

A phasor is a complex number that represents the amplitude and phase of a sinusoid.

A complex number z can be written in rectangular form as,

$$z = x + jy$$

x is the real part of z ; y is the imaginary part of z . In this context, the variables x and y do not represent a location as in two-dimensional vector analysis but rather the real and imaginary parts of z in the complex plane. Nevertheless, we note that there are some resemblances between manipulating complex numbers and manipulating two-dimensional vectors.

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

$$z = r\angle\phi = re^{j\phi}$$

The relationship between the rectangular form and the polar form is shown in Fig. 4.10, 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 ϕ as

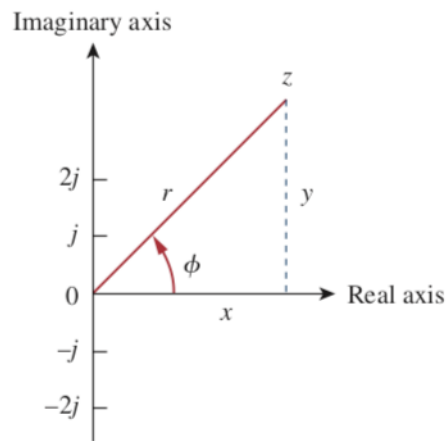


Figure 5.1

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

Given a sinusoid

$$v(t) = V_m \cos(\omega t + \phi)$$

we obtain the corresponding phasor as

$$V = V_m\angle\phi$$

Table 5.1

Sinusoid-phasor transformation.

Time domain representation	Phasor domain representation
$V_m \cos(\omega t + \phi)$	$V_m \angle \phi$
$V_m \sin(\omega t + \phi)$	$V_m \angle \phi - 90^\circ$
$I_m \cos(\omega t + \theta)$	$I_m \angle \theta$
$I_m \sin(\omega t + \theta)$	$I_m \angle \theta - 90^\circ$

Transform these sinusoids to phasors:

$$i = 6 \cos(50t - 40^\circ) A$$
$$v = -4 \sin(30t + 50^\circ) V$$

(a)

$$I = 6 \angle -40^\circ A$$

(b)

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

Thus, the phasor form of v is

$$V = 4 \angle 140^\circ V$$