

**Low pass RC circuit:** in an RC circuit if resistor is in series with the input voltage signal and a capacitor is in shunt with the output then that circuit is named as low pass RC circuit.

Operation : we know  $X_c = 1/2\pi f C$

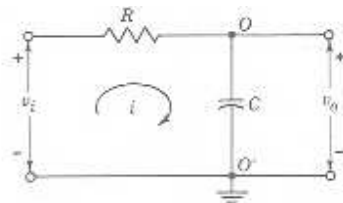
If frequency of input signal is low ,capacitive reactance is high ,then

Capacitor is replaced with an open circuit .so output voltage is same as input voltage.

Similarly If frequency of input signal is high ,capacitive reactance is low ,then

Capacitor is replaced with an short circuit .so output voltage is zero.

Hence it behaves like a low pass RC circuit.



**Sinusoidal input:** the sinusoidal input is defined as  $v_i(t) = V_m \sin \omega t$

Applying KVL around the loop

$$v_i(t) - \frac{1}{C} \int i \, dt - i R = 0$$

$$V_i(s) = I(s) [ R + 1/sC ]$$

$$V_o(s) = I(s) / sC$$

$$V_o(s)/V_i(s) = 1/(1+sRC) = 1/(1+j(2\pi f R C))$$

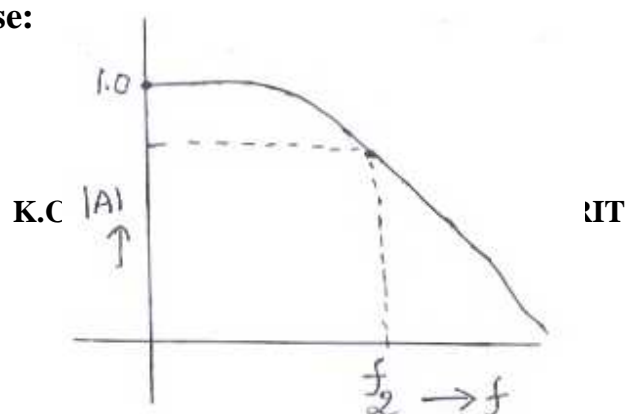
So gain of a circuit is  $A = 1/\sqrt{1+(f/f_2)^2}$

Where  $f_2 = 1/2\pi RC$  = upper cutoff frequency

Phase angle =  $-\tan^{-1}(f/f_2)$

So for an low pass RC circuit if input is a sinusoidal then output is also sinusoidal.

**Frequency response:**



### Step voltage input :

For an low pass RC circuit we know  $V_o = V_c$ ,

Where  $V_c$  is the voltage across the capacitor.

Case(i): for step voltage input we know for  $t < 0$  ,  $V_i = 0 \text{ V}$  ,  $V_c = 0 \text{ V}$  so  $V_o = 0 \text{ V}$

Case(ii): at  $t=0^-$  (immediately before  $t=0$ ) still output voltage is zero

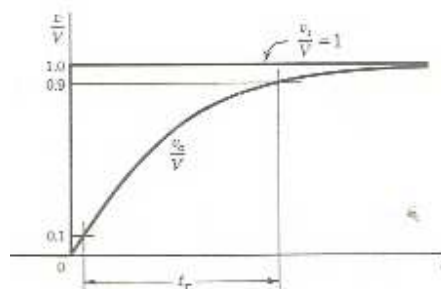
but at  $t=0^+$  (immediately after  $t=0$ ),  $V_i = V \text{ Volts}$  ,  $V_c = 0 \text{ V}$  so  $V_o = 0 \text{ Volts}$

case(iii): for  $t > 0$  , voltage across the capacitor increases exponentially (by doing mathematical analysis we can get current is in the form of exponential) so output is a raising exponential.

Time constant of an low pass RC circuit is  $RC$  (by neglecting source resistance).

If time constant is high then output takes more time to reach final value similarly

If time constant is low then output takes less time to reach final value.



**Rise time :** it is the time taken by the output waveform to rise from 10% to 90% of its final value is known as rise time

### Expression for rise time:

Here  $V_o(t) = V(1 - e^{-t/RC})$  -----(1)

Consider at  $t=t_1$  ,  $V_o(t) = 10\% \text{ of } V$

At  $t=t_2$  ,  $V_o(t) = 90\% \text{ of } V$

So at  $t=t_1$ , equation 1 will become,

$$0.1V = V(1 - e^{-t_1/RC})$$

By simplifying  $t_1 = 0.105 RC$

Similarly  $t_2 = 2.3RC$

Hence  $t_r = t_1 - t_2 = 2.2 RC$

Also  $t_r = 0.35 / f_2$

So time constant of a circuit is directly proportional to the time constant of a circuit and it is inversely proportional to the upper cutoff frequency.

### Pulse input to low pass RC circuit :

Case(i): for  $t < 0$  and also at  $t = 0^-$ ,  $V_i = 0 V$ ,  $V_c = 0 V$  so  $V_o = 0 V$

Case(ii): at  $t = 0^+$  (immediately after  $t = 0$ ),  $V_i = V$  Volts,  $V_c = 0 V$  so  $V_o = 0$  Volts

case(iii): during the interval  $0$  to  $t_p$ , voltage across the capacitor increases exponentially (by doing mathematical analysis we can get current is in the form of exponential) so output is a raising exponential.

Equation for output voltage during  $0$  to  $t_p$  is  $V_o(t) = V(1 - e^{-t/RC})$

At  $t = t_p^-$ ,  $V_o(t) = V(1 - e^{-t_p/RC}) = V_p$

Case(iv): at  $t = t_p^+$ , input voltage reduces by an amount of  $V$  volts but output will also

changes (because  $V_c$  can not changes instantaneously).

So at  $t = t_p^+$ ,  $V_o(t) = V_p$

Case(v): for  $t > t_p$ ,  $V_i = 0 V$  so capacitor will discharges then output will tries to approach zero volts.

We know equation for exponential signal is  $V_o(t) = V_f + (V_i - V_f) e^{-(t-t_x)/\tau}$

For  $t > t_p$ ,  $V_f = 0 V$ ,  $t_x = t_p$ ,  $V_i = V_p$  then  $V_o(t) = V_p e^{-(t-t_p)/RC}$

