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EMI 3B: CHANGING CURRENT AND BULB BRIGHTNESS

EMI3B—WBT1: CHANGING CURRENT AND BULB BRIGHTNESS

Two small light bulbs in circular coils of wire that do not have batteries in them are found to be lit. One bulb is brighter than the other.

Construct a physical situation involving these coils and long, straight, current-carrying wires that could produce this situation.

EMI3B—CCT1: CHANGING CURRENT AND BULB BRIGHTNESS

Given below are three statements by different students about a situation where there are two circular coils of wire with small bulbs in them that are sitting beside two long straight current-carrying wires. In both cases these loops are the same distance away from their respective current-carrying wires. The bulbs differ in brightness. The wire coils, bulbs, and long straight wires are identical for the two situations. There are no batteries in the coils. The distance between these two situations is so great that they can be viewed as independent of one another.



Student A: *“The one bulb is brighter than the other because the long wire next to the brighter bulb has a larger current in it.”*

Student B: *“No, the one bulb is brighter than the other because the current in the long wire next to it is changing at a faster rate than the current in the other wire.”*

Student C: *“You both have part of the answer. The one bulb is brighter because the current in the long wire next to it has changed and now has the larger current.”*

With which, if any, of these students do you agree?

Student A _____ Student B _____ Student C _____ None of these students _____

Please carefully explain your reasoning.

EMI3B—WWT1: CHANGING CURRENT AND BULB BRIGHTNESS

What, if anything, is wrong with the following situation? If something is wrong, identify it and explain how to correct it. If nothing is wrong, explain why the situation works the way it does.

We have a situation where there are two circular coils of wire with small bulbs in them that are sitting beside two long straight current-carrying wires. In both cases these loops are the same distance away from their respective current-carrying wires. The bulbs are lit but differ in brightness. The wire coils, bulbs, and long straight wires are identical for the two situations. There are no batteries in the coils. The distance between these two situations is so great that they can be viewed as independent of one another.



A student says:

“At this instant, the current in the wire next to the brighter bulb has the larger value.”

EMI3B—TT1: CHANGING CURRENT AND BULB BRIGHTNESS

We have a situation where there are two circular coils of wire with small bulbs in them that are sitting beside two long straight current-carrying wires. In both cases these loops are the same distance away from their respective current-carrying wires. The bulbs are both lit but differ in brightness. The wire coils, bulbs, and long straight wires are identical for the two situations. There are no batteries in the coils. The distance between these two situations is so great that they can be viewed as independent of one another.



A student says:

“The long wire next to the brighter bulb has the larger current in it.”

There is something wrong with the student’s contention. Identify the problem and explain how to correct it.

EMI3B—QRT1: CHANGING CURRENT AND BULB BRIGHTNESS

We have a situation where there are two circular coils of wire with small bulbs in them that are sitting beside two long straight current-carrying wires. In both cases these loops are the same distance away from their respective current-carrying wires. The wire coils, bulbs, and long straight wires are identical for the two situations. There are no batteries in the coils. The distance between these two situations is so great that they can be viewed as independent of one another.



For each of the situations described below, explain how the brightness of the two bulbs will compare at all times.

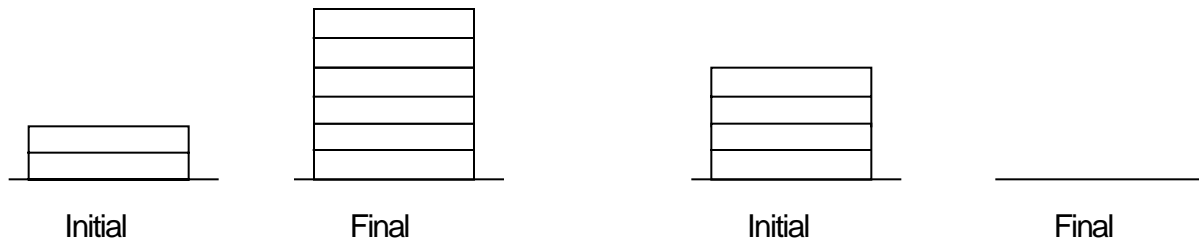
- The left wire starts with a larger current, but the rate of change of current is the same for both wires.
- Both wires have the same initial current, but the left one has a greater rate of change of current.
- Both wires start with the same current and both change at the same rate, but the left one changes for longer than the right one does.
- The left wire starts with a larger current, but it has a lower rate of change than the right one does.

EMI3B—BCT1: CHANGING CURRENT AND BULB BRIGHTNESS

The figure below shows a situation where there are two circular coils of wire with small bulbs in them that are sitting beside two long straight current-carrying wires. In both cases these loops are the same distance away from their respective current-carrying wires. The bulbs are both lit but differ in brightness, with the bulb on the left being brighter. The wire coils, bulbs, and long straight wires are identical for the two situations. There are no batteries in the coils. The distance between these two situations is so great that they can be viewed as independent of one another.



The bar charts below show the initial and final current in the long straight wire for the left-hand situation for a 1 sec interval. **Complete the final bar chart below right for the current in the long straight wire for the right-hand situation during the same 1 sec interval.**



Carefully explain your reasoning.

EMI3B—PET1: CHANGING CURRENT AND BULB BRIGHTNESS

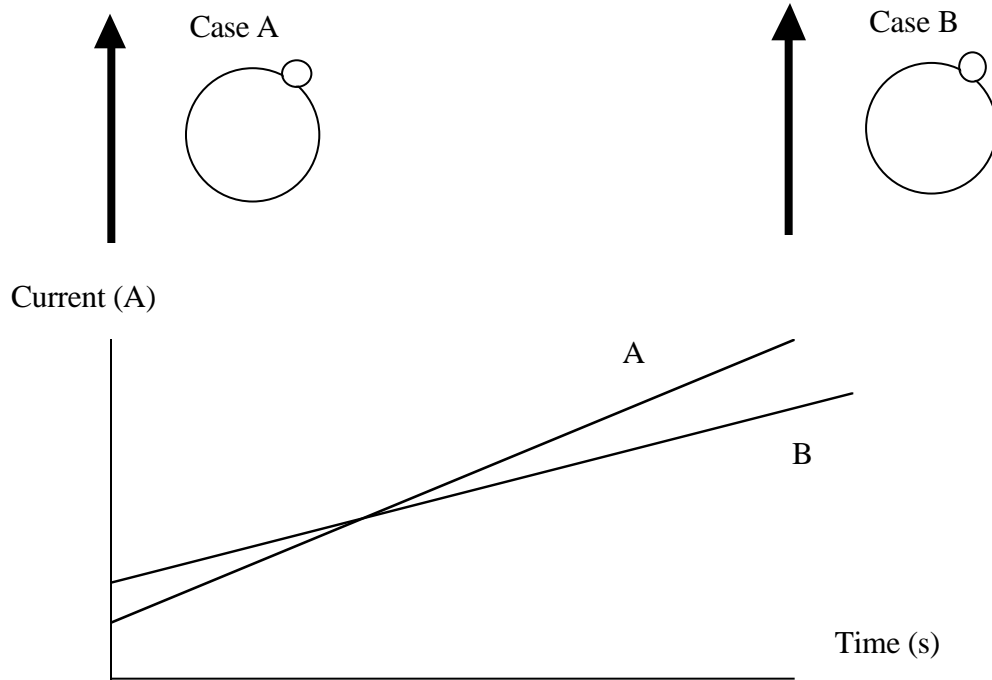
We have two circular coils of wire with small bulbs in them that are sitting beside two long straight current-carrying wires. In both cases these loops are the same distance away from their respective current-carrying wires. The wire coils, bulbs, and long straight wires are identical for the two situations. There are no batteries in the coils. The distance between these two situations is so great that they can be viewed as independent of one another. The initial current in wire A is 4A and the initial current in the other wire B is 10 A. Both currents increase by 8 A in a 250 millisecond interval.



What will happen to the two bulbs and why?

EMI3B—CRT1: CHANGING CURRENT AND BULB BRIGHTNESS

We have two circular coils of wire with small bulbs in them that are sitting beside two long straight current-carrying wires. In both cases, these loops are the same distance away from their respective current-carrying wires. The wire coils, bulbs, and long straight wires are identical for the two situations. There are no batteries in the coils. The distance between these two situations is so great that they can be viewed as independent of one another. Given below are the graphs of current versus time for the currents in the two long straight wires in the situations below.



The bar chart below left shows the brightness of the bulb in case A. Complete the bar chart below right to show the brightness of the bulb for case B.



Explain your answer and reasoning fully.

