

## **UNIT-I-INTRODUCTION**

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#### **1. Measurement:**

- Measurement of a given quantity is essentially a ratio or result of comparison between the quantity (whose magnitude is unknown) and predetermined or predefined standards.
- Two quantities are compared the result is expressed in numerical values.

## 2. Basic requirements for a meaningful measurement:

- The standard used for comparison purposes must be accurately defined and should be commonly accepted.
- The apparatus used and the method adopted must be provable (verifiable).

## 3. Significance of Measurement

- Importance of Measurement is simply and eloquently expressed in the following statement of famous physicist Lord Kelvin: *"I often say that when you can measure what you are speaking about and can express it in numbers, you know something about it; when you cannot express it in numbers your knowledge is of a meager and unsatisfactory kind"*

## 4. Methods of Measurement

- Direct Methods
- Indirect Methods

- **DIRECT METHODS:** In these methods, the unknown quantity (called the measurand) is directly compared against a standard.

- **INDIRECT METHOD:** Measurements by direct methods are not always possible, feasible and practicable. In engineering applications measurement systems are used which require need of indirect method for measurement purposes.

## 5. Instruments and Measurement Systems

- Measurement involves the use of instruments as a physical means of determining quantities or variables.
- Because of modular nature of the elements within it, it is common to refer the measuring instrument as a MEASUREMENT SYSTEM.

## 6. Evolution of Instruments

- Mechanical
- Electrical
- Electronic Instruments.

**MECHANICAL:** These instruments are very reliable for static and stable conditions. But their disadvantage is that they are unable to respond rapidly to measurements of dynamic and transient conditions.

**ELECTRICAL:** It is faster than mechanical, indicating the output is rapid than mechanical methods. But it depends on the mechanical movement of the meters. The response is 0.5 to 24 seconds.

**ELECTRONIC:** It is more reliable than other systems. It uses semiconductor devices and weak signals can also be detected.

## 7. Classification of Instruments

- Absolute Instruments.
- Secondary Instruments.

**ABSOLUTE:** These instruments give the magnitude of the quantity under measurement in terms of physical constants of the instrument.

**SECONDARY:** These instruments are calibrated by comparison with absolute instruments which have already been calibrated.

**Further it is classified as**

- Deflection Type Instruments
- Null Type Instruments.

■ Functions of instrument and measuring system can be classified into three. They are:

- i) Indicating function.
- ii) Recording function.
- iii) Controlling function.

■ Application of measurement systems are:

- i) Monitoring of process and operation.
- ii) Control of processes and operation.
- iii) Experimental engineering analysis.

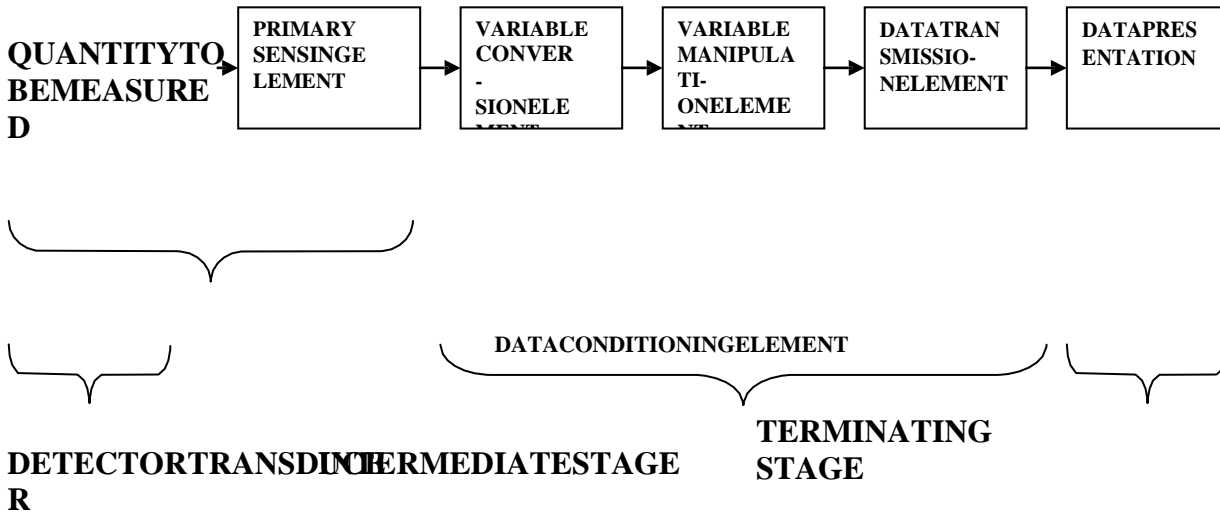
## 8. Types of Instrumentation System

- Intelligent Instrumentation (data has been refined for the purpose of presentation)
- Dumb Instrumentation (data must be processed by the observer)

## 9. Elements of Generalized Measurement System

- Primary sensing element.
- Variable conversion element.
- Data presentation element.
- PRIMARY SENSING ELEMENT: The quantity under measurement makes its first contact with the primary sensing element of a measurement system.
- VARIABLE CONVERSION ELEMENT: It converts the output of the primary sensing element into a suitable form to preserve the information content of the original signal.
- DATA PRESENTATION ELEMENT: The information about the quantity under measurement has to be conveyed to the personnel handling the instrument or the system for monitoring, control or analysis purpose.

## 10. Functional Elements of an Instrumentation System



## 11. Static Characteristics of Instruments and Measurement Systems

□ Application involved measurement of quantity that are either constant or varies slowly with time is known as static.

- Accuracy
- Drift
- Dead Zone
- Static Error
- Sensitivity
- Reproducibility

### Static Characteristics

- Static correction
- Scale range
- Scale span
- Noise
- Dead Time
- Hysteresis.
- Linearity

- **ACCURACY:** It is the closeness with an instrument reading approaches the true value of the quantity being measured.
- **TRUE VALUE:** True value of quantity may be defined as the average of an infinite number of measured values.
- **SENSITIVITY** is defined as the ratio of the magnitude of the output response to that of input response.
- **STATIC ERROR:** It is defined as the difference between the measured value and true value of the quantity.
- **Reproducibility** is specified in terms of scale readings over a given period of time.
- **Drift** is an undesirable quality in industrial instruments because it is rarely apparent and cannot be maintained. It is classified as
  - Zero drift
  - Span drift or sensitivity drift
  - Zero drift.

**Noise**

- A spurious current or voltage extraneous to the current or voltage of interest in an electrical or electronic circuit is called noise.

**12. Dynamic Characteristics of Measurement System**

- Speed of response
- Measuring lag
- Fidelity
- Dynamic error

- **SPEED OF RESPONSE:** It is defined as the rapidity with which a measurement system responds to changes in measured quantity. It is one of the dynamic characteristics of a measurement system.

**FIDELITY:** It is defined as the degree to which a measurement system indicates changes in the measured quantity without any dynamic error.

### **Dynamic Error**

It is the difference between the true value of the quantity changing with time and the value indicated by the measurement system if no static error is assumed. It is also called measurement error.

It is one of the dynamic characteristics.

### **Measuring Lag**

It is the retardation delay in the response of a measurement system to changes in the measured quantity. It is of 2 types:

■ **Retardation type:** The response begins immediately after a change in measured quantity has occurred.

■ **Time delay:** The response of the measurement system begins after a dead zone after the application of the input.

## **13. Errors in Measurement**

Limiting Errors (Guarantee Errors)

Known Error

### **Systematic Errors**

■ **INSTRUMENTAL ERROR:** These errors arise due to 3 reasons-

Due to inherent shortcomings in the instrument

Due to misuse of the instrument

Due to loading effects of the instrument

■ **ENVIRONMENTAL ERROR:** These errors are due to conditions external to the measuring device. These may be effects of temperature, pressure, humidity, dust or of external electrostatic or magnetic field.

■ **OBSERVATIONAL ERROR:** The error on account of parallax is the observational error.

## **Residual error**

This is also known as residual error. These errors are due to a multitude of small factors which change or fluctuate from one measurement to another. The happenings or disturbance about which we are unaware are lumped together and called "Random" or "Residual". Hence the errors caused by these are called random or residual errors.

## **14. Statistical evaluation of measurement data**

### **Arithmetic Mean**

The most probable value of measured variable is the arithmetic mean of the number of readings taken.

### **Deviation**

■ Deviation is departure of the observed reading from the arithmetic mean of the group of readings.

### **Standard Deviation**

The standard deviation of an infinite number of data is defined as the square root of the sum of the individual deviation squares divided by the number of readings.

### **Problem**

Question: The following 10 observations were recorded when measuring a voltage:

41.7, 42.0, 41.8, 42.0, 42.1, 41.9, 42.0, 41.9, 42.5, 41.8 volts. Calculate Mean, Standard

Deviation, Probable Error and Range.

### **Answer**

- Mean = 41.97 volt
- S.D = 0.22 volt
- Probable error = 0.15 volt
- Range = 0.8 volt.



## 15. Calibration

- Calibration of all instruments is important since it affords the opportunity to check the instruments against a known standard and subsequently to find errors and accuracy.
- Calibration Procedure involves a comparison of the particular instrument with either
  - a Primary standard
- a secondary standard with a higher accuracy than the instrument to be calibrated.
- an instrument of known accuracy.

## 16. Standards

A standard is a physical representation of a unit of measurement. The term „standard“ is applied to a piece of equipment having a known measure of physical quantity.

### Types of Standards

- International Standards (defined based on international agreement)
- Primary Standards (maintained by national standards laboratories)
- Secondary Standards (used by industrial measurement laboratories)
- Working Standards (used in general laboratory)

## Two Marks

**1. What is meant by measurement?**

Measurement is an act or the result of comparison between the quantity and a Pre-defined standard.

**2. Mention the basic requirements of measurement.**

- The standard used for comparison purpose must be accurately defined and should be commonly accepted.
- The apparatus used and the method adopted must be provable.

**3. What are the 2 methods for measurement?**

- Direct method and
- Indirect method.

**4. Explain the function of measurement system.**

The measurement system consists of a transducing element which converts the quantity to be measured in an analogous form. The analogous signal is then processed by some intermediate means and is then fed to the end device which presents the result of the measurement.

**5. Define Instrument.**

Instrument is defined as a device for determining the value or magnitude of a quantity or variable.

**6. List the types of instruments.**

- The 3 types of instruments are
- Mechanical Instruments
- Electrical Instruments and
- Electronic Instruments.

**7. Classify instruments based on their functions.**

Indicating instruments Integrating instruments Recording instruments

**8. Give the applications of measurement systems.**

- The instruments and measurement systems are used for
- Monitoring of processes and operations.

- Control of processes and operations.
- Experimental engineering analysis.

**9. Why calibration of instrument is important?**

The calibration of all instruments is important since it affords the opportunity to check the instrument against a known standard and subsequently to errors in accuracy.

**10. Explain the calibration procedure.**

Calibration procedure involves a comparison of the particular instrument with either.

- A primary standard
- A secondary standard with a higher accuracy than the instrument to be calibrated or an instrument of known accuracy.

**11. Define Calibration.**

It is the process by which comparing the instrument with a standard to correct the accuracy.

## UNIT-II-ELECTRICALANDELECTRONICINSTRUMENTS

### CONTENTS

- **AnalogInstruments**
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- **Principleofoperation**
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- **PowerMeasurementin3phase3wiresystem**
- **Twowattmetermethod**
- **Energymeters**
- **SinglePhaseEnergyMeter**
- **PolyPhaseEnergyMeter**

#### **1. AnalogInstruments**

□ An analog device is one in which the output or display is a continuous function of time and bears a constant relation to its input.

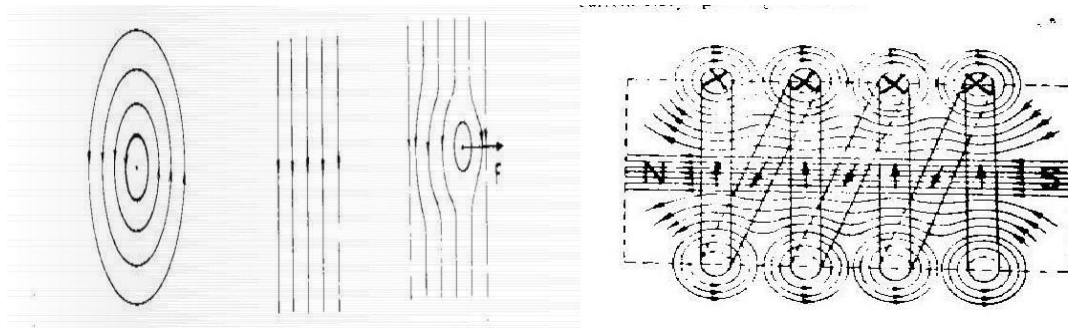
#### **2. Classification**

- Classified based upon the quantity they measure (ammeter, voltmeter)
- Classified according to the current that can be measured by them. (DC, AC)
- Classified according to the effects used for working.
- Classified as Indicating, Recording, And Integrating.
- Classified on the basis of method used for comparing the unknown quantity. (Direct/ Comparison measurement)

### 3. Principle of operation

- Magnetic Effect
- Thermal Effect
- Electrostatic Effect
- Induction Effect
- Hall Effect

### 4. Magnetic Effect



### Force between Current carrying Magnet

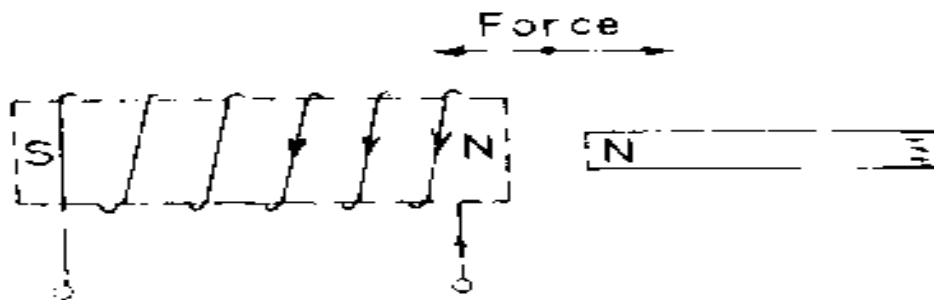


Fig. 7.3. Force between current carrying coil and magnet.

## Force between Two Current Carrying Coils

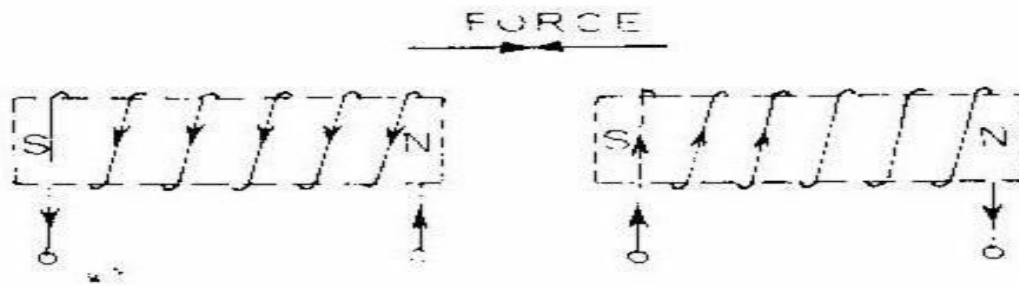
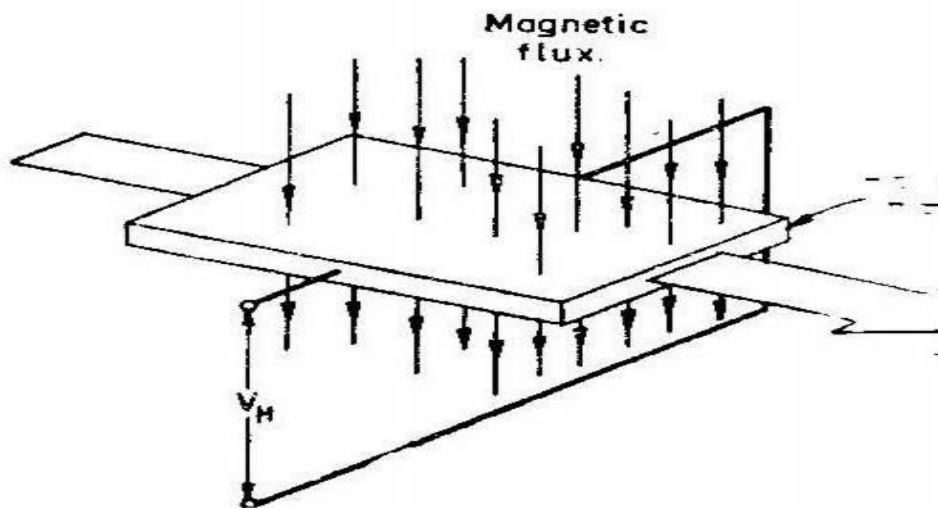


Fig. 7.4. Force between two current carrying coils.

## Hall Effects



## Operating Forces

- Deflecting Force
- Controlling Force
- Damping Force

## Supporting the moving element

- Suspension
- Taut Suspension
- Pivot and jewel bearings

## Control Systems

- Gravity Control
- Spring Control

### 5. Analog Ammeters

Ammeters are connected in series in the circuit whose current is to be measured. The power loss in an ammeter is  $I^2 R_a$ . Therefore ammeters should have a low electrical resistance so that they cause a small voltage drop and consequently absorb small power.

### 6. Analog Voltmeters

Voltmeters are connected in parallel in the circuit whose voltage is to be measured. The power loss in a voltmeter is  $V^2/R_v$ . Therefore voltmeters should have a high electrical resistance so that they cause a small voltage drop and consequently absorb small power.

## 7. Types of Instruments

- Permanent magnet moving coil (PMMC).
- Moving Iron
- Electro-dynamometer type.
- Hot wire type.
- Thermocouple type.
- Induction type.
- Electrostatic type.
- Rectifier type.

# PMMC

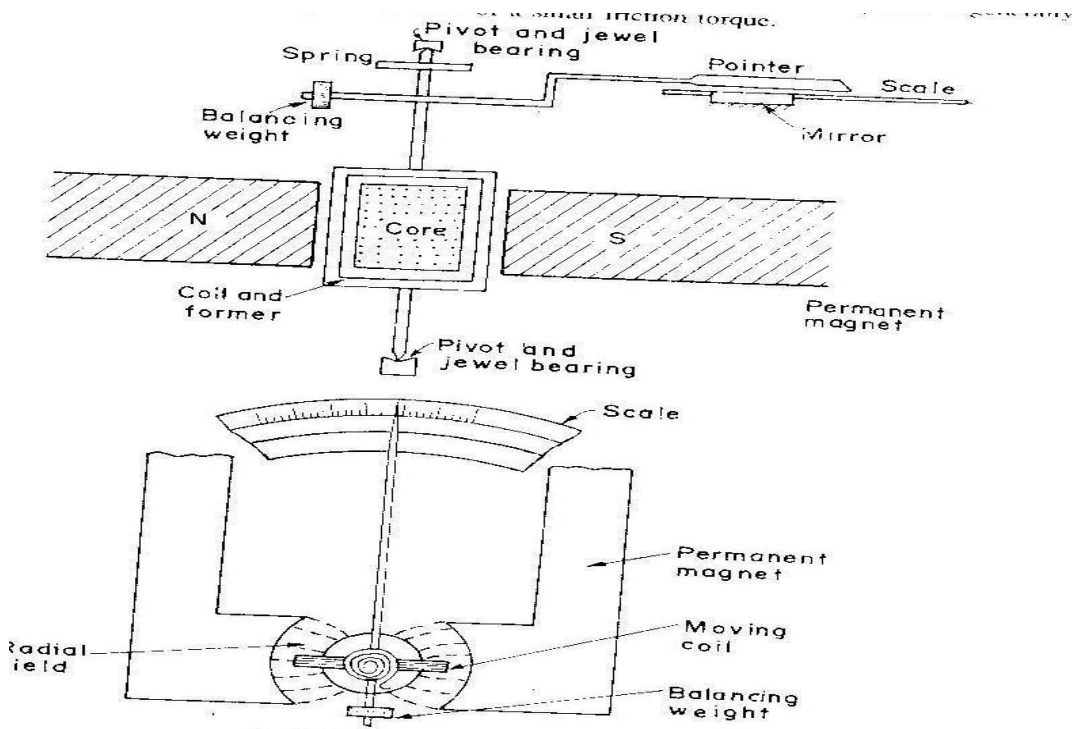


Fig. 9.1. Permanent magnet moving coil instrument.

## Moving Iron Instruments-Attraction Type

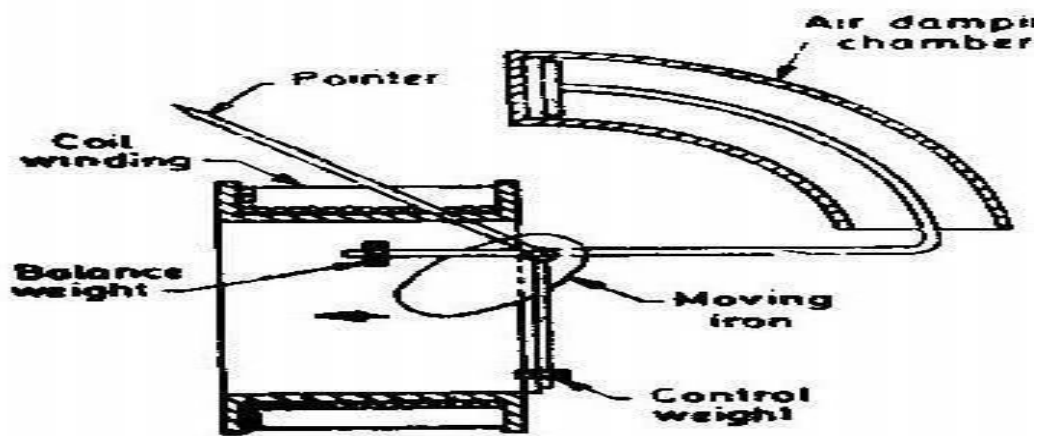


Fig. 9.24. Attraction type moving iron instrument.



## RepulsionTypeMovingIronInstruments

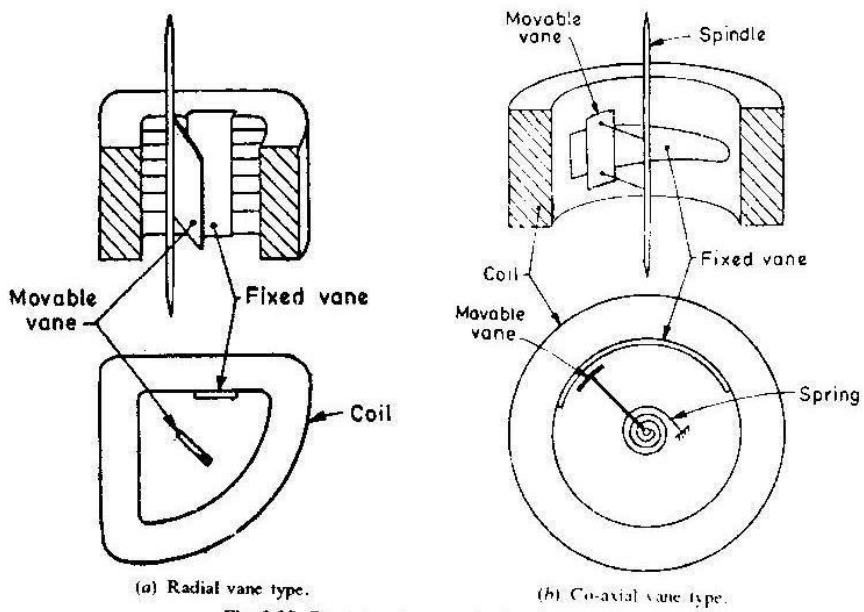
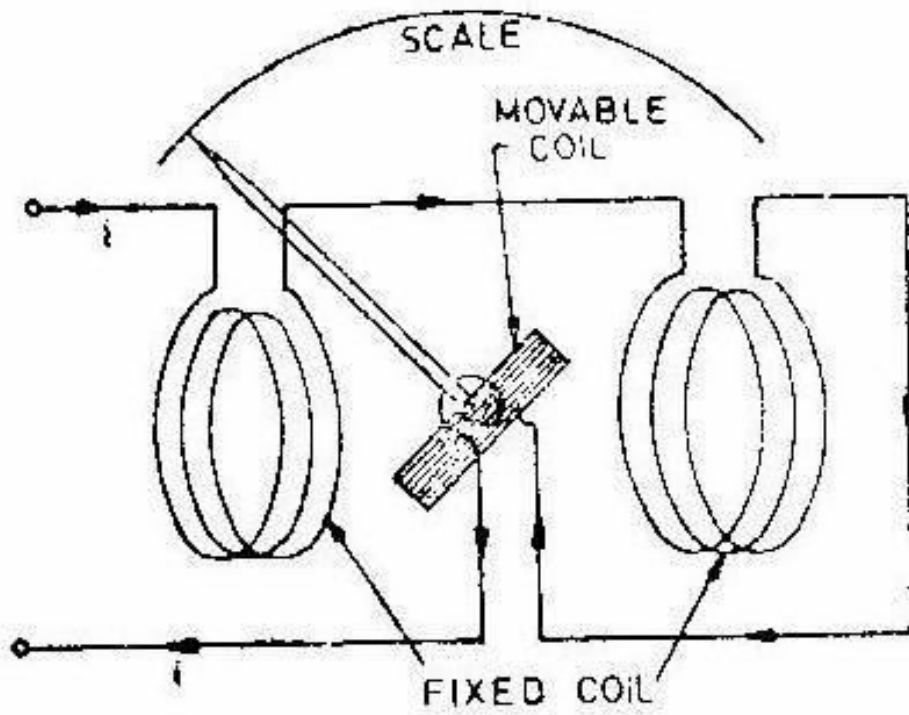


Fig. 9.25. Repulsion type moving iron instruments.

## ElectrodynamometerType



Wattmeter

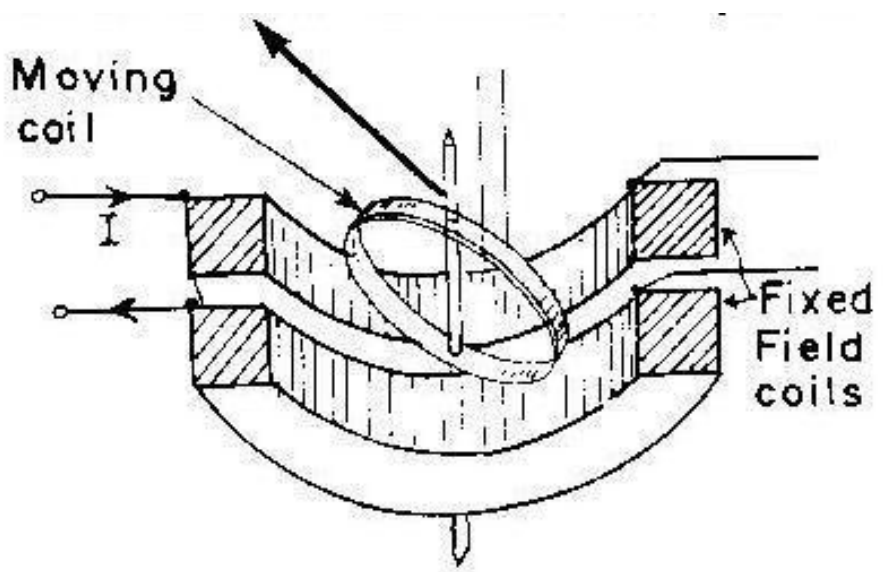


Fig. 11.2. Dynamometer wattmeter.

Power Measurement in 3 phase 3 wire system

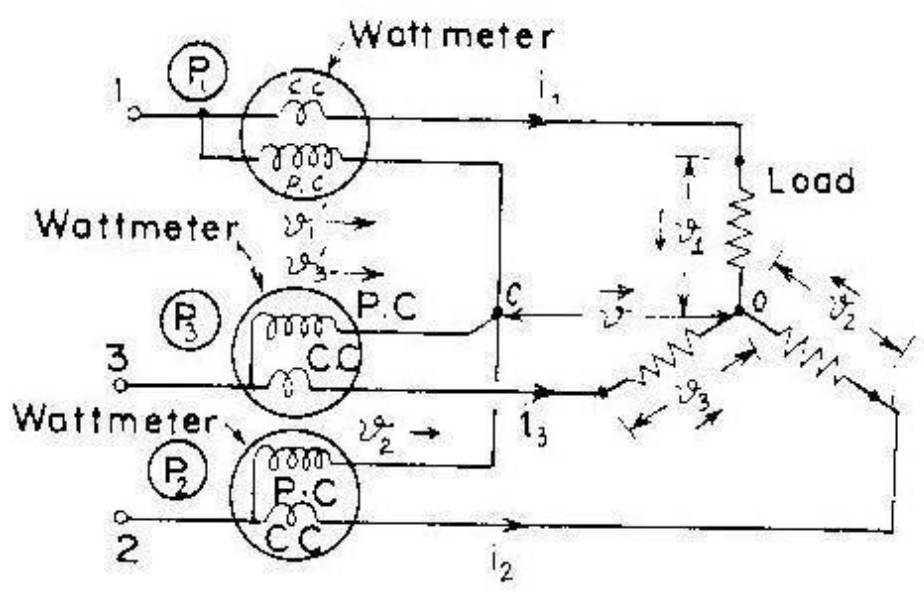


Fig. 11.23. Power measurement in a 3 phase 3 wire system.

## Two wattmeter method

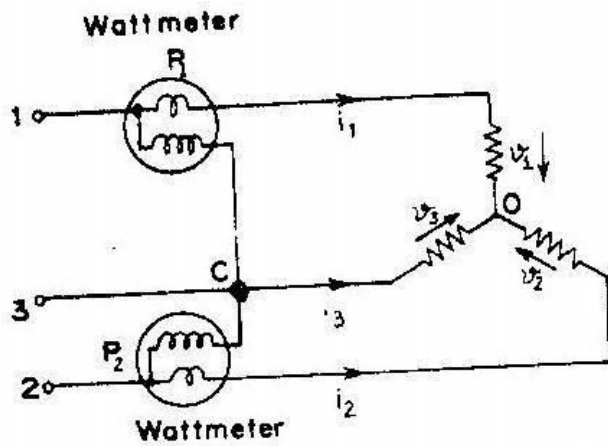


Fig. 11.25. Two wattmeter method (Star connection).

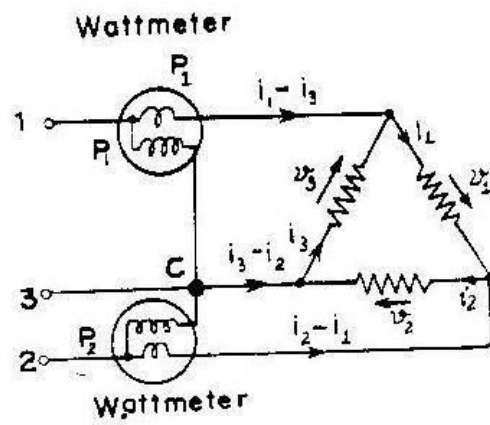


Fig. 11.26. Two wattmeter method (Delta connection).

## Energymeters

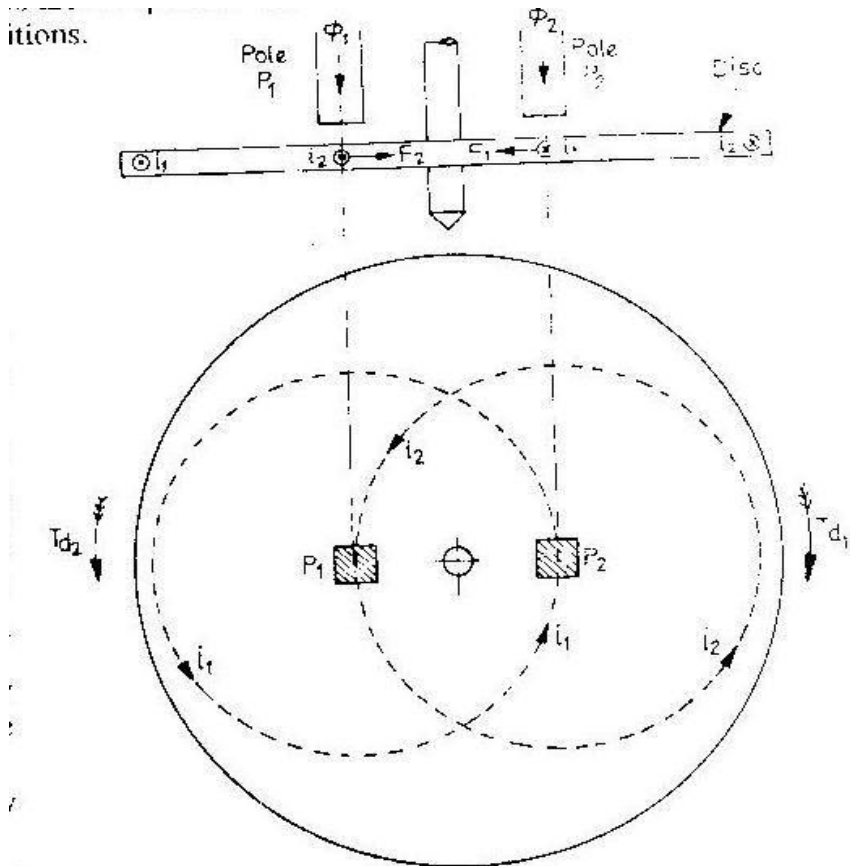


Fig. 11.1 Principle of working of an induction type instrument.

## SinglePhaseEnergyMeter

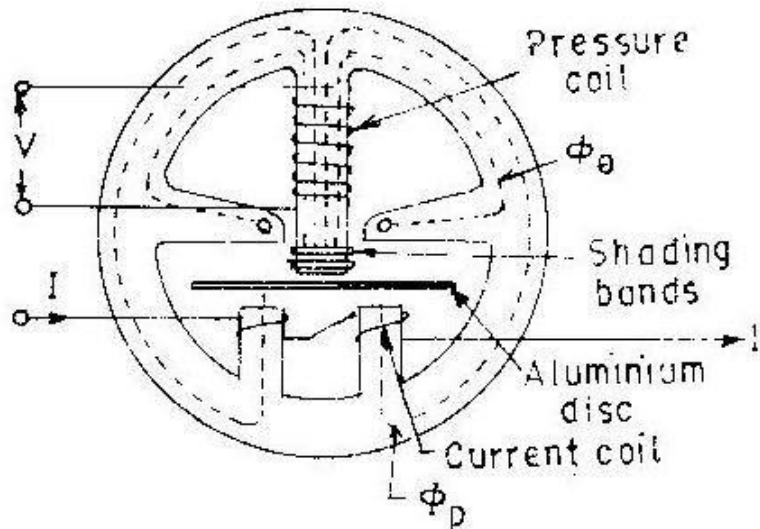


Fig. 12.3 Single phase energy meter.

## PolyPhaseEnergyMeter

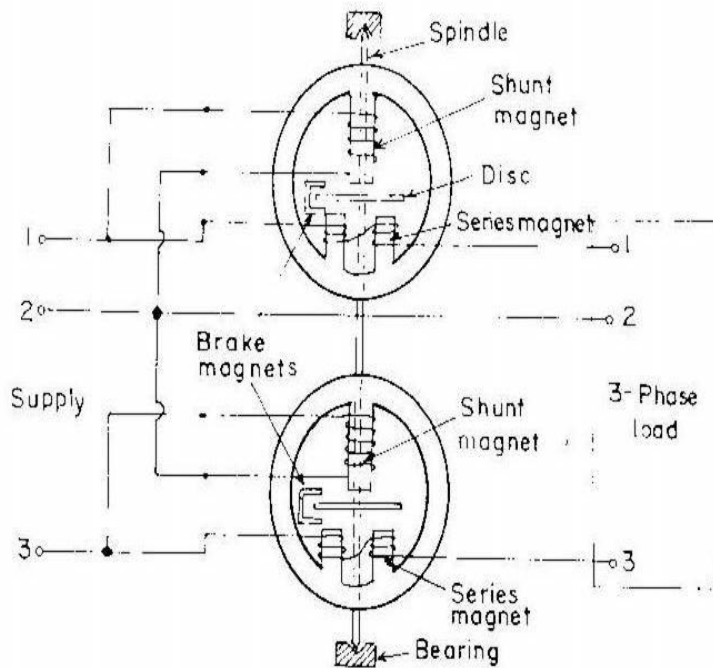


Fig. 12.13. Two element energy meter.

## **Moving Coil Meters**

The design of a voltmeter, ammeter or ohmmeter begins with a current-sensitive element. Though most modern meters have solid-statedigital readouts, the physics is more readily demonstrated with a moving coil current detector called a galvanometer. Since the modifications of the current sensor are compact, it is practical to have all three functions in a single instrument with multiple ranges of sensitivity. Schematically, a single range "multimeter" might be designed as illustrated.

### **Voltmeter**

A voltmeter measures the change in voltage between two points in an electric circuit and therefore must be connected in parallel with the portion of the circuit on which the measurement is made. By contrast, an ammeter must be connected in series. In an analogy with a water circuit, a voltmeter is like a meter designed to measure pressure difference. It is necessary for the voltmeter to have a very high resistance so that it does not have an appreciable effect on the current or voltage associated with the measured circuit. Modern solid-state meters have digital readouts, but the principles of operation can be better appreciated by examining the older moving coil meters based on galvanometer sensors.

### **Ammeter**

An ammeter is an instrument for measuring the electric current in amperes in a branch of an electric circuit. It must be placed in series with the measured branch, and must have a very low resistance to avoid significant alteration of the current it is to measure. By contrast, a voltmeter must be connected in parallel. The analogy with an in-line flow meter in a water circuit can help visualize why an ammeter must have a low resistance, and why connecting an ammeter in parallel can damage the meter. Modern solid-state meters have digital readouts, but the principles of operation can be better appreciated by examining the older moving coil meters based on galvanometer sensors.

## **Ohmmeter**

The standard way to measure resistance in ohms is to supply a constant voltage to the resistance and measure the current through it. That current is of course inversely proportional to the resistance according to Ohm's law, so that you have an non-linear scale. The current registered by the current sensing element is proportional to  $1/R$ , so that a large current implies a small resistance. Modern solid-state meters have digital readouts, but the principles of operation can be better appreciated by examining the older moving coil meters based on galvanometer sensors.

## **Voltmeter/Ammeter Measurements**

The value of electrical resistance associated with a circuit element or measuring the voltage across it and the current through it and then dividing the measured voltage by the current can determine an appliance. This method works even for non-ohmic resistances where the resistance might depend upon the current.

## ***D'Arsonval Galvanometer***

The two French inventors of this form of galvanometer in the early 1880s came from quite different backgrounds. Jacques D'Arsonval (1851-1940) was a director of a laboratory of biological physics and a professor of experimental medicine, and one of the founders of diathermy treatments. Marcel Deprez (1843-1918) was an engineer and an early promoter of high-voltage electrical power transmission.

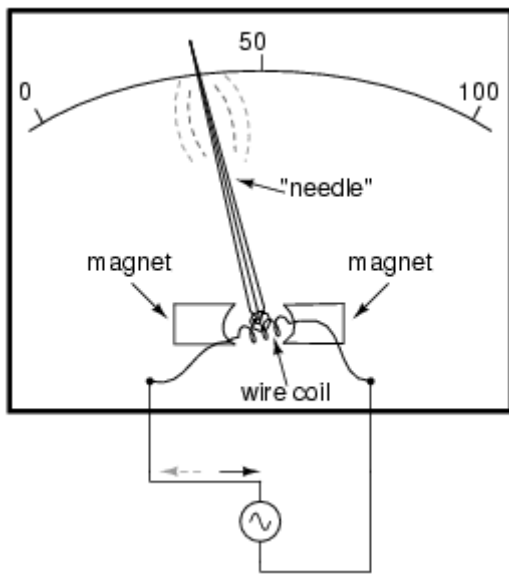
In the D'Arsonval-Deprez design the coil has many turns of fine wire, and is suspended by a flat ribbon of wire which serves as one lead in wire. The connection to the lower end of the coil is provided by a light, helical spring that provides the restoring torque. The electro-magnetic torque is greatest when the magnetic field lines are perpendicular to the plane of the coil; this condition is met for a wide range of coil positions by placing the cylindrical core of soft iron in the middle of the magnetic gap, and giving the magnet pole faces a concave contour. Since the electro-magnetic torque is proportional to the current in the coil and the restoring torque is proportional to the angle of twist of the suspension fiber, at equilibrium the current through the coil is linearly proportional to its

angular deflection. This means that the galvanometer scales can always be linear, a great boon to the user.

## Moving Iron meters

### AC voltmeters and ammeters

AC electromechanical meter movements come in two basic arrangements: those based on DC movement designs, and those engineered specifically for AC use. Permanent-magnet moving coil (PMMC) meter movements will not work correctly if directly connected to alternating current, because the direction of needle movement will change with each half-cycle of the AC. (Figure below) Permanent-magnet meter movements, like permanent-magnet motors, are devices whose motion depends on the polarity of the applied voltage (or, you can think of it in terms of the direction of the current).

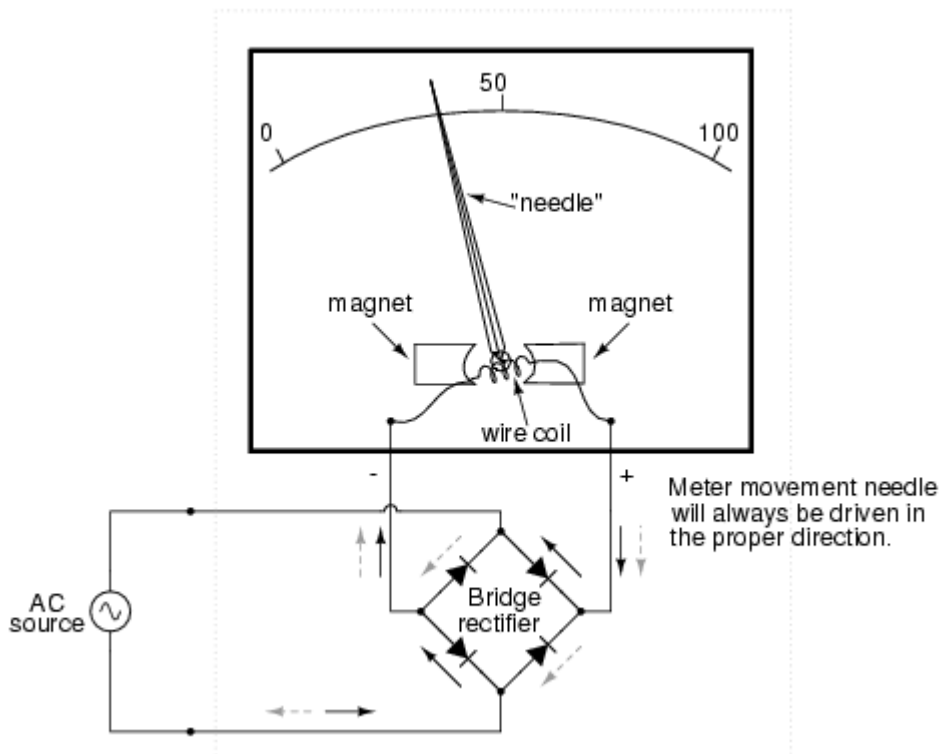


**Fig: Passing AC through this D'Arsonval meter causes useless flutter of the needle**

**movement causes**

In order to use a DC-style meter movement such as the D'Arsonval design, the alternating current must be *rectified* into DC. This is most easily accomplished through

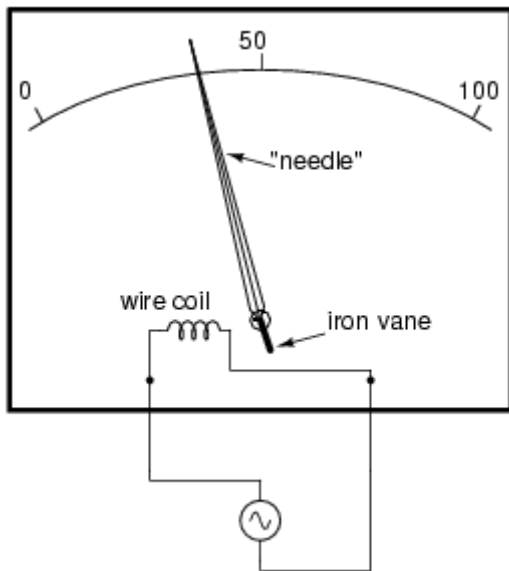
these devices are called *diodes*. We saw diodes used in an example circuit demonstrating the creation of harmonic frequencies from a distorted (or rectified) sine wave. Without going into elaborate detail over how and why diodes work as they do, just remember that they each act like a one-way valve for electrons to flow: acting as a conductor for one polarity and an insulator for another. Oddly enough, the arrowhead in each diode symbol points *against* the permitted direction of electron flow rather than with it as one might expect. Arranged in a bridge, four diodes will serve to steer AC through the meter movement in a constant direction throughout all portions of the AC cycle: (Figure below)



**Fig: Passing AC through this Rectified AC meter movement will drive it in one direction.**

Another strategy for a practical AC meter movement is to redesign the movement without the inherent polarity sensitivity of the DC types. This means avoiding the use of permanent magnets. Probably the simplest design is to use an unmagnetized iron vane to move the needle against spring tension, the vane being attracted toward a stationary coil of wire energized by the AC quantity to be measured as in Figure below.

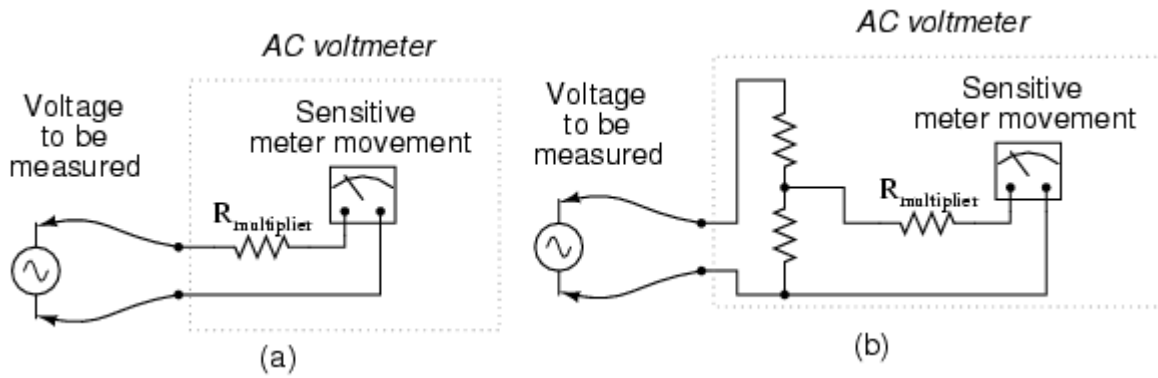




**Fig:Iron-vane electromechanical meter movement**

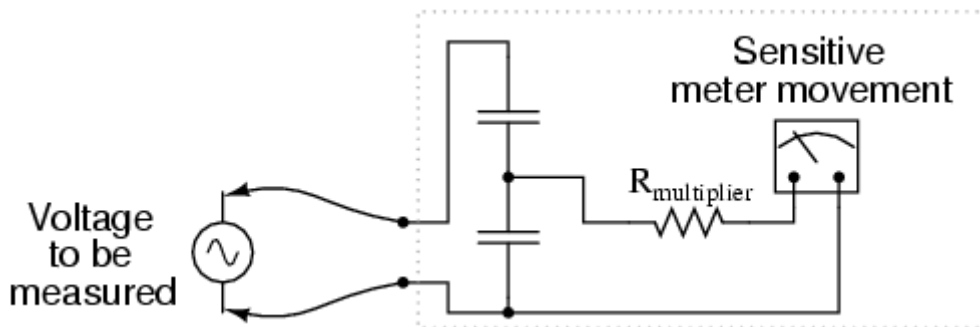
Electrostatic attraction between two metal plates separated by an air gap is an alternative mechanism for generating a needle-moving force proportional to applied voltage. This works just as well for AC as it does for DC, or should I say, just as poorly! The forces involved are very small, much smaller than the magnetic attraction between an energized coil and an iron vane, and as such these “electrostatic” meter movements tend to be fragile and easily disturbed by physical movement. But, for some high-voltage AC applications, the electrostatic movement is an elegant technology. If nothing else, this technology possesses the advantage of extremely high input impedance, meaning that no current need be drawn from the circuit under test. Also, electrostatic meter movements are capable of measuring very high voltages without need for range resistors or other, external apparatus.

When a sensitive meter movement needs to be re-ranged to function as an AC voltmeter, series-connected “multiplier” resistors and/or resistive voltage dividers may be employed just as in DC meter design: (Figure below)



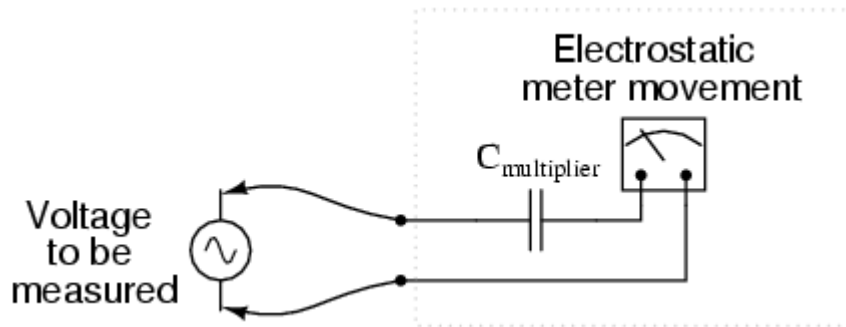
**Fig: Multiplier resistor (a) or resistive divider (b) scales the range of the basic meter movement**

Capacitors may be used instead of resistors, though, to make voltmeter divider circuits. This strategy has the advantage of being non-dissipative (no true power consumed and no heat produced): (Figure below)



**Fig: AC voltmeter with capacitive divider**

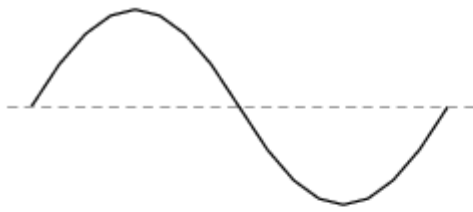
If the meter movement is electrostatic, and thus inherently capacitive in nature, a single "multiplier" capacitor may be connected in series to give it a greater voltage measuring range, just as a series-connected multiplier resistor gives a moving-coil (inherently resistive) meter movement a greater voltage range: (Figure below)



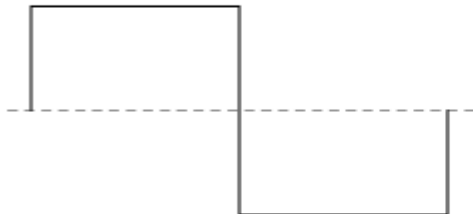
***Fig: An electrostatic meter movement may use a capacitive multiplier to multiply the scale of the basic meter movement..***

The Cathode Ray Tube (CRT) mentioned in the DC metering chapter is ideally suited for measuring AC voltages, especially if the electron beam is swept side-to-side across the screen of the tube while the measured AC voltage drives the beam up and down. A graphical representation of the AC wave shape and not just a measurement of magnitude can easily be had with such a device. However, CRT's have the disadvantages of weight, size, significant power consumption, and fragility (being made of evacuated glass) working against them. For these reasons, electromechanical AC meter movements still have a place in practical usage.

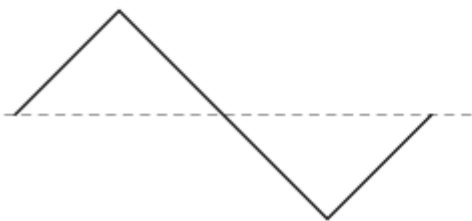
With some of the advantages and disadvantages of these meter movement technologies having been discussed already, there is another factor crucially important for the designer and user of AC metering instruments to be aware of. This is the issue of RMS measurement. As we already know, AC measurements are often cast in a scale of DC power equivalence, called *RMS* (**R**oot-**M**ean-**S**quare) for the sake of meaningful comparisons with DC and with other AC waveforms of varying shape. None of the meter movement technologies so far discussed inherently measure the RMS value of an AC quantity. Meter movements relying on the motion of a mechanical needle ("rectified" D'Arsonval, iron-vane, and electrostatic) all tend to mechanically average the instantaneous values into an overall average value for the waveform. This average value is not necessarily the same as RMS, although many times it is mistaken as such. Average and RMS values rate against each other as such for these three common waveform shapes: (Figure below)



RMS = 0.707 (Peak)  
 AVG = 0.637 (Peak)  
 P-P = 2 (Peak)



RMS = Peak  
 AVG = Peak  
 P-P = 2 (Peak)



RMS = 0.577 (Peak)  
 AVG = 0.5 (Peak)  
 P-P = 2 (Peak)

*RMS, Average, and Peak-to-Peak values for sine, square, and triangle waves.*

Since RMS seem to be the kind of measurement most people are interested in obtaining with an instrument, and electromechanical meter movements naturally deliver *average* measurements rather than RMS, what an AC meter designer should do? Cheat, of course! Typically the assumption is made that the waveform shape to be measured is going to be sine (by far the most common, especially for power systems), and then the meter movement scale is altered by the appropriate multiplication factor. For sine waves we see that RMS is equal to 0.707 times the peak value while Average is 0.637 times the peak, so we can divide one figure by the other to obtain an average-to-RMS conversion factor of 1.109:

$$\frac{0.707}{0.637} = 1.1099$$

In other words, the meter movement will be calibrated to indicate approximately 1.11 times higher than it would ordinarily (naturally) indicate with no special

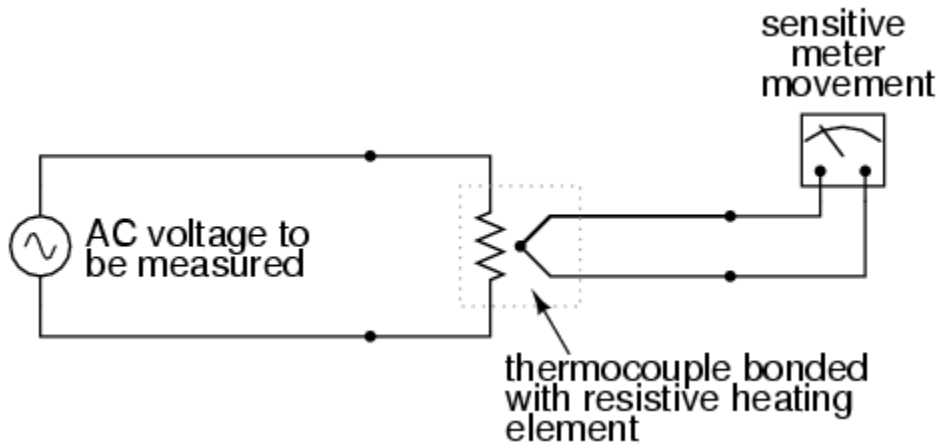
accommodations. It must be stressed that this “cheat” only works well when the meter is used to measure pure sine wave sources. Note that for triangle waves, the ratio between RMS and Average is not the same as for sine waves:

$$\frac{0.577}{0.5} = 1.154$$

With square waves, the RMS and Average values are identical! An AC meter calibrated to accurately read RMS voltage or current on a pure sine wave will *not* give the proper value while indicating the magnitude of anything other than a perfect sine wave. This includes triangle waves, square waves, or any kind of distorted sine wave. With harmonic sbecoming an ever-present phenomenon in large AC powersystems, this matter of accurate RMS measurement is no small matter.

The astute reader will note that I have omitted the CRT “movement” from the RMS/Average discussion. This is because a CRT with its practically weightless electron beam “movement” displays the Peak (or Peak-to-Peak if you wish) of an AC waveform rather than Average or RMS. Still, a similar problem arises: how do you determine the RMS value of a waveform from it? Conversion factors between Peak and RMS only hold so long as the waveform falls neatly into a known category of shape (sine, triangle, and square are the only examples with Peak/RMS/Average conversion factors given here!).

One answer is to design the meter movement around the very definition of RMS: the effective heating value of an AC voltage/current as it powers a resistive load. Suppose that the AC source to be measured is disconnected across a resistor of known value, and the heat output of that resistor is measured with a device like a thermocouple. This would provide a far more direct measurement means of RMS than any conversion factor could, for it will work with ANY waveform shape whatsoever: (Figure below)

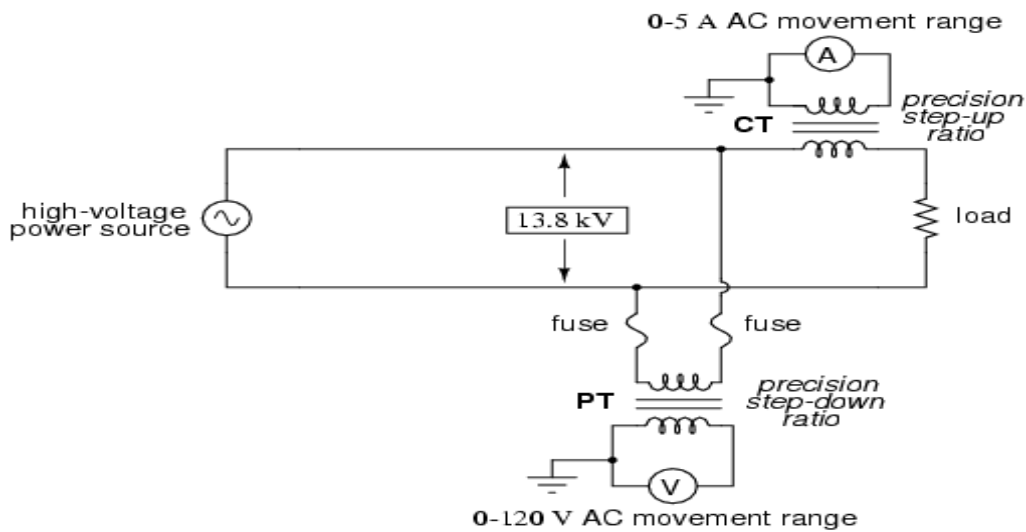


*Direct reading thermal RMS voltmeter accommodates any wave shape.*

While the device shown above is somewhat crude and would suffer from unique engineering problems of its own, the concept illustrated is very sound. The resistor converts the AC voltage or current quantity into a thermal (heat) quantity, effectively squaring the values in real-time. The system's mass works to average these values by the principle of thermal inertia, and then the meterscale itself is calibrated to give an indication based on the square-root of the thermal measurement: perfect Root-Mean-Square indication all in one device! In fact, one major instrument manufacturer has implemented this technique into its high-end line of handheld electronic multimeters for "true-RMS" capability.

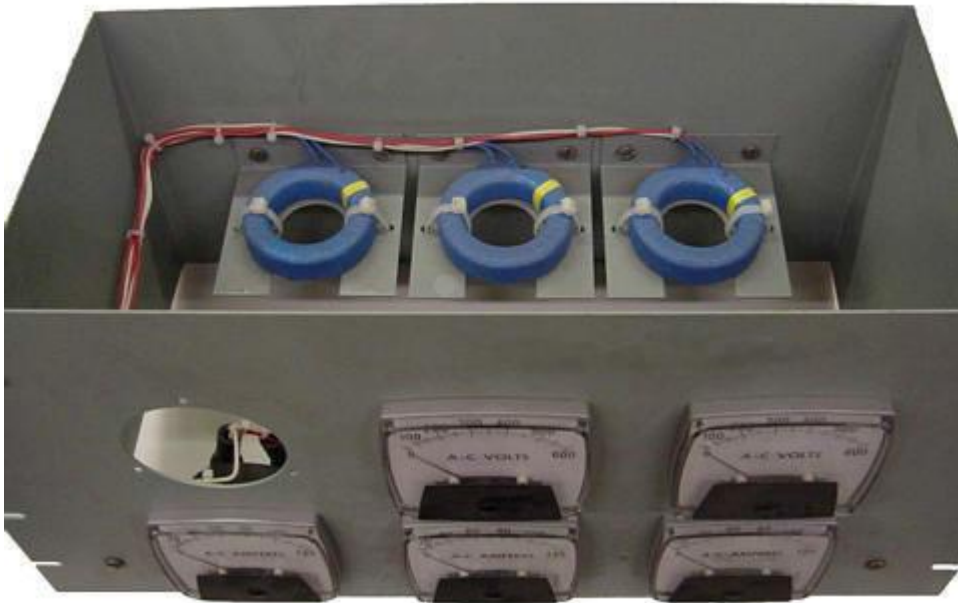
Calibrating AC voltmeters and ammeters for different full-scale ranges of operation is much the same as with DC instruments: series "multiplier" resistors are used to give voltmeter movements high range, and parallel "shunt" resistors are used to allow ammeter movements to measure currents beyond their natural range. However, we are not limited to these techniques as we were with DC: because we can use transformers with AC, meter ranges can be electromagnetically rather than resistively "stepped up" or "stepped down," sometimes far beyond what resistors would have practically allowed for. Potential Transformers (PT's) and Current Transformers (CT's) are precision instrument devices manufactured to produce very precise ratios of transformation between primary and secondary windings. They can allow small, simple AC meter movements to indicate extremely high voltages and currents in power systems with accuracy and complete

electrical isolation (something multiplier and shunt resistors could never do): (Figure below)



*(CT) Current transformers scales current down. (PT) Potential transformers scales voltage down.*

Shown here is a voltage and current meter panel from a three-phase AC system. The three “donut” current transformers (CT's) can be seen in the rear of the panel. Three AC ammeters (rated 5 amps full-scale deflection each) on the front of the panel indicate current through each conductor going through a CT. As this panel has been removed from service, there are no current-carrying conductors threaded through the center of the CT “donuts” anymore: (Figure below)



*Toroidal current transformers scale high current levels down for application to 5A full-scale AC ammeters.*

Because of the expense (and often large size) of instrument transformers, they are not used to scale AC meters for any applications other than high voltage and high current. For scaling a milliamp or microamp movement to a range of 120 volts or 5 amps, normal precision resistors (multipliers and shunts) are used, just as with DC.

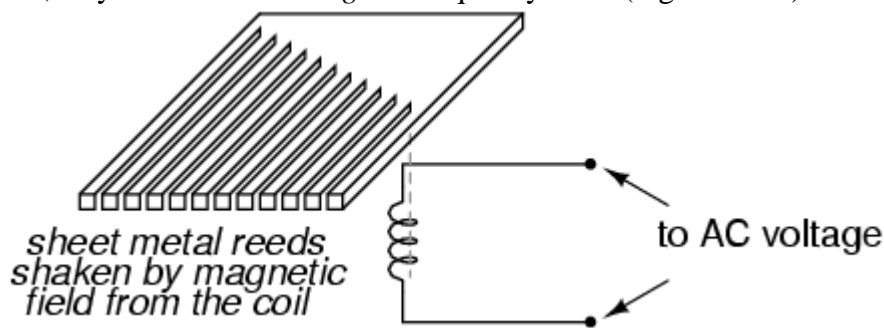
### **Frequency and phase measurement**

An important electrical quantity with no equivalent in DC circuits is *frequency*. Frequency measurement is very important in many applications of alternating current, especially in AC power systems designed to run efficiently at one frequency and one frequency only. If an electromechanical alternator is generating the AC, the frequency will be directly proportional to the shaft speed of the machine, and frequency could be measured simply by measuring the speed of the shaft. If frequency needs to be measured at some distance from the alternator, though, other means of measurement will be necessary.



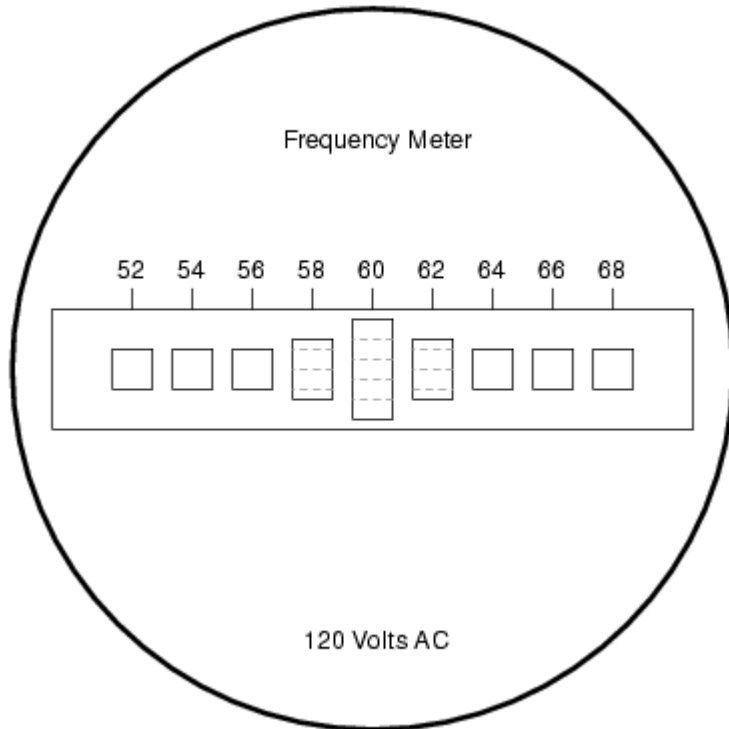
One simple but crude method of frequency measurement in power systems utilizes the principle of mechanical resonance. Every physical object possessing the property of elasticity (springiness) has an inherent frequency at which it will prefer to vibrate. The tuning fork is a great example of this: strike it once and it will continue to vibrate at a tone specific to its length. Long tuning forks have lower resonant frequencies: their tones will be lower on the musical scale than shorter forks.

Imagine a row of progressively sized tuning forks arranged side-by-side. They are all mounted on a common base, and that base is vibrated at the frequency of the measured AC voltage (or current) by means of an electromagnet. Whichever tuning fork is closest in resonant frequency to the frequency of that vibration will tend to shake the most (or the loudest). If the forks' tines were thin enough, we could see the relative motion of each by the length of the blur we would see as we inspected each one from an end-view perspective. Well, make a collection of "tuning forks" out of a strip of sheet metal cut in a pattern like in the diagram below, and you have the *vibrating reed* frequency meter: (Figure below)



*Vibrating reed frequency meter diagram.*

The user of this meter views the ends of all those unequal length reeds as they are collectively shaken at the frequency of the applied AC voltage to the coil. The one closest in resonant frequency to the applied AC will vibrate the most, looking something like Figure below.

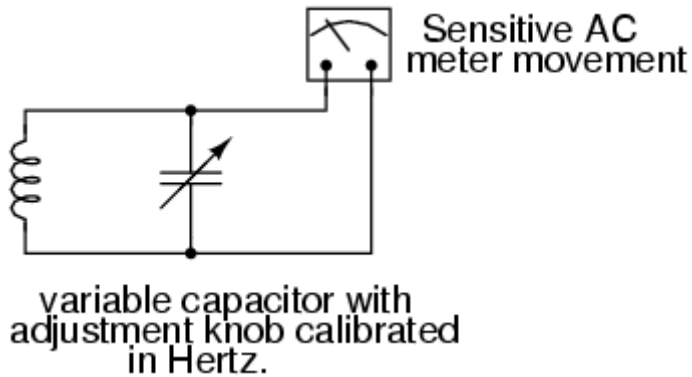


*Vibrating reed frequency meter front panel.*

Vibrating reed meters, obviously, are not precision instruments, but they are very simple and therefore easy to manufacture and rugged. They are often found on small engine-driven generator sets for the purpose of setting engine speeds so that the frequency is somewhat close to 60 (50 in Europe) Hertz.

While reed-

type meters are imprecise, their operational principle is not. In lieu of mechanical resonance, we may substitute electrical resonance and design a frequency meter using an inductor and capacitor in the form of a tank circuit (parallel inductor and capacitor). See Figure below. One or both components are made adjustable, and a meter is placed in the circuit to indicate maximum amplitude of voltage across the two components. The adjustment knob(s) are calibrated to show resonant frequency for any given setting, and the frequency is read from the meter after the device has been adjusted for maximum indication on the meter. Essentially, this is a tunable filter circuit, which is adjusted and then read in a manner similar to a bridge circuit (which must be balanced for a "null" condition and then read).



*Resonant frequency meter "peaks" as L-C resonant frequency is tuned to test frequency.*

This technique is a popular one for amateur radio operators (or at least it was before the advent of inexpensive digital frequency instruments called *counters*), especially because it doesn't require direct connection to the circuit. So long as the inductor and/or capacitor can intercept enough stray field (magnetic or electric, respectively) from the circuit under test to cause the meter to indicate, it will work.

In frequency as in other types of electrical measurement, the most accurate means of measurement are usually those where an unknown quantity is compared against a known *standard*, the basic instrument doing nothing more than indicating when the two quantities are equal to each other. This is the basic principle behind the DC (Wheatstone) bridge circuit and it is a sound metrological principle applied throughout the sciences. If we have access to an accurate frequency standard (a source of AC voltage holding very precisely to a single frequency), then measurement of an unknown frequency by comparison should be relatively easy.

For that frequency standard, we turn our attention back to the tuning fork, or at least a more modern variation of it called the *quartz crystal*. Quartz is a naturally occurring mineral possessing a very interesting property called *piezoelectricity*. Piezoelectric materials produce a voltage across their length when physically stressed, and will physically deform when an external voltage is applied across their lengths. This deformation is very, very slight in most cases, but it does exist.

Quartz rock is elastic (springy) within that small range of bending which an external voltage would produce, which means that it will have a mechanical resonant

frequency of its own capable of being manifested as an electrical voltage signal. In other words, if a chip of quartz is struck, it will “ring” with its own unique frequency determined by the length of the chip, and that resonant oscillation will produce an equivalent voltage across multiple points of the quartz chip which can be tapped into by wires fixed to the surface of the chip. In reciprocal manner, the quartz chip will tend to vibrate most when it is “excited” by an applied AC voltage at precisely the right frequency, just like the reed on a vibrating-reed frequency meter.

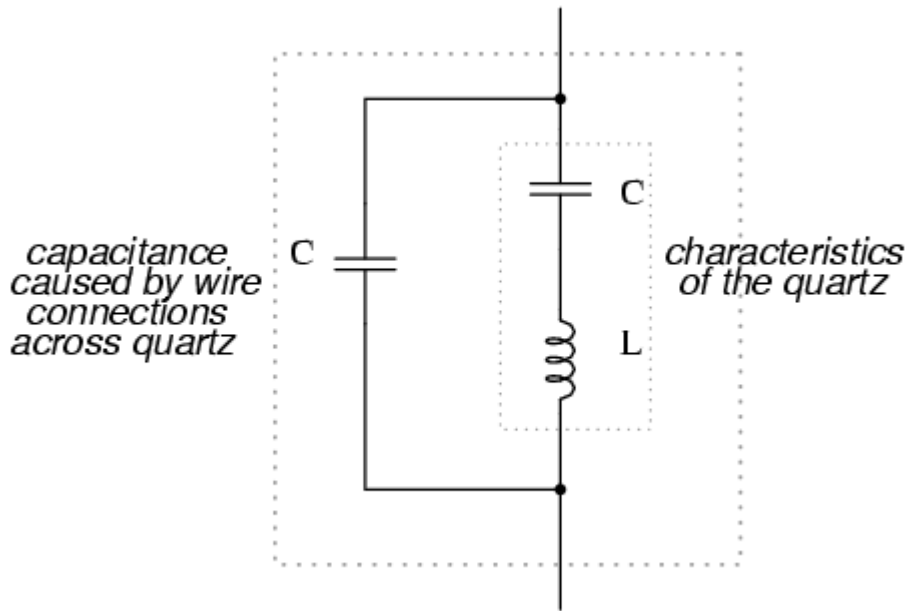
Chips of quartz can be precisely cut for desired resonant frequencies, and that chip mounted securely in a protective shell with wires extending for connection to an external electric circuit. When packaged as such, the resulting device is simply called a *crystal* (or sometimes “*xtal*”). This schematic symbol is shown in Figure below.

*crystal or xtal*



*Crystal (frequency determining element) schematic symbol.*

Electrically, that quartz chip is equivalent to a series LC resonant circuit. (Figure below) The dielectric properties of quartz contribute an additional capacitive element to the equivalent circuit.



*Quartz crystal equivalent circuit.*

The “capacitance” and “inductance” shown in series are merely electrical equivalents of the quartz's mechanical resonance properties: they do not exist as discrete components within the crystal. The capacitance shown in parallel is due to the wire connections across the dielectric (insulating) quartz body, and it has an effect on the resonant response of the whole system. A full discussion on crystal dynamics is not necessary here, but what needs to be understood about crystals is this resonant circuit equivalence and how it can be exploited within an oscillator circuit to achieve an output voltage with a stable, known frequency.

Crystals, as resonant elements, typically have much higher “Q” (*quality*) values than tank circuits built from inductors and capacitors, principally due to the relative absence of stray resistance, making their resonant frequencies very definite and precise. Because the resonant frequency is solely dependent on the physical properties of quartz (a very stable substance, mechanically), the resonant frequency variation over time with a quartz crystal is very, very low. This is how *quartz movement watches* obtain their high accuracy: by means of an electronic oscillator stabilized by the resonant action of a quartz crystal.

For laboratory applications, though, even greater frequency stability may be desired. To achieve this, the crystal in question may be placed in a temperature-stabilized

environment (usually a oven), thus eliminating frequency errors due to thermal expansion and contraction of the quartz.

For the ultimate in a frequency standard though, nothing discovered thus far surpasses the accuracy of a single resonating atom. This is the principle of the so-called *atomic clock*, which uses an atom of mercury (or cesium) suspended in a vacuum, excited by outside energy to resonate at its own unique frequency. The resulting frequency is detected as a radio-wave signal and that forms the basis for the most accurate clocks known to humanity. National standards laboratories around the world maintain a few of these hyper-accurate clocks, and broadcast frequency signals based on those atoms' vibrations for scientists and technicians to tune in and use for frequency calibration purposes.

### **Two Marks**

**1. Name the different essential torques in indicating instruments.**

Deflecting torque  
Controlling torque  
Damping torque

**2. Name the types of instruments used for making voltmeter and ammeter. PMMC type**

Moving iron type  
Dynamometer type  
Hot wire type  
Electrostatic type  
Induction type.

**3. State the advantages of PMMC instruments**

Uniform scale.  
No hysteresis loss  
Very accurate  
High efficiency.

**4. State the disadvantages of PMMC instruments**

Cannot be used for ac m/s

Some errors are caused by temperature variations.

**5. State the applications of PMMC instruments**

m/s of dc voltage and current used in dc galvanometer.

**6. How the range of instrument can be extended in PMMC instruments.**

In ammeter by connecting a shunt resistor. In voltmeter by connecting a series resistor.

**7. State the advantages of Dynamometer type instruments**

Can be used for both dc and ac m/s.

Free from hysteresis and eddy current errors.

**8. State the advantages of Moving iron type instruments**

Less expensive

Can be used for both dc and ac. Reasonably accurate.

**9. State the advantages of Hot wire type instruments**

Can

be used for both dc and ac. Unaffected by stray magnetic fields

s

Readings are independent of frequency and waveform.

**10. What are the constructional parts of dynamometer type wattmeter?**

Fixed coil, Moving Coil

Current limiting resistor, Helical spring

Spindle attached with pointer, Graduated scale

**11. Write down the deflecting torque equation in dynamometer type wattmeter.**

$T_d = V I \cos \phi$

**12. State the disadvantages of Dynamometer type wattmeter.**

Readings may be affected by stray magnetic fields. At low power factor it causes error.

**13. Name the errors caused in Dynamometer type wattmeter.**

Error due to pressure coil inductance  
Error due to pressure coil capacitance  
Error due to methods of connection  
Error due to stray magnetic fields  
Error due to eddy current.

**14. How the errors caused by coil inductance is compensated.**

By connecting a capacitor in parallel to the resistor.

**15. How the errors caused by methods of connection is compensated**

By using compensating coil.

**16. Name the methods used for power measurement in three phase circuits.**

- (i) Single wattmeter method
- (ii) Two wattmeter method
- (iii) Three wattmeter method.

**17. What are the special features to be incorporated for LPF wattmeter?**

Pressure coil circuit

Compensation for pressure coil current  
Compensation for pressure coil inductance.

**18. Define Phantom loading.**

Method by which energizing the pressure coil circuit and current coil circuits separately is called phantom loading.

**19. State the use of phantom loading.** Power loss is minimized.

**20. Name the methods used in Wattmeter calibration.**

By comparing with standard wattmeter.  
By using voltmeter and ammeter method.  
By using Potentiometer.



**21. What are the types of energy meters?**

Electrolytic meters  
Motor meters.  
Clock meters

**22. Name the constructional parts of induction type energy meter.**

Current coil with series magnet  
Voltage coil with shunt magnet  
Aldisc  
Braking magnet  
Registering mechanism.

**23. How voltage coil is connected in induction type energy meter.**

It is connected in parallel to supply and load.

**24. How current coil is connected in induction type energy meter.**

It is connected in series to the load.

**25. Why Aldisc is used in induction type energy meter.** Aluminum is a non-magnetic metal.

**26. What is the purpose of registering mechanism.**

It gives a valuable number proportional to the rotations.

**27. What is the purpose of braking mechanism.**

It provides necessary braking torque.

**28. Define creeping.**

Slow but continuous rotation of disc when pc is energized and cc is not energized.

**29. State the reason why holes are provided in Aldisc.**

To avoid creeping holes are provided on both sides of Aldisc.

## UNIT-III-COMPARISONMETHODOFMEASUREMENTS

### CONTENTS

- ◆ **D.C&A.Cpotentiometers**
- ◆ **D.C&A.Cbridges**

#### 1.Potentiometers

A Potentiometer is an instrument designed to measure an unknown voltage by comparing it with a known voltage

#### 2. **D.C&A.Cbridges**

##### Resistance

- Low Resistance ( $< 1 \Omega$ )
- Medium Resistance ( $1 \Omega$  to  $0.1 M\Omega$ )
- High Resistance ( $> 0.1 M\Omega$ )

##### Low Resistance ( $< 1 \Omega$ )

- Ammeter-voltmeter method
- Kelvin's double bridge method
- Potentiometer method
- Kelvin's double bridge

##### Medium Resistance ( $1 \Omega$ to $0.1 M\Omega$ )

- Ammeter-voltmeter method
- Substitution method
- Wheatstone bridge method
- Ohmmeter method
- Wheatstone Bridge

### **High Resistance (>0.1M $\Omega$ )**

- Direct deflection method
- Loss of charge method
- Megohm bridge
- Megger

### **Inductance**

- Measurement of self inductance
- Maxwell's inductance bridge
- Maxwell's inductance-capacitance bridge
- Hay's bridge
- Owen's bridge
- Anderson's bridge
- Measurement of mutual inductance
- Heaviside mutual inductance bridge
- Carey Foster bridge Heydweiller bridge
- Campbell's bridge

### **Capacitance**

- Desauty's bridge
- Schering bridge
- Schering Bridge

### **Frequency**

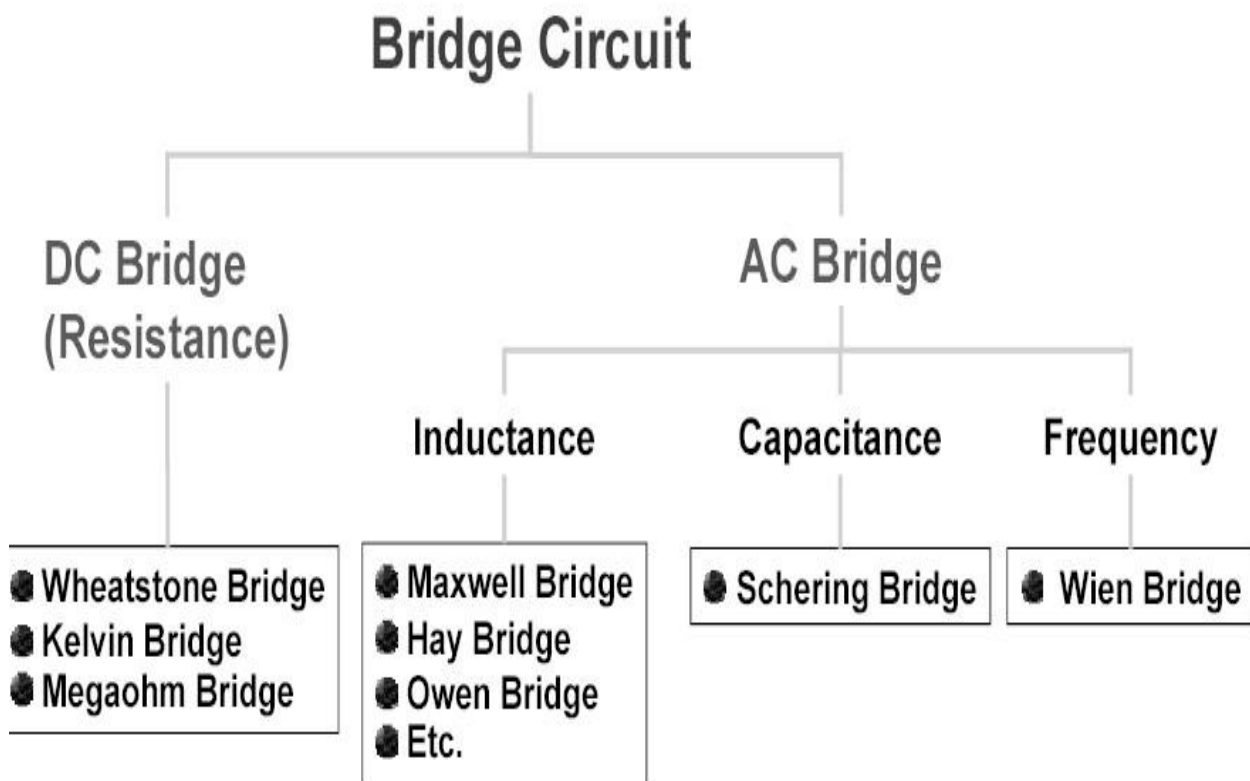
- Wien's Bridge.

### **Transformer Ratio Bridge**

- They are replacing the conventional AC bridge

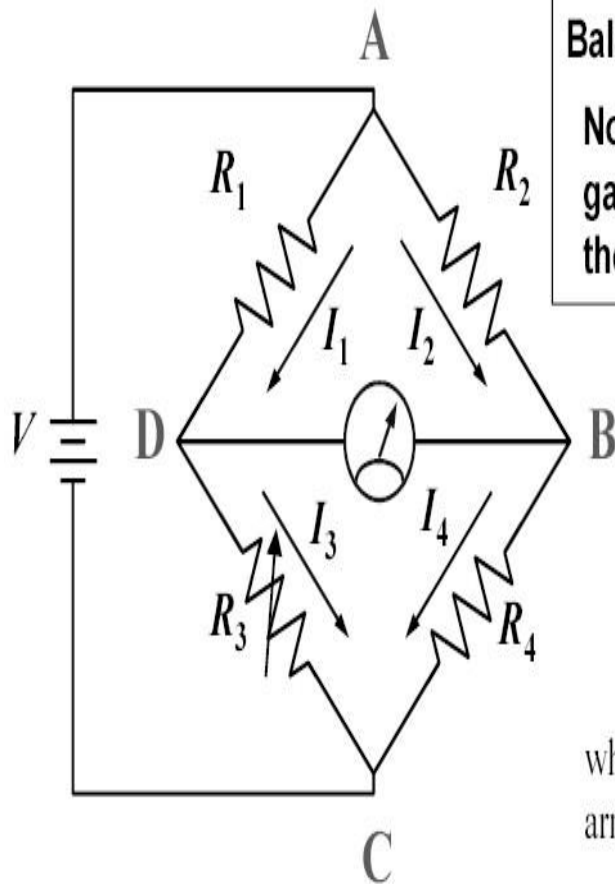
# Bridge Circuit

Bridge Circuit is a null method, operates on the principle of comparison. That is a known (standard) value is adjusted until it is equal to the unknown value.



# Wheatstone Bridge and Balance Condition

Suitable for moderate resistance values:  $1 \Omega$  to  $10 \text{ M}\Omega$



**Balance condition:**

**No potential difference across the galvanometer (there is no current through the galvanometer)**

Under this condition:  $V_{AD} = V_{AB}$

$$I_1 R_1 = I_2 R_2$$

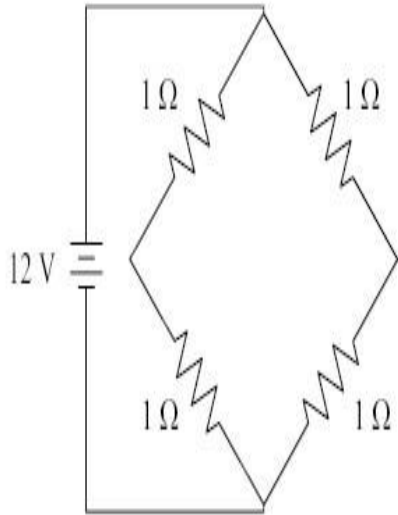
And also  $V_{DC} = V_{BC}$

$$I_3 R_3 = I_4 R_4$$

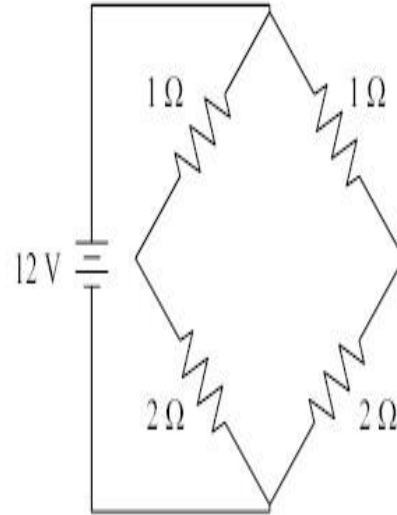
where  $I_1$ ,  $I_2$ ,  $I_3$ , and  $I_4$  are current in resistance arms respectively, since  $I_1 = I_3$  and  $I_2 = I_4$

$$\frac{R_1}{R_3} = \frac{R_2}{R_4} \quad \text{or} \quad R_x = R_4 = R_3 \frac{R_2}{R_1}$$

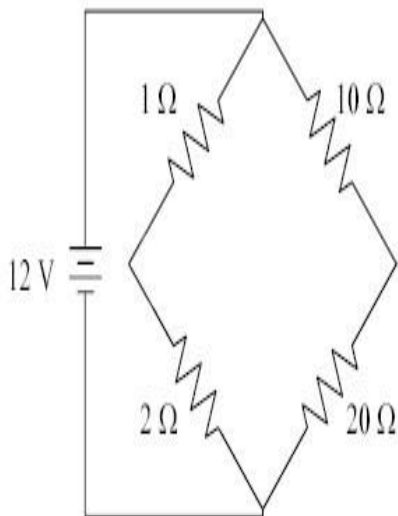
# Example



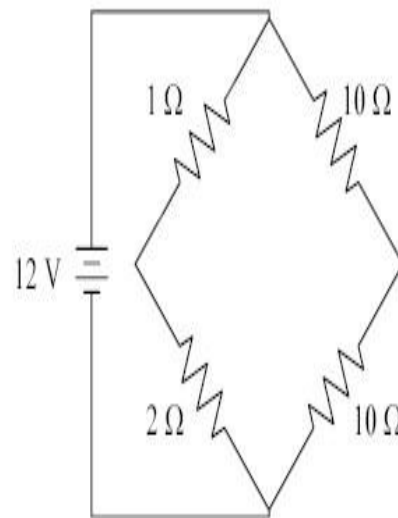
(a) Equal resistance



(b) Proportional resistance



(c) Proportional resistance

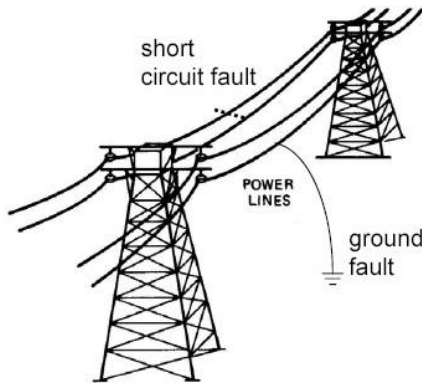


(d) 2-Volt unbalance

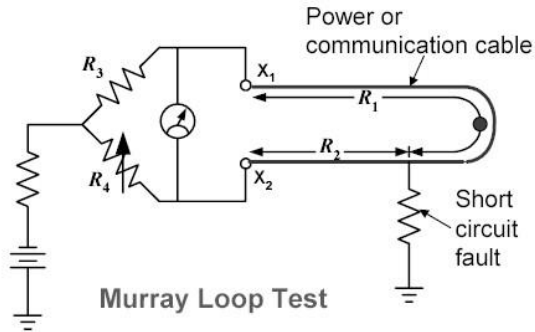
# Application of Wheatstone Bridge

## Murray/Varrley Loop Short Circuit Fault (Loop Test)

- Loop test can be carried out for the location of either a ground or a short circuit fault.



Assume: earth is a good conductor



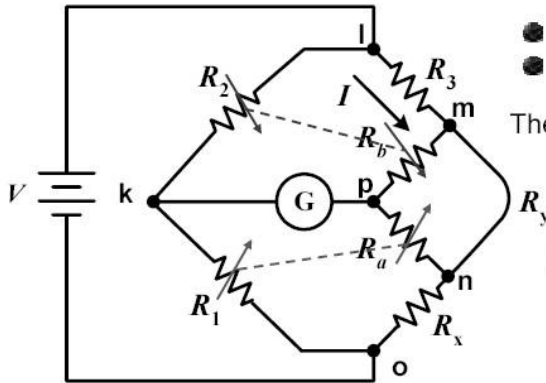
Let  $R = R_1 + R_2$

At balance condition:  $\frac{R_3}{R_4} = \frac{R_1}{R_2}$

$$R_1 = R \left( \frac{R_3}{R_3 + R_4} \right)$$

$$R_2 = R \left( \frac{R_4}{R_3 + R_4} \right)$$

## Kelvin Double Bridge: 1 to 0.00001 $\Omega$



- 2 ratio arms:  $R_1$ - $R_2$  and  $R_5$ - $R_6$
- the connecting lead between  $m$  and  $n$ : yoke

The balance conditions:  $V_{lk} = V_{imp}$  or  $V_{ok} = V_{onp}$

$$V_{lk} = \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2} V \quad (1)$$

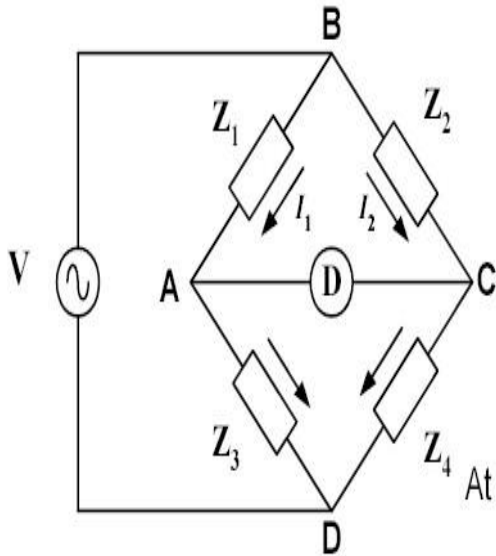
here  $V = IR_{lo} = I[R_3 + R_x + (R_5 + R_6) // R_y]$

$$V_{imp} = I \left[ R_3 + \frac{R_y}{R_5 + R_6 + R_y} R_6 \right] \quad (2)$$

Eq. (1) = (2) and rearrange:  $R_x = R_3 \frac{R_1}{R_2} + \frac{R_6 R_y}{R_5 + R_6 + R_y} \left( \frac{R_1}{R_2} - \frac{R_5}{R_6} \right) \rightarrow R_x = R_3 \frac{R_1}{R_2}$

If we set  $R_1/R_2 = R_5/R_6$ , the second term of the right hand side will be zero, the relation reduce to the well known relation. In summary, The resistance of the yoke has no effect on the measurement, if the two sets of ratio arms have equal resistance ratios.

# AC Bridge: Balance Condition



- all four arms are considered as impedance (frequency dependent components)
- The detector is an ac responding device: headphone, ac meter
- Source: an ac voltage at desired frequency

$Z_1, Z_2, Z_3$  and  $Z_4$  are the impedance of bridge arms

At balance point:  $E_{BA} = E_{BC}$  or  $I_1 Z_1 = I_2 Z_2$

$$I_1 = \frac{V}{Z_1 + Z_3} \text{ and } I_2 = \frac{V}{Z_2 + Z_4}$$

General Form of the ac Bridge

Complex Form:

$$Z_1 Z_4 = Z_2 Z_3$$

Polar Form:

$$Z_1 Z_4 (\angle \theta_1 + \angle \theta_4) = Z_2 Z_3 (\angle \theta_2 + \angle \theta_3)$$

Magnitude balance:

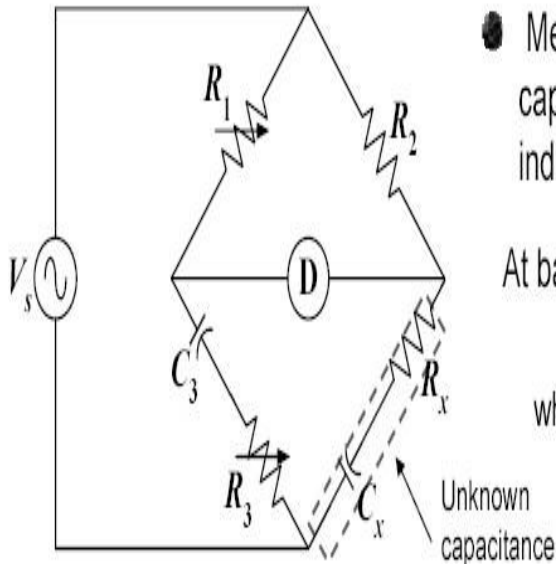
$$Z_1 Z_4 = Z_2 Z_3$$

Phase balance:

$$\angle \theta_1 + \angle \theta_4 = \angle \theta_2 + \angle \theta_3$$



# Comparison Bridge: Capacitance



**Diagram of Capacitance Comparison Bridge**

- Measure an unknown inductance or capacitance by comparing with it with a known inductance or capacitance.

At balance point:  $Z_1 Z_x = Z_2 Z_3$

where  $Z_1 = R_1$ ;  $Z_2 = R_2$ ; and  $Z_3 = R_3 + \frac{1}{j\omega C_3}$

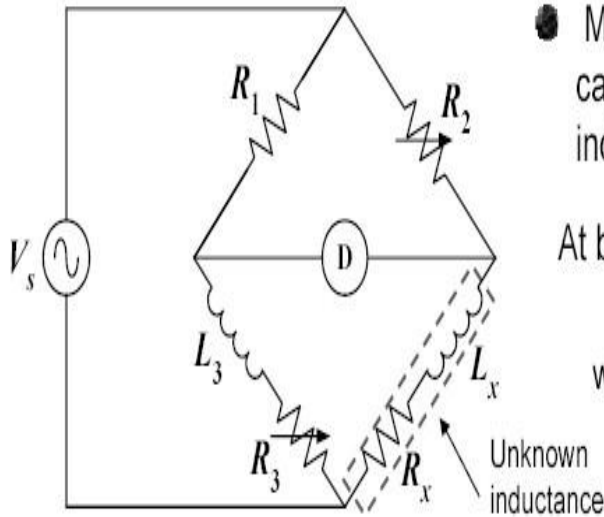
$$R_1 \left( R_x + \frac{1}{j\omega C_x} \right) = R_2 \left( R_3 + \frac{1}{j\omega C_3} \right)$$

Separation of the real and imaginary terms yields:

$$R_x = \frac{R_2 R_3}{R_1} \quad \text{and} \quad C_x = C_3 \frac{R_1}{R_2}$$

- Frequency independent
- To satisfy both balance conditions, the bridge must contain two variable elements in its configuration.

# Comparison Bridge: Inductance



**Diagram of Inductance Comparison Bridge**

- Measure an unknown inductance or capacitance by comparing with it with a known inductance or capacitance.

At balance point:  $Z_1 Z_x = Z_2 Z_3$

where  $Z_1 = R_1$ ;  $Z_2 = R_2$ ; and  $Z_3 = R_3 + j\omega L_3$

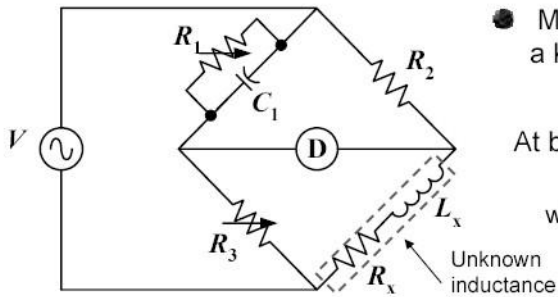
$$R_1 (R_x + j\omega L_x) = R_2 (R_3 + j\omega L_3)$$

Separation of the real and imaginary terms yields:

$$R_x = \frac{R_2 R_3}{R_1} \quad \text{and} \quad L_x = L_3 \frac{R_2}{R_1}$$

- Frequency independent
- To satisfy both balance conditions, the bridge must contain two variable elements in its configuration.

# Maxwell Bridge



- Measure an unknown inductance in terms of a known capacitance

At balance point:  $Z_x = Z_2 Z_3 Y_1$

where  $Z_2 = R_2$ ;  $Z_3 = R_3$ ; and  $Y_1 = \frac{1}{R_1} + j\omega C_1$

$$Z_x = R_x + j\omega L_x = R_2 R_3 \left( \frac{1}{R_1} + j\omega C_1 \right)$$

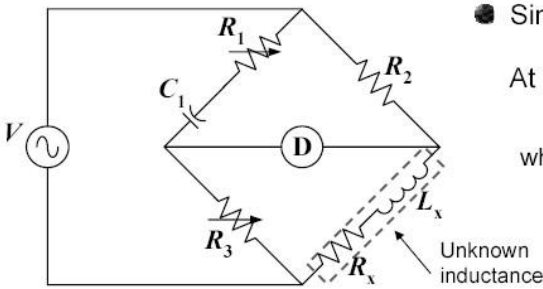
## Diagram of Maxwell Bridge

Separation of the real and imaginary terms yields:

$$R_x = \frac{R_2 R_3}{R_1} \quad \text{and} \quad L_x = R_2 R_3 C_1$$

- Frequency independent
- Suitable for Medium  $Q$  coil (1-10), impractical for high  $Q$  coil: since  $R_1$  will be very large.

# Hay Bridge



- Similar to Maxwell bridge: but  $R_1$  series with  $C_1$

At balance point:  $Z_1 Z_x = Z_2 Z_3$

where  $Z_1 = R_1 - \frac{j}{\omega C_1}$ ;  $Z_2 = R_2$ ; and  $Z_3 = R_3$

$$\left( R_1 + \frac{1}{j\omega C_1} \right) (R_x + j\omega L_x) = R_2 R_3$$

## Diagram of Hay Bridge

which expands to  $R_1 R_x + \frac{L_x}{C_1} - \frac{jR_x}{\omega C_1} + j\omega L_x R_1 = R_2 R_3$

$$R_1 R_x + \frac{L_x}{C_1} = R_2 R_3 \dots\dots\dots(1)$$

$$\frac{R_x}{\omega C_1} = \omega L_x R_1 \dots\dots\dots(2)$$

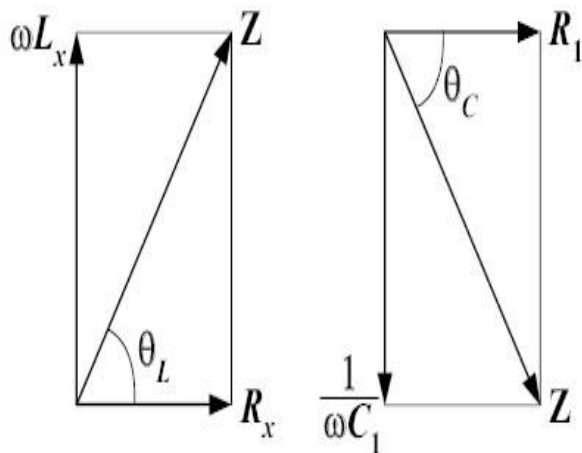
Solve the above equations simultaneously

# Hay Bridge: continues

$$R_x = \frac{\omega^2 C_1^2 R_1 R_2 R_3}{1 + \omega^2 C_1^2 R_1^2}$$

and

$$L_x = \frac{R_2 R_3 C_1}{1 + \omega^2 C_1^2 R_1^2}$$



$$\tan \theta_L = \frac{X_L}{R} = \frac{\omega L_x}{R_x} = Q$$

$$\tan \theta_C = \frac{X_C}{R} = \frac{1}{\omega C_1 R_1}$$

$$\tan \theta_L = \tan \theta_C \text{ or } Q = \frac{1}{\omega C_1 R_1}$$

Phasor diagram of arm 4 and 1

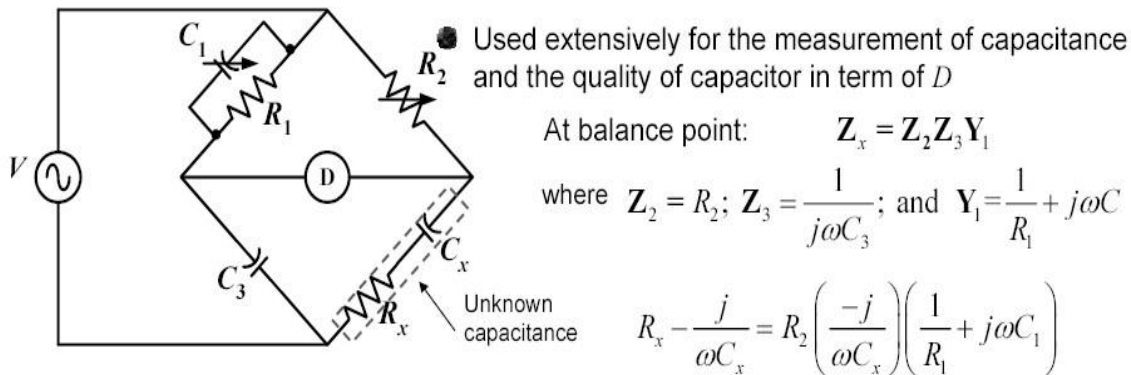
Thus,  $L_x$  can be rewritten as

$$L_x = \frac{R_2 R_3 C_1}{1 + (1/Q^2)}$$

For high  $Q$  coil ( $> 10$ ), the term  $(1/Q)^2$  can be neglected

$$L_x \approx R_2 R_3 C_1$$

# Schering Bridge



## Diagram of Schering Bridge

which expands to 
$$R_x - \frac{j}{\omega C_x} = \frac{R_2 C_1}{C_3} - \frac{j R_2}{\omega C_3 R_1}$$

Separation of the real and imaginary terms yields: 
$$R_x = R_2 \frac{C_1}{C_3} \quad \text{and} \quad C_x = C_3 \frac{R_1}{R_2}$$

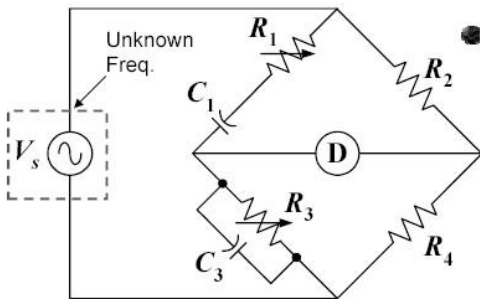
Dissipation factor of a series  $RC$  circuit: 
$$D = \frac{R_x}{X_x} = \omega R_x C_x$$

Dissipation factor tells us about the quality of a capacitor, how close the phase angle of the capacitor is to the ideal value of  $90^\circ$

For Schering Bridge: 
$$D = \omega R_x C_x = \omega R_1 C_1$$

For Schering Bridge,  $R_1$  is a fixed value, the dial of  $C_1$  can be calibrated directly in  $D$  at one particular frequency

# Wien Bridge



Measure frequency of the voltage source using series RC in one arm and parallel RC in the adjoining arm

At balance point:  $Z_2 = Z_1 Z_4 Y_3$

$$Z_1 = R_1 + \frac{1}{j\omega C_1}; Z_2 = R_2; Y_3 = \frac{1}{R_3} + j\omega C_3; \text{ and } Z_4 = R_4$$

$$R_2 = \left( R_1 - \frac{j}{\omega C_1} \right) R_4 \left( \frac{1}{R_3} + j\omega C_3 \right)$$

Diagram of Wien Bridge

which expands to  $R_2 = \frac{R_1 R_4}{R_3} + j\omega C_3 R_1 R_4 - \frac{jR_4}{\omega C_1 R_3} + \frac{R_4 C_3}{C_1}$

$$\begin{cases} \frac{R_2}{R_4} = \frac{R_1}{R_3} + \frac{C_3}{C_1} & \dots\dots\dots (1) \\ \omega C_3 R_1 = \frac{1}{\omega C_1 R_3} & \dots\dots\dots (2) \end{cases}$$

Rearrange Eq. (2) gives  $f = \frac{1}{2\pi \sqrt{C_1 C_3 R_1 R_3}}$  | In most, Wien Bridge,  $R_1 = R_3$  and  $C_1 = C_3$

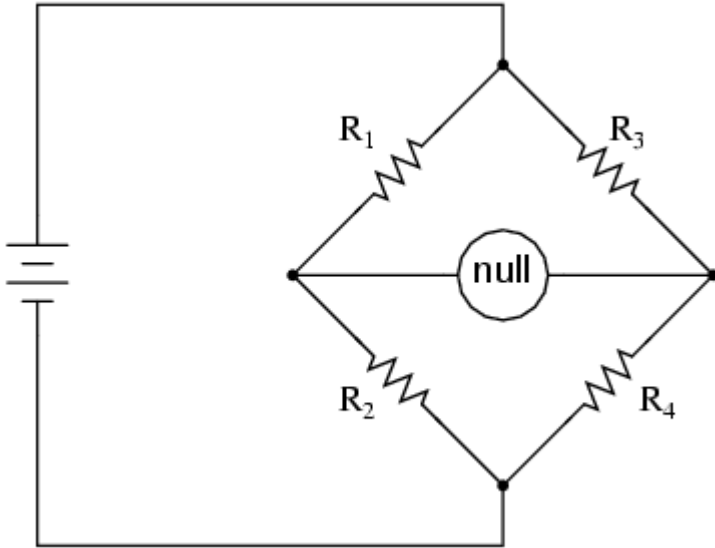
$$(1) \rightarrow R_2 = 2R_4 \quad (2) \rightarrow f = \frac{1}{2\pi RC}$$

## AC bridge circuits

As we saw with DC measurement circuits, the circuit configuration known as a bridge can be very useful way to measure unknown values of resistance. This is true with AC as well, and we can apply the very same principle to the accurate measurement of unknown impedances.

To review, the bridge circuit works as a pair of two-component voltage dividers connected across the same source voltage, with a null-detector meter movement connected between them to indicate a condition of “balance” at zero volts: (Figure below)

indicate a condition of



An balanced bridge shows a “null”, or minimum reading, on the indicator.

Any one of the four resistors in the above bridge can be the resistor of unknown value, and its value can be determined by a ratio of the other three, which are “calibrated,” or whose resistances are known to a precise degree. When the bridge is in a balanced condition (zero voltage as indicated by the null detector), the ratio works out to be this:

*In a condition of **balance**:*

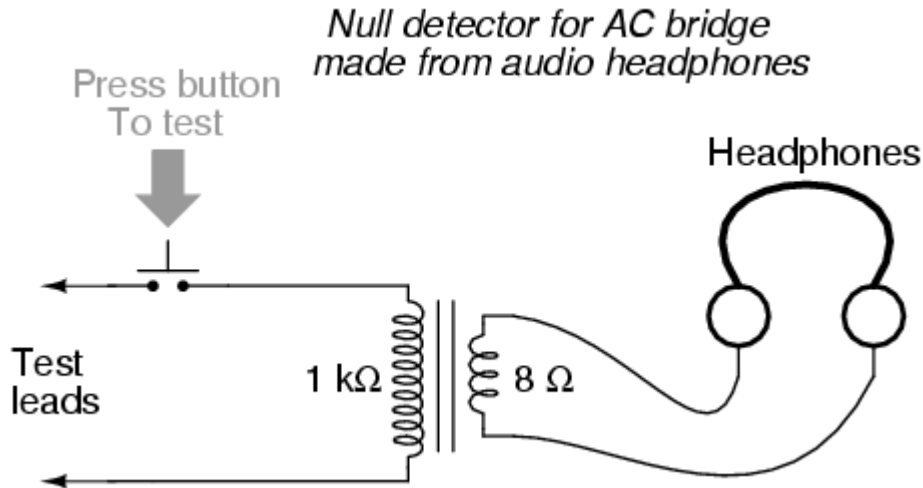
$$\frac{R_1}{R_2} = \frac{R_3}{R_4}$$

One of the advantages of using a bridge circuit to measure resistance is that the voltage of the power source is irrelevant. Practically speaking, the higher the supply voltage, the easier it is to detect a condition of imbalance between the four resistors with the null detector, and thus the more sensitive it will be. A greater supply voltage leads to the possibility of increased measurement precision. However, there will be no fundamental error introduced as a result of a lesser or greater power supply voltage unlike other types of resistance measurement schemes.

Impedance bridges work the same, only the balance equation is with *complex* quantities, as both magnitude and phase across the components of the two dividers must be equal in order for the null detector to indicate “zero.” The null detector, of course,

must be a device capable of detecting very small AC voltages. An oscilloscope is often used for this, although very sensitive electromechanical meter movements and even headphones (small speakers) may be used if the source frequency is within an audio range.

One way to maximize the effectiveness of audio headphones as a null detector is to connect them to the signals our circuit through an impedance-matching transformer. Headphone speakers are typically low-impedance units ( $8\Omega$ ), requiring substantial current to drive, and so a step-down transformer helps “match” low-current signals to the impedance of the headphone speakers. An audio output transformer works well for this purpose: (Figure below)



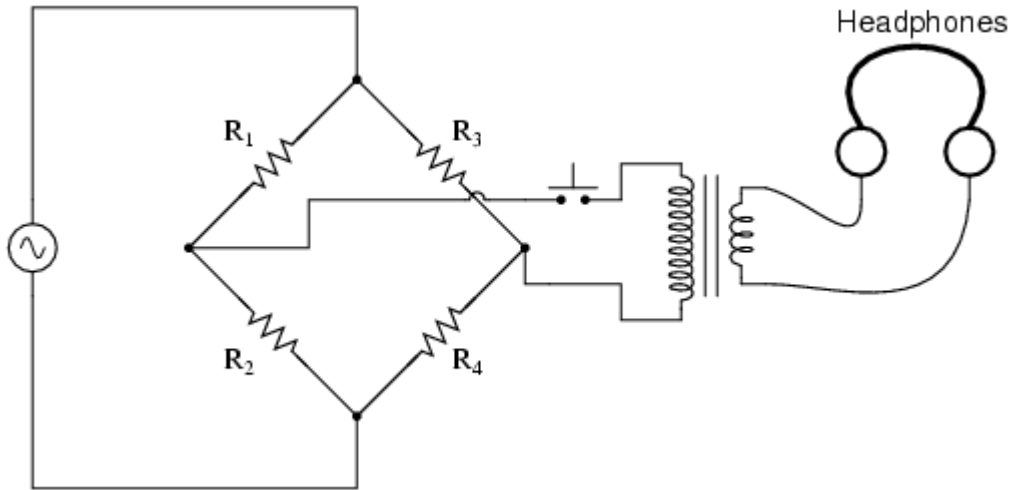
*“Modern” low-Ohm headphones require an impedance matching transformer for use as a sensitive null detector.*

Using a pair of headphones that completely surround the ears (the “closed-cup” type), I’ve been able to detect currents of less than  $0.1\ \mu\text{A}$  with this simple detector circuit. Roughly equal performance was obtained using two different step-down transformers: a small power transformer (120/6 volt ratio), and an audio output transformer (1000:8 ohm impedance ratio). With the push button switch in place to interrupt current, this circuit is usable for detecting signals from DC

to over 2 MHz: even if the frequency is far above or below the audio range, a “click” will be heard from the headphones each time the switch is pressed and released.

Connected to a resistive bridge, the whole circuit looks like Figure below.

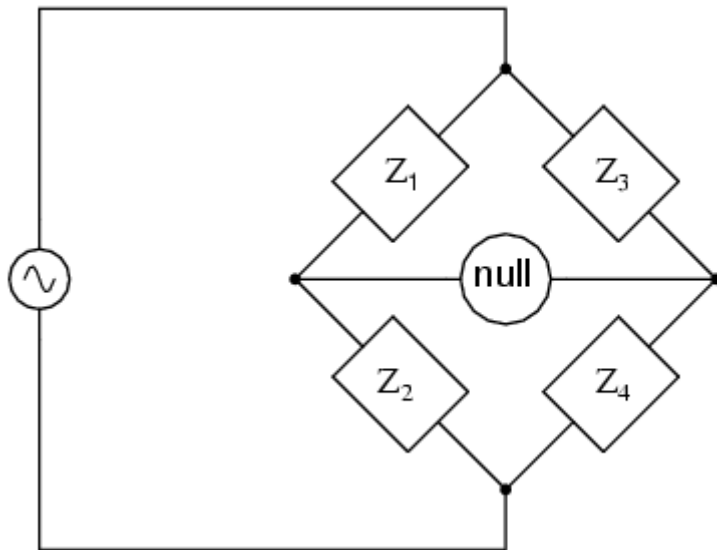




*Bridge with sensitive AC null detector.*

Listening to the headphones as one or more of the resistor “arms” of the bridge is adjusted, a condition of balance will be realized when the headphones fail to produce “clicks” (or tones, if the bridge’s power source frequency is within an audio range) as the switch is actuated.

When describing general AC bridges, where *impedances* and not just resistances must be in proper ratio for balance, it is sometimes helpful to draw the respective bridge legs in the form of box-shaped components, each one with a certain impedance: (Figure below)



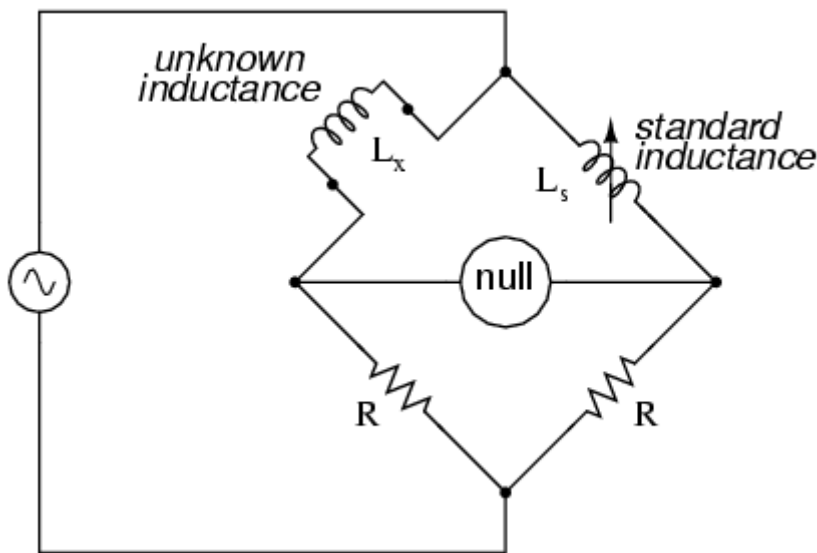
*Generalized AC impedance bridge:  $Z$  = nonspecific complex impedance.*

For this general form of AC bridge to balance, the impedance ratios of each branch must be equal:

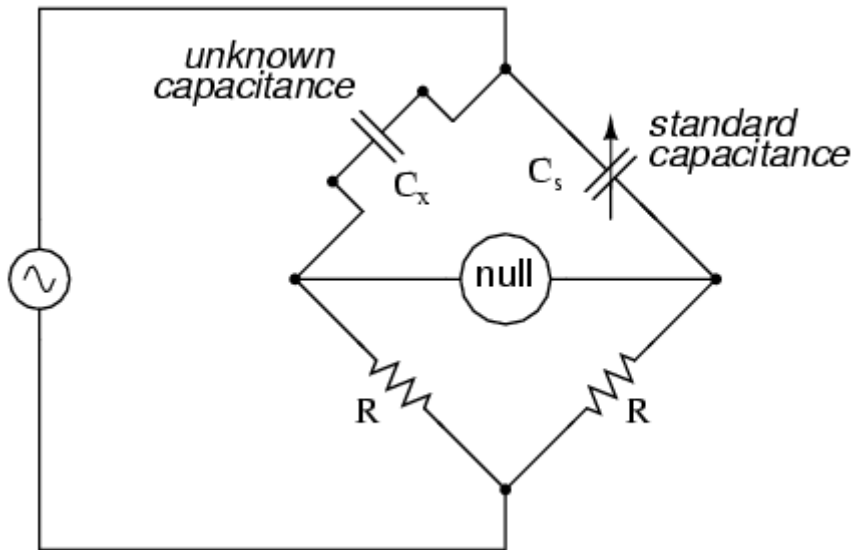
$$\frac{Z_1}{Z_2} = \frac{Z_3}{Z_4}$$

Again, it must be stressed that the impedance quantities in the above equation *must* be complex, accounting for both magnitude and phase angle. It is insufficient that the impedance magnitudes alone be balanced; without phase angles in balance as well, there will still be voltage across the terminals of the null detector and the bridge will not be balanced.

Bridge circuits can be constructed to measure just about any device value desired, be it capacitance, inductance, resistance, or even "Q." As always in bridge measurement circuits, the unknown quantity is always "balanced" against a known standard, obtained from a high-quality, calibrated component that can be adjusted in value until the null detector device indicates a condition of balance. Depending on how the bridge is set up, the unknown component's value may be determined directly from the setting of the calibrated standard, or derived from that standard through a mathematical formula. A couple of simple bridge circuits are shown below, one for inductance (Figure below) and one for capacitance: (Figure below)

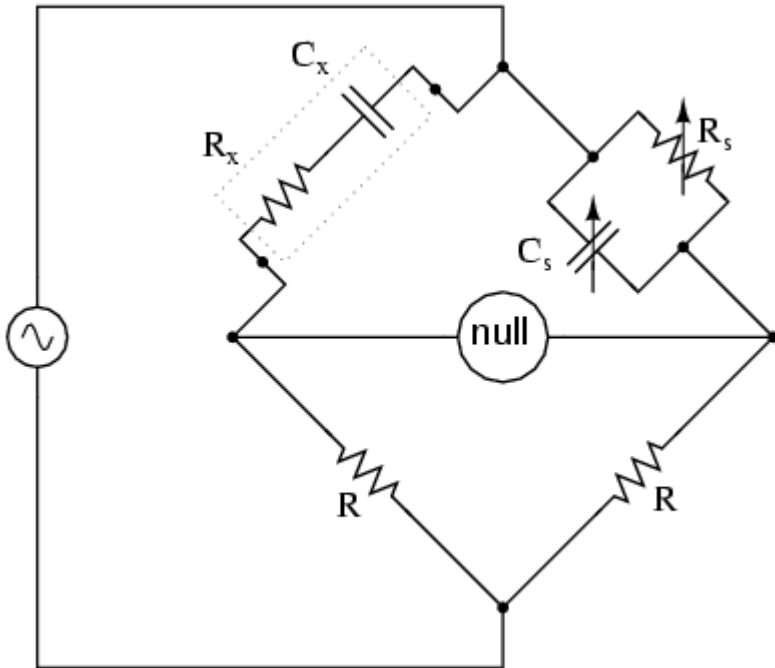


*Symmetrical bridge measures unknown inductor by comparison to a standard inductor.*



Symmetrical bridge measures unknown capacitor by comparison to a standard capacitor. Simple “symmetrical” bridges such as these are so named because they exhibit symmetry (mirror-image similarity) from left to right. The two bridge circuits shown above are balanced by adjusting the calibrated reactive component ( $L_s$  or  $C_s$ ). They are a bit simplified from their real-life counterparts, as practical symmetrical bridge circuits often have a calibrated, variable resistor in series or parallel with the reactive component to balance out stray resistance in the unknown component. But, in the hypothetical world of perfect components, these simple bridge circuits do just fine to illustrate the basic concept.

An example of a little extra complexity added to compensate for real-world effects can be found in the so-called *Wien bridge*, which uses a parallel capacitor-resistor standard impedance to balance out an unknown series capacitor-resistor combination. (Figure below) All capacitors have some amount of internal resistance, be it literal or equivalent (in the form of dielectric heating losses) which tends to spoil their otherwise perfectly reactive natures. This internal resistance may be of interest to measure, and so the Wien bridge attempts to do so by providing a balancing impedance that isn't “pure” either:

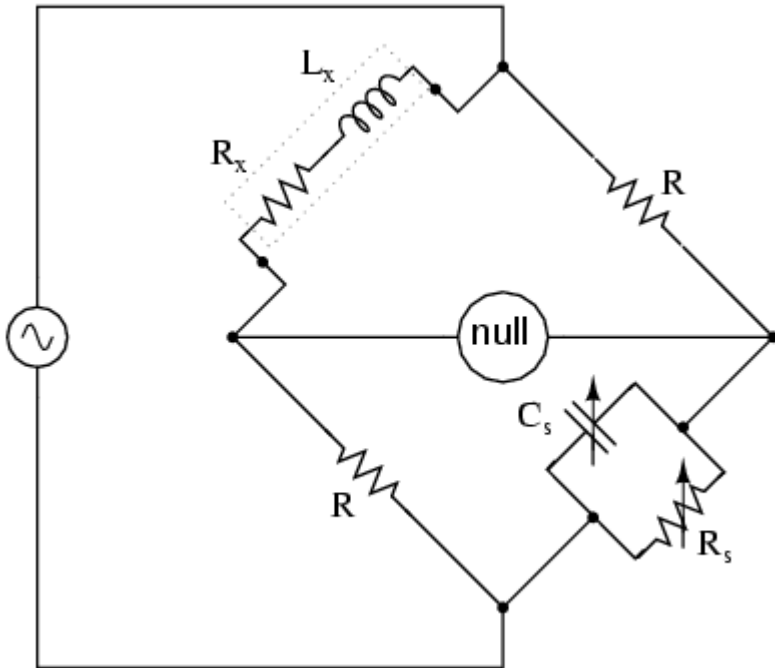


Wien Bridge measures both capacitive  $C_x$  and resistive  $R_x$  components of “real” capacitor.

Being that there are two standard components to be adjusted (a resistor and a capacitor) this bridge will take a little more time to balance than the others we've seen so far. The combined effect of  $R_s$  and  $C_s$  is to alter the magnitude and phase angle until the bridge achieves a condition of balance. Once that balance is achieved, the settings of  $R_s$  and  $C_s$  can be read from their calibrated knobs, the parallel impedance of the two determined mathematically, and the unknown capacitance and resistance determined mathematically from the balance equation ( $Z_1/Z_2 = Z_3/Z_4$ ).

It is assumed in the operation of the Wien bridge that the standard capacitor has negligible internal resistance, or at least that resistance is already known so that it can be factored into the balance equation. Wien bridges are useful for determining the values of “lossy” capacitor designs like electrolytics, where the internal resistance is relatively high. They are also used as frequency meters, because the balance of the bridge is frequency-dependent. When used in this fashion, the capacitors are made fixed (and usually of equal value) and the top two resistors are made variable and are adjusted by means of the same knob.

An interesting variation on this theme is found in the next bridge circuit, used to precisely measure inductances.



*Maxwell-Wien bridge measures an inductor in terms of a capacitor standard.*

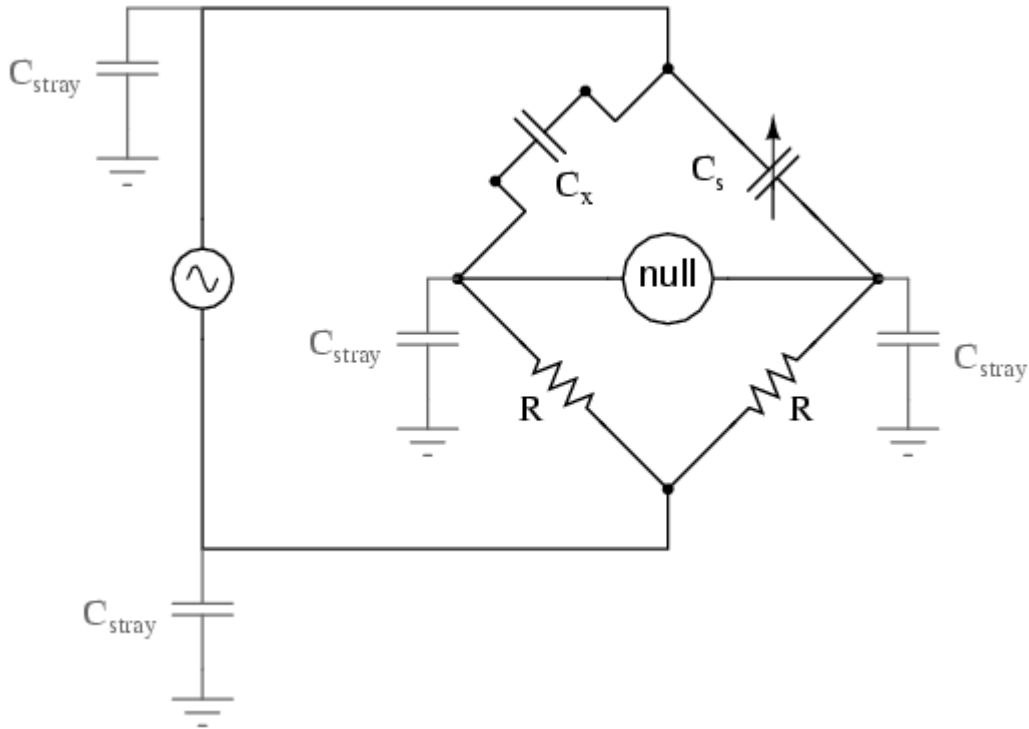
This ingenious bridge circuit is known as the *Maxwell-Wien bridge* (sometimes known plainly as the *Maxwell bridge*), and is used to measure unknown inductance in terms of calibrated resistance and capacitance. (Figure above) Calibration-grade inductors are more difficult to manufacture than capacitors of similar precision, and so the use of a simple “symmetrical” inductance bridge is not always practical. Because the phase shifts of inductors and capacitors are exactly opposite each other, a capacitive impedance can balance out an inductive impedance if they are located in opposite legs of a bridge, as they are here. Another advantage of using a Maxwell bridge to measure inductance rather than an asymmetrical inductance bridge is the elimination of measurement error due to mutual inductance between two inductors. Magnetic fields can be difficult to shield, and even a small amount of coupling between coils in a bridge can introduce substantial errors in certain conditions. With no second inductor to react within the Maxwell bridge, this problem is eliminated.

For easiest operation, the standard capacitor ( $C_s$ ) and the resistor in parallel with it ( $R_s$ ) are made variable, and both must be adjusted to achieve balance. However, the bridge can be made to work if the capacitor is fixed (non-variable) and more than one resistor is made variable (at least the resistor in parallel with the capacitor, and one of the other two). However, in the latter configuration it takes more trial-and-error adjustment to achieve balance, as the different variable resistors interact in balancing magnitude and phase.

Unlike the plain Wien bridge, the balance of the Maxwell-Wien bridge is independent of source frequency, and in some cases this bridge can be made to balance in the presence of mixed frequencies from the AC voltage source, the limiting factor being the inductor's stability over a wide frequency range.

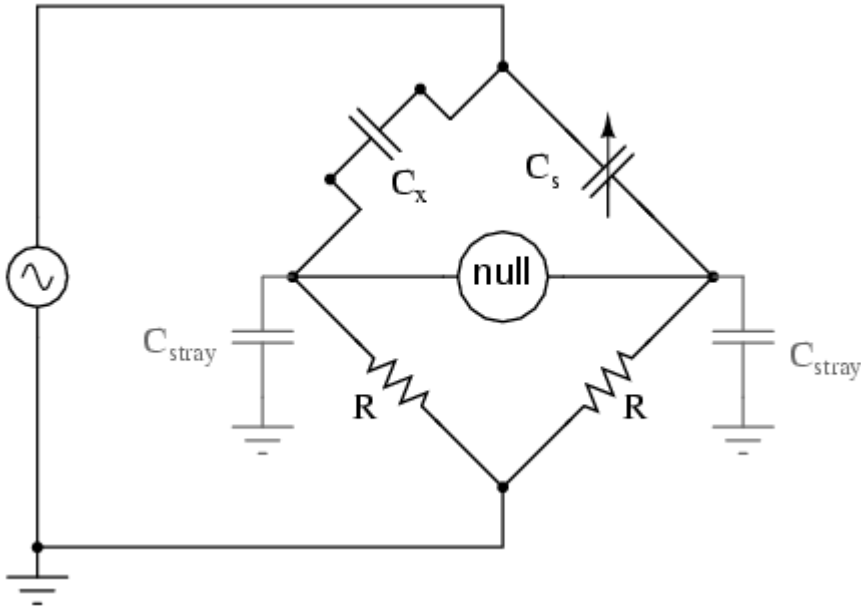
There are more variations beyond these designs, but a full discussion is not warranted here. General-purpose impedance bridge circuits are manufactured which can be switched into more than one configuration for maximum flexibility of use.

A potential problem in sensitive AC bridge circuits is that of stray capacitance between either end of the null detector unit and ground (earth) potential. Because capacitance can "conduct" alternating current by charging and discharging, they form stray current paths to the AC voltage source which may affect bridge balance: (Figure below)



*Stray capacitance to ground may introduce errors into the bridge.*

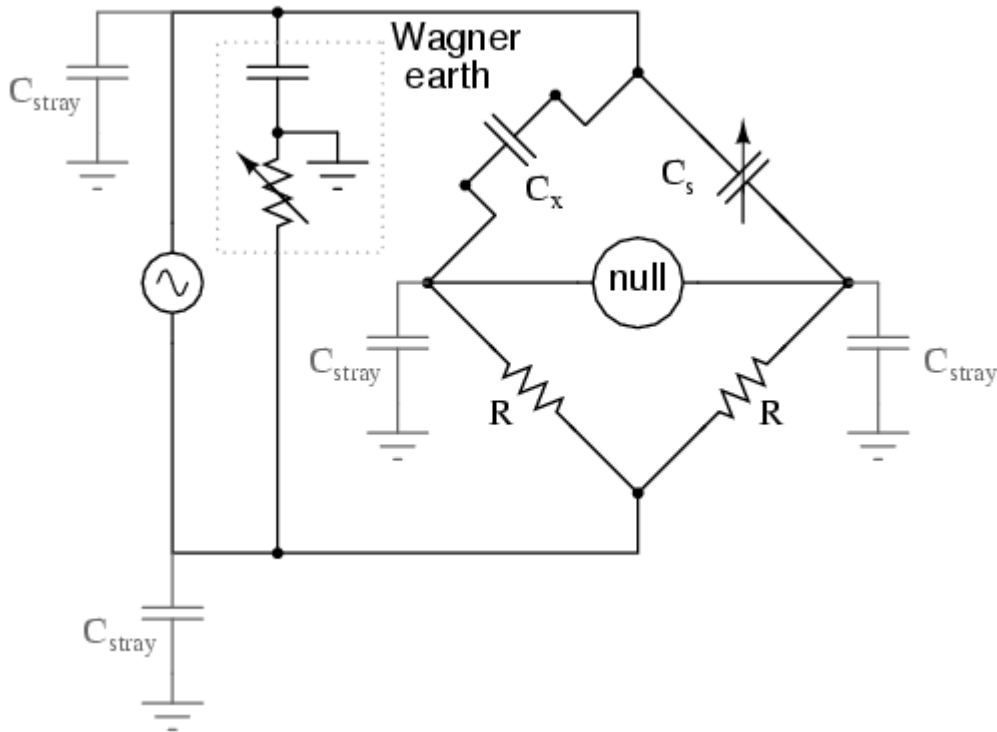
While reed-type meters are imprecise, their operational principle is not. In lieu of mechanical resonance, we may substitute electrical resonance and design a frequency meter using an inductor and capacitor in the form of a tank circuit (parallel inductor and capacitor). One or both components are made adjustable, and a meter is placed in the circuit to indicate maximum amplitude of voltage across the two components. The adjustment knob(s) are calibrated to show resonant frequency for any given setting, and the frequency is read from the meter after the device has been adjusted for maximum indication on the meter. Essentially, this is a tunable filter circuit which is adjusted and then read in a manner similar to a bridge circuit (which must be balanced for a "null" condition and then read). The problem is worsened if the AC voltage source is firmly grounded at one end, the total stray impedance for leakage currents made far less and any leakage currents through these stray capacitances made greater as a result: (Figure below)



*Stray capacitance errors are more severe if one side of the AC supply is grounded.*

One way of greatly reducing this effect is to keep the null detector at ground potential, so there will be no AC voltage between it and the ground, and thus no current through stray capacitances. However, directly connecting the null detector to ground is not an option, as it would create a *direct* current path for stray currents, which would be worse than any capacitive path. Instead, a special voltage divider circuit called a *Wagner ground* or *Wagner earth* may be used to maintain the null detector at ground potential without the need for a direct connection to the null detector. (Figure below)

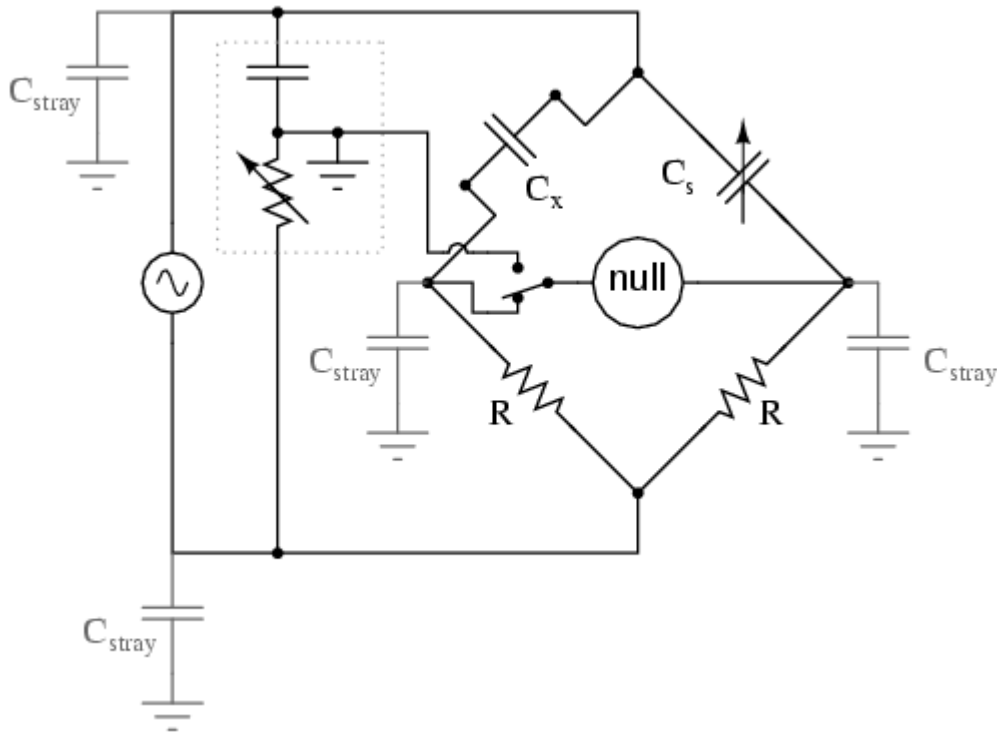




*Wagner ground for AC supply minimizes the effects of stray capacitance to ground on the bridge.*

The Wagner earth circuit is nothing more than a voltage divider, designed to have the voltage ratio and phases the same on each side of the bridge. Because the midpoint of the Wagner divider is directly grounded, any other divider circuit (including either side of the bridge) having the same voltage proportions and phases as the Wagner divider, and powered by the same AC voltage source, will be at ground potential as well. Thus, the Wagner earth divider forces the null detector to be at ground potential, without a direct connection between the detector and ground.

There is often a provision made in the null detector connection to confirm proper setting of the Wagner earth divider circuit: a two-position switch, (Figure below) so that one end of the null detector may be connected to either the bridge or the Wagner earth. When the null detector registers zero signal in both switch positions, the bridge is not only guaranteed to be balanced, but the null detector is also guaranteed to be at zero potential with respect to ground, thus eliminating any errors due to leakage currents through stray detector-to-ground capacitances:



*Switch-upositionallowsadjustmentoftheWagnerground.*

**REVIEW:**

- AC bridge circuits work on the same basic principle as DC bridge circuits: that a balanced ratio of impedances (rather than resistances) will result in a “balanced” condition as indicated by the null-detector device.
- Null detectors for AC bridges may be sensitive electromechanical meter movements, oscilloscopes (CRT's), headphones (amplified or unamplified), or any other device capable of registering very small AC voltage levels. Like DC null detectors, its only required point of calibration accuracy is at zero.
- AC bridge circuits can be of the “symmetrical” type where an unknown impedance is balanced by a standard impedance of similar type on the same side (top or bottom) of the bridge. Or, they can be “non symmetrical,” using parallel impedances to balance series impedances, or even capacitances balancing out inductances.
- AC bridge circuits often have more than one adjustment, since both impedance magnitude and phase angle must be properly matched to balance.

- Some impedance bridge circuits are frequency-sensitive while others are not. The frequency-sensitive types may be used as frequency measurement devices if all component values are accurately known.
- A *Wagner earth* or *Wagner ground* is a voltage divider circuit added to an AC bridge to help reduce errors due to stray capacitance coupling the null detector to ground.

### **Two Marks**

**1. What is the basic principle used in a potentiometer.**

In a potentiometer, the unknown EMF is measured by comparing it with a standard known EMF.

**2. Name the potentiometer material used.**

German silver, Manganin wire

**3. Define standardization.**

It is the process by which the current flowing through the potentiometer coil is adjusted so that the voltage across the standard cell is equal to the EMF of the standard cell.

**4. State the applications of a potentiometer.**

Used for measurement of unknown EMF  
 Used for ammeter calibration  
 Used for Voltmeter calibration  
 Used for wattmeter calibration

**5. State the advantages of a potentiometer.**

More accurate  
 Easy to adjust

**6. What are the practical difficulties in a potentiometer.**

More complicated  
 Accuracy is seriously affected

Difficulty is experienced in standardization.

**7. Classify potentiometers.**

Polar potentiometer

Coordinate potentiometer.

**8. How the phase angle is measured in polar type potentiometers.**

It is measured from the position of phase shifter.

**9. Name some ac potentiometers.** Drysdale Tinsley potentiometer Gall Tinsley potentiometer

**10. State the advantages of ac potentiometers.**

Can be used for both magnitude and phase angle measurement. Can be used for self inductance of the coil.

It is used in metering errors in CTS

**11. State the applications of ac potentiometers.**

Measurement of self inductance. Ammeter calibration Voltmeter calibration Wattmeter calibration.

**12. State the advantages of instrument transformers.**

Used for extension of range. Power loss is minimum. High voltage and currents can be measured.

**13. State the disadvantages of instrument transformers.**

Cannot be used for dc measurements.

**14. What are the constructional parts of current transformer?**

Primary winding Secondary winding Magnetic core.

**15. Name the errors caused in current transformer.**

Ratio error

Phase angle error

**16. Define ratio error.**

The ratio of energy component current and secondary current is known as the ratio error.

**17. How the phase angle error is created.**

It is mainly due to magnetizing component of excitation current.

**18. State the use of potential transformer.**

Used for measurement of high voltage

Used for energizing relays and protective circuits.

**19. Name the errors caused in potential transformer.**

Ratio error

Phase angle error.

**20. How the CT and PT are connected in the circuits.**

CT is connected in series and PT is connected in parallel.

**21. Classify resistance.**

Low resistance Medium resistance High resistance

**22. What is the range of medium resistance?**

Resistance of about 1 ohm to 100 kilohms are called medium resistance.

**23. Name the methods used for low resistance measurement.**

Ammeter-

voltmeter method Potentiometer method

Kelvin double bridge method Ohmmeter method.

**24. Name the methods used for medium resistance measurement**

Ammeter-

voltmeter method Substitution method Wheatstone

bridge method Carey Foster bridge method.

**25. Where high resistance is required?**

Insulation resistance of cables High resistance circuit elements  
Volume resistivity of a material

Surface resistivity.

**26. State the advantages of Wheatstone bridge method.**

Free from errors

The balance is quite independent of source emf

**27. State the advantages of Kelvin double bridge method.**

Errors owing to contact resistance, resistance of leads can be eliminated by using this Kelvin double bridge.

**28. What are the constructional features of doctor ohmmeter?**

Permanent magnet  
Current coil  
Pressure coil  
Battery  
Pointer with graduated scale.

**29. Define megger.**

The megger is an instrument used for the measurement of high resistance and insulation resistance.

**30. Name the parts of megger.**

It consists of a hand driven DC generator and a direct reading true ohmmeter.

**31. What is the range of low resistance?**

Resistance of about 1 ohm and under are included in this class.

**32. What is the range of medium resistance?**

Resistance of 100 kilohms and above are usually termed as high resistance.

**33. What ranges of resistance can be measured by using doctor ohmmeter.**

0 to 500 microohms

0 to 5 milliohms

0 to 50 milliohms

0 to 500 milliohms

0 to 5 ohms.

**34. How is resistance measured in indirect deflection method.**

The deflection of galvanometer connected in series with the resistance to be measured gives a measure of the insulation resistance.

**35. Classify the cables according to their sheathing.**

Armoured cables Unarmoured cables.

**36. Name the leads present in megger.**

Earth lead Line lead Guard lead.

**37. How resistance is measured by using ohm meter method.**

Series ohm meter method Shunt ohm meter method.

**38. How resistance is measured in loss of charge method.**

In this method a capacitor is charged and discharged for a specific time period and from this resistance is measured.

**39. State the balance equation used in bridge methods.**

The product of opposite branch resistances are equal.

**40. State the advantages of price's guard wire method.**

In this method leakage current does not flow through the meter and therefore it gives accurate reading.

**41. How the earth resistance is measured.**

By using earth megger the value of surface earth resistance can be measured.

**42. State the use of AC bridges.**

AC bridges are used for the measurement of self and mutual inductance and capacitance.

**43. State the balance equation used in AC bridges.**

The product of opposite branch impedances are equal.

**44. Name the bridge circuits used for the measurement of self inductance.**

Maxwell's bridge Maxwell-Wein Bridge Anderson bridge Hay's bridge.

**45. Name the bridge circuits used for the measurement of capacitance.**

DeSauty's bridge  
Schering Bridge  
Wien bridge

**46. Name the bridge circuits used for the measurement of mutual inductance.**

The Heaviside Campbell bridge  
The Campbell bridge

**47. Which type of detector is used in AC bridges?**

Vibration galvanometers are used.

**48. Name the AC sources used in AC bridges.**

AC supply with step-down transformer  
Motor driven alternator  
Audio frequency and radio frequency oscillator.

**49. In which cases are audio frequency oscillators used as AC sources?**

For high frequency applications audio frequency oscillators are used.

**50. Name the sources of errors**

**in AC bridges.** Errors due to stray magnetic fields  
Leakage errors  
Eddy current errors  
Residual errors  
Frequency and waveform errors.

**51. State the advantages of Maxwell-Wien bridge.**

The balance equation is independent of frequency and therefore more accurate.

**52. State the disadvantages of Maxwell-Wien bridge.**

This method needs a standard variable capacitor. Variable capacitor is costly.

**53. State the advantages of Hay's bridge.**

The balance equation is independent of frequency and therefore any change in frequency will affect the measurement.

**54. State the use of Wien bridge.**

It is used for the measurement of unknown capacitance and frequency.



**55. What is the use of Campbell bridge?**

This is used for the measurement of mutual inductance.

**56. What is meant by inductometer?**

The standard variable mutual inductance meter is called an inductometer.

**57. Define Q-factor of the coil.**

It is the ratio between power stored in the coil to the power dissipated in the coil.

**58. Name the components of iron loss.**

Eddy current loss, Hysteresis loss.

**59. Name the faults that occur**

**in cables.** Breakdown of cable insulation, Short circuit fault,

Open conductor fault.

**60. Name the loop test methods used in location of fault.**

Murray loop test, Varley loop test.

**61. How leakage errors are minimized in a bridge circuit.**

By using high grade insulation.

#### **Unit 4**

As we know a word "meter" associated with the measurement. Meter is an instrument which can measure a particular quantity. We know, the unit of **current** is Ampere. **Ammeter** means Ampere-meter which measures ampere value. Ampere is the unit of current so an ammeter is a meter or an instrument which measures current. The main **principle of ammeter** is that it must have a very low **resistance** and also inductive reactance. Now, why do we need this? Can't we connect an ammeter in parallel? The answer to this question is it has very low impedance because it must have very low amount of **voltage** drop across it and must be connected in series connection because current is same in the series circuit. Also due to very low impedance the power loss will be low and if it is connected in parallel it becomes almost a short circuited path and all the current will flow through ammeter as a result of high current the instrument may burn. So due to this reason it must be connected in series. For an ideal ammeter, it must have zero impedance so that it has zero voltage drop across it so the power loss in the instrument is zero. But the ideal is not achievable practically.



### Classification or Types of Ammeter

Depending on the constructing principle, there are many types of ammeter we get, they are mainly -

1. **Permanent Magnet Moving Coil (PMMC)** ammeter.
2. **Moving Iron (MI)** Ammeter.
3. **Electrodynamometer** type Ammeter.
4. **Rectifier type** Ammeter.

Depending on this types of measurement we do, we have-

1. **DC Ammeter.**
2. **AC Ammeter.**

**DC Ammeter** are mainly **PMMC instruments**, MI can measure both AC and DC **currents**, also Electro-dynamometer type thermal instrument can measure DC and AC, **induction meters** are not generally used for ammeter construction due to their higher cost, inaccuracy in measurement.

### Description of Different Types of Ammeters

#### PMMC Ammeter

##### Principle PMMC Ammeter:

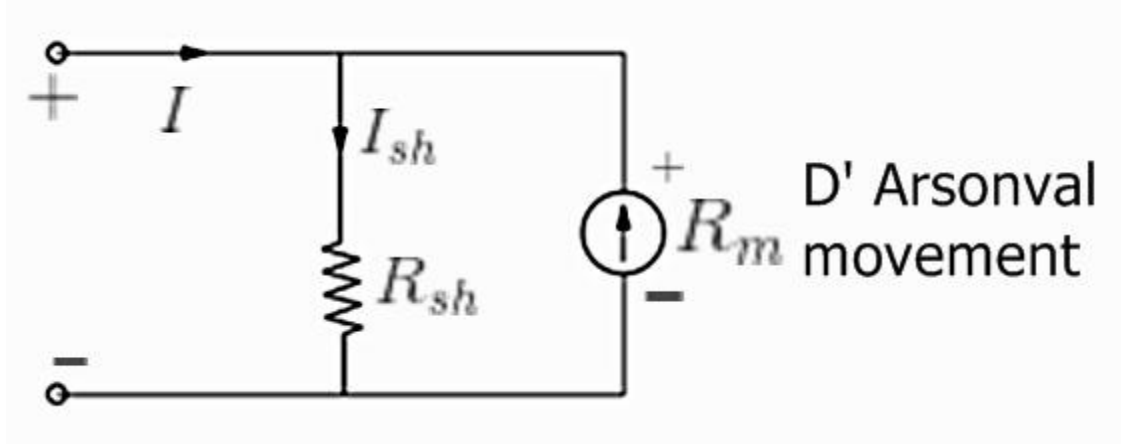
When current carrying conductor placed in a **magnetic field**, a mechanical force acts on the conductor, if it is attached to a moving system, with the coil movement, the pointer moves over the scale.

**Explanation:** As the name suggests it has permanent magnets which are employed in this kind of **measuring instruments**. It is particularly suited for DC measurement because here deflection is proportional to the current and hence if current direction is reversed, deflection of the pointer will also be reversed so it is used only for DC measurement. This type of instrument is called D Arsonval type instrument. It has major advantage of having linear scale, low power consumption, high accuracy. Major disadvantage of being measured only DC quantity, higher cost etc.

Deflecting torque,  $T = BiNlbNm$  Where,  
 $B$  = Flux density in  $Wb/m^2$ .  
 $i$  = Current flowing through the coil in Amp.  
 $l$  = Length of the coil in m.  
 $b$  = Breadth of the coil in m.  
 $N$  = No of turns in the coil.

**Extension of Range in a PMMC Ammeter:**

Now it looks quite extraordinary that we can extend the range of measurement in this type of instrument. Many of us will think that we must buy a new ammeter to measure higher amount of current and also many of us may think we have to change the constructional feature so that we can measure higher currents, but there is nothing like that, we just have to connect a shunt resistance in parallel and the range of that instrument can be extended, this is a simple solution provided by the instrument.



In the figure  $I =$  total current flowing in the circuit in Amp.  $I_{sh}$  is the current through the shunt resistor in Amp.

$$\text{Then, } R_{sh} = \frac{R_m}{\frac{I}{I - I_{sh}} - 1}$$

$R_m$  is the ammeter resistance in Ohm.

### MI Ammeter

It is a moving iron instrument, used for both AC and DC, It can be used for both because the deflection  $\theta$  proportional square of the current so what ever is the direction of current, it shows directional deflection, further they are classified in two more ways-

1. **Attraction type.**
2. **Repulsion type.**

Its torque equation is:  $T = \frac{1}{2} I^2 \frac{dL}{d\theta}$  Where,

$I$  is the total current flowing in the circuit in Amp.

$L$  is the self inductance of the coil in Henry.

$\theta$  is the deflection in Radian.

1. **Attraction Type MI Instrument Principle:**  
When an unmagnetised soft iron is placed in the magnetic field, it is attracted towards the coil, if a moving system attached and current is passed through a coil, it creates a magnetic field which attracts iron piece and creates deflecting torque as a result of which pointer moves over the scale.

2. **Repulsion Type MI Instrument Principle:**  
When two iron pieces are magnetized with same polarity by passing a current than repulsion between them occurs and that repulsion produces a deflecting torque due to which the pointer moves. The advantages of MI instruments are they can measure both AC and DC, cheap, low friction errors, robustness etc. It is mainly used in AC measurement because in DC measurement error will be more due to hysteresis.

### Electrodynamometer Type Ammeter

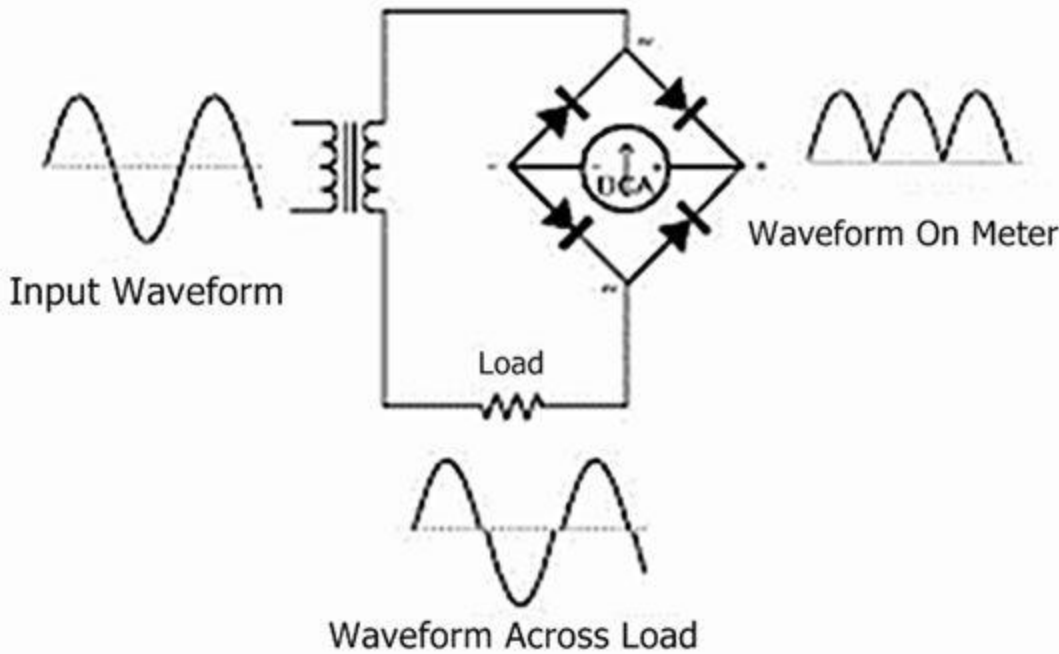
This can be used to measure both i.e. AC and DC currents. Now we see that we have PMMC and MI instrument for the measurement of AC and DC currents, a question may arise - "why do we need

Electrodynamometer Ammeter? if we can measure current accurately by other instrument also?". The answer is **Electrodynamometer instruments** have the same calibration for both AC and DC i.e. if it is calibrated with DC, then also without calibrating we can measure AC.

**Principle** **Electrodynamometer** **Type** **Ammeter:**  
 There we have two coils, namely fixed and moving coils. If a current is passed through two coils it will stay in the zero position due to the development of equal and opposite torque. If somehow, the direction of one torque is reversed as the current in the coil reverses, an unidirectional torque is produced. For ammeter, the connection is a series one and  $\phi = 0$

Where,  $\phi$  is the phase angle.  $T = I^2 \frac{dM}{d\theta}$  Where, I is the amount of current flowing in the circuit in Amp. M = **Mutual inductance** of the coil. They have no hysteresis error, used for both AC and DC measurement, the main disadvantages are they have low torque/weight ratio, high friction loss, expensive than other measuring instruments etc.

**Rectifier Ammeter**



**Principle of**

**Rectifier Ammeter:**

They are used for AC measurement which is connected to secondary of a **current transformer**, the secondary current is much less than primary and connected with a bridge rectifier to moving coil ammeter.

**Advantages:**

- 1. It can be used in high frequency also.
- 2. Uniform scale for most of the ranges.

**Disadvantages** being error due to temperature decrease in sensitivity in AC operation.

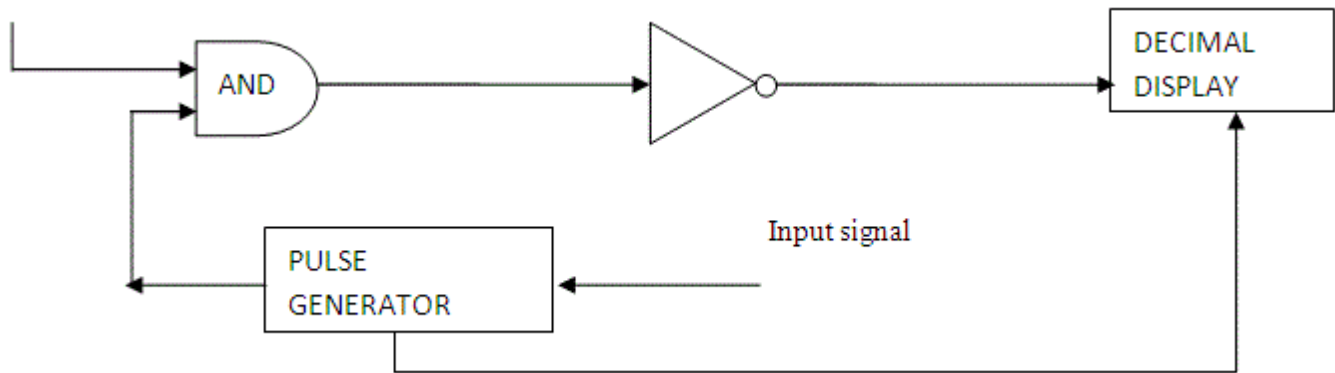
**Voltmeter** is an **electrical measuring instrument** which is used to measure **potential difference** between two points. The **voltage** to be measured may be AC or DC. Two **types of voltmeters** are available for the

purpose of voltage measurement i.e. analog and digital. Analog voltmeters generally contain a dial with a needle moving over it according to the measur and hence displaying the value of the same. With the passage of time analog voltmeters are replaced by **digital voltmeters** due to the same advantages associated with digital systems. Although analog voltmeters are not fully replaced by **digital voltmeters**, still there are many places where analog voltmeters are preferred over digital voltmeters. Digital voltmeters display the value of AC or DC voltage being measured directly as discrete numerical instead of a pointer deflection on a continuous scale as in analog instruments.

**Advantages Associated with Digital Voltmeters**

- Read out of **DVMs** is easy as it eliminates observational **errors in measurement** committed by operators.
- **Error** on account of parallax and approximation is entirely eliminated.
- Reading can be taken very fast.
- Output can be fed to memory devices for storage and future computations.
- Versatile and accurate
- Compact and cheap
- Low power requirements
- Portability increased

**Working Principle of Digital Voltmeter**



The block diagram of a simple digital voltmeter is shown in the figure.

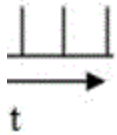
**Explanation of various blocks**

**Input signal:** It is basically the signal i.e. voltage to be measured.

**Pulse generator:** Actually it is a **voltage source**. It uses digital, analog or both techniques to generate a rectangular pulse. The width and frequency of the rectangular pulse is controlled by the digital circuitry inside the generator while amplitude and rise & fall time is controlled by analog circuitry.

**AND gate:** It gives high output only when both the inputs are high. When a train pulse is fed to it along with rectangular pulse, it provides us an output having train pulses with duration as same as the rectangular pulse from the pulse generator.





of AND gate

**NOT gate:** It inverts the output of AND gate.



of NOT gate

**Decimal Display:** It counts the numbers of impulses and hence the duration and display the value of voltage on LED or LCD display after calibrating it.

Now we are in situation to understand the **working of a digital voltmeter** as follows:

- Unknown voltage signal is fed to the pulse generator which generates a pulse whose width is proportional to the input signal.
- Output of pulse generator is fed to one leg of the AND gate.
- The input signal to the other leg of the AND gate is a train of pulses.
- Output of AND gate is positive triggered train of duration same as the width of the pulse generated by the pulse generator.
- This positive triggered train is fed to the inverter which converts it into a negative triggered train.
- Output of the inverter is fed to a counter which counts the number of triggers in the duration which is proportional to the input signal i.e. voltage under measurement.
- Thus, counter can be calibrated to indicate voltage in volts directly.

We can see the working of digital voltmeter that it is nothing but an analog to digital converter which converts an analog signal into a train of pulses, the number of which is proportional to the input signal. So a **digital voltmeter** can be made by using any one of the A/D conversion methods.

### Input signal



On the basis of A/D conversion method used digital voltmeters can be classified as:

- Ramp type digital voltmeter
- Integrating type voltmeter
- Potentiometric type digital voltmeters
- Successive approximation type digital voltmeter
- Continuous balance type digital voltmeter

Now-a-days **digital voltmeters** are also replaced by digital millimeters due to its multitasking feature i.e. it can be used for measuring **current**, voltage and **resistance**. But still there are some fields where separated digital voltmeters are being used.

Watt hour meter or energy meter is an instrument which measures amount of electrical energy used by the consumers. Utilities install these instruments at every place like homes, industries, organizations to charge the electricity consumption by loads such as lights, fans and other appliances. Most interesting

type are used as [prepaid electricity meters](#).

Basic unit of power is watts. One thousand watts is one kilowatt. If we use one kilowatt in one hour, it is considered as one unit of energy consumed. These meters measure the instantaneous voltage and currents, calculate its product and gives instantaneous power. This power is integrated over a period which gives the energy utilized over that time period.



**Types of energy Meter**

These may be single or three phase meters depending on the supply utilized by domestic or commercial installations. For small service measurements like domestic customers, these can be directly connected between line and load. But for larger loads, step down current transformers must be placed to isolate energy meters from higher currents.

### 3 Basic types of Energy meters

Energy meter or watt hour meter is classified in accordance with several factors such as:

- Type of display like analog or digital electric meter.
- Type of metering point like grid, secondary transmission, primary and local distribution.
- End applications like domestic, commercial and industrial.
- Technical like three phases, single phase, HT, LT and accuracy class meters.

#### 1. Electromechanical induction type Energy meter



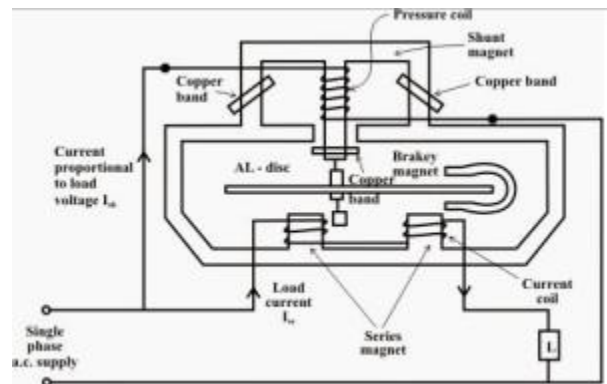


### Induction type Energy meter

It is the popularly known and most common type of age old watt hour meter. It consists of rotating aluminum disc mounted on a spindle between two electro magnets. Speed of rotation of disc is proportional to the power and this power is integrated by the use of counter mechanism and gear trains. It comprises of two silicon steel laminated electromagnets i.e., series and shunt magnets.

Series magnet carries a coil which is of few turns of thick wire connected in series with line whereas shunt magnet carries coil with many turns of thin wire connected across the supply.

Braking magnet is a permanent magnet which applies the force opposite to normal disc rotation to move that disc at balanced position and to stop the disc while power is off.



### Working of induction type energy meter

Series magnet produces the flux which is proportional to the current flowing and shunt magnet produces the flux proportional to the voltage. These two fluxes lag by 90 degrees due to inductive nature. The interaction of these two fields produces eddy current in the disk, exerting a force, which is proportional to product of instantaneous voltage, current and phase angle between them.



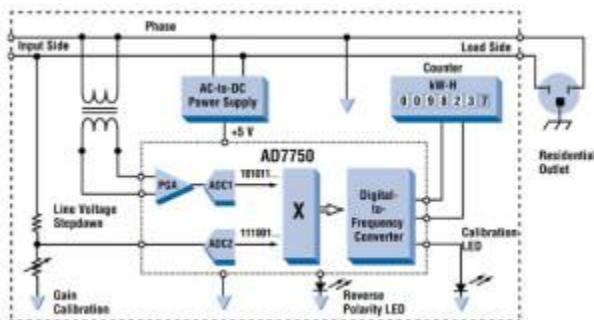
Vertical spindle or shaft of the aluminum disc is connected to gear arrangement which records a number, proportional to the number of revolutions of the disc. This gear arrangement sets the number in a series of dials and indicates energy consumed over a time. This type of meter is simple in construction and accuracy is somewhat less due to creeping and other external fields. A major problem with these types of meters is their easy prone to tampering, leading to a requirement of an electrical energy monitoring system. These are very commonly used in domestic and industrial applications.

## 2. Electronic Energy meters

These are of accurate, high precision and reliable types of measuring instruments as compared to conventional mechanical meters. It consumes less power and starts measuring instantaneously when connected to load. These meters might be analog or digital. In analog meters, power is converted to proportional frequency or pulse rate and it is integrated by counters placed inside it. In digital electric meter power is directly measured by high end processor. The power is integrated by logic circuits to get the energy and also for testing and calibration purpose. It is then converted to frequency or pulse rate.

### Analog Electronic Energy Meters

In analog type meters, voltage and current values of each phase are obtained by voltage divider and current transformers respectively which are directly connected to the load as shown in figure.

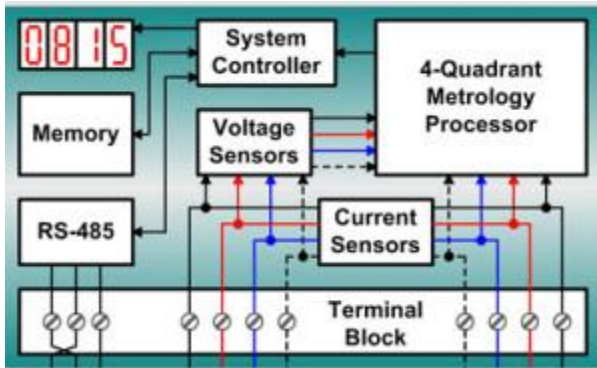


### Analog Electronic Meters

Analog to digital converter converts these analog values to digitized samples and it is then converted to corresponding frequency signals by frequency converter. These frequency pulses then drive a counter mechanism where these samples are integrated over a time to produce the electricity consumption.

### Digital Electronic Energy Meters

Digital signal processor or high performance microprocessors are used in digital electric meters. Similar to the analog meters, voltage and current transducers are connected to a high resolution ADC. Once it converts analog signals to digital samples, voltage and current samples are multiplied and integrated by digital circuits to measure the energy consumed.



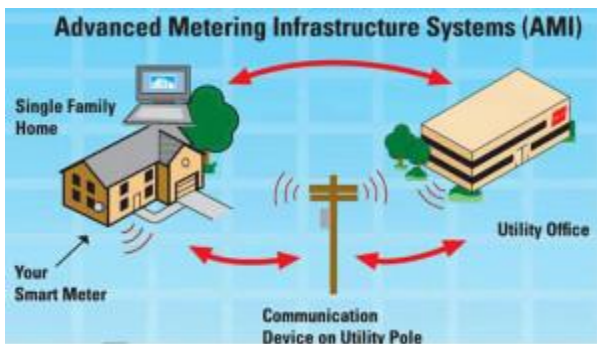
**Digital Electronic Energy Meters**

Microprocessor also calculates phase angle between voltage and current, so that it also measures and indicates reactive power. It is programmed in such a way that it calculates energy according to the tariff and other parameters like power factor, maximum demand, etc and stores all these values in a non volatile memory EEPROM.

It contains real time clock (RTC) for calculating time for power integration, maximum demand calculations and also date and time stamps for particular parameters. Furthermore it interacts with liquid crystal display (LCD), communication devices and other meter outputs. Battery is provided for RTC and other significant peripherals for backup power.

### 3. Smart Energy Meters

It is an advanced metering technology involving placing intelligent meters to read, process and feedback the data to customers. It measures energy consumption, remotely switches the supply to customers and remotely controls the maximum electricity consumption. Smart metering system uses the advanced metering infrastructure system technology for better performance.



**Smart Energy Meters**

These are capable of communicating in both directions. They can transmit the data to the utilities like energy consumption, parameter values, alarms, etc and also can receive information from utilities such as automatic meter reading system, reconnect/disconnect instructions, upgrading of meter software's and other important messages. These meters reduce the need to visit while taking or reading monthly bill. Modems are used in these smart meters to facilitate communication systems such as telephone, wireless, fiber cable, power line communications. Another advantage of smart metering is complete avoidance of

tampering of energy meter where there is scope of using power in an illegal way.

This is all about types of energy meter and their working. Hope you are satisfied with this article. We express our gratitude to all the readers. Please share your comments and suggestions on the comment section given below.

The **wattmeter** is an instrument for measuring the [electric power](#) (or the supply rate of [electrical energy](#)) in [watts](#) of any given [circuit](#). Electromagnetic wattmeters are used for measurement of [utility frequency](#) and audio frequency power; other types are required for radio frequency measurements. The traditional analog wattmeter is an [electrodynamic](#) instrument. The device consists of a pair of fixed [coils](#), known as *current coils*, and a movable coil known as the *potential coil*.

The current coils are connected in [series](#) with the circuit, while the potential coil is connected in [parallel](#). Also, on [analog](#) wattmeters, the potential coil carries a needle that moves over a scale to indicate the measurement. A current flowing through the current coil generates an [electromagnetic field](#) around the coil. The strength of this field is proportional to the line current and in phase with it. The potential coil has, as a general rule, a high-value [resistor](#) connected in series with it to reduce the current that flows through it.

The result of this arrangement is that on a [dc](#) circuit, the deflection of the needle is proportional to *both* the [current](#) ( $I$ ) and the [voltage](#) ( $V$ ), thus conforming to the equation  $P=VI$ .

For [AC power](#), current and voltage may not be in phase, owing to the delaying effects of circuit [inductance](#) or [capacitance](#). On an [ac](#) circuit the deflection is proportional to the average instantaneous product of voltage and current, thus measuring [true power](#),  $P=VI \cos \phi$ . Here,  $\cos\phi$  represents the [power factor](#) which shows that the power transmitted may be less than the apparent power obtained by multiplying the readings of a [voltmeter](#) and [ammeter](#) in the same circuit.

The two circuits of a wattmeter can be damaged by excessive current. The [ammeter](#) and [voltmeter](#) are both vulnerable to overheating — in case of an overload, their pointers will be driven off scale — but in the wattmeter, either or even both the current and potential circuits can overheat *without* the pointer approaching the end of the scale. This is because the position of the pointer depends on the [power factor](#), [voltage](#) and current. Thus, a circuit with a low [power factor](#) will give a low reading on the wattmeter, even when both of its circuits are loaded to the maximum safety limit. Therefore, a wattmeter is rated not only in watts, but also in [volts](#) and [amperes](#).

A typical wattmeter in educational labs has two voltage coils (pressure coils) and a current coil. We can connect the two pressure coils in series or parallel to each other to change the ranges of the wattmeter. Another feature is that the pressure coil can also be tapped to change the meter's range. If the pressure coil has range of 300 volts, the half of it can be used so that the range becomes 150 volts.

An **electric current** is a flow of [electric charge](#). In [electric circuits](#) this charge is often carried by moving [electrons](#) in a [wire](#). It can also be carried by [ions](#) in an [electrolyte](#), or by both ions and electrons such as in an ionised gas ([plasma](#)).<sup>[1]</sup>

The [SI](#) unit for measuring an electric current is the [ampere](#), which is the flow of electric charge across a surface at the rate of one [coulomb](#) per second. Electric current is measured using a device called an [ammeter](#).<sup>[2]</sup>

Electric currents cause [Joule heating](#), which creates [light](#) in [incandescent light bulbs](#). They also create [magnetic fields](#), which are used in motors, inductors and generators.

The moving charged particles in an electric current are called [charge carriers](#). In [metals](#), one or more electrons from each atom are loosely bound to the atom, and can move freely about within the metal. These [conduction electrons](#) are the charge carriers in metal conductors.

## Unit 5



7-segment Display

Light emitting diodes have many advantages over traditional bulbs and lamps, with the main ones being their small size, long life, various colours, cheapness and are readily available, as well as being easy to interface with various other electronic components and digital circuits.

But the main advantage of light emitting diodes is that because of their small die size, several of them can be connected together within one small and compact package producing what is generally called a **7-segment Display**.

The *7-segment display*, also written as “seven segment display”, consists of seven LEDs (hence its name) arranged in a rectangular fashion as shown. Each of the seven LEDs is called a segment because when illuminated the segment forms part of a numerical digit (both Decimal and Hex) to be displayed. An additional 8th LED is sometimes used within the same package thus allowing the indication of a decimal point, (DP) when two or more 7-segment displays are connected together to display numbers greater than ten.

Related Products: **Displays**

Each one of the seven LEDs in the display is given a positional segment with one of its connection pins being brought straight out of the rectangular plastic package. These individually LED pins are labelled from a through to g representing each individual LED. The other LED pins are connected together and wired to form a common pin.

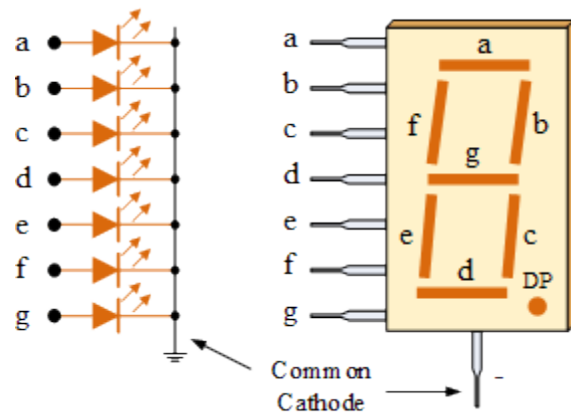
So by forward biasing the appropriate pins of the LED segments in a particular order, some segments will be light and others will be dark allowing the desired character pattern of the number to be generated on the display. This then allows us to display each of the ten decimal digits 0 through to 9 on the same 7-segment display.

The displays common pin is generally used to identify which type of 7-segment display it is. As each LED has two connecting pins, one called the “Anode” and the other called the “Cathode”, there are therefore two types of LED 7-segment display called: **Common Cathode (CC)** and **Common Anode (CA)**.

The difference between the two displays, as their name suggests, is that the common cathode has all the cathodes of the 7-segments connected directly together and the common anode has all the anodes of the 7-segments connected together and is illuminated as follows.

1. The Common Cathode (CC) – In the common cathode display, all the cathode connections of the LED segments are joined together to logic “0” or ground. The individual segments are illuminated by application of a “HIGH”, or logic “1” signal via a current limiting resistor to forward bias the individual Anode terminals (a-g).

### Common Cathode 7-segment Display

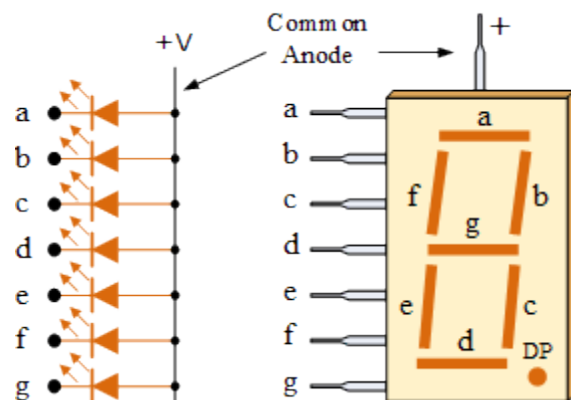


2. The Common Anode (CA) – In the common anode display, all the anode connections of the LED segments are joined together to logic “1”. The individual segments are illuminated by applying a ground, logic “0” or “LOW” signal via a suitable current limiting resistor to the Cathode of the particular segment (a-g).

Related Products: [Display Misc](#)

## Unit 5

### Common Anode 7-segment Display

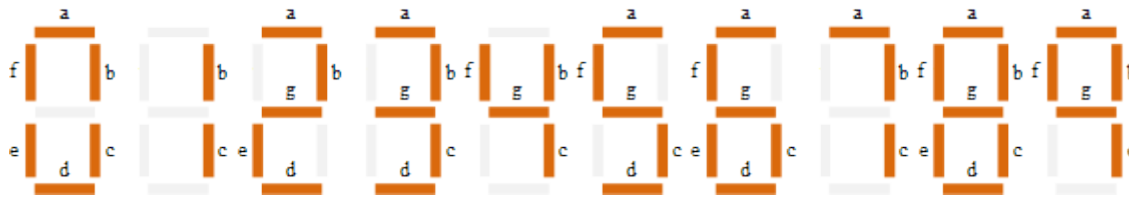


In general, common anode displays are more popular as many logic circuits can sink more current than

they can source. Also note that a common cathode display is not a direct replacement in a circuit for a common anode display and vice versa, as it is the same as connecting the LEDs in reverse, and hence light emission will not take place.

Depending upon the decimal digit to be displayed, the particular set of LEDs is forward biased. For instance, to display the numerical digit 0, we will need to light up six of the LED segments corresponding to a, b, c, d, e and f. Then the various digits from 0 through 9 can be displayed using a 7-segment display as shown.

### 7-Segment Display Segments for all Numbers.



Then for a 7-segment display, we can produce a truth table giving the individual segments that need to be illuminated in order to produce the required decimal digit from 0 through 9 as shown below.

### 7-segment Display Truth Table

		Individual Segments Illuminated						
		a	b	c	d	e	f	g
Decimal Digit	0	×	×	×	×	×	×	
	1		×	×				
	2	×	×		×	×		×

3	×	×	×	×			×
4		×	×			×	×
5	×		×	×		×	×
6	×		×	×	×	×	×
7	×	×	×				
8	×	×	×	×	×	×	×
9	×	×	×			×	×

### Driving a 7-segment Display

Although a 7-segment display can be thought of as a single display, it is still seven individual LEDs within a single package and as such these LEDs need protection from over current. LEDs produce light only when it is forward biased with the amount of light emitted being proportional to the forward current.

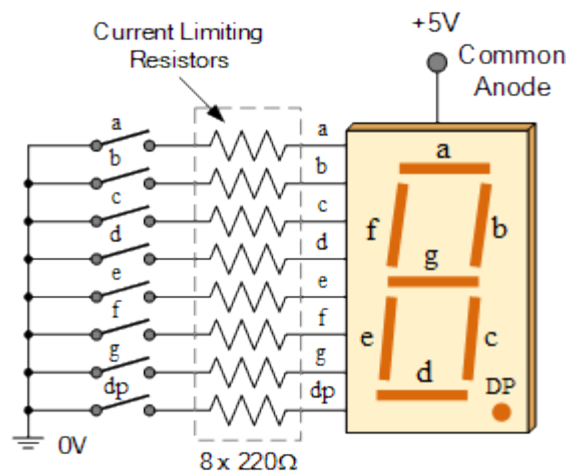
This means then that an LEDs light intensity increases in an approximately linear manner with an increasing current. So this forward current must be controlled and limited to a safe value by an external resistor to prevent damage to the LED segments.

The forward voltage drop across a red LED segment is very low at about 2-to-2.2 volts, (blue and white LEDs can be as high as 3.6 volts) so to illuminate correctly, the LED segments should be connected to a voltage source in excess of this forward voltage value with a series resistance used to limit the forward current to a desirable value.

Typically for a standard red coloured 7-segment display, each LED segment can draw about 15 mA to illuminate correctly, so on a 5 volt digital logic circuit, the value of the current limiting resistor would be about  $200\Omega$  ( $5v - 2v$ )/15mA, or  $220\Omega$  to the nearest higher preferred value.

So to understand how the segments of the display are connected to a  $220\Omega$  current limiting resistor consider the circuit below.

### Driving a 7-segment Display



In this example, the segments of a common anode display are illuminated using the switches. If switch a is closed, current will flow through the “a” segment of the LED to the current limiting resistor connected to pin a and to 0 volts, making the circuit. Then only segment a will be illuminated. So a LOW condition (switch to ground) is required to activate the LED segments on this common anode display.

But suppose we want the decimal number “4” to illuminate on the display. Then switches b, c, f and g would be closed to light the corresponding LED segments. Likewise for a decimal number “7”, switches a, b, c would be closed. But illuminating 7-segment displays using individual switches is not very practical.

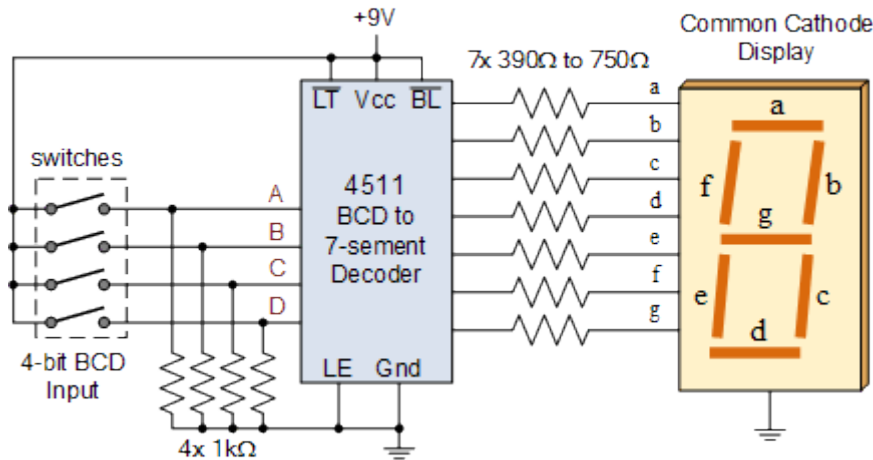
**7-segment Displays** are usually driven by a special type of integrated circuit (IC) commonly known as a 7-segment decoder/driver, such as the CMOS 4511. This 7-segment display driver which is known as a Binary Coded Decimal or BCD to 7-segment display decoder and driver, is able to illuminate both common anode or common cathode displays. But there are many other single and dual display drivers available such as the very popular TTL 7447.

This BCD-to-7 segment decoder/driver takes a four-bit BCD input labelled A, B, C and D for the digits of the binary weighting of 1, 2, 4 and 8 respectively, has seven outputs that will pass current through the appropriate segments to display the decimal digit of the numeric LED display.



The digital outputs of the CD4511 are different from the usual CMOS outputs because they can provide up to 25mA of current each to drive the LED segments directly allowing different coloured LED displays to be used and driven.

### Driving a 7-segment Display using a 4511



In this simple circuit, each LED segment of the common cathode display has its own anode terminal connected directly to the 4511 driver with its cathodes connected to ground. The current from each output passes through a 1kΩ resistor that limits it to a safe amount. The binary input to the 4511 is via the four switches. Then we can see that using a BCD to 7-segment display driver such as the CMOS 4511, we can control the LED display using just four switches (instead of the previous 8) or a 4-bit binary signal allowing up to 16 different combinations.

Most digital equipment use **7-segment Displays** for converting digital signals into a form that can be displayed and understood by the user. This information is often numerical data in the form of numbers, characters and symbols. Common anode and common cathode seven-segment displays produce the required number by illuminating the individual segments in various combinations.

LED based 7-segment displays are very popular amongst Electronics hobbyists as they are easy to use and easy to understand. In most practical applications, 7-segment displays are driven by a suitable decoder/driver IC such as the CMOS 4511 or TTL 7447 from a 4-bit BCD input. Today, LED based 7-segment displays have been largely replaced by *liquid crystal displays* (LCDs) which consume less current.

**Light emitting diodes (LEDs)** are semiconductor light sources. The light emitted from **LEDs** varies from visible to infrared and ultraviolet regions. They operate on low voltage and power. LEDs are one of the most common electronic components and are mostly used as indicators in circuits. They are also used for luminance and optoelectronic applications.

Based on semiconductor diode, **LEDs** emit photons when electrons recombine with holes on forward biasing. The two terminals of LEDs are anode (+) and cathode (-) and can be identified by their size. The longer leg is the positive terminal or anode and shorter one is negative terminal.

The forward voltage of **LED** (1.7V-2.2V) is lower than the voltage supplied (5V) to drive it in a circuit.

Using an LED as such would burn it because a high current would destroy its p-n gate. Therefore a current limiting resistor is used in series with LED. Without this resistor, either low input voltage (equal to forward voltage) or PWM (pulse width modulation) is used to drive the LED. Get details about internal structure of a [LED](#).

A **liquid-crystal display (LCD)** is a [flat-panel display](#) or other [electronically modulated optical device](#) that uses the light-modulating properties of [liquid crystals](#). Liquid crystals do not emit light directly, instead using a [backlight](#) or [reflector](#) to produce images in colour or [monochrome](#).<sup>[1]</sup> LCDs are available to display arbitrary images (as in a general-purpose computer display) or fixed images with low information content, which can be displayed or hidden, such as preset words, digits, and [7-segment](#) displays, as in a [digital clock](#). They use the same basic technology, except that arbitrary images are made up of a large number of small [pixels](#), while other displays have larger elements.

LCDs are used in a wide range of applications including [computer monitors](#), [televisions](#), [instrument panels](#), [aircraft cockpit displays](#), and indoor and outdoor signage. Small LCD screens are common in portable consumer devices such as [digital cameras](#), [watches](#), [calculators](#), and [mobile telephones](#), including [smartphones](#). LCD screens are also used on [consumer electronics](#) products such as DVD players, video game devices and [clocks](#). LCD screens have replaced heavy, bulky [cathode ray tube](#) (CRT) displays in nearly all applications. LCD screens are available in a wider range of screen sizes than CRT and [plasma displays](#), with LCD screens available in sizes ranging from tiny [digital watches](#) to huge, big-screen [television sets](#).

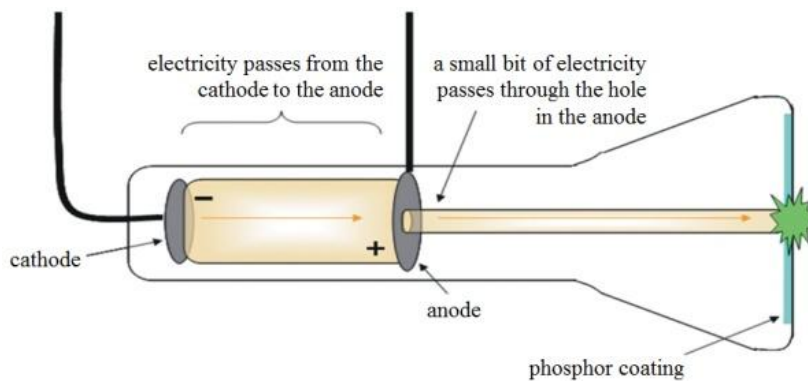
Since LCD screens do not use phosphors, they do not suffer [image burn-in](#) when a static image is displayed on a screen for a long time (e.g., the table frame for an aircraft schedule on an indoor sign). LCDs are, however, susceptible to [image persistence](#).<sup>[2]</sup> The LCD screen is more energy-efficient and can be disposed of more safely than a CRT can. Its low electrical power consumption enables it to be used in [battery](#)-powered [electronic](#) equipment more efficiently than CRTs can be. By 2008, annual sales of televisions with LCD screens exceeded sales of CRT units worldwide, and the CRT became obsolete for most purposes.

The **cathode ray tube (CRT)** is a [vacuum tube](#) that contains one or more [electron guns](#) and a [phosphorescent](#) screen, and is used to display images.<sup>[1]</sup> It modulates, accelerates, and deflects electron beam(s) onto the screen to create the images. The images may represent electrical [waveforms](#) ([oscilloscope](#)), pictures (television, [computer monitor](#)), [radar](#) targets, or others. CRTs have also been [used as memory devices](#), in which case the visible light emitted from the fluorescent material (if any) is not intended to have significant meaning to a visual observer (though the visible pattern on the tube face may cryptically represent the stored data).

In television sets and computer monitors, the entire front area of the tube is scanned repetitively and systematically in a fixed pattern called a [raster](#). An image is produced by controlling the intensity of each of the three [electron beams](#), one for each additive primary colour (red, green, and blue) with a [video signal](#) as a reference. In all modern CRT monitors and televisions, the beams are bent by *magnetic deflection*, a varying magnetic field generated by coils and driven by electronic circuits around the neck of the tube, although [electrostatic deflection](#) is commonly used in [oscilloscopes](#), a type of [electronic test instrument](#).

A CRT is constructed from a glass envelope which is large, deep (i.e., long from front screen face to rear end), fairly heavy, and relatively fragile. The interior of a CRT is [evacuated](#) to approximately 0.01 Pa to 133 nPa.,evacuation being necessary to facilitate the free flight of electrons from the gun(s) to the tube's face. That it is evacuated makes handling an intact CRT potentially dangerous due to the risk of breaking the tube and causing a violent [implosion](#) that can hurl shards of glass at great velocity. As a matter of safety, the face is typically made of thick [lead glass](#) so as to be highly shatter-resistant and to block most [X-ray](#) emissions, particularly if the CRT is used in a consumer product.

Since the late 2000s, CRTs have been largely superseded by newer "[flat panel](#)" display technologies such as [LCD](#), [plasma display](#), and [OLED](#) displays, which in the case of LCD and OLED displays have lower manufacturing costs and power consumption, as well as significantly less weight and bulk. Flat panel displays can also be made in very large sizes; whereas 38" to 40" was about the largest size of a CRT television, flat panels are available in 60" and larger sizes.



## Cathode-Ray Oscilloscope

**OBJECTIVE:** To learn how to operate a cathode-ray oscilloscope.

**APPARATUS:** Cathode-ray oscilloscope, multimeter, and oscillator.

**INTRODUCTION:** The cathode-ray oscilloscope (CRO) is a common laboratory instrument that provides accurate time and amplitude measurements of voltage signals over a wide range of frequencies. Its reliability, stability, and ease of operation make it suitable as a general purpose laboratory instrument. The heart of the CRO is a cathode-ray tube shown schematically in Fig. 1.

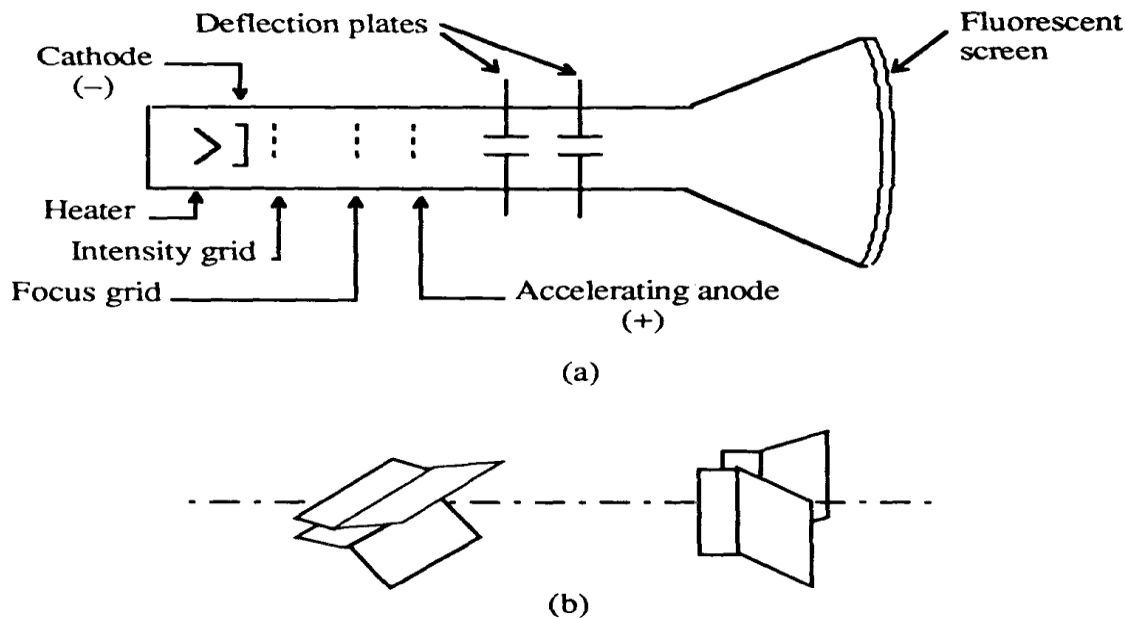
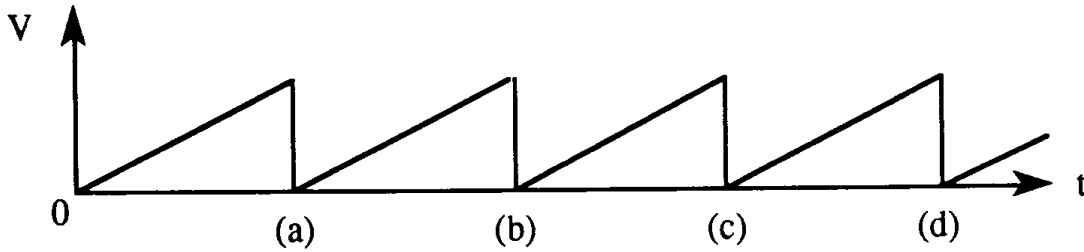


Figure 1. Cathode-ray tube: (a) schematic, (b) detail of the deflection plates.

The cathode ray is a beam of electrons which are emitted by the heated cathode (negative electrode) and accelerated toward the fluorescent screen. The assembly of the cathode, intensity grid, focus grid, and accelerating anode (positive electrode) is called an *electron gun*. Its purpose is to generate the electron beam and control its intensity and focus. Between the electron gun and the fluorescent screen are two pair of metal plates - one oriented to provide horizontal deflection of the beam and one pair oriented to give vertical deflection to the beam. These plates are thus referred to as the *horizontal* and *vertical deflection plates*. The combination of these two deflections allows the beam to reach any portion of the fluorescent screen. Wherever the electron beam hits the screen, the phosphor is excited and light is emitted from that point. This conversion of electron energy into light allows us to write with points or lines of light on an otherwise darkened screen.

In the most common use of the oscilloscope the signal to be studied is first amplified and then applied to the vertical (deflection) plates to deflect the beam vertically and at the same time a voltage that increases linearly with time is applied to the horizontal (deflection) plates thus causing the beam to be deflected horizontally at a uniform (constant) rate. The signal applied to the vertical plates is thus displayed on the screen as a function of time. The horizontal axis serves as a uniform time scale.

The linear deflection or sweep of the beam horizontally is accomplished by use of a *sweep generator* that is incorporated in the oscilloscope circuitry. The voltage output of such a generator is that of a sawtooth wave as shown in Fig. 2. Application of one cycle of this voltage difference, which increases linearly with time, to the horizontal plates causes the beam to be deflected linearly with time across the tube face. When the voltage suddenly falls to zero, as at points (a) (b) (c), etc....., the end of each sweep - the beam flies back to its initial position. The horizontal deflection of the beam is repeated periodically, the frequency of this periodicity is adjustable by external controls.



**Figure. 2.** Voltage difference  $V$  between horizontal plates as a function of time  $t$ .

To obtain steady traces on the tube face, an internal number of cycles of the unknown signal that is applied to the vertical plates must be associated with each cycle of the sweep generator. Thus, with such a matching of synchronization of the two deflections, the pattern on the tube face repeats itself and hence appears to remain stationary. The persistence of vision in the human eye and of the glow of the fluorescent screen aids in producing a stationary pattern. In addition, the electron beam is cut off (blanked) during flyback so that the retrace sweep is not observed.

**CRO Operation:** A simplified block diagram of a typical oscilloscope is shown in Fig. 3. In general, the instrument is operated in the following manner. The signal to be displayed is amplified by the vertical amplifier and applied to the vertical deflection plates of the CRT. A portion of the signal in the vertical amplifier is applied to the **sweep trigger** as a triggering signal. The sweep trigger then generates a pulse coincident with a selected point in the cycle of the triggering signal. This pulse turns on the sweep generator, initiating the sawtooth wave form. The sawtooth wave is amplified by the horizontal amplifier and applied to the horizontal deflection plates. Usually, additional provisions signal are made for applying an external triggering signal or utilizing the 60 Hz line for triggering. Also the sweep generator may be bypassed and an external signal applied directly to the horizontal amplifier.

### **CRO Controls**

The controls available on most oscilloscopes provide a wide range of operating conditions and thus make the instrument especially versatile. Since many of these controls are common to most oscilloscopes a brief description of them follows.

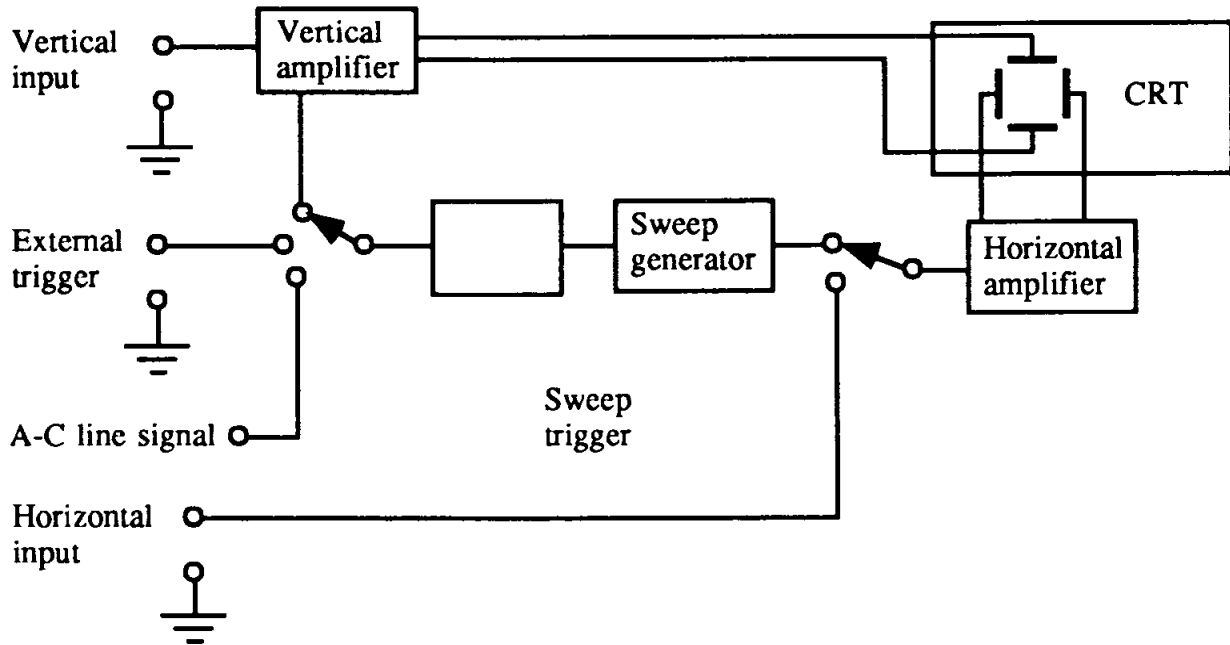


Figure 3. Block diagram of a typical oscilloscope.

## CATHODE-RAY TUBE

Power and Scale Illumination: Turns instrument on and controls illumination of the graticule.

Focus: Focus the spot or trace on the screen.

Intensity: Regulates the brightness of the spot or trace.

## VERTICAL AMPLIFIER SECTION

Position: Controls vertical positioning of oscilloscope display.

Sensitivity: Selects the sensitivity of the vertical amplifier in calibrated steps.

Variable Sensitivity: Provides a continuous range of sensitivities between the calibrated steps. Normally the sensitivity is calibrated only when the variable knob is in the fully clockwise position.

AC-DC-GND: Selects desired coupling (ac or dc) for incoming signal applied to vertical amplifier, or grounds the amplifier input. Selecting dc couples the input directly to the amplifier; selecting ac send the signal through a capacitor before going to the amplifier thus blocking any constant component.

## HORIZONTAL-SWEEP SECTION

Sweep time/cm: Selects desired sweep rate from calibrated steps or admits external signal to horizontal amplifier.

Sweep time/cm Variable: Provides continuously variable sweep rates. Calibrated position is fully clockwise.

Position: Controls horizontal position of trace on screen.

Horizontal Variable: Controls the attenuation (reduction) of signal applied to horizontal amplifier through Ext. Horiz. connector.

## **TRIGGER**

The trigger selects the timing of the beginning of the horizontal sweep.

Slope: Selects whether triggering occurs on an increasing (+) or decreasing (-) portion of trigger signal.

Coupling: Selects whether triggering occurs at a specific dc or ac level.

Source: Selects the source of the triggering signal.

**INT** - (internal) - from signal on vertical amplifier

**EXT** - (external) - from an external signal inserted at the **EXT. TRIG. INPUT**.

**LINE** - 60 cycle trigger

Level: Selects the voltage point on the triggering signal at which sweep is triggered. It also allows automatic (auto) triggering or allows sweep to run free (free run).

## **CONNECTIONS FOR THE OSCILLOSCOPE**

Vertical Input: A pair of jacks for connecting the signal under study to the Y (or vertical) amplifier. The lower jack is grounded to the case.

Horizontal Input: A pair of jacks for connecting an external signal to the horizontal amplifier. The lower terminal is grounded to the case of the oscilloscope.

External Trigger Input: Input connector for external trigger signal.

Cal. Out: Provides amplitude calibrated square waves of 25 and 500 millivolts for use in calibrating the gain of the amplifiers.

Accuracy of the vertical deflection is  $\pm 3\%$ . Sensitivity is variable.

Horizontal sweep should be accurate to within 3%. Range of sweep is variable.

**Operating Instructions:** Before plugging the oscilloscope into a wall receptacle, set the controls as follows:

- (a) Power switch at off
- (b) Intensity fully counter clockwise
- (c) Vertical centering in the center of range
- (d) Horizontal centering in the center of range
- (e) Vertical at 0.2
- (f) Sweep times 1

Plug line cord into a standard ac wall receptacle (nominally 118 V). Turn power on. Do not advance the Intensity Control.

Allow the scope to warm up for approximately two minutes, then turn the Intensity Control until the beam is visible on the screen.

**WARNING:** Never advance the Intensity Control so far that an excessively bright spot appears. Bright spots imply burning of the screen. A sharp focused spot of high intensity (great brightness) should never be allowed to remain fixed in one position on the screen for any length of time as damage to the screen may occur.

Adjust Horizontal and Vertical Centering Controls. Adjust the focus to give a sharp trace. Set trigger to internal, level to auto.

### **PROCEDURE:**

I. Set the signal generator to a frequency of 1000 cycles per second. Connect the output from the generator to the vertical input of the oscilloscope. Establish a steady trace of this input signal on the scope. Adjust (play with) *all* of the scope and signal generator controls until you become familiar with the function of each. The purpose for such "playing" is to allow the student to become so familiar with the oscilloscope that it becomes an aid (tool) in making measurements in other experiments and not as a formidable obstacle. Note: If the vertical gain is set too low, it may not be possible to obtain a steady trace.

II. Measurements of Voltage: Consider the circuit in Fig. 4(a). The signal generator is used to produce a 1000 hertz sine wave. The AC voltmeter and the leads to the vertical input of the oscilloscope are connected across the generator's output. By adjusting the Horizontal Sweep time/cm and trigger, a steady trace of the sine wave may be displayed on the screen. The trace represents a plot of voltage vs. time, where the vertical deflection of the trace about the line of symmetry CD is proportional to the magnitude of the voltage at any instant of time.



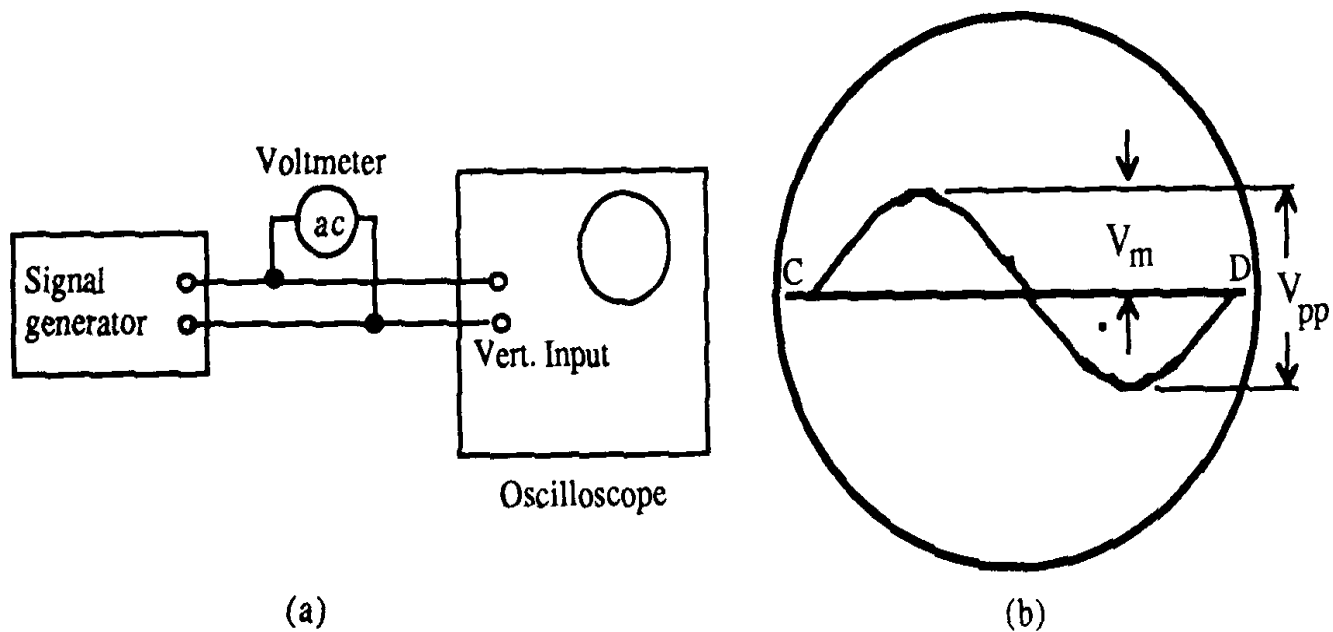


Figure 4 (a) Circuit for procedure II. (b) Trace seen on scope.

To determine the size of the voltage signal appearing at the output of terminals of the signal generator, an AC (Alternating Current) voltmeter is connected in parallel across these terminals (Fig. 4a). The AC voltmeter is designed to read the dc "effective value" of the voltage. This effective value is also known as the "Root Mean Square value" (RMS) value of the voltage.

The peak or maximum voltage seen on the scope face (Fig. 4b) is  $V_m$  volts and is represented by the distance from the symmetry line CD to the maximum deflection. The relationship between the magnitude of the peak voltage displayed on the scope and the effective or RMS voltage ( $V_{RMS}$ ) read on the AC voltmeter is

$$V_{RMS} = 0.707 V_m \text{ (for a sine or cosine wave).}$$

Thus

$$V_m = \frac{V_{RMS}}{0.707}$$

Agreement is expected between the voltage reading of the multimeter and that of the oscilloscope. For a symmetric wave (sine or cosine) the value of  $V_m$  may be taken as 1/2 the peak to peak signal  $V_{pp}$

The variable sensitivity control a signal may be used to adjust the display to fill a convenient range of the scope face. In this position, the trace is no longer calibrated so that you can not just read the size of the signal by counting the number of divisions and multiplying by the scale factor. However, you can figure out what the new calibration is and use it as long as the variable control remains unchanged.

**Caution:** The mathematical prescription given for RMS signals is valid only for sinusoidal signals. The meter will not indicate the correct voltage when used to measure non-sinusoidal signals.

III. Frequency Measurements: When the horizontal sweep voltage is applied, voltage measurements can still be taken from the vertical deflection. Moreover, the signal is displayed as a function of time. If the time base (i.e. sweep) is calibrated, such measurements as pulse duration or signal period can be made. *Frequencies* can then be determined as reciprocal of the periods.

Set the oscillator to 1000 Hz. Display the signal on the CRO and measure the period of the oscillations. Use the horizontal distance between two points such as C to D in Fig. 4b.

Set the horizontal gain so that only one complete wave form is displayed.

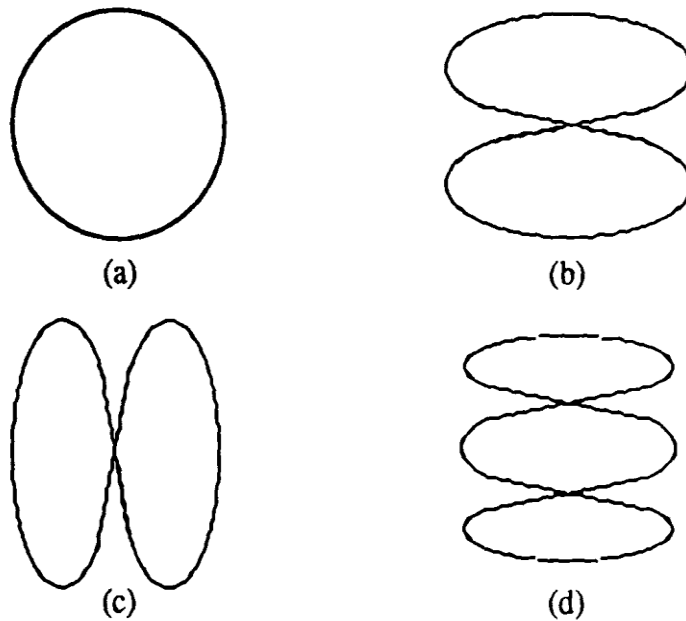
Then reset the horizontal until 5 waves are seen. Keep the time base control in a calibrated position. Measure the distance (and hence time) for 5 complete cycles and calculate the frequency from this measurement. Compare your result with the value determined above.

Repeat your measurements for other frequencies of 150 Hz, 5 kHz, 50 kHz as set on the signal generator.

IV. Lissajous Figures: When sine-wave signals of different frequencies are input to the horizontal and vertical amplifiers a stationary pattern is formed on the CRT when the ratio of the two frequencies is an integral fraction such as  $1/2$ ,  $2/3$ ,  $4/3$ ,  $1/5$ , etc. These stationary patterns are known as *Lissajous figures* and can be used for comparison measurement of frequencies.

Use two oscillators to generate some simple Lissajous figures like those shown in Fig. 5. You will find it difficult to maintain the Lissajous figures in a fixed configuration because the two oscillators are not phase and frequency locked. Their frequencies and phase drift slowly causing the two different signals to change slightly with respect to each other.

V. Testing what you have learned: Your instructor will provide you with a small oscillator circuit. Examine the input to the circuit and output of the circuit using your oscilloscope. Measure such quantities as the voltage and frequency of the signals. Specify if they are sinusoidal or of some other wave character. If square wave, measure the frequency of the wave. Also, for square waves, measure the on time (when the voltage is high) and off time (when it is low).



**Figure 5.** Lissajous figures for horizontal-to-vertical frequency ratios of: (a) 1:1, (b) 2:1, (c) 1:2, and (d) 3:1.

### What is a Magnetic Tape Recorders

Before explaining about magnetic tape recorders, I will tell you what a recorder is and what the uses of the recorder are?

A recorder is used to produce a permanent record of the signal that is measured.

A record is used to analyse how one variable varies with respect to another and how the signal varies with time.

The objective of a recording system is to record and preserve information pertaining to measurement at a particular time and also to get an idea of the performance of the unit and to provide the results of the steps taken by the operator.

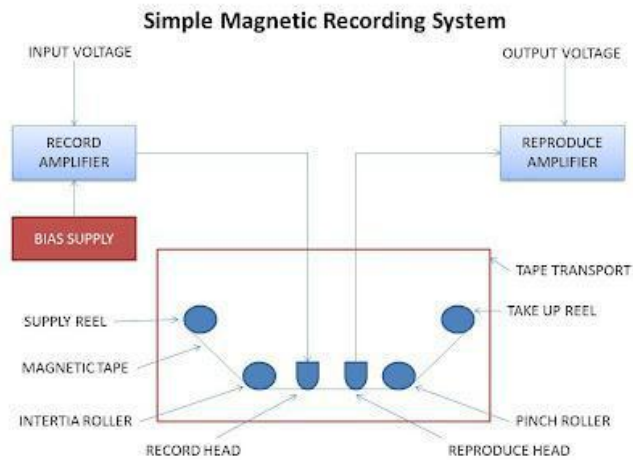
The basic components of a general recorder are an operating mechanism to position the pen or writer on the paper and a paper mechanism for paper movement and a printing mechanism.

Okay, now you know what is a recorder, why it is used and where it is used. Now I will explain about magnetic tape recorder.

A magnetic tape recorder is used to record data which can be retrieved and reproduced in electrical form again. This recorder can record signals of high frequency.

## Description of Magnetic Tape Recorders:

The magnetic tape is made of a thin sheet of tough plastic material; one side of it is coated with a magnetic material (iron oxide). The plastic base is usually polyvinyl chloride (PVC) or polyethylene terephthalate. Recording head, reproducing head and tape transport mechanism are also present.



### **Operation of Magnetic Tape Recorders:**

- The recording head consists of core, coil and a fine air gap of about 10 micrometer. The coil current creates a flux, which passes through the air gap to the magnetic tape and magnetizes the iron oxide particles as they pass the air gap. So the actual recording takes place at the trailing edge of the gap.
- The reproducing head is similar to that of a recording head in appearance. The magnetic tape is passes over a reproducing head, thereby resulting in an output voltage proportional to the magnetic flux in the tape, across the coil of the reproducing head. Thus the magnetic pattern in the tape is detected and converted back into original electrical signal.
- The tape transport mechanism moves the tape below the head at constant speed without any strain, distortion or wear. The mechanism much be such as to guide the tape passed by the magnetic heads with great precision, maintain propoer tension and have sufficient tape to magnetic head contact.

### **Advantages of Magnetic Tape Recorders:**

1. Wide frequency range.
2. Low distortion.
3. Immediate availability of the signal in its initial electrical form as no time is lost in processing.
4. The possibility of erase and reuse of the tape.
5. Possibility of playing back or reproducing of the recorded signal as many times as required without loss if signal.

### **Applications of Magnetic Tape Recorders:**

- (a) Data recording and analysis on missiles, aircraft and satelites.
- (b) Communications and spying.
- (c) Recording of stress, vibration and analysis of noise.









