

# ECE 311 - Fundamentals of Electronics Lab

## Design of a 15V-Voltage Regulator

Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering  
University of Idaho

**Title:** Design of a 15V Voltage Regulator

**Objective:** Design and test a 15V voltage regulator.

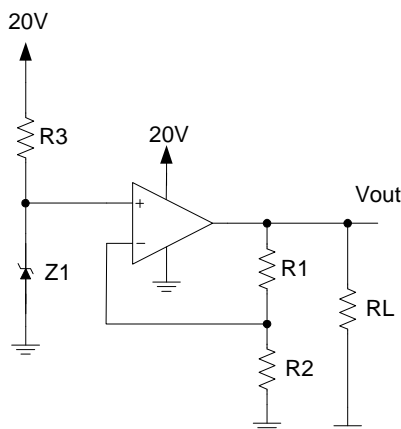
**Preliminary:** (Due at the beginning of the next laboratory period)

Consider a positive voltage regulator depicted in Figure 1. Z1 is a 1N5231B 5.1V zener diode and the op-amp is an LM348. Treat the op-amp as ideal.

- 1) Design the regulator to meet the following specifications/constraints:
  - (a)  $V_{out} \approx 15V$ .
  - (b)  $R_L = 1k\Omega$
  - (c)  $I_{Z1} = 15mA$
  - (d)  $I_{R1}, I_{R2} \leq 1mA$

**All resistances must be 5% tolerance standard values.**

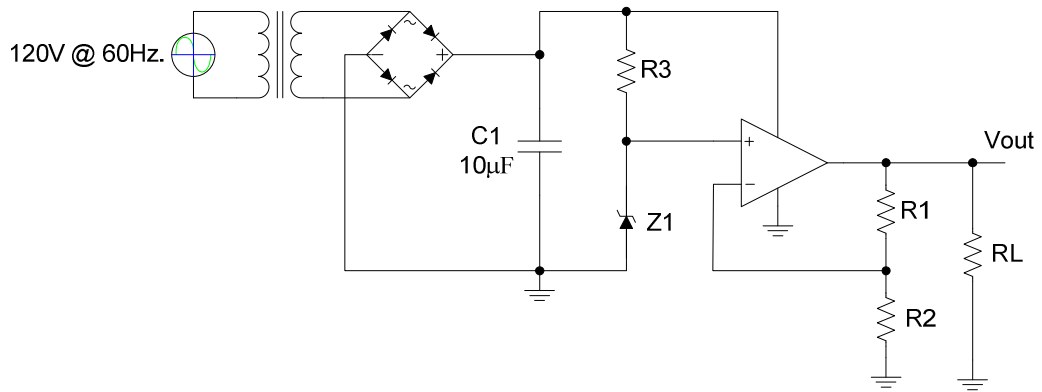
- 2) Derive the LR expression and using the values found in Part 1, calculate the value for LR.  
Hint: You'll have to use a small-signal equivalent circuit. The small-signal model for the ideal op-amp is simply an ideal op-amp.
- 3) Derive the LdR expression and using the values found in Part 1, calculate the value for LdR.
- 4) Simulate your design using an ideal op-amp model and a suitable model for the zener diode. (Use  $V_{zo}$  in series with  $R_z$  from Lab 9 for your zener model). Verify the calculated LR and LdR values found in Parts 2 and 3 using  $V_S = 20 \pm 2V$  for LR and  $R_L = 1k\Omega$  and  $R_L = 10k\Omega$  for LdR in the simulation. Verify by calculating the %error.



**Figure 1** A positive voltage regulator

**Laboratory Procedure:**

- Use 3 significant digits for all values (measured and calculated)
  - Calculate the %Error for all comparisons.
- 1) Measure and record in the lab notebook:
    - a) Resistors R1, R2, and R3 found for Figure 1 in the preliminary.
    - b) The load resistance  $R_L=1k\Omega$  (ideal).
    - c) A second load resistance  $R_L = 10 k\Omega$  (ideal) for Step 5.
    - d) The DC supply voltage (ideally 20V).
  - 2) Construct the circuit given in Figure 1 using the measured resistors and 1 – LM348, Quad LM741 operational amplifier and 1 – 1N5231B, 5.1 Zener Diode.
  - 3) Calculate, measure and compare the operational amplifiers voltage gain:
    - a) Using the measured resistance values R1 and R2 calculate the op-amps voltage gain.
    - b) Measure and record the zener voltage.
    - c) Measure and record  $V_{out}$  and calculate the voltage gain of the op-amp. Compare the measured to the calculated voltage gain found in Step 3a.
  - 4) Line Regulation (LR):
    - a) Remove  $R_L$ .
    - b) Reduce the DC supply voltage from 20V to 18V. Measure and record the DC supply and  $V_{out}$  values.
    - c) Increase the DC supply voltage from 18V to 22V. Measure and record the DC supply voltage and  $V_{out}$  values.
    - d) Calculate LR for the positive voltage regulator. Compare the measured LR to the LR calculated in the preliminary.
  - 5) Load Regulation (LdR):
    - a) Return the supply voltage to 20V and load the op-amp with  $10k\Omega$  load resistance.
    - b) Measure and record  $V_{out}$ .
    - c) Calculate LdR using  $V_{out}$  with  $R_L=10k\Omega$  from Step 5.b and  $R_L=1k\Omega$  from Step 5.c.
    - d) Compare the measured LdR with the LdR calculated in the preliminary.
  - 6) Positive voltage regulator with full-wave peak rectifier generating the supply voltage.
    - a) Construct the full-wave bridge rectifier using a  $10\mu F$  filter capacitance ( $C_1$ ) as shown in Figure 2 on the following page.
    - b) Set the oscilloscope to use line triggering, view the DC supply voltage across  $C_1$  (DC coupling), and measure the ripple voltage  $V_r$ . Sketch the supply voltage in the lab notebook.
    - c) Move the oscilloscope probe to the op-amps output and sketch  $V_{out}$  in your lab notebook.
    - d) Does the positive regulator with the full-wave peak rectifier produce a clean DC output voltage?



**Figure 2: Positive voltage regulator with full-wave peak rectifier supply generation**