413.

Problem 33.37 (RHK)

We have to calculate (a) the current through each source of emf in the circuit shown in the figure. (b) We have to calculate $V_b - V_a$. We may assume that $R_1 = 1.20 \Omega$, $R_2 = 2.30 \Omega$, $E_1 = 2.00 V$, $E_2 = 3.80 V$, and $E_3 = 5.00 V$.



Solution:

In the circuit shown above currents have been indicated in the different branches, and its multi-loops can be fixed by affixing labels to corners and intersections.

Data of the problem are

 $R_1 = 1.20 \Omega$, $R_2 = 2.30 \Omega$, $E_1 = 2.00 V$, $E_2 = 3.80 V$ and $E_3 = 5.00 V$. (b)

We will solve this problem by applying Kirchoff's laws to different loops in the circuit.

Applying Kirchoff's laws to loops *dabcd* and *afeba*, we write the following two equations:

0

$$-i_{1}R_{1} - i_{2}R_{2} - E_{2} - i_{1}R_{1} + E_{1} = 0,$$

or
$$2i_{1}R_{1} + i_{2}R_{2} = E_{1} - E_{2}.$$
 (A)
and
$$-(i_{1} - i_{2})R_{1} - E_{3} - (i_{1} - i_{2})R_{1} + E_{2} + i_{2}R_{2} = 0$$

or
$$-2i_{1}R_{1} + 2i_{2}R_{1} + i_{2}R_{2} = E_{3} - E_{2}.$$
 (B)
Solving equations (A) and (B), we find
$$i_{2} = \frac{E_{1} + E_{3} - 2E_{2}}{2(R_{1} + R_{2})},$$

and

$$i_{1} = \frac{(R_{2} + 2R_{1})E_{1} - 2R_{1}E_{2} - R_{2}E_{3}}{4R_{1}(R_{1} + R_{2})}.$$

Substituting the data given above, we find

$$i_2 = -85.7$$
 mA,
and
 $i_1 = -668$ mA.

The current flowing through E_3 is

 $i_1 - i_2 = -582.3$ mA.

As we are interested in the magnitudes of currents and not their directions, the currents flowing through E_1 , E_2 and E_3 are 668 mA, 85.7 mA and 582.3 mA, respectively.

(a)

From the section ba of the circuit, we calculate $V_a - V_b$. We have

$$V_a - V_b = E_2 + i_2 R_2 = (3.80 - 85.7 \times 2.3 \times 10^{-3}) V$$

= 3.60 V.