

Introduction to Three-phase Circuits

Balanced 3-phase systems

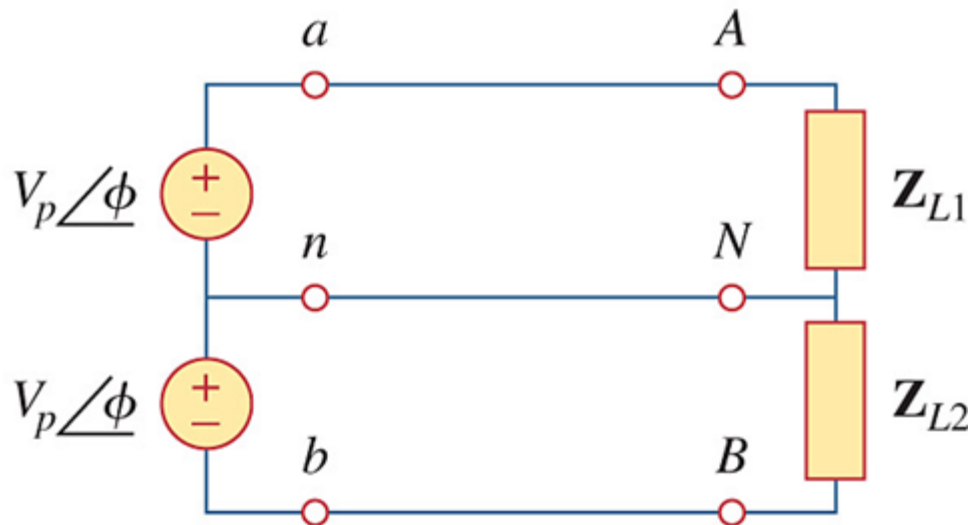
Unbalanced 3-phase systems

Introduction to 3-phase systems



Single-phase two-wire system:

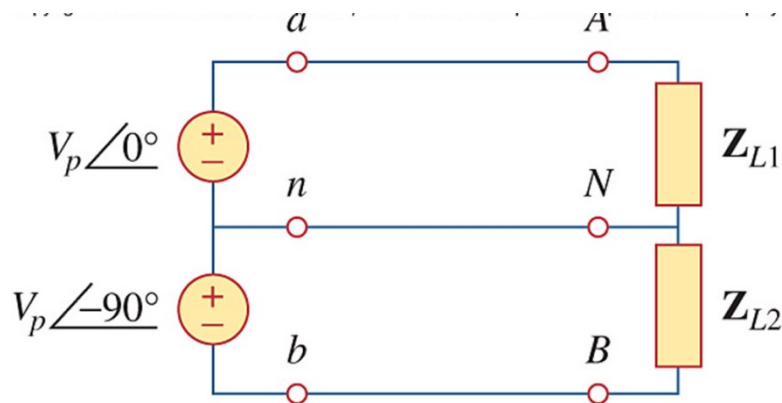
- Single source connected to a load using two-wire system



Single-phase three-wire system:

- Two sources connected to two loads using three-wire system
- Sources have EQUAL magnitude and are IN PHASE

Circuit or system in which AC sources operate at the same frequency but different phases are known as polyphase.

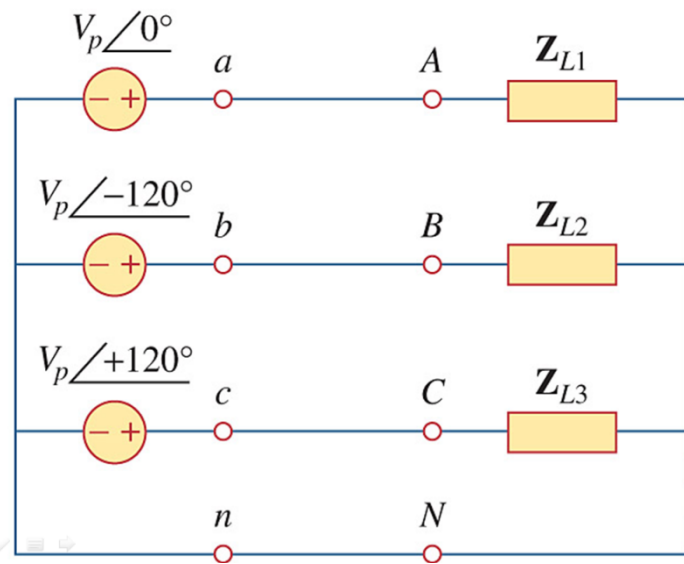


Balanced Two-phase three-wire system:

- Two sources connected to two loads using three-wire system
- Sources have EQUAL frequency but DIFFERENT phases

Two Phase System:

- A generator consists of two coils placed perpendicular to each other
- The voltage generated by one lags the other by 90° .



Balanced Three-phase four-wire system:

- Three sources connected to 3 loads using four-wire system
- Sources have EQUAL frequency but DIFFERENT phases

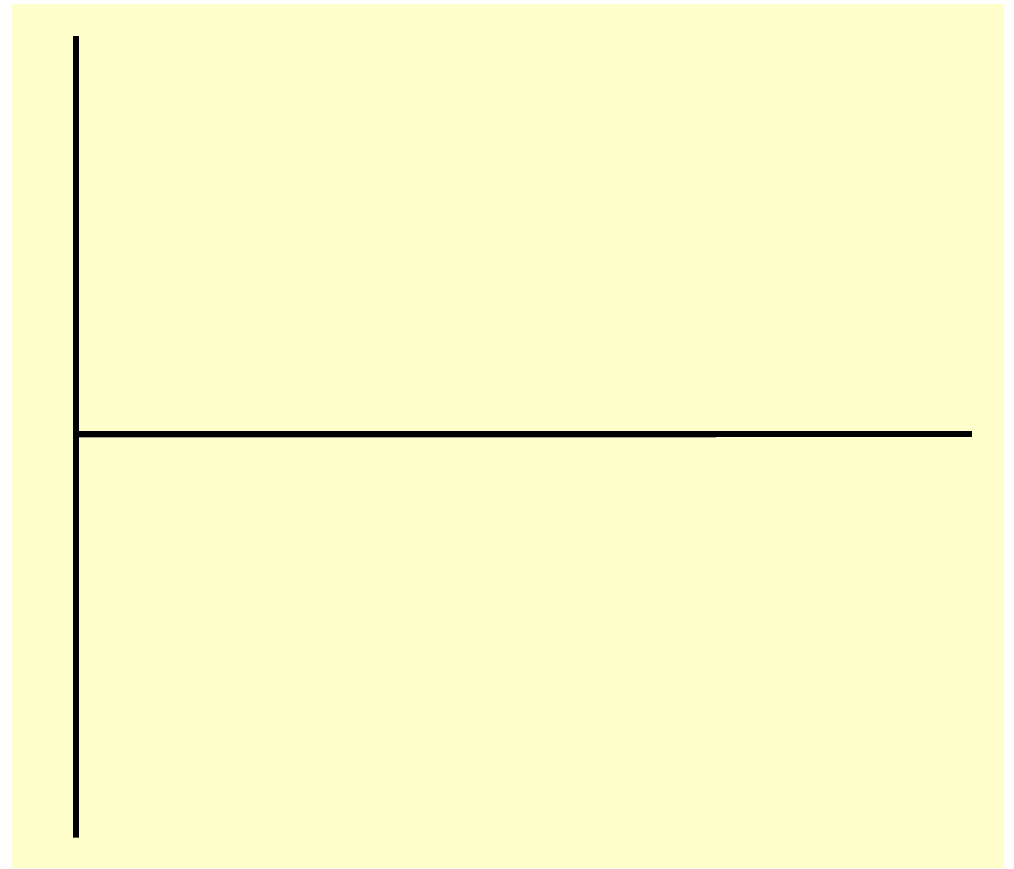
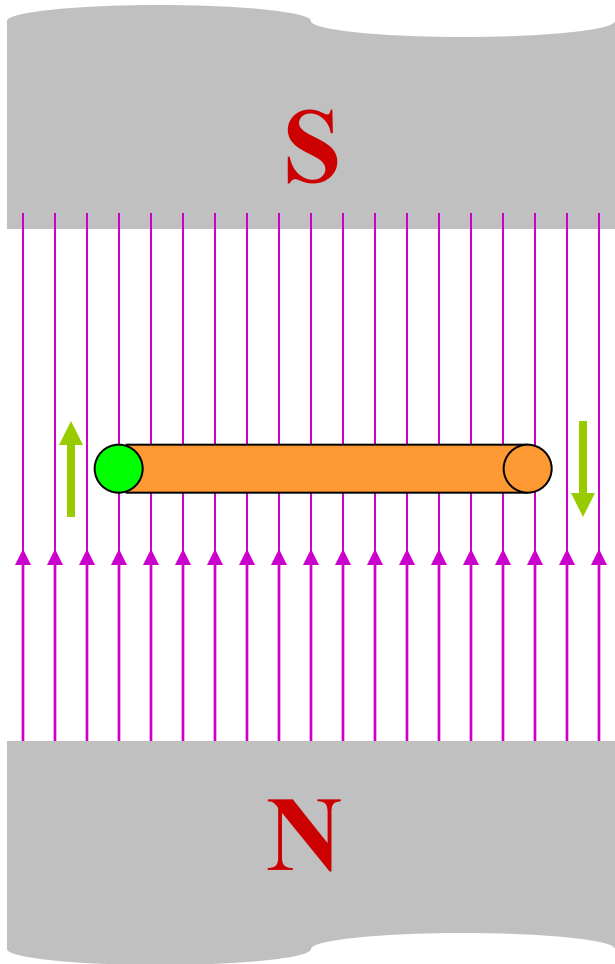
Three Phase System:

- A generator consists of three coils placed 120° apart.
- The voltage generated are equal in magnitude but, out of phase by 120° .
- Three phase is the most economical polyphase system.

AC Generation

- Three things must be present in order to produce electrical current:
 - a) Magnetic field
 - b) Conductor
 - c) Relative motion
- Conductor cuts lines of magnetic flux, a voltage is induced in the conductor
- Direction and Speed are important

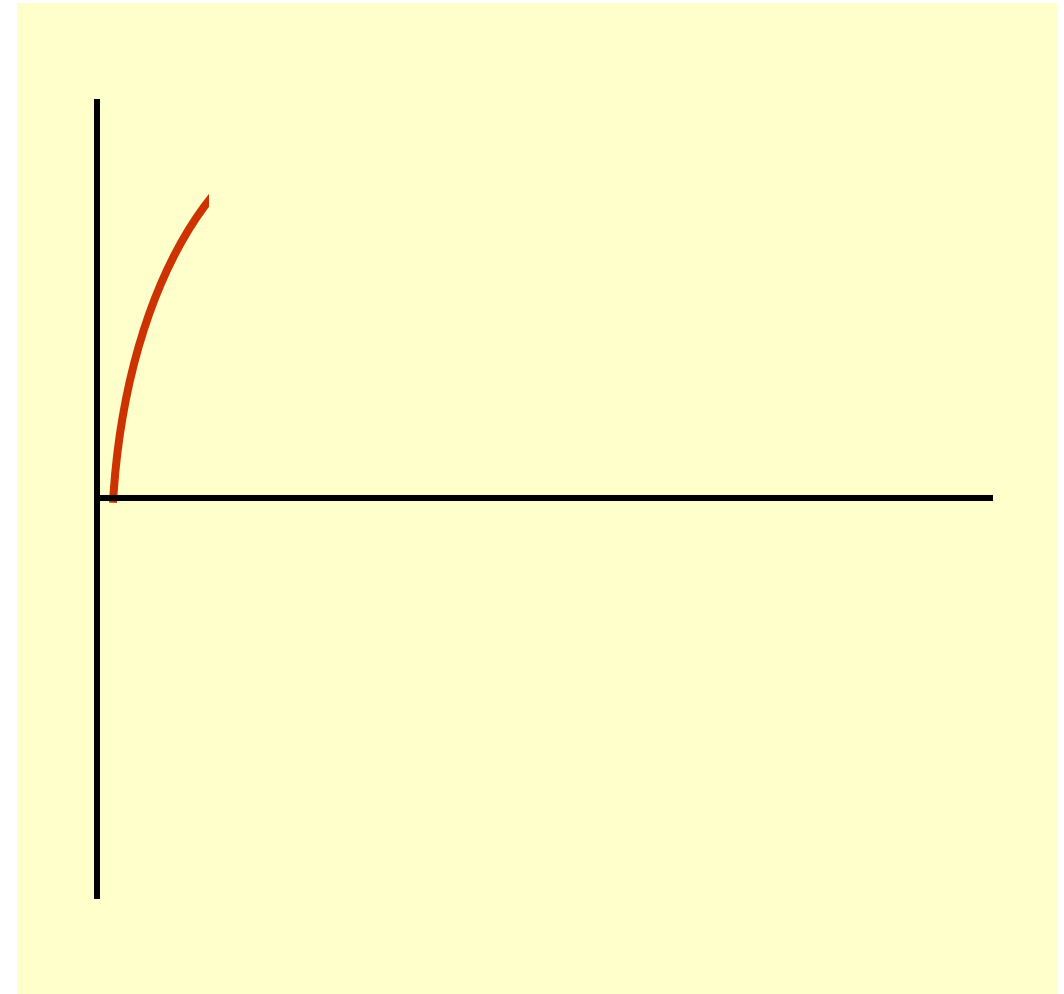
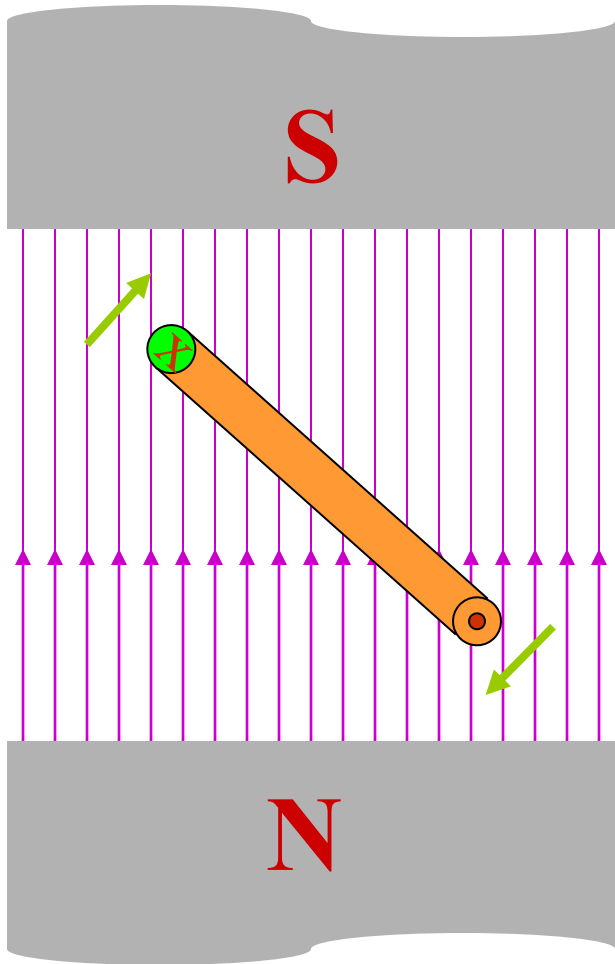
GENERATING A SINGLE PHASE



Motion is parallel to the flux.

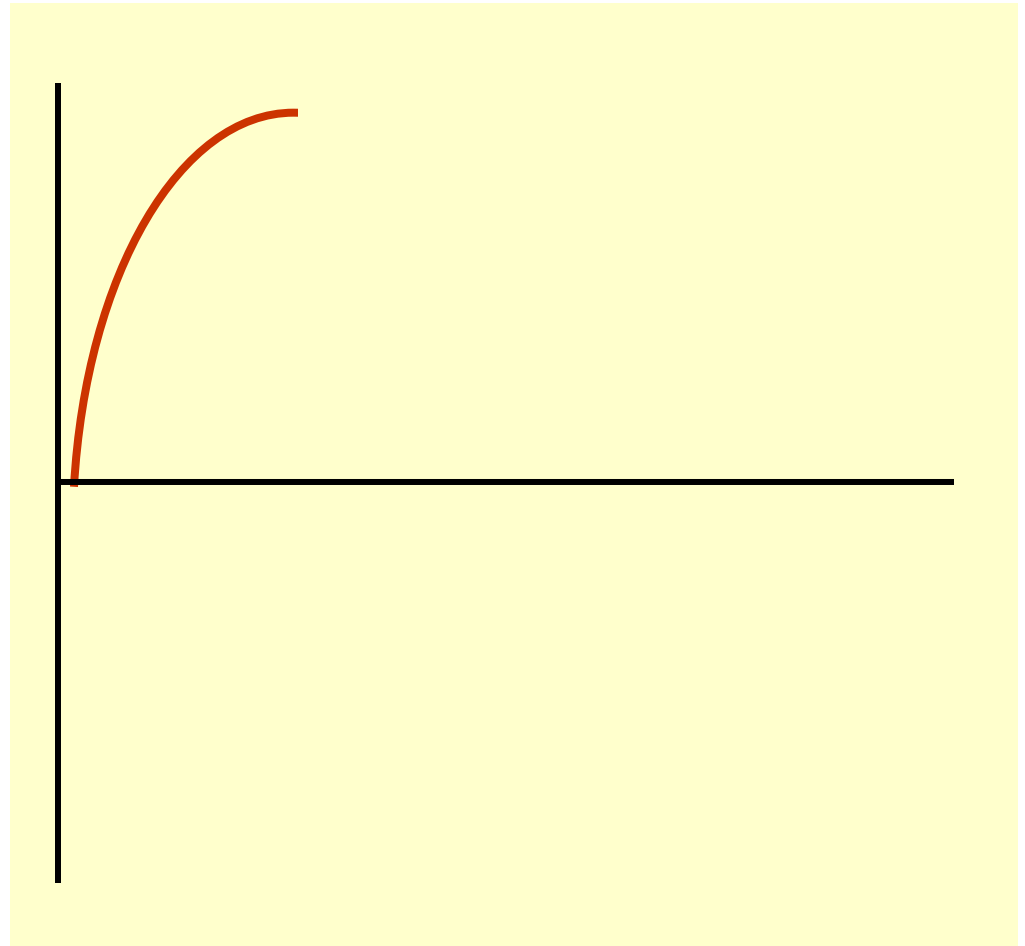
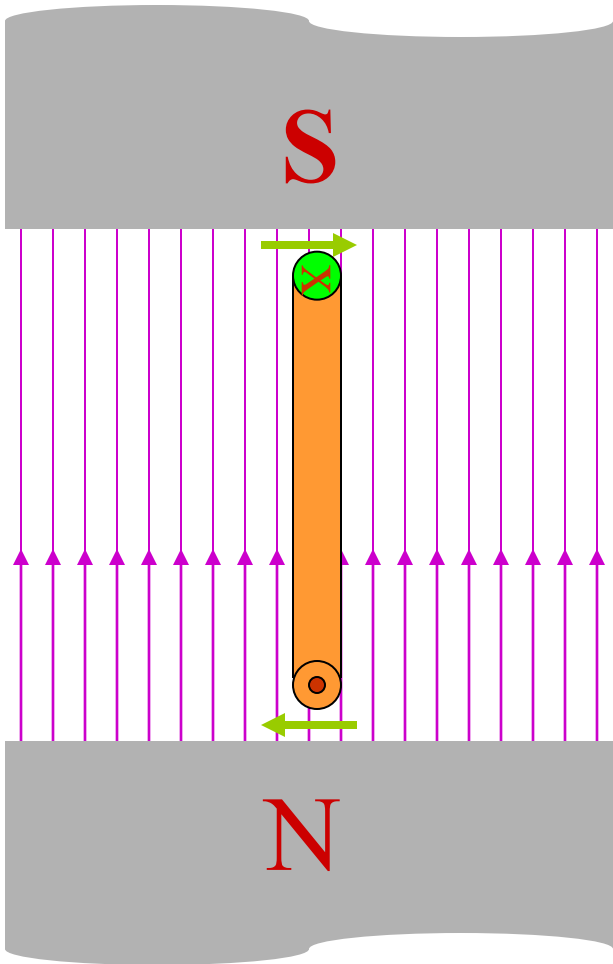
No voltage is induced.

GENERATING A SINGLE PHASE



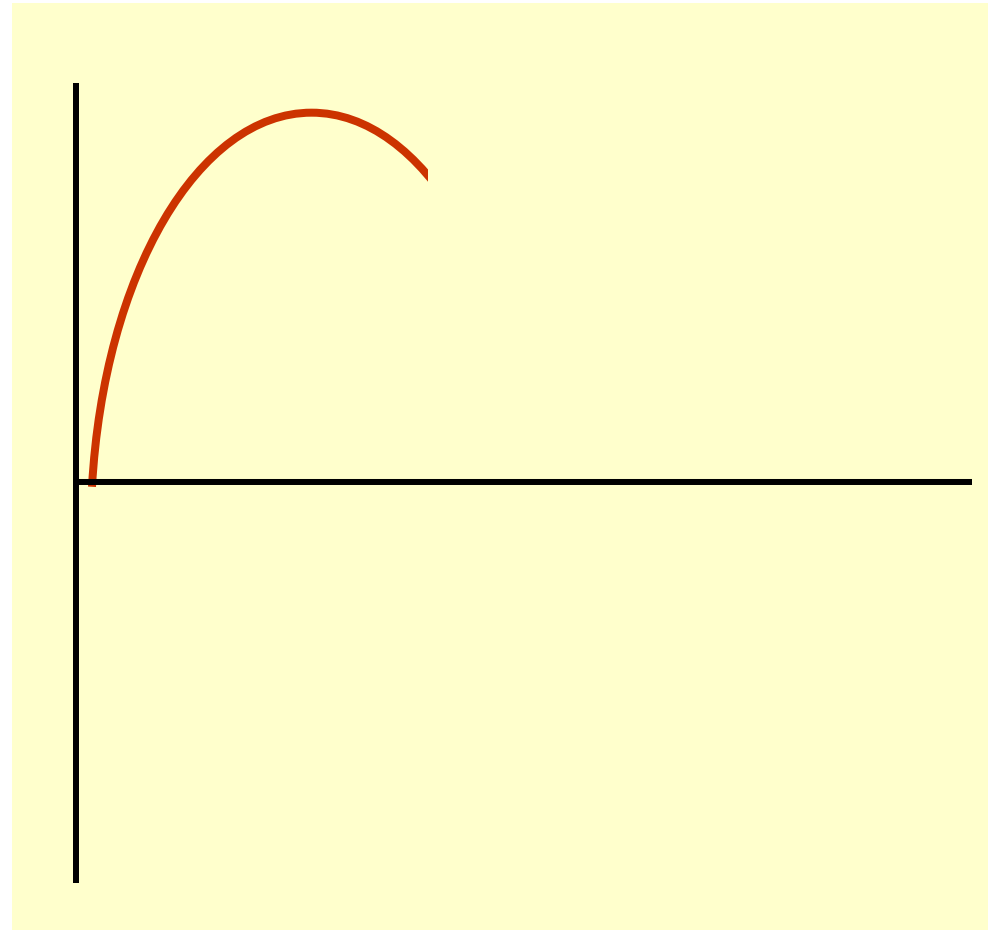
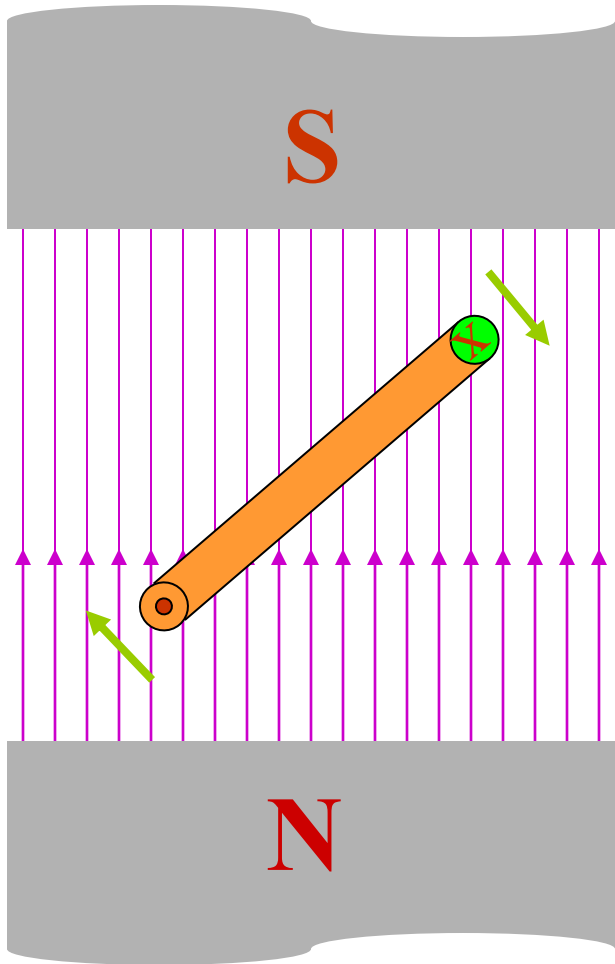
Motion is 45° to flux.
Induced voltage is 0.707 of maximum.

GENERATING A SINGLE PHASE



Motion is perpendicular to flux.
Induced voltage is maximum.

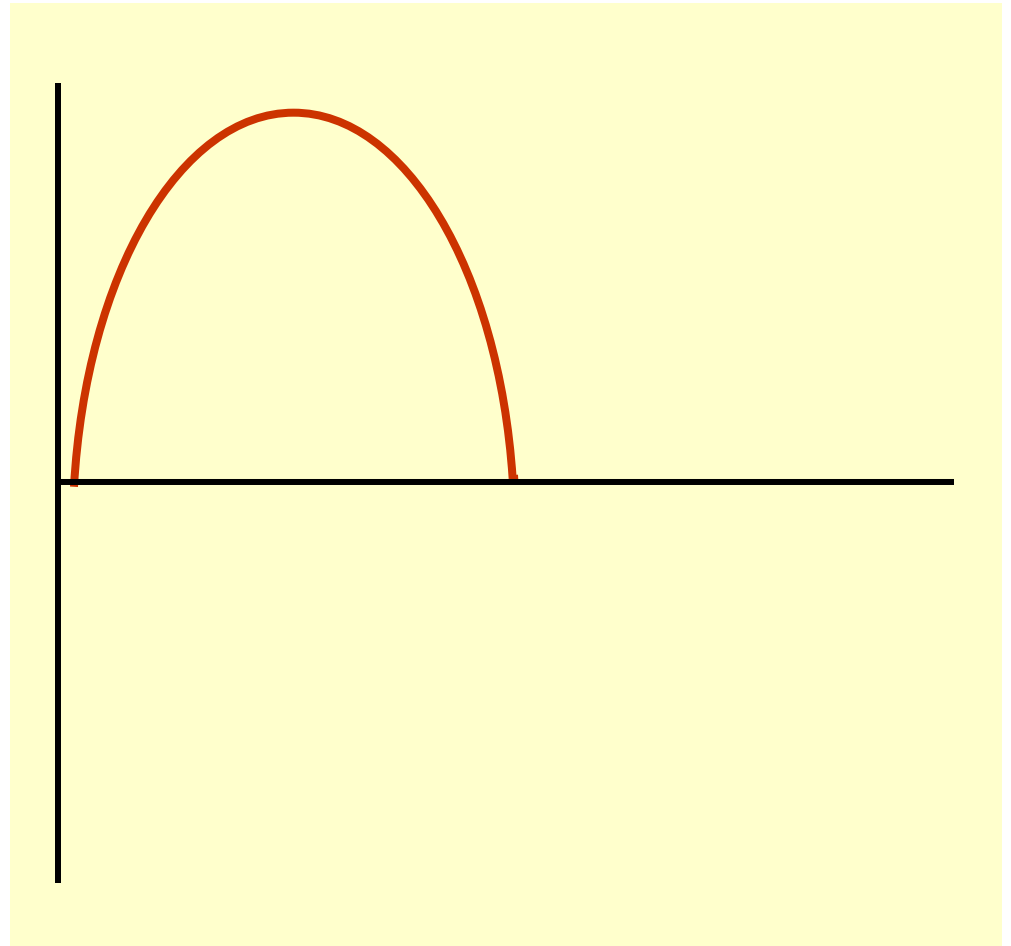
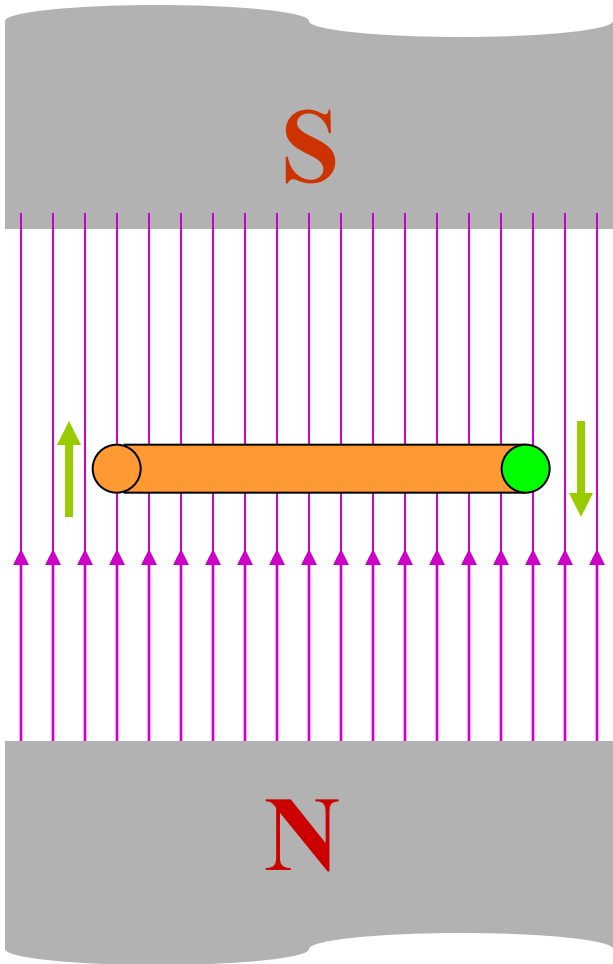
GENERATING A SINGLE PHASE



Motion is 45° to flux.

Induced voltage is 0.707 of maximum.

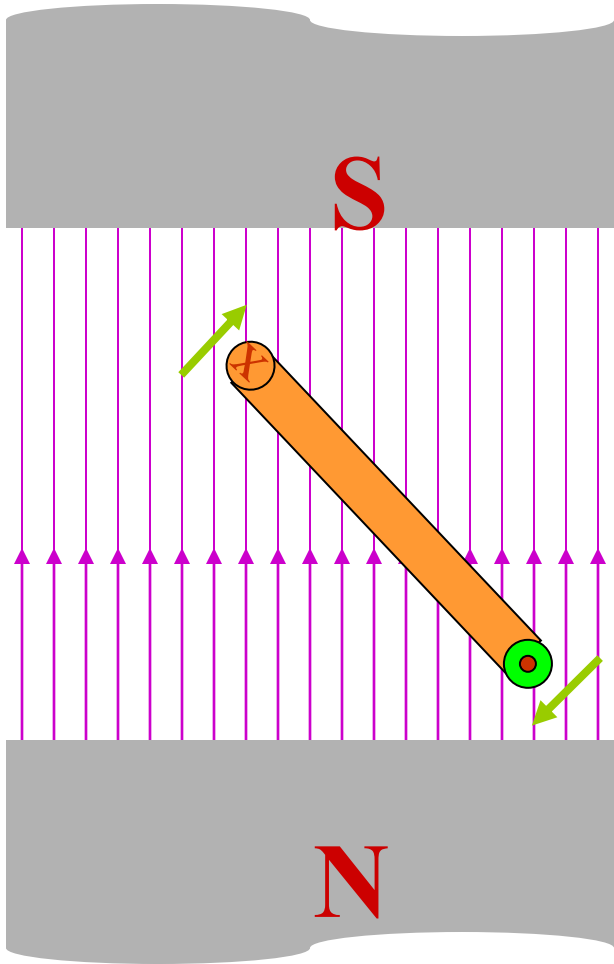
GENERATING A SINGLE PHASE



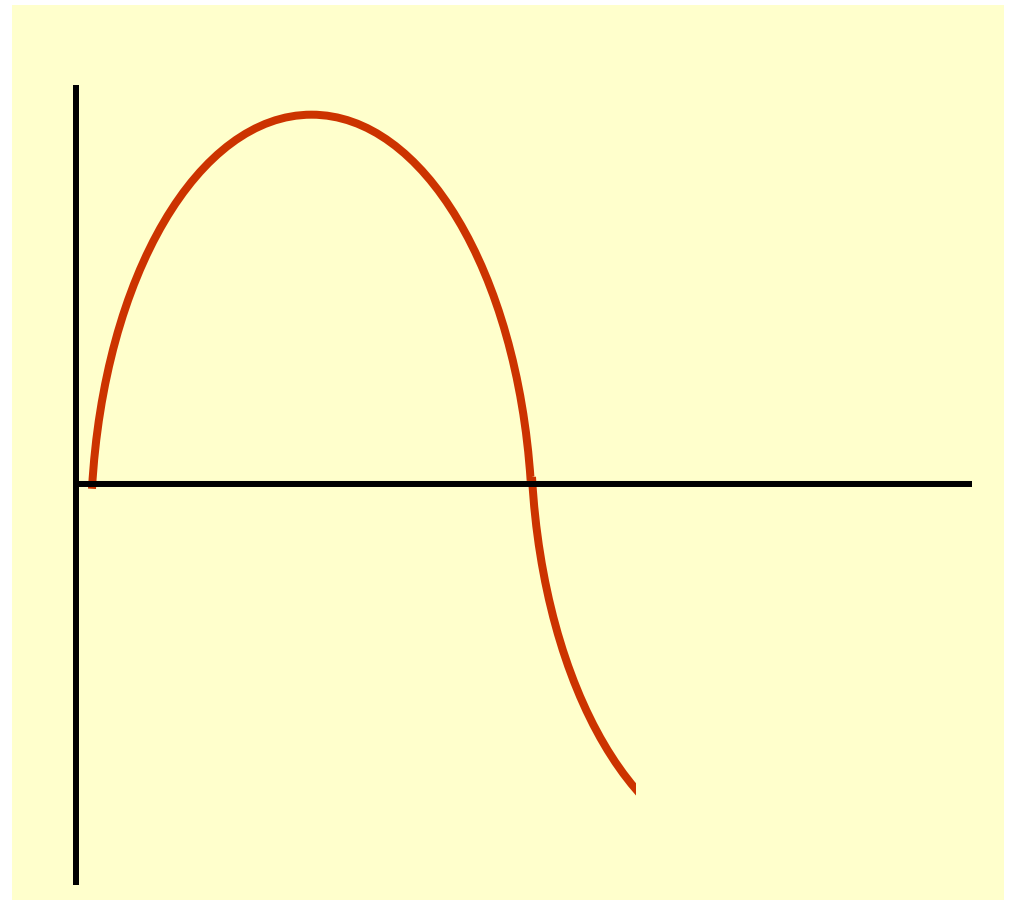
Motion is parallel to flux.

No voltage is induced.

GENERATING A SINGLE PHASE

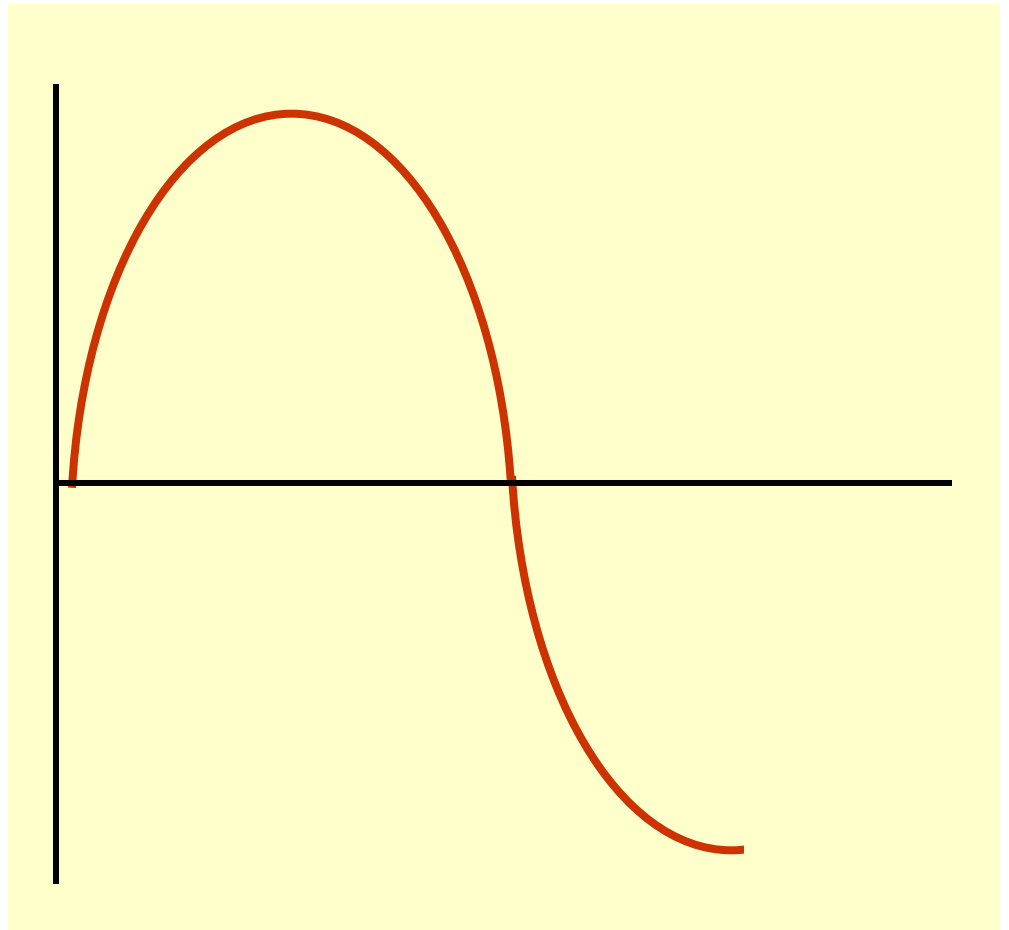
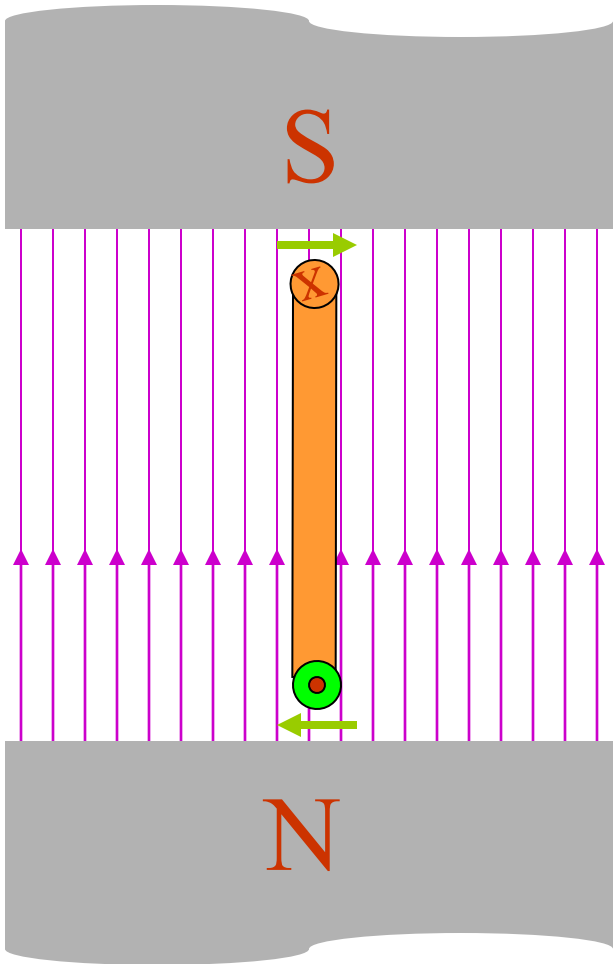


Notice current in the conductor has reversed.



Motion is 45° to flux.
Induced voltage is
0.707 of maximum.

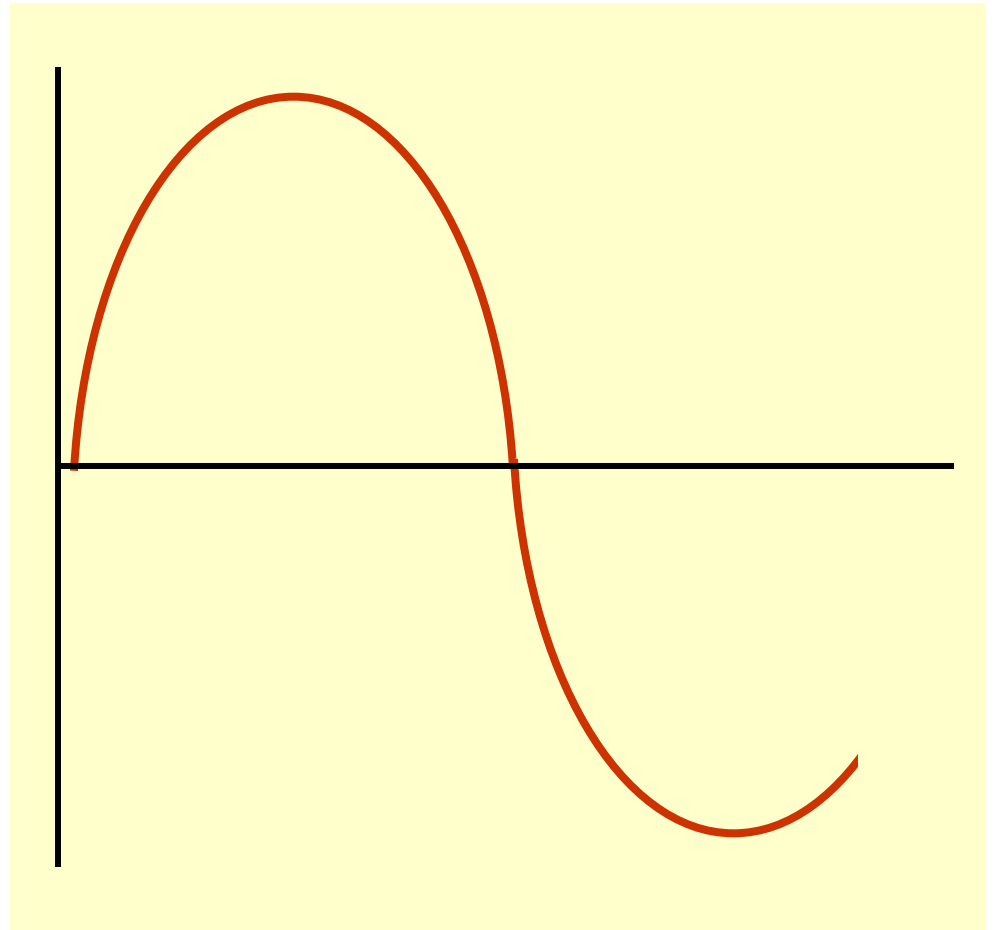
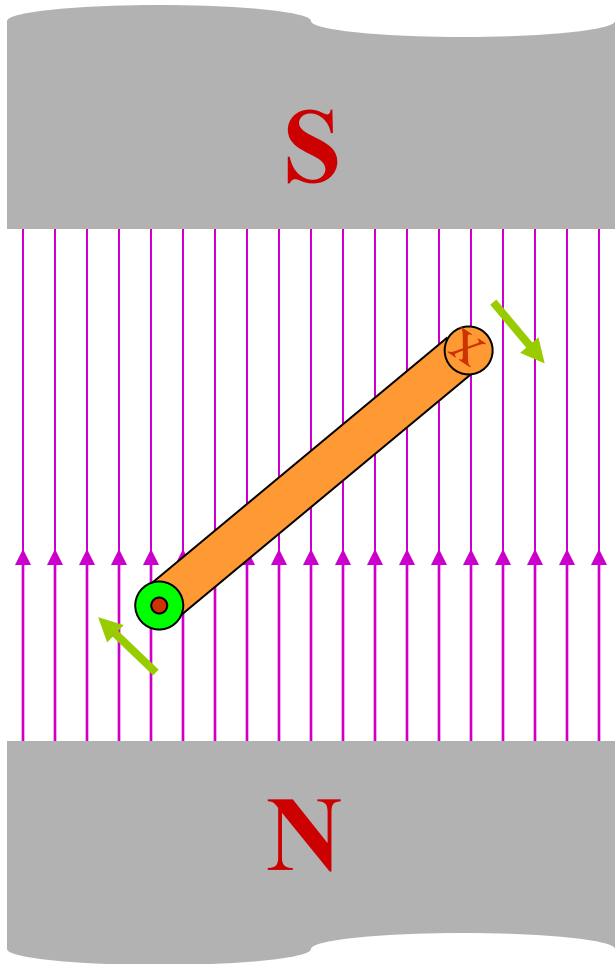
GENERATING A SINGLE PHASE



Motion is perpendicular to flux.

Induced voltage is maximum.

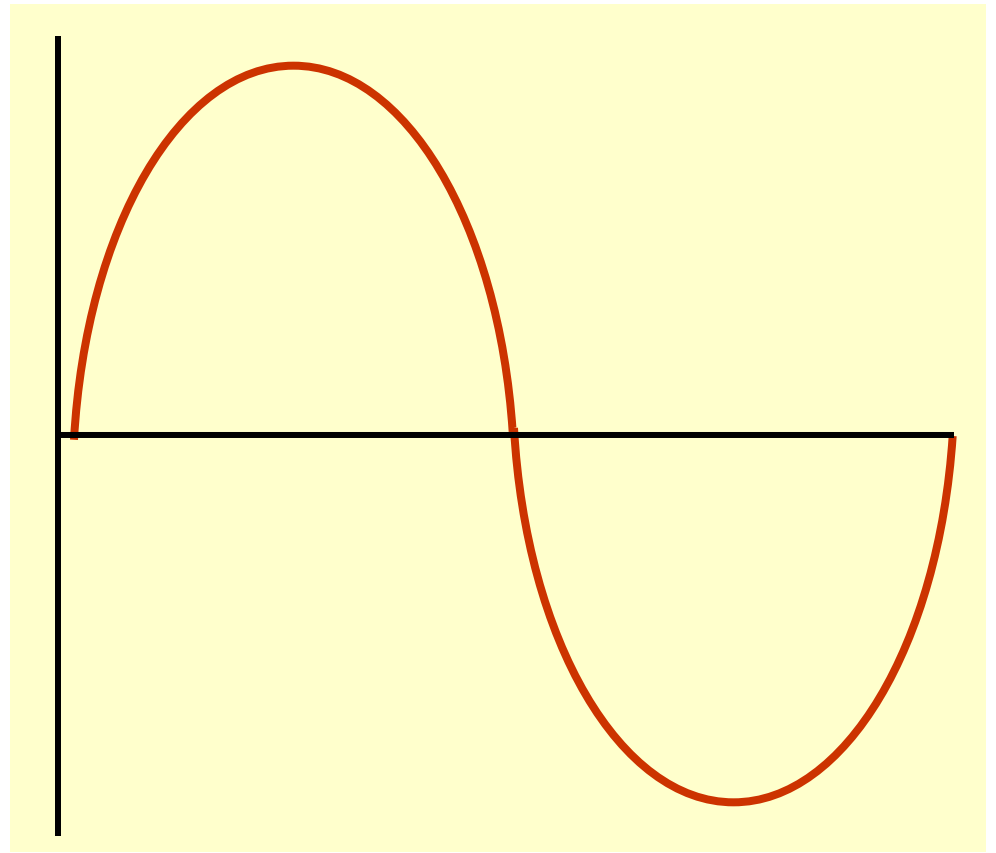
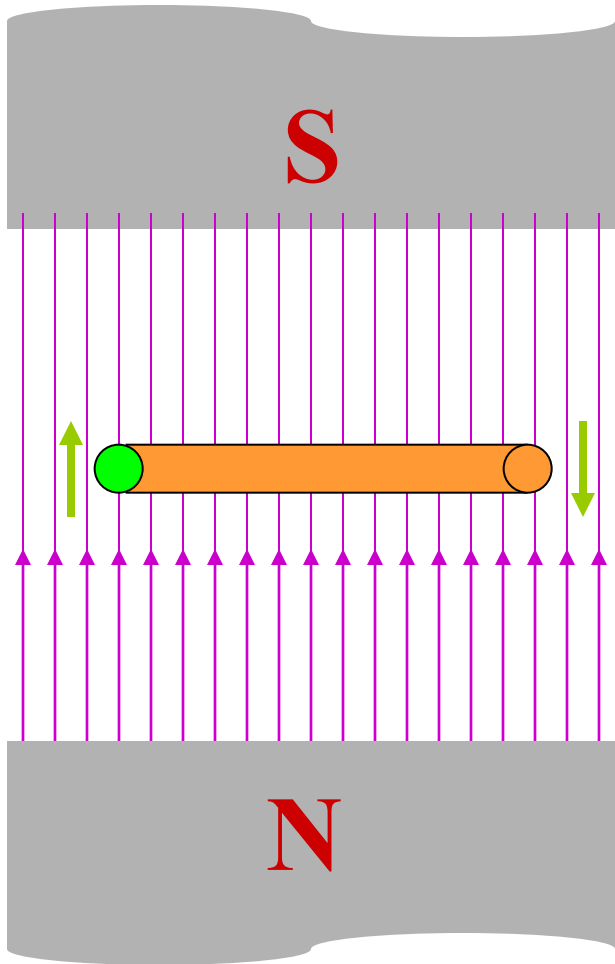
GENERATING A SINGLE PHASE



Motion is 45° to flux.

Induced voltage is 0.707 of maximum.

GENERATING A SINGLE PHASE

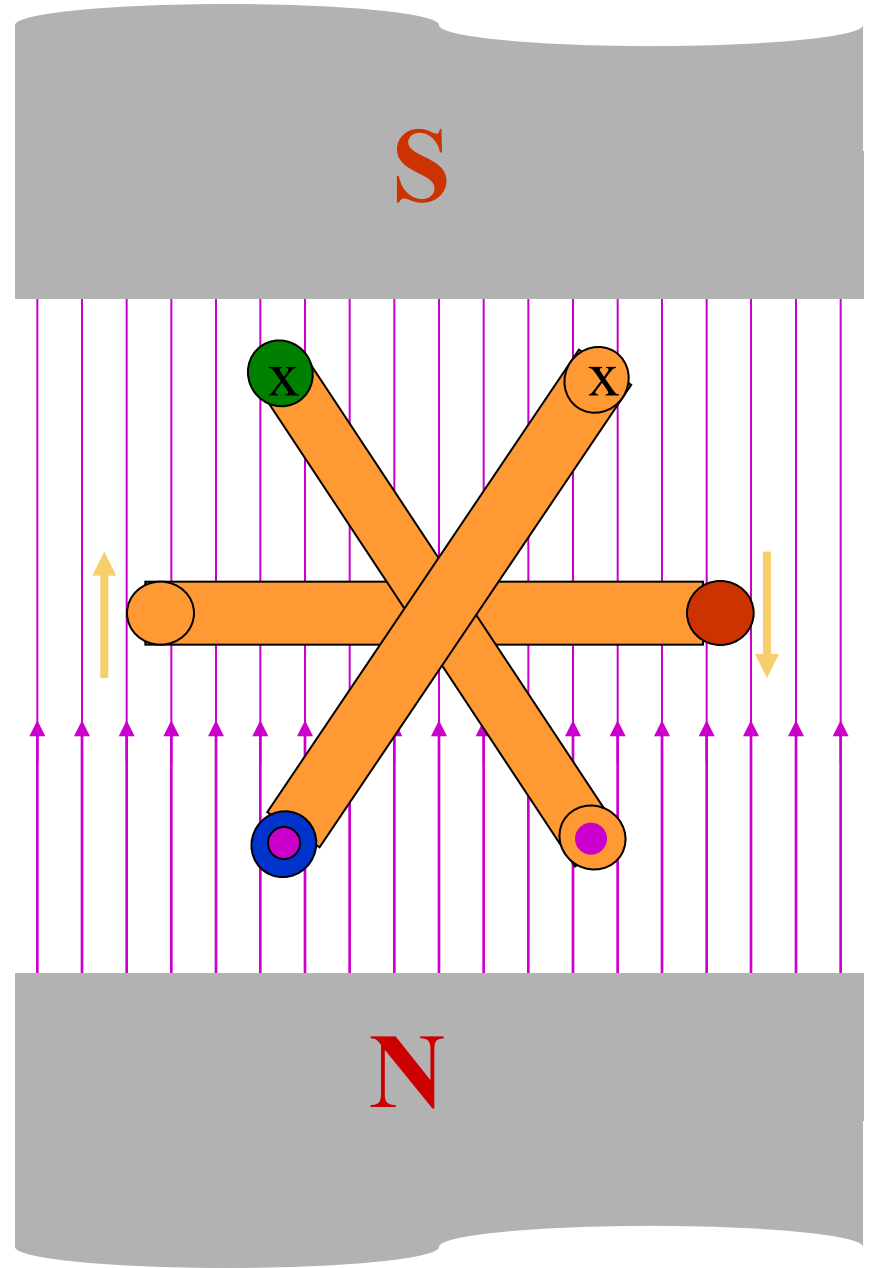


Motion is parallel to flux.

No voltage is induced.

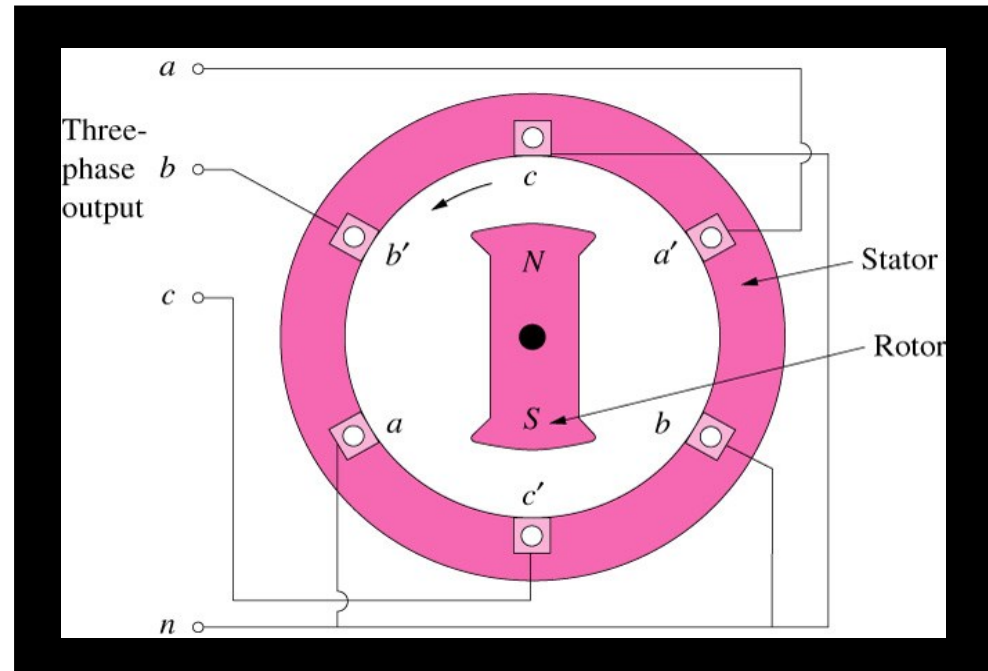
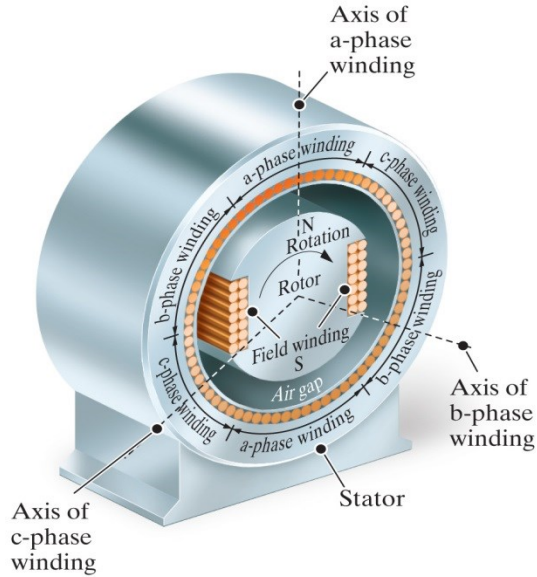
Ready to produce another cycle.

GENERATION OF THREE-PHASE AC



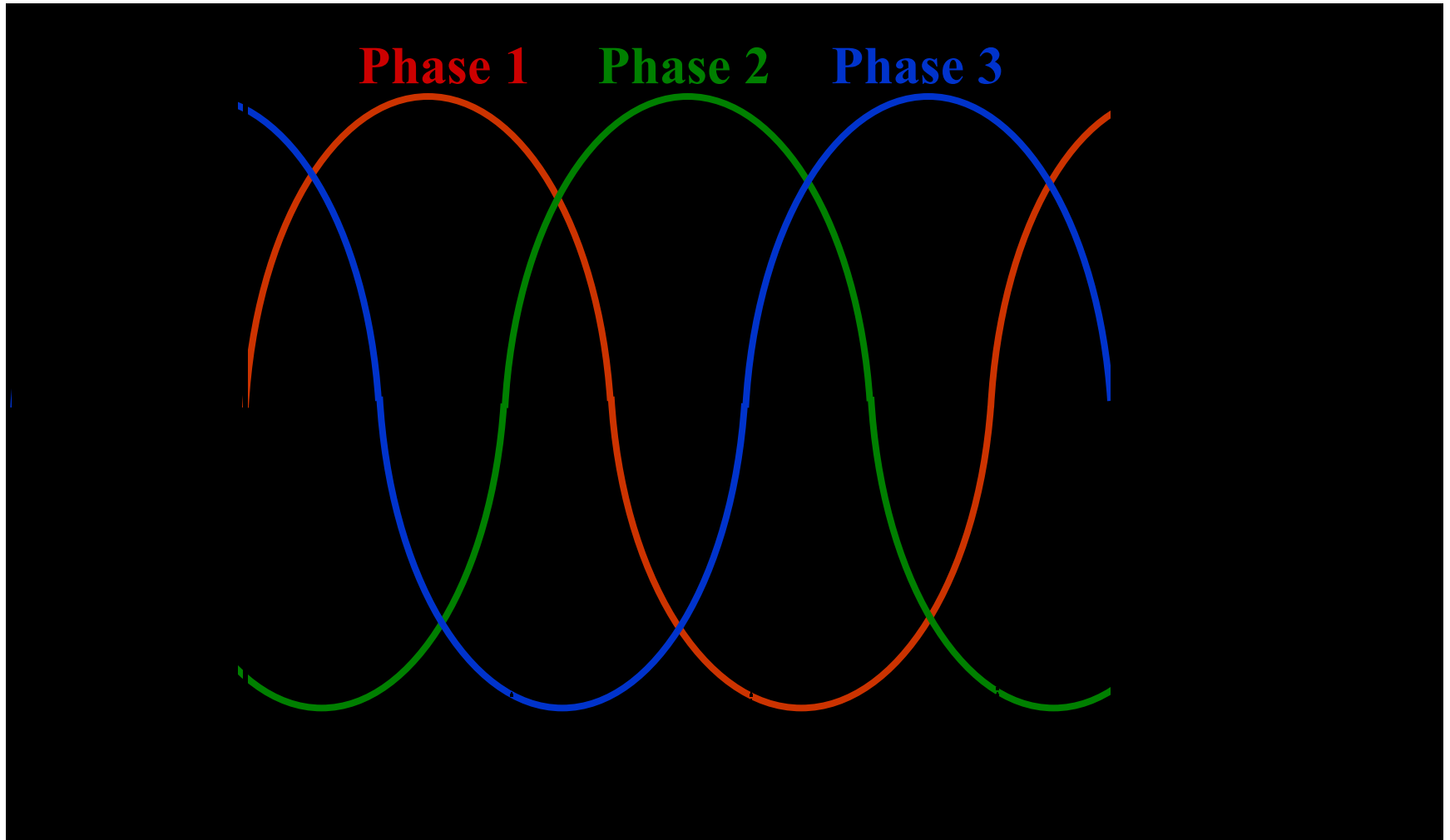
➤ Three Voltages will be induced across the coils with 120 phase difference

Practical THREE PHASE GENERATOR



- The generator consists of a rotating magnet (**rotor**) surrounded by a stationary winding (**stator**).
- Three separate windings or coils with terminals a-a', b-b', and c-c' are physically placed 120° apart around the stator.
- As the rotor rotates, its magnetic field cuts the flux from the three coils and induces voltages in the coils.
- The induced voltage have equal magnitude but out of phase by 120° .

THREE-PHASE WAVEFORM



Phase 2 lags **phase 1** by 120° . **Phase 2** leads **phase 3** by 120° .
Phase 3 lags **phase 1** by 240° . **Phase 1** leads **phase 3** by 240° .

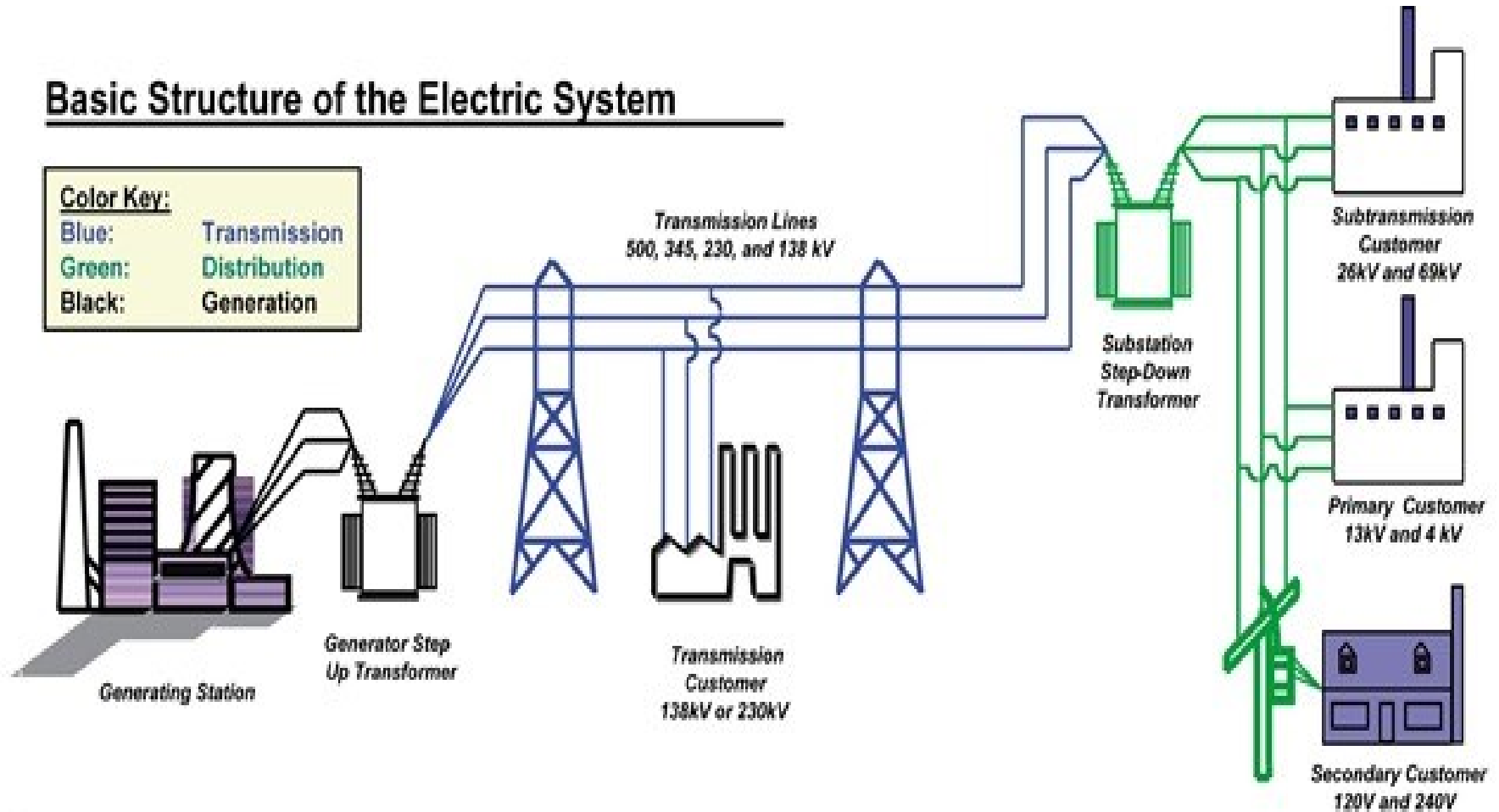
WHY WE STUDY 3 PHASE SYSTEM ?

- ALL electric power system in the world used 3-phase system to GENERATE, TRANSMIT and DISTRIBUTE
 - ✓ One phase, two phase, or three phase can be taken from three phase system rather than generated independently.
- Instantaneous power is constant (not pulsating).– thus smoother rotation of electrical machines
 - ✓ High power motors prefer a steady torque
- More economical than single phase – less wire for the same power transfer
 - ✓ The amount of wire required for a three phase system is less than required for an equivalent single phase system.

3-phase systems

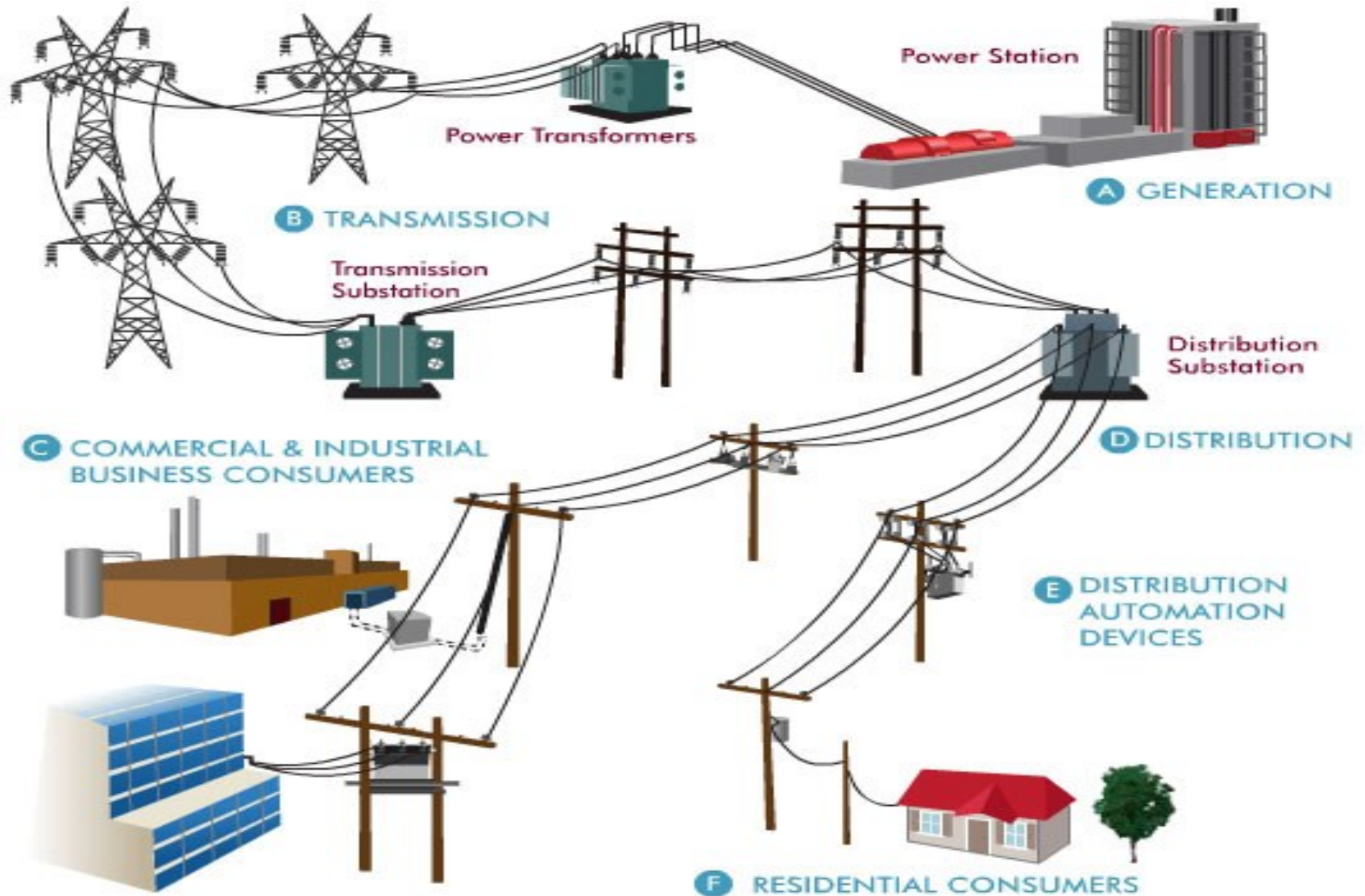
Generation, Transmission and Distribution

Basic Structure of the Electric System



3-phase systems

Generation, Transmission and Distribution



Y and Δ connections

Balanced 3-phase systems can be considered as 3 equal single phase voltage sources connected either as Y or Delta (Δ) to 3 single three loads connected as either Y or Δ

SOURCE CONNECTIONS

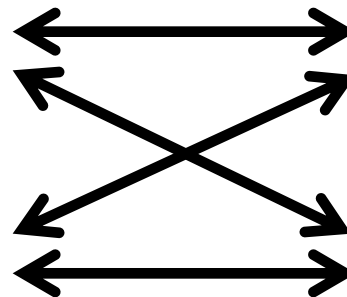
LOAD CONNECTIONS

Y connected source

Y connected load

Δ connected source

Δ connected load



Y-Y

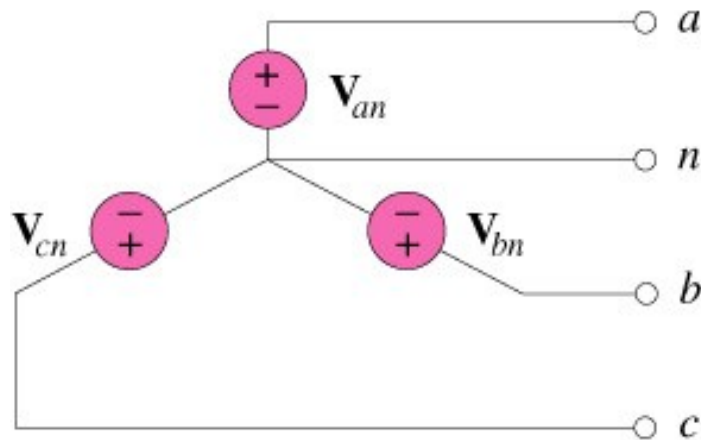
Y- Δ

Δ -Y

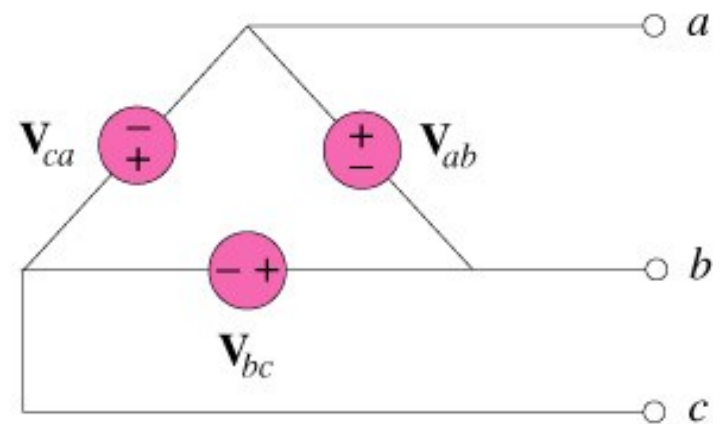
Δ - Δ

Balance Three-Phase Voltages

Two possible configurations:



(a)



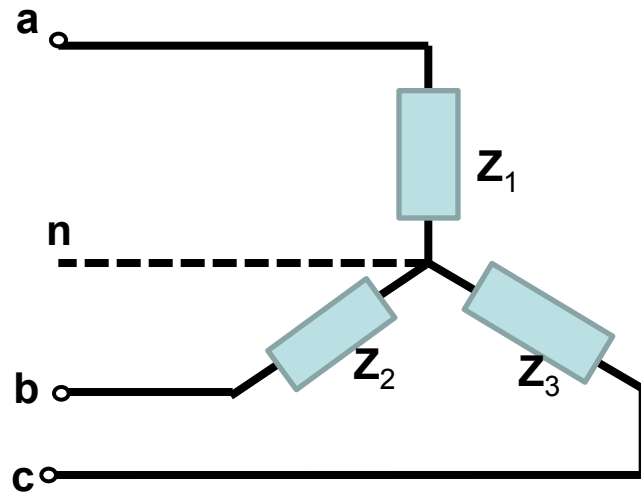
(b)

Three-phase voltage sources: (a) Y-connected ; (b) Δ -connected

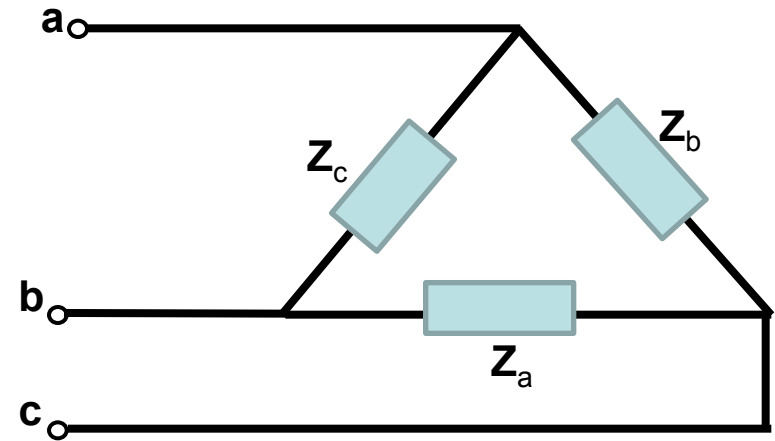
Balanced 3-phase systems

LOAD CONNECTIONS

Y connection



Δ connection



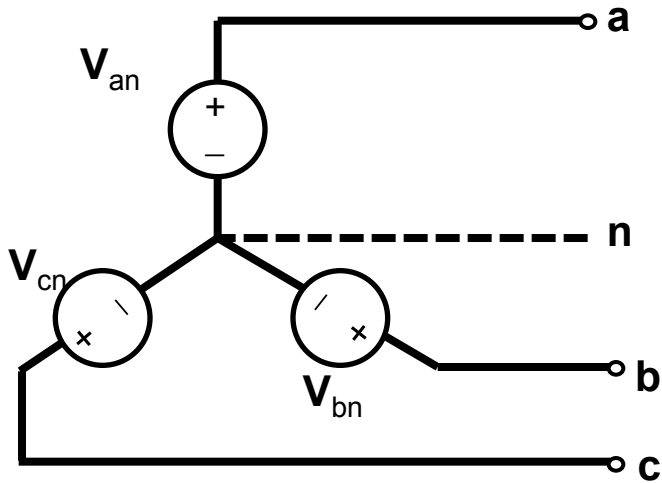
Balanced load:

$$Z_1 = Z_2 = Z_3 = Z_Y \quad Z_a = Z_b = Z_c = Z_{\Delta} \quad Z_Y = \frac{Z_{\Delta}}{3}$$

Unbalanced load: each phase load may not be the same.

Phase Sequence

The *phase sequence* is the time order in which the voltages pass through their respective maximum values.

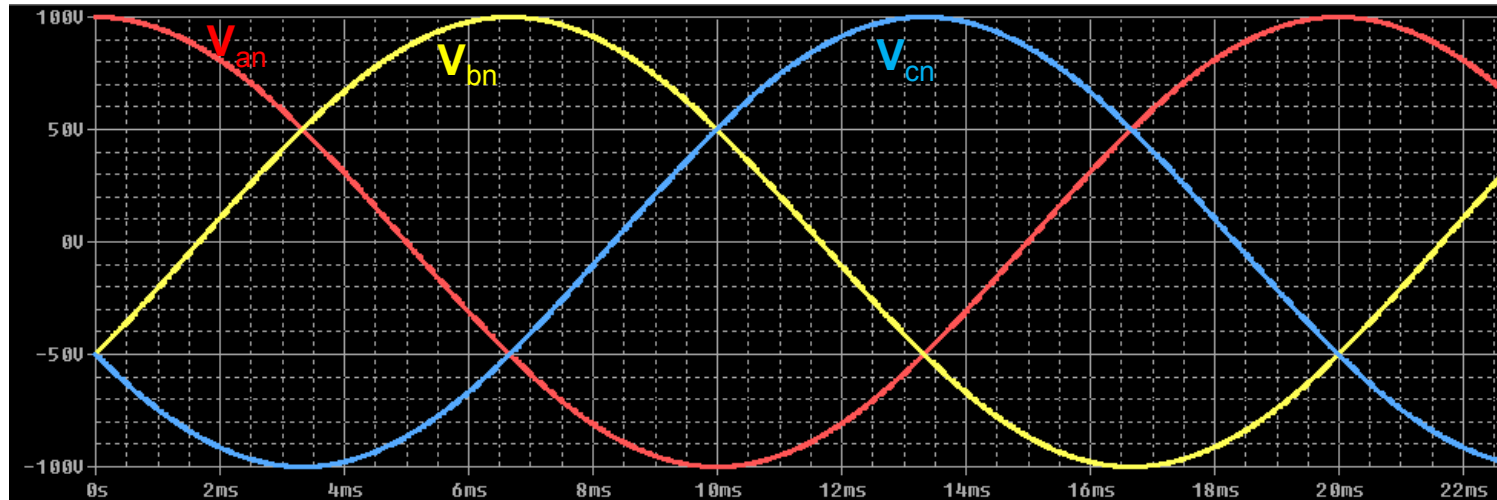
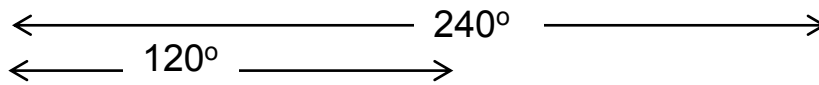


$$v_{an}(t) = \sqrt{2}V_p \cos(\omega t) \Rightarrow \mathbf{V}_{an} = V_p \angle 0^\circ$$

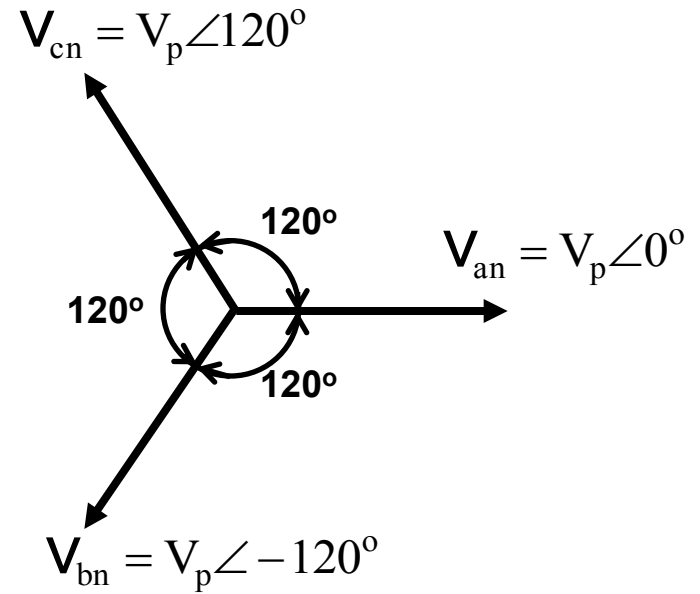
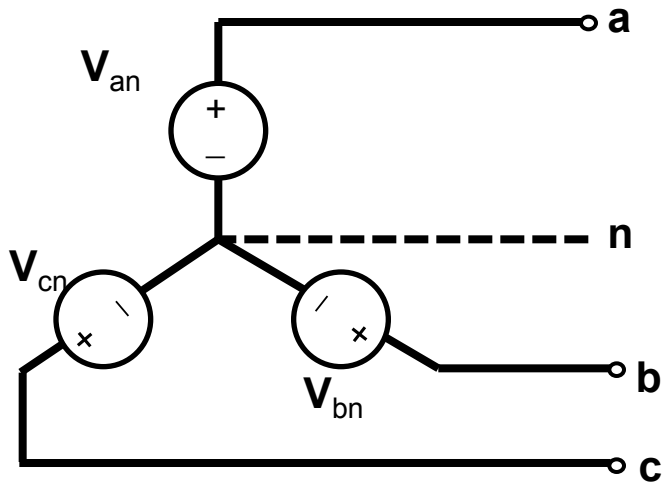
$$v_{bn}(t) = \sqrt{2}V_p \cos(\omega t - 120^\circ) \Rightarrow \mathbf{V}_{bn} = V_p \angle -120^\circ$$

$$v_{cn}(t) = \sqrt{2}V_p \cos(\omega t + 120^\circ) \Rightarrow \mathbf{V}_{cn} = V_p \angle 120^\circ$$

RMS phasors !



Phase Sequence



Phase sequence : V_{an} leads V_{bn} by 120° and V_{bn} leads V_{cn} by 120°

→ This is known as **abc sequence** or **positive sequence**

Phase Sequence

What if different phase sequence?

$$v_{an}(t) = \sqrt{2}V_p \cos(\omega t) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathbf{V}_{an} = V_p \angle 0^\circ$$

$$v_{cn}(t) = \sqrt{2}V_p \cos(\omega t - 120^\circ) \Rightarrow \quad \mathbf{V}_{cn} = V_p \angle -120^\circ$$

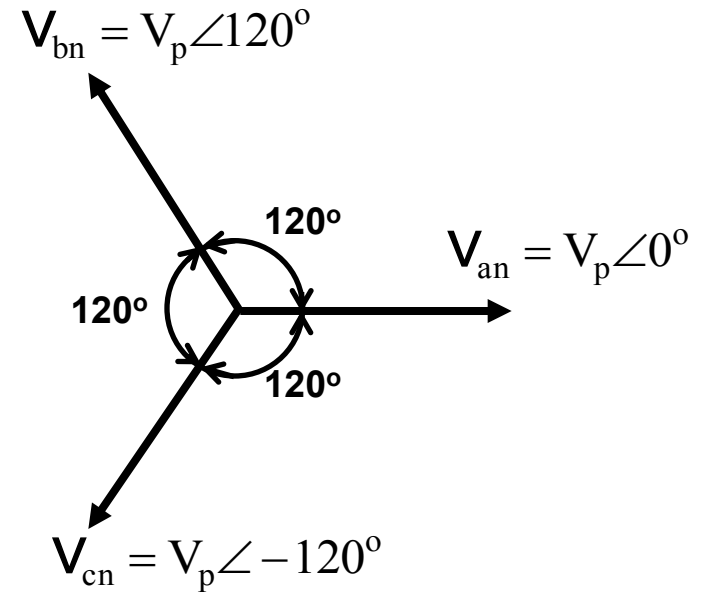
$$v_{bn}(t) = \sqrt{2}V_p \cos(\omega t + 120^\circ) \Rightarrow \quad \mathbf{V}_{bn} = V_p \angle 120^\circ$$

RMS phasors !



Phase Sequence

What if different phase sequence?



Phase sequence : V_{an} leads V_{cn} by 120° and V_{cn} leads V_{bn} by 120°

→ This is known as **acb sequence** or **negative sequence**

Example 1

Determine the phase sequence of the set of voltages.

$$v_{an} = 200 \cos(\omega t + 10^\circ)$$

$$v_{bn} = 200 \cos(\omega t - 230^\circ)$$

$$v_{cn} = 200 \cos(\omega t - 110^\circ)$$

Solution:

The voltages can be expressed in phasor form as

$$V_{an} = 200 \angle 10^\circ \text{ V}$$

$$V_{bn} = 200 \angle -230^\circ \text{ V}$$

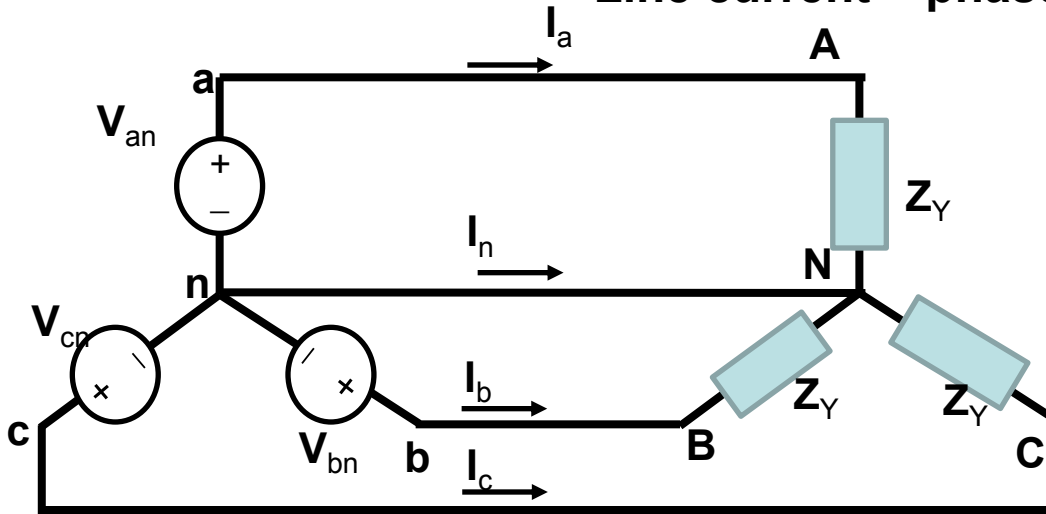
$$V_{cn} = 200 \angle -110^\circ \text{ V}$$

We notice that V_{an} leads V_{cn} by 120° and V_{cn} in turn leads V_{bn} by 120° .

Hence, we have an **acb** sequence.

Balanced 3-phase Y-Y

Line current = phase current



$$V_{an} = V_p \angle 0^\circ$$

$$V_{bn} = V_p \angle -120^\circ$$

$$V_{cn} = V_p \angle 120^\circ$$

Phase voltages

measured between the neutral and any line
(line to neutral voltage)

$$I_a = \frac{V_p \angle 0^\circ}{Z_Y}$$

$$I_b = \frac{V_p \angle -120^\circ}{Z_Y}$$

$$I_c = \frac{V_p \angle 120^\circ}{Z_Y}$$

$$\therefore I_a + I_b + I_c = I_n = 0$$

line currents

$$\begin{aligned} V_{ab} &= V_a - V_b = V_a - V_b + V_n - V_n = \\ &= V_{an} + V_{nb} = V_p \angle 0^\circ + V_p \angle 60^\circ \\ &= \sqrt{3} V_p \angle 30^\circ \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} V_{bc} &= V_{bn} + V_{nc} \\ &= \sqrt{3} V_p \angle -90^\circ \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} V_{ca} &= V_{cn} + V_{na} \\ &= \sqrt{3} V_p \angle 150^\circ \end{aligned}$$

line-line voltages
OR
Line voltages

The wire connecting n and N can be removed!

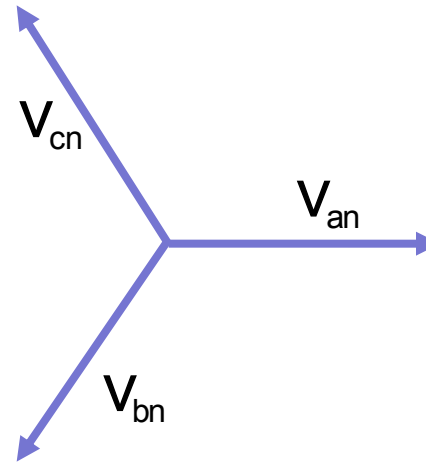
Balanced 3-phase systems Balanced Y-Y Connection

$$\begin{aligned}V_{ab} &= V_{an} + V_{nb} \\ &= V_p \angle 0^\circ + V_p \angle 60^\circ \\ &= \sqrt{3}V_p \angle 30^\circ\end{aligned}$$

Balanced 3-phase systems

Balanced Y-Y Connection

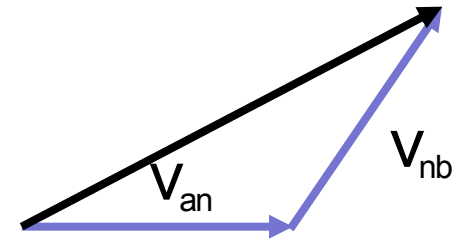
$$\begin{aligned}V_{ab} &= V_{an} + V_{nb} \\ &= V_p \angle 0^\circ + V_p \angle 60^\circ \\ &= \sqrt{3}V_p \angle 30^\circ\end{aligned}$$



Balanced 3-phase systems

Balanced Y-Y Connection

$$\begin{aligned}V_{ab} &= V_{an} + V_{nb} \\ &= V_p \angle 0^\circ + V_p \angle 60^\circ \\ &= \sqrt{3}V_p \angle 30^\circ\end{aligned}$$

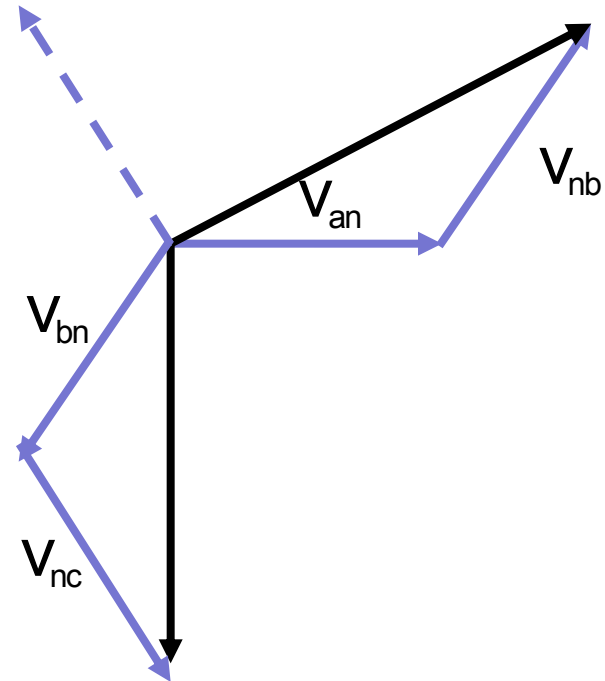


Balanced 3-phase systems

Balanced Y-Y Connection

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$$\begin{aligned}V_{bc} &= V_{bn} + V_{nc} \\ &= \sqrt{3}V_p \angle -90^\circ\end{aligned}$$



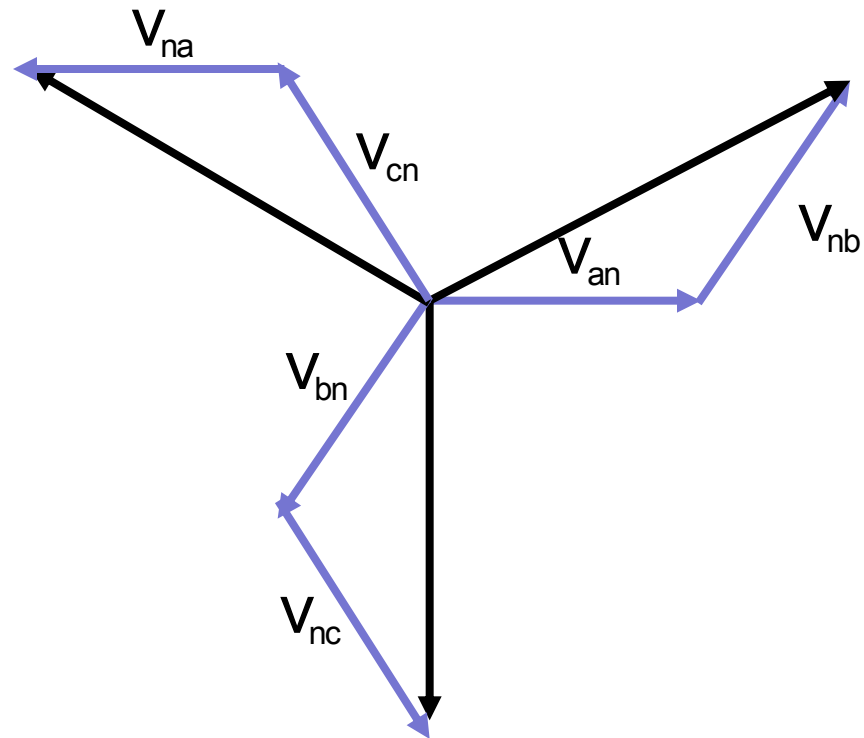
Balanced 3-phase systems

Balanced Y-Y Connection

$$\begin{aligned}V_{ab} &= V_{an} + V_{nb} \\ &= V_p \angle 0^\circ + V_p \angle 60^\circ \\ &= \sqrt{3}V_p \angle 30^\circ\end{aligned}$$

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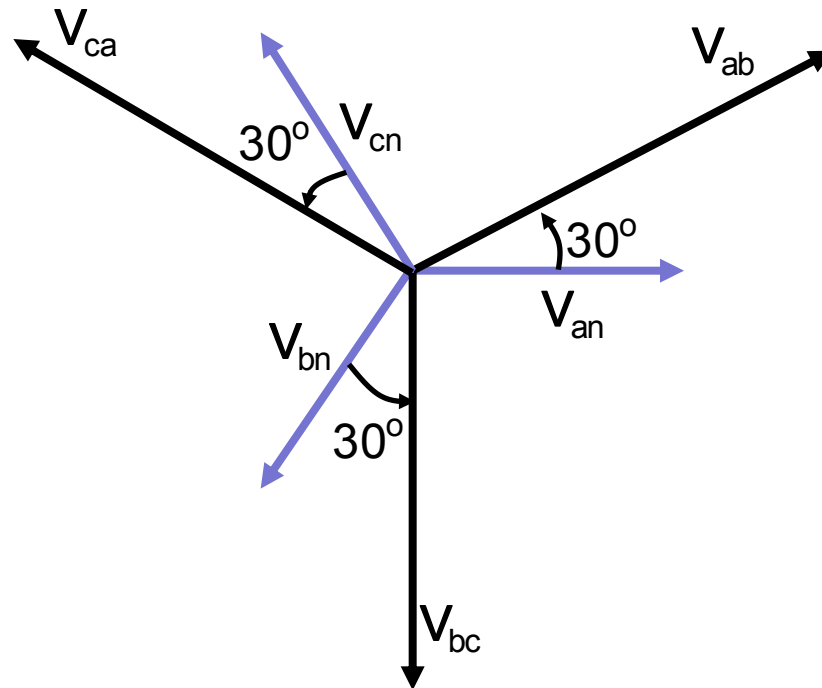
Balanced 3-phase systems

Balanced Y-Y Connection

$$\begin{aligned}V_{ab} &= V_{an} + V_{nb} \\ &= V_p \angle 0^\circ + V_p \angle 60^\circ \\ &= \sqrt{3}V_p \angle 30^\circ\end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}V_{ca} &= V_{cn} + V_{na} \\ &= \sqrt{3}V_p \angle 150^\circ\end{aligned}$$



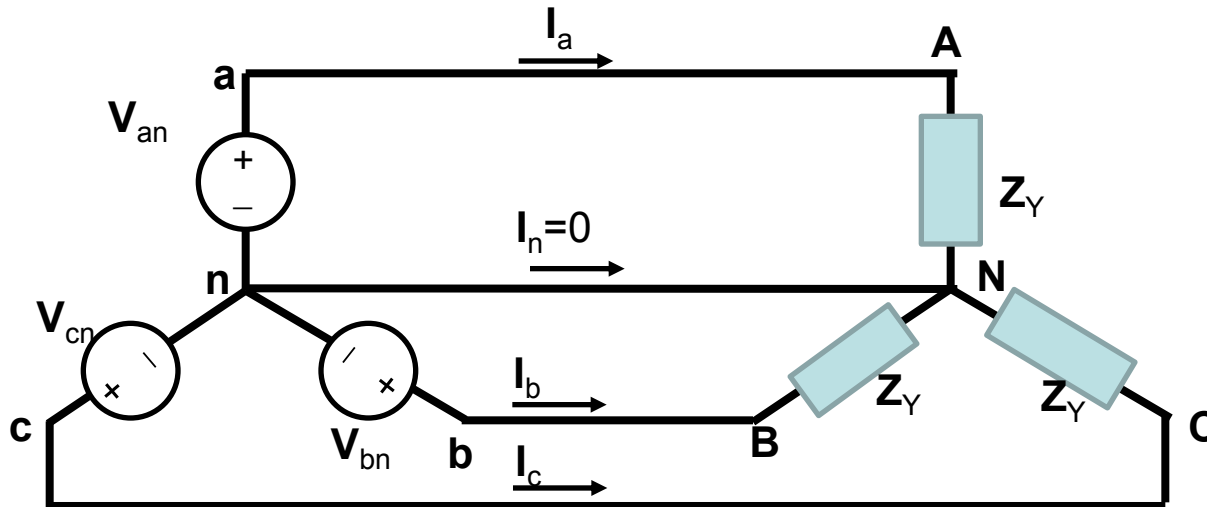
$$V_L = \sqrt{3}V_p$$

where $V_L = |V_{ab}| = |V_{bc}| = |V_{ca}|$ and $V_p = |V_{an}| = |V_{bn}| = |V_{cn}|$

Line voltage LEADS phase voltage by 30°

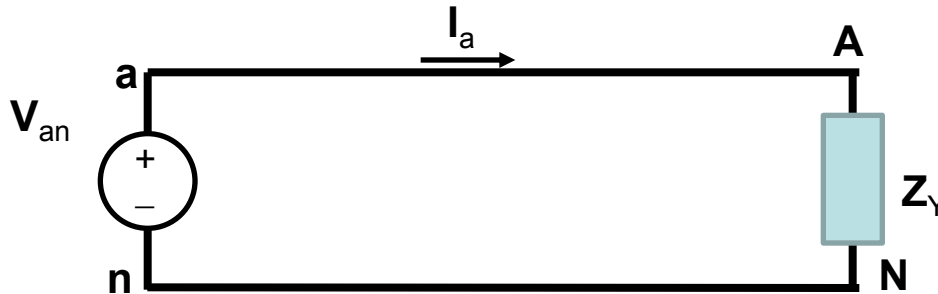
Balanced 3-phase systems Balanced Y-Y Connection

For a **balanced Y-Y** connection, analysis can be performed using an **equivalent per-phase** circuit: e.g. for phase A:



Balanced 3-phase systems Balanced Y-Y Connection

For a **balanced Y-Y** connection, analysis can be performed using an **equivalent per-phase** circuit: e.g. for phase A:



$$I_a = \frac{V_{an}}{Z_Y}$$

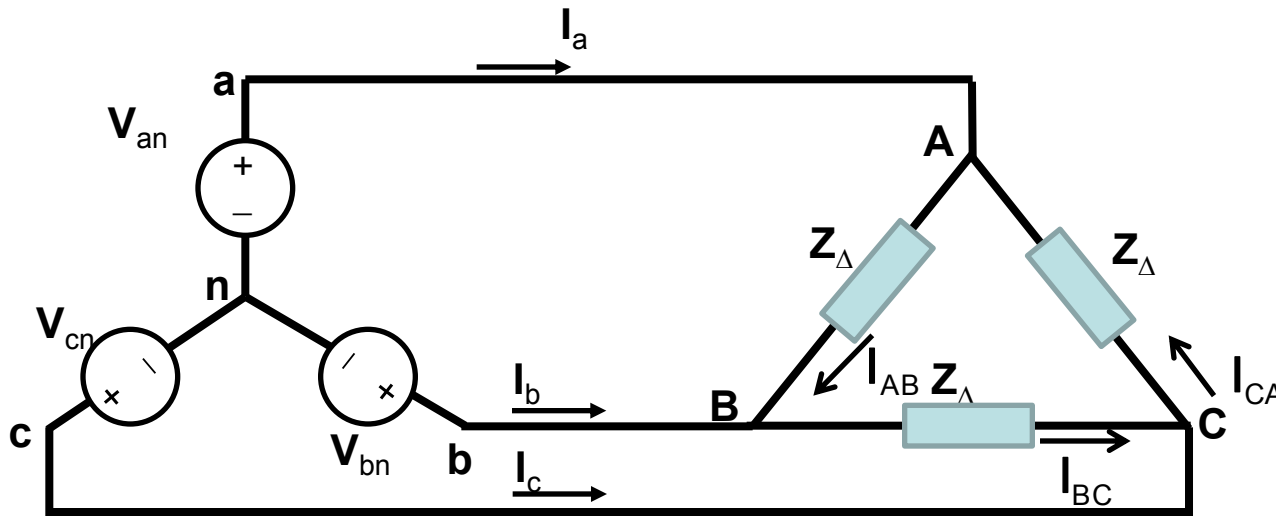
Based on the sequence, the other line currents can be obtained from:

$$I_b = I_a \angle -120^\circ$$

$$I_c = I_a \angle 120^\circ$$

Balanced 3-phase systems

Balanced Y-Δ Connection



$$V_{an} = V_p \angle 0^\circ$$

$$V_{bn} = V_p \angle -120^\circ$$

$$V_{cn} = V_p \angle 120^\circ$$

$$V_{ab} = \sqrt{3}V_p \angle 30^\circ$$

$$= V_{AB}$$

$$I_{AB} = \frac{V_{AB}}{Z_{\Delta}}$$

$$V_{bc} = \sqrt{3}V_p \angle -90^\circ$$

$$= V_{BC}$$

$$I_{BC} = \frac{V_{BC}}{Z_{\Delta}}$$

$$V_{ca} = \sqrt{3}V_p \angle 150^\circ$$

$$= V_{CA}$$

$$I_{CA} = \frac{V_{CA}}{Z_{\Delta}}$$

Using KCL,

$$I_a = I_{AB} - I_{CA}$$

$$= I_{AB}(1 - 1 \angle 120^\circ)$$

$$= I_{AB} \sqrt{3} \angle -30^\circ$$

$$I_b = I_{BC} - I_{AB}$$

$$= I_{BC}(1 - 1 \angle 120^\circ)$$

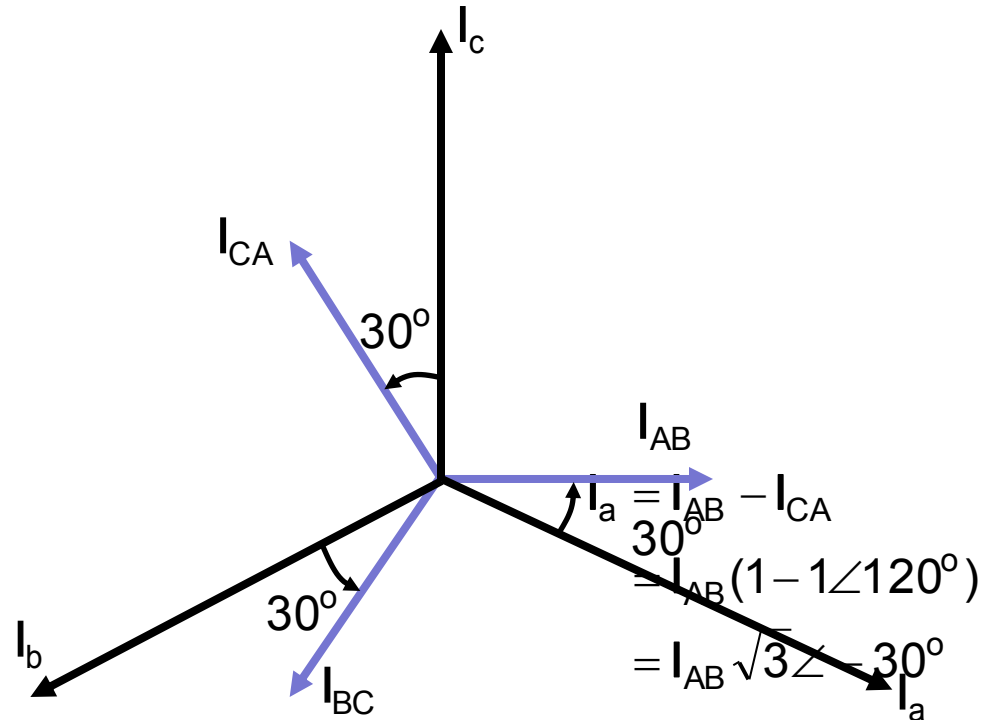
$$= I_{BC} \sqrt{3} \angle -30^\circ$$

$$I_c = I_{CA} \sqrt{3} \angle -30^\circ$$

Phase currents

Balanced 3-phase systems

Balanced Y-Δ Connection



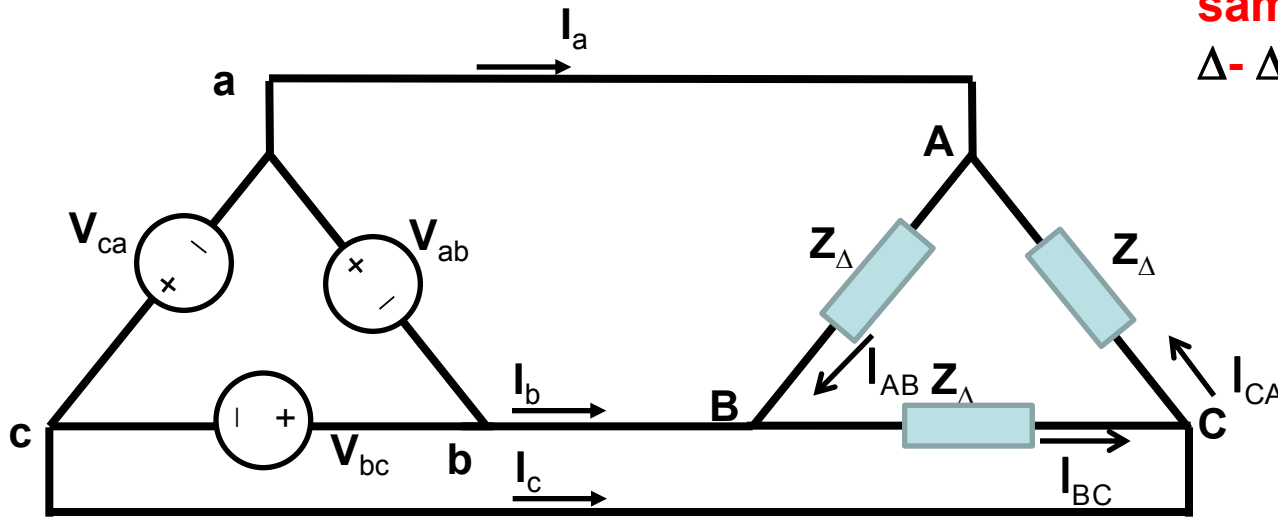
$$I_L = \sqrt{3}I_p$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 I_a &= I_{AB} - I_{CA} \\
 &= I_{AB} (1 - 1 \angle 120^\circ) \\
 &= I_{AB} \sqrt{3} \angle -30^\circ \\
 I_b &= I_{BC} - I_{AB} \\
 &= I_{BC} (1 - 1 \angle 120^\circ) \\
 &= I_{BC} \sqrt{3} \angle -30^\circ
 \end{aligned}$$

where $I_L = |I_a| = |I_b| = |I_c|$ and $I_p = |I_{AB}| = |I_{BC}| = |I_{CA}|$

Phase current LEADS line current by 30°

Balanced 3-phase Δ - Δ



Line-line voltage is the same as phase voltage in Δ - Δ

$$V_{ab} = V_p \angle 0^\circ$$

$$V_{bc} = V_p \angle -120^\circ$$

$$V_{cn} = V_p \angle 120^\circ$$

$$V_{ab} = V_{AB}$$

$$V_{bc} = V_{BC}$$

$$V_{ca} = V_{CA}$$

$$I_{AB} = \frac{V_{AB}}{Z_\Delta}$$

$$I_{BC} = \frac{V_{BC}}{Z_\Delta}$$

$$I_{CA} = \frac{V_{CA}}{Z_\Delta}$$

Using KCL, $I_a = I_{AB} - I_{CA}$

$$= I_{AB} (1 - 1 \angle 120^\circ)$$

$$= I_{AB} \sqrt{3} \angle -30^\circ$$

$$I_b = I_{BC} - I_{AB}$$

$$= I_{BC} (1 - 1 \angle 120^\circ)$$

$$= I_{BC} \sqrt{3} \angle -30^\circ$$

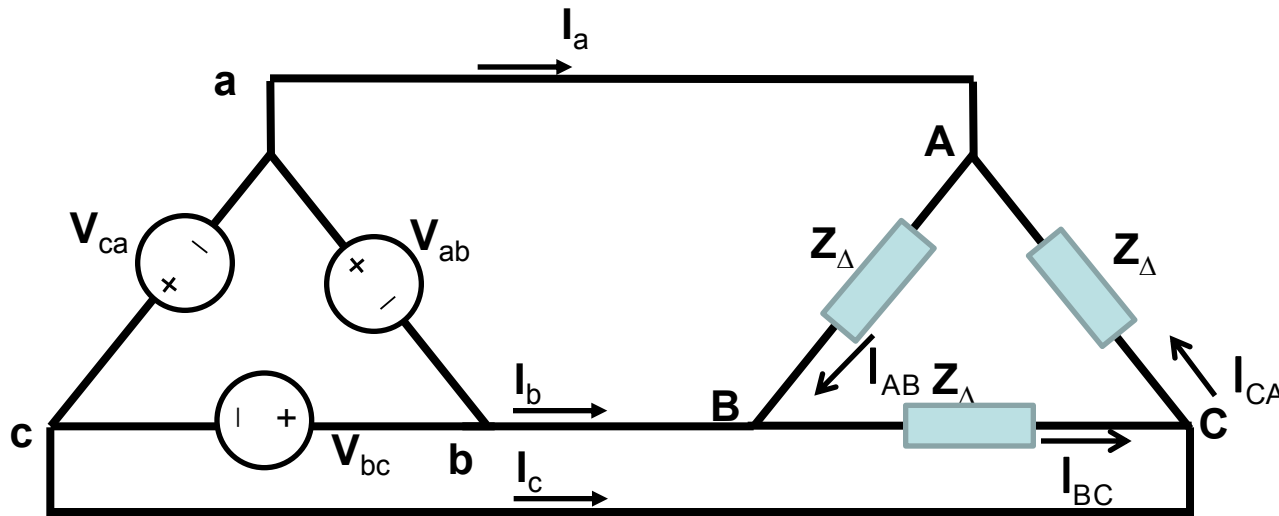
$$I_c = I_{CA} \sqrt{3} \angle -30^\circ$$

Phase currents

line currents

Balanced 3-phase systems

Balanced Δ - Δ Connection



$$V_{ab} = V_p \angle 0^\circ$$

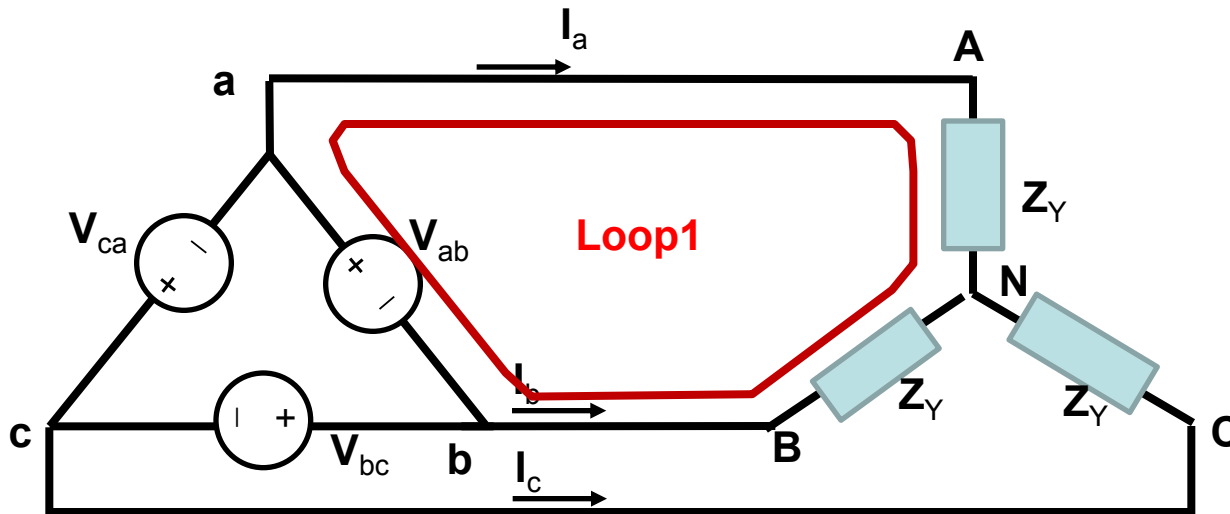
$$V_{bc} = V_p \angle -120^\circ$$

$$V_{cn} = V_p \angle 120^\circ$$

Alternatively, by transforming the Δ connections to the equivalent Y connections per phase equivalent circuit analysis can be performed.

Balanced 3-phase systems

Balanced Δ -Y Connection



$$V_{ab} = V_p \angle 0^\circ$$

$$V_{bc} = V_p \angle -120^\circ$$

$$V_{ca} = V_p \angle 120^\circ$$

How to find I_a ?

$$\text{Loop1} \quad -V_{ab} + Z_Y I_a - Z_Y I_b = 0 \quad \Rightarrow I_a - I_b = \frac{V_{ab}}{Z_Y}$$

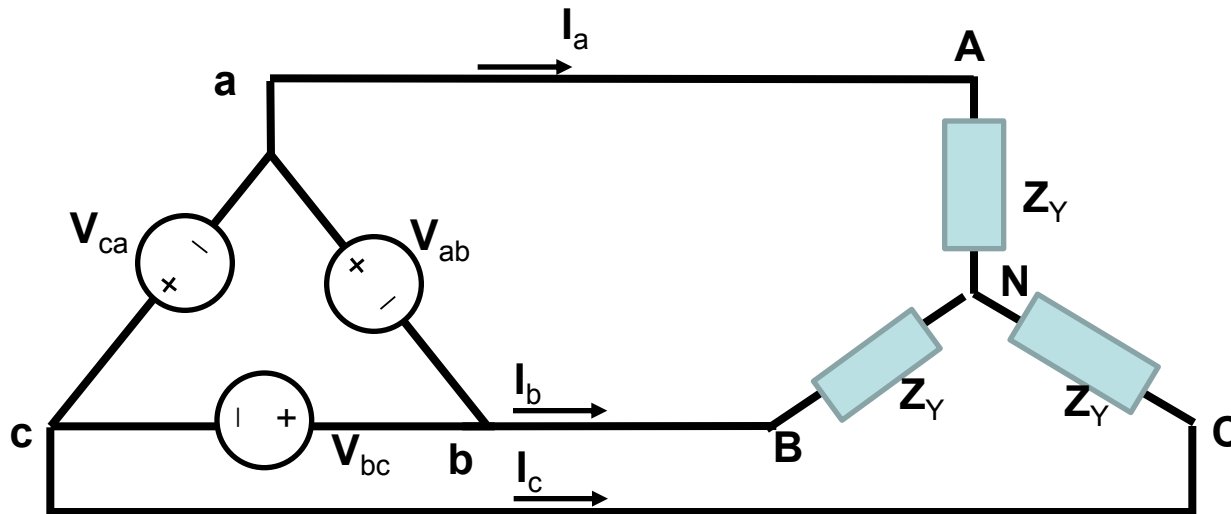
$$\text{Since circuit is balanced, } I_b = I_a \angle -120^\circ \quad \Rightarrow I_a - I_b = I_a (1 - 1 \angle (-120^\circ))$$

$$= I_a \sqrt{3} \angle 30^\circ$$

$$\text{Therefore } I_a = \frac{V_p / \sqrt{3}}{Z_Y} \angle -30^\circ$$

Balanced 3-phase systems

Balanced Δ -Y Connection



$$V_{ab} = V_p \angle 0^\circ$$

$$V_{bc} = V_p \angle -120^\circ$$

$$V_{ca} = V_p \angle 120^\circ$$

How to find I_a ? (Alternative)

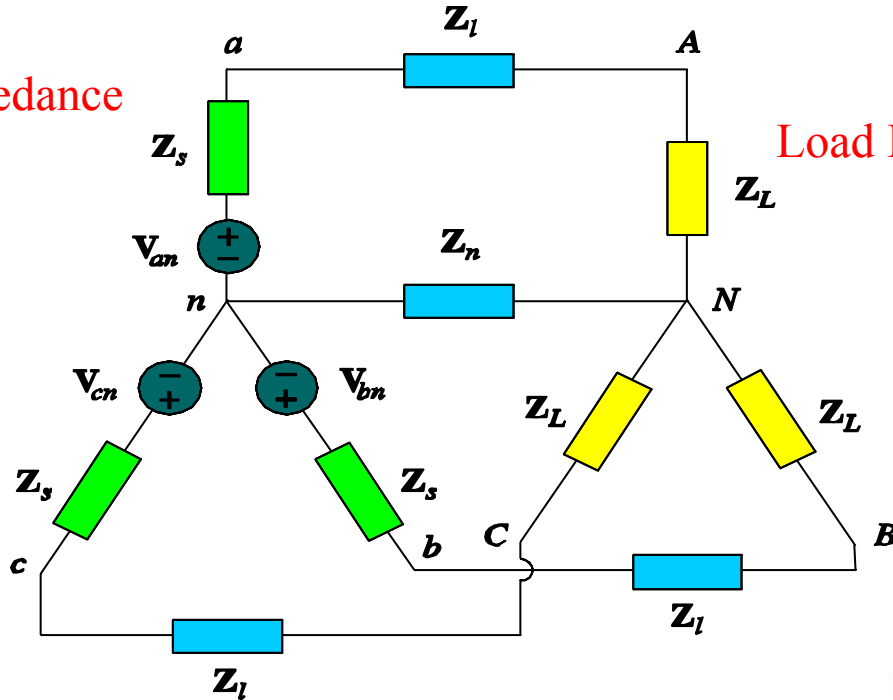
Transform the delta source connection to an equivalent Y and then perform the per phase circuit analysis

➤ A balanced Y-Y system, showing the source, line and load impedances.

Line Impedance

Source Impedance

Load Impedance



Equivalent Circuit

