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# **Thevenin Equivalents with Phasors**

## **EE 206 Circuits I**

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Please visit [Bison Academy](#) for corresponding  
lecture notes, homework sets, and solutions

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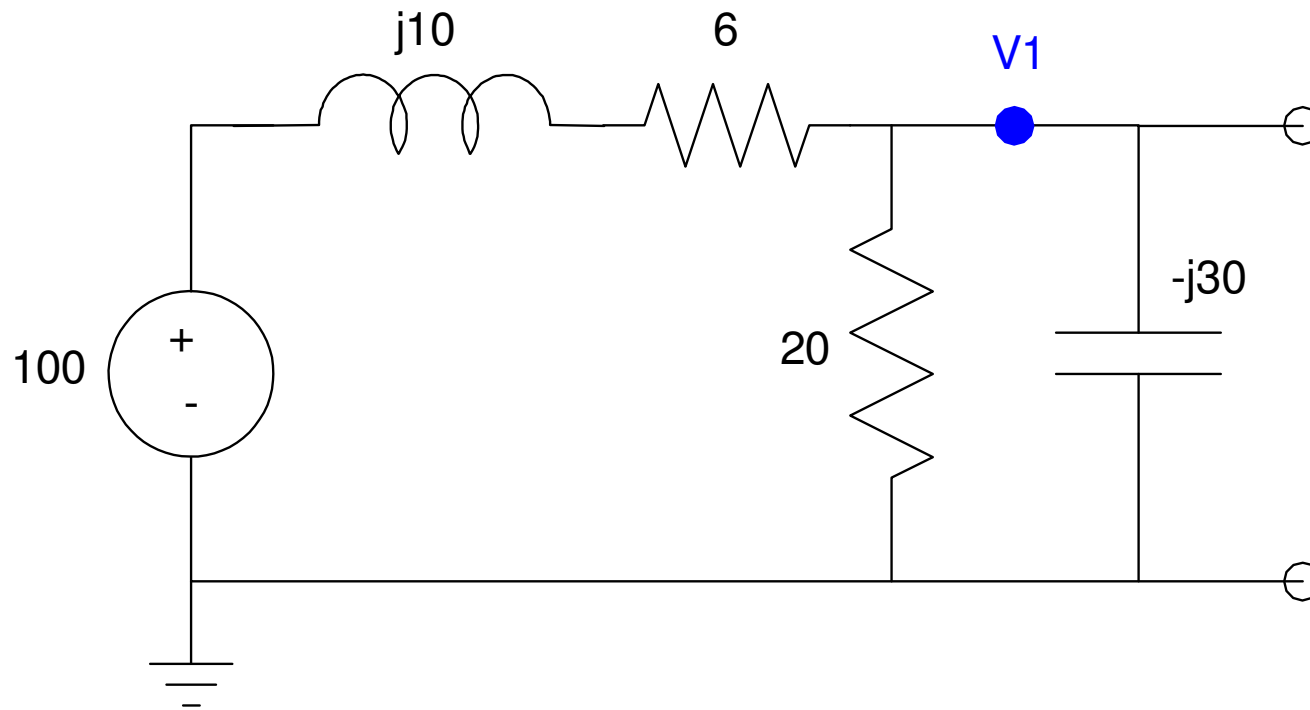
Thevenin equivalents also work with phasors - only you get complex numbers for the Thevenin voltage and Thevenin resistance.

	VI relationship	Phasor Notation
Voltage	$v(t) = a \cos(\omega t) + b \sin(\omega t)$	$V = a - jb$
Resistor	$v = iR$	$Z_R = R$
Inductor	$v = L \frac{di}{dt}$	$Z_L = j\omega L$
Capacitor	$i = C \frac{dv}{dt}$	$Z_C = \frac{1}{j\omega C}$

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## Example 1: Determine

- The Thevenin equivalent for the following circuit,
- $Z_L$  for max power transfer, and
- The maximum power to a load



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Solution: Combine the 20 Ohms and -j30 Ohms in parallel:

$$20 \parallel -j30 = (13.846 - j9.231)\Omega$$

The Thevenin voltage by voltage division is

$$V_{th} = \left( \frac{(13.846 - j9.231)}{(13.846 - j9.231) + (6 + j10)} \right) 100 = 67.836 - j49.142$$

The Thevenin resistance is (turn off the voltage source and measure the resistance looking in:

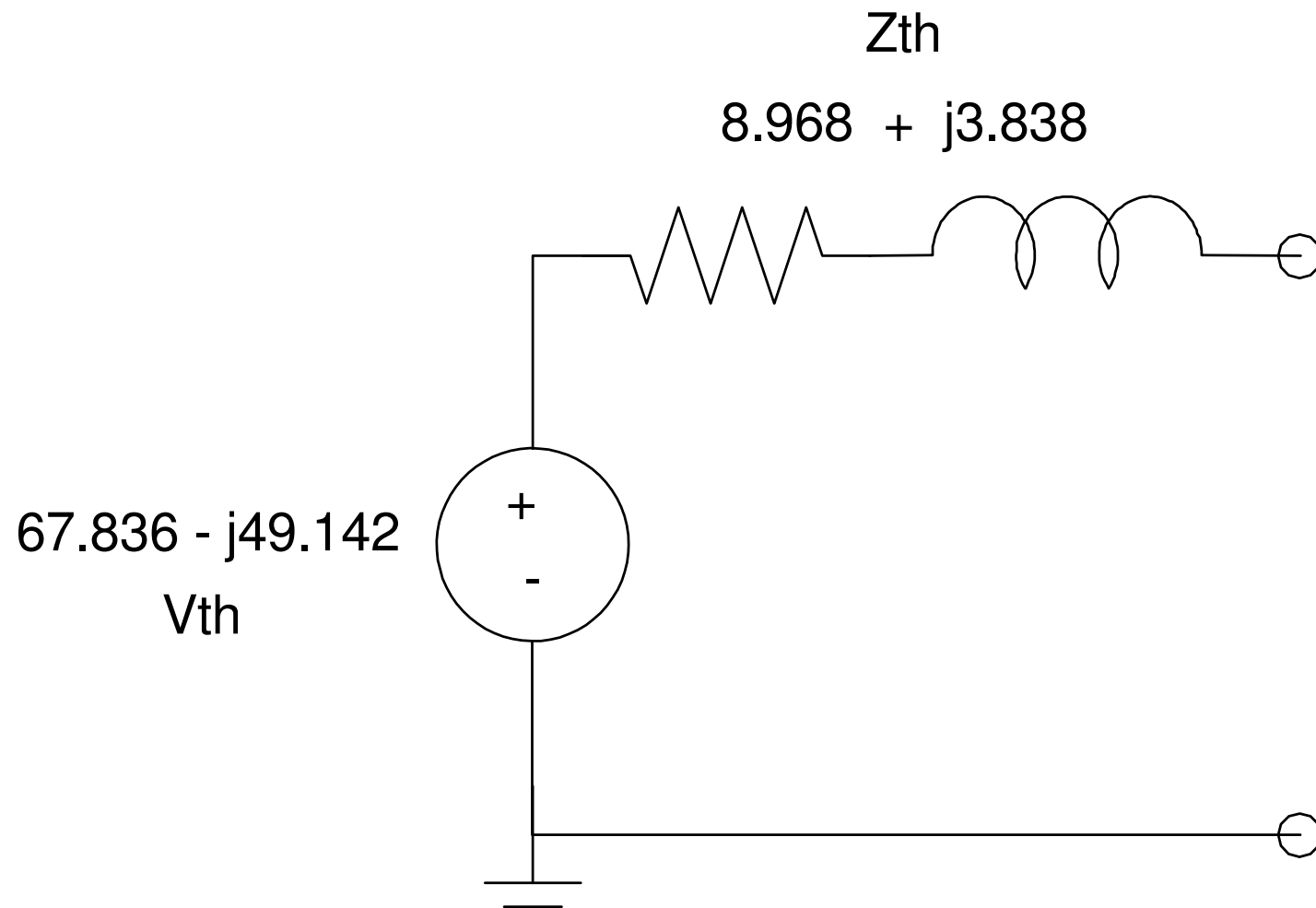
$$Z_{th} = (-j30) \parallel (20) \parallel (6 + j10)$$

$$Z_{th} = 8.968 + j3.838$$

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So the Thevenin equivalent is



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## AC Power

At DC, power is

$$P = VI = \frac{V^2}{R} = I^2 R$$

For AC

rms units

$$\begin{aligned} P &= V_{rms} \cdot I_{rms}^* \\ &= |I_{rms}|^2 \cdot Z \\ &= \frac{|V_{rms}|^2}{Z^*} \end{aligned}$$

peak units

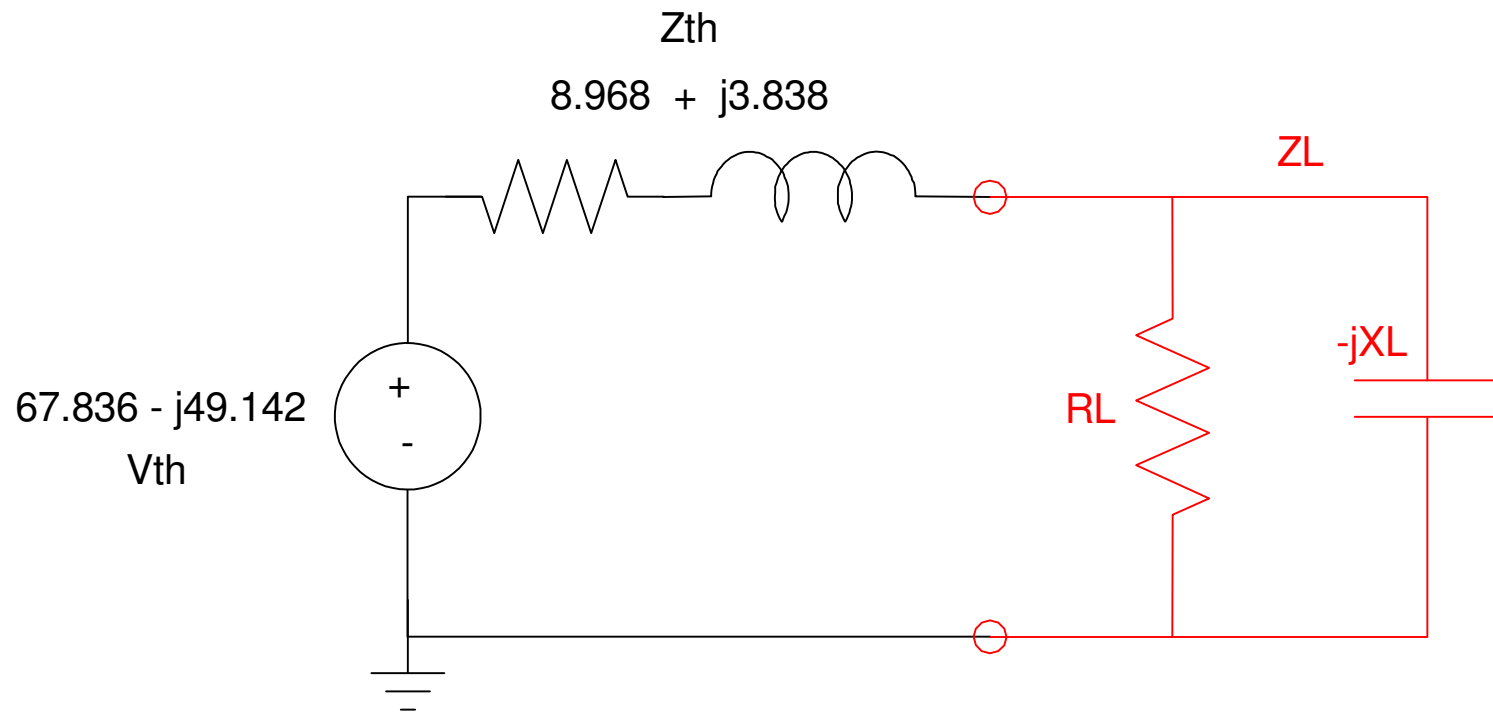
$$\begin{aligned} P &= \frac{1}{2} V_p I_p^* \\ &= \frac{1}{2} |I_p|^2 Z \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \frac{|V_p|^2}{Z^*} \end{aligned}$$

- The real part of P is the work done (or heat produced),
  - The complex part of P is the energy that bounces back and forth.
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# Maximum Power to the Load

Maximum power to the load is when the load is the complex conjugate of  $Z_{th}$ :

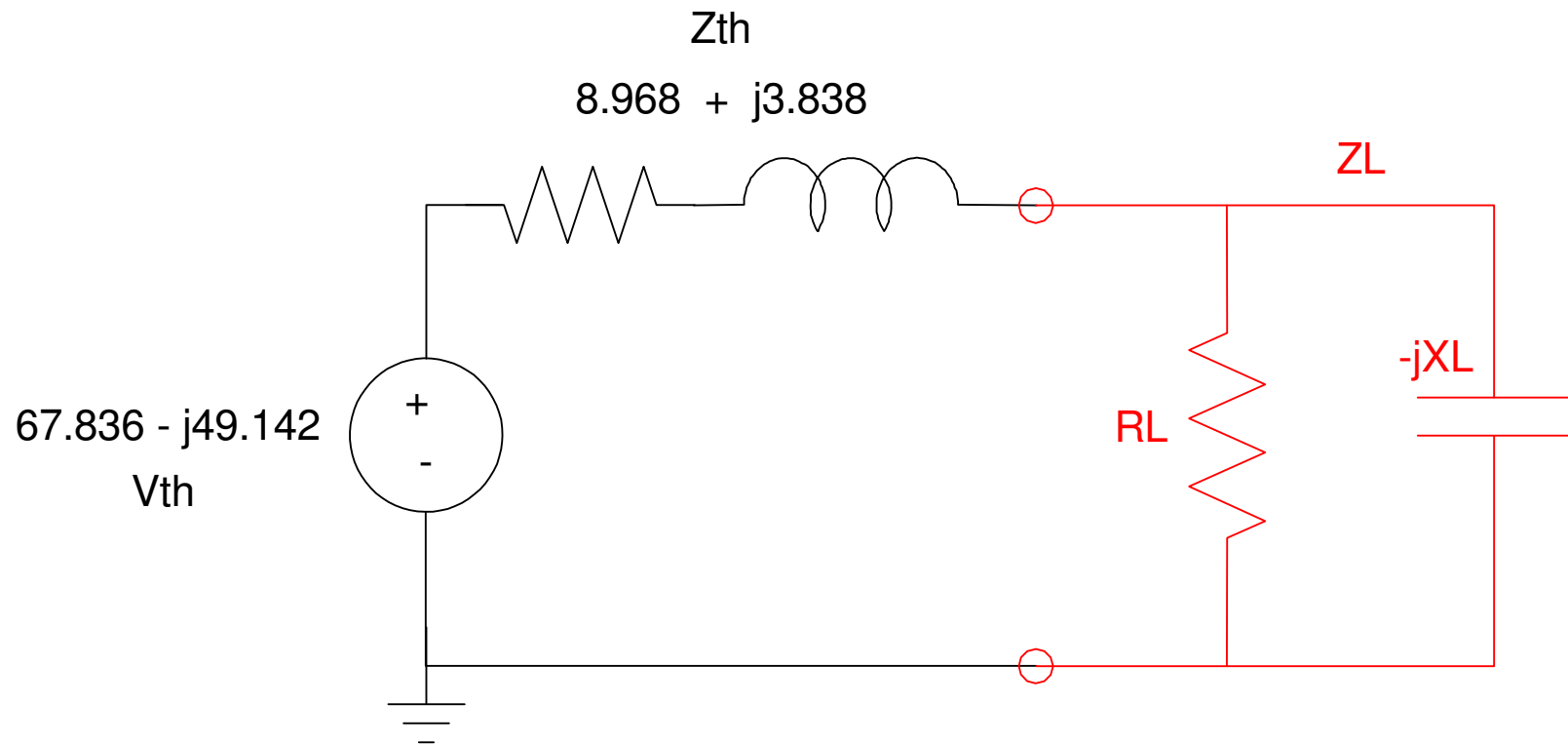
$$Z_L = Z_{th}^*$$



## Example:

Determine

- The load,  $Z_L$ , which maximizes the power to the load, and
- The power to the load (real and complex power)





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Solution: The load should be the complex conjugate of  $Z_{th}$

$$Z_L = (8.968 + j3.838)^*$$

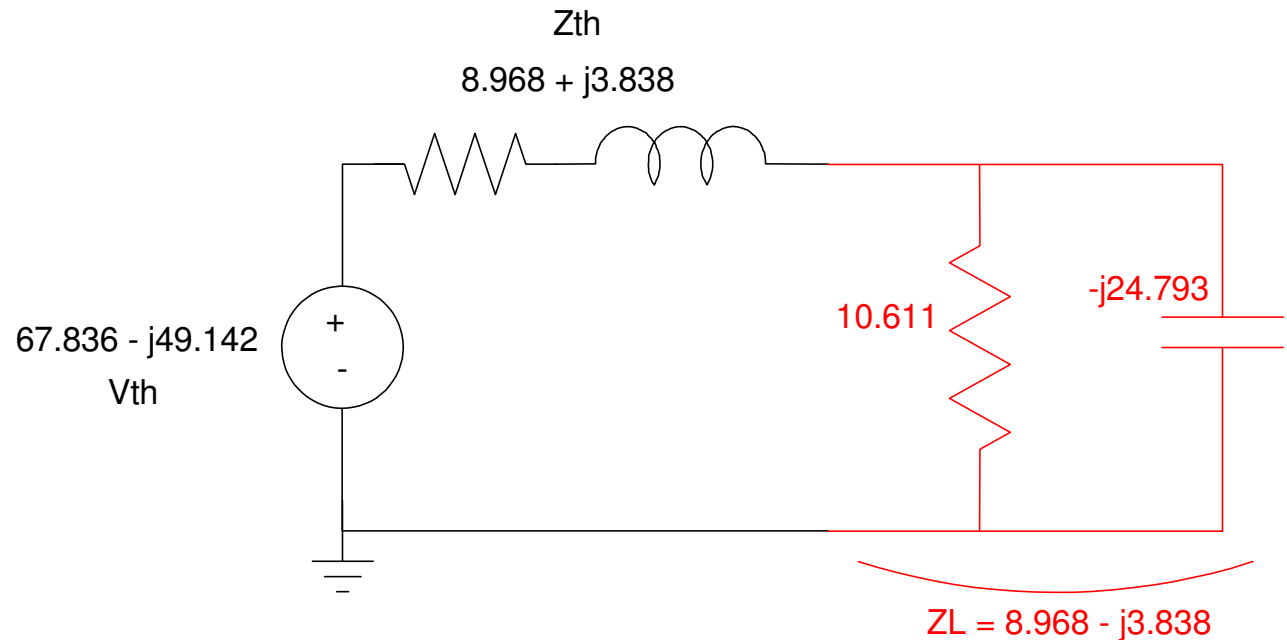
$$Z_L = 8.968 - j3.838$$

To find  $R_L$  and  $jX_L$ , add the inverses (since they are in parallel):

$$\frac{1}{Z_L} = \frac{1}{R_L} + \frac{1}{-jX_L}$$

$$R_L = 10.611\Omega$$

$$-jX_L = -j24.793\Omega$$



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The power to the load is then

$$V_L = \left( \frac{(8.968 - j3.838)}{(8.969 - j3.838) + (8.968 + j3.838)} \right) \cdot (67.836 - j49.142)$$
$$V_L = 23.402 - j39.087$$

Assuming units are rms:

$$P = \frac{|V_{rms}|^2}{Z^*} = \frac{|23.402 - j39.087|}{(8.969 - j3.838)^*}$$
$$= \frac{(45.557)^2}{8.969 + j3.838}$$
$$= 4.293 - j1.837 \quad \text{Watts}$$

The real part is the power to the load (driving a motor, heating a resistor)

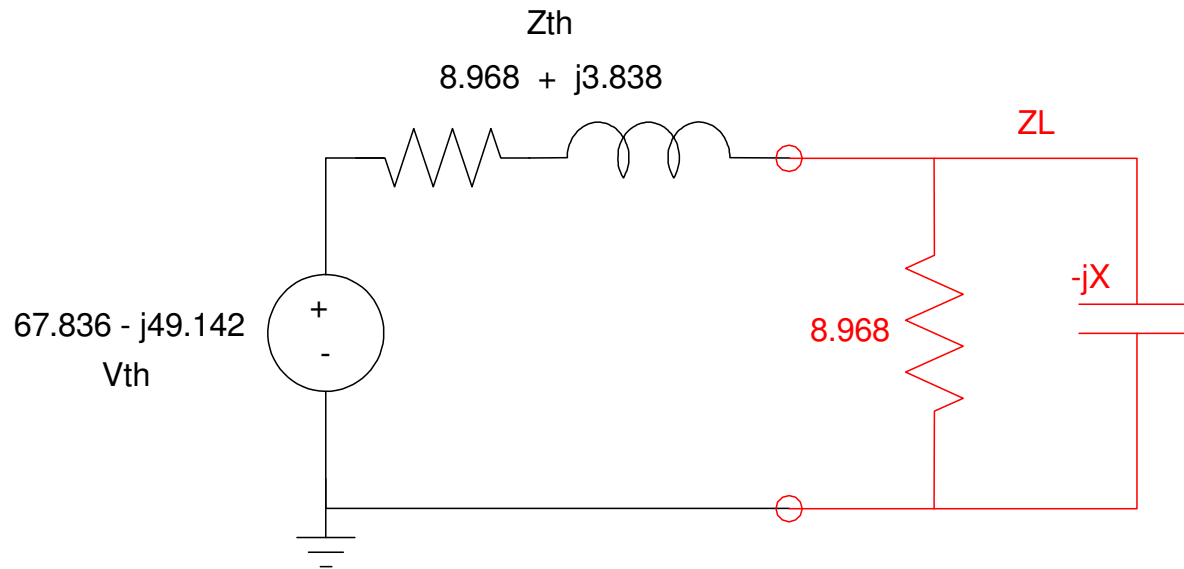
The complex part is power that bounces back and forth

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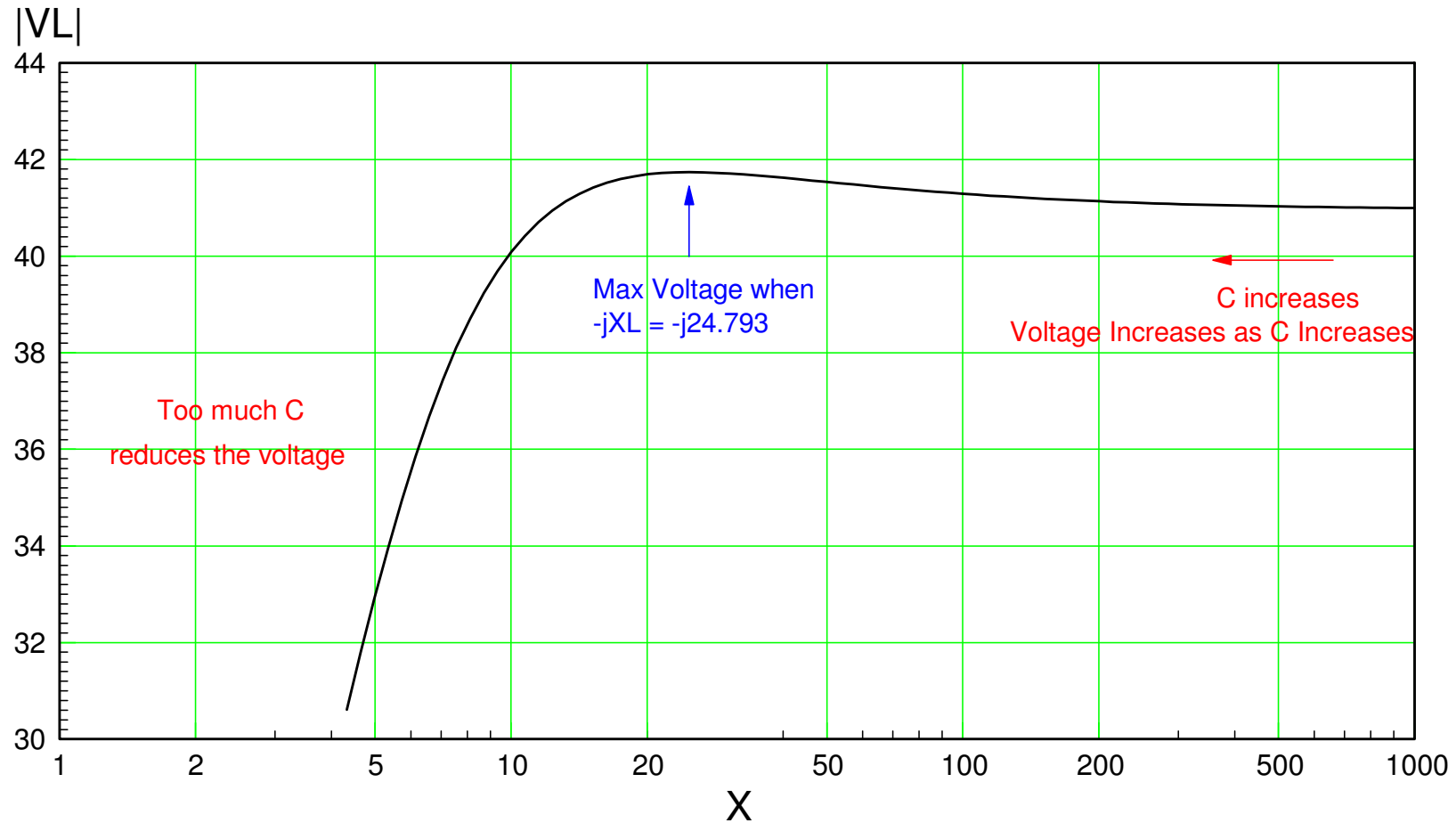
# "Capacitors add Voltage"

If  $Z_{th}$  is inductive, then adding capacitors to the load,

- Cancels the complex part of  $Z_{th}$ , which
- Reduces the overall impedance, which
- Increases the current to the load, which
- Increases the voltage at the load.

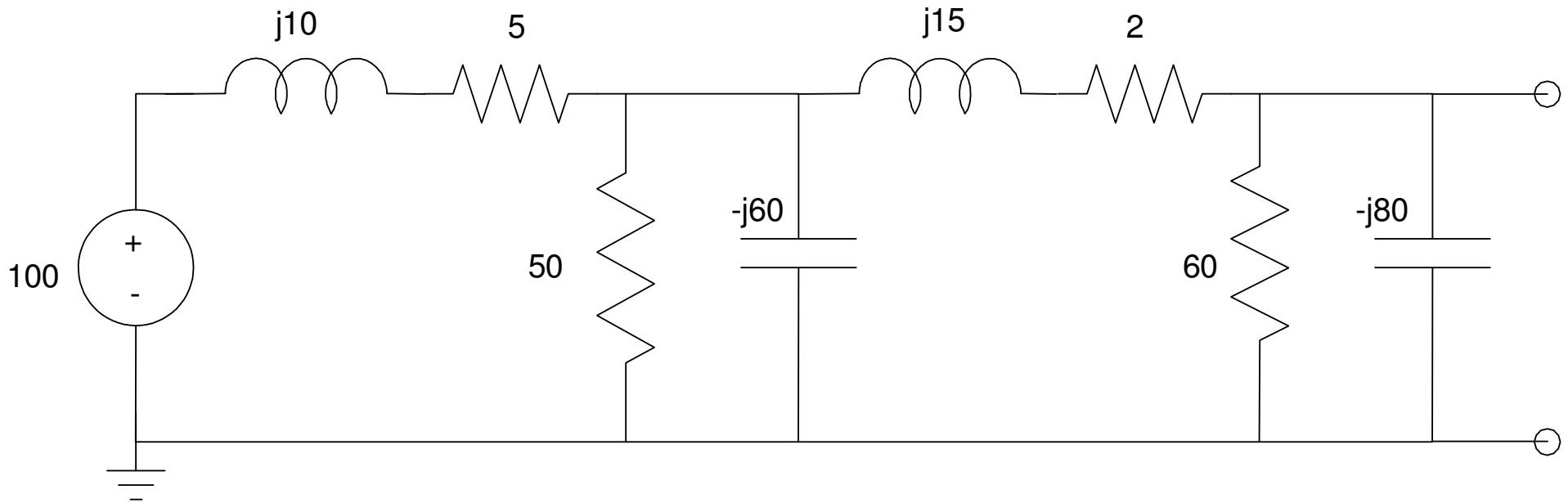


This only works up to a point: once you have cancelled all of the inductance ( $+jX$ ), adding more capacitors will actually reduce the voltage.



## Example 3: Source Transformations

Source transformations also work with complex numbers. For example, determine the Thevenin equivalent for the following circuit:

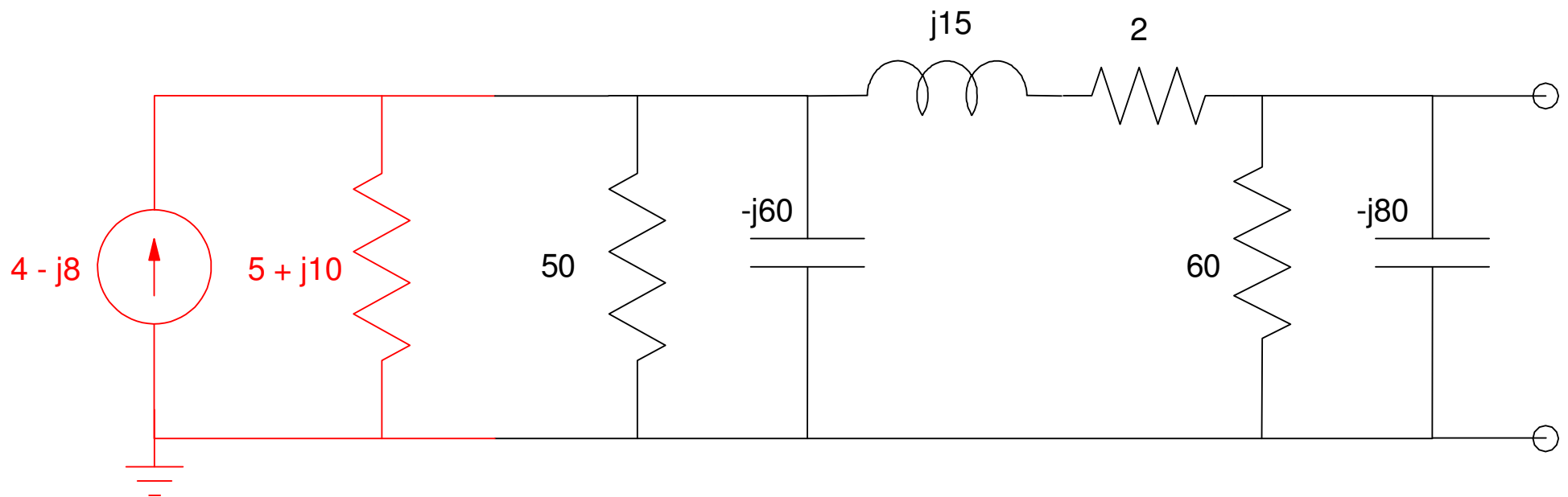


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Step 1: Convert to a Norton equivalent

$$Z_N = Z_{th} = 5 + j10$$

$$I_N = \frac{V_{th}}{Z_{th}} = 4 - j8$$



Combine impedances in parallel

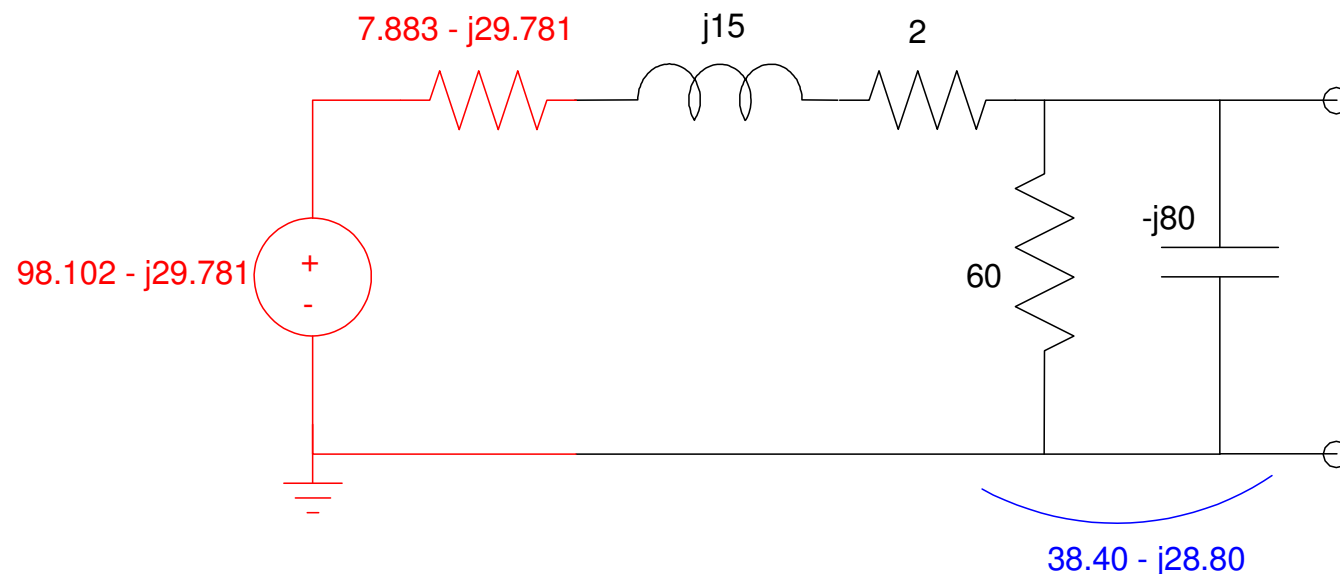
$$(5 + j10) \parallel (50) \parallel (-j60) = 7.883 + j8.321$$

Convert to Thevenin

$$Z_{th} = Z_N = 7.883 + j8.321$$

$$V_{th} = I_N \cdot Z_N = (4 - j8) \cdot (7.883 + j8.321)$$

$$V_{th} = 98.102 - j29.781$$



Now find the Thevenin equivalent.

By voltage division:

$$V_{th} = \left( \frac{(38.40 - j28.80)}{(38.40 - j28.80) + (7.883 - j29.781) + (2 + j15)} \right) (98.102 - j29.781)$$

$$V_{th} = 68.701 - j74.405$$

Zth: Turn off the source and measure the impedance

$$Z_{th} = ((7.83 - j29.781) + (2 + j15)) || (60) || (-j80)$$

$$Z_{th} = 20.077 + j14.931$$

