

# Resistor-Inductor-Capacitor (RLC) Circuits

Session 3e for Basic Electricity  
A Fairfield University E-Course  
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# Module: Basic Electronics

## (AC Circuits and Impedance: two parts)

- Text: “Electricity One-Seven,” Harry Mileaf, Prentice-Hall, 1996, ISBN 0-13-889585-6 (Covers much more material than this section)
- References:
  - “Digital Mini Test: Principles of Electricity Lessons One and Two,” SNET Home Study Coordinator, (203) 771-5400
  - [Electronics Tutorial](#) (Thanks to Alex Pounds)
  - [Electronics Tutorial](#) (Thanks to Mark Sokos)
  - [Basic Math Tutorial](#) (Thanks to George Mason University)
  - [Vector Math Tutorial](#) (Thanks to California Polytec at [atom.physics.calpoly.edu](http://atom.physics.calpoly.edu) )
- Alternating Current and Impedance
  - 5 on-line sessions plus one lab
- Resonance and Filters
  - 5 on-line sessions plus one lab

## Section 4:

# AC, Inductors and Capacitors

- **OBJECTIVES:** This section discusses AC voltage / current and their effects on parallel circuit components (resistors, inductors, transformers and capacitors). The concept of resonance and its use to produce filters is also described.

# Section 4 Schedule:

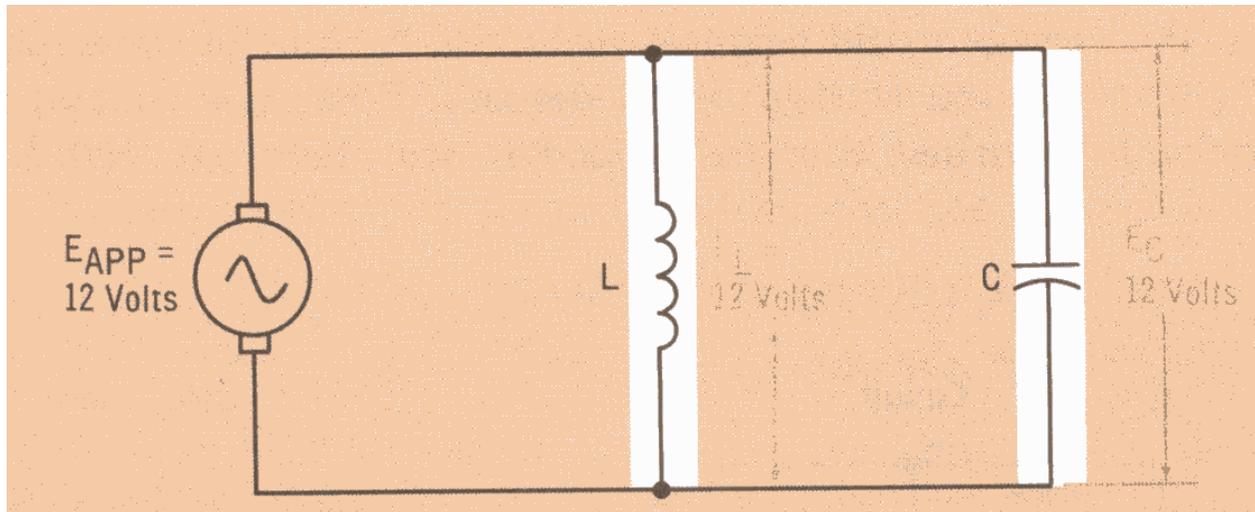
Session 4a	– 06/24	Parallel L-R-C Circuits	Text 4.114 – 4.122
Session 4b	– 06/26	Parallel L-R-C Circuits Cont.	Text 4.123 – 4.132
<b>(have a nice July 4)</b>		<b>(no class on 07/02 or 07/04)</b>	
Session 4c	– 07/08	Parallel Resonance	Text 4.133 – 4.146
Session 4d	– 07/10	Tuning and Filters	Text 4.147 – 4.151
<b>(break for a week)</b>			
Session 4e	– 07/22	Transformers and Impedance	Text 4.152 – 4.160
(Quiz 4 due 07/28)		Matching	
(lab - 07/27, Sat.)			
Session 4f	– 07/29	Review (Discuss Quiz 4)	
	07/31	MT2 Review	
		MT2 – AC Circuits	

# Session 3 (series R-L-C) Review

- Capacitive reactance  $X_C = 1/2\pi fC$  at  $-90^\circ$
- Inductive reactance  $X_L = 2\pi fL$  at  $90^\circ$
- Impedances ( $R, X_L, X_C$ ) in series add as vectors (Phasors).
- Impedances in parallel add as inverses
  - Adding Vectors
    - Separately add their horizontal and vertical components
    - Graphically: head-to-tail or parallelogram
  - Multiplying Vectors
    - Multiply their magnitudes (lengths)
    - Add their phases
  - Dividing Vectors
    - Divide their magnitudes (lengths)
    - Subtract their phases
- Ohm's and Kirchoff's laws still work with AC
- Inductive and capacitive reactances are both vertical and exactly  $180^\circ$  out of phase; They subtract!

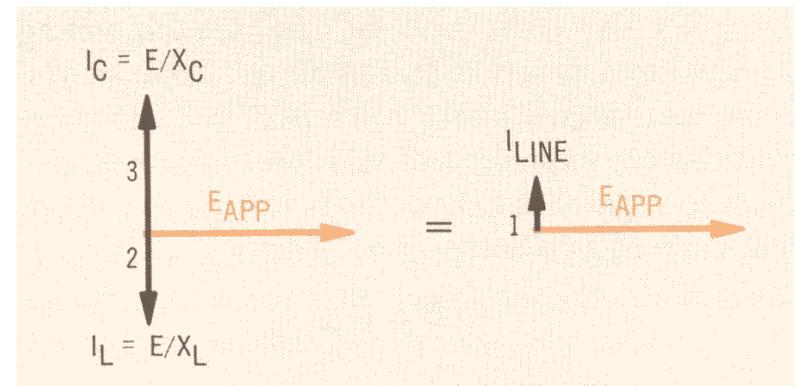
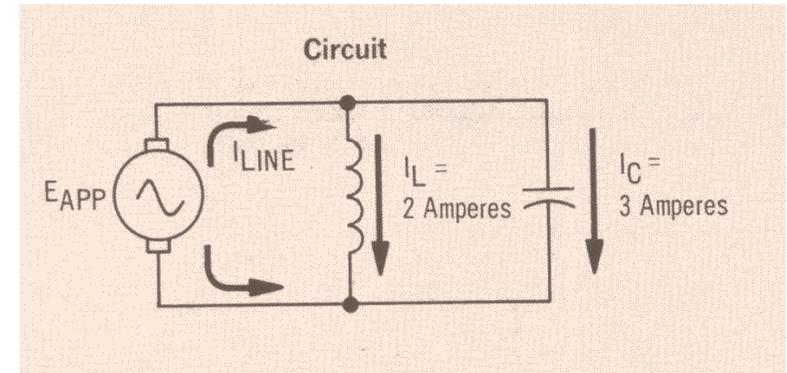
# Parallel L-C Circuits

- Voltage (ref. phase) is the same across all parallel components
- Branch currents add (vectors) to produce  $I_{\text{Line}}$
- Impedances in parallel add (vectors) as inverses



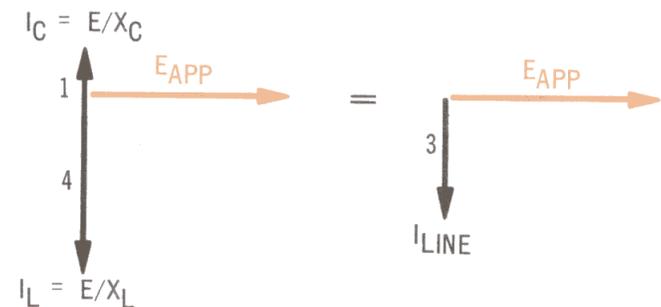
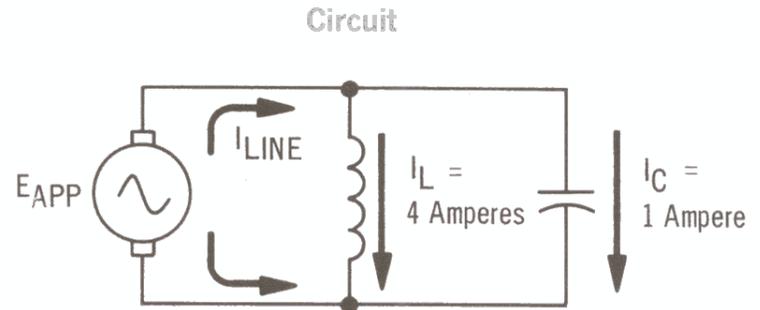
# Parallel LC- Current

- AC currents always add as vectors
- Voltage (ref. Phase) is the same across all parallel components
- Inductor -  $I_L$  points down (Lags voltage by  $90^\circ$ )
- Capacitor -  $I_C$  points up (Leads voltage by  $90^\circ$ )
- Add  $I_L$  and  $I_C$  (they subtract) to get  $I_{Line}$ 
  - $I_L = 2\angle-90^\circ$
  - $I_C = 3\angle90^\circ = 3\angle90^\circ$
  - $I_{Line} = (3-2)\angle90^\circ = 1\angle90^\circ$  (capacitive circuit)



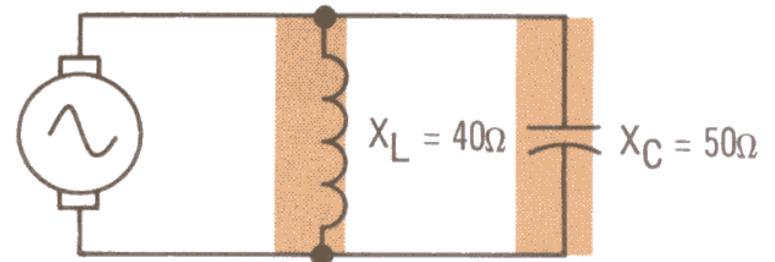
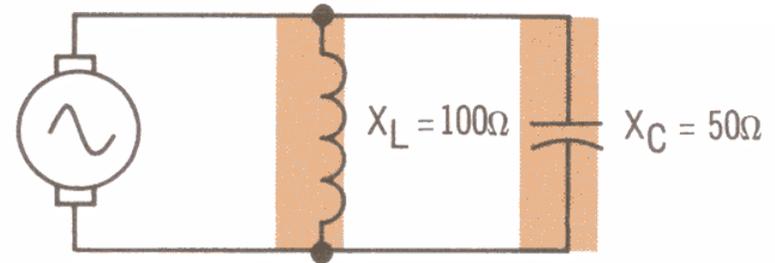
# Parallel LC- Current Again

- AC currents always add as vectors
- Voltage (ref. Phase) is the same across all parallel components
- Inductor -  $I_L$  points down (Lags voltage by  $90^\circ$ )
- Capacitor -  $I_C$  points up (Leads voltage by  $90^\circ$ )
- Add  $I_L$  and  $I_C$  (they subtract) to get  $I_{Line}$ 
  - $I_L = 4\angle-90^\circ$
  - $I_C = 1\angle90^\circ = 3\angle90^\circ$
  - $I_{Line} = (4-1)\angle-90^\circ = 1\angle90^\circ$  (inductive circuit)



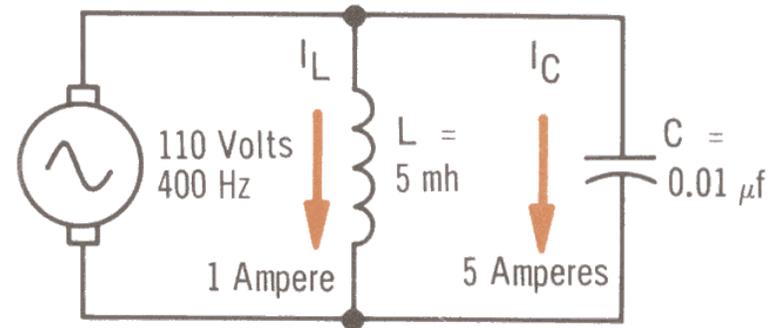
# Parallel LC - Impedance

- Impedances in parallel add as inverse vectors
- $X_L$  (up) and  $X_C$  (down) are in opposite directions
  - Magnitudes subtract
- $X_{\text{top}} = (100-50)\angle 90^\circ = 50\angle 90^\circ$   
(Inductive)
- $X_{\text{bottom}} = (50-40)\angle 90^\circ = 10\angle -90^\circ$   
(Capacitive)



# Parallel LC: Example

- $I = E_{\text{app}} / Z$
- $X_L = 2\pi fL = 6.28 * 400 * 0.005$   
 $= 12.56\Omega \angle 90^\circ$
- $X_C = 1/2\pi fC =$   
 $= 1/6.28 * 400 * 0.01 * 10^{-6}$   
 $= 1/2512 * 10^{-8}$   
 $= 0.0003981 * 10^8$   
 $= 39,810\Omega \angle -90^\circ$



Problem 31

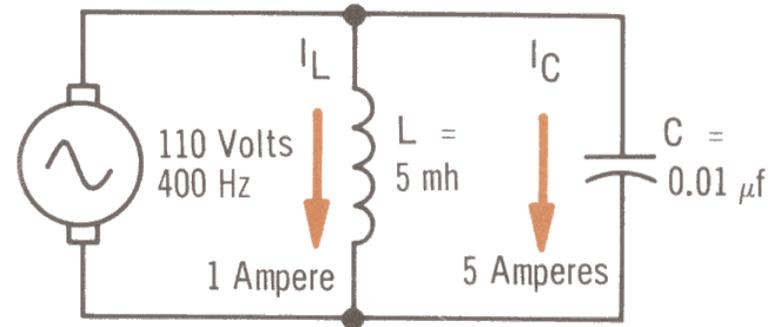
**Note: Error in text.**

**The currents are wrong given the component values and frequency.**

# Parallel LC: Example

## Currents

- $I_L = E_{\text{app}} / X_L$   
 $= 110 \angle 0^\circ / 12.56 \Omega \angle 90^\circ$   
 $= 8.76 \text{ amps } \angle -90^\circ$
- $I_C = E_{\text{app}} / X_C$   
 $= 110 \angle 0^\circ / 39,810 \Omega \angle -90^\circ$   
 $= 2.8 \text{ milliamps } \angle 90^\circ$
- $I_{\text{line}} = I_L + I_C$  (but they subtract)  
 $= 8.73 \text{ amps } \angle -90^\circ$
- This is an inductive circuit



Problem 31

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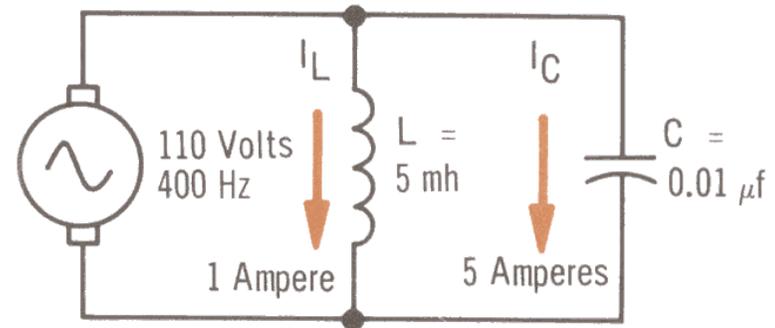
# Parallel LC: Example

## Impedances

$$\begin{aligned}1/Z_{\text{Total}} &= 1/X_L + 1/X_C \\ &= 1 / 12.56\Omega \angle 90^\circ + 1 / 39,810\Omega \angle -90^\circ \\ &= 0.07961 \angle -90^\circ + 0.0000251\Omega \angle 90^\circ \\ &= 0.07959 \angle -90^\circ\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}Z_{\text{Total}} &= 1 / 0.07959 \angle -90^\circ \\ &= 12.57\Omega \angle 90^\circ\end{aligned}$$

- This is an inductive circuit



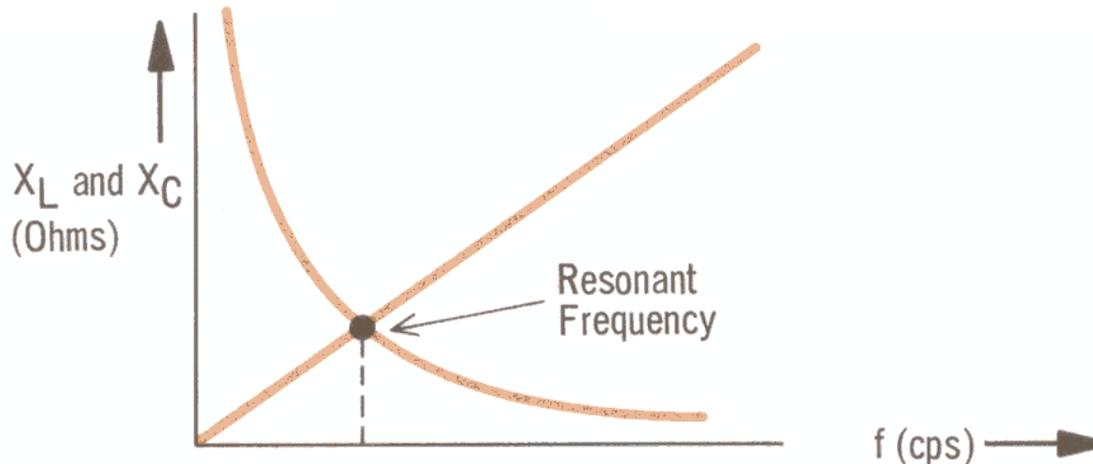
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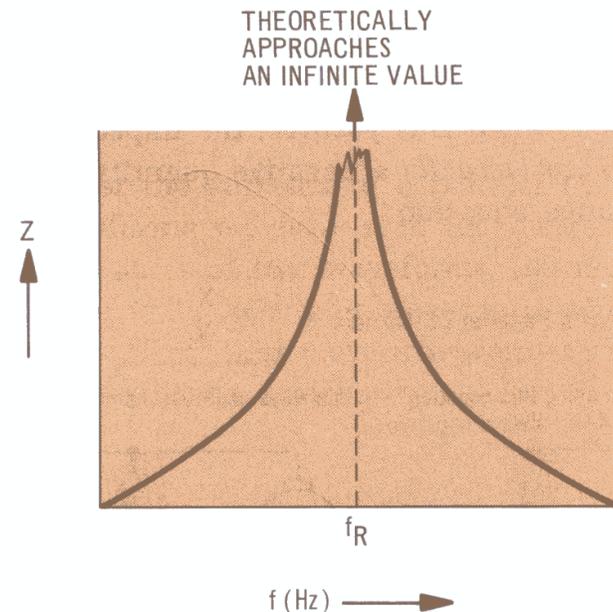
# The Effect of Frequency

- $Z_L = 2\pi fL$  (rises linearly with frequency)
- $Z_C = 1/2\pi fL$  (decreases with frequency)
- Resonance is when they are equal and cancel; the impedance is then just the resistance



# Parallel L-C Circuits: Frequency and Impedance

- The total reactance is always higher than either  $X_L$  or  $X_C$  since the inverses subtract.
- At some frequency (Resonance), the inverse reactances cancel and  $1/Z_{\text{total}} = 0$  causing an extreme increase in total Impedance and the current approaches zero.



# Section 4 Preliminary Schedule:

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