

# Chapter 26

## Current and Resistance

26-1 Moving Charges and Electric Currents  
26-2 Electric Currents  
26-3 Current density  
26-4 Resistance and Resistivity  
26-5 Ohm's Law  
26-6 Power in Electric Circuits

Objective

### 26-1 Moving Charges and Electric Currents

Charges in motion

Electrostatics → Charges do not move

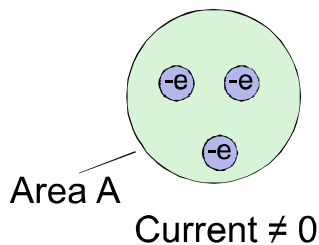
Electric current → Charges move

## 26-1 Moving Charges and Electric Currents

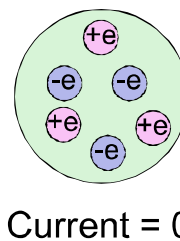
### Electric current

Electric current through a surface  
is  
the flow rate of **net** charges through the surface.

3 electrons moving towards us



3 electrons and 3 protons  
moving towards us

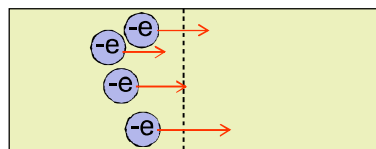


## 26-1 Moving Charges and Electric Currents

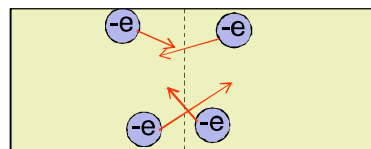
### Random motion does not produce current

Electric current through a surface  
is  
the flow rate of **net** charges through the surface.

Cross section  
4 electrons moving to the right



Cross section  
4 electrons moving randomly  
in all directions



Electrons in **isolated conductor**  
(no external electric field applied)  
Random motion - Speed  $\approx 10^6$  m/s

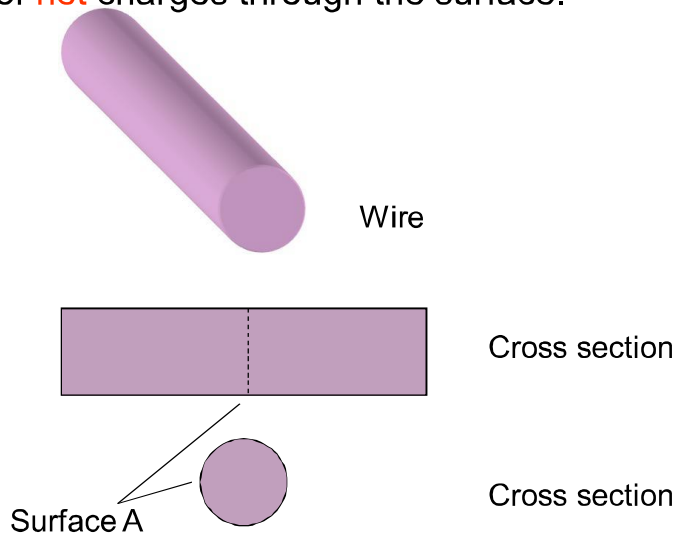
## 26-2 Electric Currents

### Formula - Electric current

Electric current through a surface  
is  
the flow rate of **net** charges through the surface.

Charge  $dq$  passes  
through surface A  
in time  $dt$

$$i = \frac{dq}{dt}$$

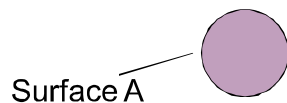


## 26-2 Electric Currents

### Steady-state electric current

$$i = \frac{dq}{dt}$$

Total charge  $q$  passes through surface A in time  $t$



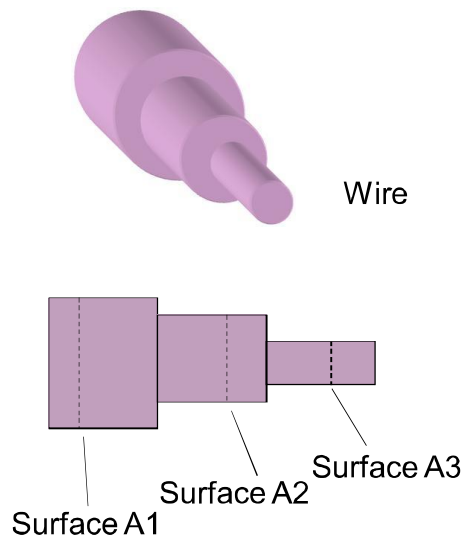
$$q = \int_0^t i \, dt$$

In a steady-state condition,  
current does not change with time.

$$q = i t$$

## 26-2 Electric Currents

### Electric current through a wire



In a steady-state condition

Current through A1

= Current through A2

= Current through A3

Since charge is conserved,  
any electron passes through A1  
should pass through A2 and A3.

## 26-2 Electric Currents

### SI unit for electric current

SI unit for current

**Ampere**

Symbol

**A**

$$i = \frac{dq}{dt}$$

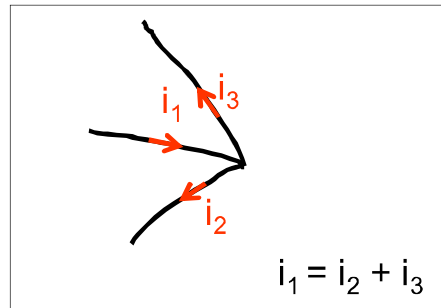
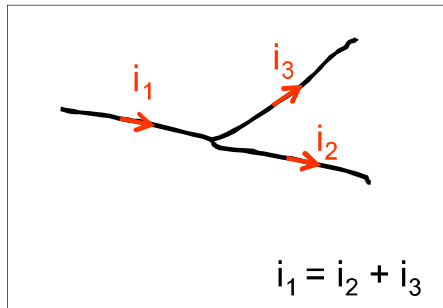
$$1 \text{ Ampere} = \frac{1 \text{ Coulomb}}{1 \text{ Second}}$$

## 26-2 Electric Currents

**Current is a scalar quantity**

Current is a **scalar quantity**

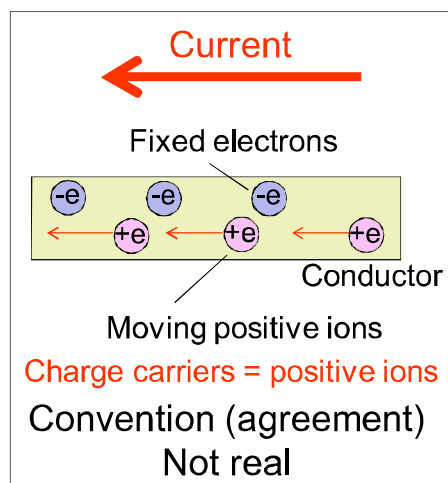
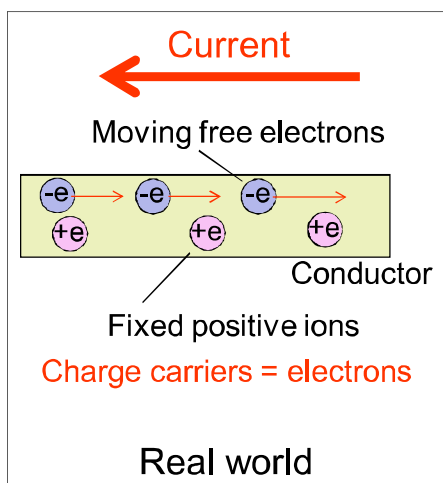
We use arrows to indicate directions of currents in wires.



These arrows are not vectors.

## 26-2 Electric Currents

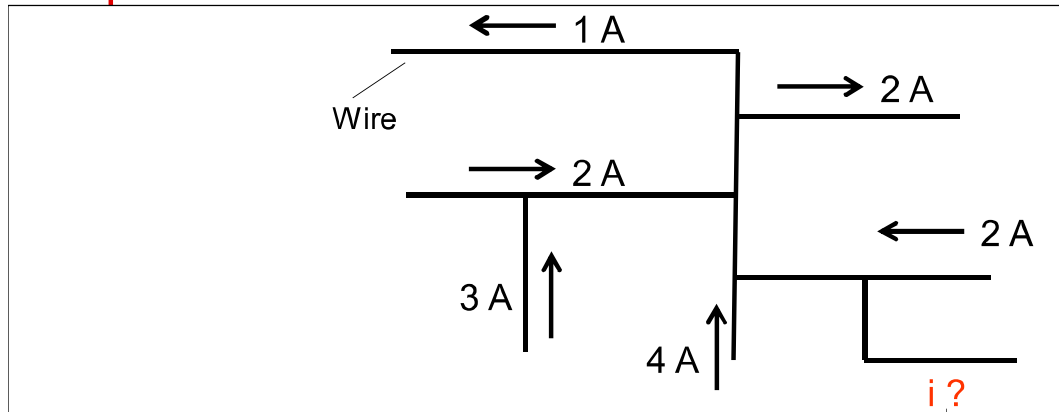
**Convention - current direction**



A current arrow is drawn in the direction in which positive charge would move, even if the actual charge carriers (electrons) are negative and move in the opposite direction.

## 26-2 Electric Currents

### Checkpoint 1



#### Solution

Charge is conserved

current in = current out

$$\text{Given current in} = 3 + 2 + 4 + 2 = 11 \text{ A}$$

$$\text{Given current out} = 1 + 2 = 3 \text{ A}$$

$$i = 8 \text{ A out}$$

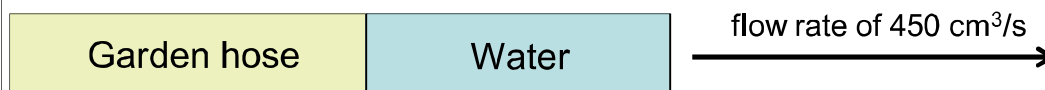
8 A

## 26-2 Electric Currents

### Example 1

Water flows from a garden hose at a rate of  $450 \text{ cm}^3/\text{s}$

What is the current of negative charge?



#### Solution

$$i = \frac{dq}{dt} = \frac{\text{negative charge}}{\text{time}}$$

The current of negative charge = The current of positive charge

There is no net flow of charge (current = 0) through the hose.

## 26-2 Electric Currents

### Example 1

Solution

$$\begin{aligned}
 i &= \frac{\text{negative charge}}{\text{time}} = \frac{\text{negative charge}}{\text{volume}} \frac{\text{volume}}{\text{time}} \\
 &= \frac{\text{negative charge}}{\text{volume}} = \frac{\text{negative charge}}{\text{mass}} \frac{\text{mass}}{\text{volume}} \\
 &= \frac{\text{negative charge}}{\text{mass}} = \frac{\text{negative charge}}{\text{mole}} \frac{\text{moles}}{\text{mass}} \\
 &= \frac{\text{negative charge}}{\text{mole}} = \frac{\text{negative charge}}{\text{molecule}} \frac{\text{molecules}}{\text{mole}} \\
 &= \frac{\text{negative charge}}{\text{molecule}} = \frac{\text{negative charge}}{\text{electron}} \frac{\text{electrons}}{\text{molecule}}
 \end{aligned}$$

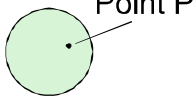
$= 450 \text{ cm}^3/\text{s}$   
 $= \text{water density} = 1 \text{ g/cm}^3$   
 $= 1/\text{molar mass}$   
 $= 1/(18 \text{ g/mole})$   
 $\text{H}_2\text{O}$   
 $\text{oxygen} = 8 \text{ protons} + 8 \text{ neutrons}$   
 $\text{hydrogen} = 1 \text{ proton}$   
 $= \text{Avogadro's Number}$   
 $= 6.02 \times 10^{23} \text{ Molecules/mole}$   
 $= e = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C/electron}$   
 $= 10 \text{ electrons/molecule}$   
 $= 2 \text{ from hydrogen atoms and 8 from oxygen atom}$

$$i = \left( \frac{1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}}{\text{electron}} \right) \left( \frac{10 \text{ electrons}}{\text{molecule}} \right) \left( \frac{6.02 \times 10^{23} \text{ molecules}}{\text{mole}} \right) \left( \frac{1 \text{ mole}}{18 \text{ g}} \right) \left( \frac{1 \text{ g}}{\text{cm}^3} \right) \left( \frac{450 \text{ cm}^3}{\text{s}} \right)$$

$$= 24.1 \times 10^6 \text{ A}$$

## 26-3 Current density

### Definition

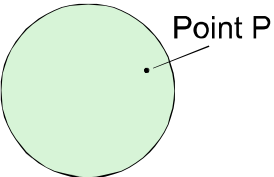
  
 Surface  $A_1$   
 $= 0.2 \text{ m}^2$

4 coulombs pass per second through surface  $A_1$

Current through  $A_1 = 4 \text{ A}$

Current density at point P

$$= \frac{\text{current}}{\text{area}} = 20 \text{ A/m}^2$$

  
 Surface  $A_2$   
 $= 0.4 \text{ m}^2$

4 coulombs pass per second through surface  $A_2$

Current through  $A_2 = 4 \text{ A}$

Current density at point P

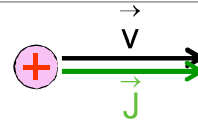
$$= \frac{\text{current}}{\text{area}} = 10 \text{ A/m}^2$$

### 26-3 Current density

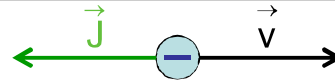
#### Current density is a vector quantity

Current density is a vector quantity

Direction



The same direction as the velocity of the moving positive charges.



Opposite to the direction of the velocity of the moving negative charges.

Magnitude

$$J = \frac{\text{current}}{\text{area normal to the velocity}}$$

The SI unit for the current density  $J$  is  $A/m^2$

### 26-3 Current density

#### Finding current from current density

$$i = \int \vec{J} \cdot d\vec{A}$$

Area vector

Magnitude Area of the surface

Direction Normal to the surface

If  $\vec{J}$  is uniform and parallel to  $d\vec{A}$

$$i = J A$$

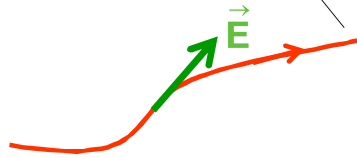
$$J = \frac{i}{A}$$

## 26-3 Current density

### Streamlines

Electric Field  $\vec{E}$

Electric field lines

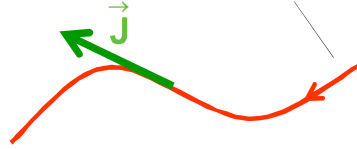


At any point, the **tangent** of an electric field line gives the **direction** of the electric field.

Number of lines per unit area in a plane perpendicular to the electric field lines is proportional to the magnitude of the electric field.

Current Density  $\vec{J}$

Streamlines



At any point, the **tangent** of a streamline gives the **direction** of the current density.

Number of lines per unit area in a plane perpendicular to the streamlines is proportional to the magnitude of the current density.

## 26-3 Current density

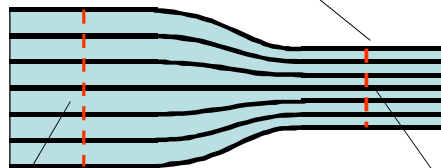
### Illustration - Streamlines

Same current

Charge is conserved

(Any charge passes through the 1<sup>st</sup> surface should pass through the 2<sup>nd</sup> surface)

Streamlines representing current density in the flow of charge through a conductor



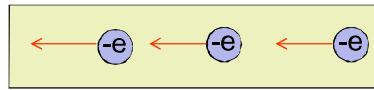
High current density

Low current density

## 26-3 Current density

### Checkpoint 2

Electrons moving leftward



Conductor

What is the direction of ...

Solution

Current?

Rightward  $\longrightarrow$

Current density?

Rightward  $\longrightarrow$

Electric Field?

Rightward  $\longrightarrow$

## 26-3 Current density

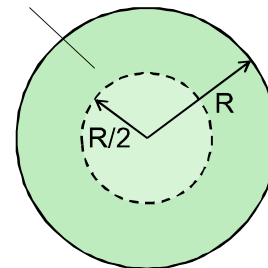
### Example 2

$$R = 2.0 \text{ mm}$$

$$J = 2.0 \times 10^5 \text{ A/m}^2$$

What is the current through the outer portion of the wire between radial distances  $R/2$  and  $R$ ?

Uniform current density



Cross section of a wire

Solution

$$i = J A$$

$$i = J \left( \pi R^2 - \pi \left( \frac{R}{2} \right)^2 \right)$$

$$i = J \left( \frac{3}{4} \pi R^2 \right) = 1.9 \text{ A}$$

## 26-3 Current density

### Example 3

$$R = 2.0 \text{ mm}$$

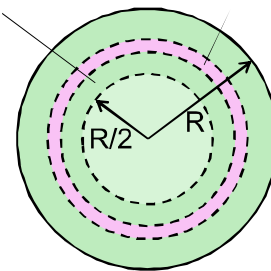
$$J = a r^2$$

$$a = 3.0 \times 10^{11} \text{ A/m}^4$$

$r$  in meters

Not uniform  
current density

$$dA = 2\pi r dr$$



Cross section of a wire

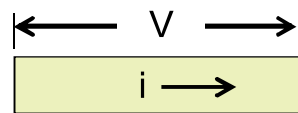
What is the current through the outer portion of the wire between radial distances  $R/2$  and  $R$ ?

### Solution

$$\begin{aligned} i &= \int \vec{J} \cdot d\vec{A} = \int J dA = \int_{R/2}^R J 2\pi r dr = \int_{R/2}^R a r^2 2\pi r dr \\ &= 2\pi a \int_{R/2}^R r^3 dr = 2\pi a \left[ \frac{r^4}{4} \right]_{R/2}^R = 2\pi a \left( \frac{R^4}{4} - \frac{R^4}{64} \right) \\ &= \frac{15}{32} \pi a R^4 = 7.1 \text{ A} \end{aligned}$$

## 26-4 Resistance and Resistivity

### Formula - Potential difference and current



An object  
(Resistor)

Resistor  
symbol



$$V = R i$$

Potential  
difference

Resistance

Current

## 26-4 Resistance and Resistivity

### SI unit for resistance

SI unit for resistance

Ohm

Symbol

$\Omega$

$$V = R i$$

$$1 \text{ Ohm} = \frac{1 \text{ Volt}}{1 \text{ Ampere}}$$

$\Omega$  is pronounced omega

## 26-4 Resistance and Resistivity

### Resistivity

Resistance  $R$  of an object

Property of the object  
Depends on the shape

$$V = R i$$

SI unit ohm  
 $\Omega$

Resistivity  $\rho$  of a material

Property of the material  
Does not depend on the shape

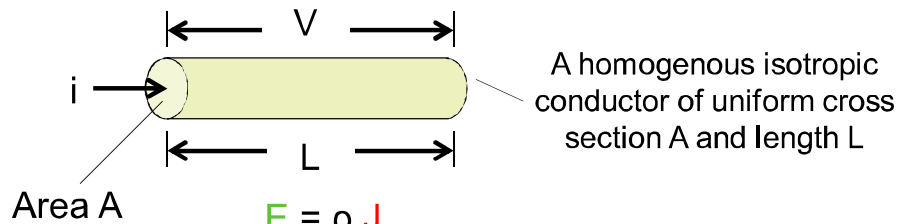
$$\vec{E} = \rho \vec{J}$$

SI unit ohm•meter  
 $\Omega \cdot m$

## 26-4 Resistance and Resistivity

### Formula - Resistance and resistivity

#### Calculating Resistance from Resistivity



$$E = \rho J$$

$$\frac{V}{L} = \rho \frac{i}{A}$$

$$\frac{V}{i} = \rho \frac{L}{A}$$

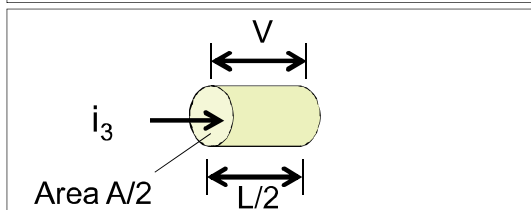
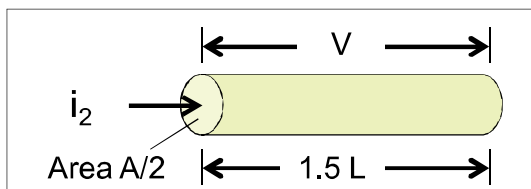
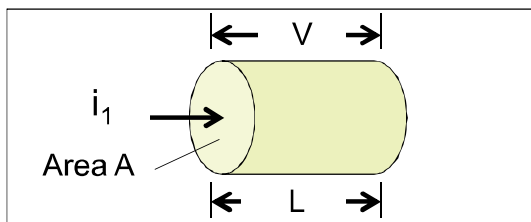
$$R = \rho \frac{L}{A}$$

**homogenous**  
property does not depend  
on the position

**Isotropic**  
property does not depend  
on direction

## 26-4 Resistance and Resistivity

### Checkpoint 3



All made of copper  
Rank current greatest first.

#### Solution

$$i_1 = \frac{V}{R} \frac{A}{L}$$

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

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

$$i = \frac{V}{\rho} \frac{A}{L}$$

$$i_2 = \frac{V}{\rho} \frac{A/2}{1.5L} = \frac{1}{3} \frac{V}{\rho} \frac{A}{L}$$

$$i_3 = \frac{V}{\rho} \frac{A/2}{L/2} = \frac{V}{\rho} \frac{A}{L}$$

$$i_1 = i_3 > i_2$$

## 26-4 Resistance and Resistivity

### Formula - resistivity and temperature

#### Variation of resistivity with temperature

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

Temperature coefficient of resistivity  
 Resistivity at T  
 Resistivity at  $T_0$   
 Reference temperature  
 Temperature  
 Good approximation over a wide temperature range

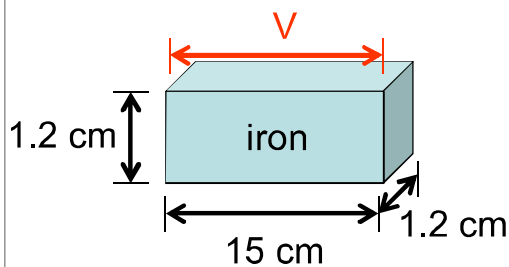
## 26-4 Resistance and Resistivity

### Example 3

For iron  $\rho = 9.68 \times 10^{-8} \Omega \cdot \text{m}$ .

What is the resistance of the block?

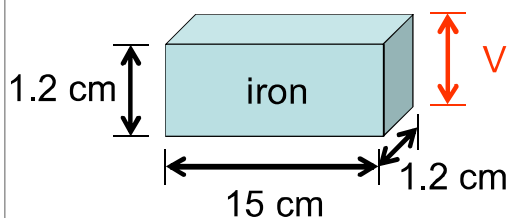
#### Solution



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

$$R = (9.68 \times 10^{-8}) \frac{0.15}{(.012)(0.012)}$$

$$R = 100 \mu\Omega$$



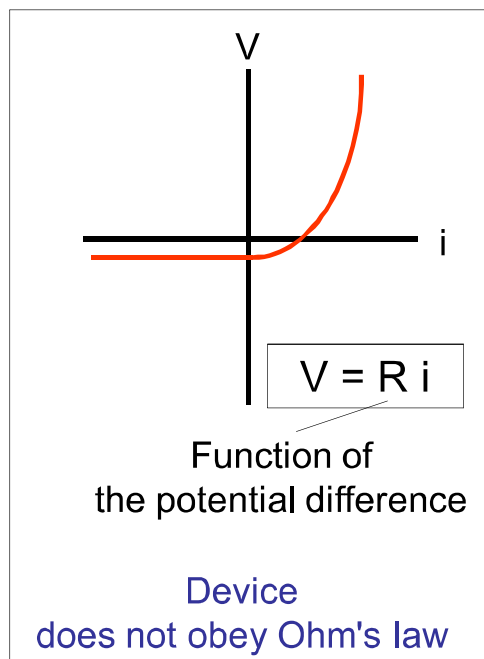
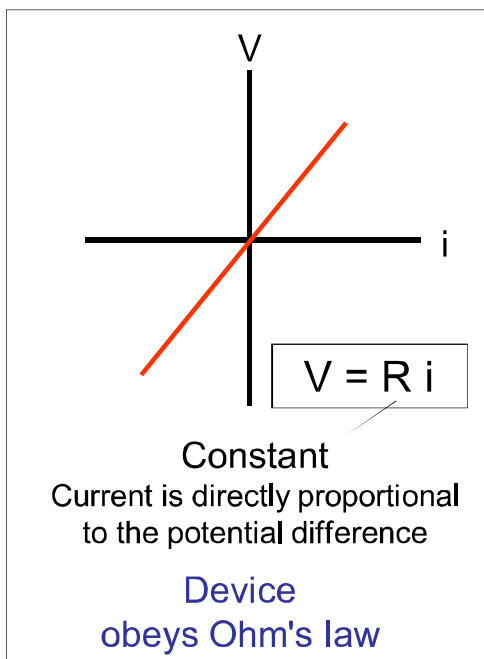
$$R = \rho \frac{L}{A}$$

$$R = (9.68 \times 10^{-8}) \frac{.012}{(0.15)(0.012)}$$

$$R = 0.65 \mu\Omega$$

## 26-5 Ohm's Law

### Formula - Ohm's law



## 26-5 Ohm's Law

### Checkpoint 4

Which device does not obey Ohm's law?

Device 1

V	I
1.0	2.0
2.0	4.0
3.0	6.0

Device 2

V	I
1.0	1.0
2.0	4.0
3.0	9.0

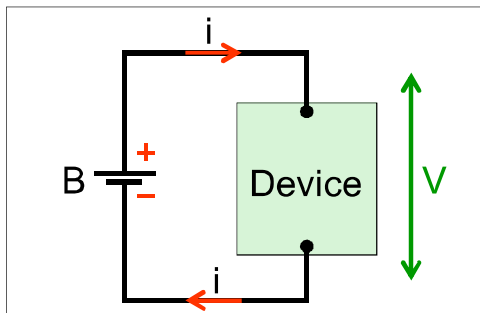
Solution

Device 1  
obeys Ohm's law

Device 2  
does not obey Ohm's law

## 26-6 Power in Electric Circuits

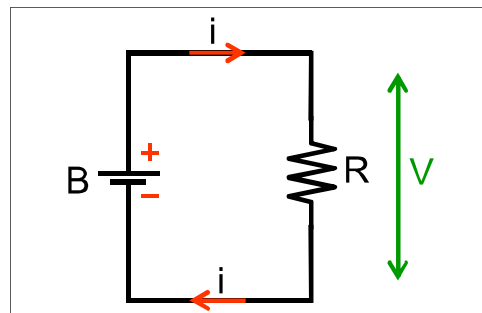
### Formula - Power



Power is the rate of electric energy transfer from the battery to the device.

$$P = i V$$

For any device  
(resistor, motor, capacitor)



Power is the rate of electric energy transfer from the battery to the device.

$$P = i V$$

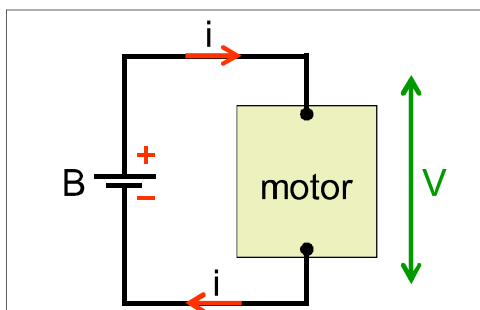
For a resistor  $V = R i$

$$P = i^2 R$$

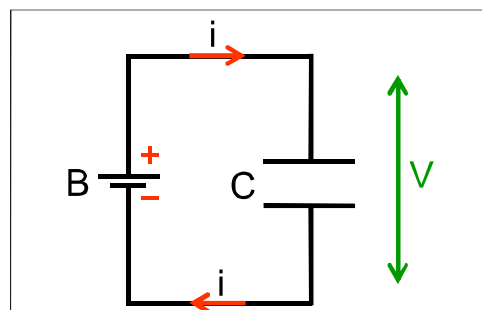
$$P = \frac{V^2}{R}$$

## 26-6 Power in Electric Circuits

### Energy rate to rotate motors and charge capacitors



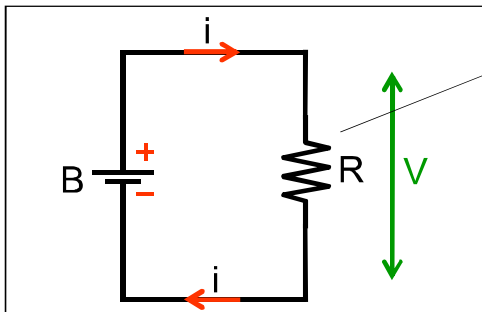
Electric energy from the battery is transferred at a rate of  $P = i V$  to **rotate** the motor.



Electric energy from the battery is transferred at a rate of  $P = i V$  to **charge** the capacitor.

## 26-6 Power in Electric Circuits

### Energy rate to heat up resistors



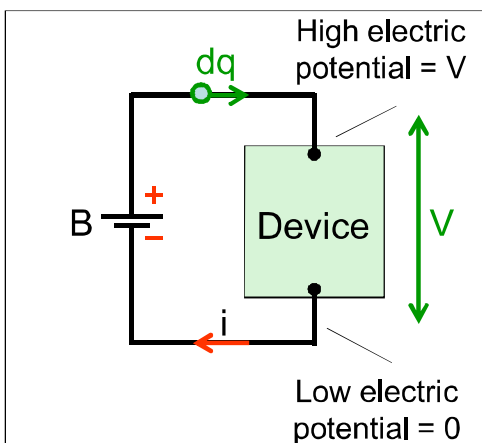
Electric energy from the battery is transferred at a rate of  $P = i V$  to **heat up** the resistor.

When electrons drift through a resistor, they collide with the molecules of the resistor, this increases the random motion of the molecules which is equivalent to higher temperature.

## 26-6 Power in Electric Circuits

### Derivation - Electric power

Derivation of  $P = i V$



Suppose a charge of  $dq$  moves through the device during time  $dt$

The change in potential energy of  $dq$  is  
 $dU = dq(0 - V) = -dqV$

The rate at which potential energy changes

$$\frac{dU}{dt} = - \frac{dq}{dt} V = - \frac{dq}{dt} V = - i V$$

loss

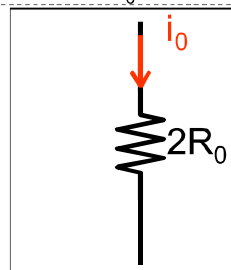
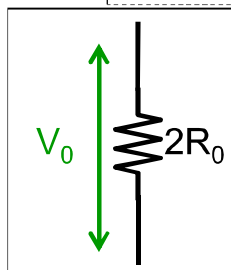
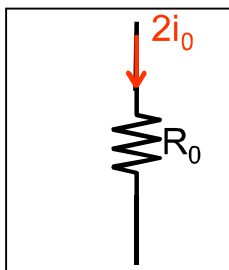
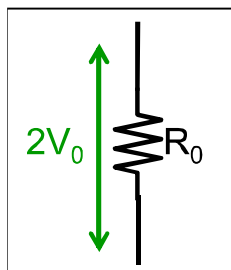
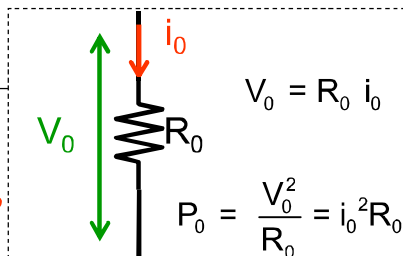
Since the energy is conserved, the rate at which potential energy is lost is the rate at which energy of other form is gained.

$$P = - \frac{dU}{dt} = i V$$

## 26-6 Power in Electric Circuits

### Checkpoint 5

Rank the change in the rate at which electrical energy is converted to thermal energy due to the resistance?



**Solution**

$$P = \frac{V^2}{R} = i^2 R$$

$$P = \frac{(2V_0)^2}{R_0}$$

$$P = 4P_0$$

$$P = (2i_0)^2 R_0$$

$$P = 4P_0$$

$$P = \frac{V_0^2}{2R_0}$$

$$P = \frac{P_0}{2}$$

$$P = i_0^2 (2R_0)$$

$$P = 2P_0$$

## 26-6 Power in Electric Circuits

### Example 4



Nichrome heating wire  
 Nickel-chromium-iron alloy

$$R = 72 \, \Omega$$

$$V = 120 \, \text{V}$$

At what rate is energy dissipated?

**Solution**

$$P = \frac{V^2}{R} = 200 \, \text{W}$$

If the same voltage is applied to a wire that has half the original length, at what rate is energy dissipated ?

**Solution**

For half the length  $R = 36 \, \Omega$

$$P = \frac{V^2}{R} = 400 \, \text{W}$$