# **Introduction to Feedback**

Why Feedback?

- Closed-loop gain much better defined
- Modification of input and output impedances.
- Higher closed-loop bandwidth.
- Lower nonlinearity (harmonic distortion).

(all with negative feedback)

**General Feedback System** 



In most analog feedback circuits G(S) is not a function of frequency. This is to simplify frequency compensation.

Elements of a Feedback System:

- 1. Feedforward Amp
- 2. Means of sensing the output
- 3. Feedback Network
- 4. Error Calculation

Note that a high loop gain ensures that the feedback signal is a good replica of the input.



Depending on the quantity sensed at the output and the quantity fed back to the input, we can have one of four basic feedback topologies.

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#### **Properties of Negative Feedback**





Loop Gain:

Example:



# 2. I/O Impedance Modification







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#### **Another Example:**



3. Bandwidth Modification



If the unity-gain bandwidth doesn't change, why use feedback at all?



## 4. Nonlinearity Reduction

Since feedback makes the open-loop gain relatively independent of the open-loop gain, the variation of the open-loop gain with signal level affects the closed-loop behavior to a lesser extent.

# **Types of Amplifiers**

### Ideal Models:





How do we improve these circuits?

## Sense and Return Mechanisms

• How do we sense a voltage or a current?



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### How do we subtract two voltages or two currents?



## Voltage-Voltage Feedback

(The first term refers to the quantity sensed at the output and the second to the quantity fed back to the input.)



This type of feedback:

- Lowers the output impedance.
- Raises the input impedance.



Example





#### **Input Impedance:**



**Example:** 









# Current-Voltage Feedback



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# **Output Resistance:**

Input Resistance:





# **Voltage-Current Feedback**



This type of feedback:

- Lowers the output impedance.
- Lowers the input impedance.

Proof is similar to previous cases.

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# **Example**



Input Impedance:

**Output Impedance:** 

"Transimpedance":

# **Current-Current Feedback**

Analysis is similar to previous cases.

# Effect of I/O Impedances on Feedback

The I/O impedances of the forward amplifier and the feedback network are far from ideal. Thus, the feedback network tends to "load" the amplifier at the output and also alter the input network significantly.

The following issues need to be addressed:

- 1. To find the open-loop characteristics, we need to disable the feedback while taking the loading effects into account.
- 2. To find the loop gain, if we break the loop at some point, we need to take into account the loading effects at that point.

We will find a methodology for performing the first task. We will also show that we need not perform the second task!

Two-Port Network Models

We would like to model the feedback network more realistically:



Each model is described by two equations, e.g.,

 $V_1 = Z_{11}I_1 + Z_{12}I_2$  $V_2 = Z_{21}I_1 + Z_{22}I_2$ 

How do we select the proper model for each feedback topology? The model should remain relevant as we let it approach the ideal case, e.g.,

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#### Effect of I/O Impedances in Voltage-Voltage Feedback



Let us define the (loaded) open-loop voltage gain as:

$$A_{v,open} = \frac{Z_{in}}{Z_{in} + G_{22}} \frac{G_{11}^{-1}}{G_{11}^{-1} + Z_{out}} A_0$$

### This can be obtained from the circuit as shown below:



- Loop Gain: Looking at the closed-loop gain, we can identify the second term in the denominator as the loop gain, which is equal to the open-loop gain times  $G_{21}$ . Thus, we need not calculate the loop gain separately.

#### **Example**



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# <u>Summary</u>











# **Example**

