

CS7GV2: Mathematics of Light and Sound, M.Sc. in Computer Science.

Lecture #5: Phasors

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Notes

Phasor is a math object which can be used to store some info
math object easily does some calculation with.

1 / 5

Complex Numbers

Cardano 1600s

A complex number is expressed as the sum of a *real* part and an *imaginary* part,

$$a + bj \in \mathbb{C} \quad \text{for } a, b \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Imaginary unit j is defined as,

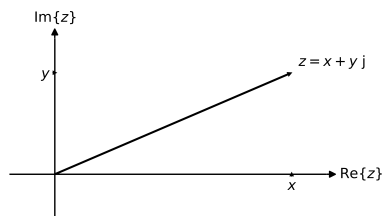
$$j^2 = -1 \quad \text{so } j = \pm\sqrt{-1}.$$

(In engineering, $j = -i$ is used to denote imaginary to avoid confusion with electrical current I .)

They allow expressions that wouldn't be possible otherwise, e.g. roots of $(x + 1)^2 = -9$ are at $x = -1 \pm 3j$.

$$\begin{aligned} (-1 \pm 3j + 1)^2 &= \\ (\pm 3j)^2 &= (\pm 3)^2 j^2 = \\ (+3)^2 j^2 \text{ and } (-3)^2 j^2 &= \\ (9)(-1) &= -9. \end{aligned}$$

They can be used to associate numbers that go together, such as point vector coordinates (x, y) .



But some consideration required, e.g compensation for $j^2 = -1$ to express vector magnitude,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{for } z &= x + yj, \\ \text{complex conjugate } \bar{z} &= x - yj, \\ \text{magnitude squared } |z|^2 &= z\bar{z} = x^2 + y^2, \\ \text{magnitude } |z| &= \sqrt{z\bar{z}}. \end{aligned}$$

Notes

Just use j instead of i , $i \Rightarrow$ imaginary unit

2 / 5

Euler's Formula

Euler's constant $e \approx 2.71828$. $\frac{d}{dx} e^x = e^x$.

e^x is called the natural exponential function and can be written $\exp x$ or $\exp(x)$.

Euler's formula expresses sinusoidal functions through the natural exponential function,

$$e^{j\theta} = \cos \theta + j \sin \theta.$$

$$\cos \theta = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{(2n)!} \theta^{2n} = 1 - \frac{\theta^2}{2!} + \frac{\theta^4}{4!} - \dots$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sin \theta &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{(2n+1)!} \theta^{2n+1} \\ &= \frac{\theta^1}{1!} - \frac{\theta^3}{3!} + \frac{\theta^5}{5!} - \dots \end{aligned}$$

The value of any smooth function f at point b in the neighbourhood of point a can be expressed through the Taylor Series,

$$f(b) = f(a) + \frac{f'(a)}{1!} (b-a)^1 + \frac{f''(a)}{2!} (b-a)^2 + \dots$$

At $x=a=0$, $\frac{d}{dx} e^x = e^x = e^0 = 1$, $\frac{d^2}{dx^2} e^x = \frac{d}{dx} \frac{d}{dx} e^x = \frac{d}{dx} e^x = e^0 = 1$, etc.,
so, $\exp(b) = \exp(0) + \frac{b^1}{1!} + \frac{b^2}{2!} + \frac{b^3}{3!} + \dots$

$$\begin{aligned} e^{j\theta} &= \exp(j\theta) = 1 + \frac{(j\theta)^1}{1!} + \frac{(j\theta)^2}{2!} + \frac{(j\theta)^3}{3!} \dots \\ &= 1 - \frac{\theta^2}{2!} + \frac{\theta^4}{4!} - \dots \\ &\quad + j \left(\frac{\theta^1}{1!} - \frac{\theta^3}{3!} + \frac{\theta^5}{5!} - \dots \right) \\ &= \cos \theta + j \sin \theta. \end{aligned}$$

(Hence the expression $e^{j\pi} - 1 = 0$.)

Notes

3 / 5

Phasors

A sinusoid can be described as $A \cos(\omega t + \phi)$ in terms that are *variable*:

- time t , $-\infty < t < +\infty$
- angular frequency $\omega = 2\pi \nu$
- temporal frequency ν

and *constant*:

- amplitude A
- phase ϕ

A phasor is used to encode the constants,

$$A e^{j\phi} = A (\cos \phi + j \sin \phi).$$

Multiply by exponential function encoding the variables $e^{j\omega t}$ to get a sinusoid,

$$A e^{j\phi} e^{j\omega t} = A e^{j(\phi + \omega t)}.$$

$$A \operatorname{Re}\{e^{j(\phi + \omega t)}\} = A \cos(\omega t + \phi).$$

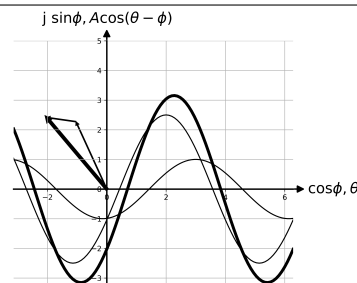
Sum of two sinusoids with the same ang. freq. ω ,

$$A_1 \cos(\omega t + \phi_1) + A_2 \cos(\omega t + \phi_2) =$$

$$\operatorname{Re}\{A_1 e^{j(\omega t + \phi_1)} + A_2 e^{j(\omega t + \phi_2)}\} =$$

$$\operatorname{Re}\{(A_1 e^{j\phi_1} + A_2 e^{j\phi_2}) e^{j\omega t}\}.$$

Which is the sum of phasors encoding the constants multiplied by an exponential function encoding the variables.



Notes

4 / 5

Phasor calculus

The derivative with respect to time of the exponential function of the variables can be expressed as a phasor,

$$\frac{d}{dt}e^t = e^t \text{ so } \frac{d}{dt}e^{\omega t} = \omega e^{\omega t} \text{ and}$$
$$\frac{d}{dt}e^{j\omega t} = j\omega e^{j\omega t} = \omega e^{j\pi/2} e^{j\omega t}$$

since $j = 0 + j1 = \cos \frac{\pi}{2} + j \sin \frac{\pi}{2} = e^{j\pi/2}$.

For example, find the derivative with respect to time of a sinusoid expressed using a phasor,

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dt}(Ae^{j\phi}e^{j\omega t}) &= Ae^{j\phi}(j\omega)e^{j\omega t} \\ &= Ae^{j\phi}e^{j\pi/2}\omega e^{j\omega t} \\ &= \omega Ae^{j(\phi+\pi/2)}e^{j\omega t}.\end{aligned}$$

To differentiate: multiply by $j\omega = \omega e^{j\pi/2}$.

To integrate: multiply by $\frac{1}{j\omega} = \frac{1}{\omega}e^{-j\pi/2}$.

$$\begin{aligned}\operatorname{Re}\{\omega Ae^{j(\phi+\pi/2)}e^{j\omega t}\} &= \omega A \cos(\omega t + \phi + \pi/2) \\ &= \omega A \sin(\omega t + \phi).\end{aligned}$$

5 / 5

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