

# HIGH VOLTAGE ENGINEERING

High voltage and current  
measurement

# High Voltage Measurement

- The high voltage measurement requires special methods, which demands increase with the amplitude of measured voltages (from kV up to MV)
- High voltage measurement of:
  - AC voltages
  - DC voltages
  - Impulses and transients
- The high voltage measurements in HV laboratories or in practice requires different approaches

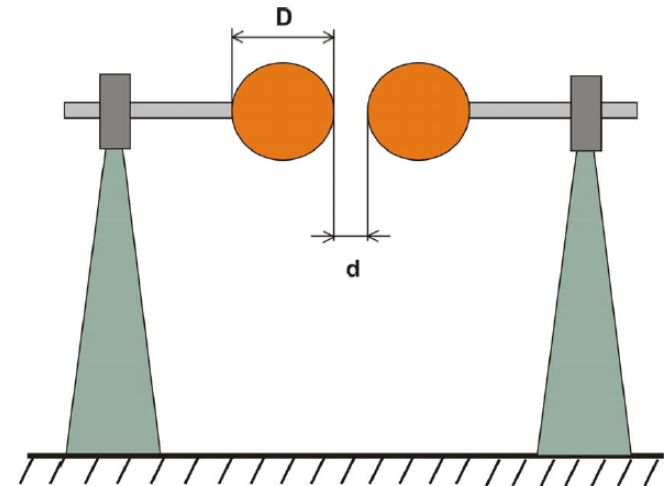
# Sphere gaps

- The classic method for the voltage peak measurement of ac, dc and impulse voltages
- Simple and reliable devices, which are used mainly as reference instruments with a limited accuracy
- Sphere gaps consists from two identical sphere electrodes spaced by gap with air insulation
- The measured value is determined on the basis of the electrode distance, when the flashover occurs, with regards to an atmospheric conditions

# Sphere gaps

Peak value of flashover voltage of sphere gap at atmospheric pressure 1013 hPa and temperature 20°C

Distance [cm]	∅ 2 cm		∅ 10 cm		Distance [cm]	∅ 50 cm		∅ 150 cm	
	≡ (-)	(+)	≡ (-)	(+)		≡ (-)	(+)	≡ (-)	(+)
0,05	2,8				2,0	59,0			
0,10	4,7				2,2	64,5			
0,15	6,4				2,4	70,0			
0,20	8,0				2,6	75,5			
0,25	9,6				2,8	81,0			
0,30	11,2				3,0	86,0			
0,40	14,4				3,5	99,0			
0,50	17,4		16,8		4,0	112			
0,60	20,4		19,9		4,5	125			
0,70	23,2		23,0		5,0	138		138	
0,80	25,8		26,0		5,5	151		151	
0,90	28,3		28,9		6,0	164		164	
1,0	30,7		31,7		6,5	177		177	
1,2	(35,1)		37,4		7,0	189		190	
1,4	(38,5)		42,9		7,5	202		203	
1,5	(40,0)		45,5		8,0	214		215	
1,6			48,1		9,0	239		241	
1,8			53,5		10,0	263		266	
2,0			59,0		11	286	287	292	
2,2			64,5		12	309	311	318	
2,4			69,5	70,0	13	331	334	342	
2,6			74,5	75,5	14	353	357	366	
2,8			79,5	80,5	15	373	380	390	
3,0			84,0	85,5	16	392	402	414	
3,5			95,0	97,5	17	411	422	438	
4,0			105	109	18	429	442	462	
4,5			115	120	19	445	461	486	
5,0			123	130	20	460	480	510	
5,5			(131)	(139)	22	489	510	560	
6,0			(138)	(148)	24	515	540	610	
6,5			(144)	(156)	26	(540)	570	655	
7,0			(150)	(163)	28	(565)	(595)	700	
7,5			(155)	(170)	30	(585)	(620)	745	
~ a.c. voltage = d.c. voltage (-) Impulse voltage ( $U_{50}$ , - polarity) (+) Impulse voltage ( $U_{50}$ , + polarity)					32	(605)	(640)	790	
					34	(625)	(660)	835	
					36	(640)	(680)	875	880
					38	(665)	(700)	915	925
					40	(670)	(715)	955	965
					45			1030	1060
					50			1130	1150
					55			1210	1240
					60			1280	1310
					65			1340	1380
					70			1390	1430
					75			1440	1480
					80			(1490)	(1530)
					85			(1540)	(1580)
					90			(1580)	(1630)
					100			(1660)	(1720)
					110			(1730)	(1790)
					120			(1800)	(1860)



# Correction on atmospheric condition

- Reference condition  $t_0=20^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $p_0=101,3 \text{ kPa}$ ,  $v_a=8,5 \text{ g/m}^3$
- Air density

$$\delta = \frac{p}{p_0} \cdot \frac{273 + t_0}{273 + t}$$

- The peak value of measured voltage

$$U = U_N \delta \quad \text{v rozsahu} \quad 0,95 < \delta < 1,05$$

- Humidity correction

$$k_v = 1 + 0,002 \left( \frac{v}{\delta} - 8,5 \right)$$

# Electrostatic voltmeter

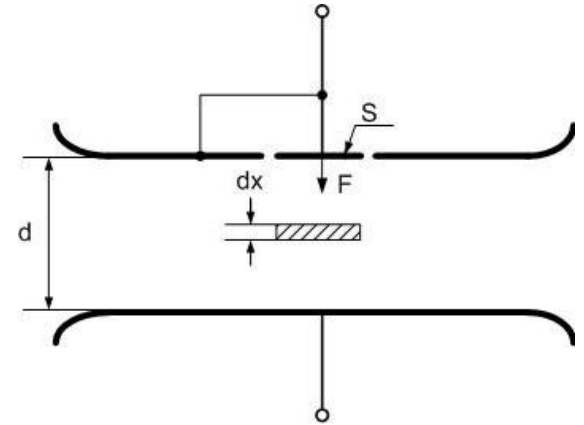
- For direct measurement of high potential typically from hundreds of volts up to hundreds of kilovolts
- a.c. and d.c. voltage measurements
- High internal resistance
- High frequency bandwidth of measured voltage, few MHz (limited by serial resonance of measured circuit – parasitic inductance and capacity)
- Insulation gas is usually air or SF<sub>6</sub> gas for higher voltages (up to 1MV, accuracy 0.1%).
- The accuracy for special construction can reach 1 % and 2 % for common using

# Electrostatic voltmeter

- Force acting on free electrode

*Energy density*

$$w_e = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon E^2$$



*Energy in element  $dx$*

$$dw = w_e S dx = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon S E^2 dx$$

*Acting force on free electrode*

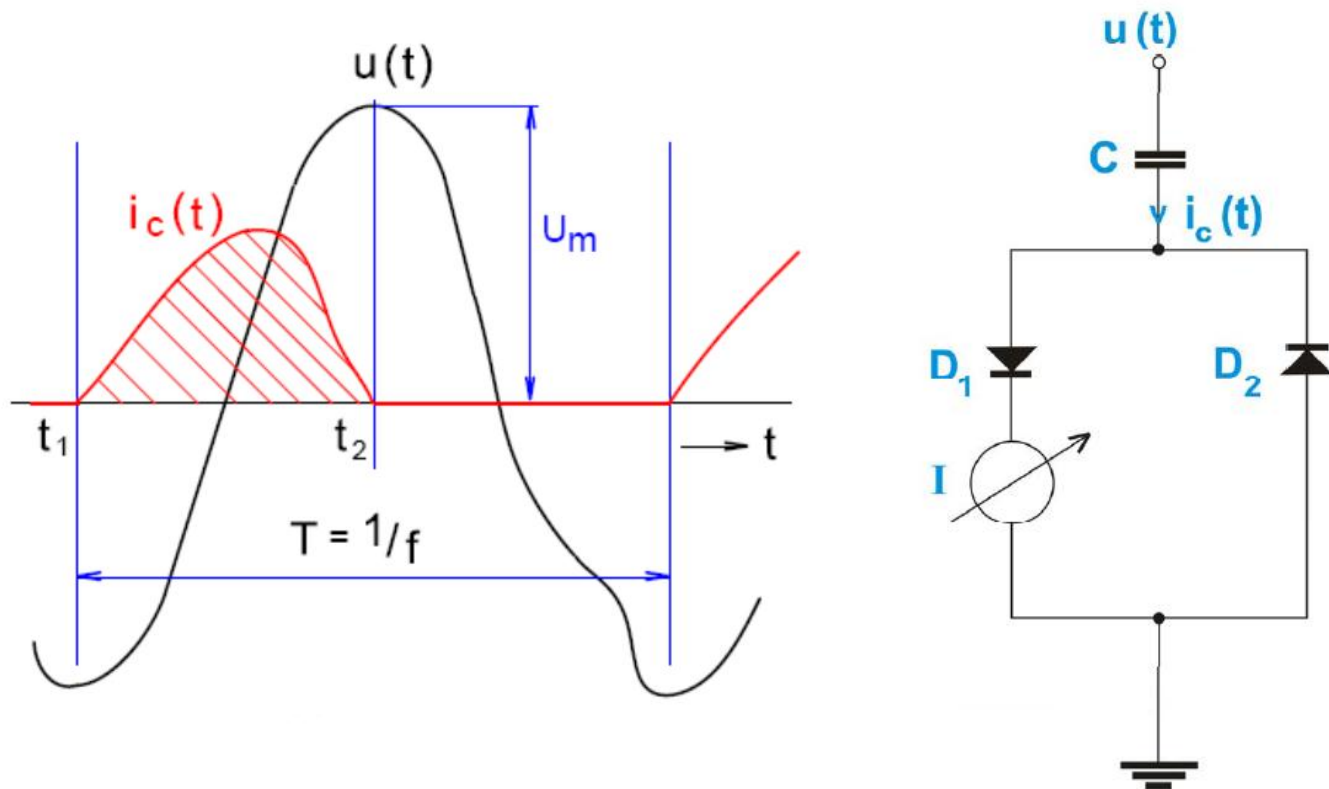
$$F = \frac{dw}{dx} = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon S E^2 = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon S \frac{U^2}{d^2}$$

*The force mean value for time variable voltage*

$$\frac{1}{T} \int_0^T F(t) dt = \frac{\epsilon S}{2d^2 T} \int_0^T U^2(t) dt = \frac{\epsilon S}{2d^2} U_{RMS}^2$$

# Peak voltmeter (Chubb-Fortescue method)

- Simple and accurate method for the peak measurement of a.c. voltages





# Peak voltmeter (Chubb-Fortescue method)

*Current through capacitor C:*

$$i_C = C \frac{du}{dt}$$

*Mean value of measured current:*

$$I = \frac{1}{T} \int_{t_1}^{t_2} i_C dt = \frac{C}{T} [u(t_2) - u(t_1)] = \frac{C}{T} U_{pp}$$

*Peak value of measured voltage:*

$$U_m = \frac{I}{2Cf}$$

# Voltage dividers

- Voltage divider can consists from the combination of passive elements (resistors, capacitors, inductors)
- The divider dimensions are related to maximal applied voltage

Divider ratio:

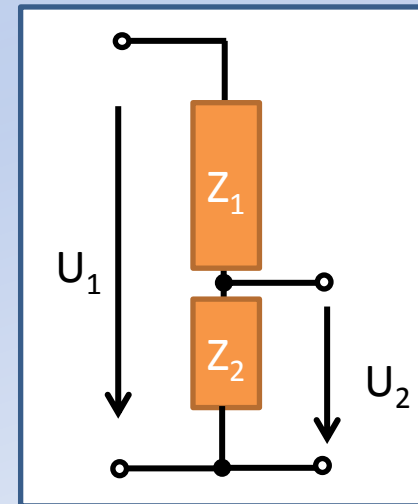
$$\frac{U_2}{U_1} = \frac{Z_2}{Z_1 + Z_2}$$

Resistive divider

$$\frac{U_2}{U_1} = \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2}$$

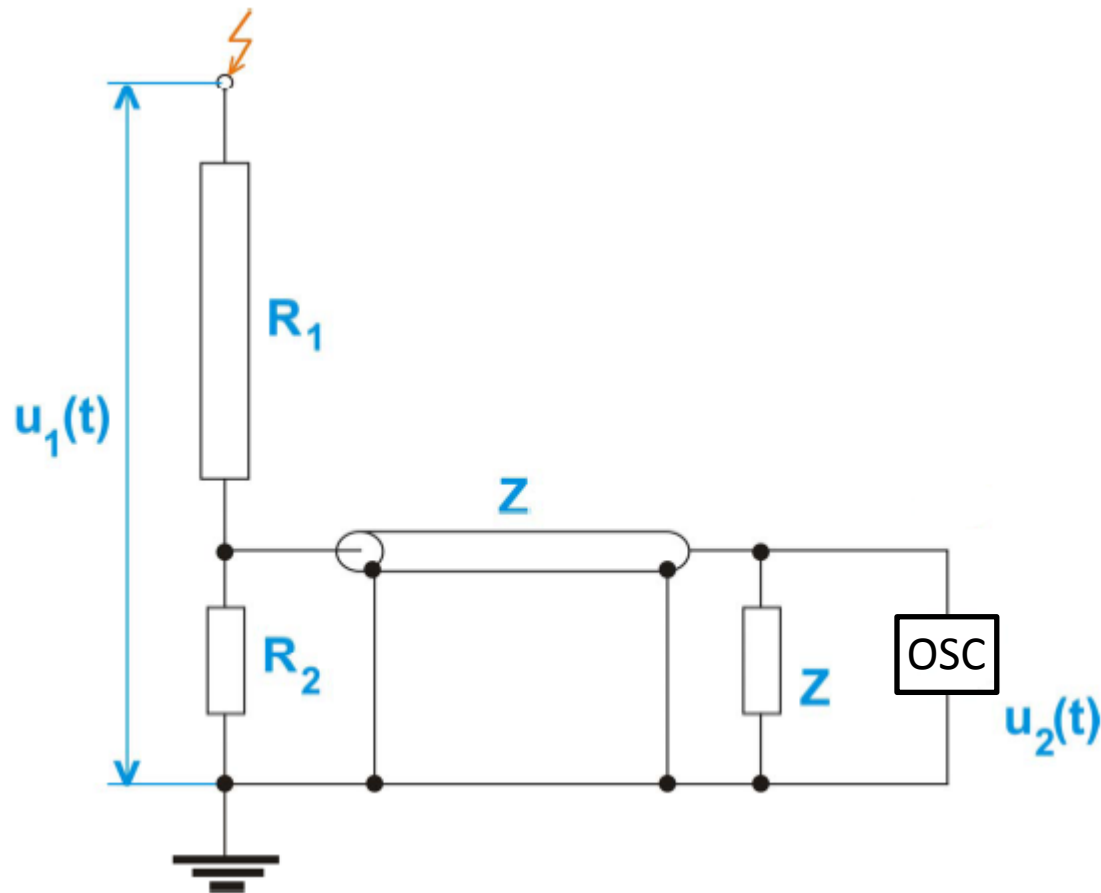
Capacitive divider

$$\frac{U_2}{U_1} = \frac{C_1}{C_1 + C_2}$$



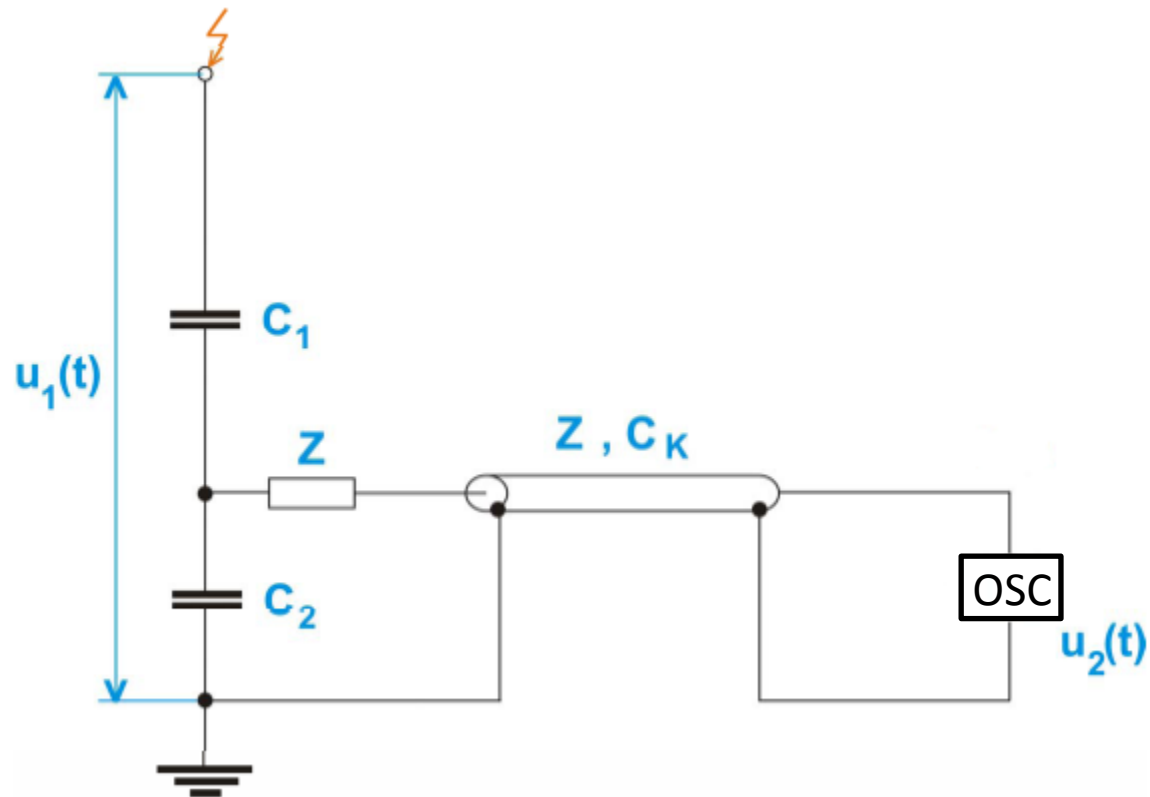
# Resistive divider

- Měření stejnosměrných, střídavých a impulzních napětí
- Velikost chyby je funkcí součinu kapacity vn a odporu děliče



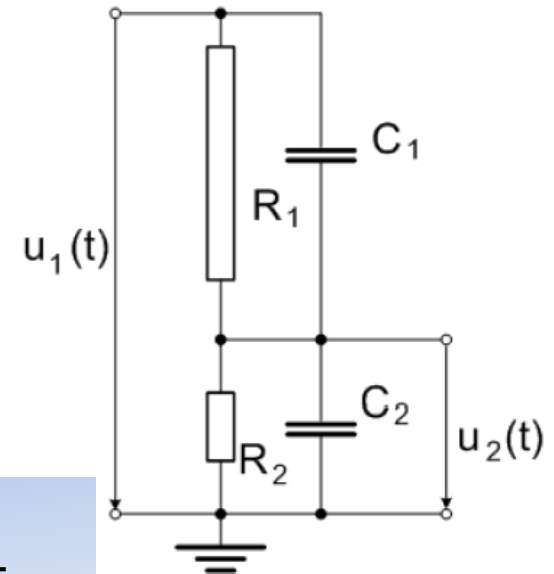
# Capacitive divider

- Měření střídavých a impulzních napětí
- Jednodušší a reprodukuje věrněji než odporový dělič



# RC voltage divider

- Capacitive divider is dominant for the fast transients and resistive divider for the slow transients
- Frequency independency can be reached by compensation



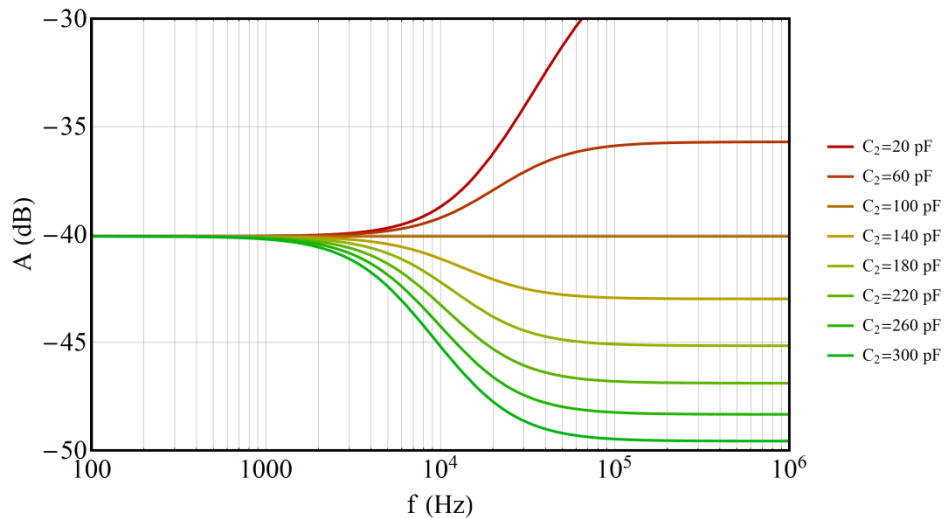
$$Z_1 = \frac{R_1}{1 + j\omega C_1 R_1} \quad Z_2 = \frac{R_2}{1 + j\omega C_2 R_2}$$

$$\frac{U_2}{U_1} = \frac{\omega C_1 R_1 - jR_2}{\omega R_1 R_2 (C_1 + C_2) - j(R_1 + R_2)}$$

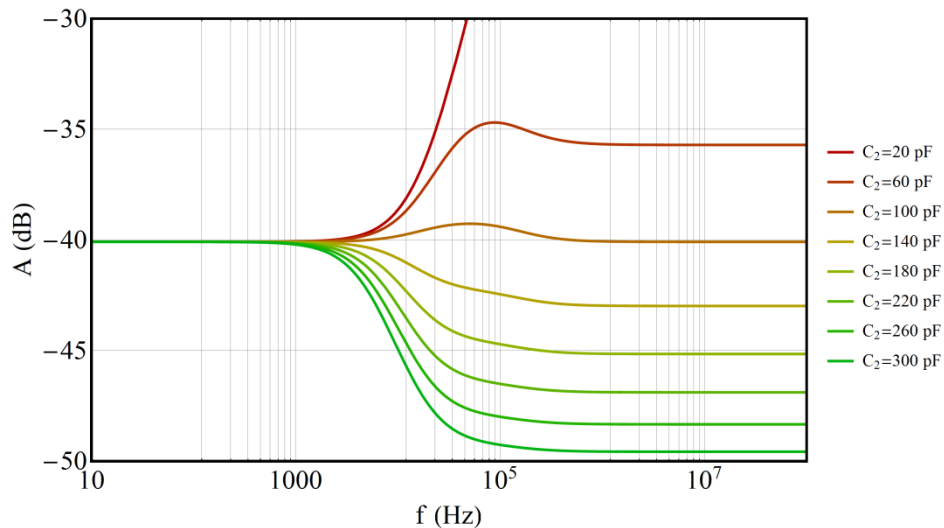
$$\operatorname{Im}\left(\frac{U_2}{U_1}\right) = \frac{\omega R_1 R_2 (C_1 R_1 - C_2 R_2)}{(R_1 + R_2)^2 + \omega^2 R_1^2 R_2^2 (C_1 + C_2)^2} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow C_1 R_1 = C_2 R_2$$

# Compensation of RC divider



Attenuation of RC divider for various capacitors  $C_2$ , the divider is fully compensated when  $C_2 = 100$  pF

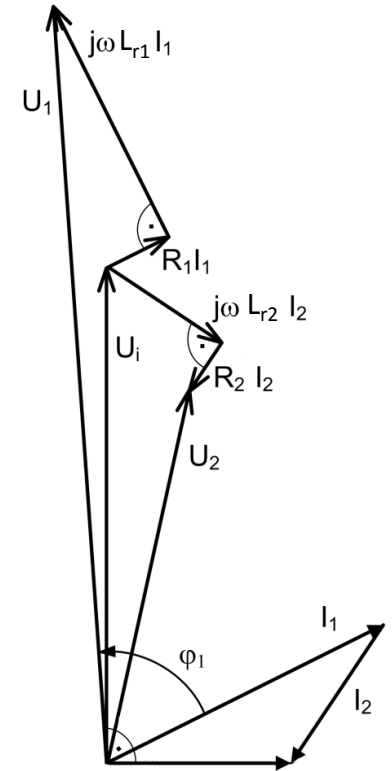
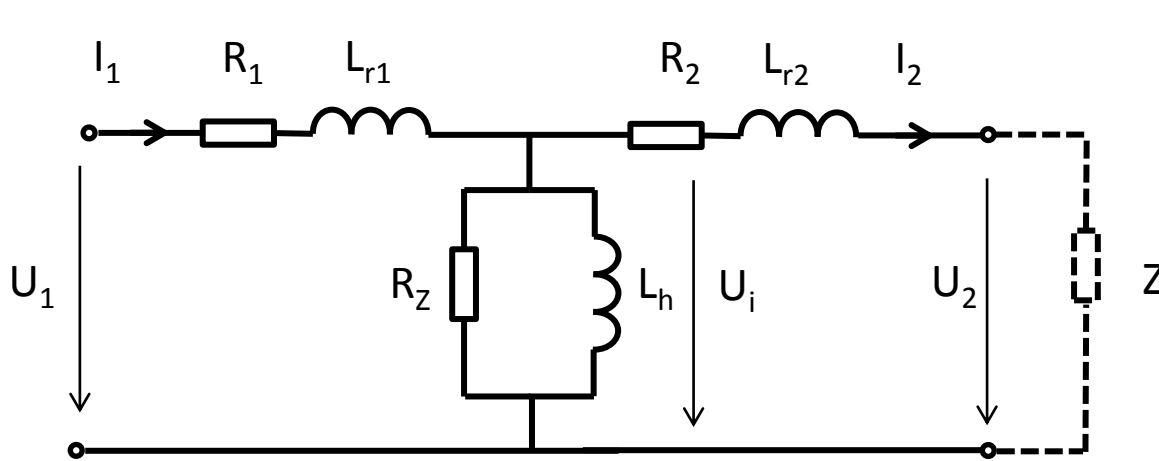


Attenuation of RC divider with parasitic inductance of 1 mH

# Instrument voltage transformers

- Single phase transformers
- In the electrical power grid performs the measuring function (information, billing) and also as inputs for protection devices
- Galvanic isolation of high voltage circuits from measuring instruments

# Instrument voltage transformers

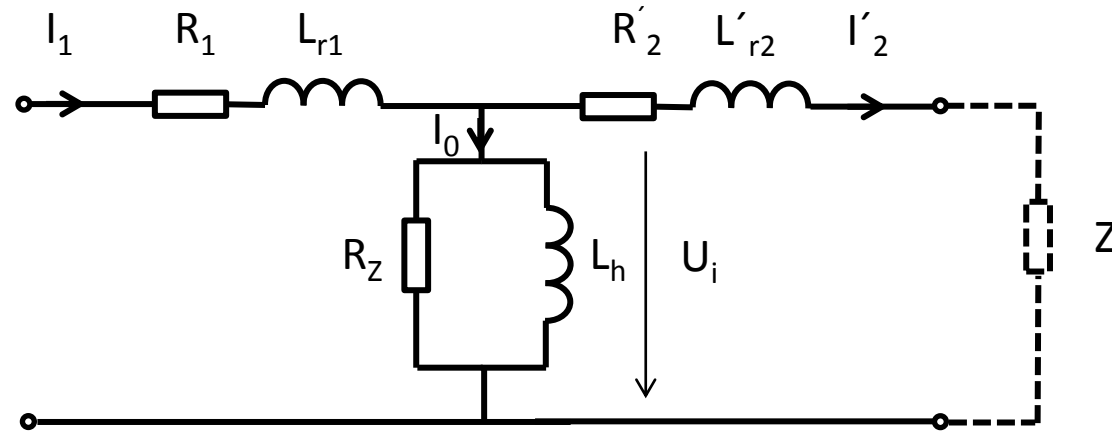


*Voltage error definition*

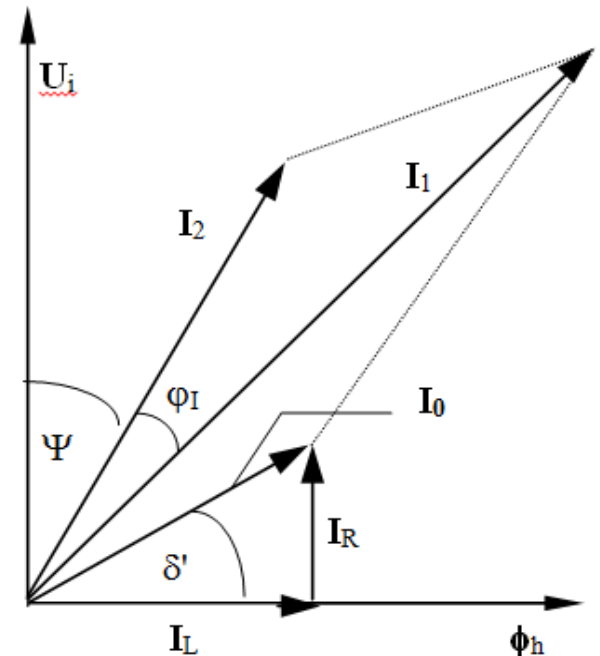
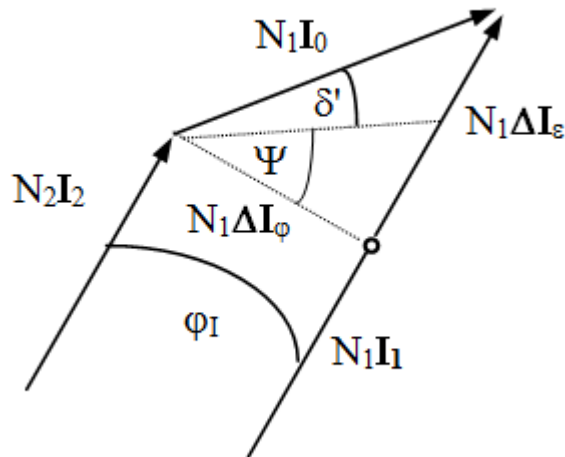
$$\varepsilon_U = \frac{p_U U_2 - U_1}{U_1} \cdot 100$$



# Current transformers



Assuming conditions  $I_0 \ll I_1$ , resp.  $I_0 \ll I_2$  ends of phasors  $I_1$  and  $I_2$  can be considered as parallel



# Current error of CT

*Current error*

$$\varepsilon_I = \frac{p_I I_2 - I_1}{I_1} \cdot 100$$

*From simplified phasor diagram can be expressed as*

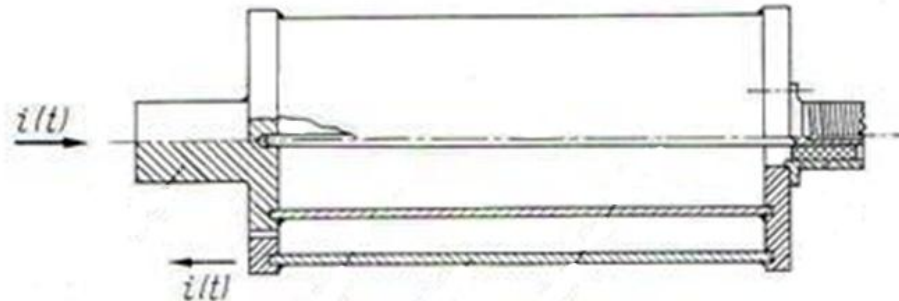
$$\varepsilon_I = \frac{N_2 I_2 - N_1 I_1}{N_1 I_1} = \frac{N_1 \Delta I_\varepsilon}{N_1 I_1} = -\frac{N_1 I_0}{N_1 I_1} \sin(\delta' + \psi)$$

*where  $N_1 I_0 = Hl = \frac{Bl}{\mu_0 \mu_r}$ , then the amplitude and phase error can be expressed as:*

$$\varepsilon_I = \frac{Bl}{\mu_0 \mu_r N_1 I_1} \sin(\delta' + \psi)$$
$$\varphi_I \approx tg \varphi_I = \frac{Bl}{\mu_0 \mu_r N_1 I_1} \cos(\delta' + \psi)$$

# Coaxial shunts

- The measured high current (a.c., d.c., impulses) flows through accurate resistor
- The skin effect at higher frequencies is eliminated by coaxial construction – manganin strips arranged into cylindrical area
- Disadvantages can be the galvanic connection of measuring system with measured circuit and thermal and mechanical stress in case of high current measurement



# Rogowski coil

*Measured current can be expressed as:*

$$i(t) = \frac{1}{M} \int_0^T u(t) dt$$

*where  $M$  is a mutual inductance between conductor  $N_1$  and sensing winding  $N_{RC}$*

*For harmonic current:*

$$I(\omega) = \frac{U_i(\omega)}{j\omega M}$$

*The RC constant (ratio) is then:*

$$k_{RC} = \frac{U_i}{\omega I}$$

