# Forced Response of a Series RLC Circuit 

## Name

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## Introduction

This experiment investigates a series RLC circuit driven by an AC Voltage. The relationship of the output voltage $\left(\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{O}}\right)$ with the input voltage $\left(\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{I}}\right)$ exhibits the characteristics of a band-pass filter which means that it passes a selective band of frequencies and blocks frequencies outside of this band. To learn how this works, you will explore the frequency response, both magnitude and phase, of a series RLC circuit.

## Lab Objectives

- Continue developing proficiency with the function generator and oscilloscope;
- Understand magnitude and phase relationships in series RLC circuits;
- Understand the VI characteristics of capacitors, inductors, and resistors;
- Witness some limitations of lab instruments.


## Equipment

- Waveforms software;
- Digilent Analog Discovery 2 Module;
- Breadboard;
- Assorted components and wires.


## References

- Zybooks text book;
- Course web site;
- Resistor color-code chart.


## Procedure

1. Measure and record the values of the components shown in the circuit at the right. Note you can't measure the inductor.

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\mathrm{C}=\ldots & \mathrm{nF} \\
\mathrm{R}=\ldots & \Omega
\end{array}
$$


2. Using your breadboard, construct the circuit shown above. Connect the channel 1 oscilloscope probe between points $P$ and ground and the channel 2 oscilloscope probe between points $Q$ and ground.
3. Set the waveform generator to output a sine wave with initial frequency of 100 Hz and $3 \mathrm{~V}_{\text {peak }}$
4. Measure the voltages at points $P$ and $Q$ for the frequencies shown in the table below:
a. Use the Measurement function so you can directly read the $P$ and $Q$ peak-to-peak voltages, frequency, and period;
b. You will likely have to adjust the sensitivity of channel 2 as the frequency changes (necessary if measurements appear in red).
c. For each frequency setting, you must also take a measurement of the phase difference by using the method demonstrated in the laboratory lecture. Note that $\theta$ is positive for frequencies that occur before the theoretical peak voltage (around $107,000 \mathrm{~Hz}$ ) and negative for frequencies that occur after the peak voltage.

| $\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{H z})$ | $\mathbf{P}\left(\mathbf{v}_{\mathbf{p p}}\right)$ | $\mathbf{Q}\left(\mathbf{v}_{\mathbf{p p}}\right)$ | $\mathbf{Q} / \mathbf{P}$ | $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ (degrees) |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 100 |  |  |  |  |
| 500 |  |  |  |  |
| 1 k |  |  |  |  |
| 2 k |  |  |  |  |
| 5 k |  |  |  |  |
| 10 k |  |  |  |  |
| 20 k |  |  |  |  |
| 50 k |  |  |  |  |
| 100 k |  |  |  |  |
| 200 k |  |  |  |  |
| 500 k |  |  |  |  |
| 1 M |  |  |  |  |
| 2 M |  |  |  |  |
| 3 M |  |  |  |  |
| 4 M |  |  |  |  |
| 5 M |  |  |  |  |
| 6 M |  |  |  |  |
| 7 M |  |  |  |  |
| 8 M |  |  |  |  |
| 9 M |  |  |  |  |
| 10 M |  |  |  |  |

The equations below are the theoretical derivations for the magnitude and phase responses of the circuit on page 1. I have derived these for you. These equations are general in terms of R, L, and C. Fill out the equations below using your actual values for R and C that you measured in step 1. Use the nominal value for the inductor. Your results for magnitude and phase will be functions of $\omega$.

$$
\begin{gathered}
\left|\frac{V_{Q}}{V_{P}}\right|=\sqrt{\frac{C^{2} R^{2} \omega^{2}}{C^{2} L^{2} \omega^{4}+C^{2} R^{2} \omega^{2}-2 C L \omega^{2}+1}} \\
\theta=-\tan ^{-1}\left(\frac{C L \omega^{2}-1}{C R \omega}\right)
\end{gathered}
$$

5. From the theoretical magnitude equation above, calculate the center frequency $f_{0}$, which is the frequency where the response is maximum. To find this number, differentiate the magnitude equation with respect to $\omega$, set the resulting equation equal to zero, and solve for $\omega$. (Use any tool you wish).
6. Using Excel, plot magnitude vs. frequency $(\mathrm{Hz})$ from your $\mathrm{Q} / \mathrm{P}$ column in the table above. On the same graph, plot theoretical magnitude $\left(\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{Q}} / \mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{P}}\right)$ vs. frequency $(\mathrm{Hz})$. Note that the theoretical formula is using $\omega$ so you need to replace each $\omega$ with $2 \pi f$.
7. Also in Excel, plot phase vs. frequency ( Hz ) from your table above. On the same graph, plot theoretical phase vs. frequency (Hz).
8. Compare your result in step 5 with that of a series RLC circuit:

$$
f_{0}=\frac{\omega_{0}}{2 \pi}=\frac{1}{2 \pi} \frac{1}{\sqrt{L C}}
$$

9. From the graph in step 6 , eyeball the center frequency $\left(f_{o}\right)$ and compare to the calculated value from step 5.

|  | Experimental | Theoretical |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathbf{f}_{\mathbf{O}}(\mathbf{H z})$ |  |  |

10. Turn in this report and your plots from steps 6 and 7 .
