13.5 imp.eqiv Norton and Thévenin theorems

1 The following remarkable theorem has been proven.[5]

Theorem 13 imp.1: generalized Thévenin's theorem

Given a linear network of across-variable sources, through-variable sources, and impedances, the behavior at the network's output nodes can be reproduced exactly by a single *across-variable source* $\mathcal{V}_e$ *in series with an impedance* Z_e.

2 The equivalent linear network has two quantities to determine: $\mathcal{V}_e$ and Z_e.

Determining Z_e

3 The **equivalent impedance** Z_e of a network is the impedance between the output nodes with all inputs set to zero. Setting an across-variable source to zero means the across-variable on both its terminals are equal, which is equivalent to treating them as the same node. Setting a through-variable source to zero means the through-variable through it is zero, which is equivalent to treating its nodes as disconnected.

Determining $\mathcal{V}_e$

4 The **equivalent across-variable source** $\mathcal{V}_e$ is the across-variable at the output nodes of the network when they are left open (disconnected from a load). Determining this value typically requires some analysis with the elemental, continuity, and compatibility equations (preferably via impedance methods).

Norton's theorem

5 Similarly, the following remarkable theorem has been proven.

[5] This lecture is intentionally strongly paralleled in our *Electronics* lecture on Norton's and Thévenin's theorems.

Theorem 13 imp.2: generalized Norton's theorem

Given a linear network of across-variable sources, through-variable sources, and impedances, the behavior at the network's output nodes can be reproduced exactly by a single *through-variable source* $\mathcal{F}_e$ *in parallel with an impedance* Z_e.

6 The equivalent network has two quantities to determine: $\mathcal{F}_e$ and Z_e. The equivalent impedance Z_e is identical to that of Thévenin's theorem, which leaves the equivalent through-variable source $\mathcal{F}_e$ to be determined.

Determining $\mathcal{F}_e$

7 The **equivalent through-variable source** $\mathcal{F}_e$ is the through-variable through the output terminals of the network when they are shorted (collapsed to a single node). Determining this value typically requires some analysis with elemental, continuity, and compatibility equations (preferably via impedance methods).

Converting between Thévenin and Norton equivalents

8 There is an equivalence between the two equivalent network models that allows one to convert from one to another with ease. The equivalent impedance Z_e is identical in each and provides the following equation for converting between the two representations:

Equation 1 converting between Thévenin and Norton equivalents

Example 13.5 imp.eqiv-1

re: Thévenin and Norton equivalents

For the circuit shown, find a Thévenin and a Norton equivalent.