GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY SCHOOL of ELECTRICAL and COMPUTER ENGINEERING

ECE 2026 Spring 2015 Lab #2: Using Complex Exponentials

Date: 20-22 Jan. 2015

You should read the Pre-Lab section of the lab and do all the exercises in the Pre-Lab section before your assigned lab time.

ITS: When you come to the lab, you **must** answer the online ITS questions. You can use MATLAB or any notes you might have but you cannot discuss the exercises with any other students.

Verification: The In-Lab Exercise section of each lab must be completed **during your assigned Lab time** and the steps marked *Instructor Verification* must also be signed off **during the lab time**. When you have completed a step that requires verification, simply raise your hand and demonstrate the step to the TA or instructor. After completing the warm-up section, turn in the verification sheet to your TA *before leaving the lab*.

It is only necessary to turn in Section 4 as the lab homework for this lab. More information on the lab homework format can be found on t-square under the **INFO** link. Please **label** the axes of your plots and include a title for every plot. In order to reduce "orphan" plots, include each plot as a figure *embedded* within your report. For more information on how to include figures and plots from MATLAB in your report file, consult the **INFO** link on t-square, or ask your TA for details.

Forgeries and plagiarism are a violation of the honor code and will be referred to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action. You are allowed to discuss lab exercises with other students, but you cannot give or receive any written material or electronic files. In addition, you are not allowed to use or copy material from old lab reports from previous semesters. Your submitted work must be your own original work.

Due Date: The lab report will be due during the period 27-30 Jan. at the start of your lab.

1 Introduction and Overview

The goal of this laboratory is to gain familiarity with complex numbers and their use in representing sinusoidal signals such as $x(t) = A\cos(\omega t + \varphi)$ as complex exponentials $z(t) = Ae^{j\varphi}e^{j\omega t}$. The key is to use the complex amplitude, $X = Ae^{j\varphi}$, and then the real part operator applied to Euler's formula:

$$x(t) = \Re\{Xe^{j\omega t}\} = \Re\{Ae^{j\varphi}e^{j\omega t}\} = A\cos(\omega t + \varphi)$$

Manipulating sinusoidal functions using complex exponentials turns trigonometric problems into simple arithmetic and algebra. In this lab, we first review the complex exponential signal and the phasor addition property needed for adding cosine waves. Then we will use MATLAB to make plots of phasor diagrams that show the vector addition needed when combining sinusoids.

1.1 Complex Numbers in MATLAB

MATLAB can be used to compute complex-valued formulas and also to display the results as vector or "phasor" diagrams. For this purpose several new MATLAB functions have been written and are available on the *SP First CD-ROM*. Make sure that this toolbox has been installed by doing help on the new M-files:



¹Correct installation means that the spfirst directory will be on the MATLAB path. Try help path if you need more information.

SP First MATLAB 700/box 700/

zvect, zcat, ucplot, zcoords, and zprint. Each of these functions can plot (or print) several complex numbers at once, when the input is formed into a vector of complex numbers. For example, try the following function call and observe that it will plot five vectors all on one graph:

$$zvect([1+j, j, 3-4*j, exp(j*pi), exp(2j*pi/3)])$$

Here are some of MATLAB's complex number operators:

conj Complex conjugate

abs Magnitude

angle Angle (or phase) in radians

real Real part

imag Imaginary part

i,j pre-defined as $\sqrt{-1}$ x = 3 + 4i i suffix defines imaginary constant (same for j suffix)

exp(j*theta) Function for the complex exponential $e^{j\theta}$

Each of these functions takes a vector (or matrix) as its input argument and operates on each element of the vector. Notice that the function names mag() and phase() do not exist in MATLAB.²



Finally, there is a complex numbers drill program called:

which uses a GUI to generate complex number problems and check your answers. *Please spend some time* with this drill since it is very useful in helping you to get a feel for complex arithmetic.

When unsure about a command, use help.

1.2 Sinusoid Addition Using Complex Exponentials

Recall that sinusoids may be expressed as the real part of a complex exponential:

$$x(t) = A\cos(2\pi f_0 t + \varphi) = \Re\left\{Ae^{j\varphi}e^{j2\pi f_0 t}\right\}$$
(1)

The *Phasor Addition Rule* presented in Section 2.6.2 of the text shows how to add several sinusoids:

$$x(t) = \sum_{k=1}^{N} A_k \cos(2\pi f_0 t + \varphi_k)$$
(2)

assuming that each sinusoid in the sum has the *same* frequency, f_0 . This sum is difficult to simplify using trigonometric identities, but it reduces to an algebraic sum of complex numbers when solved using complex exponentials. If we represent each sinusoid with its *complex amplitude*

$$X_k = A_k e^{j\varphi_k} \tag{3}$$

Then the complex amplitude of the sum X_s is

$$X_s = \sum_{k=1}^{N} X_k = A_s e^{j\varphi_s} \tag{4}$$

²In the latest release of MATLAB a function called phase() is defined in a seldom used toolbox; it does more or less the same thing as angle() but also attempts to add multiples of 2π when processing a vector.

Based on this complex number manipulation, the *Phasor Addition Rule* implies that the amplitude and phase of x(t) in (2) are A_s and φ_s , so

$$x(t) = A_s \cos(2\pi f_0 t + \varphi_s) \tag{5}$$

We see that the sum signal x(t) in (2) and (5) is a single sinusoid that still has the same frequency, f_0 , and it is periodic with period $T_0 = 1/f_0$.

1.3 Harmonic Sinusoids

There is an important extension where x(t) is the sum of N cosine waves whose frequencies (f_k) are different. If we concentrate on the case where the frequencies (f_k) are all multiples of one basic frequency f_0 , i.e.,

$$f_k = k f_0$$
 (HARMONIC FREQUENCIES)

then the sum of N cosine waves becomes

$$x_h(t) = \sum_{k=1}^{N} A_k \cos(2\pi k f_0 t + \varphi_k) = \Re\left\{\sum_{k=1}^{N} X_k e^{j2\pi k f_0 t}\right\}$$
 (6)

This signal $x_h(t)$ has the property that it is also periodic with period $T_0 = 1/f_0$, because each of the cosines in the sum repeats with period T_0 . The frequency f_0 is called the *fundamental frequency*, and T_0 is called the *fundamental period*. (Unlike the single frequency case, there is no phasor addition theorem to combine the harmonic sinusoids.)

2 Pre-Lab

Please do the exercises in this section prior to coming to lab.

2.1 Complex Numbers

This section will test your understanding of complex numbers when plotted as vectors. Use $z_1 = 2e^{j\pi/4}$ and $z_2 = -\sqrt{3} + j$ for all parts of this section.

(a) Enter the complex numbers z_1 and z_2 in MATLAB, then plot them with zvect(), and also print them with zprint().

When unsure about a command, use help.

Whenever you make a plot with zvect() or zcat(), it is helpful to provide axes for reference. An x-y axis and the unit circle can be superimposed on your zvect() plot by doing the following: hold on, zcoords, ucplot, hold off

- (b) Compute the conjugate z^* and the inverse 1/z for both z_1 and z_2 and plot the results as vectors. In MATLAB, see help conj. Display the results numerically with zprint.
- (c) The function zcat() can be used to plot vectors in a "head-to-tail" format. Execute the statement zcat([1+j,-2+j,1-2j]); to see how zcat() works when its input is a vector of complex numbers.
- (d) Compute $z_1 + z_2$ and plot the sum using zvect(). Then use zcat() to plot z_1 and z_2 as 2 vectors head-to-tail, thus illustrating the vector sum. Use hold on to put all 3 vectors on the same plot. If you want to see the numerical value of the sum, use zprint() to display it.
- (e) Compute z_1z_2 and z_2/z_1 and plot the answers using zvect() to show how the angles of z_1 and z_2 determine the angles of the product and quotient. Use zprint() to display the results numerically.

(f) Make a 2×2 subplot that displays four plots in one window, similar to the four operations done previously: (i) z_1 , z_2 , and the sum $z_1 + z_2$ on a single plot; (ii) z_2 and z_2^* on the same plot; (iii) z_1 and $1/z_1$ on the same plot; and (iv) z_1z_2 . Add a unit circle and x-y axis to each plot for reference.

2.2 Z-Drill

Work a few problems generated by the complex number drill program. To start the program simply type zdrill; if necessary, install the GUI and add zdrill to MATLAB's path. Use the buttons on the graphical user interface (GUI) to produce different problems.

2.3 Cell Mode in MATLAB

MATLAB has a formatting syntax that allows you to produce documentation at the same time that you make an M-file. A quick summary is that double percent signs followed by a space (%%_) are interpreted as sections in cell mode so that your code is broken into natural blocks that can be run individually. In addition, the M-file can be "published" to an HTML file and then viewed as a nicely formatted web page. There are several sources with information about cell mode:

1. Videos:

```
http://www.mathworks.com/support/2009b/matlab/7.9/demos/PublishingfromtheEditor_viewlet_swf.html
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fZDEQCWK2OM
and http://www.mathworks.com/support/2009b/matlab/7.9/demos/RapidCodeIterationUsingCells_viewlet_swf.html (Rapid Code Iteration)
```

Please watch the videos, especially the first one, and read some of the documentation.

The MATLAB code in the following section uses cell mode. It can be published to HTML, and displayed in a web browser (the default is MATLAB's internal browser).

2.4 Vectorization

The power of MATLAB comes from its matrix-vector syntax. In most cases, loops can be replaced with vector operations because functions such as exp() and cos() are defined for vector inputs, e.g.,

```
cos(vv) = [cos(vv(1)), cos(vv(2)), cos(vv(3)), ... cos(vv(N))]
```

where vv is an N-element row vector. Vectorization can be used to simplify your code. If you have the following code that plots the signal in the vector yy,

```
M = 200;
for k=1:M
    x(k) = k;
    yy(k) = cos( 0.001*pi*x(k)*x(k) );
end
plot( x, yy, 'ro-')
```

then you can replace the for loop with one line and get the same result with four lines of code:

```
M = 200;
x = 1:M;
yy = cos( 0.001*pi*x.*x );
plot( x, yy, 'ro-' )
```

Run these two programs to see that they give identical results, but note that the vectorized version runs much faster.

2.5 Vectorizing a 2-D Evaluation

You can also vectorize 2D functions. Suppose that you want to plot $f(u,v) = u^2 + v^2$ versus (u,v) over the domain $[-20,20] \times [-20,20]$. The result should be a parabolic surface. To avoid having nested for loops, we can use meshgrid instead:

```
u = -20:0.5:20;
v = -20:0.5:20;
[uu,vv] = meshgrid(u,v);
mesh(u,v,uu.*uu + vv.*vv)
```

The meshgrid function generates all the pairs (u, v) for the domain.

2.6 Functions

Functions are a special type of M-file that can accept inputs (matrices, vectors, structures, etc.) and also return outputs. The keyword function must appear as the first non-comment word in the M-file that defines the function, and that line of the M-file defines how the function will pass input and output arguments. The file extension must be lower case "m" as in my_func.m. See Section B-6 in Appendix B of the text for more discussion.

The following function has several mistakes (there are at least four). Before looking at the correct one below, try to find these mistake(s):

The corrected function should look something like:

```
function [xx,tt] = goodcos(ff,dur)
tt = 0:1/(100*ff):dur;  %-- gives 100 samples per period
xx = real(exp(2i*pi*ff*tt));
```

Notice that the word function must be at the beginning of the first line. Also, the exponential needs to have an imaginary exponent, and the variable freeq must be defined before being used. Finally, the function has xx as an output, so the variable xx must appear on the left-hand side of at least one assignment line within the function body. In other words, the function name is *not* used to hold values produced in the function.

2.7 Structures in MATLAB

MATLAB can do structures. Structures are convenient for grouping information together. For example, we can group all the information about a sinusoid into a single structure with fields for amplitude, frequency and phase. We could also add fields for other attributes such as a signal name, the signal values, and so on. To see how a structure might be used, run the following program which plots a sinusoid:

Notice that the fields in the structure can contain different types of variables: scalars, vectors or strings.

You can also have arrays of structures. For example, if xx is array of sinusoid-structures with the same fields as above, you would reference one of the sinusoids via:

```
xx(3).name, xx(3).Amp, xx(3).freq, xx(3).phase
%
plot(xx(3).times, xx(3).values)
title([xx(3).name,' Amp=',num2str(xx(3).Amp),' Phase=',num2str(xx(3).phase)])
```

Notice that the array name is xx, so the array index, 3, is associated with xx, e.g., xx(3).

3 Exercise: Complex Exponentials

In the Pre-Lab section of this lab, you saw examples of function M-files. In this section, you will write functions that can generate sinusoids, or sums of sinusoids.

For the instructor verification, you will have to demonstrate that you understand everything in a given subsection. It is not necessary to do everything in the subsections; skip parts that you already know. The Instructor Verification is usually placed close to the most important item, i.e., the most likely one to generate questions from the TAs.

3.1 Intelligent Tutoring System (ITS)

During this lab you should run ITS and answer the questions (see the instructions below). In general, ITS will be used throughout the semester to measure progress on the basic concepts covered in ECE-2026.

- 1. The ITS should now be accessible from anywhere on the web.
- 2. The link to ITS is: http://its.vip.gatech.edu. To open ITS, login with your AD username and password (same as for T-square)

3.2 Vectorization

Use the vectorization idea to write 1 or 2 lines of code that will perform the *same task as the inner loop* of the following MATLAB script without using a for loop. If you are ambitious, try to replace both loops with some vectorized code.

```
%--- make a plot of sum of cosines
dt = 1/800;
XX = rand(1,3).*exp(2i*pi*rand(1,3)); %--Random amplitude and phases
freq = 9;
ccsum = zeros(1,500);
for kx = 1:length(XX)
    for kt = 1:500
        t = kt*dt;
        Ak = abs(XX(kx));
        phik = angle(XX(kx));
        ccsum(kt) = ccsum(kt) + Ak*cos(2*pi*freq*t + phik);
        tt(kt) = t;
    end
end
plot(tt,ccsum)
                 %-- Plot the sum sinusoid
grid on, zoom on, shg
```

Instructor Verification (separate page)

3.3 M-file to Generate One Sinusoid

Write a function that will generate a **single** sinusoid, $x(t) = A\cos(2\pi ft + \varphi)$. The function should have the following input arguments: a sinusoid-structure with two fields for the frequency (f) in Hz, the complex amplitude $(X = Ae^{j\varphi})$, and then three other arguments: a duration argument (dur), followed by an argument for the starting time (tstart), and then a final argument which is the spacing between times, Δt . The function should return a structure having both of the fields of the input structure plus two new fields: the vector of values of the sinusoidal signal (x) along with the corresponding vector of times (t) at which the sinusoid values are known. The spacing between times in the time-vector, Δt , is a constant, but make sure that it is small enough so that there are at least 32 time points per period of the sinusoid. Call this function

makeCosVals(). *Hint: use* goodcos() *from the Pre-Lab part as a starting point.* Here is a suggested template that needs to be completed for the M-file:

```
function sigOut = makeCosVals( sigIn, dur, tstart, dt )
%
freq = sigIn.freq;
X = sigIn.complexAmp;
%
%...(Fill in several lines of code)...
%
tt = tstart: dt : ???;  %-- Create the vector of times
xx = A*cos(...???;  %-- Vectorize the cosine evaluation
sigOut.times = ???;  %-- Put vector of times into the output structure
sigOut.values = ???;  %-- Put values into the output structure
```

Plot the result from the following call to test your function.

```
mySig.freq = 2;  %-- (in hertz)
mySig.complexAmp = 5*exp(j*pi/4);
dur = 2;
start = -1;
dt = 1/(32*mySig.freq);
mySigWithVals = makeCosVals(mySig);
%- Plot the values in sigWithVals
```

Instructor Verification (separate page)

3.4 Sinusoidal Synthesis with an M-file: Different Frequencies

Since we will generate many functions that are a *sum of sinusoids*, it will be convenient to have a MATLAB function for this operation. To be general, we should allow the frequency of each component (f_k) to be different. The following expressions are equivalent if we define the complex amplitude X_k as $X_k = A_k e^{j\varphi_k}$.

$$x(t) = \Re\left\{\sum_{k=1}^{N} X_k e^{j2\pi f_k t}\right\} = \Re\left\{\sum_{k=1}^{N} (A_k e^{j\varphi_k}) e^{j2\pi f_k t}\right\}$$
 (7)

$$x(t) = \sum_{k=1}^{N} A_k \cos(2\pi f_k t + \varphi_k)$$
(8)

3.4.1 Write a Sum of Sinusoids M-file

Write an M-file called addCosVals.m that will synthesize a waveform in the form of (7) using X_k defined in (3). The result is not a sinusoid unless all the frequencies are the same, so the output signal has to be represented by its values over some (finite) time interval.

Even though for loops are rather inefficient in MATLAB, you must write the function with one outer loop in this lab. The inner loop should be vectorized. The first few statements of the M-file are the comment lines—they should look like:

```
sigOut = addCosVals( cosIn, dur, tstart, dt )
function
%ADDCOSVALS Synthesize a signal from sum of sinusoids
                (do not assume all the frequencies are the same)
%
% usage:
            sigOut = addCosVals( cosIn, dur, tstart, dt )
%
%
   cosIn = vector of structures; each one has the following fields:
%
       cosIn.freq = frequency (n Hz), usually none should be negative
%
       cosIn.complexAmp = COMPLEX amplitude of the cosine
%
%
   dur = total time duration of all the cosines
    start = starting time of all the cosines
    dt = time increment for the time vector
% The output structure has only signal values because it is not necessarily a sinusoid
       sigOut.values = vector of signal values at t = sigOut.times
%
       sigOut.times = vector of times, for the time axis
%
%
     The sigOut.times vector should be generated with a small time increment that
%
          creates 32 samples for the shortest period, i.e., use the period
%
          corresponding to the highest frequency cosine in the input array of structures.
```

In order to verify that this M-file can synthesize *harmonic* sinusoids, try the following test:

Use the notebook feature to make a plot of ssOut. Notice that the waveform is periodic. Measure its period and state how the period is related to the fundamental frequency which is 3 Hz in this case.

Instructor Verification (separate page)

4 Lab Homework: Multipath

4.1 Multipath Fading

In a mobile radio system (e.g., cell phones), there is one type of degradation that can be modeled easily with sinusoids. This is the case of *multipath fading* caused by reflections of the radio waves interfering destructively at some locations. Suppose that a transmitting tower sends a sinusoidal signal, and a mobile user receives not one but two copies of the transmitted signal: a direct-path transmission and a reflected-path signal (e.g., from a large building) as depicted in the following figure. The received signal is the sum of the two copies, and since they travel different distances they have different time delays. If the transmitted signal is s(t), and the two delays are t_1 and t_2 , respectively, then the received signal³ is

$$r(t) = s(t - t_1) + s(t - t_2).$$

In a mobile phone scenario, the distance between the mobile user and the transmitting tower, located at the coordinate, $(0, d_t)$, changes whenever the user moves. Assuming x is the position in meters of a mobile user who is moving in a vehicle along the x-axis. Express the direct-path (the black path in the multipath figure) distance, d_1 , in meters, as a function of x, assuming $d_t = 100$ meters.

Similarly express in an equation the reflected-path (the red path in the multipath figure) distance, d_2 , in meters, as a function of x, assuming that the reflector coordinate is located at (d_r, d_t) , and $d_r = 40$ meters.

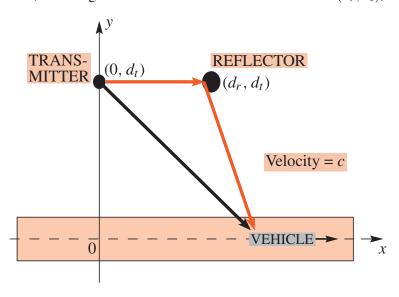


Figure 1: Scenario for multipath in mobile radio. A vehicle traveling on the roadway receives signals from two sources: the transmitter and a reflector. The reflector might be a large structure such as a building.

(a) The amount of the delay (in seconds) can be computed for both propagation paths, using the fact that the time delay is the distance divided by the speed of light $(3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s})$. First of all, consider the direct path. The time delay is the distance divided by the speed of light $(3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s})$. Write a mathematical expression for the time delay in terms of the vehicle position (x,0) and the transmitter location $(0,d_t)$. Call this delay time t_1 and make sure that you express it as a function of x, i.e., $t_1(x)$. Determine t_1 and t_2 as a function of x at the mobile's position, (x,0). Notice that the y-axis has been chosen conveniently so that the transmitter has an x coordinate equal to zero, and the and the reflector has an x coordinate equal to x_r .

³For simplicity we are ignoring propagation losses: When a radio signal propagates over a distance R, its amplitude will be reduced by an amount that is proportional to $1/R^2$.

(b) Assume that the transmitted signal is

$$s(t) = \cos(80 \times 10^6 \pi t)$$

The received signal at the vehicle, r(t), is the sum of the two delayed copies of the transmitter signal

$$r(t) = s(t - t_1) + s(t - t_2)$$

where $s(\cdot)$ is the transmitted signal, and the reflection is assumed to be perfect.⁴

Then the received signal, r(t), is the sum of two sinusoids with the same frequency. Make a plot of r(t) versus t when the vehicle position is x=0 meters. Plot 3 periods of r(t) and then measure its amplitude, phase, and frequency.

(c) Phasors to the rescue: The amplitude can be obtained without making the x(t) versus t plot. Repeat the work in part (b), but use the complex amplitudes of the sinusoids instead of the values of the time signals. Explain how a single complex addition, followed by a magnitude operation can be used to find the amplitude of r(t). Use the Phasor Addition Theorem to determine the magnitude of the received signal as a function of x. Check if there is a plausible scenario that the mobile phone user could not receive any transmitted signal, i.e., r(t) = 0. If so, determine one particular value of the vehicle location, x, such that r(t) = 0, i.e., $s(t - t_2) = -s(t - t_1)$, the two copies of the received signal are completely out-of-phase.

⁴Strictly speaking the diagram in Fig. 1 is incorrect because the reflection should obey the "angle of incidence equals angle of reflection" rule. In addition, the reflected signal usually undergoes a phase change of π rads. These facts are ignored in order to make the implementation easier for this lab project which concentrates on the constructive/destructive addition of sinusoids. For simplicity we are also ignoring propagation losses: When a radio signal propagates over a distance R, its amplitude will be reduced by an amount that is inversely proportional to R^2 .

Lab #2 ECE-2026 Spring-2015 INSTRUCTOR VERIFICATION SHEET

Turn this page in to your TA before the end of your lab period.

Name:	Date of Lab:
Answered ITS questions:	
Verified:	Date/Time:
Part 3.2 Replace the inner for MATLAB code in the space belo	loop with only one or two lines of vectorized MATLAB code. Write the w:
Verified:	Date/Time:
Part 3.3 and other places: Use M Instructor Verifications.	ATLAB's notebook capability to create and save the plots when doing the
Verified:	Date/Time:
•	sVals.m function is correct by running the test in Section 3.4.1 and plotting f signal in the structure ssOut, and explain its relationship to the fundamen-
Verified·	Date/Time:

Lab #2 ECE-2026 Spring-2015 HOMEWORK QUESTION

Name:	Date of Lab:

- (a) The amount of the delay (in seconds) can be computed for both propagation paths, using the fact that the time delay is the distance divided by the speed of light $(3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s})$. First of all, consider the direct path. The time delay is the distance divided by the speed of light $(3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s})$. Write a mathematical expression for the time delay in terms of the vehicle position (x,0) and the transmitter location $(0,d_t)$. Call this delay time t_1 and make sure that you express it as a function of x, i.e., $t_1(x)$. Determine t_1 and t_2 as a function of x at the mobile's position, (x,0). Notice that the y-axis has been chosen conveniently so that the transmitter has an x coordinate equal to zero, and the and the reflector has an x coordinate equal to x_r .
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The received signal at the vehicle, r(t), is the sum of the two delayed copies of the transmitter signal

$$r(t) = s(t - t_1) + s(t - t_2)$$

where $s(\cdot)$ is the transmitted signal, and the reflection is assumed to be perfect.

Then the received signal, r(t), is the sum of two sinusoids with the same frequency. Make a plot of r(t) versus t when the vehicle position is x=0 meters. Plot 3 periods of r(t) and then measure its amplitude, phase, and frequency.

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