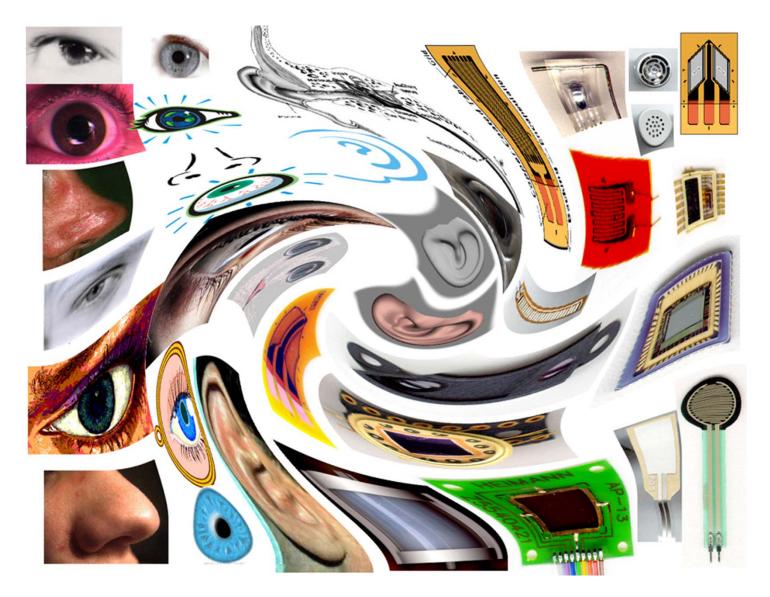
#### **MAS836 – Sensor Technologies for Interactive Environments**



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Lecture 1 – Introduction and Analog Conditioning Electronics, Pt. 1

### **Expectations**

- This is not has become a Lab class
  - ... and does have an important lab component
- Class credit (12H) from:
  - Three or Four problem sets (30%)
    - Copying not allowed
    - Credit not available after solutions handed out
  - Final project (30%)
  - Lab Performance (30%)
  - Attendance/Participation/Reading (10%)

# Projects

- "Project" should demonstrate skill integrating & applying sensors to make a meaningful and understood measurement – Final report required
  - Justify sensor & design choice, quantify performance
  - Class presentation in exam week
  - Short proposal needed
    - Proposals will be quickly covered in class
    - We plan these to be due about a month before project presentation

## Goals

- Attain a broad familiarity with many different sensors useful in a broad definition of "HCI"
  - Develop judgment of what sensors and modalities are appropriate for different applications
  - Know how to electronically condition the sensor, hook it up to a microcomputer, and process the signal (at least basically)
  - Have some idea of how/where these sensors were used before
  - Have a reasonable idea of how different sensors work
  - Develop a sense for recognizing bad data and an intuition of how to resolve problems

# **Working Syllabus**

- Session 1: Introduction, basic sensor-related electronics & signal conditioning
  - Op-Amps, biasing, active and passive filters, differential and bridge amplifiers, comparators
  - Lab 1 Out
- Session 2: Electronics continued
  - Nonlinear circuits, grounding, noise, synchronous detection, simple digital filtering & detection
  - PS1 Out
- Session 3: Electronics continued
  - (Lab 1 due) PS1 Due
- Session 4: Microcontrollers, Digital Sensor Standards & Networks
  - Arduino, IEEE 1451, SensorML, ZigBee, wireless sensing, sensor fusion intro
- Session 5: Pressure & Force
  - Force-sensitive resistors, resistive bendy sensors, resistive strain gauges, silicon pressure sensors, load cells, pressure-through-displacement, fiber optic strain gauges & bend sensors

Note that most classes will involve application discussions

# Working Syllabus (cont)

- Session 6: Piezoelectrics and electroactive materials
  - Intro to ferroelectrics, crystals, PZT, PVDF, electronics, and signal conditioning, electrostrictors and dielectric elastomers

- Lab 2 due
- Session 7: Electric field and inductive sensing
  - Capacitive sensing modes and techniques, Hall sensors, magnetostrictive sensors, metal detectors, LVDT's, VR Trackers, Wireless tag sensors
  - PS2 Due / PS3 Out (Swap Lecture?)
- Session 8: Optical sensing
  - Devices (LDR's, solar cells, photodiodes, APD's, phototubes...), arrays, imagers, focal plane imaging/tracking, occultation, range by intensity of reflection, laser ranging (triangulation, phase slip, TOF)
  - Lab 3 Due
- Session 9: Inertial Systems
  - Orientation sensors (compasses, ball-cup, bubble levels), gyroscopes, accelerometers, MEMs devices, IMU's, analysis techniques
  - PS3 Due

# Working Syllabus (cont)

- Session 10: Acoustics, thermal sensors
  - Temperature sensors (thermistors, integrated temperature sensors, thermocouples, RTD's, PIR, pyroelectric), acoustic pickups & techniques, sonar systems, beamformers
  - Lab 4 Due
- Session 11: MacroParticle, chemical, environmental sensors
  - Smoke detectors, optical scattering, smell, chemical and gas sensors and techniques, environment sensing systems (chemical, air, wind, humidity), remote techniques
  - Project Proposals Due

#### • Session 12: Medical and Radiation Sensing

- Basic sensors for medical monitoring (heart rate, ECG, EKG, blood pressure, etc.), radiation detection (Geiger counters, scintillators, drift & proportional chambers, silicon strip detectors, calorimetery)
- RF and Microwave Systems
- Radar principles, chirped rangefinders, UWB radars, RF location systems, Doppler systems

## Working Syllabus (cont)

• May X – Final Project Presentation

JAP

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Covers of "AIP Handbook of Modern Sensors," Jacob Fraden, "Sensors and Signal Conditioning," Ramon Pallas-Areny and John G. Webster, and "The Alarm, Sensor, & Security Cookbook," Thomas Petruzzellis, removed due to copyright restrictions.

JAP

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- Jacob Fraden
  - AIP Handbook of Modern Sensors, >2'nd Edition
- Ramon Pallas-Areny and John G. Webster
  - Sensors and Signal Conditioning, 2'nd Edition
- Thomas Petruzzellis (getting old...)
  - The Alarm, Sensor, & Security Cookbook

## Auxilary References (signals)

Covers for "Analog Signal Processing," Ramon Pallas-Areny and John G. Webster, "The Art of Electronics," Paul Horowitz and Winifield Hill, and "Active Filter Cookbook," Don Lancaster, removed due to copyright restrictions.

- Ramon Pallas-Areny & John G. Webster
  - Analog Signal Processing
- Paul Horowitz & Winifield Hill
  - The Art of Electronics
- Don Lancaster
  - Active Filter Cookbook

# **Auxilary References**

Covers of "The OpAmp Cookbook," Walt Jung, "Intelligent Sensor Systems," John Brignell and Neil White, and "Sensors for Mobile Robots: Theory and Application," H.R. Everett, removed due to copyright restrictions.

• Walt Jung

The OpAmp Cookbook

- John Brignell & Neil White
  - Intelligent Sensor Systems
- H.R. Everett

Sensors for Mobile Robots

## **Good Niche References**

Covers of "Capacitive Sensors: Design and Application," Larry Baxter, "Piezoelectric Ceramics: Principles and Applications," APC International, "Modern Inertial Technology: Navigation, Guidance, and Control," Anthony Lawrence, and "Electronic Distance Measurement: An Introduction," J.M. Rueger, removed due to copyright restrictions.

- Larry Baxter
  - Capacitive Sensors
- APC International
  - Piezoelectric Ceramics: Principles & Applications
- Anthony Lawrence
  - Modern Inertial Technology
- J.M. Rueger
  - Electronic Distance Measurement

Covers of Sensors Magazine, Circuit Cellar, NASA Tech Briefs, Test and Measurement, and IEEE Sensors Journal removed due to copyright restrictions.

- Sensors Magazine Free!
- Circuit Cellar Best EE-hacker magazine out
- NASA Tech Briefs Free!
- Test and Measurement Free!
- IEEE Sensors Journal

### Conferences

- Sensors Expo
  - Big trade show with tutorials and proceedings
- IEEE Sensors Conference
  - Very large new state-of-the-art sensors conference
- SPIE
  - Old standby conference for sensors & applications
- Transducers
  - Emphasizes MEMs, but like IEEE Sensors
- UIST
  - ACM conference on user interface technology
- Sensys, IPSN/SPOTS, etc.
  - Sensor net conferences not sensors...

### Websites

- http://www.sensorsportal.com/
  - References, hints, sources
- http://www.sensorsmag.com/
  - Sensors Magazine site
    - Buyers guide, Archive articles

Screenshot of "SensorsPortal" removed due to copyright restrictions.

- http://www.cs.cmu.edu/~chuck/robotpg/robofaq/10.html
   Robotics sites often list sensor vendors, hints
- http://www.billbuxton.com/InputSources.html
  - Bill Buxton's encyclopedia on input devices

#### **Hacker Websites**

The following websites offer useful hacking gear, techniques, and ideas:

- instructables.com
- hackaday.com
- diylive.net
- diyaudioprojects.com
- bunniestudios.com/blog
- epanorama.net
- hackedgadgets.com
- evilmadscientist.com

## Some Classic Sensor Module Sources

http://www.parallax.com/

2/04

- http://www.sparkfun.com/
- http://www.ramseyelectronics.com/
- http://www.adafruit.com/

#### **Basic Sources for Electronics**

Digikey - www.digikey.com Mouser - www.mouser.com Newark Allied Hosfelt Electronics JameCo Mat Electronics JDR All Electronics Radio Shack (mainly online now)

## **Today's Assignment**

Reading Assignment #1 (electronics)

- Read Fraden, Chapters 1&2 and Chapter 4

   His introduction & signal conditioning sections
- If you have Horowitz and Hill, go through Chapters 4 and 7
  - Op Amps
- If you have Pallas-Areny, glance through Chapter 3
  - Signal conditioning for resistive sensors

## The Age of the Sensor...

- Interaction revolution underway possibilities exploding
  - Small, low-cost sensors easily available to measure nearly everything...
  - Moore's Law makes processors capable of meaningfully exploiting the data in real time.
  - Low barriers to entry easy to try things
    - Deaf and blind computers...
    - We don't really know what will really come after keyboard and mouse...
    - You can't realize your vision for the future of interactivity by buying a card and plugging it in...
  - Sensors are permeating everything interactivity everywhere
    - From toys to automobiles to smart homes
  - From Burglar alarms to Ubiquitous Computing

## **Sensing as Commodity**

- Sensors are now becoming a commodity, and soon can easily be designed into most any device.
  - Rather than omitting them from a cost/complexity viewpoint, it begins to make more sense to just include them if there's any suspicion that they could be needed.
  - This causes a shift in how sensors are used rather than rely on only 1 or 2 sensors made a priori to measure particular quantities, many sensors will be used that don't necessarily exactly measure the quantity of interest (especially as applications will become more general and evolve over time).

#### Sensor Networks as Extension of the Nervous System



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Sensors are becoming ubiquitous and networked – how do they connect to people?

- This class is a proper expansion of the pair of lectures on electronics and sensors that I give in MAS863, "How to Make (Almost) Anything"
  - Even so, "sensors" is a vast and general field
  - Any one lecture here can become least an entire course elsewhere at MIT
  - You won't become an expert
    - Although you will be able to wander into a restaurant in sensorland and order a meal from the menu

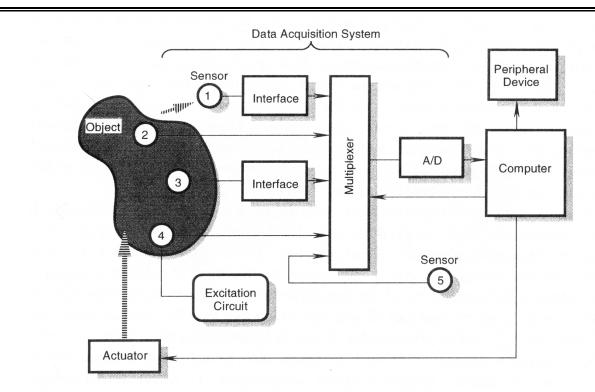
# **Trading Modality**

JAP

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- Sensor modes are intrinsically synaesthetic
- Use physics and constraints to couple a measured quantity into an unknown
  - Temperature can infer wind velocity (heat loss)
  - Displacement can infer:
    - Pressure (with an elastomer or spring: F = kx)
    - Volume of fluid in a tank (V = Ah)
    - Velocity (2 measurements at different times: v = dx/dt)
    - Temperature (thermometer level)
    - Angle from vertical (displacement of a bubble)
  - Measurements are used with a mathematical model to derive other parameters
    - Estimation and Kalman Filtering, etc.
      - Not covered here...

## **Active and Passive Sensing**



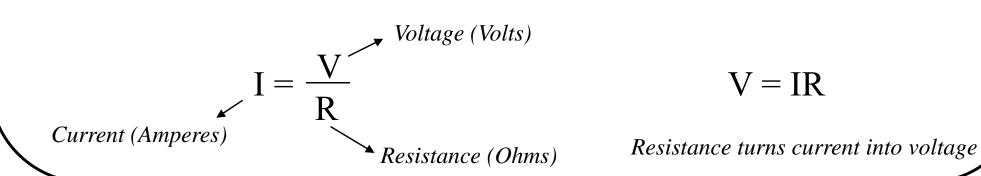
Source: Fraden, J. *Handbook of Modern Sensors*. © Springer Science+Business Media, LLC. All rights reserved. This content is excluded from our Creative Commons license. For more information, see http://ocw.mit.edu/fairuse.

FIGURE 1.2. Positions of sensors in a data acquisition system. Sensor 1 is noncontact, sensors 2 and 3 are passive, sensor 4 is active, and sensor 5 is internal to a data acquisition system.

- Contact (2,3,4), noncontact (1), and internal (calibration) sensing (5)
- An active sensor (4) requires power, & may stimulate environment for a response
  - Thermistor, FSR, sonar
- A passive sensor (1,2,3,5) generates a response directly from the received energy
  - Photodiode, electrodynamic or piezo microphone
  - Actuation to aid/enable sensing

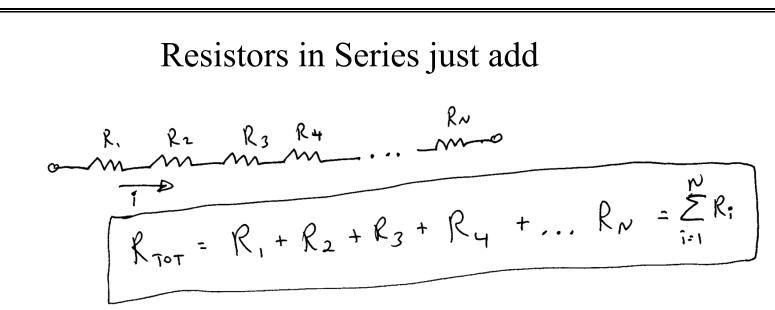
## Ohm's Law

- Electronics control the flow of electrons
- "Voltage" is the potential the electrons drop across the circuit
  - Measured between 2 points, typically a test point and ground
  - Equivalent to the "pressure" in a pipe
- "Current" is the flux of electrons per unit time (Amperes)
  - Current is defined as flowing from "+" to "-"
    - Opposite real electron motion!
  - Equivalent to the dynamic amount of fluid through the pipe
- "Resistance" relates voltage to current
  - E.g., the width of the pipe

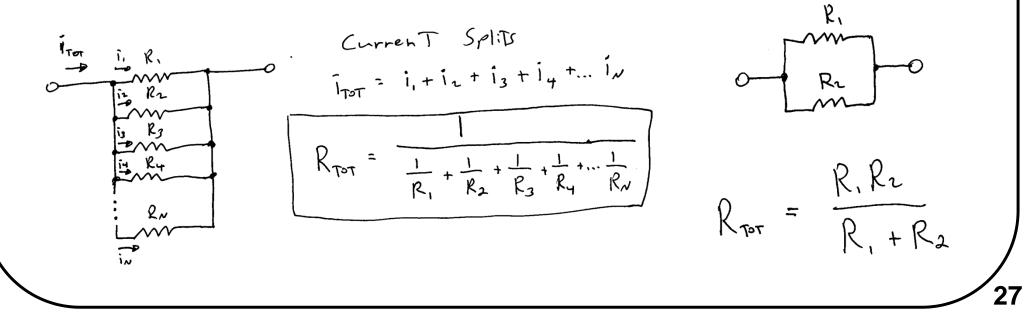


## **Combining Resistors**

JAP

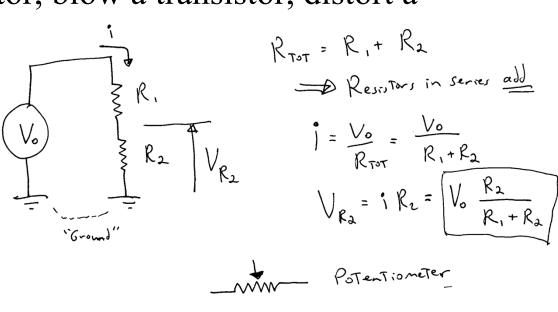


Resistors in Parallel are weighted by their inverse

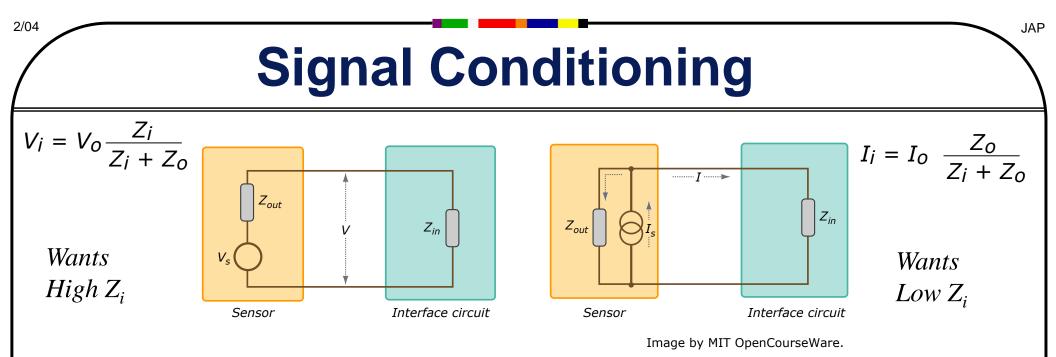


## **Power and Voltage Dividers**

- The power dissipated in a circuit is:
  - $-P = IV = I^2R = V^2/R$ 
    - amps volts = Watts = 1 Joule/second
  - Keep below ratings
    - Don't burn a resistor, blow a transistor, distort a sensor reading  $\frac{1}{R_{res}} = R_{res} + R_{res}$
- Voltage Divider:



Potentiometer

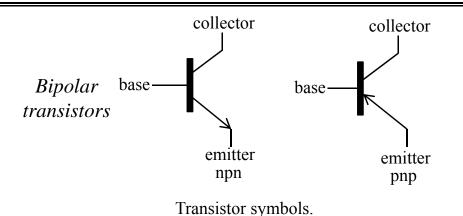


The connection between a sensor and an interface circuit. In the image on the left, the sensor has voltage output. In the image on the right, the sensor has current output.

- Sensors produce different kinds of signals
  - Voltage output or current output
  - Can't necessarily take sensor output and put right into microprocessor ADC or logic input
  - Signal may need:
    - High-to-low impedance buffer, current-to-voltage conversion, gain, detection, filtering, discrimination...

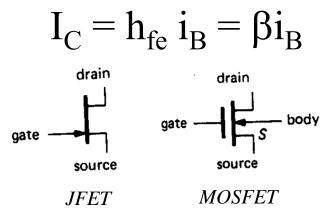
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### **Transistors**



Drawing of "Transistor Man" from *The Art of Electronics* (page 64) removed due to copyright restrictions.

Images of TO-5, TO-18, and TO-92 transistor packages, and an ohmmeter's view of a transistor's terminals h removed due to copyright restrictions. See: Google Books



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 $I_s = g_m V$ 

Transconductance

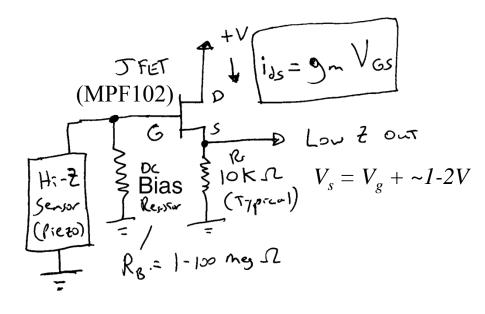
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Thank You, Transistor Man!

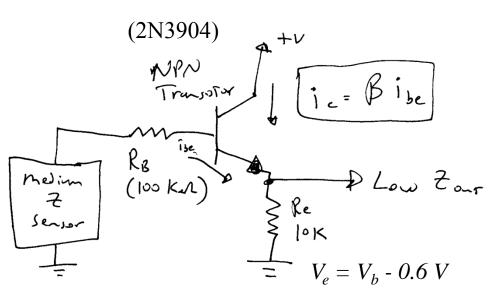
A low base current (gate voltage) controls a much larger collector (drain) current

## **Simple Source and Emitter Followers**

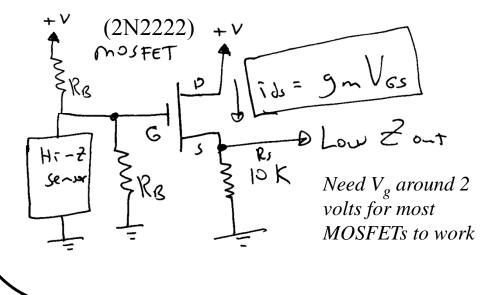
#### Source Follower



Emitter Follower



Sensor output > 0.6 V (or need biasing)



EF Voltage Gain =  $R_L/(r_e + R_L) \sim 1$ EF Output  $Z_{EF} = R_s/h_{fe} + r_e$ 

SF Voltage Gain =  $R_L g_m / (1 + R_L g_m) \sim 1$ SF Output  $Z_{SF} = 1/g_m$ ( $Z_{SF} \sim 1/10$  of  $Z_{EF}$  for  $R_s < 50$ K)

+ Grounded Emitter Switch

, 31

#### 2/04JAP **The Grounded Emitter Switch** Analogous circuits for FETs also $+V_{in}$ VONT Time This circuit inverts V<sub>out</sub> vs. V<sub>in</sub> $V_{out}$ can be larger than $V_{in}$ (10-100K) -> This circuit can shift logic levels! $R_{I}$ can be a device - Then the device turns on when $V_{in}$ goes high "Open Collector" gates have this output, without $R_{I}$ -They pull $V_{out}$ to ground when $V_{in}$ is high Transistor can give linear gain when an emitter resistor added - Must be properly biased! 32

### The "Ideal" OpAmp Model

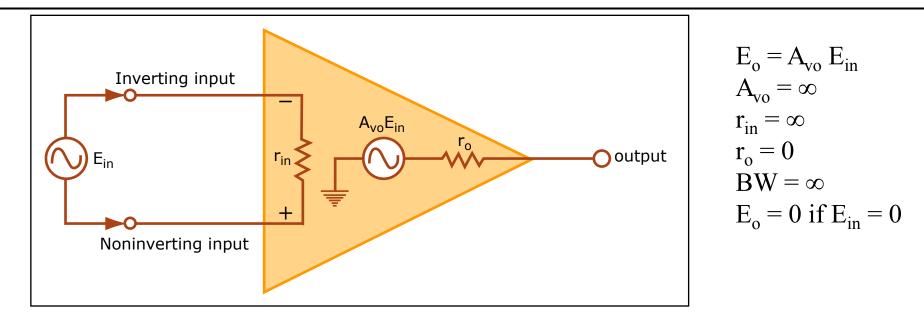


Image by MIT OpenCourseWare.

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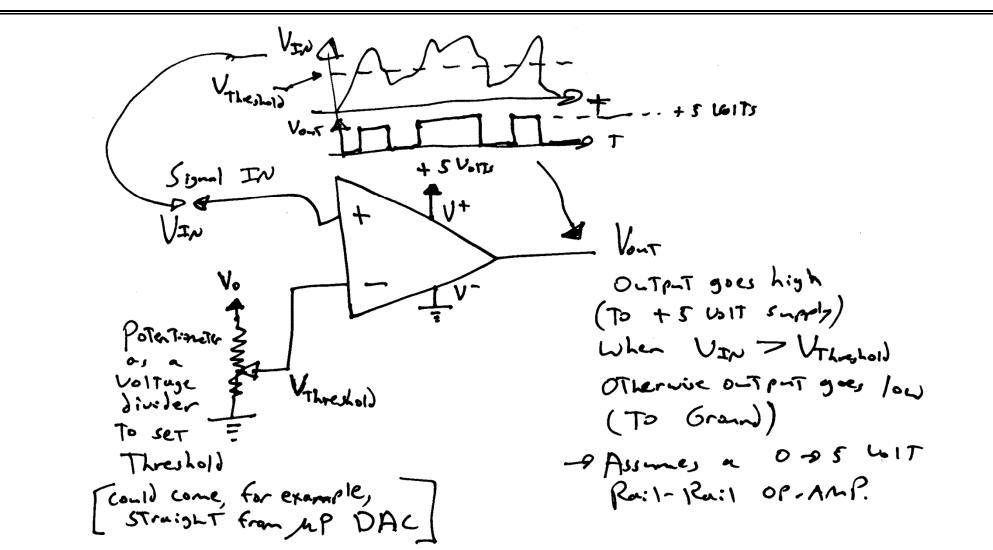
Circuit for an ideal OpAmp (operational amplifier.)

1. The voltage gain is infinite  $-A_{vo} = \infty$ . 2. The input resistance is infinite  $-r_{in} = \infty$ . 3. The output resistance is zero  $-r_{o} = 0$ . 4. The bandwith is infinite  $-BW = \infty$ . 5. There is zero input offset voltage  $-E_{o} = 0$  if  $E_{in} = 0$ .

## **Ideal OpAmp Possibilities**

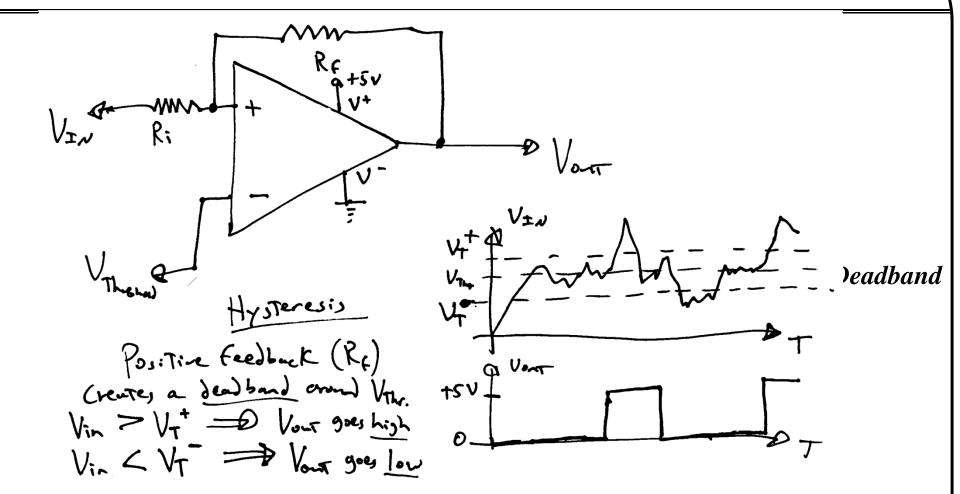
- No current flows into the input pins
  - Ideal behavior dictated by external components and signal sources
  - Comparator
    - Get a 1-bit digital trigger from an analog signal
  - Comparator with Hysteresis
    - Build in deadband for noise
- With negative feedback, current flows through feedback resistor to make V+ equal to V-
  - Ignores stability issues, bandwidth, and parasitics...

### **The Comparator**



- Makes an analog signal into a 1-bit digital signal
   Directly drives logic pin on microprocessor
  - Detects when signal is above threshold

## **The Schmidt Trigger**



- Suppresses jitter and spurious triggering from noisy signals
- Deadband thresholds,  $V^+$  and  $V^-$ , can be calculated via superposition
  - Ground  $V_{IN}$ , and with  $R_{ff}$  and  $R_i$  as a voltage divider on  $V_{out}$ , calculate the voltage at the OpAmp's noninverting pin
  - Note that this assumes a low-impedance  $V_{IN}$  (source impedance sums with  $R_i$ )

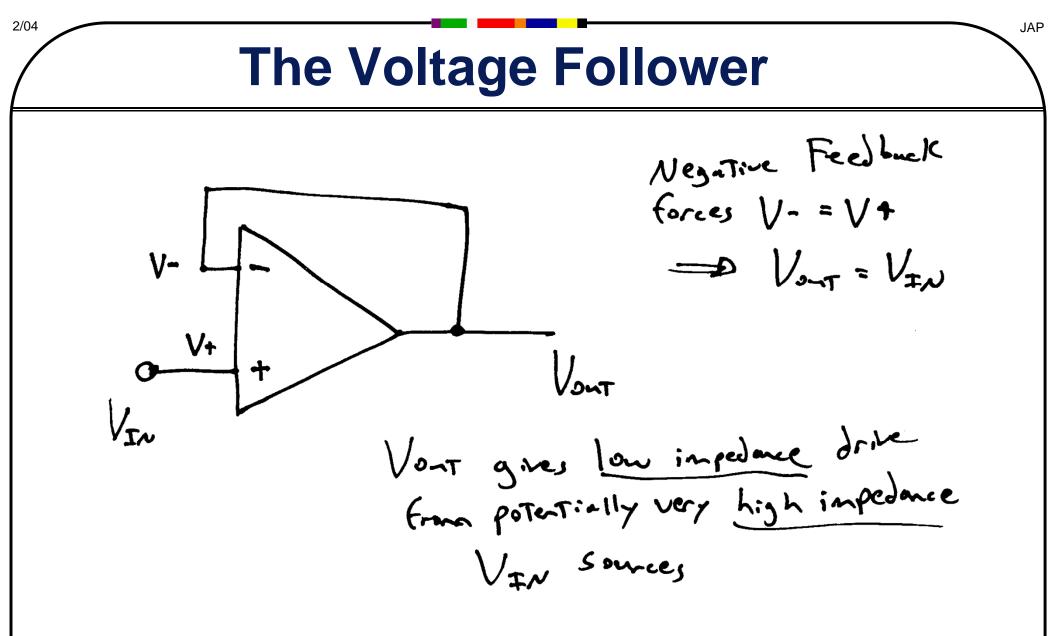
36

#### **Negative Feedback**

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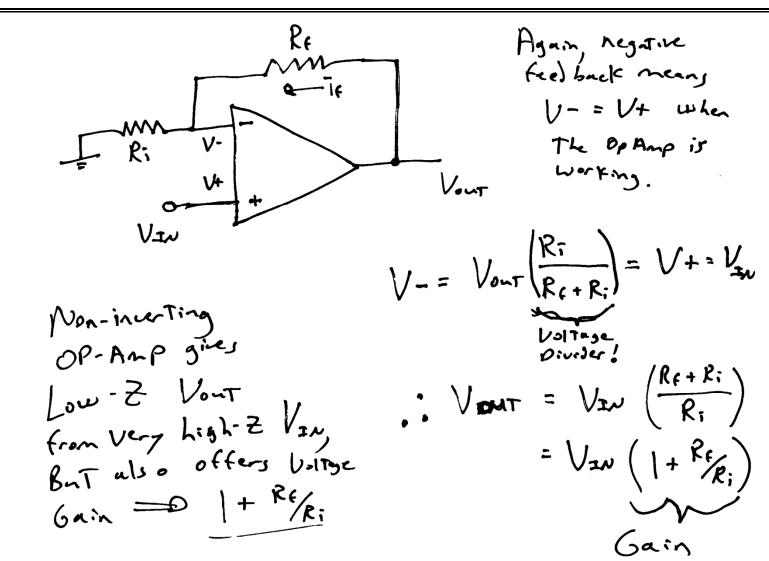
- Transimpedance Amplifier
- Voltage Follower
- Non-Inverting Amplifier
- Inverting Amplifier
- Inverting Summer



• A unity-gain buffer to enable high-impedance sources to drive low-impedance loads

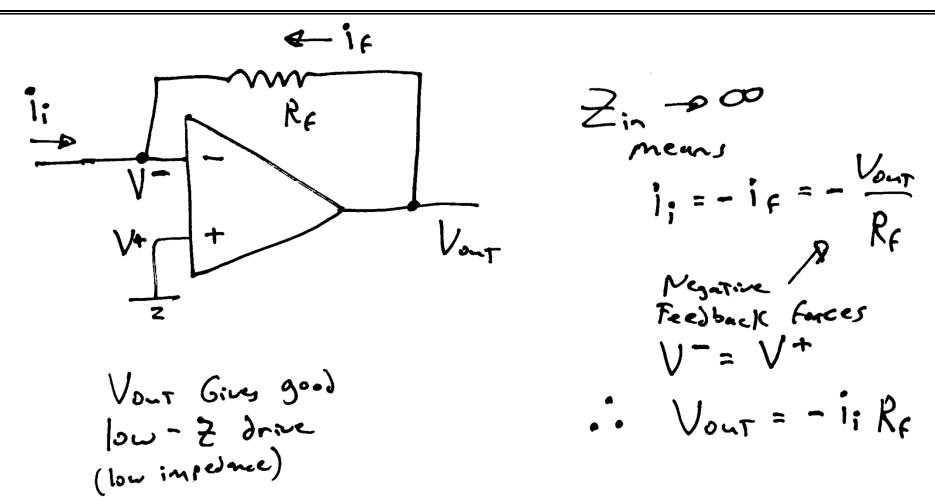
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## **The Non-Inverting Amplifier**



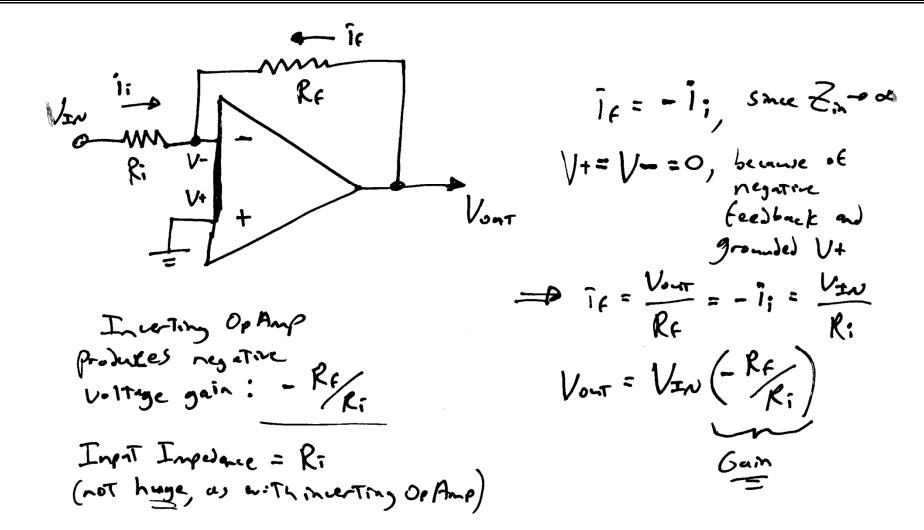
- Like voltage follower, but gives voltage gain
  - Gain can be adjusted from unity upward via resistor ratio
  - High-Z input is good for conditioning High-Z sensors

#### **The Transimpedance Amplifier**



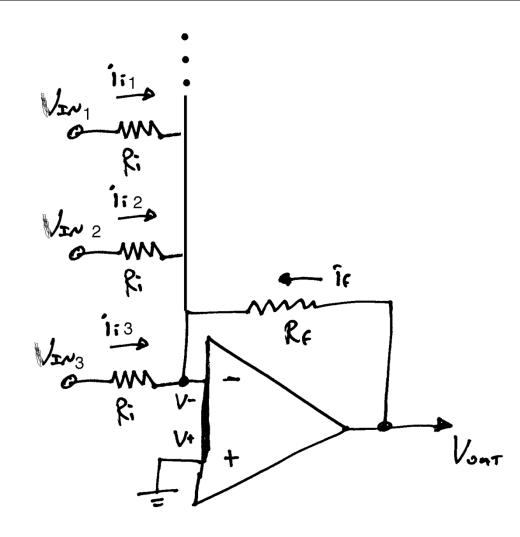
- Converts a current into a voltage
  - Generates a proportional (w. R<sub>f</sub>) voltage from an input current
  - Produces a low-impedance output that can drive a microcomputer's A-D converter, for example

#### **The Inverting Amplifier**



- Inverts signal, voltage gain varies from zero upward with the ratio of two resistors
  - Extension to summer is trivial with additional R<sub>i</sub>'s
  - Input impedance is not infinite:  $Z_{in} = R_i$

#### **The Summing Amplifier**



• No crosstalk between inputs because of virtual ground

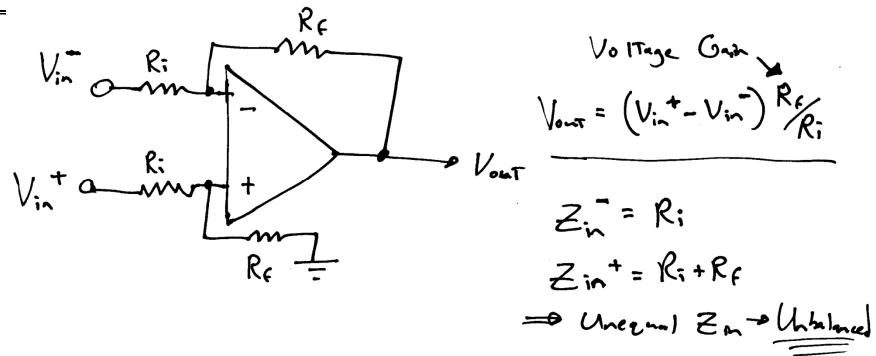
# **Differential Amplifiers**

- Intro to differential sensors
  - Pickup coil, piezoelectric, etc.
  - Comparison to reference (null drift, etc.)
    - Bend with strain gauges
- Simple differential amplifier
  - Intrinsic impedance imbalance
- Brute-force instrumentation amplifier
- 3-OpAmp differential amplifier w. gain
- 2-OpAmp differential amplifier

## **The Simple Differential Amplifier**

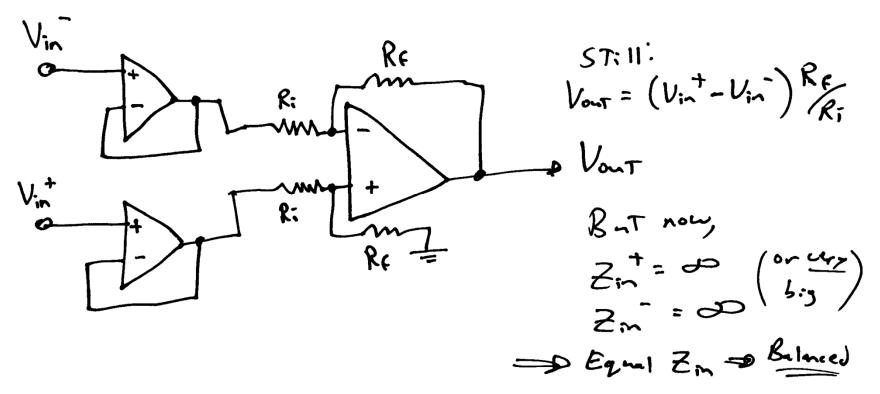
JAP

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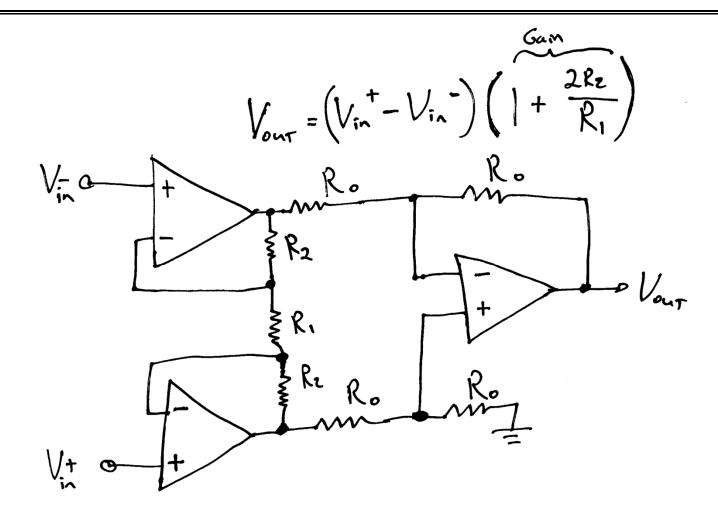
- Subtracts two input signals
  - Input resistors must be equal, feedback and shunt resistors must be equal
  - Provides voltage gain
- The input impedances aren't equal, however
  - The amplifier is *unbalanced!* 
    - A high-impedance sensor will produce common-mode errors (e.g., the system will be sensitive to the common voltage)
    - Differential sensors will be more sensitive to induced pickup signals (which tend to be high impedance)

# **The Basic Instrumentation Amplifier**



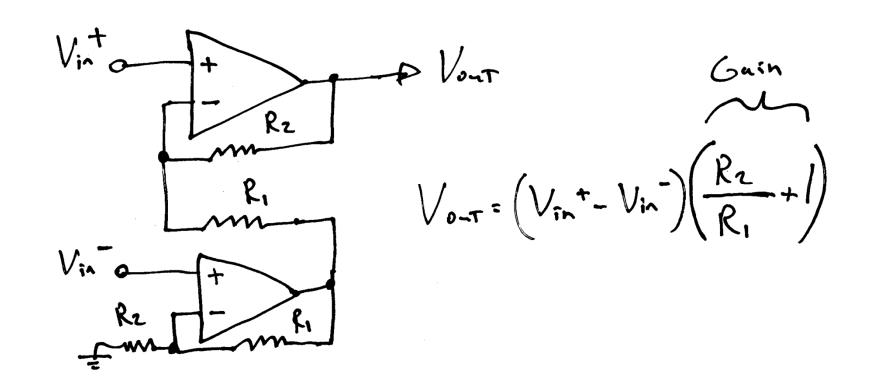
- Buffer each leg of the differential amplifier by a voltage follower
  - Impedance is now extremely high at both inputs
  - Impedance can be set by a shunt resistor across inputs
  - This is a *balanced* "instrumentation" amplifier

#### **The Three-OpAmp Instrumentation Amplifier**



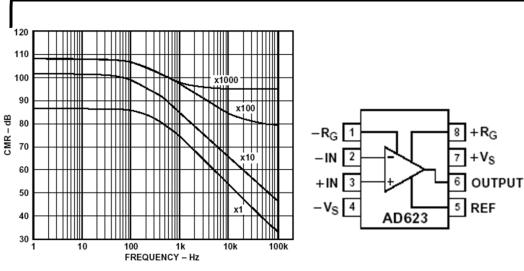
- Gain is varied by changing only one resistor,  $R_1$ 
  - No need to re-trim other components for a gain change
  - Gain at first stages is better for signal/noise
  - This is the instrumentation amplifier of choice

#### **An Instrumentation Amplifier with Two OpAmps**



- Can use when you only have space for a dual OpAmp
  - Gain change requires two resistors to be adjusted
  - Common mode sensitivity increases at higher frequency

#### **Commercial Instrumentation Amplifiers**



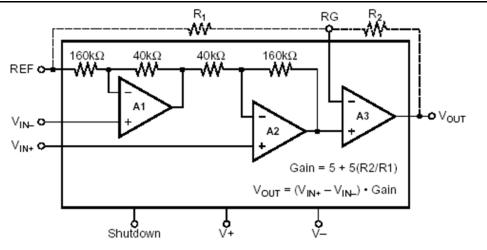


Figure 1. CMR vs. Frequency, +5 V<sub>S</sub>, 0 V<sub>S</sub>

Courtesy of Analog Devices. Used with permission.

Courtesy of Texas Instruments. Used with permission.

INA2321 500 kHz, 94 dB CMRR, R-R, µA sleep

- Analog Devices AD623
- Analog Devices AD AMP01
- BurrBrown (TI) INA series (INA2321)
- TI TLC271

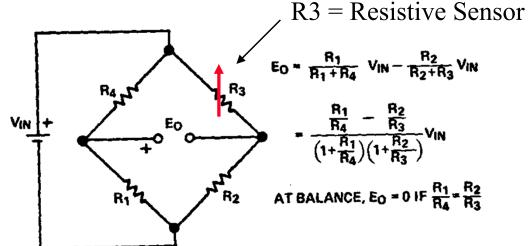
Can be fairly slow, but precise DC properties, low drift, high gain, well matched

2/04

#### **The Wheatstone Bridge**

Differential readout of a resistive sensor

Graph of the sensitivity of a disbalanced bridge as a function of impedance ratio from *Handbook of Modern Sensors* removed due to copyright restrictions. See: page 217 on Google Books.



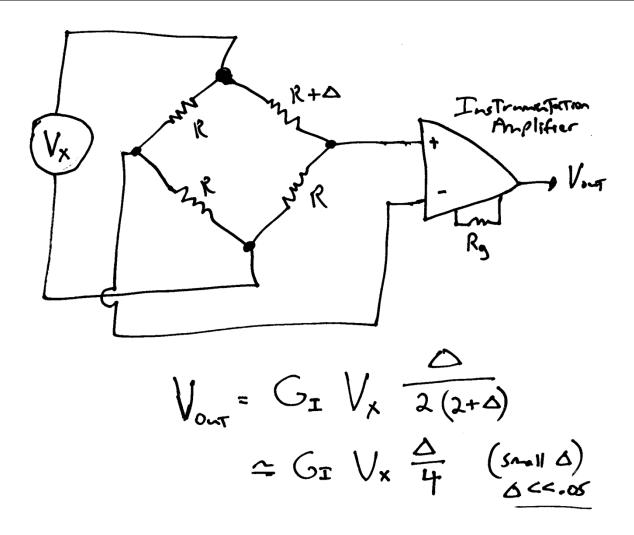
#### Figure 2-1. Basic bridge circuit — voltage excitation and voltage readout

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$$\kappa = R_4/R_1$$

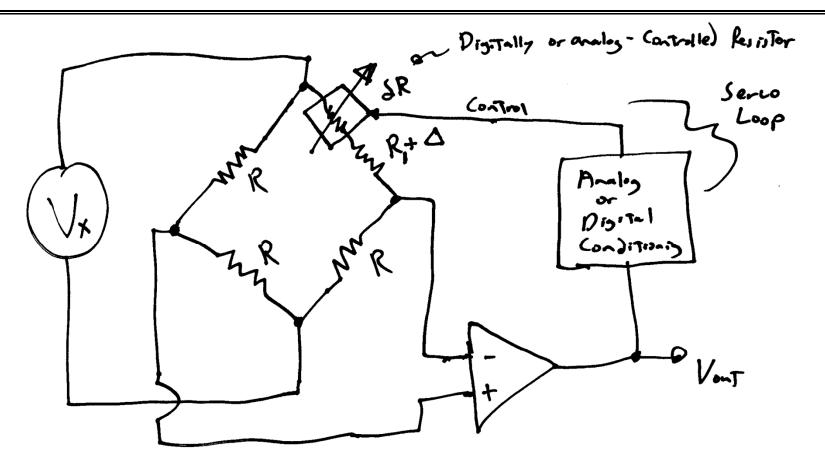
- Bridge Conditioning
- Active Bridge Servo'ing to keep null

#### Basic Bridge Conditioning with a Diff. Amp



- $G_I$  is the gain of the instrumentation amplifier (set by  $R_g$ )
- As the sensor readings increase ( $\Delta$  grows in magnitude), the bridge becomes less sensitive and nonlinear

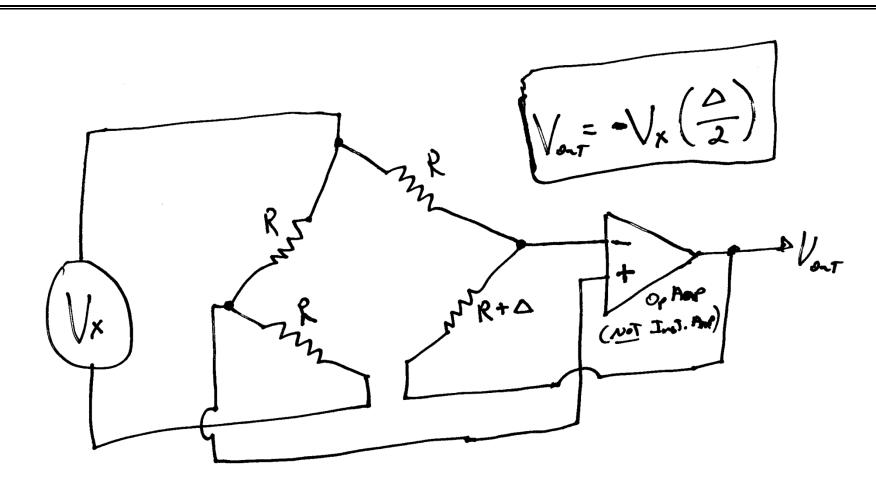
#### **Servo'ed Resistor Balance**



A voltage (or digitally) variable resistor is adjusted in the negative feedback loop of an OpAmp to maintain the bridge's null
– Feedback works to make R<sub>1</sub> + Δ + δR = R

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# Servo'ed Drive of a Split Bridge

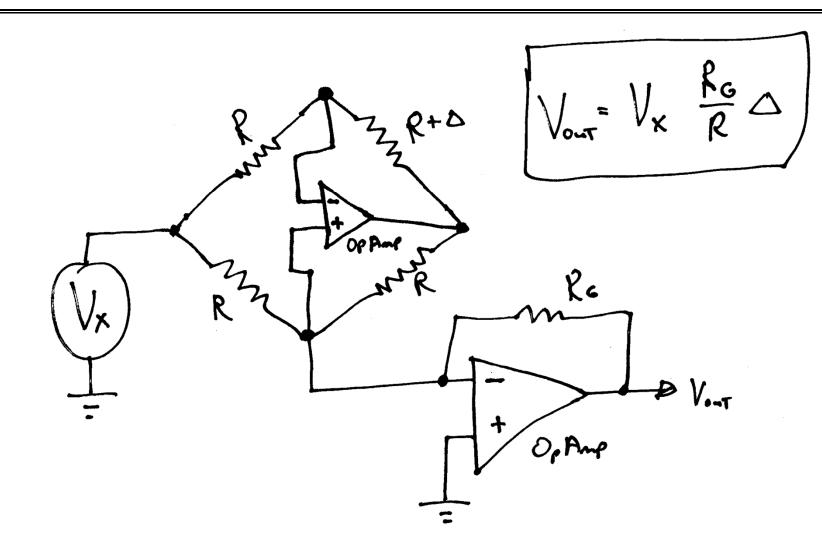


Drives a split bridge in feedback to maintain null
 Possible when one has full access to the bridge legs

# Servo'ed Drive of a Full Bridge

JAP

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Bridge Servo'ed to ground opposite legs

 Maintain balance, gain set by R<sub>G</sub>

## Packaged Bridge Amplifiers

#### BurrBrown (TI) XTR106

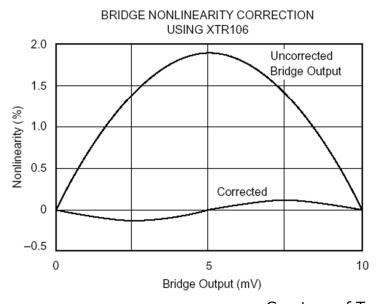
#### 4-20mA CURRENT TRANSMITTER with Bridge Excitation and Linearization

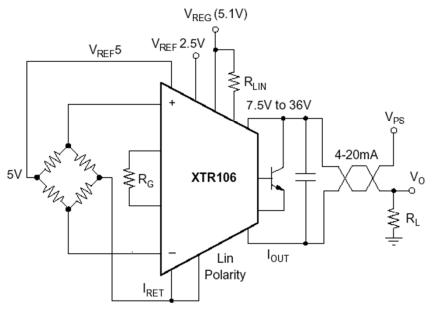
#### FEATURES

- LOW TOTAL UNADJUSTED ERROR
- 2.5V, 5V BRIDGE EXCITATION REFERENCE
- 5.1V REGULATOR OUTPUT
- LOW SPAN DRIFT: ±25ppm/°C max
- LOW OFFSET DRIFT:  $0.25 \mu V/^{\circ}C$
- HIGH PSR: 110dB min
- HIGH CMR: 86dB min
- WIDE SUPPLY RANGE: 7.5V to 36V
- 14-PIN DIP AND SO-14 SURFACE-MOUNT

#### APPLICATIONS

- PRESSURE BRIDGE TRANSMITTERS
- STRAIN GAGE TRANSMITTERS
- TEMPERATURE BRIDGE TRANSMITTERS
- INDUSTRIAL PROCESS CONTROL
- SCADA REMOTE DATA ACQUISITION
- REMOTE TRANSDUCERS
- WEIGHING SYSTEMS
- ACCELEROMETERS





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