

## Alternating Current

The current drawn from a cell or battery is a direct current (D.C.) and that obtained from a generator or power house is alternating current (A.C.). The frequency of alternating current in India 50 Hz means a bulb lights up with A.C. becomes off 50 times in one second. The frequency of D.C. is zero. The power loss in lighting a resistor by AC is very-very low that is why modern world largely use alternating current. The properties and applications of alternating current are studied with following expressions or formulae.

Such substances are called magnets and behaviours of magnetic substances is called magnetism. A solid bar of a magnetic substance is called bar magnet. Properties of magnets are studied with following expressions or formulae.

### Formulae

#### AC Voltage Applied to a Resistor:

- The equation of alternating current (a time dependent current) is given by  $I = I_{\max} \sin \omega t$ , here  $\omega$  is the angular frequency of the current such that  $\omega = 2\pi f = 2\pi / T$ .

- The equation of voltage is  $V = V_{\max} \sin(\omega t + \phi)$ , here  $\phi$  is the phase difference between current and voltage and  $V_{\max} = I_{\max} \times R$ .

- The power instantaneous power delivered in an

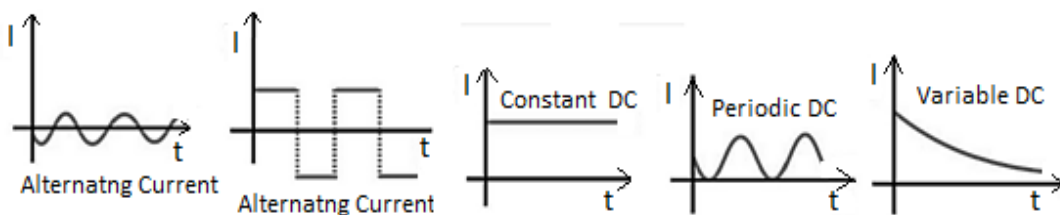
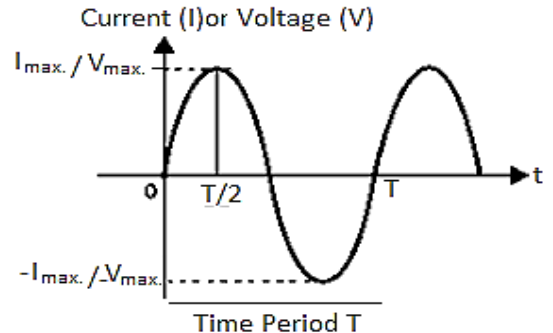
AC circuit is  $\tilde{P} = \frac{1}{2} I_{\max}^2 \times R$  while the power

delivered in a dc circuit is  $P_{dc} = I_{dc}^2 \times R$ . Thus, if

$\tilde{P} = P_{dc}$ , then  $\frac{1}{2} I_{\max}^2 \times R = I_{dc}^2 \times R \Rightarrow I_{dc} = \frac{I_{\max}}{\sqrt{2}}$  value of current  $I_{\max} / \sqrt{2}$  or  $0.707 I_{\max}$  is called

effective or root mean square value of the current.

- There are 5 types of A.C. and D.C.



## AC Circuits using different types of Resistors:

- There are total 7 types of A.C. circuits: (1) R-circuit. (2) L -Circuit, (3) C-Circuit, (4) R-L circuit, (5) C-L circuit, (6) C-R circuit and L-C-R circuit. In these circuit phase difference between voltage (V) and current (I) is different described formulated as: The resistances of A.C. circuits are called impedances denoted by Z. The impedance Z, phase difference  $\phi$ , current I and voltage V are given below:

- R- circuit:** The R circuit and its vector diagram of is shown above: The phase difference between voltage and current is 0, i.e. both becomes and minimum at same time. The equations of R- circuit are  $V = V_{\max} \sin(\omega t + \phi)$  and  $I = I_{\max} \sin \omega t$ . Here,  $\phi = 0$  and resistance or impedance  $Z = R$ .

- L- circuit:** Equations are  $V = V_{\max} \sin(\omega t + \phi)$ ,  $\phi = \pi/2$  and  $I = I_{\max} \sin \omega t$ , and the impedance  $Z = X_L = \omega L$ ,  $I_{\max} = \frac{V_{\max}}{Z} = \frac{V_{\max}}{X_L} = \frac{V_{\max}}{\omega L}$ . The vector

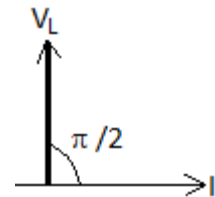
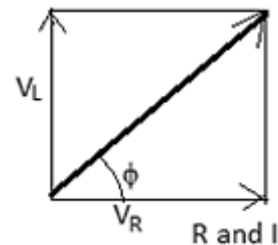


diagram and the maximum current is shown here:

- C- circuit:** Equations are  $V = V_{\max} \sin(\omega t + \phi)$ ,  $\phi = -\pi/2$  and  $I = I_{\max} \sin \omega t$ , and the impedance  $Z = X_C = 1/\omega C$ . The Vector diagram and the maximum current,

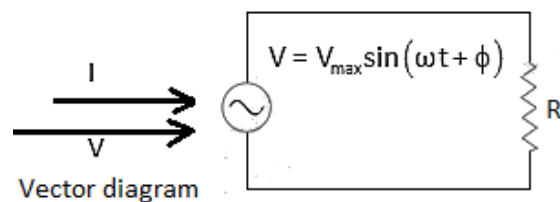
$$I_{\max} = \frac{V_{\max}}{X_C} = \frac{V_{\max}}{1/\omega C}$$

- R-L- circuit:** Equations are  $V = V_{\max} \sin(\omega t + \phi)$ ,  $\phi = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{V_L}{V_R} \right)$   
 $= \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{IX_L}{IR} \right) = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{\omega L}{R} \right)$  and  $I = I_{\max} \sin \omega t$ , and the impedance

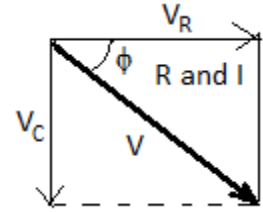


$Z = \sqrt{X_L^2 + R^2} = \sqrt{\omega^2 L^2 + R^2}$ . The Vector diagram and the maximum current,

- $I_{\max} = \frac{V_{\max}}{Z} = \frac{V_{\max}}{\sqrt{\omega^2 L^2 + R^2}}$ . Also,  $V = \sqrt{V_L^2 + V_R^2}$



- R-C- circuit:** Equations are  $V = V_{\max} \sin(\omega t + \phi)$ ,  $\phi = \tan^{-1} \left( -\frac{V_C}{V_R} \right)$   
 $= \tan^{-1} \left( -\frac{IX_C}{IR} \right) = \tan^{-1} \left( -\frac{1/\omega C}{R} \right)$  and  $I = I_{\max} \sin \omega t$ , and the



impedance  $Z = \sqrt{X_C^2 + R^2} = \sqrt{1/\omega^2 C^2 + R^2}$ . The Vector diagram and the maximum current,

$$I_{\max.} = \frac{V_{\max.}}{Z} = \frac{V_{\max.}}{\sqrt{1/\omega^2 C^2 + R^2}}. \text{ Also, } V = \sqrt{V_C^2 + V_R^2}$$

- L-C- circuit:** Equations are  $V = V_{\max} \sin(\omega t + \phi)$ ,  $\phi = 90^\circ$  and  $I = I_{\max} \sin \omega t$ , and the impedance  $Z = X_L \square X_C$ . The Vector diagram and the maximum current,

$$I_{\max.} = \frac{V_{\max.}}{Z} = \frac{V_{\max.}}{\omega L \square 1/\omega C}. \text{ Also, } V = V_L \square V_C. \text{ The L-C circuit is called oscillatory as}$$

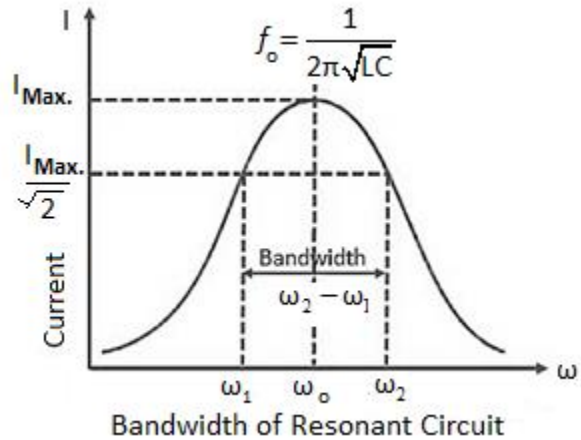
$Z = X_L \square X_C \rightarrow 0$  that implies  $\omega L \square 1/\omega C = 0 \Rightarrow \omega = \frac{1}{\sqrt{LC}} \Rightarrow f = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{LC}}$  that is the frequency of oscillation.

- L-C-R Circuit:** The Equations are  $V = V_{\max} \sin(\omega t + \phi)$ ,  $\phi = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{V_L \square V_C}{V_R} \right)$  and

$I = I_{\max} \sin \omega t$ , and the impedance  $Z = \sqrt{R^2 + (X_L \square X_C)^2}$ . The Vector diagram and the maximum current,  $I_{\max.} = \frac{V_{\max.}}{Z} = \frac{V_{\max.}}{\sqrt{R^2 + (X_L \square X_C)^2}}$ . Also,  $V = \sqrt{(V_L - V_C)^2 + V_R^2}$ .

- When  $X_L = X_C$ , then total impedance of the circuit is  $R < Z$ . So the current in the circuit maximum but oscillatory with the frequency  $f = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{LC}}$ . This condition of L-C-R circuit is called 'Resonant condition' and the phenomenon is called Resonance.

- The frequency  $\omega$  or  $f = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{LC}}$  at which the current is maximum is called the resonance frequency shown in Fig here: The current  $I_{Max.}$  is called resonant current. There are two frequencies  $\omega_1, \omega_2$  such that if the frequency of resonant circuit is in the range  $\omega_1 \leftrightarrow \omega_2$  the current becomes  $I_{Max.} / \sqrt{2}$ , the range  $\omega_2 - \omega_1$  is called band width of resonant circuit.



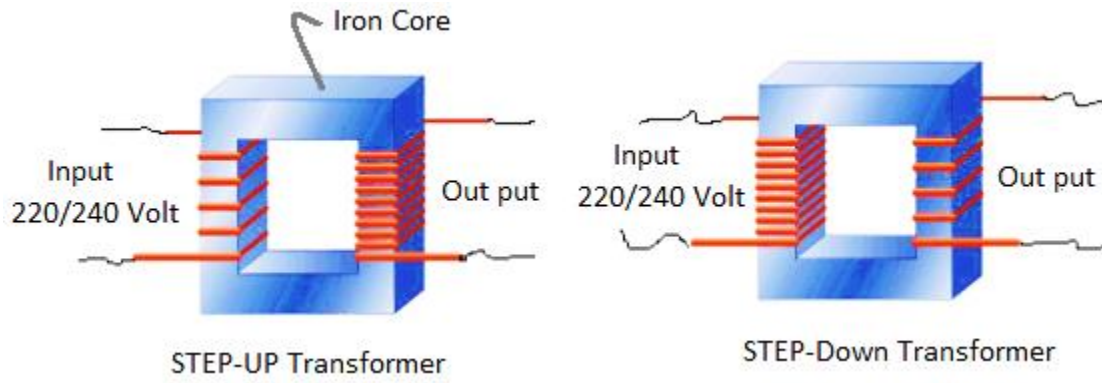
- At resonance the maximum current in L-C-R circuit is  $I_{max.} = \frac{V_{max.}}{R}$ .
- The 'sharpness of resonance' or quality factor  $Q$  of a resonant circuit is given by  $Q = \frac{\omega_0 L}{R}$

### Power in AC Circuits:

- The power  $P$  delivered in AC (L-C-R) is given by  $P = I_{max.} V_{max.} \cos\phi$  or  $P = I^2 Z \cos\phi$  where  $\phi$  is the leading angle or phase angle between voltage and current.
- The factor  $\cos\phi$  is called power factor of A.C. circuit.
- The total energy of an AC circuit is given by  $U = \frac{1}{2} \frac{q_m^2}{C}$ .

### Transformers:

- A transformer is a device used to change the strength of current to reduce the loss of electrical current (wastage). There are two types of transformers STEP- UP {to increase the strength of voltage} and STEP- DOWN {to decrease the strength of voltage}.
- If  $N_p$  and  $N_s$  are number of turns in primary and secondary winding or coils then for Step-Up transformer  $N_s > N_p$  and for step-down  $N_s < N_p$ .



- If  $V_p$  and  $V_s$  are voltage and  $I_p$ ,  $I_s$  the current in primary and secondary coils of a transformer then  $\frac{V_p}{V_s} = \frac{N_s}{N_p} = \frac{I_s}{I_p}$ .