

Impedance & Admittance

As an alternative to impedance Z , we can define a complex parameter called **admittance** Y :

$$Y = \frac{I}{V}$$

where V and I are complex voltage and current, respectively.

Clearly, admittance and impedance are not independent parameters, and are in fact simply geometric **inverses** of each other:

$$Y = \frac{1}{Z} \quad Z = \frac{1}{Y}$$

Thus, all the impedance parameters that we have studied can be **likewise** expressed in terms of admittance, e.g.:

$$Y(z) = \frac{1}{Z(z)} \quad Y_L = \frac{1}{Z_L} \quad Y_{in} = \frac{1}{Z_{in}}$$

Normalized Admittance

Moreover, we can define the **characteristic admittance** Y_0 of a transmission line as:

$$Y_0 = \frac{I^+(z)}{V^+(z)}$$

And thus it is similarly evident that characteristic impedance and characteristic admittance are geometric **inverses**:

$$Y_0 = \frac{1}{Z_0} \quad Z_0 = \frac{1}{Y_0}$$

As a result, we can define a **normalized admittance** value y' :

$$y' = \frac{y}{Y_0}$$

And therefore (not surprisingly) we find:

$$y' = \frac{y}{Y_0} = \frac{Z_0}{Z} = \frac{1}{z'}$$

Susceptance and Conductance

Now since admittance is a **complex** value, it has both a real and imaginary component:

$$Y = G + jB$$

where:

$$\operatorname{Re}\{Y\} \doteq G = \text{Conductance}$$

$$\operatorname{Im}\{Z\} \doteq B = \text{Susceptance}$$

Now, since $Z = R + jX$, we can state that:

$$G + jB = \frac{1}{R + jX}$$



Steve Marcus / Reuters

Q: Yes yes, I see, and from this we can conclude:

$$G = \frac{1}{R} \quad \text{and} \quad B = \frac{-1}{X}$$

and so forth. Please speed this up and quit wasting my valuable time making such **obvious** statements!

Be Careful!



A: NOOOO! We find that $G \neq 1/R$ and $B \neq 1/X$ (generally). Do **not** make this mistake!

In fact, we find that:

$$G = \frac{R}{R^2 + X^2} \quad \text{and} \quad B = \frac{-X}{R^2 + X^2}$$

Note then that **IF** $X = 0$ (i.e., $Z = R$), we get, as expected:

$$G = \frac{1}{R} \quad \text{and} \quad B = 0$$

And that **IF** $R = 0$ (i.e., $Z = X$), we get, as expected:

$$G = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad B = \frac{-1}{X}$$

I wish I had a nickel for every time my software has crashed—oh wait, I do!

