Use of Maple to Analytically Solve the Equations of an Electrical Circuit Containing a Resistor, Diodes and Voltage Generator

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Abstract: The role of technology and the use of software in the educational process are growing in recent times. The use of software is essential especially if the analytical method available is too complicated for the students. In this study, we used the Maple software to deal with two physics problems, in the first problem we consider an electrical circuit containing a resistor and two diodes powered by a sinusoidal voltage generator and in the second problem we consider an electrical circuit containing a resistor and a diode powered by a saw tooth voltage generator. For each problem we use Maple software to determine the exact analytical solutions for the current flowing in the different branches of the electronic circuit, we derive analytical expressions for the terminal voltages of all the elements of the circuit, we calculate the dynamic resistances diodes of the circuit and we animate graphic representations to study the influence of certain parameters on the current and the voltages at the terminals of all the elements of the circuit. The analytical solutions proposed are all expressed as functions of the Lambert W function.

Keywords: The PN Junction Diode, Dynamical Resistances the Diodes, Lambert W Function, Maple Software, Saw Tooth Excitation Voltage

Introduction

Maple is a proprietary computer algebra software allowing to manipulate mathematical expressions symbolically and thus to make exact calculations. Maple is a computer environment for advanced mathematics including tools for algebra, referential equations, mathematical analysis, discrete mathematics, graphical and numerical calculation, etc.

The transcendent equation of current intensity through a diode driven by a voltage source through a serial resistor is usually solved by accepting approximations. Fjeldly et al. (1991) exploited an approximate analytical resolution technique combined a test function with a series of expansion. This method leads to a precise solution without requiring a lot of computing time.

The authors (Pimbley et al., 1992) used Newton's method provides an accurate solution for negative values of normalized tension, but the precision of the solution is less acceptable for very large values of the normalized tension. Moreover, this method induced a lot of computing time.

In the work published by (Banwell and Jayakumar, 2000), the authors used the LambertW function to express the exact analytical solution for the normalized form of the generalized diode equation. The researcher in (Vargas-Drechsler, 2005) derived the same exact analytical solution using the computer algebra software Maple (Eberhart, 2009).

In this application worksheet, we consider two problems:

- In the first problem, we consider an electrical circuit containing a resistor and two diodes powered by a sinusoidal voltage generator “Fig. 1”, we use Maple software to determine exact
analytical solutions for the current flows through the different branches of the electronic circuit. Then we derive analytical expressions for the voltages at the terminals of all the elements of the circuit and we represent them graphically using the Maple software. Finally, we calculate the dynamical resistances the diodes in the circuit. The proposed analytical solutions are all expressed as functions of the Lambert W function.

- In the second problem: Maple is used to determine exact analytical solution for the current flows through the Electrical circuit containing a resistor and diode powered by a saw tooth voltage generator presented in Fig. 2 and to study the influence of four parameters involved.

First Problem

Exact analytical solution in electronic circuit containing a resistor and two diodes powered by a sinusoidal voltage generator (Fig. 1).

Materials and Methods

In this section, we introduce the used materials and methods: LambertW function (Dence, 2013), Kirchhoff’s current law, Kirchhoff’s voltage law, saturation current, dynamical resistance, Maple software.

LambertW Function

The function Lambert W is the reciprocal of the function \( f(x) = xe^x \). Since the equation \( x \exp(x) = y \) has an infinite number of solutions for a non-zero complex value. The function Lambert W admits an infinite number of branches in the complex plane and only two of these branches are real:

i) The first branch, also called the main branch, vanishes at 0, it is noted LambertW0 and is defined from \([-1/e, +\infty]\) verses \([-1, +\infty]\).

ii) The second branch is noted LambertW-1 and is defined from \([-1/e, 0]\) verses \([-\infty, -1]\).

Fig. 1: Electronic circuit containing a resistor and two diodes

Fig. 2: Graph of Lambert W function
Kirchhoff’s Current Law

Kirchhoff’s Current Law (KCL) states that the algebraic sum of currents entering a node (or a closed boundary) is zero.

Kirchhoff’s Voltage Law (KVL) states that the algebraic sum of all voltages around a closed path (or loop is zero).

The current through the diode is:

- \( I = Is(\exp(qV/\text{eta}kBT) - 1) \)
- Dynamic resistance \( r \) is, \( r = dV/dI \)
- Ohm’s law \(^3\) is: \( V = RI \)
- Maple problem solving handbook (Eberhart, 2009)

Modeling the Problem using Maple Software

Nomenclature

\( R \): Resistance
\( D1 \): Diode, \( Is1 \) its saturation current
\( D2 \): Diode, \( Is2 \) its saturation current
\( I = IR \): Current through the resistance
\( I1 \): Current through the diode \( D1 \)
\( I2 \): Current through the diode \( D2 \)
\( q \): Electron charge
\( \text{eta} \): Ideality factor of the diodes
\( kB \): Boltzmann constant
\( T \): The absolute temperature
\( V \): Sinusoidal voltage source
\( VAB \): Voltage across the resistance
\( VBC \): Voltage across the diodes
\( Rd1 \): Dynamical resistance of the diode \( D1 \)
\( Rd2 \): Dynamical resistance of the diode \( D2 \)
\( P \): Period of \( V \) \( a = q/\text{eta}kBT \)

Note that the calculations, Equation solving, Graphic representations and Animations will be done using the Maple software.

The Current Flowing Through the Resistor

> restart:

Using Kirchhoff’s current law:

\( eq1 := IR = I1 + I2 \);
\( eq1 := IR = I1 + I2 \)

Using Ohm’s law:

\( eq2 := VAB = R IR \);
\( eq2 := VAB = R IR \)

Using the current through the diode \( D1 \):

\( Is := I1 = Is1(\exp(a - VBC) - 1) \);
\( eq3 := I1 = Is1(\exp(a - VBC) - 1) \)

Using the current through the diode \( D2 \):

\( eq4 := I2 = Is2(\exp(a - VBC) - 1) \);
\( eq4 := I2 = Is2(\exp(a - VBC) - 1) \)

Using Kirchhoff’s voltage law:

\( eq5 := V = VAB + VBC \);
\( eq5 := V = VAB + VBC \)

\( eq6 := VBC = \text{solve}(eq5, VBC) \);
\( eq6 := VBC = \text{solve}(eq5, VBC) \)

\( eq7 := \text{subs}(eq2, eq6) \);
\( eq7 := \text{subs}(eq2, eq6) \)

\( eq8 := \text{solve}(eq7, I) \);
\( eq8 := \text{solve}(eq7, I) \)

\( eq9 := \text{solve}(eq8, I) \);
\( eq9 := \text{solve}(eq8, I) \)

\( IR := \text{solve}(eq11, IR) \);
\( IR := \text{solve}(eq11, IR) \)

\( IS1Ra + IS2Ra - \text{LambertW}(Ra(1 + Is1)(\exp(\text{LambertW}(Ra(1 + Is1))))) \)
\( IR := \text{solve}(eq11, IR) \)

The Current Flow through a PN Junction is Related to the Voltage \( v \) at its Terminals by the Relation

\( eq12 := i = Is(\exp(a*v) - 1) \);
\( eq12 := i = Is(\exp(a*v) - 1) \)

\( v := \text{solve}(eq12, v) \)
\( v := \text{solve}(eq12, v) \)

\( \ln\left(\frac{Is + i}{Is}\right) = \frac{v}{a} \)
\( \ln\left(\frac{Is + i}{Is}\right) = \frac{v}{a} \)

Dynamical Resistance of the Diode \( D \)

\( Rd := \frac{1}{(Is + i)a} \);
\( Rd := \frac{1}{(Is + i)a} \)

Thus:

\( Rd1 := \frac{1}{(Is1 + I1)a} \) and \( Rd2 := \frac{1}{(Is2 + I2)a} \)
\( Rd1 := \frac{1}{(Is1 + I1)a} \) and \( Rd2 := \frac{1}{(Is2 + I2)a} \)

Graphs of Current Flows and Voltages of the Circuit against Time

> restart:

> withplots:
\[ V := t \rightarrow V_m \sin(\omega t); \quad a := \frac{q}{\eta k_B T} \]

\[ V := t \rightarrow V_m \sin(\omega t) \]

\[ a := -\frac{q}{\eta k_B T} \]

\[ IR := t \rightarrow \frac{1}{a \cdot R} \cdot \text{LambertW}(a \cdot (R \cdot (Is1 + Is2) + V(t))) - (Is1 + Is2); \]

\[ IR := t \rightarrow \frac{\text{LambertW}(a(R(Is1 + Is2)e^{\omega (R(Is1 + Is2) + V(t))})}{aR} - Is1 - Is2 \]

\[ VAB := t \rightarrow R \cdot IR(t); \]

\[ VAB := t \rightarrow R \cdot IR(t) \]

\[ VBC := t \rightarrow V(t) - R \cdot IR(t); \]

\[ VBC := t \rightarrow V(t) - R \cdot IR(t) \]

The numerical values used are such that:

\[ R := 10; \quad Is1 := 10^{**}(-8); \quad Is2 := 4 \cdot 10^{**}(-9); \quad q := 1.60219 \cdot 10^{**}(-19); \]

\[ R := 10 \]

\[ Is1 := \frac{1}{100000000} \]

\[ Is2 := \frac{1}{250000000} \]

\[ q := 1.60219 \cdot 10^{19} \]

\[ \eta := 1.8; \quad k_B := 1.38062 \cdot 10^{**}(-23); \quad T := 300; \quad \omega := 120 \pi \]

\[ V_m := 3 \]

\[ I1 := t \rightarrow Is1 (\exp(a \cdot \omega VBC(t)) - 1); \]

\[ I2 := t \rightarrow Is2 (\exp(a \cdot \omega VBC(t)) - 1); \]

\[ Rd1 := \frac{1}{(Is1 + I1(t)) - a}; \quad Rd2 := \frac{1}{(Is2 + I2(t)) - a}; \]

Graphical Representation of the Voltage Across the Resistance and Voltage Across the Diodes

\[ plot([VAB(t), VBC(t)], t = 0..2 \pi \omega, color = [\text{black, blue}]\}; \]

Graphical Representation of the Current Flowing through the Resistor, the Diode1, the Diode2 and \( I1(t) + I2(t) \)

\[ plot([IR(t), I1(t), I2(t), I1(t) + I2(t)], t = 0..2 \pi \omega, color = [\text{black, red, blue, brown}]\}; \]

Graphical Representation of \( I1(t) \) and \( I2(t) \)

\[ plot([I1(t), I2(t)], t = -\pi \omega..\pi \omega, color = [\text{red, blue}]\}; \]

Graphical Representation Dynamic Resistances of Diodes D1 and D2

\[ plot([Rd1(t), Rd2(t)], t = 0..4 \pi \omega, color = [\text{black, blue}]\}; \]

**Fig. 3:** Graphical representation of the VAB and VBC in the interval of time \([0, P]\)
Second Problem

We considered the electrical circuit containing a resistor and a diode powered by a saw tooth voltage generator Fig. 7, we want to determine the analytical expressions for the voltages at the terminals of all elements in the circuit and we are interested in studying the influence of the saturation current, the temperature and the ideality factor.
Modeling the Problem using Maple Software

**Nomenclature**

- **R**: Resistance
- **D**: Diode, Is its saturation current
- **IR**: Current through the resistance equal to the current through the diode
- **q**: Electron charge
- **eta**: Ideality factor of the diode
- **kB**: Boltzmann constant
- **T**: Is the absolute temperature
- **V**: Voltage source
- **VAB**: Voltage across the resistance
- **VBC**: Voltage across the diode
- **Rd**: Dynamical résistance of the diode \( a = \frac{q}{\eta kBT} \)

The calculations, Equation solving, Graphic representations and Animations will be done using the Maple software.

The current flowing through the resistor:

> restart:
Using Ohm’s law:
> eq1 := VAB = R*IR;

Using Kirchhoff’s voltage law:

> eq2 := IR = Is*(exp(a*VBC)-1);

Using LambertW function:

\[
IR := - \frac{Is Ra - LambertW(\frac{Is Ra e^{(Is Ra + V BC)}}{Ra})}{Ra}
\]

So the current flowing through the resistor is:

\[
IR := - \frac{LambertW(\frac{Is Ra e^{(Is Ra + V BC)}}{Ra})}{Ra}
\]

In this problem, we consider a sawtooth generator circuit, the mathematical expression of its voltage is given by:

\[
V := t \rightarrow Vm(t - \frac{1}{2} P); t = 0.580
\]

Graphs of Current Flows and Voltages in the circuit as a function of time:

> restart: with(plots):
> V := t\rightarrow Vm\left(t - \frac{1}{2} P\right);

The numerical values used are such that:

\[
Vm = 1674
\]

\[
a = 0.580
\]
\[ R := 10; T := 300; I_s := 10^{-9}; q := 1.60219 \times 10^{-9}(-19); k_B := 1.38062 \times 10^{-23}; \ e := 1.8; V_m := 400; P := 0.01; \]

Graphical Representation of the Dynamic Resistance

\[ > IR(t); VAB(t); VBC(t); Rd(t) := \frac{1}{(I_s + IR(t)) \cdot a}; \]

\[ 0.014653223400 \cdot \text{LambertW}(2.149047905 \cdot 10^{-7}) \]

\[ e^{8.596.19162 \cdot 42.98095789} \cdot \frac{1}{1000000000} \]

\[ 0.04653223400 \cdot \text{LambertW}(2.149047905 \cdot 10^{-7}) \cdot e^{8.596.19162 \cdot 42.98095789} \· \frac{1}{1000000000} \]

\[ 400t - 1.999999999t \cdot 0.04653223400 \· \text{LambertW}(2.149047905 \cdot 7 \cdot e^{8.596.19162 \cdot 42.98095789}) \]

\[ Rd := t \rightarrow \frac{1}{(I_s + IR(t)) \cdot a} \]

The following figures are obtaining.

**Fig. 8:** Graphical representation of the dynamic resistance of the diode in the interval of time \([0, P]\)

**Fig. 9:** Graphical representation of voltages at the terminals of the generator, the resistance and the diode in the interval of time \([0, 0.01]\)

**Fig. 10:** Graphical representation of current flowing through the resistance over time \([0, P/2]\)
Graphical Representation of Current Flowing through Resistance Over Time \([P/2, P]\)

Influence of the Loading Resistance, Saturation Current, Temperature and Ideality Factor:

Influence of the Loading Resistance

Here, we present the influence of the loading resistance on \(V(t)\); \(V_{AB}(t)\) and \(V_{BC}(t)\).

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{IR} & := t \rightarrow A(t); \\
\text{VAB} & := t \rightarrow R \cdot \text{IR}(t); \\
\text{VBC} & := t \rightarrow V(t) - \text{VAB}(t); \\
\text{Rd}(t) & := \frac{1}{(I_s + \text{IR}(t)) \cdot a}; \\
T & := 300; q := 1.60219*10^{**(-19)}; I_s := 10^{\%(-9)}; k_B := 1.38062*10^{**(-23)}; \\
eta & := 1.8; V_m := 400; P := 0.01:
\end{align*}
\]

In the following figure, we present an animation of the voltages \(V(t)\), \(V_{AB}(t)\), \(V_{BC}(t)\) for \(R = 0.1..100\).

\[
\begin{align*}
&\text{animate}(\{V(t), V_{AB}(t), V_{BC}(t)\}); \ t = 0..0.017, \ R = 0.1..100; \\
&\text{animate}(V(t), t = 0..P, R = 0.1..100, color = \text{red}); F := \%; \\
&\text{animate}(V_{AB}(t), t = 0..P, R = 0.1..100, color = \text{green}); G := \%; \\
&\text{animate}(V_{BC}(t), t = 0..P, R = 0.1..100, color = \text{blue}); H := \%;
\end{align*}
\]

Influence of the Loading Resistance on the IR

\[
\begin{align*}
&\text{animate}(\text{IR}(t), t = 0..P, R = 0.1..100, color = \text{BLACK});
\end{align*}
\]

Influence of the Loading Resistance on the Rd

\[
\begin{align*}
&\text{animate}(\text{Rd}(t), t = 0..P, R = 0.1..100, color = \text{BLACK});
\end{align*}
\]

Influence of the Saturation Current

\[
\begin{align*}
&\text{display}((F, G, H));
\end{align*}
\]

In the following figure, we present an animation of the voltages \(V(t)\), \(V_{AB}(t)\), \(V_{BC}(t)\) for \(Is = 10^{\%(-9)}, 10^{\%(-1)}\).

\[
\begin{align*}
&\text{animate}(\{\text{IR}(t), \text{IR}(t), \text{IR}(t)\}) \text{ with } \text{color} = \text{BLACK}; \\
&T := 300; q := 1.60219*10^{**(-19)}; \text{vA} := 1.38062*10^{**(-23)}; \\
&\eta := 1.8; V_m := 400; P := 0.01:
\end{align*}
\]
Fig. 12: Influence of the loading resistance on $V(t)$, $VAB(t)$ and $VBC(t)$

Fig. 13: Influence of the loading resistance on the $IR$

Fig. 14: Influence of the loading resistance on the $Rd$
Fig. 15: Influence of the saturation current on $V(t)$, $V_{AB}(t)$ and $V_{BC}(t)$

Fig. 16: Influence of the saturation current on the IR

Fig. 17: Influence of the saturation current on the $R_d$

Influence of the Saturation Current on the IR

```maple
> animate(IR(t), t = 0..P, Is = 10^(-9)..10^(-6), color = BLACK);
```

Influence of the Saturation Current on the $R_d$

```maple
> animate(Rd(t), t = 0..P, Is = 10^(-9)..10^(-6), color = BLACK)
```

Influence of Temperature

```
> restart: with(plots);
> V := t\rightarrow Vm^\theta \left( t - \frac{P}{2} \right); a := \frac{q}{\epsilon u \kappa B T};
```

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A := \( t \rightarrow \left( \frac{1}{a^*R} \right) \ast \text{LambertW}(a^*R^*I_s^*\exp(a^*(V(t)) \ast + \) \( R(t) := \frac{1}{(I_s + IR(t))} \) \] \( R^*I_s^*) - I_s \) \] \( > IR := t \rightarrow A(t) \); \( > VAB := t \rightarrow R^*I_s^*) \); \( > VBC := t \rightarrow V(t) - VAB(t) \); \[ Fig. 18 \) Influence of temperature on \( V(t) \); \( VAB(t) \); \( VBC \) \[ Fig. 19 \) Influence of the temperature \( T \) on the IR current \[ Fig. 20 \) Influence of the temperature \( T \) on the dynamic resistance
In the following figure, we present an animation of the voltages $V(t)$, $VAB(t)$, $VBC(t)$ for $T = 300..400$.

```plaintext
> #animate([V(t), VAB(t), VBC(t)], t = 0..P, T = 300..400);
> animate(V(t), t = 0..P, T = 300..400, color = red): F := %;
> animate(VAB(t), t = 0..P, T = 300..400, color = green):
> G := %;
> animate(VBC(t), t = 0..P, T = 300..400, color = blue):
> H := %;
> display({E, G, H});
```

### Influence of the Temperature $T$ on the IR Current

```plaintext
> animate(IR(t), t = 0..P, T = 300..400, color = BLACK);
```

### Influence of the Temperature $T$ on the Dynamic Resistance

```plaintext
> animate(Rd(t), t = 0..P, T = 300..400, color = BLACK)
```

### Influence of Ideality Factor

#### Influence of Ideality Factor on $V(t)$; $VAB(t)$ and $VBC(t)$

```plaintext
> restart;
> with(plots):

$V := t \rightarrow Vm*\left(t - \frac{P}{2}\right)$;

$a := \frac{q}{eta.kB.T}$;

$A := t \rightarrow \left(\frac{1}{a*R}\right)*(LambertW(a*R*Is*exp(a*(V(t) + R*Is))))-Is$;

$IR := t \rightarrow A(t)$;

$VAB := t \rightarrow IR(t)$;

$VBC := t \rightarrow V(t) - VAB(t)$;

$Rd(t) := \frac{1}{(Is + IR(t))} \cdot a$;

$R := 8$;

$T := 300$;

$q := 1.60219*10**(-19)$;

$kB := 1.38062*10**(-23)$;

$Is := 10^{(-9)}$;

$Vm := 400$;

$P := 0.01$
```

![Fig. 21: Animation of $V(t)$; $VAB(t)$ and $VBC(t)$ for $t$ in $[0, P]$ and the ideality factor varies between 0.8 and 2](image1)

![Fig. 22: Animation of $IR(t)$ for $t$ in $[0, P]$ and the ideality factor varies between 0.8 and 2](image2)
Fig. 23: Animation the dynamic resistance for $t$ in $[0, 0.002]$ and the ideality factor varies between 0.8 and 2

Table 1: The influence of load resistance, saturation current, temperature and ideality factor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When</th>
<th>$R$: Increases</th>
<th>$I_s$: Increases</th>
<th>$T$: Increases</th>
<th>$\eta$: Increases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VAB</td>
<td>Grow</td>
<td>Grow</td>
<td>Decreases</td>
<td>Decreases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VBC</td>
<td>Decreases</td>
<td>Decreases</td>
<td>Grow</td>
<td>Grow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IR</td>
<td>Decreases</td>
<td>Grow</td>
<td>Decreases</td>
<td>Decreases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$R_d$</td>
<td>Invariable</td>
<td>Decreases</td>
<td>Decreases</td>
<td>Decreases</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the following figure, we present an animation of the voltages $V(t)$, $VAB(t)$, $VBC(t)$ for $eta = 0.8..2$.
*animate*($\{V(t), VAB(t), VBC(t)\}$, $t = 0..P, eta = 0.8..2$);
*animate*($V(t), t = 0..P, eta = 0.8..2, color = red$); $F := \%$;
*animate*($VAB(t), t = 0..P, eta = 0.8..2, color = green$); $G := \%$
*animate*($VBC(t), t = 0..P, eta = 0.8..2, color = blue$); $H := \%$
*display* ($\{F, G, H\}$);

*Influence of: Ideality Factor on $IR(t)$*

> *animate*($IR(t), t = 0..P, eta = 0.8..2, color = BLACK$);

*Influence of Ideality Factor on Dynamic Resistance*

> *animate*($Rd(t), t = 0..P, eta = 0.8..2, color = BLACK$);

and the ideality factor varies between 0.8 and 2.

**Results Discussion of the First Problem**

- The current flowing through the resistor:
  \[
  IR := t \rightarrow \frac{1}{a \cdot R} \cdot \text{LambertW}(a \cdot R \cdot (I_s1 + I_s2)) \cdot \exp(a \cdot (R \cdot (I_s1 + I_s2) + V(t))) - (I_s1 + I_s2)
  \]
- Voltage across the resistance $R$:
  \[
  VAB := t \rightarrow R \cdot IR(t);
  \]
- Voltage across the diodes:
  \[
  VBC := t \rightarrow V(t) \cdot R \cdot IR(t);
  \]
- The current flowing through the diodes $D1$ and $D2$:
  \[
  I1 := t \rightarrow I_s1 \cdot \eta \cdot \text{exp}(a \cdot VBC(t) - 1)
  \]
  \[
  I2 := t \rightarrow I_s2 \cdot \eta \cdot \text{exp}(a \cdot VBC(t) - 1)
  \]
- Dynamical resistance of the diodes $D1$ and $D2$:
  \[
  Rd1 := \frac{1}{(I_s1 - I1(t)) \cdot a}
  \]
  \[
  Rd2 := \frac{1}{(I_s2 - I2(t)) \cdot a}
  \]

Graphs of current flows and voltages in the circuit as a function of time:

Figure 3 shows that:
- Voltage $VAB$ is positive on $[0, P/2]$, zero on $[P/2, P]$ and it reaches a maximum for $t = P/4$
- Voltage $VBC$ is positive on $[0, P/2]$, negative on $[P/2, P]$ and it reaches a minimum for $t = 3P/4$

Figure 4 shows that:
- the intensities of the currents $IR$, $I1$ and $I2$ are positive on $[0, P/2]$ and they reach their maximums at the same time $t = P/4$
- the intensities of the $IR$ currents, $I1$ and $I2$ are zero on $[P/2, P]$, this is the role played by the diodes

Figure 5 shows that:
- The intensities of the current $I1$ and $I2$ are negative and almost null $[P/2, P]$, because the diodes are not ideal

Figure 6 shows that:
• The dynamic resistances $Rd_1$ and $Rd_2$ are almost zero on $[0, P]$ except on a small interval of time
• Over this small time interval, we notice that $Rd_1$ and $Rd_2$ are positive and they reach their maximums at the same time
• $Rd_2$ is greater than $Rd_1$ because $Is_2$ is less than $Is_1$

Results Discussion of the Second Problem

• The current flowing through the resistor $IR$:
  \[ A := t \rightarrow \left( \frac{1}{a R} \right) \ast (\text{Lambert W}(a \ast R \ast Is \ast \exp(a \ast (V(t) + R \ast Is)))) - Is \]
  \[ IR := t \rightarrow A(t); \]
• Voltage across the resistance $R$:
  \[ VAB := t \rightarrow R \ast IR(t); \]
• Voltage across the diode:
  \[ VBC := t \rightarrow V(t) - R \ast IR(t); \]
• Dynamical resistance of the diode $D$:
  \[ Rd(t) := \frac{1}{(Is_1 - IR(t)) \ast a}; \]

The graphical representations allowed us to manipulate commands of the Maple software and to deduce the following results:

Figure 8 shows that:

• The dynamic resistance of the diode decreases very quickly in the time interval $[0, 0.001]$ then it remains zero

Figure 9 shows:

• The voltage across the generator is a straight segment
  • For $0 < t < t_0$, $(0.006 < t_0 < 0.007)$, the voltage $VBC$ coincides with $V$ and that $VAB$ is zero

Figure 10 and 11 shows:

• For $0 < t < P/2$, the $IR$ current in the resistor is zero, the current $IR$ increases and $i$ is positive for $P/2 < t < P$
  • The influence of load resistance, saturation current, temperature and ideality factor:
  • The results of Fig. 12 to 23 are summarized in the following Table 1

General Discussion

The use of the Maple software allowed us to solve transcendent equations, to analytically express the solutions according to the LAMBERT W functions, to represent the solutions graphically and to make animations.

Important question: Why don’t we teach the LAMBERT W function and the Maple software at the secondary school?

Conclusion

We used the Maple software in several directions:

• Modeling and problem solving, determination of exact analytical solutions of the expressions of current and voltage in the electronic circuit, Visualization of their evolutions as a function of time and illustration of the influence of certain parameters on the current and the voltages
• This work is of interest to researchers in mathematics, physicists and teachers of mathematics or physics
• The user of this article can make the following changes:
  i) Change the amplitude value $V_m$ sinusoidal signal and watch the changes in graphs and animations
  ii) Change the physical parameters for example the temperature and look for the effect produced on the graphs and the animations
  iii) Substitute one signal for another and look at the influence on graphs and animations

Author’s Contributions

All authors equally contributed in this work.

Conflicts of Interest

The author declares no conflicts of interest regarding the publication of this paper.

Ethics

This article is original and contains unpublished material. The corresponding author confirms that all of the other authors have read and approved the manuscript and no ethical issues involved.

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