



## Announcements

- Website is up:

<http://inst.eecs.berkeley.edu/~ee42>

It includes:

- Lecture notes and PowerPoint from this semester and Spring 2003 EE 40
- Homework assignments and solutions from this semester and previous EE 40 semesters
- Exam information, practice problems and solutions from this semester and previous EE 40 semesters
- Announcements (on landing page)
- Contact Info/Office Hours

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## Circuit Analysis Basics

- Fundamental elements

- Resistor
- Voltage Source
- Current Source
- Air
- Wire

- Kirchhoff's Voltage and Current Laws

- Resistors in Series

- Voltage Division

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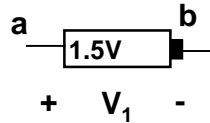
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## Voltage and Current

- Voltage is the difference in electric potential between two points. To express this difference, we label a voltage with a “+” and “-” :

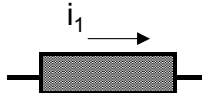
Here,  $V_1$  is the potential at “a” minus the potential at “b”, which is  $-1.5\text{ V}$ .



- Current is the flow of positive charge. Current has a value and a direction, expressed by an arrow:

Here,  $i_1$  is the current that flows right;

$i_1$  is negative if current actually flows left.



- These are ways to place a frame of reference in your analysis.

## Basic Circuit Elements

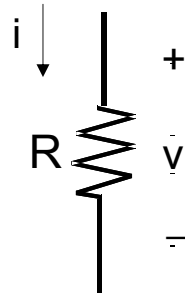
- Resistor
  - Current is proportional to voltage (linear)
- Ideal Voltage Source
  - Voltage is a given quantity, current is unknown
- Wire (Short Circuit)
  - Voltage is zero, current is unknown
- Ideal Current Source
  - Current is a given quantity, voltage is unknown
- Air (Open Circuit)
  - Current is zero, voltage is unknown

## Resistor

- The resistor has a current-voltage relationship called Ohm's law:

$$v = i R$$

where  $R$  is the resistance in  $\Omega$ ,  $i$  is the current in A, and  $v$  is the voltage in V, with reference directions **as pictured**.



- If  $R$  is given, once you know  $i$ , it is easy to find  $v$  and vice-versa.
- Since  $R$  is never negative, a resistor always absorbs power...

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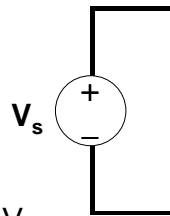
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## Ideal Voltage Source

- The ideal voltage source explicitly defines the voltage between its terminals.
  - Constant (DC) voltage source:  $V_s = 5 \text{ V}$
  - Time-Varying voltage source:  $V_s = 10 \sin(t) \text{ V}$
  - Examples: batteries, wall outlet, function generator, ...
- The ideal voltage source does not provide any information about the current flowing through it.
- The current through the voltage source is defined by the rest of the circuit to which the source is attached. Current cannot be determined by the value of the voltage.
- Do not assume that the current is zero!



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## Wire

- Wire has a very small resistance.
- For simplicity, we will idealize wire in the following way: the potential at all points on a piece of wire is the same, regardless of the current going through it.
  - Wire is a 0 V voltage source
  - Wire is a 0  $\Omega$  resistor
- This idealization (and others) can lead to contradictions on paper—and smoke in lab.

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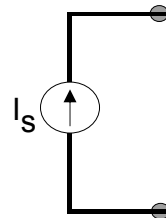
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## Ideal Current Source

- The ideal current source sets the value of the current running through it.
  - Constant (DC) current source:  $I_S = 2 \text{ A}$
  - Time-Varying current source:  $I_S = -3 \sin(t) \text{ A}$
  - Examples: few in real life!
- The ideal current source has known current, but unknown voltage.
- The voltage across the voltage source is defined by the rest of the circuit to which the source is attached.
- Voltage cannot be determined by the value of the current.
- Do not assume that the voltage is zero!



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## Air

- Many of us at one time, after walking on a carpet in winter, have touched a piece of metal and seen a blue arc of light.
- That arc is current going through the air. So is a bolt of lightning during a thunderstorm.
- However, these events are unusual. Air is usually a good insulator and does not allow current to flow.
- For simplicity, we will idealize air in the following way: current never flows through air (or a hole in a circuit), regardless of the potential difference (voltage) present.
  - Air is a 0 A current source
  - Air is a very very big (infinite) resistor
- There can be nonzero voltage over air or a hole in a circuit!

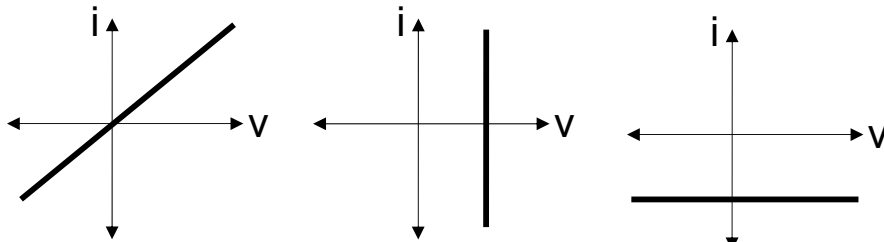
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## I-V Relationships Graphically



**Resistor:** Line through origin with slope  $1/R$

**Ideal Voltage Source:** Vertical line

**Ideal Current Source:** Horizontal line

**Wire:**

**Air:**

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## Kirchhoff's Laws

- The I-V relationship for a device tells us how current and voltage are related within that device.
- Kirchhoff's laws tell us how voltages relate to other voltages in a circuit, and how currents relate to other currents in a circuit.
- KVL: The sum of voltage drops around a closed path must equal zero.
- KCL: The sum of currents leaving a closed surface or point must equal zero.

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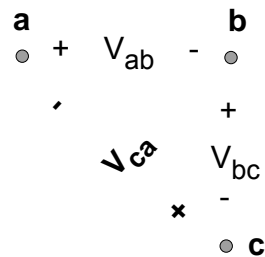
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## Kirchhoff's Voltage Law (KVL)

- Suppose I add up the potential drops around the closed path, from "a" to "b" to "c" and back to "a".
- Since I end where I began, the total drop in potential I encounter along the path must be zero:  $V_{ab} + V_{bc} + V_{ca} = 0$
- It would not make sense to say, for example, "b" is 1 V lower than "a", "c" is 2 V lower than "b", and "a" is 3 V lower than "c". I would then be saying that "a" is 6 V lower than "a", which is nonsense!
- We can use potential rises throughout instead of potential drops; this is an alternative statement of KVL.



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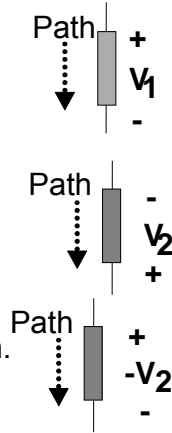
## KVL Tricks

- A voltage rise is a negative voltage drop.

Along a path, I might encounter a voltage which is labeled as a voltage drop (in the direction I'm going). The sum of these voltage drops must equal zero.

I might encounter a voltage which is labeled as a voltage rise (in the direction I'm going). This rise can be viewed as a "negative drop". Rewrite:

- Look at the first sign you encounter on each element when tracing the closed path. If it is a "-", it is a voltage rise and you will insert a "-" to rewrite as a drop.



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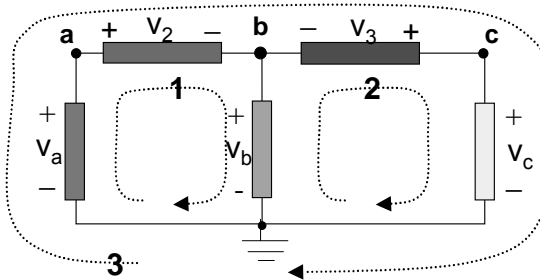
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## Writing KVL Equations

What does KVL say about the voltages along these 3 paths?



Path 1:

Path 2:

Path 3:

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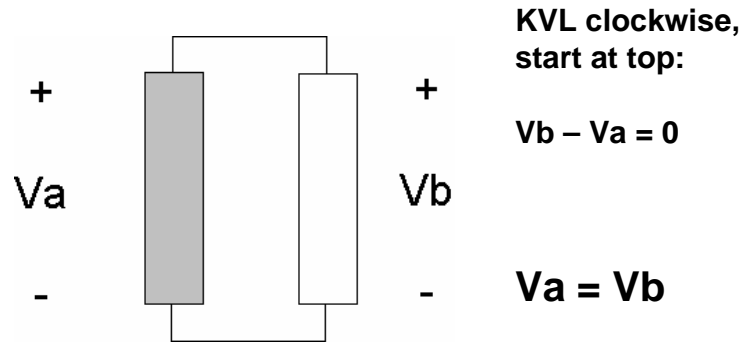
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## Elements in Parallel

- KVL tells us that any set of elements which are **connected at both ends** carry the **same voltage**.
- We say these elements are **in parallel**.



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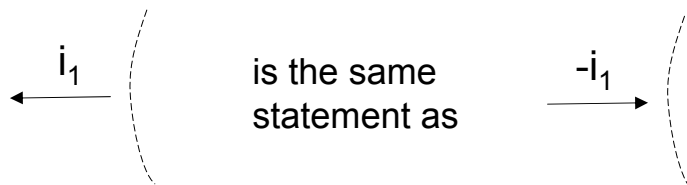
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## Kirchhoff's Current Law (KCL)

- Electrons don't just disappear or get trapped (in our analysis).
- Therefore, the sum of all current entering a closed surface or point must equal zero—whatever goes in must come out.
- Remember that current leaving a closed surface can be interpreted as a negative current entering:



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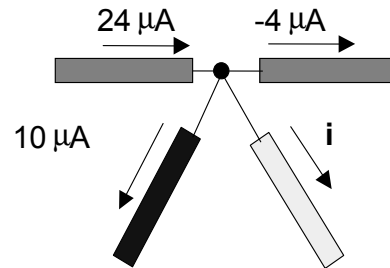
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## KCL Equations

In order to satisfy KCL, what is the value of  $i$ ?



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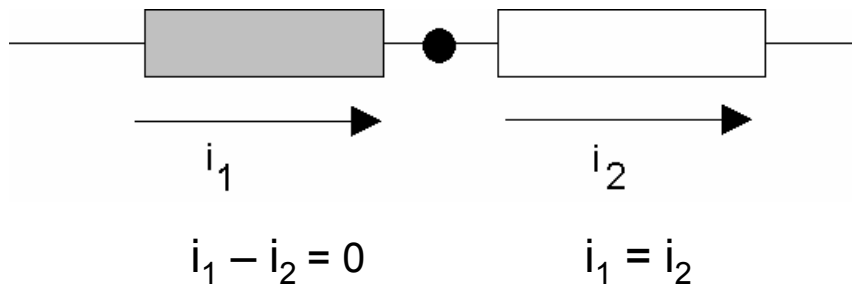
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## Elements in Series

- Suppose two elements are connected with **nothing coming off in between**.
- KCL says that the elements carry the **same current**.
- We say these elements are **in series**.



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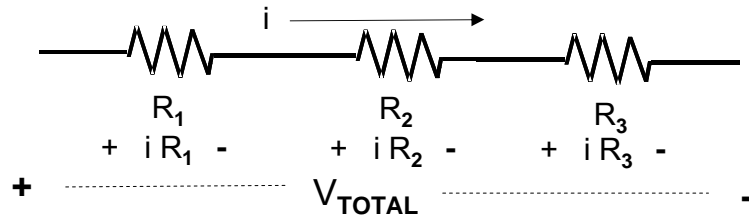
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## Resistors in Series

- Consider resistors in series. This means they are attached end-to-end, with nothing coming off in between.



- Each resistor has the same current (labeled  $i$ ).
- Each resistor has voltage  $iR$ , given by Ohm's law.
- The total voltage drop across all 3 resistors is

$$V_{\text{TOTAL}} = iR_1 + iR_2 + iR_3 = i(R_1 + R_2 + R_3)$$

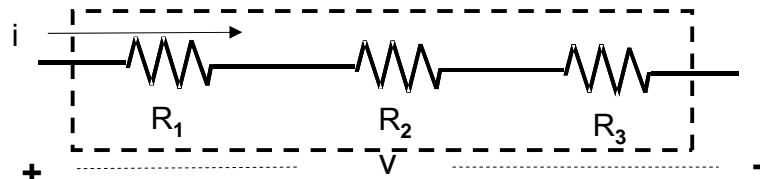
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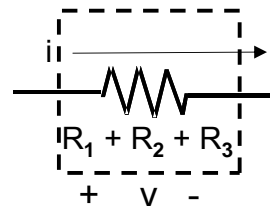
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## Resistors in Series



- When we look at all three resistors together as one unit, we see that they have the same I-V relationship as one resistor, whose value is the sum of the resistances:
- So we can treat these resistors as just one **equivalent resistance**, as long as we are not interested in the individual voltages. Their effect on the rest of the circuit is the same, whether lumped together or not.



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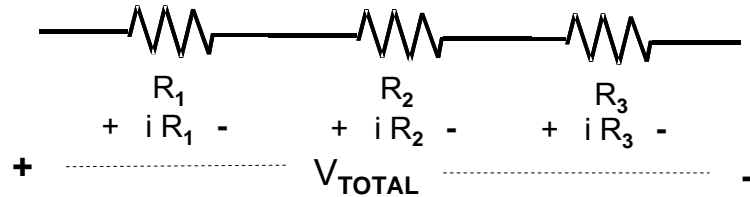
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## Voltage Division

- If we know the total voltage over a series of resistors, we can easily find the individual voltages over the individual resistors.



- Since the resistors in series have the same current, the voltage divides up among the resistors in proportion to each individual resistance.

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## Voltage Division

- For example, we know  
 $i = V_{TOTAL} / (R_1 + R_2 + R_3)$   
so the voltage over the **first resistor** is  
 $i R_1 = R_1 V_{TOTAL} / (R_1 + R_2 + R_3)$

$$= V_{TOTAL} \frac{R_1}{R_1 + R_2 + R_3}$$

- To find the voltage over an individual resistance in series, take the total series voltage and multiply by the individual resistance over the total resistance.

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