

## Design of Differential Ring Oscillator Implemented Using CMOS Technology

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**Abstract:** A oscillator can be defined as an electronic circuit producing square or a sine wave as an output. The oscillator thus converts direct current (DC) to alternating current (AC) signal. Its applications are not confined to the generation of sinusoidal output signals but it is widely used in radio and mobile communication applications. The paper focuses on the design and study of CMOS oscillators such as voltage controlled oscillators (VCO's).

We have designed a VCO consisting of a multistage differential Ring oscillators. The design is verified and analysed by simulation process on both schematic and layout level in submicron process.

**Keywords:** Voltage controlled oscillators, direct current, Alternating current, Differential Ring oscillators.

### I. Introduction

Voltage Controlled Oscillators (VCOs) are one of the indispensable element in all communication systems, wired or wireless. They appear in many analog and RF signal processing systems. Wireless and optical communication systems have shown a explosive growth during the last few years. This exponential growth has driven the need for more compact, cost-effective, fully integrated, low noise, low power voltage-controlled oscillator (VCO). Not only in communication systems but also VCOs are integral part of various biomedical applications. As the feature size getting smaller, [5] CMOS technologies are becoming very attractive for the realization of high speed and high frequency ICs. Electronic industries have produced wide range of applications in the industries of telecommunication, biomedical appliances. Typically, the required computational power (or, in other words, the intelligence) of these applications is the driving force for the fast development of this field. The role of oscillators is to create a periodic logic or analog signal with a stable and predictable frequency. Oscillators are required to generate the carrying signals for radio frequency transmission, but also for the main clocks of processors. The output is equal to the input, and the phase difference is equal to one fourth of the period according to the phase Detector principles [3].

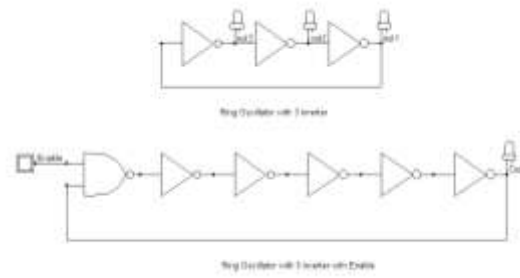
The Software Microwind 3.1 used in project allows us to design and simulate an integrated circuit at physical description level. The package contains a library of common logic and analog ICs to view and simulate. It also includes all the commands for a mask editor as well as original tools never gathered before in a single module such as 2D and 3D process view, Verilog compiler, tutorial on MOS devices. You can gain or access to Circuit Simulation by pressing one single key. The electric extraction of your circuit is automatically performed and the analog simulator produces voltage and current curves immediately

### II. VCO Architecture

#### Design Of Voltage Controlled Oscillator (VCO)

Oscillators are required to generate the carrying signals for radio frequency transmission, but also for the main clocks of processors. The ring oscillator is a very simple oscillator circuit, based on the switching delay existing between the input and output of an inverter. VCOs are generally of the form of a ring oscillator, relaxation oscillator or a resonant oscillator. The ring oscillator, common in monolithic topologies takes the form of an odd number of inverters connected in a feedback loop.

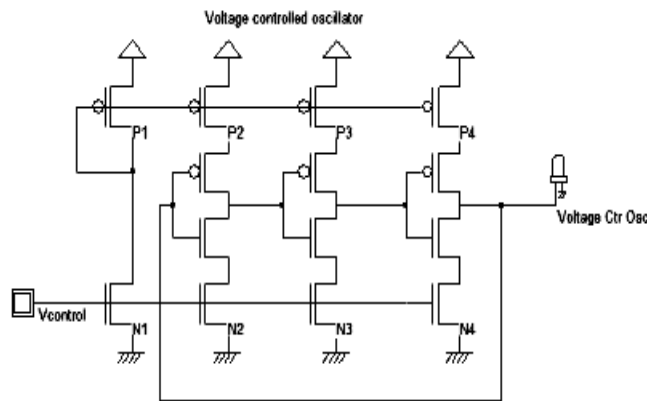
If we connect an odd chain of inverters, we obtain a natural oscillation, with a period which corresponds roughly to number of elementary delays per gate. 5 stage ring oscillator



**Figure 1.1** A ring oscillator is based on odd number of inverters

The voltage controlled oscillator (VCO) generates a clock with a controllable frequency. The VCO is commonly used for clock generation in phase lock loop circuits. The clock may vary typically by +/-50% of its central frequency. A current-starved voltage controlled oscillator is shown in fig 1.2.

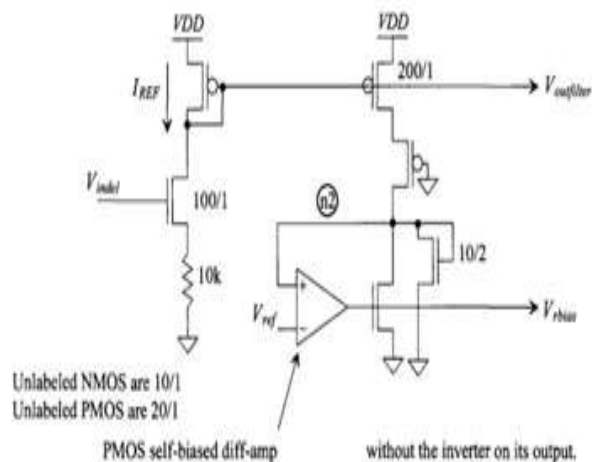
The current-starved inverter chain uses a voltage control Vcontrol to modify the current that flows in the N1, P1 branch. The current through N1 is mirrored by N2, N3, N4, N5 & N6. The some current flows in P1. The current Through P1 is mirrored by P2, P3 and P4. Consequent by the change in Vcontrol induces a global change in the inverter currents and acts directly on the delay.



**Figure1.2.** Schematic diagram of a voltage controlled oscillator

**The Bias circuit**

In the design of VCO,the biasing circuit is one of the important circuit.It is known as the control circuit.The control voltage given to the bias circuit controls the frequency of the diffrential cell circuit.As the voltage changes the number of oscillation varies and thus the frequency also changes.Thus,we get the stable oscillations with a predictable frequency.The below figure 1.3 shows the schematic diagram of the bias circuit.



**Figure 1.3** Schematic diagram of Bias circuit

Design of bias circuit

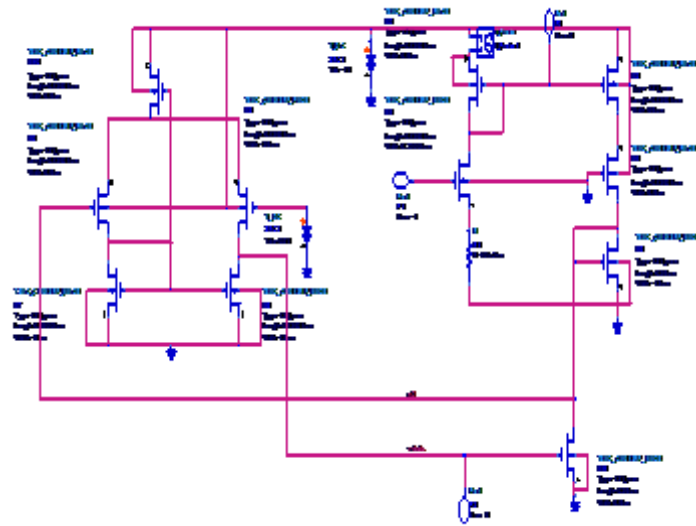


Figure 1.4 Design of bias circuit

Simulation Result

The given figure shows the simulation results for Bias circuit.

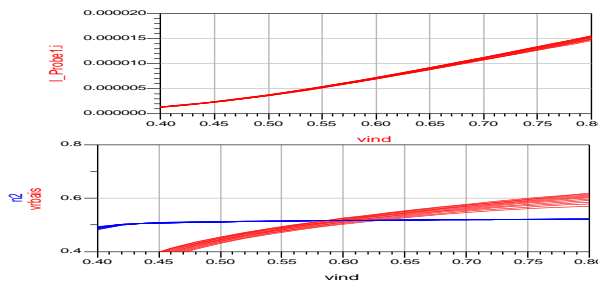


Figure 1.5 Simulation Result

Design of VCO circuit using inverter

The VCO circuit is the fundamental part of Phase locked loop. It is designed by using 0.18micrometer technology. The VCO circuit is simulated with the help of Advanced design system version 2008 software and layout is drawn with the help of Microwind 3.1 software[17]. The target frequency of VCO is 2GHz which is obtained with the help of circuit shown in fig5.9. The design of VCO with the help of inverter provides small circuitary low complexity and there is problem in developing oscillations so to overcome this problem we design VCO with help of differential amplifier as shown in fig. above[15].

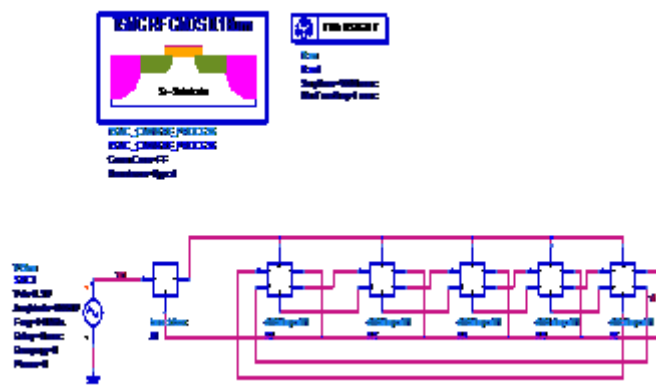


Figure 1.6 Design of VCO circuit

**Simulation Result**

The given figure shows the simulation results for VCO circuit

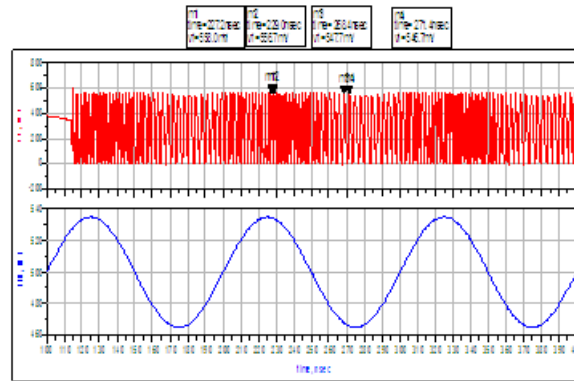


Figure 1.7 Simulation Result

**VCO with Comparator as a buffer circuit**

In this design of VCO circuit comparator is used as a output buffer. The buffer circuit can drive a substantially higher number of loads. It prevents the circuit from overloading effect which helps the voltage controlled oscillator circuit to provide sustained oscillations. The following circuit shows the simulation results.

**Design of VCO with comparator as a buffer**

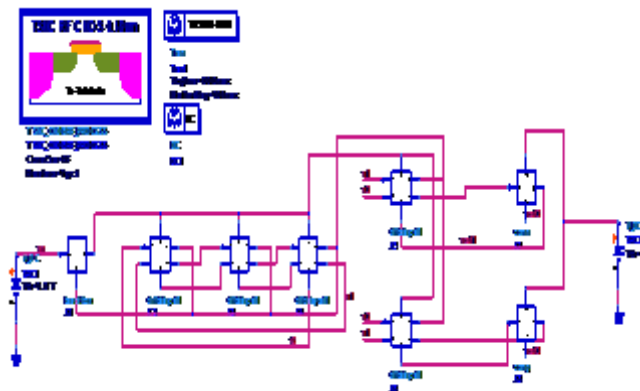


Figure 1.8 Design of VCO with comparator as a buffer

**Design of VCO using Differential Amplifier**

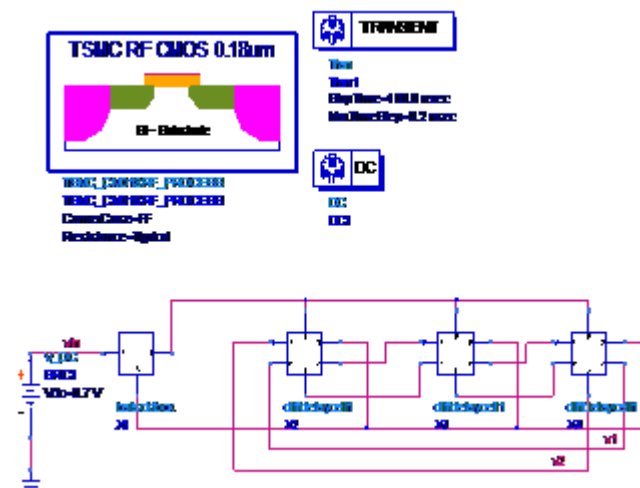


Figure 1.9 Design of VCO

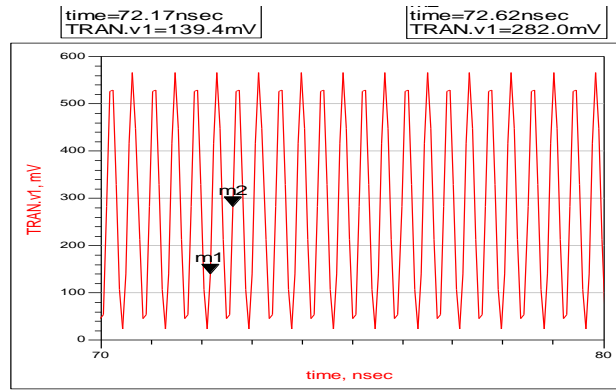


Figure 1.10 Simulation Result

$$\text{Eqn } \text{freq1} = 1 / (\text{indep}(\text{m2}) - \text{indep}(\text{m1}))$$

freq1
2.215 G

The aspect of  $f$  versus  $V_t$  is given in the following table:-

The table gives the idea about how the frequency changes with respect to change in voltage. Table 1 Variation OF frequency with respect to Voltage

Sr.No.	Voltage	Frequency
1	0.1V	2.500GHz
2	0.15V	2.500GHz
3	0.2V	2.500GHz
4	0.25V	2.500GHz
5	0.3V	2.500GHz
6	0.35V	2.500GHz
7	0.4V	2.500GHz
8	0.45V	2.500GHz
9	0.5V	2.500GHz
10	0.55V	2.500GHz
11	0.6V	2.525GHz
12	0.65V	2.293GHz
13	0.7V	2.215GHz
14	0.75V	2.845GHz
15	0.8V	2.338GHz
16	0.85V	2.384GHz
17	0.9V	2.283GHz
18	0.95V	2.167GHz
19	1V	2GHz

### III. Results

The integration of inverter, analog mux, comparator and delay cell circuit forms a complete VCO circuit which is designed with the help of Microwind 3.1 software. The given figure shows the layout of VCO circuit

VCO Layout

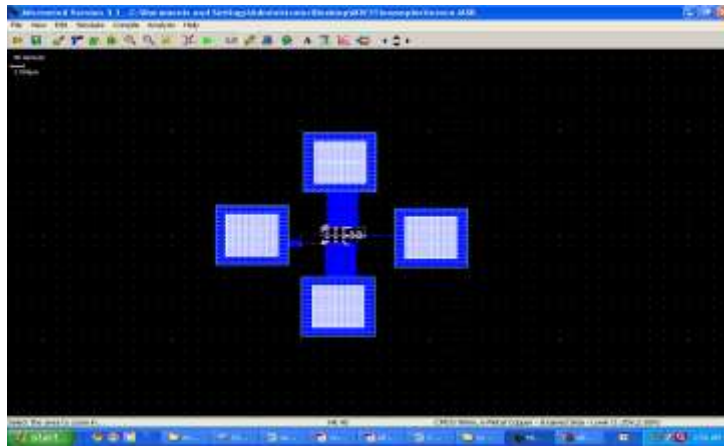


Figure2.1 Layout of VCO

The given figure shows the plot between Voltage and Time for VCO circuit.

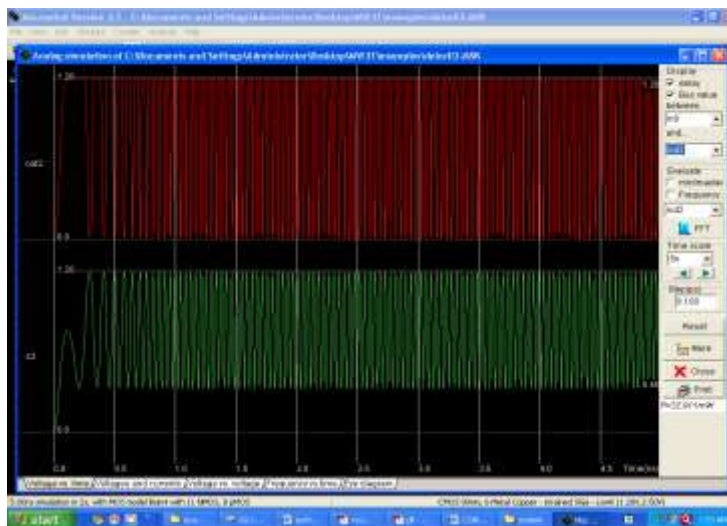


Figure2.2 Voltage vs Tim

The given figure shows the plot between Frequency and Time for VCO circuit

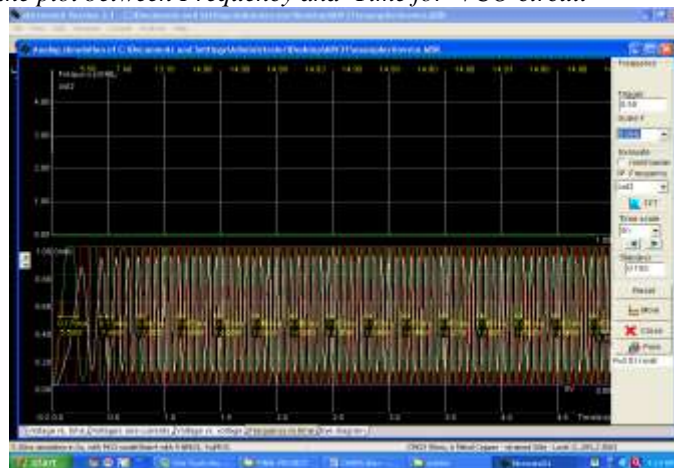


Figure2.3 Frequency vs Tim

## **APPLICATIONS:**

### ***1.As a Frequency generator.***

VCO is voltage controlled oscillator and it operates at frequency 'fo'. Here a frequency deviation is directly proportional to the control voltage hence, it is called as voltage controlled oscillator. As it takes different values of control voltage and it thus produces different values of frequency.

### ***2.In Phase locked loop circuit.***

In PLL circuit, VCO is used to reduce the frequency difference between input frequency and output frequency 'fo'. Once the action starts we can say that signal is in capture range. VCO plays an important role in phase locked loop. It is basically possessing the properties of free running multivibrator.

### ***3.In TV Remote controlling system.***

In TV controlling system, VCO is used for tuning to different channels having different frequency. As VCO provide different values of frequency according to change in control voltage.

## **Acknowledgment**

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