

Electrical Circuits Lab. 0903219

Series RL Circuit Phasor Diagram

- Simple steps to draw phasor diagram of a series RL circuit without memorizing:

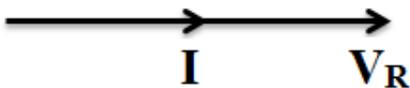
* Start with the quantity (voltage or current) that is common for the resistor R and the inductor L , which is here the source current I (because it passes through both R and L without being divided).

Step1



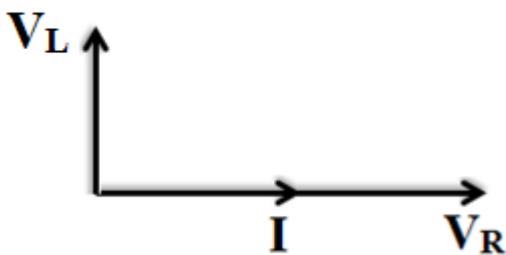
* Now we know that I and resistor voltage V_R are in phase or have the same phase angle (there zero crossings are the same on the time axis) and V_R is greater than I in magnitude.

Step2



* Since I equal the inductor current I_L and we know that I_L lags the inductor voltage V_L by 90 degrees, we will add V_L on the phasor diagram as follows:

Step3



* Finally, the source voltage V_s equals the vector summation of V_R and V_L :

Step4

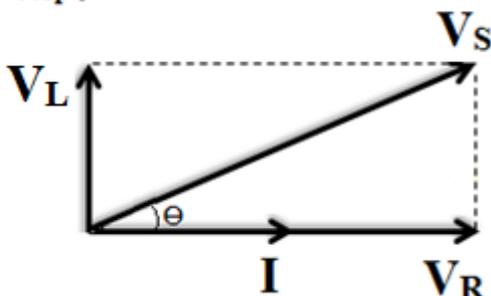


Figure (2) Series RL circuit Phasor Diagram

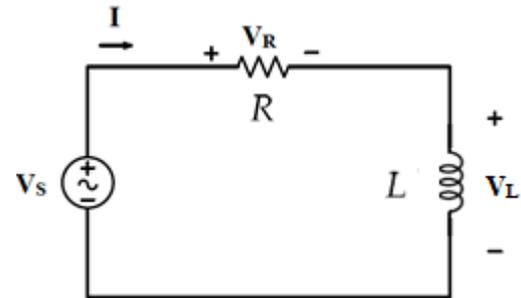


Figure (1) Series RL circuit

- Important notes on the phasor diagram of series RL circuit shown in figure (2):

A- All the vectors are rotating in the same angular speed ω .

B- This circuit acts as an inductive circuit and \mathbf{I} lags \mathbf{V}_S by a phase shift of Θ (which is the current angle $\angle \mathbf{I}$ if the source voltage is the reference signal).

Θ ranges from 0° to 90° ($0^\circ < \Theta < 90^\circ$). If $\Theta=0^\circ$ then this circuit becomes a resistive circuit and if $\Theta=90^\circ$ then the circuit becomes a pure inductive circuit.

C- The phase shift between the source voltage and its current Θ is important and you have two ways to find its value:

a- $\theta = \tan^{-1} \frac{V_L (\text{imaginary part of } V_S)}{V_R (\text{real part of } V_S)}$

b- $\theta = \angle \mathbf{I} = - \angle \mathbf{Z} = - \tan^{-1} \frac{\omega L (\text{imaginary part of } Z)}{R (\text{real part of } Z)}$

D- Using the phasor diagram, you can find all needed quantities in the circuit like all the voltages magnitude and phase and all the currents magnitude and phase.

For a series **RL** circuit, if the magnitude of \mathbf{V}_L and \mathbf{V}_R was measured in Lab. (as a peak value from an oscilloscope or rms value from a digital multimeter), then we can find the magnitude of \mathbf{V}_S as follows:

$$|\mathbf{V}_S| = \sqrt{|\mathbf{V}_L|^2 + |\mathbf{V}_R|^2}$$

E- You can find all leading or lagging quantities in this circuit with respect to a reference signal like the source voltage \mathbf{V}_S .

For example, it is clearly shown by the phasor diagram that \mathbf{I} lags \mathbf{V}_S by Θ degrees, \mathbf{V}_R lags \mathbf{V}_S by Θ degrees (since it is in phase with \mathbf{I}) and \mathbf{V}_L leads \mathbf{V}_S by $90^\circ - \Theta$.

F- The phasor diagram helps in finding the change in current and voltage (magnitude and phase) with voltage source frequency f changing.

With frequency f increasing, the inductive reactance \mathbf{X}_L will increase and \mathbf{V}_L will increase too, the the resistor \mathbf{R} will not be affected by the change of f , then by voltage

division rule V_R will decrease (to prevent V_S from changing since V_S is a voltage source). Since X_L increase and R is constant the total impedance Z will increase and the source current I will decrease. $\angle I$ and $\angle Z$ will increase because $\angle I = -\angle Z = \theta = \tan^{-1} \frac{V_L}{V_R} = -\tan^{-1} \frac{\omega L}{R}$ and the \tan^{-1} function is increasing on the interval from 0 to 90° .

In a concise way:

$$f \uparrow \mid X_L \uparrow \mid Z \uparrow \mid I \downarrow \mid V_R \downarrow \mid V_L \uparrow \mid \theta \uparrow .$$

G- Figure (3) below shows a time domain representation for all the vectors shown on the phasor diagram:

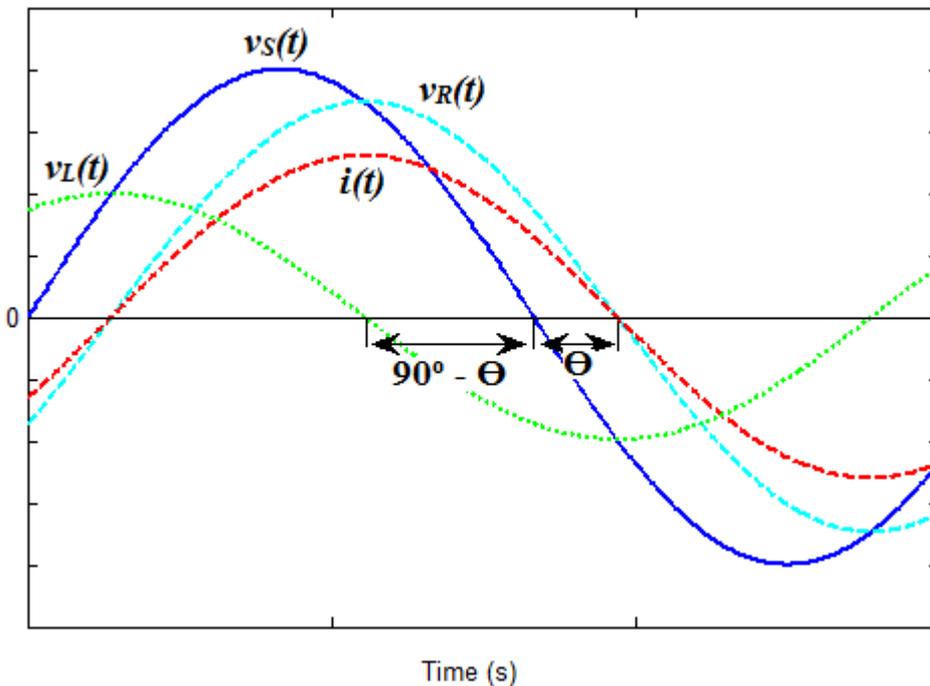


Figure (3) Series RL Circuit Time Domain Representation

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Parallel RL Circuit Phasor Diagram

- Simple steps to draw phasor diagram of a parallel RL circuit without memorizing:

* Start with the quantity (voltage or current) that is common for the resistor R and the inductor L , which is here the source Voltage V_S (because it is parallel with both R and L without being divided).

Step1

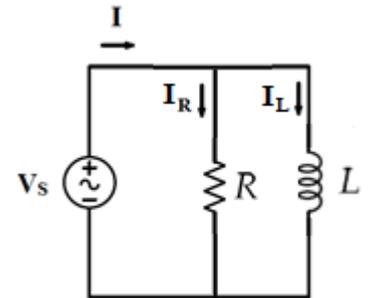
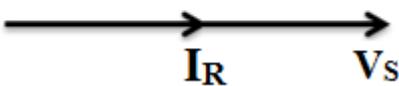


Figure (1) Parallel RL

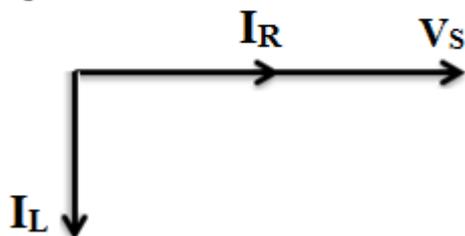
* Now we know that resistor current I_R and resistor voltage V_R (which equals V_S) are in phase or have the same phase angle (there zero crossings are the same on the time axis) and V_R is greater than I_R in magnitude.

Step2



* Since V_S equal the voltage V_L and we know that V_L leads the inductor current I_L by 90 degrees, we will add I_L on the phasor diagram as follows:

Step3



* Finally, the source current I equal the vector summation of I_R and I_L :

Step4

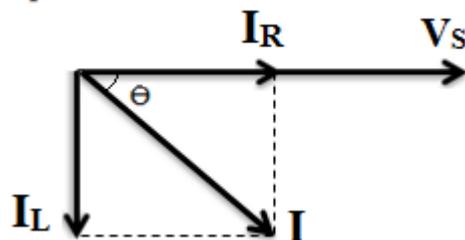


Figure (2) Parallel RL circuit Phasor Diagram

- Important notes on the phasor diagram of Parallel RL circuit shown in figure (2):

A- All the vectors are rotating in the same angular speed ω .

B- This circuit acts as an inductive circuit and \mathbf{I} lags \mathbf{V}_S by a phase shift of Θ (which is the current angle $\angle \mathbf{I}$ if the source voltage is the reference signal).

Θ ranges from 0° to 90° ($0^\circ < \Theta < 90^\circ$). If $\Theta=0^\circ$ then this circuit becomes a resistive circuit and if $\Theta=90^\circ$ then the circuit becomes a pure inductive circuit.

C- The phase shift between the source voltage and its current Θ is important and you have two ways to find its value:

$$\Theta = \tan^{-1} \frac{I_L \text{ (imaginary part of } V_S)}{I_R \text{ (real part of } V_S)}$$

$$\Theta = \angle \mathbf{I} = \angle \mathbf{Y} = \tan^{-1} \frac{B_L \text{ (imaginary part of } Y)}{G \text{ (real part of } Y)}$$

D- Using the phasor diagram, you can find all needed quantities in the circuit like all the voltages magnitude and phase and all the currents magnitude and phase.

For a parallel **RL** circuit, if the magnitude of \mathbf{I}_L and \mathbf{I}_R was measured in Lab. (as a peak value from an oscilloscope or rms value from a digital multimeter), then we can find the magnitude of \mathbf{I} as follows:

$$|\mathbf{I}| = \sqrt{|\mathbf{I}_L|^2 + |\mathbf{I}_R|^2}$$

E- You can find all leading or lagging quantities in this circuit with respect to a reference signal like the source voltage \mathbf{V}_S .

For example, it is clearly shown by the phasor diagram that \mathbf{I} lags \mathbf{V}_S by Θ degrees, \mathbf{I}_R leads \mathbf{I} by Θ degrees and \mathbf{I}_L lags \mathbf{I} by $90^\circ - \Theta$.

F- The phasor diagram helps in finding the change in quantities (magnitude and phase) with voltage source frequency f changing.

With frequency f increasing, the inductive reactance X_L will increase and so I_L will decrease, the the resistor R will not be affected by the change of f and I_R will not change with frequency. Since X_L increase and R is constant the total impedance Z will increase, the source current I will decrease and the admittance Y will decrease. $\angle I$ and $\angle Y$ will decrease because $\angle I = \angle Y = \theta = \tan^{-1} \frac{I_L}{I_R} = \tan^{-1} \frac{1/\omega L}{1/R}$ and the \tan^{-1} function is increasing on the interval from 0 to 90° .

In a concise way:

$f \uparrow |X_L| \uparrow |Z| \uparrow |Y| \downarrow |I| \downarrow |I_L| \downarrow \theta \downarrow |I_R| \text{constant.}$

G- Figure (3) below shows a time domain representation for all the vectors shown on the phasor diagram:

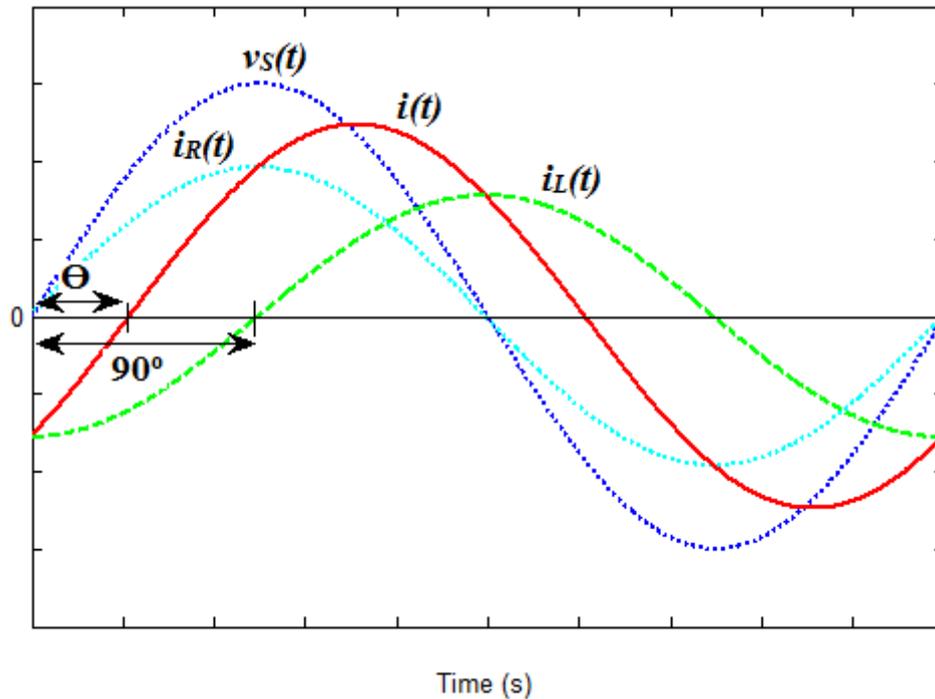


Figure (3) Parallel RL Circuit Time Domain Representation