

Program First year BSc ,Subject Physics

Semester one, paper code PY C101, paper

title Mathematical methods and Mechanics

and Electrical circuit Theory Section2.

Section 2: electrical circuit theory.

Unit One Circuit analysis.

Module name: Thevenin's theorem

Part 1. Module number 6.

Hello students, in this module we

are going to study about Thevenin's

theorem. Outline of this module,

Thevenin's theorem, problem solving.

Learning outcome: the student will be

able to convert the given 2 terminal

network into its Thevenin's equivalent.

OK. Why Thevenin's Theorem?

OK consider a simple example where

we want to calculate the current

flowing through RL is equal to 10 ohm.

Right here I want to use the mesh

analysis method and calculate the

current flowing through RL is equal to  
10 ohms. Using mesh analysis; in mesh  
analysis we have to write the mesh  
equations for mesh 1 as well as mesh 2.

The sign convention what I follow  
is the IR drop in the direction  
of the motion of the mesh  
current is taken as negative and the  
voltage drop from negative to positive  
is taken as plus in the direction  
of the motion of mesh current.

OK, so let us write the mesh  
equation for mesh 1, that is  
 $-40 I_1 - 10(I_1 - I_2)$  because  
the current flowing through RL,  
in the direction  $I_1$ , is  $I_1 - I_2$ .

Therefore I have to write  $-10$  into

$$(I_1 - I_2) + 20 = 0 \text{ or}$$

on simplification I get  $5 I_1 - I_2$

is equal to 2 as equation number 1.

Similarly for mesh 2, the equation

is  $-20 I_2$  and the current

flowing in the direction of  $I_2$  in

RL is nothing but  $I_2 - I_1$ .

Therefore I have to write  $-10$  into

$(I_2 - I_1)$  that is equal to 0.

On simplification I get  $I_1 - 3 I_2$

is equal to 0 as my equation number 2.

Solving equations 1 and 2 we know that

I have to multiply equation number 2 by minus

5 and on adding I'll get the solution.

So the equation number 3 is  $5 I_1 - I_2$  is equal

to 2 and equation number 4 is  $-5 I_1 + 15 I_2$

is equal to 0. From 3 and 4

we have  $14 I_2$  is equal to 2

or  $I_2$  is equal to  $2 / 14$  or  $1 / 7$ A.

And  $I_1$  is equal to  $3 I_2$ .

From equation 2,

we can see that  $I_1 = 3 I_2$ ,

therefore  $I_1$  is equal to 3 into

$1 / 7$  that's equal to  $3 / 7$  amps.

Therefore, the current flowing through

RL is equal to 10 ohm is  $I_1 - I_2$  right?

So it is  $3/7 - 1/7$ .

That's equal to  $2/7$  amps,

which flows from A to B.

Now consider one more example where

only the RL value is changed to 30 ohm.

OK here I have changed RL from

10 ohm to 30 ohm. So again we

have to apply the mesh analysis here.

So we have to write mesh equations for

mesh 1 as well as mesh 2 and we

have to simplify it to get the mesh

currents  $I_1$  and  $I_2$  in this situation.

So the equation for mesh 1 is  $7I_1 - 3I_2$ .

is equal to 2 and

mesh equation for the second mesh is  $3I_1$

$-5I_2$  is equal to 0. Solving 1 and

2 we get  $I_1$  is equal to  $5/13$

amps and  $I_2$  is equal to  $3/13$  amps.

Therefore the current flowing through

RL will be, RL is equal to 30 ohm,

is  $I_{30}$  that's equal to  $I_L$ ,

$I_1 - I_2$  that comes out to be  $2/13$

amps, which flows from A to B. OK here I have

done only changes in the value of

$R_L$  from 10 ohm to 30 ohm,

whereas the remaining part is the same.

OK, in such situation,

if I want to find out again for

one more value of  $R_L$ ,

then I need to write the mesh equation,

simplify it and get the value

of load current.

In such situations we can

use the Thevenin's theorem.

Thevenin's Theorem: OK.

The statement of the theorem:

Thevenin's theorem states that any

2 terminal linear network having

a number of voltage sources,

current sources and resistances can

be replaced by a simple equivalent

circuit consisting of a single  
voltage source  $V_{Th}$  in series  
with the resistance  $R_{Th}$ .

OK, in this box it is written

2 terminal linear network.

This network may contain many resistances,  
current sources or voltage sources.

We can consider it as a complex circuit.

OK, then it is connected to a load.

This 2 terminal network can be replaced  
by an equivalent circuit having only  
one voltage source  $V_{th}$  in series  
with the resistance  $R_{th}$ .

OK, how to find the value of  $V_{th}$ ?

the value of voltage source

$V_{th}$  is equal to the open circuit voltage  
across the two terminals of the network.

OK, that is how to get the open circuit?

We have to remove the load from here  
then it becomes open circuit OK.

The voltage across the terminal

A&B is then taken as V th.

Now how to find out Rth?

The resistance Rth is equal to  
the equivalent resistance measured  
between the terminals, with all  
the energy sources replaced by  
their internal resistances.

OK,

the resistance Rth is found  
removing RL and we have to replace  
whatever energy sources are there;  
suppose here voltage sources are there,  
current sources are there.

We have to replace them with  
their internal resistances.

Then we have to calculate  
the resistance across ,equivalent  
resistance across A&B.

That is Rth.

OK, let us consider

the previous example only.

That is in the previous example,

only  $R_L$  value was varying.,

so we can draw the general

circuit as like this.

So I have shown a symbol variable

saying that  $R_L$  value is varying. OK.

This is the general circuit. To Thevenize

this circuit we have to find.

$V_{th}$  and  $R_{th}$ . To

find  $V_{th}$ , remove the load  $R_L$ .

Remove the load  $R_L$  and calculate the

open circuit voltage across A-B. OK.

What we have done? we have removed the

load and we have we have to calculate

the voltage  $V_{th}$ , across A-B.

Using voltage divider method

$V_{th}$  is equal to nothing but  $V_{AB}$  OK.

We can use a voltage divider method

according to which the voltage

across this 20 ohm resistor is given

as ,  $V_{th}$ ,

that's equal to  $V_{AB}$ ,

that's equal to  $(20 \times 20) / (40 + 20)$ ,

that is  $400 / 60$ .

Or that's equal to  $20 / 3$  volts.

To find  $R_{th}$ ,

remove the load  $R_L$  and replace the voltage

source with its internal resistance.

OK,

we know that the internal resistance

of a voltage source is zero, of

an ideal voltage source is 0.

We represent that by a short.

OK, so I've done here.

I have removed the voltage source here

and I have connected the terminals.

OK,

now we have to calculate the

resistance, equivalent resistance

between the terminal A&B. From the circuit,

we can see that, that is nothing,

but it's a parallel

combination of 40 ohm and 20 ohm right?

So  $R_{th}$  is 40 ohm parallel with

20 ohm, that is  $(40 \times 20) / (40 + 20)$

that's equal to  $800 / 60$  or  $40 / 3$  ohm.

So we got  $R_{th}$  thevenin

as  $40 / 3$  ohm.

OK now Thevenin's equivalent

circuit becomes like this.

We have got  $V_{th}$  with  $20/3$  V,

and  $R_{th}$  is  $40 / 3$  ohm,

and we have to connect

the load back. OK from this equivalent

circuit we can get the general

equation for the load current

as  $I_L$  is equal to  $V_{th}$

divided by  $(R_{th} + R_L)$ .

Here we have just applied Ohm's law.

OK so  $I_L$  is  $V_{th}$

divided by  $(R_{th} + R_L)$  amps.

OK, now let us calculate the current

flowing through  $R_L$  when it is 10 ohm

and when it is 30 ohm. Ok, that we  
did in the previous examples, right?

So  $I_{10}$  is equal to  $I_L$ ,

so  $V_{th}$  divided by  $(R_{th} + R_L)$ ,

that comes out to be 2 by 7 amps. OK.

Similarly,

$I_{30}$  is equal to  $I_L$ , that's equal to  $V_{th}$

divided by  $(R_{th} + R_L)$ .

Here I'm replacing  $R_L$  with 30

so it is  $20 / 3$

divided by  $(40 / 3 + 30)$  that

comes out to be  $2 / 13$  amps.

OK that these results are same which

we got from mesh analysis right?

So using Thevenin's theorem we can

easily find load current  $I_L$  for

any value of load  $R_L$ . OK so easily

now I can find out if I want

to change  $R_L$  to 40 Ohm.

What I have to do is I have to just

replace  $R_L$  with 40 here whereas

$V_{th}$  and  $R_{th}$  are the

same for that particular circuit.

OK,

so in such situations Thevenin's

theorem becomes very useful.

Note: in many circuits it is required

to calculate current, voltage

or power in only one resistor,

say load resistor  $R_L$ .

In such circuits Thevenin's

theorem is very useful.

Thank you.