

# Power Supplies

## Half-Wave Rectifier

Use your oscilloscope to take screenshots in all places where a space is provided to graph the waveform. Your screenshot should include your name/initials and relevant measurements. Post your screenshots as a reply to the Topic for this lab exercise.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

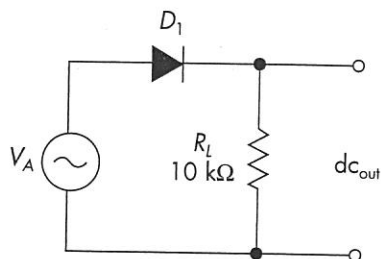


FIGURE 65-1

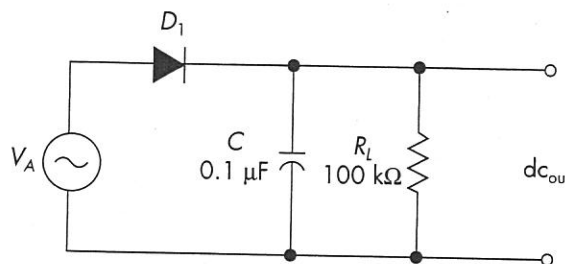


FIGURE 65-2

**PROJECT PURPOSE** The purpose of this project is to demonstrate the action of a simple half-wave rectifier and the effects of capacitor filtering.

### PARTS NEEDED

- |   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> DMM                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Resistors  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oscilloscope                           | 10 kΩ                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CIS                                    | 100 kΩ                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Function generator or audio oscillator | <input type="checkbox"/> Capacitors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diode: Silicon, 1-amp rating           | 0.1 μF                              |
|   | 1.0 μF                              |

### SPECIAL NOTE:

The following formulas will be helpful for drawing proper conclusions about the results of your work:

$$\text{Input } V_{rms} = 0.707 \times V_{pk} \text{ Effective ac}$$

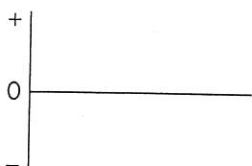
$$\text{Output } V_{dc} = 0.318 \times V_{pk} \text{ Average dc out}$$

## PROCEDURE

1. Connect the initial circuit as shown in Figure 65-1.
2. Set the function generator (sine-wave mode) or audio oscillator to a frequency of 100 Hz and  $V_A$  to 3  $V_{rms}$ . Sketch two complete cycles of the input waveform in the "Observation" section.

### ▲ OBSERVATION

Waveform:



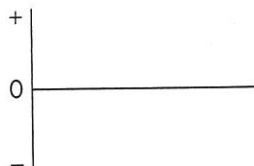
3. Measure the dc voltage output across  $R_L$  ( $V_{dc}$ ).

**▲ OBSERVATION**  $V_{dc} =$  \_\_\_\_\_ V.

**▲ CONCLUSION** The dc output voltage should be approximately what percentage of the rms input voltage? Approximately \_\_\_\_\_ %. Since the average voltage value over one ac alternation is  $0.637 \times V_p$  and the effective value is  $0.707 \times V_{pk}$ , then  $V_{dc}$  must be about \_\_\_\_\_ tenths of  $V_{rms}$ , because 0.637 is about \_\_\_\_\_ tenths of 0.707. Since the diode can conduct only half the time with ac applied, the average  $V_{dc}$  for the half-cycle the diode *does not* conduct is \_\_\_\_\_ V.

4. Connect the oscilloscope across  $R_L$ . Sketch the waveform for two complete cycles in the "Observation" section. Indicate the maximum and minimum voltage levels.

**▲ OBSERVATION** Waveform:

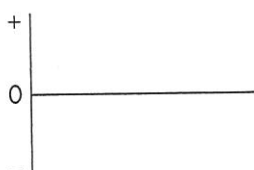


**▲ CONCLUSION** For the half-cycle the diode does conduct, the peak  $V_{out}$  should be about \_\_\_\_\_ times  $V_{rms}$  (neglecting the small diode voltage drop). The end result is that the average  $V_{dc}$  over the *entire cycle* of ac input is about \_\_\_\_\_ times  $V_{rms}$  (again, neglecting the diode voltage drop).

5. Connect a 0.1- $\mu$ F filter capacitor in parallel with a new value of  $R_L$ , as shown in Figure 65-2.
6. Set the function generator (sine-wave mode) to a frequency of 100 Hz and an amplitude of 3  $V_{rms}$ . Sketch two complete cycles of the input waveform. Measure and record the ac input voltage ( $V_{in}$ ).

**▲ OBSERVATION**  $V_{in} =$  \_\_\_\_\_ V.

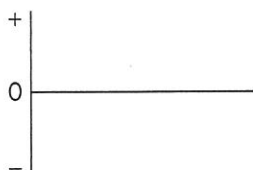
Waveform:



7. Measure and record the dc voltage output across  $R_L$  ( $dc_{out}$ ). Sketch two complete ac cycles of the oscilloscope waveform found across  $R_L$ .

**▲ OBSERVATION**  $dc_{out} =$  \_\_\_\_\_ V.

Waveform:



**▲ CONCLUSION**

Is the dc output voltage higher or lower than the effective ac input voltage? \_\_\_\_\_. This can be explained by the fact that the filter capacitor charges to the \_\_\_\_\_ value of the input voltage, rather than the average or effective values. Since the charge path for the capacitor is through the low resistance of the forward-conducting diode, the capacitor has time to charge to the \_\_\_\_\_ value of the input voltage. But when the input voltage begins to decrease from its \_\_\_\_\_ value, the capacitor begins to \_\_\_\_\_ slowly through the load resistor,  $R_L$ . Before the capacitor can discharge completely, the next cycle of ac will reach a point where it is higher than the voltage remaining on the capacitor. The diode thus begins to conduct again and charge the capacitor to the \_\_\_\_\_ voltage value again.

8. Replace the 0.1- $\mu$ F filter capacitor with a 1.0- $\mu$ F capacitor.
9. Record the  $dc_{out}$  and sketch two complete ac cycles of the oscilloscope waveform found across  $R_L$ .

**▲ OBSERVATION**  $dc_{out} =$  \_\_\_\_\_ V.

Waveform:



**▲ CONCLUSION**

Is  $dc_{out}$  higher or lower with the 1.0- $\mu$ F filter capacitor? \_\_\_\_\_. This is because the  $RC$  discharge time with the 1.0- $\mu$ F filter capacitor is much \_\_\_\_\_ than with the 0.1- $\mu$ F capacitor. The larger the value of filter capacitor, the (*higher, lower*) \_\_\_\_\_ the amount of discharge during each nonconducting half-cycle for the diode. This means the average dc output voltage (*increases, decreases*) \_\_\_\_\_ with increasing values of filter capacitance.

# Power Supplies

## Bridge Rectifier

PROJECT

66

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

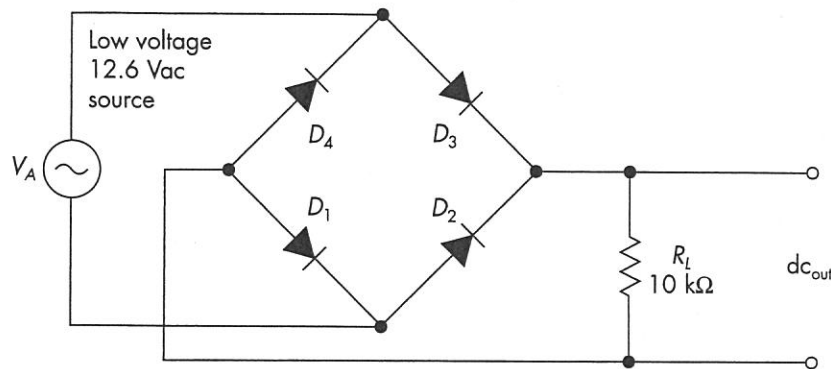


FIGURE 66-1

**NOTE:**  
ONLY MEASURE THE OUTPUT VOLTAGE OF THESE CIRCUITS. DO NOT CONNECT YOUR SCOPE PROBE TO MEASURE THE 12.6 VAC INPUT. You cannot measure the input and output voltages of this full-wave bridge rectifier simultaneously with the probes we have in the lab. You will cause a short to ground, possibly damaging a diode and/or the 12.6VAC output.

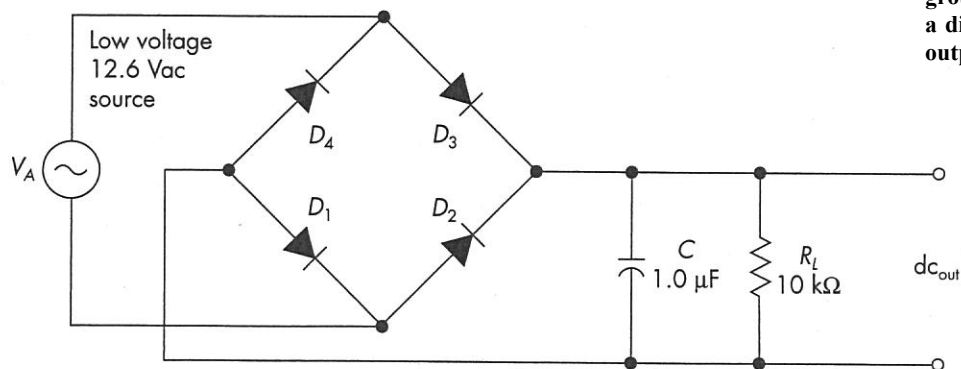


FIGURE 66-2

**PROJECT PURPOSE** In this project you will study the action of a bridge rectifier and demonstrate the effects of capacitor filtering.

### PARTS NEEDED

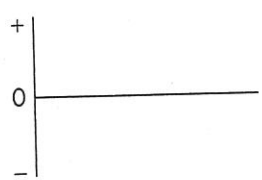
- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> DMM                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Resistor  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oscilloscope                           | 10 kΩ  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CIS                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Capacitor   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Function generator or audio oscillator | 1.0 μF   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diodes: Silicon, 1-amp rating (4)      | <input type="checkbox"/> Transformer (12.6 V with center-tapped secondary) or, a 12.6 Vac source |

## PROCEDURE

1. Connect the initial circuit as shown in Figure 66-1.
2. Apply 12.6 Vac to the circuit. Measure the dc voltage output across  $R_L$  ( $V_{dc_{out}}$ ).
3. Sketch the secondary waveform. Indicate the maximum and minimum voltage levels. Measure the secondary voltage.

### OBSERVATION

Waveform:



$$ac_{sec} = \text{_____} V_{rms}.$$

4. Measure the dc voltage output across  $R_L$  ( $V_{dc}$ ).

**△ ? OBSERVATION**

$$dc_{out} = \underline{\hspace{10cm}} V.$$

## CONCLUSION

Current (flows, does not flow) \_\_\_\_\_ through  $R_L$  on both alternations of each ac input cycle. This means the bridge rectifier is a (half-wave, full-wave) \_\_\_\_\_ rectifier. According to theory, if there were no diode voltage drops, the average dc output of the bridge circuit without filtering should be \_\_\_\_\_  $\times V_{rms}$  of the applied ac. Does your measured value of  $dc_{out}$  for this step agree reasonably with theory? \_\_\_\_\_. How do you account for most of the difference, if any? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Connect the oscilloscope across  $R_L$ . Sketch the waveform for two complete cycles in the "Observation" section. Indicate the maximum and minimum voltage levels.

### OBSERVATION

Waveform:



**▲ CONCLUSION**

The frequency of the waveform across the output resistor is (*one-half, equal to, double*) \_\_\_\_\_ the secondary frequency.

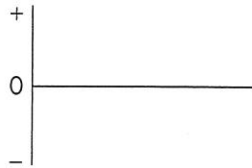
6. Connect the 1.0- $\mu\text{F}$  filter capacitor across  $R_L$  as shown in Figure 66-2.
7. Measure and record the ac voltage at the secondary ( $V_{\text{ac}_{\text{sec}}}$ ) and the dc voltage output across  $R_L$  ( $V_{\text{dc}_{\text{out}}}$ ). Sketch two complete ac cycles of the oscilloscope waveform found across  $R_L$ .

**▲ OBSERVATION**

$V_{\text{ac}_{\text{sec}}} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} V_{\text{rms}}$

$V_{\text{dc}_{\text{out}}} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} V_{\text{rms}}$

Waveform:

**▲ CONCLUSION**

What is the highest voltage output we could get from this circuit with a secondary voltage of  $7 V_{\text{rms}}$  and no load current? About \_\_\_\_\_ V. What is the value of load current according to our measured value of  $V_{\text{out}}$ ? \_\_\_\_\_ mA. The filter capacitor causes the dc level of  $V_{\text{out}}$  to be (*higher, lower*) \_\_\_\_\_ than if it were not in the circuit. This filter capacitor has (*more, less*) \_\_\_\_\_ time to discharge between charging pulses in a bridge circuit than in a half-wave rectifier circuit. The reason for this answer is that the bridge rectifier has \_\_\_\_\_ charging pulses for each complete cycle of the ac input waveform. The capacitor in a bridge rectifier will not discharge to as low a value of voltage between charging pulses as in a half-wave rectifier. When compared to a half-wave rectifier, the average voltage output of a bridge rectifier will be (*higher, lower*) \_\_\_\_\_ and remain closer to (*peak, effective, average*) \_\_\_\_\_ of the secondary voltage than for a half-wave rectifier having the same  $R_L$  and filter capacitor.