

ECET 3000

Electrical Principles

Analysis of AC Circuits





Phasor Representation of Sine Waves

A **phasor** is a representation of a sine-wave whose magnitude, phase and frequency are constant.

Phasors reduce the dependency of these parameters to three independent factors, thus allowing for the simplification of certain types of calculations.

It turns out that, for steady-state AC circuits, the time dependency of the sine-waves can be factored out, reducing the non-linear differential equations required for their solution to a simpler set of linear, algebraic equations.

Phasors and AC Voltages

The sinusoidal voltage:

$$v(t) = \sqrt{2} \cdot V \cdot \sin(\omega \cdot t + \phi)$$

may be defined in the form of a *phasor voltage*:

$$\widetilde{V} = V e^{j\phi} = V \angle \phi$$

in which the voltage is expressed as a complex number in "*polar*" form, having the RMS magnitude V and the phase angle ϕ .

(Note – although the phasor value may be expressed in terms of "peak" magnitudes, RMS voltage magnitudes will be utilized in this course unless specifically stated otherwise.)

Phasors and AC Voltages

For example, given the sinusoidal voltage:

 $v(t) = 100 \cdot \sin(377 \cdot t + 30^{\circ})$ volts

which may be expressed in terms of its RMS magnitude:

$$v(t) = \sqrt{2} \cdot 70.7 \cdot \sin(377 \cdot t + 30^\circ) \quad \text{volts}$$

The **phasor representation** of this voltage is:

 $v(t) \iff \widetilde{V} = 70.7e^{j\frac{\pi}{6}} = 70.7 \angle 30^\circ$ volts

such that: $30^\circ = 30^\circ \cdot \frac{2\pi \text{ radians}}{360^\circ} = \frac{\pi}{6} \text{ radians}$

Phasors and AC Currents

The sinusoidal current:

$$i(t) = \sqrt{2} \cdot I \cdot \sin(\omega \cdot t + \delta)$$

may also be defined in the form of a *phasor current*:

$$\widetilde{I} = Ie^{j\delta} = I \angle \delta$$

in which the current is expressed as a complex number in "*polar*" form, having the RMS magnitude I and the phase angle δ .

(Note –RMS current magnitudes will also be utilized in this course unless specifically stated otherwise.)



Impedance

The **impedance** of a load provides a measure of the response that the load will have when supplied by a steady-state AC waveform.

Specifically, the **impedance** value of a load, **Z**, is defined as the ratio of the *phasor voltage* that is applied across the load over the *phasor current* that flows through the load:





Impedance

Based on the impedance expression:

$$Z = \frac{\widetilde{V}}{\widetilde{I}}$$

an Ohm's Law type of relationship between the phasor values of the load voltage and current can be defined:

 $\widetilde{V}=\widetilde{I}\,\cdot Z$



which means that any of the DC circuit theory that was derived based on Ohm's Law can also be applied to steady-state AC circuits whose loads are expressed as impedances and whose voltages and currents are expressed by their phasor values.



Impedance

Thus, given the phasor values of the load voltage and current:

$$\widetilde{V} = V \angle \phi \qquad \qquad \widetilde{I} = I \angle \delta$$

the *impedance*, Z, can be expressed in terms of their phasor values as :

|Z|

$$Z = \left| Z \right| \angle \theta = \frac{\widetilde{V}}{\widetilde{I}} = \frac{V \angle \phi}{I \angle \delta} = \frac{V}{I} \angle (\phi - \delta)$$

where:

$$=\frac{V}{I}$$
 $\theta = \phi - \delta$



Note – Impedance is typically expressed as a complex number written in "rectangular" form: Z=R+jX

Impedance of a Resistor

Given the voltage across a resistor:

$$v_R(t) = \sqrt{2} \cdot V_R \cdot \sin(\omega \cdot t + \phi)$$

the current flowing through the resistor will be:

$$i_R(t) = \sqrt{2} \cdot \frac{V_R}{R} \cdot \sin(\omega \cdot t + \phi)$$

When expressed as phasors, the resistor's voltage and current can be rewritten as:



$$v_R(t) = i_R(t) \cdot R$$

$$\widetilde{V}_{R} = V_{R} \angle \phi \qquad \widetilde{I}_{R} = \frac{V_{R}}{R} \angle \phi$$



Impedance of a Resistor

Based on the values of its phasor voltage and current:

$$\widetilde{V}_{R} = V_{R} \angle \phi \qquad \qquad \widetilde{I}_{R} = \frac{V_{R}}{R} \angle \phi$$

the **impedance of the resistor** can be defined as:

$$Z_{R} = \frac{\widetilde{V}_{R}}{\widetilde{I}_{R}} = \frac{V_{R} \angle \phi}{\left(\frac{V_{R}}{R}\right) \angle \phi} = R \angle 0^{\circ} = R + j0$$



$$v_R(t) = i_R(t) \cdot R$$

Thus, the impedance of a resistor is equal to its resistance, which is a purely **real** value:

 $Z_R = R$

Impedance of a Resistor

Thus, not only does Ohm's Law hold true for resistors that are supplied with both DC voltages and time-varying (AC) voltages:

$$V_R = I_R \cdot R$$
 $v_R(t) = i_R(t) \cdot R$

Ohm's Law also holds true for resistors whose voltages and currents are expressed as phasors:

$$\widetilde{V}_{\scriptscriptstyle R} = \widetilde{I}_{\scriptscriptstyle R} \cdot Z_{\scriptscriptstyle R} = \widetilde{I}_{\scriptscriptstyle R} \cdot R$$



$$v_R(t) = i_R(t) \cdot R$$

$$\widetilde{V}_R = \widetilde{I}_R \cdot R$$

Impedance of an Inductor

Given the voltage across an inductor:

$$v_L(t) = \sqrt{2} \cdot V \cdot \sin(\omega \cdot t + \phi)$$

the current flowing through the inductor will be:

$$i_L(t) = \sqrt{2} \cdot \frac{V}{\omega \cdot L} \cdot \sin(\omega \cdot t + \phi^\circ - 90^\circ)$$

When expressed as phasors, the inductor's voltage and current can be rewritten as:

$$\tilde{V}_L = V_L \angle \phi$$
 $\tilde{I}_L = \frac{V_L}{\omega \cdot L} \angle \phi - 90^\circ$



$$v_L(t) = L \cdot \frac{di_L(t)}{dt}$$

Impedance of an Inductor

Based on the inductor's phasor voltage and current:

$$\widetilde{V}_L = V_L \angle \phi$$
 $\widetilde{I}_L = \frac{V_L}{\omega \cdot L} \angle \phi - 90^\circ$

the **impedance of the inductor** can be defined as:

$$Z_{L} = \frac{\widetilde{V}_{L}}{\widetilde{I}_{L}} = \frac{V_{L} \angle \phi}{\left(\frac{V_{L}}{\omega \cdot L}\right) \angle \phi - 90^{\circ}} = (\omega \cdot L) \angle + 90^{\circ}$$

$$v_L(t) = L \cdot \frac{di_L(t)}{dt}$$

dt

which can be expressed in rectangular form as:

$$Z_{L} = (\omega \cdot L) \angle +90^{\circ} = 0 + j\omega \cdot L = j\omega \cdot L$$



Impedance of an Inductor

 $v_L(t) = L \cdot \frac{di_L(t)}{dt}$

Thus, based on its phasor voltage and current:

$$\widetilde{V}_L = V_L \angle \phi$$
 $\widetilde{I}_L = \frac{V_L}{\omega \cdot L} \angle \phi - 90^\circ$

the **impedance of the inductor** can be defined as: \tilde{v}

$$Z_L = (\omega \cdot L) \angle +90^\circ = j\omega \cdot L$$

which is a **positive imaginary number**.

And, when expressed as an impedance, Ohm's Law holds true for an inductor whose voltage and current $\tilde{V}_L = \tilde{I}_L \cdot Z_L$ are expressed as phasors.

$\mathbf{f}_{C} = V_{C} \angle \phi \qquad \mathbf{f}_{C} = V_{C} \angle \phi + 90^{\circ}$ if the expression of the exp



Impedance of an Capacitor

Thus, based on its phasor voltage and current:

$$\tilde{V}_C = V_C \angle \phi$$
 $\tilde{I}_C = V_C \cdot \omega \cdot C \angle \phi + 90^\circ$

the **impedance of the capacitor** can be defined as: \tilde{V}

$$Z_C = \frac{1}{\omega \cdot C} \angle -90^\circ = -j \frac{1}{\omega \cdot C}$$

which is a negative imaginary number.

$$i_C(t) = C \cdot \frac{dv_C(t)}{dt}$$

$$\widetilde{V}_{C} = \widetilde{I}_{C} \cdot Z_{C}$$

And, when expressed as an impedance, Ohm's Law holds true for a capacitor whose voltage and current are expressed as phasors.



Reactance

Reactance defines the manner in which **inductive** and **capacitive** loads react to a steady-state sinusoidal voltage.

The reactance of an inductive or capacitive load is equal to the magnitude of the load's impedance value.

Therefore:

- the reactance of a resistor is: $X_R = 0 \Omega$
- the reactance of an inductor is: $X_L = \omega \cdot L \Omega$
- the reactance of a capacitor is: $X_C = \frac{1}{\omega \cdot C} \Omega$





Phasor Analysis of AC Circuits

If a voltage source having the phasor value:

 $\widetilde{V} = V \angle \phi$

is applied across the complex impedance:

Z = R + jX

then the phasor value of the current may be solved by applying Ohm's Law:

$$\widetilde{I} = \frac{\widetilde{V}}{Z} = \frac{V \angle \phi}{R + jX} = I \angle \delta$$



The Range of Impedance Values

Given a complex impedance:

Z = R + jX

• The "real" portion of the impedance can be in the range:

$$0 \le R \le +\infty$$

• The "imaginary" portion of the impedance can be in the range:

 $\infty \le X \ge \infty$

if R and X relate only to passive loads. (I.e. – resistors, inductors, and/or capacitors)



Voltage & Current Phase Angles

If the impedance is expressed in polar form:

 $Z = R + jX = |Z| \angle \theta^{\circ}$

then the angle θ will fall within the range:

$$-90^{\circ} \le \theta \le +90^{\circ}$$
.

And, since:

$$\widetilde{I} = \frac{\widetilde{V}}{Z} = \frac{V \angle \phi^{\circ}}{|Z| \angle \theta^{\circ}} = \frac{V}{|Z|} \angle \phi^{\circ} - \theta^{\circ} = I \angle \delta^{\circ}$$

the phase angle of the current will be within $\pm 90^{\circ}$ of the phase angle of the voltage:

 $\phi^{\circ} - 90^{\circ} \le \delta^{\circ} \le \phi^{\circ} + 90^{\circ}$



Perform a phasor analysis of the circuit shown below in order to determine the phasor values of the source current and the resistor voltage: $\underbrace{\tilde{t}_{L=70\,\text{mH}}}_{V(t)} = \sqrt{2} \cdot 24 \cdot \sin(\omega \cdot t + 30^\circ) \text{ volts} \\ f = 60 \text{ Hz}$



















