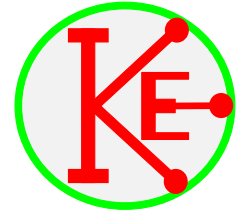


Investigation of a bridge rectifier.



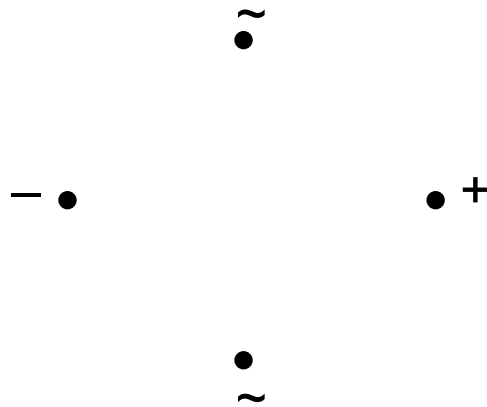
In the silicon diode investigation you may have found that a major use of diodes is to convert alternating current (from the mains electricity supply) to direct current which is used in electronic equipment.

A device called a Bridge Rectifier is often used for this purpose.

A Bridge Rectifier contains four diodes internally connected.

The four leads of a bridge rectifier are often labelled ~ + - ~

- (a) Use Squeekie to investigate a bridge rectifier. Complete the circuit diagram below to show how the four diodes are arranged within the bridge rectifier.



Further investigations.

- (b) By using books or the Internet for research, explain:-

- (i) what is alternating current (a.c.)

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- (ii) what is direct current (d.c.)

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- (iii) how alternating current can be changed into direct current using a bridge rectifier.

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