Lecture 10, Feb 2, 2022

Voltage Division

• Consider 2 resistors in series:

– We want to know how the voltage v_{tot} is divided between the two resistors

- We want to know now the voltage $v_{tot} = v_{tot} = v_{tot}$ * KVL gives: $v_{tot} = v_1 + v_2$ * Ohm's law gives $i_{tot} = \frac{v_1}{R_1} = \frac{v_{tot}}{R_1 + R_2} \implies v_1 = \frac{R_1}{R_1 + R_2} v_{tot}$ Voltage drop across a resistor in a series circuit is $\frac{R}{R_{tot}}$ times the total voltage drop (note the polarities have to match)
 - If the polarity of the resistor matches the polarity of v_{tot} then the relation works; if it's opposite then we get the voltage negative instead