

BLM1612 - Circuit Theory

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First Order Circuits

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RC and RL Circuits

First Order Circuits

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Objectives of Lecture

- Explain the operation of a RC circuit in dc circuits
 - As the capacitor stores energy when voltage is first applied to the circuit or the voltage applied across the capacitor is increased during the circuit operation.
 - As the capacitor releases energy when voltage is removed from the circuit or the voltage applied across the capacitor is decreased during the circuit operation.
- Explain the operation of a RL circuit in dc circuit
 - As the inductor stores energy when current begins to flow in the circuit or the current flowing through the inductor is increased during the circuit operation.
 - As the inductor releases energy when current stops flowing in the circuit or the current flowing through the inductor is decreased during the circuit operation.

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Natural Response

- The behavior of the circuit with no external sources of excitation.
 - There is stored energy in the capacitor or inductor at $time = 0\ s$.
 - For $t > 0\ s$, the stored energy is released
 - Current flows through the circuit and voltages exist across components in the circuit as the stored energy is released.
 - The stored energy will decay to zero as time approaches infinite, at which point the currents and voltages in the circuit become zero.

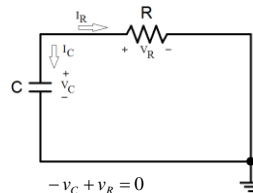
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RC Circuit

- Suppose there is some charge on a capacitor at time $t = 0\ s$.
 - This charge could have been stored because a voltage or current source had been in the circuit at $t < 0\ s$, but was switched off at $t = 0\ s$.
- We can use the equations relating voltage and current to determine how the charge on the capacitor is removed as a function of time.
 - The charge flows from one plate of the capacitor through the resistor R to the other plate to neutralize the charge on the opposite plate of the capacitor.

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Equations for RC Circuit



$$-v_C + v_R = 0$$

$$i_C = -i_R$$

$$i_C = C \frac{dv_C}{dt}$$

$$i_R = \frac{v_R}{R}$$

$$C \frac{dv_C}{dt} + \frac{v_R}{R} = 0$$

$$v_R = v_C$$

$$\frac{dV_C}{dt} + \frac{V_C}{RC} = 0$$

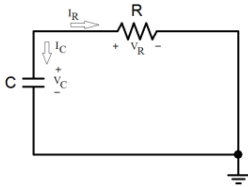
$$\frac{1}{V_C} \frac{dV_C}{dt} + \frac{1}{RC} = 0$$

$$\frac{dV_C}{V_C} = -\frac{1}{RC} dt$$

$$\ln(V_C) = -\frac{t}{RC} + \ln(V_C|_{t=t_0})$$

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Equations for RC Circuit



If $V_o = V_C|_{t=0}$, and $\tau = RC$

$$V_C(t) = V_o e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}} \quad \text{when } t \geq 0s$$

$$I_R(t) = -I_C(t) = \frac{V_o}{R} e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}}$$

$$p_R(t) = V_R I_R = \frac{V_o^2}{R} e^{-\frac{2t}{\tau}}$$

$$w(t) = \int_{0s}^t p_R(t) dt = \frac{CV_o^2}{2} \left[1 - e^{-\frac{2t}{\tau}} \right]$$

Since the voltages are equal and the currents have the opposite sign, the power that is dissipated by the resistor is the power that is being released by the capacitor.

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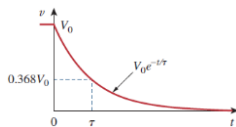
The Key to Working with a Source-Free RC Circuit Is Finding:

- The initial voltage $v(0) = V_o$ across the capacitor.
 - Can be obtained by inserting a d.c. source to the circuit for a time much longer than τ (at least $t = -5\tau$) and then removing it at $t = 0$.
 - Capacitor
 - Open Circuit Voltage
- The time constant τ .
 - In finding the time constant $\tau = RC$, R is often the Thevenin equivalent resistance at the terminals of the capacitor;
 - that is, we take out the capacitor C and find $R = R_{Th}$ at its terminals

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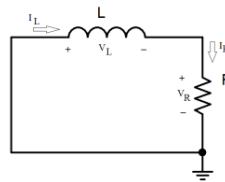
Time constant

- The **natural response** of a capacitive circuit refers to the behavior (in terms of voltages) of the circuit itself, with no external sources of excitation.
 - The natural response depends on the nature of the circuit alone, with no external sources.
 - In fact, the circuit has a response only because of the energy initially stored in the capacitor.
- The voltage response of the RC circuit
 - Time constant, $\tau = RC$
 - The time required for the voltage across the capacitor to decay by a factor of $1/e$ or 36.8% of its initial value.



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Equations for RL Circuits



$$L \frac{dI_L}{dt} + RI_L = 0$$

$$\frac{dI_L}{dt} + \frac{RI_L}{L} = 0$$

$$\frac{1}{I_L} \frac{dI_L}{dt} + \frac{R}{L} = 0$$

$$V_L + V_R = 0$$

$$I_L = I_R$$

$$V_L = L \frac{dI_L}{dt}$$

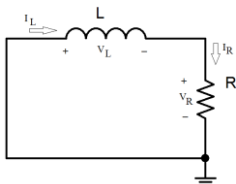
$$I_R = V_R / R$$

$$\frac{dI_L}{I_L} = -\frac{R}{L} dt$$

$$\ln(I_L) = -\frac{R}{L} t + \ln(I_L|_{t=0s})$$

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Equations for RL Circuit



If $I_o = I_L|_{t=0s}$, and $\tau = \frac{L}{R}$

$$I_L(t) = I_o e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}} \quad \text{when } t \geq 0s$$

$$V_R(t) = -V_L(t) = RI_o e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}}$$

$$p_R(t) = V_R I_R = RI_o^2 e^{-\frac{2t}{\tau}}$$

$$w(t) = \int_{0s}^t p_R(t) dt = \frac{LI_o^2}{2} \left[1 - e^{-\frac{2t}{\tau}} \right]$$

Since the voltages are equal and the currents have the opposite sign, the power that is dissipated by the resistor is the power that is being released by the inductor.

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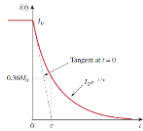
The Key to Working with a Source-Free RL Circuit Is Finding:

- The initial current $i(0) = I_o$ through the inductor.
 - Can be obtained by inserting a d.c. source to the circuit for a time much longer than τ (at least $t = -5\tau$) and then removing it at $t = 0$.
 - Inductor
 - Short Circuit Current
- The time constant τ .
 - In finding the time constant $\tau = L/R$, R is often the Thevenin equivalent resistance at the terminals of the inductor;
 - that is, we take out the inductor L and find $R = R_{Th}$ at its terminals

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Time constant

- The **natural response** of an inductive circuit refers to the behavior (in terms of currents) of the circuit itself, with no external sources of excitation.
 - The **natural response depends on the nature of the circuit alone, with no external sources.**
 - In fact, the circuit has a response only because of the energy initially stored in the inductor.
- The current response of the RL circuit



– Time constant, $\tau = L/R$

- The time required for the current in the inductor to decay by a factor of $1/e$ or 36.8% of its initial value.

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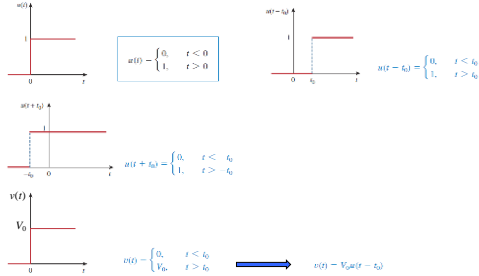
Singularity Functions

- Singularity functions** (also called **switching functions**) are very useful in circuit analysis.
- They serve as good approximations to the switching signals that arise in circuits with switching operations.
- They are helpful in the neat, compact description of some circuit phenomena,
 - especially the **step response of RC or RL circuits**
- Singularity functions** are functions that either are discontinuous or have discontinuous derivatives.

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Unit Step Function

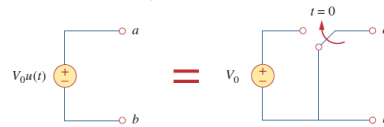
- The **unit step function** ($u(t)$) is 0 for negative values of t and 1 for positive values of t .



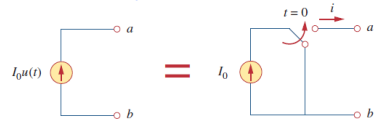
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Unit Step Function

- Voltage source of $V_0 u(t)$ and its equivalent circuit.



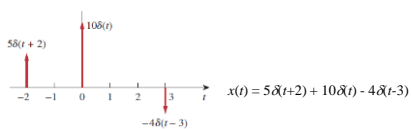
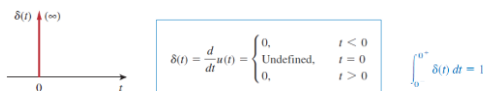
- Current source of $I_0 u(t)$ and its equivalent circuit.



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Unit Impulse Function

- The derivative of the unit step function $u(t)$ is the **unit impulse function** ($\delta(t)$)



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Integration of Unit Functions

- To illustrate how the impulse function affects other functions, let us evaluate the integral

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

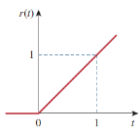
$$\int_a^b f(t) \delta(t - t_0) dt = \int_a^b f(t_0) \delta(t - t_0) dt$$

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

- This is a highly useful property of the impulse function known as the **sampling** or **sifting** property.

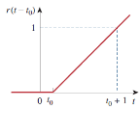
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Unit Ramp Function

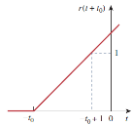


$$r(t) = \int_{-\infty}^t u(\lambda) d\lambda = tu(t)$$

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



$$r(t - t_0) = \begin{cases} 0, & t \leq t_0 \\ t - t_0, & t \geq t_0 \end{cases}$$



$$r(t + t_0) = \begin{cases} 0, & t \leq -t_0 \\ t + t_0, & t \geq -t_0 \end{cases}$$

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Relationships of singularity functions

- The three singularity functions (impulse, step, and ramp) are related by differentiation as

$$\delta(t) = \frac{du(t)}{dt}, \quad u(t) = \frac{dr(t)}{dt}$$

- or by integration as

$$u(t) = \int_{-\infty}^t \delta(\lambda) d\lambda, \quad r(t) = \int_{-\infty}^t u(\lambda) d\lambda$$

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Transient responses of RC and RL circuits

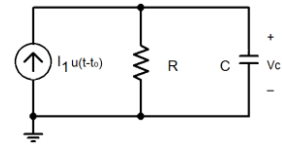
- AKA a forced response to an independent source
- Capacitor and inductor store energy when there is:
 - a transition in a unit step function source, $u(t-t_0)$
 - a voltage or current source is switched into the circuit.

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RC Circuit

$$I_C = 0A \text{ when } t < t_0$$

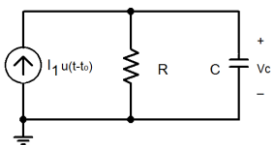
$$V_C = 0V \text{ when } t < t_0$$



Because $I_1 = 0A$ (replace it with an open circuit).

RC Circuit

- Find the final condition of the voltage across the capacitor.



– Replace C with an open circuit and determine the voltage across the terminal.

$$I_C = 0A \text{ when } t \sim \infty s$$

$$V_C = V_R = I_1 R \text{ when } t \sim \infty s$$

RC Circuit

- In the time between t_0 and $t = \infty$ s, the capacitor stores energy and currents flow through R and C.

$$V_C = V_R$$

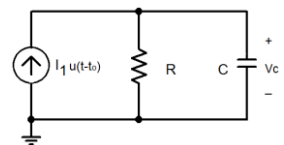
$$I_C = C \frac{dV_C}{dt}$$

$$I_R = \frac{V_R}{R}$$

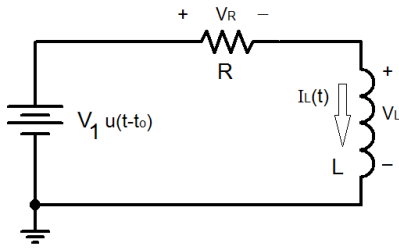
$$I_R + I_C - I_1 = 0$$

$$\frac{V_C}{R} + C \frac{dV_C}{dt} - I_1 = 0$$

$$V_C(t) = RI_1 \left[1 - e^{-\frac{t-t_0}{\tau}} \right] \quad \tau = RC$$

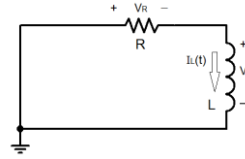


RL Circuit



RL Circuit

- Initial condition is not important as the magnitude of the voltage source in the circuit is equal to 0V when $t \leq t_0$.



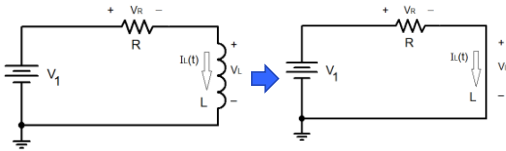
– Since the voltage source has only been turned on at $t = t_0$, the circuit at $t \leq t_0$ is as shown on the left.

- As the inductor has not stored any energy because no power source has been connected to the circuit as of yet, all voltages and currents are equal to zero.

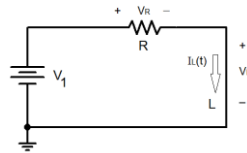
RL Circuit

- So, the final condition of the inductor current needs to be calculated after the voltage source has switched on.

– Replace L with a short circuit and calculate $I_L(\infty)$.



Final Condition

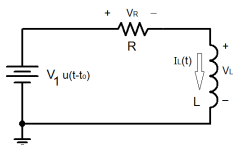


$$V_L(\infty) = 0V$$

$$I_L(\infty) = I_R$$

$$I_R = \frac{V_1}{R}$$

RL Circuit



$$-V_1 + V_L + V_R = 0$$

$$I_L = I_R = V_R / R$$

$$V_L = L \frac{dI_L}{dt}$$

$$\frac{dI_L}{dt} + RI_L - V_1 = 0$$

$$\frac{dI_L}{dt} + \frac{R}{L} I_L - \frac{V_1}{L} = 0$$

$$I_L(t) = \frac{V_1}{R} [1 - e^{-(t-t_0)/\tau}]$$

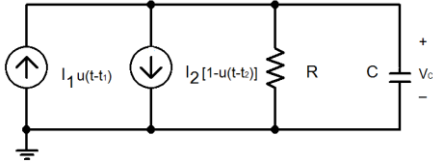
$$\tau = \frac{L}{R}$$

Complete Response

- Is equal to the natural response of the circuit plus the forced response
 - Use superposition to determine the final equations for voltage across components and the currents flowing through them.
- Typically, it is assumed that the currents and voltages in a circuit have reached steady-state once 5τ have passed after a change has been made to the value of a current or voltage source in the circuit.

Example 01...

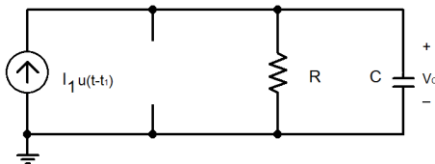
- Suppose there were two unit step function sources in the circuit.



...Example 01...

- The solution for V_c would be the result of superposition where:
 - $- I_2 = 0A$, I_1 is left on
 - The solution is a forced response since I_1 turns on at $t = t_1$
 - $- I_1 = 0A$, I_2 is left on
 - The solution is a natural response since I_2 turns off at $t = t_2$

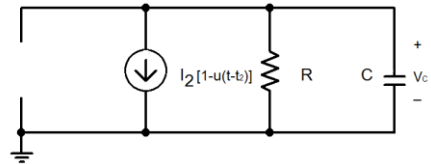
...Example 01...



$$V_C(t) = 0V \quad \text{when } t < t_1$$

$$V_C(t) = RI_1 \left[1 - e^{-\frac{(t-t_1)}{RC}} \right] \quad \text{when } t > t_1$$

...Example 01...



$$V_C(t) = -RI_2 \quad \text{when } t < t_2$$

$$V_C(t) = -RI_2 e^{-\frac{(t-t_2)}{RC}} \quad \text{when } t > t_2$$

...Example 01...

- If $t_1 < t_2$

$$V_C(t) = 0V - RI_2 \quad \text{when } t < t_1$$

$$V_C(t) = RI_1 \left[1 - e^{-\frac{(t-t_1)}{RC}} \right] - RI_2 \quad \text{when } t_1 < t < t_2$$

$$V_C(t) = RI_1 \left[1 - e^{-\frac{(t-t_1)}{RC}} \right] - RI_2 e^{-\frac{(t-t_2)}{RC}} \quad \text{when } t > t_2$$

General Equations

- When a voltage or current source changes its magnitude at $t = 0s$ in a simple RC or RL circuit.

– Equations for a simple RC circuit

$$V_C(t) = V_C(\infty) + [V_C(0) - V_C(\infty)]e^{-t/\tau}$$

$$I_C(t) = \frac{C}{\tau} [V_C(\infty) - V_C(0)]e^{-t/\tau}$$

$$\tau = RC$$

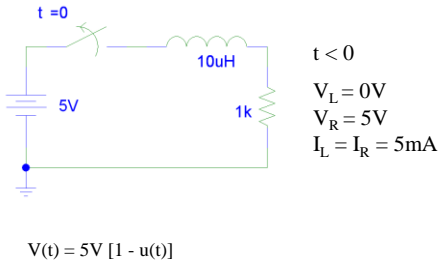
– Equations for a simple RL circuit

$$I_L(t) = I_L(\infty) + [I_L(0) - I_L(\infty)]e^{-t/\tau}$$

$$V_L(t) = \frac{L}{\tau} [I_L(\infty) - I_L(0)]e^{-t/\tau}$$

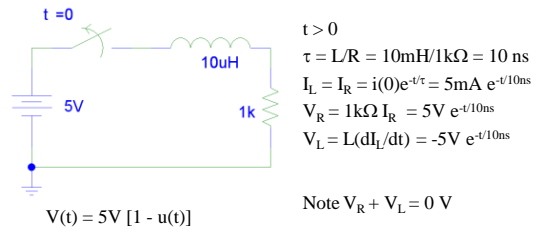
$$\tau = L/R$$

Example 02...



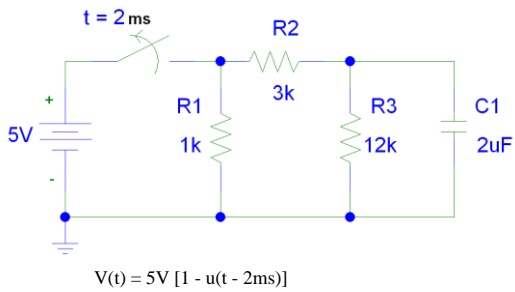
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...Example 02



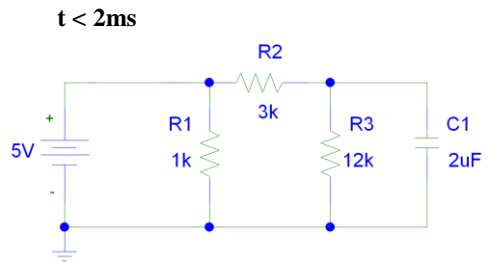
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Example 03...



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...Example 03...

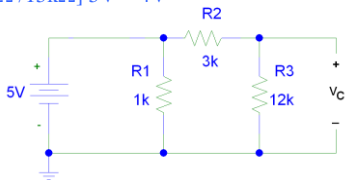


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...Example 03...

- $t < 2ms$
 - C1 is an open.
 - The voltage across the capacitor is equal to the voltage across the 12k resistor.

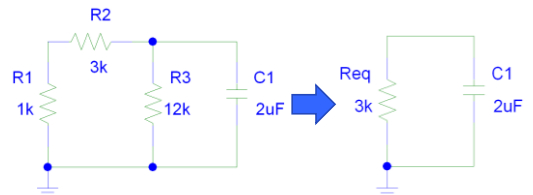
$$V_C = [12k\Omega / 15k\Omega] 5V = 4V$$



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...Example 03...

$t > 2ms$



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...Example 03

$t > 2\text{ms}$

$$\tau = R_{\text{eq}}C = 3\text{k}\Omega(2\mu\text{F}) = 6\text{ms}$$

$$V_C = V_C(2\text{ms})e^{-(t-2\text{ms})/\tau} = 4\text{V} e^{-(t-2\text{ms})/6\text{ms}}$$

$$V_R = V_C$$

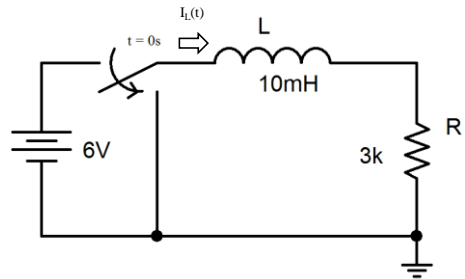
$$I_C = C dV_C/dt = 2\mu\text{F}(-4\text{V}/6\text{ms}) e^{-(t-2\text{ms})/6\text{ms}} \\ = -1.33 e^{-(t-2\text{ms})/6\text{ms}} \text{ mA}$$

$$I_R = -I_C = 1.33 e^{-(t-2\text{ms})/6\text{ms}} \text{ mA}$$

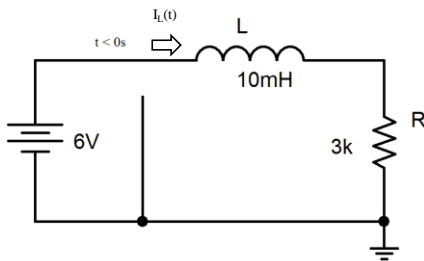
Note $I_R + I_L = 0\text{ mA}$

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Example 04...



...Example 04...



...Example 04...

Find the initial condition.

$t < 0\text{s}$

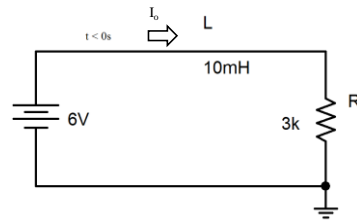
$$V_L = 0\text{V}$$

$$V_R = 6\text{V}$$

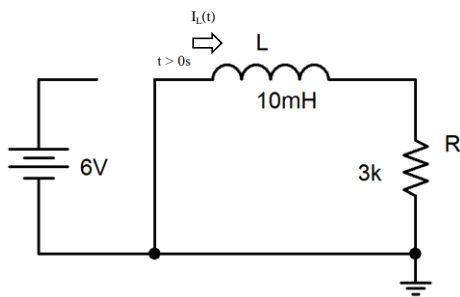
$$I_L = I_R = 2\text{mA}$$

Therefore,

$$I_o = 2\text{mA}$$



...Example 04...



...Example 04

$t > 0\text{s}$

$$t = L/R = 10\text{mH}/3\text{k}\Omega = 3.33\mu\text{s}$$

$$I_L = I_R = I_o e^{-t/\tau} = 2\text{mA} e^{-(t/3.33\mu\text{s})}$$

$$V_R = 3\text{k}\Omega I_R = 6\text{V} e^{-(t/3.33\mu\text{s})}$$

$$V_L = L dI_L/dt = -6\text{V} e^{-(t/3.33\mu\text{s})}$$

Note $V_R + V_L = 0\text{V}$

