

# Re: Motor speed control via back-EMF detection

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*Source:* <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.electronics.design/2008-09/msg00030.html>

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- *From:* Jim Thompson <[To-Email-Use-The-Envelope-Icon@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:To-Email-Use-The-Envelope-Icon@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Mon, 01 Sep 2008 18:31:56 -0700
- 

On Mon, 01 Sep 2008 17:54:08 -0700, Joerg  
<[notthisjoergsch@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:notthisjoergsch@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote:

Jim Thompson wrote:

On Mon, 01 Sep 2008 17:36:33 -0700, Joerg  
<[notthisjoergsch@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:notthisjoergsch@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote:

Jim Thompson wrote:

On Mon, 01 Sep 2008 16:24:07 -0700,  
Joerg  
<[notthisjoergsch@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:notthisjoergsch@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>  
wrote:

Tim Wescott wrote:

John Larkin  
wrote:

On  
Sun,  
31  
Aug  
2008  
18:27:33  
-0700,  
"Bob  
Eld"  
<[nsmontassoc@xxxxxxxx](mailto:nsmontassoc@xxxxxxxx)>  
wrote:

"Phil  
Pemberton"

Re: Motor speed control via back-EMF detection

<usenet08@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

wrote

in

message

[news:kgmro5-jbh.ln1@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:kgmro5-jbh.ln1@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Hi

guys,

I've

been

tearing

apart

a

Brother

PT-1000

label

printer

with

the

eventual

goal

being

to

connect

it

to

a

desktop

PC

to

print

labels

for

my

various

component

storage

boxes.

I've

figured

out

how

the

print

head

communicates

with

Re: Motor speed control via back-EMF detection

the  
controller  
board,  
which  
just  
leaves  
the  
motor  
drive  
circuitry.

Naturally,  
being  
a  
low  
cost  
device  
(£15),  
the  
PT-1000  
doesn't  
use

anything

remotely  
stepper-motor-like  
for  
the  
label  
feed.  
Instead,  
it  
uses  
a  
cheap  
Mabuchi  
DC  
pancake  
motor  
(an  
RF-300C-11440,  
for  
which  
I  
have  
yet  
to  
find  
a  
datasheet)

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and  
a  
speed  
reduction  
gearbox.  
The  
speed  
control  
is  
performed

by  
a

ROHM  
BA6220  
chip.

Ideally  
I'd  
like  
to  
eliminate  
the  
ROHM  
chip  
(seeing  
as  
it's  
basically  
unobtainium)  
and  
use  
a  
PIC  
of  
some  
description  
(probably  
a  
12F675)  
to  
do

PWM

speed  
control  
of  
the  
motor.

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But  
first  
I'd  
like  
to  
understand  
how  
the  
ROHM

chip

manages  
to  
do  
what  
it  
does.

I  
found  
a  
datasheet  
for  
the  
'6220  
here:

<http://www.classiccmp.org/rtellason/chipdata>

..  
but  
like  
most  
ROHM  
datasheets,  
it  
doesn't  
say  
much  
about  
the  
chip,

other

than  
that  
it  
uses  
back-EMF  
sensing  
and

Re: Motor speed control via back-EMF detection

how  
to  
determine  
one  
of  
the  
two  
external  
resistor  
values.

What  
I  
don't  
get  
is  
that  
there's  
no  
obvious  
way  
for  
the  
chip  
to  
sense  
back-EMF.  
Everything  
I've  
been  
able  
to  
find  
about  
bEMF  
sensing  
suggests

that

it's  
normally  
used  
with  
PWM  
control  
--  
the  
motor  
is  
powered

Re: Motor speed control via back-EMF detection

up  
for  
a  
short  
period  
of  
time,  
then  
in  
the  
off  
period  
the  
voltage  
across  
the  
motor  
is

sampled

and  
used  
to  
(roughly)  
determine  
the  
motor  
speed.  
Unless  
it's  
sensing

current,

but  
if  
it  
is,  
the  
"application  
circuit"  
(BA6220  
datasheet,  
Fig.  
2,  
page  
2)  
doesn't  
look  
like

Re: Motor speed control via back-EMF detection

any  
current  
sensing  
circuit  
I've  
ever  
seen.  
In  
fact,  
it  
looks  
like  
a  
voltage  
comparator,  
but  
the  
polarity  
of  
the  
voltage  
reference  
doesn't  
look  
quite  
right...

I've  
hooked  
the  
scope  
up  
to  
the  
driver  
IC's  
pins  
(and  
the  
motor

itself)  
and

didn't  
see  
anything  
that  
suggested  
the  
driver

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IC  
was  
switching  
the  
power

on

and  
off.  
In  
fact,  
the  
voltage  
remained  
more  
or  
less  
constant,  
excepting

the

~50mV  
sine  
wave  
(plus  
one  
~200mV  
spike  
per  
cycle)  
modulation  
that  
I

suspect  
is

being  
caused  
by  
the  
motion  
of  
the  
commutator  
relative  
to  
the  
brushes.

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Can  
anyone  
shed  
some  
light  
on  
this?

Like  
I  
said,  
I'm  
getting  
rid  
of  
this  
thing  
anyway,  
but  
I'd  
rather  
like

to

understand  
how  
the  
existing  
circuit  
works  
first,  
if  
at  
all  
possible...

Thanks,

--

Phil.

usenet08@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx

<http://www.philpem.me.uk/>

If  
mail  
bounces,  
replace  
"08"  
with  
the  
last

Re: Motor speed control via back-EMF detection

two  
digits  
of  
the  
current

year.

The  
motor  
current  
is  
sensed  
inside  
the  
6620  
chip  
with  
a  
20:1  
current  
mirror.  
Though  
not  
completely  
clear  
because  
actual  
components  
are  
left  
out  
of  
the  
block  
diagram,  
there  
are  
two  
transistors  
being  
driven  
from  
the  
internal  
amplifier.  
They  
are  
the  
main  
parts

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of  
the  
current  
mirror.  
The  
motor  
current  
goes  
to  
the  
collector  
of  
one  
transistor  
and  
one  
twentieth  
of  
that  
current  
flows  
in  
the  
other  
transistor.  
The  
current  
ratio  
is  
established  
by  
the  
mirror  
geometry  
from  
the  
ratio  
of  
collector  
areas  
in  
the  
chip.

This  
sensed  
current  
with  
the  
motor  
voltage

## Re: Motor speed control via back-EMF detection

is applied to the internal op-amp in a way that forms a back emf bridge. The bridge subtracts the motor driving voltage from the current generated voltage leaving only the back emf which is proportional to speed. This can be shown with some simple algebra.

This bridge concept allow DC

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motor  
back  
emf  
and  
thus  
speed  
to  
be  
sensed  
in  
the  
steady,  
DC  
state.

That's  
equivalent  
to  
driving  
the  
motor  
from  
a  
power  
supply  
that  
has  
a  
negative  
output  
impedance.  
The  
negative-impedance  
supply  
cancels  
the  
ohmic  
losses  
in  
the  
motor  
and  
in  
theory  
makes  
the  
motor  
speed

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independent  
of  
load,  
and  
dependent  
only  
on  
the  
equivalent  
applied  
voltage.

And  
ideal,  
lossless  
shunt  
or  
PM  
DC  
motor  
has  
perfect  
speed  
regulation  
with  
a  
constant  
applied  
voltage.

John

The only  
trick is  
making the  
negative  
output  
impedance  
match the  
armature  
impedance  
of the  
motor. I'm  
sure that  
there's a bit  
of  
tweaking  
involved in  
getting the  
figure right,

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and in  
compensating  
the  
amplifier so  
it's stable  
when you  
hang a  
motor off of  
it, but it's  
been  
done for  
years.

AFAIK this  
is how the  
capstan  
speed of all  
but the  
cheapest or  
most  
expensive  
cassette  
recorders  
was  
controlled.

They even did that on record  
players. Couldn't believe it  
until I saw it.

Not on my Rek-O-Cut (SP? after all these  
years :), it had a  
synchronous motor and a tapered pulley so  
you could set the speed with  
a strobe.

Ah, I remember the old strobe disk. Having to switch taper  
would somehow  
hint that the line frequency wasn't all that stable out there.  
Mine only  
had tapers for the various record speeds. Why a strobe disk  
came with it  
I have no clue because if the speed was off you couldn't do  
anything  
about it. Plus it was relying on line powered lights so how  
could it  
ever show a deviation? It would be like trying to calibrate a  
frequency  
counter with its own clock.

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Mine tilted the motor mount ever so slightly to change the BELT position on the pulley to set the speed accurately.

I still have it. I'll get it down from the upper storage shelving and take a picture.

But against what would it compare? The TV station's V-sync? I can't imagine they provided a crystal controlled strobe lamp with it. Synchronous motors have no slip. They are either in sync or stalled.

Variable pulley ratio... you dig?

...Jim Thompson

—

James E.Thompson, P.E.	mens
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It's what you learn, after you know it all, that counts.

.