## **Lecture 2: Capacitors and Inductors**

## **Capacitance:**

- Capacitance (C) is defined as the ratio of charge (Q) to voltage (V) on an object:
  - C = Q/V =Coulombs/Volt = Farad
    - ⇒ Capacitance of an object depends on geometry and its dielectric constant.
    - ⇒ For same voltage on two devices, device that can hold more charge has higher capacitance
  - Symbol(s) for capacitors:



polarized

- A capacitor is a device that stores electric charge (memory devices).
- A capacitor is a device that stores energy

$$E = \frac{Q^2}{2C} = \frac{CV^2}{2}$$

- Capacitors are easy to fabricate in small sizes  $(\mu m)$ , use in chips
- How to combine capacitance:
  - capacitors in parallel adds like resistors in series:

$$V = C_1 + C_2$$

$$V = C_1 + C_2 = \sum C_i$$

$$C_{tot} = C_1 + C_2 = \sum C_i$$

Total capacitance is more than individual capacitance!

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• capacitors in series add like resistors in parallel:



*Total* capacitance is *less* than individual capacitance!

- Energy and Power in Capacitors
  - How much energy can a "typical" capacitor store?
    - Pick a 4  $\mu$ F Cap (it would read 4 mF) rated at 3 kV  $E = \frac{1}{2}CV^2 = \frac{1}{2}4 \times 10^{-6} \cdot 3000^2 = 18 \text{ J}$
    - This is the same as dropping a 2 kg weight (about 4 pounds) 1 meter
  - How much power is dissipated in a capacitor?

$$Power = \frac{dE}{dt}$$
$$= \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{CV^2}{2} \right)$$
$$P = CV \frac{dV}{dt}$$

*dV/dt* must be finite otherwise we source (or sink) an infinite amount of power!
 THIS WOULD BE UNPHYSICAL.

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- the voltage across a capacitor cannot change instantaneously
  - ⇒ a useful fact when trying to guess the transient (short term) behavior of a circuit
- the voltage across a resistor can change instantaneously
  - the power dissipated in a resistor does not depend on dV/dt:

 $P = I^2 R$  or  $V^2/R$ 

- Why do capacitors come in such small values?
  - Example; Calculate the size of a 1 Farad parallel capacitor with air between the plates.

$$=\frac{\kappa\varepsilon_0}{1}$$

k = dielectric constant (= 1 for air)

$$\varepsilon_0 = 8.85 \times 10^{-12} N^{-1} m^{-2}$$

d = distance between plates (assumed 1 mm)

$$A = \text{area of plates} = 1.1 \times 10^8 m^2 !!!$$

- $\Rightarrow$  square plate of 6.5 miles per side
- □ breakthroughs in capacitor technologies (driven by laptop/cell phone industries)
- ⇒ 10 µF capacitor in 0402 package (1.0 mm × 0.5 mm × 0.5 mm) costs only 3 pennies
- How small can we make capacitors?
  - A wire near a ground plane has  $C \sim 0.1$  pf =  $10^{-13}$  F.

1 mm



- Some words to the wise on capacitors and their labeling.
  - Typical capacitors are multiples of micro Farads (10<sup>-6</sup> F) or pico Farads (10<sup>-12</sup> F).
    - $\Rightarrow$  Whenever you see mF it almost always is micro, *not* milli F and *never* mega F.
    - $\Rightarrow$  picoFarad (10<sup>-12</sup> F) is sometimes written as pf and pronounced *puff*.
  - no *single* convention for labeling capacitors
    - Many manufacturers have their own labeling scheme (See Horowitz and Hill lab manual).
- Resistors and Capacitors
  - Examine voltage and current vs. time for a circuit with one *R* and one *C*.
    - Assume that at t < 0 all voltages are zero,  $V_R = V_C = 0$ .
    - At  $t \ge 0$  the switch is closed and the battery  $(V_0)$  is connected.
    - Apply Kirchhoff's voltage rule: V = V + V

$$V_0 = V_R + V_C$$
$$= IR + \frac{Q}{C}$$
$$= R \frac{dQ}{dt} + \frac{Q}{C}$$



• Solve the differential equation by differentiating both sides of above equation:

$$\frac{dV_0}{dt} = \frac{1}{C}\frac{dQ}{dt} + R\frac{\tilde{d}^2Q}{dt^2}$$
$$0 = \frac{I}{C} + R\frac{dI}{dt}$$
$$\frac{dI}{dt} = -\frac{I}{RC}$$

Why we care about the DC behavior? Want to know how a circuit (characterize as R & C) responses to a pulse!

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- This is just an exponential decay equation with time constant *RC* (sec).
- The current as a function of time through the resistor and capacitor is:  $I(t) = I_0 e^{-t/RC}$
- What's  $V_R(t)$ ?
  - By Ohm's law:  $V_R(t) = I_R \cdot R$   $= I_0 R e^{-t/RC}$  $= V_0 e^{-t/RC}$
  - At t = 0 all the voltage appears across the resistor,  $V_R(0) = V_0$ .



- What's  $V_C(t)$ ?
  - Easiest way to answer is to use the fact that  $V_0 = V_R + V_C$  is valid for all t.  $V_C = V_0 - V_R$   $V_C = V_0 \left(1 - e^{-t/RC}\right)$ 
    - $\Rightarrow$  At t = 0 all the voltage appears across the resistor so  $V_C(0) = 0$ .

$$\Rightarrow \quad \text{At } t = \infty, \ V_C(\infty) = V_0 \ .$$

• Suppose we wait until I = 0 and then short out the battery.

$$0 = V_R + V_C$$
$$V_R = -V_C$$
$$R \frac{dQ}{dt} = -\frac{Q}{C}$$
$$\frac{dQ}{dt} = -\frac{Q}{RC}$$

Solving the exponential equation yields,

$$Q(t) = Q_0 e^{-t/RC}$$

- We can find  $V_C$  using V = Q/C,  $V_C(t) = V_0 e^{-t/RC}$
- Finally we can find the voltage across the resistor using  $V_R = -V_{C_r}$  $V_R(t) = -V_0 e^{-t/RC}$



• Suppose 
$$V_C(t) = V_0 \sin \omega t$$
 instead of DC

$$\Rightarrow$$
 What happens to  $V_C$  and  $I_C$ ?

Q(t) = CV(t)=  $CV_0 \sin \omega t$  $I_C = dQ/dt$ =  $\omega CV_0 \cos \omega t$ =  $\omega CV_0 \sin(\omega t + \pi/2)$ 

 $\Rightarrow$  current in capacitor varies like a sine wave too, but 90° out of phase with voltage.

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• We can write an equation that looks like Ohm's law by defining  $V^*$ :

 $V^* = V_0 \sin(\omega t + \pi/2)$ 

 $\Rightarrow$  the relationship between the voltage and current in *C* looks like:

$$I^* = I_C / \omega C$$

$$= I_C R^*$$

⇒  $1/\omega C$  can be identified as a kind of resistance, <u>capacitive reactance</u>:  $X_C \equiv 1/\omega C$  (Ohms)

$$\square \quad X_C = 0 \text{ for } \omega = \infty$$

- ⇒ high frequencies: a capacitor looks like a short circuit
- ⇒ "bypass capacitor" on power supply "short circuit" ripple (noise) to ground

$$\Box \quad X_C = \infty \text{ for } \omega = 0$$

- ⇒ low frequencies: a capacitor looks like an open circuit (high resistance).
- ⇒ look at AC output of a circuit via a capacitor (use AC coupling on scope)

### Inductance:

- Define inductance by: V = LdI/dt
  - Unit: Henry
  - Symbol:

-m

- Inductors are usually made from a coil of wire
  - tend to be bulky and are hard to fabricate in small sizes ( $\mu$ m), seldom used in chips.
- Two inductors next to each other (transformer) can step up or down a voltage
  - no change in the frequency of the voltage
  - provide isolation from the rest of the circuit

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# 10 Gb/s VCSEL (Laser) Array Driver

• 4-channel test chip (65 nm CMOS)



 Capacitance and inductance on long transmission lines degrade signal



• How much energy is stored in an inductor?

$$dE = VdQ$$

$$I = \frac{dQ}{dt}$$

$$dE = VIdt$$

$$V = L\frac{dI}{dt}$$

$$dE = LIdI$$

$$E = L\int_0^I IdI$$

$$E = \frac{1}{2}LI^2$$

• How much power is dissipated in an inductor?

$$Power = \frac{dE}{dt}$$
$$= \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{LI^2}{2} \right)$$
$$P = LI \frac{dI}{dt}$$

- *dI/dt* must be finite as we can't source (or sink) an infinite amount of power in an inductor!
   THIS WOULD BE UNPHYSICAL.
  - $\Rightarrow$  the *current* across an inductor <u>*cannot*</u> change *instantaneously*.

⇒

• Two inductors in series:



The *total* inductance is *greater* than the individual inductances.

Two inductors in parallel:  $= I_1 \checkmark \downarrow L_1 I_2 \checkmark \downarrow L_2$ Since the inductors are in parallel,  $V_{1} = V_{2} = V$ The total current in the circuit is  $I = I_1 + I_2$  $\frac{dI}{dt} = \frac{dI_1}{dt} + \frac{dI_2}{dt}$  $=\frac{V}{L_1}+\frac{V}{L_2}$ *■ V*  $L_{tot}$  $\frac{1}{1} = \frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{1}$  $L_{tot}$   $L_1$   $\overline{L_2}$  $\stackrel{-tot}{\Rightarrow} \frac{-L_1 + L_2}{\text{If we have more than 2 inductors in parallel, they combine like:}}$   $\frac{1}{L_{tot}} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{1}{L_i}$  $L_{tot} = \frac{L_1 L_2}{r}$ Inductors in parallel add like resistors in parallel. 

The *total* inductance is *less* than the individual inductances.

- Resistors and Inductors
  - Examine voltage and current versus time for a circuit with one *R* and one *L*.
    - Assume that at t < 0 all voltages are zero,  $V_R = V_L = 0$ .
    - At  $t \ge 0$  the switch is closed and the battery  $(V_0)$  is connected.



• Like the capacitor case, apply Kirchhoff's voltage rule:

$$V_0 = V_R + V_L$$

$$= IR + L\frac{dI}{dt}$$

Solving the differential equation, assuming at t = 0, I = 0:

$$I(t) = \frac{V_0}{R} \left( 1 - e^{-tR/L} \right)$$

 $\Rightarrow$  This is just an exponential decay equation with time constant L/R (seconds).

- What's  $V_R(t)$ ?
  - By Ohm's law  $V_R = I_R R$  at any time:  $V_R = I(t)R = V_0(1 - e^{-tR/L})$
  - At t = 0, none of the voltage appears across the resistor,  $V_R(0) = 0$ .

• At 
$$t = \infty$$
,  $V_R(\infty) = V_0$ .

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- What's  $V_L(t)$ ?
  - Easiest way to answer is to use the fact that  $V_0 = V_R + V_L$  is valid for all *t*.

$$V_L = V_0 - V_R$$
$$V_L(t) = V_0 e^{-tR/L}$$

• At t = 0, all the voltage appears across the inductor so  $V_L(0) = V_0$ .



• Suppose  $V_L(t) = V_0 \sin \omega t$  instead of DC, what happens to  $V_L$  and  $I_L$ ?

$$V = L \frac{dI_L}{dt}$$
$$I_L = \frac{1}{L} \int_0^t V dt$$
$$= -\frac{V_0}{\omega L} \cos \omega t$$
$$I_L(t) = \frac{V_0}{\omega L} \sin(\omega t - \pi/2)$$

- $\Rightarrow$  The current in an inductor varies like a sine wave too, but 90<sup>o</sup> out of phase with the voltage.
- We can write an equation that looks like Ohm's law by defining  $V^*$ :

$$V^* = V_0 \sin(\omega t - \pi/2)$$

$$\Rightarrow V^* = I_L \omega L = I_L R^*$$

•  $\omega L$  can be identified as a kind of resistance, <u>inductive reactance</u>:  $X_L \equiv \omega L$  (Ohms)

• 
$$X_L = 0$$
 if  $\omega = 0$ 

⇒ low frequencies: an inductor looks like a short circuit (low resistance).

• 
$$X_L = \infty$$
 if  $\omega = \infty$ 

- $\Rightarrow$  high frequencies: an inductor looks like an open circuit.
- $\Rightarrow$  connect a circuit to power supply via an inductor to filter out ripple (noise).



- Some things to remember about *R*, *L*, and *C*'s.
  - For DC circuits, after many time constants (L/R or RC):
    - $\Rightarrow$  Inductor acts like a wire (0  $\Omega$ ).
    - $\Rightarrow$  Capacitor acts like an open circuit ( $\infty \Omega$ ).
  - For circuits where the voltage changes very rapidly or transient behavior:
    - $\Rightarrow$  Capacitor acts like a wire (0  $\Omega$ ).
    - ⇒ Inductor acts like an open circuit ( $\infty \Omega$ ).
  - Example, RLC circuit with DC supply:
    - At t = 0, voltages on R, C are zero and  $V_L = V_{0.}$
    - At  $t = \infty$ , voltages on *R*, *L* are zero and  $V_C = V_{0.}$





L2: Resistors and Capacitors