

**EE 538 Spring 2021**  
**Low-Noise Analog Circuit Design**  
**University of Washington Electrical & Computer Engineering**

**Instructor: Jason Silver**

**Assignment #1 (10 points)**

**Due Sunday, April 11 (Submit on Canvas as a Jupyter Notebook)**

*Please show your work*

Resources:

[https://analog.intgckts.com/equivalent-noise-bandwidth/#:~:text=Equivalent%20Noise%20Bandwidth%201%20comment&text=Equivalent%20noise%20bandwidth\(ENBW\)%20is,ba](https://analog.intgckts.com/equivalent-noise-bandwidth/#:~:text=Equivalent%20Noise%20Bandwidth%201%20comment&text=Equivalent%20noise%20bandwidth(ENBW)%20is,ba)  
([https://analog.intgckts.com/equivalent-noise-bandwidth/#:~:text=Equivalent%20Noise%20Bandwidth%201%20comment&text=Equivalent%20noise%20bandwidth\(ENBW\)%20is,ba](https://analog.intgckts.com/equivalent-noise-bandwidth/#:~:text=Equivalent%20Noise%20Bandwidth%201%20comment&text=Equivalent%20noise%20bandwidth(ENBW)%20is,ba))

<http://www.onmyphd.com/?p=enbw.equivalent.noise.bandwidth> (<http://www.onmyphd.com/?p=enbw.equivalent.noise.bandwidth>)

<https://www.k-state.edu/edl/docs/pubs/technical-resources/Technote1.pdf> (<https://www.k-state.edu/edl/docs/pubs/technical-resources/Technote1.pdf>)

[http://web.engr.oregonstate.edu/~webbky/ENGR202\\_files/SECTION%203%20Second%20Order%20Filters.pdf](http://web.engr.oregonstate.edu/~webbky/ENGR202_files/SECTION%203%20Second%20Order%20Filters.pdf)  
([http://web.engr.oregonstate.edu/~webbky/ENGR202\\_files/SECTION%203%20Second%20Order%20Filters.pdf](http://web.engr.oregonstate.edu/~webbky/ENGR202_files/SECTION%203%20Second%20Order%20Filters.pdf))

[https://www.ti.com/lit/an/sloa049b/sloa049b.pdf?ts=1617717745044&ref\\_url=https%253A%252F%252Fwww.google.com%252F](https://www.ti.com/lit/an/sloa049b/sloa049b.pdf?ts=1617717745044&ref_url=https%253A%252F%252Fwww.google.com%252F)  
([https://www.ti.com/lit/an/sloa049b/sloa049b.pdf?ts=1617717745044&ref\\_url=https%253A%252F%252Fwww.google.com%252F](https://www.ti.com/lit/an/sloa049b/sloa049b.pdf?ts=1617717745044&ref_url=https%253A%252F%252Fwww.google.com%252F))

In [1]:

```
1 # Imports
2 import os
3 import sys
4 import cmath
5 import math
6 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
7 import matplotlib
8 import numpy as np
9 import pandas as pd
10 import ltspice
11 import sympy as sp
12 from sympy.utilities.lambdify import lambdify
13 from scipy import signal
14 %matplotlib inline
15 from IPython.core.interactiveshell import InteractiveShell
16 InteractiveShell.ast_node_interactivity = "all"
17 from matplotlib.ticker import LogLocator
```

```

In [2]: 1 def read_ltspice(file_name,ftype='trans',units='db'):
2     cols = []
3     arrs = []
4     with open(file_name, 'r',encoding='utf-8') as data:
5         for i,line in enumerate(data):
6             if i==0:
7                 cols = line.split()
8                 arrs = [[] for _ in cols]
9                 continue
10            parts = line.split()
11            for j,part in enumerate(parts):
12                arrs[j].append(part)
13    df = pd.DataFrame(arrs,dtype='float64')
14    df = df.T
15    df.columns = cols
16    if ftype=='trans':
17        return df
18    elif ftype=='ac':
19        if units=='db':
20            for col in cols:
21                if df[col].str.contains(',').all():
22                    df[f'Mag_{col}'] = df[col].apply(lambda x: x.split(',')[0])
23                    df[f'Mag_{col}'] = df[f'Mag_{col}'].apply(lambda x: x[1:-2])
24                    df[f'Mag_{col}'] = df[f'Mag_{col}'].astype('float64')
25                    df[f'Phase_{col}'] = df[col].apply(lambda x: x.split(',')[1])
26                    df[f'Phase_{col}'] = df[f'Phase_{col}'].apply(lambda x: x[0:-2])
27                    df[f'Phase_{col}'] = df[f'Phase_{col}'].astype('float64')
28            if units=='cartesian':
29                for col in cols:
30                    if df[col].str.contains(',').all():
31                        df[f'Re_{col}'] = df[col].apply(lambda x: x.split(',')[0])
32                        df[f'Re_{col}'] = df[f'Re_{col}'].astype('float64')
33                        df[f'Im_{col}'] = df[col].apply(lambda x: x.split(',')[1])
34                        df[f'Im_{col}'] = df[f'Im_{col}'].astype('float64')
35                df['Freq.'] = df['Freq.'].astype('float64')
36            return df
37        else:
38            print('invalid ftype')

```

### Problem 1: Noise bandwidth

The transfer function of a second-order low-pass filter can be written as

$$H(s) = \frac{\omega_0^2}{s^2 + 2\zeta\omega_0 \cdot s + \omega_0^2}$$

where  $\omega_0$  is the resonant frequency and  $\zeta$  is the damping factor.

#### Analysis

a) Derive a general expression for the noise bandwidth of a second-order low-pass filter.

$$\begin{aligned}
H(s) &= \frac{\omega_0^2}{s^2 + 2\zeta\omega_0 \cdot s + \omega_0^2} \\
&= \frac{\omega_0^2}{s^2 + \frac{s \cdot \omega_0}{Q} + \omega_0^2} \\
&= \frac{1}{\frac{s^2}{\omega_0^2} + \frac{s}{Q\omega_0} + 1} \\
&= \frac{1}{\frac{(j\omega)^2}{\omega_0^2} + \frac{j\omega}{Q\omega_0} + 1} \\
&= \frac{1}{\frac{-\omega^2}{\omega_0^2} + \frac{j\omega}{Q\omega_0} + 1}
\end{aligned}$$

$$|H(s)| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(1 + \frac{-\omega^2}{\omega_0^2})^2 + (\frac{\omega}{Q\omega_0})^2}} \quad \text{and Butterworth } Q = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{2\omega^2}{\omega_0^2} + \frac{\omega^4}{\omega_0^4} + \frac{\omega^2}{Q^2\omega_0^2}}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{2\omega^2}{\omega_0^2} + \frac{\omega^4}{\omega_0^4} + \frac{2\omega^2}{\omega_0^2}}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{\omega^4}{\omega_0^4}}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + (\frac{\omega}{\omega_0})^4}} \quad \text{and Butterworth } \omega_0 = \omega_c$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + (\frac{\omega}{\omega_c})^4}}$$

$$\omega_{enb} = \int_0^\infty |H(s)|^2 d\omega$$

$$= \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{1 + (\frac{\omega}{\omega_c})^4} d\omega$$

$$f_{enb} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{1 + (\frac{\omega}{\omega_c})^4} d\omega$$

---

**b)** Using your expression from part **a**, determine the relationship between the noise bandwidth and the  $-3\text{dB}$  bandwidth of a second-order Butterworth filter.

---

$$f_{enb} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{1 + (\frac{\omega}{\omega_c})^4} d\omega$$

$$\text{let } x = \frac{\omega^4}{\omega_c^4}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{1 + x^4} dx \cdot \omega_c$$

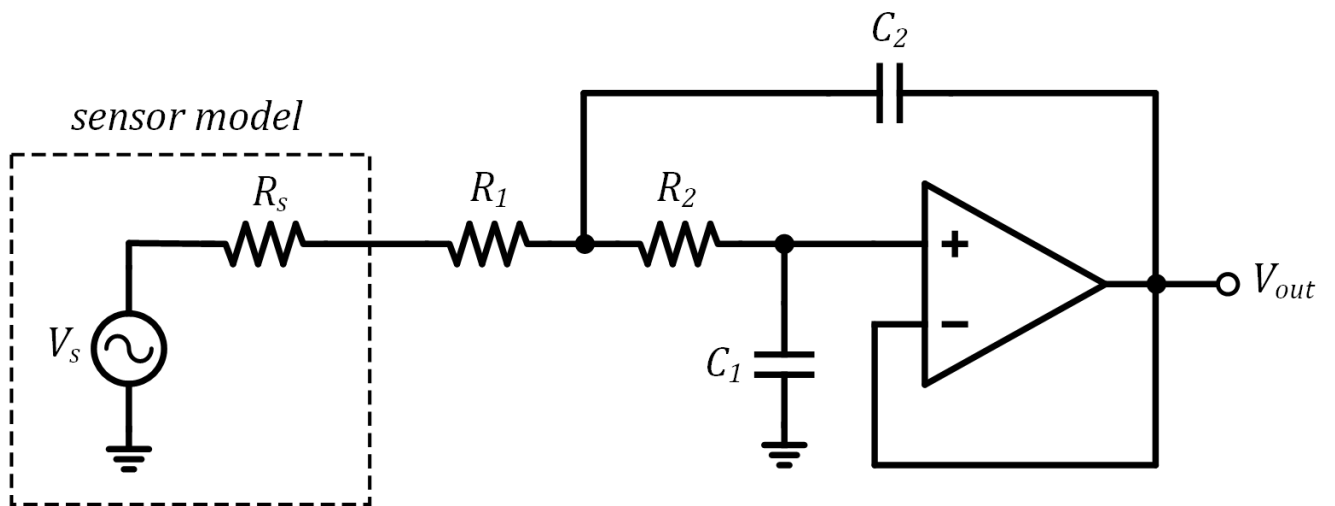
$$= \frac{\omega_c}{2\pi} \cdot \frac{\pi}{2\sqrt{2}}$$

$$= \frac{2\pi f_c}{2\pi} \cdot \frac{\pi}{2\sqrt{2}}$$

$$= \frac{\pi}{2\sqrt{2}} f_c$$

$$\approx 1.11 f_c$$

Design



**c)** Using the Sallen-Key structure shown above, design an active second-order Butterworth filter (i.e. determine  $R$  and  $C$  values) to limit the noise bandwidth of a resistive sensor with equivalent resistance  $R_s = 1\text{k}\Omega$ . Design the filter to achieve an input-referred  $rms$  noise of  $40\text{nV}$ . Assume that the opamp and filter resistors are noiseless.

$$T = 25^\circ\text{C} = 298\text{K}$$

$$k = 1.381 \cdot 10^{-23}$$

$$R_s = 1000$$

$$v_{n,out(rms)} = \sqrt{e_n^2 \cdot f_{enb}}$$

$$v_{n,in(rms)} = \frac{v_{n,out(rms)}}{A_{v,CL}} \text{ where } A_{v,CL} = 1$$

$$v_{n,in(rms)} = v_{n,out(rms)}$$

$$40\text{nV} \geq \sqrt{e_n^2 \cdot f_{enb}}$$

$$e_n^2 = 4kTR_s$$

$$= 1.6458 \cdot 10^{-17} \frac{V^2}{\text{Hz}}$$

$$40\text{nV} \geq \sqrt{1.6458 \cdot 10^{-17} \cdot f_{enb}}$$

$$f_{enb} \leq \frac{(40\text{nV})^2}{1.6458 \cdot 10^{-17}}$$

$$1.11f_c \leq \frac{(40\text{nV})^2}{1.6458 \cdot 10^{-17}}$$

$$f_c \leq \frac{(40\text{nV})^2}{1.6458 \cdot 10^{-17} \cdot 1.11}$$

$$f_c \leq 87.6\text{Hz}$$

In [3]:

```
1 T = 298
2 k = 1.381 * 1e-23
3 Rs= 1000
4 target = 40*1e-9
5 Vrms = np.sqrt(4*k*T*Rs)
6 fenb = target**2/Vrms**2
7 fc = fenb/1.11
8 print(f'fc: {round(fc,4)}, and f_enb: {round(fenb,4)}')
```

fc: 87.5643, and f\_enb: 97.1964

In [4]:

```
1 s,m,n,C1,C2,R1,R2,Q,tau,W0,Wc,Cn,K = sp.symbols('s,m,n,C1,C2,R1,R2,Q,tau,omega0,Wc,Cn,K')
```

```

In [5]: 1 # Low Pass Butterworth
2 fc1 = 87
3 systemLP = sp.Matrix([
4     [W0 - 1/(tau*sp.sqrt(m*n))],
5     [W0 - Cn*Wc],
6     [Q - sp.sqrt(m*n)/(1+m)],
7     [m - R1/R2],
8     [n - C1/C2],
9     [tau - R2*C2]
10 ])
11 myVals = {
12     W0:2*np.pi*fc1, # Cutoff Frequency in radians/second
13     Cn:1, # Table
14     Q:1/np.sqrt(2), # Table
15     m:1, # Chosen Ratio
16     C2:1e-9 # Chosen Value
17 }
18 systemLP = systemLP.subs(myVals)
19 eq = sp.solve(systemLP)
20 eq, myVals

```

```

Out[5]: ({C1: 2.000000000000000e-9,
R1: 1293557.92551308,
R2: 1293557.92551308,
n: 2.000000000000000,
tau: 0.00129355792551308,
Wc: 546.637121724624},
{omega0: 546.637121724624, Cn: 1, Q: 0.7071067811865475, m: 1, C2: 1e-09})

```

```

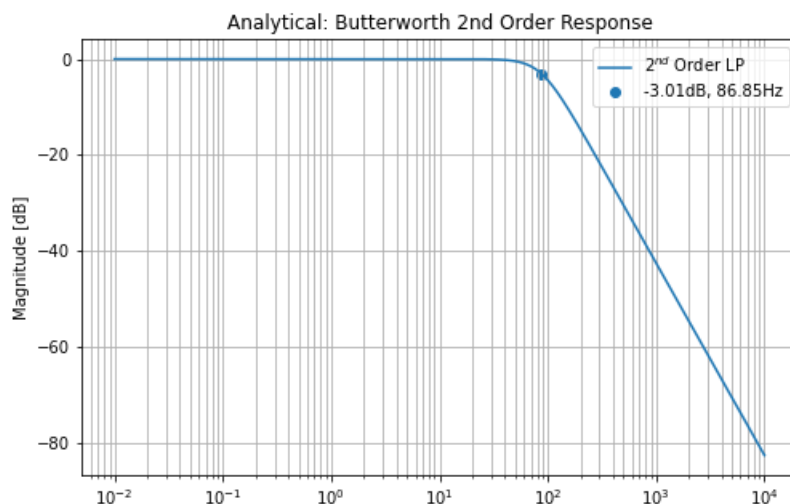
In [6]: 1 f = np.logspace(-2, 4, 10000)
2 w = 2*np.pi*f
3 #s = 1j*w
4
5 num = W0**2
6 den = s**2 + s*W0/Q + W0**2
7
8 components = {
9     #C1:2e-9,
10    #C2:1e-9,
11    #R1:1293557,
12    #R2:1293557,
13    W0:546,
14    Q :1/np.sqrt(2)
15 }
16 H = sp.Matrix([num/den])
17 H1 = H = H.subs(components)
18 H = lambdify(s,H,modules='numpy')
19 H = H(1j*w)
20 H = H[0][0]

```

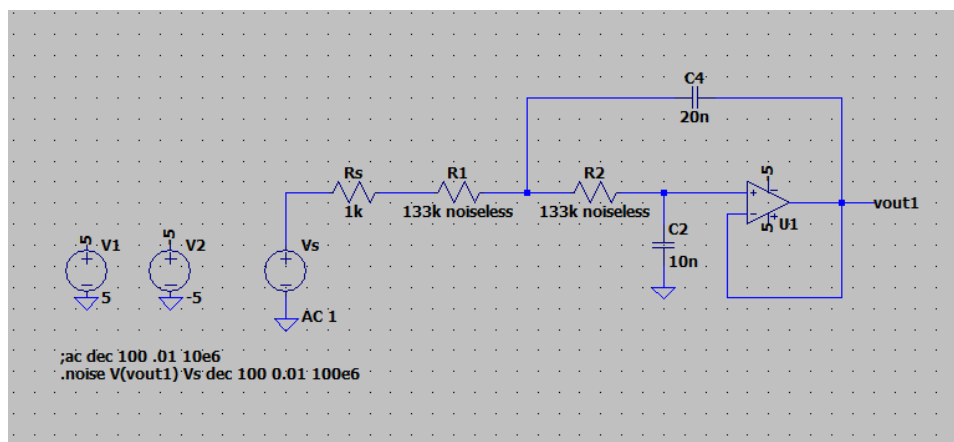
```

In [7]: 1 fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(8,5))
2
3 x1 = np.where(20*np.log10(abs(H))<=-3)[0][0]
4 labell = "{:.2f}dB, {:.2f}Hz".format(20*np.log10(abs(H[x1])),f[x1])
5
6 ax.set_title('Analytical: Butterworth 2nd Order Response')
7 ax.semilogx(f, 20*np.log10(abs(H)),label=r'$2^{\text{nd}}$ Order LP')
8 ax.scatter(f[x1],20*np.log10(abs(H[x1])),label=labell,color='tab:blue')
9 ax.set_ylabel('Magnitude [dB]')
10 ax.grid(which='both', axis='both')
11 ax.legend()
12 plt.show();

```



d) Verify your design in Ltspice using the *UniversalOpamp2* model with a bandwidth of 10MHz. Demonstrate the frequency response and noise performance over a frequency range of 100MHz, and verify that the *rms* noise meets the specification by integrating over the full 100MHz range.



```

In [8]: 1 filepath = 'data/butterworth_2nd_order_LP.txt'
2 df = pd.read_csv(filepath)
3 freq = df['frequency']
4 mag = df['V(onoise)']

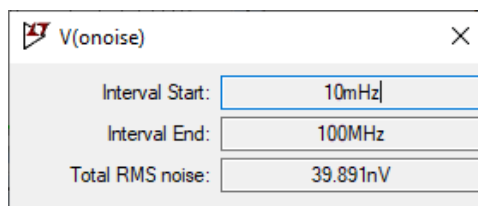
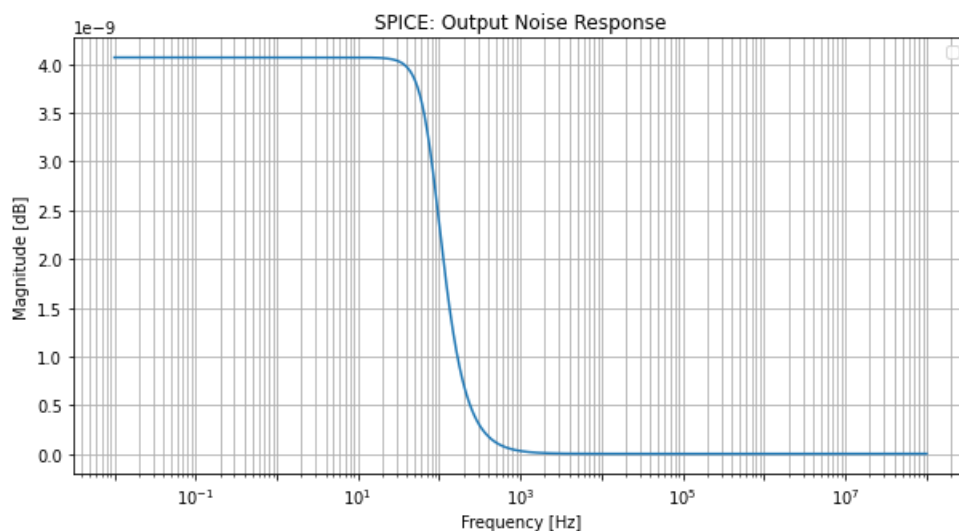
```

```

In [9]: 1 fig, ax = plt.subplots(1,figsize=(10,5))
2
3 ax.semilogx(freq, mag, color='tab:blue',label='')
4 ax.grid(True,which='both')
5 ax.set_xlabel('Frequency [Hz]')
6 ax.set_ylabel('Magnitude [dB]')
7 ax.set_title('SPICE: Output Noise Response')
8
9 # manipulate x-axis ticks and labels
10 ax.xaxis.set_major_locator(LogLocator(numticks=15)) #(1)
11 ax.xaxis.set_minor_locator(LogLocator(numticks=15,subs=np.arange(2,10))) #(2)
12 for label in ax.xaxis.get_ticklabels()[::2]:
13     label.set_visible(False) #(3)
14
15 ax.legend()
16 plt.show();

```

No handles with labels found to put in legend.



Input noise can be determined from the output noise based on the amplifier gain. Refer to part C. In our case, the input-referred rms noise is equivalent to the output rms noise. The design of the LP Butterworth meets the spec of 40nV.

e) If the sensor exhibits  $1/f$  noise, the spectral density of the noise can be expressed as

$$\overline{e_n^2} = 4kTR_s \cdot \left(1 + \frac{f_c}{f}\right) \Delta f$$

where  $f_c$  is the  $1/f$  noise corner frequency. Determine the *rms* noise (at the output of the filter) between 1Hz and 1MHz if  $f_c = 1\text{kHz}$ . Verify this in Ltspice. Explain why the concept of noise bandwidth doesn't apply to noise processes that aren't white.



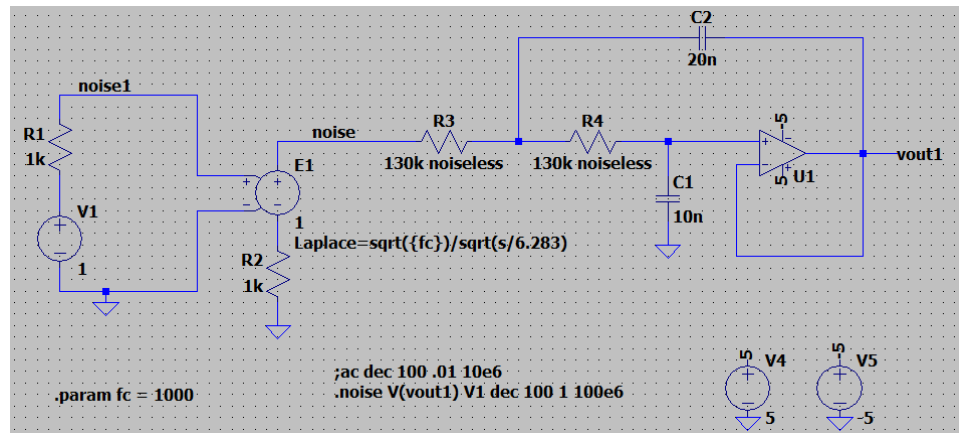
From notes:

- The equivalent noise bandwidth ( $f_{enb}$ ) of a circuit is the bandwidth of an ideal "brick-wall" filter that would result in the same *rms* noise as the real filter
- Because white noise has a flat (constant-value) spectrum, multiplication of  $e_n$  by the noise bandwidth will conveniently yield the same *rms* noise value as that obtained via integration of the filter magnitude response

My response:

Since the spectral density function is no longer constant, due to  $1/f$  noise, the noise bandwidth cannot simply be multiplied and must be calculated over the integral.

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{e_n^2} &= 4kTR_s \cdot \left(1 + \frac{f_c}{f}\right) \Delta f \\ v_{n,out(rms)}^2 &= \int_1^{1MHz} |H(f)|^2 e_n^2 df \\ v_{n,out(rms)} &= \sqrt{\int_1^{1MHz} |H(f)|^2 e_n^2 df} \\ &= \sqrt{\int_1^{1MHz} \frac{1}{1 + (\frac{f}{f_{c1}})^4} \cdot 4kTR_s \cdot \left(1 + \frac{f_{c2}}{f}\right) df} \\ &= \sqrt{\int_1^{1MHz} \frac{1}{1 + (\frac{f}{88})^4} \cdot 4kT \cdot 1000 \cdot \left(1 + \frac{1000}{f}\right) df} \\ &= 274.4 \text{ nV} \end{aligned}$$

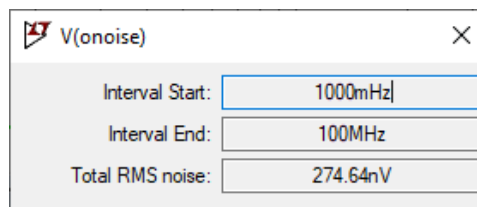
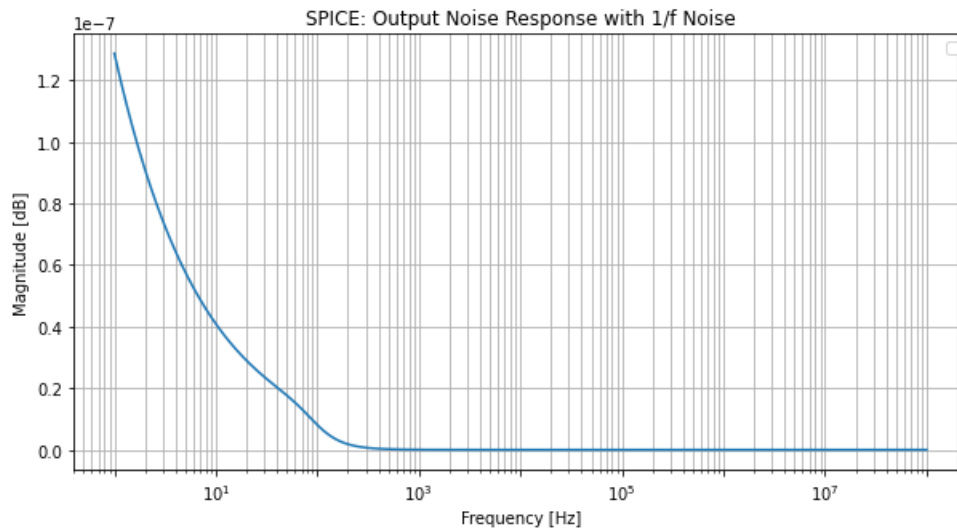


```
In [10]: 1 filepath = 'data/butterworth_and_1_over_f_noise.txt'
2 df = pd.read_csv(filepath)
3 freq = df['frequency']
4 mag = df['V(onoise)']
```

In [11]:

```
1 fig, ax = plt.subplots(1,figsize=(10,5))
2
3 ax.semilogx(freq, mag, color='tab:blue',label='')
4 ax.grid(True,which='both')
5 ax.set_xlabel('Frequency [Hz]')
6 ax.set_ylabel('Magnitude [dB]')
7 ax.set_title('SPICE: Output Noise Response with 1/f Noise')
8
9 # manipulate x-axis ticks and labels
10 ax.xaxis.set_major_locator(LogLocator(numticks=15)) #(1)
11 ax.xaxis.set_minor_locator(LogLocator(numticks=15,subs=np.arange(2,10))) #(2)
12 for label in ax.xaxis.get_ticklabels()[::2]:
13     label.set_visible(False) #(3)
14
15 ax.legend()
16 plt.show();
```

No handles with labels found to put in legend.



Use the expression 'noiseless' after the resistance value in Ltspice to prevent specific resistors from generating noise during noise analysis.

To avoid loading between the sensor and filter input, you can use the 'E' component in Ltspice (voltage-controlled voltage source).

In [ ]:

1

