



System Engineering: Signal Conditioning



- In **Electronic System Design** we will consider how to provide the best possible input signals to the system. This means signals that are:-
 - Accurate: providing the most accurate signal to the system
 - **Clean**: providing the system with the cleanest, lowest noise signal
 - Immune: (from disturbance): signals remain accurate and clean when there is interference
- Our course will explore how to deal with low level signals and condition them for the system to use (probably in a digital process)

"Pray, Mr. Babbage, if you put into the machine wrong figures, will the right answers come out?" ... I am not able rightly to apprehend the kind of confusion of ideas that could provoke such a question.

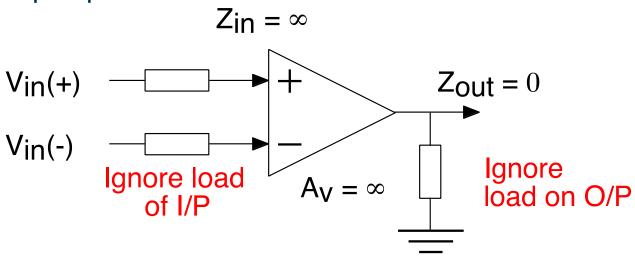
— <u>Charles Babbage</u>, Passages from the Life of a Philosopher

Source Wikipedia



Opamps Revision

- Analogue design simplest using opamps
- Start with perfect opamp

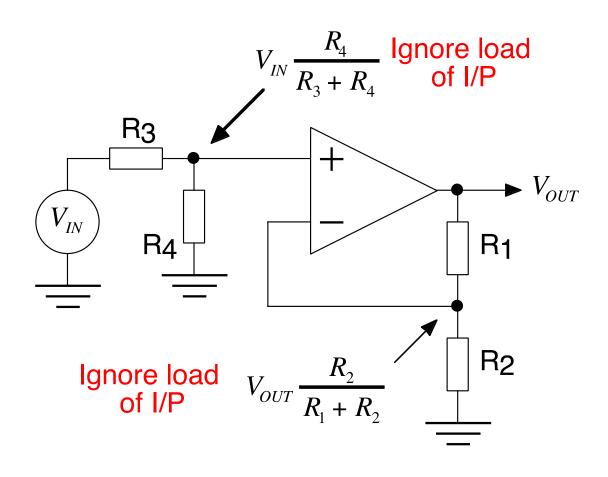


Virtual Earth

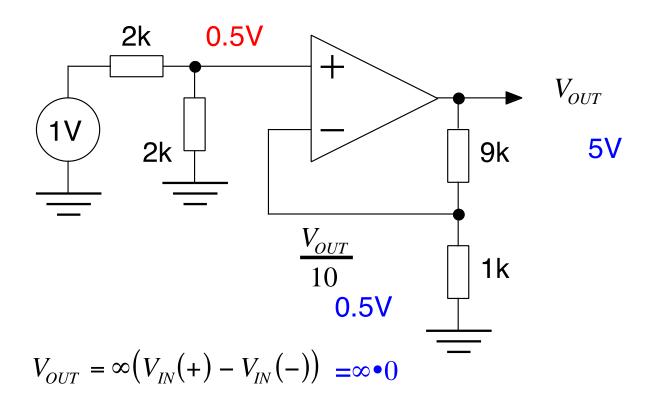
$$V_{OUT} = \infty (V_{IN}(+) - V_{IN}(-))$$



Perfect opamp calculations (Revision)



Negative Feedback

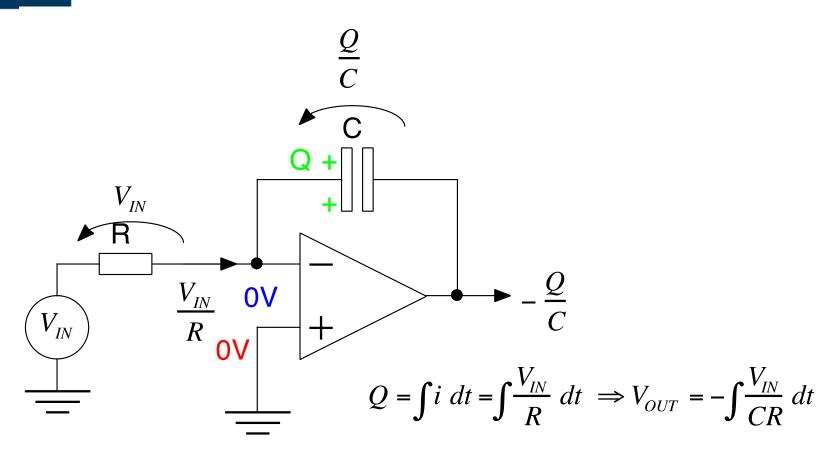




Negative Feedback

- Calculate voltage at (+), (-) inputs as a function of
 - -Input voltage
 - -Output voltage
- Output does whatever it takes to make input voltages (+) & (–) equal
- Inputs do not directly change anything

Example 2: The Integrator



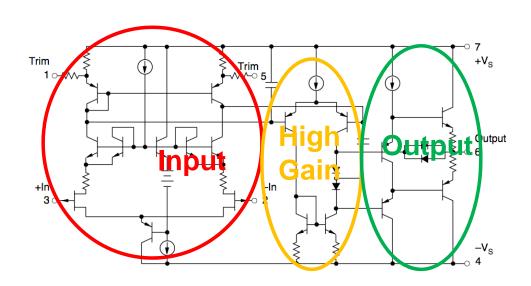


Opamps are not perfect

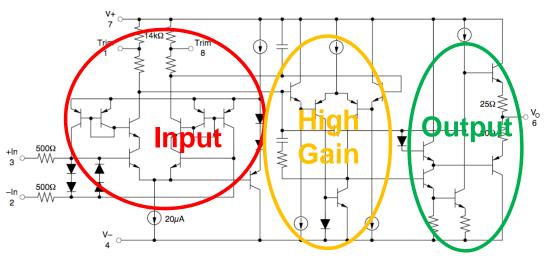
- Input offset voltage
- Input currents ("Bias" and "Offset")
- Speed
 - -Gain-Bandwidth product
 - -Slew Rate
- Noise
- Other
 - -CMRR, R_{OUT}, PSRR, Gain, Power......



⇒ Compare (standardized) datasheet parametrics ... (Vos, Ib, Ios)



Opamps are complicated



... don't try and compare schematics; leave that to experts!



Perfect opamp calculations are easy... (but real opamps are more difficult...)

Method:

Opamps are <u>not</u> perfect:

Form a model of an imperfect opamp which is a perfect opamp PLUS additional (ideal) voltage and current sources

- Calculations still (relatively) easy (perfect opamp plus linear components)
- Source values become optimisation parameters for system
- Different circuits can be compared using standard parameters



System Design = Choice

- No opamp is perfect
- Choice of hundreds of different OpAmps
- Pennies (4p for a dual) -> £371 each
 - RS sell a reduced selection of the best opamps in a limited range of grades (4777)

Design for Analyse components function errors to meet specification



Tools to help you...

- You <u>cannot</u> get a computer to do the design for you...
- ...but you <u>can</u> get it to check if the circuit operates the way <u>YOU</u> wanted it to
- Simulated Circuit Programme with Integrated Circuit Emphasis (SPICE)
 - many different variants derived from UC Berkeley :
- PSPICE, HSPICE,
- We will use LTSpice or Orcad/PSpice
- <u>It is a free download</u> from Linear Technology Inc (Mac & PC)
- It consists of Schematic Capture, Simulator, and Waveform engine
- It is one of the simplest SPICE versions I have found
- http://www.linear.com/designtools/software/#LTspice

