

ECE Topic #6 – Complex Numbers, Phasors, Impedances, and Frequency Response

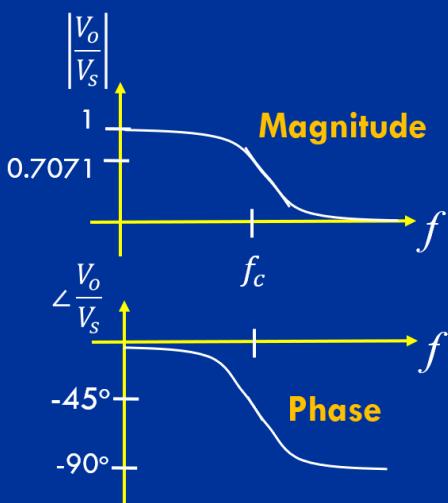
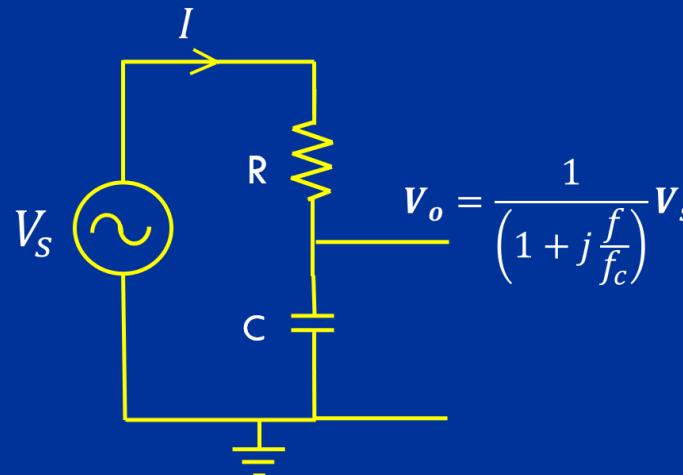
Slides downloaded from: <https://ecefies.org/ece-topics/>

Companion video at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3avBjiaAPBY>

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This is Episode 6 in the ECE Topics series. It covers complex numbers, phasors, and impedances - the necessary mathematical machinery for solving any "AC circuit". In keeping with other episodes on this channel, the goal is to understand circuits, and several practical examples are used as examples. While the math is covered rigorously, the pre-requisites needed are limited to algebra, and basic trig.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Circuit Diagram: } Z_c &= \frac{1}{j 2\pi f C} \\ &= 0 + (-j)X_c \\ &\quad \text{Real} \quad \text{Imag} \end{aligned}$$

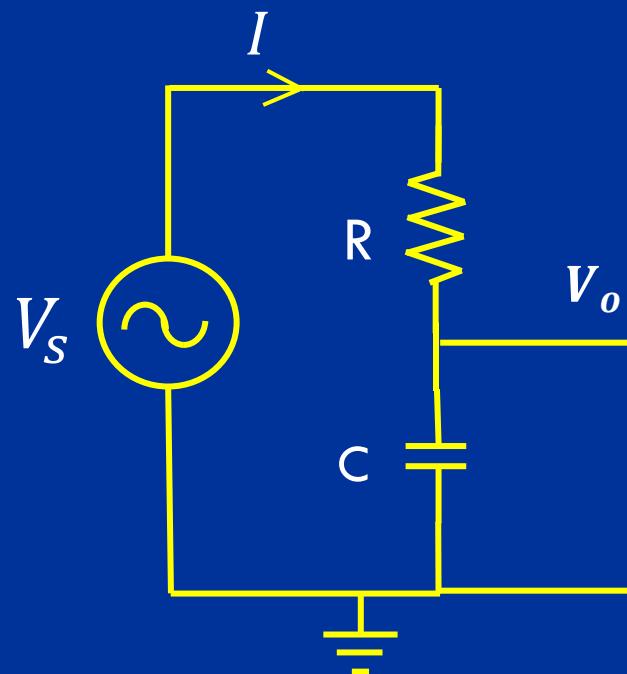


Topics in ECE #6

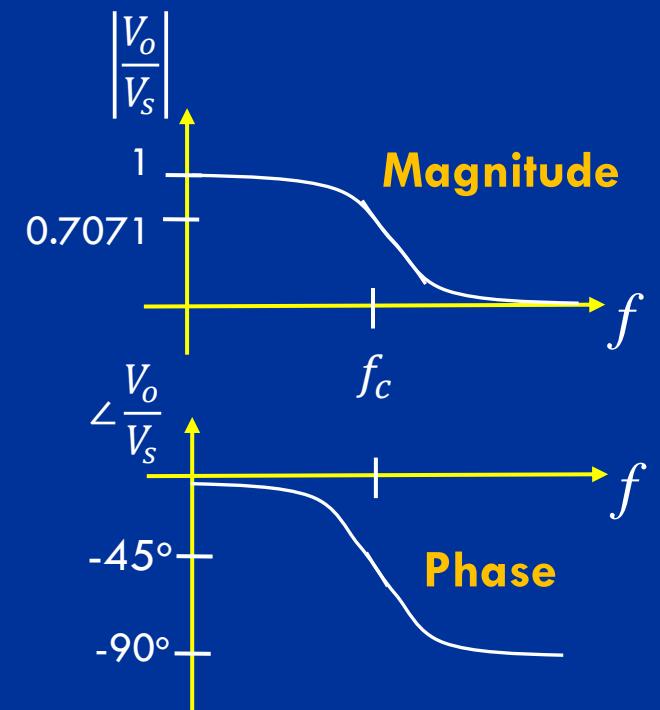
Complex Numbers, Phasors, Impedances and Frequency Response

$$\begin{aligned} \text{C} &= Z_c = \frac{1}{j 2\pi f C} \\ &= 0 + (-j)X_c \end{aligned}$$

Real Imag



$$V_o = \frac{1}{(1 + j \frac{f}{f_c})} V_s$$

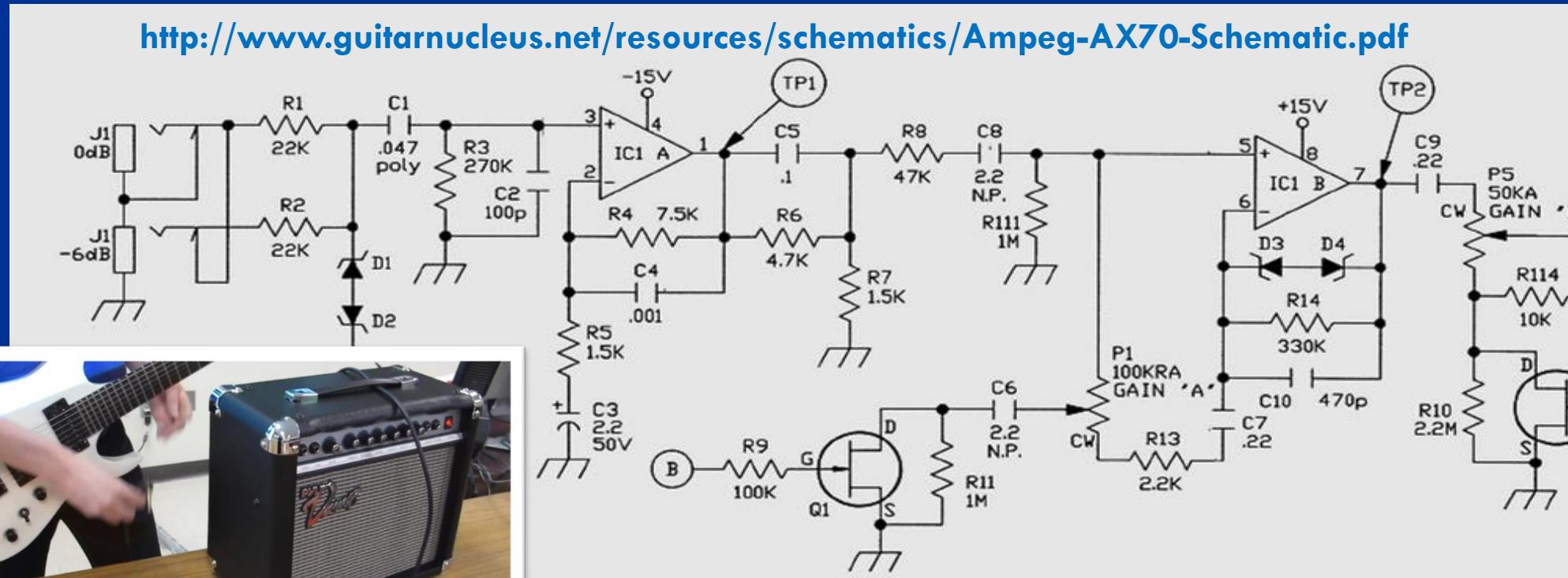


The How and Why

as well as the Math . . .

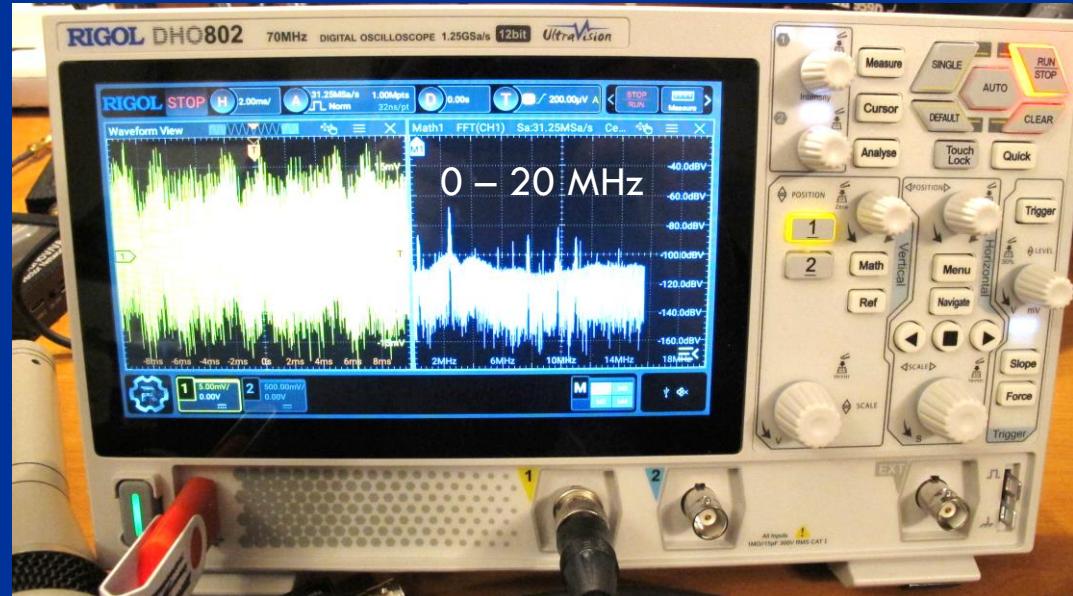
Application 1: Signal Processing

From ECE Topics - Episode 4 – Understanding Circuits

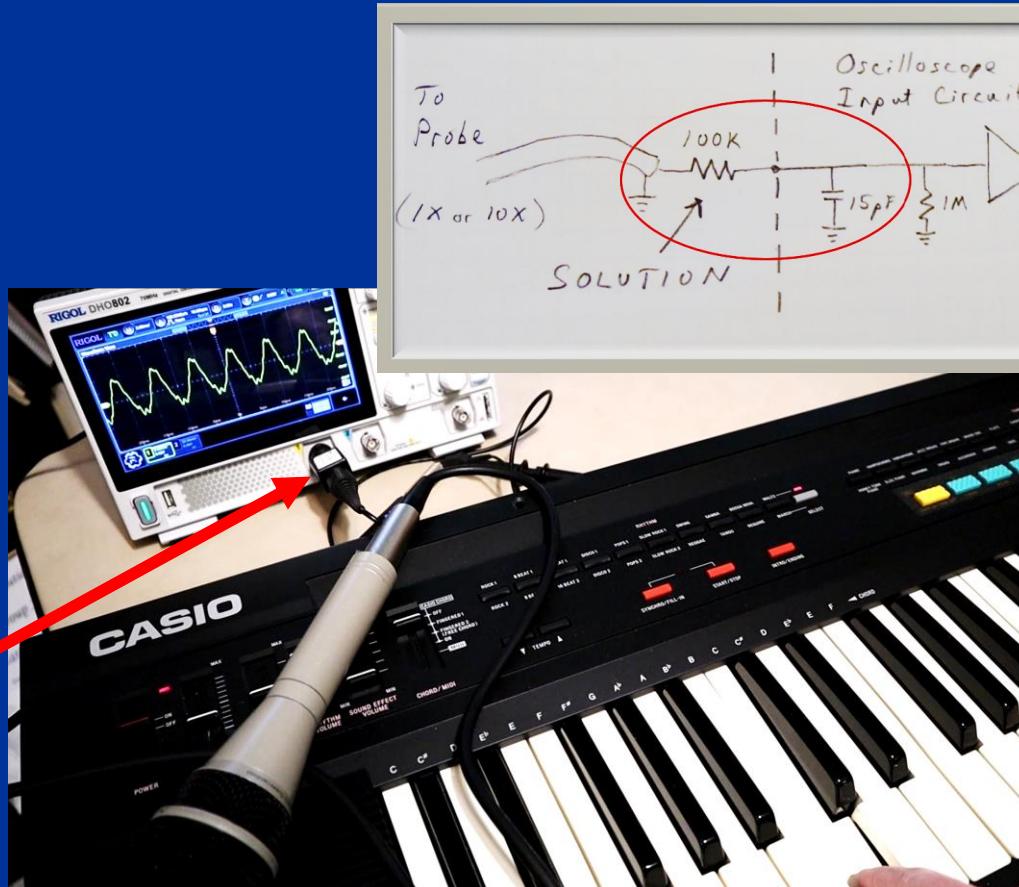


Application 2: RFI Filtering

From ECE Topics - Episode 5 – Scopes, Mics, and Noise



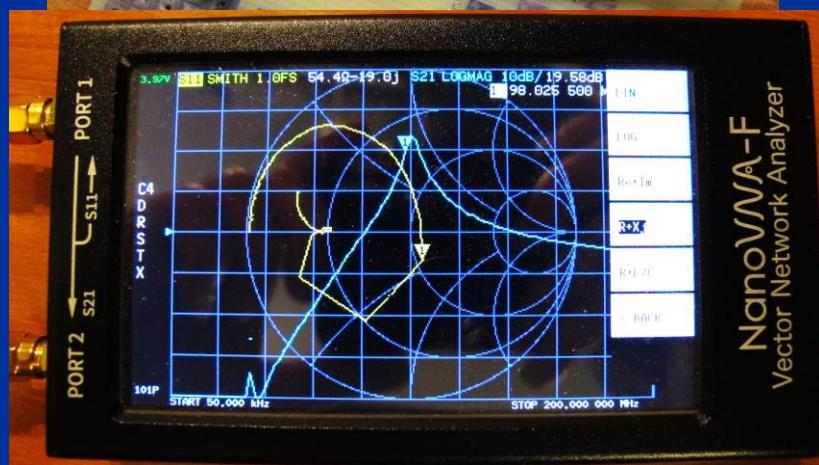
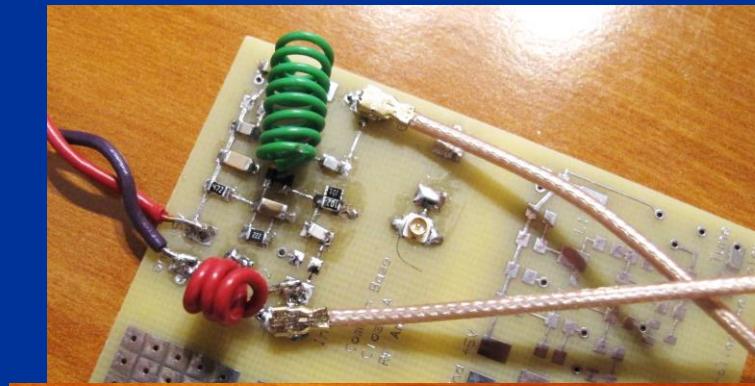
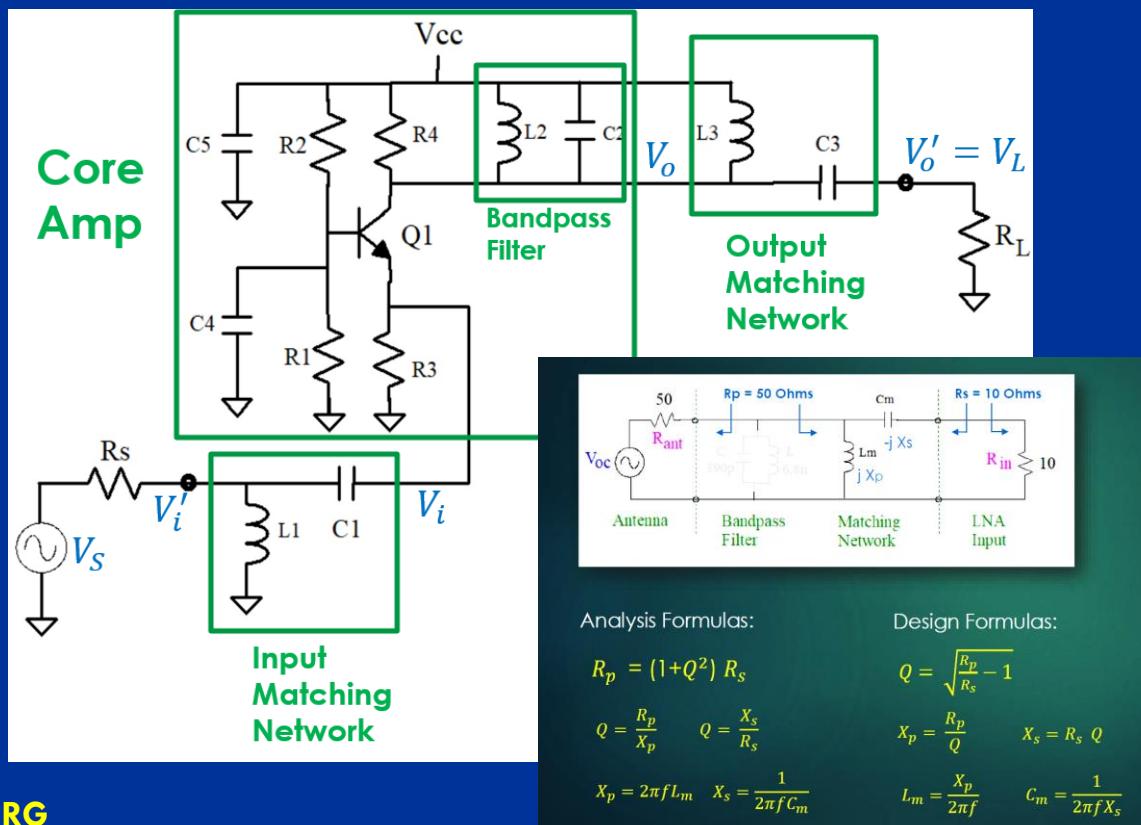
100 kHz Lowpass Filter



Application 3: Radio/Wireless

From Radio Design 101

Episode 2- Impedance Matching



Other Applications

- Power systems engineering
- Any (linear) circuit analysis involving time-varying voltages and currents
- Fourier transforms, EM theory, and the physical universe in general ☺

Today's Topics

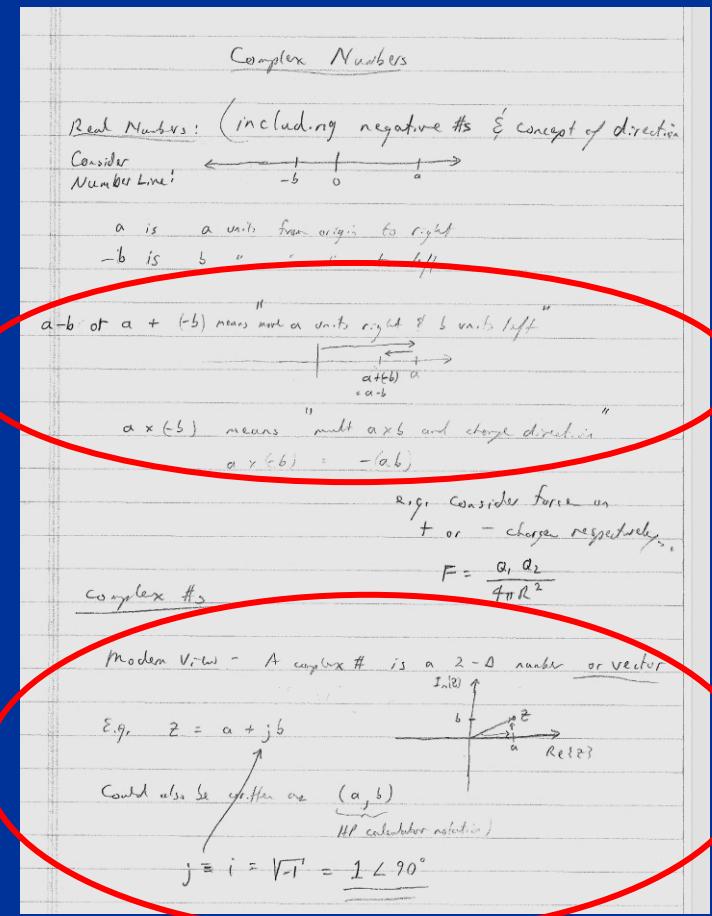
- Complex Numbers and Operations
- Phasors, Impedance, and Circuit Analysis
- Plotting Frequency Response

Lectures and Handouts

from Intro-EE University Course

Intro EE Topic List and Schedule

Lecture Topics	Labs
Voltage, current, nodes, batteries, resistance,	None
KVL, KCL, Ohm's law, power, AC, peak vs RMS	Circuit construction, V, I measurements with DMM
Circuit analysis and applications	Resistance Measurements, AC Signals, Function generators, Scopes
Electricity&magnetism, Faraday's law, applications	Resistor circuits (volume controls, input/output impedance)
Inductors and application circuits	Magnetism, transformers, relays, motors and generators
Capacitors and application circuits	Inductor and capacitor circuits
Frequency response, dB, and sinusoidal circuit analysis	Kit Construction
Introduction to complex numbers and impedance	Kit Construction
Semiconductors, diodes and application	Frequency response of amplifiers and gain/phase responses
Introduction to Systems (esp. renewable energy)	Project work with solar-cell panels and renewable energy systems
Review	Project work with solar-cell panels and renewable energy systems



Complex Numbers

Representations:

Rectangular: $z = a + jb$ Polar: $z = r \angle \theta$ Exponential: $z = r e^{j\theta}$

Conversions:

Rectangular \Rightarrow Polar: $r = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$ $\theta = \tan^{-1}(\frac{b}{a})$
Polar \Rightarrow Rectangular: $a = r \cos(\theta)$ $b = r \sin(\theta)$

Operations:

Let $z_1 = a_1 + jb_1 = r_1 \angle \theta_1$ and $z_2 = a_2 + jb_2 = r_2 \angle \theta_2$

Operation	Best Representation	Result
$z_3 = z_1 + z_2$	Rectangular	$z_3 = (a_1+a_2) + j(b_1+b_2)$
$z_3 = z_1 - z_2$	Rectangular	$z_3 = (a_1-a_2) + j(b_1-b_2)$
$z_3 = z_1 z_2$	Polar	$z_3 = r_1 r_2 \angle (\theta_1 + \theta_2)$
$z_3 = z_1 / z_2$	Polar	$z_3 = r_1 / r_2 \angle (\theta_1 - \theta_2)$
Conjugate	Either	$z^* = a - jb$ or $z^* = r \angle -\theta$

A Few Theorems and Proofs:

Euler's Identity: $e^{j\theta} = \cos(\theta) + j \sin(\theta)$

Proof: Expand $e^{j\theta}$, $\cos(\theta)$, and $\sin(\theta)$ in Maclaurin series and rearrange terms.

If $z = a + jb$, then z can also be written as $z = r e^{j\theta}$

Proof: From Euler's identity, $r e^{j\theta} = r(\cos(\theta) + j \sin(\theta)) = r \cos(\theta) + j r \sin(\theta) = a + jb$

If $z_3 = z_1 z_2$ then $z_3 = r_1 r_2 \angle (\theta_1 + \theta_2)$

Proof: $z_1 z_2 = r_1 e^{j\theta_1} r_2 e^{j\theta_2} = r_1 r_2 e^{j\theta_1} e^{j\theta_2} = r_1 r_2 e^{j(\theta_1+\theta_2)} = r_1 r_2 \angle (\theta_1 + \theta_2)$

Complex Numbers

IMPORTANT NOTE: The ECE field uses j instead of i for $\sqrt{-1}$
... because i is used for current ☺

Representations:

Rectangular: $z = a + j b$

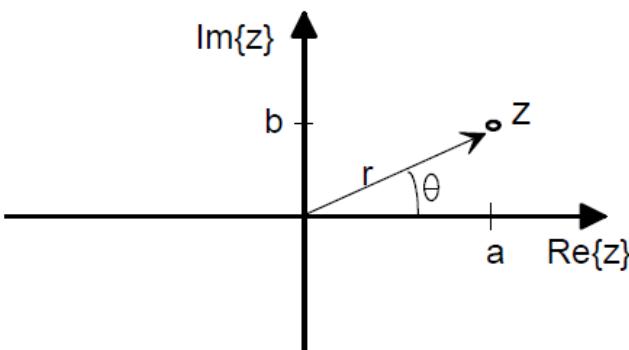
Polar: $z = r \angle \theta$

Exponential: $z = r e^{j\theta}$

Conversions:

Rectangular \rightarrow Polar: $r = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$ $\theta = \tan^{-1}(\frac{b}{a})$

Polar \rightarrow Rectangular: $a = r \cos(\theta)$ $b = r \sin(\theta)$



Polar \rightarrow Rectangular: $a = r \cos(\theta)$ $b = r \sin(\theta)$

Real-world Problem Set 1

Find the impedance Z of each circuit below, to three or four significant digits.
Express each in polar form, with angle in degrees.

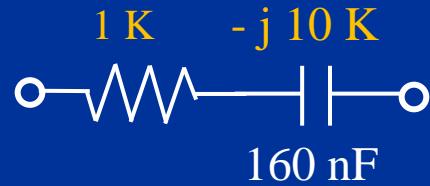
HINT: Impedances in series add



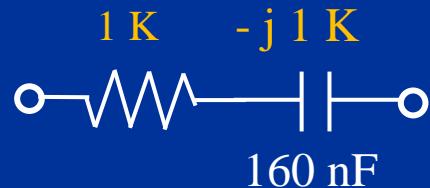
Problem Set 1

Solution

@ 100 Hz:



@ 1 kHz:



@ 10 kHz:



$$\begin{aligned} Z &= 1E3 + (-j 10E3) = \sqrt{(1E3)^2 + (1E4)^2} \angle \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{-1E4}{1E3}\right) \\ &= \sqrt{1.01E8} \angle -1.47 \text{ rad} \\ &= \mathbf{10.05 \text{ K} \angle -84.3^\circ} \end{aligned}$$

$$Z = \mathbf{1.414 \text{ K} \angle -45^\circ}$$

$$Z = \mathbf{1.005 \text{ K} \angle -5.7^\circ}$$

Representations:

Rectangular: $z = a + j b$

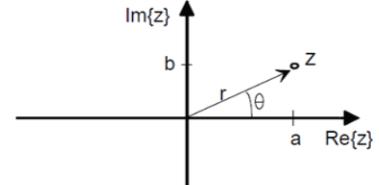
Polar: $z = r \angle \theta$

Exponential: $z = r e^{j\theta}$

Conversions:

Rectangular \rightarrow Polar: $r = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$ $\theta = \tan^{-1}(\frac{b}{a})$

Polar \rightarrow Rectangular: $a = r \cos(\theta)$ $b = r \sin(\theta)$



Complex Number Operations

Operations:

Let $z_1 = a_1 + j b_1 = r_1 \angle \theta_1$ and $z_2 = a_2 + j b_2 = r_2 \angle \theta_2$

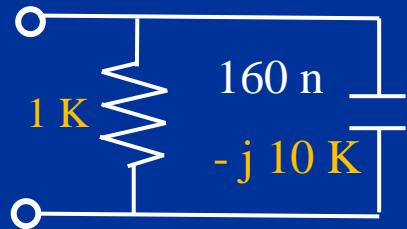
<i>Operation</i>	<i>Best Representation</i>	<i>Result</i>
$z_3 = z_1 + z_2$	Rectangular	$z_3 = (a_1 + a_2) + j (b_1 + b_2)$
$z_3 = z_1 - z_2$	Rectangular	$z_3 = (a_1 - a_2) + j (b_1 - b_2)$
$z_3 = z_1 \cdot z_2$	Polar	$z_3 = r_1 r_2 \angle (\theta_1 + \theta_2)$
$z_3 = z_1 / z_2$	Polar	$z_3 = r_1 / r_2 \angle (\theta_1 - \theta_2)$
Conjugate	Either	$z^* = a - j b \text{ or } z^* = r \angle -\theta$

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$z^3 = z^1 \setminus z^2$	Polar	$z^3 = r^1 \setminus r^2 \angle (\theta^1 - \theta^2)$

Problem Set 2

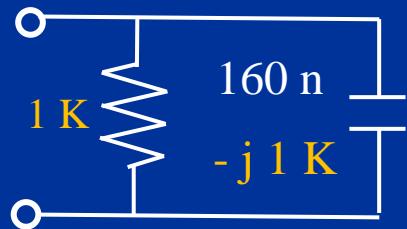
HINT: Recall $Z = \frac{Z_1 Z_2}{Z_1 + Z_2}$

@ 100 Hz:



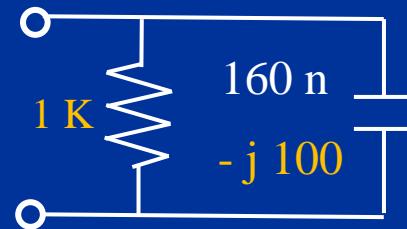
$$Z =$$

@ 1 KHz:



$$Z =$$

@ 10 KHz:



$$Z =$$

Problem Set 2

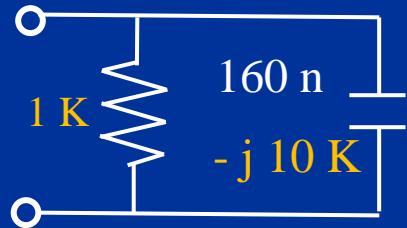
Solution

Operations:

Let $z_1 = a_1 + j b_1 = r_1 \angle \theta_1$ and $z_2 = a_2 + j b_2 = r_2 \angle \theta_2$

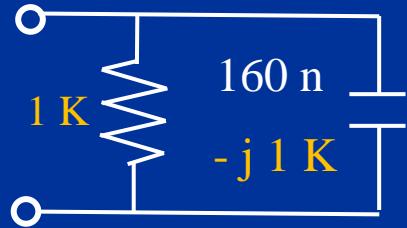
Operation	Best Representation	Result
$z_3 = z_1 + z_2$	Rectangular	$z_3 = (a_1 + a_2) + j(b_1 + b_2)$
$z_3 = z_1 - z_2$	Rectangular	$z_3 = (a_1 - a_2) + j(b_1 - b_2)$
$z_3 = z_1 z_2$	Polar	$z_3 = r_1 r_2 \angle (\theta_1 + \theta_2)$
$z_3 = z_1 / z_2$	Polar	$z_3 = r_1 / r_2 \angle (\theta_1 - \theta_2)$
Conjugate	Either	$z^* = a - j b$ or $z^* = r \angle -\theta$

@ 100 Hz:



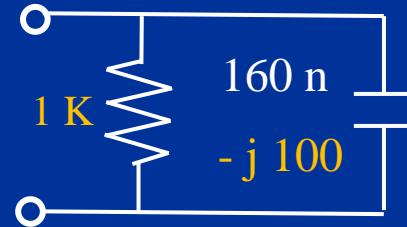
$$Z = \frac{(1E3)(-j 10E3)}{1E3 - j 10E3} = \frac{(1E7 \angle -90^\circ)}{10.05E3 \angle -84.3^\circ} = 995 \angle -5.71^\circ$$

@ 1 KHz:



$$Z = 707.1 \angle -45^\circ$$

@ 10 KHz:



$$Z = 99.5 \angle -84.3^\circ$$

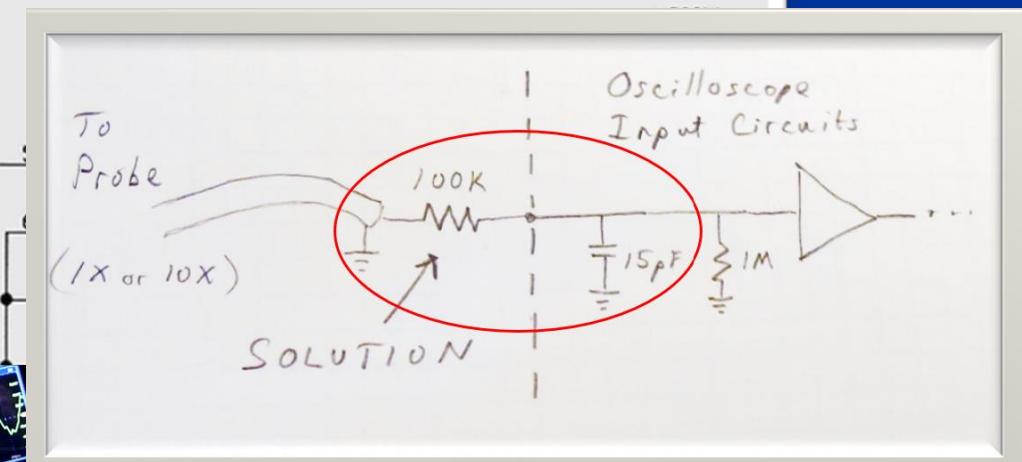
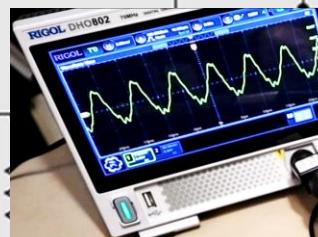
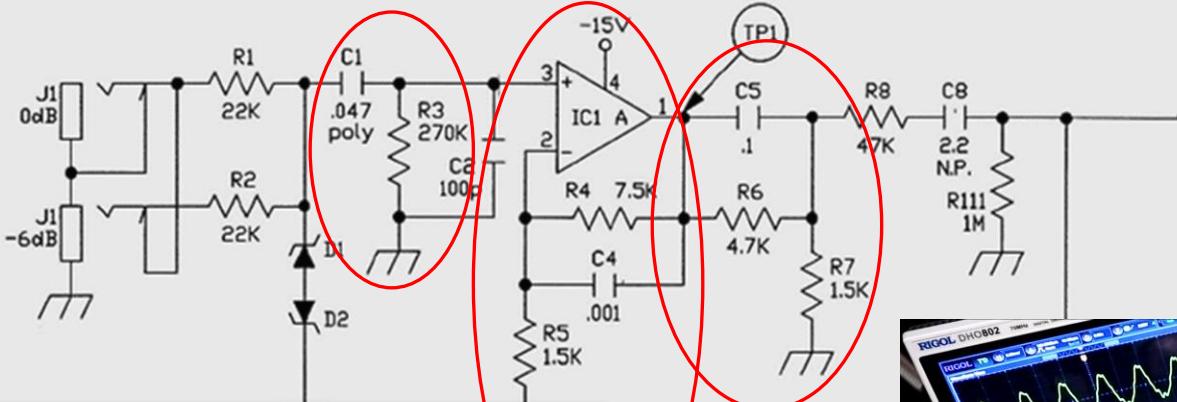
Today's Topics

- Complex Numbers and Operations
- Phasors, Impedance, and Circuit Analysis
- Plotting Frequency Response

Remember the Goal ...

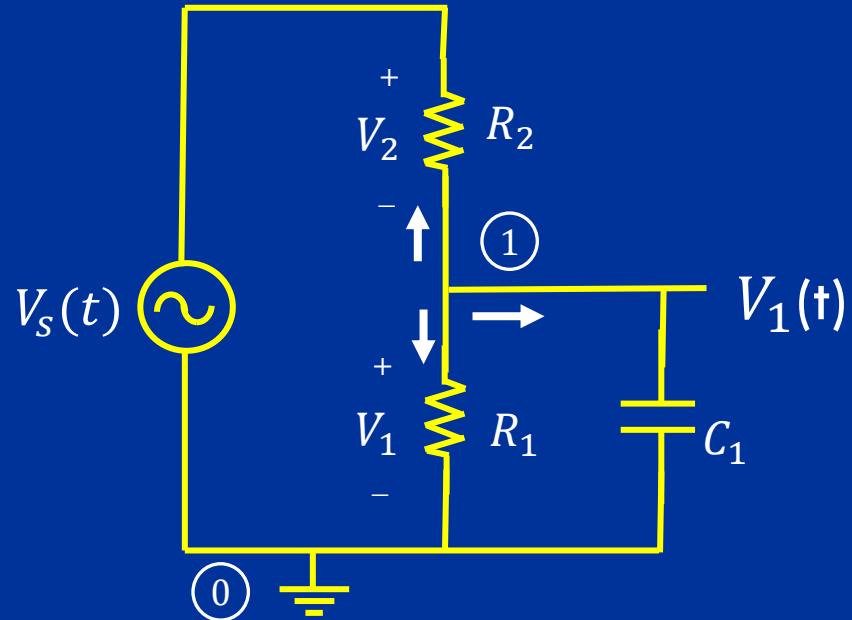
Analyze, understand, and design circuits !

<http://www.guitarnucleus.net/resources/schematics/Ampeg-AX70-Schematic.pdf>



Brute Force Approach

KCL-based “Nodal Analysis” at node 1 : $\sum I_{leaving-node-1} = 0$



$$(V_1(t) - V_s(t)) \frac{1}{R_2} + V_1(t) \left(\frac{1}{R_1} \right) + C_1 \frac{dV_1(t)}{dt} = 0$$

Solve using differential equations and matrix algebra techniques

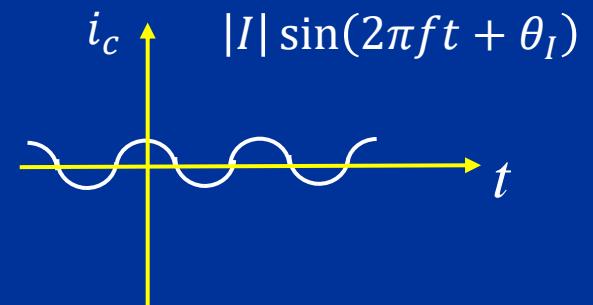
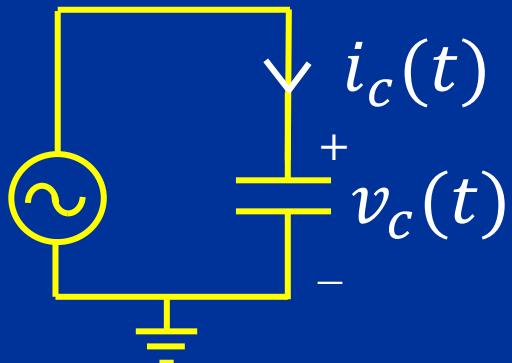
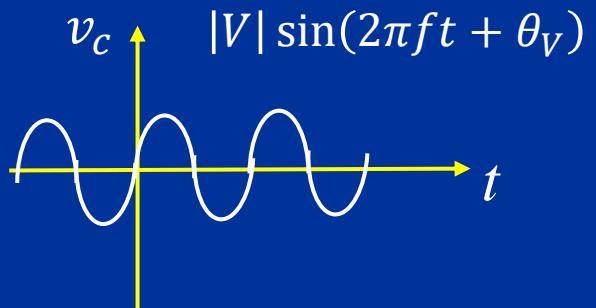
Painful for large circuits

Use “Phasors” and “Impedances” instead !

Phasors

Complex numbers represent the Magnitudes *and* Phases of sinewave voltages or currents in a circuit

In “real” world:

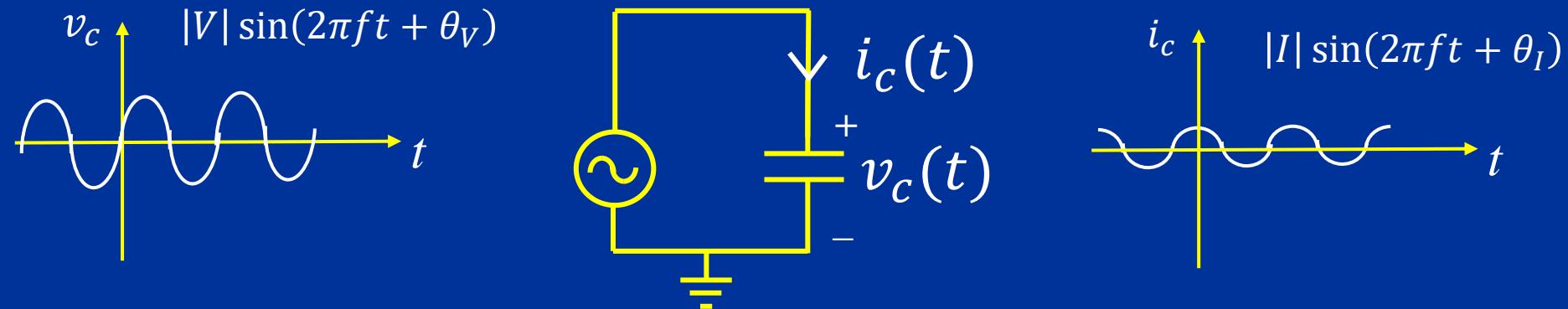


Phasors:

$$V = |V| \angle \theta_V = V_{real} + j V_{imag}$$

$$I = |I| \angle \theta_I = I_{real} + j I_{imag}$$

Reactance X relates V and I Magnitudes



From Physics: $i_c(t) = C \frac{d v_c(t)}{dt} = C|V| 2\pi f \cos(2\pi ft + \theta_V) = \frac{|V| 2\pi f C \sin(2\pi ft + \theta_V + 90^\circ)}{|I| \theta_I}$

Hence: $|I| = |V| 2\pi f C$ or $|V| = |I| \left(\frac{1}{2\pi f C} \right)$ $\xrightarrow{\hspace{1cm}} X_C$

Impedance Z relates V and I Phasors

Recall:

$$i_c(t) = C \frac{d v_c(t)}{dt} = C|V| 2\pi f \cos(2\pi ft + \theta_V)$$
$$= \frac{|V| 2\pi f C}{|I|} \sin(2\pi ft + \theta_V + 90^\circ)$$

$$|V| = |I| \left(\frac{1}{2\pi f C} \right)$$

To capture effect on phase also:

$$V = I X_c (-j) = I \left(\frac{1}{j 2\pi f C} \right) = I (0 - j X_c)$$

Resistance is zero in ideal cap

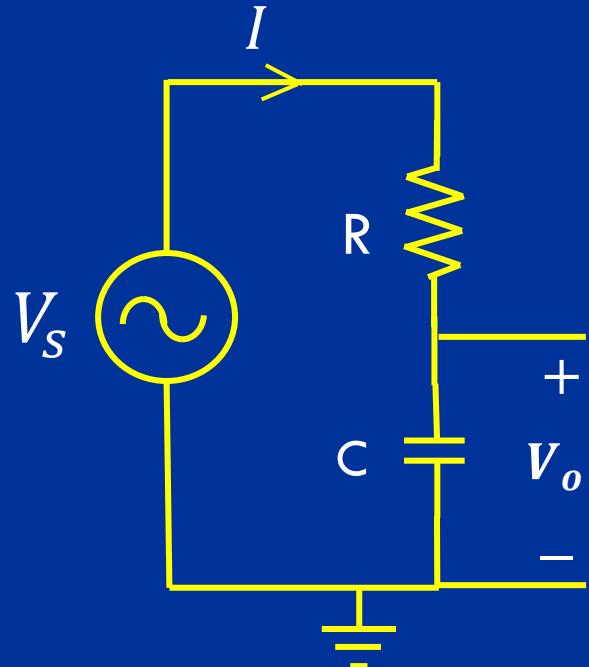
Impedance is purely “imaginary”

$1\angle -90^\circ$

Circuit Analysis Example

$$\begin{aligned} Z_c &= \frac{1}{j 2\pi f C} \\ &= \frac{1}{j \omega C} \end{aligned}$$

Frequency in Hz
Frequency in rad/sec



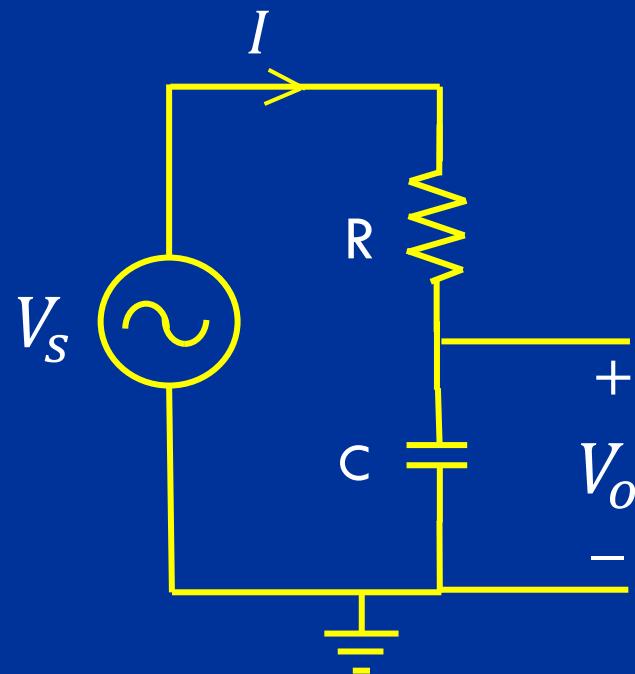
$$\begin{aligned} V_o &= \frac{Z_c}{(R + Z_c)} V_s \\ &= \frac{1}{\left(R + \frac{1}{j\omega C}\right)} V_s \\ &= \frac{1}{(1 + j\omega RC)} V_s \\ &= \frac{1}{\left(1 + j\frac{\omega}{\omega_o}\right)} V_s \quad \text{where } \omega_o = \frac{1}{RC} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Or, } \frac{V_o}{V_s} = \frac{1}{\left(1 + j\frac{f}{f_o}\right)} \quad \text{where } f_o = \frac{1}{2\pi RC}$$

Today's Topics

- Complex Numbers and Operations
- Phasors, Impedance, and Circuit Analysis
- Plotting Frequency Response

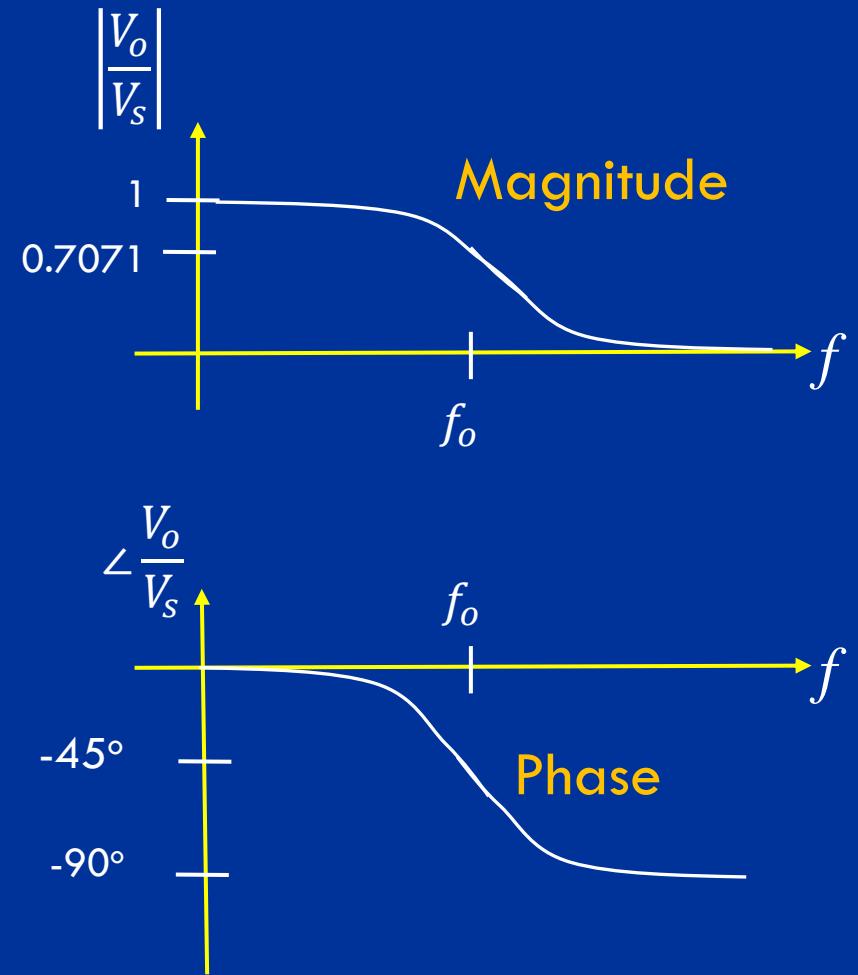
Frequency Response Plot(s)



“Transfer Function” or “Gain”

$$H(f) = \frac{V_o(f)}{V_s(f)} = \frac{1}{\left(1 + j \frac{f}{f_o}\right)}$$

NOTE: f_o is often called f_c for “corner” or “cutoff” frequency.
(a.k.a. half-power or -3dB frequency)



(Algebraic) Complex Number Calculators

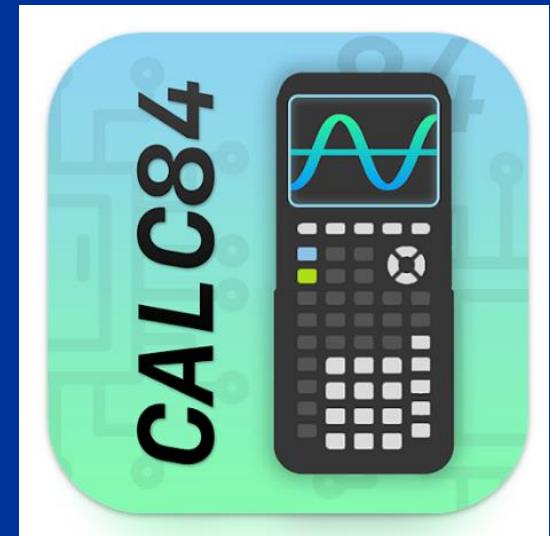
Calc84 (Cellphone app)

The TI-84 Plus CE family of graphing calculators

Familiar TI-84 Plus functionality in a sleek design that features a color screen and rechargeable battery.

Where to Buy »

<https://education.ti.com/en/products/calculators/graphing-calculators/ti-84-plus-ce-python>

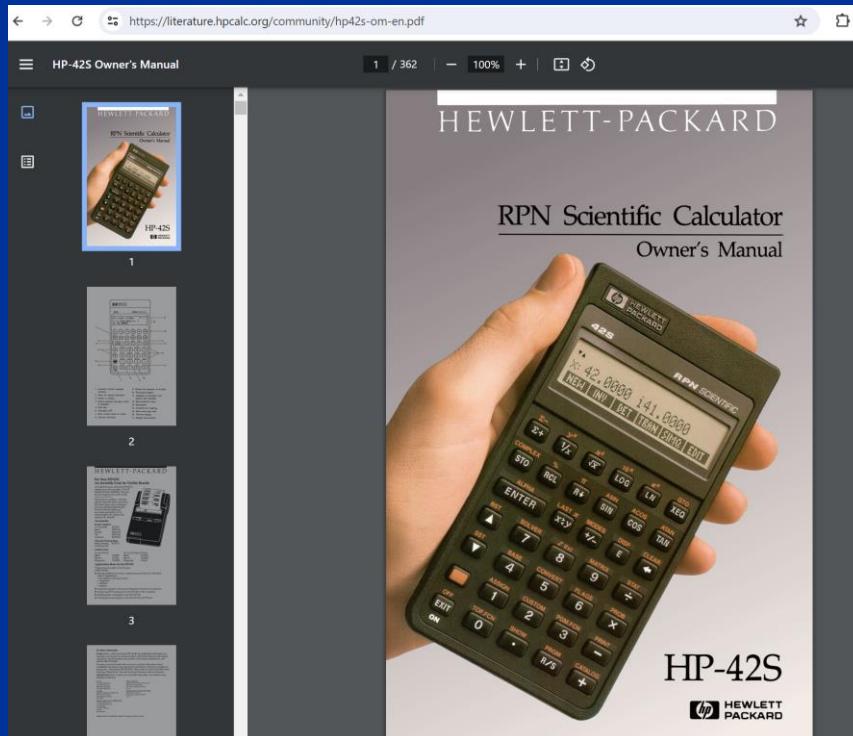


https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=scientific.graphing.calculator.t84.t36.t83&hl=en_US&gl=US

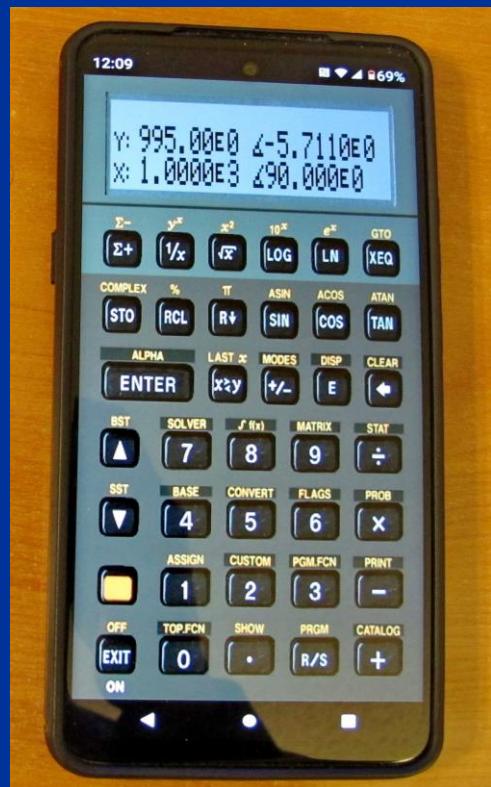
(RPN) Complex Number Calculators

Free 42s for Cellphone !

The original HP42S



<https://literature.hpcalc.org/community/hp42s-om-en.pdf>



<https://thomasokken.com/free42/>

Re-creation by Swiss Micros

A screenshot of the SwissMicros website showing the Model DM42. The top part shows a physical black calculator with a numeric keypad and function keys, similar in design to the HP-42S. Below it is a screenshot of the calculator's LCD screen displaying the same complex number results as the Free42 app. To the right is a detailed product page for the DM42, featuring tabs for Company, Products, Technical, and Checkout. The page includes sections for Description, Specifications, and Details, providing technical specifications like construction (stainless steel case), software (Open Source Free42 running on SwissMicros Operating System (DMCP)), processor (Ultra low power ARM Cortex-M4F 80 MHz), and display (Monochromatic ultra high contrast (14:1) transfective memory LCD display).

<https://www.swissmicros.com/products>

Thanks for Watching !

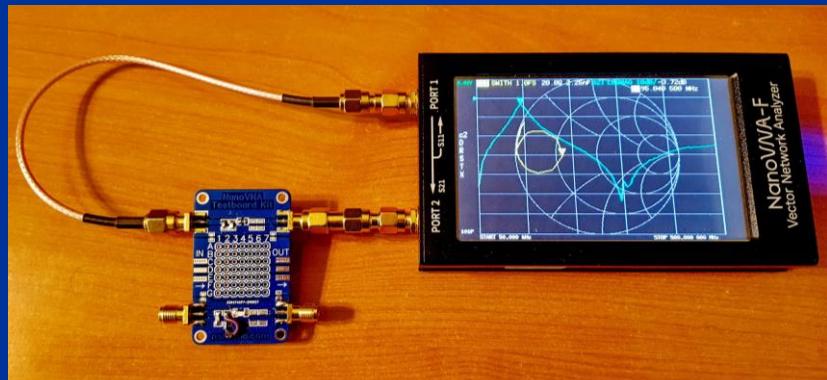
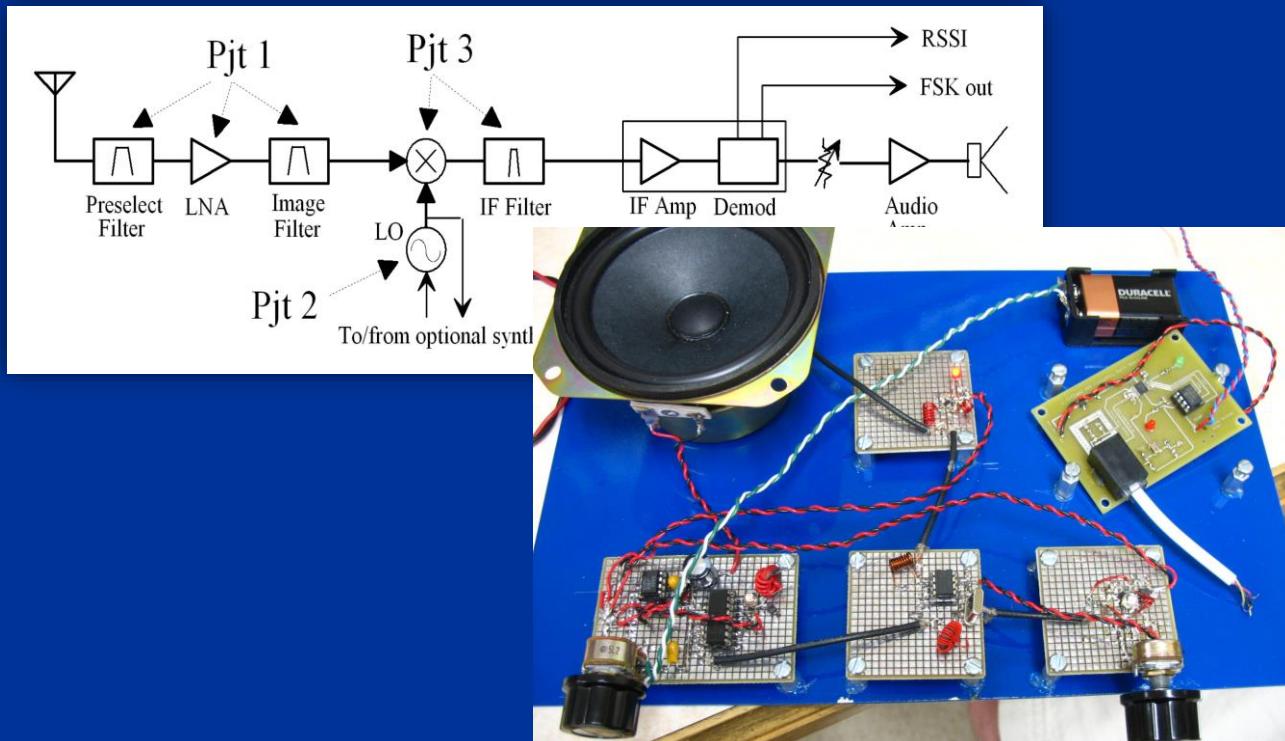
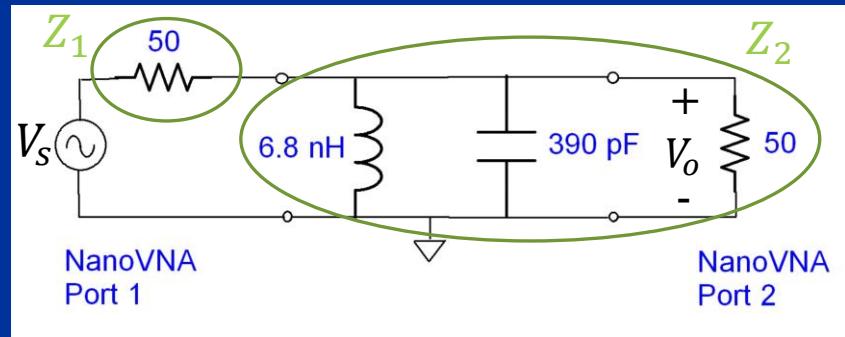
Homework Problems



Application: Radio/Wireless

From Radio Design 101

Episode 1 - Transceivers and (Bandpass) Filters

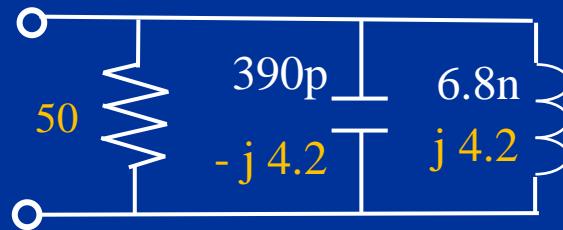


Homework 6.1 (Resonant Circuits)

See Radio Design 101, Episode 1

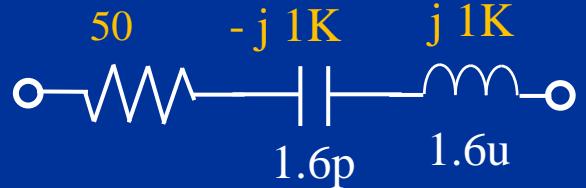
HINT: Do pairwise reduction for quicker solution, with more insight

@ 98 MHz:



$Z =$

@ 98 MHz:

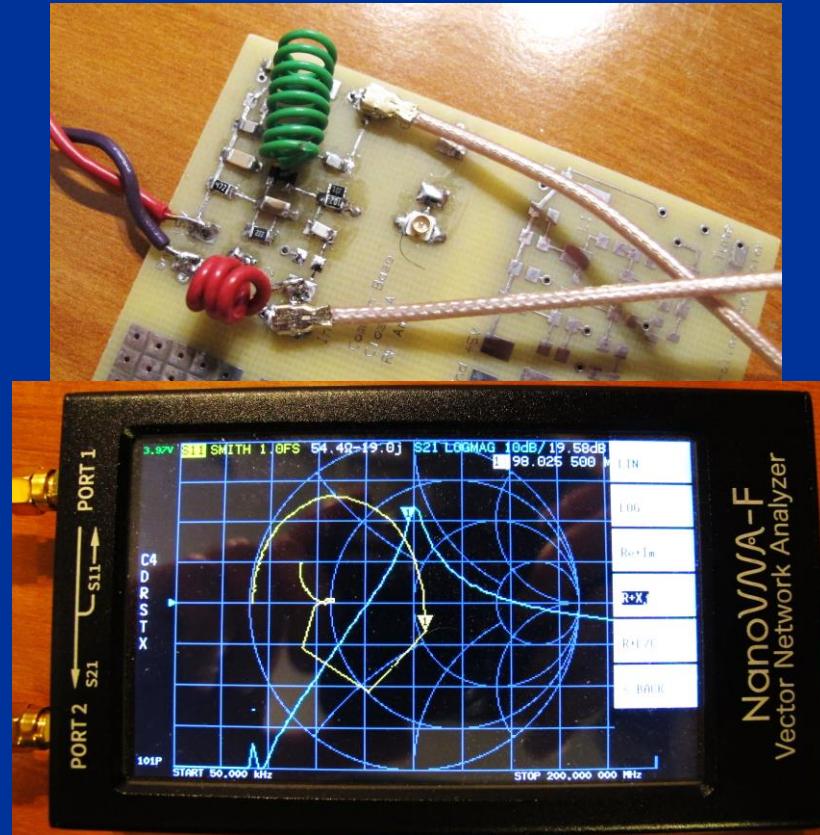
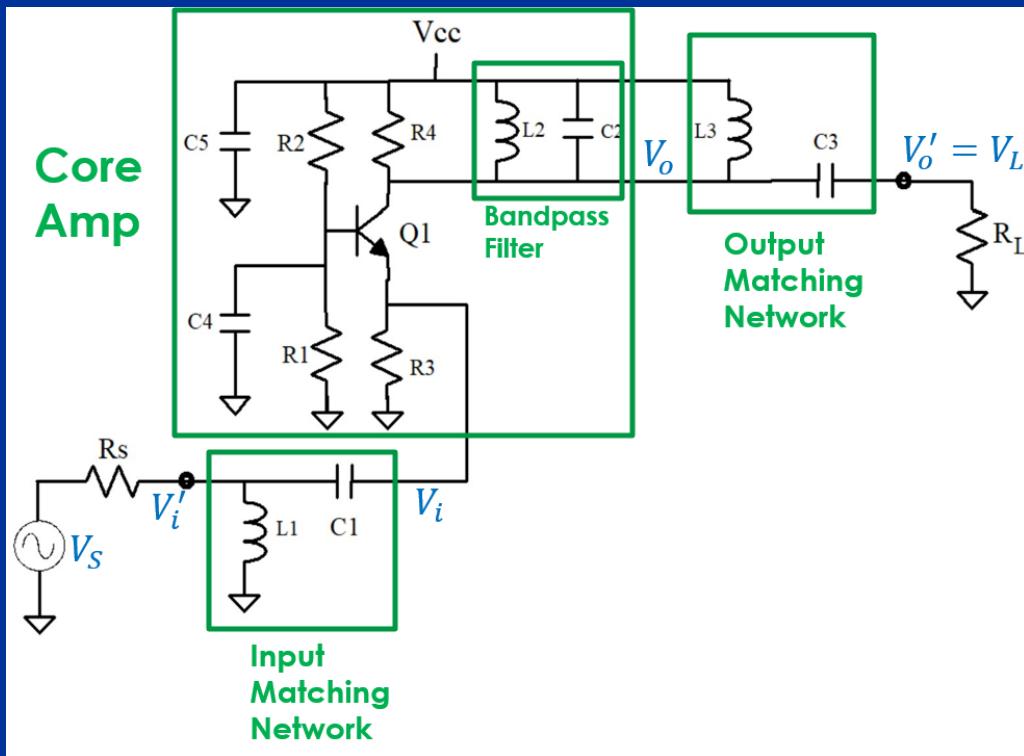


$Z =$

Application: Radio/Wireless

From Radio Design 101

Episode 2- Impedance Matching

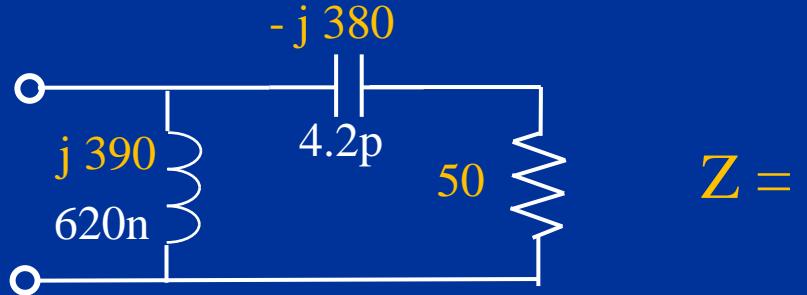


Homework 6.2 (Matching Networks)

See Radio Design 101, Episode 2

*HINT: Do pairwise reduction
for quicker solution, with more
insight ...*

@ 100 MHz:



$$Z =$$

@ 100 MHz:



$$Z =$$