
Complex Numbers

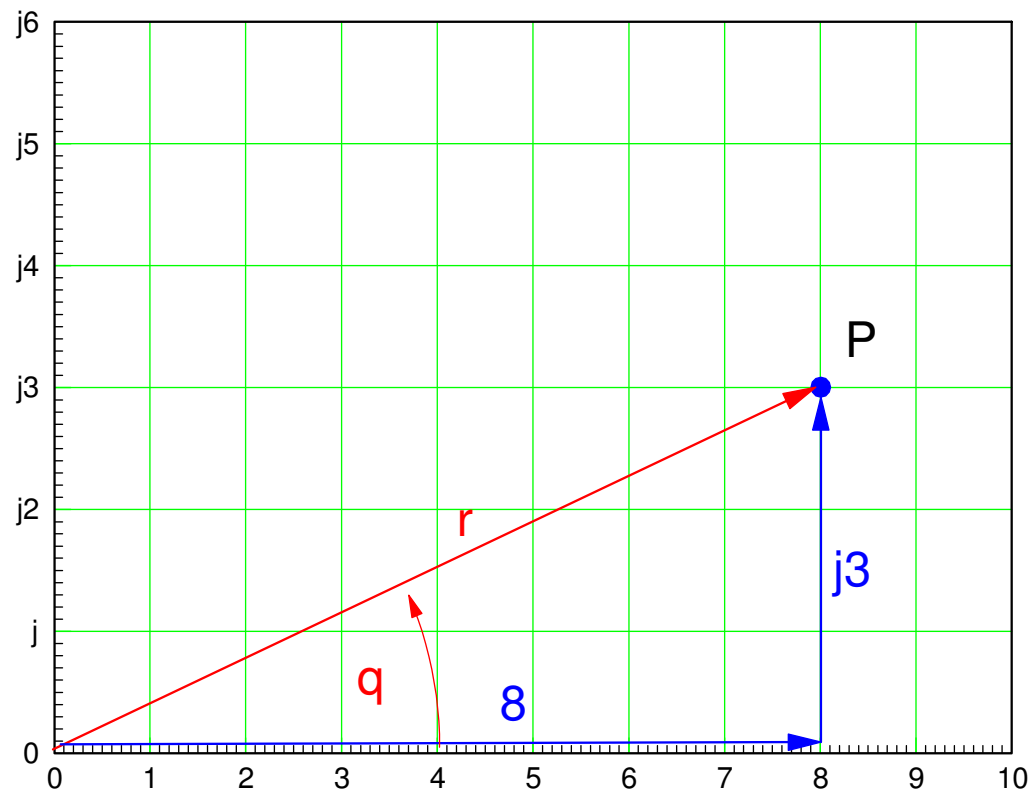
ECE 211 Circuits I

Lecture #21

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

Objective:

- Become familiar with using complex numbers for addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division



The number Zero:

- Zero is an odd concept: something that represents nothing
- Zero isn't needed: the Romans had an extensive economy without the number zero.
- Without zero, addition becomes difficult.
- Without zero, multiplication becomes difficult

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{MXXIII} \\ + \quad \text{CVI} \\ = \quad \quad ? \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{MXXIII} \\ * \quad \text{CVI} \\ = \quad \quad ? \end{array}$$

Negative Numbers:

- Negative numbers are even more strange
- Their invention allowed Holland to become a world power

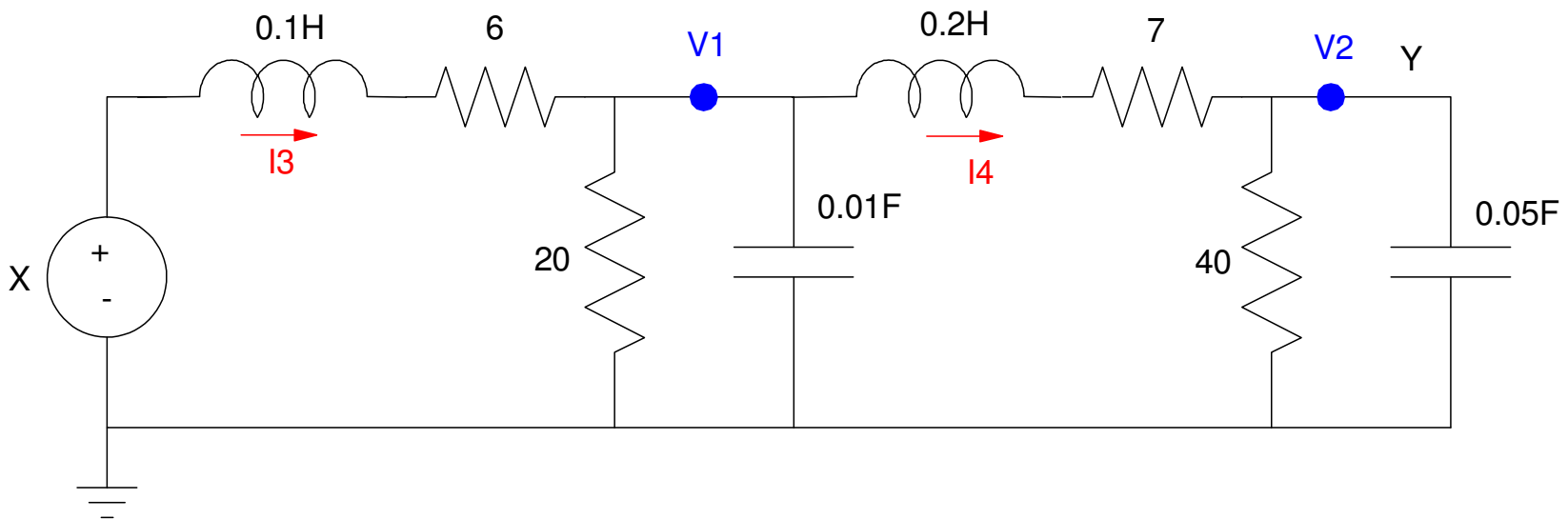
By keep tracking of credits (+) and debits (-), the double-entry book-keeping system allowed Dutch merchants to understand what ventures were profitable and which were not.



Complex Numbers

To solve differential equations (i.e. circuits) with sinusoidal inputs

- Solve $2N$ equations for $2N$ unknowns
 - Using $\sin()$ and $\cosine()$ functions
- Solve N equations for N unknowns
 - Using complex numbers

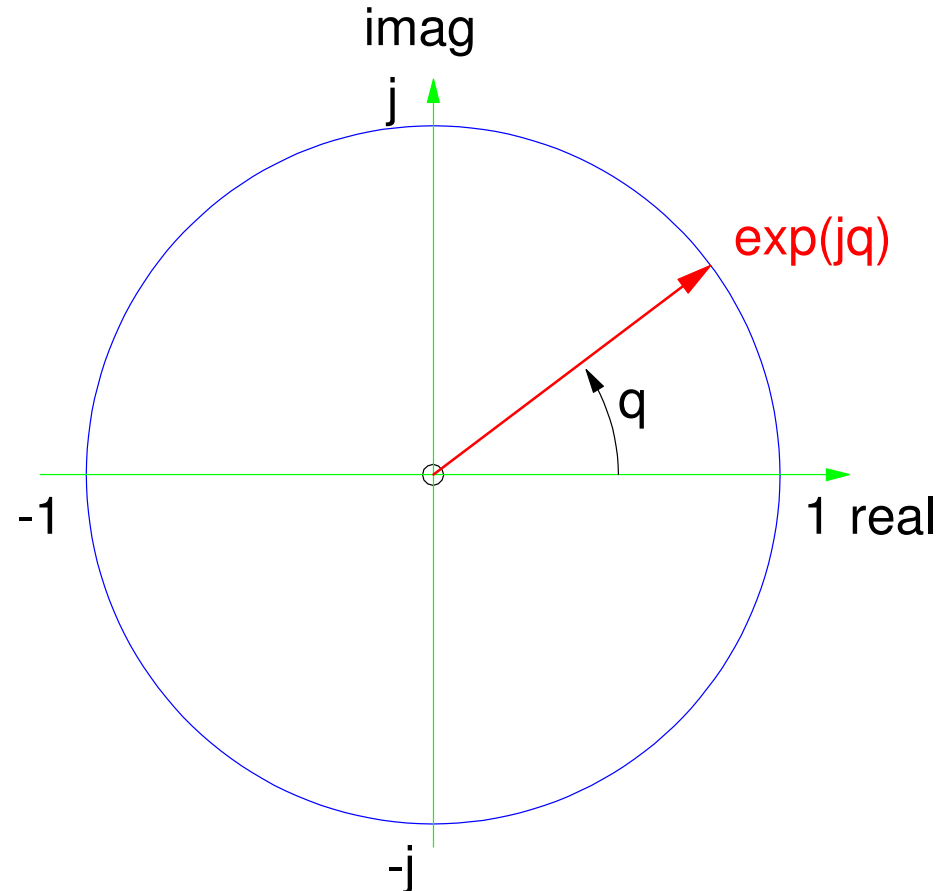


Definition of Complex Numbers

Two basic definitions for complex numbers are

$$j^2 = -1$$

$$e^{j\theta} = \cos(\theta) + j \sin(\theta)$$



Polar and Rectangular Form:

A complex number can be represented in rectangular or polar form

$$x + jy \quad r \cdot e^{j\theta} = r \angle \theta$$

The relationship is

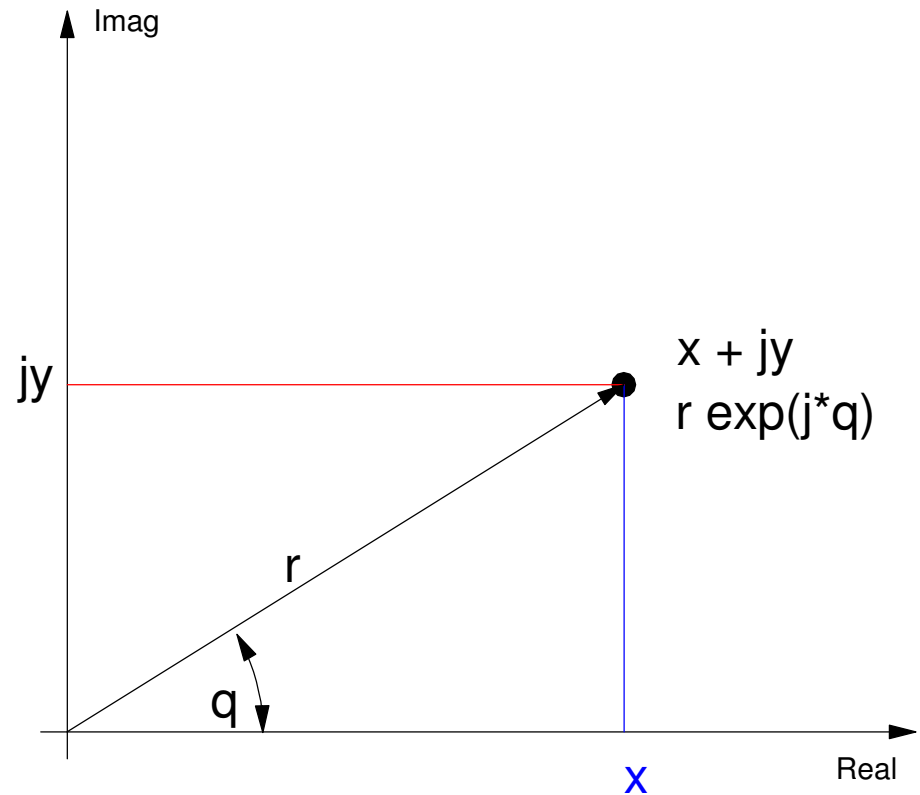
$$r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$$

$$\tan(\theta) = \frac{y}{x}$$

or

$$x = r \cdot \cos(\theta)$$

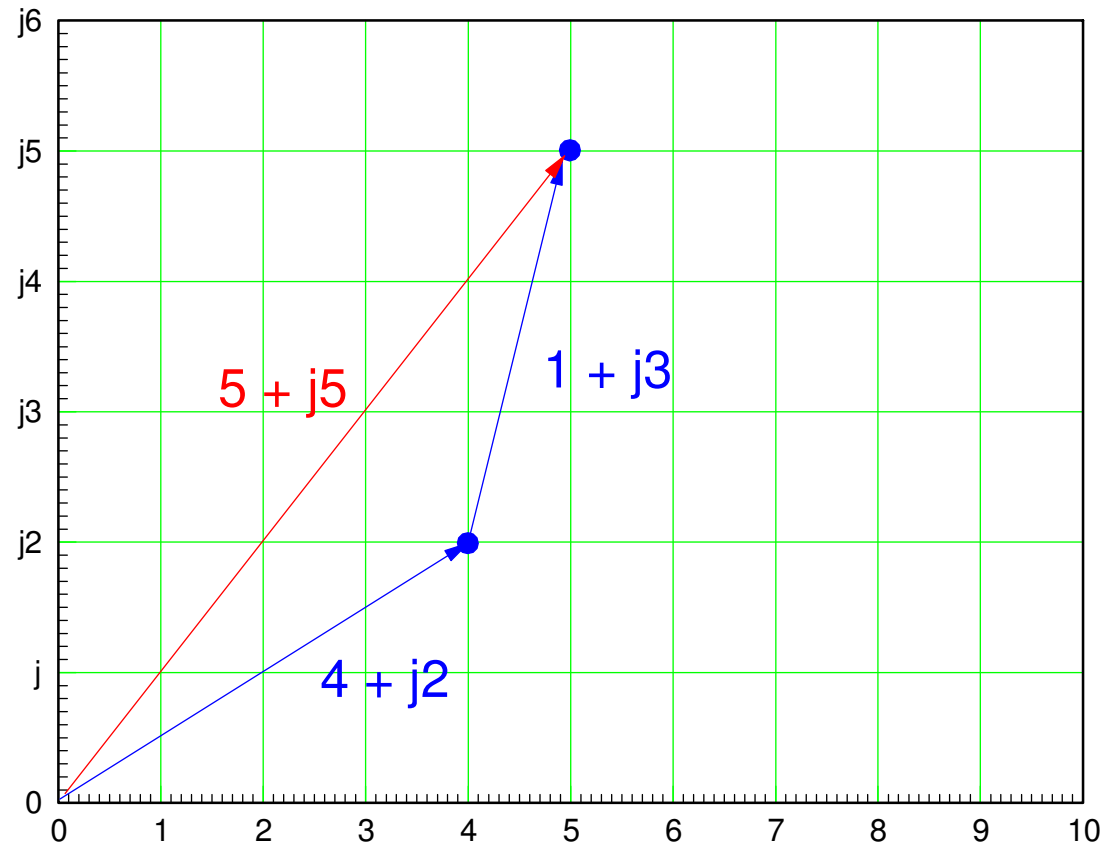
$$y = r \cdot \sin(\theta)$$



Addition

Add real to real, complex
to complex

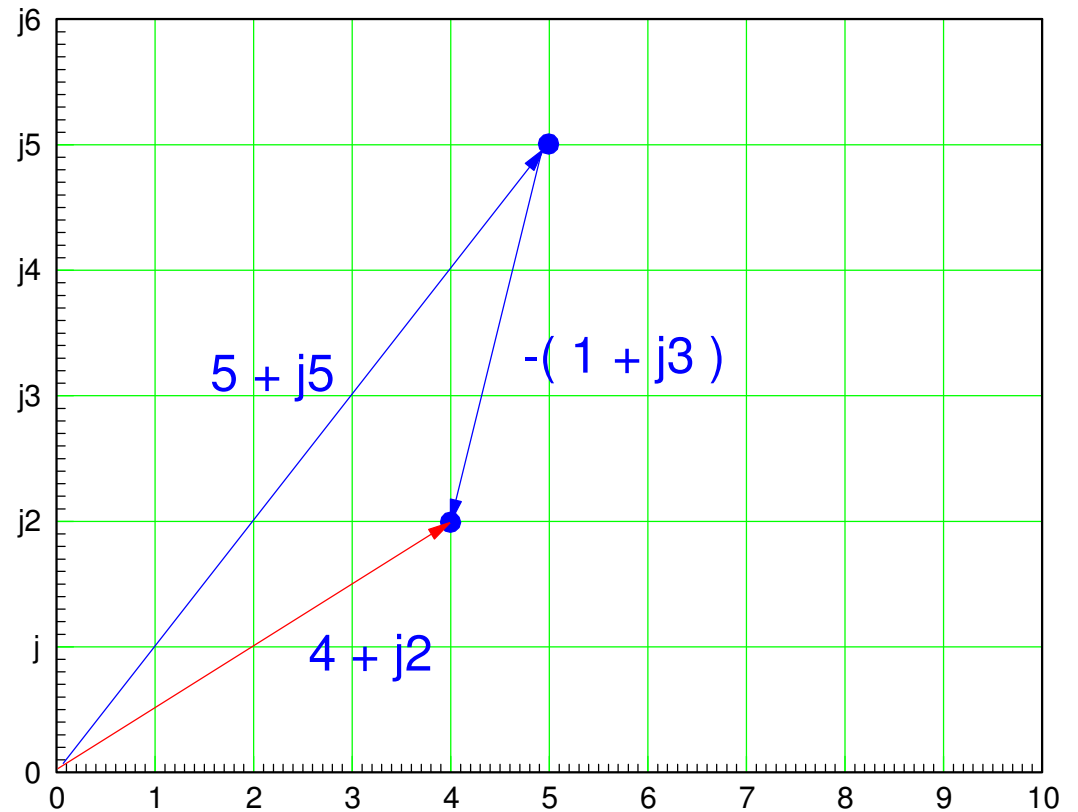
$$\begin{array}{r} 4 + j2 \\ + 1 + j3 \\ = 5 + j5 \end{array}$$



Subtraction:

Subtract real from real, complex from complex

$$\begin{array}{r} 5 + j5 \\ - 1 + j3 \\ \hline = 4 + j2 \end{array}$$



Multiplication

Rectangular Form:

$$\begin{aligned}(2 + j3)(4 + j5) &= (2 \cdot 4) + (2 \cdot j5) + (j3 \cdot 4) + (j3 \cdot j5) \\ &= (8) + (j10) + (j12) + (j^2 15)\end{aligned}$$

Note that $j^2 = -1$:

$$\begin{aligned}&= (8 - 15) + j(10 + 12) \\ &= -7 + j22\end{aligned}$$

Multiplication is easier in polar form:

$$\begin{aligned}(a \angle \theta)(b \angle \phi) &= ab \angle (\theta + \phi) \\ (a \cdot e^{j\theta})(b \cdot e^{j\phi}) &= ab \cdot e^{j(\theta + \phi)}\end{aligned}$$

Complex Conjugates:

The complex conjugate (symbol $*$) is

$$(x + jy)^* = x - jy$$

A number multiplied by its complex conjugate is

- The real squared, plus
- The imaginary squared

$$\begin{aligned}(x + jy)(x - jy) &= (x^2 + jxy - jxy - j^2y) \\ &= x^2 + y^2\end{aligned}$$

Division

Polar Form

$$\left(\frac{a \angle \theta}{b \angle \phi} \right) = \left(\frac{a}{b} \right) \angle (\theta - \phi)$$

Rectangular Form

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{a+jb}{c+jd} \right) &= \left(\frac{a+jb}{c+jd} \right) \left(\frac{c-jd}{c-jd} \right) \\ &= \left(\frac{ac-bd+jbc-jad}{c^2+d^2} \right) \\ &= \left(\frac{ac-bd}{c^2+d^2} \right) + j \left(\frac{bc-ad}{c^2+d^2} \right) \end{aligned}$$

HP Calculators

I *strongly* recommend getting an HP calculator

- HP35s: \$52 on Amazon
- Free42: free app for the HP42 (great calculator)

You will be using complex numbers extensively in Electrical and Computer engineering.

Get a calculator that does complex numbers

I've found that HP calculators are worth about 10 points on midterms (they breeze through complex math)

