

# To study the Kelvin Double Bridge for Low resistance measurement

Aim:

Objective

To measure Low resistance using Kelvin's double bridge

Introduction

**Kelvin Double Bridge for Low resistance** Kelvin's double bridge may be used for precision measurement of four-terminal low resistances. Four terminal resistors have two current leading terminals and two potential terminals across which the resistance equals the marked nominal value. This is because, the current must enter and leave the resistor in a fashion that there is same or equivalent distribution of current density between the particular equipotential surfaces used to define the resistance. The additional points also eliminated any contact resistance at the current lead-in terminals.

Theory

The kelvin double bridge incorporates the idea of a second set of ratio arms - hence the name double bridge- and the use of four terminal resistors for the low resistance arms. Figure 1 shows the schematic diagram of kelvin bridge. The first ratio arms is P and Q. The second set of ratio arms p and q is used to connect the galvanometer to a point d at the appropriate potential between points m and n to eliminate the effect of connecting lead resistance r between the unknown resistance R and the standard resistance S.

The ratio p/q is made equal to P/Q. Under balance conditions there is no current through the galvanometer which means that the voltage drop between a and b,  $E_{ab}$  is equal to voltage drops  $E_{amd}$  between a and c.

$$E_{ab} = P * \frac{E_{ac}}{P + Q} \text{ and } E_{ac} = I * R + S + r * \frac{p + q}{p + q + r}$$
$$E_{amd} = I * R + \frac{p}{p + q} * (r * \frac{p + q}{p + q + r}) = I * (R + \frac{pr}{p + q + r})$$

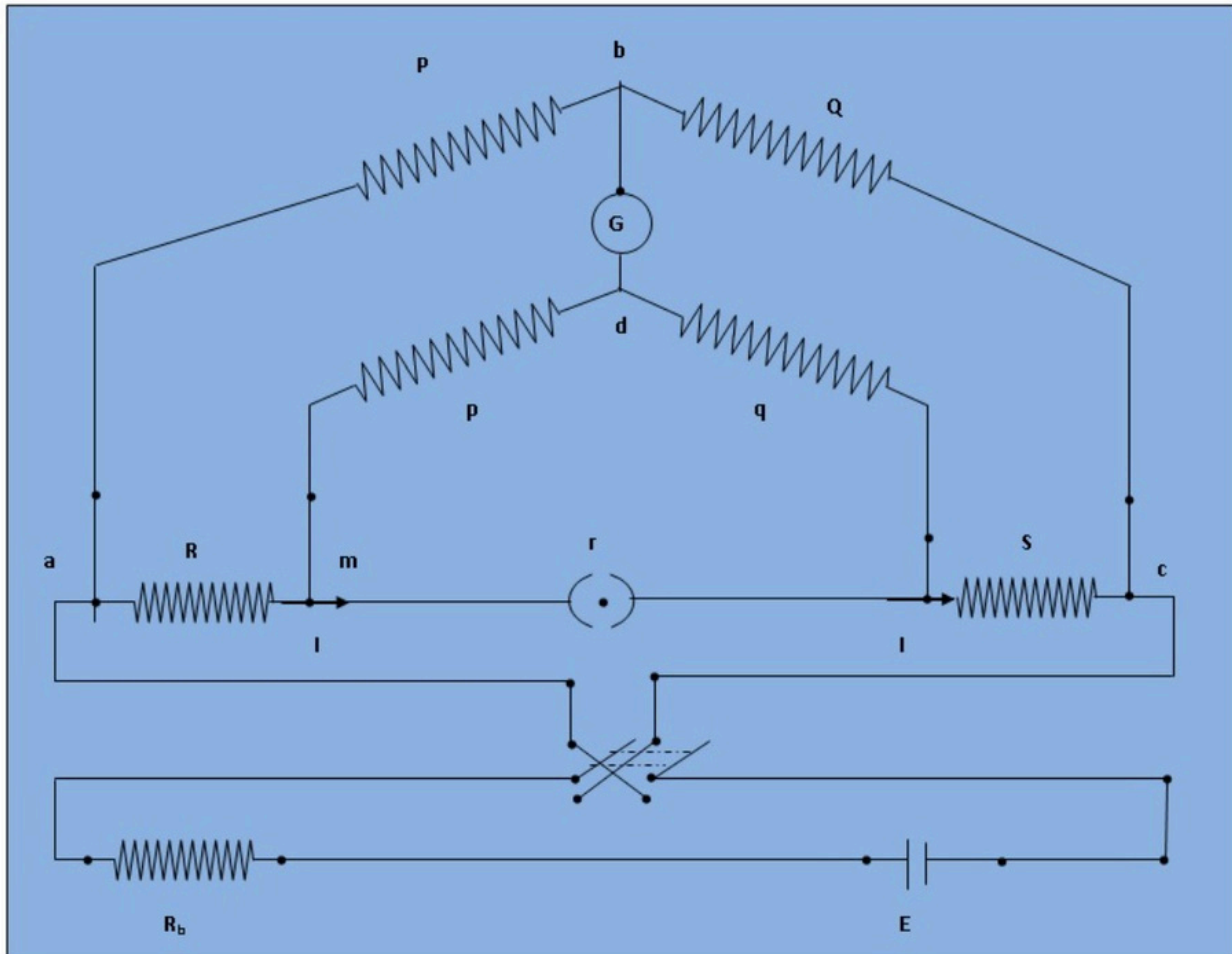
for zero galvanometer deflection,  $E_{ab} = E_{amd}$

$$\frac{PI}{P+Q} [R+S+\frac{(p+q)r}{p+q+r}] = I [R+\frac{pr}{p+q+r}]$$
$$\text{or } R = \frac{P}{Q} S + \frac{qr}{p+q+r} [\frac{P}{Q} - \frac{p}{q}] \text{ ----- (1)}$$

$$\text{now if } \frac{P}{Q} = \frac{p}{q} \text{ Eq (1) becomes, } R = \frac{P}{Q} S \text{ ----- (2)}$$

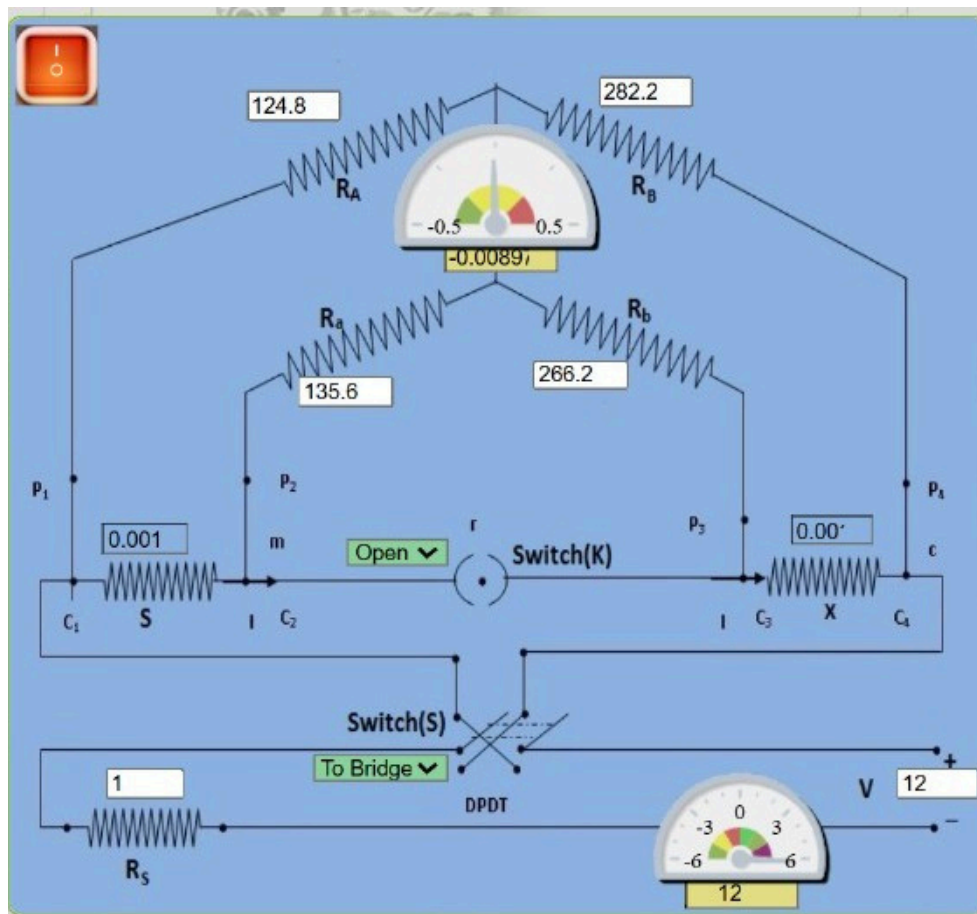
Eq (2) is the usual working equation for the kelvin bridge. It indicates that the resistance of connecting lead, r, has no effect on the measurement, provided that the two sets of ratio arms have equal ratios.

## Procedure



1. Connect the circuit as shown in the Fig. 1.
2. Set the value of the resistances A and a at 1000 ohm by setting the plugs at the marked positions and the values of B, b at 1000 ohm by setting the dial. Open the Key K. The bridge will act as a wheatstone bridge. A null deflection Galvanometer will ensure the relationship  $A/a = B/b$ .
3. Close the key K. Adjust the rheostat to obtain 2A current in the circuit .
4. Keeping the resistances A, a at 1000 ohm, vary B, b to obtain the Galvanometer null. Note the value B, b at balance position from the dial.
5. Reverse the direction of current by operating the two-way switch 's' and obtain the balance.
6. Set the values of A, a at 1 ohm and 1000 ohm position and repeat step 5 and step 4.
7. Repeat step 5 through step 6 for different line currents 3A, 4A and 5A.

Simulation :



**Set The Unknown Resistance 'S'**

0  0.01 Ohm

**Calculated Unknown Resistance Value**

0.00050 Calculate

**CONTROLS**

RA : 1 Ohm	<input type="range" value="1000"/>	1000 Ohm
RB : 1 Ohm	<input type="range" value="1111"/>	1111 Ohm
Ra : 1 Ohm	<input type="range" value="1000"/>	1000 Ohm
Rb : 1 Ohm	<input type="range" value="1111"/>	1111 Ohm

Result :

Thus the unknown resistance is measured using kelvins double bridge experiment.