## LAB 19: CARBON RESISTORS IN SERIES

AIM: To determine the resistance, $\mathbf{R}$, of a carbon resistor

## APPARATUS \& MATERIALS

6 identical carbon resistors ammeter<br>battery connecting wires

crocodile clip


## METHOD

- Set up the circuit as shown in the diagram above where $\mathbf{X Y}$ is the string of six identical carbon resistors and $\mathbf{C}$ the crocodile clip.
- Record the value of $\mathbf{I}$, the current through the ammeter, with one resistor between $\mathbf{X}$ and $\mathbf{C}$.
- Repeat the procedure to obtain pairs of values of I and $\mathbf{n}$, where $\mathbf{n}$ is the number of resistors in the circuit between $\mathbf{X}$ and $\mathbf{C}$ for $\mathbf{n}=\mathbf{1}$ to 6. (DO NOT connect the clip $\mathbf{C}$ to point $\mathbf{X}$ )


## THEORY:

- State Ohm's Law and the formula associated with it. State units of resistance.


## RESULTS / CALCULATIONS

- Tabulate these pairs of values along with the corresponding values of $\mathbf{1 / I}$
- Record and tabulate all results in table below (showing all headings and units)

| Number of carbon <br> resistors (n) | Current (I) <br> /(A) | 1/Current (1/I) <br> $/\left(\mathrm{A}^{-1}\right)$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

- Plot the graph of $\mathbf{1 / I}$ against $\boldsymbol{n}$, starting both axis at zero.


## CALCULATIONS:

- Determine the slope, $\mathbf{S}$, of the graph
- Find the value of $R$, given that $\mathbf{S}=\mathrm{R} / \mathbf{E}$ where $\mathbf{E}=\mathbf{1 . 5 V}$
- Record the interception, $\mathbf{K}$, on the $\mathbf{1 / I}$ axis and determine the corresponding value of current, $\boldsymbol{I}_{\text {k }}$.


## CONCLUSION

- State the resistance, R, of a carbon resistor
- Why should you not connect clip $\mathbf{C}$ to the point $\mathbf{X}$ ?

