

1 Basic example

A light bulb is connected to a voltage supply with 12.2 V. The current through the light bulb is 54 mA. Calculate the power dissipated in the light bulb.

$$P = \Delta V \cdot I \quad (1)$$

$$= 12 \text{ V} \times 54 \cdot 10^{-3} \text{ A} = 0.648 \text{ W} \approx 0.65 \text{ W} \quad (2)$$

2 Example with uncertainties

For a resistor, the voltage and current are measured to be $(4.32 \pm 0.01) \text{ V}$ and $(33.4 \pm 0.2) \text{ mA}$, respectively. Calculate the resistance with its uncertainty.

$$R = \frac{\Delta V}{I} \quad (3)$$

$$= \frac{4.32 \text{ V}}{33.4 \cdot 10^{-3} \text{ A}} = 129.34 \Omega \quad (4)$$

$$\Delta R = R_{\text{max}} - R \quad (5)$$

$$= \frac{4.33 \text{ V}}{33.2 \cdot 10^{-3} \text{ A}} - 129.34 \Omega \quad (6)$$

$$= 130.42 \Omega - 129.34 \Omega = 1.1 \Omega \quad (7)$$

$$R = (129.3 \pm 1.1) \Omega \quad (8)$$