

**COURSE COMPETENCIES**

1. Solve linear equations with one unknown
  - You solve linear equations for one dependent variable
  - You manipulate linear equations to isolate selected variables.
  - You translate real problems into mathematical equations.
  - You apply the mathematics to determine the components, quantities, and properties of DC resistive electrical circuits.
  - Calculate power in DC resistive circuits
  - Analyze series DC resistive circuits
  - Analyze parallel DC resistive circuits
  - Analyze parallel/series DC resistive circuits

**BACKGROUND**

Kirchhoff's Voltage and Current Laws are fundamental to good electronic design and trouble shooting. The students should be able to proficiently apply Ohm's Law and the Power Rule.

**EXPLICIT CONNECTIONS**

It is important that each person understands how to apply simple mathematics to complicated circuits. The students should be fluent in applying Kirchhoff's Laws after this module.

**NOTES TO SELF**

- Encourage each individual to accurately sketch the circuits.
- Have groups sketch and defend their circuit diagrams on the white board.
- Strongly encourage students to make predictions so they continue to build their confidence.

Duration Minutes	Lesson	Suggested Structure
10	Lecture: Review Linear Equations	Cohort
20	Problem Set 4.1: Crazy Taxi	Group
20	Lecture: Linear graphs	Cohort
20	Problem Set 4.2: Functions and Graphing	Group
10	Blackboard: Practice Set 1 - Linear Equations	Individual
15	Blackboard: Practice Set 2 - Linear Graphs	Individual
25	Lecture: Kirchhoff's Voltage Law	Cohort
20	Problem Set 4.3: Kirchhoff's Voltage Law	Group
20	Lecture: Kirchhoff's Current Law	Cohort
30	Problem Set 4.4: Kirchhoff's Current Law	Group
15	Blackboard: Practice Set 3 - Kirchhoff's Laws	Individual
20	Problem Set 4.5: Kicker Circuit	Group
20	Problem Set 4.6: Circuit Analysis	Group
20	Problem Set 4.7: Circuit Puzzles	Group
20	Quiz	Cohort

<b>Lesson</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Material</b>
4.1	Linear functions and Graphing	Crazy Taxi
4.2	Linear functions and Graphing	Functions and Graphing
4.3	DC Circuits: Kirchhoff's Voltage Law	Kirchhoff's Voltage Law (KVL)
4.4	DC Circuits: Kirchhoff's Current Law	Kirchhoff's Current Law (KCL)
4.5	DC Circuits: Analysis 1	Kicker Circuit
4.6	DC Circuits: Analysis 2	Circuit Analysis
4.7	DC Circuits: Analysis 3	Circuit Puzzles

### **Prerequisite Assumptions**

Before beginning the lesson, students should understand,

- DC Resistive Circuit equivalent modeling,
- DC Series and parallel connected resistor equivalence,
- Combined DC Parallel and Series connected Resistors
- Application of Ohm's Law and the Power Rule

### **Specific Objectives**

By the end of this lesson, you should be able to;

- ✓ Solve a linear function
- ✓ Understand the slope-intercept form of a linear function
- ✓ Graph a linear function
- ✓ Apply the voltage and current division rules in DC resistive circuit analysis
- ✓ Apply Kirchhoff's Voltage Laws when conducting DC resistive circuit analysis
- ✓ Apply Kirchhoff's Current Laws when conducting DC resistive circuit analysis
- ✓ Apply modeling techniques to analyze complicated DC resistive circuits.

**Problem Situation 4.1 – Crazy Taxi**



<https://tapintoteenminds.com/3act-math/crazy-taxi/>

1) What do you think the fare would be for the 30 km traveled?

I would guess about \$15.

2) Can you determine the fare for the 30 km traveled?

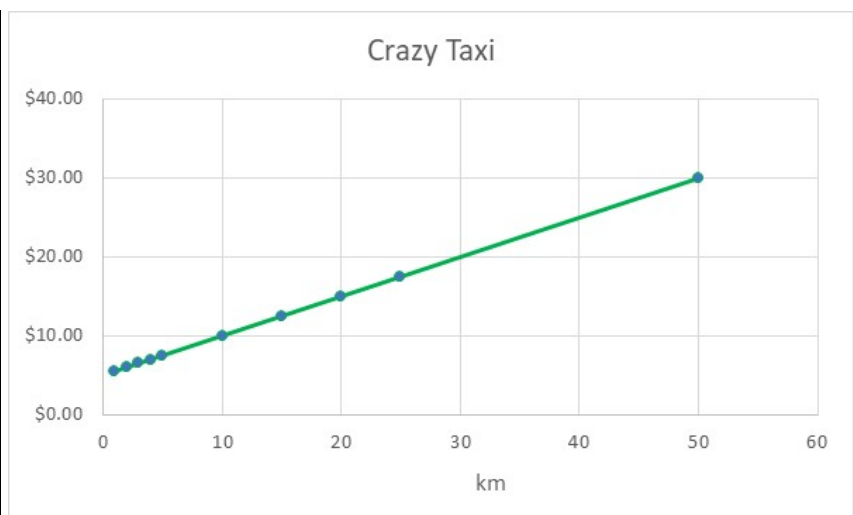
I need to find the fare for 30 km. The charge is \$5 to start and then an additional \$0.50 /km. So this would be  $\$5 + \$0.50 \cdot 30 = \$20$

3) Create an equation to model the cost vs. km. Can you tell what 'kind' of equation it is?

I need to create an equation so I will first identify the dependent and independent variables that I know. C = total fare and is dependent on d = distance traveled in km.  
 $C = \$5 + (\$0.50 \cdot d)$  It is a linear equation.

4) Create a graph to show km travelled vs cost. Make sure to label the axis. What is the shape of the curve? **Straight line.**

Cost (\$)	Distance (km)
\$5.50	1
\$6.00	2
\$6.50	3
\$7.00	4
\$7.50	5
\$10.00	10
\$17.50	15
\$20.00	20
\$27.50	25
\$30.00	50



5) From the graph, can you determine how far the person could get if they had \$25? Can you also calculate the distance?

From the graph, for \$25 it looks like it would be about 40 km. For the calculation:  
 $\$25 = \$5 + (\$0.50 \cdot d) \rightarrow \$25 - \$5 = (\$0.50 \cdot d) \rightarrow \frac{\$20}{\$0.50} = d = 40 \text{ km}$

**Problem Situation 4.2 – Functions and Graphing**

A **function** is the mathematical relationship in which **each** *input* has a **single** *output*. It relates the input (*independent variable*) to the output (*dependent variable*). Typically, this is written as  $f(x)$  where  $x$  is the input to the function  $f$ . This is read as “ $f$  of  $x$ ”. Often  $f(x)$  will be given another variable name, such as “ $y$ ”, to simplify the amount of writing. This would be written  $y = f(x)$ .

Graphing is very difficult for some students. Understanding the function and graph are worth spending some extra time in the classroom. Data sheets with graphs are frequently used in this field.

Example:

You are having a meeting and want to get cookies for everyone. You order two cookies for each person and then one spare cookie for sampling.

I will use  $x$  as the “number of people attending the meeting”

$$f(x) = 2x + 1 \quad (2 \text{ times } x \text{ plus } 1)$$

Evaluate the function when 2 people are attending:  $x = 2$

$$f(2) = 2 * 2 + 1$$

$$f(2) = 5 \quad \text{thus, for two people you would need 5 cookies}$$

Evaluate the function when 14 people are attending:  $x = 14$

$$f(14) = 2 * 14 + 1$$

$$f(14) = 29 \quad \text{For 14 people you would need 29 cookies.}$$

1) Evaluate the following function when  $m = 3.5$

$$f(m) = \frac{4}{m} * 1.2$$

$$f(3.5) = \frac{4}{3.5} * 1.2 = 1.37$$

2) Evaluate the following function when  $c = -4.2$

$$f(c) = \frac{3}{4}c - 0.9$$

$$f(-4.2) = \frac{3}{4} * -4.2 - 0.9 = -4.05$$

3) Evaluate the following function when  $x = 7.98$

$$f(x) = 2.7x + 14$$

$$f(7.98) = 2.7 * 7.98 + 14 = 35.6$$

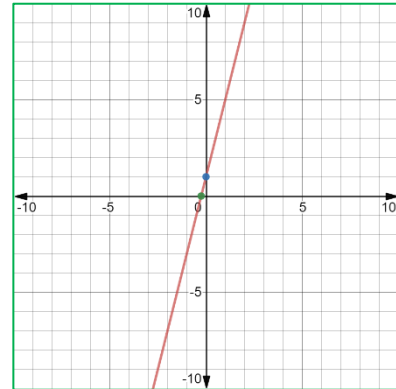
4) Evaluate the following function when  $x = 12$

$$f(x) = -3.1x - 1$$

$$f(12) = -3.1 * 12 - 1.2 = -38.4$$

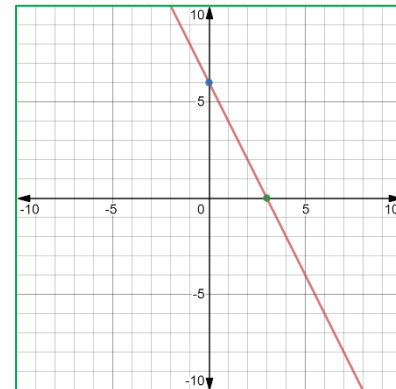
- 5) Graph the following linear function by determining *at least* two points on the line. Label everything.  
 $f(x) = 4x + 1$

x	f(x) = y
0	1
-0.25	0



- 6) Graph the following linear function by determining at least two points on the line. Label everything.  
 $f(x) = 6 - 2x$

x	f(x) = y
0	6
3	0



A standard description for a linear function is the slope intercept form:  $y = mx + b$   
 where  $m$  = the slope or the rise/run and  $b$  = y-intercept or where the graph crosses the y-axis

- 7) Identify the slope and y-intercept for the equations that you just graphed.  
 $f(x) = y = 4x + 1$

Slope = 4

y-intercept = 1

- 8)  $y = 6 - 2x$

Slope = -2

y-intercept = 6

It is well worth spending extra time understanding the standard form of a line, slope and y-intercept.

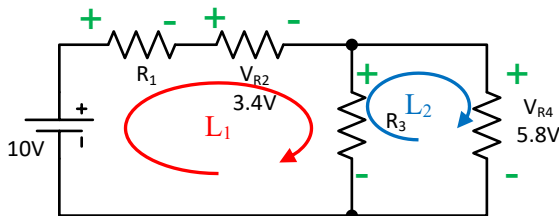
**Problem Situation 4.3 – Kirchhoff's Voltage Law (KVL)**

**Gustav Kirchhoff** was a German physicist that did research in the field of electronics in the mid-1800s. He discovered fundamental theories about electronics. The first theory we will study is **Kirchhoff's Voltage Law**, which states that the voltages (*potential*) in any CLOSED circuit path (a *loop*) always sums to zero. You only get the voltage out that goes in, or all of the voltage is distributed along the loop such that all the voltages cancels out. Voltage potential cannot be lost or gained within a circuit.

**Kirchhoff's Voltage Law:** In a closed loop, start at ground, the zero-potential point (though you can start anywhere), and trace a closed loop while summing the voltages (– to + is positive and + to – is a negative) you come across until the trace returns to ground (where you started) and you have completed the closed loop. The sum of the voltages of every loop will always equal zero.

Have each group draw their schematic on the white board and explain their decision making.

- 1) Analyze the following circuit using Kirchhoff's Voltage Law to determine  $V_{R1}$  and  $V_{R3}$ .



There are 2 closed loops. I will sum for the voltages in both loops starting at the supply;

$$\begin{aligned} L_1: 0 &= 10V - V_{R1} - V_{R2} - V_{R3} \\ 0 &= 10V - V_{R1} - 3.4V - V_{R3} \\ 6.6V &= V_{R1} - V_{R3} \end{aligned}$$

I have 2 independent variables, but I know one of them, so I can solve for the other;

$$\begin{aligned} L_2: 0 &= V_{R3} - V_{R4} \\ 0 &= V_{R3} - 5.8V \\ V_{R3} &= 5.8V \end{aligned}$$

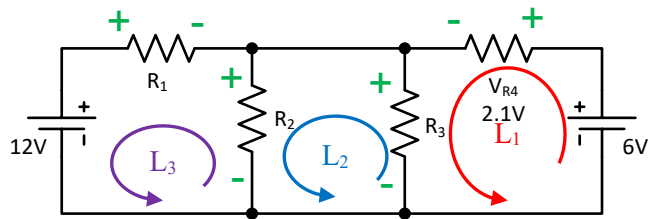
Now I can determine  $V_{R1}$  by another substitution with the value of  $V_{R3}$ ;

$$\begin{aligned} 6.6V &= V_{R1} - 5.8V \\ V_{R1} &= 0.8V \end{aligned}$$

$$V_{R1} = \underline{0.8V}$$

$$V_{R3} = \underline{5.8V}$$

2) Analyze the following circuit using Kirchhoff's Voltage Law to determine  $V_{R1}$ ,  $V_{R2}$  and  $V_{R3}$ .



There are three closed loops in this circuit. I need to sum up the closed loops and look for each component to be in at least one loop.  $L_1$  has only one unknown so I will start with that loop at the supply with 'into' a - negative sign being positive and 'into' a + sign being negative.

$$\begin{aligned} L_1: 0 &= 6V - V_{R4} - V_{R3} \\ 0 &= 6V - 2.1V - V_{R3} \\ 3.9V &= V_{R3} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} L_2: 0 &= V_{R3} - V_{R2} \\ 0 &= 3.9V - V_{R2} \\ 3.9V &= V_{R2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} L_3: 0 &= V_{R2} + V_{R1} - 12V \\ 0 &= 3.9V + V_{R1} - 12V \\ 8.1V &= V_{R1} \end{aligned}$$

$$V_{R1} = \underline{8.1V}$$

$$V_{R2} = \underline{3.9V}$$

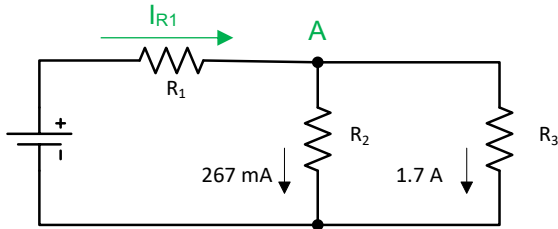
$$V_{R3} = \underline{3.9V}$$

**Problem Situation 4.4 – Kirchhoff’s Current Law (KCL)**

Gustav Kirchhoff’s second law is about the current in a circuit. **Kirchhoff’s Current Law** states the current at a node (where circuit loops connect) must always sum to zero. Like water pipes coming together, all the current entering the connection point (*node*) must exit. Current will never disappear or grow in a circuit. All the current entering a node must leave that node. It is often helpful to label each node with a number in order to keep track of things. Ground is often labeled “0”. KCL is obvious when you only have two paths (*branches*) because you only have a single “in” and a single “out” but it is most useful when you have three or more branches.

Have each group draw their schematic on the white board to explain their decision making process.

1) Analyze the following circuit using Kirchhoff’s Current Law to determine  $I_{R1}$ .



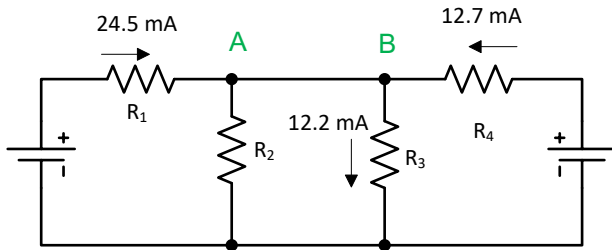
KCL states that the current into any node must sum to zero. I am going first label the node that I will apply KCL to as node A, with ‘into’ being positive and ‘out of’ being negative:

$$0 = I_{R1} - I_{R2} - I_{R3} \text{ (} I_{R1} \text{ is entering the node, } I_{R2} \text{ and } I_{R3} \text{ are leaving the node.)}$$

$$I_{R1} = 0.267A + 1.7A = 1.97A$$

$I_{R1} = \underline{1.97A}$

2) Analyze the following circuit using Kirchhoff’s Current Law to determine  $I_{R2}$ .



KCL states that the current into any node must sum to zero. I am going first label the nodes to which I will apply KCL, node A and B.

I will start with node B because I know the current in 2 of the 3 branches:

$$\text{Node B: } 0 = I_{R4} - I_{R3} - I_A$$

$$I_A = 12.7mA - 12.2mA = 0.5mA$$

$$\text{Node A: } 0 = I_A + I_{R1} - I_{R2}$$

$$I_{R2} = 0.5mA + 24.5mA = 25mA$$

$I_{R2} = \underline{25 \text{ mA}}$

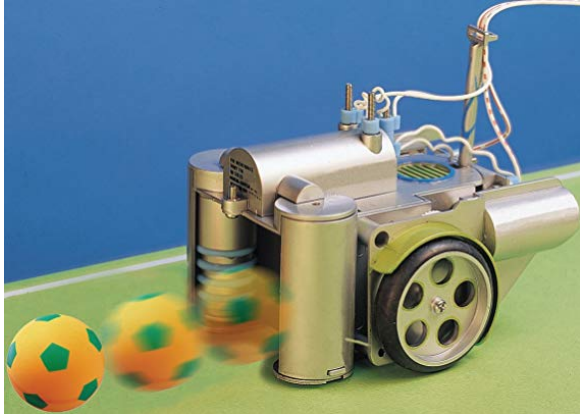


**Problem Situation 4.5 – Kicker circuit.**

The autonomous robot below “sees” a ball and “kicks” it.

The ball activates a switch that energizes the kicker motor (resistive load).

Assume that there are only  $20\ \Omega$  resistors available to use in the circuit.



- 1) What requirements do you “know” and what must you assume in order to design a circuit for this application?

*System Requirements: Supply, motor load resistance, Current limiting to not burn up motor, Switch.  
Design Requirements: Supply,  $V_S = 16V$ , required motor voltage,  $V_L = 12V$ ,  
measured motor resistance,  $R_L = 30\Omega$ ,  $I_{Lmax} = 400mA$ .  
These are reasonable assumptions – answers will vary. You may need to tease these out of the students.*

- 2) Sketch your design and give your justifications.

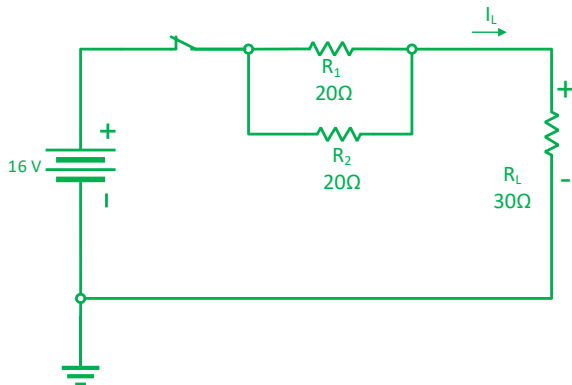
In my design I will need a switch, a voltage source (I am going to assume 16V) and a resistor to model the motor load. Using Ohm's Law I determine the current the motor ( $R_L$ ) will draw from the supply by itself.

$$I_T = \frac{V_S}{R_L} = \frac{16V}{30\Omega} = 0.533 A = 533 mA$$

This is a lot of current, over a half an amp, much more than the 400 mA max. I will need to limit the current so the motor doesn't burn up. In order to meet the design parameters of 400 mA, the **total** resistance needs to be higher.

$$R_T = \frac{V_S}{I_L} = \frac{16V}{0.4A} = 40\Omega$$

I need to have  $10\Omega$  added in series with the  $R_L = 30\Omega$  to limit the current. I only have  $20\Omega$  resistors so two in parallel would give me the required total resistance.



- 3) How would you “validate” your design to verify that it satisfies the requirements and design parameters both as given and assumed?

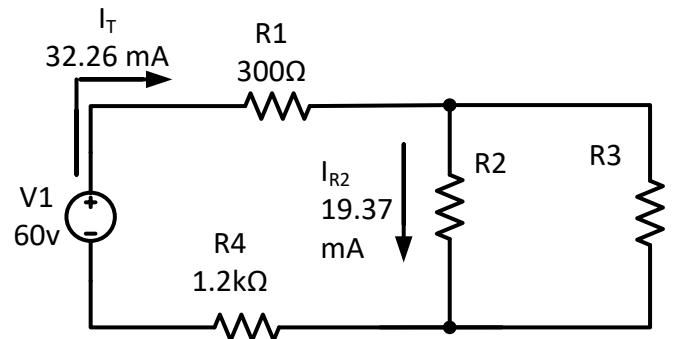
The requirements and design parameters are met because when the “sensor” closes the switch, the total current is 400 mA and this creates a voltage potential of 12V across the motor to run it when the switch is closed.

- 4) Does your design satisfy the “requirements” as specified for this circuit? **Yes.**

**Problem Situation 4.6 - Circuit Analysis**

- 1) Analyze the following circuit to determine the missing information in the table.

R	Value (Ω)	Current (mA)	Voltage (V)	Power (mW)
R1	300	32.26	9.678	312
R2	600	19.37	11.62	225
R3	900	12.89	11.62	150
R4	1200	32.26	38.7	1,250

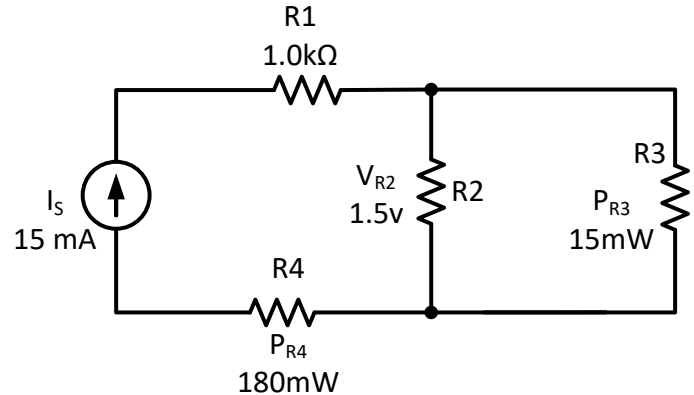


Start by first determining which components you have at least 2 pieces of data. With 2 pieces of data and Ohm's Law you can complete the analysis. Then use KCL and KVL to complete the analysis.

- 1)  $R_1$  – voltage and power
- 2)  $R_4$  - current is the same as  $R_1$  so find voltage and power
- 3)  $R_2$  – use KVL to determine voltage and then value and power
- 4)  $R_3$  – voltage = voltage as  $R_2$ , KCL to determine current and then find value and power

2) Analyze the following circuit to determine the missing information in the table.

R	Value ( $\Omega$ )	Current (mA)	Voltage (V)	Power (mW)
R1	1000	15	15	225
R2	300	5	1.5	7.5
R3	150	10	1.5	15
R4	800	15	12	180

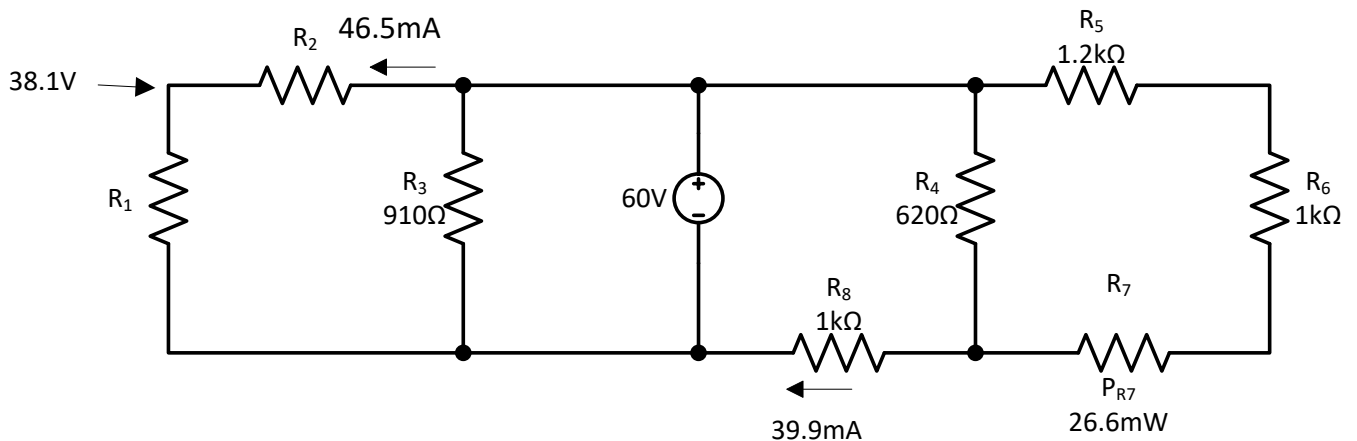


Start by first determining which components you have at least 2 pieces of data. With 2 pieces of data and Ohm's Law you can complete the analysis. Then use KCL and KVL to complete the analysis.

- 1)  $R_1$  – voltage and power
- 2)  $R_4$  - current is the same as  $R_1$  so find voltage and value
- 3)  $R_2$  – use KCL to determine current (current divider) and then value and power
- 4)  $R_3$  – voltage = voltage as  $R_2$ , KCL then find value and current

**Problem Situation 4.7 – Circuit Puzzles**

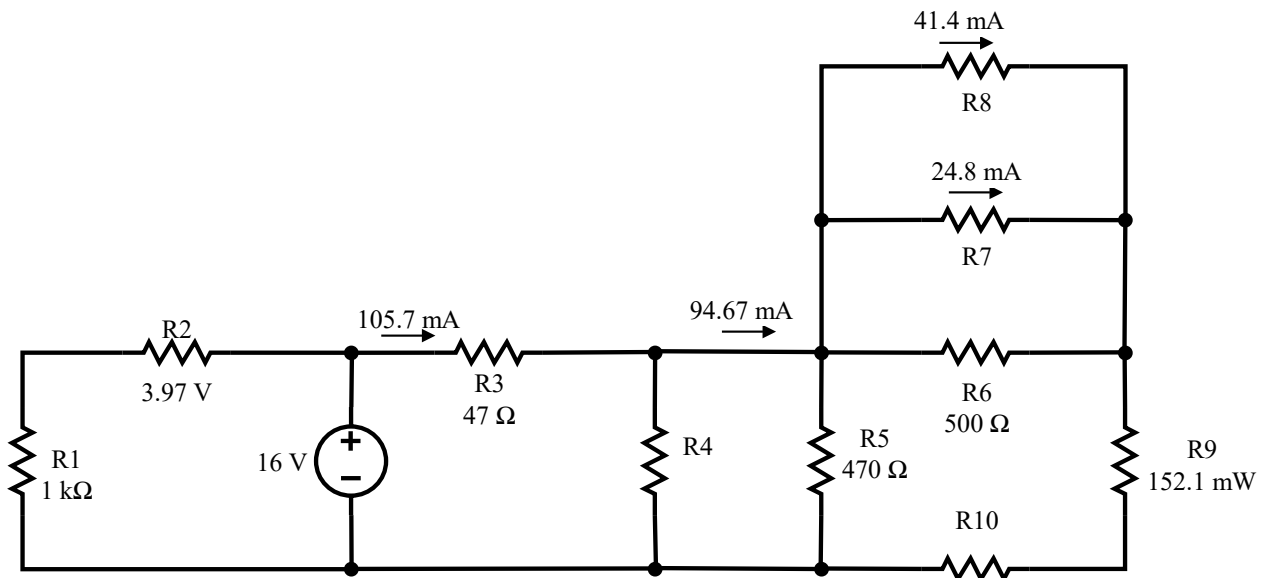
1) Determine the information on the table for the following circuits. Watch your units.



Component	Resistance ( $\Omega$ )	Current (mA)	Voltage (V)	Power (W)
R <sub>1</sub>	820	46.5	38.1	1.77
R <sub>2</sub>	470	46.5	21.9	1.02
R <sub>3</sub>	910	65.9	60	3.96
R <sub>4</sub>	620	32.4	20.1	0.0652
R <sub>5</sub>	1200	7.5	9	0.0675
R <sub>6</sub>	1000	7.5	7.5	0.0562
R <sub>7</sub>	470	7.5	3.5	0.0266
R <sub>8</sub>	1000	39.9	39.9	1.59

Start by determining for which components you have at least 2 pieces of data. With 2 pieces of data and Ohm's Law you can solve for an unknown. Then use KCL and KVL to complete the analysis.

- 1) R<sub>8</sub> – know value and current → calculate voltage and power
- 2) R<sub>3</sub> - know value and is in parallel with the voltage source → calculate current and power
- 3) R<sub>1</sub> – know voltage and has the same current as R<sub>2</sub> (in series) → calculate value and power
- 4) R<sub>2</sub> – I know V<sub>R3</sub> and V<sub>R4</sub> so use KVL to determine the voltage, then calculate value and power
- 5) R<sub>4</sub> – I know the source voltage and V<sub>R8</sub> so I can use KVL to determine the voltage, then I can determine current and power
- 6) R<sub>5</sub>, R<sub>6</sub> and R<sub>7</sub> are in series so they have the same current. KCL tells me that this current = I<sub>R8</sub>-I<sub>R4</sub> so then I have enough information to complete the analysis.



Start by determining for which components you have at least 2 pieces of data. With 2 pieces of data and Ohm's Law you can solve for an unknown. Then use KCL and KVL to complete the analysis.

- 1)  $R_3$  – know value and current  $\rightarrow$  calculate voltage and power
- 2)  $R_1$  – use KVL because I know the source voltage and  $V_{R2}$   $\rightarrow$  calculate current and power.
- 3)  $R_2$  – has the same current as  $R_1$  because they are in series  $\rightarrow$  calculate value and power
- 4)  $R_4$  – use KCL because I know two of the three branch currents. Use KVL because I know the source voltage and  $V_{R3}$   $\rightarrow$  calculate value and power.
- 5)  $R_5$  – the voltage is the same as  $V_{R4}$ , use KVL  $\rightarrow$  calculate the current and power.
- 6)  $R_6$  – I know 4 of the 5 currents at that node, use KCL  $\rightarrow$  calculate the voltage and power.
- 7)  $R_7$  and  $R_8$  – voltage is the same as  $R_6$  because they are in parallel  $\rightarrow$  calculate value and power.
- 8)  $R_9$  – the current must equal 94.67 mA minus  $I_{R5}$   $\rightarrow$  calculate value and voltage.
- 9)  $R_{10}$  –  $I_{R10}$  is the same as  $I_{R9}$ , use KVL to determine the voltage  $\rightarrow$  calculate value and power.

Component	Value ( $\Omega$ )	Current (mA)	Voltage (V)	Power (mW)
R1	1000	12.03	12.03	145
R2	330	12.03	3.97	47.8
R3	47	105.7	4.97	525
R4	1000	11.03	11.03	122
R5	470	23.47	11.03	249
R6	500	5	2.5	12.5
R7	100	24.8	2.5	62
R8	60	41.4	2.5	104
R9	30	71.2	2.14	152.1
R10	90	71.2	6.39	454