2. (12 points, suggested time 25 minutes)

A group of students is given several long, thick, cylindrical conducting rods of the same unknown material with various lengths and diameters and asked to experimentally determine the resistivity of the material using a graph. The available equipment includes a voltmeter, an ammeter, connecting wires, a variable-output DC power supply, and a metric ruler.

(a)

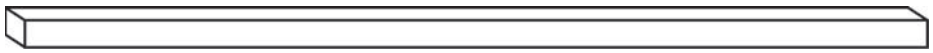
i. Describe a procedure the students could use to collect the data needed to create the graph, including the measurements to be taken and a labeled diagram of the circuit to be used. Include enough detail that another student could follow the procedure and obtain similar data.

Draw a labeled diagram here.

Write your procedure here.

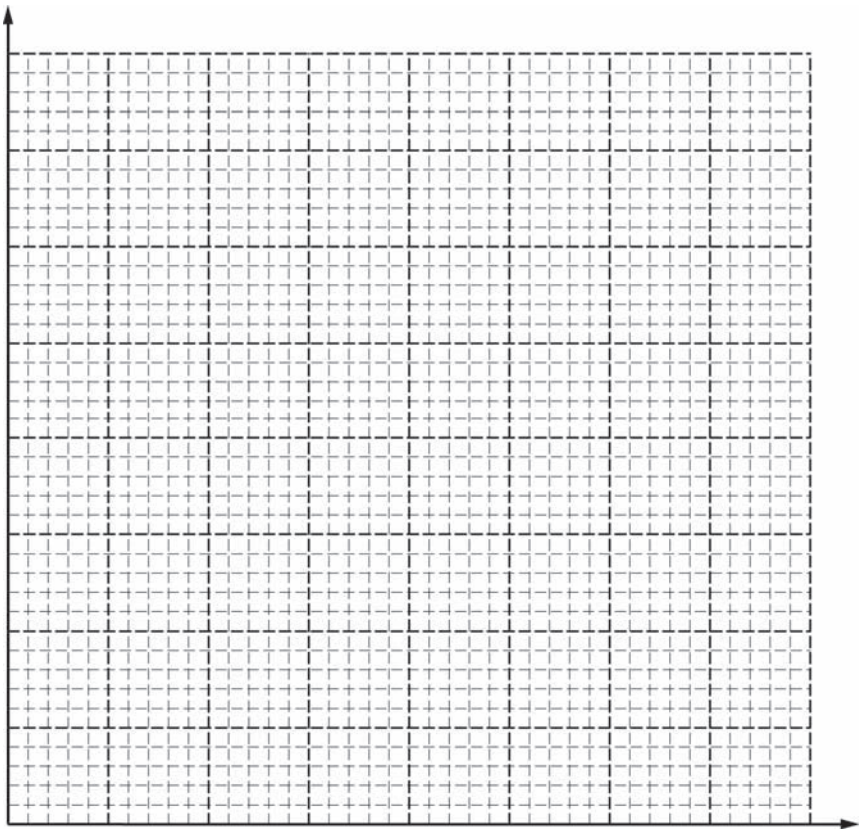
ii. Describe how the data could be graphed in a way that is useful for determining the resistivity of the material. Describe how the graph could be analyzed to calculate the resistivity.

The students are now given a rectangular rod of the material, as shown below, whose dimensions are not known. The students are asked to experimentally determine the resistance of the rod. They obtain the data in the table below for the potential difference ΔV across the rod and the current I in it.



ΔV (V)	6.0	5.0	3.5	2.5	2.0	1.5
I (A)	0.078	0.070	0.044	0.036	0.027	0.018

(b) On the axes below, plot the data so that the resistance of the rectangular rod can be determined from a best-fit line. Label and scale the axes. Use the best-fit line to determine the resistance of the rod, clearly showing your calculations.



(c) After completing their calculations, the students begin to consider the factors that might have produced uncertainties in their results.

i. The students realize that they did not take into account the internal resistance of the power supply. Briefly describe how this would affect their value of the resistance of the rectangular rod. Explain your reasoning.

ii. The students realize that they did not take into account a possible change in the temperature of the cylindrical rods. Should the students be concerned about this? Explain why or why not.

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Question 2

12 points total | **Distribution of points**

(a)

i. 5 points

For drawing a circuit with the battery, rod, and ammeter in series (rods can be drawn to look like rods, or schematically as resistors)	1 point
For drawing the voltmeter parallel to the rod, or indicating that the setting on the power supply will be used	1 point
For measuring potential difference and current for a rod	1 point
For measuring the length and diameter of a rod	1 point
For including multiple trials with appropriate controls Examples: 1) Use one rod and apply different potential differences 2) Use different rods	1 point

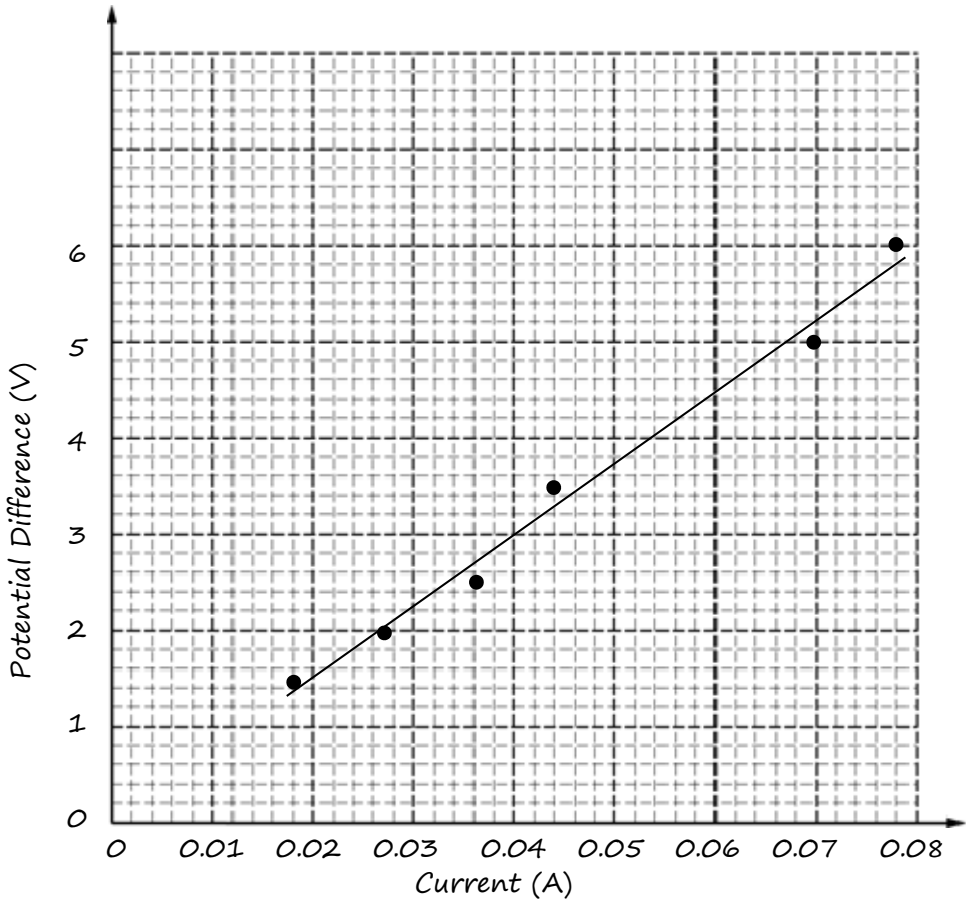
ii. 2 points

For graphing appropriate quantities whose slope can be used to calculate resistance directly or indirectly	1 point
For correctly stating how the slope relates to the resistivity	1 point

Question 2 (continued)

Distribution of points

(b) 3 points



For plotting the data on the graph with potential difference on one axis and current on the other, labeled with units, using a reasonable scale — 1 point

For a clearly shown calculation of slope from a reasonable best-fit line — 1 point

For a correct answer with units — 1 point

Acceptable range is $70 - 79\ \Omega$.

For a graph of I as a function of V, the slope should end up near $0.013\ \Omega^{-1}$ and the resistance is the inverse

For a graph of V as a function of I, the slope should end up near $74\ \Omega$ and equals the resistance

For the example shown above

$$\text{slope} = \frac{(5.8 - 2.4)\ \text{V}}{(0.078 - 0.032)\ \text{A}} = 73.9\ \Omega$$

Question 2 (continued)

Distribution of points

(c)

i. 1 point

For indicating that the internal resistance of the power supply will not affect the data acquired, with correct reasoning — 1 point

Example: Because potential difference is measured across each rod, $\Delta V/I$ is not affected by the internal resistance of the battery.

ii. 1 point

For indicating either: — 1 point

The students should be concerned because a change in temperature causes a change in the resistance or resistivity.

OR

The students should not be concerned because any change in resistivity as the temperature increases is small compared to measurement error.