

## Lecture 13: AC Circuits, Sinusoids and Phasors. Solving problems

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# Phasor (1)

The complex number  $z$  can also be written in polar or exponential form as

$$z = r \angle \phi = r e^{j\phi} \quad (9.14b)$$

where  $r$  is the magnitude of  $z$ , and  $\phi$  is the phase of  $z$ . We notice that  $z$  can be represented in three ways:

$z = x + jy$	Rectangular form	
$z = r \angle \phi$	Polar form	(9.15)
$z = r e^{j\phi}$	Exponential form	

The relationship between the rectangular form and the polar form is shown in Fig. 9.6, where the  $x$  axis represents the real part and the  $y$  axis represents the imaginary part of a complex number. Given  $x$  and  $y$ , we can get  $r$  and  $\phi$  as

$$r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}, \quad \phi = \tan^{-1} \frac{y}{x} \quad (9.16a)$$

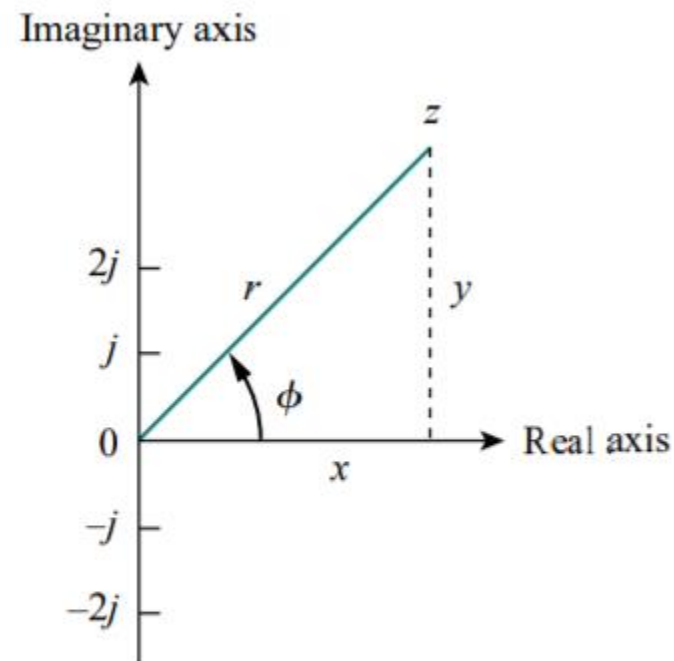
On the other hand, if we know  $r$  and  $\phi$ , we can obtain  $x$  and  $y$  as

$$x = r \cos \phi, \quad y = r \sin \phi \quad (9.16b)$$

Thus,  $z$  may be written as

$$z = x + jy = r \angle \phi = r(\cos \phi + j \sin \phi)$$

(9.17)



**Figure 9.6** Representation of a complex number  $z = x + jy = r \angle \phi$ .

# Phasor (2)

The following operations are important.

## Addition:

$$z_1 + z_2 = (x_1 + x_2) + j(y_1 + y_2)$$

## Subtraction:

$$z_1 - z_2 = (x_1 - x_2) + j(y_1 - y_2)$$

## Multiplication:

$$z_1 z_2 = r_1 r_2 \angle \phi_1 + \phi_2$$

## Division:

$$\frac{z_1}{z_2} = \frac{r_1}{r_2} \angle \phi_1 - \phi_2$$

## Reciprocal:

$$\frac{1}{z} = \frac{1}{r} \angle -\phi$$

## Square Root:

$$\sqrt{z} = \sqrt{r} \angle \phi/2$$

## Complex Conjugate:

$$z^* = x - jy = r \angle -\phi = r e^{-j\phi}$$

# Problem 1

Evaluate these complex numbers:

(a)  $(40 \angle 50^\circ + 20 \angle -30^\circ)^{1/2}$

(b)  $\frac{10 \angle -30^\circ + (3 - j4)}{(2 + j4)(3 - j5)^*}$

**Solution:**

(a) Using polar to rectangular transformation,

$$40 \angle 50^\circ = 40(\cos 50^\circ + j \sin 50^\circ) = 25.71 + j30.64$$

$$20 \angle -30^\circ = 20[\cos(-30^\circ) + j \sin(-30^\circ)] = 17.32 - j10$$

Adding them up gives

$$40 \angle 50^\circ + 20 \angle -30^\circ = 43.03 + j20.64 = 47.72 \angle 25.63^\circ$$

Taking the square root of this,

$$(40 \angle 50^\circ + 20 \angle -30^\circ)^{1/2} = 6.91 \angle 12.81^\circ$$

(b) Using polar-rectangular transformation, addition, multiplication, and division,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{10 \angle -30^\circ + (3 - j4)}{(2 + j4)(3 - j5)^*} &= \frac{8.66 - j5 + (3 - j4)}{(2 + j4)(3 + j5)} \\ &= \frac{11.66 - j9}{-14 + j22} = \frac{14.73 \angle -37.66^\circ}{26.08 \angle 122.47^\circ} \\ &= 0.565 \angle -160.31^\circ \end{aligned}$$

# Problem 2

Transform these sinusoids to phasors:

(a)  $v = -4 \sin(30t + 50^\circ)$

(b)  $i = 6 \cos(50t - 40^\circ)$

**Solution:**

(a) Since  $-\sin A = \cos(A + 90^\circ)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} v &= -4 \sin(30t + 50^\circ) = 4 \cos(30t + 50^\circ + 90^\circ) \\ &= 4 \cos(30t + 140^\circ) \end{aligned}$$

The phasor form of  $v$  is

$$\mathbf{V} = 4 \angle 140^\circ$$

(b)  $i = 6 \cos(50t - 40^\circ)$  has the phasor

$$\mathbf{I} = 6 \angle -40^\circ$$

# Problem 3

Find the sinusoids represented by these phasors:

(a)  $\mathbf{V} = j8e^{-j20^\circ}$

(b)  $\mathbf{I} = -3 + j4$

**Solution:**

(a) Since  $j = 1 \angle 90^\circ$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{V} &= j8 \angle -20^\circ = (1 \angle 90^\circ)(8 \angle -20^\circ) \\ &= 8 \angle 90^\circ - 20^\circ = 8 \angle 70^\circ \text{ V}\end{aligned}$$

Converting this to the time domain gives

$$v(t) = 8 \cos(\omega t + 70^\circ) \text{ V}$$

(b)  $\mathbf{I} = -3 + j4 = 5 \angle 126.87^\circ$ . Transforming this to the time domain gives

$$i(t) = 5 \cos(\omega t + 126.87^\circ) \text{ A}$$

# Problem 4

Given  $i_1(t) = 4 \cos(\omega t + 30^\circ)$  and  $i_2(t) = 5 \sin(\omega t - 20^\circ)$ , find their sum.

**Solution:**

Here is an important use of phasors—for summing sinusoids of the same frequency. Current  $i_1(t)$  is in the standard form. Its phasor is

$$\mathbf{I}_1 = 4 \angle 30^\circ$$

We need to express  $i_2(t)$  in cosine form. The rule for converting sine to cosine is to subtract  $90^\circ$ . Hence,

$$i_2 = 5 \cos(\omega t - 20^\circ - 90^\circ) = 5 \cos(\omega t - 110^\circ)$$

and its phasor is

$$\mathbf{I}_2 = 5 \angle -110^\circ$$

If we let  $i = i_1 + i_2$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{I} &= \mathbf{I}_1 + \mathbf{I}_2 = 4 \angle 30^\circ + 5 \angle -110^\circ \\ &= 3.464 + j2 - 1.71 - j4.698 = 1.754 - j2.698 \\ &= 3.218 \angle -56.97^\circ \text{ A} \end{aligned}$$

Transforming this to the time domain, we get

$$i(t) = 3.218 \cos(\omega t - 56.97^\circ) \text{ A}$$

# Problem 5

The voltage  $v = 12 \cos(60t + 45^\circ)$  is applied to a 0.1-H inductor. Find the steady-state current through the inductor.

**Solution:**

For the inductor,  $\mathbf{V} = j\omega L \mathbf{I}$ , where  $\omega = 60$  rad/s and  $\mathbf{V} = 12 \angle 45^\circ$  V. Hence

$$\mathbf{I} = \frac{\mathbf{V}}{j\omega L} = \frac{12 \angle 45^\circ}{j60 \times 0.1} = \frac{12 \angle 45^\circ}{6 \angle 90^\circ} = 2 \angle -45^\circ \text{ A}$$

Converting this to the time domain,

$$i(t) = 2 \cos(60t - 45^\circ) \text{ A}$$



# Problem 6

Find  $v(t)$  and  $i(t)$  in the circuit

**Solution:**

From the voltage source  $10 \cos 4t$ ,  $\omega = 4$ ,

$$\mathbf{V}_s = 10 \angle 0^\circ \text{ V}$$

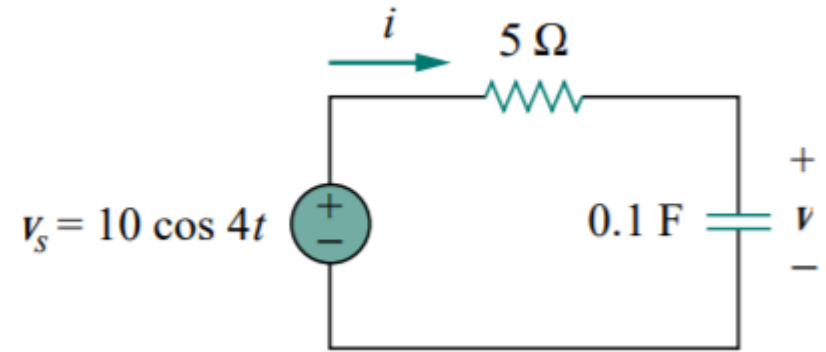
The impedance is

$$\mathbf{Z} = 5 + \frac{1}{j\omega C} = 5 + \frac{1}{j4 \times 0.1} = 5 - j2.5 \, \Omega$$

Hence the current

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{I} &= \frac{\mathbf{V}_s}{\mathbf{Z}} = \frac{10 \angle 0^\circ}{5 - j2.5} = \frac{10(5 + j2.5)}{5^2 + 2.5^2} \\ &= 1.6 + j0.8 = 1.789 \angle 26.57^\circ \text{ A} \end{aligned}$$

The voltage across the capacitor is



$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{V} &= \mathbf{I} \mathbf{Z}_C = \frac{\mathbf{I}}{j\omega C} = \frac{1.789 \angle 26.57^\circ}{j4 \times 0.1} \\ &= \frac{1.789 \angle 26.57^\circ}{0.4 \angle 90^\circ} = 4.47 \angle -63.43^\circ \text{ V} \end{aligned}$$

Converting  $\mathbf{I}$  and  $\mathbf{V}$  in Eqs. (9.9.1) and (9.9.2) to the time domain,

$$i(t) = 1.789 \cos(4t + 26.57^\circ) \text{ A}$$

$$v(t) = 4.47 \cos(4t - 63.43^\circ) \text{ V}$$

Notice that  $i(t)$  leads  $v(t)$  by  $90^\circ$  as expected.