

## **Chapter 5.6**

### **Response of the RL circuit**

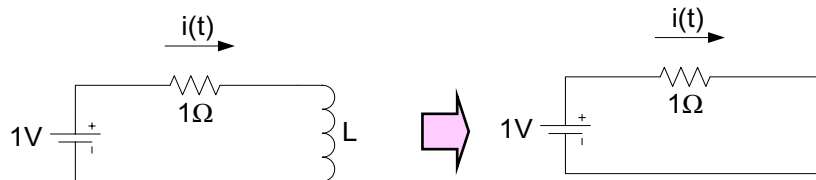
Engr228 - Circuit Analysis  
Spring 2020

Dr Curtis Nelson

## **Section 5.6 Objective**

- Learn to:
  - Analyze the transient and steady-state responses of RL circuits.

## Review: DC Characteristics of an Inductor



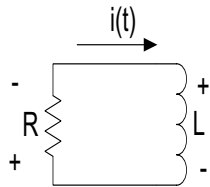
$$v_L(t) = L \frac{di_L(t)}{dt}$$

When  $i_L(t)$  is constant,  $di_L(t) = 0$  thus,  $v_L(t) = 0$ .  
In other words, the inductor can be replaced with a short circuit.

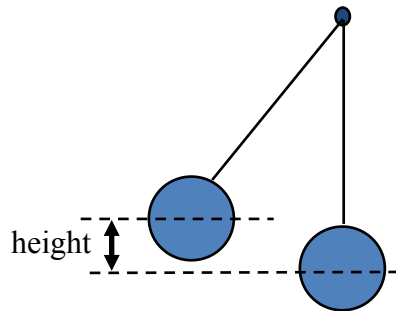
## Types of First-Order Responses

- Transient response, natural response, homogeneous solution (temporary position change)
  - Fades to zero over time.
- Forced response, steady-state response, particular solution (permanent position change)
  - Follows the input;
  - Independent of time passed.

## Source Free RL Circuits

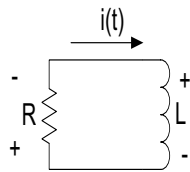


Inductor L has energy stored  
so initial current is  $I_0$



Similar to a pendulum that is  
at a height h where the  
potential energy is nonzero.

## Source Free RL Circuits



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

$$\frac{di(t)}{dt} + \frac{R}{L}i(t) = 0$$

There are 2 ways to solve this first-order differential equation.

## Solving Source Free RL Circuits

### Method 1

Assume solution is of the form  $i(t) = Ae^{st}$   
where A and s are the constants that need to be solved for.

Substitute  $i(t) = Ae^{st}$  into the equation:  $\frac{di(t)}{dt} + \frac{R}{L}i(t) = 0$

$$Ase^{st} + \frac{R}{L}Ae^{st} = 0$$

$$\left(s + \frac{R}{L}\right)Ae^{st} = 0$$

$$s = -\frac{R}{L}$$

$$i(t) = Ae^{-\frac{R}{L}t}$$

## Solving Source Free RL Circuits - continued

Initial condition:  $i(0) = I_0$

from  $i(t) = Ae^{-\frac{R}{L}t}$

$$I_0 = Ae^0$$

$$I_0 = A$$

Therefore  $i(t) = I_0e^{-\frac{R}{L}t}$

## Solving Source Free RL Circuits

**Method 2:** Direct integration

$$\frac{di(t)}{dt} + \frac{R}{L}i(t) = 0$$

$$\frac{di(t)}{dt} = -\frac{R}{L}i(t)$$

$$\frac{di(t)}{i(t)} = -\frac{R}{L}dt$$

$$\int_{I_0}^{i(t)} \frac{di(t)}{i(t)} = \int_0^t -\frac{R}{L}dt$$

$$\ln i(t) \Big|_{I_0}^{i(t)} = -\frac{R}{L}t \Big|_0^t$$

$$\ln i(t) - \ln I_0 = -\frac{R}{L}(t - 0)$$

$$i(t) = I_0 e^{-\frac{R}{L}t}$$

## Time Constant

The ratio  $L/R$  is called the **time constant** and is denoted by the symbol  $\tau$  (*tau*).

$$\tau = \frac{L}{R} \quad \text{Units: seconds}$$

One time constant is defined as the amount of time required for the output to go from its initial value  $I_0$  to 36.8% of its initial value.

$$i(t) = I_0 e^{-\frac{R}{L}t} = I_0 e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}}$$

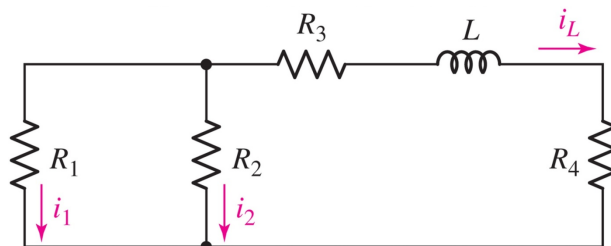
$$e^{-1} = 0.368$$

## 1<sup>st</sup> Order Response Observations

- The current through an inductor or the voltage across a capacitor is the same *prior to* and *after* a switch at  $t = 0$  seconds because these quantities cannot change instantaneously.
- **All** voltages and **all** currents in an RC or RL circuit follow the same natural response  $e^{-t/\tau}$ .

## General RL Circuits

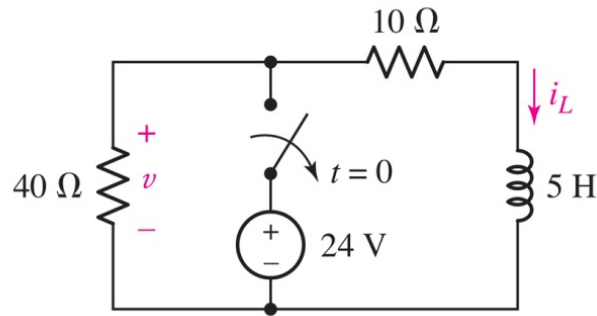
The time constant of a single inductor circuit will be  $\tau = L/R_{eq}$  where  $R_{eq}$  is the resistance seen by the inductor.



Example:  $R_{eq} = R_3 + R_4 + R_1 R_2 / (R_1 + R_2)$

### Example First-Order RL Circuit

Assume the switch is in the closed position for a long time for  $t < 0$ . Find the voltage  $v(t)$  at  $t = 200$  mS.

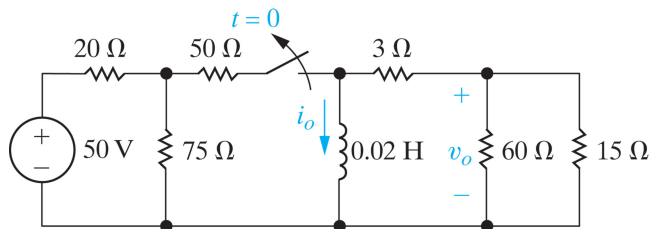


$$v(t) = -12.99 \text{ volts at } t = 200 \text{ ms}$$

### Textbook Problem 7.7 (Nilsson 11<sup>th</sup>)

The switch is opened at  $t = 0$  seconds.

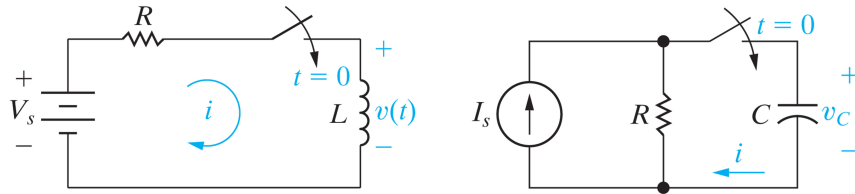
- Find  $i_o(t)$  for  $t \geq 0$  seconds.
- Find  $v_o(t)$  for  $t \geq 0^+$  seconds.



$$i_o(t) = 0.6e^{-750t} \text{ Amps}$$

$$v_o(t) = -7.20e^{-750t} \text{ Volts}$$

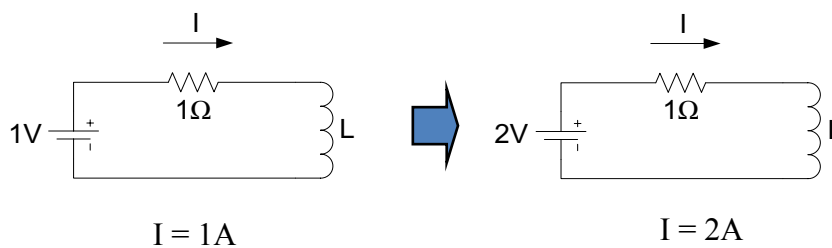
## Driven RL and RC Circuits



- Many RL and RC circuits are driven by a DC or an AC source. The **complete** response of a driven RL or RC circuit is the sum of the transient response and the forced response:

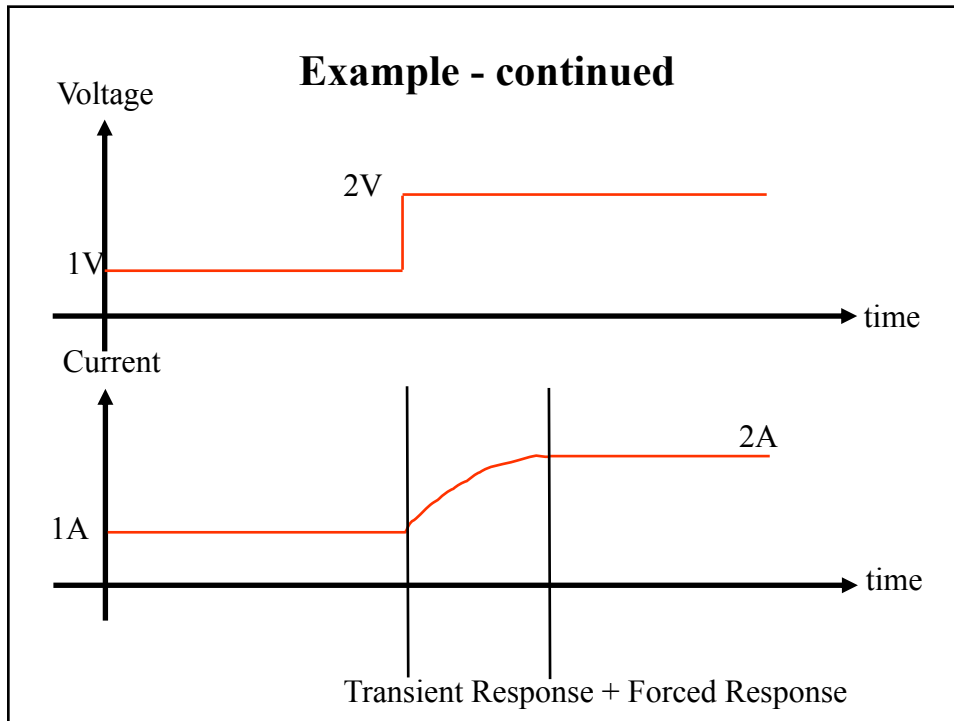
$$i(t) = \text{tran}(t) + \text{forced}(t)$$

## Circuit Example



Suppose the voltage source changes abruptly from 1V to 2V.  
Does the current change abruptly as well?





### Complete Response

The circuit diagram shows a series RL circuit. On the left is a DC voltage source  $V_s$  with the positive terminal at the top. To its right is a resistor  $R$ . Further right is a switch, and to its right is an inductor  $L$ . The current  $i$  is indicated by a blue arrow pointing clockwise in the loop. The voltage across the inductor is labeled  $v(t)$  with the positive terminal at the top. A blue arrow points to the switch with the label  $t = 0$ .

- The differential equation for the circuit above now becomes

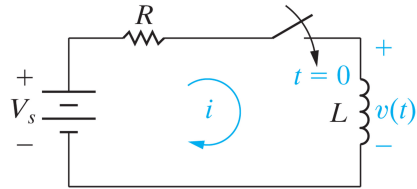
$$Ri(t) + L \frac{di(t)}{dt} = v_s(t)$$

- The transient part of the complete solution is determined by setting the forcing function  $v_s(t) = 0$ :

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

## Complete Solution for RL Circuits

The complete solution is found in section 5.6 of Zybooks:



$$i_L(t) = \frac{V_S}{R} + \left( i_L(0) - \frac{V_S}{R} \right) e^{-\left(\frac{R}{L}\right)t}$$

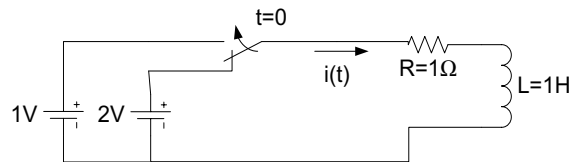
$$i_L(t) = i_L(\infty) + (i_L(0) - i_L(\infty))e^{-\left(\frac{R}{L}\right)t}$$

## Procedure for Solving First-Order Circuits

1. Identify the variable of interest for the circuit. For RC circuits, it is most convenient to choose the capacitive voltage - for RL circuits, it is best to choose the inductor current.
2. Determine the initial value of the variable at  $t = 0$ . Note that if you choose capacitor voltage or inductive current, it is not necessary to distinguish between  $t = 0^-$  and  $t = 0^+$  because these variables are time-wise continuous.
3. Calculate the final value of the variable as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .
4. Calculate the time constant of the circuit.

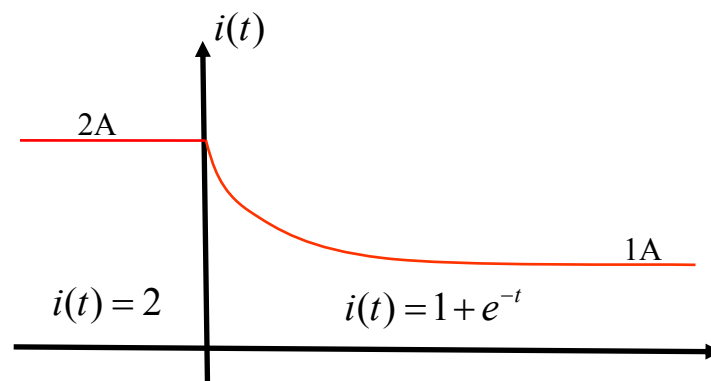
## Example Problem

The switch is in the position shown for a long time before  $t = 0$ . Find  $i(t)$ .



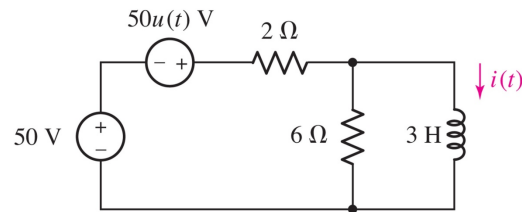
$$i(t) = 1 + e^{-t}$$

## Example Graph

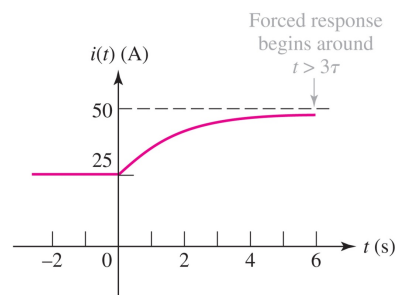


### Example: RL Circuit with Step Input

Find  $i(t)$ .

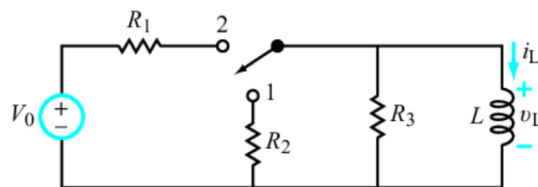


$$i(t) = 25 + 25(1 - e^{-t/2})u(t) \text{ A}$$



### Example 5.6.1 Zybooks Total Response

After having been in position 1 for a long time, the switch is moved to position 2 at  $t = 0$ . Given that  $V_0 = 12\text{V}$ ,  $R_1 = 30\Omega$ ,  $R_2 = 120\Omega$ ,  $R_3 = 60\Omega$ , and  $L = 0.2\text{H}$ , determine  $i_L(t)$  for all time.



$$i_L(t) = 0.4(1 - e^{-100t}) \text{ A}$$

## **Section 5.6 Summary**

- You learned to:
  - Analyze the transient and steady-state responses of RL circuits.