

# 3-7: Electric Power

- The basic unit of power is the watt (W).
  - Multiple units of power are:
    - **kilowatt (kW):**  
1000 watts or  $10^3$  W
    - **megawatt (MW):**  
1 million watts or  $10^6$  W
  - Submultiple units of power are:
    - **milliwatt (mW):**  
1-thousandth of a watt or  $10^{-3}$  W
    - **microwatt ( $\mu$ W):**  
1-millionth of a watt or  $10^{-6}$  W

## 3-7: Electric Power

- Work and energy are basically the same, with identical units.
- Power is different. It is the time rate of doing work.
  - $\text{Power} = \text{work} / \text{time}.$
  - $\text{Work} = \text{power} \times \text{time}.$

## 3-7: Electric Power

- Practical Units of Power and Work:
  - The rate at which work is done (power) equals the product of voltage and current. This is derived as follows:
  - First, recall that:

$$1 \text{ volt} = \frac{1 \text{ joule}}{1 \text{ coulomb}} \quad \text{and} \quad 1 \text{ ampere} = \frac{1 \text{ coulomb}}{1 \text{ second}}$$

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$$\text{Power} = \text{Volts} \times \text{Amps, or}$$
$$P = V \times I$$

$$\text{Power (1 watt)} = \frac{1 \text{ joule}}{1 \cancel{\text{ coulomb}}} \times \frac{1 \cancel{\text{ coulomb}}}{1 \text{ second}} = \frac{1 \text{ joule}}{1 \text{ second}}$$

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## ■ Kilowatt Hours

- The kilowatt hour (kWh) is a unit commonly used for large amounts of electrical work or energy.
- For example, electric bills are calculated in kilowatt hours. The kilowatt hour is the billing unit.
- The amount of work (energy) can be found by multiplying power (in kilowatts)  $\times$  time in hours.

## 3-7: Electric Power

To calculate electric cost, start with the power:

- An air conditioner operates at 240 volts and 20 amperes.
- The power is  $P = V \times I = 240 \times 20 = 4800$  watts.
  - Convert to kilowatts:  
 $4800 \text{ watts} = 4.8 \text{ kilowatts}$
  - Multiply by hours: (Assume it runs half the day)  
 $\text{energy} = 4.8 \text{ kW} \times 12 \text{ hours} = 57.6 \text{ kWh}$
  - Multiply by rate: (Assume a rate of \$0.08/ kWh)  
 $\text{cost} = 57.6 \times \$0.08 = \$4.61 \text{ per day}$

# Problem

- How much is the output voltage of a power supply if it supplies 75 W of power while delivering a current of 5 A?
- How much does it cost to light a 300-W light bulb for 30 days if the cost of the electricity is 7¢/kWh.

## 3-8: Power Dissipation in Resistance

- When current flows in a resistance, heat is produced from the friction between the moving free electrons and the atoms obstructing their path.
- Heat is evidence that power is used in producing current.



## 3-8: Power Dissipation in Resistance

- The amount of power dissipated in a resistance may be calculated using any one of three formulas, depending on which factors are known:
  - $P = I^2 \times R$
  - $P = V^2 / R$
  - $P = V \times I$

# Problem

- Solve for the power,  $P$ , dissipated by the resistance,  $R$ 
  - a.  $I = 1 \text{ A}$ ,  $R = 100\Omega$  ,  $P = ?$
  - b.  $I = 20 \text{ mA}$ ,  $R = 1 \text{ k}\Omega$  ,  $P = ?$
  - c.  $V = 5 \text{ V}$ ,  $R = 150\Omega$  ,  $P = ?$
  - d.  $V = 22.36 \text{ V}$ ,  $R = 1 \text{ k}\Omega$  ,  $P = ?$
  
- How much power is dissipated by an  $8\text{-}\Omega$  load if the current in the load is  $200 \text{ mA}$ ?