Electrical Fundamentals



Feedback from Lecture 1



What is your biggest concern regarding this class?

- Electricity itself 30%
- Course demands / time requirements – 21%
- Remembering prerequisite material – 14%



Electricity is a mystery. No one has ever observed it or heard it or felt it. We can see and hear and feel only what electricity *does*. We know that it makes light bulbs shine and irons heat up and telephones ring. But we cannot say what electricity itself is like.

We cannot even say where electricity comes from. Some scientists think that the sun may be the source of most electricity. Others think that the movement of the earth produces some of it. All anyone knows is that electricity seems to be everywhere and that there are many ways to bring it forth.

Feedback from Lecture 1



- What concerns you most about how this class will operate?
- Lab partner issues 38%
- In class exams (limited test time) 25%
- Other lab concerns 13%



Clarification from Lecture 1



Overall course outcome:

The course is intended to give non-EE major students an introduction to electrical power applications.

Class makeup:

CET Majors – 31

Other – 4

Course will teach electrical fundamentals for anyone interested.

Course not specific to construction field.

Material covered, lab applications, etc. highly applicable to construction industry.

Structure of Matter

- Matter
 - Anything that occupies space and has mass
 - Made up of molecules (smallest parts that retain properties of matter)
- Atoms (elements) make up molecules
 - Nucleus made up of protons and neutrons
 - Electrons orbit around the nucleus





Structure of Matter (cont'd)



- Electron shells (rings)
 - Hold limited number of electrons
 - Max number of electrons depends on shell number

Shell Number	Max number electrons
1 (Innermost)	2
2	8
3	18
4	32
5	18
6	18
7	2



Structure of Matter (cont'd)



- Matter can be good conductors, poor conductors (e.g. semiconductors), or insulators
- For ATOMS which are good conductors (metals):
 - Electrons in outer band can freely dissociate from their parent atom
 - Generally: corresponds to atoms with 1 4 electrons in outer shell (electron ring furthest from the nucleus)





• Is this a good conductor?







• Is this a good conductor?







• Is this a good conductor?







No!

atom

This is a sulfur

Conductivity:

~ 10⁻¹⁶ S/m

Is this a good conductor?



Electric current

MONTANA TATE UNIVERSITY

- Electricity in motion
- Flow rate of electrons (charge flow per second)
- Conductors contain free electrons
- Insulators do not contain free electrons

IMPORTANT:

- Standard convention: Direction of electric current is the opposite of electron flow.
- Book uses opposite definition. We will use standard convention.

Units of Measure



- Q: Quantity of charge, measured in Coulombs (C)
- I: Quantity of current, measured in Amps (A)
- The charge of a single electron is 1.59 10⁻¹⁹ C
 - I = Q/t where t is time (s)
 - 1 A = 1 C / 1 s
- Measurement of current taken using an Ammeter





A battery forces a current of 5 A through a circuit for 1 hour. (a) How many coulombs will flow through the circuit? (b) How many electrons per second will flow through the circuit?



Example



A battery forces a current of 5 A through a circuit for 1 hour. (a) How many coulombs will flow through the circuit? (b) How many electrons per second will flow through the circuit?

> Notice ammeter connection is in SERIES



(a) I = Q/t so Q = It

Q = 5 A * 3600 s

Q = 18,000 C

(b) 1 electron = 1.59×10^{-19} C

 $I = 5 A / (1.59 * 10^{-19} C)$

 $I = 3.14 * 10^{19}$ electrons / sec





- For current to flow through a conductor, a force is required.
 - Force produced by an imbalance of electric charge

Example: Battery

- Chemical energy is converted to electrical energy
- Mix of chemicals produce an imbalance of electric charge across two terminals
 - Electrons in connected circuit flow from negative terminal (anode) to positive (cathode)



Voltage Sources

- Generators
 - Produce voltage by induction
 - Rotate coils of wire through magnetic field
- Batteries
 - Use chemicals to produce voltage
- Thermoelectric
 - Two dissimilar materials connected together and heated to produce voltage across cold ends
- Photovoltaic
 - Voltage produced in device of two dissimilar materials, induced by light







Voltage Measurements



- Voltage (or potential difference)
 - Amount of current that flows depends on voltage
 - Similar to water flow depending on pressure difference in a hydraulic system
- Voltmeter

Connected in parallel



Electric circuit vs. Hydraulic System





Resistance



- Opposition to current flow
- Conductors have low resistance
- Insulators have high resistance
- Unit of measuring resistance is Ohm ()
- Measurement of resistance taken using an Ohmmeter

Resistance of a 40-Watt light bulb: ~ 360 Resistance of 1 m long, 10 mm copper wire: ~ 2×10^{-4}

When using Ohmmeter, disconnect circuit!!

Ohm's Law



Relates the current flowing through a circuit to the voltage (electromotive force) and resistance

$$I = \frac{E}{R} \left(\text{or } E = IR, \text{ or } R = \frac{E}{I} \right)$$
 (Eq. 2.2)

where I = current, in amperes (A) E = electromotive force, in volts (V) R = resistance, in ohms (Ω)





A flashlight powered by 3 D cell batteries (1.5 V each) draws 50 mA of current when turned on. What is the resistance of the lightbulb in the flashlight?





A flashlight powered by 3 D cell batteries (1.5 V each) draws 50 mA of current when turned on. What is the resistance of the lightbulb in the flashlight?



Quick Word on Lab Safety



- We have not had any accident in this laboratory since it was built! Please help keep it that way!
 - **Safety first, always!** In this laboratory you will work with 110/208 V electricity. For your own safety, you need to make some necessary precautionary measures in your work. We have to enforce safety measures!
 - Make sure your circuit connections are solid so that the terminals of wires in your circuit won't come loose. Always have your lab instructor check your circuit before energizing it; otherwise, you will loose credit for the lab experiment you are doing.

Lab Safety (cont'd)



Absolutely no drinks in the laboratory: Electrical equipment and any kind of fluid just don't get along! Expect this to be enforced by your lab instructor!

Locate the two RED emergency circuit breakers in the laboratory.

For any emergency, dial 911 and university police will respond.

Come to the lab on time and prepared!

In the lab, be cooperative, practice team work, one report per team!





Answer the **multiple choice** questions 1 through 10.

Solve problems 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8.

Due: Week from today. Wednesday 9/4/13