

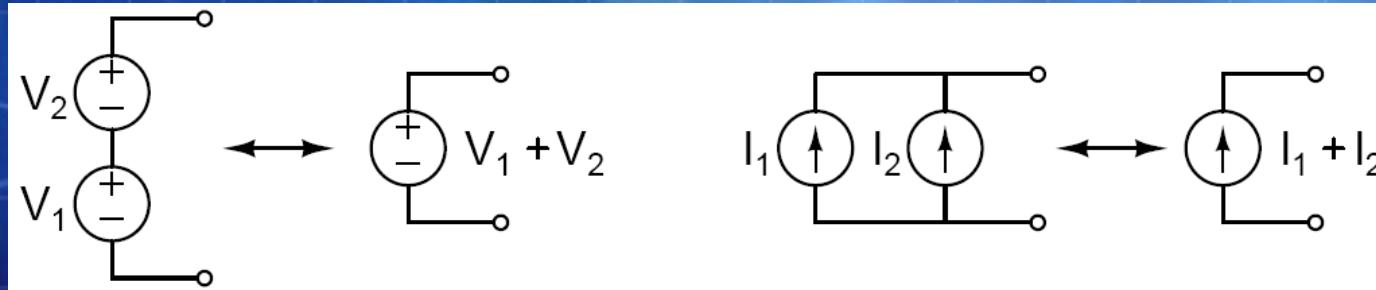
# Circuit Lab

Practice #10—Kirchhoff's Voltage/Current Laws,  
Wheatstone Bridges, Thévenin's Theorem, and  
Norton's Theorem

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# Multiple Sources

- ➊ Sometimes a circuit has more than one source
- ➋ Voltage Sources should be added in series
- ➌ Current Sources should be added in parallel
- ➍ You shouldn't put voltage sources in parallel or current sources in series, as it can create a situation that violates circuit rules.



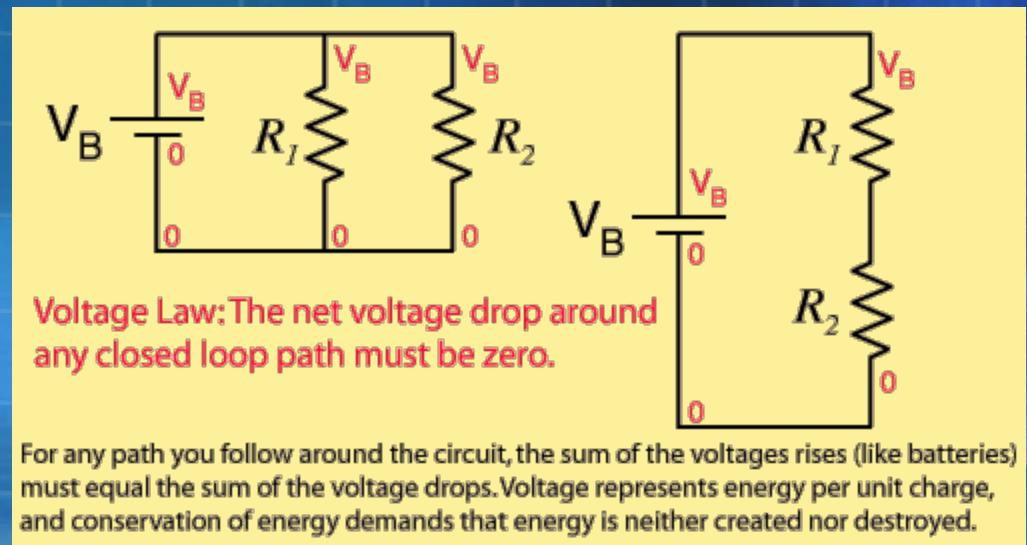
# Kirchhoff's Voltage Law (KVL)

## (Division C Only)



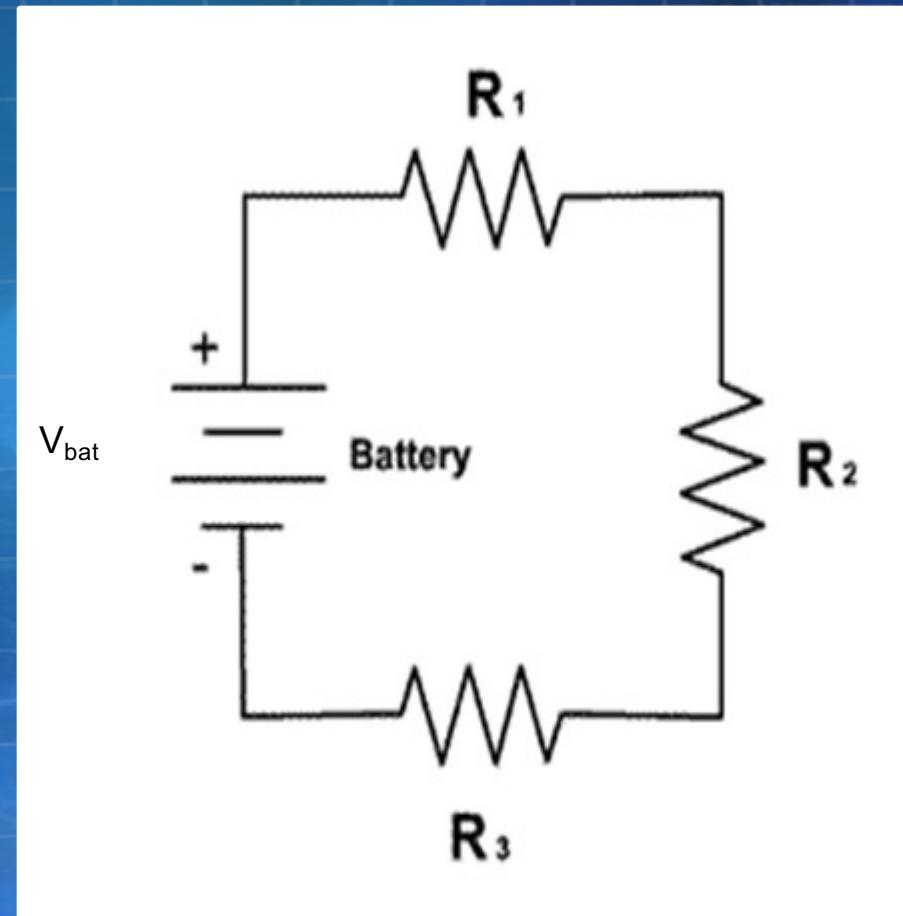
The directed sum of the electrical potential differences (voltage) around any closed network is zero

or: the sum of the voltage in any closed loop is equivalent to the sum of the potential drops in that loop



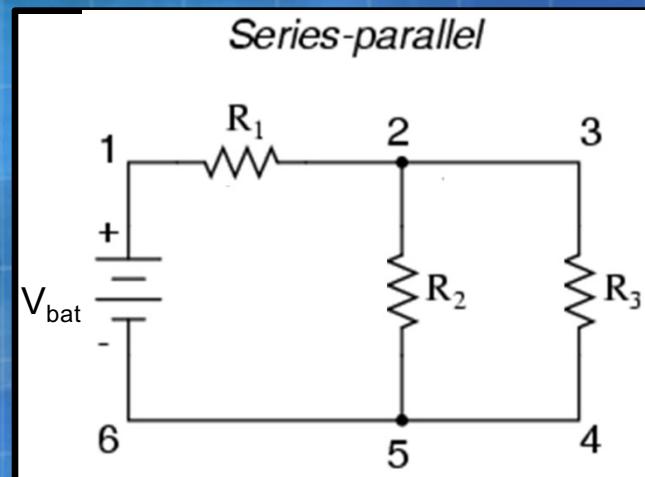
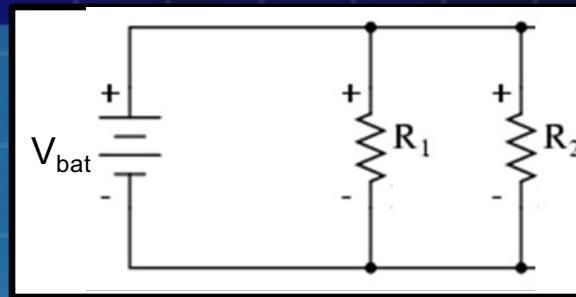
# KVL Examples

- $V_{\text{bat}} = 9V$
- $V_{R_1} = V_{R_2} = 3V$
- What is  $V_{R_3}$
  
- $V_{\text{bat}} = 12V$
- $V_{R_1} = 5V, V_{R_2} = 3V$
- What is  $V_{R_3}$
  
- $V_{\text{bat}} = 15V$
- $V_{R_1} = 7V, V_{R_2} = 8V$
- What is  $V_{R_3}$



# More KVL Examples

- $V_{\text{bat}} = 9V$
- What is  $V_{R_1}$ ?
- What is  $V_{R_2}$ ?
  
- $V_{\text{bat}} = 9V$
- $V_{R_1} = 3V$
- What is  $V_{R_3}$  and  $V_{R_2}$
  
- $V_{\text{bat}} = 12V$
- $V_{R_2} = 3V$
- What is  $V_{R_1}$  and  $V_{R_3}$

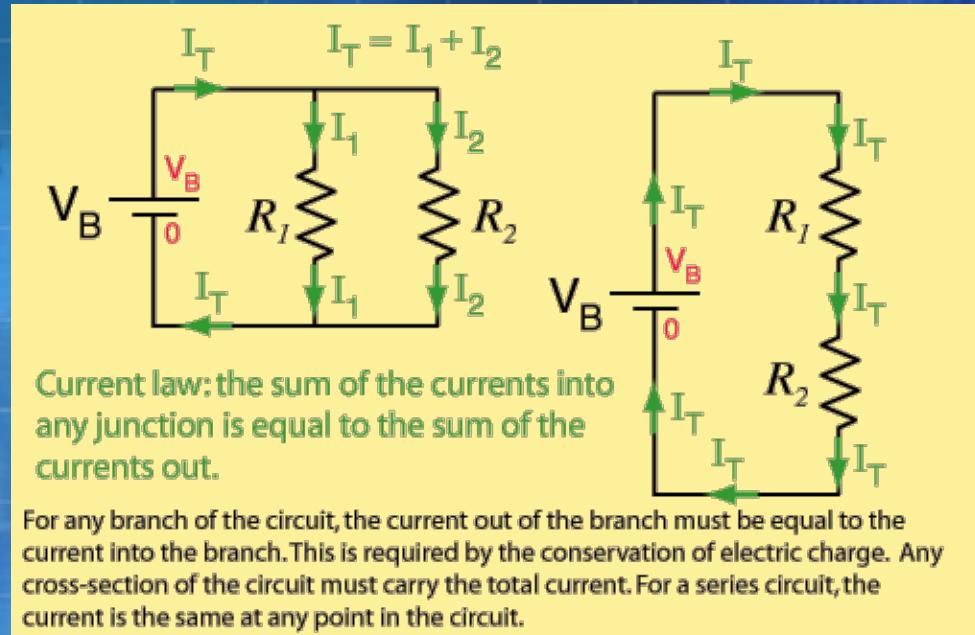


# Kirchhoff's Current Law (KCL)

(Division C Only)



- At any node (junction) in an electrical circuit, the sum of currents flowing into that node is equal to the sum of currents flowing out of that node
- or: The algebraic sum of currents in a network of conductors meeting at a point is zero.
- or: All current into a node equals all current out!



# KCL Examples

-   $I_1 = 9A$

-   $I_{R1} = 3A$

-  **What is  $I_{R2}$  and  $I_2$**

-   $I_1 = 9A$

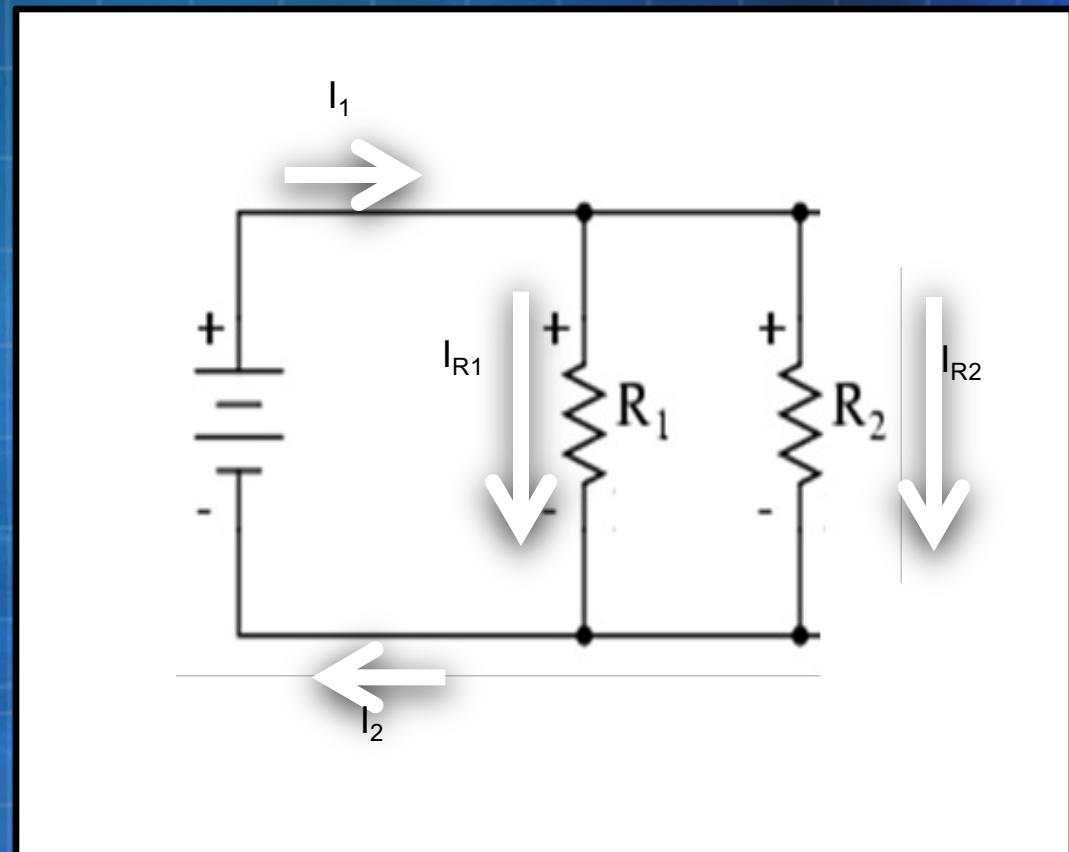
-   $I_{R1} = 6A$

-  **What is  $I_{R2}$  and  $I_2$**

-   $I_1 = 10A$

-   $I_{R1} = 4A$

-  **What is  $I_{R2}$  and  $I_2$**



# More KCL Examples

  $I_1 = 9A, I_2 = 9A, I_3 = 9A$

 **What is  $I_4$**

  $I_1 = 5A, I_2 = 4A, I_4 = 3A$

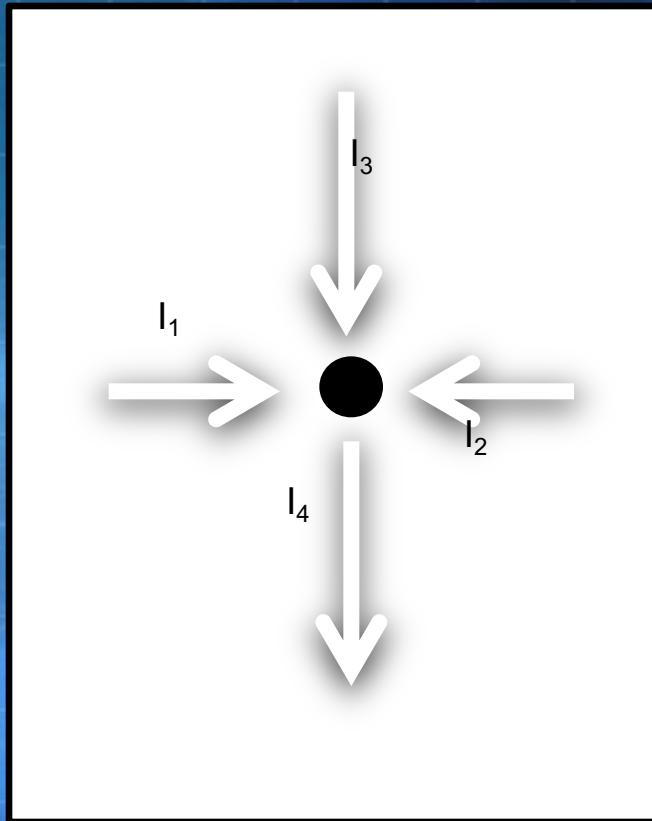
 **What is  $I_3$**

  $I_1 = 9A, I_2 = -9A, I_3 = 7A$

 **What is  $I_4$**

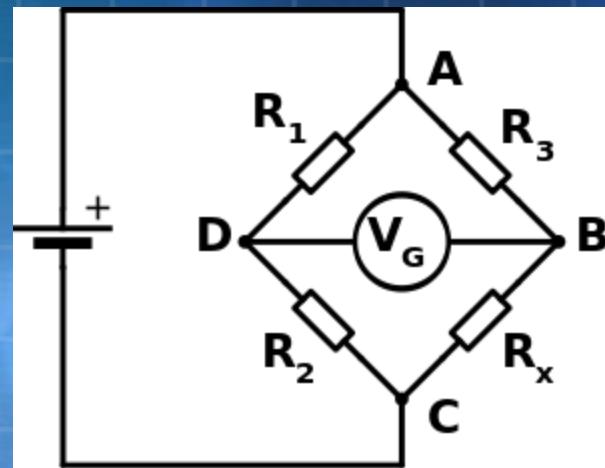
  $I_1 = 2A, I_4 = 9A, I_3 = -9A$

 **What is  $I_2$**



# Wheatstone Bridge

- A Wheatstone bridge is an electrical circuit used to measure an unknown electrical resistance by balancing two legs of a bridge circuit, one leg of which includes the unknown component.
- It was invented by Samuel Hunter Christie in 1833 and improved and popularized by Sir Charles Wheatstone in 1843.
- One of the Wheatstone bridge's initial uses was for the purpose of soils analysis and comparison



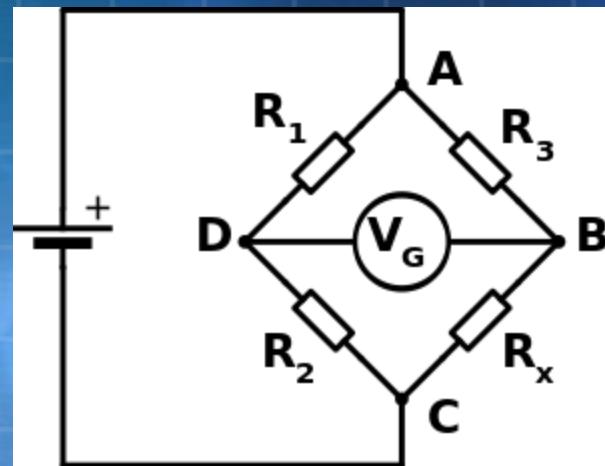
# Wheatstone Bridge



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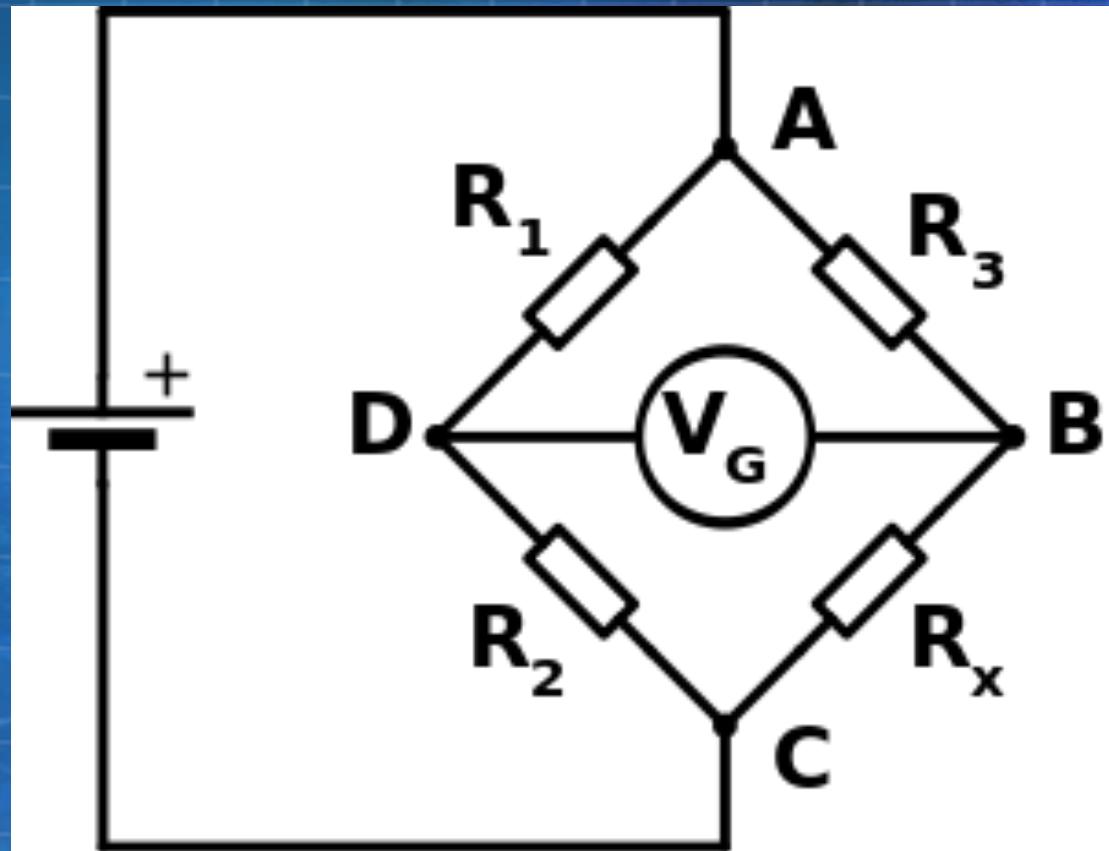
## Usage

- Rx is the unknown resistance
- R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, and R<sub>3</sub> are the known resistance
- If the bridge is balanced then the ratio of R<sub>2</sub>/R<sub>1</sub> = R<sub>x</sub>/R<sub>3</sub>, and the voltage and current between Node D and Node B equals zero.
- Or Rx = R<sub>2</sub>/R<sub>1</sub> \* R<sub>3</sub>
- Normally R<sub>2</sub> is a variable resistor
- If the bridge is unbalanced, the direction of the current indicates whether R<sub>2</sub> is too big or too small.



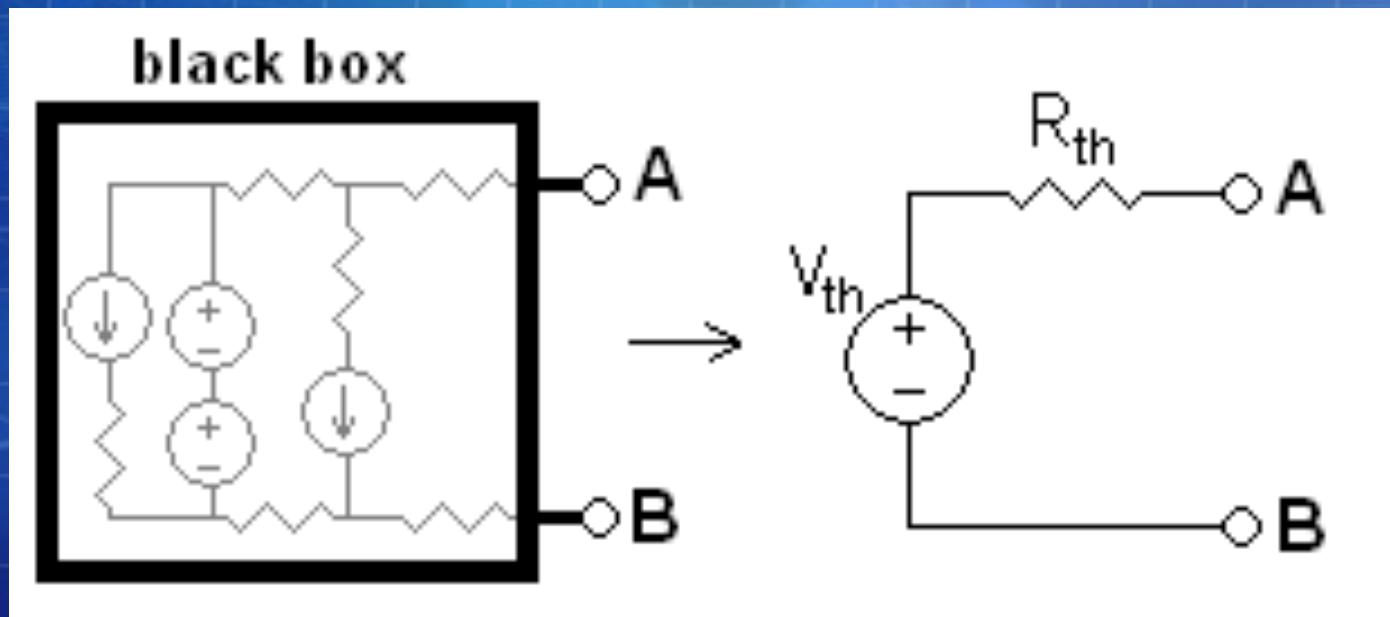
# Wheatstone Examples

- $R_1 = R_2 = R_3 = 100\Omega$
- $V_D = V_B, I_{DB} = 0 \text{ A}$
- What is  $R_x$
  
- $R_1 = R_2 = 300\Omega$
- $R_3 = 200\Omega$
- $V_D = V_B, I_{DB} = 0 \text{ A}$
- What is  $R_x$
  
- $R_1 = 100\Omega, R_2 = 300\Omega$
- $R_3 = 200\Omega$
- $V_D = V_B, I_{DB} = 0 \text{ A}$
- What is  $R_x$



# Thévenin's Theorem/Equivalent

 Thévenin's theorem states that any combination of voltage sources, current sources, and resistors with two terminals is electrically equivalent to a single voltage source  $V$  and a single series resistor  $R$ .



# How to find Thévenin Equivalent Values

1. Calculate the output voltage,  $V_{AB}$ , when in open circuit condition (no load resistor—meaning infinite resistance). This is  $V_{Th}$ .
2. Calculate the output current,  $I_{AB}$ , when the output terminals are short circuited (load resistance is 0).  $R_{Th}$  equals  $V_{Th}$  divided by this  $I_{AB}$ .
  - or Replace independent voltage sources with short circuits and independent current sources with open circuits. The total resistance across the output port is the Thévenin impedance  $R_{Th}$ .

# Thévenin Example

- Find  $V_{th}$  and  $R_{th}$

- A and B are Open, so no current flows through  $R_1$ , and therefore  $V_{R1}=0$

- The current from the battery is then  $I=V/R_{eq}$

- $R_{eq} = 2\text{k}\Omega + 1\text{k}\Omega + 1\text{k}\Omega = 4\text{k}\Omega$

- $I = 15\text{V}/4\text{k}\Omega = 3.75\text{mA}$

- Using a KVL at the output

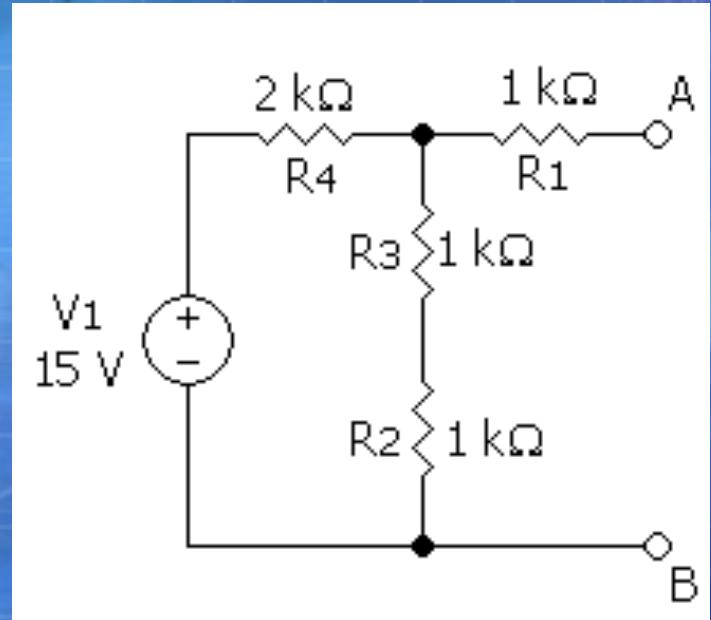
- $V_{r2} + V_{r3} = V_{r1} + V_{ab} = 0 + V_{ab} = V_{ab}$

- $V_{r2} = V_{r3} = (3.75\text{mA})(1\text{k}\Omega) = 3.75\text{V}$

- $V_{ab} = 3.75\text{V} + 3.75\text{V} = 7.5\text{V} = V_{th}$

- $R_{th} = R_1 + (\text{R}_4 \text{ in parallel with } (R_3 + R_2))$

- $R_{th} = 1\text{k}\Omega + 1\text{k}\Omega = 2\text{k}\Omega$



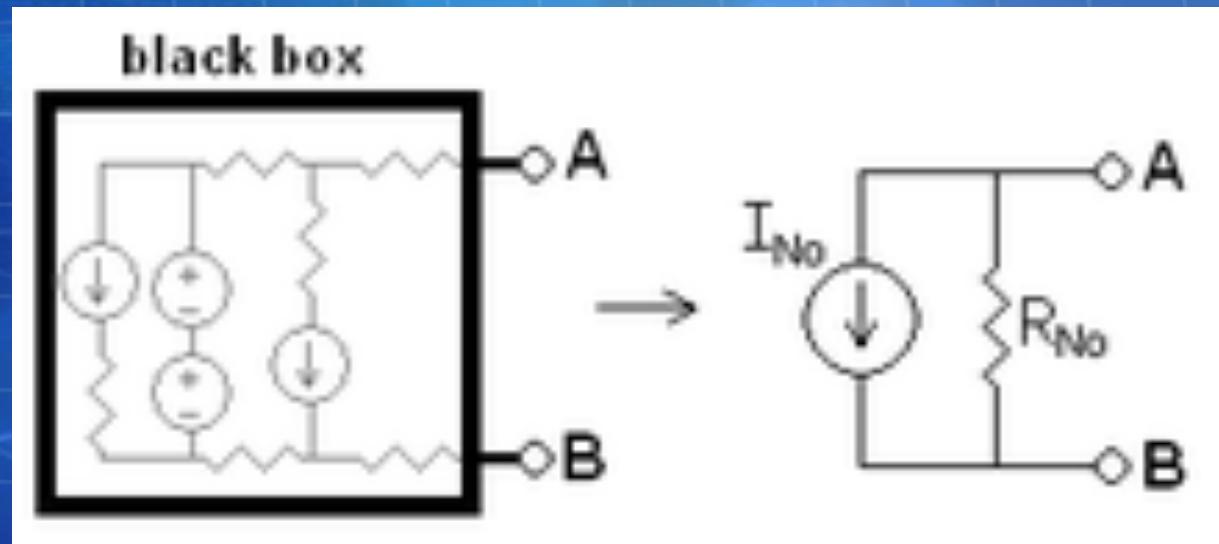
# Norton's Theorem



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## Equivalent

- Norton's theorem states that any collection of voltage sources, current sources, and resistors with two terminals is electrically equivalent to an ideal current source,  $I$ , in parallel with a single resistor,  $R$ .

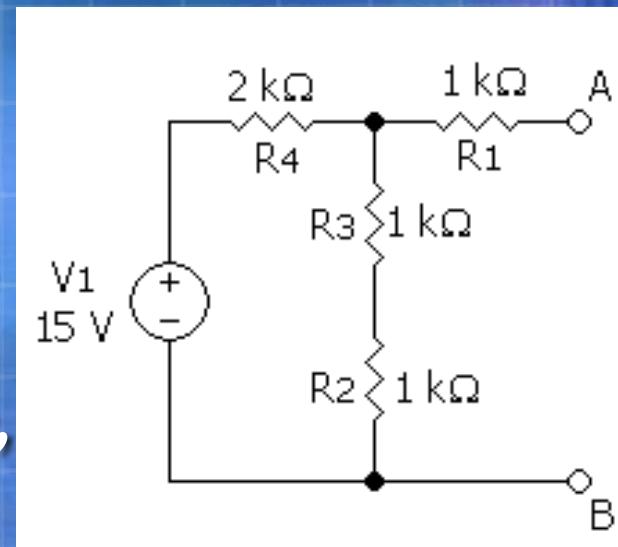


# How to find Norton's Equivalent Values

1. Find the Norton current  $I_{No}$ . Calculate the output current,  $I_{AB}$ , with a short circuit as the load (meaning 0 resistance between A and B). This is  $I_{No}$ .
2. Find the Norton resistance  $R_{No}$ . When there are no dependent sources (all current and voltage sources are independent), there are two methods of determining the Norton impedance  $R_{No}$ .
  - Calculate the output voltage,  $V_{AB}$ , when in open circuit condition (i.e., no load resistor — meaning infinite load resistance).  $R_{No}$  equals this  $V_{AB}$  divided by  $I_{No}$ .
  - or Replace independent voltage sources with short circuits and independent current sources with open circuits. The total resistance across the output port is the Norton impedance  $R_{No}$ .

# Norton Example

- Find  $I_{no}$  and  $R_{no}$
- Find current through A and B if shorted
- The current from the battery is then  
 $I = V / R_{eq}$ 
  - $R_{eq} = 2\text{k}\Omega + 1\text{k}\Omega$  in parallel with  $2\text{k}\Omega = 2.67\text{k}\Omega$
  - $I = 15\text{V} / 2.67\text{k}\Omega = 5.625\text{mA}$
  - $I_{ab} = 5.625\text{mA} * (2/3) = 3.75\text{mA} = I_{no}$
  - Removing the power supply with a short,  
 $R_{no}$  is the resistance looking into AB



•  $R_{no} = 1\text{k}\Omega + 2\text{k}\Omega$  in parallel with  $2\text{k}\Omega = 1\text{k}\Omega + 1\text{k}\Omega = 2\text{k}\Omega$

# How are they related

- ➊  $R_{no} = R_{th}$
- ➋  $V_{th} = I_{no} * R_{no}$
- ➌  $I_{no} = V_{th} / R_{th}$
- ➍ Use whichever one makes the problem easier to solve.
- ➎ Make sure the current source and resistor are in parallel for Norton
- ➏ Make sure the voltage source and resistor are in series for Thévenin

# In Practice Sample Competition



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- 100 points
- Timed—30 minutes
- Do the following written quiz individually
- You may use any and all notes in your notebook
- You may use your calculator
- Make sure you fill out your name and team at the top of each page
- Tackle the easy problems first, then the tough ones you know how to tackle, then finally the ones you have to guess on.
- If you have time, check your answers

# Homework

- Update your binder to get it competition ready
- Complete the circuit problems from the Homework Generator
  - Level 10 Resistors
  - Level 11 Wheatstone
  - Level 14 Norton-Thevenin
- Correct the problems you missed on the practice competition on separate paper.