Ch2: Analog Circuits and Basic Components

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Introduction

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Electrical Circuits

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An **Electrical Circuit** is a **closed loop** consisting of several conductors connecting electrical components.

 The voltage source adds electrical energy to electrons, which flow from the negative terminal to the positive **terminal**, through the circuit.

Kirchhoff's Laws

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 The positive side of the source attracts electrons, and the negative side releases electrons.



A load consists of a network of circuit elements that may dissipate or store electrical energy.



Electrical Circuits

By convention, **current** (positive charge) in a circuit is considered to flow from a more positive point (higher potential energy) to a more negative point (lower potential energy), **even though** the **actual** electron flow is in the opposite direction.



Note: We will use <u>conventional flow notation</u> on all schematics.



Ground in Electrical Circuits

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Voltage and Current Sources/Meters

Two alternative ways to draw a circuit schematic.

Kirchhoff's Laws

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- The ground indicates a reference point in the circuit where the voltage is assumed to be zero. Even though we do not show a connection between the ground symbols, it is implied that both ground symbols represent a single reference voltage (i.e., there is a "common ground"). This technique can be applied when drawing complicated circuits to reduce the number of lines.
- It is important to provide a **common ground** defining a **common voltage reference** among all instruments and power sources used in a circuit or system.



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Basic Electrical Elements

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Basic Passive Electrical Elements

- There are three basic <u>passive</u> electrical elements: **Resistor** (*R*), **Capacitor** (*C*), and **Inductor** (*L*).
- Passive elements require no additional power supply, unlike active devices such as integrated circuits.
- The passive elements are defined by their voltage-current relationships.



Resistor

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Voltage and Current Sources/Meters

A **Resistor** (R) is a <u>dissipative element</u> that converts electrical energy into **heat**. Ohm's law defines the **voltage-current characteristic** of an ideal resistor:

Kirchhoff's Laws

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V = RI



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Water Flow Analogy







Resistance

Resistance is a **material property** whose value is the slope of the resistor's voltage-current curve

Ideal Resistors:

• V - I relationship is linear (resistance is constant).

Real Resistors:

- V I relationship is typically nonlinear due to temperature effects ($I \uparrow \Rightarrow T \uparrow \Rightarrow R \uparrow$).
- They have a limited power dissipation capability designated in watts.
- The resistor's resistance limits the flow of electrons through a circuit.
- Voltage drops when current flows through a resistor.
- Resistors are used to limit current, divide voltages, and pull-up/down I/O lines.



Resistivity

If a resistor's material is homogeneous and has a constant cross-sectional area, such as the cylindrical wire, its resistance is



$$R = \rho \frac{L}{A}$$

 ρ : **resistivity**, *L*: wire length, *A*: cross-sectional area

Material	Resistivity (10 ⁻⁸ Ωm)		
Aluminum	2.8		
Carbon	4000		
Constantan	44		
Copper	1.7		
Gold	2.4		
Iron	10		
Silver	1.6		
Tungsten	5.5		

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Variable Resistors

Variable Resistors are available that provide a range of resistance values controlled by a mechanical screw, knob, or linear slide. The most common type is called a **potentiometer**, or **pot**.

Potentiometer can be

- used to create an adjustable voltage divider.
- used as a simple analog sensor that you can find them in stereos, speakers, thermostats,







Capacitor

A **Capacitor** (or **cap**) **stores energy** in the form of an <u>electric field</u> which is the result of a **separation of electric charge**.

The simplest capacitor consists of a pair of parallel conducting plates separated by a **dielectric material** which is an insulator that increases the capacitance as a result of permanent or induced electric dipoles in the material.



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Capacitor

Current does <u>not flow</u> through a capacitor; rather, charges are <u>displaced</u> from one side of the capacitor through the conducting circuit to the other side, establishing the electric field.



C is the **Capacitance** measured in farads (F=C/V).

Capacitance is a property of the **dielectric material**, **plate geometry** (A), and **separation** (d). Values for typical capacitors range from 1 pF to 1000 μ F.

Capacitor

It can be inferred that the **voltage across a capacitor cannot change instantaneously** because it is the integral of the displacement current. It takes time to increase or decrease the voltage across an capacitor. Thus, **capacitors can be used for timing purposes** in electrical circuits using a simple RC circuit, which is a resistor and capacitor in series.



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Common Types of Capacitors

Voltage and Current Sources/Meters

Common types of capacitors are (1) aluminum electrolytic capacitors, (2) tantalum electrolytic capacitors, (3) ceramic disk capacitors, and (4) mylar capacitors.

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Electrolytic capacitors are polarized, meaning they have a **positive** end and a **negative** end. The positive lead of a polarized capacitor must be held at a higher voltage than the negative side; otherwise, the device will usually be damaged. Improper polarity can cause the cap to become shorted or it can also result in gas formation internally that can cause the cap to explode.

Inductor

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Voltage and Current Sources/Meters

Inductor store energy in the form of <u>magnetic field</u>. The simplest form of an inductor is a **wire coil**, which has a tendency to maintain a magnetic field once established. The inductor's characteristics are a direct result of **Faraday's Law of Induction**:



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 Φ : total magnetic flux through the coil windings due to the current (unit: weber /'veibər/ (Wb)).

Kirchhoff's Laws

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It can be inferred that the **current through an inductor cannot change instantaneously** because it is the integral of the voltage. It takes time to increase or decrease the current flowing through an inductor. **Thus**, it is difficult to <u>start or stop</u> motors, relays, and solenoids very <u>quickly</u>.



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Kirchhoff's Laws

Kirchhoff's Voltage Law (KVL)

Basic laws governing electrical circuits are **Kirchhoff's Current and Voltage Laws**.

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Kirchhoff's Voltage Law (KVL) or **Loop Law**: The algebraic sum of the voltages around any closed loop in an electrical circuit is zero (or the sum of the voltage **drops** is equal to the sum of the voltage **rises** around a loop).

$$\sum_{i=1}^{N} V_i = 0$$

• Assume a current direction on each loop of the circuit.

Kirchhoff's Laws

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- The voltage drops across each passive element in the direction of the loop current.
- The polarity of voltage across a voltage source and the direction of current through a current source must always be maintained as given. The voltage rises (from - to +) or drops (from + to -) across an element (like voltage source).

$$\Rightarrow \quad V_1 + V_2 - V_3 + \dots + V_N = 0$$



Kirchhoff's Current Law (KCL)

Kirchhoff's Current Law (KCL) or **Node Law**: The algebraic sum of all currents entering and leaving a node (or a closed surface) is zero (or the sum of currents entering a node is equal to the sum of currents leaving the same node).



The currents entering a node or surface are assigned a positive value, and currents leaving are assigned a negative value.
→ i₂ + i₃ - i₁ - i₄ = 0

Note: Since the current directions are assumed arbitrarily, if the calculated result for a current is negative, the current actually flows in the opposite direction.

Example

Find the circuit equations.



Passive Elements in Series

The total resistance of resistors connected in **series** is the sum of their individual resistance values. n

$$R_{eq} = R_1 + R_2 + \dots + R_n = \sum_{i=1}^{n} R_i$$
 $R_1 R_2 R_n$

- Same **current** flows through all resistors.

How about capacitors and inductors in series?

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Passive Elements in Parallel

The total resistance of resistors connected in **parallel** is the reciprocal of the sum of the reciprocals of the individual resistors.

$$\frac{1}{R_{\text{eq}}} = \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} + \dots + \frac{1}{R_n} = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{R_i}$$



- Same voltage appears across all resistors.

How about capacitors and inductors in parallel?

Example

Find I_{out} and V_{out} .



Power

The power **consumed** or **generated** by an element is simply the product of the voltage across and the current through the element.

$$P = VI$$
 Unit: watt (W = J/s

The **instantaneous** power dissipated by **resistive components** in the form of heat can be expressed as

$$P = VI = RI^2 = \frac{V^2}{R}$$



Because increased power is associated with increased heat dissipation, components generally have a **maximum power rating** to avoid **overheating**.

Amin Fakhari, Fall 2023

Example

Resistor R_2 is rated for 1/2 W and has resistance of 2 Ω . What can you say about this circuit when it is turned on?





Resistive Voltage Divider

A **Resistive Voltage Divider** is a simple circuit which turns a large input voltage (V_{in}) into a smaller one (V_{out}), which is a fraction of V_{in} .



• Note: loads attached to V_{out} affect the voltage references produced with the dividers.

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Resistive Current Divider

A **Resistive Current Divider** is a simple circuit which turns a large input current (I_{in}) into a smaller one (I_{out}) , which is a fraction of I_{in} .



Note: Current will always follow the path of least resistance in a circuit.

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Voltage and Current Sources and Meters



Voltage & Current Sources

- An Ideal Voltage Source has zero output resistance and can supply infinite current.
- An Ideal Current Source has infinite output resistance and can supply infinite voltage.

A **Real Voltage [Current] Source** can be modeled as an ideal voltage [current] source in series [parallel] with a vey small [large] resistance called the **Output Impedance** of the device.



The output impedance can be important when driving a circuit with a small [large] resistance because this impedance affect the resistance of the circuit.





Voltage & Current Meters

- An Ideal Voltmeter has infinite input resistance and draws no current.
- An Ideal Ammeter has zero input resistance and no voltage drop across it.

A **Real Voltmeter [Ammeter]** can be modeled as an ideal voltmeter [ammeter] in parallel [series] with a very large [small] resistance called the **Input Impedance**.



The input impedance can be important when making a voltage [current] measurement across [through] a circuit branch with large [small] resistance because this impedance would result in significant error in the measured value.

Example

Consider the effects of source and meter output and input impedance on making measurements in a circuit. V_s is a voltage source and V_m is a voltmeter.



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Sources and Meters

Sources:

Power Supplies and Function Generators Impedance: about 50Ω



Function Generator



For generation of different types of electrical waveforms, e.g., sine, square, triangular, and sawtooth shapes

Meters:

Digital Multimeters (DMMs) and Oscilloscopes Impedance: 1 to 10 MΩ



Oscilloscope



For observation of constantly varying signal voltages

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Thevenin and Norton Equivalent Circuits





Thévenin's Theorem

Any linear electrical network with voltage and current sources and resistances <u>only</u> can be replaced at terminals A-B by an equivalent ideal voltage source $V_{\rm th}$ in series connection with an equivalent resistance $R_{\rm th}$.

- $V_{\rm th}$ is the voltage obtained at terminals A-B of the network with terminals A-B open circuited.
- R_{th} is the resistance that the circuit between terminals A and B would have if all ideal voltage sources in the circuit were replaced by a short circuit and all ideal current sources were replaced by an open circuit.





Norton's Theorem

Any linear electrical network with voltage and current sources and resistances <u>only</u> can be replaced at terminals A-B by an **equivalent** ideal current source I_{no} in parallel connection with an equivalent resistance R_{no} .

- I_{no} is the current flowing from A to B, if terminals A and B are <u>connected to one another</u>.
- *R*_{no} is the resistance that the circuit between terminals *A* and *B* would have if all <u>ideal</u> voltage sources in the circuit were replaced by a <u>short circuit</u> and all <u>ideal current sources</u> were replaced by an <u>open circuit</u>.



Thévenin & Norton Equivalents

A Norton equivalent circuit is related to the Thévenin equivalent by



- The Thevenin and Norton equivalents are widely used to make circuit analysis simpler.
- They are **independent of the remaining circuit network representing a load**. Therefore, it is possible to **make changes in the load** without reanalyzing the Thevenin or Norton equivalent.

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Example

Find the Thévenin and Norton equivalents.

