*RL* and *RC* circuits are also known as **first-order circuits**, because their voltages and currents are described by first-order differential equations



$$\frac{di}{dt}dt = -\frac{R}{L}i\,dt. \qquad \frac{di}{i} = -\frac{R}{L}dt. \qquad \int_{i(t_0)}^{i(t)}\frac{dx}{x} = -\frac{R}{L}\int_{t_0}^t dy,$$

Known as a first-order ordinary differential equation, because it contains terms involving the ordinary derivative of the unknown

$$i(0^{-}) = i(0^{+}) = I_0, \longrightarrow i(t) = I_0 e^{-(R/L)t}, \quad t \ge 0,$$

$$i(t)$$
 $I_0$ 
 $t$ 

 $\ln \frac{i(t)}{i(0)} = -\frac{R}{L}t. \qquad i(t) = i(0)e^{-(R/L)t}.$ 

$$v = iR = I_0 R e^{-(R/L)t}, \quad t \ge 0^+.$$

Lets find by using Laplace Transform

$$w = \int_0^t p dx = \int_0^t I_0^2 R e^{-2(R/L)x} dx \qquad p = vi, \quad p = i^2 R, \quad \text{or} \quad p = \frac{v^2}{R}.$$
  
$$= \frac{1}{2(R/L)} I_0^2 R (1 - e^{-2(R/L)t}) \qquad p = I_0^2 R e^{-2(R/L)t}, \quad t \ge 0^+.$$
  
$$= \frac{1}{2} L I_0^2 (1 - e^{-2(R/L)t}), \quad t \ge 0.$$

## The Significance of the Time Constant

Determines the rate at which the current or voltage approaches zero. The reciprocal of this ratio is the **time constant** of the circuit, denoted

$$\begin{split} i(t) &= I_0 e^{-t/\tau}, \quad t \ge 0, \\ v(t) &= I_0 R e^{-t/\tau}, \quad t \ge 0^+, \\ p &= I_0^2 R e^{-2t/\tau}, \quad t \ge 0^+, \\ w &= \frac{1}{2} L I_0^2 (1 - e^{-2t/\tau}), \quad t \ge 0. \end{split}$$

$$\tau$$
 = time constant =  $\frac{L}{R}$ .

The natural response of an RC circuit is developed from the circuit shown in Fig



We begin by assuming that the switch has been in position a for a long time, allowing the loop made up of the dc voltage source the resistor and the capacitor C to reach a steady-state condition.

we will discuss how the capacitor voltage actually builds to the steady-state value of the dc voltage source, but for now the important point is that when the switch is moved from position a to position b (at t=0), the voltage on the capacitor is. Because there can be no instantaneous change in the voltage at the terminals of a capacitor, the problem reduces to solving the circuit shown in Fig. Deriving the Expression for the Voltage

$$C \frac{dv}{dt} + \frac{v}{R} = 0.$$
  $v(t) = v(0)e^{-t/RC}, t \ge 0.$   $v(0^-) = v(0) = v(0^+) = V_g = V_0,$   
 $\tau = RC.$ 

$$v(t) = V_0 e^{-t/\tau}, \quad t \ge 0,$$

$$i(t) = \frac{v(t)}{R} = \frac{V_0}{R}e^{-t/\tau}, \quad t \ge 0^+,$$

$$p = vi = \frac{V_0^2}{R}e^{-2t/\tau}, \quad t \ge 0^+,$$

$$w = \int_0^t p \, dx = \int_0^t \frac{V_0^2}{R} e^{-2x/\tau} \, dx$$

$$=\frac{1}{2}CV_0^2(1-e^{-2t/\tau}), \quad t\ge 0.$$

We are now ready to discuss the problem of finding the currents and voltages generated in first-order *RL* or *RC* circuits when either dc voltage or current sources are suddenly applied.



Energy stored in the inductor at the time the switch is closed is given in terms of a nonzero initial current The task is to find the expressions for the current in the circuit and for the voltage across the inductor after the switch has been closed.

$$V_s = Ri + L\frac{di}{dt},$$

$$\frac{di}{dt} = \frac{-Ri + V_s}{L} = \frac{-R}{L} \left(i - \frac{V_s}{R}\right).$$

$$\frac{di}{dt}dt = \frac{-R}{L}\left(i - \frac{V_s}{R}\right)dt,$$

$$di = \frac{-R}{L} \left( i - \frac{V_s}{R} \right) dt.$$

$$\frac{di}{i-(V_s/R)}=\frac{-R}{L}dt,$$

$$\int_{I_0}^{i(t)} \frac{dx}{x - (V_s/R)} = \frac{-R}{L} \int_0^t dy,$$

$$\ln \frac{i(t) - (V_s/R)}{I_0 - (V_s/R)} = \frac{-R}{L}t,$$

 $\frac{l(l) - (V_s/R)}{L_0 - (V_s/R)} = e^{-(R/L)t},$ 

$$i(t) = \frac{V_s}{R} + \left(I_0 - \frac{V_s}{R}\right)e^{-(R/L)t}.$$

When the initial energy in the inductor is zero, is zero.

$$i(t) = \frac{V_s}{R} - \frac{V_s}{R}e^{-(R/L)t}.$$



$$i(t) = \frac{V_s}{R} - \frac{v(t)}{R},$$

$$\frac{di}{dt} = -\frac{1}{R}\frac{dv}{dt}.$$
multiply by L
$$v = -\frac{L}{R}\frac{dv}{dt}.$$

$$\frac{dv}{dt} + \frac{R}{L}v = 0.$$

$$V_s = Ri + L\frac{di}{dt},$$

$$\frac{di}{dt} + \frac{R}{L}i = \frac{V_s}{L}.$$

The Step Response of an RC Circuit



We can find the step response of a first order *RC* circuit by analyzing the circuit shown in Fig.

$$C\frac{dv_C}{dt} + \frac{v_C}{R} = I_s.$$

$$v_C = I_s R + (V_0 - I_s R) e^{-t/RC}, t \ge 0.$$

$$\frac{di}{dt} + \frac{1}{RC}i = 0. \qquad \qquad i = \left(I_s - \frac{V_0}{R}\right)e^{-t/RC}, \quad t \ge 0^+,$$

$$\frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{x}{\tau} = K, \qquad x_f = K\tau,$$
$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{-x}{\tau} + K = \frac{-(x - K\tau)}{\tau} = \frac{-(x - x_f)}{\tau}.$$
$$\frac{dx}{x - x_f} = \frac{-1}{\tau} dt.$$
$$\int_{x(t_0)}^{x(t)} \frac{du}{u - x_f} = -\frac{1}{\tau} \int_{t_0}^{t} dv.$$
$$x(t) = x_f + [x(t_0) - x_f] e^{-(t - t_0)/\tau}.$$



















