

Fundamentals of Electric Circuits

DC Circuits

Chapter 1. Basic concepts

- 1.1. Introduction
- 1.2. Systems of Units
- 1.3. Charge and Current
- 1.4. Voltage
- 1.5. Power and Energy
- 1.6. Circuit elements

Basic Concepts

1.1. Introduction

+ Models for electromagnetic systems/ electromagnetic interactions:

electromagnetic model → *electromagnetic theory*

electric circuit model → *electric circuit theory*

+ Electric Circuit Model:

+ Information: at several points in system

+ Based on Kirchhoff's current and voltage laws

+ Basic elements of circuits: R, L, C and sources

→ Each physical (electromagnetic) phenomenon: represented by one element → the *waves transmission* in system is *not observed*

→ *Distribution* of electromagnetic quantities *in space* is ignored

Basic Concepts

1.1. Introduction

- + **Conditions** to represent/approximate an electromagnetic system by an electric circuit model
 - The wave length is much greater than the dimension of the system
 - The electrical conductivity of wires or electrical material in the system is much greater than that of outside environment
- + **An electric circuit (model):**
Interconnection of an **infinite set of components**/circuit elements to represent exactly the electromagnetic interactions in considered object
- + **Featured variables in an electric circuit:** electric **current** and **voltage**

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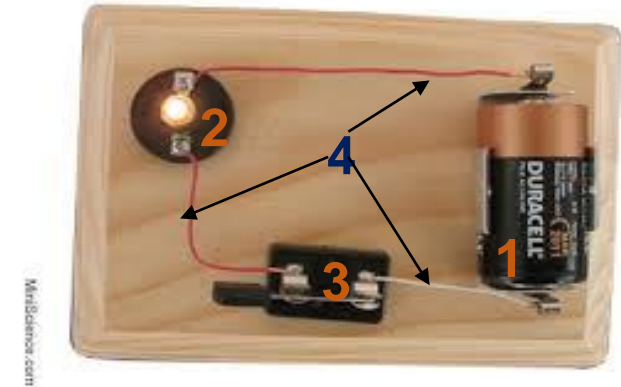
FUNDAMENTALS OF ELECTRIC CIRCUITS – DC Circuits

Basic Concepts

1.1. Introduction

+ An example of a (real) simple electric circuit:

- 1 - a battery 2 - a lamp
- 3 - a contact 4 - connecting wires



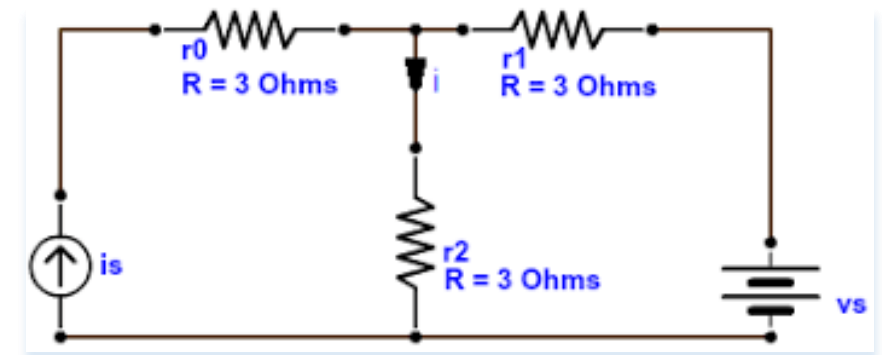
+ Geometric elements of an electric circuit (a model in general):

- Circuit elements
- **Branch**
- **Mesh** (loop)
- **Node**

+ Analysis of an electric circuit:

To know how

- The circuit responds to given inputs
- The interconnected elements and devices in the circuit interact



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Basic Concepts

1.1. Introduction

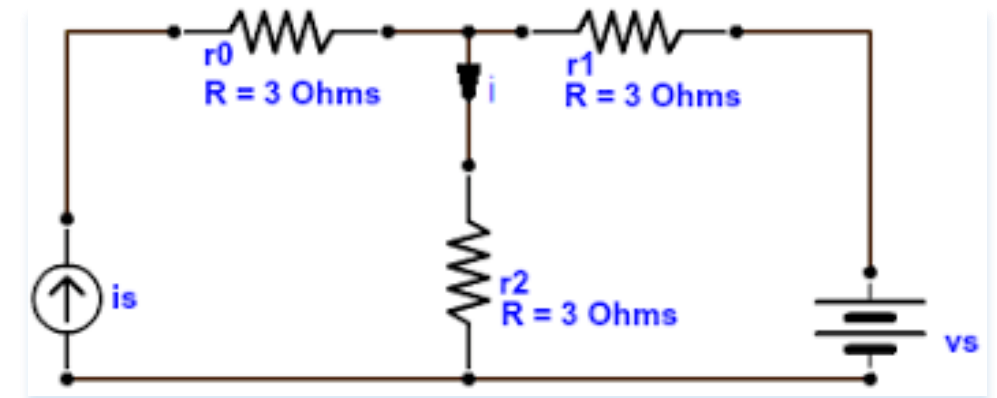
+ A basic *circuit element*:

- Represents one **single physical phenomenon**
- Modeled as an **one port element**
- Having 2 *featured variables* at port: **current** and **voltage**
- Connecting to other parts of the circuit through two **poles** of port

+ Following sections:

Introduction to

- System of units
- Charge and Current
- Voltage
- Power and Energy
- Circuit Elements



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FUNDAMENTALS OF ELECTRIC CIRCUITS – DC Circuits

Basic Concepts

1.2. System of Units

+ The International System of Unit (SI)

- Seven principal units
- The units of all other physical quantities can be derived from these 7 basic units

+ The derived units in the SI

- formed by powers, products or quotients of the base units
- unlimited in number
- Derived units are associated with derived quantities

For example: **velocity** → derived from the base quantities of **time** and **length**, so in SI the **derived unit** is **meters per second** (symbol m/s)

SI base units

Quantity	Basic unit	Symbol
Length	Meter	m
Mass	Kilogram	Kg
Time	Second	s
Electric current	Ampere	A
Thermodynamic temperature	Kelvin	K
Amount of substance	Mole	mol
Luminous intensity	Candela	cd

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Basic Concepts

1.2. System of Units

+ Derived units for some electromagnetic quantities

Quantity	Unit	Symbol
Admittance	siemen	S
Angular frequency	radian/second	rad/s
Capacitance	farad	F
Charge density	Coulomb/meter ³	C/m ³
Conductance	siemen	S
Conductivity	siemen/meter	S/m
Energy	joule	J
Force	newton	N
Frequency	hertz	Hz
Impedance	ohm	Ω
Inductance	henry	H
Magnetomotive force	ampere-turn	A ⁰ t
Permeability	henry/meter	H/m
Permittivity	farad/meter	F/m
Power	watt	W
Reluctance	henry ⁻¹	H ⁻¹

Basic Concepts

1.3. Charge and Current

+ **Charge**: an electrical property of the atomic particles of which matter consists, measured in coulombs (C)

+ Each atom consists of electrons, protons and neutrons

Charge of an *electron*: $-1.602 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$

Charge of a *proton*: $1.602 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$

+ **Law of conservation of charge**:

Charge can neither be created nor destroyed, only transferred

Basic Concepts

1.3. Charge and Current

+ Electric charge is mobile

→ can be transferred from one place to another

→ can be converted to another form of energy

+ When a **conducting object is connected to a source** (a battery for example)

→ Positive charges move in one direction (to negative pole)

→ Negative charges move in the opposite direction (to positive pole)

creat an electric curent

+ The **current in metallic conductors** is due to **negative charges movement** (free electrons)

→ the **current flow (direction)** is taken as the movement of positive charge

+ **Electric current** is the time rate of change of charge, measured in amperes (A)

$$i = \frac{dq}{dt} \quad ; \quad [A] = \frac{[C]}{[s]}$$

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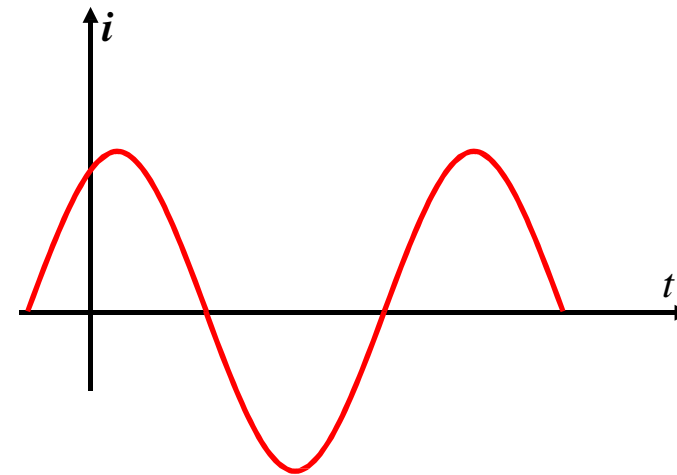
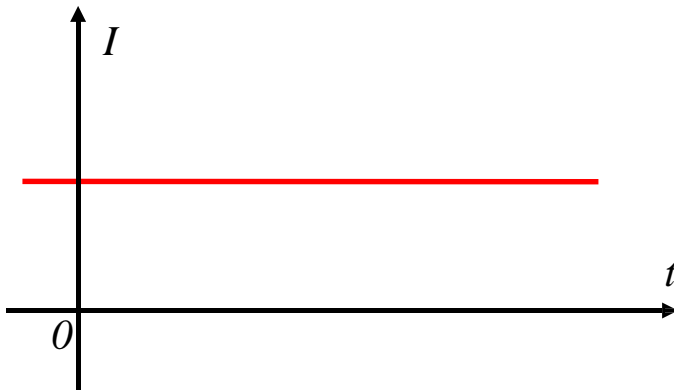
Basic Concepts

1.3. Charge and Current

+ Two common types of electric current

→ **Direct current** (DC) : a current that remains constant with time (I)

→ **Alternating current** (AC) : a current that varies sinusoidal with time (i)



+ Note:

Positive current

Negative current

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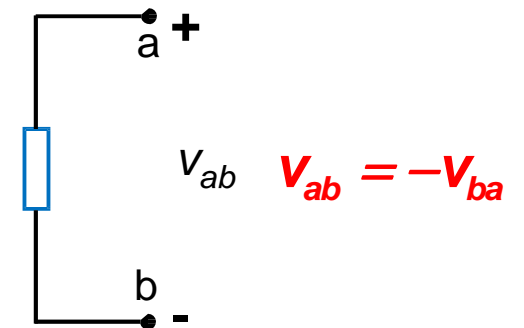
Basic Concepts

1.4. Voltage

+ In order to **move free electrons** in a conductor **in a particular direction** → **requires** some **work or energy transfer** → **needs external electromotive force (emf)**, as known as **voltage** or **potential difference**

+ **Voltage** (or **potential difference**) is the **energy required to move an unit charge through an element**, measured in volts (V)

$$V_{ab} = \frac{dw}{dq} ; [V] = \frac{[J]}{[C]} = \frac{[Nm]}{[C]}$$



+ Two types of voltage:

→ **DC voltage**: produced by a DC source/generator (a battery for example)

→ **AC voltage**: produced by an AC generator

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Basic Concepts

1.5. Power and Energy

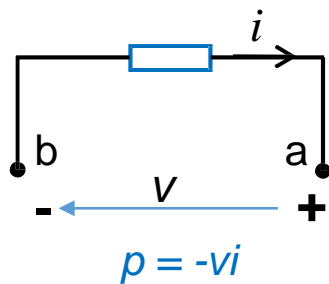
+ **Power** is the **work** which can be done **in an unit of time** (indicating the capacity to do work), measured in watts (W)

$$p = \frac{dw}{dt} = \frac{dw}{dq} \cdot \frac{dq}{dt} = vi$$

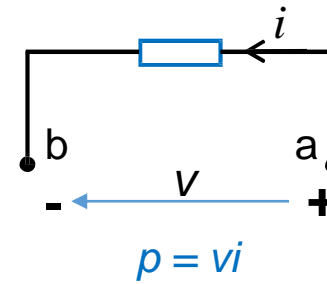
(instantaneous power)

+ Sign convention

If the **current enters** through the **negative terminal** of an element → **power** has **negative sign**



power is being **supplied by** the element



power is being **delivered to** the element

Basic Concepts

1.5. Power and Energy

+ *Law of conservation of power*

$$\sum p = 0$$

In an electric circuit, total power supplied by active elements (sources) equals to that received by passive elements (loads)

+ **Energy** is the amount of **power** accumulated **in a duration of time** (indicating the time rate of expending or absorbing energy), measured in Joules (J)

$$w = \int_{t_0}^t p dt = \int_{t_0}^t v i dt$$

Energy is also measured in Watt-hours (Wh) or kilowatt-hour (kWh)

$$1 \text{ Wh} = 3,600 \text{ J}$$

Basic Concepts

1.6. Circuit Elements

+ Types of circuit elements

- **Passive elements**: not be able to generate energy
resistors, capacitors, inductors
- **Active elements**: to be able to generate energy
voltage sources, current sources

+ Two kinds of sources

- Independent sources
- Dependent sources

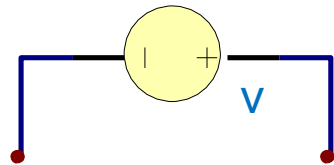
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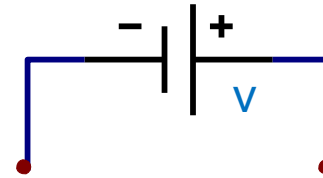
Basic Concepts

1.6. Circuit Elements

+ An ideal **independent voltage source**: **maintain** its **terminal voltage** (both value and time varying feature) and **delivers** to the circuit **whatever necessary current**

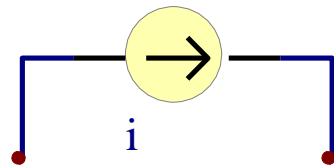


AC or time varying independent voltage source



DC independent voltage source

+ An ideal **independent current source**: **provides** a **specified current** (both value and time varying feature) completely **independent** of the **voltage across the source**



Note: the arrow indicates the direction of current i

Independent current source (DC and AC)

Basic Concepts

1.6. Circuit Elements

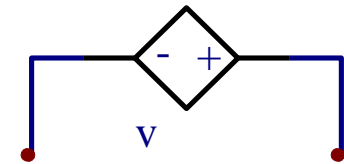
+ An ideal **dependent** (or controlled) **source**: an active element in which the source quantity is controlled by another voltage or current

→ A **voltage-controlled voltage source** (VCVS)

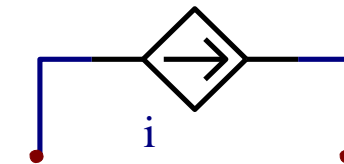
→ A **current-controlled voltage source** (CCVS)

→ A **voltage-controlled current source** (VCCS)

→ A **current-controlled current source** (CCCS)



Dependent voltage source



Dependent current source

+ Dependent sources are useful in modeling real physical elements:

Operational amplifiers

Transistors

Integrated circuits

→ **Circuit analysis**: the process of determining voltages across (or the currents through) elements of the circuit