DC Circuits Self Test: Series-Parallel and Dependent Sources

Answers are on the final pages

1. For the circuit below, find voltage  $V_{ab}.$  Also find the current through the 20 k.



2. For the circuit below, find voltage  $V_{\rm bc}$  Also find the current through the 1 k.



3. For the circuit below, find the voltage across the 12 k.



4. For the circuit below, find the voltage across the 5 k.



## Answers

1. For the circuit below, find voltage  $V_{ab}.$  Also find the current through the 20 k.



By definition, Vab = Va-Vb. By inspection, Va = 10 V. Vb may be found via a voltage divider between the 3 k and the 4 k||20 k combo. 4 k||20 k = 3.333 k Vb = 10V\*3.333 k/(3.333 k + 3 k) = 5.263 V Thus, Vab = 4.737 V Knowing Vb, the current through the 20 k is found via Ohm's law. I = Vb/20 k = 5.263 V/20 k = .2631 mA

2. For the circuit below, find voltage  $V_{\rm bc}$  Also find the current through the 1 k.



By definition, Vbc = Vb-Vc. These can be found via Ohm's law once the currents are known. The currents may be determined via current divider rule and KCL. Treat each series pair as a single resistance (3.2 k left, 23.1 k right)  $I_{left} = 1 \text{ mA} + 23.1 \text{ k}/(23.1 \text{ k} + 3.2 \text{ k}) = .8783 \text{ mA}$  (I of 1 k, also)  $I_{right} = 1 \text{ mA} - .8783 \text{ mA} = .1217 \text{ mA}$ Vb = .8783 mA \* 2.2 k = 1.932 V Vc = .1217 mA \* 5.1 k = .6207 V Vbc = 1.932 V - .6207 V = 1.311 V 3. For the circuit below, find the voltage across the 12 k.



Using nodal analysis, define the currents at node b. Ix + 200Ix =  $I_{1k}$ 

Ix is the current flowing through point a. Also, Va = Vb. Further, note that Ix = (.1-Vb)/100.

Expand: 201(.1-Vb)/100 = Vb/1 k .201 = Vb(201/100 + 1/1 k) Vb = 99.9502735 mV Therefore Ix = (100 mV - 99.9502735 mV)/100 = .497265 uA And finally, V of 12 k = 12 k \* 200 \* .497265 uA = 1.193 V

Crosschecking: I Of 1 k = Vb / 1 k = 99.9502735 uA Ix + 200\*Ix = 99.950265 uA so KCL checks within round-off error.

FYI: the circuit above is a simplified amplifier using a bipolar junction transistor. The amplification factor is approximately equal to the ratio the right and middle resistors.



Using nodal analysis, define the currents at node b.  $I_{1M}$  + .01Vab =  $I_{100}$ 

Note that  $I_{1M} = (1-Vb)/1 M$ , and that Vab = 1 - Vb.

Expand: (1-Vb)/1 M + .01(1 - Vb) = Vb/100 1/1 M - Vb/1 M + .01 - .01Vb = Vb/100 .010001 = Vb(1/1M + .01 + 1/100) Vb = .5200024999 V Therefore, Vab = 1 V - .500024999 V = .499975 V The VCCS = .01 \* .499975 V = 4.99975 mA Therefore, V of 5 k = 24.999 volts.

You can also crosscheck KCL at node b but make sure that you leave many digits of precision because  $\rm I_{\rm 1M}$  is very small compared to the other currents (roughly .5 uA).

FYI: This circuit is a simplified amplifier using an FET (field effect transistor). The amplification factor is approximately equal to the transconductance (here, .01) times the 5 k, the result then divided by the quantity 1 plus the product of transconductance times the 100 ohm. This works out to 25 for this circuit (i.e., 1 volt times 25 yields 25 volts).