

Chapter 2.4

Resistive Circuits

Voltage and Current Division

Engr228 - Circuit Analysis

Spring 2020

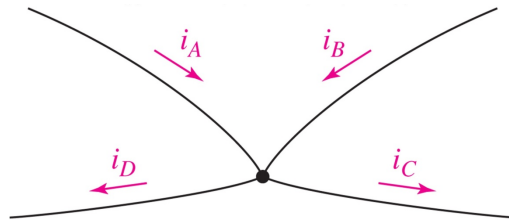
Dr Curtis Nelson

Section 2.4 Objective

- Understand voltage and current division.

Kirchhoff's Current Law

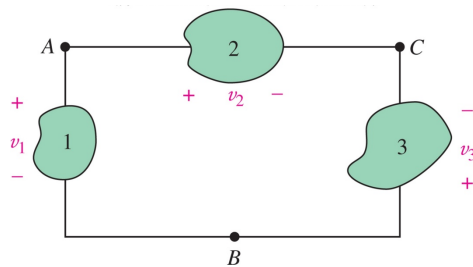
- Kirchhoff's Current Law (KCL) states that the algebraic sum of all currents entering a node is **zero**.



$$i_A + i_B + (-i_C) + (-i_D) = 0$$

Kirchhoff's Voltage Law

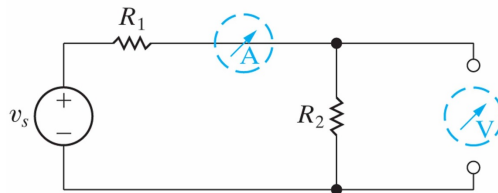
- Kirchhoff's Voltage Law (KVL) states that the algebraic sum of the voltages around any closed path is zero.



$$-v_1 + v_2 + -v_3 = 0$$

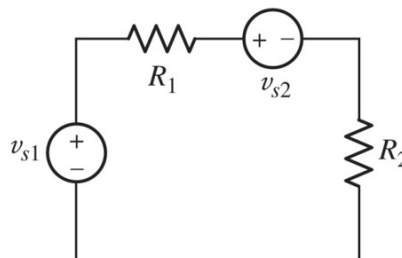
Measuring Voltage, Current, and Resistance

- An ideal meter has no effect on the circuit variable being measured.
- That means when an ideal *ammeter* is placed in series to measure the current through an element, it should have an equivalent resistance of 0Ω .
- That means when an ideal *voltmeter* is placed in parallel to measure the voltage across an element, it should have an equivalent resistance of $\infty \Omega$.

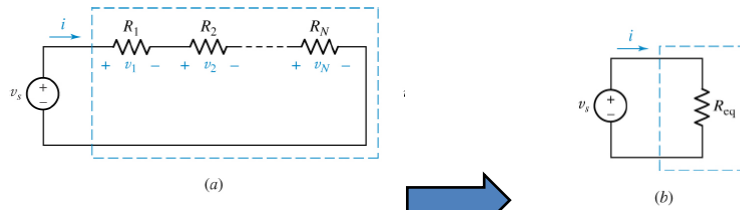


Series Connections

- Elements connected head-to-tail and carrying the same current are said to be connected in *series*.



Resistors in Series



$$v_s = v_1 + v_2 + \dots + v_N$$

$$v_s = R_1 i + R_2 i + \dots + R_N i$$

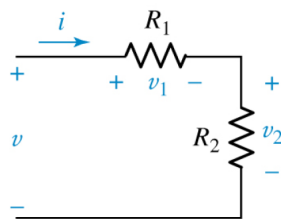
$$= (R_1 + R_2 + \dots + R_N) i$$

$$v_s = R_{eq} i$$

$$R_{eq} = R_1 + R_2 + \dots + R_N$$

Voltage Division

Resistors in series “share” the voltage applied to them.



$$v = v_1 + v_2$$

$$= i(R_1 + R_2)$$

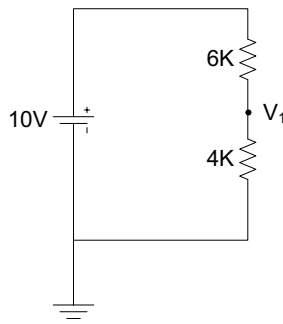
$$i = \frac{v}{R_1 + R_2}$$

$$v_2 = i R_2 = \left(\frac{v}{R_1 + R_2} \right) R_2$$

$$v_2 = \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2} v$$

Voltage Divider Example

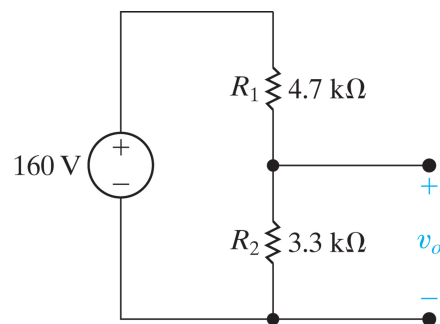
Calculate V_1 using the voltage divider equation.



$$V_1 = 4.00V$$

Textbook Problem 3.12 (Nilsson 10th)

Find the voltage v_o and the power dissipated in both resistors.



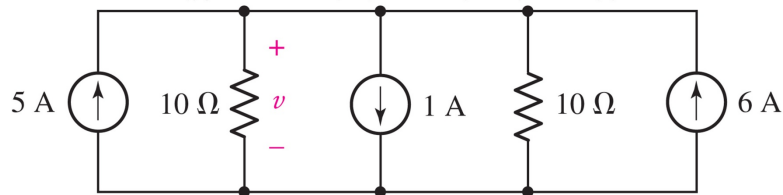
$$v_o = 66V$$

$$P_{R1} = 1.88W$$

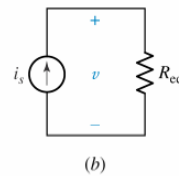
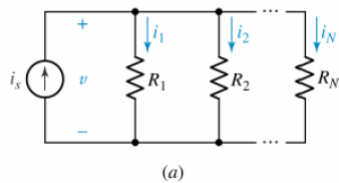
$$P_{R2} = 1.32W$$

Parallel Connections

- Elements in a circuit connected head-to-head and tail-to-tail have a common voltage across them and are said to be connected in *parallel*.



Resistors in Parallel



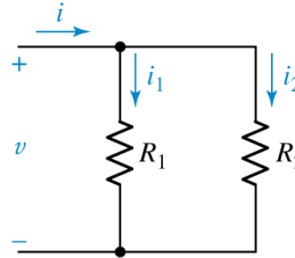
$$i_s = i_1 + i_2 + \cdots + i_N$$

$$i_s = \frac{v}{R_1} + \frac{v}{R_2} + \cdots + \frac{v}{R_N} = \frac{v}{R_{eq}}$$

$$\frac{1}{R_{eq}} = \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} + \cdots + \frac{1}{R_N}$$

Two Resistors in Parallel

$$R_{\text{eq}} = R_1 \parallel R_2$$
$$= \frac{1}{\frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2}}$$

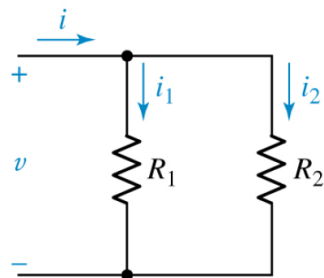


$$R_{\text{eq}} = \frac{R_1 R_2}{R_1 + R_2}$$

Connecting resistors in parallel makes the equivalent resistance *smaller. Always.*

Current Division

Resistors in parallel “share” the current through them.

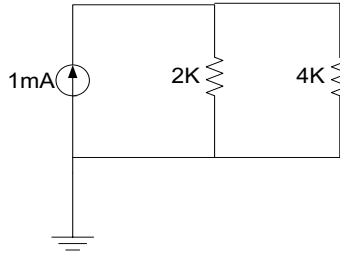


$$i_2 = \frac{v}{R_2}$$
$$= \frac{i(R_1 \parallel R_2)}{R_2}$$
$$= \frac{i}{R_2} \frac{R_1 R_2}{R_1 + R_2}$$

$$i_2 = i \frac{R_1}{R_1 + R_2}$$

Current Divider Example

Calculate the current in the two resistors below using the current divider equation.

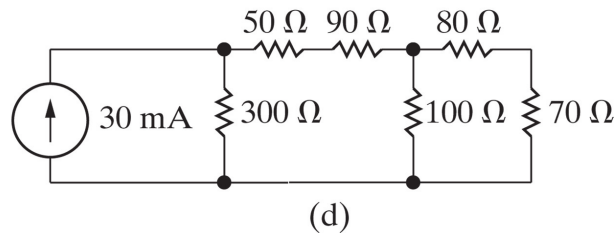


$$i_{2K} = 0.667mA$$

$$i_{4K} = 0.333mA$$

Textbook Problem 3.2d (Nilsson 11th)

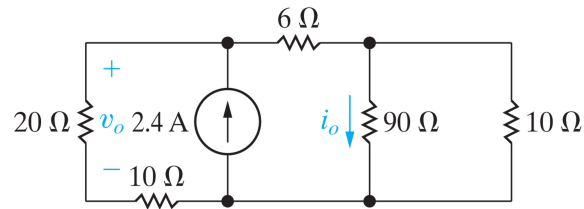
Compute the equivalent resistance seen by the 30 mA source.



Answer: $R = 120\Omega$

Textbook Problem 3.19 (Nilsson 11th)

For the current divider shown below, calculate i_0 and v_0 .



Answer: $i_0 = 0.16A$ and $v_0 = 16V$

Section 2.4 Summary

- You learned how to recognize and apply the laws of voltage and current division.