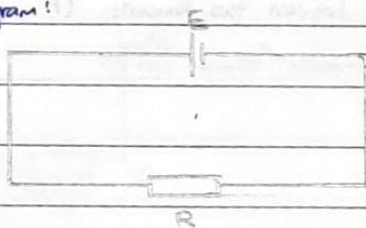


CHAPTER 4 : CIRCUIT THEORIES

4.1 What are the common terms used to describe a circuit?

A. Circuit

- Consists of electrical components connected together with wires.
 - Batteries, Light bulbs, Switches
- Provides ≥ 1 paths for current to flow.
- Diagrams of circuits $\Leftarrow$ symbols [chap 1] $\rightarrow$ Circuit Diagram
- E.g. of circuit diagram:



- For current to flow in circuit, there must be a source
- Source provides e.m.f needed to move electric charges around circuit.
- E.g. of sources
 - Batteries
 - Power supply
- The Battery and Power Supply are called direct current (DC) voltage sources
 - Provides CONSTANT emf
- Resistor $\rightarrow$ load
- Load: Component which converts electrical energy supplied by a source into other forms (light, heat, kinetic)
- Current flows in circuit with cont. path linking +ve terminal to -ve terminal.
 - known as closed circuit.
- Circuit that has a break $\rightarrow$ open circuit.
- Short circuit: low-resistance path (undesirable & harmful)
 - Current in circuit becomes v. large (overheating)

B. Switches.

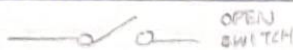
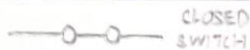
• Types of Switches

- Single Pole Single Throw [SPST]
- Single Pole Double Throw [SPDT]

• SPST switch:



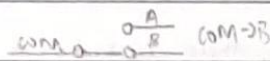
- When switch closed: current flows between two terminals



• SPDT switch



- COM terminal is always connected to either A or B.

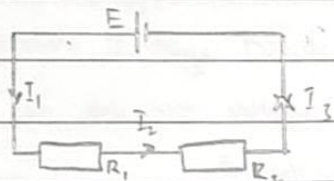


C. Overloading

- Current rating: max current a wire / component can carry w/o getting overheated
- Overloading happens when $\text{current} > \text{current rating}$
- Causes:
 - Using a wire of current rating that is too low.
 - Insulating covering becomes damaged.
 - ↳ Bare wires touch
 - ↳ Causes short circuit
 - Connecting multiple appliances to single master switch

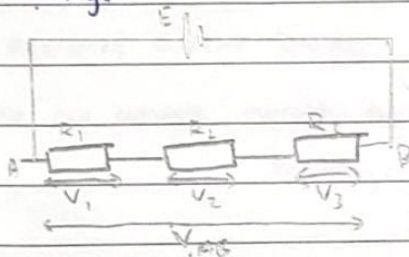
4.2 How do we determine the current and voltage in series circuits?

A. Current



Formula: $I_1 = I_2 = I_3$

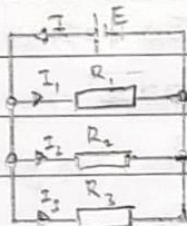
B. Voltage



Formula: $V_{AB} = V_1 + V_2 + V_3$

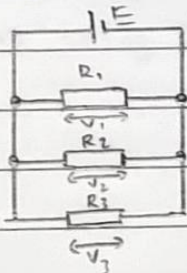
4.3 How do we determine the current and voltage in parallel circuits?

A. Current



Formula: $I = I_1 + I_2 + I_3$

B. Voltage



Formula: $E = V_1 = V_2 = V_3$

4.4: How do we determine the current and voltage in series-parallel circuits?

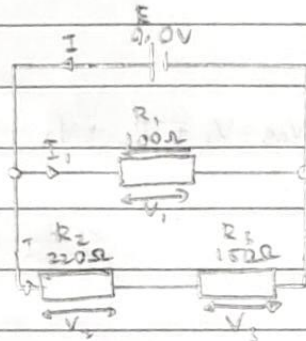
Example 1:

For the circuit in Fig 1, calculate

(a) I_1 ;

(b) I_2 ; and

(c) I .



(a) $R_1 \parallel E$, $V_1 = E = 9.0V$

$$I_1 = \frac{V_1}{R_1}$$

$$= \frac{9.0V}{100\Omega}$$

$$= 0.09A$$

$$= 90mA$$

(b) $R_2 \& R_3 \parallel DC$.

$$V_2 + V_3 = E = 9.0V$$

$$R_{2+3} = R_2 + R_3$$

$$= 150 + 220$$

$$= 370\Omega$$

$$I_2 = \frac{V_2 + V_3}{R_{2+3}}$$

$$= \frac{9.0}{370\Omega}$$

$$= 0.024A$$

$$= 24mA$$

(c) $I = I_1 + I_2$

$$= 90mA + 24mA$$

$$= 114mA$$

4.5 How do we use the voltage-divider and current-divider formulas to determine the voltage and current in a circuit?

A. Resistive Voltage Divider

- We can calculate voltage across each resistor using voltage-divider formula

$$\text{Formula: } V_1 = \frac{R_1}{R_1 + R_2} \times E$$

$$V_2 = \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2} \times E$$

B. Resistive Current Divider

- We can calculate current through each resistor using current-divider formula

$$\text{Formula: } I_1 = \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2} \times I$$

$$I_2 = \frac{R_1}{R_1 + R_2} \times I$$

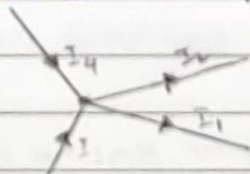
4.6: How do we use Kirchhoff's Voltage and Current Law to determine voltage and current in a circuit?

A. Kirchhoff's Current Law

- Kirchhoff's Current Law (KCL) states that the algebraic sum of ALL currents entering and leaving a node is given by:

$$\sum I_{\text{node}} = 0$$

- Node: Junction in circuit where currents meet, while ' Σ ' means 'sum of'.
- Currents entering (+ve)
- Currents exiting (-ve)



$$I_1 + I_2 - I_3 - I_4 = 0$$

$$I_1 + I_2 = I_3 + I_4$$

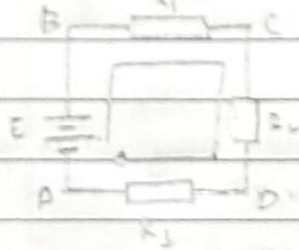
$$\therefore \sum I_{\text{entering}} = \sum I_{\text{leaving}}$$

B. Kirchhoff's Voltage Law

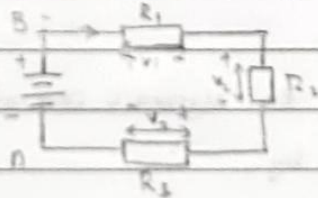
- Kirchhoff's Voltage Law (KVL) states that the algebraic sum of all the voltages within a closed loop is given by:

$$\sum V_{\text{loop}} = 0$$

- Closed loop: Electrical path starting & ending @ same point
 - can move along the loop in clockwise / anticlockwise



- The polarity of voltages (+, -) across the components is useful to be labelled
 - Sources (label +ve / -ve ↑ respectively)
 - Others (current enters → +ve, other end → -ve)



- Voltages that ↑ : +ve
- Voltages that ↓ : -ve