

Energy in an L-C Circuit

Since the velocity v_x at any position x is

$$v_x = \pm \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}} \sqrt{A^2 - x^2} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

The L-C circuit is also a conservative system.

Again let Q be the maximum capacitor charge. The magnetic-field energy $\frac{1}{2}Li^2$ in the inductor at any time corresponds to the kinetic energy $\frac{1}{2}mv^2$ of the oscillating body, and the electric-field energy $q^2/2C$ in the capacitor corresponds to the elastic potential energy $\frac{1}{2}kx^2$ of the spring. The sum of these energies is the total energy $Q^2/2C$ of the system.

$$\frac{1}{2}Li^2 + \frac{q^2}{2C} = \frac{Q^2}{2C} \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

The total energy in the L-C circuit is constant, it oscillates between the magnetic & the electric forms.

After solving eqn (2) for i , we find that when the charge on the capacitor is q , the current i is

$$i = \pm \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC}} \sqrt{Q^2 - q^2} \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

Comparing eqn (1) & (3) we have $i = \frac{dq}{dt}$ and charge q is related in same way as $v_x = \frac{dx}{dt}$ & position x in mechanical problems.