

CHAPTER 7



RESPONSE OF FIRST-ORDER RC AND RL CIRCUITS

CONTENTS

- 7.1 The Natural Response of an RC Circuit
- 7.2 The Natural Response of an RL Circuit
- 7.3 Singularity Functions
- 7.4 The Step Response of RC and RL Circuit

7.1 The Natural Response of an RC Circuit

Resistive Circuit \Rightarrow RC Circuit

algebraic equations \Rightarrow differential equations

Same Solution Methods (a) Nodal Analysis

(b) Mesh Analysis

7.1 The Natural Response of an RC Circuit

The solution of a linear circuit, called dynamic response, can be decomposed into

Natural Response + Forced Response

or in the form of

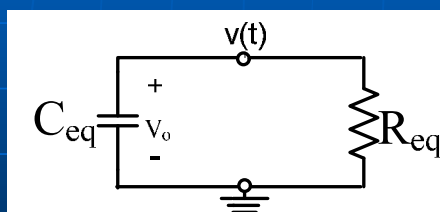
Steady Response + Transient Response

7.1 The Natural Response of an RC Circuit

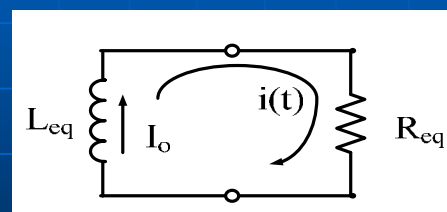
- The natural response is due to the initial condition of the storage component (C or L).
- The forced response is resulted from external input (or force).
- In this chapter, a constant input (DC input) will be considered and the forced response is called step response.

7.1 The Natural Response of an RC Circuit

Example 1 : Two forms of the first order circuit for natural response



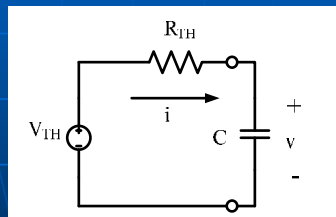
Find $v(t)$



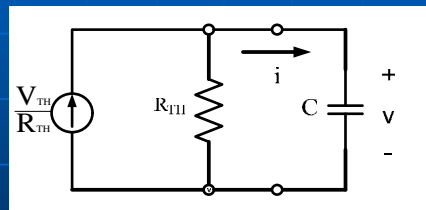
Find $i(t)$

7.1 The Natural Response of an RC Circuit

Example 1 : (cont.) Four forms of the first order circuit for step response



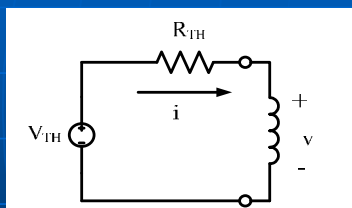
A capacitor connected to a Thevenin equivalent



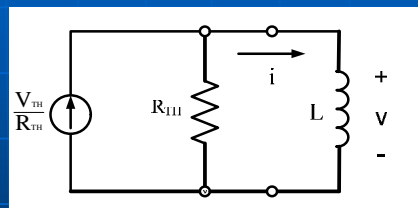
A capacitor connected to a Norton equivalent

7.1 The Natural Response of an RC Circuit

Example 1 : (cont.)



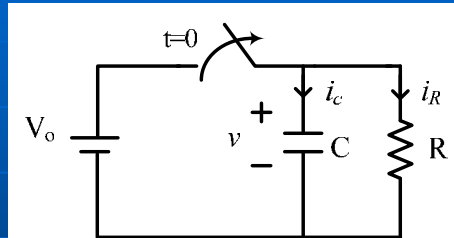
An inductor connected to a Thevenin equivalent



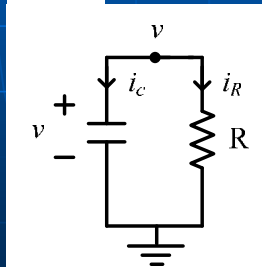
An inductor connected to a Norton equivalent

7.1 The Natural Response of an RC Circuit

Example 2



$t \geq 0$



nodal analysis

$$i_c + i_R = 0$$

$$C \frac{dv}{dt} + \frac{1}{R} v = 0$$

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7.1 The Natural Response of an RC Circuit

Example 2 (cont.)

characteristic root S ,

$$CS + \frac{1}{R} = 0$$

$$S = -\frac{1}{RC}$$

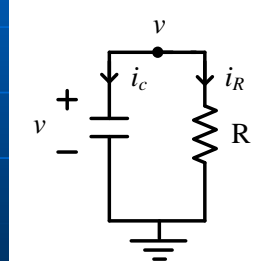
$$\therefore v(t) = Ke^{-\frac{1}{RC}t}, t \geq 0$$

From the initial condition

$$v(0^+) = v(0^-) = V_0$$

$$\therefore v(t) = V_0 e^{-\frac{t}{RC}}$$

$t \geq 0$



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7.1 The Natural Response of an RC Circuit

Example 2 (cont.)

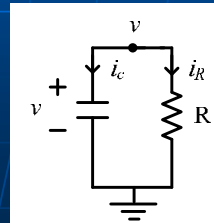
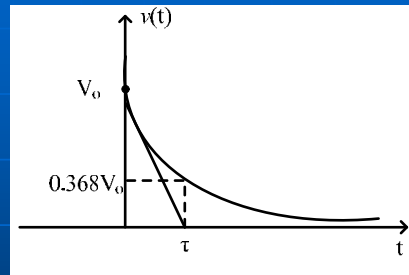
$t = RC$ time constant

$$v(t) = V_0 e^{-\frac{t}{RC}}, t \geq 0$$

$$t = \tau, \quad \frac{v(t)}{V_0} = 0.36788$$

$$t = 3\tau, \quad 4.979\% < 5\%$$

$$t = 5\tau, \quad 0.674\% < 1\%$$



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7.1 The Natural Response of an RC Circuit

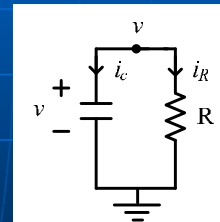
Example 2 (cont.)

It is customary to assume that the capacitor is fully discharged after five time constants.

$$i_R(t) = \frac{v(t)}{R} = \frac{V_0}{R} e^{-\frac{t}{RC}}, t \geq 0$$

The power dissipated in R is

$$p(t) = v i_R = \frac{V_0^2}{R} e^{-\frac{2t}{RC}}$$



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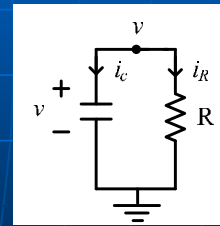
7.1 The Natural Response of an RC Circuit

Example 2 (cont.)

The energy dissipated in R is

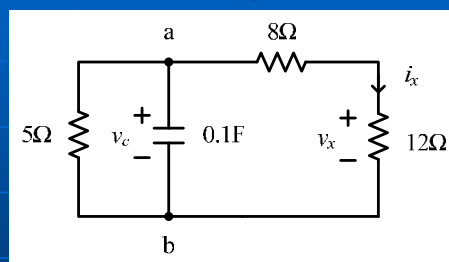
$$w_R(t) = \int_0^t p dt = \frac{1}{2} CV_0^2 (1 - e^{-\frac{2t}{\tau}})$$

$$w_R(\infty) = \frac{1}{2} CV_0^2$$



7.1 The Natural Response of an RC Circuit

Example 3 : Find v_c , v_x , and i_x for $t > 0$



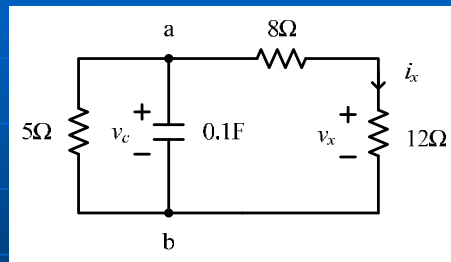
$$v_c(0) = 15V$$

This circuit contains only one energy storage element.

Step 1. Use Thevenin theorem to find the equivalent R_{TH} looking into a-b terminals.

7.1 The Natural Response of an RC Circuit

Example 3 : Find v_c , v_x , and i_x for $t > 0$



$$v_c(0) = 15\text{V}$$

Step 2. Find $v_c(t)$

Step 3. Replace $v_c(t)$ as a voltage source in the original circuit and solve the resistive circuit.

7.1 The Natural Response of an RC Circuit

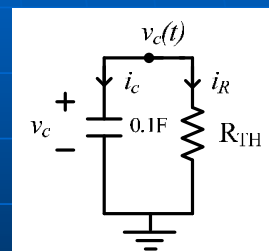
Step 1. $R_{TH} = (8+12) \parallel 5 = 4\Omega$

Step 2. $v_c(0) = 15\text{V}$

$$0.1 \frac{dv_c}{dt} + \frac{v_c}{4} = 0$$

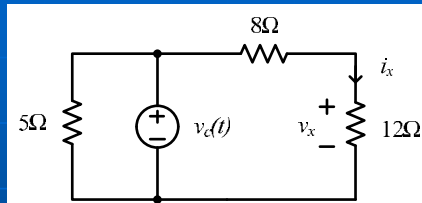
$$t = RC = 0.4 \text{ s}$$

$$v_c(t) = 15e^{-2.5t} \text{ V}, t \geq 0$$



7.1 The Natural Response of an RC Circuit

Step 3.



By using voltage divider principle

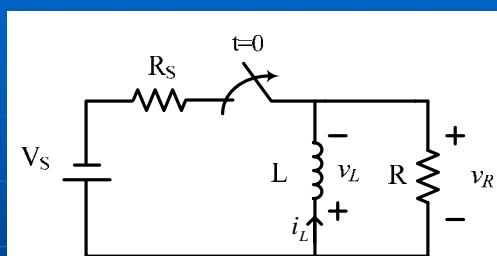
$$v_x(t) = \frac{12}{8+12} v_c(t)$$

$$= 9 \times e^{-2.5t} \text{ V}, t \geq 0$$

$$i_x(t) = \frac{v_x(t)}{12} = 0.75e^{-2.5t} \text{ A}$$

7.2 The Natural Response of an RL Circuit

Example 4

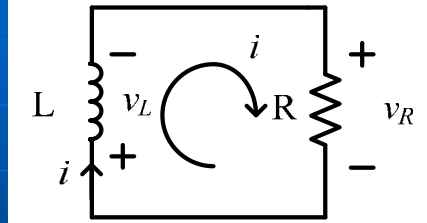


Remember that $v_c(t)$ and $i_L(t)$ are continuous functions for bounded inputs.

$$t \leq 0, i = \frac{V_s}{R_s} = i(0^-) @ I_0$$

7.2 The Natural Response of an RL Circuit

$$t \geq 0$$



mesh analysis

$$v_L + v_R = 0$$

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

7.2 The Natural Response of an RL Circuit

characteristic equation

$$LS + R = 0$$

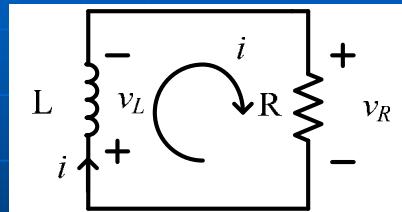
$$\therefore S = -\frac{R}{L}$$

$$i(t) = Ke^{-\frac{R}{L}t}, t \geq 0$$

$$i(0^+) = i(0^-) = I_0$$

$$\therefore i(t) = I_0 e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}}, t \geq 0$$

$$t @ \frac{L}{R}, \text{ time constant}$$



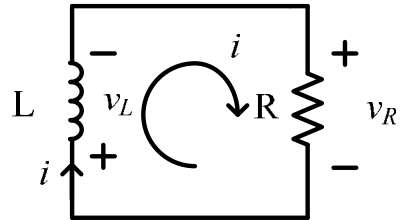
7.2 The Natural Response of an RL Circuit

$$v_R(t) = Ri = I_0 R e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}}$$

$$p_R = v_R i = I_0^2 R e^{-\frac{2t}{\tau}}$$

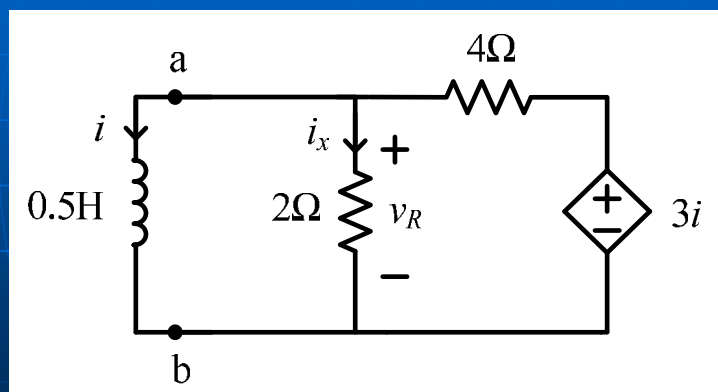
$$w_R(t) = \int_0^t p_R(t) dt = \frac{1}{2} L I_0^2 (1 - e^{-\frac{2t}{\tau}})$$

$$w_R(\infty) = \frac{1}{2} L I_0^2$$



7.2 The Natural Response of an RL Circuit

Example 5 : $i(0)=10\text{A}$, find $i(t)$ and $i_x(t)$



7.2 The Natural Response of an RL Circuit

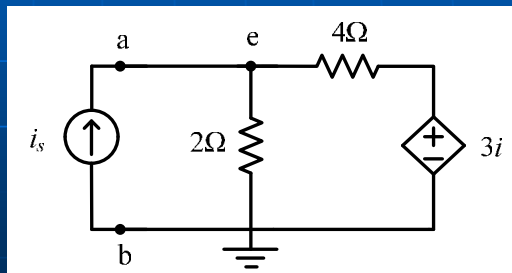
Step 1. Find the Thevenin equivalent circuit looking into a-b terminals.

Apply i_s , find e . Then $R_{TH} = e / i_s$

$$i = -i_s$$

$$\frac{e - 3i}{4} + \frac{e}{2} = i_s$$

$$\frac{e}{4} + \frac{3}{4}i_s + \frac{e}{2} = i_s$$

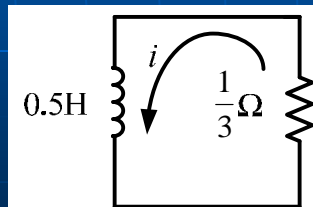


7.2 The Natural Response of an RL Circuit

$$\frac{3}{4}e = \frac{1}{4}i_s$$

$$\therefore \frac{e}{i_s} = \frac{1}{3}\Omega$$

Step 2.



mesh equation

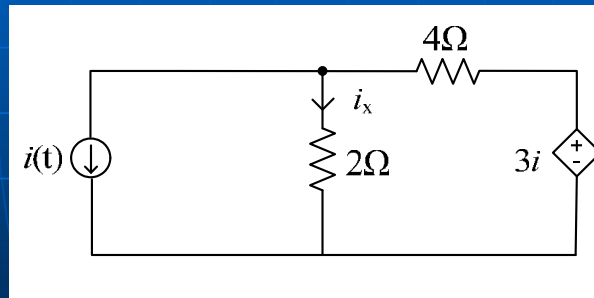
$$0.5 \frac{di}{dt} + \frac{1}{3}i = 0$$

$$t = \frac{L}{R} = \frac{0.5}{1/3} = 1.5 \text{ S}$$

$$\therefore i(t) = 10e^{-\frac{2}{3}t} \text{ A}, t \geq 0$$

7.2 The Natural Response of an RL Circuit

Step 3 Replace the inductor with an equivalent current source with $i(t)$ and solve the resistive circuit.

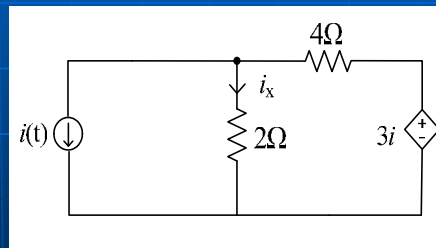


$$i(t) = 10 e^{\frac{-2}{3}t} \text{ A}$$

7.2 The Natural Response of an RL Circuit

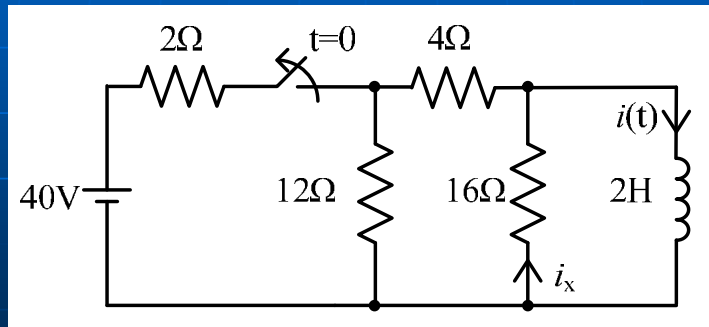
For this problem, since 2Ω is in parallel with the inductor, it is trivial to get

$$\begin{aligned} v_L(t) &= L \frac{di}{dt} \\ &= 0.5 \frac{d}{dt} (10 e^{\frac{-2}{3}t}) \\ &= 0.5 \times 10 \times \left(\frac{-2}{3}\right) e^{\frac{-2}{3}t} \\ &= \frac{-10}{3} e^{\frac{-2}{3}t} \text{ V} \\ \therefore i_x &= \frac{v_L}{2\Omega} = \frac{-5}{3} e^{\frac{-2}{3}t} \text{ V}, t \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$



7.2 The Natural Response of an RL Circuit

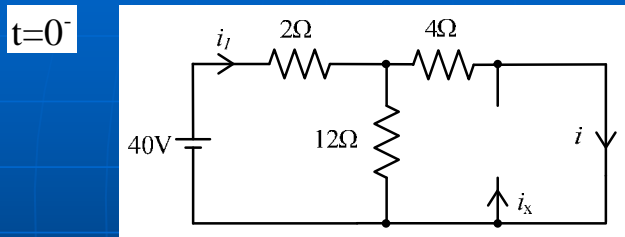
Example 6 : The switch has been closed for a long time. At $t=0$, it is opened. Find i_x .



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7.2 The Natural Response of an RL Circuit



$$i_1(0^-) = \frac{40\text{V}}{2 + (12//4)} = 8 \text{ A}$$

$$i_x(0^-) = 0$$

$$i(0^-) = i_1(0^-) \times \frac{12}{12+4} = 8 \times \frac{3}{4} = 6 \text{ A}$$

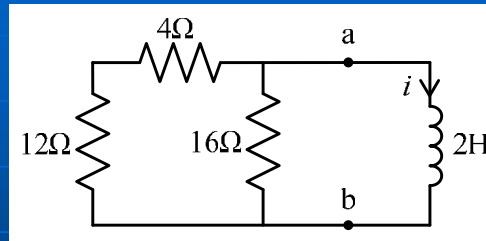
$$\therefore \text{Initial condition } i(0^+) = i(0^-) = 6 \text{ A}$$

C.T. Pan

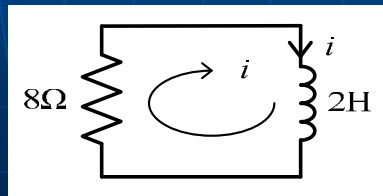
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7.2 The Natural Response of an RL Circuit

$t \geq 0^+$



Step 1 $R_{TH} = (4+12) // 16 = 8 \Omega$



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7.2 The Natural Response of an RL Circuit

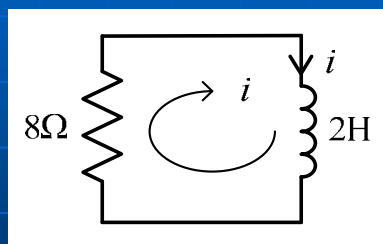
Step 2 mesh analysis

$$2 \frac{di}{dt} + 8i = 0$$

$$i(t) = K e^{-4t}, \quad t \geq 0$$

$$i(0^+) = 6 \text{ A}$$

$$\therefore i(t) = 6 e^{-4t} \text{ A}, \quad t \geq 0$$

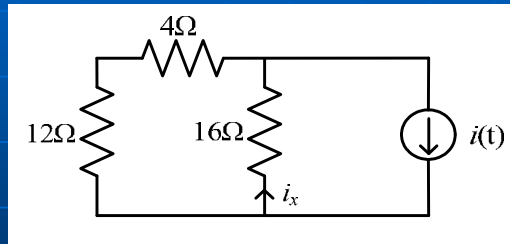


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7.2 The Natural Response of an RL Circuit

Step 3 Replace L with an equivalent current source, and find i_x , solve the resistive circuit.



$$\begin{aligned}\therefore i_x(t) &= \frac{4+12}{12+4+16} i(t) \\ &= 3e^{-4t} \text{ A}, \quad t \geq 0\end{aligned}$$

7.3 Singularity Functions

Switching functions are convenient for describing the switching actions in circuit analysis.

They serve as good approximations to the switching signals.

unit step function $u(t)$

unit impulse function $\delta(t)$

unit ramp function $r(t)$

7.3 Singularity Functions

Definition

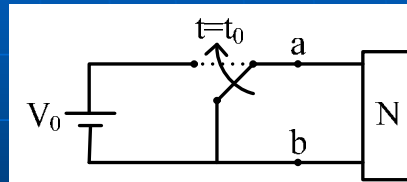
$$u(t) = \begin{cases} 0, & t < 0 \\ 1, & t > 0 \end{cases}$$

undefined at $t=0$

or more general

$$u(t-t_0) = \begin{cases} 0, & t < t_0 \\ 1, & t > t_0 \end{cases}$$

Example 7



$V_0 u(t-t_0)$ is applied to a - b terminals

7.3 Singularity Functions

Definition

$$d(t) = \frac{d}{dt} u(t) = \begin{cases} 0, & t < 0 \\ \text{undefined}, & t = 0 \\ 0, & t > 0 \end{cases}$$

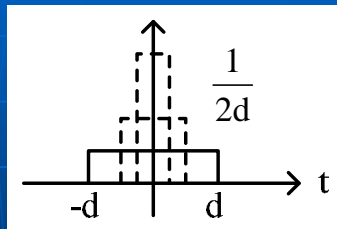
Also known as the delta function

$$\text{or } \int_{0^-}^{0^+} d(t) dt = 1$$

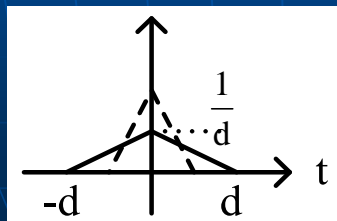
$$\text{or } \int_{t_0^-}^{t_0^+} d(t-t_0) dt = 1$$

7.3 Singularity Functions

The unit impulse function is not physically realizable but is a very useful mathematical tool.



An approximation as $d \rightarrow 0$



Another approximation as $d \rightarrow 0$

7.3 Singularity Functions

Shifting property, if $t_0 \in [a, b]$

$$\int_a^b f(t) d(t-t_0) dt = f(t_0)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Q} \int_a^b f(t) d(t-t_0) dt &= \int_a^b f(t_0) d(t-t_0) dt \\ &= f(t_0) \int_a^b d(t-t_0) dt \\ &= f(t_0) \end{aligned}$$

7.3 Singularity Functions

Definition

$$r(t) = \int_{-\infty}^t u(t)dt = t u(t)$$

or

$$r(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & , \quad t \leq 0 \\ t & , \quad t \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

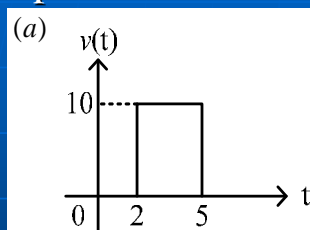
Note that

$$d(t) = \frac{d u(t)}{dt} \quad , \quad u(t) = \int^t d(t)dt$$

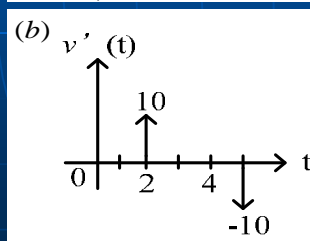
$$u(t) = \frac{d r(t)}{dt} \quad , \quad r(t) = \int^t u(t)dt$$

7.3 Singularity Functions

Example 8

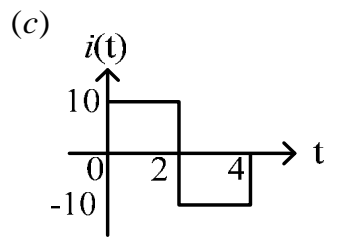


$$v(t) = 10 [u(t-2) - u(t-5)]$$

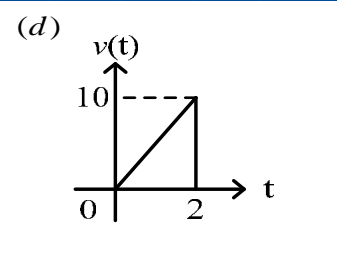


$$\frac{dv(t)}{dt} = 10d(t-2) - 10d(t-5)$$

7.3 Singularity Functions



$$i(t) = 10 u(t) - 20 u(t-2) + 10 u(t-4)$$



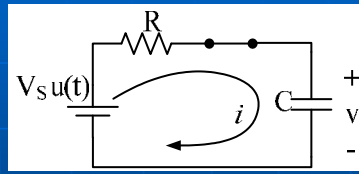
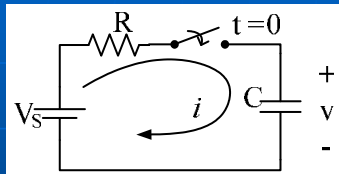
$$v(t) = 5r(t) - 5r(t-2) - 10u(t-2)$$

7.4 The Step Response of RC and RL Circuits

When a dc voltage (current) source is suddenly applied to a circuit, it can be modeled as a step function, and the resulting response is called step response.

7.4 The Step Response of RC and RL Circuits

Example 9



$$V(0^-) = V_0, \quad i = C \frac{dv}{dt}, \quad \text{choose } v \text{ as unknown}$$

Step 1 Mesh Analysis

$$RC \frac{dv}{dt} + v = V_S, \quad t \geq 0$$

7.4 The Step Response of RC and RL Circuits

Step 2 Solving the differential equation

(a) homogeneous solution

$$RC \frac{dv_h}{dt} + v_h = 0$$

$$v_h(t) = K e^{-\frac{t}{RC}}, \quad t \geq 0$$

(b) particular solution

$$RC \frac{dv_p}{dt} + v_p = V_S$$

$$v_p = V_S$$

7.4 The Step Response of RC and RL Circuits

(c) complete solution + Initial condition

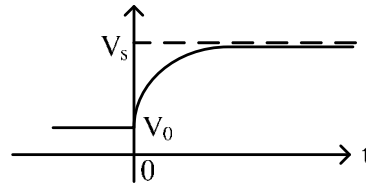
$$v(t) = v_h + v_p$$

$$= Ke^{-\frac{t}{RC}} + V_s$$

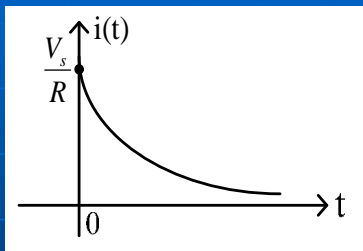
$$v(0^+) = v(0^-) = V_0$$

$$\therefore K = V_0 - V_s$$

$$v(t) = \begin{cases} V_0, & t < 0 \\ V_s + (V_0 - V_s)e^{-\frac{t}{RC}}, & t \geq 0 \end{cases}$$



7.4 The Step Response of RC and RL Circuits



$$i(t) = C \frac{dv}{dt} = C(V_0 - V_s) \left(\frac{-1}{RC} \right) e^{-\frac{t}{RC}}$$

$$= \frac{V_s - V_0}{R} e^{-\frac{t}{RC}}, \quad t \geq 0$$

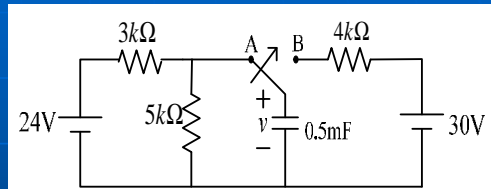
For $V_0 = 0$, then $i(0^+) = \frac{V_s}{R}$

C is initially short circuited.

7.4 The Step Response of RC and RL Circuits

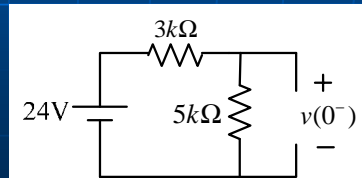
Example 10

Before $t=0$, the circuit is under steady state. At $t=0$, the switch is moved to B. Find $v(t)$, $t > 0$



For $t < 0$, the circuit shown:

$$v(0^-) = \frac{5}{3+5} \times 24V = 15V$$



7.4 The Step Response of RC and RL Circuits

For $t > 0$

mesh analysis

$$4 \times 10^3 \times (0.5 \times 10^{-3}) \frac{dv}{dt} + v = 30V$$

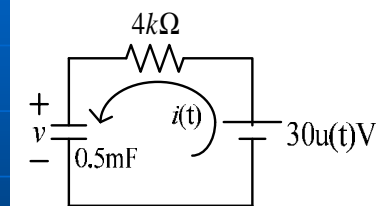
$$v(t) = v_p + v_h$$

$$= 30 + Ke^{-\frac{t}{\tau}}, \quad t > 0$$

$$\tau = RC = 4 \times 10^3 \times 0.5 \times 10^{-3} = 2 \text{ second}$$

$$v(0^+) = v(0^-) = 15V$$

$$\therefore v(t) = 30 + (15 - 30)e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}}, \quad t \geq 0$$

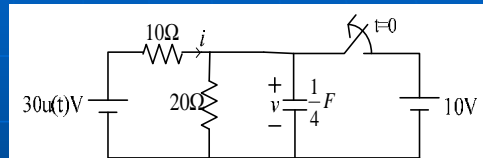


7.4 The Step Response of RC and RL Circuits

Example 11

Before the switch is open at $t=0$, the circuit is in steady state.

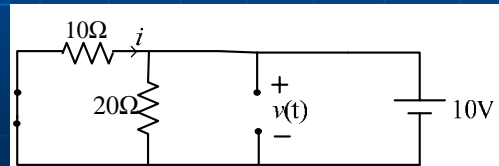
Find $i(t)$ & $v(t)$ for all t .



For $t < 0$, then

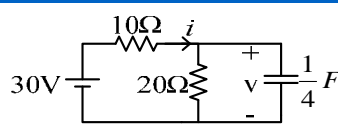
$$v(t) = 10V, t < 0$$

$$i(t) = -\frac{10}{10} A = -1A, t < 0$$

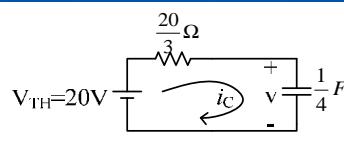


7.4 The Step Response of RC and RL Circuits

For $t > 0$



Thevenin equivalent circuit



$$v(0^+) = v(0^-) = 10V$$

$$i_c(t) = C \frac{dv}{dt} = \frac{1}{4} \frac{dv}{dt}$$

$$\frac{20}{3} \times \frac{1}{4} \frac{dv}{dt} + v = 20V, t > 0$$

$$v(t) = 20 + Ke^{-\frac{3}{5}t} = 20 + (10 - 20)e^{-\frac{3}{5}t}, t > 0$$

7.4 The Step Response of RC and RL Circuits

From the original circuit

$$\begin{aligned} \text{KCL: } i(t) &= \frac{v}{20\Omega} + C \frac{dv}{dt} \\ &= 1 + e^{-0.6t}, t > 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$v(t) = \begin{cases} 10V, t < 0 \\ (20 - 10e^{-0.6t})V, t \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

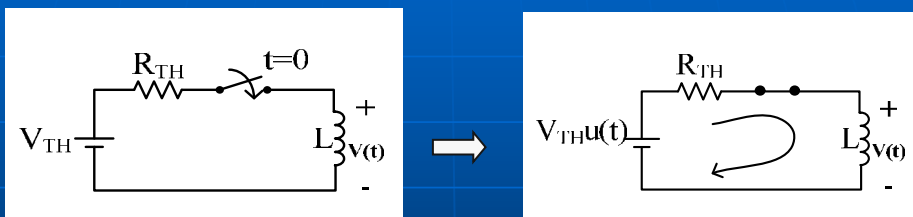
$$i(t) = \begin{cases} -1A, t < 0 \\ (1 + e^{-0.6t})A, t \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

Note that

$$i(0^-) = -1A \neq i(0^+) = 2A$$

7.4 The Step Response of RC and RL Circuits

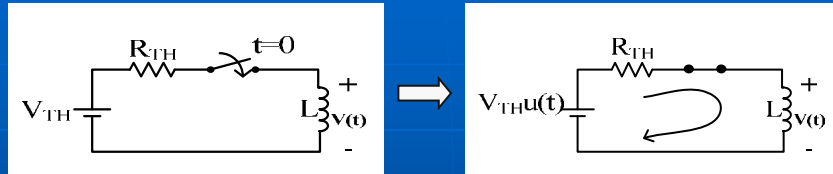
Example 12



Mesh analysis

$$\begin{aligned} L \frac{di}{dt} + R_{TH} i &= V_{TH} u(t), t \geq 0 \\ i(0) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

7.4 The Step Response of RC and RL Circuits



Solution: $i(t) = i_h(t) + i_p(t)$

characteristic equation

$$LS + R_{TH} = 0$$

$$S = -\frac{R_{TH}}{L} = -\frac{1}{\tau}$$

$$i_h(t) = Ke^{-\frac{t}{\tau}}$$

$$i_p(t) = \frac{V_{TH}}{R_{TH}}$$

$$\therefore i(t) = \frac{V_{TH}}{R_{TH}} + Ke^{-\frac{t}{\tau}}$$

$$i(0^+) = i(0^-) = 0$$

Note: L is equivalent to open circuit

$$i(t) = \frac{V_{TH}}{R_{TH}} (1 - e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}}), t \geq 0$$

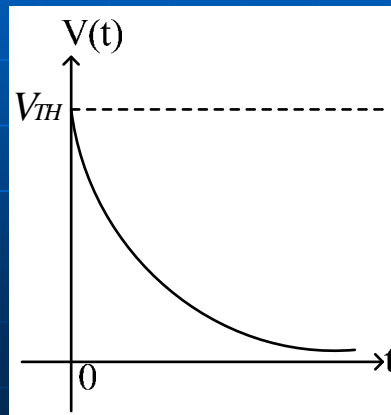
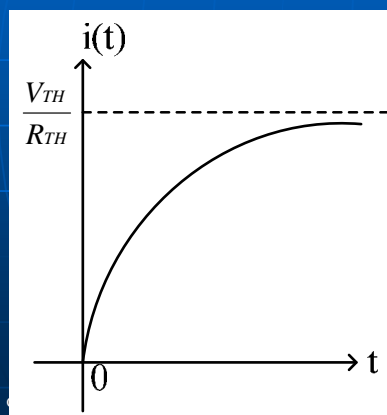
$$V(t) = L \frac{di}{dt} = V_{TH} e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}} u(t)$$

C.T. Pan

7.4 The Step Response of RC and RL Circuits

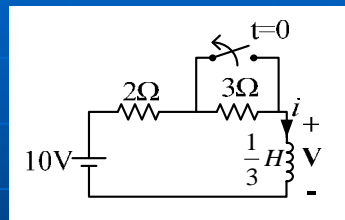
$$i(t) = \frac{V_{TH}}{R_{TH}} (1 - e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}}), t \geq 0$$

$$V(t) = L \frac{di}{dt} = V_{TH} e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}} u(t)$$



7.4 The Step Response of RC and RL Circuits

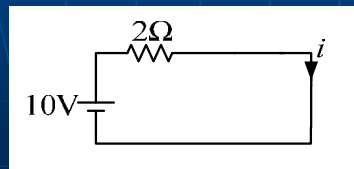
Example 13



$t < 0$, steady state

$t = 0$, switch is opened

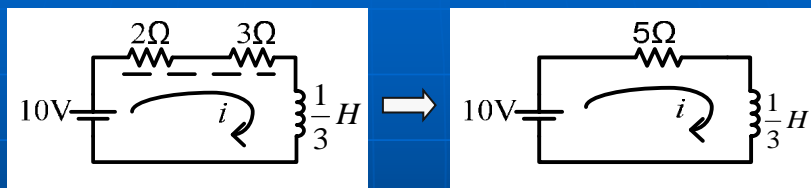
For $t < 0$



$$i(0^-) = \frac{10}{2} = 5A$$

7.4 The Step Response of RC and RL Circuits

For $t \geq 0$



Mesh Analysis

$$\frac{1}{3} \frac{di}{dt} + 5i = 10V, t \geq 0$$

$$i(t) = i_h + i_p$$

$$s = -15$$

$$= Ke^{-\frac{t}{\tau}} + 2A, t \geq 0$$

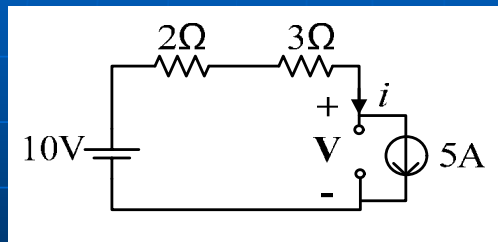
$$i_h(t) = Ke^{-\frac{t}{\tau}}, t = \frac{1}{15}$$

$$i_p(t) = 2A$$

7.4 The Step Response of RC and RL Circuits

initial condition

$$i(0^+) = i(0^-) = 5A$$



$$\therefore i(t) = 2 + 3e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}}, t \geq 0$$

7.4 The Step Response of RC and RL Circuits

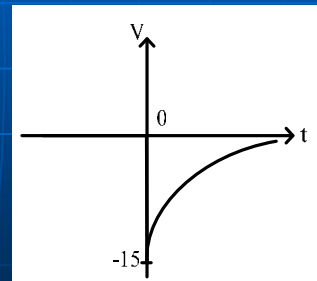
Note that if V is chosen for solution:

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

$$KVL: V(0^+) = 10V - (2+3)5 = -15V$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{or } V &= L \frac{di}{dt} = \frac{1}{3} \frac{d}{dt} (2 + 3e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}}) \\ &= -\frac{1}{t} e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}}, t \geq 0^+ \end{aligned}$$

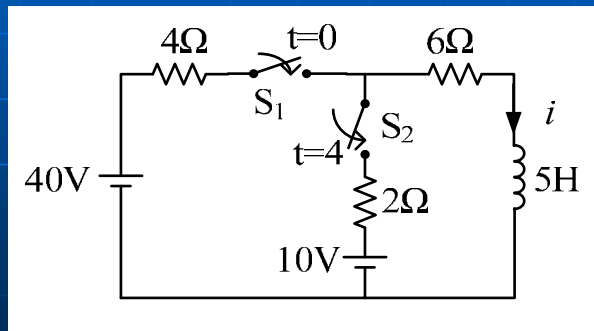
$$V(0^+) = -15V, \text{ same answer.}$$



7.4 The Step Response of RC and RL Circuits

Example 14 : S_1 is closed at $t=0$ Find $i(2)=?$

S_2 is closed at $t=4$ $i(5)=?$

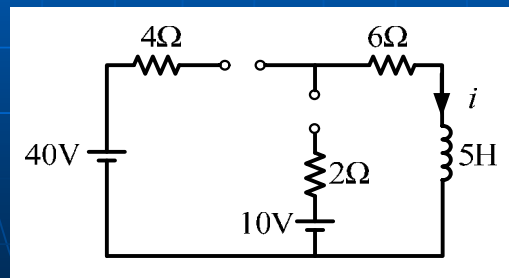
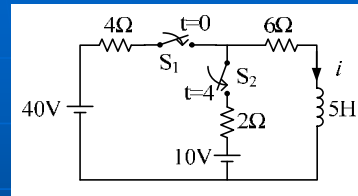


C.T. Pan

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7.4 The Step Response of RC and RL Circuits

For $t < 0$



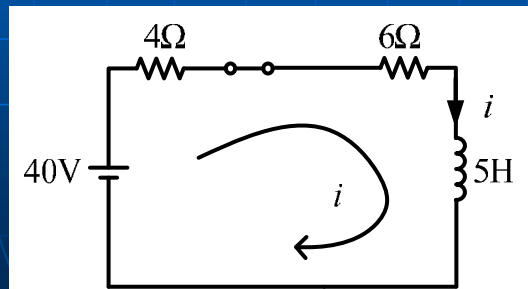
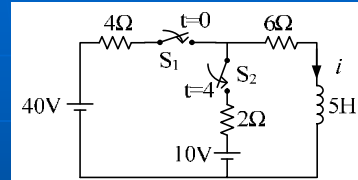
C.T. Pan

$t < 0, i=0$, open circuit

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7.4 The Step Response of RC and RL Circuits

For $0^+ \leq t < 4S$

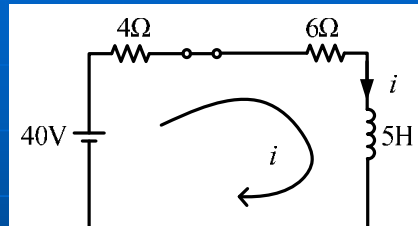


C.T. Pan

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7.4 The Step Response of RC and RL Circuits

For $0^+ \leq t < 4S$



$$5 \frac{di}{dt} + 10i = 40V, \quad 0^+ \leq t \leq 4S$$

$$i(0^+) = i(0^-) = 0A$$

$$t = \frac{L}{R} = \frac{5}{10} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\therefore i(t) = 4(1 - e^{-2t})A, \quad 0^+ \leq t \leq 4S$$

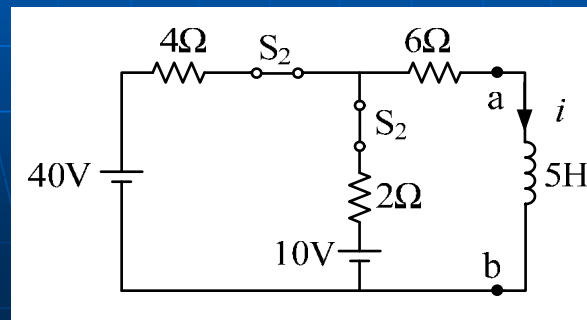
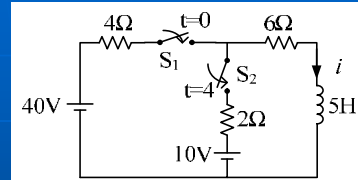
$$i(4^-) = 4(1 - e^{-8t}) \approx 4A$$

C.T. Pan

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7.4 The Step Response of RC and RL Circuits

For $t \geq 4^+$

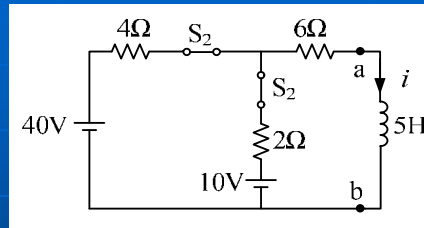


C.T. Pan

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7.4 The Step Response of RC and RL Circuits

For $t \geq 4^+$



$$i(4^-) = 4A$$

$$V_{TH} = \frac{40 - 10}{4 + 2} \times 2 + 10 = 20V$$

$$R_{TH} = 4\Omega \parallel 2\Omega + 6\Omega = \frac{4}{3} + 6 = \frac{22}{3}\Omega$$

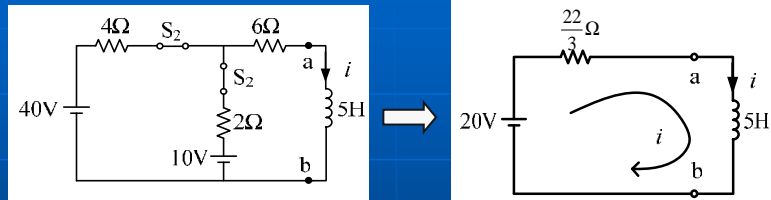
$$t = \frac{L}{R_{TH}} = \frac{5}{22/3} = \frac{15}{22}S$$

C.T. Pan

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7.4 The Step Response of RC and RL Circuits

For $t \geq 4^+$



$$i(4^+) = i(4^-) = 4A$$

$$5 \frac{di}{dT} + \frac{22}{3}i = 20V$$

where $T = t - 4$

$$i_h(t) = Ke^{-\frac{22}{15}(t-4)}, t \geq 4^+$$

$$i_p(t) = \frac{20}{22/3} = \frac{60}{22} = \frac{30}{11} = 2.727$$

$$i(t) = \frac{30}{11} + Ke^{-\frac{22}{15}(t-4)}, t \geq 4^+$$

$$i(4^+) = 4A = \frac{30}{11} + K$$

$$K = 4 - \frac{30}{11} = \frac{14}{11}$$

$$\therefore i(t) = \frac{30}{11} + \frac{14}{11}e^{-\frac{22}{15}(t-4)}, t \geq 4^+$$

7.4 The Step Response of RC and RL Circuits

In Summary

$$i(t) = \begin{cases} 0, & t \leq 0 \\ 4(1 - e^{-2t}), & 0 \leq t \leq 4 \\ \frac{30}{11} + \frac{14}{11}e^{-22(t-4)}, & t \geq 4 \end{cases}$$

Summary

- n Objective 1 : Be able to determine the natural response of both RC and RL circuits.
- n Objective 2 : Be able to find the step response of both RC and RL circuits.
- n Objective 3 : Know and be able to use the singularity functions.
- n Objective 4 : Be able to analyze circuits with sequential switching.

Summary

Chapter Problems : 7.7
7.14
7.23
7.32
7.47
7.63

Due within one week.