Analysis of Chaotic Phenomena in Two RC Phase Shift Oscillators Coupled by a Diode

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Summary

In this paper, a simple chaotic circuit using two RC phase shift oscillators and a diode is proposed and analyzed. By using a simpler model of the original circuit, the mechanism of generating chaos is explained and the exact solutions are derived. The exact expression of the Poincaré map and its Jacobian matrix make it possible to confirm the generation of chaos using the Lyapunov exponents and to investigate the related bifurcation phenomena.

Key words: chaos, RC phase shift oscillator, diode, torus, piecewise-linear analysis

1. Introduction

There have been many investigations on various kinds of applications of chaos. For instance, chaos communication systems [1], [2], chaos neural networks [3], [4], spatio-temporal behavior in coupled chaotic circuits systems [5], [6] and so on. In order to design chaos communication systems using chaos synchronization, it is necessary to make almost identical chaotic circuits. Only IC realization of the circuit would make it possible. Further, realization of large-scale of chaotic circuits networks would be possible only on IC chip. Therefore, it is considered to be important to study on IC chip design of chaotic circuits [7]–[10]. One of the most important subject on such studies is how small is the circuit, namely how many transistors are needed to construct one chaotic circuit. Until now, OTA is used in almost these studies [11] for realization of negative resistor, gyrator and so on. Hysteresis or saturation characteristics of OTA is also exploited as a part of nonlinear elements. However, an OTA is usually realized by using several numbers of transistors. As a result, chaotic circuits including OTAs are not so small.

In this paper, we design a new chaotic circuit using two RC phase shift oscillators and a diode and analyze the circuit using a simpler model. This circuit consists of only some diodes, transistors, resistors and capacitors, namely we do not have to realize any elements in the circuit by some circuits including OTAs. We show the simple circuit exhibits chaos by circuit experiments. In order to make clear the mechanism of generating chaos and to investigate related bifurcation, we derive a simpler model from the original circuit. In the simpler model transistors are modeled by linearized ones and a coupling diode is modeled by two-segment piecewise-linear characteristics. This makes us possible to explain the generation of chaos and to derive exact solutions of the circuit. It is also possible to derive the exact expression of the Poincaré map and its Jacobian matrix. We can calculate the Lyapunov exponent using the Jacobian matrix.

In the Sect. 2 the circuit model and circuit experimental results are shown. In the Sect. 3 we derive the simpler model from the original circuit and show the computer calculated results using exact solutions of the simpler model. We can explain the mechanism of generating chaos. In the Sect. 4 the Poincaré map is defined and the Lyapunov exponent is calculated. They confirm the generation of chaos and show the detailed bifurcation scenario. Some concluding remarks is presented in the Sect. 5.

2. Circuit Set-up

Figure 1(a) shows a well-known simple RC phase shift oscillator which consists of a third order RC ladder network and a feedback amplifier. Figure 1(b) shows a typical wave form of the voltage observed from the RC phase shift oscillator. In this oscillator, the amplitude of the oscillation does not become so large, because it is controlled by turn-on of the transistor. Hence, if we need oscillation with larger amplitude, we have to modify the circuit.

Figure 2(a) shows a modified RC phase shift oscillator with level shift diodes. Figure 2(b) shows a typical wave form of the voltage observed from the modified RC phase shift oscillator with level shift diodes. We can see the amplitude becomes larger by the level shift diodes.

Figure 3 shows our circuit model. In this circuit, two RC phase shift oscillators with level shift diodes are coupled by a diode $D_0$. In the beginning we carried out circuit experiments for a similar circuit without level shift diodes. But, we could not observe any
chaotic oscillations. We considered that it was because the amplitude of the oscillation of each RC phase shift oscillator was too small to exploiting nonlinearity of the coupling diode. That’s why we added level shift diodes to the RC phase shift oscillators. As a result, we not only observed chaotic oscillations but also understood that the nonlinearity of the transistors did not play any roles of generating chaos. We explain about this in the next section.

Figure 4 shows typical examples of attractors obtained by circuit experiments. We choose $R_{bo}$ as a control parameter which is varied in $1.58 \, \text{[kΩ]} < R_{bo} < 2.00 \, \text{[kΩ]}$. Other parameter values are fixed as $R_{ao} = 6.47 \, \text{[kΩ]}$, $R_a = 0.820 \, \text{[kΩ]}$, $R_b = 2.00 \, \text{[kΩ]}$ and $C = 4.70 \, \text{[nF]}$, respectively. The BJT is type 2SC1815.

We can see periodic orbit (a), quasi-periodic orbit (b) and complex attractors being looked chaotic (c), (d).

This circuit consist of only two simple RC phase shift oscillators and a diode. Namely, neither inductors nor negative resistors are included. Therefore, it is considered to be realized on the IC chip without complication.

However, it is too difficult to analyze this circuit
as it is, because this circuit includes many nonlinear elements. Therefore, it is impossible to make clear the mechanism of generating chaos. This means that we can not maintain that chaos will be observed if we replace, for example, the transistor by another one. Because there is possibility that very slight something of the element may play important role to generate chaos. We do not consider that such a circuit is very useful for future applications.

3. Linearized Model

In this section, in order to make clear the mechanism of generating chaos and to investigate related bifurcation, we derive a simple linearized model of the circuit model in Fig.3.

First of all, the transistors with two level-shift diodes in the circuit are assumed to operate as ideal linear elements as shown in Fig.5, namely

\[
i_B = \frac{1}{R_t} (v_{BE} - V_B) \\
i_C = \beta_F i_B
\]  

(1)

where \(\beta_F\) is the forward current gain of the device. This approximation is signified forward active region only.

Next, the \(v-i\) characteristics of the diode coupling two RC phase oscillators are approximated by the following two-segment piecewise-linear function shown in Fig.6,

\[
i_d = \begin{cases} 
\frac{1}{R_d} (v_d - V_{th}) & (v_d > V_{th}) \\
0 & (v_d \leq V_{th}) 
\end{cases}
\]  

(2)

By using the above simplified transistors and diode, the circuit equations are described as follows:

\[
R_a C \frac{dv_{a1}}{dt} = \left( \frac{R_a}{R_{ao} + R_a} - 2 \right) v_{a1} + v_{a2} \\
- \frac{R_a \beta_F}{R_{ao} R_a} v_{a3} + \frac{R_a \beta_F}{R_{ao} R_a} V_B \\
- \frac{R_a}{R_{ao} + R_a} E + R_a i_d
\]

\[
R_a C \frac{dv_{a2}}{dt} = v_{a1} - 2v_{a2} + v_{a3}
\]

\[
R_a C \frac{dv_{a3}}{dt} = v_{a2} - \left( \frac{R_a}{R_t} + 1 \right) v_{a3} - \frac{R_a}{R_t} V_B
\]

\[
R_b C \frac{dv_{b1}}{dt} = \left( \frac{R_b}{R_{bo} + R_b} - 2 \right) v_{b1} + v_{b2}
\]

\[
R_b C \frac{dv_{b2}}{dt} = v_{b1} - 2v_{b2} + v_{b3}
\]

\[
R_b C \frac{dv_{b3}}{dt} = v_{b2} - \left( \frac{R_b}{R_t} + 1 \right) v_{b3} - \frac{R_b}{R_t} V_B.
\]

(3)

By changing the variables and parameters,

\[v_{ak} = V_{th} x_{ak}, \quad v_{bk} = V_{th} x_{bk}, \quad (k = 1, 2, 3),\]

\[\alpha_a = \frac{R_{ao}}{R_{ao} + R_a}, \quad \alpha_b = \frac{R_{bo}}{R_{bo} + R_b},\]

\[\beta_a = \frac{R_a E}{R_{ao} V_{th}}, \quad \beta_b = \frac{R_b E}{R_{bo} V_{th}}, \quad \gamma = \frac{R_a}{R_t},\]

\[\delta = \frac{V_B}{V_{th}}, \quad \epsilon = \frac{R_a}{R_b}, \quad \zeta = \frac{R_a}{R_d} t = R_a C \tau,\]

(4)

the normalized circuit equations are described by the following six-dimensional piecewise-linear differential equations.

\[
\dot{x}_{a1} = (\alpha_a - 2) x_{a1} + x_{a2} - \alpha_a \gamma \beta_F x_{a3} + x_{a2} - \alpha_a \gamma \beta_F \delta + \alpha_a \beta_a + \gamma \delta
\]

\[
\dot{x}_{a2} = x_{a1} - 2x_{a2} + x_{a3}
\]

\[
\dot{x}_{a3} = x_{a2} - (\gamma + 1) x_{a3} + \gamma \delta
\]

\[
\dot{x}_{b1} = \epsilon \alpha_b - 2) x_{b1} + \epsilon x_{b2} - \alpha_b \gamma \beta_F x_{b3} + \epsilon x_{b2} - \alpha_b \gamma \beta_F \delta + \alpha_b \beta_b \epsilon - \zeta y_d
\]

\[
\dot{x}_{b2} = \epsilon (x_{b1} - 2x_{b2} + x_{b3})
\]

\[
\dot{x}_{b3} = \epsilon x_{b2} - (\gamma + \epsilon) x_{b3} + \gamma \delta
\]

(5)

where \(y_d\) is a piecewise-linear function corresponding
to the $v - i$ characteristics of the coupling diode and is described as
\[ \begin{align*}
    y_d &= \begin{cases} 
        x_{b1} - x_{a1} - 1 & \text{for } x_{b1} - x_{a1} > 1 \\
        0 & \text{for } x_{b1} - x_{a1} \leq 1.
    \end{cases} 
\end{align*} \tag{6}
\]

Since the circuit equations (5) are piecewise-linear, exact solutions in each linear region can be derived. At first, we define two piecewise-linear regions as follows.
\[ R_1 : \quad x_{b1} - x_{a1} > 1 \]
\[ R_0 : \quad x_{b1} - x_{a1} \leq 1. \tag{7} \]

Namely, $R_1$ corresponds to the region where the coupling diode is ON, while $R_0$ corresponds to OFF. Note that in $R_0$ the circuit equations are completely decoupled into two three-dimensional equations.

We calculate the eigenvalues in each region from Eq. (5). The eigenvalues in each region are described as follows.
\[ R_1 : \quad \lambda_{11}, \lambda_{12}, \lambda_{13}, \lambda_{14}, \sigma_1 \pm j\omega_1 \]
\[ R_0 : \quad \lambda_2, \sigma_2 \pm j\omega_2, \lambda_3, \sigma_3 \pm j\omega_3. \tag{8} \]

The eigenvalues in $R_1$ are obtained numerically from the 6th order eigenvalue equation of Eq. (5). On the other hand, $\lambda_2, \sigma_2 \pm j\omega_2$ can be derived from
\[ \begin{vmatrix} 
    \lambda - (\alpha_a - 2) & 1 & -1 & \alpha_a\gamma \beta_F \\
    -1 & \lambda + 2 & -1 & 0 \\
    0 & -1 & \lambda + \gamma + 1 & 0 
\end{vmatrix} = 0 \tag{9} \]
and $\lambda_3, \sigma_3 \pm j\omega_3$ can be derived from
\[ \begin{vmatrix} 
    \lambda - \varepsilon(\alpha_a - 2) & -\varepsilon & \alpha_b\gamma \beta_F \\
    -\varepsilon & \lambda + 2\varepsilon & -\varepsilon & 0 \\
    0 & -\varepsilon & \lambda + \gamma + \varepsilon & 0 
\end{vmatrix} = 0 \tag{10} \]

by virtue of the decoupling.

Next we define the equilibrium points in $R_1$ and $R_0$ as
\[ E_1 = \begin{bmatrix} E_{1a1} \\ E_{1a2} \\ E_{1a3} \\ E_{b1} \\ E_{b2} \\ E_{b3} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad E_0 = \begin{bmatrix} E_{0a1} \\ E_{0a2} \\ E_{0a3} \\ E_{0b1} \\ E_{0b2} \\ E_{0b3} \end{bmatrix}, \tag{11} \]

respectively. These values are calculated by putting the right side of Eq. (5) to be equal to zero.

Then, we can describe the exact solutions in each linear region as follows.
\[ R_1 : \quad \text{Diode is ON.} \]
\[ x(\tau) - E_1 = F(\tau) \cdot F^{-1}(0) \cdot (x(0) - E_1), \]
\[ x(\tau) = \begin{bmatrix} x_{a1}(\tau) \\ x_{a2}(\tau) \\ x_{a3}(\tau) \\ x_{b1}(\tau) \\ x_{b2}(\tau) \\ x_{b3}(\tau) \end{bmatrix}, \quad F(\tau) = \begin{bmatrix} f_{a1}(\tau) \\ f_{a2}(\tau) \\ f_{a3}(\tau) \\ f_{b1}(\tau) \\ f_{b2}(\tau) \\ f_{b3}(\tau) \end{bmatrix}, \]
\[ f_{a3}(\tau) = \begin{bmatrix} e^{\lambda_1 \tau} \\ e^{\lambda_2 \tau} \\ e^{\lambda_3 \tau} \\ e^{\lambda_4 \tau} \\ e^{\sigma_1 \tau} \cos \omega_1 \tau \\ e^{\sigma_1 \tau} \sin \omega_1 \tau \end{bmatrix}, \]
\[ f_{a2}(\tau) = \frac{df_{a3}(\tau)}{d\tau} + (\gamma + 1)f_{a3}(\tau), \]
\[ f_{a1}(\tau) = \frac{df_{a2}(\tau)}{d\tau} + 2f_{a2}(\tau) - f_{a3}(\tau). \tag{12} \]

We omit the description of $f_{bk}$ ($k=1,2,3$), because it is complicated enough to write here in spite of the solutions of linear algebraic equations.

\[ R_0 : \quad \text{Diode is OFF.} \]
\[ x_a(\tau) - E_{0a} = G_a(\tau) \cdot G_a^{-1}(0) \cdot (x_a(0) - E_{0a}), \]
\[ x_b(\tau) - E_{0b} = G_b(\tau) \cdot G_b^{-1}(0) \cdot (x_b(0) - E_{0b}), \]
\[ x_a(\tau) = \begin{bmatrix} x_{a1}(\tau) \\ x_{a2}(\tau) \\ x_{a3}(\tau) \end{bmatrix}, \quad x_b(\tau) = \begin{bmatrix} x_{b1}(\tau) \\ x_{b2}(\tau) \\ x_{b3}(\tau) \end{bmatrix}, \]
\[ E_{0a} = \begin{bmatrix} E_{0a1} \\ E_{0a2} \\ E_{0a3} \end{bmatrix}, \quad E_{0b} = \begin{bmatrix} E_{0b1} \\ E_{0b2} \\ E_{0b3} \end{bmatrix}, \]
\[ G_a(\tau) = \begin{bmatrix} g_{a1}(\tau) \\ g_{a2}(\tau) \\ g_{a3}(\tau) \end{bmatrix}, \quad G_b(\tau) = \begin{bmatrix} g_{b1}(\tau) \\ g_{b2}(\tau) \\ g_{b3}(\tau) \end{bmatrix}, \]
\[ g_{a3}(\tau) = \begin{bmatrix} e^{\lambda_a \tau} \\ e^{\sigma_a \cos \omega_a \tau} \\ e^{\sigma_a \sin \omega_a \tau} \end{bmatrix}, \]
\[ g_{a2}(\tau) = \frac{dg_{a3}(\tau)}{d\tau} + (\gamma + 1)g_{a3}(\tau), \]
\[ g_{a1}(\tau) = \frac{dg_{a2}(\tau)}{d\tau} + 2g_{a2}(\tau) - g_{a3}(\tau), \]
\[ g_{b3}(\tau) = \begin{bmatrix} e^{\lambda_b \tau} \\ e^{\sigma_b \cos \omega_b \tau} \\ e^{\sigma_b \sin \omega_b \tau} \end{bmatrix}, \]
\[ g_{b2}(\tau) = \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \frac{dg_{b3}(\tau)}{d\tau} + \frac{\gamma + 1}{\varepsilon} g_{b3}(\tau), \]
\[ g_{b1}(\tau) = \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \frac{dg_{b2}(\tau)}{d\tau} + 2g_{b2}(\tau) - g_{b3}(\tau). \tag{13} \]

Figure 7(1) shows computer calculated results of the exact solutions in Eqs. (12) and (13). We choose $\alpha_b$ as the control parameter and other parameters are fixed as $\alpha_a = 0.80$, $\beta_a = 5.71$, $\beta_b = 3.21$, $\gamma = 0.267$, $\delta = 3.00$, $\phi = 0.00$.
Fig. 7 Computer calculated results. (1) Attractors. (2) Poincaré map. $\alpha_a = 0.80$, $\beta_a = 5.71$, $\beta_b = 3.21$, $\gamma = 0.267$, $\delta = 3.00$, $\varepsilon = 0.670$, $\zeta = 60.0$, and $\beta_F = 100$. (a) $\alpha_b = 0.700$, (b) $\alpha_b = 0.750$, (c) $\alpha_b = 0.815$, (d) $\alpha_b = 0.817$, (e) $\alpha_b = 0.825$, (f) $\alpha_b = 0.832$, (g) $\alpha_b = 0.848$, (h) $\alpha_b = 0.860$, (i) $\alpha_b = 0.865$, (j) $\alpha_b = 0.880$, (k) $\alpha_b = 0.902$.

$\varepsilon = 0.670$, $\zeta = 60.0$, and $\beta_F = 100$. We can observe almost same attractors and the same bifurcation scenario as those observed from circuit experiments. Namely, our linearized model does not lose important features of the original circuit. This means that the RC phase shift oscillators in the original circuit behave as simple divergently oscillating parts and that only the nonlinearity of the coupling diode controls the amplitude. In
other words, the RC phase oscillators play a role of *expanding*, while the coupling diode plays a role of *folding*. These two features, expanding and folding, are known as the essence of generating chaos. From the result we can now maintain that our circuit model is enough to be robust to generate chaos, because the RC phase shift oscillators do not have to possess any special characteristics, but they have only to oscillate divergently.

This result also encourages us to establish a designing method of chaos-generating circuits in a simple way, for example just to replace RC phase oscillators by another types of oscillators. Such designing method of chaos-generating circuits would contribute to realize engineering applications of chaos and our most important future research.

4. Poincaré Map

In order to confirm the generation of chaos and to investigate bifurcation scenario, we derive the Poincaré map.

Let us define the following subspace

\[ S = S_1 \cap S_2 \]

(14)

where

\[ S_1 : x_{b1} - x_{a1} = 1 \]

\[ S_2 : \{ (x_b - 2)x_{b1} + \varepsilon x_{b2} - \alpha_b \gamma \beta_F x_{b3} + \alpha_b \gamma \beta_F \delta + \alpha_b \beta_x \} - \{ (x_a - 2)x_{a1} + \alpha_a \gamma \beta_F x_{a3} + \alpha_a \gamma \beta_F \delta + \alpha_a \beta_a \} > 0. \]

The subspace \( S_1 \) corresponds to the boundary condition between \( R_1 \) and \( R_0 \), while the subspace \( S_2 \) corresponds to the condition \( \dot{x}_{b1} - \dot{x}_{a1} > 0 \). Namely, \( S \) corresponds to the transitional condition from \( R_0 \) to \( R_1 \).

Let us consider the solution starting form an initial point on \( S \). The solution returns back to \( S \) again after wandering \( R_1 \) and \( R_0 \) as shown in Fig. 8. Hence, we can derive the Poincaré map as follows.

\[ T : S \rightarrow S, \ x_0 \rightarrow T(x_0) \]

(16)

where \( x_0 \) is an initial point on \( S \), while \( T(x_0) \) is the point at which the solution starting from \( x_0 \) hits \( S \) again.

The concrete representation of \( T(x_0) \) is given as follows using the exact solutions in Eqs. (12) and (13).

Suppose that the solution starting from \( x_0 = (X_{a10}, X_{a20}, X_{a30}, X_{a10} + 1, X_{b20}, X_{b30}) \) when \( \tau = 0 \) hits \( S_1 \) and enters \( R_0 \) at \( x_1 = (X_{a11}, X_{a21}, X_{a31}, X_{a11} + 1, X_{b21}, X_{b31}) \) when \( \tau = \tau_1 \). In this case, \( x_1 \) is given by

\[
\begin{bmatrix}
X_{a11} - E_{1a1} \\
X_{a21} - E_{1a2} \\
X_{a31} - E_{1a3} \\
X_{a11} + 1 - E_{1b1} \\
X_{b21} - E_{1b2} \\
X_{b31} - E_{1b3}
\end{bmatrix}
= F(\tau_1) \cdot F^{-1}(0) \cdot
\begin{bmatrix}
X_{a10} - E_{0a1} \\
X_{a20} - E_{0a2} \\
X_{a30} - E_{0a3} \\
X_{a10} + 1 - E_{0b1} \\
X_{b20} - E_{0b2} \\
X_{b30} - E_{0b3}
\end{bmatrix}
\]

(17)

where \( \tau_1 \) is given by using the first and fourth rows of Eq. (17). The solution hits \( S \) again at \( x_2 = (X_{a12}, X_{a22}, X_{a32}, X_{a12} + 1, X_{b22}, X_{b32}) \) when \( \tau = \tau_1 + \tau_2 \). \( x_2 \) is given by

\[
\begin{bmatrix}
X_{a12} - E_{0a1} \\
X_{a22} - E_{0a2} \\
X_{a32} - E_{0a3}
\end{bmatrix}
= G_a(\tau_2) \cdot G_a^{-1}(0) \cdot
\begin{bmatrix}
X_{a11} - E_{0a1} \\
X_{a21} - E_{0a2} \\
X_{a31} - E_{0a3}
\end{bmatrix}
\]

\[
\begin{bmatrix}
X_{a12} + 1 - E_{0b1} \\
X_{b22} - E_{0b2} \\
X_{b32} - E_{0b3}
\end{bmatrix}
= G_b(\tau_2) \cdot G_b^{-1}(0) \cdot
\begin{bmatrix}
X_{a11} + 1 - E_{0a1} \\
X_{b21} - E_{0b2} \\
X_{b31} - E_{0b3}
\end{bmatrix}
\]

(18)

where \( \tau_2 \) is given by using the first rows of two equations in Eq. (18). Finally, we get

\[ T(x_0) = x_2. \]

(19)

Figure 7(2) shows the Poincaré map obtained by calculating Eqs. (17), (18) and (19). We can observe the bifurcation scenario more clearly.

The Jacobian matrix \( DT \) of the Poincaré map \( T \) can be also derived rigorously from Eqs. (17)–(19). We can calculate the largest Lyapunov exponent by

\[
\mu = \lim_{N \to \infty} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N} \log |DT_j \cdot e_j|
\]

(20)

where \( e_j \) is a normalized base.

One-parameter bifurcation diagram and the calculated largest Lyapunov exponents are shown in Fig. 9.
and Fig. 10, respectively. Control parameter is $\alpha_b$ and other parameters are fixed as Fig. 7.

By using these results, we can say the generation of chaos is confirmed numerically and we can describe detailed bifurcation scenario as follows.

One-periodic orbit (a) bifurcates to torus (b) around $\alpha_b = 0.74$. For $0.74 < \alpha_b < 0.805$, we can observe several phase-locked states in torus region. For $0.805 < \alpha_b < 0.817$, the largest Lyapunov exponent becomes positive occasionally though the attractor looks like torus (c), (d). We consider that chaos via folded-torus appears in this interval [12]. For $0.817 < \alpha_b$, chaotic attractors can be observed (f), (h), (j), (k) for almost parameter values except two large periodic windows (e), (i). We can also confirm a lot of small periodic windows are embedded in chaotic region (g).

5. Conclusions

In this paper, we have proposed a chaotic circuit using two RC phase shift oscillators. By using a simpler model of the original circuit, the mechanism of generating chaos has been explained. Further, we have confirmed the generation of chaos by calculating the Lyapunov exponents and have investigated the related bifurcation phenomena.

Our future research is the development of a design method of chaos-generating circuits based on this study.

References


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