

IA Mechanics

No. 1
Date 9.1.18

Dimensions and Units

- Physical quantities have dimensions: some product of M L T.
- Can be used to guess relationships using $[LHS] = [RHS]$
- If there are too many unknowns, we can form a dimensionless group.

Quantities $\left[\frac{A}{B} \right] = 1 \Rightarrow [A] = [B] \Rightarrow A = f(B)$ for some dimensionless f.
Units can be treated as the product of the value and unit.

Experimental Physics

- Random errors can only be removed by taking more readings.
- Systematic errors cannot be removed by repetition.
- The best estimate of the true value is the sample mean

$$\bar{x} = \frac{1}{n} \sum x_i \quad s_{n-1} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n-1} \sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2}$$

- For n independent measurements, the error in the mean is s_{n-1}/\sqrt{n}
 - σ_{mean} should be reported to 1sf unless it starts with a 1 or 2
 - then \bar{x} rounded to same no. of decimals
- e.g. $(31.42 \pm 0.16) \text{ cm}$ $(12.93 \pm 0.07) \text{ m}$

- To combine independent errors: adding in quadrature

$$z = f(x, y) \Rightarrow (\Delta z)^2 = \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \Delta x \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \Delta y \right)^2.$$

special cases: $z = A^n \Rightarrow \frac{\Delta z}{z} = \ln \frac{\Delta A}{A}$

- To reduce time-dependent systematic errors, we can vary the independent variable in a different order.

If we are measuring the a continuous attribute of a discrete variable (e.g time of a pendulum swing), we can use the method of exact fractions

- ↳ get an initial estimate and error, e.g time 5 swings $\pm 3x$.
- ↳ time an unknown number of swings
- ↳ divide by estimated T to get estimated no. of swings
- ↳ update estimate of T

Forces

• Vector quantity: $\vec{F}_{\text{net}} = \sum \vec{F}_i$

• In equilibrium, $\vec{F}_{\text{net}} = 0$. This applies to any cut we make

• Contact forces (e.g the normal) are described by Newton's 3rd law.

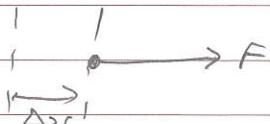
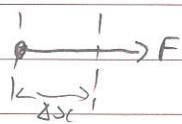
• Friction is described as:

$$F_{\max} = \mu_s N \quad (\text{static}) \quad \text{or} \quad F_s \leq \mu_s N$$

$$F_d = \mu_d N \quad (\text{dynamic})$$

• Work is done when the point of application of the force moves in the direction of the force.

$$\Delta W = F \Delta x$$



• More generally: $W_{12} = \int_{x_1}^{x_2} \underline{F} \cdot dx$

• The potential energy is the work done to put particles in a particular arrangement, starting from some reference point.

$$F_{\text{int}} = -\frac{dU}{dx} \Rightarrow \text{equilibrium when } \frac{dU}{dx} = 0$$

- if U is a minimum, stable equilibrium

- else U is at an unstable equilibrium, small Δx leads to force away from equilibrium.

Dynamics

- Equation of motion: $\ddot{x} = \tilde{F}/m$ (Newton's 2nd).

- Power is the rate at which work is done:

$$P = \frac{dW}{dt} = \tilde{F} \cdot \dot{x}$$

- If work is done on an object, its speed increases, giving it KE.

- Momentum: $p = m\dot{x}$ or $\tilde{F} = \frac{dp}{dt}$

- Conservation of momentum: the total linear momentum of an isolated system is constant.

↳ applies to components

↳ even with external \tilde{F} , sum (internal F) = 0.

- In a collision, momentum is conserved

↳ elastic: KE conserved

↳ inelastic: some KE \rightarrow internal energy.

- In a collision, force is unlikely to be constant. Thus we need to integrate: impulse = $\int F dt$ = change in momentum.

Frames of reference

- We can transform frames by adding/subtracting velocity.

- In an inertial frame of reference, Newton's 1st law is valid.

- An instantaneous rest frame makes one object stationary for a moment.

- Although the total KE may be different for different frames,
ΔKE will be the same.

- The zero momentum frame is such that the total momentum is zero, found by subtracting v_{zm} from each particle.

$$v_{zm} = \frac{\sum v_i}{\sum m_i} = \frac{\sum m_i v_i}{\sum m_i}$$

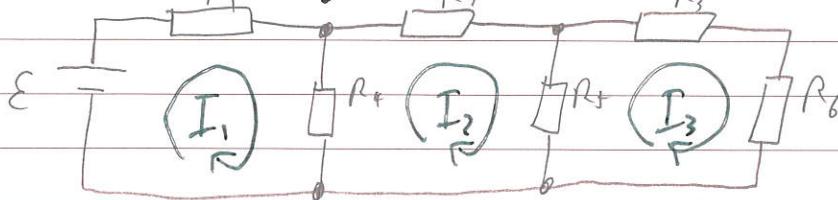
↳ after working out the collision, add back v_{zm} to all particles.

IA Circuits

No. 1

Date 31.12.18

- charge in an electric field experiences $\vec{F} = q \vec{E}$
- In a wire: $I = \frac{dQ}{dt} = nq A \langle v \rangle$ cross sectional area.
- p.d is work done per unit charge, in moving q in \vec{E} .
- emf ϵ is the energy gained per unit charge in a cell.
- Kirchhoff's current law: current conserved at junction
- Kirchhoff's voltage law: around any loop, $\sum V_i = 0$ (for cons energy).
- We can simplify calculations using current loops:



$$\therefore \epsilon - I_1 R_1 - (I_1 - I_2) R_4 = 0, \quad -I_2 R_2 - (I_2 - I_3) R_1 - (I_2 - I_1) R_4 = 0 \\ \dots \quad (3 \text{ eq with 3 unknowns})$$

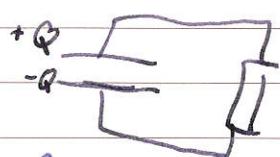
- For voltage, we can arbitrarily label voltage w.r.t any reference point of our choosing (negative terminal usually).

Capacitors

Defined by $C = \frac{Q}{V}$. . . $W = Vdq = \frac{1}{2} CV^2$

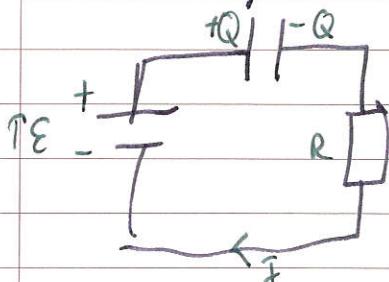
- In an RC circuit with a charged capacitor:

$$V = IR = \frac{Q}{C} \quad \therefore \frac{dQ}{dt} = \frac{Q}{RC} \Rightarrow Q(t) = Q_0 e^{-\frac{t}{RC}}$$



↳ exponential decay with characteristic time $T = RC$

- To charge a cap



$$\epsilon = IR + \frac{Q}{C}$$

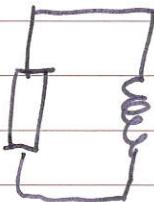
$$\Rightarrow Q = C\epsilon(1 - e^{-\frac{t}{RC}})$$

Inductors

$\mathcal{E} = -\frac{d\phi_B}{dt}$ But we also have $\phi_B = LI$ by definition.
self-inductance.

$$\therefore \boxed{\mathcal{E} = -L \frac{dI}{dt}}$$

↳ stores energy in the field: $W = \frac{1}{2} LI^2$



In an RL circuit, $-IR - L \frac{dI}{dt} = 0$

$$\Rightarrow I(t) = I(0) e^{-\frac{tR}{L}}$$

i.e. exponential decay with characteristic $\tau = \frac{L}{R}$.

IA Oscillating Systems

No. 1
Date 23.12.18

- A system oscillates if $x(t) = x(t+T)$ for some period T .
- The frequency of osc. is defined as $\nu = \frac{1}{T}$ (s^{-1})
- The angular freq is $\omega = 2\pi/T$
- For an object to undergo simple harmonic motion (SHM):
 - must be some inertia
 - and a restoring force \propto (- displacement)

$$F = -kx = ma \text{ for a spring} \Rightarrow \ddot{x} = -\frac{k}{m}x$$

- If we sub $x = a_0 \cos \omega t$ we find $\omega = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}$

- The general equation for undamped SHM is $\ddot{x} + \omega_0^2 x = 0$
- Solved by:

$$\begin{aligned} x(t) &= a_0 \cos(\omega_0 t + \phi) \\ x(t) &= A \cos(\omega_0 t) + B \sin(\omega_0 t) \end{aligned} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{2 unknowns} \\ \{ \end{array} \right.$$

- SHM is unique among oscs because freq is independent to amplitude.
- The velocity and acceleration can be found by differentiating:
 $\dot{x}(t) = -\omega_0 a_0 \sin(\omega_0 t + \phi)$ ($\frac{1}{4}$ cycle ahead)
 $\ddot{x}(t) = -\omega_0^2 a_0 \cos(\omega_0 t + \phi)$. ($\frac{1}{2}$ cycle ahead).

We then see that $V_{max} = -\omega_0 a_0$ and $\alpha_{max} = -\omega_0^2 a_0$

- We can instead analyse systems in terms of energy. For a spring:

$$KE = \frac{1}{2} m \dot{x}^2 \quad PE = \int_0^x kx dx = \frac{1}{2} kx^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{aligned} KE &= \frac{1}{2} k a_0^2 \sin^2(\omega_0 t + \phi) \\ PE &= \frac{1}{2} k a_0^2 \cos^2(\omega_0 t + \phi) \end{aligned}$$

$$E_{total} = \frac{1}{2} k a_0^2$$

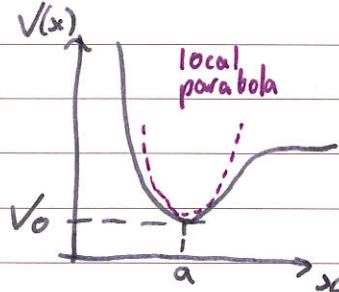
- Thus the energy terms oscillate twice as fast (e.g. write $\sin^2 \theta = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \cos 2\theta)$)
- Because $\langle \sin^2 \theta \rangle = \langle \cos^2 \theta \rangle = \frac{1}{2}$, we know that $\langle KE \rangle = \langle PE \rangle = \frac{1}{4} k a_0^2$

- We can instead derive SHM using the conservation of energy

$$E = \frac{1}{2} m \dot{x}^2 + \frac{1}{2} k x^2 \Rightarrow \dot{E} = m \dot{x} \ddot{x} + k x \dot{x} \Rightarrow \ddot{x} + \frac{k}{m} x = 0.$$

- Thus, any time a particle moves in a quadratic PE, it will undergo SHM.

- This can be applied to more complex potentials:



Taylor expanding about $x = a$:

$$V(a + \Delta x) = V(a) + V'(a)\Delta x + \frac{V''(a)}{2}(\Delta x)^2 + \dots$$

At the minimum, $V'(a) = 0$

$$\therefore V(a + \Delta x) \approx V(a) + \frac{1}{2}V''(a)(\Delta x)^2$$

- Small perturbations can be approximated by quadratic potentials
↳ modeled with SHM.

- Generally, if $E = \frac{1}{2}\alpha \dot{x}^2 + \frac{1}{2}\beta x^2$

then $\dot{E} = \alpha \dot{x} \ddot{x} + \beta x \dot{x} = 0 \Rightarrow \ddot{x} + \frac{\beta}{\alpha}x = 0$

e.g. mass on spring with gravity

- In equilibrium, $Kx_0 = Mg$

- If the mass is displaced further: $-k(x_0 + x_1) + Mg = M\ddot{x}_1$
 $\Rightarrow \ddot{x}_1 + \frac{k}{m}x_1 = 0$

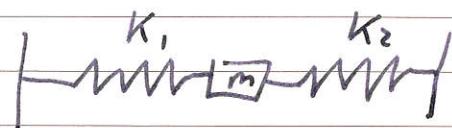
- i.e. gravity is irrelevant and system oscillates around equilibrium.

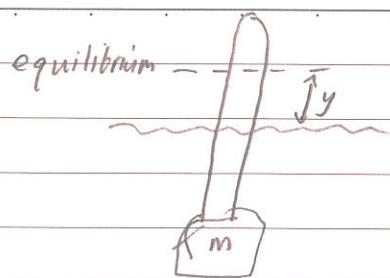
e.g. mass on two springs

- For a small displacement:

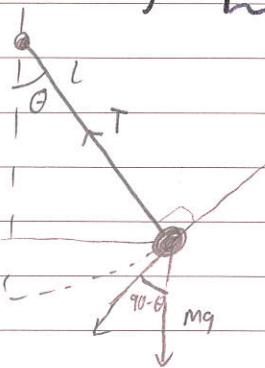
$$-k_1x - k_2x = m\ddot{x} \Rightarrow \ddot{x} + \frac{k_1 + k_2}{m}x = 0$$

i.e. SHM with $\omega_0^2 = \frac{k_1 + k_2}{m}$.



e.g. hydrometer

- Archimedes' principle: buoyancy force is equal to the weight of the displaced fluid.
- When displaced from eq., the submerged volume changes by Ay (A =cross section area)
- ∴ $m\ddot{y} = -\rho g Ay \Rightarrow \ddot{y} + \frac{\rho g A}{m} y = 0$.

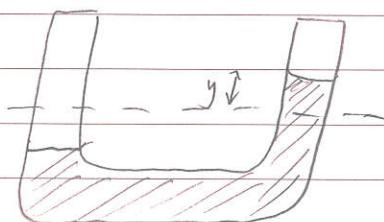
e.g. pendulum

- Resolving perp. to tension, we have $ml\ddot{\theta} = -mg \sin \theta$.
 - For small angular displacements:
- $$\sin \theta \approx \theta \Rightarrow ml\ddot{\theta} = -mg \theta$$
- $$\therefore \ddot{\theta} + \frac{g}{l} \theta = 0$$

Alternatively, we can argue by energy:

$$PE = mg l(1-\cos \theta) \approx \frac{1}{2} mg l \theta^2 \text{ for } \cos \theta \approx 1 - \frac{1}{2} \theta^2$$

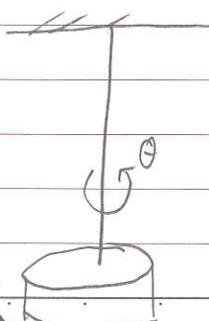
- Then we use the energy formula with $\alpha = ml^2$, $\beta = mg/l$

e.g. water in U-tube

$$PE = (\rho A y) gy = \rho A g y^2$$

$$KE = \frac{1}{2} \rho A l y^2$$

$$\alpha = \rho A l, \beta = 2\rho A g \Rightarrow \omega_0^2 = 2g/l$$

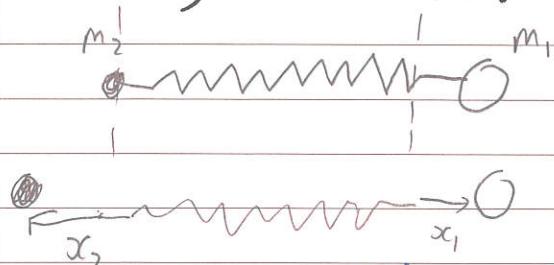
e.g. torsional oscillator

$$PE = \frac{1}{2} \tau \theta^2 \leftarrow \tau \text{ is the torsional stiffness, Nm rad}^{-1}$$

$$KE = \frac{1}{2} I \dot{\theta}^2 \text{ with } I = \frac{1}{2} m R^2 \Rightarrow KE = \frac{1}{4} m R^2 \dot{\theta}^2$$

$$\text{Then } \omega_0^2 = \frac{\tau}{I}$$

e.g. mass-spring-mass



- For a displacement with no net external force, the centre of mass can't move
- So we know $m_1x_1 = m_2x_2$

$$PE = \frac{1}{2}k(x_1 + x_2)^2 = \frac{1}{2}kx_1^2\left(1 + \frac{m_1}{m_2}\right)^2$$

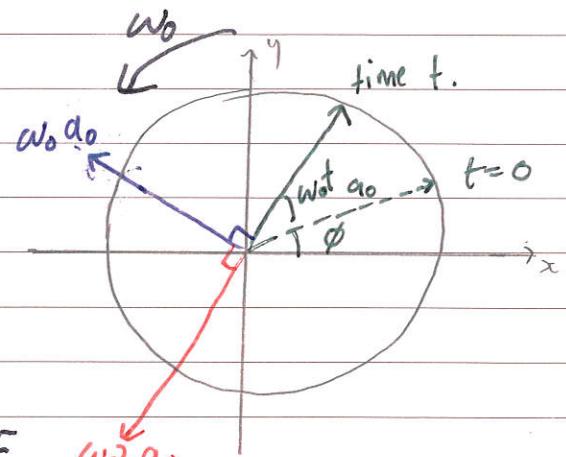
$$KE = \frac{1}{2}m_1\left(1 + \frac{m_1}{m_2}\right)x_1^2$$

$$\therefore \text{SHM with } \omega_0^2 = k\left(\frac{1}{m_1} + \frac{1}{m_2}\right)$$

This defines the reduced mass: $\mu = \left(\frac{1}{m_1} + \frac{1}{m_2}\right)^{-1}$

Phasor diagrams

- SHM can be visualised as rotation around a circle of radius a_0 .
 - x , \dot{x} and \ddot{x} all rotate at ω_0 .
 - We can use this to analyse the superposition of SHMs.
- ↪ must also be SHM because linear ODE. $\omega_0^2 a_0$

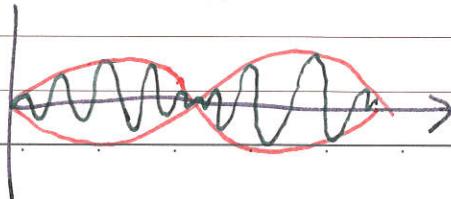
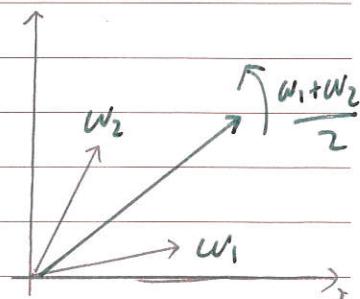


e.g. superposition of 2 frequencies to form beats

- The phase difference is $(\omega_2 - \omega_1)t$, so the frequency is $\omega_2 - \omega_1$.

Alternatively:

$$\begin{aligned} x &= a_0 (\cos \omega_1 t + \cos \omega_2 t) \\ &\equiv 2a_0 \cos \left(\frac{\omega_2 + \omega_1}{2} t \right) \cos \left(\frac{\omega_2 - \omega_1}{2} t \right) \end{aligned}$$



Complex representation of SHM

- We can derive from the phasor diagram: $z = a_0 e^{i(\omega t + \phi)} = A e^{i\omega t}$
 - ↳ the real part of z undergoes SHM.
 - ↳ all of the previous formulae follow.
- This expression satisfies $\ddot{z} + \omega_0^2 z = 0$.
- The total energy can be written as: $E = \frac{1}{2} k |z|^2$

Damped Harmonic Motion

- Damping is modelled as a resistive force proportional to velocity
i.e. $m\ddot{x} = -kx - b\dot{x}$ for a spring.

- The general form of the damped harmonic motion eq is:

$$\boxed{\ddot{x} + 2\gamma\dot{x} + \omega_0^2 x = 0}$$

- For a spring, $\gamma = b/2m$ and $\omega_0^2 = k/m$ as before.
- Both γ and ω_0 have dimensions $1/\text{time}$, but with diff interpretations:
 - $T = 2\pi/\omega_0$ is the period
 - $\tau = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\gamma}}$ $T = \frac{1}{2}\gamma$ is a decay time

- Substituting $x = Ae^{-pt}$, the most general solution is:

$$x = A e^{(-\gamma \pm \sqrt{\gamma^2 - \omega_0^2})t} + B e^{(-\gamma \mp \sqrt{\gamma^2 - \omega_0^2})t}$$

↳ the two constants fix the initial position and velocity.

Heavy damping $\gamma > \omega_0$

p is real ($p \equiv \gamma \pm \sqrt{\gamma^2 - \omega_0^2}$), so the solution is the sum of two exponentials.

Light damping $\gamma < \omega_0$

Because $\gamma < \omega_0$, $\rho = \gamma \pm i\sqrt{\omega_0^2 - \gamma^2} = \gamma \pm i\omega_d$

$$\therefore z = A e^{-\gamma t} e^{i\sqrt{\omega_0^2 - \gamma^2} t}$$

with $A \equiv a_0 e^{i\phi}$

$$\therefore x(t) = \operatorname{Re}(z) = a_0 e^{-\gamma t} \cos(\omega_d t + \phi)$$

The frequency of the oscillations does not change even though amplitude diminishes.

Critical damping $\gamma = \omega_0$

- Different solution in this case: $x_c = A e^{-\gamma t} + B t e^{-\gamma t}$
- Fastest decaying system: no osc, and minimal friction.

Comparing oscillators

- The logarithmic decrement measures how much the amplitude of a lightly damped oscillator drops per cycle

$$\frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} = \frac{e^{-\gamma t_{n+1}}}{e^{-\gamma t_n}} = e^{-\gamma T}$$

$$\Rightarrow \Delta = \frac{2\pi\gamma}{\omega_d}$$

↪ a good oscillator has small Δ .

- Alternatively, the Quality factor Q of an oscillator is the number of radians of osc for energy to fall by a factor of e .

$$Q = \frac{\omega_0}{2\gamma} \quad \omega_d \approx \omega_0 \text{ for good oscillators, so } \Delta \approx \frac{\pi}{Q}$$

Forced Oscillations

$$\ddot{x} + 2\gamma\dot{x} + \omega_0^2 x = f \cos \omega t.$$

- For low-freq response, we can ignore velocity and acc

$$\hookrightarrow x = \frac{f}{\omega_0^2} \cos \omega t$$

- For high freq response, we can ignore velocity and displacement

$$\hookrightarrow x = -\frac{f \cos \omega t}{\omega^2}$$

- At resonance, $\ddot{x} + \omega_0^2 x = 0$

$$\hookrightarrow x = \frac{f \sin(\omega t)}{2\pi\omega_0}$$

More generally: $\ddot{z} + 2\gamma\dot{z} + \omega_0^2 z = f e^{i\omega t}$

Solved by $z = A e^{i\omega t}$ with $A = \frac{f}{\omega_0^2 - \omega^2 + 2i\gamma\omega} = a_0 e^{i\phi}$

a_0 and ϕ can be found using the standard methods.

Power and resonance

$$P_{av} = \langle Fv \rangle = \langle b \dot{x}^2 \rangle = \frac{1}{2} b \frac{f^2}{((\omega_0^2 - \omega^2)/\omega)^2 + 4\gamma^2}$$

From this we can derive the width at half power $\Delta\omega$.

$$\omega_{hp} = \sqrt{\gamma^2 + \omega_0^2} \Rightarrow \Delta\omega = 2\gamma$$

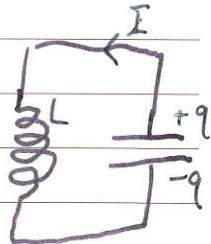
In terms of the quality factor:

$$\frac{\Delta\omega}{\omega_0} = \frac{1}{Q} \quad \text{i.e. high quality oscillators have a very narrow resonance peak.}$$

Electrical Oscillations

Consider a charged cap in a circuit with an inductor

- Current starts to flow, reducing q and thus reducing the voltage drop over both circuit elements
- Thus I is negative, so current decreases but is still positive, so $I \uparrow$ and the cap discharges faster.
- When $q=0$, the cap begins to charge negatively, causing the current to decrease.
- Thus, the system oscillates.



By Kirchhoff's Voltage Law: $-LI - \frac{q}{C} = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \ddot{q} + \frac{1}{LC} q = 0$$

i.e SHM with $\omega_0^2 = 1/LC$.

↳ cap provides 'restoring force'

↳ inductor provides inertia

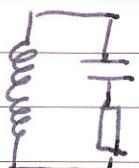
Alternatively, via cons energy:

$$E = \frac{1}{2C} q^2 + \frac{1}{2L} q^2 \Rightarrow \text{SHM}$$

RLC Circuits

A resistor acts as a damper because it dissipates energy

$$\dot{E} = \frac{1}{C} q \dot{q} + L q \ddot{q} = -\dot{q}^2 R \Rightarrow (\ddot{q} + \frac{R}{L} \dot{q} + \frac{1}{LC} q = 0)$$



- This gives different solutions depending on the damping regime as before. For light damping:

$$q = q_0 e^{-\frac{R}{2L} t} \cos(\omega t + \phi), \text{ with } Q = \frac{1}{R} \sqrt{\frac{L}{C}}$$

Alternating current

- An AC power source produces voltage $V = V_0 \cos \omega t$
- The rms voltage is given by $V_{\text{rms}} = \sqrt{\langle V^2 \rangle}$

Resistor:

$$- I(t) = \frac{V_0}{R} \cos \omega t \quad P = IV = \frac{V_0^2}{R} \cos^2 \omega t$$

Capacitor

- $Q = CV = C V_0 \cos \omega t \Rightarrow I(t) = \omega (V_0 \cos(\omega t + \pi/2))$
- current oscillates $\frac{1}{4}$ cycle ahead of voltage
- $P = VI = -\frac{1}{2} \omega C V_0^2 \sin(2\omega t)$

Inductor

- $I = \frac{V_0 \cos \omega t}{L} \Rightarrow I(t) = \frac{V_0}{L} \cos(\omega t - \pi/2)$
- I maxes when sign of voltage changes, i.e. $\frac{1}{4}$ cycle behind V .
- $P = \frac{1}{2} \frac{V_0^2}{L} \sin(2\omega t)$.

We can treat osc current/voltage/charge as the real parts of complex quantities: $V = V_0 e^{i\omega t}$, $I = I_0 e^{i\omega t}$ with V_0, I_0 complex

We define impedance as the complex generalisation of resistance:

$$Z = \frac{V_0}{I_0}, \text{ with } |Z| = \frac{V_0}{I_0} \text{ and } \arg(Z) = -\phi.$$

Resistor: $Z = \frac{V}{I} = \frac{V_0 e^{i\omega t}}{V_0 e^{i\omega t}/R} = R$.

- Z is real because V and I in phase.

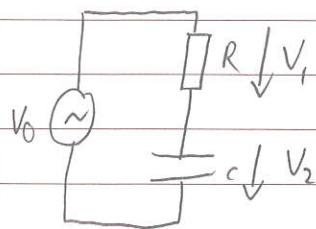
Capacitor: $Z = \frac{V}{I} = \frac{V_0 e^{i\omega t}}{i\omega C V_0 e^{i\omega t}} = \frac{1}{i\omega C}$

Inductor: $Z = \frac{V}{I} = \frac{V_0 e^{i\omega t}}{-i \frac{V_0}{L} e^{i\omega t}} = i\omega L$

Kirchhoff's laws apply to AC circuits with complex numbers

- Impedances add in series/parallel just like with DC circuits

e.g. RC filter



$$\text{Potential divider} \quad \therefore \frac{V_2}{V_0} = \frac{1}{1 + i\omega RC}$$

$$\text{with } \left| \frac{V_2}{V_0} \right| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \omega^2 R^2 C^2}} \text{ and } \arg\left(\frac{V_2}{V_0}\right) = -\tan^{-1}\omega RC$$

Thus the dc voltage across the cap can be used to 'remove' ~~low~~ high frequencies: low-pass filter.

Electrical resonance

$$q' + \frac{R}{L} q' + \frac{1}{LC} q = \frac{V_0}{L} \cos \omega t$$

• Resonance when $\omega = 1/\sqrt{LC}$

↪ current ~~from~~ in circuit maximised