

Answer to Electromagnetism Example Question 1

The instantaneous power dissipation is

$$v(t).i(t) = V_o I_o \cos(\omega t) \cos(\omega t + \varphi)$$

with

$$\omega = 2\pi f, \text{ period } T = \frac{1}{f} = \frac{2\pi}{\omega}$$

The time-averaged power dissipation is:

$$\begin{aligned} P &= V_o I_o \cdot \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \cos(\omega t) \cos(\omega t + \varphi) dt \\ &= V_o I_o \cdot \frac{\omega}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi/\omega} \cos(\omega t) [\cos(\omega t) \cos(\varphi) - \sin(\omega t) \sin(\varphi)] dt \\ &= \frac{V_o I_o \omega}{2\pi} \left[\cos(\varphi) \int_0^{2\pi/\omega} \cos^2(\omega t) dt - \sin \varphi \int_0^{2\pi/\omega} \cos(\omega t) \sin(\omega t) dt \right] \end{aligned}$$

The second of these integrals = 0, and the first can also be written as:

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{V_o I_o \omega}{2\pi} \cos(\varphi) \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot \int_0^{2\pi/\omega} [\cos^2(\omega t) + \sin^2(\omega t)] dt \\ \therefore P &= \frac{V_o I_o \omega}{2\pi} \cos(\varphi) \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{2\pi}{\omega} = \frac{V_o I_o \cos(\varphi)}{2} \end{aligned}$$

In the phasor representation we use:

$$\begin{aligned} V(t) &= V_o e^{j\omega t} \\ I(t) &= I_o e^{j(\omega t + \varphi)} \\ \therefore P &= \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{Re}[V(t).I^*(t)] = \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{Re}[V_o I_o e^{j\omega t} . e^{-j(\omega t + \varphi)}] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} V_o I_o \cos(\varphi) \end{aligned}$$

This is the same result as before [$\cos(-\varphi) = \cos(\varphi)$].

Note that in the case of a capacitor (voltage lags current by $\pi/2 \Rightarrow \varphi = \pi/2$) and an inductor (voltage leads current by $\pi/2 \Rightarrow \varphi = -\pi/2$) in both situations we have $\cos(\varphi) = 0$ so there is no net power dissipation.