

Practical integrator using operational amplifier

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1 Aim

To design and test a $\mu A741$ -based voltage integrator.

Components required

$\mu A741$ OpAmp

Resistors $R = 120k\Omega, 3.3k\Omega, 4.7k\Omega$

Capacitor $C = 0.01 \mu F$

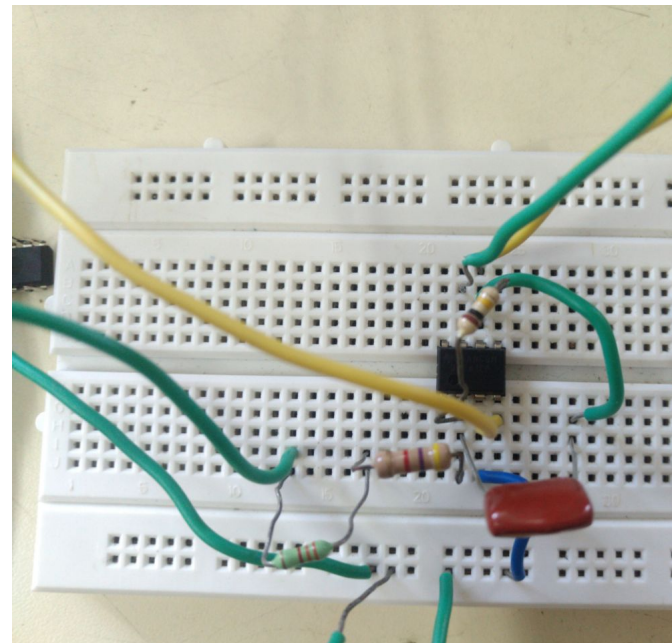
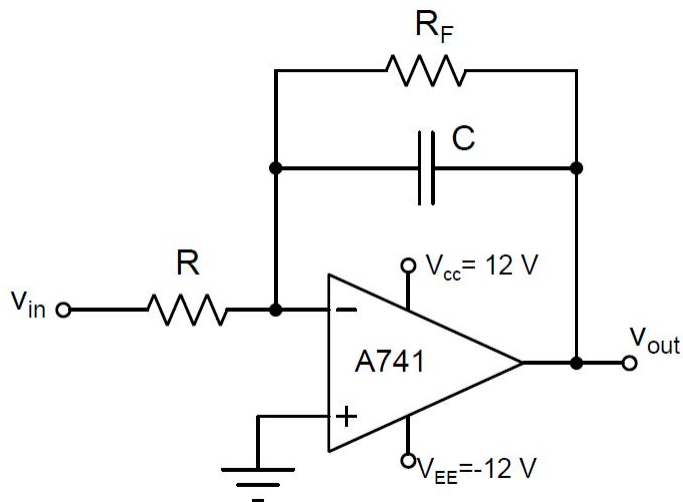
Breadboard

Digital Storage Oscilloscope

Wires

Function Generator

Circuit diagram



2 Theory

In an integrator, the output voltage is proportional to the integral of the input. The response of an op amp circuit with feedback will reflect the characteristics of the feedback elements. In order to achieve integration, the feedback network can be constructed using a capacitor.

In a practical integrator, one can overcome the limitations of an ideal integrator by adding resistor R_f in parallel with capacitor C . This R_f avoids op-amp going into open loop configuration at low frequencies.

Frequency response of a practical integrator,

$$H(s) = \frac{-R_F || \frac{1}{Cs}}{R}$$
$$H(j\omega) = \frac{-R_F}{R} \left[\frac{1}{1 + R_F C j\omega} \right]$$

This gives,

$$|H(j\omega)| = \frac{R_F}{R} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \omega^2 R_F^2 C^2}}$$
$$\angle H(j\omega) = \pi - \tan^{-1}(\omega R_F C)$$

3 Design

Q. Design and test a $\mu A741$ based voltage integrator for a sinusoidal input $v_{in} = 2\sin(4000\pi t)$. The integrator gain should be unity i.e. the output should have a peak to peak value same as that of the input. Also, it is required that the phase error should be kept below 5%. Design the practical integrator with $f_{-3db} = \frac{f_{in}}{15}$. Make sure all resistances are of the order of $k\Omega$.

4 Calculations

Let $C = 0.01\mu F$,

$f_{in} = 2000Hz$

$f_{-3dB} = \frac{f_{in}}{15} = 133.33Hz$

$\frac{1}{2\pi R_F C} = 133.33$

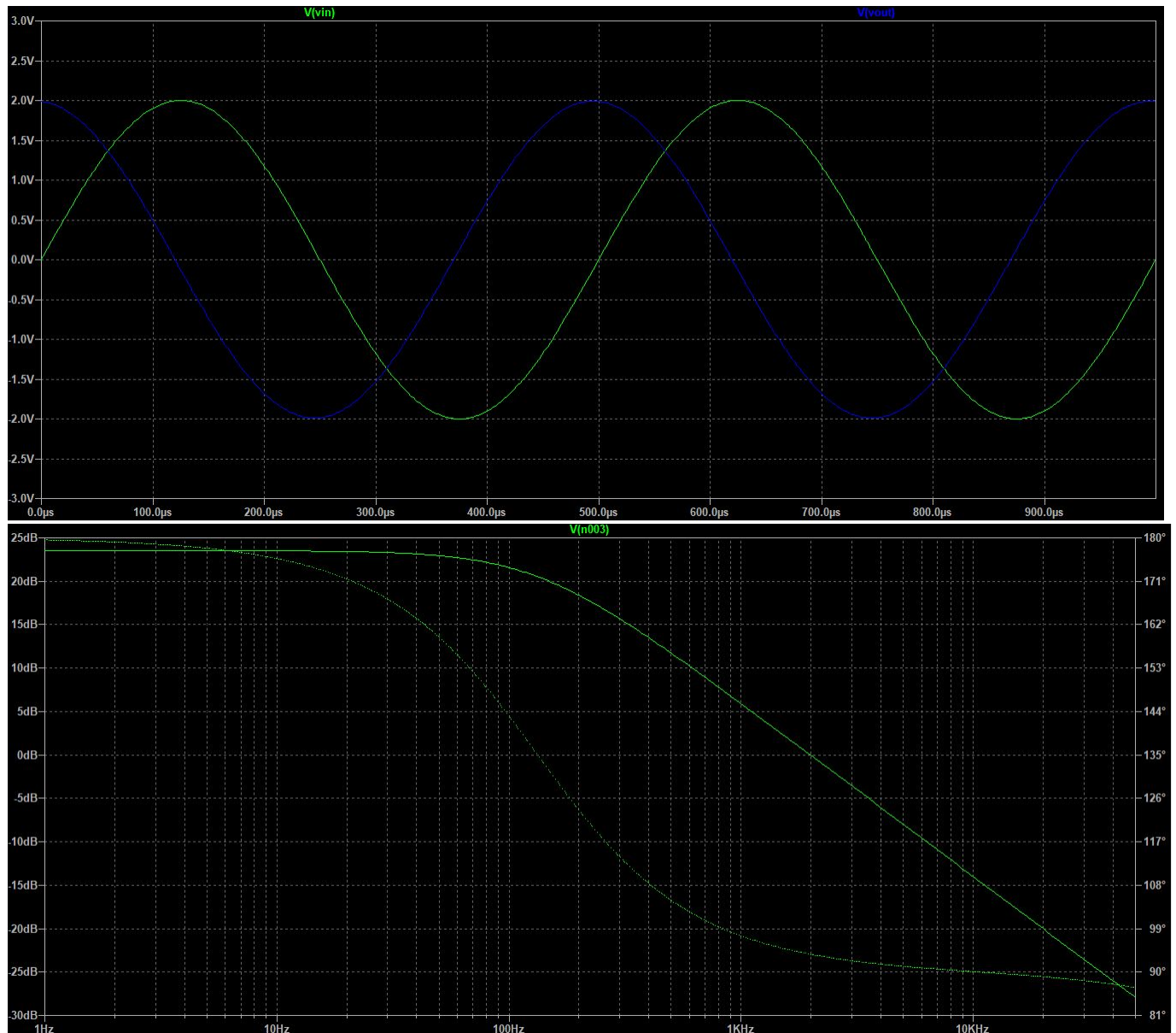
$\frac{1}{2\pi RC} = 2000$

$R = 7.96k\Omega, R_F = 119.37k\Omega$

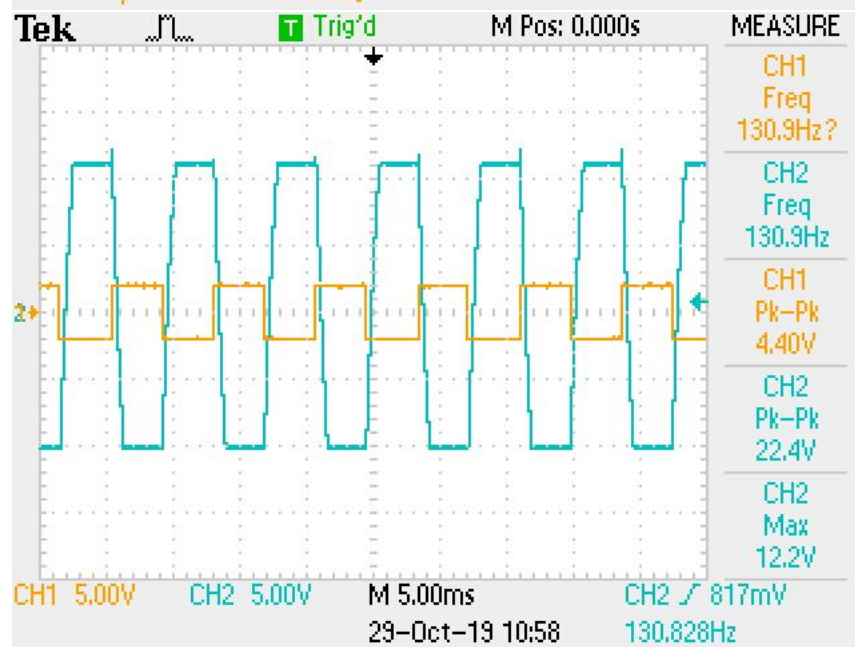
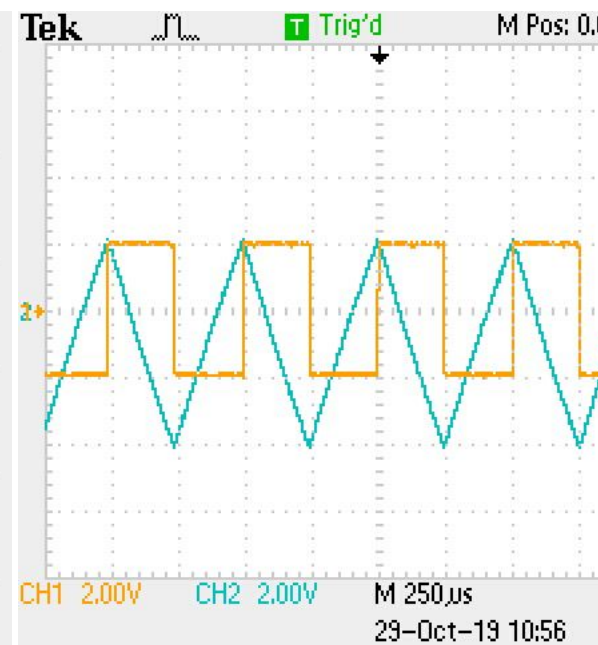
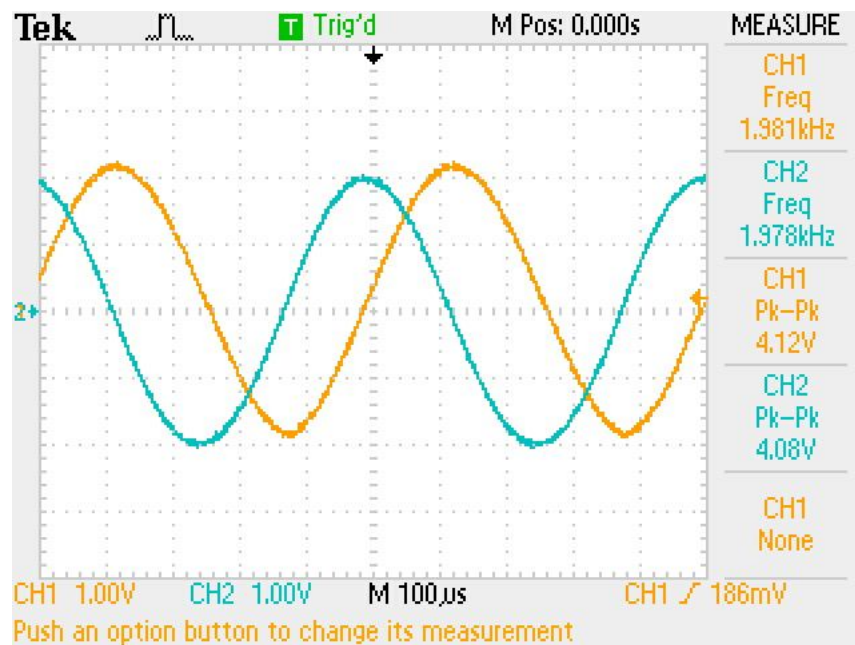
Expected DC gain = $\frac{R_f}{R} = 15.25$

Expected phase shift = $\frac{\pi}{2} = 1.57rad$

5 Simulation



6 Waveforms



7 Observations

Q. Measure DC gain, -3dB frequency, unity gain frequency, roll-off rate and phase shift.

DC gain = 14.89

-3dB frequency=132 Hz

Unity gain frequency= 2.07 kHz

Roll-off rate = -18.35 dB/decade

Phase shift= 1.608 rad, an error of 2.4%

1. What happens if the feedback resistor R_F is removed from the circuit? Give reasons.

$V_{out} = \pm V_{sat}$ due to the capacitor acting as an open circuit at low frequencies. This sends the opamp into an open loop configuration.

2. Apply a square wave of 4V peak-to-peak and frequency 2 kHz. What do you see and why?
A triangular waveform is obtained as a result of the square wave being integrated.

3. Change the frequency of the square wave input to 130 Hz. What do you observe and why?

The triangular waveform is now clipped at the $\pm V_{sat}$ levels. $C\Delta V = I\Delta t$

Substituting $C = 0.01\mu F$, $I = \frac{2}{8k}$, $t = \frac{0.5}{130}$,

$\Delta V = 96.15V$ Since $\Delta V > 2V_{sat}$, V_{out} gets clipped.

8 Results

The μ A741 based voltage integrator was designed and implemented successfully.