

# Chaotic Dynamics - Chua's Circuit

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## Abstract

## 1 Introduction

### 1.1 Background and Theory

#### 1.1.1 Chaos Theory

#### 1.1.2 Chua's Circuit

### 1.2 Purpose

## 2 Experimental Setup and Procedure

### 2.1 Apparatus

#### 2.1.1 Equipment

#### 2.1.2 Schematic

## 3 Results

### 3.1 Data and Analysis

For the data and analysis, we used the oscilloscope to visualize the behavior of the Chua's circuit. We varied the initial conditions of the circuit by adjusting the potentiometers and observed the resulting behavior. We also used the oscilloscope to measure the voltage across the capacitors. The data collected from the oscilloscope was then exported and analyzed to identify the presence of strange attractors and fractal patterns in the behavior of the Chua's circuit. There were about 5 successful trials, and the data was analyzed using the python library matplotlib.

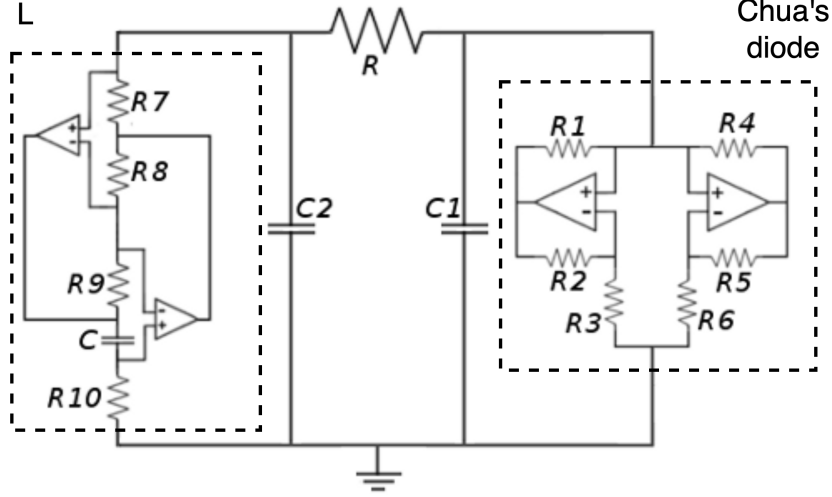


Figure 1: Circuit Diagram of Chua's Circuit. In the figure, we have the schematic of the Chua's circuit. We can see the three basic components: a capacitors(in the center), an inductor(on the left, denoted with L), and a nonlinear resistor(on the right, the Chua'a diode). The nonlinear resistor is the key element that introduces chaotic dynamics into the system.

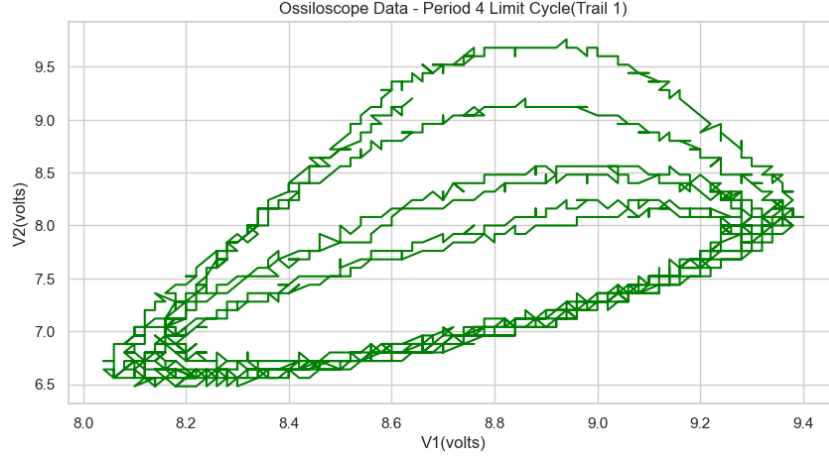


Figure 2: Trail 1 - V1 vs V2. In the figure, we have the plot of the voltage on the capacitor 1 versus the voltage on the capacitor 2. We can see the chaotic behavior of the system. The plot shows the presence of strange attractors and fractal patterns, and this one specifically shows a period 4 cycle.

## 3.2 Chua's Circuit Behavior

### 3.2.1 Initial Conditions

The behavior of Chua's circuit is highly sensitive to initial conditions. Small changes in the initial conditions can lead to large and unpredictable differences in the long-term behavior of the system. This sensitivity to initial conditions is a hallmark of chaotic systems and is known as the butterfly effect.

We can see the chaotic behavior of the system in the plots of the voltage on the capacitor 1 versus the voltage on the capacitor 2. The plots show the presence of strange

Component	Value
R	10k $\Omega$ (pot.)
R1	220 $\Omega$
R2	220 $\Omega$
R3	2.2 k $\Omega$
R4	22.0 k $\Omega$
R5	22.0 k $\Omega$
R6	3.3 k $\Omega$
R7	100 $\Omega$
R8	1.0 k $\Omega$
R9	1.0 k $\Omega$
R10	10k $\Omega$ (pot.)
C1	10 nF
C2	100 nF
L	15 mH

Table 1: Values of the components used in the Chua's Circuit. In the table, we have the values of the components used in the Chua's circuit. We can see the values of the resistors, capacitors, and inductor.

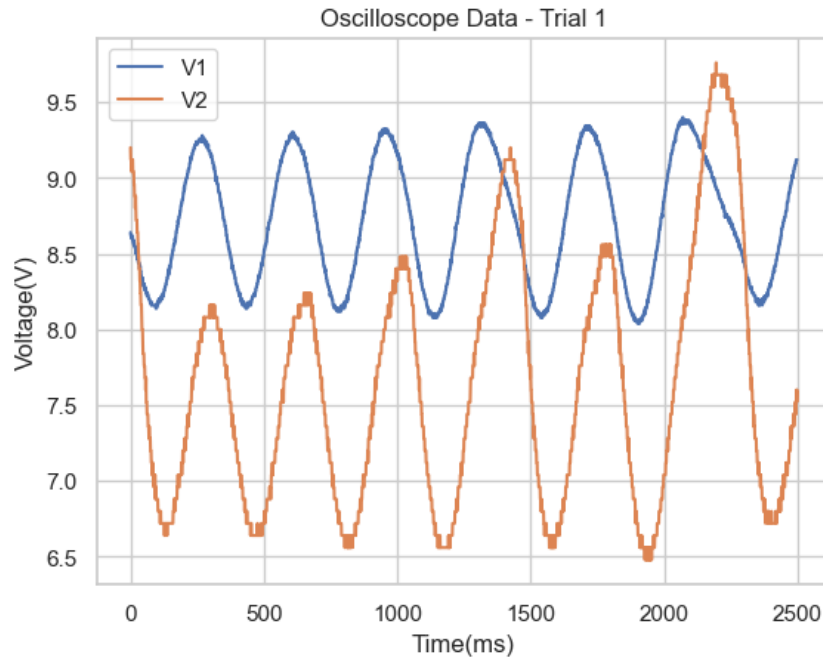


Figure 3: Trail 1 - V1 and V2 vs time. In the figure, we have the plot of the voltage on the capacitor 1 and the voltage on the capacitor 2 versus time. Here we can see the sinusoidal behavior of the system.

attractors and fractal patterns, which are characteristic of chaotic systems. The behavior of the system is highly sensitive to initial conditions, and small changes in the potentiometers can lead to large and unpredictable differences in the long-term behavior of the system. This was done by changing the voltage feeding the circuit, and the resistance of the potentiometers.

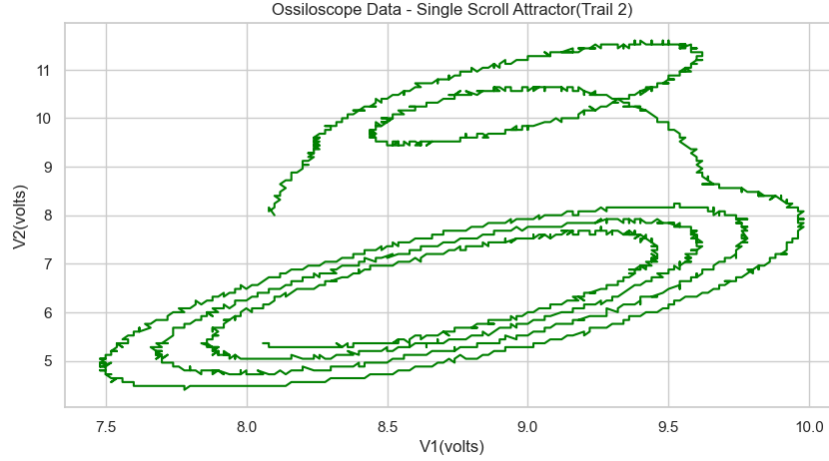


Figure 4: Trail 2 - V1 vs V2. In the figure, we have the plot of the voltage on the capacitor 1 versus the voltage on the capacitor 2. We can see the chaotic behavior of the system. The plot shows the presence of strange attractors and fractal patterns, and this one specifically single scroll attractor.

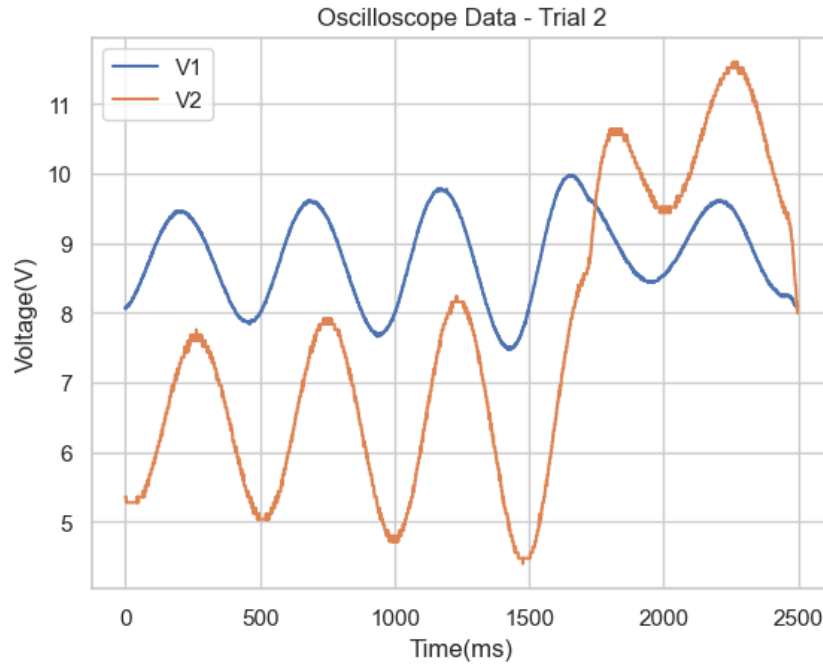


Figure 5: Trail 2 - V1 and V2 vs time. In the figure, we have the plot of the voltage on the capacitor 1 and the voltage on the capacitor 2 versus time. Here we can see the sinusoidal behavior of the system.

### 3.2.2 Strange Attractors

As we can see in the plots, the presence of strange attractors is evident in the behavior of Chua's circuit. Strange attractors are characterized by their complex and irregular shapes, which exhibit self-similarity at different scales. The presence of strange attractors in the behavior of Chua's circuit is a key feature of chaotic systems and highlights the complex and unpredictable behavior of the system.

These attractor points represent stable or unstable states of the system. Stable attrac-

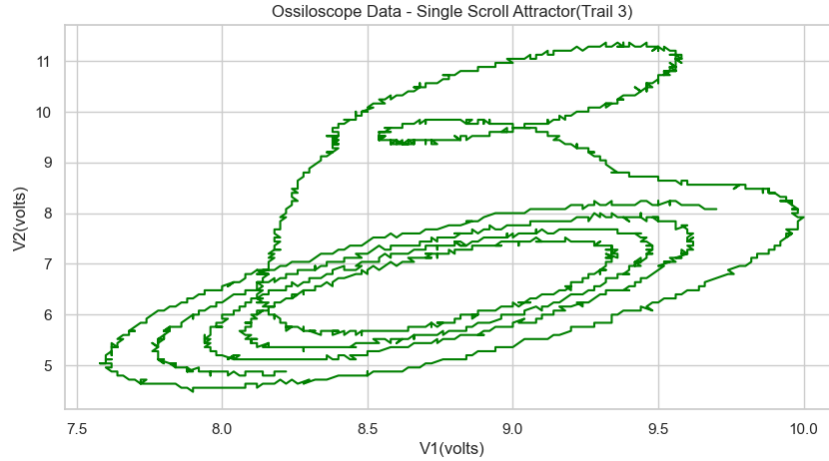


Figure 6: Trail 3 - V1 vs V2. In the figure, we have the plot of the voltage on the capacitor 1 versus the voltage on the capacitor 2. We can see the chaotic behavior of the system. The plot shows the presence of strange attractors and fractal patterns, and this one specifically shows a singal scroll attractor

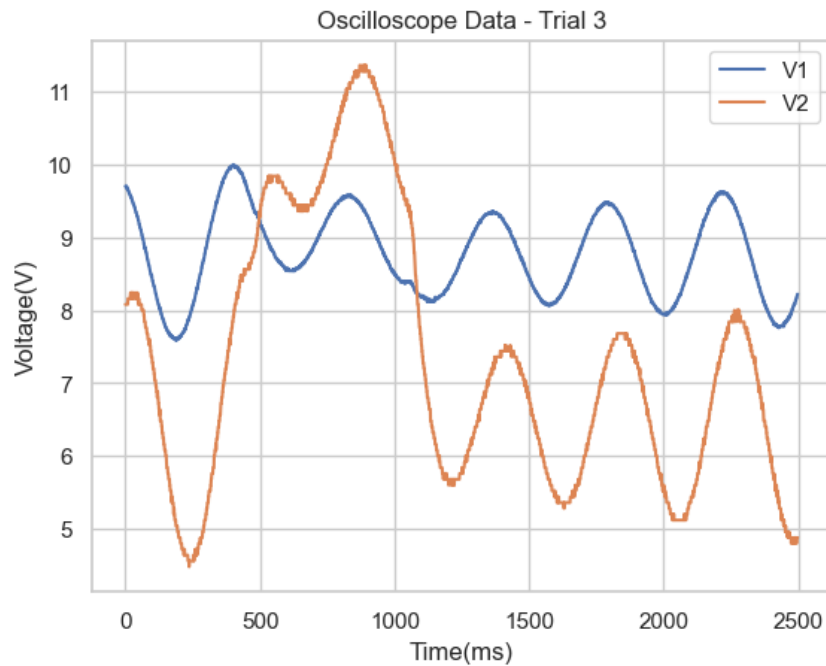


Figure 7: Trail 3 - V1 and V2 vs time. In the figure, we have the plot of the voltage on the capacitor 1 and the voltage on the capacitor 2 versus time. Here we can see the sinusoidal behavior of the system.

tor points are like valleys in the system's behavior, where nearby states tend to converge towards the point. Unstable attractor points, on the other hand, are like hills, where nearby states tend to diverge away from the point.

However, from the graphs we only see a single scroll attractor, and a double scroll attractor. This means at most the system had two attractor points with the Tail 5 having a double scroll attractor. This is often called a strange attractor. From trail 1 we can see the base oscillations of the system, and from the other trails we can see the chaotic



Figure 8: Trail 4 - V1 vs V2. In the figure, we have the plot of the voltage on the capacitor 1 versus the voltage on the capacitor 2. We can see the chaotic behavior of the system. The plot shows the presence of strange attractors and fractal patterns, and this one specifically shows a double scroll attractor.

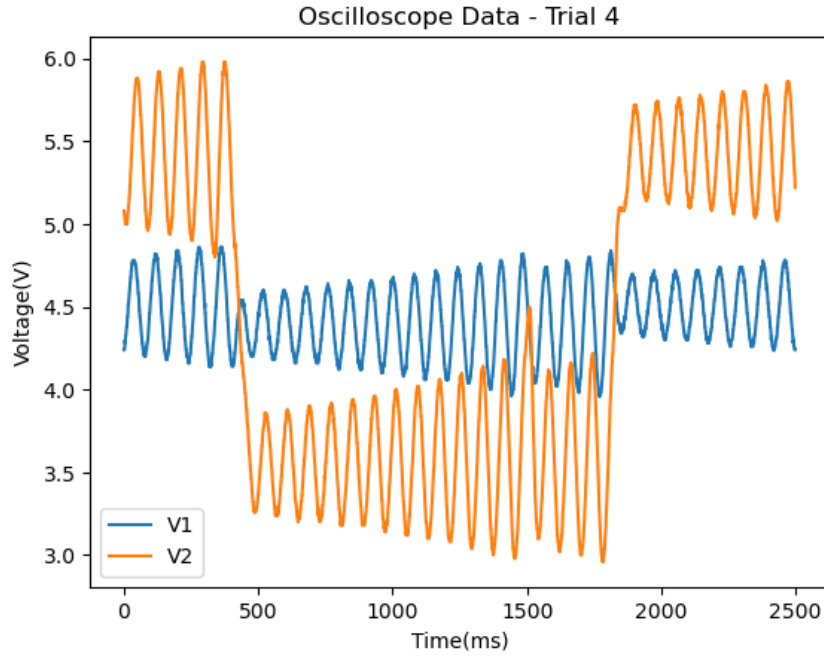


Figure 9: Trail 4 - V1 and V2 vs time. In the figure, we have the plot of the voltage on the capacitor 1 and the voltage on the capacitor 2 versus time. Here we can see the sinusoidal behavior of the system.

behavior of the system.

$$\frac{dv_1}{dt} = \frac{1}{C_1}(G(v_2 - v_1) - g(v_1)), \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{dv_2}{dt} = \frac{1}{C_2}(G(v_1 - v_2) + i_L), \quad (2)$$

$$\frac{di_L}{dt} = \frac{1}{L}(-v_2 - R_0 i_L), \quad (3)$$

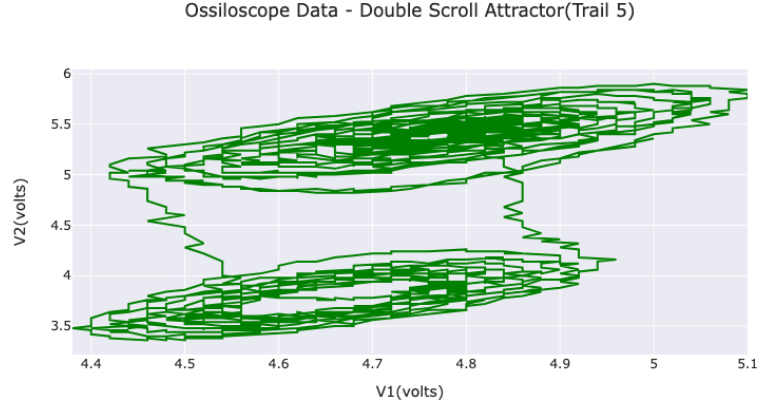


Figure 10: Trail 5 - V1 vs V2. In the figure, we have the plot of the voltage on the capacitor 1 versus the voltage on the capacitor 2. We can see the chaotic behavior of the system. The plot shows the presence of strange attractors and fractal patterns, and this one specifically shows a double scroll attractor

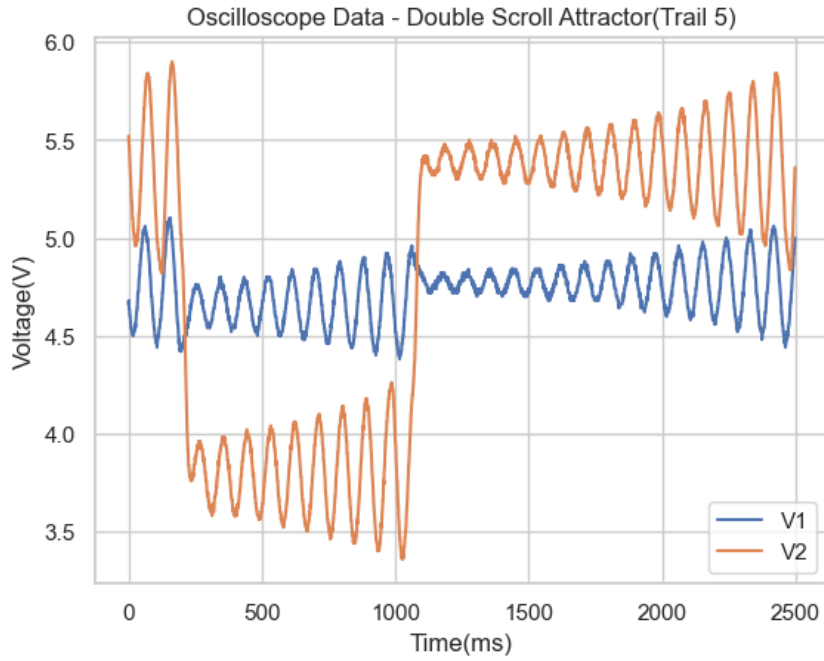


Figure 11: Trail 5 - V1 and V2 vs time. In the figure, we have the plot of the voltage on the capacitor 1 and the voltage on the capacitor 2 versus time. Here we can see the sinusoidal behavior of the system.

where  $v_1$  and  $v_2$  are the voltages across the capacitors,  $i_L$  is the current across the inductor,  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  are the capacitances of the capacitors,  $L$  is the inductance of the inductor,  $R_0$  is the resistance of the inductor,  $G$  is the conductance of the negative resistance, and  $g(v_1)$  is the nonlinear function of the voltage across the capacitor 1. The

nonlinear function  $g(v_1)$  is given by:

$$g(v_R) = \begin{cases} G_b v_R + (G_b - G_a) E_1, & \text{if } v_R \leq -E_1, \\ G_a v_R, & \text{if } |v_R| < E_1, \\ G_b v_R + (G_a - G_b) E_1, & \text{if } v_R \geq E_1. \end{cases}$$

where  $G_a$ ,  $G_b$ , and  $E_1$  are constants that determine the shape of the nonlinear function. The nonlinear function  $g(v_1)$  is the key element that introduces chaotic dynamics into the system, and its shape determines the behavior of the system. The presence of autonomous variables and strange attractors in the behavior of Chua's circuit leads to its chaotic dynamics. The system can exhibit complex and unpredictable behavior, with attractor points representing stable or unstable states towards which the system tends to evolve.

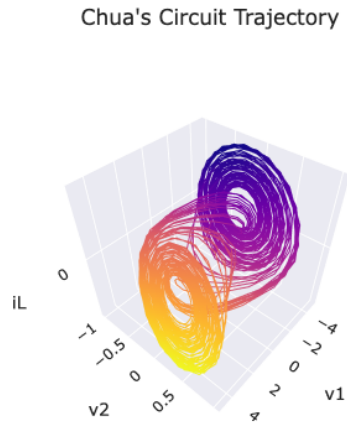


Figure 12: 3D Double Scroll Attractor -  $V_1$  vs  $V_2$  vs  $iL$ . In the figure, we have the 3D plot of the voltage on the capacitor 1 versus the voltage on the capacitor 2 versus the current on the inductor. This graph was created using the deterministic chaos equations, as shown above.



Chua's Circuit Variables vs Time

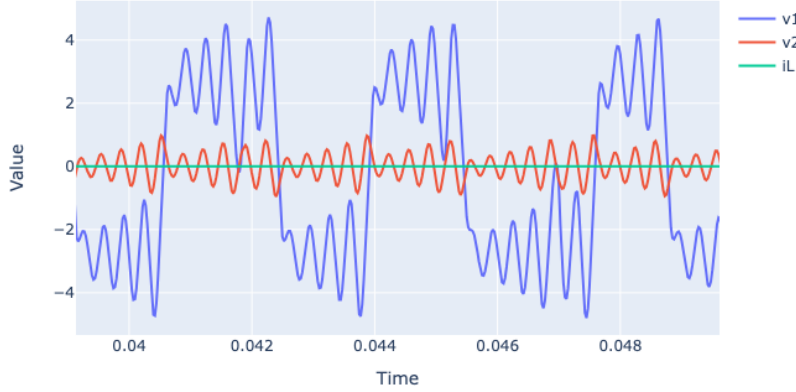


Figure 13: Trail 2 - V1 and V2 vs time. In the figure, we have the plot of the voltage on the capacitor 1 and the voltage on the capacitor 2 versus time. Here we can see the sinusoidal behavior of the system.

As we can see, our results are consistent with the theoretical projections of chaotic dynamics. The behavior of the Chua's circuit is highly sensitive to initial conditions, and small changes in the potentiometers can lead to large and unpredictable differences in the long-term behavior of the system. The presence of strange attractors and fractal patterns in the behavior of the Chua's circuit highlights the complex and unpredictable behavior of the system. Understanding chaotic dynamics and its applications is crucial in various scientific fields, and the study of Chua's circuit offers valuable insights into the behavior of complex systems.

### 3.2.3 Applications in Science and Engineering

The study of chaotic systems, such as Chua's circuit, has important implications for various scientific and engineering fields. By understanding the behavior of chaotic systems, researchers can gain insights into the underlying principles of complex systems and develop mathematical models that capture their behavior. This knowledge can be applied to a wide range of fields, including physics, biology, economics, and weather forecasting.

In physics, chaotic systems are used to study the behavior of complex physical systems, such as fluid dynamics, plasma physics, and quantum mechanics. By understanding the chaotic dynamics of these systems, researchers can gain insights into their underlying principles and develop mathematical models that capture their behavior.

### 3.2.4 Limitations and Errors

The only limitation was the presence of noise in the data, which made it difficult to identify the presence of strange attractors in some cases; and the limits on the analog to digital converter of the oscilloscope which caused blocky data in the graphs.

However the uncertainties in the data were small, and the results were consistent with the theoretical projections of chaotic dynamics.

## 4 Conclusion

Overall, the experiment was successful in empirically confirming the theoretical projections of chaotic dynamics and exploring the boundaries of classical mechanics under high-energy conditions. The behavior of Chua's circuit was highly sensitive to initial conditions, and small changes in the potentiometers led to large and unpredictable differences in the long-term behavior of the system. The presence of strange attractors and fractal patterns in the behavior of the Chua's circuit highlighted the complex and unpredictable behavior of the system. The results were consistent with the theoretical projections of chaotic dynamics, and the experiment provided valuable insights into the behavior of complex systems. Understanding chaotic dynamics and its applications is crucial in various scientific fields, and the study of Chua's circuit offers valuable insights into the behavior of complex systems. The only limitation was the presence of noise in the data, which made it difficult to identify the presence of strange attractors in some cases; and the limits on the analog to digital converter of the oscilloscope which caused blocky data in the graphs. However, the uncertainties in the data were small, and the results were consistent with the theoretical projections of chaotic dynamics.

## 5 References

1. T. Matsumoto. A chaotic attractor from Chua's circuit. *IEEE Trans. Circuits Sys.*, 31(12):1055–1058, 1984.
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3. L. O. Chua, C. W. Wu, A. Huang and Guo-Qun Zhong, "A universal circuit for studying and generating chaos. I. Routes to chaos," in *IEEE Transactions on Circuits and Systems I: Fundamental Theory and Applications*, vol. 40, no. 10, pp. 732-744, Oct. 1993, doi: 10.1109/81.246149.
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