

Frequency Generator using OpAmp

Ved Rudani Vijay Panchal\

March 28, 2023

Contents

1	Introduction	2
2	Blocks	3
2.1	Block 1: Sine wave generator	3
2.2	Block 2: Square wave generator	3
2.3	Block 3: Triangluar Wave generator	4
3	connection and switching	4

Function Generator using OpAmp

Ved Rudani
Vijay Panchal

Abstract

Function generator are useful tools in academia and industries. Mostly they are available in market. In this project we are trying to understand and study simple frequency generators with use of OpAmp. We use generic OpAmp IC LM741, which is single package and easy to understand with benefit of extensive academic experience.

1 Introduction

Function generator is circuit which generates periodic function with predictable frequencies with respect to time. Here, we will study only mono frequency generator but it can also generate superposed functions. Signals from Function generator comes in many forms but mostly it is either sinusoidal or square wave. We will generate sinusoidal, square and triangle wave as output.

We used basic circuits with few modification as our need. With use of IC LM741 we used OpAmp in our circuit.

For Sinusoidal wave we used Wein Bridge circuit, which is easy to understand and implement. Also, Wein bridge circuit is quite less noise compare to its competition RC phase shift Oscillator, which have more component than Wein bridge and more complicated to understand. For Square wave we used standard astable multivibrator circuit, with little modification. Lastly, Triangle wave can be made from just attaching Integrator to our square wave output with some regulation.

Now, each circuit (this wave form generator) has different block, basically we divided whole circuit in there block. Main work for us is to combine all of this. We wandered across CMOS families, BJTs but finally we settled into physical switch which is coupled for power transmission and also for output change.

2 Blocks

As told in introduction each circuit is in their blocks. First block for sine wave which is nothing but Wien bridge circuit, second is square wave which is an astable multivibrator, third for triangular wave which is an integrator attached to the second block (square wave block).

figure of blocks

2.1 Block 1: Sine wave generator

In the first block, we have the basic circuit of a Wien bridge. You can see in figure 1. In the center we have an OpAmp (IC LM741). This is an amplifier with an RC component attached with input and output. Here, at one end there is an RC parallel component and at the other end a series RC component.

figure of Wien bridge

Here, frequency is given by,

$$f = \frac{1}{2\pi RC} \quad (1)$$

For sustaining oscillation the gain must be 3 and for a non-inverting amplifier gain,

$$A = 1 + \frac{R_F}{R_1} = 3 \quad (2)$$

So, we get the relation $R_F = R_1$

block circuit with all items

Here, you can see our block circuit, at the end we attached two Zener diodes for regulation to the output. As you can see OpAmp in IC LM741 package. Power supply is given from 4 and 7 to 12V and -12V. We chose $R_1 = 12k\Omega$. By relation of R_1 and R_F , we got $R_F = 24k\Omega$.

For frequency range we used Potentiometer with max range of 100kΩ. So, lowest and maximum frequency would be (with constant capacitance at 50nF),

$$f_{min} = \frac{1}{2\pi \times 100k \times 10n} \approx 159Hz$$

$$f_{max} = \frac{1}{2\pi \times 100 \times 10n} \approx 159kHz$$

So, frequency range would be 159Hz to 159kHz

2.2 Block 2: Square wave generator

As square wave generator we have a basic astable multivibrator. This circuit works on a scenario where output will have to stable state and it will swing between them, hence the name. When circuit is $+V_{sat}$, we will have high signal output and when circuit is $-V_{sat}$, we will have low signal output. So, we will have square wave as desired. The circuit for an astable multivibrator is shown below.

astable multivibrator

Here, frequency would be,

$$f = \frac{1}{2RC \ln\left(\frac{2R_1 + R_2}{R_2}\right)} \quad (3)$$

If, we take $R_2 = 1.16R_1$ then,

$$f = \frac{1}{2RC} \quad (4)$$

our block is like this

Here, we took $R_1 = 10k\Omega$ and $R_2 = 11.6k\Omega$ such that $\frac{R_2}{R_1} = 1.16$. Also, you can see that we employed $100k\Omega$ in input terminals for accurate and reliable signal.

Frequency range would be of (for constant capacitance at $50nF$),

$$f_{min} = \frac{1}{2 \times 100k \times 50n} \approx 100hz$$

$$f_{max} = \frac{1}{2 \times 100 \times 50n} \approx 100khz$$

2.3 Block 3: Triangluar Wave generator

We basically extend block 2 with integrator circuit. Which would give triangular wave as intended. Here, this integrator circuit differs from basic circuit that $100k\Omega$ as feedback resister is joined. Which would give better stability and accurate output. Circuit diagram is shown below,

triangle wave generator

Here, R_4 have to be $10R_3$. Frequency is give by same relation as block 2.

— our block —

3 connection and switching