University of Victoria

ELEC 250

LINEAR CIRCUITS I

Lab 3 - Transient Analysis

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1 Object

This lab will study the transient response of an RC and an RL circuit.

2 Results

2.1 RC Circuit

The circuit was constructed as shown in Figure 1 and excited using a 5 V_{pp} single pulse source for a duration of 5ms.

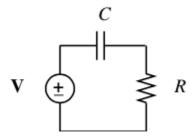


Figure 1: RC circuit driven by a source. $R = 4.7 \text{ k}\Omega$ and C = 100 nF.

Measured values of the change in voltage across the capacitor and resistor in this circuit were recorded on the oscilloscope and are displayed in Figure 3. In order to measure v_R , it was necessary to switch the order of R and C.

The expected value of the time constant τ is given by

$$\tau = RC \tag{1}$$

Using (1), the expected value of τ is 480μ s. By measuring the time it took for v_C to decay to 37.25% of its original value in Figure 3.c, τ was determined to be 480μ s.

2.2 RL Circuit

The circuit was constructed as shown in Figure 2 and excited using a 5 V_{pp} single pulse source for a duration of $23.53\mu s$.

Measured values of the change in voltage across the inductor and resistor in this circuit were recorded on the oscilloscope and are displayed in Figure 4. In order to measure v_R , it was necessary to switch the order of R and L.

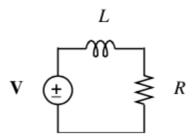


Figure 2: RL circuit driven by a source. $R = 680 \Omega$ and L = 1.00 mH.

The expected value of the time constant τ is given by

$$\tau = \frac{L}{R} \tag{2}$$

Using (2), the expected value of τ is 1.4 μ s. By measuring the time it took for v_R to rise to 67.75% of its final val in Figure 4.c, τ was determined to be 1.4 μ s. The time for v_L to decay to 37.25% of its original value in Figure 4.d yielded a τ of 1.34 μ s.

3 Discussion and Conclusion

The discussion and conclusion should answer the questions that are posed in the procedure section of the experiment. Any special observations made by the student can be recorded here.

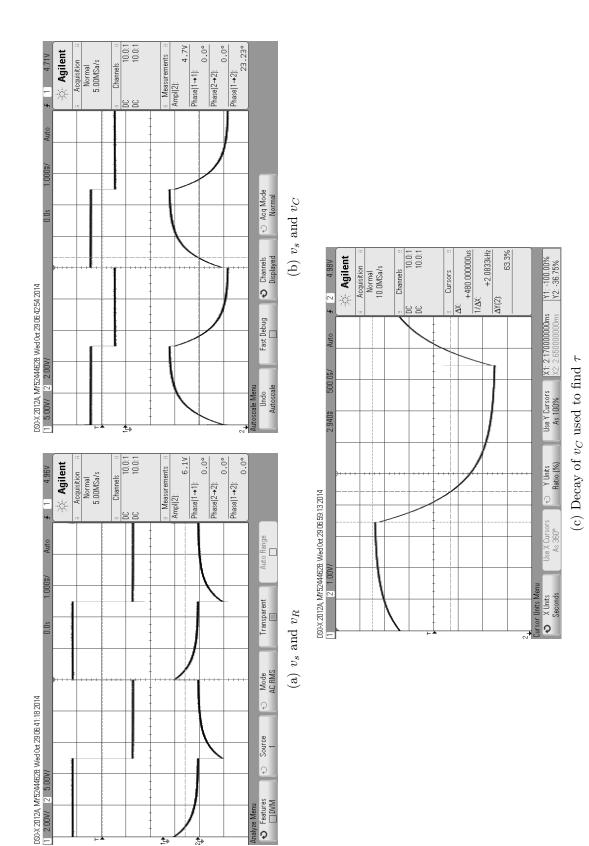


Figure 3: Transient response of the RC circuit

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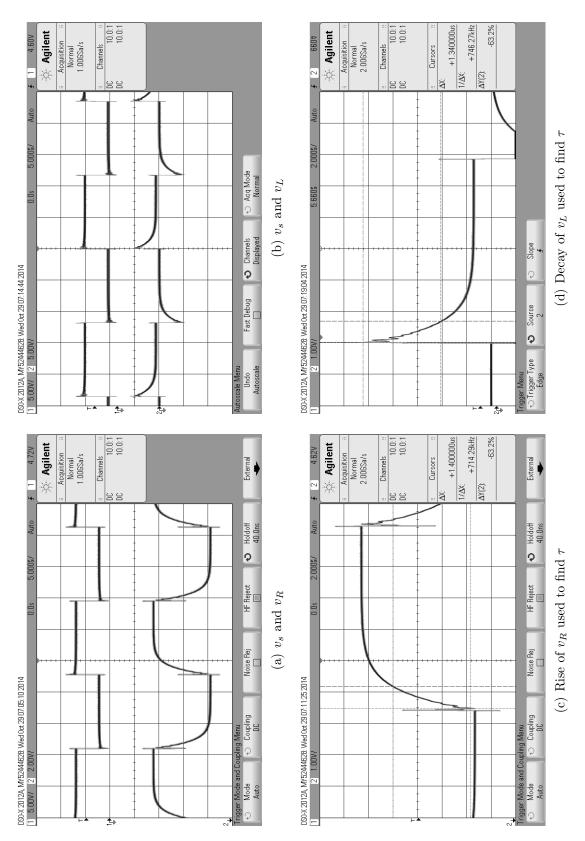


Figure 4: Transient response of the RL circuit