

Parallel Circuit

## Unit 13

# Solving The Parallel Circuit

Mar 17-10:01 PM

## Parallel Circuit Connection

(+ and -) post  
not end to end

-Two or more loads are connected across the voltage sources leads

- Each load acts independently

- MORE than 1 Pathway

\* # of paths = # of parallel loads

**FIGURE 13-1 PARALLEL CIRCUIT**

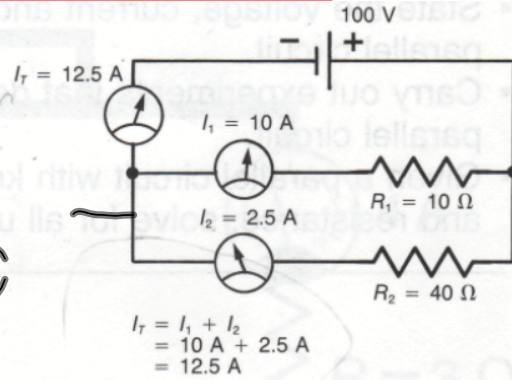
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## Parallel Circuit: Current

Current is the divided among each load

$$I_T = I_1 + I_2 \dots$$



- The higher the resistance of the load, the lower the amount of current taken.

\* acts independently of other loads, as far as current is concerned.

Mar 15-11:11 AM



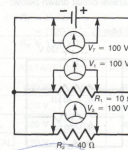
## Parallel Circuit: Voltage

- Voltage in a parallel circuit is the same across each load.  
-because each load is connected directly across the 2 lines(+ & -)

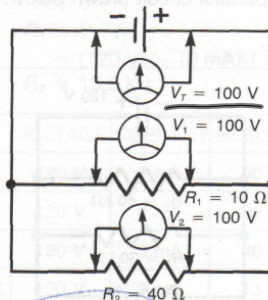
- **Total Voltage Drop:** is equal to value on voltage source (voltage total)

$$V_T = V_1 = V_2 = V_3 \dots$$

FIGURE 13-3 THE VOLTAGE ACROSS EACH BRANCH OF A PARALLEL CIRCUIT IS THE SAME AS THE SOURCE VOLTAGE



**FIGURE 13-3** THE VOLTAGE ACROSS EACH BRANCH OF A PARALLEL CIRCUIT IS THE SAME AS THE SOURCE VOLTAGE



Mar 15-11:25 AM



## Parallel Circuit: Resistance

- **Total Resistance**: is less than any individual load resistors

For 2 loads

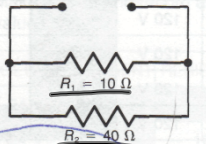
$$R_T = \frac{R_1 \times R_2}{R_1 + R_2}$$

For 3 or MORE loads

$$R_T = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} + \frac{1}{R_3} \dots}$$

Mar 15-11:26 AM

Ex) Solve for  $R_T$



need common denominators with fract

now add top of fractions

flip

divide

$$R_T = \frac{R_1 \times R_2}{R_1 + R_2}$$

$$= \frac{10 \Omega \times 40 \Omega}{10 \Omega + 40 \Omega}$$

$$= \frac{400 \Omega}{50 \Omega}$$

$$= 8 \Omega$$

$$R_T = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} + \frac{1}{R_3} \dots}$$


$$= \frac{1}{\frac{1}{10} + \frac{1}{40}}$$

$$= \frac{1 \times 40}{\frac{4}{40} + \frac{1}{40}}$$

$$\text{flip} = \frac{40}{5}$$

$$= 8 \Omega$$

Mar 26-11:32 AM



## Parallel Circuit Equations

$$\left. \begin{aligned} I_T &= I_1 + I_2 \dots \\ V_T &= V_1 = V_2 = V_3 \dots \end{aligned} \right\}$$

different from Unit 12

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$$\frac{R_T = V_T}{I_T} \quad R_1 = \frac{V_1}{I_1} \quad I_1 = \frac{V_1}{R_1} \dots$$

same from Unit 12

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Give  $R_1, R_2, R_3$

For 2 loads

$$R_T = \frac{R_1 \times R_2}{R_1 + R_2}$$

different from Unit 12


For 3 or MORE loads

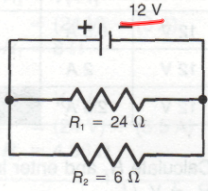
$$R_T = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} + \frac{1}{R_3} \dots}$$

May 28-10:09 PM

**Example 1**  
Problem:  
 Find all the unknown values of  $V, I,$  and  $R$  for the parallel circuit drawn below:

Try





|       | Voltage | Current | Resistance |
|-------|---------|---------|------------|
| $R_1$ | 12V     | 0.5A    | 24Ω        |
| $R_2$ | 12V     | 2A      | 6Ω         |
| Total | 12V     | 2.5A    | 4.8Ω       |

$$R_T = \frac{R_1 \times R_2}{R_1 + R_2}$$

$$R_T = \frac{24 \times 6}{24 + 6}$$

$$= \frac{144}{30}$$

$$= 4.8 \Omega$$

$$I_1 = \frac{V_1}{R_1} = I_1 = 0.5A$$

$$= \frac{12V}{24 \Omega}$$

$$I_2 = \frac{V_2}{R_2}$$

$$= \frac{12V}{6 \Omega}$$

$$I_2 = 2A$$

$$I_T = I_1 + I_2$$

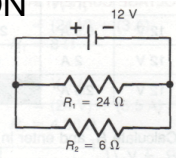
$$= 2 + 0.5$$

$$= 2.5A$$

Mar 28-11:32 AM

**Example 1 SOLUTION**

**Problem:**  
Find all the unknown values of  $V$ ,  $I$ , and  $R$  for the parallel circuit drawn below:



**Step 1** Make a chart and record all known values.

|       | VOLTAGE | CURRENT | RESISTANCE  |
|-------|---------|---------|-------------|
| $R_1$ |         |         | 24 $\Omega$ |
| $R_2$ |         |         | 6 $\Omega$  |
| TOTAL | 12 V    |         |             |

**Step 2** Calculate  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  and enter in chart.  
 $V_T = V_1 = V_2 = 12 \text{ V}$

|       | VOLTAGE | CURRENT | RESISTANCE  |
|-------|---------|---------|-------------|
| $R_1$ | 12 V    |         | 24 $\Omega$ |
| $R_2$ | 12 V    |         | 6 $\Omega$  |
| TOTAL | 12 V    |         |             |

**Step 3** Calculate  $I_1$ ,  $I_2$  and  $I_3$  and enter in chart.

$$I_1 = V_1 / R_1$$

$$= (12 \text{ V}) \div (24 \Omega)$$

$$I_1 = 0.5 \text{ A}$$

$$I_2 = V_2 / R_2$$

$$= (12 \text{ V}) \div (6 \Omega)$$

$$I_2 = 2 \text{ A}$$

$$I_T = I_1 + I_2$$

$$= (0.5 \text{ A}) + (2 \text{ A})$$

$$I_T = 2.5 \text{ A}$$

|       | VOLTAGE | CURRENT | RESISTANCE  |
|-------|---------|---------|-------------|
| $R_1$ | 12 V    | 0.5 A   | 24 $\Omega$ |
| $R_2$ | 12 V    | 2 A     | 6 $\Omega$  |
| TOTAL | 12 V    | 2.5 A   |             |

**Step 4** Calculate  $R_T$  and enter in chart.

$$R_T = V_T / I_T$$

$$= (12 \text{ V}) \div (2.5 \text{ A})$$

$$R_T = 4.8 \Omega$$

OR

$$R_T = \frac{R_1 \times R_2}{R_1 + R_2}$$

$$= \frac{(24 \Omega)(6 \Omega)}{(24 \Omega) + (6 \Omega)}$$

$$= \frac{144}{30}$$

$$R_T = 4.8 \Omega$$

|       | VOLTAGE | CURRENT | RESISTANCE   |
|-------|---------|---------|--------------|
| $R_1$ | 12 V    | 0.5 A   | 24 $\Omega$  |
| $R_2$ | 12 V    | 2 A     | 6 $\Omega$   |
| TOTAL | 12 V    | 2.5 A   | 4.8 $\Omega$ |

Mar 28-11:32 AM

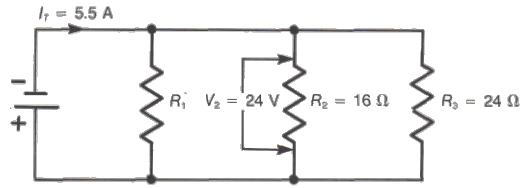
# STOP

Read Unit 13 from textbook

May 28-10:17 PM

**Example 3**

**Problem:**  
Find all the unknown values of  $V$ ,  $I$ , and  $R$  for the parallel circuit drawn below:



|       | Voltage | Current | Resistance |
|-------|---------|---------|------------|
| $R_1$ | 24V     |         |            |
| $R_2$ | 24V     | 1.5     | 16Ω        |
| $R_3$ | 24V     | 1       | 24Ω        |
| Total | 24V     | 5.5A    |            |

$$I_2 = \frac{V_2}{R_2}$$

$$I_2 = \frac{24}{16} = 1.5A$$

$$I_3 = \frac{V_3}{R_3}$$

$$I_3 = \frac{24V}{24\Omega} = 1A$$

$$5.5 - 1 - 1.5 = 3.$$

Mar 28-11:40 AM

**Solution:**

**Step 1** Make a chart and record all known values.

|       | VOLTAGE | CURRENT | RESISTANCE |
|-------|---------|---------|------------|
| $R_1$ | 24 V    |         |            |
| $R_2$ | 24 V    |         | 16 Ω       |
| $R_3$ | 24 V    |         | 24 Ω       |
| TOTAL | 24 V    | 5.5 A   |            |

**Step 2** Calculate  $I_2$ ,  $I_3$ ,  $I_1$ ,  $R_1$ , and  $R_T$  and enter in chart.

$$I_2 = V_2 / R_2$$

$$= (24 \text{ V}) \div (16 \Omega)$$

$$I_2 = 1.5 \text{ A}$$

$$I_3 = V_3 / R_3$$

$$= (24 \text{ V}) \div (24 \Omega)$$

$$I_3 = 1 \text{ A}$$

$$I_1 = I_T - (I_2 + I_3)$$

$$= (5.5 \text{ A}) - (2.5 \text{ A})$$

$$I_1 = 3 \text{ A}$$

$$R_1 = V_1 / I_1$$

$$= (24 \text{ V}) \div (3 \text{ A})$$

$$R_1 = 8 \Omega$$

$$R_T = V_T / I_T$$

$$= (24 \text{ V}) \div (5.5 \text{ A})$$

$$R_T = 4.36 \Omega$$

|       | VOLTAGE | CURRENT | RESISTANCE |
|-------|---------|---------|------------|
| $R_1$ | 24 V    | 3 A     | 8 Ω        |
| $R_2$ | 24 V    | 1.5 A   | 16 Ω       |
| $R_3$ | 24 V    | 1 A     | 24 Ω       |
| TOTAL | 24 V    | 5.5 A   | 4.36 Ω     |

Apr 9-11:18 AM

Page 132

#1,2,3,

Do the wire numbering chart and then solve for the missing values.

|                | Voltage | Current | Resistance |
|----------------|---------|---------|------------|
| R <sub>1</sub> |         |         |            |
| R <sub>2</sub> |         |         |            |
| Total          |         |         |            |

#4 & 5

Do the wire numbering chart and then solve for the missing values.

|                | Voltage | Current | Resistance |
|----------------|---------|---------|------------|
| R <sub>1</sub> |         |         |            |
| R <sub>2</sub> |         |         |            |
| R <sub>3</sub> |         |         |            |
| Total          |         |         |            |

Apr 9-11:19 AM

Handwritten notes and calculations:

1. Total current to the sum of all four resistors together  
 $I_T = I_1 + I_2 + I_3 + I_4$   
 2. Voltage is the same across all resistors in a parallel branch  
 $V_T = V_1 = V_2 = V_3 = V_4$   
 3. The total resistance will always be lower than the lowest individual resistor  
 $R_T < R_1, R_2, R_3, R_4$   
 4. 2 resistors in series  
 $R_T = R_1 + R_2$   
 $R_T = 10\Omega + 20\Omega = 30\Omega$   
 5. 3 resistors in parallel  
 $\frac{1}{R_T} = \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} + \frac{1}{R_3}$   
 $\frac{1}{R_T} = \frac{1}{10\Omega} + \frac{1}{20\Omega} + \frac{1}{30\Omega}$   
 $\frac{1}{R_T} = \frac{6}{60\Omega} + \frac{3}{60\Omega} + \frac{2}{60\Omega} = \frac{11}{60\Omega}$   
 $R_T = \frac{60\Omega}{11} = 5.45\Omega$   
 6. 2 resistors in parallel  
 $\frac{1}{R_T} = \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2}$   
 $\frac{1}{R_T} = \frac{1}{10\Omega} + \frac{1}{20\Omega} = \frac{3}{20\Omega}$   
 $R_T = \frac{20\Omega}{3} = 6.67\Omega$   
 7. 3 resistors in parallel  
 $\frac{1}{R_T} = \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} + \frac{1}{R_3}$   
 $\frac{1}{R_T} = \frac{1}{10\Omega} + \frac{1}{20\Omega} + \frac{1}{30\Omega} = \frac{11}{60\Omega}$   
 $R_T = \frac{60\Omega}{11} = 5.45\Omega$   
 8. 2 resistors in series  
 $R_T = R_1 + R_2$   
 $R_T = 10\Omega + 20\Omega = 30\Omega$   
 9. 3 resistors in parallel  
 $\frac{1}{R_T} = \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} + \frac{1}{R_3}$   
 $\frac{1}{R_T} = \frac{1}{10\Omega} + \frac{1}{20\Omega} + \frac{1}{30\Omega} = \frac{11}{60\Omega}$   
 $R_T = \frac{60\Omega}{11} = 5.45\Omega$   
 10. 2 resistors in parallel  
 $\frac{1}{R_T} = \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2}$   
 $\frac{1}{R_T} = \frac{1}{10\Omega} + \frac{1}{20\Omega} = \frac{3}{20\Omega}$   
 $R_T = \frac{20\Omega}{3} = 6.67\Omega$   
 11. 3 resistors in parallel  
 $\frac{1}{R_T} = \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} + \frac{1}{R_3}$   
 $\frac{1}{R_T} = \frac{1}{10\Omega} + \frac{1}{20\Omega} + \frac{1}{30\Omega} = \frac{11}{60\Omega}$   
 $R_T = \frac{60\Omega}{11} = 5.45\Omega$   
 12. 2 resistors in series  
 $R_T = R_1 + R_2$   
 $R_T = 10\Omega + 20\Omega = 30\Omega$   
 13. 3 resistors in parallel  
 $\frac{1}{R_T} = \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} + \frac{1}{R_3}$   
 $\frac{1}{R_T} = \frac{1}{10\Omega} + \frac{1}{20\Omega} + \frac{1}{30\Omega} = \frac{11}{60\Omega}$   
 $R_T = \frac{60\Omega}{11} = 5.45\Omega$   
 14. 2 resistors in parallel  
 $\frac{1}{R_T} = \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2}$   
 $\frac{1}{R_T} = \frac{1}{10\Omega} + \frac{1}{20\Omega} = \frac{3}{20\Omega}$   
 $R_T = \frac{20\Omega}{3} = 6.67\Omega$   
 15. 3 resistors in parallel  
 $\frac{1}{R_T} = \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} + \frac{1}{R_3}$   
 $\frac{1}{R_T} = \frac{1}{10\Omega} + \frac{1}{20\Omega} + \frac{1}{30\Omega} = \frac{11}{60\Omega}$   
 $R_T = \frac{60\Omega}{11} = 5.45\Omega$

Apr 9-11:23 AM

$$3.3 \text{ k}\Omega \times 1000$$

$$3300 \Omega = 3300 \Omega$$

$$V_2 = 103.4 \text{ V}$$

$$I_2 = \frac{V_2}{R_2}$$

$$= \frac{103.4 \text{ V}}{3300 \Omega}$$

$$= 0.031 \text{ A} \times 1000$$

$$= 31 \text{ mA}$$

$$\frac{53 \text{ mA}}{1000}$$

$$0.053 \text{ A} = 0.053 \text{ A} = I_T$$

$$V_T = 103.9 \text{ V}$$

$$R_T = \frac{V_T}{I_T}$$

$$= \frac{103.9 \text{ V}}{0.053 \text{ A}}$$

$$= \frac{1951}{1000} \Omega$$

$$= 1.95 \text{ k}\Omega$$

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# Test

Apr 9-11:27 AM



|            | Series                        | Parallel   |
|------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Voltage    | $V_T = V_1 + V_2 + V_3 \dots$ | $V_T = V_1 = V_2 = V_3 \dots$  |
| Current    | $I_T = I_1 = I_2 = I_3 \dots$ | $I_T = I_1 + I_2 + I_3 \dots$  |
| Resistance | $R_T = R_1 + R_2 + R_3$       | <p>2 Res, Series</p> $R_T = \frac{R_1 \times R_2}{R_1 + R_2}$ <p>3 or More</p> $R_T = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} + \frac{1}{R_3}}$ |

Apr 9-11:32 AM