

MIT 18.01 Problem Set 6 Unofficial Solutions

Q1) Do 7.4/12 and 13.

Skipped. We do not have the textbook.

Q2) The voltage V of the house current is given by

$$V(t) = C \sin(120\pi t)$$

where t is time, in seconds and C is a constant amplitude. The square root of the average value of V^2 over one period of $V(t)$ (or cycle) is called the *root-mean-square* voltage, abbreviated RMS. This is what the voltage meter on a house records. For house current, find the RMS in terms of the constant C . (The peak voltage delivered to the house is $\pm C$. The units of V^2 are square volts; when we take the square root again after averaging, the units become volts again.)

Every cycle of the \sin function corresponds to 2π . This happens every $t = \frac{2\pi}{120\pi} = \frac{1}{60}$ seconds.

Since $V(t) = C \sin(120\pi t)$, $V^2(t) = C^2 \sin^2(120\pi t)$. The average value of V^2 over 1 cycle of $V(t)$ is:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\frac{1}{60} - 0} \int_0^{\frac{1}{60}} C^2 \sin^2(120\pi t) dt &= 60C^2 \int_0^{\frac{1}{60}} \sin^2(120\pi t) dt \\ &= 60C^2 \left(\frac{1}{2}t - \frac{1}{240\pi} \sin(120\pi t) \cos(120\pi t) \right) \Bigg|_0^{1/60} \\ &= 60C^2 \left(\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{60} - \frac{1}{240\pi} \sin(2\pi) \cos(2\pi) - \left(\frac{1}{2} \cdot 0 - \frac{1}{240\pi} \sin(0) \cos(0) \right) \right) \\ &= 60C^2 \cdot \frac{1}{120} \\ &= \frac{C^2}{2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Then RMS} = \sqrt{\frac{C^2}{2}} = \frac{C}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{\sqrt{2}C}{2}$$