Centre Universitaire Mila

Département des Sciences et Techniques

Spécialités: Génie Mécanique / Electromécanique

Module : Anglais technique et terminologie

Lecture 03

In 1862, George Simon Ohm, a German scientist, first established reliable and experimentally proved facts about electricity. He found that the electric charge displacement from one end of a conductor to another depends of three values; Electromotive force, current and resistance. Ohm formulated the relation between these parameters by what we call Ohm's law.



excess of electrons

deficiency of electrons

The Electromotive force, usually abbreviated *EMF*, also called voltage, is the force or pressure that moves electrons through the conductor. The **EMF** is due to the excess of electrons at one end of the conductor with respect to the other, as illustrated in the figure above. Thus, the greater this excess the greater is the EMF. The EMF unit is Volt (V).

Metals like gold, silver, copper or aluminum have very low **specific resistance**, or **resistivity**; therefore, they are **good conductors**. The resistance of any conductor depends on the resistivity, conductor length and its cross-section area.

Sometimes, the temperature effects is also taken into account

The **flow** of **electrons** from one end of the **conductor** constitutes an **electric current**. On their way, some of them **collide** with **atoms** that oppose them a certain resistance called **electric resistance**. The **greater** the **number of free electrons** in the conductor, **the lower** is its **resistance**.

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The current intensity, strength or amount of current represents the charge quantity flowing through the cross-section of the conductor per unit of time. This intensity depends upon the potential difference and the conductor resistance as follows:

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

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