

# Sinusoids and Phasors

(Chapter 9 - Lecture #1)

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## Outline of Chapter 9

- Introduction
- Sinusoids
- Phasors
- Phasor Relationships for Circuit Elements
- Impedance and Admittance
- Kirchhoff's Laws in the Frequency Domain
- Applications(optional)

## 9.1 Introduction

- So far, we have learnt about **DC(direct current)**. But from this lecture, we will learn about **AC(alternating current)**. Why??
  - Ac is more efficient and economical for long distance transmission
  - Many real applications use ac, e.g. electrical home appliances, factories, labs, etc.
- To deal with ac, we will only consider sinusoidally time-varying excitation → *sinusoid*
  - Sinusoid definition
    - A sinusoid is a signal that has the form of the sine and cosine function*

## About Sinusoid

- A sinusoidal current is usually referred to as *alternating current (ac)*
- Circuits driven by sinusoidal current or voltage sources are called *ac circuits*
- Why sinusoids are of our interest??
  1. By nature, it is characteristically sinusoidal - anything that repeats its motions periodically, e.g., pendulum, ripples on the ocean surface, etc.
  2. Easy to generate and transmit - they are used in our homes, factories, etc.
  3. Can be analyzed using Fourier analysis - easy to manipulate signals → any practical periodic signal can be represented by a sum of sinusoids

4. Easy to be handled mathematically - the derivative and integral of a sinusoid are themselves sinusoids.
- When do a sinusoidal signal achieve a steady-state??  
When the transient response has died out (almost negligibly) and steady-state response remains - we are only interested on *sinusoidal steady-state response*.
  - For today's lecture, we will look at and learn about *sinuoids* and *phasors* only. The remaining section will be done in the next class.

## 9.2 Sinusoid

- Sinusoid voltage is given as follows:

$$v(t) = V_m \sin \omega t \quad (1)$$

where,

$V_m$  = the amplitude of the sinusoid

$\omega$  = the angular frequency in radian/s

$\omega t$  = the argument of the sinusoid

- To understand more on these terms, let's see Figure 9.1 in our text book.
  - (a) shows a function of its argument.
  - (b) shows a function of time.

- Sinusoid repeats itself every  $T$  seconds  $\Rightarrow$  *period* of the sinusoid, where  $T$  is

$$T = \frac{2\pi}{\omega} \quad (2)$$

- We may see that  $T$  repeats itself using the following equations:

$$\begin{aligned} v(t + T) &= V_m \sin \omega(t + T) = V_m \sin \omega\left(t + \frac{2\pi}{\omega}\right) \\ &= V_m \sin(\omega t + 2\pi) = V_m \sin \omega t = v(t) \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

which consequently gives

$$v(t + T) = v(t) \quad (4)$$

which means

A periodic function is one that satisfies  $f(t) = f(t + nT)$ , for all  $t$  and for all integers  $n$ .

- The reciprocal of  $T$  which is given as

$$f = \frac{1}{T} \quad (5)$$

is the *cyclic frequency*.

- From the equations introduced above, we know that

$$\omega = 2\pi f \quad (6)$$

in which the  $\omega$  is in *rad/s* and  $f$  is in *Hz*.

- We will now consider phasor. Phasor is expressed using  $\phi$  which is pronounced as '**fai**'. The general expression is given below:

$$v(t) = V_m \sin(\omega t + \phi) \quad (7)$$

Refer to Figure 9.2 for more intuitive presentation on this.



- To express sinusoid, we use sine and cosine form – trigonometry. Note that: “*when comparing two sinusoids, it is expedient (sesuai, elok, manfaat) to express both as either sine or cosine with positive amplitudes*”.
- Using the relationships in Equations(9.9) and (9.10), we can transform a sinusoid from sine to cosine or vice versa.
- Instead of memorize all equations given in (9.9) and (9.10) (in trigonometry), we may also use *graphical approach* to relate or compare sinusoids. This can be done by remembering and understanding Figure 9.3.
- This graphical approach can also be used to add two sinusoids signals of same frequency.

$$A \cos \omega t + B \sin \omega t = C \cos(\omega t - \theta) \quad (8)$$

where

$$C = \sqrt{A^2 + B^2}, \quad \theta = \tan^{-1} \frac{B}{A}$$

### Example 9.1

Find the amplitude, phase, period and frequency of the sinusoid

$$v(t) = 12 \cos(50t + 10^\circ)$$

### Solution

It is important to note that amplitude, phase, period and frequency of the given sinusoid are expressed as  $V_m$ ,  $\phi$ ,  $T$  and  $f$ , respectively.

Therefore, the answers can be straightforward taken from the

sinusoid, that is,

$$V_m = 12V.$$

$$\phi = 10^\circ.$$

$$T = \frac{2\pi}{\omega} = \frac{2\pi}{50} = 0.1257s, (\omega = 50 \text{ rad/s.})$$

$$f = \frac{1}{T} = 7.958Hz. \quad (9)$$

## 9.3 Phasors

- Sinusoids are easily expressed in terms of phasors, which are more convenient to work with than sine and cosine functions.
- Definition of Phasor:

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

- Note here, we will use *complex number* when phasor is concerned in our circuit analysis.
- A complex number  $z$  (this is a usual expression for complex number in our future circuit analysis) is

$$z = x + jy$$

where,  $j = \sqrt{-1}$ ;  $x \rightarrow$  real part and  $y \rightarrow$  imaginary part of  $z$ .  
Note that:  $x$  and  $y$  are not a two-dimensional vector.

- $z$  can also be written in polar or exponential form as

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

where  $r \rightarrow$  magnitude of  $z$ ,  $\phi \rightarrow$  phase of  $z$ .

- Due to this,  $z$  can be represented in these ways:
  1. Rectangular form:  $z = x + jy$ .
  2. Polar form:  $z = r \angle \phi$ .
  3. Exponential form:  $z = r e^{j\phi}$
- Refer to Figure 9.6 for more details.