

## High-performance current-controlled CDCCC and its applications

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This paper presents a new high performance active element named Current Controlled Currents Differencing Current Copy Conveyer (CC-CDCCC). The main features of this element are large dynamic range, wide bandwidth and high accuracy. Furthermore, its intrinsic resistances of two input current terminals can be independently set by external balancing bias currents which lead to use low number of active elements. To demonstrate the high performance of the CC-CDCCC, two current-mode signal processing applications are presented in this paper i.e. universal filters and quadrature oscillator. Both of these applications are electronically controlled for a wide range of frequencies and they employ single CC-CDCCC and two grounded capacitors which are advantageous for monolithic integration. PSpice simulation results using the 0.25  $\mu\text{m}$  CMOS technology from TSMC are included to verify the correct functionality of the proposed circuit.

**Keywords:** Quadrature oscillator, Universal filters, Current controlled active elements, Resistorless

### 1 Introduction

Electronically controlled active elements are widely used and play significant role in circuit applications. They enable tuning of specific application parameters e.g. the natural frequency and quality factor of filters or the frequency of oscillation and condition of oscillation of oscillators. Furthermore, they allow a fine-tuning in case of any possible deviations in circuit parameters after manufacturing since it is well known that the tolerance of the electronic components in monolithic integrated circuit can be unacceptably high. A variety of electronically controlled active elements have been presented in the literature<sup>1-5</sup>, such as CCCII, CCDDCC, CCCFTA, CCCDTA and CCCDBA. In integrated circuits, realization of passive resistors on chip occupies quite large die area. Modern IC design leads to electronic resistors usage. The electronic resistors have the following benefits which are small die area and tunability feature. In practice, active elements suffer from undesirable parasitic impedances i.e. parasitic/intrinsic capacitances and resistances. However, replacing the passive resistors in circuit applications by the parasitic intrinsic resistances of the active elements become beneficial since it leads to shrink the die area of the IC and hence the total manufacturing cost. Although, the CCCDTA and CCCDBA have current controlled

input intrinsic resistances, the values of these resistances are not identical and controlled by the same bias current, therefore, they could not be used for such applications that require the value of these resistance to be variant, as a result the applicability of these elements are limited.

In our survey of most recently published papers related to current-mode universal filters and quadrature oscillators we have discovered drawbacks that will be described below. Some filter applications use floating passive elements which are not suitable for integration<sup>6,9,12</sup>. Some filter applications lack electronic controlled feature<sup>6,7</sup>, suffer from excessive component<sup>6,9</sup>. Some filters have electronic controlled feature but the balancing bias current cannot be achieved<sup>11</sup>. Other filter applications can use the simple feature of active building block without electronic controlled feature<sup>10</sup>. In recent years, the classified of active building blocks are introduced<sup>13</sup>. One of different active building block is a current differencing current conveyor (CDCC). It provides a differencing current output connected to a current conveyor without electronic tunability feature. The new current-mode active device named current controlled current differential current conveyor<sup>14</sup> was introduced with single electronic tunability but it lacks of independent tunability feature of  $n$  and  $p$ .

terminals. Therefore, for implementing a second order filter or oscillator it needs at least two active elements. Regarding the quadrature sinusoidal oscillators (QSO) which are suitable for the communication system, a simple CMOS-OTA has been introduced but has no equal amplitude outputs<sup>15</sup>. Some oscillators use floating passive elements which are not suitable for integration<sup>16-19</sup>, and without electronic tunability feature<sup>20-22</sup>. One needs 2 resistors and 3 capacitors for constructing<sup>23</sup> the QSO. Tunable oscillators using CDTA based on similar structure employ a grounded resistor for obtaining condition of oscillation<sup>24,25</sup> which is not attractive in the fully electronic tunability purpose.

Therefore, this paper presents new high-performance active element CC-CDCCC; it offers large dynamic range and wide bandwidth similar to its current-mode counterparts. The intrinsic resistances of its input current terminal are controlled independently by external bias currents. Also, two identical of intrinsic resistances can be realized by balancing two bias currents to be identical enabling a simply tuning condition of desired parameters. It enables to design for the application by using only one active element. To demonstrate the attractive features of the CC-CDCCC, in contrast to previously presented current controlled active elements, low-complexity of two current-mode applications is presented in this paper. The first application is single input multiple outputs (SIMO) universal filters and the second one is quadrature sinusoidal oscillator (QSO). Both of the applications are electronically controlled in wide range of frequencies and they employ only single CC-CDCCC and two grounded capacitors. The current output signals are obtained from current output terminals of high impedance; therefore, no additional buffers are required.

## 2 Current Controlled CDCCC (CC-CDCCC)

The CC-CDCCC is a new active element whose symbol and equivalent circuit are shown in Fig. 1(a and b), respectively. It has two input current terminals  $x_p$  and  $x_n$ , where their intrinsic resistances are controlled separately by two bias currents  $I_{Bp}$  and  $I_{Bn}$ , respectively. It has also a voltage input terminal  $y$  and five output current terminals  $z_+$ ,  $z_-$ ,  $p_c$  and  $n_c$  all of them possess high impedance values.

The characteristics of the CC-CDCC can be described as:

$$\begin{pmatrix} I_y \\ V_p \\ V_n \\ I_{z+} \\ I_{z-} \\ I_{pc} \\ I_{nc} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & R_p & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & R_n & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} V_y \\ I_p \\ I_n \\ V_{z+} \\ V_{z-} \\ V_{pc} \\ V_{nc} \end{pmatrix}. \quad \dots(1)$$

where  $R_p$  and  $R_n$  are the intrinsic parasitic impedances of the  $x_p$  and  $x_n$  current input terminals, respectively.

The internal MOS structure of the CC-CDCCC is shown in Fig. 2. The positive and negative differential currents  $I_{z+}$  and  $I_{z-}$  can be obtained by the modified translinear current conveyors<sup>26</sup> ( $M_1-M_4$  and  $M_9-M_{12}$ ) with the compensated current transistors  $M_{15}$  and  $M_{16}$  and additional current mirrors. Another extra positive differential current  $I_z$  is added for the circuit realization which named for both z-terminals as  $I_{z1+}$  and  $I_{z2+}$ . The currents of  $I_p$  and  $I_n$  are also duplicated to the  $p_c$  and  $n_c$  terminal by current mirrors, respectively. It should be mentioned that the number of the output current terminals of the CC-CDCCC could be arbitrarily increased simply by using the current mirror principle.

A straightforward circuit analysis of Fig. 2 leads to the following expression of the  $x_p$  terminal:

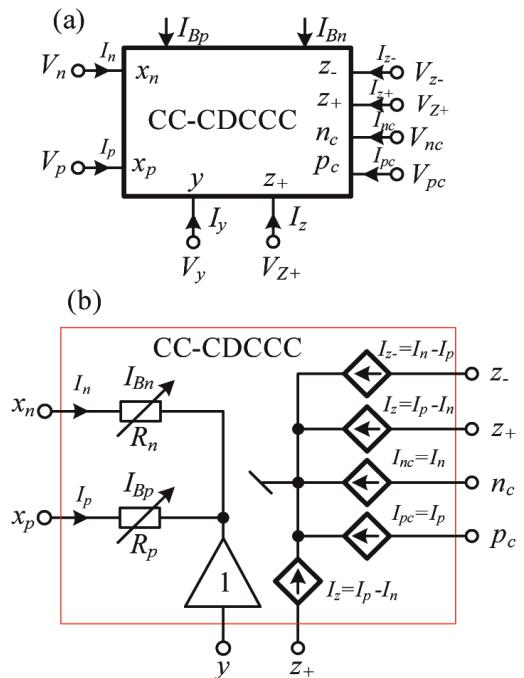


Fig. 1 — (a) Symbol of CC-CDCCC and (b) its equivalent circuit

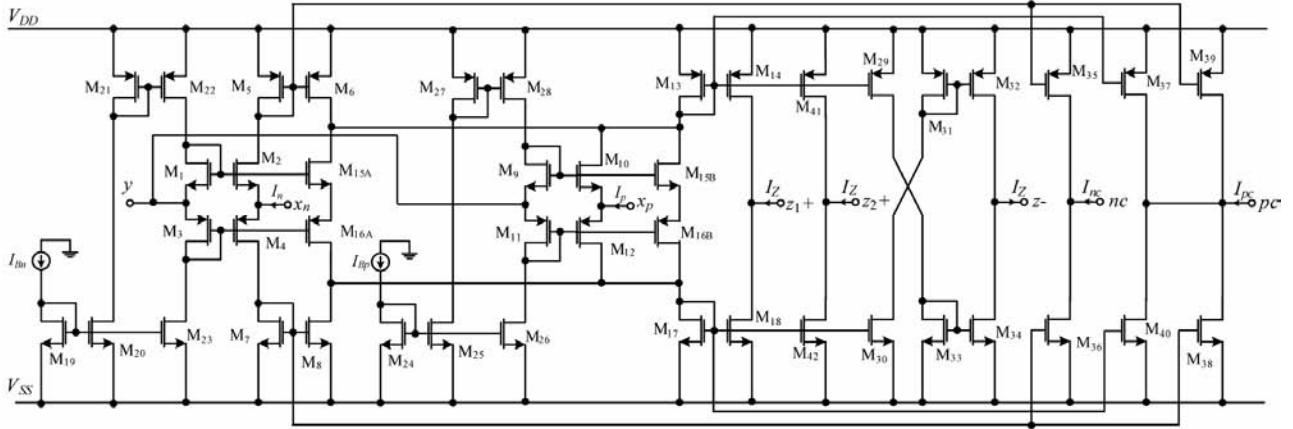


Fig. 2 — Proposed MOS structure of CC-CDCCC

$$R_p \approx \frac{1}{g_{m2} + g_{m4}} \quad \dots(2)$$

where  $g_{m2}$  and  $g_{m4}$  denote the transconductance of  $M_2$  and  $M_4$  transistors, respectively. If  $M_2$  and  $M_4$  are assumed to be matched, then:

$$R_p \approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{8\mu C_{ox}(W/L)I_{Bp}}} \quad \dots(3)$$

Similarly, the intrinsic resistance at  $x_n$  terminal which can also be expressed by:

$$R_n \approx \frac{1}{g_{m10} + g_{m12}} \quad \dots(4)$$

Where  $g_{m10}$  and  $g_{m12}$  denote the transconductance of  $M_{10}$  and  $M_{12}$  transistors, respectively. If  $M_{10}$  and  $M_{12}$  are assumed to be matched, then:

$$R_n \approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{8\mu C_{ox}(W/L)I_{Bn}}} \quad \dots(5)$$

where  $\mu$ ,  $C_{ox}$ ,  $W$  and  $L$  are surface mobility, oxide capacitance, channel width and length of MOS transistors ( $M_2$  and  $M_4$ ) ( $M_{10}$  and  $M_{12}$ ), respectively. It is obvious from Eqs. (3) and (5) that the intrinsic resistances  $R_p$  and  $R_n$  can be tuned independently through the current bias  $I_{Bp}$  and  $I_{Bn}$ , respectively.

### 3 Applications based on Single CC-CDCCC

In this section the low-complexity of two current-mode applications based on single CC-CDCCC and two grounded capacitors are described.

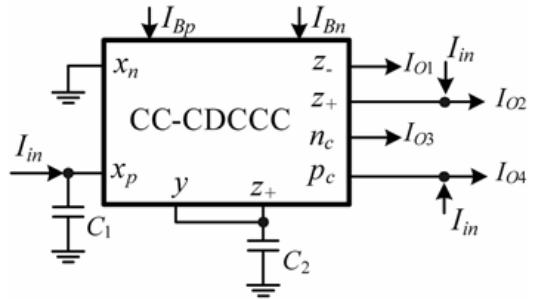


Fig. 3 — Universal filters based on single CC-CDCCC

#### 3.1 Current-mode universal filters based on single CC-CDCCC

The proposed current-mode universal filters based on single CC-CDCCC and two grounded capacitors is shown in Fig. 3. Using routine analysis, four type transfer functions can be obtained from four independent current output terminals i.e. low-pass (LP), high-pass (HP), band-pass (BP) and band-reject (BR). Four current transfer functions can be expressed below:

$$\text{The BP response } \frac{I_{O1}}{I_{in}} = \frac{s \left( \frac{1}{R_p C_1} \right)}{D(s)} \quad \dots(6)$$

$$\text{The BR response } \frac{I_{O2}}{I_{in}} = \frac{s^2 + \frac{1}{R_n R_p C_1 C_2}}{D(s)} \quad \dots(7)$$

$$\text{The LP response } \frac{I_{O3}}{I_{in}} = \frac{-\frac{1}{R_n R_p C_1 C_2}}{D(s)} \quad \dots(8)$$

The HP response  $\frac{I_{O4}}{I_{in}} = \frac{s^2}{D(s)}$ . ... (9)

where  $D(s) = s^2 + s\left(\frac{1}{R_n C_2} - \frac{1}{R_p C_2} + \frac{1}{R_p C_1}\right) + \frac{1}{R_n R_p C_1 C_2}$ .

By having an additional  $z_+$  terminal to the CC-CDCCC i.e. output current  $I_{O5}$ , and then by summing  $I_{O2}$  and  $I_{O5}$  the all-pass (AP) response are obtained.

The natural frequency response ( $\omega_0$ ) and quality factor ( $Q_0$ ) are given by:

$$\omega_0 = \sqrt{\frac{1}{R_p R_n C_1 C_2}} \quad \dots (10)$$

$$Q_0 = \frac{\sqrt{R_n R_p C_1 C_2}}{R_p C_1 - R_n C_1 + R_n C_2} \quad \dots (11)$$

Eqs. (10) and (11) show that the parameter  $\omega_0$  can be adjusted without disturbing  $Q_0$  by assigning  $C_1=C_2=C$  and increasing or decreasing the  $R_n$  and  $R_p$  simultaneously. Note that the multiple inputs of filter can be obtained by using the additional current buffer circuit. The negative type of multiple outputs current conveyor (MOCC-) in Fig. 4 can be used as a current buffer. Applying the current input ( $I_{in}$ ), the duplicated current outputs ( $I_{in1}$ ,  $I_{in2}$  and  $I_{in3}$ ) are obtained at outputs. These duplicated current outputs can be directly applied for the inputs of filter in Fig. 3.

### 3.2 Current-mode quadrature oscillator based on single CC-CDCCC

The second application is current-mode quadrature oscillator based on single CC-CDCCC and two

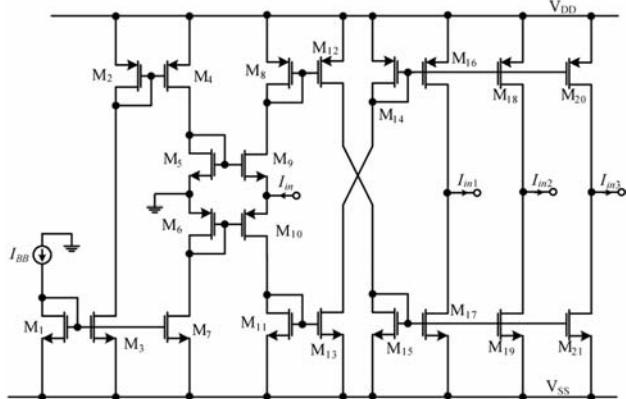


Fig. 4 — Current buffer used for applying in the proposed filter in Fig. 3

grounded capacitors is shown in Fig. 5. The output current waveforms are obtained from current output terminals of high impedances; hence no additional buffers are needed.

Characteristic equation can be expressed as:

$$\frac{s}{R_p C_1} = s^2 + s\left(\frac{1}{R_n C_2} - \frac{1}{R_p C_2} + \frac{1}{R_p C_1}\right) + \frac{1}{R_n R_p C_1 C_2} \quad \dots (12)$$

From Eq. (12), the relations for condition of oscillation (CO) and frequency of oscillation (FO) can be derived:

$$\text{CO: } R_n = R_p \quad \dots (13)$$

$$\text{FO: } \omega_0 = \sqrt{\frac{1}{R_p R_n C_1 C_2}} \quad \dots (14)$$

It is apparent from Eqs. (13) and (14) that the frequency of oscillation can be tuned electronically by means of varying  $R_n$  and  $R_p$  simultaneously without affecting the CO.

### 3.2 Effects of non-idealities and sensitivity analyses of the universal filter and oscillator

Figure 6 shows the simplified equivalent circuit that will be used to represent the behaviour of the non-ideal CC-CDCCC. This mainly results from its finite parasitic elements and non-ideal current transfers. There are parasitic resistances and capacitances ( $R_y$ ,  $C_y$  and  $R_z$ ,  $C_z$ ) from terminals  $y$  and  $z$  to the ground. It can also be seen that the non-ideal voltage and current transfer characteristic of the CC-CDCCC are given as,  $\alpha_p = 1 - \varepsilon_p$ ,  $|\varepsilon_p| \ll 1$  denotes a current tracking error from  $p$  to  $p_c$  and  $z$  terminals,

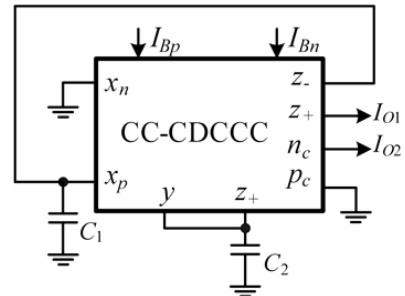


Fig. 5 — Current-mode quadrature oscillator based on single CC-CDCCC

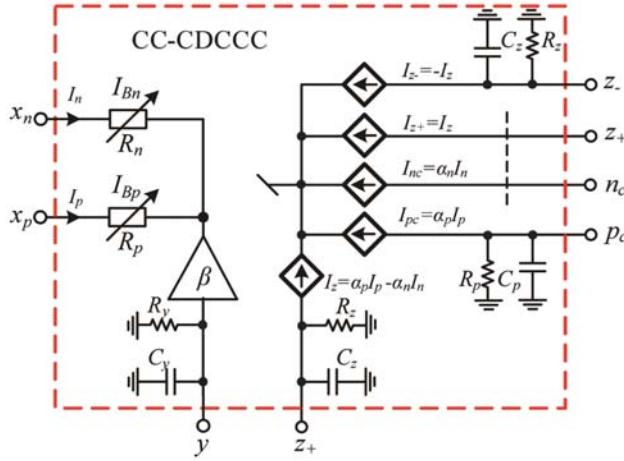


Fig. 6 — Simplified equivalent circuit of the non-ideal CC-CDCCC

$\alpha_n = 1 - \varepsilon_n$ ,  $|\varepsilon_n| \ll 1$  denotes a current tracking error from  $n$  to  $n_c$  and  $z$  terminals, and  $\beta = 1 - \varepsilon_y$ ,  $|\varepsilon_y| \ll 1$  denotes a voltage tracking error at  $y$  terminal. Taking into account the non-ideal CC-CDCCC characteristics and assuming the value of parasitic resistances at  $n_c$ ,  $p_c$ ,  $y$  and  $z$  terminals are high which can be neglected, the modified current transfer functions of filters in Fig. 3 can be rewritten as:

The BP response

$$\frac{I_{O1}}{I_{in}} = \frac{s \left( \frac{\alpha_p}{R_p C_1} \right)}{D_n(s)} \quad \dots(15)$$

The BR response

$$\frac{I_{O2}}{I_{in}} = \frac{s^2 + s \left( \frac{1}{R_p C_1} - \frac{\beta \alpha_p}{R_p C'_2} + \frac{\beta \alpha_n}{R_n C'_2} - \frac{\alpha_p}{R_p C_1} \right) + \frac{\beta \alpha_n}{R_n R_p C_1 C'_2}}{D_n(s)} \quad \dots(16)$$

The LP response

$$\frac{I_{O3}}{I_{in}} = \frac{-\frac{\beta \alpha_n \alpha_p}{R_n R_p C_1 C'_2}}{D_n(s)} \quad \dots(17)$$

The HP response

$$\frac{I_{O4}}{I_{in}} = \frac{s^2 + s \left( \frac{\beta \alpha_p}{R_p C'_2} - \frac{1}{R_p C_1} + \frac{\alpha_p}{R_p C_1} - \frac{\beta \alpha_n}{R_n C'_2} \right) + \frac{(\beta \alpha_n \alpha_p - \beta \alpha_n)}{R_n R_p C_1 C'_2}}{D_n(s)} \quad \dots(18)$$

where

$$D_n(s) = s^2 + s \left( \frac{\beta \alpha_n}{R_n C'_2} - \frac{\beta \alpha_p}{R_p C'_2} + \frac{1}{R_p C_1} \right) + \frac{\beta \alpha_n}{R_n R_p C_1 C'_2}$$

and  $C'_2 = C_2 + C_y + C_z$ . The natural frequency response ( $\omega_{0n}$ ) and quality factor ( $Q_{0n}$ ) becomes:

$$\omega_{0n} = \sqrt{\frac{\beta \alpha_n}{R_p R_n C_1 C'_2}} \quad \dots(19)$$

$$Q_{0n} = \frac{\sqrt{\beta \alpha_n R_n R_p C_1 C'_2}}{\beta \alpha_n R_p C_1 - \beta \alpha_p R_n C_1 + R_n C'_2} \quad \dots(20)$$

Considering Eqs (19) and (20), it can be seen that the capacitor  $C_2$  has received the influences of parasitic capacitances. In fact, the intrinsic resistances at  $x_n$  and  $x_p$  terminals ( $R_n$  and  $R_p$ ) are identical. It means that the frequency response and quality factor receive slight effects from the parasitic capacitances, current and voltage tracking errors. In order to reduce these effects, the accurate current mirrors and  $C_2 \gg C_y + C_z$  are needed. The capacitors  $C_1$  and  $C_2 \geq 30$  pF are used to avoid the parasitic capacitance influences. Although Eqs (19) and (20) show that possible deviations in filters parameters could occur due to parasitic impedances of the filters terminals, these deviations could be simply readjusted electronically through  $R_p$  and  $R_n$ .

The sensitivity analysis with respect to the parameters of the passive elements can be given by:

$$S_{\beta, \alpha_n}^{\omega_0} = -S_{C_1, C'_2, R_p, R_n}^{\omega_0} = \frac{1}{2} \quad \dots(21)$$

$$-S_{C_2, R_n}^{Q_0} = S_{\beta, \alpha_n, C_1, R_p}^{Q_0} = \frac{1}{2} \quad \dots(22)$$

It is obvious from Eqs (21) and (22) that all of filters parameter sensitivities in non-ideal case are 0.5 in absolute values and hence, the filters exhibit an attractive sensitivity performance.

Similarly, the non-ideal parameters are taken into account for the oscillator. By using routine analysis, the modified characteristic equation of Fig. 4 yields:

$$s \left( \frac{\alpha_p}{R_p C'_1} \right) = s^2 + s \left( \frac{\beta\alpha_n}{R_n C'_2} - \frac{\beta\alpha_p}{R_p C'_2} + \frac{1}{R_p C'_1} \right) + \frac{\beta\alpha_n}{R_n R_p C'_1 C'_2} \quad (23)$$

where  $C'_1 = C_1 + C_z$  and  $C'_2 = C_2 + C_y + C_z$ . The condition of oscillation and frequency of oscillation become:

$$\text{CO: } \frac{\beta\alpha_n}{R_n C'_2} - \frac{\beta\alpha_p}{R_p C'_2} + \frac{1}{R_p C'_1} - \frac{\alpha_p}{R_p C'_1} = 0. \quad (24)$$

$$\text{FO: } \omega_{0n} = \frac{\beta\alpha_n}{R_n R_p C'_1 C'_2}. \quad (25)$$

Considering Eqs. (24) and (25), it can be seen that the capacitors  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  have received the influence of parasitic capacitances. In fact, the intrinsic resistances at  $x_n$  and  $x_p$  terminals ( $R_n$  and  $R_p$ ) are identical. It means that the condition of oscillation and frequency of oscillation receive slight effects from the parasitic capacitances, current and voltage tracking errors. In order to reduce these effects, the accurate current mirrors and  $C_1 \gg C_z$ ,  $C_2 \gg C_y + C_z$  conditions are needed. In this paper, the symmetry structure is implemented for obtaining the identical of  $x_p$  and  $x_n$  current tracking errors. The capacitors  $C_1$  and  $C_2 \geq 30$  pF are used to avoid the parasitic capacitance influences.

#### 4 Simulation Results

##### 4.1 Simulation results of the CC-CDCCC characteristics

For the proposed MOS structure of the CC-CDCCC in Fig. 2 all PMOS transistors have the value of W/L equal to 30  $\mu\text{m}/0.5 \mu\text{m}$  whereas for all NMOS transistors 10  $\mu\text{m}/0.5 \mu\text{m}$  except  $M_1$ ,  $M_2$ ,  $M_9$ ,  $M_{10}$ ,  $M_{15}$  use W/L equal to 5  $\mu\text{m}/0.35 \mu\text{m}$  and  $M_3$ ,  $M_4$ ,  $M_{11}$ ,  $M_{12}$ ,  $M_{16}$  use W/L equal to 8  $\mu\text{m}/0.35 \mu\text{m}$ . The voltage supplies are  $V_{DD} = -V_{SS} = 1.25 \text{ V}$  and the TSMC 0.25  $\mu\text{m}$  SPICE model<sup>27</sup> is used. The total power consumption of the CC-CDCCC is in range from 0.575  $\mu\text{W}$  to 5.75 mW for bias currents  $I_{Bp} = I_{Bn}$  in range 0.01-100  $\mu\text{A}$ , respectively. For the additional current buffer in Fig. 4, all PMOS transistors also have the

value of W/L equal to 30  $\mu\text{m}/0.5 \mu\text{m}$  whereas for all NMOS transistors 10  $\mu\text{m}/0.5 \mu\text{m}$  except  $M_5$ ,  $M_9$  use W/L equal to 5  $\mu\text{m}/0.35 \mu\text{m}$  and  $M_6$ ,  $M_{10}$  use W/L equal to 8  $\mu\text{m}/0.35 \mu\text{m}$ . The bias current and supply voltage are 100  $\mu\text{A}$  and  $\pm 1.25 \text{ V}$ , respectively.

The simulation results of the CC-CDCCC are shown in Figs 7-9 and they show the high performance of this active element. Figure 7 shows the frequency responses of the  $x_p$  terminal impedances with varying the bias current  $I_{Bp}$  for the following values [0.01, 0.1, 1, 10, 100]  $\mu\text{A}$  and then the values of  $R_p$  are [43.7 k, 13.8 k, 4.37 k, 1.38 k, 437]  $\Omega$ , respectively. It is evident from Fig. 7 the wide range of  $R_p$  tuning. Identical frequency responses of the impedances of  $x_n$  terminal are obtained by varying the bias current  $I_{Bn}$ . The dc characteristics of  $I_{z+}$  and  $I_{z-}$  against  $I_p$  and  $I_n$  for  $I_{Bp} = 100 \mu\text{A}$  are shown in Fig. 8. It is obvious that the high accuracy and linearity of currents are in the range 100-1000  $\mu\text{A}$ .

Figures 9 and 10 show the frequency responses of the current transfer of different terminals  $I_{pc}/I_p$ ,  $I_{z+}/I_p$ ,  $I_{z-}/I_p$ ,  $I_{z+}/I_n$ ,  $I_{pc}/I_n$ , and  $I_{z-}/I_n$  for  $I_{Bp} = I_{Bn} = 100 \mu\text{A}$ . The

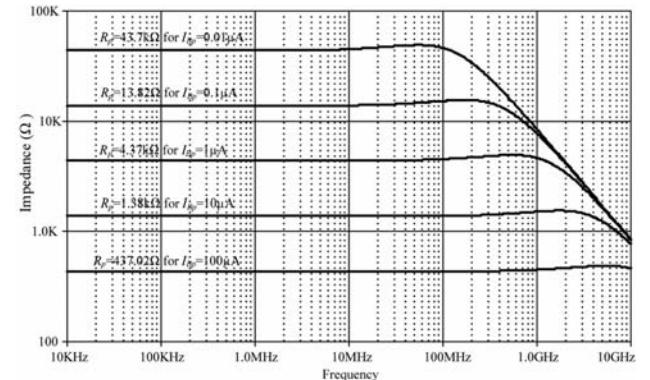


Fig. 7 — Frequency responses of  $x_p$  terminal impedances with varying the bias current  $I_{Bp}$

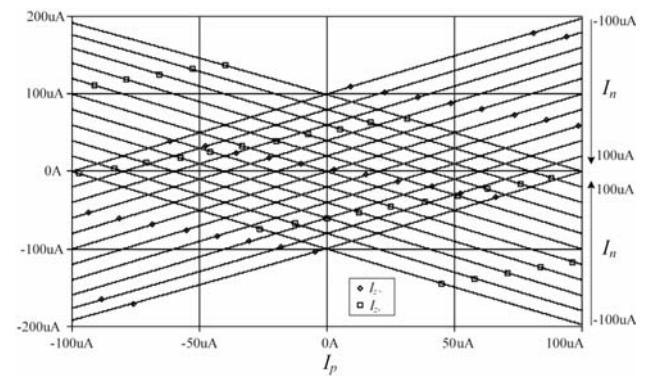
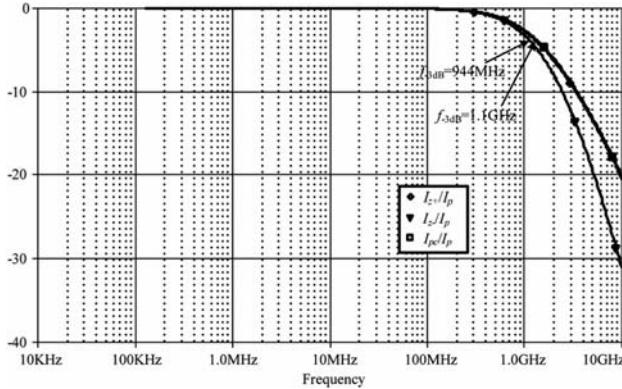
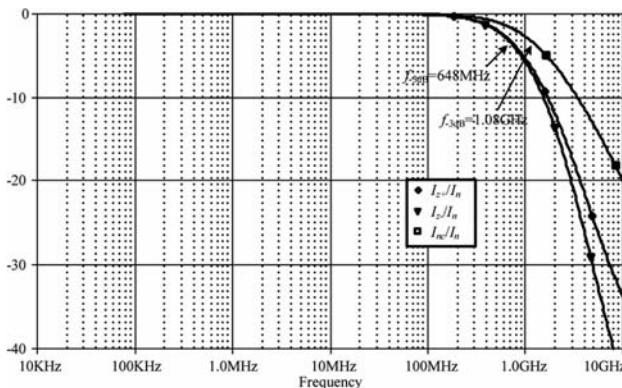


Fig. 8 — dc characteristic of  $I_{pc}$ ,  $I_{z+}$  and  $I_{z-}$  versus  $I_p$

Fig. 9 — Frequency response of  $I_{pc}$ ,  $I_{z+}$  and  $I_{z-}$  versus  $I_{pc}$ Fig. 10 — Frequency response of  $I_{nc}$ ,  $I_{z+}$  and  $I_{z-}$  versus  $I_n$ 

3dB bandwidths of the current transfers  $I_{z+}/I_p$  and  $I_{z-}/I_p$  is obtained around 1.1 GHz but  $I_{pc}/I_p$  is around 944 MHz. Other results are obtained for the current transfers  $I_{z+}/I_n$ ,  $I_{z-}/I_n$  is obtained around 1.08 GHz but  $I_{nc}/I_n$  is around 648 MHz.

Figures 11 and 12 show the total harmonic distortion (THD) of different terminals of proposed CC-CDCCC. Sinusoidal 10 MHz are applied at  $I_p$  and  $I_n$  with bias currents  $I_{Bn}=I_{Bp}=100 \mu A$ . It is obvious that the THD results of different terminals are lower than 1% under the 100  $\mu A$  input current amplitude.

#### 4.2 Simulation results of the universal filters

The simulations of the proposed universal filters are shown in Figs 13-15. Figure 13 shows the current-mode magnitude responses of LP, HP, BP and BR when  $C_1=C_2= 30 \text{ pF}$  and  $R_p=R_n= 437.02 \Omega$  (for  $I_{Bp}=I_{Bn}= 100 \mu A$ ). The simulated natural frequency  $f_0= 12.023 \text{ MHz}$  and the theoretical one  $f_0= 12.139 \text{ MHz}$ .

The electronic tunable facility for a wide range of frequencies of the filter are shown on BP responses

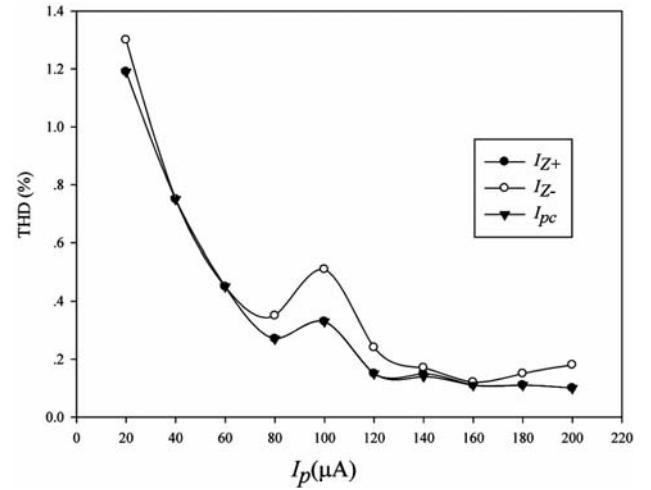
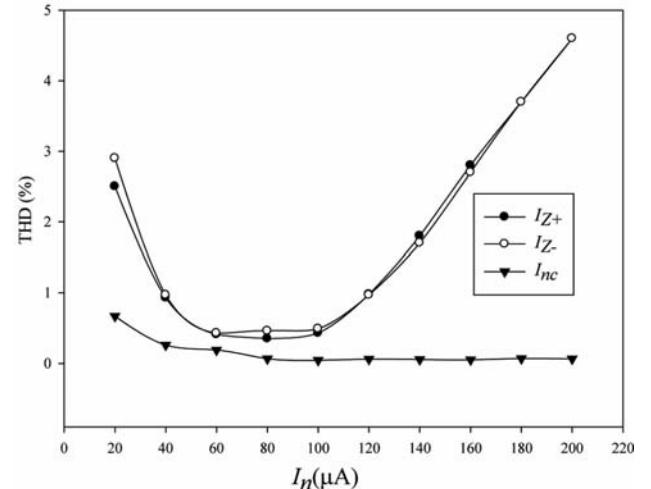
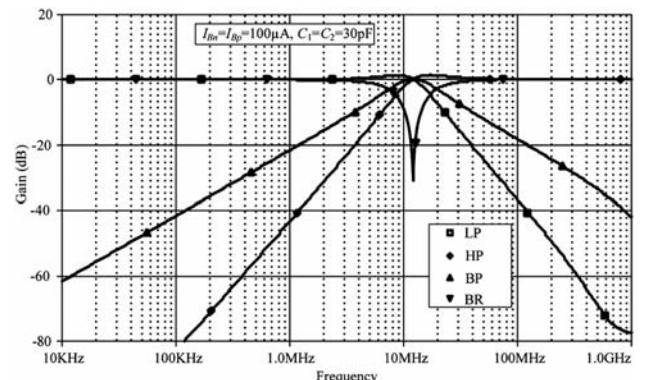
Fig. 11 — THD of  $I_{z+}$ ,  $I_{z-}$  and  $I_{pc}$  by applying the sinusoidal 10 MHz at  $I_p$  with bias currents  $I_{Bn}=I_{Bp}=100 \mu A$ Fig. 12 — THD of  $I_{z+}$ ,  $I_{z-}$  and  $I_{nc}$  by applying the sinusoidal 10 MHz at  $I_p$  with bias currents  $I_{Bn}=I_{Bp}=100 \mu A$ 

Fig. 13 — Current-mode magnitude responses of LP, HP, BP and BR

for  $C_1 = C_2 = 30 \text{ pF}$  in Fig. 14 by stepping the bias currents  $I_{B1} = I_{B2} = [0.01, 0.1, 1, 10, 100] \mu\text{A}$ . The cutoff frequencies are in range from 120 kHz to 12 MHz which prove the capability of tunability in wide range of frequencies. The current-mode magnitude and phase response of AP with  $C_1 = C_2 = 30 \text{ pF}$  are shown in Fig. 15. The simulated natural frequency  $f_0 = 12.05 \text{ MHz}$  and the theoretical one  $f_0 = 12.139 \text{ MHz}$ . The comparison of proposed filter with previous filter is listed in Table 1. The proposed CC-CDCCC can

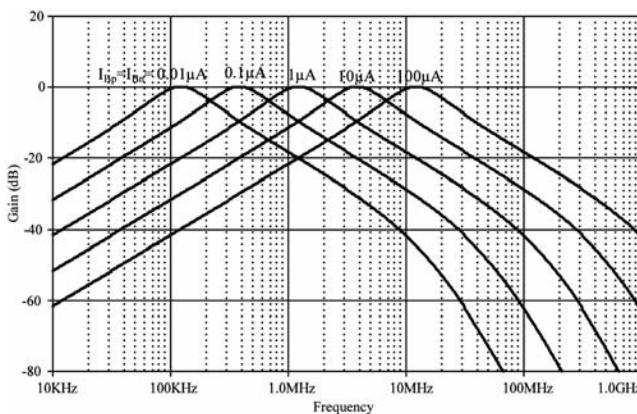


Fig. 14 — Band-pass responses with  $C_1 = C_2 = 30 \text{ pF}$  and varying the bias currents  $I_{Bp} = I_{Bn}$

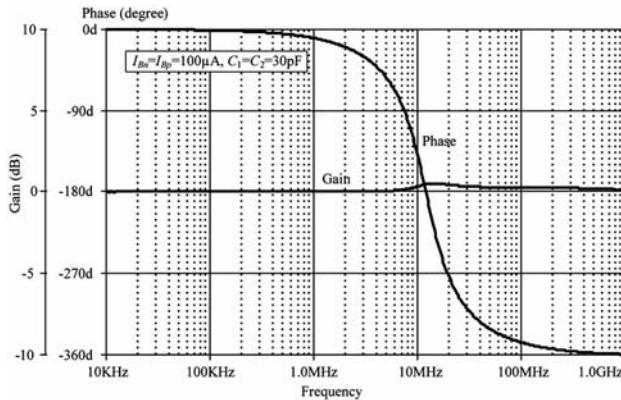


Fig. 15 — Current-mode magnitude and phase responses of AP with  $C_1 = C_2 = 30 \text{ pF}$

provide tunable second-order filter without the resistors by using only 44 transistors.

#### 4.3 Simulation results of quadrature oscillator

The simulations of the proposed quadrature oscillator are shown in Figs 16 and 17. Figure 16 shows the current output waveforms  $I_{o1}$  and  $I_{o2}$  when  $C_1 = C_2 = 30 \text{ pF}$ . To ensure that the oscillations would start the value of  $R_p$  is adjusted slightly lower than  $R_n$  i.e.  $R_p = 435.935 \Omega$  ( $I_{Bp} = 100.5 \mu\text{A}$ ) and  $R_n = 437.02 \Omega$  ( $I_{Bn} = 100 \mu\text{A}$ ). The simulated frequency  $f = 12.203 \text{ MHz}$  and the theoretical one  $f = 12.139 \text{ MHz}$ . The spectrum of oscillator output currents is shown in Fig. 17. The total harmonic

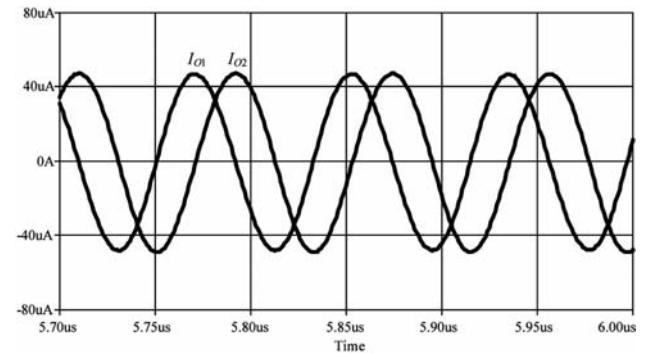


Fig. 16 — Waveforms of the oscillator output currents

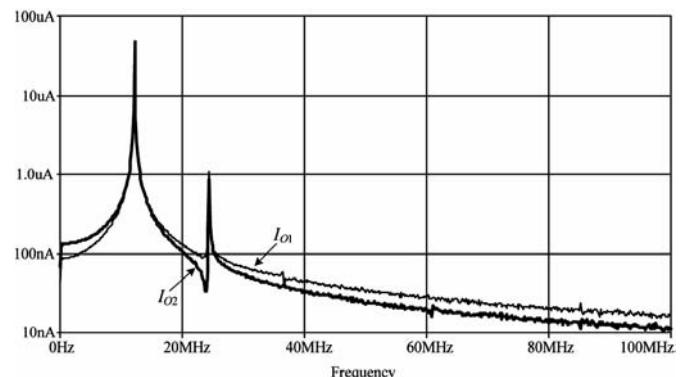


Fig. 17 — Spectrum of oscillator output currents

Table 1 — Comparison features of proposed filter with previous filters

	Active element	Transistors	Bandwidth	Electronic tuning	External resistors	Technology
[6]	3 DVCCs	54	<10 MHz	no	4	TSMC 0.35 $\mu\text{m}$
[7]	3ICCIIs	54	<10 MHz	no	2	TSMC 0.18 $\mu\text{m}$
[8]	3 DVCCs	60	<10 MHz	yes	no	TSMC 0.35 $\mu\text{m}$
[9]	1 CDTA	23	<10 MHz	Yes	3	BJT ALA400
[11]	2 CCCIIs	78	<10 MHz	Yes	no	BJT ALA400
Proposed	1 CC-CDCCC	44	>10 MHz	Yes	no	TSMC 0.25 $\mu\text{m}$

Table 2 — Comparison features of proposed quadrature oscillator with previous quadrature oscillators

	Active element	Transistors	Bandwidth	Electronic tuning	External resistors	Technology
[16]	2 CDTAs	48	<10 MHz	No	2	MIETEC 0.5 $\mu$ m
[17]	1 CDTA	23	<10 MHz	Yes	1	0.7 $\mu$ m
[19]	1 CFTA+ 1 UGVF	>20	<1 MHz	Yes	2	BJT ALA400
[22]	3 CCIIIs	39	<1 MHz	No	3	AD844
[25]	2 CDTAs	48	<10 MHz	Yes	1	MIETEC 0.5 $\mu$ m
Proposed	1 CC-CDCCC	44	>10 MHz	Yes	No	TSMC 0.25 $\mu$ m

distortion (THD) of the current output waveforms  $I_{o1}$  and  $I_{o2}$  is 2.33 % and 1.87 %, respectively. The comparison of proposed quadrature oscillator with previous quadrature oscillator is listed in Table 2. The proposed CC-CDCCC can provide tunable quadrature oscillator without the resistors by using only 44 transistors.

## 5 Conclusions

A new high performance electronically tunable active element CC-CDCCC is presented in this paper. The main features of this element are large dynamic range, wide bandwidth and high accuracy. Furthermore, its intrinsic resistances of the input current terminals can be independently set by external balancing bias currents. Based on this active element, a current-mode universal filters and quadrature oscillator are presented as possible applications. Both applications are electronically controlled for wide range of frequencies and they employ only single CC-CDCCC and two grounded capacitors which are advantageous for monolithic integration. The simulation results proved the high performance of the proposed circuit and correspondence with theory. The total power consumption of the CC-CDCCC device is lower than 5.75mW.

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