

(1) Experiment title: Study of Diode Clipping and Clamping Circuits.

(2) Objective of this experiment:

The objectives of the Experiment 3 of the Electronic Devices Lab are,

- To know about diode effects on circuit.
- Applying diode clipping and clamping circuit.

(3) Relevant Theory:

Clipper circuits clip off portions of signal voltages above or below certain limits, i.e. the circuits limit the range of the output signal. The level at which the signal is clipped can be adjusted by adding a dc bias voltage in series with the diode as shown in Fig. 1 of the circuit diagram part. In a series positive clipper, a diode is connected in series with the output, as shown in Fig 1(a). During the positive half of the input voltage, the terminal A is positive with respect to B. These reverse biases the diode and it acts as an open switch. Therefore, all the applied voltage drops across the diode and none across the resistor. As a result of this there is no output voltage during the positive half cycle of the input voltage.

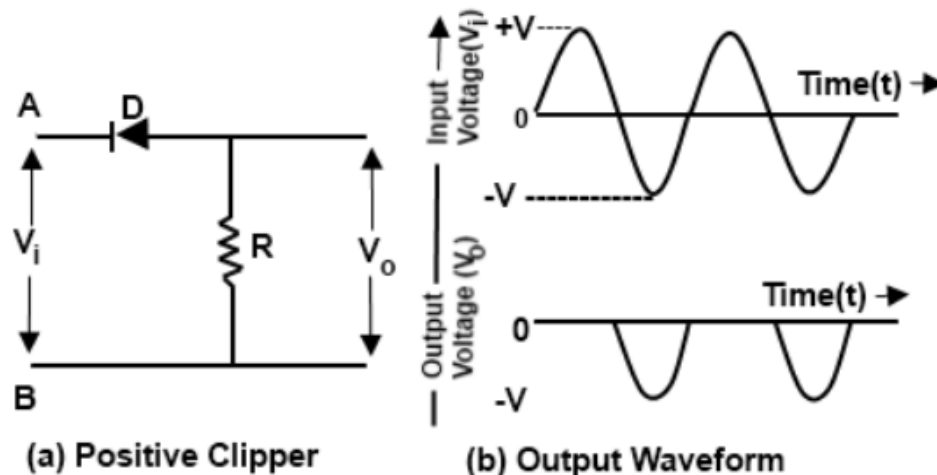


Figure: Series Positive Clipper

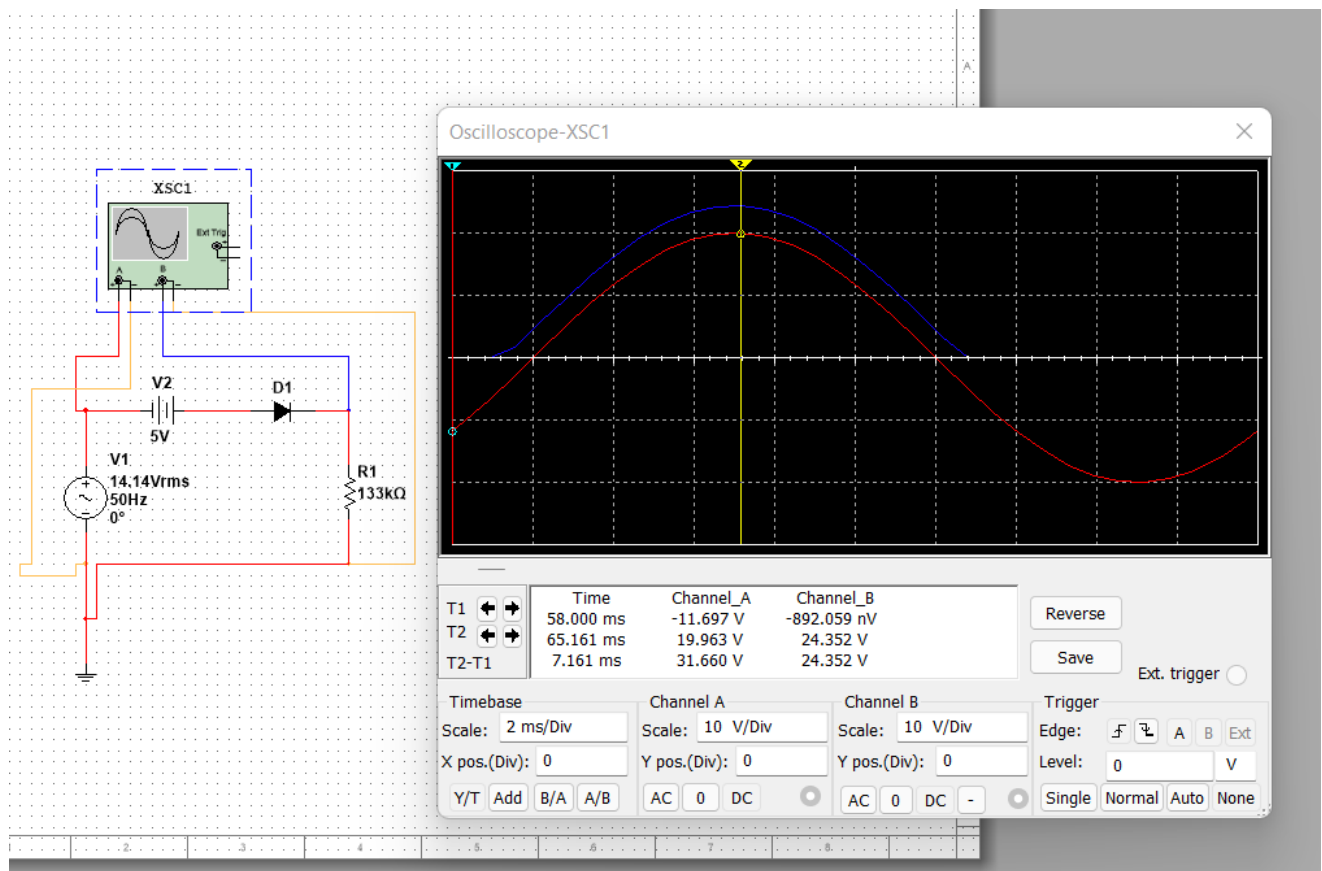


APPARATUS:

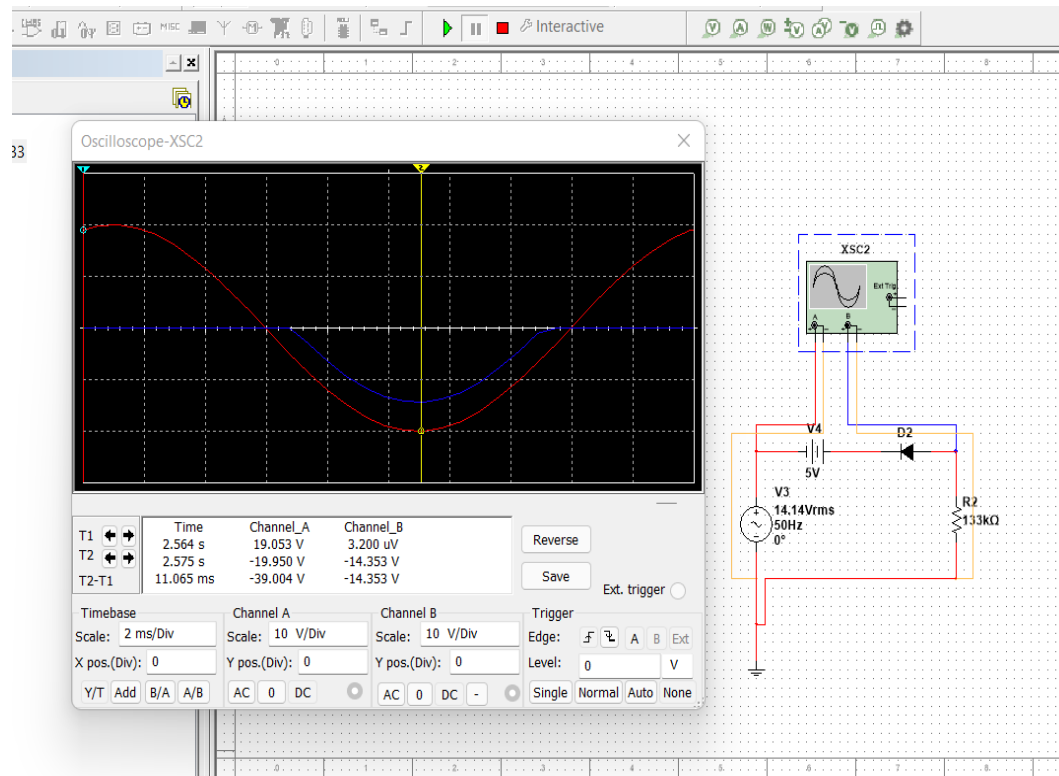
Diode 1
Resistor 1
Oscilloscope 1
Multimeter 1
Chord 1
Capacitor 1
DC power supply 1
Trainer board 1

(4) Simulation circuits and Results:

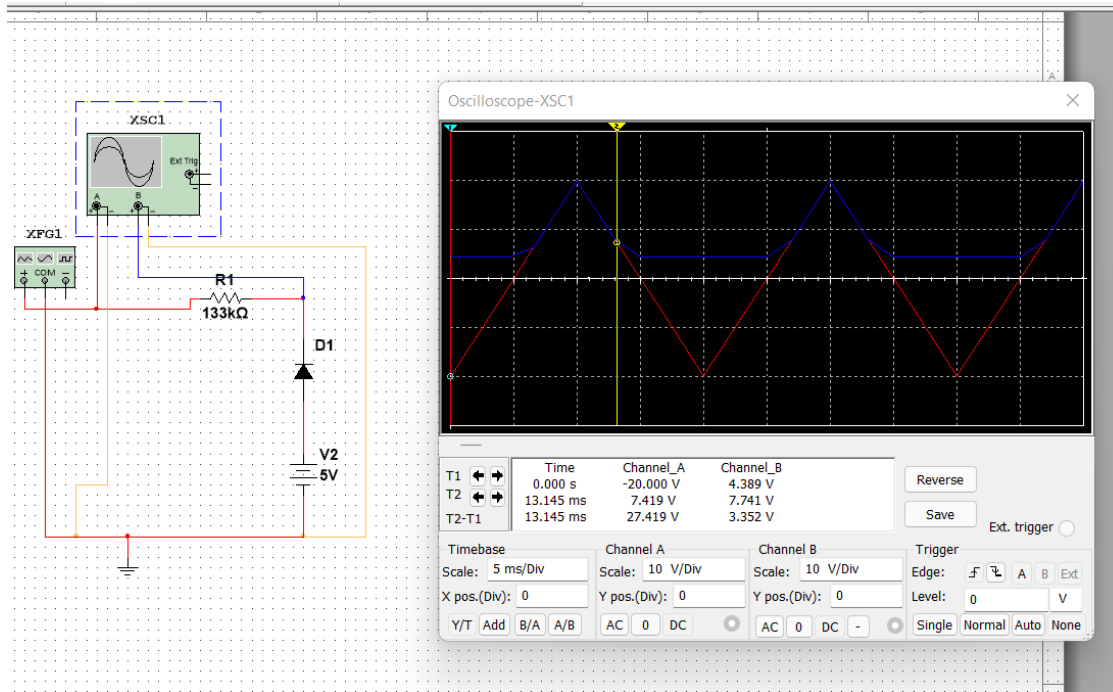
Circuit1:



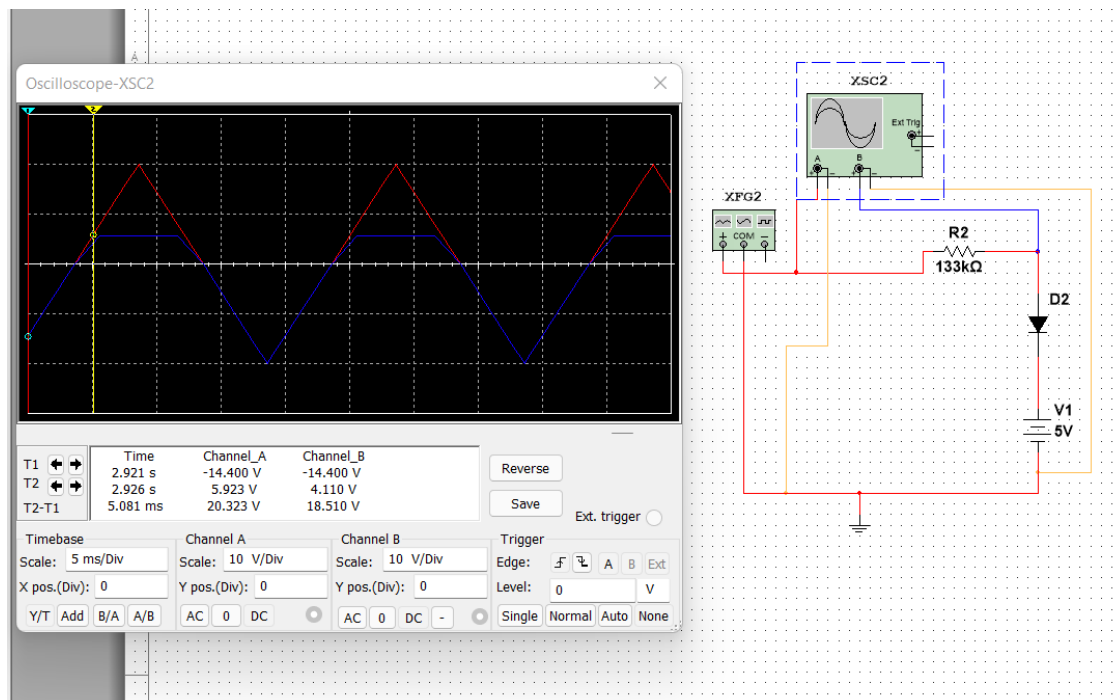
Circuit2:



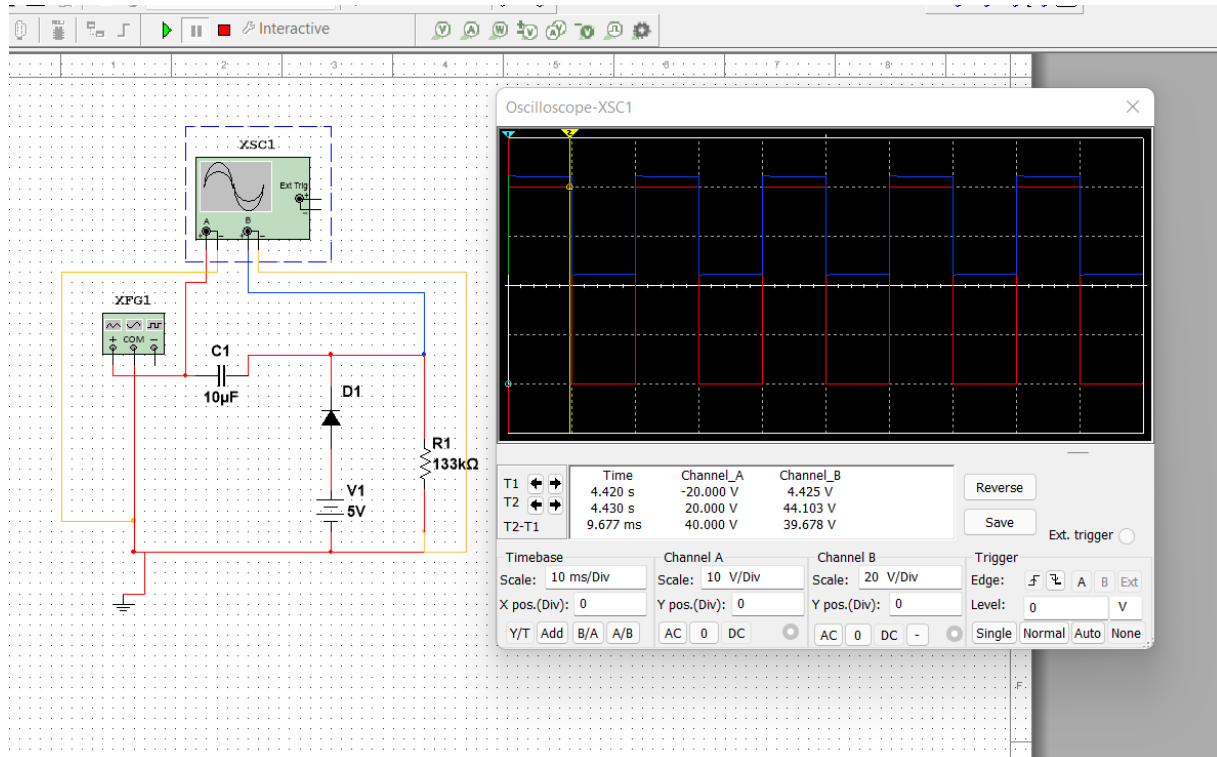
Circuit3:



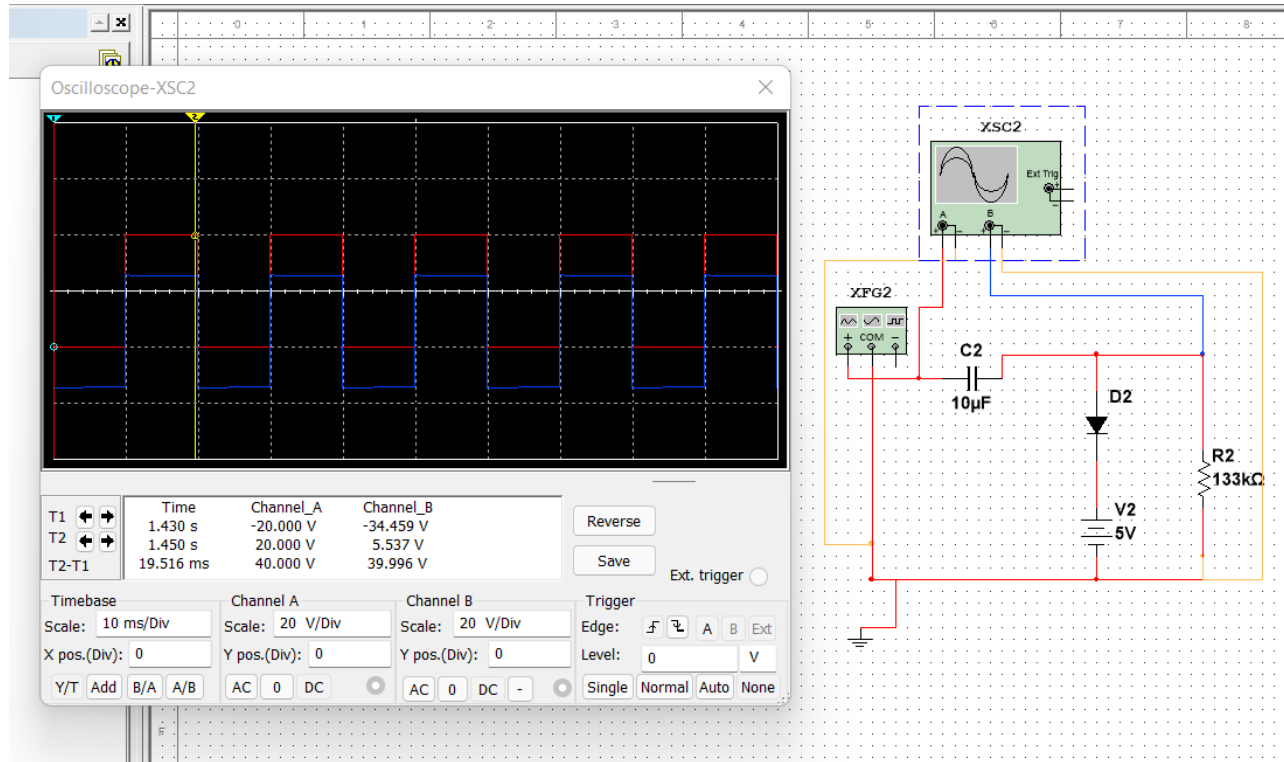
Circuit4:



Circuit5:



Circuit6:



(5) Difference between clipper and clamper circuit:

- i) A Clipper clips or removes a portion of the AC waveform while the clamper shifts the DC level.
- ii) A clipper requires a diode and resistor while a clamper requires a diode, resistor & capacitor.
- iii) A clipper is used for limiting the voltage of the AC signal while the Clamper is used for multiplying the voltage of an AC signal.
- iv) A clipper changes the shape of the signal while the clamper does not affect the shape of the waveform.
- v) A clipper cannot change the DC level of the signal while the Clamper's main purpose is to change the DC level.
- vi) A clipper does not require an energy-storing component while a clamper requires a capacitor for voltage amplification.

Clipper circuit operation:

In electronics, a clipper is a circuit designed to prevent a signal from exceeding a predetermined reference voltage level. ... A clipper circuit can remove certain portions of an arbitrary waveform near the positive or negative peaks or both. Clipping changes the shape of the waveform and alters its spectral components.



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Clamper circuit operation:

The clamper circuit moves the whole signal up or down to set either the positive peak or negative peak of the signal at the desired level.

(6) Discussion:

This experiment, we became familiar with clipping and clamping circuits. Clipping and clamping are very widely used diode applications. Clipper circuits clip off signal voltages above or below certain limits whereas clamper circuits are used to add dc voltage level to a signal. In this experiment, we have constructed some clipper and clamping circuits, gave some input voltage and seen the output of the waveform in the oscilloscope.

During the experiment, we have assumed to use some ideal diodes. But as in practical level, every diode has some internal resistance and some diode voltage. So the waveform may vary. During experiment procedure, we had built the circuits according to the circuit diagram. We had to make sure not to remove or insert a diode into a circuit with voltage apply as it may damage the diode. We also had to make sure that a replacement diode in the circuit is in the right direction.

(7) References:

- 1) Adel S. Sedra, Kenneth C. Smith, Microelectronic Circuits, Saunders College Publishing, 3rd ed., ISBN: 0-03-051648-X, 1991.
- 2) David J. Comer, Donald T. Comer, Fundamentals of Electronic Circuit Design, John Wiley & Sons Canada, Ltd.; ISBN: 0471410160, 2002.