

ECE 215 Spring 2025

Lesson 01

Introduction



UNITED STATES
AIR FORCE
ACADEMY

ABOUT ME - WHO AM I?

HOW TO CONTACT YOUR INSTRUCTORS

- Offices: 2E36A (Lt Col Booth), 2E36E (Dr. Fair)
- Outlook: Official (e.g., bedrest, SCA, etc.)
- Teams: Questions, problems, concerns
- EI (Lt Col Booth): Prefer Outlook calendar invite (pick any available time) but walk-in okay, too (if available)!
- EI (Dr. Fair): Schedule [here](#)! Also will share via Teams.

WHY ARE YOU HERE?

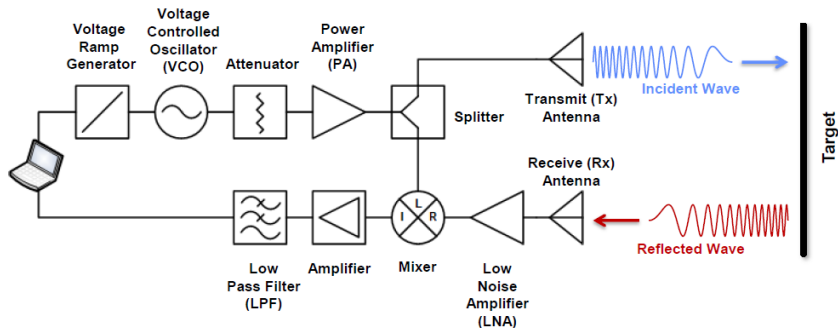
Navy LSRS



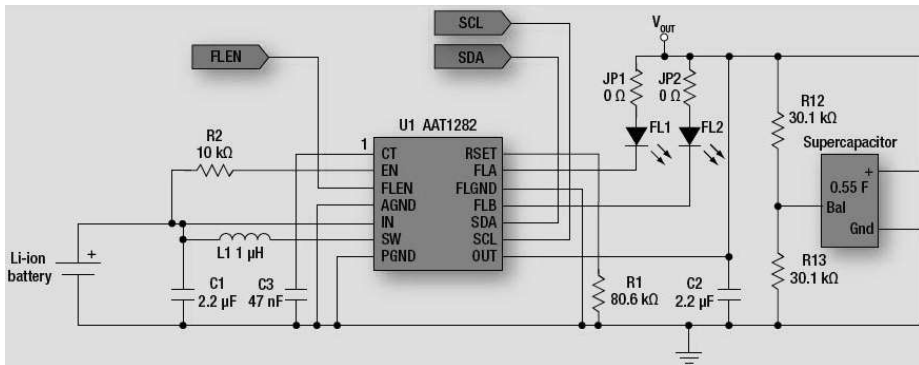
Air Force JSTARS



WHY ARE YOU HERE?



WHY DO WE CARE ABOUT ELECTRIC CIRCUITS?



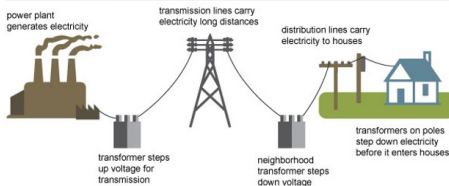
Absolute Maximum Ratings¹

$T_A = 25^\circ\text{C}$ unless otherwise noted.

Symbol	Description	Value
V_{IN}, V_{SW}, V_{OUT}	IN, SW, OUT to GND or PGND	-0.3 to 6.0
$V_{RSET}, V_{EN}, V_{FLEN}, V_{SCL}, V_{SDA}, V_{CT}, V_{FLOUT1}, V_{FLOUT2}$	RSET, EN, FLEN, SCL, SDA, CT, FLOUT1, FLOUT2 to GND, PGND, or FLGND	$V_{IN} + 0.3$
I_{OUT}	FLOUT1 and FLOUT2 ²	2200

MORE APPLICATIONS

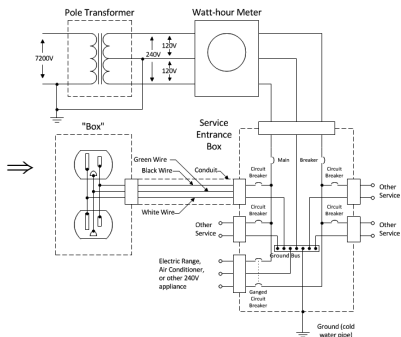
Electricity generation, transmission, and distribution



Source: Adapted from National Energy Education Development Project (public domain)



MORE APPLICATIONS



RETHINKING LEARNING

- How do you know when you've learned something?
- Has the way we do grading helped you know what you've learned?
- What would help you feel more confident that you've truly learned something?

COURSE PHILOSOPHY

- You should know what you're learning
- Making mistakes is a part of learning
- Revision of work is necessary to learn
- Grading should support learning and partial credit doesn't really tell us anything

Very granular learning objectives that tell you exactly what you will be able to do by the end of the semester

COURSE PHILOSOPHY

- You should know what you're learning
- Making mistakes is a part of learning
- Revision of work is necessary to learn
- Grading should support learning and partial credit doesn't really tell us anything

You shouldn't be punished for committing to the learning process

COURSE PHILOSOPHY

- You should know what you're learning
 - Making mistakes is a part of learning
 - Revision of work is necessary to learn
 - Grading should support learning and partial credit doesn't really tell us anything
- Revision allowed on quiz problems
 - One resubmission
 - You will practice how resubmissions work on the Skills Review Quiz (Quiz 0)

COURSE PHILOSOPHY

- You should know what you're learning
 - Making mistakes is a part of learning
 - Revision of work is necessary to learn
 - Grading should support learning and partial credit doesn't really tell us anything
- Grading is very clear (1 or 0)
 - Instructions are specific (exact specifications provided)
 - Focus on mastery through regular quizzes, midterm, and final examinations

SYLLABUS AND COURSE CONTENT

Let's take a look: <https://kaitlin-fair.github.io/ECE215>

LET'S GET STARTED!

- Objective 1: I can calculate the voltages, currents, and power associated with devices in a simple DC-powered circuit using tools such as KVL, KCL, voltage and current dividers, Ohm's Law, and the power equation.

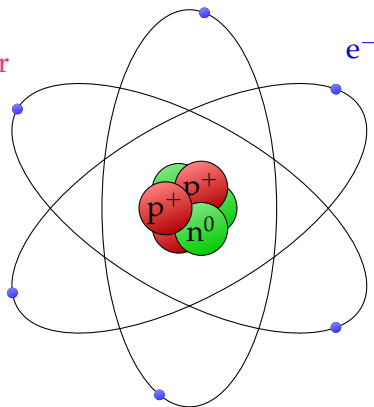
CHARGE

- All matter is made up of:
molecules ← atoms ← particles
- Charge is **a physical property of matter that causes it to experience force.**
- Charge is **quantized**

$$q_p = +1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ Coulombs}$$

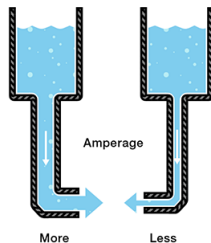
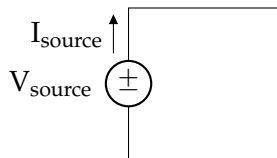
$$q_e = -1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ Coulombs}$$

- Like charges repel, opposites attract



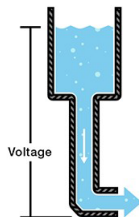
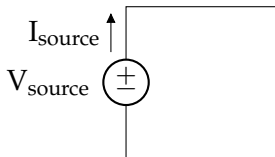
CURRENT

- Current is the **strength** of the flow of electrons
- Current: $I = \frac{dq}{dt} \rightarrow 1A = \frac{1C}{s}$
- Convention: Current flows from high potential to low potential (+ to -)
- Current is measured through a point
- Current has magnitude and direction
- Ex: If a battery stores $24A \cdot h$ of charge, how many C does it hold?



VOLTAGE (POTENTIAL)

- Voltage is the **potential** for electrons to do work
- Energy to move charge
- Voltage: $V = \frac{\Delta E}{dq} \rightarrow 1V = \frac{1J}{C} = \frac{1N * m}{C}$
- Convention: Positive terminal (+) = higher potential
- Potential is measured between 2 points
- Potential exists ALWAYS, even if no current flowing
- Potential has magnitude and polarity

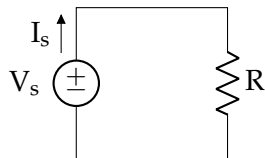


RESISTANCE

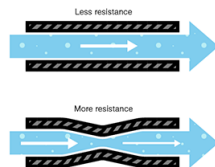
- Resistance is a measure of how much a material resists electron flow
- Resistance “eats up” power
- Measured in Ohms (Ω)
- Resistance is size/shape of pipe
- Describes fundamental physical property
- A material w/ length L and cross-sectional area A will have resistance:

$$R = \frac{\rho L}{A} \quad \rightarrow \quad \rho \text{ is resistivity}$$

- Q: Why use gold or aluminum if copper has a lower resistivity?



Resistance



material	$\rho(\Omega \cdot \text{m})$
copper	1.72×10^{-8}
gold	2.45×10^{-8}
aluminum	2.8×10^{-8}