

ELECTRONICALLY TUNABLE QUADRATURE OSCILLATOR USING TRANSLINEAR CONVEYORS AND GROUNDED CAPACITORS

SUDHANSHU MAHESHWARI*

Department of Electronics Engineering, Z.H. College of Engineering
and Technology, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh – 202 002, India

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A new electronically tunable current-mode sinusoidal oscillator with three quadrature outputs is presented. The proposed circuit employs three translinear conveyors and two grounded capacitors to realize three quadrature outputs with independent frequency control. The circuit requires no resistors and the frequency of the oscillator can be varied over a wide range by external current control. RSPICE simulation results using the bipolar implementation of translinear conveyors are given to support the proposed circuit.

Keywords: Translinear-C oscillators; Current-controlled conveyors

1 INTRODUCTION

Translinear conveyors or current-controlled conveyors (CCCIIs) have gained popularity for realizing current-mode circuit as these devices provide high frequency operation, electronic adjustability and the possibility of resistorless realizations [1–3]. Translinear conveyors offer current-controllable resistance at one of the ports, thus eliminating the use of external resistors for realizing electronic functions [4]. A few sinusoidal oscillators based on this technique are also available in technical literature [3, 5]. In this paper, a new sinusoidal oscillator using three CCCIIIs and two grounded capacitors suited for IC implementation is proposed. The new current-mode circuit realizes three quadrature outputs. The frequency of oscillator is electronically controllable and independent of the condition of oscillation. The proposed translinear-C oscillator possesses low THD, and is verified by RSPICE simulations.

* E-mail: maheshwarispm@rediffmail.com

2 PROPOSED CIRCUIT

The proposed translinear-C sinusoidal oscillator circuit is shown in Figure 1(a). Routine analysis of the circuit keeping in view the port relationships of CCCII yields the following characteristic equation [1, 2]:

$$s^2 + s \frac{R_{x3} - R_{x2}}{R_{x2}R_{x3}C_1} + \frac{1}{R_{x1}R_{x2}C_1C_2} = 0. \tag{1}$$

It is clear from Eq. (1) that the frequency of oscillation (FO) and the condition of oscillation (CO) are as follows:

$$\text{FO: } \omega_0 = \frac{1}{R_{x1}R_{x2}C_1C_2}, \quad \text{CO: } R_{x3} \leq R_{x2}. \tag{2}$$

Here, $R_{xi} = V_T/2I_{oi}$, $i = 1, 2, 3$ is the intrinsic resistance at the terminal X of the i th translinear conveyor, V_T is the thermal voltage and I_{oi} is the bias current of the i th conveyor [1, 6]. It is to

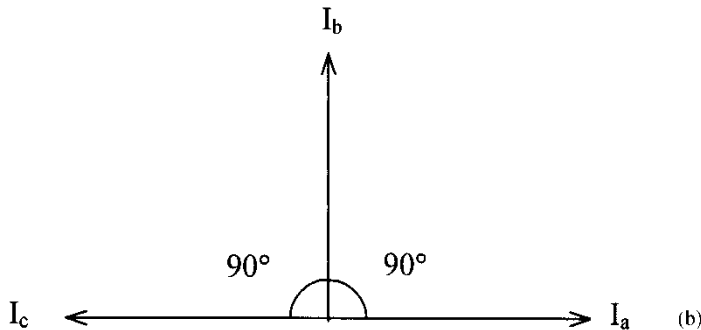
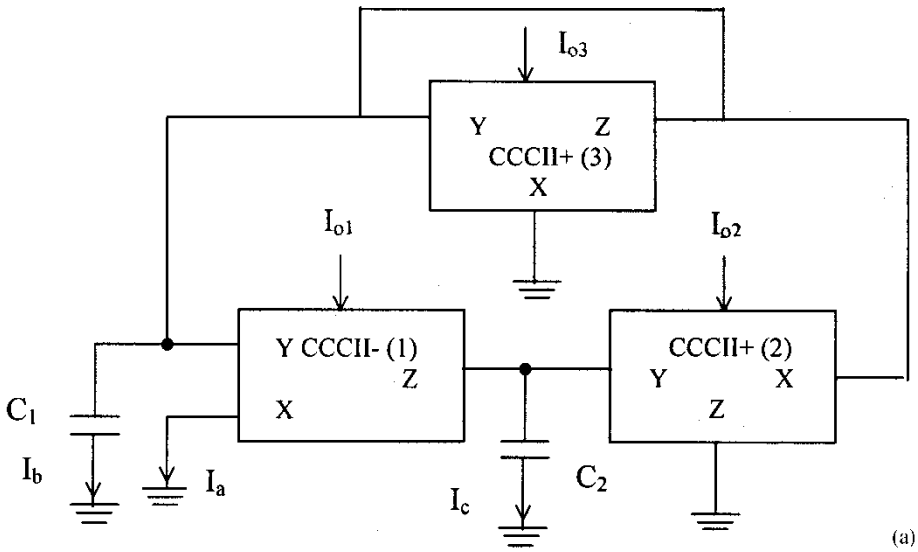


FIGURE 1 (a) Proposed translinear-C oscillator; (b) Phasor diagram.

be noted that translinear conveyors 2 and 3 are CCCII+ (plus type) whereas translinear conveyor 1 is CCCII– (minus type). It is evident from Eq. (2) that the FO is independent of the CO i.e. the FO can be electronically controlled independently of the CO by varying I_{o1} (R_{x1}). Similarly the CO can be maintained independently of the FO by controlling I_{o3} (R_{x3}). At oscillating frequency with $s = j\omega$

$$I_a = -jkI_b, \quad I_c = jkI_b; \quad \text{where } k = \frac{1}{R_{x1}C_1}. \quad (3)$$

Equation (3) depicts the three quadrature outputs as shown in Figure 1(b).

3 SIMULATION RESULTS

The proposed translinear-C oscillator is verified using RSPICE simulations. Bipolar implementation of CCCII is used in simulation with model parameters of transistors NR100N and PR100N with a supply voltage ± 2.5 V [3, 7]. The circuit of Figure 1(a) was designed for the oscillating frequency of 12 kHz. The designed values were as $C_1 = C_2 = 100$ nF, $I_{o1} = I_{o2} = 100$ μ A. The condition of oscillation was set by bias current I_{o3} and sustained oscillations were obtained for a value of $I_{o3} = 106$ μ A. The transient response of the circuit is shown in Figure 2 and confirms the validity of the circuit. The outputs show a THD of less than 1% that represents a low value. Next the electronic tuning aspect of the circuit is verified. The frequency of oscillation is varied with the bias current I_{o1} for $C_1 = C_2 = 10$ nF and $I_{o2} = 100$ μ A. The condition of oscillation is maintained by controlling I_{o3} . The electronic tuning of the oscillator is shown in Figure 3 that gives a variation of FO from 37 kHz to 375 kHz with I_{o1} in the range 10 μ A to 1000 μ A, respectively.

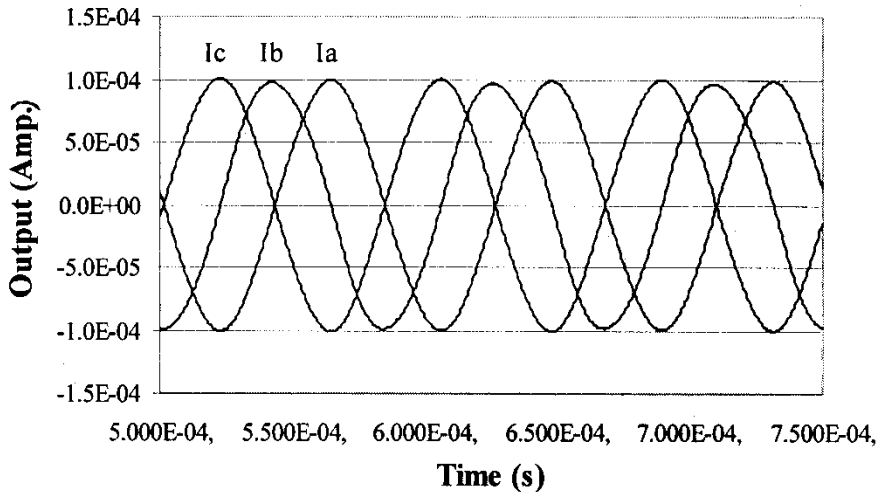


FIGURE 2 Simulation results for the proposed circuit.

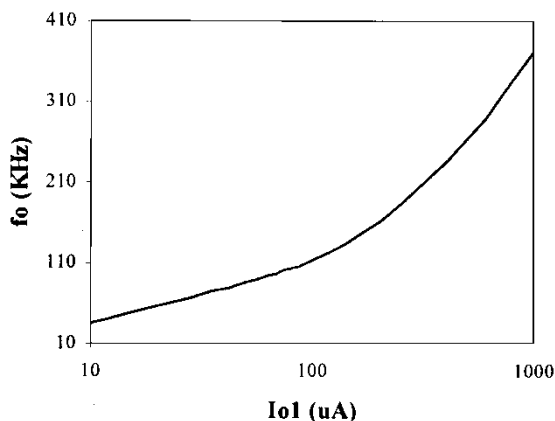


FIGURE 3 Electronic frequency tuning for $C_1 = C_2 = 10$ nF.

4 CONCLUSION

A new current-mode sinusoidal oscillator with three quadrature outputs, employing only translinear conveyors and grounded capacitors is presented. The circuit requires no external resistors, provides non-interactive electronic control of oscillating frequency over a wide range by external current and is suited for IC implementation. RSPICE simulation results confirm the validity of the proposed circuit.

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