

# CIRCUIT THEOREMS

EEE301

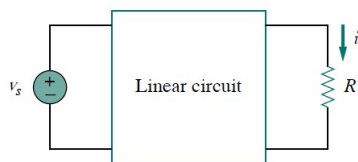
## INTRODUCTION

- The previous approaches to circuit analysis do not modify the circuit prior to analysis and present a disadvantage; for a large, complex circuit, tedious computation is involved i.e. no of nodes or meshes are proportional to the equations generated.
- To handle the complexity, engineers over the years have developed some theorems to simplify circuit analysis
- These theorems include; Thevenin's and Norton's theorems, Source transformation, Superposition, Maximum Power Transfer, Millmans theorem etc.

## LINEARITY PROPERTY

- Linearity is the property of an element describing a linear relationship between cause and effect.
- The property is a combination of both the homogeneity (scaling) property and the additivity property.
- Homogeneity property** requires that if the input (also called the *excitation*) is multiplied by a constant, then the output (also called the *response*) is multiplied by the same constant.
- Using Ohms law,
 
$$v = iR \quad (1)$$
- If the current is increased by a constant  $k$ , then voltage increases correspondingly by  $k$ , that is,
 
$$kiR = kv \quad (2)$$
- Additivity property** requires that the response to a sum of inputs is the sum of the responses to each input applied separately. Using the voltage-current relationship of a resistor,
 
$$\begin{aligned} v_1 &= i_1 R \\ v_2 &= i_2 R \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$
- Applying  $i_1 + i_2$  we get
 
$$v = (i_1 + i_2)R = i_1 R + i_2 R = v_1 + v_2 \quad (4)$$
- A resistor is a linear element because the voltage-current relationship satisfies both the **homogeneity** and the **additivity** properties
- A linear circuit is one whose output is linearly related (or directly proportional) to its input.**

## Linearity illustrated

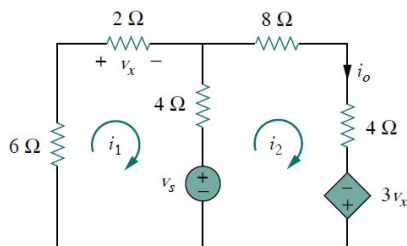


A linear circuit with input  $v_s$  and output  $i$ .

- The linear circuit has no independent sources inside it.
- It is excited by a voltage source  $v_s$ , which serves as the input.
- The circuit is terminated by a load  $R$ . We may take the current  $i$  through  $R$  as the output.
- Suppose  $v_s = 10\text{ V}$  gives  $i = 2\text{ A}$ . According to the linearity principle,  $v_s = 1\text{ V}$  will give  $i = 0.2\text{ A}$ . By the same token,  $i = 1\text{ mA}$  must be due to  $v_s = 5\text{ mV}$ .

## Example

- Find  $i_o$  when  $v_s = 12\text{ V}$  and  $v_s = 24\text{ V}$ .



- Apply KVL to both loops

$$12i_1 - 4i_2 + v_s = 0 \quad (1)$$

$$-4i_1 + 16i_2 - 3v_x - v_s = 0 \quad (2)$$

- Observe,  $v_x = 2i_1$

- In (2)

$$-10i_1 + 16i_2 - v_s = 0 \quad (3)$$

- Add Eq (1) & (3)

$$2i_1 + 12i_2 = 0 \implies i_1 = -6i_2$$

- Substitute in (1)

$$-76i_2 + v_s = 0 \implies i_2 = \frac{v_s}{76}$$

When  $v_s = 12\text{ V}$ ,

$$i_o = i_2 = \frac{12}{76}\text{ A}$$

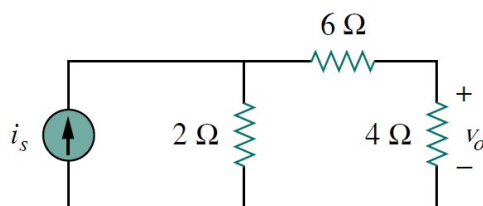
When  $v_s = 24\text{ V}$ ,

$$i_o = i_2 = \frac{24}{76}\text{ A}$$

when  $V_s$  is doubled,  $i_o$  doubles.

## Practice Problem

- Find  $v_o$  when  $i_s = 15\text{ A}$  and  $i_s = 30\text{ A}$ .



## SUPERPOSITION THEOREM

- If a circuit has two or more independent sources, one way to determine the value of a specific variable (voltage or current) is to use nodal or mesh analysis.
- A theory proposes we determine the contribution of each **independent source** to the **variable** and then add them up.
- Being a linear circuit, it is **homogenous** and **additive**.
- The approach is known as the *superposition*.
- The superposition principle states that the **voltage** across (or **current through**) an element **in a linear circuit** is the **algebraic sum** of the voltages across (or currents through) that element due to **EACH independent source** acting alone.
- *The principle of superposition helps us to analyze a linear circuit with more than one independent source by calculating the contribution of each independent source separately.*

## HOW TO APPLY SUPERPOSITION

1. We consider one independent source at a time while all other independent sources are *turned off (killed, made inactive, deadened, or set equal to zero)*. This implies that we replace every **voltage source** by **0 V** (or a **short circuit**), and every **current source** by **0 A** (or an **open circuit**). This way we obtain a simpler and more manageable circuit.
2. Dependent sources are left intact **because they are controlled by circuit variables**.

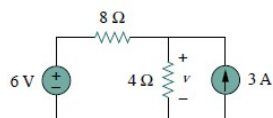
## Steps to apply Superposition

### Principle:

1. **Systematically** turn off all independent sources except one source. Find the output (voltage or current) due to that active source using nodal or mesh analysis.
  2. **Repeat** step 1 for each of the other independent sources.
  3. Find the total contribution by **adding algebraically** all the contributions due to the independent sources.
- Note: when current  $i_1$  flows through resistor  $R$ , the power is  $p_1 = Ri_1^2$ , and when current  $i_2$  flows through  $R$ , the power is  $p_2 = Ri_2^2$
  - If current  $i_1 + i_2$  flows through  $R$ , the power absorbed is  $p_3 = R(i_1 + i_2)^2 = Ri_1^2 + Ri_2^2 + 2Ri_1i_2 = p_1 + p_2$ .
  - Thus, the power relation is nonlinear.
  - If the power value is needed, the current through (or voltage across) the element must be calculated first using superposition.

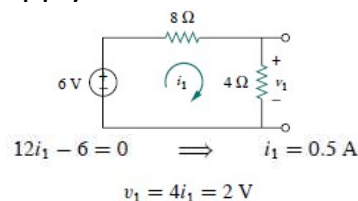
## Example

- Use the superposition theorem to find  $v$  in the circuit
- To obtain  $v_1$ , we set the current source to zero, apply KVL



- We determine the contributions due to the 6-V voltage source and the 3-A current source, respectively.

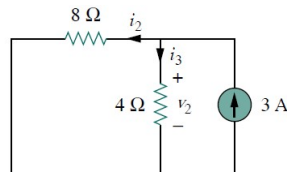
$$v = v_1 + v_2$$



- Can use voltage division to get  $v_1$

$$v_1 = \frac{4}{4+8}(6) = 2 \text{ V}$$

- To get  $v_2$ , we set the voltage source to zero, apply current division.

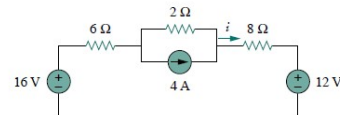


$$i_3 = \frac{8}{4+8}(3) = 2 \text{ A}$$

$$v_2 = 4i_3 = 8 \text{ V}$$

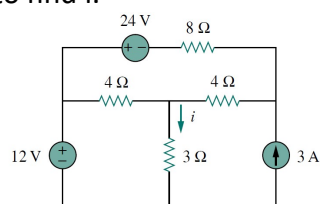
- Algebraic sum,  
 $v = v_1 + v_2 = 2 + 8 = 10 \text{ V}$

- Find  $i$



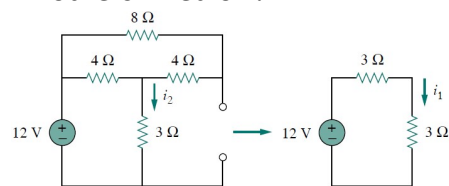
## Example

- Use superposition theorem to find  $i$ .



- Three sources, therefore  
 $i = i_1 + i_2 + i_3$
- Where  $i_1$ ,  $i_2$ , and  $i_3$  are due to the 12-V, 24-V, and 3-A sources respectively

- Consider the 12V source, others killed off!



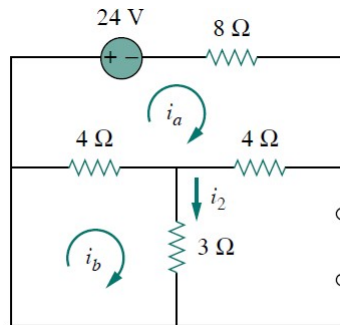
- The  $12\Omega$  parallel with  $4\Omega$  gives  $12 \times 4/16 = 3\Omega$ .

$$i_1 = \frac{12}{6} = 2 \text{ A}$$

- To get  $i_2$ , consider the circuit

## Example

- Mesh analysis is suitable



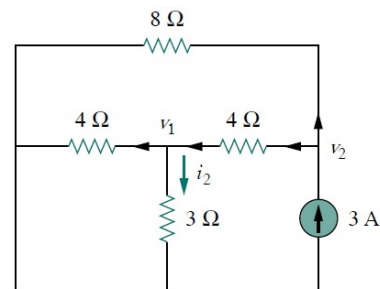
$$16i_a - 4i_b + 24 = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad 4i_a - i_b = -6 \quad (1)$$

$$7i_b - 4i_a = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad i_a = \frac{7}{4}i_b \quad (2)$$

- Substituting Eq. (2) into Eq. (1) gives

$$i_2 = i_b = -1$$

- To get  $i_3$ , consider the circuit



- Using nodal analysis,

## Example

$$3 = \frac{v_2}{8} + \frac{v_2 - v_1}{4} \quad \Rightarrow \quad 24 = 3v_2 - 2v_1 \quad (3)$$

$$\frac{v_2 - v_1}{4} = \frac{v_1}{4} + \frac{v_1}{3} \quad \Rightarrow \quad v_2 = \frac{10}{3}v_1 \quad (4)$$

- Substituting Eq. (4) into Eq. (3) leads to  $v_1 = 3$  and

$$i_3 = \frac{v_1}{3} = 1 \text{ A}$$

- Thus,

$$i = i_1 + i_2 + i_3 = 2 - 1 + 1 = 2 \text{ A}$$

## SOURCE TRANSFORMATION

- **Source transformation** is another tool for simplifying circuits. Basic to these tools is the concept of *equivalence*.
- An equivalent circuit is one whose *v-i characteristics* are identical with the original circuit.
- It is possible in circuit analysis to substitute a voltage source in series with a resistor for a current source in parallel with a resistor, or vice versa, as shown below.

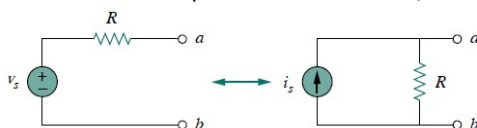


Fig 1. Transformation of independent sources.

- A source transformation is the process of replacing a voltage source  $v_s$  in series with a resistor  $R$  by a current source  $i_s$  in parallel with a resistor  $R$ , or vice versa.
- Source transformation is the process of replacing a voltage source  $v_s$  in series with a resistor  $R$  by a current source  $i_s$  in parallel with a resistor  $R$ , or vice versa.

## SOURCE EQUIVALENCE

- If the sources in Fig 1 are turned off, the equivalent resistance at terminals *a-b* in both circuits is  $R$ . Also, when terminals *a-b* are short-circuited,
- The short-circuit current flowing from *a* to *b* is

$$i_{sc} = v_s/R$$

- In the circuit on the left-hand side and  $i_{sc} = i_s$  for the circuit on the right-hand side.
- Thus,  $v_s/R = i_s$  in order for the two circuits to be equivalent. Hence, source transformation requires that

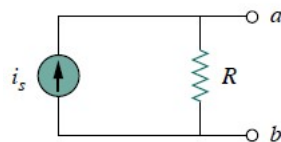
$$v_s = i_s R \quad \text{or} \quad i_s = \frac{v_s}{R}$$

- Source transformation also applies to dependent sources, provided the dependent variable is cautiously treated.



## Observations

1. Note that the arrow of the current source is directed toward the positive terminal of the voltage source.



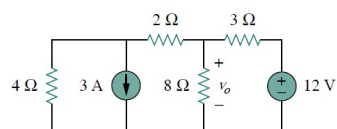
2. Note also that source transformation is not possible when  $R = 0$ , which is the case with an ideal voltage source.

$$i_s = \frac{v_s}{R}$$

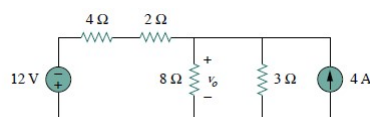
- However, for a practical, non-ideal voltage source,  $R \neq 0$ .
- Similarly, an ideal current source with  $R = \infty$  cannot be replaced by a finite voltage source.

## Example

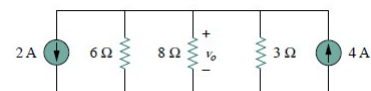
- Use source transformation to find  $v_o$  in the circuit below



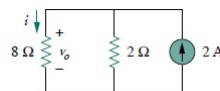
- Transform current and Voltage sources to obtain:



- Combine  $4\Omega$  and  $2\Omega$  resistors and transform to 12V source to current source.



- Combine the sources algebraically;  $-2A + 4A$ , the equivalent parallel resistor  $2\Omega$ . (Read about Millman's Theorem!)



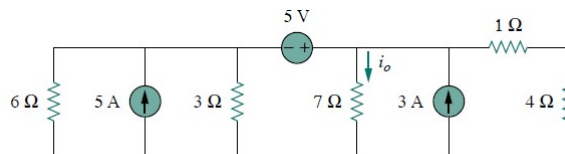
- We use current division

$$i = \frac{2}{2 + 8}(2) = 0.4A$$

$$v_o = 8i = 8(0.4) = 3.2V$$

$$v_o = (8 \parallel 2)(2A) = \frac{8 \times 2}{10}(2) = 3.2V$$

- Find  $i_o$  in the circuit below using source transformation.



## THEVENIN'S THEOREM

- A household power outlet may be connected to different appliances constituting a variable load.
- Each time the variable element is changed, the entire circuit has to be analyzed all over again.
- To avoid this problem, Thevenin's theorem provides a technique by which the fixed part of the circuit is replaced by an equivalent circuit.

- According to Thevenin's theorem, the linear circuit in Fig 1.

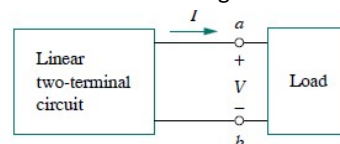


Fig 1. Original circuit

- Can be replaced by Fig 2.

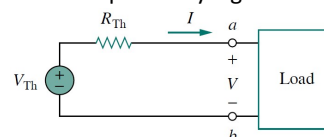
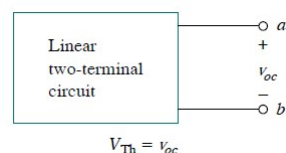
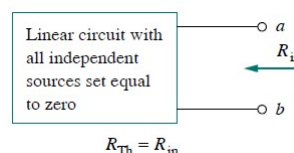


Fig 2 Thevenin equivalent circuit

## Thevenins Theorem

- Thevenin's theorem states that a **linear two-terminal circuit** can be **replaced by an equivalent circuit** consisting of a **voltage source  $V_{Th}$  in series** with a **resistor  $R_{Th}$** , **where  $V_{Th}$  is the open-circuit voltage at the terminals** and  **$R_{Th}$  is the input or equivalent resistance at the terminals when the independent sources are turned off**.
- Remember, 2 circuits are equivalent if they have the same V-I characteristics at their terminals. If circuits in Figs 1 & 2 have terminals open circuited, no currents flows therefore the open circuit voltage across terminals a-b must be equal to the voltage source  $V_{Th}$

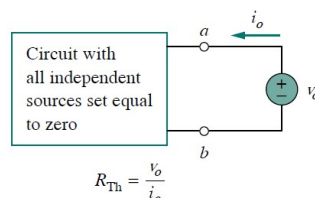
$$V_{Th} = v_{oc}$$

Fig 3 Finding  $V_{Th}$ Fig 4 Finding  $R_{Th}$ 

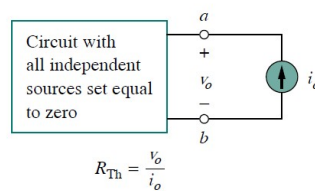
- Again with the **load disconnected** and terminals *a-b open-circuited*, **we turn off all independent sources**. The input resistance (or equivalent resistance) of the dead circuit at the terminals *a-b* in Fig.  $R_{Th} = R_{in}$  to  $R_{Th}$

## Finding $R_{Th}$

- CASE I: If the network has no dependent sources, we turn off all independent sources.  $R_{Th}$  is the input resistance of the network looking between terminals  $a$ - $b$ , as shown in Fig. 4.
- CASE II: If the network has dependent sources, we turn off all independent sources. As with **superposition**, dependent sources are not to be turned off because they are controlled by circuit variables. Two approaches illustrated by Fig 5 a & b.
- In either approach we may assume any value of  $v_o$  and  $i_o$ . For example, we may use  $v_o = 1$  V or  $i_o = 1$  A.
- It often occurs that  $R_{Th}$  takes a negative value. In this case, the negative resistance ( $v = -iR$ ) implies that the circuit is supplying power



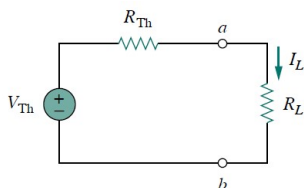
(a)



(b)

## $I_L$ , $V_L$

- If equivalent circuit is below,

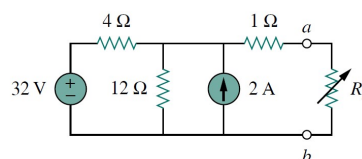


$$I_L = \frac{V_{Th}}{R_{Th} + R_L}$$

$$V_L = R_L I_L = \frac{R_L}{R_{Th} + R_L} V_{Th}$$

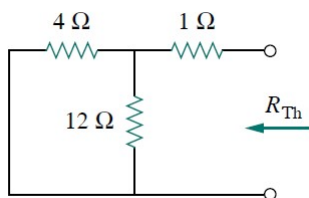
- Thevenin equivalent is a simple voltage divider, yielding  $V_L$  by mere inspection.

- Example: Find the Thevenin equivalent circuit of the circuit shown below, to the left of the terminals  $a$ - $b$ . Then find the current through  $R_L = 6, 16$ , and  $36 \Omega$ .

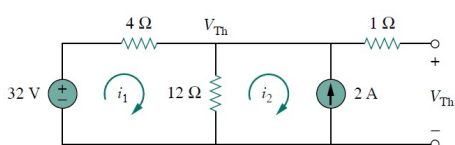


- Solution: We find  $R_{Th}$  by **turning off** the 32-V voltage source (**replacing it with a short circuit**) and the 2-A current source (**replacing it with an open circuit**).

## EXAMPLE



$$R_{Th} = 4 \parallel 12 + 1 = \frac{4 \times 12}{16} + 1 = 4 \Omega$$



- To find  $V_{Th}$ , consider the circuit above. Applying mesh analysis to the two loops, we obtain

$$-32 + 4i_1 + 12(i_1 - i_2) = 0, \quad i_2 = -2 \text{ A}$$

- Solving for  $i_1$ , we get  $i_1 = 0.5 \text{ A}$ . Thus

$$V_{Th} = 12(i_1 - i_2) = 12(0.5 + 2.0) = 30 \text{ V}$$

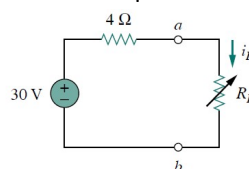
- Easier using nodal analysis at top node.

$$\frac{32 - V_{Th}}{4} + 2 = \frac{V_{Th}}{12}$$

$$96 - 3V_{Th} + 24 = V_{Th}$$

$$V_{Th} = 30 \text{ V}$$

- The Thevenin Equivalent circuit is



## EXAMPLE

$$I_L = \frac{V_{Th}}{R_{Th} + R_L} = \frac{30}{4 + R_L}$$

When  $R_L = 6$ ,

$$I_L = \frac{30}{10} = 3 \text{ A}$$

When  $R_L = 16$ ,

$$I_L = \frac{30}{20} = 1.5 \text{ A}$$

When  $R_L = 36$ ,

$$I_L = \frac{30}{40} = 0.75 \text{ A}$$

Try practice problem 4.8

## NORTON'S THEOREM

- In 1926, about 43 years after Thevenin published his theorem, E. L. Norton, an American engineer at Bell Telephone Laboratories, proposed a similar theorem.
- Norton's theorem states that a linear two-terminal circuit can be replaced by an equivalent circuit consisting of a current source  $I_N$  in parallel with a resistor  $R_N$  where  $I_N$  is the short-circuit current through the terminals and  $R_N$  is the input or equivalent resistance at the terminals when the independent sources are turned off.
- In fact, from what we know about source transformation, the Thevenin and Norton resistances are equal:

$$R_N = R_{Th} \quad (1)$$

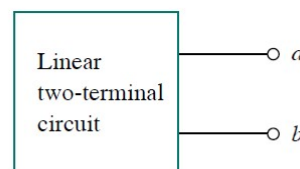
## Norton's Theorem

- To find the Norton current  $I_N$  we determine the short-circuit current flowing from terminal  $a$  to  $b$

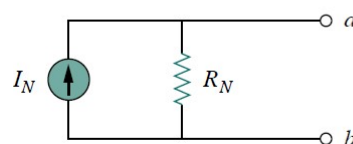
$$I_N = i_{sc} \quad (2)$$

- Observe the close relationship between Norton's and Thevenin's theorems:  $R_N = R_{Th}$

$$I_N = \frac{V_{Th}}{R_{Th}} \quad (3)$$



(a)



(b)

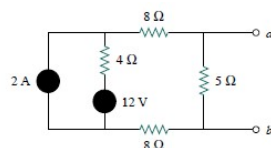
(a) Original circuit, (b) Norton equivalent circuit.

## Norton Thevenin Nexus

- This is essentially source transformation. For this reason, **source transformation** is often called **Thevenin-Norton transformation**.
- Since  $V_{Th}$ ,  $I_N$ , and  $R_{Th}$  are related according to Eq. (3), to determine the Thevenin or Norton equivalent circuit requires that we find:
  - The open-circuit voltage  $v_{oc}$  across terminals  $a$  and  $b$ .
  - The short-circuit current  $i_{sc}$  at terminals  $a$  and  $b$ .
  - The equivalent or input resistance  $R_{in}$  at terminals  $a$  and  $b$  when all independent sources are turned off.

$$\begin{aligned} V_{Th} &= v_{oc} \\ I_N &= i_{sc} \\ R_{Th} &= \frac{v_{oc}}{i_{sc}} = R_N \end{aligned}$$

## EXAMPLES



- We find  $R_N$  in the same way we find  $R_{Th}$  in the Thevenin equivalent circuit.
- Set the independent sources equal to zero. This leads to the circuit, from which we find  $R_N$

$$R_N = 5 \parallel (8 + 4 + 8) = 5 \parallel 20 = \frac{20 \times 5}{25} = 4 \Omega$$

- We ignore the 5- resistor because it has been short-circuited. Applying mesh analysis, we obtain

$$i_1 = 2 \text{ A}, \quad 20i_2 - 4i_1 - 12 = 0$$

- Thus,

$$i_2 = 1 \text{ A} = i_{sc} = I_N$$

- Find the Norton equivalent circuit for the circuit in Fig below.

