

4 Complex Power

- From the viewpoint of power generation and transmission, average power alone is not enough to fully characterize the capacity requirements and efficiency of the system. There are additional parameters/variables that we must take into consideration!
- Consider general case:
 $v(t) = V_{rms} \cos(\omega t + \theta)$ - across a load
 $i(t) = I_{rms} \cos(\omega t + \phi)$ - thru that load.
- The instantaneous power (using $\cos(a \pm b) = \cos a \cos b \mp \sin a \sin b$) is:

$$p(t) = \frac{1}{2} V_{rms} I_{rms} \left[\underbrace{\cos(\theta - \phi)}_{=\phi} + \cos 2\omega t \cdot \cos(\theta - \phi) - \sin 2\omega t \sin(\theta - \phi) \right]$$

$$p(t) = V_{rms} I_{rms} \left[\cos \phi + \cos 2\omega t \cdot \cos \phi - \sin 2\omega t \cdot \sin \phi \right] \quad (1)$$

↑
phase difference
between voltage and current.

$$p(t) = \underbrace{V_{rms} I_{rms} \cos \phi}_{\triangleq P = \text{real power}} [1 + \cos 2\omega t] - \underbrace{V_{rms} I_{rms} \sin \phi \sin 2\omega t}_{\triangleq Q = \text{reactive power}}$$

= $p_R(t)$ = instantaneous real power. = $p_X(t)$ = instantaneous reactive power.

$$\Rightarrow p(t) = p_R(t) - p_X(t) \quad (2) \quad \text{where} \quad P = V_{rms} I_{rms} \cos \phi \quad (3)$$

$$Q = V_{rms} I_{rms} \sin \phi \quad (4)$$

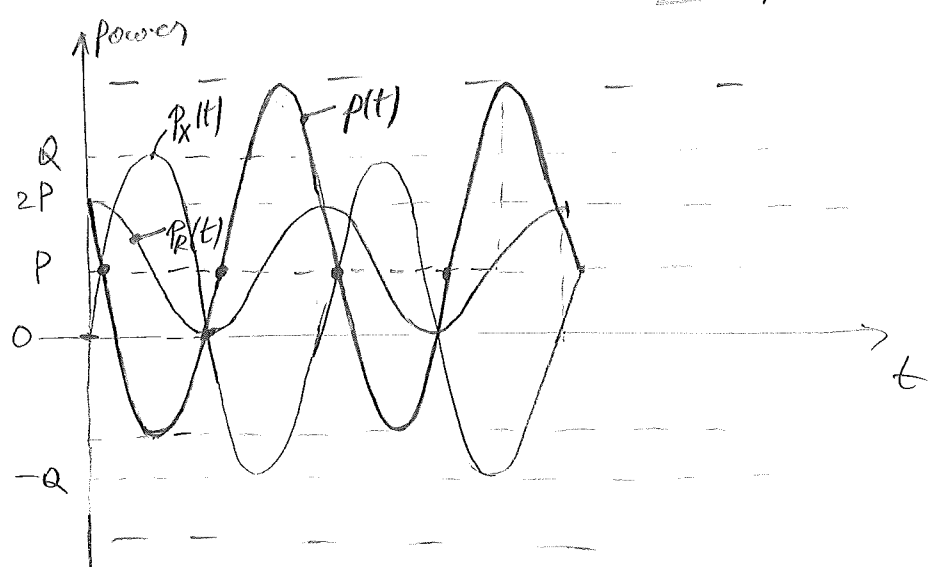
alternates between +Q and -Q and averages to zero!

alternates between 0 and 2P and averages to P!

$$P = V_{rms} I_{rms} \cos \phi = \left[\frac{V_{rms}}{I_{rms}} \times \cos \phi \right] \cdot I_{rms}^2 = \left[Z_m \cdot \cos \phi \right] I_{rms}^2 = R(\omega) \cdot I_{rms}^2$$

$$(5) \quad P = R(\omega) \cdot I_{rms}^2 \quad \text{absorbed by the resistive component } R(\omega) \text{ of the load!}$$

- $p_R(t)$ is called the "instantaneous real power" and is irreversibly converted from electrical to non-electrical form!
- P is referred to as "real power" [W].



$$p(t) = p_R(t) - p_X(t)$$

Figure 1

- Component $p_X(t)$ alternates between $+Q$ and $-Q$ and averages to zero! => does not intervene in the irreversible power-transfer process!

$$Q = \left[\frac{V_{rms}}{I_{rms}} \times \sin\varphi \right] I_{rms}^2 = (Z_m \sin\varphi) I_{rms}^2 = X(\omega) \cdot I_{rms}^2 \quad (6)$$

accounts for the energy exchange between the source and the reactive component $X(\omega)$ of the load.

- During → the half-cycle when $p_X(t) > 0$ energy is stored in the electric or magnetic fields of the reactive elements.
- the half-cycle when $p_X(t) < 0$ energy is returned to the source!

- → Q is referred to as "reactive power" [VAR] to distinguish it from P !
volt-ampere-reactive

Reminder:

- (1) inductive loads (voltage leads current) $\varphi > 0 \Rightarrow Q > 0$
- (2) capacitive loads (current leads voltage) $\varphi < 0 \Rightarrow Q < 0$

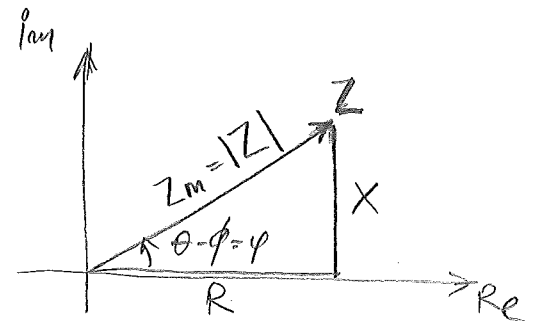
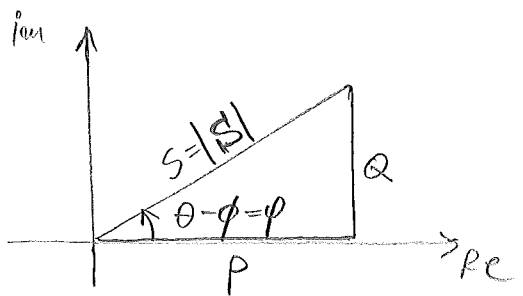
→ Power engineers recognize this difference by saying: $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} - \text{inductive loads consume} \\ - \text{capacitive loads produce} \end{array} \right\}$ reactive power

From eqs. (3) & (4) $\Rightarrow Q = P \tan \phi = P \tan (\pm \cos^{-1} pf)$ (7)

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} + \text{ if load is inductive (lagging pf)} \\ - \text{ if load is capacitive (leading pf)} \end{array} \right.$

OBS: P and Q can be regarded as the real and imaginary parts of a complex variable S called the "complex power" with length |S| and phase angle $\phi = \theta - \phi$.

(8) $S = P + jQ = |S| \angle \phi$



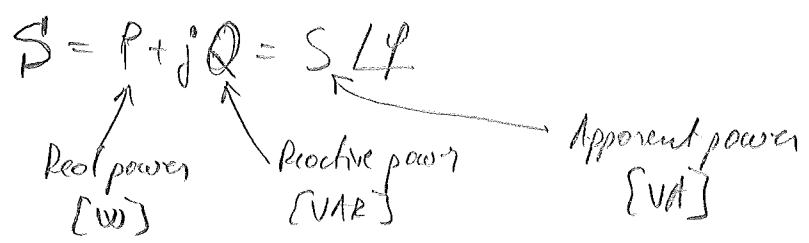
"power triangle" has the same shape as "impedance triangle"

Using: $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} P = R(\omega) \cdot I_{rms}^2 \\ Q = X(\omega) \cdot I_{rms}^2 \end{array} \right.$ (8)

$S = (R + jX) I_{rms}^2 = Z \cdot I_{rms}^2$ (9)

\Rightarrow power-triangle can be obtained from impedance-triangle by multiplying each of its sides with I_{rms}^2 !

Summary:



→ Yet another way to express ^{NOT phasors} complex powers:

Denote phasors: $\begin{cases} \underline{V}_{rms} \triangleq V_{rms} \cdot \angle \theta \\ \underline{I}_{rms} \triangleq I_{rms} \cdot \angle \phi \end{cases}$

and exploit: $I_{rms} = \underline{I}_{rms} \cdot \underline{I}_{rms}^*$

(9) ⇒

not phasor \downarrow phasors

$$S = Z \cdot \underline{I}_{rms} = Z \cdot \underline{I}_{rms} \cdot \underline{I}_{rms}^*$$

Ohm's law: $Z \cdot \underline{I}_{rms} = \underline{V}_{rms}$

⇒ $S = \underline{V}_{rms} \cdot \underline{I}_{rms}^*$ (10)

! imp AC power conservation principle: The complex, real, and reactive power of the source equals, respectively, the sums of the complex, real, and reactive powers of the individual impedances!

OBS: not true generally for apparent powers!

Example 1:

Household ac voltage is applied to a load $Z = 100 + j300 \Omega$. Find S, P, Q . Assume $\angle I = 0$ find $p(t), p_R(t), p_X(t)$.

Solution:

$$2\omega = 2 \times 2\pi 60 = 754 \text{ rad/s.}$$

$$V_{rms} = 120 \text{ V}$$

$$I_{rms} = \frac{V_{rms}}{\sqrt{R^2 + X^2}} = \frac{120}{\sqrt{100^2 + 300^2}} = 0.3795 \text{ A}$$

Hence:

$$|S| = S = V_{rms} \cdot I_{rms} = 120 \times 0.3795 = 45.54 \text{ VA}$$

$$P = R \cdot I_{rms}^2 = 100 \times 0.3795^2 = 14.40 \text{ W}$$

$$Q = X \cdot I_{rms}^2 = 300 \times 0.3795^2 = 43.20 \text{ VAR}$$

$$p(t) = p_R(t) - p_X(t) = 14.40 [1 + \cos(754t)] - 43.20 \sin(754t) \text{ W}$$