

ELL101: INTRODUCTION TO ELECTRICAL ENG.



Superposition Theorem

Course Instructors:

Manav Bhatnagar, Subashish Dutta, Debanjan Bhaumik, Harshan
Jagadeesh
Department of Electrical Engineering, IITD

1

Linearity

A mathematical equation is said to be linear if the following properties hold.

- Homogeneity
- Additivity

2

Homogeneity (Scaling)

Homogeneity exists if input of a system is multiplied by a constant, then the output should also be multiplying by the same constant.

3

Homogeneity (Scaling)

Check the following equation for homogeneity.

$$y = 7x$$

$$x = 1 \rightarrow y = 7$$

$$x = 2 \rightarrow y = 14$$

Now for homogeneity to hold, scaling should hold for y, that is, y has a value of 7 when x = 1. If we increase x by a factor of 2 when we should be able to multiply y by the same factor and get the same answer when we substitute into the right side of the equation for x = 2.

$$ny = 7(nx)$$

$$nx \rightarrow ny$$

4

Homogeneity (Scaling)

Check homogeneity for the following equation.

$$y = 5x + 2$$

Solution

$$nx \nrightarrow ny$$

Does not follow the property of homogeneity

5

Additivity

The additivity property is equivalent to the statement that the response of a system to a sum of inputs is the same as the responses of the system when each input is applied separately and the individual responses summed (added together).

6

Additivity

Let us check the additivity for $y = 7x$.

$$x = x_1 \rightarrow y = 7x_1 = y_1$$

$$x = x_2 \rightarrow y = 7x_2 = y_2$$

$$x = x_1 + x_2 \rightarrow y = 7(x_1 + x_2)$$

$$x = x_1 + x_2 \rightarrow y = 7x_1 + 7x_2 = y_1 + y_2$$

The equation follows the property of additivity.

7

Additivity

Let us check the additivity for $y = 5x + 2$.

$$x = x_1 \rightarrow y = 5x_1 + 2 = y_1$$

$$x = x_2 \rightarrow y = 5x_2 + 2 = y_2$$

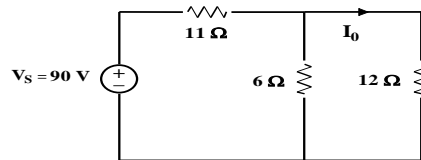
$$x = x_1 + x_2 \rightarrow y = 5(x_1 + x_2) + 2$$

$$x = x_1 + x_2 \rightarrow y = 5x_1 + 5x_2 + 2 \neq y_1 + y_2 = 5x_1 + 5x_2 + 2 + 2$$

The equation does not follow the property of additivity.

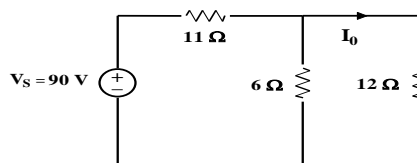
8

Example: For the given circuit, use the concept of linearity (homogeneity or scaling) to find the current I_0 .



- Let $I_0 = 1A$
- Then voltage drop across 12Ω resistance is $12V$.
- As 12Ω and 6Ω resistances are in parallel, $12V$ is also the voltage drop for 6Ω resistance.
- Hence, the current in 6Ω resistance is $2A$
- So, total current in 11Ω resistance will be $1A+2A$ (by KCL)
- Voltage drop at 11Ω resistance will be $11 \times 3 = 33V$
- By KVL $V_S = 33 + 12 = 45V$
- However, $V_S = 90V$ is given.
- So from linearity $I_0 = 2A$

9



Check:

Using KVL in the first mesh:

$$11I_1 + 6(I_1 - I_0) = V_S$$

Using KVL in the second mesh:

$$12I_0 + 6(I_0 - I_1) = 0$$

Solving:

$$I_0 = \frac{V_S \times 6}{18 \times 17 - 6 \times 6} = \frac{V_S}{45}$$

For $V_S = 90$, $I_0 = 2A$

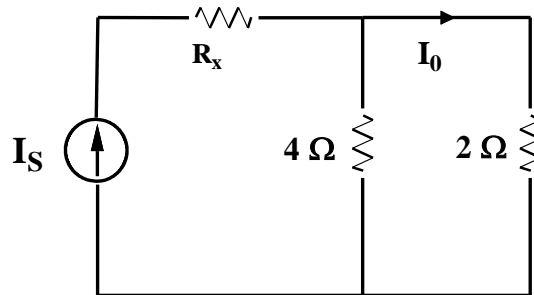
Since

$$V_S = 45I_0$$

It is a linear relation between V_S and I_0 .

10

Example: In the circuit shown below it is known that $I_0 = 4$ A when $I_S = 6$ A. Find I_0 when $I_S = 18$ A.

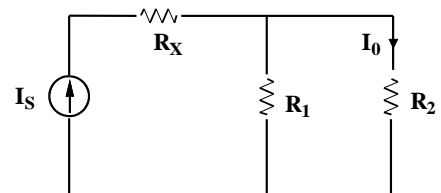


As $I_{S\text{ NEW}} = 3 \times I_{S\text{ OLD}}$ we conclude $I_{0\text{ NEW}} = 3 \times I_{0\text{ OLD}}$.
Thus, $I_{0\text{ NEW}} = 3 \times 4 = 12$ A.

11

Let us use the current splitting rule (current division) to write the following equation:

$$I_0 = \frac{(I_S)(R_1)}{(R_1 + R_2)} = (K)(I_S)$$



The relation between I_0 and I_S is linear.

12

Superposition

Let inputs f_1 and f_2 be applied to a system y such that,

$$y = k_1 f_1 + k_2 f_2$$

Where k_1 and k_2 are constants of the systems.

Let f_1 act alone so that, $y = y_1 = k_1 f_1$

Let f_2 act alone so that, $y = y_2 = k_2 f_2$

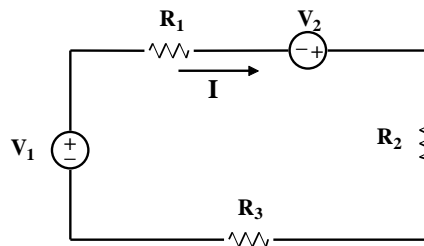
The property of superposition states that if f_1 and f_2 are applied together, the output y will be,

$$y = y_1 + y_2 = k_1 f_1 + k_2 f_2$$

13

Example

Consider the circuit below that contains two voltage sources.

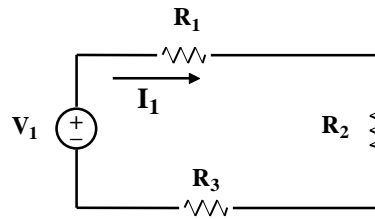


Use principle of superposition for finding the value of I

14

Let us excite the circuit by a single voltage source at a time.
Other source remains inactive, i.e., produces 0 V, means short circuit.

Source V1 active, V2 inactive



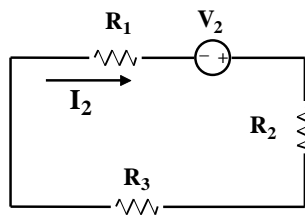
Current I_1 is produced by V_1

Observe that:

$$V_1 = (R_1 + R_2 + R_3)I_1$$

15

Source V2 active, V1 inactive



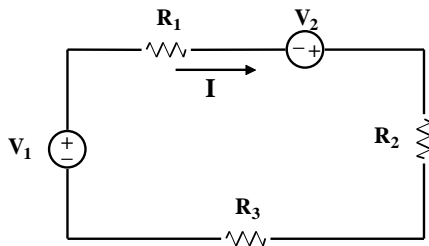
Current I_2 is produced by V_2

Observe that:

$$V_2 = (R_1 + R_2 + R_3)I_2$$

16

Let us calculate the circuit current by both voltage sources jointly.



Applying KVL:

$$V_1 + V_2 = (R_1 + R_2 + R_3)I$$

We have observed that:

$$V_1 = (R_1 + R_2 + R_3)I_1$$

$$V_2 = (R_1 + R_2 + R_3)I_2$$

$$V_1 + V_2 = (R_1 + R_2 + R_3)(\underbrace{I_1 + I_2}_I)$$

Superposition is applicable!

$$I_1 = V_1 / (R_1 + R_2 + R_3)$$

$$I_2 = V_2 / (R_1 + R_2 + R_3)$$

$$I = I_1 + I_2$$

17

Superposition Theorem

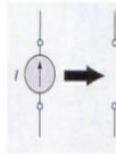
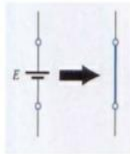
- Definition: The current or voltage of an element in a linear bilateral circuit is equal to the algebraic sum of the currents and voltages produced independently by each source.
- This principle applies because of the linear relationship between current and voltage.
- Conditions to be met for applying superposition theorem
 - All the elements must be linear
 - All the components must be bilateral
 - Passive components must be used
 - Active components must not be there

18

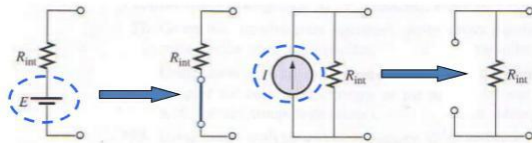
Superposition Theorem

Procedure to apply Superposition theorem

- Consider only one source to be active at a time
- Remove ideal voltage source with short-circuit, and ideal current source with open-circuit

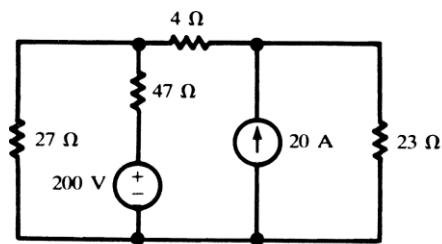


- Remove practical voltage source with short-circuit with internal resistance in series, and practical current source with open-circuit with internal resistance in parallel



19

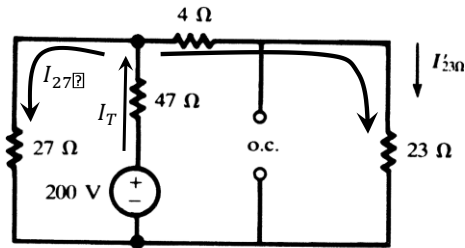
Example



Compute the current in the 23 Ω resistor by applying the superposition principle.

20

Make the current source
inactive



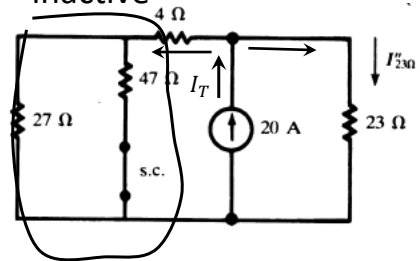
$$R_{eq} = 47 + \frac{(27)(4 + 23)}{54} = 60.5 \, \Omega$$

$$I_T = \frac{200}{60.5} = 3.31 \, \text{A}$$

$$I'_{23\Omega} = \left(\frac{27}{54} \right) (3.31) = 1.65 \, \text{A} \quad \text{Current division}$$

21

Make the voltage source
inactive



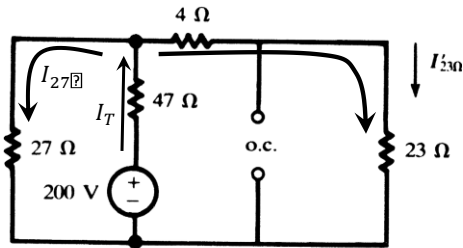
$$R_{eq} = 4 + \frac{(27)(47)}{74} = 21.15 \, \Omega$$

$$I''_{23\Omega} = \left(\frac{21.15}{21.15 + 23} \right) (20) = 9.58 \, \text{A} \quad \text{Current division}$$

$$I_{23\Omega} = I'_{23\Omega} + I''_{23\Omega} = 11.23 \, \text{A}$$

22

Make the current source inactive

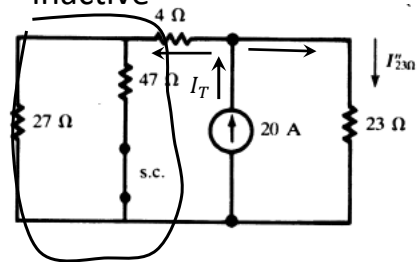


$$R_{eq} = 47 + \frac{(27)(4 + 23)}{54} = 60.5 \, \Omega$$

$$I_T = \frac{200}{60.5} = 3.31 \, \text{A}$$

$$I'_{23\Omega} = \left(\frac{27}{54}\right)(3.31) = 1.65 \, \text{A} \quad \text{Current division}$$

Make the voltage source inactive



$$R_{eq} = 4 + \frac{(27)(47)}{74} = 21.15 \, \Omega$$

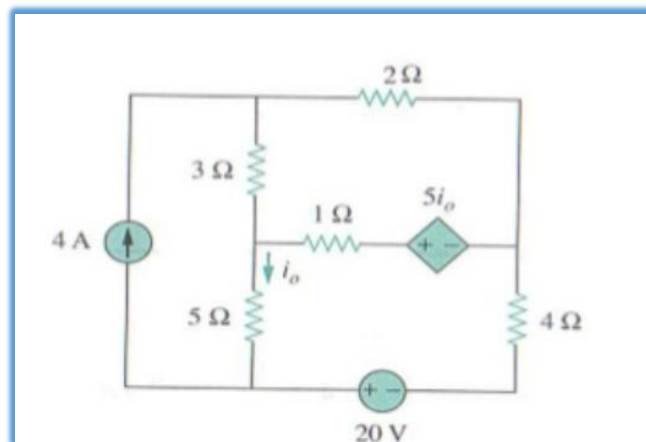
$$I''_{23\Omega} = \left(\frac{21.15}{21.15 + 23}\right)(20) = 9.58 \, \text{A} \quad \text{Current division}$$

$$I_{23\Omega} = I'_{23\Omega} + I''_{23\Omega} = 11.23 \, \text{A}$$

23

When there is Dependent source in the circuit

Example 3: Find the current i_o in the given circuit



24

Solution: Part 1: Short ckt 20V voltage source

In loop 1

$$i_1 = 4A$$

In loop 2, apply KVL

$$3(i_2 - i_1) + 2i_2 - 5i_0' + 1(i_2 - i_3) = 0$$

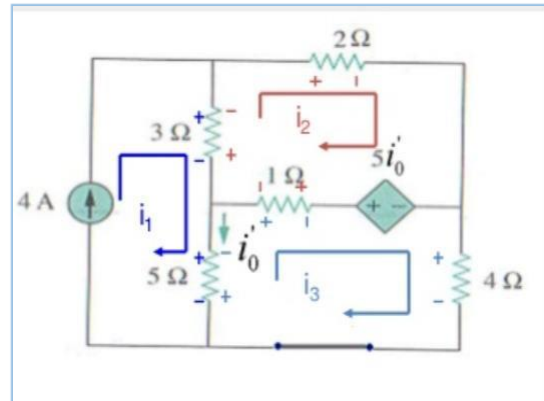
In loop 3, apply KVL

$$5(i_3 - i_1) + 1(i_3 - i_2) + 5i_0' + 4i_3 = 0$$

$$\text{Also, } i_0' = i_1 - i_3$$

Solving above equations we get

$$i_0' = 52/17 A$$



25

Solution: Part 2: Open ckt 4A current source

In loop 4, apply KVL

$$3i_4 + 2i_4 - 5i_0'' + 1(i_4 - i_5) = 0$$

In loop 5, apply KVL

$$5i_5 + 4i_5 + 5i_0'' + 1(i_5 - i_4) = 20$$

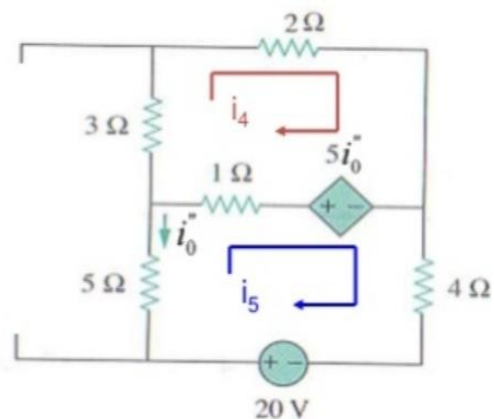
$$\text{Also, } i_0'' = -i_5$$

Solving these equations, we get

$$i_0'' = -60/17A$$

Applying superposition theorem,

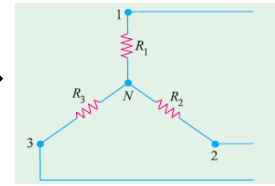
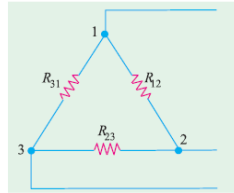
$$i_0 = i_0' + i_0'' = 52/17 - 60/17 A = -8/17$$



Note: Superposition theorem is not applicable in case of power calculation

26

Proof of Delta-Star Conversion



UNDER NO LOAD SCENARIO:

For Delta resistance between nodes 1 and 2 will be: $R_{12} || (R_{31} + R_{23})$

For Star resistance between nodes 1 and 2 will be: $R_1 + R_2$

$$\text{So } R_1 + R_2 = R_{12} || (R_{31} + R_{23}) = \frac{R_{12}(R_{31} + R_{23})}{R_{12} + R_{31} + R_{23}} \quad (i)$$

Similarly:

$$R_2 + R_3 = R_{23} || (R_{31} + R_{12}) = \frac{R_{23}(R_{31} + R_{12})}{R_{12} + R_{31} + R_{23}} \quad (ii) \text{ (between nodes 2 and 3 for Delta and Star)}$$

$$R_1 + R_3 = R_{31} || (R_{12} + R_{23}) = \frac{R_{31}(R_{12} + R_{23})}{R_{12} + R_{31} + R_{23}} \quad (iii) \text{ (between nodes 1 and 3 for Delta and Star)}$$

Now, subtracting (ii) from (i) and adding the result to (iii), we get: $R_1 = \frac{R_{12}R_{31}}{R_{12} + R_{31} + R_{23}}$

Subtracting (iii) from (ii) and adding the result to (i), we get: $R_2 = \frac{R_{12}R_{23}}{R_{12} + R_{31} + R_{23}}$

Subtracting (i) from (iii) and adding the result to (ii), we get: $R_3 = \frac{R_{31}R_{23}}{R_{12} + R_{31} + R_{23}}$

27

Proof of Star-Delta Conversion

$$R_1 R_2 + R_2 R_3 + R_1 R_3 = \frac{R_{12}^2 R_{31} R_{23} + R_{12} R_{23}^2 R_{31} + R_{12} R_{23} R_{31}^2}{(R_{12} + R_{31} + R_{23})(R_{12} + R_{31} + R_{23})}$$

$$R_1 R_2 + R_2 R_3 + R_1 R_3 = \frac{R_{12} R_{31} R_{23}}{(R_{12} + R_{31} + R_{23})} \frac{(R_{12} + R_{23} + R_{31})}{(R_{12} + R_{31} + R_{23})}$$

$$R_1 R_2 + R_2 R_3 + R_1 R_3 = R_3 R_{12}$$

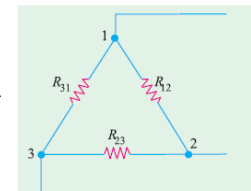
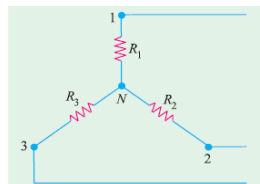
$$R_{12} = \frac{R_1 R_2 + R_2 R_3 + R_1 R_3}{R_3}$$

• Similarly, $R_1 R_2 + R_2 R_3 + R_1 R_3 = R_2 R_{31}$

$$R_{31} = \frac{R_1 R_2 + R_2 R_3 + R_1 R_3}{R_2}$$

$$R_1 R_2 + R_2 R_3 + R_1 R_3 = R_1 R_{12}$$

$$R_{12} = \frac{R_1 R_2 + R_2 R_3 + R_1 R_3}{R_1}$$



$$R_1 = \frac{R_{12} R_{31}}{R_{12} + R_{23} + R_{31}}; R_2 = \frac{R_{23} R_{12}}{R_{12} + R_{23} + R_{31}} \text{ and } R_3 = \frac{R_{31} R_{23}}{R_{12} + R_{23} + R_{31}}$$

28