

# DC Circuits

Text sections 28.1 - 28.3

- Emf, internal resistance
- Series and parallel rules for resistors

*Practice: Chapter 28,*

*Objective Questions 2, 3, 6, 10, 14, 15*

*Conceptual Questions 2, 3, 4*

*Problems 3, 4, 9, 11, 19*

## "DC" Circuits

"Direct Current": current always flows in one direction.

(or, often: current is constant in time)

# “Electromotive force” (emf)

$\mathcal{E} \equiv$  external work per unit charge

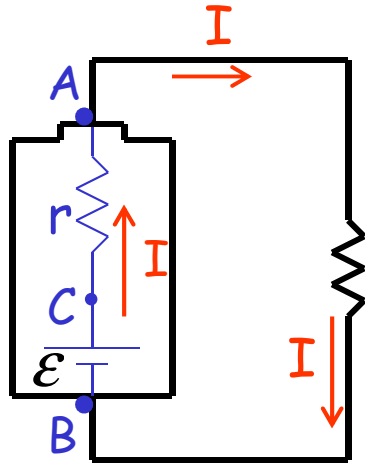
Units: J/C = volts (not actually a force)

e.g.: Battery  
(chemical energy  $\rightarrow$  electrical energy)

Generator  
(mechanical energy  $\rightarrow$  electrical energy)

Solar cell, etc.

## Model of a "Real" Battery



$\mathcal{E}$  = battery emf

$r$  = "internal resistance"

$R_L$  (external "load")

$V_A - V_B$  = "terminal voltage"  $\rightarrow$  measured

$V_C - V_B = \mathcal{E}$  (but "C" is not accessible for measurement)

And  $V_A - V_C = -I r$

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{E} - I r = V \quad (\equiv V_A - V_B)$$

"Terminal voltage"

## Quiz

For this model of a battery:

If the load resistance is decreased, then

- A) the battery terminal voltage increases
- B) the battery terminal voltage decreases
- C) the battery terminal voltage is unchanged

## Quiz

For this model of a battery:

If the load resistance is decreased, then

- A) the battery internal resistance increases
- B) the battery internal resistance decreases
- C) the battery internal resistance is unchanged

## Example

Automobile battery:  
*At terminals* { 12.8 V (with 20 A current)  
9.2 V (with 200 A current)

Find:  $\mathcal{E}$  and  $r_{\text{internal}}$  of battery

*What is the maximum current the battery can provide?*

## Notes:

i) As  $I \rightarrow 0$ ,  $V_{\text{load}} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$

ii)  $I_{\text{max}} = \mathcal{E}/r$  (when  $R_L = 0$ , a short circuit)

**Question:** How would you select a load (e.g., lightbulb) to get the maximum power output, for a given battery?



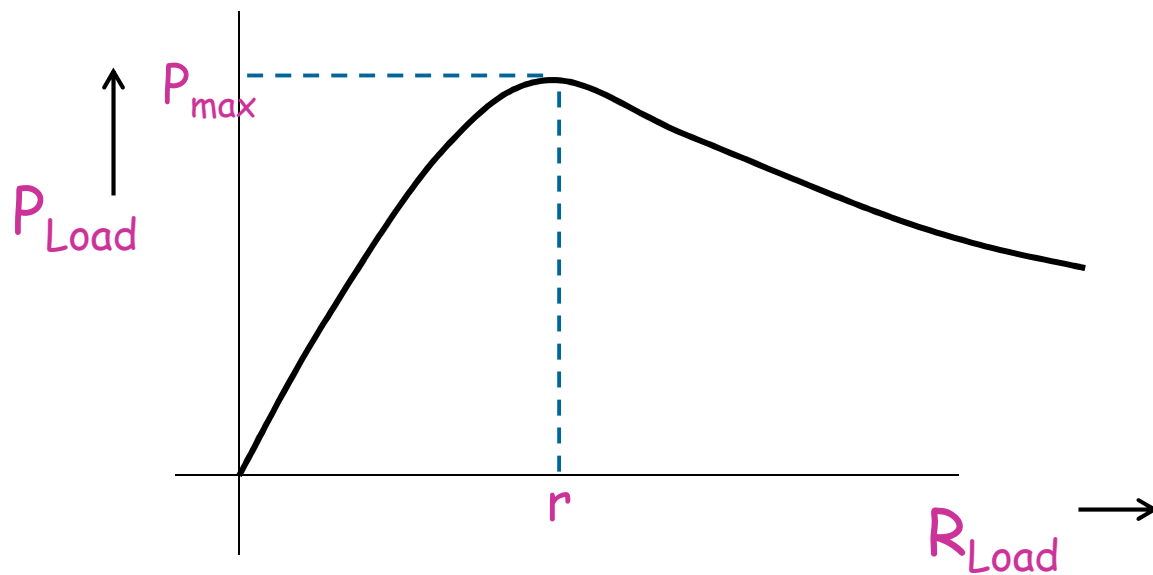
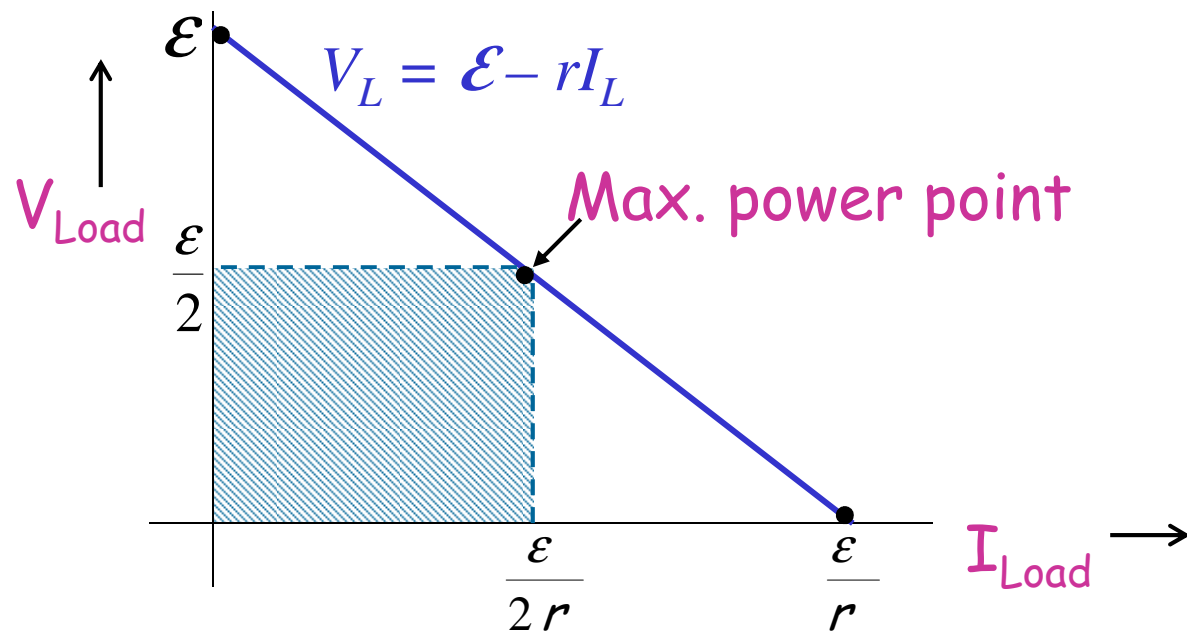
**A well-known theorem:** *Maximum power transfer is achieved when the load resistance matches the source resistance.*

$$\varepsilon - Ir = V_{\text{load}} = IR_L \longrightarrow I = \frac{\varepsilon}{r + R_L}$$

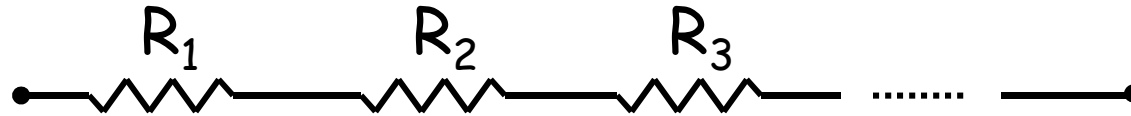
$$P_L = I^2 R_L = \varepsilon^2 \frac{R_L}{(r + R_L)^2}$$

→ Maximum load power when  $R_L = r$

Proof: Set  $\frac{dP_L}{dR_L} = 0$  and solve for  $R_L$  (*exercise*)



## Resistors in Series



- Same current through all resistors
- Voltages add:

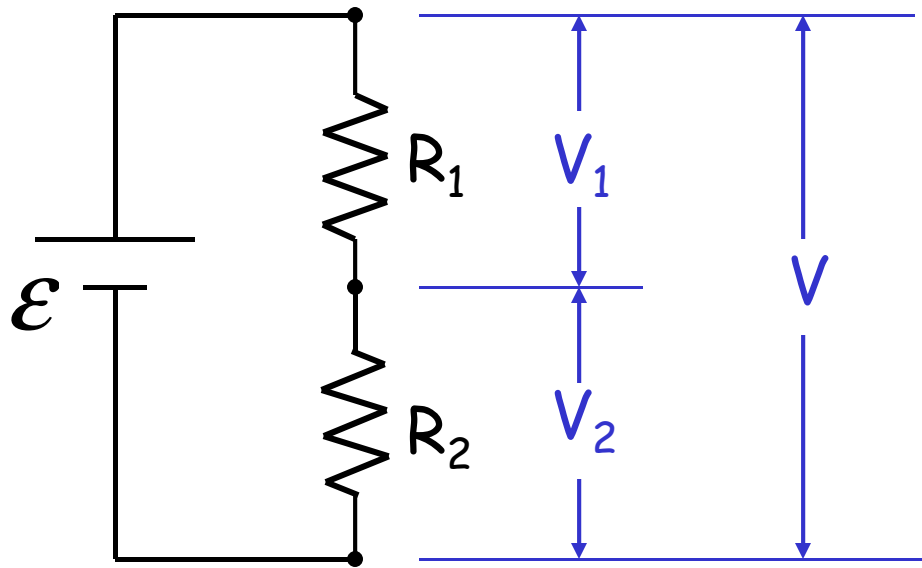
$$\Delta V = \Delta V_1 + \Delta V_2 + \Delta V_3 + \dots$$

$$\rightarrow IR_{eff} = IR_1 + IR_2 + IR_3 + \dots$$

So,

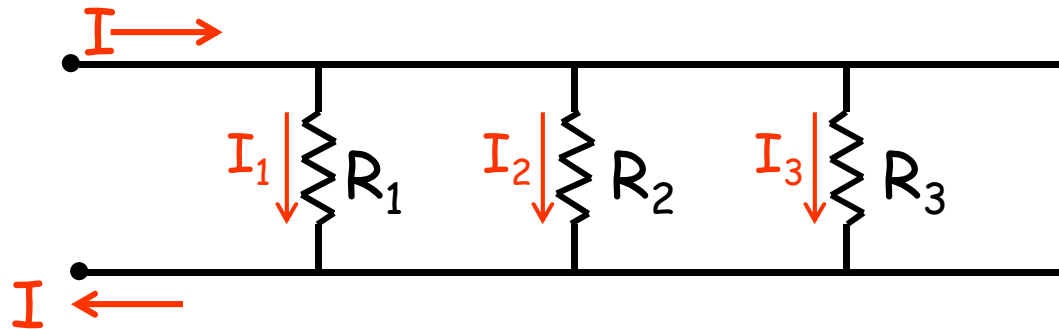
$$R_{eff} = R_1 + R_2 + R_3 + \dots$$

## Example: "Voltage Divider" Circuit



Show that  $V_1 = \left( \frac{R_1}{R_1 + R_2} \right) \times V$  and  $V_2 = \left( \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2} \right) \times V$

## Resistors in Parallel



- same voltage across each resistor
- currents add:

$$I = I_1 + I_2 + I_3 + \dots \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{\Delta V}{R_{\text{eff}}} = \frac{\Delta V}{R_1} + \frac{\Delta V}{R_2} + \frac{\Delta V}{R_3} + \dots$$

so,

$$\frac{1}{R_{\text{eff}}} = \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} + \frac{1}{R_3} + \dots$$

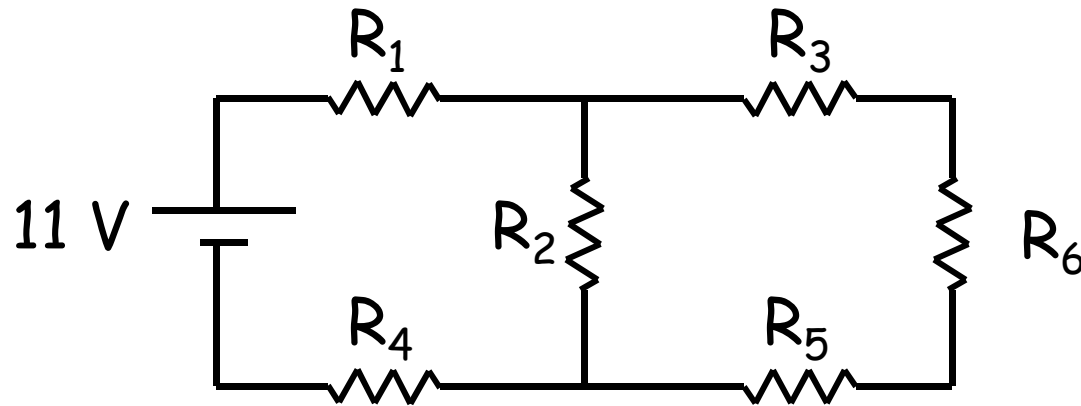
## Quiz

Resistor A and resistor B are connected in parallel across 120 volts; and resistor A dissipates twice as much power as resistor B.

If instead they are connected together in series across 120 volts, then:

- A) resistor A will dissipate more power than B
- B) resistor B will dissipate more power than A
- C) they will dissipate equal powers

## Example



All resistors =  $1 \Omega$

Find:

- Battery current and power
- Current in  $R_5$ ,  $R_2$

*Homework: Calculate the power dissipated in each resistor, and check that it adds up to the power supplied by the battery.*