

(12) **United States Patent**
Wessendorf

(10) **Patent No.:** US 7,825,735 B1
(45) **Date of Patent:** Nov. 2, 2010

(54) **DUAL-RANGE LINEARIZED
TRANSIMPEDANCE AMPLIFIER SYSTEM**

(75) Inventor: **Kurt O. Wessendorf**, Albuquerque, NM (US)

(73) Assignee: **Sandia Corporation**, Albuquerque, NM (US)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **12/582,318**

(22) Filed: **Oct. 20, 2009**

(51) **Int. Cl.**
H03F 3/08 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **330/308; 330/278; 330/103**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** **330/308, 330/278, 103**

See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

4,574,249	A *	3/1986	Williams	.....	330/59
4,963,829	A *	10/1990	Wereb	.....	324/660
5,714,909	A *	2/1998	Jackson	.....	330/308
6,642,795	B2 *	11/2003	Koen et al.	.....	330/298
6,693,487	B2 *	2/2004	Shapiro	.....	330/86
7,050,724	B1	5/2006	Rantakari		

7,092,644	B2	8/2006	Davidson		
7,128,264	B2 *	10/2006	Barkan et al.	.....	235/454
7,205,845	B2	4/2007	Harms et al.		
7,474,978	B2	1/2009	Lum et al.		
7,492,399	B1	2/2009	Gulbransen et al.		
7,777,875	B2 *	8/2010	Wolters et al.	.....	356/237.2
2003/0090326	A1	5/2003	Pogrebinsky et al.		

* cited by examiner

Primary Examiner—Patricia Nguyen
(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—John P. Hohimer

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A transimpedance amplifier system is disclosed which simultaneously generates a low-gain output signal and a high-gain output signal from an input current signal using a single transimpedance amplifier having two different feedback loops with different amplification factors to generate two different output voltage signals. One of the feedback loops includes a resistor, and the other feedback loop includes another resistor in series with one or more diodes. The transimpedance amplifier system includes a signal linearizer to linearize one or both of the low- and high-gain output signals by scaling and adding the two output voltage signals from the transimpedance amplifier. The signal linearizer can be formed either as an analog device using one or two summing amplifiers, or alternately can be formed as a digital device using two analog-to-digital converters and a digital signal processor (e.g. a microprocessor or a computer).

26 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets

