

The 4th Symposium on  
ADVANCED TOPICS IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

**ATEE - 2004**



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## **Computer Aided Generation of DC & AC Electric Circuit Tests**

Paul Dan Cristea, Rodica Ileana Tuduce, Aurora Rodica Tuduce  
"Politehnica" University of Bucharest  
Spl. Independentei 313, 77206 Bucharest, Romania,  
Phone: +40 - 21- 411 44 37, Fax: +40 - 21- 410 44 14  
e-mail:pcristea@dsp.pub.ro

1

## **PAPER OUTLINE**

1. Problem set description
2. Tree generation
3. Cotree generation
4. Tree plot
5. Graph plot
6. Circuit parameters and variables generation
7. Converting voltage sources to current sources
8. Introducing controlled sources
9. Web accessibility
10. Conclusions

2

# OBJECTIVES

Design and develop a software able to automatically generate large sets of circuit analysis problems, all with the same general features, but having different topological structures and parameters of the circuits.

## Conditions:

- The problems are for use both during the tutorials and for examinations, thus -- despite the inherent risk for an engineering perception of reality -- all parameters and variables describing the circuits should be integers to facilitate the computational task.
- Problems and solutions should be stored automatically on disk in distinct directories.
- Files referring to the same problem (text, graphics, etc) will have related labels.
- The system will be developed for making it accessible on the web.

3

# PROBLEM SET DESCRIPTION

Choosing the parameters of the set of AC problems to generate.

```
%          1          2 3 4 5 6 7
param = query({'311_CA_21.11.2004', '30', '1', 'RO', 'd', 'g', 'no'}, ...
{
  'SetID      - problem set label (Year of Study/Group ID/Date)', ... % 1
  'Nproblems - number of problems', ... % 2
  'StartID   - ID of the first problem', ... % 3
  'Language  - RO/EN', ... % 4
  'Out_medium - s = save on hard, d = display' ... % 5
  'Represent - t = tree, g = graph, b = both, other char = none' ... % 6
  'Entropy   - yes/no = compute and display graph entropy' ... % 7
}, ...
'Set Parameters');
```

Set Parameters

SetID - problem set label (Year of Study/Group ID/Date)  
311\_CA\_21.11.2004

Nproblems - number of problems  
30

StartID - ID of the first problem  
1

Language - RO/EN  
RO

Out\_medium - s = save on hard, d = display  
d

Represent - t = tree, g = graph, b = both, other char = none  
g

Entropy - yes/no = compute and display graph entropy  
no

OK Cancel

4

## Choosing Variables & Independent Parameters

```
%
      1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9  10  11  12  13
param = query({'4','7','4','4','1','4','4','0','1','4','4','2','Y'}, ...
{
  'Nnodes      - number of nodes', ...           % 1
  'Nbranches   - number of branches', ...       % 2
  'I_chord_a_max - maximum absolute value of chord current active components [A]', ... % 3
  'I_chord_r_max - maximum absolute value of chord current reactive components [A]', ... % 4
  'R_twig_min  - minimum value of twig resistances [Ohms]', ...                       % 5
  'R_twig_max  - maximum value of twig resistances [Ohms]', ...                       % 6
  'X_twig_max  - maximum absolute value of twig reactance [Ohms]', ...                % 7
  'E_twig_max  - maximum absolute value of twig Re & Im emf-s [V]', ...               % 8
  'R_chord_min - minimum value of chord resistances [Ohms]', ...                     % 9
  'R_chord_max - maximum value of chord resistances [Ohms]', ...                     %10
  'X_chord_max - maximum absolute value of chord reactance [Ohms]', ...              %11
  'nJ          - number of branches with current sources', ...                       %12
  'CrossLinks  - Y/N - mutual inductances and controlled sources'...              %13
}, ...
'Circuit Variables & Independent Parameters');
```

**Circuit Variables & Independent Parameters**

Nnodes - number of nodes  
4

Nbranches - number of branches  
7

R\_chord\_max - maximum value of chord resistances [Ohms]  
4

X\_chord\_max - maximum absolute value of chord reactance [Ohms]  
4

nJ - number of branches with current sources  
2

CrossLinks - Y/N - mutual inductances and controlled sources  
Y

OK Cancel

5

## Mutual inductive couplings and controlled source parameters

```
if strcmp(lower(CrossLinks), 'y')
%
      1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9  10  11  12  13  14
param = query({'0','0','0','0','0','3','0','0','0','0','0','0','0','0'}, ...
{
  'nEI - number of current controlled voltage sources E = Zi * I' %1
  'nJU - number of voltage controlled current sources J = Yt * U' %2
  'nEU - number of voltage controlled voltage sources E = A * U' %3
  'nJI - number of current controlled current sources J = B * I' %4
  'nM - number of mutual inductive couplings' %5
  ['Zta_max - maximum absolute value of transfer resistance [Ohms] %6
    'Ea + j.Er = (Zta + j.Ztr) (Ia + j.Ir)'] %7
  'Ztr_max - maximum absolute value of transfer reactance [Ohms] %8
    'Ea + j.Er = (Yta + j.Ytr) (Ua + j.Ur)'] %9
  'Yta_max - maximum absolute value of transfer conductance [Siemens] %10
    'Ea + j.Er = (Aa + j.Ar) (Ua + j.Ur)'] %11
  'Ytr_max - maximum absolute value of transfer susceptance [Siemens] %12
    'Ea + j.Er = (Ba + j.Br) (Ia + j.Ir)'] %13
  'Aa_max - maximum absolute value of voltage gain active component %14
    'Ea + j.Er = (Ba + j.Br) (Ia + j.Ir)'] %15
  'Ba_max - maximum absolute value of current gain active component %16
    'Ea + j.Er = (Ba + j.Br) (Ia + j.Ir)'] %17
  'Br_max - maximum absolute value of current gain reactive component %18
    'Ea + j.Er = (Ba + j.Br) (Ia + j.Ir)'] %19
  'XM_max - maximum value of mutual inductive reactance [Ohms] %20
}, ...
'Selection of mutual inductive couplings and controlled source parameters');
```

**Selection of mutual inductive couplings and controlled source parameters**

nEI - number of current controlled voltage sources E = Zi \* I  
0

nJU - number of voltage controlled current sources J = Yt \* U  
0

nEU - number of voltage controlled voltage sources E = A \* U  
0

nJI - number of current controlled current sources J = B \* I  
0

nM - number of mutual inductive couplings  
0

Zta\_max - maximum absolute value of transfer resistance [Ohms]  
3  
Ea + j.Er = (Zta + j.Ztr) (Ia + j.Ir)

Ztr\_max - maximum absolute value of transfer reactance [Ohms]  
0

Yta\_max - maximum absolute value of transfer conductance [Siemens]  
3  
Ea + j.Er = (Yta + j.Ytr) (Ua + j.Ur)

Ytr\_max - maximum absolute value of transfer susceptance [Siemens]  
0

Aa\_max - maximum absolute value of voltage gain active component  
5  
Ea + j.Er = (Aa + j.Ar) (Ua + j.Ur)

Ba\_max - maximum absolute value of current gain active component  
5  
Ea + j.Er = (Ba + j.Br) (Ia + j.Ir)

Br\_max - maximum absolute value of current gain reactive component  
0

XM\_max - maximum value of mutual inductive reactance [Ohms]  
4

OK Cancel

6

# CIRCUIT TOPOLOGY

```
C_nodes_twigs = GenerateTree(Ntwigs, mode)
```

```
ShowTree(C_nodes_twigs, SetID, k)
```

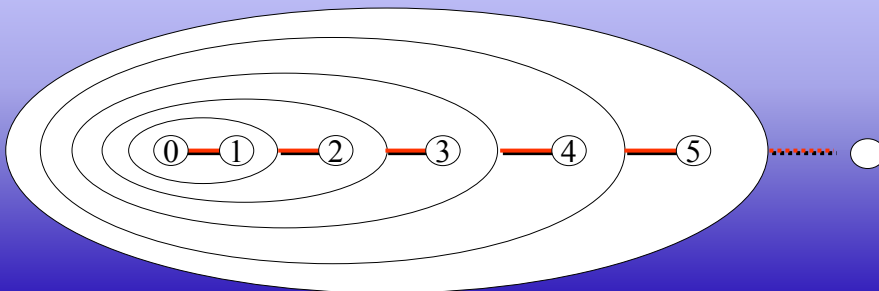
```
C_nodes_chords = GenerateCoTree(C_nodes_twigs, Nchords)
```

```
ShowGraphNet(C_nodes_twigs, C_nodes_chords, SetID, k)
```

```
C_twigs_chords = EssIncid(C_nodes_twigs, C_nodes_chords)
```

7

## Tree Generation



```
function C_nodes_twigs = GenerateTree(n, mode)
C_nodes_twigs = zeros(n, n);
rand('state', sum(100*clock));
r = rand(2,n);
c = 2 * ( r(2, :) >= 0.5 ) - 1;
m = 0;
for k = 1:n
    s = ceil( (k-m)* r(1, k) + m-1 );
    f = k;
    if s>0, C_nodes_twigs(s, k) = c(k); end
    C_nodes_twigs(f, k) = - c(k);
    if mode == 's', m = s; end
end
```

8

## Examples

C\_nodes\_twigs =

```
-1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
0 1 0 0 1 0 0 0
0 0 -1 -1 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 1 0 -1 0 0
0 0 0 0 -1 0 1 0
0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 0 -1 1
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 -1
```

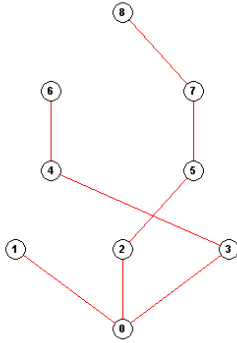
C\_nodes\_twigs =

```
1 -1 0 0 0 0 -1 0
0 1 0 0 -1 0 0 0
0 0 1 0 0 -1 0 0
0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 1 0 0 -1
0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1
```

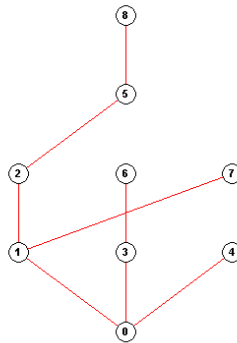
C\_nodes\_twigs =

```
-1 0 1 0 1 0 0 0
0 -1 0 0 0 0 1 0
0 0 -1 1 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 -1 0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0 -1 1 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 -1 0 0
0 0 0 0 0 0 -1 0
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 -1
```

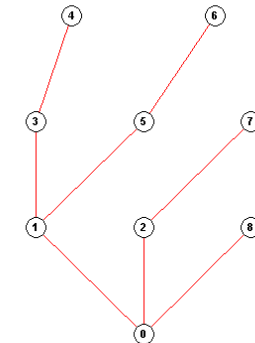
Tree8



Tree8



Tree8

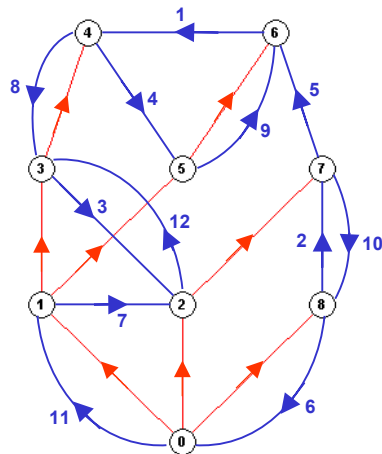


## Cotree Generation

Starts from the chosen tree

Chords are introduced between nodes chosen randomly from the class of nodes with the lowest rank (lowest number of connected branches).

This order assures the best connectivity of the circuit for a given number of chords.



## Code

```
function C_nodes_chords = GenerateCoTree(C_nodes_twigs, Nchords)
```

```
[n,m] = size(C_nodes_twigs);

if Nchords <= 0, C_nodes_chords = []; return, end

C_nodes_chords_ext = zeros(n+1, Nchords);

rand('state', sum(100*clock)); r = rand(2,Nchords); c = 2 * ( r(2, :) >= 0.5 ) - 1;

C_nodes_twigs_ext = CompleteCnb(C_nodes_twigs);

Rank_All_Nodes = sum(abs((C_nodes_twigs_ext)));

Chord = 1;

while Chord <= Nchords

    [Sorted_Rank_All_Nodes, Node_Line] = sort(Rank_All_Nodes);
    Start_Node = Node_Line(1);

    End_Node = Node_Line(2);

    C_nodes_chords_ext(Start_Node, Chord) = c(Chord);
    Rank_All_Nodes(Start_Node) = Rank_All_Nodes(Start_Node) + 1;

    C_nodes_chords_ext(End_Node, Chord) = -c(Chord);
    Rank_All_Nodes(End_Node) = Rank_All_Nodes(End_Node) + 1;

    Chord = Chord + 1;
end
C_nodes_chords = C_nodes_chords_ext(2:(n+1), :);
```

11

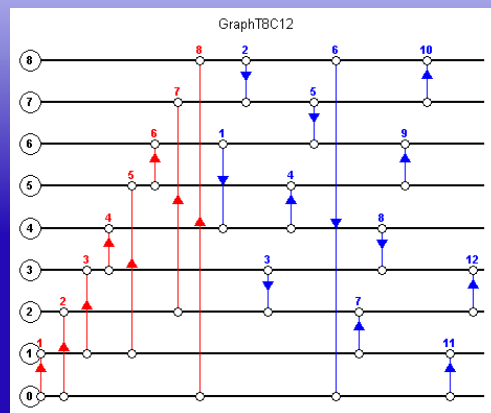
## Examples

C\_nodes\_twigs =

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| -1 | 0  | 1  | 0  | 1  | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| 0  | -1 | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1  | 0  |
| 0  | 0  | -1 | 1  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| 0  | 0  | 0  | -1 | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | -1 | 1  | 0  | 0  |
| 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | -1 | 0  | 0  |
| 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | -1 | 0  |
| 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | -1 |

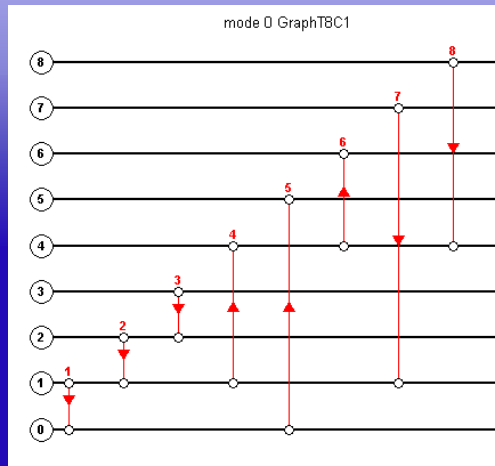
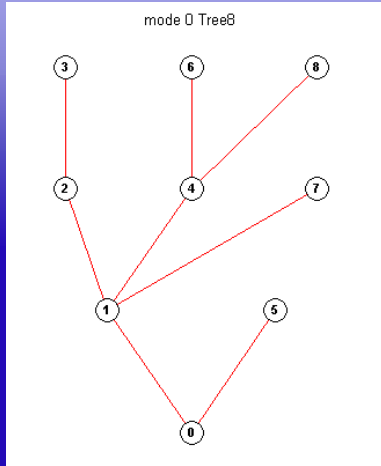
C\_nodes\_chords =

|    |    |    |    |    |   |    |    |   |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|---|----|----|---|----|----|----|
| 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0 | 1  | 0  | 0 | 0  | -1 | 0  |
| 0  | 0  | -1 | 0  | 0  | 0 | -1 | 0  | 0 | 0  | 0  | 1  |
| 0  | 0  | 1  | 0  | 0  | 0 | 0  | -1 | 0 | 0  | 0  | -1 |
| -1 | 0  | 0  | 1  | 0  | 0 | 0  | 0  | 1 | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| 0  | 0  | 0  | -1 | 0  | 0 | 0  | 0  | 1 | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| 1  | 0  | 0  | 0  | -1 | 0 | 0  | 0  | 0 | -1 | 0  | 0  |
| 0  | -1 | 0  | 0  | 1  | 0 | 0  | 0  | 0 | 0  | 1  | 0  |
| 0  | 1  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1 | 0  | 0  | 0 | -1 | 0  | 0  |

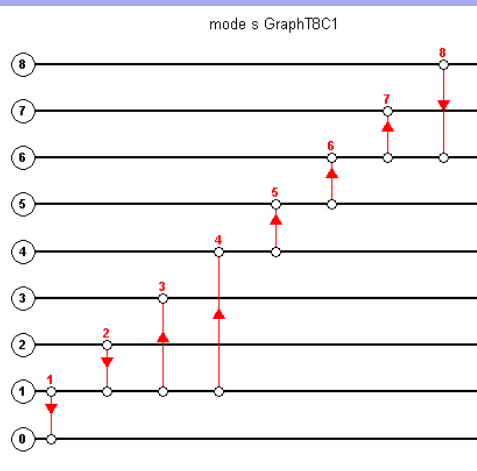
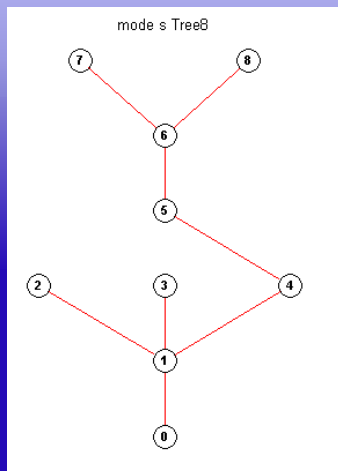


12

# Tree Plot



# 's' Mode



## Code 1

```
function ShowTree(C_nodes_twigs, SetID, k);
% Plots the tree corresponding to the C_nodes_twigs nodes-twigs incidence matrix
[n,m] = size(C_nodes_twigs);

FigName = 'Tree'; FigType = 'png';
f = sprintf('%s.%s', FigName, FigType);

y = ones(1, n+1);
y(0+1) = 0;
numY = zeros(1, n+1);
numX = zeros(1, n+1);

UAC = [abs(sum(C_nodes_twigs)); abs(C_nodes_twigs) - eye(n)];
[ii, jj] = find(UAC); % ii(i)-1 - index of node from where starts twig i, ending in node jj(i) = i
                    % the direction might be inverted
for i = 1:n
    y(i+1) = y(ii(i)) + 1; % y(i+1) ordinate of node i
End

ymax = max(y);

for i = 0:ymax
    numY(i+1) = sum(y == i);
    d = 1/(numY(i+1) + 1);
    kk = find(y == i);
    for j = 1:numY(i+1), x(kk(j)) = d * j; end
end
hFig = figure;
set(hFig, 'tag', strrep(FigName, '_', ' '));
axis([0, 1, 0, ymax+0.25]);
hold on
```

15

## Code 2

```
for i = 1:n
    plot([x(ii(i)), x(i+1)], [y(ii(i)), y(i+1)], '-r');
end

for i = 0:n
    plot(x(i+1), y(i+1), 'ok',...
        'MarkerEdgeColor', [0,0,0], ...
        'MarkerFaceColor', [1,1,1],...
        'MarkerSize',15);

    text('string', num2str(i),'position', [x(i+1), y(i+1)], 'FontSize', 8, ...
        'FontWeight','bold', 'Color', [0, 0, 0], ...
        'HorizontalAlignment', 'Center', 'VerticalAlignment', 'Middle');
end

ha = findobj(hFig, 'type', 'axes');
set(ha, 'Visible', 'off');
ht = title(strrep(FigName, '_', ' '));
set(ht, 'Color', [0 0 0], 'FontAngle', 'normal', 'FontName', 'Helvetica', ...
    'FontSize', [10], 'FontUnits', 'points', 'FontWeight', 'normal', ...
    'HorizontalAlignment', 'center', 'VerticalAlignment', 'bottom', 'Visible', 'on');

set(hFig, 'name', f);
f = makeUnique(f);
print( hFig, ['-d' FigType], f);
if ~isempty(k), close(hFig); end

return
```

16



## Graph Plot

```
function ShowGraphNet (C_nodes_twigs, C_nodes_chords, ...  
                      SetID, k, ChordsNumbers)
```

C\_nodes\_twigs - the tree branches (twigs) to nodes  
incidence matrix

C\_nodes\_chords - the co-tree branches (chords) to nodes  
incidence matrix

SetID - label (tag) to identify the set of problems

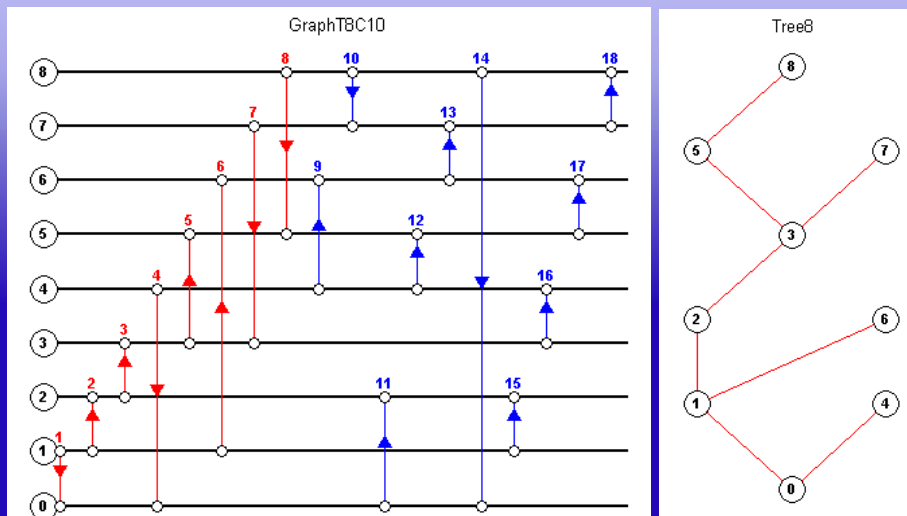
k - numerical identifier of the problem

ChordsNumbers = 0 - chords numbered independently,  
from 1 to Nchords

ChordsNumbers = 1 - chords numbered in sequence  
with twigs, from Ntwigs+1 to Ntwigs + Nchords

17

## Examples



18

# CIRCUIT PARAMETERS & VARIABLES

Circuit parameter and variable generation

```
[I, U, Z, E] = CircParam_AC(C_twigs_chords, ...
    I_chord_a_max, I_chord_r_max, ...
    R_twig_min, R_twig_max, X_twig_max, E_twig_max, ...
    R_chord_min, R_chord_max, X_chord_max);
```

Converting (some) voltage sources to current sources

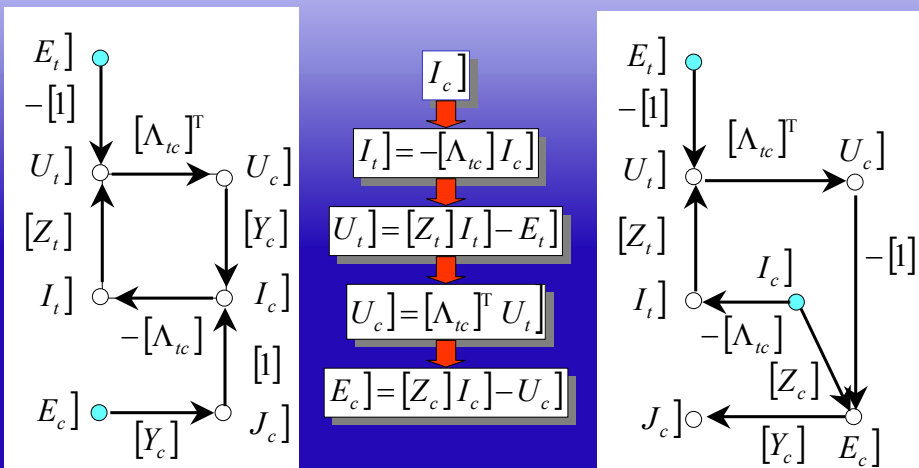
```
[E, J] = ConvertE2J_AC(E, Z, nJ);
```

Introducing controlled sources

```
[E, J, Zt, Yt, A, B, XM] = ControlledSources_AC(E, J, I, U, Z, ...
    nControl, nEI, nJU, nEU, nJI, nM, ...
    Zta_max, Ztr_max, Yta_max, Ytr_max, Aa_max, Ar_max, ...
    Ba_max, Br_max, XM_max);
```

19

## Circuit Parameter and Variable Generation



20

## Global Circuit Variables

Concatenate the matrices for tree & cotree

$$U = \begin{bmatrix} U_t \\ U_c \end{bmatrix}$$

$$I = \begin{bmatrix} I_t \\ I_c \end{bmatrix}$$

$$E = \begin{bmatrix} E_t \\ E_c \end{bmatrix}$$

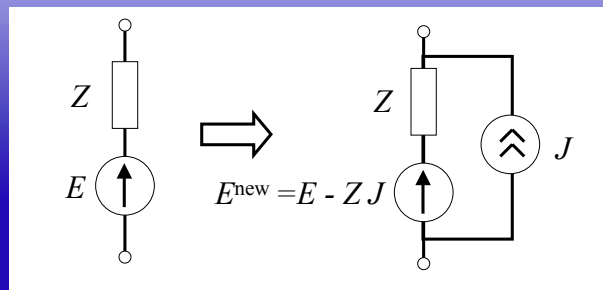
$$J = \begin{bmatrix} J_t \\ J_c \end{bmatrix}$$

21

## Converting Voltage Sources to Current Sources

Current sources (change of independent voltage source emf's)

$$E^{\text{new}} = E - [Z] J$$



Convert nJ voltage sources to current sources

$$[E, J] = \text{ConvertE2J\_AC}(E, Z, nJ);$$

22

## Cross Parameters

[E, J, Zt, Yt, A, B, XM] = ControlledSources\_AC(E, J, I, U, Z, ...  
 nControl, nEI, nJU, nEU, nJI, nM, ...  
 Zta\_max, Ztr\_max, Yta\_max, Ytr\_max, ...  
 Aa\_max, Ar\_max, Ba\_max, Br\_max, XM\_max);

Controlled sources (change of independent voltage source emf's)

|                            |                             |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| $E^{controlled} = [Z_t] I$ | $E^{new} = E - [Z_t] I$     |
| $J^{controlled} = [Y_t] U$ | $E^{new} = E - [Z] [Y_t] U$ |
| $E^{controlled} = [A] U$   | $E^{new} = E - [A] U$       |
| $J^{controlled} = [B] I$   | $E^{new} = E - [Z] [B] I$   |

Mutual reactances

|                            |                             |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| $E^{induced} = [-j X_M] I$ | $E^{new} = E - E^{induced}$ |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|

23

## WEB ACCESSIBILITY

The system will be accessible on the INTERNET, to allow remote use, for both professors and students

Partial examination of problems will be done on the computer, In a face-to-face or remote setting.

The web accessibility is currently partially functional and partially under development

24

```

function retstr = webCAM(instruct, outfile)
% webCAM returns circuit parameters into HTML table.
% webCAM(INSTRUCT) returns output in RETSTR.
% webCAM(INSTRUCT, OUTFILE) returns output in RETSTR.
% OUTFILE is a valid spec for test output.
%
% INSTRUCT is a structure created by the matweb program.
% It contains fields corresponding to the HTML form fields
% in the HTML form, webCAM1.html. In webCAM1.html there
% is a hidden field, called INSTRUCT.MLMFILE that references
% this webCAM.m M-file.

```

```

function rs = webCircuitPlot(h)
% RS = webCircuitPlot(H) creates a plot of graph with handle h and
% returns HTML output in string RS. Handle h is the
% structure created by matweb. It contains variables
% from the HTML input form in Circuit_plot_generator.html

```

25

## CONCLUSIONS

- A specialized e-learning system able to automatically generate large sets of circuit analysis problems, all with the same difficulty, but having different topological structures and parameters of the Circuits, has been designed, implemented and experimented.
- The problems are for use both during the tutorials and for examinations, thus -- despite the inherent risk for an engineer understanding of reality -- all parameters and variables describing the circuits should be integers to facilitate the computational task.
- Problems and solutions should be stored automatically on disk in distinct directories, with files referring to the same problem having related labels
- The system will be developed for making it accessible on the web

26