

# Circuit Analysis

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# 1. **DC CIRCUITS**

## 1.1. **RESISTOR ONLY CIRCUITS**

1.1.1. -What does it mean for a resistor to be in series or in parallel?

### **SERIES**

Components that share a single node *only with* each other.

### **PARALLEL**

Components that share two nodes between each other.

1.1.2. -How do you combine resistors that are in parallel or in series?

### **FOR SERIES**

Addition

$$R_{Total} = R_1 + R_2 + R_3 \dots R_Z$$

### **FOR PARALLEL**

Inverse Addition/Product-Over-Sum

$$\frac{1}{R_T} = \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} + \frac{1}{R_3} \dots \frac{1}{R_Z}$$

OR

For Combining Two Resistors At A Time Only

$$R_T = \frac{R_1 R_2}{R_1 + R_2}$$

### 1.1.3. -How do you perform calculations for basic circuits?

For basic circuits, we use the following laws:

#### KVL

In a closed loop:

$$\sum_0^N V_x = 0$$

N is the number of voltage drops

#### KCL

For a node:

$$\sum_0^N I_x = \sum_0^K I_y$$

N and K are the number of currents going into the node and out of the node, respectively.

These formulas are exclusive to TWO resistors circuit:

If you know the total voltage drop between two components in series and their resistances

You can find the individual voltage drops of each component:

$$V_1 = \frac{V_T R_1}{R_1 + R_2}$$

If you know the total current between two components in parallel and their resistances

You can find the individual current going through each component:

$$C_2 = \frac{C_T R_1}{R_1 + R_2}$$

We can also change the circuits a bit to make calculations a bit easier

A voltage source in series with a resistor is equal to a current source in parallel with the same value resistor.

Thus we just do a simple ohm's law and change values and the placements accordingly.

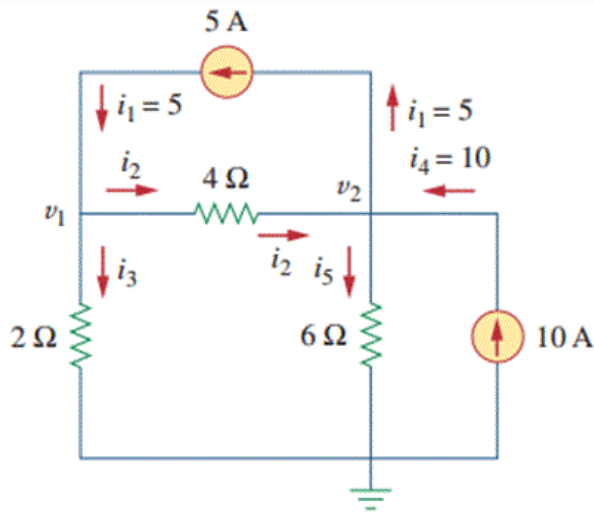
$$I_S = \frac{V_S}{R_{series/parallel}}$$

### 1.1.4. -Are there any tricks to do calculations faster on more complicated circuits?

There are two main methods for solving complicated circuits: **Nodal Analysis** or **Mesh Analysis**.

#### Nodal Analysis

finds the node voltages of the circuit through equation manipulation of Kirchhoff's Current Law.



Instructions:

1. Decide on an arbitrary current direction for each component.
2. Create KCL equations at each node. For X complex nodes, you need at least X-1 equations.
3. For currents not already given, transform each current into the following equation:

$$I = \frac{V_{high} - V_{low}}{R}$$

**Note:** Current goes from High Voltage to Low Voltage.

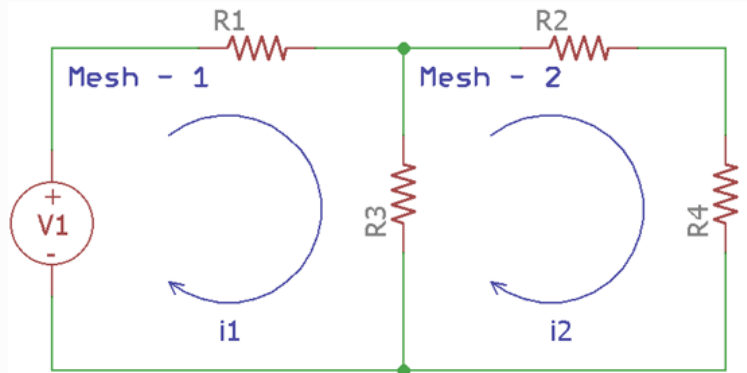
#### SPECIAL CASES

Voltage source between two unknown nodes:

Treat the voltage source as one giant node

#### Mesh Analysis

finds the currents of the circuit through equation manipulation of Kirchhoff's Voltage Law.



Instructions:

1. For every mesh, create an arbitrary current loop. All loops must go in the same direction.
2. Do a KVL for each loop replacing every voltage drop with the following equation:

$$V = R_1 \times \underbrace{(I_{IN} - I_{OUT})}_{I_{IN} \text{ is the current loop you're working on}}$$

**NOTE:** If there is a current source and it is *ONLY* part of one loop, the current source is the value of the loop when you align the directions of the loop.

#### SPECIAL CASES

Current source in between two meshes:  
Combine the two meshes together and do the same steps but add this extra equation:

$$\underbrace{I_{source}} = I_1 - I_2$$

$I_1$  should be the loop going in the same direction as the source.

and do the KCL for it. In addition to making one more equation where

$$V_{source} = V_{high} - V_{low}$$

3. Solve the system of equations to find the current of each loop.  
For N meshes you need N equations.

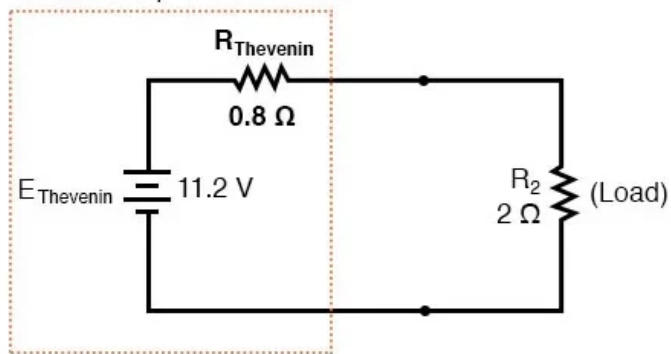
4. Solve the system of equations in order to find each nodal voltage.

1.1.5. -Are there any circuit simplification tricks to make future calculations easier?

Convert the circuit into it's **Thevenin** or **Norton Equivalent**

Thevenin Circuit:

Thevenin Equivalent Circuit

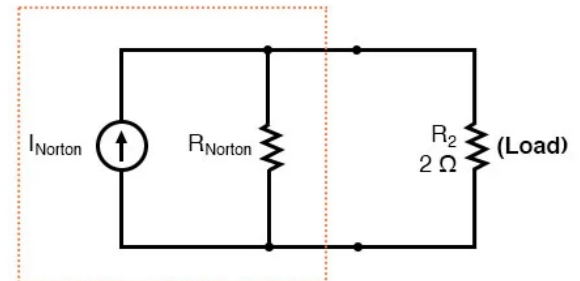


Finding  $V_{Thevenin}$  or  $V_{th}$ .

At the point where there is going to be changes, find the open circuit voltage drop at that point.

Norton Circuit:

Norton Equivalent Circuit



Finding  $I_N$ :

At the points of change, find the short circuit current.

Finding  $R_{th}$ :

1. Turn off all sources *except* dependent sources.
2. At the same open circuit as before, now find the  $R_{eq}$ .

Special Cases:

The circuit has dependent sources.

1. Put a voltage/current source at the open circuit.
  - Voltage Source: If it will be in series with the other components.
  - Current Source: If it will be in parallel with the other components.
2. Find the voltage of the source if you put a current source or the current if you put a voltage source.

3. 
$$R_{th} = \frac{V_T}{I_T}$$

## 1.2. CAPACITOR/INDUCTOR CIRCUITS

### 1.2.1. How do I simplify Capacitors/Inductors?

SERIES:

$$\frac{1}{C_T} = \frac{1}{C_1} + \frac{1}{C_2} + \frac{1}{C_3} \dots \frac{1}{C_Z}$$

PARALLEL:

$$C_{Total} = C_1 + C_2 + C_3 \dots C_Z$$

OR

For Combining Two Capacitors At A Time Only

$$C_T = \frac{C_1 C_2}{C_1 + C_2}$$

Inductors simplify the exact same way as resistors.

### 1.2.2. How to perform calculations with capacitors?

To find the Energy stored in a capacitor/Inductor:

$$U = \frac{1}{2}CV^2 = \frac{1}{2}LI^2$$

To find the current of a capacitor/Inductor:      To find the voltage of a capacitor/Inductor:

$$I = C \frac{dv}{dt} = \frac{1}{L} \int V dt$$

$$V = \frac{1}{C} \int I dt = L \frac{dI}{dt}$$

### 1.2.3. How to do calculations when there are switches?

Main Formula:

$$V = V(\infty) + [V(0) - V(\infty)]e^{\frac{t}{\tau}}$$

**NOTE:** You can use interchange  $V$  with  $I$

$$\tau = CR = \frac{L}{R}$$

## 2. *AC CIRCUITS*

### 2.1 RESISTOR, CAPACITOR, AND INDUCTOR CIRCUITS

#### 2.1.1 What is the difference between AC and DC, mathematically?

Everything basically acts like a resistor and has an impedance ( $Z$ ) instead of a resistance. To make the math simpler, we transform the equations from trigonometry to the phasor/rectangular.

$$\omega = 2\pi f$$

$$\underbrace{A\cos(\omega x + \phi)}_{\text{Trigonometric}} = \underbrace{A\angle\phi}_{\text{Phasor}} = \underbrace{A\cos(\phi) + j\sin(\phi)}_{\text{Rectangular}}$$

#### Resistance Conversion to Impedance

**Resistors    Capacitors    Inductors**

$$Z = R \quad Z = \frac{-j}{\omega C} \quad Z = j\omega L$$

You combine Impedance together as if they are resistors. The mathematics is almost the same as DC circuits, the only difference is that you have imaginary numbers.