

Phasors

Handling the trigonometric functions can be tedious:

$$\cos(\alpha + \beta) = \cos \alpha \cos \beta - \sin \alpha \sin \beta$$

This is just a simple phase shift, say, $\alpha = \omega t$, $\beta = \varphi_0$.

We have Euler's identity: $e^{ix} = \cos x + i \sin x$
(pronounced like oylar)

i versus j. We'll talk about this later.

that relates trigonometric functions to complex exponentials,

the math of which is a bit simpler:

$$e^{j(\alpha+\beta)} = e^{j\alpha} e^{j\beta}$$

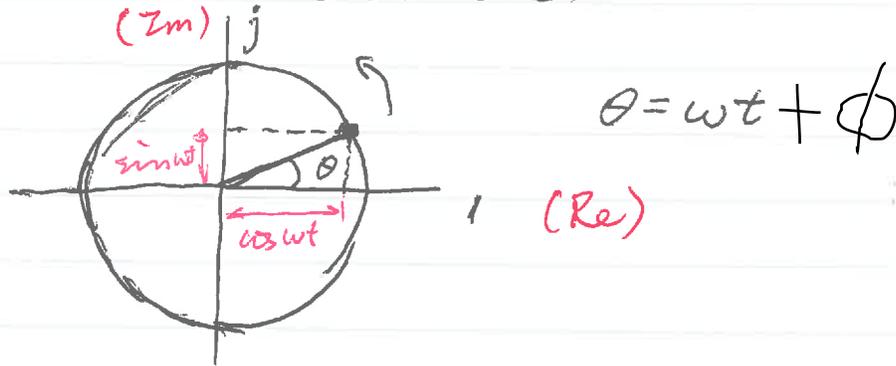
At least, phase shifting is much easier!

So, we use $e^{j\alpha}$ to represent $\cos \alpha$ for mathematical convenience.

But, why can we do this? What's behind this?

$$e^{j\omega t} = \cos \omega t + j \sin \omega t$$

★ The projections of circular motion are harmonic oscillations.



$$\text{Re } e^{j\omega t} = \cos \omega t$$

$$\text{Im } e^{j\omega t} = \sin \omega t$$

For every oscillation $A \cos(\omega t + \phi)$, we add an "imaginary" partner $jA \sin(\omega t + \phi)$

$$\Rightarrow A e^{j(\omega t + \phi)} = A \cos(\omega t + \phi) + j A \sin(\omega t + \phi)$$

In stead of considering $A \cos(\omega t + \phi)$, which is mathematically more complicated, we consider $A e^{j(\omega t + \phi)}$, which is mathematically simpler.

Why can we do this?

— Linearity!

Both $\cos \omega t$ & $\sin \omega t$ are solutions of the Wave equation, so is their linear combo.

Based on Euler's identity, we have a mathematical tool to more easily handle harmonic oscillations for linear systems or media

It can be a pain to handle cos and sin functions.

So we add an "imaginary partner" to the cosine function:

Say, for a voltage

$$v(t) = A \cos(\omega t + \phi_0) \rightarrow A e^{j(\omega t + \phi_0)} \\ = A e^{j\phi_0} e^{j\omega t}$$

This "rotation" part is always there – a background.
So leave it out.

The phasor, or "complex amplitude"

$$\tilde{V} = A e^{j\phi_0} = A \angle \phi_0$$

carries two pieces of information:

- The real amplitude A
- The reference phase ϕ_0

Convert a phasor to a time domain function:

$$\tilde{V} = A e^{j\phi_0} = A \angle \phi_0$$

$$v(t) = \text{Re}(\tilde{V} e^{j\omega t})$$

1. Put the rotation part, or background, back
2. Take the real part (i.e., throw away the "imaginary partner")

Note: here we take a "cosine reference." A different convention is the "sine reference," where you add and throw away a "real partner."

Use a phasor to represent a traveling wave

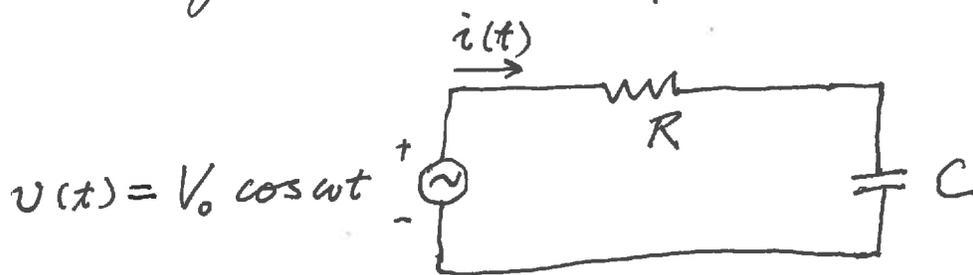
$$\begin{aligned}v(x, t) = A\cos(\omega t - \beta x + \phi_0) &\rightarrow Ae^{j(\omega t - \beta x + \phi_0)} \\ &= Ae^{j(-\beta x + \phi_0)} \underbrace{e^{j\omega t}}_{\text{Leave out}}\end{aligned}$$

The phasor, or complex amplitude at each position x

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{V}(x) &= Ae^{j(-\beta x + \phi_0)} = A\angle(-\beta x + \phi_0) \\ &\quad \text{Notice } x \text{ dependence} \\ &= (Ae^{j\phi_0}) \underbrace{e^{-j\beta x}}_{\text{Propagation factor}} \\ &\quad \text{"complex amplitude" of wave}\end{aligned}$$

For both the time domain function $v(t) = A\cos(\omega t + \phi_0)$ and the wave $v(x, t) = A\cos(\omega t - \beta x + \phi_0)$, the time dependence is left out, since we are dealing with a single frequency.

Advantages — an example



Find $i(t)$.

(This is a special case of the example of Fig. 1-20 in the textbook with $\phi_0 = \frac{\pi}{2}$)

↳ the ϕ_0 defined there, in a sine reference.

$$\tilde{V} = V_0$$

$$\begin{aligned} v(t) &= \operatorname{Re}(\tilde{V} e^{j\omega t}) = \operatorname{Re}(V_0 e^{j\omega t}) \\ &= V_0 \cos \omega t \end{aligned}$$

Try to solve $i(t)$ in the time domain:

$$\frac{1}{C} \int i(t) dt + R i(t) = V_0 \cos \omega t$$

$$\frac{1}{C} i(t) + R \frac{di}{dt} = -\omega V_0 \sin \omega t$$

— need to solve the differential equation.

A good thing about complex exponentials:

$$\frac{d}{dt} e^{j\omega t} = j\omega e^{j\omega t}, \quad \int e^{j\omega t} dt = \frac{1}{j\omega} e^{j\omega t}$$

Differential equations are turned into algebra.

$$\frac{1}{C} \int i(t) dt + Ri(t) = V_0 \cos \omega t$$

Adding "imaginary partners" to both $i(t)$ & $v(t)$:

$$\frac{1}{C} \int \tilde{I} e^{j\omega t} dt + R \tilde{I} e^{j\omega t} = V_0 e^{j\omega t}$$

Notice that \tilde{I} is a "constant" — no t dependence

$$\frac{1}{j\omega C} \tilde{I} e^{j\omega t} + R \tilde{I} e^{j\omega t} = V_0 e^{j\omega t} = \tilde{V} e^{j\omega t}$$

$$\tilde{I} \left(R + \frac{1}{j\omega C} \right) = V_0 = \tilde{V} \Rightarrow \tilde{I} = \frac{V_0}{R + \frac{1}{j\omega C}}$$

Now, relate the phasor back to the time domain:

$$\frac{1}{R + \frac{1}{j\omega C}} = \frac{j\omega C}{1 + j\omega RC} = \frac{\omega C e^{j\frac{\pi}{2}}}{\sqrt{1 + \omega^2 R^2 C^2} e^{j\phi_1}}$$

$$= \frac{\omega C}{\sqrt{1 + \omega^2 R^2 C^2}} e^{j(\frac{\pi}{2} - \phi_1)},$$

where $\tan \phi_1 = \omega RC$, i.e. $\phi_1 = \tan^{-1}(\omega RC) = \arctan(\omega RC)$

$$\therefore \tilde{I} = \frac{\omega C V_0}{\sqrt{1 + \omega^2 R^2 C^2}} e^{j(\frac{\pi}{2} - \phi_1)}$$

$$i(t) = \text{Re}(\tilde{I} e^{j\omega t})$$

Put the $e^{j\omega t}$ back & take
the real part

$$= \text{Re}\left[\frac{\omega C V_0}{\sqrt{1 + \omega^2 R^2 C^2}} e^{j(\omega t + \frac{\pi}{2} - \phi_1)}\right]$$

$$= \underbrace{\frac{\omega C V_0}{\sqrt{1 + \omega^2 R^2 C^2}}}_{\text{Amplitude}} \cos\left(\omega t + \underbrace{\frac{\pi}{2} - \phi_1}_{\text{phase}}\right)$$

Important:

Instantaneous value \iff phasor

Table 1-5 (in both 7/E & 6/E of the book)