

**MS101 Makerspace**  
**2023-24/II**  
**Expt 2: Op amp Circuits (Ver\_Jan20)**

**Objectives:**

- To familiarize with the Keithley 2231A Triple Channel DC Power Supply (so as to adjust and obtain +Vcc and -Vcc for the LM741 Op amp).
- To observe the input and output waveforms of an op amp inverting amplifier.
- To obtain the V-I characteristics of a rectifier diode, a Zener diode, LED and a photodiode using op amp based current-to voltage converter.

**List of components:**

LM741 Op amp, Rectifier diode, Zener diode, LED, photodiode, resistors

**Part A – Keithley 2231A Triple Channel DC Power Supply**

The Model 2231A-30-3 Triple Channel Programmable DC Power Supply is a flexible DC source designed to power a wide range of applications. It offers three independent and isolated power channels, allowing you to power circuits with different references or polarities.

For details of the basic operations of the power supply, please refer to the user manual file: '**Keithley-2231A-30-3-User-Manual**'.

**Part A - Experiment:**

1. Familiarize yourself with the front panel of the Keithley Model 2231A-30-3 Triple Channel Programmable DC Power Supply. (see Fig.1).
2. **Setting the DC output voltage and current limit for a channel (CH1, CH2 or CH3)**
  - a. We will be using this power supply to obtain the +Vcc and -Vcc voltages for the op amp LM741.
  - b. Switch ON the Keithley Power Supply. Initially, ensure that the DC output voltages are not enabled. (DC output voltages are enabled by pressing the '**Output On/Off**' button. When the output voltages are enabled, the button gives green colour as shown in Fig.1).
  - c. Press the **V-Set** button and then press CH1. A cursor will appear on the output voltage display section of CH1. Now type '12' through the numeric keypad. (You may also use the knob located at the rightmost-top side to set 12 V). After entering '12', press the **Enter** button. Now CH1 output will be set for 12 V.

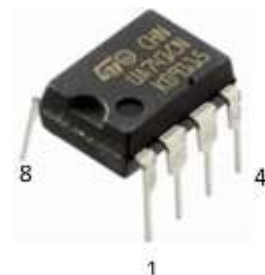
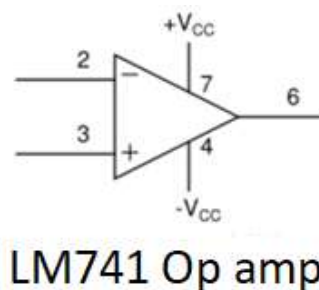
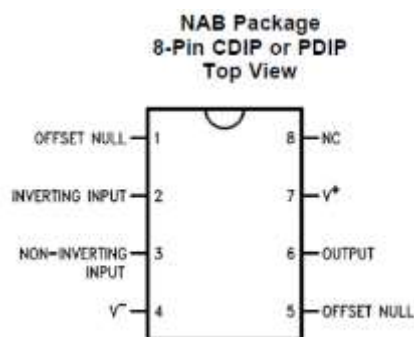
Note: If the '**Output On/Off**' button is in the OFF state, then the 12 V sets in step (c) will be flashing for a few seconds and then '0.00' will be displayed (to indicate that this voltage is set, but not available at the terminals now). However, if the '**Output On/Off**' button is in the ON state (i.e. the '**Output On/Off**' button is green), then the 12 V set in step (c) will stay as it is on the display, to indicate that this voltage is appearing at the output terminals.
  - d. Current limit setting: In this experiment the maximum current to be supplied by the CH1 and CH2 channels is within 100 mA. Hence both CH1 and CH2 should have the maximum current limit setting as 100 mA. Use the following steps to set the maximum current setting for CH1 and CH2.
    - Press **I-Set** button and then press CH1. The present current setting will be displayed on the panel. Set it to 0.1A. Repeat the same for CH2.
  - e. Using your DMM verify that 12 V is appearing at the output terminals of CH1. You can do this by first pressing the '**Output On/Off**' button to make the button green, and then using your DMM to measure the voltage at the CH1 terminals (right-side). Red terminal is +ve and Black is '-' of the DC output.

- f. Similarly, set 12 V on CH2.
- g. You need not set the CH3 output. This channel can be set only up to around 5 V.
- h. In this experiment you will be using only CH1 and CH2 of the Keithley Power Supply. Remember that these two outputs are equivalent to two independent battery outputs with two terminals for each output.



Fig. 1 Keithley Model 2231A-30-3 Triple Channel Programmable DC Power Supply (Front panel image)

## Part B – LM741 Operational Amplifier



Note: NC: no connection.

(a) Pinout details

(b) Op amp symbol with pin numbers

(c) LM741 Op amp image

Fig.2 Pinout diagram and details of the LM741 Op amp

LM741 is the most commonly used op amp IC. Its pin out is shown in Fig.2. Basic parameters (nominal values) of the LM741 op amp are given below:

DC Open-loop gain ( $A_d$ ) : $2 \times 10^5$ V/V (typ)	Open-loop cut-off frequency : 5 Hz (typ)
Open-loop input resistance: $2 \text{ M}\Omega$ (typ)	Open-loop output resistance : $75 \Omega$ (typ)
Slew rate : $0.5 \text{ V}/\mu\text{s}$ (typ)	CMRR ( $= 20 \log A_d/A_{cm}$ ) > 90 dB (typ)

For making circuit connections, it is important to identify the LM741 IC pins correctly. In order to do this, a circular mark is put close to pin 1. The image of LM741 shown in Fig.2(c) has a semi-circular depression between pins 1 and 8, and also a small circle just above pin 1. Yet another way to identify pin 1 is to check for the way IC number is printed on the top surface. From Fig.2(c) you will notice that when the IC is inserted with the correct orientation (i.e. with pin 1 at the extreme left side and pin 4 on extreme right side), the IC number “UA741CN” can be read easily from left to right.

## Part C – Op Amp Inverting Amplifier

Circuit values:  $+V_{cc} = +12\text{ V}$ ,  $-V_{cc} = -12\text{ V}$ ;  $R_1 = 10\text{ k}\Omega$ ,  $R_F = 470\text{ k}\Omega$

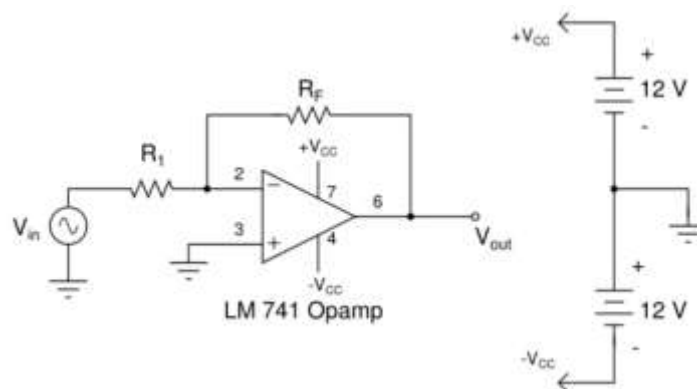


Fig. 3 Op amp inverting amplifier circuit (with  $+V_{cc}$  and  $-V_{cc}$  power supply connections)

### C.1 Experiment:

- i) **Wire the op amp inverting voltage amplifier carefully. While connections are being made, the Power Supply should be in the OFF mode (i.e. no green light in the ‘Output ON/OFF’ button). You should put the power supply output in the ON mode only after the circuit is verified by your TA.**
  - a. **Ensure that the pins are connected correctly as shown in Fig.1. Take extra care in ensuring the IC orientation; otherwise the IC will be damaged at power ON.**
  - b. **Students who do careless wiring (wrong IC orientation and wrong  $V_{cc}$  connections) will be penalized. There will be a marks penalty for careless wiring (incorrect IC orientation and  $V_{cc}$  connections).**
- ii) **Keithley Power Supply parameters for  $+V_{cc}$  and  $-V_{cc}$** 
  - a. Verify that Keithley Power Supply CH1 and CH2 are set to 12 V. Ensure that the power supply outputs are disabled (or OFF). In the OFF mode, the green LED of the ‘**Output On/Off**’ button will not glow.
  - b. Connect CH1 ‘+’ output as the  $+V_{cc}$  supply voltage and CH2 ‘-’ output as the  $-V_{cc}$  supply voltage. This is done by connecting the ‘-’ terminal of the CH1 output (Black terminal) to the ‘+’ terminal of CH2 (Red terminal). This common terminal should then be connected to your circuit GND on your bread board. Note that with connections done as above, the ‘+’ terminal (Red) of CH1 will be your  $+V_{cc}$  and the ‘-’ terminal (Black) of CH2 will be your negative supply, i.e.  $-V_{cc}$ .
  - c. Power Supply output should be made ON only after your TA checks your circuit.

### iii) AFG1022 parameters for $V_{in}$ :

- Verify that output load of the channel used is set at Hi Z (Utility > Output Setup).
- Set the test signal ( $V_{in}$ ) to be  $0.1 \sin \omega t$  V (i.e. +ve peak +100 mV, and -ve peak -100 mV, with a peak-to-peak output of 200 mV). Keep the test signal frequency as 1 kHz.
- Connect  $V_{in}$  to the circuit as shown in Fig. 3 and connect it also to DSO CH1.
- Connect the inverting amplifier output ( $V_{out}$ ) to DSO CH2. Ensure that the AFG output is in the Off mode till Op amp power supply is ON.

### Observation and Measurement

After your circuit has been verified by your TA, put the Keithley Power Supply Output in the ON mode by pressing the 'Output On/Off' button. (In the ON mode, the LED will glow).

- Enable the AFG output by pressing the 'Out On/Off' button.
- Now you should be able to see both  $V_{in}$  and  $V_{out}$  waveforms on the DSO. Measure the peak-to-peak output voltages. (Peak-to-peak voltage of  $V_{in}$  should be 200 mV, while that of  $V_{out}$  should be around 9.4 V. If your  $V_{in}$  and  $V_{out}$  waveforms are not correct, debug the problem and rectify it by keeping power supply and the AFG Off).
- Once the waveforms are correctly displayed, sketch the  $V_{in}$  and  $V_{out}$  waveforms.

### Lab Notebook:

- Draw the circuit diagram of the inverting amplifier with all the values.
- Sketch the  $V_{in}$  and  $V_{out}$  waveforms.
- Note down the calculated gain (based on the nominal resistor values) and the measured gain (obtained from the ratio of the peak-to-peak values of  $V_{in}$  and  $V_{out}$ )

**C.2 Optional step:** After completing the inverting amplifier measurements, increase  $V_{in}$  to  $0.5 \sin \omega t$  V (keep the test signal frequency as 1 kHz). Observe the  $V_{out}$  waveform. Explain the  $V_{out}$  waveform obtained.

### (Optional)- Lab Notebook:

- Sketch the  $V_{in}$  and  $V_{out}$  waveforms for this case.
- Explain the  $V_{out}$  waveform obtained

## **Part D – V-I Characteristics of Diodes using Current-to-Voltage Converter**

In this section we will be using the LM741 Op amp to build a current-to-voltage converter circuit to display the V-I characteristics of a rectifier diode, a Zener diode, an LED and a photodiode.

### **Op amp based Current-to-Voltage Converter Circuit**

Circuit diagram to be used for the plotting the V-I characteristics of diodes is shown in Fig.4. Following are the major blocks of the circuit.

#### **A) X-Y Plot (V-I Characteristic) using the DSO**

In this part, we are going to use the DSO in X-Y mode. Normally, the X axis on the oscilloscope represents time. However, in the X-Y mode, input to one channel becomes the X axis while input to the other channel becomes the Y axis. Since, we are going to plot VI characteristics of various devices, the applied voltage will be the X axis. We sweep the voltage range using a triangular wave generated by the Tek AFG 1022 Arbitrary Function Generator. To plot the current, we first convert it to a voltage using an op amp current-to-voltage converter.

#### **B) Diode Driver (Excitation) through $V_{AFG}$**

The diode under test is driven by a test signal from the AFG (we will call it  $V_{AFG}$ ). The amplitude of the test signal should cover the required voltage range. We shall use the maximum available voltage swing of 18 Vpp (i.e.  $V_{max} = +9$  V, and  $V_{min} = -9$  V). Choose the test signal frequency to be in the range 200 to 500 Hz. In a

DSO the shape of the test signal is not critical – any standard signal other than rectangular/square pulse would be fine. We shall choose a triangular waveform as the test signal.

The test signal causes a current to flow in the diode. For the shown polarity of the diode, the connected diode will be forward biased during the +ve half cycle of the test signal, and reverse-biased during its -ve half cycle. Because of the negative feedback through resistance  $R_F$ , the V- input of the Op amp (i.e. terminal C) will be at virtual ground. The voltage  $V_{BC}$  (voltage at terminal B w.r.t. terminal C) is the voltage across the diode,  $V_{Diode}$ .

### C) Current-to-Voltage Converter

In Fig.4, resistance  $R_1$  is used as a current-limiting resistor. We shall choose  $R_1 = 1\text{ k}\Omega$  to limit the maximum current to roughly 8 mA. Almost the entire diode current ( $I_{Diode}$ ) will flow from the V- terminal through  $R_F$  to the  $V_{out}$  terminal of the Op amp. Hence,  $V_{out} = -I_{Diode} \cdot R_F$ . We shall choose  $R_F = 1\text{ k}\Omega$ . Thus, a diode current of 1 mA will make  $V_{out} = -1\text{ V}$ .

To plot the V- I characteristic of the diode with the correct current direction, we need to invert  $V_{out}$ . This can be done by choosing the 'Invert' channel facility of the DSO (as explained below). We may consider the inverted  $V_{out}$  output as  $I_{Diode}$ .

### D) $V_{Diode}$ and $I_{Diode}$ Waveforms

Before using the X-Y plot feature, it is important to observe the  $V_{Diode}$  and  $I_{Diode}$  waveforms. During the +ve half cycle of the test signal the diode is forward biased. Hence, the diode will start conducting around 0.4 to 0.6 V for the rectifier diode and the Zener diode, but at a much higher voltage (around 1.8 V for an LED). Once the diode starts conducting the diode current will increase exponentially for small increases in the diode voltage. Before conduction, the diode voltage  $V_{diode}$  will be the same as the input voltage, but after conduction, the voltage across it will be almost constant.

During the -ve half cycle, the rectifier diode and the LED will not conduct. Hence,  $V_{Diode}$  will be the same as the input signal, but  $I_{Diode}$  will be zero. However, for the Zener diode case the diode voltage will be same as the input signal till the  $V_{Zener}$  voltage (i.e.  $I_{Diode} = 0$  before Zener breakdown), after which the Zener diode current will increase exponentially for small increases in the reverse voltage.

### Current-to-Voltage Converter Circuit

Circuit values:  $+V_{cc} = +12\text{ V}$ ,  $-V_{cc} = -12\text{ V}$ ;  $R_1 = 1\text{ k}\Omega$ ,  $R_F = 1\text{ k}\Omega$ ,  $2.2\text{ k}\Omega$  resistor, IN4007 diode, LED, 5.6 V Zener diode.

Given:  $+V_{cc} = +12\text{ V}$ ,  $-V_{cc} = -12\text{ V}$ . Assume that the op amp is ideal. Also assume that the maximum and minimum  $v_o$  levels are  $+V_{cc}$  and  $-V_{cc}$  respectively.

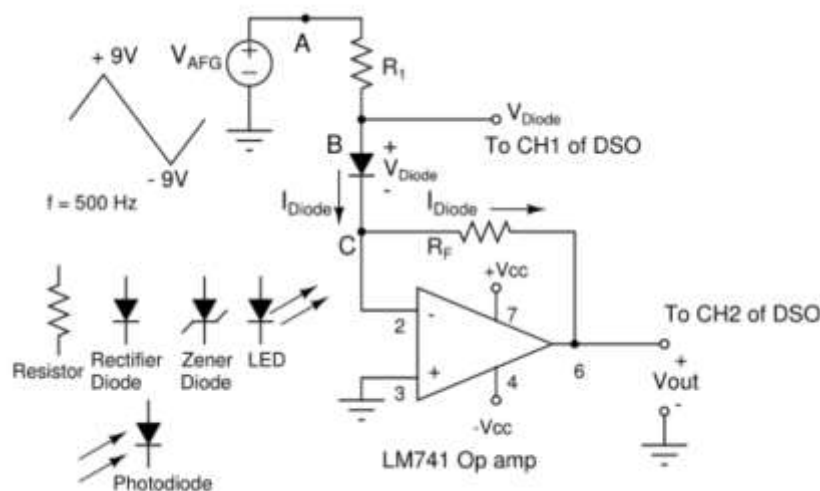


Fig. 4 LM741 Op amp based current-to-voltage converter for obtaining the V-I characteristics of diodes

### Case A: 2.2 k $\Omega$ Resistor as the Device

We will use a 2.2 k $\Omega$  resistor as the first device and obtain its V-I characteristic. Connect it between terminals B and C. Let  $V_{Res}$  be the voltage across the 2.2 k $\Omega$  resistor and  $I_{Res}$  the current through it.

#### Procedure

- Switch off the AFG output and also the Keithley Power Supply output.
- Wire the current-to-voltage converter circuit shown in Fig.4. Note that with reference to Fig.4,  $I_{Diode} = I_{Res}$ ;  $V_{Diode} = V_{Res}$ .
- Adjust the AFG settings to obtain a 500 Hz triangular test signal with 18 Vpp (i.e. Max = + 9 V, Min = -9 V). Ensure that the Output load setting of the AFG is Hi-Z.
- Verify the AFG output on the DSO (but without connecting it to the circuit). Turn the AFG output OFF and then make the AFG output to point A in the diagram.
- Connect CH-1 of the DSO to point B. Connect CH-2 of the DSO to the Op amp output. Choose the voltage scale on both CH-1 and CH-2 to 2 V/div.
- Invert the CH-2 channel display by pressing CH2 Menu > (more page 1/2) > Invert ON.
- After your circuit has been verified by your TA, put the Keithley Power Supply Output in the ON mode by pressing the 'Output On/Off' button.
- Enable the AFG output by pressing the 'Out On/Off' button.
- Observe the  $V_{Res}$  and  $I_{Res}$  w.r.t time on the DSO.
  - $V_{Res} = V_{AFG} [2.2 \text{ k}\Omega / (1 \text{ k}\Omega + 2.2 \text{ k}\Omega)]$ , and  $I_{Res} = V_{Res} / 2.2 \text{ k}\Omega$ . You will notice that both the waveforms have similar shapes, but different peak values.
- After verifying the above  $V_{Res}$  and  $I_{Res}$  waveforms, align the GND levels of CH1 and CH2 to be at the centre of the DSO (i.e. the yellow and the blue GND levels indicators of CH1 and CH2).
- Choose the scales of both CH1 and CH2 to be 1 V/div.
- Put the DSO in the X-Y mode by pressing the 'Acquire' button under 'Horizontal' and then choose XY Display on (i.e. Acquire > (more page 1/2) > XY Display On).
- Calculate the peak  $V_{Res}$  and  $I_{Res}$  values for the 2.2 k $\Omega$  resistor case. Verify the values and sketch the XY waveform in your Lab Notebook.

#### Lab Notebook:

- Draw the circuit diagram of the current-to-voltage converter.
- Sketch the  $V_{Res}$  and  $I_{Res}$  waveforms (see part (i)).
- Sketch the XY plot obtained (i.e. the VI characteristic of the 2.2 k $\Omega$  resistor).

### Case B: IN4007 Rectifier Diode V-I Characteristic

#### Procedure

- Switch the AFG output OFF and then turn OFF the Keithley Power Supply outputs.
- Replace the 2.2 k $\Omega$  resistor with the IN4007 rectifier diode (cathode at point C and anode at point B). There will be a black band close to the cathode terminal of the rectifier diode.
- After connecting the rectifier diode correctly, switch ON first the Keithley Power Supply outputs and then the AFG output.
- Observe the XY plot of the given IN4007 Rectifier diode. With reference to Fig.4, the voltage across the diode ( $V_{Diode}$ ) is the X waveform (CH1) and the current through the diode ( $I_{Diode}$ ) is the Y waveform (CH2).
  - For the rectifier diode case, the typical waveform you would see in the XY mode is shown below:



- b. Note the Yellow and Blue GND indicators showing the correct alignment in the XY mode. This way the origin will be at the middle of the DSO screen. The diode cut-in voltage can now be measured.
- e) Sketch the XY waveform in your Lab Notebook.
- f) From the displayed XY plot, measure the cut-in voltage of the rectifier diode (in V) and the maximum current (in mA).

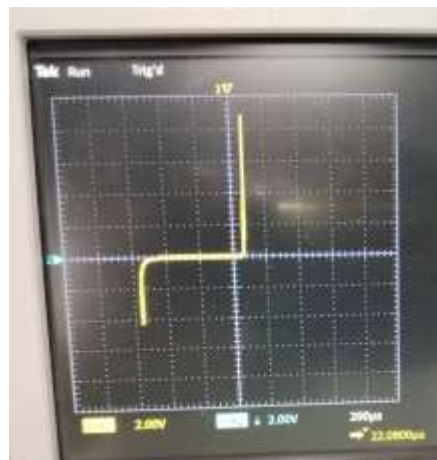
Lab Notebook:

- i) Sketch the  $V_{\text{Diode}}$  and  $I_{\text{Diode}}$  waveforms.
- ii) Sketch the XY plot obtained (i.e. the VI characteristic of the rectifier diode).
- iii) Measure the cut-in voltage of the rectifier diode (in V) and the maximum current (in mA).

### Case C: Zener diode V-I Characteristic

#### Procedure

- a) Switch the AFG output OFF and then turn OFF the Keithley Power Supply outputs.
- b) Replace the rectifier diode with the Zener diode (cathode at point C and anode at point B). Once again there will be a black band close to the cathode terminal of the Zener diode.
- c) After connecting the Zener diode correctly, switch ON first the Keithley Power Supply outputs and then the AFG output.
- d) Once again observe the XY plot (X-axis  $V_{\text{Diode}}$  and Y axis:  $I_{\text{Diode}}$ ) of the given Zener diode.
- e) The typical XY plot you will observe for the Zener diode is shown below.



- f) Sketch the XY waveform obtained by you in your Lab Notebook.
- g) From the displayed XY plot, measure the cut-in voltages (in V) for both forward and Zener regions and the maximum currents in mA.

Lab Notebook:

- i) Sketch the XY plot obtained (i.e. the VI characteristic of the Zener diode).
- ii) Measure the cut-in voltages (in V) for both forward and Zener regions and the maximum currents in mA.

**Case D: LED V-I Characteristic**

**Procedure**

- a) Switch the AFG output OFF and then turn OFF the Keithley Power Supply outputs.
- b) Replace the Zener diode with the Red LED. For the LED, the longer lead is the anode and the shorter one the cathode. As in the previous cases connect cathode at point C and anode at point B.
- c) After connecting the LED correctly, switch ON first the Keithley Power Supply outputs and then the AFG output.
- d) Once again observe the XY plot of the given LED.
- e) Sketch the XY waveform in your Lab Notebook.
- f) From the displayed XY plot, measure the cut-in voltage (in V) of the LED and the maximum current in mA.

Lab Notebook:

- i) Sketch the XY plot obtained (i.e. the VI characteristic of the LED).
- ii) Measure the cut-in voltage (in V) of the LED and the maximum current in mA.

**Case E: Photodiode V-I Characteristic**

**Photodiodes:**

Photodiodes are *pn* junction diodes used as optical to electrical converters. It is generally reverse-biased and light to be converted falls on its active area. In response to the light, a proportional photo current (with the direction of photo current same as the reverse saturation current) flows through the photodiode.

An image of the photodiode is shown below. The photodiode material is silicon. The active photodiode area (rectangular) is clearly visible in the figure. Note the anode and cathode terminals. (left side terminal with the active area facing you is the *anode* and the right side is the *cathode*).

**Procedure**



- a) Switch the AFG output OFF and then turn OFF the Keithley Power Supply outputs.
- b) Replace the LED with the photodiode. Note carefully the anode and cathode of the photodiode. As in the previous cases connect cathode at point C and anode at point B.
- c) After connecting the photodiode correctly, switch ON first the Keithley Power Supply outputs and then the AFG output.
- d) Once again observe the XY plot of the given photodiode as it is (i.e. in the room lighting conditions).
- e) The X-Y plot will be very similar to what you obtained for the rectifier diode. Since the photocurrents will be in the 20 to 100  $\mu$ A range, modify the scale of CH2 to 100 mV. You should be able to see some photocurrent in the reverse region (due to the ambient light).
- f) Sketch the XY waveform in your Lab Notebook. (See the X-Y plot image shown below (Fig.E1) for ambient light conditions)
- g) Use your mobile flash light and shine it on the photodiode. Notice the photocurrent increasing with more light falling on the photodiode.



- h) Take measurements for two light conditions – medium light and for the maximum light. (See the X-Y plot images shown below (Fig.E2 and Fig.E3) for medium and higher light intensities)
- i) From the displayed XY plots, measure the maximum photocurrent you are able to get.

### Observation:

You would notice that the photodiode gives the same photocurrent for the entire negative half cycle of the triangular wave. Based on this observation how would you model a photodiode – as a voltage source or a current source?

### Lab Notebook:

- i) Sketch the XY plots obtained for ambient, medium and higher light intensities.
- ii) In each case measure the photo current in  $\mu\text{A}$  (as accurately as you can).
- iii) Based on your plots how would you model a photodiode – as a voltage source or a current source? Justify your answer.



Fig. E1 – XY plot – ambient light conditions



Fig. E2 – XY plot – medium light conditions



Fig. E3 – XY plot – higher light conditions