

For The Following Pairs Of Sinusoids, Determine Which One Leads And By How Much. $V(t) = 10 \cos(4t - 60^\circ)$

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Understanding phase relationships between sinusoidal signals is fundamental in fields such as electrical engineering, signal processing, and physics. When analyzing two sinusoidal waveforms, determining which one leads or lags the other and quantifying that phase difference is essential for applications including power systems, communication systems, and control systems. In this comprehensive guide, we will explore the methodology for analyzing pairs of sinusoids, focusing on the specific example $V(t) = 10 \cos(4t - 60^\circ)$. We will delve into phase comparison techniques, interpret phase shifts, and provide step-by-step instructions to identify leading signals and measure their phase differences accurately.

Understanding Sinusoidal Waveforms and Phase Relationships

What Is a Sinusoid?

A sinusoid is a mathematical curve that describes a smooth, repetitive oscillation. The general form of a cosine sinusoid is expressed as:

$$V(t) = A \cos(\omega t + \phi)$$

Where:

- A = amplitude (peak value)
- ω = angular frequency (radians per second)
- t = time
- ϕ = phase angle (radians or degrees)

In the context of electrical signals, sinusoidal waveforms are common because alternating current (AC) voltages and currents are sinusoidal by nature.

Phase and Phase Difference

- Phase (ϕ): The initial angle at time $t=0$, indicating the starting point of the wave.
- Phase difference ($\Delta\phi$): The difference in phase between two signals, which determines whether one leads or lags the other.

If two signals are:

$$\begin{aligned} V_1(t) &= A_1 \cos(\omega t + \phi_1) \\ V_2(t) &= A_2 \cos(\omega t + \phi_2) \end{aligned}$$

then, the phase difference is:

$$\Delta\phi = \phi_2 - \phi_1$$

- If $\Delta\phi > 0$, then V_2 leads V_1 .
- If $\Delta\phi < 0$, then V_2 lags V_1 .

Analyzing the Given Sinusoid: $V(t) = 10 \cos(4t - 60^\circ)$

The sinusoid provided is:

$$V(t) = 10 \cos(4t - 60^\circ)$$

Breaking down the parameters:

- Amplitude (A): 10 units
- Angular frequency (ω): 4 radians/second
- Phase angle (ϕ): -60° , or equivalently, $-\pi/3$ radians

This specific waveform serves as a reference or part of a pair for comparison with other sinusoidal signals.

Methodology for Determining Which Sinusoid Leads

To find out which sinusoid leads and by how much, follow these steps:

Step 1: Express Both Sinusoids in the Same Format

Ensure both signals are in the form:

$$V(t) = A \cos(\omega t + \phi)$$

or

$$V(t) = A \sin(\omega t + \phi)$$

Consistency in format helps in phase comparison. Since the provided sinusoid is a cosine, we will compare other signals in cosine form for simplicity.

Step 2: Identify the Phase Angles

Determine the phase angles (ϕ) of both signals. For the given $V(t)$, $\phi = -60^\circ$.

Suppose we have another sinusoid:

$$V_2(t) = B \cos(\omega t + \phi_2)$$

Identify ϕ_2 .

Step 3: Calculate the Phase Difference

Calculate:

$$\Delta \phi = \phi_2 - \phi_1$$

Where $\phi_1 = -60^\circ$. The sign and magnitude of $\Delta \phi$ determine the leading or lagging relationship.

Step 4: Interpret the Phase Difference

- If $(\Delta \phi > 0)$: V_2 leads $V(t)$.
- If $(\Delta \phi < 0)$: V_2 lags $V(t)$.
- The magnitude $(|\Delta \phi|)$ indicates how much ahead or behind V_2 is.

Step 5: Convert Phase Difference to Time Difference (if needed)

The phase difference can be converted into a time difference (Δt) using:

$$\Delta t = \frac{\Delta \phi}{\omega}$$

where $(\Delta \phi)$ is in radians. For degrees, convert to radians:

$$\text{radians} = \text{degrees} \times \frac{\pi}{180}$$

Practical Example: Comparing Two Sinusoids

Suppose we are given a second sinusoid:

$$V_2(t) = 8 \cos(4t + 30^\circ)$$

Compare this with the reference sinusoid:

$$V_1(t) = 10 \cos(4t - 60^\circ)$$

Step-by-step analysis:

1. Identify phase angles:
 - V_1 : $(\phi_1 = -60^\circ)$
 - V_2 : $(\phi_2 = +30^\circ)$
2. Calculate phase difference:

$$\Delta \phi = \phi_2 - \phi_1 = 30^\circ - (-60^\circ) = 90^\circ$$

3. Determine leading or lagging:

- Since $\Delta \phi = +90^\circ$, V_2 leads V_1 by 90° .

4. Convert to radians for time difference:

$$\Delta \phi_{\text{rad}} = 90^\circ \times \frac{\pi}{180} = \frac{\pi}{2} \text{ radians}$$

5. Calculate time difference:

$$\Delta t = \frac{\pi/2}{4} = \frac{\pi}{8} \approx 0.3927 \text{ seconds}$$

Conclusion:

The sinusoid $V_2(t)$ leads $V_1(t)$ by approximately 0.393 seconds, corresponding to a phase lead of 90° .

Additional Considerations and Real-World Applications

Handling Multiple Signal Pairs

When analyzing multiple sinusoid pairs:

- Use phase charts or vector diagrams (phasors) to visualize phase relationships.
- Ensure all signals are referenced to the same angular frequency.
- Be cautious with phase angles outside the typical (-180°) to (180°) range; normalize for clarity.

Applications in Power Systems

- Power factor correction: Understanding phase leads and lags helps optimize power consumption.
- Signal synchronization: Leading or lagging signals affect system stability.
- Communication systems: Timing and phase differences influence data integrity.

Tools and Techniques for Precise Measurement

- Oscilloscopes: Visualize phase relationships directly.
- Phasor analysis: Simplifies sinusoid comparisons via vector representation.
- Mathematical software: Use MATLAB, Python, or similar tools for accurate phase calculations.

Summary of Key Points

- Sinusoidal signals are characterized by amplitude, frequency, and phase.
- The phase difference indicates which signal leads or lags.
- A positive phase difference means the second signal leads the first.
- Convert phase differences from degrees to radians for time calculations.
- Visual tools like phasor diagrams aid in understanding phase relationships.
- Correctly identifying leading signals is crucial in engineering applications such as power systems and communications.

Conclusion

Determining which sinusoid leads and by how much is a fundamental skill in analyzing AC signals and oscillatory systems. By carefully examining phase angles, calculating their differences, and interpreting the results, engineers and scientists can gain valuable insights into the behavior of interconnected systems. The example of $V(t) = 10 \cos(4t - 60^\circ)$ provides a practical framework for approaching such problems, emphasizing the importance of phase analysis in real-world applications. Whether for power system synchronization, signal processing, or communications, mastering phase difference calculations enhances understanding and optimizes system performance.

Remember: Always ensure that the signals you compare are referenced to the same angular frequency and format for accurate phase analysis. Using tools like phasor diagrams and software can greatly facilitate this process.

Frequently Asked Questions

In the pair $V(t) = 10 \cos(4t - 60^\circ)$ and $V(t) = 10 \cos(4t - 30^\circ)$, which sinusoid leads and by how much?

The second sinusoid $V(t) = 10 \cos(4t - 30^\circ)$ leads the first by 30° .

Given the two signals $V(t) = 10 \cos(4t - 60^\circ)$ and $V(t) = 10 \cos(4t - 90^\circ)$, which one leads and what is the phase difference?

$V(t) = 10 \cos(4t - 90^\circ)$ leads $V(t) = 10 \cos(4t - 60^\circ)$ by 30° .

For the sinusoid $V(t) = 10 \cos(4t - 60^\circ)$, how would you determine if it leads or lags another sinusoid with a different phase angle?

Compare the phase angles; the sinusoid with the smaller phase angle leads. The lead is the difference in degrees between the phase angles.

If $V_1(t) = 10 \cos(4t - 60^\circ)$ and $V_2(t) = 10 \cos(4t - 45^\circ)$, which signal leads and by how many degrees?

$V_2(t) = 10 \cos(4t - 45^\circ)$ leads $V_1(t) = 10 \cos(4t - 60^\circ)$ by 15° .

How do you calculate the phase difference when comparing two sinusoids like $V(t) = 10 \cos(4t - 60^\circ)$ and another with a different phase?

Subtract the phase angles of the two signals: the difference indicates which one leads and by how much in degrees.

What is the significance of the phase shift in sinusoidal signals like $V(t) = 10 \cos(4t - 60^\circ)$?

The phase shift determines the time delay or lead between signals; a larger phase shift indicates a greater lead or lag relative to another sinusoid.

Additional Resources

For The Following Pairs Of Sinusoids, Determine Which One Leads And By How Much

Understanding phase relationships between sinusoidal signals is fundamental in fields such as electrical engineering, signal processing, and physics. The problem of determining which sinusoid leads or lags, and by how much, is a

core skill that enables engineers to analyze power systems, communication signals, and oscillatory phenomena effectively. In this comprehensive review, we will explore the methods for analyzing phase differences between pairs of sinusoids, focusing specifically on the example of the given signal $V(t) = 10 \cos(4t - 60^\circ)$. We will discuss the principles involved, the mathematical tools used, and illustrate the process with detailed examples, including the specific case at hand.

Understanding Sinusoidal Signals and Their Phases

Before delving into phase comparison, it is essential to understand the basic form of sinusoidal signals and what their parameters represent.

Basic Form of a Sinusoid

A general sinusoidal signal can be expressed as:

$$V(t) = A \cos(\omega t + \phi)$$

where:

- A is the amplitude,
- ω is the angular frequency ($\omega = 2\pi f$),
- ϕ is the phase angle (in degrees or radians).

In the given signal $V(t) = 10 \cos(4t - 60^\circ)$:

- $A = 10$,
- $\omega = 4$ rad/sec,
- $\phi = -60^\circ$.

The phase angle ϕ indicates where the sinusoid starts relative to a reference point at $t=0$. A positive phase shifts the wave to the left (leading), and a negative phase shifts it to the right (lagging).

Significance of Phase Difference

When comparing two sinusoids of the same frequency, the phase difference determines which one leads or lags:

- If one sinusoid's phase angle is larger (more positive), it is ahead (leads) the other.
- If the phase angle is smaller (more negative), it lags behind.

The actual lead or lag can be quantified as the difference in phase angles, typically expressed in degrees or radians.

Methodology for Determining Which Sinusoid Leads

To determine which sinusoid leads, follow these steps:

1. Express both signals with the same form (cosine or sine, with appropriate phase angles).
2. Identify the phase angles of both signals.
3. Calculate the phase difference: $\Delta \phi = \phi_2 - \phi_1$.
4. Interpret the phase difference:
 - If $\Delta \phi > 0$, the second signal leads.
 - If $\Delta \phi < 0$, the first signal leads.
 - The magnitude of $\Delta \phi$ indicates "by how much" the lead occurs.

Analyzing the Given Signal $V(t) = 10 \cos(4t - 60^\circ)$

Let's examine the specific case and understand its phase characteristics.

Parameter Identification

Given:

- Amplitude $A = 10$,
- Angular frequency $\omega = 4$ rad/sec,
- Phase angle $\phi = -60^\circ$.

This signal can be viewed as a reference or part of a pair where we compare it with another sinusoid of the same frequency.

Interpreting the Phase Angle

Since the phase angle is negative, this sinusoid lags behind a cosine wave with zero phase (which would be $10 \cos(4t)$). For comparison, consider the standard cosine wave $\cos(4t)$ with phase 0° , which is the "reference" wave.

Determining Lead or Lag in Practice: Step-by-Step Approach

Suppose we are asked to compare $V(t) = 10 \cos(4t - 60^\circ)$ with another sinusoid of the same frequency, say:

$$V_2(t) = A_2 \cos(4t + \phi_2)$$

where A_2 and ϕ_2 are known or given.

Case 1: Comparing with a Cosine of Zero Phase

Wave 1: $V_1(t) = 10 \cos(4t - 60^\circ)$

- Phase: (-60°)

Wave 2: $V_2(t) = 10 \cos(4t)$

- Phase: (0°)

Phase difference:

$$\Delta \phi = \phi_2 - \phi_1 = 0^\circ - (-60^\circ) = +60^\circ$$

Interpretation:

- Since $\Delta \phi = +60^\circ$, the second wave (the reference with phase 0°) leads the first wave by 60° .
- Equivalently, the first wave lags behind the second wave by 60° .

How much is 60° in time?

Given $\omega = 4$ rad/sec,

$$\text{Period } T = \frac{2\pi}{\omega} = \frac{2\pi}{4} = \frac{\pi}{2} \approx 1.57 \text{ seconds}$$

Convert phase difference to time delay:

$$\Delta t = \frac{\Delta \phi}{\omega}$$

$$\Delta t = \frac{\Delta \phi}{\omega} = \frac{60^\circ \times \frac{\pi}{180}}{4} = \frac{\pi/3}{4} = \frac{\pi}{12} \text{ seconds} \approx 0.262 \text{ seconds}$$

Thus, the first sinusoid lags behind the second by approximately 0.262 seconds.

General Approach for Comparing Arbitrary Sinusoids

When the second sinusoid has different amplitude and phase:

$$V_2(t) = A_2 \cos(4t + \phi_2)$$

the process remains similar.

Steps:

1. Convert both to cosine form with explicit phase angles.
2. Express both signals in terms of a common reference frame.
3. Calculate phase difference:

$$\Delta \phi = \phi_2 - \phi_1$$

4. Determine leading/lagging:

- If $(\Delta \phi > 0)$, $V_2(t)$ leads.
- If $(\Delta \phi < 0)$, $V_1(t)$ leads.

5. Convert phase difference to time delay:

$$\Delta t = \frac{\Delta \phi \times \pi/180}{\omega}$$

Features and Pros/Cons of the Phase Difference Method

Features:

- Simple and straightforward for signals of the same frequency.
- Provides both qualitative (lead/lag) and quantitative (degrees, seconds) information.
- Essential in power systems, RF communication, and oscillatory systems.

Pros:

- Easy to compute using basic algebra.
- Does not require time-domain waveform analysis if phase angles are known.
- Applicable for steady-state sinusoidal signals.

Cons:

- Assumes signals are of the same frequency; otherwise, the phase difference varies with time.
- Requires accurate phase angle measurement, which can be challenging in noisy systems.
- Not directly applicable if signals are not sinusoidal or have different frequencies.

Summary and Practical Implications

In conclusion, determining which sinusoid leads or lags involves understanding their phase angles and calculating the phase difference. For the specific case of $V(t) = 10 \cos(4t - 60^\circ)$, comparing it to a reference sinusoid $\cos(4t)$:

- The phase difference is $+60^\circ$,
- The reference wave leads $V(t)$ by 60° ,
- Corresponding time delay is approximately 0.262 seconds.

This analysis is crucial in applications like power factor correction, signal synchronization, and control systems. Recognizing the phase relationships allows engineers to adjust systems for optimal performance, minimize power loss, or achieve desired signal timing.

In more complex scenarios involving multiple signals, Fourier analysis and phasor diagrams can be employed for a comprehensive phase analysis. Nonetheless, the fundamental approach remains rooted in identifying phase angles, calculating differences, and interpreting their significance.

Final Remarks

The key to mastering phase analysis lies in fluency with phasor representation, conversion between degrees and radians, and understanding the physical meaning behind phase differences. As you work with sinusoidal signals, always consider the context—whether signals are steady-state, transient, or involve multiple frequencies—to choose the appropriate method for phase comparison. With practice, determining which sinusoid leads and quantifying the lead becomes an intuitive process, essential for effective analysis and system design.

Note: If you have specific pairs of sinusoids you want to analyze, ensure to identify their amplitudes and phase angles clearly, convert them into a consistent form, and apply the principles

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