

AC VOLTAGE APPLIED TO A SERIES LCR CIRCUIT

we take the voltage of the source to be

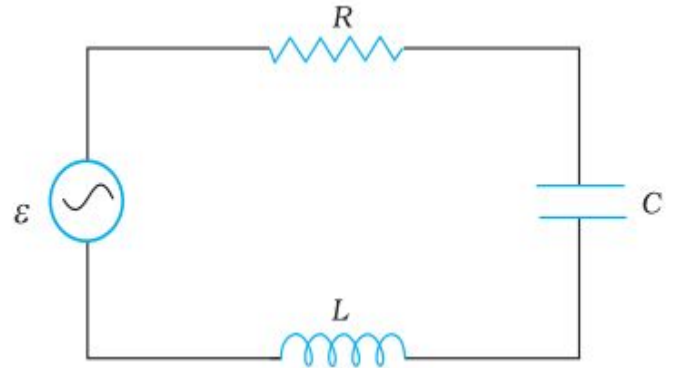
$$v = v_m \sin \omega t.$$

If q is the charge on the capacitor and

current, at time t , we have, from Kirchhoff's loop

rule:

$$L \frac{di}{dt} + iR + \frac{q}{C} = v$$



Phasor-diagram solution

we see that the resistor, inductor and capacitor are in **series**. Therefore, the ac current in each element is the same at any time, having the same amplitude and phase. Let it be $i = i_m \sin(\omega t + \varphi)$

where φ is the phase difference between the voltage across the source and the current in the circuit

Let I be the phasor representing the current in the circuit. Further, let V_L , V_R , V_C , and V represent the voltage across the inductor, resistor, capacitor and the source, respectively.

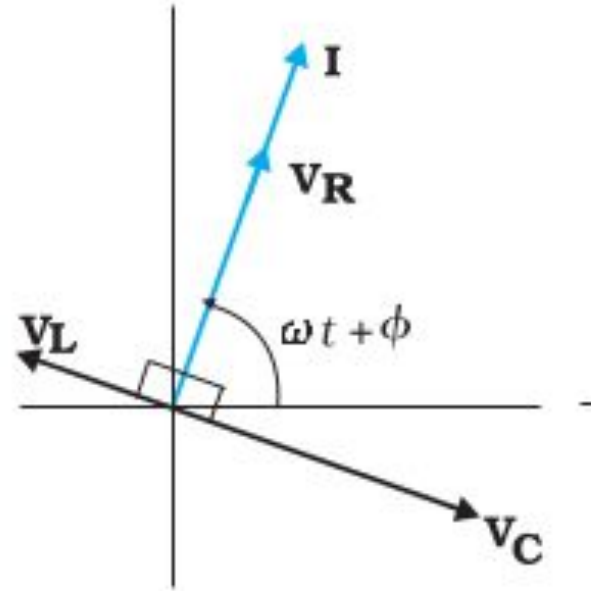
we know that V_R is parallel to I , V_C is $\pi/2$ behind I

and V_L is $\pi/2$ ahead of I .

V_L , V_R , V_C and I are shown with appropriate phase- relations.

The length of these phasors or the amplitude of V_R , V_C and V_L are:

$$V_{Rm} = i_m R, V_{Cm} = i_m X_C, V_{Lm} = i_m X_L$$

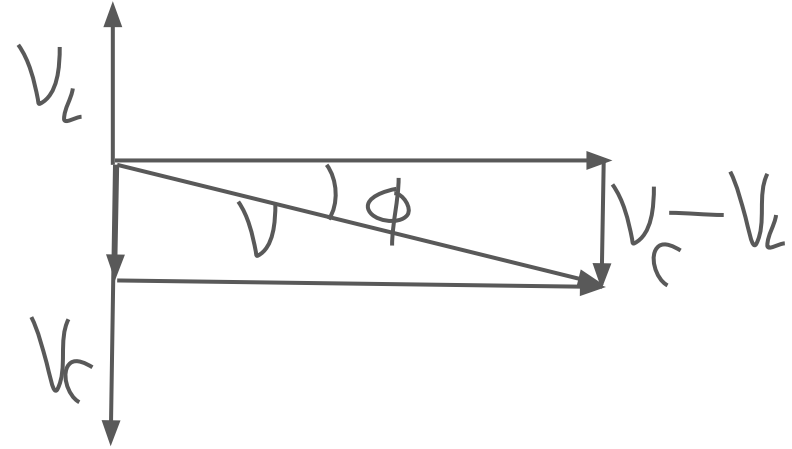


In the vector diagram the resultant voltage is given by

$$V^2 = V_R^2 + (V_C - V_L)^2$$

$$I^2 Z^2 = I^2 R^2 + I^2 (X_C - X_L)^2$$

$$\text{Or } Z^2 = R^2 + (X_C - X_L)^2$$

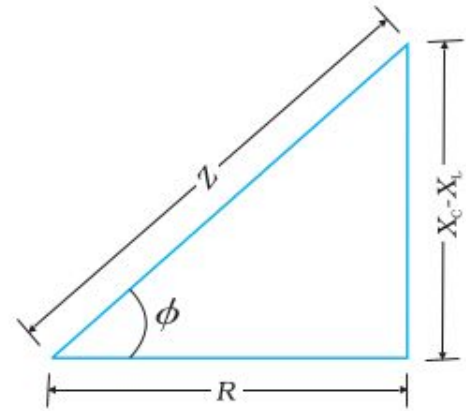


where $Z = \sqrt{R^2 + (X_C - X_L)^2}$ is then Impedance of the LCR circuit

Since phasor I is always parallel to phasor V_R ,
the phase angle ϕ is the angle between V_R and V
and can be determined from the figure

as
$$\tan \phi = \frac{v_C - v_L}{v_R}$$

$$\tan \phi = \frac{X_C - X_L}{R}$$

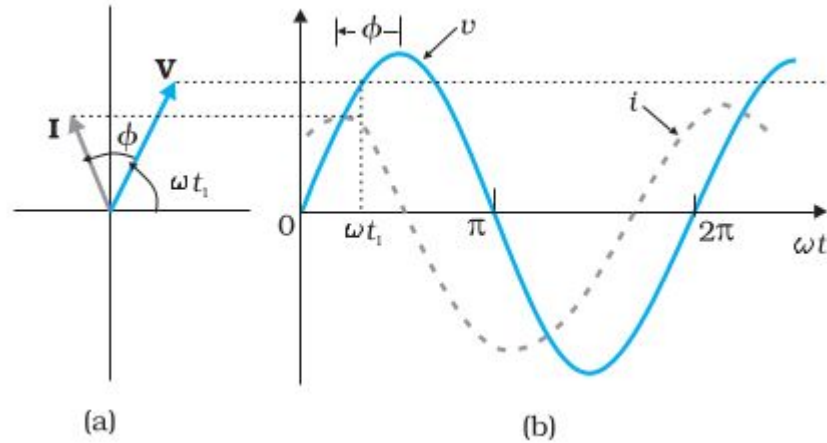


If $X_C > X_L$, ϕ is positive and the circuit is predominantly capacitive.

Consequently, the current in the circuit leads the source voltage.

If $X_C < X_L$, ϕ is negative and the circuit is predominantly inductive. Consequently, the current in the circuit lags the source voltage.

The phasor diagram and variation of v and i with ωt for the case $X_C > X_L$.



Resonance

The phenomenon of resonance is common among systems that have a tendency to **oscillate** at a **particular frequency**. This frequency is called the system's **natural frequency**. If such a system is **driven** by an energy source at a frequency that is **near the natural frequency**, the **amplitude** of oscillation is found to be **large**.

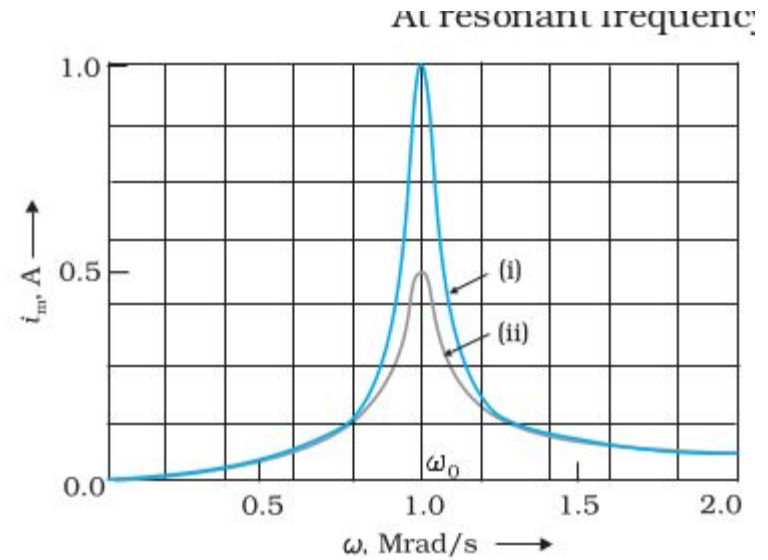
For an RLC circuit driven with voltage of amplitude v_m and frequency ω , we found that the current amplitude

$$i_m = \frac{v_m}{Z} = \frac{v_m}{\sqrt{R^2 + (X_C - X_L)^2}}$$

is given by

with $X_C = 1/\omega C$ and $X_L = \omega L$. So if ω is varied, then at a particular frequency ω_0 , $X_C = X_L$, and the impedance is minimum $Z = R + 0 = R$. This frequency is called the resonant frequency:

Resonant circuits have a variety of applications, for example, in the tuning mechanism of a radio or a TV set. The antenna of a radio accepts signals from many broadcasting stations



Sharpness of resonance

The amplitude of the current in the series LCR circuit is given by

$$i_m = \frac{v_m}{\sqrt{R^2 + \left(\omega L - \frac{1}{\omega C}\right)^2}}$$

It is maximum

at $\omega = \omega_0 = 1/\sqrt{LC}$.

maximum value of current is

$$i_m^{\max} = v_m / R.$$

For values of ω other than ω_0 , the amplitude of the current is less than the maximum value. Suppose we choose a value of ω for which the current amplitude is **1/2** times its maximum value.

At this value, the power dissipated by the circuit becomes half. The frequencies of half power points are

$$\omega_1 = \omega_0 + \Delta\omega$$

$$\omega_2 = \omega_0 - \Delta\omega$$

The difference $\omega_1 - \omega_2 = 2\Delta\omega$ is often called the **bandwidth** of the circuit.

Sharpness at resonance (Q factor) can be defined as

$$Q = X_L / R = X_C / R$$

$$\text{or } Q = f_o / f_2 - f_1$$

POWER IN LCR AC CIRCUIT: THE POWER FACTOR

We have seen that a voltage $v = v_m \sin \omega t$ applied to a series RLC circuit drives a current in the circuit given by $i = i_m \sin(\omega t + \phi)$ where

$$i_m = \frac{v_m}{Z} \quad \text{and} \quad \phi = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{X_C - X_L}{R} \right)$$

Therefore, the instantaneous power p supplied by the source is

$$p = vi = (v_m \sin \omega t) \times [i_m \sin(\omega t + \phi)]$$
$$= \frac{v_m i_m}{2} [\cos \phi - \cos(2\omega t + \phi)]$$

$$T \cos(2\omega t + \varphi)$$