

## Module 3.5 : Three-phase balanced circuits, voltage & current relations in star & Delta connections

### \* 3 phase system:

- ① Single phase ( $1\phi$ ) system  $\rightarrow$  domestic applications' eg mixer, coolers, fans, ACs, refrigerators, etc
- ② For generation, transmission and distribution of electric power, three phase ( $3\phi$ ) system is universally accepted as standard system

- ③ Three-phase voltages w.r.t time:

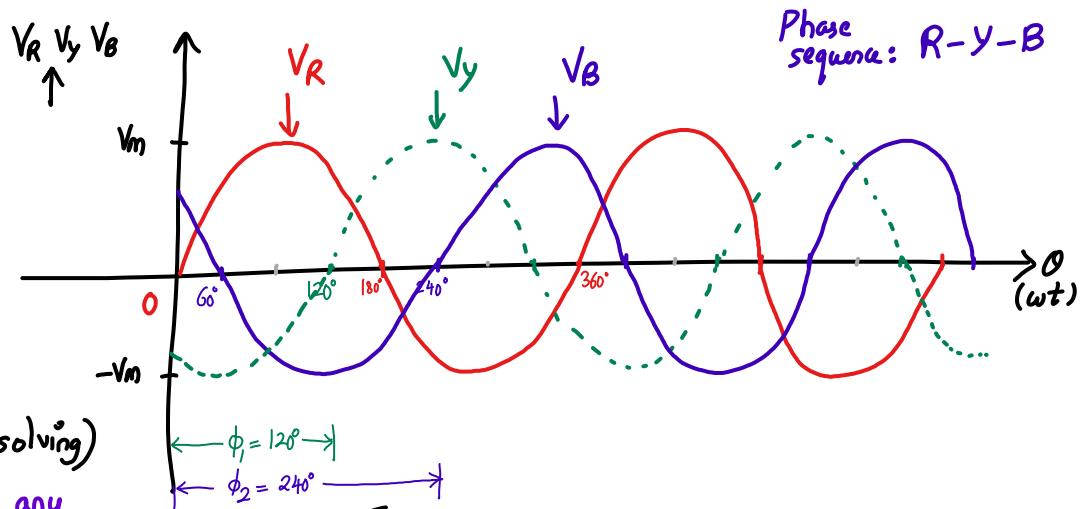
$$V_R = V_m \sin(\omega t - 0^\circ)$$

$$V_Y = V_m \sin(\omega t - 120^\circ)$$

$$V_B = V_m \sin(\omega t - 240^\circ)$$

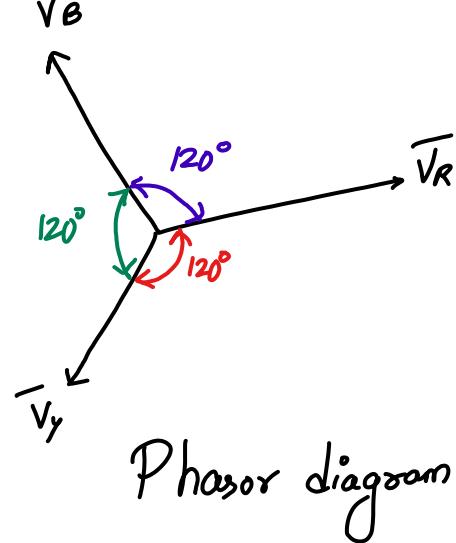
$$V_R + V_Y + V_B = 0 \quad (\text{Try solving})$$

$\hookrightarrow$  sum of 3 voltages at any instant is zero



- ④  $3\phi$  supply system have three independent attenuating voltages ( $V_R, V_Y, V_B$ )

- ⑤ These voltages have same magnitude & frequency but they have a phase difference of  $120^\circ$  between them.



## \* Advantages of $3\phi$ system over $1\phi$ system:

① In a  $1\phi$  system, the instantaneous power is fluctuating → hence causes considerable vibrations in  $1\phi$  motor

But, in  $3\phi$  system → the instantaneous power is constant at all times

② Output of a  $3\phi$  system (415V, 50Hz) is greater than that of  $1\phi$  system (230V, 50Hz)

③  $3\phi$  motors (employing  $3\phi$  supply) are more efficient and have higher p.f than  $1\phi$  motors running at same frequency

⑤  $3\phi$  motors are self-starting, whereas  $1\phi$  system are not self-starting

⑥  $1\phi$  supply can be obtained from a  $3\phi$  system but not vice-versa

④ For transmission & distribution, employing  $3\phi$  system, is cheaper than  $1\phi$  system → since a  $3\phi$  system needs less copper than a  $1\phi$  system.

↓  
Terminology ahead

## \* Terminology related to 3 $\phi$ systems:

① **Phase sequence:** The order in which the voltages in the 3 phases reach their maximum positive value is called the 'Phase sequence' or 'phase order'  
eg R-Y-B in 3 $\phi$  supply

② **Phase voltage:** The voltage induced ( $V_{ph}$ ) in each winding is called 'phase voltage'

③ **Phase current:** The current flowing through each winding is called 'phase current'

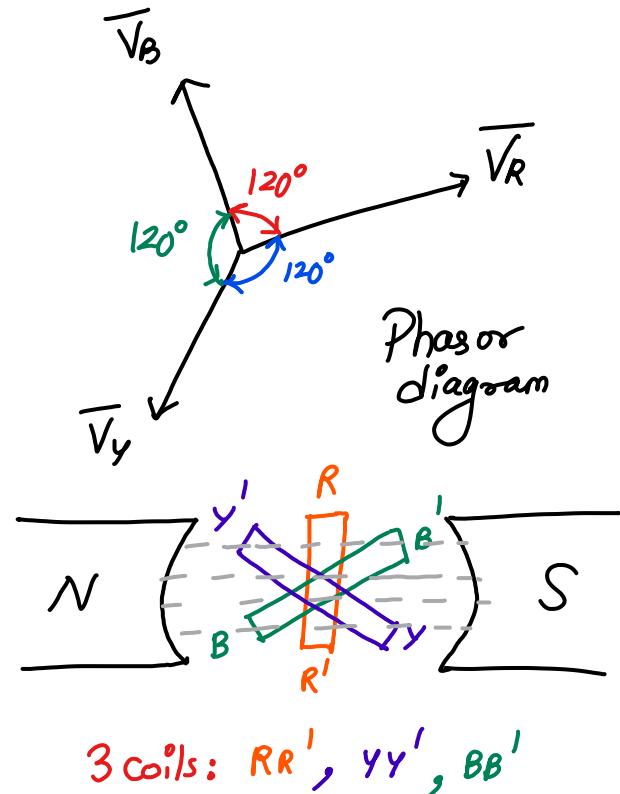
④ **Line voltage:** The voltage available between any pair of terminals/Lines is called 'Line voltage'

⑤ **Line current:** The current flowing through each line is called the 'Line current'

⑥ **Symmetrical / Balanced 3 $\phi$  system:**

A 3 $\phi$  system is said to be balanced if

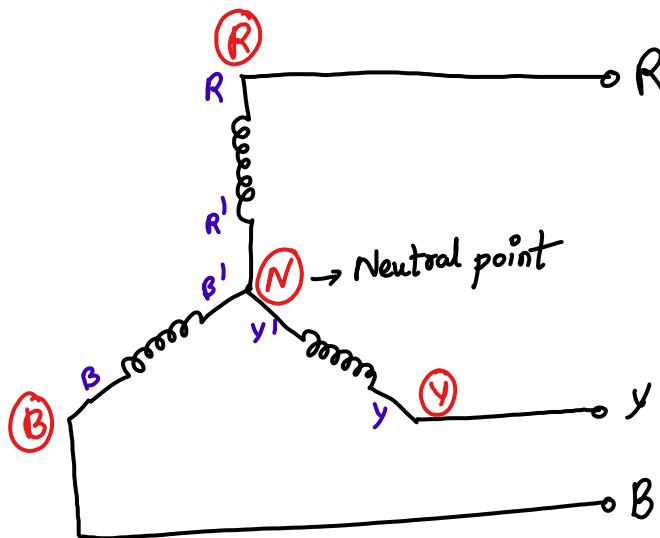
- ① Voltages in 3 phases are equal in magnitude & differ in phase from each other by  $120^\circ$
- ② Currents in 3 phases are equal in magnitude & differ in phase from each other by  $120^\circ$



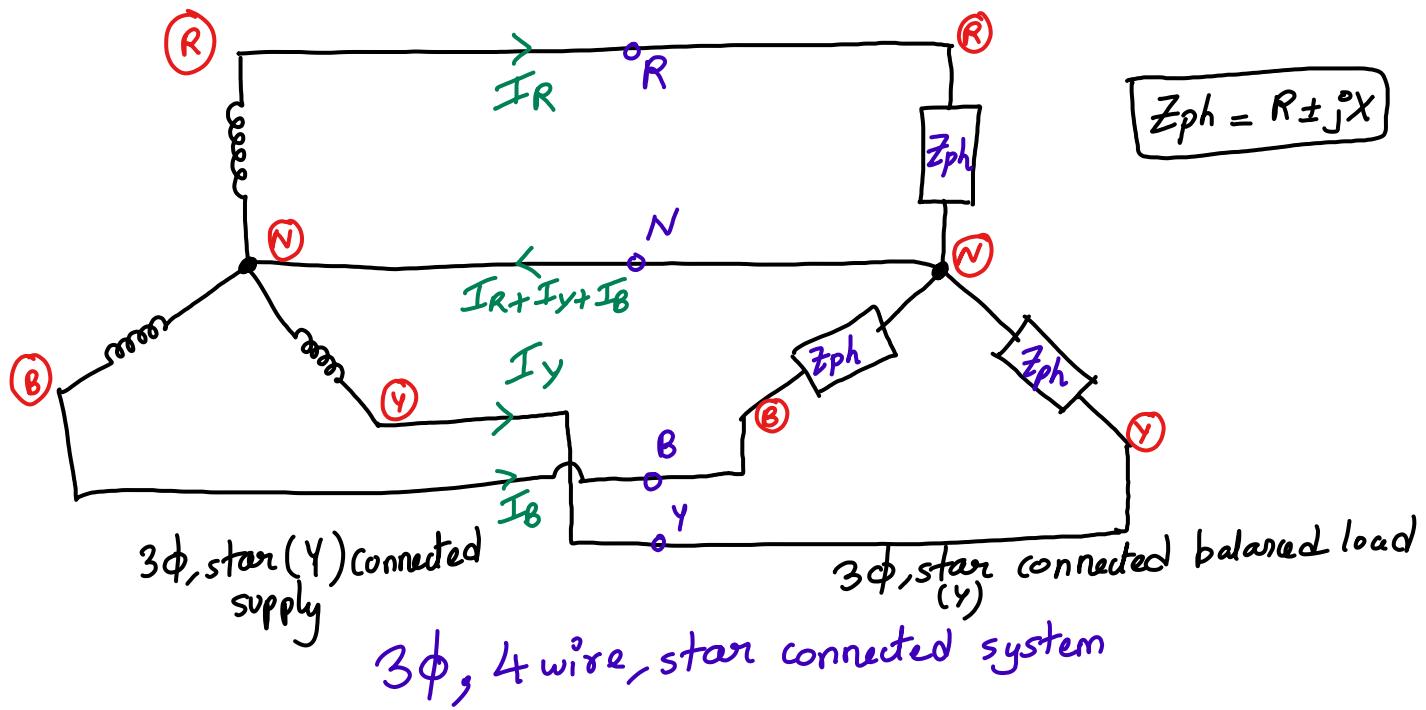
3 coils:  $RR'$ ,  $YY'$ ,  $BB'$

③ The loads connected across the 3 phases are identical i.e all the loads have same magnitude & power factor

\* Star connection (3 phase) : → Similar terminals (start or finish) of the 3 windings are joined together as shown  
→ The common point is called "Neutral point")



3φ star connected supply



① 3 Line currents are  $I_R$ ,  $I_Y$ ,  $I_B$

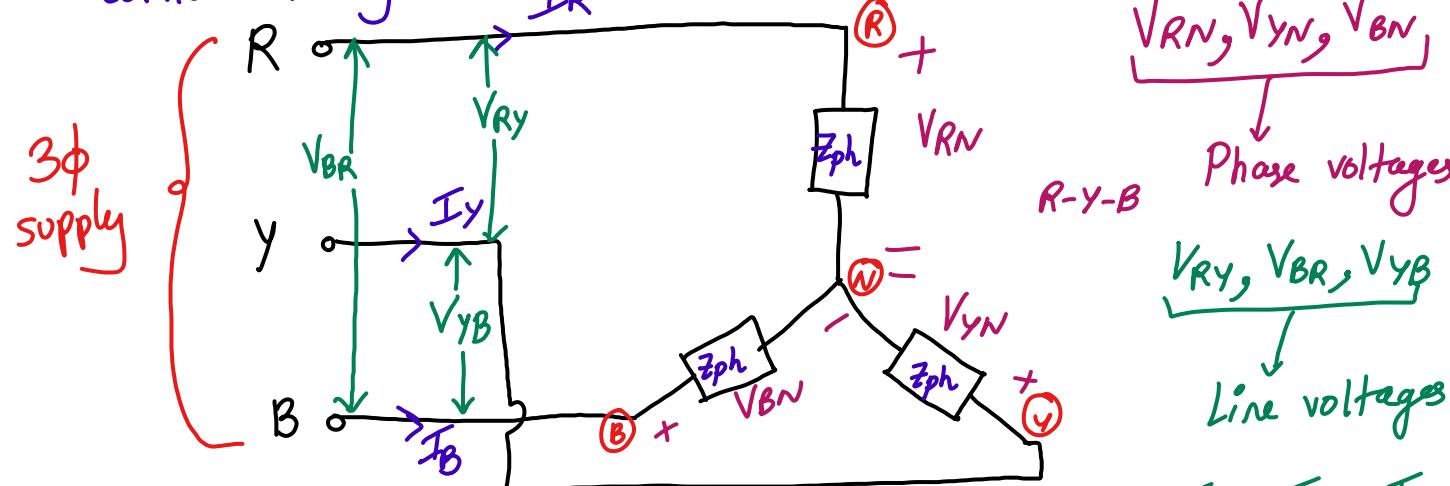
$$I_R = I_m \sin(\omega t - 0^\circ)$$

$$I_Y = I_m \sin(\omega t - 120^\circ)$$

$$I_B = I_m \sin(\omega t - 240^\circ)$$

② Current flowing through neutral wire is  $I_R + I_Y + I_B = 0$  (Check this)  
∴ If the load is balanced  $\rightarrow$  the neutral wire carries zero current

\* Voltage, current & power relations in a balanced 3 $\phi$  star connected system:  $I_R$



3 $\phi$ , star(Y) connected balanced load

R-Y-B

Phase voltages

$V_{RY}, V_{YB}, V_{BR}$

Line voltages

$$I_R = I_Y = I_B = I_L = I_{ph}$$

Line and Phase currents

① As the load is balanced, (let magnitude of each phase is  $V_{ph}$ )

$$\therefore V_{ph} = V_{RN} = V_{YN} = V_{BN}$$

↳ only magnitudes are same

$$V_{RN} = V_{ph} \angle 0^\circ$$

$$V_{YN} = V_{ph} \angle -120^\circ$$

$$V_{BN} = V_{ph} \angle -240^\circ$$

② The 3 line voltages are  $V_{RY}, V_{YB}, V_{BR}$  (For balanced system  
 $V_L = V_{RY} = V_{YB} = V_{BR}$ )

③ Writing line voltages w.r.t  
phase voltages:

$$\overline{V_{RY}} = \overline{V_{RN}} + \overline{V_{YN}} = \overline{V_{RN}} - \overline{V_{YN}}$$

↓

$$\frac{\overline{V_{RN}} - \overline{V_{YN}}}{\overline{V_{RN}} + \overline{V_{YN}}}$$

$$\text{i.e. } \overline{V_{RY}} = V_{ph} \angle 0^\circ - V_{ph} \angle -120^\circ$$

$$\text{i.e. } \overline{V_{RY}} = (V_{ph} + j0) - (-0.5V_{ph} - j0.866V_{ph})$$

$$\text{i.e. } \overline{V_{RY}} = 1.5V_{ph} + j0.866V_{ph}$$

$$\text{i.e. } \overline{V_{RY}} = \sqrt{3} V_{ph} \angle 30^\circ$$

Similarly,  $\overline{V_{YB}} = \overline{V_{YN}} + \overline{V_{NB}} = \sqrt{3} V_{ph} \angle 30^\circ$   
 $\overline{V_{BR}} = \overline{V_{BN}} + \overline{V_{NR}} = \sqrt{3} V_{ph} \angle 30^\circ$

④ ∵ In a star connected 3φ system  $\rightarrow$  line voltages lead the respective phase voltages by  $30^\circ$

$$V_L = \sqrt{3} V_{ph}$$

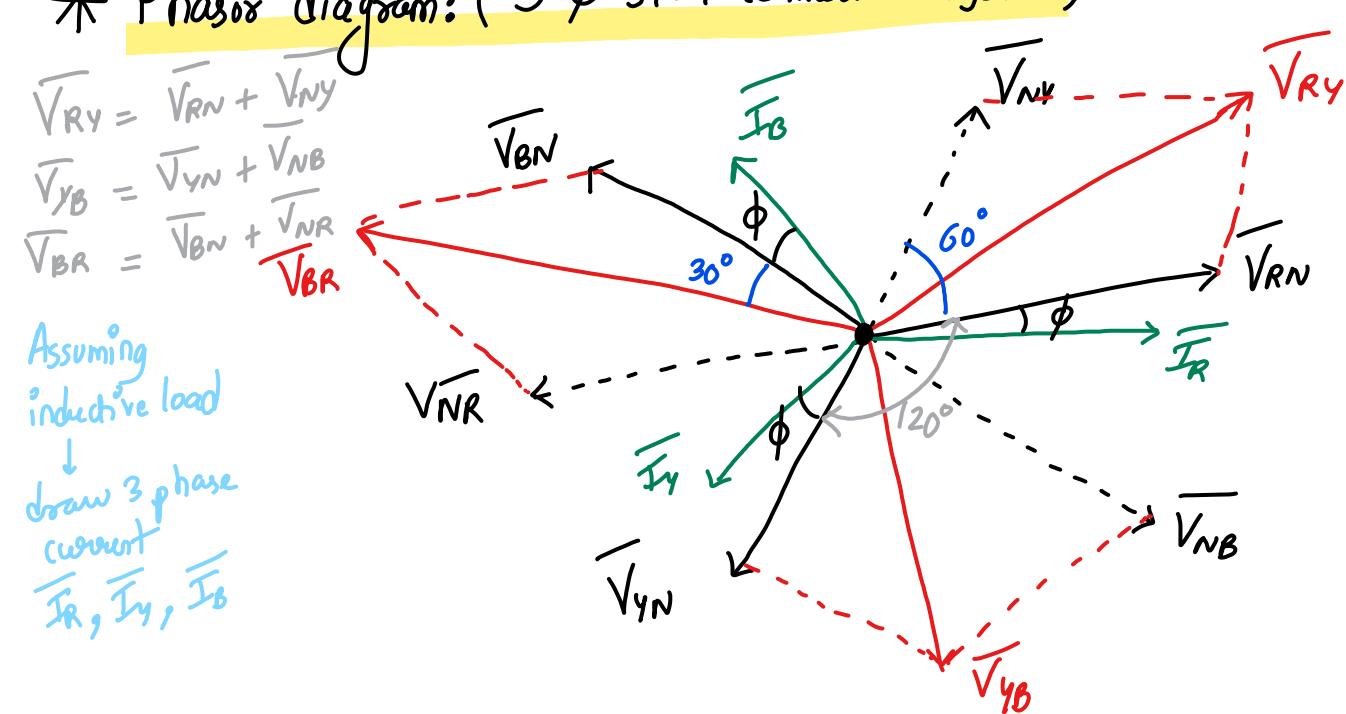
$3\phi, \text{star}$

⑤ Line current is equal to the phase current

$$I_L = I_{ph}$$

$3\phi, \text{star system}$

\* Phasor diagram: (3 φ star connected balanced system)



\* Power (3φ star connected balanced system):

① In a 3φ star connected balanced load, power consumed in each load phase is the same  $\rightarrow$  so all 3 phases are identical  
 $\therefore$  Total power is the sum of powers in the 3 phases i.e.

② Power in each phase  $P' = V_{ph} I_{ph} \cos \phi$  (W)

Total power,  $P = 3 \times \text{power in each phase}$

$$P = 3 V_{ph} I_{ph} \cos \phi \quad (W \text{ or } kW)$$

③ For a star connected,  $V_L = \sqrt{3} V_{ph}$ ,  $I_L = I_{ph}$

$$P = 3 \frac{V_L}{\sqrt{3}} I_L \cos \phi$$

$$P = \frac{\sqrt{3} \times \cancel{\sqrt{3}}}{\cancel{\sqrt{3}}} V_L I_L \cos \phi$$

$$P = \sqrt{3} V_L I_L \cos \phi$$

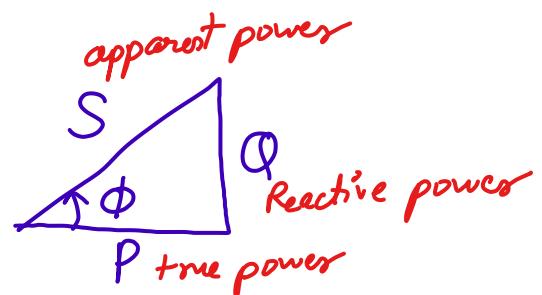
3φ star system

where,  $\phi$  is the phase difference between the phase voltage & the corresponding phase current.

④ Total reactive power,

$$Q = 3 V_{ph} I_{ph} \sin \phi = \sqrt{3} V_L I_L \sin \phi$$

Power triangle



$$\text{VAR or KVAR } S^2 = P^2 + Q^2$$

⑤ Total apparent power,

$$S = 3 V_{ph} I_{ph} = \sqrt{3} V_L I_L$$

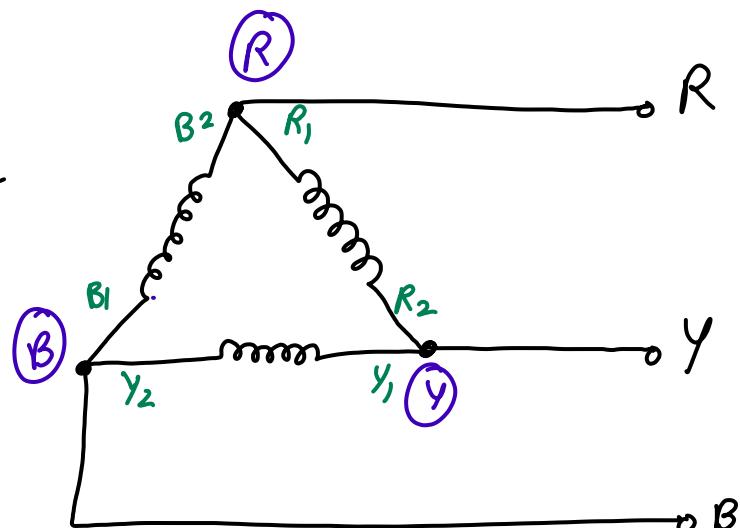
VA or KVA

— X —

## \* 3 φ Delta connection:

① Here, dissimilar terminals of the 3 windings are joined together.

② Here, the 3 phase voltages are equal in magnitude & differ in phase from each other by  $120^\circ$



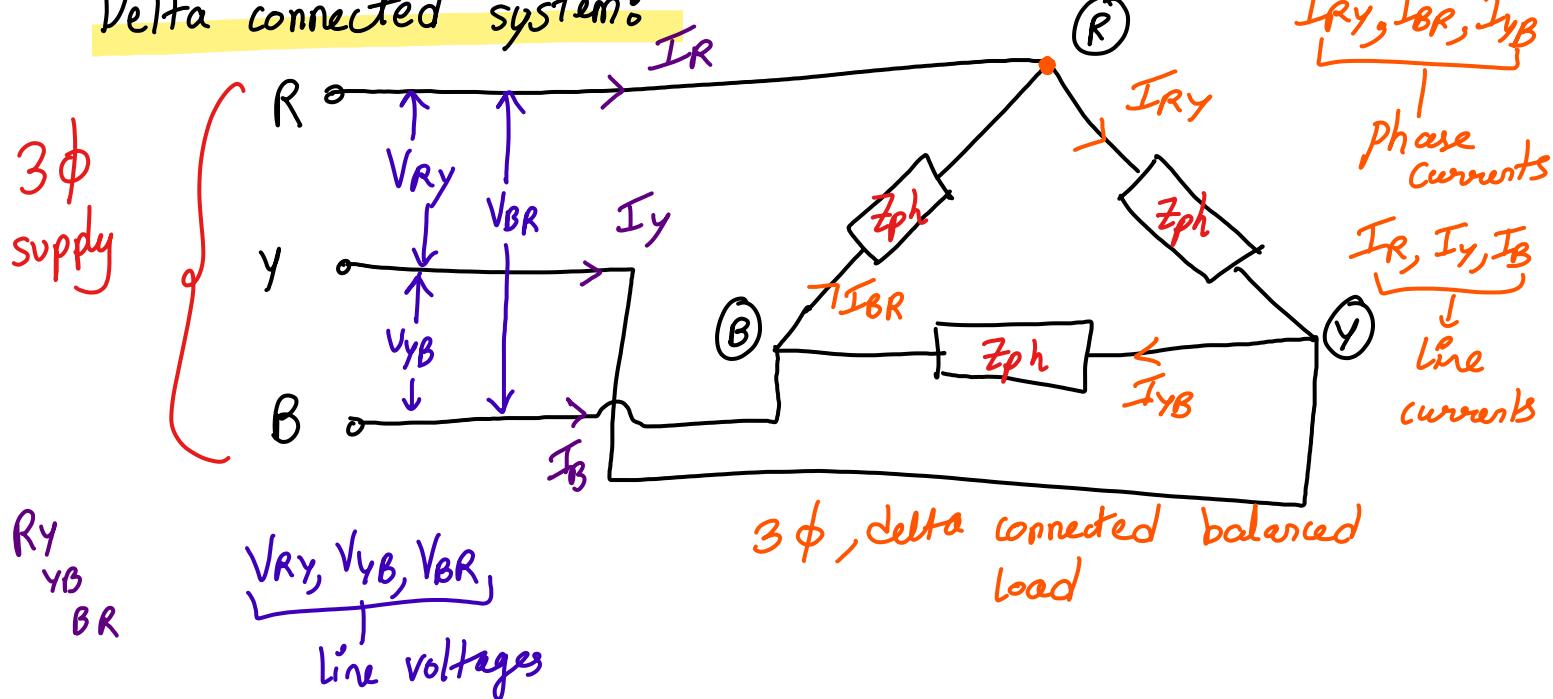
3φ, Delta connected supply

$$V_R = V_m \sin(\omega t - 0^\circ), \quad V_Y = V_m \sin(\omega t - 120^\circ)$$

$$V_B = V_m \sin(\omega t - 240^\circ)$$

$$V_R + V_Y + V_B = 0 \text{ (can be proven!)}$$

## \* Voltage, current and power relations in a balanced 3 φ Delta connected system:



3φ, delta connected balanced load

$$\begin{array}{l} V_{RY}, V_{BY}, V_{BR} \\ \hline \text{Line voltages} \end{array}$$

$I_{RY}, I_{BR}, I_{BY}$   
 Phase currents  
 $I_R, I_Y, I_B$   
 Line currents

- ①  $V_L = V_{RY} = V_{YB} = V_{BR}$  ---- Load is balanced
- ② In a  $3\phi$  delta connected system, Line voltage is same as phase voltage  
 $V_L = V_{ph}$
- ③ As the load is balanced, all the 3 phase currents are equal in magnitude but differ in phase from each other by  $120^\circ$   
 i.e.  $\bar{I}_{RY} = \bar{I}_{YB} = \bar{I}_{BR} = \bar{I}_{ph}$   $\hookrightarrow$  magnitude of phase current

i.e.  $\bar{I}_{RY} = \bar{I}_{ph} \angle 0^\circ$

$\bar{I}_{YB} = \bar{I}_{ph} \angle -120^\circ$

$\bar{I}_{BR} = \bar{I}_{ph} \angle -240^\circ$

- ④ 3 Line currents are  $\bar{I}_R, \bar{I}_Y, \bar{I}_B$

$\bar{I}_R = \bar{I}_Y = \bar{I}_B = \bar{I}_L$   $\hookrightarrow$  magnitude of line current

- ⑤ KCL at node (R),  $\bar{I}_R + \bar{I}_{BR} = \bar{I}_{RY}$

i.e.  $\bar{I}_R = \bar{I}_{RY} - \bar{I}_{BR} = \bar{I}_{ph} \angle 0^\circ - \bar{I}_{ph} \angle -240^\circ$

i.e.  $\bar{I}_R = (\bar{I}_{ph} + j0) - (-0.5\bar{I}_{ph} + j0.866\bar{I}_{ph})$

i.e.  $\bar{I}_R = 1.5\bar{I}_{ph} - j0.866\bar{I}_{ph}$

$\boxed{\bar{I}_R = \sqrt{3}\bar{I}_{ph} \angle -30^\circ}$

- ⑥ Similarly,  $\bar{I}_Y + \bar{I}_{RY} = \bar{I}_{YB}; \bar{I}_Y = \bar{I}_{YB} - \bar{I}_{RY} = \sqrt{3}\bar{I}_{ph} \angle 30^\circ$

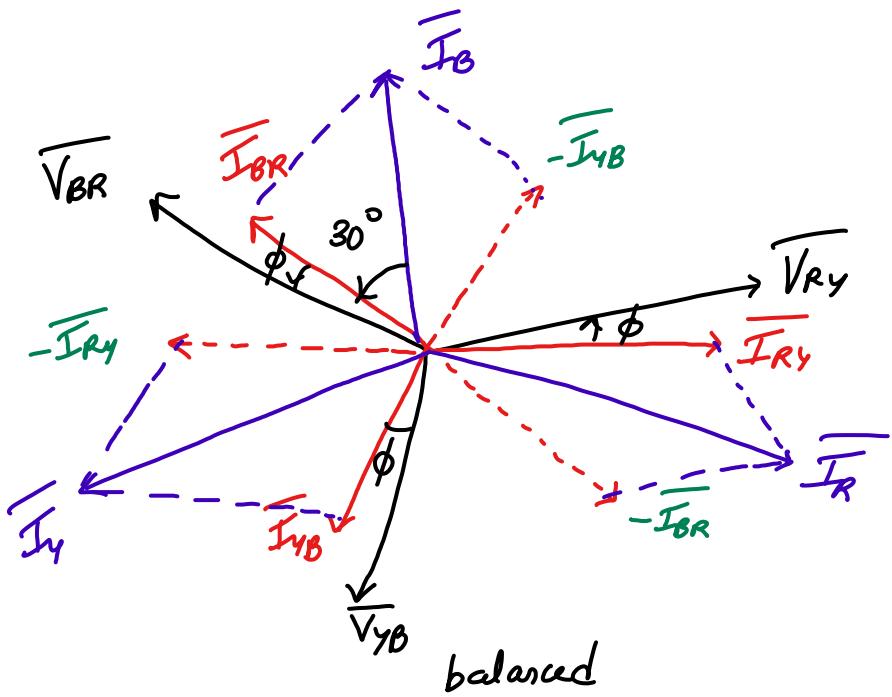
$$\bar{I}_B + \bar{I}_{yB} = \bar{I}_{BR} ; \bar{I}_B = \bar{I}_{BR} - \bar{I}_{yB} = \sqrt{3} I_{ph} \angle -30^\circ$$

- ⑦  $\therefore$  In a 3φ delta connected system  $\rightarrow$  line currents ( $I_R, I_B, I_y$ ) are  $30^\circ$  behind the respective phase currents ( $\bar{I}_{Ry}, \bar{I}_{yB}, \bar{I}_{BR}$ )  $I_L = \sqrt{3} I_{ph}$

- ⑧ Phasor diagram (3φ Delta connected balanced system)

Assuming  
inductive load

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{I}_R &= \bar{I}_{Ry} + (-\bar{I}_{BR}) \\ \bar{I}_y &= \bar{I}_{yB} + (-\bar{I}_{Ry}) \\ \bar{I}_B &= \bar{I}_{BR} + (-\bar{I}_{yB})\end{aligned}$$



- ⑨ Power: (3φ Delta connected load)

- Here, as all the 3 phases are identical, power consumed in each load phase is the same
- $\therefore$  Total power is the sum of power in each phases
- Power in a single phase  $\Rightarrow P' = V_{ph} I_{ph} \cos \phi$
- Total power  $\Rightarrow P = 3 \times \text{power in each phase}$   
i.e.  $P = 3 V_{ph} I_{ph} \cos \phi$

c) For a  $3\phi$  delta connection,  $V_L = V_{ph}$ ,  $I_L = \sqrt{3} I_{ph}$

$$\therefore P = 3 V_L \frac{I_L}{\sqrt{3}} \cos \phi$$

i.e.  $P = \sqrt{3} V_L I_L \cos \phi$

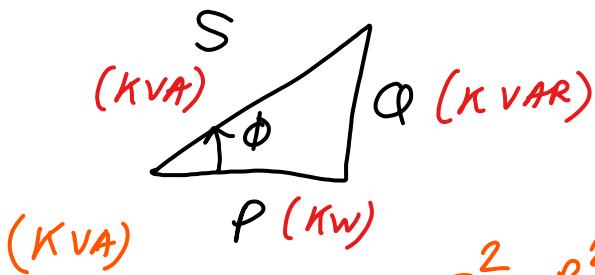
$3\phi$  delta connected

$\phi$  - phase difference betn phase voltage & phase current system

f) Power triangle

→ Apparent power ( $S$ ):

$$S = 3 V_{ph} I_{ph} = \sqrt{3} V_L I_L$$



→ Reactive power ( $Q$ ):

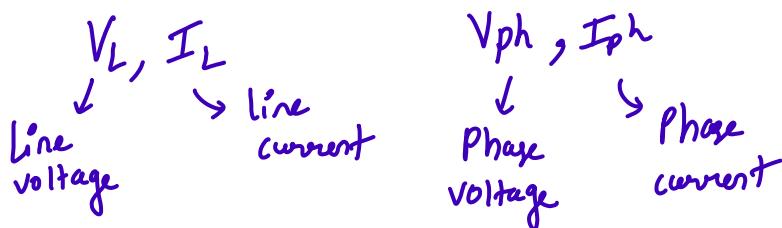
$$Q = 3 V_{ph} I_{ph} \sin \phi = \sqrt{3} V_L I_L \sin \phi$$

$$S^2 = P^2 + Q^2$$

— X —

## \* 3φ balanced Star to delta & Delta to star conversion:

① For a balanced star connected load,



a)  $V_L = \sqrt{3} V_{ph}$       b)  $I_{ph} = I_L$

b)  $Z_{ph} = \frac{V_{ph}}{I_{ph}} = \frac{V_L/\sqrt{3}}{I_L} = \frac{V_L}{\sqrt{3} I_L} \quad \text{--- (1)}$

c)  $I_{ph} = \frac{V_{ph}}{Z_{ph}} = \frac{V_L}{\sqrt{3} Z_{ph}} = I_L$

d)  $P = \sqrt{3} V_L I_L \cos \phi$

$$P = \cancel{\sqrt{3}} V_L \frac{V_L}{\cancel{\sqrt{3}} Z_{ph}} \cos \phi$$

$$P_y = \frac{V_L^2}{Z_{ph}} \cos \phi$$

star ( $y$ ) connected load  
( $P_y$ )

$$Z_{ph} = \frac{V_L}{\sqrt{3} I_L}$$

$$y = \frac{V_L}{\sqrt{3} I_L}$$

$$P_D = \sqrt{3} V_L I_L \cos \phi$$

$$P_D = \sqrt{3} V_L \sqrt{3} V_L \cos \phi$$

$$P_D = \frac{3 V_L^2}{Z_{ph}} \cos \phi$$

$$P_D = 3 \times P_y$$

$$P_y = \frac{1}{3} P_D$$

→ Power consumed by a balanced 3φ star load is  $\frac{1}{3}$ rd of that in case of 3φ Delta load

$$Z_D = 3 \frac{V_L}{\sqrt{3} I_L} = \sqrt{3} \frac{V_L}{I_L} = Z_y$$

② For a balanced delta connected load

$V_L, I_L, I_{ph}, V_{ph}$

a)  $V_{ph} = V_L$       b)  $I_{ph} = \frac{I_L}{\sqrt{3}}$

c)  $Z_{ph} = \frac{V_{ph}}{I_{ph}} = \frac{V_L \sqrt{3}}{I_L}$

d)  $Z_{ph} = \frac{V_L}{I_L} \sqrt{3}$

star impedance

e)  $Z_y = \frac{V_L}{\sqrt{3} I_L}$

3φ delta connected load

$\left( Z_D \right) = \frac{V_L \sqrt{3}}{I_L} = i.e. Z_y = \frac{1}{3} Z_D$

# \* 3φ Star connection Vs 3φ Delta connection

## 3φ star connection

① Circuit diagram

Draw circuit

② Line voltage

$$V_L = \sqrt{3} V_{ph}$$

③ Line current

$$I_L = I_{ph}$$

④ Phase betn angle line & phase quantity

Line voltage leads the respective phase voltage by  $30^\circ$

⑤ Power

$$P_y = \frac{1}{3} P_\Delta$$

⑥ Possible connection

3phase, 3wire & 3phase, 4wire systems are possible

⑦ Neutral point

There is a neutral point

⑧ Motor speed

The speeds of star connected motors are slow as they receive  $1/\sqrt{3}$  voltage

⑨ Cost saving

In star connection, the phase voltage is low as  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$  of the line voltage

∴ It needs a low number of turns, hence, saving in copper and low insulation cost

⑩ Application

It is common & general system used in power transmission

## 3φ Delta connection

Draw circuit

$$V_L = V_{ph}$$

$$I_L = \sqrt{3} I_{ph}$$

Line current lags behind the respective phase current by  $30^\circ$

$$P_o = 3 P_y$$

only

3phase, 3wire system is possible

No neutral point in delta connection

The speeds of Delta connected motors are high because each phase gets the total of line voltage

In delta connection,  $V_{ph} = V_L$  hence, it needs more number of turns which increase the total cost & require high insulation cost

They are used in distribution systems and industries

Numerical 1: Three similar coils, each of resistance  $20\Omega$  & inductance  $0.5H$  are connected in Delta to a  $3\phi, 400V, 50Hz$  supply. Calculate the line current & total power absorbed

Solution:

①  $3\phi$  Delta balanced load

② As the same 3 coils are connected in Delta,  $Z_{ph}$  is same

③ Resistance of each coil  $R = 20\Omega$

④ Inductance of each coil  $L = 0.5H$

⑤ Reactance of each coil  $X_L = 2\pi fL = 100\pi \times 0.5 = 157\Omega$

⑥  $\bar{Z}_{ph} = R + jX_L = (20 + j157)\Omega = \frac{158.34}{\angle 82.74^\circ} \Omega$

⑦  $\phi = 82.74^\circ$

⑧ In a delta connection,  $V_L = V_{ph} = 400V$

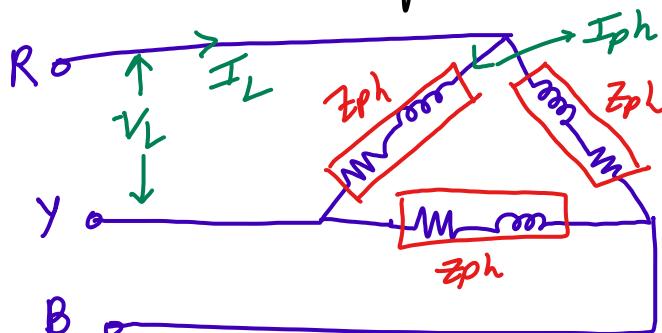
⑨ Phase current,  $I_{ph} = \frac{V_{ph}}{Z_{ph}} = \frac{400}{158.34} = 2.53A$

⑩ Line current,  $I_L = \sqrt{3} I_{ph} = \sqrt{3} \times 2.53 = 4.38A$

⑪ Total power absorbed,  $P = \sqrt{3} V_L I_L \cos \phi$

$$\therefore P = \sqrt{3} \times 400 \times 4.38 \cos(82.74)$$

$$P = 383.48W$$



$$\bar{Z}_{ph} = R + jX_L, \bar{Z}_{ph} = Z_{ph}/\phi$$

**Numerical 2 :** 3 similar coils, each of resistance  $8\Omega$ , & inductance  $0.02H$  are connected in star across a  $3\phi, 430V, 50Hz$  supply. Calculate the line current, total power absorbed, reactive volt amperes, and total volt amperes ( $S \rightarrow VA$ ) ( $Q \rightarrow VAR$ )

**Solution:**

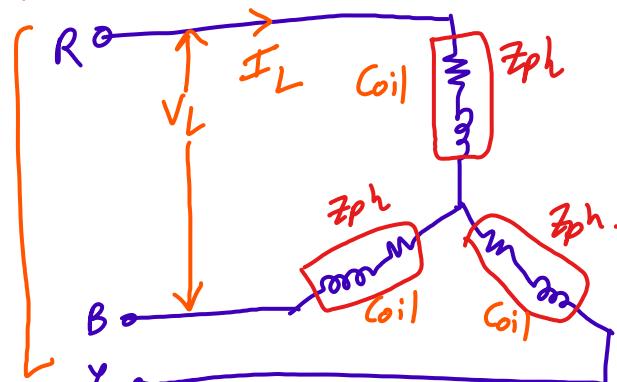
a) Impedance of each coil:  $Z_{ph}$

b)  $Z_{ph} = R + jX_L$

c)  $R = 8\Omega, L = 0.02H$

d)  $X_L = 2\pi fL = 100\pi \times 0.02 = 6.28\Omega$

e)  $Z_{ph} = (8 + j6.28)\Omega = \underline{10.17 / 38.13^\circ \Omega}$



f) In a star connected load,  $V_{ph} = \frac{V_L}{\sqrt{3}} = \frac{430}{\sqrt{3}} = 248.26V$

g) Phase current,  $I_{ph} = \frac{V_{ph}}{Z_{ph}} = \frac{248.26}{10.17} = \underline{24.4A}$

h) Line current,  $I_L = I_{ph} = \underline{24.4A}$

i) Total power absorbed,  $P = \sqrt{3} V_L I_L \cos \phi = \sqrt{3} \times 430 \times 24.4 \times \cos(38.13)$   
 $P = 14.3 \times 10^3 W = \underline{14.3 kW}$

j) Reactive volt amperes,  $Q = \sqrt{3} V_L I_L \sin \phi = \sqrt{3} \times 430 \times 24.4 \times \sin(38.13)$   
 $Q = 11.22 \times 10^3 VAR = \underline{11.22 KVAR}$

k) Volt amperes,  $S = \sqrt{3} V_L I_L = \sqrt{3} \times 430 \times 24.4$

$$S = 18.18 \times 10^3 VA = \underline{18.18 KVA}$$

**Numerical 3 :** A balanced  $3\phi$  load connected in delta, draws a power of 10kW at 440V at a p.f of 0.6 leading. Find the values of circuit elements & reactive power drawn.

Solution: Given:  $P = 10\text{ kW}$ ,  $V_L = 440\text{ V}$ ,  $\text{P.f} = 0.6$  leading  
 (load is capacitive)

{ I leading the voltage }

Diagram: A right-angled triangle representing an R-C series circuit. The vertical side is labeled  $V$  and the horizontal side is labeled  $I$ . An angle  $\phi$  is shown between the vertical side and the hypotenuse.

① For delta connection,  $V_L = V_{ph} = 440\text{ V}$

②  $P = \sqrt{3} V_L I_L \cos\phi$ ;  $\text{P.f} = \cos\phi = 0.6$

$$I_L = \frac{P}{\sqrt{3} V_L (\text{P.f})} = \frac{10 \times 10^3}{\sqrt{3} \times 440 \times 0.6}$$

$$I_L = 21.87\text{ A}$$

③ Phase current,  $I_{ph} = \frac{I_L}{\sqrt{3}} = \frac{21.87}{\sqrt{3}} = 12.62\text{ A}$

④  $Z_{ph} = \frac{V_{ph}}{I_{ph}} = \frac{440}{12.62} = 34.86\Omega$

⑤ Phase angle of  $Z_{ph}$  ( $\phi$ ): -

$0.6 = \text{P.f} = \cos\phi$  leading

$$\phi = \cos^{-1}(0.6) = -53.13^\circ \quad (\text{as P.f is leading, phase angle is -ve})$$

⑥  $\overline{Z}_{ph} = 34.86 \angle -53.13^\circ \quad \Omega \quad --- \quad \overline{Z}_{ph} = Z_{ph} \angle \phi$

⑦  $\overline{Z}_{ph} = \left( \frac{20.91}{R} - j \frac{27.89}{X_C} \right) \quad \Omega \quad --- \quad \overline{Z}_{ph} = R - j X_C$

⑧  $R = 20.91\Omega$ ,  $X_C = 27.89\Omega$

↓  
Capacitive reactance

$$X_C = \frac{1}{2\pi f C}$$

$$C = \frac{1}{2\pi f X_C} = 114.18\mu\text{F}$$

⑨ Reactive power

$$Q = \sqrt{3} V_L I_L \sin\phi = \sqrt{3} \times 440 \times 21.87 \sin(-53.13^\circ) \quad (f = 50\text{ Hz})$$

$Q = -13.33 \text{ KVAR}$

H.W: 3 similar coils connected in star, take a power of **1.5 kW** at a p.f of 0.2 lagging from a **3φ, 440V, 50Hz** supply. Calculate **resistance & inductance of each coil** **0.084**

Solution:

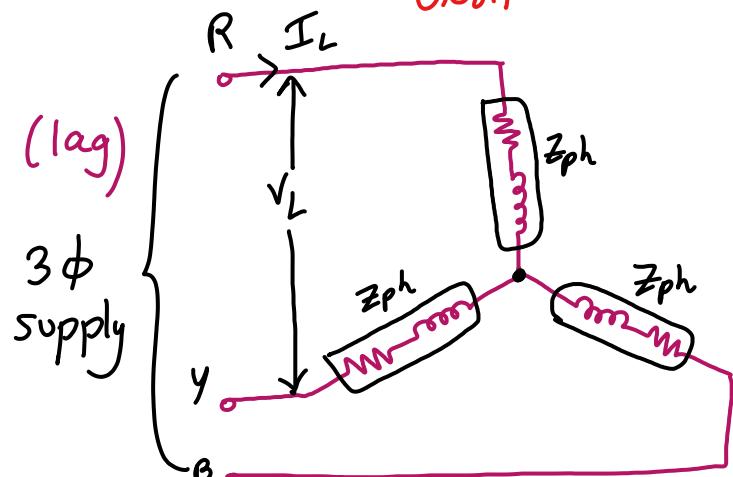
$$5.165 \Omega$$

Given:  $P = 1.5 \text{ kW}$ , p.f = 0.2 (lag)

$V_L = 440 \text{ V}$ ,  $f = 50 \text{ Hz}$

① For 3φ star connected load,

$$V_{ph} = \frac{V_L}{\sqrt{3}} =$$



$$② P = \sqrt{3} V_L I_L \cos \phi \quad ; \quad \text{p.f} = \cos \phi$$

$$\text{i.e } I_L = \frac{P}{\sqrt{3} V_L \text{p.f}} =$$

$$③ \text{In a star connection, } I_{ph} = I_L =$$

$$④ Z_{ph} = \frac{V_{ph}}{I_{ph}} =$$

⑤ Phase angle of  $Z_{ph}$ ,  $(\text{p.f} = \cos \phi)$

$$⑥ \overline{Z}_{ph} = \dots \text{ polar form}$$

$$⑦ \overline{Z}_{ph} = \dots \text{ rectangular form} \\ (\overline{Z}_{ph} = R + jX_L)$$

$$\text{i.e } R = , X_L =$$

⑧ ∴ Resistance of each coil is and  
inductive reactance of each coil is

$$⑨ X_L = 2\pi f L \rightarrow L = \frac{X_L}{2\pi f} =$$

∴ Inductance of each coil is

—x—