

Effect of Current Feedback Operational Amplifier Using BJT

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Abstract—

The term 'op-amp' was originally used to describe a chain of high performance dc amplifiers that was used as a basis for the analog type computers of long ago. The very high gain op-amp IC's our days uses external feedback networks to control responses. The aim of the paper is to compare the current feedback op-amp implemented using BJT and the Current Feedback Op-Amp(CFOA) implemented using CMOS on the basis of Voltage Gain, Input and Output Impedance, Supply Voltage Rejection Ratio (SVRR), Common Mode Rejection Ratio (CMRR) and Slew Rate.

Keywords—

Inverting amplifier; Non inverting Amplifier; Differential amplifier; BJT;CMOS;CFOA

I. INTRODUCTION

An operational amplifier is a direct-coupled high-gain amplifier usually consisting of one or more differential amplifiers [1, 2]. The operational amplifier is a versatile device that can be used to amplify dc as well as ac input signals and was originally designed for performing mathematical operations. Originally, the term, "Operational Amplifier," was used in the computing field to describe amplifiers that performed various mathematical operations. It was found that the application of negative feedback around a high gain DC amplifier would produce a circuit with a precise gain characteristic that depended only on the feedback used. By the proper selection of feedback components,

II. CURRENT FEEDBACK OPERATIONAL AMPLIFIER:

operational amplifier circuits could be used to add, subtract average, integrate, and differentiate. As practical operational amplifier techniques became more widely known, it was apparent that these feedback techniques could be useful in many control and instrumentation applications. Today, the general use of operational amplifiers has been extended to include such applications as DC Amplifiers, AC Amplifiers, Comparators, Servo Valve Drivers, Deflection Yoke Drivers, Low Distortion Oscillators, AC to DC Converters, Multivibrators, and a host of others. With enough feedback, the closed loop amplifier characteristics become a function of the feedback elements. In the typical feedback circuit, the feedback elements are two resistors.

A. Basic Concept of Operational-Amplifier Configuration:

Generally there are three types of circuits:

- 1) *Non-Inverting Amplifier*: The input is applied only to the non-inverting input terminal and the inverting terminal is connected to ground.
- 2) *Inverting Amplifier*: The input is applied only to the inverting input terminal and the non-inverting terminal is connected to ground.
- 3) *Differential Amplifier*: The input is applied only to the inverting input terminal as well as the non-inverting terminal ground. The op-amp amplifies the difference between the two signals.

Basically operational amplifier can be made by using voltage feedback and current feedback. In this paper we stress on current feedback operational amplifier (CFOA) [3, 4] using bipolar junction transistor (BJT). CFOA is a type of Trans-Impedance Amplifier. In this model, it can be seen that the non inverting input is connected to the input of a unity gain, which usually takes the form of emitter follower circuit, and is modeled by G_B and Z_B [5,6]. (Figure 1).

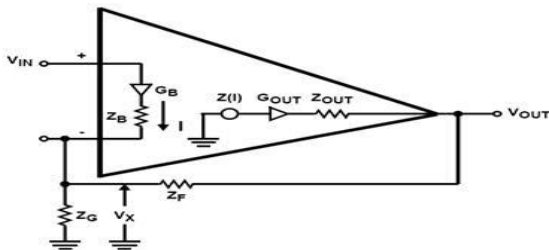


Figure. 1: Generalized CFOA internal structure

Since the non inverting input is the input of a buffer, it's a high-impedance input. Now, because this buffer's output connects to the inverting to input, CFOAs have lower inverting-input impedance, Z_B . The current I flowing through the inverting input generates a voltage that is equal to current times the transimpedance Z . This voltage is modeled by the output voltage source, $Z(I)$. This voltage becomes the output voltage after passing through the output buffer, which is modeled by G_{OUT} and Z_{OUT} .

$$I = \frac{V_X}{Z_G} = \frac{V_{out} - V_X}{Z_F} \quad (1)$$

$$V_X = V_{in} - I \cdot Z_B \quad (2)$$

$$V_{out} = I \cdot Z \quad (3)$$

$$\frac{V_{out}}{V_{in}} = \frac{\left(\frac{A}{B}\right)}{1 + \left(\frac{Z}{B}\right)} \quad (4)$$

$$\text{where } A = Z \left[1 + \left(\frac{Z_F}{Z_G}\right) \right]$$

$$\text{and } B = Z_F \left[1 + \left(\frac{Z_F}{Z_G}\right) \text{ parallel } Z_G \right]$$

$$\frac{V_{out}}{V_{in}} = \frac{A}{1 + A\beta} \quad (5)$$

Equation 1 is the current equation at the inverting input of the circuit shown in Fig.1
Equation 2 is the loop equation for the input circuit.

Equation 3 is the output equation of the circuit.
Equation 4 is the non-inverting closed loop circuit equation.

Equation 5 is the standard feedback equation where A is the direct gain and β is the feedback factor

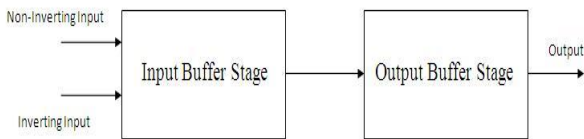
A. CFOA using BJTs:

It has two stages shown in Figure 2:

- Input Buffer Stage.
- Output Buffer Stage.

Fig. 2: Block Diagram of CFOA using BJT Input Buffer Stage: It is configured as an emitter-follower. We have given non-inverting input at the base of the transistor therefore it has high impedance and we have given inverting input at the emitter of the transistor therefore it has low impedance.

1) *Output Buffer Stage:* A current flow through the inverting input that generates a voltage which is equal to current times the trans-impedance. This converts high input impedance to low output impedance which must be present at the load to get maximum current in order to



drive load of the op-amp. Figure 3 shows the schematic diagram operational amplifier using BJT.

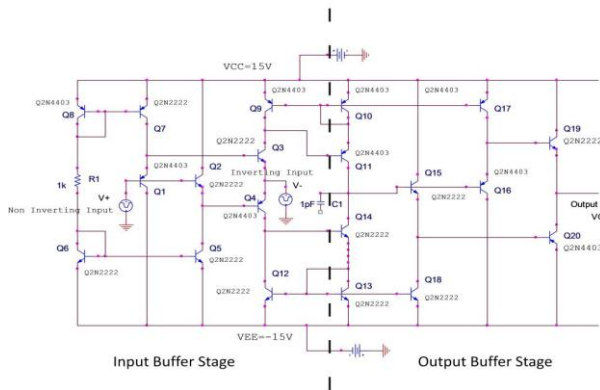


Fig. 3: Operational Amplifier Using BJT

1) *Differential Gain Stage:* Transistors Q1, Q2, Q3, and Q4 form the first stage of the op amp the differential amplifier with differential to single ended transformation. Transistors Q1 and Q2 are standard N channel MOSFET (NMOS) transistors which form the basic input stage of the amplifier. The gate of Q1 is the inverting input and the gate

of Q2 is the non-inverting input. A differential input signal applied across the two input terminals will be amplified according to the gain of the differential stage. The gain of the stage is simply the transconductance of Q2 times the total output resistance seen at the drain of Q2. The current mirror topology performs the differential to single-ended conversion of the input signal. The differential current from Q1 and Q2 multiplied by the output resistance of the first stage gives the single-ended output voltage, which constitutes the input of the second gain stage

2) *Second Gain Stage:* The second stage is a current sink load inverter. The purpose of the second gain stage, as the name implies, is to provide additional gain in the amplifier. Consisting of transistors Q5 and Q6, this stage takes the output from the drain of Q2 and amplifies it through Q5 which is in the standard common source configuration. Again, similar to the differential gain stage, this stage employs an active device, Q6, to serve as the load resistance for Q5. The gain of this stage is the transconductance of M5 times the effective load resistance comprised of the output resistances of Q5 and Q6.

3) *Bias String:* The biasing of the operational amplifier is achieved with only four transistors. Transistors Q8 and Q7 form a simple current mirror bias string that supplies a voltage between the gate and source of Q7 and Q6. Transistors Q6 and Q7 sink a certain amount of current based on their gate to source voltage which is controlled by the bias string. Q8 and Q9 are diode connected to ensure they operate in the saturation region. Proper biasing of the other transistors in the circuit (Q1-Q5) is controlled by the node voltages present in the circuit itself. Most importantly, Q5 is biased by the gate to source voltage (VGS) set up by the VGS of the current mirror load as are the transistors Q1 and Q2.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS:

A. Inverting Amplifier Using BJT :

As we have applied input to the inverting terminal of op-amp so it is known as inverting amplifier. Fig. 6 shows its input and output waveforms

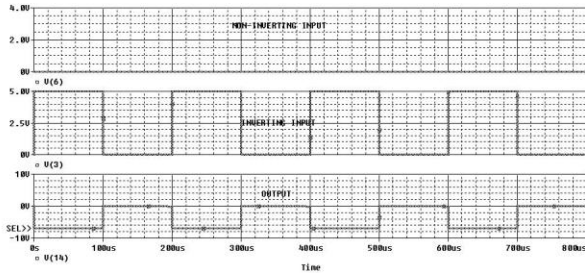


Fig. 6: Simulation results of Inverting Amplifier using BJT

B. Non- Inverting Amplifier Using BJT:

As we have applied input to the inverting terminal of op-amp so it is known as non-inverting amplifier. Fig. 7 shows its input and output waveforms.

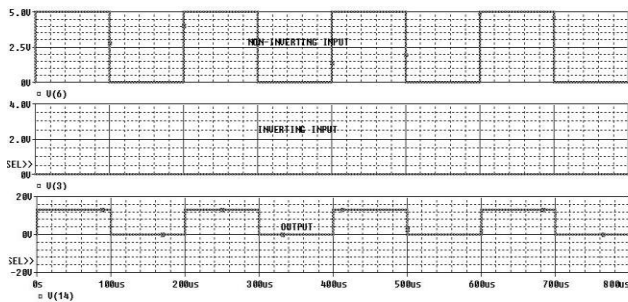


Fig. 7: Simulation results of Non- Inverting Amplifier using BJT

C. Differential Amplifier Using BJT:

As we have applied input to the non-inverting terminal and inverting terminal of op-amp using BJT so it is known as differential amplifier. Figure.8 shows its input and output waveforms

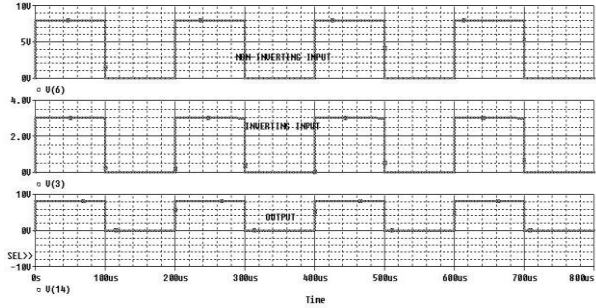


Fig. 8: Simulation results of Differential Amplifier using BJT

V. CONCLUSIONS:

In this paper we have implemented basic configurations of current feedback operational amplifier using BJT. The voltage gain is found to be the same but the CMOS holds an advantage when it comes to Slew Rate, CMRR, Input Impedance and Power Dissipation whereas the Output Impedance comes out to be better for BJT. When we compare the basic modes the differential mode scores the best on every parameter.

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