

Complex Numbers in Engineering

A complex number z has real and imaginary parts

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{EX.} \quad z = a + bi \\ \text{OR} \quad z = a + bj \\ \text{OR} \quad z = a + jb \end{array} \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{l} \text{EX.} \\ \text{OR} \\ \text{OR} \end{array}} \right\} \text{all are } \underline{\text{identical}}$$

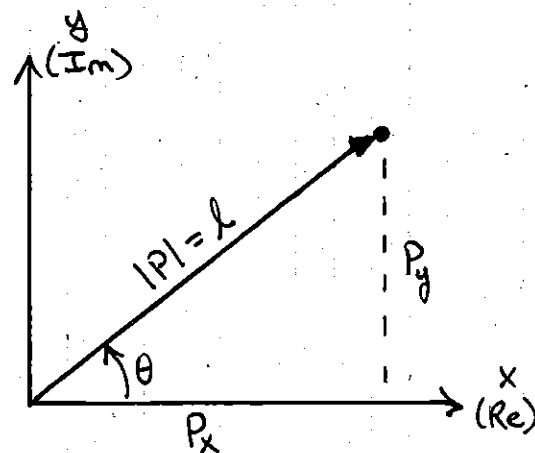
where $i = j = \sqrt{-1}$... imaginary number

also, $\text{Re}(z) = a$... real part

$\text{Im}(z) = b$... imaginary part

$\Rightarrow a$ & b are like components of z
(analogous to a 2-D vector)

EXAMPLE: Represent the position of the tip of the one-link robot as a complex number



$$P = P_x + P_y j \quad \dots \text{rectangular form}$$

$$\text{Re}(P) = P_x = |P| \cos \theta \quad \dots \text{real part}$$

$$\text{Im}(P) = P_y = |P| \sin \theta \quad \dots \text{imaginary part}$$

Here, $|P| = l = \sqrt{(P_x)^2 + (P_y)^2}$... magnitude of P

equivalently,

$$P = |P| \angle \theta = \rho \angle \theta \dots \text{polar form}$$

where $\theta = \text{atan2}(P_y/R_x)$

Finally, complex numbers can be written in exponential form,

$$P = P_x + P_y j$$

$$\Rightarrow P = |P| \cos \theta + j(|P| \sin \theta)$$

OR $P = |P|(\cos \theta + j \sin \theta)$

but, $\cos \theta + j \sin \theta = e^{j\theta}$... Euler's Formula

↑
NOTE: pronounced "Oiler"

$$\Rightarrow P = |P| e^{j\theta} \dots \text{exponential form}$$

Summary: The position of the tip of the 1-link robot can be described as a vector or a complex number:

$$\vec{P} = P_x \hat{i} + P_y \hat{j} \dots \text{vector form}$$

$$P = P_x + j P_y \dots \text{complex number form}$$

$$P = |P| \angle \theta \dots \text{complex number (polar form)}$$

$$P = |P| e^{j\theta} \dots \text{complex number (exponential form)}$$

EXAMPLE: Impedance of an Inductor (EE2010 - Circuits)



The impedance of an inductor can be written as $Z = j\omega L$

Find Z if $L = 0.025$ H and $\omega = 2\pi f$ where $f = 60$ Hz

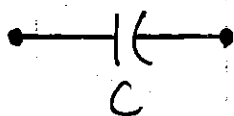
Solution: $Z = j\omega L = j(2\pi(60))(0.025)$

$$Z = j3\pi \Omega$$

OR

$$Z = j9.426 \Omega$$

EXAMPLE: Impedance of a Capacitor (EE2010 - Circuits)



The impedance of a capacitor is

$$Z = \frac{1}{j\omega C}$$

Find Z if $C = 20 \mu\text{F} = 20 \times 10^{-6}$ F

and $f = 60$ Hz ($\omega = 2\pi f = 120\pi$ rad/s)

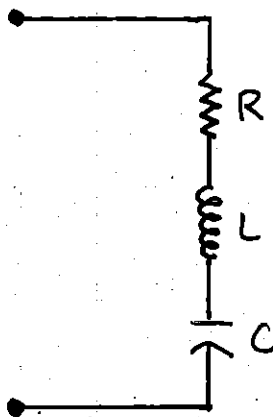
Solution: $Z = \frac{1}{j\omega C} = \frac{1}{j(120\pi)(20 \times 10^{-6})} = \frac{132.6}{j} \Omega$

OR $Z = \frac{132.6}{j} \left(\frac{j}{j} \right) = \frac{132.6 j}{j^2}$

BUT $j^2 = (\sqrt{-1})^2 = -1$

$$\therefore Z = -132.6 j \Omega$$

EXAMPLE: Find the impedance of a resistor, inductor, and a capacitor in series:



$$Z = Z_R + Z_L + Z_C$$

$$\text{where, } Z_R = R$$

$$Z_L = j\omega L$$

$$Z_C = \frac{1}{j\omega C}$$

Find: Z if $R = 100 \Omega$, $L = 0.025 \text{ H}$,
 $C = 20 \mu\text{F}$, and $f = 60 \text{ Hz}$ ($\omega = 120\pi \frac{\text{rad}}{\text{s}}$)

Solution: From previous two examples,

$$Z_L = j 9.426 \Omega \quad \text{and} \quad Z_C = -j 132.6 \Omega$$

$$Z = Z_R + Z_L + Z_C = 100 + j 9.426 + -j 132.6$$

$$Z = 100 + j(9.426 - 132.6)$$

$$Z = 100 - j 123.2 \Omega$$

→ polar form: $Z = |Z| \angle \theta$

$$|Z| = \sqrt{(100)^2 + (-123.2)^2} = 158.7 \Omega$$

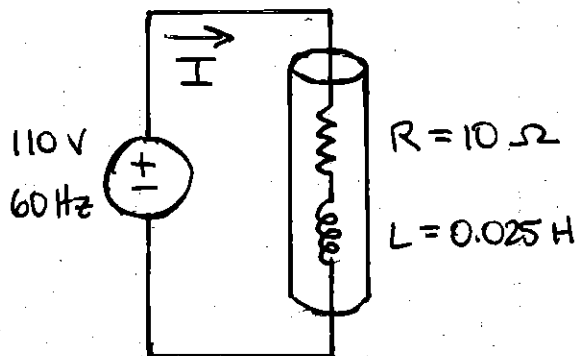
$$\theta = \text{atan2}\left(\frac{-123.2}{100}\right) = -50.93^\circ$$

$$Z = 158.7 \angle -50.93^\circ \Omega$$

→ exponential form: $Z = |Z| e^{j\theta} = 158.7 e^{-50.93j} \Omega$

EXAMPLE:

An electric motor has a resistance $R = 10 \Omega$ and an inductance of $L = 0.025 \text{ H}$. If the motor is connected to a 110 V , 60 Hz source, Find the current $I = \frac{V}{Z}$



$$Z = Z_R + Z_L$$

$$V = 110 \text{ volts}$$

Solution: $Z_R = 10 \Omega$, $Z_L = j\omega L = j9.426 \Omega$

$$\Rightarrow Z = 10 + 9.426j \Omega$$

$$I = \frac{V}{Z} = \frac{110}{10 + 9.426j} = \frac{110 + j0}{10 + j9.426}$$

* Dividing complex numbers is easier in exponential or polar form,

$$I = \frac{110 + j0}{10 + j9.426} = \frac{110 \angle 0^\circ}{\sqrt{10^2 + 9.426^2} \angle \tan^{-1}(9.426/10)}$$

$$I = \frac{110 \angle 0^\circ}{13.74 \angle 43.3^\circ} = \frac{110 e^{j0^\circ}}{13.74 e^{j43.3^\circ}}$$

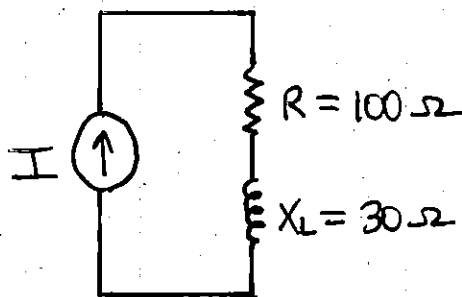
$$I = \frac{110}{13.74} e^{j(0-43.3^\circ)} = 8.01 e^{j(-43.3^\circ)} = \boxed{8.01 \angle -43.3^\circ \text{ A}}$$

Rectangular Form: $I = 8.01 e^{-j43.3^\circ} = 8.01(\cos(-43.3) + j\sin(-43.3))$

$$\boxed{I = 5.82 - j5.49 \text{ A}}$$

NOTE: in general, $e^{j\theta} = \cos\theta + j\sin\theta$ requires that θ be in radians. However converting to radians is unnecessary for the purpose of multiplying and dividing complex numbers.

EXAMPLE: Find $V = IZ$ for the following circuit if
 $I = 0.1 \angle 30^\circ \text{ A}$



$$Z = R + jX_L$$

Solution: $Z = R + jX_L = 100 + j30 \Omega$

$$I = 0.1 \angle 30^\circ \text{ A}$$

want $V = IZ$

Rectangular Form

$$I = 0.1 \angle 30^\circ = 0.1(\cos 30^\circ + j\sin 30^\circ)$$

$$I = 0.0866 + j0.05 \text{ A}$$

$$Z = 100 + j30 \Omega$$

$$V = IZ$$

$$= (0.0866 + j0.05)(100 + j30)$$

$$= 8.66 + 2.598j + 5j + 1.5j^2$$

$$V = 7.16 + 7.598j \text{ volts}$$

$$\text{OR } V = \sqrt{7.16^2 + 7.598^2} \angle \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{7.598}{7.16}\right)$$

$$V = 10.44 \angle 46.7^\circ \text{ volts}$$

Polar Form

$$I = 0.1 \angle 30^\circ = 0.1 e^{j30^\circ}$$

$$Z = 100 + j30 \Omega$$

$$= \sqrt{100^2 + 30^2} \angle \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{30}{100}\right)$$

$$Z = 104.4 \angle 16.7^\circ = 104.4 e^{j16.7^\circ}$$

$$V = IZ$$

$$= (0.1 \angle 30^\circ)(104.4 \angle 16.7^\circ)$$

$$= (0.1 e^{j30^\circ})(104.4 e^{j16.7^\circ})$$

$$= (0.1)(104.4) \angle (30 + 16.7)$$

$$= (0.1)(104.4) e^{j(30+16.7)^\circ}$$

$$V = 10.44 \angle 46.7^\circ \text{ volts}$$

NOTES:

- Adding complex numbers is easiest in rectangular form:

(just add real and imaginary parts)

$$z_1 = \text{Re}_1 + j \text{Im}_1 \quad ; \quad z_2 = \text{Re}_2 + j \text{Im}_2$$

$$z_1 \pm z_2 = (\text{Re}_1 \pm \text{Re}_2) + j (\text{Im}_1 \pm \text{Im}_2)$$

- Multiplying / Dividing complex numbers is easiest in polar form:

(just multiply/divide magnitudes and add/subtract angles)

$$z_1 = M_1 \angle \theta_1 \quad ; \quad z_2 = M_2 \angle \theta_2$$

$$z_1 \cdot z_2 = (M_1 M_2) \angle (\theta_1 + \theta_2)$$

$$\frac{z_1}{z_2} = \frac{M_1}{M_2} \angle (\theta_1 - \theta_2)$$

Complex Conjugates:

The complex conjugate of $z = a + jb$ is

$$z^* = a - jb$$

NOTE: $z \cdot z^* = |z|^2 = a^2 + b^2$

ie, $z \cdot z^* = (a + jb)(a - jb) = a^2 - (jb)^2$

$$= a^2 - (-1)b^2 = a^2 + b^2$$

$$|z|^2 = (\sqrt{a^2 + b^2})^2 = a^2 + b^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{z \cdot z^* = |z|^2}$$

EX: IF $C = 3 + j4$, find $C \cdot C^*$ using rectangular and polar forms

$$C = 3 + j4 \quad \Rightarrow \quad C^* = 3 - j4$$

$$C \cdot C^* = (3 + j4)(3 - j4) = (3)^2 - (j4)^2 \\ = 9 - -16 = 25$$

$$\boxed{C \cdot C^* = 25}$$

NOTE: $(|C|)^2 = (\sqrt{3^2 + 4^2})^2 = 25 \checkmark$

Polar Form:

$$C = 3 + j4 = \sqrt{(3)^2 + (4)^2} \angle \arctan 2(4/3)$$

$$C = 5 \angle 53.1^\circ$$

$$C^* = 3 - j4 = \sqrt{(3)^2 + (-4)^2} \angle \arctan 2(-4/3)$$

$$C^* = 5 \angle -53.1^\circ$$

$$C \cdot C^* = (5 \angle 53.1^\circ)(5 \angle -53.1^\circ)$$

$$= (5)(5) \angle (53.1^\circ - 53.1^\circ)$$

$$= 25 \angle 0^\circ = 25 \checkmark$$

again, $\boxed{C \cdot C^* = 25}$

NOTE: When we switch the sign on the imaginary part of a complex number in rectangular form to get the complex conjugate, this flips the complex number over the real axis (switches the sign on the angle in polar form!)

