# University of Alabama <br> Department of Physics and Astronomy 

## Exam 2

## Instructions

1. Solve three of the four problems below.
2. All problems have equal weight. Do your work on separate sheets.
3. You are allowed 1 sheet of standard $8.5 \times 11$ in paper and a calculator.
-1. Symbolic solution (a) Consider the "bridge" arrangement of resistors in Fig. 1a. This is an example of an arrangement which cannot be reduced to a single equivalent using only our rules for series and parallel resistance. In this circuit, what is the current through the central (horizontal) resistor? (b) In Fig. 1b, two resistors have been swapped, and the central resistor removed. What voltage does the voltmeter read in this case, in terms of the source voltage $V_{s}$ ? (You do not need to know R; think about proportions.) (c) For the circuit in Fig. 1b, what is the total current leaving the battery?


Figure 1: Problem 1

- 2. A heater coil uses a 3 m length of wire which is 1 mm diameter (approximately 18 gauge). The wire is made of copper with a resistivity of $\rho=1.6 \times 10^{-8} \Omega \cdot \mathrm{~m}$. (a) What is the resistance of the wire? The area of a circle is $\pi r^{2}=\pi d^{2} / 4$. (b) What is the current through the heater coil if it is connected to a 120 V voltage source? (c) What is the power dissipated in the heater? (d) If the density of electrons in copper is $n=8.47 \times 10^{28} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$, how long does it take a single electron to make the 3 m journey through the heater?
$\square$ 3. What is the current through the center 9 V battery in the circuit below?


Figure 2: Problem 2
$\square$ 4. Referring to the figure at left below, a black box with three terminals, $a, b$, and $c$, contains nothing but three resistors and connecting wire. You measure the resistance between pairs of terminals, $R_{a b}, R_{a c}$, and $R_{b c}$.

What resistances $R 1, R 2$, and $R 3$ for the box at right below would give the same measurements, $R_{a b}, R_{a c}$, and $R_{b c}$ ?


## Constants:

$$
\begin{aligned}
k_{e} & \equiv 1 / 4 \pi \epsilon_{o}=8.98755 \times 10^{9} \mathrm{~N} \cdot \mathrm{~m}^{2} \cdot \mathrm{C}^{-2} \\
\epsilon_{o} & =8.85 \times 10^{-12} \mathrm{C}^{2} / \mathrm{N} \cdot \mathrm{~m}^{2} \\
e & =1.60218 \times 10^{-19} \mathrm{C}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Current/resistors/circuits:

$$
\begin{aligned}
I & =\frac{\Delta Q}{\Delta t}=n q A v_{d} \\
J & =\frac{I}{A}=n q v_{d} \\
v_{d} & =-\frac{e \tau}{m} E \quad \tau=\text { scattering time } \\
\varrho & =\frac{m}{n e^{2} \tau} \\
\Delta V & =\frac{\varrho l}{A} I=R I \\
R & =\frac{\Delta V}{I}=\frac{\varrho l}{A} \\
\mathscr{P} & =I \Delta V=I^{2} R=\frac{[\Delta V]^{2}}{R} \text { power } \\
R_{\text {eq, series }} & =R_{1}+R_{2} \\
\frac{1}{R_{\text {eq, par }}} & =\frac{1}{R_{1}}+\frac{1}{R_{2}}
\end{aligned}
$$

| Unit | Symbol | equivalent to |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| newton | N | $\mathrm{kg} \cdot \mathrm{m} / \mathrm{s}^{2}$ |
| joule | J | $\mathrm{kg} \cdot \mathrm{m}^{2} / \mathrm{s}^{2}=\mathrm{N} \cdot \mathrm{m}$ |
| watt | W | $\mathrm{J} / \mathrm{s}=\mathrm{m}^{2} \cdot \mathrm{~kg} / \mathrm{s}^{3}$ |
| coulomb | C | $\mathrm{A} \cdot \mathrm{s}$ |
| amp | A | $\mathrm{C} / \mathrm{s}$ |
| volt | V | $\mathrm{W} / \mathrm{A}=\mathrm{m}^{2} \cdot \mathrm{~kg} / \cdot \mathrm{s}^{3} \cdot \mathrm{~A}$ |
| farad | F | $\mathrm{C} / \mathrm{V}=\mathrm{A}^{2} \cdot \mathrm{~s}^{4} / \mathrm{m}^{2} \cdot \mathrm{~kg}$ |
| ohm | $\Omega$ | $\mathrm{V} / \mathrm{A}=\mathrm{m}^{2} \cdot \mathrm{~kg} / \mathrm{s}^{3} \cdot \mathrm{~A}^{2}$ |
| tesla | T | $\mathrm{Wb} / \mathrm{m}^{2}=\mathrm{kg} / \mathrm{s}^{2} \cdot \mathrm{~A}$ |
| electron volt | eV | $1.6 \times 10^{-19} \mathrm{~J}$ |
| - | $1 \mathrm{~T} \cdot \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{A}$ | $1 \mathrm{~N} / \mathrm{A}^{2}$ |
| - | $1 \mathrm{~T} \cdot \mathrm{~m}^{2}$ | $1 \mathrm{~V} \cdot \mathrm{~s}$ |
| - | $1 \mathrm{~N} / \mathrm{C}$ | $1 \mathrm{~V} / \mathrm{m}$ |


| Power | Prefix | Abbreviation |
| :--- | :--- | :---: |
| $10^{-12}$ | pico | p |
| $10^{-9}$ | nano | n |
| $10^{-6}$ | micro | $\mu$ |
| $10^{-3}$ | milli | m |
| $10^{-2}$ | centi | c |
| $10^{3}$ | kilo | k |
| $10^{6}$ | mega | M |
| $10^{9}$ | giga | G |
| $10^{12}$ | tera | T |

