

$$\vec{F} = Q \vec{E}$$

electric potential V is electrical potential energy per unit charge

$$U = QV$$

electric potential is a scalar field. we can assign to all points in space a value that when we put a positive test charge at that point in space we can calculate the electrical potential energy that charge would have at that point in space.

$$V(x, y) = 45 \text{ V} \quad (1 \text{ V} = 1 \text{ J/C})$$

put a -2 C charge at that point

$$U_{el} = ?$$

$$U_{el} = QV = (-2 \text{ C})(45 \text{ V})$$

$$U_{el} = -90 \text{ J}$$

What if it were $+2C$?

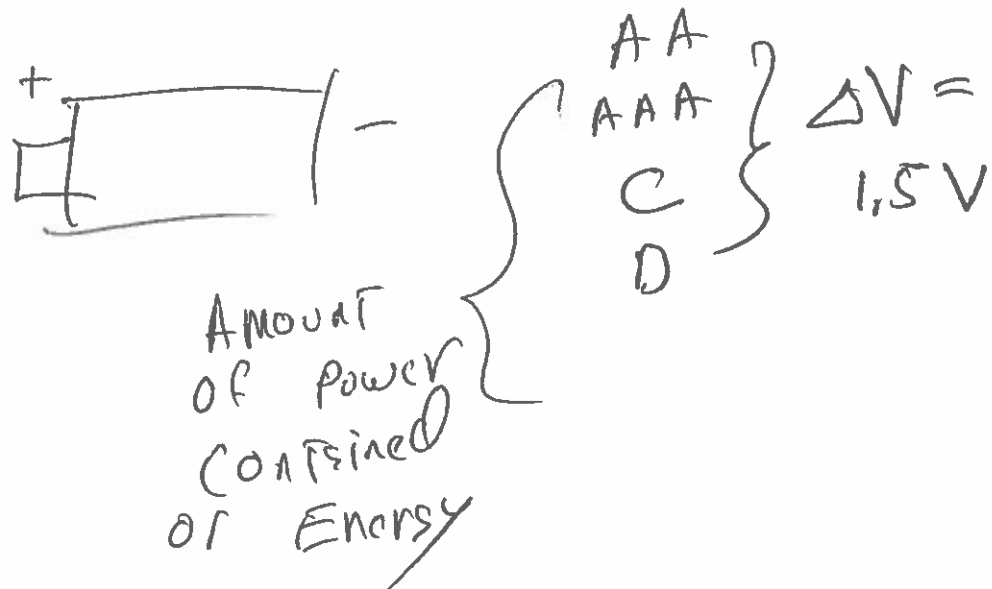
$$U_{el} = +90J$$

Negative charges are attracted
to regions of high $+V$
Positive charges are repelled
by regions of high $+V$.

Source of electrical potential?

batteries \Rightarrow Voltaic cells

batteries create potential through chemical
reactions,



VOLTAGE VS CURRENT

CURRENT is The flow of electrical charge. It is how much charge passes a reference point in a given amount of time.

CURRENT is measured in AMPS

$$1 \text{ A} = 1 \text{ C/S}$$

2 basic types of current

- 1) A.C. - ALTERNATING CURRENT
current (charges) go in both directions
⇒ wall outlets
- 2) D.C. - DIRECT CURRENT and
current (charges) go in one direction
⇒ Batteries.

CURRENT can be analogous to amount of water flowing in a pipe.

VOLTAGE is electrical potential
= Energy per charge

VOLTAGE is analogous to height
above ground.

Current flows through a wire
VOLTAGE is energy across a wire.

Which is worse current or volts?

$$\text{Power} = (\text{Current})(\text{Voltage})$$

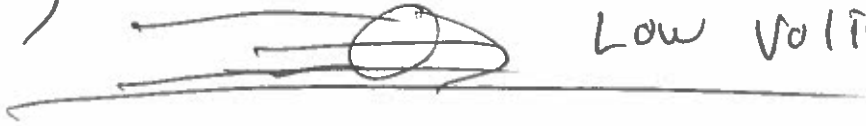
Power is danger!

CONSIDER 3 CASES

Water Pipe on Ground

1)

High current
Low voltage



Ground gets wet, Wasting water

No real damage

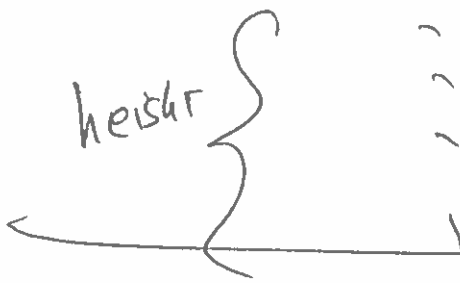


2)

low current

height

High voltage



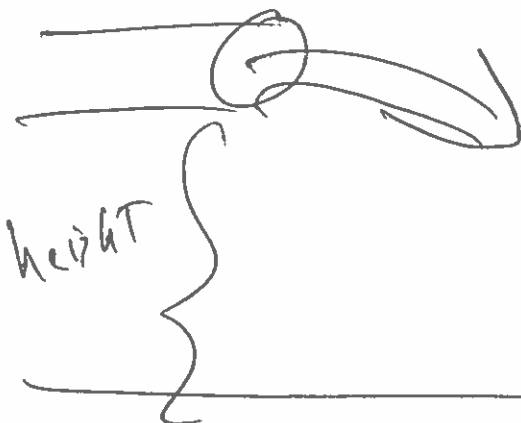
No real damage

Walking across carpet.

3

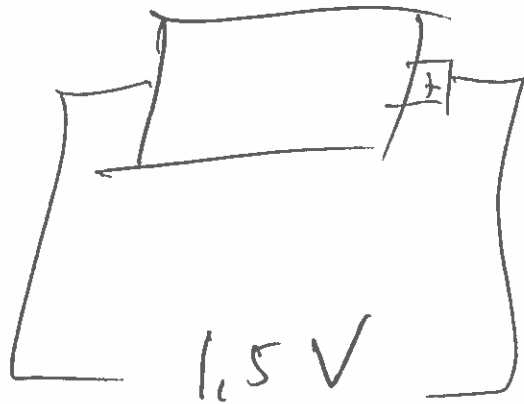
3rd rail of subway

High voltage High current



creates damage
(dis & hole)

High Power
And
Dangerous



Use Earth Ground To Make a
Zero Potential reference point.

Equipotential - means same potential
along a line or a surface

By definition conductors must
be equipotentials.

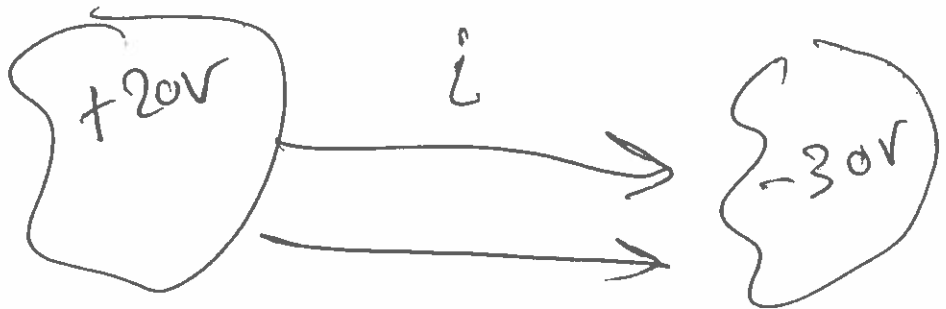
In physics positive current goes
from high positive potential to
lower negative potential.

Copper is a good conductor
because it has 1 outer e^- easily
removed. So majority of charge
carriers are negative.

BUT Aluminum has a majority of
positive charge carriers (holes).

Hall experiment which can
determine the sign of the majority
charge carrier.

Cu, Ag, Au — are negative
Al, Mg — are positive.



$$U_{el} = \frac{k Q_1 Q_2}{r}$$



$$Q_A = +1 \mu C$$

$$Q_B = -2 \mu C$$

$$d = 1.0 \text{ m}$$

$$U_{el} = \frac{k Q_A Q_B}{d}$$

$$U_{el} = \frac{(8.99 \times 10^9 \frac{\text{Nm}^2}{\text{C}^2}) (1 \times 10^{-6} \text{ C}) (-2 \times 10^{-6} \text{ C})}{1.0 \text{ m}}$$

$$U_{el} = \frac{-2(8.99) 10^9 (10^{-12})}{1} \frac{\text{Nm}^2}{\text{C}^2} \frac{\text{C}^2}{\text{m}}$$

$$U_{el} = -17.98 \times 10^{-3} \underbrace{\text{Nm}}_{\text{J}}$$

$$U_{el} = -0.01798 \text{ J}$$