


## 02.3 graphs.connect Element interconnection laws

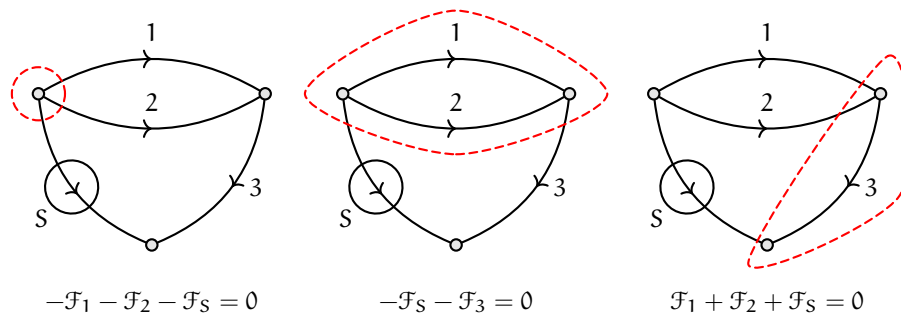
**1** The interconnections among elements constrain across- and through-variable relationships. The first element interconnection law requires the concept of a **contour** “”: a closed path that does not self-intersect superimposed over the linear graph. The first interconnection law is called the **continuity law**.


### Definition 02 graphs.2: continuity law

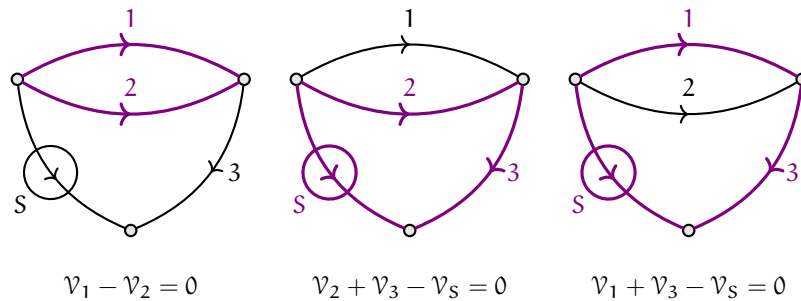
The sum of the through-variables that flow on *into* a contour on a linear graph is zero, or, in terms of generalized through-variables  $\mathcal{F}_i$  for  $N$  elements with through variables defined as positive into the contour,

$$\sum_{i=1}^N \mathcal{F}_i = 0. \quad (1)$$

**2** Contours can enclose any number of nodes and edges, as illustrated in [Figure connect.1](#). **Kirchhoff's current law** (KCL) is the special case of the continuity law for electronic systems.



**Figure connect.1:** illustration of different contours, denoted with red dashed lines “”, contours for which the continuity law applies, as shown below each graph.



**Figure connect.2:** illustration of different loops, denoted with violet edges “”, loops for which the compatibility law applies.

3 The second interconnection law we consider requires the concept of a **loop** “”: a continuous series of edges that begin and end at the same node, not reusing any edges.<sup>2</sup> The second interconnection law is called the **compatibility law**.

#### Definition 02 graphs.3: compatibility law

The sum of the across-variable drops on edges around any closed loop on a linear graph is zero, or, in terms of generalized across variables  $v_i$  for  $N$  elements in a loop,

$$\sum_{i=1}^N v_i = 0. \quad (2)$$

A loop can be “inner” or “outer,” as shown in Figure connect.2. **Kirchhoff’s voltage law** (KVL) is the special case of the compatibility law for electronic systems.

#### Example 02.3 graphs.connect-1

For the system shown, (a) write three unique continuity and three unique compatibility equations. Moreover, (b) write a continuity equation solved for  $\mathcal{F}_4$  in terms of  $\mathcal{F}_S$  and  $\mathcal{F}_1$ . Finally, (c) write a compatibility equation

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<sup>2</sup>Technically, we need not restrict the definition to series that do not reuse edges for purposes of the compatibility law, but these loops are superfluous and we exclude them here.

- solved for  $v_5$  in terms of  $v_s$ ,  $v_3$ , and  $v_4$ .

