



East West University

Lab Report

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Course Title: Electrical Circuits

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Expt No: 02

Expt Name: Series-Parallel DC Circuit and Verification of Kirchhoff's Laws.

Group No: 05

Submitted by-

Md. Arifur Rahman Razu

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Submitted to-

Dr. Sarwar Jahan
Associate Professor
Department of Computer Science & Engineering
East West University

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Experiment NO: 02

Experiment Name: Series-Parallel DC Circuit and Verification of Kirchhoff's Laws.

Objectives:

1. To learn analysis of dc series-parallel circuit.
2. To verify Kirchhoff's Voltage Law (KVL).
3. To verify Kirchhoff's Current Law (KCL).

Theory:

Kirchhoff's Voltage Law (KVL) states that **the sum of the voltage rises around a closed path** is equal to the sum of the voltage drops. The KVL can be written in the following mathematical form:

$$\Sigma V \text{ rises} = \Sigma V \text{ drops}$$

The sum of the voltage rises and the sum of the voltage drops are to be calculated in a given direction (normally in the clockwise direction). For example, in the simple series circuit of Figure 1, there are two voltage sources (E_1 and E_2) and two resistors (R_1 and R_2). The voltage drops across the two resistors are V_1 and V_2 , respectively. If we write KVL equation for the clockwise direction, then the KVL equation will be

$$E_1 - E_2 = V_1 + V_2.$$

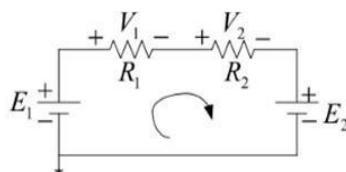


Figure 1. A simple series dc circuit.

Kirchhoff's Current Law (KCL) states that **the sum of the currents entering a node of a circuit is equal to the sum of the currents leaving the node**. The KCL can be written in the following mathematical form:

$$\Sigma I_i = \Sigma I_o.$$

For example, in the simple parallel circuit of Figure 2, there is a voltage source (E) and two resistors (R_1 and R_2). The source current drawn from the voltage source is I_s . The currents through resistors R_1 and R_2 are I_1 and I_2 , respectively. If we consider the node a of the circuit, then I_s enters the node and I_1 and I_2 are leaving the node. Then, the KCL equation for the node a is

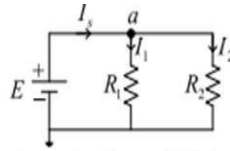


Figure 2. A simple parallel de circuit.
 $I_s = I_1 + I_2$

A series-parallel circuit is one that is formed by a combination of series and parallel resistors. For solving series-parallel circuits, parallel combinations of resistors and series combination of resistors are clearly identified. Then the series-parallel reduction method is used to determine the values of the circuit variables. For example, in the simple series-parallel circuit of Figure 3, the resistors R_1 and R_2 are in parallel and this parallel combination is in series with the resistor R_1 . As the resistors R_2 and R_3 are in parallel, $V_2 = V_3$. Let $R_p = R_2 \parallel R_3$. Then, the equivalent resistance of the series-parallel combination is $R_{eq} = R_1 + R_p$. Now, the circuit variables can be calculated using the formulas

$$I_1 = \frac{E}{R_{eq}}$$

$$V_1 = I_1 R_1$$

$$V_2 = V_3 = I_1 R_p$$

$$I_2 = \frac{V_2}{R_2}$$

$$I_3 = \frac{V_3}{R_3}$$

The KVL equations for the circuit of Figure 3 can be written as

$$E = V_1 + V_2$$

$$E = V_1 + V_3$$

The KCL equation for the circuit of Figure 3 can be written as

$$I_1 = I_2 + I_3$$

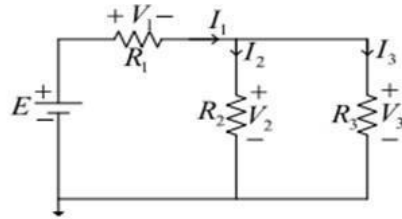


Figure 3. A simple series-parallel dc circuit.

Circuit Diagram:

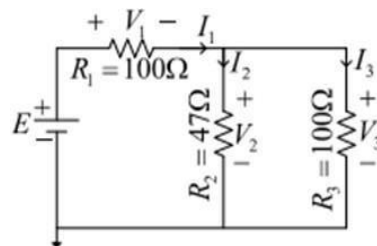


Figure 4. Circuit for experiment.

Pre-Lab Report Questions:

1. Theoretically calculate the values of E , V_1 , V_2 , V_3 , I_1 , I_2 and I_3 of the circuit of Figure 4 with $E = 3V$.

Ans:

Given that,

$$R_1 = 100\Omega$$

$$R_2 = 47\Omega$$

$$R_3 = 100\Omega$$

$$E = 3V$$

Here, R_2 & R_3 is in parallel connection.

$$\text{So, } R_p = \left(\frac{1}{R_2} + \frac{1}{R_3} \right)^{-1} \Omega$$

$$= \left(\frac{1}{47} + \frac{1}{100} \right)^{-1} \Omega$$

$$= 31.98\Omega$$

Now, R_p and R_1 is in series connection.

$$\text{So, } R_{eq} = R_p + R_1$$

$$= (31.98 + 100)\Omega$$

$$= 131.98 \Omega$$

We know that,

$$I_1 = \frac{E}{R_{eq}}$$

$$= \frac{3}{131.98} \text{ A}$$

$$= 0.022A$$

$$\text{So, } I_1 = 0.022A$$

Here,

$$V_{111} = I_1 R_1 = 0.022 \times 100 = 2.27V$$

$$V_2 = I_2 R_2 = 0.022 \times 31.98 = 0.73 \text{ V}$$

$$V_3 = I_3 R_3 = 0.022 \times 31.98 = 0.73 \text{ V}$$

$$I_2 = \frac{V_2}{R_2} = \frac{0.73}{47} = 0.015 \text{ A}$$

$$I_3 = \frac{V_3}{R_3} = \frac{0.73}{100} = 0.0073 \text{ A}$$

2. From the calculated values, show that (i) $V_2 = V_3$, (ii) KVL holds, that is, $E = V_1 + V_2$, and (iii) KCL holds, that is, $I_1 = I_2 + I_3$.

Ans:

i.

$$V_2 = V_3 = 0.72 \text{ V}$$

ii.

From the calculated value we get that,

$$\begin{aligned} & V_1 + V_2 \\ &= (2.23 + 0.72) \text{ V} \\ &= 3 \text{ V} \end{aligned}$$

iii

$$I_2 + I_3 = (0.015 + 0.007)A$$

$$= 0.022A$$

Experimental Datasheet

Measured Value of E (V)	Measured Value of V_1 (V)	Measured Value of V_2 (V)	Measured Value of V_3 (V)	Measured Value of I_1 (mA)	Measured Value of I_2 (mA)	Measured Value of I_3 (mA)	Measured Value of Resistance (Ω)
3	2.3	0.9	0.7	22	7	13	$R_1 = 97.8$
							$R_2 = 98.9$
							$R_3 = 48.2$
5	3.7	1.3	1.1	33	11	20	$R_1 = 97.8$
							$R_2 = 98.9$
							$R_3 = 48.2$

Post-Lab Report Questions:

1. Calculate the values of V_1 , V_2 , V_3 , I_1 , I_2 and I_3 of the circuit of Figure 4 using measured values of E , R_1 and R_2 . Compare the calculated values with the measured values and give reason if any discrepancy is found.

Ans:

Given, $E = 3V$

Here, R_2 & R_3 are in parallel.

So,

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{1}{R_p} &= \frac{1}{R_2} + \frac{1}{R_3} \\ &= \frac{1}{98.9} + \frac{1}{49.2} \Omega\end{aligned}$$

$$R_p = 32.85 \Omega$$

And R_1 & R_p are in series,

$$R_{eq} = R_1 + R_p = 97.8 \Omega + 32.85 \Omega = 130.62 \Omega$$

Now,

$$\begin{aligned}I_1 &= \frac{E}{R_{eq}} \\ &= \frac{3}{130.62} A \\ &= 0.023 A \\ &= 23 mA\end{aligned}$$

$$V_1 = I_1 R_1 = 0.023 \times 97.8 = 2.25 V$$

$$V_2 = V_3 = I_1 R_p = 0.023 \times 32.85 = 0.76 V$$

$$\begin{aligned}I_2 &= \frac{V_2}{R_2} \\ &= \frac{0.76}{98.9} A \\ &= 0.008 A = 8 mA\end{aligned}$$

$$I_3 = \frac{V_3}{R_3}$$

$$= \frac{0.76}{48.2} \text{ A}$$

$$= 0.016 \text{ A} = 16 \text{ mA}$$

Measured Value of E (V)	Measured Value of V_1 (V)	Measured Value of V_2 (V)	Measured Value of V_3 (V)	Measured Value of I_1 (mA)	Measured Value of I_2 (mA)	Measured Value of I_3 (mA)	Measured Value of Resistances (Ω)
3	2.3	0.9	0.7	22	7	13	$R_1=97.8$ $R_2=98.9$ $R_3=48.2$
Calculated Value of E (V)	Calculated Value of V_1 (V)	Calculated Value of V_2 (V)	Calculated Value of V_3 (V)	Calculated Value of I_1 (mA)	Calculated Value of I_2 (mA)	Calculated Value of I_3 (mA)	Calculated Value of Resistances (Ω)
3	2.25	0.76	0.76	23	8	16	$R_1= 100$ $R_2= 47$ $R_3= 100$

Table 2. The discrepancy between theoretical and measured values of V_1 , V_2 , V_3 , I_1 , I_2 , I_3 , R_1 ,

The calculated and measured values for voltages V_1 , V_2 , and V_3 show relatively small differences, which could be attributed to measurement inaccuracies. However, the calculated and measured values for currents I_1 , I_2 , and I_3 exhibit significant discrepancies, suggesting potential measurement errors or incorrect units. It's essential to double-check the measurement equipment, units, and calibration to ensure accurate readings for current values.

2. From the calculated values of V_1, V_2, V_3, I_1, I_2 and I_3 , show that (i) $V_2 = V_3$, (ii) $E = V_1 + V_2$ (KVL), and (iii) $I_1 = I_2 + I_3$ (KCL).

Ans:

From the calculated values,

$$V_1 = 2.25V$$

$$V_2 = 0.76V$$

$$V_3 = 0.76V$$

$$I_1 = 0.023A$$

$$I_2 = 0.008A$$

$$I_3 = 0.016A$$

$$E = 3V$$

i

Here, we can see that $V_2 = V_3$; (As R_2 & R_3 are in parallel and in parallel circuit voltages are Same).

ii

Again,

$$V_1 + V_2 = 2.25V + 0.76V = 3.1V$$

So, we can say that, $E = V_1 + V_2$

iii

Here,

$$I_2 + I_3 = 0.008A + 0.016 A$$

$$= 0.024A$$

$$= I_1$$

So, we can say that, $I_1 = I_2 + I_3$

Discussion:

☐ In this experiment, we analyzed a series-parallel DC circuit to verify KVL and KCL through both theoretical calculation and experimental measurement. The goal was to observe the behavior of voltage and current in a circuit combining both series and parallel resistor arrangements.

* Theoretical Analysis:

- Total current (I_1) $\approx 0.022\text{ A}$
- Voltage across R_1 (V_1) $\approx 2.27\text{ V}$
- Voltage across parallel branch ($V_2 = V_3$) $\approx 0.73\text{ V}$
- Branch currents ($I_2 \approx 0.015\text{ A}$, $I_3 \approx 0.0073\text{ A}$)

These values satisfied both KVL ($E = V_1 + V_2$) and KCL ($I_1 = I_2 + I_3$) theoretically.

* Experimental Observation:

- $V_1 = 2.3\text{ V}$, $V_2 = 0.9\text{ V}$, $V_3 = 0.7\text{ V}$
- $I_1 = 22\text{ mA}$, $I_2 = 7\text{ mA}$, $I_3 = 13\text{ mA}$

Here, $V_2 \neq V_3$, indicating a slight discrepancy. Similarly, $I_1 \neq I_2 + I_3$ by a small margin.

* These inconsistencies could arise due to:

1. Measurement errors or meter calibration issues.
2. Resistor tolerances differing from their nominal values.
3. Loose connections or contact resistance.
4. Environmental factors, such as temperature affecting resistance.

* Comparison & Verification:

In the post-lab analysis using the measured resistor values, $R_1 = 97.8\Omega$, $R_2 = 98.9\Omega$, $R_3 = 48.2\Omega$. recalculated values closely matched measured voltages but showed greater deviation in current measurements. Despite this, KVL and KCL were reasonably verified based on the adjusted theoretical values:

- KVL: $V_1 + V_2 \approx E$
- KCL: $I_1 \approx I_2 + I_3$