

Chapter 25: Current and Resistance

Section 25-1: Batteries

- Batteries cause current to flow

Section 25-2: Current

- Current is the rate of charge flow (charge per time)

Average: $I = \frac{Q}{t}$

Instantaneous: $I = \frac{dQ}{dt}$

Units: Amperes, or Amps, $A = C/s$

Section 25-3: Ohm's Law and Resistance

- For many materials (not all!), V is proportional to I
- Constant of proportionality is called resistance, R :

Ohm's Law: $V = IR$

Units: Ohms, $\Omega = V/A$

- Compare to $Q = CV$: In both cases, V proportional to something
- Ohm's Law not universal law; badly wrong for some materials

Example: 1200 C of charge flows down a wire over 1 hour.
If there is 0.4 V potential difference across the wire, what is its resistance?

$$I = \frac{Q}{t} = \frac{1200C}{3600s} = 0.333 A \quad (\text{convert time to seconds!})$$

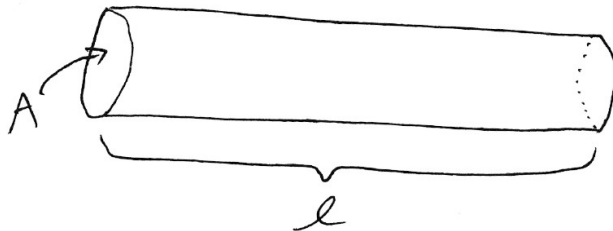
$$V = IR \quad \text{or} \quad R = \frac{V}{I} = \frac{0.4V}{0.333A} = \boxed{1.2 \Omega}$$

Section 25-4: Resistivity

- Resistance does not depend on V or I (constant of proportionality)
- Depends on shape and material

Just like C is const. of prop. that depends on shape and material

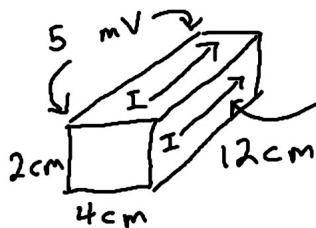
- Resistance is proportional to length and inversely to area



$$R = \frac{\rho l}{A}$$

- ρ is resistivity: depends on material
- Use table in book (p 724, Section 25-4), not numbers you find online (will be given on exams if needed)

Example: The prism below has resistivity $5.6 \times 10^{-8} \Omega \cdot m$ and a 5 mV difference between the front and back. How much current flows through it?



Voltage between front/back means current runs from front to back along 12 cm direction

Thus 12 cm is length l
Other dimensions are area A

$$R = \frac{\rho l}{A} = \frac{5.6 \times 10^{-8} \Omega \cdot m \cdot 0.12 m}{0.02 m \cdot 0.04 m} = 8.4 \times 10^{-6} \Omega$$

$$V = IR \text{ or } I = \frac{V}{R} = \frac{0.005 V}{8.4 \times 10^{-6} \Omega} = \boxed{595 A}$$

Section 25-5: Power

- Energy is $U = QV$

- Power is $P = \frac{\text{energy}}{\text{time}} = \frac{U}{t} = \frac{QV}{t}$

- Using $I = \frac{Q}{t}$ gives or $\boxed{P = VI}$

- Using $V = IR$:

$$P = I(IR) \text{ or } \boxed{P = I^2 R}$$

$$P = \frac{V}{R} \cdot V \text{ or } \boxed{P = \frac{V^2}{R}}$$

Example: Two wires have the same voltage, but the second has double the length and radius. If the first has 0.2W of power, what is the power of the second?

$$A = \pi r^2 \quad \begin{array}{l} \uparrow \quad \uparrow \\ \times 4 \quad \times 2 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{4 times the area} \\ \text{same} \end{array}$$

$$R = \frac{\rho l}{A} \quad \begin{array}{l} \leftarrow \times 2 \\ \leftarrow \times 4 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Half the resistance} \\ \leftarrow \times \frac{1}{2} \end{array}$$

$$P = \frac{V^2}{R} \quad \begin{array}{l} \leftarrow \text{same} \\ \leftarrow \text{half} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Double power} \\ \leftarrow \text{double} \end{array}$$

$$P_2 = 2 P_1 = 2 \cdot 0.2 \text{ W} = 0.4 \text{ W}$$

- New unit: kWh

Power = energy/time or energy = power \times time

Power unit times time unit is an amount of energy

So kWh (kW times hours) is an energy unit

Example: How much does it cost to run a 50Ω device hooked up to 120 V for 3 days if electricity costs 10¢ per kWhr ?

$$V = IR \text{ or } I = \frac{V}{R} = \frac{120\text{V}}{50\Omega} = 2.4\text{ A}$$

$$P = VI = 120\text{ V} \cdot 2.4\text{ A} = 288\text{ W} \times \frac{1\text{ kW}}{1000\text{ W}} = 0.288\text{ kW}$$

$$E = Pt = 0.288\text{ kW} \cdot 3\text{ days} \times \frac{24\text{ hrs}}{1\text{ day}} = 20.7\text{ kWhr}$$

$$\text{Cost} = 20.7\text{ kWhr} \times \frac{10\text{¢}}{1\text{ kWhr}} = 207\text{ ¢} \text{ or } \boxed{\$2.07}$$

Section 25-7: Alternating Current

- Direct current

So far we have assumed direct current

Direct current (DC) is constant current

- Alternating current (AC)

Current can be any function of time, $I = f(t)$

sin or cos function is of most interest so we focus on those

$$I = I_0 \sin(\omega t) \text{ or } I = I_0 \cos(\omega t)$$

ω is in radians per second

- Voltage in resistors

$$V = IR \text{ so } V = V_0 \sin(\omega t) \text{ with } V_0 = I_0 R$$

- Power

$P = VI$ so if I and V change with time, P does too

$$\text{Instantaneous power: } P = I_0 V_0 \sin^2(\omega t)$$

For practical purposes, we just want to know average power

Average of \sin^2 function is $\frac{1}{2}$ (will leave for calculus class)

$$\bar{P} = \frac{1}{2} I_0 V_0 \text{ (usually will not use bar in the future)}$$

By “power” we will almost always mean average power

- Root-mean-square

$$I_{rms} = \sqrt{\bar{I}^2} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2} I_0^2} \text{ so } \boxed{I_{rms} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} I_0}$$

$$\text{Likewise } \boxed{V_{rms} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} V_0}$$

$$P = \frac{1}{2} I_0 V_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} I_0 \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} V_0 \text{ so } \boxed{P = V_{rms} I_{rms}}$$

$$\text{Also } \boxed{P = I_{rms}^2 R} \text{ and } \boxed{P = \frac{V_{rms}^2}{R}}$$

Example: A resistor with 10Ω resistance has voltage $V = 5 \cos(250t)$ in SI units. (a) What is the frequency in Hz? (b) What is the power? (c) What is rms current?

$$\text{Note: } V = \underbrace{5}_{\text{peak value}} \cos(\underbrace{250t}_{\text{angular frequency in rad/s}})$$

$$(a) \omega = 2\pi f \text{ or } f = \frac{\omega}{2\pi} = \frac{250 \text{ rad/s}}{2\pi} = \boxed{39.8 \text{ Hz}}$$

$$(b) V_{rms} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} V_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot 5 \text{ V} = 3.54 \text{ V}$$

$$P = \frac{V_{rms}^2}{R} = \frac{(3.54 \text{ V})^2}{10 \Omega} = \boxed{1.25 \text{ W}}$$

$$(c) V_{rms} = I_{rms} R \text{ or } I_{rms} = \frac{V_{rms}}{R} = \frac{3.54 \text{ V}}{10 \Omega} = \boxed{0.354 \text{ A}}$$

Example: A 3 m long wire is to have a peak AC current of 3 A. If the resistivity is $3.8 \times 10^{-8} \Omega \cdot \text{m}$ and the power lost can't be over 0.25 W, what is the minimum diameter the wire can have, in mm?

Note: smaller radius \Rightarrow More resistance \Rightarrow More power $P = I^2 R$
 Thus, maximum allowed power lost in wire will correspond to a minimum radius/diameter

$$I_{\text{rms}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} I_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot 3 \text{ A} = 2.12 \text{ A}$$

$$P = I_{\text{rms}}^2 R \text{ or } R = \frac{P}{I_{\text{rms}}^2} = \frac{0.25 \text{ W}}{(2.12 \text{ A})^2} = 0.0556 \Omega$$

$$R = \frac{\rho l}{A} \text{ or } A = \frac{\rho l}{R} = \frac{3.8 \times 10^{-8} \Omega \cdot \text{m} \cdot 3 \text{ m}}{0.0556 \Omega} = 2.05 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^2$$

$$A = \pi r^2 \text{ or } r = \sqrt{\frac{A}{\pi}} = 0.000808 \text{ m}$$

$$d = 2r = 2 \cdot 0.000808 \text{ m} = 0.00162 \text{ m} = \boxed{1.62 \text{ mm}}$$

Section 25-8: Current Density

- Current density is current per area:



$$\boxed{j = \frac{I}{A}}$$

- Let n be the number of electrons per unit volume (units m^{-3})

In time t , all charges in box move on

Number in box is nV

So $Q = enV = envtA$

$$I = \frac{Q}{t} = envA$$



$$j = \frac{I}{A} \text{ so } \boxed{j = nev} \text{ where } e \text{ is } 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$$

Example. If the current through a 6 mm diameter wire is 2 A and there are 5.8×10^{28} electrons/ m^3 in the metal what is the drift velocity?

$$A = \pi r^2 = \pi (0.003 \text{ m})^2 = 2.83 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2$$

$$j = \frac{I}{A} = \frac{2 \text{ A}}{2.83 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2} = 70,700 \text{ A/m}^2$$

$$v = \frac{j}{ne} = \frac{70,700}{5.8 \times 10^{28} \text{ m}^{-3} \cdot 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}} = \boxed{7.6 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m/s}}$$

[May skip the following example if time is short.]

Example: A 20 A current passes through a 1 mm^2 wire with a drift velocity of $2 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m/s}$. How many electrons are there per cubic meter?

$$A = 1 \text{ mm}^2 \times \left(\frac{1 \text{ m}}{1000 \text{ mm}} \right)^2 = 10^{-6} \text{ m}^2$$

$$j = \frac{I}{A} = \frac{20 \text{ A}}{10^{-6} \text{ m}^2} = 2 \times 10^7 \text{ A/m}^2$$

$$j = nev \text{ or } n = \frac{j}{eV} = \frac{2 \times 10^7 \text{ A/m}^2}{1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C} \cdot 2 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m/s}} = \boxed{6.25 \times 10^{29} \text{ m}^{-3}}$$

Example: Suppose a metal has $\rho = 3 \times 10^{-8} \Omega \text{ m}$ and $n = 2 \times 10^{28}$ valence electrons/ m^3 . If a wire is 5 m long and has radius 2 mm and 20 mV is put across it, what is the drift velocity?

$$A = \pi r^2 = \pi (0.002 \text{ m})^2 = 1.26 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2$$

$$R = \frac{\rho L}{A} = \frac{3 \times 10^{-8} \Omega \cdot m \cdot 5m}{\pi (0.002m)^2} = 0.0119 \Omega$$

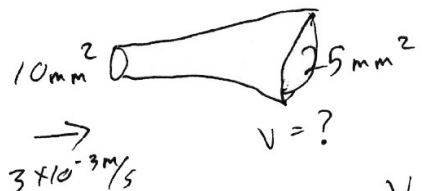
$$V = IR \text{ or } I = \frac{V}{R} = \frac{0.02V}{0.0119\Omega} = 1.68 A$$

$$j = \frac{I}{A} = \frac{1.68 A}{\pi (0.002m)^2} = 133000 A/m^2$$

$$j = nev_d$$

$$v_d = \frac{j}{ne} = \frac{133000 A/m^2}{2 \times 10^{28} m^{-3} \cdot 1.6 \times 10^{-19} C} = \boxed{4.17 \times 10^{-5} m/s}$$

Example: A wire has a radius which changes over its length. On the narrow end it has a $10mm^2$ area and on the wide end $25mm^2$. The drift velocity entering the narrow end is $3 \times 10^{-3} m/s$. What is the exit velocity?



$$I_{in} = I_{out}$$

$$j_{in} A_{in} = j_{out} A_{out}$$

$$AeV_{in} A_{in} = AeV_{out} A_{out}$$

$$V_{out} = \frac{V_{in} A_{in}}{A_{out}} = \frac{3 \times 10^{-3} m/s \cdot 10 mm^2}{25 mm^2} = \boxed{1.2 \times 10^{-3} m/s}$$

- Notice the velocity is slow at the wide end, fast at the narrow end

Homework: Do Chapter 25 in Mastering Physics