Electricity

Lily, Laura, Lynette, Elyse, Gillian, Emma, Hailey Period 2

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Electrostatics vs. Electricity

- *Electrostatics* is the study of charges <u>at rest</u>
 - Electro<u>statics</u>: to help remember the difference the word static means stationary or not moving
- *Electricity* puts those charges <u>in motion</u>

Electric Current

- Defined as the flow of electric charge over a period of time • $I = \triangle Q / \triangle t$
- Measured in Amperes, A
- Is a completely dependent variable it relies on voltage and resistance

Batteries

- Supply electric current to a system
- They only *push* charge
- They do NOT create or supply electric charge
- Use a chemical reaction to create a potential difference (voltage).

Ohm's Law

 Current in a wire is proportional to potential difference (voltage) applied to its ends

• V=IR

- Voltage: volts (V)
- Current: amps (A)
- Resistance: ohms (Ω)
- <u>Resistance</u> and <u>voltage</u> are <u>independent</u>
- <u>Current</u> is dependent

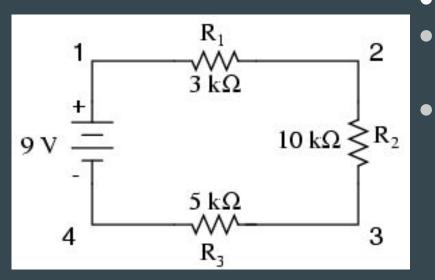
Resistivity

- All electronic devices offer resistance to the flow of current
- *Resistivity* is a measure of the resisting power of a specified material to the flow of an electric current
- $R = \rho L/A$
- ρ(greek letter rho)= the resistivity of a material
- Measured in Ω m= Ohm meters
- *Resistivity* depends on <u>temperature</u>
 - \circ **Hot** temperature \rightarrow increased resistivity
 - \circ **Cold** temperature \rightarrow decreased resistivity

Power

- Electric energy can be easily transformed into other forms of energy
 - Examples:
 - Lightbulbs turn it into light energy and thermal energy
 - Motors turn it into mechanical work
 - Electric heaters, stoves, and toasters turn it into thermal energy
- P = IV = I2R = V2/R

Series Circuits

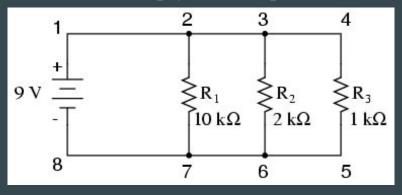


- Series: two or more resistors are connected end to end
- Voltage will drop across each resistor
- Same current will pass through each resistor
- Battery doesn't know difference between
 one big resistor and several small resistors
 working together

 $V = V_1 + V_2 + V_3 + ...$ I = constant $R_{eq} = R_1 + R_2 + R_3 + ...$

Parallel Circuits

- Resistors connected in parallel will split the current into branches that run parallel to each other
- Junctions are the joints where these branches connect
- Voltage remains constant across the circuit
- Current is split between each individual branch
- Resistance is simply the reciprocal of a series circuit



- V = constant I = I₁ + I₂ + I₃ + . . . <u>1</u>=<u>1</u>+<u>1</u>+<u>1</u>+...
 - $R R_1 R_2 R_3$

Kirchhoff's Rules

- 1. **Junction Rule:** at any junction, the sum of currents in equals the sum of currents out (conservation of charge)
- **2.** Loop Rule: the sum of the changes in potential around any closed path of a circuit must be zero (conservation of energy)
- These rules are used to find values in circuits that are not all parallel or all series, but mixed

Capacitors in Circuits

Capacitors in *parallel:*
 Q = Q₁ + Q₂ + Q₃
 C_{eq} = C₁ + C₂ + C₃

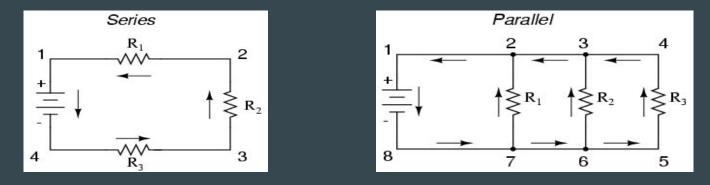
 Capacitors in *series:*
 V = V₁ + V₂ + V₃

$$\frac{1}{\mathbf{C}_{\mathrm{T}}} = \frac{1}{\mathbf{C}_{\mathrm{1}}} + \frac{1}{\mathbf{C}_{\mathrm{2}}} + \frac{1}{\mathbf{C}_{\mathrm{3}}}$$

- V=IR
- Do not forget that CURRENT is the DEPENDENT variable and voltage is INDEPENDENT

- To avoid this common mistake rewrite the equation as
 I=V/R
 - This way you remember current is the DEPENDENT variable

• Know how to identify a SERIES and a PARALLEL circuit



• To avoid this common mistake know that a series circuit follows in a single loop with no junctions and a parallel circuit has various pathways for the current to travel on

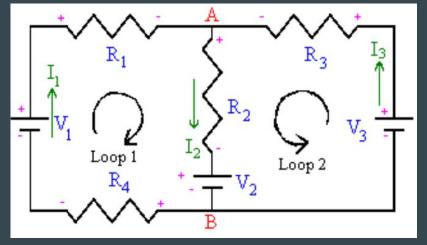
- Do not mix up the rules for Series and Parallel
 - Parallel Series

V = constant

- $I = I_1 + I_2 + I_3 + \dots$ $1 = 1 + 1 + 1 + \dots$
 - $\frac{\mathbf{I} \mathbf{I} + \mathbf{I} + \mathbf{I} + \mathbf{I} + \dots}{\mathbf{R} \quad \mathbf{R}_1 \quad \mathbf{R}_2 \quad \mathbf{R}_3}$

 $V = V_1 + V_2 + V_3 + \dots$ I = constant $R_{eq} = R_1 + R_2 + R_3 + \dots$

- Do not forget that when current is moving AGAINST the flow you ADD resistors and SUBTRACT for BATTERIES
- Normally when the current runs from the battery to a resistor you SUBTRACT when you reach the RESISTOR
 - However, SUBTRACTION switches to ADDITION when the current runs against the system.



- Batteries only push charge
- It is commonly mistaken that batteries supply and store charge
- How to avoid: remember that capacitors are the ones that store charge and charges are supplied in wires

- Do not mix up resistance and resistivity
- $R = \rho L/A$
 - **R** is resistance
 - \circ ρ is resistivity
- Avoid this common mistake by remembering you have to use the resistivity(ρ) to find the resistance(R)



Ω