

# Resistor-Inductor (RL) Circuits

Session 3b 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 3:

# AC, Inductors and Capacitors

- **OBJECTIVES:** This section introduces AC voltage / current and their effects on circuit components (resistors, inductors, transformers and capacitors). The concept of impedance and the use of the vector analogy for computations is also introduced.

# Section 3 Schedule:

Session 3a	– 05/13	Sine Waves, Magnitude, Phase and Vectors (again)	Text 4.1 – 4.24
3a continued	– 05/20	Complete 3a	
<b>Session 3b</b>	<b>– 05/22</b>	<b>R-L Circuits</b> <b>(no class on 05/27)</b>	<b>Text 4.25 – 4.54</b>
3b continued	– 05/29	Complete 3b	
Session 3c	– 06/03	R-C Circuits	Text 4.55 – 4.76
Session 3d	– 06/05	Series LC Circuits Series RLC Circuits	Text 4.77 – 4.88, 4.89 – 4.113
(lab - 06/08, Sat.)			
Session 3e	– 06/10	Parallel LC Circuits Parallel RLC Circuits	Text 4.114 – 4.122, 4.123 – 4.146
(Quiz 3 due 06/17)			
Session 3f	– 06/10	Review (Discuss Quiz 3)	

# Session 3a (Vectors) Review

- Sine Waves
  - $\sin(2\pi f t + \theta)$
  - $\cos(2\pi f t + \theta)$
- Strength
  - Peak Value, Amplitude and Magnitude
  - Equivalent Value (RMS)
- Frequency: Hertz (Hz) – cycles/second
- Phase (Degrees or Radians)
- Period: time for one Cycle
- Wavelength ( $\lambda$ ): distance traveled in one cycle

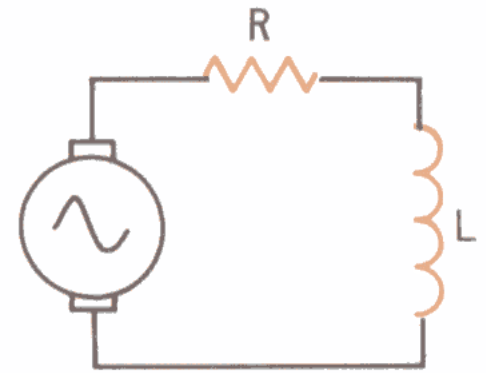
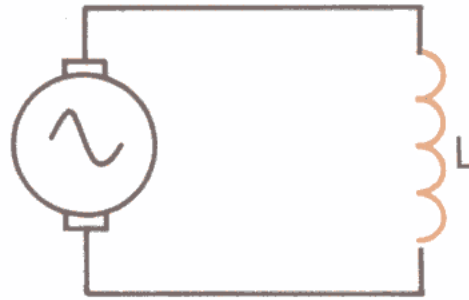
# Session 3a (Vectors) Review

- Vector Analogy (frequency is not shown, corresponds to rotation)
  - Vector length corresponds to signal amplitude
  - Vector angle corresponds to phase (need a reference phase)
  - $\sin(2\pi f t)$ : vertical vector (points up)
  - $\cos(2\pi f t)$ : horizontal vector (points right)
- Vector Addition
  - Head-to-Tail
  - Parallelogram
- Vector Components ( $\theta$  is the angle w.r.t. the horizontal axis)
  - Horizontal component:  $A \cdot \cos(\theta)$
  - Vertical component :  $A \cdot \sin(\theta)$
- You can add vectors by adding their corresponding components!

# R-L Circuits

- 10:1 Ratio
  - If the effect of resistance (reactance) is 10 times larger than reactance (resistance), the smaller can be generally ignored in computations

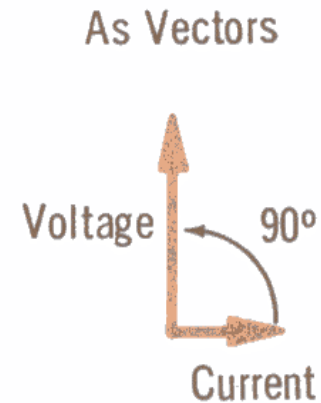
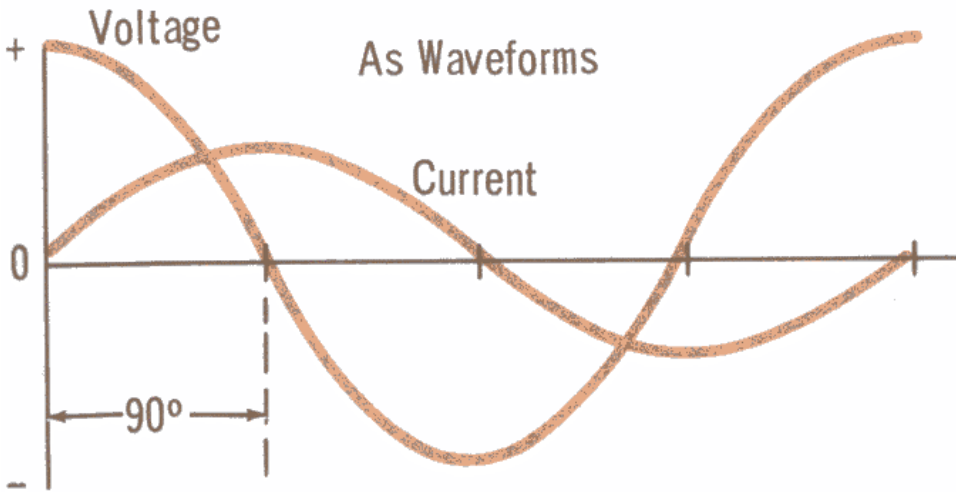
Because of their physical construction, every coil contains some resistance, and every resistor contains some inductance. Therefore, all three of these circuits are actually RL circuits



# Current “Lags” Voltage

- Purely inductive circuit
  - Current lags voltage by  $90^\circ$  (Eli)

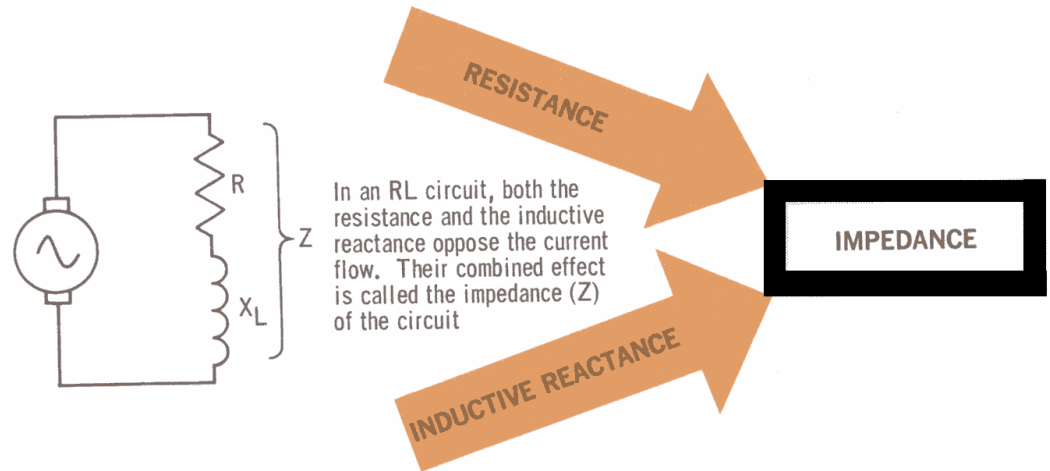
Current and Voltage in an Inductor





# Series R-L Impedance

- Resistor
  - “resists current with an “in-phase” voltage drop (resistance)
- Inductor
  - Resists current with an “out-of-phase” voltage drop (reactance)

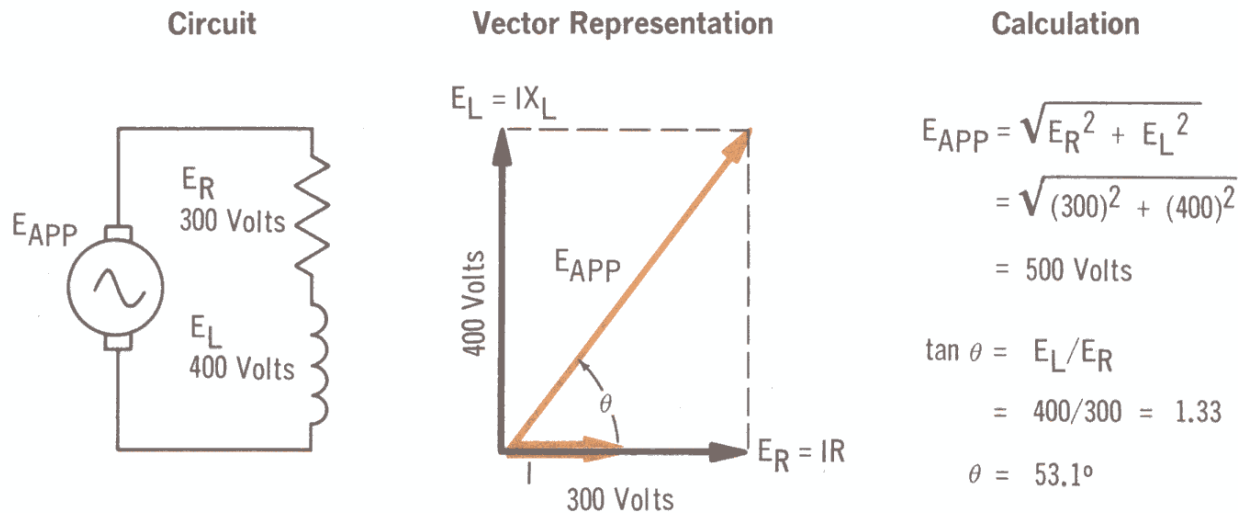


The combined effect (superposition again) is to have the current “lag” the voltage by a phase somewhere between 0 and 90 degrees. This “effective resistance” is called the impedance.

# Series RL Voltage

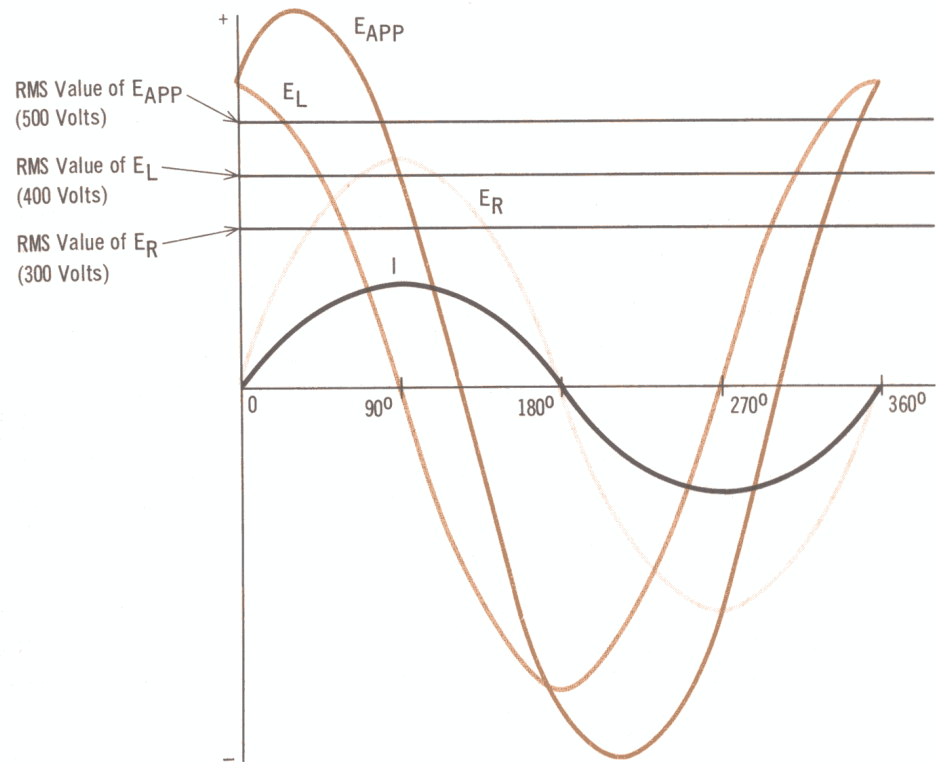
- The phase of the current is used as the reference here for convenience.

The relationship between the applied voltage and the voltage drops in a series RL circuit is such that the applied voltage equals the VECTOR SUM of the voltage drops



# Voltage Waveforms

- The voltages are out of phase
  - Instantaneous waveform values add
  - Use vector addition!

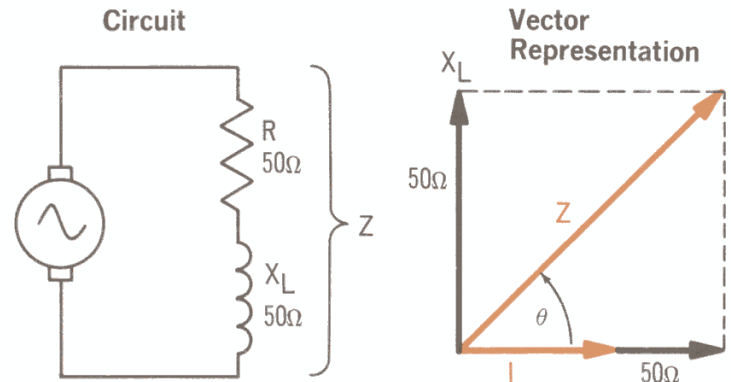


Every point on the applied voltage waveform ( $E_{APP}$ ) is the algebraic sum of the instantaneous values of the  $E_R$  and  $E_L$  waveforms. The rms value of the applied voltage waveform is equal to the vector sum of the rms values of the  $E_R$  and  $E_L$  waveforms

# Series R-L Impedance

- Ohm's Law for AC
  - Add resistance and reactance as vectors
  - The series impedance ( $Z$ ) results
  - $E = I * Z$  or  $V = I * Z$  (and its variants)

In a series RL circuit, the impedance is the VECTOR SUM of the resistance and the inductive reactance.



Calculation

$$Z = \sqrt{R^2 + X_L^2}$$

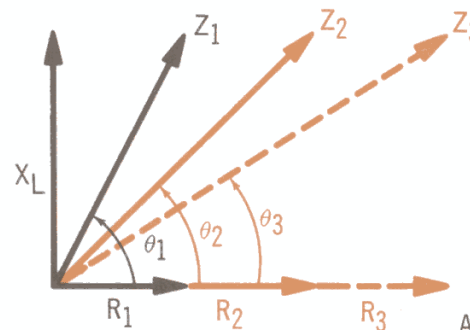
$$= \sqrt{(50)^2 + (50)^2}$$

$$= 70.7\Omega$$

$$\tan \theta = X_L / R$$

$$= 50 / 50 = 1$$

$$\theta = 45^\circ$$

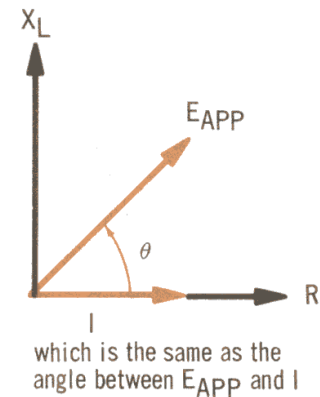
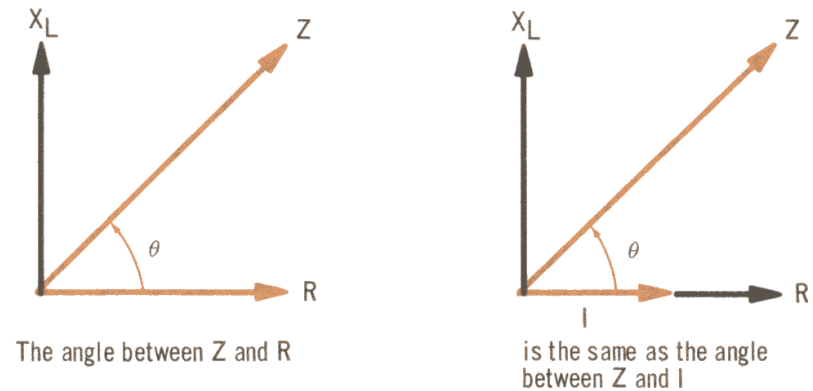


$X_L$  is considered as leading  $R$  by  $90^\circ$ . The total opposition to current flow is their vector sum, which is the circuit impedance,  $Z$ . The angle of  $Z$  depends on the relative values of  $R$  and  $X_L$ .

As  $R$  becomes larger relative to  $X_L$ , the angle of  $Z$  becomes smaller

# Impedance and Current

- Current is still the reference
- The phase between Z and R is the same as between  $V_{\text{applied}}$  and I



$\theta$  IS ALWAYS DETERMINED BY  $X_L$  AND  $R$

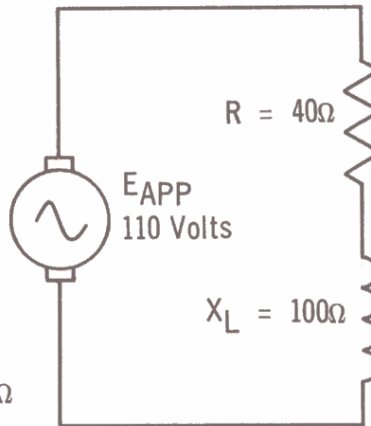
# Series R-L Power

- Apparent power has magnitude (in volt-amps, called watts but different) and phase
- True power (watts) is dissipated in the resistance
- $P_{\text{true}} = P_{\text{apparent}} * \cos(\theta)$
- $\cos(\theta)$  is the “Power Factor”

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Apparent Power} &= E_{\text{APP}} I \\
 &= E_{\text{APP}}^2 / Z \\
 &= I^2 Z
 \end{aligned}$$

## Preliminary Calculations

$$\begin{aligned}
 Z &= \sqrt{R^2 + X_L^2} \\
 &= \sqrt{(40)^2 + (100)^2} = 108\Omega \\
 I &= E_{\text{APP}} / Z \\
 &= 110 \text{ volts} / 108 \text{ ohms} = 1.02 \text{ amperes} \\
 \tan \theta &= X_L / R \\
 &= 100 / 40 = 2.5 \\
 \theta &= 68.2^\circ
 \end{aligned}$$



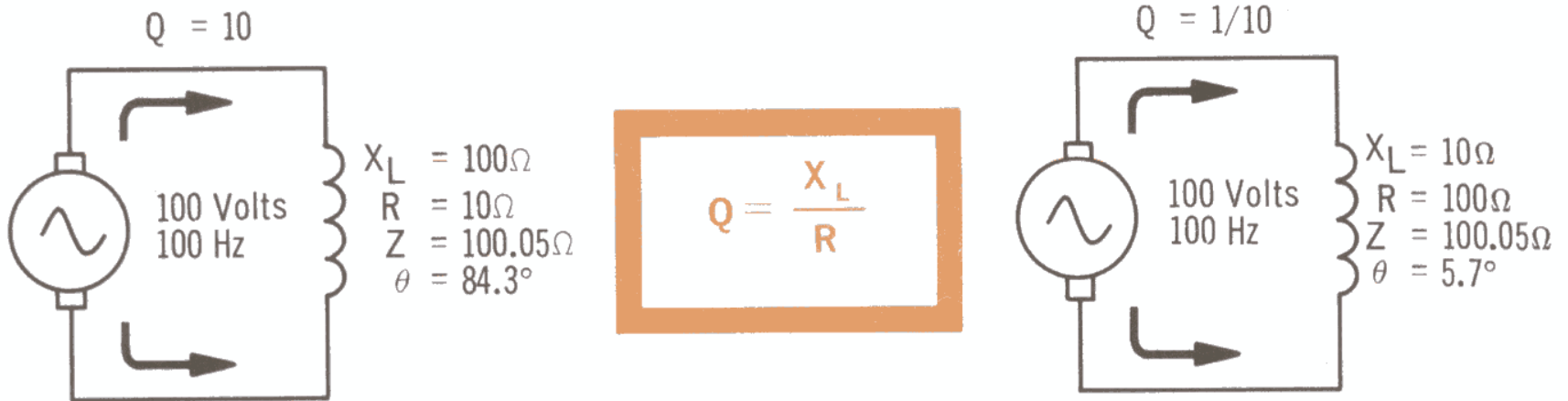
$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{True Power} &= E_{\text{APP}} I \cos \theta \\
 &= (E_{\text{APP}}^2 / Z) \cos \theta \\
 &= I^2 Z \cos \theta
 \end{aligned}$$

## Power Calculations

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Apparent Power} &= E_{\text{APP}} I \\
 &= 110 \times 1.02 \\
 &= 112.2 \text{ watts} \\
 \text{True Power} &= E_{\text{APP}} I \cos \theta \\
 &= 110 \times 1.02 \times \cos 68.2^\circ \\
 &= 112.2 \times 0.371 \\
 &= 41.6 \text{ watts}
 \end{aligned}$$

# “Q” of a Coil

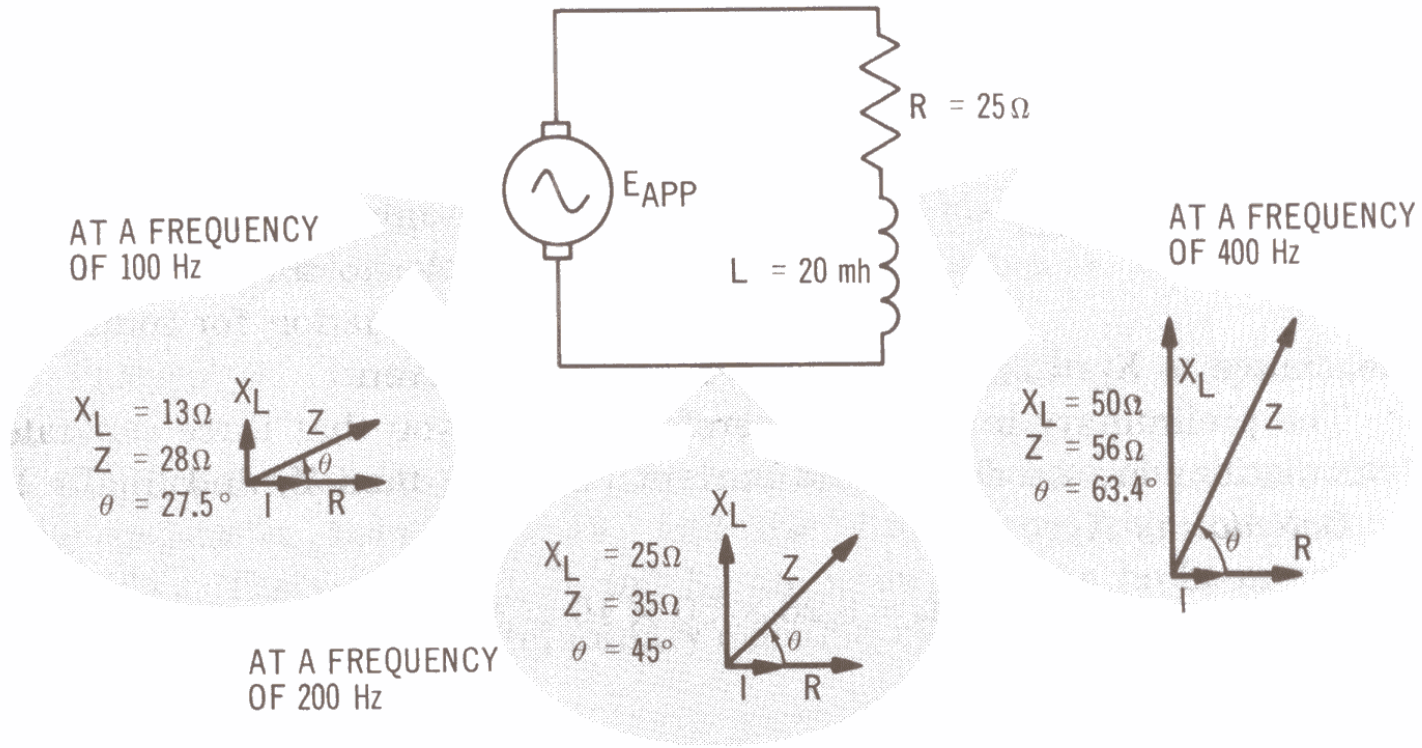
- Q here stands for quality
  - High Q means relatively low losses in the inductor



The high-Q coil produces a greater phase angle, and so is a better inductor

# Effects of Frequency In Series R-L Circuits

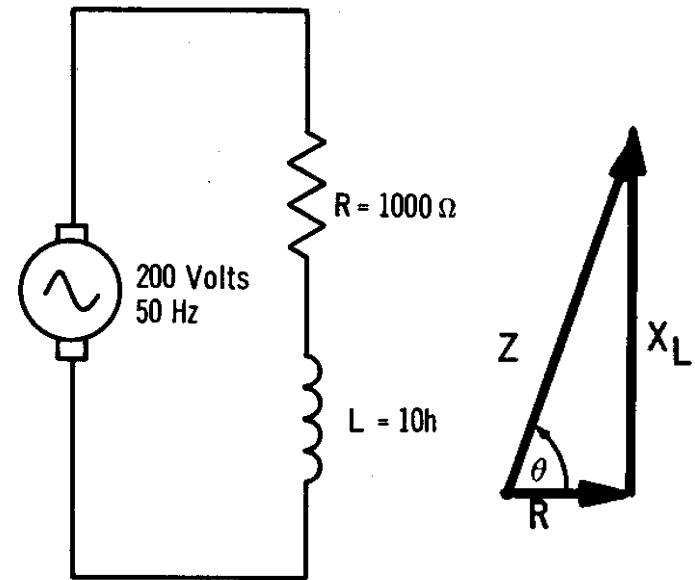
The characteristics of a series RL circuit vary with different frequencies





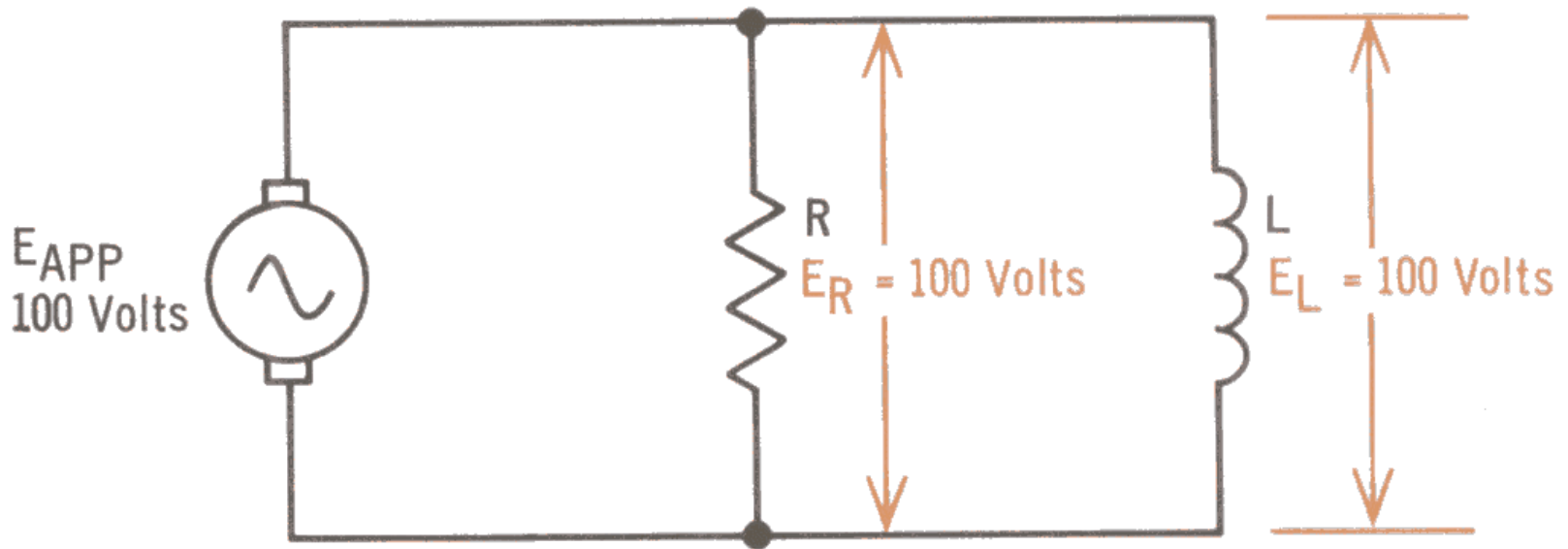
# Example Impedance Calculation

- $X_L = 2\pi * f * L = 6.28 * 50 * 10$   
or  $X_L = 3140$  (at  $90^\circ$ )
- $|Z| = (R^2 + X_L^2)^{1/2} = 3295$
- $\angle Z = \tan^{-1}(X_L / R)$   
 $= \tan^{-1}(3140 / 1000)$   
 $= \tan^{-1}(3.14)$   
 $= 72.3^\circ$



# Parallel R-L Circuits

- Voltages are equal across all branches

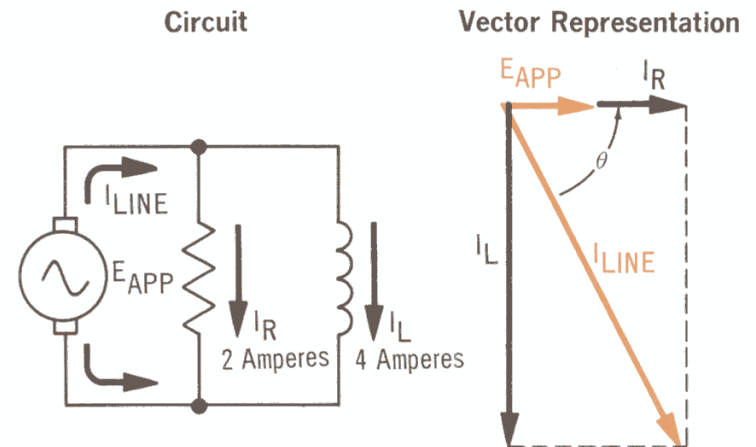


# Branch and Total (Line) Current

- Branch currents add (as vectors) for the total (line) current (Kirchoff's current law)

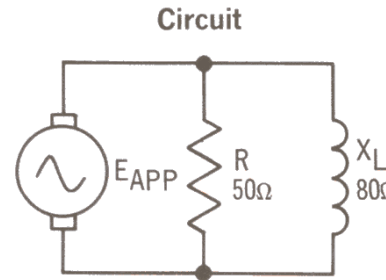
$$\begin{aligned} |I_T| &= (2^2 + 4^2)^{1/2} = (4 + 16)^{1/2} \\ &= (20)^{1/2} = 2 * (5)^{1/2} \\ &= 2 * 2.236 \approx 4.5 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \angle I_T &= \tan^{-1}(I_L / I_R) \\ &= \tan^{-1}(-4 / 2) \\ &= \tan^{-1}(-2) \\ &= -63.4^\circ \text{ (-1.11 radians)} \end{aligned}$$



# Parallel R-L Impedance

- Parallel impedances add as inverses, but they are vectors.



In a Parallel RL Circuit:

$$Z = \frac{R \times X_L}{\sqrt{R^2 + X_L^2}}$$

$$(1/Z) = (1/R) + (1/X_L)$$

$$= 1/50 + 1/(100 \angle 90^\circ) = 0.02 + 0.01 \angle -90^\circ$$

$$= (.0005)^{1/2} \angle -\tan^{-1}(1/2) = (.0005)^{1/2} \angle -\tan^{-1}(1/2)$$

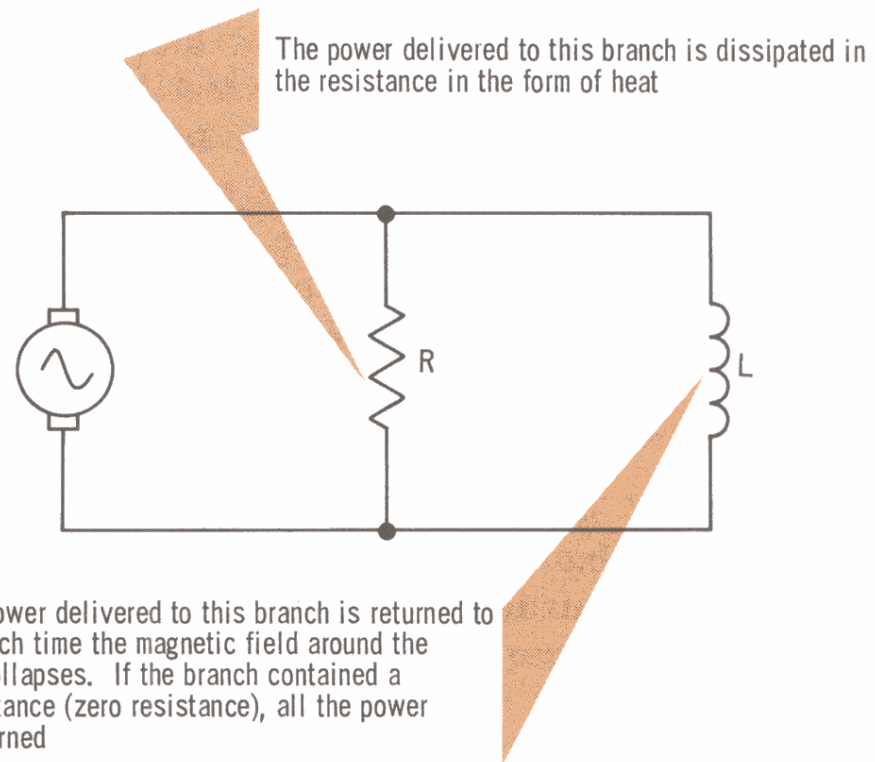
$$= (5)^{1/2} * 10^{-2} \angle -\tan^{-1}(1/2) = 0.0236 \angle -26.6^\circ \text{ (-0.464 r)}$$

$$Z = (1/0.0236) \angle 26.6^\circ \text{ (0.464 r)}$$

$$= 044.7 \angle 26.6^\circ \text{ Ohms (note: inductive impedance)}$$

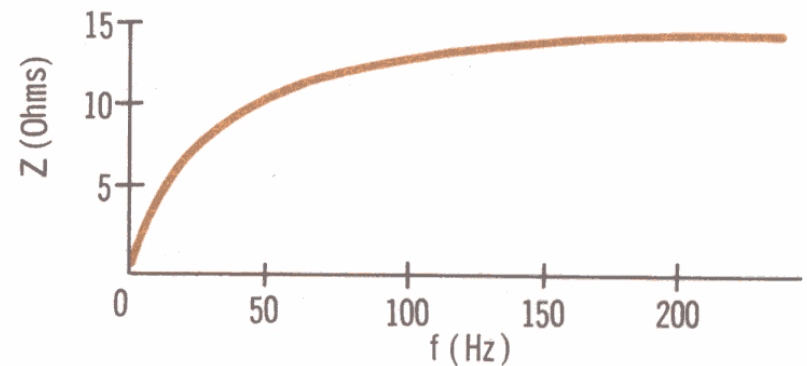
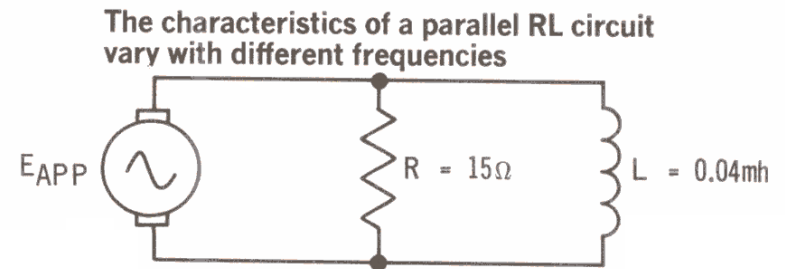
# Power in Parallel R-L Circuits

- True power is still only dissipated in the resistor
- Power is temporarily stored in the inductor and returned to the circuit



# Effects of Frequency in Parallel R-L Circuits

- At high frequencies
  - Inductor is an open circuit
  - Impedance is the resistance (15 Ohms here)
- At DC ( $f = 0$ )
  - Inductor is a short circuit
  - Impedance is 0 ( $\angle 90^\circ$ )



# Section 3 Schedule:

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<b>3b continued</b>	<b>– 05/29</b>	Complete 3b	
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