

**Revision Lecture 1:  
Nodal Analysis &  
Fre-**

**▷ quency Responses**

**Exam**

**Nodal Analysis**

**Op Amps**

**Block Diagrams**

**Diodes**

**Reactive Components**

**Phasors**

**Plotting Frequency  
Responses**

**LF and HF**

**Asymptotes**

**Corner frequencies  
(linear factors)**

**Sketching Magnitude  
Responses (linear  
factors)**

**Filters**

**Resonance**

# Revision Lecture 1: Nodal Analysis & Frequency Responses

## Exam Format

**Question 1 (40%):** eight short parts covering the whole syllabus.

**Questions 2 and 3:** single topic questions (answer both)

## Syllabus

**Does include:** Everything in the notes.

**Does not include:** Two-port parameters (2008:1j), Gaussian elimination (2007:2c), Application areas (2008:3d), Nullators and Norators (2008:4c), Small-signal component models (2008:4e), Gain-bandwidth product (2006:4c), Zener Diodes (2008/9 syllabus), Non-ideal models of L, C and transformer (2011/12 syllabus), Transmission lines VSWR and crank diagram (2011/12 syllabus).

# Nodal Analysis

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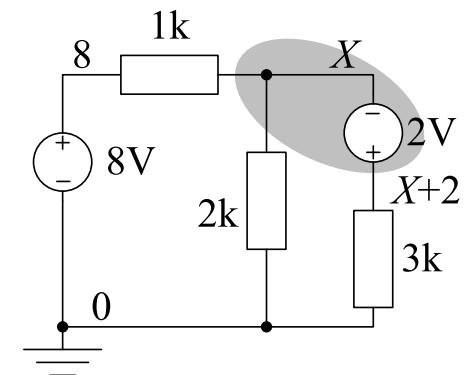
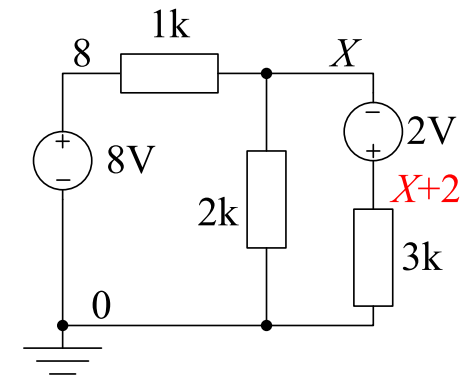
#### Resonance

- (1) Pick reference node.
- (2) Label nodes: 8,  $X$  and  $X + 2$  since it is joined to  $X$  via a voltage source.
- (3) Write KCL equations but count all the nodes connected via floating voltage sources as a single “super-node” giving one equation

$$\frac{X-8}{1} + \frac{X}{2} + \frac{(X+2)-0}{3} = 0$$

Ohm's law always involves the difference between the voltages at **either end of a resistor**. (Obvious but easily forgotten)

- (4) Solve the equations:  $X = 4$



# Op Amps

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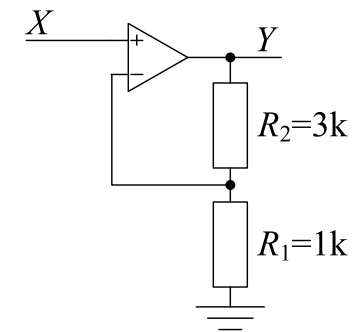
Filters

Resonance

- **Ideal Op Amp:** (a) Zero input current, (b) Infinite gain  
(b)  $\Rightarrow V_+ = V_-$  provided the circuit has **negative feedback**.
- **Negative Feedback:** An increase in  $V_{out}$  makes  $(V_+ - V_-)$  decrease.

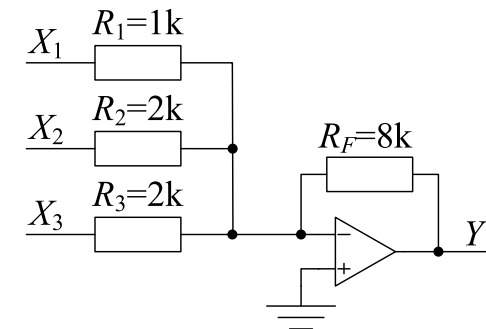
## Non-inverting amplifier

$$Y = \left(1 + \frac{3}{1}\right) X$$



## Inverting amplifier

$$Y = \frac{-8}{1} X_1 + \frac{-8}{2} X_2 + \frac{-8}{2} X_3$$



**Nodal Analysis:** Use two separate KCL equations at  $V_+$  and  $V_-$ .

**Do not** do KCL at  $V_{out}$  except to find the op-amp output current.

# Block Diagrams

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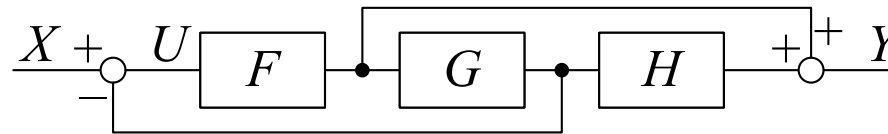
Corner frequencies  
(linear factors)

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Resonance

Blocks are labelled with their gains and connected using adder/subtractors shown as circles. Adder inputs are marked + for add or – for subtract.



To analyse:

1. Label the inputs, the outputs and the output of each adder.

2. Write down an equation for each variable:

- $U = X - FGU, \quad Y = FU + FGHU$
- Follow signals back through the blocks until you meet a labelled node.

3. Solve the equations (eliminate intermediate node variables):

- $U(1 + FG) = X \quad \Rightarrow \quad U = \frac{X}{1+FG}$
- $Y = (1 + GH)FU = \frac{(1+GH)F}{1+FG} X$

[Note: “Wires” carry information not current: KCL not valid]

# Diodes

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#### Resonance

Each diode in a circuit is in one of two modes; each has an **equality** condition and an **inequality** condition:

- Off:  $I_D = 0, V_D < 0.7 \Rightarrow$  Diode = open circuit
- On:  $V_D = 0.7, I_D > 0 \Rightarrow$  Diode = 0.7 V voltage source

- Guess the mode
- Do nodal analysis assuming the equality condition
- Check the inequality condition. If the inequality condition fails, you made the wrong guess.

- Assume Diode Off

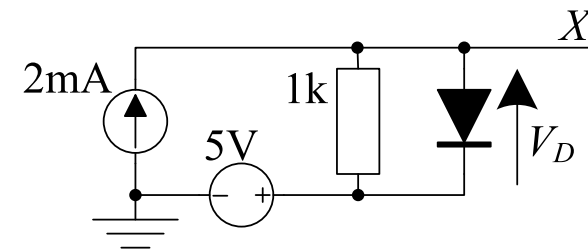
$$X = 5 + 2 = 7$$

$$V_D = 2 \quad \text{Fail: } V_D > 0.7$$

- Assume Diode On

$$X = 5 + 0.7 = 5.7$$

$$I_D + \frac{0.7}{1\text{k}} = 2\text{ mA} \quad \text{OK: } I_D > 0$$



# Reactive Components

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Resonance

- Impedances:  $R, j\omega L, \frac{1}{j\omega C} = \frac{-j}{\omega C}$ .
  - Admittances:  $\frac{1}{R}, \frac{1}{j\omega L} = \frac{-j}{\omega L}, j\omega C$
- In a capacitor or inductor, the Current and Voltage are  $90^\circ$  apart :
  - CIVIL: Capacitor -  $I$  leads  $V$ ; Inductor -  $I$  lags  $V$
- Average current (or DC current) through a capacitor is always zero
- Average voltage across an inductor is always zero
- Average power absorbed by a capacitor or inductor is always zero

# Phasors

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Resonance

A phasor represents a **time-varying sinusoidal waveform** by a **fixed complex number**.

Waveform

$$x(t) = F \cos \omega t - G \sin \omega t$$

$$x(t) = A \cos(\omega t + \theta)$$

$$\max(x(t)) = A$$

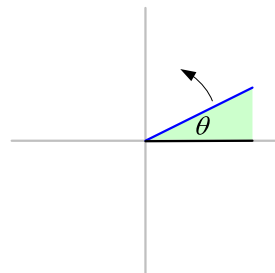
Phasor

$$X = F + jG$$

$$X = Ae^{j\theta} = A\angle\theta$$

$$|X| = A$$

[Note minus sign]



$x(t)$  is the projection of a rotating rod onto the real (horizontal) axis.

$X = F + jG$  is its starting position at  $t = 0$ .

$$\text{RMS Phasor: } \tilde{V} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}V \quad \Rightarrow \quad |\tilde{V}|^2 = \langle x^2(t) \rangle$$

$$\text{Complex Power: } \tilde{V}\tilde{I}^* = |\tilde{I}|^2Z = \frac{|\tilde{V}|^2}{Z^*} = P + jQ$$

$P$  is average power (Watts),  $Q$  is reactive power (VARs)



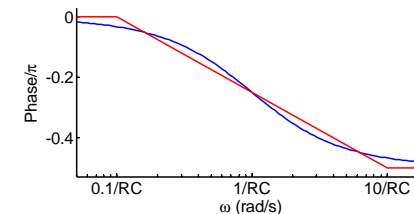
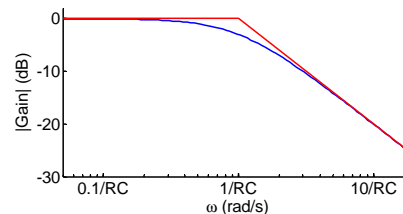
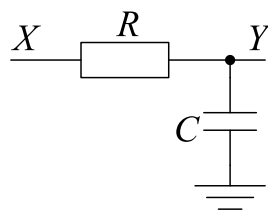
# Plotting Frequency Responses

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- LF and HF Asymptotes
- Corner frequencies (linear factors)
- Sketching Magnitude Responses (linear factors)
- Filters
- Resonance

- Plot the magnitude response and phase response as separate graphs. Use **log scale** for frequency and magnitude and **linear scale** for phase: this gives graphs that can be approximated by straight line segments.
- If  $\frac{V_2}{V_1} = A(j\omega)^k = A \times j^k \times \omega^k$  (where  $A$  is real)
  - magnitude is a **straight line with gradient  $k$** :  

$$\log \left| \frac{V_2}{V_1} \right| = \log |A| + k \log \omega$$
  - phase is a **constant  $k \times \frac{\pi}{2}$**  ( $+\pi$  if  $A < 0$ ):  

$$\angle \left( \frac{V_2}{V_1} \right) = \angle A + k \angle j = \angle A + k \frac{\pi}{2}$$
- Measure magnitude response using **decibels =  $20 \log_{10} \left| \frac{V_2}{V_1} \right|$** . A gradient of  $k$  on log axes is equivalent to  $20k$  dB/decade ( $\times 10$  in frequency) or  $6k$  dB/octave ( $\times 2$  in frequency).



$$\frac{Y}{X} = \frac{1}{R + \frac{1}{j\omega C}} = \frac{1}{j\omega RC + 1} = \frac{1}{\frac{j\omega}{\omega_c} + 1} \quad \text{where } \omega_c = \frac{1}{RC}$$

# LF and HF Asymptotes

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### Corner frequencies (linear factors)

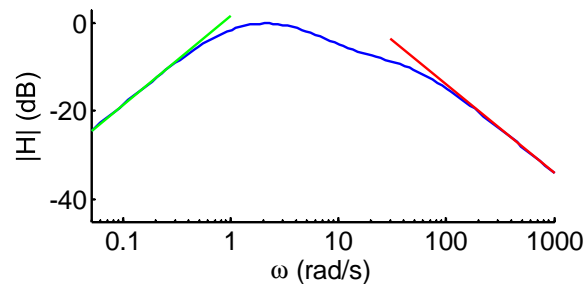
### Sketching Magnitude Responses (linear factors)

### Filters

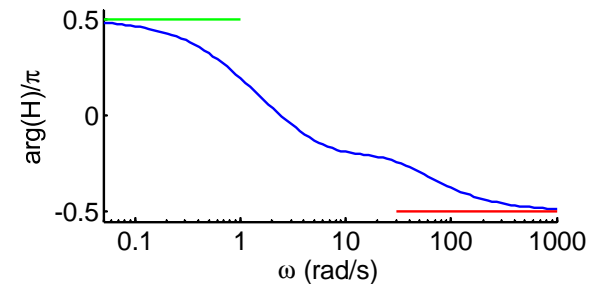
### Resonance

- Frequency response is always a ratio of two polynomials in  $j\omega$  with real coefficients that depend on the component values.
  - The terms with the **lowest** power of  $j\omega$  on top and bottom gives the **low-frequency** asymptote
  - The terms with the **highest** power of  $j\omega$  on top and bottom gives the **high-frequency** asymptote.

$$\text{Example: } H(j\omega) = \frac{60(j\omega)^2 + 720(j\omega)}{3(j\omega)^3 + 165(j\omega)^2 + 762(j\omega) + 600}$$



$$\text{LF: } H(j\omega) \simeq 1.2j\omega$$
$$\text{HF: } H(j\omega) \simeq 20(j\omega)^{-1}$$



# Corner frequencies (linear factors)

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### Resonance

- We can factorize the numerator and denominator into linear terms of the form  $(aj\omega + b) \simeq \begin{cases} b & \omega < \left| \frac{b}{a} \right| \\ aj\omega & \omega > \left| \frac{b}{a} \right| \end{cases}$ .
- At the corner frequency,  $\omega_c = \left| \frac{b}{a} \right|$ , the slope of the magnitude response changes by  $\pm 1$  ( $\pm 20$  dB/decade) because the linear term introduces another factor of  $\omega$  into the numerator or denominator for  $\omega > \omega_c$ .
- The phase changes by  $\pm \frac{\pi}{2}$  because the linear term introduces another factor of  $j$  into the numerator or denominator for  $\omega > \omega_c$ .
  - The phase change is **gradual** and takes place over the range  $0.1\omega_c$  to  $10\omega_c$  ( $\pm \frac{\pi}{2}$  spread over two decades in  $\omega$ ).
- When  $a$  and  $b$  are real and positive, it is often convenient to write  $(aj\omega + b) = b \left( \frac{j\omega}{\omega_c} + 1 \right)$ .
- The **corner frequencies** are the absolute values of the roots of the numerator and denominator polynomials (values of  $j\omega$ ).

# Sketching Magnitude Responses (linear factors)

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### Resonance

1. Find corner frequencies: (a) factorize the numerator/denominator polynomials or (b) find their roots
2. Find LF and HF asymptotes.  $A(j\omega)^k$  has a slope of  $k$ ; substitute  $\omega = \omega_c$  to get the response at first/last corner frequency.
3. At a corner frequency, the gradient of the magnitude response changes by  $\pm 1$  ( $\pm 20$  dB/decade).  $+$  for numerator (top line) and  $-$  for denominator (bottom line).
4.  $|H(j\omega_2)| = \left(\frac{\omega_2}{\omega_1}\right)^k |H(j\omega_1)|$  if the gradient between them is  $k$ .

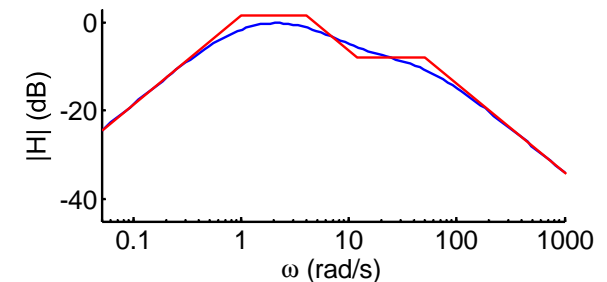
$$H(j\omega) = 1.2 \frac{j\omega \left(\frac{j\omega}{12} + 1\right)}{\left(\frac{j\omega}{1} + 1\right) \left(\frac{j\omega}{4} + 1\right) \left(\frac{j\omega}{50} + 1\right)}$$

$$\text{LF: } 1.2j\omega \Rightarrow |H(j1)| = 1.2 \text{ (1.6 dB)}$$

$$|H(j4)| = \left(\frac{4}{1}\right)^0 \times 1.2 = 1.2$$

$$|H(j12)| = \left(\frac{12}{4}\right)^{-1} \times 1.2 = 0.4$$

$$|H(j50)| = \left(\frac{50}{12}\right)^0 \times 0.4 = 0.4 \text{ (-8 dB)}. \text{ As a check: HF: } 20(j\omega)^{-1}$$



# [Sketching Responses (linear factors): Summary]

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## LF and HF asymptotes

The LF and HF asymptotes give you both the *magnitude* and *phase* at very low and very high frequencies. The LF asymptote is found by taking the terms with the lowest power of  $\omega$  in numerator and denominator; the HF asymptote is found by taking the terms with the highest power of  $\omega$ .

## Magnitude response

The corner frequency for a linear factor  $(aj\omega + b)$  is at  $\omega_c = \left| \frac{b}{a} \right|$ . At each corner frequency, the slope of the magnitude response changes by  $\pm 6$  dB/octave ( $= \pm 20$  dB/decade). The change is +ve for numerator corner frequencies and -ve for denominator corner frequencies. An octave is a factor of 2 in frequency and a decade is a factor of 10 in frequency. The number of decades between  $\omega_1$  and  $\omega_2$  is given by  $\log_{10} \frac{\omega_2}{\omega_1}$ .

## Phase Response

For each corner frequency,  $\omega_c$ , the slope of the phase response changes *twice*: once at  $0.1\omega_c$  and once, in the opposite direction, at  $10\omega_c$ . The change in slope is always  $\pm 0.25\pi$  rad/decade. If  $a$  and  $b$  have the same sign (normal case), then the first slope change (at  $0.1\omega_c$ ) is in the same direction as that of the magnitude response (+ve for numerator and -ve for denominator); if  $a$  and  $b$  have opposite signs (rare), then the sign of the slope change is reversed. The second slope change (at  $10\omega_c$ ) always has the opposite sign from the first.

# Filters

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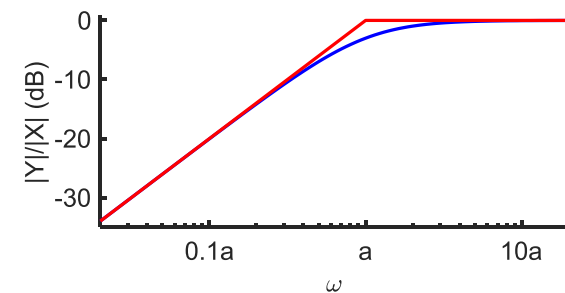
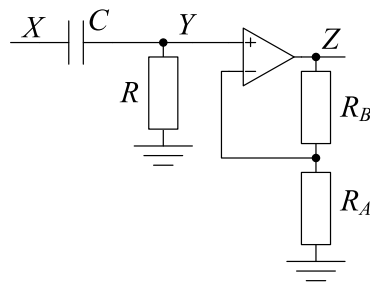
### Corner frequencies (linear factors)

### Sketching Magnitude Responses (linear factors)

### ▷ Filters

### Resonance

- Filter: a circuit designed to amplify some frequencies and/or attenuate others. Very widely used.
- The **order** of the filter is the highest power of  $j\omega$  in the denominator of the frequency response.
- Often use op-amps to provide a low impedance output.



$$\frac{Y}{X} = \frac{R}{R + 1/j\omega C} = \frac{j\omega RC}{j\omega RC + 1} = \frac{j\omega RC}{\frac{j\omega}{a} + 1}$$

$$\frac{Z}{X} = \frac{Z}{Y} \times \frac{Y}{X} = \left(1 + \frac{R_B}{R_A}\right) \times \frac{j\omega RC}{\frac{j\omega}{a} + 1}$$

# Resonance

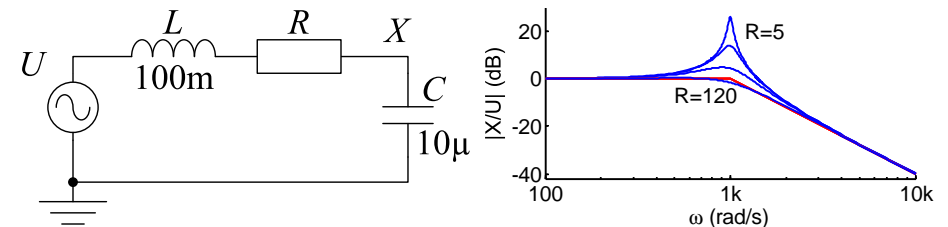
- Resonant circuits have quadratic factors that cannot be factorized
  - $H(j\omega) = a(j\omega)^2 + bj\omega + c = c \left( \left( \frac{j\omega}{\omega_0} \right)^2 + 2\zeta \left( \frac{j\omega}{\omega_0} \right) + 1 \right)$
  - Corner frequency:**  $\omega_0 = \sqrt{\frac{c}{a}}$  determines the horizontal position
  - Damping Factor:**  $\zeta = \frac{b\omega_0}{2c} = \frac{b}{\sqrt{4ac}}$  determines the response shape
  - Equivalently **Quality Factor:**  $Q \triangleq \frac{\omega \times \text{Average Stored Energy}}{\text{Average Power Dissipation}} \approx \frac{1}{2\zeta} = \frac{c}{b\omega_0}$
- At  $\omega = \omega_0$ , outer terms cancel ( $a(j\omega)^2 = -c$ ):  $\Rightarrow H(j\omega) = jb\omega_0 = 2jc\zeta$ 
  - $|H(j\omega_0)| = 2\zeta$  times the straight line approximation at  $\omega_0$ .
  - 3 dB bandwidth of peak  $\simeq 2\zeta\omega_0 \approx \frac{\omega_0}{Q}$ .  $\Delta\text{phase} = \pm\pi$  over  $2\zeta$  decades

$$R = 5, 20, 60, 120$$

$$\zeta = \frac{1}{40}, \frac{1}{10}, \frac{3}{10}, \frac{6}{10}$$

$$Q = \frac{|Z_C(\omega_0) \text{ or } Z_L(\omega_0)|}{R} = 20, 5, \frac{5}{3}, \frac{5}{6}$$

$$\frac{\text{Gain@}\omega_0}{\text{CornerGain}} = \frac{1}{2\zeta} \approx Q$$



$$\frac{X}{U} = \frac{\frac{1}{j\omega C}}{R + j\omega L + \frac{1}{j\omega C}} = \frac{1}{(j\omega)^2 LC + j\omega RC + 1}$$

$$\omega_0 = \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC}}, \quad \zeta = \frac{R}{2} \sqrt{\frac{C}{L}}, \quad Q = \frac{\omega_0 L}{R} = \frac{1}{2\zeta}$$