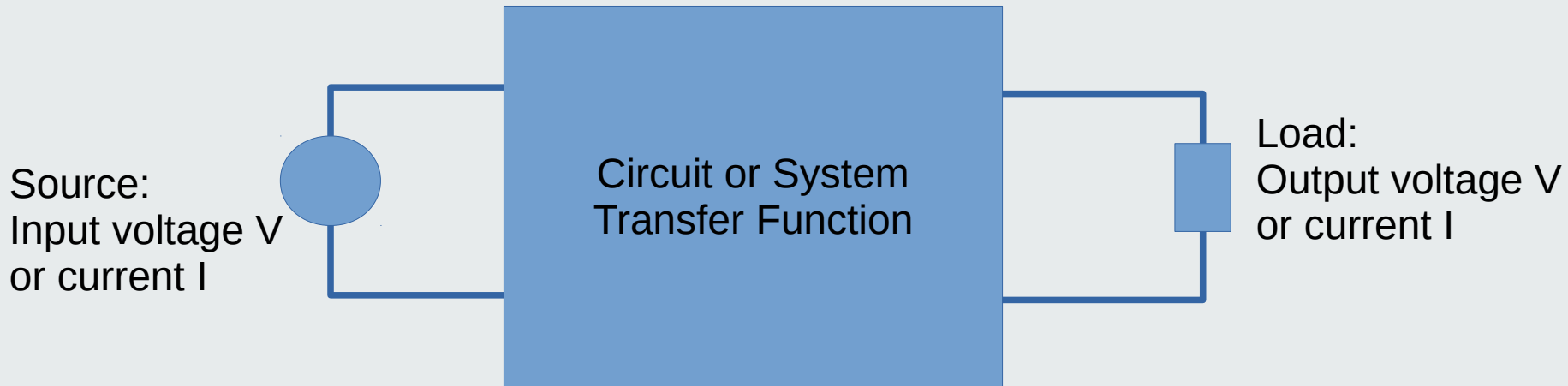


# Circuit Theory and Electronics Fundamentals

## Lecture 8: Transfer Function

- What is a transfer function
- RC and RL transfer function types
- Amplitude as a function of frequency
- Phase as a function of frequency
- Using logarithmic scale
- Magnitude Bode plot
- Phase Bode plot
- Complex frequency and transfer function
- Octave Bode plots

# What is a transfer function



- Transfer function: computes complex output from complex input
- We know how to compute the response for a ***sinusoidal*** input: magnitude and phase of output
- Signals can be decomposed into a series of sinusoidal signals of various frequencies (Fourier Analysis)
- A function that computes the sinusoidal output from a sinusoidal input can compute the system response because of ***linearity and time invariance***

# Transfer function maths

$$x(u) \rightarrow y(u) \Rightarrow a x_a(u) + b x_b(u) \rightarrow a y_a(u) + b y_b(u) \quad \text{Linearity}$$

$$x(t) \rightarrow y(t) \Rightarrow x(t - \delta) \rightarrow y(t - \delta) \quad \text{Time invariance}$$

$$f(t) \Leftrightarrow F(s) \quad \text{Time domain versus complex frequency domain representation}$$

$$s = j\omega$$

$$f(t) \Leftrightarrow \tilde{F}(\omega)$$

Sinusoidal time function maps to frequency dependent phasor

$$T(j\omega): \tilde{X}(j\omega) \rightarrow \tilde{Y}(j\omega)$$

$$\tilde{Y}(j\omega) = T(j\omega) \tilde{X}(j\omega)$$

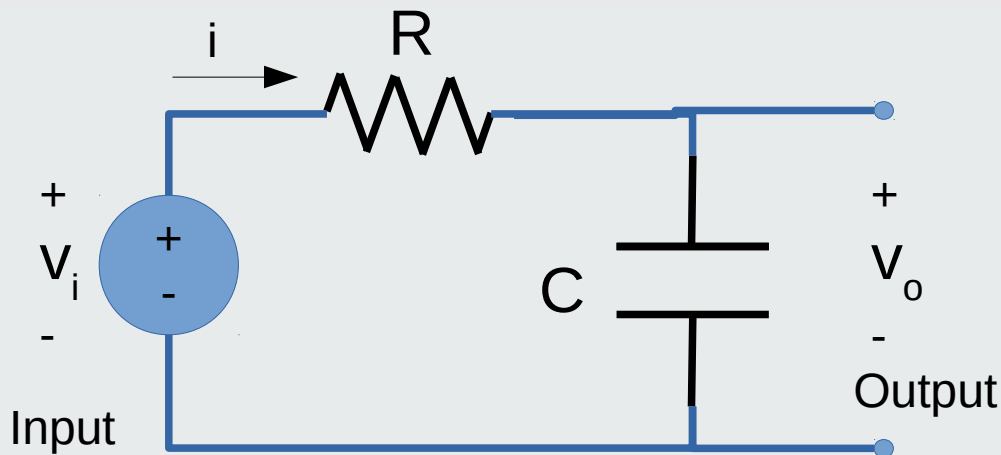
$$T(j\omega) = \frac{\tilde{Y}(j\omega)}{\tilde{X}(j\omega)}$$

The frequency response converts input phasor into output phasor

In LTI circuits phasors at a given frequency have linear relations

The frequency response is just the phasor quotient!

# RC frequency response



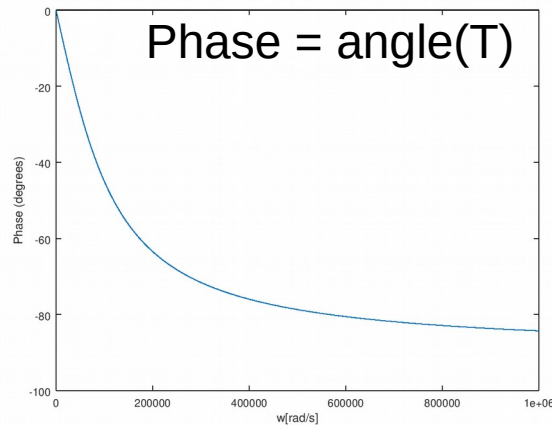
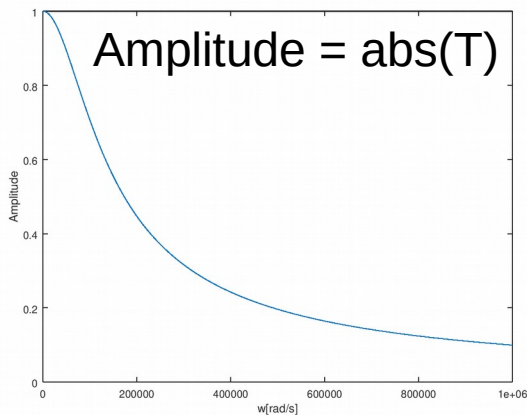
$$\tilde{V}_i = Ri + \tilde{V}_o \text{ (KVL)}$$

$$i = \frac{\tilde{V}_o}{Z_C} \text{ (Ohm's)}$$

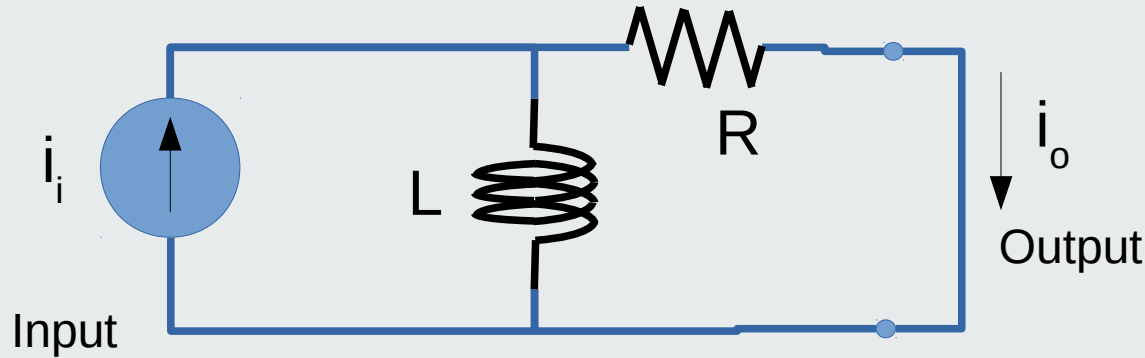
$$Z_C = \frac{1}{j\omega C}$$

$$\tilde{V}_i = (1 + j\omega RC) \tilde{V}_o$$

$$T(j\omega) = \frac{\tilde{V}_o}{\tilde{V}_i} = \frac{1}{1 + j\omega RC}$$



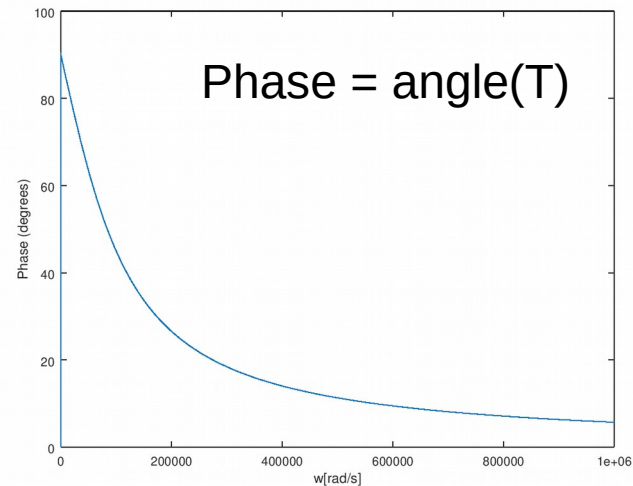
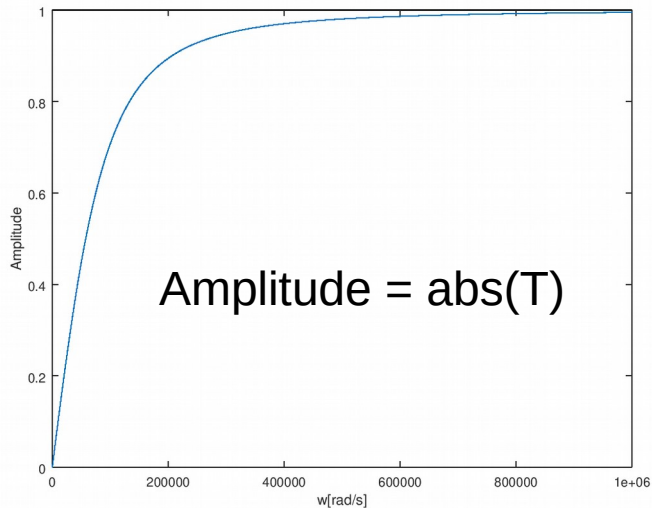
# RL frequency response



Current div.

$$\tilde{I}_o = \frac{\frac{1}{R}}{\frac{1}{R} + \frac{1}{j\omega L}} \tilde{I}_i$$

$$T(j\omega) = \frac{\tilde{I}_o}{\tilde{I}_i} = \frac{j\omega L}{R + j\omega L}$$



# Using logarithmic scale

- Several plots use logarithmic scales for the X and Y axes
- Log scales are a convenient way to **make the plot fit** in the figure
- Log plots exploit common user behaviour:
  - User is particularly interested in a certain region of X and Y
  - User still wants to see the plot outside the region of interest but in less detail
- Log scale provides great visual detail around 1, which is represented by 0 in log scale:  $\log(1) = 0$
- Log scale provides less detail for very small or very large numbers but enables seeing a wide range

# The decibel (dB)

$$X_{dB} = 20 \log_{10}(X)$$

$$Y_{dB} = 20 \log_{10}(Y)$$

The decibel (dB) is a convenient logarithmic scale historically used for sound levels

$$Y_{dB} = X_{dB} + 10 \Rightarrow 20 \log_{10}(Y) = 20 \log_{10}(X) + 10$$

$$\log_{10}\left(\frac{Y}{X}\right) = \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow \frac{Y^2}{X^2} = 10$$

each 10dB increment corresponds to 10x more power

$$Y_{dB} = X_{dB} + 20 \Rightarrow 20 \log_{10}(Y) = 20 \log_{10}(X) + 20$$

$$\log_{10}\left(\frac{Y}{X}\right) = 1 \Rightarrow \frac{Y}{X} = 10$$

Each 20dB increment corresponds to 10x more amplitude

$$Y = T X \Rightarrow Y_{dB} = T_{dB} + X_{dB}$$

Multiplications are converted into additions

# Expressing $|T(j\omega)|$ in dBs

$$T(j\omega) = \frac{j\omega L}{R + j\omega L}$$

$$|T(j\omega)| = \frac{\omega L}{\sqrt{R^2 + \omega^2 L^2}}$$

$$|T(j\omega)|_{dB} = 20 \log_{10} \left( \sqrt{\frac{\omega^2 L^2}{R^2 + \omega^2 L^2}} \right)$$

$$|T(j\omega)|_{dB} = 20 \log_{10}(\omega) + 20 \log_{10}(L) - 10 \log_{10}(R^2 + \omega^2 L^2)$$



# Magnitude Bode Plot

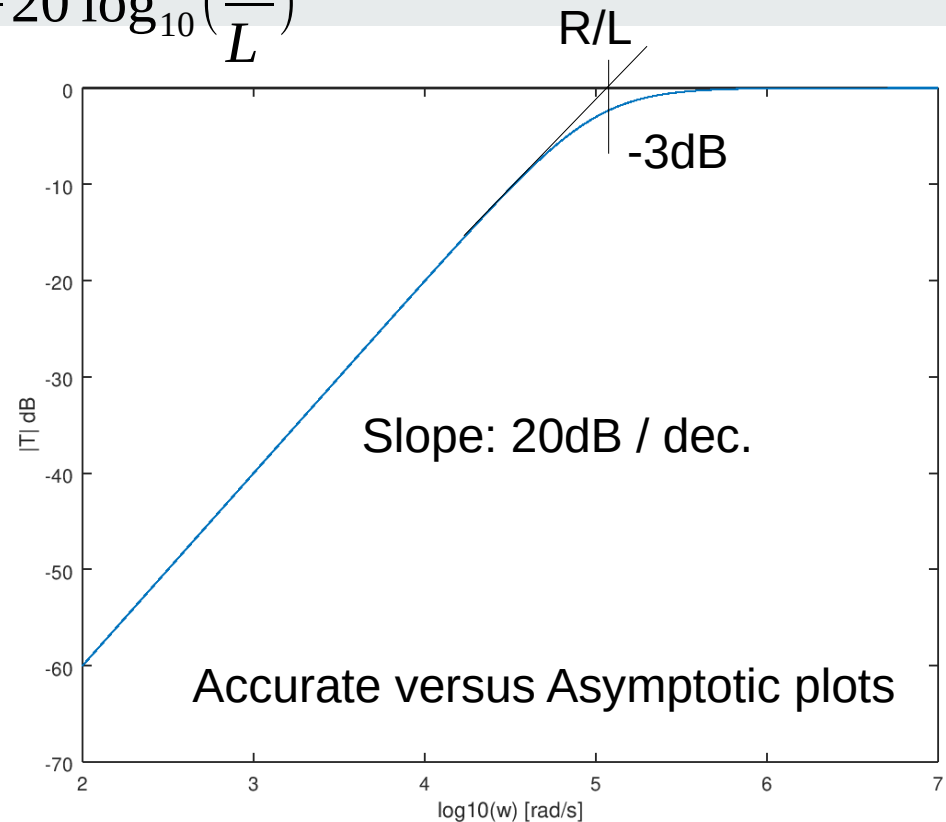
$$|T(j\omega)|_{dB} = 20 \log_{10}(\omega) + 20 \log_{10}(L) - 10 \log_{10}(R^2 + \omega^2 L^2)$$

$$\omega \ll \frac{R}{L} \Rightarrow |T(j\omega)|_{dB} = 20 \log_{10}(\omega) - 20 \log_{10}\left(\frac{R}{L}\right)$$

$$\omega = \frac{R}{L} \Rightarrow |T(j\omega)|_{dB} = -3 \text{ dB}$$

$$\omega \gg \frac{R}{L} \Rightarrow |T(j\omega)|_{dB} = 0$$

Magnitude Bode plot:  
 asymptotic plot of  
 $|T(\log(\omega))|_{dB}$



# Phase Bode Plot

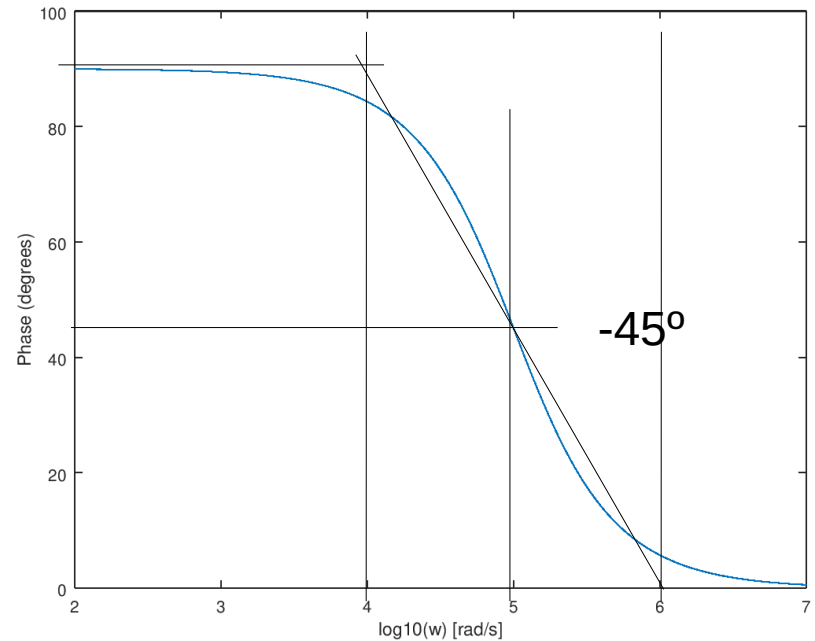
$$T(j\omega) = \frac{j\omega L}{R + j\omega L}$$

$$\angle T(j\omega) = \frac{\pi}{2} - \arctan\left(\omega \frac{L}{R}\right)$$

$$\omega \ll \frac{R}{L} \Rightarrow T(j\omega) = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$\omega = \frac{R}{L} \Rightarrow T(j\omega) = \frac{\pi}{4}$$

$$\omega \gg \frac{R}{L} \Rightarrow T(j\omega) = 0$$



Accurate versus Asymptotic plots

Phase Bode plot:  $\angle T(\log(\omega))$

# Complex frequency

$$T(j\omega) = \frac{j\omega L}{R + j\omega L}$$

Note  $j$  and  $\omega$  always hang out together

$$s = \sigma + j\omega$$

$j\omega$  is a particular value of the **complex frequency  $s$**

$$T(s) = \frac{sL + 0}{sL + R}$$

Transfer functions are commonly expressed as a ratio of two polynomials in  $s$

# Using $T(s)$ in Octave

- The time  $t$  is the real variable in a time real function
- The frequency  $\omega$  is the real variable in the Fourier transform complex function
- The complex frequency  $s$  is the complex variable in the Laplace transform complex function
- The Laplace transform is more general than the Fourier transform and covers a wider range of time functions
- Octave can produce “Bode plots” and many other niceties if the user just inputs  $T(s)$ ! – Let’s see how.

# Conclusion

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