

E344 Assignment 3

Abraham Albertus Cilliers 23252162

Report submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements of the module

Design (E) 344 for the degree Baccalaureus in Engineering in the Department of Electrical

and Electronic Engineering at Stellenbosch University.



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23252162	Willies
Studentenommer / Student number	Handtekening / Signature
AA. Cilliers	August 28, 2021
Voorletters en van / Initials and surname	Datum / Date

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Nomenclature

Variables and functions

Acronyms and abbreviations

MOSFET Metal Oxide Semiconductor Field Effect Transistors

OC Open Circuit

LED light-emitting diode

Op Amp Operational Amplifier

Chapter 1

Fuse

1.1. Literature

A fuse is an electrical device that is use for saftety purposes in order to protect against overcurrent. It consists of a metal wire or strip that conducts current, but melts when too much current flows through it, thus disconnecting the circuit and stopping current from flowing between the two points where the fuse was connected. Fuses are rated according to a maximum continuous current that the fuse can conduct without melting. The fuse also has a maximum voltage rating, which needs to be greater than what would become open circuit (OC) voltage, otherwise an arc may occur. Fuse ratings change according to the operational temperature of the enclosure or area in which the fuse is situated. The fuse is then re-rated according to a re-rating curve of rated current vs ambient temperature as seen in figure B.1. The time it will take for a fuse to blow is determined by it's time-current characteristics as shown in figure B.2. Thus, the higher the ambient temperature the lower the fuses's rated current and the lower the required time to blow.

1.2. Design

The load which our battery will have to power will consist of 5 ultra-bright light-emitting diodes (LEDs), which will draw 100mA in total. We will also allow for 50mA of headroom in order to power some other things in our circuit like the 5V voltage regulator. The maximum current that will enter our battery is during charging which is designed as 400mA and is thus the maximum current our fuse should be able to continuously handle. Fuses should only be operated at around 75% of their rated value [2]. Our fuse will typically operate in an enclosure which will be in direct sunlight, thus we need to take temperature rerating into account. Assuming an ambient temperature of 45°C, our fuse has a temperature rerating factor of around 97% [1]. The recommended fuse size can thus be calculated as:

$$Ideal\ Fuse\ Rating = \frac{Nominal\ Operating\ Current}{Temp\ Rerating\ Factor \times 0.75} = \frac{400mA}{0.97 \times 0.75} = 0.55A$$

The next available fuse size should therefore be chosen, thus we will pick a 1A fuse. If something happens and there is a short circuit and the battery discharges 10A or more through the load the fuse will break in 0.01s as seen in figure B.2, thus protecting the circuit from damage.

Chapter 2

Undervoltage battery protection

2.1. Literature

Do Still

Here you can include stuff you learnt that you will use in the design - e.g. operational amplifiers as comparators, hysteresis, rail-to-rail comparators. If you feel there was nothing you had to learn to do this, feel free to leave this section out.

2.2. Overview

The circuit consists of two main parts, undervoltage protection section and the voltage regulator. As seen in figure 2.1 the circuit receives an input from the node "A2 Output", which is the charging voltage as designed in A2. The voltage regulator used is the LM2940 5V voltage regulator which takes input from the battery and provides a constant 5V output. Three operational amplifiers (Op Amps) together with a high-side switch are used to implement the undervoltage protection circuit. The main Op Amp implements a schmitt trigger comparator with hysteresis. The output from the last Op Amp is either a 5V or 0V signal and is used to turn the PMOS MOSFET on or off to allow the battery to discharge or stop discharging.

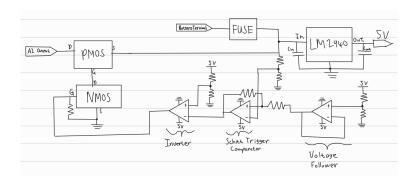


Figure 2.1: Conceptual Block Diagram Of Circuit

2.3. 5V rail

Our circuit needs a constant 5V output to power various elements such as the Op Amps. In order to achieve this a constant 5V regulator was implemented. The regulator chosen was the LM2940 regulator rather than the LM7805 because the LM2940 voltage regulator has a lower minimum input (6V) and a lower minimum voltage dropout (0.5V) [3]. The LM7805

regulator has a minimum dropout voltage of 2V [4] and thus it will not be able to provide constant voltage regulation across the whole battery voltage range. The maximum output current of the LM2940 regulator is 1A [3].

2.4. High-side switch

In order to design a high-side switch that uses logic level voltages (0-5V or 0-3.3V) we need to make use of a complementary pair of PMOS and NMOS MOSFETs. Pullup resistor R3 is added to keep to p-channel MOSFET off in unknown floating voltage states and to provide a large enough voltage drop over V_{gs} in order to fully turn the PMOS on when required. Similarly a pulldown resistor R4 is added to the gate of the n-channel MOSFET to keep it off in unknown states. Resistor R3 in figure 2.2 is also used to limit the amount of current that flows through the n-channel MOSFET. If the voltage output from the Schmitt Trigger (at node V NMOSGate) is at a high of 5V the n-channel MOSFET will be turned on, thus pulling the gate of the p-channel MOSFET to ground and turning it on. According to the 2N7000 n-channel MOSFET datasheet [5] the maximum current that can flow through the drain-source channel is 200mA, thus the minimum resistor value for R3 can be calculated as:

$$R3_{min} = \frac{7.8V}{200mA}$$
$$R3_{min} = 39\Omega$$

This value was designed for extremities and would most likely not work in the physical circuit as it is a very small resistor and it is the minimum resistance value that R3 can be, I chose a value of $100k\Omega$ as a design choice.

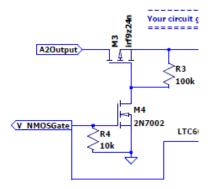


Figure 2.2: Circuit Diagram of High-Side Switch Portion

2.5. Voltage monitoring with hysteresis design

Do Still

Explain your design of the comparator with hysteresis, taking into account things like common

mode voltages, differential voltages, input-to-rail voltages, hysteresis deadband, resistor values and current consumption, etc.

2.6. Circuit diagram

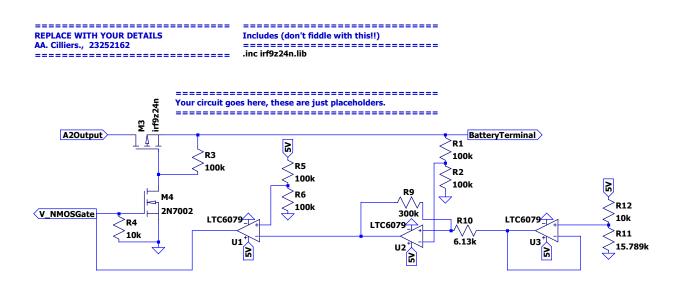


Figure 2.3: Full Circuit Diagram of Undervoltage Protection and Voltage Regulator

2.7. Results

Do Physcial Measurements Part Still

Here you include your simulation results and your measured results. For the measured results, it would be most beneficial to show on the same oscilloscope screen-grab (or CSV plot), how the switch went through the stages of the hysteresis loop (similar to what you had to do for the video). You are welcome to use subplots to save space.

Figure 2.4 shows the output of the simulated circuit where V(batteryterminal) is the voltage at the battery terminals and I(Rsensebattery) is the output current through the battery terminal and V(NMOSGate) is the output voltage from the schmitt trigger at the gate of the NMOS MOSFET. As shown the circuit is discharging when the battery voltage is higher than 6.2, this can be seen be the negative current of I(Rsensebattery) and stops discharging when the battery voltage is lower than 6V.

Figure 2.5 shows that the 5V regulator only draws around $849\mu A$, which meets the requirement that it should not draw more than 10mA.

Figure 2.6 shows that the circuit switches in 7.84ms after a threshold is exceeded, which is below the requirement of 10ms.

Thus this design is working as intended and meets all the requirements during the simulation.

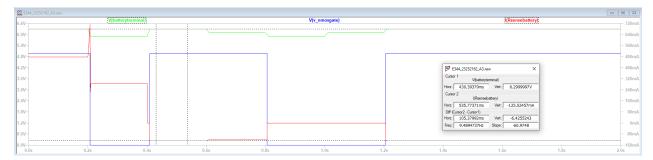


Figure 2.4: Output Graph of LTSpice Simulation Showing Voltage Switching and Discharge Current

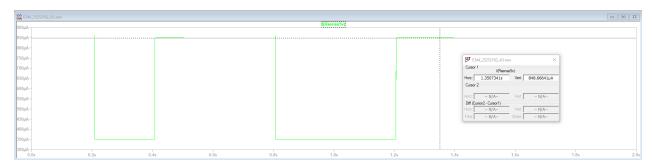


Figure 2.5: Output Graph of LTSpice Simulation Showing Current Used by 5V Regulator

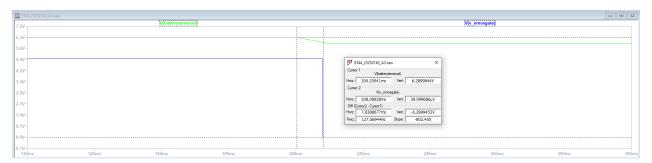


Figure 2.6: Output Graph of LTSpice Simulation Showing Voltage Switching Time

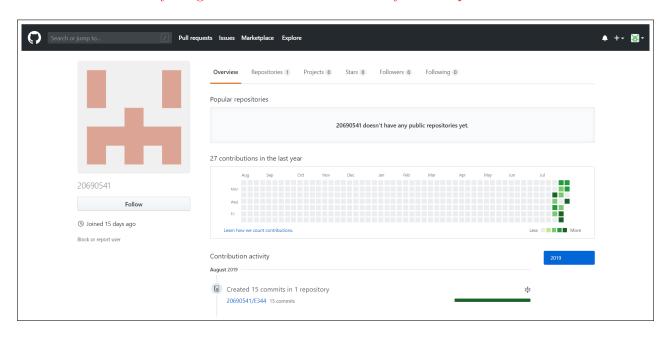
Bibliography

- [1] ATOF BLADE FUSE RATED 32V, ATOF BLADE FUSE RATED 32V datasheet, Littelfuse, 2012.
- [2] FUSEOLOGY, FUSEOLOGY, Littelfuse, 2012.
- [3] LM2940x 1-A Low Dropout Regulator, LM2940x Datasheet, Texas Instruments.
- [4] $\mu A7800$ SERIES POSITIVE-VOLTAGE REGULATORS, LM7805 Datasheet, Texas Instruments.
- N-Channel Enhancement Mode Field Effect Transistor, 2N7000 / 2N7002 / NDS7002A
 Datasheet, ON Semiconductors.

Appendix A

GitHub Activity Heatmap

Take a screenshot of your github version control activity heatmap and insert here.



Appendix B

Additional Figures

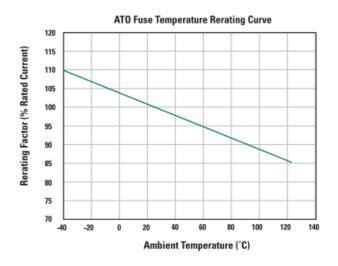


Figure B.1: Temperature Rerating Curve [1]

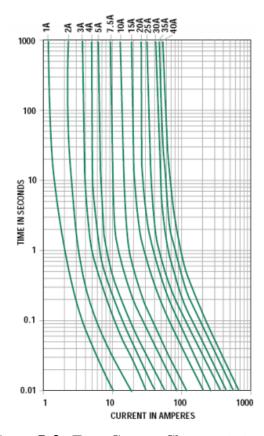


Figure B.2: Time-Current Characteristics [1]