CHUA'S CIRCUIT IMPLEMENTATIONS

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To Leon

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Preface

Chua's circuit is considered a cornerstone in nonlinear electronic circuit theory. Up to now and over the last 25 years, wonderful properties of Chua's circuit have been discovered, day by day. Generations of scientists have worked on this very important device, that is the recipient of intriguing phenomena and astonishing behaviors. Even after 25 years since its discovery, Chua's circuit is still timely today.

Chua's circuit is a unique platform both for the understanding of nonlinear phenomena and for the study of experimental chaos. The more and more successful implementations of Chua's circuit allow us to have a wide scenario of electronic laboratories interested in Chua's device, both in industry and in universities.

Chua's circuit has evolved in both time and space. It is difficult to establish a geographical map of all the laboratories in the world where Chua's circuit is implemented and studied every day, due to the large number of people interested in this circuit. In our experience, the role of Chua's circuit is essential also for educational aims even in basic university courses. Chua's circuit has been present daily in our lab since 1994 and is considered a reference system to be taken into consideration to evaluate new techniques, methodologies and theories for nonlinear dynamics. The interdisciplinaryities, stimulated by Chua's circuit, have led to the cooperation of groups of engineers, physicists, matter physicists, biologists. In recent years, even artists have been fascinated by it. Companies such as STMicroelectronics are investigating into the potentiality of Chua's circuit in industrial applications and a number of patents based on it have been deposited.

The book we propose reflects the wide experiences acquired together with other researchers in focalizing real circuit implementations of Chua's device.

The book is organized as follows. Chapter 1 gives an introduction to Chua's circuit. Chapter 2 deals with ways of implementing nonlinearity in the Chua's circuit. Chapter 3 presents the implementation of the Chua's circuit based on Cellular Nonlinear Networks. Starting from this implementation, two modifications allowing the generation of new nonlinear phenomena have been introduced: the first is discussed in Chapter 4, the second in Chapter 5. A programmable Chua's circuit is shown in Chapter 6. Chapter 7 presents an integrated implementation of Chua's circuit. Chapter 8 describes how to obtain a Chua's circuit with only four circuit elements. The possibility of exploiting the recent advances of organic technology to build a Chua's circuit is discussed in Chapter 9. Chapter 10 illustrates some of the applications of Chua's circuit. Chapter 11 draws the conclusions of the book.

It is worth noting that most of the circuits presented in the book can be implemented in a classical electronic lab or also at home and can be widely tested with available low-cost instrumentations or with laptop peripherals.

Usually, in our courses in Catania, we provide each student with a kit of a Chua's circuit and we make known the experimental possibility of such a circuit also in undergraduate schools.

We are indebted to the various generations of students who have collaborated with us in the experiments and in the study of the new properties and applications of Chua's circuit. We thank Leon O. Chua for his continuous encouragement in our research work. Moreover, the scientific community should be grateful to him for having offered his circuit. We have been happy to receive it from Chua himself and wish to make it known to future generations of students.

L. Fortuna, M. Frasca and M.G. Xibilia

Contents

<i>Preface</i>	vii
1. The birth of the Chua's circuit	1
1.1 Introduction	1
1.2 Genesis of the Chua's circuit	6
1.3 From RLC to Chua's circuit	10
1.4 Dimensionless Chua's equations	14
1.5 Geometry of the double scroll	15
1.5.1 Parameter values for the Double Scroll Chua's Attractor	15
1.5.2 Equilibrium points of the Chua's circuit	16
1.5.3 Stability of the equilibrium points	17
1.5.4 General considerations on the behavior on each of the three regions D_1 , D_0 and D_{-1}	18
1.5.5 Qualitative description of the dynamics in D_1 (or D_{-1})	19
1.5.6 Qualitative description of the dynamics in D_0 . .	20
1.5.7 The double scroll attractor	20
1.5.8 Rigorous proof of chaos in the Chua's circuit . .	21
1.6 Bifurcations of the Chua's circuit	23
1.7 The Chua's oscillator	27
1.8 Generalizations of the Chua's circuit	38
1.8.1 Sinusoidal forcing in the Chua's circuit	38
1.8.2 Hyperchaos in the Chua's circuit	40
1.8.3 The Chua's circuit with a smooth nonlinearity .	42
1.8.4 The n-scroll chaotic attractor	43
1.9 Control of the Chua's circuit	44

1.10	Synchronization of Chua's circuits	51
2.	Implementation of the Chua's diode	61
2.1	Circuits based on operational amplifiers	61
2.2	Implementation of a negative resistance	66
2.3	Implementation of the five segment nonlinearity	68
2.4	Implementation of the N_R characteristic with diodes	69
2.5	Two implementations of the Chua's circuit	71
2.6	Other implementations of the Chua's diode	74
3.	Cellular Nonlinear Networks and Chua's circuit	77
3.1	Brief overview on CNN architectures	77
3.2	The State Controlled Cellular Nonlinear Network	80
3.3	CNN-based implementation of the Chua's circuit	80
3.4	Improved cell realization for SC-CNN based Chua's circuit	82
3.5	SC-CNN-based implementation of the Chua's oscillator	86
4.	Frequency switched Chua's circuit: experimental dynamics characterization	91
4.1	Model	91
4.2	Experimental results	93
5.	Photo-controlled Chua's circuit	101
5.1	The nonlinear photo-controlled device	101
5.2	The photo-controlled Chua's circuit	103
5.3	Experimental results	104
6.	Programmable Chua's circuit	113
6.1	The Development System	114
6.2	Anadigm Software Development Tool	115
6.3	Design of the Chua's circuit	116
6.4	Circuit implementation and experimental results	117
7.	Switched capacitor-based Chua's circuit	125
7.1	Design of the switched capacitor Chua's circuit	126
7.2	Simulation results and layout of the circuit	129
7.3	Experimental results	130

7.4	A cell to experimentally characterize discretely-coupled Chua's circuits	131
8.	The four-element Chua's circuit	137
8.1	Model	137
8.2	Implementation	141
8.3	Chua's circuit and the memristor	143
9.	The organic Chua's circuit	145
9.1	The OTFT device	146
9.2	Implementation of the Organic Chua's Circuit	148
9.2.1	Saturation Block	150
9.2.2	Transconductance Amplifier Block	151
9.2.3	Negative Current Block	152
9.3	Experimental Results	153
10.	Applications of the Chua's circuit	159
10.1	Chaos does help motion control	160
10.1.1	Motion control	161
10.1.2	Experimental results	164
10.2	The Chua's circuit as an analog noise generator	167
10.3	Chaotic Pulse Position Modulation to improve the efficiency of Sonar Sensors	167
10.3.1	Continuous Chaotic Pulse Position Modulation	169
10.3.2	The CPPM Sonar	172
10.3.3	Experimental results	173
11.	Conclusions	179
11.1	Scheme of the book	181
	<i>Critical bibliography</i>	183
	<i>Bibliography</i>	193
	<i>Index of the implementations</i>	207
	<i>Index</i>	209