ee101\_reso\_rlc\_1.sqproj



Figure 1: Series *RLC* circuit driven by a sinusoidal source.

The current I in the series RLC circuit shown in Fig. 1 is given by

$$\mathbf{I} = \frac{\mathbf{V}_s}{R + j(\omega L - 1/\omega C)} \,. \tag{1}$$

The following results hold for this circuit in the sinusoidal steady state:

- (a) The total impedance seen by the source is minimum at  $\omega_0 = 1/\sqrt{LC}$  rad/s, and is equal to R, giving  $|\mathbf{I}|_{\text{max}} = \mathbf{V}_s/R$ .
- (b) The bandwidth of the circuit (i.e.,  $B = \omega_2 \omega_1$ , where  $\omega_1$  and  $\omega_2$  are frequencies at which  $|\mathbf{I}| = |\mathbf{I}|_{\max}/\sqrt{2}$ ) is given by B = R/L.
- (c) The quality  $Q = \frac{\omega_0}{B} = \frac{1}{R} \sqrt{\frac{L}{C}}$  is a measure of the sharpness of the  $|\mathbf{I}|$  versus frequency curve. The quality of the circuit can be visually judged by plotting  $|\mathbf{I}|$  versus log  $\omega$  (or  $\log f$ ).
- (d) For  $\omega \ll \omega_0$ , the total impedance is dominated by the capacitor, i.e.,  $\mathbf{Z} \approx 1/j\omega C$ . Almost the entire source voltage appears across the capacitor, i.e.,  $\mathbf{V}_C \approx \mathbf{V}_s$ , and the current  $\mathbf{I}$ has a phase of  $+\pi/2$ .
- (e) For  $\omega \gg \omega_0$ , the total impedance is dominated by the inductor, i.e.,  $\mathbf{Z} \approx j\omega L$ . Almost the entire source voltage appears across the inductor, i.e.,  $\mathbf{V}_L \approx \mathbf{V}_s$ , and the current  $\mathbf{I}$ has a phase of  $-\pi/2$ .

## Exercise Set

1. For  $R = 1 \Omega$ , L = 1 mH, and  $C = 1 \mu F$ , calculate  $f_0$  and B. Verify with simulation.

- 2. What happens to the bandwidth if R is doubled? Plot  $|\mathbf{I}|$  versus log f for  $R = 1 \Omega$  and  $R = 2 \Omega$  on the same graph.
- 3. What is  $|\mathbf{V}_C|$  for  $\omega \ll \omega_0$ ,  $\omega = \omega_0$ , and  $\omega \gg \omega_0$ ? Make an approximate sketch of  $|\mathbf{V}_C|$  versus log  $\omega$ , using the above information. Check with simulation.
- 4. What will happen to the  $|\mathbf{V}_C|$  versus  $\log \omega$  curve if R is doubled? Relate your answer to the Q of the circuit.
- 5. Sketch  $|\mathbf{V}_L|$  and  $|\mathbf{V}_C|$  versus log  $\omega$  together. Verify with simulation.
- 6. Sketch  $\angle \mathbf{V}_L$  and  $\angle \mathbf{V}_C$  versus log  $\omega$  together. Verify with simulation.
- 7. From the log-log simulation plot of  $|\mathbf{V}_L|$ ,  $|\mathbf{V}_C|$ ,  $|\mathbf{V}_R|$  versus frequency, find the slope of each curve (in dB/decade) away from resonance on both sides (i.e., for  $f \gg f_0$  and  $f \ll f_0$ ). Explain your observations.