

The Hall Effect

Abstract:

The Hall effect was examined for a germanium crystal placed in a electromagnet. The hall coefficient was determined to be $-0.0122(\pm 0.0009)m^3C^{-1}$. The charge carriers were determined to be electrons. Also determined were the carrier concentration $N=5.16(\pm 0.04)E20m^{-3}$, electrical conductivity $\sigma=1.82(\pm 0.03)(\Omega m)^{-1}$, carrier mobility $\mu=\sigma/Nq=\sigma R_H$. The hall effect was also examined using a permanent magnet in a 'magic cylinder'. Figures broadly in line with those found using the first method were obtained.

Introduction:

The hall effect was discovered by Edwin Hall in 1879, 18 years before the discovery of the electron.

- The effect occurs due to how current flows in a conductor. Current is the movement of electrons or holes.
- When a magnetic field is applied perpendicular to the current, it produces a Lorentz force on the charge carriers, which causes the carriers to deflect from their straight-through direction (from 1 to 2, see figure 1).
- This will result in a build up of carriers on side 3, say. This build up of charge will be balanced by an equal and opposite charge on side 4.
- This produces an electric field (Hall field \vec{E}_H) between 3 and 4, that will balance out with the Lorentz force (\vec{F}), which acts in opposing direction.
- When these two forces are balanced, the current will again travel from 1 to 2 unimpeded.

The Lorentz force is given by;

$$\vec{F} = q\vec{V} \times \vec{B} \quad , \text{ where } \vec{V} \text{ is the drift velocity of current between 1 and 2, and } q \text{ is charge of each carrier}$$

The Hall field is given by;

$$\vec{E}_h = R_H \vec{B} \times \vec{J} \quad , \text{ where } R_H \text{ is the Hall coefficient, and } \vec{J} \text{ is current density between 1 and 2.}$$

The hall voltage is $V_H = E_H w$ and the current $\vec{I} = wt \vec{J}$, therefore we can see
 $V_H = R_H BI/t$

$$R_H = 1/Nq \quad , \text{ where } N \text{ is the number of carriers per unit volume, each of charge } q.$$

It is important to note, that the type of charge carrier gives a different sign of \vec{E}_H . Therefore, the sign of \vec{R}_H determines what type of carrier is present.

The electrical conductivity(σ) for one type of carrier is given by;

$$\sigma = 1/\rho \quad , \text{ where } \rho \text{ is the resistivity}$$

$$\sigma = Nq\mu \quad , \text{ where } \mu \text{ is the carrier mobility, which is a measure of how easily a carrier moves through the material.}$$

Part 1:

-Experimental Details

The characteristics of an electromagnet are investigated in this experiment

An electromagnet has a core made from a ferromagnetic(soft) material. When the current in coil \vec{I}_C around core is reduced to zero, the magnetism in core is not quite reduced to zero, but leaves a small remnant field, B_r .

The magnetic field, \vec{B} is measured in the gap between the two coils, see figure 2.

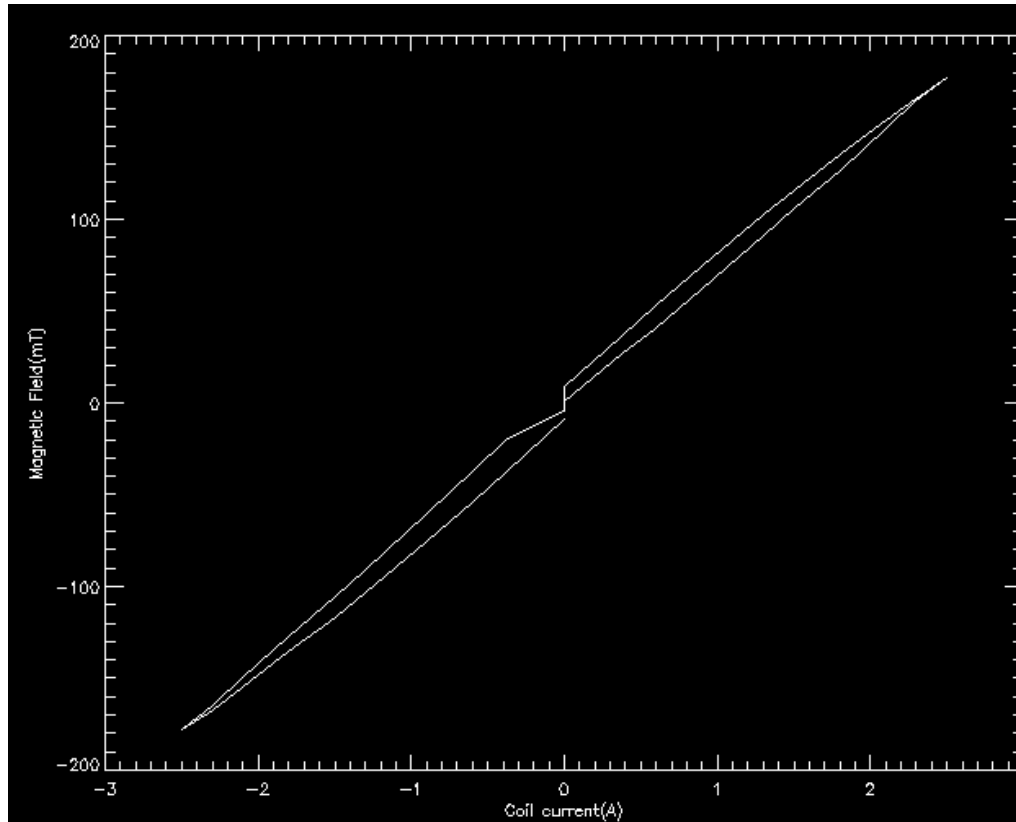
A hall probe gaussmeter is inserted between the gap to measure the field.

-Rotate the probe into the correct orientation that gives the maximum reading of field.

-Measure B and I_C for I_C varying from $0V \rightarrow 2.5V \rightarrow 0V \rightarrow -2.5V \rightarrow 0V$

-Plot B versus I_C

-Results and Analysis



Plot 1

From the plot it is easy to see that there is no unique value B for a given I_C and therefore it is not possible to provide a unique calibration of B vs I_C .

The remnant field in this case is 16mT, but this value was dependent on maximum value for I_C that was obtained.

When we began the experiment the current was zero, as was the magnetic field, since the electromagnet had been left uncharged for a long time.

The current was increased from 0 to 2.5A. When the current was decreased back to 0A, different values for B were obtained for the same values of I_C , since the remnant field in the electromagnet, from being charged to 2.5A, added each value of B .

This resulted in a loop as seen in *plot 1*. This loop is unique to the maximum value that I_C is charged to.

Conclusion

It was found that a electromagnet is left with a remnant field after been charged with a current I . \vec{B} was found to be proportional to I , but this relation could not be relied on to take measurements and it was concluded that the field \vec{B} needs to be measured directly for every measurement taken.

Part 2:

-Experimental Details

"Measurements of V_H using the electromagnet"

The alignment of terminals 3 and 4 is not perfectly orthogonal to alignment of 1 and 2, so this must first be corrected for

-the misalignment of 3 and 4 means that some additional voltage V_0 is added to V_{34} ;

$$V_{34} = V_H + V_0$$

-this can be corrected for by adjusting the potentiometer on the circuit board, while $B=0T$.

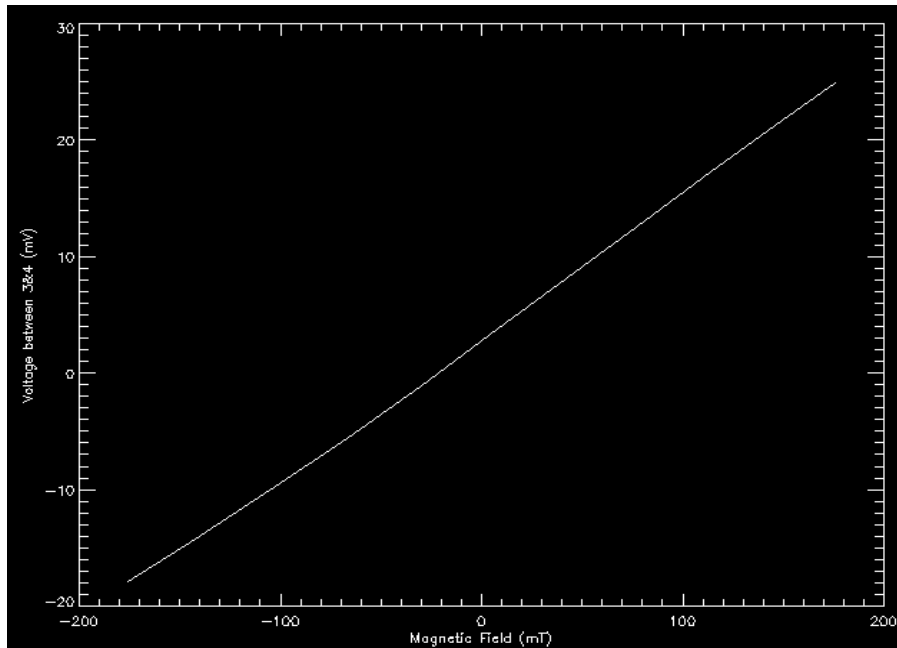
-set $I=10mA$, $B=0T$ and adjust potentiometer until V_{34} (as measured with a DMM) is zero.

The following diagram is the set-up for part 2.

-Results and Analysis

For a given I value, V_0 will be constant. Therefore to show $V_H \propto B$, it need only be shown that $V_{34} \propto B$, by measuring V_{34} and plotting it against B , for a given I .

The direction of \vec{B} was found using a compass. The result of this implies that the values of \vec{B} obtained should have been opposite charge of following data. This has been accounted for in the value's given for R_H and any subsequent result obtained using these value's.

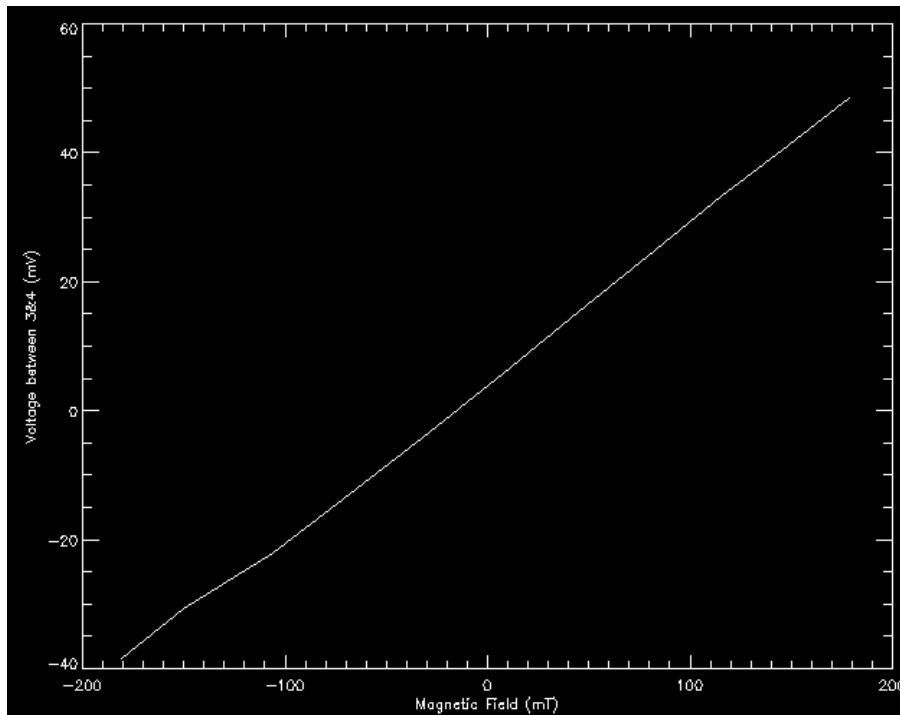


V_{34} against B for $I=10.14\text{mA}$

The slope of this graph is found to be $0.12(\pm 0.03)\text{V/T}$ by using an idl program. The slope of the graph is;

$$m = R_H I / t$$

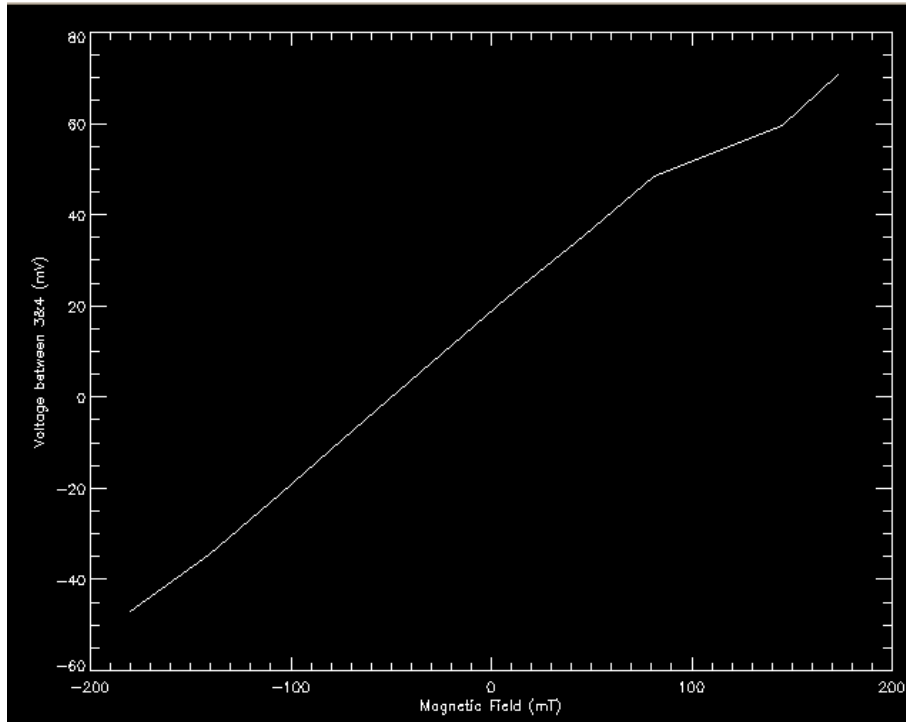
Therefore, R_h is calculated to be $-0.012(\pm 0.001)\text{m}^3\text{C}^{-1}$



V_{34} against B for $I=20.4\text{mA}$

The slope of this graph is found to be $0.24(\pm 0.03)\text{V/T}$.

R_h is calculated to be $-0.011(\pm 0.001)m^3C^{-1}$



V_{34} against B for I=30.

The slope of this graph is found to be $0.37(\pm 0.03)V/T$.

R_h is calculated to be $-0.0122(\pm 0.0009)m^3C^{-1}$

It is obvious from the 3 plots above of V_{34} against B that $V_H \propto B$.

The average value of R_H is found to be $-0.0121(\pm 0.0001)m^3C^{-1}$.

The carrier concentration is now easily obtained to be;

$$N = 5.16(\pm 0.04) \times 10^{20} m^{-3}$$

The sign of R_H was obtained to be negative from the plotted data. From the equation;

$R_H = 1/Nq$, it can be deduced that q is negative and **electrons** are the charge carriers.

The conductivity, $\sigma = 1/\rho$, can be determined by measuring the resistance across 1 and 2, and hence determining ρ from $\rho = R(wt)/l$.

$$\rho = 0.55(\pm 0.01) \Omega m,$$

$$\sigma = 1.82(\pm 0.03)(\Omega m)^{-1},$$

Finally, the charge mobility can be determined;

$$\mu = \sigma / Nq = \sigma R_H$$

$$\mu = 0.0220 (\pm 0.0004) m^2 (Vs)^{-1}$$

Conclusions

It was found that the charge carriers for a germanium crystals are electrons. The hall coefficient was found to be $-0.0121 (\pm 0.0001) m^3 C^{-1}$. The carrier concentration was found to be

$N = 5.16 (\pm 0.04) \times 10^{20} m^{-3}$, electrical conductivity was found to be $\sigma = 1.82 (\pm 0.03) (\Omega m)^{-1}$ and the carrier mobility $\mu = 0.0220 (\pm 0.0004) m^2 (Vs)^{-1}$.

Part 3:

-Experimental Details

Part 3 examines the hall effect for a germanium crystal in a rotating permanent magnet, 'magic cylinder'.

Figures can be obtained by measuring directly using DMM's and also using an oscilloscope.

Part 3 also examines the characteristics of a lock-in amplifier.

The lock-in amplifier changes an A.C. input to a D.C. output by taking the root mean squares value of the A.C. It also filters out noise by removing all frequencies of a signal that are a certain small band away from the frequency centre.

It can be seen below how the lock-in amplifier works. At a certain point along the signal the polarity is changed and the output is reversed. This is done at the every wavelength at the same point on the wave.

Figure 1 shows how a maximum D.C. output is obtained, while figure 2 shows how a minimum output is obtained. The phase difference between min and max is 90 degrees.

Results and Analysis

Figures obtained by measuring data directly using DMM's;

$I (mA)$	$V_H (mV)$	$V_0 (mV)$	V_0/V_{12}	$R(\Omega)$
5.00 (± 0.01)	8.9	11.2	0.021	109.2
10.00 (± 0.01)	19.5	23.5	0.021	111.1
15.00 (± 0.01)	30.7	36.4	0.022	111.4
20.0 (± 0.1)	41	51.5	0.023	112.5
25.0 (± 0.1)	51.2	67.3	0.024	112.8

The sign of R_H is found by examining the magic cylinder. When \vec{B} is perpendicular to the sample V_{34} is a maximum. It is deduced from the maximum position that V_{34} goes from 4 to 3, therefore electrons are the charge carriers.

R_H was found to be $-0.0104(\pm 0.0005)m^3C^{-1}$, again using an idl program.

N was found to be $6.00E20(\pm 0.06)m^{-3}$.

$$\sigma = 17.9(\pm 0.3)\Omega m$$

$$\mu = 0.186(\pm 0.001)m^2(Vs)^{-1}$$

Figures obtained using an oscilloscope;

$I(mA)$	$V_{34}(mV)$	$V_{12}(mV)$
5.00 (± 0.01)	20.0(± 4.8)	0.5629(± 0.001)
10.00(± 0.01)	40.0(± 5)	1.126(± 0.001)
15.00(± 0.01)	61.6(± 5)	1.78(± 0.01)
20.0(± 0.1)	81.6(± 8)	2.28(± 0.01)
25.0(± 0.1)	102.0(± 8)	2.84(± 0.01)

$$R_H = -0.0118(\pm 0.0007)m^3C^{-1}$$

$$N = 5.29E20(\pm 0.07)m^{-3}$$

$$\sigma = 17.6(\pm 0.3)\Omega m$$

$$\mu = 0.208(\pm 0.002)m^2(Vs)^{-1}$$

Conclusions

The charge carriers for a germanium crystal in a 'magic cylinder' were found to be electrons, as before. R_H was found to be $-0.0104(\pm 0.0005)m^3C^{-1}$ and $-0.0118(\pm 0.0007)m^3C^{-1}$ by taking measurements using a DMM and an oscilloscope respectively. The figures for electrical conductivity, $17.9(\pm 0.3)\Omega m$ and $17.6(\pm 0.3)\Omega m$, and carrier mobility $0.186(\pm 0.001)m^2(Vs)^{-1}$ and $0.208(\pm 0.002)m^2(Vs)^{-1}$ were about a factor of 10 bigger than in those obtained in part 2. This is due to how the rotating magnetic field affects the carriers movement in the crystal.

The lock-in amplifier was found to be a very useful device that can have several applications.

Appendix

idl syntax for part 2 for current equal to 10mA;

```
"pro hall_2_I_10kai
```

```
B=[176, 146, 114, 81, 46, 8, -30, -67, -105, -142, -176]
B=float(B)
```

```
V=[24.9, 21.3, 17.3, 13.1, 8.6, 3.8, -1.1, -5.6, -10, -14.2, -17.9]
V=float(V)
```



```

measure_errors = REPLICATE(10.0, N_ELEMENTS(V))

result = REGRESS(B, V, SIGMA=sigma, CONST=const, MEASURE_ERRORS=measure_errors)

I=10.14E-3
dI=0.01E-3
t=1E-3
dt=0.02E-3
Rh=(result*t)/I

dRh=Rh*(sqrt( (dt/t)^2 + (sigma/result)^2 + (dI/I)^2))

print, 'Constant:', const
print, 'Slope:', result
print, 'Δslope', sigma
print, 'Rh', Rh
print, 'ΔRh', dRh
end”

```

idl syntax for part 3 by using DMM's;

```

“pro hall_3_1

B=[170]
dB=10
t=1E-3
dt=0.02E-3

I=[5.00, 10.00, 15.00, 20.0, 25.0]
dI=[0.01, 0.01, 0.01, 0.1, 0.1]

I=float(I)

V34_Bp=[20, 43, 67, 92.4, 118.4]
dV34_Bp=0.3
V34_Bp=float(V34_Bp)

V34_Bm=[2.3, 4, 5.7, 10.5, 16.1]
dV34_Bm=0.3
V34_Bm=float(V34_Bm)

V12=[0.546, 1.111, 1.671, 2.25, 2.82]
V12=float(V12)

Vh=(0.5)*( V34_Bp - V34_Bm )

dVh=sqrt( (dV34_Bp)^2 + (dV34_Bm)^2 )

V0=(0.5)*( V34_Bp + V34_Bm )

V34= Vh + V0

measure_errors = REPLICATE(10.0, N_ELEMENTS(V34))

result = REGRESS(I, V34, SIGMA=sigma, CONST=const, MEASURE_ERRORS=measure_errors)

Rh=Vh*t/(B*I)

dRh=Rh*(sqrt( (dVh/Vh)^2 + (dt/t)^2 + (dB/B)^2 + (dI/I)^2 )

print, 'Constant:', const
print, 'Slope:', result
print, 'Δslope', sigma
print, 'Rh', Rh*1000
print, 'ΔRh', dRh*1000

plot, I, V34, xtitle='current (mA)', ytitle='Voltage between 3 &4 (mV)'

print, 'Vh=', Vh
print, 'V0=', V0
print, 'V34=', V34
print, 'V0/V12=', V0/V12

end”

```