# 1.OHM'S LAW

**Aim:** To determine resistivity of a given wire by plotting a graph of potential difference versus current.

**Apparatus:** A wire of unknown resistance, battery eliminator, screw gauge, voltmeter (0-5 V), ammeter, (0-5A), Rheostat and connecting wires.

**Theory:** Ohm's law states that the electric current flowing through a conductor is directly proportional to the potential difference across its ends, provided the physical state of the conductor remains unchanged.

If I be the current flowing through the conductor and V the potential difference across its ends, then according to Ohm's law,

$$V \propto I$$
 and hence 
$$V = RI \qquad (1)$$
 
$$R = V/I \qquad (2)$$

where R is the constant of proportionality and is termed as the electrical resistance of the conductor.

If V is expressed in volts and I in amperes, then R is expressed in ohms.

The resistance R, depends upon the material and dimensions of the conductor.

For a wire of uniform cross-section, the resistance depends on the length I and the area of cross-section A. It also depends on the temperature of the conductor

At a given temperature the resistance,

$$R = \rho \frac{l}{A} \tag{3}$$

where  $\rho$  is the specific resistance or resistivity and is characteristic of the material of wire. From this equation ,



#### **Procedure:**

- Connect various components battery, resistance wire, voltmeter, ammeter and rheostat as shown in circuit diagram.
- Adjust the rheostat knob slightly so that the ammeter and voltmeter show measurable readings.
- Note down the ammeter and voltmeter readings under I and V column
- R is found using the equation R=V/I
- Repeat the experiment for different values of current by adjusting the rheostat and note down their corresponding voltage .
- Repeat the steps 2 to 5 to gt few sets of readings and find the average value of R
- Plot V-I Graph. The slope of the graph is found

slope=
$$\Delta V/\Delta I$$

The slope of the graph gives the resistance of the wire.

• By using the equation (4) find the resistivity of the given material of wire.

#### Result:

- The V-I relationship is established through ohm's law experiment and is verified to be true.
- Resistance of given wire

From calculation=....
$$\Omega$$

From Graph=.....
$$\Omega$$

ullet The resistivity of the material of given wire=..... $\Omega m$ 

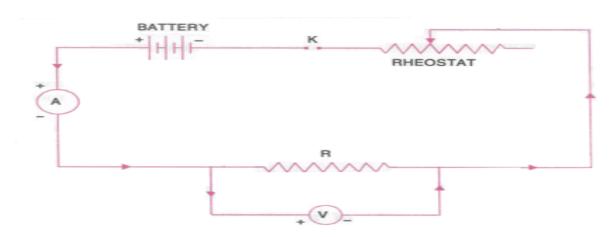
#### **Precautions:**

- The connections should be made neat and tight.
- The voltmeter should be connected in parallel and the ammeter in series with the circuit.
- The voltmeter and ammeter should be of proper ranges and their readings should be noted properly.
- The positive of the ammeter and voltmeter should be connected only to the positive of the battery.
- Low resistance rheostat should be used.

### Sources of error:

- Instruments may have loose terminals.
- Rheostat may be of high resistance.
- Personal error while noting down the voltmeter and ammeter readings.

# Circuit diagram:



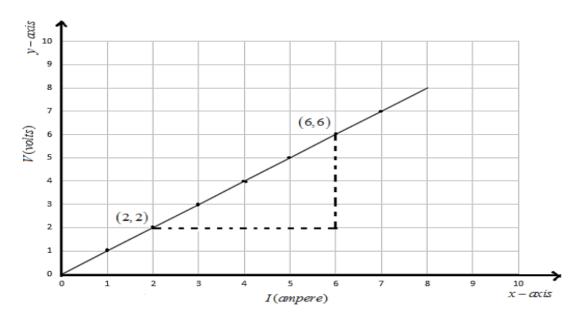
## **Observation:**

Least Count of ammeter=.....A

Least Count of Voltmeter=.....V

No	Ammeter Reading(I) (A)	Voltmeter Reading(V) (V)	Resistance(R=V/I) $(\Omega)$
1			$R_1 =$
2			$R_2^{=}$
3			$R_3^{=}$
4			$R_4^{=}$
5			$R_5 =$
6			$R_6^=$

Mean Resistance (R) = 
$$\frac{R_1 + R_2 + R_3 + R_4 + R_5 + R_6}{6} = \dots \Omega$$



(You have to draw the graph on the graph paper with values you got.)

Slope of the Graph,  $R = \Delta V / \Delta I = \dots \Omega$ 

### **Calculation**

Length of the wire,L=.....m

Diameter of the wire,D=.....m

Resistance (from Graph),R=..... $\Omega$ 

Resistivity,  $\rho = \frac{R\Pi D^2}{4L} = \dots = \dots \Omega m$