Lab 34-3: Resistance of Wires

2. To determine the effect of length, diameter and material on the resistance of a wire.

Materials:

1 power supply	1 ammeter
5 connecting wires	2 alligator clips

Procedure:

- 1. Set up the power supply, meters and spools as shown.
- 2. For each spool, apply a voltage and record the resulting current. (The diagram shows the hookup for spool "B.")
- On the back of the spool thing there is a description of each spool. Record each spool's description. (Note that the numbers for the diameter of the spool are the gauge number of the wire. Larger numbers mean thinner wire.)
- 4. Calculate the resistance of each spool of wire.



1 voltmeter

1 spool board

Spool	Voltage (V)	Current (A)	Resistance (Ω)	Description of spool		
				Length (m)	Thickness (g)	Material
А						
В						
С						
D						
Е						

Questions:

- 1. Does the length of a wire affect its resistance? If so, how?
- 2. Does the thickness of a wire affect its resistance? If so, how?
- 3. If two wires have the same dimensions, but one is made of copper and the other of nickelsilver, which one will have more resistance?

Data: