EE 508 Lecture 33

Leapfrog Networks

Filter Design/Synthesis Approaches Review from last lecture

Cascaded Biquads

Leapfrog

Multiple-loop Feedback – One type shown

Leapfrog Filters

Introduced by Girling and Good, Wireless World, 1970

This structure has some very attractive properties and is widely used though the real benefits and limitations of the structure are often not articulated

Leapfrog Filters

Observation: This structure appears to be dramatically different than anything else ever reported and it is not intuitive why this structure would serve as a filter, much less, have some unique and very attractive properties

To understand how the structure arose, why it has attractive properties, and to identify limitations, some mathematical background is necessary

Background Information for Leapfrog Filters

Assume the impedance R_{S} is fixed

```
Theorem 1: If the LC network delivers maximum power to the load at 
a frequency ω, then
for any circuit element in the system except for x = R_L\textsf{S}^{\scriptscriptstyle{|\mathsf{T}(\mathsf{j}\omega)|}}=0
```
This theorem will be easy to prove after we prove the following theorem:

Implications of Theorem 1

Many passive LC filters such as that shown below exist that have near maximum power transfer in the passband

If a component in the LC network changes a little, there is little change in the passband gain characteristics (depicted as bandpass)

Implications of Theorem 1

If a component in a biquad changes a little, there is often a large change in the passband gain characteristics (depicted as bandpass)

Implications of Theorem 1

Good doubly-terminated LC networks often much less sensitive to most component values in the passband than are cascaded biquads !

This is a major advantage of the LC networks but can not be applied practically in most integrated applications or even in pc-board based designs

Doubly-terminated Ladder Network with Low Passband Sensitivities

For components in the LC Network observe

$$
Y_k = \frac{1}{sL_k} \qquad Z_k = \frac{1}{sC_k}
$$

Doubly-terminated Ladder Network with Low Passband Sensitivities

$$
I_1 = (V_0 - V_2) Y_1
$$

\n
$$
V_2 = (I_1 - I_3) Z_2
$$

\n
$$
I_3 = (V_2 - V_4) Y_3
$$

\n
$$
V_4 = (I_3 - I_5) Z_4
$$

\n
$$
I_5 = (V_4 - V_6) Y_5
$$

\n
$$
V_6 = (I_5 - I_7) Z_6
$$

\n
$$
I_7 = (V_6 - V_8) Y_7
$$

\n
$$
V_8 = I_7 Z_8
$$

Complete set of independent equations that characterize this filter

Solution of this set of equations is tedious

All sensitivity properties of this circuit are inherently embedded in these equations!

$$
I_{1} = (V_{0} - V_{2})Y_{1}
$$
\n
$$
V_{2} = (I_{1} - I_{3})Z_{2}
$$
\n
$$
I_{3} = (V_{2} - V_{4})Y_{3}
$$
\n
$$
V_{4} = (I_{3} - I_{5})Z_{4}
$$
\n
$$
I_{5} = (V_{4} - V_{6})Y_{5}
$$
\n
$$
V_{6} = (I_{5} - I_{7})Z_{6}
$$
\n
$$
I_{7} = (V_{6} - V_{8})Y_{7}
$$
\n
$$
V_{8} = I_{7}Z_{8}
$$
\nRewrite the equations as\n
$$
V_{1} = (V_{0} - V_{2})Y_{1}
$$
\n
$$
V_{2} = (V_{1} - V_{3})Z_{2}
$$
\n
$$
V_{3} = (V_{2} - V_{4})Y_{3}
$$
\n
$$
V_{4} = (V_{3} - V_{5})Z_{4}
$$
\n
$$
V_{5} = (V_{4} - V_{6})Y_{5}
$$
\n
$$
V_{6} = (V_{5} - V_{7})Z_{6}
$$
\n
$$
V_{7} = (V_{6} - V_{8})Y_{7}
$$
\n
$$
V_{8} = V_{7}Z_{8}
$$

Make the associations

This association is nothing more than a renaming of variables so all sensitivities WRT Y's and Z's will remain unchanged!

$$
V_1 = (V_0 - V_2)Y_1
$$

\n
$$
V_2 = (V_1 - V_3)Z_2
$$

\n
$$
V_3 = (V_2 - V_4)Y_3
$$

\n
$$
V_4 = (V_3 - V_5)Z_4
$$

\n
$$
V_5 = (V_4 - V_6)Y_5
$$

\n
$$
V_6 = (V_5 - V_7)Z_6
$$

\n
$$
V_7 = (V_6 - V_8)Y_7
$$

\n
$$
V_8 = V_7Z_8
$$

For the LC filter, recall

And the source and load termination relationships were

$$
Y_1 = \frac{1}{R_1} \qquad Z_8 = R_8
$$

These can be written as

$$
V_1 = (V_0 - V_2) \frac{1}{R_1}
$$

\n
$$
V_2 = (V_1 - V_3) \frac{1}{sC_2}
$$

\n
$$
V_3 = (V_2 - V_4) \frac{1}{sL_3}
$$

\n
$$
V_4 = (V_3 - V_5) \frac{1}{sC_4}
$$

\n
$$
V_5 = (V_4 - V_6) \frac{1}{sL_5}
$$

\n
$$
V_6 = (V_5 - V_7) \frac{1}{sC_6}
$$

\n
$$
V_7 = (V_6 - V_8) \frac{1}{sL_7}
$$

\n
$$
V_8 = V_7 R_8
$$

Observe that in the new parameter domain the set of intermediate equations all look like integrator functions if the primed and unprimed variables are all voltages !

Observe that in the new parameter domain the intermediate equations all look like integrator functions if the primed and unprimed variables are all voltages !

If any circuit is characterized by these equations, the sensitivities to the integrator gains will be identical to the sensitivities of the original circuit to the Ls and Cs !

Each equation corresponds to either an integrator or summer with the output voltage output variables and the gain indicated (don't worry about the units)

$$
V_0 = \frac{1}{\frac{R_1}{R_1}} - \frac{1}{V_1} \frac{1}{sC_2} - \frac{1}{V_2} \frac{1}{sL_3} - \frac{1}{V_3} \frac{1}{sC_4} - \frac{1}{V_4} \frac{1}{sL_5} - \frac{1}{V_5} \frac{1}{sC_6} - \frac{1}{V_6} \frac{1}{sL_7} - \frac{1}{V_7} \frac{1}{R_8} - V_8
$$

$$
V_0 = V_{in}
$$

The interconnections that complete each equation can now be added

The Leapfrog Configuration

Input summing and weighting can occur at input to the first integrator The difference between V_8 and $\mathsf{V'}_7$ is only a scale factor that does not affect shape, and the weighting on the Vin input also does not affect shape, thus

The Leapfrog Configuration

The terminations on both sides have local feedback around an integrator which can be alternately viewed as a lossy integrator

Could redraw the structure as a cascade of internal lossless integrators with terminations that are lossy integrators but since there are so many different ways to implement the integrators and summers, we will not attempt to make that association in the block diagram form but in most practical applications a lossy integrator is often used on the input or the output or both

Consider the first two stages:

These two blocks act as a single summing lossy integrator block with loss factor R_1

These two blocks act as a lossy integrator block with loss factor R_n

Implementation with Miller Integrators:

Implementation with OTA-C Integrators:

Implementation with OTA-C Integrators:

For 1 Ω source termination this simplifies to:

Can fix either g_m or C on each stage (showing here for $g_m=1$)

Implementation with OTA-C Integrators:

For 1 Ω load termination this simplifies to:

The Leapfrog Configuration

In the general case, this can be redrawn as shown below

Note the first and last integrators become lossy because of the local feedback

The Leapfrog Configuration

The passive prototype filter from which the leapfrog was designed has all shunt capacitors and all series inductors and is thus lowpass.

The resultant leapfrog filter has the same transfer function and is thus lowpass

Doubly-terminated LC filters with near maximum power transfer in the passband were developed from the 30's to the 60's

Seldom discussed in current texts but older texts and occasionally software tools provide the passive structures needed to synthesize leapfrog networks

One good book is that by Zverev

The Butterworth Low-Pass Filters

Can do Thevenin-Norton Transformations

Normalized so R_L =1

Example:

Design a 6th-order BW lowpass Leapfrog filter with equal source and load terminations, and with a 3dB band edge of 4KHz.

Start with the normalized BW lowpass filter

Do Norton to Thevenin transformation at input

R_s=1, C₁=.5176, L₂=1.414, C₃=1.939, L₄=1.9319, C₅=1.4142, L₆=0.5176

Note index differs by 1 from that used for Leapfrog formulation

Labeled voltages are single-ended voltages at "+" inputs to the integrators

Changing the index notation:

R₁=1, C₂=.5176, L₃=1.414, C₄=1.939, L₅=1.9319, C₆=1.4142, L₇=0.5176

Implement in the technology of choice

Combine loss on input and output integrators to eliminate two stages

Do frequency denormalization to obtain band-edge at 4KHz

Do impedance scaling to obtain acceptable component values

Bandpass Leapfrog Structures

Consider lowpass to bandpass transformations

Bandpass Leapfrog Structures

Bandpass Leapfrog Structure obtained by replacing integrators by the corresponding transformed block

Zero sensitivity to parameters in the transformed blocks will be retained at the image frequencies of the bandpass filter

$$
s_n \to \frac{s^2 + \omega_0^2}{sBW}
$$

$$
\frac{1}{s_n} \to \frac{sBW}{s^2 + \omega_0^2} \qquad \qquad \frac{1}{s_n + \alpha} \to \frac{sBW}{s^2 + s\alpha BW + \omega_0^2}
$$

Integrators map to bandpass biquads with infinite Q

Lossy integrators map to bandpass biquads with finite Q

Bandpass Leapfrog Structures

Bandpass Leapfrog Structure obtained by replacing integrators by the corresponding transformed block

Zero sensitivity to parameters in the transformed blocks will be retained at the image frequencies of the bandpass filter

$$
\frac{1}{s_n} \to \frac{sBW}{s^2 + \omega_0^2}
$$

$$
\frac{1}{s_n + \alpha} \rightarrow \frac{sBW}{s^2 + s\alpha BW + \omega_0^2}
$$

Integrators map to bandpass biquads with infinite Q

Lossy integrators map to bandpass biquads with finite Q

Invariably the resistance spread or the capacitance spread increases with Q

- Does this imply that the area will get very large if Q gets large?
- But what about infinite Q?
- Will infinite Q biquads be unstable?
- Is this a problem ?

Stay Safe and Stay Healthy !

End of Lecture 33