

Figure 1: (a) Block diagram of a sinusoidal oscillator, (b) A specific example of the  $\beta$  network.



Figure 2: Circuit diagram of  $\beta$  network with component values.

Fig. 1 shows the block diagram of a sinusoidal oscillator based on positive feedback. It consists of an amplifier with gain A and a feedback network which is characterised by  $\beta = v_{\text{out}}/v_{\text{in}}$  (see Fig. 2), given by

$$\beta(j\omega) = \frac{Z_2}{Z_1 + Z_2} \,. \tag{1}$$

The condition for oscillation is given by the Barkhausen criterion, viz.,

$$A(j\omega)\,\beta(j\omega) = 1\,. \tag{2}$$

(See opamp\_circuits/wien\_osc\_1.sqproj and opamp\_circuits/wien\_osc\_2.sqproj for oscillator circuits using the above  $\beta$  network.)

## Exercise Set

- Apply the Barkhausen criterion and find the condition for oscillation, i.e., the frequency of oscillation and the condition to be satisfied by A for oscillations to occur (assuming A to be real).
- Simulate the circuit and plot the magnitude and phase of β as a function of frequency.
  From the plots, find the numerical value of A that is required for the circuit to oscillate.
- 3. Compare the values you obtained in (1) with the simulation results.

## References

- S. Franco, Design with Operation Amplifiers and Analog Integrated Circuits, McGraw-Hill, 1998.
- 2. J. Millman and A. Grabel, *Microelectronics*, McGraw-Hill, 1988.