Oscillator

- Oscillators are circuits that produce periodic waveforms without any input signal.
- Any signal generator whose output is periodic can be called an oscillator.
 although most frequently the word oscillator is reserved for a sinusoidal source.

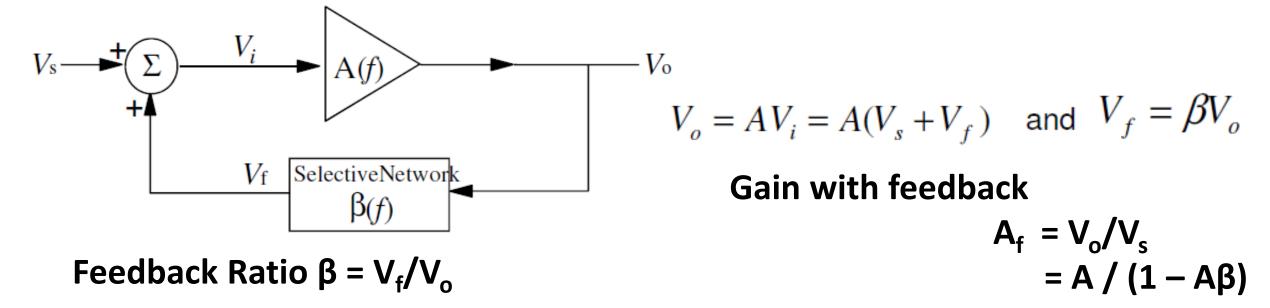
Applications:

- Local oscillator for radio receivers, mobile receivers, etc
- As a signal generators in the lab for testing.
- Square wave (Clock input) for analog-digital and digital-analog converters: Clock input for CPU, DSP chips.

Oscillator Requirement

An oscillator consists of:

- an amplifier and
- a positive feedback network
- 1. 'Active device' i.e. Opmp is used as an amplifier.
- 2. Passive components such as R-C or L-C combinations are used as feedback network.

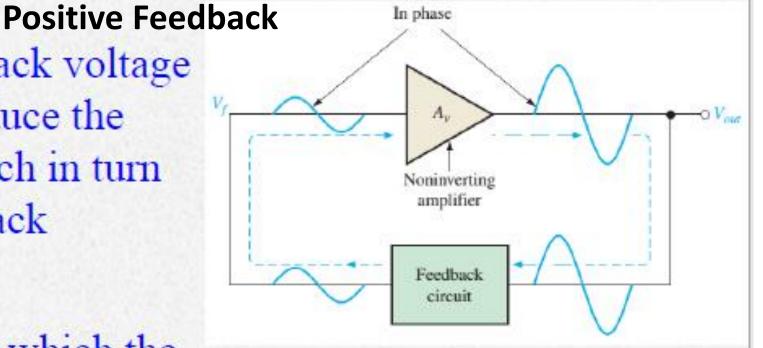


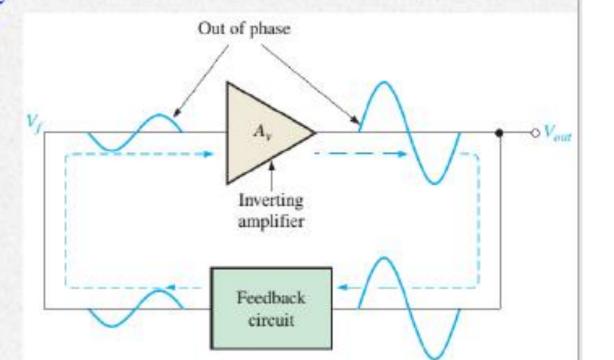
If $\beta A=1$ then $V_o = \infty$; Very high output with zero input.

☐ The in-phase feedback voltage is amplified to produce the output voltage, which in turn produces the feedback voltage.

A loop is created in which the signal maintains itself and a continuous sinusoidal output is produced.

☐ This phenomenon is called oscillation





BARKHAUSEN CRITERION FOR SUSTAINED OSCILLATIONS

- Magnitude of the loop gain (A_vβ) = 1, where, A_v = Amplifier gain and β = Feedback gain.
- 2. Phase shift around the loop must be 360° or 0°.

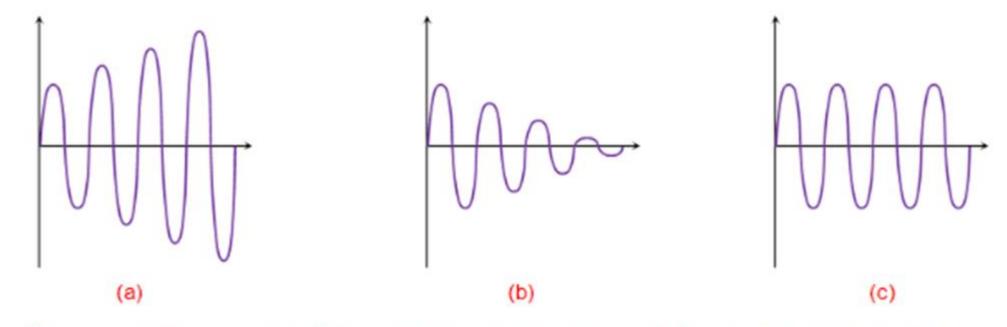


Figure (a) Increasing Oscillations (b) Decaying Oscillations (c) Constant-Amplitude Oscillations

$$A\beta > 1$$

$$A\beta = 1$$

Type of Oscillators

Oscillators can be categorized according to the types of feedback network used:

- RC Oscillators: Phase shift and Wien Bridge Oscillators
- LC Oscillators: Colpitt and Hartley Oscillators
- Crystal Oscillators

This course is limited to RC phase shift Oscillator only.

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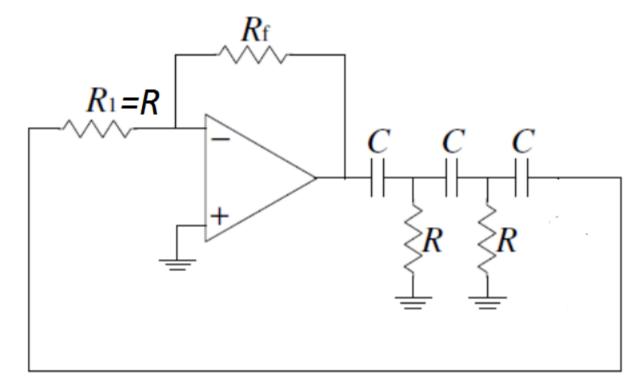
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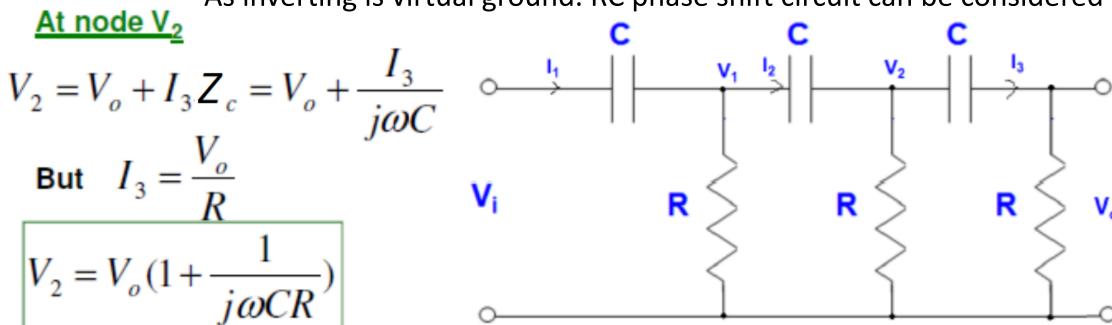
RC Oscillators: Phase shift Oscillator

- Use of an inverting amplifier.
- The additional 180° phase shift is provided by an RC ladder network.
- It can be used for very low frequencies and provides good frequency stability.



RC Oscillators: Phase shift Oscillator

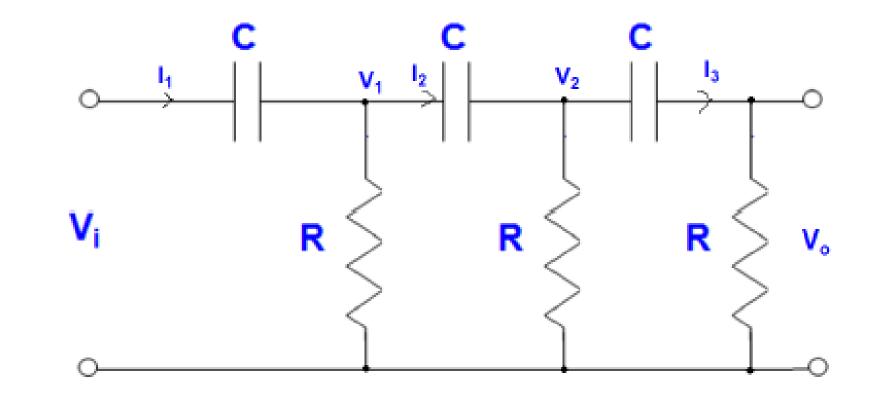
As inverting is virtual ground. RC phase shift circuit can be considered as follows



$$I_2 = I_3 + \frac{V_2}{R} = \frac{V_o}{R} + \frac{V_o}{R} (1 + \frac{1}{j\omega CR})$$

$$I_2 = \frac{V_o}{R} (2 + \frac{1}{j\omega CR})$$

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$$V_2 = V_o(1 + \frac{1}{j\omega CR})$$

$$I_2 = I_3 + \frac{V_2}{R} = \frac{V_o}{R} + \frac{V_o}{R} (1 + \frac{1}{j\omega CR})$$

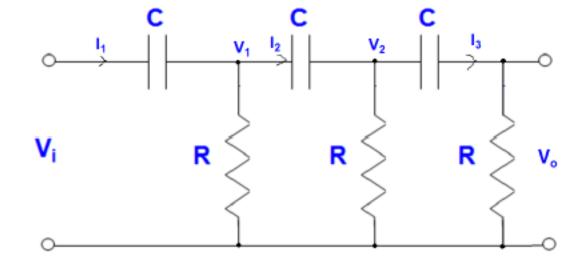
$$I_2 = \frac{V_o}{R} (2 + \frac{1}{j\omega CR})$$

At node V₁

$$V_1 = V_2 + \frac{I_2}{j\omega C} = V_o (1 + \frac{3}{j\omega cR} - \frac{1}{\omega^2 C^2 R^2})$$

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$$I_1 = I_2 + \frac{V_1}{R} = \frac{V_0}{R} (3 + \frac{4}{j\omega cR} - \frac{1}{\omega^2 C^2 R^2})$$



$$V_i = V_1 + \frac{I_1}{j\omega C} = V_o (1 + \frac{6}{j\omega cR} - \frac{5}{\omega^2 C^2 R^2} - \frac{1}{j\omega^3 C^3 R^3}) \qquad(A)$$

Output voltage should be real hence imaginary part equal to zero.

$$\frac{6}{j\omega cR} - \frac{1}{j\omega^3 C^3 R^3} = 0 \qquad \boxed{6\omega^2 C^2 R^2 = 1} \qquad \boxed{\omega = \frac{1}{RC\sqrt{6}}}$$

From Eq. A, at this frequency $\beta = V_o/V_i = -1/29$, and Therefore from Barkhausen Criterion $A_v.\beta = 1 => A_v = -29 = -R_f/R_1$

Example:

Design a phase-shift oscillator for a frequency of 800 Hz. The capacitors are to be 10 nF.

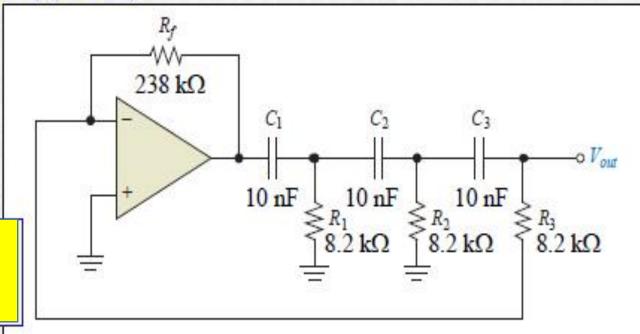
Solution:

Start by solving for the resistors needed in the feedback circuit:

$$R = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{6}f_rC} = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{6}(800 \text{ Hz})(10 \text{ nF})} = 8.12 \text{ k}\Omega \quad \text{(Use 8.2 k}\Omega.)$$

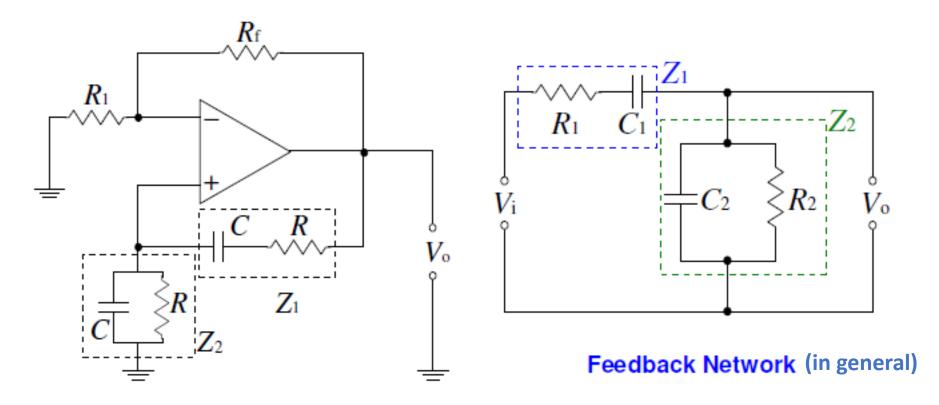
Calculate the feedback resistor needed:

$$R_f = 29R = 238 \text{ k}\Omega.$$



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RC Oscillators: Wien Bridge Oscillator



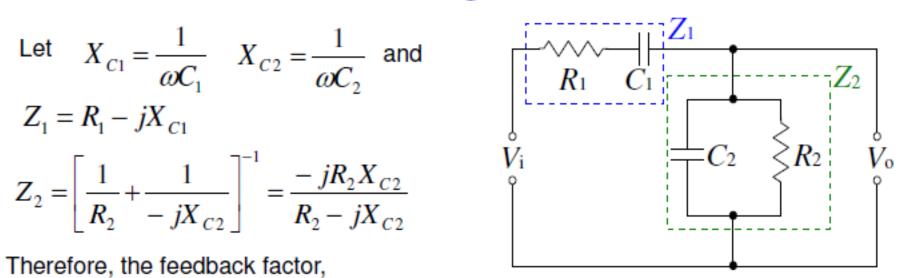
Feedback network is a lead-lag circuit where R₁, C₁ form the lag portion and R₂, C₂ form the lead portion. Thus feedback network provides 0° phase shift.

RC Oscillators: Wien Bridge Oscillator

Let
$$X_{C1} = \frac{1}{\omega C_1}$$
 $X_{C2} = \frac{1}{\omega C_2}$ and

$$Z_1 = R_1 - jX_{C1}$$

$$Z_2 = \left[\frac{1}{R_2} + \frac{1}{-jX_{C2}}\right]^{-1} = \frac{-jR_2X_{C2}}{R_2 - jX_{C2}}$$



Therefore, the feedback factor,

$$\beta = \frac{V_o}{V_i} = \frac{Z_2}{Z_1 + Z_2} = \frac{(-jR_2X_{C2}/R_2 - jX_{C2})}{(R_1 - jX_{C1}) + (-jR_2X_{C2}/R_2 - jX_{C2})}$$

$$\beta = \frac{-jR_2X_{C2}}{(R_1 - jX_{C1})(R_2 - jX_{C2}) - jR_2X_{C2}}$$

$$\beta = \frac{R_2 X_{C2}}{R_1 X_{C2} + R_2 X_{C1} + R_2 X_{C2} + j(R_1 R_2 - X_{C1} X_{C2})}$$

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For **Barkhausen Criterion**, imaginary part = 0, $R_1R_2 - X_{C1}X_{C2} = 0$

$$R_1 R_2 = \frac{1}{\omega C_1} \frac{1}{\omega C_2} \left[\omega = 1/\sqrt{R_1 R_2 C_1 C_2} \right]$$

Supposing, $R_1=R_2=R$ and $X_{C1}=X_{C2}=X_C$,

$$\beta = \frac{RX_C}{3RX_C + j(R^2 - X_C^2)}$$

At this frequency: $\beta = 1/3$ and phase shift = 0°

Due to **Barkhausen Criterion**, gain $A_{V}\beta=1$ Where A_{V} : Gain of the amplifier

$$A_{\nu}\beta = 1 \Longrightarrow A_{\nu} = 3 = 1 + \frac{R_f}{R_1}$$
 $\left| \frac{R_f}{R_1} \right| = 2$

Thanks