Decibels, Filters, and Bode Plots

21

Objectives

- *Develop confidence in the use of logarithms and decibels in the description of power and voltage levels.*

- *Become familiar with the frequency response of high- and low-pass filters. Learn to calculate the cutoff frequency and describe the phase response.*

- *Be able to calculate the cutoff frequencies and sketch the frequency response of a pass-band, stop-band, or double-tuned filter.*

- *Develop skills in interpreting and establishing the Bode response of any filter.*

- *Become aware of the characteristics and operation of a crossover network.*

21.1 LOGARITHMS

The use of logarithms in industry is so extensive that a clear understanding of their purpose and use is an absolute necessity. At first exposure, logarithms often appear vague and mysterious due to the mathematical operations required to find the logarithm and antilogarithm using the longhand table approach that is typically taught in mathematics courses. However, almost all of today's scientific calculators have the common and natural log functions, eliminating the complexity of applying logarithms and allowing us to concentrate on the positive characteristics of the function.

Basic Relationships

Let us first examine the relationship between the variables of the logarithmic function. The mathematical expression

$$N = (b)^x$$

states that the number N is equal to the base b taken to the power x. A few examples:

$$100 = (10)^2$$
$$27 = (3)^3$$
$$54.6 = (e)^4 \qquad \text{where } e = 2.7183$$

To find the power x to satisfy the equation

$$1200 = (10)^x$$

you can determine the value of x using logarithms in the following manner:

$$x = \log_{10} 1200 = \textbf{3.079}$$

revealing that

$$10^{3.079} = 1200$$

dB

Note that the logarithm was taken to the base 10—the number to be taken to the power of x. There is no limitation to the numerical value of the base except that tables and calculators are designed to handle either a base of 10 (common logarithm, **LOG**) or base $e = 2.7183$ (natural logarithm, **IN**). In review, therefore,

$$\text{If } N = (b)^x, \text{ then } x = \log_b N. \tag{21.1}$$

The base to be used is a function of the area of application. If a conversion from one base to the other is required, the following equation can be applied:

$$\log_e x = 2.3 \log_{10} x \tag{21.2}$$

In this chapter, we concentrate solely on the common logarithm. However, a number of the conclusions are also applicable to natural logarithms.

Some Areas of Application

The following are some of the most common applications of the logarithmic function:

1. The response of a system can be plotted for a range of values that may otherwise be impossible or unwieldy with a linear scale.
2. Levels of power, voltage, and the like, can be compared without dealing with very large or very small numbers that often cloud the true impact of the difference in magnitudes.
3. A number of systems respond to outside stimuli in a nonlinear logarithmic manner. The result is a mathematical model that permits a direct calculation of the response of the system to a particular input signal.
4. The response of a cascaded or compound system can be rapidly determined using logarithms if the gain of each stage is known on a logarithmic basis. This characteristic is demonstrated in an example to follow.

Graphs

Graph paper is available in **semilog** and **log-log** varieties. Semilog paper has only one log scale, with the other a linear scale. Both scales of log-log paper are log scales. A section of semilog paper appears in Fig. 21.1. Note the linear (even-spaced-interval) vertical scaling and the repeating intervals of the log scale at multiples of 10.

The spacing of the log scale is determined by taking the common log (base 10) of the number. The scaling starts with 1, since $\log_{10} 1 = 0$. The distance between 1 and 2 is determined by $\log_{10} 2 = 0.3010$, or approximately 30% of the full distance of a log interval, as shown on the graph. The distance between 1 and 3 is determined by $\log_{10} 3 = 0.4771$, or about 48% of the full width. For future reference, keep in mind that almost 50% of the width of one log interval is represented by a 3 rather than by the 5 of a linear scale. In addition, note that the number 5 is about 70% of the full width, and 8 is about 90%. Remembering the percentage of full width of the lines 2, 3, 5, and 8 is particularly useful when the various lines of a log plot are left unnumbered.
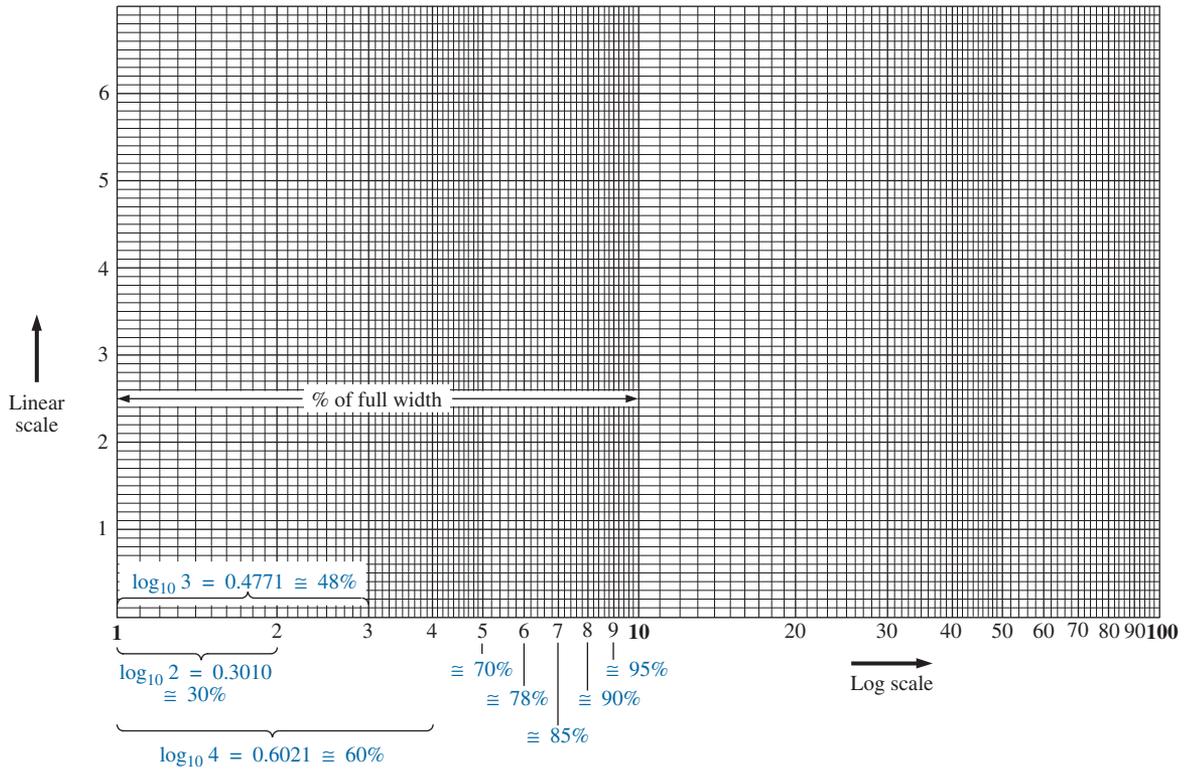
FIG. 21.1

Semilog graph paper.

Since

$$\log_{10} 1 = 0$$
$$\log_{10} 10 = 1$$
$$\log_{10} 100 = 2$$
$$\log_{10} 1000 = 3$$
$$\vdots$$

the spacing between 1 and 10, 10 and 100, 100 and 1000, and so on, is the same as shown in Figs. 21.1 and 21.2.

Note in Figs. 21.1 and 21.2 that the log scale becomes compressed at the high end of each interval. With increasing frequency levels assigned to each interval, a single graph can provide a frequency plot extending from 1 Hz to 1 MHz, as shown in Fig. 21.2, with particular reference to the 30%, 50%, 70%, and 90% levels of each interval.
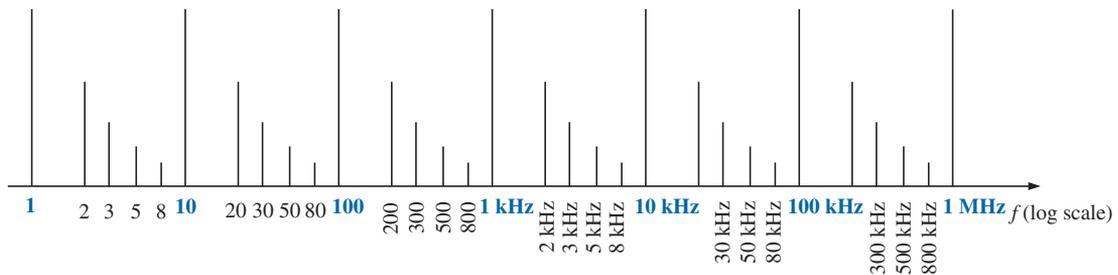
FIG. 21.2

Frequency log scale.
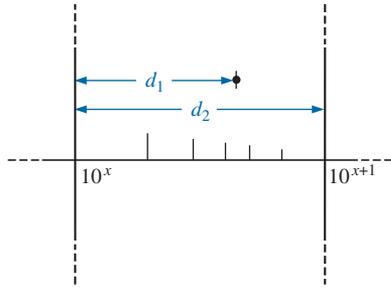
FIG. 21.3

Finding a value on a log plot.
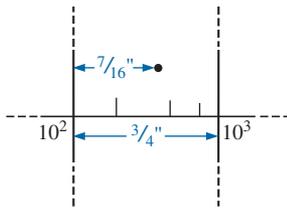
FIG. 21.4

Example 21.1.

On many log plots, the tick marks for most of the intermediate levels are left off because of space constraints. The following equation can be used to determine the logarithmic level at a particular point between known levels using a ruler or simply estimating the distances. The parameters are defined by Fig. 21.3.

$$\text{Value} = 10^x \times 10^{d_1/d_2} \qquad \textbf{(21.3)}$$

The derivation of Eq. (21.3) is simply an extension of the details regarding distance appearing in Fig. 21.1.

EXAMPLE 21.1 Determine the value of the point appearing on the logarithmic plot in Fig. 21.4 using the measurements made by a ruler (linear).

Solution:

$$\frac{d_1}{d_2} = \frac{7/16''}{3/4''} = \frac{0.438''}{0.750''} = 0.584$$

Using a calculator:

$$10^{d_1/d_2} = 10^{0.584} = 3.837$$

Applying Eq. (21.3):

$$\text{Value} = 10^x \times 10^{d_1/d_2} = 10^2 \times 3.837$$
$$= \textbf{383.7}$$

21.2 PROPERTIES OF LOGARITHMS

There are a few characteristics of logarithms that should be emphasized:

1. *The common or natural logarithm of the number 1 is 0.*

$$\log_{10} 1 = 0 \qquad \textbf{(21.4)}$$

just as $10^x = 1$ requires that $x = 0$.

2. *The log of any number less than 1 is a negative number.*

$$\log_{10} \tfrac{1}{2} = \log_{10} 0.5 = -0.3$$
$$\log_{10} \tfrac{1}{10} = \log_{10} 0.1 = -1$$

3. *The log of the product of two numbers is the sum of the logs of the numbers.*

$$\log_{10} ab = \log_{10} a + \log_{10} b \qquad \textbf{(21.5)}$$

4. *The log of the quotient of two numbers is the log of the numerator minus the log of the denominator.*

$$\log_{10} \frac{a}{b} = \log_{10} a - \log_{10} b \qquad \textbf{(21.6)}$$

dB

5. The log of a number taken to a power is equal to the product of the power and the log of the number.

$$\log_{10} a^n = n \log_{10} a \qquad \textbf{(21.7)}$$

Calculator Functions

Using the TI-89 calculator, the common logarithm of a number is determined by first selecting the CATALOG key and then scrolling to find the common logarithm function. The time involved in scrolling through the options can be reduced by first selecting the key with the first letter of the desired function—in this case, *L* as shown below to find the common logarithm of the number 80.

L

CATALOG | 4 | ↓ LOG | (| ENTER | 8 | 0 |) | ENTER 1.903

For the reverse process, to find N, or the antilogarithm, use the function 10. In this case, the function 10 is found after the letter *Z* in the catalog. It is easier if you first select *A* to start at the top of the listing and then go backwards to the power of ten function by using the upward moving scroll option. The antilogarithm of the number 0.6 is found as follows:

A

CATALOG | = | ↑10^ | (| ENTER | 0 | ▪ | 6 |) | ENTER 3.981

EXAMPLE 21.2 Evaluate each of the following logarithmic expressions:

a. $\log_{10} 0.004$
b. $\log_{10} 250{,}000$
c. $\log_{10}(0.08)(240)$
d. $\log_{10} \dfrac{1 \times 10^4}{1 \times 10^{-4}}$
e. $\log_{10}(10)^4$

Solutions:

a. **−2.398**
b. **+5.398**
c. $\log_{10}(0.08)(240) = \log_{10} 0.08 + \log_{10} 240 = -1.097 + 2.380$
    $$= \textbf{1.283}$$

d. $\log_{10} \dfrac{1 \times 10^4}{1 \times 10^{-4}} = \log_{10} 1 \times 10^4 - \log_{10} 1 \times 10^{-4} = 4 - (-4)$
    $$= \textbf{8}$$

e. $\log_{10} 10^4 = 4 \log_{10} 10 = 4(1) = \textbf{4}$

21.3 DECIBELS

Power Gain

Two levels of power can be compared using a unit of measure called the *bel,* which is defined by the following equation:

$$B = \log_{10} \frac{P_2}{P_1} \qquad \text{(bels)} \qquad \textbf{(21.8)}$$

However, to provide a unit of measure of *less* magnitude, a **decibel** is defined, where

$$1 \text{ bel} = 10 \text{ decibels (dB)} \qquad \textbf{(21.9)}$$

The result is the following important equation, which compares power levels P_2 and P_1 in decibels:

$$dB = 10 \log_{10} \frac{P_2}{P_1} \qquad \text{(decibels, dB)} \qquad \textbf{(21.10)}$$

If the power levels are equal ($P_2 = P_1$), there is no change in power level, and dB = 0. If there is an increase in power level ($P_2 > P_1$), the resulting decibel level is positive. If there is a decrease in power level ($P_2 < P_1$), the resulting decibel level will be negative.

For the special case of $P_2 = 2P_1$, the gain in decibels is

$$dB = 10 \log_{10} \frac{P_2}{P_1} = 10 \log_{10} 2 = \textbf{3 dB}$$

Therefore, for a speaker system, a 3 dB increase in output requires that the power level be doubled. In the audio industry, it is a generally accepted rule that an increase in sound level is accomplished with 3 dB increments in the output level. In other words, a 1 dB increase is barely detectable, and a 2 dB increase just discernible. A 3 dB increase normally results in a readily detectable increase in sound level. An additional increase in the sound level is normally accomplished by simply increasing the output level another 3 dB. If an 8 W system were in use, a 3 dB increase would require a 16 W output, whereas an additional increase of 3 dB (a total of 6 dB) would require a 32 W system, as demonstrated by the calculations below:

$$dB = 10 \log_{10} \frac{P_2}{P_1} = 10 \log_{10} \frac{16}{8} = 10 \log_{10} 2 = \textbf{3 dB}$$

$$dB = 10 \log_{10} \frac{P_2}{P_1} = 10 \log_{10} \frac{32}{8} = 10 \log_{10} 4 = \textbf{6 dB}$$

For $P_2 = 10P_1$,

$$dB = 10 \log_{10} \frac{P_2}{P_1} = 10 \log_{10} 10 = 10(1) = \textbf{10 dB}$$

resulting in the unique situation where the power gain has the same magnitude as the decibel level.

For some applications, a reference level is established to permit a comparison of decibel levels from one situation to another. For communication systems, a commonly applied reference level is

$$P_{\text{ref}} = 1 \text{ mW} \qquad \text{(across a 600 } \Omega \text{ load)}$$

Eq. (21.10) is then typically written as

$$dB_m = 10 \log_{10} \frac{P}{1 \text{ mW}} \bigg|_{600 \, \Omega} \qquad \textbf{(21.11)}$$

dB

Note the subscript m to denote that the decibel level is determined with a reference level of 1 mW.

In particular, for $P = 40$ mW,

$$dB_m = 10 \log_{10} \frac{40 \text{ mW}}{1 \text{ mW}} = 10 \log_{10} 40 = 10(1.6) = \textbf{16 dB}_m$$

whereas for $P = 4$ W,

$$dB_m = 10 \log_{10} \frac{4000 \text{ mW}}{1 \text{ mW}} = 10 \log_{10} 4000 = 10(3.6) = \textbf{36 dB}_m$$

Even though the power level has increased by a factor of 4000 mW/ 40 mW $= 100$, the dB_m increase is limited to 20 dB_m. In time, the significance of dB_m levels of 16 dB_m and 36 dB_m will generate an immediate appreciation regarding the power levels involved. An increase of 20 dB_m is also associated with a significant gain in power levels.

Voltage Gain

Decibels are also used to provide a comparison between voltage levels. Substituting the basic power equations $P_2 = V_2^2/R_2$ and $P_1 = V_1^2/R_1$ into Eq. (21.10) results in

$$dB = 10 \log_{10} \frac{P_2}{P_1} = 10 \log_{10} \frac{V_2^2/R_2}{V_1^2/R_1}$$

$$= 10 \log_{10} \frac{V_2^2/V_1^2}{R_2/R_1} = 10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{V_2}{V_1}\right)^2 - 10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{R_2}{R_1}\right)$$

and
$$dB = 20 \log_{10} \frac{V_2}{V_1} - 10 \log_{10} \frac{R_2}{R_1}$$

For the situation where $R_2 = R_1$, a condition normally assumed when comparing voltage levels on a decibel basis, the second term of the preceding equation drops out ($\log_{10} 1 = 0$), and

$$\boxed{dB_v = 20 \log_{10} \frac{V_2}{V_1}} \qquad \text{(dB)} \qquad\qquad \textbf{(21.12)}$$

Note the subscript v to define the decibel level obtained.

EXAMPLE 21.3 Find the voltage gain in dB of a system where the applied signal is 2 mV and the output voltage is 1.2 V.

Solution:

$$dB_v = 20 \log_{10} \frac{V_o}{V_i} = 20 \log_{10} \frac{1.2 \text{ V}}{2 \text{ mV}} = 20 \log_{10} 600 = \textbf{55.56 dB}$$

for a voltage gain $A_v = V_o/V_i$ of 600.

EXAMPLE 21.4 If a system has a voltage gain of 36 dB, find the applied voltage if the output voltage is 6.8 V.

Solution:

$$dB_v = 20 \log_{10} \frac{V_o}{V_i}$$

$$36 = 20 \log_{10} \frac{V_o}{V_i}$$

$$1.8 = \log_{10} \frac{V_o}{V_i}$$

From the antilogarithm:

$$\frac{V_o}{V_i} = 63.096$$

and $\qquad V_i = \dfrac{V_o}{63.096} = \dfrac{6.8 \text{ V}}{63.096} = \textbf{107.77 mV}$

TABLE 21.1

V_o/V_i	dB $= 20 \log_{10} (V_o/V_i)$
1	0 dB
2	6 dB
10	20 dB
20	26 dB
100	40 dB
1,000	60 dB
100,000	100 dB

Table 21.1 compares the magnitude of specific gains to the resulting decibel level. In particular, note that when voltage levels are compared, a doubling of the level results in a change of 6 dB rather than 3 dB as obtained for power levels.

In addition, note that an increase in gain from 1 to 100,000 results in a change in decibels that can easily be plotted on a single graph. Also note that doubling the gain (from 1 to 2 and 10 to 20) results in a 6 dB increase in the decibel level, while a change of 10 to 1 (from 1 to 10, 10 to 100, and so on) always results in a 20 dB decrease in the decibel level.

Human Auditory Response

One of the most frequent applications of the decibel scale is in the communication and entertainment industries. The human ear does not respond in a linear fashion to changes in source power level; that is, a doubling of the audio power level from 1/2 W to 1 W does not result in a doubling of the loudness level for the human ear. In addition, a change from 5 W to 10 W is received by the ear as the same change in sound intensity as experienced from 1/2 W to 1 W. In other words, the ratio between levels is the same in each case (1 W/0.5 W $=$ 10 W/5 W $=$ 2), resulting in the same decibel or logarithmic change defined by Eq. (21.7). The ear, therefore, responds in a logarithmic fashion to changes in audio power levels.

To establish a basis for comparison between audio levels, a reference level of 0.0002 **microbar** (μbar) was chosen, where 1 μbar is equal to the sound pressure of 1 dyne per square centimeter, or about 1 millionth of the normal atmospheric pressure at sea level. The 0.0002 μbar level is the threshold level of hearing. Using this reference level, the sound pressure level in decibels is defined by the following equation:

$$dB_s = 20 \log_{10} \frac{P}{0.0002 \ \mu\text{bar}} \qquad \textbf{(21.13)}$$

where P is the sound pressure in microbars.

The decibel levels in Fig. 21.5 are defined by Eq. (21.13). Meters designed to measure audio levels are calibrated to the levels defined by Eq. (21.13) and shown in Fig. 21.5.

dB

```
Output Power. dB_s
Average value  160    Jet engine
   in watts.    |
               150
                |
               140    Community siren
                |
               130
                |           Pneumatic riveter
               120 —  Threshold of pain
                |
   300 — 110    Loud rock band, punch press
   100 —  |     Chain saw
    30 — 100    Very loud music
    10 —  |
     3 —  90    Loud music, heavy truck, subway train
     1 —  |
   0.3 —  80    Orchestra, highway traffic
   0.1 —  |
  0.03 —  70  ⎫
  0.01 —  |   ⎬  Average conversation
 0.003 —  60  ⎭  Quiet music               Dynamic range ≅ 120 dB_s
 0.001 —  |
0.0003 —  50    Average residence, computer system
                |
                40    Background music
                |
                30    Quiet office, computer hard drive
                |
                20    Whispering
                |
                10    Faint sounds, paper rustling
                |
0.0002 μbar of pressure — 0 — Threshold of hearing
```

FIG. 21.5

Typical sound levels and their decibel levels.

A common question regarding audio levels is how much the power level of an acoustical source must be increased to double the sound level received by the human ear. The question is not as simple as it first seems due to considerations such as the frequency content of the sound, the acoustical conditions of the surrounding area, the physical characteristics of the surrounding medium, and—of course—the unique characteristics of the human ear. However, a general conclusion can be formulated that has practical value if we note the power levels of an acoustical source appearing to the left in Fig. 21.5. Each power level is associated with a particular decibel level, and a change of 10 dB in the scale corresponds with an increase or a decrease in power by a factor of 10. For instance, a change from 90 dB to 100 dB is associated with a change in wattage from 3 W to 30 W. Through experimentation, it has been found that on an average basis the loudness level doubles for every 10 dB change in audio level—a conclusion somewhat verified by the examples to the right in Fig. 21.5.

To double the sound level received by the human ear, the power rating of the acoustical source (in watts) must be increased by a factor of 10.

In other words, doubling the sound level available from a 1 W acoustical source requires moving up to a 10 W source.

Instrumentation

A number of modern VOMs and DMMs have a dB scale designed to provide an indication of power ratios referenced to a standard level of 1 mW at 600 Ω. Since the reading is accurate only if the load has a characteristic
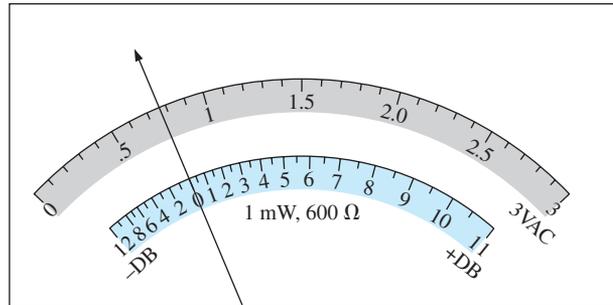
FIG. 21.6

Defining the relationship between a dB scale referenced to 1 mW, 600 Ω and a 3 V rms voltage scale.

impedance of 600 Ω, the 1 mW, 600 Ω reference level is normally printed somewhere on the face of the meter, as shown in Fig. 21.6. The dB scale is usually calibrated to the lowest ac scale of the meter. In other words, when making the dB measurement, choose the lowest ac voltage scale, but read the dB scale. If a higher voltage scale is chosen, a correction factor must be used, which is sometimes printed on the face of the meter but is always available in the meter manual. If the impedance is other than 600 Ω or not purely resistive, other correction factors must be used that are normally included in the meter manual. Using the basic power equation $P = V^2/R$ reveals that 1 mW across a 600 Ω load is the same as applying 0.775 V rms across a 600 Ω load; that is, $V = \sqrt{PR} = \sqrt{(1 \text{ mW})(600 \text{ Ω})} = 0.775$ V. The result is that an analog display will have 0 dB [defining the reference point of 1 mW, dB $= 10 \log_{10} P_2/P_1 = 10 \log_{10} (1 \text{ mW}/1 \text{ mW(ref)} = 0 \text{ dB}]$ and 0.775 V rms on the same pointer projection, as shown in Fig. 21.6. A voltage of 2.5 V across a 600 Ω load results in a dB level of dB $= 20 \log_{10} V_2/V_1 = 20 \log_{10} 2.5 \text{ V}/0.775 = 10.17$ dB, resulting in 2.5 V and 10.17 dB appearing along the same pointer projection. A voltage of less than 0.775 V, such as 0.5 V, results in a dB level of dB $= 20 \log_{10} V_2/V_1 = 20 \log_{10} 0.5 \text{ V}/0.775 \text{ V} = -3.8$ dB, also shown on the scale in Fig. 21.6. Although a reading of 10 dB reveals that the power level is 10 times the reference, don't assume that a reading of 5 dB means that the output level is 5 mW. The 10 : 1 ratio is a special one in logarithmic circles. For the 5 dB level, the power level must be found using the antilogarithm (3.126), which reveals that the power level associated with 5 dB is about 3.1 times the reference or 3.1 mW. A conversion table is usually provided in the manual for such conversions.

21.4 FILTERS

Any combination of passive (*R, L,* and *C*) and/or active (transistors or operational amplifiers) elements designed to select or reject a band of frequencies is called a **filter.** In communication systems, filters are used to pass those frequencies containing the desired information and to reject the remaining frequencies. In stereo systems, filters can isolate particular bands of frequencies for increased or decreased emphasis by the output acoustical system (amplifier, speaker, and so on). Filters are used to filter out any unwanted frequencies, commonly called *noise,* due to the nonlinear characteristics of some electronic devices or signals picked up from the surrounding medium. In general, there are two classifications of filters:

1. **Passive filters** are those filters composed of series or parallel combinations of *R, L,* and *C* elements.

2. **Active filters** are filters that employ active devices such as tran-
   sistors and operational amplifiers in combination with *R, L,* and
   C elements.

Since this text is limited to passive devices, the analysis of this chapter
is limited to passive filters. In addition, only the most fundamental forms
are examined in the next few sections. The subject of filters is a very broad
one that continues to receive extensive research support from industry and
the government as new communication systems are developed to meet the
demands of increased volume and speed. There are courses and texts de-
voted solely to the analysis and design of filter systems that can become
quite complex and sophisticated. In general, however, all filters belong to
the four broad categories of **low-pass, high-pass, pass-band,** and **stop-
band,** as depicted in Fig. 21.7. For each form, there are critical frequen-
cies that define the regions of pass-bands and stop-bands (often called
reject bands). Any frequency in the pass-band will pass through to the next
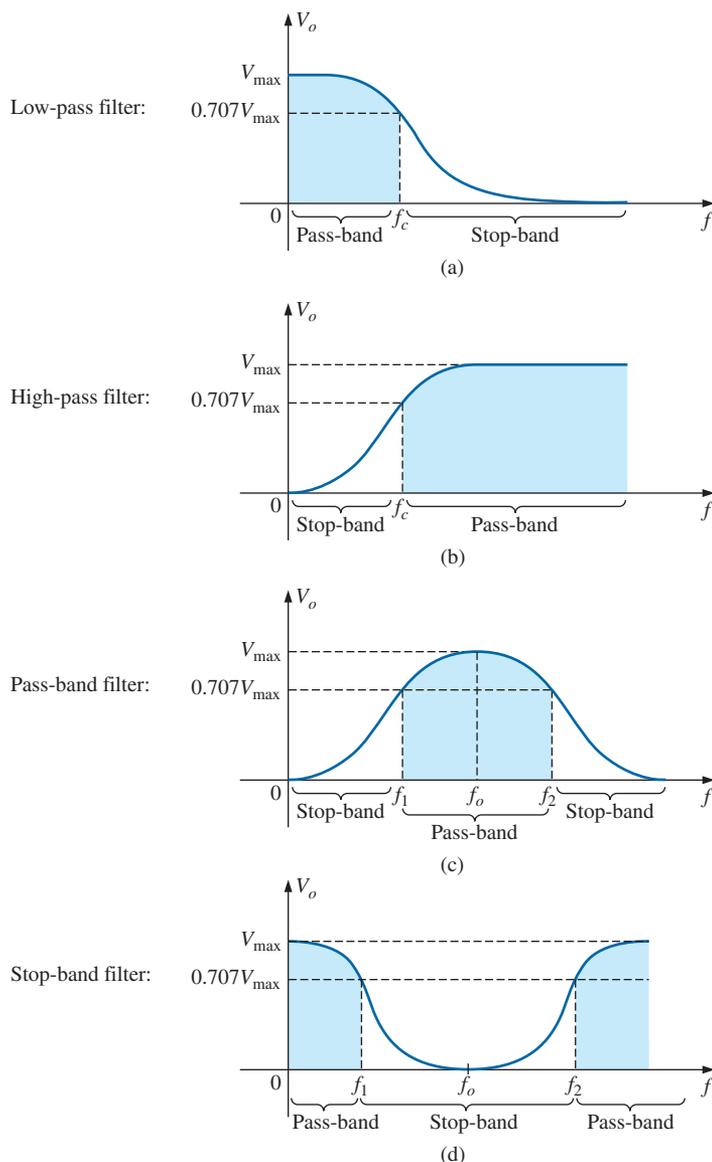
FIG. 21.7

Defining the four broad categories of filters.

stage with at least 70.7% of the maximum output voltage. Recall the use of the 0.707 level to define the bandwidth of a series or parallel resonant circuit (both with the general shape of the pass-band filter).

For some stop-band filters, the stop-band is defined by conditions other than the 0.707 level. In fact, for many stop-band filters, the condition that $V_o = 1/1000V_{max}$ (corresponding with -60 dB in the discussion to follow) is used to define the stop-band region, with the pass-band continuing to be defined by the 0.707 V level. The resulting frequencies between the two regions are then called the *transition frequencies* and establish the *transition region*.

At least one example of each filter in Fig. 21.7 is discussed in some detail in the sections to follow. Take particular note of the relative simplicity of some of the designs.

21.5 *R-C* LOW-PASS FILTER

The *R-C* filter, incredibly simple in design, can be used as a low-pass or a high-pass filter. If the output is taken off the capacitor, as shown in Fig. 21.8, it responds as a low-pass filter. If the positions of the resistor and capacitor are interchanged and the output is taken off the resistor, the response is that of a high-pass filter.

A glance at Fig. 21.7(a) reveals that the circuit should behave in a manner that results in a high-level output for low frequencies and a declining level for frequencies above the critical value. Let us first examine the network at the frequency extremes of $f = 0$ Hz and very high frequencies to test the response of the circuit.

At $f = 0$ Hz,

$$X_C = \frac{1}{2\pi fC} = \infty \; \Omega$$

and the open-circuit equivalent can be substituted for the capacitor, as shown in Fig. 21.9, resulting in $\mathbf{V}_o = \mathbf{V}_i$.

At very high frequencies, the reactance is

$$X_C = \frac{1}{2\pi fC} \cong 0 \; \Omega$$

and the short-circuit equivalent can be substituted for the capacitor, as shown in Fig. 21.10, resulting in $\mathbf{V}_o = 0$ V.

A plot of the magnitude of V_o versus frequency results in the curve in Fig. 21.11. Our next goal is now clearly defined: Find the frequency at which the transition takes place from a pass-band to a stop-band.
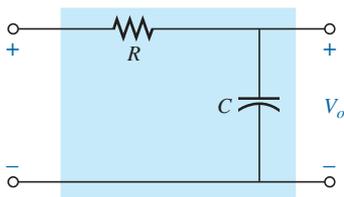
FIG. 21.8
Low-pass filter.
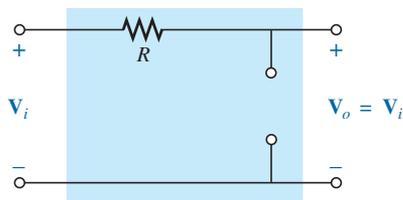
FIG. 21.9
R-C low-pass filter at low frequencies.
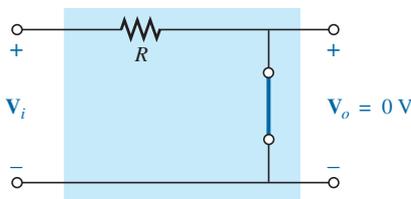
FIG. 21.10
R-C low-pass filter at high frequencies.
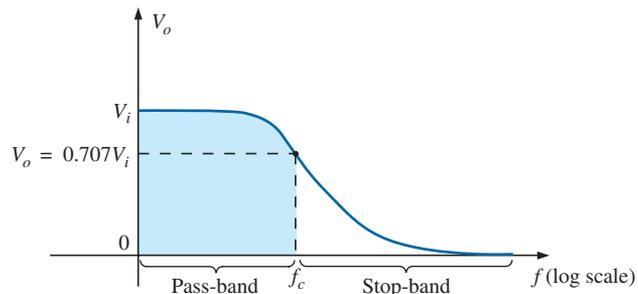
FIG. 21.11
V_o versus frequency for a low-pass R-C filter.

For filters, a normalized plot is used more often than the plot of V_o versus frequency in Fig. 21.11.

Normalization is a process whereby a quantity such as voltage, current, or impedance is divided by a quantity of the same unit of measure to establish a dimensionless level of a specific value or range.

A normalized plot in the filter domain can be obtained by dividing the plotted quantity such as V_o in Fig. 21.11 with the applied voltage V_i for the frequency range of interest. Since the maximum value of V_o for the low-pass filter in Fig. 21.8 is V_i, each level of V_o in Fig. 21.11 is divided by the level of V_i. The result is the plot of $A_v = V_o/V_i$ in Fig. 21.12. Note that the maximum value is 1 and the cutoff frequency is defined at the 0.707 level.
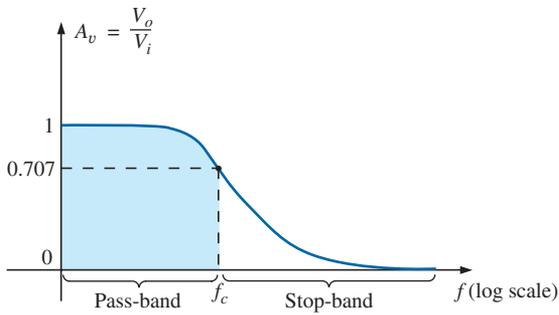
FIG. 21.12
Normalized plot of Fig. 21.11.

At any intermediate frequency, the output voltage $\mathbf{V}_o$ in Fig. 21.8 can be determined using the voltage divider rule:

$$\mathbf{V}_o = \frac{X_C \angle -90° \mathbf{V}_i}{R - jX_C}$$

or

$$\mathbf{A}_v = \frac{\mathbf{V}_o}{\mathbf{V}_i} = \frac{X_C \angle -90°}{R - jX_C} = \frac{X_C \angle -90°}{\sqrt{R^2 + X_C^2} \angle -\tan^{-1}(X_C/R)}$$

and

$$\mathbf{A}_v = \frac{\mathbf{V}_o}{\mathbf{V}_i} = \frac{X_C}{\sqrt{R^2 + X_C^2}} \angle -90° + \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{X_C}{R}\right)$$

The magnitude of the ratio V_o/V_i is therefore determined by

$$A_v = \frac{V_o}{V_i} = \frac{X_C}{\sqrt{R^2 + X_C^2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\left(\dfrac{R}{X_C}\right)^2 + 1}} \tag{21.14}$$

and the phase angle is determined by

$$\theta = -90° + \tan^{-1}\frac{X_C}{R} = -\tan^{-1}\frac{R}{X_C} \tag{21.15}$$

For the special frequency at which $X_C = R$, the magnitude becomes

$$A_v = \frac{V_o}{V_i} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\left(\dfrac{R}{X_C}\right)^2 + 1}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + 1}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = 0.707$$

which defines the critical or cutoff frequency in Fig. 21.12.

The frequency at which $X_C = R$ is determined by

$$\frac{1}{2\pi f_c C} = R$$

and
$$\boxed{f_c = \frac{1}{2\pi RC}}$$
(21.16)

The impact of Eq. (21.16) extends beyond its relative simplicity. For any low-pass filter, the application of any frequency less than f_c results in an output voltage V_o that is at least 70.7% of the maximum. For any frequency above f_c, the output is less than 70.7% of the applied signal.

Solving for $\mathbf{V}_o$ and substituting $\mathbf{V}_i = V_i \angle 0°$ gives

$$\mathbf{V}_o = \left[\frac{X_C}{\sqrt{R^2 + X_C^2}} \angle\theta\right]\mathbf{V}_i = \left[\frac{X_C}{\sqrt{R^2 + X_C^2}} \angle\theta\right]V_i \angle 0°$$

and
$$\mathbf{V}_o = \frac{X_C V_i}{\sqrt{R^2 + X_C^2}} \angle\theta$$

The angle θ is, therefore, the angle by which $\mathbf{V}_o$ leads $\mathbf{V}_i$. Since $\theta = -\tan^{-1} R/X_C$ is always negative (except at $f = 0$ Hz), it is clear that $\mathbf{V}_o$ will always lag $\mathbf{V}_i$, leading to the label *lagging network* for the network in Fig. 21.8.

At high frequencies, X_C is very small and R/X_C is quite large, resulting in $\theta = -\tan^{-1} R/X_C$ approaching $-90°$.

At low frequencies, X_C is quite large and R/X_C is very small, resulting in θ approaching $0°$.

At $X_C = R$, or $f = f_c$, $-\tan^{-1} R/X_C = -\tan^{-1} 1 = -45°$.

A plot of θ versus frequency results in the phase plot in Fig. 21.13.

The plot is of $\mathbf{V}_o$ leading $\mathbf{V}_i$, but since the phase angle is always negative, the phase plot in Fig. 21.14 ($\mathbf{V}_o$ lagging $\mathbf{V}_i$) is more appropriate. Note that a change in sign requires that the vertical axis be changed to the angle by which $\mathbf{V}_o$ lags $\mathbf{V}_i$. In particular, note that the phase angle between $\mathbf{V}_o$ and $\mathbf{V}_i$ is less than 45° in the pass-band and approaches 0° at lower frequencies.
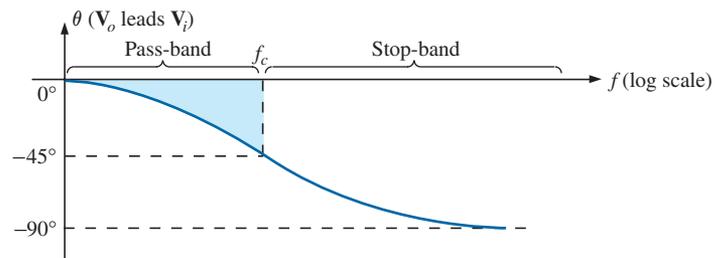
FIG. 21.13

Angle by which V_o leads V_i.
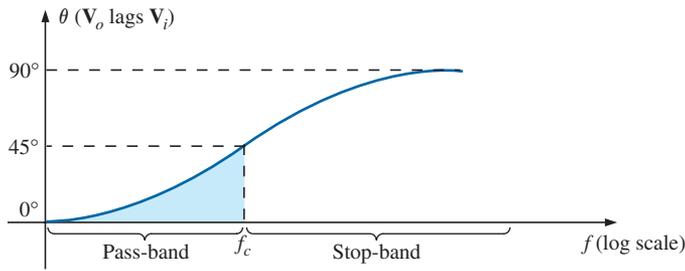
FIG. 21.14
Angle by which V_o lags V_i.

In summary, for the low-pass R-C filter in Fig. 21.8:

$$f_c = \frac{1}{2\pi RC}$$

For	$f < f_c$,	$V_o > 0.707V_i$
whereas for	$f > f_c$,	$V_o < 0.707V_i$
At f_c,	V_o lags V_i by 45°	

The low-pass filter response in Fig. 21.7(a) can also be obtained using the R-L combination in Fig. 21.15 with

$$f_c = \frac{R}{2\pi L} \qquad \textbf{(21.17)}$$

In general, however, the R-C combination is more popular due to the smaller size of capacitive elements and the nonlinearities associated with inductive elements. The details of the analysis of the low-pass R-L can be an exercise for independent study.
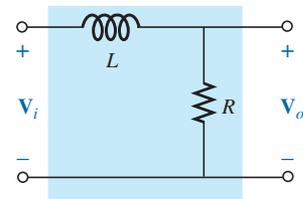
FIG. 21.15
Low-pass R-L filter.

EXAMPLE 21.5

a. Sketch the output voltage V_o versus frequency for the low-pass R-C filter in Fig. 21.16.
b. Determine the voltage V_o at $f = 100$ kHz and 1 MHz, and compare the results to the results obtained from the curve in part (a).
c. Sketch the normalized gain $A_v = V_o/V_i$.
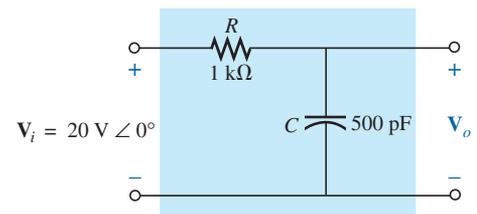
Solutions:

a. Eq. (21.16):

$$f_c = \frac{1}{2\pi RC} = \frac{1}{2\pi(1 \text{ k}\Omega)(500 \text{ pF})} = \textbf{318.31 kHz}$$

At f_c, $V_o = 0.707(20 \text{ V}) = 14.14$ V. See Fig. 21.17.

b. Eq. (21.14):

$$V_o = \frac{V_i}{\sqrt{\left(\dfrac{R}{X_C}\right)^2 + 1}}$$

At $f = 100$ kHz:

$$X_C = \frac{1}{2\pi fC} = \frac{1}{2\pi(100 \text{ kHz})(500 \text{ pF})} = 3.18 \text{ k}\Omega$$

FIG. 21.16
Example 21.5.
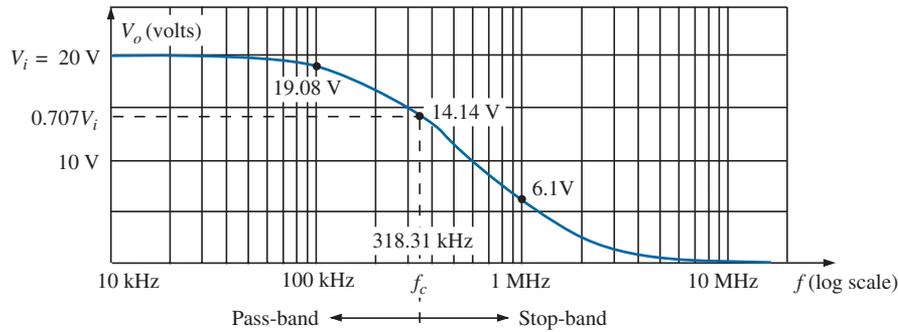
FIG. 21.17
Frequency response for the low-pass R-C network in Fig. 21.16.

and $\qquad V_o = \dfrac{20 \text{ V}}{\sqrt{\left(\dfrac{1 \text{ k}\Omega}{3.18 \text{ k}\Omega}\right)^2 + 1}} = \textbf{19.08 V}$

At $f = 1$ MHz:

$$X_C = \frac{1}{2\pi fC} = \frac{1}{2\pi(1 \text{ MHz})(500 \text{ pF})} = 0.32 \text{ k}\Omega$$

and $\qquad V_o = \dfrac{20 \text{ V}}{\sqrt{\left(\dfrac{1 \text{ k}\Omega}{0.32 \text{ k}\Omega}\right)^2 + 1}} = \textbf{6.1 V}$

Both levels are verified by Fig. 21.17.
c. Dividing every level in Fig. 21.17 by $V_i = 20$ V results in the nor-
malized plot in Fig. 21.18.
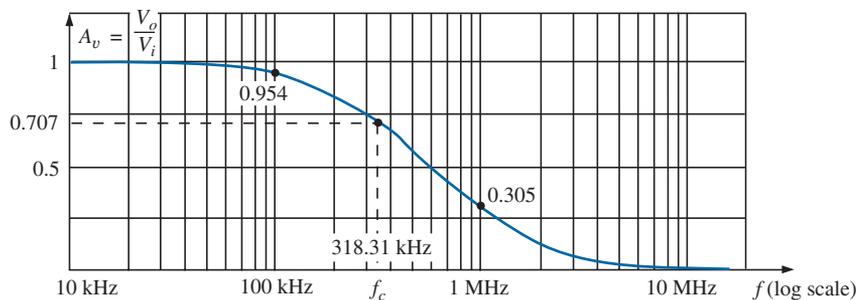
FIG. 21.18
Normalized plot of Fig. 21.17.

21.6 *R-C* HIGH-PASS FILTER

As noted in Section 21.5, a high-pass *R-C* filter can be constructed by
simply reversing the positions of the capacitor and resistor, as shown in
Fig. 21.19.

At very high frequencies, the reactance of the capacitor is very small,
and the short-circuit equivalent can be substituted, as shown in Fig.
21.20. The result is that $\mathbf{V}_o = \mathbf{V}_i$.

At $f = 0$ Hz, the reactance of the capacitor is quite high, and the open-
circuit equivalent can be substituted, as shown in Fig. 21.21. In this case,
$\mathbf{V}_o = 0$ V.

FIG. 21.19
High-pass filter.
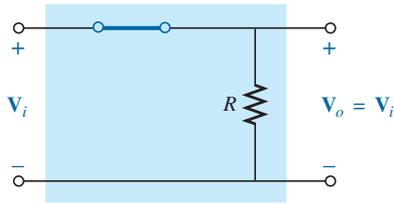
FIG. 21.20

R-C high-pass filter at very high frequencies.
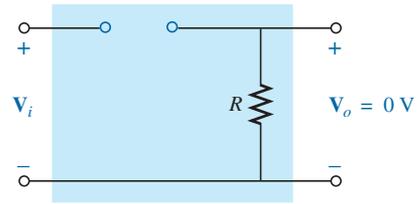
FIG. 21.21

R-C high-pass filter at f = 0 Hz.

A plot of the magnitude versus frequency is provided in Fig. 21.22, with the normalized plot in Fig. 21.23.
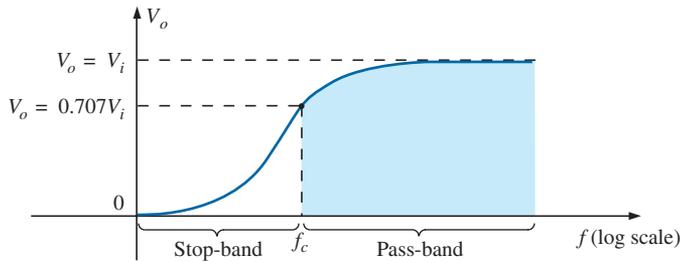
FIG. 21.22

V_o versus frequency for a high-pass R-C filter.
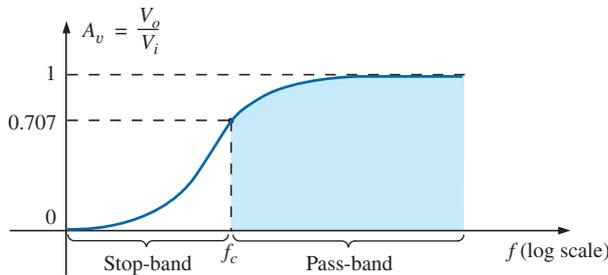
FIG. 21.23

Normalized plot of Fig. 21.22.

At any intermediate frequency, the output voltage can be determined using the voltage divider rule:

$$\mathbf{V}_o = \frac{R \angle 0° \, \mathbf{V}_i}{R - j X_C}$$

or

$$\frac{\mathbf{V}_o}{\mathbf{V}_i} = \frac{R \angle 0°}{R - j X_C} = \frac{R \angle 0°}{\sqrt{R^2 + X_C^2} \angle -\tan^{-1}(X_C/R)}$$

and

$$\frac{\mathbf{V}_o}{\mathbf{V}_i} = \frac{R}{\sqrt{R^2 + X_C^2}} \angle \tan^{-1}(X_C/R)$$

The magnitude of the ratio $\mathbf{V}_o/\mathbf{V}_i$ is therefore determined by

$$A_v = \frac{V_o}{V_i} = \frac{R}{\sqrt{R^2 + X_C^2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \left(\dfrac{X_C}{R}\right)^2}} \qquad \textbf{(21.18)}$$

and the phase angle θ by

$$\boxed{\theta = \tan^{-1}\frac{X_C}{R}}$$ (21.19)

For the frequency at which $X_C = R$, the magnitude becomes

$$\frac{V_o}{V_i} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \left(\dfrac{X_C}{R}\right)^2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+1}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = 0.707$$

as shown in Fig. 21.23.

The frequency at which $X_C = R$ is determined by

$$X_C = \frac{1}{2\pi f_c C} = R$$

and

$$\boxed{f_c = \frac{1}{2\pi RC}}$$ (21.20)

For the high-pass R-C filter, the application of any frequency greater than f_c results in an output voltage V_o that is at least 70.7% of the magnitude of the input signal. For any frequency below f_c, the output is less than 70.7% of the applied signal.

For the phase angle, high frequencies result in small values of X_C, and the ratio X_C/R approaches zero with $\tan^{-1}(X_C/R)$ approaching 0°, as shown in Fig. 21.24. At low frequencies, the ratio X_C/R becomes quite large, and $\tan^{-1}(X_C/R)$ approaches 90°. For the case $X_C = R$, $\tan^{-1}(X_C/R) = \tan^{-1} 1 = 45°$. Assigning a phase angle of 0° to $\mathbf{V}_i$ such that $\mathbf{V}_i = V_i \angle 0°$, the phase angle associated with $\mathbf{V}_o$ is θ, resulting in $\mathbf{V}_o = V_o \angle \theta$ and revealing that θ is the angle by which $\mathbf{V}_o$ leads $\mathbf{V}_i$. Since the angle θ is the angle by which $\mathbf{V}_o$ leads $\mathbf{V}_i$ throughout the frequency range in Fig. 21.24, the high-pass R-C filter is referred to as a *leading network.*
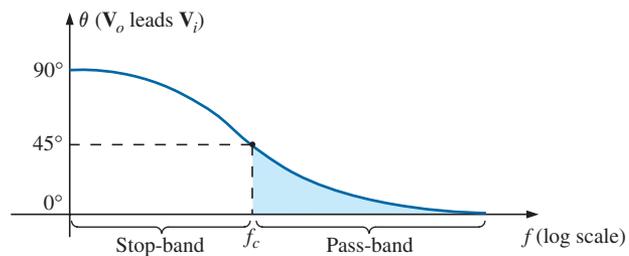
FIG. 21.24
Phase-angle response for the high-pass R-C filter.

In summary, for the high-pass R-C filter:

$$f_c = \frac{1}{2\pi RC}$$

For	$f < f_c$,	$V_o < 0.707V_i$
whereas for	$f > f_c$,	$V_o > 0.707V_i$
At f_c,		$\mathbf{V}_o$ leads $\mathbf{V}_i$ by 45°

The high-pass filter response in Fig. 21.23 can also be obtained using the same elements in Fig. 21.15 but interchanging their positions, as shown in Fig. 21.25.
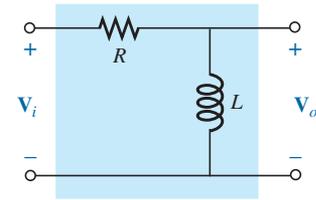
FIG. 21.25
High-pass R-L filter.

EXAMPLE 21.6 Given $R = 20$ kΩ and $C = 1200$ pF:

a. Sketch the normalized plot if the filter is used as both a high-pass and a low-pass filter.
b. Sketch the phase plot for both filters in part (a).
c. Determine the magnitude and phase of $\mathbf{A}_v = \mathbf{V}_o/\mathbf{V}_i$ at $f = \frac{1}{2}f_c$ for the high-pass filter.

Solutions:

a. $f_c = \dfrac{1}{2\pi RC} = \dfrac{1}{(2\pi)(20 \text{ k}\Omega)(1200 \text{ pF})}$

   $= \textbf{6631.46 Hz}$

The normalized plots appear in Fig. 21.26.
b. The phase plots appear in Fig. 21.27.
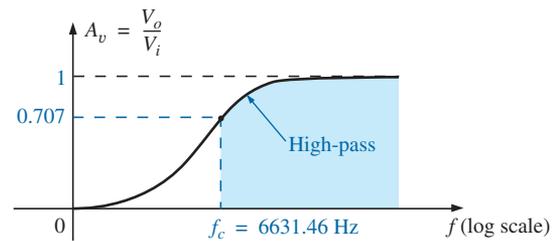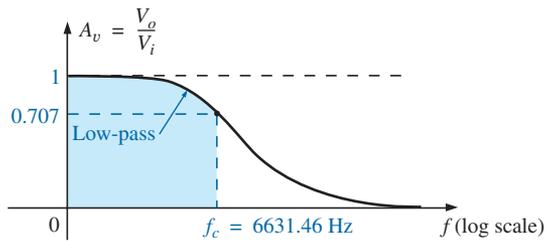
FIG. 21.26
Normalized plots for a low-pass and a high-pass filter using the same elements.
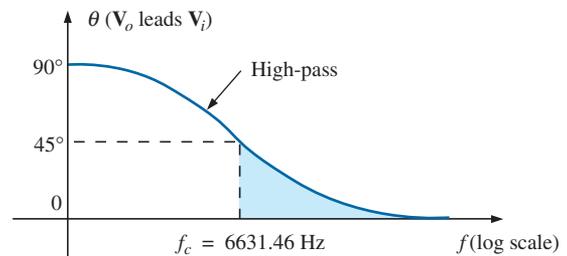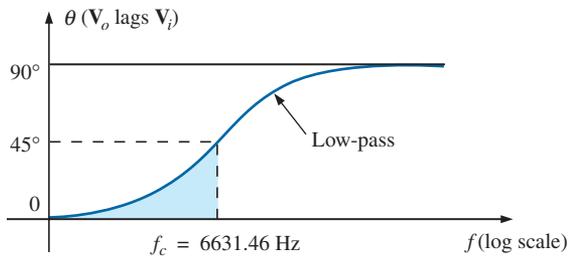
FIG. 21.27
Phase plots for a low-pass and a high-pass filter using the same elements.

c. $f = \dfrac{1}{2}f_c = \dfrac{1}{2}(6631.46 \text{ Hz}) = 3315.73$ Hz

   $X_C = \dfrac{1}{2\pi fC} = \dfrac{1}{(2\pi)(3315.73 \text{ Hz})(1200 \text{ pF})}$

   $\cong 40$ kΩ

$$A_v = \frac{V_o}{V_i} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \left(\dfrac{X_C}{R}\right)^2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \left(\dfrac{40\ k\Omega}{20\ k\Omega}\right)^2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + (2)^2}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} = 0.4472$$

$$\theta = \tan^{-1}\frac{X_C}{R} = \tan^{-1}\frac{40\ k\Omega}{20\ k\Omega} = \tan^{-1} 2 = 63.43°$$

and
$$\mathbf{A}_v = \frac{\mathbf{V}_o}{\mathbf{V}_i} = \mathbf{0.447\ \angle 63.43°}$$

21.7 PASS-BAND FILTERS

A number of methods are used to establish the pass-band characteristic in Fig. 21.7(c). One method uses both a low-pass and a high-pass filter in cascade, as shown in Fig. 21.28.
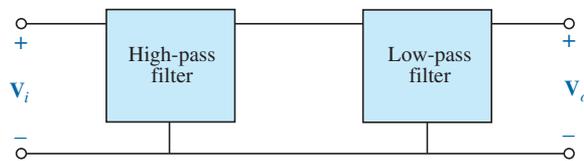
FIG. 21.28
Pass-band filter.

The components are chosen to establish a cutoff frequency for the high-pass filter that is lower than the critical frequency of the low-pass filter, as shown in Fig. 21.29. A frequency f_1 may pass through the low-pass filter but have little effect on V_o due to the reject characteristics of the high-pass filter. A frequency f_2 may pass through the high-pass filter unmolested but be prohibited from reaching the high-pass filter by the low-pass characteristics. A frequency f_o near the center of the pass-band passes through both filters with very little degeneration.
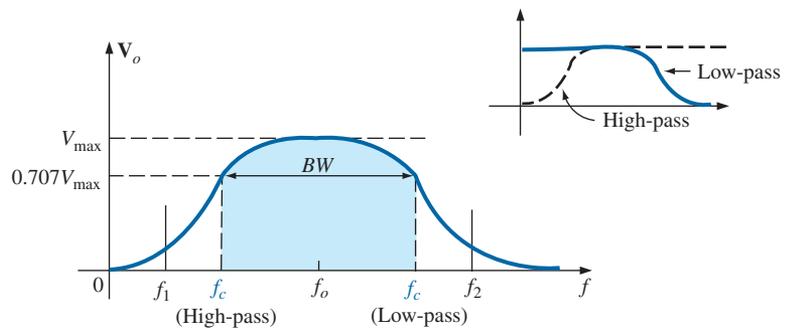
FIG. 21.29
Pass-band characteristics.

The network in Example 21.7 generates the characteristics of Fig. 21.29. However, for a circuit such as the one shown in Fig. 21.30, there is a loading between stages at each frequency that affects the level of $\mathbf{V}_o$. Through proper design, the level of $\mathbf{V}_o$ may be very near the level of $\mathbf{V}_i$

in the pass-band, but it will never equal it exactly. In addition, as the critical frequencies of each filter get closer and closer together to increase the quality factor of the response curve, the peak values within the pass-band continue to drop. For cases where $V_{o_{max}} \neq V_{i_{max}}$ the bandwidth is defined at 0.707 of the resulting $V_{o_{max}}$.

EXAMPLE 21.7 For the pass-band filter in Fig. 21.30:

a. Determine the critical frequencies for the low- and high-pass filters.
b. Using only the critical frequencies, sketch the response characteristics.
c. Determine the actual value of V_o at the high-pass critical frequency calculated in part (a), and compare it to the level that defines the upper frequency for the pass-band.

FIG. 21.30
Pass-band filter.

Solutions:

a. High-pass filter:

$$f_c = \frac{1}{2\pi R_1 C_1} = \frac{1}{2\pi(1\ k\Omega)(1.5\ nF)} = \mathbf{106.1\ kHz}$$

Low-pass filter:

$$f_c = \frac{1}{2\pi R_2 C_2} = \frac{1}{2\pi(40\ k\Omega)(4\ pF)} = \mathbf{994.72\ kHz}$$

b. In the mid-region of the pass-band at about 500 kHz, an analysis of the network reveals that $V_o \cong 0.9V_i$ as shown in Fig. 21.31. The bandwidth is therefore defined at a level of $0.707(0.9V_i) = 0.636V_i$ as also shown in Fig. 21.31.
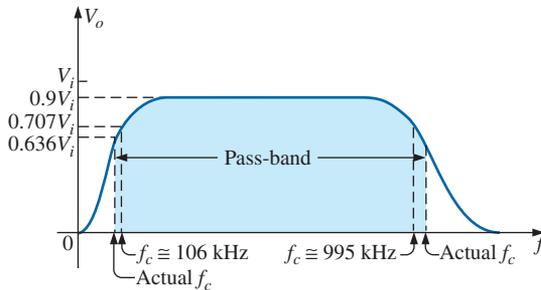
FIG. 21.31
Pass-band characteristics for the filter in Fig. 21.30.

c. At $f = 994.72$ kHz,

$$X_{C_1} = \frac{1}{2\pi f C_1} \cong 107\ \Omega$$

and

$$X_{C_2} = \frac{1}{2\pi f C_2} = R_2 = 40\ k\Omega$$

resulting in the network in Fig. 21.32.

The parallel combination $R_1 \| (R_2 - jX_{C_2})$ is essentially 0.976 kΩ $\angle 0°$ because the $R_2 - X_{C_2}$ combination is so large compared to the parallel resistor R_1.
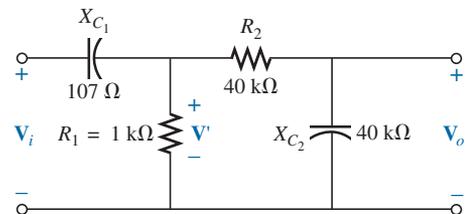
FIG. 21.32
Network of Fig. 21.30 at f = 994.72 kHz.

Then

$$\mathbf{V'} = \frac{0.976 \text{ k}\Omega \angle 0°(\mathbf{V}_i)}{0.976 \text{ k}\Omega - j0.107 \text{ k}\Omega} \cong 0.994\mathbf{V}_i \angle 6.26°$$

with

$$\mathbf{V}_o = \frac{(40 \text{ k}\Omega \angle -90°)(0.994\mathbf{V}_i \angle 6.26°)}{40 \text{ k}\Omega - j40 \text{ k}\Omega}$$

$$\mathbf{V}_o \cong 0.703\mathbf{V}_i \angle -39°$$

so that

$$V_o \cong \mathbf{0.703V}_i \quad \text{at } f = 994.72 \text{ kHz}$$

Since the bandwidth is defined at $0.636V_i$ the upper cutoff frequency will be higher than 994.72 kHz as shown in Fig. 21.31.

The pass-band response can also be obtained using the series and parallel resonant circuits discussed in Chapter 20. In each case, however, V_o will not be equal to V_i in the pass-band, but a frequency range in which V_o will be equal to or greater than $0.707V_{max}$ can be defined.

For the series resonant circuit in Fig. 21.33, $X_L = X_C$ at resonance, and

$$V_{o_{max}} = \frac{R}{R + R_l} V_i \Bigg|_{f = f_s} \tag{21.21}$$

and

$$f_s = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{LC}} \tag{21.22}$$

with

$$Q_s = \frac{X_L}{R + R_l} \tag{21.23}$$

and

$$BW = \frac{f_s}{Q_s} \tag{21.24}$$
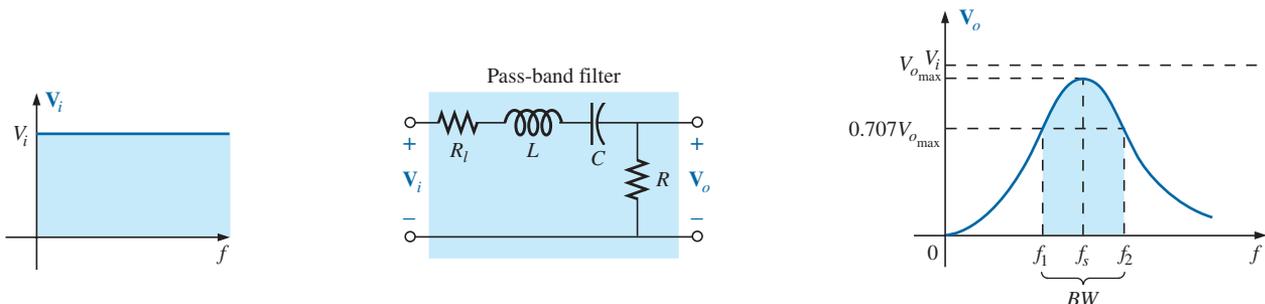
FIG. 21.33

Series resonant pass-band filter.
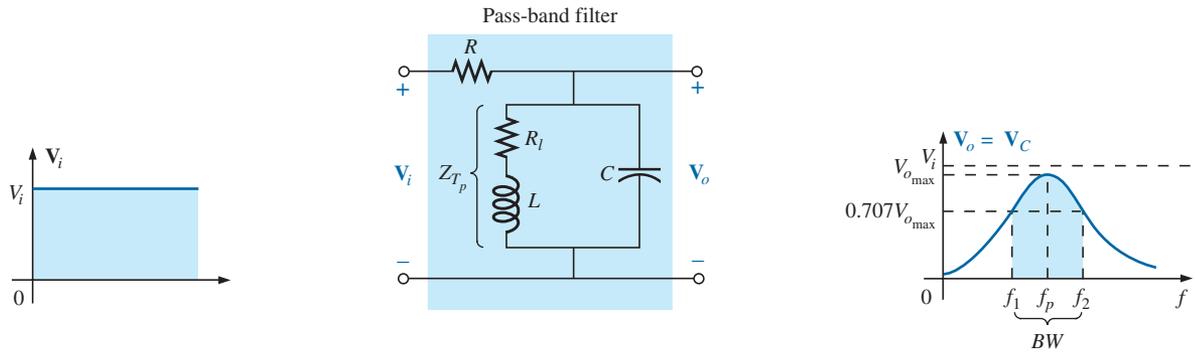
Pass-band filter

FIG. 21.34
Parallel resonant pass-band filter.

For the parallel resonant circuit in Fig. 21.34, Z_{T_p} is a maximum value at resonance, and

$$V_{o_{max}} = \frac{Z_{T_p} V_i}{Z_{T_p} + R}\bigg|_{f=f_p} \tag{21.25}$$

with

$$Z_{T_p} = Q_l^2 R_l \bigg|_{Q_l \ge 10} \tag{21.26}$$

and

$$f_p = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{LC}}\bigg|_{Q_l \ge 10} \tag{21.27}$$

For the parallel resonant circuit

$$Q_p = \frac{X_L}{R_l} \tag{21.28}$$

and

$$BW = \frac{f_p}{Q_p} \tag{21.29}$$

As a first approximation that is acceptable for most practical applications, it can be assumed that the resonant frequency bisects the bandwidth.

EXAMPLE 21.8

a. Determine the frequency response for the voltage V_o for the series circuit in Fig. 21.35.
b. Plot the normalized response $A_v = V_o/V_i$.
c. Plot a normalized response defined by $A'_v = A_v/A_{v_{max}}$.

Solutions:

a. $f_s = \dfrac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{LC}} = \dfrac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{(1\text{ mH})(0.01\ \mu\text{F})}} = \textbf{50,329.21 Hz}$

$Q_s = \dfrac{X_L}{R + R_l} = \dfrac{2\pi(50{,}329.21\text{ Hz})(1\text{ mH})}{33\ \Omega + 2\ \Omega} = \textbf{9.04}$

$BW = \dfrac{f_s}{Q_s} = \dfrac{50{,}329.21\text{ Hz}}{9.04} = \textbf{5.57 kHz}$
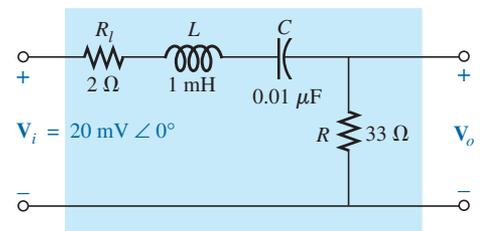
FIG. 21.35
Series resonant pass-band filter for Example 21.8.

At resonance:

$$V_{o_{max}} = \frac{RV_i}{R + R_l} = \frac{33\ \Omega(V_i)}{33\ \Omega + 2\ \Omega} = 0.943V_i = 0.943(20\ \text{mV})$$

$$= \mathbf{18.86\ mV}$$

At the cutoff frequencies:

$$V_o = (0.707)(0.943V_i) = 0.667V_i = 0.667(20\ \text{mV})$$

$$= \mathbf{13.34\ mV}$$

Note Fig. 21.36.
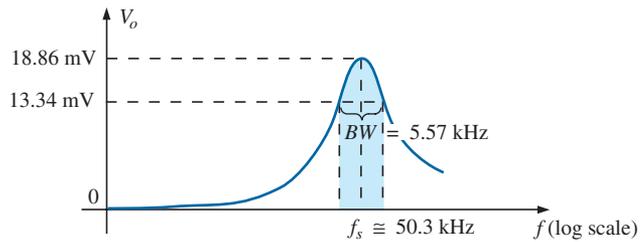
FIG. 21.36

Pass-band response for the network.

b. Dividing all levels in Fig. 21.36 by $V_i = 20$ mV results in the normalized plot in Fig. 21.37(a).

c. Dividing all levels in Fig. 21.37(a) by $A_{v_{max}} = 0.943$ results in the normalized plot in Fig. 21.37(b).

(a)

(b)
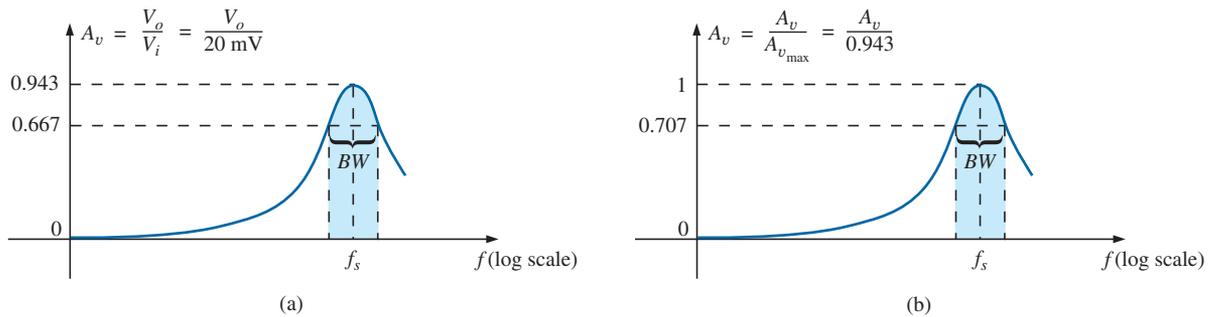
FIG. 21.37

Normalized plots for the pass-band filter in Fig. 21.35.

21.8 STOP-BAND FILTERS

Stop-band filters can also be constructed using a low-pass and a high-pass filter. However, rather than the cascaded configuration used for the pass-band filter, a parallel arrangement is required, as shown in Fig. 21.38. A low-frequency f_1 can pass through the low-pass filter, and a higher-frequency f_2 can use the parallel path, as shown in Figs. 21.38 and 21.39. However, a frequency such as f_o in the reject-band is higher than the low-pass critical frequency and lower than the high-pass critical frequency, and is therefore prevented from contributing to the levels of V_o above $0.707V_{max}$.

The characteristics of a stop-band filter are the inverse of the pattern obtained for the pass-band filters; therefore, at any frequency, the sum of
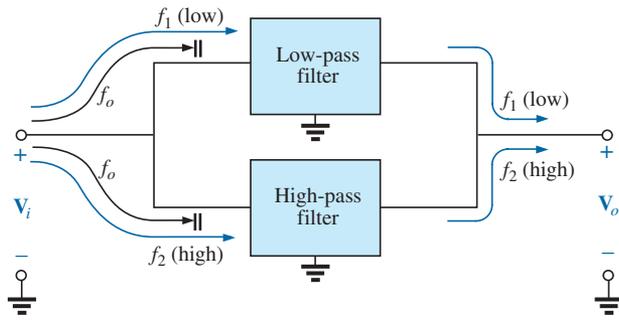
FIG. 21.38
Stop-band filter.
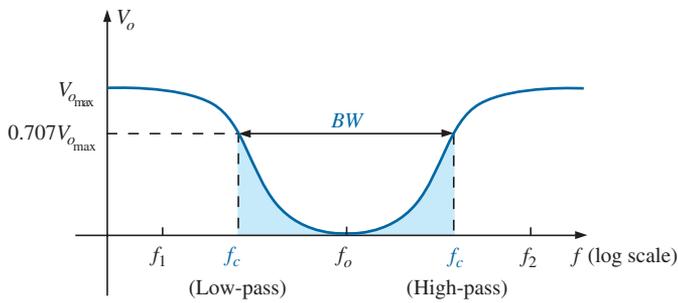
FIG. 21.39
Stop-band characteristics.

the magnitudes of the two waveforms to the right of the equals sign in Fig. 21.40 equals the applied voltage V_i.

For the pass-band filters in Figs. 21.33 and 21.34, therefore, if we take the output off the other series elements as shown in Figs. 21.41 and 21.42, a stop-band characteristic is obtained, as required by Kirchhoff's voltage law.
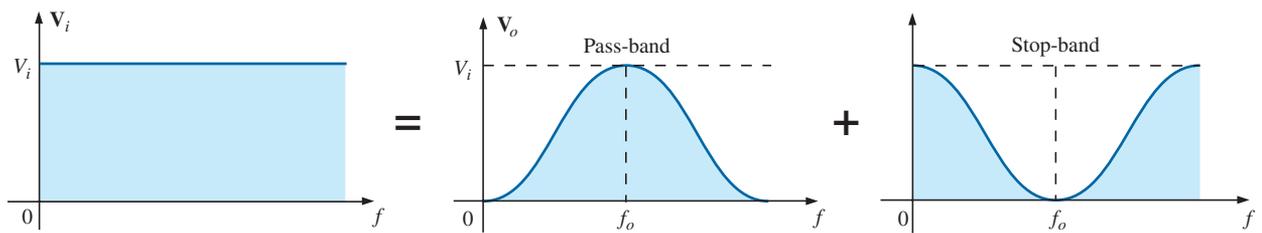
FIG. 21.40
Demonstrating how an applied signal of fixed magnitude can be broken down into a pass-band and stop-band response curve.
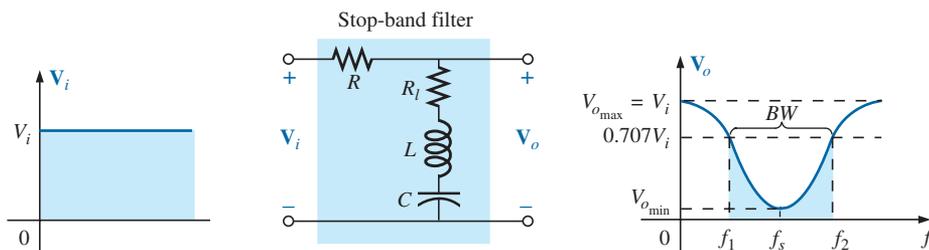
FIG. 21.41
Stop-band filter using a series resonant circuit.
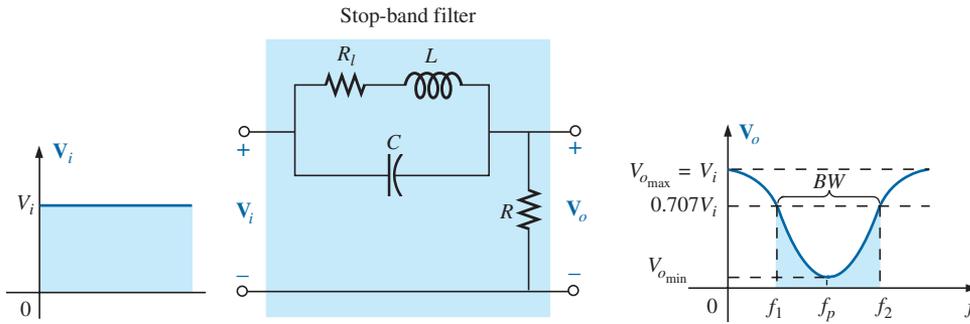
FIG. 21.42

Stop-band filter using a parallel resonant network.

For the series resonant circuit in Fig. 21.41, Eqs. (21.22) through (21.24) still apply, but now, at resonance,

$$V_{o_{min}} = \frac{R_l V_i}{R_l + R} \tag{21.30}$$

For the parallel resonant circuit in Fig. 21.42, Eqs. (21.26) through (21.29) are still applicable, but now, at resonance,

$$V_{o_{min}} = \frac{R V_i}{R + Z_{T_p}} \tag{21.31}$$

The maximum value of V_o for the series resonant circuit is V_i at the low end due to the open-circuit equivalent for the capacitor and V_i at the high end due to the high impedance of the inductive element.

For the parallel resonant circuit, at $f = 0$ Hz, the inductor can be replaced by a short-circuit equivalent, and the capacitor can be replaced by its open circuit and $V_o = R V_i/(R + R_l)$. At the high-frequency end, the capacitor approaches a short-circuit equivalent, and V_o increases toward V_i.

21.9 DOUBLE-TUNED FILTER

Some network configurations display both a pass-band and a stop-band characteristic, such as shown in Fig. 21.43. Such networks are called
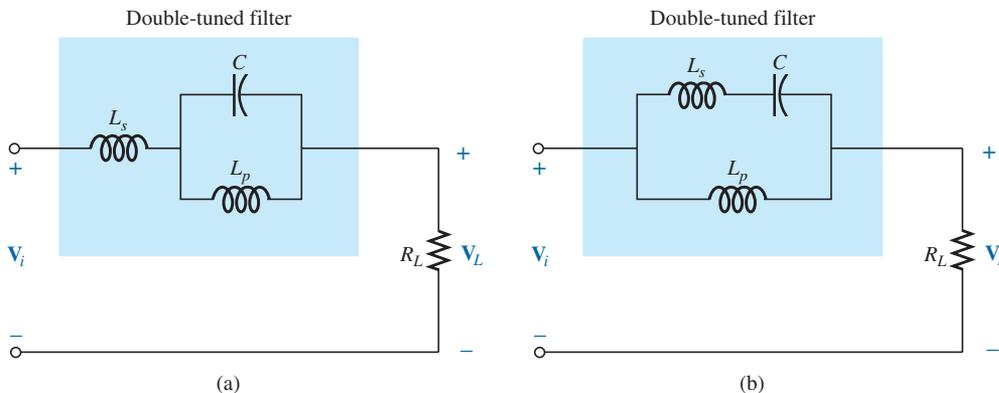
FIG. 21.43

Double-tuned networks.

double-tuned filters. For the network in Fig. 21.43(a), the parallel reso-nant circuit establishes a stop-band for the range of frequencies not per-mitted to establish a significant V_L. The greater part of the applied voltage appears across the parallel resonant circuit for this frequency range due to its very high impedance compared with R_L. For the pass-band, the par-allel resonant circuit is designed to be capacitive (inductive if L_s is re-placed by C_s). The inductance L_s is chosen to cancel the effects of the resulting net capacitive reactance at the resonant pass-band frequency of the tank circuit, thereby acting as a series resonant circuit. The applied voltage then appears across R_L at this frequency.

For the network in Fig. 21.43(b), the series resonant circuit still deter-mines the pass-band, acting as a very low impedance across the parallel inductor at resonance. At the desired stop-band resonant frequency, the se-ries resonant circuit is capacitive. The inductance L_p is chosen to establish parallel resonance at the resonant stop-band frequency. The high imped-ance of the parallel resonant circuit results in a very low load voltage V_L.

For rejected frequencies below the pass-band, the networks should ap-pear as shown in Fig. 21.43. For the reverse situation, L_s in Fig. 21.43(a) and L_p in Fig. 21.43(b) are replaced by capacitors.

EXAMPLE 21.9 For the network in Fig. 21.43(b), determine L_s and L_p for a capacitance C of 500 pF if a frequency of 200 kHz is to be rejected and a frequency of 600 kHz accepted.

Solution: For series resonance, we have

$$f_s = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{LC}}$$

and

$$L_s = \frac{1}{4\pi^2 f_s^2 C} = \frac{1}{4\pi^2(600 \text{ kHz})^2(500 \text{ pF})} = \mathbf{140.7 \ \mu H}$$

At 200 kHz,

$$X_{L_s} = \omega L = 2\pi f_s L_s = (2\pi)(200 \text{ kHz})(140.7 \ \mu\text{H}) = 176.8 \ \Omega$$

and

$$X_C = \frac{1}{\omega C} = \frac{1}{(2\pi)(200 \text{ kHz})(500 \text{ pF})} = 1591.5 \ \Omega$$

For the series elements,

$$j(X_{L_s} - X_C) = j(176.8 \ \Omega - 1591.5 \ \Omega) = -j \, 1414.7 \ \Omega = -j X'_C$$

At parallel resonance ($Q_l \geq 10$ assumed),

$$X_{L_p} = X'_C$$

and

$$L_p = \frac{X_{L_p}}{\omega} = \frac{1414.7 \ \Omega}{(2\pi)(200 \text{ kHz})} = \mathbf{1.13 \ mH}$$

The frequency response for the preceding network appears as one of the examples of PSpice in the last section of the chapter.

21.10 BODE PLOTS

There is a technique for sketching the frequency response of such factors as filters, amplifiers, and systems on a decibel scale that can save a great deal of time and effort and provide an excellent way to compare decibel levels at different frequencies.

The curves obtained for the magnitude and/or phase angle versus frequency are called Bode plots (Fig. 21.44). Through the use of straight-line segments called idealized Bode plots, the frequency response of a system can be found efficiently and accurately.

To ensure that the derivation of the method is correctly and clearly understood, the first network to be analyzed is examined in some detail. The second network is treated in a shorthand manner, and finally a method for quickly determining the response is introduced.

High-Pass *R-C* Filter

Let us start by reexamining the high-pass filter in Fig. 21.45. The high-pass filter was chosen as our starting point because the frequencies of primary interest are at the low end of the frequency spectrum.

The voltage gain of the system is given by

$$\mathbf{A}_v = \frac{\mathbf{V}_o}{\mathbf{V}_i} = \frac{R}{R - j\,X_C} = \frac{1}{1 - j\dfrac{X_C}{R}} = \frac{1}{1 - j\dfrac{1}{2\pi fCR}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{1 - j\left(\dfrac{1}{2\pi RC}\right)\dfrac{1}{f}}$$

If we substitute

$$\boxed{f_c = \frac{1}{2\pi RC}} \qquad (21.32)$$

which we recognize as the cutoff frequency of earlier sections, we obtain

$$\boxed{\mathbf{A}_v = \frac{1}{1 - j\,(f_c/f)}} \qquad (21.33)$$

We will find in the analysis to follow that the ability to reformat the gain to one having the general characteristics of Eq. (21.33) is critical to the application of the Bode technique. Different configurations result in variations of the format of Eq. (21.33), but the desired similarities become obvious as we progress through the material.

In magnitude and phase form:

$$\boxed{\mathbf{A}_v = \frac{\mathbf{V}_o}{\mathbf{V}_i} = A_v \angle\theta = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + (f_c/f)^2}} \angle \tan^{-1}(f_c/f)} \quad (21.34)$$

providing an equation for the magnitude and phase of the high-pass filter in terms of the frequency levels.

Using Eq. (21.12),

$$A_{v_{dB}} = 20\log_{10} A_v$$

and, substituting the magnitude component of Eq. (21.34),

$$A_{v_{dB}} = 20\log_{10}\frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + (f_c/f)^2}} = \underbrace{20\log_{10} 1}_{0} - 20\log_{10}\sqrt{1 + (f_c/f)^2}$$

and

$$\mathbf{A}_{v_{dB}} = -20\log_{10}\sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{f_c}{f}\right)^2}$$

FIG. 21.45
High-pass filter.

dB

Recognizing that $\log_{10} \sqrt{x} = \log_{10} x^{1/2} = \frac{1}{2} \log_{10} x$, we have

$$A_{v_{dB}} = -\frac{1}{2} (20)\log_{10} \left[1 + \left(\frac{f_c}{f} \right)^2 \right]$$

$$= -10 \log_{10} \left[1 + \left(\frac{f_c}{f} \right)^2 \right]$$

For frequencies where $f \ll f_c$ or $(f_c/f)^2 \gg 1$,

$$1 + \left(\frac{f_c}{f} \right)^2 \cong \left(\frac{f_c}{f} \right)^2$$

and

$$A_{v_{dB}} = -10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{f_c}{f} \right)^2$$

but

$$\log_{10} x^2 = 2 \log_{10} x$$

resulting in

$$A_{v_{dB}} = -20 \log_{10} \frac{f_c}{f}$$

However, logarithms are such that

$$-\log_{10} b = +\log_{10} \frac{1}{b}$$

and substituting $b = f_c/f$, we have

$$\boxed{A_{v_{dB}} = +20 \log_{10} \frac{f}{f_c}} \quad _{f \ll f_c} \qquad \textbf{(21.35)}$$

First note the similarities between Eq. (21.35) and the basic equation for gain in decibels: $G_{dB} = 20 \log_{10} V_o/V_i$. The comments regarding changes in decibel levels due to changes in V_o/V_i can therefore be applied here also, except now a change in frequency by a 2 : 1 ratio results in a 6 dB change in gain. A change in frequency by a 10 : 1 ratio results in a 20 dB change in gain.

Two frequencies separated by a 2 : 1 ratio are said to be an octave apart. For Bode plots, a change in frequency by one octave will result in a 6 dB change in gain.

Two frequencies separated by a 10 : 1 ratio are said to be a decade apart. For Bode plots, a change in frequency by one decade will result in a 20 dB change in gain.

One may wonder about all the mathematical development to obtain an equation that initially appears confusing and of limited value. As specified, Eq. (21.35) is accurate only for frequency levels much less than f_c.

First, realize that the mathematical development of Eq. (21.35) does not have to be repeated for each configuration encountered. Second, the equation itself is seldom applied but simply used to define a straight line on a log plot that permits a sketch of the frequency response of a system with a minimum of effort and a high degree of accuracy.

To plot Eq. (21.35), consider the following levels of increasing frequency:

For $f = f_c/10$, $f/f_c = 0.1$ and $+20 \log_{10} 0.1 = -20$ dB
For $f = f_c/4$, $f/f_c = 0.25$ and $+20 \log_{10} 0.25 = -12$ dB
For $f = f_c/2$, $f/f_c = 0.51$ and $+20 \log_{10} 0.5 = -6$ dB
For $f = f_c$, $f/f_c = 1$ and $+20 \log_{10} 1 = 0$ dB

Note from the above equations that as the frequency of interest approaches f_c, the dB gain becomes less negative and approaches the final normalized value of 0 dB. The positive sign in front of Eq. (21.35) can therefore be interpreted as an indication that the dB gain will have a positive slope with an increase in frequency. A plot of these points on a log scale results in the straight-line segment in Fig. 21.46 to the left of f_c.
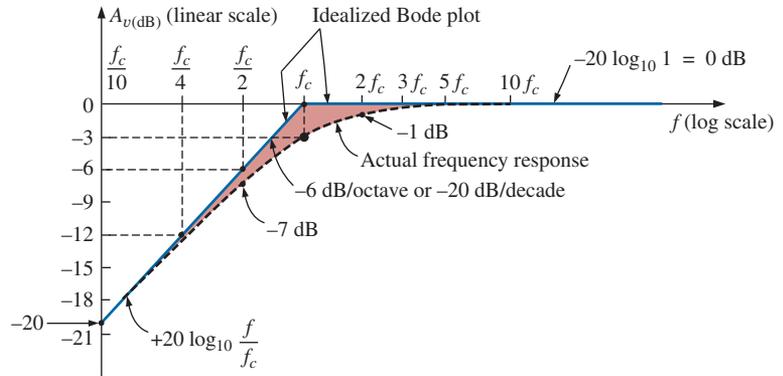
FIG. 21.46

Idealized Bode plot for the low-frequency region.

For the future, note that the resulting plot is a straight line intersecting the 0 dB line at f_c. It increases to the right at a rate of $+6$ dB per octave or $+20$ dB per decade. In other words, once f_c is determined, find $f_c/2$, and a plot point exists at -6 dB (or find $f_c/10$, and a plot point exists at -20 dB).

Bode plots are straight-line segments because the dB change per decade or octave is constant.

The actual response approaches an asymptote (straight-line segment) defined by $A_{v_{dB}} = 0$ dB since at high frequencies

$$f \gg f_c \quad \text{and} \quad f_c/f \cong 0$$

with
$$A_{v_{dB}} = 20 \log_{10} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + (f_c/f)^2}} = 20 \log_{10} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + 0}}$$

$$= 20 \log_{10} 1 = 0 \text{ dB}$$

The two asymptotes defined above intersect at f_c, as shown in Fig. 21.46, forming an envelope for the actual frequency response.

At $f = f_c$, the cutoff frequency,

$$A_{v_{dB}} = 20 \log_{10} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + (f_c/f)^2}} = 20 \log_{10} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + 1}} = 20 \log_{10} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$= \mathbf{-3 \text{ dB}}$$

At $f = 2f_c$,

$$A_{v_{dB}} = -20 \log_{10} \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{f_c}{2f_c}\right)^2} = -20 \log_{10} \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2}$$

$$= -20 \log_{10} \sqrt{1.25} = \mathbf{-1 \text{ dB}}$$

as shown in Fig. 21.46.

At $f = f_c/2$,

$$A_{v_{dB}} = -20 \log_{10} \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{f_c}{f_c/2}\right)^2} = -20 \log_{10} \sqrt{1 + (2)^2}$$

$$= -20 \log_{10} \sqrt{5}$$

$$= \mathbf{-7\ dB}$$

separating the idealized Bode plot from the actual response by 7 dB − 6 dB = 1 dB, as shown in Fig. 21.46.

Reviewing the above,

at $f = f_c$, the actual response curve is 3 dB down from the idealized Bode plot, whereas at $f = 2f_c$ and $f_c/2$, the actual response curve is 1 dB down from the asymptotic response.

The phase response can also be sketched using straight-line asymptotes by considering a few critical points in the frequency spectrum.

Eq. (21.34) specifies the phase response (the angle by which V_o leads V_i) by

$$\boxed{\theta = \tan^{-1}\frac{f_c}{f}} \qquad (21.36)$$

For frequencies well below f_c ($f << f_c$), $\theta = \tan^{-1}(f_c/f)$ approaches 90° and for frequencies well above f_c ($f >> f_c$), $\theta = \tan^{-1}(f_c/f)$ will approach 0°, as discovered in earlier sections of the chapter. At $f = f_c$, $\theta = \tan^{-1}(f_c/f) = \tan^{-1} 1 = 45°$.

Defining $f << f_c$ for $f = f_c/10$ (and less) and $f >> f_c$ for $f = 10f_c$ (and more), we can define

an asymptote at $\theta = 90°$ for $f << f_c/10$, an asymptote at $\theta = 0°$ for $f >> 10f_c$, and an asymptote from $f_c/10$ to $10f_c$ that passes through $\theta = 45°$ at $f = f_c$.

The asymptotes defined above all appear in Fig. 21.47. Again, the Bode plot for Eq. (21.36) is a straight line because the change in phase angle will be 45° for every tenfold change in frequency.

Substituting $f = f_c/10$ into Eq. (21.36),

$$\theta = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{f_c}{f_c/10}\right) = \tan^{-1} 10 = \mathbf{84.29°}$$

for a difference of 90° − 84.29° ≅ 5.7° from the idealized response.
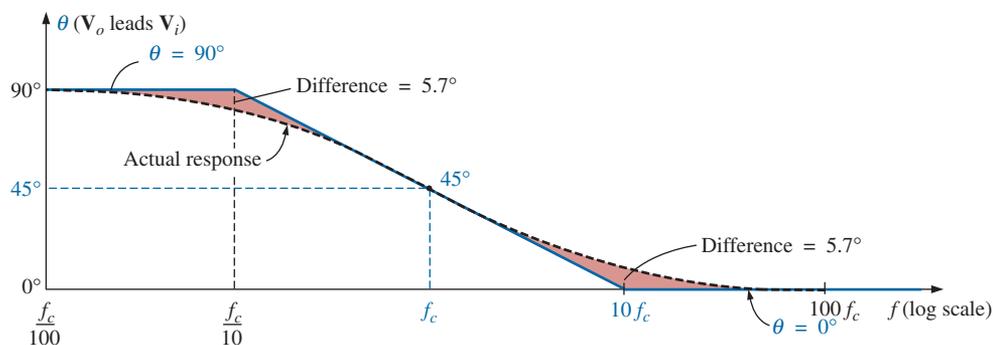
FIG. 21.47

Phase response for a high-pass R-C filter.

Substituting $f = 10f_c$,

$$\theta = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{f_c}{10f_c}\right) = \tan^{-1}\frac{1}{10} \cong \mathbf{5.7°}$$

In summary, therefore,

at $f = f_c$, $\theta = 45°$, whereas at $f = f_c/10$ and $10f_c$, the difference between the actual phase response and the asymptotic plot is 5.7°.
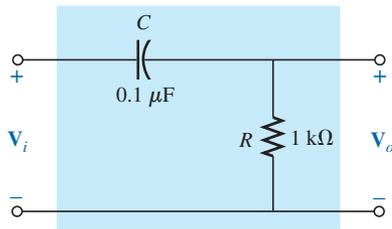
EXAMPLE 21.10

a. Sketch $A_{v_{dB}}$ versus frequency for the high-pass R-C filter in Fig. 21.48.
b. Determine the decibel level at $f = 1$ kHz.
c. Sketch the phase response versus frequency on a log scale.

Solutions:

a. $f_c = \dfrac{1}{2\pi RC} = \dfrac{1}{(2\pi)(1 \text{ k}\Omega)(0.1 \ \mu\text{F})} = 1591.55$ Hz

FIG. 21.48
Example 21.10.

The frequency f_c is identified on the log scale as shown in Fig. 21.49. A straight line is then drawn from f_c with a slope that will intersect -20 dB at $f_c/10 = 159.15$ Hz or -6 dB at $f_c/2 = 795.77$ Hz. A second asymptote is drawn from f_c to higher frequencies at 0 dB. The actual response curve can then be drawn through the -3 dB level at f_c approaching the two asymptotes of Fig. 21.49. Note the 1 dB difference between the actual response and the idealized Bode plot at $f = 2f_c$ and $0.5f_c$.
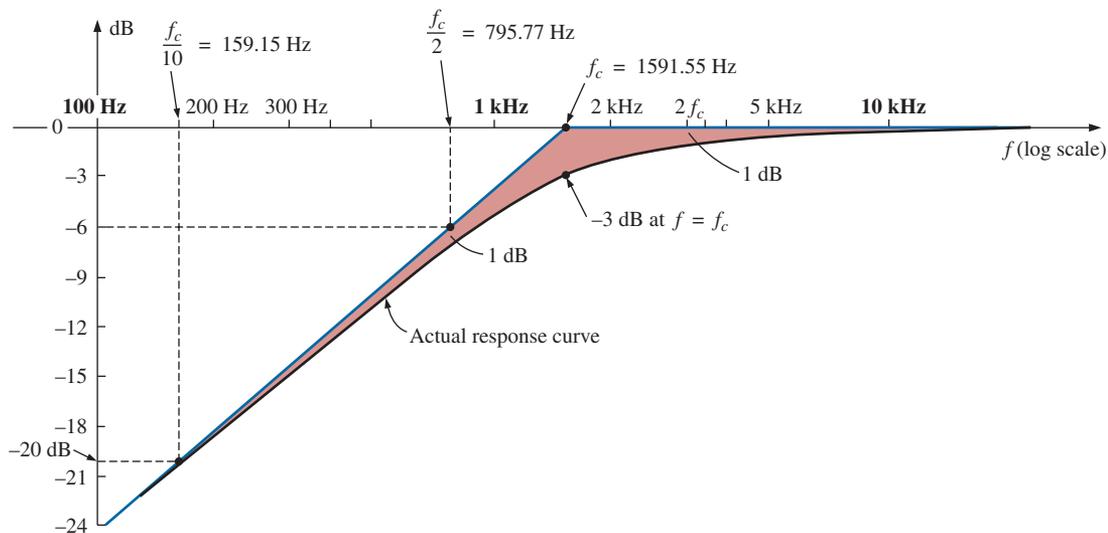
FIG. 21.49
Frequency response for the high-pass filter in Fig. 21.48.

Note that in the solution to part (a), there is no need to use Eq. (21.35) or to perform any extensive mathematical manipulations.

b. Eq. (21.33):

$$|A_{vdB}| = 20 \log_{10} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \left(\dfrac{f_c}{f}\right)^2}} = 20 \log_{10} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \left(\dfrac{1591.55 \text{ Hz}}{1000}\right)^2}}$$

$$= 20 \log_{10} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + (1.592)^2}} = 20 \log_{10} 0.5318 = \mathbf{-5.49 \text{ dB}}$$

as verified by Fig. 21.49.

c. See Fig. 21.50. Note that $\theta = 45°$ at $f = f_c = 1591.55$ Hz, and the difference between the straight-line segment and the actual response is 5.7° at $f = f_c/10 = 159.2$ Hz and $f = 10f_c = 15,923.6$ Hz.
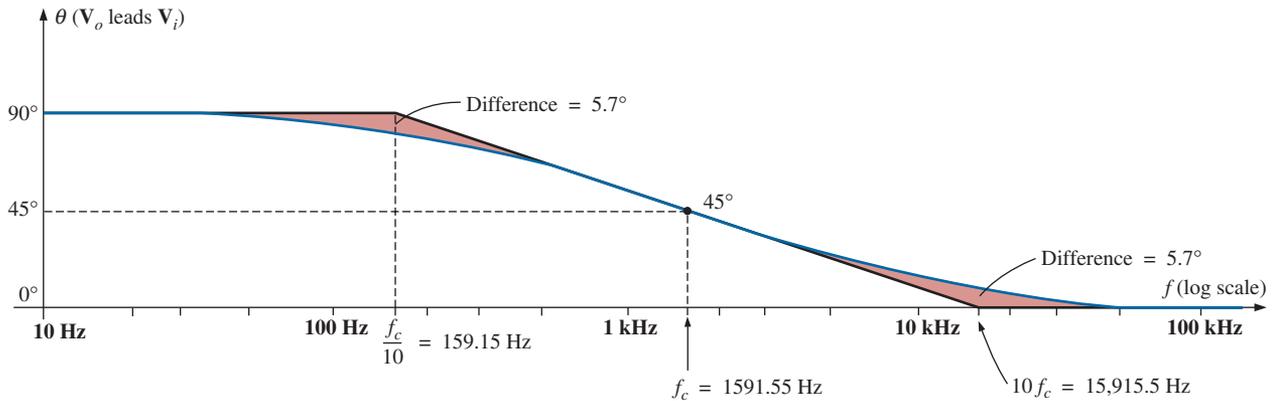
FIG. 21.50
Phase plot for the high-pass R-C filter.

Low-Pass *R-C* Filter

For the low-pass filter in Fig. 21.51,

$$A_v = \frac{\mathbf{V}_o}{\mathbf{V}_i} = \frac{-jX_C}{R - jX_C} = \frac{1}{\dfrac{R}{-jX_C} + 1}$$

$$= \frac{1}{1 + j\dfrac{R}{X_C}} = \frac{1}{1 + j\dfrac{R}{\dfrac{1}{2\pi fC}}} = \frac{1}{1 + j\dfrac{f}{\dfrac{1}{2\pi RC}}}$$
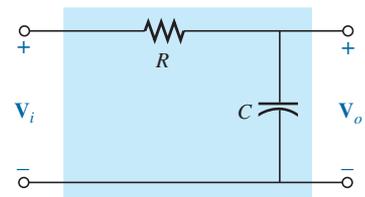
FIG. 21.51
Low-pass filter.

and

$$A_v = \frac{1}{1 + j(f/f_c)} \qquad (21.37)$$

with

$$f_c = \frac{1}{2\pi RC} \qquad (21.38)$$

as defined earlier.

Note that now the sign of the imaginary component in the denominator is positive and f_c appears in the denominator of the frequency ratio rather than in the numerator, as in the case of f_c for the high-pass filter.

In terms of magnitude and phase,

$$\mathbf{A}_v = \frac{\mathbf{V}_o}{\mathbf{V}_i} = A_v \angle\theta = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + (f/f_c)^2}} \angle -\tan^{-1}(f/f_c) \qquad \textbf{(21.39)}$$

An analysis similar to that performed for the high-pass filter results in

$$A_{v_{dB}} = -20 \log_{10} \frac{f}{f_c} \Bigg|_{f \gg f_c} \qquad \textbf{(21.40)}$$

Note in particular that the equation is exact only for frequencies much greater than f_c, but a plot of Eq. (21.40) does provide an asymptote that performs the same function as the asymptote derived for the high-pass filter. In addition, note that it is exactly the same as Eq. (21.35), except for the minus sign, which suggests that the resulting Bode plot will have a negative slope [recall the positive slope for Eq. (21.35)] for increasing frequencies beyond f_c.

A plot of Eq. (21.40) appears in Fig. 21.52 for $f_c = 1$ kHz. Note the 6 dB drop at $f = 2f_c$ and the 20 dB drop at $f = 10f_c$.
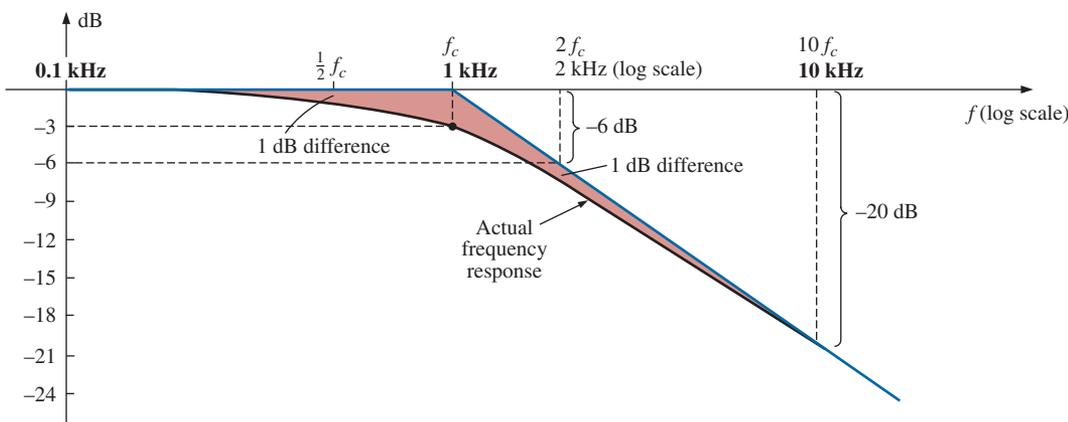
FIG. 21.52

Bode plot for the high-frequency region of a low-pass R-C filter.

At $f \gg f_c$, the phase angle $\theta = -\tan^{-1}(f/f_c)$ approaches $-90°$, whereas at $f \ll f_c$, $\theta = -\tan^{-1}(f/fc)$ approaches $0°$. At $f = f_c$, $\theta = -\tan^{-1} 1 = -45°$, establishing the plot in Fig. 21.53. Note again the 45° change in phase angle for each tenfold increase in frequency.
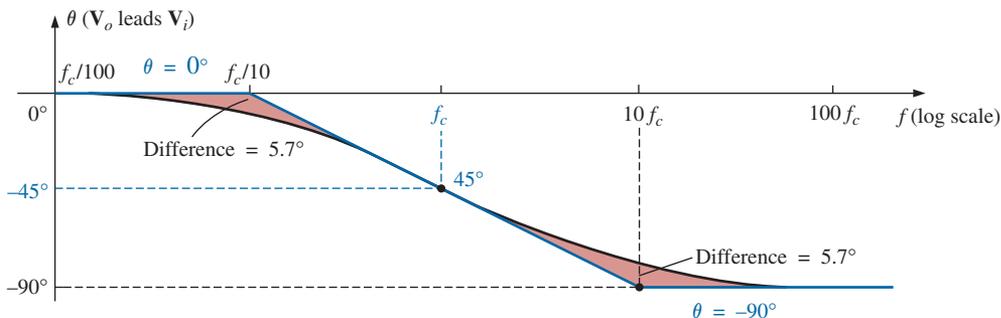
FIG. 21.53

Phase plot for a low-pass R-C filter.

Even though the preceding analysis has been limited solely to the *R-C* combination, the results obtained will have an impact on networks that are a great deal more complicated. One good example is the high- and low-frequency response of a standard transistor configuration. Some capacitive elements in a practical transistor network affect the low-frequency response, and others affect the high-frequency response. In the absence of the capacitive elements, the frequency response of a transistor ideally stays level at the midband value. However, the coupling capacitors at low frequencies and the bypass and parasitic capacitors at high frequencies define a bandwidth for numerous transistor configurations. In the low-frequency region, specific capacitors and resistors form an *R-C* combination that defines a low cutoff frequency. There are then other elements and capacitors forming a second *R-C* combination that define a high cutoff frequency. Once the cutoff frequencies are known, the -3 dB points are set, and the bandwidth of the system can be determined.

21.11 SKETCHING THE BODE RESPONSE

In the previous section, we found that normalized functions of the form appearing in Fig. 21.54 had the Bode envelope and the dB response indicated in the same figure. In this section, we introduce additional functions and their responses that can be used in conjunction with those in Fig. 21.54 to determine the dB response of more sophisticated systems in a systematic, time-saving, and accurate manner.

Low-pass: $\dfrac{1}{1 + j\dfrac{f}{f_c}}$

(a)

High-pass: $\dfrac{1}{1 + j\dfrac{f_c}{f}}$

(b)
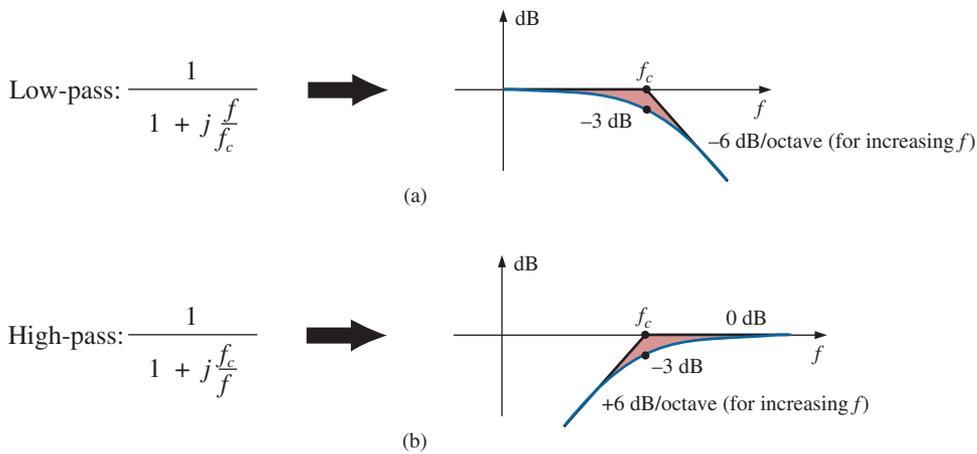
FIG. 21.54

dB response of (a) low-pass filter and (b) high-pass filter.

As an avenue toward introducing an additional function that appears quite frequently, let us examine the high-pass filter in Fig. 21.55 which has a high-frequency output less than the full applied voltage.

Before developing a mathematical expression for $\mathbf{A}_v = \mathbf{V}_o/\mathbf{V}_i$, let us first make a rough sketch of the expected response.

At $f = 0$ Hz, the capacitor assumes its open-circuit equivalence, and $V_o = 0$ V. At very high frequencies, the capacitor can assume its short-circuit equivalence, and

$$V_o = \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2}V_i = \frac{4\text{ k}\Omega}{1\text{ k}\Omega + 4\text{ k}\Omega}V_i = 0.8V_i$$
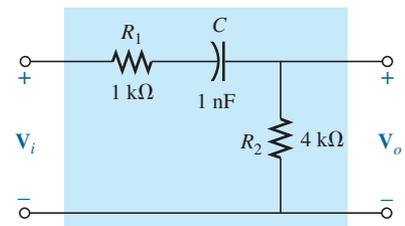
FIG. 21.55

High-pass filter with attenuated output.
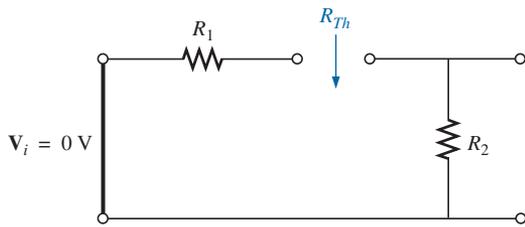
FIG. 21.56

Determining R_{Th} for the equation for cutoff frequency.

The resistance to be used in the equation for cutoff frequency can be determined by determining the Thévenin resistance "seen" by the capacitor. Setting $V_i = 0$ V and solving for R_{Th} (for the capacitor C) results in the network in Fig. 21.56, where it is quite clear that

$$R_{Th} = R_1 + R_2 = 1 \text{ k}\Omega + 4 \text{ k}\Omega = 5 \text{ k}\Omega$$

Therefore,

$$f_c = \frac{1}{2\pi R_{Th} C} = \frac{1}{2\pi (5 \text{ k}\Omega)(1 \text{ nF})} = 31.83 \text{ kHz}$$

A sketch of V_o versus frequency is provided in Fig. 21.57(a). A normalized plot using V_i as the normalizing quantity results in the response in Fig. 21.57(b). If the maximum value of A_v is used in the normalization process, the response in Fig. 21.57(c) is obtained. For all the plots obtained in the previous section, V_i was the maximum value, and the ratio V_o/V_i had a maximum value of 1. For many situations, this will not be the case, and we must be aware of which ratio is being plotted versus frequency. The dB response curves for the plots in Figs. 21.57(b) and 21.57(c) can both be obtained quite directly using the foundation established by the conclusions depicted in Fig. 21.54, but we must be aware of what to expect and how they will differ. In Fig. 21.57(b), we are comparing the output level to the input voltage. In Fig. 21.57(c) we are plotting A_v versus the maximum value of A_v. On most data sheets and for the majority of the investigative techniques commonly used, the normalized plot in Fig. 21.57(c) is used because it establishes 0 dB as an asymptote for the dB plot. To ensure that the impact of using either Fig. 21.57(b) or Fig. 21.57(c) in a frequency plot is understood, the analysis of the filter in Fig. 21.55 includes the resulting dB plot for both normalized curves.
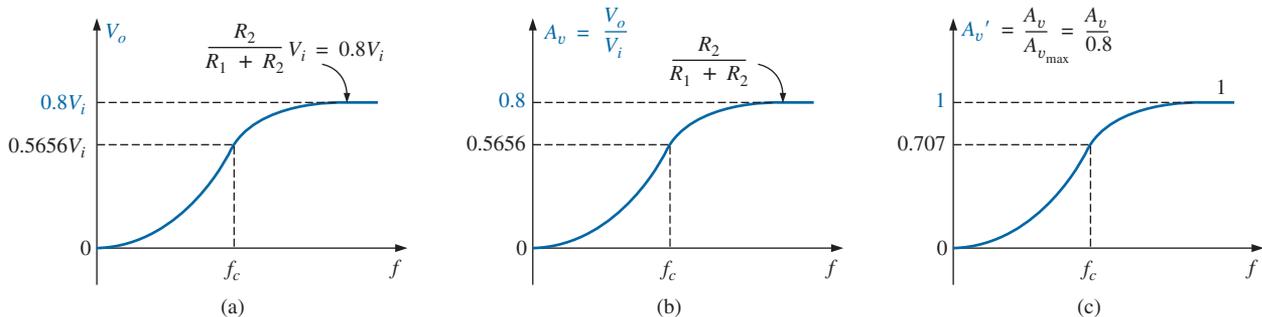
FIG. 21.57

Finding the normalized plot for the gain of the high-pass filter in Fig. 21.55 with attenuated output.

For the network in Fig. 21.55:

$$\mathbf{V}_o = \frac{R_2 \mathbf{V}_i}{R_1 + R_2 - jX_C} = R_2 \left[\frac{1}{R_1 + R_2 - jX_C} \right] \mathbf{V}_i$$

Dividing the top and bottom of the equation by $R_1 + R_2$ results in

$$\mathbf{V}_o = \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2} \left[\frac{1}{1 - j\dfrac{X_C}{R_1 + R_2}} \right]$$

but $\quad -j\dfrac{X_C}{R_1 + R_2} = -j\dfrac{1}{\omega(R_1 + R_2)C} = -j\dfrac{1}{2\pi f(R_1 + R_2)C}$

$$= -j\dfrac{f_c}{f} \quad \text{with} \quad f_c = \dfrac{1}{2\pi R_{Th}C} \quad \text{and} \quad R_{Th} = R_1 + R_2$$

so that $\qquad \mathbf{V}_o = \dfrac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2}\left[\dfrac{1}{1 - j(f_c/f)}\right]\mathbf{V}_i$

If we divide both sides by $\mathbf{V}_i$, we obtain

$$\mathbf{A}_v = \dfrac{\mathbf{V}_o}{\mathbf{V}_i} = \dfrac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2}\left[\dfrac{1}{1 - j(f_c/f)}\right] \tag{21.41}$$

from which the magnitude plot in Fig. 21.57(b) can be obtained. If we divide both sides by $\mathbf{A}_{v_{\max}} = R_2/(R_1 + R_2)$, we have

$$\mathbf{A}'_v = \dfrac{\mathbf{A}_v}{\mathbf{A}_{v_{\max}}} = \dfrac{1}{1 - j(f_c/f)} \tag{21.42}$$

from which the magnitude plot in Fig. 21.57(c) can be obtained.

Based on the past section, a dB plot of the magnitude of $A'_v = A_v/A_{v_{\max}}$ is now quite direct using Fig. 21.54(b). The plot appears in Fig. 21.58.
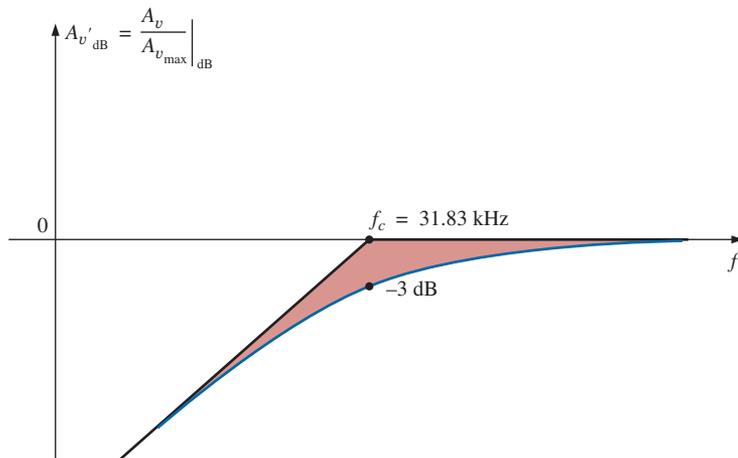
FIG. 21.58

dB plot for A'_v for the high-pass filter in Fig. 21.55.

For the gain $A_v = V_o/V_i$, we can apply Eq. (21.5):

$$20 \log_{10} ab = 20 \log_{10} a + 20 \log_{10} b$$

where

$$20 \log_{10}\left\{\dfrac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2}\left[\dfrac{1}{1 - j(f_c/f)}\right]\right\}$$

$$= 20 \log_{10}\dfrac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2} + 20 \log_{10}\dfrac{1}{\sqrt{1 + (f_c/f)^2}}$$

The second term results in the same plot in Fig. 21.58, but the first term must be added to the second to obtain the total dB response.

Since $R_2/(R_1 + R_2)$ must always be less than 1, we can rewrite the first term as

$$20 \log_{10} \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2} = 20 \log_{10} \frac{1}{\dfrac{R_1 + R_2}{R_2}} = \underbrace{20 \log_{10} 1}_{0} - 20 \log_{10} \frac{R_1 + R_2}{R_2}$$

and

$$20 \log_{10} \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2} = -20 \log_{10} \frac{R_1 + R_2}{R_2} \qquad \textbf{(21.43)}$$

providing the drop in dB from the 0 dB level for the plot. Adding one log plot to the other *at each frequency,* as permitted by Eq. (21.5), results in the plot in Fig. 21.59.
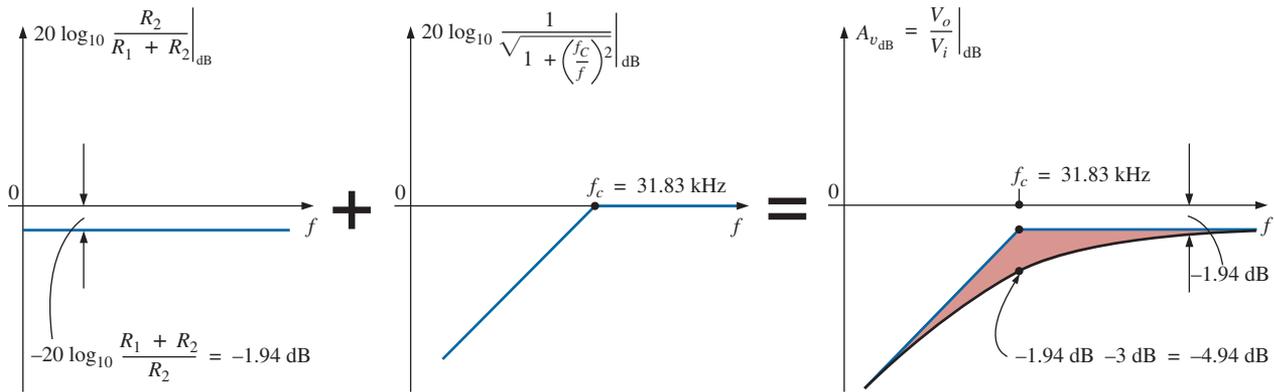
FIG. 21.59

Obtaining a dB plot of $A_{v_{dB}} = \dfrac{V_o}{V_i}\Big|_{dB}$.

For the network in Fig. 21.55, the gain $\mathbf{A}_v = \mathbf{V}_o/\mathbf{V}_i$ can also be found in the following manner:

$$\mathbf{V}_o = \frac{R_2 \mathbf{V}_i}{R_1 + R_2 - j\, X_C}$$

$$\mathbf{A}_v = \frac{\mathbf{V}_o}{\mathbf{V}_i} = \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2 - j\, X_C} = \frac{j\, R_2}{j\,(R_1 + R_2) + X_C}$$

$$= \frac{j\, R_2/X_C}{j\,(R_1 + R_2)/X_C + 1} = \frac{j\, \omega R_2 C}{1 + j\, \omega(R_1 + R_2)C}$$

$$= \frac{j\, 2\pi f R_2 C}{1 + j\, 2\pi f(R_1 + R_2)C}$$

and

$$\mathbf{A}_v = \frac{\mathbf{V}_o}{\mathbf{V}_i} = \frac{j\,(f/f_1)}{1 + j\,(f/f_c)} \qquad \textbf{(21.44)}$$

with

$$f_1 = \frac{1}{2\pi R_2 C} \quad \text{and} \quad f_c = \frac{1}{2\pi(R_1 + R_2)C}$$

The bottom of Eq. (21.44) is a match of the denominator of the low-pass function in Fig. 21.54(a). The numerator, however, is a new function

that defines a unique Bode asymptote that will prove useful for a variety
of network configurations.

Applying Eq. (21.5):

$$20 \log_{10} \frac{V_o}{V_i} = 20 \log_{10} \left[\frac{f}{f_1}\right]\left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + (f/f_c)^2}}\right]$$

$$= 20 \log_{10}(f/f_1) + 20 \log_{10} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + (f/f_c)^2}}$$

Let us now consider specific frequencies for the first term.
At $f = f_1$:

$$20 \log_{10} \frac{f}{f_1} = 20 \log_{10} 1 = 0 \text{ dB}$$

At $f = 2f_1$:

$$20 \log_{10} \frac{f}{f_1} = 20 \log_{10} 2 = +6 \text{ dB}$$

At $f = \frac{1}{2}f_1$:

$$20 \log_{10} \frac{f}{f_1} = 20 \log_{10} 0.5 = -6 \text{ dB}$$

A dB plot of $20 \log_{10} (f/f_1)$ is provided in Fig. 21.60. Note that the as-
ymptote passes through the 0 dB line at $f = f_1$ and has a positive slope of
+6 dB/octave (or 20 dB/decade) for frequencies above and below f_1 for
increasing values of f.
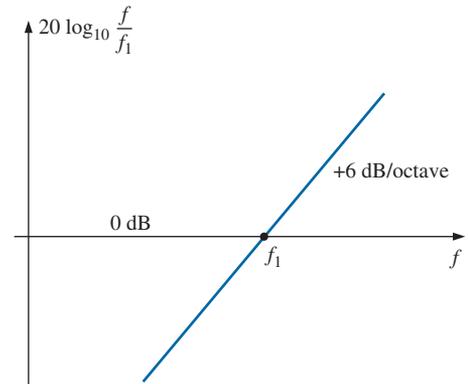
If we examine the original function A_v, we find that the phase angle
associated with $j f/f_1 = f/f_1 \angle 90°$ is fixed at 90°, resulting in a phase an-
gle for $\mathbf{A}_v$ of $90° - \tan^{-1} (f/f_c) = +\tan^{-1} (f_c/f)$.

Now that we have a plot of the dB response for the magnitude of the
function f/f_1, we can plot the dB response of the magnitude of $\mathbf{A}_v$ using a
procedure outlined by Fig. 21.61.

FIG. 21.60
dB plot of f/f_1.
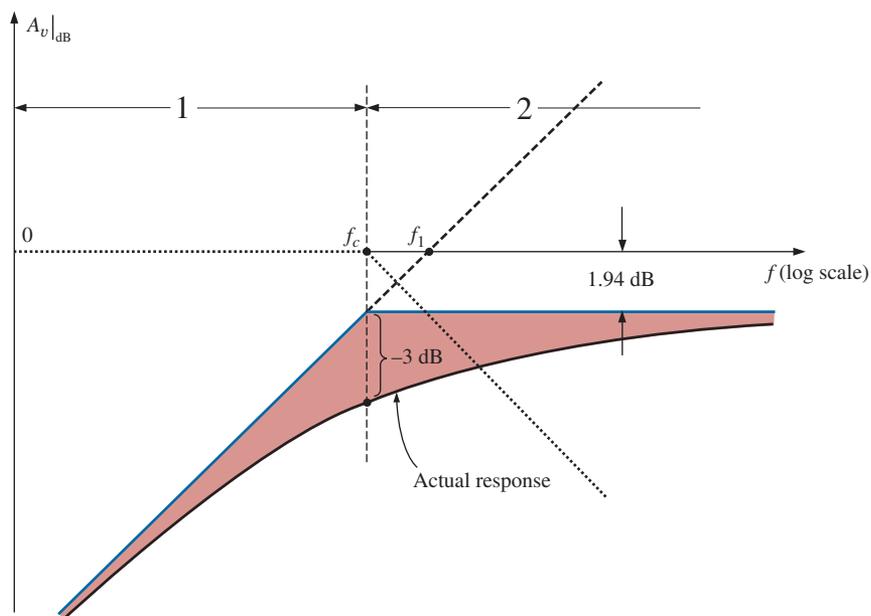
FIG. 21.61
Plot of $A_v|_{dB}$ for the network in Fig. 21.55.

Solving for f_1 and f_c:

$$f_1 = \frac{1}{2\pi R_2 C} = \frac{1}{2\pi(4\text{ k}\Omega)(1\text{ nF})} = 39.79\text{ kHz}$$

with $$f_c = \frac{1}{2\pi(R_1 + R_2)C} = \frac{1}{2\pi(5\text{ k}\Omega)(1\text{ nF})} = 31.83\text{ kHz}$$

For this development, the straight-line asymptotes for each term resulting from the application of Eq. (21.5) are drawn on the same frequency axis to permit an examination of the impact of one line section on the other. For clarity, the frequency spectrum in Fig. 21.61 has been divided into two regions.

In region 1, we have a 0 dB asymptote and one increasing at 6 dB/octave for increasing frequencies. The sum of the two as defined by Eq. (21.5) is simply the 6 dB/octave asymptote shown in the figure.

In region 2, one asymptote is increasing at 6 dB, and the other is decreasing at −6 dB/octave for increasing frequencies. The net effect is that one cancels the other for the region greater than $f = f_c$, leaving a horizontal asymptote beginning at $f = f_c$. A careful sketch of the asymptotes on a log scale reveals that the horizontal asymptote is at −1.94 dB, as obtained earlier for the same function. The horizontal level can also be determined by simply plugging $f = f_c$ into the Bode plot defined by f/f_1; that is,

$$20\log\frac{f}{f_1} = 20\log_{10}\frac{f_c}{f_1} = 20\log_{10}\frac{31.83\text{ kHz}}{39.79\text{ kHz}}$$

$$= 20\log_{10} 0.799 = -1.94\text{ dB}$$

The actual response can then be drawn using the asymptotes and the known differences at $f = f_c$ (−3 dB) and at $f = 0.5f_c$ or $2f_c$ (−1 dB).

In summary, therefore, the same dB response for $\mathbf{A}_v = \mathbf{V}_o/\mathbf{V}_i$ can be obtained by isolating the maximum value or defining the gain in a different form. The latter approach permitted the introduction of a new function for our catalog of idealized Bode plots that will prove useful in the future.

21.12 LOW-PASS FILTER WITH LIMITED ATTENUATION

Our analysis now continues with the low-pass filter in Fig. 21.62, which has limited attenuation at the high-frequency end. That is, the output will not drop to zero as the frequency becomes relatively high. The filter is similar in construction to Fig. 21.55, but note that now $\mathbf{V}_o$ includes the capacitive element.

At $f = 0$ Hz, the capacitor can assume its open-circuit equivalence, and $\mathbf{V}_o = \mathbf{V}_i$. At high frequencies, the capacitor can be approximated by a short-circuit equivalence, and

$$\mathbf{V}_o = \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2}\mathbf{V}_i$$

A plot of V_o versus frequency is provided in Fig. 21.63(a). A sketch of $A_v = V_o/V_i$ appears as shown in Fig. 21.63(b).

An equation for $\mathbf{V}_o$ in terms of $\mathbf{V}_i$ can be derived by first applying the voltage divider rule:

$$\mathbf{V}_o = \frac{(R_2 - jX_C)\mathbf{V}_i}{R_1 + R_2 - jX_C}$$

FIG. 21.62

Low-pass filter with limited attenuation.

(a)

(b)
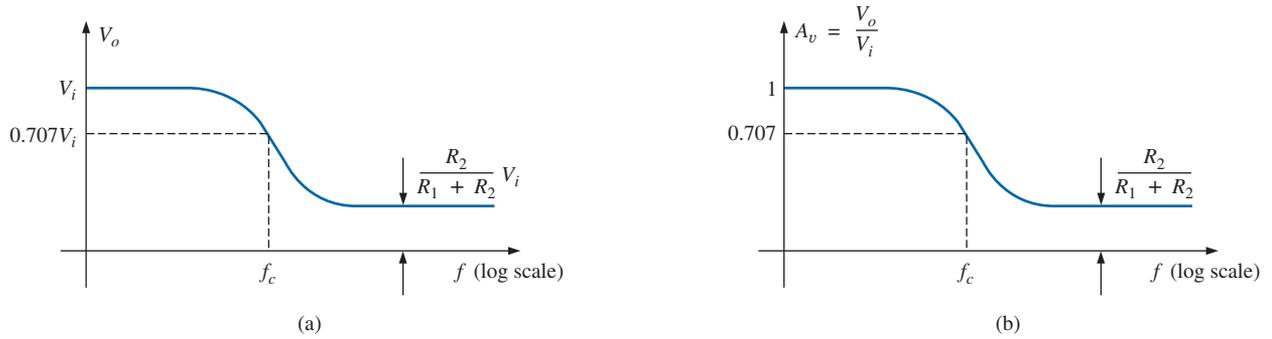
FIG. 21.63

Low-pass filter with limited attenuation.

and $\quad \mathbf{A}_v = \dfrac{\mathbf{V}_o}{\mathbf{V}_i} = \dfrac{R_2 - j\,X_C}{R_1 + R_2 - j\,X_C} = \dfrac{R_2/X_C - j}{(R_1 + R_2)/X_C - j}$

$\quad\quad\quad = \dfrac{(j)(R_2 X_C - j)}{(j)((R_1 + R_2)/X_C - j)}$

$\quad\quad\quad = \dfrac{j(R_2/X_C) + 1}{j((R_1 + R_2)/X_C) + 1} = \dfrac{1 + j\,2\pi f R_2 C}{1 + j\,2\pi f(R_1 + R_2)C}$

so that $\quad\quad \boxed{\mathbf{A}_v = \dfrac{\mathbf{V}_o}{\mathbf{V}_i} = \dfrac{1 + j\,(f/f_1)}{1 + j\,(f/f_c)}}$ $\quad\quad$ **(21.45)**

with $\quad\quad f_1 = \dfrac{1}{2\pi R_2 C} \quad$ and $\quad f_c = \dfrac{1}{2\pi(R_1 + R_2)C}$

The denominator of Eq. (21.45) is simply the denominator of the low-pass function in Fig. 21.54(a). The numerator, however, is new and must be investigated.

Applying Eq. (21.5):

$A_{v_{dB}} = 20\log_{10}\dfrac{V_o}{V_i} = 20\log_{10}\sqrt{1 + (f/f_1)^2} + 20\log_{10}\dfrac{1}{\sqrt{1 + (f/f_c)^2}}$

For $f \gg f_1$, $(f/f_1)^2 \gg 1$, and the first term becomes

$20\log_{10}\sqrt{(f/f_1)^2} = 20\log_{10}((f/f_1)^2)^{1/2} = 20\log_{10}(f/f_1)|_{f \gg f_1}$

which defines the idealized Bode asymptote for the numerator of Eq. (21.45).

At $f = f_1$, $20\log_{10}1 = 0$ dB, and at $f = 2f_1$, $20\log_{10}2 = 6$ dB. For frequencies much less than f_1, $(f/f_1)^2 \ll 1$, and the first term of the Eq. (21.5) expansion becomes $20\log_{10}\sqrt{1} = 20\log_{10}1 = 0$ dB, which establishes the low-frequency asymptote.

The full idealized Bode response for the numerator of Eq. (21.45) is provided in Fig. 21.64.

We are now in a position to determine $A_v|_{dB}$ by plotting the asymptote for each function of Eq. (21.45) on the same frequency axis, as shown in Fig. 21.65. Note that f_c must be less than f_1 since the denominator of f_1 includes only R_2, whereas the denominator of f_c includes both R_2 and R_1.

Since $R_2/(R_1 + R_2)$ will always be less than 1, we can use an earlier development to obtain an equation for the drop in dB below the 0 dB axis at high frequencies. That is,
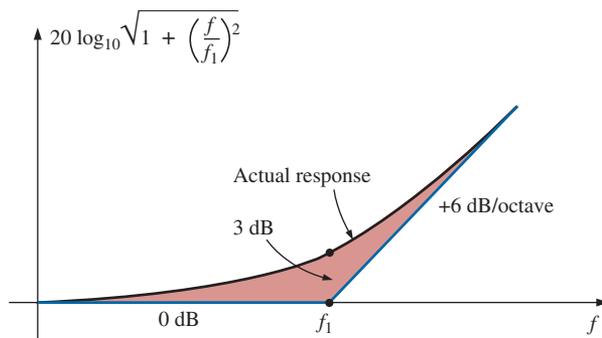
FIG. 21.64

Idealized and actual Bode response for the magnitude of $(1 + j\,(f/f_1))$.
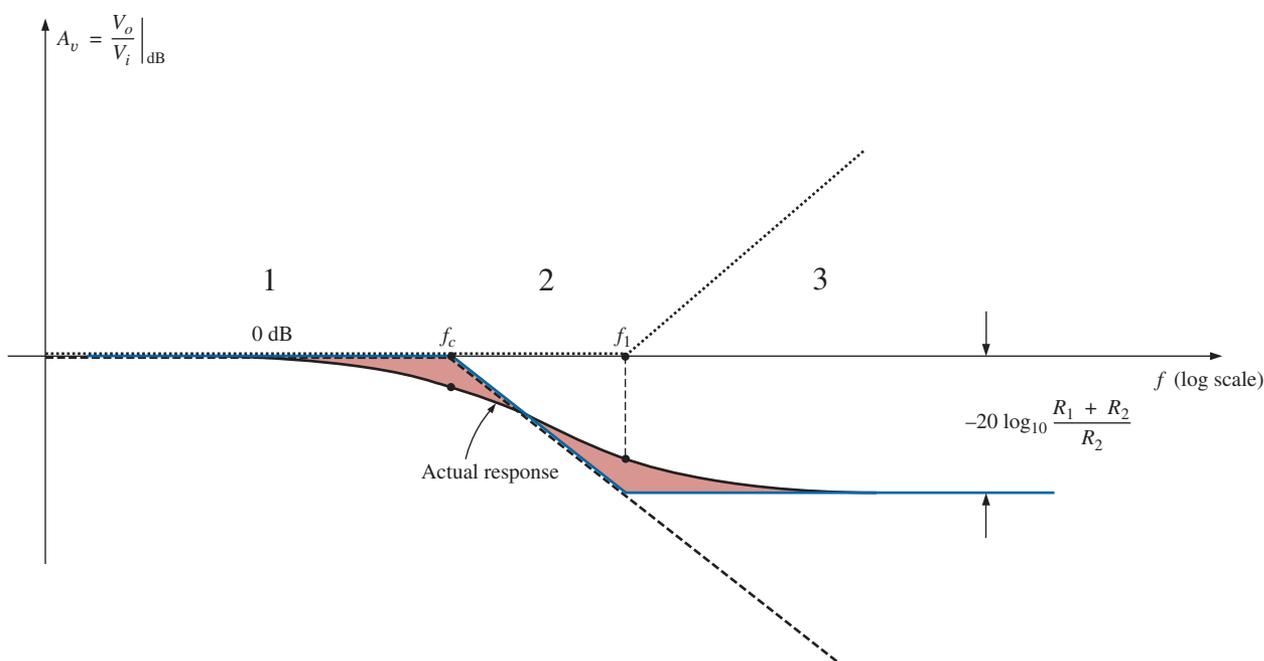
FIG. 21.65

$A_{v_{dB}}$ *versus frequency for the low-pass filter with limited attenuation of Fig. 21.62.*

$$20 \log_{10} R_2/(R_1 + R_2) = 20 \log_{10} 1/((R_1 + R_2)/R_2)$$
$$= \underbrace{20 \log_{10} 1}_{0} - 20 \log_{10}((R_1 + R_2)/R_2)$$

and
$$\boxed{20 \log_{10} \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2} = -20 \log_{10} \frac{R_1 + R_2}{R_2}} \qquad \textbf{(21.46)}$$

as shown in Fig. 21.65.

In region 1 in Fig. 21.65, both asymptotes are at 0 dB, resulting in a net Bode asymptote at 0 dB for the region. At $f = f_c$, one asymptote maintains its 0 dB level, whereas the other is dropping by 6 dB/octave. The sum of the two is the 6 dB drop per octave shown for the region. In region 3, the -6 dB/octave asymptote is balanced by the $+6$ dB/octave asymptote, establishing a level asymptote at the negative dB level attained by the f_c asymptote at $f = f_1$. The dB level of the horizontal asymptote in

region 3 can be determined using Eq. (21.46) or by substituting $f = f_1$ into the asymptotic expression defined by f_c.

The full idealized Bode envelope is now defined, permitting a sketch of the actual response by shifting 3 dB in the right direction at each corner frequency, as shown in Fig. 21.65.

The phase angle associated with $\mathbf{A}_v$ can be determined directly from Eq. (21.45). That is,

$$\theta = \tan^{-1} f/f_1 - \tan^{-1} f/f_c \qquad (21.47)$$

A full plot of θ versus frequency can be obtained by substituting various key frequencies into Eq. (21.47) and plotting the result on a log scale.

The first term of Eq. (21.47) defines the phase angle established by the numerator of Eq. (21.45). The asymptotic plot established by the numerator is provided in Fig. 21.66. Note the phase angle of 45° at $f = f_1$ and the straight-line asymptote between $f_1/10$ and $10f_1$.
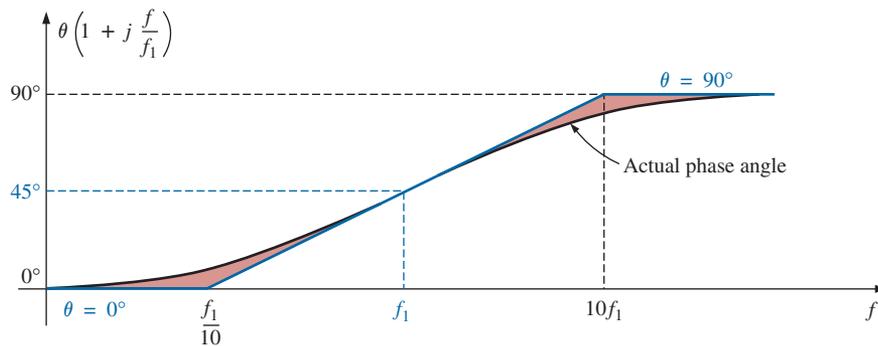
FIG. 21.66

Phase angle for $(1 + j\,(f/f_1))$.

Now that we have an asymptotic plot for the phase angle of the numerator, we can plot the full phase response by sketching the asymptotes for both functions of Eq. (21.45) on the same graph, as shown in Fig. 21.67.
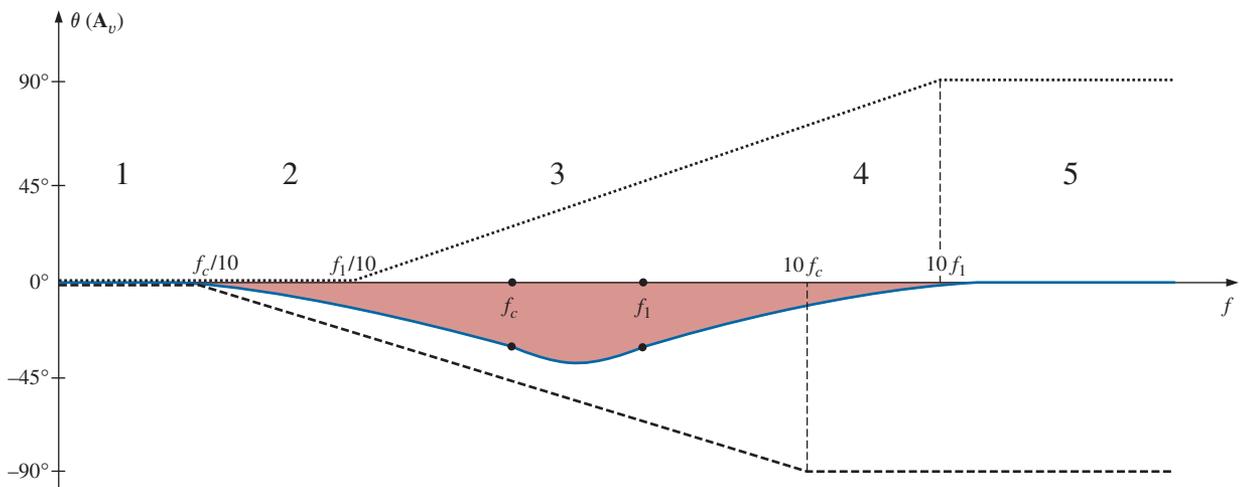
FIG. 21.67

Phase angle for the low-pass filter in Fig. 21.62.
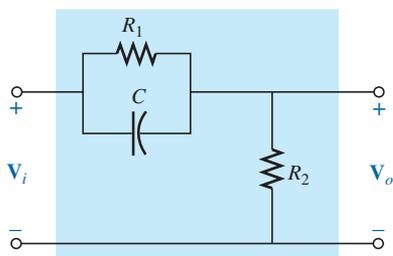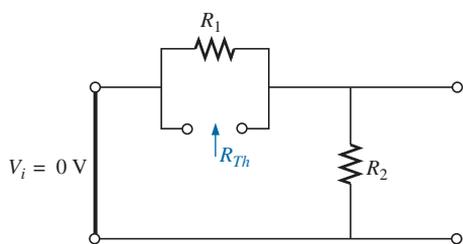
The asymptotes in Fig. 21.67 clearly indicate that the phase angle will be 0° in the low-frequency range and 0° ($90° - 90° = 0°$) in the high-frequency range. In region 2, the phase plot drops below 0° due to the impact of the f_c asymptote. In region 4, the phase angle increases since the asymptote due to f_c remains fixed at $-90°$, whereas that due to f_1 is increasing. In the midrange, the plot due to f_1 is balancing the continued negative drop due to the f_c asymptote, resulting in the leveling response indicated. Due to the equal and opposite slopes of the asymptotes in the midregion, the angles of f_1 and f_c will be the same, but note that they are less than 45°. The maximum negative angle will occur between f_1 and f_c. The remaining points on the curve of Fig. 21.67 can be determined by simply substituting specific frequencies into Eq. (21.45). However, it is also useful to know that the most dramatic (the quickest) changes in the phase angle occur when the dB plot of the magnitude also goes through its greatest changes (such as at f_1 and f_c).

21.13 HIGH-PASS FILTER WITH LIMITED ATTENUATION

The filter in Fig. 21.68 is designed to limit the low-frequency attenuation in much the same manner as described for the low-pass filter of the previous section.

At $f = 0$ Hz, the capacitor can assume its open-circuit equivalence, and $\mathbf{V}_o = [R_2/(R_1 + R_2)]\mathbf{V}_i$. At high frequencies, the capacitor can be approximated by a short-circuit equivalence, and $\mathbf{V}_o = \mathbf{V}_i$.

The resistance to be used when determining f_c can be found by finding the Thévenin resistance for the capacitor C, as shown in Fig. 21.69. A careful examination of the resulting configuration reveals that $R_{Th} = R_1 \| R_2$ and $f_c = 1/2\pi(R_1 \| R_2)C$.

A plot of V_o versus frequency is provided in Fig. 21.70(a), and a sketch of $A_v = V_o/V_i$ appears in Fig. 21.70(b).

An equation for $\mathbf{A}_v = \mathbf{V}_o/\mathbf{V}_i$ can be derived by first applying the voltage divider rule:

$$\mathbf{V}_o = \frac{R_2 \mathbf{V}_i}{R_2 + R_1 \| -j X_C}$$

FIG. 21.68

High-pass filter with limited attenuation.

FIG. 21.69

Determining R for the f_c calculation for the filter in Fig. 21.68.

(a)

(b)
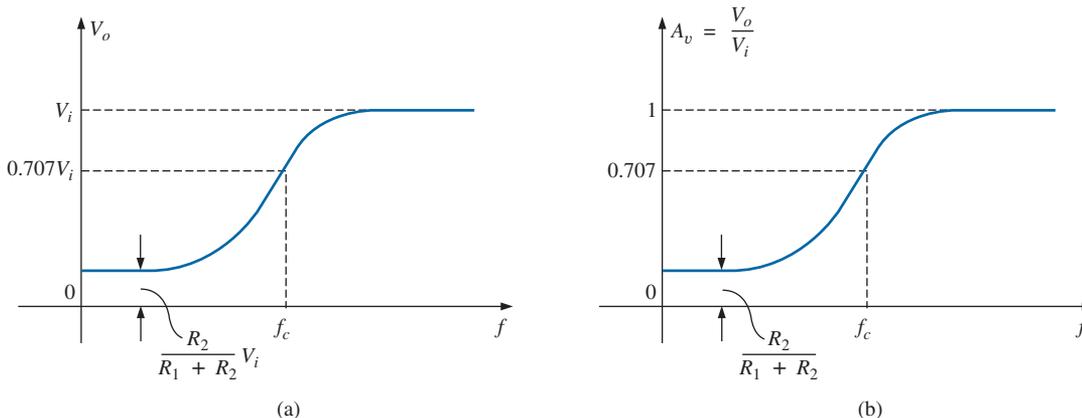
FIG. 21.70

High-pass filter with limited attenuation.

and $\quad A_v = \dfrac{V_o}{V_i} = \dfrac{R_2}{R_2 + R_1 \, \| \, -jX_C} = \dfrac{R_2}{R_2 + \dfrac{R_1(-jX_C)}{R_1 - jX_C}}$

$\quad = \dfrac{R_2(R_1 - jX_C)}{R_2(R_1 - jX_C) - jR_1X_C} = \dfrac{R_1R_2 - jR_2X_C}{R_1R_2 - jR_2X_C - jR_1X_C}$

$\quad = \dfrac{R_1R_2 - jR_2X_C}{R_1R_2 - j(R_1 + R_2)X_C} = \dfrac{1 - j\dfrac{R_2X_C}{R_1R_2}}{1 - j\dfrac{(R_1 + R_2)}{R_1R_2}X_C}$

$\quad = \dfrac{1 - j\dfrac{X_C}{R_1}}{1 - j\dfrac{X_C}{\dfrac{R_1R_2}{R_1 + R_2}}} = \dfrac{1 - j\dfrac{X_C}{R_1}}{1 - j\dfrac{X_C}{R_1 \, \| \, R_2}} = \dfrac{1 - j\dfrac{1}{2\pi f R_1 C}}{1 - j\dfrac{1}{2\pi f(R_1 \, \| \, R_2)C}}$

so that

$$\boxed{A_v = \dfrac{V_o}{V_i} = \dfrac{1 - j\,(f_1/f)}{1 - j\,(f_c/f)}} \qquad (21.48)$$

with $\quad f_1 = \dfrac{1}{2\pi R_1 C} \quad$ and $\quad f_c = \dfrac{1}{2\pi(R_1 \, \| \, R_2)C}$

The denominator of Eq. (21.48) is simply the denominator of the high-pass function in Fig. 21.54(b). The numerator, however, is new and must be investigated.

Applying Eq. (21.5):

$$A_{v_{dB}} = 20 \log_{10} \dfrac{V_o}{V_i} = 20 \log_{10} \sqrt{1 + (f_1/f)^2} + 20 \log_{10} \dfrac{1}{\sqrt{1 + (f_c/f)^2}}$$

For $f \ll f_1$, $(f_1/f)^2 \gg 1$, and the first term becomes

$$20 \log_{10} \sqrt{(f_1/f)^2} = 20 \log_{10}(f_1/f) \, |_{f \ll f_1}$$

which defines the idealized Bode asymptote for the numerator of Eq. (21.48).

$$\text{At } f = f_1, \qquad 20 \log_{10} 1 = \;\; 0 \text{ dB}$$
$$\text{At } f = 0.5f_1, \qquad 20 \log_{10} 2 = \;\; 6 \text{ dB}$$
$$\text{At } f = 0.1f_1, \quad 20 \log_{10} 10 = 20 \text{ dB}$$

For frequencies greater than f_1, $f_1/f \ll 1$ and $20 \log_{10} 1 = 0$ dB, which establishes the high-frequency asymptote. The full idealized Bode plot for the numerator of Eq. (21.48) is provided in Fig. 21.71.

We are now in a position to determine $A_{v_{dB}}$ by plotting the asymptotes for each function of Eq. (21.48) on the same frequency axis, as shown in Fig. 21.72. Note that f_c must be more than f_1 since $R_1 \, \| \, R_2$ must be less than R_1.

When determining the linearized Bode response, let us first examine region 2, where one function is 0 dB and the other is dropping at 6 dB/octave for decreasing frequencies. The result is a decreasing asymptote from f_c to f_1. At the intersection of the resultant of region 2 with f_1, we enter region 1, where the asymptotes have opposite slopes and cancel the effect of each other. The resulting level at f_1 is determined by
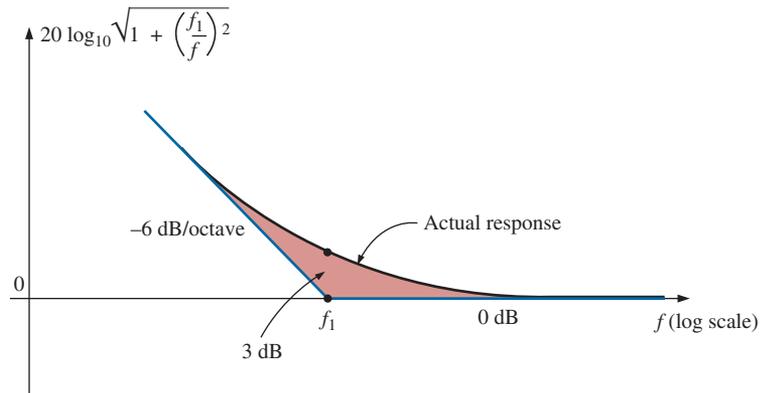
FIG. 21.71

Idealized and actual Bode response for the magnitude of $(1 - j\,(f_1/f))$.
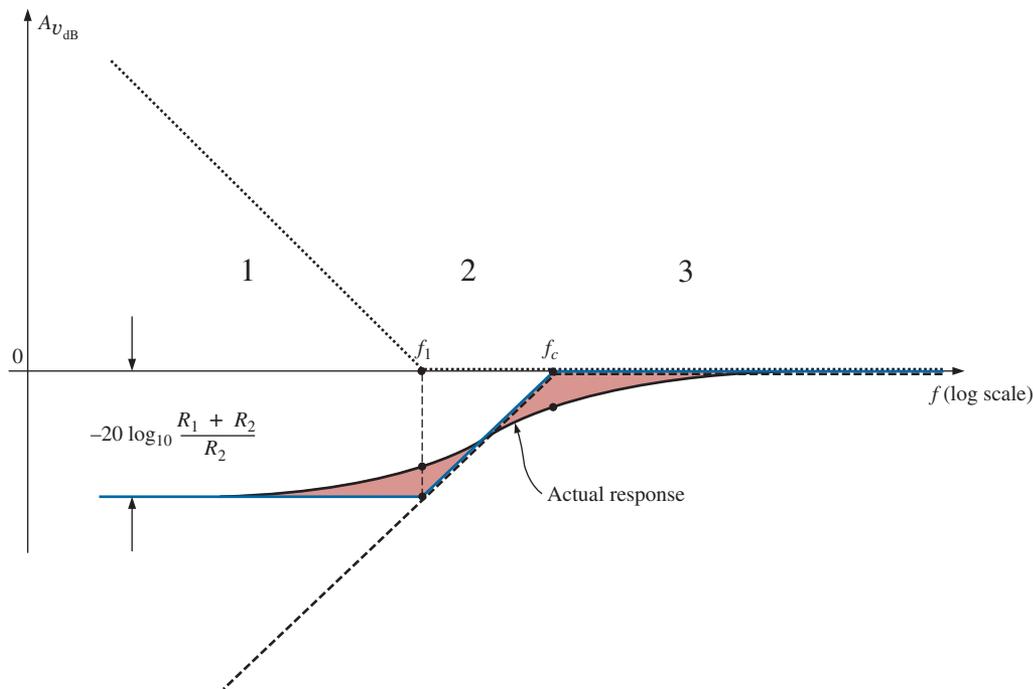
FIG. 21.72

$A_{v_{dB}}$ *versus frequency for the high-pass filter with limited attenuation in Fig. 21.68.*

$-20 \log_{10}(R_1 + R_2)/R_2$, as found in earlier sections. The drop can also be determined by substituting $f = f_1$ into the asymptotic equation defined for f_c. In region 3, both are at 0 dB, resulting in a 0 dB asymptote for the region. The resulting asymptotic and actual responses both appear in Fig. 21.72.

The phase angle associated with A_v can be determined directly from Eq. (21.48); that is,

$$\theta = -\tan^{-1}\frac{f_1}{f} + \tan^{-1}\frac{f_c}{f} \qquad \textbf{(21.49)}$$

A full plot of θ versus frequency can be obtained by substituting various key frequencies into Eq. (21.49) and plotting the result on a log scale.

The first term of Eq. (21.49) defines the phase angle established by the numerator of Eq. (21.48). The asymptotic plot resulting from the numer-
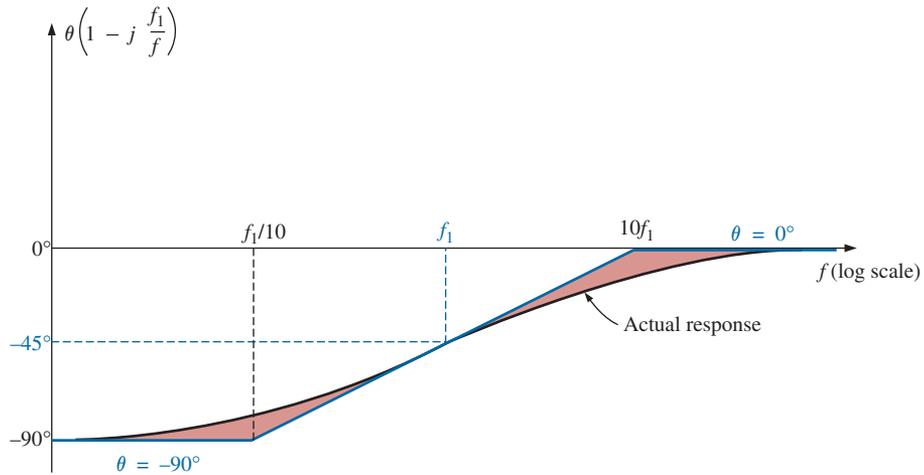
FIG. 21.73
Phase angle for $(1 - j \, (f_1/f))$.

ator is provided in Fig. 21.73. Note the leading phase angle of 45° at $f = f_1$ and the straight-line asymptote from $f_1/10$ to $10f_1$.

Now that we have an asymptotic plot for the phase angle of the numerator, we can plot the full phase response by sketching the asymptotes for both functions of Eq. (21.48) on the same graph, as shown in Fig. 21.74.

The asymptotes in Fig. 21.74 clearly indicate that the phase angle will be 90° in the low-frequency range and 0° (90° − 90° = 0°) in the high-frequency range. In region 2, the phase angle is increasing above 0° because one angle is fixed at 90° and the other is becoming less negative. In region 4, one is 0° and the other is decreasing, resulting in a decreasing θ for this region. In region 3, the positive angle is always greater than the negative angle, resulting in a positive angle for the entire region. Since the slopes of the asymptotes in region 3 are equal but opposite, the angles at f_c and f_1 are the same. Fig. 21.74 reveals that the angle at f_c and f_1 will be less than 45°. The maximum angle occurs between f_c and f_1, as shown in
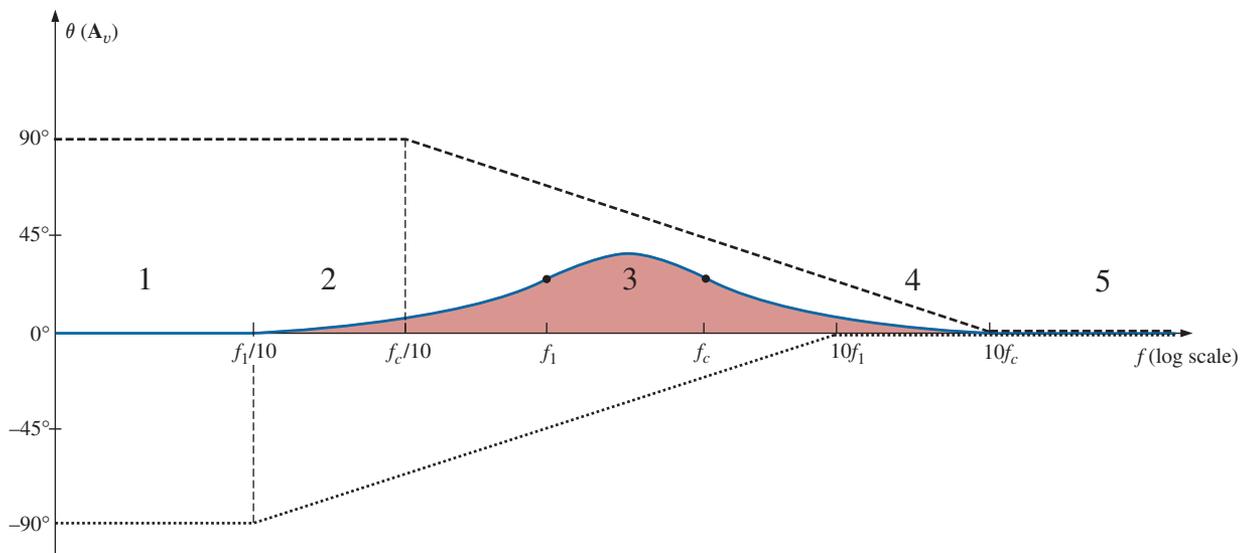
FIG. 21.74
Phase response for the high-pass filter in Fig. 21.68.
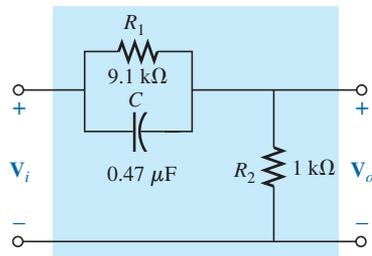
the figure. Note again that the greatest change in θ occurs at the corner frequencies, matching the regions of greatest change in the dB plot.

EXAMPLE 21.11 For the filter in Fig. 21.75:

a. Sketch the curve of $A_{v_{dB}}$ versus frequency using a log scale.
b. Sketch the curve of θ versus frequency using a log scale.

Solutions:

a. For the break frequencies:

$$f_1 = \frac{1}{2\pi R_1 C} = \frac{1}{2\pi(9.1 \text{ k}\Omega)(0.47 \ \mu\text{F})} = \textbf{37.2 Hz}$$

$$f_c = \frac{1}{2\pi\left(\dfrac{R_1 R_2}{R_1 + R_2}\right)C} = \frac{1}{2\pi(0.9 \text{ k}\Omega)(0.47 \ \mu\text{F})} = \textbf{376.25 Hz}$$

The maximum low-level attenuation is

$$-20 \log_{10} \frac{R_1 + R_2}{R_2} = -20 \log_{10} \frac{9.1 \text{ k}\Omega + 1 \text{ k}\Omega}{1 \text{ k}\Omega}$$

$$= -20 \log_{10} 10.1 = \textbf{-20.09 dB}$$

The resulting plot appears in Fig. 21.76.

FIG. 21.75
Example 21.11.
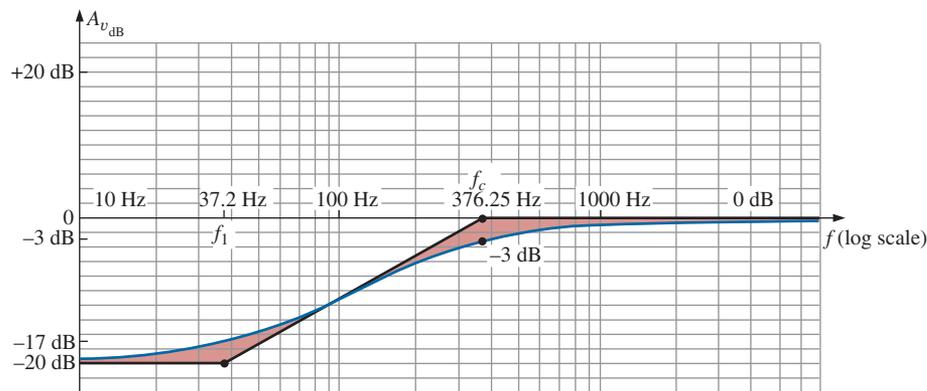
FIG. 21.76
$A_{v_{dB}}$ *versus frequency for the filter in Fig. 21.75.*

b. For the break frequencies:

At $f = f_1 = 37.2$ Hz,

$$\theta = -\tan^{-1}\frac{f_1}{f} + \tan^{-1}\frac{f_c}{f}$$

$$= -\tan^{-1} 1 + \tan^{-1}\frac{376.25 \text{ Hz}}{37.2 \text{ Hz}}$$

$$= -45° + 84.35°$$

$$= \textbf{39.35°}$$

At $f = f_c = 376.26$ Hz,

$$\theta = -\tan^{-1}\frac{37.2 \text{ Hz}}{376.26 \text{ Hz}} + \tan^{-1} 1$$

$$= -5.65° + 45°$$

$$= \mathbf{39.35°}$$

At a frequency midway between f_c and f_1 on a log scale, for example, 120 Hz:

$$\theta = -\tan^{-1}\frac{37.2 \text{ Hz}}{120 \text{ Hz}} + \tan^{-1}\frac{376.26 \text{ Hz}}{120 \text{ Hz}}$$

$$= -17.22° + 72.31°$$

$$= \mathbf{55.09°}$$

The resulting phase plot appears in Fig. 21.77.
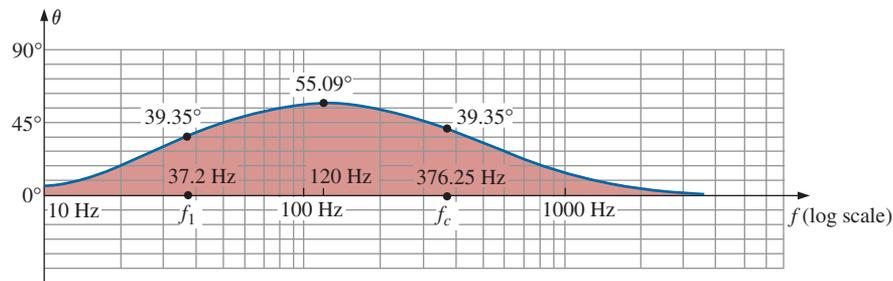
FIG. 21.77

θ (the phase angle associated with A_v) versus frequency for the filter in Fig. 21.75.

21.14 ADDITIONAL PROPERTIES OF BODE PLOTS

Bode plots are not limited to filters but can be applied to any system for which a dB-versus-frequency plot is desired. Although the previous sections did not cover all the functions that lend themselves to the idealized linear asymptotes, many of those most commonly encountered have been introduced.

We now examine some of the special situations that can develop that further demonstrate the adaptability and usefulness of the linear Bode approach to frequency analysis.

In all the situations described in this chapter, there was only one term in the numerator or denominator. For situations where there is more than one term, there will be an interaction between functions that must be examined and understood. In many cases, the use of Eq. (21.5) will prove useful. For example, if $\mathbf{A}_v$ has the format

$$\mathbf{A}_v = \frac{200(1 - jf_2/f)(jf/f_1)}{(1 - jf_1/f)(1 + jf/f_2)} = \frac{(a)(b)(c)}{(d)(e)} \qquad \textbf{(21.50)}$$

we can expand the function in the following manner:

$$A_{v_{\text{dB}}} = 20 \log_{10}\frac{(a)(b)(c)}{(d)(e)}$$

$$= 20 \log_{10} a + 20 \log_{10} b + 20 \log_{10} c - 20 \log_{10} d - 20 \log_{10} e$$

revealing that the net or resultant dB level is equal to the algebraic sum of the contributions from all the terms of the original function. We can, therefore, add algebraically the linearized Bode plots of all the terms in each frequency interval to determine the idealized Bode plot for the full function.

If two terms happen to have the same format and corner frequency, as in the function

$$\mathbf{A}_v = \frac{1}{(1 - jf_1/f)(1 - jf_1/f)}$$

the function can be rewritten as

$$\mathbf{A}_v = \frac{1}{(1 - jf_1/f)^2}$$

so that

$$A_{v_{dB}} = 20 \log_{10} \frac{1}{(\sqrt{1 + (f_1/f)^2})^2}$$

$$= -20 \log_{10}(1 + (f_1/f)^2)$$

for $f \ll f_1$, $(f_1/f)^2 \gg 1$, and

$$A_{v_{dB}} = -20 \log_{10}(f_1/f)^2 = -40 \log_{10} f_1/f$$

versus the $-20 \log_{10}(f_1/f)$ obtained for a single term in the denominator. The resulting dB asymptote will drop, therefore, at a rate of -12 dB/octave (-40 dB/decade) for decreasing frequencies rather than -6 dB/octave. The corner frequency is the same, and the high-frequency asymptote is still at 0 dB. The idealized Bode plot for the above function is provided in Fig. 21.78.

Note the steeper slope of the asymptote and the fact that the actual curve now passes -6 dB below the corner frequency rather than -3 dB, as for a single term.
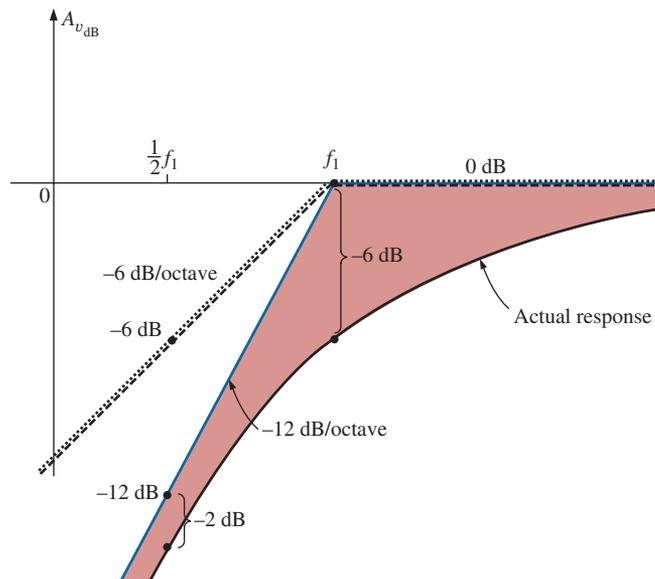
FIG. 21.78

Plotting the linearized Bode plot of $\dfrac{1}{(1 - j(f_1/f))^2}$.
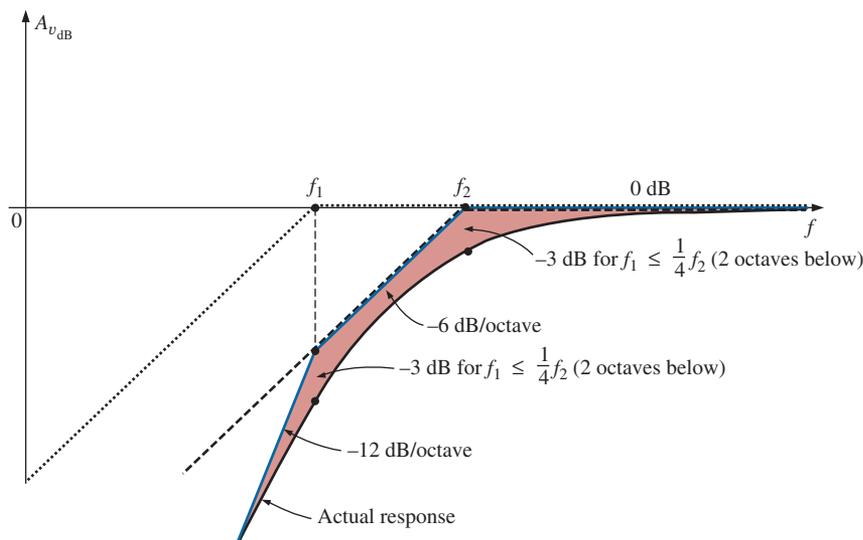
FIG. 21.79

Plot of A_{vdB} for $\dfrac{1}{(1 - j\,(f_1/f))(1 - j\,(f_2/f))}$ *with $f_1 < f_2$.*

Keep in mind that if the corner frequencies of the two terms in the numerator or denominator are close but not exactly equal, the total dB drop is the algebraic sum of the contributing terms of the expansion. For instance, consider the linearized Bode plot in Fig. 21.79 with corner frequencies f_1 and f_2.

In region 3, both asymptotes are 0 dB, resulting in an asymptote at 0 dB for frequencies greater than f_2. For region 2, one asymptote is at 0 dB, whereas the other drops at −6 dB/octave for decreasing frequencies. The net result for this region is an asymptote dropping at −6 dB, as shown in the same figure. At f_1, we find two asymptotes dropping off at −6 dB for decreasing frequencies. The result is an asymptote dropping off at −12 dB/octave for this region.

If f_1 and f_2 are at least two octaves apart, the effect of one on the plotting of the actual response for the other can almost be ignored. In other words, for this example, if $f_1 < \frac{1}{4}f_2$, the actual response is down −3 dB at $f = f_2$ and f_1.

The above discussion can be expanded for any number of terms at the same frequency or in the same region. For three equal terms in the denominator, the asymptote will drop at −18 dB/octave, and so on. Eventually, the procedure will become self-evident and relatively straightforward to apply. In many cases, the hardest part of finding a solution is to put the original function in the desired form.

EXAMPLE 21.12 A transistor amplifier has the following gain:

$$A_v = \frac{100}{\left(1 - j\dfrac{50\text{ Hz}}{f}\right)\left(1 - j\dfrac{200\text{ Hz}}{f}\right)\left(1 + j\dfrac{f}{10\text{ kHz}}\right)\left(1 + j\dfrac{f}{20\text{ kHz}}\right)}$$

a. Sketch the normalized response $A'_v = A_v/A_{v_{max}}$, and determine the bandwidth of the amplifier.
b. Sketch the phase response, and determine a frequency where the phase angle is close to $0°$.

Solutions:

a. $A'_v = \dfrac{A_v}{A_{v_{max}}} = \dfrac{A_v}{100}$

$$= \dfrac{1}{\left(1 - j\dfrac{50 \text{ Hz}}{f}\right)\left(1 - j\dfrac{200 \text{ Hz}}{f}\right)\left(1 + j\dfrac{f}{10 \text{ kHz}}\right)\left(1 + j\dfrac{f}{20 \text{ kHz}}\right)}$$

$$= \dfrac{1}{(a)(b)(c)(d)} = \left(\dfrac{1}{a}\right)\left(\dfrac{1}{b}\right)\left(\dfrac{1}{c}\right)\left(\dfrac{1}{d}\right)$$

and

$$A'_{v_{dB}} = -20 \log_{10} a - 20 \log_{10} b - 20 \log_{10} c - 20 \log_{10} d$$

clearly substantiating the fact that the total number of decibels is equal to the algebraic sum of the contributing terms.

A careful examination of the original function reveals that the first two terms in the denominator are high-pass filter functions, whereas the last two are low-pass functions. Fig. 21.80 demonstrates how the combination of the two types of functions defines a bandwidth for the amplifier. The high-frequency filter functions have defined the low cutoff frequency, and the low-frequency filter functions have defined the high cutoff frequency.
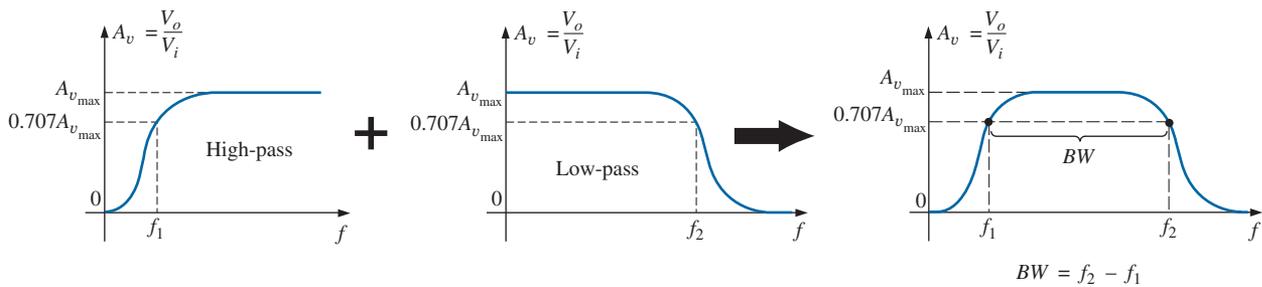
FIG. 21.80
Finding the overall gain versus frequency for Example 21.12.

Plotting all the idealized Bode plots on the same axis results in the plot in Fig. 21.81. Note for frequencies less than 50 Hz that the result-
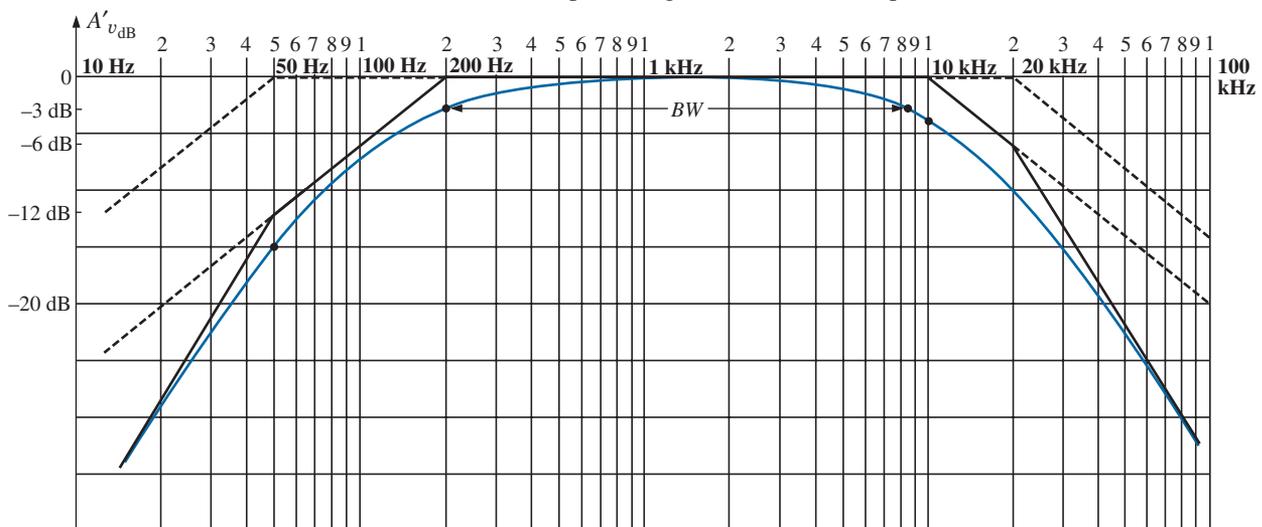
FIG. 21.81
$A'_{v_{dB}}$ *versus frequency for Example 21.12.*

ing asymptote drops off at -12 dB/octave. In addition, since 50 Hz and 200 Hz are separated by two octaves, the actual response will be down by only about -3 dB at the corner frequencies of 50 Hz and 200 Hz.

For the high-frequency region, the corner frequencies are not separated by two octaves, and the difference between the idealized plot and the actual Bode response must be examined more carefully. Since 10 kHz is one octave below 20 kHz, we can use the fact that the difference between the idealized response and the actual response for a single corner frequency is 1 dB. If we add an additional -1 dB drop due to the 20 kHz corner frequency to the -3 dB drop at $f = 10$ kHz, we can conclude that the drop at 10 kHz will be -4 dB, as shown on the plot. To check the conclusion, let us write the full expression for the dB level at 10 kHz and find the actual level for comparison purposes.

$$A'_{v_{dB}} = -20 \log_{10} \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{50 \text{ Hz}}{10 \text{ kHz}}\right)^2} - 20 \log_{10} \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{200 \text{ Hz}}{10 \text{ kHz}}\right)^2}$$

$$- 20 \log_{10} \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{10 \text{ kHz}}{10 \text{ kHz}}\right)^2} - 20 \log_{10} \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{10 \text{ kHz}}{20 \text{ kHz}}\right)^2}$$

$$= -0.00011 \text{ dB} - 0.0017 \text{ dB} - 3.01 \text{ dB} - 0.969 \text{ dB}$$

$$= -3.98 \text{ dB} \cong \mathbf{-4 \text{ dB}} \qquad \text{as before}$$

An examination of the above calculations reveals that the last two terms predominate in the high-frequency region and essentially eliminate the need to consider the first two terms in that region. For the low-frequency region, examining the first two terms is sufficient.

Proceeding in a similar fashion, we find a -4 dB difference at $f = 20$ kHz, resulting in the actual response appearing in Fig. 21.81. Since the bandwidth is defined at the -3 dB level, a judgment must be made as to where the actual response crosses the -3 dB level in the high-frequency region. A rough sketch suggests that it is near 8.5 kHz. Plugging this frequency into the high-frequency terms results in

$$A'_{v_{dB}} = -20 \log_{10} \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{8.5 \text{ kHz}}{10 \text{ kHz}}\right)^2} - 20 \log_{10} \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{8.5 \text{ kHz}}{20 \text{ kHz}}\right)^2}$$

$$= -2.148 \text{ dB} - 0.645 \text{ dB} \cong \mathbf{-2.8 \text{ dB}}$$

which is relatively close to the -3 dB level, and

$$BW = f_{high} - f_{low} = 8.5 \text{ kHz} - 200 \text{ Hz} = \mathbf{8.3 \text{ kHz}}$$

In the midrange of the bandwidth, $A'_{v_{dB}}$ approaches 0 dB. At $f = 1$ kHz:

$$A'_{v_{dB}} = -20 \log_{10} \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{50 \text{ Hz}}{1 \text{ kHz}}\right)^2} - 20 \log_{10} \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{200 \text{ Hz}}{1 \text{ kHz}}\right)^2}$$

$$- 20 \log_{10} \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{1 \text{ kHz}}{10 \text{ kHz}}\right)^2} - 20 \log_{10} \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{1 \text{ kHz}}{20 \text{ kHz}}\right)^2}$$

$$= -0.0108 \text{ dB} - 0.1703 \text{ dB} - 0.0432 \text{ dB} - 0.0108 \text{ dB}$$

$$= \mathbf{-0.235 \text{ dB}} \cong -\frac{1}{5}\mathbf{dB}$$

which is certainly close to the 0 dB level, as shown on the plot.

b. The phase response can be determined by substituting a number of key frequencies into the following equation, derived directly from the original function $\mathbf{A}_v$:

$$\theta = \tan^{-1}\frac{50\text{ Hz}}{f} + \tan^{-1}\frac{200\text{ Hz}}{f} - \tan^{-1}\frac{f}{10\text{ kHz}} - \tan^{-1}\frac{f}{20\text{ kHz}}$$

However, let us make full use of the asymptotes defined by each term of $\mathbf{A}_v$ and sketch the response by finding the resulting phase angle at critical points on the frequency axis. The resulting asymptotes and phase plot are provided in Fig. 21.82. Note that at $f = 50$ Hz, the sum of the two angles determined by the straight-line asymptotes is $45° + 75° = 120°$ (actual $= 121°$). At $f = 1$ kHz, if we subtract $5.7°$ for one corner frequency, we obtain a net angle of $14° - 5.7° \cong 8.3°$ (actual $= 5.6°$).
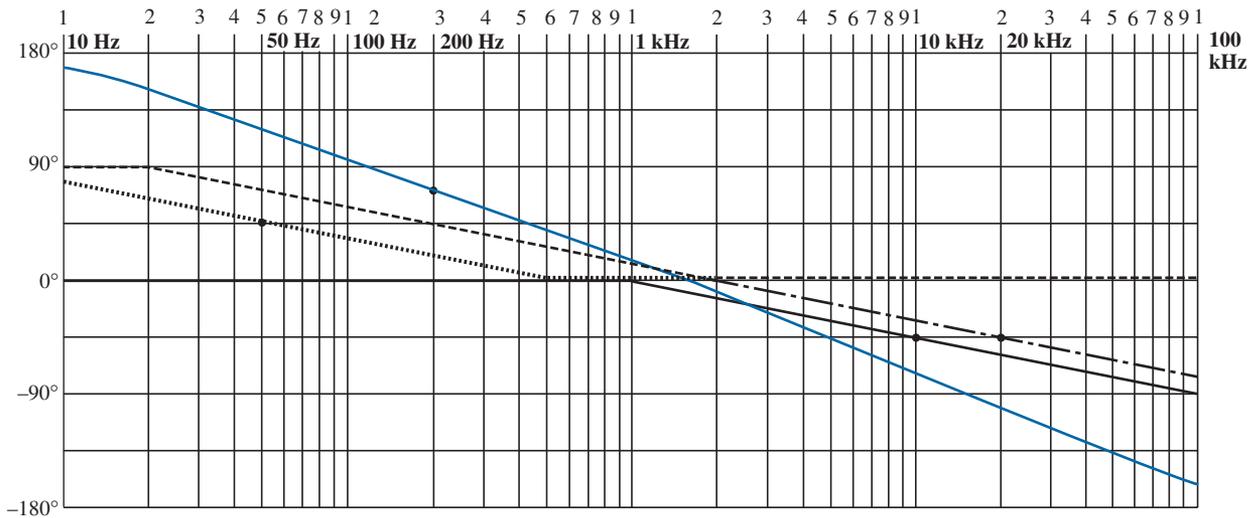
FIG. 21.82

Phase response for Example 21.12.

At 10 kHz, the asymptotes leave us with $\theta \cong -45° - 32° = -77°$ (actual $= -71.56°$). The net phase plot appears to be close to $0°$ at about 1300 Hz. To check on our assumptions and the use of the asymptotic approach, plug in $f = 1300$ Hz into the equation for θ:

$$\theta = \tan^{-1}\frac{50\text{ Hz}}{1300\text{ Hz}} + \tan^{-1}\frac{200\text{ Hz}}{1300\text{ Hz}} - \tan^{-1}\frac{1300\text{ Hz}}{10\text{ kHz}} - \tan^{-1}\frac{1300\text{ Hz}}{20\text{ kHz}}$$

$$= 2.2° + 8.75° - 7.41° - 3.72°$$

$$= -0.18° \cong 0° \qquad \text{as predicted}$$

In total, the phase plot appears to shift from a positive angle of $180°$ ($\mathbf{V}_o$ leading $\mathbf{V}_i$) to a negative angle of $180°$ as the frequency spectrum extends from very low frequencies to high frequencies. In the midregion, the phase plot is close to $0°$ ($\mathbf{V}_o$ in phase with $\mathbf{V}_i$), much like the response to a common-base transistor amplifier.

Table 21.2 consolidates some of the material introduced in this chapter and provides a reference for future investigations. It includes the linearized dB and phase plots for the functions appearing in the first column. There are many other functions, but these provide a foundation to which others can be added.

Reviewing the development of the filters in Sections 21.12 and 21.13 shows that establishing the function $\mathbf{A}_v$ in the proper form is the most

dB

TABLE 21.2

Idealized Bode plots for various functions.

Function	dB Plot	Phase Plot
$\mathbf{A}_v = 1 - j\dfrac{f_1}{f}$	$A_{v_{dB}}$; −6 dB/octave; 0 dB; f_1	θ ($\mathbf{V}_o$ leads $\mathbf{V}_i$); 90°; 45°; 0°; $f_1/10$; f_1; 10f_1; 0°; −45°; −90°
$\mathbf{A}_v = 1 + j\dfrac{f}{f_1}$	$A_{v_{dB}}$; +6 dB/octave; 0 dB; f_1	θ ($\mathbf{V}_o$ leads $\mathbf{V}_i$); +90°; 90°; 45°; 0°; $\dfrac{f_1}{10}$; f_1; 10f_1; +45°; −90°
$\mathbf{A}_v = j\dfrac{f}{f_1}$	$A_{v_{dB}}$; +6 dB/octave; f_1	θ ($\mathbf{V}_o$ leads $\mathbf{V}_i$); +90°; 90°; 45°; 0°; $\dfrac{f_1}{10}$; f_1; 10f_1
$\mathbf{A}_v = \dfrac{1}{1 - j\dfrac{f_1}{f}}$	$A_{v_{dB}}$; f_1; 0 dB; −6 dB/octave	θ ($\mathbf{V}_o$ leads $\mathbf{V}_i$); +90°; 90°; 45°; 0°; $\dfrac{f_1}{10}$; f_1; 10f_1; +45°; 0°
$\mathbf{A}_v = \dfrac{1}{1 + j\dfrac{f}{f_1}}$	$A_{v_{dB}}$; 0 dB; f_1; −6 dB/octave	θ ($\mathbf{V}_o$ leads $\mathbf{V}_i$); 90°; 45°; 0°; $f_1/10$; f_1; 10f_1; −45°; −90°
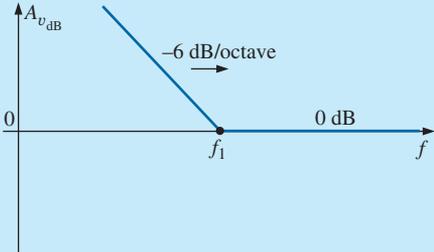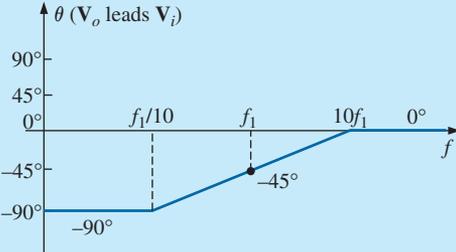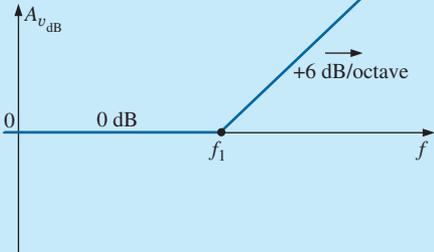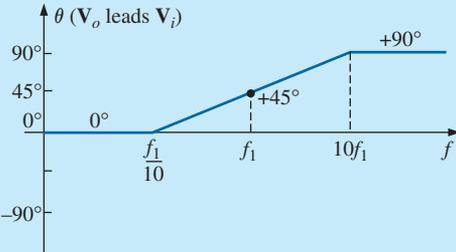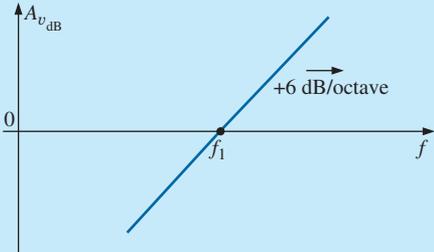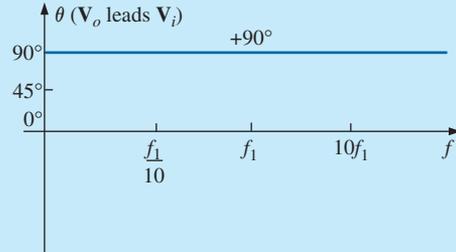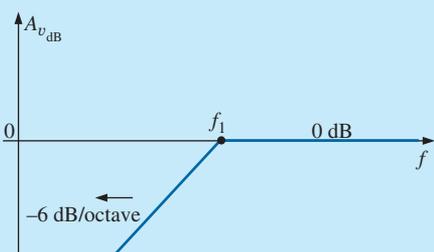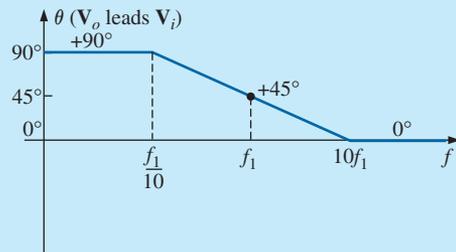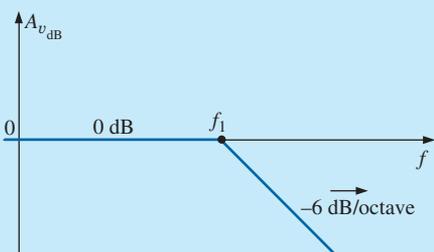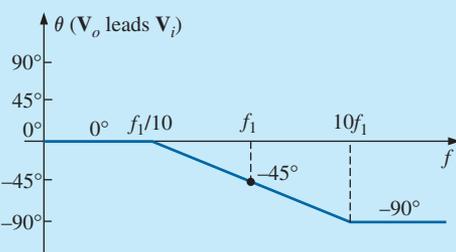
difficult part of the analysis. However, with practice and an awareness of the desired format, you will discover methods that will significantly reduce the effort involved.

21.15 CROSSOVER NETWORKS

The topic of *crossover networks* is included primarily to present an excellent demonstration of filter operation without a high level of complexity. Crossover networks are used in audio systems to ensure that the proper frequencies are channeled to the appropriate speaker. Although less expensive audio systems have only one speaker to cover the full audio range from about 20 Hz to 20 kHz, better systems have at least three speakers to cover the low range (20 Hz to about 500 Hz), the midrange (500 Hz to about 5 kHz), and the high range (5 kHz and up). The term *crossover* comes from the fact that the system is designed to have a crossover of frequency spectrums for adjacent speakers at the -3 dB level, as shown in Fig. 21.83. Depending on the design, each filter can drop off at 6 dB, 12 dB, or 18 dB, with complexity increasing with the desired dB drop-off rate. The three-way crossover network in Fig. 21.83 is quite simple in design, with a low-pass *R-L* filter for the *woofer,* an *R-L-C* pass-band filter for the midrange, and a high-pass *R-C* filter for the *tweeter.* The basic equations for the components are provided below. Note the similarity between the equations, with the only difference for each type of element being the cutoff frequency.
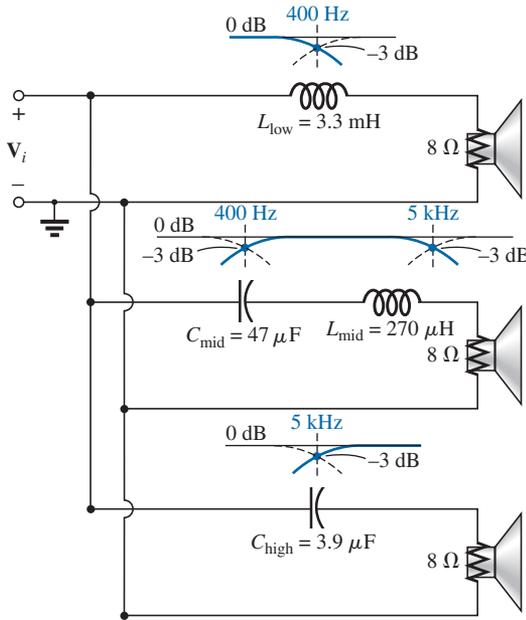
FIG. 21.83

Three-way, crossover network with 6 dB per octave.

$$L_{low} = \frac{R}{2\pi f_1} \qquad L_{mid} = \frac{R}{2\pi f_2} \qquad \text{(21.51)}$$

$$C_{mid} = \frac{1}{2\pi f_1 R} \qquad C_{high} = \frac{1}{2\pi f_2 R} \qquad \text{(21.52)}$$

For the crossover network in Fig. 21.83 with three 8 Ω speakers, the resulting values are

$$L_{low} = \frac{R}{2\pi f_1} = \frac{8\ \Omega}{2\pi(400\ \text{Hz})} = 3.183\ \text{mH} \rightarrow 3.3\ \text{mH}$$

(commercial value)

$$L_{mid} = \frac{R}{2\pi f_2} = \frac{8\ \Omega}{2\pi(5\ \text{kHz})} = 254.65\ \mu\text{H} \rightarrow 270\ \mu\text{H}$$

(commercial value)

$$C_{mid} = \frac{1}{2\pi f_1 R} = \frac{1}{2\pi(400\ \text{Hz})(8\ \Omega)} = 49.736\ \mu\text{F} \rightarrow 47\ \mu\text{F}$$

(commercial value)

$$C_{high} = \frac{1}{2\pi f_2 R} = \frac{1}{2\pi(5\ \text{kHz})(8\ \Omega)} = 3.979\ \mu\text{F} \rightarrow 3.9\ \mu\text{F}$$

(commercial value)

as shown in Fig. 21.83.

For each filter, a rough sketch of the frequency response is included to show the crossover at the specific frequencies of interest. Because all three speakers are in parallel, the source voltage and impedance for each are the same. The total loading on the source is obviously a function of

dB

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the frequency applied, but the total delivered is determined solely by the speakers since they are essentially resistive in nature.

To test the system, let us apply a 4 V signal at a frequency of 1 kHz (a predominant frequency of the typical human auditory response curve) and see which speaker has the highest power level.

At $f = 1$ kHz,

$$X_{L_{\text{low}}} = 2\pi f L_{\text{low}} = 2\pi(1 \text{ kHz})(3.3 \text{ mH}) = 20.74 \; \Omega$$

$$\mathbf{V}_o = \frac{(\mathbf{Z}_R \angle 0°)(V_i \angle 0°)}{\mathbf{Z}_T} = \frac{(8 \; \Omega \angle 0°)(4 \text{ V} \angle 0°)}{8 \; \Omega + j\,20.74 \; \Omega}$$

$$= 1.44 \text{ V} \angle -68.90°$$

$$X_{L_{\text{mid}}} = 2\pi f L_{\text{mid}} = 2\pi(1 \text{ kHz})(270 \; \mu\text{H}) = 1.696 \; \Omega$$

$$X_{C_{\text{mid}}} = \frac{1}{2\pi f C_{\text{mid}}} = \frac{1}{2\pi(1 \text{ kHz})(47 \; \mu\text{F})} = 3.386 \; \Omega$$

$$\mathbf{V}_o = \frac{(\mathbf{Z}_R \angle 0°)(V_i \angle 0°)}{\mathbf{Z}_T} = \frac{(8 \; \Omega \angle 0°)(4 \text{ V} \angle 0°)}{8 \; \Omega + j\,1.696 \; \Omega - j\,3.386 \; \Omega}$$

$$= 3.94 \text{ V} \angle 11.93°$$

$$X_{C_{\text{high}}} = \frac{1}{2\pi f C_{\text{high}}} = \frac{1}{2\pi(1 \text{ kHz})(3.9 \; \mu\text{F})} = 40.81 \; \Omega$$

$$\mathbf{V}_o = \frac{(\mathbf{Z}_R \angle 0°)(V_i \angle 0°)}{\mathbf{Z}_T} = \frac{(8 \; \Omega \angle 0°)(4 \text{ V} \angle 0°)}{8 \; \Omega - j\,40.81 \; \Omega}$$

$$= 0.77 \text{ V} \angle 78.91°$$

Using the basic power equation $P = V^2/R$, the power to the woofer is

$$P_{\text{low}} = \frac{V^2}{R} = \frac{(1.44 \text{ V})^2}{8 \; \Omega} = \textbf{0.259 W}$$

to the midrange speaker,

$$P_{\text{mid}} = \frac{V^2}{R} = \frac{(3.94 \text{ V})^2}{8 \; \Omega} = \textbf{1.94 W}$$

and to the tweeter,

$$P_{\text{high}} = \frac{V^2}{R} = \frac{(0.77 \text{ V})^2}{8 \; \Omega} = \textbf{0.074 W}$$

resulting in a power ratio of 7.5 : 1 between the midrange and the woofer and 26 : 1 between the midrange and the tweeter. Obviously, the response of the midrange speaker totally overshadows the other two.

21.16 APPLICATIONS

Attenuators

Attenuators are, by definition, any device or system that can reduce the power or voltage level of a signal while introducing little or no distortion. There are two general types: passive and active. The passive type uses only resistors, while the active type uses electronic devices such as transistors and integrated circuits. Since electronics is a subject for the courses to follow, only the resistive type is covered here. Attenuators are commonly used in audio equipment (such as the graphic and parametric equalizers introduced in Chapter 20), antenna systems, AM or FM systems where attenuation may be required before the signals are mixed, and any other application where a reduction in signal strength is required.
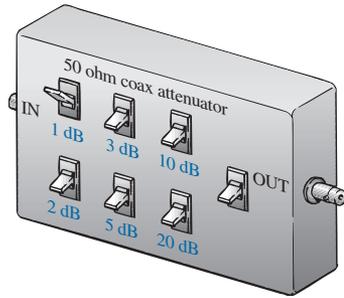
FIG. 21.84

Passive coax attenuator.

The unit in Fig. 21.84 has coaxial input and output terminals and switches to set the level of dB reduction. It has a flat response from dc to about 6 GHz, which essentially means that its introduction into the network will not affect the frequency response for this band of frequencies. The design is rather simple with resistors connected in either a *tee* (T) or a *wye* (Y) configuration as shown in Figs. 21.85 and 21.86, respectively, for a 50 Ω coaxial system. In each case, the resistors are chosen to ensure that the input impedance and output impedance match the line. That is, the input and output impedances of each configuration will be 50 Ω. For a number of dB attenuations, the resistor values for the T and Y are provided in Figs. 21.85 and 21.86. Note in each design that two of the resistors are the same, while the third is a much smaller or larger value.
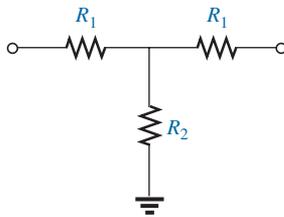
Attenuation	R_1	R_2
1 dB	2.9 Ω	433.3 Ω
2 dB	5.7 Ω	215.2 Ω
3 dB	8.5 Ω	141.9 Ω
5 dB	14.0 Ω	82.2 Ω
10 dB	26.0 Ω	35.0 Ω
20 dB	41.0 Ω	10.0 Ω

FIG. 21.85

Tee (T) configuration.
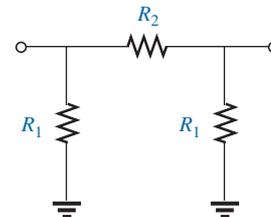
Attenuation	R_1	R_2
1 dB	870.0 Ω	5.8 Ω
2 dB	436.0 Ω	11.6 Ω
3 dB	292.0 Ω	17.6 Ω
5 dB	178.6 Ω	30.4 Ω
10 dB	96.2 Ω	71.2 Ω
20 dB	61.0 Ω	247.5 Ω

FIG. 21.86

Wye (Y) configuration.

For the 1 dB attenuation, the resistor values were inserted for the T configuration in Fig. 21.87(a). Terminating the configuration with a 50 Ω load, we find through the following calculations that the input impedance is, in fact, 50 Ω:

$$R_i = R_1 + R_2 \| (R_1 + R_L) = 2.9\ \Omega + 433.3\ \Omega \| (2.9\ \Omega + 50\ \Omega)$$
$$= 2.9\ \Omega + 47.14\ \Omega$$
$$= \mathbf{50.04\ \Omega}$$
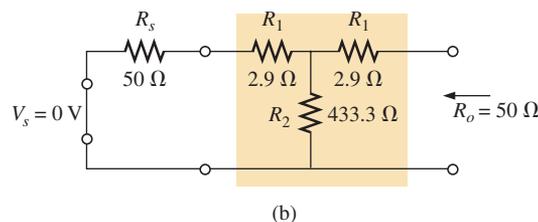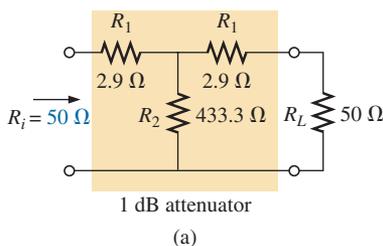
FIG. 21.87

1 dB attenuator: (a) loaded; (b) finding R_o.

dB

Looking back from the load as shown in Fig. 21.87(b) with the source set to zero volts, we find through the following calculations that the output impedance is also 50 Ω:

$$R_o = R_1 + R_2 \| (R_1 + R_s) = 2.9 \ \Omega + 433.3 \ \Omega \| (2.9 \ \Omega + 50 \ \Omega)$$
$$= 2.9 \ \Omega + 47.14 \ \Omega$$
$$= \mathbf{50.04 \ \Omega}$$

In Fig. 21.88, a 50 Ω load has been applied, and the output voltage is determined as follows:

$$R' = R_2 \| (R_1 + R_L) = 47.14 \ \Omega \qquad \text{from above}$$

and

$$V_{R_2} = \frac{R'V_s}{R' + R_1} = \frac{47.14 \ \Omega \ V_s}{47.14 \ \Omega + 2.9 \ \Omega} = 0.942V_s$$

with

$$V_L = \frac{R_L V_{R_2}}{R_L + R_1} = \frac{50 \ \Omega \ (0.942V_s)}{50 \ \Omega + 2.9 \ \Omega} = 0.890V_s$$
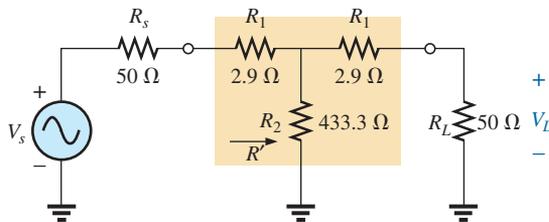
FIG. 21.88

Determining the voltage levels for the 1 dB attenuator in Fig. 21.87(a).

Calculating the drop in dB results in the following:

$$A_{v_{dB}} = 20 \log_{10} \frac{V_L}{V_s} = 20 \log_{10} \frac{0.890 \ V_s}{V_s}$$
$$= 20 \log_{10} 0.890 = \mathbf{-1.01 \ dB}$$

substantiating the fact that there is a 1 dB attenuation.

As mentioned earlier, there are other methods for attenuation that are more sophisticated in design and beyond the scope of the coverage of this text. However, the above designs are quite effective, relatively inexpensive, and perform quite well.

Noise Filters

Noise is a problem that can occur in any electronic system. In general, the presence of any unwanted signal can affect the overall operation of a system. It can come from a power source (60 Hz hum), from feedback networks, from mechanical systems connected to electrical systems, from stray capacitive and inductive effects, or possibly from a local signal source that is not properly shielded—the list is endless. To solve a noise problem, an analyst needs a broad practical background, a sense for the origin for the unwanted noise, and the ability to remove it in the simplest, most direct way. Generally noise problems arise during the testing phase, not during the original design phase. Although sophisticated methods may be needed, most situations are resolved simply by rearranging an element or two of a value sensitive to the problem.
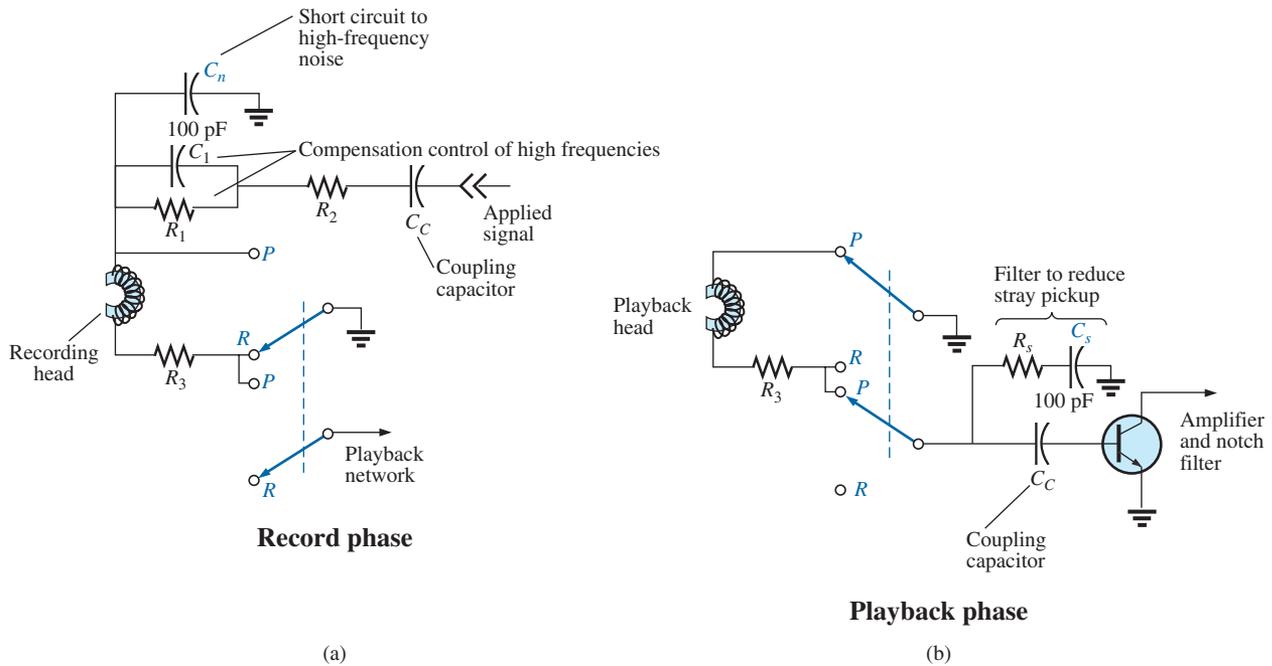
FIG. 21.89

Noise reduction in a tape recorder.

In Fig. 21.89, two capacitors have been strategically placed in the tape recording and playback sections of a tape recorder to remove the undesirable high-frequency noise (rushing sound) that can result from unexpected, randomly placed particles on a magnetic tape, noise coming down the line, or noise introduced from the local environment. During the record mode, with the switches in the positions shown (R), the 100 pF capacitor at the top of the schematic acts as a short circuit to the high-frequency noise. The capacitor C_1 is included to compensate for the fact that recording on a tape is not a linear process versus frequency. In other words, certain frequencies are recorded at higher amplitudes than others.

In Fig. 21.90 a sketch of recording level versus frequency has been provided, clearly indicating that the human audio range of about 40 Hz to 20 kHz is very poor for the tape recording process, starting to rise only after 20 kHz. Thus, tape recorders must include a fixed biasing frequency which when added to the actual audio signal brings the frequency range to be amplified to the region of high-amplitude recording. On some tapes,
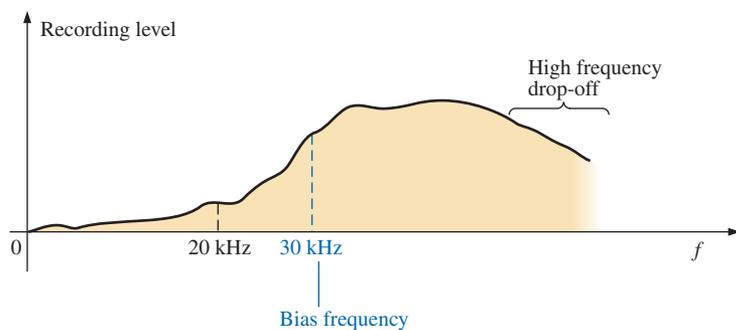
FIG. 21.90

Noise reduction in a tape recorder.

the *actual bias frequency* is provided, while on others the phrase *normal bias* is used. Even after you pass the bias frequency, there is a frequency range that follows that drops off considerably. Compensation for this drop-off is provided by the parallel combination of the resistor R_1 and the capacitor C_1 mentioned above. At frequencies near the bias frequency, the capacitor is designed to act essentially like an open circuit (high reactance), and the head current and voltage are limited by the resistors R_1 and R_2. At frequencies in the region where the tape gain drops off with frequency, the capacitor begins to take on a lower reactance level and reduce the net impedance across the parallel branch of R_1 and C_1. The result is an increase in head current and voltage due to the lower net impedance in the line, resulting in a leveling in the tape gain following the bias frequency. Eventually, the capacitor begins to take on the characteristics of a short circuit, effectively shorting out the resistance R_1, and the head current and voltage will be a maximum. During playback, this bias frequency is eliminated by a notch filter so that the original sound is not distorted by the high-frequency signal.

During playback (P), the upper circuit in Fig. 21.89 is set to ground by the upper switch, and the lower network comes into play. Again note the second 100 pF capacitor connected to the base of the transistor to short to ground any undesirable high-frequency noise. The resistor is there to absorb any power associated with the noise signal when the capacitor takes on its short-circuit equivalence. Keep in mind that the capacitor was chosen to act as a short-circuit equivalent for a particular frequency range and not for the audio range where it is essentially an open circuit.

Alternators in a car are notorious for developing high-frequency noise down the line to the radio, as shown in Fig. 21.91(a). This problem is usually alleviated by placing a high-frequency filter in the line as shown. The inductor of 1 H offers a high impedance for the range of noise frequencies, while the capacitor (1000 μF to 47,000 μF) acts as a short-circuit equivalent to any noise that happens to get through. For the speaker system in Fig. 21.91(b), the push-pull power arrangement of transistors in the output section can often develop a short period of time between pulses where

(a)

(b)
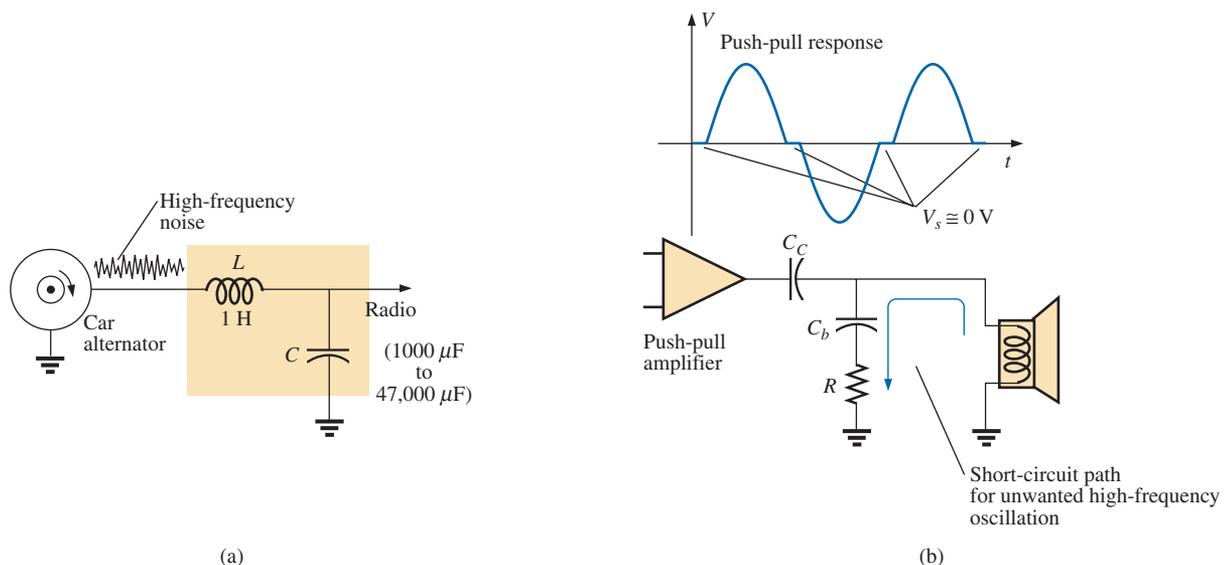
FIG. 21.91

Noise generation: (a) due to a car alternator; (b) from a push-pull amplifier.

the strong signal voltage is zero volts. During this short period, the coil of the speaker rears its inductive effects, sees an unexpected path to ground like a switch opening, and quickly cuts off the speaker current. Through the familiar relationship $v_L = L(di_L/dt)$, an unexpected voltage develops across the coil and sets a high-frequency oscillation on the line that finds its way back to the amplifier and causes further distortion. This effect can be subdued by placing an *R-C* path to ground that offers a low-resistance path from the speaker to ground for a range of frequencies typically generated by this signal distortion. Since the capacitor assumes a short-circuit equivalence for the range of noise disturbance, the resistor was added to limit the current and absorb the energy associated with the signal noise.

In regulators, such as the 5 V regulator in Fig. 21.92(a), when a spike in current comes down the line for any number of reasons, there is a voltage drop along the line, and the input voltage to the regulator drops. The regulator, performing its primary function, senses this drop in input voltage and increases its amplification level through a feedback loop to maintain a constant output. However, the spike is of such short duration that the output voltage has a spike of its own because the input voltage has quickly returned to its normal level, and with the increased amplification the output jumps to a higher level. Then the regulator senses its error and quickly cuts its gain. The sensitivity to changes in the input level has caused the output level to go through a number of quick oscillations that can be a real problem for the equipment to which the dc voltage is applied: A high-frequency noise signal has been developed. One way to subdue this reaction and, in fact, slow the system response down so that very short interval spikes have less impact is to add a capacitor across the output as shown in Fig. 21.92(b). Since the regulator is providing a fixed dc level, a large capacitor of 1 μF can be used to short-circuit a wide range of high-frequency disturbances. However, you don't want to make the capacitor too large or you'll get too much *damping,* and large overshoots and undershoots can develop. To maximize the input of the added capacitor, you must place it physically closer to the regulator to ensure that noise is not picked up between the regulator and capacitor and to avoid developing any delay time between output signal and capacitive reaction.

In general, as you examine the schematic of working systems and see elements that don't appear to be part of any standard design procedure, you can assume that they are either protective devices or due to noise on the line that is affecting the operation of the system. Noting their type, value, and location often reveals their purpose and modus operandi.

(a)

(b)
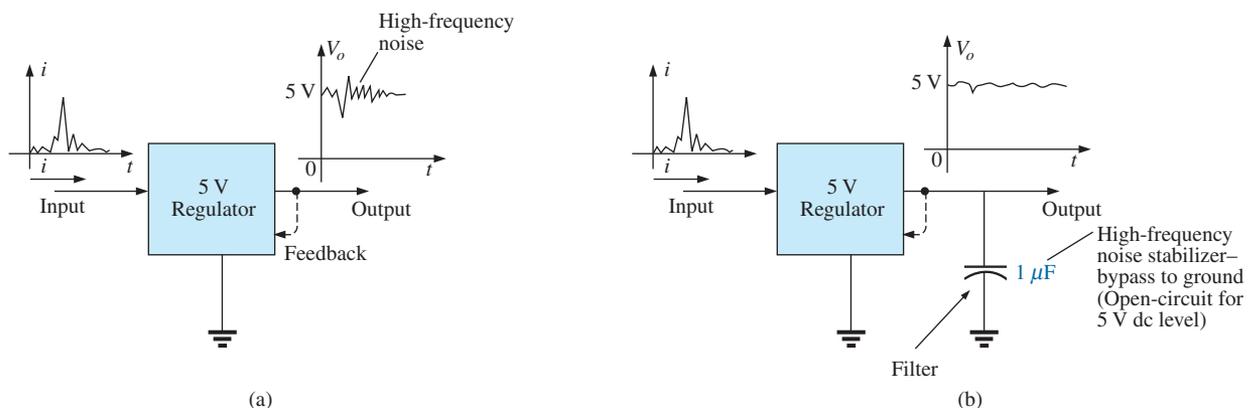
FIG. 21.92

Regulator: (a) effect of spike in current on the input side; (b) noise reduction.

21.17 COMPUTER ANALYSIS

PSpice

Double-Tuned Filter   Our analysis now turns to a fairly complex-looking filter for which an enormous amount of time would be required to generate a detailed plot of gain versus frequency using a handheld calculator. It is the same filter examined in Example 21.9, so we have a chance to test our theoretical solution. The schematic appears in Fig. 21.93 with **VAC** again chosen since the frequency range of interest is set by the **Simulation Profile.** Again, the attributes for the source are set in the **Property Editor** box rather than by selecting the components from the screen. Note the need for the two resistors in series with the inductors since inductors cannot be considered ideal elements. The small value of the resistive elements, however, has no effect on the results obtained.
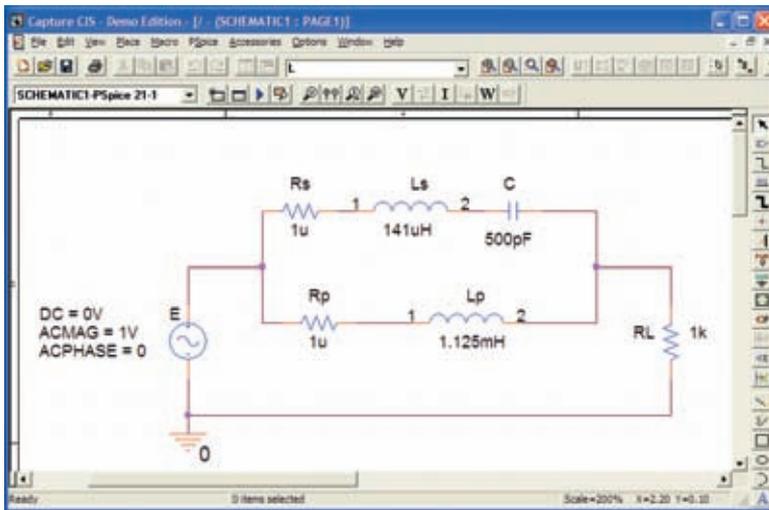
FIG. 21.93
Using PSpice to analyze a double-tuned filter.

In the **Simulation Settings** dialog box, select **AC Sweep** again with a **Start Frequency** of 100 Hz and an **End Frequency** of 10 MHz (be sure to enter this value as **10MEGHZ**) to ensure that the full-range effect is provided. Then use the axis controls to close in on the desired plot. The **Points/Decade** remains at 10k, although with this range of frequencies it may take a few seconds to simulate. Once the **SCHEMATIC1** appears, **Trace-Add Trace-V(RL:1)-OK** results in the plot in Fig. 21.94. Quite obviously, there is a reject-band around 200 kHz and a pass-band around 600 kHz. Note that up to 10 kHz, there is another pass-band as the inductor L_p provides an almost direct path of low impedance from input to output. At frequencies approaching 10 MHz, there is a continous stop-band due to the open-circuit equivalence of the L_p inductor. Using the cursor option, place the left-click cursor on the minimum point of the graph by using the **Cursor Trough** keypad (the second pad to the right of the **Toggle cursor** pad). Right-click to identify the frequency of the maximum point on the curve near 600 kHz. The results appearing in the **Probe Cursor** box clearly support our theoretical calculations of 200 kHz for the band-stop minimum (**A1** = 200.03 kHz with a magnitude of essentially 0 V) and 600 kHz for the pass-band maximum (**A2** = 604.51 kHz with a magnitude of 1 V).
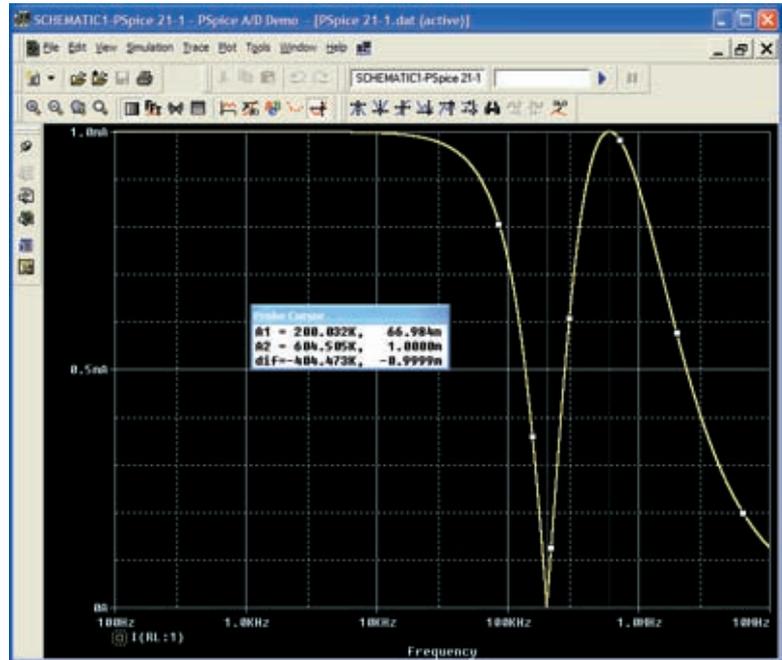
FIG. 21.94

*Magnitude plot versus frequency for the voltage across R_L of the network in
Fig. 21.93.*

Let us now concentrate on the range from 10 kHz to 1 MHz where
most of the filtering action is taking place. That was the advantage of
choosing such a wide range of frequencies when the **Simulation Settings**
were set up. The data have been established for the broad range of fre-
quencies, and you can simply select a band of interest once the region of
most activity is defined. If the frequency range were too narrow in the
original simulation, another simulation would have to be defined. Select
Plot-Axis Settings-X Axis-User Defined-10kHz to 1MEGHz-OK to
obtain the plot at the bottom of Fig. 21.95. A dB plot of the results can
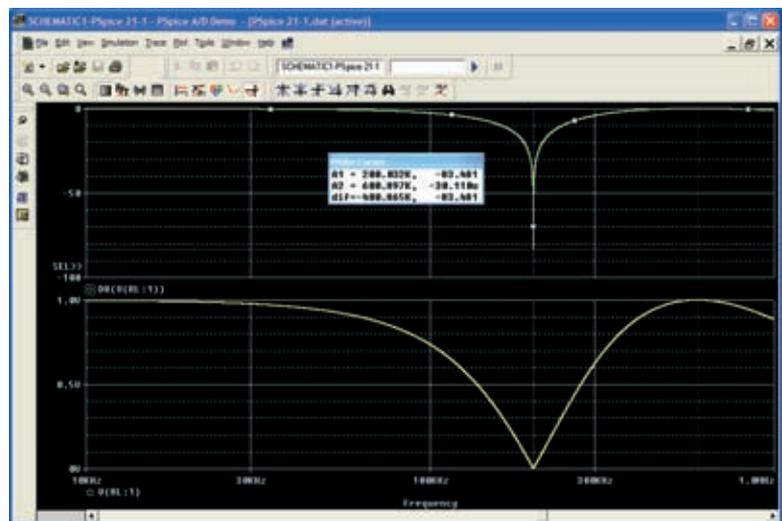
FIG. 21.95

dB and magnitude plot for the voltage across R_L of the network in Fig. 21.93.

also be displayed in the same figure by selecting **Plot-Add Plot to Window-Trace-Add Trace-DB(V(RL:1))-OK,** resulting in the plot at the top of the figure. Using the left-click cursor option and the **Cursor Trough** key, you find that the minimum is at -83.48 dB at a frequency of 200 kHz, which is an excellent characteristic for a band-stop filter. Using the right-click cursor and setting it on 600 kHz, you find that the drop is $-30.11\ \mu$dB or essentially 0 dB, which is excellent for the pass-band region.

Multisim

High-Pass Filter   The Multisim computer analysis is an investigation of the high-pass filter in Fig. 21.96. The cutoff frequency is determined by $f = 1/2\pi RC = 1.592$ kHz, with the voltage across the resistor approaching 1 V at high frequencies at a phase angle of $0°$.

For this analysis, the **Component: AC_POWER** under **POWER_SOURCES** was chosen. The components of the source were set in the **POWER_SOURCES** dialog box as shown in Fig. 21.96. Use the sequence **Simulate-Analyses-AC Analysis** to obtain the **AC Analysis** dialog box. Select the following settings: **Start frequency:** 10 Hz, **Stop frequency:** 100 kHz, **Sweep type:** Decade (logarithmic), **Number of points per decade:** 1000, **Vertical scale:** Linear. Under the **Output** option, move $2 to **Selected variables for analysis** using the **Add** option and remove the $1 option using the **Remove** option. Select **Simulate** to obtain the response in Fig. 21.96. Add the grid option to each, and then select **Show/Hide Cursors** to permit a determination of the magnitude and phase angle at the cutoff frequency. As shown in Fig. 21.96, the magnitude is 0.707 at 1.589 kHz and the phase angle is 45.14 at 1.58 kHz—very close to the expected results.
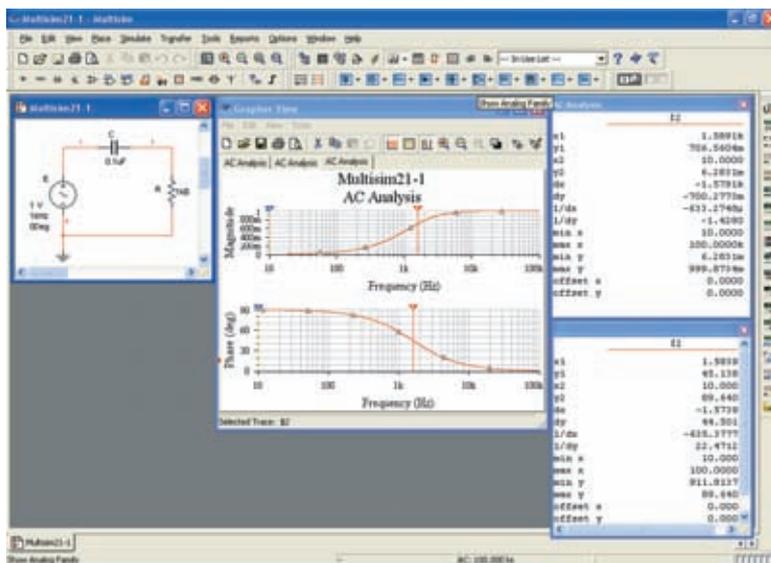
FIG. 21.96

High-pass R-C filter to be investigated using PSpice.

PROBLEMS

SECTION 21.1   Logarithms

1. **a.** Determine the frequencies (in kHz) at the points indicated on the plot in Fig. 21.97(a).
    b. Determine the voltages (in mV) at the points indicated on the plot in Fig. 21.97(b).
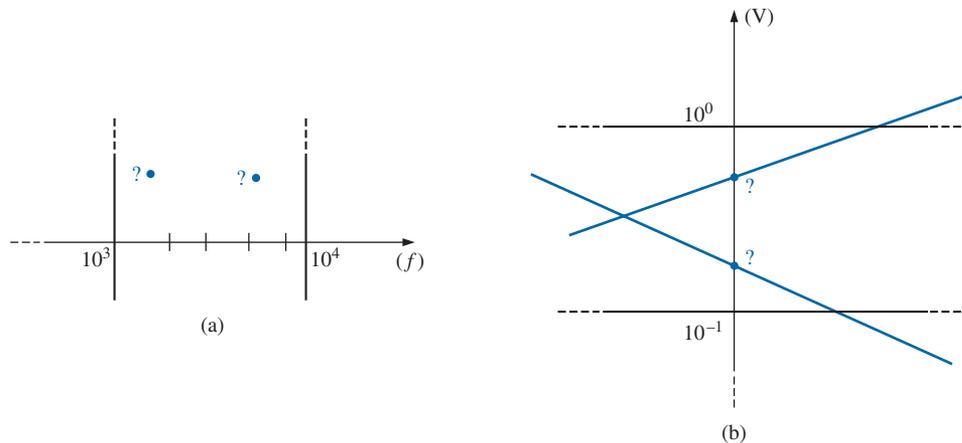
FIG. 21.97
Problem 1.

SECTION 21.2   Properties of Logarithms

2. Determine $\log_{10} x$ for each value of x.
    a. 100,000   **b.** 0.0001
    c. 10^8 **d.** 10^{-6}
    e. 20   **f.** 8643.4
    g. 56,000   **h.** 0.318

3. Given $N = \log_{10} x$, determine x for each value of N.
    a. 3   **b.** 12
    c. 0.2   **d.** 0.04
    e. 10   **f.** 3.18
    g. 1.001   **h.** 6.1

4. Determine $\log_e x$ for each value of x.
    a. 100,000   **b.** 0.0001
    c. 20   **d.** 8643.4

    Compare with the solutions to Problem 2.

5. Determine $\log_{10} 48 = \log_{10}(8)(6)$, and compare to $\log_{10} 8 + \log_{10} 6$.

6. Determine $\log_{10} 0.2 = \log_{10} 18/90$, and compare to $\log_{10} 18 - \log_{10} 90$.

7. Verify that $\log_{10} 0.5$ is equal to $-\log_{10} 1/0.5 = -\log_{10} 2$.

8. Find $\log_{10}(3)^3$, and compare with $3 \log_{10} 3$.

SECTION 21.3   Decibels

9. **a.** Determine the number of bels that relate power levels of $P_2 = 280$ mW and $P_1 = 4$ mW.
    b. Determine the number of decibels for the power levels of part (a), and compare results.

10. A power level of 100 W is 6 dB above what power level?

11. If a 2 W speaker is replaced by one with a 40 W output, what is the increase in decibel level?

12. Determine the dB_m level for an output power of 120 mW.

13. Find the dB_v gain of an amplifier that raises the voltage level from 0.1 mV to 8.4 mV.

14. Find the output voltage of an amplifier if the applied voltage is 20 mV and a dB_v gain of 22 dB is attained.

15. If the sound pressure level is increased from 0.001 μbar to 0.016 μbar, what is the increase in dB_s level?

16. What is the required increase in acoustical power to raise a sound level from that of quiet music to very loud music? Use Fig. 21.5.

17. **a.** Using semilog paper, plot X_L versus frequency for a 10 mH coil and a frequency range of 100 Hz to 1 MHz. Choose the best vertical scaling for the range of X_L.
    b. Repeat part (a) using log-log graph paper. Compare to the results of part (a). Which plot is more informative?
    c. Using semilog paper, plot X_C versus frequency for a 1 μF capacitor and a frequency range of 10 Hz to 100 kHz. Again choose the best vertical scaling for the range of X_C.
    d. Repeat part (a) using log-log graph paper. Compare to the results of part (c). Which plot is more informative?

18. **a.** For the meter of Fig. 21.6, find the power delivered to a load for an 8 dB reading.
    b. Repeat part (a) for a -5 dB reading.

dB

SECTION 21.5 *R-C* Low-Pass Filter

19. For the *R-C* low-pass filter in Fig. 21.98:
    a. Sketch $A_v = V_o/V_i$ versus frequency using a log scale for the frequency axis. Determine $A_v = V_o/V_i$ at $0.1f_c$, $0.5f_c$, f_c, $2f_c$, and $10f_c$.
    b. Sketch the phase plot of θ versus frequency, where θ is the angle by which $\mathbf{V}_o$ leads $\mathbf{V}_i$. Determine θ at $f = 0.1f_c$, $0.5f_c$, f_c, $2f_c$, and $10f_c$.
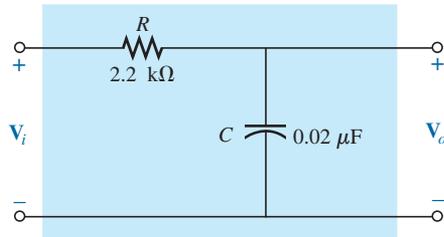
FIG. 21.98
Problem 19.

*20. For the network in Fig. 21.99:
    a. Determine V_o at a frequency one octave above the critical frequency.
    b. Determine V_o at a frequency one decade below the critical frequency.
    c. Do the levels of parts (a) and (b) verify the expected frequency plot of V_o versus frequency for the filter?
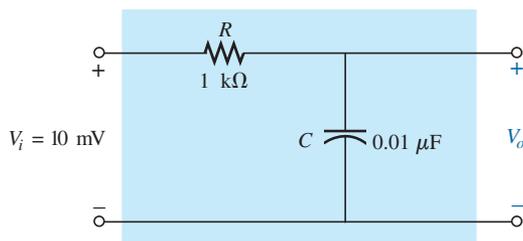
FIG. 21.99
Problem 20.

21. Design an *R-C* low-pass filter to have a cutoff frequency of 500 Hz using a resistor of 1.2 kΩ. Then sketch the resulting magnitude and phase plot for a frequency range of $0.1f_c$ to $10f_c$.

22. For the low-pass filter in Fig. 21.100:
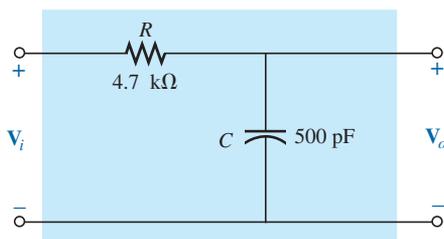
FIG. 21.100
Problem 22.

a. Determine f_c.
b. Find $A_v = V_o/V_i$ at $f = 0.1f_c$, and compare to the maximum value of 1 for the low-frequency range.
c. Find $A_v = V_o/V_i$ at $f = 10f_c$, and compare to the minimum value of 0 for the high-frequency range.
d. Determine the frequency at which $A_v = 0.01$ or $V_o = \frac{1}{100}V_i$.

SECTION 21.6 *R-C* High-Pass Filter

23. For the *R-C* high-pass filter in Fig. 21.101:
    a. Sketch $A_v = V_o/V_i$ versus frequency using a log scale for the frequency axis. Determine $A_v = V_o/V_i$ at f_c, one octave above and below f_c, and one decade above and below f_c.
    b. Sketch the phase plot of θ versus frequency, where θ is the angle by which $\mathbf{V}_o$ leads $\mathbf{V}_i$. Determine θ at the same frequencies noted in part (a).
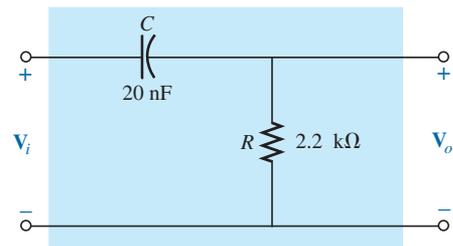
FIG. 21.101
Problem 23.

24. For the network in Fig. 21.102:
    a. Determine $A_v = V_o/V_i$ at $f = f_c$ for the high-pass filter.
    b. Determine $A_v = V_o/V_i$ at two octaves above f_c. Is the rise in V_o significant from the $f = f_c$ level?
    c. Determine $A_v = V_o/V_i$ at two decades above f_c. Is the rise in V_o significant from the $f = f_c$ level?
    d. If $V_i = 10$ mV, what is the power delivered to R at the critical frequency?
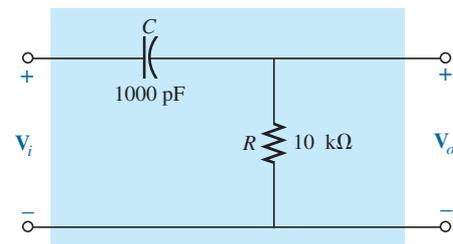
FIG. 21.102
Problem 24.

25. Design a high-pass *R-C* filter to have a cutoff or corner frequency of 2 kHz, given a capacitor of 0.1 μF. Choose the closest commercial value for R, and then recalculate the resulting corner frequency. Sketch the normalized gain $A_v = V_o/V_i$ for a frequency range of $0.1f_c$ to $10f_c$.

26. For the high-pass filter in Fig. 21.103:
    a. Determine f_c.
    b. Find $A_v = V_o/V_i$ at $f = 0.01 f_c$, and compare to the minimum level of 0 for the low-frequency region.
    c. Find $A_v = V_o/V_i$ at $f = 100 f_c$, and compare to the maximum level of 1 for the high-frequency region.
    d. Determine the frequency at which $V_o = \frac{1}{2}V_i$.
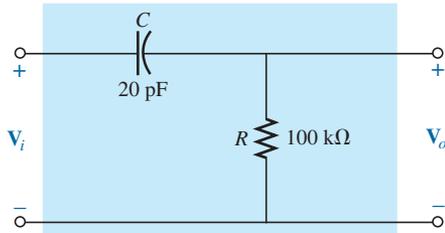
FIG. 21.103
Problems 26 and 54.

SECTION 21.7   Pass-Band Filters

27. For the pass-band filter in Fig. 21.104:
    a. Sketch the frequency response of $A_v = V_o/V_i$ against a log scale extending from 10 Hz to 10 kHz.
    b. What are the bandwidth and the center frequency?
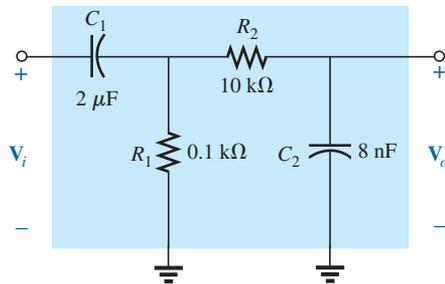
FIG. 21.104
Problems 27 and 28.

*28. Design a pass-band filter such as the one appearing in Fig. 21.104 to have a low cutoff frequency of 4 kHz and a high cutoff frequency of 80 kHz.

29. For the pass-band filter in Fig. 21.105:
    a. Determine f_s.
    b. Calculate Q_s and the BW for V_o.
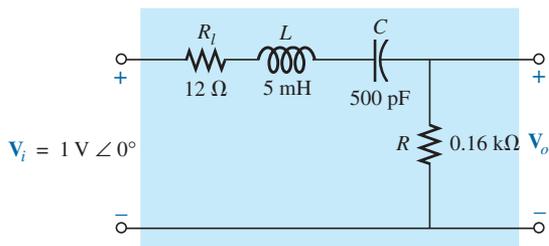
FIG. 21.105
Problem 29.

c. Sketch $A_v = V_o/V_i$ for a frequency range of 1 kHz to 1 MHz.
d. Find the magnitude of V_o at $f = f_s$ and the cutoff frequencies.

30. For the pass-band filter in Fig. 21.106:
    a. Determine the frequency response of $A_v = V_o/V_i$ for a frequency range of 100 Hz to 1 MHz.
    b. Find the quality factor Q_p and the BW of the response.
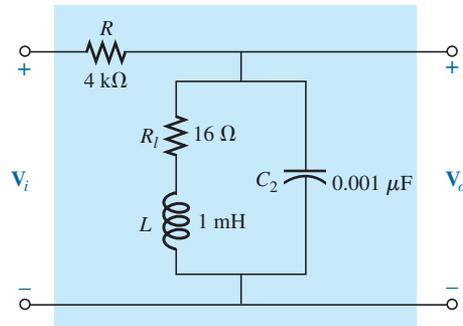
FIG. 21.106
Problems 30 and 55.

SECTION 21.8   Stop-Band Filters

*31. For the stop-band filter in Fig. 21.107:
    a. Determine Q_s.
    b. Find the bandwidth and the half-power frequencies.
    c. Sketch the frequency characteristics of $A_v = V_o/V_i$.
    d. What is the effect on the curve of part (c) if a load of 2 kΩ is applied?
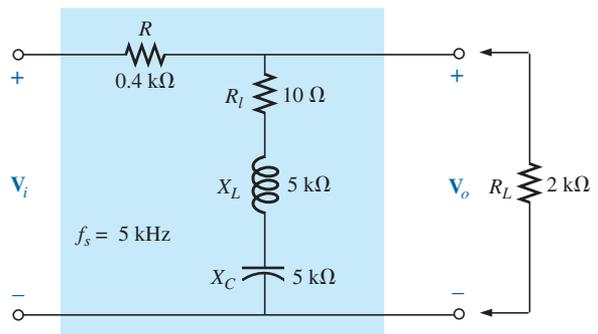
FIG. 21.107
Problem 31.

*32. For the pass-band filter in Fig. 21.108:
    a. Determine Q_p ($R_L = \infty$ Ω, an open circuit).
    b. Sketch the frequency characteristics of $A_v = V_o/V_i$.
    c. Find Q_p (loaded) for $R_L = 100$ kΩ, and indicate the effect of R_L on the characteristics of part (b).
    d. Repeat part (c) for $R_L = 20$ kΩ.
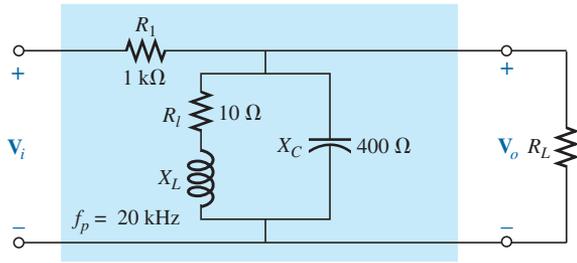
FIG. 21.108
Problem 32.
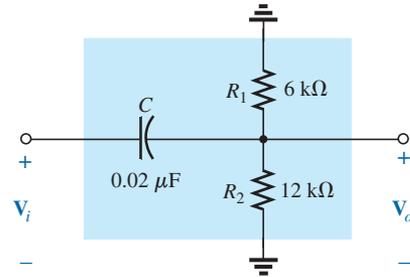
FIG. 21.110
Problem 36.

SECTION 21.9 Double-Tuned Filter

33. a. For the network in Fig. 21.43(a), if $L_p = 400\ \mu H$ ($Q > 10$), $L_s = 60\ \mu H$, and $C = 120$ pF, determine the rejected and accepted frequencies.
   b. Sketch the response curve for part (a).

34. a. For the network in Fig. 21.43(b), if the rejected frequency is 30 kHz and the accepted is 100 kHz, determine the values of L_s and L_p ($Q > 10$) for a capacitance of 200 pF.
   b. Sketch the response curve for part (a).

SECTION 21.10 Bode Plots

35. a. Sketch the idealized Bode plot for $A_v = V_o/V_i$ for the high-pass filter in Fig. 21.109.
   b. Using the results of part (a), sketch the actual frequency response for the same frequency range.
   c. Determine the decibel level at $f_c, \frac{1}{2}f_c, 2f_c, \frac{1}{10}f_c$, and $10f_c$.
   d. Determine the gain $A_v = V_o/V_i$ as $f = f_c, \frac{1}{2}f_c$, and $2f_c$.
   e. Sketch the phase response for the same frequency range.

FIG. 21.109
Problem 35.

*36. a. Sketch the response of the magnitude of V_o (in terms of V_i) versus frequency for the high-pass filter in Fig. 21.110.
   b. Using the results of part (a), sketch the response $A_v = V_o/V_i$ for the same frequency range.
   c. Sketch the idealized Bode plot.
   d. Sketch the actual response, indicating the dB difference between the idealized and the actual response at $f = f_c$, $0.5f_c$, and $2f_c$.
   e. Determine $A_{v_{dB}}$ at $f = 1.5f_c$ from the plot of part (d), and then determine the corresponding magnitude of $A_v = V_o/V_i$.
   f. Sketch the phase response for the same frequency range (the angle by which V_o leads V_i).

37. a. Sketch the idealized Bode plot for $A_v = V_o/V_i$ for the low-pass filter in Fig. 21.111.
   b. Using the results of part (a), sketch the actual frequency response for the same frequency range.
   c. Determine the decibel level at $f_c, \frac{1}{2}f_c, 2f_c, \frac{1}{10}f_c$, and $10f_c$.
   d. Determine the gain $A_v = V_o/V_i$ at $f = f_c, \frac{1}{2}f_c$, and $2f_c$.
   e. Sketch the phase response for the same frequency range.
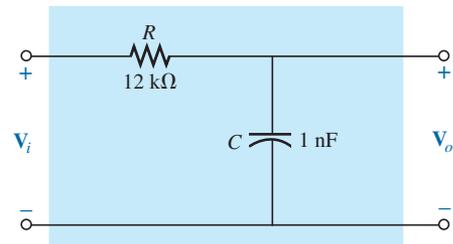
FIG. 21.111
Problem 37.

*38. a. Sketch the response of the magnitude of V_o (in terms of V_i) versus frequency for the low-pass filter in Fig. 21.112.
   b. Using the results of part (a), sketch the response $A_v = V_o/V_i$ for the same frequency range.
   c. Sketch the idealized Bode plot.
   d. Sketch the actual response indicating the dB difference between the idealized and the actual response at $f = f_c$, $0.5f_c$, and $2f_c$.

FIG. 21.112
Problem 38.

e. Determine $A_{v_{dB}}$ at $f = 0.25f_c$ from the plot of part (d), and then determine the corresponding magnitude of $A_v = V_o/V_i$.

f. Sketch the phase response for the same frequency range (the angle by which V_o leads V_i).

SECTION 21.11 Sketching the Bode Response

39. For the filter in Fig. 21.113:
   a. Sketch the curve of $A_{v_{dB}}$ versus frequency using a log scale.
   b. Sketch the curve of θ versus frequency for the same frequency range as in part (a).
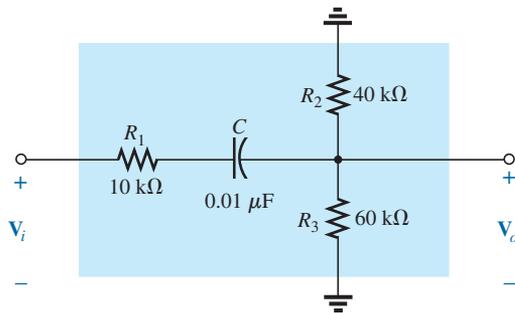
FIG. 21.113
Problem 39.

*40. For the filter in Fig. 21.114:
   a. Sketch the curve of $A_{v_{dB}}$ versus frequency using a log scale.
   b. Sketch the curve of θ versus frequency for the same frequency range as in part (a).
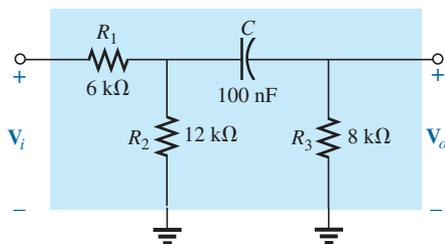
FIG. 21.114
Problem 40.

SECTION 21.12 Low-Pass Filter with Limited Attenuation

41. For the filter in Fig. 21.115:
   a. Sketch the curve of $A_{v_{dB}}$ versus frequency using the idealized Bode plots as a guide.
   b. Sketch the curve of θ versus frequency.
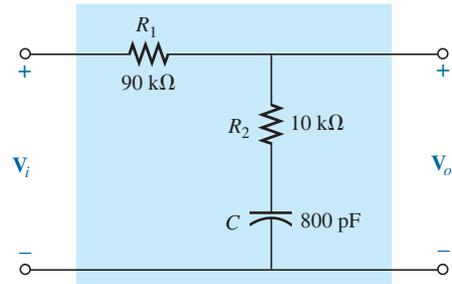
FIG. 21.115
Problem 41.

*42. For the filter in Fig. 21.116:
   a. Sketch the curve of $A_{v_{dB}}$ versus frequency using the idealized Bode plots as a guide.
   b. Sketch the curve of θ versus frequency.
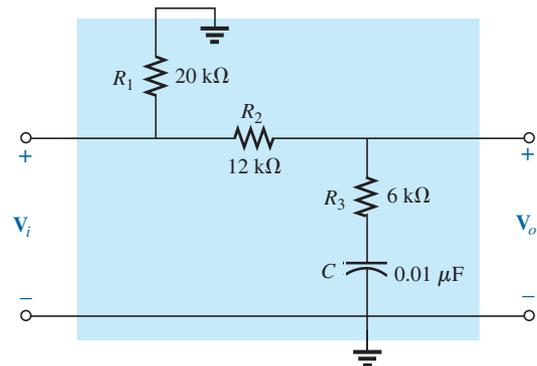
FIG. 21.116
Problem 42.

SECTION 21.13 High-Pass Filter with Limited Attenuation

43. For the filter in Fig. 21.117:
   a. Sketch the curve of $A_{v_{dB}}$ versus frequency using the idealized Bode plots as an envelope for the actual response.
   b. Sketch the curve of θ (the angle by which V_o leads V_i) versus frequency.
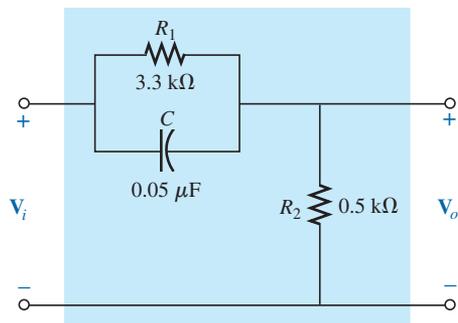
FIG. 21.117
Problem 43.

dB

*44. For the filter in Fig. 21.118:
  a. Sketch the curve of $A_{v_{dB}}$ versus frequency using the idealized Bode plots as an envelope for the actual response.
  b. Sketch the curve of θ (the angle by which $\mathbf{V}_o$ leads $\mathbf{V}_i$) versus frequency.
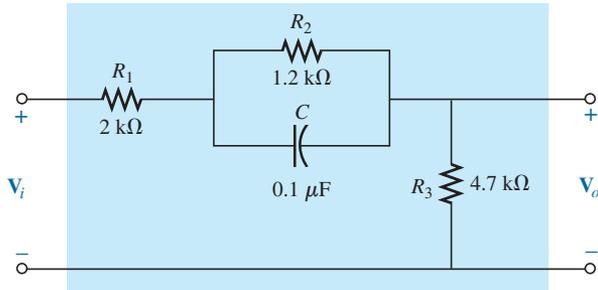
FIG. 21.118
Problem 44.

SECTION 21.14 Additional Properties of Bode Plots

45. A bipolar transistor amplifier has the following gain:

$$A_v = \frac{160}{\left(1 - j\dfrac{100 \text{ Hz}}{f}\right)\left(1 - j\dfrac{130 \text{ Hz}}{f}\right)\left(1 + j\dfrac{f}{20 \text{ kHz}}\right)\left(1 + j\dfrac{f}{50 \text{ kHz}}\right)}$$

  a. Sketch the normalized Bode response $A'_{v_{dB}} = (A_v/A_{v_{max}})|_{dB}$, and determine the bandwidth of the amplifier. Be sure to note the corner frequencies.
  b. Sketch the phase response, and determine a frequency where the phase angle is relatively close to 45°.

46. A JFET transistor amplifier has the following gain:

$$A_v = \frac{-5.6}{\left(1 - j\dfrac{10 \text{ Hz}}{f}\right)\left(1 - j\dfrac{45 \text{ Hz}}{f}\right)\left(1 - j\dfrac{68 \text{ Hz}}{f}\right)\left(1 + j\dfrac{f}{23 \text{ kHz}}\right)\left(1 + j\dfrac{f}{50 \text{ kHz}}\right)}$$

  a. Sketch the normalized Bode response $A'_{v_{dB}} = (A_v/A_{v_{max}}|_{dB})$, and determine the bandwidth of the amplifier. When you normalize, be sure that the maximum value of A'_v is +1. Clearly indicate the cutoff frequencies on the plot.
  b. Sketch the phase response, and note the regions of greatest change in phase angle. How do the regions correspond to the frequencies appearing in the function A_v?

47. A transistor amplifier has a midband gain of -120, a high cutoff frequency of 36 kHz, and a bandwidth of 35.8 kHz. In addition, the actual response is also about -15 dB at $f = 50$ Hz. Write the transfer function A_v for the amplifier.

48. Sketch the Bode plot of the following function:

$$A_v = \frac{0.05}{0.05 - j\,100/f}$$

49. Sketch the Bode plot of the following function:

$$A_v = \frac{200}{200 + j\,0.1f}$$

50. Sketch the Bode plot of the following function:

$$\mathbf{A}_v = \frac{j\,f/1000}{(1 + j\,f/1000)(1 + j\,f/10,000)}$$

*51. Sketch the Bode plot of the following function:

$$\mathbf{A}_v = \frac{(1 + j\,f/1000)(1 + j\,f/2000)}{(1 + j\,f/3000)^2}$$

*52. Sketch the Bode plot of the following function (note the presence of ω rather than f):

$$\mathbf{A}_v = \frac{40(1 + j\,0.001\omega)}{(j\,0.001\omega)(1 + j\,0.0002\omega)}$$

SECTION 21.15   Crossover Networks

*53. The three-way crossover network in Fig. 21.119 has a 12 dB rolloff at the cutoff frequencies.
  a. Determine the ratio V_o/V_i for the woofer and tweeter at the cutoff frequencies of 400 Hz and 5 kHz, respectively, and compare to the desired level of 0.707.
  b. Calculate the ratio V_o/V_i for the woofer and tweeter at a frequency of 3 kHz, where the midrange speaker is designed to predominate.
  c. Determine the ratio V_o/V_i for the midrange speaker at a frequency of 3 kHz, and compare to the desired level of 1.
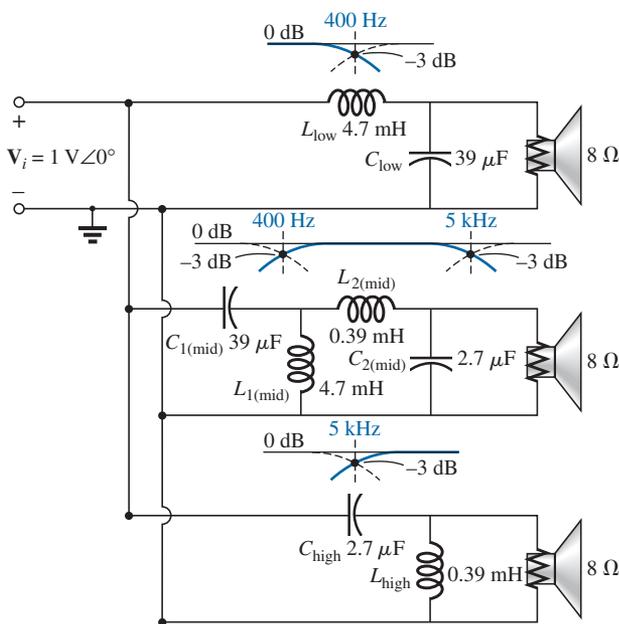
FIG. 21.119
Problems 53 and 57.

SECTION 21.17   Computer Analysis

PSpice or Multisim

54. Using schematics, obtain the magnitude and phase response versus frequency for the network in Fig. 21.103.

55. Using schematics, obtain the magnitude and phase response versus frequency for the network in Fig. 21.106.

*56. Obtain the dB and phase plots for the network in Fig. 21.75, and compare with the plots in Figs. 21.76 and 21.77.

*57. Using schematics, obtain the magnitude and dB plot versus frequency for each filter in Fig. 21.119, and verify that the curves drop off at 12 dB per octave.

GLOSSARY

Active filter A filter that uses active devices such as transistors or operational amplifiers in combination with R, L, and C elements.

Bode plot A plot of the frequency response of a system using straight-line segments called *asymptotes.*

Decibel A unit of measurement used to compare power levels.

Double-tuned filter A network having both a pass-band and a stop-band region.

Filter Networks designed to either pass or reject the transfer of signals at certain frequencies to a load.

High-pass filter A filter designed to pass high frequencies and reject low frequencies.

Log-log paper Graph paper with vertical and horizontal log scales.

Low-pass filter A filter designed to pass low frequencies and reject high frequencies.

Microbar (μbar) A unit of measurement for sound pressure levels that permits comparing audio levels on a dB scale.

Pass-band (band-pass) filter A network designed to pass signals within a particular frequency range.

Passive filter A filter constructed of series, parallel, or series-parallel R, L, and C elements.

Semilog paper Graph paper with one log scale and one linear scale.

Stop-band filter A network designed to reject (block) signals within a particular frequency range.