

## KVL Example Resistor Voltage Divider

- Consider a series of resistors and a voltage source
- Then using KVL

$$V - V_1 - V_2 = 0$$

- Since by Ohm's law

$$V_1 = I_1 R_1 \quad V_2 = I_1 R_2$$

- Then

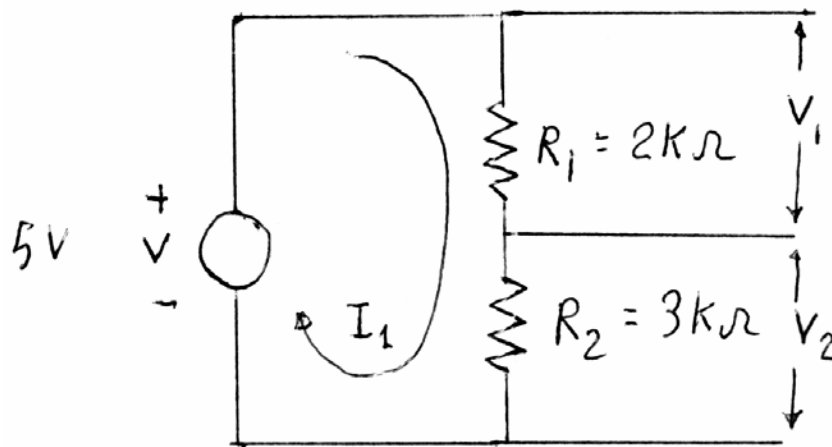
$$V - I_1 R_1 - I_1 R_2 = V - I_1 (R_1 + R_2) = 0$$

- Thus

$$I_1 = \frac{V}{R_1 + R_2} = \frac{5}{2000 + 3000} = 1 \text{ mA}$$

- i.e. get the resistors in series formula

$$R_{total} = R_1 + R_2 = 5 \text{ K}\Omega$$



## KVL Example Resistor Voltage Divider Continued

- What is the voltage across each resistor
- Now we can relate  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  to the applied  $V$
- With the substitution

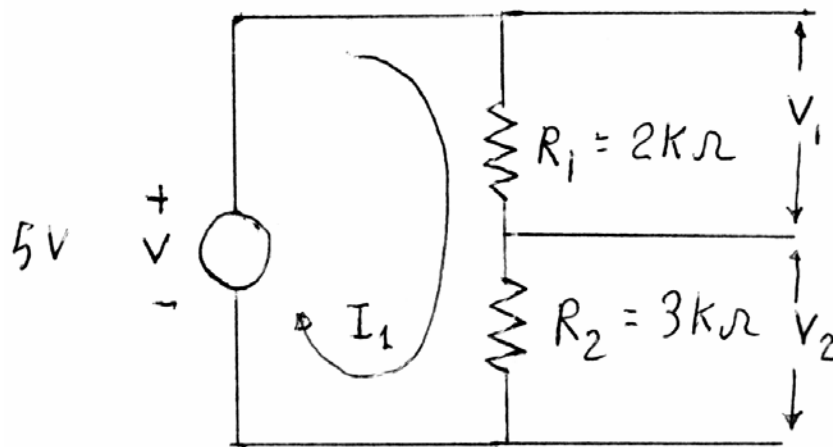
$$I_1 = \frac{V}{R_1 + R_2}$$

- Thus  $V_1$

$$V_1 = I_1 R_1 = \frac{V R_1}{R_1 + R_2} = \frac{5(2000)}{2000 + 3000} = 2 V$$

- Similarly for the  $V_2$

$$V_2 = I_1 R_2 = \frac{V R_2}{R_1 + R_2} = \frac{5(3000)}{2000 + 3000} = 3 V$$



## General Resistor Voltage Divider

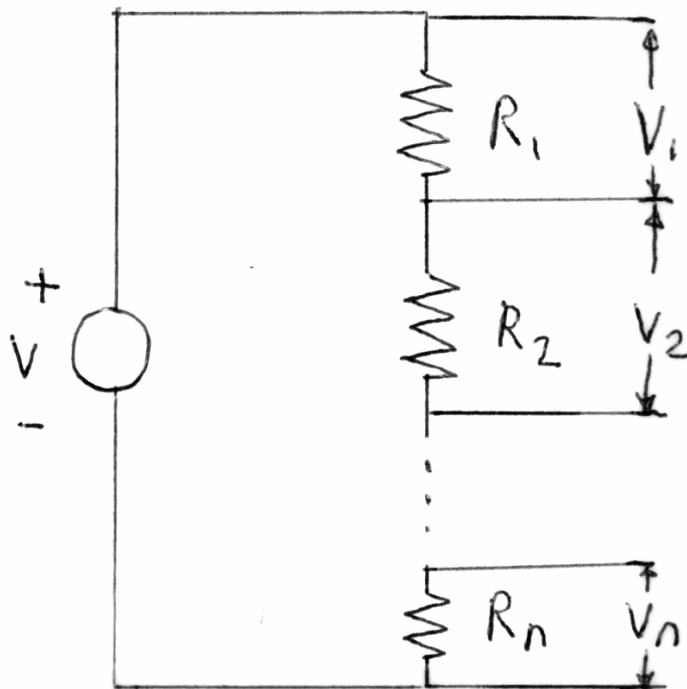
- Consider a long series of resistors and a voltage source
- Then using KVL or series resistance get

$$V = I_1 \sum_{j=1}^N R_j \dots \text{or} \dots I_1 = \frac{V}{\sum_{j=1}^N R_j}$$

- The general voltage  $V_k$  across resistor  $R_k$  is

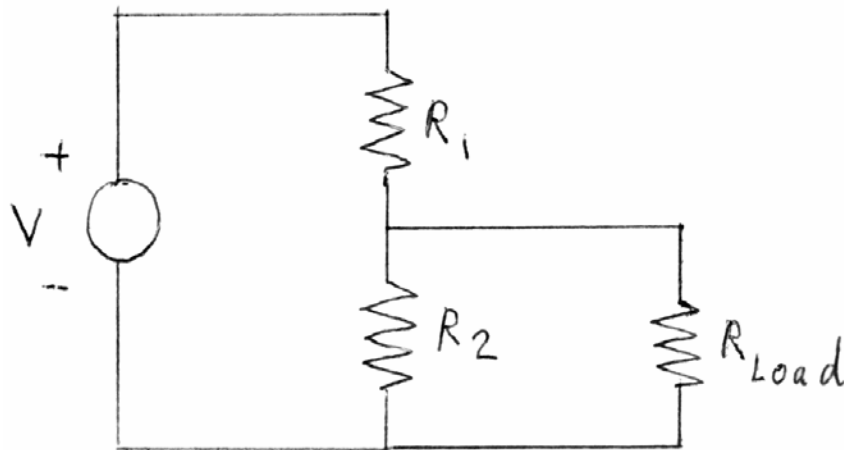
$$V_k = I_1 R_k = \frac{V R_k}{\sum_{j=1}^N R_j}$$

- Note important assumption: current is the same in all  $R_j$



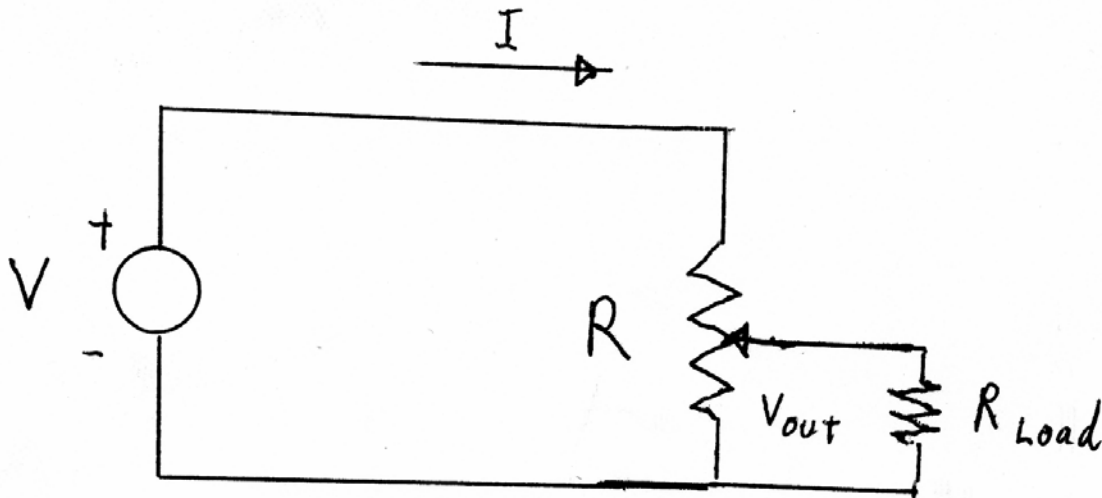
## Usefulness of Resistor Voltage Divider

- A voltage divider can generate several voltages from a fixed source
- Common circuits (eg IC's) have one supply voltage
- Use voltage dividers to create other values at low cost/complexity
- Eg. Need different supply voltages for many transistors
  
- Eg. Common computer outputs 5V (called TTL)
- But modern chips (CMOS) are lower voltage (eg. 2.5 or 1.8V)
- Quick interface – use a voltage divider on computer output
- Gives desired input to the chip



## Variable Voltage and Resistor Voltage Divider

- If have one fixed and one variable resistor (rheostat)
- Changing variable resistor controls out Voltage across rheostat
- Simple power supplies use this
  
- Warning: ideally no additional loads can be applied.
- Loads are current drawing devices
- In practice the load resistance  $\gg$  the divider output resistor
- Best if  $R_{load} > 100R_k$



## Current Divider: Example of KCL

- KCL equivalent of voltage divider is a current divider
- Consider a current source with resistors in parallel
- At node 1 the KCL laws state:

$$I - I_1 - I_2 = 0$$

- Define  $V_1$  as the voltage between node 1 & node 0
- Then

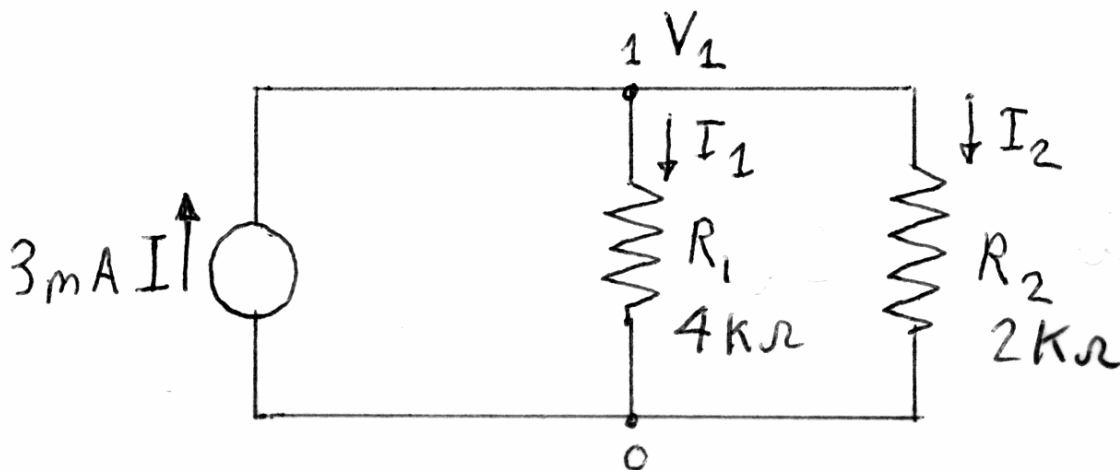
$$I_1 = \frac{V_1}{R_1} \dots \dots I_2 = \frac{V_1}{R_2}$$

- Thus from KCL

$$I = I_1 + I_2 = \frac{V_1}{R_1} + \frac{V_1}{R_2} = V_1 \left[ \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} \right]$$

- This produces the parallel resistors formula

$$I = V_1 \left[ \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} \right] = \frac{V_1}{R_{total}}$$



## Current Divider Continued

- To get the currents through  $R_1$  and  $R_2$

$$I_1 = \frac{V_1}{R_1} \dots\dots\dots I_2 = \frac{V_1}{R_2}$$

- First get the voltage from the KCL equation

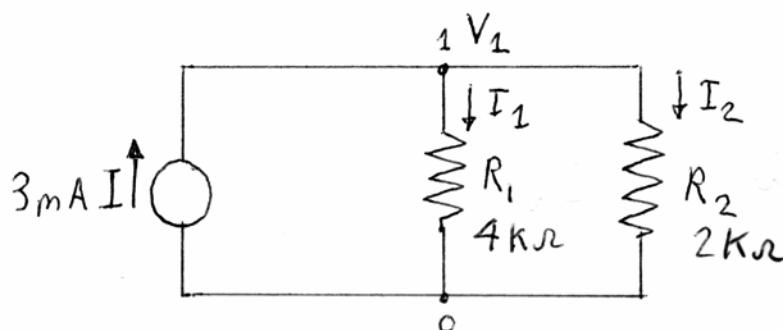
$$V_1 = I \left[ \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} \right]^{-1} = I \left[ \frac{1}{R_{total}} \right]^{-1}$$

- Solving for  $I_1$

$$I_1 = \frac{V_1}{R_1} = I \frac{\left[ \frac{1}{R_1} \right]}{\left[ \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} \right]}$$

- Similarly solving for  $I_2$

$$I_2 = \frac{V_1}{R_2} = I \frac{\left[ \frac{1}{R_2} \right]}{\left[ \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} \right]}$$



## Example of Current Divider

- Consider  $4\text{k}\Omega$  and  $2\text{k}\Omega$  in parallel to a  $3\text{ mA}$  current source
- The by the current divider for  $I_1$

$$I_1 = \frac{V_1}{R_1} = I \frac{\left[ \frac{1}{R_1} \right]}{\left[ \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} \right]} = 0.003 \frac{\left[ \frac{1}{4000} \right]}{\left[ \frac{1}{4000} + \frac{1}{2000} \right]} = 1\text{ mA}$$

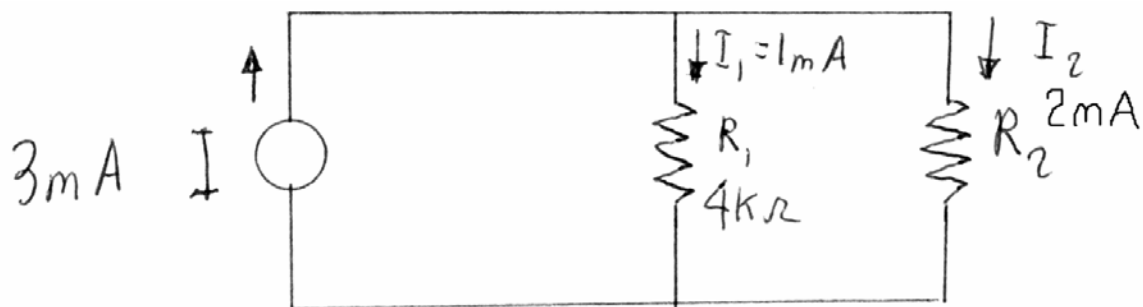
- Similarly for  $I_2$

$$I_2 = \frac{V_1}{R_2} = I \frac{\left[ \frac{1}{R_2} \right]}{\left[ \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} \right]} = 0.003 \frac{\left[ \frac{1}{2000} \right]}{\left[ \frac{1}{4000} + \frac{1}{2000} \right]} = 2\text{ mA}$$

- Note the smaller resistor = larger current
- Checking: the voltage across the resistors

$$V_1 = I_1 R_1 = 0.001 \times 4000 = 4\text{ V}$$

$$V_1 = I_2 R_2 = 0.002 \times 2000 = 4\text{ V}$$





## General Current Divider

- Using KCL to get the currents into the node

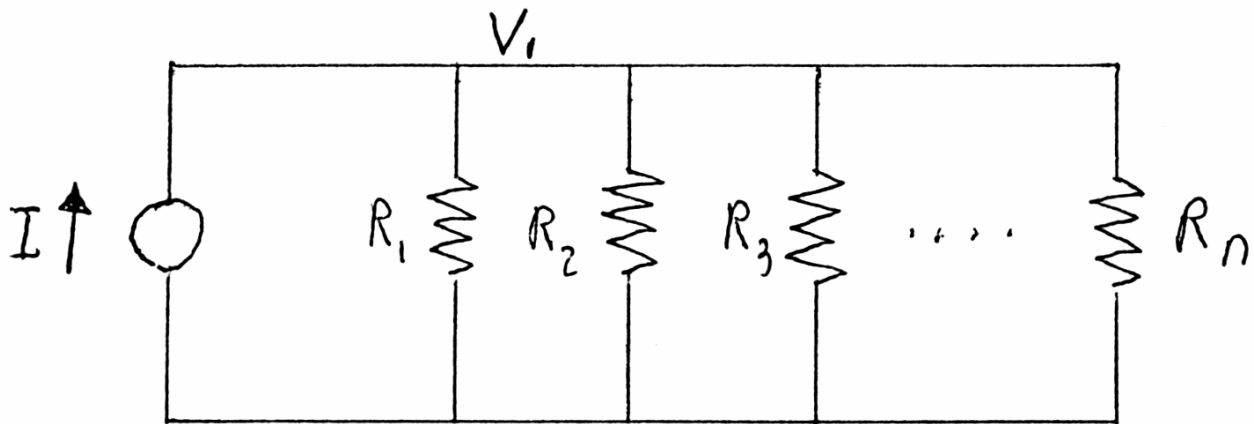
$$I = \sum_{j=1}^n I_j$$

- Getting the voltage from the KCL equation

$$V_1 = I \left[ \sum_{j=1}^N \frac{1}{R_j} \right]^{-1} = I \left[ \frac{1}{R_{total}} \right]^{-1}$$

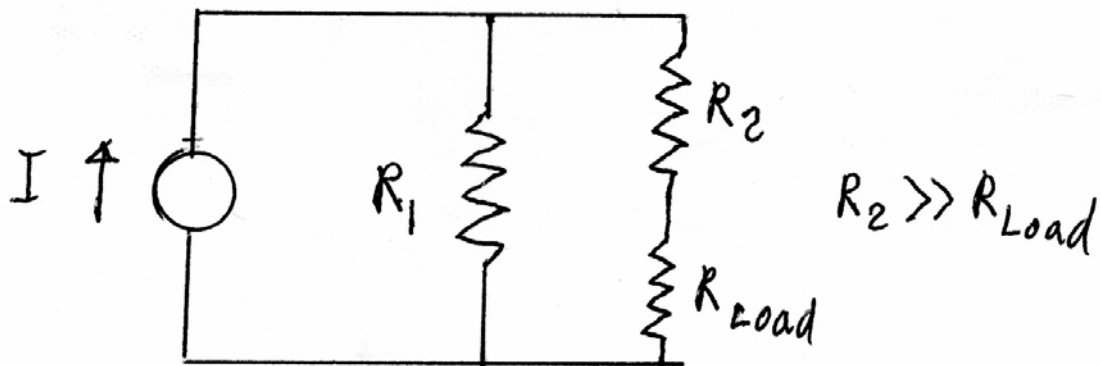
- Solving for  $R_k$  with it's the current  $I_k$

$$I_k = I \frac{\frac{1}{R_k}}{\left[ \sum_{j=1}^N \frac{1}{R_j} \right]}$$



## Practical Current Divider

- Create current dividers for use with current sources
- Less common than Voltage dividers as a circuit application
- Again any load used must not be significant
- Load in this case in series with the output resistor
- Load must be very small compared to  $R_k$
- Best if load is  $\ll 0.01$  of  $R_k$



## General Current Divider using Conductance

- Often better with parallel circuits to use conductance
- Again the KCL says at the node

$$I = \sum_{j=1}^N I_j$$

- Total conductance is resistors in parallel is

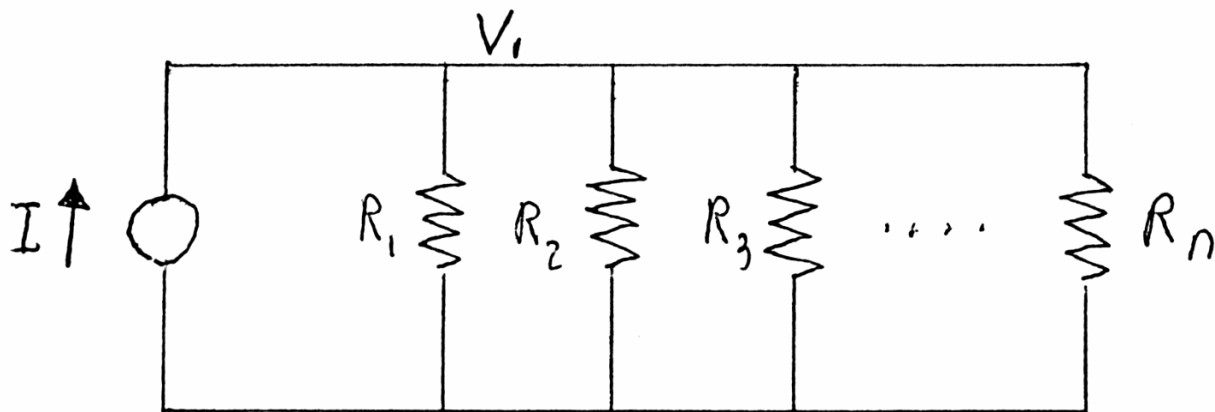
$$G_{total} = \sum_{j=1}^N G_j = \sum_{j=1}^N \frac{1}{R_j}$$

- The general current divider equation for  $I_k$  through resistor  $R_k$

$$I_k = \frac{IG_k}{\sum_{j=1}^N G_j}$$

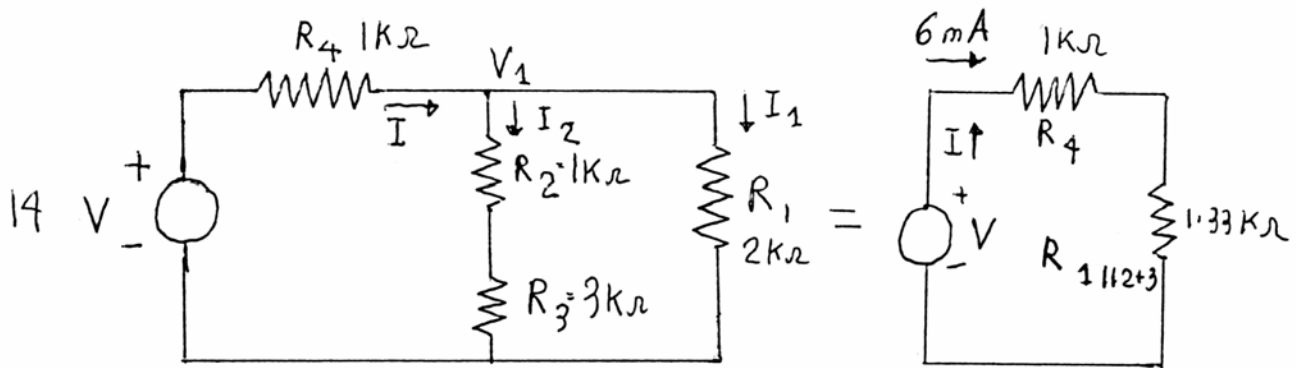
- conductance calculations useful for parallel resistors
- conductance equation is I equivalent of voltage divider equation
- Note for resistors in series then conductance is

$$\frac{1}{G_{total}} = \sum_{j=1}^N \frac{1}{G_j}$$



## Solving Circuits with Equivalent Resistors

- Series and parallel Resistor equivalents can solve some circuits
- Method, make equivalent resistance to simplify
- Go between series and parallel as needed
- Produce one final equivalent resistance
- Use voltage and current divider equations
- Get I & V for each element



## Example Solving Circuits with equivalent Resistors

- Consider circuit with  $R_2, R_3$  in parallel  $R_1$  all in series with  $R_4$
- For the  $R_2, R_3$  side

$$R_{2+3} = R_2 + R_3 = 1000 + 3000 = 4000$$

- Now get the parallel equivalent

$$\frac{1}{R_{1||2+3}} = \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_{2+3}} = \frac{1}{2000} + \frac{1}{4000} = \frac{3}{4000}$$

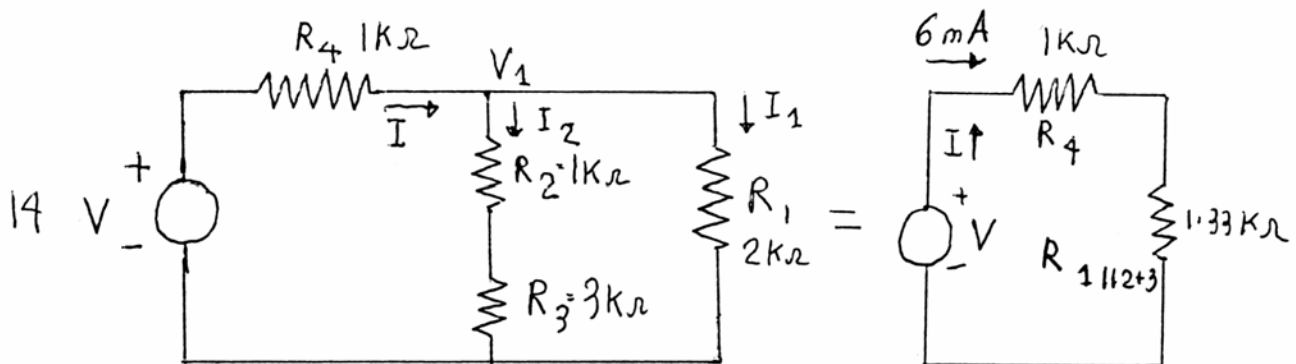
$$R_{1||2+3} = \frac{4000}{3} = 1333.3 \Omega$$

- Adding the series resistance

$$R_{total} = R_4 + R_{1||2+3} = 1000 + 1333.3 = 2333.3 \Omega$$

- Thus current from the source is

$$I_{total} = \frac{V}{R_{total}} = \frac{14}{2333.3} = 6 \text{ mA}$$



## Example Circuits with equivalent Resistors Continued

- Voltage across  $R_4$  and parallel section is

$$V_{R_4} = I_4 R_4 = 1000 \times 0.006 = 6 \text{ V}$$

$$V_1 = V - I_4 R_4 = 14 - 1000 \times 0.006 = 8 \text{ V}$$

- And the current in the parallel resistors

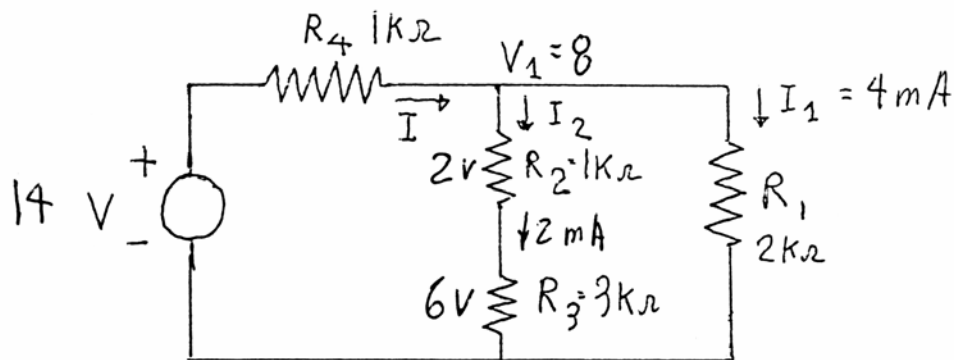
$$I_1 = \frac{V_1}{R_1} = \frac{8}{2000} = 4 \text{ mA}$$

$$I_2 = \frac{V_1}{R_{2+3}} = \frac{8}{4000} = 2 \text{ mA}$$

- Solving for the voltages

$$V_{R_2} = I_2 R_2 = 0.002 \times 1000 = 2 \text{ V}$$

$$V_{R_3} = I_2 R_3 = 0.002 \times 3000 = 6 \text{ V}$$



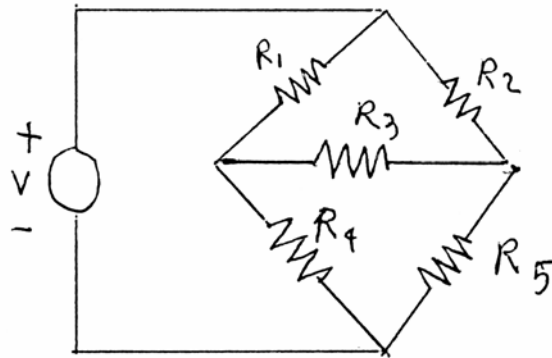
## Advantages & Disadvantages: equivalent Resistors Method

### Advantages

- Simply guided by pattern of circuit
- Easy to understand

### Disadvantages

- Can be quite time consuming
- Some circuits cannot be solved this way



## Measuring Small Values: - Wheatstone Bridge

- Resistor dividers are set by ratios of resistance
- Thus can compare unknown  $R$  to a known set of  $R$
- Called a Wheatstone Bridge
- Left side known resistance  $R_1$  and variable resistor  $R_3$
- Right side known  $R_2$  and unknown  $R_s$
- Place a very sensitive meter between the middle nodes
- Best is a galvanometer
- Voltages balance and no current  $i_g$  flows if

$$\frac{R_3}{R_1} = \frac{R_s}{R_2}$$

- If know the  $R_1$   $R_2$   $R_3$  very accurately can measure  $R_s$  accurately

$$R_s = \frac{R_3}{R_1} R_2$$

- Must use very accurate variable resistance

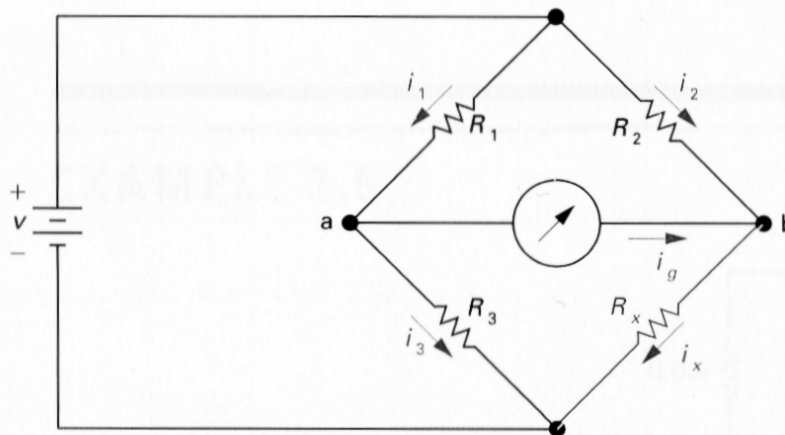


Figure 3.24 A balanced Wheatstone bridge ( $i_g = 0$ ).

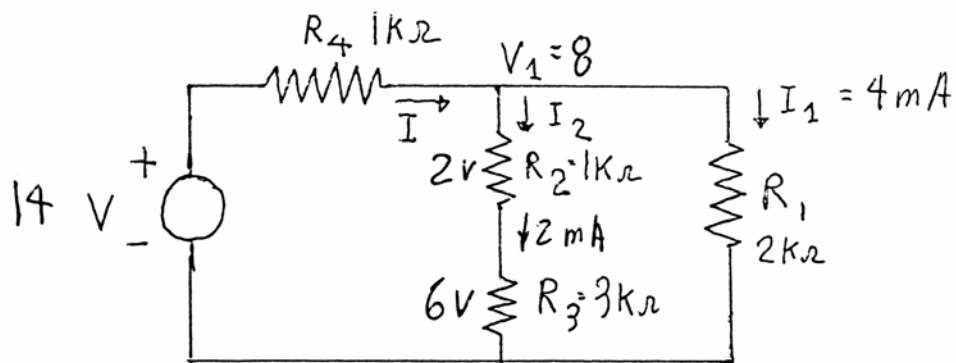


## Circuit Analysis with Kirchhoff's Laws Circuits (EC 4)

- Task of Circuit analysis:
- Find the current in and the voltage across every element

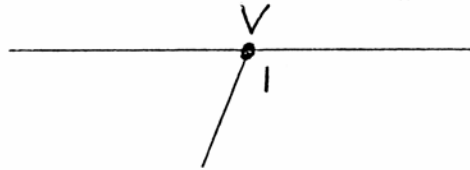
### Four methods used:

- Resistor substitution
  - Mesh analysis (KVL)
  - Node analysis (KCL)
  - Superposition (simple circuits)
- 
- Computer methods use aspects of these

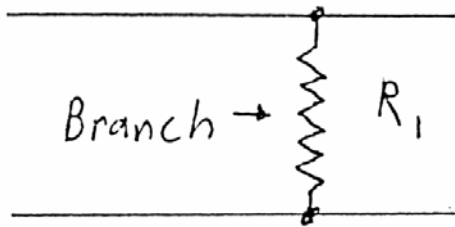


## Circuit Definitions

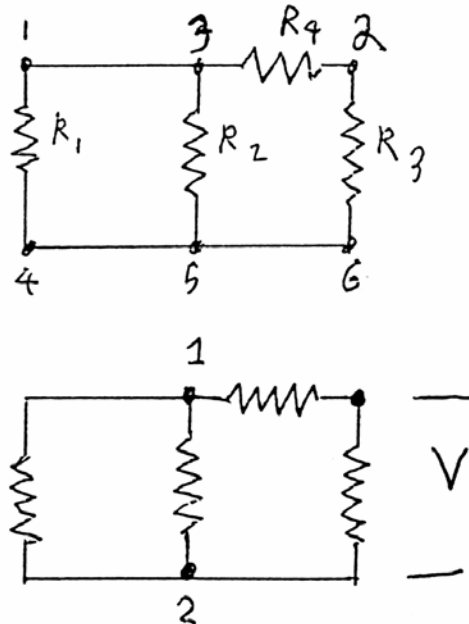
- Node: point where several current paths meet:



- Branch: a current path connecting only two nodes
- Branch contains 1 or more devices eg resistors
- Note: a node may have many branch connections



- If 2 nodes are connected by a wire
- Then combine them into a single node



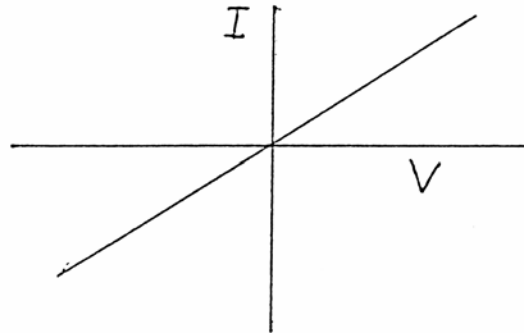
# Linear & Nonlinear Circuit Elements

## Linear devices

Response is linear for the applied Voltage or Current

eg Double voltage get twice the current

eg devices: resistors, capacitors, inductors (coils)

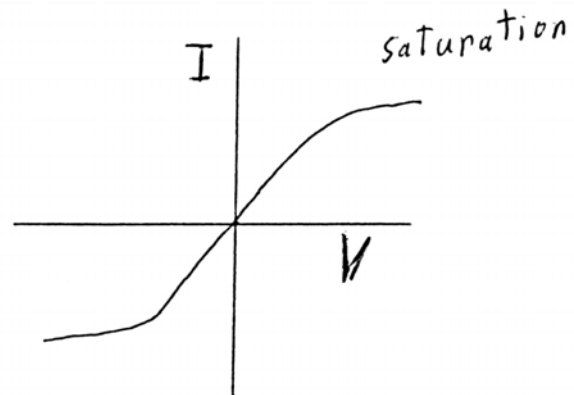
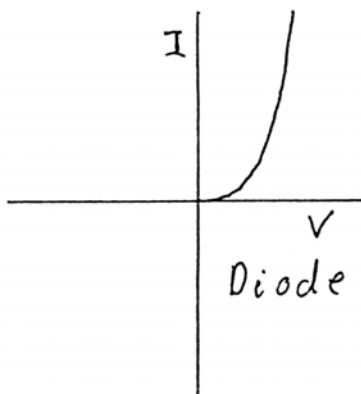


## Non-Linear devices

Response is non-linear for applied Voltage or Current

eg may have different response for different polarity of  $V$

eg devices Semiconductor Diodes, iron core inductors



## Kirchhoff's Laws and complex circuits

- Kirchhoff's laws provide all the equations for a circuit
- But if know the currents then can calculate the voltages
- If know the voltages then can calculate the currents
- Thus only need to solve for one or the other.
- Use the other laws to obtain the missing quantity

