

Lab 3: Frequency Response and Fourier Series

In this lab you will build an active bandpass filter circuit with two capacitors and an op-amp, and examine the response of the circuit to periodic inputs over a range of frequencies. The same circuit will be used in Lab 4 in your AM radio receiver system as an intermediate frequency (IF) filter, but in this lab our main focus will be on the frequency response $H(\omega)$ of the filter circuit and the Fourier series of its periodic input and output signals. In particular we want to examine and gain experience about the response of linear time-invariant circuits to periodic inputs.

1 Prelab

- Determine the compact-form Fourier series of the periodic square wave signal, $f(t)$ shown in Figure 1, with a period T and amplitude A . That is, find c_n and θ_n such that

$$f(t) = \frac{c_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n \cos(n\omega_0 t + \theta_n), \text{ where } \omega_0 = \frac{2\pi}{T}.$$

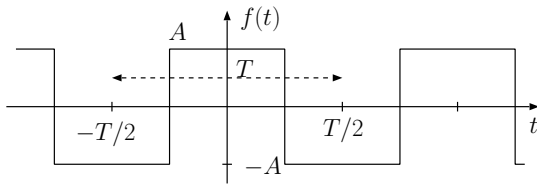


Figure 1: Square wave signal for prelab.

Notice $\frac{c_0}{2} = 0$. How could you have determined that without any calculation?

Co/2 is the average of the function, the DC term. Because the average is zero C0 is zero, so Average = (area)/ (period length) (____/2)

Show your work. (____/3)

$$F_n = 1/T \int_{-T/2}^{T/2} f(t) e^{-jn\omega_0 t} dt$$

$$A/(T \cdot jn\omega_0) * [e^{jn(2\pi/T)(T/4)} - e^{jn(2\pi/T)(T/2)} - e^{-jn(2\pi/T)(T/4)} + e^{-jn(2\pi/T)(T/2)} - e^{-jn(2\pi/T)(T/4)}]$$

$$F_n = A/(2jn\pi) [2e^{jn\pi/2} - 2e^{jn\pi} - e^{jn\pi} + e^{-jn\pi}]$$

$$(2A/(n\pi)) * \cos(n\pi/2) - (\pi/2)$$

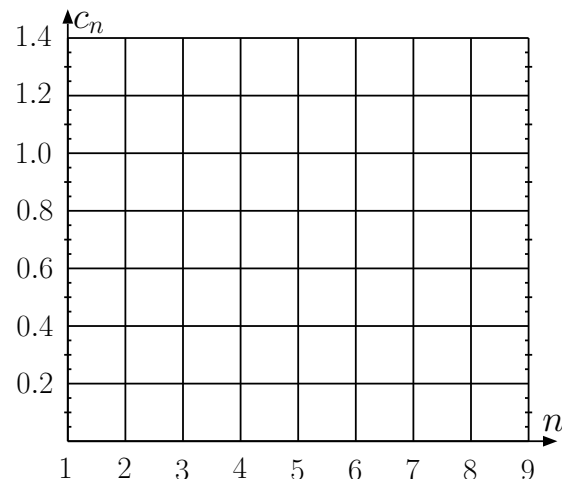
$$C_n = 2|F_n| = 2 * (2A/(n\pi)) = 4A/(n\pi)$$

$$\theta_n = n\pi/2 - \pi/2 = \{0, n = 1, 5, 9, 13, \dots\}, \{\pi, n = 3, 7, 11, 15, \dots\}$$

$$F_n = (2A/(n\pi)) * \sin(n\pi/2) \quad (____/2)$$

$$c_n = \begin{cases} 4A/(n\pi) & \text{when } n \text{ is odd,} \\ 0 & \text{when } n \text{ is even} \end{cases} \quad (____/2)$$

$$\theta_n = \begin{cases} 0, & n = 1, 5, 9, 13 \\ \pi, & n = 3, 7, 11, 15, \dots \end{cases} \quad (____/2)$$



With $A = 1$, plot c_n over n ($n \in [1, 9]$) (____/2)

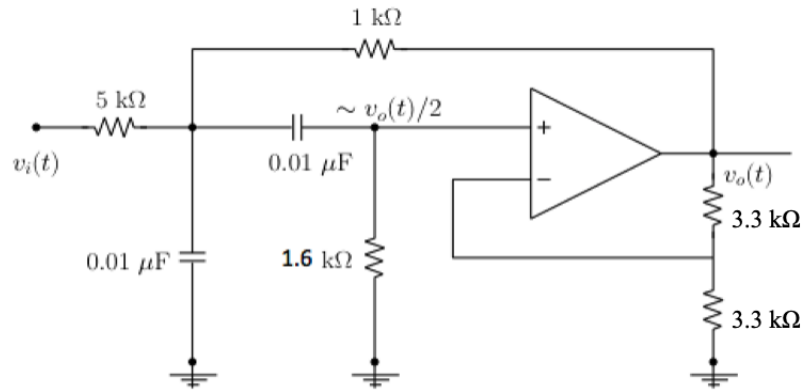


Figure 2: Circuit for analysis in prelab and lab.

2. Consider the circuit in Figure 2 where $v_i(t)$ is a co-sinusoidal input with some radian frequency ω .

- (a) What is the phasor gain $\frac{V_o}{V_i}$ in the circuit as $\omega \rightarrow 0$? (Hint: How does one model a capacitor at DC — open or short?)

Show your work

If there is a DC current due to $\omega \rightarrow 0$, the phasor gain will be zero. This is caused by the capacitors acting as open circuits and input to the op amp being ground. Therefore, making a KVL loop at the 3.3kOhm resistor results in $v_0 = \text{ground voltage}$, regardless of the amplitude of the high-frequency input waveform.

(____/3)

- (b) What is the gain $\frac{V_o}{V_i}$ as $\omega \rightarrow \infty$? (Hint: think of capacitor behavior in $\omega \rightarrow \infty$ limit)

Show your work

If $\omega \rightarrow \text{infinity}$, there will be a phasor gain of zero. This is due to the capacitors acting as short circuits and the fact that the op-amp input is ground. Therefore, making a KVL loop at the 3.3kOhm resistor results in $v_0 = \text{ground voltage}$, regardless of the amplitude of the high-frequency input waveform.

(____/3)

- (c) In view of the answers to part (a) and (b), and the fact that the circuit is 2nd order (it contains two energy storage elements), try to guess what kind of a filter the system frequency response $H(\omega) \equiv \frac{V_o}{V_i}$ implements — lowpass, highpass, or bandpass? The amplitude response $|H(\omega)|$ of the circuit will be measured in the lab.

Give your answer and explain your reasoning.

Since both low and high frequencies are obstructed, this circuit is probably a band-pass filter.

(____/2)

3. Decibels (dB) is a unit of measurement widely used in science and engineering to compare power or intensity quantities. A decibel (dB) is one-tenth of a Bel (B), which is the name given to $\log_{10} \left(\frac{P_1}{P_0} \right)$, where \log_{10} is the base 10 logarithm, and $\frac{P_1}{P_0}$ is the ratio of two power quantities. The formula for calculating decibels is : $10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{P_1}{P_0} \right)$. and for comparing voltages we can use: $20 \log_{10} \left(\frac{V_1}{V_0} \right)$, which is derived from $10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{V_1^2/R}{V_0^2/R} \right)$. Complete the following table of useful ratios: (use accuracy of 1 decimal in dB row)

P_1/P_0	1000	100	10	8	4	2	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{10}$	$\frac{1}{100}$	$\frac{1}{1000}$
V_1/V_0	$\sqrt{1000}$	10	$\sqrt{10}$	$2\sqrt{2}$	2	$\sqrt{2}$	1	$1/2 * \sqrt{2}$	1/2	$\sqrt{1000} / 1000$	1/10	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{1000}}$
Decibels (dB)	30	20	10	9	6	3	0	-3	-6	-10	-20	-30

(____/2)

4. In the case of the Fourier analysis, the oscilloscope compares the signals with a reference of $V_{\text{rms}} = 1 \text{ V}$. Recall that a sine wave with rms (root mean square) amplitude of $V_{\text{rms}} = 1 \text{ V}$ corresponds to a sine wave with a peak amplitude of $\sqrt{2} \text{ V}$, which is to say a peak-to-peak amplitude of $2\sqrt{2} \text{ V}$. To specify that the reference is $V_{\text{rms}} = 1 \text{ V}$, the decibel symbol is modified with the suffix “V” becoming “dBV”. Convert the voltages in the table below to dBV units (use accuracy of 1 decimal).

v	$V_{\text{rms}} = 1 \text{ V}$	$V_{\text{rms}} = 2 \text{ V}$	$V_{\text{rms}} = \sqrt{10} \text{ V}$	$V_{\text{rms}} = \sqrt{2} \text{ V}$	$V_{\text{rms}} = 1/10 \text{ V}$	$2\sqrt{2} \text{ V peak-to-peak}$	$4\sqrt{5} \text{ V peak-to-peak}$	2 V peak-to-peak	$\frac{2\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{10}} \text{ V peak-to-peak}$
$v \text{ (dBV)}$	0.0	6	10	3	-20	0	10	-3	-10

(____/2)