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1. Assume a state for each diode, either on (i.e., a short circuit) or off (i.e., an open circuit). For n diodes there are 2^n possible combinations of diode states.

2. Analyze the circuit to determine the current through the diodes assumed to be on and the voltage across the diodes assumed to be off.

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3. Check to see if the result is consistent with the assumed state for each diode. Current must flow in the forward direction for diodes assumed to be on. Furthermore, the voltage across the diodes assumed to be off must be positive at the cathode (i.e., reverse bias).

4. If the results are consistent with the assumed states, the analysis is finished. Otherwise, return to step 1 and choose a different combination of diode states.

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Notation for Currents and Voltages in Electronic

• v_D and i_D represent the total instantaneous diode voltage and current. At times, we may wish to emphasize the time-varying nature of these quantities, and then we use $v_D(t)$ and $i_D(t)$

• V_{DQ} and I_{DQ} represent the dc diode current and voltage at the quiescent point.

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• v_d and i_d represent the (small) ac signals. If we wish to emphasize their time varying nature, we use $v_d(t)$ and $i_d(t)$.

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