Comparitors and Schmitt Triggers

EE 206 Circuits I

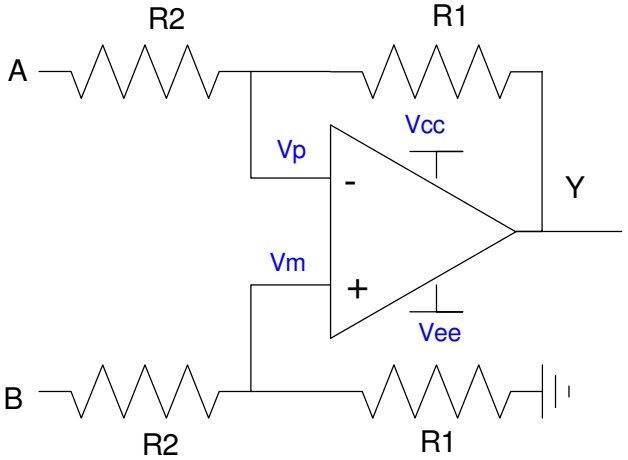
Jake Glower - Lecture #16

Please visit Bison Academy for corresponding lecture notes, homework sets, and solutions

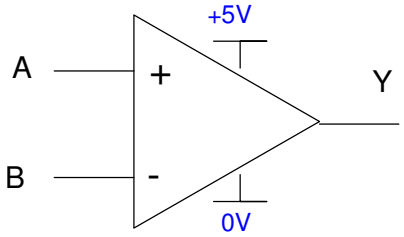
Comparitors and Schmitt Triggers

Vp = Vm does not *always* hold

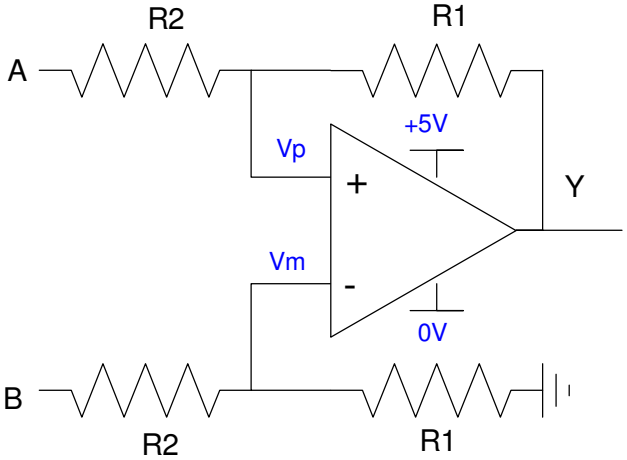
- Clipping (if you try to output Y > Vcc, Y clips at Vcc)
- A comparitor circuit (no feedback), or
- A Schmitt trigger (positive feedback).



Clipping: Vee < Y < Vcc



Comparitor



Schmitt Trigger

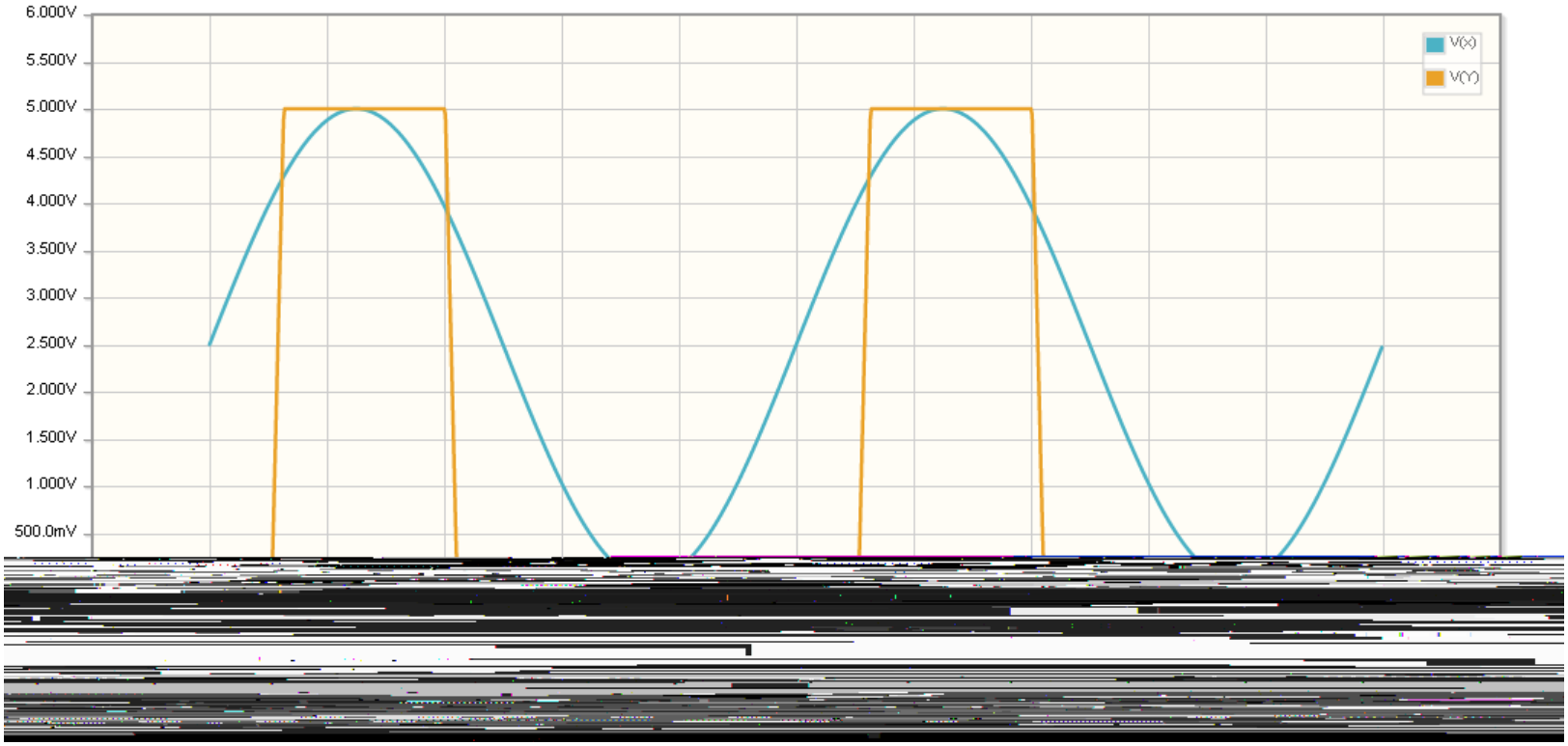
Clipping

- If you are using negative feedback Vp = Vm
- Unless you try to output a voltage that exceeds your power supplies

Example:

CircultLab Example:

- X = 1Vp, 1kHz sine wave
- y(t) = $\begin{cases} 5V & x > 4.0V \\ 0V & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

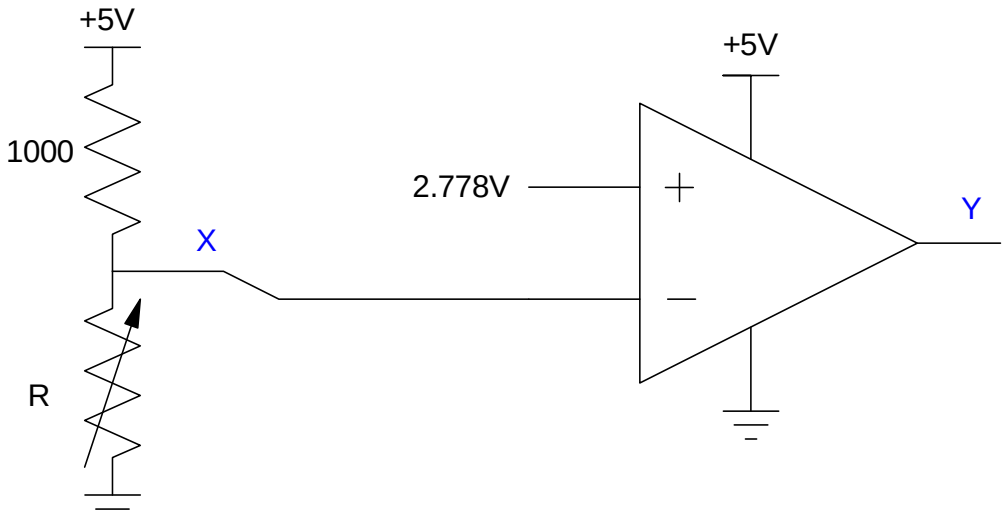


Temperature Sensor Output

- +5V when the temperature is above +20C
- 0V when the temperature is below +20C

Use a thermistor where

$$R = 1000 \exp\left(\frac{3905}{T+273} - \frac{3905}{298}\right) \quad W$$



Solution: Use a voltage divider

- R = 1250.59 Ohms
- X = 2.7784V

As temperature goes up

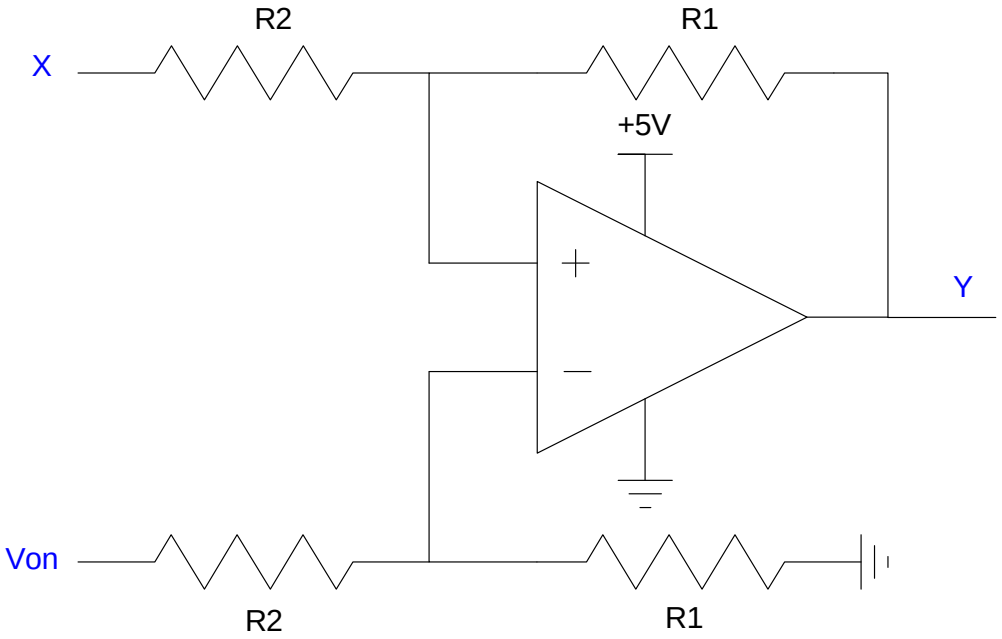
- R goes down
- X goes down, and
- Y goes up (to +5V)

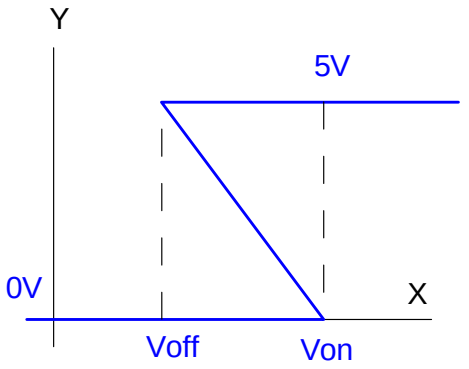
Connect the voltage divider to the negative input.

Schmitt Trigger

- Comparitors chatter when Vp = Vm
- To avoid this chatter, add hysteresis

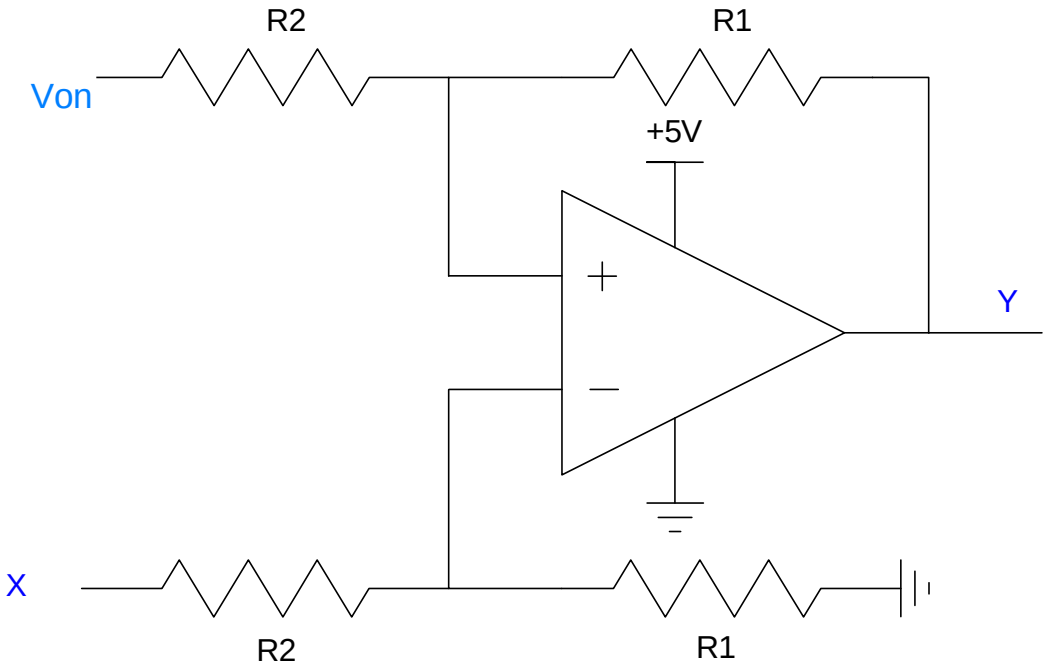
	5V	$X > V_{on}$
Y =	0V	$X < V_{off}$
	no change	$V_{off} < X < V_{on}$

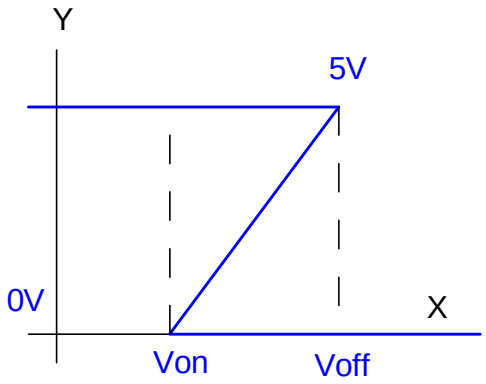




Flip inputs to get opposite relationship (Y = off when X is large)

$$\text{gain} = \frac{5V - 0V}{V_{off} - V_{on}} = \frac{R_1}{R_2}$$





Example: Design a circuit which outputs

- 5V for temperatures more than 20C
- 0V for temperatures below 15C, and
- No change of 15C < T < 20C

Solution: Use a Schmitt Trigger. First, convert temperature to resistance and voltage. Assume a thermistor where

$$R = 1000 \exp\left(\frac{3905}{T+273} - \frac{3905}{298}\right) \Omega$$

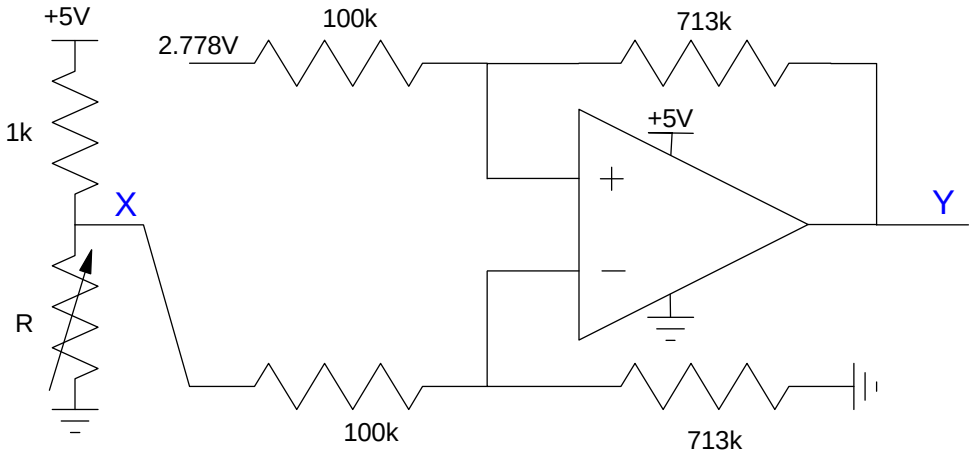
along with a voltage divider with a 1k resistor.

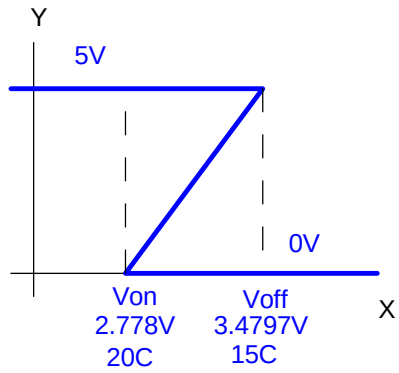
At 20C (on)

- R = 1250.59 Ohms
- X = 2.7784V
- Y = 5.00V

At 15C (off)

- R = 1576.17 Ohms
- X = 3.0591 V
- Y = 0.00V





As X goes up, Y goes down. Connect to the minus pin

Y turns on at 2.7784V. Make the offset 2.7784V.

The gain required is

$$\text{gain} = \frac{5V - 0V}{3.4797V - 2.7784V} = 7.1296$$

Pick R1 and R2 in a 7.1296 : 1 ratio

Validation in CircuitLab

- Sweep temperature and verify that Y switches at 20C and 15C, or
- Sweep R and verify that Y switches at 1250 Ohms and 1576 Ohms, or
- Sweep the voltage at X and verify that Y switches at 2.778V and 3.4797V

X = blue

Y = orange

- Von = 2.760V
- Voff = 3.514V