

Lecture 2: August 29th, 2001

Electrical Quantities

A) Current

B) Voltage

C) Power

Reading:

Schwarz and Oldham 1.1

Summary

- Charge on an electron is -1.6×10^{-19} Coulombs
- Current is charge per unit time = (charge per particle) x (number of particles in motion) x (velocity)
- Current flows in a closed loop
- Voltage is the potential energy per unit charge
- Labeling convention $V_{AB} = V_A - V_B$
- One node can be chosen as a reference with voltage of zero
- Energy is $E_{AB} = V_A Q - V_B Q = V_{AB} Q$ where Q is the charge
- Power is the time rate of change of energy
- Resistance is voltage divided by current