

## Lab 5: RC Circuit Hints

Tuesday, February 24, 2026 5:07 PM

$$\frac{dV}{dt} + \frac{V}{RC} = \frac{V_{in}}{RC}, \quad \text{where } V_{in} = A_0 \cos \omega t$$

$$\frac{dV}{dt} + \frac{V}{RC} = \frac{A_0 \cos \omega t}{RC}$$

Solution has the form

$$\begin{aligned} V &= V_{tr} + V_{ss} \\ &= V_H + V_P \end{aligned}$$

### Homogeneous (Transient)

Set  $f(t) = 0$  so

$$\frac{dV_H}{dt} + \frac{V_H}{RC} = 0$$

Solve using separation of variables

Show all steps!

You should set  $V_H = K e^{-t/RC}$

$\uparrow$   
arbitrary constant

Don't solve for  $K$  yet!

### Particular (Steady-state)

$$\frac{dV_P}{dt} + \frac{V_P}{RC} = \frac{A_0 \cos \omega t}{RC}$$

$$\frac{1}{dt} \cdot \frac{1}{RC} = \frac{1}{RC}$$

Assume  $V_p$  has a solution of the form

$$V_p = A \sin wt + B \cos wt$$

Need to find  $A$  &  $B$ .

Find  $\frac{dV_p}{dt} = ?$

Plug  $V_p$  and  $\frac{dV_p}{dt}$  into the ODE

$$\frac{dV_p}{dt} + \frac{V_p}{RC} = \frac{A_0 \cos wt}{RC}$$

Multiply both sides by  $RC$

Now do some algebra

Treat the left and right hand sides separately

Get into this form:

$$(\text{sin coeffs}) \underline{\sin wt} + (\text{cos coeffs}) \underline{\cos wt}$$

$$= \underline{0 \sin wt} + \underline{A_0 \cos wt}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} (\text{sin coeffs}) = 0 \\ (\text{cos coeffs}) = A_0 \end{array} \right\}$$

Solve for  $A$  and  $B$  using these equations

After solving for  $A$  and  $B$ , plug  $A$  and  $B$  into  $V_p$

After solving for A and B, plug A and B into  $V_p$

Lastly solve for K using the full solution and I.C.

$$V = V_H + V_p$$

$$V = Ke^{-t/RC} + A\sin wt + B\cos wt$$

Plug in for A and B

Apply I.C. , solve for K

Write full solution using the K you found.