# TRIANGULAR AND SAWTOOTH WAVEFORM GENERATORS USING OP-AMPS

### AIM

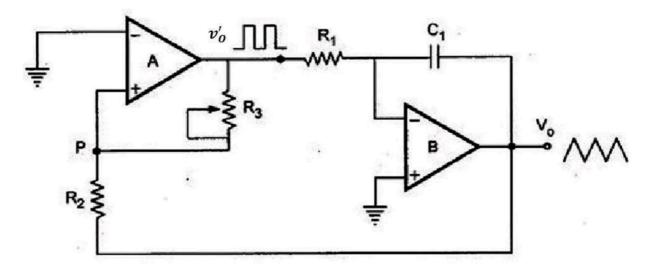
To design and setup,

- 1 An op-amp based triangular waveform generator with frequency of 200Hz
- 2. An op-amp based sawtooth waveform generator with rise-time 7ms and fall-time 1ms

### **THEORY**

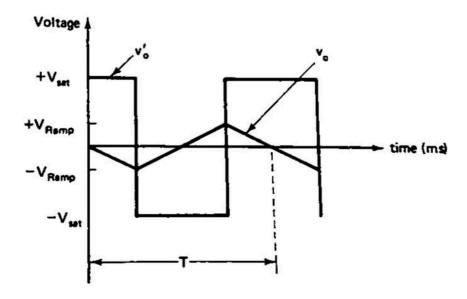
Triangular waves have equal rise and fall times. Sawtooth waves have unequal rise & fall times.

## TRIANGULAR WAVEFORM GENERATOR



- It consists of a comparator (A) and an integrator (B)
- The comparator compares the voltage at P with the inverting input (-) which is at
  0V

- When voltage at P goes slightly below 0V, the output of A is at  $-V_{sat}$  and when it is slightly above 0V the output of A is at the  $+V_{sat}$
- Assume the output is initially at  $+V_{sat}$ . This is the input for the integrator B. Then B's o/p will be a negative going ramp
- Thus, at one end of the voltage divider,  $R_2 R_3$  we have  $+V_{sat}$  of A and at the other end we have the negative going ramp of B
- When the negative going ramp attains a certain value  $-V_{ramp}$ , point P becomes slightly below 0V. Then output of A becomes  $-V_{sat}$ . Hence output of B will begin to go in the positive direction. Output of B will increase until it reaches  $+V_{ramp}$
- At this point, P is slightly above 0V and hence output of A becomes  $+V_{sat}$
- This cycle then repeats



### To determine the amplitude & frequency of the triangular wave:

### Amplitude:

$$\frac{-V_{ramp}}{R_2} = \frac{-V_{sat}}{R_3}$$

$$\Rightarrow -V_{ramp} = -\left(\frac{R_2}{R_2}\right)(+V_{sat})$$

Similarly 
$$+V_{ramp} = -\left(\frac{R_2}{R_3}\right)(-V_{sat})$$

 $\Rightarrow$  The **peak-to-peak o/p amplitude** of the triangular wave is,  $v_{O}(pp) = 2\left(\frac{R_{2}}{R_{3}}\right)V_{sat}$ 

### Time Period:

The time taken by  $v_O$  to swing from  $-V_{ramp}$  to  $+V_{ramp} = \frac{1}{2}$  the time period  $= \frac{T}{2}$ 

This time can be calculated by substituting,  $v_i = -V_{sat}$ ;  $v_o = v_o(pp)$  in the integrator o/p equation,

$$\Rightarrow v_0(pp) = \frac{-1}{R_1 C_1} \int_{0}^{T/2} -V_{sat} dt = \frac{V_{sat}}{R_1 C_1} \frac{T}{2}$$

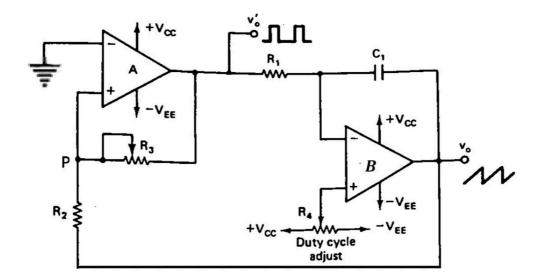
$$\Rightarrow T = 2R_1C_1 \frac{v_O(pp)}{V_{sat}}$$

Substituting for  $v_O(pp)$ , we have  $T = \frac{4R_1C_1R_2}{R_3} \Rightarrow f_0 = \frac{R_3}{4R_1C_1R_2}$ 

Where  $f_0$  is the frequency of oscillation.

### **SAWTOOTH WAVEFORM GENERATOR**

The above triangular wave generator can be converted to a sawtooth generator by injecting a variable dc voltage at the noninverting terminal of the integrator B



Here, the noninverting terminal (+) of the integrator is driven by the voltage set between  $+V_{CC}$  to  $-V_{EE}$  by the potentiometer  $R_4$ . Depending on the  $R_4$  setting, a certain dc level is added in the input of the integrator B

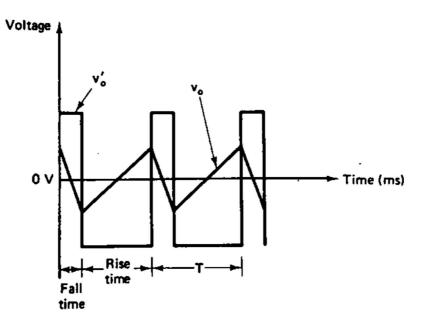
The duty cycle of the square wave is determined by the polarity and amplitude of the dc level inserted at B's non-inverting input. A duty cycle other than 50% can cause the output of B to be sawtooth.

When voltage at the noninverting input of B is negative (*i.e.*, when the wiper is moved toward –  $V_{EE}$ ), the duty cycle is less than 50% resulting longer rise time than fall time

When voltage at the noninverting input of B is positive (the wiper is moved toward  $V_{CC}$ ), the duty cycle is greater than 50% and rise time is less than the fall time

*i.e.*, with the wiper at the center, the output of the integrator will be triangular and for any other wiper setting its output will be a sawtooth.

The frequency of the sawtooth decreases as  $R_4$  is adjusted toward  $V_{CC}$  or  $-V_{EE}$ . However, amplitude is independent of  $R_4$  setting.



### DESIGN

### TRIANGULAR WAVEFORM GENERATOR

Desired rise-time=fall-time= 2.5ms

Total Time Period= 
$$5ms \Rightarrow f_0 = \frac{1}{5ms} = 200Hz$$

### Design of the integrator:

 $f_b = \frac{1}{2\pi R_1 C_1}$  the unity gain frequency of the basic integrator

Choose  $f_b = 100Hz$ 

Let 
$$C_1=0.1\mu F\Rightarrow R_1=rac{1}{2\pi f_bC_1}=rac{1}{2\pi\times 100\times 0.1\mu}=15.9k\Omega$$
 ; Use 15 $k\Omega$  std

### Design of $R_2$ and $R_3$

We have 
$$f_0 = \frac{R_3}{4R_1C_1R_2} = 200Hz$$

Take  $R_2 = 10k \Rightarrow R_3 = 200 \times 4 \times 15k \times 0.1\mu \times 10k = 12k$ ; Use  $10k \ pot$  in series with 6.8k Resistor

### Expected peak-to-peak amplitude of triangular wave:

$$v_O(pp) = 2\left(\frac{R_2}{R_3}\right)V_{sat} \cong 2\times\frac{10}{12}\times 13 = 21.7V$$

#### SAWTOOTH WAVEFORM GENERATOR

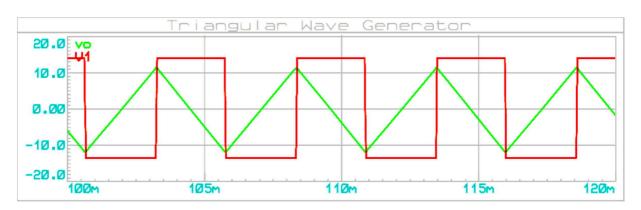
We will use the same component values as in the triangular waveform generator so that the peak-to-peak amplitude of the sawtooth wave remains the same ( $\cong 21.7V$ ). Use a 100k pot in place of  $R_4$ . Potentiometer  $R_4$  can be adjusted to obtain the desired rise and fall times.

#### **PROCEDURE**

### TRIANGULAR WAVEFORM GENERATOR

- Setup the circuit and provide supply voltages to the op-amp
- Observe the waveforms at the output of the comparator  $v_0'$  and the output of the integrator  $v_0$
- Adjust the pot R<sub>2</sub> to obtain the required triangular wave timings
- Note down the rise and fall times of the triangular waveform and the peak-to-peak amplitude

### Expected Waveforms: Triangular Waveform Generator

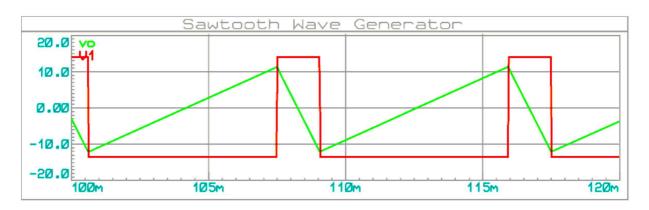


### **SAWTOOTH WAVEFORM GENERATOR**

Setup the circuit and provide supply voltages to the op-amp

- Observe the waveforms at the output of the comparator  $v_{o}^{\prime}$  and the output of the integrator  $v_{o}$
- Adjust the pot R<sub>4</sub> to obtain the required rise and fall times
- Note down the rise and fall times of the sawtooth waveform and the peak-to-peak amplitude

Expected Waveforms: Sawtooth Waveform Generator



### **OBSERVATIONS**

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### **RESULTS**

The following circuits were designed and setup using op-amp IC 741

- 1 An op-amp based triangular waveform generator for a frequency of 200Hz
  - Observed Frequency = \_\_\_\_\_
  - Observed Rise-time =
  - Observed Fall-time = \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. An op-amp based sawtooth waveform generator with rise-time 7ms and fall-time 1ms
  - Observed Frequency =\_\_\_\_\_
  - Observed Rise-time = \_\_\_\_\_
  - Observed Fall-time =