

# **Inductance and Alternating Current Circuits**

- Lenz's law ⇒ the induced emf in the loop is opposite to the direction of the current. The opposing emf results in only a gradual increase of the current.
- This effect, i.e. that a changing current induces an emf in the same circuit, is called **self-inductance**.
- For the same reason, if the switch is opened, the current only gradually decreases to zero.
- Faraday's law:  $\varepsilon = -N \frac{\Delta \Phi}{\Delta t}$

The magnetic flux is proportional to the magnetic field, which is proportional to the current in the circuit.

• Thus, the self-induced emf is proportional to the time rate of change of the current:

$$\varepsilon = -L \frac{\Delta I}{\Delta t} \tag{1}$$

L is called the **inductance** of the device. The SI unit of inductance is the **henry** (H):  $1 H = 1 V \cdot s/A$ 

• Relation between self-inductance and magnetic flux:  $N \frac{\Delta \Phi}{\Delta t} = L \frac{\Delta I}{\Delta t}$ 

$$L = \frac{N\Phi}{I} \tag{2}$$

• The emf induced by an inductor prevents a battery from establishing a current in a circuit instantaneously. The battery has to do work to produce a current. The energy stored by an inductor is

$$\text{Energy} = \frac{1}{2} LI^2$$
(3)

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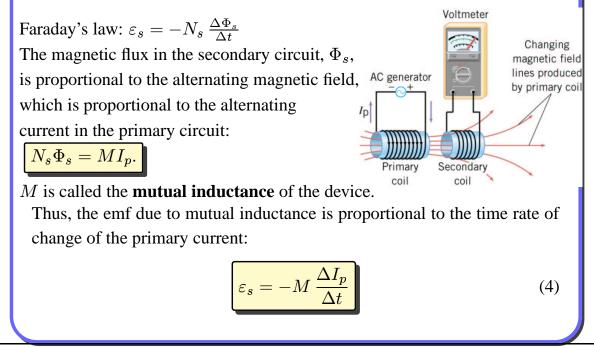
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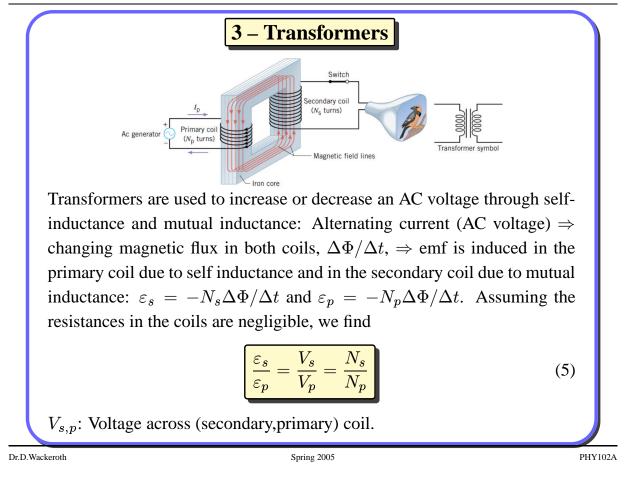
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# **Inductance and Alternating Current Circuits**

#### 2 – Mutual Inductance

The effect that a changing current in one circuit (=primary circuit) induces an emf in another circuit (=secondary circuit) is called **mutual inductance**.





# **Inductance and Alternating Current Circuits**

#### 4 – Inductors in an AC Circuit

An inductor

- is a device that operates on the basis of Faraday's law of electromagnetic induction,
- it develops a voltage that opposes a change in the current.

Consider a circuit consisting of an inductor and an AC generator:

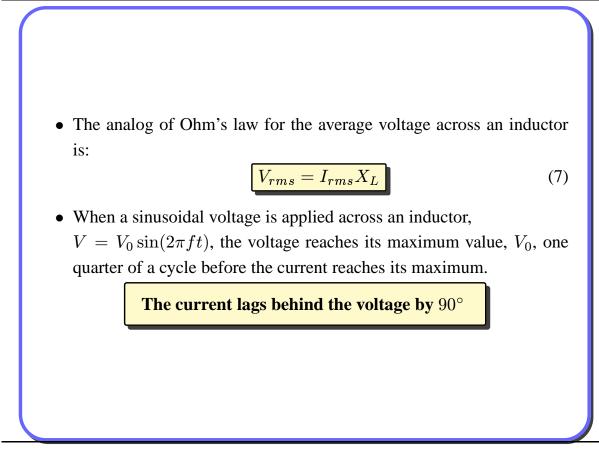
• The changing current output of the generator produces an induced emf in the inductor of magnitude

$$V = -L \, \frac{\Delta I}{\Delta t}$$

• The effective resistance of an inductor in an AC circuit is measured by the **inductive reactance**, X<sub>L</sub>, defined by

$$X_L = 2\pi f L$$

(6)



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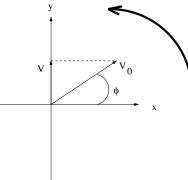
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# **Inductance and Alternating Current Circuits**

#### **Phasors and Phasors Diagrams:**

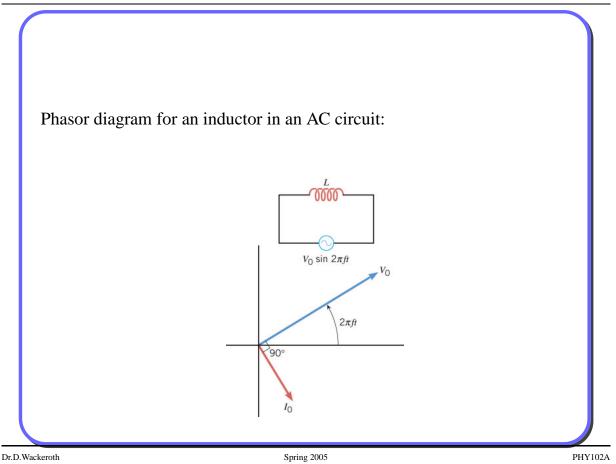
The voltage across each element in a circuit can be represented by a rotating vector.



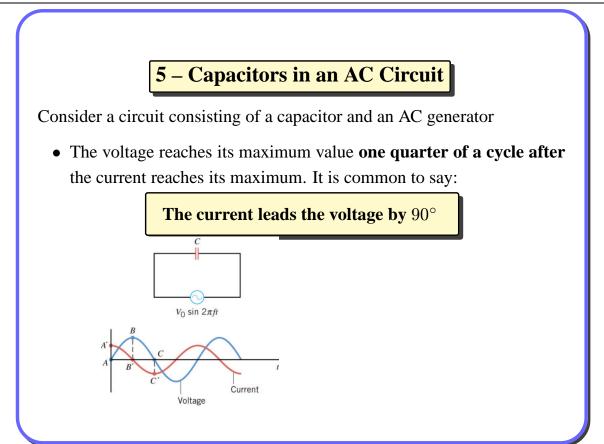
The rotating vectors are called **phasors**; the diagram is called a **phasor diagram**. The diagram represents the voltage given by the expression

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V = V_0 \sin(2\pi f t + \phi)
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with  $\phi$  being the phase angle between the voltage and the current.



# **Inductance and Alternating Current Circuits**

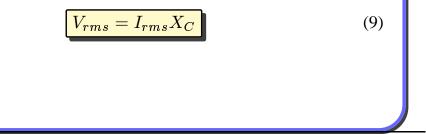




• The impeding effect of a capacitor on the current in an AC circuit is expressed in terms of a factor called the **capacitive reactance**,  $X_C$ , defined as

$$X_C = \frac{1}{2\pi fC} \tag{8}$$

- A DC source can be considered an AC source with f = 0. For f = 0,  $X_C = \infty$  and the current is zero.
- Analog form of Ohm's law for a capacitor in an AC (!) circuit:



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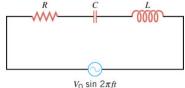
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# **Inductance and Alternating Current Circuits**

#### 6 – The RLC Series Circuit

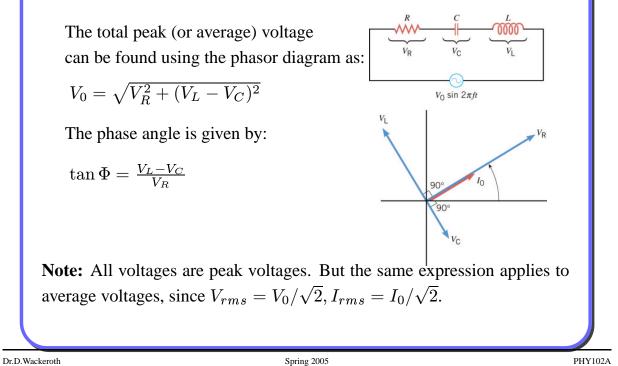
Now consider a circuit containing a resistor, an inductor, and a capacitor connected in series across an AC generator:



The (instantaneous) current varies with time according to  $I = I_0 \sin(2\pi f t)$ . The instantaneous voltages across the three elements have the following phase relations to the instantaneous current:

- 1. The instantaneous voltage across the resistor,  $V_R$ , is *in phase* with the instantaneous current.
- 2. The instantaneous voltage across the inductor,  $V_L$ , *leads* the current by 90°.
- 3. The instantaneous voltage across the capacitor,  $V_C$ , *lags behind* the current by 90°.

The net instantaneous voltage, V, across all three elements is the sum of the three individual instantaneous voltages:  $V = V_R + V_C + V_L$ .



### **Inductance and Alternating Current Circuits**

In the following all voltages are average voltages:

Inserting  $V_R = I_{rms}R$ ,  $V_L = I_{rms}X_L$  and  $V_C = I_{rms}X_C$  we find:

$$V_{rms} = \sqrt{V_R^2 + (V_L - V_C)^2} = I_{rms}\sqrt{R^2 + (X_L - X_C)^2}$$

Defining the **impedance**, Z by

$$Z = \sqrt{R^2 + (X_L - X_C)^2}$$
(10)

we find the analog of Ohm's law for an RLC circuit

$$V_{rms} = I_{rms}Z \tag{11}$$

#### 7 – Power in an AC Circuit

The only element in an RLC circuit which dissipates energy is the resistor. The average power lost in a resistor is

$$\overline{P} = I_{rms}^2 R = I_{rms} V_R$$

 $V_R$  can be expressed in terms of the voltage of the source and the phase angle:

 $V_R = V_{rms} \cos \Phi$ 

Hence the average power dissipated in an AC circuit is

$$\overline{P} = I_{rms} V_{rms} \cos \Phi \tag{12}$$

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Spring 2005

PHY102A

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#### **8** – Resonance in a Series RLC Circuit

The average current in a series RLC circuit can be written as

$$I_{rms} = \frac{V_{rms}}{Z} = \frac{V_{rms}}{\sqrt{R^2 + (X_L - X_C)^2}}$$

The current has its maximum when Z is at a minimum. This happens for  $X_C = X_L$ . If this condition is satisfied, Z = R. The frequency  $f = f_0$  at which it happens is called the **resonance frequency** of the circuit. From  $X_C = X_L$  at  $f = f_0$  one finds

$$2\pi f_0 L = \frac{1}{2\pi f_0 C}$$

Solve for the resonance frequency  $f_0$ :

$$f_0 = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{LC}}$$
(13)