

Current - amount of charge flowing through a specific point in a certain period

Voltage - electrical potential energy, must across two points, GND = 0V

Components of circuits:

- resistor - measures how well a material conducts electrons
- capacitor/inductor - measures material's ability to store charge and energy
- transistor - basic amplification or switching technology

Kirchhoff's Laws:

- KCL - current in = current out, sum of current at any location = 0
- KVL - sum of voltages around a loop = 0, define consistent polarity

KVL and KCL are general and apply to any device

Electrical node: the junction of two or more devices connected by wires

- same voltage at any point of the node

Resistance and Ohms Law:

- Measure how hard it is for current to flow through the substance
- Resistance = Voltage / Current
- Measured in Ohms
- Ohms Law: $I = V/R$ or $V = IR$ (only applies to resistors or devices modeled as resistors)

Series vs Parallel resistance:

- Series resistors = same current must pass through both ($R_{\text{eff}} = R_1 + R_2 + \dots$)
- Parallel resistors = each connects to the same two nodes ($R_{\text{eff}} = 1/R_1 + 1/R_2 + \dots$)⁻¹
- Series and parallel resistors can be combined to an equivalent resistor

When two resistors are **in series**, we can deduce an expression for the voltage across one of them.

(1) $I = V_{\text{tot}} / (R_1 + R_2)$ (2) $V_1 = I * R_1$ (3) $V_2 = I * R_2$

$V_1 = V_{\text{tot}} [R_1 / (R_1 + R_2)]$, $V_2 = V_{\text{tot}} [R_2 / (R_1 + R_2)]$

LED:

- glows when current flows through it (voltage difference)
- LEDs are polarized, work in one direction (longer leg must be at higher voltage)
- Use a series of resistors to limit current
 - Amount of current will determine brightness of LED
 - R increases -> I decreases -> brightness down
 - usually R1 is 200-500 ohms