

Here is the notes of alternating current chapter:

Consider each topic as a main node and the contents under them as individual sub nodes

AC Sources

- Direct current (dc)
refers to systems in which the source voltage is constant.
- Alternating current (ac)
refers to systems in which the source voltage varies periodically, particularly sinusoidally.
- The voltage source of an ac system puts out a voltage that is calculated from the time, the peak voltage, and the angular frequency.
- In a simple circuit, the current is found by dividing the voltage by the resistance.
. An ac current is calculated using the peak current (determined by dividing the peak voltage by the resistance), the angular frequency, and the time.

Simple AC Circuits

- For resistors, the current through and the voltage across are in phase.
- For capacitors, we find that when a sinusoidal voltage

is applied to a capacitor, the voltage follows the current by one-fourth of a cycle. Since a capacitor can stop current when fully charged, it limits current and offers another form of ac resistance, called capacitive reactance, which has units of ohms.

- For inductors in ac circuits, we find that when a sinusoidal voltage is applied to an inductor, the voltage leads the current by one-fourth of a cycle.
- The opposition of an inductor to a change in current is expressed as a type of ac reactance. This inductive reactance, which has units of ohms, varies with the frequency of the ac source.

RLC Series Circuits with AC

- An **RLC** series Circuit is a resistor, capacitor, and inductor series combination across an ac source.
- The same current flows through each element of an **RLC** series circuit at all points in time.
- The counterpart of resistance in a dc

circuit

is

impedance

, which measures the combined effect of resistors, capacitors, and inductors.

The maximum current is defined by the ac version of

Ohm

's law.

- Impedance has units of ohms and is found using the resistance, the capacitive reactance, and the inductive reactance.

Power in an AC

Circuit

- The average ac power is found by multiplying the rms values of current and voltage.
- Ohm's law for the rms ac is found by dividing the rms voltage by the impedance.
- In an ac circuit, there is a phase angle between the source voltage and the current, which can be found by dividing the resistance by the impedance.

- The average power delivered to an **RLC** circuit is affected by the phase angle.
- The power factor ranges from -1 to 1 .

Resonance in an AC

Circuit

- At the resonant frequency, inductive reactance equals capacitive reactance.
- The average power versus angular frequency plot for a **RLC** circuit has a peak located at the resonant frequency; the sharpness or width of the peak is known as the bandwidth.
- The bandwidth is related to a dimensionless quantity called the quality factor. A high quality factor value is a sharp or narrow peak.

Transformers

- Power plants transmit high voltages at low currents to achieve lower ohmic losses in their many kilometers of transmission lines.
- Transformers use induction to transform voltages from one value to another.
- For a transformer
, the voltages across the primary and secondary coils, or windings, are related by the transformer equation
 .
- The currents in the primary and secondary windings are related by the number of primary and secondary loops, or turns, in the windings of the transformer
 .
- A
step-up transformer
increases
voltage
and decreases current, whereas a
step-down transformer
decreases
voltage
and increases current.