Lecture One
Basic Concepts and Units

1.1 Introduction

The study of an electrical engineering involves the analysis of the energy transfer from one point to another. So before beginning the actual study of an electrical engineering, it is necessary to understand some important fundamentals about the basic elements of an electrical engineering such as electromotive force, current, voltage, resistance etc. Practically, electrical system is related with number of other types of systems such as mechanical, thermal etc. Therefore, in this lecture we are going to study the basic concepts and review the International System (SI units) of measurement of different quantities such as work, power, energy etc. in various systems together with the definition of related terms.

1.2 Structure of an Atom

The structure of matter plays an important role in the understanding of fundamentals of electricity. Basically an atom represents the basic element in the structure of the matter. The atom is composed of three fundamental particles: neutron, proton and the electron.

Fundamental particles of matter	Symbol	Nature of charge possessed	Mass in Kg.
Neutron	n	0	1.675×10^{-27}
proton	p+	+	1.675×10^{-27}
electron	e⁻	-	9.107×10^{-31}

All of the protons and neutrons are bound together into a compact nucleus. Nucleus may be thought of as a central sun, about which electrons revolve in a particular fashion. The electrons are arranged in different orbits as shown in **Fig. 1.1**.
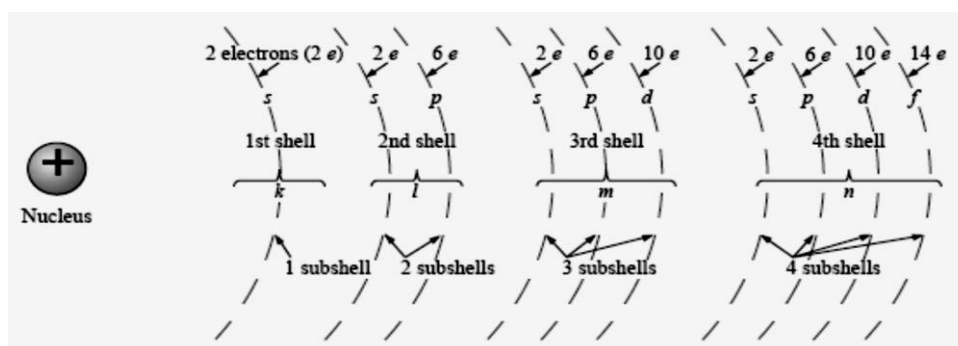
Fig. 1.1: Shells and subshells of the atomic structure.

1.3 Concept and Unit of Charge

Key Point: *Charge is an electrical property of the atomic particles of which matter consists, measured in coulombs (C).*

Table 1.2 below shows the different particles and charge possessed by them.

Table 1.2: Charge for different particles.

Particle	Charge possessed (in Coulomb)	Nature
Neutron	0	Neutral
Proton	1.602×10^{-19}	Positive
Electron	1.602×10^{-19}	Negative

It can be seen from the table above that the charge possessed by the electron is very small hence it is not convenient to take it as the unit of charge. The unit of the measurement of the charge is Coulomb, so one coulomb charge is defined as

$$1 \text{ coulomb} = \text{charge on } 6.24 \times 10^{18} \text{ electrons}$$

The charge associated with one electron can then be determined as

$$\text{Charge/electron} = \text{e} = \frac{1C}{6.24 \times 10^{18}} = 1.602 \times 10^{-19} C$$

1.4 Concept of Electromotive Force and Current

- The free electrons are responsible for the flow of electric current.

- A conductor is one which has abundant free electrons. The free electrons in such a conductor are always moving in random directions.

- The small electrical effort, externally applied to such conductor makes all the free electrons to drift along the metal in a definite particular direction. This direction depends on how the external electrical effort is applied to the conductor. Such physical phenomenon is represented in **Fig.1.2**.

Key Point: *Electromotive force (e.m.f.): The force that establishes the flow of charge (or current) in a system due to the application of a difference in potential. This term is not applied that often in today's literature.*
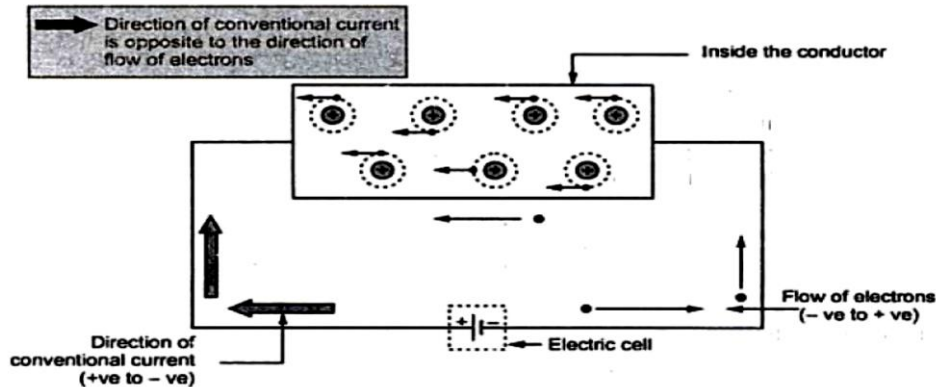
Fig. 1.2: The flow of current.

- The free electrons as are negatively charged get attracted by positive of the cell connected.

- This movement of electron is called an electric current.

- The flow of electrons is always from negative to positive while flow of current is always assumed as from positive to negative. This called direction of conventional current.

1.5 Relation between Charge and Current

The current is flow of electrons. Thus current can be measured by measuring how many electrons are passing through material per second. This can be expressed in terms of the charge carried by those electrons in the material per second.

Key Point: *Electric current is the time rate of change of charge, measured in amperes (A).*

Mathematically we can write the relation between the charge (**Q**) and the electric current (**I**) as,

$$i = \frac{dq}{dt} \tag{1.1}$$

Where current is measured in amperes (A), and

$$1 \text{ ampere} = 1 \text{ coulomb/second}$$

The charge transferred between time **t₀** and **t** is obtained by integrating both sides of **Eq. (1.1)**. We obtain

$$q = \int_{t_0}^{t} i\,dt \tag{1.2}$$

$$I = \frac{Q}{t} \quad \textbf{Ampere} \tag{1.3}$$

Where **I**: is the average current flowing; **Q**: is the total charge transferred; and **t**: is the time required for transfer of charge.

Definition of 1 Ampere: A current of 1 Ampere is said to be flowing in the conductor when a charge of one coulomb is passing any given point on it in one second.

1 Ampere current = Flow of 6.24×10^{18} electrons per second

Example 1.1: Determine the time required for 4×10^{16} electrons to pass through a surface if the current is 5 mA.

Solution: **Determine t?**

$$Q = \textbf{No. of electrons} \times \textbf{e}$$

$$Q = 4 \times 10^{16} \times 1.602 \times 10^{-19} = 0.641 \times 10^{-2} \text{ C} = 6.41 \text{mC}$$

$$t = \frac{Q}{I} = \frac{6.41 \times 10^{-3} \text{C}}{5 \times 10^{-3} \text{A}} = 1.282 \text{ s}$$

1.5.1 Electron Drift Velocity and Velocity of Charge

A speed with which charge drifts in a conductor is called the velocity of charge. Since current is the rate of flow of charge, it is given as

$$i = \frac{dq}{dt} = \frac{\textbf{nAe v dt}}{\textbf{dt}} \qquad \therefore \qquad \textbf{I = nAev} \qquad (1.4)$$

Where **n**: is the number of free electrons available per m³ of the conductor material; v: is the drift velocity m/s; **A**: is the cross-section area of the conductor; **e**: is the electron's charge.

The speed with which charge drifts in a conductor is called the *velocity of charge*.

Let the Current density **J** (current per unit area), then   **J = I/A = nev**   A/m²

Example 1.2: A conductor material has a free-electron density of 10^{24} electrons/m³. When a voltage is applied, a constant drift velocity of 1.5×10^{-2} m/s is attained by the electrons. If the cross-sectional area of the material is 1 cm², calculate the magnitude of the current.

Solution: The magnitude of the current is   **I = nAev**

Here, **n =10^{24} electrons/m³; A = 1 cm² = 10^{-4} m²; v = 1.5 $\times 10^{-2}$ m/s; e = 1.6 $\times 10^{-19}$ C;**

∴ I =$10^{24} \times 10^{-4} \times 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \times 1.5 \times 10^{-2}$ = 0.24 A

Example 1.3: Find the velocity of charge leading to 1 A current which flows in a copper conductor of cross-section 1 cm^2 and length 10 km. Free electron density of copper $= 8.5 \times 10^{28}$ per m^3. How many years the electric charge will take to travel from one end of the conductor to the other?

Solution: I = neAv or v = I/neA

$\therefore$ **v = 1/(8.5×10^{28}×1.6 ×10^{-19} × 1×10^{-4}) = 7.35×10^{-7} m/s = 0.735 µm/s**

Time taken by the charge to travel conductor length of 10 km is

t = distance/ velocity = 10×10^3 /7.35×10^{-7} = 1.36×10^{10} s

Now, 1 year = 365 × 24 × 3600 = 31,536,000 s

t = 1.36 × 10^{10} /31,536,000 = 431 years

1.6 Concept of Electric Potential and Potential Difference

Key Point: *potential is the energy required to move a unit charge through an element, measured in volts (V).*

The electric potential at point due to a charge is one volt if one joule of work is done in moving a unit positive charge. Mathematically it is expressed as

$$\text{Eledrical Potential} = \text{work done/charge} = dw/dq = W/Q \tag{1.5}$$

$$1 \text{ volt} = 1 \text{ joule/coulomb} = 1 \text{ newton·meter/coulomb}$$

In electric circuit, flow of current is always from higher electric potential to lower electric potential. So we can define potential difference as below:

Key Point: *the difference between the electric potential at any two given points in a circuit is known as potential difference (p.d.) and measured in volts (V).*

Thus, when two points have different potential, the electric current flows from higher potential to lower potential i.e. the electrons start flowing from lower potential to higher potential. No current can flow if the potential difference between the two points is zero.

1.7 Resistance

When the electrons begins flow in the metal. The ions get formed which are charged particles as discussed earlier. Now free electrons are moving in specific direction when connected to external source of **e.m.f.** So such ions always become obstruction for the flowing electrons. So there is collision between ions and free flowing electrons. This not only reduces the speed of

electrons but also produced the heat (increases the metal temperature) and reduces the flow of current. Thus the material opposes the flow of current.

> **Key Point**: *This property of an electric current circuit tending to prevent the flow of current and at the same time causes electrical energy to be converted to heat is called resistance.*

The resistance is denoted by the symbol '***R***' and is measured in ohm symbolically represented as Ω. We can define unit ohm as below.

> **Key Point:** *1 Ohm: Is the resistance of a circuit, when a current of 1 Ampere generates the heat at the rate of one joules per second.*

1.7.1 Factors Affecting the Resistance (***R***)

1. Length of the material: It varies directly as its length, ***l***.

2. Cross-section area: It varies inversely as the cross-section area of the conductor, ***A***.

3. The type and nature of the material.

4. Temperature: The temperature of the material affects the value of the resistance.

So for a certain material at a certain temperature we can write a mathematical expression as,

$$R = \frac{\rho l}{A} \tag{1.6}$$

Where ***l***: is the length in metres; ***A***: is the cross-sectional area in square meters; ***ρ***: is the resistivity in Ω·m; and ***R***: is the resistance in ohms.

1.8 Resistivity and Conductivity

The *resistivity* or *specific resistance* of a material depends on nature of material and denoted by ***ρ*** (rho). From the **eq. (1.6)** of resistance it can be expressed as,

$$\rho = \frac{RA}{l} \quad i.e. \quad \frac{\Omega \cdot m^2}{m} = \Omega \cdot m \tag{1.7}$$

Definition: The resistance of the material having unit length and unit cross-sectional area is known as its specific resistance or resistivity.

Table 1.3 gives the values of resistivity of few common materials.

Table 1.3 Resistivities and temperature coefficients.

Material	Resistivity in Ω·m at 20º (×10⁻⁸)	Temperature coefficient at 20º (×10⁻⁴)
Aluminum, commercial	2.8	40.3
Brass	6-8	20
Carbon	3000-7000	-5
Lead	22	
Copper (annealed)	1.73	39.3
German silver (84% Cu; 12% Ni; 4% Zn)	20.2	2.7
Gold	2.44	36.5
Iron	9.8	65
Manganin (84% Cu; 12% Mn; 4% Ni)	44-48	0.15
Mercury	95.8	8.9
Nichrome (60% Cu; 25% Fe; 15% Cr)	108.5	1.5
nickel	7.8	54
platinum	9-15.5	36.7
silver	1.64	38
tungsten	5.5	47
Amber	5×10^{14}	
bakelite	10^{10}	
Glass	10^{10}-10^{12}	
Mica	10^{15}	
Rubber	10^{16}	

1.8.1 Conductance (G)

The *conductance* of any material is reciprocal of its resistance and ill denoted as **G**. It is the indication of ease with which current can flow through the material. It is measured in **Siemens (S)**.

So
$$G = \frac{1}{R} = \frac{A}{\rho l} = \frac{1}{\rho}\left(\frac{A}{l}\right) = \sigma \left(\frac{A}{l}\right) \tag{1.8}$$

1.8.2 Conductivity

The quantity (**1/ρ**) is called *conductivity* denoted as **σ** (**sigma**). Thus the conductivity is the reciprocal of resistivity. It is measured in **Siemens/m (S/m)**.

Key Point: *A material having highest value of conductivity is the best conductor while with poorest value of conductivity is the best insulator.*

Example 1.4: The resistance of copper wire 25 m long is found to be 50 Ω. If its diameter is 1mm, calculate the resistivity of copper

Solution: l**= 25 m,** $\qquad$ **d = l mm,** $\qquad$ **R =50Ω**

$$A = (\pi/4)\times d^2 = (\pi/4)\times(1\times10^{-3})^2 = 0.7853 \text{ mm}^2$$

$$\rho = \frac{RA}{l} = \frac{50\times0.7853\times10^{-6}}{25} = 1.57 \text{ μΩ·m}$$

Example 1.5: A silver wire has resistance of 2.5 Ω. What will be the resistance of a manganin wire having a diameter, half of the silver wire and length one third? The specific resistance of manganin is 30 times that of silver.

Solution: R_s **= silver resistance= 2.5 Ω,** $\quad$ d_m**= manganin diameter = $d_s/2$**

$\qquad$ l_m**= manganin length=$l_s/3$,** $\qquad$ ρ_m**= manganin specific resistance = 30 ρ_s**

**Now the area of cross section for silver $A_s = (\pi/4)\times d_s^2$**

$$R_s = \frac{\rho_s l_s}{A_s} = \frac{\rho_s l_s}{\frac{\pi}{4}\times(d_s)^2} = 2.5$$

$$R_m = \frac{\rho_m l_m}{A_m} = \frac{30\rho_s\times\left(\frac{l_s}{3}\right)}{\frac{\pi}{4}(d_m)^2} = \frac{10\rho_s l_s}{\frac{\pi}{4}\left(\frac{d_s}{2}\right)^2}$$

$$= 40 \frac{\rho_s l_s}{\frac{\pi}{4}(d_s)^2} = 40 R_s = 100 \text{ Ω} \qquad \textbf{Resistance of manganin}$$

1.9 Effect of Temperature on Resistance

The resistance of the material affected as temperature of a material change. As example, Atomic structure theory says that under normal temperature when the metal is subjected to potential difference, ions i.e. unmovable charged particles get formed inside the metal. The electrons which are moving randomly get aligned in a particular direction as shown in the **Fig. 1.3**. If temperature increases, the ions gain energy and start oscillating about their mean position
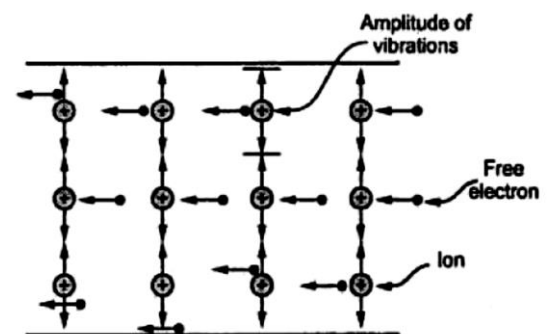
Fig. 1.3: Vibrating ions in conductor.

and cause collision and obstruction to the flowing electrons. Due to collision and obstruction due to higher amplitude of oscillations of ions, the resistance of material increases as temperature increases. But this is not true for all materials. In some cases the resistance decreases as temperature increase.

1.9.1 Effect of Temperature on Metals

The resistance of all the pure metals like copper, iron, tungsten etc. increases linearly with temperature. This is shown in the **Fig. 1.4**.

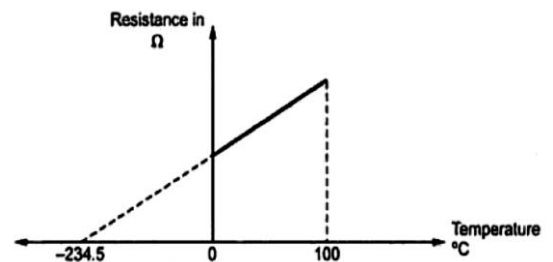**For good conductors, an increase in temperature will result in an increase in the resistance level. Consequently, conductors have a positive temperature coefficient.**

Fig. 1.4: Effect of temperature on metals.
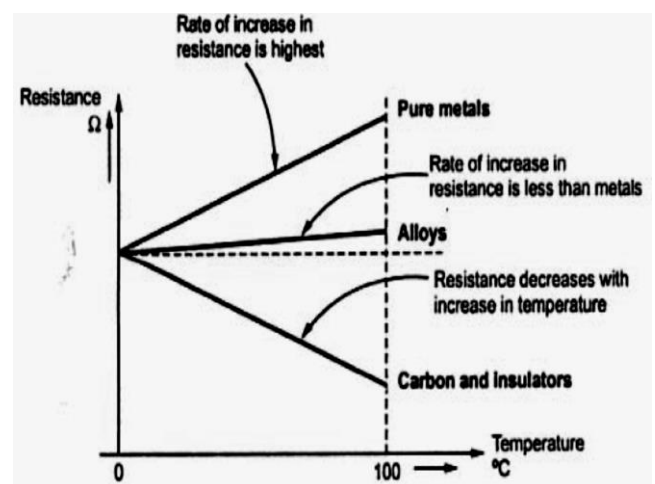
1.9.2 Effect of Temperature on Carbon and Insulator

The effect of temperature on carbon and insulators is exactly opposite to that of pure metals. Resistance of carbon and insulators decreases as the temperature increase. The result is a negative temperature coefficient.

1.9.3 Effect of Temperature on Alloys

The resistance of alloys increase as the temperature increase but rate of increase is not significant. In fact, some of alloys show almost no change in resistance for considerable change in the temperature like Manganin (alloy of copper, manganese and nickel), Eureka (alloy of copper and nickel) etc. Due to this property alloys are used to manufacture the resistance boxes. **Fig.1.5** shows the effect of temperature on metals, insulating materials and alloys.

Fig. 1.5: Effect of temperature on resistance.

1.9.4 Effect of Temperature on Semiconductors

The materials having conductivity between that of metals and insulators are called semiconductors such as silicon, germanium etc. At absolute zero temperature, the semiconductors behave as perfect insulators.

For semiconductor materials, an increase in temperature will result in a decrease in the resistance level. Consequently, semiconductors have negative temperature coefficients.

Fig. 1.6: Effect of temperature on semiconductor.

The thermistor and photoconductive cell are excellent examples of semiconductor devices with negative temperature coefficients.
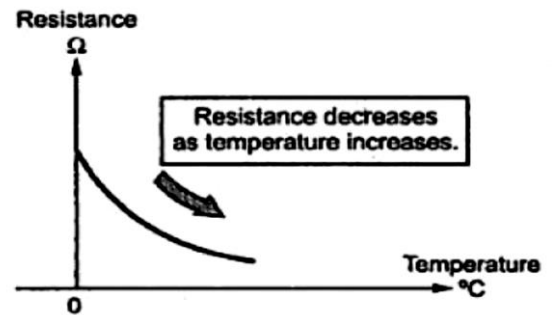
1.10 Resistance Temperature Coefficient (R.T.C.)

From the discussion up till now we can conclude that the change in resistance is,

1) Directly proportional to the initial resistance.

2) Directly proportional to the change in temperature.

3) Depends on the nature of the material whether it is a conductor, alloy or insulator.

Fig. 1.7: Resistance vs. temperature.

Let us consider a conductor, the resistance of which increases with temperature linearly.

Let R_0= Initial resistance at 0 C^o, R_1= Resistance at t_1 C^o, R_2=Resistance at t_2 C^o

As shown in the **Fig. 1.7**. $R_2 > R_1 > R_0$

Definition of R.T.C.: The resistance temperature coefficient at **t** C^o is the ratio of change in resistance per degree Celsius to the resistance at **t** C^o. the unit of **R. T.C.** is 1/C^o.

From the **Fig. 1.7**, change in resistance = R_2-R_1,   change in temperature = t_2-t_1

$$\text{change in resistance per C}^o = \frac{\Delta R}{\Delta t} = \frac{R_2 - R_1}{t_2 - t_1} = \text{the slope of graph}$$

Hence according to the definition of **R.T.C.** we can write α_1 at t_1 C^o as,

$$\alpha_1 = \frac{change\ in\ resistance\ per\ C^o}{resistance\ at\ t_1\ C^o} = \frac{\left(R_2 - R_1 / t_2 - t_1\right)}{R_1}$$

1.10.1 Use of R.T.C. In Calculating Resistance at t C°

Let $\quad$ $α_0$= R.T.C. at 0 C°, $\quad$ R_0 =Resistance at 0 C°, $\quad$ R_t = Resistance at t C°

Then $\quad$ $$α_0 = \frac{\left(R_t - R_0 / t - 0\right)}{R_0} = \frac{R_t - R_0}{tR_0} \implies R_t = R_0 (1+α_0 t)$$ $\qquad$ (1.9)

In general, above result can be expressed as

$$R_{final} = R_{initial} [1+ α_{initial} Δt] \qquad (1.10)$$

1.10.2 Effect of Temperature on R.T.C.

From the above discussion, it is clear that the value of **R.T.C.** also changes with the temperature. As the temperature increases, its value decreases. For any metal its value is maximize at 0 C°.

If starting temperature is t_1 = 0 C° and a at t C° i.e. $α_t$ is required then we can write,

$$α_t = \frac{α_0}{1 + α_0(t - 0)} = \frac{α_0}{1 + α_0 t} \qquad (1.11)$$

1.10.3 Effect of Temperature on Resistivity

Similar to the resistance, the specific resistance or resistivity is a function of temperature. So similar to resistance temperature coefficient we can define temperature coefficient of resistivity as fractional change in resistivity per degree centigrade change in temperature from the given reference temperature.

if $\quad$ $ρ_1$= resistivity at t_1 C°, $\quad$ $ρ_2$= resistivity at t_2 C°

Then temperature coefficient of resistivity $α$ at t_1 C° can be defined as,

$$α_{t1} = \frac{(ρ_2 - ρ_1)/(t_2 - t_1)}{ρ_1} \qquad (1.12)$$

Similarly we can write the expression for resistivity at time t C° as,

$$ρ_t = ρ_0 (1+ α_0 t)$$

$$ρ_{t2} = ρ_{t1} [1+ α_{t1} (t_2 - t_1)] \qquad (1.13)$$

Example 1.6: A certain winding made up of copper has a resistance of 100 Ω at room temperature. If resistance temperature coefficient of copper at 0 C° is 0.00428/C°, calculate the winding resistance if temperature is increased to 50 C°. Assume room temperature as 25 C°.

Solution: $t_1 = 25C°$, $R_1 = 100 \ \Omega$, $t_2 = 50 \ C°$, $\alpha_0 = 0.00428/C°$

Now
$$\alpha_t = \frac{\alpha_0}{1 + \alpha_0 t}$$

$$\alpha_1 = \frac{\alpha_0}{1 + \alpha_0 t_1} = \frac{0.00428}{1 + 0.00428 \times 25} = 0.003866/C^o$$

Use $\quad R_2 = R_1 \left[1 + \alpha_1 (t_2 - t_1) \right] = 100[1 + 0.003866(50-25)]$

$$= 109.6657 \ \Omega \qquad \textbf{resistance at 50 C°}$$

Example 1.7: A specimen of copper has a resistivity (**ρ**) and a temperature coefficient of 1.6×10^{-6} ohm-cm at 0 C° and 1/254.5 at 20 C° respectively. Find both of them at 60 C°.

Solution: $\rho_0 = 1.6 \times 10^{-6}$ **ohm-cm** $= 1.6 \times 10^{-8}$ **ohm-m,** $\quad \alpha_1 = \dfrac{1}{254.5} \ /C^o \quad$ **at 20 C°**

Now
$$\alpha_t = \frac{\alpha_0}{1 + \alpha_0 t} \qquad \alpha_1 = \frac{\alpha_0}{1 + \alpha_0 \times 20}$$

$$\frac{1}{254.5} = \frac{\alpha_0}{1 + 20\alpha_0} \qquad \Rightarrow \qquad 1 + 20\alpha_0 = 254.5 \ \alpha_0$$

$$\alpha_0 = \frac{1}{234.5} \ /C^o \quad \textbf{at 0 C°}$$

$$\alpha_{60} = \frac{\alpha_0}{1 + \alpha_0 \times 60} = \frac{1/234.5}{1 + 60/234.5} = \frac{1}{294.5} \ /C^o$$

$$\rho_t = \rho_0 (1 + \alpha_0 t)$$

$$\rho_{60} = 1.6 \times 10^{-8} \left(1 + \frac{1}{234.5} \times 60 \right) = 2 \times 10^{-8} \ \Omega \cdot m$$

1.10.4 R.T.C. of Composite Conductor

In many practical cases, it is necessary to manufacture conductors using two different types of materials, to achieve special requirements. Such a composite conductor is shown in the **Fig. 1.8**.
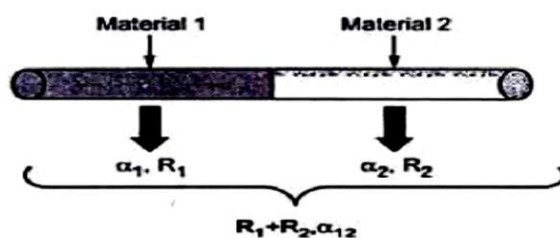

Fig. 1.8: Composite conductors.

The material 1 has **R.T.C. α_1** and its contribution in composite conductor is **R_1**.

The material 2 has **R.T.C. α_2** and its contribution in composite conductor is **R_2**.

The combined composite conductor has resistance **R_1+R_2** while it's **R.T.C.** is neither **α_1** nor **α_2** but it is **α_{12}**, different than **α_1** and **α_2**.

R_1= resistance of material 1 at t_1 C°, R_2= resistance of material 2 at t_1 C°

R_{1t}= resistance of material 1 at t_2 C°, R_{2t}= resistance of material 2 at t_2 C°

R_{12}= resistance composite of material at t_1 C°

R_{12t}= resistance composite of material at t_2 C°

R_{1t}= R_1 [1+α_1 (t_2-t_1)], R_{2t}= R2 [1+α2 (t_2-t_1)], R_{12t}= R_{12} [1+α_{12} (t_2-t_1)]

R_{12}= R_1+R_2, R_{12t}= R_{1t}+R_{2t}

$$\alpha_{12} = \frac{R_1\alpha_1 + R_2\alpha_2}{R_1 + R_2}$$

(1.14)

Thus **α_{12}** which is **R.T.C.** of composite conductor can be obtained at **t_1** C°. once this is known, **α_{12}** at any other temperature can be obtained as,

$$\alpha_{12t} = \frac{\alpha_{12}}{1 + \alpha_{12}\Delta t} \quad where\ \Delta t\ is\ temperature\ rise$$

(1.15)

$$\frac{R_2}{R_1} = \frac{\alpha_1 - \alpha_{12}}{\alpha_{12} + \alpha_2}$$

(1.16)

Example 1.8: Two coils A and B have resistances 100 Ω and 150 Ω respectively at 0 Cᵒ are connected in series. Coil A has resistance temperature coefficient of 0.0038 /Cᵒ while B has 0.0018 /Cᵒ. Find the resistance temperature coefficient of the series combination at 0 Cᵒ.

Solution: $(R_A)_0$=100 Ω, α_{A0}= 0.0038 /Cᵒ, $(R_B)_0$=150 Ω, α_{B0}= 0.0038 /Cᵒ

At 0 'C, the series combination is $(R_{AB})_0$ =**R_A + R_B= 100 + 150= 250 Ω**

Now $\qquad\qquad$ **$(R_{AB})_t$= (R_{AB})= $[1+\alpha_{AB0}\ t]$**

α_{AB} is resistance temperature coefficient of series combination,

Now $\quad$ **$(R_A)_t$= $(R_A)_0$ $[1+ \alpha_{A0}\ t]$ and $\quad$ $(R_B)_t$= $(R_B)_0$ $[1+ \alpha_{B0}\ t]$**

$\qquad$ **$(R_{AB})_t$ = $(R_A)t$+$(R_B)_t$ = $(R=)_0$ $[1+ \alpha_{A0}\ t]$ + $(R_B)_t$= $(R_B)_0$ $[1+ \alpha_{B0}\ t]$**

Substituting in above, **α_{AB0} = 0.0026 /Cᵒ**

1.11 Fundamental Quantities and Units

Scientists and engineers know that the terms they use, the quantities they measure must all be defined precisely. Such precise and standard measurements can be specified only if there is common system of indication of such measurements. This common system of unit is called **'SI'** system i.e. International System of Units. The SI system is divided into six base units and two supplementary units. The six fundamental or base units are length, mass, time, electric current, temperature, amount of substance and luminous intensity, see **Table 1.4**. The two supplementary units are plane angle and solid angle. All other units are derived which are obtained from the above two classes of units. The derived units are classified into three main groups.

1. Mechanical units, 2. Electrical units, 3. Heat units

Table 1.4: SI base units.

Quantity	unit	Symbol
Length	meter	m
Mass	kilogram	kg
Time	second	s
Electric current	ampere	A
Thermodynamic temperature	kelvin	K
Luminous intensity	candela	cd

1.11.1 Multiples and sub-multiples

One great advantage of the SI unit is that it uses prefixes based on the power of 10 to relate larger and smaller units to the basic unit. **Table 1.5** shows the **SI** prefixes and their symbols. For example, the following are expressions of the same distance in meters (m): 600,000,000 mm = 600,000 m = 600 km.

Table 1.5: SI prefixes.

Multiplier	Prefix	Symbol
10^{18}	exa	E
10^{15}	peta	P
10^{12}	tera	T
10^{9}	giga	G
10^{6}	mega	M
10^{3}	kilo	k
10^{2}	hecto	h
10	deka	da
10^{-1}	deci	d
10^{-2}	centi	c
10^{-3}	milli	m
10^{-6}	micro	μ
10^{-9}	nano	n
10^{-12}	pico	p
10^{-15}	femto	f
10^{-18}	atto	a

1.11.2 Electrical Units

The various electrical units are,

1. Electrical work: In an electric circuit, movement of electrons i.e. transfers of charge is an electric current. The electrical work is done when there is a transfer of charge. The unit of such work is Joule.

So if V is potential difference in volts and Q is charge in coulombs then we can write,

Electrical work = **W = V × Q   J**   But   **I = Q/t**,

$$\textbf{W = V.I.t   J}\qquad\text{where }\textbf{t = time in second}\tag{1.17}$$

2. Electrical power: The rate at which electrical work is done in an electric circuit is called an electrical power.

Electrical power   = **P = electrical work / time = W / t = V.I.t / t**

$$\textbf{P = V.I}\qquad\textbf{J/sec i.e. watts}\tag{1.18}$$

Thus power consumed in an electric circuit is 1 wall if the potential difference of 1 volt applied across the circuit causes 1 ampere current to flow through it.

3. Electrical energy: An electrical energy is the total amount of electrical work done in an electric circuit.

Electrical energy = **E = Power × Time = V.I.t   joules** (1.19)

The unit of energy is joule or watt-sec.

As watt-sec unit is very small, the electrical energy is measured in bigger units as watt-hour (**Wh**) and kilo watt-hour (**kWh**). When a power of 1 kW is utilized for 1 hour, the energy consumed is said to be **1 kWh**. This unit is called a **Unit**.

1.11.3 Efficiency

The efficiency can be defined the ratio of energy output to energy input. It can be also expressed as ratio of power output to power input. Its value is always less than 1. Higher its value, more efficient is the system of equipment. Generally it is expressed in percentage, its symbol **η**.

$$
\begin{aligned}
\textbf{η } \% &= \quad \text{Energy output/ Energy input} \times 100 \\
&= \quad \text{Power output/ Power input} \times 100
\end{aligned}
$$
(1.20)