#### Resistor Network Sensing Breadboard

by

#### Joshua Muffin Gordonson

Submitted to the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of

Master of Engineering in Electrical Science and Engineering

at the

#### MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

September 2015

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#### Abstract

Blah Blah Blah

Thesis Supervisor: Gerald Jay Sussman

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## Acknowledgments

For Jim

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### Introduction

Blah Blah Blah

### 1.1 History of Breadboards

Blah Blah

#### 1.2 Modern Breadboards

Blah Blah

### 1.3 Proposed Solution

Blah Blah

### 1.4 Implementation to Date

# Theory

Blah Blah

### 2.1 RLC Elements

Blah Blah

### 2.2 Frequency Domain Perspective

Blah Blah

### 2.3 Network Analysis

# Network Sensing Algorithm

Blah Blah

### 3.1 Grounding Clause

Blah Blah

#### 3.2 Two Node Network

Blah Blah

#### 3.3 Three Node Network

Blah Blah

#### 3.4 N Node Network

#### 3.5 Element Identification

Blah Blah

#### 3.5.1 From Resistance to Impedance

Blah Blah

#### 3.5.2 Parallel RLC Branches

Blah Blah

#### 3.5.3 Finite Difference Stencil

Blah Blah

#### 3.5.4 Component Value Calculation

Blah Blah

### 3.6 Reconstructing the Network

### Simulation

Overview + Block Diagram Blah Blah

### 4.1 NgSpice and Netlists

Blah Blah

### 4.2 Methods

- 4.2.1 Generate Random Netlist
- 4.2.2 Inserting Voltage Sources
- 4.2.3 Inserting Voltage Probes
- 4.2.4 Inserting Grounds

### 4.3 Executing NSA

Wouldn't we all?

- **4.3.1** Calculate  $Z_{||}(f)$
- **4.3.2** Calculate  $V_n(f)$
- **4.3.3** Calculate  $Z_{nm}(f)$
- 4.3.4 Finite Difference
- 4.3.5 Element Identification
- 4.3.6 Network Reconstruction

### 4.4 Output to JSON

Blah Blah

#### 4.5 D3?

???? maybe

### Hardware

Block diagram / Schematic

#### 5.1 Low Cost

'cause we're cheap!

### 5.2 Node Voltage Reading

 ${\rm ADC+multiplexer}$ 

### 5.3 Signal Generator

Vsource + buffer

### 5.4 Test Voltage Current Sensing

Diff amp + current sense + ADC

5.5 High-side Switches

hi

5.6 Low-side Switches

lo

- 5.7 PCB Mounted Breadboard
- 5.8 Hardware Prototypes

## Firmware

Block Diagram

### 6.1 Fast and Scalable [rename]

 $16~1 \mathrm{MSPS}$  ADCs all at once, multiplexed out.

- 6.2 ADC
- 6.2.1 ADC Timers
- 6.2.2 ADC DMA
- 6.2.3 Data Reconstruction
- 6.3 DAC
- 6.3.1 DAC Timer
- 6.3.2 DAC DMA
- 6.3.3 DAC Wavetables
- **6.4** USB
- **6.4.1 USBACM**
- 6.4.2 Command List

### Software Control

#### 7.1 Medicine Routine

The routine that sends the obtuse control commands given a small number of sensible inputs

#### 7.1.1 Data Reconstruction

10-bits from 8-bit serial data

### 7.2 Finding Amplitude

#### 7.2.1 Tracking Method?

This one didn't work so well.

#### 7.2.2 FFT

Yeah, this one works real well.

- 7.3 Node Iteration Loop
- 7.3.1 Sampling
- 7.3.2 Finite Differencing
- 7.3.3 Resistor Characterizing
- 7.4 JSON Update

### Results

- 8.1 Simulation Performance
- 8.2 Hardware Performance
- 8.2.1 Block Performance

How each block of hardware performed individially and why

- 8.2.2 Capacitive Coupling
- 8.2.3 Limits of Operation

Theoretical limits of system performance based on block performance

- 8.3 System Performance
- 8.3.1 Speed of Operation
- 8.3.2 Accuracy
- 8.3.3 Dynamic Range
- 8.3.4 Odd Behavior

Capacitors

#### 8.4 Improvements

- 8.4.1 L, C, D
- 8.4.2 VGA for ADC's, DAC, and Differential Amplifier
- 8.4.3 Variable Sense Resistor
- 8.4.4 Better Switches
- 8.4.5 Three Terminal Devices

Try Transistors

- 8.4.6 Better Schematic Display
- 8.4.7 Faster Algorithm

# Appendix A

# **Tables**

Table A.1: Armadillos

Armadillos	are
our	friends

# Appendix B

# **Figures**

Figure B-1: Armadillo slaying lawyer.

Figure B-2: Armadillo eradicating national debt.