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EE 188L Lab 4: Node-Voltage & Mesh-Current Analysis

EE 188L Electrical Engineering I

NAU + CQUPT (Fall 2021)

Summary

The purpose of this lab is first to show with measurements that **Kirchhoff's Current Law (KCL)** and **Kirchhoff's Voltage Law (KVL)** can be used to analyze a circuit by writing **Nodal & Mesh Equations**. The measurements of currents **leaving** each node will add to **zero** as required by **KCL**. The student will then treat the measured voltages (with respect to the reference node) as unknowns, and solve for those voltages by Node-Voltage or (Nodal Analysis) Method. Measured and calculated voltages will be compared.

Also, mesh-current equations will be written around the 3 meshes in the circuit using the measured resistances. The simultaneous equations formed will be solved in **Excel or Matlab** to derive individual mesh currents. These will then be compared to actual measured branch currents.

I. Test bench equipment

Dual DC Power Supply:

The **Dual DC PS** has **two independent** ideal voltage sources that can provide voltages at the same time: 0 to +15VDC and 0 to -15VDC. For this experiment, **both** power supplies are used at the same time. The method to produce a **+5VDC** will be explained by the **Instructor**.

Digital Multimeter (DMM): The DMM is capable of **measuring resistances, voltages and currents**. The **DMM** measurement procedures will be discussed by the **Instructor**.

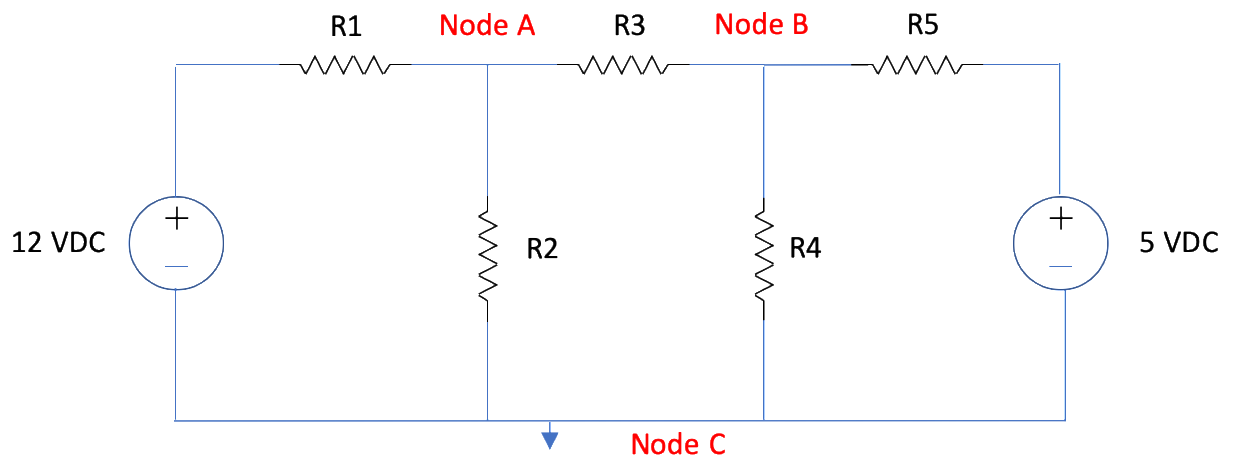
II. Measuring Resistance

Locate 5 resistors with the values given below; **measure the actual resistance** with the **DMM** in **Resistance mode**. Record the **actual values** to 2 decimal places (for example if R_2 measures $\Rightarrow 2.7132k$, use $2.71k$):

$R_1 = 3.9k \Rightarrow \underline{3.858k\Omega}$ (measured)
 $R_2 = 6.8k \Rightarrow \underline{6.788k\Omega}$ (measured)
 $R_3 = 1.3k \Rightarrow \underline{1.304k\Omega}$ (measured)
 $R_4 = 2.7k \Rightarrow \underline{2.701k\Omega}$ (measured)
 $R_5 = 1.8k \Rightarrow \underline{1.778k\Omega}$ (measured)

III. Circuit

On the **BB** put resistors R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , R_4 , R_5 and the two Power Supplies (PS) as shown in the schematic below. **Note:** Make the two PS independent as explained by the Instructor.



Adjust the PS voltage, V_1 , of the PS to $V_1 = +12V$ with respect to its own reference. → Measure with the DMM to be sure!

Adjust the PS voltage, V_2 , of the PS to $V_2 = +5V$ with respect to its own reversed reference, by using the black as the + reference and the red as the – reference. → Measure with the DMM to be sure!

IV. KCL and Node-Voltage Analysis

Choose node C for nodal voltages' reference zero.

Measure and record voltages V_A (at node A) and V_B (at node B) with respect to reference zero at node C.

$$V_A = \underline{\underline{5.292V}} \text{ (measured)}$$

$$V_B = \underline{\underline{4.038V}} \text{ (measured)}$$

At node A measure and record the currents leaving the node.

➔ Listen to the Instructor's explanation on how to connect the DMM in series in a circuit to measure current.

$$I_{\text{LeftA}} = \underline{\underline{-1.740\text{mA}}}$$

$$I_{\text{RightA}} = \underline{\underline{0.960\text{mA}}}$$

$$I_{\text{DownA}} = \underline{\underline{0.780\text{mA}}}$$

$$I_{\text{TotalNodeA}} = I_{\text{Left}} + I_{\text{Right}} + I_{\text{Down}} = \underline{\underline{0\text{mA}}} \text{ (Should be close to 0)}$$

At node B measure and record the currents leaving the node.

$$I_{\text{LeftB}} = \underline{\underline{-0.959\text{mA}}}$$

$$I_{\text{RightB}} = \underline{\underline{-0.535\text{mA}}}$$

$$I_{\text{DownB}} = \underline{\underline{1.495\text{mA}}}$$

$$I_{\text{TotalNodeB}} = I_{\text{Left}} + I_{\text{Right}} + I_{\text{Down}} = \underline{\underline{0.001\text{mA}}} \text{ (Should be close to 0)}$$

Nodal Analysis:

Set-up the Nodal Equations by treating V_A , V_B as unknowns and applying KCL at nodes A, B.

Node-voltage equations:

Node A

$$\underline{\underline{(12 - V_A)/R_1 = V_A/R_2 + (V_A - V_B)/R_3}}$$

$$\underline{\underline{(12 - V_A)/3858 = V_A/6788 + (V_A - V_B)/1304}}$$

$$\underline{\underline{(1/6788 + 1/1304 + 1/3858)V_A - 1/1304V_B = 12/3858}}$$

$$\underline{0.001173392V_A - 0.000766871V_B = 0.00311042}$$

Node B

$$\underline{(V_A - V_B)/R_3 = (V_B - 5)/R_5 + V_B/R_4}$$

$$\underline{(V_A - V_B)/1304 = (V_B - 5)/1778 + V_B/2701}$$

$$\underline{1/1304V_A - (1/1304 + 1/1778 + 1/2701)V_B = -5/1778}$$

$$\underline{0.000766871V_A - 0.001699534V_B = -0.002812148}$$

NOTE: Use the measured values of R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , R_4 , R_5 , NOT the listed values when setting up the equations!

$$V_A = \underline{\quad 5.29V \quad} \text{ (calculated)}$$

$$V_B = \underline{\quad 4.04V \quad} \text{ (calculated)}$$

Compare the **calculated** values to the **measured** values.
(They should be pretty close!)

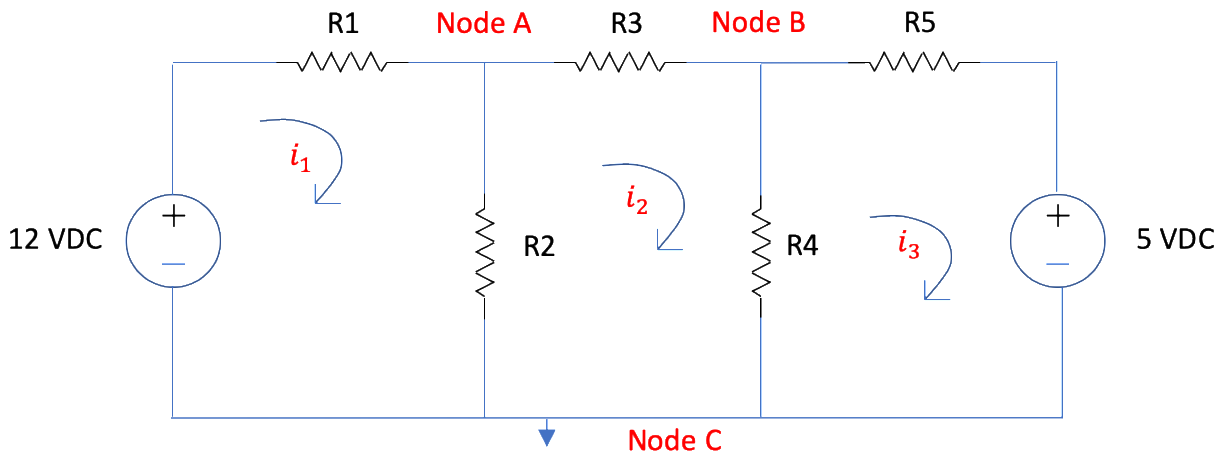
V. Questions and Mesh-current analysis

A. Node-Voltage analysis is a very powerful method to analyze circuits by generating **independent** equations. The **measured currents** leaving each node must add up to zero. **Why?**

Due to KCL, the current flowing into the node is the same as the current flowing out of the node.

B. We also have learned in class how to solve circuits with **Mesh Current analysis** by generating **independent** equations using **KVL**. Next, solve this circuit by **mesh analysis**.

- ➔ First, Form 3 meshes & generate equations for i_1 , i_2 , & i_3 .
- ➔ **NOTE**: Use the measured values of R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , R_4 , R_5 **NOT** the listed values when setting up the equations!



Mesh-current equations:

Mesh 1:

$$12 = R_1 i_1 + R_2 (i_1 - i_2)$$

$$12 = 3858 i_1 + 6788 (i_1 - i_2)$$

$$10646 i_1 - 6788 i_2 = 12$$

Mesh 2:

$$R_2 (i_1 - i_2) = R_3 i_2 + R_4 (i_2 - i_3)$$

$$6788 (i_1 - i_2) = 1304 i_2 + 2701 (i_2 - i_3)$$

$$6788 i_1 - 10793 i_2 + 2701 i_3 = 0$$

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