Calculating the Resistance of a Wire



Uniform cross section

- Length of wire: L
- Area of cross section: A
- Resistivity of material: ho
- Current density: $J = \frac{E}{\rho} \quad [{\rm A/m^2}]$
- Current: I = JA [A]
- Voltage: V = EL [V]
- Resistance: $R \equiv \frac{V}{I} = \frac{\rho L}{A}$ $[\Omega]$

Variable cross section

- Cross-sectional profile: A(x)
- Resistance of slice: $dR = \frac{\rho dx}{A(x)}$
- Resistance of wire: $R = \rho \int_0^L \frac{dx}{A(x)}$

