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Development of Learning Devices of Basic Electronic Virtual Laboratory Based on PSPICE Software

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Abstract

The availability of modern tools to support basic electronic practices based on virtual laboratories has not yet met the needs. The purpose of this development research is to produce basic electronic practice learning devices based on the PSPICE application program. The development procedure uses ADDIE (analysis, design, development, implementation, evaluation). ADDIE is used to direct the design process as specified. Product performance was tested using ongoing formative evaluation. The product feasibility test uses a comparative analysis of the results of the PSPICE experiment against the theory. The results show that all modules developed can display the same characteristics as their theoretical character. The results show that the modules have very good performance. Modules are suitable for use as a medium for basic electronic practice using PSPICE-based virtual laboratories. The products are in the form of electronic circuits with 31 schematic PSPICE formats. Product results to support basic electronic practices covering topics: capacitor filling and discharging, RC circuits, diode characteristics, wave forming circuits, rectifier circuits, voltage clamp, voltage circuits, transistor characteristics, and amplifier transistor.

Keywords: basic electronics, PSPICE software, virtual laboratory

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INTRODUCTION

Science and technology are developing very rapidly. The development of science and technology entered the 4th phase, called Industry 4.0. Industry 4.0 brings up smart factories in all sectors of the industry based on cyber-physical systems, internet of things, cloud computing, and cognitive machines. The progress of the industrial revolution is a factor in increasing labor market demands for the qualifications of graduates of technical higher education. The skills that are relevant and adaptive to the industrial world are the demands of the workforce needs of employers. Lewis (2018), a content marketing manager from LinkedIn, said that in addition to 10 technical skills, there are four soft skills, namely leadership, communication, collaboration, and time management. The four soft skills are needed by the business world and the industrial world in this era.

Virtual laboratories can improve students' understanding of practical material (Colace, Santo, & Pietrosanto, 2004), more efficient (Saleh *et al.*, 2009), easier and more flexible than hands-on (Bailey & Freeman, 2010). In addition, practices with an online learning approach using virtual laboratories can also be held collaboratively (Muchlas, 2015). Collaborative online learning through virtual laboratories can develop soft skills such as leadership, communication, collaboration, and time management as the demands of the modern industrial world.

The characteristics of efficient and flexible practice media such as virtual laboratories can be tools that are widely used by technical higher education to support online practice learning. At the moment, the Indonesian Ministry of Research, Technology, and Higher Education has launched a policy so that the blended learning approach is widely used in the learning system in university. The fact shows that the availability of

virtual laboratory devices has not met expectations, especially practical learning. This is a new level of science that must be developed and solved (Prakash, 2013)

Specifically, for basic electronics practices, there are currently many tools that can be used to build virtual laboratories, and one of them is the PSPICE application program. However, the availability of software-based modules to support the practice of basic electronics is still lacking. Based on this fact, it is necessary to develop virtual laboratory modules based on PSPICE application programs to support the implementation of basic electronic practices based on virtual laboratories.

Ma & Nickerson (2006), Krivickas & Krivickas (2006), and Lustigova & Lustig (2009) mentioned that in addition to hands-on laboratories there are other types of laboratories namely virtual laboratories and remote labs. The last type of laboratory requires the support of various information technology applications. Virtual laboratories can support conceptual understanding, the development of design, and professional skills (Ma & Nickerson, 2006). In addition, it has advantages for concept validation, no time and physical limitations, pedagogical aspects are better than other types, a safe environment for dangerous, flexible and simple experiments, sufficient reinforcement through the use of animation and virtual reality software (Elawady & Tolba, 2009).

Ma & Nickerson (2006) stated that the procurement and operating costs of hands-on laboratories are more expensive than virtual laboratories. It is because their real nature requires a large space, laboratory materials, and a large allocation of time for lecturers or instructors (Philippatos & Moscato, 1971; Hessami & Sillitoe, 1992; Farrington *et al.*, 1994). In addition, students feel uncomfortable working in hands-on laboratories (Cruickshank, 1983; Magin & Reizes, 1990; Dobson *et al.*, 1995). Hands-on laboratories are not able to provide students with special needs (Colwell *et al.*, 2002), and cannot serve the needs in the implementation of distance learning (Shen *et al.*, 1999; Watt *et al.*, 2002). Virtual laboratories have good feasibility to consider as a means of supporting practical activities.

The implementation of a virtual laboratory is to use a simulator. Things that need to be considered in designing a virtual laboratory based on simulators include (1) attributes, (2) accuracy, (3) delivery modes, (4) learning strategies, (5) models and components, (6) providing learning objectives and instructions for use (Alessi & Trollip, 2001).

PSPICE is a simulator application software that provides analog and digital electronic circuit analysis facilities (Cadence Design Systems, 2016). Tobin (2007) taught the basic principles of engineering that always have less time to teach. Such a situation results in students not gaining a good understanding of engineering practices and design techniques. PSPICE can help students understand the basic concepts of electronic engineering, and practice it well. Besides using PSPICE, it can test and simulate each subsystem and can estimate problems that arise when several subsystems are connected. It is often found that in real systems students have difficulty measuring the input and output impedances of an electronic circuit. In fact, information on the value of the impedance is needed to understand the effects of loading a sub-system by other sub-systems. Through PSPICE, students can easily measure the input and output impedance of a circuit. In general, research opinion above has found that PSPICE can provide valuable experience for students, which is not easily obtained in practice using real laboratories.

Kashif & Saqib (2008) in their research found that students were satisfied with the use of PSPICE software as a medium for power electronics practice. Simulations using PSPICE can improve the ability of students to learn and understand the concept of electronics which is demonstrated by increased analysis and design skills.

Research on the use of virtual laboratories to support learning electronics practices has been conducted by researchers from LaGuardia Community College in the United States. Rahman (2014) found an experiment with a sample of 17 students, showing that the use of Multisim as a virtual lab supporter simulator software gained very substantial

benefits. The research found that at the end of the project, students felt many benefits from using virtual laboratories such as being able to verify answers and fix them quickly and using Multisim to solve electronic circuit problems. Aguilar-Peña *et al.* (2016) in his research on developing blended learning devices, found that using PSPICE students gained a good understanding of photovoltaic cells, modules, or generators. Through the use of PSPICE, the characteristics curve of a photovoltaic system and basic parameters such as voltage, current, power, and energy can be easily obtained by students for further analysis and representation. This research found a reality that the simulation environment based on PSPICE application forms a virtual laboratory for electronics practice. Dak, Khoje & Pardeshi (2017) stated that laboratories in education are the ideal place for students to practice concepts through experimental activities. The research found the use of different software, including PSPICE, can help students improve the effectiveness of learning electronic concepts and their application in the real world.

LITERATURE REVIEW

In the context of this study, resources can be seen as tangible assets that are adequately provided by the school to be used by teachers and students for effective teaching and learning to take place in TVET institutions. Resources have been classified into the physical facilities and instructional resources (Kigwilu & Akala, 2017). Physical facilities are tangible assets that can easily be seen and observed in TVET institutions. They include entrepreneurship resource centers, staff quarters, workshops, laboratories, equipment, lecture halls, lecture rooms, ICT centers, libraries, health-care centres, hostels, lecturers' offices, sports grounds, structures, et cetera. These physical facilities can contribute directly or indirectly to the teaching and learning processes in TVET institutions. They provide TVET institutions the conducive environment and atmosphere for teaching and learning effectiveness to take place (Abdullahi, Yusoff, & Gwamna, 2017).

Many authors argued that the inadequacy of physical facilities negatively affect teaching and learning processes in TVET institutions (Mupinga, Busby, & Ngatiah, 2006; Ayuba & Gatabazi, 2010; Indoshi, Wagah, & Agak, 2010; Hooker *et al.*, 2011; Akinfolarin, Ajayi & Oloruntegbe, 2012; Aworanti, 2015). Osarenren-Osaghae & Irabor (2012) observed that in most TVET institutions, the state of physical facilities is such that cannot permit the stimulation of effective teaching and learning processes. More so, the utilization of outdated facilities negatively predicts the teaching and learning effectiveness in TVET (UNESCO, 2010). In the study conducted by Kelani (2007), it was found that workshop facilities, such as, hand tools and equipment are not utilized for skill acquisition in TVET institutions. This means that workshops and other physical facilities are inadequately provided in many TVET institutions around the world. Most TVET institutions where there are laboratories and workshops, hand tools are not adequately provided, and where available they are inadequate to cope with students' population. From the foregoing, most TVET institutions experience physical facilities inadequacy, which in turn hinders effective teaching and learning, and students' confidence for entrepreneurial careers and lifelong learning. On the other hand, instructional resources are generally regarded as teaching and learning materials, instructional aids or educational media (Nasibi & Kiio, 2005). They are tangible assets that are used to facilitate and simplify teaching and learning processes in TVET institutions. The optimal utilization of instructional resources can predict teaching and learning effectiveness. As such, instructional resources utilization in teaching and learning of TVET courses make students learn better and faster and retain better what have been taught and also promote and sustain self-confidence. These instructional resources includes: raw materials, text books, journals and other reading materials. However, the extent of utilization of instructional resources may positively or negatively

influence effective teaching and learning in TVET institutions. As such, the effective teaching and learning in TVET institutions can only be possible when instructional resources are always utilized.

The inadequacy of physical facilities can seriously compromise the role of instructional resource utilization in teaching and learning process in TVET programs. Particularly, lack of modern instructional resources hinders teaching and learning of skill courses (Bandeke & Faremi, 2012). In many developing nations, instructional resources are lacking for successful teaching and learning in TVET establishments (Wondaferew, 2012). In Nigeria, for instance, Okwudishu (2005) and Gambari & Okoli (2007) affirmed that the non-utilization of instructional resources in TVET institutions has hampered teachers teaching and students learning activities. The study conducted by Okolocha & Nwadiani (2015) have also found that the instructional resources for teaching of vocational business education courses as regards the perception of business education lecturers are rarely used in both colleges of education and universities in South-South, Nigeria.

A review of the literature, as exemplified above, simply reveals that many authors (i.e. Yara & Otieno, 2010; Owoeye & Yara, 2011; Moochi, 2012; Osarenren-Osaghae & Irabor, 2012; Oguntuase, Awe & Ajayi, 2013) have investigated the influence of resource adequacy and utilization on curriculum implementation. However, none of these authors and researchers, nor more current investigations (Chukwunwendu, 2015; Munguti, 2016; Omae, *et al.*, 2016; Chepkonga, 2017; Kigwilu & Akala, 2017; Ubulom & Ogwunt, 2017; Dhakal, 2017; Mutindi, 2018) on curriculum implementation specifically assessed the level of resource adequacy and utilization for teaching and learning effectiveness in TVET programs. Hence, the need for the extant study is informed by the limitations earlier and more current articles, which suggests a need for further research on resource adequacy and utilization for teaching and learning in TVET programs.

RESEARCH METHOD

This study uses the development of ADDIE (analysis, design, development, implementation, evaluation) in directing the product creation process to meet the expected specifications

Development Procedure

Analysis

At this stage, media identification is required for learning the Basic Electronics on Electrical Engineering study program. The identification results show that hands-on media such as breadboard-based practice module boards with multimeter and oscilloscope measuring devices are still available, modules virtual are not yet available. This stage is also carried out media/module analysis, which has been used to determine the learning objectives of cognitive, psychomotor, and affective aspects. After analyzing the learning media in the classroom, and practice modules in the laboratory, the objectives of Basic Electronics learning can be formulated. The learning objective is that students understand the characteristics of electronic devices and their applications and can analyze and design simple analog electronic circuits. Then an analysis is carried out to determine technical skills. The analysis shows that technical skills can be developed through: (1) describing simple electronic circuits using standard symbols; (2) assembling simple electronic circuits; (3) conducting experiments to determine the characteristics of electronic devices; (4) conducting experiments to test and analyze the nature of electronic circuits with various parameters given; and (5) design simple electronic circuits and test them through laboratory experiments. The analysis concludes by determining the time to use the simulator that is suitable for instructional media in the classroom and practice in the

laboratory. Based on the analysis that has been done, the use of products developed as learning media in the classroom, practical tools in the laboratory, and independent learning takes 90 minutes.

Design

The design step begins with determining the type of media used by the PSPICE software. Furthermore, hardware and software supporting PSPICE were formulated. To support the design process, a literature exploration was conducted as a basis for selecting the appropriate form of basic electronic practice module design. Through library exploration, electronic circuit design has been collected for the development of practice modules for all topics.

Development

This phase of the activity begins with determining the type of hardware, software, and development base that will be used to build the simulator. The development of this learning tool considers the aspects of cost efficiency, flexibility of use, and attractiveness of use. Therefore media in the form of a simulator was chosen. Through this stage, the formulation of media elements is carried out and integrated into one unified PSPICE software practice module. At this stage of development, the determination of component values is used to construct the circuit and its simulation parameters.

Implementation

The activity at this stage is to socialize the PSPICE-based virtual laboratory that was developed so that it can be used by lecturers/teachers and students/students. In this implementation phase, the developer/researcher provides the necessary assistance and support.

Evaluation

In this phase, evaluation is carried out on the student and the learning program. Evaluation involves the use of a developed PSPICE-based virtual laboratory, product care, and product revisions. All processes from analysis to an evaluation form a progressive cycle to ensure the availability of the media.

Product Testing

The product is tested through formative evaluation with stages: (1) ongoing evaluation by the developer while the development process is in progress, to ensure all components can function properly (2) alpha testing by experts and beta testing by prospective users. To provide input for improvement/revision so that the quality media (Surjono, 2017). Summative evaluation is used to determine the effectiveness of learning. This research is only conducted ongoing evaluation test to ensure that all the series developed to provide good performance. The testing criteria use a comparative theory that has been presented in the literature review. The performance of the circuit that has been developed has a good status, so it is appropriate to use if the character displayed is the same or not significantly different from the theory.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Product Development

The study produced a learning device in the form of a virtual electronic circuit. The SCH format from SPICE supports the practice of Basic Electronics in the Electrical Engineering department.

Product Performance

This research conducts on-going product testing. On-going tests to ensure that all electronic circuits developed can work properly.

Capacitor Filling and Discharging Circuit Performance Test

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Experiments using PSPICE for charging capacitors produce an output graph, as shown in Figure 1. Based on Figure 1, we see the capacitor charging voltage. The results show the same form in the form of an exponential rise to the graph obtained theoretically. The tested RC circuit value is 1ms, at $t = RC = 1\text{ms}$, the value of the capacitor charging voltage is 6.33V from 10V, this value is in accordance with theoretical computation when at $t = RC$ the value is 63% of the capacitor source voltage. The results comparison chart also shows that when $t = 5RC = 5\text{ms}$, the capacitor starts to be fully charged, and this is in accordance with the theoretical model of the voltage value at the capacitor charging.

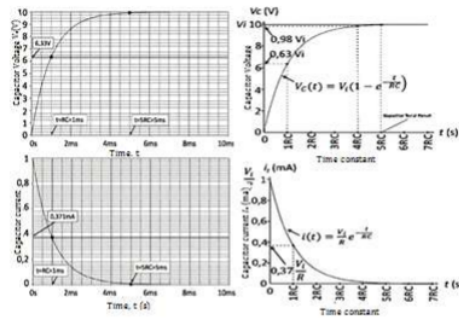


Figure 1. Comparison of the voltage curve and current of a capacitor charging SPICE experimental results and theoretical.

Figure 1 shows the capacitor charging current curve through the PSPICE experiment, whose form is exponentially down. In addition, when $t = RC = 1\text{ms}$, the capacitor current value of the PSPICE experimental results is 0.371mA from 1mA, this condition is in accordance with the theoretical calculation that when $t = RC$ the capacitor current is 37% of the maximum current. Through the Figure 1 (bottom) is also shown when $t = 5RC = 5\text{ms}$, the current capacitor starts at 0, which indicates that the capacitor is fully charged. Experiments using PSPICE for the capacitor discharge circuit, resulting in a voltage curve and capacitor current shown in Figure 2.

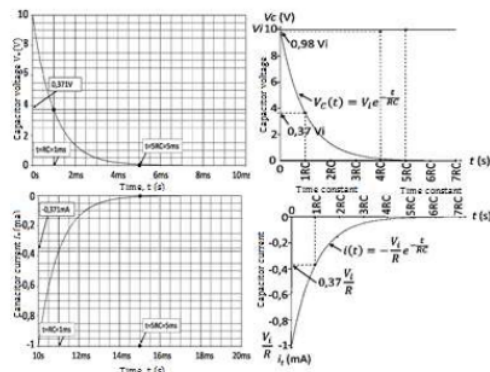


Figure 2. Comparison of voltage curves and current discharging capacitors SPICE virtual laboratory experiment results and theoretical.

Figure 2 shows that the discharge curve of the capacitor discharge from the PSPICE experiment, which is an exponential function, goes down according to the theory as the right-hand picture. When $t = RC = 1\text{ms}$, the capacitor voltage becomes 0.371 V from 10V , this shows the same character as the theoretical character, and the voltage becomes $0.37 V_i$, or 37% of the initial condition voltage. The discharge current character shows the same state between the results of PSPICE and the theory; both of them are exponentially upward functions. In the capacitor discharge current curve when $t = RC = 1\text{ms}$, the current value is -0.371mA from -1mA . This shows the same character as the character of terrorism, which is worth 37% of the maximum current. Figure 2 shows the voltage and current character of the results of PSPICE when $t = 5RC = 5\text{ms}$. The starting voltage is completely empty, and the current starts to zero, a state also occurs in the theoretical character of the capacitor voltage and current discharging. On the basis of a comparison of the results PSPICE and theoretic character, it is showing the same characteristics. It can be stated that the capacitor charging and discharging circuit developed through this research, is suitable to be used as a virtual laboratory support module for basic electronics practice.

RC Circuit Performance Test

Figure 3 shows an integrator that is given a box-shaped voltage input from PSPICE and results from theoretical computing.

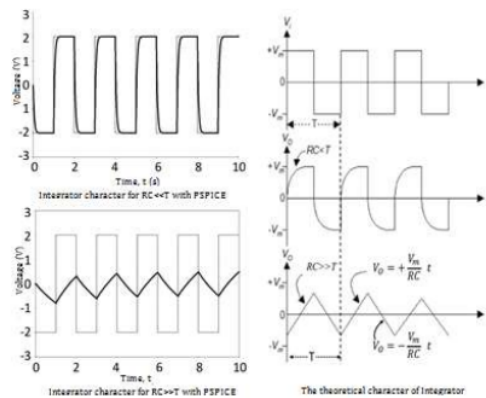


Figure 3. Integrator character with square wave input (thick line: output voltage; thin line: input voltage)

Seen in Figure 3 (bottom left) the condition of $RC \gg T$, PSPICE shows that the square wave that is inserted into the integrator is converted into a triangle wave, and for condition of $RC \ll T$ it is changed to the defective square wave (top left figure). The results are in accordance with the character of the integrator theory in Figure 3 right. The defective box wave (top left) of the PSPICE results has the same shape as the theoretical character in the middle right picture. The triangle wave in the lower left is the same as the theory shape in the lower right. For PSPICE sine waves, the integrator character is shown in Figure 4.

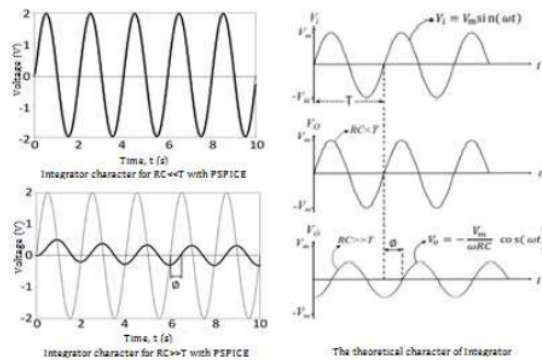


Figure 4. Integrator character with sine wave input (thick line: output voltage; thin line: input voltage)

In Figure 4 (bottom left) the integrator character of the results of experiments with PSPICE if given input in the form of sine for $RC \gg T$ so that the output voltage will be delayed by 90° with respect to the phase of the input voltage. But if $RC \ll T$ the top left picture, the phase output voltage is almost the same as the input voltage phase. This condition is in accordance with the theoretical character of the lower right integrator image, for $RC \gg T$ and the middle right for $RC \ll T$. The integrator character of the PSPICE experimental results and the theoretical character with the square and sine wave inputs, for $RC \gg T$ and $RC \ll T$ have high matches. It can be stated that the series of integrators resulting from the development of this study is feasible to be used as a virtual laboratory support module for electronic practice. Furthermore, the comparison of the characteristics of the differential set of experimental results with PSPICE is shown in Figure 5. Figure 5 shows that for $RC \ll T$ the character of the differentiator can convert a square wave into a pulse of differentiation with a height twice the input voltage. As for the $RC \gg T$ state, the output differentiator is in the form of a defective box waveform. This character is in accordance with the theoretical character shown in Figure 7, lower right for $RC \ll T$ and middle right for $RC \gg T$.

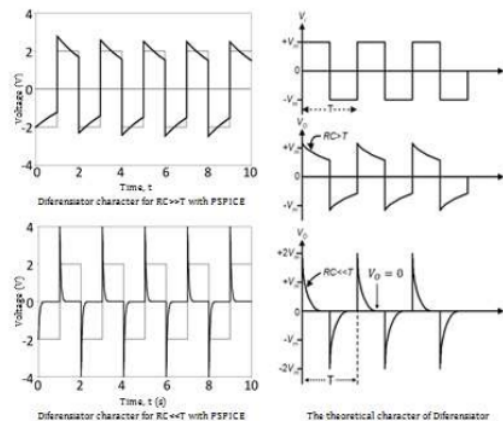


Figure 5. Differentiator character with square wave input

The character of the differentiator circuit for sine-wave input with PSPICE is shown in Figure 6.

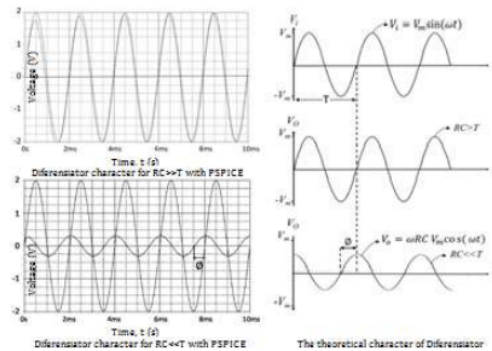


Figure 6. The differential character with sine wave input

In Figure 6 (bottom left) shows the differentiator character with PSPICE for sine wave input when $RC \ll T$. The output voltage precedes 90° to the input voltage phase. While if $RC \gg T$ (top left figure), the phase of the output voltage is almost the same as the phase of the input voltage. This indicates a good differentiator circuit because the character's appearance matches the theoretical character, as shown in the lower right picture for $RC \ll T$ and the middle right picture for $RC \gg T$ conditions. Based on the comparison between the character of the results of the PSPICE experiment and the character of the theory shows the two have high similarity. It can be stated that the developed differentiator circuit is suitable for use as a practice module supporting basic virtual electronic laboratories.

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The results of the PSPICE experimental character of the low pass filter and high pass filter are shown in Figure 7.

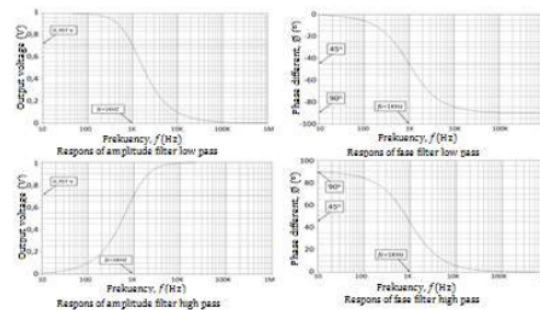


Figure 7. Frequency response of low pass and high pass filter results from PSPICE experiments

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Based on the amplitude response of the low pass filter results of experiments with PSPICE, the cut-off frequency is 1KHz, and the circuit output voltage is 0.707 V from 1 V (top left figure). Meanwhile, the phase response looks at different phase output voltage to the input voltage. At very low frequencies can be seen the phase difference of 0° , at a cut-off frequency of -45° , and at a very high frequency, the phase difference is -90° (top right picture). This condition is the same as the character of the low pass filter theory. Experiments using PSPICE show that the low pass filter circuit is well designed so that it can be used in basic electronics practices. High pass filters also show good performance. This is indicated by the value of the output voltage produced by the circuit at a cut-off

frequency of 0.707 V. It same value as the value given by the character of the theory. Based on the phase response at very low frequencies, the phase difference is 90°, the cut-off frequency is 45°, and at high frequency the phase difference is 0°. Based on the results of this experiment, the high pass filter series developed very well. The character is in accordance with the character of the theory so that it can be used for basic virtual laboratory electronics practice.

Diode Characteristics Performance Test

The diode characterization series consists of forward and backward bias. The results of the two characterization experiments using PSPICE are shown in Figure 8.

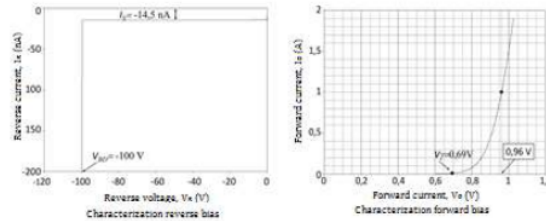


Figure 8. Results of measurement of 1N4002 diode characteristics using PSPICE

In general, the characteristic curve of diode 1N4002 shows the similarity to the theoretical curve. In the area of forward bias, diode current in the form of an exponential function, rising to the voltage with $V_g = 0.69V$ is almost the same as the theoretical value ranging from 0.6 to 0.7 Volts for silicon diodes. In the reverse bias, the current is so small that it reaches a breakdown voltage of -100V according to the datasheet. Through the forward bias curve, the forward voltage value is 0.96V for the forward current of 1A. This value is almost the same as the value of the datasheet that is at 1A forward current for 25°C temperature, forward voltage of 1N4002 diode is 0.93 to 1.1V. The results of the 1N4002 diode characterization experiment using PSPICE produce the same curves and parameters with the theoretical characteristics and character set by the factory so that the series of development results is feasible to be used in basic virtual electronics laboratory practices.

Test Performance of Wave Forming Circuits

Experiments using PSPICE for wave-forming circuits produce the character of the circuit as shown in Figure 9.

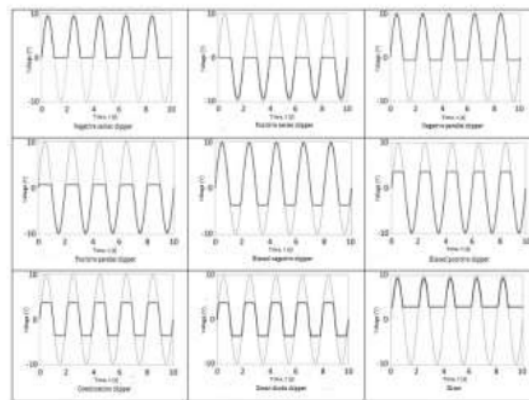


Figure 9. Character of a wave-forming circuit

Based on Figure 9, the characteristics of all the wave-forming circuits with PSPICE are the same as the theoretical characteristics. This indicates that the wave-forming circuits using PSPICE are suitable for use in basic electronic practice.

Test Rectifier Circuit Performance

The results of experiments with PSPICE for a half-wave rectifier are presented in Table 1.

Table 1. Quantities and parameters of the half-wave rectifier with a light load for $I_m = 9,665\mu\text{A}$ and $V_m = 9,665\text{V}$

Quantities and parameters	PSPICE measurement	Theoretical computing	Difference (%)
Average current (I_{DC})	3.04 μA	3.08 μA	1.3%
RMS current (I_{RMS})	4.80 μA	4.83 μA	0.6%
Average voltage (V_{DC})	3.04V	3.08V	1.3%
RMS voltage (V_{RMS})	4.80V	4.83V	0.6%
Ripple factor (r)	122%	121%	0.8%
Rectification efficiency (η)	40.1%	40.6%	1.2%
Transformer use factor (TUF)	28.3%	28.7%	1.4%

In Table 1, a half-wave rectifier with a light load from the PSPICE experiment can display current and voltage and performance parameters that are the same as the theoretical character. The percentage difference of all quantities and parameters used as a comparison value is below 5%, a condition that shows the nature of the PSPICE series is the same as the nature of theoretical computing. For full load operation, the maximum value of the full load with PSPICE is 9.05V, according to theoretical calculations of 9.09V or only 0.4% difference. The results of the PSPICE experiment for a full-wave rectifier are shown in Table 2.

Table 2. Quantities and parameters of the full-wave rectifier with a light load for $I_m = 9,665\mu\text{A}$ and $V_m = 9,665\text{V}$

Quantities and parameters	PSPICE measurement	Theoretical computing	Difference (%)
Average current (I_{DC})	6.07 μA	6.16 μA	1.4%
RMS current (I_{RMS})	6.79 μA	6.83 μA	0.6%
Average voltage (V_{DC})	6.07V	6.16V	1.4%
RMS voltage (V_{RMS})	6.79V	6.83V	0.6%
Ripple factor (r)	50.1%	48.2%	4%
Rectification efficiency (η)	79.9%	81.1%	1.5%
Transformer use factor (TUF)	56.6%	57.3%	1.2%

Based on Table 2, the voltage, current, and circuit performance parameters using PSPICE are almost the same as theoretical computational values where the percentage difference value is less than 5%. For full load operations, the full-wave rectifier also provides the same output voltage values as theoretical calculations, both of which have a minimal difference of 0.4%. Table 3 results of the bridge rectifier PSPICE experiment.

Table 3 shows the voltage, current, and performance parameters of the bridge rectifier with PSPICE are the same as the theoretical calculation results, the percentage difference is less than 5%. For full load use, the rectifier provides good performance, and the output voltage differs only 2.8% from the theoretical computational output voltage. For rectifier experiments with filters, the tested circuit has component values $C = 1000\mu\text{F}$, $R_L = 220\Omega$, and $f = 50\text{Hz}$.

Table 3. Quantities and parameters of the bridge rectifier with a light load ($R_L = 10M\Omega$) for $I_m = 0.9565\mu A$ and $V_m = 9.565V$

Quantities and parameters	PSPICE measurement	Theoretical computing	Difference (%)
Average current (I_{DC})	$0.60\mu A$	$0.61\mu A$	1.6%
RMS current (I_{RMS})	$0.67\mu A$	$0.68\mu A$	1.5%
Average voltage (V_{DC})	6.0V	6.1V	1.6%
RMS voltage (V_{RMS})	6.71V	6.80V	1.5%
Ripple factor (r)	49.7%	48.2%	3.1%
Rectification efficiency (η)	80.2%	81.1%	1.1%
Transformer use factor (TUF)	80.0%	81.1%	1.4%

Theoretical ripple factor can be calculated, which is equal to 1.3%. Based on experiments found the value of $V_{r,rms} = 0.1074V$, and $V_{DC} = 8.9839V$, so the ripple factor value of the measurement results is $r = \frac{V_{r,rms}}{V_{DC}} = \frac{0.1074}{8.9839} = 0.012 = 1.2\%$. This shows that the value of the ripple factor using PSPICE is almost the same as the theory value. The results comparison of experiments with the theory concluded that the rectifier circuit that includes half wave, full wave, bridge, and filter capacitors in this study is very feasible to use for basic electronics practice based on the PSPICE virtual laboratory.

Test Performance of Voltage Clamp Circuits and Multipliers

The results of experiments using the PSPICE clamp circuit are shown in Figure 10. In Figure 10 the clamper circuit shows the same character curve to the character theory. In negative clamper, when both experimental and theoretical shows that the stressed clamp occupies a new baseline at a level around $-V_m$, the positive clamper occupies a level close to $+V_m$.

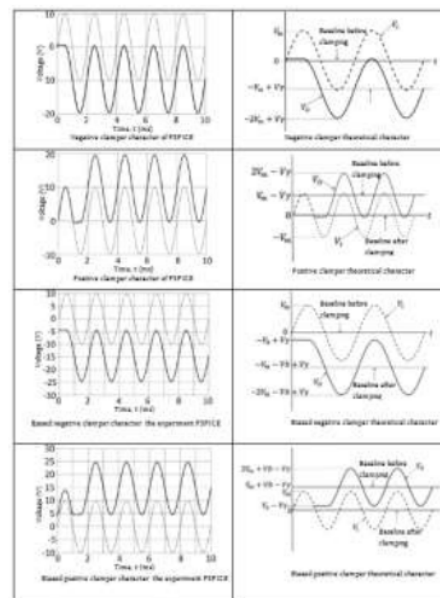


Figure 10. The character of the clamping circuit using PSPICE and computational theory

The same condition is also seen in pretend clamper, both positive and negative. Which is gives the appearance of the same character with the character of the theory. This

is indicated by the new baseline clamping results occupying around the $-V_m - V_b$ value for the negative clamper with pretension and around $+V_m + V_b$ for the positive clamper for pretending. Based on this analysis, it can be concluded that all the clamper series tested in this study are very good. Their character is in accordance with their theoretical character so that it can be used for basic electronic practices of PSPICE-based virtual laboratory.

The results of experiments with PSPICE to characterize the voltage doubler are shown in Figure 11.

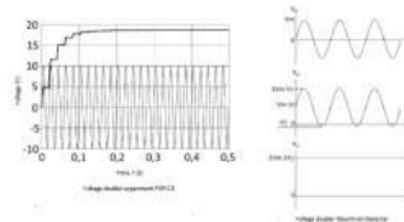


Figure 11. The character of the voltage doubler using PSPICE and computational theory

In Figure 11 (left) shown after going through a transient state, approximately $t > 0.2$ s, the voltage multiplier circuit provides a direct voltage output almost twice the maximum input voltage. The voltage doubled is less than $2V_m$. A voltage drop of $2V_\gamma$ occurs because the voltage is clamped by diode D1 and rectification by D2, each diode provides a reduction of V_γ . Based on the results of the analysis of the voltage multiplier circuit twice gives excellent performance and the same character with the character of the theory. So it is feasible to use the basic electronics practice based on PSPICE.

Figure 12 presents the results of the characterization of a quadruple voltage multiplier using PSPICE.

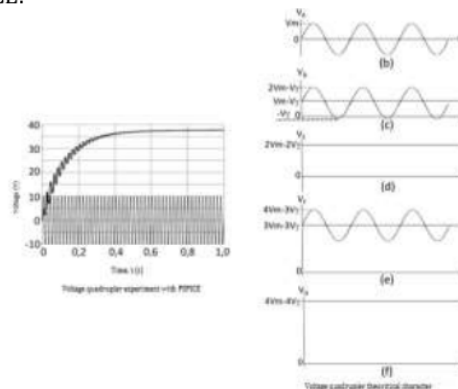


Figure 12. The character of the quadruple voltage using PSPICE and computational theory

After going through a transient time, approximately $t > 0.8$ s, the voltage multiplier circuit gives an output in the form of a direct voltage whose value is almost four times the maximum input voltage. In this quadruple, the output voltage has decreased by practically $4V_\gamma$ from the ideal state of $4V_m$ due to the input voltage being doubled clamped twice by diodes D1 and D3 (reducing voltage $-2V_\gamma$) and rectification by diodes D2 and D4 (lowering voltage $-2V_\gamma$ again). So that the overall voltage multiplier operation is four times, the circuit output drops by $4V_\gamma$. Based on the analysis of the voltage multiplier circuit four times, it works very well, and the character produced through experimentation is the same

as the theoretical character, so that it can be used in the practice of basic electronics using PSPICE.

Test Performance of Transistor Characterization Circuits

The results of the characterization of 2N2222 transistors using PSPICE are shown in Figure 13. In Figure 13 shows that the characteristics of the common emitter transistor with PSPICE are the same as the theoretical characteristics. The 2N2222 transistor will provide a DC gain of $\beta = 160$ for $V_{CE} = 10V$ and $I_C = 1mA$. Output characteristics of transistor 2N2222 PSPICE experiment results show that drawing lines from $V_{CE} = 10V$ and $I_C = 1mA$ will cut both at the point located on the I_B curve = $6\mu A$, so that the resulting value $\beta = \frac{I_C}{I_B} = \frac{1mA}{6\mu A} = 167$. The resulting DC current gain value is the same as the datasheet value, and this is in accordance with the theoretical parameters.

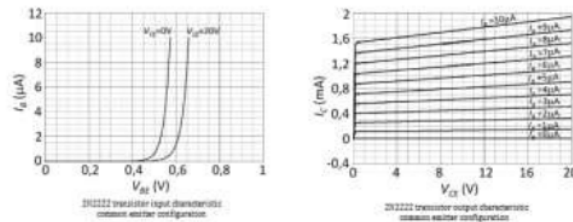


Figure 13. Characteristics of 2N2222 transistor with PSPICE

Transistor input characteristics indicate compatibility with theoretical characteristics. The curve forms an upward exponential function as a diode character curve, and this is based on the meeting of the base-emitter, which has diode-like properties. Installing a higher VCE voltage gives the appearance of a right shift curve, and this is according to the results of the theoretical computation. The input character curve shows that the cut-in voltage is magnitude around the value of the diode cut-in voltage converging like a character theory. Based on the analysis results that have been outlined, it can be stated that the design of the diode characterization series tested shows very good performance. The transistor input and output characteristic curves with PSPICE show valid results, so that the sequence can be used in basic electronics practice.

Test Performance of Common Emitter Amplifier Circuits

Through the PSPICE experiment, an amplitude response can be generated from the amplifier circuit being tested, as shown in Figure 14.

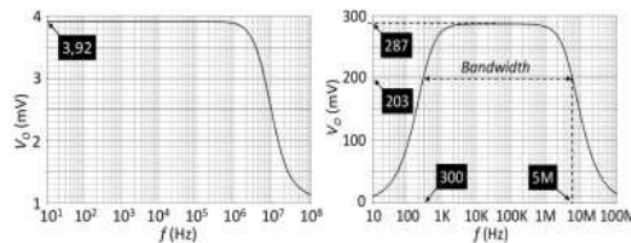


Figure 14. The amplitude response of common emitter amplifiers for $V_i = 1mV$: (a) without bypass capacitors (left); (b) with bypass capacitors (right)

Based on the amplitude response in Figure 16 shows that the amplifier without the bypass capacitor gives an AC voltage gain of $A_v = 3.92$. Theoretically, with $r_{tr} = 26\Omega$, based

on equation the voltage gain value $A_V = \frac{R_C}{r_{tr} + R_E} = \frac{8 \times 10^3}{26 + 2 \times 10^3} = 3,9$. A comparison of PSPICE voltage gain and computational voltage gain theory shows almost the same value. It can be concluded that the design of the common emitter amplifier tested provides good performance because it provides a voltage gain according to the design. Based on the amplitude response in Figure 14 right, the voltage gain jumps very high at $A_v = 287$ after the circuit is fitted with a bypass capacitor. In theory, if the circuit is fitted with a bypass capacitor, then at a high frequency the RE resistor is mounted in parallel to the capacitor as it is short-circuited, this corresponds to the voltage gain being, $A_V = \frac{R_C}{r_{tr}} = \frac{8 \times 10^3}{26} = 307,7$. It is seen that the voltage gain value of the experimental results is almost close to the theoretical calculation value with a percentage difference of 6.7%. The slight difference due to the value of r_{tr} is assumed to be constant, whereas in reality, its value changes with temperature. Through this test, it is known that the effective gain is 0.707 from the maximum gain of $A_v = 203$, which corresponds to the cut-in frequency $f_c = 300$ Hz. This value is the same as the theoretical calculation when the amplifier is designed. The amplitude response in Figure 14 shows the working area (bandwidth) of a very wide circuit that is 300Hz up to 5MHz according to the 2N2222 transistor datasheet. Based on the discussion that has been described, it can be stated that the amplifier circuit provides excellent performance. The characteristics obtained reflect a high degree of compatibility with the nature of the theory so that it can be used in basic electronics practice using a PSPICE-based virtual laboratory.

CONCLUSIONS

This research resulted in learning devices in the form of electronic circuits in the schematic format PSPICE totaling 31 types of supporting the implementation of virtual laboratories in the practice of basic electronics. The learning tools produced are in the form of practical modules with the topics: Capacitor Filling and Discharging, RC Circuits, Diode Characteristics, Wave Forming Circuits, Rectifier Circuits, Clamp Circuits and Voltage Multipliers, Transistor Characteristics, Transistor Strengthening Circuits. Each topic includes guidelines for PSPICE practice and operation.

All electronic circuits developed as learning devices in this study work well. The characteristics displayed have a high degree of compatibility with the characteristics of the theory, so that each series is feasible to be used as a medium of basic electronic practice to support the implementation of virtual laboratories through PSPICE software.

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