**Active Filters**

**Theory**

An electric filter is a frequency-selecting circuit designed to pass a specified band of frequencies while attenuating signals of frequencies outside this band. Filters may be either active or passive depending on the type of elements used in their circuitry. Passive filters contain only resistors, capacitors, and inductors. Active filters employ transistors or op-amps in addition to resistors and capacitors. Active filters offer several advantages over passive filters. Since the op-amp is capable of providing a gain, the input signal is not attenuated as it is in a passive filter. Because of the high input and low output resistance of the op-amp, the active filter does not cause loading of the source or load. There are four types of filters: low-pass, high-pass, band-pass, and band-reject filters. A low-pass filter has a constant gain (=Vout/Vin) from 0 Hz to a high cut off frequency fH. This cut off frequency is defined as the frequency where the voltage gain is reduced to 0.707, that is at fH the gain is down by 3 dB; after that (f > fH) it decreases as f increases. The frequencies between 0 Hz and fH are called pass band frequencies, whereas the frequencies beyond fH are the so-called stop band frequencies. A common use of a low-pass filter is to remove noise or other unwanted high frequency components in a signal for which you are only interested in the dc or low frequency components. Low-pass filters are also used to avoid aliasing in analog-digital conversion correspondingly, a high-pass filter has a stop band for 0 < f < fL and where fL is the low cut off frequency. A common use for a high-pass filter is to remove the dc component of a signal for which you are only interested in the ac components (such as an audio signal). A band pass filter has a pass band between two cut off frequencies fH and fL, (fH > fL), and two stop bands 0 < f < fL and f > fH. The bandwidth of a band pass filter is equal to fH–fL. The actual response curves of the filters in the stop band either steadily decrease or increase with increase of frequency. The roll-off rate, measured at [dB/decade] or [dB/octave] is defined as rate change of power at 10 times (decade) or 2 times (octave) change of frequency in the stop band. The “First-order” filters attenuate voltages in the stop band 20 dB/decade (for example, a first-order low pass filter would attenuate a signal at a frequency 100 times (2 decades) higher than fH by 40 dB. The second-order filters attenuate by about 40 dB/decade.

**Lab 10**

**Low Pass Filter**

**Objectives:**

To study the Active Low pass filter and to evaluate:

• High cutoff frequency of Low pass filter.

• Pass band gain of Low pass filter.

• Plot the frequency response of Low pass filter.

**Equipment:**

1. DC power supplies +15V, −15V from external source

2. Function generator

3. Oscilloscope

4. Digital Multimeter

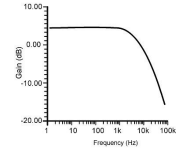
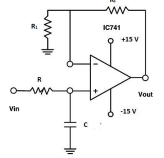
**Components:**

1. Resistance 10kΩ

2. Resistance 22kΩ

3. Capacitor 0.01µF

4. LM 741

**Figure 1**

**Equation of low pass filter**

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Vin =Input signal Voltage

Vout = Output signal Voltage

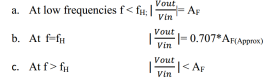
| Vout/Vin |= Gain of filter as a function of frequency

AF =1+RF/R1 = pass band gain of filter

f = frequency of input signal

fH =1/2πRC =high cut off frequency, 3-dB frequency, corner frequency

Operation of low pass filter using equation 2



The ideal low pass filter has a constant gain AF from 0 to high cut off frequency (fH) at fH the gain is 0.707 \* AF, and after fH it decreases at a constant rate with an increase in frequency i.e., when input frequency is increased tenfold (one decade), the voltage gain is divided by 10. Gain (dB) = 20 log | Vout / Vin | i.e., Gain Roll off rate is −20dB / decade.

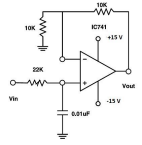


Figure 2

**Procedure:**

1. Connect the circuit as shown in Figure 2.

2. Switch ON the power supply

3. Connect a sinusoidal signal of amplitude 1V (p-p) of frequency 1KHz to Vin of Low pass filter from function generator

4. Connect Ch-1 of oscilloscope to the signal source

5. Observe output on Ch-2 of oscilloscope

6. Increase the frequency of input signal step by step and observe the effect on output Vout on oscilloscope

7. Tabulate values of Vout, gain, gain (dB) at different values of input frequency shown in observation Table 2.

8. Plot the frequency response of low pass filter using the data obtained at different input frequencies.

**Theoretical Calculations:**

Calculate all the following values

1. Pass band gain of Low pass filter AF = 1 + RF / R1

2. Pass band gain (dB) = 20 log |Vout / Vin|

3. 3 dB frequency fH = 1/2πRC

4. Gain at 3 dB frequency fH = 0.707 \* AF

5. Roll off rate = −20db/decade

**Results:**

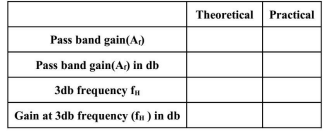
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Table 1

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sr.**  **No.** | **Input Frequency (Hz)** | **Vout** | **| Vout/Vin |= Gain** | **Gain (dB) = 20 log | Vout / Vin |** |
| 1 | 300 | 10 V | 2 | 6.02 |
| 2 | 500 | 10 V | 2 | 6.02 |
| 3 | 700 | 9 V | 1.8 | 5.11 |
| 4 | 1k | 8.4 V | 1.68 | 4.5 |
| 5 | 5k | 3.17 V | 0.634 | -3.96 |
| 6 | 10k | 1.52 V | 0.304 | -10.34 |
| 7 | 15k | 1 V | 0.2 | -13.98 |