3. (30 points)

Construct an $s$-domain Thevenin's equivalent to the circuit at the terminals a-b. There is no initial energy stored in the circuit.

**ans:**

$$i_g(t) = u(t)A$$

**sol'n:** Our $s$-domain independent current source is

$$\mathcal{L}\{u(t)\} = \frac{1}{s}A$$

No initial energy means we may omit the sources that create initial conditions for L and C in the $s$-domain. Thus, we have just $1/sC$ and $sL$:

$$V_{Th}(s) = V_o(s)$$ with no load across a, b terminals.
We use the node-V method to find $V_o(s)$. The first step is to define the dependent current source in terms of node-voltage $V_o(s)$:

$$\alpha V_x(s) = \alpha V_o(s) \frac{R}{R + \frac{1}{sC}}$$

**Aside:** Another way to deal with the dependent source is to replace it with an equivalent impedance. From the above equation for $\alpha V_x(s)$, we can say that the dependent source current is equal to $V_o(s)/z_{eq}$ where

$$z_{eq} = \frac{1}{\alpha} \frac{R + \frac{1}{sC}}{R}$$

Having replaced the dependent source with this equivalent impedance, we may then calculate $V_o(s)$ as the independent source current times all the impedances in parallel. Also, we observe that the equivalent impedance is valid when the a,b terminals are shorted out. Thus, this approach is a bit more efficient than the standard node-V method.

For the standard node-V method, we have

$$-\frac{1}{s} + \frac{V_o(s)}{R + \frac{1}{sC}} + \frac{V_o(s)}{sL} + \frac{\alpha V_o(s) R}{R + \frac{1}{sC}} = 0 \text{A}$$

or

$$V_o(s) \left( \frac{1 + \alpha R}{R + \frac{1}{sL}} + \frac{1}{sC} \right) = \frac{1}{s}.$$

Now we solve for $V_o(s)$ and simplify the result to get a constant times a ratio of polynomials in $s$ with a coefficient of one for the highest power of $s$ in the numerator and denominator. We begin by making each fraction a ratio of polynomials. (We needn't worry yet about the coefficient of the highest power of $s$.)
\[
V_o(s) \left( \frac{s \cdot \frac{1}{s} + \alpha R}{R + \frac{1}{sC}} + \frac{1}{sL} \right) = \frac{1}{s}
\]

\[
V_o(s) \left( \frac{s(1 + \alpha R)}{sR + \frac{1}{C}} + \frac{1}{sL} \right) = \frac{1}{s}
\]

We put the left side over a common denominator and then move the term in large parentheses to the other side:

\[
V_o(s) \left( \frac{s(1 + \alpha R) \cdot sL}{sR + \frac{1}{C}} + \frac{1 \cdot sR + \frac{1}{C}}{sL} \right) = \frac{1}{s}
\]

\[
V_o(s) = \frac{1 \cdot sL \left( sR + \frac{1}{C} \right)}{s \cdot s^2 L(1 + \alpha R) + sR + \frac{1}{C}}
\]

Now we cancel a common factor of \( s \) top and bottom and pull out a constant to make the coefficient of the highest power of \( s \) in numerator and denominator = 1.

\[
V_{Th}(s) = V_o(s) = \frac{R}{1 + \alpha R} \frac{s + 1/RC}{s^2 + \frac{R}{L} \frac{1}{1 + \alpha R} + \frac{1}{LC(1 + \alpha R)}}
\]

\textbf{Check:} The units of \( \alpha \) are 1/R in the original circuit, and that makes \( \alpha R \) unitless. \( \checkmark \)

\textbf{Check:} The units of the numerator of the polynomial ratio are 1/sec. The units for all terms in the denominator are 1/sec\(^2\). The units for the constant out front are \( \Omega \), and the units for the independent current source are Amps (which were left out to avoid clutter). Thus, the entire expression has units of \( \Omega \text{Asec} = \text{Vsec} \) or \( \text{V back in the time domain} \). \( \checkmark \)

\textbf{Check:} If we set \( R = 0 \), then we turn off the dependent source and we have
\[ V_o(s) = \frac{1}{s} \cdot \frac{1}{sC} \parallel sL = \frac{1}{s} \cdot \frac{L}{sC + sL} = \frac{1/C}{s^2 + \frac{1}{LC}}. \]

If we plug \( R = 0 \) into the formula we derived for \( V_{Th}(s) \), we get the same answer. (Note that we multiply through by \( R \) in the numerator before setting \( R \) to zero to avoid a divide by zero.) ✓

**Check:** If we set \( L = 0 \), then we short out the output terminals and we have \( V_o(s) = 0 \). If we plug \( L = 0 \) into our formula for \( V_{Th}(s) \), we get the same answer. (Note that we multiply through by \( L \) top and bottom before setting \( L \) to zero to avoid a divide by zero.) ✓

To find \( z_{Th} \), we use the method of measuring the current, \( I_{sc}(s) \), that flows through a short across a, b terminals and setting \( z_{Th} = V_{Th}(s)/I_{sc}(s) \):

When we perform the same experiment with our actual circuit, all the independent source current flows through the short.

Thus, \( z_{Th} \) is just \( V_{Th}(s) \) divided by \( 1/s \). This is the same as multiplying \( V_{Th}(s) \) by \( s \):

\[ z_{Th} = \frac{R}{1 + \alpha R} \frac{s(s + 1/RC)}{\frac{1}{L} \frac{1}{s^2} + \frac{R}{L} \frac{1}{s} + \frac{1}{LC}}. \]

**Check:** If \( \alpha = 0 \), \( z_{Th} = z \) looking into a, b with I-source set to zero. (Dependent source disappears when \( \alpha = 0 \).)
\[ z_{ab} = \frac{s \left( Rs + \frac{1}{c} \right)}{R \frac{s}{L} + \frac{1}{LC} + s^2} = \frac{Rs(s + 1/RC)}{s^2 + \frac{R}{L} s + \frac{1}{LC}} \]

This agrees with our formula for \( z_{\text{Th}} \) when we plug in \( \alpha = 0 \). √

**Check:** If \( R = 0 \), then \( V_x(s) = 0 \) and dependent source is off. \( z_{\text{Th}} = z \) looking into a, b with I-source set to zero.

\[ z_{ab} = \frac{1}{sC} || sL = \frac{L/C}{sC + sL} = \frac{s/C}{s^2 + \frac{1}{LC}} \]

This agrees with our formula for \( z_{\text{Th}} \) when we plug in \( R = 0 \), (\( R \cdot 1/RC = 1/C \) on top). Also, see earlier check of \( V_o(s) \) and multiply by \( s \). √

**Check:** If \( C = \infty \), then \( 1/sC = 0 \), \( V_x(s) = V_o(s) \), \( \alpha V_x(s) \) is the same current we would get with \( R_2 = 1/\alpha \).

\[ z_{ab} = \frac{R}{\alpha} || sL = \frac{R}{1 + \alpha R} || sL = \frac{R \cdot sL}{1 + \alpha R} \]

\[ z_{ab} = \frac{R}{1 + \alpha R} \frac{s}{s + \frac{R}{L}} \]

This agrees with our formula for \( z_{\text{Th}} \) when we plug in \( C = \infty \), (\( 1/\infty = 0 \)). √