

Circuit Theory & Analysis

MESH/LOOP ANALYSIS



Objectives

- Analyse a given circuit using mesh/loop analysis method
- Write mesh/loop equations by inspection and solve for the unknown loop currents using Cramer's rule



Mesh Analysis

Mesh analysis is a standard procedure using matrix method in the handling of equations.

The tool is designed to simplify and speed up the task of writing the set of simultaneous equations required to solve various circuit problems.

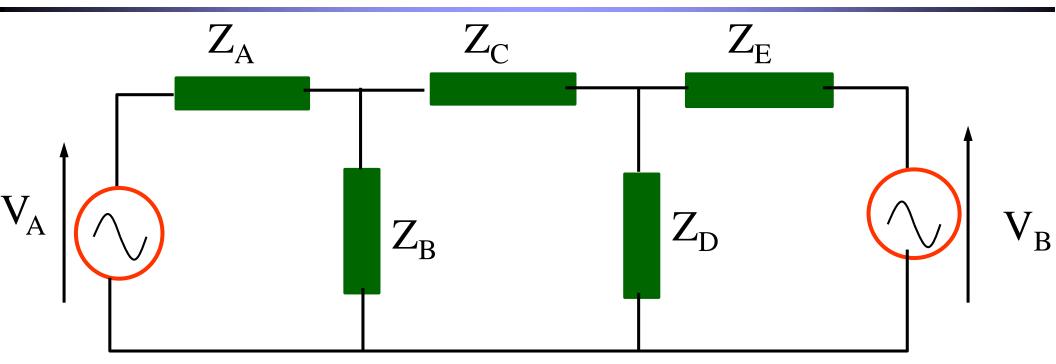


Mesh Analysis

In the past, KVL was used to write circuit equations which may be quite tedious and not well organised.

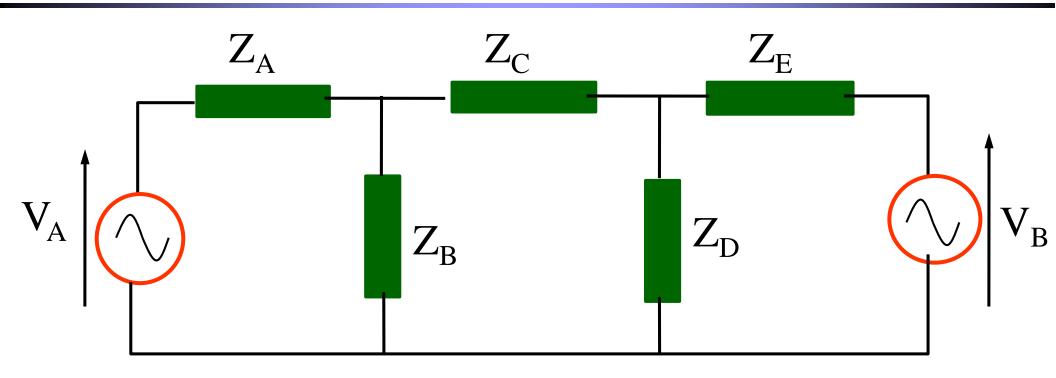
With Mesh/loop analysis, the same equations are written down, according to some established rules and regulations, directly into a matrix equation. From there, the solutions are *found systematically* using matrix methods.





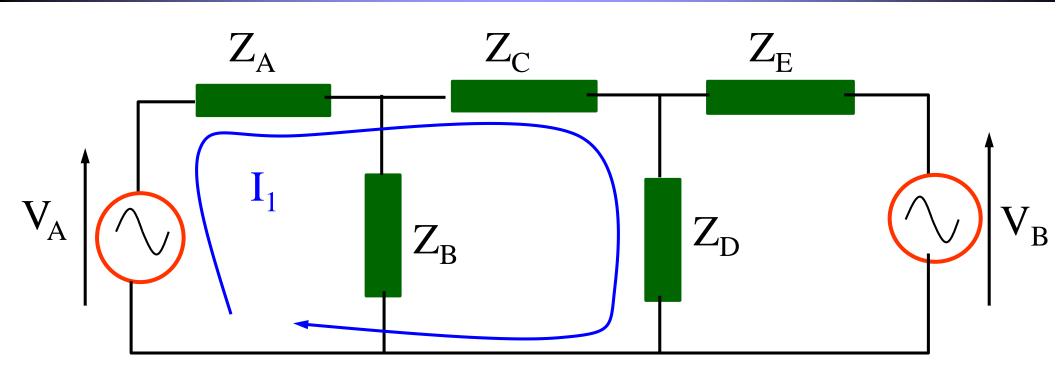
Given a circuit, first determine the number of independent loops, hence the number of independent equations by KVL





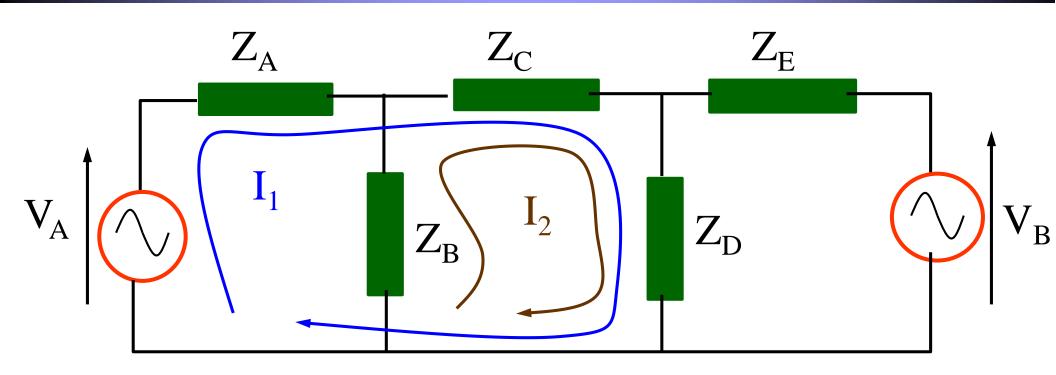
Select the loops. For this circuit, there are 3 loops and hence 3 loop equations are formed.





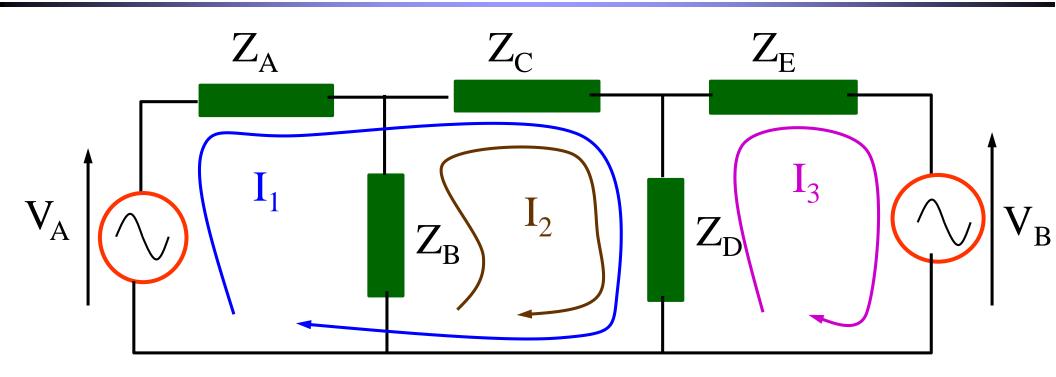
Select the loops. For this circuit, there are 3 loops and hence 3 loop currents I_1





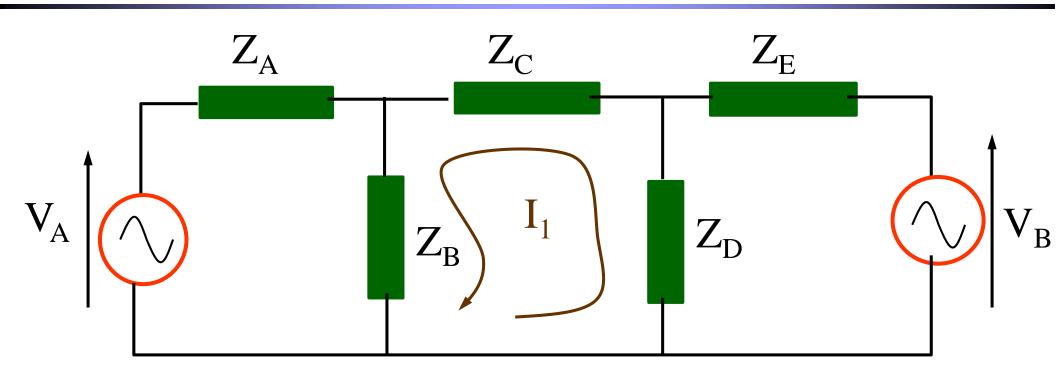
Select the loops. For this circuit, there are 3 loops and hence 3 loop currents I_1 , I_2 ...





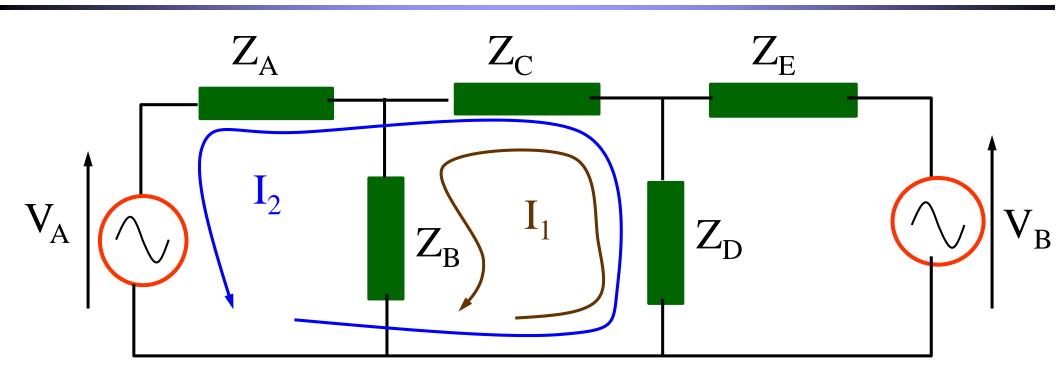
Select the loops. For this circuit, there are 3 loops and hence 3 loop currents I_1 , I_2 and I_3 .





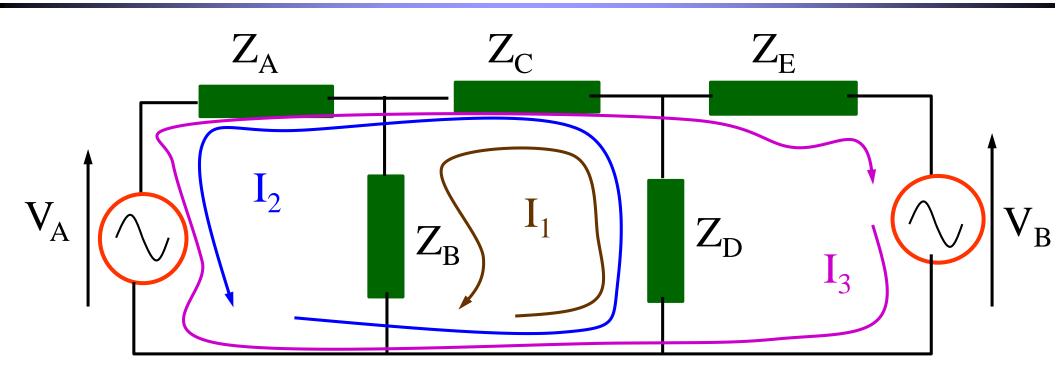
OR, you can select the loop currents I_1 ...



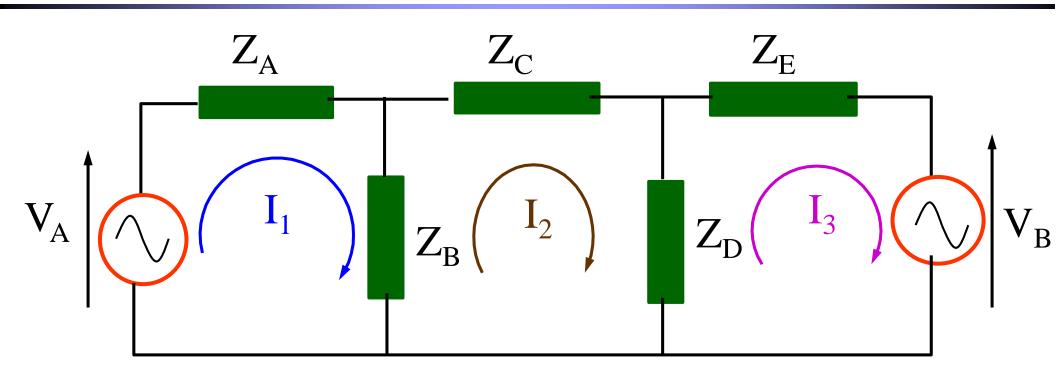


OR, you can select the loop currents $I_1, I_2...$

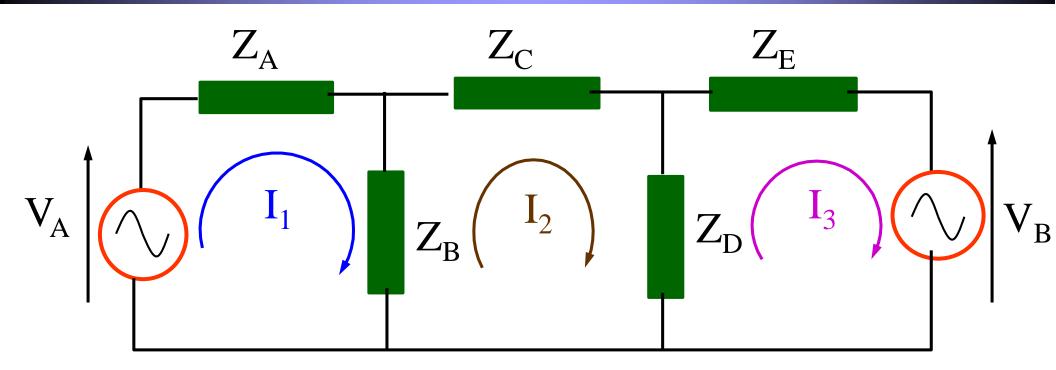




OR, you can select the loop currents I_1 , I_2 and I_3



Or you can select the mesh currents as above.



The rules on the selection of mesh currents are:

- * No. of mesh currents = No. of independent loops
- * Each impedance must have at least one mesh current



- Mesh/loop analysis of an electric circuit is based on Kirchhoff's Voltage Law (KVL).
- KVL: Phasor sum of all the Voltages in a closed loop is zero. OR
- Phasor sum of voltage rises must be equal to the phasor sum of all the voltage drops in a closed loop.



Loop 1:
$$V_A = I_1 Z_A + (I_1 - I_2) Z_B$$

Loop 2:
$$(I_2 - I_1)Z_B + I_2Z_C + (I_2 - I_3)Z_D = 0$$

Loop 3:
$$I_3Z_E + (I_3 - I_2)Z_D + V_B = 0$$

Rearranging the equations gives:-

Loop 1:
$$(Z_A + Z_B) I_1 - Z_B I_2 + 0 I_3 = V_A$$

Loop 2:
$$-Z_B I_1 + (Z_B + Z_C + Z_D) I_2 - Z_D I_3 = 0$$

Loop 3:
$$0 I_1 - Z_D I_2 + (Z_D + Z_E) I_3 = - V_B$$

Loop 1: $(Z_A + Z_B) I_1 - Z_B I_2 + 0 I_3 = V_A$

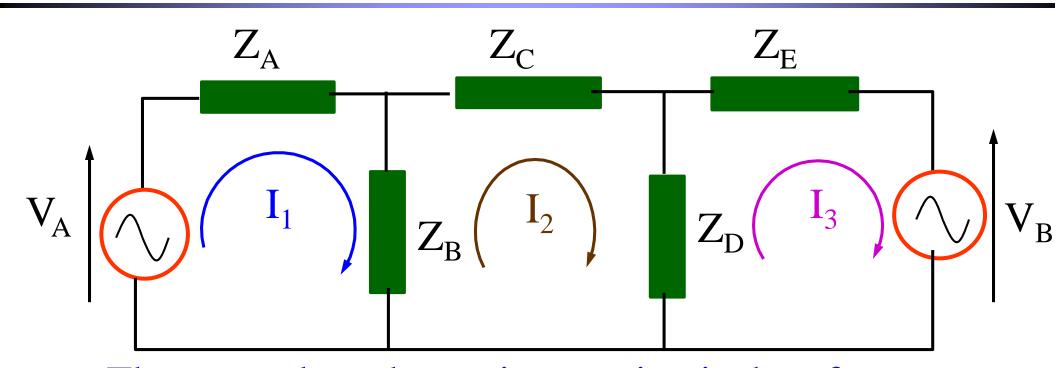
Loop 2: $-Z_B I_1 + (Z_B + Z_C + Z_D) I_2 - Z_D I_3 = 0$

Loop 3: $0 I_1 - Z_D I_2 + (Z_D + Z_E) I_3 = - V_B$

Putting the equations in matrix form:

$$\begin{bmatrix} (Z_A + Z_B) & -Z_B & 0 \\ -Z_B & (Z_B + Z_C + Z_D) & -Z_D \\ 0 & -Z_D & (Z_D + Z_E) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I_1 \\ I_2 \\ I_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} V_A \\ 0 \\ -V_B \end{bmatrix}$$



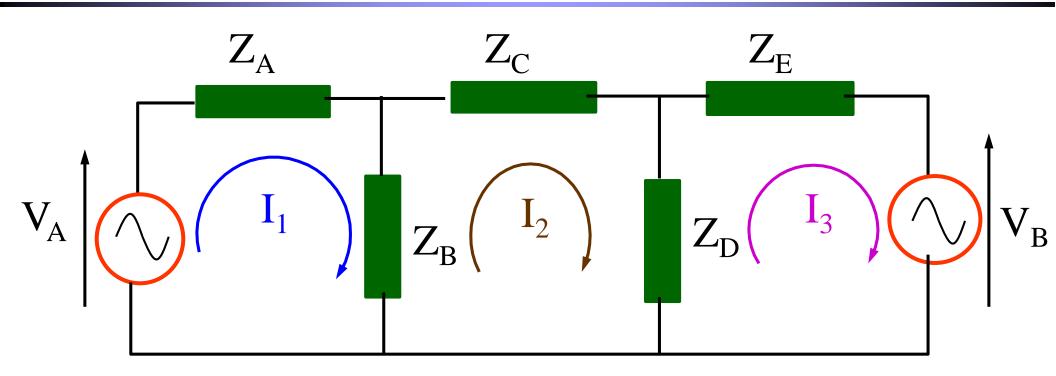


The general mesh matrix equation is therefore:

$$Z \times I = V$$

where Z is a 3 x 3 impedance matrix (for a 3 loops circuit), and I & V are 3 x 1 vectors





The purpose of mesh analysis is to be able to write this matrix equation $Z \times I = V$ by

INSPECTION on the circuit without using KVL.

Let's look at the matrix again: $Z \times I = V$

$$\begin{bmatrix} (Z_A + Z_B) & -Z_B & 0 \\ -Z_B & (Z_B + Z_C + Z_D) & -Z_D \\ 0 & -Z_D & (Z_D + Z_E) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I_1 \\ I_2 \\ I_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} V_A \\ 0 \\ -V_B \end{bmatrix}$$

In general, the matrix $\mathbf{Z} \times \mathbf{I} = \mathbf{V}$ can be expressed as:

$$\begin{bmatrix} Z_{11} & Z_{12} & Z_{13} \\ Z_{21} & Z_{22} & Z_{23} \\ Z_{31} & Z_{32} & Z_{33} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I_{1} \\ I_{2} \\ I_{3} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} V_{1} \\ V_{2} \\ V_{3} \end{bmatrix}$$



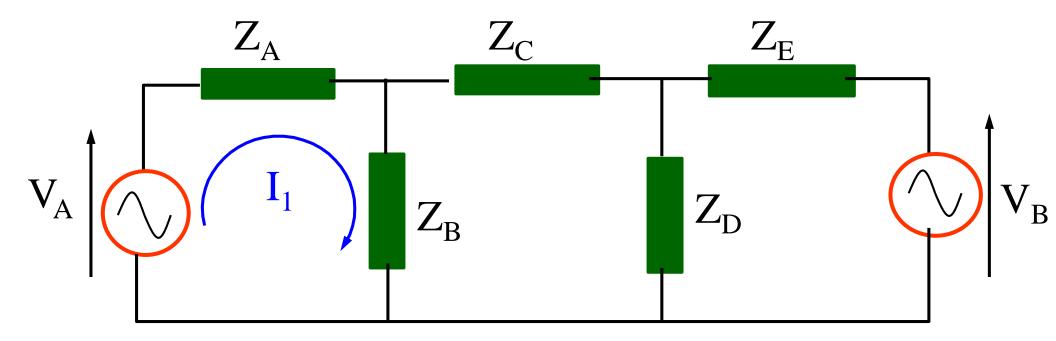
Here comes the regulations to follow in order to write the mesh matrix equation by inspection without using Kirchhoff's Voltage Law

This is then followed by the use of Cramer's Rule to solve for the unknown mesh currents I_1 , I_2 etc.



Self-impedances (those in the diagonal)

 Z_{11} = sum of impedances flowed through by current $I_1 = (Z_A + Z_B)$

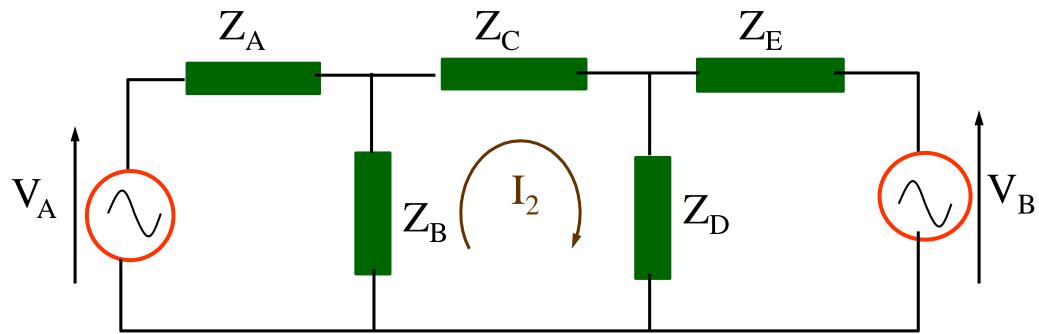




Self-impedances (those in the diagonal)

 Z_{22} = sum of impedances flowed through by

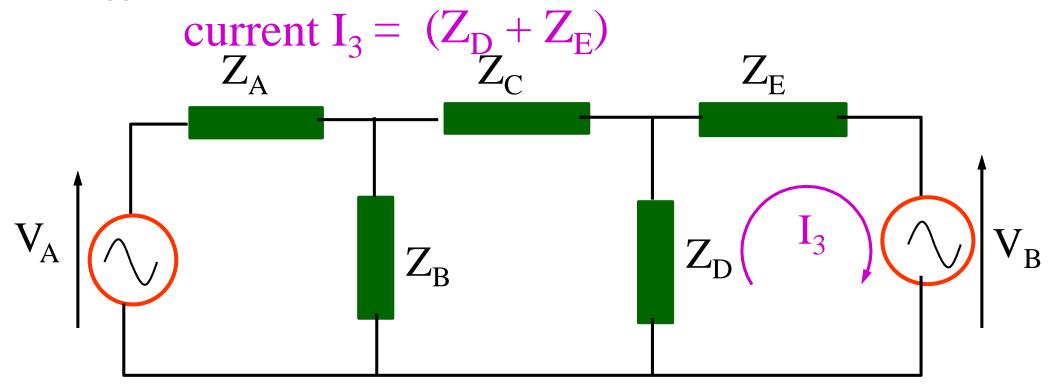
current
$$I_2 = (Z_B + Z_C + Z_D)$$





Self-impedances (those in the diagonal)

 Z_{33} = sum of impedances flowed through by



Self-impedances (those in the diagonal)

$$Z_{11} = (Z_A + Z_B) = sum of impedances flowed through by current I_1
 $Z_{22} = (Z_B + Z_C + Z_D) = sum of impedances flowed through by current I_2
 $Z_{33} = (Z_D + Z_E) = sum of impedances flowed through by current $I_3$$$$$



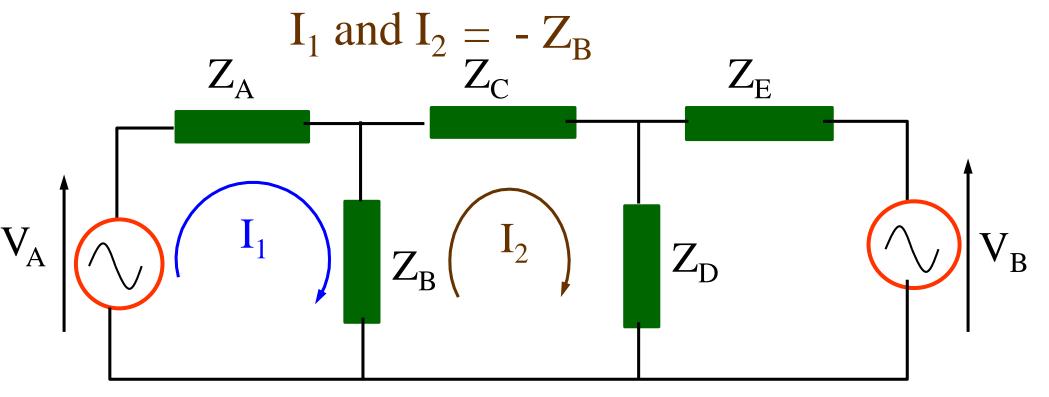
Mutual impedances (those off the diagonal) $Z_{12} = Z_{21} = \text{sum of impedances flowed through by}$ $I_1 \text{ and } I_2$

Positive (+) sum when both currents flowed in the same direction through the impedances, otherwise negative (-).



Mutual impedances (those off the diagonal)

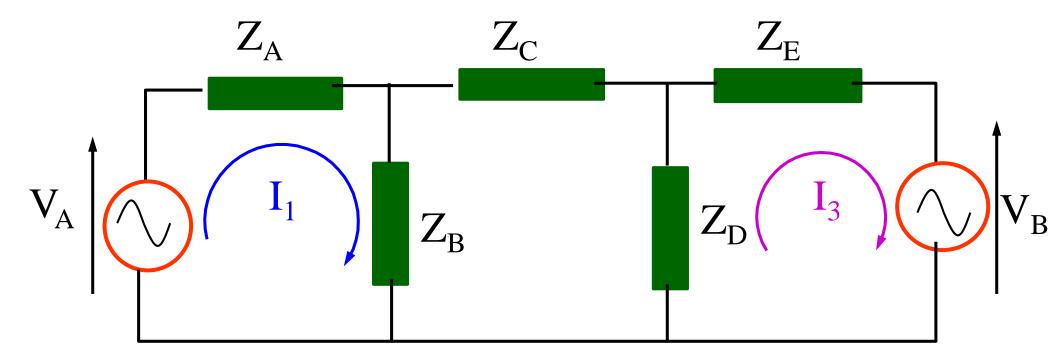
 $Z_{12} = Z_{21} = \text{sum of impedances flowed through by}$





Mutual impedances (those off the diagonal)

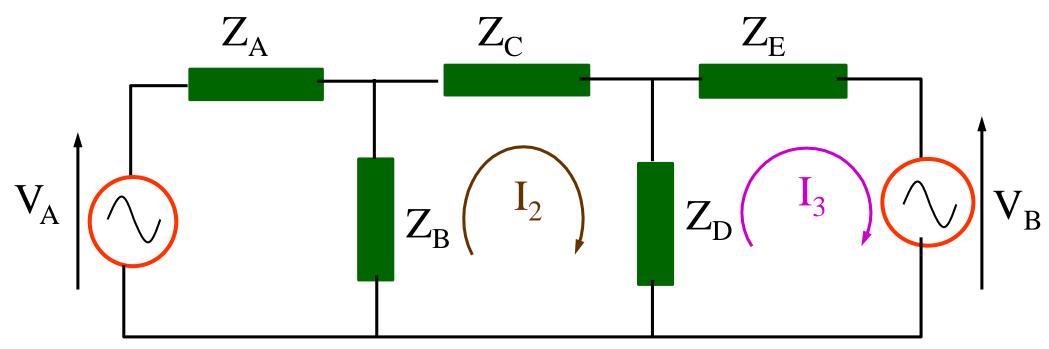
 $Z_{13} = Z_{31} = \text{sum of impedances flowed through by}$ $I_1 \text{ and } I_3 = 0$





Mutual impedances (those off the diagonal)

$$Z_{23} = Z_{32} = \text{sum of impedances flowed through by}$$
 $I_2 \text{ and } I_3$





Mutual impedances (those off the diagonal)

$$Z_{23} = Z_{32} = \text{sum of impedances flowed through by}$$
 $I_2 \text{ and } I_3 = -Z_D$

Positive (+) sum when both currents flowed in the same direction through the impedances, otherwise negative (-).

Mutual impedances (those off the diagonal)

$$Z_{12} = Z_{21} = -Z_B = \text{sum of impedances flowed}$$

through by I_1 and I_2

$$Z_{13} = Z_{31} = 0 = \text{sum of impedances flowed}$$

through by I_1 and I_3

$$Z_{23} = Z_{32} = -Z_D = \text{sum of impedances flowed}$$

through by I_2 and I_3 Positive (+) sum when both currents flowed in the

rosilive (+) sum when both currents flow same direction through the impedances, otherwise negative (-).



Voltage vector V

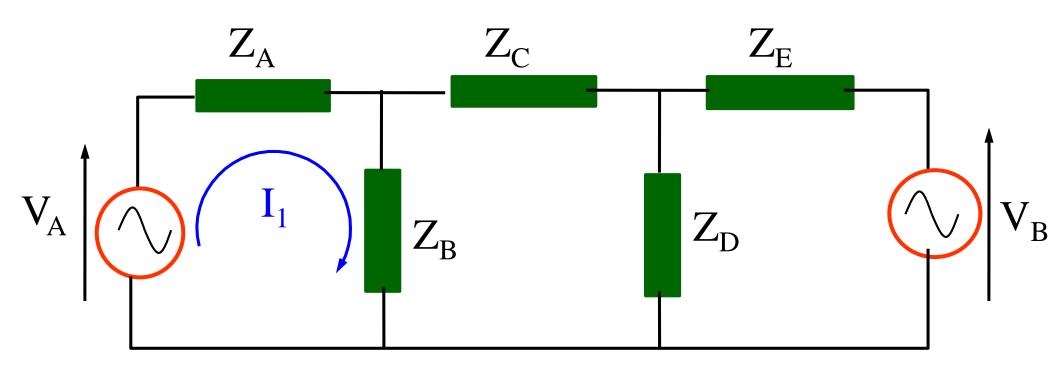
 V_1 = sum of voltage sources in loop 1

A positive (+) sign should be applied on a voltage source in the same direction of the mesh current, and negative (-) sign for a voltage source in the opposite direction of the mesh current.



Voltage vector V

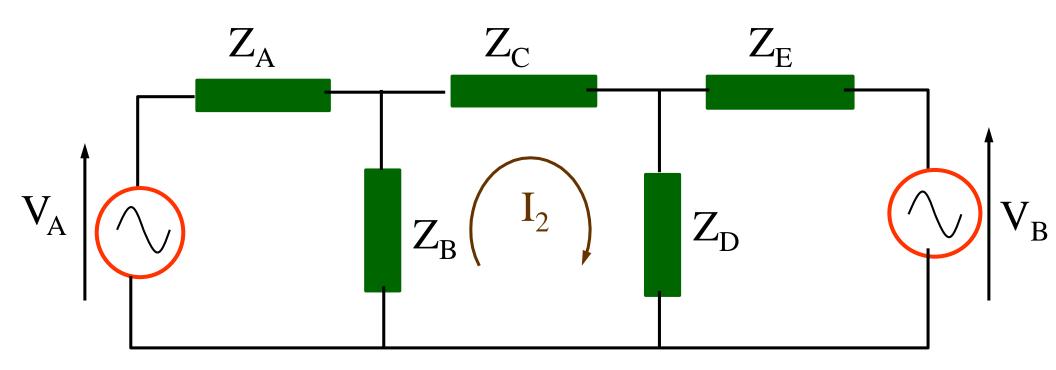
 $V_1 = \text{sum of voltage sources in loop } 1 = V_A$





Voltage vector V

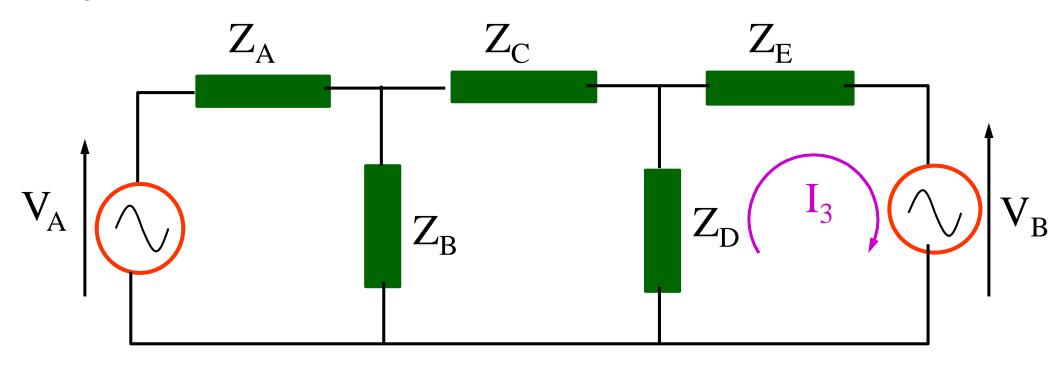
 V_2 = sum of voltage sources in loop 2 = 0





Voltage vector V

 V_3 = sum of voltage sources in loop 3





Voltage vector V

 V_3 = sum of voltage sources in loop 3 = - V_B

A positive (+) sign should be applied on a voltage source in the same direction of the mesh current, and negative (-) sign for a voltage source in the opposite direction of the mesh current.



Mesh Analysis by Inspection

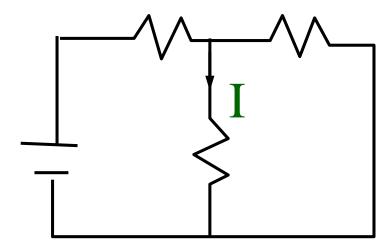
Voltage vector V

 $V_1 = V_A = \text{sum of voltage sources in loop 1}$ $V_2 = 0 = \text{sum of voltage sources in loop 2}$ $V_3 = -V_B = \text{sum of voltage sources in loop 3}$ A positive (+) sign should be applied on a voltage source in the same direction of the mesh current, and negative (-) sign for a voltage source in the opposite direction of the mesh current.



Wise choice of loop currents

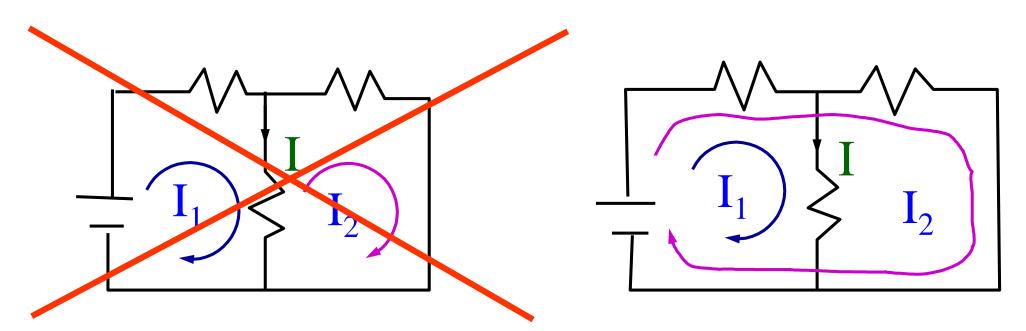
e.g. Find I in the following circuit using loop analysis.





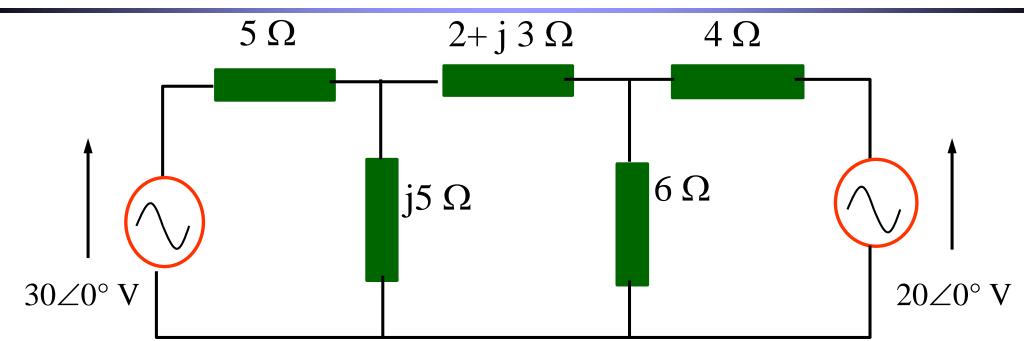
Wise choice of loop currents

Which one is the wiser choice of loop currents?





Example 1.3 (Different Loops)



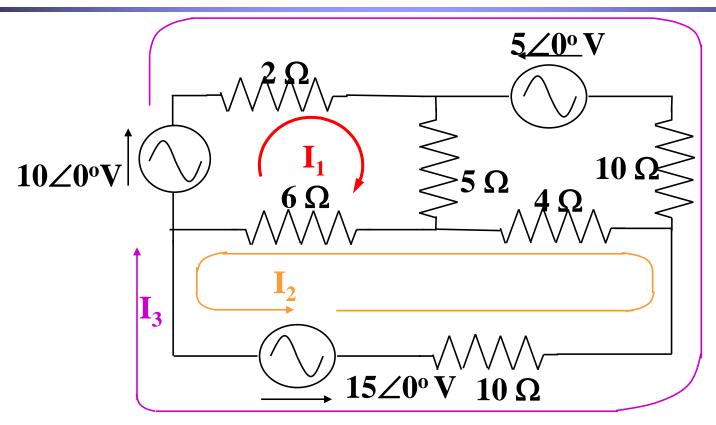




Remarks:

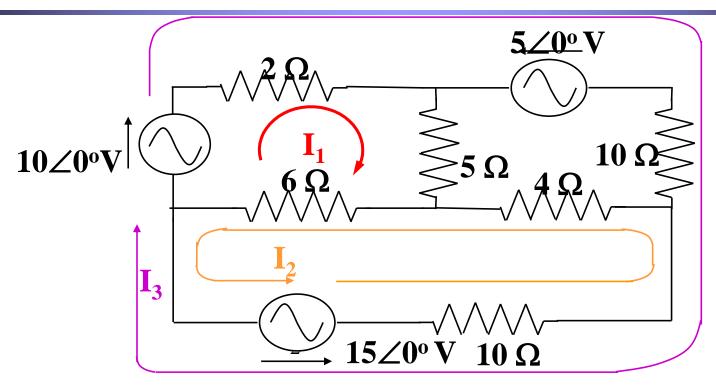
It does not matter which of the loop currents are used in the formation of equations as shown in the two circuits as the final results of the currents flowing in each branch will be the same.





Determine the current in the 5 Ω branch, for the circuit shown using loop current analysis method.





$$\begin{bmatrix} 13 & 6 & 2 \\ 6 & 20 & -10 \\ 2 & -10 & 22 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I_1 \\ I_2 \\ I_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 10\angle 0^{\circ} \\ 15\angle 0^{\circ} \\ 10\angle 0^{\circ} - 5\angle 0^{\circ} - 15\angle 0^{\circ} \end{bmatrix}$$



$$\begin{bmatrix} 13 & 6 & 2 \\ 6 & 20 & -10 \\ 2 & -10 & 22 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I_1 \\ I_2 \\ I_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 10\angle 0^{\circ} \\ 15\angle 0^{\circ} \\ 10\angle 0^{\circ} - 5\angle 0^{\circ} - 15\angle 0^{\circ} \end{bmatrix}$$

Using Cramer's Rule, solve only I_1 . Simplify the above matrix.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 13 & 6 & 2 \\ 6 & 20 & -10 \\ 2 & -10 & 22 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I_1 \\ I_2 \\ I_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ 15 \\ -10 \end{bmatrix}$$



$$I_{1} = \frac{\Delta I_{1}}{\Delta} = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} 10 & 6 & 2 \\ 15 & 20 & -10 \\ -10 & -10 & 22 \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} 13 & 6 & 2 \\ 6 & 20 & -10 \\ 2 & -10 & 22 \end{vmatrix}}$$

$$\Delta I_{1} = \begin{vmatrix} + & - & + \\ 10 & 6 & 2 \\ 15 & 20 & -10 \\ -10 & -10 & 22 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\Delta I_{1} = 10 \begin{vmatrix} 20 & -10 \\ -10 & 22 \end{vmatrix} - 6 \begin{vmatrix} 15 & -10 \\ -10 & 22 \end{vmatrix} + 2 \begin{vmatrix} 15 & 20 \\ -10 & -10 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= 10 \begin{bmatrix} (20 & x & 22) & - & (-10 & x & -10) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$- 6 \begin{bmatrix} (15 & x & 22) & - & (-10 & x & -10) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$+ 2 \begin{bmatrix} (15 & x & -10) & - & (-10 & x & -10) \end{bmatrix}$$



$$= 10[440-100]-6[330-100]+2[-150+200]$$

$$= 10(340)-6(230)+2(50)$$

$$= 3400-1380+100$$

$$= 2120$$

$$\Delta = \begin{vmatrix} 13 & 6 & 2 \\ 6 & 20 & -10 \\ 2 & -10 & 22 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\Delta = \begin{vmatrix} 20 & -10 \\ -10 & 22 \end{vmatrix} - \begin{vmatrix} 6 & -10 \\ 2 & 22 \end{vmatrix} + 2 \begin{vmatrix} 6 & 20 \\ 2 & -10 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= 13 \begin{bmatrix} (20 & x & 22) & -(-10 & x & -10) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$- 6 \begin{bmatrix} (6 & x & 22) & -(-10 & x & 2) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$+ 2 \begin{bmatrix} (6 & x & -10) & -(-10 & x & 2) \end{bmatrix}$$



$$= 13[440-100]-6[132+20]+2[-60-40]$$
$$= 13(340)-6(152)+2(-100)$$
$$= 4420-912-200 = 3308$$

Hence
$$I_1 = \frac{2120}{3308} = 0.641 \text{ A}$$

Similarly using Cramer's Rule you can solve for I_2 and I_3 .



Similarly using Cramer's Rule you can solve for I₂ and

$$\mathbf{I}_3$$
. $\mathbf{I}_2 = \frac{\Delta \mathbf{I}_2}{\Delta}$ $\mathbf{I}_3 = \frac{\Delta \mathbf{I}_3}{\Delta}$

 Δ I₂ and Δ I₃ and be found by replacing the second and third column in matrix [Δ] by the [V] column matrix respectively.

...next topic

Nodal Analysis

Nurturing Curious Minds, Producing Passionate Engineers

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