# 1<sup>st</sup> Order Transients – 2

general solution

# **First Order RC Case**



• Thevenin/Norton equivalents

• Solution 
$$v(t) = (v_0 - v_\infty) e^{-t/RC} + v_\infty$$

#### **Example:** switch changes $a \rightarrow b$ at t = 0



**Example:** switch changes  $b \rightarrow a$  at t = 0



# **First Order RL Case**



• Loop KVL equation: 
$$\frac{di(t)}{dt} + \frac{R}{L}i(t) = \frac{1}{R}V_S$$

• Solution:  $i(t) = (i_0 - i_\infty) e^{-\frac{R}{L}t} + i_\infty$ 

## **Example:** switch opens at t = 0



### **Example:** switch closes at t = 0



# **General Result – 1st Order**

• Inductor current or capacitor voltage, x(t) for t > 0

$$x(t) = (\mathbf{x_0} - \mathbf{x_\infty}) e^{-t/\tau} + \mathbf{x_\infty}$$

- Final and initial values,  $x_{\infty}$  and  $x_0$ :
  - From a DC analysis based on "open" or "short" models for C and L
  - Initial value exploits the continuity of capacitor voltages and inductor currents at t = 0

$$x(t) = (x_0 - x_\infty) e^{-t/\tau} + x_\infty$$

– Time constant  $\tau$  (= L/R or RC)

– Why this form?



# What if the Circuit is more Complex?





• Use the Thevenin equivalent circuit seen by L or C – Time constant  $\tau = L/R_{Th}$  or  $R_{Th}C$ 



$$i(t) = (i_0 - i_\infty) e^{-t/\tau} + i_\infty$$

• Need:  $\tau$ ,  $i_{\infty}$ , and  $i_0$ 

Step 1 – time constant  $\tau = \frac{L}{R_{Th}}$ 



Step 2 – final value  $i_{\infty}$ ; as  $t \to \infty$ 



$$\frac{v-15}{5} + \frac{v}{10} + \frac{v}{3} + \frac{v}{10} = 0 \implies v = \frac{45}{11}$$

$$i_{\infty} = \frac{v}{3} = \frac{15}{11} = 1.36$$
 amps

## Step 3 – initial value $i_0$



$$\frac{v-15}{5} + \frac{v}{10} + \frac{v}{3} = 0 \implies v = \frac{90}{19}$$

$$i_0 = \frac{v}{3} = \frac{30}{19} = 1.58$$
 amps

### Combining



$$i(t) = (i_0 - i_\infty) e^{-2.75 t} + i_\infty$$

 $= 0.22 e^{-2.75 t} + 1.36$  amps



### **Practice problem:** find the inductor current





 $i(0^+) = 0 A$  $i(\infty) = 20 A$  $R_{Th} = 0.0990 \Omega$ 

### **Practice problem**: find the capacitor voltage





$$v(0^+) = 100 V$$
$$v(\infty) = 0 V$$
$$R_{Th} = 80 k\Omega$$