

# Sketching with Hardware

02: Current, Voltage, Resistance

What do you already know  
about electricity?

# Analogy: Water circuit

Voltage (in Volt, V):

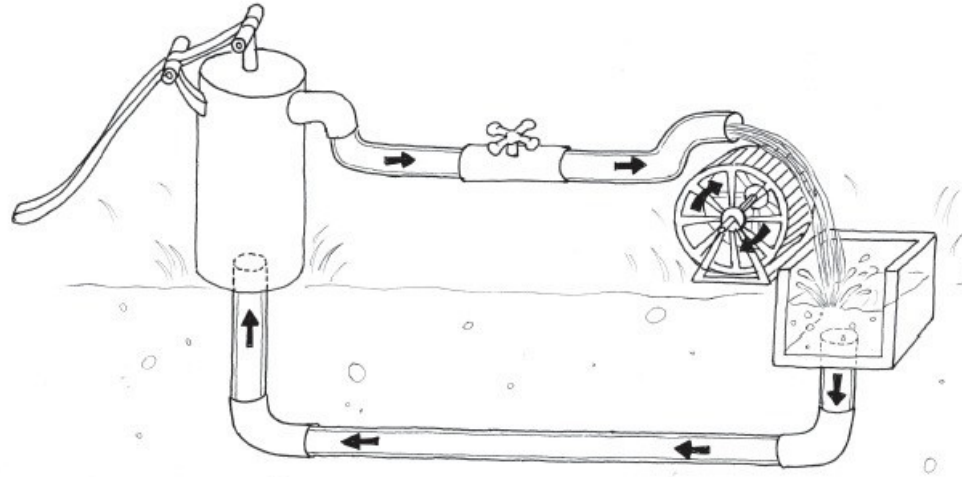
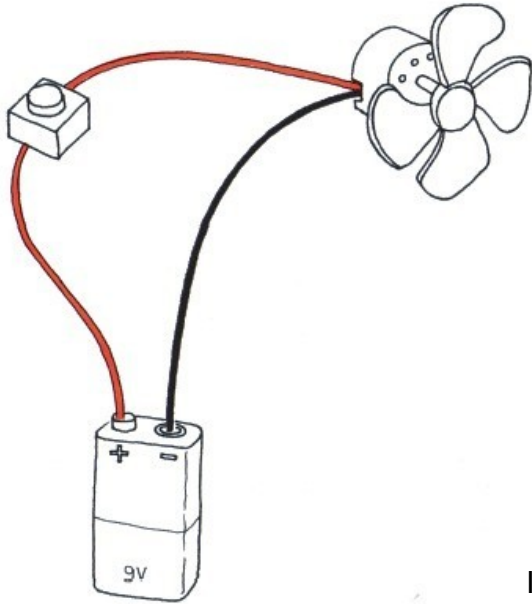
~ Water Pressure

Current (in Ampere, A):

~ Water Amount

Resistance (in Ohm,  $\Omega$ ):

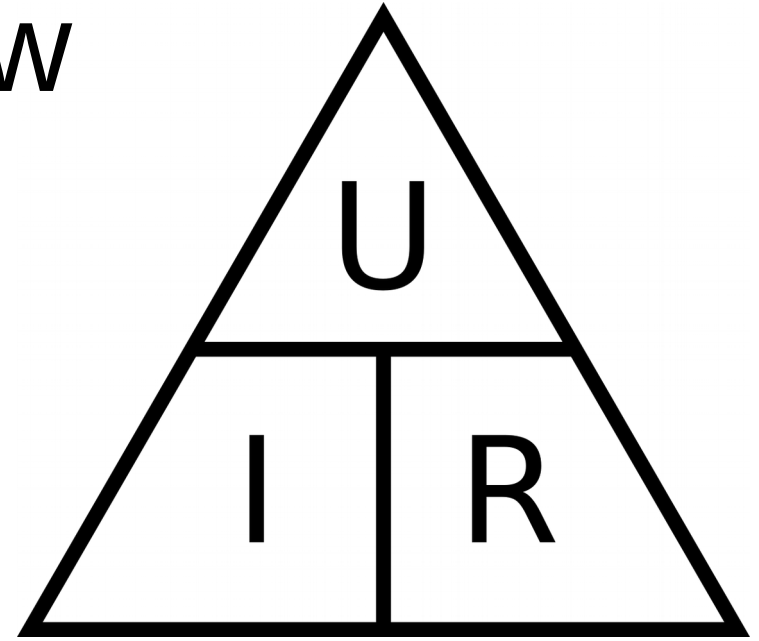
~ Bottleneck in a Tube



# Ohm's Law

Relationship between:  
Current (I), Voltage (U) and Resistance (R)

- Higher voltage results in more current
- Higher resistance results in less current



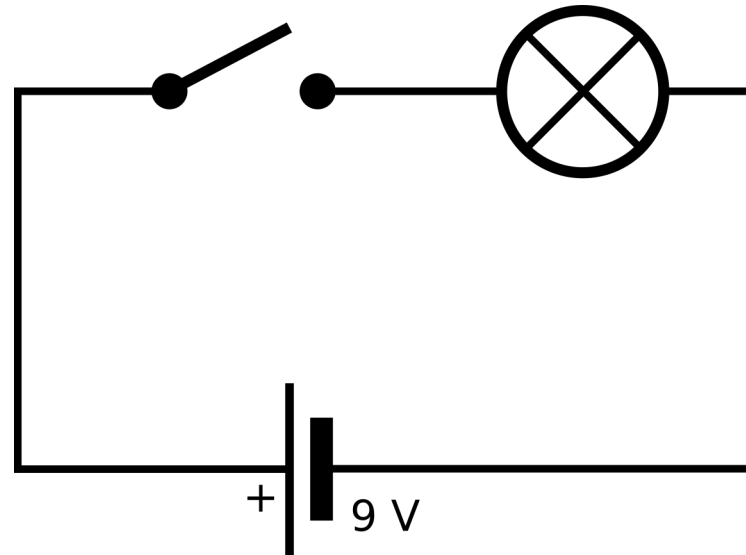
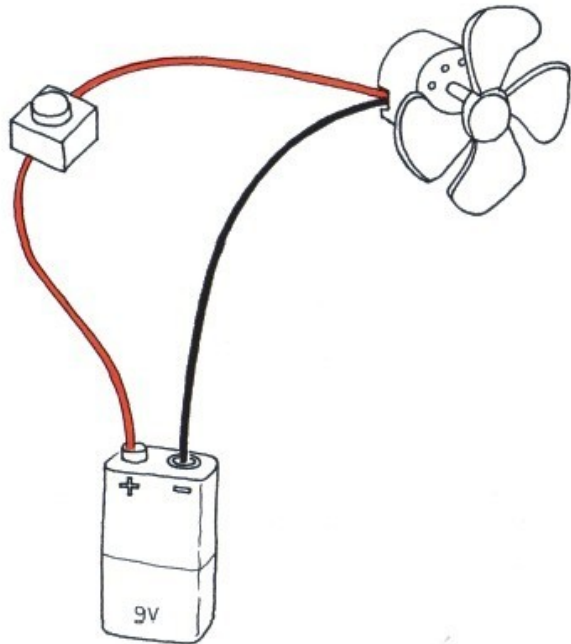
$$R = U / I$$

$$U = R * I$$

$$I = U / R$$

# Circuit Diagrams

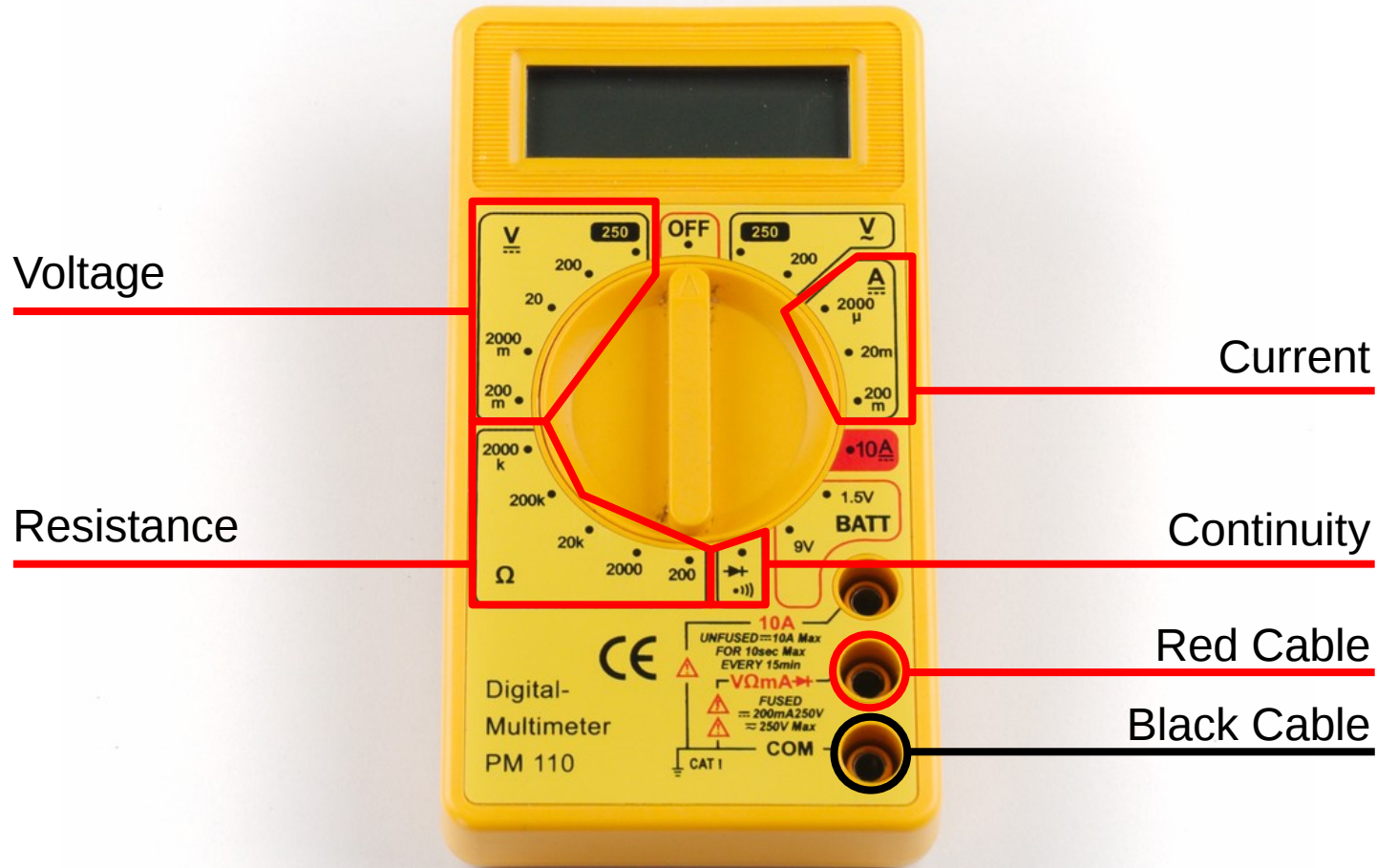
- Formal representation of a circuit
- Independent from actual components, cables, etc



# Safety Instructions: Electronics

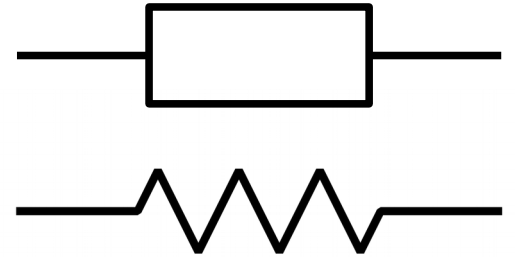
- Voltages below 20 V are generally harmless (e.g. USB: 5 V)
- **BUT:** Mains voltage ( $\sim 220$  V, AC) can be deadly!
  - no experiments with AC power
  - work exclusively with 5 V from the USB port
- Fuses prevent fires but do not protect against injuries
- Components can be damaged by too high voltages
  - follow the data sheet!

# The Multimeter



# Resistors

- Resistance (in Ohm,  $\Omega$ )
- Water circuit analogy: Bottleneck
- Can be measured with the multimeter
- Color code represents resistance



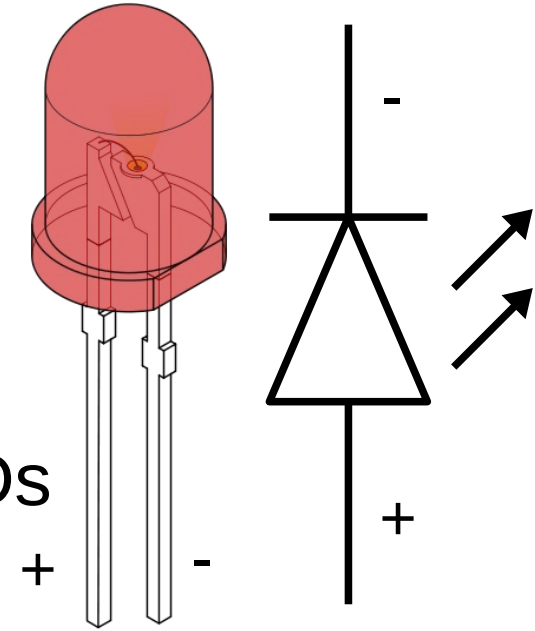


# Continuity Test

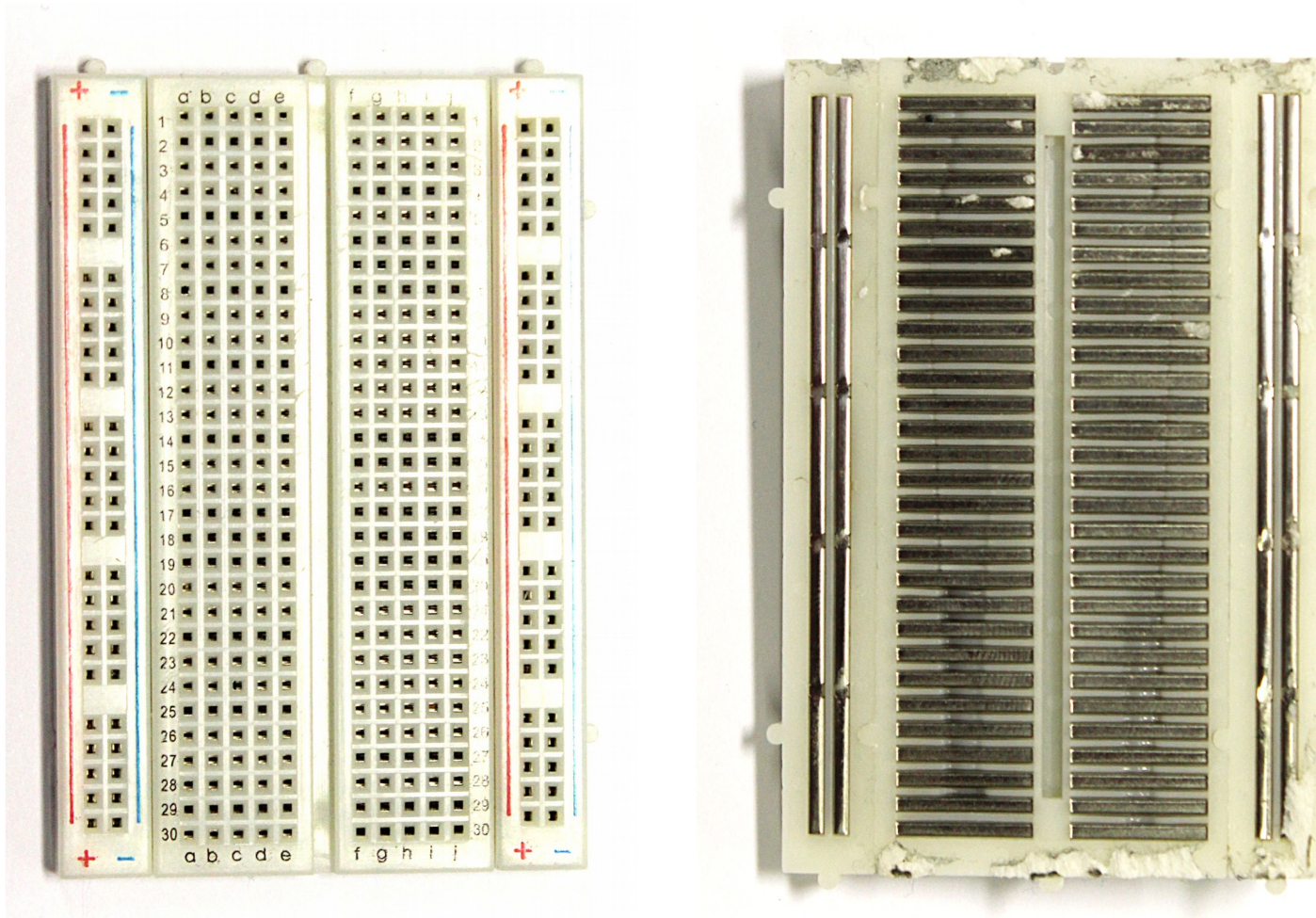
- Acoustic signal if a circuit is closed
- Quick test of connections
  - Beep: Resistance is below  $\sim 10\ \Omega$
- Can be used to check if there are **short circuits**

# Light Emitting Diode (LED)

- “Valve” for current
- Current can only flow in one direction
- Typical current: 20 mA
- typical voltage: 2 – 4 V
- Slightly too high voltage can destroy LEDs  
→ *dropping resistor* is needed



# Breadboard



# Tutorial 01 - Electronics