Design Consideration for Developing Bio-potential Instrumentation Amplifier Intended for Bionic Eye.

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Abstract: According to the Survey of WHO [World Health Organization] a people of about 285 million are visually impaired, 39 million are blind and 246 million are having low vision. Blindness is a serious ailment that makes people to suffer a lot. It occurs because of the eye related disorders like Retinitis Pigmentosa[RP], Age-Related Macular Degeneration[AMRD] and Glaucoma, resulting to lead an uncomfortable life style. Recent developments of the Biomedical Engineering field lead to the development of artificial human eye-Bionic eye analogous to natural eye. Bionic eye is a complex system which is integrated with many sub systems such as CCD camera, video processing unit, implantable chip, radio transmitter and receiver. The implanted artificial retina helps the patients of RP and AMRD regain the vision. Apart from this there exist limitations because of electrode count and noise levels. For better optimization to reduce noise levels of bio-potential signals an instrumentation amplifier is used. In this paper different Instrumentation amplifier are discussed.

Keywords: Differential Amplifier, CMRR(Common Mode Rejection Ratio), OP-AMP(Operational Amplifier).

1. INTRODUCTION

To evaluate the neuron activity it is necessary to measure the weak bio-potential signal and it has to be strengthened using an Amplifier. One of its approach is conceded out by means of the Instrumentation Amplifier[1]. In the basic electronics for amplifying the signals, different devices are used upon which the Differential Amplifier is one shown above in Fig.1. It amplify the signals with good CMRR by reducing noise levels at transmission lines. For better amplification the input impedance should be infinite, it is a major limitation in differential amplifier.

For accomplish the limitation, the feedback resistance (R_f) value taken as large to enhance the gain. By increasing the resistances value it causes
1. Thermal noise - Shrink accuracy.
2. Stray capacitance - Negatively affect CMRR for high frequencies. Because of the above constraints Differential Amplifier is not used for amplifying weak signals. Detecting the Bio-signal with weak amplitude of mv (milli volts), operating at low frequency range below 1KHz is challenging task, for this purpose the Instrumentation Amplifiers (hereby representing as IA) with the different topologies are used. IA are used to reject the unwanted noise and also strengthen the floating signals. In biomedical field for the measurement of ECG, EEG, EMG, etc., the body electrodes are interfaced with monitoring devices[2]. At this stage the interference of noise signals are added due to environmental conditions, dc offset voltages and device internal noise. Therefore the usage of IA is extremely concerned in biomedical applications for amplification purpose.

The operation of the IA is diverse from Opamp illustrate in Fig.2. Foremost divergence is Opamp employee the additional number of external components like R,L,C whereas the IA uses the additional resistor (R_f) for gain purposes with additive resistor network. V_ref is always grounded for numerous application. The output voltage V_out constantly swing between mid-supply of input voltage applied. IA are used to amplify the microvolt signals by rejecting Common Mode(CM) signals at its input.

Fig.1 Differential Amplifier.

Fig.2 General Instrumentation Amplifier.

II. DIFFERENT BIO-INSTRUMENTATION AMPLIFIERS

A. IA with Current Feedback Amplifier(CFA) Technique

For amplification of measured signal essentially in acquisition system it is desired to use the IA with CFA technique [3]. The CFA technique consists:-Stage I. The Input with Error amplifier, Stage II-I-V converter and Stage III. The Buffer.
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From Fig3., Stage I contain a resistive network used for setting the operating point of two BJT transistors to encompass minimum offset voltage by modifying the non-inverting input. I-V converter contain the current mirror to produce constant current despite of loading concern with proper matching of magnitudes and the Stability capacitor (C_s) makes the circuit stable for different operating points in Stage II. Output Buffer Stage III endow with the Gain current having voltage gain of 1. By using CFA the IA have power dissipation is of 500µV ,variable Gain and CMRR of 100dB.

B. IA with Current Balancing Technique (CBT).
The IA is used in the measurement of ECG. For the measurement of weak signals there exist two aircrafts 1. Baseline wander drift and 2. High frequency noise. The former subsist as of the signal fluctuation arise in the movement of patient body as well as the instrument.

The immediate remedy carried out by using the IA With Current Balancing Technique [4]. In CBT the programmable filter minimizes the Baseline wander effect as in Fig4. The latter are exterminate by having proper transconductance and impedance matching. By having the above mentioned technique the CMRR is achieved is 100dB with Gain of 55.6dB. The amplifier considered with little power consumption 9µW and having a assistance of low cost.

C. IA with Level Shifter Technique (LST)
For the Biomedical Monitoring Devices the interferences of signal occurs frequently, hence they creates noise levels at the output. Those noises are called as the flicker noise. In the direction of decline those noise level with better CMRR. IA was designed using 3 Opamps, resistors and four current mirror as shown below in Fig5. The proposed circuit have used the PSRR (Power supply rejection ratio) to condense the DC Offset level (noise).

The microelectrodes are used for recording the potential which are small in size and having high input impedance especially in visual restoration purpose[6]. Role of biasing is to generate proper DC signal to the Op-Amp which is having two positive and negative signals. The output signal is having high frequency components and eliminated by using low pass filter. However the propagated signal is still having the dc offset which is reduced by the DC Offset Rejection Technique[7]. The power dissipation is of 66µW with CMRR of 100dB.

III. RESULT DESCRIPTION
As of the above mentioned techniques the another processing method used to amplify the Bio-potential signals is by using PGA. It contains Front end amplifier with the input resistance(Ri1 and Ri2) as illustrate in Fig7.
The former one have the digital control switch, Instrumentation Amplifier and Programmable gain Amplifier.

The signal with strong rejection of interference is the outcome of the IA. For perfect isolation of the flicker noise, a chopper circuit is used and discussed in [8]. Mainly the PGC offers a variable gain along with bandwidth which is controlled with a digital switch. Corresponding Gain is 125dB with variable bandwidth, operates at 0.4-0.8v and having power dissipation of 0.09mW.

![Fig7.IA with PGC.](image)

### Table I. Comparison of above mentioned IA.

| S.No | Proposed by | Technology used | Technology Target | Gain | Offset Diff | Noise | Power Dissipation |
|------|-------------|-----------------|------------------|------|-------------|-------|------------------|
| 1    | Warner(1994)| 1.5um CMOS     | Current Feedback Amplifier | 4.2nV | 100 | 1.25dB/Ref | 300uW |
| 2    | Back et al. (2015) | 0.35um CMOS | Current Feedback Amplifier | 7nV | 100 | 0.155dB/Ref | 3.47uW |
| 3    | Chen(2017) | TSMC 1.65um CMOS | Non-Linear Amplifier | 1.37 | 50 | 6.25dB/Ref | 3.18mW |
| 4    | Zhang (2010) | TSMC 1.65um CMOS | Capacitor Switching | 1.97 | 60 | - | 37.1mW |
| 5    | Tseng(2012) | TSMC 1.65um CMOS | Programmable Gain Control | 10.44 | 120 | - | 8.06mW |

### IV. CONCLUSION

Different approaching methods are to be develop, to replace the damaged photoreceptor by propagate the light to neuron of retina and providing vision through the electrodes. Accompanied by Different technology with various parameters enhances the amplifier signal. In Biomedical field, amplifying the bio-potential stimuli is always challenging. By combining the Instrumentation amplifier technology with bio-potential stimuli, one can achieve the desired output. This paper represents the bio-potential amplified signal with high CMRR and reduce noise level can be achieved by Programmable Gain Control technology.

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