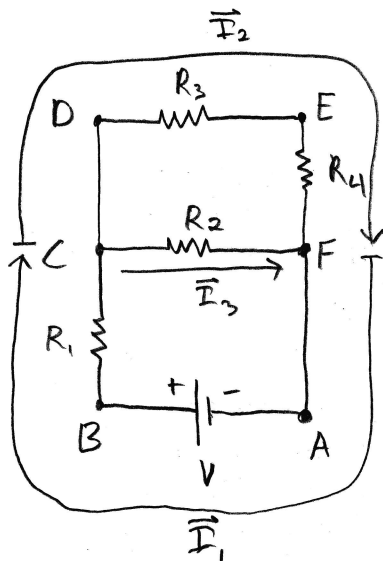


7-11-08

4

Given: V, R_2, R_3, R_4, I_1

We could do this with our simple addition rules, but we'll use Kirchhoff to practice.

1) Label currents. There are 3 independent legs in this diagram. Because there is only one $\mathcal{E}$, we can tell the correct direction for each $\vec{I}$. We won't know normally and that is OK.

2) Identify Unknowns. I_2, I_3, R_1 . This means I need 3 equations,

3) Apply Junction Rule. There are 2 junctions. Both have the same 3 currents and so have the same information content. Pick either but not both. I use C, and sum all incoming currents:

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 C: & \begin{array}{l} I(DC) = -I_2 \\ + I(FC) = -I_3 \\ + I(BC) = I_1 \end{array} & \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{l} I(DC) = -I_2 \\ + I(FC) = -I_3 \\ + I(BC) = I_1 \end{array}} \right\} \xrightarrow{\text{1st eq.}} I_1 - I_2 - I_3 = 0
 \end{array}$$

4) Apply Loop Rule. There are 3 possible loops here. One doesn't involve any potential source. That's ok, because inevitably there will be a reversed current so that something is negative, but it's nice not to worry about it so we chose the 2 loops going through V .

Loop
ABCFA :

AB:	+V
-BC:	$R_1 I_1$
-CF:	$R_2 I_3$
-FA:	0
	0

} 2nd eq.
 $V - R_1 I_1 - R_2 I_3 = 0$

Loop
ABCDEFA :

AB:	+V
-BC:	$R_1 I_1$
-CD:	0
-DE:	$R_3 I_2$
-EF:	$R_4 I_2$
-FA:	0
	0

} 3rd eq.
 $V - R_1 I_1 - I_2 (R_3 + R_4) = 0$

5) Solve the equations.

eq 1) $I_3 = I_1 - I_2$

→ eq 2) $V - R_1 I_1 - R_2 (I_1 - I_2) = 0$

$V = I_1 (R_1 + R_2) - I_2 R_2$

eq 3) $V = I_1 R_1 + I_2 (R_3 + R_4)$

$V = V \rightarrow I_1 (R_1 + R_2) - I_2 R_2 = I_1 R_1 + I_2 (R_3 + R_4)$

$I_1 R_2 = I_2 (R_2 + R_3 + R_4)$

$$I_2 = I_1 \frac{R_2}{R_2 + R_3 + R_4}$$

I_2 in terms of knowns, I done!

Now eq 1. is all in terms of knowns except I_3 :

$$I_3 = I_1 - I_2$$

We have an unknown left over but seem to have used all 3 eqs. What gives?

We set $V = V$ to combine eq. 2 + eq. 3, so we haven't used that information yet.

To do so, just grab one of the eqs with V (and R_1 , the remaining unknown)

$$V = I_1 R_1 + I_2 (R_3 + R_4)$$

$$R_1 = \frac{V}{I_1} - \frac{I_2}{I_1} (R_3 + R_4)$$