





### **Resistances in Series**



- Resistors connected such that all the current in a circuit must flow through each of the resistors are connected in series
- If we connect two resistors  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  in series with one source of emf with voltage  $V_{emf}$ , we have the circuit shown below



## **Two Resistors in 3D** To illustrate the voltage drops in this circuit we can represent the same circuit in three dimensions The voltage drop across resistor $R_1$ R is $V_1$ The voltage drop across resistor R<sub>2</sub> is V2 The sum of the two voltage drops must equal the voltage supplied by the battery $V_{emf} = V_1 + V_2$ February 3, 2005 Physics for Scientists&Engineers 2



- The current must flow through all the elements of the circuit so the current flowing through each element of the circuit is the same
- For each resistor we can apply Ohm's Law

$$V_{emf} = iR_1 + iR_2 = iR_d$$

Where

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$$R_{eq} = R_1 + R_2$$

We can generalize this result for a circuit with two resistors in series to a circuit with *n* resistors in series

 $R_{aa} =$ 

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# **Single Loop Circuits**

- We have been studying circuits with various networks of resistors but only one source of emf
- Circuits can contain multiple sources of emf as well as multiple resistors
- We begin our study of more complicated circuits by analyzing a circuit with two sources of emf
  - $V_{emf,1}$  and  $V_{emf,2}$
- And two resistors
  - $R_1$  and  $R_2$
- connected in series in a single loop
- We will assume that the two sources of emf have opposite polarity

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#### **Single Loop Circuits (3)**



- The first circuit component is a source of emf V<sub>emf,1</sub>, which produces a
  positive voltage gain of V<sub>emf,1</sub>
- Next we find resistor R<sub>1</sub>, which produces a voltage drop V<sub>1</sub> given by iR<sub>1</sub>
- Continuing around the circuit we find resistor  $R_2$ , which produces a voltage drop  $V_2$  given by  $iR_2$
- Next we meet a second source of emf, V<sub>emf,2</sub>
- This source of emf is wired into the circuit with a polarity opposite that of V<sub>emf1</sub>
- We treat this component as a voltage drop with magnitude of V<sub>emf,2</sub> rather than a voltage gain
- We now have completed the circuit and we are back at point a

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# **Single Loop Circuits (5)**



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- If we move around the circuit and encounter a source of emf pointing in the same direction, we assume that this component contributes a positive voltage
- If we encounter a source of emf pointing in the opposite direction, we consider that component to contribute a negative voltage
- Thus we will get the same information from the analysis of a simple circuit independent of the direction we choose to analyze the circuit.

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# Single Loop Circuits (4)



 $V_{\rm emf,1} - V_1 - V_2 - V_{\rm emf,2} = V_{\rm emf,1} - iR_1 - iR_2 - V_{\rm emf,2} = 0$ 

- We can generalize this result to state that the voltage drops across components in a single loop circuit must sum to zero
- This statement must be qualified with conventions for assigning the sign of the voltage drops around the circuit
- We must define the direction with which we move around the loop and we must define the direction of the current
- If we move around the circuit in the same direction as the current, the voltage drops across resistors will be negative
- If we move around the circuit in the opposite direction from the current, the voltage drops across resistors will be positive

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