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# Chapter 1

# **Alternating Current**

## 1.1 AC Signals

- Direct Current: DC has polarity (direction) which stays the same. Amplitude may vary, but charge always flows in the same direction
- Alternating Current: Voltage polarity and current direction reverses periodically
- Period: Length of time (seconds) for one repetition of a cycle
- Frequency:  $f = \frac{1}{T}$  [Hz]

#### 1.2 Sine Wave

In its purest form, AC signals are sine waves, for example:  $v(t) = V_o \sin{(2\pi f t)} = V_o \sin{(\omega t)}$  Any AC wave that consists of only one frequency is sinusoidal Utility AC is a sine wave with frequency 50Hz

## 1.3 Amplitude of an AC wave

- Peak Amplitude  $(V_p)$ : Maximum positive deviation
- Peak-to-Peak Amplitude  $(V_{p-p})$ : Net difference between positive and negative peak amplitude

$$V_{p-p} = 2 \times V_p \tag{1.1}$$

Figure 1.1: Peak to Peak Amplitude

• Root-Mean-Square Amplitude  $(V_{rms})$ : Effective amplitude of a sinusoidal AC wave. Average power dissipated in a resistor with an AC voltage = power dissipated with DC voltage of  $V_{rms}$   $V_{rms} \leq V_p \forall$  AC Waves

$$V_{rms} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{T} \int_0^T v^2(t)dt} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{T} \int_\alpha^{T+\alpha} v^2(t)dt}$$

$$\tag{1.2}$$

Figure 1.2: RMS Amplitude

Sinusoidal AC Wave	$V_{rms} = \frac{V_o}{\sqrt{2}} \approx 0.707 V_o$
Square Ac Wave	$V_{rms} = V_p$
Triangular Wave	$V_{rms} = \frac{V_o}{\sqrt{3}} \approx 0.577 V_o$

Figure 1.3: AC RMS Values

# 1.4 Phase Shifting

 $f(x + \alpha)$  is a horizontal translation of f(x) Where:

If a > 0, f(x) is shifted to the left If a < 0, f(x) is shifted to the right

If  $v_1(t) = V_o \sin(\omega t)$ , then  $v_2 = V_o \sin(\omega t + \phi) = V_o \sin\left[\omega\left(t + \frac{\phi}{\omega}\right)\right]$  is a shifted version of  $v_1(t)$  by  $\frac{\phi}{\omega}$  seconds to the left (where  $\phi$  is in radians and positive)  $v_2(t)$  leads  $v_1(t)$  by  $\phi$  radians (180  $\times \frac{\phi}{\pi}$  degrees)

 $v_2(t)$  leads  $v_1(t)$  by  $\phi$  radians  $(180 \times \frac{\dot{\phi}}{\pi} \text{ degrees})$   $v_1(t)$  lags  $v_2(t)$  by  $\phi$  radians  $(180 \times \frac{\dot{\phi}}{\pi} \text{ degrees})$ 

## 1.5 Complex Numbers

#### 1.5.1 Polar Form

Rectangular form : 
$$= z = x + jy$$
  
Polar form :  $= z = re^{j\theta} = r\angle\theta$ 

- r is called the **magnitude** of  $z: r = |z| = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$
- $\theta$  is called the **argument** of  $z:\theta=(\frac{y}{x})$  or more accurately  $\theta=\arg(x+jy), -\pi<\theta\leq\pi$  radians (Convention)

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#### 1.5.2 Properties of Complex Numbers

 $(x+jy) \pm (p+jq) = (x \pm p) + j(y \pm q)$  (add real and imaginary parts)

(a) Addition and Subtraction

$$(x+jy) \times (p+jq) = (xp - yq) + j(yp + xq)$$

Or in polar form

$$Ae^{j\theta} \times Be^{j\phi} = ABe^{j(\theta+\phi)}$$
 (multiply magnitudes, add angles)

(b) Multiplication

By rationalisation

$$\frac{(x+jy)}{(p+jq)} = \frac{(x+jy) \times (p-jq)}{(p+jq) \times (p-jq)} = \frac{(x+jy) \times (p-jq)}{(p^2+q^2)}$$

In polar form:

$$\frac{Ae^{j\theta}}{Be^{j\phi}} = \frac{A}{B}e^{j(\theta-\phi)}$$
 (divide magnitudes, subtract angles)

(c) Division

$$e^{j(\theta+2\pi n)} = e^{j\theta}e^{j2\pi n}$$
$$= e^{j\theta} \times 1$$
$$= e^{j\theta}$$

(d) Cyclicity

Figure 1.4: Complex Number Operations

## 1.6 Magnetic Circuits

#### 1.6.1 Phasors

$$v(t) = V_0 \cos(\omega t + \theta) = Re[Ve^{j\omega t}] = V_0 \angle \theta = V_0 e^{j\theta}$$

Only for sinusoids, component signals canot be represented as phasors (square, triangle waves, etc)

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#### 1.6.1.1 Solving RL RC Circuits

$$v(t) = L\frac{\mathrm{d}i}{\mathrm{d}t} + Ri(t)$$

$$Re\left[Ve^{j\omega t}\right] = L\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}t}Re\left[Ie^{j\omega t}\right]$$

$$= LRe\left[I\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}t}e^{j\omega t}\right]$$

$$Ve^{j\omega t} = j\omega Ie^{j\omega t}$$

$$V = j\omega LI$$

Given an RL circuit with the following values

$$v_s(t) = 50\cos(100t) \tag{1.3}$$

$$C = 0.2H \tag{1.4}$$

$$R = 30\Omega \tag{1.5}$$

Using KCL

$$V_{s} = V_{R} + V_{L}$$

$$= IR + Ij\omega L$$

$$= I (30 + \times j100 \times 0.2)$$

$$50 = I (30 + j20)$$

$$\frac{50}{30 + j20} = I$$

$$1.138 - j0.76923 = I$$

$$1.386 \angle -33.7 \deg = I$$

$$\therefore i(t) = 1.386 \cos(100t - 0.588)[A]$$

#### 1.6.2 Oersted's Rules

- The magnetic field lines run encircle the current-carrying wire (Right hand screw rule)
- The magnetic field lines lie in a plan perpendicular to the wire
- If the direction of the current is reversed, the direction of the magnetic force reverses
- The strength of a field is directly proportional to the magnitude of the current
- The strength of the field at any point is inversely proportional to the distance of the point from the wire

This leads to Ampere's Law: The line integral of the magnetic field B(x) around any closed curve C is proportional to the total current I passing through any surface bounded by the curve

$$\oint \mathbf{B} \cdot dl = \mu_0 I$$

Figure 1.5: Ampere's Law

#### 1.6.3 Electric Ohm's Law

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