



Dept. of Electrical, Computer and Biomedical Engineering

Data acquisition from a temperature sensor

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Thermistors

- A thermistor is a temperature transducer, typically featuring relatively fast response times, very good sensitivity, low cost but not so good linearity
- Depending on whether the thermistor resistance decreases or increases with the temperature, we can talk about
 - **NTC** (negative temperature coefficient) thermistors, whose resistance decreases as the temperature increases
 - PTC (positive temperature coefficient) thermistors, whose resistance increases as the temperature increases

NTC thermistors

They are generally built using a mixture of metal oxides (Ni, Mn, Fe, Cu, Co) with the property, similar to that of semiconductors, that the conductivity increases as the temperature is increased

As compared to PTC thermistors, they feature better linearity and a larger operating interval. Their resistance-temperature characteristic is of the exponential kind



PTC thermistors

Resistors whose resistance increases with the temperature. Their operating principle is based on the particular properties of the material they are made of, sharply changing resistance with T (typically ceramic semiconductors, e.g. BaTiO₃)

They generally have a larger temperature coefficient than NTC thermistors. On the other hand, their R-T characteristic is strongly non-linear and is provided by the manufacturer for predefined temperature intervals

In PTC thermistors, the temperature coefficient increases very rapidly as soon as the so called Curie temperature is exceeded





Main uses of thermistors

| Thermistor | Function | Purpose |
|------------|-------------------------|---|
| NTC | Temperature measurement | Heating systems Household electrical appliances Industrial control |
| | Thermal compensation | Industrial electronics Consumer electronics Data processing |
| PTC | Thermal protection | Power supply circuits Industrial electronics Consumer electronics Data processing |
| | Overload protection | Power supply circuits Telecommunication Automotive Industrial electronics Consumer electronics Data processing |

Purpose of the experiment

Implement a system for data acquisition from a temperature sensor, in particular from an NTC thermistor. The system should include

- a conditioning circuit for the signal coming from the sensor
- a virtual instrument implemented in the LabView programming environment serving as an interface between the acquisition system and the user
- The virtual instrument should take care of acquiring the temperature and representing the time evolution of the measured voltage and the instantaneous value of the temperature



Conditioning circuit



- R1=1.1 kΩ
- C=100 nF
- VCC+=+15 V
- VCC⁻=-15 V
- V1CC+=5 V
- RT: KE 164

R-T characteristic for the thermistor



$T-V_{OUT}$ relationship

Measured voltage as a function of the thermistor resistance

$$\mathbf{v}_{\mathsf{OUT}} = \frac{\mathbf{R}_{\mathsf{T}}}{\mathbf{R}_{1} + \mathbf{R}_{\mathsf{T}}} \cdot \mathsf{V1CC}^{+} = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{\mathbf{R}_{1}}{\mathbf{R}_{\mathsf{T}}}} \cdot \mathsf{V1CC}^{+} \Longrightarrow \mathbf{R}_{\mathsf{T}} = \frac{\mathbf{v}_{\mathsf{OUT}}}{\mathsf{V1CC}^{+} - \mathsf{v}_{\mathsf{OUT}}} \cdot \mathbf{R}_{1}$$

Relationship between temperature and measured voltage

$$T = \frac{\beta \cdot T_{0}}{\beta + T_{0} \cdot In \left[\frac{v_{OUT} \cdot R_{1}}{\left(V1CC^{+} - v_{OUT}\right) \cdot R_{T_{0}}}\right]}$$

TLO81 JFET input OpAmp

December 1995

TL081 Wide Bandwidth JFET

National Semiconductor

Input Operational Amplifier

General Description

The TL081 is a low cost high speed JFET input operational amplifier with an internally trimmed input offset voltage (BI-FET IITM technology). The device requires a low supply current and yet maintains a large gain bandwidth product and a fast slew rate. In addition, well matched high voltage JFET input devices provide very low input bias and offset currents. The TL081 is pin compatible with the standard LM741 and uses the same offset voltage adjustment circuit-ry. This feature allows designers to immediately upgrade the overall performance of existing LM741 designs.

The TL081 may be used in applications such as high speed integrators, fast D/A converters, sample-and-hold circuits and many other circuits requiring low input offset voltage, low input bias current, high input impedance, high slew rate and wide bandwidth. The devices has low noise and offset voltage drift, but for applications where these requirements are critical, the LF356 is recommended. If maximum supply current is important, however, the TL081C is the better choice.

Features

| Internally trimmed offset voltage | 15 mV |
|---|--------------------------|
| Low input bias current | 50 pA |
| Low input noise voltage | 25 nV/√Hz |
| Low input noise current | 0.01 pA/ _v Hz |
| Wide gain bandwidth | 4 MHz |
| High slew rate | 13 V/µs |
| Low supply current | 1.8 mA |
| High input impedance | 10 ¹² Ω |
| ■ Low total harmonic distortion $A_V = 10$, $R_L = 10k$, $V_O = 20$ Vp-p, BW = 20 Hz-20 kHz | <0.02% |
| Low 1/f noise corner | 50 Hz |
| Fast settling time to 0.01 % | 2 µs |

TL081 JFET input OpAmp



KE-164 NTC thermistor



Applications

- Temperature compensation
- Temperature measurement
- Temperature control

Features

- Wide resistance range
- Cost-effective
- Lacquer-coated thermistor disk
- Tinned copper leads
- Marked with resistance and tolerance
- Available on tape (PU: 1500 pcs)

| Туре | R ₂₅ | No. of <i>R</i> / <i>T</i> characteristic | B _{25/100} | Ordering code |
|------------------------------|-----------------|---|---------------------|---------------|
| | 0 | | K | |
| K 164/1 k/+ | 1 k | 1011 | 3730 | B57164-K102-+ |
| K 164/1,5 <mark>k/+</mark> | 1,5 k | 1013 | 3900 | B57164-K152-+ |
| K 164/2,2 k/+ | 2,2 k | 1013 | 3900 | B57164-K222-+ |
| K 164/3,3 k/+ | 3,3 k | 4001 | 3950 | B57164-K332-+ |
| K 164/4,7 k/+ | 4,7 k | 4001 | 3950 | B57164-K472-+ |
| K 164/6,8 k/+ | 6,8 k | 2903 | 4200 | B57164-K682-+ |
| K 164/10 k/+ | 10 k | 2904 | 4300 | B57164-K103-+ |
| K 164/15 k/+ | 15 k | 1014 | 4250 | B57164-K153-+ |
| K 164/22 k/+ | 22 k | 1012 | 4300 | B57164-K223-+ |
| K 164/33 k/+ | 33 k | 1012 | 4300 | B57164-K333-+ |
| K 164/47 k/+ | 47 k | 4003 | 4450 | B57164-K473-+ |
| K 164/68 k/+ | 68 k | 2005 | 4600 | B57164-K683-+ |
| K 164/100 k/+ | 100 k | 2005 | 4600 | B57164-K104-+ |
| K 164/1 <mark>50 k</mark> /+ | 150 k | 2005 | 4600 | B57164-K154-+ |
| K 164/220 k/+ | 220 k | 2007 | 4830 | B57164-K224-+ |
| K 164/330 k/+ | 330 k | 2006 | 5000 | B57164-K334-+ |
| K 164/470 k/+ | 470 k | 2006 | 5000 | B57164-K474-+ |



Front panel



DAQmx Create Channel.vi and DAQmx Read.vi

- DAQmx Create Channel.vi provides the acquisition board with information about the type and range of the signals to be acquired and about the input channel
- DAQmx Read.vi samples the signal from the specified channel and yield the measured value



While loop

Needed for continuous acquisition of the signal coming from the conditioning circuit (you can find it in the Structures menu from the Functions palette) - a "stop" button should be included in the virtual instrument to stop the acquisition



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Formula node

The Formula Node structure can be used to calculate the relationship between the temperature T and the measured voltage V_{OUT} based on the resistance-temperature relationship (you can find it in the Structures menu from the Functions palette)



Waveform chart

You can use a waveform chart for a graphical representation of the acquired data ('Graph' menu of the Controls palette, from the front panel window) – the acquired sample can be directly fed to the waveform chart





We can use a for cycle to reduce the effects of zero average disturbances, therefore improving the measurement accuracy



number of cycles

Instead of representing (in the graph or in the numeric indicator) each individual acquired sample of the signal, we can represent the average value of N samples - the speed at which the measurement result is represented on the graph will decrease by a factor of N