Lecture 3A: Diode Circuits

EE 103

2023-24/I (Autumn)

Joseph John (j.john@iitb.ac.in, jjohn@ee.iitb.ac.in)

Summary of Topics for Lect 3

- **Lect 3A – Rectifier and Regulator Circuits**
  - Part1: Rectifier circuits: Half-wave rectifier, Full-wave rectifier (Bridge rectifier)
  - Part 2: Unregulated DC Power Supply
  - Part 3: Regulator DC Power Supply (Voltage Regulator: IC based regulated DC Power Supply)

Part 1: Rectifier Circuits

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- Half-Wave Rectifier

- Full-wave Rectifier
  - Bridge rectifier circuit

Step Down Transformer (230 V - 12 V RMS)

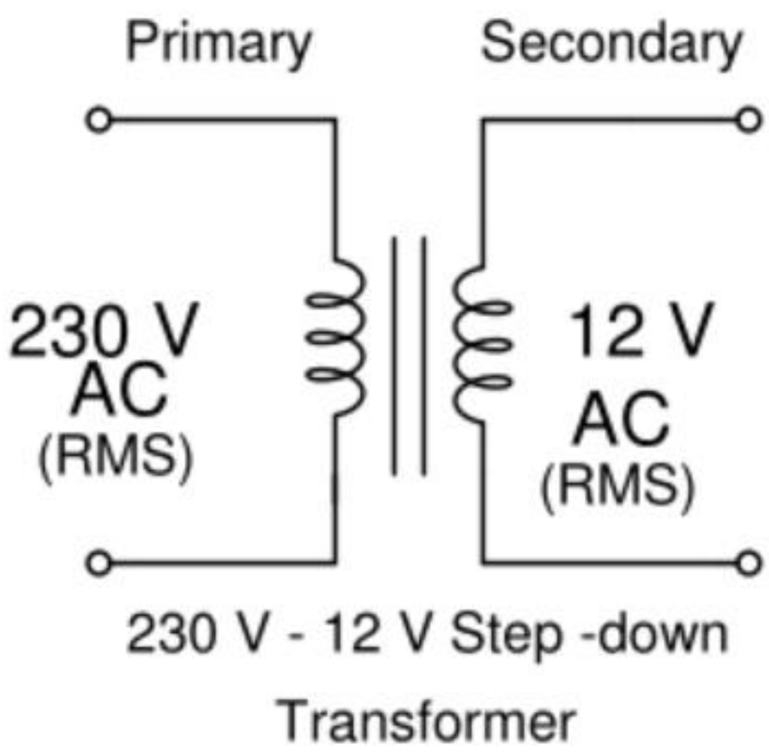


Fig. 1 Step-down Transformer

A) Half-wave Rectifier

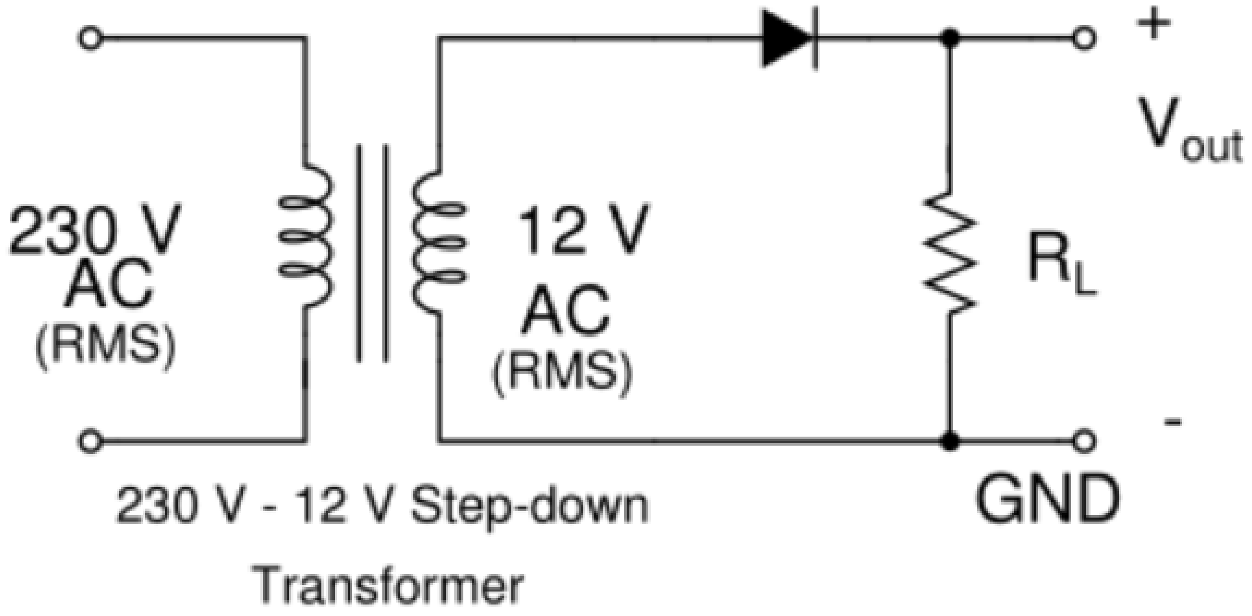
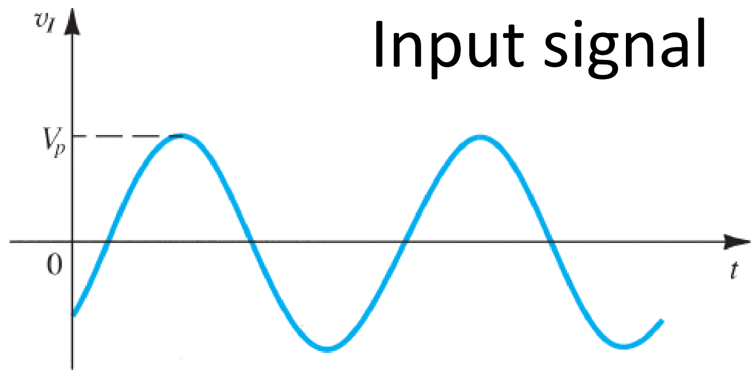


Fig. 2

Input signal



Half-wave Rectifier Output

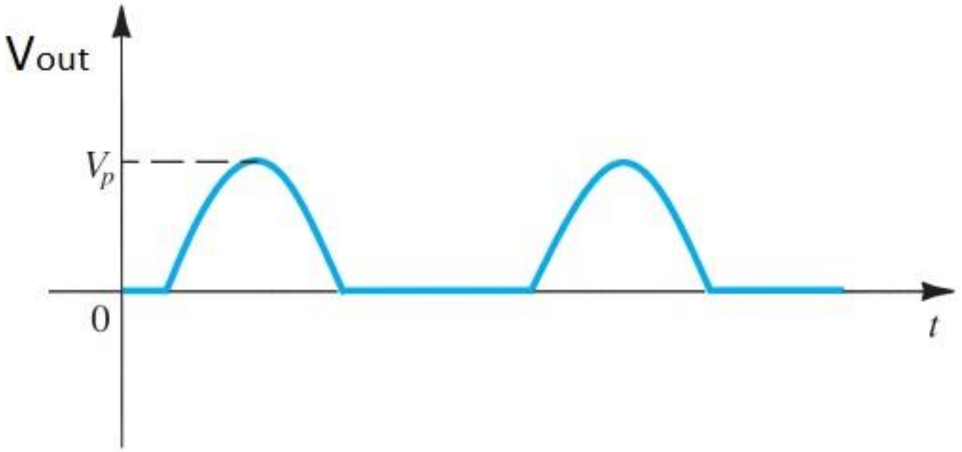


Fig. 3

B) Full-wave (Bridge) Rectifier

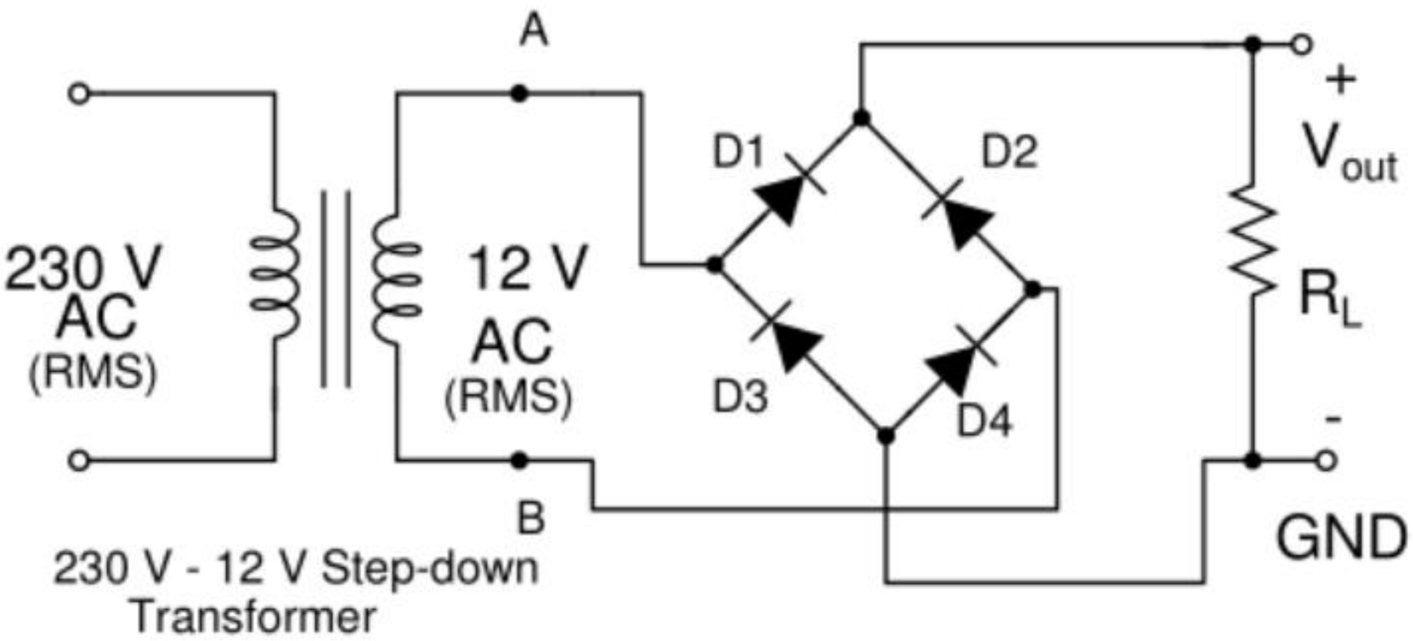
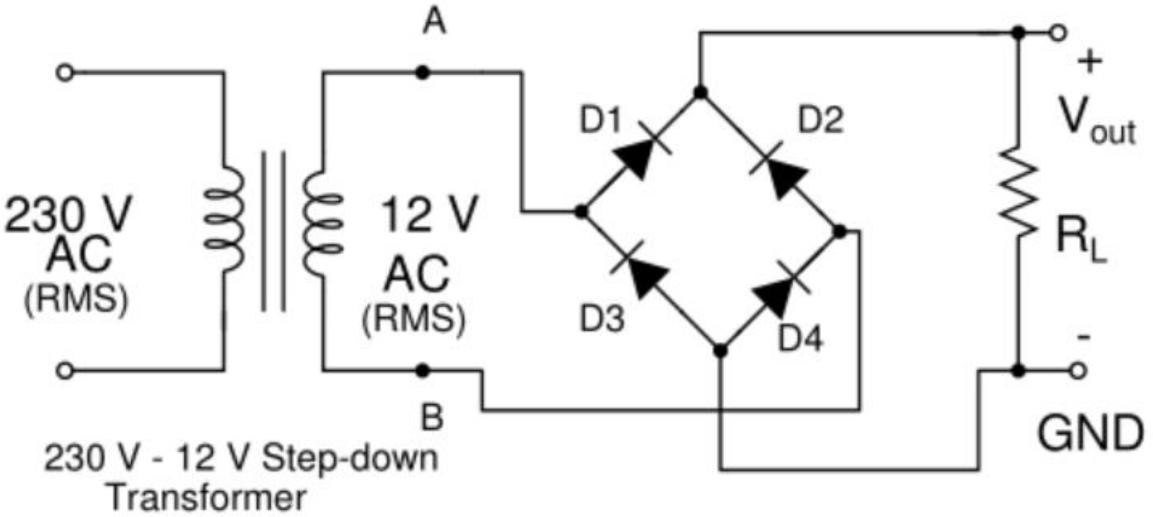


Fig. 4

- Bridge Rectifier: in every half cycle, two diodes will be in the current path



- 1st half cycle (output A is +ve w.r.t. Output B): current path – from output A → D1 → R_L → D4 → B; D2 and D3 will not conduct.
- 2nd half cycle (Output B is +ve w.r.t. output A): current path – from B → D2 → R_L → D3 → A; D1 and D4 will not conduct.

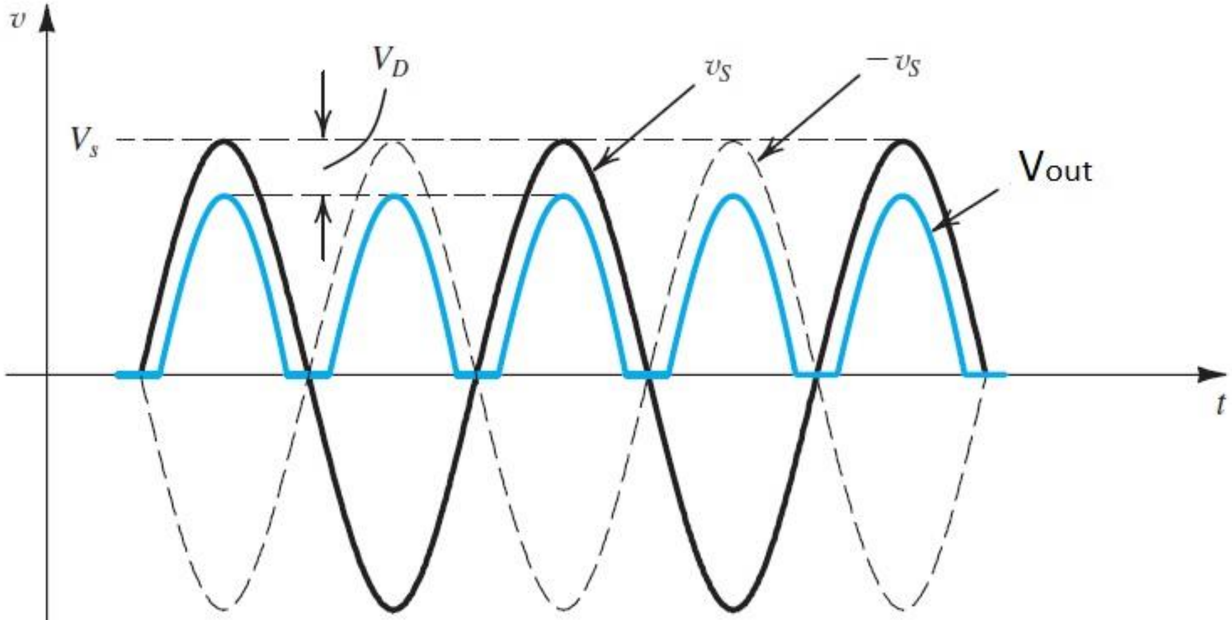


Fig. 5

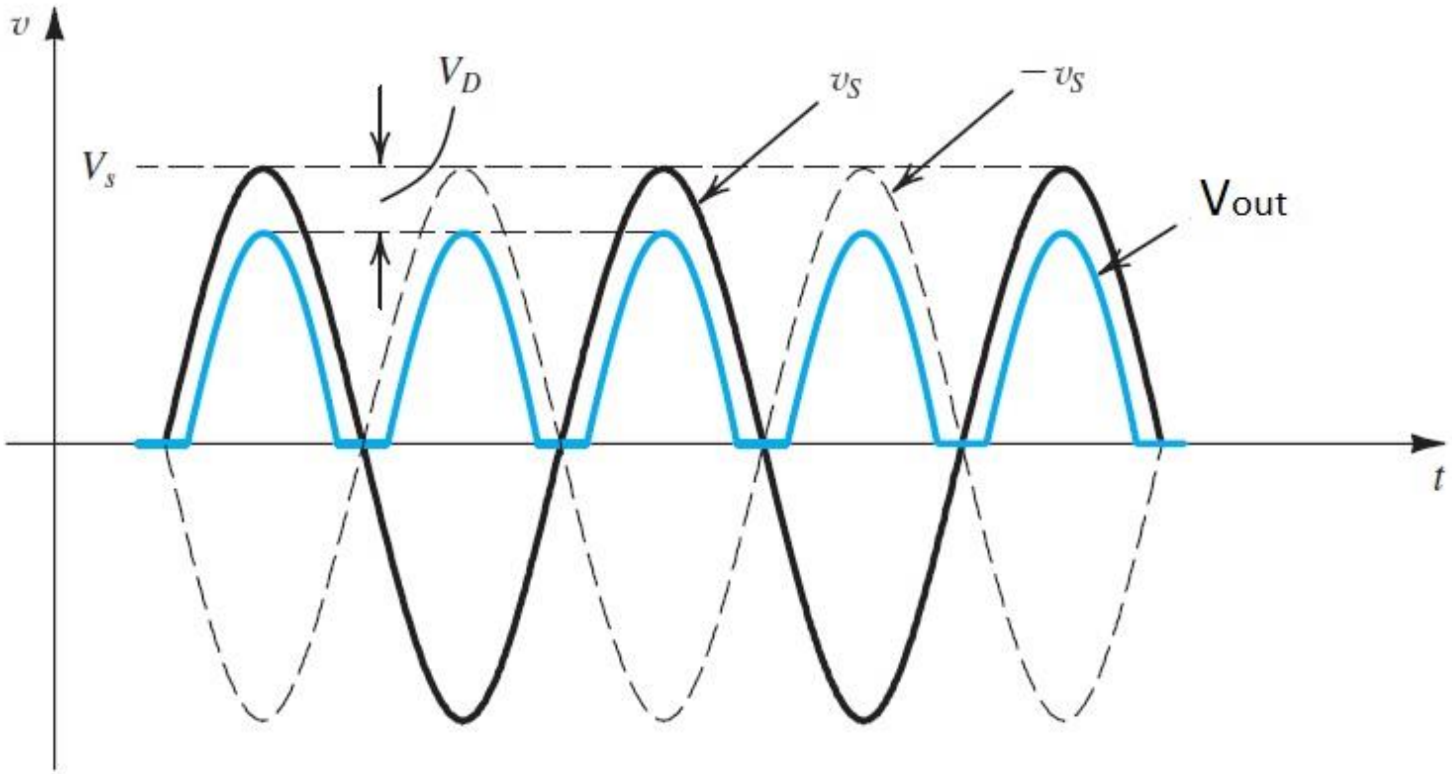


Fig. 6

- Full-wave Rectifier: Input and Output waveforms (considering diode drops)
- Output voltage will have the *two diode drops* lower than the input voltage. Typ. diode drop = 0.6 V

Part 2: Unregulated Power Supply (Capacitive filter)

Unregulated Power Supply
(Using Half-wave Rectifier and a Capacitive filter)

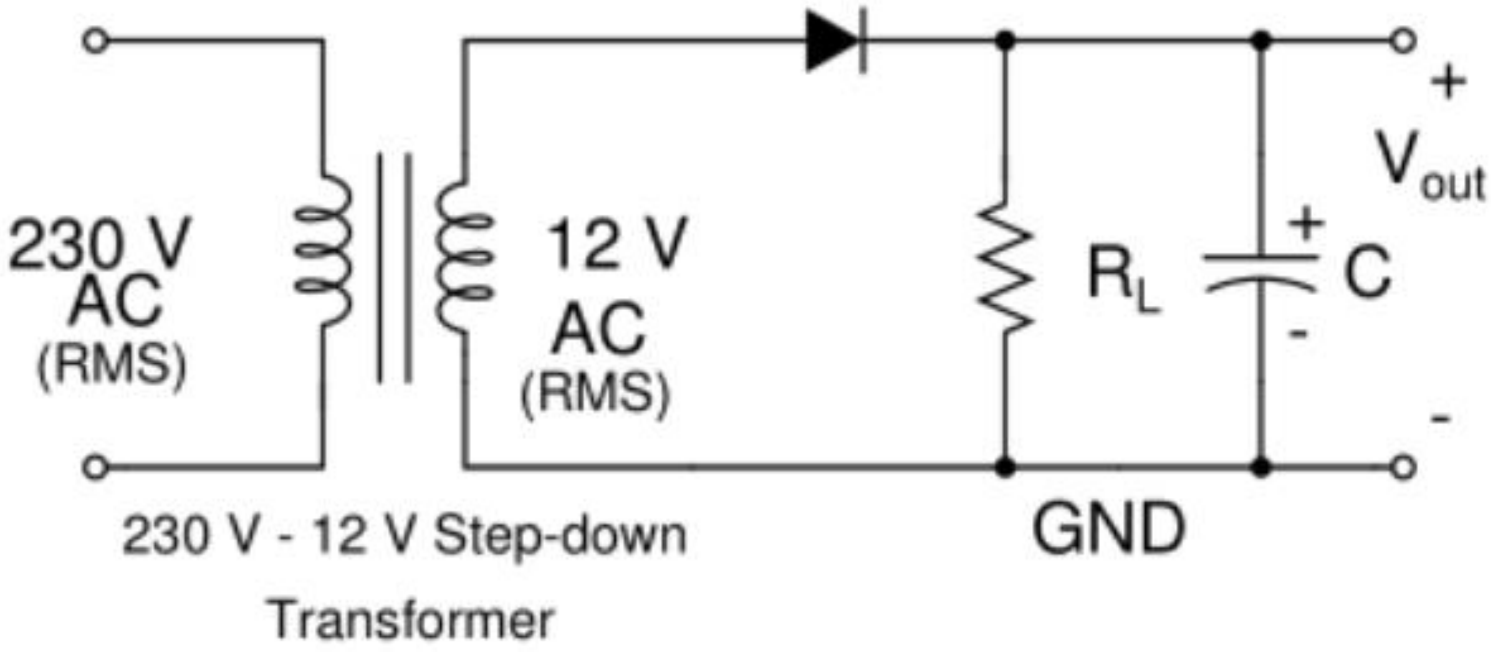


Fig. 7

Operation with C across R_L

- C charges during Δ_t , and discharges during (T- Δ_t).
- Ripple voltage, V_r increases with i_L(load current).
- Ripple voltage can be decreased by increasing C (not a good solution).
- For a given i_L, as $C\uparrow$, $\Delta_t\downarrow$ (which will make $i_D\uparrow\uparrow$)

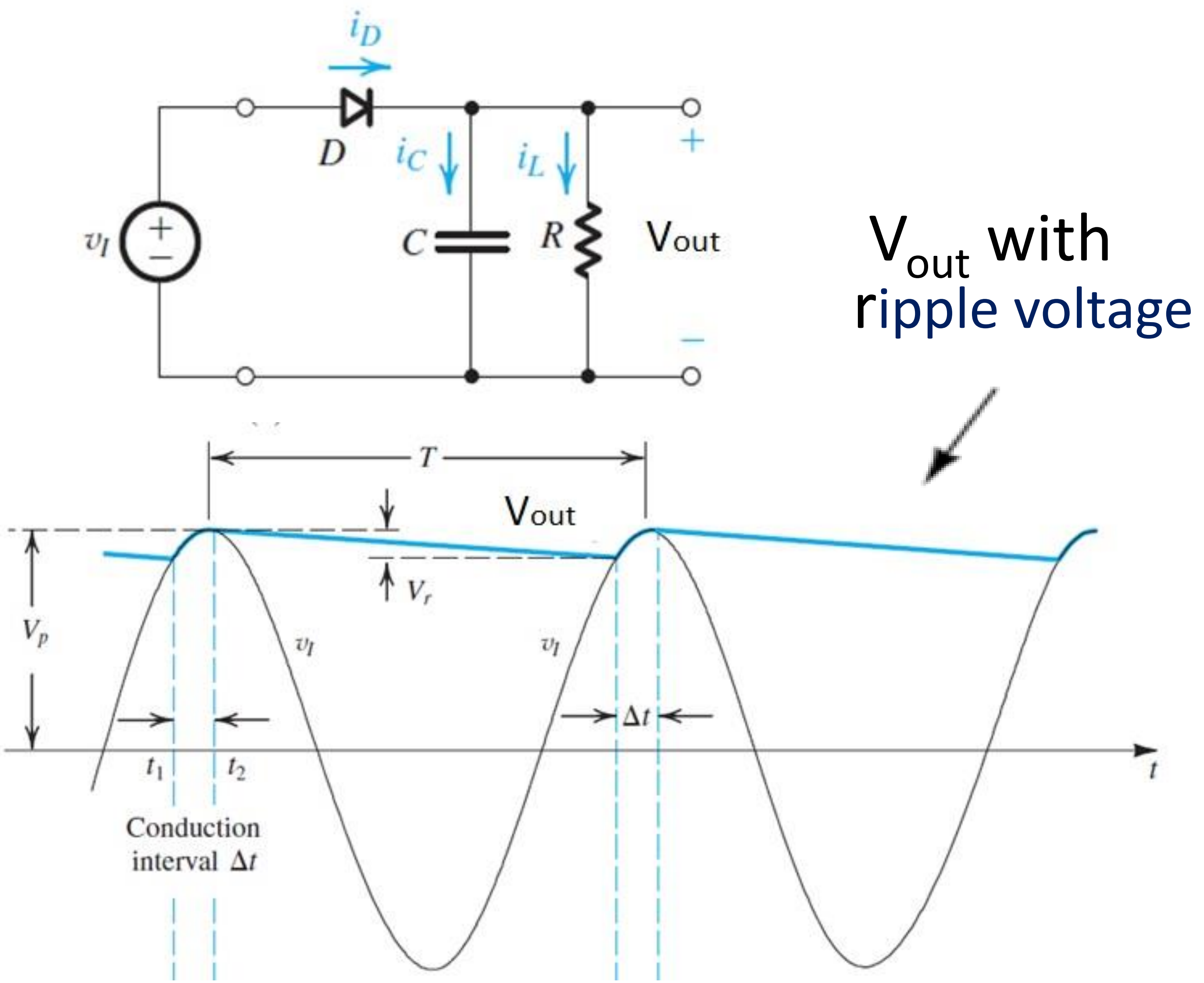
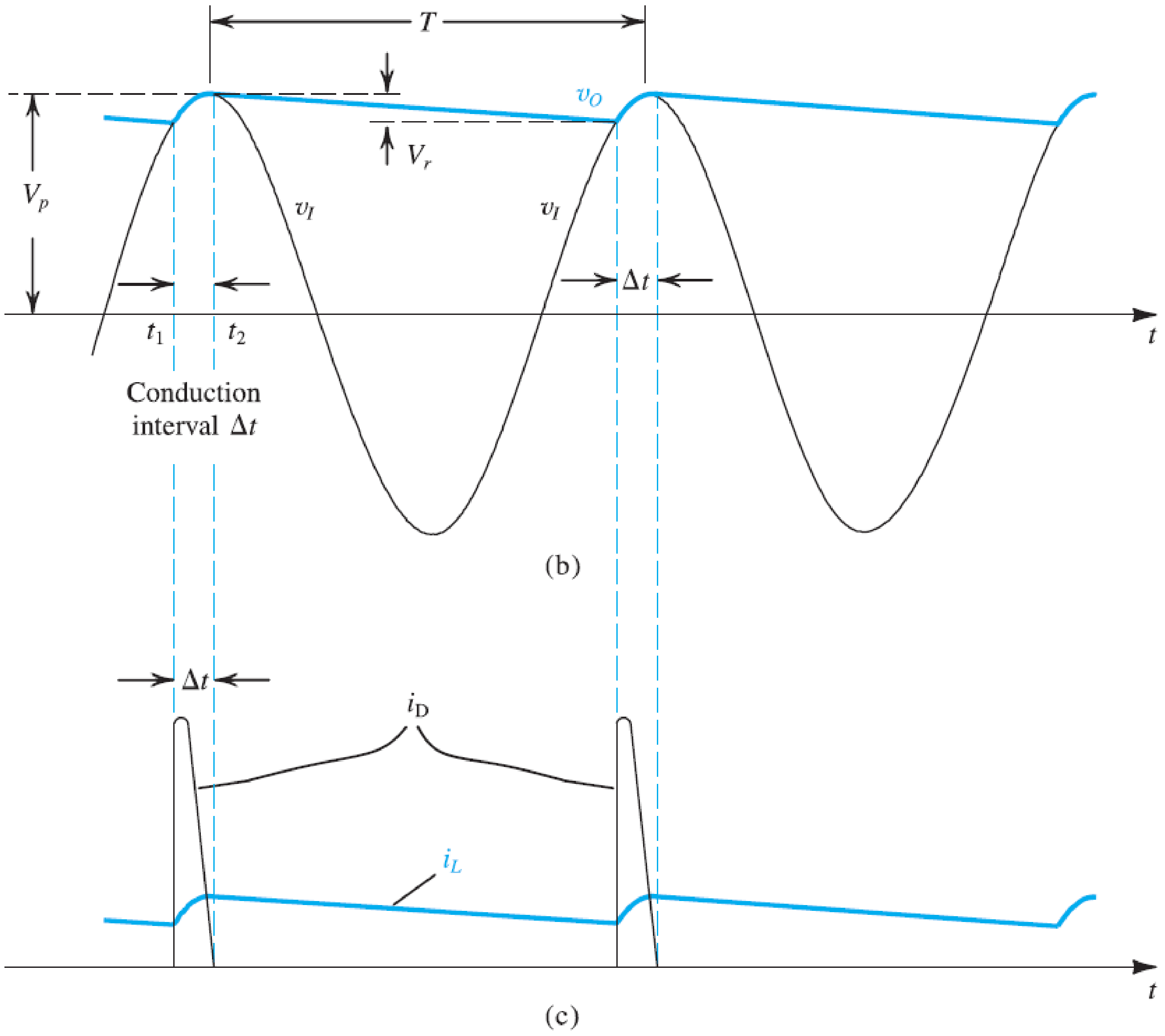


Fig. 9

- The half-wave rectifier with C is very seldom used due to its higher ripple voltage



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Unregulated Power Supply
(Using Full-wave Bridge Rectifier and a Capacitive filter)

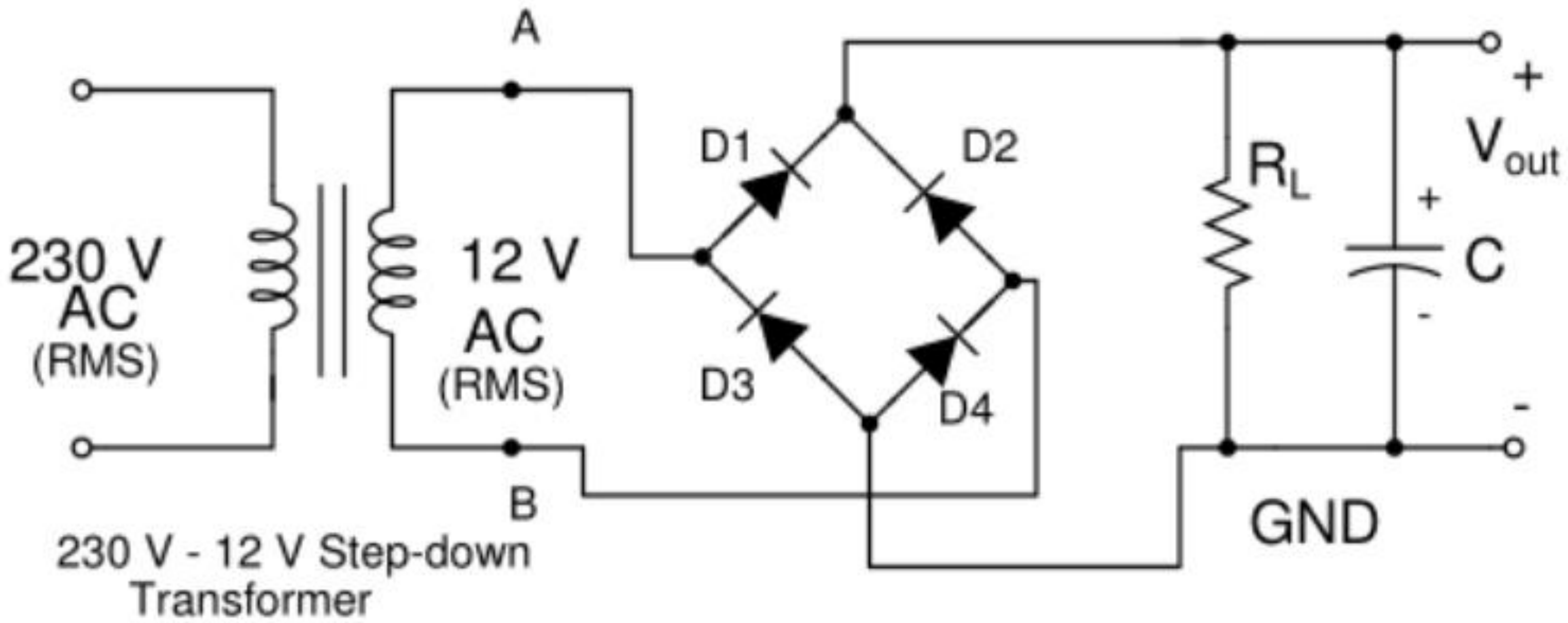
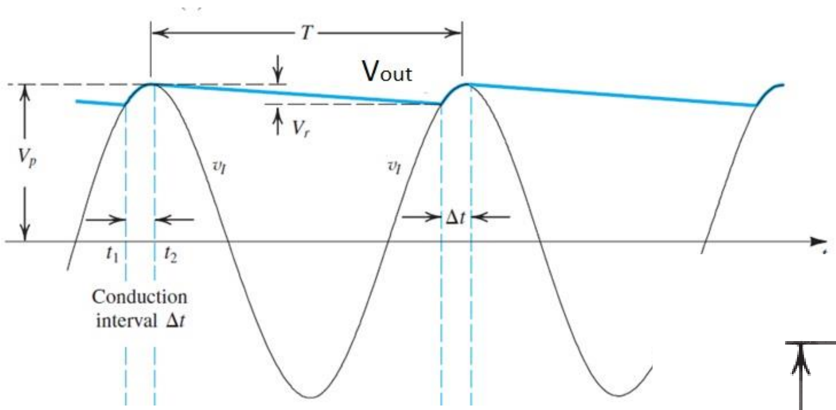


Fig. 10

- Much better than the half-wave (HW) rectifier
  - For the same *C* and R_L, peak-to-peak ripple voltage gets reduced to half that of HW



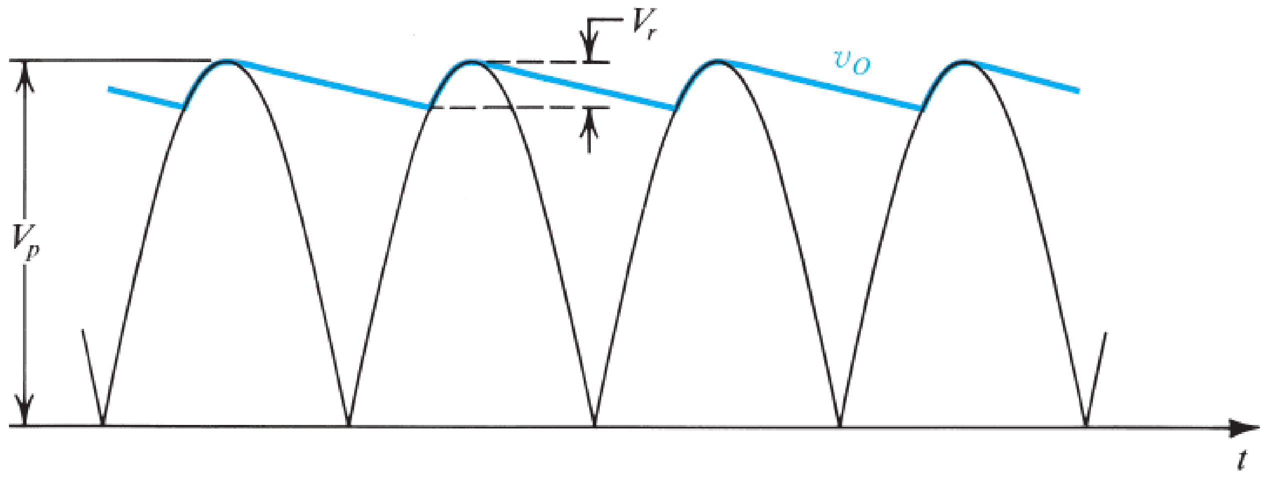


Fig. 11

- Full-wave rectifier output waveform (blue)
- Less Ripple voltage, compared to the Half-wave rectifier circuit
  – Discharge interval for C almost half that of HW case)

Problems of Unregulated Power Supply

- Output voltage fluctuates
  - When ac input voltage fluctuates
  - When load current fluctuates

- Ripple voltage increases with load current
  - Ripple voltage for a given load current (i_L) can be reduced only by increasing C
  - Increasing C beyond a certain value can cause diode damages (as the peak diode current will always be many times the average load current)

Part 3: Regulated DC Power Supply

Regulated Power Supply

- **Problems of the unregulated power supply**
  - Output voltage fluctuates with the input voltage (for a given load current) - Line regulation
  - Output voltage fluctuates for load current (for a given input voltage) - Load regulation

- **Regulated Power Supply**
  - Output voltage stays constant (reasonably well):
    - For varying input voltages
    - For varying load currents

Two solutions

- Solution 1
  - Zener diode regulator circuit
- Solution 2
  - Voltage Regulator IC

Solution 1: Zener Regulator Circuit

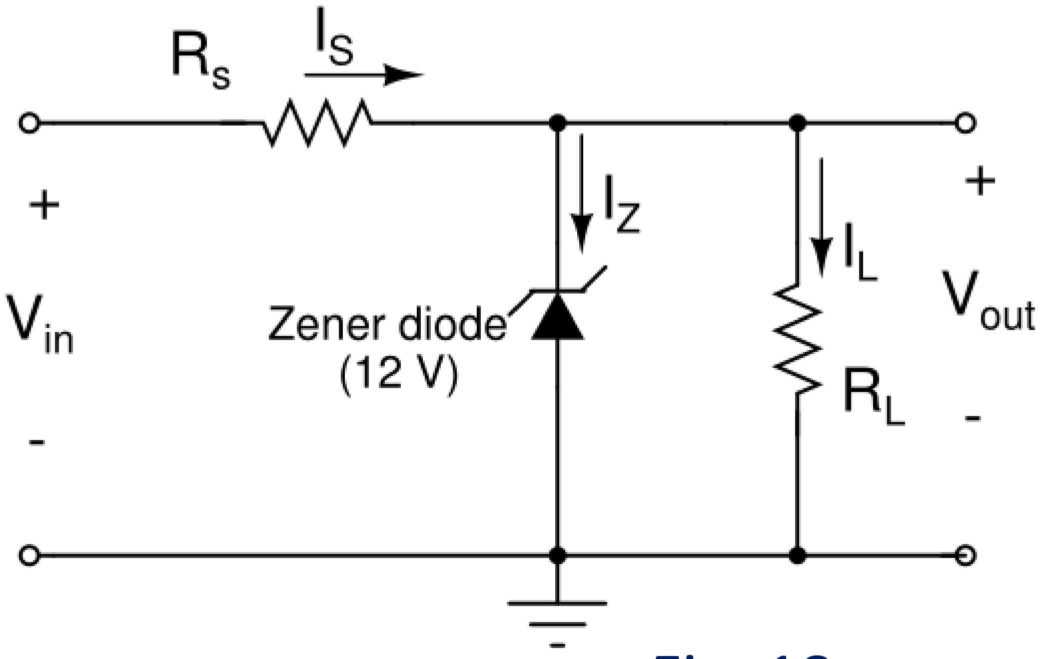
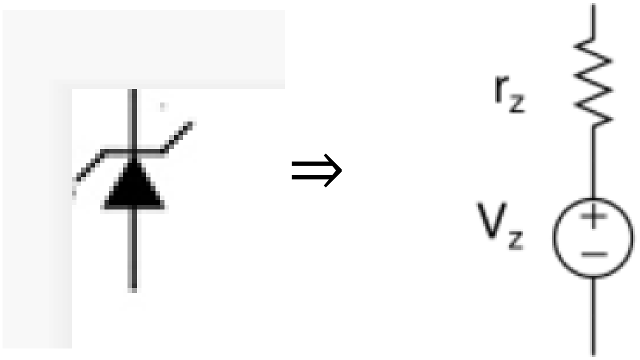
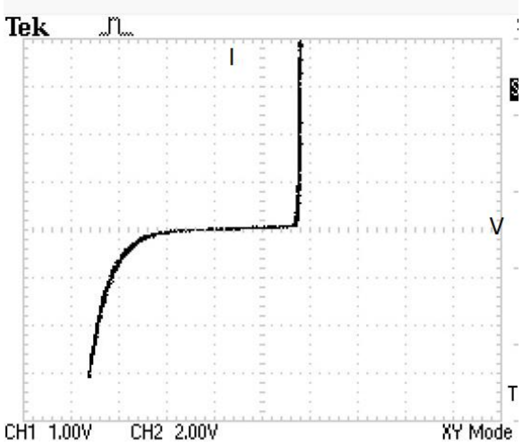


Fig. 18





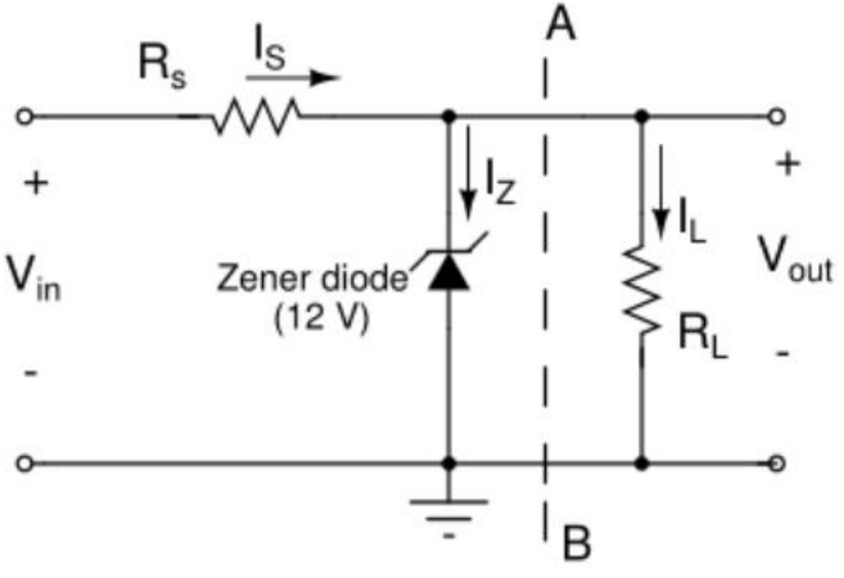
Problem statement:

In the Zener regulator circuit shown, V_{in} = 20 V, R_S = 600 Ω, R_L = 1 k Ω. Find out the regulator output voltage V_{out} and the load current I_L.

Zener parameters: V_Z = 12 V, r_z = 200 Ω

Solution:

- In the circuit, the zener diode is reverse biased and operating as a zener.
- We will use a simple model for the zener diode (zener diode voltage (V_Z) and a series resistor r_z).
- Replace the zener with the equivalent circuit.
- Apply Thevenin's theorem.



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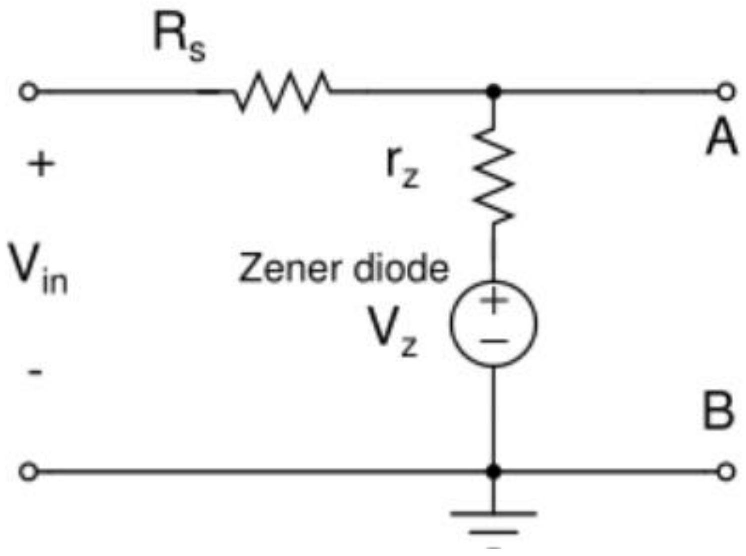


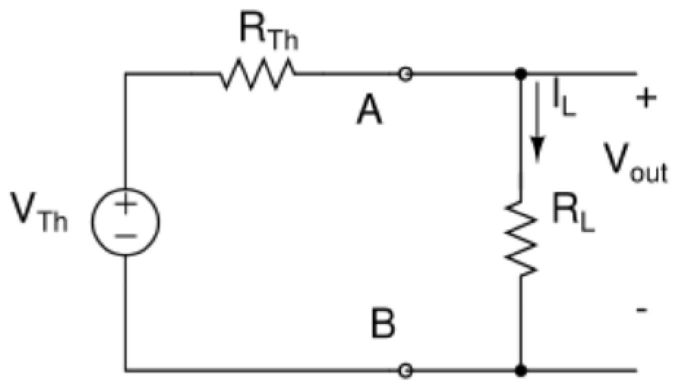
Find V_{Th} and R_{Th} of this circuit across AB

Putting V_{in} = 20 V, R_S = 600 Ω,

V_Z = 12 V, r_z = 200 Ω, we get

V_{TH} (V_{AB}) = 14 V ; R_{TH} (= R_S || r_z) = 150 Ω

R_L = 1 k Ω

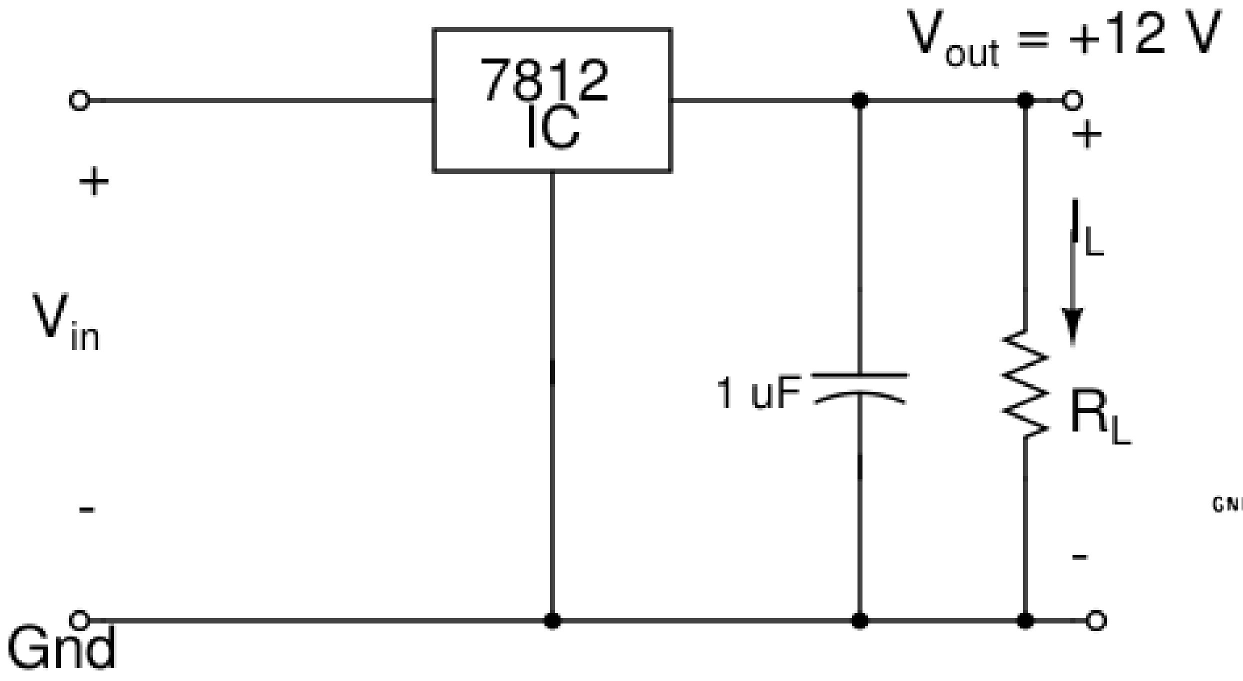


Substituting and evaluating,

V_{out} = 12.17 V

I_L = 12.17 mA

3B: 7812 Three-terminal Voltage Regulator



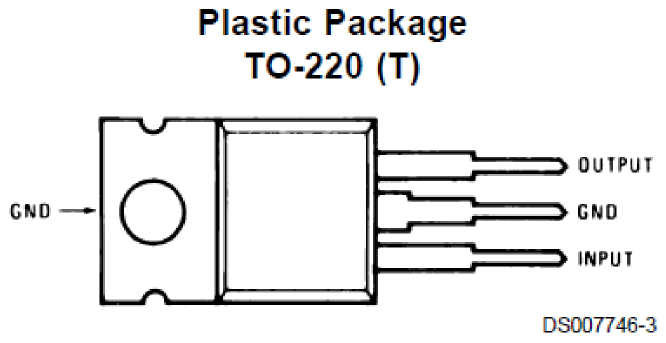


Fig. 12

V_{in} : +14.5 to 30 V, V_{out} : 11.5 to 12.5 V

I_L = up to 1 A

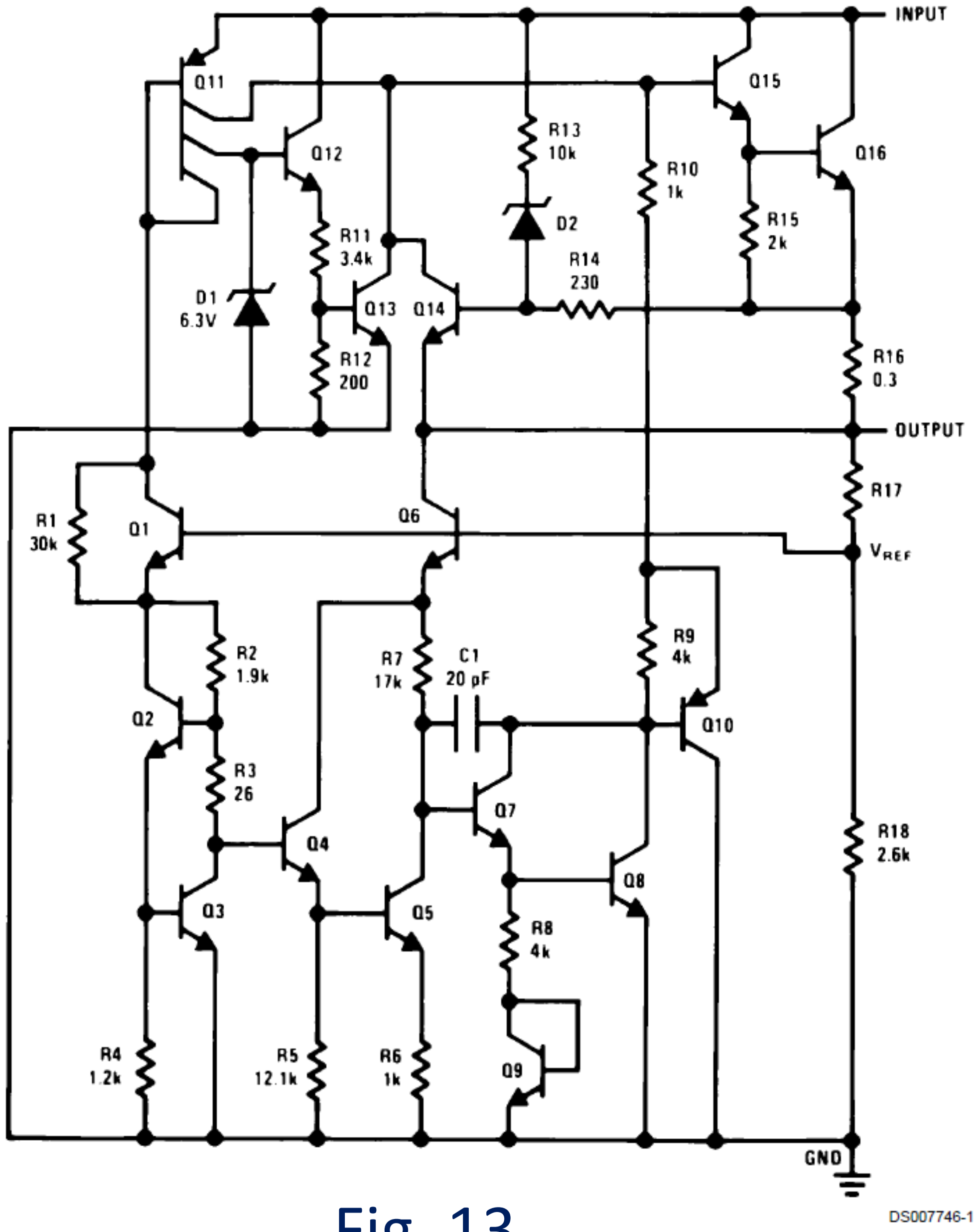


Fig. 13

Major blocks of the 7812 Voltage Regulator IC:

- Series-pass transistor (Q16)
- Stable Zener reference voltage
- Error amplifier
- Short-circuit protection

Source: 7812 Data sheet, National Semiconductor Corp., 2000

Features of an IC Regulator

- V_{out} will be steady for a large range of V_{in} and I_L values
- Minimum V_{in} to the IC regulator: V_{out} + 2 or 3 V (typical)
- A small value of capacitor, typically 1 μF is put at the output for stability (i.e. to prevent oscillations)
  - The regulator IC uses a negative feedback error amplifier circuit, which could result in instability.

Other Popular Three-terminal Voltage Regulator ICs

- Positive Voltage Regulator ICs
  1. 7805 : V_{out} = 5 V
  2. 7806 : V_{out} = 6 V
  3. 7809 : V_{out} = 9 V

- Negative Voltage Regulator ICs
  1. 7905 : V_{out} = -5 V
  2. 7906 : V_{out} = -6 V
  3. 7909 : V_{out} = -9V
  4. 7912 : V_{out} = -12 V