

## **RC Low Pass Filter**

### ☐ Brief Review

- Schematic, magnitude frequency response
- Voltage gain (in dB) equation

### ☐ RC LPF Analysis

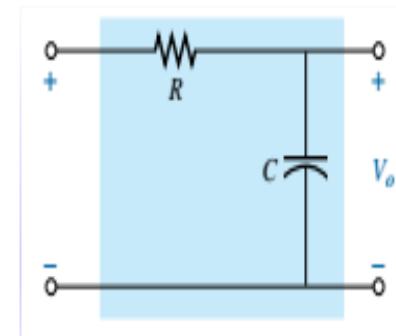
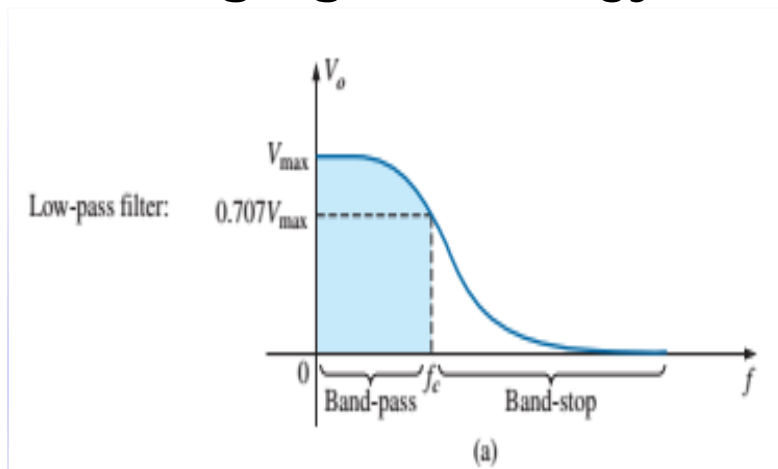
- Transfer function
- Magnitude response
- Phase response
- Cutoff (or critical) frequency,  $f_c$
- Sketching the magnitude and phase responses (Bode Analysis)

### ☐ RC LPF – In Class Problem

- Calculations and sketches
- Simulation verification (normalized and dB y-axis)

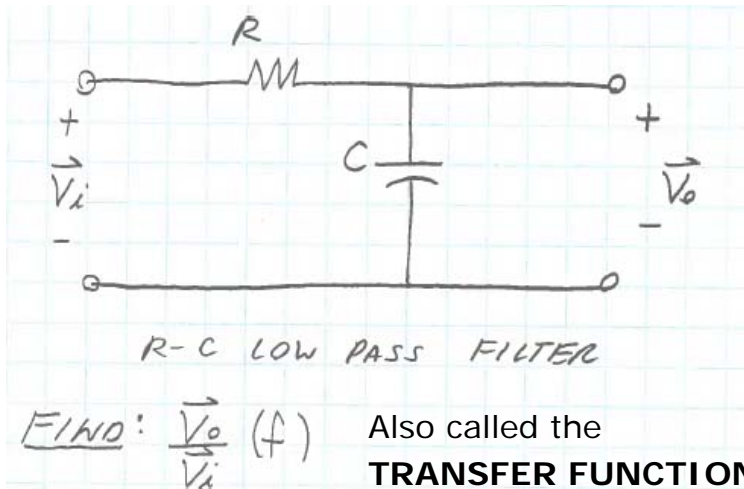
## RC Low Pass Filter (brief review)

- Be able to calculate the cutoff frequencies and sketch the frequency response of a **low-pass**, high-pass, band-pass (pass-band) or band-reject (stop-band) filter.
- Develop skills in interpreting and establishing the Bode response (**frequency response**) of any filter.
- The unit decibel (dB), defined by a logarithmic expression, is used throughout the industry to define levels of audio, **voltage gain**, energy, field strength, and so on.

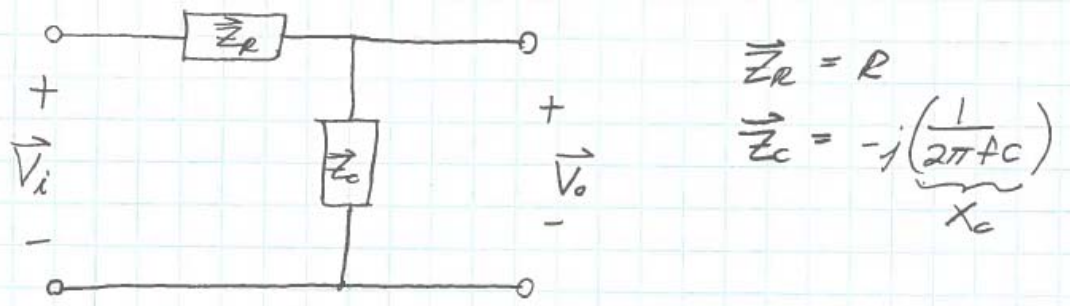


$$\text{dB}_v = 20 \log_{10} \frac{V_2}{V_1} \quad (\text{dB})$$

## RC LPF Analysis



Converting to the phasor domain:



Using voltage divider:

$$\vec{V}_o = \vec{V}_i \left( \frac{\vec{Z}_C}{\vec{Z}_C + \vec{Z}_R} \right)$$

$$\frac{\vec{V}_o}{\vec{V}_i}(f) = \frac{-j\left(\frac{1}{2\pi fC}\right)}{-j\left(\frac{1}{2\pi fC}\right) + R}$$

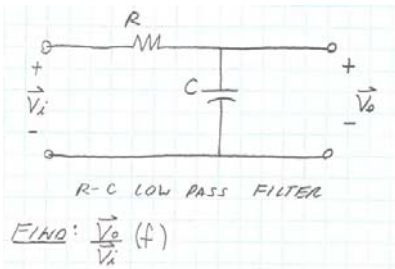
Simplifying:

$$= \frac{-j}{-j + R(2\pi f)(C)}$$

$$\frac{\vec{V}_o}{\vec{V}_i}(f) = \boxed{\frac{1}{1 + j(2\pi fRC)}}$$

Can be split into the **MAGNITUDE** response and the **PHASE** response

## RC LPF Analysis



$$\frac{V_o}{V_i}(f) = \frac{1}{1 + j(2\pi fRC)}$$

### Magnitude Response

$$\left| \frac{V_o}{V_i}(f) \right| = \left| \frac{1}{1 + j(2\pi fRC)} \right|$$

$$= \frac{|1|}{|1 + j2\pi fRC|}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{1^2 + (2\pi fRC)^2}}$$

← MAGNITUDE RESPONSE

### Phase Response

$$\angle \frac{V_o}{V_i}(f) = \angle \text{NUM} - \angle \text{DEN}$$

$$= 0^\circ - \tan^{-1}(2\pi fRC)$$

$$= -\tan^{-1}(2\pi fRC) \leftarrow \text{PHASE RESPONSE}$$

### ½ Power Point

HALF POWER POINT  $\left| \frac{V_o}{V_i} \right| = 0.707$

$$@ f_c = \frac{1}{2\pi RC}$$

CHECK :

$$0.707 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{2\pi RC}{2\pi RC}\right)^2}}$$

$$0.707 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

## RC LPF – “Sketch” The Magnitude Response

$$\left| \frac{\vec{V}_o}{\vec{V}_i} (f) \right| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + (2\pi fRC)^2}}$$

↑  
MAGNITUDE  
RESPONSE

Investigating this function (in dB):

$$\left| \frac{\vec{V}_o}{\vec{V}_i} (f) \right|_{dB} = 20 \log_{10} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + (2\pi fRC)^2}} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} @ f \rightarrow 0 \text{ Hz} : 20 \log_{10} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + 0^2}} \right) \\ \approx 20 \log_{10} (1) \sim 0 \text{ dB} \end{aligned}$$

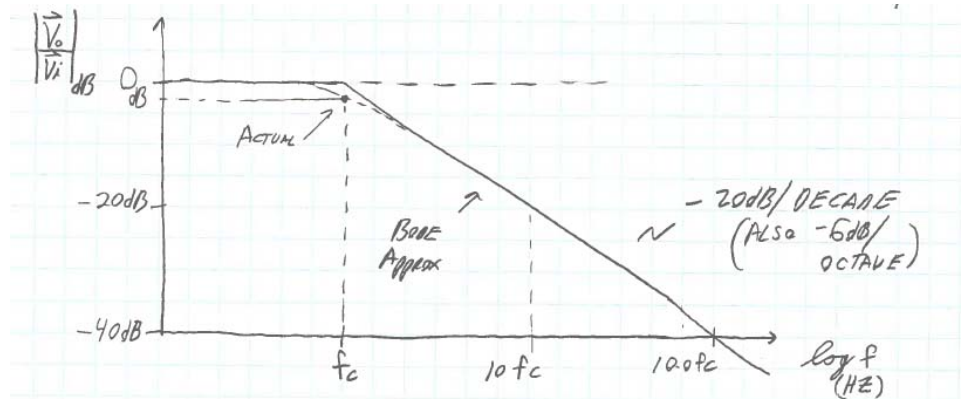
$$\begin{aligned} @ f = f_c : 20 \log_{10} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + 1}} \right) \\ = 20 \log_{10} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \right) = -3 \text{ dB} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} @ f = 10f_c \text{ (ONE DECADE AWAY)} \\ 20 \log_{10} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{10}{1}\right)^2}} \right) = -20.0 \text{ dB} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} @ f = 100f_c \text{ ANOTHER DECADE OUT} \\ 20 \log_{10} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{100}{1}\right)^2}} \right) = -40.0 \text{ dB} \end{aligned}$$

Note: -3dB at  $f_c$ , 20dB/decade rolloff for  $f > f_c$

Sketching:



### The Bode approximation for this LPF

- Sketch => Approximation
- Plot => Exact (use the equation)
- X-axis: logarithmic
- -20dB/decade = -6dB/octave (starts at  $f_c$ )
- Largest error at  $f_c$

## RC LPF – “Sketch” The Phase Response

$$\angle \frac{\vec{V}_o}{\vec{V}_i}(f) \text{ IN DEGREES} = -\tan^{-1}(2\pi fRC) \leftarrow \text{PHASE RESPONSE}$$

Investigating this function

$$\text{For } f \rightarrow 0 \text{ Hz} : -\tan^{-1}(0) \sim 0^\circ$$

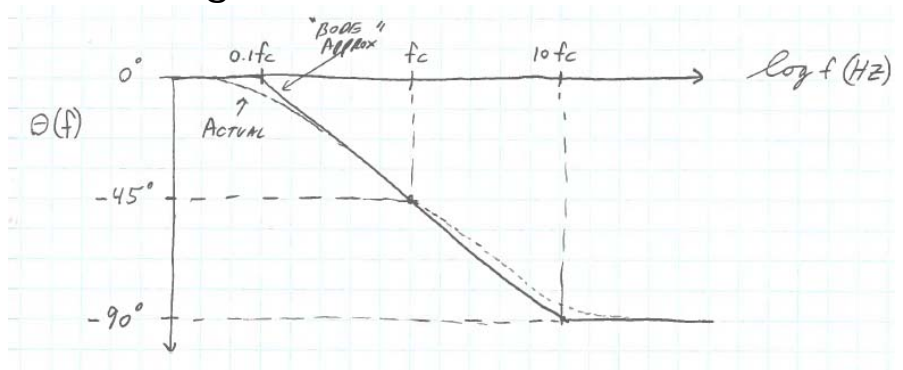
$$\text{@ } f = 0.1f_c : -\tan^{-1}(0.1) = -5.71^\circ$$

$$\text{@ } f = f_c : -\tan^{-1}\left(\frac{2\pi RC}{2\pi RC}\right) = -\tan^{-1}(1) = -45^\circ$$

$$\text{@ } f = 10f_c : -\tan^{-1}(10) = -84.3^\circ \leftarrow \text{Approaching } -90^\circ$$

Note: -45 degrees at  $f_c$ , close to 0 degrees at  $0.1f_c$  and almost -90 degrees at  $10f_c$

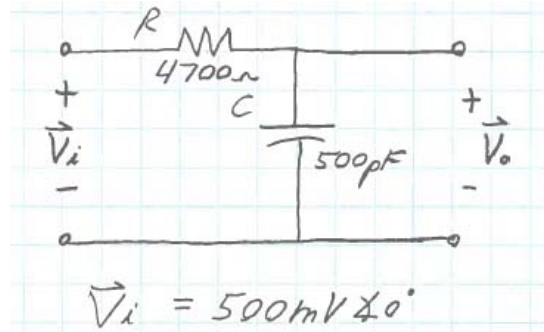
Sketching:



The Bode approximation for this LPF

- Sketch => Approximation
- Plot => Exact (use the equation)
- X-axis: logarithmic
- -45 Degrees at  $f_c$ , 0 degrees at  $0.1f_c$  and -90 degrees at  $10f_c$
- Largest error at  $0.1f_c$  and  $10f_c$

## RC LPF – In Class Problem



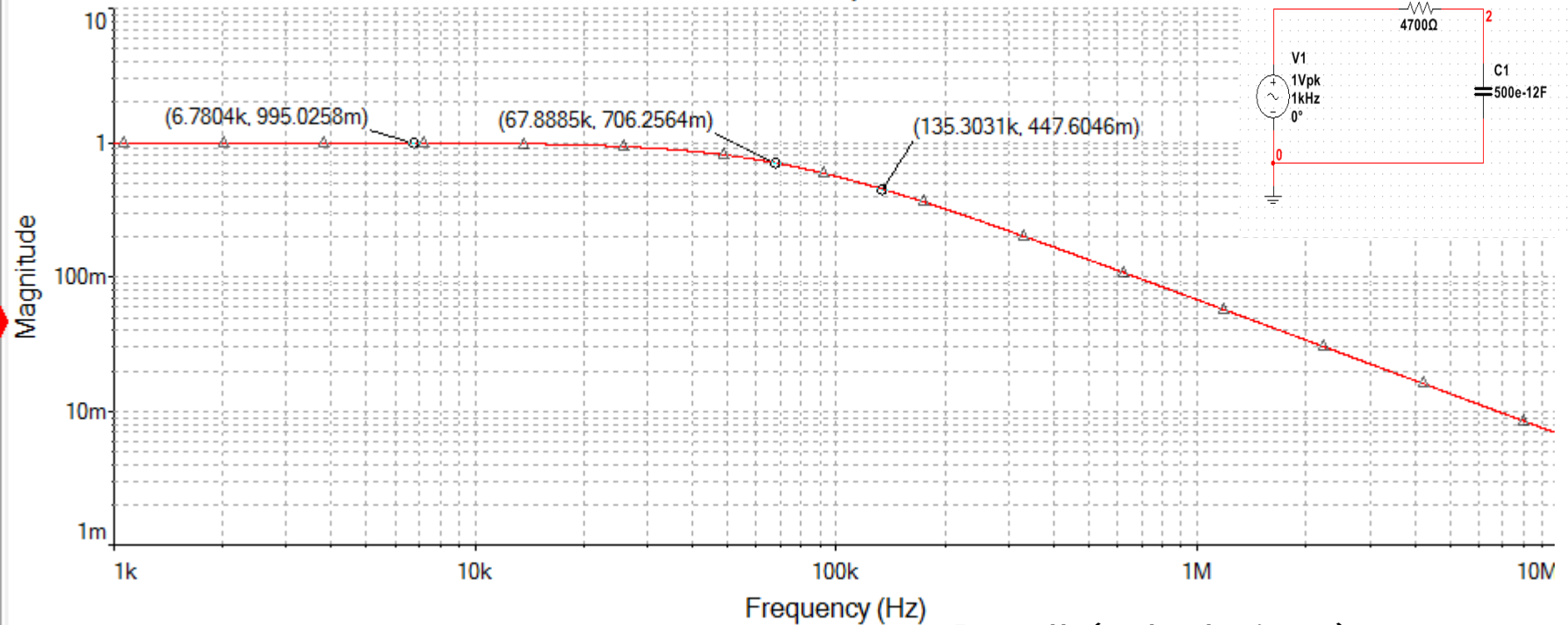
**Find:**

- a)  $f_c$
- b) Sketch the magnitude response (dB) and phase response
- c)  $V_o$  one octave above  $f_c$
- d)  $V_o$  one decade below  $f_c$



## RC LPF – Simulation (1V AC Magnitude, normalized)

AC Sweep



Notes (from this plot):

$f_c \sim 67.9\text{kHz}$  ( $|V_o/V_i| \sim 0.707$ )  
 @  $f_c/10$ :  $|V_o| = (0.995)(500\text{mV})$   
 $\sim 498\text{mV}$   
 @  $2f_c$ :  $|V_o| = (0.448)(500\text{mV}) \sim$   
 $224\text{mV}$

Recall (calculations)

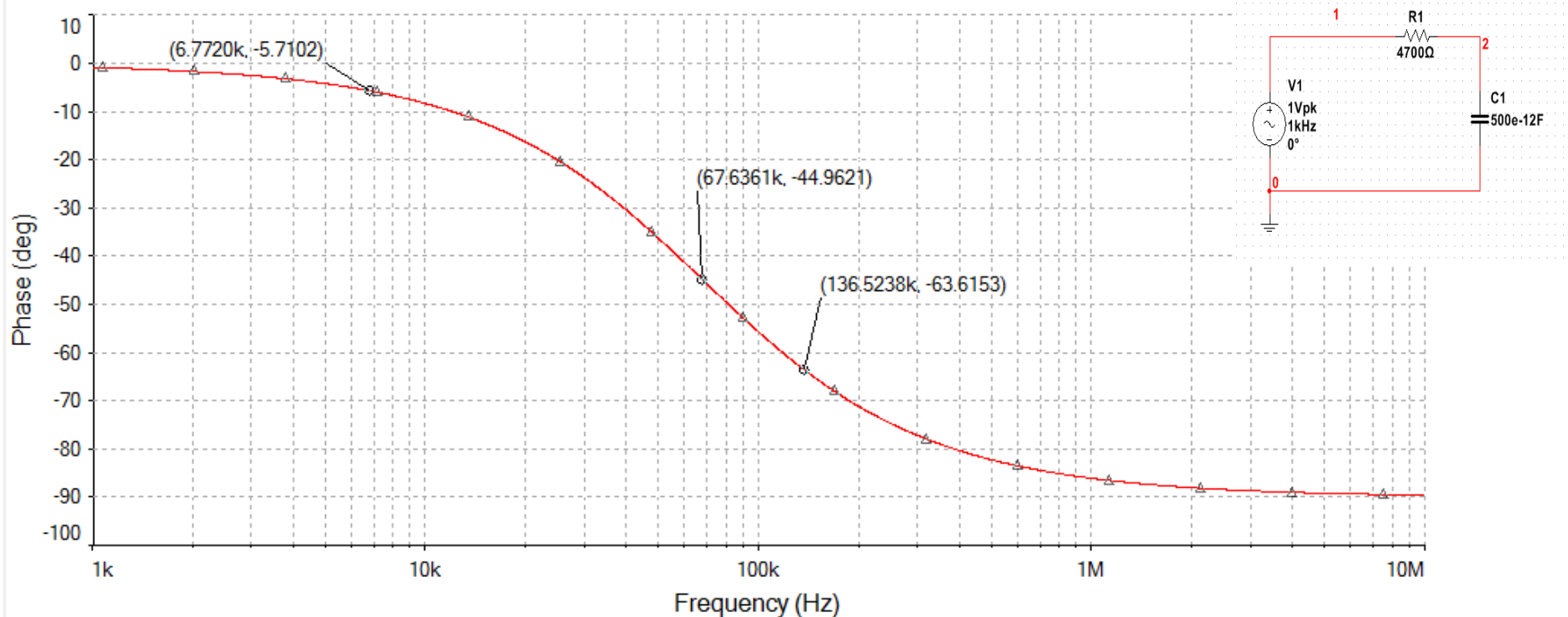
$$\boxed{67.73\text{kHz}}$$

$$\boxed{\vec{V}_o = 497.5\text{mV} \angle -5.71^\circ}$$

$$\boxed{\vec{V}_o = 0.224\text{V} \angle -63.4^\circ}$$



## RC LPF – Simulation (1V AC Magnitude, normalized)



☒ V(2)

Notes (from this plot):

$f_c \sim 67.6\text{kHz}$  ( $\angle(V_o/V_i) \sim -45\text{ Deg}$ )

@  $f_c/10$ :  $\angle(V_o) \sim -5.7\text{ Deg}$

@  $2f_c$ :  $\angle(V_o) \sim -63.6\text{ Deg}$

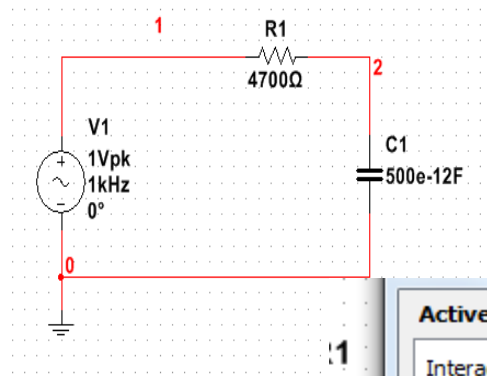
Recall (calculations)

$$67.73\text{kHz}$$

$$\vec{V}_o = 497.5\text{mV} \angle -5.71^\circ$$

$$\vec{V}_o = 0.224\text{V} \angle -63.4^\circ$$

## RC LPF – Simulation (1V AC Magnitude, normalized, y-axis in dB)



**Active Analysis:**

- Interactive Simulation
- DC Operating Point
- AC Sweep**
- Transient
- DC Sweep
- Single Frequency AC
- Parameter Sweep
- Noise
- Monte Carlo
- Fourier
- Temperature Sweep

**AC Sweep**

Frequency parameters | Output | Analysis options | Summary

Start frequency (FSTART): 1 kHz

Stop frequency (FSTOP): 10 MHz

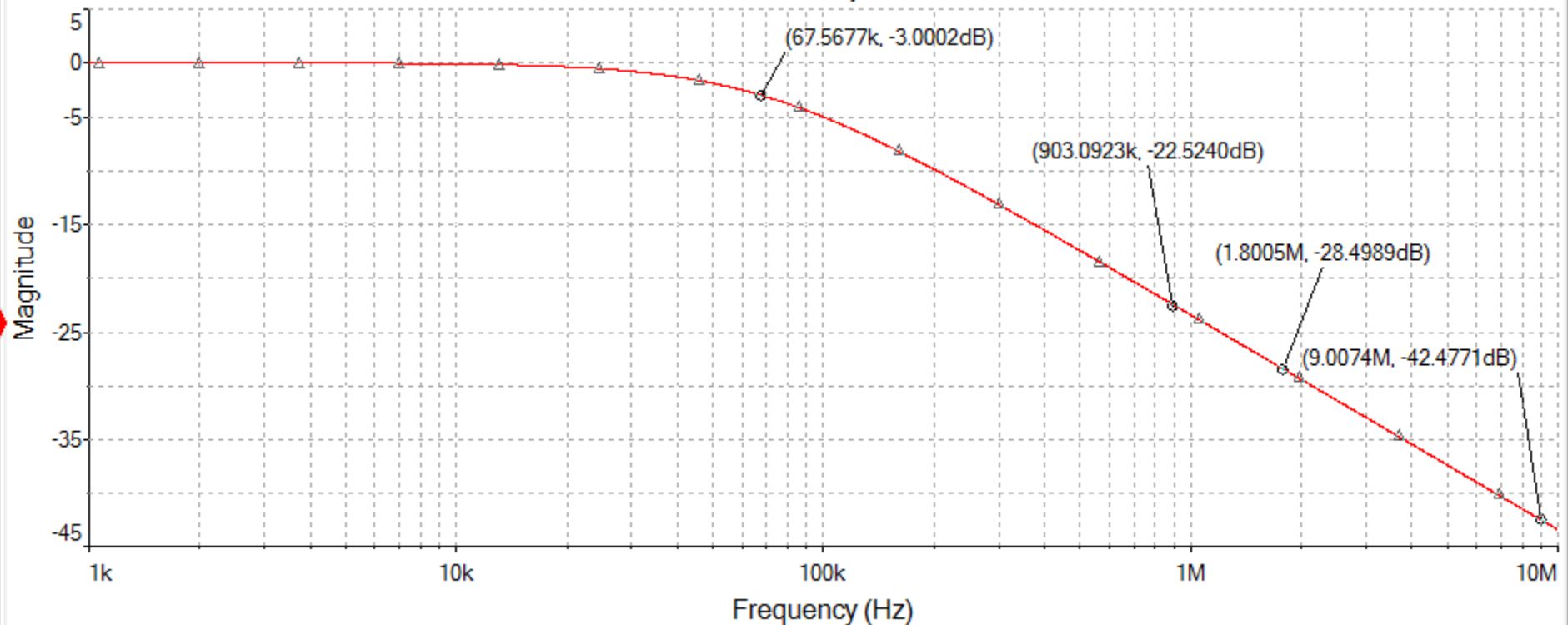
Sweep type: Decade

Number of points per decade: 1000

Vertical scale: Decibel

## RC LPF – Simulation (1V AC Magnitude, normalized, y-axis in dB)

AC Sweep

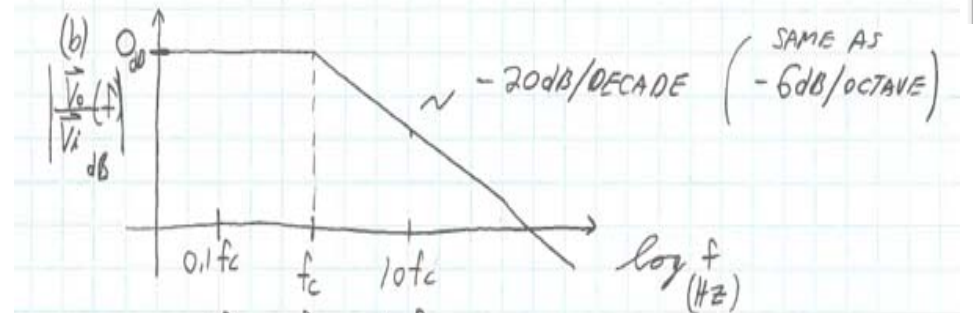


☒ V(2)

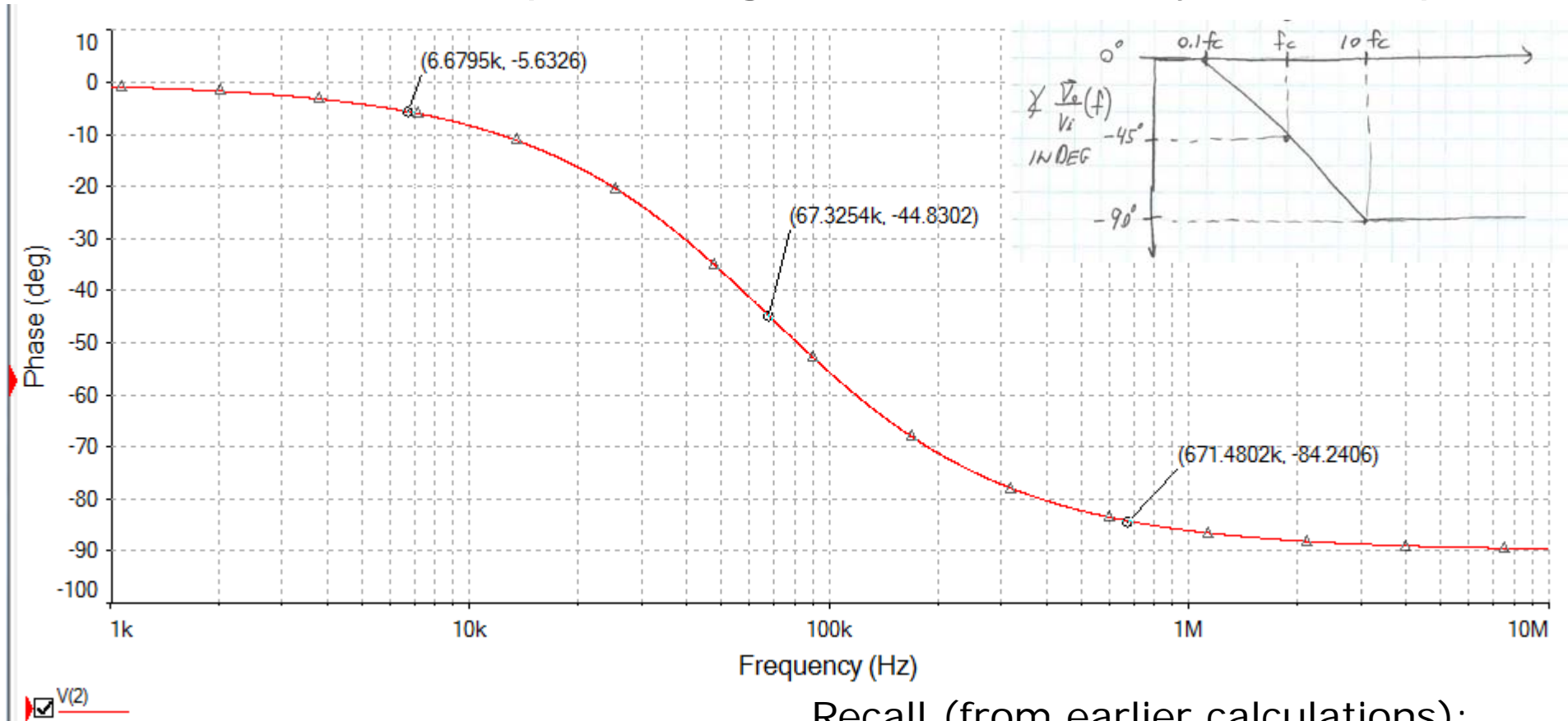
Notes (from this plot):

$f_c$  = -3dB point

- 20db/decade or -6dB/octave rolloff



## RC LPF – Simulation (1V AC Magnitude, normalized, y-axis in dB)



☒ V(2)

Notes (from this plot):

$f_c$  = -45 Degree phase shift

$0.1f_c$  ~ -5.6 degree phase shift

$10f_c$  ~ -84.2 degree phase shift

Recall (from earlier calculations):

$$@ f = 0.1f_c : -\tan^{-1}(0.1) = -5.71^\circ$$

$$@ f = 10f_c : -\tan^{-1}(10)$$

$$= -84.3^\circ \leftarrow \text{Approaching } -90^\circ$$