

## Natural Response of RL & RC Circuits

Phasor analysis looks at the steady-state response of RLC circuits. The transient response is a bit more difficult to analyze. The basic equations for an inductor and capacitor are:

$$v = L \frac{di}{dt}$$

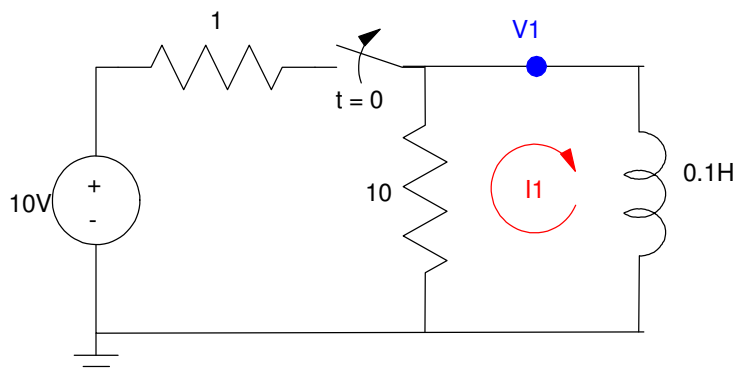
and

$$i = C \frac{dv}{dt}$$

This means that you need to solve a differential equation when analyzing a circuit with inductors and capacitors. Hence, the reason you took Calculus I, Calculus II, Calculus III, and Differential Equations.

### Natural Response of an RL Circuit

Consider the following RL circuit where the switch opens up at  $t=0$



Writing the loop equation around IL gives

$$L \frac{di}{dt} + iR = 0$$

$$0.1 \frac{di}{dt} + 10i = 0$$

and an initial condition (just prior to  $t = 0$ )

$$i(0) = \left( \frac{10V}{1\Omega} \right) = 10A$$

One way to solve this type of equation is to 'guess' the answer. The differential equation is

$$\frac{di}{dt} + 100i = 0$$

'Guess' the solution is of the form

$$i(t) = a \cdot e^{pt}$$

As a check, plug this into the previous differential equation

$$\frac{di}{dt} + 100i = 0$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}(a \cdot e^{pt}) + 100(a \cdot e^{pt}) = 0$$

$$(p) \cdot a \cdot e^{pt} + 100 \cdot a \cdot e^{pt} = 0$$

$$(p + 100) \cdot a e^{pt} = 0$$

Either

$$a = 0 \quad (\text{trivial solution})$$

or

$$p = -100$$

meaning

$$i(t) = a \cdot e^{-100t}$$

Plugging in the initial condition

$$i(0) = 1A$$

tells you that  $a = 1$

$$i(t=0) = 10 = a \cdot e^0$$

$$a = 10$$

Hence

$$i(t) = 10e^{-100t} \quad t > 0$$

The voltage,  $v_1$ , is

$$v = L \frac{di}{dt}$$

$$v_1 = 0.1 \cdot \frac{d}{dt}(10e^{-100t})$$

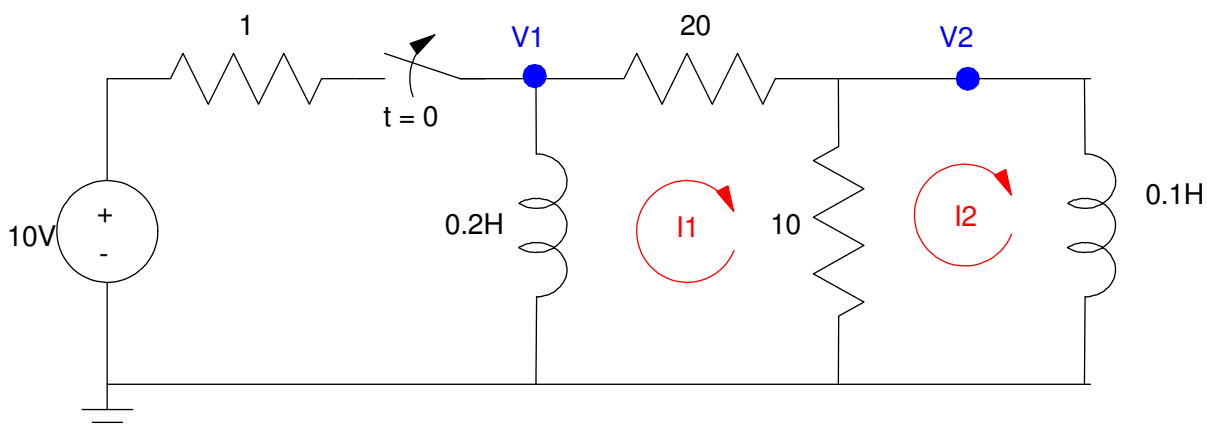
$$v_1 = 0.1 \cdot (-1000 \cdot e^{-100t})$$

$$v_1 = -100 \cdot e^{-100t} \quad t > 0$$

Note that a 10V source produced 100V across the inductor when the switch was opened. This is how spark plugs work: energize an inductor (the alternator) then open up a switch. The energy in the magnetic field collapses and finds a path to ground. In this case, the path goes through the spark plug.

## Natural Response of a 2-stage RL Filter

Find the current,  $i_2(t)$ . Assume the switch has been closed for a long time and opens at  $t = 0$ .



The initial conditions are

$$i_1(0) = \frac{10V}{1\Omega} = 10A$$

$$i_2(0) = 0$$

For this circuit, you'll get a 2nd-order differential equation since there are two energy storage elements. Writing the loop equations:

$$0.2 \frac{di_1}{dt} + 20i_1 + 10(i_1 - i_2) = 0$$

$$10(i_2 - i_1) + 0.1 \frac{di_2}{dt} = 0$$

Rewriting these

$$\frac{di_1}{dt} + 150i_1 = 50i_2$$

$$100i_1 = \frac{di_2}{dt} + 100i_2$$

Substitute the second equation into the first:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( 0.01 \frac{di_2}{dt} + i_2 \right) + 150 \left( 0.01 \frac{di_2}{dt} + i_2 \right) = 50i_2$$

$$0.01 \frac{d^2 i_2}{dt^2} + 2.5 \frac{di_2}{dt} + 100i_2 = 0$$

$$\frac{d^2 i_2}{dt^2} + 250 \frac{di_2}{dt} + 10,000i_2 = 0$$

Assume

$$i_2(t) = ae^{pt}$$

then

$$p^2 \cdot ae^{pt} + 250p \cdot ae^{pt} + 10,000 \cdot ae^{pt} = 0$$

$$(p^2 + 250p + 10,000) \cdot ae^{pt} = 0$$

$$(p + 50)(p + 200) \cdot ae^{pt} = 0$$

Either  $a = 0$  (trivial solution) or  $p = \{-50, -200\}$

$$i_2(t) = a \cdot e^{-50t} + b \cdot e^{-200t}$$

Plug in the initial conditions

$$i_2(0) = 0 = a + b$$

$$i_1(t) = 0.01 \frac{di_2}{dt} + i_2$$

$$i_1(0) = 10 = 0.01(-50a - 200b) + (a + b)$$

Solving 2 equations for 2 unknowns

$$a + b = 0$$

$$0.5a - b = 10$$

$$1.5a = 10$$

$$a = 6.667$$

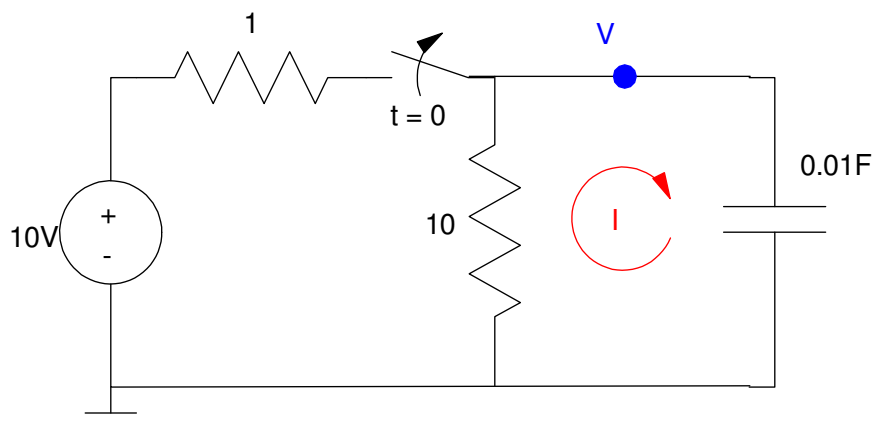
$$b = -6.667$$

resulting in

$$i_2(t) = 6.667e^{-50t} - 6.667e^{-200t} \quad t > 0$$

**Natural Response of a RC Circuit:**

Assume for the following circuit the switch opens at  $t=0$ . Find  $V(t)$



The initial condition is

$$v_1(0) = \left( \frac{10}{10+1} \right) 10V = 9.09V$$

The differential equation for this circuit comes from the voltage node equation:

$$\left( \frac{v_1}{R} \right) + C \frac{dv_1}{dt} = 0$$

$$0.1v_1 + 0.01 \frac{dv_1}{dt} = 0$$

$$\frac{dv_1}{dt} + 10v_1 = 0$$

Guess  $V$  is of the form

$$v_1(t) = a \cdot e^{pt}$$

Substituting into the differential equation

$$\frac{dv_1}{dt} + 10v_1 = 0$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}(a \cdot e^{pt}) + 10(a \cdot e^{pt}) = 0$$

$$(ap \cdot e^{pt}) + 10(a \cdot e^{pt}) = 0$$

$$(p + 10) \cdot (ae^{pt}) = 0$$

Either  $a = 0$  (trivial solution) or  $p = -10$ . This means

$$v_1(t) = a \cdot e^{-10t}$$

Plugging in the initial condition

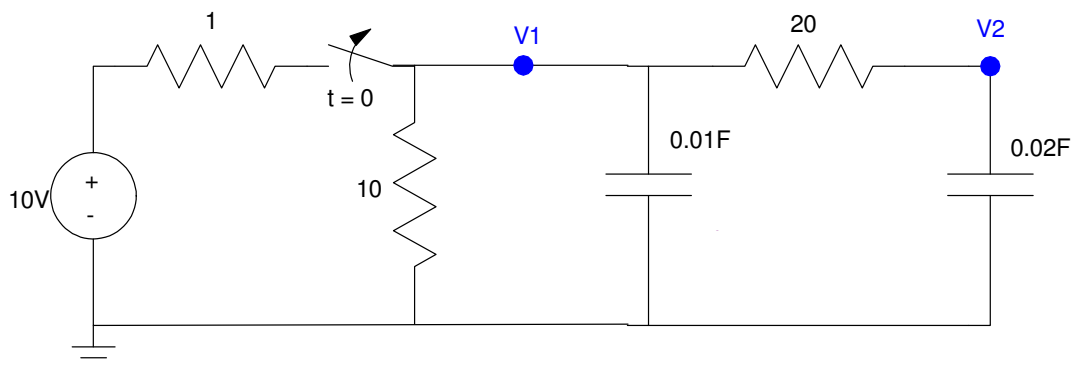
$$v_1(0) = 9.09 = a$$

results in

$$v_1(t) = 9.09e^{-10t} \quad t > 0$$

## 2-Stage RC Filter

Find  $v_2(t)$  for the following RC circuit. Assume the switch was closed for a long time before  $t = 0$  and opened up at  $t=0$ .



The initial conditions are

$$v_1(0) = \left( \frac{10}{10+1} \right) 10V = 9.09V$$

$$v_2(0) = v_1(0) = 9.09V$$

The differential equations which describe this circuit come from the voltage node equations:

$$\left(\frac{v_1}{10}\right) + 0.01 \frac{dv_1}{dt} + \left(\frac{v_1 - v_2}{20}\right) = 0$$

$$\left(\frac{v_2 - v_1}{20}\right) + 0.02 \frac{dv_2}{dt} = 0$$

Rewriting this

$$\frac{dv_1}{dt} + 15v_1 = 5v_2$$

$$\frac{dv_2}{dt} + 2.5v_2 = 2.5v_1$$

Substitute for v1 to find v2:

$$\frac{d}{dt}\left(0.4 \frac{dv_2}{dt} + v_2\right) + 15\left(0.4 \frac{dv_2}{dt} + v_2\right) = 5v_2$$

$$\frac{d^2v_2}{dt^2} + 17.5v_2 + 25v_2 = 0$$

Assume

$$v_2(t) = a \cdot e^{pt}$$

then

$$p^2 a \cdot e^{pt} + 17.5pa \cdot e^{pt} + 37.5a \cdot e^{pt} = 0$$

$$(p^2 + 17.5p + 25)a \cdot e^{pt} = 0$$

$$(p + 1.569)(p + 15.931) \cdot ae^{pt} = 0$$

meaning

$$p = \{-1.569, -15.931\}$$

and

$$v_2(t) = ae^{-1.569t} + be^{-15.931t}$$

Plugging in the initial conditions

$$v_2(0) = 9.09 = a + b$$

and

$$v_1(t) = 0.4 \frac{dv_2}{dt} + v_2$$

$$v_1(0) = 9.09 = 0.4(-1.569a - 15.931b) + (a + b)$$

Solving 2 equations for 2 unknowns results in

$$a = 10.083$$

$$b = -0.993$$

and

$$v_2(t) = 10.083e^{-1.569t} - 0.993e^{-15.931t} \quad t > 0$$