



Class XII : Physics  
Chapter 3 : Current Electricity

Questions and Solutions | Exercises - NCERT Books

Question 1:

The storage battery of a car has an emf of 12 V. If the internal resistance of the battery is  $0.4\Omega$ , what is the maximum current that can be drawn from the battery?

**Answer**

Emf of the battery,  $E = 12 \text{ V}$

Internal resistance of the battery,  $r = 0.4 \Omega$

Maximum current drawn from the battery =  $I$

According to Ohm's law,

$$\begin{aligned} E &= Ir \\ I &= \frac{E}{r} \\ &= \frac{12}{0.4} = 30 \text{ A} \end{aligned}$$

The maximum current drawn from the given battery is 30 A.

Question 2:

A battery of emf 10 V and internal resistance  $3 \Omega$  is connected to a resistor. If the current in the circuit is 0.5 A, what is the resistance of the resistor? What is the terminal voltage of the battery when the circuit is closed?

**Answer**

Emf of the battery,  $E = 10 \text{ V}$

Internal resistance of the battery,  $r = 3 \Omega$



Current in the circuit,  $I = 0.5 \text{ A}$

Resistance of the resistor =  $R$

The relation for current using Ohm's law is,

$$\begin{aligned} I &= \frac{E}{R+r} \\ R+r &= \frac{E}{I} \\ &= \frac{10}{0.5} = 20 \Omega \\ \therefore R &= 20 - 3 = 17 \Omega \end{aligned}$$

Terminal voltage of the resistor =  $V$

According to Ohm's law,

$$\begin{aligned} V &= IR \\ &= 0.5 \times 17 \\ &= 8.5 \text{ V} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the resistance of the resistor is  $17 \Omega$  and the terminal voltage is  $8.5 \text{ V}$ .



Question 3:

At room temperature ( $27.0\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) the resistance of a heating element is  $100\ \Omega$ . What is the temperature of the element if the resistance is found to be  $117\ \Omega$ , given that the temperature coefficient of the material of the resistor is  $1.70 \times 10^{-4}\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}^{-1}$

**Answer**

Room temperature,  $T = 27^{\circ}\text{C}$

Resistance of the heating element at  $T$ ,  $R = 100\ \Omega$

Let  $T_1$  is the increased temperature of the filament.

Resistance of the heating element at  $T_1$ ,  $R_1 = 117\ \Omega$

Temperature co-efficient of the material of the filament,

$$\alpha = 1.70 \times 10^{-4}\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}^{-1}$$

$\alpha$  is given by the relation,

$$\alpha = \frac{R_1 - R}{R(T_1 - T)}$$

$$T_1 - T = \frac{R_1 - R}{R\alpha}$$

$$T_1 - 27 = \frac{117 - 100}{100(1.7 \times 10^{-4})}$$

$$T_1 - 27 = 1000$$

$$T_1 = 1027^{\circ}\text{C}$$

Therefore, at  $1027^{\circ}\text{C}$ , the resistance of the element is  $117\ \Omega$ .



Question 4:

A negligibly small current is passed through a wire of length 15 m and uniform cross-section  $6.0 \times 10^{-7} \text{ m}^2$ , and its resistance is measured to be  $5.0 \Omega$ . What is the resistivity of the material at the temperature of the experiment?

**Answer**

Length of the wire,  $l = 15 \text{ m}$

Area of cross-section of the wire,  $a = 6.0 \times 10^{-7} \text{ m}^2$

Resistance of the material of the wire,  $R = 5.0 \Omega$

Resistivity of the material of the wire =  $\rho$

Resistance is related with the resistivity as

$$\begin{aligned} R &= \rho \frac{l}{A} \\ \rho &= \frac{RA}{l} \\ &= \frac{5 \times 6 \times 10^{-7}}{15} = 2 \times 10^{-7} \Omega \text{ m} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the resistivity of the material is  $2 \times 10^{-7} \Omega \text{ m}$ .

Question 5:

A silver wire has a resistance of  $2.1 \Omega$  at  $27.5^\circ \text{C}$ , and a resistance of  $2.7 \Omega$  at  $100^\circ \text{C}$ . Determine the temperature coefficient of resistivity of silver.

**Answer**

Temperature,  $T_1 = 27.5^\circ \text{C}$

Resistance of the silver wire at  $T_1$ ,  $R_1 = 2.1 \Omega$



Temperature,  $T_2 = 100^\circ\text{C}$

Resistance of the silver wire at  $T_2$ ,  $R_2 = 2.7 \Omega$

Temperature coefficient of silver =  $\alpha$

It is related with temperature and resistance as

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha &= \frac{R_2 - R_1}{R_1(T_2 - T_1)} \\ &= \frac{2.7 - 2.1}{2.1(100 - 27.5)} = 0.0039 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}^{-1}\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the temperature coefficient of silver is  $0.0039^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$ .

Question 6:

A heating element using nichrome connected to a 230 V supply draws an initial current of 3.2 A which settles after a few seconds to a steady value of 2.8 A. What is the steady temperature of the heating element if the room temperature is  $27.0^\circ\text{C}$ ? Temperature coefficient of resistance of nichrome averaged over the temperature range involved is  $1.70 \times 10^{-4} \text{ }^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$ .

**Answer**

Supply voltage,  $V = 230 \text{ V}$

Initial current drawn,  $I_1 = 3.2 \text{ A}$

Initial resistance =  $R_1$ , which is given by the relation,

$$\begin{aligned}R_1 &= \frac{V}{I} \\ &= \frac{230}{3.2} = 71.87 \Omega\end{aligned}$$

Steady state value of the current,  $I_2 = 2.8 \text{ A}$

Resistance at the steady state =  $R_2$ , which is given as

$$R_2 = \frac{230}{2.8} = 82.14 \Omega$$

Temperature co-efficient of nichrome,  $\alpha = 1.70 \times 10^{-4} \text{ } ^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$

Initial temperature of nichrome,  $T_1 = 27.0^\circ\text{C}$

Steady state temperature reached by nichrome =  $T_2$

$T_2$  can be obtained by the relation for  $\alpha$ ,

$$\alpha = \frac{R_2 - R_1}{R_1 (T_2 - T_1)}$$

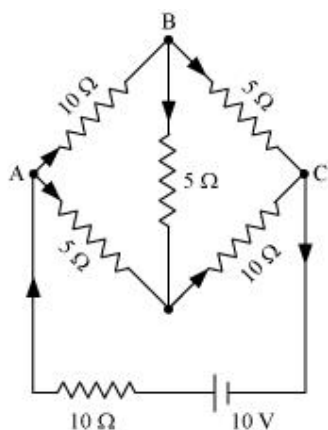
$$T_2 - 27 \text{ } ^\circ\text{C} = \frac{82.14 - 71.87}{71.87 \times 1.7 \times 10^{-4}} = 840.5$$

$$T_2 = 840.5 + 27 = 867.5 \text{ } ^\circ\text{C}$$

Therefore, the steady temperature of the heating element is  $867.5^\circ\text{C}$

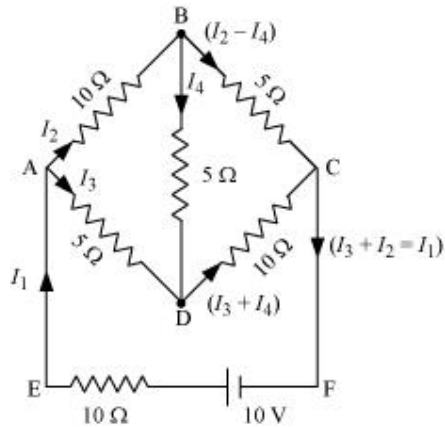
Question 7:

Determine the current in each branch of the network shown in fig 3.20:



**Answer**

Current flowing through various branches of the circuit is represented in the given figure.



$I_1$  = Current flowing through the outer circuit

$I_2$  = Current flowing through branch AB

$I_3$  = Current flowing through branch AD

$I_2 - I_4$  = Current flowing through branch BC

$I_3 + I_4$  = Current flowing through branch CD

$I_4$  = Current flowing through branch BD

For the closed circuit ABDA, potential is zero i.e.,

$$10I_2 + 5I_4 - 5I_3 = 0$$

$$2I_2 + I_4 - I_3 = 0$$

$$I_3 = 2I_2 + I_4 \dots (1)$$

For the closed circuit BCDB, potential is zero i.e.,

$$5(I_2 - I_4) - 10(I_3 + I_4) - 5I_4 = 0$$

$$5I_2 + 5I_4 - 10I_3 - 10I_4 - 5I_4 = 0$$

$$5I_2 - 10I_3 - 20I_4 = 0$$

$$I_2 = 2I_3 + 4I_4 \dots (2)$$

For the closed circuit ABCFEA, potential is zero i.e.,

$$-10 + 10(I_1) + 10(I_2) + 5(I_2 - I_4) = 0$$

$$10 = 15I_2 + 10I_1 - 5I_4$$



$$3I_2 + 2I_1 - I_4 = 2 \dots (3)$$

From equations (1) and (2), we obtain

$$I_3 = 2(2I_3 + 4I_4) + I_4$$

$$I_3 = 4I_3 + 8I_4 + I_4$$

$$3I_3 = 9I_4$$

$$3I_4 = + I_3 \dots (4)$$

Putting equation (4) in equation (1), we obtain

$$I_3 = 2I_2 + I_4$$

$$4I_4 = 2I_2$$

$$I_2 = -2I_4 \dots (5)$$

It is evident from the given figure that,

$$I_1 = I_3 + I_2 \dots (6)$$

Putting equation (6) in equation (1), we obtain

$$3I_2 + 2(I_3 + I_2) - I_4 = 2$$

$$5I_2 + 2I_3 - I_4 = 2 \dots (7)$$

Putting equations (4) and (5) in equation (7), we obtain

$$5(-2I_4) + 2(-3I_4) - I_4 = 2$$

$$10I_4 - 6I_4 - I_4 = 2$$

$$17I_4 = -2$$

$$I_4 = \frac{-2}{17} \text{ A}$$

Equation (4) reduces to

$$I_3 = -3(I_4)$$





$$= -3\left(\frac{-2}{17}\right) = \frac{6}{17} \text{ A}$$

$$I_2 = -2(I_4)$$

$$= -2\left(\frac{-2}{17}\right) = \frac{4}{17} \text{ A}$$

$$I_2 - I_4 = \frac{4}{17} - \left(\frac{-2}{17}\right) = \frac{6}{17} \text{ A}$$

$$I_3 + I_4 = \frac{6}{17} + \left(\frac{-2}{17}\right) = \frac{4}{17} \text{ A}$$

$$I_1 = I_3 + I_2$$

$$= \frac{6}{17} + \frac{4}{17} = \frac{10}{17} \text{ A}$$

Therefore, current in branch  $AB = \frac{4}{17} \text{ A}$

In branch BC =  $\frac{6}{17} \text{ A}$

In branch CD =  $\frac{-4}{17} \text{ A}$

In branch AD =  $\frac{6}{17} \text{ A}$

In branch BD =  $\left(\frac{-2}{17}\right) \text{ A}$

Total current =  $\frac{4}{17} + \frac{6}{17} + \frac{-4}{17} + \frac{6}{17} + \frac{-2}{17} = \frac{10}{17} \text{ A}$



Question 8:

A storage battery of emf 8.0 V and internal resistance  $0.5 \Omega$  is being charged by a 120 V dc supply using a series resistor of  $15.5 \Omega$ . What is the terminal voltage of the battery during charging? What is the purpose of having a series resistor in the charging circuit?

**Answer**

Emf of the storage battery,  $E = 8.0 \text{ V}$

Internal resistance of the battery,  $r = 0.5 \Omega$

DC supply voltage,  $V = 120 \text{ V}$

Resistance of the resistor,  $R = 15.5 \Omega$

Effective voltage in the circuit =  $V^1$

$R$  is connected to the storage battery in series. Hence, it can be written as

$$V^1 = V - E$$

$$V^1 = 120 - 8 = 112 \text{ V}$$

Current flowing in the circuit =  $I$ , which is given by the relation,

$$I = \frac{V^1}{R+r}$$
$$= \frac{112}{15.5+0.5} = \frac{112}{16} = 7 \text{ A}$$

Voltage across resistor  $R$  given by the product,  $IR = 7 \times 15.5 = 108.5 \text{ V}$

DC supply voltage = Terminal voltage of battery + Voltage drop across  $R$

Terminal voltage of battery =  $120 - 108.5 = 11.5 \text{ V}$

A series resistor in a charging circuit limits the current drawn from the external source. The current will be extremely high in its absence. This is very dangerous.



Question 9:

The number density of free electrons in a copper conductor estimated in Example 3.1 is  $8.5 \times 10^{28} \text{ m}^{-3}$ . How long does an electron take to drift from one end of a wire 3.0 m long to its other end? The area of cross-section of the wire is  $2.0 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^2$  and it is carrying a current of 3.0 A.

**Answer**

Number density of free electrons in a copper conductor,  $n = 8.5 \times 10^{28} \text{ m}^{-3}$  Length of the copper wire,  $l = 3.0 \text{ m}$

Area of cross-section of the wire,  $A = 2.0 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^2$

Current carried by the wire,  $I = 3.0 \text{ A}$ , which is given by the relation,

$$I = nAeV_d$$

Where,

$e =$  Electric charge  $= 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$

$$V_d = \text{Drift velocity} = \frac{\text{Length of the wire } (l)}{\text{Time taken to cover } l(t)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} I &= nAe \frac{l}{t} \\ t &= \frac{nAel}{I} \\ &= \frac{3 \times 8.5 \times 10^{28} \times 2 \times 10^{-6} \times 1.6 \times 10^{-19}}{3.0} \\ &= 2.7 \times 10^4 \text{ s} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the time taken by an electron to drift from one end of the wire to the other is  $2.7 \times 10^4 \text{ s}$ .