Analog Filter Design

Part. 5: Analog Discrete Time Filters: Switched Capacitor Filters

First SC circuits: simulations of resistances

- In integrated RC active filters, the resistances may be the largest components, especially when low frequency singularities are required, as in audio analog processors.
- Singularities in RC filters are proportional to 1/RC factors. Since R and C are marked by non-correlated process variations, the spread in filter characteristic frequencies can be very large (up to 20 %).
- Resistances simulated with switches and capacitors are given by expressions like:

$$R_{eq} = \frac{1}{f_{ck}C}$$

where f_{ck} is the clock frequency. With the small capacitors available on chip it is possible to obtain very large resistors.

Switched Capacitor resistance: principle



Simple integrator based on SC resistor



Important: The unity gain angular frequency of the integrator (ω₀) depends only on capacitance ratios and the clock frequency. Ratios can be fabricated with high precision and accurate frequencies can be obtained from crystal oscillators
 Filter with precise corner frequencies can be obtained.

Effect of parasitic capacitances



Parasitic capacitances are not well predictable and generally non linear Inaccuracy of the corner frequencies Distortion

Parasitic Insensitive (PI) SC integrator



Parasitic Insensitive (PI) SC integrator



Equivalent currents



Parasitic Insensitive (PI) SC integrator



PI-SC resistors: symbols used in this course



Example 1: versatile integrator



$$\omega_1 = f \frac{C_{12}}{C_2}$$
 $k_1 = \frac{C_{11}}{C_{12}}$ $k_{1F} = \frac{C_{1F}}{C_2}$

Example 2 First order filter



Example 3: Universal SC Biquad Filter



Discrete time nature of SC filters: Integrator



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$$V_{out}(n) = V_{out}(n-1) - \frac{C_{12}}{C_2} v_y(n) + \frac{C_{11}}{C_2} v_{xD}(n)$$

$$H(z) = \frac{1}{1-z^{-1}} = \frac{z}{z-1}$$
Backward Euler DT integrator (non-delayed integrator)

$$V_{out}(z) = z^{-1}V_{out}(z) - \frac{C_{12}}{C_2}V_y(z) + \frac{C_{11}}{C_2}V_{xD}(z)$$
Compare with:

$$V_{out}(z) = \frac{1}{1-z^{-1}} \frac{C_{12}}{C_2}V_y(z) + \frac{1}{1-z^{-1}} \frac{C_{11}}{C_2}V_{xD}(z)$$
Standard (forward) Euler DT integrator (delayed form)

First order filter: discrete time nature



First order LP filter: frequency response



Filter synthesis by means of LC ladder network simulation with SC integrators

Advantage: low sensitivity with respect to component value variations

Example



In order to obtain convenient to define:

$$v_2 \equiv R_S i_2$$

Example: ladder LC network simulation



- -) Indicated values represent numerical identities (dimensions are not relevant)
- -) Resistors are implemented with either positive or negative parasitic insensitive switched capacitors resistances.



SC Filters that do not require the equivalent resistance approximation

- These filters are obtained by direct implementation of the H(z) transfer function.
- > The H(z) can be obtained by means of:
 - -) conversion of a CT transfer function into the DT domain, by substituting "s" with a proper rational function of "z" (e.g. bilinear transformation);
 - -) synthesis with the typical approaches of digital filters (e.g. FIR filters)

Example: synthesis of a bilinear integrator



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Direct synthesis



$$H(z) = \frac{b_0 + b_1 z^{-1} + b_2 z^{-2} + \dots + b_M z^{-M}}{1 + a_1 z^{-1} + a_2 z^{-2} + \dots + a_N z^{-M}}$$

Delay lines and adders (summing amplifiers) are necessary

Direct synthesis: analog DT delay lines



Half-period delay line with return to zero in phase 2

Sample and Hold (zero tracking time)



Summing amplifier



Simplified case: single input



Phase 1

Summing amplifier: analysis





$$\Delta Q_1 = C_1 v_{in}^{(1)}$$
$$v_{out}^{(2)} = \frac{C_1}{C_2} v_{in}^{(1)}$$

If v_{in} does not change much across a period, the output voltage is maintained in phase 1

Multipath filters

- > The target is obtaining a band-pass filter with a very narrow band (i.e. an high $Q=B/f_0$) i.e. a very selective filters.
- Synthesis of very selective Band-Pass filters by means of traditional techniques is very difficult due to component inaccuracy and active element non-idealities (e.g. amplifier gain)
- Multipath filters uses N low pass filters (in this example N=3) fed with decimated sample sequences, in order to explicitly produce aliasing.



Multipath Filters



- Due to aliasing, the low pass response is duplicated around $f_{S-single}$.
- This would be meaningless for a single filter, since signals around f_{S-single} are beyond the Nyquist limit
- Using all the three filters together with delayed phases is equivalent to sampling at $f_{S-global}$. Now, signals at $f_{S-single}$ are within the Nyquist limit
- The replica of the response around $f_{S-single}$ can be made very narrow, by simply reducing the bandwidth of the individual low pass filters.