

Ve215 Electric Circuits

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Chapter 2

Basic Laws

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*.

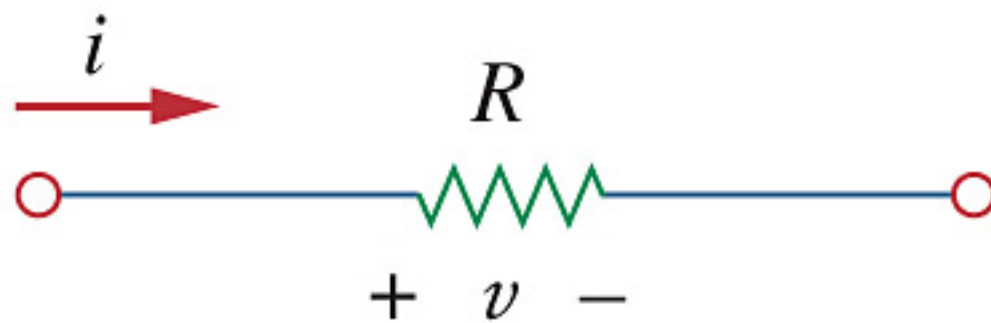
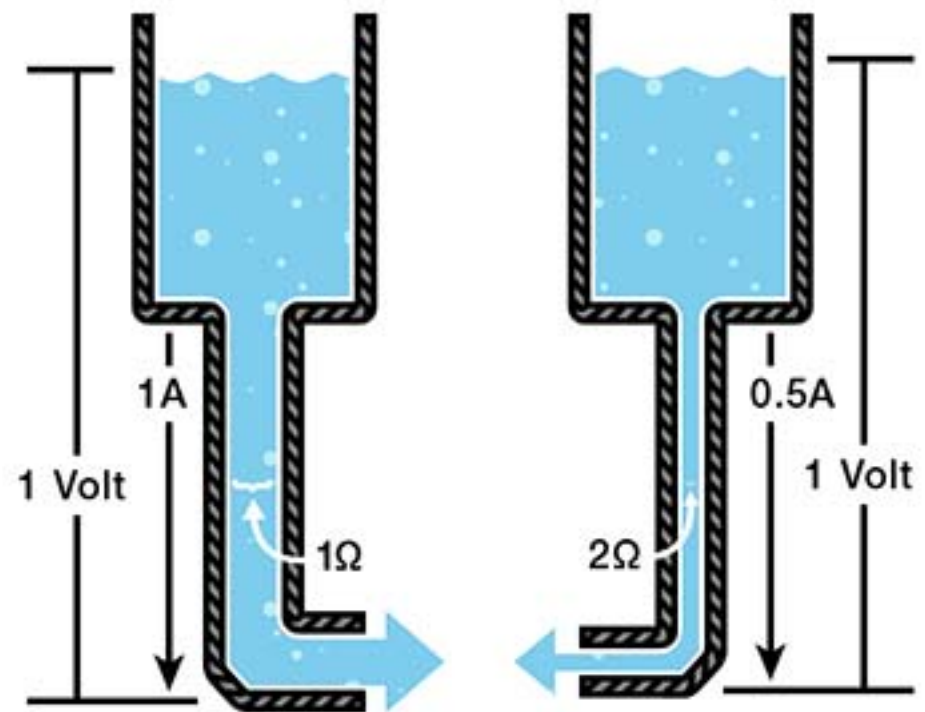
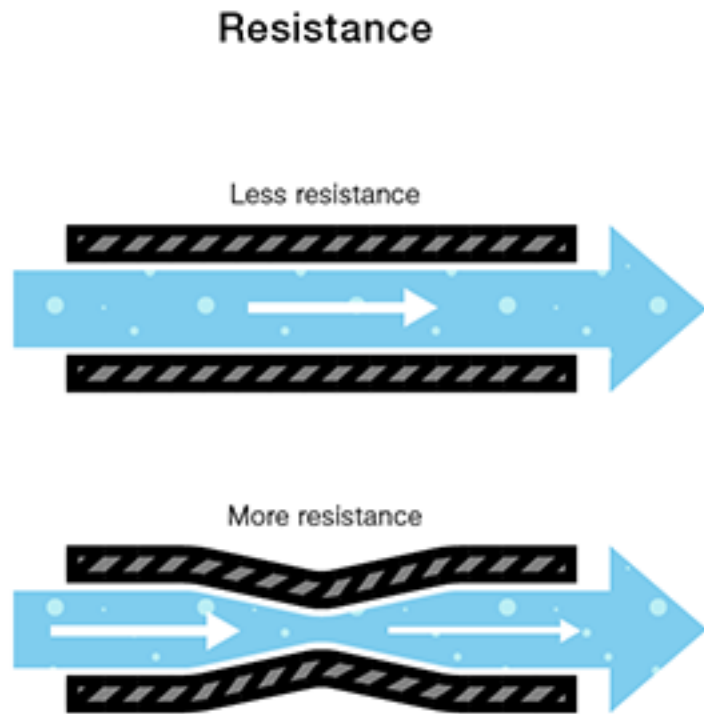


Figure 2.1(b) Circuit symbol for resistor.



Analogy of water flow and electric current

Water volume \Leftrightarrow # of electrons

Water flow \Leftrightarrow electric current

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

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

Passive sign convention :
 $p = +vi = +(iR)i = i^2R > 0$
→ Absorbing power

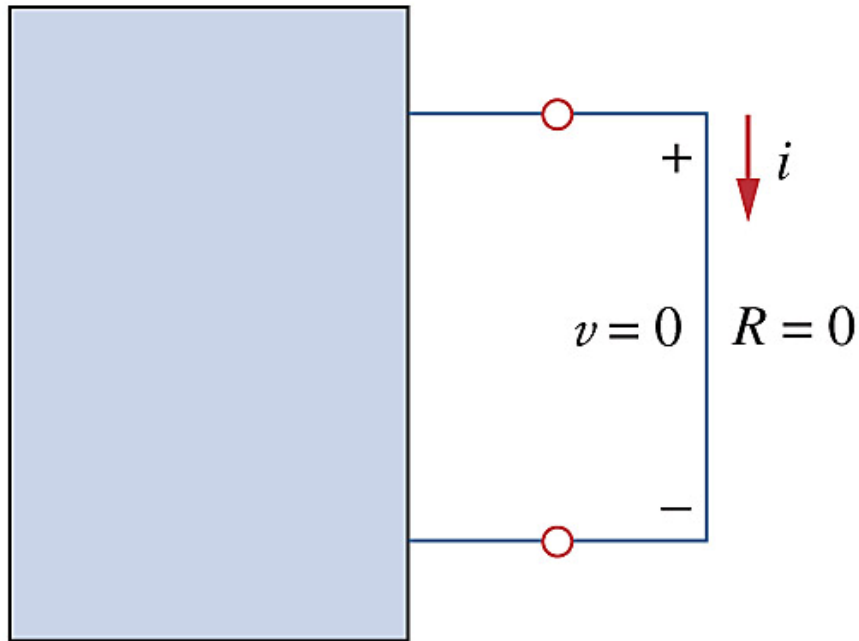
where R is the resistance, measured in ohms (Ω).

$$v=0$$

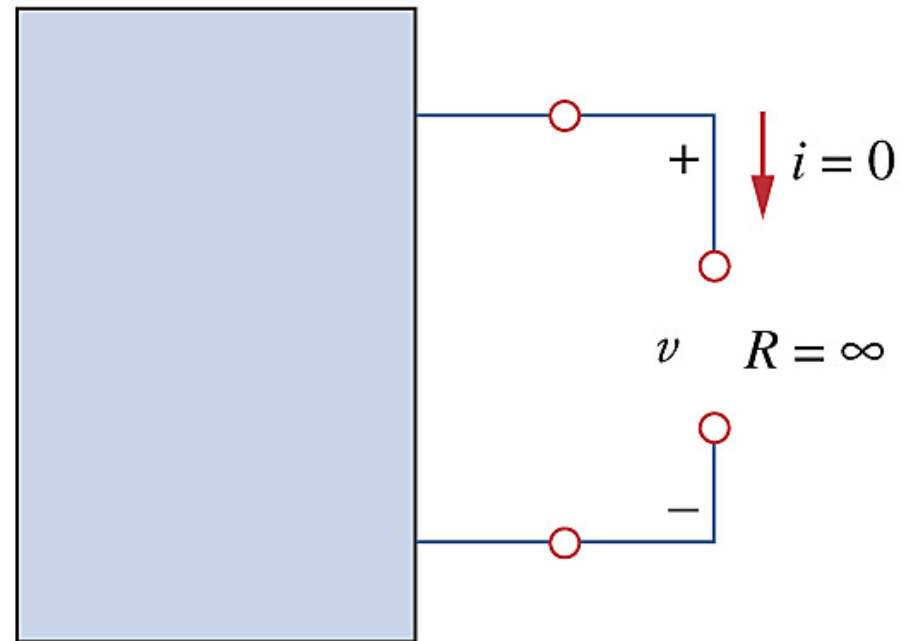
i can be any value

$$i=0$$

v can be any value



(a)

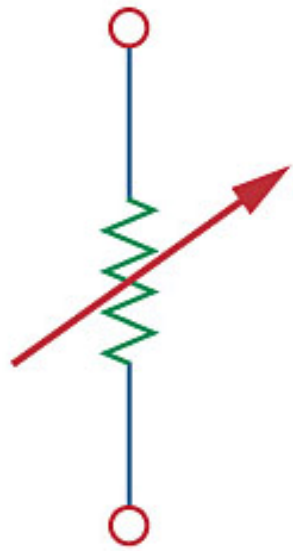


(b)

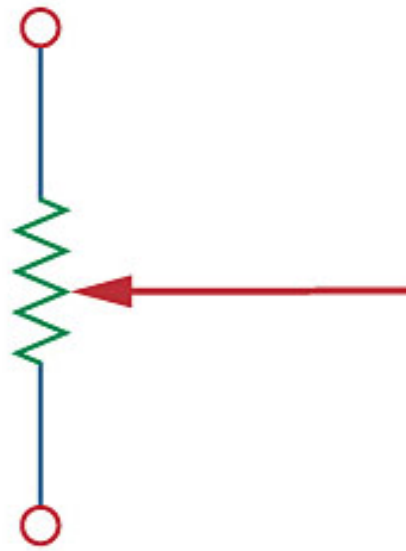
Figure 2.2 Two extreme possible values of R : (a) short circuit ($R = 0$), (b) open circuit ($R = \infty$).

- 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)

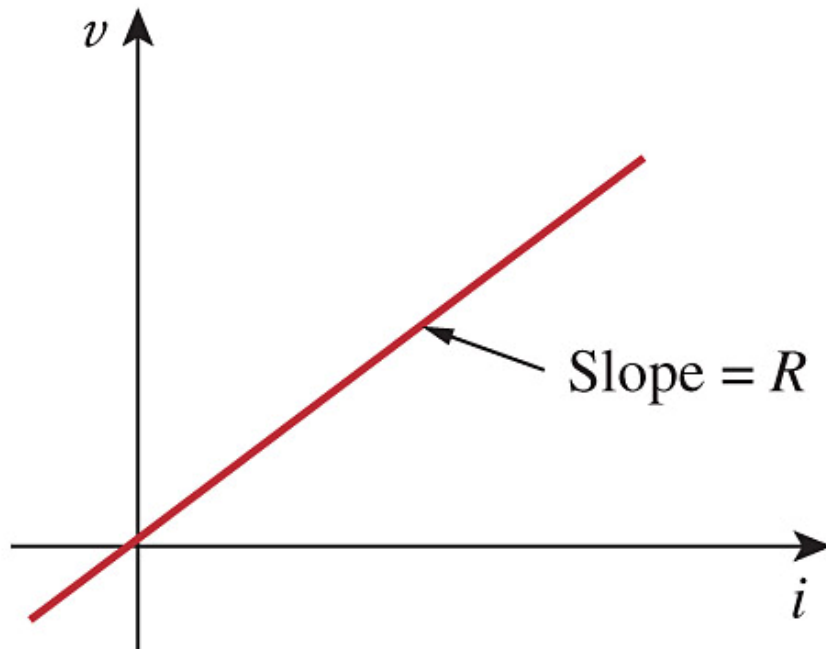


(b)

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

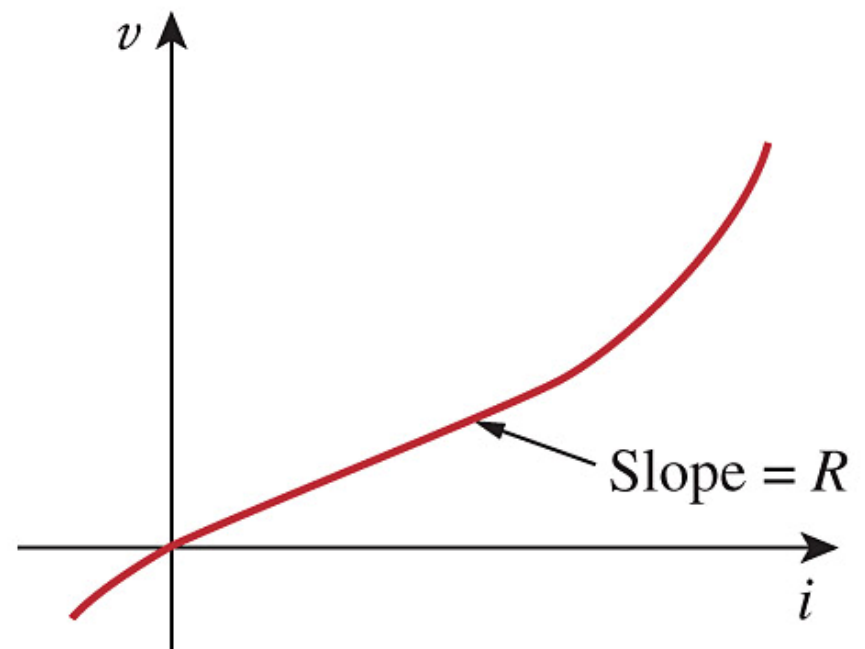
- A *linear* resistor has a constant resistance and thus its current-voltage characteristic is a straight line passing through the origin.
- The resistance of a nonlinear resistor varies with current.

$$v=iR, R \text{ is a const.}$$



(a)

$$v=i \cdot R(i)$$



(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 (Ω^{-1}) or siemens (S). The word mho is ohm spelled backward.

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.

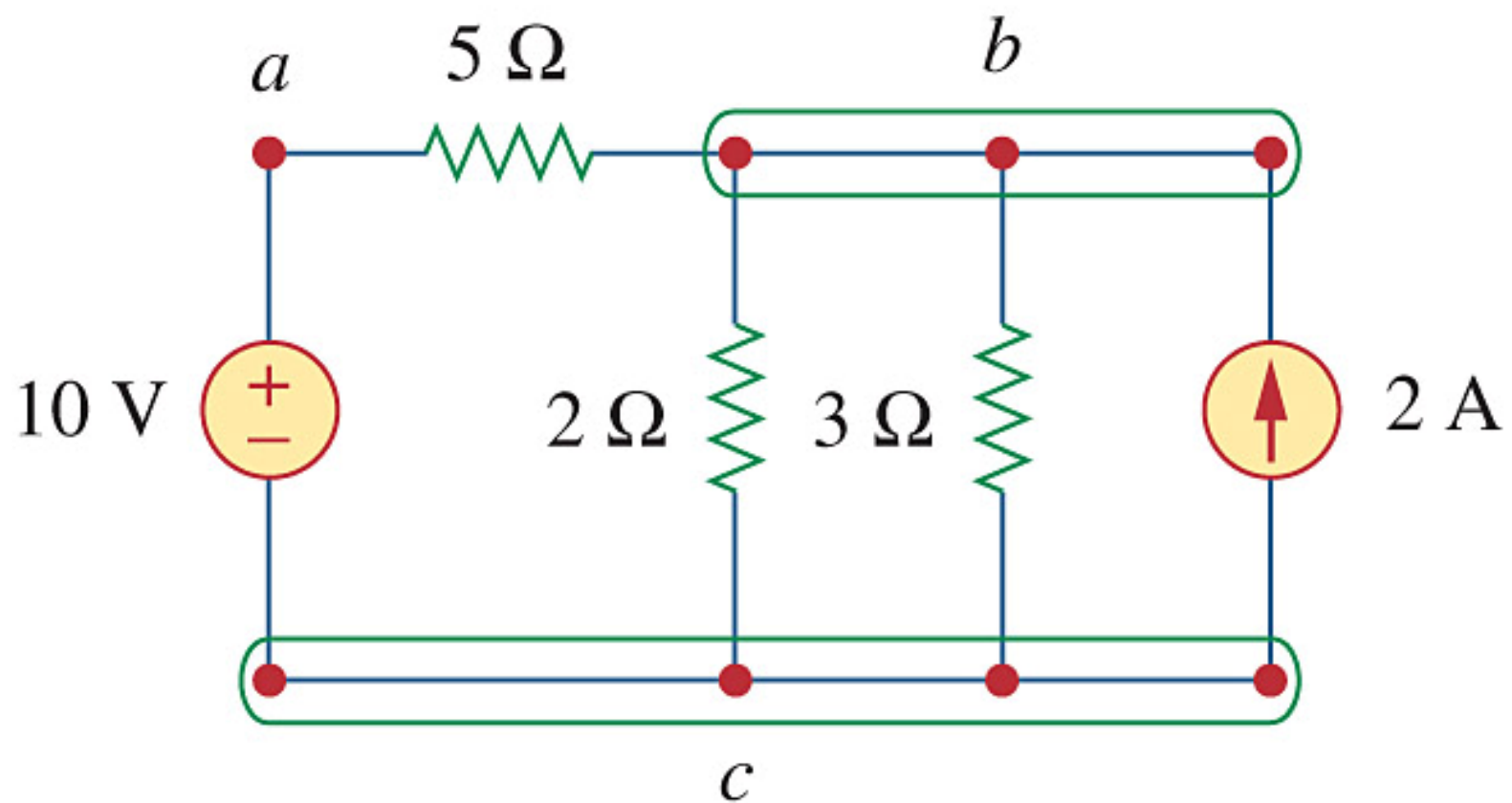


Figure 2.10 Nodes, branches, and loops.

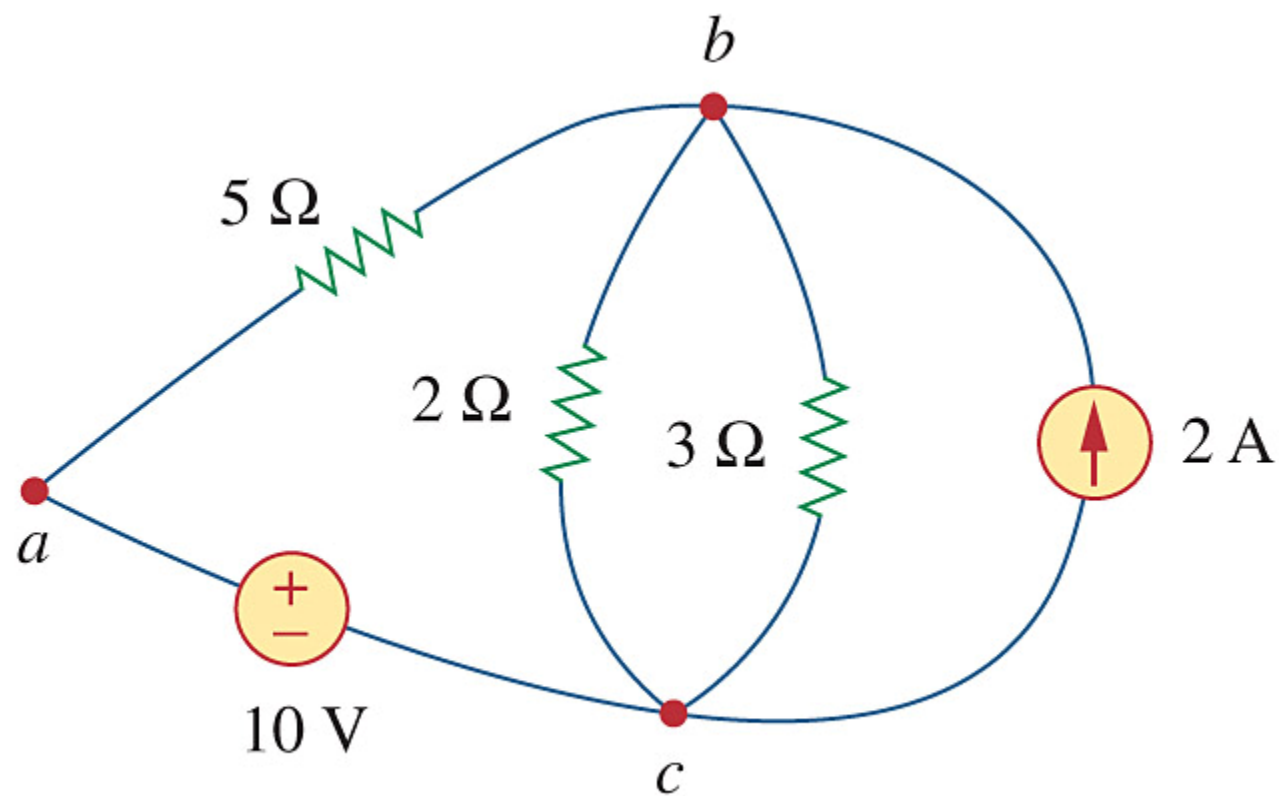


Figure 2.11 The circuit of Fig. 2.10 is redrawn.

- 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. Identity which elements are in series and which are in parallel.

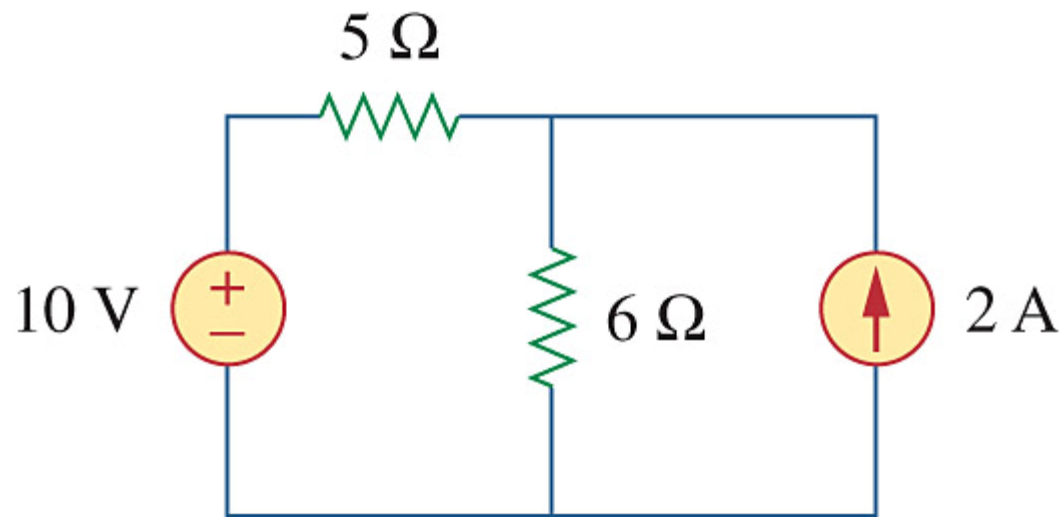


Figure 2.12

Solution :

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

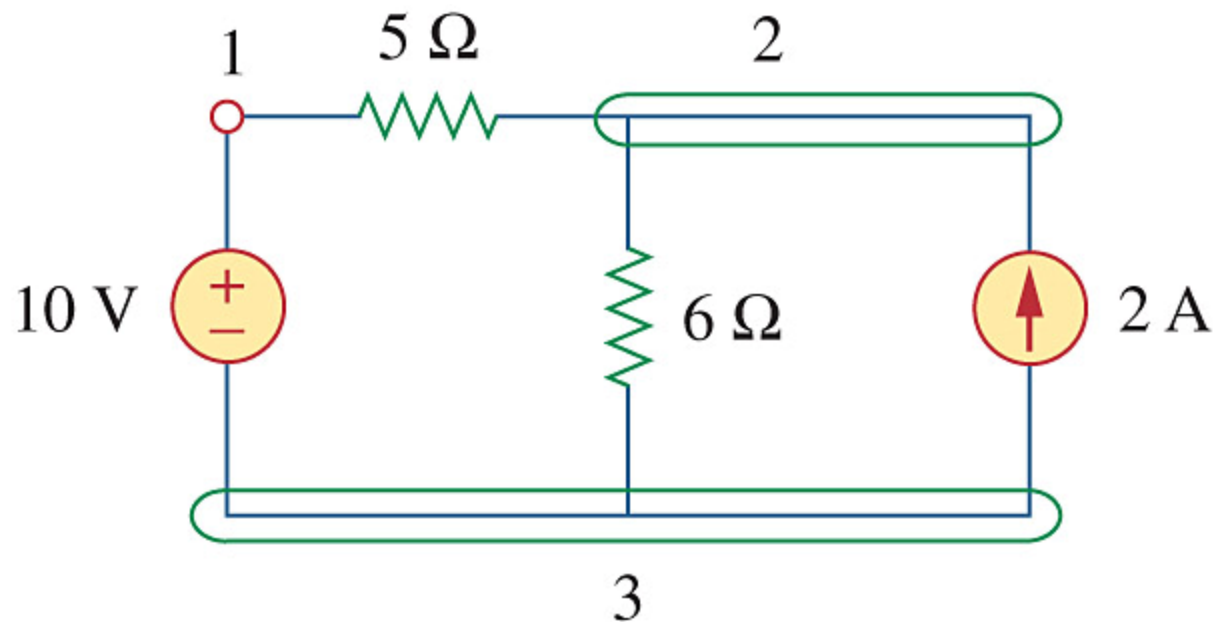


Figure 2.13

2.4 Kirchhoff's Laws

- 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.

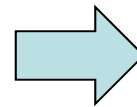
Mathematically, KCL implies that

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

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

$$\sum Q_n = 0$$



d/dt

KCL

$$\sum i_n = 0$$

$$\sum i_n = 0$$

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

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

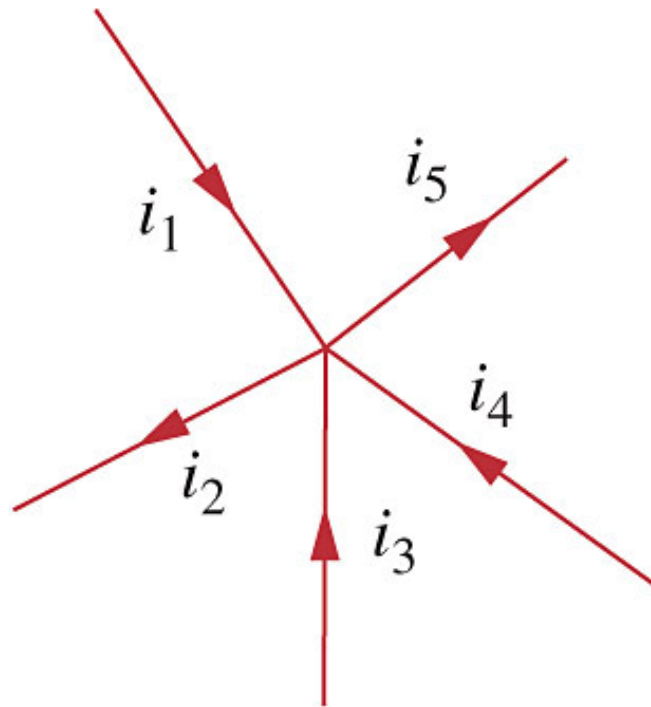


Figure 2.16 Current at a node illustrating KCL.

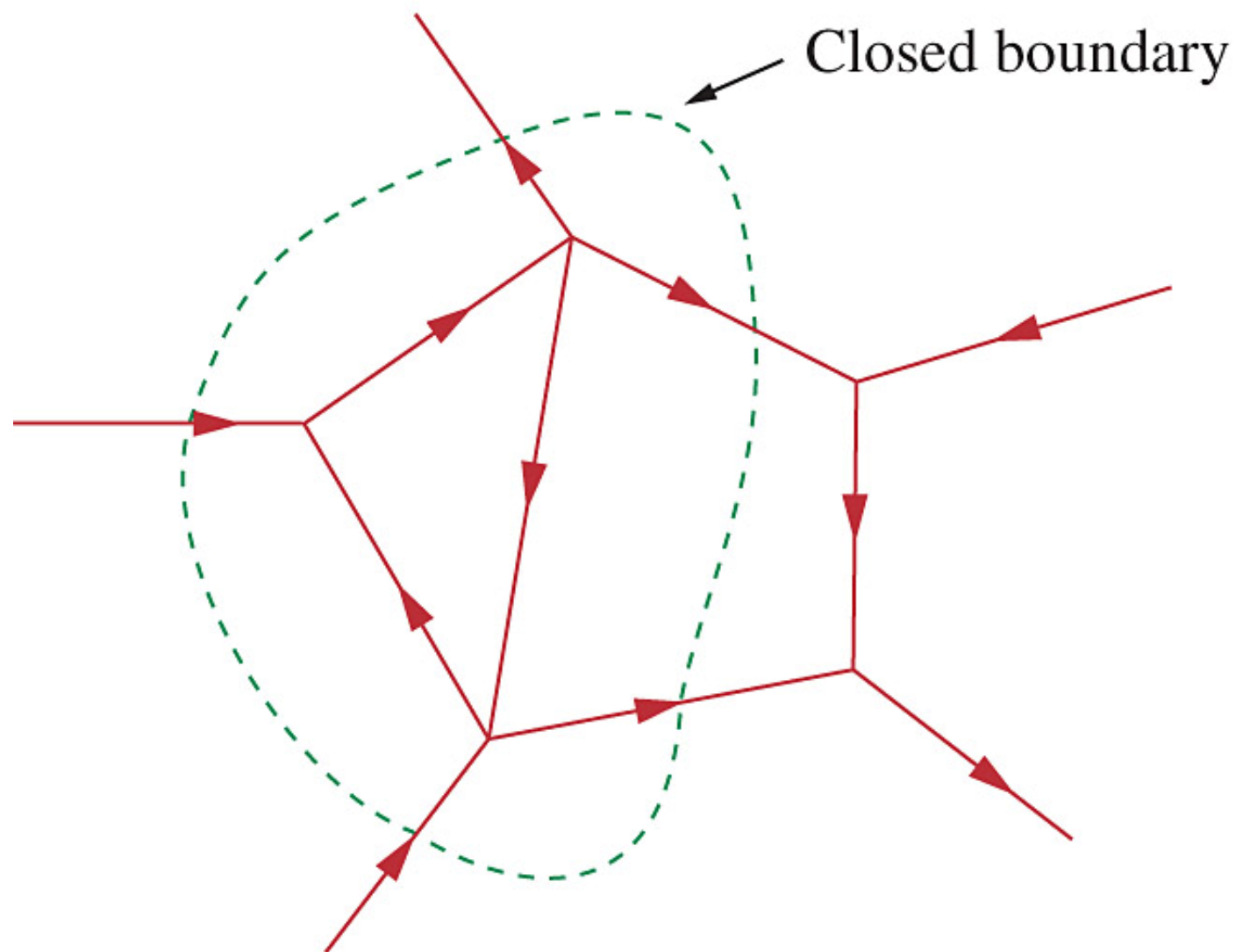
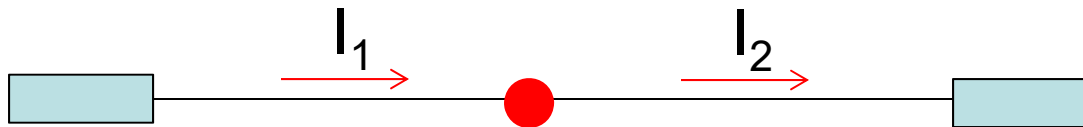


Figure 2.17 Applying KCL to a closed boundary.

- 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.



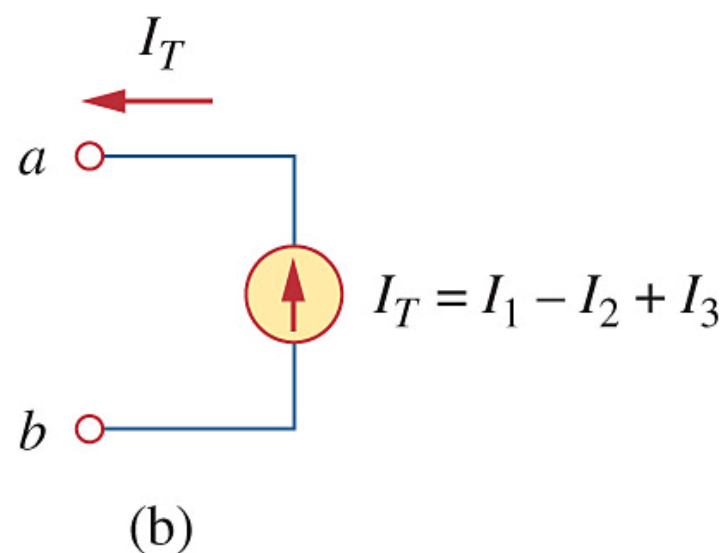
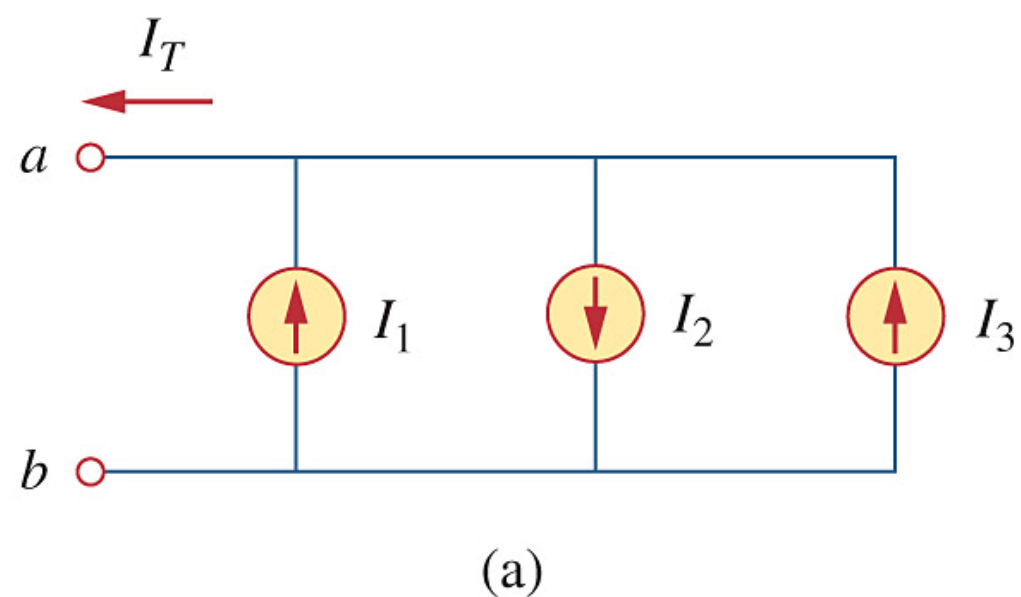


Figure 2.18 Current sources in parallel: (a) original circuit, (b) equivalent circuit. Circuits are said to be equivalent if they have the same $i-v$ relationship at a pair of terminals.

- **Kirchhoff's voltage law (KVL)** is based on the principle of **conservation of energy**.
- The University Physics: *Potential* is potential energy per unit charge. $v=dw/dq$
- 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.

- **Kirchhoff's voltage law (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.

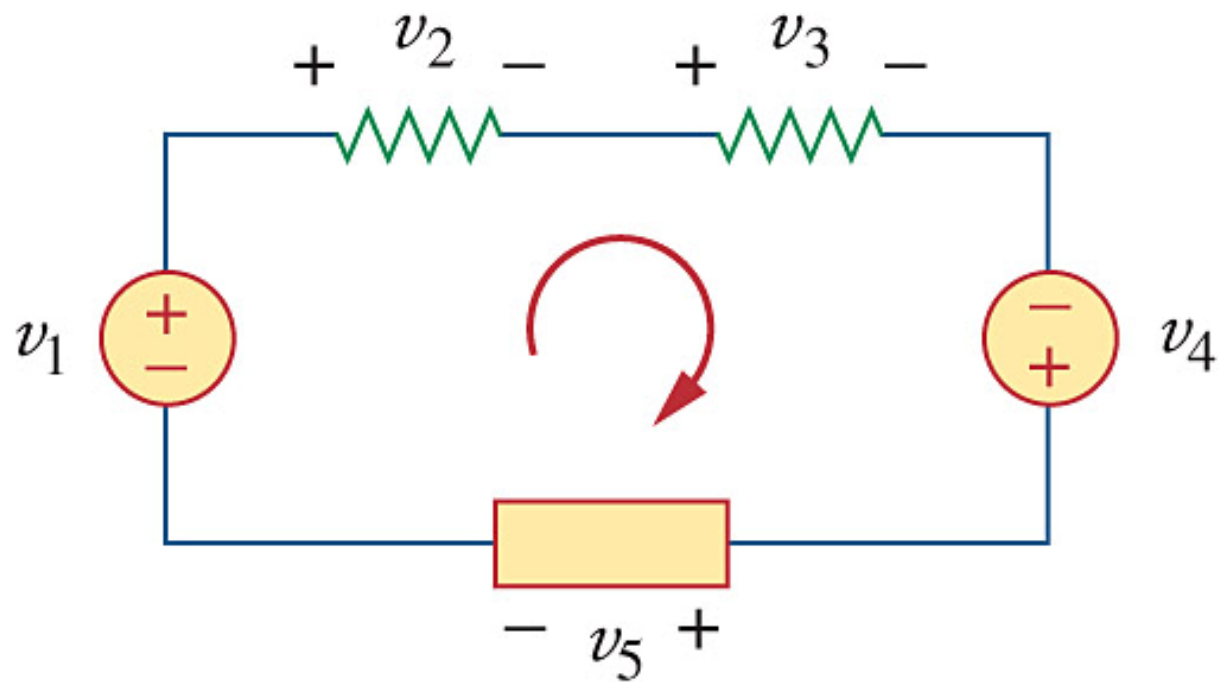
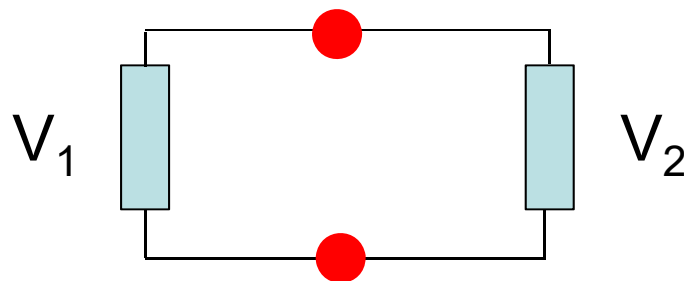


Figure 2.19 A single-loop circuit illustrating KVL.

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

- 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.



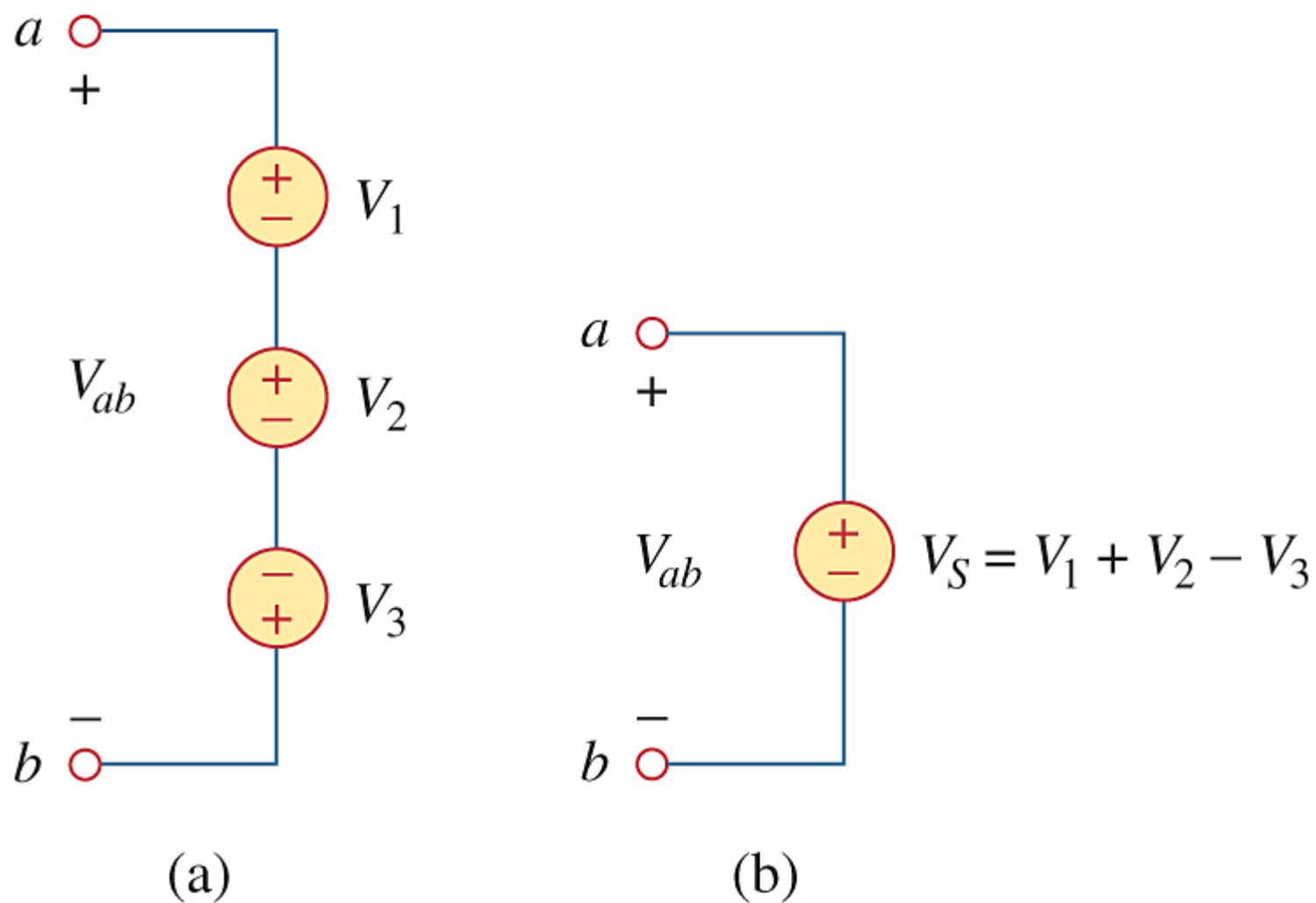


Figure 2.20 Voltage sources in series: (a) original circuit, (b) equivalent circuit.

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

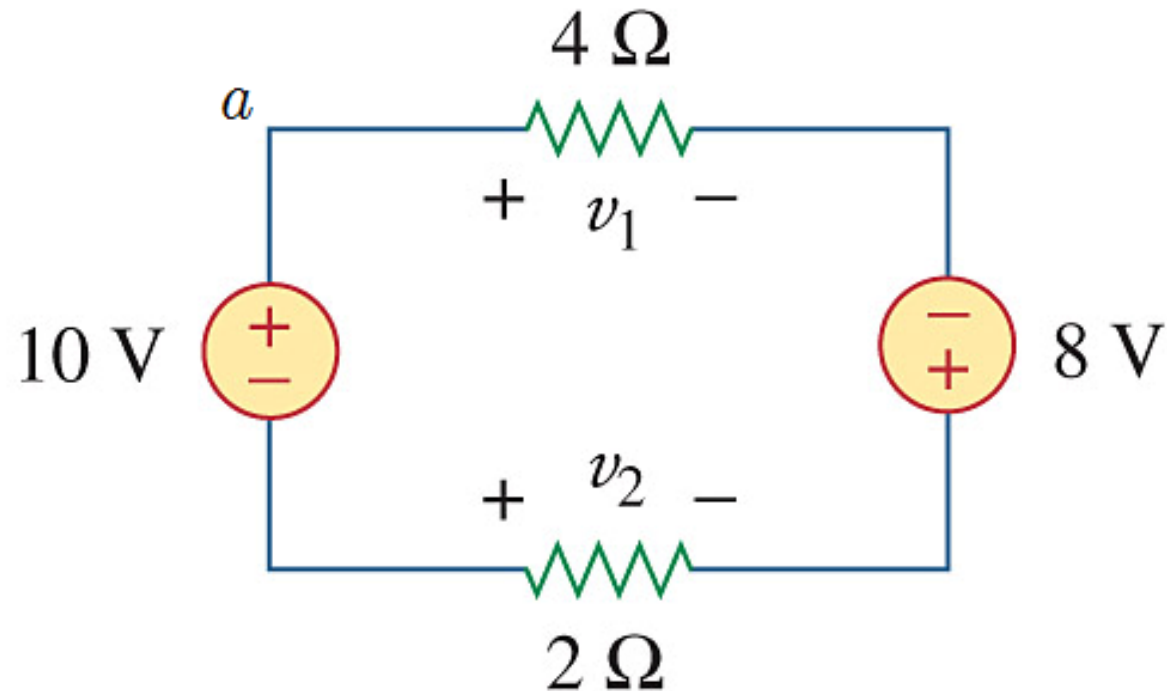


Figure 2.22

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

$$v_1 - 8 - v_2 - 10 = 0$$

From Ohm's law,

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

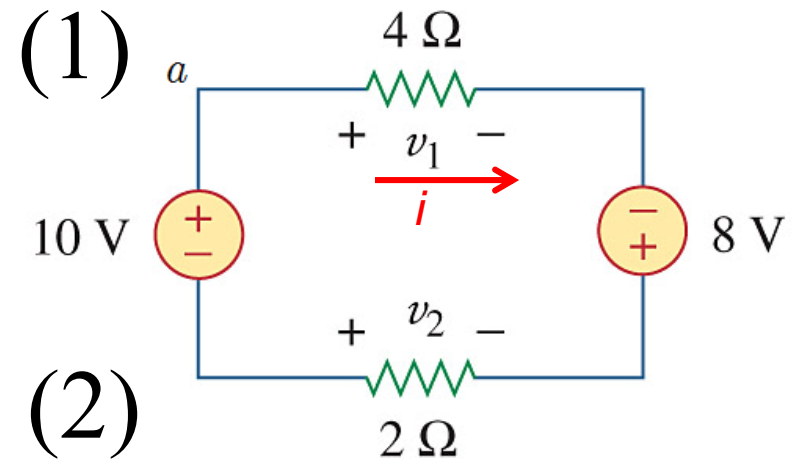


Figure 2.22

Solve the simultaneous equations, we have

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

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

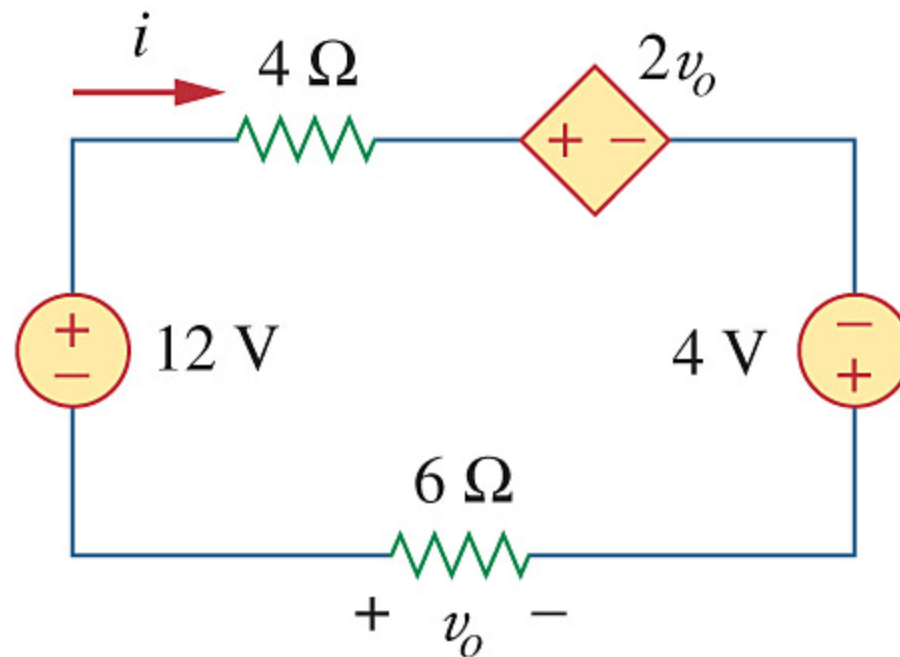


Figure 2.23 (a)

Answer : 48 V, -8 A.

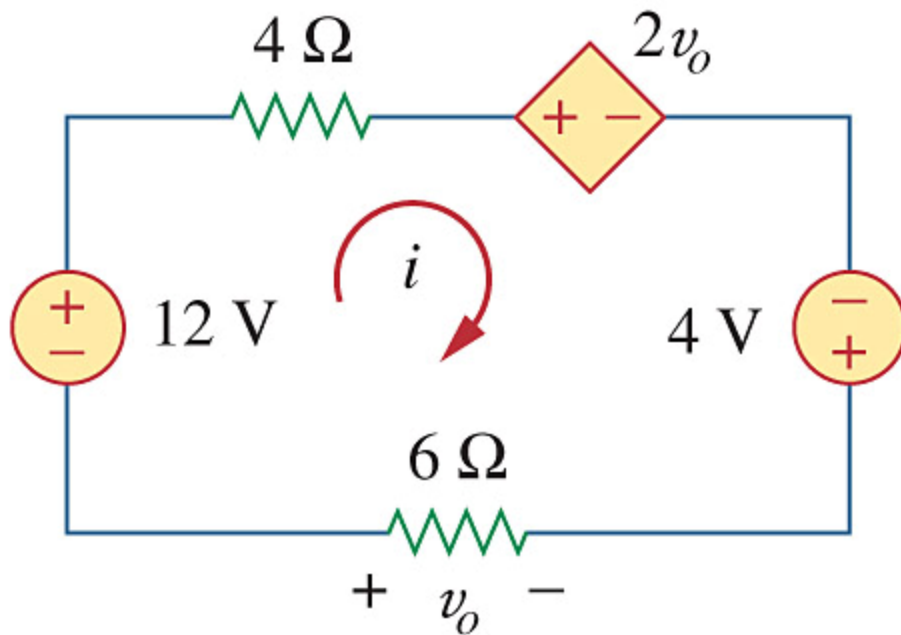


Figure 2.23 (b)

Series connection \rightarrow KVL

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

$$v_o = 6(-i)$$

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

$$-2i = 16$$

$$i = -8\text{A}$$

$$v_o = 48\text{V}$$

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

Answer : 8V, 4A.

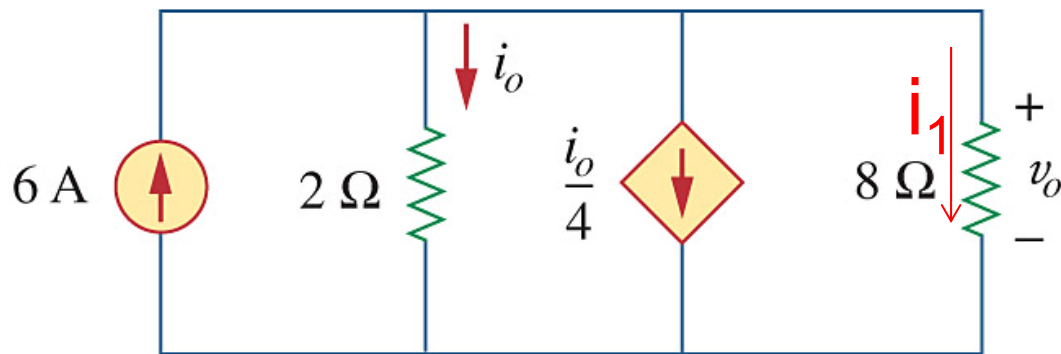


Figure 2.26

Parallel connection → KCL

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

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

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

$$3i_o / 2 = 6$$

$$i_o = 4A$$

$$v_o = 8V$$

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

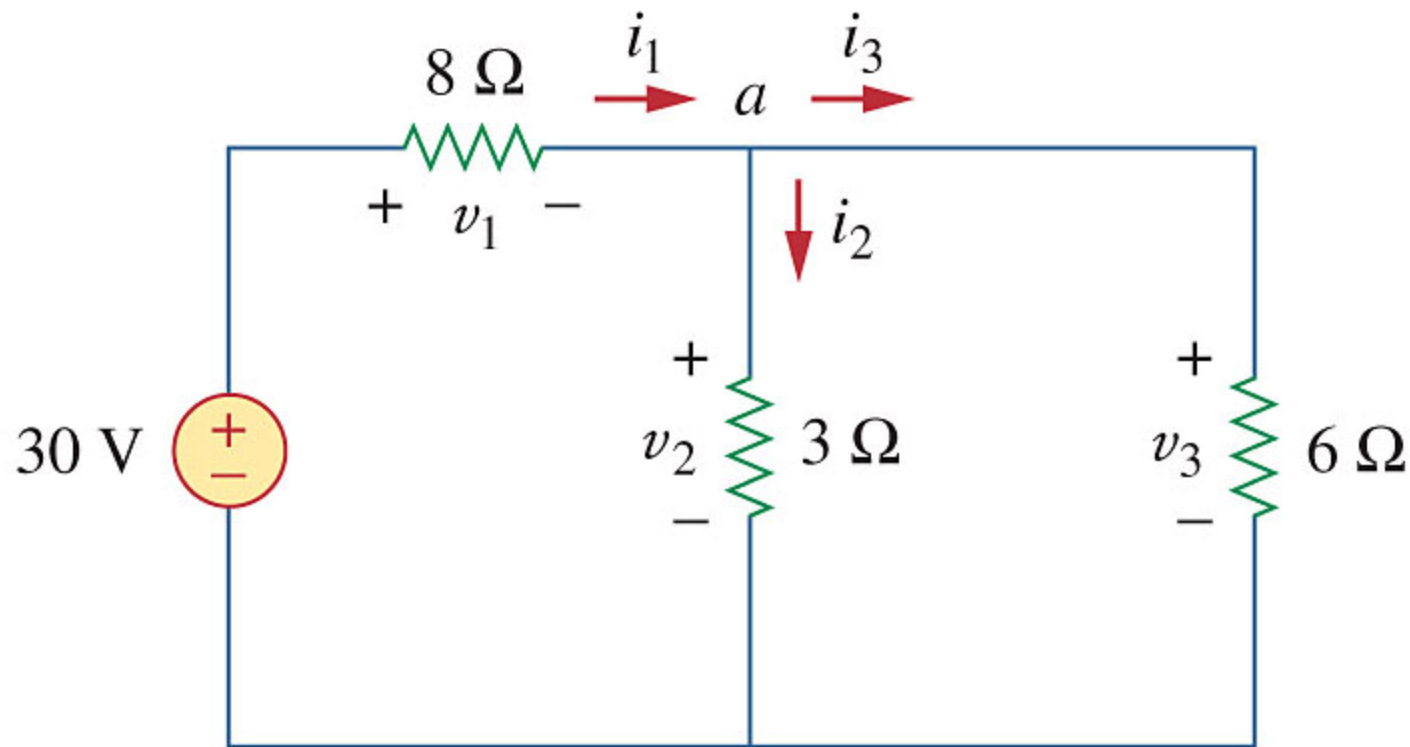


Figure 2.27(a)

Answer : $i_1 = 3 \text{ A}$, $i_2 = 2 \text{ A}$, $i_3 = 1 \text{ A}$,

$v_1 = 24 \text{ V}$, $v_2 = v_3 = 6 \text{ V}$.

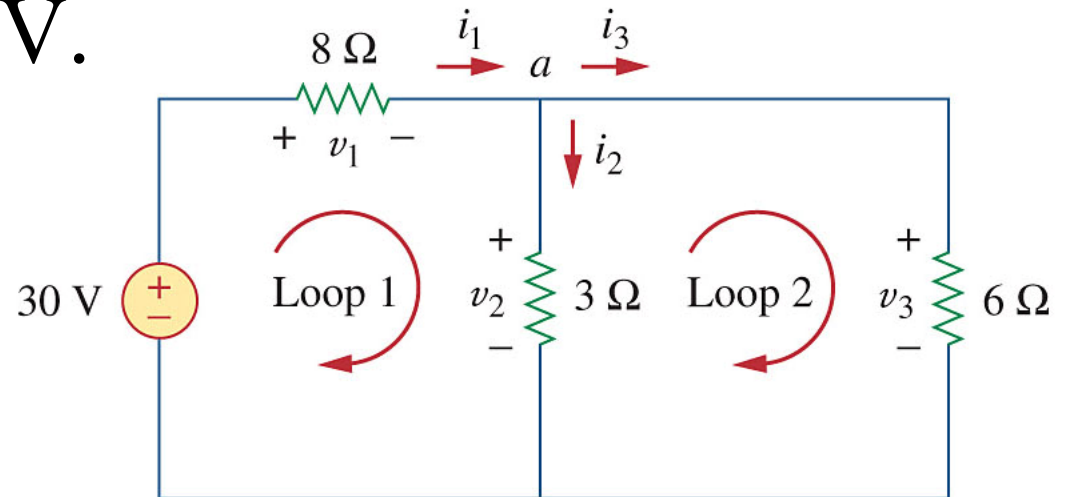


Figure 2.27 (b)

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

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

KCL at node a: $i_1 = i_2 + i_3$

Ohm's law: $v_1/8 = v_2/3 + v_3/6 \dots (3)$

$v_1 + v_2 = 30$; $v_1/8 = v_2/2$ 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.

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

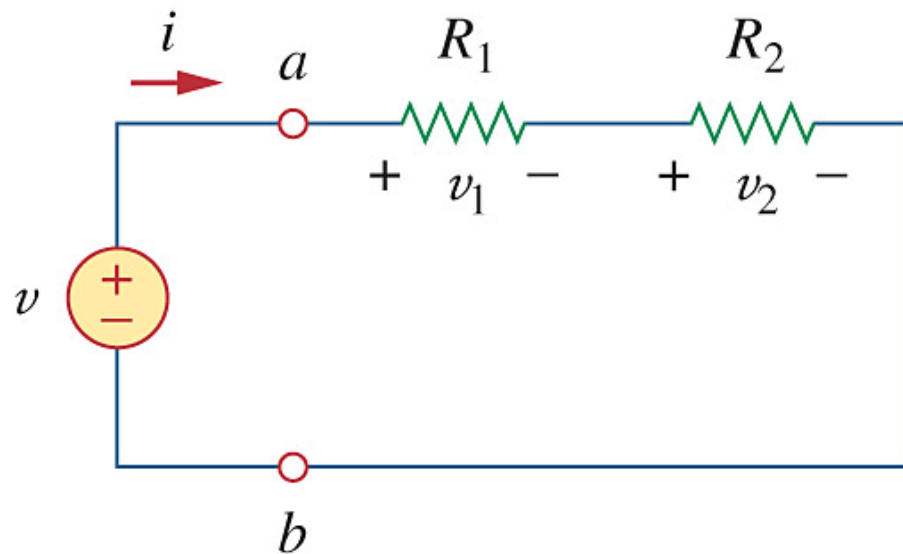


Figure 2.29 A single-loop circuit with two resistors in series.

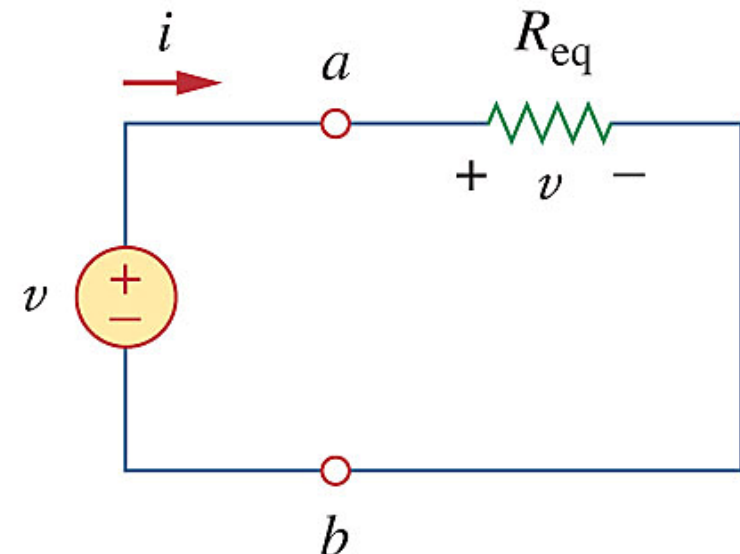


Figure 2.30 Equivalent circuit of the Fig. 2.29 circuit.

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

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

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

The voltage across each resistor is

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

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.,

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

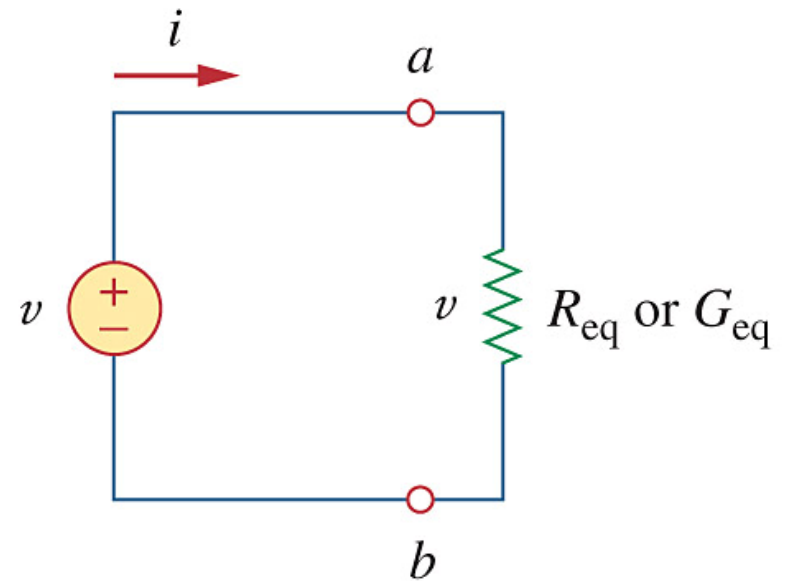
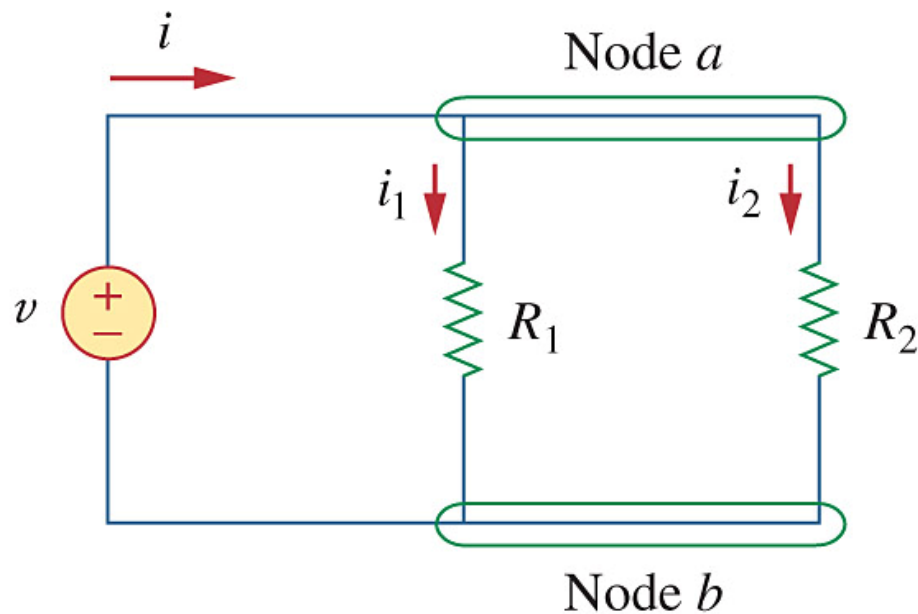


Figure 2.31 Two resistors in parallel

Figure 2.32 Equivalent circuit to Fig. 2.31

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

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

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

The current through each resistor is

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

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

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 Ω .

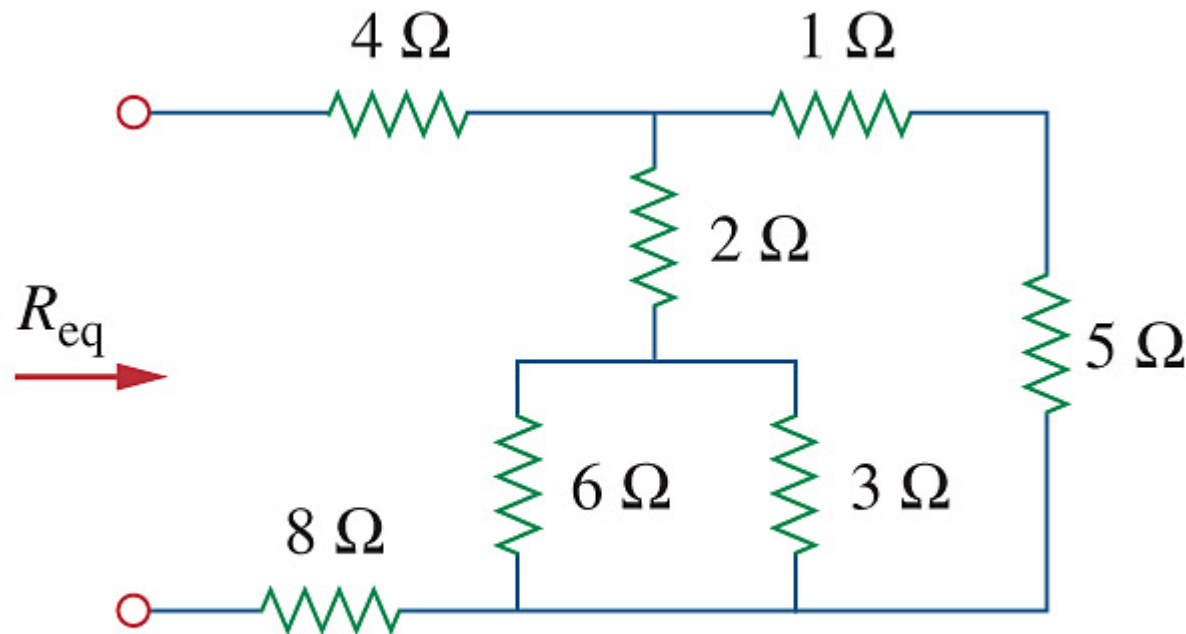


Figure 2.34

$$6||3=2$$

$$2+2=4$$

$$5+1=6$$

$$4||6=2.4$$

$$8+2.4+4=14.4$$

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

Answer : 11.2Ω .

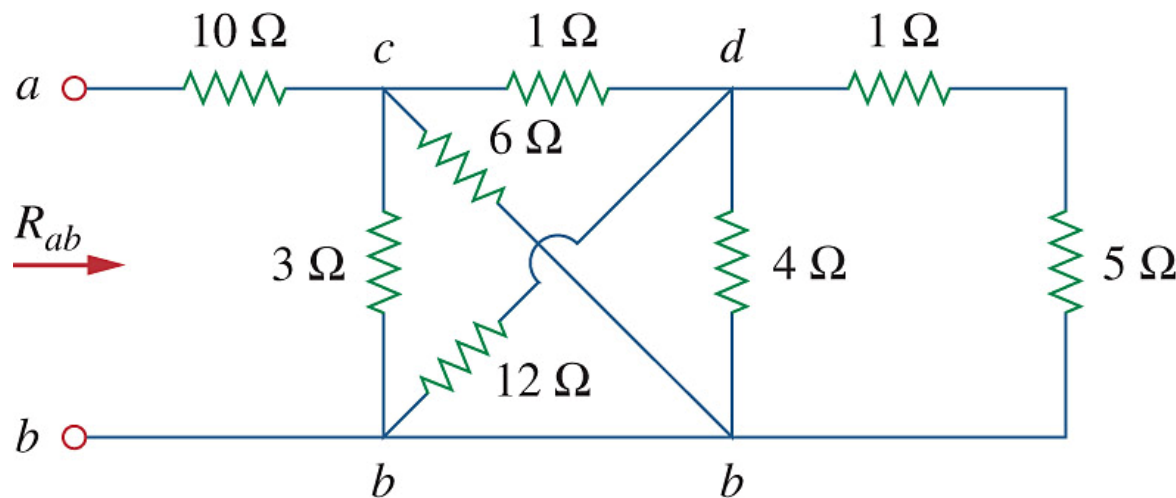


Figure 2.37

$$\begin{aligned}
 6 || 3 &= 2 \\
 12 || 4 &= 3 \\
 (1+5) || 3 &= 2 \\
 (1+2) || 2 &= 1.2 \\
 10 + 1.2 &= 11.2
 \end{aligned}$$

2.7 Wye-Delta Transformations

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

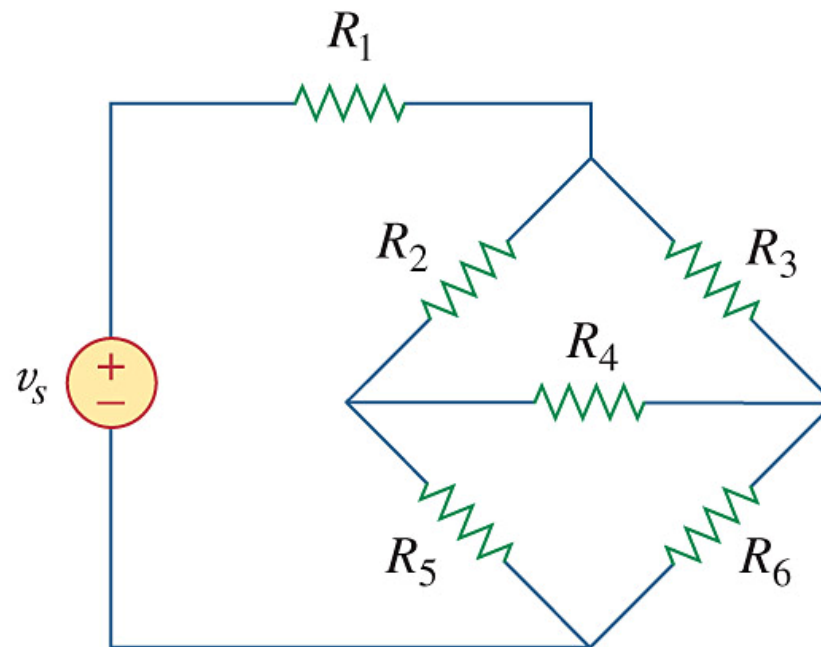


Figure 2.46 The bridge network.

- 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.

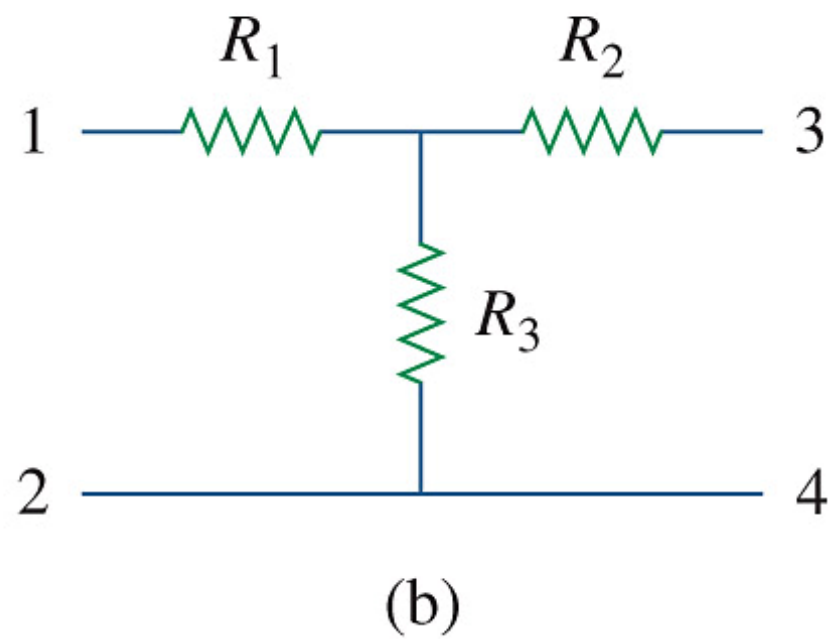
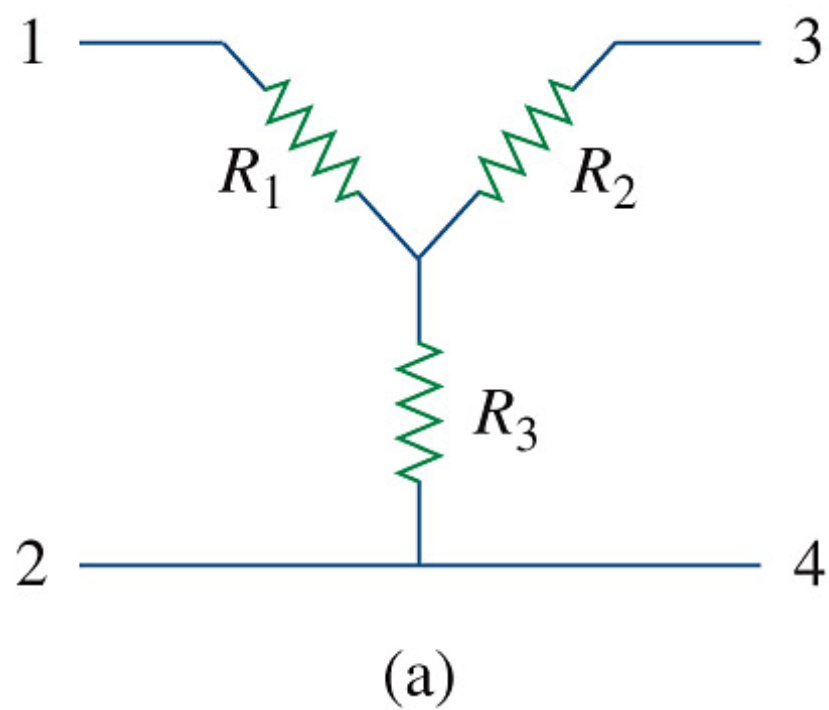


Figure 2.47 Two forms of the same network: (a) Y, (b) T.

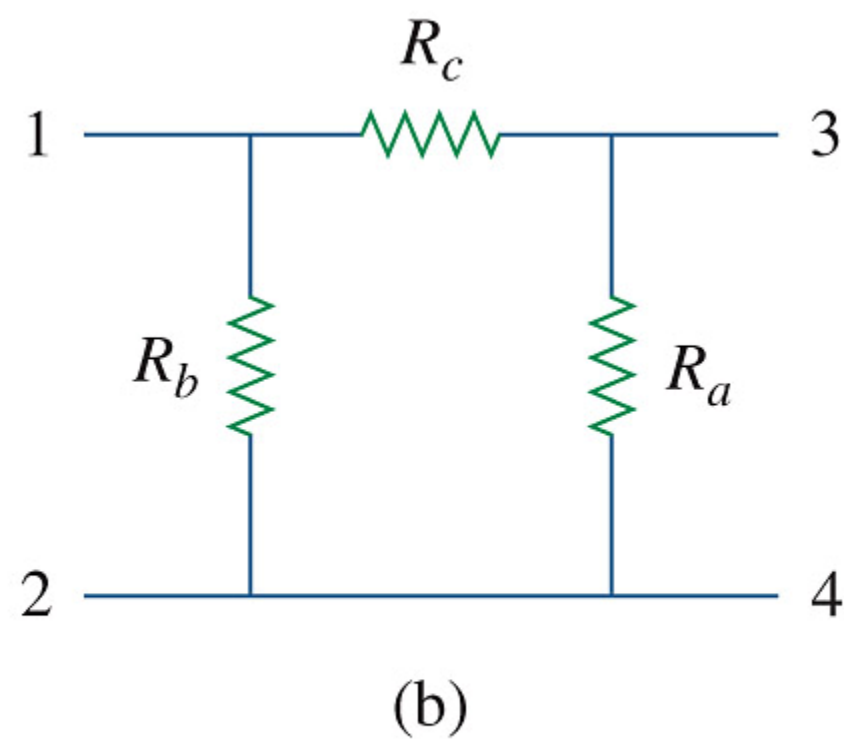
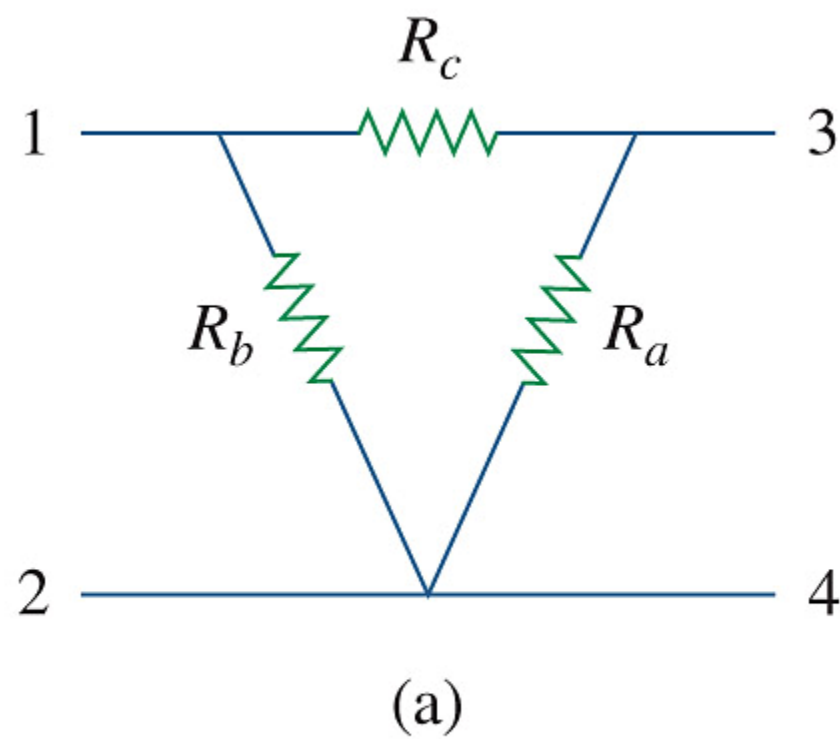


Figure 2.48 Two forms of the same network: (a) Δ , (b) Π .

- 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

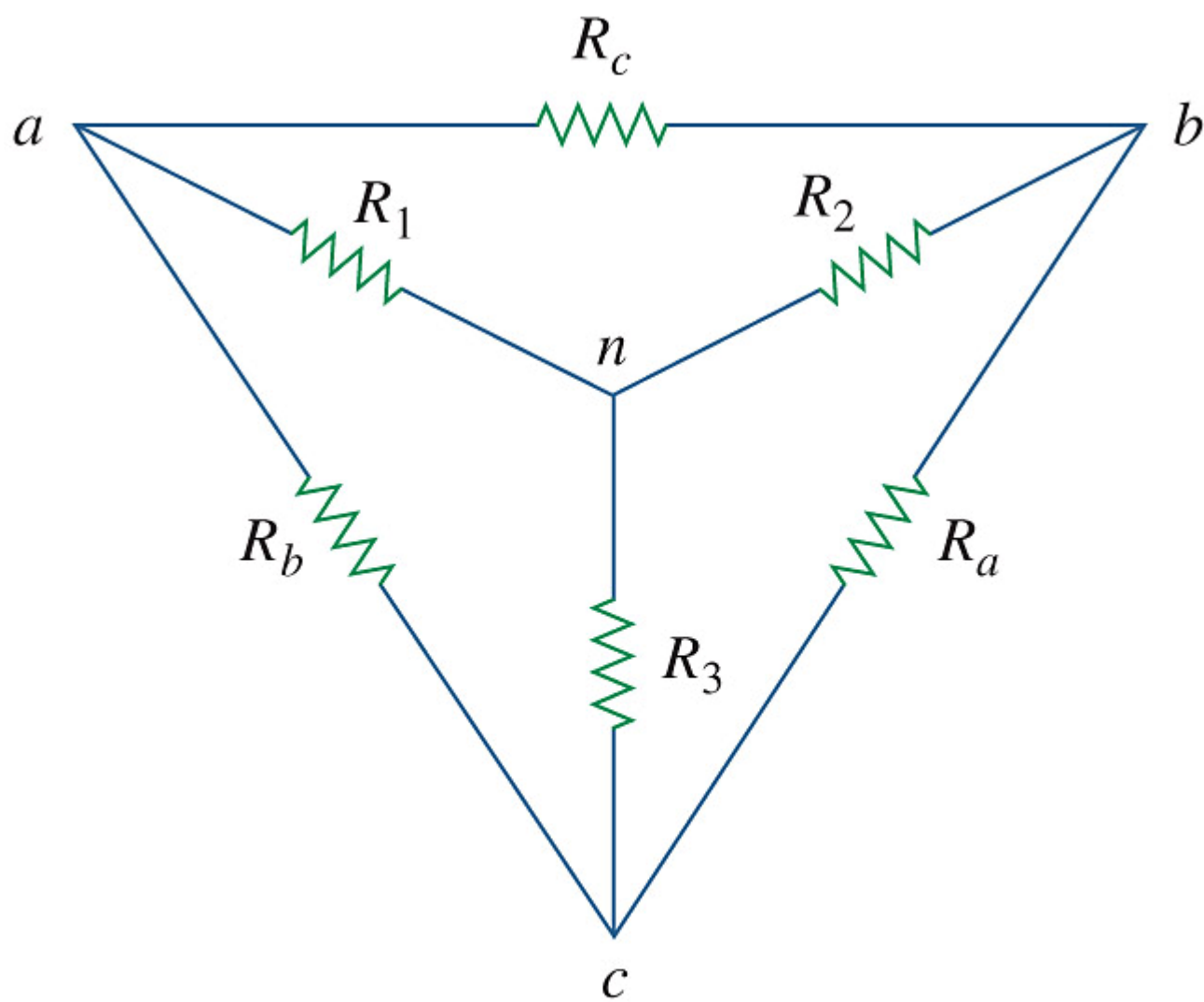


Figure 2.49 Superposition of wye and delta networks as an aid in transforming one to the other.

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

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

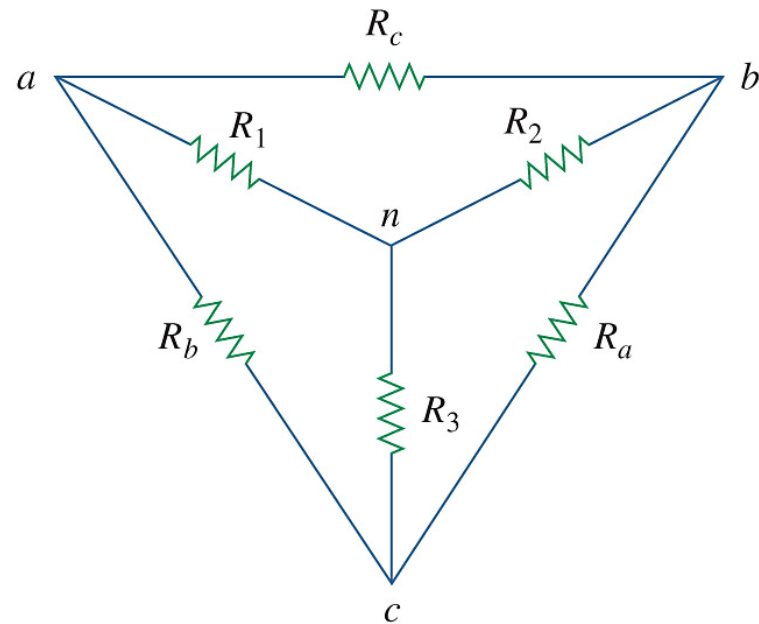


Figure 2.49 Superposition of wye and delta networks as an aid in transforming one to the other.

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

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

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

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

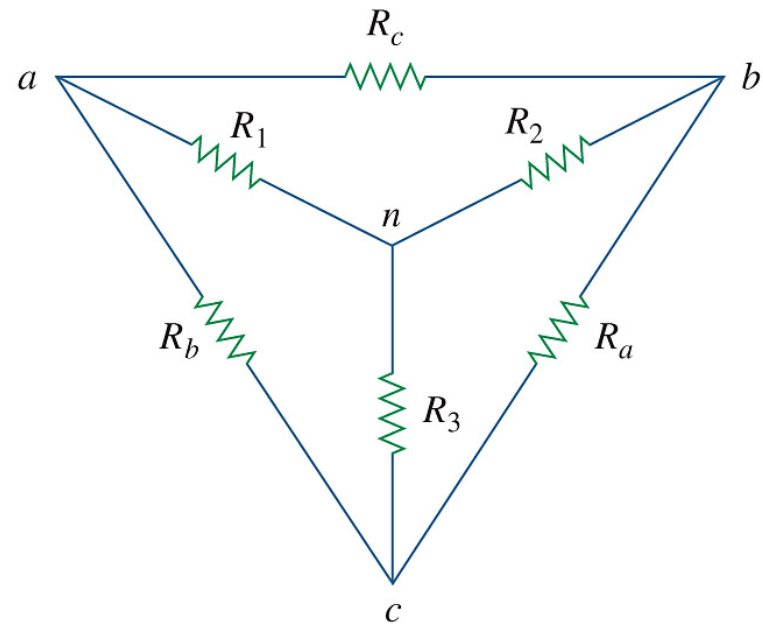


Figure 2.49 Superposition of wye and delta networks as an aid in transforming one to the other.

Example 2.14 Convert the Δ network in Fig. 2.50(a) to an equivalent Y network.

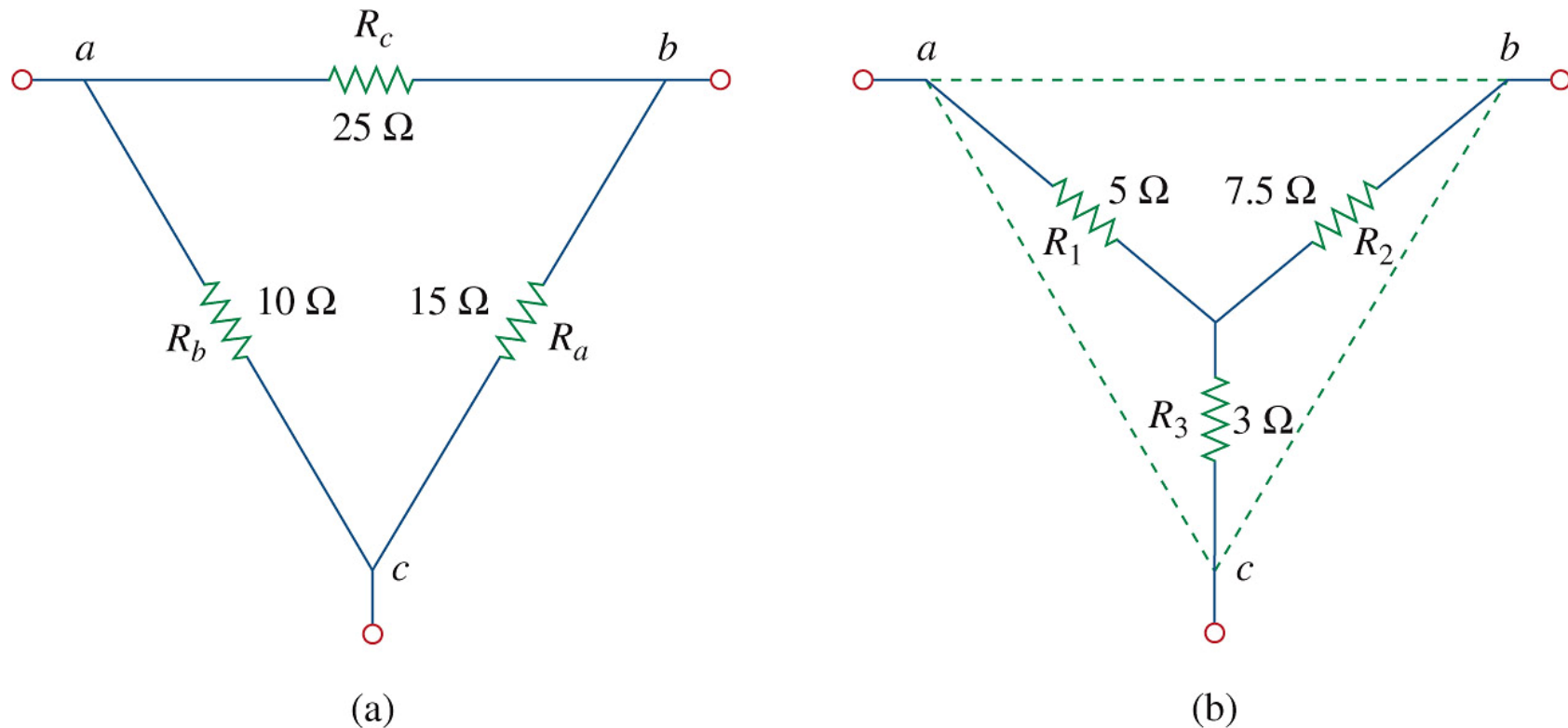


Figure 2.50

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

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

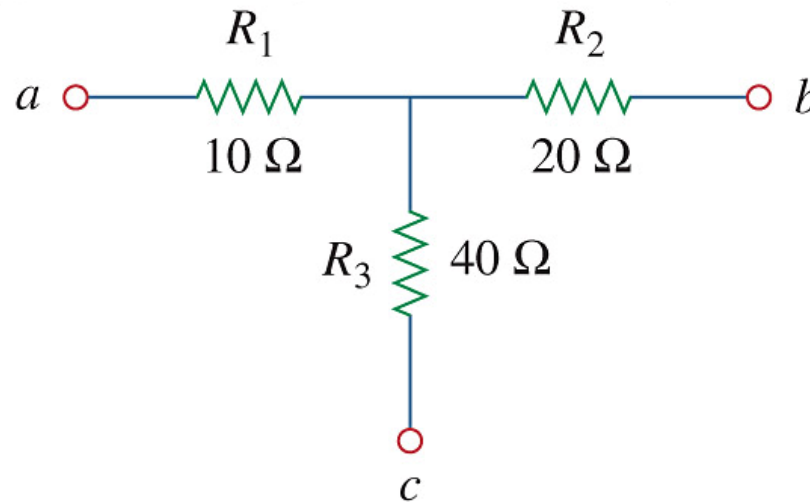


Figure 2.51

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

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

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

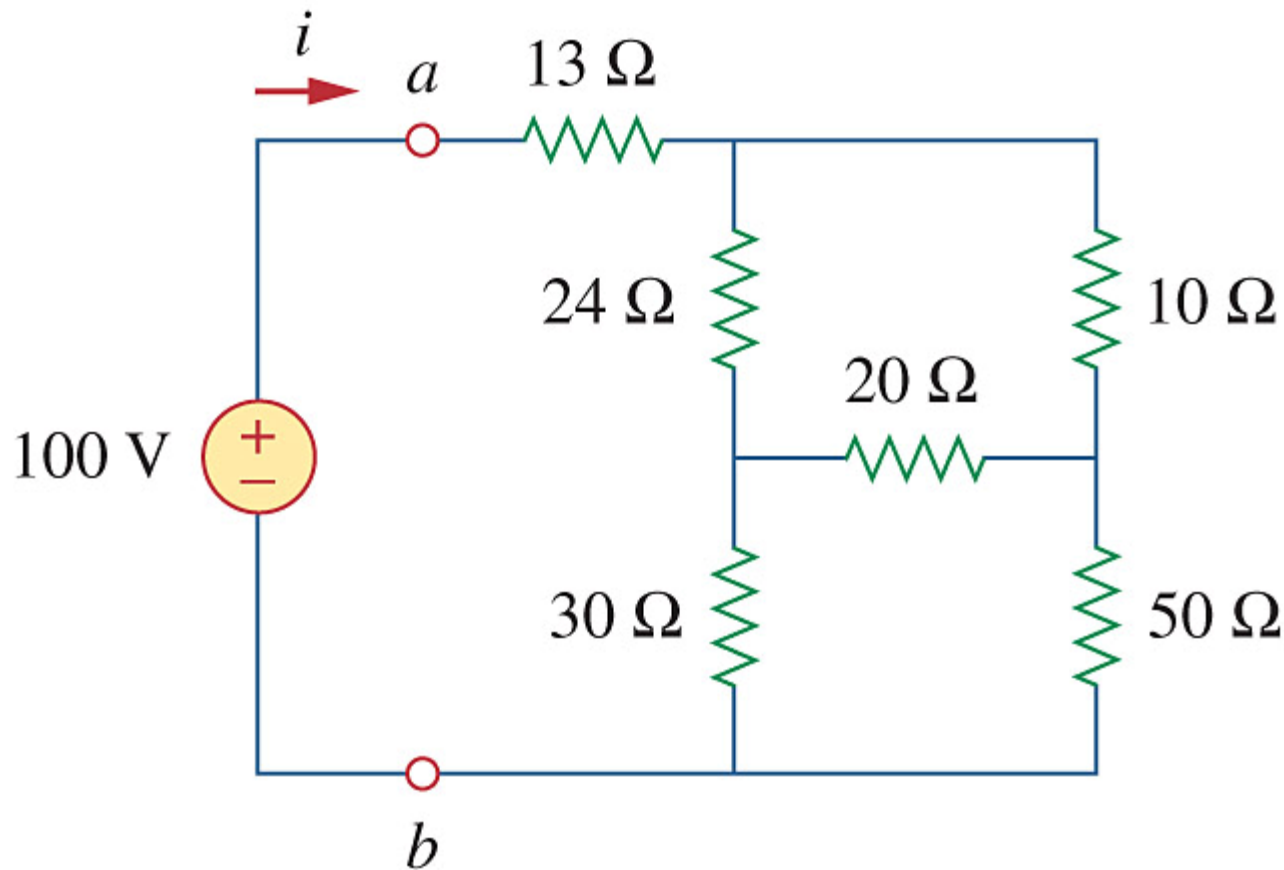


Figure 2.54

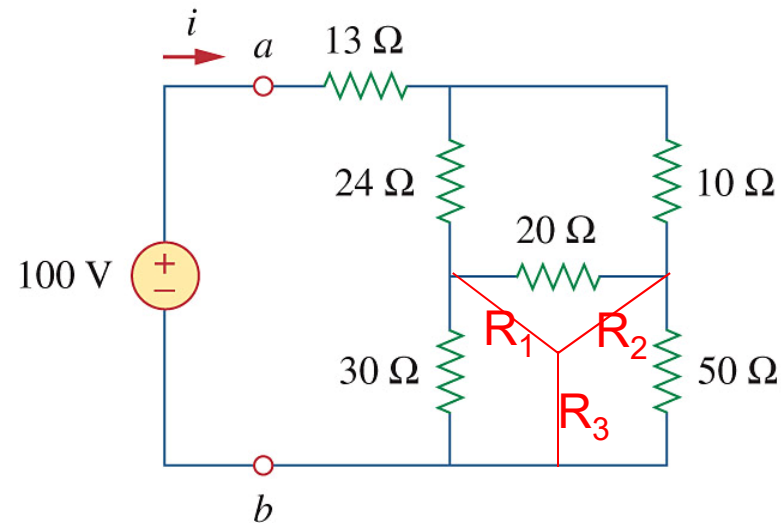


Figure 2.54

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

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

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

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

$$i = V/R_{eq} = 100/40 = 2.5A$$