

5.6 State Variable Filters

5.6.1

- State variable filters are another approach to active filters. Advantages:
 - easy to design lowpass, bandpass, highpass
 - accurate pole placement bandstop, etc
 - manageable range of component values
 - can obtain zeros, as well as poles, for a general biquadratic

$$\frac{b_2 s^2 + b_1 s + b_0}{a_2 s^2 + a_1 s + a_0}$$

Disadvantages:

- they need at least twice as many op amps as Sallen-Key designs do
- State variable filters are directly linked to linear system theory. Given a rational polynomial $H(s)$, the corresponding state variable structure is straightforward.

• System Diagrams

- We want a block diagram structure to represent any system that can be described by a linear DE, such as

$$y^{(n)}(t) + a_{n-1} y^{(n-1)}(t) + \dots + a_1 y'(t) + a_0 y(t) \\ = b_m x^{(m)}(t) + \dots + b_0 x(t)$$

- Strategy:

- Devise a structure for the same LHS coeffs, but the simplest RHS

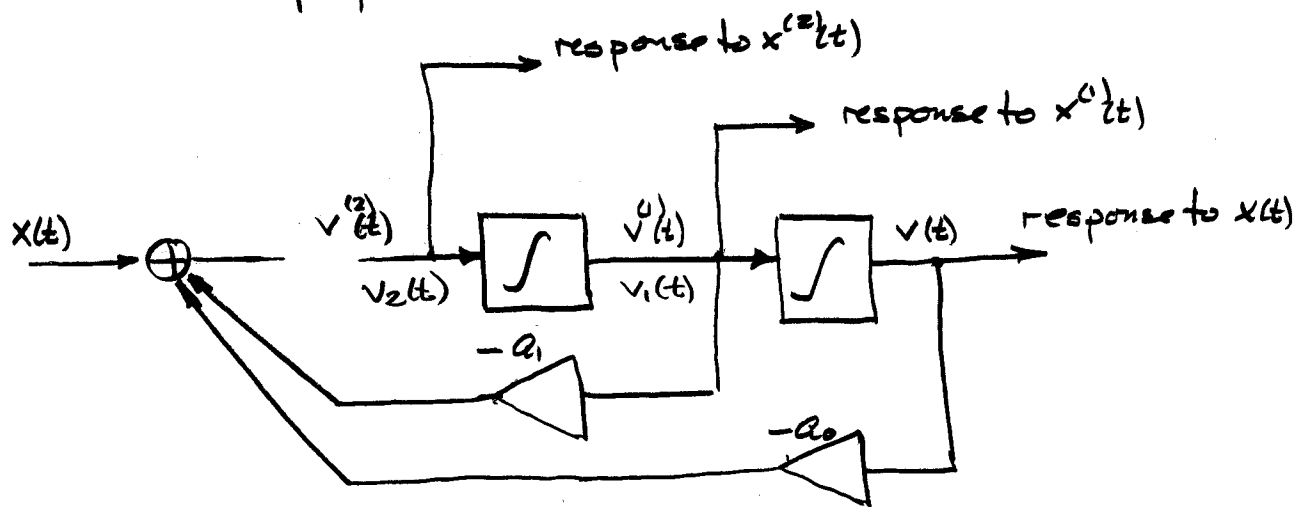
$$v^{(n)}(t) + a_{n-1} v^{(n-1)}(t) + \dots + a_0 v(t) = x(t)$$

- From it, obtain responses to $x^{(1)}(t)$, $x^{(2)}(t)$, etc.

- and then the response to the full RHS

$$b_m x^{(m)}(t) + \dots + b_0 x(t)$$

— For example, 2nd order



→ Input to highest integrator is

$$v^{(2)}(t) = -a_1 v^{(1)}(t) - a_0 v(t) + x(t)$$

So the structure satisfies the modified DE

$$v^{(2)}(t) + a_1 v^{(1)}(t) + a_0 v(t) = x(t)$$

→ By the derivative property, $v_1(t)$ is the solution

$$\text{of } v_1^{(2)}(t) + a_1 v_1^{(1)}(t) + a_0 v_1(t) = x^{(1)}(t)$$

$$\text{Since } v_1(t) = v^{(1)}(t).$$

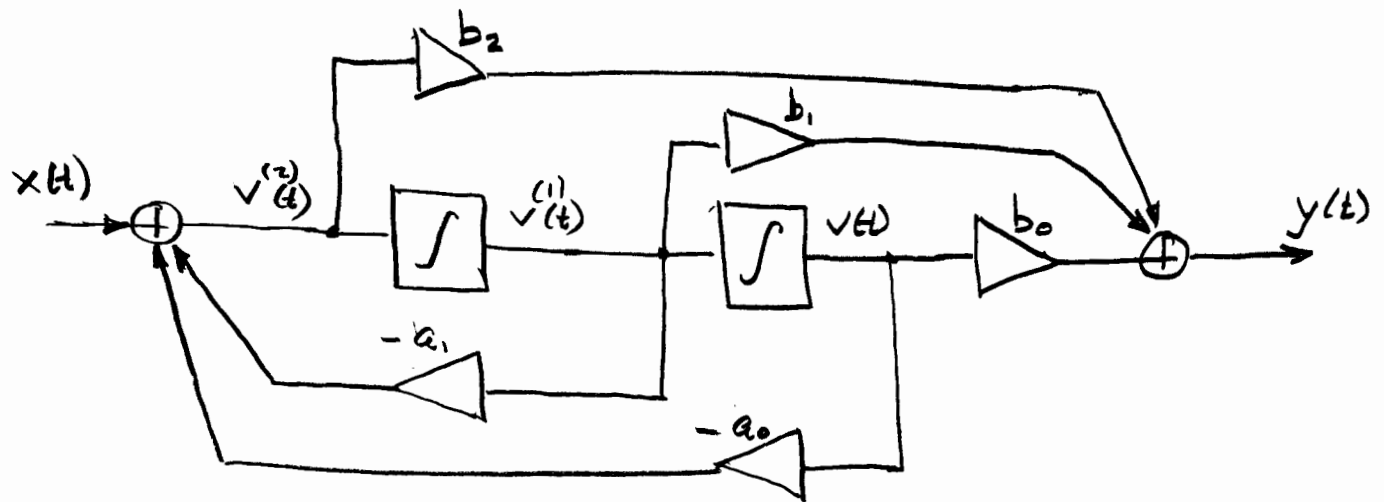
→ Similarly, $v_2(t)$ is the solution to

$$v_2^{(2)}(t) + a_1 v_2^{(1)}(t) + a_0 v_2(t) = x^{(2)}(t).$$

→ And $b_2 v^{(2)}(t) + b_1 v^{(1)}(t) + b_0 v(t) = y(t)$ is solution to

$$y^{(2)}(t) + a_1 y^{(1)}(t) + a_0 y(t) = b_2 x^{(2)}(t) + b_1 x^{(1)}(t) + b_0 x(t)$$

→ so the solution structure is



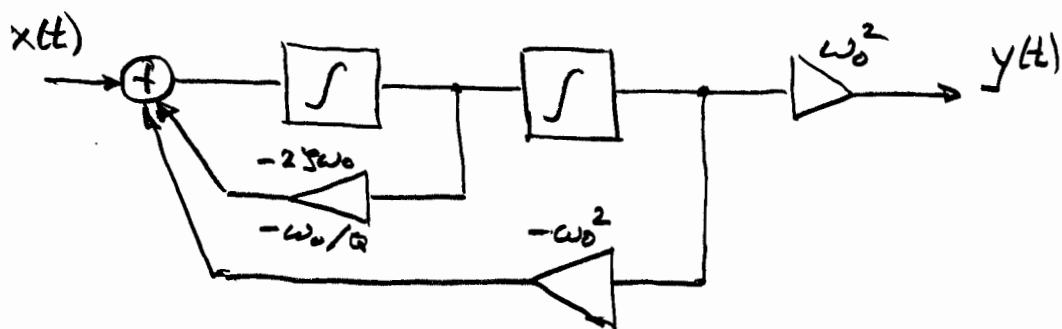
$$y^{(2)} + a_1 y^{(1)}(t) + a_0 y(t) = b_2 x^{(2)}(t) + b_1 x^{(1)}(t) + b_0 x(t)$$

It ~~implements~~ represents

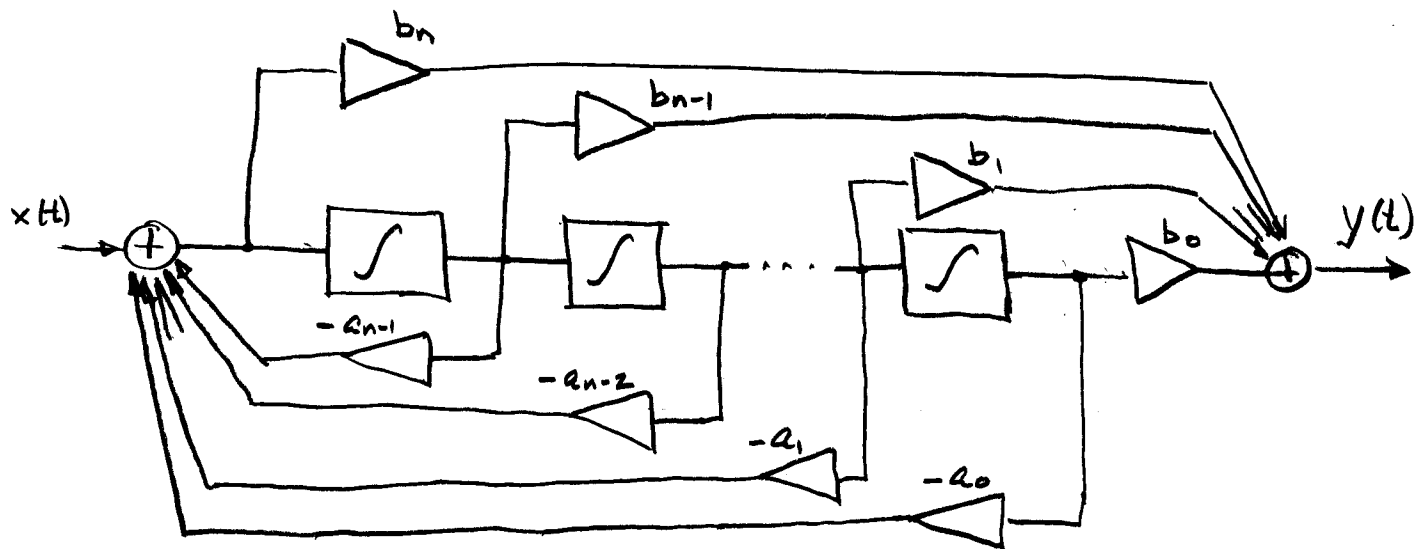
$$H(s) = \frac{b_2 s^2 + b_1 s + b_0}{s^2 + a_1 s + a_0}$$

a general "biquadratic" transfer function.

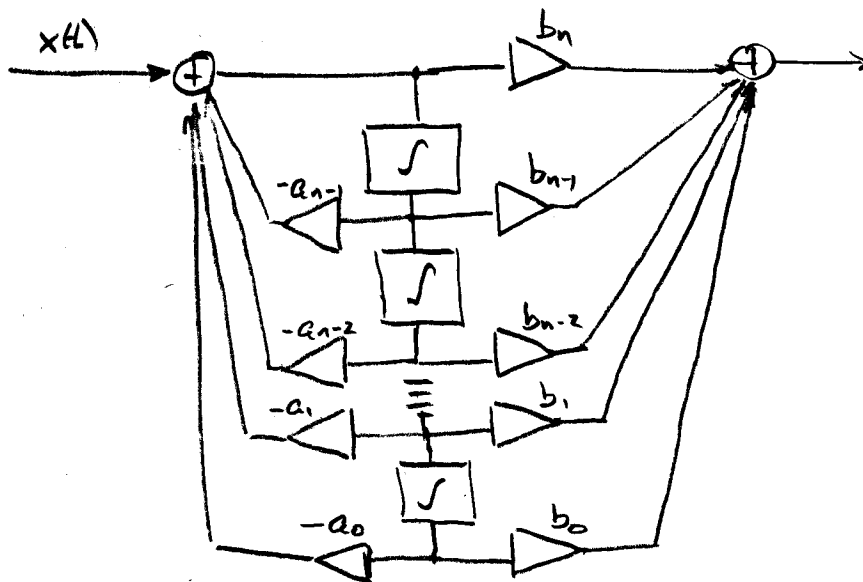
— example low pass 2nd order $H(s) = \frac{\omega_0^2}{s^2 + 2\zeta\omega_0 s + \omega_0^2}$



— Higher order is similar



Also drawn



- Every linear system — mechanical, thermal, electric circuit, etc — has a system diagram like this.
- Why "state variable"? See Appendix to this section.

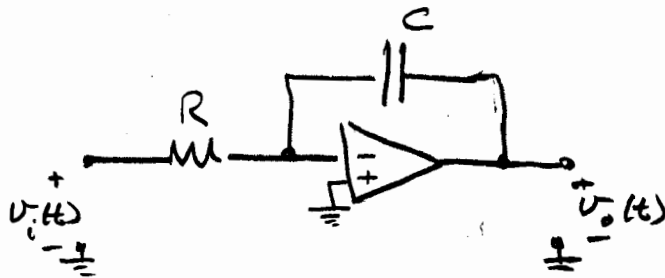
• Wiring Up the System Diagram

– If the system diagram can represent any transfer function, why not just implement it to realize our filter?

We have implementations for each of its

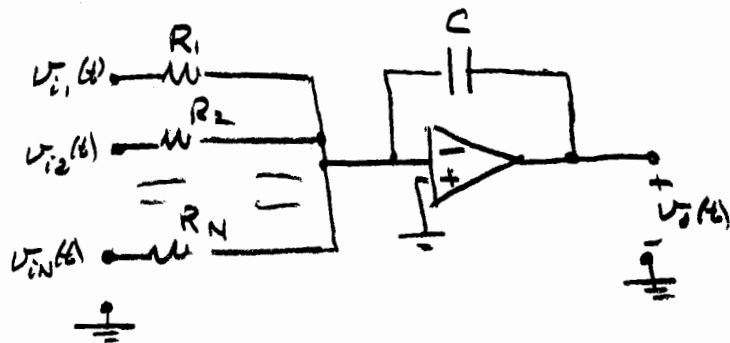
blocks:

integrator
(inverting)



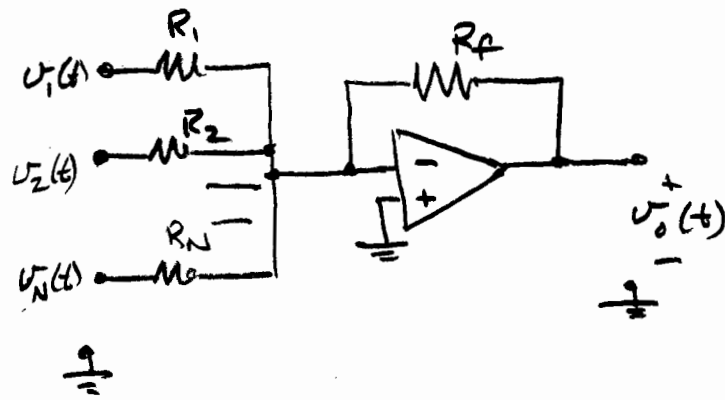
$$v_o(t) = -\frac{1}{RC} \int_0^t v_i(\alpha) d\alpha$$

summing integrator
(inverting)



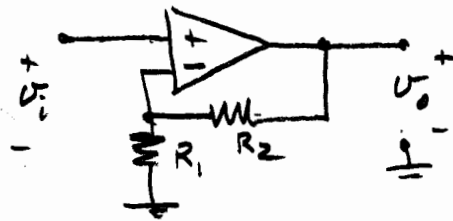
$$v_o(t) = - \int_0^t \left(\frac{1}{R_1 C} v_{i1}(\alpha) + \frac{1}{R_2 C} v_{i2}(\alpha) + \dots + \frac{1}{R_N C} v_{iN}(\alpha) \right) d\alpha$$

Summing amp
(inverting)



$$v_o(t) = -\frac{R_f}{R_1} v_1(t) - \dots - \frac{R_f}{R_N} v_N(t)$$

gain block
(non-inverting,
gain ≥ 1)



$$v_o = \left(1 + \frac{R_2}{R_1}\right) v_i$$

— advantages of this approach:

→ straight forward

→ control of many parameters by simple adjustments (e.g. change Q with single resistor)

→ lowpass, bandpass, highpass, bandstop

— drawbacks

→ more op amps: one per integrator, so at least two for a quad section; sign inversion sometimes requires another op amp to correct.

- example 3rd order Butterworth lowpass

S.6.8

→ From p.5.2.10

$$H(s) = \frac{1}{s^3 + 2s^2 + 2s + 1}$$

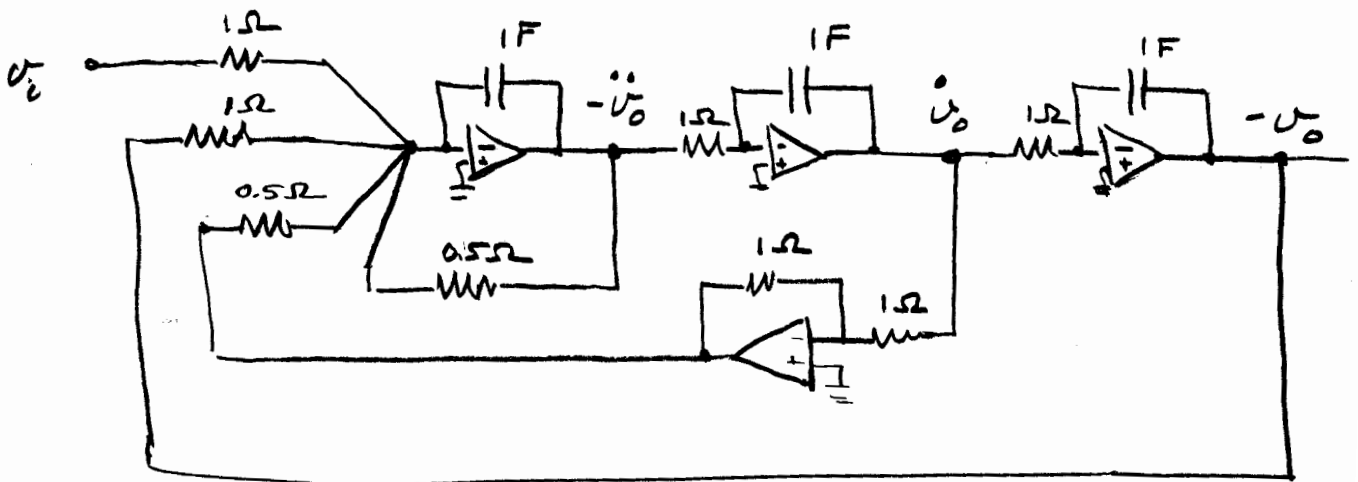
for $\omega_c = 1 \text{ rad/s}$

so

$$\ddot{v}_o + 2\dot{v}_o + 2v_o = v_i$$

or

$$\ddot{v}_o = -2\dot{v}_o - 2v_o + v_i$$



→ frequency scale, impedance scale as usual

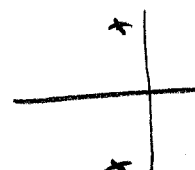
→ four op amps, compared with Sallen-Key's two op amps

• State Variable Quadratic Sections

- Even though we can implement a filter of any order with this approach, it is still more common to use quadratic sections. Why? Less sensitivity to coefficient error. In fact, even DSP implementations use quad sections.
- Here is a quad section that makes lowpass, bandpass, highpass outputs available

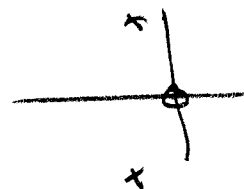
$$H_{lp}(s) = \frac{\omega_0^2}{s^2 + 2\gamma\omega_0 s + \omega_0^2} = \frac{\omega_0^2}{s^2 + \frac{\omega_0}{Q}s + \omega_0^2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{s^2 + \frac{1}{Q}s + 1} \quad (\text{normalized})$$

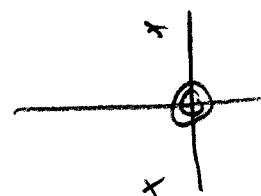


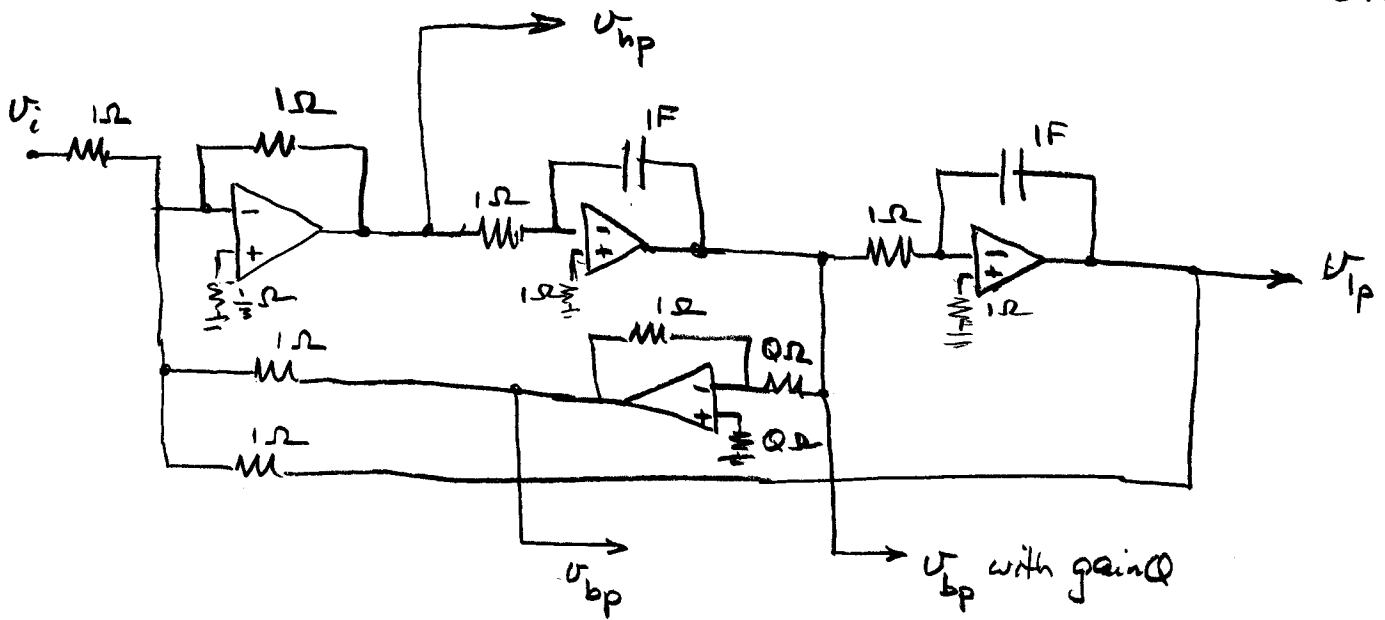
other numerators

$$H_{bp}(s) = \frac{s/Q}{s^2 + \frac{1}{Q}s + 1}$$



$$H_{hp}(s) = \frac{s^2}{s^2 + \frac{1}{Q}s + 1}$$

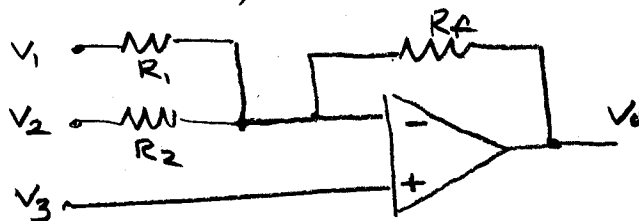




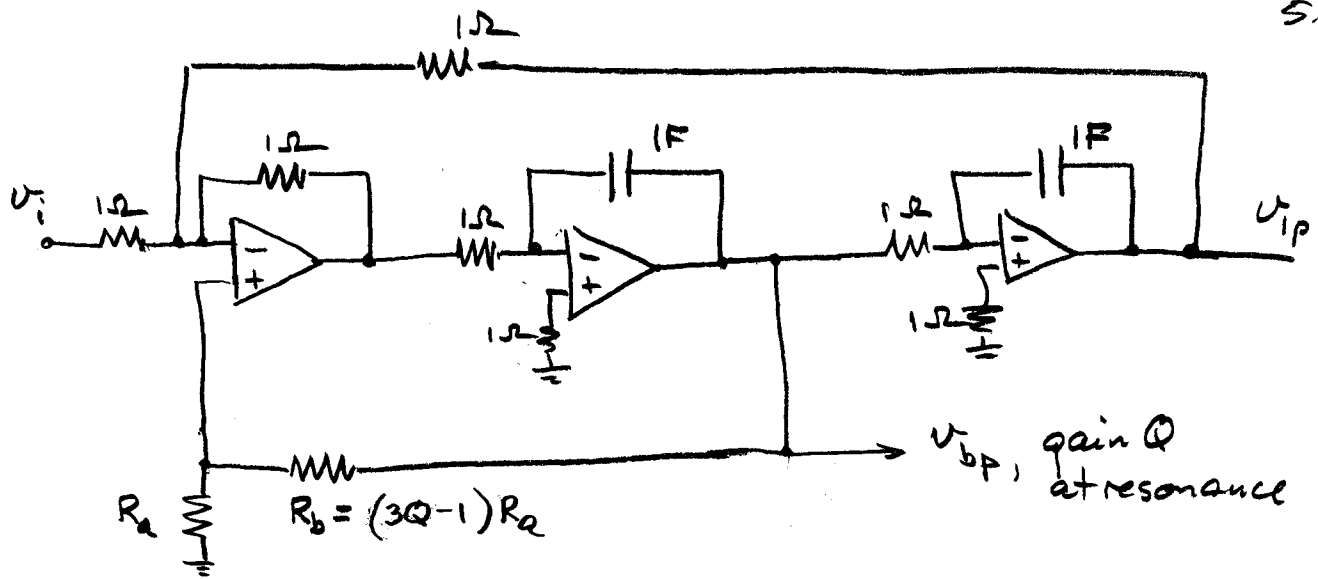
- control Q with one resistor (two if offset an issue)
- control overall gain with input resistor
- bandpass output with gain 1 or gain Q at resonance
- all three elementary numerators available.

— Sometimes we don't need all that flexibility —
for example, if bandpass output with gain Q is what we want.

→ First, a subcircuit



$$V_o = -\frac{R_F}{R_1} V_1 - \frac{R_F}{R_2} V_2 + \left(1 + \frac{R_F}{R_1 \parallel R_2}\right) V_3$$



→ voltage divider ratio is $\frac{1}{3Q}$ to compensate gain of 3 at "+"

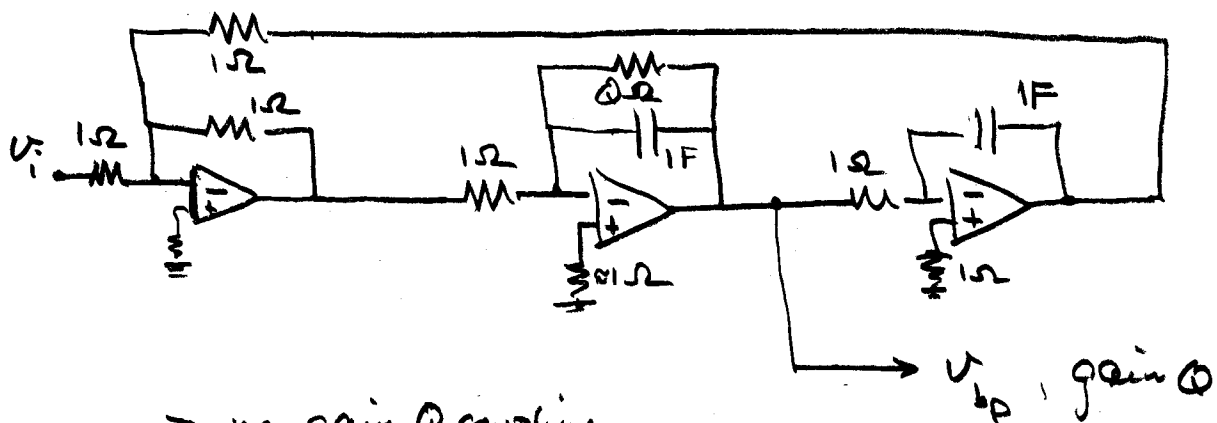
→ should have $R_a \parallel R_b = \frac{1}{3} \Omega$ for min offset, since resistance seen by "-" terminal is $\frac{1}{3} \Omega$.

$$\text{Hence } R_a = \frac{1}{3} \frac{3Q}{3Q-1} \Omega \approx \frac{1}{3} \Omega$$

$$R_b = (3Q-1)R_a = Q \Omega$$

→ note gain and Q are coupled: change input resistor for different gain and must change R_b/R_a , too.

- or, more simply still:



→ no gain, Q coupling

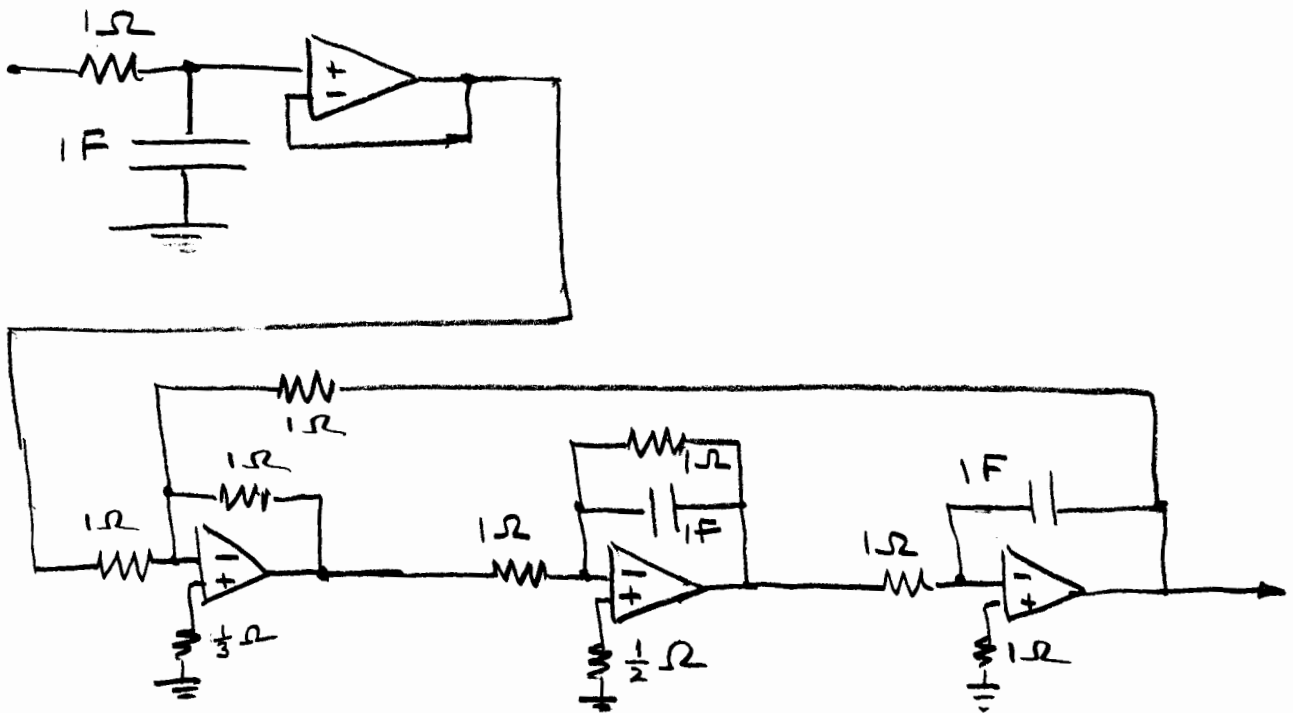
→ but no highpass output

- 5.6.12
- example Design a 3rd order Butterworth 10 pass with $\omega_c = 10 \text{ krad/s}$ using a state variable quad section (and a linear one).

$$H(s) = \frac{1}{s^3 + 2s^2 + 2s + 1} = \frac{1}{(s+1)(s^2 + s + 1)}$$

quadratic section has $Q = 1$ 

Normalized filter



- Frequency scale factor $K_f = 10^4$, divide caps by K_f
- Impedance scale $K_i = 1000$, for $1 \text{ k}\Omega$ resistors, further reduction in C's
- So all caps $0.1 \mu\text{F}$, all resistors $1 \text{ k}\Omega$ except the 500Ω resistor for bias current.