Lecture #11 (with Prof. Ross)

Announcement
- Midterm 1 on Tues. 3/2/04, 9:30-11
- A-M last initials in 10 Evans
- N-Z initials in Sibley auditorium
- Closed book, no electronic devices
- One sheet 8.5x11 inch of your notes
- Covers material through op-amps, i.e. hw #1-4

OUTLINE
- Transient response of 1st-order circuits
- Application: modeling of digital logic gate

Reading
Chapter 4 through Section 4.3

Transient Response of 1st-Order Circuits

- In Lecture 10, we saw that the currents and voltages in RL and RC circuits decay exponentially with time, with a characteristic time constant $\tau$, when an applied current or voltage is suddenly removed.
- In general, when an applied current or voltage suddenly changes, the voltages and currents in an RL or RC circuit will change exponentially with time, from their initial values to their final values, with the characteristic time constant $\tau$:

$$x(t) = x_f + \left[x(t_0^+) - x_f\right]e^{-(t-t_0)/\tau}$$

where $x(t)$ is the final value of the circuit variable
$t_0$ is the time at which the change occurs

Procedure for Finding Transient Response

1. Identify the variable of interest
   - For RL circuits, it is usually the inductor current $i_L(t)$
   - For RC circuits, it is usually the capacitor voltage $v_c(t)$

2. Determine the initial value (at $t = t_0^+$) of the variable
   - Recall that $i_L(t)$ and $v_c(t)$ are continuous variables:
     $i_L(t_0) = i_L(t_0^+)$ and $v_c(t_0) = v_c(t_0^+)$
   - Assuming that the circuit reached steady state before $t_0$, use the fact that an inductor behaves like a short circuit in steady state or that a capacitor behaves like an open circuit in steady state

Procedure (cont'd)

3. Calculate the final value of the variable (its value as $t \to \infty$)
   - Again, make use of the fact that an inductor behaves like a short circuit in steady state ($t \to \infty$) or that a capacitor behaves like an open circuit in steady state ($t \to \infty$)

4. Calculate the time constant for the circuit
   - $\tau = L/R$ for an RL circuit, where $R$ is the Thévenin equivalent resistance "seen" by the inductor
   - $\tau = RC$ for an RC circuit where $R$ is the Thévenin equivalent resistance "seen" by the capacitor
**Example: RL Transient Analysis**

Find the current $i(t)$ and the voltage $v(t)$.

1. First consider the inductor current $i$
2. Before switch is closed, $i = 0$
   -> immediately after switch is closed, $i = 0$
3. A long time after the switch is closed, $i = V_s / R = 2$ A
4. Time constant $\tau = L/R = (0.1 \text{ H})/(50 \Omega) = 0.002$ seconds
   $i(t) = 2 + [0 - 2 e^{-(t-0)/0.002}) = 2 - 2 e^{-500t}$ Amperes

**Example: RC Transient Analysis**

Find the current $i(t)$ and the voltage $v(t)$.

1. First consider the capacitor voltage $v$
2. Before switch is moved, $v = 0$
   -> immediately after switch is moved, $v = 0$
3. A long time after the switch is moved, $v = V_s = 5$ V
4. Time constant $\tau_{1C} = (10^4 \Omega)(10^{-6} \text{ F}) = 0.01$ seconds
   $v(t) = 5 + [0 - 5] e^{-(t-0)/0.01} = 5 - 5 e^{-100t}$ Volts
Application to Digital Integrated Circuits (ICs)

When we perform a sequence of computations using a digital circuit, we switch the input voltages between logic 0 (e.g. 0 Volts) and logic 1 (e.g. 5 Volts).

Typical Logic 1

5 V

Digital Logic Gate (Buffer)

The output of the digital circuit changes between logic 0 and logic 1 as computations are performed.

Circuit Model for a Logic Gate

- Recall (from Lecture 1) that electronic building blocks referred to as "logic gates" are used to implement logical functions (NAND, NOR, NOT) in digital ICs.
  - Any logical function can be implemented using these gates.
- A logic gate can be modeled as a simple RC circuit:

Logic Level Transitions

| Transition from "0" to "1" | Transition from "1" to "0"
|---------------------------|---------------------------
| (capacitor charging)      | (capacitor discharging)   |
| $V_{out}(t) = V_{high}(1 - e^{-t/RC})$ | $V_{out}(t) = V_{high}e^{-t/RC}$ |

Digital Signals

We compute with pulses.
We send beautiful pulses in:

But we receive lousy-looking pulses at the output:

Capacitor charging effects are responsible!

- Every node in a real circuit has capacitance; it's the charging of these capacitances that limits circuit performance (speed)
Sequential Switching

What if we step up the input,

wait for the output to respond,

then bring the input back down?

Pulse Distortion

The input voltage pulse width must be long enough; otherwise the output pulse is distorted.
(We need to wait for the output to reach a recognizable logic level, before changing the input again.)

Example

Suppose a voltage pulse of width 5 μs and height 4 V is applied to the input of this circuit beginning at t = 0:

\[ \tau = RC = 2.5 \mu s \]

- First, \( V_{out} \) will increase exponentially toward 4 V.
- When \( V_{in} \) goes back down, \( V_{out} \) will decrease exponentially back down to 0 V.

What is the peak value of \( V_{out} \)?

The output increases for 5 μs, or 2 time constants.
→ It reaches \( 1-e^{-2} \) or 86% of the final value.

\( 0.86 \times 4 \text{ V} = 3.44 \text{ V} \) is the peak value

\[ V_{out}(t) = \begin{cases} 4-4e^{-t/2.5\mu s} & \text{for } 0 \leq t \leq 5 \mu s \\ 3.44e^{-(t-5\mu s)/2.5\mu s} & \text{for } t > 5 \mu s \end{cases} \]