

**Ex:** The following equation describes the voltage,  $v_L$ , across an inductor as a function of time. Find an expression for the current,  $i_L(t)$ , through the inductor as a function of time. Assume that  $i_L(t = 0) = 0$  A.

$$v_L(t) = 2 + 6(1 - e^{-t/12.5\mu\text{s}}) \text{ kV}$$

**SOL'N:** We use the defining equation for an inductor and solve for  $i$  in terms of  $v$ .

$$v_L = L \frac{di_L}{dt}$$

First, we multiply both sides by  $dt$ .

$$v_L dt = L di_L$$

Second, we integrate both sides and use limits that correspond to the variable of integration for each side and are evaluated at the same points in time for both sides.

$$\int_0^t v_L dt = \int_{i_L(t=0)}^{i_L(t)} L di_L$$

The integral on the right side simplifies nicely.

$$\int_0^t v_L dt = Li_L \Big|_{i_L(t=0)}^{i_L(t)} = L[i_L(t) - i_L(t=0)]$$

or

$$i_L(t) = \frac{1}{L} \int_0^t v_L dt + i_L(t=0)$$

The above expression applies to any inductor in any circuit.

We now substitute the formula given for  $v_L(t)$  and the value given for  $i_L(t=0)$  to find  $i_L(t)$ :

$$i_L(t) = \frac{1}{L} \int_0^t [2 + 6(1 - e^{-t/12.5\mu\text{s}}) \text{ kV}] dt + 0 \text{ A}$$

or

$$i_L(t) = \frac{1}{L} \int_0^t [8 - 6e^{-t/12.5\mu\text{s}}] \text{ kV} dt + 0 \text{ A}$$

or

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$$i_L(t) = \frac{1}{L} \left[ 8t \Big|_0^t + 6 \cdot 12.5 \mu\text{s} \cdot e^{-t/12.5 \mu\text{s}} \Big|_0^t \right] \text{kV}$$

or

$$i_L(t) = \frac{1}{L} \left[ 8t + 75 \mu\text{s} \cdot \left( e^{-t/12.5 \mu\text{s}} - 1 \right) \right] \text{kV}$$

or

$$i_L(t) = \frac{1}{L} \left[ 8 \text{kV} \cdot t + 75 \text{mV} \cdot \left( e^{-t/12.5 \mu\text{s}} - 1 \right) \right]$$