

**ECE 232**  
**Lab1**  
**First order circuits**

**Preliminary Work:**

1. Consider the circuit and the input voltage waveform  $V_{in}(t)$  (which is a square wave with some DC value) on Figure. Take  $V_1=1V$  and  $V_2=3V$ .

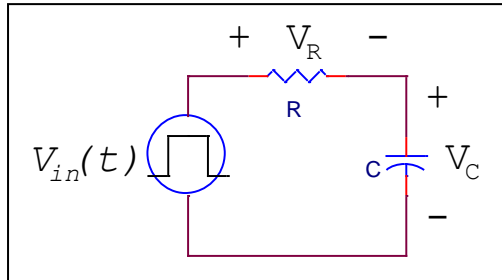


Figure 1: The circuit

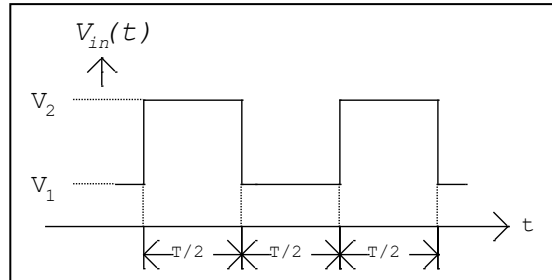


Figure 2: The input waveform  $V_{in}(t)$

a. Obtain the differential equation for the circuit. For the values of  $f$ ,  $R$  and  $C$  in Table 1, determine and sketch  $V_C(t)$  and  $V_R(t)$ . Calculate the time constant  $\tau$  for each case.

	$f$ (kHz)	$R$ (k $\Omega$ )	$C$ (nF)
1	2	3.3	4.7
2	2	3.3	10
3	2	68	10

**Table1**

b. Replace the capacitor in Figure with an inductor  $L$ . Obtain the differential equation and for the values of  $f$ ,  $R$ , and  $L$  in Table 1, determine and sketch  $V_L(t)$  and  $V_R(t)$  for the input in part 1. Calculate  $\tau$  in each case.

$f$ (kHz)	$R$ (k $\Omega$ )	$L$ (H)
2	3.3	0.1
2	1.8	0.1
10	3.3	0.1

**Table2**

c. How can  $\tau$  be found experimentally from the voltage waveforms seen on oscilloscope screen? *Hint:* Consider the exponential characteristics of voltage waveforms in one interval.

**Experimental Work**

1. Adjust the square wave output of the function generator as in Preliminary Work part 1.

a. Set up the circuit on the Figure 1. For the values of  $f$ ,  $R$  and  $C$  in the Table 1, observe and plot the AC components of  $V_{in}(t)$ ,  $V_C(t)$  and  $V_R(t)$ , also note the DC levels in each case. Determine the time constant  $\tau$  of the circuits experimentally.

b. Replace the capacitor  $C$  with the inductor  $L$  and repeat part 1.a for the values of  $f$ ,  $R$  and  $C$  in the Table 2.

**Equipment List:** Resistors: 1.8k $\Omega$ , 3.3k $\Omega$ , 68k $\Omega$ , Capacitors: 4.7nF, 10nF, Inductors: 100mH