

HOMEWORK SET 10

Issues: November 8, 2004

Due: November 15, 2004

Problem 1.

(a) Use graphical method to derive the v_o vs. v_i transfer characteristic of the following "voltage-limiter circuit".

Hint: Draw the i vs. v driving-point characteristic by series-parallel graphical method, and then eliminate the common currents i_1 and i_3 of the driving-point characteristic of the zener-diode resistor parallel combination via the graphical elimination method.

(b) Sketch the output waveform $v_o(t)$ when the circuit is driven by a 10-volt sinusoidal voltage, i.e., $v_i = 10 \sin t$.

Hint: Use the transfer characteristic from (a).

(c) Repeat (b) for a 20-volt sinusoidal voltage. Why is this circuit called a voltage limiter ?

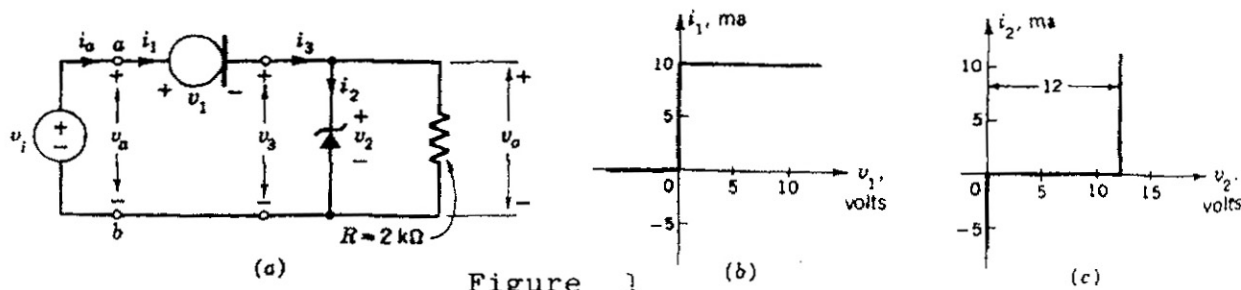


Figure 1

Problem 2.

(a) Assuming the nonlinear ideal op-amp model with $E_{sat} = 15$ V, derive and sketch the driving-point characteristic for the one-port shown in Fig. 2.

(b) Connect a linear resistor R_1 across the one-port, and find the maximum value of the resistance for which the one-port functions as an independent current source.

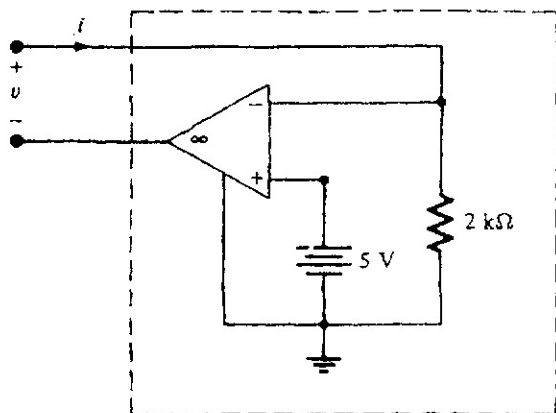


Figure 2

Problem 3.

Using the nonlinear ideal op-amp model, derive and sketch the driving-point characteristic for the circuit shown in Fig. 3.

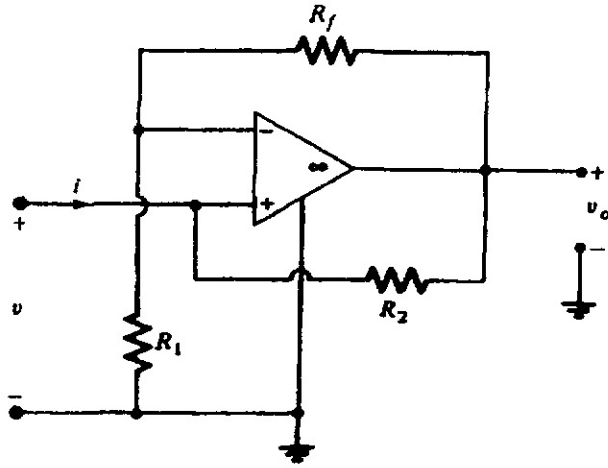


Figure 3

Problem 4.

Repeat Prob. 3 for the v_o vs. v transfer characteristic.

Problem 5.

Assuming the op amp is operating in the linear region, find characteristic for the circuit shown in Fig. 4

sketch the v_o vs. v_i transfer

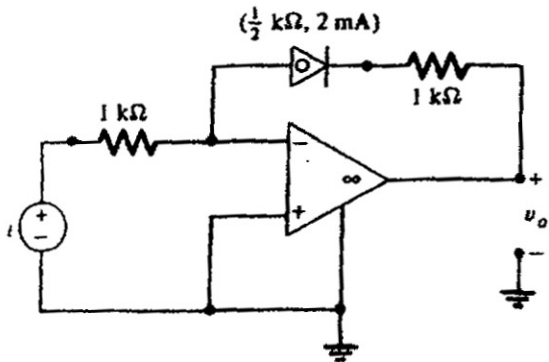
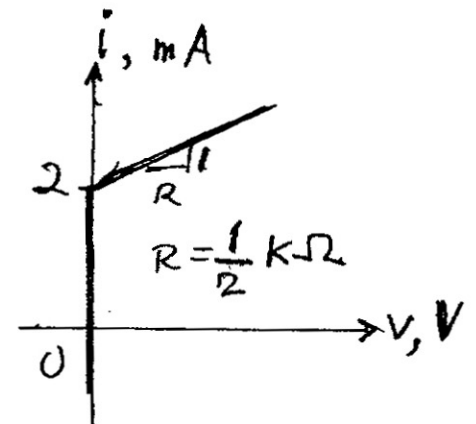
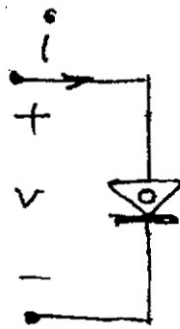


Figure 4



Problem 6.

This problem reviews the ubiquitous phenomenon of synchronization and frequency division presented in the lectures but with numeric rather than symbolic parameters, as specified in the next page.

- (a) Assuming $v_S(t) = 0$ and $v_C(0) = 0$, sketch the natural oscillation waveforms of $v_C(t)$ and $i(t)$ for $t \geq 0$. Specify all relevant parameters, including the natural period of oscillation T and the peak value, as well as the two complementary time intervals T_1 and T_2 corresponding to each regime of "relaxation" oscillation. What is the natural frequency f of the oscillator, i.e., when there is no forcing trigger signal $v_S(t)$?
- (b) Assuming a periodic trigger signal of period T_S and frequency $f_S = 1/T_S$ is applied at $t = T_1'$ with $v_C(0) = 0$, calculate the minimum value of T_1' necessary to initiate a premature jump in the current waveform $i(t)$. The value T_1' is said to be minimum if an infinitesimally smaller value would not give rise to a jump in $i(t)$.
- (c) For the minimal T_1' calculated from (b), calculate the corresponding "discharge" time T_2' and the new oscillation period $T' = T_1' + T_2'$ and new oscillation frequency $f' = 1/T'$.
- (d) It is possible to force the oscillator frequency f' to synchronize with the periodic pulse triggering signal $v_S(t)$ from (b) but with frequency $f_S = 2f'$. Sketch the waveform of $v_S(t)$ and $v_C(t)$ and align their time axis for comparison purposes. Explain why the oscillator in this case jumps only after every 2 pulses, thereby achieving a frequency division of the input trigger signal by a factor of 2.
- (e) Repeat (d) for $f_S = 3f'$ and explain why the oscillator in this case jumps only after every 3 pulses, thereby achieving frequency division by a factor of 3.

Note: The circuit when driven by a trigger periodic signal is called a frequency divider because the output (oscillator) no longer oscillate at its natural frequency $f = 1/T$, but at $f' = (1/3)f_S$.

