

**Physics 112**  
**Exp.#8: Damped Oscillations**  
**Preliminary Laboratory Questions**

Consider a series RLC circuit shown in fig.1, where  $C= 0.01 \mu\text{F}$  and  $L=10 \text{ mH}$ .

We display the voltage across the capacitor on the screen of the DSO and change the value of R.

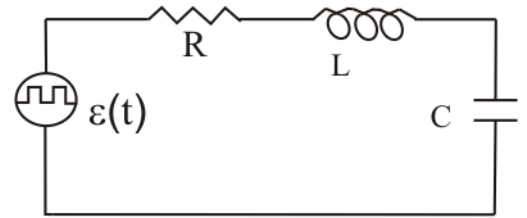
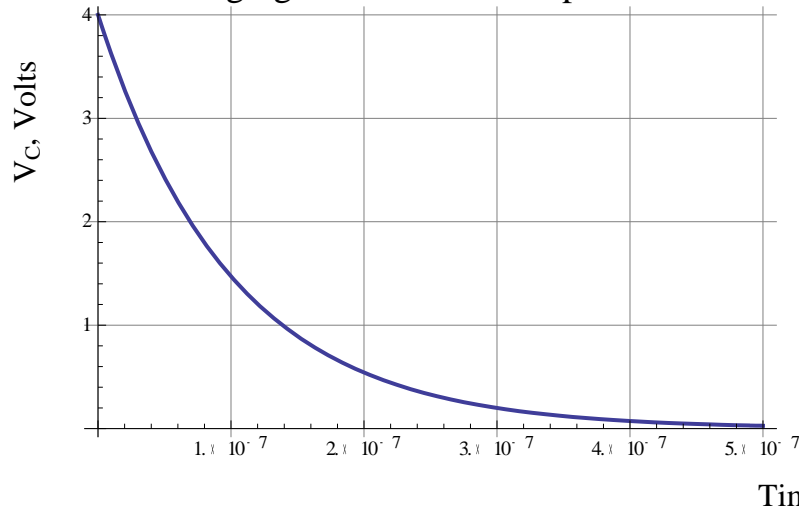


fig.1

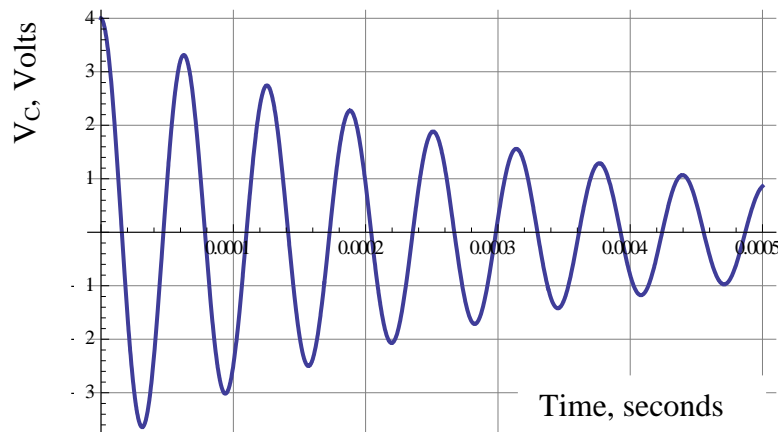
**A)** Find the critical value for R and right down the range of values for overdamping and underdamping cases.

**B)** For a certain value of R more than the critical value, the voltage across the capacitor while it is discharging looks like the shape shown in the figure below:



Estimate the value of the decay constant from this plot.

**C)** If we decrease the value of R and it become less than the critical one, and the shape of  $V_C$  was as shown below:



From this plot estimate:

1. The decay constant for this case
2. The value of R.
3. The frequency of the oscillation.