

# Phase-Inversion-Waves in Coupled Oscillators Synchronizing at In-and-Anti-Phase

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*Abstract* - Recently, we have discovered wave propagation phenomena; which are continuously existing waves of changing phase states between two adjacent oscillators from in-phase to anti-phase or from anti-phase to in-phase in van der Pol oscillators coupled by inductors as a ladder. We named the phenomena as “phase-inversion-waves.” In this study, phase-inversion-waves which exist in the state of in-and-anti-phase synchronization have been found. We observe the phenomena by circuit experiments and computer calculations, and investigate them.

## 1. Introduction

A lot of studies on synchronization phenomena of coupled oscillators have been carried out up to now [1]-[13]. Endo *et al.* have reported a details of theoretical analysis and circuit experiments about some coupled oscillators as a ladder, ring and two-dimensional array [2]-[4].

Recently, the authors have discovered wave propagation phenomena that phase states between adjacent oscillators change from in-phase to anti-phase or from anti-phase to in-phase in oscillators coupled by inductors as a ladder [12]. We named the phenomena as “phase-inversion-waves.” It is very important to analyze the phase-inversion-waves and make clear the mechanism of the generation, because it is similar to the propagation phenomena of electrical information in axial fiber of nervous system. In [12], we explained the mechanism of the generation of the phase-inversion-waves by using the relationship between phase states and oscillation frequencies. And we confirmed that the phenomena could be explained by a simplified mathematical model [13].

In the circuit, we can observe a synchronization phenomenon in which in-phase and anti-phase exist alternately. In this study, we name the synchronization state as “in-and-anti-phase synchronization.” This is similar to the phenomenon reported in [11]. In this study, we observe phase-inversion-waves in the state of in-and-anti-phase synchronization. We carry out circuit experiments and computer calculations and investigate the phenomena.

## 2. Circuit Model and Phase-Inversion-Waves

Circuit model is shown in Fig. 1.  $N$  van der Pol

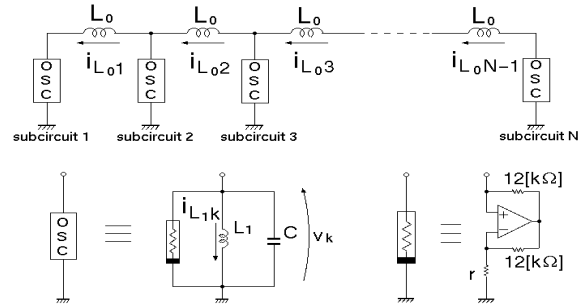


Figure 1: Coupled van der Pol oscillators as a ladder.

oscillators are coupled by coupling inductors  $L_0$ . In the computer calculations, we assume the  $v-i$  characteristics of nonlinear negative resistors in the circuit by the following functions.

$$i_r(v_k) = -g_1 v_k + g_3 v_k^3 \quad (g_1, g_3 > 0) \quad (1)$$

The circuit equations governing the circuit in Fig. 1 are expressed as

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}_k = y_k \\ \dot{y}_k = -x_k + \alpha(x_{k+1} - 2x_k + x_{k-1}) + \varepsilon \left( y_k - \frac{1}{3} y_k^3 \right) \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

( $k = 1, 2, \dots, N$ )

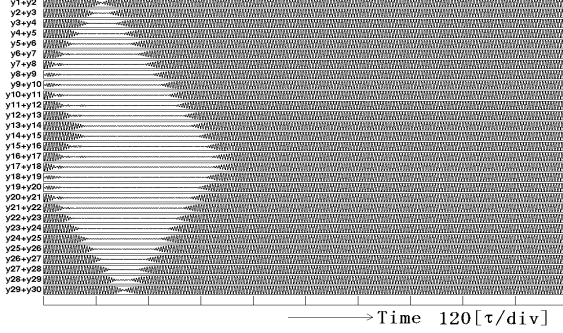
where

$$\begin{aligned} x_0 = x_1, \quad x_{N+1} = x_N, \quad \frac{d}{d\tau} = \cdot, \\ i_{L_1k} = \sqrt{\frac{Cg_1}{3L_1g_3}} x_k, \quad v_k = \sqrt{\frac{g_1}{3g_3}} y_k, \\ t = \sqrt{L_1 C} \tau, \quad \alpha = \frac{L_1}{L_0}, \quad \varepsilon = g_1 \sqrt{\frac{L_1}{C}}. \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

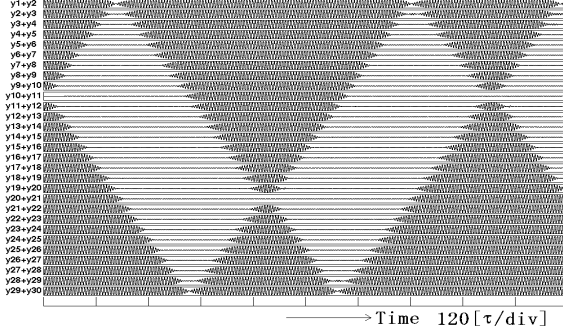
It should be noted that  $\alpha$  corresponds to the coupling and that  $\varepsilon$  corresponds to the nonlinearity. Equation (2) are calculated by using the fourth-order Runge-Kutta method.

Figure 2 shows typical examples of the phase-inversion-waves reported previously. They are computer calculated results from the circuit with the size of  $N = 30$ . Vertical axes are sum of two voltages of adjacent oscillators and horizontal axes are time. White regions in the diagram correspond to the states that sum of voltages of the two oscillators are close to zero, namely adjacent two oscillators synchronized at anti-phase. While, black regions correspond to the states that sum of voltages

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(a) Extinction by collision of two waves.



(b) Reflection by collision of two waves.

Figure 2: Examples of phase-inversion-waves.  $\alpha = 0.10$ ,  $\varepsilon = 0.30$ ,  $\Delta\tau = 0.001$ .

of the two oscillators oscillates with large amplitude, namely adjacent two oscillators synchronized at in-phase. In the Figures, we can see the wave propagation, reflection and extinction.

It has been known that two van der Pol oscillators coupled by inductor have two stable phase states, namely in-phase synchronization and anti-phase synchronization. Further, the oscillation frequency for the in-phase synchronization is smaller than the oscillation frequency for the anti-phase synchronization. By using these features, we could explain the mechanism by using the relationship between phase states and oscillation frequencies. (See [12] for the details.)

### 3. Phase-Inversion-Waves in the State of In-and-Anti-Phase Synchronization

#### 3.1 In-and-Anti-Phase Synchronization

In the circuit model, we can observe another type of synchronization as shown in Fig. 3. Vertical axes are the amplitudes of voltages and horizontal axes are time. We name this as “in-and-anti-phase synchronization” because in-phase and anti-phase are existing alternately. Also, in this synchronization state, the edge of the array and its adjacent oscillator can not synchronize at in-phase. Hence, this

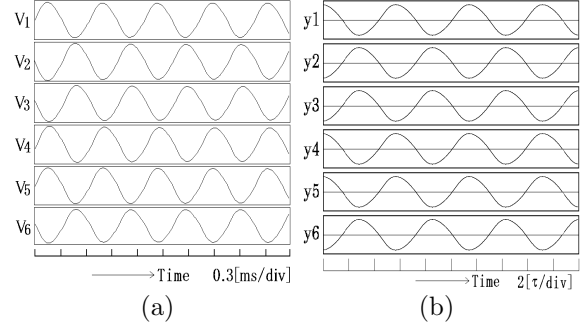


Figure 3: Example of in-and-anti-phase synchronization. (a) Circuit experimental result,  $L_0=1170\text{mH}$ ,  $L_1=200\text{mH}$ ,  $C=68\text{nF}$ ,  $r=1\text{k}\Omega$ . (b) Computer calculated result,  $\alpha = 0.10$ ,  $\varepsilon = 0.30$ ,  $\Delta\tau = 0.001$ .

synchronization state can be observed only when  $N$  is even number. While the phase-inversion-waves are observed when  $N$  is both even number and odd number. And, the oscillation frequency for the in-and-anti-phase synchronization  $f_{mid}$  is almost average of the oscillation frequency for the in-phase synchronization  $f_{low}$  and the oscillation frequency for the anti-phase synchronization  $f_{high}$ .

### 3.2 Experimental Results

Figures 4 and 5 show examples of phase-inversion-waves in the state of in-and-anti-phase synchronization. Figure 4 is the array with the size of  $N \leq 9$  by circuit experiments and computer calculations.

In Fig. 4(a), phase-inversion-waves do not exist. A phase-inversion-wave is existing continuously in Fig. 4(b). The change of phase states from in-phase to anti-phase or from anti-phase to in-phase is propagated. In Fig. 4(c), two waves are existing and a wave is propagating on the heels of another wave.

Figure 5 shows computer calculated results obtained for the case of  $N = 29$  and  $30$ . We can observe phase-inversion-waves similar to Fig. 4.

On the system, we could not observe wave extinction by collision of two waves like Fig. 2(a).

#### 3.3 Single Phase-Inversion-Wave

In phase-inversion-waves reported previously [12], single wave could not exist. However, single wave can exist on the system of coupled oscillators of odd number. (See Fig. 4(b).) Figure 6 shows outline chart of single wave generated at the edge of the array with the size of  $N = 9$ . Generation of the wave is explained as follows:

1. Set initial conditions that in-phase and anti-phase exist alternately,  $\text{OSC}_1$  and  $\text{OSC}_2$  synchronize at anti-phase,  $\text{OSC}_8$  and  $\text{OSC}_9$  synchronize at in-phase. (① in Fig. 6.)
2. A phase-inversion-wave is generated because phase state between  $\text{OSC}_8$  and  $\text{OSC}_9$  changes from in-phase to anti-phase. (② in Fig. 6.)

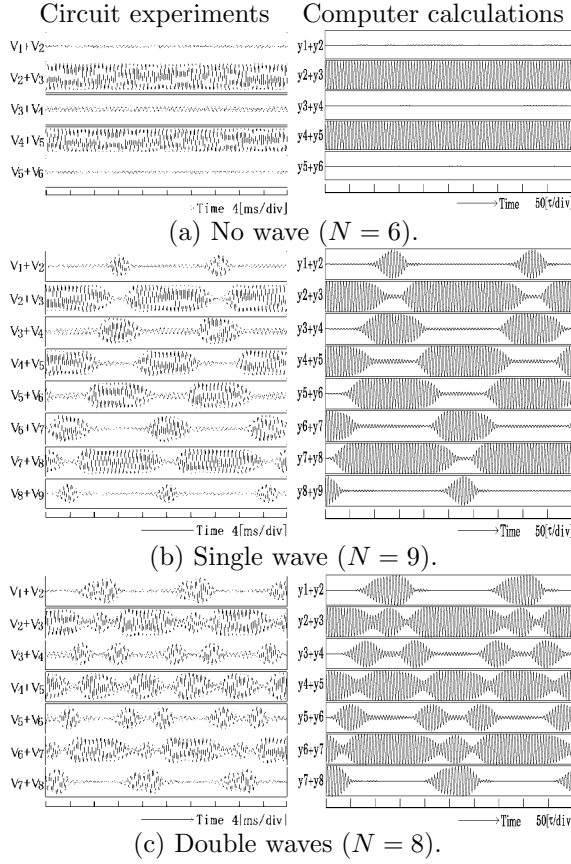


Figure 4: Experimental results. Circuit experiments,  $L_0 = 1170\text{mH}$ ,  $L_1 = 200\text{mH}$ ,  $C = 68\text{nF}$ ,  $r = 1\text{k}\Omega$ . Computer calculations,  $\alpha = 0.10$ ,  $\varepsilon = 0.30$ ,  $\Delta\tau = 0.01$ .

3. Phase state between OSC<sub>7</sub> and OSC<sub>8</sub> starts to change from anti-phase to in-phase. (③ in Fig. 6.)
4. Phase state between OSC<sub>6</sub> and OSC<sub>7</sub> changes from in-phase to anti-phase, wave is propagated toward OSC<sub>1</sub>. (④ in Fig. 6.) Single wave exists because OSC<sub>8</sub> and OSC<sub>9</sub> synchronize at anti-phase.

The single wave has been observed for the first time in this study.

### 3.4 Mechanism of Wave Propagation

Figure 7 shows phase differences and oscillation frequencies of OSC<sub>4</sub> ~ OSC<sub>6</sub>. Single wave is propagated in the figure. It should be noted that  $\Phi_{k,k+1}$  is phase difference between OSC<sub>k</sub> and OSC<sub>k+1</sub> and that  $f_k$  is oscillation frequency of OSC<sub>k</sub>. We define them as follows:

$$\Phi_{k,k+1} = \frac{\tau_k(n) - \tau_{k+1}(n)}{\tau_k(n) - \tau_k(n-1)} \times \pi \quad (4)$$

$$f_k(n) = \frac{1}{2(\tau_k(n) - \tau_k(n-1))} \quad (5)$$

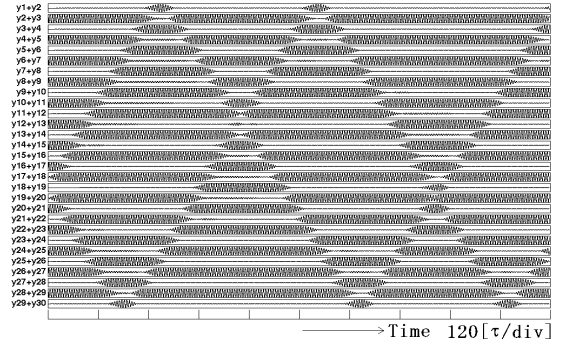
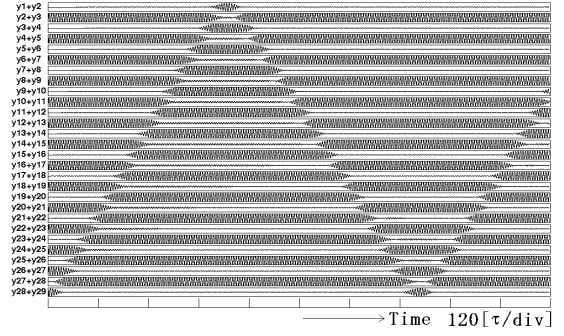


Figure 5: Examples of phase-inversion-waves.  $\alpha = 0.10$ ,  $\varepsilon = 0.30$ ,  $\Delta\tau = 0.01$ .

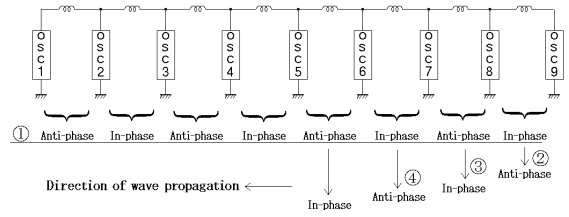


Figure 6: Single wave (outline chart).

where  $\tau_k(n)$  is time when the voltage of OSC<sub>k</sub> crosses 0[V] at  $n$ -th time.

Mechanism of wave propagation can be explained as follows:

1. Let us assume that the circuit synchronizes at in-and-anti-phase and that single wave is going to reach OSC<sub>6</sub> from the direction of OSC<sub>N</sub>.
2. As the phase state between OSC<sub>6</sub> and OSC<sub>7</sub> approaches anti-phase from in-phase,  $f_6$  changes from  $f_{mid}$  to  $f_{high}$ . Hence,  $\Phi_{5,6}$  starts to change. (① in Fig. 7.)
3. As the phase state between OSC<sub>5</sub> and OSC<sub>6</sub> approaches in-phase from anti-phase,  $f_5$  starts to change from  $f_{mid}$  to  $f_{low}$ . (② in Fig. 7.)
4. As  $f_5$  changes from  $f_{mid}$  to  $f_{low}$ , the phase state between OSC<sub>4</sub> and OSC<sub>5</sub> approaches anti-phase from in-phase. (② in Fig. 7.) Before  $f_6$  reaches  $f_{high}$ , it approaches  $f_{mid}$  by inversion of the phase states between adjacent oscillators.

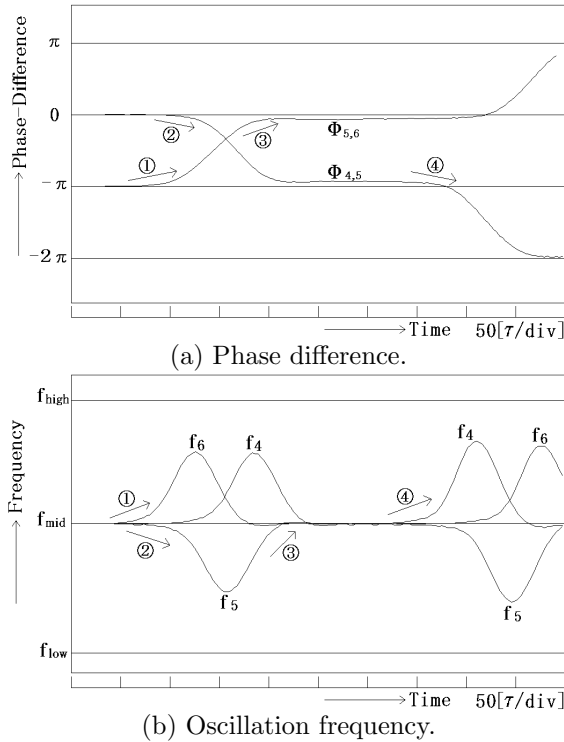


Figure 7: Wave propagation (computer calculated results).

5. Before  $f_5$  reaches  $f_{low}$ , it approaches  $f_{mid}$  by inversion of the phase states between adjacent oscillators.  $f_5$  is equal to  $f_{mid}$  when the phase states invert almost. ( ③ in Fig. 7.)

After the wave reflects at the edge of the array, when the wave propagated to the direction of  $OSC_N$  reaches  $OSC_4$ , the phase states and oscillation frequencies change in a similar manner. ( ④ in Fig. 7.) Although the above explanation is for the case of wave propagation, wave reflection can be explained in a similar manner.

#### 4. Conclusions

In this study, we observed phase-inversion-waves in the ladder of coupled oscillators synchronizing at in-and-anti-phase, in which in-phase and anti-phase are existing alternately. We carried out circuit experiments and computer calculations.

In the previous study, wave propagation, reflection at the edge of array, reflection by collision of two waves and extinction by collision of two waves could be observed. However, extinction could not be observed in this study. Further, single phase-inversion-wave could be observed for the first time.

In phase-inversion-waves in the state of in-and-anti-phase synchronization, oscillation frequencies change around single stable frequency  $f_{mid}$ . By using this feature, we could explain the mechanism of wave propagation by using the relationship between

phase states and oscillation frequencies.

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