

Lab 5: RC Time Constant

Due Date: April 18

Challenge

Devise *two* ways to measure the product of resistance and capacitance (RC) for a DC circuit.

Available materials:

multimeter & probes

resistors

capacitors

Logger Pro software

voltage sensor

circuit board, wires, batteries

your phone's camera

Technical details

Before attempting to measure RC , familiarize yourself with the Vernier equipment and Logger Pro software. For example, measure the resistance of a resistor by using both a multimeter and Ohm's Law.

Lab report considerations

Multiple trials should be pursued; use at least three different combinations of capacitors and resistors. Use the dataset to report both an average *error* on the time constant RC and its *uncertainty*. Your lab report must provide an example circuit diagram. A photo of the lab setup should also be included.

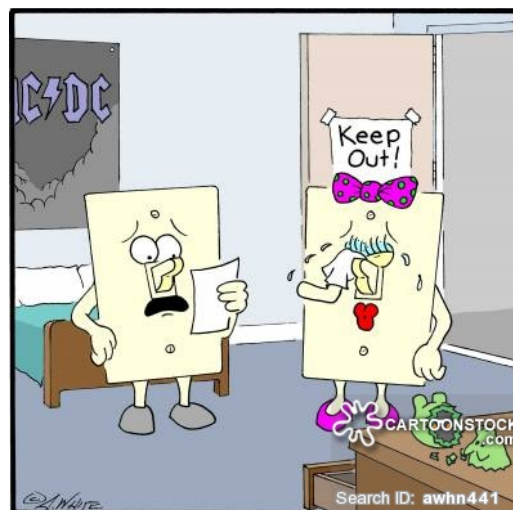
Lab Etiquette

Once you are finished, please help Travis by properly organizing the circuit boards and their components. Also, please put all the capacitors and resistors back into their proper drawers. Ensure you are doing this correctly by measuring their capacitances and resistances via a multimeter.

Teacher signatures

Please get either Prof. Dale or a TA to sign off on your experimental plan, the pre-lab equipment practice, and the completion of the lab. These signatures will be worth 4% of the lab grade and will help to promote a successful experience.

A lady took her CD player into the repairman. "I am afraid you have a short circuit," he told her. She said "I don't care how much it costs, lengthen it."



"Dear Mom and Dad, I'm running away from home to join the circuits."