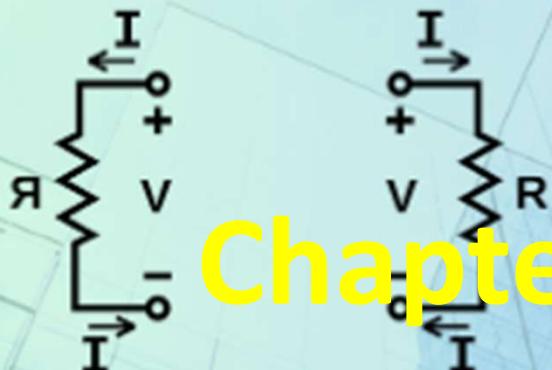
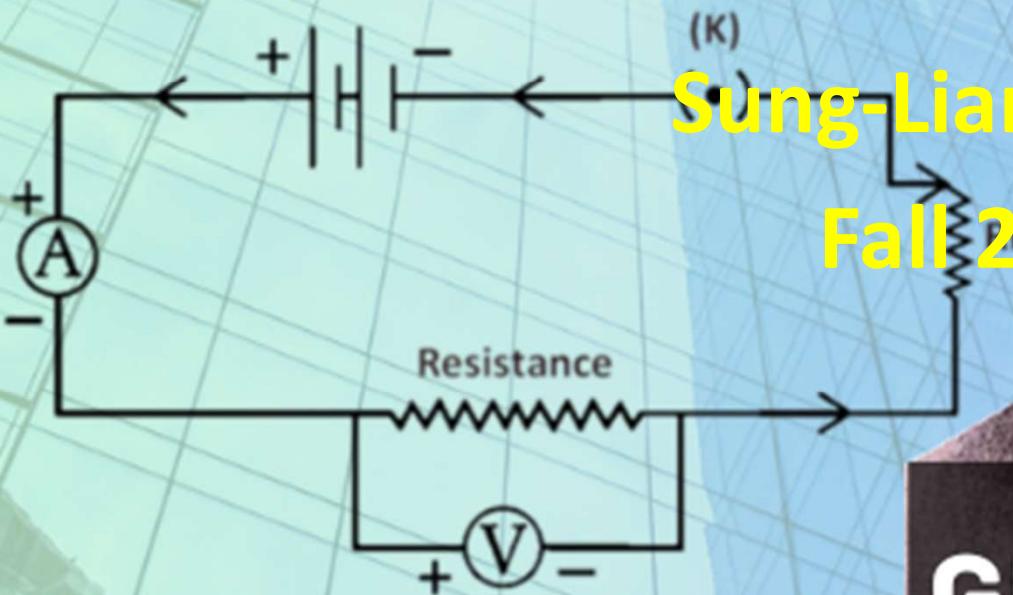


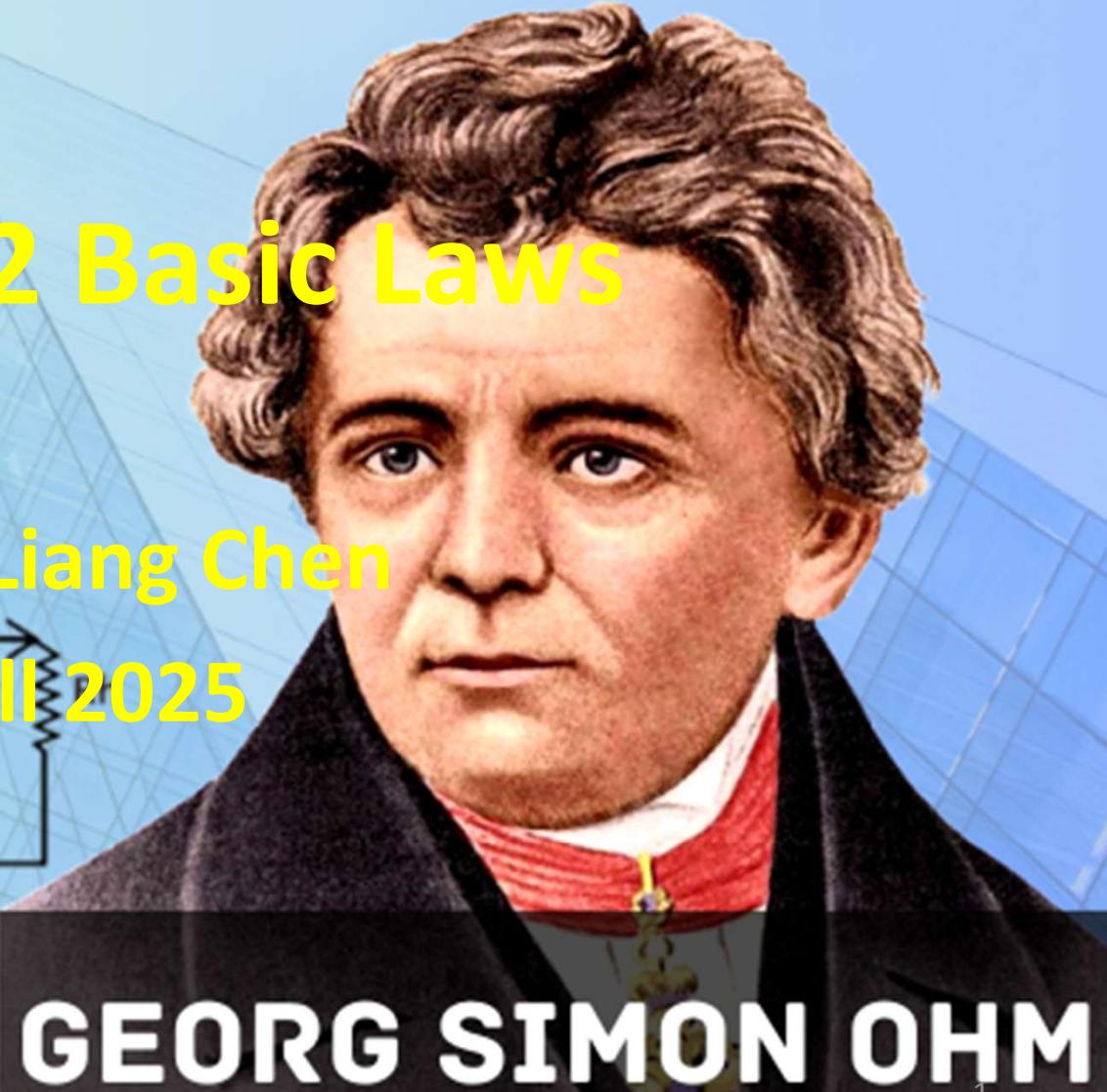
# Ohm's Law



Chapter 2 Basic Laws



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Fall 2025



**GEORG SIMON OHM**

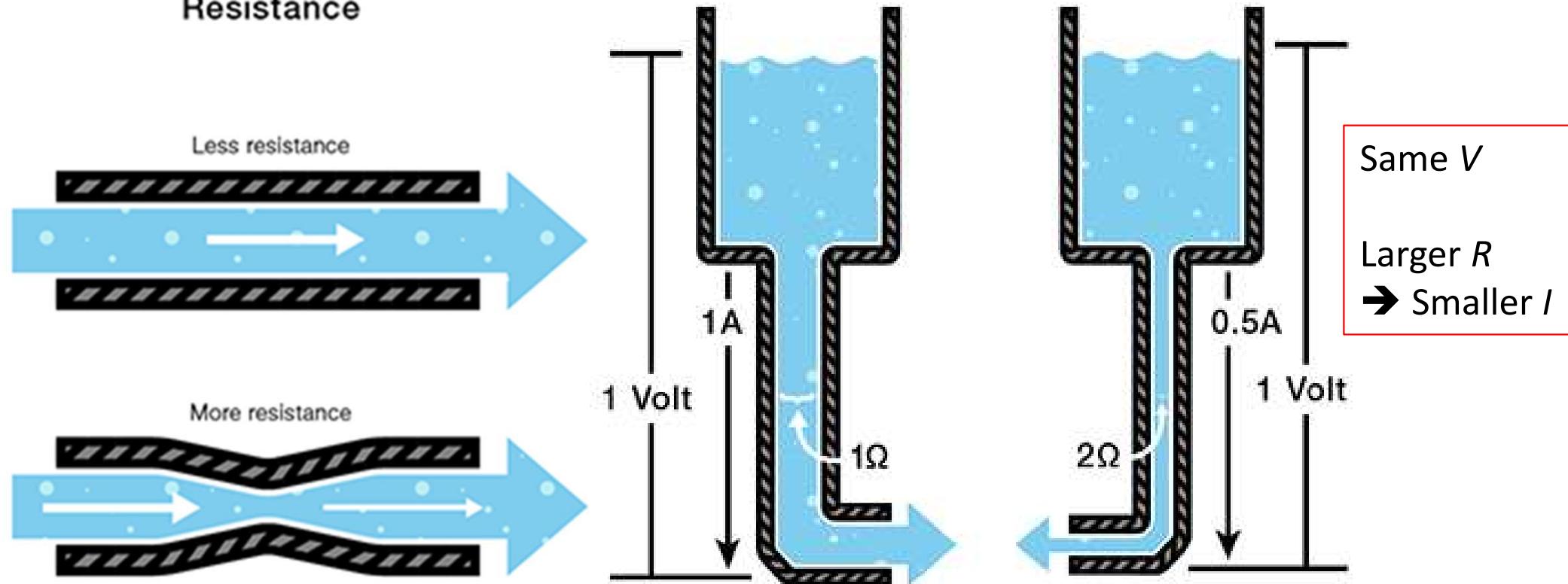
## 2.1 Introduction

- In this chapter, we study some fundamental laws that govern electric circuits, known as **Ohm's law** and **Kirchhoff's laws**, and discuss some techniques commonly applied in circuit analysis.

## 2.2 Ohm's Law

- Materials in general have a current-resisting behavior. This physical property is known as resistance and is represented by the symbol  $R$ .
- The element used to model the current-resisting behavior of a material is the resistor.

## Resistance



Water flow	Current flow
Height difference	$V$
Water flow rate	$I$
Channel resistance	$R$

Analogy of water flow and electric current

Water volume ( $Vol$ )  $\leftrightarrow$  # of electrons ( $q$ )

Water flow rate ( $dVol/dt$ )  $\leftrightarrow$  electric current ( $dq/dt$ )

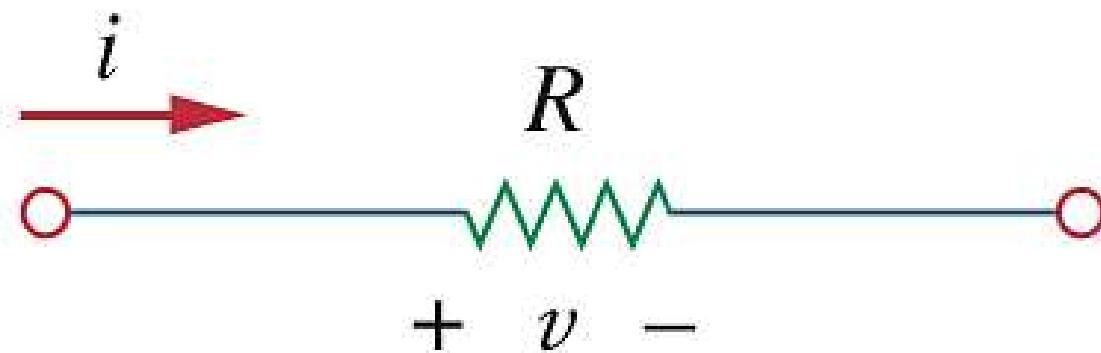


Figure 2.1(b) Circuit symbol for resistor.

Ohm's law states that the voltage  $v$  across a resistor and the current  $i$  through the resistor are related by

$$v = iR \text{ for PSC}$$

or

$$v = -iR \text{ for ASC}$$

where  $R$  is the resistance, measured in ohms ( $\Omega$ ).

PSC:

$$p = +vi = +(iR)i = i^2 R > 0$$

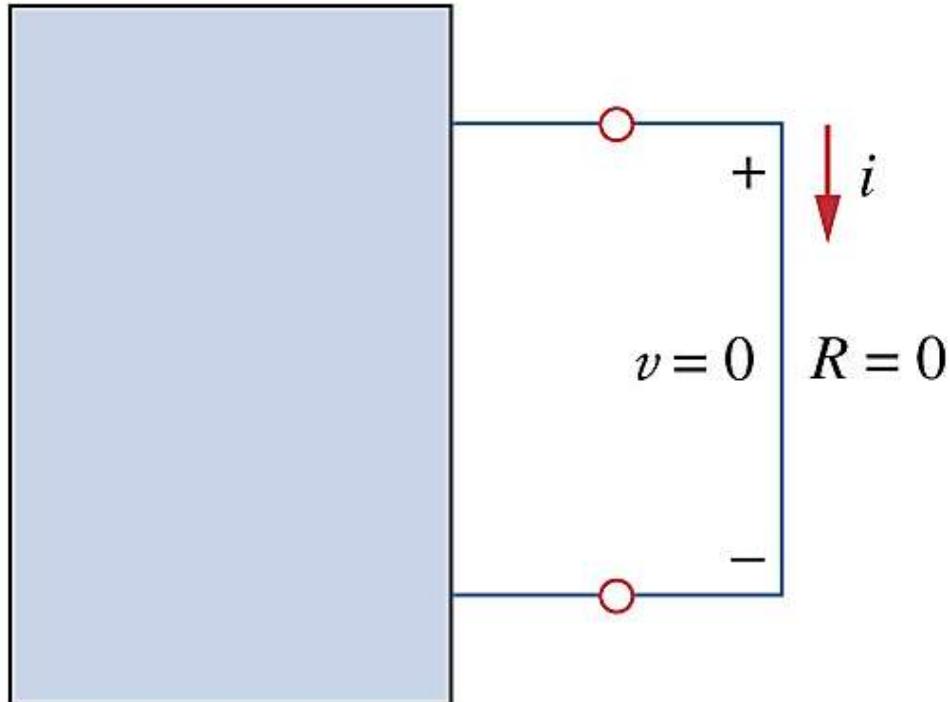
→ Absorbing power

$$v = 0$$

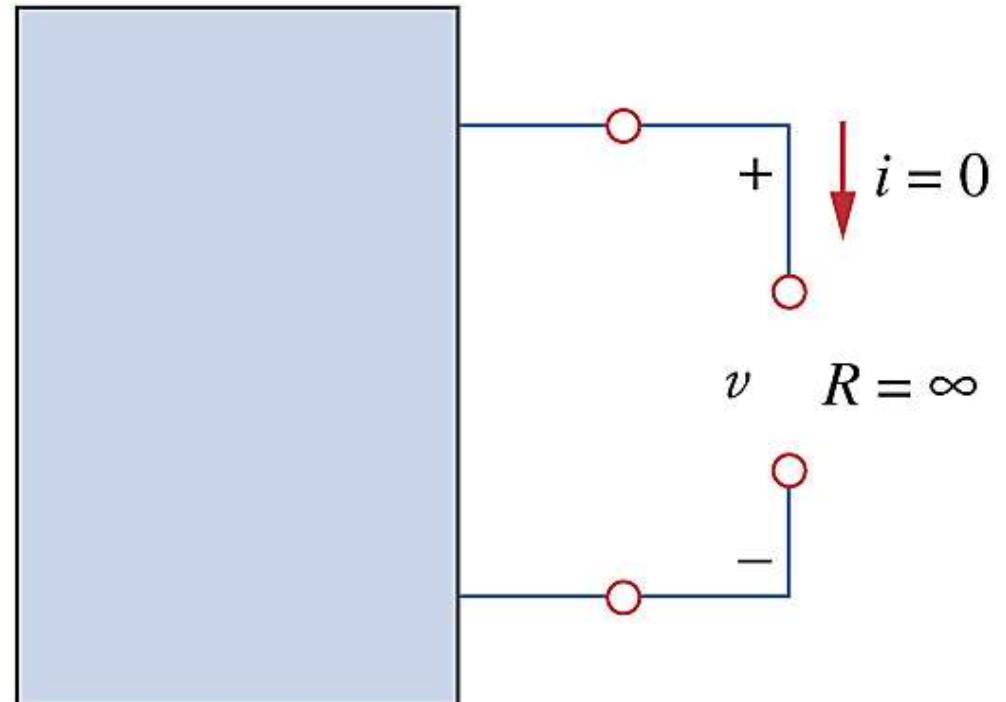
$i$  can be any value

$$i = 0$$

$v$  can be any value



(a)

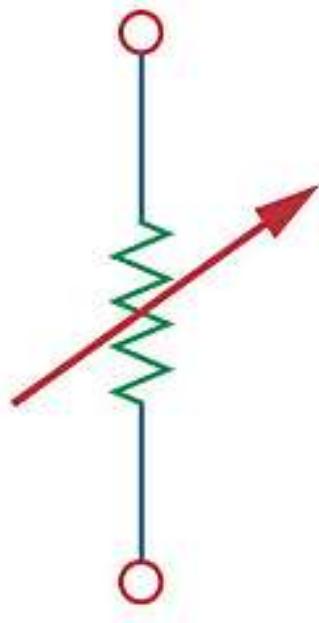


(b)

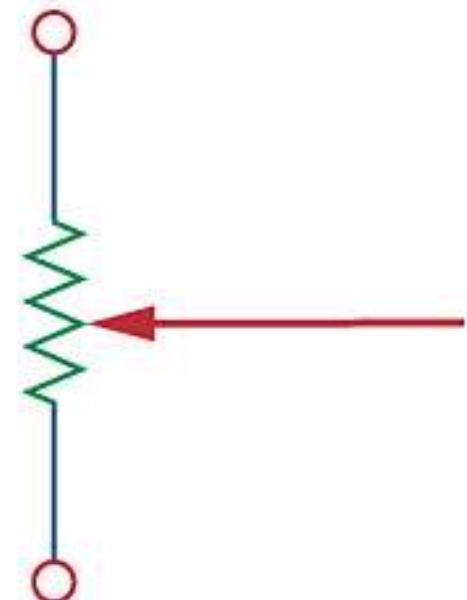
Figure 2.2 Two extreme possible values of  $R$ : (a) short circuit ( $R = 0$ ),  
(b) open circuit ( $R = \infty$ ).

- A short circuit is a circuit element with resistance approaching zero.
- An open circuit is a circuit element with resistance approaching infinity.

- A resistor is either fixed or variable.



(a)

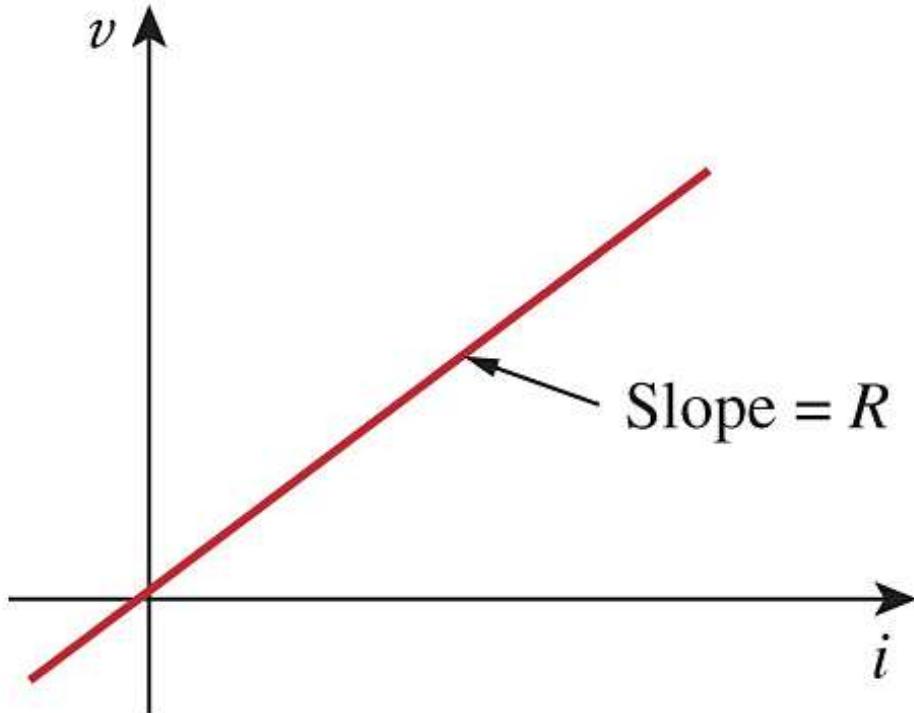


(b)

Figure 2.4 Circuit symbol for (a) a variable resistor in general, (b) a potentiometer.

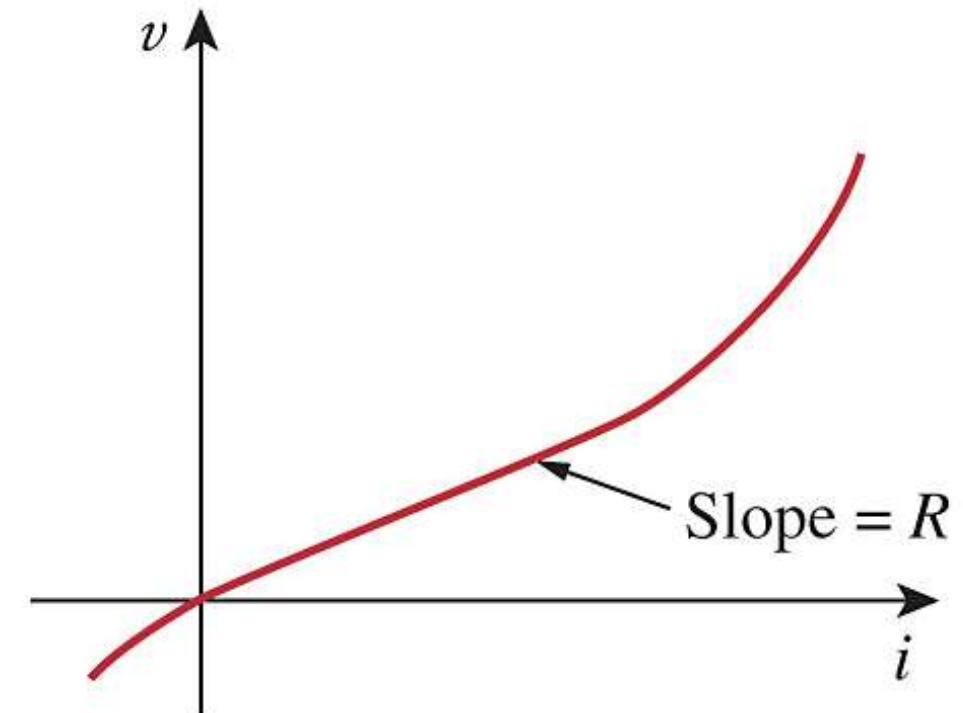
- A *linear* resistor has a constant resistance and thus its current-voltage characteristic is a straight line passing through the origin.
- The resistance of a nonlinear resistor varies with current.

$v = iR$ ,  $R$  is a constant.



(a)

$v = i^* R(i)$



(b)

Figure 2.7 The  $i$ - $v$  characteristic of (a) a linear resistor, (b) a nonlinear resistor.

A useful quantity in circuit analysis is the reciprocal of resistance  $R$ , known as conductance and denoted by  $G$ .

Conductance is the ability of an element to conduct electric current. It is measured in mhos ( $\text{v}$ ) or siemens ( $\text{S}$ ). The word mho is ohm spelled backward.



*Wikipedia: Ernst Werner Siemens, von Siemens* since 1888, (13 December 1816 – 6 December 1892) was a German inventor and industrialist. Siemens' name has been adopted as the **SI unit of electrical conductance**, the siemens. He was also the founder of the electrical and telecommunications company Siemens.



The power dissipated by a resistor can be expressed in terms of  $R$  or  $G$ .

$$p = vi = i^2 R = \frac{v^2}{R}$$

$$p = vi = \frac{i^2}{G} = v^2 G$$

## 2.3 Nodes, Branches, and Loops

- A circuit is also known as a network.
- A branch represents a single element such as a voltage source or a resistor. In other words, a branch represents any **two-terminal element**.
- A node is the point of connection between two or more branches.
- A loop is any closed path in a circuit.

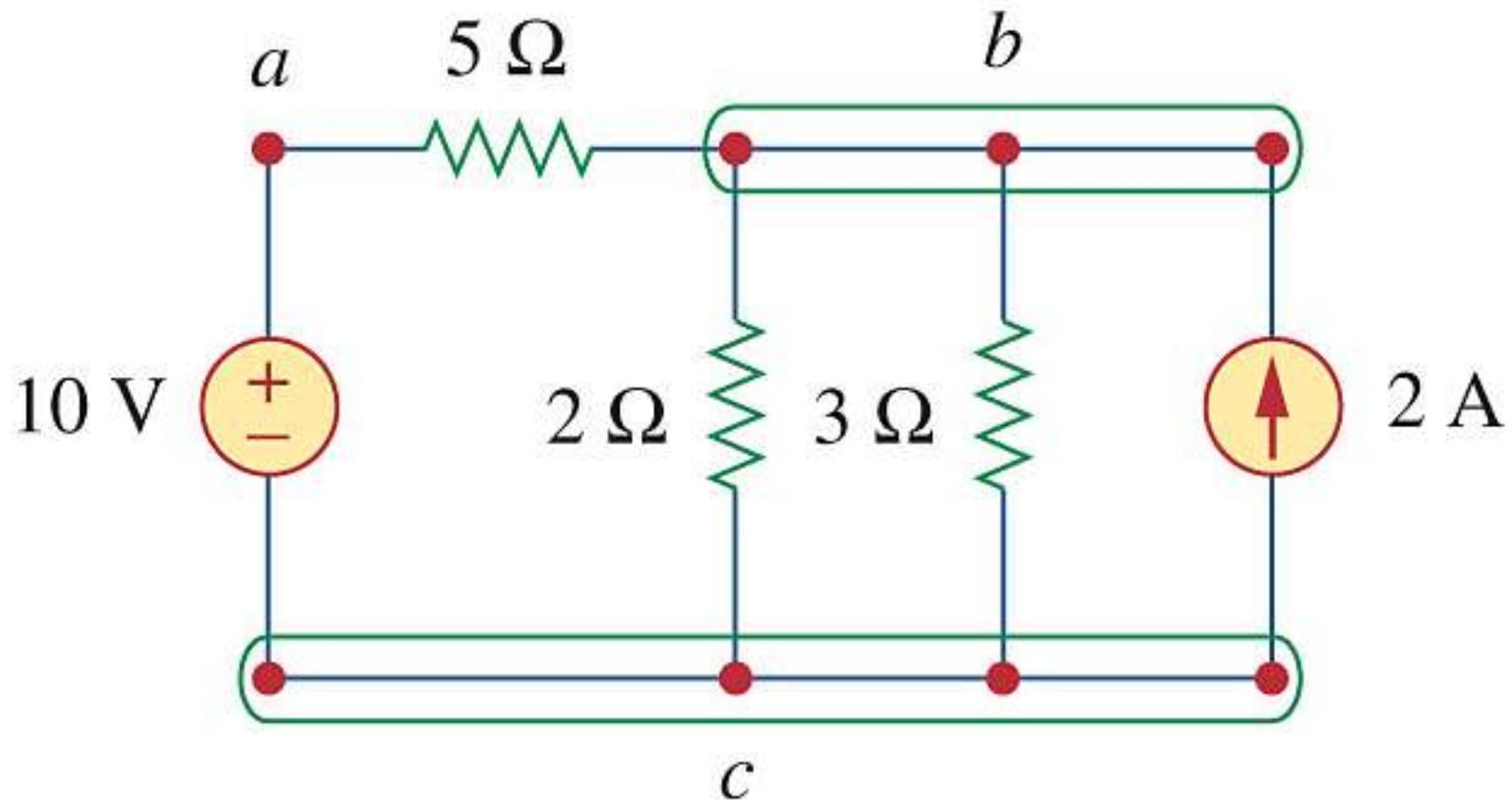


Figure 2.10 Nodes, branches, and loops.

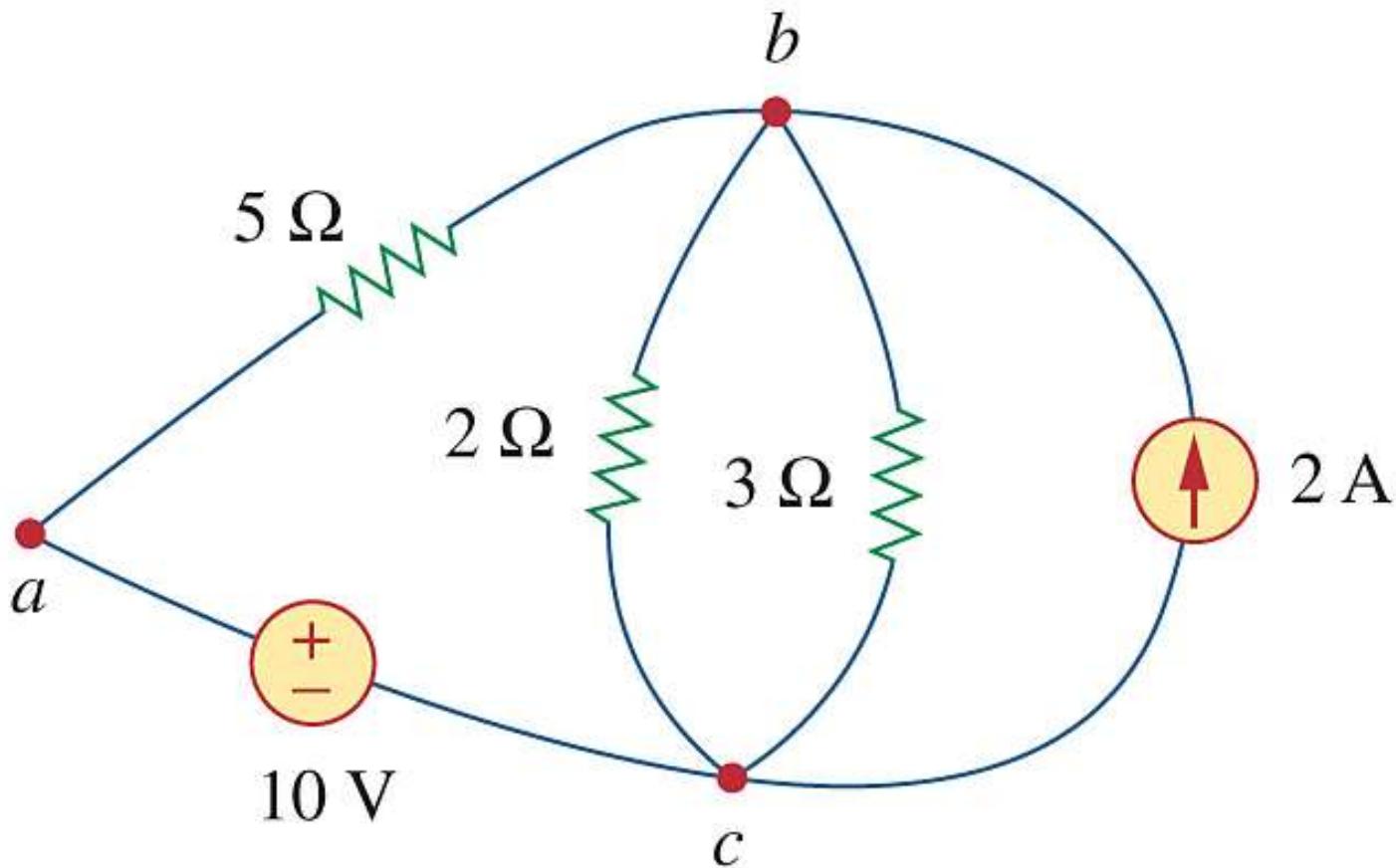


Figure 2.11 The circuit of Fig. 2.10 is redrawn.

- A *mesh* is a loop that does not enclose any other loops. (i.e., **smallest loop**)
- Two or more elements are in series if they **exclusively share a single node** and consequently carry the same current.
- Two or more elements are in parallel if they are **connected to the same two nodes** and consequently have the same voltage.

A network with  $b$  branches,  $n$  nodes, and  $m$  meshes will satisfy the fundamental theorem of network topology:

$$b = m + n - 1$$

**Example 2.4** Determine the number of branches and nodes in the circuit shown in Fig. 2.12. Identify which elements are in series and which are in parallel.

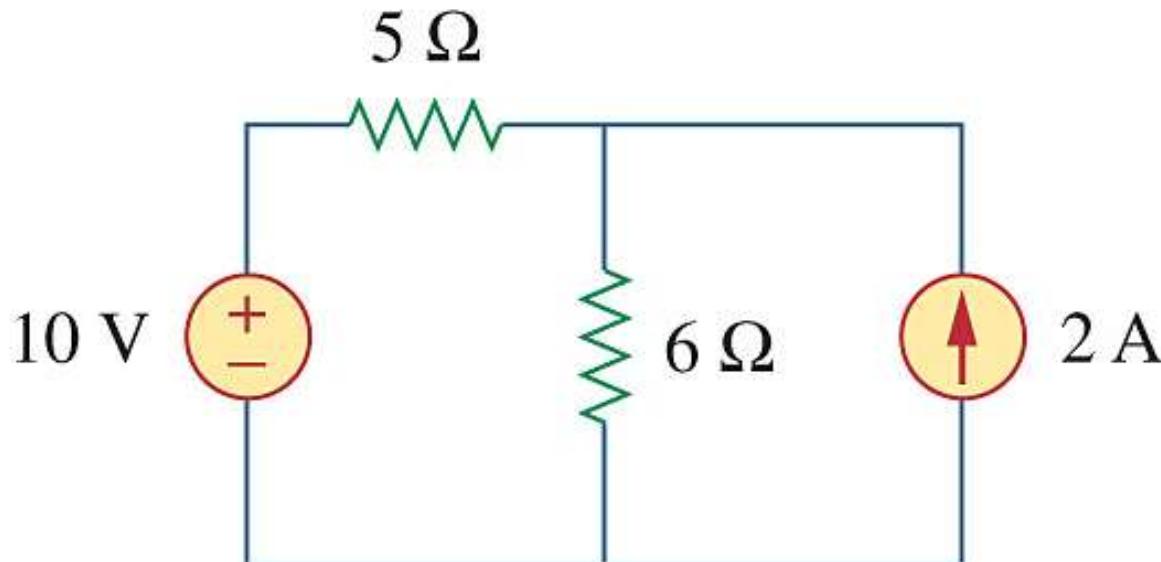


Figure 2.12

## Solution :

Four branches and three nodes are identified in Fig. 2.13. ...

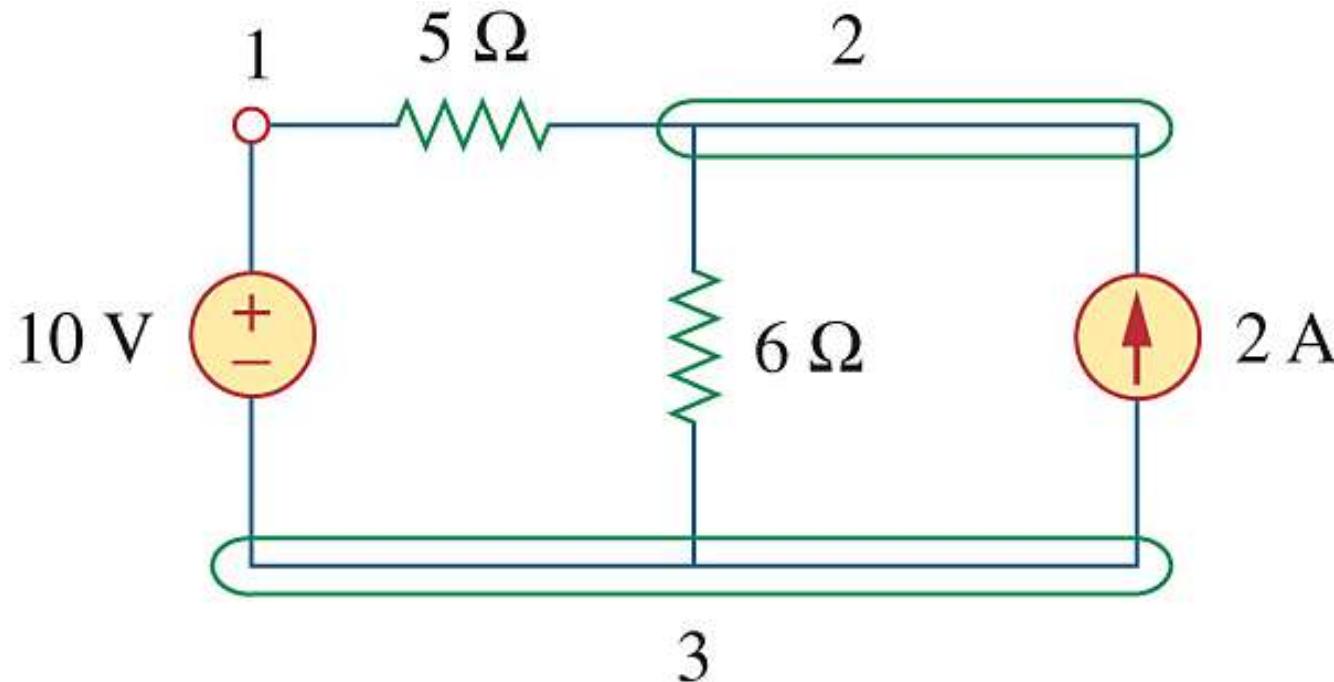


Figure 2.13

## 2.4 Kirchhoff's Law

- Kirchhoff's current law (KCL) is **based on the law of conservation of charge**. It states that the algebraic sum of currents entering a node (or a closed boundary) is zero. In other words, the sum of the currents entering a node is equal to the sum of the currents leaving the node.

Mathematically, KCL implies that

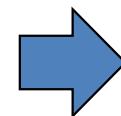
$$\sum_{n=1}^N i_n = 0$$

where  $N$  is the number of branches connected to the node and  $i_n$  is the  $n$ th current entering (or leaving) the node.

the law of conservation of charge

$$\sum Q_n = 0$$

KCL



$$\sum i_n = 0$$

$d/dt$

$$\sum i_n = 0$$

$$i_1 - i_2 + i_3 + i_4 - i_5 = 0$$

$$i_1 + i_3 + i_4 = i_2 + i_5$$

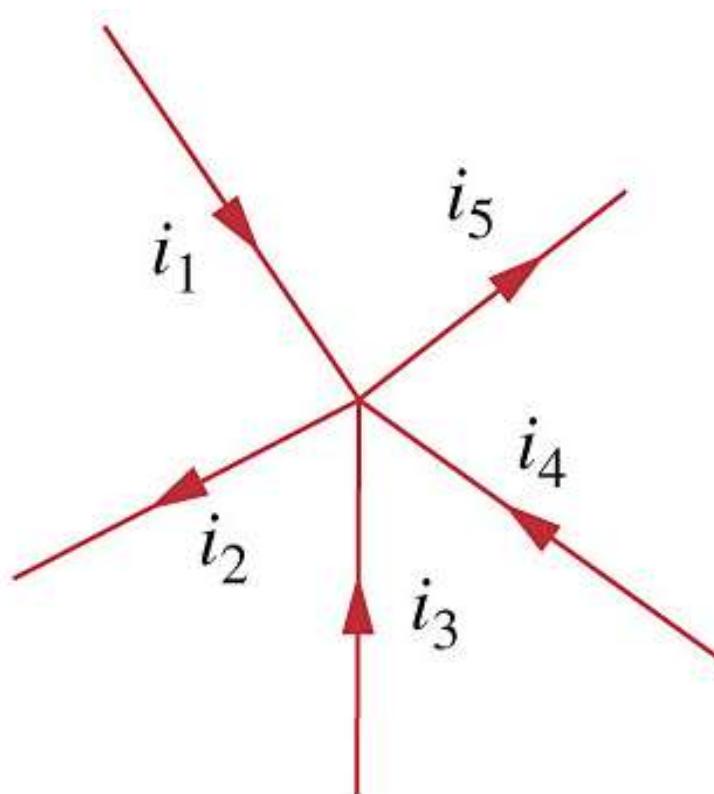


Figure 2.16 Current at a node illustrating KCL.

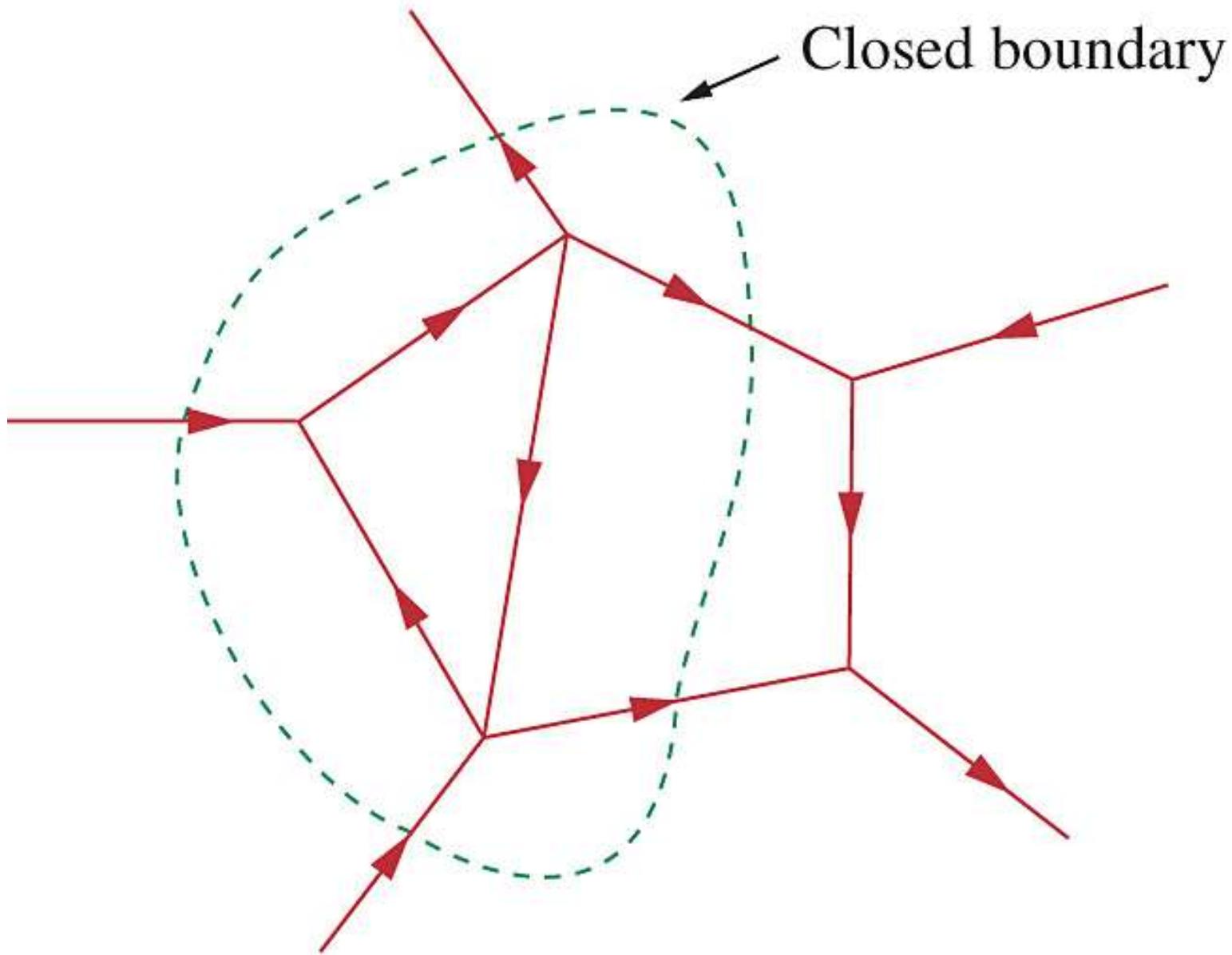
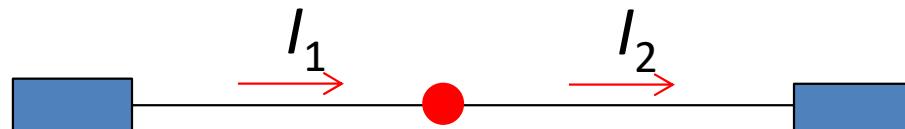
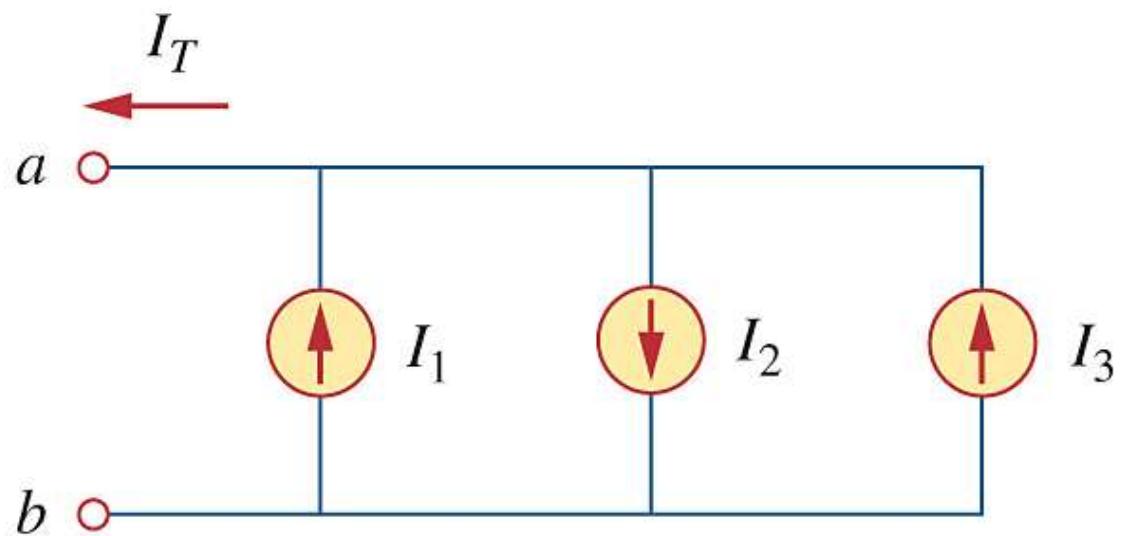


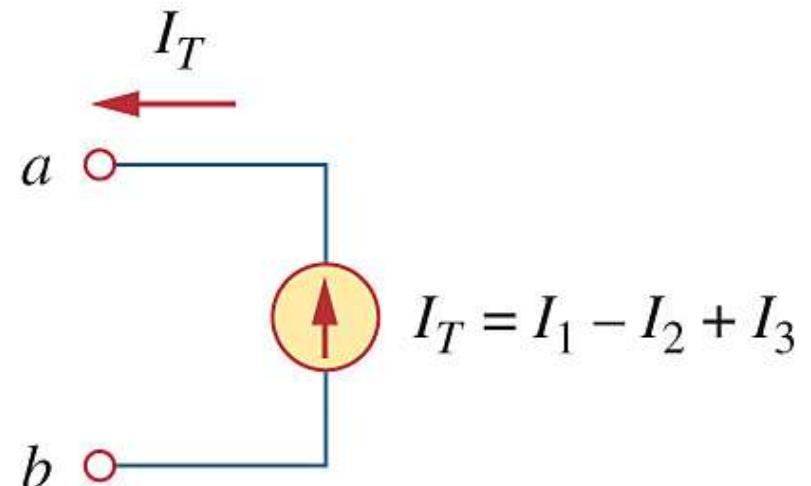
Figure 2.17 Applying KCL to a closed boundary.

- A simple application of KCL is combining current sources in parallel. The combined current is the algebraic sum of the current supplied by the individual sources. See Fig. 2.18.
- A circuit cannot contain two different currents,  $I_1$  and  $I_2$ , in series, unless  $I_1 = I_2$ ; otherwise, KCL will be violated.





(a)



(b)

Figure 2.18 Current sources in parallel: (a) original circuit, (b) equivalent circuit. Circuits are said to be equivalent if they have the same  $i$ - $v$  relationship at a pair of terminals.

- Kirchhoff's voltage law (KVL) is based on **the principle of conservation of energy**.
- The University Physics: *Potential* is potential energy per unit charge.
- The University Physics: The potential difference  $V_{ab}$  equals the work done by the electric force when a unit charge moves from  $a$  to  $b$ .
- The net work done on a charged particle in a closed path is zero.

# Analogy

Gravitational	Electrical
$gh$	$V$
$m$	$q$
$U$	$w$

Analogy:  $U = mgh \rightarrow (gh) = dU/dm$   
 $U$ : potential energy  
 $m$ : mass of the object  
 $g$ : acceleration due to gravity  
 $h$ : altitude of the object

$$V_{ab} = \frac{dw}{dq}$$

- KVL states that the algebraic sum of all voltages around a closed path (or loop) is zero. In other words, the sum of voltage drops is equal to the sum of voltage rises.

Mathematically, KVL implies that

$$\sum_{m=1}^M v_m = 0$$

where  $M$  is the number of branches in the loop and  $v_m$  is the  $m$ th voltage drop (or rise) in the loop.

We can start with any branch and go around the loop either clockwise or counterclockwise.

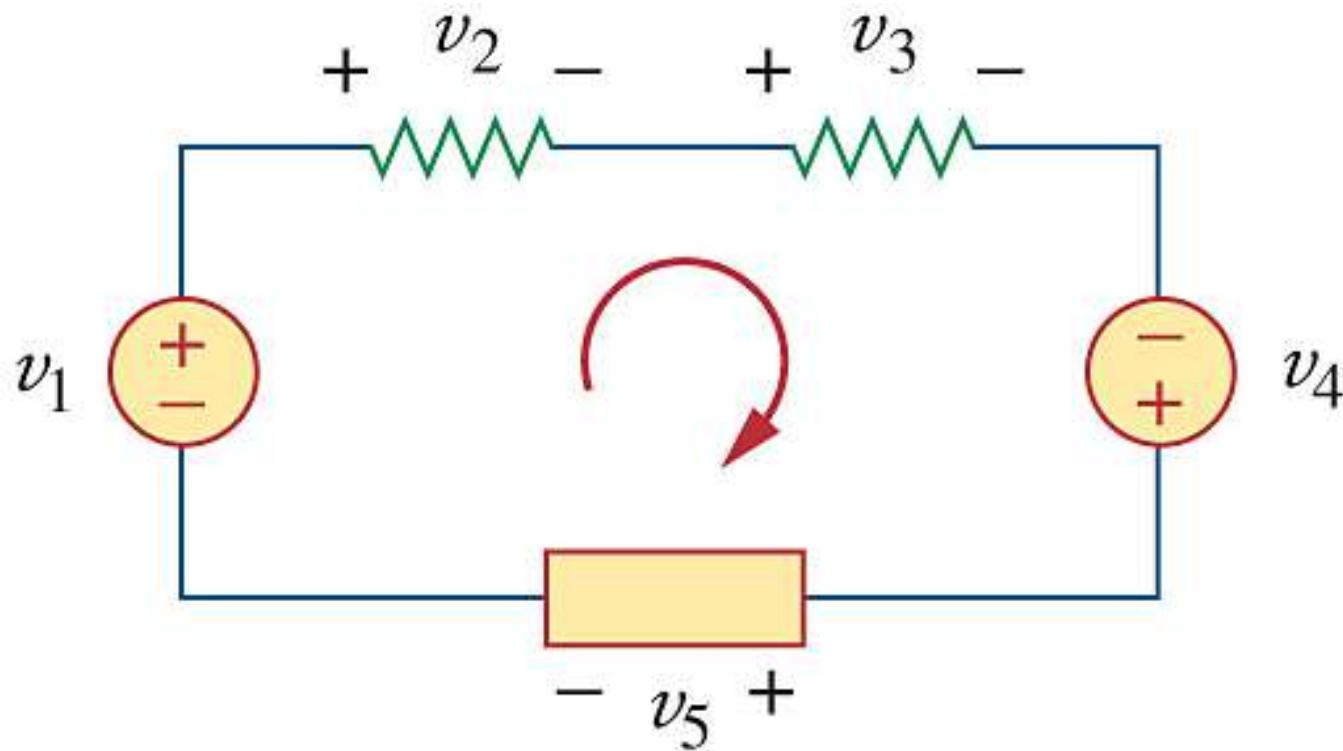
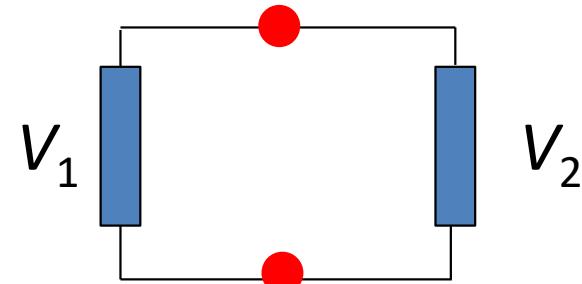
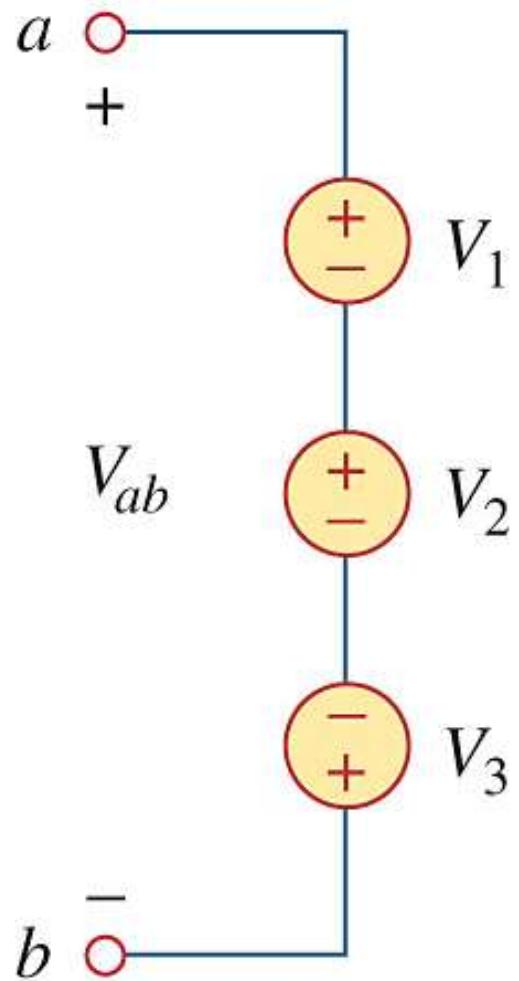


Figure 2.19 A single-loop circuit illustrating KVL.

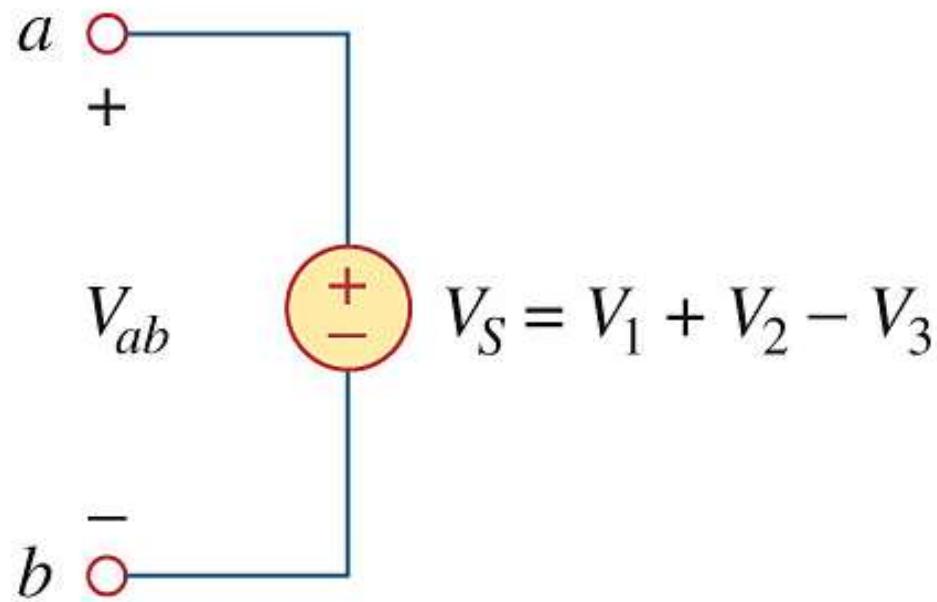
$$-v_1 + v_2 + v_3 - v_4 + v_5 = 0$$

- A simple application of KVL is combining voltage sources in series. The combined voltage is the algebraic sum of the voltages supplied by the individual sources. See Fig. 2.20.
- A circuit cannot contain two different voltages,  $V_1$  and  $V_2$ , in parallel, unless  $V_1 = V_2$ ; otherwise, KVL will be violated.





(a)



(b)

Figure 2.20 Voltage sources in series: (a) original circuit, (b) equivalent circuit.

**Practice Problem 2.5** Find  $v_1$  and  $v_2$  in the circuit of Fig. 2.22.

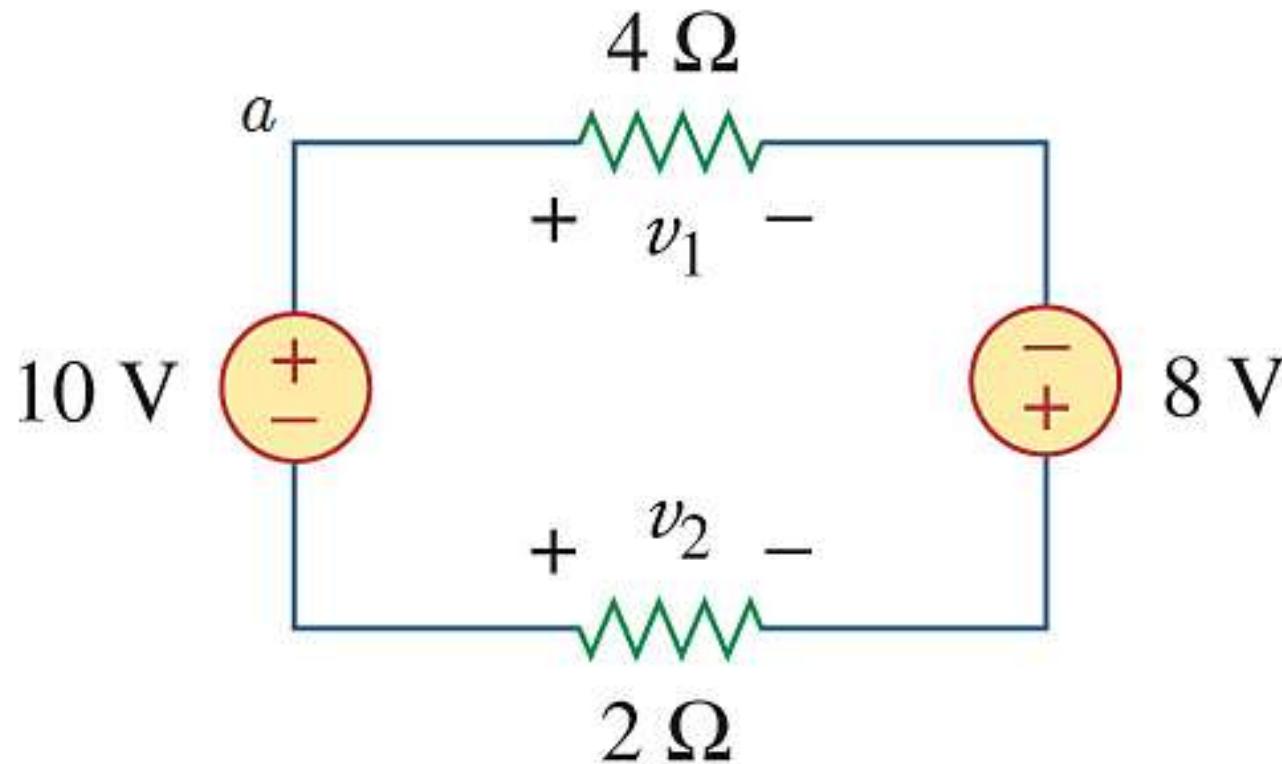


Figure 2.22

**Solution :** Apply KVL (Choose node  $a$  as the strating point, trace the loop clockwise, and assign a positive sign to a voltage drop)

$$v_1 - 8 - v_2 - 10 = 0 \quad (1)$$

From Ohm's law,

$$i = \frac{v_1}{4} = -\frac{v_2}{2} \Rightarrow v_1 = -2v_2 \quad (2)$$

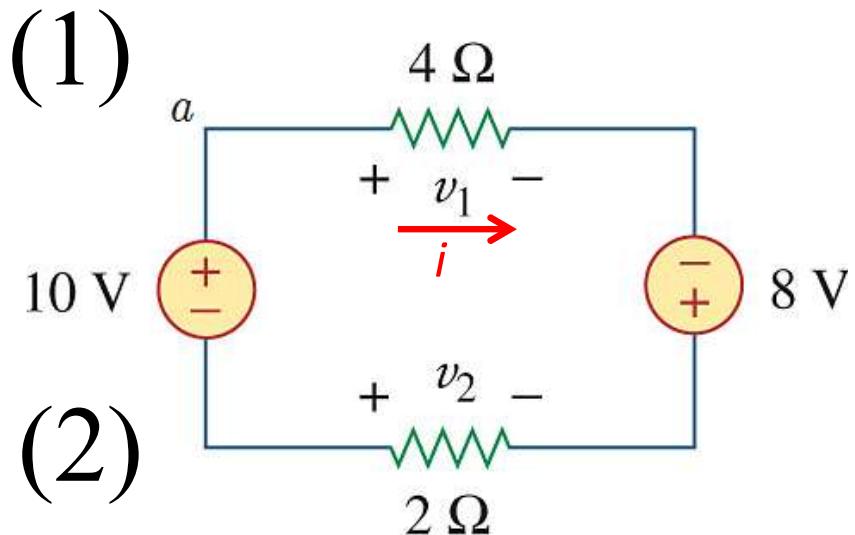


Figure 2.22

Slove the simultaneous equations, we have

$$v_1 = 12 \text{ V} \text{ and } v_2 = -6 \text{ V.}$$

**Example 2.6** Determine  $v_o$  and  $i$  in the circuit shown in Fig. 2.23(a).

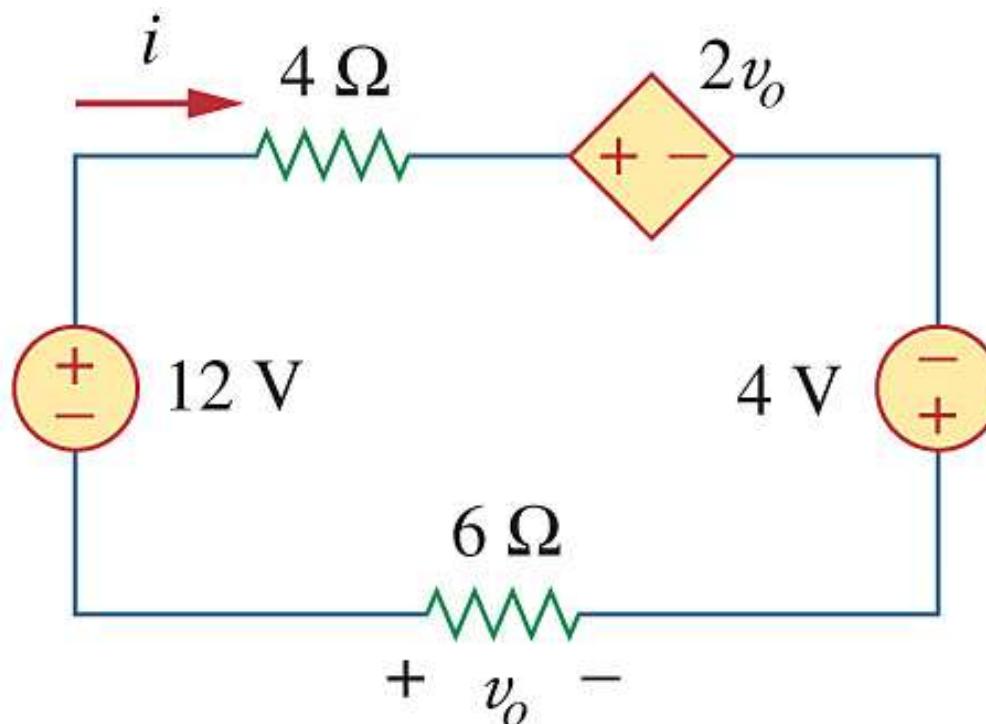


Figure 2.23 (a)

**Answer :** 48 V, -8 A.

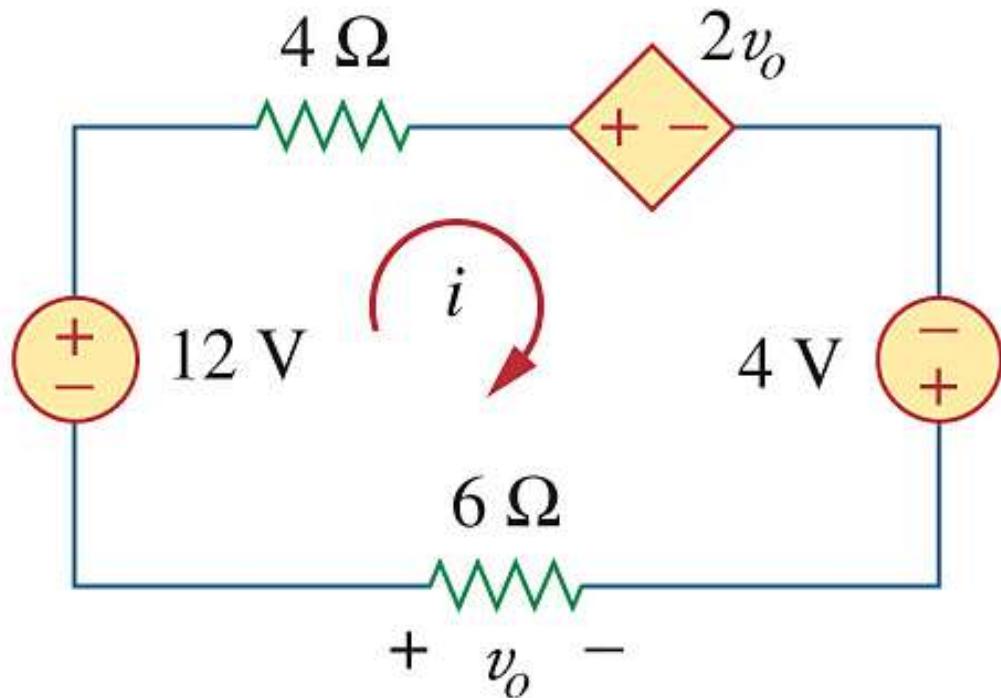


Figure 2.23 (b)

Series connection  $\rightarrow$  KVL

$$-12 + 4i + 2v_o - 4 - v_o = 0$$

$$v_o = 6(-i)$$

$$-12 + 4i - 12i - 4 + 6i = 0$$

$$-2i = 16$$

$$i = -8A$$

$$v_o = 48V$$

**Practice Problem 2.7** Find  $v_o$  and  $i_o$  in the circuit of Fig. 2.26.

**Answer :** 8V, 4A.

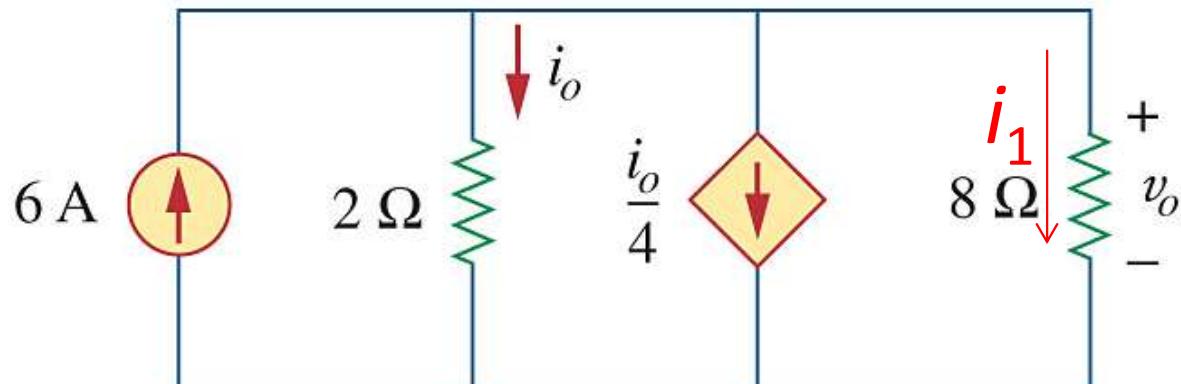


Figure 2.26

Parallel connection → KCL

$$i_1 = v_o/8; v_o = 2i_o$$

$$6 = i_o + i_o/4 + i_1$$

$$6 = i_o + i_o/4 + i_o/4$$

$$3i_o/2 = 6$$

$$i_o = 4\text{A}$$

$$v_o = 8\text{V}$$

**Example 2.8** Find currents and voltages in the circuit shown in Fig. 2.27(a).

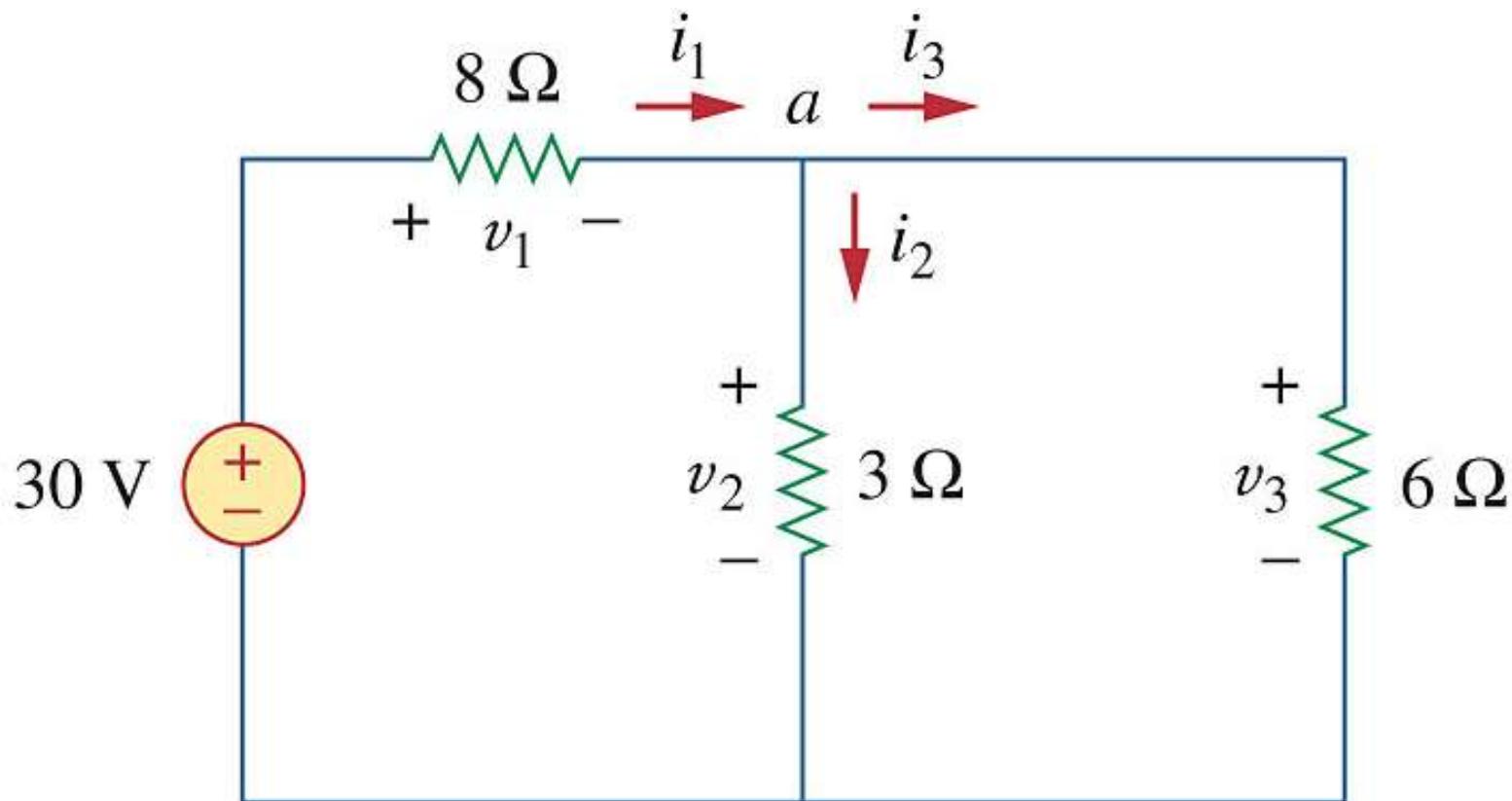
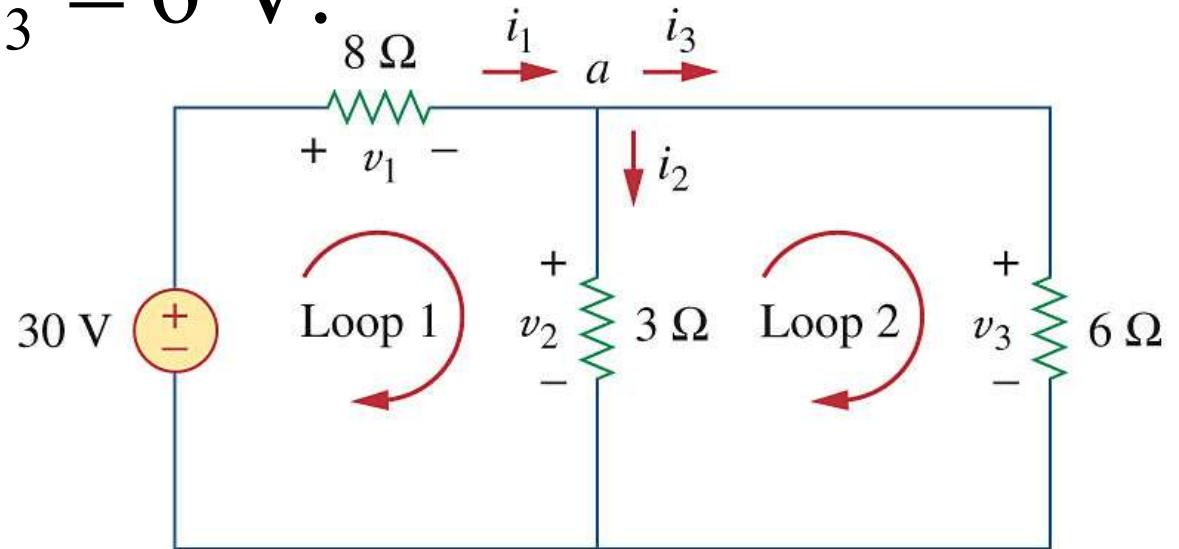


Figure 2.27(a)

**Answer :**  $i_1 = 3 \text{ A}$ ,  $i_2 = 2 \text{ A}$ ,  $i_3 = 1 \text{ A}$ ,  
 $v_1 = 24 \text{ V}$ ,  $v_2 = v_3 = 6 \text{ V}$ .



KVL for loop 1:  $-30 + v_1 + v_2 = 0 \dots (1)$

Figure 2.27 (b)

KVL for loop 2:  $-v_2 + v_3 = 0 \rightarrow v_2 = v_3 \dots (2)$

KCL at node  $a$  and Ohm's law:

$$i_1 = i_2 + i_3; v_1/8 = v_2/3 + v_3/6 \dots (3)$$

$$v_1 + v_2 = 30; \text{ (2) in (3), } v_1/8 = v_2/2 \text{ or } v_1 = 4v_2$$

$$5v_2 = 30, v_2 = 6 \text{ V} \dots$$

## 2.5 Series Resistors and Voltage Division

- The equivalent resistance of  $N$  resistors connected in series is the sum of their individual resistances.

$$R_{eq} = R_1 + R_2 + \cdots + R_N = \sum_{n=1}^N R_n$$

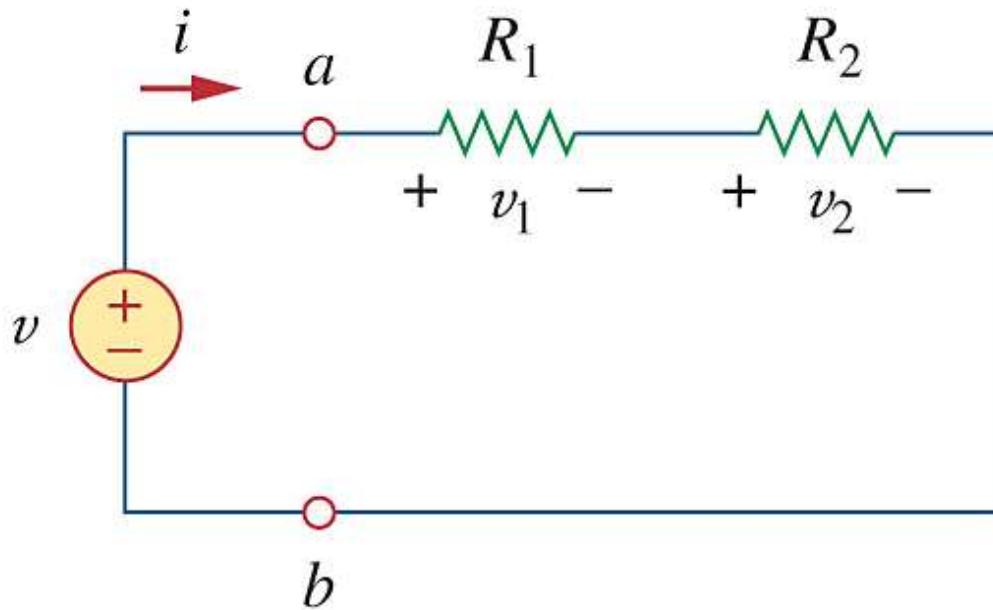


Figure 2.29 A single-loop circuit with two resistors in series.

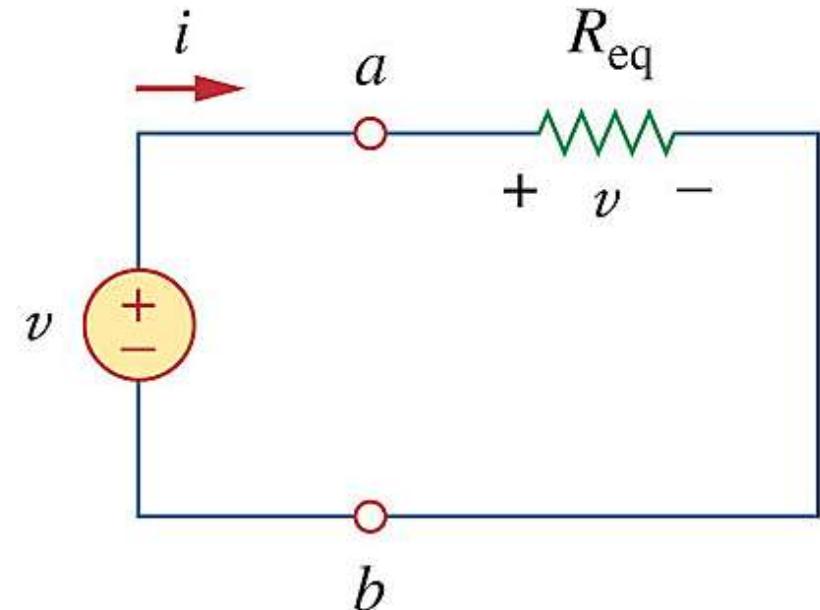


Figure 2.30 Equivalent circuit of the Fig. 2.29 circuit.

$$v = v_1 + v_2 = iR_1 + iR_2 = i \times (R_1 + R_2)$$

$$v = i \times R_{\text{eq}}$$

$$R_{\text{eq}} = R_1 + R_2$$

The voltage across each resistor is

$$v_n = \frac{R_n}{\sum_{n=1}^N R_n} v, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots, N$$

<proof>

In series  $\rightarrow$  same  $i = v/\sum R_n$

$$v_n = iR_n = (v/\sum R_n)R_n = (R_n/\sum R_n)v$$

Notice that the source voltage  $v$  is divided among the resistors in direct proportion to their resistances. This is called the *principle of voltage division*, and the circuit in Fig. 2.29 is called a *voltage divider*.

- The equivalent conductance of  $N$  resistors connected in parallel is the sum of their individual conductances.

$$G_{eq} = G_1 + G_2 + \cdots + G_N = \sum_{n=1}^N G_n$$

i.e.,

$$\frac{1}{R_{eq}} = \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} + \cdots + \frac{1}{R_N} = \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{1}{R_n}$$

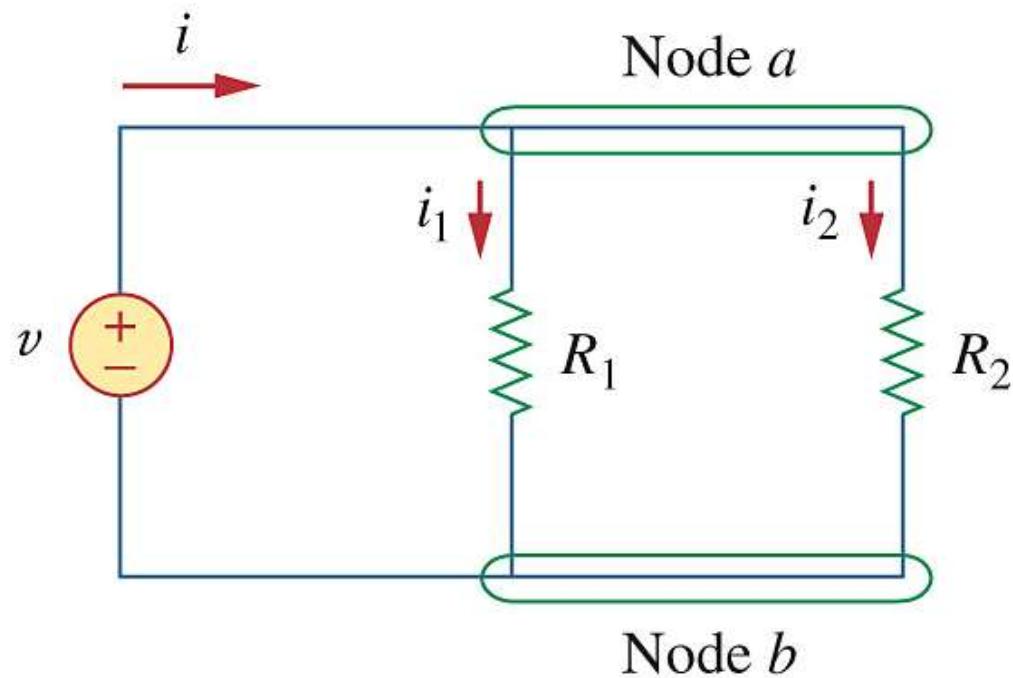


Figure 2.31 Two resistors in parallel

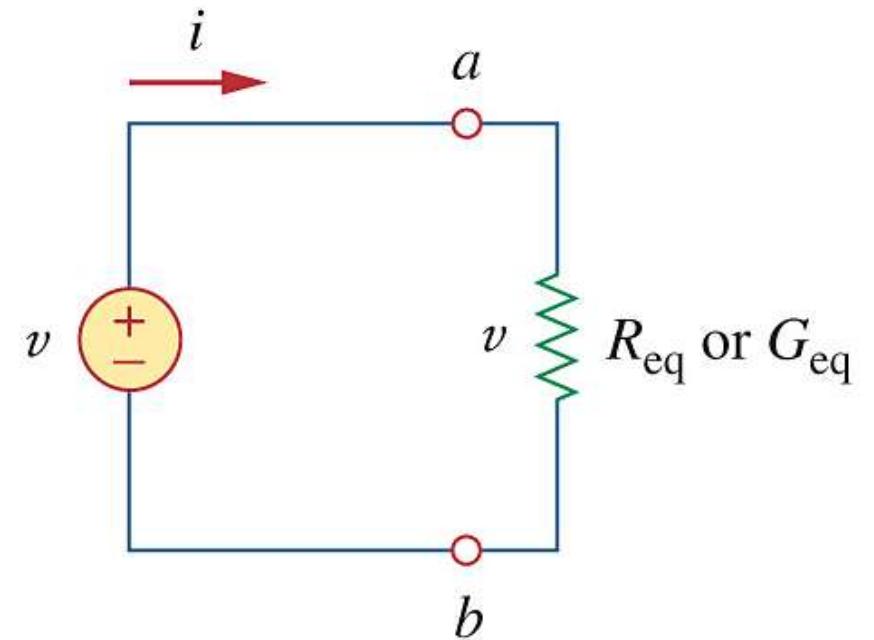


Figure 2.32 Equivalent circuit to Fig. 2.31

$$i = i_1 + i_2 = v/R_1 + v/R_2 = v \times (1/R_1 + 1/R_2)$$

$$i = v \times (1/R_{\text{eq}})$$

$$1/R_{\text{eq}} = 1/R_1 + 1/R_2$$

The current through each resistor is

$$i_n = \frac{G_n}{\sum_{n=1}^N G_n} i, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots, N$$

<proof>

In parallel  $\rightarrow$  same  $v = i/\sum G_n$   
 $i_n = vG_n = (i/\sum G_n)G_n = (G_n/\sum G_n)i$

Notice that the source current  $i$  is divided among the resistors in direct proportion to their conductances. This is called the *principle of current division*, and the circuit in Fig. 2.31 is called a *current divider*.

**Example 2.9** Find  $R_{eq}$  for the circuit shown in Fig. 2.34.

**Answer :**  $14.4 \Omega$ .

$$6 \parallel 3 = 2$$

$$2+2 = 4$$

$$5+1 = 6$$

$$4 \parallel 6 = 2.4$$

$$8+2.4+4 = 14.4$$

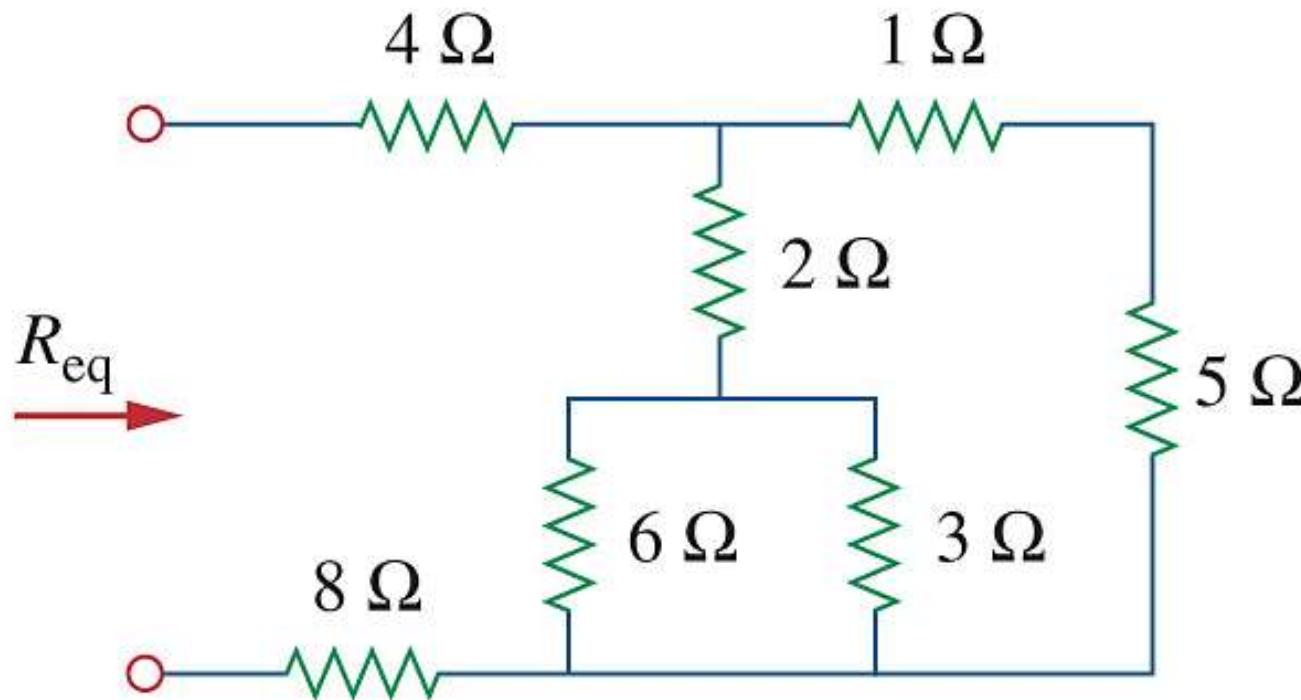


Figure 2.34

**Example 2.10** Calculate the equivalent resistance  $R_{ab}$  in the circuit in Fig. 2.37.

**Answer :**  $11.2 \Omega$ .

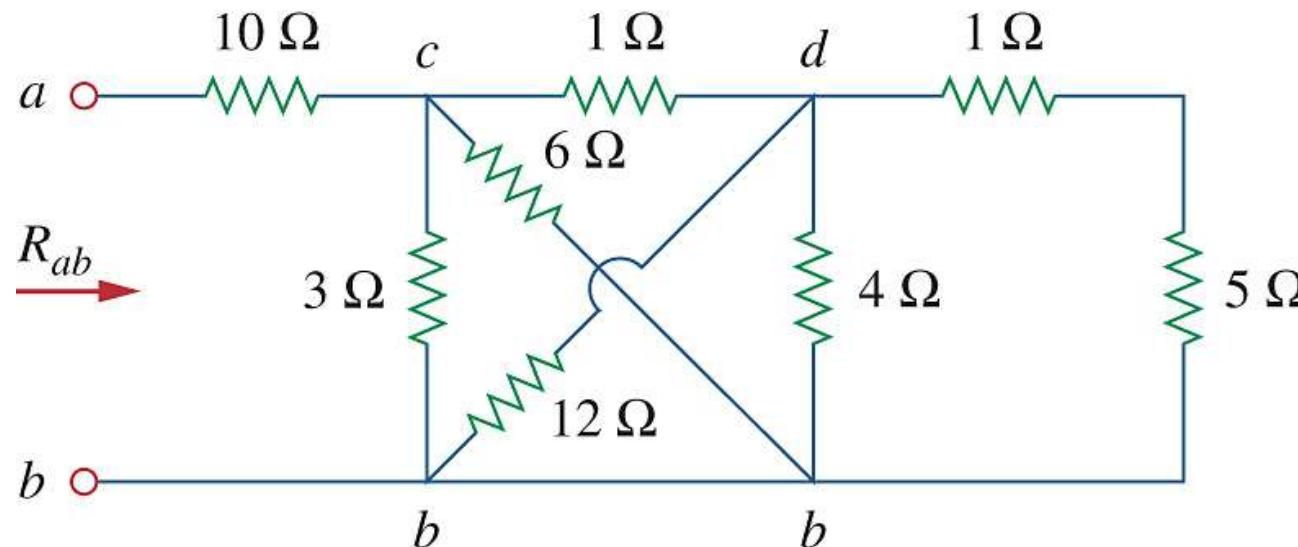


Figure 2.37

$$6 \parallel 3 = 2$$

$$12 \parallel 4 = 3$$

$$(1+5) \parallel 3 = 2$$

$$(1+2) \parallel 2 = 1.2$$

$$10 + 1.2 = 11.2$$

## 2.7 Wye-Delta Transformations

- Situations often arise in circuit analysis when resistors are neither in parallel nor in series.

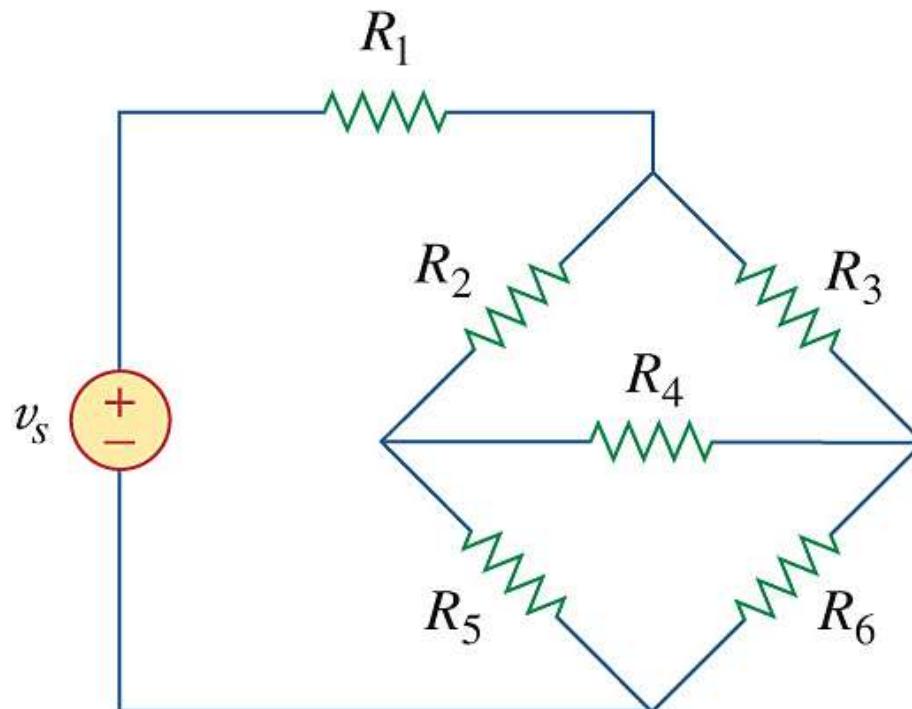
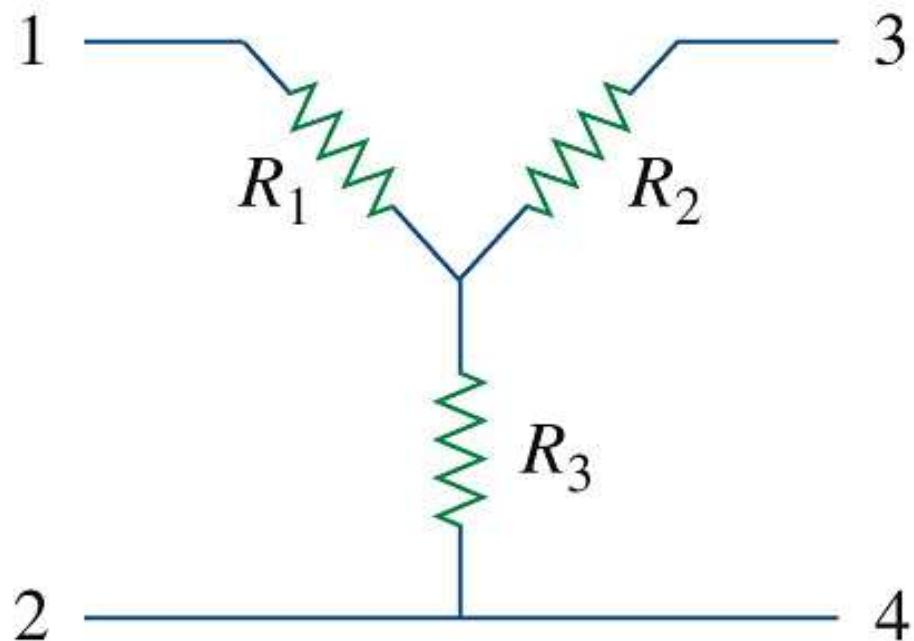
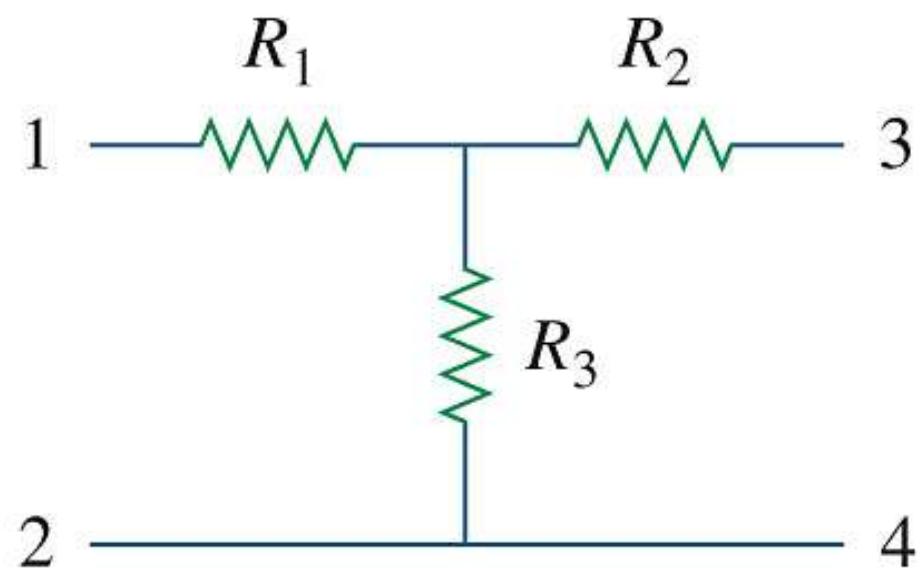


Figure 2.46 The bridge network.

- How do we combine resistors when the resistors are neither in parallel nor in series?
- Many circuits of the type shown in Fig 2.46 can be simplified by using three-terminal networks.
- These are the wye or tee network shown in Fig. 2.47 and the delta or pi network shown in Fig. 2.48.



(a)



(b)

Figure 2.47 Two forms of the same network: (a) Y, (b) T.

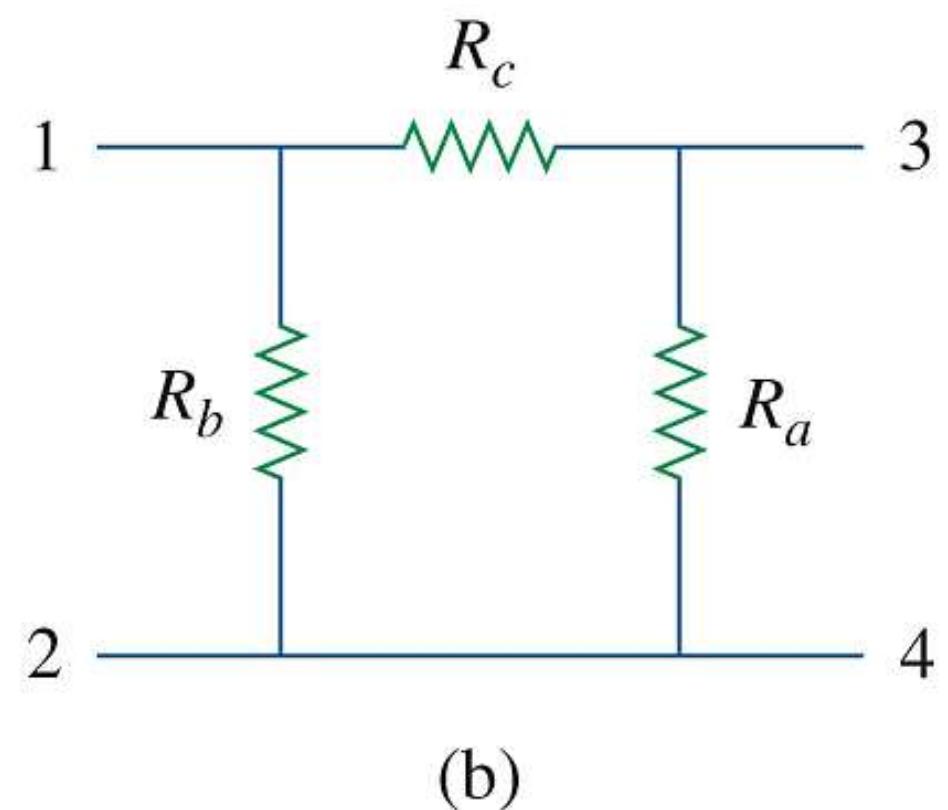
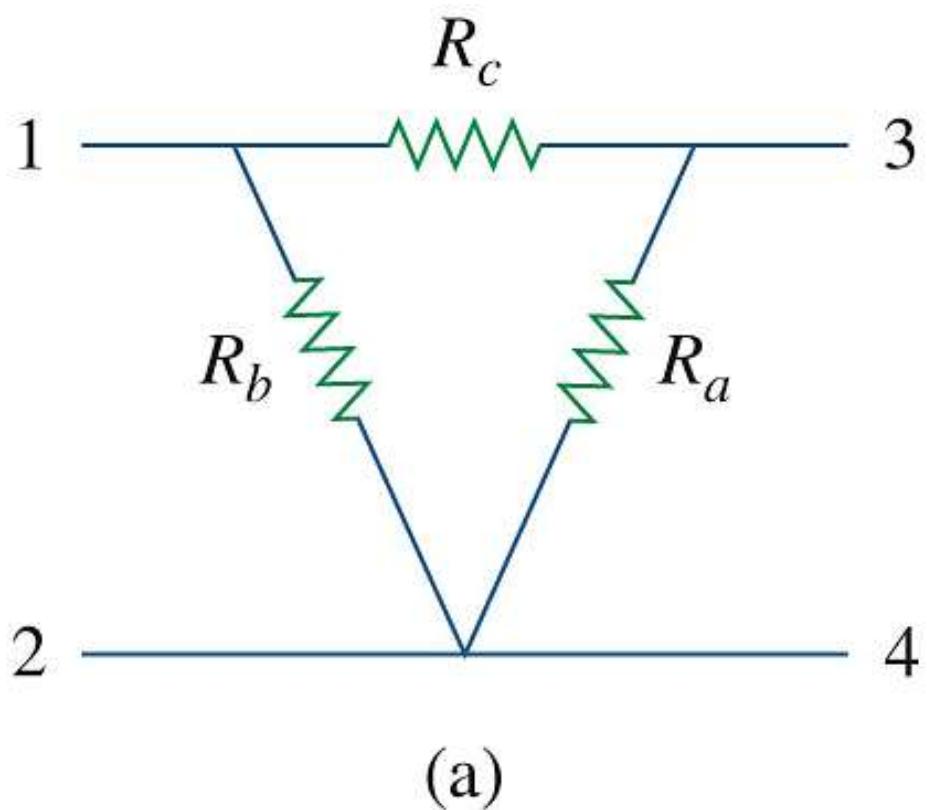


Figure 2.48 Two forms of the same network: (a)  $\Delta$ , (b)  $\Pi$ .

- The networks occur by themselves or as part of a larger network. Our major interest here is in how to identify them when they occur as part of a network and how to apply wye-delta transformation in the analysis of that network.  
There are two types of transformation:
  - Delta to wye conversion
  - Wye to delta conversion

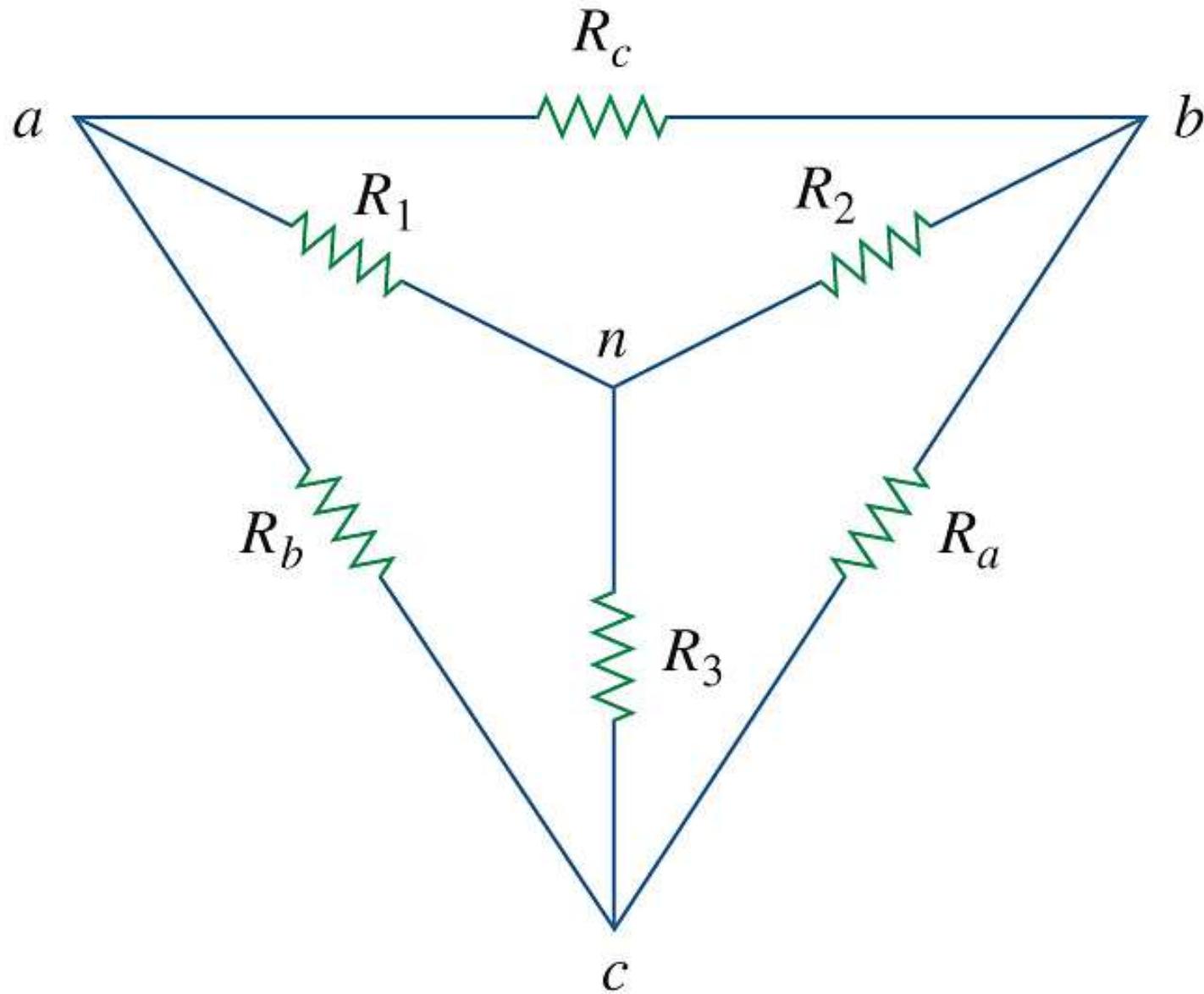


Figure 2.49 Superposition of wye and delta networks as an aid in transforming one to the other.

**Delta to Wye Conversion** Each resistance in the Y network is the product of the resistances in the two adjacent  $\Delta$  branches, divided by the sum of the three  $\Delta$  resistances.

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} R_1 = \frac{R_b R_c}{R_a + R_b + R_c} \\ \\ R_2 = \frac{R_c R_a}{R_a + R_b + R_c} \\ \\ R_3 = \frac{R_a R_b}{R_a + R_b + R_c} \end{array} \right.$$

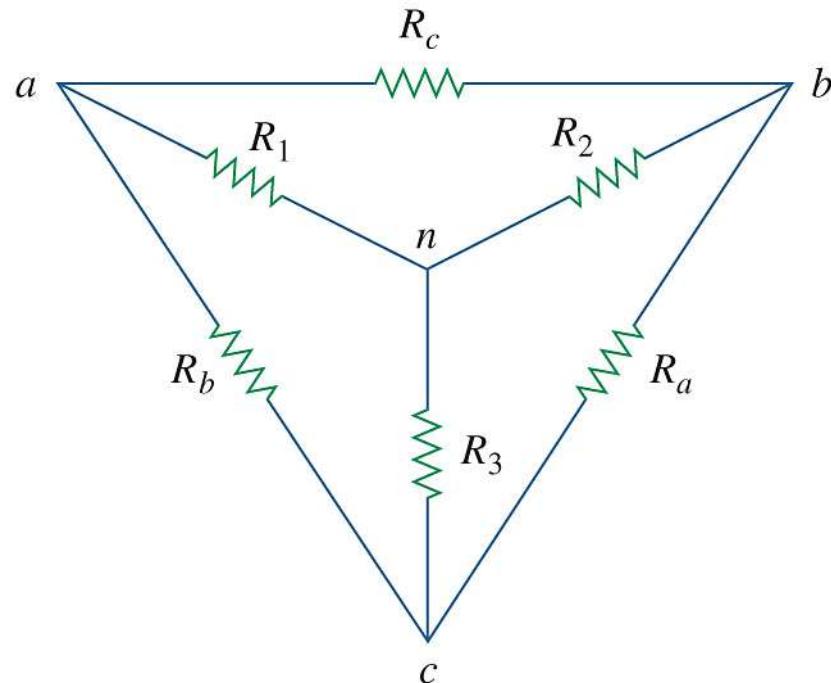


Figure 2.49 Superposition of wye and delta networks as an aid in transforming one to the other.

**Wye to Delta Conversion** Each resistance in the  $\Delta$  network is the sum of all possible products of Y resistances taken two at a time, divided by the opposite Y resistance.

$$R_a = \frac{R_1 R_2 + R_2 R_3 + R_3 R_1}{R_1}$$

$$R_b = \frac{R_1 R_2 + R_2 R_3 + R_3 R_1}{R_2}$$

$$R_c = \frac{R_1 R_2 + R_2 R_3 + R_3 R_1}{R_3}$$

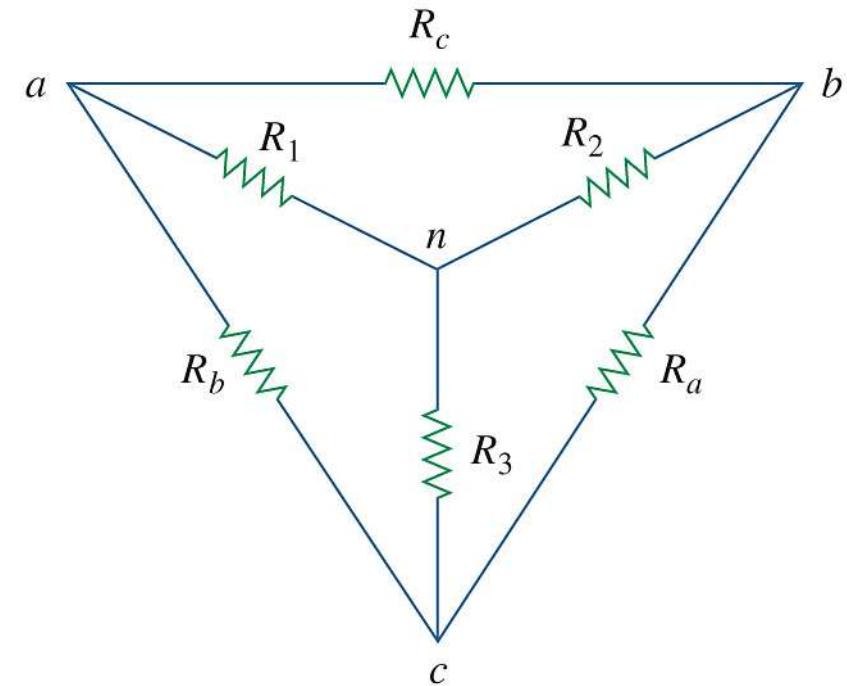


Figure 2.49 Superposition of wye and delta networks as an aid in transforming one to the other.

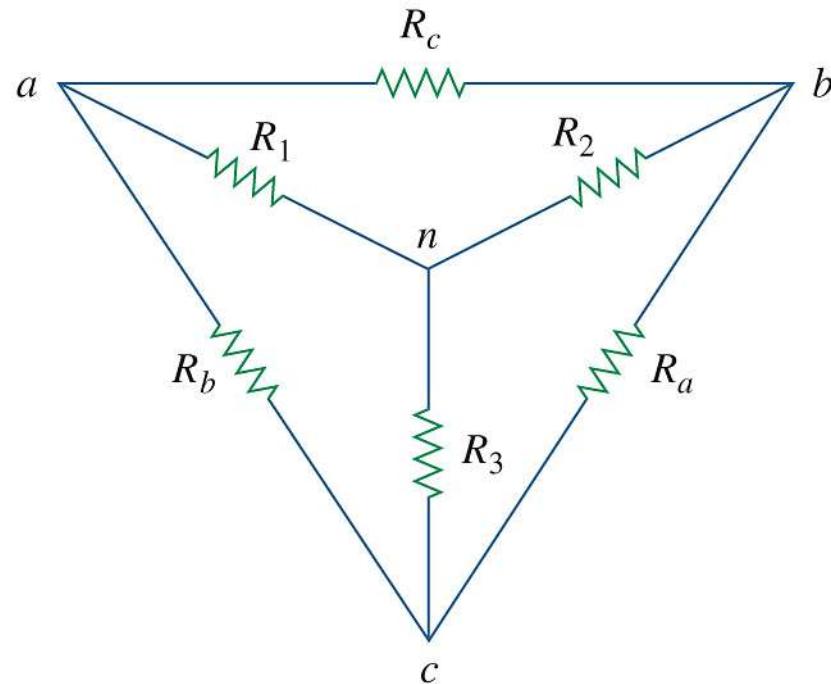
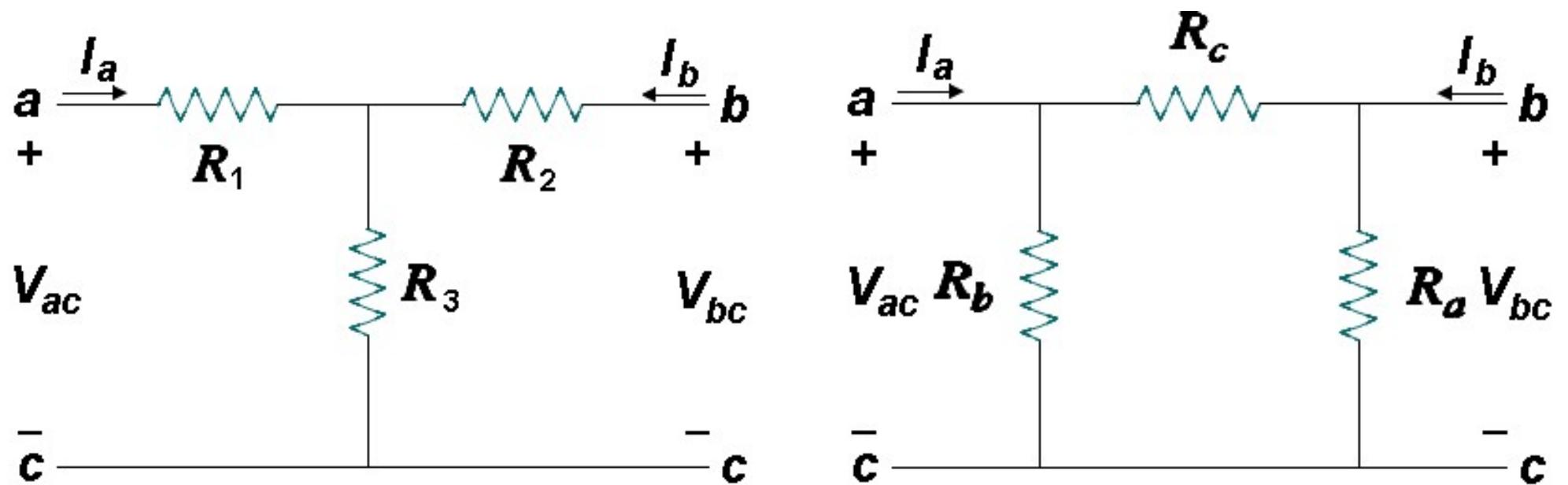


Figure 2.49 Superposition of wye and delta networks  
as an aid in transforming one to the other.



**Proof :** From the T network,

1. KVL

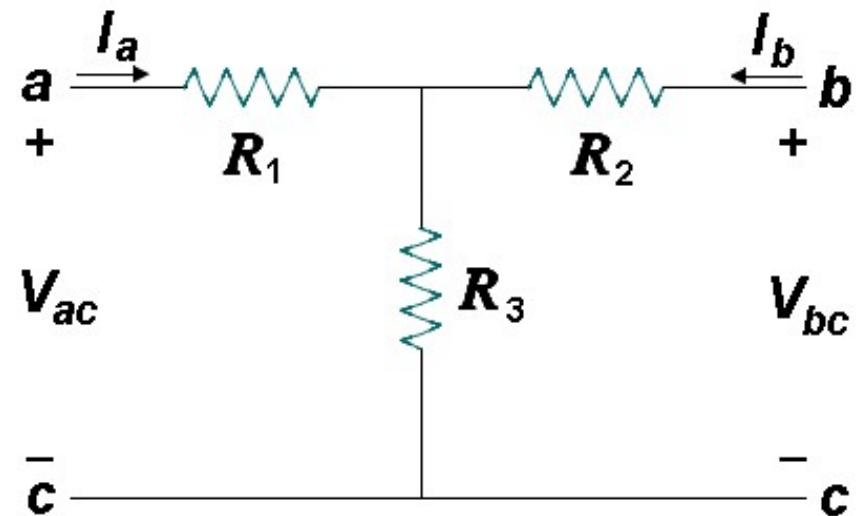
$$\begin{cases} I_a R_1 + (I_a + I_b) R_3 = V_{ac} \\ I_b R_2 + (I_a + I_b) R_3 = V_{bc} \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} (R_1 + R_3) I_a + R_3 I_b = V_{ac} \\ R_3 I_a + (R_2 + R_3) I_b = V_{bc} \end{cases}$$

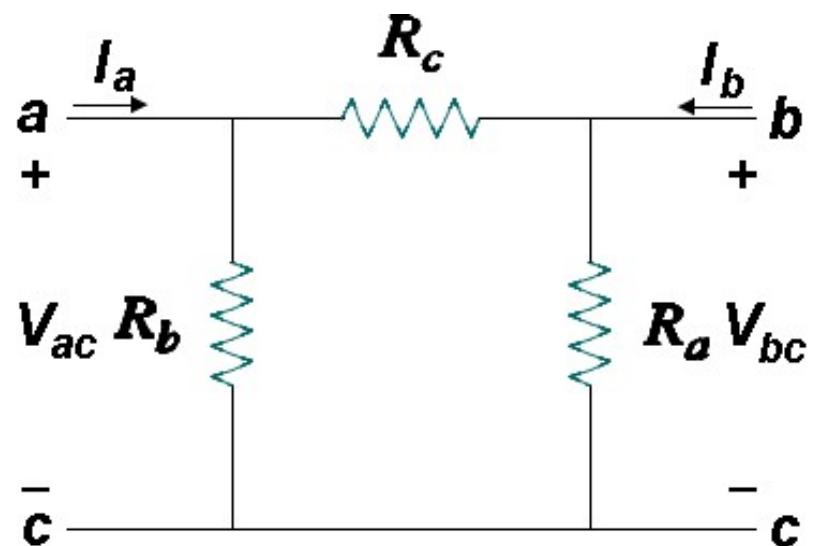
From the  $\Pi$  network,

2. KCL

$$\begin{cases} I_a = G_b V_{ac} + G_c (V_{ac} - V_{bc}) \\ I_b = G_a V_{bc} + G_c (V_{bc} - V_{ac}) \end{cases}$$



(1)



$$\begin{cases} I_a = (G_b + G_c)V_{ac} - G_c V_{bc} \\ I_b = -G_c V_{ac} + (G_a + G_c)V_{bc} \\ \\ V_{ac} = \frac{(G_a + G_c)I_a + G_c I_b}{G_a G_b + G_b G_c + G_c G_a} \\ V_{bc} = \frac{G_c I_a + (G_b + G_c)I_b}{G_a G_b + G_b G_c + G_c G_a} \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

$$(R_1 + R_3)I_a + R_3I_b = V_{ac} \quad (1)$$

$$R_3I_a + (R_2 + R_3)I_b = V_{bc}$$

$$V_{ac} = \frac{(G_a + G_c)I_a + G_cI_b}{G_aG_b + G_bG_c + G_cG_a} \quad (2)$$

$$V_{bc} = \frac{G_cI_a + (G_b + G_c)I_b}{G_aG_b + G_bG_c + G_cG_a}$$

Comparing (1) and (2) yields

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} R_1 + R_3 = \frac{G_a + G_c}{G_aG_b + G_bG_c + G_cG_a} \\ R_3 = \frac{G_c}{G_aG_b + G_bG_c + G_cG_a} \\ R_2 + R_3 = \frac{G_b + G_c}{G_aG_b + G_bG_c + G_cG_a} \end{array} \right.$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} R_1 = \frac{G_a}{G_a G_b + G_b G_c + G_c G_a} = \frac{R_b R_c}{R_a + R_b + R_c} \\ \\ R_2 = \frac{G_b}{G_a G_b + G_b G_c + G_c G_a} = \frac{R_c R_a}{R_a + R_b + R_c} \\ \\ R_3 = \frac{G_c}{G_a G_b + G_b G_c + G_c G_a} = \frac{R_a R_b}{R_a + R_b + R_c} \end{array} \right. \quad (3)$$

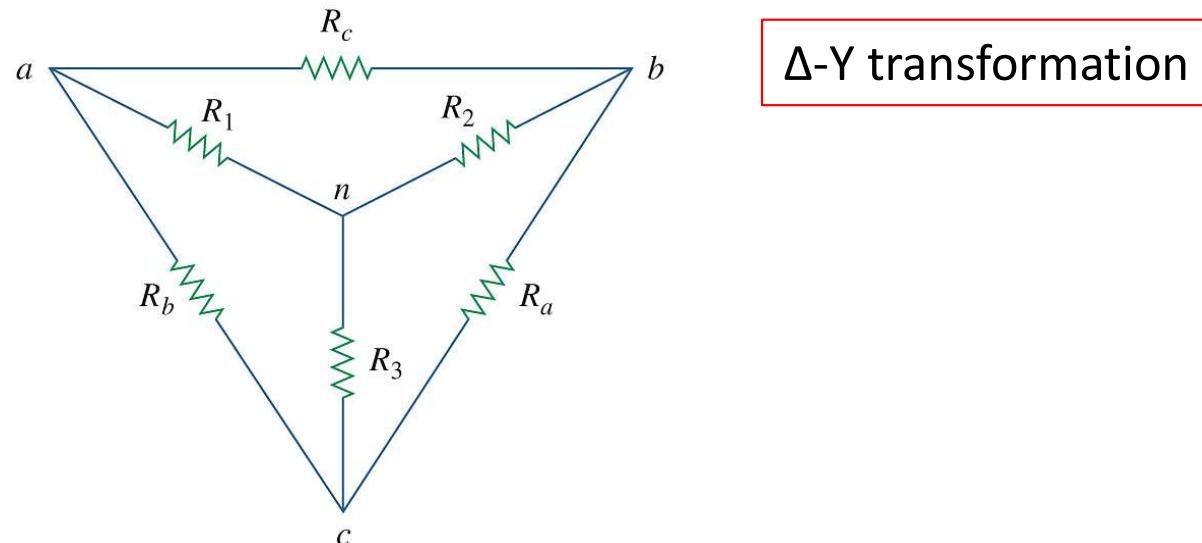


Figure 2.49 Superposition of wye and delta networks  
as an aid in transforming one to the other.

From (3),

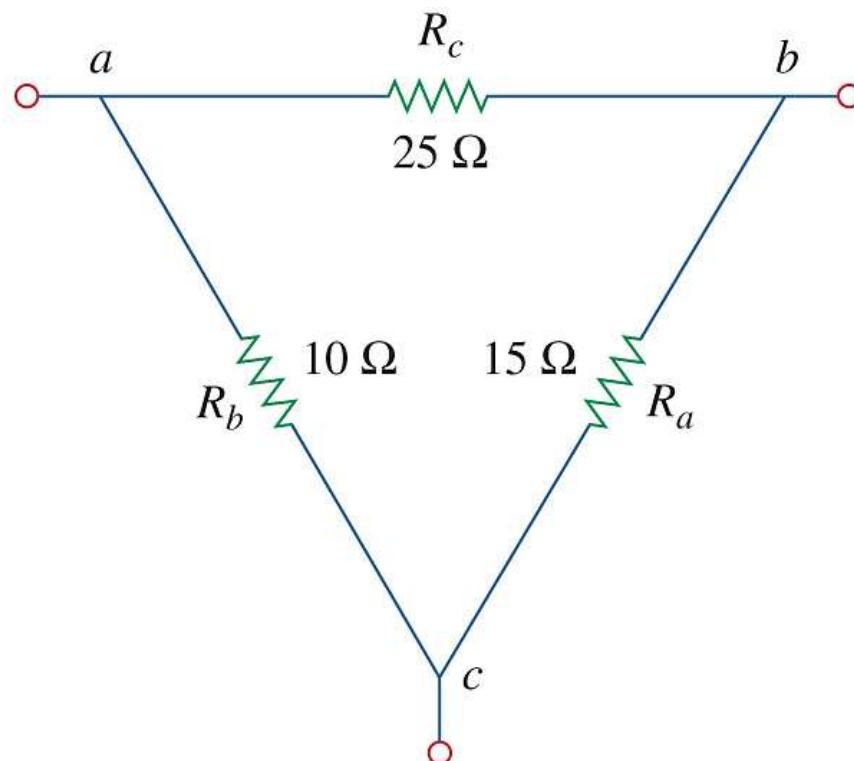
$$R_1 R_2 + R_2 R_3 + R_3 R_1 = \frac{R_a R_b R_c}{R_a + R_b + R_c} \quad (4)$$

Dividing (4) by each of (3) leads to

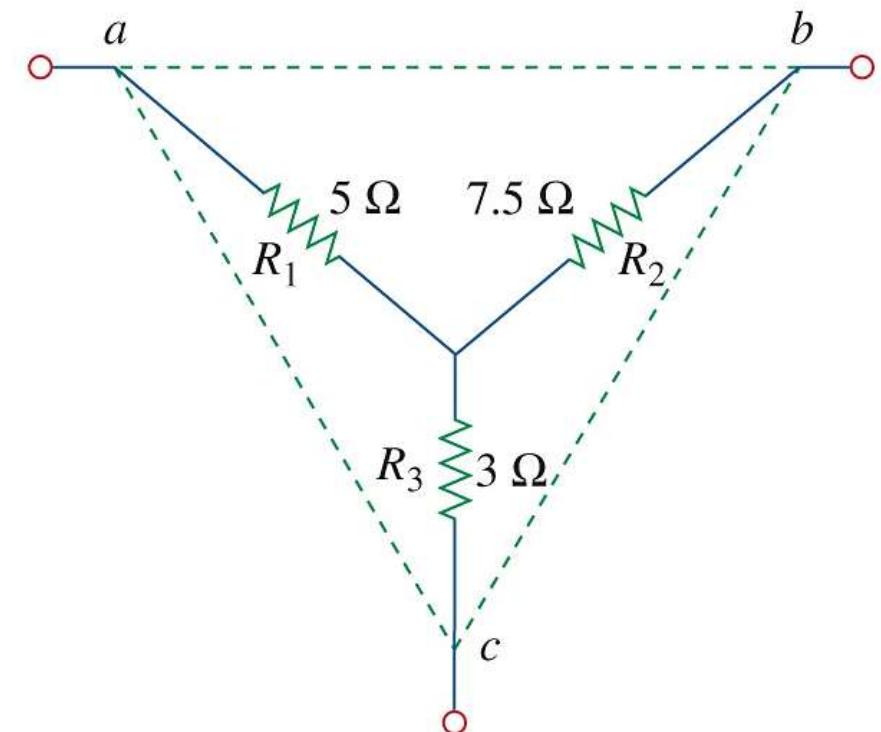
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} R_a = \frac{R_1 R_2 + R_2 R_3 + R_3 R_1}{R_1} \\ R_b = \frac{R_1 R_2 + R_2 R_3 + R_3 R_1}{R_2} \\ R_c = \frac{R_1 R_2 + R_2 R_3 + R_3 R_1}{R_3} \end{array} \right. \quad (5)$$

Y- $\Delta$  transformation

**Example 2.14** Convert the  $\Delta$  network in Fig. 2.50(a) to an equivalent Y network.



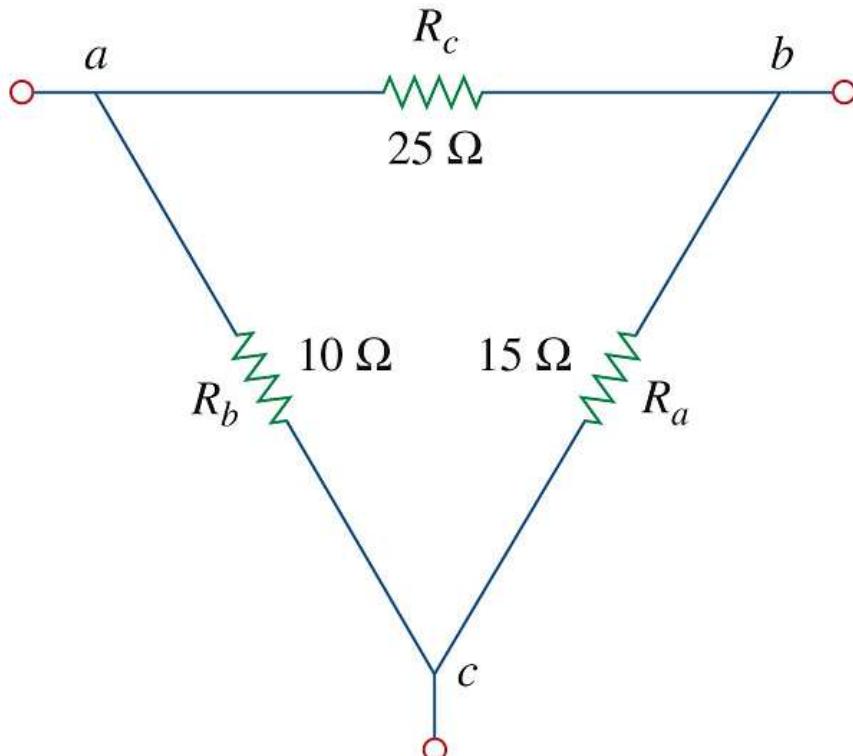
(a)



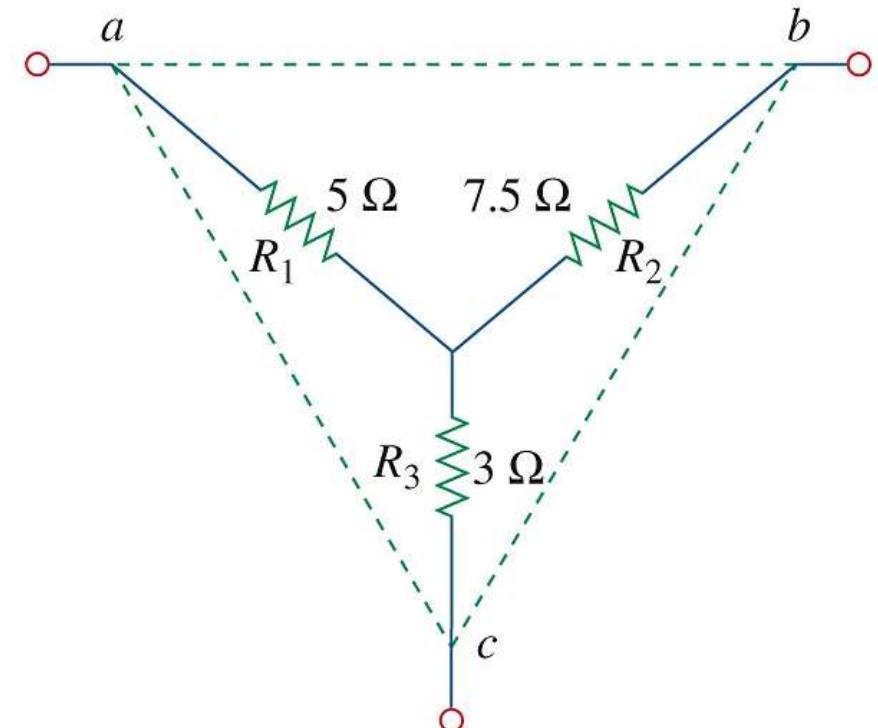
(b)

Figure 2.50

Q: why  $R$  in  $\Delta$  branches is larger?



(a)



(b)

Figure 2.50

$\Delta$  is like parallel connection;  $Y$  is like series connection

Let  $R_a = 0$  (i.e.,  $R_{bc} = 0$ )

- (a)  $R_{ac} = R_b \parallel R_c \rightarrow R_{ac} < R_b$  and  $R_c$
- (b)  $R_{ac} = R_1 + (R_2 \parallel R_3) \rightarrow R_1 < R_{ac}$  →  $R_1 < R_b$  and  $R_c$

**Practice Problem 2.14** Transform the wye network in Fig. 2.51 to a delta network.

**Answer :**  $R_a = 140 \Omega$ ,  $R_b = 70 \Omega$ ,  $R_c = 35 \Omega$ .

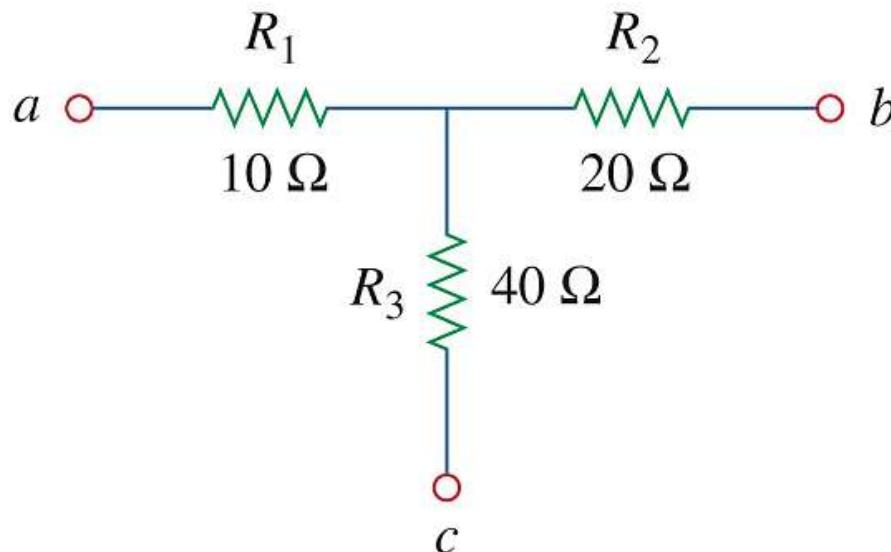


Figure 2.51

$$\begin{aligned}R_a &= R_{bc} = (R_1 R_2 + R_2 R_3 + R_3 R_1) / R_1 \\&= (200 + 800 + 400) / 10 = 140 \text{ ohm}\end{aligned}$$

**Practice Problem 2.15** For the bridge network in Fig. 2.54, find  $R_{ab}$  and  $i$ .

**Answer :**  $R_{ab} = 40 \Omega$ ,  $i = 2.5 \text{ A}$ .

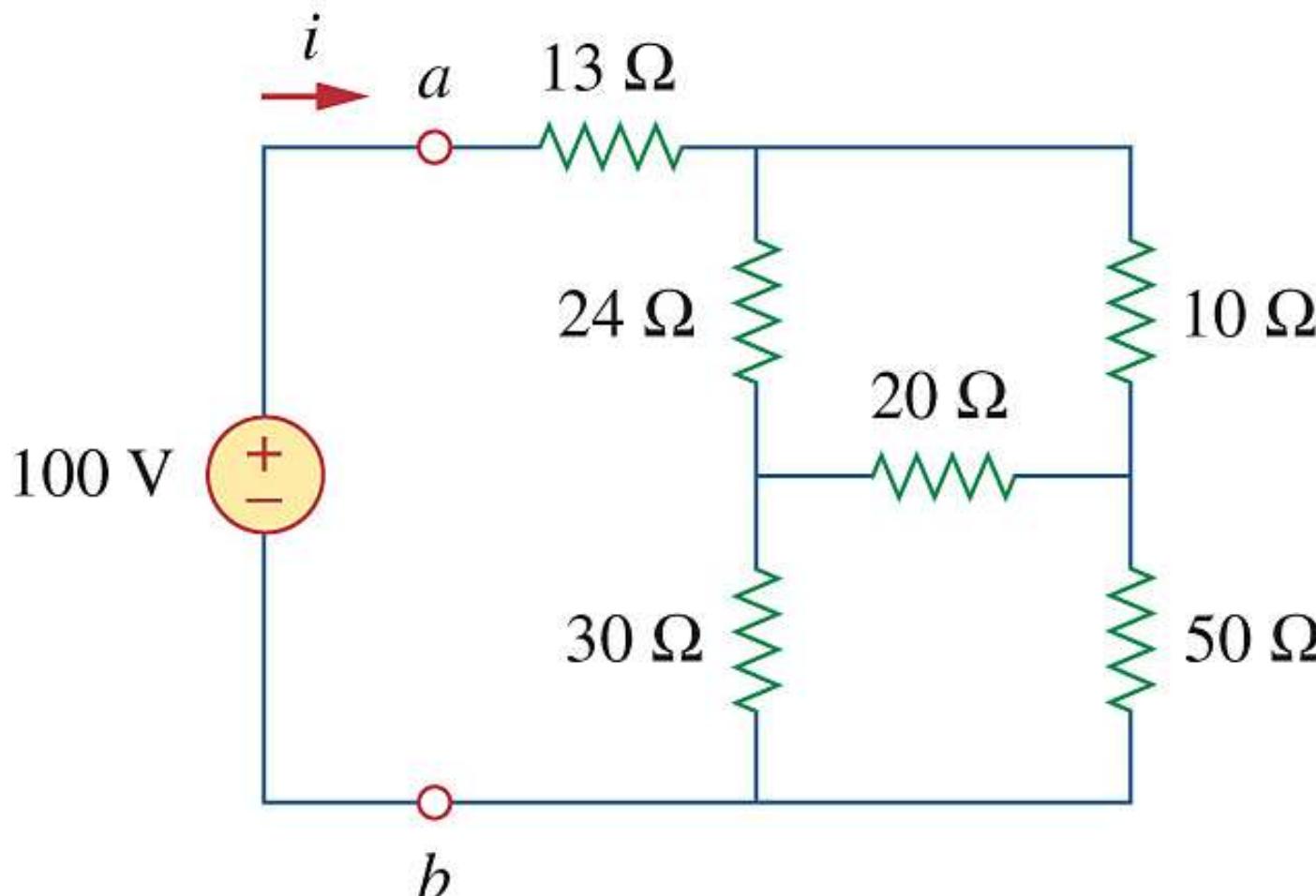


Figure 2.54

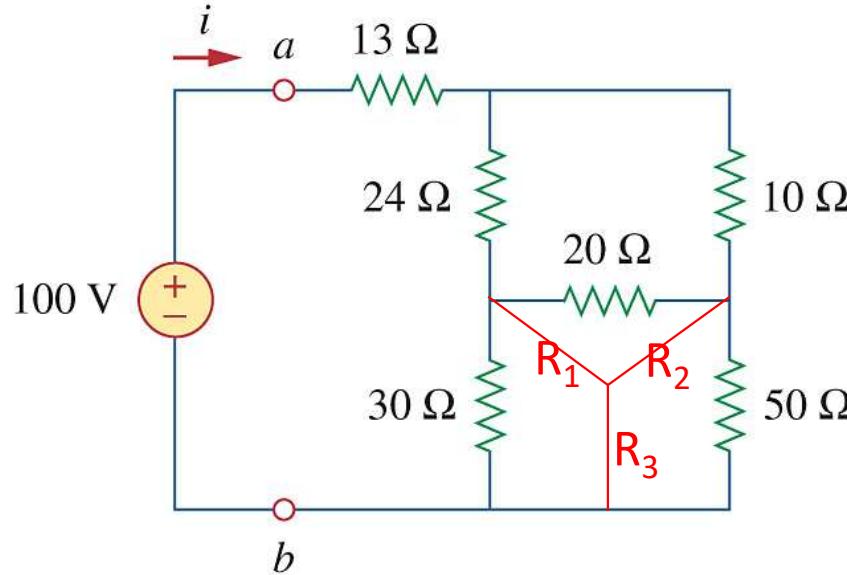


Figure 2.54

-Delta to Y, either convert the upper delta or the lower delta.

-For example, the lower delta (easier...)

$$R_1 = 600/100 = 6; R_2 = 10; R_3 = 15$$

$$15 + (30 || 20) + 13 = 40 \text{ ohm}$$

$$i = v/R_{\text{eq}} = 100/40 = 2.5 \text{A}$$

