

# Experimental Problem 1 - Porosity

# I. Footprints on beach sand

Write the appropriate box in the answer sheet the letter corresponding to the answer you think is correct.

When running on a sandy beach, water saturated, immediately after a wave the area around the foot:

- (a) Remains almost unchanged.
- (b) Becomes wetter.
- (c) Becomes drier.

Briefly justify your choice.

## I. Footprints on beach sand - Solution



When water wave washes up and back forth the sand of the beach, the sand particles near the surface of the beach are rearranged. They pack together with very little space between them - so that the water is pushed out and the surface tension of the water excludes water from flowing back in the cracks between particles. When a foot applies pressure to the sand, it opens up the cracks so that water can flow into them. As a result the sand on the surface around the pressing foot becomes dryer.

## I. Metallic Sponges

Porous metallic powders are used to produce catalysts, gas storage etc. They are assemblies of particles crossed by canals, with a sponge-like structure. In the Figure 1 is shown a portion of a spherical particle – part of the powder - crossed by pores and surrounded by other particles. The spheres forming a porous powder are crossed by networks of pores as shown in Figure 2. The sketch of pores in Figure 2 is not "at scale".







Figure 2

Through optical microscopy is established that the spherical particles of a metallic powder have the radius  $R = 200 \,\mu m$  and that the larger pores observed on the surface of a spherical particle of this powder have the diameter  $d_1 = 10 \,\mu m$ . Pores can be modeled as a sequence of cylinders with different radii and lengths. Both ends of a pore penetrate the surface of particle so that "clogged" pores do not exist. In the following, consider that the temperature of the system remains constant.

 $\mathcal{A}$ . In a syringe of  $10 \, cm^3$  is inserted metallic powder with the volume of  $V = 6 \, cm^3$ . The mass of powder introduced into the syringe is  $m_p = 1,2g$ . The syringe needle hole is closed and the air from the syringe is compressed. The relationship between volume of syringe



(delimited by the piston) and pressure in the syringe during the compression is described by the data in Table 1.

### Task no. 1

**1.a**. Briefly describe a method allowing determining the density of solid material which was used to produce porous metallic powder. The method will use the provided data and an appropriate graphical representation.

**1.b.** Calculate the density of solid material used to produce porous metal powder.

Nr. crt.	Volume (cm³)	Pressure $(N \cdot m^{-2})$
1	10	1,000×10 <sup>5</sup>
2	9	$1,116 \times 10^{5}$
3	8	1,263×10 <sup>5</sup>
4	7	1,455×10 <sup>5</sup>
5	6	$1,714 \times 10^{5}$

Table 1

**B.** In the syringe - whose needle hole was closed - is inserted the volume  $V = 6,00 \text{ cm}^3$  of porous powder and a volume  $v_{\ell} = 4,00 \text{ cm}^3$  of liquid that does not wet porous material. At first, the liquid does not penetrate into porous powder composed of spheres - "sponge", similar in size and porosity, crossed by canals of the kind shown in Figure 2. In the absence of compression, the air occupies the places between the particles and also the channels of different diameter in the spheres. Volumes of these channels are denoted by  $v_{l_i}v_{ll},...$  in descending order of their diameters (denoted respectively  $d_{l_i}d_{ll},...$ ). During the solving the problem, use the following notations:

Notation	Physical measure
V <sub>m</sub>	The volume of solid material in the sphere
V <sub>a</sub>	Initial air volume between the spheres
V <sub>1</sub>	The volume of pores of largest diameter
V <sub>II</sub>	The volume of pores having the second diameter as length



- *v*<sub>s</sub> The volume of spheres (solid material and channels)
- V The total volume of porous powder
- $v_{\ell}$  The volume of liquid

The plunge compresses slowly the liquid. As consequence the liquid starts to penetrate into porous material, removing air. Pressure dependence of the volume under the piston is illustrated in Figure 3, and numerical data on compression are written in Table 2.



Task no. 2

**2.a.** Briefly describe phenomena that occur inside the syringe during the pressing of the plunger.

**2.b.** Specify how many types of pores are in the metallic powder particles inside the syringe. Justify your answer.

- **2.c**. Determine the volume occupied by particles of metallic powder.
- **2.d.** Determine the total volume for each type of pores.
- **2.e.** Determine the pore surface area in particles of metallic powder inside the syringe.
- 2.f. Estimate the number of particles in the volume of studied porous material.

**2.g**. Estimate the total length of each pore type existing in a particle.

2.h. Estimate the total number of channels in a particle of porous metallic dust into the syringe.

# II. Metallic sponges – Solution

## Task No. 1

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**1.a.** The actual volume of air in the syringe is the difference between the current volume of the syringe - (the value in the table) and the unknown volume of powder material,  $v_m$ . The air from the syringe undergoes isothermal transformation.

$$(V - v_m) \cdot p = k \tag{1}$$
  
or  
$$V = k \frac{1}{2} + v_m \tag{2}$$

You can add the column 1/p to the table, so that a graphical representation of the function can be described by equation (2) can be done.

Nr. crt.	Volume ( <i>cm</i> <sup>3</sup> )	Pressure $(N \cdot m^{-2})$	1/ Pressure ( $m^2 \cdot N^{-1}$ )
1	10	1,000×10 <sup>5</sup>	$1,000 \times 10^{-5}$
2	9	1,116×10 <sup>5</sup>	$0,896 \times 10^{-5}$
3	8	1,263×10 <sup>5</sup>	$0,792 \times 10^{-5}$
4	7	1,455×10 <sup>5</sup>	$0,687 \times 10^{-5}$
5	6	1,714×10 <sup>5</sup>	$0,583 \times 10^{-5}$

The graph of the dependence  $V = V\left(\frac{1}{p}\right)$  is a line whose interception gives the value of  $v_m$  of the volume of material of power.

The explicit expression of dependence  $V = V\left(\frac{1}{p}\right)$  in the figure 4 is

$$V = 9,58 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{p}\right) + 0,41 \tag{3}$$

Combining relations (2) and (3) one obtain the amount of support material in the porous particles

$$\boldsymbol{v}_m = 0.41 \boldsymbol{cm}^3 \tag{4}$$





**1.b.** While density porous powder  $\rho_p$  is

$$\rho_{p} = \frac{1.2 \times 10^{-3}}{6 \times 10^{-6}} = 200 \, kg \cdot m^{-3} \tag{5}$$

The density  $\rho_m$  of solid material used to produce the powder is much higher.

$$\rho_m = \frac{1.2 \times 10^{-3}}{0.41 \times 10^{-6}} = 2926 \, kg \cdot m^{-3} \tag{6}$$

The numerical value in (6) is the answer to question in task 1.b.

Task No. 1

**2.a.** In the process  $1 \rightarrow 2$ , due to the compression performed by the piston of syringe, fluid eliminates air between the particles and take his place. The removed air is compressed in the syringe.

In the process  $2 \rightarrow 3$  the air is eliminated from the air is removed from large radius capillaries. Once the capillary filling pressure is reached, the process is carried out without hindrance until total elimination of the air contained in this type of capillary.

In the process  $3 \rightarrow 4$  occurs an isothermal compression of air.

In the process  $4 \rightarrow 5$  occurs filling of the second type of capillary with liquid and air removal from the these capillaries.

Processes  $2 \rightarrow 3$  and  $4 \rightarrow 5$  are isobaric processes. The pores are "filled" with fluid that not wet porous material. This filling - which is done by removing the air - occurs when external pressure is sufficient to overcome the capillary pressure that prevents the entrance of liquid in capillaries.

After reaching the state (5), the only process that is still going on is the isothermal compression of air..

**2.b.** Since in the graphical representation in Figure 3 there are only two "thresholds" appropriate to the processes  $2 \rightarrow 3$ , and  $4 \rightarrow 5$ , it can be concluded that there are only two types of pores.

The specification above is a response to workload 2b.

**2.c.** The state 1 is the initial state when the fluid has not entered yet the powder. In this state the volume  $V_1$  delimited by the piston is composed of

$$V_1 = v_s + v_a + v_\ell \tag{7}$$

In the process  $1 \rightarrow 2$ , due to the compression performed by the piston, the fluid eliminates air between the particles. The released air is compressed in syringe so that

$$V_{2} = v_{s} + v_{a} \frac{P_{1}}{P_{2}} + v_{\ell}$$
(8)

Combining (7) and (8) one obtain

$$V_{2} = V_{1} + v_{a} \left(\frac{P_{1}}{P_{2}} - 1\right)$$
(9)

In the process  $2 \rightarrow 3$  the air is removed from the capillaries with large radiuses. When the process ends, the volume  $V_3$  of the objects in the syringe is composed from the volume of the particles partially filled by fluid, the volume of fluid and the volume of air compressed at the current pressure

$$V_{3} = (v_{s} - v_{l}) + v_{\ell} + (v_{a} + v_{l})\frac{P_{1}}{P_{2}} = V_{1} + (v_{a} + v_{l}) \cdot \left(\frac{P_{1}}{P_{2}} - 1\right)$$
(10)

In the process  $3 \rightarrow 4$  occurs an isothermal compression. In the state ④ the volume of material in the syringe is

$$V_{4} = V_{1} + (V_{a} + V_{I}) \cdot \left(\frac{P_{1}}{P_{4}} - 1\right)$$
(11)

In the process  $4 \rightarrow 5$  the second kind of capillaries is filled with fluid.

$$\begin{cases} V_{5} = (v_{s} - v_{l} - v_{ll}) + v_{\ell} + (v_{a} + v_{l} + v_{ll}) \frac{P_{1}}{P_{4}} \\ V_{5} = V_{1} + (v_{a} + v_{l} + v_{ll}) \cdot \left(\frac{P_{1}}{P_{4}} - 1\right) \end{cases}$$
(12)

After reaching the state (5) the only process that is still going on is the isothermal compression of air. According with (9)

$$\begin{cases} V_{a} = \frac{V_{2} - V_{1}}{\left(\frac{P_{1}}{P_{2}} - 1\right)} \\ V_{a} = \frac{9,16 - 10}{\left(\frac{1}{1,6} - 1\right)} = 2,24 \, cm^{3} \end{cases}$$
(13)

Since the total volume of materials in the syringe is initially composed of powder, liquid and air, the total volume of particles of powder particles, according to relation (7) is

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{v}_s = \mathbf{V}_1 - \mathbf{v}_\ell - \mathbf{v}_a \\ \mathbf{v}_s = 3,76 \, \mathrm{cm}^3 \end{cases}$$
(14)

The numerical value in (14) represents the answer to work task 2.c.

**2.d.** Using (10) one obtain

$$\begin{cases} V_{I} = \frac{V_{3} - V_{1}}{\left(\frac{P_{1}}{P_{2}} - 1\right)} - V_{a} \\ V_{I} = \frac{8,74 - 10}{\frac{1}{1,6} - 1} - 2,24 = 1,12 \, cm^{3} \end{cases}$$
(15)

For the second kind of pores, corresponding to (12) results:

$$\begin{cases} v_{II} = \frac{V_5 - V_1}{\left(\frac{P_1}{P_4} - 1\right)} - v_a - v_I \\ v_{II} = \frac{5,11 - 10}{\frac{1}{8} - 1} - 3,36 = 2,23 \, cm^3 \end{cases}$$
(16)

The numerical values in (15) and (16) represent the answer to work task 2.d.

**2.e.** In the graph in the figure 3, isobaric process  $2 \rightarrow 3$  and  $4 \rightarrow 5$  may indicate how the fluid "fill" the pores of the porous material. Pore filling occurs when external pressure, overcome the capillary pressure, which prevents liquid to enter in capillaries

$$P_{capilar} = \frac{2\sigma}{r}$$
(17)

As stated in statement, the pores with largest radius (that fill at first) have the radius  $r_1 = 5 \,\mu m$ . Because the first threshold pressure occurs in  $P_2 = 1.6 \times 10^5 N \cdot m^{-2}$ , coefficient of surface tension of the liquid in contact with the powder material is

$$\begin{cases} \sigma = \frac{P_2 \cdot r_1}{2} \\ \sigma = 400 mN/m \end{cases}$$
(18)

Because the second threshold in pressure is  $P_4 = 8 \times 10^5 N \cdot m^{-2}$  / five time greater then the first, the radius of second kind of pores is five time smaller then the radius of the largest pores that is  $r_2 = 1 \mu m$ .

The surface of cross section of the largest pores is

$$\begin{cases} S_{I} = \pi \cdot r_{1}^{2} \\ S_{I} = \pi \cdot 25 \times 10^{-12} m^{2} = 78,5 \times 10^{-12} m^{2} \end{cases}$$
(19)

Consequently, the length of the pores of first kind is

$$\begin{cases} \ell_{I} = \frac{V_{I}}{S_{I}} \\ \ell_{I} = \frac{1,12 \times 10^{-6}}{78,5 \times 10^{-12}} = 14267 \, m \end{cases}$$
(20)

The surface of cross section of the small pores is

$$\begin{cases} S_{II} = \pi \cdot r_{II}^{2} \\ S_{II} = \pi \cdot \times 10^{-12} m^{2} = 3,14 \times 10^{-12} m^{2} \end{cases}$$
(21)

Consequently, the length of the pores of second kind is

$$\begin{cases} \ell_{II} = \frac{V_{II}}{S_{II}} \\ \ell_{II} = \frac{2,23 \times 10^{-6}}{3,14 \times 10^{-12}} = 710191m \end{cases}$$
Area of pores of first kind is
$$\begin{cases} SL_{I} = 2\pi \cdot r_{I} \cdot \ell_{I} \\ SL_{I} = 2\pi \cdot 5 \times 10^{-6} \cdot 14267m^{2} = 0,448m^{2} \end{cases}$$
Area of pores of second kind is
$$\begin{cases} SL_{II} = 2\pi \cdot r_{II} \cdot \ell_{II} \\ SL_{II} = 2\pi \cdot r_{II} \cdot \ell_{II} \end{cases}$$
(23)
Area of pores of second kind is
$$\begin{cases} SL_{II} = 2\pi \cdot r_{II} \cdot \ell_{II} \\ SL_{II} = 2\pi \times 10^{-6} \cdot 710191m^{2} = 4,462m^{2} \end{cases}$$
The total area of pores is
$$S_{totaI} = 4,91m^{2} \qquad (25)$$
Note: The ratio of pore surface area and mass of material is high
$$\begin{cases} \eta = \frac{S_{totaI}}{m} \end{cases}$$
(26)

$$\begin{cases} \eta = \frac{4,91}{1,2 \times 10^{-3}} \approx 4m^2/g \end{cases}$$
(26)

That explain why the porous powders are used to produce porous catalysts or gas storage by adsorption.

Numerical value in (25) is the answer to work task 2.e.

**2.f.** The volume of a particle is

$$\begin{cases} V_{particul\check{a}} = \frac{4\pi \cdot R^{3}}{3} \\ V_{particul\check{a}} = \frac{4\pi \cdot (200 \times 10^{-6})^{3}}{3} \\ V_{particul\check{a}} = 8,37 \times 10^{-12} m^{3} \end{cases}$$
(27)

The number N of particles in the studied volume of porous material is

$$\begin{cases} N = \frac{V_s}{V_{particul\check{a}}} \\ N = \frac{3.76 \times 10^{-6}}{8.37 \times 10^{-12}} \cong 4.5 \times 10^5 \end{cases}$$
(28)

Numerical value in (28) is the answer to work task 2.f.

1.g. The length of pores of first kind in a particle is

$$\ell_{I,particula} = \frac{14267}{4,5 \times 10^5} \cong 31 \times 10^3 \ \mu m \tag{29}$$

The length of pores of second kind in a particle is

$$\ell_{II,particula} = \frac{710191}{4 \times 10^5} = 1,7 \,m \tag{30}$$

Numerical values in (29) and (30) represent the answer to the question 2.g.



$$\begin{cases} n_{I,canale} = \frac{I_{I,particula}}{L_{medie}} \\ n_{I,canale} = \frac{31 \cdot 10^3 \,\mu m}{100 \,\mu m} = 310 \end{cases}$$
(31)

The number of channels (pores) of second type is

$$\begin{cases} n_{II, canale} = \frac{I_{II, particula}}{L_{medie}} \\ n_{II, canale} = \frac{1.7 \, m}{100 \, \mu m} = 17000 \end{cases}$$
(32)

The total number of channels in a particle is

$$\begin{cases} n_{total} = n_{l,canale} + n_{ll,canale} \\ n_{total} = 17310 \end{cases}$$
(33)

The numerical value in (33) represents the answer to work task 2.h.

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# Experimental problem no. 2 - Black box (10 points)

In a black box are closed electric circuit elements such as: resistor, capacitor, diode, battery, and switches. Determine the type of black box circuit elements and how these elements are related to the four exterior contacts.

## Experimental set-up

- $\mathcal{A}$ . On the workbench you will find
- 1. An electrically conducting wire with plugs
- 2. An electrical source
- 3. A stopwatch
- 4. A measurement instrument (multimeter) with connecting wires

### 5. A black box



B. Description of equipment to be used

• Connecting wire has plug connectors at ends. It is assumed that their electrical resistance is negligible.

• The electrical source is a E = 9V battery in series with a resistor having electrical resistance  $r = 5.1k\Omega$  (with a protective role).

• The stopwatch has in its bottom side a set of three buttons – as shown.

The central button marked M will be successively pressed until the timer display will show up 0:00 oo. If you want to measure a time, start timing by pressing the button marked with D (in the bottom right side). To stop the measurement, press again the button marked with D. To reset the stopwatch, press the button marked with S (bottom left side).

• The multimeter which has a screen that displays three digits, will be used ONLY as a voltmeter measuring in the domain of 20V. For this, the central rotating function selector of the instrument must be set to 20V. Start the instrument by pressing the red button top left (below the screen). If the instrument is not used for a few minutes, it automatically stops and must be restarted. Measurement is made using two connecting wires from the experimental setup. The plugs of wires will be inserted ONLY in the socket of instruments marked COM or  $\Omega$ .



• The black box has four connecting sockets with colors red, black, and yellow, blue. On the top of black box, above the sockets are a pressing switch and a three position switch. The pressing switch has a red button that will be pressed before any measurement. The three positions switch can be placed in the position 1,(where is a green label marked with 1) or in vertical or lateral position (where is a red label marked 0). Under terminal is a label containing the device number. You must write this number on the answer sheet. It's called "galvanic coupling" the electric connection of circuit elements. It calls "optical coupling" the situation where the light emitted by a device induce modifications of the characteristics of another device; it is assumed that the two devices are not electrically coupled.

The aim of this study is to determine the number of circuit elements of a particular type inside the black box and how these elements are connected. Keep in mind that a diode is a valve for electrons that exhibits low electrical resistance when is forward biased and a high electrical resistance when is reverse biased. A light-emitting diode LED is a diode which emits light when is forward biased. A photo resistor is a resistor whose electrical resistance decreases when illuminated. Keep in mind that inside the black box is a capacitor having capacitance C = 4mF

# Task No. 1- Measurements on black box

1.a. Perform measurements allowing to complete table 1.1 of the answer sheet.

For table 1.1, measurement of data will be done with the three-position switch in position 1.

**1.b.** Perform measurements allowing to complete table 1.2 of the answer sheet.

For table 1.2, measurement of data will be done with the three-position switch in position 2.

Measurements will be made to fill in the answer sheet the tables 1.1 and 1.2 respectively. Fill the Table 1.1 with measured data taken when the three-position switch is in the position 1 and fill the table 1.2 with measured data taken with the three-position switch in the position 2. It will make measurements of voltage between black box terminals, when the black box is coupled with other elements of the experimental set.

#### Before each measurement the red button of the switch must be pressed.

So,

- If the number 1 is entered in column A, between terminals marked in the column, B, must be connected the electric source with the positive (red) terminal to the terminal written in the first position in column B.

- If the number 2 is entered in column A, between terminals marked in the column B, must be connected the electric source with the negative (black) terminal to the terminal written in the first position in column B.

- If the number 3 is entered in column A, between terminals marked in the column B, must be connected with the wire with negligible electric resistance.

- If the number 4 is entered in column A, terminals marked in the column, B, remain free (without any link).

In columns C, D, E, F, G, H must be entered the read values of the voltages between terminals red - black, red - yellow, red - blue, black - yellow, black - blue and yellow - blue.. Always the first terminal in a given combination must be linked to the terminal COM (black) of the voltmeter.

As an example, the line

А	В	С	D	E	F	G	Н
2	Red-	Red-	Red-	Red-	Black-	Black-	Yellow-
	black	black	yellow	blue	yellow	blue	blue



in table 1.1. must contain the values of the voltage measured, at a time, between terminals red - black, and then between terminals red - yellow, and so on, when the electric battery negative terminal (marked in black) is connected with the first terminal of black box (marked in column B with color red); the electric battery positive terminal (marked in red) is connected with the second terminal of black box (marked in column B with color black)

If, during the measurements is found that the measured voltage varies significantly over time, in the appropriate box in appropriate column (C, D, E, F, G or H) will be written two or three pairs of data (voltage, time); the first pair of data will contain (initial voltage , initial time - "0")

Task No. 2 - Determination of the content of black box

**2.a.** Draw a sketch of the circuit, to shown how the circuit elements "discovered" inside the black box are connected to the terminals and switches.

2.b. Using data from tables, justify briefly the proposed scheme.

Task No. 3- Characteristics of the elements inside black box

**3.a.** Present the characteristics of circuit elements "discovered" inside the black box.

3.b. Justify how are the couplings between these elements.

Experimental problem no. 2 - Black box - Solution

Task No. 1- Measurements on black box

1.a.

Table 1.1 – The three-position switch in position 1 (green label)

2,00p

Α	В	С	D	E	F	G	Н	Rez	Nr
		Red- black	Red- yellow	Red- blue	Black- yellow	Black-blue	Yelow-blue		
1	Red- black	1,76	0	0	0	0	0		19
1	Red- yellow	0	9,46	9÷6	8,05	8÷6	0		20
1	Red- blue	0	9÷12	9,46	8,05	8÷12	0		21
1	Black - yellow	0	0	0	9,46	9÷12	0		22
1	Black- blue	0	0	0	9÷12	9,46	0		23
2	Red- black	-9,44	0	0	0	0	(0,0);(1,12)	7k	24
2	Red- yellow	0	-9,44	-9÷-12	0	0	(0,0);(1,23)	15k	25
2	Red-blue	0	-9÷-7	-9,45	0	0	(0,0);(1,23)		26
2	Black - yellow	0	-8,01	-8÷-11	-9,44	-9÷-12	(0,0);(1,23)		26
2	Black- blue	0	-8÷-5	-8,01	-9÷-6	-9,46	(0,0);(1,23)	15k	28
2	Yellow- blue	0	0	0	0	0	(0,0);(3,10)	То 6	29
3	Red- black	0	0	0	0	0	(0,0);(1,23)	15k	30



3	Red- yellow	0	0	(0,0); (1,23)	0	0	(0,0);(1,23)	15k	31
3	Red- blue	0	(0,0); (1,23)	Ò	0	0	(0,0);(1,23)	15k	32
3	Black - yellow	0	0	0	0	(0,0);(1,23)	(0,0);(1,23)	15k	33
3	Black- blue	0	0	0	(0,0);(1,23)	0	(0,0);(1,23)	15k	34
3	Yellow- blue	0	0	0	0	0	0		35
4		0	0	0	0	0	(0,0);(1,22)	15k	36

#### 1.b.

Tabelul 1.2 – The three-position switch in position 0 (red label)

2,00p

А	В	С	D	E	F	G	Н	Rez	Nr
		Red-	Red-	Red-	Black-	Black-	Yellow-		
		black	yellow	blue	yellow	blue	blue		
1	Red-black	1,77	0	0	0	0	0		1
1	Red-	0	9,45	9,45	8,03	8,03	0		2
	yellow								
1	Red-blue	0	9,46	9,46	8,03	8,03	0		3
1	Black -	0	0	0	9,46	9,46	0		4
	yellow								
1	Black-blue	0	0	0	9,46	9,46	0		5
2	Red-black	-9,45	0	0	0	0	0		6
2	Red-	0	-9,49	-9,49	0	0	0		7
	yellow								
2	Red-blue	0	-9,46	-9,46	0	0	0		8
2	Black -	0	-8,02	-8,03	-9,46	-9,45	0		9
	yellow								
2	Black-blue	0	-8,02	-8,02	-9,46	-9,45	0		10
2	Yellow-	0	0	0	0	0	(0,0),(2,5)	5k	11
	blue								
3	Red-black	0	0	0	0	0	0		12
3	Red-	0	0	0	0	0	0		13
	yellow								
3	Red-blue	0	0	0	0	0	0		14
3	Black -	0	0	0	0	0	0		15
	yellow								
3	Black-blue	0	0	0	0	0	0		16
3	Yellow-	0	0	0	0	0	0		17
	blue								
4		0	0	0	0	0	0		18



Task No. 2 - Determination of the content of black box **2.a.** 



**2.b.** Analyzing the results of measurements in the situation 4, with the switch in the position open, 0,(red label) results that it not any closed electric link between elements. When the switch is in the position 1(green label), between the sockets blue yellow appears a variable tension – that means that in the box it exists an RC circuit and a battery. Because the tension on the yellow - blue sockets the tension increases that mean that between these sockets is coupled the condenser. The fact that pushing the read button the measured tension instantly decreases s at 0, means that the button shorts the condenser, discharging him. Adding the results of measurements for situation 3, results that it not exist any other electric link between these part of the circuit and the red and black sockets.

Analyzing temporal evolution of the tension on Yellow Blue sockets, results that the resistance inserted in the circuit has  $\approx 15k\Omega$ .

Measurements performed in situations 1 and 2, add to previous observations the fact that the electronic component between the red and black socket has different electric resistance as function of the polarization.

Between the red and black socket it is a diode.

All other observation are consistent with these composition of the black box.

A problem appears in the measurement 22. Calculating the value of electric resistance in the RC circuit for the situation of direct biased diode, the resulting value is half of the previously calculate d value of resistance. That allow concluding that the diode is a Light emitting diode and the resistance in RC circuit is a photo resistance whose resistance diminish when illuminated.

In the black box it exists an optical coupling as suggested.

Task No. 3- Characteristics of the elements inside black box

**3.a.** When a circuit containing a capacitor of capacity C and a resistor of resistance R are coupled to a source of electromotive tension E, the evolution in time of tension on capacitor is



U = E(1 - exp(t/RC))

If the electromotive tension and the capacity are known and the tension on capacitor is measured, the value of resistance is

$$R = \frac{t}{C \cdot ln\left(\frac{E}{E - U}\right)}$$

The value of electromotive tension of the exterior battery can be directly measured. The value of interior battery, is the value "on limit" of the tension on the yellow blue sockets (the terminals of the condenser)

**3.b.** The values of characteristics of the elements in the black box (and in experimental set up) are

 $\dot{R} \in 10 \div 30 k\Omega$ 

In calculating the values of the resistance, the formula presented above will be used.

 $E_{interior} = 2,7 \div 3,2V$  $E_{exterior} = 9,1 \div 9,5V$  $R_{exterior} = 5,1k\Omega$ C = 4,4mF

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