

Lecture 18

Batteries and Voltage Regulators

Agenda

- Battery overview
- LiPo Batteries (Safety)
- Voltage Regulators

Misc. Stuff

- Individuals not in Lab 4 teams will be assigned to teams Thursday morning by teaching staff.
- Router in GMLab
 - SSID: [TP-Link_05AF](#)
 - Password: [47543454](#)
- USB chargers are typically LiPo or LiIon batteries. You can purchase small grey one for \$8 for Lab 4 or final project.



5 Ah capacity

2Amp output max

Can power ESP32 or Teensy through USB

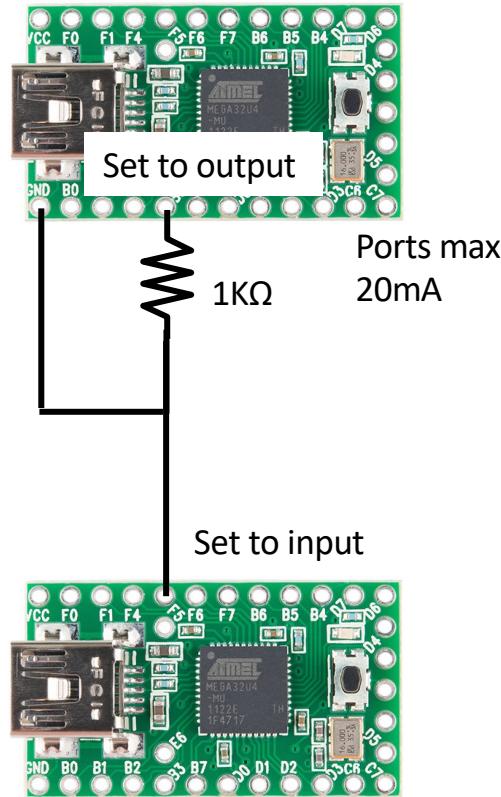
Can be recharged

Current analysis confusion

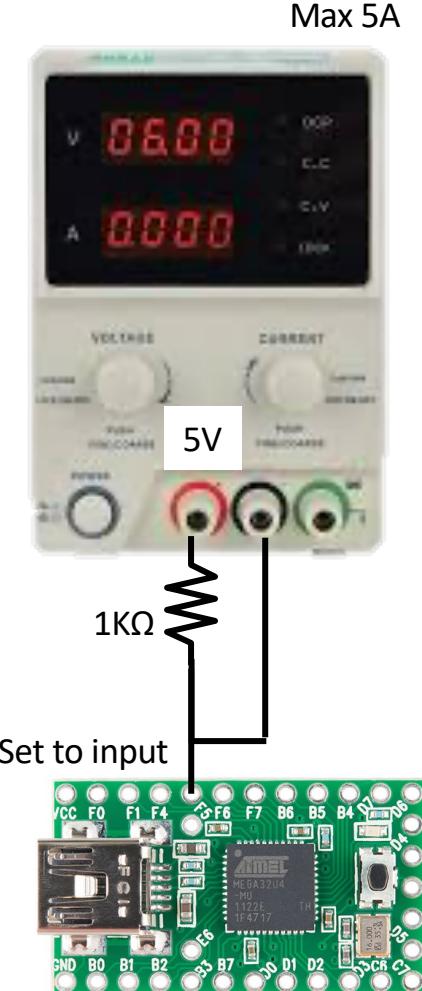
- A. What is the worst case current supplied by the power supply that has max current of 5A when set to 5V?
- B. What is the worst case current going through the Teensy Port that has max output of 20mA?

"Current Limiting Resistor"
may or may not set current

B



A



Max 5A

01

Battery overview

Battery types (in this lecture)

Sealed
Lead
Acid



NiMH



NiCad, NiMH, Alkaline



Lithium polymer is now dominating the high density battery market



Super Capacitor
Ultra Capacitor



Lithium Ion
(18650 or packs)

Questions to answer as lecture proceeds

Q1: You open the hood of your parked car and find a 12V battery in good condition. What does your voltmeter read when you measure the battery?

Q2: What is the nominal voltage for NiMH and NiCad cells (which are the same)

Q3: After sitting on a shelf for 3 years how do you check if a LiPo is still good?

More Questions: Three scenarios

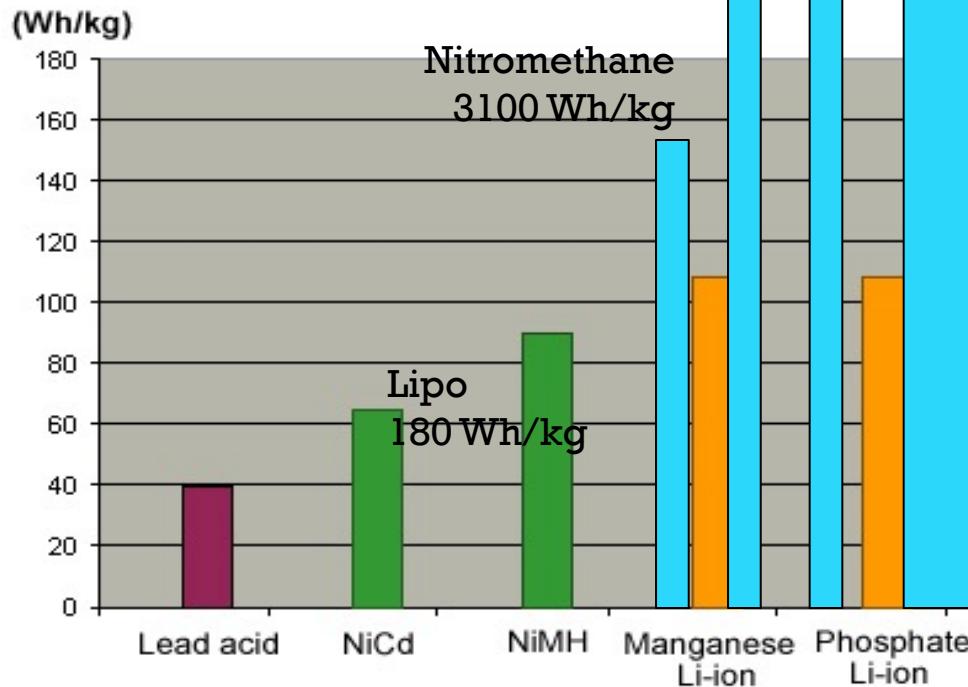
1. You have a project that automatically takes pictures of birds in Alaska. Size isn't a problem. The camera system sits there for 6 months with no maintenance. What kind of battery do you use?
2. DARPA has asked you to build a small flying robot – cost is no problem. What are good candidate battery technologies?
3. DARPA has changed their mind, they want the robot to swim. What now?

Important Battery Specifications

- **Cell Voltage [Volts]**
 - Battery implies multiple cell (single cell technically not a battery)
- **Capacity [amp-hours]**
- Constant **C Rating [A/(Ah)]** – current as a function of capacity
 - C Rating (discharge) / (Burst C Rating)
 - C Rating (charge)
- **Energy Density [watt-hours/kg]**= Battery V x Capacity / mass
- **Primary (disposable) vs Secondary (rechargeable)**
- **Self-discharge**
- **Service Life**
- **Shelf-life**

Energy density

- Energy: W•hr
- Density: / mass



Fission U235
25,000,000,000
Wh/Kg

Lipo
180 Wh/kg

Discharge (drawing current from the battery)

- V typically drops as battery is drained.
- But rate of drop depends on discharge rate [A].
- 1 Amp hr capacity supplies
 - ~1 hour at 1 amp.
 - < 0.5 hour at 2 amps.

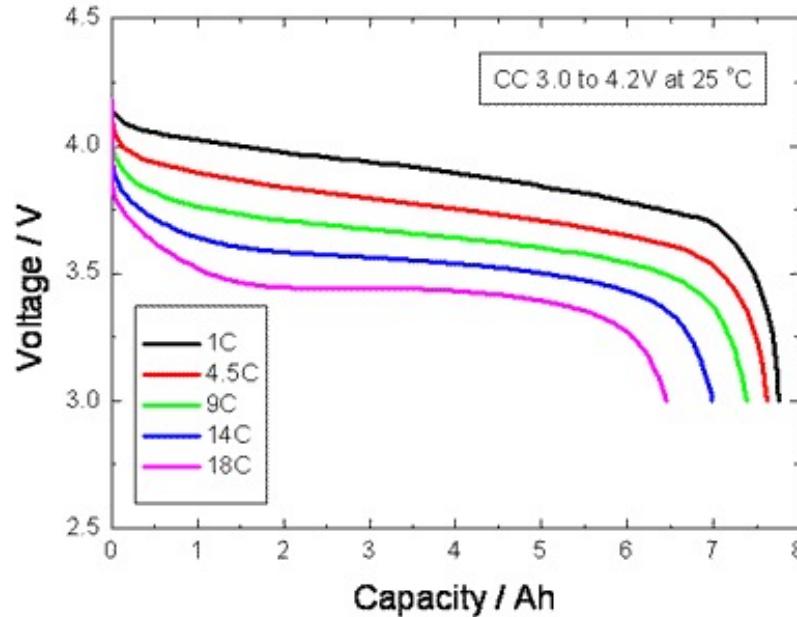


Chart for
Lithium
batteries

Exponent depends on battery type
E.g. 1.2 for gel cells

Follows Peukerts Law: $t = H (C/(IH))^{1.3}$

H = rated time [h], C = rated charge [Ah], I = actual discharge [A]

"Primary" batteries: Zinc-carbon and Alkaline

- Zinc-Carbon
 - Cheapest most common primary (non-rechargeable) cell
 - Shelf life 2-3 years (Casing gets thinner from use and acidic wear – leaking of sticky ammonium chloride electrolyte paste)
 - Becoming obsolete... I couldn't find it on amazon but typically "batteries included" are these cheapo batteries
- Alkaline
 - Higher power density and longer shelf life 5-10 years

Primary (non-rechargeable) Batteries



Alkaline Batteries

tion S

| Size | Nominal Voltage | Rated Capacity ¹ | Rated Voltage Cut-off | Rated Load | Dimensions ² | | | Weight (Avg.) | Cost [2017] \$USD |
|------|-----------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|------------|-------------------------|---------------|-------------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| | | | | | Diameter (Max.) | Height (Max.) | Energy density [mWh/oz] | | |
| (V) | (mAh) | (V) | (Ω) | in. (mm) | in. (mm) | oz. (g) | | | |
| D | 1.5 | 17,000 | 0.8 | 39 | 1.346 (34.19) | 2.421 (61.49) | 5402 | 4.72 (135) | 0.95 |
| C | 1.5 | 7,800 | 0.8 | 39 | 1.031 (26.19) | 1.969 (50.01) | 4178 | 2.28 (65) | 0.88-1.00 |
| AA | 1.5 | 2,870 | 0.8 | 75 | 0.571 (14.50) | 1.988 (50.50) | 5125 | 0.84 (24) | 0.25-0.55 |
| AAA | 1.5 | 1,150 | 0.8 | 75 | 0.413 (10.49) | 1.752 (44.50) | 4107 | 0.42 (12) | 0.33-0.49 |
| 9V | 9.0 | 570 | 4.8 | 620 | - | 1.909 (48.49) | 3109 | 1.65 (45) | 1.00-1.50 |

Lead Acid (wet cell, or SLA)

- 12V Wet Cell (e.g. car battery)
 - Liquid acid in an unsealed container
 - Must be kept upright
 - Vents O₂ and H₂ when overcharged.
 - Heavy, high capacity
 - **Nominally 12.6V** (6, 2.1V cells)
 - @ 12.0V ~10% left. @ 11.8V empty.
 - @<10.5V will damage battery
 - Simple charging (apply ~13.6V, not more than 14.4)
- SLA or Gel Cell (Gel Battery)
 - Same as wet but no upright constraints
 - ***Easy to charge***



Sealed Lead Acid

NiCad (NiCd)

- Rechargeable, **1.2V** cells
- Lower internal resistance → high current
 - AA cells-> 18A, D cells-> 35A
- Mis-charging results
 - Overcharging O₂ generated at cathode, needs venting and resealing (complex expensive)
 - Reverse charging, (charge past empty)
 - Cell is permanently damaged, may release H₂ at anode
- 1000+ cycles before 50% capacity, (if used right)

Nickel Cadmium

Toxic heavy metal



NiMH

Nickel Metal Hydride

- Similar to NiCd (**1.2V** no cadmium)
- Higher capacity than NiCd
- Lower lifetime cycles than NiCd
- Not as good at high discharge rate
- **Self-discharge 10% in 1 day then 10% per month. (compare to NiCad 10% per month, SLA 5% per month)**
- Mis-charging
 - Overcharging -> gas, heat generation, damages battery
 - Discharging -> reverse charge (past empty) will kill battery



Li Ion

- Very common rechargeable battery (cell phones, laptops etc.)
- Very common to find 18650 form factor --->
- Cell **@ 3.7V** nominal (3V-4.3V)
- Higher power density than NiCd, NiMH
- Higher energy density than NiCd, NiMH
- **Shelf-life of ~3 yrs (likely <80% capacity)**
 - If stored properly, see if battery holds charge
 - If less than 3V, properly dispose.
- Self-discharge 5% /month
- Maintains capacity with some discharge
- Dangerous if casing is damaged

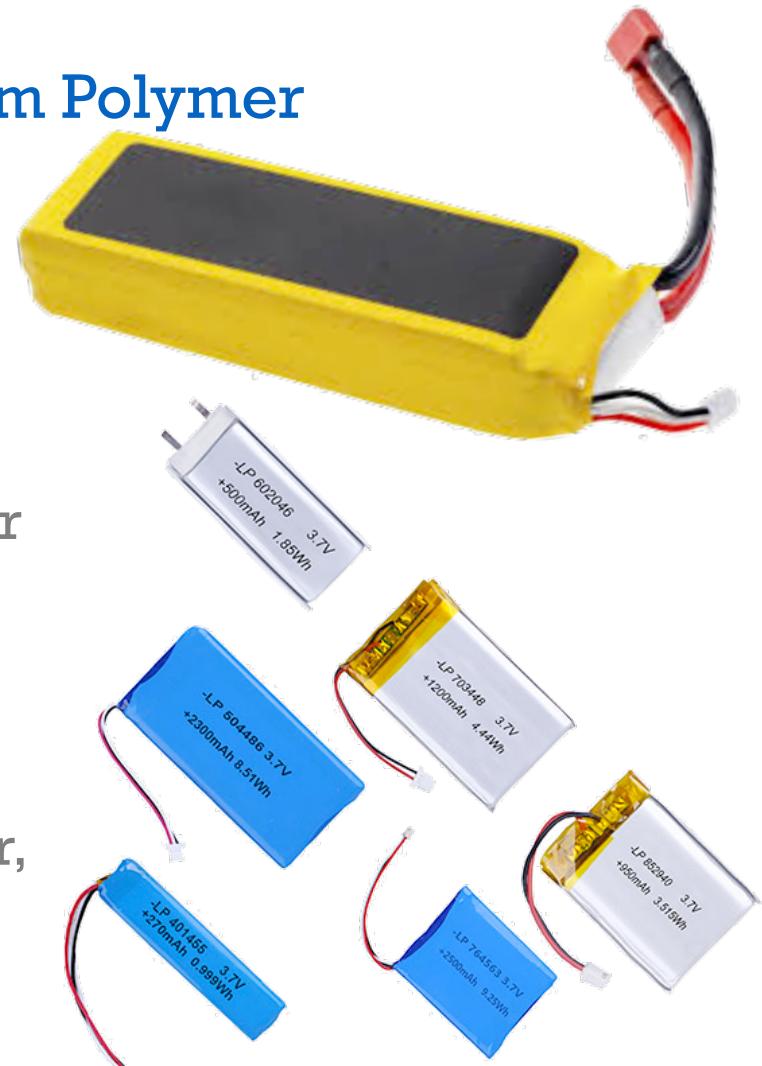
Lithium Ion



LiPo

Lithium Polymer

- **Highest power density** commercially available
- Cell @ 3.7V nominal (3V-4.3V)
- More easily conformable (typically prismatic), no casing required -> lighter
- Typically slower charge times,
- Low life cycle degradation rate
- Shelf life similar to Li-Ion
- Damage to casing -> Explosive w/water,
- **Easily causes fires!**



Lithium Ion vs Lithium Polymer (4S1P, 14.8V test)

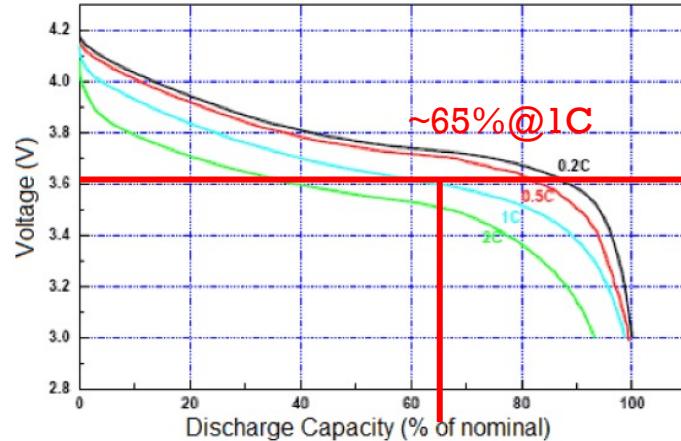
Tom Stanton

RC plane flight tests: avg draw 3A, peak 20A

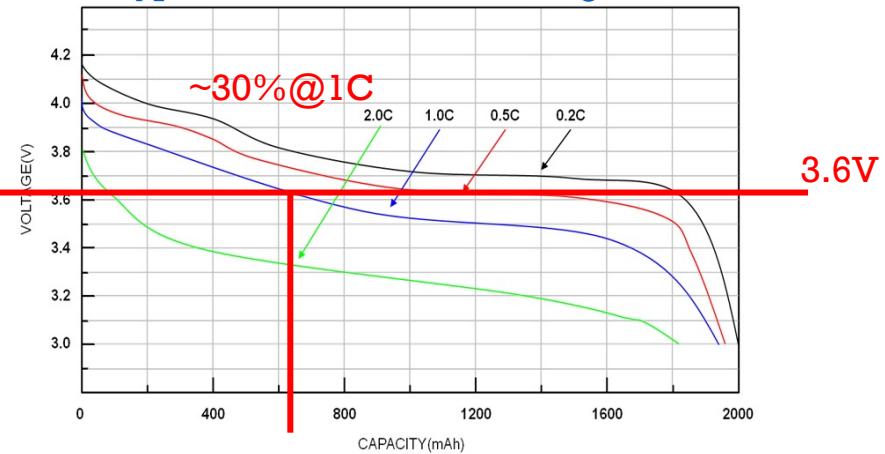
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UB8fas6zBSE>

- 4 cell pack **LiIon** (0.25Wh/g) has **higher energy density** than 4 cell pack **LiPo**(0.14Wh/g)
- **LiIon** has higher internal resistance (lower maxAmp C-rating) **lower power dens.** than **LiPo**
- **LiIon** can be run to **lower voltage** and recover than **LiPo**
- **LiIon** voltage drop for full charge will be **larger** than **LiPo**
- Final result: **LiPo** lasted longer from 16.8V to 14.8V than **LiIon**, but **LiIon** had more charge left (going to lower voltages).

Typical Lithium Polymer Discharge



Typical Lithium Ion Discharge



Other Lithium Technologies

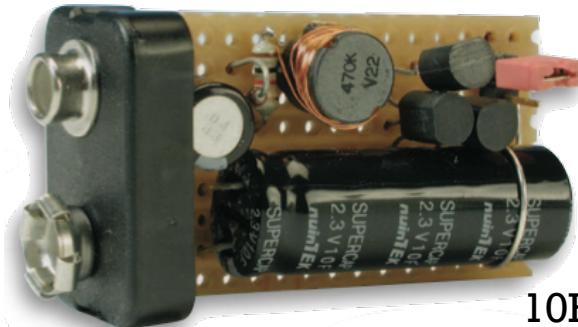
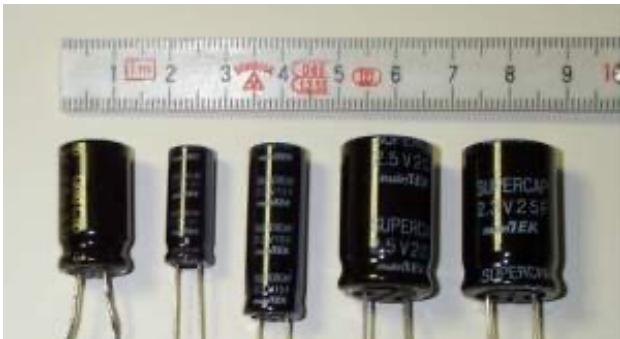
- Lithium Iron Phosphate ([LiFePo₄](#))
 - **Safest form** of Lithium (won't catch fire if punctured)
 - Better life cycle (4-5x than LiPo depending on usage)
 - Lower voltage and energy density (3.2V nominal, 3.6V @ full)
 - Flatter discharge curve (stays flat at ~3.0V)
 - Digikey sells 3.3Ah 3.2V cell for \$10 each (~\$1 per Wh same as LiPo)
- Lithium Titanate ([LTO](#))
 - **Much faster charging** than LiPo (~10x faster)
 - Lower energy density (~60% of LiPo)
 - Digikey sells 40Ah 2.3V cell for \$65 each (~.70 per Wh)

Likely direction for future 510
classes due to safety

SuperCapacitors (ultracaps)

- Supercaps have ~3-15Wh/Kg (Normal Caps ~0.5Wh/kg)
- Can get 3-60F in ~small casing
- But at low voltage ~2.3V- 2.7V
 - $F = A \cdot s/V$,
 - Ref: 9V has ~0.5 Ah capacity
- **Practically infinite cycles**
- **Very high discharge current**
- **Self-discharge @ 50% in 30 days**
- Hybrids are becoming the new thing.

| Function | Supercapacitor | Lithium-ion (general) |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Charge time | 1–10 seconds | 10–60 minutes |
| Cycle life | 1 million or 30,000h | 500 and higher |
| Cell voltage | 2.3 to 2.75V | 3.6 to 3.7V |
| Specific energy (Wh/kg) | 5 (typical) | 100–200 |
| Specific power (W/kg) | Up to 10,000 | 1,000 to 3,000 |
| Cost per Wh | \$20(typical) | \$2 (typical) |
| Service life (in vehicle) | 10 to 15 years | 5 to 10 years |
| Charge temperature | –40 to 65°C (–40 to 149°F) | 0 to 45°C (32° to 113°F) |
| Discharge temperature | –40 to 65°C (–40 to 149°F) | –20 to 60°C (–4 to 140°F) |



9V battery
(internal switching
regulator)

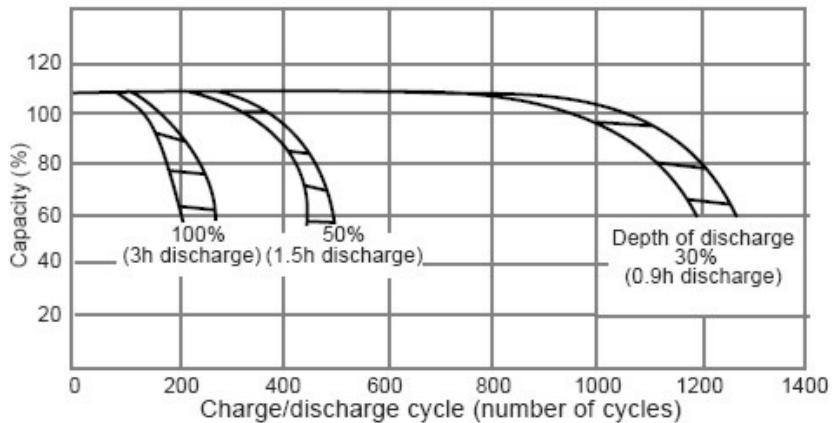
10F @ 2.3V

Battery Comparison Table

| Type | NiCd | NiMH | SLA | Li-Ion | Li -poly | Reuse Alkaline | Supercap |
|------------------------------|------|------|---------|---------|----------|-------------------|-----------|
| Typ Energy Density (Wh/Kg) | 50 | 75 | 30 | 150-265 | 185-220 | 80 (initial) | <15 |
| Cycle Life, @ 100% (typical) | 1500 | 500 | 200-300 | 300-500 | 150 | 10 – (65%) | Very high |
| Fast-Charge Time | 1.5h | 2-3h | 8-15h | 3-6h | 8-15h | 3-4h | Mins |
| Self-Discharge | Med. | high | v.low | low | low | lowest | v.high |
| Cell Voltage (nom.) | 1.2V | 1.2V | 2V | 3.6V | 3.7V | 1.5V | 2.7max |
| Sp. Power (W/kg) | 150 | ~500 | 180 | 1800 | 3000 | 50 | 10,000+ |
| Relative cost / Ah | .6 | .9 | .3 | 1 | 1 | .07 | 10 |

Cycle life vs. Depth of discharge

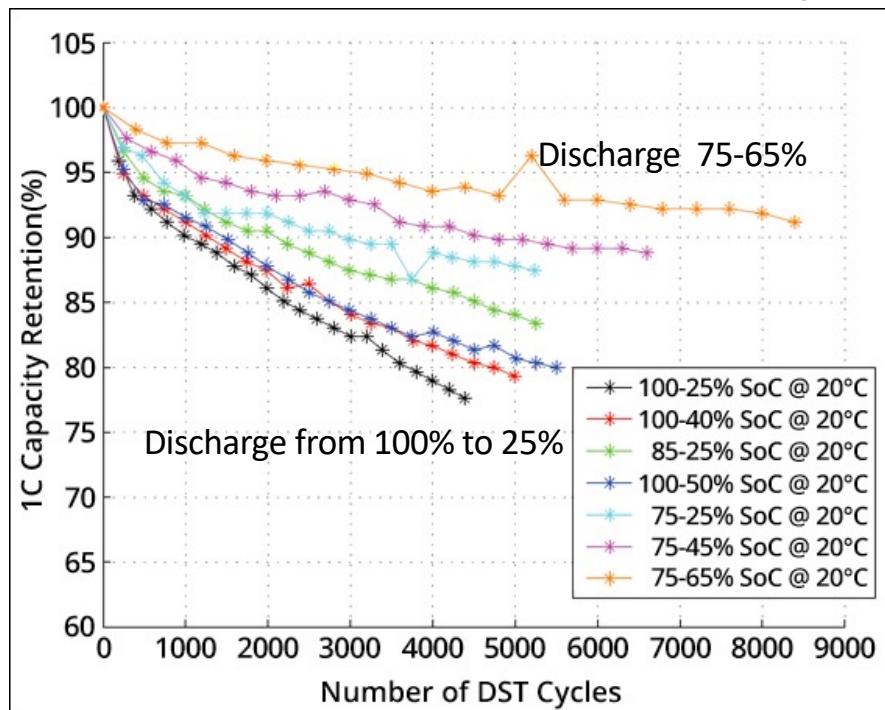
(Test condition)
Discharge : 0.25 CA corresponding resistance
Cut-off voltage; Discharge depth 100% only 1.75V/cell
Charge : 14.7 V constant-voltage control
Maximum current; 0.4 CA
6 hours
Temperature : 77°F (25°C)



Deep discharge of SLA can reduce life time.
Number of cycles = f(depth)

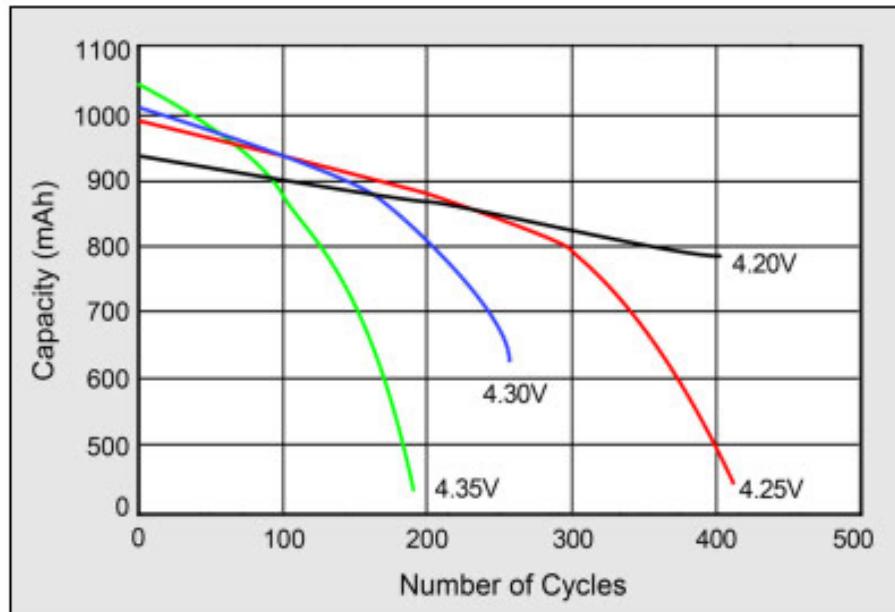
Battery lifetime performance

Lithium ion also shows gradual capacity loss after discharge but depends on range



More on lifecycle

- Typical lithium chargers charge to 4.2V but you can go further.
- But rate of capacity loss @ 3.9V is faster.



Reminder: lipo nominal charge is 3.7V, complete discharge @ 3.0V

Temperature and life time

| Battery Temperature | Permanent capacity loss when stored at 40% state-of-charge (recommended storage charge level) | Permanent capacity loss when stored at 100% state-of-charge (typical user charge level) |
|---------------------|--|--|
| 0°C | 2% loss in 1 year; 98% remaining | 6% loss in 1 year; 94% remaining |
| 25°C | 4% loss in 1 year; 96% remaining | 20% loss in 1 year; 80% remaining |
| 40°C | 15% loss in 1 year; 85% remaining | 35% loss in 1 year; 65% remaining |
| 60°C | 25% loss in 1 year; 75% remaining | 40% loss in 3 months |

Table 3: Permanent capacity loss of lithium-ion as a function of temperature and charge level. High charge levels and elevated temperatures hasten permanent capacity loss. Newer designs may show improved results.

- E.g. Running laptops hot and charging (@100%) will reduce life time.
- Wireless mat chargers often elevate temperatures

Q4 Three scenarios – answers?

1. You have a project that automatically takes pictures of birds in Alaska. Size isn't a problem. The camera system sits there for 6 months with no maintenance. What kind of battery do you use?
2. DARPA has asked you to build a small flying robot – cost is no problem. What are good candidate battery technologies?
3. DARPA has changed their mind, they want the robot to swim. What now?

Q5 Battery Summary Quiz:

Q5.1 Of the standard AA, AAA, D, C and 9V. 9V batteries are:

- A. The least efficient
- B. The most expensive
- C. The most rectangular
- D. All of the above

Q5.2 Why is a 3 cell LiPo battery (3.7V per cell nominal) not safe to power the Pico ESP32 (whose regulator takes from 4.6V to 12V)?

Q5.3 What happens to a LiPo battery when it is drained below 3.0V?

02

Lithium Polymer (LiPo) Battery recap

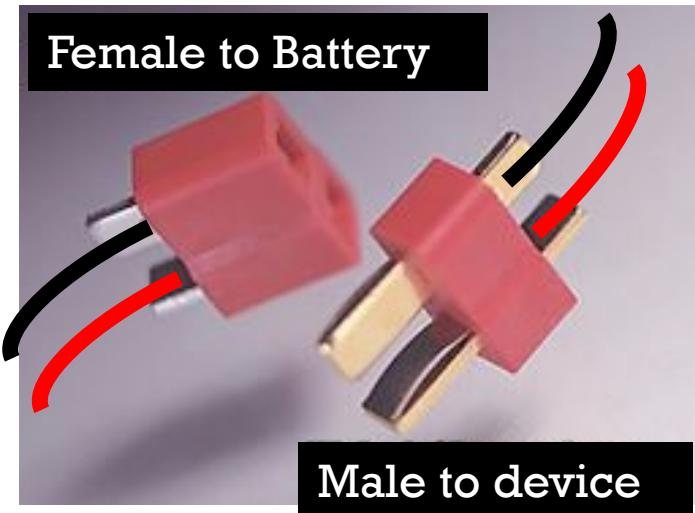
LiPo (some available for final project)

| Specification | 1300MAH 2S 7.4V 30C |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Capacity | 1300 mAh = 1300 milli Amp hour = 1.3Ah |
| Configuration Series/Parallel | 2S1P = 2 series and 1 parallel |
| Voltage | 7.4V = 2 x 3.7 cells in series |
| Discharge rating "C-Rating" | 30C = can safely discharge @ 30 x 1.3A |



Battery connectors

- Deans connector or Deans T-connectors
- LiPos connectors need to handle large currents
 - Deans can handle 60Amp continuous
- Careful soldering wires and melting plastic housing
- The positive (red) on the horizontal part of T, negative (black) on vertical.
- Don't forget heat shrink

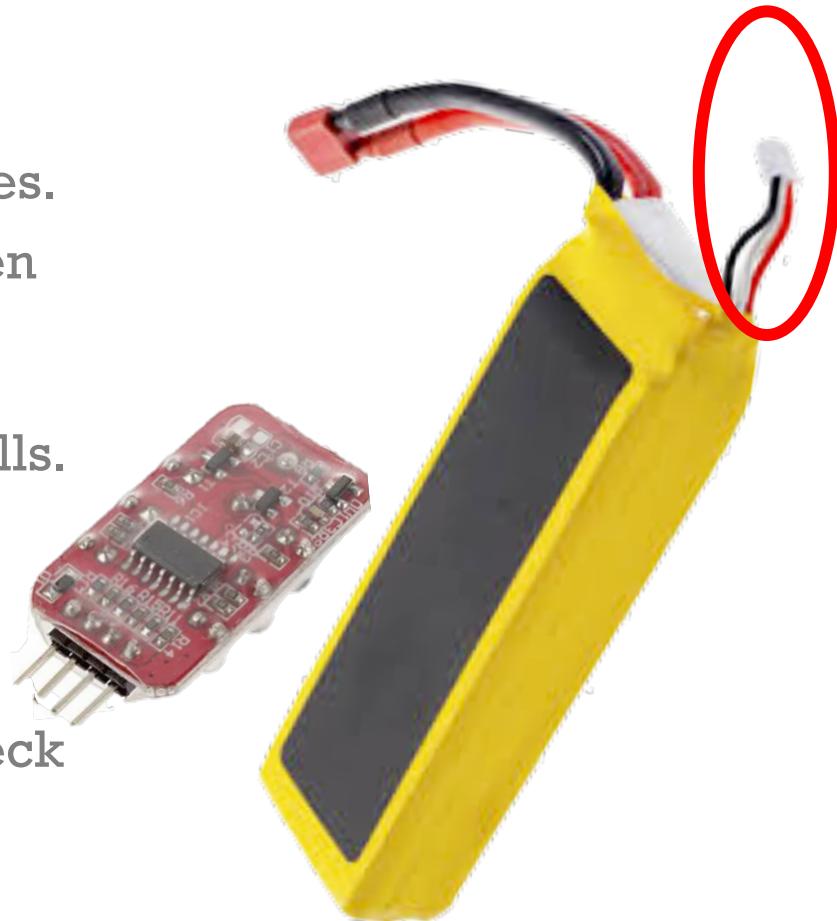


Soldering video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hmhKlaH3vH4>

LiPo balancing batteries

- Batteries implies multiple cells in series.
- Not all cells are exactly the same – even within one battery.
- Recharging multiple cells does not guarantee equal charging between cells.
- Imbalance more likely to occur after deeper discharge
- Low Voltage Alarms devices easily check

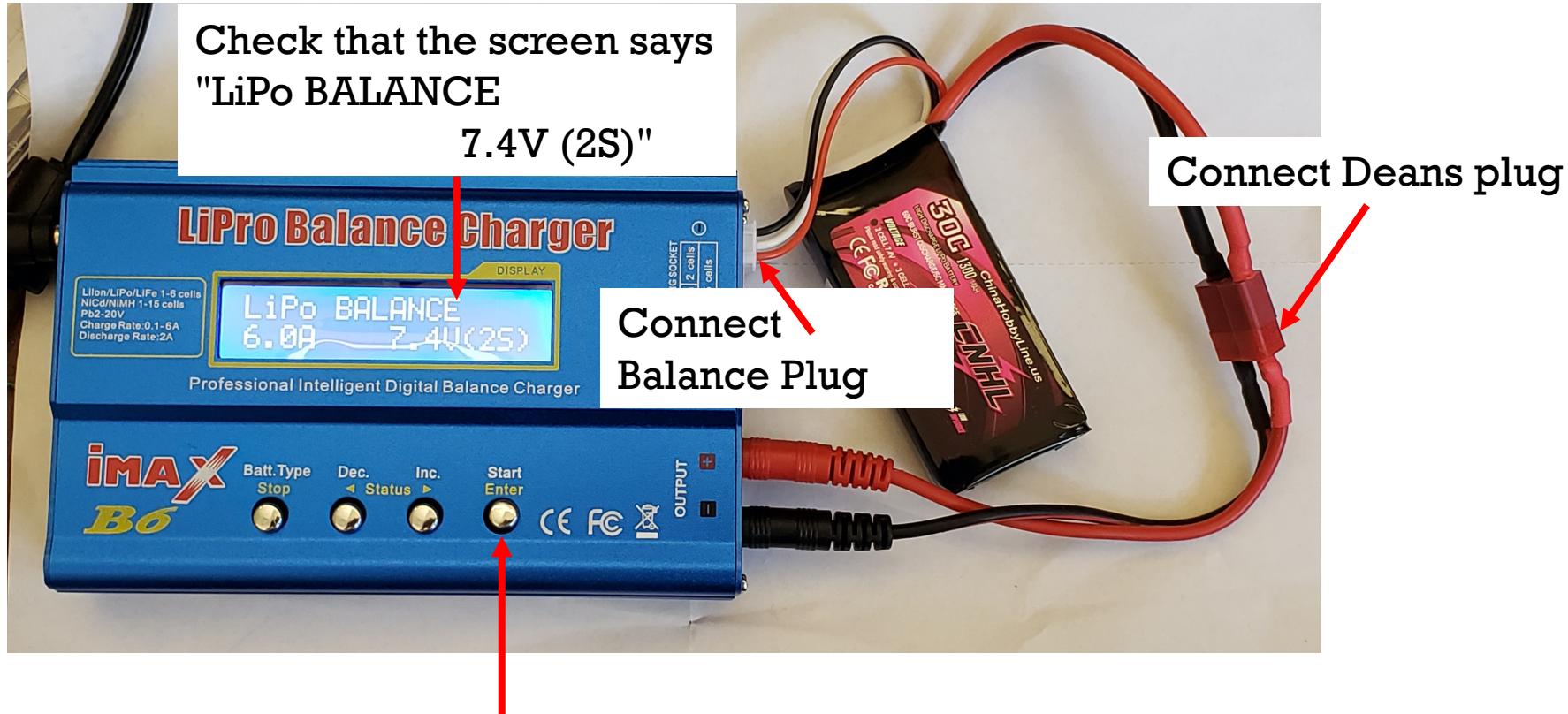


LiPo Safety

- When storing long term, set multi-cell lipos at 3.85V per cell
 - Most chargers have drain or storage modes to drain to proper level
 - Batteries stored at full voltage may become severely unbalanced.
 - Ideally store in cool dry place (e.g. fridge, but doesn't have to be)
- GMLab has Ammo cases filled with sand.
- Charge LiPo batteries **INSIDE** this case



Using the LiPo battery charger for 2S battery



Using the LiPo battery charger for 2S battery



Confirm 2SER, press "Start" again

Using the LiPo battery charger for 2S battery



Confirm that screen shows time is increasing...

Put the battery in the firebag.
Put everthing in the ammo case.

Using the LiPo battery charger for 2S battery



Put the battery in the firebag.

Put everything in the ammo case.

Lid can be open or closed.

In case of fire, close lid.
Call EOS **215-573-3333**

03

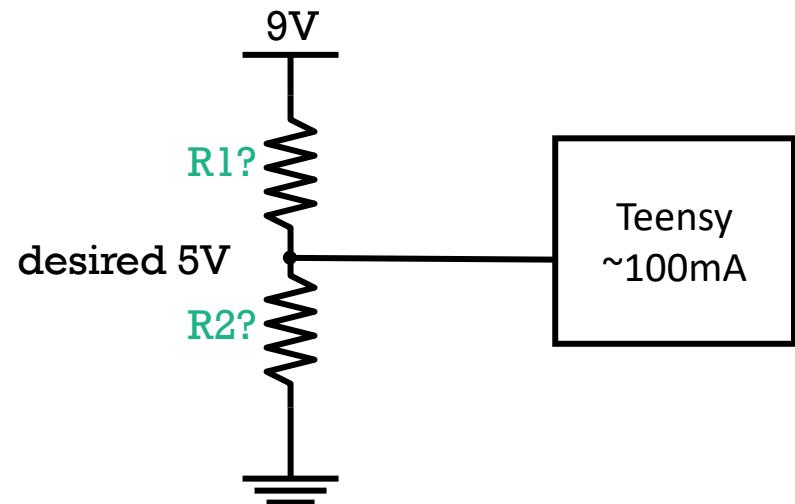
Voltage Regulators

Voltage Dividers as Voltage Source

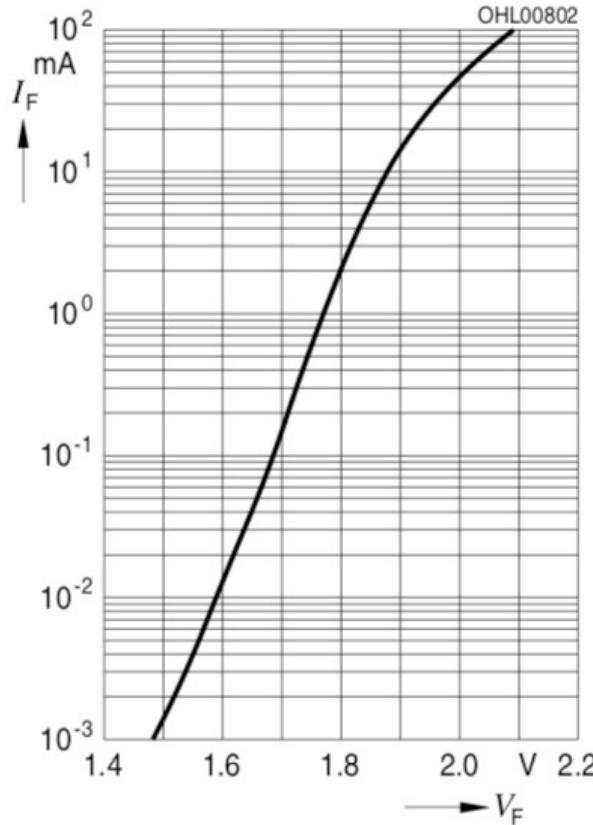
- You've got 9V battery and you need 5V to run a Teensy.
- Can you use a voltage divider to supply 5V?
- What resistors would you choose?

Q6: Which will result closest to 5v?

- A. $R_1 = 4\Omega$, $R_2 = 5\Omega$
- B. $R_1 = 40\Omega$, $R_2 = 50\Omega$
- C. $R_1 = 4k\Omega$, $R_2 = 5k\Omega$
- D. they are all the same

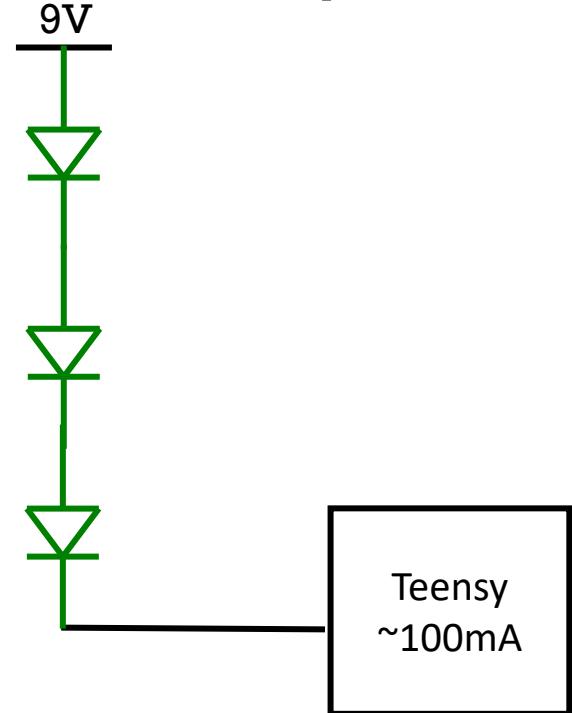


Voltage Diode Drop (V_f) to Supply Voltage



try and you need 5V to run the Teensy.
le diode drops?

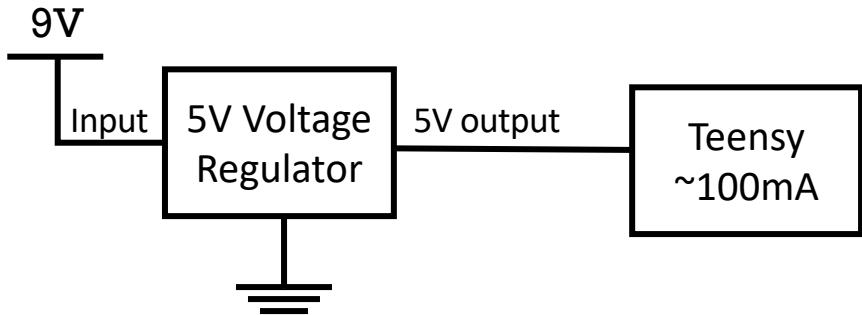
Q7: What issues do we
have with using 3 LEDs
with $V_f = 1.4V$?



Voltage Regulators

- You've got 9V battery and you need 5V to run a Teensy.

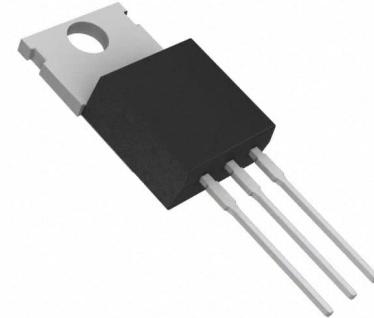
- Ideally use a voltage regulator
- They have voltage input range
- They have current limits
- Do NOT put them in parallel
 - They may fight each other and go unstable
 - If you need more current, find a different regulator.



Voltage Regulators

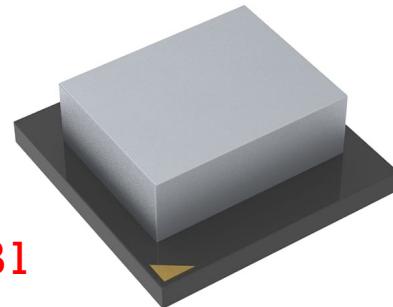
- Linear Voltage Regulators

- Cheap
- Very inefficient
- Easy to use
- Available in ministore
- Digikey: **MC7805CTG** 5V 1.5Aout, 7V to 35Vin \$0.65



- DC-DC converters, Buck or Boost converter

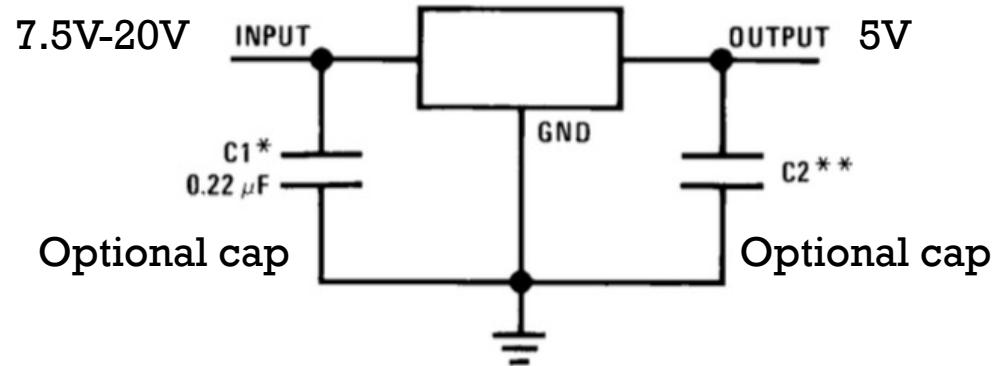
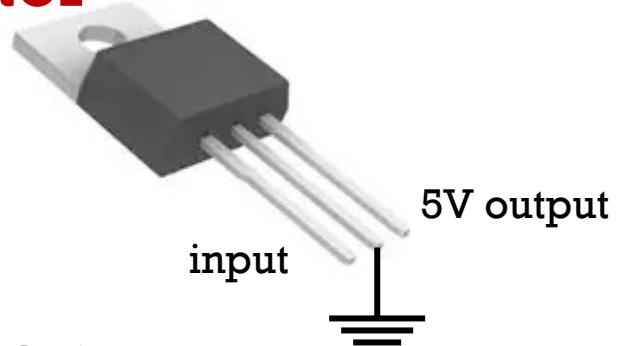
- Much more efficient
- Has inductor coil (may create WiFi interference)
- More expensive
- Not available in ministore
- Digikey: **MAXM17634AMG** 5V 2Aout, 4.5V to 36Vin \$7.31



LM7805 5V linear voltage regulator

Standard (old), low cost, low performance

- Max output: 1.5A
- Input range: 7.5V to 20V (Dropout Voltage: 2V)
- Output usually: 5.0V
but can vary 4.8 to 5.2V



LM7805

Listed as
obsolete in
Digikey,
Replacement
MC7805

$0^{\circ}\text{C} \leq T_J \leq 125^{\circ}\text{C}$ unless otherwise specified⁽¹⁾

| PARAMETER | | TEST CONDITIONS | MIN | TYP | MAX | UNIT |
|--|--|--|--|-----|------|------------------------------|
| V_O | Output voltage | $T_J = 25^{\circ}\text{C}, 5 \text{ mA} \leq I_O \leq 1 \text{ A}$ $P_D \leq 15 \text{ W}, 5 \text{ mA} \leq I_O \leq 1 \text{ A}$ $7.5 \text{ V} \leq V_{IN} \leq 20 \text{ V}$ | 4.8 | 5 | 5.2 | V |
| | | | 4.75 | | 5.25 | V |
| ΔV_O | Line regulation | $I_O = 500 \text{ mA}$ $T_J = 25^{\circ}\text{C}$ $7V \leq V_{IN} \leq 25V$ | | 3 | 50 | mV |
| | | Over temperature $8V \leq V_{IN} \leq 20V$ | | | 50 | mV |
| | | $I_O \leq 1 \text{ A}$ $T_J = 25^{\circ}\text{C}$ $7.5V \leq V_{IN} \leq 20V$ | | | 50 | mV |
| | | Over temperature $8V \leq V_{IN} \leq 12V$ | | | 25 | mV |
| ΔV_O | Load regulation | $T_J = 25^{\circ}\text{C}$ $5 \text{ mA} \leq I_O \leq 1.5 \text{ A}$ | | 10 | 50 | mV |
| | | $250 \text{ mA} \leq I_O \leq 750 \text{ mA}$ | | | 25 | mV |
| | | Over temperature, $5 \text{ mA} \leq I_O \leq 1 \text{ A}$ | | | 50 | mV |
| I_Q | Quiescent current | $I_O \leq 1 \text{ A}$ $T_J = 25^{\circ}\text{C}$ | | | 8 | mA |
| | | Over temperature | | | 8.5 | mA |
| ΔI_Q | Quiescent current change | $0^{\circ}\text{C} \leq T_J \leq 125^{\circ}\text{C}, 5 \text{ mA} \leq I_O \leq 1 \text{ A}$ | | | 0.5 | mA |
| | | $T_J = 25^{\circ}\text{C}, I_O \leq 1 \text{ A}$ | | | 1 | mA |
| | | $7 \text{ V} \leq V_{IN} \leq 20 \text{ V}$ Over temperature, $I_O \leq 500 \text{ mA}$ | | | 1 | mA |
| V_N | Output noise voltage | $T_A = 25^{\circ}\text{C}, 10 \text{ Hz} \leq f \leq 100 \text{ kHz}$ | | | 40 | μV |
| $\frac{\Delta V_{IN}}{\Delta V_{OUT}}$ | Ripple rejection | $f = 120 \text{ Hz}$ $8 \text{ V} \leq V_{IN} \leq 18 \text{ V}$ | $T_J = 25^{\circ}\text{C}, I_O \leq 1 \text{ A}$ | 62 | 80 | dB |
| | | | Over temperature, $I_O \leq 500 \text{ mA}$ | 62 | | dB |
| R_O | Dropout voltage | $T_J = 25^{\circ}\text{C}, I_O = 1 \text{ A}$ | | | 2 | V |
| | Output resistance | $f = 1 \text{ kHz}$ | | | 8 | $\text{m}\Omega$ |
| | Short-circuit current | $T_J = 25^{\circ}\text{C}$ | | | 2.1 | A |
| | Peak output current | $T_J = 25^{\circ}\text{C}$ | | | 2.4 | A |
| | Average TC of V_{OUT} | Over temperature, $I_O = 5 \text{ mA}$ | | | -0.6 | $\text{mV}/^{\circ}\text{C}$ |
| V_{IN} | Input voltage required to maintain line regulation | $T_J = 25^{\circ}\text{C}, I_O \leq 1 \text{ A}$ | | 7.5 | | V |

Linear Voltage Regulator

- Regulate down by throwing away voltage by heat.
 - e.g. 10V regulated to 5V is 50% power efficient.
- V regulators get HOT! Especially w/more current or voltage
- LM7805 automatic shutdown at 125C

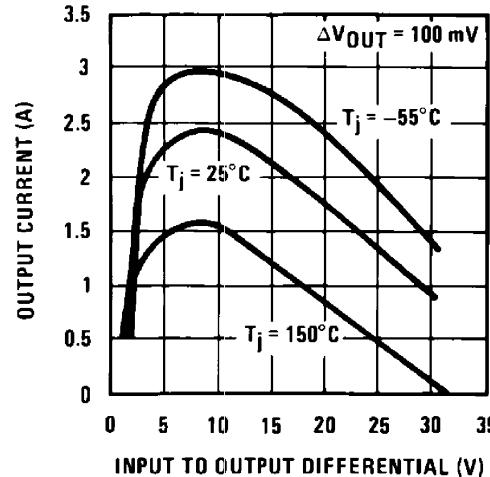
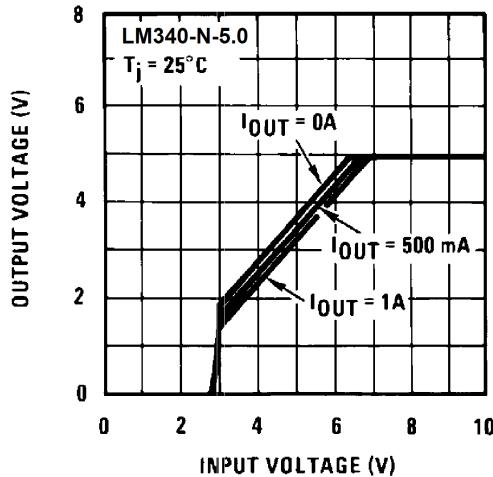
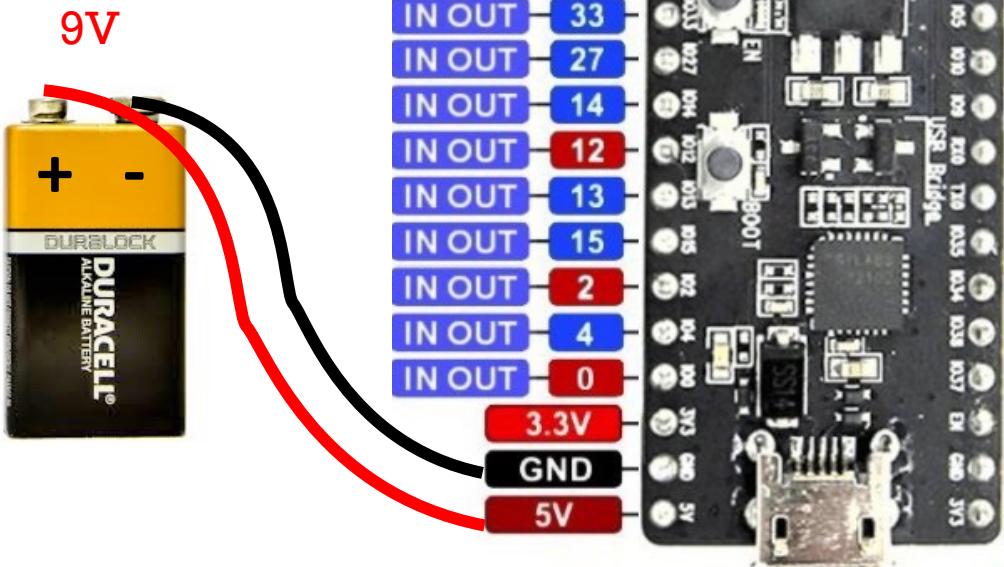


Figure 8. Dropout Characteristics

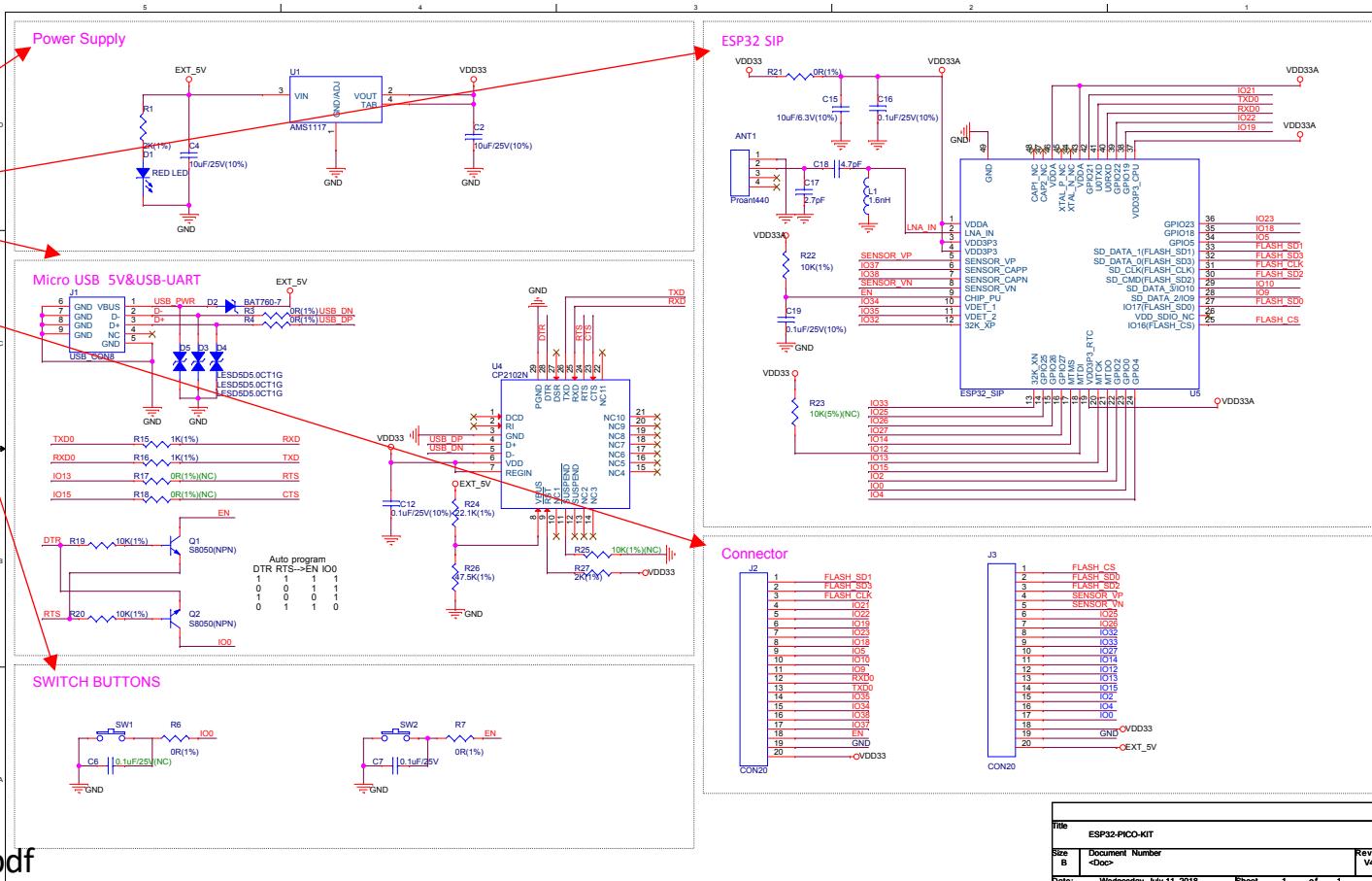
Powering boards with a battery

- Can we apply 9V to power the ESP32 PicoKit?
- How can we find out if it is okay?



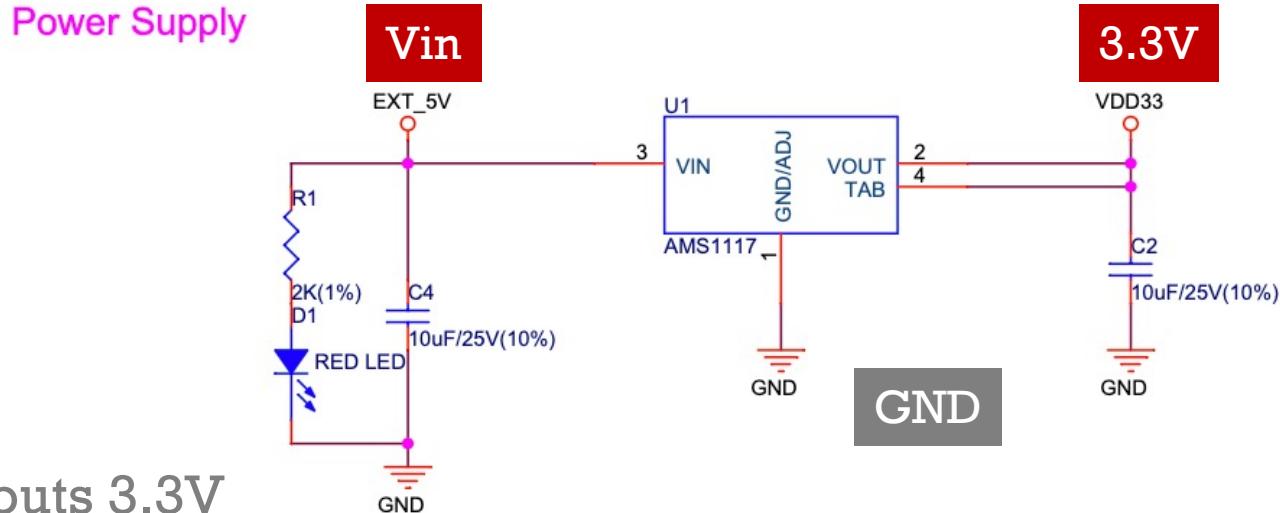
Q8: If we look at the board schematic what section(s) would likely tell us if we can use 9V?

- A) Power Supply
- B) ESP32 SIP
- C) Micro USB 5V
- D) Connector
- E) Switch Buttons



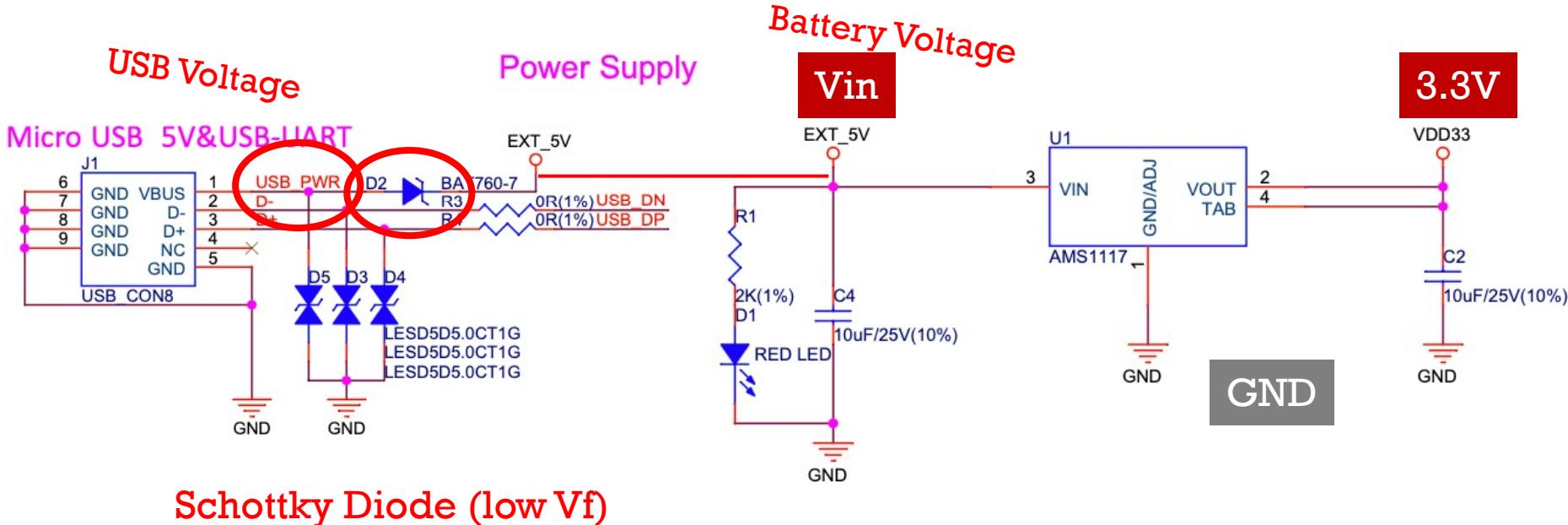
On canvas:
esp32-piko-kit-v4.1_schematic.pdf

PicoKit Voltage Regulator: AMS1117

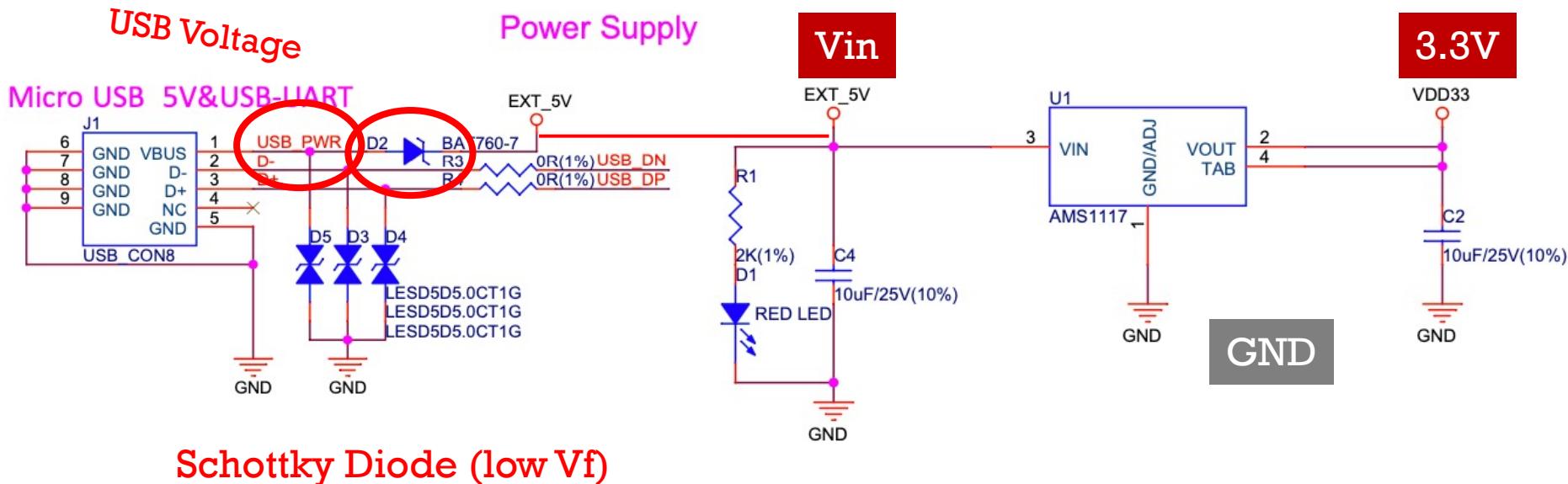


- AMS1117-3.3 outputs 3.3V
- Low Drop Out (LDO) means it can take closer to 3.3V as input
 - LDO is 1.1V@0mA to 1.3V@800mA
- Looking at datasheet: AMS1117 works with input:
4.6V to 12V

Q9: Is it okay to use both USB and battery at Vin?

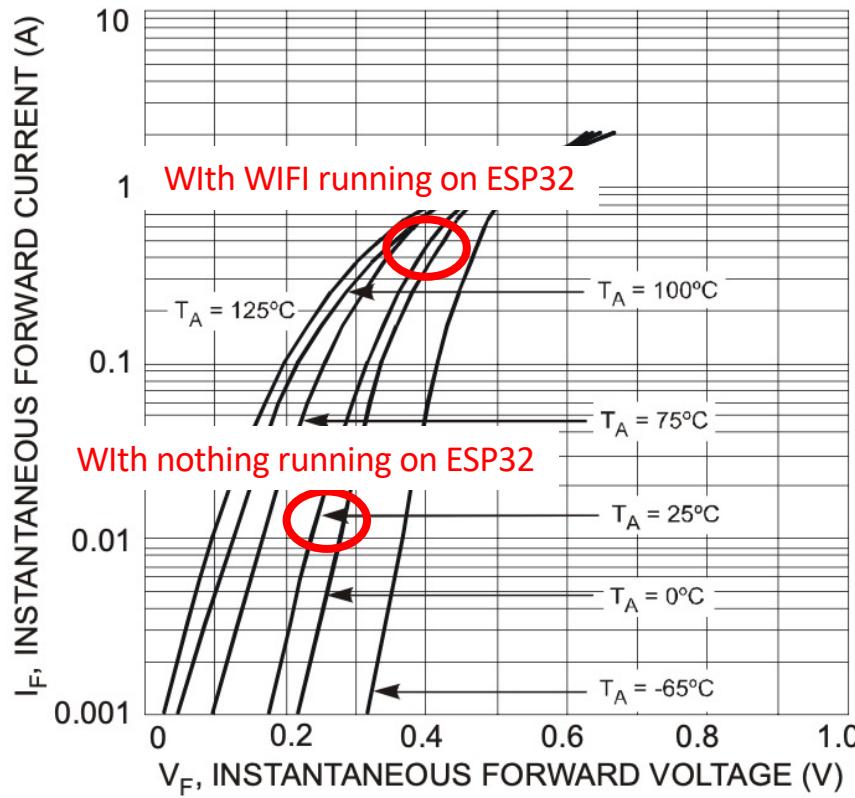


Q10 With USB power only, what will the voltage be at Vin?



Schottky Diodes (PICO uses BAT760-7)

- Advantage of schottky is low V_f , but varies with load and temp.



VF about 0.25V without WiFi
VF about 0.4V with WiFi

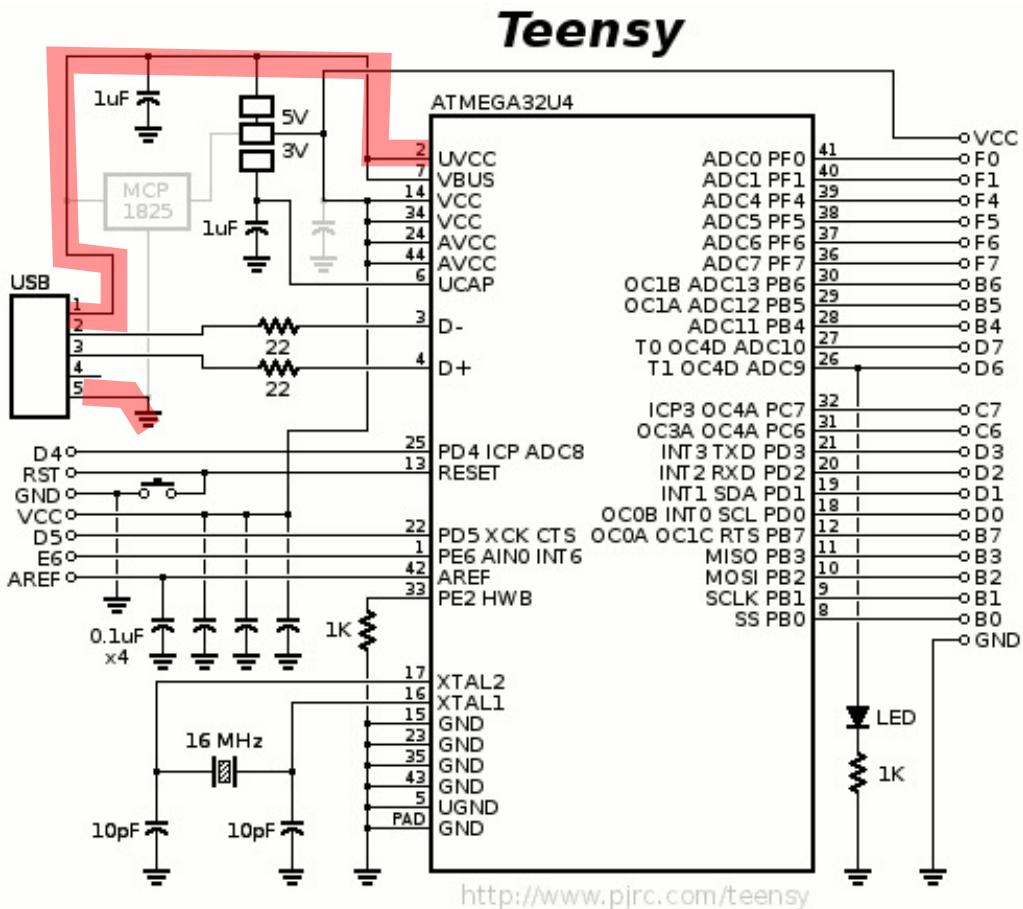
- Power from USB is nominally 5V
- Power at $V_{in} = 5\text{V} - V_f$
- Power required at AMS1117 > 4.6 worst case, though typically works at 4.4!=V

Solutions to borderline power issue:

- Simple thing, add external 5V to 12V supply to Vin line on PICO (e.g. external battery) or power supply.
- Replace BAT760-7 with lower Vf (I found some about 0.1V lower) – hard to desolder SMD diode – **not recommended**
- Replace AMS1117 with lower LDO, but major hassle to see if it fits right form factor of surface mount component – hard to desolder SMD diode – **not recommended**
- Bypass the Schottkey diode. Dangerous, but okay if you remember never to plug in USB when it is battery powered. - **not recommended**
 - Or bypass Schottkey and never run battery powered - **also not recommended**

What about Teensy?

- USB 5V goes straight to VCC
- No protection, but ATmega32U4 has wide range of input.
- Current only limited by USB port, USB connector and traces on PCB



Random Useful Websites:

Basic Circuits

<http://www.seattlerobotics.org/encoder/mar97/basics.html>

Sensors

<http://www.seattlerobotics.org/encoder/jul97/basics.html>

Filters

<http://mysite.du.edu/~etuttle/electron/elect15.htm>

Batteries (more detail)

<http://www.mpoweruk.com/index.htm>

<http://batteryuniversity.com/>

Summary

- 9V batteries are convenient but VERY inefficient
- Lithium Polymer/Ion Batteries.
 - 1 cell 3.7V (nominal), 2 cell 7.4V, 3 cell 11.1V etc.
 - Full charge cell is 4.2V
 - Empty is 3.0V (**drain below this will damage cell!**)
 - Highest energy density commercially available technology
 - Explode and create fires when exposed (e.g. moisture)
- Linear voltage regulators get hot. Limited by current.
- You can supply upto 12V on PicoKit, Teensy can handle up to 5.5V.

In Chat Feedback and Q1,2,3

Q1: You open the hood of your parked car and find a 12V battery in good condition. What does your voltmeter read when you measure the battery?

Q2: What is the nominal voltage for NiMH and NiCad cells (which are the same)

Q3: After sitting on a shelf for 3 years what is the voltage on a LiPo battery that started at 3.7V?

Answer in Chat

Answer how you feel about each topic below with:

1. I don't understand this topic at all
2. I don't know now, but know what to do to get by
3. I understand some, but expect to get the rest later
4. I understand completely already

- A. Difference between battery types
- B. How to use LiPos safely
- C. Using Voltage Regulators