

# Chapter 5 Steady Electric Currents

VE230 Summer 2021

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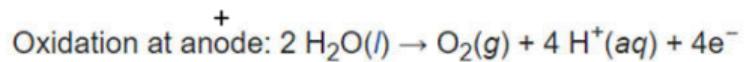
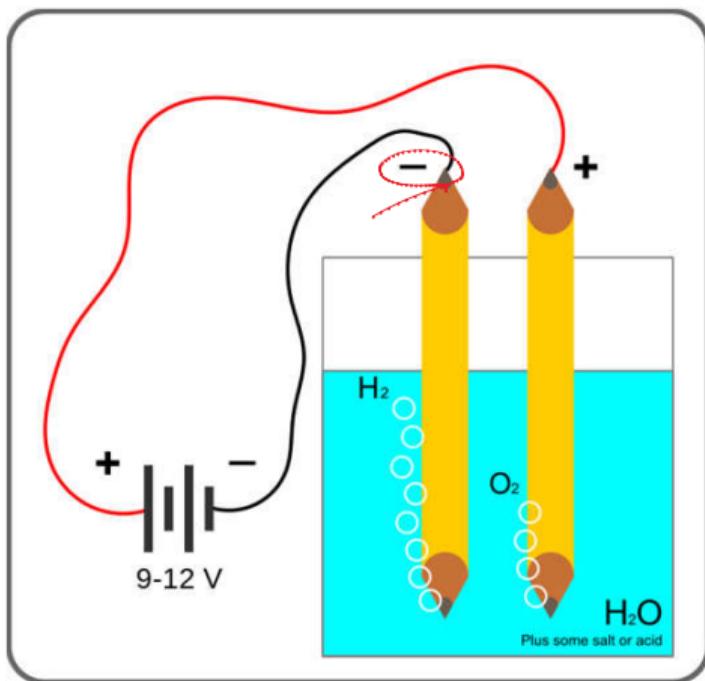
## 5-1 Introduction

- Charges at rest (Ch3 and Ch4); Charges in motion (Ch5)
- Different types of currents
  - Conduction currents:
    - ❖ in conductors and semiconductors
    - ❖ electrons and/or holes
  - Electrolytic currents:
    - ❖ essentially in a liquid medium
    - ❖ ions (e.g., Li-ion batteries)
  - Convection currents:
    - ❖ in vacuum or rarefied gas
    - ❖ electrons and/or ions

const. motion  
 $v = \text{const.}$   
 $I = \text{const.}$   
steady current.

$I(t)$

# Electrolysis of Water



# Topics for Conduction Currents

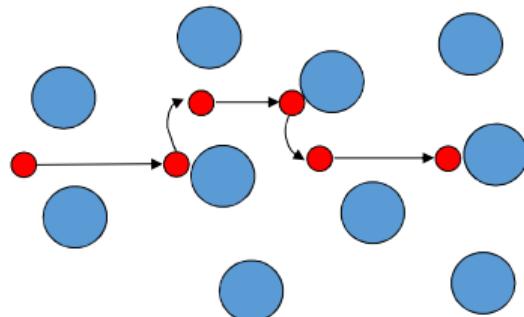
- Point form of Ohm's law
- Kirchhoff's voltage law
- Kirchhoff's current law
  - Conservation of charge
  - Equation of continuity
- Boundary conditions for current density

# Conduction Currents

- For a conductor, atoms consist of positively charged nuclei surrounded by electrons
  - Inner shell: tightly bound charges
  - Outermost shell: loosely bound charges (valence or conduction electrons)
- Without external  $E$ , conduction electrons wander randomly → **no net drift motion** of conduction electrons

# Conduction Currents

- With external  $E$ , **organized motion** of conduction electrons
  - Very low drift velocity due to collision with atoms
  - Conductor remains electrically neutral  
(electric forces prevent excess electrons from accumulating at any point of a conductor)



$\rightarrow R$

## 5-2 Current Density and Ohm's Law

$$V = IR$$

charge  $q$  across surface  $\Delta s$  with a velocity  $u$

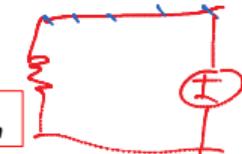
$N$ : #/volume

The amount of charge passing  $\Delta s$

$$\Delta Q = Nqu \cdot a_n \Delta s \Delta t \quad (\text{C}).$$

differential volume with  $\Delta s$  along  $a_n$

$$\frac{\#}{\Delta V}$$



$$\Delta I = \frac{\Delta Q}{\Delta t} = Nqu \cdot a_n \Delta s = Nqu \cdot \Delta s \quad (\text{A}).$$

$$J = Nqu \quad (\text{A/m}^2),$$

$$J = \rho u \quad (\text{A/m}^2),$$

$J$  defined as (volume) current density

$$\Delta I = J \cdot \Delta s.$$

$$Nq = \frac{\# q}{\Delta V} = \frac{\Delta Q}{\Delta V} = \rho$$

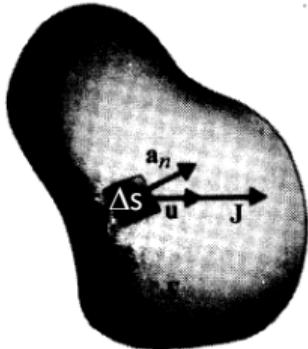


FIGURE 5-1

Conduction current due to drift motion of charge carriers across a surface.

$$\Delta I = \mathbf{J} \cdot \Delta \mathbf{s}.$$



Total current  $I$  flowing  
through a surface  $S$

$$I = \int_S \mathbf{J} \cdot d\mathbf{s} \quad (\text{A}).$$

$J(s)$

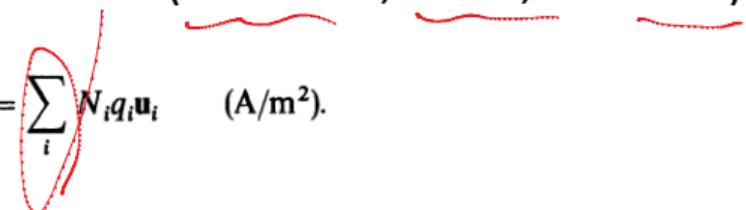
# Conduction Currents

- For more than one kind of charge carriers (electrons, holes, and ions) drifting, current density:

$$\mathbf{J} = Nq\mathbf{u} \quad (\text{A/m}^2),$$



$$\mathbf{J} = \sum_i N_i q_i \mathbf{u}_i \quad (\text{A/m}^2).$$

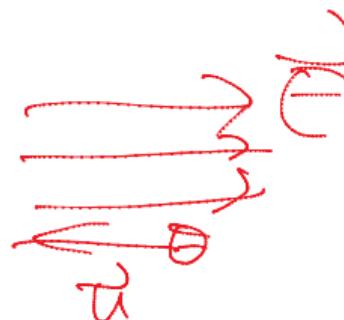


- For most conducting materials,

$$\mathbf{u} = -\mu_e \mathbf{E} \quad (\text{m/s}),$$

$\mathbf{u}$ : averaged drift velocity

$-\mu_e$ : electron mobility ( $\text{m}^2/\text{V}\cdot\text{s}$ )



$$\mathbf{J} = \rho \mathbf{u} \quad (\text{A/m}^2),$$

$$\mathbf{u} = -\mu_e \mathbf{E} \quad (\text{m/s}),$$

$$\mathbf{J} = -\rho_e \mu_e \mathbf{E},$$

where  $\rho_e = -Ne$

$$\mathbf{J} = \sigma \mathbf{E} \quad (\text{A/m}^2),$$

Such materials are called ohmic media

where  $\sigma = -\rho_e \mu_e$   $\rho_e < 0$  because of electrons

$\sigma$ : conductivity (A/V·m or S/m)

For conductors,  $\sigma = -\rho_e \mu_e$

For semiconductors,  $\sigma = -\rho_e \mu_e + \rho_h \mu_h$

- Circuit form of Ohm's law

$$V_{12} = RI.$$

- Point form of Ohm's law

$$\boxed{\mathbf{J} = \sigma \mathbf{E} \quad (\text{A/m}^2)},$$

- Holds at all points
- $\sigma$  can be a function of space

$$\sigma(\mathbf{R})$$

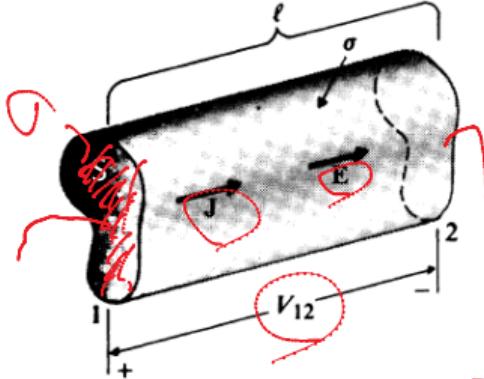
$$V_{12} = RI.$$

Integration?

$$\mathbf{E} = (1/\sigma) \mathbf{J}$$

$$V = - \int \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{r}$$

# Ohm's Law: Point Form to Circuit Form



$$V_{12} = E\ell \quad \text{or} \quad E = \frac{V_{12}}{\ell}.$$

$$I = \int_S J \cdot d\mathbf{s} = JS \quad \text{or} \quad J = \frac{I}{S}.$$

FIGURE 5-3  
Homogeneous conductor with a constant cross section.

$$\mathbf{J} = \sigma \mathbf{E}$$



$$J = \frac{I}{S} \quad E = \frac{V_{12}}{\ell}.$$

$$\frac{I}{S} = \sigma \frac{V_{12}}{\ell}$$

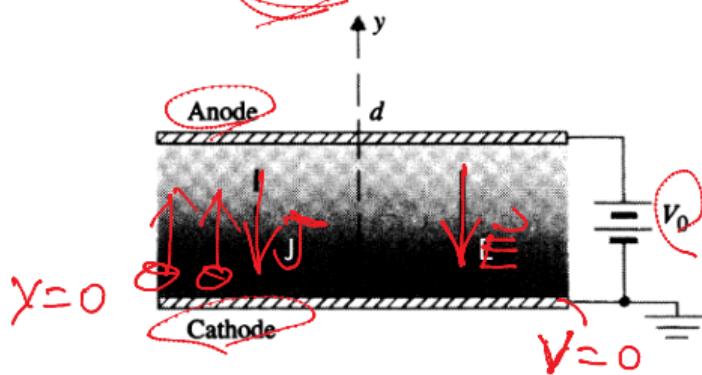


$$V_{12} = \left( \frac{\ell}{\sigma S} \right) I = RI,$$

The resistance

$$R = \frac{\ell}{\sigma S} \quad (\Omega).$$

**EXAMPLE 5-1** In vacuum-tube diodes, electrons are emitted from a hot cathode at zero potential and collected by an anode maintained at a potential  $V_0$ , resulting in a convection current flow. Assuming that the cathode and the anode are parallel conducting plates and that the electrons leave the cathode with a zero initial velocity (space-charge limited condition), find the relation between the current density  $J$  and  $V_0$ .



$$J \sim V_0^{3/2}$$

**FIGURE 5-2**  
Space-charge-limited vacuum diode (Example 5-1).

Step1:  $J = \rho u$

Step2: passion's equation ( $V - \rho$  equation)

Assume  $\phi |_{y=\infty} = 0 \rightarrow \textcircled{1}$

$\textcircled{2} \quad U(y=0) = 0 \rightarrow \textcircled{2}$

1° repulsion  $\Rightarrow$  leaves from the cathode

$$\vec{E}(0) = \hat{\alpha}_x E_y(0) = -\hat{\alpha}_y \left. \frac{dV(y)}{dy} \right|_{y=0} = 0 \quad \textcircled{3}$$

$$V(y=0^+) = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{F_x} &= -\hat{\alpha}_x F_x = -\hat{\alpha}_y (-\rho(x)) u(y) & V(y=0^-) = 0 \\ &= \hat{\alpha}_y \underline{\rho(x)} u(y) & \rho(x) < 0 \end{aligned}$$

2° Newton's law

$$m \frac{du(t)}{dt} = -eE = e \frac{dV(y)}{dy}$$

$$m = 9.11 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$$
$$e = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{dy} \left( \frac{1}{2} mu^2 \right) = e \frac{dV}{dy}$$

$$\int \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} mu^2 = eV$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2} mu_0^2 (y=0) + eV(y=0)$$

②

①

$$\Rightarrow u = \sqrt{\frac{2eV}{m}}$$

$$3^0 \text{ Laplace's eq.} \quad \oplus \quad \rho = -\frac{J}{A} = -J \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{2e}} \sqrt{\frac{1}{V}} \rightarrow \textcircled{1}$$

$$\frac{d^2 V}{dy^2} = -\frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0} \Rightarrow \frac{J}{\epsilon_0} \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{2e}} \sqrt{\frac{1}{V}}$$

$$\int \frac{dV}{dx} dx \rightarrow \left( \frac{dV}{dx} \right)^2 = \frac{4J}{\epsilon_0} \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{2e}} \sqrt{V} + C$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dV}{dx} = 2 \sqrt{\frac{J}{\epsilon_0}} \left( \frac{\mu}{2e} \right)^{1/4} V^{1/4} + C \Rightarrow \text{using } D V(x=0) = 0$$

$$0 = 0 + C \Rightarrow C = 0$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} \right|_{y=0} = 0$$

$$V^{-\frac{1}{4}} dV = 2 \sqrt{\frac{J}{\epsilon_0}} \left(\frac{m}{2e}\right)^{\frac{1}{4}} dy$$

$$\Rightarrow \int_{y=0}^{V_0} V^{-\frac{1}{4}} dV = \int_{y=0}^d 2 \sqrt{\frac{J}{\epsilon_0}} \left(\frac{m}{2e}\right)^{\frac{1}{4}} dy$$

$\Rightarrow \dots$

$$\Rightarrow J = \frac{4 \epsilon_0}{9 d^2} \sqrt{\frac{2e}{m}} V_0^{\frac{3}{2}}$$

~~✓~~

## 5-3 Electromotive Force and Kirchhoff's Voltage Law

$$\oint_c \mathbf{E} \cdot d\ell = 0.$$

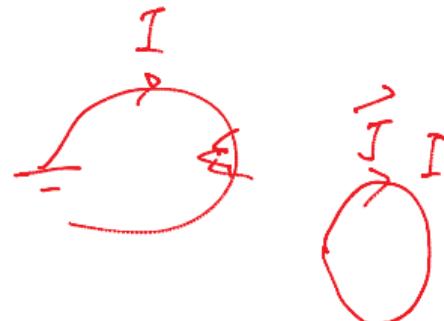


For an ohmic material  
 $\mathbf{J} = \sigma \mathbf{E}$ ,

$$\oint_c \frac{1}{\sigma} \mathbf{J} \cdot d\ell = 0.$$



If  $\mathbf{J}$  is constant, then  $\mathbf{J} = 0$ .



A **steady** current **cannot** be maintained in the same direction in a closed circuit by **an electrostatic field (conservative field)**

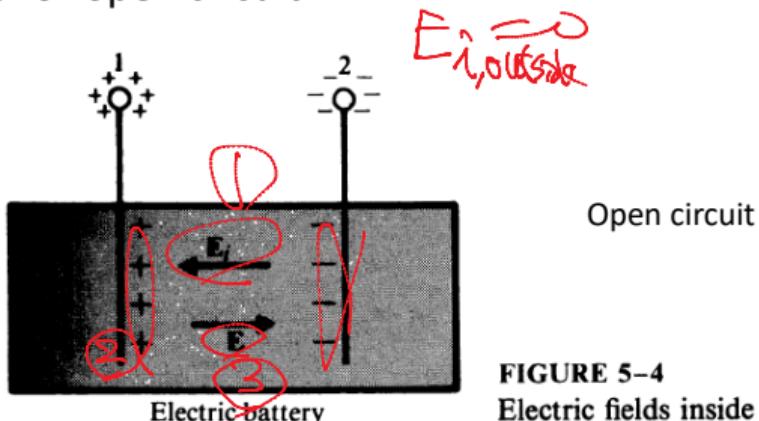
That is, to maintain a steady current in a closed circuit, there must be **non-conservative field** (e.g., electric batteries, etc.), which termed as impressed electric field intensity  $E$



# Electromotive Force

- Chemical action ( $E_i$ )
  - cumulation of + and – charges on electrodes due to  $E_i$ ,
  - $E$
- Inside:  $E$  and  $E_i$ ,
  - $E = -E_i$  due to  $I = 0$  for open circuit
- Outside:  $E$  only

$E$ : electrostatic field  
 $E_i$ : nonconservative field



**FIGURE 5–4**  
Electric fields inside an electric battery.

# Electromotive Force

- $E_i$

Against  $E_i$  from 1 to 2

$$\oint_1^2 \vec{E} \cdot d\ell = \oint_2^1 \vec{E}_i \cdot d\ell = - \int_2^1 \vec{E}_i \cdot d\ell$$

Inside the source

Open circuit:  $E_i = -E$

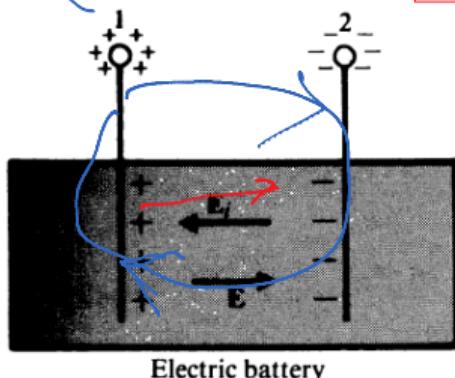
$\mathcal{V}$

- By definition: potential due to  $E_i$ ,
- The electromotive force is a measure of the strength of the nonconservative source, **not a force**

- $E$

$$\oint_C \vec{E} \cdot d\ell = \oint_{\text{Outside}} \vec{E} \cdot d\ell + \int_{\text{Inside}}^1 \vec{E} \cdot d\ell = 0.$$

Because of conservative field



Open circuit

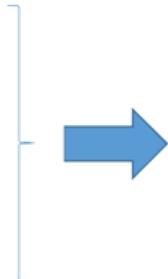
**FIGURE 5–4**  
Electric fields inside an electric battery.

$$\mathcal{V} = \int_2^1 \mathbf{E}_i \cdot d\ell = - \int_2^1 \mathbf{E} \cdot d\ell.$$

Inside  
the source

$$\oint_C \mathbf{E} \cdot d\ell = \int_1^2 \mathbf{E} \cdot d\ell + \int_2^1 \mathbf{E} \cdot d\ell = 0.$$

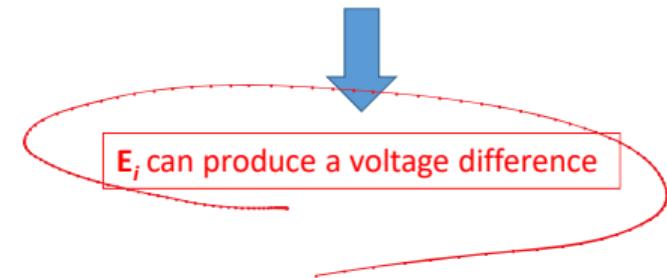
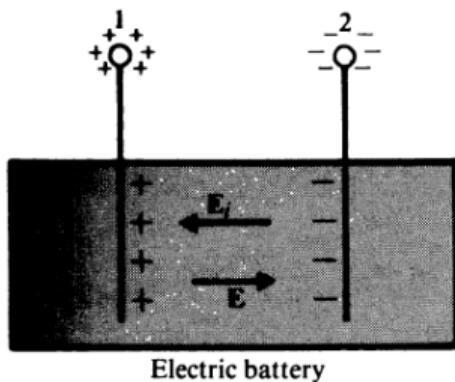
Outside  
the source      Inside  
the source



$$\mathcal{V} = \int_1^2 \mathbf{E} \cdot d\ell = - \int_2^1 \mathbf{E} \cdot d\ell = V_{12} = V_1 - V_2.$$

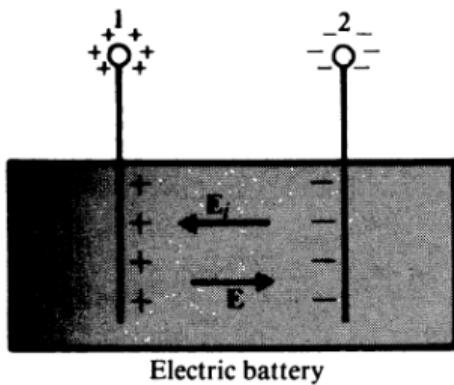
Outside  
the source      Outside  
the source

emf = voltage rise between + and – terminals (outside)



Open circuit

**FIGURE 5–4**  
Electric fields inside an electric battery.



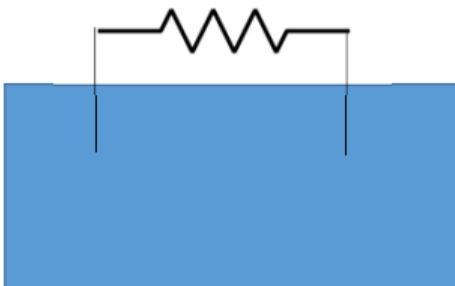
Electric battery

Open circuit → No currents

**FIGURE 5-4**  
Electric fields inside an electric battery.



If connected with a resistor → Currents



Point form of Ohm's law

$$\mathbf{J} = \sigma(\mathbf{E} + \mathbf{E}_i),$$



$$\mathbf{E} + \mathbf{E}_i = \frac{\mathbf{J}}{\sigma}.$$

$$\mathcal{V} = \oint_C (\mathbf{E} + \mathbf{E}_i) \cdot d\ell = \oint_C \frac{1}{\sigma} \mathbf{J} \cdot d\ell.$$

Integration of 1<sup>st</sup> integrand = 0

$$\oint_C \mathbf{E} \cdot d\ell = \int_1^2 \mathbf{E} \cdot d\ell + \int_2^1 \mathbf{E} \cdot d\ell = 0.$$

Outside the source      Inside the source

Integration of 2<sup>nd</sup> integrand

$$\oint_C \mathbf{E}_i \cdot d\ell = \int_1^2 \mathbf{E}_i \cdot d\ell + \int_2^1 \mathbf{E}_i \cdot d\ell$$

Outside the source      Inside the source

$$= \mathcal{V}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{on} \\ \boxed{\mathbf{E}_i} \\ \text{at} \\ \mathbf{E}_{i,\text{outside}} = 0 \end{array}$$

$$\mathbf{E} + \mathbf{E}_i = \frac{\mathbf{J}}{\sigma}.$$

For a resistor with uniform cross section:

$$J = I/S \quad R = \frac{\ell}{\sigma S}$$

$$\mathcal{V} = RI.$$

$$\mathcal{V} = RI.$$

For more-than-one emf and more-than-one  
resistor connected in series



$$\sum_j \mathcal{V}_j = \sum_k R_k I_k \quad (\text{V}).$$

Kirchhoff's voltage law: around a closed path in an electric circuit, the algebraic sum of the emf's (voltage rises) is equal to the algebraic sum of the voltage drops across the resistances

## 5-4 Equation of Continuity and Kirchhoff's Current Law

- Principle of conservation of charge: electric charges may not be created or destroyed

$$I = \oint_S \mathbf{J} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = -\frac{dQ}{dt} = -\frac{d}{dt} \int_V \rho dv.$$

Current leaving a volume      Rate of charge decrease in the volume

$$\int_V \nabla \cdot \mathbf{J} dv = - \int_V \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} dv.$$

$$\int_V \nabla \cdot \mathbf{J} dv = - \int_V \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} dv.$$



Holds for arbitrary volume  $V$

Equation of continuity

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{J} = - \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} \quad (\text{A/m}^3).$$

= conservation of charge

- For steady current ( $I = \text{constant}$ ), charge density does not vary with time (or charge in a volume is a constant over time although charge is moving):  $\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = 0$ .

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{J} = -\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t}$$



$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{J} = 0$ . (divergenceless: streamlines of steady currents close upon themselves)

$$\oint_S \mathbf{J} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = 0, \quad (\text{integral form})$$



For  $S \rightarrow 0$  (i.e., the volume shrinks to a point)

$$\boxed{\sum_j I_j = 0 \quad (\text{A}).}$$

Kirchhoff's current law: the algebraic sum of all the currents flowing **out of a junction** (a small volume) in an electric circuit is zero.

# Time to Reach Equilibrium in a Conductor

- Inside a conductor,  $\rho = 0$ ,  $\mathbf{E} = 0$  under equilibrium conditions (Chap. 3)
- Time to reach equilibrium?

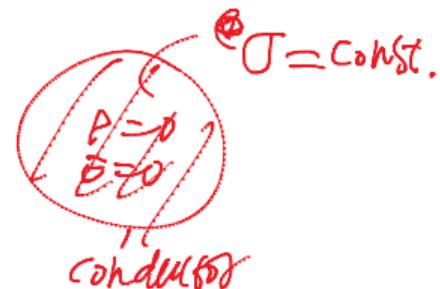
Equation of continuity

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{J} = -\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} \quad (\text{A/m}^3).$$



Assume a homogeneous  $\sigma$

$$\sigma \nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t}.$$



$$\sigma \nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t}.$$



In a simple medium  
 $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = \rho/\epsilon$

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \frac{\sigma}{\epsilon} \rho = 0.$$

Solution:

$$\rho = \rho_0 e^{-(\sigma/\epsilon)t} \quad (\text{C/m}^3),$$

$$\rho = \rho_0 e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}}$$

Charge density inside a conductor will decrease with time exponentially.

$\sigma \rightarrow \infty$  perfect conductor

Relaxation time: time for  $\rho_0$  to decay to  $1/e \times \rho_0$

$$\downarrow \tau = \frac{\epsilon}{\sigma} \quad (\text{s}).$$

practical conductor:  $\epsilon \neq 0$

insulator:  $\sigma \neq 0$

## 5-5 Power Dissipation and Joule's Law

- Power dissipation:

External  $\mathbf{E}$

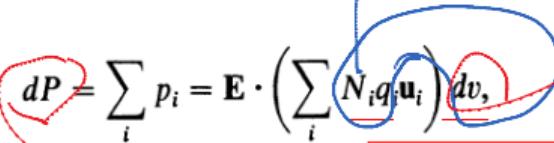
- drift motion of electrons, which collide with atoms on lattice sites
- thermal energy

- Power by  $\mathbf{E}$  to move a charge  $q$

$$p = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Delta w}{\Delta t} = q \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{u}, \quad \mathbf{u}: \text{drift velocity}$$

Differential power in a volume  $dv$

$$\cancel{dP} = \sum_i p_i = \mathbf{E} \cdot \left( \sum_i N_i q_i \mathbf{u}_i \right) dv,$$



Total  $Q$  in a volume  $dv$

$$dP = \sum_i p_i = \mathbf{E} \cdot \left( \sum_i N_i q_i \mathbf{u}_i \right) dv,$$

$$\vec{J} = \rho \vec{u}$$

$$\downarrow \quad \boxed{\mathbf{J} = \sum_i N_i q_i \mathbf{u}_i \quad (\text{A/m}^2).}$$

$$dP = \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{J} dv$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$\frac{dP}{dv} = \underline{\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{J}} \quad (\text{W/m}^3).$$

Power density

or

$$\boxed{P = \int_V \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{J} dv \quad (\text{W}).}$$

Joule's law

$$P = \int_V \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{J} dv \quad (\text{W}).$$

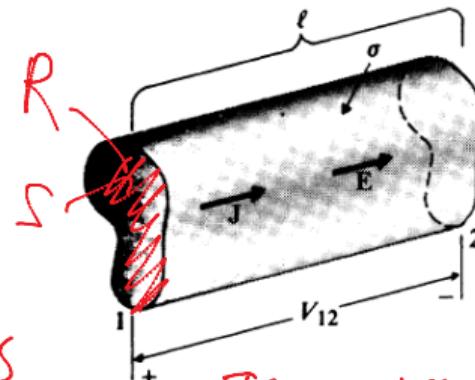


In a conductor with constant cross section

$$dv = \cancel{ds} \cancel{dt}$$

$$P = \int_L \mathbf{E} d\ell \int_S \mathbf{J} ds = VI,$$

We get the familiar expression.



$$I = JS$$

$$\begin{aligned} J(s) &= \text{const.} \\ E(s) &= \text{const.} \end{aligned}$$

## 5-6 Boundary Conditions for Current Density

- **Steady** current density  $\mathbf{J}$  on boundaries without nonconservative energy source

Governing Equations for Steady Current Density	
Differential Form	Integral Form
$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{J} = 0$	$\oint_s \mathbf{J} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = 0$
$\nabla \times \left( \frac{\mathbf{J}}{\sigma} \right) = 0$	$\oint_c \frac{1}{\sigma} \mathbf{J} \cdot d\ell = 0$



$$\nabla \times \vec{E} = 0 \text{ conservative}$$

The **normal** component of a **divergenceless** vector field is continuous

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} = \rho$$

$$D_{1n} - D_{2n} = \rho_s \quad (\text{C/m}^2),$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{J} = 0$$

$$J_{1n} = J_{2n} \quad (\text{A/m}^2).$$

The **tangential** component of a **curl-free** vector field is continuous across an interface

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = 0$$

$$E_{1t} = E_{2t} \quad (\text{V/m}),$$

$$\nabla \times \left( \frac{\mathbf{J}}{\sigma} \right) = 0$$

$$\frac{J_{1t}}{J_{2t}} = \frac{\sigma_1}{\sigma_2}.$$

**The ratio of  $J_t$**  at two sides of an interface is equal to **the ratio of the conductivities**

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = 0$$

$$\nabla \times (\mathbf{D}/\epsilon) = 0$$

$$\nabla \times \left( \frac{\mathbf{J}}{\sigma} \right) = 0$$



## Analogy

Interface of dielectric media

Interface of conducting media



$\epsilon$



$\sigma$

# A homogeneous conducting medium

$$\nabla \times \left( \frac{\mathbf{J}}{\sigma} \right) = 0$$

↓  
If  $\sigma$  is a constant  
(homogeneous)

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{J} = 0.$$

↓  
By null identity

$$\mathbf{J} = -\nabla\psi.$$

↓

Laplace's eq.:  $\nabla^2\psi = 0.$

Electrostatics analogy

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = 0$$

$$\mathbf{E} = -\nabla V$$

$$\nabla^2 V = 0$$

$\nabla \cdot \vec{E} = 0$   
if  $\rho = 0$

$$\mathbf{J} = \sigma\mathbf{E}$$

$$\psi = \sigma V.$$

# Boundary Condition between Two Lossy Dielectrics (for a Steady Current)

- Two lossy dielectrics:

$\epsilon_1$ and $\epsilon_2$	$\sigma_1$ and $\sigma_2$
$E_{2t} = E_{1t}$	$J_{1t}/\sigma_1 = J_{2t}/\sigma_2$
$D_{1n} - D_{2n} = \rho_s \rightarrow \epsilon_1 E_{1n} - \epsilon_2 E_{2n} = \rho_s$	$J_{1n} = J_{2n} \rightarrow \sigma_1 E_{1n} = \sigma_2 E_{2n}$

$P \neq 0$   
 $\Psi = \vec{E} \cdot \vec{J}$   
 $\downarrow$   
 $\sigma \neq 0$

$\rho_s = \left( \epsilon_1 \frac{\sigma_2}{\sigma_1} - \epsilon_2 \right) E_{2n} = \left( \epsilon_1 - \epsilon_2 \frac{\sigma_1}{\sigma_2} \right) E_{1n}$

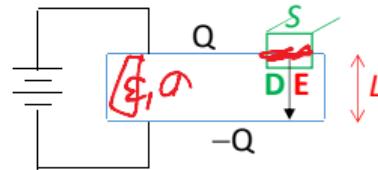
$E_n \neq 0, \rho_s = 0$   
 which  $\frac{\sigma_1}{\sigma_2} = \frac{\epsilon_1}{\epsilon_2}$

If  $E_{1n} \neq 0$  or  $E_{2n} \neq 0$ , in most cases, a surface charge exists at the interface unless  $\sigma_2/\sigma_1 = \epsilon_2/\epsilon_1$

## 5-7 Resistance Calculations

- Capacitance between two conductors:

$$C = \frac{Q}{V} = \frac{\oint_S \mathbf{D} \cdot d\mathbf{s}}{-\int_L \mathbf{E} \cdot d\ell} = \frac{\oint_S \epsilon \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{s}}{-\int_L \mathbf{E} \cdot d\ell},$$



Numerator: surface integral over a surface enclosing the positive conductor

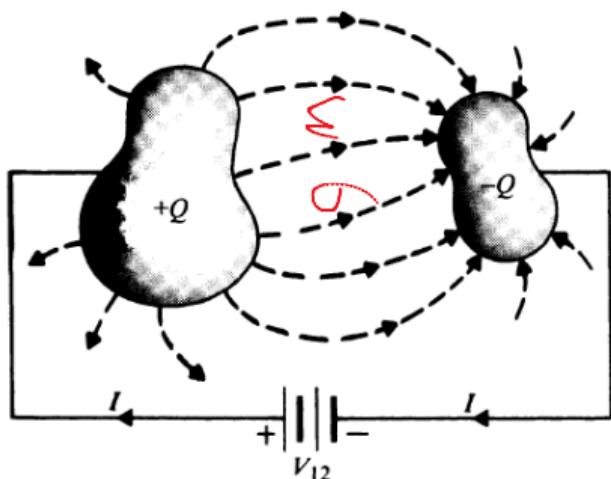
- Resistance between two conductors (medium between is lossy):

$$R = \frac{V}{I} = \frac{-\int_L \mathbf{E} \cdot d\ell}{\oint_S \mathbf{J} \cdot d\mathbf{s}} = \frac{-\int_L \mathbf{E} \cdot d\ell}{\oint_S \sigma \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{s}},$$

$\mathbf{J} = \sigma \mathbf{E},$



Denominator: the same surface as in the numerator of the above equation



**FIGURE 5-7**  
Two conductors in a lossy dielectric medium.

$$C = \frac{Q}{V} = \frac{\oint_S \mathbf{D} \cdot d\mathbf{s}}{-\int_L \mathbf{E} \cdot d\ell} = \frac{\oint_S \epsilon \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{s}}{-\int_L \mathbf{E} \cdot d\ell},$$

$$R = \frac{V}{I} = \frac{-\int_L \mathbf{E} \cdot d\ell}{\oint_S \mathbf{J} \cdot d\mathbf{s}} = \frac{-\int_L \mathbf{E} \cdot d\ell}{\oint_S \sigma \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{s}},$$

x



If  $\epsilon$  and  $\sigma$  of the medium have the same space dependence or if the medium is homogeneous

$$RC = \frac{C}{G} = \frac{\epsilon}{\sigma}$$

$$\rho = \rho_0 e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}} \quad \tau = \frac{\epsilon}{\sigma}$$

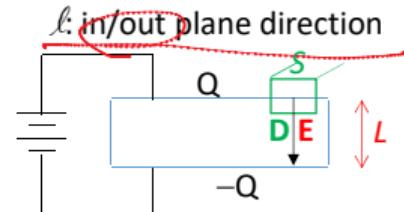
$$\rho = \rho_0 e^{-\frac{t}{RC}}$$

# $C_\ell$ and $R_\ell$

- $C_\ell$ : capacitance per unit length  
( $\ell$  longer  $\rightarrow$  area  $S$  larger  $\rightarrow$   $C$  larger)

$$C = C_\ell \ell \rightarrow C_\ell = C/\ell \text{ (F/m)}$$

$$C = \epsilon S/d$$

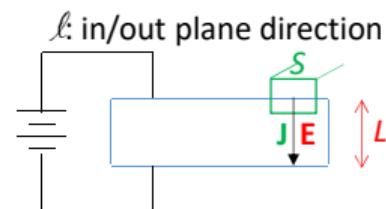


$\ell \neq L$

- $R_\ell$ : Resistance per unit length  
( $\ell$  longer  $\rightarrow$  area  $S$  larger  $\rightarrow$   $R$  smaller)

$$R = R_\ell \ell \rightarrow R_\ell = R \ell \text{ (\Omega·m)}$$

$$R = \rho L/S$$



Note that  $\ell$  and  $L$  are different!

$$RC = \frac{C}{G} = \frac{\epsilon}{\sigma}$$



$$R_\ell C_\ell = RC = \epsilon / \sigma$$

# Difference between J and D

- Current flow can be confined strictly within a conductor
- Electric flux usually **cannot** be contained within a dielectric slab (of finite dimensions)

$$\sigma=0 \Rightarrow \vec{J}=0$$

$J=0$



A conductor

$$\epsilon \neq 0 \Downarrow$$

$D \neq 0$

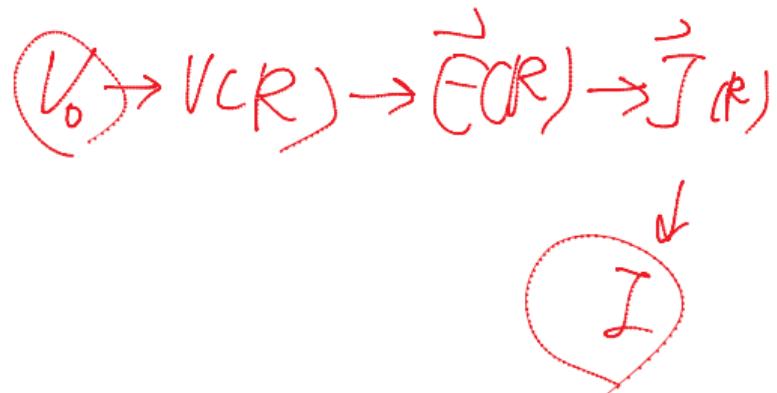


A dielectric

# Procedure to Compute R between Specified Equi-potential Surfaces

- Procedure 1: **V<sub>0</sub> to I**

- 1. Choose a coordinate
- 2. Assume potential difference ~~V<sub>0</sub>~~ between conductors
- 3. Find **E** between conductors  
    ❖  $\nabla^2 V = 0 \rightarrow \mathbf{E} = -\nabla V$
- 4. Find current  $I = \int_S \mathbf{J} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = \int_S \sigma \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{s}$ ,
- 5. Find  $R = V_0/I$

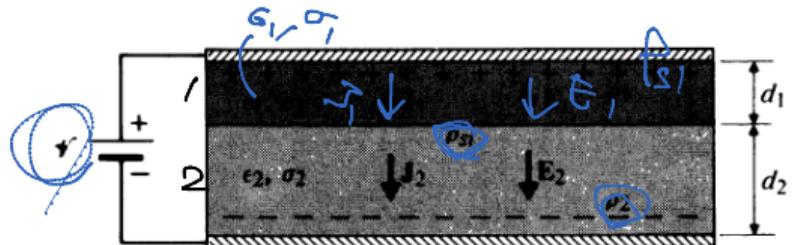


- Procedure 2: **I to V<sub>0</sub>**

- Assume  $I \rightarrow J \rightarrow E \rightarrow V_0$
- $R = V_0/I$

if  $J$  can be determined easily from  $I$

**EXAMPLE 5-4** An emf  $\mathcal{V}$  is applied across a parallel-plate capacitor of area  $S$ . The space between the conducting plates is filled with two different lossy dielectrics of thicknesses  $d_1$  and  $d_2$ , permittivities  $\epsilon_1$  and  $\epsilon_2$ , and conductivities  $\sigma_1$  and  $\sigma_2$ , respectively. Determine (a) the current density between the plates, (b) the electric field intensities in both dielectrics, and (c) the surface charge densities on the plates and at the interface.



(a)  $\vec{J}$ ?  
 (b)  $\vec{E}_1$ ?  $\vec{E}_2$ ?  
 (c)  $\rho_r$ ,  $\rho_{s1}$ ,  $\rho_{s2}$ ?

**FIGURE 5-6**  
 Parallel-plate capacitor with two lossy dielectrics (Example 5-4).

(a) Ohm's law :  $\mathcal{R} = RI = \underbrace{(R_1 + R_2)}_{\text{Series connection}} I = \left( \frac{d_1}{\sigma_1 S} + \frac{d_2}{\sigma_2 S} \right) I$

$$\Rightarrow J = \frac{I}{S} = \dots$$

$$(b) V = E_1 d_1 + \underbrace{E_2}_{\text{dashed}} d_2$$

$$J_n \text{ (cont) now} \Rightarrow J_1 = \sigma_1 S_1 = \sigma_2 S_2 = J_2$$

$$\Rightarrow V = E_1 d_1 + \left( \frac{\sigma_1}{\sigma_2} \right) d_2 \Rightarrow E_1 = \dots$$

\*

(c) top surface

$$E_2 = \dots$$

$$E=0$$

$$\sigma_1 \downarrow \overbrace{S_1}^{\text{top}} \overbrace{d_1}^{\text{bottom}}$$

$$E_2 \downarrow \quad \dots - \ell_{S_1} \lambda$$

$$E=0 \quad \overbrace{S_2}^{\text{bottom}} \overbrace{d_2}^{\text{top}}$$

$$P_1 - 0 = \rho_{S_1} \Rightarrow \epsilon_1 E_1 = \rho_{S_1}$$

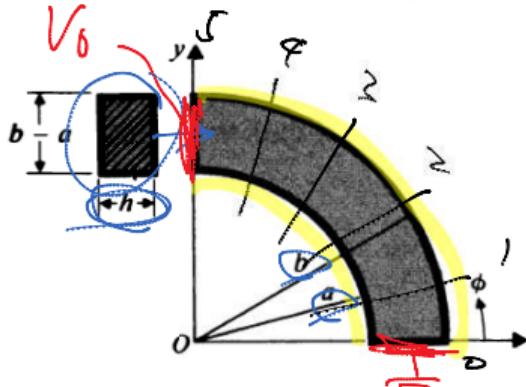
\*

$$P_2 - P_1 = \rho_{S_1} \lambda \Rightarrow \rho_{S_1} = \epsilon_2 E_2 - \epsilon_1 E_1$$

$$0 - P_2 = \rho_{S_2} \Rightarrow \rho_{S_2} = -\epsilon_2 E_2$$

$$\rho_{S_1} + \rho_{S_1} + \rho_{S_2} = 0$$

**EXAMPLE 5-6** A conducting material of uniform thickness  $h$  and conductivity  $\sigma$  has the shape of a quarter of a flat circular washer, with inner radius  $a$  and outer radius  $b$ , as shown in Fig. 5-8. Determine the resistance between the end faces.



**FIGURE 5-8**  
A quarter of a flat conducting circular washer (Example 5-6).

$$\begin{aligned} 1^{\circ} \quad V &= 0 \text{ at } \phi = 0 \\ V &= V_0 \text{ at } \phi = \pi/2 \end{aligned} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \\ \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 2^{\circ} \quad V(\phi) \text{ only} \\ \nabla^2 V \approx 0 \Rightarrow \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial \phi^2} = 0 \Rightarrow V(\phi) = C_1 \phi + C_2 \Rightarrow V(\phi) = \frac{2V_0}{\pi} \phi \end{aligned}$$

$$5^{\circ} R = \frac{V}{I} = \dots$$

$$\begin{aligned} 3^{\circ} \quad \vec{E} &= -\nabla V \\ &= -\hat{a}_\phi \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \left( \frac{2V_0}{\pi} \phi \right) \\ &= -\hat{a}_\phi \frac{2V_0}{\pi} \end{aligned}$$

$$4^{\circ} \quad \vec{j} = \sigma \vec{E} = -\hat{a}_\phi \frac{20V_0}{\pi a}$$

$$I = \int \vec{j} \cdot d\vec{s} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \\ -\hat{a}_\phi dr dz \end{array} \right\}$$

$$= \int_a^b \int_{\phi}^{\pi/2} j_\phi dr dz$$

$$= h \int_a^b \int_{\phi}^{\pi/2} \frac{20V_0}{\pi a} dr dz$$

$$= \frac{20V_0 h}{\pi a} \left[ \ln \left( \frac{b}{a} \right) \right]$$