

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.:

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

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:

$$y' = \frac{y}{y_0} = \frac{Z_0}{Z} = \frac{1}{z'}$$

Note that we can express normalized impedance and admittance more compactly as:

$$y' = Y Z_0 \quad \text{and} \quad z' = Z Y_0$$

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

$$Y = G + jB$$

where:

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

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

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!



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

$$\begin{aligned} G + jB &= \frac{1}{R + jX} \frac{R - jX}{R - jX} \\ &= \frac{R - jX}{R^2 + X^2} \\ &= \frac{R}{R^2 + X^2} - j \frac{X}{R^2 + X^2} \end{aligned}$$

Thus, equating the real and imaginary parts we find:

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

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., $Z = R$), 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!***

