

# Alternating Current

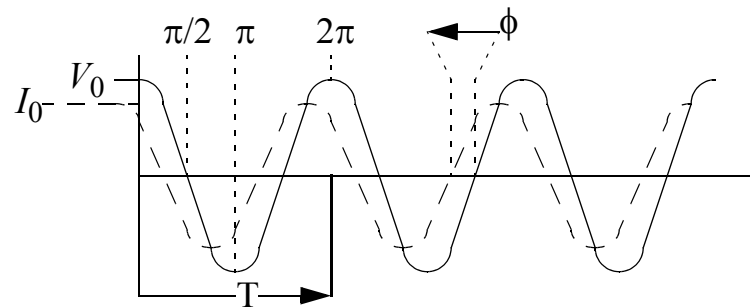


- AC voltage varies in time, and a pure AC signal is sinusoidal.

$$v(t) = V_0 \cos \omega t$$

- AC current also varies in time with the same frequency but may have a different phase:

$$i(t) = I_0 \cos(\omega t + \phi)$$



- Frequency ( $f$ , Hz = cycles/s =  $s^{-1}$ ), angular frequency ( $\omega$ , rad/s =  $s^{-1}$ ), and period ( $T$ , s) are related.

$$\omega = 2\pi f = 2\pi/T$$

- Phase measures the relative point in time within one period.

$$\phi = 2\pi t/T$$

# Rms Measurement



- The time average measure of a signal:

$$\langle F \rangle = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T F(t) dt$$

- Voltage and current:  $V_{rms}$ ,  $I_{rms}$

$$V_{rms} = \sqrt{\langle v^2 \rangle} = \sqrt{\langle V_0^2 \cos^2 \omega t \rangle} = \frac{V_0}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$I_{rms} = \sqrt{\langle i^2 \rangle} = \sqrt{\langle I_0^2 \cos^2(\omega t + \phi) \rangle} = \frac{I_0}{\sqrt{2}}$$

- Phase isn't included in rms measurement.
- Commercial 60 Hz AC signals are measured in rms

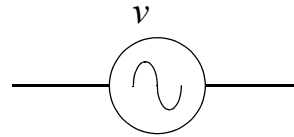
$$120 \text{ V}_{AC} = V_0 / 1.414$$

$$V_0 = 170 \text{ V}$$

# AC Power Supply



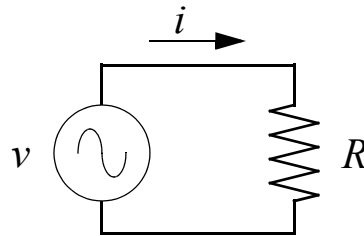
- Schematic symbol:



- Power:  $P$

$$P_{rms} = \langle vi \rangle = \sqrt{\langle V_0^2 \cos^2 \omega t \rangle} = \frac{1}{2} V_0 I_0 \cos \phi$$

- Ohm's law applies for AC signals at each point in time.



- For an AC voltage through a resistor current and voltage have the same phase.

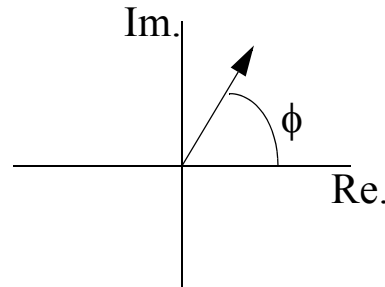
$$\phi = 0, \cos \phi = 1.$$

$$P = V_0 I_0 / 2 = V_{rms} I_{rms}.$$

# Complex Numbers



- Represent an angle in the complex plane.



- The imaginary unit is  $j$ .

$$j = \sqrt{-1}$$

- A series expansion for an exponential in  $j\phi$ :

$$e^{j\phi} = \cos\phi + j\sin\phi$$

$$e^{j\phi} = 1 + j\phi + \frac{(j\phi)^2}{2!} + \frac{(j\phi)^3}{3!} + \frac{(j\phi)^4}{4!} + \dots$$

$$e^{j\phi} = \left(1 - \frac{\phi^2}{2!} + \frac{\phi^4}{4!} - \dots\right) + j\left(\phi - \frac{\phi^3}{3!} + \dots\right)$$

- Trigonometric formulas can be replaced by exponential ones.

$$\cos\phi = \text{Re}(e^{j\phi})$$

# Gain



- Gain is the ratio of voltage (or current) out of a circuit compared to the voltage (or current) in

$$A = \frac{v_{out}}{v_{in}} \quad A = \frac{i_{out}}{i_{in}}$$

- Unit of gain: decibel (dB)
- Decibels are a logarithmic measure,  
Voltage and current,  $A_{dB} = 20 \log_{10} A$   
Power = voltage \* current,  $A_{dB} = 10 \log_{10} A$
- Useful rules:  
A factor of 10 is a 20 dB measure  
A factor of 2 is about a 6 dB measure  
Negative dB is a reduction in magnitude
- Gain vs. frequency  
Use log-log graph: power law relations become straight lines - *Bode plot*  
eg.  $A = c\omega^{-2}$  becomes  $A_{dB} = -2\omega + \log(c)$

# Complex Gain



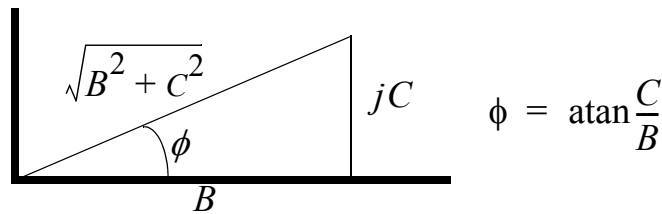
- Includes magnitude of gain and phase shift
- The absolute magnitude (a real) is the magnitude of the gain

$$|A| = |B + jC| = \sqrt{(B + jC)(B - jC)} = \sqrt{B^2 + C^2}$$

- The angle in the complex plane is the phase shift

$$\tan \phi = C/B$$

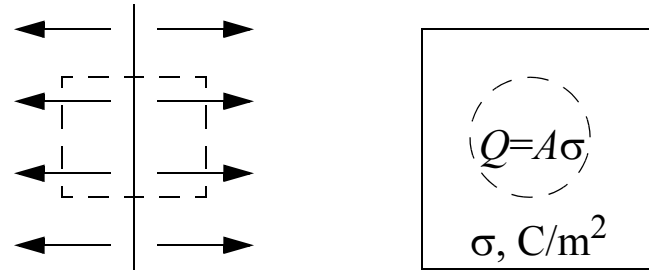
- Graphically:



# Capacitance



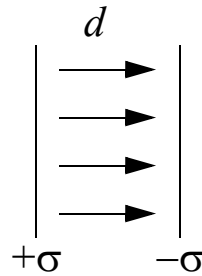
- For an infinite plane with a charge density  $\sigma$ ,  $Q=A\sigma$ :



- The electric field and potential are related to the charge, and the voltage

$$\int_S \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{A} = 2EA = \frac{Q}{\epsilon_0} \quad E = \frac{\sigma}{2\epsilon_0} \quad V = Ed = \frac{\sigma d}{2\epsilon_0}$$

- For two planes of opposite charge, the field outside is 0 and the field inside is the sum of the two separate fields,  $E = \sigma/\epsilon_0$ , and the voltage is  $\sigma d/\epsilon_0$ .

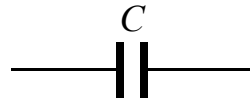


- Capacitance is the charge stored unit of potential,  $C = \frac{Q}{V} = \frac{\sigma A}{\sigma d/\epsilon_0} = \frac{\epsilon_0 A}{d}$
- Unit of capacitance: farad (F) = coulomb (C) / volt (V)

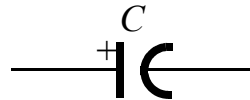
# Capacitors



- Schematic symbol:



- Capacitors are measured in farads (F) and can range from  $10^{-12}$  to 1 F.
- Capacitors come with maximum voltage ratings from 10 to  $10^4$  V.
- Some capacitors are polarized, and voltage must be maintained in a particular direction at all times.



- Capacitors are usually marked in either  $\mu\text{F}$  ( $10^{-6}$ ) or pF ( $10^{-12}$ ), rarely nF.

$\mu\text{F}$  values are usually less than 1

pF values are usually greater than 1

Like resistors the number is often either a direct measure or uses the three digit code.

With three digits, the first two are a number and the last is an exponent for a power of 10, usually based on pF. (eg. 103 =  $10 * 10^3 = 10,000$  pF =  $0.01 \mu\text{F}$ )

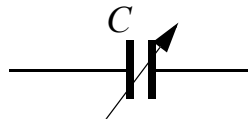
- Other codes also exist for capacitors (EIA codes).



# Capacitor Types



- Ceramic disk capacitors are cheap, cover capacitances from 1 pF up to 1  $\mu$ F, and come in wide range of performance specifications.
- Polyester film (Mylar) capacitors are cheap, cover capacitances from 0.001  $\mu$ F up to 100  $\mu$ F and have reasonable accuracy (5-10%).
- Polypropylene film (PP) capacitors can have 1% accuracy from 100 pF to 100  $\mu$ F.
- Mica capacitors are bulky and expensive, but have very high quality (1 pF to 3,300 pF).
  
- Electrolytic capacitors have very high capacitance (0.1  $\mu$ F to 1 F), but poor accuracy (-20% to +80%) and are polarized.
- Tantalum capacitors have high capacitance in a small package (0.1  $\mu$ F to 1000  $\mu$ F), with poor accuracy and are polarized and very sensitive to voltage ripples and cannot be used in all circuits.
  
- Variable capacitors

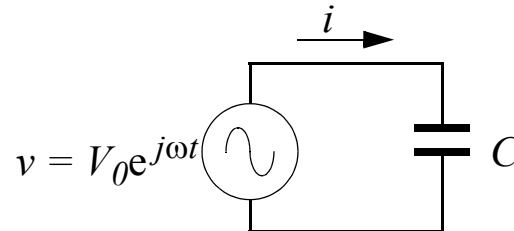


$C$  refers to maximum capacitance

# Capacitors in AC Circuits



- Capacitive impedance



- The relation between current and voltage is:

$$v = \frac{q}{C}$$

$$\frac{dv}{dt} = \frac{1}{C} \frac{dq}{dt} = \frac{1}{C} i$$

- Using the AC voltage and current:

$$\frac{dv}{dt} = j\omega v = \frac{1}{C} i$$

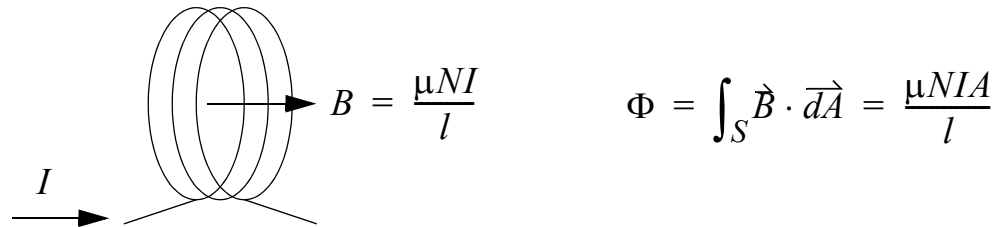
$$v = \frac{1}{j\omega C} i$$

- This looks like Ohm's law, but with  $R$  replaced by  $1/j\omega C$ . This is called the *impedance*  $Z$ .

# Inductance



- Ampere's law: the magnetic field in a solenoid with  $N$  loops in  $l$  meters is related to the current.



- Units from magnetism: field -- tesla (T) = N/A-m; flux -- weber = T-m<sup>2</sup>
- Faraday's law: a change in flux induces a electric potential.

$$v = -N \frac{d\Phi}{dt} = -\left(\frac{\mu N^2 A}{l}\right) \frac{di}{dt} = -L \frac{di}{dt}$$

The minus sign indicates the potential is opposite the change in the current.

- Inductance  $L$  defined for a coil:

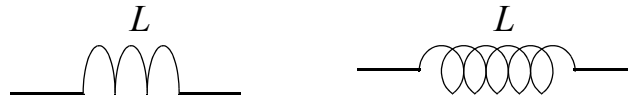
$$L = \frac{N\Phi}{I} = \frac{\mu N^2 A}{l}$$

- Unit of inductance: henry (H) = weber / amp (A)

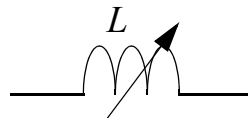
# Inductors



- Schematic symbol:



- Inductors are measured in henrys (H) in the range  $10^{-6}$  to 1 H.
- Inductors are usually marked in either  $\mu\text{H}$  ( $10^{-6}$ ) or  $\text{mH}$  ( $10^{-3}$ ).  
A resistor color code is used on some inductors.
- Inductors are wound wires, the simplest are in a coil around air.
- Inductors can be wound around iron or ferrite to increase the permeability and thus the inductance.
- Variable inductors

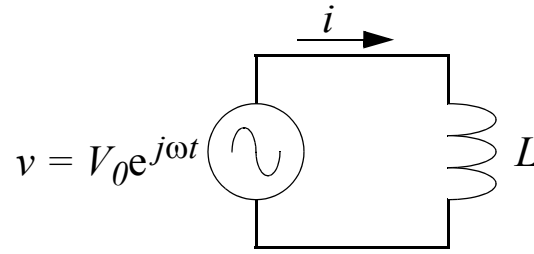


$L$  refers to the maximum inductance for a variable inductor

# Inductors in AC Circuits



- Inductive impedance



- Kirchhoff's voltage law gives  $v + \left(-L \frac{di}{dt}\right) = 0$ .
- The relationship between current and voltage is:

$$v = L \frac{di}{dt}$$

$$\int v dt = Li$$

- Using the AC voltage and current:

$$\int v dt = \frac{v}{j\omega} = Li$$

$$v = j\omega Li$$

- This looks like Ohm's law, but with  $R$  replaced by  $j\omega L$ . This is the *impedance*  $Z$  for an inductor.