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# New Reconfigurable Universal SISO Biquad Filter Implemented by Advanced CMOS Active Elements

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**Abstract**—This paper presents new topology of fully universal multi-parametrically and electronically reconfigurable reconnection-less single-input single-output (SISO) voltage-mode biquad filter. The proposed structure can be reconfigured to offer each of all five second-order transfers functions (high-pass, band-pass, low-pass, band-reject and all-pass) as well as setting of pole frequency and quality factor. Special active device called controlled-gain current-controlled differential difference current conveyor of second generation has been designed in 0.35  $\mu\text{m}$  CMOS technology for purposes of modeling and simulation tests of proposed filter. PSpice simulations confirm intended behavior of the topology.

**Keywords**—biquads, current conveyors, electronic control, multi-parametric control, reconfiguration, universal filter

## I. INTRODUCTION

An idea of filtering circuits providing different output responses without necessity of change of the input and output terminal has been found as very useful for various applications where galvanic reconnection is problematic (microwave structures and integrated circuits on chip [1], [2]) or even not possible. Reconnection-less reconfigurable biquadratic (2<sup>nd</sup>-order) filters have been studied in recent years. However, recent studies [3]-[6], have not brought fully universal solution (i.e. offering all five transfer functions). Readjustment between these types of transfers, namely high-pass (HP), band-pass (BP), low-pass (LP), band-reject (BR) and all-pass (AP), is not available in standardly complex solutions of reconfigurable reconnection-less filters of 2<sup>nd</sup>-order ([3]-[6]), see comparison in Table I. The presented attempts [3]-[6] are not fully-featured (full universality) in comparison to the standard multifunctional single-input multiple-output (SIMO) or multiple-input single-output (MISO) topologies, see for example [7]-[10]. Our newly proposed solution of the filter solves issues of previous topologies, especially lack of full universality and lack of high input impedance (simple cascading) whereas number of used active elements remains satisfactory in comparison to [4].

This paper is organized in the following way. Section II explains model of new advanced active device (its basic features) typical by multi-parameter controllability and multi-terminal features and designed for purposes of discussed application in universal reconfigurable filter that is introduced in Section III. Section IV shows exemplary results of simulated

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circuit and Section V provides concluding remarks.

TABLE I. COMPARISON OF RECENTLY DEVELOPED RECONFIGURABLE RECONNECTION-LESS MULTIFUNCTIONAL 2<sup>ND</sup>-ORDER FILTERS

| Reference | Available transfers                                  | No. of act./pas. elements | Mode (voltage-VM/current-CM) | Inp. impedance /independent on frequency? | Out. impedance /independent on frequency? |
|-----------|--|---------------------------|------------------------------|---|---|
| [3]       | BR, AP <sup>a</sup>                                  | 2/4                       | VM                           | -/No                                      | Low/No                                    |
| [4]       | BR, AP   | 7/7                       | VM                           | -/Yes                                     | Low/Yes                                   |
| [5]       | BR, AP, HP, HPZ <sup>b</sup> , LPZ, iBP <sup>c</sup> | 4/2 <sup>d</sup>          | VM                           | -/No                                      | -/No                                      |
| [6]       | LP, HP, BR, HPZ, LPZ                                 | 2/3                       | CM                           | Low/Yes                                   | High/Yes                                  |
| Fig. 4    | HP, iBP, LP, BR, AP                                  | 4/4                       | VM                           | High/Yes                                  | -/Yes                                     |

<sup>a</sup> not controllable  $Q_0 < 0.5$ ; <sup>b</sup> HPZ, LPZ (HP and LP responses with zero); <sup>c</sup> iBP (inverting BP) not full-featured (low-frequency side-band with finite attenuation); <sup>d</sup> floating C required (complication for IC implementation); <sup>e</sup> depends on setting of controllable resistance of X terminal (active device)

## II. CONTROLLED-GAIN CURRENT-CONTROLLED DIFFERENTIAL DIFFERENCE CURRENT CONVEYOR

An overview of advanced active elements has been prepared in [11], [12]. Differential voltage operations as well as current output terminals are highly useful in the design of filtering structures. Therefore, differential difference current conveyor of second generation (DDCC) [13] and its further modification [14] inspired our proposal and presented design. An application of this active element presented in this paper supposes electronic control of parameters (tuning, etc.). Parameters of active element, supposed for adjustment in the intended application, are the current input terminal resistance [15] and current gains (see [16] and references cited therein). Both these parameters can be controlled independently in single active element [17], however, with lack of differential voltage operation [13], [14]. The current-controlled differential difference current conveyor (CCDDCC) [18], [19] solves this issue partially (its current input terminal defines and employs controllable resistance).

The so-called controlled-gain current-controlled differential difference current conveyor of second generation (CG-CCDDCC) was designed in order to overcome these issues and it is shown in Fig. 1. Terminals  $Y_1$  and  $Y_2$  represent high

impedance differential voltage inputs, X is low-impedance controllable current input terminal and  $Z_{1,2}$  are high-impedance current outputs. The transfer relations of CG-CCDDCC have the following definition:  $V_{Y1} - V_{Y2} = V_X - R_X I_X$  ( $V_{Y1} - V_{Y2} = V_X$  for open X),  $I_{Z1} = I_X B_a$ ,  $I_{Z2} = -I_X B_b$ , where  $B_a$  and  $B_b$  represent independently electronically adjustable current gains (new feature of the device with respect to previous solutions). Figure 2 introduces the concept of the CG-CCDDCC.

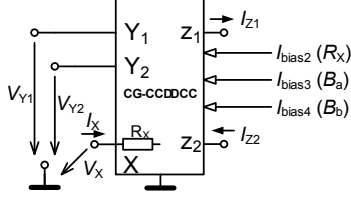


Fig. 1. Symbol of CG-CCDDCC active device.

The structure in Fig. 2 implements operational transconductance amplifiers (OTAs) [20] as the building blocks. The CMOS model (Fig. 3) was prepared in ON Semiconductor 0.35  $\mu\text{m}$  I3T process [21]. The operation between  $Y_1$ ,  $Y_2$  and X has the following relation (X open):

$$V_X = \frac{I_{OTA1}}{g_{m2}} = \frac{g_{m1}(V_{Y1} - V_{Y2})}{g_{m2}}, \quad (1)$$

where  $V_{Y1} - V_{Y2} = V_X$  results from equality  $g_{m1} = g_{m2}$ . The small-signal input resistance  $R_X$  can be found as:

$$R_X \cong \frac{1}{g_{m3}} \cong \left( K_{Pn} \left( \frac{W}{L} \right)_{M29,30} I_{bias2} \cdot 10 \right)^{-1/2}. \quad (2)$$

The transconductance  $g_{m3}$  belongs to the differential pair of the OTA<sub>3</sub> ( $M_{29,30}$ ), and  $K_{Pn} = 136 \cdot 10^{-6} \mu\text{A}/\text{V}^2$  [21]. The current gain  $B_a$  can be calculated as:

$$B_a = \frac{g_{m6}}{g_{m4}} \cong \sqrt{\frac{2K_{Pn} \left( \frac{W}{L} \right)_{M33,34} I_{bias3}}{4K_{Pn} \left( \frac{W}{L} \right)_{M31,32} I_{bias1}}} \cong \sqrt{2I_{bias3}}, \quad (3)$$

when supposing both transconductance constants and W/L ratios as equal (identical differential pairs). Using the same way of simplification, the gain  $B_b$  can be expressed similarly:  $B_b = -g_{m5}/g_{m4} \cong (I_{bias4}/(2 \cdot I_{bias1}))^{-1/2}$ . The Table II summarizes basic features of proposed CMOS solution.

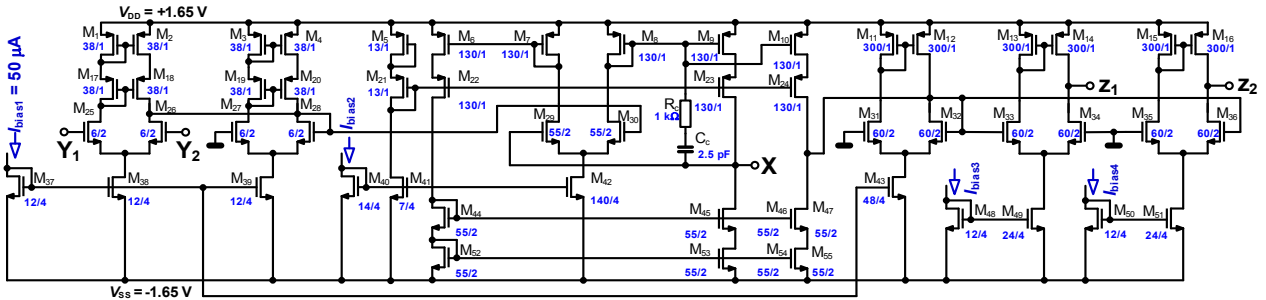


Fig. 3. Full CMOS implementation of CG-CCDDCC based on OTA building blocks as shown in Fig. 2.

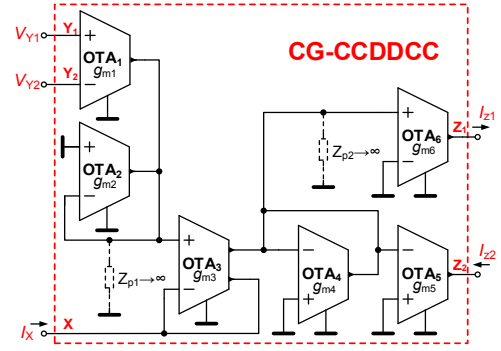


Fig. 2. Internal block concept of designed CG-CCDDCC active element.

TABLE II. TYPICAL PARAMETERS OF CCDDCC CMOS MODEL

| transfer            | AC analysis       |             | DC analysis                             |
|---------------------|-------------------|-------------|---|
|                     | $BW$ (3 dB) [MHz] | gain [-]    | input range                             |
| $Y_1 \rightarrow X$ | 35→61*            | 0.99        | -500→500 mV (X open)                    |
| $Y_2 \rightarrow X$ | 35→60*            | -0.99       | 500→-500 mV (X open)                    |
| $X \rightarrow Z_1$ | 72→105**          | 0.2→1.4**   | -200→200 $\mu\text{A}$ ( $Z_1$ short)** |
| $X \rightarrow Z_2$ | 79→104**          | -0.1→-1.3** | 200→-200 $\mu\text{A}$ ( $Z_2$ short)** |

\* $I_{bias2} = 5 \rightarrow 50 \mu\text{A}$  causing  $R_X = 2.7 \rightarrow 0.71 \text{ k}\Omega$  ( $I_{bias3,4} = 100 \mu\text{A}$ ); \*\* $I_{bias3,4} = 10 \rightarrow 200 \mu\text{A}$  ( $I_{bias2} = 25 \mu\text{A}$ );  
For ( $I_{bias1} = 50 \mu\text{A}$ ,  $I_{bias2} = 25 \mu\text{A}$ ,  $I_{bias3,4} = 100 \mu\text{A}$ , supply  $\pm 1.65 \text{ V}$ ):  $R_X = 1 \text{ k}\Omega$ ,  $16 \mu\text{H}$ ,  $775 \text{ fF}$ ;  $R_{Y1} = \text{inf.}$ ,  $13 \text{ fF}$ ;  $R_{Y2} = \text{inf.}$ ,  $13 \text{ fF}$ ;  $R_{Z1} = 30 \text{ k}\Omega$ ,  $713 \text{ fF}$ ;  $R_{Z2} = 164 \text{ k}\Omega$ ,  $587 \text{ fF}$

### III. RECONFIGURABLE FULLY UNIVERSAL FILTER

The transfer function of newly proposed circuitry of electronically reconfigurable reconnection-less SISO biquad (Fig. 4), has the following full form:

$$K(s) = \frac{\frac{R_1 B_{1a}}{R_{X1}} s^2 - \frac{R_1 B_{2b}}{R_{X1} R_{X2} C_2} s + \frac{B_{2a} B_{3a} R_2}{R_{X1} R_{X2} R_{X3} C_1 C_2}}{s^2 + \frac{1}{R_{X1} C_1} s + \frac{B_{2a}}{R_{X1} R_{X2} C_1 C_2}}, \quad (4)$$

where basic parameters of the filter (pole frequency and quality factor) are given as:

$$f_p = \sqrt{\frac{B_{2a}}{R_{X1} R_{X2} C_1 C_2}}, \quad Q_p = \sqrt{B_{2a} \frac{R_{X1} C_1}{R_{X2} C_2}}. \quad (5), (6)$$

The specific setting of the current gains ( $B_{1a}$ ,  $B_{2b}$ ,  $B_{3a}$ ) in (4) produces transfer responses as shown in Table III.

TABLE III. CONFIGURABLE PROPERTIES OF THE BIQUAD (FIG. 4)

| transfer | $B_{1a} (I_{bias3(1)})^a$ | $B_{2b} (I_{bias3(2)})$ | $B_{3a} (I_{bias3(3)})$ |
|----------|---------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| HP       | 1 (100 $\mu$ A)           | 0 (0 $\mu$ A)           | 0 (0 $\mu$ A)           |
| iBP      | 0 (0 $\mu$ A)             | 1 (100 $\mu$ A)         | 0 (0 $\mu$ A)           |
| LP       | 0 (0 $\mu$ A)             | 0 (0 $\mu$ A)           | 1 (100 $\mu$ A)         |
| BR       | 1 (100 $\mu$ A)           | 0 (0 $\mu$ A)           | 1 (100 $\mu$ A)         |
| AP       | 1 (100 $\mu$ A)           | 1 (100 $\mu$ A)         | 1 (100 $\mu$ A)         |

<sup>a</sup> $I_{bias3}$ (number of CG-CCDDCC in Fig. 4)

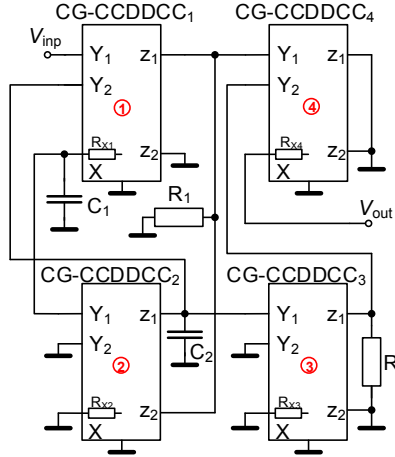


Fig. 4. Universal electronically reconfigurable SISO biquad filter.

#### IV. DESIGN AND VERIFICATION

Our verification targets on the following parameters of the filter:  $f_p = 300$  kHz,  $Q_p = 0.707$  (Butterworth approximation),  $R_1 = R_2 = 1$  k $\Omega$  and  $R_{X3} = 1$  k $\Omega$  ( $I_{bias3(3)} = 25$   $\mu$ A). Supposing  $R_{X1} = R_{X2} = R_{X1,2} = 1$  k $\Omega$  ( $I_{bias2(1,2)} = 25$   $\mu$ A) in the initial design, the remaining values of parameters can be achieved from modified equations (5), (6) as:  $C_1 = 1/(R_{X1,2}^2 \cdot C_2 \cdot (2\pi \cdot f_p)^2)$  and  $C_2 = C_1/Q_p^2$ . Simple calculation yields values (selected from fabrication series)  $C_1 = 360$  pF and  $C_2 = 750$  pF. It causes acceptable deviation from initial  $f_p$ ,  $Q_p$  (expected  $f_p = 306$  kHz,  $Q_p = 0.69$ ,  $Q_p = 6.2$  obtained for  $C_1 = 3.3$  nF and  $C_2 = 82$  pF).

The PSpice analysis yields  $f_p = 305$  kHz and  $Q_p = 0.7$ . The HP, iBP (also for  $Q_p = 6.2$ ), LP and BR magnitude responses in Fig. 5 document each of possible transfer functions as shown in Tab. III. Transfer of the AP in Fig. 6 includes magnitude and phase response.

The ideal bandwidth ( $BW$ ) of the iBP reaches  $BW = f_p/Q_p = 424$  kHz). The expected  $BW = 1/(2\pi \cdot R_{X1} \cdot C_1) = 442$  kHz and simulation yields 434 kHz. The iBP response offers tunability of  $f_p$  (expected  $f_p = 201 \rightarrow 358$  kHz, simulated  $f_p = 184 \rightarrow 362$  kHz) with various bandwidth (expected  $BW = 190 \rightarrow 603$  kHz, simulated  $BW = 158 \rightarrow 613$  kHz) by  $R_{X1} = 2.7 \rightarrow 0.73$  k $\Omega$  ( $I_{bias2(1)}$  parameter) or with constant bandwidth in case of  $B_{2a}$  ( $I_{bias3(2)}$ ) driving (Fig. 7). For theoretically constant  $BW$  operation, the simulated variation of  $BW$  achieves  $442 \rightarrow 431$  kHz for  $B_{2a} = 0.31 \rightarrow 1.4$  while expected  $f_p = 173 \rightarrow 364$  kHz and simulated  $f_p = 135 \rightarrow 360$  kHz.

The next interesting feature of our filter is tunability (Fig. 8) of the LP filter by simultaneous control of  $R_{X1,2} = 2.7 \rightarrow 0.73$  k $\Omega$  and  $B_{2a}$  ( $B_{2a} = 0.31 \rightarrow 1.4$ ) values when  $Q_p$  change is not important. Simple way of LP tuning by  $R_{X1,2}$  offers expected  $f_p = 130 \rightarrow 410$  kHz (simulated  $f_p = 100 \rightarrow 410$  kHz). The combined method ( $R_{X1,2}$  and  $B_{2a}$  control) extends expected range significantly to  $f_p = 34 \rightarrow 567$  kHz (simulated  $f_p = 15 \rightarrow 567$  kHz).

Note that continuous and mutually independent adjustability of individual parameters (coefficients) of numerator of transfer function of the filter brings possibility of various shaping of transfer response in dependence on current requirements. The HP and LP transfers with zeros are also available (the zero location and stop-band gain can be set) and also pass-band gain of these functions can be controlled.

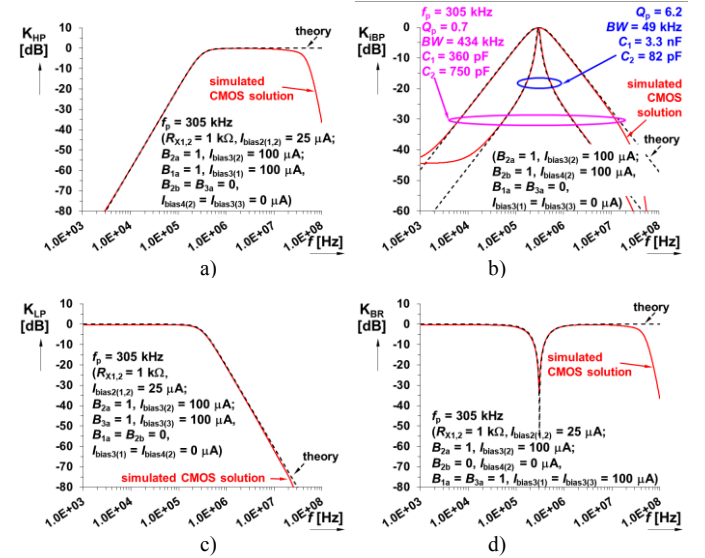


Fig. 5. Magnitude responses of the filter configured as: a) HP, b) iBP, c) LP, d) BR. (Particular setting of current gains is shown in each graph.)

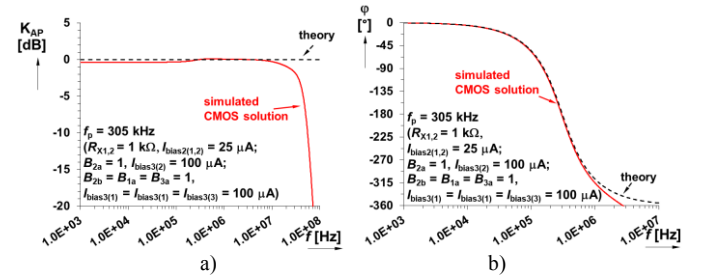


Fig. 6. Configuration as AP filter: a) magnitude response, b) phase response.

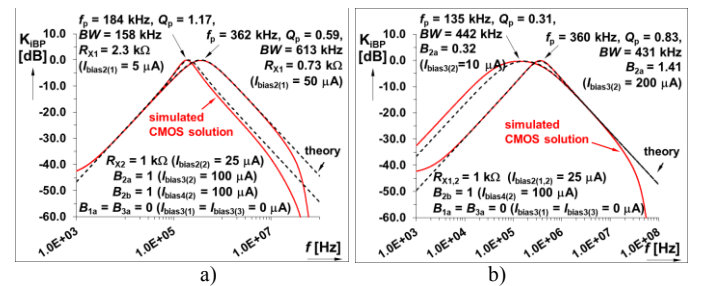


Fig. 7. Tuning of  $f_p$  in case of iBP response: a) various  $BW$ , b) constant  $BW$ .

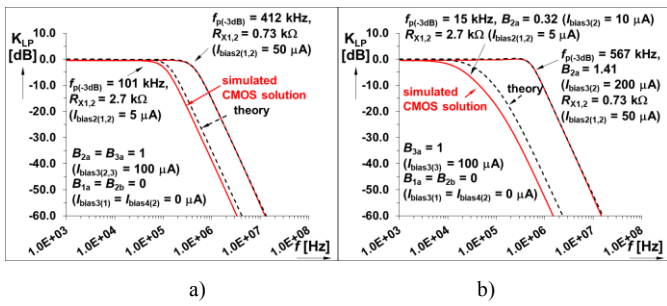


Fig. 8. Tuning of  $f_p$  in case of the LP response: a) by  $R_{X1,2}$  only, b) by  $R_{X1,2}$  and  $B_{2a}$ .

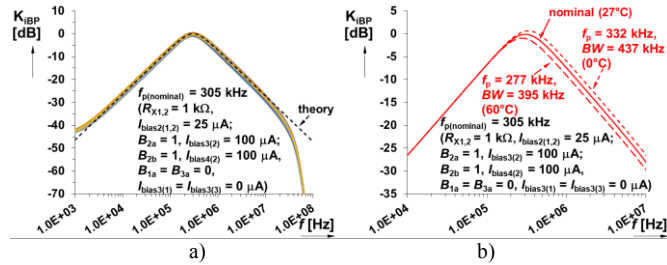


Fig. 9. Simulation of real influences: a) Monte Carlo analysis observed at iBP response (1000 runs), b) temperature variation (0→60°C).

The fabrication dispersion of active parameters and temperature effects play important role in real influences on performance (Fig. 9). We tested Monte Carlo variation of passive (tolerances 5% for capacitors, and 1% for external resistors) as well as active parameters (tolerance 5% of all  $I_{bias2,3,4}$  for setting of  $R_{X1,3}$  and current gains) at iBP response for nominal setting:  $f_p = 305$  kHz,  $Q_p = 0.7$ . Simulation (1000 runs) brings max.  $f_p = 344$  kHz, min.  $f_p = 270$  kHz with 3sigma dispersion 37.6 kHz and max.  $Q_p = 0.81$ , min.  $Q_p = 0.62$  with 3sigma dispersion 0.09. The temperature variation (0→60°C) causes change of  $f_p = 332$ →277 kHz,  $BW = 437$ →395 kHz.

## V. CONCLUSION

Presented advanced active device brings interesting features for synthesis of complex types of transfers in the frame of newly studied reconnection-less reconfigurable universal filtering application. Presented tunability ranges of  $f_p$  are not wide due to conceptual (CMOS) limitations of  $g_m$ -s and  $R_x$  as well as operational bandwidth values (up to 40 MHz) of designed active device. However, it can be improved in future. The main goal of our work targeted on verification of the CG-CCDDCC CMOS model suited and intended for presented application where reconfigurable features were sufficiently confirmed.

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