

Nonlinear resistors

Student Group

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All resistors examined so far are linear resistors, for which the characteristic curve $I=f(U)$ is a straight line, s. [figure 1](#). The resistance value of a linear resistor is independent of the current I flowing through it or the applied voltage U .

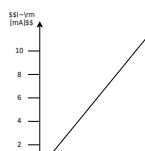


Fig. 1: Characteristic curve of a linear resistor

With nonlinear resistors, there is no proportionality between current and voltage. The characteristic curve of such a resistor is shown in [figure 2](#). With these resistors, we talk about static resistance (R) and dynamic (or differential) resistance (r). The static resistance is determined for a specific operating point: at a specific voltage, the current is read from the resistance characteristic curve. The calculation is performed according to Ohm's law: $R = \frac{U}{I}$ The differential resistance around the operating point is calculated from the current difference caused by a change in the applied voltage: $r = \frac{\Delta U}{\Delta I}$

Fig. 2: Characteristic curve of a nonlinear resistor A light bulb is examined as an example of a nonlinear resistor. Set up the measuring circuit shown in [figure 3](#).

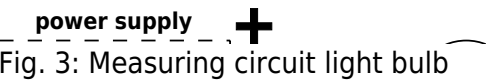


Fig. 3: Measuring circuit light bulb

Set the voltage on the power supply to the voltage values from [table 1](#). Measure the corresponding current values and enter them in [table 1](#).

U/V	0,5	1,0	2,0	3,0	4,0	5,0	6,0	7,0	8,0
I/A									

Tab. 1: Values characteristic curve light bulb

Create the characteristic curve $I = f(U)$, s. [figure 4](#)

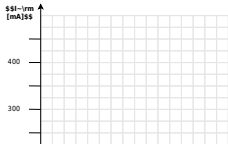


Fig. 4: Characteristic curve light bulb Calculate the static resistance R at the operating point $U = 7.0 \text{ V}$:

Calculate the dynamic resistance r at the operating point $U = 7.0 \text{ V}$:

Compare the values with the values from [table ##](#) (direct resistance measurement)

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