

# Prac: Series and Parallel Circuits

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Aim:** To measure and compare voltage and current in series and parallel circuits

**Equipment and Materials:** (E grade)

*This is a list of things you needed to do the experiment*

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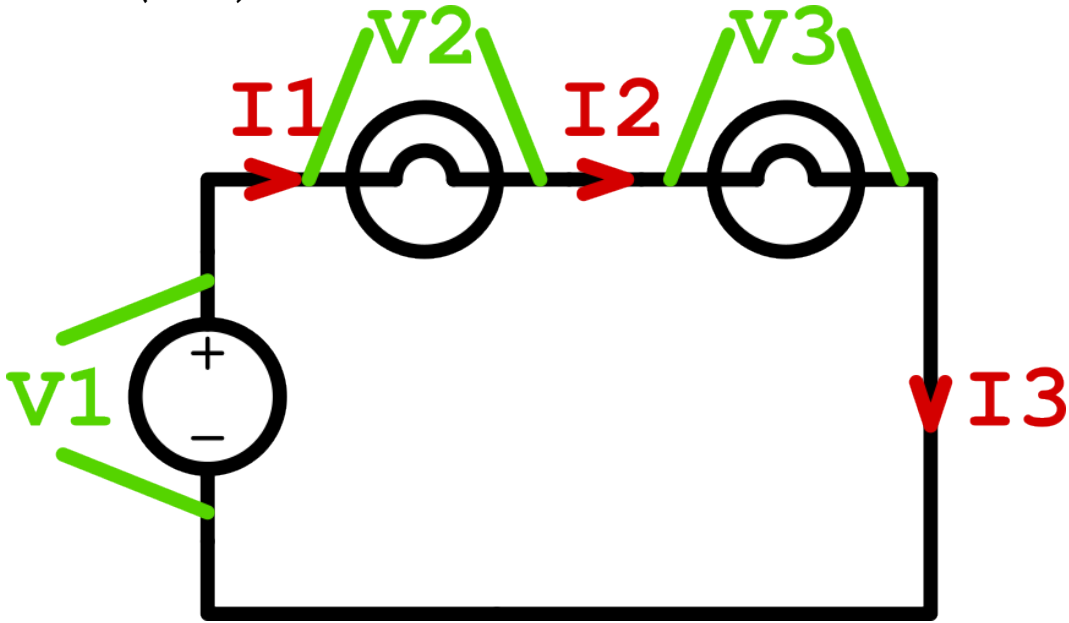
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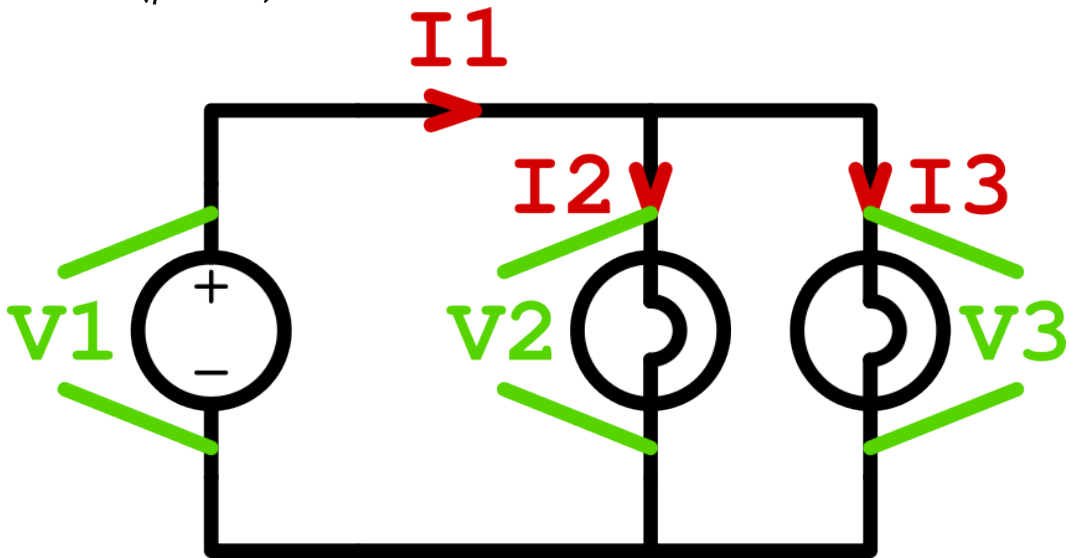
Circuit 1 (series)



Power pack voltage (V)	$I_1$ (A)	$I_2$ (A)	$I_3$ (A)

Power pack voltage (V)	$V_1$ (V)	$V_2$ (V)	$V_3$ (V)	$V_2 + V_3$ (V)

Circuit 2 (parallel)



Power pack voltage (V)	V1 (V)	V2 (V)	V3 (V)

Power pack voltage (V)	I1 (A)	I2 (A)	I3 (A)	I2 + I3 (A)

**Discussion:**

1. For the series circuit, compare I1, I2 and I3. What do you notice? (C grade)

2. For the series circuit, compare  $V_1$  with  $V_2+V_3$ . What do you notice? (C grade)

Use Kirchhoff's Voltage Law (from activity E1-B) to explain this result (B grade)

3. For the parallel circuit, compare  $V_1$ ,  $V_2$  and  $V_3$ . What do you notice? (C grade)

4. For the parallel circuit, compare  $I_1$  with  $I_2+I_3$ . What do you notice? (C grade)

Use Kirchhoff's Current Law (from activity E1-B) to explain this result (B grade)

5. If the lamps were powered with a battery, do you think the series circuit or the parallel circuit would run down the battery faster? Justify your answer (A grade)

**Conclusion** (C grade):

*Write one sentence that tells what you learned about series and parallel circuits.*