



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations 2016/2017

SCHOOL OF PURE AND APPLIED SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL SCIENCES

THIRD YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR BACHELOR OF
EDUCATION

SPH 304: A.C. CIRCUIT THEORY

DATE: 31/7/2017

TIME: 11:00 – 1:00 PM

INSTRUCTIONS:

- The paper consists of **two** sections.
- Section **A** is **compulsory** (30 marks).
- Answer any **two** questions from section **B** (each 20 marks).

SECTION A: (COMPULSORY)

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- a) Draw a diagram of a simple a.c generator comprising of two magnets, a coil and an output circuit. (3 marks)
- b) An a.c generator produce a voltage with the signal $\epsilon = 260 \sin \omega t$, find its average value (3 marks)
- c) Draw the phasor and waveform of the following two signals on same diagram $\epsilon = 100 \sin \omega t$ and $\epsilon = 50 \sin(\omega t - 90^\circ)$
where ϵ is voltate
 ω is angular frequency
 t is time (4 marks)
- d) Draw an a.c resistor (R) circuit, whose voltage signal varies as $V = V_{max} \cos \omega t$ and show that $i = \frac{V_{max}}{R} \cos \omega t$ (4 marks)

- e) Convert a complex number $Z = x + jy$ to $Z = r \angle \theta$ (3 marks)
- f) Explain the condition necessary for resonance in an a.c series RLC circuit to occur and state its application. (2 marks)
- g) Define the term Q-factor (2 marks)
- h) The voltage in an electric circuit is represented by $V = 50 - j 6$ and current $I = 10 + j 4$. Determine
 - i. Impedance as a complex number (3 marks)
 - ii. Resistance and reactance of the circuit (3 marks)
 - iii. Phase angle (3 marks)

SECTION B: ANSWER ANY OTHER TWO QUESTIONS

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- a) Using complex algebra, find the voltage v for the circuit shown in Figure 1. (4 marks)
- b) Sketch the waveforms of v and i and represent the waveforms using phasors. (4 marks)

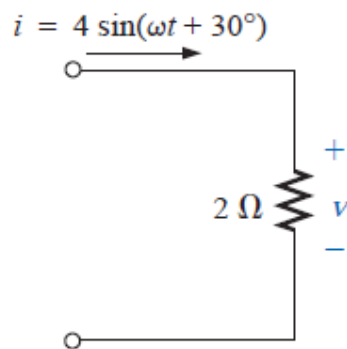


Figure 1

- c) An inductor (L) a.c circuit has a voltage signal of the form $\epsilon = \epsilon_{max} \sin \omega t$.
 - i Draw the circuit and label (2 marks)
 - ii Derive its current (I) signal (5 marks)
 - iii show that its inductive reactance is $X_L = 2\pi fL$ (5 marks)

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

- a) The arms of an ac Maxwell bridge are arranged as in figure 3; AB and BC are non reactive resistors of 100Ω each, DA is a standard variable reactor L_1 of resistance 32.7Ω and CD comprises a standard variable resistor R in series with a coil of unknown impedance. Balance was obtained with $L_1 = 47.8 \text{ mH}$ and $R = 1.36 \Omega$. Find the resistance and inductance of the coil.

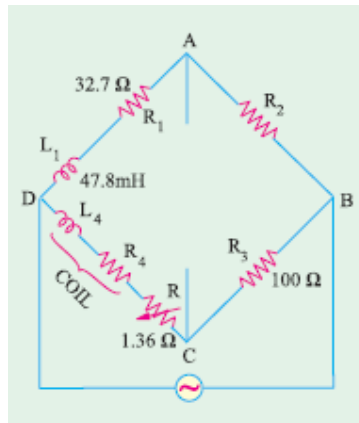


Figure 3

(6 marks)

- b) A source of an a.c has an output of impedance of $400\ \Omega$ which is to be transformed using a transformer to match $80\ \Omega$ load.
- Design a transformer that can be used for this purpose. (3 marks)
 - Illustrate with a well labelled diagram (3 marks)
- c) The diagram in figure 4 shows an ac rectifier circuit
- Show the wave form of the output signal (3 marks)
 - Show how a capacitor can be connected to smooth the signal (2 marks)

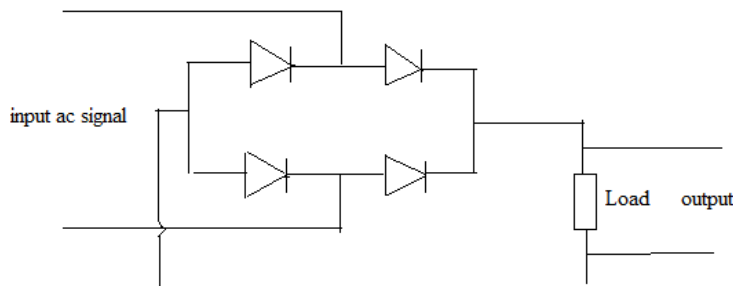


Figure 4

- d) Draw a LC filter setup and explain how it works (3 marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

- Describe the working of a coupling capacitor and show with a diagram (3 marks)
- Define impedance matching (2 marks)
 - State the maximum power transfer theorem (2 marks)
 - Draw a circuit that can be used to illustrate b (i) and b (ii) above (2 marks)

- c) i Draw a capacitor (C) circuit with a voltage signal $V = V_{max} \cos \omega t$ (1 mark)
- ii Show that $i = -\omega C V_{max} \sin \omega t$. (4 marks)
- iii Hence draw the waveforms of the two voltage and current signals on a common axes. (3 marks)
- iv Proceed to derive capacitive reactance (3 marks)

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

- a) A series circuit consisting of a capacitance of 1.00 F , a resistor of 3Ω and an inductor of 2.0 H are connected to 240 V (rms) supply of frequency $\omega = 300 \text{ rad/s}$. Given that V_R is in phase with I , V_L leads I by 90° and V_C lags I by 90° . (definitions of symbols are given as you read on)
- i. Find rms voltage (2 marks)
- ii. Find the equations for
- I) Voltage signal (V) i.e (sine wave signal) (4 marks)
- II) Current signal (I) i.e (sine wave signal) (4 marks)
- III) Maximum voltage across the resistor V_{RO} , across the inductor V_{LO} , across the capacitor V_{CO} (4 marks)
- IV) Sine wave signal for voltage across the resistance V_R , across the inductor V_L and across the capacitor V_C (4 marks)
- iii. Find
- I) The values of the capacitive reactance X_C and inductive reactance X_L (2 marks)