew rate   |

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| SRC        | Single resistance controlled                                 |
| SRCO       | Single-resistance-controlled oscillator                      |
| SVIC       | Summing voltage immittance convertor                         |
| TA         | Transconductance amplifier                                   |
| TAC        | Transconductance and capacitance                             |
| TAM        | Trans-admittance-mode  |
| TCCII      | Transconductance current conveyor, second generation         |
| THD        | Total harmonic distortion                                    |
| TI         | Texas Instruments  |
| TIM        | Trans-impedance-mode   |
| TL         | Trans-linear   |
| TO-ICCI    | Triple output-inverting current conveyor, second generation  |
| TX-TZ CCII | Two-X two-Z current conveyor, second generation              |
| UCC        | Universal current conveyor                                   |
| UGA        | Unity gain amplifier   |
| UGB        | Unity gain buffer  |
| UGC        | Unity gain cell  |
| UGDA       | Unity gain differential amplifier                            |
| UGS        | Unity gain summer  |
| UVC        | Universal voltage conveyor                                   |
| VC         | Voltage conveyor   |
| VCC        | Voltage-controlled capacitance                               |
| VCCS       | Voltage-controlled-current-source                            |
| VCFI       | Voltage controlled floating impedance                        |
| VCG        | Voltage and current gain                                     |
| VCG-CCII   | Voltage and current gain current conveyor, second generation |
| VCL        | Voltage controlled inductance                                |
| VCO        | Voltage-controlled oscillator                                |
| VCR        | Voltage-controlled-resistance                                |
| VCVS       | Voltage-controlled voltage source                            |
| VCZ        | Voltage-controlled impedance                                 |
| VDCC       | Voltage differencing current conveyor                        |
| VD-DIBA    | Voltage differencing differential input buffered amplifier   |
| VDIBA      | Voltage differencing inverting buffered amplifier            |
| VDTA       | Voltage differencing transconductance amplifier              |
| VF         | Voltage follower   |
| VFO        | Variable frequency oscillator                                |
| VLf        | Very low frequency   |
| VLFO       | Very low frequency oscillator                                |
| VLSI       | Very large scale integrated circuits                         |
| VM         | Voltage mirror; also voltage-mode                            |
| VMQO       | Voltage mode quadrature oscillator                           |
| VNIC       | Voltage inversion negative impedance converter               |
| VOA        | Voltage (mode) operational amplifier voltage-mode output     |

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| WBO        | Wien Bridge oscillator   |
| WCDMA      | Wide-band code division multiple access                                |
| ZC-CCCITA  | Z-copy current controlled current inverting transconductance amplifier |
| ZC-CCCITA  | Z-copy current-controlled current inverting transconductance amplifier |
| ZC-CDU     | Z-copy-current differencing unit                                       |
| ZC-CG-CDBA | Z-copy current gain current differencing buffered amplifier            |
| ZC-CG-CDTA | Z-copy current gain current differencing transconductance amplifier    |
| ZC-CG-VDCC | Z-copy current gain voltage differencing current conveyor              |

**Part I**  
**Introductory Chapter**

# Chapter 1

## Basic Sinusoidal Oscillators and Waveform Generators Using IC Building Blocks

**Abstract** This chapter discusses the basic principle of generating sinusoidal oscillators, reviews the classical sinusoidal oscillators and nonsinusoidal waveform generators, enumerates a number of other sinusoidal oscillator topologies, and outlines some basic methods of oscillator analysis and synthesis.

### 1.1 Introduction

Sinusoidal oscillators and nonsinusoidal waveform generators play an essential role in various instrumentation, measurement, communication, control, and other electronic systems, and therefore, discussion of a number of classical sinusoidal oscillators is an important topic dealt with in almost all standard text and reference books on electronics and electronic circuits (for instance, see [1–6]).

However, during the past four decades, a large number of circuits and techniques have been advanced by various researchers for realizing sinusoidal oscillators, using a variety of active devices and active circuit building blocks such as bipolar transistors, FETs, IC op-amps, operational transconductance amplifiers (OTA), current conveyors (CC), current feedback op-amps (CFOA), and numerous others. The analog circuit's literature is flooded with a huge number of papers on oscillators and their various aspects. Concurrently, a lot of effort has gone on the analysis, synthesis, and design of oscillators together with or the study of a variety of related aspects such as amplitude stabilization and control, start-up phenomenon, as well as a number of important performance-related issues like amplitude stability, frequency stability, jitter, phase noise, etc. (for instance, see [7–109]). Whereas several authors have concentrated on evolving systematic methods for realizing sinusoidal oscillators, a number of researchers have also worked on evolving design strategies or methods for improving practical performance of RC-active oscillators.

This chapter is concerned with the discussion about well-known as well as some not-so-well-known RC sinusoidal oscillators and nonsinusoidal waveform generators using op-amps in case of the former and using op-amps and IC 555 timer in case of the latter. The remaining chapters of this monograph will gradually unfold a

variety of circuit configurations and types of oscillators and waveform generators employing modern electronic circuit building blocks.

## 1.2 Classical Sinusoidal Oscillators

Sinusoidal oscillators, being closed active RC circuits without functional input (other than the DC power supplies used for biasing the active device(s)), can be analyzed in a number of ways. From the classical theory of feedback oscillators, the sinusoidal oscillator, which is usually made from an amplifier and a frequency-selective RC circuit or LC circuit arranged in a positive feedback, can be analyzed by using Barkhausen criterion. A typical block diagram model of an oscillator shown in Fig. 1.1 contains an amplifier of gain  $A$  and a frequency-selective feedback network having gain  $\beta$ .

According to Barkhausen criterion, in order that such a system can generate sinusoidal oscillations, the necessary conditions are  $|A\beta| = 1$  and  $\angle A\beta = 0^\circ$  or an integral multiple of  $360^\circ$ .

It is well known that a number of classical oscillators such as a Wien bridge oscillator, RC phase-shift oscillator, twin-T oscillator, and bridge-T oscillators can be readily seen to be belonging to the general block diagram of Fig. 1.1.

### 1.2.1 Wien Bridge Oscillator

In case of the Wien bridge oscillator (Fig. 1.2a), the op-amp is configured as non-inverting amplifier, whereas the feedback network consisting of two resistors and two capacitors is a second-order band-pass filter such that at the center frequency of the band-pass filter given by

**Fig. 1.1** The basic topology of the classical sinusoidal oscillators

