ATS Doctoral Thesis Award

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Study of Multiphase Networks, Noise Reduction for DC-DC Converters, and Stability Test for Electronic Systems

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- 1. Research Background
- Motivation, objectives and achievements
- 2. Investigation of Multi-Phase Networks
- Polyphase filters, complex filters, and quadrature signal generation networks
- **3. Noise Reduction for DC-DC Converters**
- Ringing and ripple reduction techniques
- 4. Stability Test for Electronic Systems
- Ringing test for passive and active networks
- 5. Conclusions

1. Research Background Motivation of Study

Performance of a system

Signal to Noise Ratio:



Common types of noise:

- Electronic noise
- Thermal noise,
- Intermodulation noise,
- Cross-talk,
- Impulse noise,
- Shot noise, and
- Transit-time noise.

Performance of a device



 $\mathbf{F} = \frac{\mathbf{Output \ SNR}}{\mathbf{Input \ SNR}}$

Device noise:

- Flicker noise,
- Thermal noise,
- White noise.

System noise:Image noise,

- Ripple noise,
- Ringing noise.

1. Research Background Objectives of Study

- Derivation of transfer function in electronic systems using superposition theorem
- High image rejection ratio and flat pass-band gain for polyphase filters and complex filters
- Low ringing and small ripple for DC-DC Buck converters using linear swept frequency modulation and LC notch harmonic filter methods
- Stability test for electronic networks with and without feedback loops

1. Research Background Achievements of Study

Superposition formula for multi-source networks

Self-loop function



$$L(\omega) = -\frac{V_{inc}}{V_{trans}}$$

Alternating current conservation for stability test of linear networks



1. Research Background Limitations of Conventional Methods

- **o** Conventional Superposition
- →Solving for every source (several times).
- o Conventional Middlebrook's measurement
- → Applying only in feedback systems (DC-DC converters).
- Conventional replica measurement of loop gain
- →Using two identical networks (not real measurement).
- Conventional Nyquist's stability condition
- → Theoretical analysis for feedback systems (Lab tool)

2. Investigation of Multi-Phase Networks Superposition Theorem for Multi-Source Systems

Superposition formula:



- V_o(t) : Voltage at one node
- V_i(t) : Input voltage sources
- I_{ai}(t) : Ahead-toward current sources
- I_{gi}(t) : Ground-toward current sources
- Z_{i, si, pi}(t): Impedances at each branch

Multi-source systems, feedback
 networks (op amps, amplifiers),
 polyphase filters, complex filters...



2. Investigation of Multi-Phase Networks Analysis of 2nd–Order Polyphase Filter



Apply superposition at each node

$$\begin{split} V_{out} \left(\frac{1}{Z_{C1}} + \frac{1}{R_1} \right) &= \frac{V_a}{R_1} + \frac{\left(+j\right)^3 V_a}{Z_{C1}}; \\ V_a \left(\frac{1}{Z_{C2}} + \frac{1}{R_2} + \frac{2}{R_1 + Z_{C1}} \right) &= \frac{V_{in}}{R_2} + \frac{\left(+j\right)^3 V_{in}}{Z_{C2}}; \end{split}$$

Transfer function for positive polyphase signal

$$H_{P}(\omega) = \frac{V_{out}}{V_{in}} = \frac{\left[1 + (+j)^{3} b_{1} j\omega\right] \left[1 + (+j)^{3} b_{2} j\omega\right]}{a_{0} (j\omega)^{2} + a_{1} j\omega + 1}$$

Transfer function for negative polyphase signal

$$H_{N}(\omega) = \frac{V_{out}}{V_{in}} = \frac{\left[1 + (-j)^{3} b_{1} j\omega\right] \left[1 + (-j)^{3} b_{2} j\omega\right]}{a_{0} (j\omega)^{2} + a_{1} j\omega + 1};$$

Here:
$$b_0 = R_1 C_1; b_1 = R_2 C_2; a_0 = b_0 b_1; a_1 = b_0 + b_1 + 2R_2 C_1;$$

Image rejection ratio (IRR)

$$IRR(\omega) = \frac{\left|H_{P}(\omega)\right|}{\left|H_{N}(\omega)\right|} = \frac{\left|(1+b_{1}\omega)(1+b_{2}\omega)\right|}{\left|(1-b_{1}\omega)(1-b_{2}\omega)\right|};$$

2. Investigation of Multi-Phase Networks Behaviors of 2nd–Order Polyphase Filter



Transfer function in all frequency domain

$$H(\omega) \Big| = \frac{(1+b_1\omega)(1+b_2\omega)}{\sqrt{(1-a_0\omega^2)^2 + (a_1\omega)^2}}; \omega \in \mathbb{R}$$

Here, R1 = 1 k Ω , C1 = 227 pF, R2 = 1 k Ω , C2 = 114 pF, at f₁ = 700 kHz, f₂ = 1.4 MHz,

Bode plot of transfer function in all frequency domain



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2. Investigation of Multi-Phase Networks Behavior of 4th–Order Polyphase Filter

Transfer function

$$H(\omega) = \frac{(1+b_1\omega)(1+b_2\omega)(1+b_3\omega)(1+b_4\omega)}{a_0(j\omega)^4 + a_1(j\omega)^3 + a_2(j\omega)^2 + a_3j\omega + 1};$$

Bode plot of transfer function





Transient response

Fourth-order RC polyphase filter



Implemented circuit



2. Investigation of Multi-Phase Networks Flat Pass-Band Gain for 4th–Order Polyphase Filter



Two RC band-stop filters

2. Investigation of Multi-Phase Networks Behavior of 6th-order Quadrature Signal Generation



2. Investigation of Multi-Phase Networks Behavior of 4th-order Complex Filter

Transfer function for positive polyphase signals

Transfer function

polyphase signals

for negative



4th-order complex filter



Bode plot of transfer function



3. Noise Reduction for DC-DC Converters Characteristics of Adaptive Feedback Network

Block diagram of a typical adaptive feedback system



Adaptive feedback is used to control the output source along with the decision source (DC-DC Buck converter). The transfer function of an adaptive feedback network is significantly different from the transfer function of a linear negative feedback network.

3. Noise Reduction for DC-DC Converters Review of Step-down DC-DC Buck Converter



3. Noise Reduction for DC-DC Converters

Ripple Reduction using Linear Swept Frequency Modulation



Linear swept frequency modulation





3. Noise Reduction for DC-DC Converters Ripple Reduction using LC Notch Harmonic Filter



4. Stability Test for Electronic Systems Damped Oscillation Noise

Large overshoots + ringing + unwanted voltage transients \rightarrow Damped oscillation noise \rightarrow Unstable system



Ringing occurs in both
 with and without feedback
 systems.
 Ringing affects both
 input and output signals.

To meet the specified requirements○ High stability

- Fast transient response, and
- Good steady-state performance.



4. Stability Test for Electronic Systems Self-loop Function in A Transfer Function

Linear system



Transfer function

$$H(\omega) = \frac{V_{out}(\omega)}{V_{in}(\omega)} = \frac{A(\omega)}{1 + L(\omega)}$$

○ Polar chart → Nyquist chart
 ○ Magnitude-frequency plot
 ○ Angular-frequency plot
 ○ Magnitude-angular diagram → Nichols diagram

Model of a linear system

$$H(\boldsymbol{\omega}) = \frac{b_0(j\omega)^n + \dots + b_{n-1}(j\omega) + b_n}{a_0(j\omega)^n + \dots + a_{n-1}(j\omega) + a_n}$$

 $A(\omega)$: Open loop function $H(\omega)$: Transfer function $L(\omega)$: Self-loop function Variable: angular frequency (ω)

4. Stability Test for Electronic Systems Behaviors of 2nd-Order Transfer Function



4. Stability Test for Electronic Systems Behaviors of 2nd-Order Self-loop Function

•Under-damping:
$$L_1(\omega) = (j\omega)^2 + j\omega;$$

•Critical damping: $L_2(\omega) = (j\omega)^2 + 2j\omega;$
•Over-damping: $L_3(\omega) = (j\omega)^2 + 3j\omega;$

Nyquist chart of self-loop function





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4. Stability Test for Electronic Systems Operating Regions of 2nd-Order System

Under-damping Critical damping Over-damping 5dB **OdB** 0dB -5dB 6dB Magnitude (dB) -10dB -15dB -12dB -20dB -25dB -30dB -35dB -40dB 100mHz 1Hz 10Hz 10mHz Frequency (Hz)

Magnitude response of transfer function

Transient response



Magnitude-angular response of self-loop function



Over-damping:

→Phase margin is 88 degrees. Critical damping:

→Phase margin is 76.3 degrees.
Under-damping:

 \rightarrow Phase margin is 52 degrees.

4. Stability Test for Electronic Systems Alternating Current Conservation for Passive Networks

Transfer function

$$H(\omega) = \frac{V_{out}(\omega)}{V_{in}(\omega)} = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{Z_{in}}{Z_{out}}}$$

$$\Rightarrow L(\omega) = \frac{Z_{in}}{Z_{out}};$$



Simplified linear system

Self-loop function $\frac{V_{inc}}{Z_{in}} = -\frac{V_{trans}}{Z_{out}} \Longrightarrow L(\omega) = -\frac{V_{inc}}{V_{trans}} = \frac{Z_{in}}{Z_{out}}$



10 mH inductance



Derivation of self-loop function

4. Stability Test for Electronic Systems Stability Test for 2rd-Order Passive RLC LPF



4. Stability Test for Electronic Systems **Stability Test for 2rd-Order Active Ladder LPF**

Active ladder low-pass filter



Transfer function

-5

-10

-15

-20

-25

-30

-35

-40

1 kHz

Magnitude (dB)



Frequency (Hz)

100 kHz

10 kHz

1 MHz





Implemented circuit



Self-loop function

 $L(\omega) = a_0 (j\omega)^2 + a_1 j\omega;$

4. Stability Test for Electronic Systems Alternating Current Conservation for Active Networks



4. Stability Test for Electronic Systems Analysis of Shunt-Shunt Feedback Amplifier



Apply superposition at the nodes V_{π} and V_{out} , we have

$$V_{\pi}\left(\frac{1}{R_{s}} + \frac{1}{r_{\pi}} + \frac{1}{Z_{C\pi}} + \frac{1}{R_{F}} + \frac{1}{Z_{C\mu}}\right) = \frac{V_{in}}{R_{s}} + \frac{V_{out}}{Z_{C\mu}}; \quad V_{out}\left(\frac{1}{Z_{C\mu}} + \frac{1}{Z_{CCS}} + \frac{1}{R_{c}} + \frac{1}{r_{o}}\right) = V_{\pi}\left(\frac{1}{Z_{C\mu}} + \frac{1}{R_{F}} - g_{m}\right);$$

Transfer function $H(\omega)$ and self-loop function $L(\omega)$

$$H(\omega) = \frac{V_{out}}{V_{in}} = \frac{b_0 j\omega + b_1}{a_0 (j\omega)^2 + a_1 j\omega + 1}; \quad L(\omega) = j\omega [a_0 j\omega + a_1]$$

Where,
$$b_0 = R_L C_{GD1}; b_1 = -R_L g_{m1}; a_0 = R_S R_L (C_{GD1} C_{GS1} + C_{GD1} C_{DB1} + C_{DB1} C_{GS1});$$

 $a_1 = R_L (C_{GD1} + C_{DB1}) + R_S (C_{GS1} + C_{GD1}) + R_S R_L g_{m1} C_{GD1};$
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4. Stability Test for Electronic Systems Stability Test of Shunt-Shunt Feedback Amplifier



4. Stability Test for Electronic Systems Analysis of Op Amp without Miller's Capacitor



Small signal model



Transfer function $H(\omega)$ and self-loop function $L(\omega)$

$$H(\omega) = \frac{b_0 j\omega + b_1}{a_0 (j\omega)^2 + a_1 j\omega + 1};$$
$$L(\omega) = a_0 (j\omega)^2 + a_1 j\omega$$

Where,

$$b_{0} = R_{D}R_{S} \Big[\Big(C_{GD} + C_{DB} \Big) \Big(C_{GS} + C_{GD} \Big) - C_{GD}^{2} \Big]$$

$$b_{1} = \Big[R_{D} \Big(C_{GD} + C_{DB} \Big) + R_{S} \Big(C_{GS} + C_{GD} \Big) + R_{D}R_{S}g_{m}C_{GD} \Big]$$

$$a_{0} = R_{D}C_{GD}; a_{1} = -R_{D}g_{m};$$
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4. Stability Test for Electronic Systems Stability Test of Op Amp without Miller's Capacitor



4. Stability Test for Electronic Systems Unity-Gain Amplifier without Miller's Capacitor

Unity-Gain Amplifier









4. Stability Test for Electronic Systems Two-stage Op Amp with Frequency Compensation



Small signal model



Transfer function H(ω)

$$H(\omega) = \frac{b_0 (j\omega)^3 + b_1 (j\omega)^2 + b_2 j\omega + b_3}{a_0 (j\omega)^4 + a_1 (j\omega)^3 + a_2 (j\omega)^2 + a_3 j\omega + 1};$$

Self-loop function $L(\omega)$

$$L(\omega) = a_0 (j\omega)^4 + a_1 (j\omega)^3 + a_2 (j\omega)^2 + a_3 j\omega$$

4. Stability Test for Electronic Systems Behaviors of Op Amp with Frequency Compensation



Under-damping: R1= 2 k Ω , C1 = 1 pF Critical damping: R1 = 3.5 k Ω , C1 = 0.2 pF Over-damping:

R1 = $3.5 \text{ k}\Omega$, C1 = 0.8 pF



Nichols plot of self-loop function $L(\omega)$



4. Stability Test for Electronic Systems Stability Test for Op Amp with Miller's Capacitor



4. Stability Test for Electronic Systems Stability Test for 3rd-Order Sallen-Key LPF

Transfer function

$$H(\omega) = \frac{b_0}{a_0(j\omega)^3 + a_1(j\omega)^2 + a_2j\omega + 1};$$

Self-loop function

$$L(\omega) = a_0 (j\omega)^3 + a_1 (j\omega)^2 + a_2 j\omega;$$

Derivation of self-loop function



Single ended 3rd -order Sallen-Key LPF



Implemented circuit



4. Stability Test for Electronic Systems Measurement Results of 3rd-order Sallen-Key LPF

Bode plot of transfer function Over-damping Critical damping Under-damping 0.5dB 0 6dB -10 Magnitude (dB) -20 -16dB -30 -40 1 kHz 10 kHz 20 kHz Frequency (Hz)

Transient response



Nichols plot of self-loop function



Over-damping: →Phase margin is 77 degrees. Critical damping: →Phase margin is 70 degrees. Under-damping:

 \rightarrow Phase margin is 64 degrees.

5. Conclusions

This work:

- Investigation of system noise: image noise, ripple noise, and ringing noise
- Proposal of superposition formula for deriving transfer function in multi-source networks
- Derivation of transfer function and image rejection ratio for high-order polyphase filters and complex filters in all frequency domain
- Flat pass-band gain for 4th-order polyphase filter using two RC band-stop filters
- Implementations of 4th-order polyphase filter and 6th-order quadrature signal generation network.
- Ripple reduction for DC-DC buck converter using linear swept frequency modulation, and LC notch harmonic filter

5. Conclusions

- Implementation of a DC-DC buck converter with LC notch harmonic filter
- Proposal of an alternating current conservation for deriving self-loop function in feedback networks
- Stability test for feedback amplifier networks: shunt-shunt feedback amplifier, two-stage op amp with and without frequency compensation
- Stability test for filter networks: RLC low-pass filter, active ladder low-pass filter, 3-order Sallen-Key low-pass filter

Future of work:

- Stability test for parasitic components in transmission lines, printed circuit boards, physical layout layers
- Investigation of I/Q mismatches and DC offsets in multiphase networks







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Thank you very much!







