

**ECE 3254 Laboratory**  
**Thevenin Equivalent**  
**Laboratory #3 Fall 2009**  
**PRELAB (100 points total)**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Bench:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Prelab assignment** (to be completed before coming to Lab 3):  
Read through the entire Lab3 handout and Lab3 notes.

1. For the voltage divider of Fig 3-1, find an equation for the current through R1 ( $I_{R1}$ ) in terms of R1, R2, and Vs. Show your work for full credit. (5 points)

Find an equation for Vo ( $V_{R1}$ ) in terms of R1, R2, and Vs (RL is open circuited - not connected). Note: This is the “voltage divider equation” that you will use frequently for 3254 Lab. Show your work for full credit. (5 points)

For the voltage divider of Fig 3-1 with Vs = 15V, R1 = 10k $\Omega$ , and R2 = 5.6k $\Omega$ , calculate Vo and  $I_{R1}$  (no load connected). Show your work for full credit. (5 points)

Calculated Voc ( $V_{R1}$ ) = \_\_\_\_\_, Calculated  $I_{R1}$  = \_\_\_\_\_

Model the voltage divider in Pspice (load the model from Lab 1, save it as Lab 3 something, then modify the values). Use Pspice to obtain the open circuit voltage for Vo and  $I_{R2}$  (no load connected). Print the Pspice schematic with simulation V and I bias values turned on. Label  $V_{R1}$  and  $I_{R1}$  on your print. [Note: You may choose to build a second circuit for Question 2 on the same page, and print the combined schematic. The resistors on the second circuit will not be numbered R1 and R2] (10 points)

Pspice Voc ( $V_{R1}$ ) = \_\_\_\_\_, Pspice  $I_{R1}$  = \_\_\_\_\_

How do Voc and  $I_{R1}$  from Pspice compare to the calculated values? (2 points)

Enter the calculated and Pspice values for Voc and  $I_{R2}$  on the Data sheet part I-2.

2. Calculate the short circuit current ( $I_{sc}$ ) available at the output terminals (This will be  $I_{R2}$  with  $R1$  shorted.). Show your work for full credit. (5 points)

Use pspice to obtain the short circuit current ( $I_{sc}$ ) at the divider output. Print the pspice schematic with simulation V and I bias values turned on. Label  $I_{sc}$  on your print. [Note: You may choose to build this as second circuit on the schematic with Question 1, and print the combined schematic.] (5 points)

Pspice  $I_{sc}$  = \_\_\_\_\_

How does  $I_{sc}$  from Pspice compare to the calculated value? (2 points)

Draw the Thevenin Equivalent model circuit for the voltage divider and calculate the values for  $V_{th}$  and  $R_{th}$ . Show your work for full credit. (3 points for circuit drawing, 10 points for calculation of values)

$V_{th}$  = \_\_\_\_\_,  $R_{th}$  = \_\_\_\_\_

What value of  $R_L$  produces the most power in the load resistor?  $R_{L_{pmax}}$  = \_\_\_\_\_ (2 points)

Enter the calculated and Pspice values for  $I_{sc}$ ,  $V_{th}$ , and  $R_{th}$  on the Data sheet part I-3.

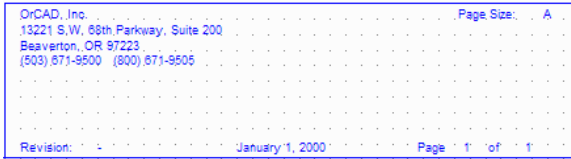
3. For three values of  $R_L$ , use the Thevenin equivalent model to calculate  $V_{RL}$ ,  $I_{RL}$ , and  $P_{RL}$ . (12 points)

$R_L$	$R_L$ (value)	$V_{RL}$	$I_{RL}$	$P_{RL}$
$R_{th} / 2$	_____	_____	_____	_____
$R_{th}$	_____	_____	_____	_____
$R_{th} * 2$	_____	_____	_____	_____

Enter these values on the Data sheet part I-4

4. Use Pspice to predict  $V_{RL}$ ,  $I_{RL}$ , and  $P_{RL}$  for  $[R_{th} / 2] < R_L < [R_{th} * 2]$ . See the Lab 3 Notes for details of each step. (20 points)
- Begin with the voltage divider from question 2. Save the model with a new name.
  - Add a new variable resistor to use for  $R_L$ .
  - Move (or place) the Voltage and Current probes to measure  $V_{RL}$  and  $I_{RL}$ .
  - Add a Parameter for the Variable resistor

- e. Set up the analysis – we want to observe the output as RL changes value
- f. In the drawing information at the bottom right corner of the schematic,



- g. edit the text to include at least your name, the date, and “ECE Lab 3 Thevenin model”.
- h. Save your file!
- i. Run the Simulation
- j. Add a trace for the load power ( $P_{RL}$ )
- k. Change I(RL) to milliAmps
- l. Widen each trace for printing
- m. Use the cursor to find and Label  $V_{RL}$ ,  $I_{RL}$ , and  $P_{RL}$  for  $RL = R_{th}/2$ ,  $R_{th}$ , and  $R_{th}*2$ .
- n. Use the “Text Label” button on the tool bar to add “ECE3254 Lab 3 Thevenin Model” and your name to the simulation.
- o. Print the schematic and simulation.

Simulation Results: (12 points)

RL	RL (value)	$V_{RL}$	$I_{RL}$	$P_{RL}$
Rth / 2	_____	_____	_____	_____
Rth	_____	_____	_____	_____
Rth * 2	_____	_____	_____	_____

Enter these values on the Data sheet part I-4

How do the Pspice simulation results compare to the calculated values? What is responsible for the differences? (2 points)

- 5.  $R_{th}$  can still be calculated if you can not measure  $I_{sc}$  but you can measure  $V_{oc}$  and the voltage across a know load resistor. Find an equation for  $V_{th}$  and  $R_{th}$  in terms of a measured  $V_{oc}$ ,  $V_L$ , and  $R_L$ . (show work) (5 points)

Enter this equation on the Data sheet part II-2

This page intentionally left blank for calculations.

## ECE 3254

### Thevenin Equivalent

#### Laboratory #3

Last Revised: 09-14-2009 Removed  $P_{R_{th}}$  calculations

Record all measurements and calculations on the data sheet.

Always include the units for each measurement and calculation!

#### Part I: Voltage Divider

1. Build the Voltage Divider circuit of Fig 3-1 on the protoboard with  $V_s = 15\text{VDC}$ ,  $R_1 = 10\text{k}\Omega$ , and  $R_2 = 5.6\text{k}\Omega$ . Before Construction, use a multimeter to measure the actual values of  $R_1$  and  $R_2$ . Initially leave  $R_L$  unconnected (an open circuit).

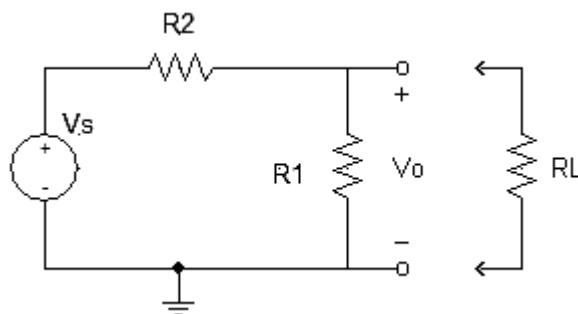


Figure 3-1

2. With no load connected, use a multimeter to measure  $V_o$  (this is the open circuit voltage  $V_{oc}$ ) and  $I_{R_1}$ . Remember – you must open the circuit and insert the meter in series to measure current.
3. Measure the short circuit current (the current meter acts as a short circuit)

Using the values you measured in Parts 2 and 3, calculate the divider's Thevenin equivalent values.

Measure  $V_{RL}$  (don't forget to move the probes back to the Volts position on the meter) for  $R_L \approx R_{th} / 2$ ,  $R_L \approx R_{th}$ , and  $R_L \approx R_{th} * 2$ . Round the three  $R_L$  resistors to the nearest standard resistor value for these measurements. Do not series connect resistors to make  $R_L$ . Using  $V_{RL}$ , calculate  $I_{RL}$ , and the power dissipated in the resistor  $P_{RL}$ .

4. Rebuild the circuit as a Thevenin equivalent source using the closest standard resistor value for  $R_{th}$  (one resistor  $\approx R_{th}$ ,  $V_s$  is adjusted to  $V_{th}$ ).

Measure  $V_{RL}$  (don't forget to move the probes back to the Volts position on the meter) for  $R_L \approx R_{th} / 2$ ,  $R_L \approx R_{th}$ , and  $R_L \approx R_{th} * 2$ . Round the three  $R_L$  resistors to the nearest standard value for these measurements. Using  $V_{RL}$ , calculate  $I_{RL}$  and the power dissipated in the load resistor  $R_L$  ( $P_{RL}$ ).

#### Part II: Function Generator Thevenin Source

1. Use Labview to set the function generator to produce a  $10\text{V}_{pp}$  sine wave at  $2\text{kHz}$  with  $0\text{V DC}$  offset and the Output set to High Z. Measure the output voltage with the oscilloscope set for maximum accuracy.
2. Connect a  $100\Omega$  resistor ( $R_L$ ) to the Generator and measure the output voltage with oscilloscope set for maximum accuracy.

Use your measurements to determine  $V_{th}$  and  $R_{th}$ .

3. Use Labview to change the Generator Output from “High Z” to “50 Ohms” and measure the output voltage with oscilloscope set for maximum accuracy.

Remove the  $100\Omega$  resistor and measure  $V_{oc}$  with  $R_L = \infty$ .

Use your measurements to determine this  $V_{th}$  and  $R_{th}$ .

4. Remove the resistor, change the Generator Output from “50 Ohms” to “High Z”, and measure the output voltage with oscilloscope set for maximum accuracy.

Connect a load to the Generator that is as close as possible to  $R_{th}$  using a standard resistor value. Measure the generator output  $V_{RL}$  with the oscilloscope set for maximum accuracy.

Change the Generator Output from “High Z” to “50 Ohms”, and measure the output voltage with oscilloscope set for maximum accuracy.

Remove the resistor and measure the output voltage with oscilloscope set for maximum accuracy.

**Before you leave:** Shut down Windows, return cables to racks, return parts to correct drawer bins, return adapters to container, turn off bench power, clear bench, and place seat under bench.

(100 points total)

Names:

by first name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 2<sup>nd</sup> alphabetically – wiring      3<sup>rd</sup> alphabetically – Labview      1<sup>st</sup> alphabetically – data sheet

**Part I: Pspice Simulation of a Resistor and a DC Voltage Source**

1. Measured values:  $R_1 =$  \_\_\_\_\_,  $R_2 =$  \_\_\_\_\_, Meter used \_\_\_\_\_

2. *From the Prelab calculations*  $V_{oc} =$  \_\_\_\_\_,  $I_{R1} =$  \_\_\_\_\_

*From the Pspice simulation*  $V_{oc} =$  \_\_\_\_\_,  $I_{R1} =$  \_\_\_\_\_,

Measured  $V_{oc} =$  \_\_\_\_\_,  $I_{R1} =$  \_\_\_\_\_, Meter used \_\_\_\_\_

How do your measurements for  $V_{oc}$  and  $I_{R1}$  compare to the calculations and simulation?

3. *From the Prelab calculations*  $I_{sc} =$  \_\_\_\_\_

*From the Pspice simulation*  $I_{sc} =$  \_\_\_\_\_

Measured  $I_{sc} =$  \_\_\_\_\_, Meter used \_\_\_\_\_

How does the measured  $I_{sc}$  compare to the Prelab calculation and Pspice simulation?

*From the Prelab:*  $V_{th} =$  \_\_\_\_\_,  $R_{th} =$  \_\_\_\_\_

From  $V_{oc}$  and  $I_{sc}$  measured above, the calculated  $V_{th} =$  \_\_\_\_\_,  $R_{th} =$  \_\_\_\_\_

How do your calculated values for  $V_{th}$  and  $R_{th}$  compare to the Prelab calculations for  $V_{th}$  and  $R_{th}$ ?

Measured values using standard value resistors for  $R_{th}$  and  $R_L$

$R_L$	$R_L$ (value)	$V_{R_L}$	$I_{R_L}$	$P_{R_L}$
$R_{th} / 2$	_____	_____	_____	_____
$R_{th}$	_____	_____	_____	_____
$R_{th} * 2$	_____	_____	_____	_____

4. From the Prelab calculations:

RL	RL (value)	$V_{RL}$	$I_{RL}$	$P_{RL}$
Rth / 2	_____	_____	_____	_____
Rth	_____	_____	_____	_____
Rth * 2	_____	_____	_____	_____

From the Prelab Pspice Simulation:

RL	RL (value)	$V_{RL}$	$I_{RL}$	$P_{RL}$
Rth / 2	_____	_____	_____	_____
Rth	_____	_____	_____	_____
Rth * 2	_____	_____	_____	_____

Measured values using standard value resistors with the Thevenin Equivalent source:

RL	RL used	$V_{RL}$	$I_{RL}$	$P_{RL}$
Rth / 2	_____	_____	_____	_____
Rth	_____	_____	_____	_____
Rth * 2	_____	_____	_____	_____

Meter used \_\_\_\_\_

How do the measured / calculated values in Part 3 and 4 compare to each other? How should they compare?

How do the measured and calculated values in Part 3 and 4 compare to the expected values from the Prelab and the Pspice Thevenin equivalent model circuit simulation?

What is responsible for the differences you see?

**Part II: Function Generator Thevenin Source**

1.  $R_L = \infty$ , Measured  $V_{gen} =$  \_\_\_\_\_ (output set to High Z)

2.  $R_L = 100\Omega$ , Measured  $V_{RL} =$  \_\_\_\_\_ (output set to High Z)

*From the Prelab:* in terms of  $V_{oc}$ ,  $R_L$ , and  $V_{RL}$ ,  $R_{th} =$  \_\_\_\_\_

From your measurements,  $V_{th} =$  \_\_\_\_\_,  $R_{th} =$  \_\_\_\_\_

3.  $R_L = 100\Omega$ , Measured  $V_{RL} =$  \_\_\_\_\_ (output set to 50 Ohms)

$R_L = \infty$ , Measured  $V_{oc} =$  \_\_\_\_\_ (output set to 50 Ohms)

From your measurements,  $V_{th} =$  \_\_\_\_\_,  $R_{th} =$  \_\_\_\_\_

4.  $R_L$  removed, Measured  $V_{oc} =$  \_\_\_\_\_ (output set to High Z)

$R_L =$  \_\_\_\_\_, Measured  $V_{RL} =$  \_\_\_\_\_ (output set to High Z)

$R_L =$  \_\_\_\_\_, Measured  $V_{RL} =$  \_\_\_\_\_ (output set to 50 Ohms)

$R_L$  removed, Measured  $V_{oc} =$  \_\_\_\_\_ (output set to 50 Ohms)

When the generator is set to 10Vpp with the output set to “50 Ohm”, what is  $V_{th}$ ? What is  $R_{th}$ ?

When the generator is set to 10Vpp with the output set to “High Z”, what is  $V_{th}$ ? What is  $R_{th}$ ?

Why do you need to set the Output to High Z if you are measuring circuit voltages with the scope or multimeters?

5. Before you leave: Shut down Windows, return cables to racks, return parts to correct drawer bins, return adapters to container, turn off bench power, clear bench, and place seat under bench. (Counts as 5 points of the Lab grade)