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# 19. LC and RLC oscillators. Electric vs magnetic energy

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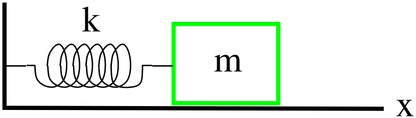
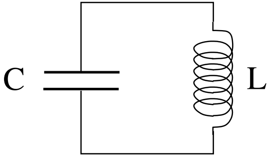
# Mechanical Oscillator

- law of motion: $F = ma, \quad a = \dfrac{d^2x}{dt^2}$
- law of force: $F = -kx$
- equation of motion: $\dfrac{d^2x}{dt^2} = -\dfrac{k}{m}x$
- displacement: $x(t) = x_{max}\cos(\omega t)$
- velocity: $v(t) = -\omega x_{max}\sin(\omega t)$
- angular frequency: $\omega = \sqrt{\dfrac{k}{m}}$
- kinetic energy: $K = \dfrac{1}{2}mv^2$
- potential energy: $U = \dfrac{1}{2}kx^2$
- total energy: $E = K + U = \text{const.}$



# Electromagnetic Oscillator ( LC Circuit)

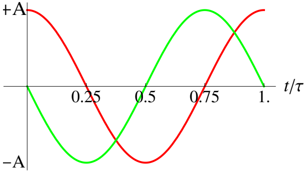
- loop rule: $\dfrac{Q}{C} + L\dfrac{dI}{dt} = 0,\ I = \dfrac{dQ}{dt}$
- equation of motion: $\dfrac{d^2Q}{dt^2} = -\dfrac{1}{LC}Q$
- charge on capacitor: $Q(t) = Q_{max}\cos(\omega t)$
- current through inductor: $I(t) = -\omega Q_{max}\sin(\omega t)$
- angular frequency: $\omega = \dfrac{1}{\sqrt{LC}}$
- magnetic energy: $U_B = \dfrac{1}{2}LI^2$ (stored on inductor)
- electric energy: $U_E = \dfrac{Q^2}{2C}$ (stored on capacitor)
- total energy: $E = U_B + U_E = \text{const.}$



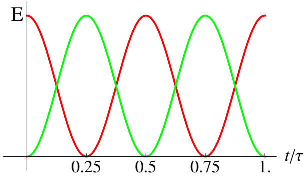
# Mechanical vs Electromagnetic Oscillations

mechanical oscillations

- position: $x(t) = A\cos(\omega t)$ [red]
- velocity: $v(t) = -A\sin(\omega t)$ [green]
- period: $\tau = \dfrac{2\pi}{\omega}, \quad \omega = \sqrt{\dfrac{k}{m}}$




- potential energy: $U(t) = \dfrac{1}{2}kx^2(t)$ [r]
- kinetic energy: $K(t) = \dfrac{1}{2}mv^2(t)$ [g]
- total energy: $E = U(t) + K(t) = \text{const}$

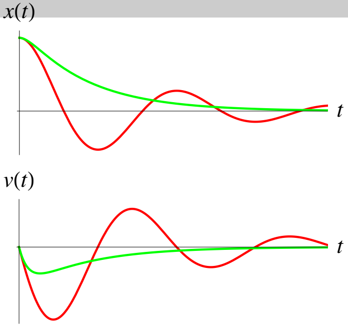



electromagnetic oscillations

- charge: $Q(t) = A\cos(\omega t)$ [red]
- current: $I(t) = -A\sin(\omega t)$ [green]
- period: $\tau = \dfrac{2\pi}{\omega}, \quad \omega = \dfrac{1}{\sqrt{LC}}$

- electric energy: $U_E(t) = \dfrac{1}{2C}Q^2(t)$ [r]
- magnetic energy: $U_B(t) = \dfrac{1}{2}LI^2(t)$ [g]
- total energy: $E = U_E(t) + U_B(t) = \text{const}$

# Mechanical Oscillator with Damping




- law of motion: $F = ma, \quad a = \dfrac{d^2x}{dt^2}$
- law of force: $F = -kx - bv, \quad v = \dfrac{dx}{dt}$
- equation of motion: $\dfrac{d^2x}{dt^2} + \dfrac{b}{m}\dfrac{dx}{dt} + \dfrac{k}{m}x = 0$

Solution for initial conditions $x(0) = A$, $v(0) = 0$:

(a) **underdamped motion**: $b^2 < 4km$

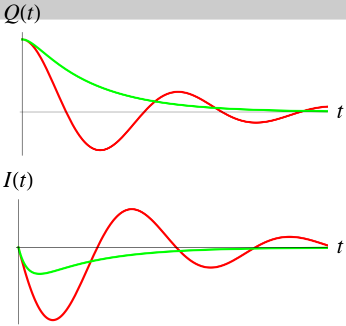
$$x(t) = Ae^{-bt/2m}\left[\cos(\omega' t) + \frac{b}{2m\omega'}\sin(\omega' t)\right] \quad \text{with} \quad \omega' = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m} - \frac{b^2}{4m^2}}$$

(b) **overdamped motion**: $b^2 > 4km$

$$x(t) = Ae^{-bt/2m}\left[\cosh(\Omega' t) + \frac{b}{2m\Omega'}\sinh(\Omega' t)\right] \quad \text{with} \quad \Omega' = \sqrt{\frac{b^2}{4m^2} - \frac{k}{m}}$$

# Damped Electromagnetic Oscillator (RLC Circuit)

- loop rule: $RI + L\dfrac{dI}{dt} + \dfrac{Q}{C} = 0,\ I = \dfrac{dQ}{dt}$
- equation of motion: $\dfrac{d^2Q}{dt^2} + \dfrac{R}{L}\dfrac{dQ}{dt} + \dfrac{1}{LC}Q = 0$




Solution for initial conditions $Q(0) = Q_{max},\ I(0) = 0$:

(a) **underdamped motion**: $R^2 < \dfrac{4L}{C}$

$$Q(t) = Q_{max}\, e^{-Rt/2L}\left[\cos(\omega' t) + \frac{R}{2L\omega'}\sin(\omega' t)\right] \quad \text{with} \quad \omega' = \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC} - \frac{R^2}{4L^2}}$$

(b) **overdamped motion**: $R^2 > \dfrac{4L}{C}$

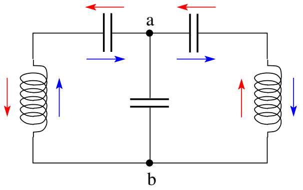
$$Q(t) = Q_{max}\, e^{-Rt/2L}\left[\cosh(\Omega' t) + \frac{R}{2L\Omega'}\sinh(\Omega' t)\right] \quad \text{with} \quad \Omega' = \sqrt{\frac{R^2}{4L^2} - \frac{1}{LC}}$$

# Oscillator with Two Modes

Electromagnetic:

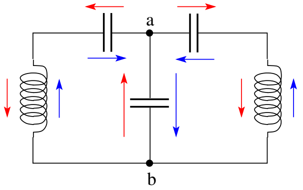
mode #1: $L\frac{dI}{dt} + \frac{Q}{C} + \frac{Q}{C} + L\frac{dI}{dt} = 0, \quad I = \frac{dQ}{dt}$

$\Rightarrow \frac{dI}{dt} = -\frac{Q}{LC} \quad \Rightarrow \frac{d^2Q}{dt^2} = -\omega^2 Q, \quad \omega = \frac{1}{\sqrt{LC}}$




mode #2: $L\frac{dI}{dt} + \frac{Q}{C} + \frac{2Q}{C} = 0, \quad I = \frac{dQ}{dt}$

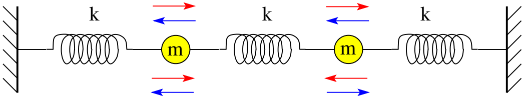
$\Rightarrow \frac{dI}{dt} = -\frac{3Q}{LC} \quad \Rightarrow \frac{d^2Q}{dt^2} = -\omega^2 Q, \quad \omega = \sqrt{\frac{3}{LC}}$




Mechanical:

mode #1: $\omega = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}$

mode #2: $\omega = \sqrt{\frac{3k}{m}}$



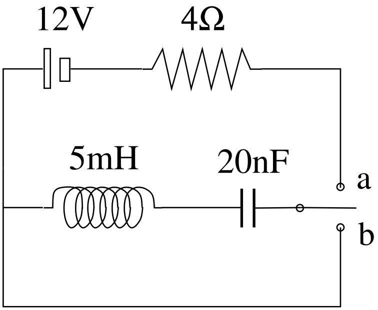
In the circuit shown the capacitor is without charge.
When the switch is closed to position $a$...

(a) find the initial rate $dI/dt$ at which the current increases from zero,

(b) find the charge $Q$ on the capacitor after a long time.
Then, when the switch is thrown from $a$ to $b$...

(c) find the time $t_1$ it takes the capacitor to fully discharge,

(d) find the maximum current $I_{max}$ in the process of discharging.



# RLC Circuit: Application (2)

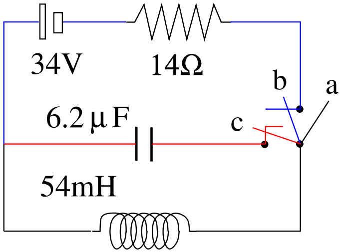
In the circuit shown the capacitor is without charge and the switch is in position $a$.

(i) When the switch is moved to position $b$ we have an $RL$ circuit with the current building up gradually: $I(t) = (\mathcal{E}/R)[1 - e^{-t/\tau}]$.

Find the time constant $\tau$ and the current $I_{max}$ after a long time.

(ii) Then we reset the clock and move the switch from $b$ to $c$ with no interruption of the current through the inductor. We now have a an $LC$ circuit: $I(t) = I_{max}\cos(\omega t)$.

Find the angular frequency of oscillation $\omega$ and the maximum charge $Q_{max}$ that goes onto the capacitor periodically.



# RLC Circuit: Application (3)

In the circuit shown the capacitor is without charge and the switch is in position $a$.

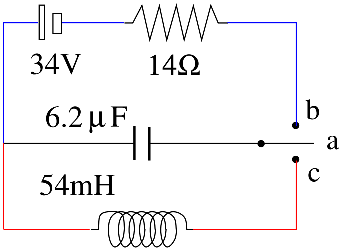
(i) When the switch is moved to position $b$ we have an $RC$ circuit with the capacitor being charged up gradually: $Q(t) = \mathcal{E}C[1 - e^{-t/\tau}]$.

Find the time constant $\tau$ and the charge $Q_{max}$ after a long time.

(ii) Then we reset the clock and move the switch from $b$ to $c$.

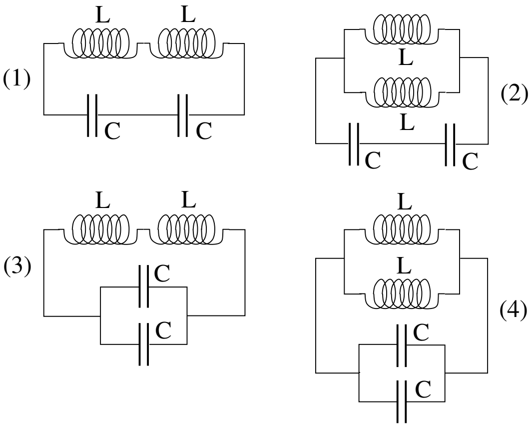
We now have a an $LC$ circuit: $Q(t) = Q_{max}\cos(\omega t)$.

Find the angular frequency of oscillation $\omega$ and the maximum current $I_{max}$ that flows through the inductor periodically.



# LC Circuit: Application (1)

Name the $LC$ circuit with the highest and the lowest angular frequency of oscillation.



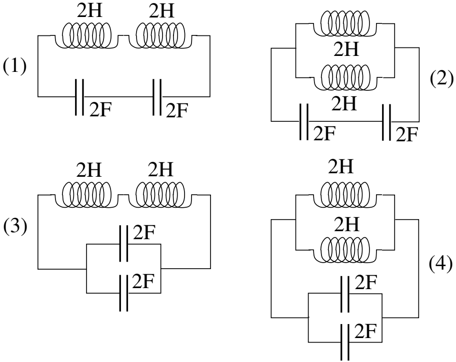
# LC Circuit: Application (2)

At time $t = 0$ a charge $Q = 2\text{C}$ is on each capacitor and all currents are zero.

(a) What is the energy stored in the circuit?

(b) At what time $t_1$ are the capacitors discharged for the first time?

(c) What is the current through each inductor at time $t_1$?



# LC Circuit: Application (3)

In these $LC$ circuits all capacitors have equal capacitance $C$ and all inductors have equal inductance $L$. Sort the circuits into groups that are equivalent.