Today’s Outline

3. Analysis Methods

- Mesh Analysis with Current Sources
- Node Voltage versus Mesh Current

Recall the Mesh Current Method

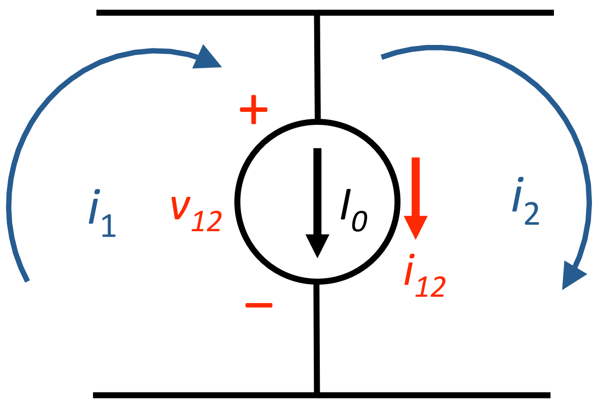
Step #1: Label meshes, and define mesh current variables circulating in each mesh.

Step #2: Write KVL equations for each mesh using mesh current variables only, by intrinsically using KCL and terminal laws (such as Ohm's law).

Step #3: Solve the linear system of equations, and use the mesh currents to calculate the desired quantity.

Current Sources and Mesh Current Method

Consider what happens when a current source is located between two meshes:



v_{12} and i_{12} = temporary variables

KCL: $-i_1 + i_{12} + i_2 = 0$

$$i_{12} = i_1 - i_2$$

terminal law: $i_{12} = I_0$

$$v_{12} = \text{anything}$$

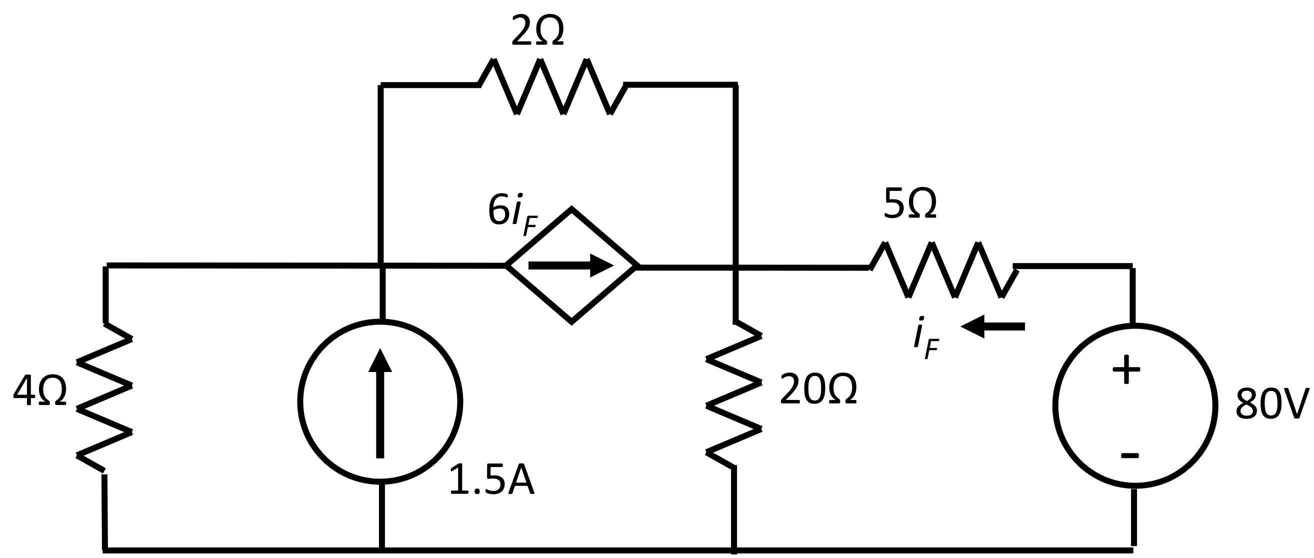
There are two consequences:

We have a *very simple* relationship between mesh currents, $i_1 - i_2 = I_0$ that is independent of v_{12}.

It is *impossible* to express the voltage v_{12} shared by mesh 1 and 2 in terms of i_1 and i_2.

Current Sources and Mesh Current Method

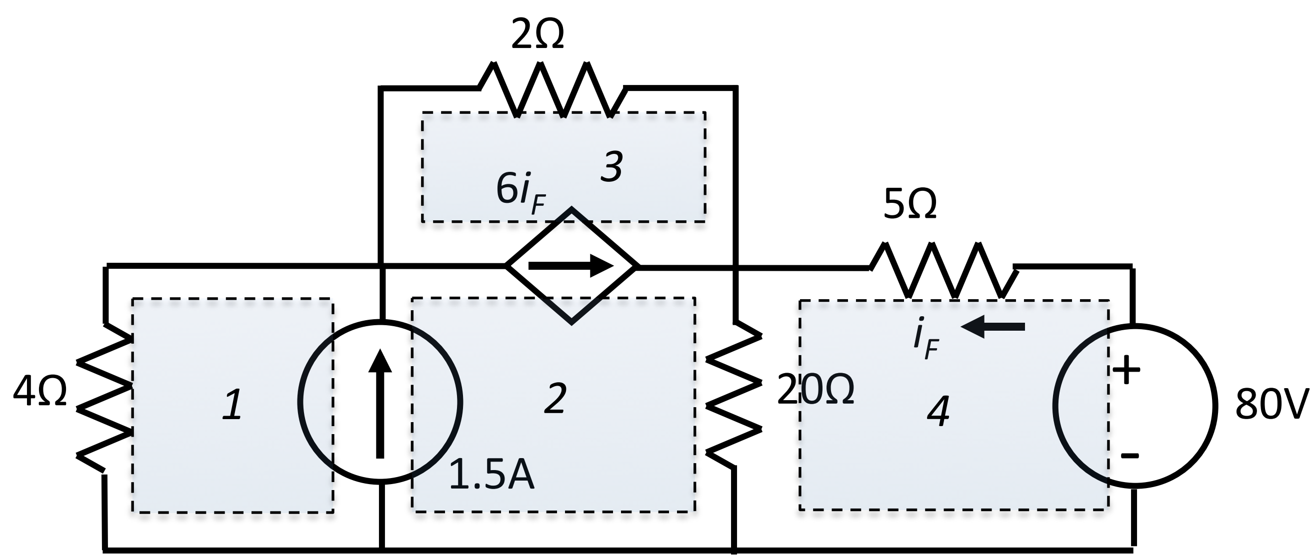
The mesh current method can be generalized to incorporate current sources. We illustrate the method with the example below.



Mesh Current Method

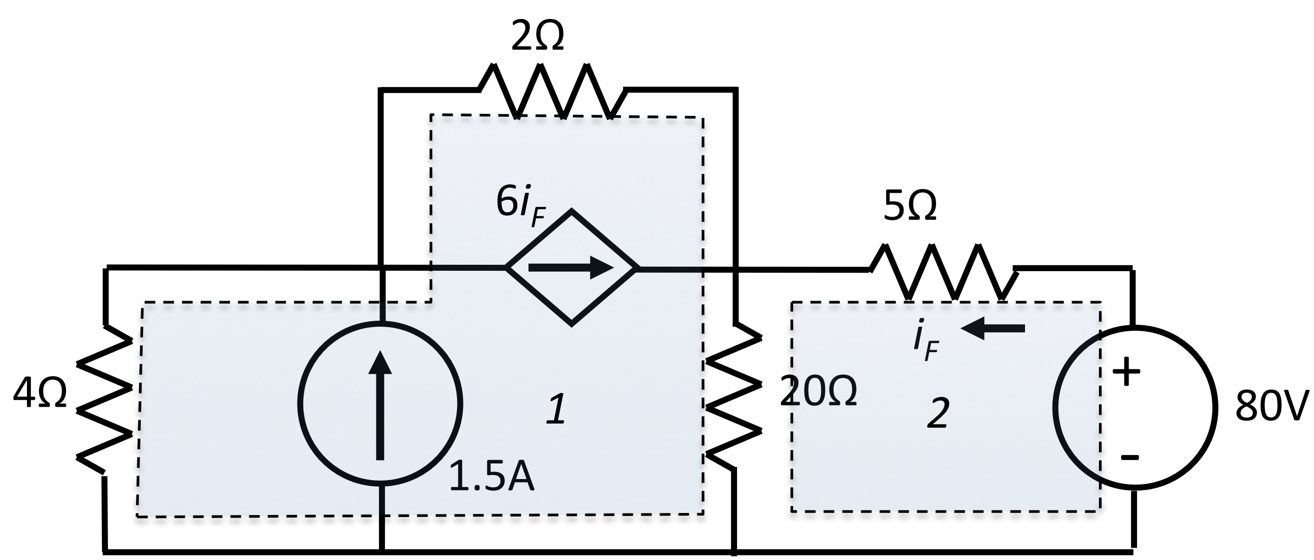
Step #1:

Identify the meshes of the circuit. Combine meshes that have current sources with neighbouring meshes into “super-meshes”. Identify mesh currents, including only one mesh current variable for a “super-mesh”.



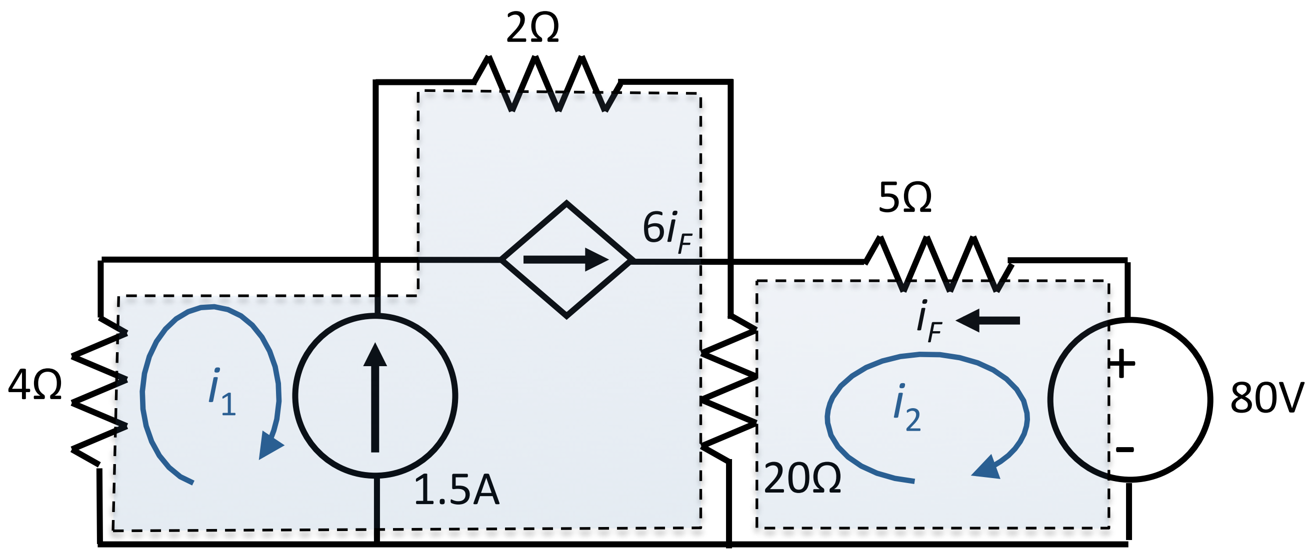
Mesh Current Method

In this example, there are three meshes combined into a super-mesh (labeled 1), and one remaining mesh (labeled 2).



Mesh Current Method

We specify one mesh current variable i_1 for the super-mesh. We choose the left-most mesh to carry i_1 (this is one of several possible choices). We also specify i_2 in mesh 2.



Note that we treat the dependent current source like an independent current source at this stage of the calculation.

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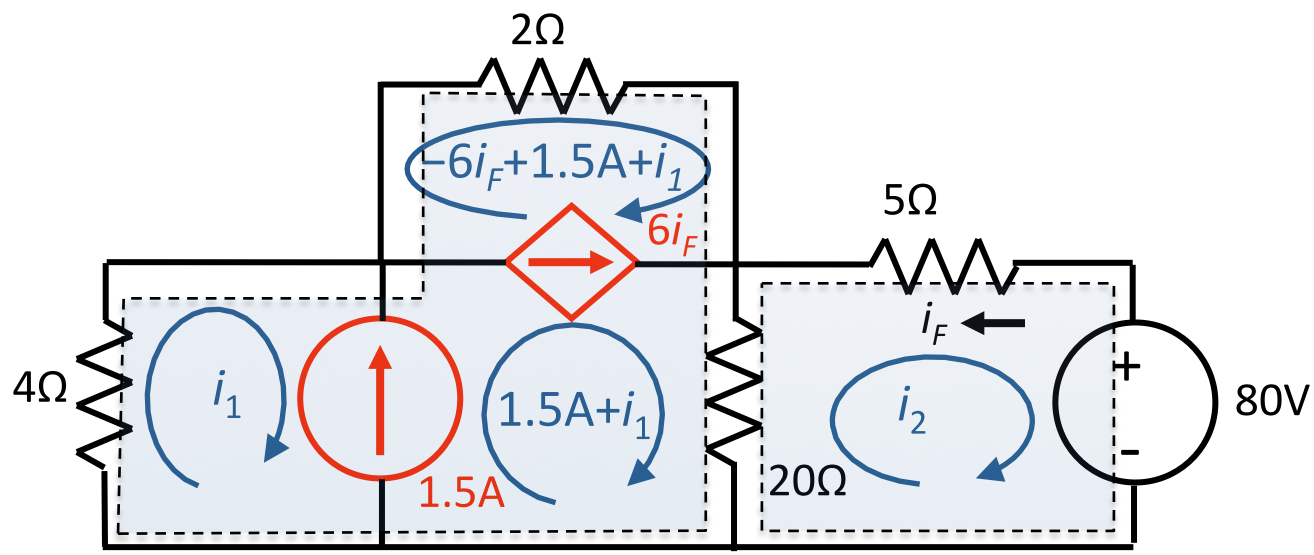
Mesh Current Method

The remaining mesh currents in the super mesh are determined by the current sources. For example, the "middle" mesh current must be 1.5A+i_1 in order for the current through the independent source to be 1.5A.



Note that we treat the dependent current source like an independent current source at this stage of the calculation.

Mesh Current Method

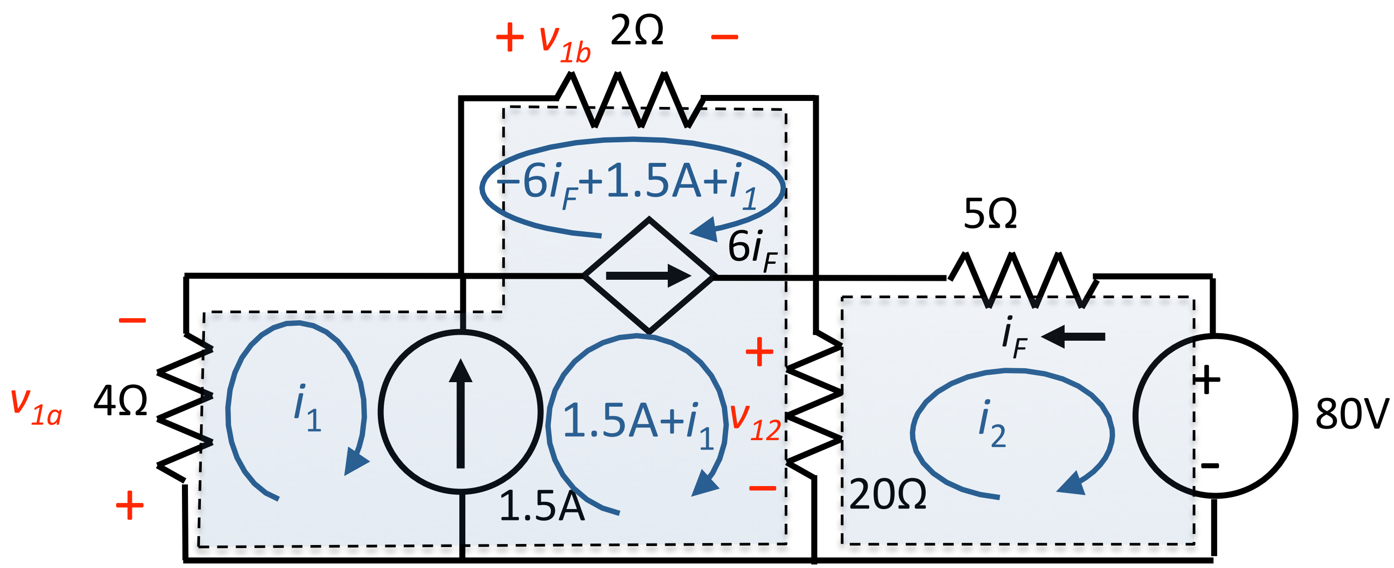
Step #2:

Write KVL equations for each mesh and each super-mesh. For the super-mesh, traverse the loop that does not pass through any current source. Use only the defined current variables to express each voltage by implicitly using KCL and the terminal laws of the elements.

In the presence of dependent sources, express any source variables in terms of mesh currents.

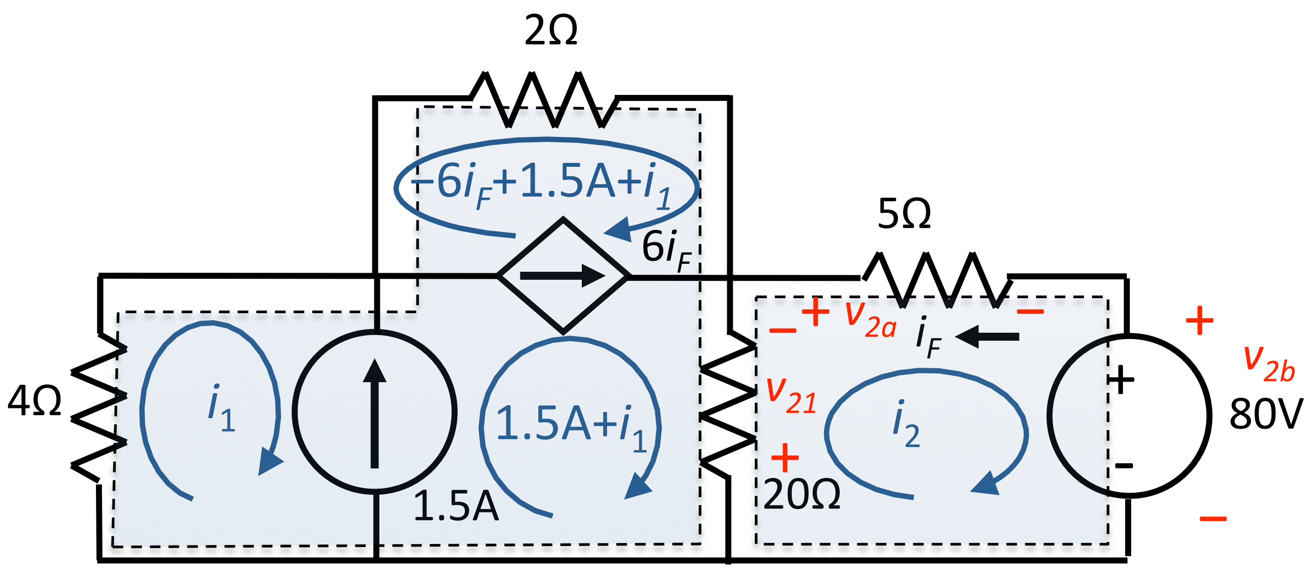
Mesh Current Method

KVL on super-mesh 1: $0 = \underbrace{i_1 4\Omega}_{v_{1a}} + \underbrace{(-6i_F + 1.5A + i_1)2\Omega}_{v_{1b}} + \underbrace{(1.5A + i_1 - i_2)20\Omega}_{v_{12}}$



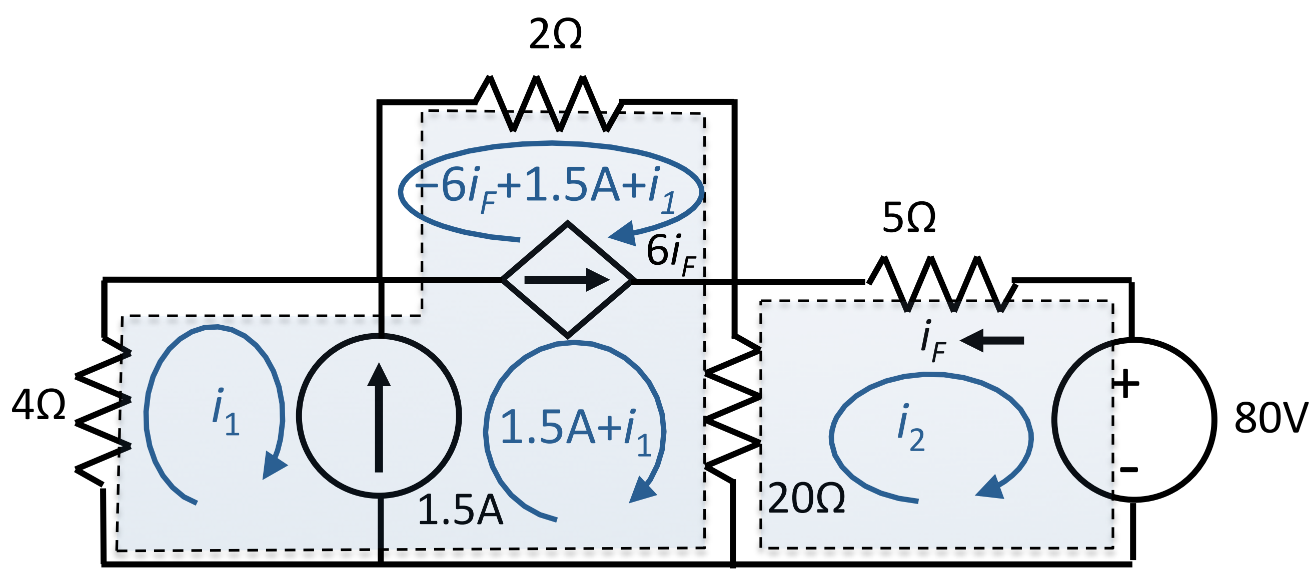
Mesh Current Method

KVL on mesh 2: $0 = \underbrace{(i_2 - (1.5A + i_1))20\Omega}_{v_{21}} + \underbrace{i_2 5\Omega}_{v_{2a}} + \underbrace{80V}_{v_{2b}}$



Mesh Current Method

Source variable definition: $i_F = -i_2$



Mesh Current Method

Step #3:

Solve for the mesh current variables.

super-mesh 1: $0 = i_1 4\Omega + (-6i_F + 1.5A + i_1)2\Omega + (1.5A + i_1 - i_2)20\Omega$

mesh 2: $0 = (i_2 - (1.5\text{A} + i_1))20\Omega + i_2 5\Omega + 80V$

source equation: $i_F = -i_2$

The entire circuit problem is organized into a system of 3 equations with 3 unknowns, trivially reduced to a system of 2 equations with 2 unknowns.

Mesh Current Method

We can use substitution to find the values of i_1 and i_2.

mesh 2:
$$0 = (i_2 - (1.5\text{A} + i_1))20\Omega + i_2 5\Omega + 80\text{V}$$
$$= -i_1 20\Omega + i_2 25\Omega + 50\text{V}$$
$$i_2 25\Omega = i_1 20\Omega - 50\text{V}$$
$$i_2 = \tfrac{4}{5} i_1 - 2\text{A}$$

super-mesh 1:
$$0 = i_1 4\Omega + (-6i_F + 1.5\text{A} + i_1)2\Omega + (1.5\text{A} + i_1 - i_2)20\Omega$$
$$= i_1 26\Omega - i_2 20\Omega - i_F 12\Omega + 33\text{V}$$
$$= i_1 26\Omega - i_2 20\Omega - (-i_2)12\Omega + 33\text{V}$$
$$= i_1 26\Omega - i_2 8\Omega + 33\text{V}$$
$$= i_1 26\Omega - (\tfrac{4}{5} i_1 - 2\text{A})8\Omega + 33\text{V}$$
$$= i_1 19.6\Omega + 49\text{V}$$
$$i_1 = -\tfrac{49}{19.6}\text{A} = -2.50\text{A} \qquad i_2 = \tfrac{4}{5}(-2.50\text{A}) - 2\text{A} = -4.00\text{A}$$

Mesh Current Method

We can also use Cramer's rule:

$$0 = i_1 4\Omega + (-6(-i_2) + 1.5\text{A} + i_1)2\Omega + (1.5\text{A} + i_1 - i_2)20\Omega$$

$$-33\text{A} = 26i_1 - 8i_2$$

$$0 = (i_2 - (1.5\text{A} + i_1))20\Omega + i_2 5\Omega + 80\text{V}$$

$$-50\text{A} = -20i_1 + 25i_2$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -33 \\ -50 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 26 & -8 \\ -20 & 25 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} i_1 \\ i_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$i_1 = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} -33 & -8 \\ -50 & 25 \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} 26 & -8 \\ -20 & 25 \end{vmatrix}} = \frac{(-33)\cdot 25 - (-8)\cdot(-50)}{26\cdot 25 - (-8)\cdot(-20)} = -2.5\text{A}$$

$$i_2 = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} 26 & -33 \\ -20 & -50 \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} 26 & -8 \\ -20 & 25 \end{vmatrix}} = \frac{26\cdot(-50) - (-33)\cdot(-20)}{26\cdot 25 - (-8)\cdot(-20)} = -4\text{A}$$

Mesh Current Method

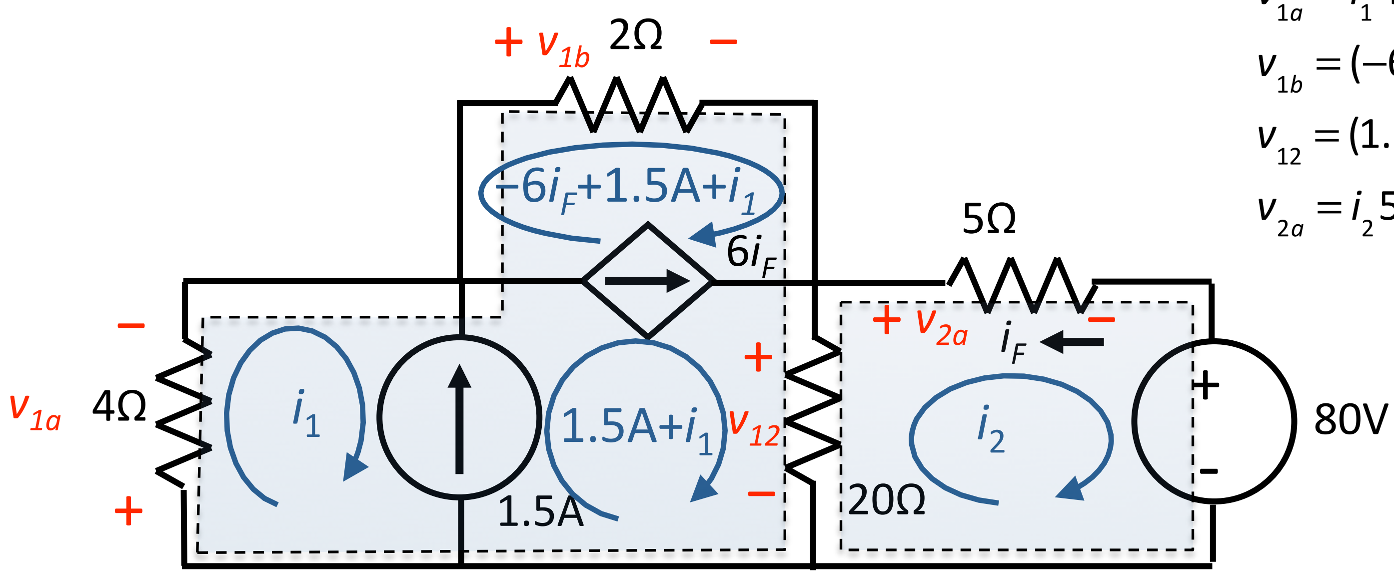
Any quantity (for example, the branch voltages) can now be easily calculated from i_1 and i_2. For the circuit below, verify that KVL is satisfied for any loop.

$$v_{1a} = i_1 4\Omega = -10\text{V}$$

$$v_{1b} = (-6i_F + 1.5\text{A} + i_1)2\Omega = -50\text{V}$$

$$v_{12} = (1.5\text{A} + i_1 - i_2)20\Omega = 60\text{V}$$

$$v_{2a} = i_2 5\Omega = -20\text{V}$$



i_1=−2.50A

i_2=−4.00A

i_F=4.00A

Summary of Mesh Current Method

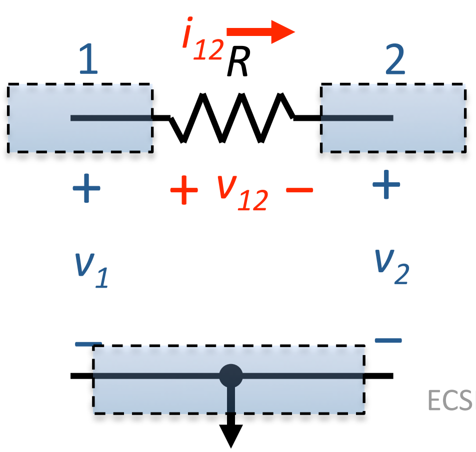
Step #1: Label meshes, grouping any meshes sharing a current source into *super-meshes*. Define mesh current variables circulating in each mesh (and express all currents in a *super-mesh* using a single mesh current).

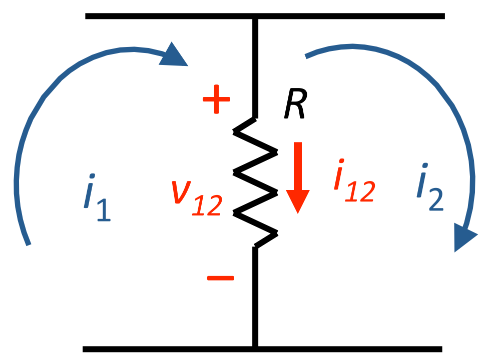
Step #2: Write KVL equations for each mesh using mesh current variables only, by intrinsically using KCL and terminal laws (such as Ohm's law). Traverse the single loop in the *super-mesh* that does not involve a current source.

Step #3: Solve the linear system of equations, and use the mesh currents to calculate the desired quantity.

Node Voltage versus Mesh Current Method

explicit variables:	node voltages v_x	mesh currents i_x
number of variables:	number of nodes minus reference	number of meshes
explicit equations:	KCL	KVL
implicit equations:	KVL + element laws (eg. Ohm's Law) to express element currents in terms of v_x	KCL + element laws (eg. Ohm's Law) to express element voltages in terms of i_x

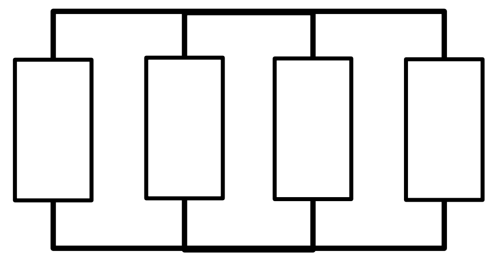




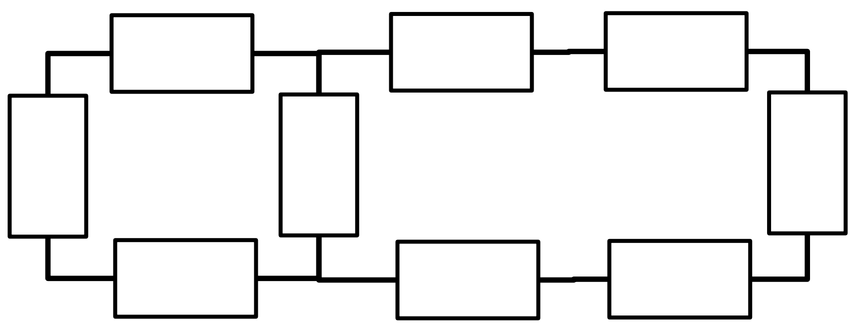
Node Voltage versus Mesh Current Method

Circuit topology should be considered when choosing methods:

1) Circuits with many elements in parallel and a few nodes can be solved with very few node voltage variables.



2) Circuits with many elements in series arranged in a few meshes can be solved with very few mesh current variables.



Section 3 Summary

Node Voltage Method: A systematic way to express KCL, KVL, Ohm's Law and other element laws. Only node voltage variables are used throughout the analysis process.

Mesh Current Method: Another systematic way to express KCL, KVL, Ohm's Law and other element laws. Only mesh current variables are used throughout the analysis process.