

[9] Temperature Dependence of Resistivity:-

(i) For Metallic Conductor - The resistivity of a metal increases & the conductivity decreases with the increase in temperature.

- For most metals, resistivity increases linearly with increase in temperature, around & above the room temperature.

In such case resistivity (ρ) at any temperature (T) is

$$\rho = \rho_0 [1 + \alpha (T - T_0)] \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

Here ρ_0 = resistivity at lower Temp. (T_0) [usually 20°C]

α = coefficient of Resistivity.

or

$$\alpha = \frac{\rho - \rho_0}{\rho_0 (T - T_0)} = \frac{1}{\rho_0} \frac{d\rho}{dT}$$

Thus the temperature coefficient of Resistivity α may be defined as the increase in resistivity per unit resistivity per degree rise in Temp.

Since $R = \frac{\rho l}{A}$ i.e. $R \propto \rho$

then from equation (1)

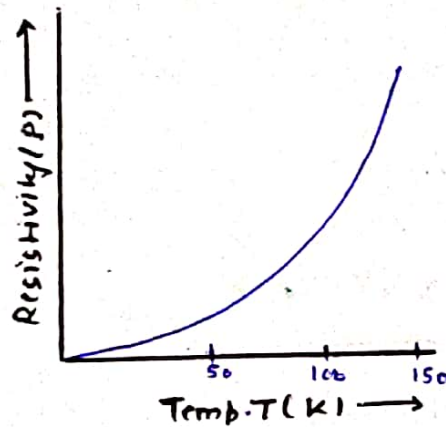
$$R = R_0 (1 + \alpha \theta) \Rightarrow \alpha = \frac{R - R_0}{R_0 \times \theta}$$

Here R = the resistance at $t^\circ\text{C}$

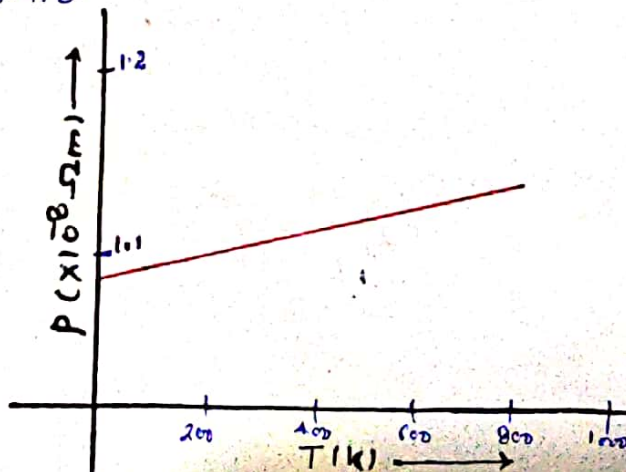
R_0 = the resistance at 0°C

θ = rise in temperature = $(T - T_0)$

at lower temperature, the resistivity of a pure metal increases as a high power of temperature as shown in figure (less than 0°C)



[2] for an alloy:- In case of an alloy such as Nichrom the resistivity is very large & is very weak dependence on Temperature.



[3] For Insulator & Semiconductor:- The variation of resistivity with temp. in case of Insulator & Semiconductor decreases with Increase in temperature. In this case, the resistivity at temperature (T) is given by

$$\rho = \rho_0 e^{E_g/kT}$$

Here k = Boltzmann's Constant.

E_g = Energy gap b/w valence & conduction band.

