

with t appearing explicitly in the expression on the R.H.S. (right-hand side) of the equation, we must treat t as a quantity to be scaled as a voltage. Wherever t appears on the R.H.S. replace it by z , and introduce a second equation

$$z = t \text{ or } \frac{dz}{dt} = 1 \quad (30)$$

z has to be scaled, and this means that we have an upper boundary t_{max} which, once chosen, cannot be exceeded. t_{max} is the number of units of t over which the solution is needed.

If $t_{max} = 50$, we have $z \leq 50$ and introduce the bracket $[\frac{z}{5}]$.

This has nothing to do with the time scaling $\tau = \beta t$. It is the voltage scaling of the variable z . The choice of β determines how fast the solution will reach t_{max} . Including time scaling the voltage representing z is generated by solving the equation

$$\frac{d(\frac{z}{5})}{d\tau} = \frac{d(\frac{t}{5})}{d\tau} = \frac{1}{5\beta} = \frac{1}{50\beta} [10] \quad (31)$$

Where $\frac{1}{50\beta}$ is the coefficient of the potentiometer giving the input to the time base integrator. (Figure 18)

The voltage from this integrator is used whenever a term involving z (originally t) is to be formed in the expression on the R.H.S. of the programmed equation.

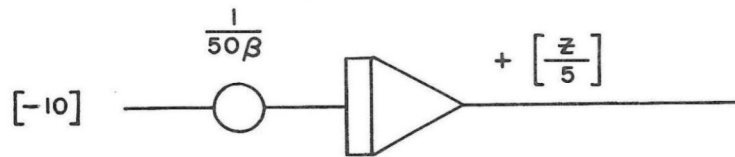


Figure 26. Time Base Integrator.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES.

1. A Simple Linear Problem.

The dynamic behavior of the simple spring-mass-damping system as shown in Figure 27 shall be investigated on the analog computer.

x is the displacement of the mass measured from the position where the spring exerts a force mg to balance the gravitational force. The parameters m , C , and K are constants. Initially the mass will be assumed to be released from rest at $x = X_0$. The displacement x , the velocity $\dot{x}$ and the acceleration $\ddot{x}$ shall be recorded on a multichannel recorder.

System equation:
$$m \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + C \frac{dx}{dt} + Kx = 0 \quad (32)$$

Rearranged equation:
$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} = - \frac{C}{m} \frac{dx}{dt} - \frac{K}{m} x \quad (33)$$

AMPLITUDE SCALING

In this problem an estimate of the magnitudes of the variables can be made by employing the undamped natural frequency of the system,