

Electronics

Operational Amplifier Dynamic Characteristics

Terry Sturtevant

Wilfrid Laurier University

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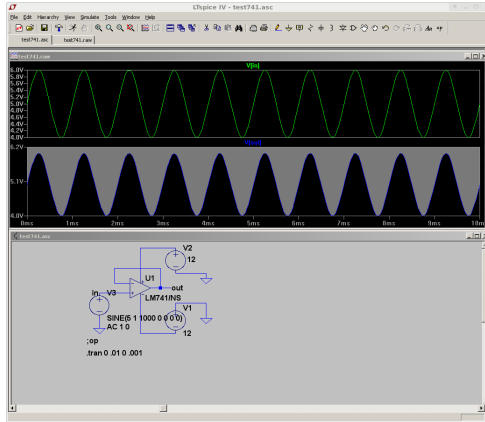
- The gain of an op amp is not the same at all frequencies.
- The **open loop gain** is the gain without feedback.
- Open loop gain is constant at low frequencies, but then starts to decrease at higher frequencies.

6V

4V

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4V



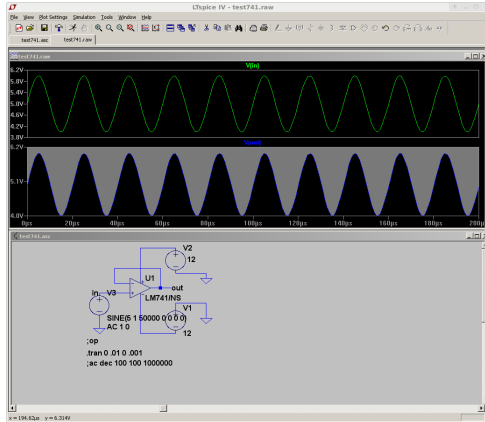
Here's a voltage follower with a 1 kHz input.

6V

4V

6V

4V



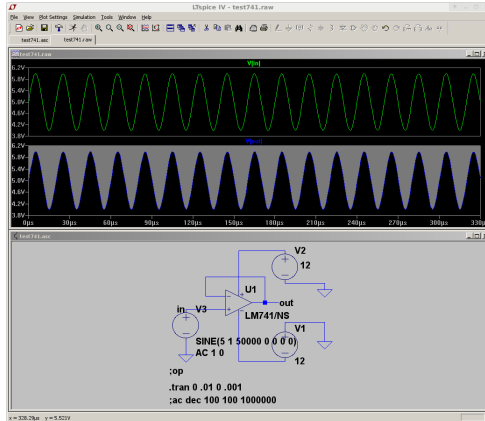
With a 50 kHz input, the output still matches pretty closely.

6V

4V

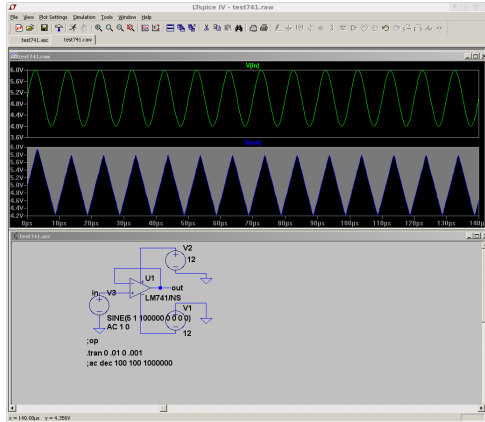
6V

4V



Here it is on the same scale.

6V
4V
5.8V
4.2V



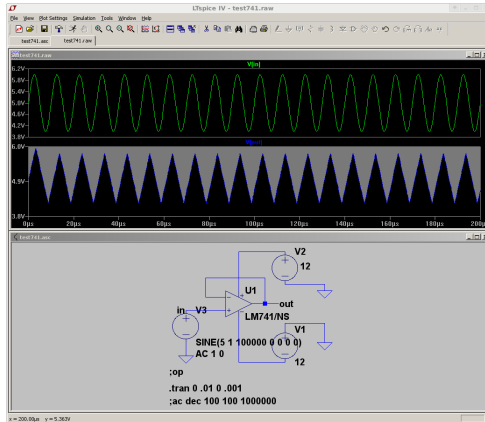
By 100kHz, the output is starting to diverge from the input.

6V

4V

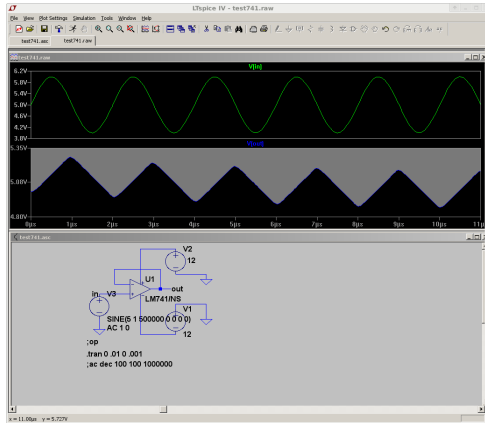
6V

4V



It's more obvious if the scales are the same.

6V
4V
5.4V
4.8V



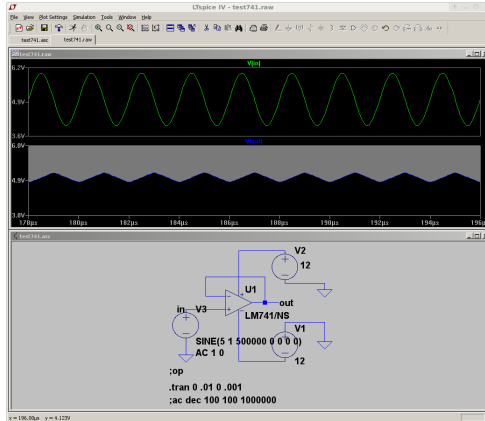
With a 500kHz input, the output change is very clear.

6V

4V

6V

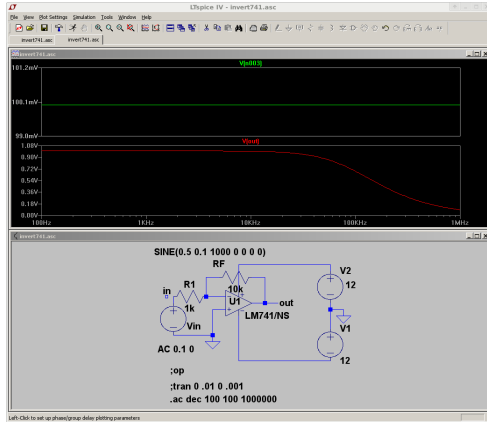
4V



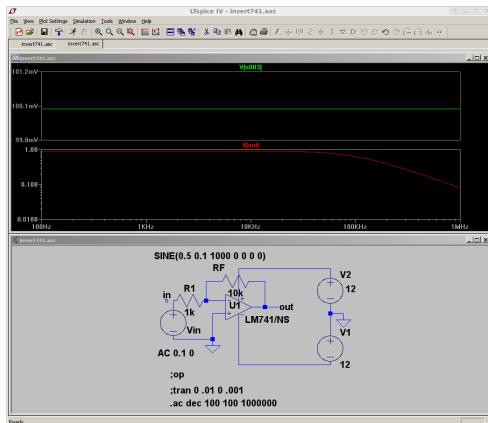
On the same scale, it's obvious.

The **rolloff** can be seen in the next figures.

100mV
1V

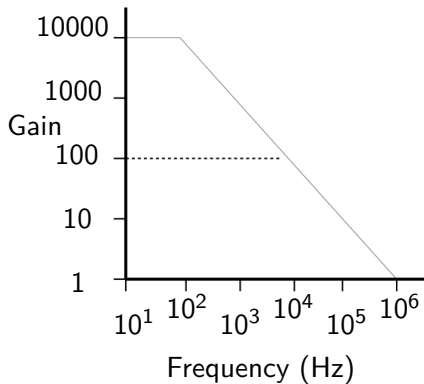


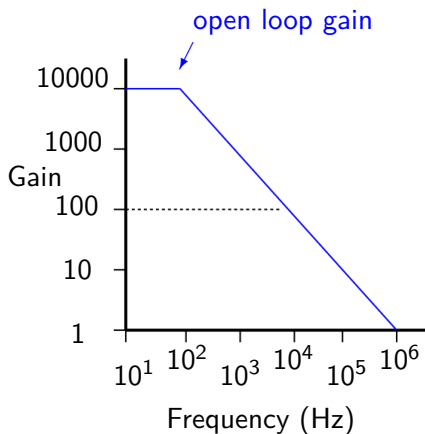
Here's what an AC analysis shows for a gain of 10.

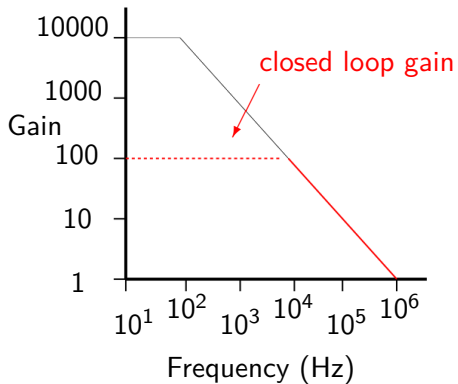


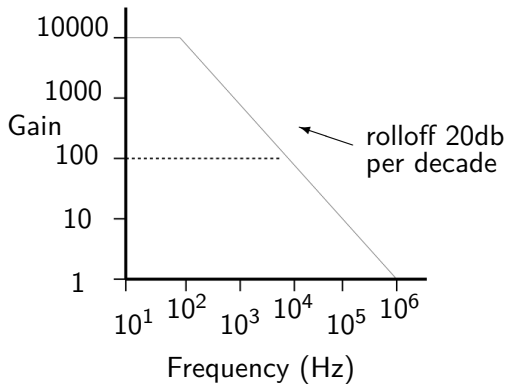
A logarithmic scale is helpful sometimes.

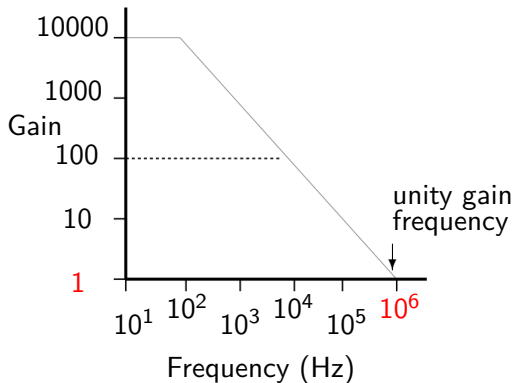
The **rolloff** affects both open-loop and closed-loop gain.

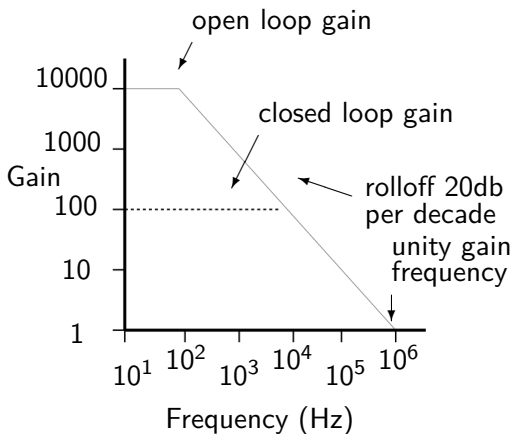












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- A **decade** is a factor of 10, so rolloff of 20 db/decade represents a *decrease* in $\left(\frac{V_o}{V_i} \right)$ of a factor of 10 as the frequency *increases* by a factor of 10.

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- The **unity-gain frequency** \rightarrow frequency at which $\left(\frac{V_o}{V_i}\right) = 1$.
- (I will use the term A to refer to $\left(\frac{V_o}{V_i}\right)$ and G to denote the gain in decibels, as described above. This convention is common, but not universal, so when consulting information on the subject be sure to pay attention to how gain is expressed.)

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- As frequency increases, and the open-loop gain decreases due to rolloff, the values of open-loop and closed-loop gain eventually coincide.
- From this point on, the closed loop gain also begins to experience rolloff at the same rate.
- *Thus the unity-gain frequency for an op amp circuit is the same, regardless of the mid-band gain.*

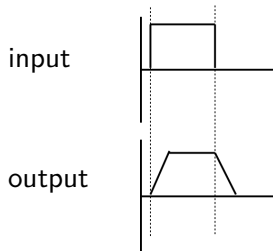
Slew Rate

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When the inputs to an op amp change, it takes time for the output to change.

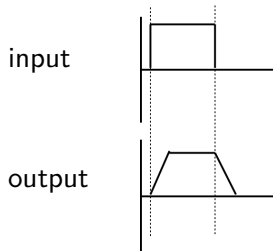
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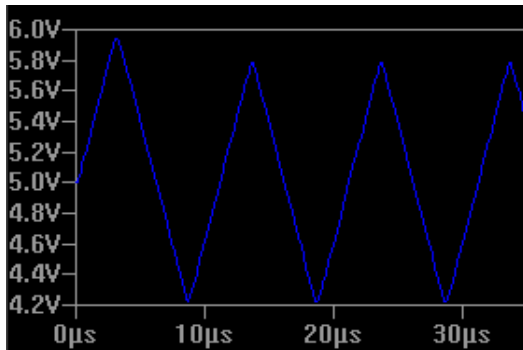
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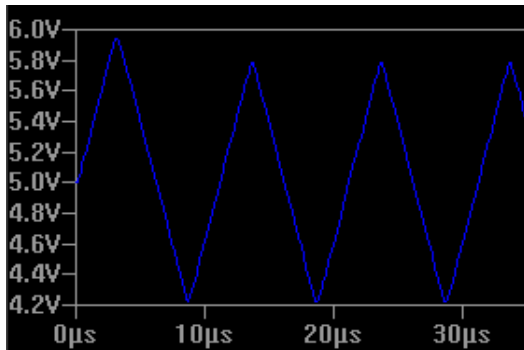
The *rate* of possible change of the output voltage is referred to as the **slew rate**.

This is the output of a voltage follower at 100kHz, for a sine wave input.

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The rise (or fall) is about 1.6 volts in 5 μs , or about 0.3 V/ μs .

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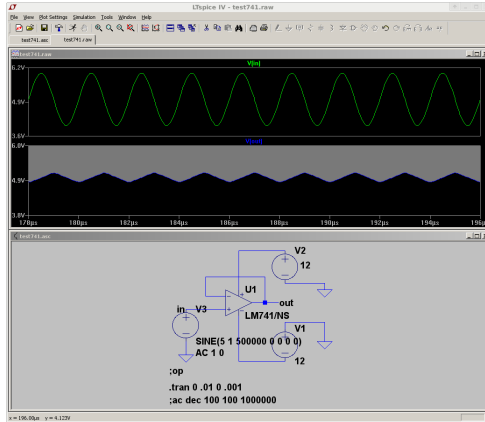
Sine waves will be the *least* distorted of any waveform.

6V

4V

6V

4V



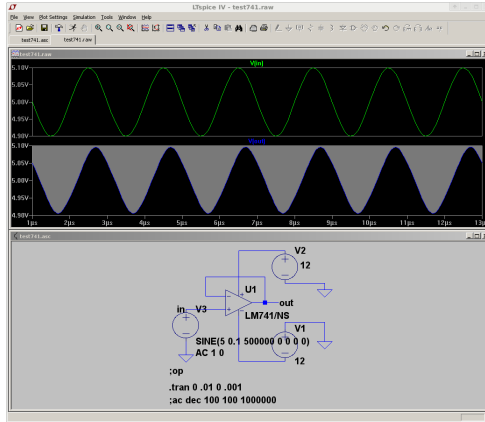
Here's a previous circuit; 1V, 500kHz into a voltage follower.

5.1V

4.9V

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Reducing the input to 0.1V makes the output much closer.

Active filters

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- These are called **active filters**.

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- A low pass filter and its Bode plot are shown in the following figures.

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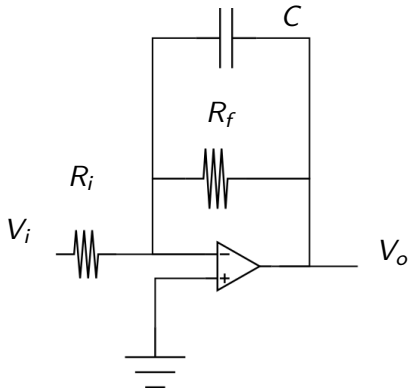
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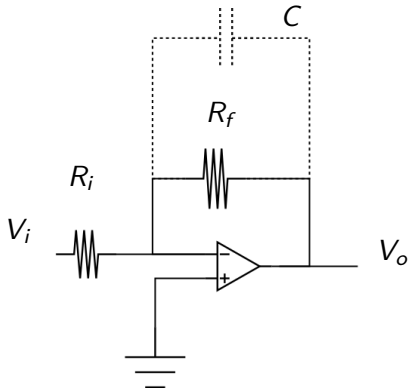
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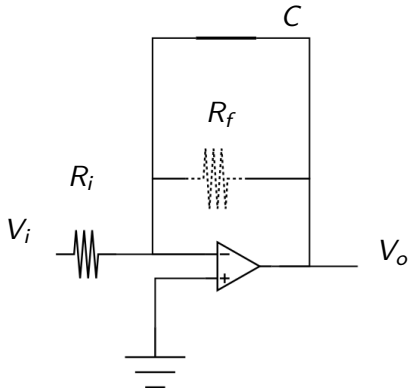
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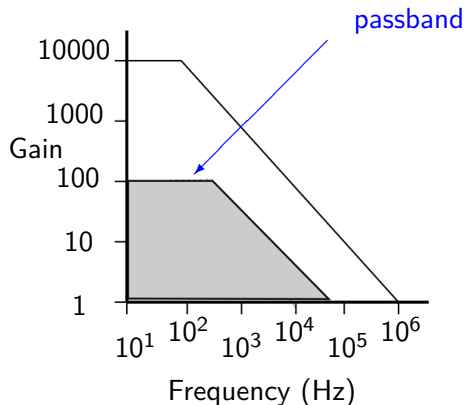
Low pass filter at *low* frequencies



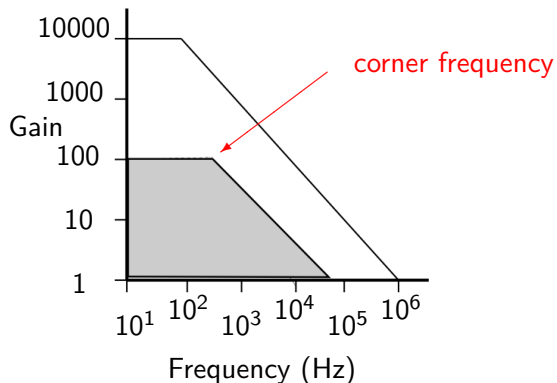
Low pass filter at *high* frequencies



Low pass filter Bode plot



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$$Z \propto \frac{1}{f}$$

since $X_c < R_f$.

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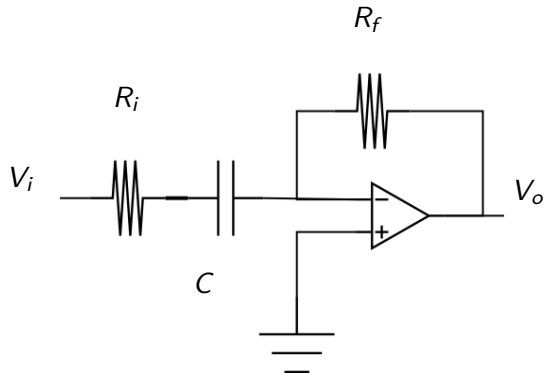
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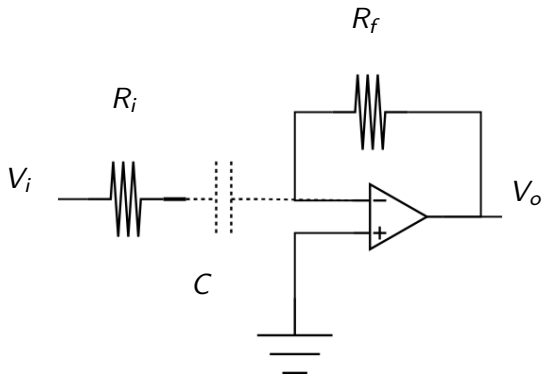
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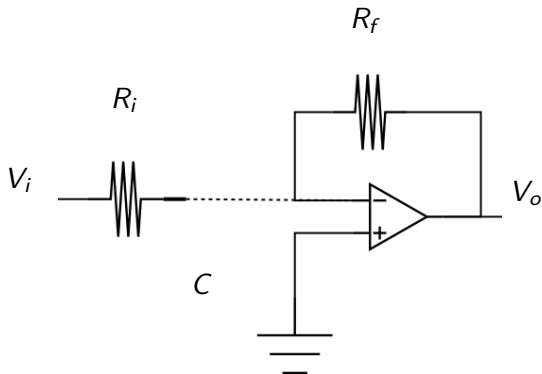
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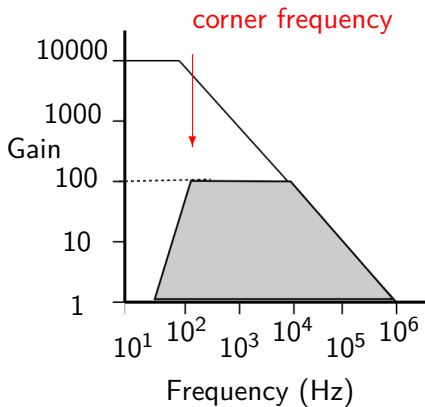
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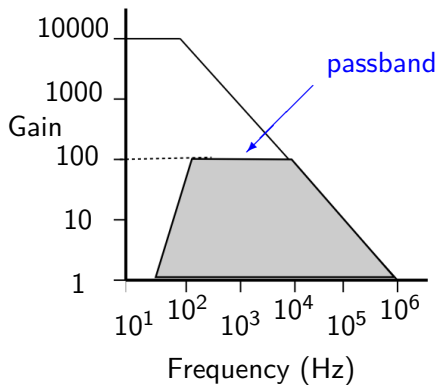
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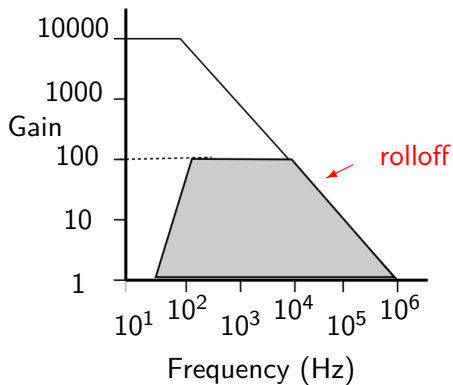
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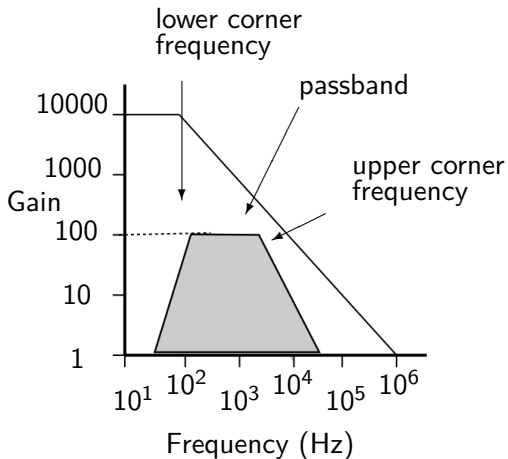
In the input part of the circuit, at high frequencies $X_c \approx 0$ and so the gain is that of a normal inverting amplifier. As the frequency decreases, at a **corner frequency** $X_c = R_i$. Below this frequency,

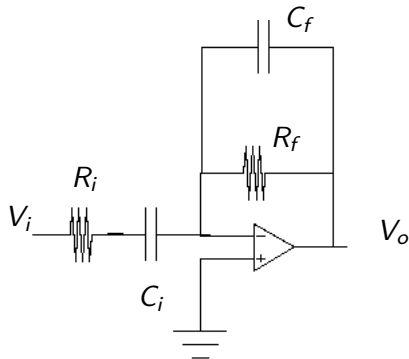
$$Z \propto \frac{1}{f}$$

since $X_c > R_i$.

A **band pass filter** combines a low pass and a high pass filter to allow frequencies *between* two corner frequencies, f_{c1} and f_{c2} to pass, and attenuates those *outside* that range. The next figure shows the Bode plot for a band pass filter.

Bandpass filter Bode plot





Bandpass filter