



Electrical Current Flow

Electron Flow - From excess to deficient

Conventional Current Flow

Internal to Source (Battery)

Negative to Positive

External from Source (Battery)

Positive to Negative

Voltage Drop - Across a Resistor + to -

"*Negative Current*" - Assumed Direction Reversed



Electrical Theory

Ohm's Law

$$I = V/R \text{ (DC)}$$

$$I = V/Z \text{ (AC)}$$

Joule's Law

$$P = IE = I^2R \text{ (I Squared R Loss)}$$

Kirchoff's Law

Sum of Loop Voltages = 0

Sum of Node Currents = 0



Electrical Theory

Quantity	Symbol	Unit	Equation
Charge	Q	coulomb	$Q = \int i dt$ $Q = CV$
Current	I	ampere	$I = dQ/dt$
Voltage	V	volt	$V = dW/dQ$
Energy	W	joule	$W = \int VdQ = \int Pdt$
Power	P	watt	$P = dW/dt = IV$

Power and Voltage Ratios Expressed in Decibels (dB's)

$$1 \text{ Bel} = \log(\text{Power}_2 / \text{Power}_1)$$

$$1 \text{ decibel} = 1 \text{ dB} = 0.1 \text{ Bel, hence } 10 \text{ dB} = 1 \text{ Bel}$$

To express a Power Ratio in dB's, use $\text{dB} = 10 \log(\text{Power}_2 / \text{Power}_1)$

$$\text{Let } \text{Power}_2 = 2 \text{ Power}_1$$

$$\text{Power Ratio in dB's} = 10 \log(2 \text{ Power}_1 / \text{Power}_1) = 10 \log(2) = 3.01$$

$$\text{Let } \text{Power}_2 = 0.5 \text{ Power}_1$$

$$\text{Power Ratio in dB's} = 10 \log(0.5 \text{ Power}_1 / \text{Power}_1) = 10 \log(0.5) = -3.01$$

-3 dB is often expressed as "3 dB Down" which is the half power point ($\text{Power}_2 = 1/2 \text{ Power}_1$)

$$\text{Let } \text{Power}_2 = \text{Power}_1$$

$$\text{Power Ratio in dB's} = 10 \log(\text{Power}_1 / \text{Power}_1) = 10 \log(1) = 0$$

dB = 0 does not imply zero power but rather a power ratio of one-to-one

dB = 0 can be used as a zero reference; that is to say, set your reference level to a particular value and then use the dB scale to refer all other values to that reference level.

Examples: Reference Level = 400 watts.

$$200 \text{ watts} = -3 \text{ dB}$$

$$800 \text{ watts} = +3 \text{ dB}$$

$$400 \text{ watts} = 0 \text{ dB}$$

$$4000 \text{ watts} = +10 \text{ dB}$$

$$40 \text{ watts} = -10 \text{ dB}$$

$$650 \text{ watts} = +2.1 \text{ dB}$$

$$65 \text{ watts} = -7.9 \text{ dB}$$

$$100 \text{ watts} = -6 \text{ dB}$$

$$2,500,000 \text{ watts} = +64 \text{ dB}$$

Note: A reference of 1 milliwatts is used for dBm's

$$1 \text{ milliwatts} = 10 \log(1 / 1) = 0 \text{ dBm}$$

$$5 \text{ milliwatts} = 10 \log(5 / 1) = +7 \text{ dBm}$$

$$500 \text{ milliwatts} = +27 \text{ dBm}$$

$$0.001 \text{ milliwatts} = -30 \text{ dBm}$$

For Voltage, $\text{Power} = IE = (E/R)E = E^2/R$

To express a Voltage Ratio in dB's, use $\text{dB} = 10 \log(\text{Power}_2 / \text{Power}_1) = 10 \log[(E_2^2/R) / (E_1^2/R)]$

$$10 \log[(E_2^2/R) / (E_1^2/R)] = 10 \log(E_2^2 / E_1^2) = 20 \log(E_2 / E_1)$$

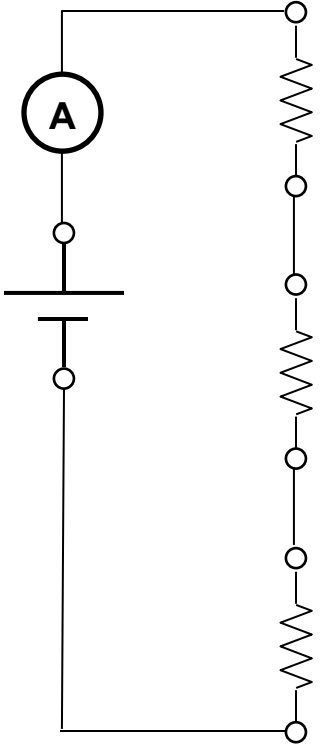
$$\text{Let Power Ratio dB} = -3, \text{ then } 20 \log(E_2 / E_1) = -3$$

$$\log(E_2 / E_1) = -0.15$$

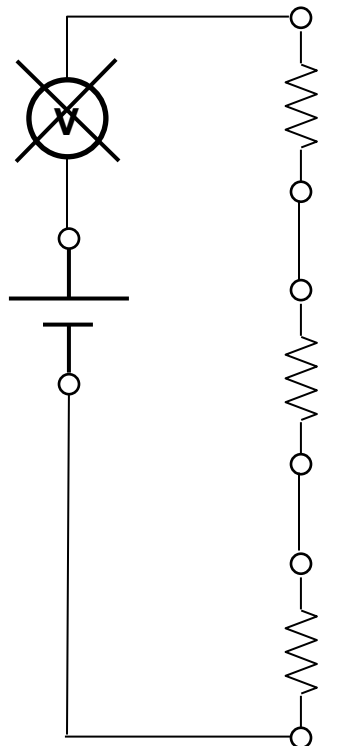
$$E_2 / E_1 = 0.707 = 0.5 \text{ SQRT}(2)$$

DMM Connections

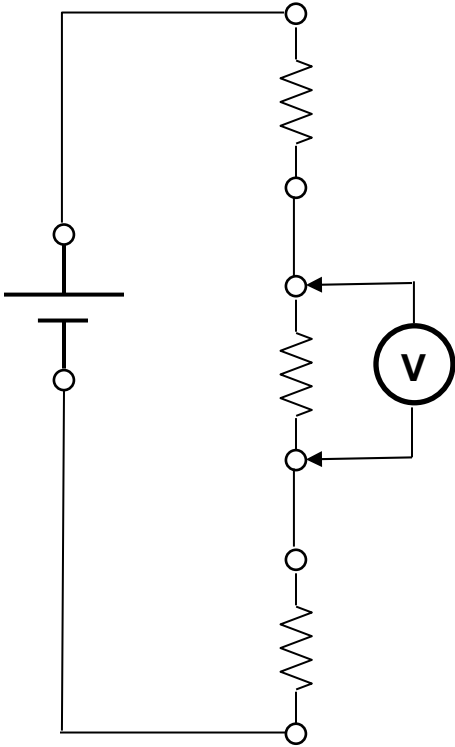
Ammeter in Series
OKAY



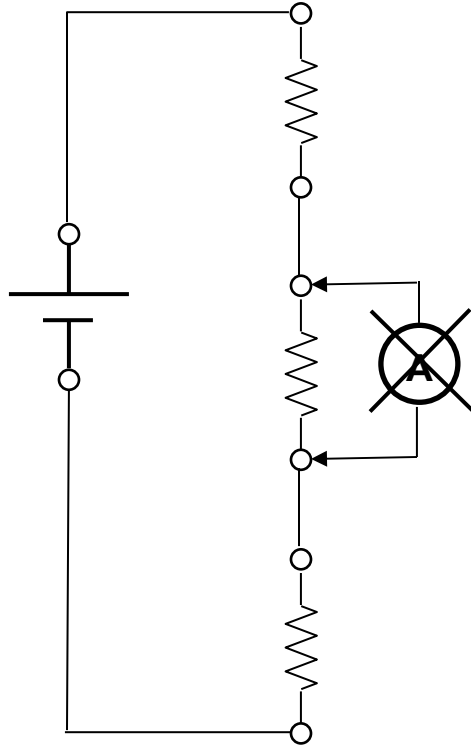
Voltmeter in Series
Prohibited



Voltmeter in Parallel
OKAY



Ammeter in Parallel
Prohibited



Change to Units (Amps, Volts, Watts)

From	To Units	
Milli	÷ 1000	10^{-3}
Micro	÷ 1,000,000	10^{-6}
Kilo	x 1000	10^3
Mega	x 1,000,000	10^6

Change from Units to Multiples

To		
Milli	x 1000	10^3
Micro	x 1,000,000	10^6
Kilo	÷ 1000	10^{-3}
Mega	÷ 1,000,000	10^{-6}