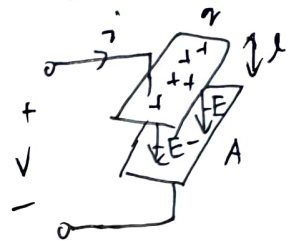


Up to this point, time has not been important in our study of electronic circuits. All analysis and design have been static where circuit responses at a given time only depend on circuit input at that time. This assumes circuits respond to input changes infinitely fast, but this is not the case in reality. To explain the temporal behavior of circuit responses, 2 new elements, capacitors and inductors are needed.

## Capacitors

An idealized 2-terminal linear capacitor has each terminal connected to a conducting plate. plates are parallel, separated by gap  $l$  and area of overlap is  $A$ . The gap is filled with an insulating linear dielectric with permittivity  $\epsilon$ .



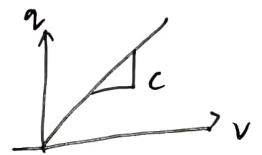
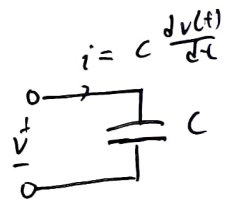
As current enters positive terminal, it transports charge  $q$  to the plate. An identical current exits the negative terminal and transports equal charge  $q$  off.

charge  $q$  on positive plate and its image charge  $-q$  produce an electric field within directed  $E$ .

From Maxwell's equations:  $E(t) = \frac{q(t)}{\epsilon A}$  (1)

By integrating  $E$ -field from positive to negative plate

$\Delta V = \int E \cdot ds \Rightarrow V(t) = E(t) \cdot l$  (2)



Combining (1) and (2)  $\Rightarrow q(t) = \frac{\epsilon A}{l} V(t)$

We define capacitance  $C(t) = \frac{\epsilon A}{l} \Rightarrow q(t) = C(t) V(t)$

$C(t) = \frac{q(t)}{V(t)}$

[Farads]

$1F = \frac{1C}{1V}$

Resistor: algebraic r/n between branch  $V$  and  $I$   
Capacitor: algebraic r/n between branch  $V$  and stored charge

$$i(t) = \frac{dq(t)}{dt} = \frac{d(C(t)V(t))}{dt} = C \frac{dV(t)}{dt}$$

we assume capacitors are linear & time invariant

At steady state, when  $V$  is constant,  $i(t) = 0 \Rightarrow$

capacitors behave as open circuit at steady state

$$i(t) = C \frac{dv(t)}{dt}$$

If voltage changes instantaneously,  $\frac{dv(t)}{dt} = \infty$

which is impossible since it requires  $i(t) = \infty$

Hence, capacitor voltage cannot change instantaneously, but continuously

### Energy storage

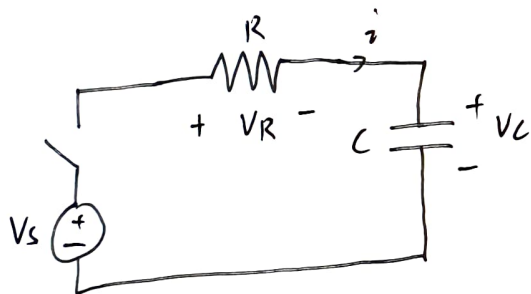
voltage is a measure of energy transfer / work done per unit charge

WD in moving charge  $dq$  from one plate to another  $\Rightarrow dW = v dq$

$$W = \int_0^q v dq = \int_0^q \frac{q}{C} dq = \frac{q^2}{2C} = \boxed{\frac{1}{2} C v^2}$$

### First Order Transients in linear networks

An RC circuit contains resistors and capacitors.



From KVL:  $V_s = V_R + V_C$

By current-voltage rln of capacitor:  $i = C \frac{dv_C}{dt}$

By element laws:  $V_R = iR$

Hence  $V_s = RC \frac{dv_C}{dt} + V_C$  (first order DE)

To solve first order DE of the form  $\dot{x} + p(t)x = q(t)$ , we multiply both sides by an integrating factor  $e^{\int p(t) dt}$

$$\frac{dv_C}{dt} + \frac{v_C}{RC} = \frac{V_s}{RC}$$

$$\frac{dv_C}{dt} e^{\int \frac{1}{RC} dt} + \frac{v_C}{RC} e^{\int \frac{1}{RC} dt} = \frac{V_s}{RC} e^{\int \frac{1}{RC} dt}$$

multiply by integrating factor  $e^{\int \frac{1}{RC} dt}$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( v_C e^{\int \frac{1}{RC} dt} \right)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( V_C e^{\int \frac{1}{RC} dt} \right) = \frac{V_S}{RC} e^{\int \frac{1}{RC} dt}$$

integrate both sides.

$$V_C e^{\frac{t}{RC}} = \int \frac{V_S}{RC} e^{\frac{t}{RC}} dt$$

$$V_C = e^{-\frac{t}{RC}} \left[ \frac{V_S}{RC} \frac{e^{\frac{t}{RC}}}{\frac{1}{RC}} + C \right]$$

$$V_C = V_S + C e^{-\frac{t}{RC}}$$

To solve for arbitrary constant  $C$ , we can plug in initial conditions,  $t=0$

let  $V_C(0)$  be initial conditions when  $t=0$

$$V_C(0) = V_S + C e^{-\frac{0}{RC}} \Rightarrow 1$$

solve for arbitrary constant  $C$

$$C = V_C(0) - V_S$$

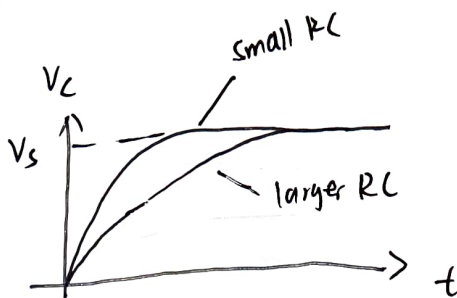
$$\begin{aligned} V_C(t) &= V_S + (V_C(0) - V_S) e^{-\frac{t}{RC}} \\ &= V_C(0) e^{-\frac{t}{RC}} + V_S [1 - e^{-\frac{t}{RC}}] \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{if } V_C(0) = 0 \Rightarrow C = -V_S \Rightarrow V_C(t) = V_S [1 - e^{-\frac{t}{RC}}]$$

$RC$  has dimension of time and is also known as the time constant

$$\text{As } t \rightarrow \infty, e^{-\frac{t}{RC}} \rightarrow 0$$

$$V_C(\infty) = V_S$$



graph of  $V_C(t) = V_S [1 - e^{-\frac{t}{RC}}]$  when  $V_C(0) = 0$

## RC discharge transient

when the RC is discharging, voltage source = 0 when switch is open

$$V_S = \frac{dV_C}{dt} + \frac{V_C}{RC}$$

$$0 = \frac{dV_C}{dt} + \frac{V_C}{RC} \quad (\text{homogeneous DE})$$

can solve by separating variables,

$$\int \frac{1}{V_C} dV_C = \int -\frac{1}{RC} dt$$

$$\ln|V_C| = -\frac{t}{RC} + C$$

$$V_C = A e^{-\frac{t}{RC}} \quad \text{where } A = e^C$$

let  $V_C(0)$  be initial conditions when  $t=0$

$$V_C(0) = A e^{-\frac{0}{RC}} = A \Rightarrow A = V_C(0)$$

where  $RC$  is the same time constant

$$V_C(t) = V_C(0) e^{-\frac{t}{RC}}$$

If capacitor now fully charged,  $V_C(0) = V_C(\infty) = V_S \Rightarrow A = V_S$

## Properties of decaying exponentials

$$x = A e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}}$$

$$\text{initial slope } \left. \frac{dx}{dt} \right|_{t=0} = -\frac{A}{\tau}$$

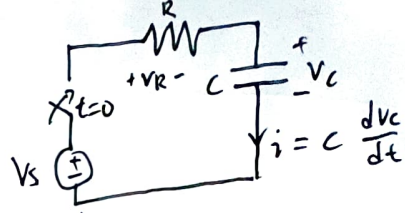
$\Rightarrow$  initial slope projected onto time axis cuts time axis at  $t = \tau$ , regardless of  $A$

when  $t = \tau \Rightarrow x = \frac{A}{e}$  (function reaches  $\frac{1}{e}$  of its initial value  $\approx 0.368$ )

when  $t > 5\tau \Rightarrow e^{-5} = 0.0067$  (can assume function is essentially 0)

# Activity 1

## Key equation



when capacitors are being charged / discharged through a series RC circuit, its transient behaviour of voltage changes exponentially with time

$$V_c(t) = V_c(0) e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}} + V_c(\infty) (1 - e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}}) \quad \text{where } \tau = RC$$

## charging

when  $V_c(0) = 0$  (voltage source not connected and capacitor is fully discharged)

and  $V_c(\infty) = V_s$  (see rigorous proof in notes <sup>pg 3</sup> when solving first order DE by integrating factor)

$$V_c(t) = V_s (1 - e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}}), \quad \tau = RC \quad (\text{time constant})$$

## Discharging

when  $V_c(\infty) = 0$  (capacitor fully discharged)

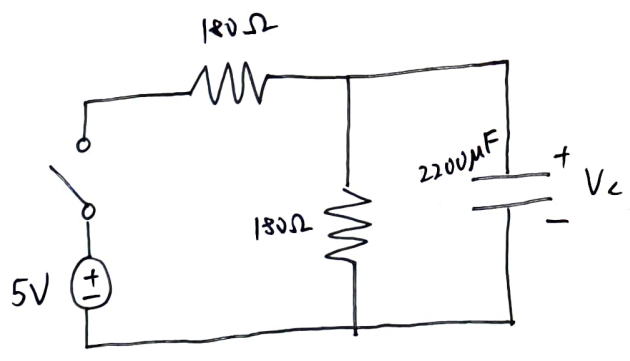
and  $V_c(0) = V_s$  (capacitor fully charged)

$$V_c(t) = V_s e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}}, \quad \tau = RC \quad (\text{see rigorous proof in notes <sup>pg 4</sup> by separating variables})$$

1. a) Electrolytic capacitors have polarity. I will ensure that the polarities are correct before turning on the power supply.

b) I will wear protective goggles when the circuits are powered

3.



when  $t = 0^-$

capacitor is in steady state and is fully discharged. Hence it acts like an open circuit and does not produce current. As the voltage source is not connected too, no current runs in the circuit.

$$V_c(0^-) = 0V$$

when  $t = 0^+$

$V_c(0^+) = 0V$  (as voltage cannot change instantaneously) through analysis of  $i(t) = C \frac{dV_c(t)}{dt}$

proven in notes <sup>pg 2</sup>

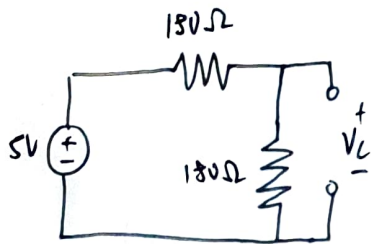


when  $t = \infty$

capacitor is in steady state and behaves like an open circuit

$$e^{-\frac{t}{RC}} \rightarrow 0$$

$$V_C(t) = V_C(\infty)$$



By voltage divider principle

$$V_C = \frac{180\Omega}{180\Omega + 180\Omega} \times 5V$$

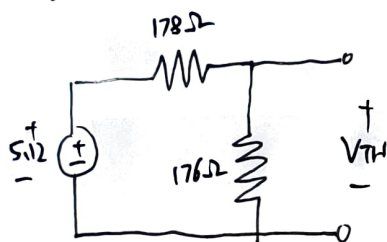
$$= \underline{2.5V}$$

4. Derive the Thevenin equivalent circuit that the capacitor sees for  $t \geq 0$

$$V_{open} = 5.12V$$

$$R_1 = 178\Omega$$

$$R_2 = 176\Omega$$

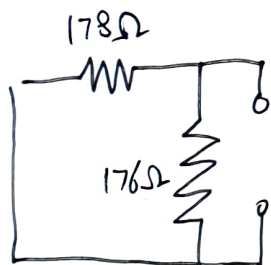


$$V_{TH} = \frac{176\Omega}{(176+178)\Omega} \times 5.12V$$

$$= \underline{2.55V}$$

$R_{TH}$  can be found by setting

all internal voltage sources to short,  $v = 0$



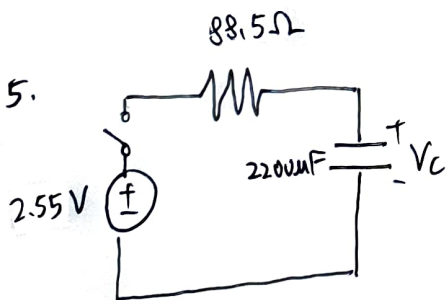
$R_{TH}$  = equivalent resistance seen across terminals

$$= 176\Omega // 178\Omega$$

$$= \frac{176 \times 178}{176 + 178}$$

$$= \underline{88.497\Omega}$$

5.



6. for  $t \geq 0$

$$V_C(t) = \cancel{V_C(0)} e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}} + \cancel{V_C(\infty)} (1 - e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}}), \tau = RC$$

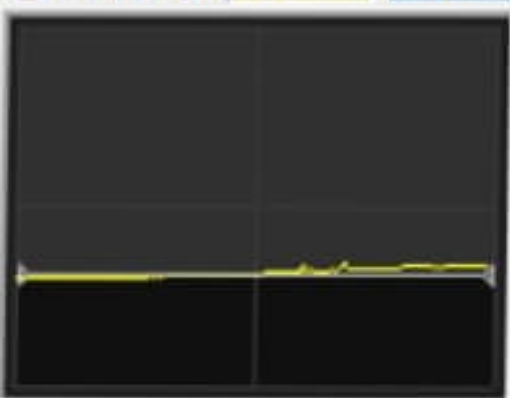
$$= 2.55(1 - e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}})$$

$$\tau = 88.5 \times 2200 \times 10^{-6} s$$

$$= \underline{0.195s}$$

~ insert screenshot of waveform ~

TRIGGER COMP AUTO



40 mV NORMAL

CH A CH B LOGIC

RISE FALL LEVEL

204 ms 1.58 V

TRIGGER REF

204 ms 1.58 V

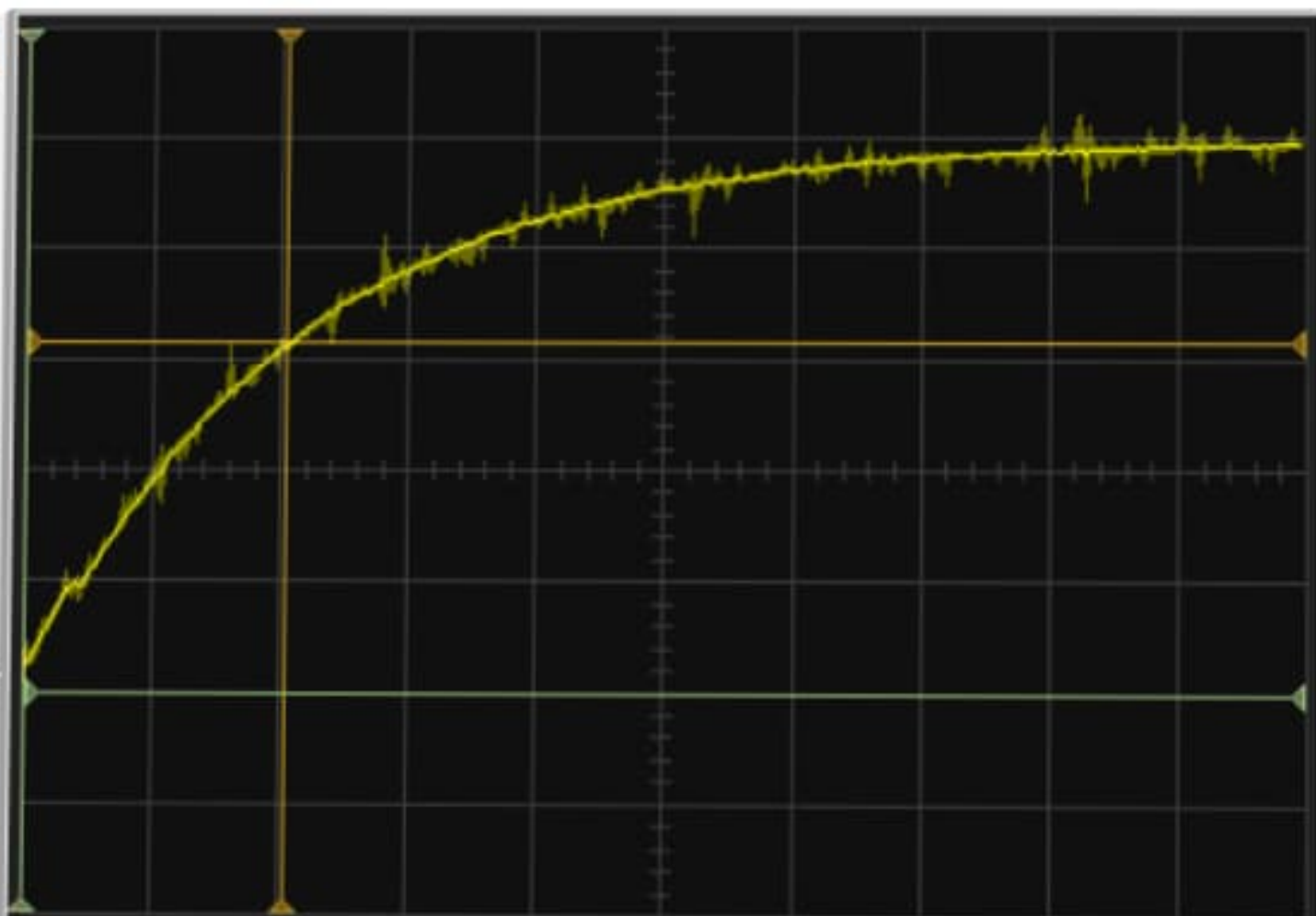
4.901 96 Hz 7.75 uV/us

POST ZOOM

AUTO FOCUS

100 ms/Div

REPEAT TRACE



TB = 100 ms VA = 1.98 V VB = 1 V FT = 500 ms FS = 5.28 kHz

POWER

SETUP

SCOPE

DUAL

MIXED

LOGIC

MACRO

CURSOR

GRID

SAVE

WAVE

CHA PRB

5.2 V 1 V

500 mV/Div

ON ZERO

CHB PRB

9.2 V OFFSET

1 V/Div

ON ZERO

OSCILLOSCOPE

2 S 5.71 kHz

NORMAL SMOOTH

RECORDER WIDE BAND

13.

$$V_C(\infty) \approx 2.5V$$

$$63.2\% \text{ of } V_C(\infty) = 1.58V$$

~ set both horizontal and vertical cursor line to coincide with 63.2% of  $V_C(\infty)$  ~

$$\text{time measured} = 204ms = \underline{0.204s}$$

#### 14. Analysis and Discussion

$$i) \quad 0.632 \times 2.55 = 2.55(1 - e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}}) \quad \tau = 0.195s \quad (\text{from step 6})$$

$$1 - e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}} = 0.632$$

$$e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}} = 0.368$$

$$-\frac{t}{\tau} = \ln 0.368$$

$$t = -\tau \ln 0.368$$

$$= \underline{0.19494 \approx \tau}$$

Actually, from analysis of decaying exponential.

$$x = e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}}$$

$$\text{when } \boxed{t = \tau}, x = \frac{1}{e} \approx 0.368$$

$$(1 - \frac{1}{e}) \approx 0.632$$

Theoretically,  $t = \tau$  for  $V_C(t)$  to reach 63.2% of  $V_C(\infty)$  //

My experimental value of 0.204s agrees strongly with theoretical value of 0.195s //

#### ii) Sources of error

- ① The actual value of resistance and capacitance may be different than the values used in the theoretical analysis due to tolerance of elements. Hence

time taken to reach 63.2% of  $V_C(\infty) = \tau = RC$  will be slightly different

- ② There could be error from reading off the graph generated by the Bitscope

Ⓐ  $V_C(\infty)$  read off the plateau of the waveform might not be accurate. Hence setting the cursor line to 63.2% of  $V_C(\infty)$  would give smaller value of  $t$  if  $V_C(\infty)$  read off is lower than actual  $V_C(\infty)$  and vice versa

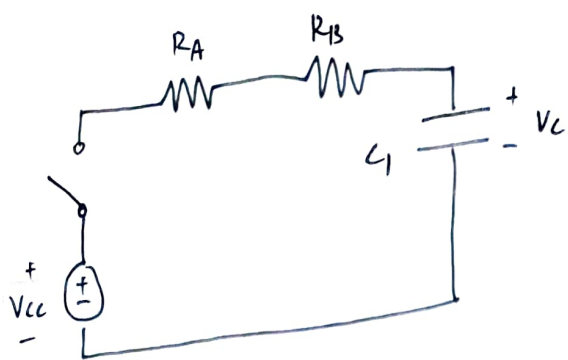
Ⓑ There could be error from dragging the vertical cursor line to coincide with the horizontal line and the graph

- ③ If step 11 is repeated to capture the waveform, the capacitor might not be fully discharged, hence  $V_C(0) \neq 0$ .  $t$  would be smaller



## Activity 2

1. charging voltage of capacitor



when  $t=0$

capacitor starts charging when  $V_c(t) = \frac{1}{3} V_{cc}$

$$V_c(0) = \frac{1}{3} V_{cc}$$

when  $t = \infty$

If capacitor is allowed to charge indefinitely

$V_c(\infty) = V_{cc}$  (capacitor behaves as an open circuit)

$$V_c(t) = \frac{1}{3} V_{cc} e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}} + V_{cc} (1 - e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}}), \quad \tau = (R_A + R_B) C_1$$

when  $V_c(t) = \frac{1}{3} V_{cc}$ :

$$\frac{1}{3} V_{cc} = V_{cc} (1 - \frac{2}{3} e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}})$$

$$\frac{2}{3} e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}} = 1 - \frac{1}{3}$$

$$-\frac{t}{\tau} = \ln 1$$

$$t = 0; \quad t_{\text{start}} = 0 \quad (1)$$

when  $V_c(t) = \frac{2}{3} V_{cc}$ :

$$\frac{2}{3} V_{cc} = V_{cc} (1 - \frac{1}{3} e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}})$$

$$\frac{1}{3} e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}} = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$-\frac{t}{\tau} = \ln \frac{1}{2}$$

$$t = -\tau \ln \frac{1}{2}, \quad t_{\text{end}} = \tau \ln 2 \quad (2)$$

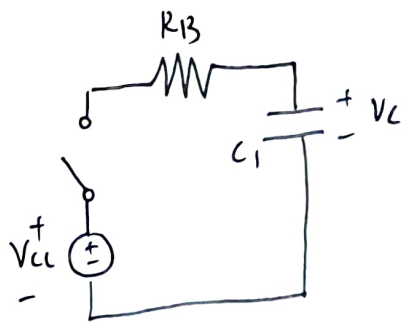
From (1) and (2)

$$t_1 = t_{\text{end}} - t_{\text{start}}$$

$$= \tau \ln 2$$

$$= \ln 2 (R_A + R_B) C_1$$

2. Discharge stage of capacitor



when  $t = 0$   
 capacitor discharges when  $V_c(t) = \frac{2}{3} V_{cc}$   
 $V_c(0) = \frac{2}{3} V_{cc}$

when  $t = \infty$   
 If capacitor is allowed to discharge indefinitely  
 $V_c(\infty) = 0$  (switch open)

$$V_c(t) = \frac{2}{3} V_{cc} e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}}, \quad \tau = R_B C_1$$

when  $V_c(t) = \frac{2}{3} V_{cc}$ :

$$\frac{2}{3} V_{cc} = \frac{2}{3} V_{cc} e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}}$$

$$e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}} = 1$$

$$t = 0, \quad t_{\text{start}} = 0 \quad (1)$$

when  $V_c(t) = \frac{1}{3} V_{cc}$ :

$$\frac{1}{3} V_{cc} = \frac{2}{3} V_{cc} e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}}$$

$$e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$t = -\tau \ln \frac{1}{2}, \quad t_{\text{end}} = \tau \ln 2 \quad (2)$$

From (1) and (2)

$$t_2 = t_{\text{end}} - t_{\text{start}}$$

$$= \tau \ln 2$$

$$= \ln 2 (R_B) C_1$$

3. period  $T$  of square wave =  $t_1 + t_2$

$$= \ln 2 (R_A + R_B) C_1 + \ln 2 (R_B) C_1$$

$$= \ln 2 (R_A + 2R_B) C_1$$

$$\text{frequency} = \frac{1}{T} = \frac{1}{\ln 2 (R_A + 2R_B) C_1}$$

$$\frac{1}{\ln 2} \approx 1.44$$

$$\approx \boxed{\frac{1.44}{(R_A + 2R_B) C_1}}$$

$$4. \left. \begin{aligned} R_A &= 10k\Omega \\ R_B &= 100k\Omega \\ C_1 &= 100nF \end{aligned} \right\} \begin{aligned} t_1 &= \ln 2 (10 \times 10^3 + 100 \times 10^3) 100 \times 10^{-9} s \\ &= 0.0076246s \\ &= \boxed{7.6246ms} \end{aligned}$$

$$t_2 = \ln 2 (100 \times 10^3) 100 \times 10^{-9} s \\ = \boxed{6.9315ms}$$

$$f = \frac{1}{t_1 + t_2} = \frac{1}{(6.9315 + 7.6246) \times 10^{-3}} = \boxed{68.699Hz}$$

~ insert screenshots for  $t_1$ ,  $t_2$  and  $f$  ~ *\* included both 2ms/Div and 5ms/Div timebase*

8. drag both vertical orange and green cursor lines to output's falling and rising edge respectively

$$\boxed{t_1 = 8.18ms}$$

$$9. \boxed{t_2 = 6.92ms}$$

$$T = t_1 + t_2 = 15.1ms$$

$$f = \frac{1}{T} = \boxed{66.225Hz}$$

#### 10. Analysis and Discussion

My experimental measurements of  $t_1$ ,  $t_2$  and  $f$  agree strongly with my theoretical values (see highlighted boxes)

*\* resistors and capacitors have tolerance  $\pm 5\%$*

#### Sources of error

- ① The actual measured values of resistance and capacitance,  $R_A$ ,  $R_B$ ,  $C_1$  most likely differ from  $10k\Omega$ ,  $100k\Omega$  and  $100nF$  used in the theoretical analysis. Hence  $t_1$ ,  $t_2$  and  $f$  calculated will differ from measured values
- ② There could be error from reading off the graph generated by the BitScope such as dragging the vertical cursor lines to where the "falling edge" and "rising edge" occurs and ends. This would result in different measured values in the cyan box than calculated value,

TRIGGER COMP AUTO



2.4903 V

NORMAL

CH A

CH B

LOGIC

RISE

FALL

LEVEL

5 ms

2.618 V

11.92 ms

REF

-6.92 ms

2.618 V

-144.509 Hz

-378.3  $\mu\text{V}/\text{us}$

POST

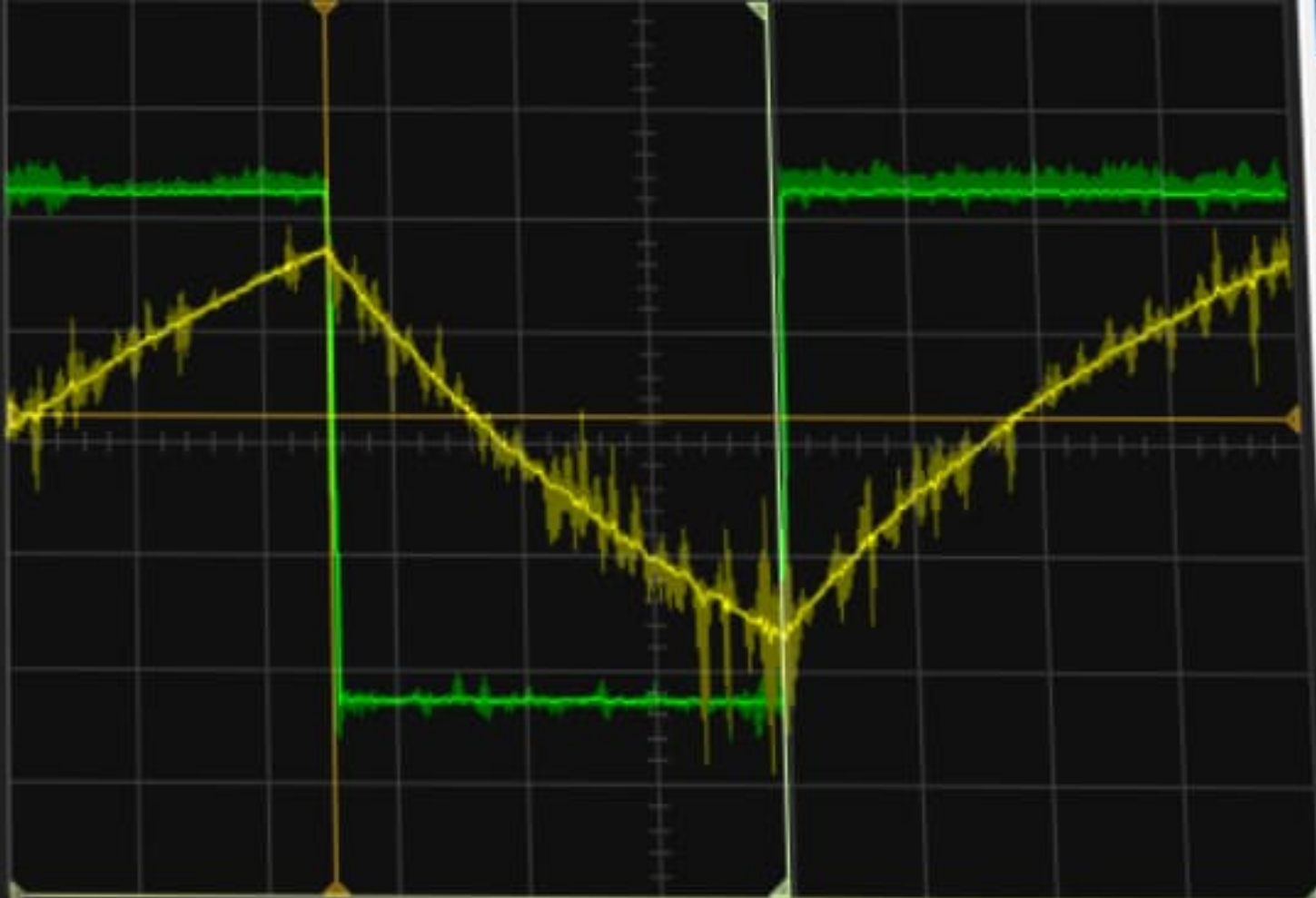
ZOOM

AUTO FOCUS

2 ms/Div

REPEAT

TRACE



TB = 2 ms

VA = 2.62 V

VB = 2.93 V

FT = 10 ms

FS = 264 kHz

CHA

PRB

5.2 V

2.49 V

500 mV/Div

ON

ZERO

CHB

PRB

9.2 V

2.24 V

1 V/Div

ON

ZERO

OSCILLOSCOPE

40 mS

286 kHz

NORMAL

SMOOTH

RECORDER

WIDE BAND

POWER

SETUP

SCOPE

DUAL

MIXED

LOGIC

MACRO

CURSOR

GRID

SAVE

WAVE





2.4903 V NORMAL

CH A CH B LOGIC  
RISE FALL LEVEL

20.1 ms 2.618 V

5 ms REF

15.1 ms 2.618 V

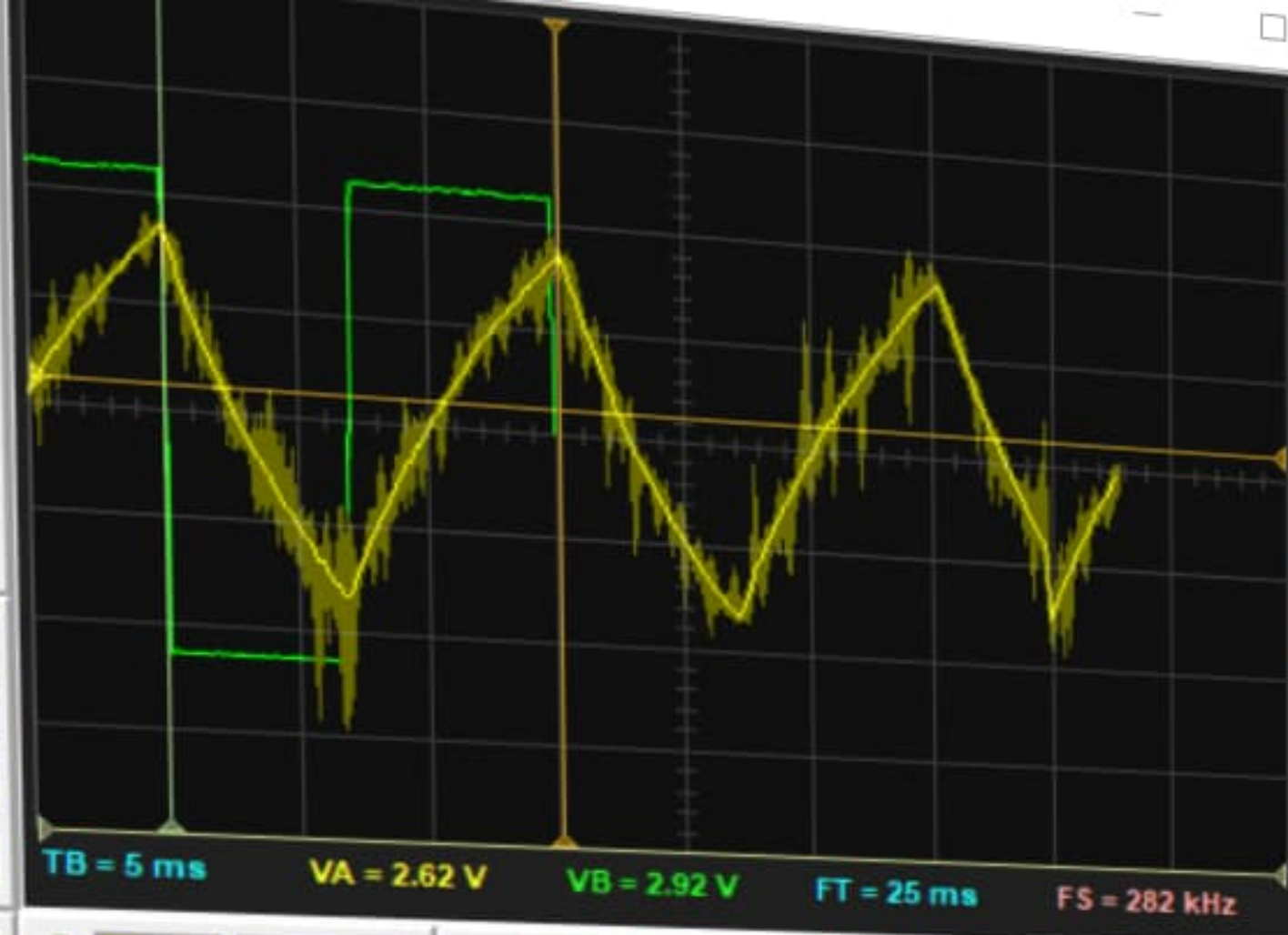
66.225 2 Hz 173.4  $\mu\text{V}/\text{us}$

POST ZOOM

AUTO FOCUS

5 ms/Div

REPEAT TRACE



- POWER
- SETUP
- SCOPE
- DUAL
- MIXED
- LOGIC
- MACRO
- CURSOR
- GRID
- SAVE
- WAVE

CHA PRB

5.2 V 2.49 V

500 mV/Div

ON ZERO

CHB PRB

9.2 V 2.25 V

1 V/Div

ON ZERO

OSCILLOSCOPE

43 mS 286 kHz

NORMAL SMOOTH

RECORDER WIDE BAND

TRIGGER COMP AUTO



2.4903 V

NORMAL

CH A

CH B

LOGIC

RISE

FALL

LEVEL

20.1 ms

2.618 V

11.92 ms

REF

8.18 ms

2.618 V

122.249 Hz

320 uV/us

POST

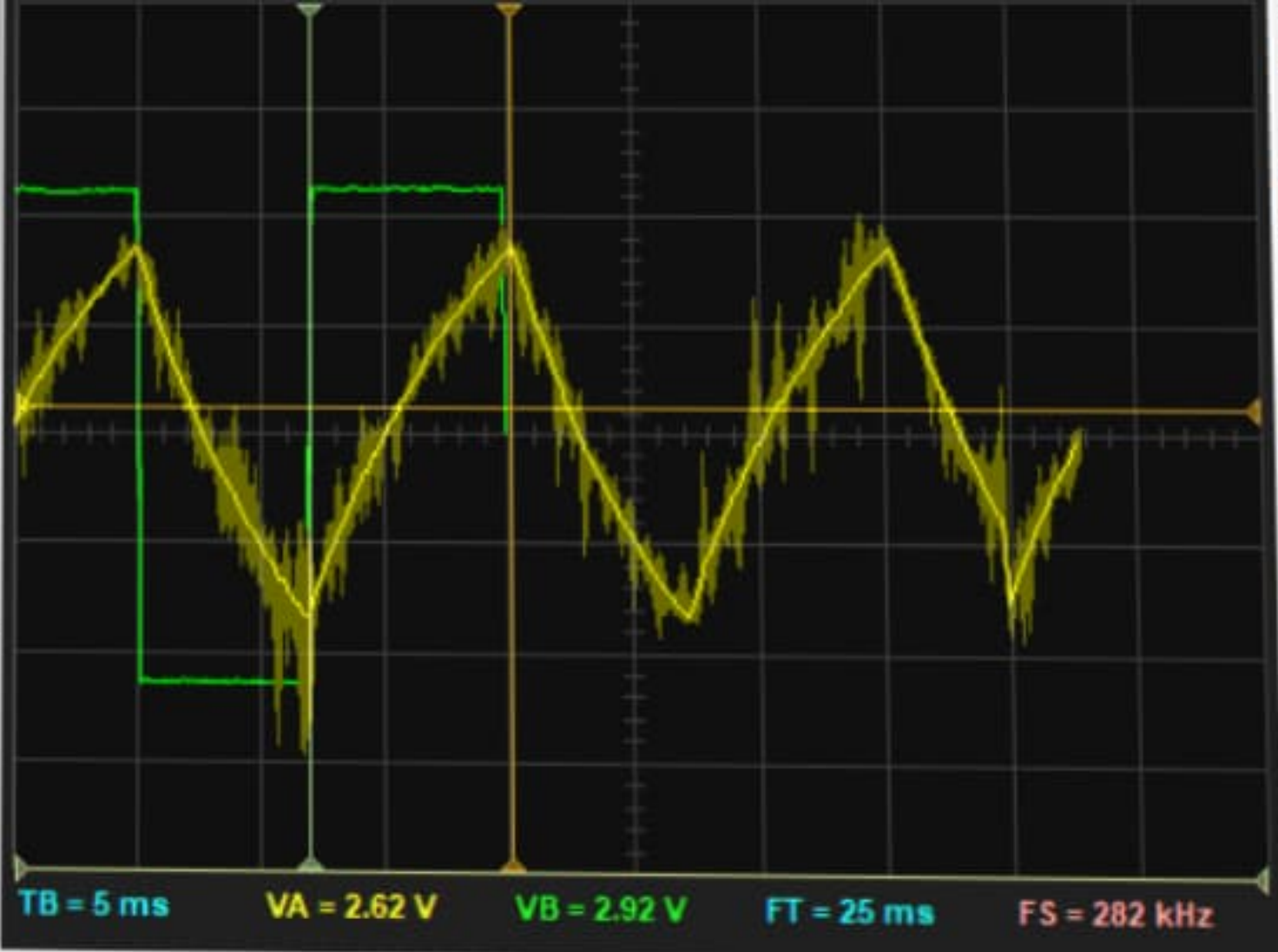
ZOOM

AUTO FOCUS

5 ms/Div

REPEAT

TRACE



TB = 5 ms

VA = 2.62 V

VB = 2.92 V

FT = 25 ms

FS = 282 kHz

CHA

PRB

5.2 V

2.49 V

500 mV/Div

ON

ZERO

CHB

PRB

9.2 V

2.25 V

1 V/Div

ON

ZERO

OSCILLOSCOPE

43 mS

286 kHz

NORMAL

SMOOTH

RECORDER

WIDE BAND

POWER

SETUP

SCOPE

DUAL

MIXED

LOGIC

MACRO

CURSOR

GRID

SAVE

WAVE