Lecture 13

Chapter 27 Current and Resistance

Current (10)

- Electrons have random motion with speeds ≈ 10⁶ m/s gray line
- Drift speeds are tiny $v_d \approx 10^{-5}$ or 10^{-4} m/s
- Motion of electrons in E is due to both random motion and drift speed



Current (11)

- Relate the drift speed, v_d, to the charge density
- Assume J uniform across cross-sectional area A
- Total charge in length L is

q = ne(AL)

 All charges move with same drift speed so charge moves through any cross section in time



$$t = \frac{L}{v_d}$$

Current (12)

Current is given by

$$i = \frac{q}{t} = \frac{neAL}{L/v_d} = neAv_d$$





• Solving for drift speed





- J, v_d same dir. for + charge
- J, v_d opposite dir. for charge

Current (13)

 Checkpoint #2 – Conduction electrons move leftward in wire. The following are leftward or rightward?



• A) Current, *i*, is

rightward

- B) Current density, *J* , is rightward
- C) *E* field in wire is

rightward

Current (14)

- Different types of conductors, i.e. glass and copper, give very different
 i for the same V
- Define this characteristic as resistance



• SI unit is ohm, Ω

$$1\Omega = 1V/A$$

 A resistor is a device used to provide a specified resistance in a circuit

Current (15)

- Rearrange resistance relation
- For given V greater R, smaller i



- Macroscopic quantities *V*, *i* and *R* work well for electrical measurements
- Use microscopic quantities *E*, *J*, and *ρ* when talk about electrical properties of materials

Current (16)

- Resistivity, ρ , of a material is defined as
- SI unit is $\Omega \cdot m$



- Conversely speak of a material's conductivity, σ
- SI unit is $(\Omega \cdot m)^{-1}$

$$\sigma = \frac{1}{\rho}$$

Current (17)

 Know p of material can calculate R for a length of wire of that material



$$\rho = \frac{E}{J} \quad \text{BUT} \quad E = \frac{\Delta V}{\Delta s} = \frac{V}{L} \quad J = \frac{i}{A}$$

$$\rho = \frac{V/L}{i/A} = \frac{VA}{iL} \quad \text{BUT} \quad R = \frac{V}{i} \quad S \quad R = \rho \frac{L}{A}$$

Current (18)

 Checkpoint #3 – 3 copper conductors with same applied V. Rank *i* through them, greatest first.



$$R = \rho \frac{L}{A}$$

$$i = \frac{V}{R}$$

$$a = \rho \frac{L}{A} \quad R_b = \rho \frac{1.5L}{A/2} = \rho \frac{3L}{A}$$
$$R_c = \rho \frac{L/2}{A/2} = \rho \frac{L}{A}$$

a and c tie, then b

Current (19)

- Resistivity, *ρ*, varies with temperature due to thermal vibrations
- For metals, relation is fairly linear – e.g. copper →
- *T₀* and *ρ₀* are reference points measured at room temperature
- α is temperature coefficient of resistivity



$$\rho - \rho_0 = \rho_0 \alpha (T - T_0)$$

Current (20)

- Resistivities for some common materials
- Typically for metals if temperature increases,
 ρ increases
- Glass will conductor at high temperatures

Material	Resistivity, p
Copper	1.69 × 10 ⁻⁸
Silicon	2.5×10^{3}
Silicon,	8.7 × 10-4
n-type	
Glass	10 ¹⁰ - 10 ¹⁴

Current (21)

- So far have assumed that *R* is independent of the magnitude and polarity of the applied *V*
- This is known as Ohm's law
- Ohm's law is not generally valid, but it is a good empirical rule for most systems





Current (22)

- Ohm's law says: R is independent of size and direction of V
- Slope of i vs. V is a straight line



4

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 What about these other graphs?



Current (23)

- Metal: *n* is large but constant with *T*, *R* ↑ when *T* ↑ due to increase in collision rate of charge carriers
- Semiconductor: Like insulator but takes less energy to free electrons
- Add charge carriers by process called doping
- Semiconductor: n is small but increases with T, R↓ with T↑, increase in n is greater than increase in collision rate



Current (24)

- Superconductors: R goes to zero at some T
- Once start charges moving no thermal losses so current forever



 Temperatures are usually very low (4-20K)

Current (25)

• Calculate the amount of power, P, in a circuit



• SI unit is watt, W

$$1W = 1V \cdot A$$

Current (26)

- Transfer potential energy, *U*, to some other form
- For resistors energy is transferred to thermal energy – heat
- Use resistance definition to find

$$P = i^2 R$$



