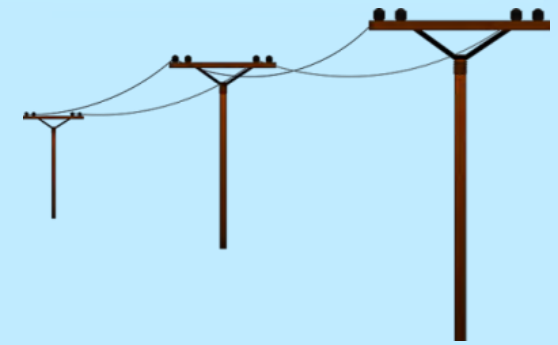


# Tesla



## The Forgotten Genius

Part 1

Alternating Current (AC) Electric Power

Ange Rapa  
January 11, 2022



## References

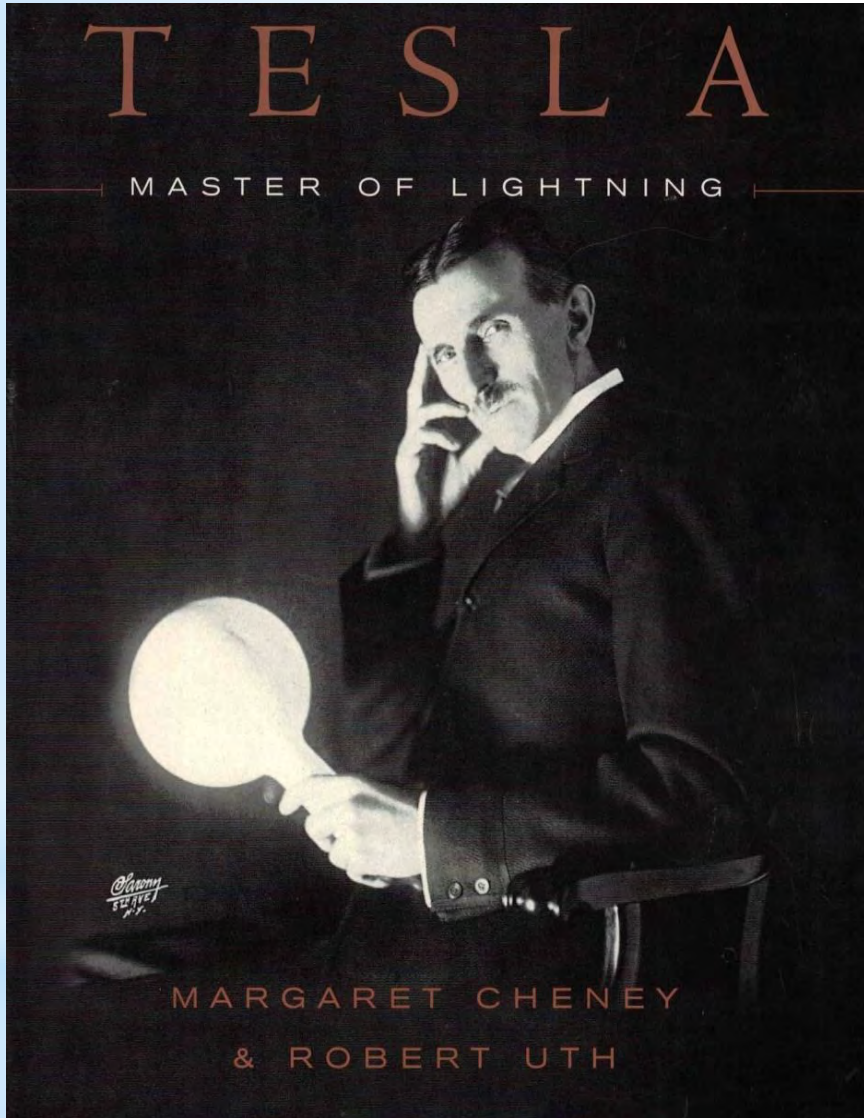
“TESLA – Master of Lightning”  
Biography (1999)  
Margaret Cheney & Robert Uth

PBS Documentary Video  
“TESLA – Master of Lightning”

The History Channel

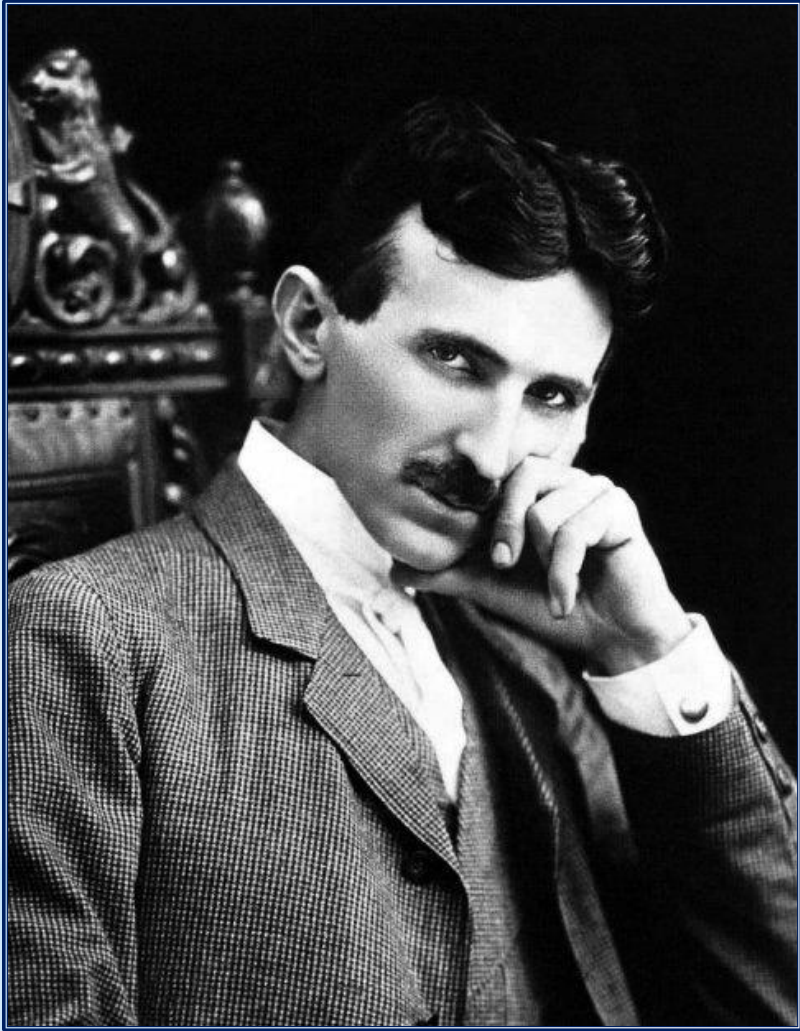
Tesla’s Autobiography  
“My Inventions” (1919)

[www.tfcbooks.com/e-books/my\\_inventions.pdf](http://www.tfcbooks.com/e-books/my_inventions.pdf)



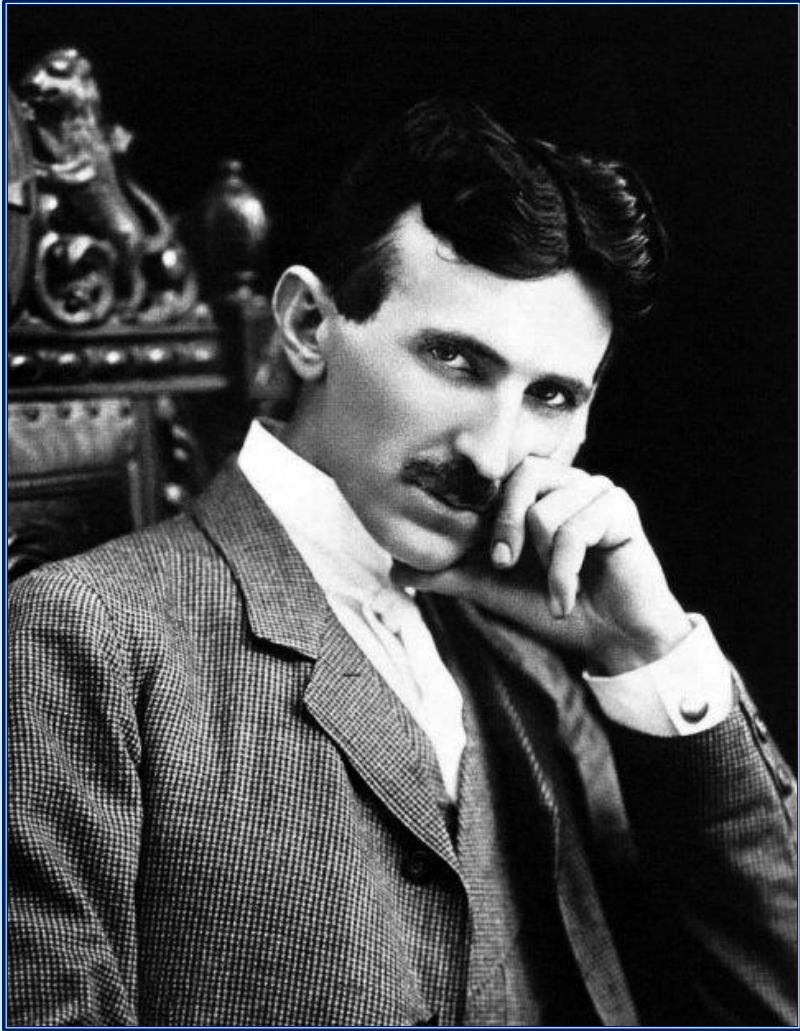


# NIKOLA TESLA

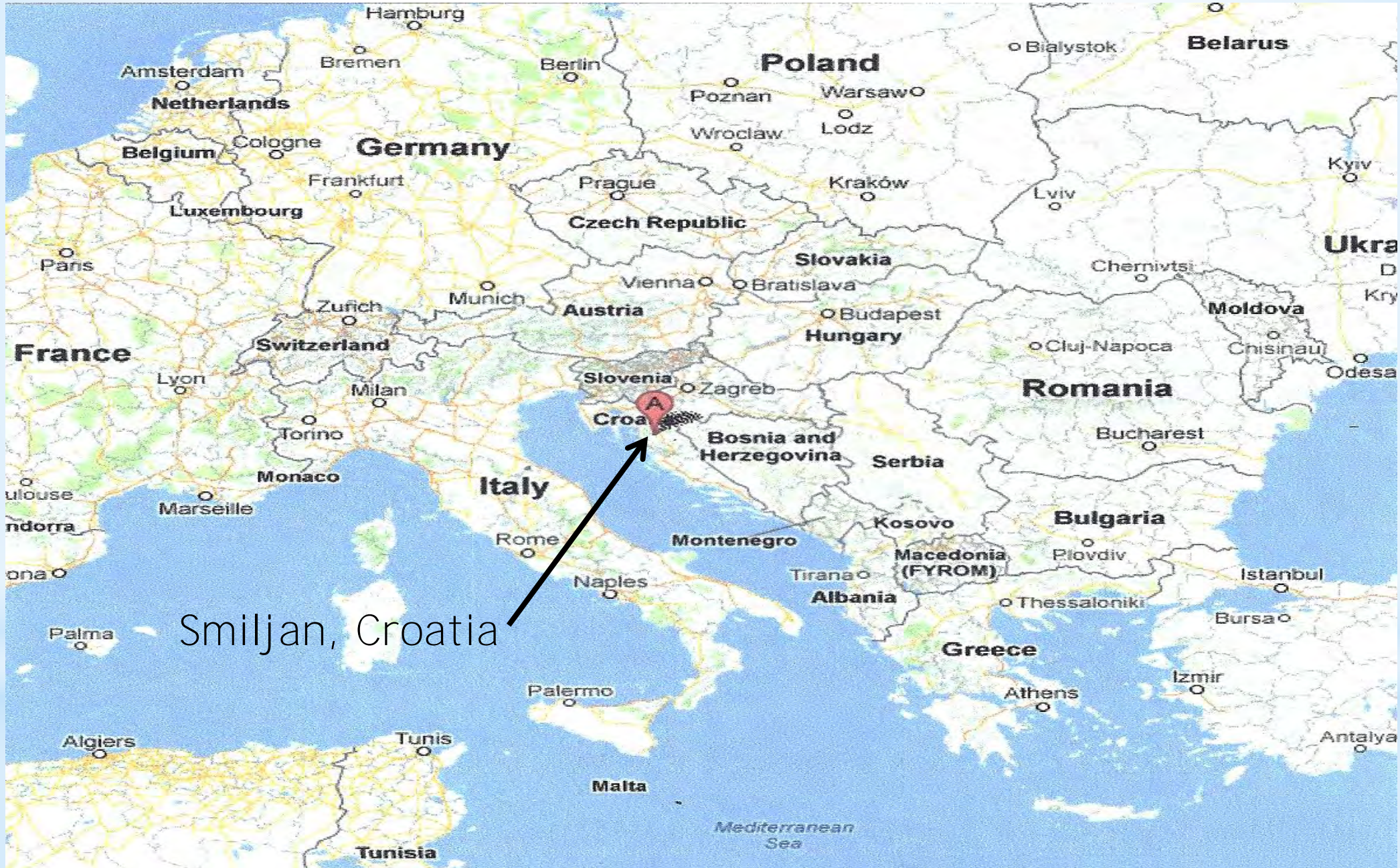


- Nikola Tesla is largely responsible for the technology used in today's world-wide electrical power and wireless communications systems.

# NIKOLA TESLA



- Nikola Tesla is largely responsible for the technology used in today's world-wide electrical power and wireless communications systems.
- Tesla's innovations made him rich and famous, but he died alone, poor, and in virtual obscurity.



Smiljan, Croatia

Original Birthplace



Tesla Memorial



# Tesla's Birthplace & Childhood Home

# My Early Life



- **Youngest of 5 children, all intellectual**



Tesla at age 23 (1879)

- Youngest of 5 children, all intellectual
- **Mainly Self-taught**



Tesla at age 23 (1879)

- Youngest of 5 children, all intellectual
- Mainly Self-taught
- **Personality**



Tesla at age 23 (1879)

- Youngest of 5 children, all intellectual
- Mainly Self-taught
- Personality
- **Beliefs**



Tesla at age 23 (1879)

- Youngest of 5 children, all intellectual
- Mainly Self-taught
- Personality
- Beliefs
- **Visualization Abilities**

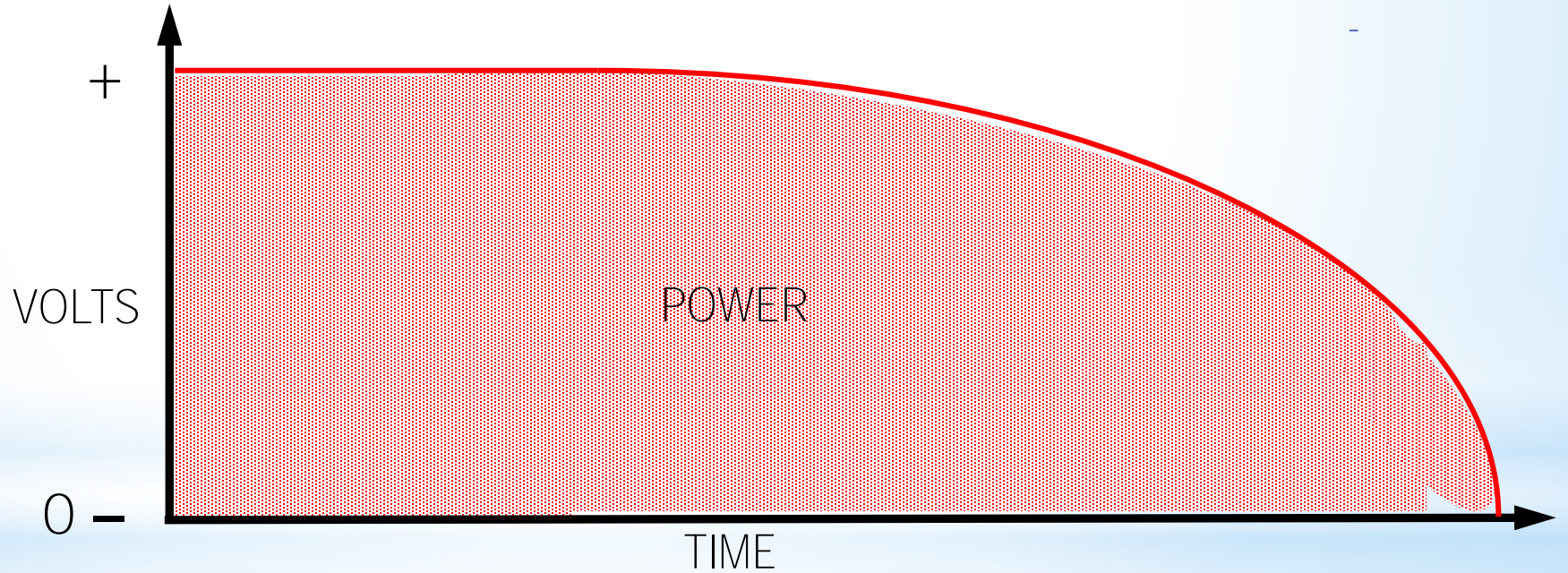
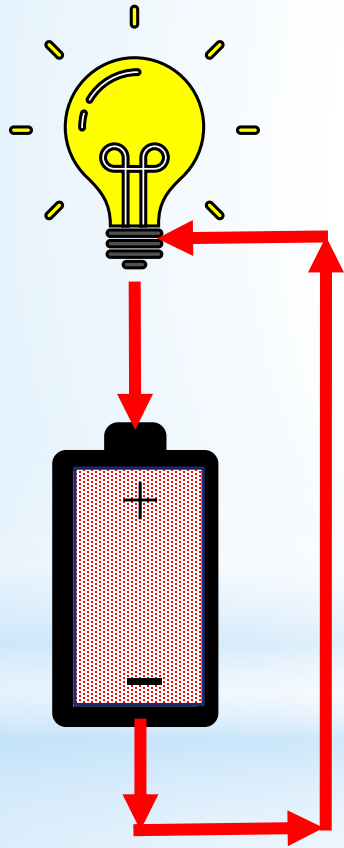


Tesla at age 23 (1879)

# The New Land

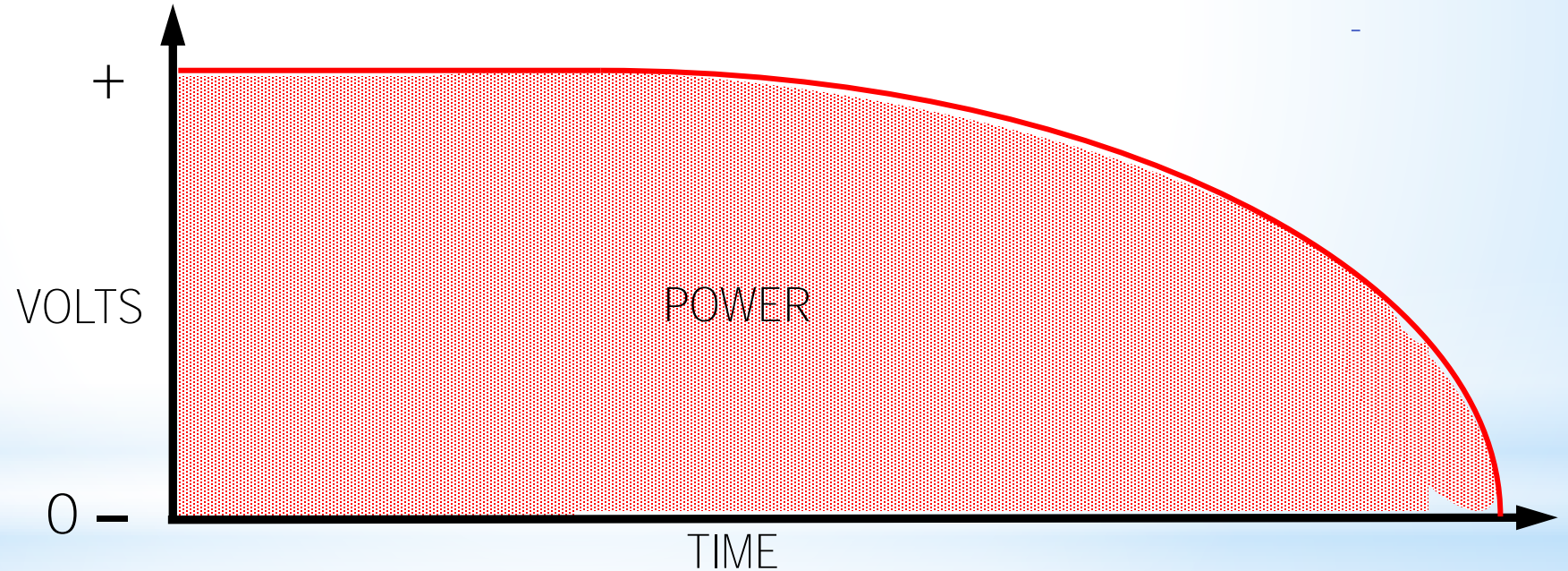
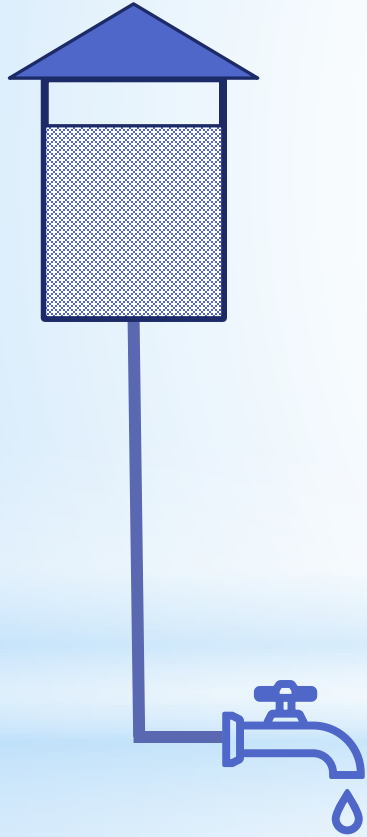
# DC power from storage battery

pure uninterrupted power - flow in one direction



# DC power from storage battery

pure uninterrupted power - flow in one direction

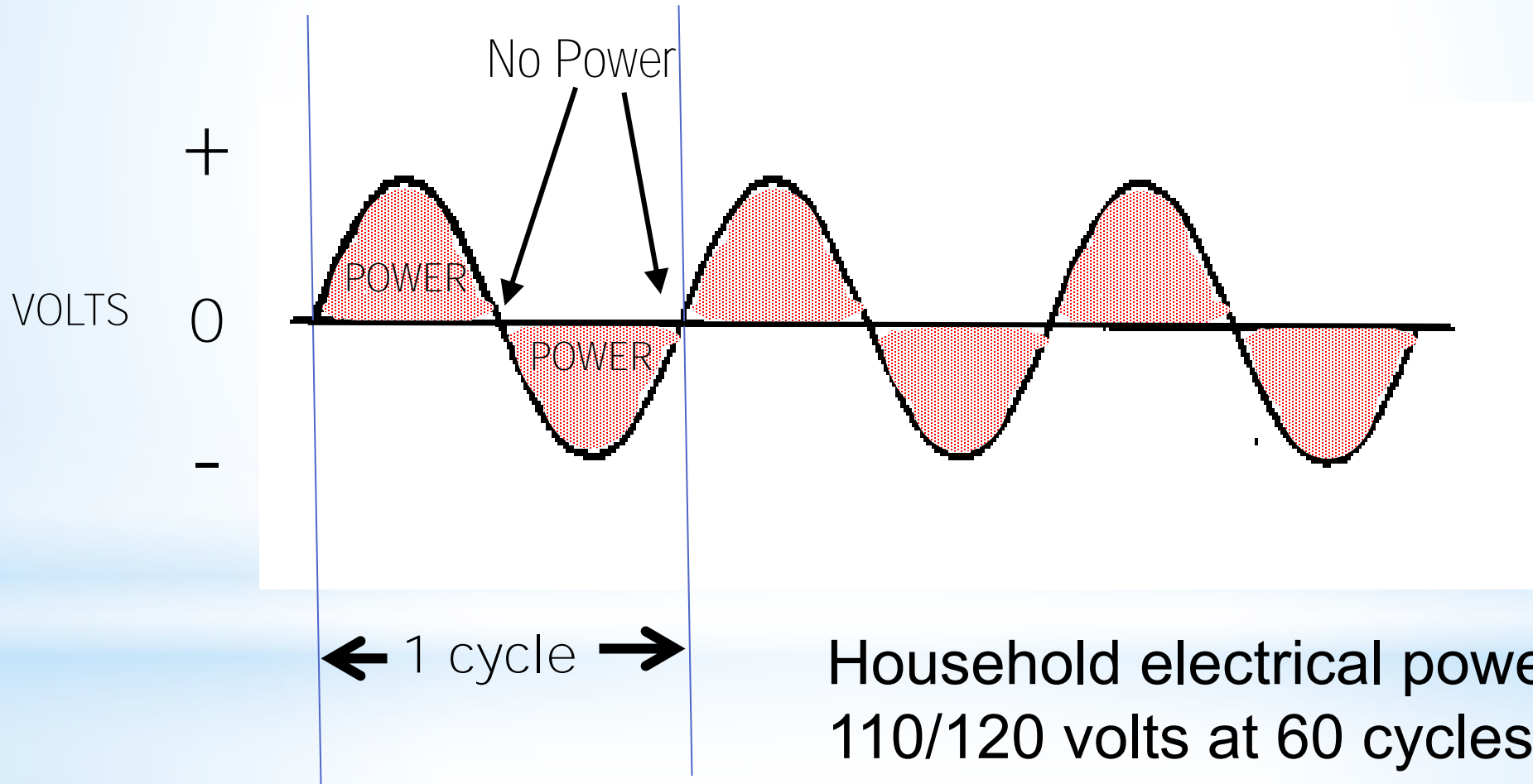


Water Tank Analogy



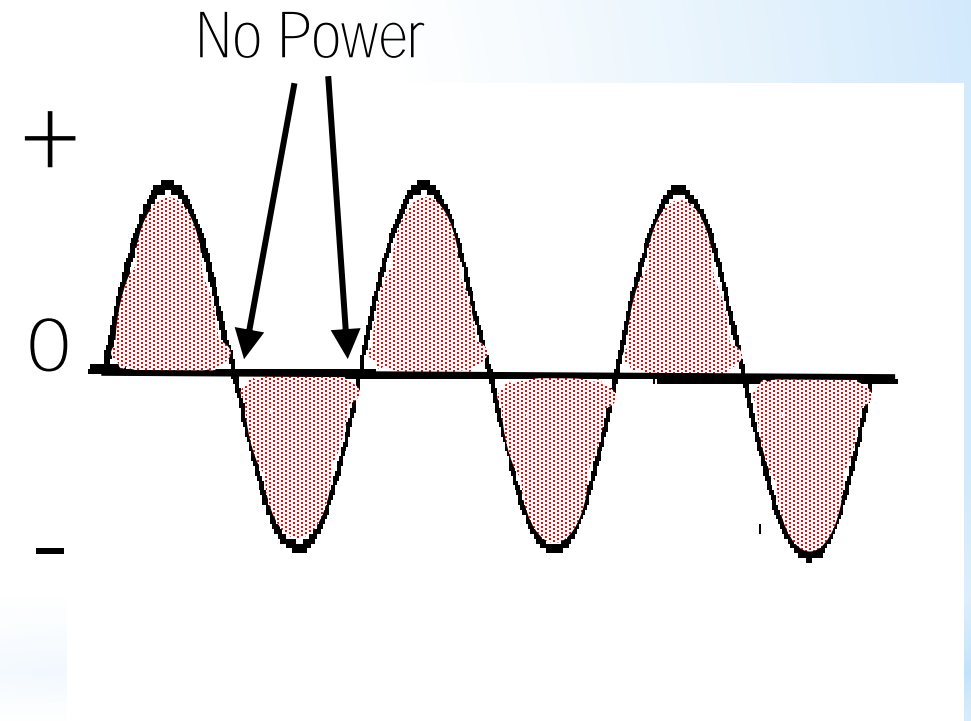
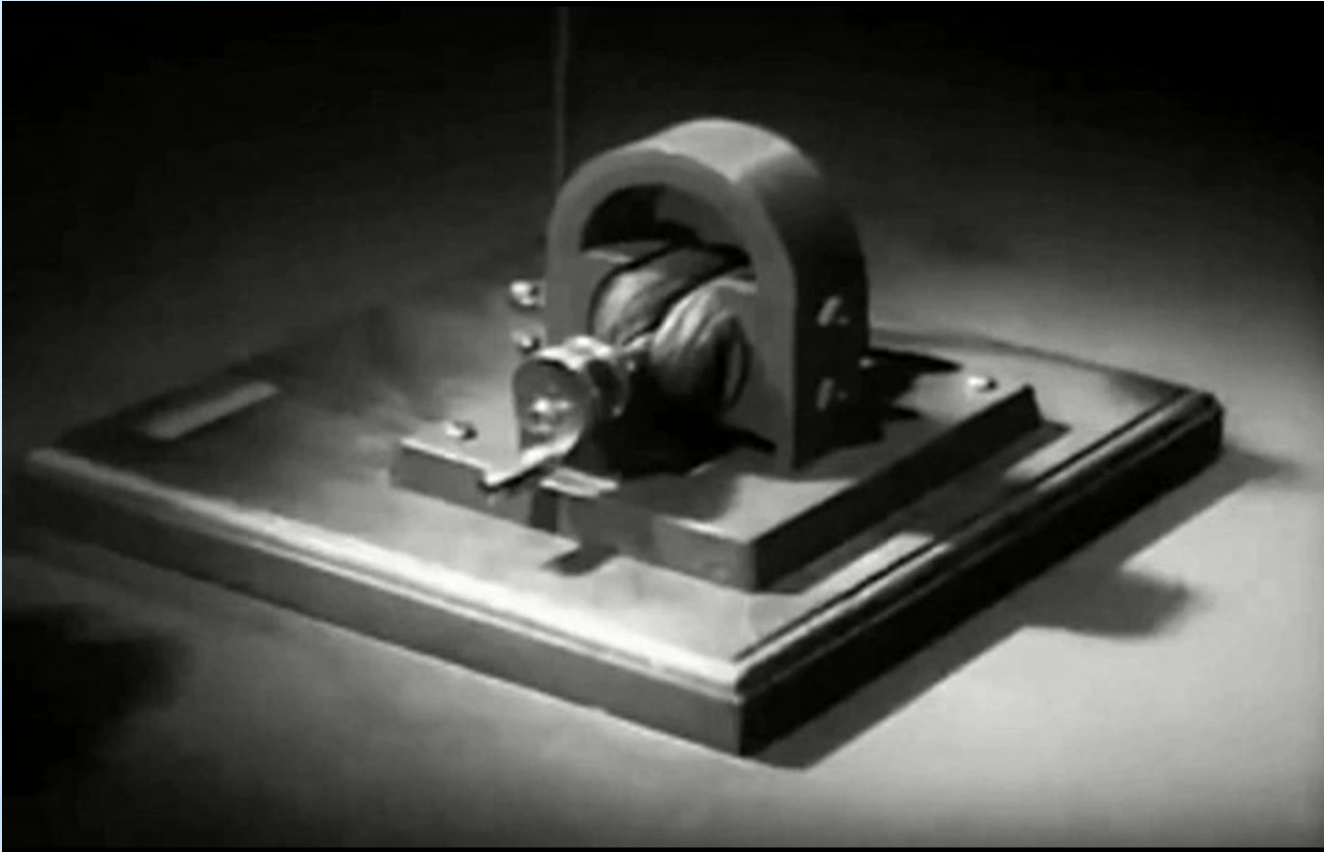
# AC (generated)

oscillating power flowing in two directions



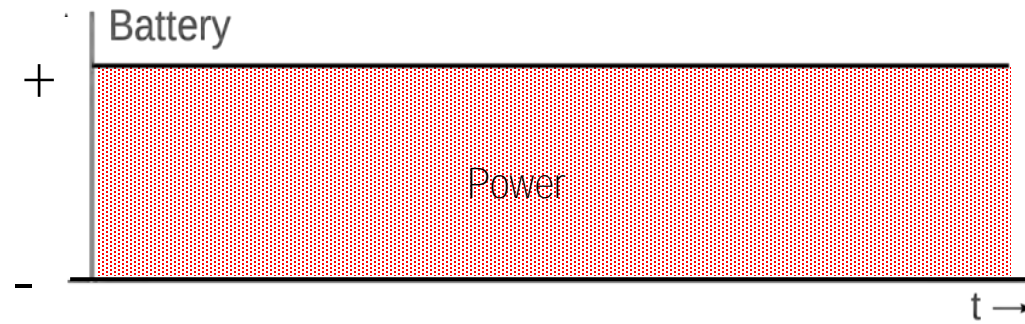
Household electrical power:  
110/120 volts at 60 cycles/sec. (Hz)

# AC Power Generation

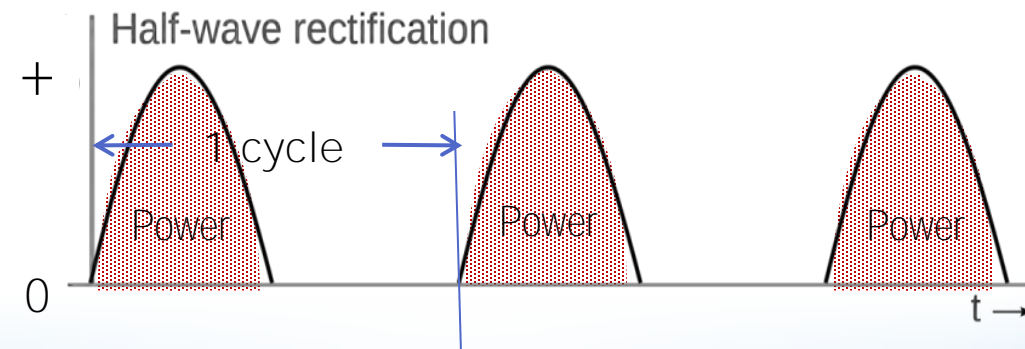


# Converting AC to DC (rectification)

Battery

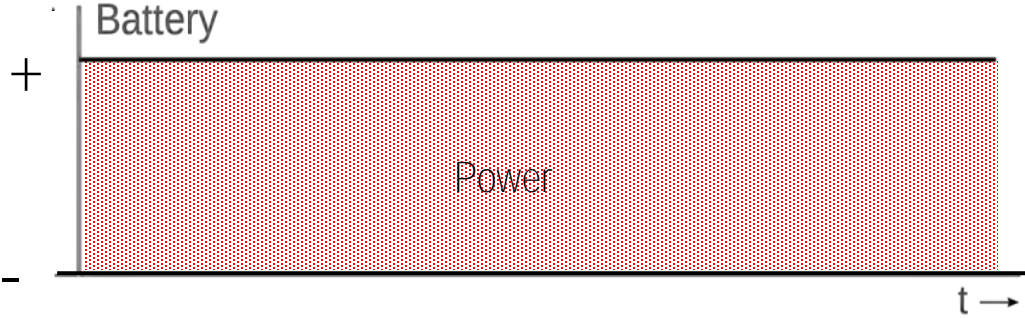


DC Generator  
(Dynamo)

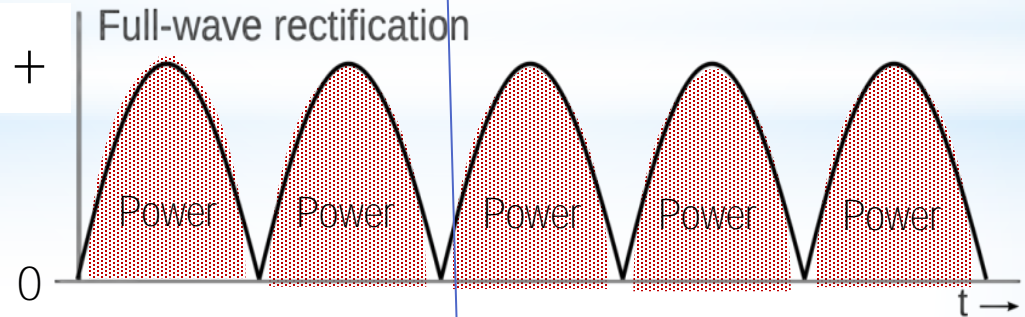
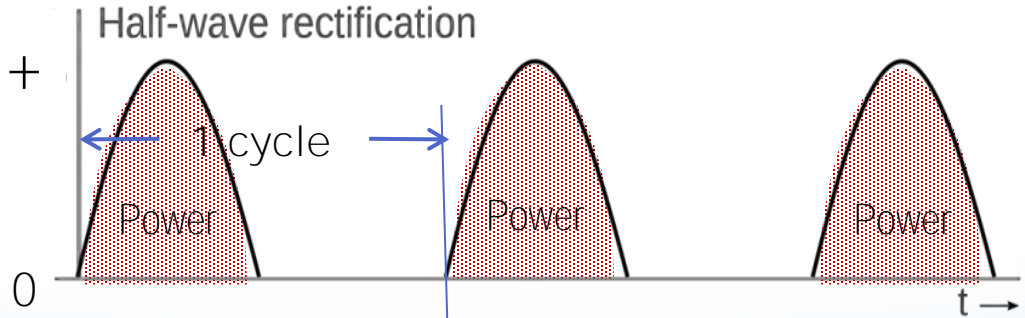


# Converting AC to DC (rectification)

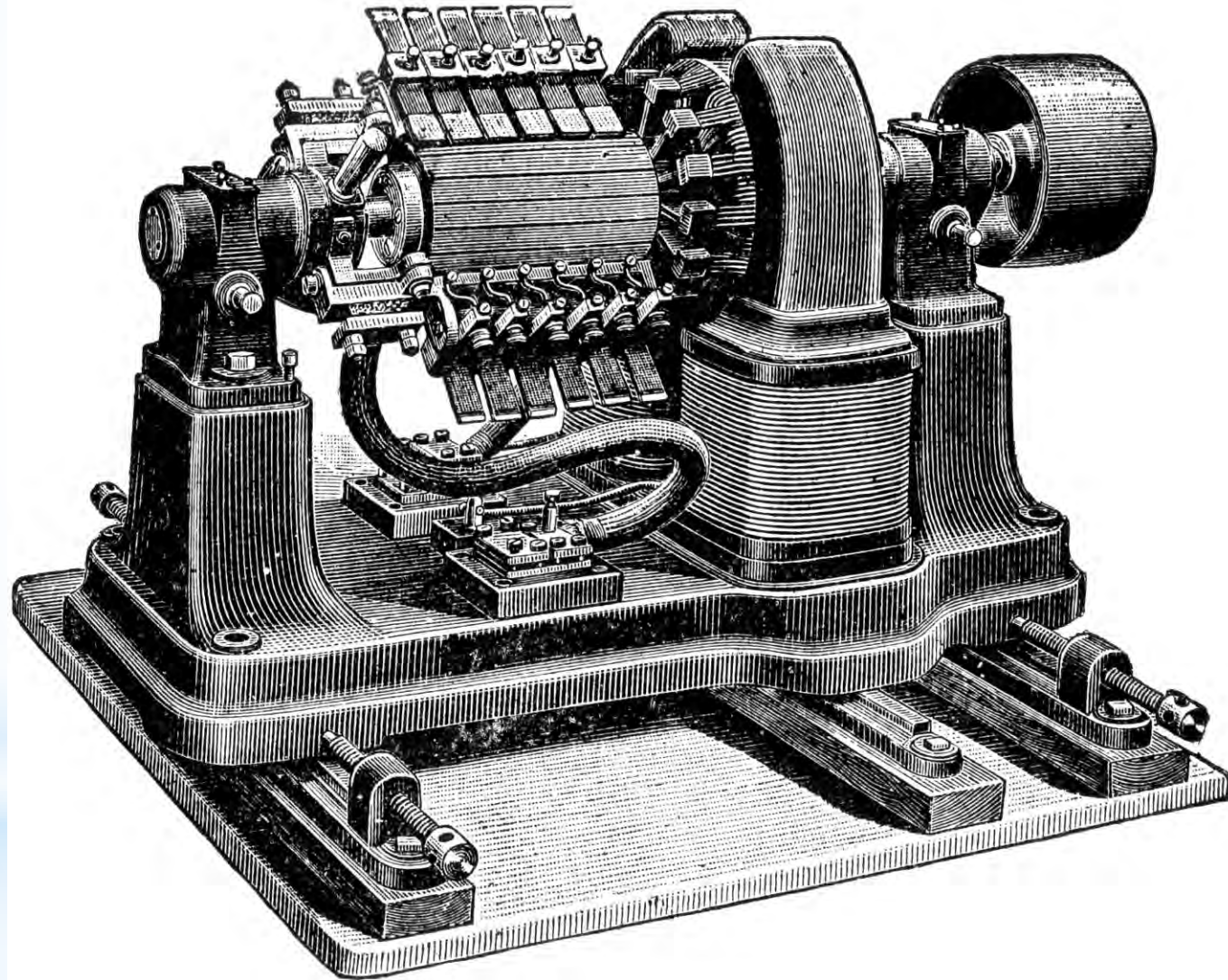
Battery



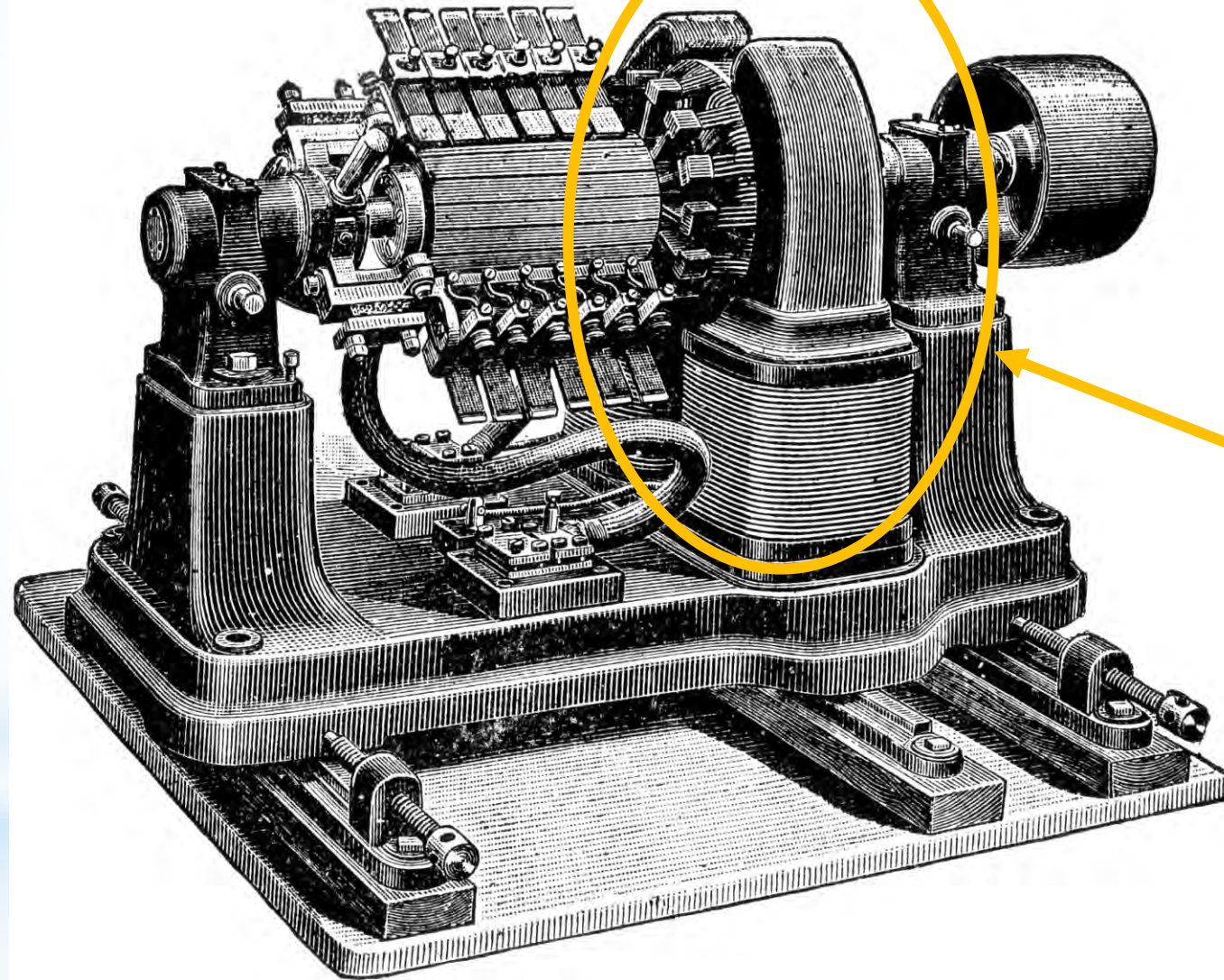
DC Generator (Dynamo)



# Early DC Generator (Dynamo)

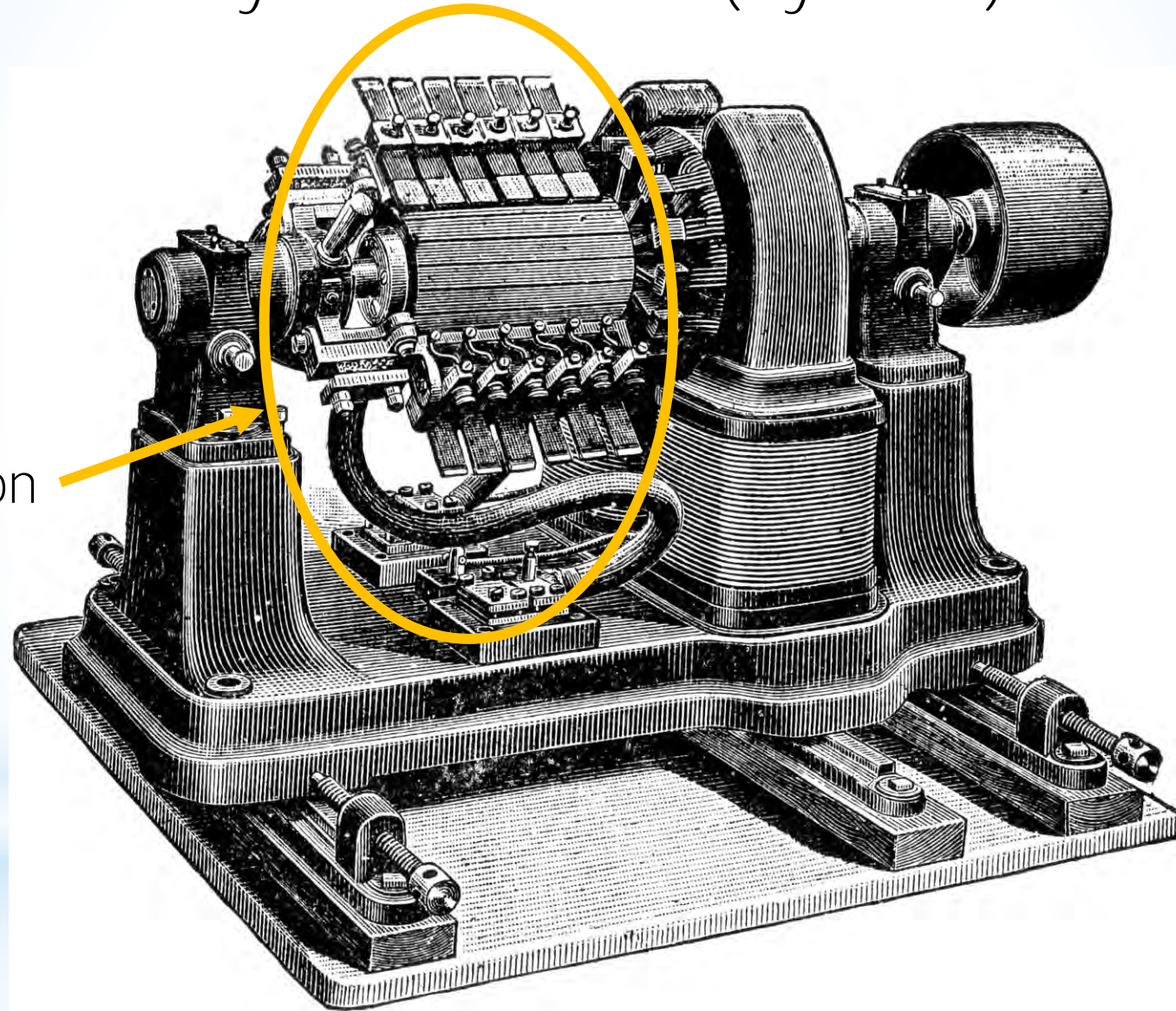


# Early DC Generator (Dynamo)



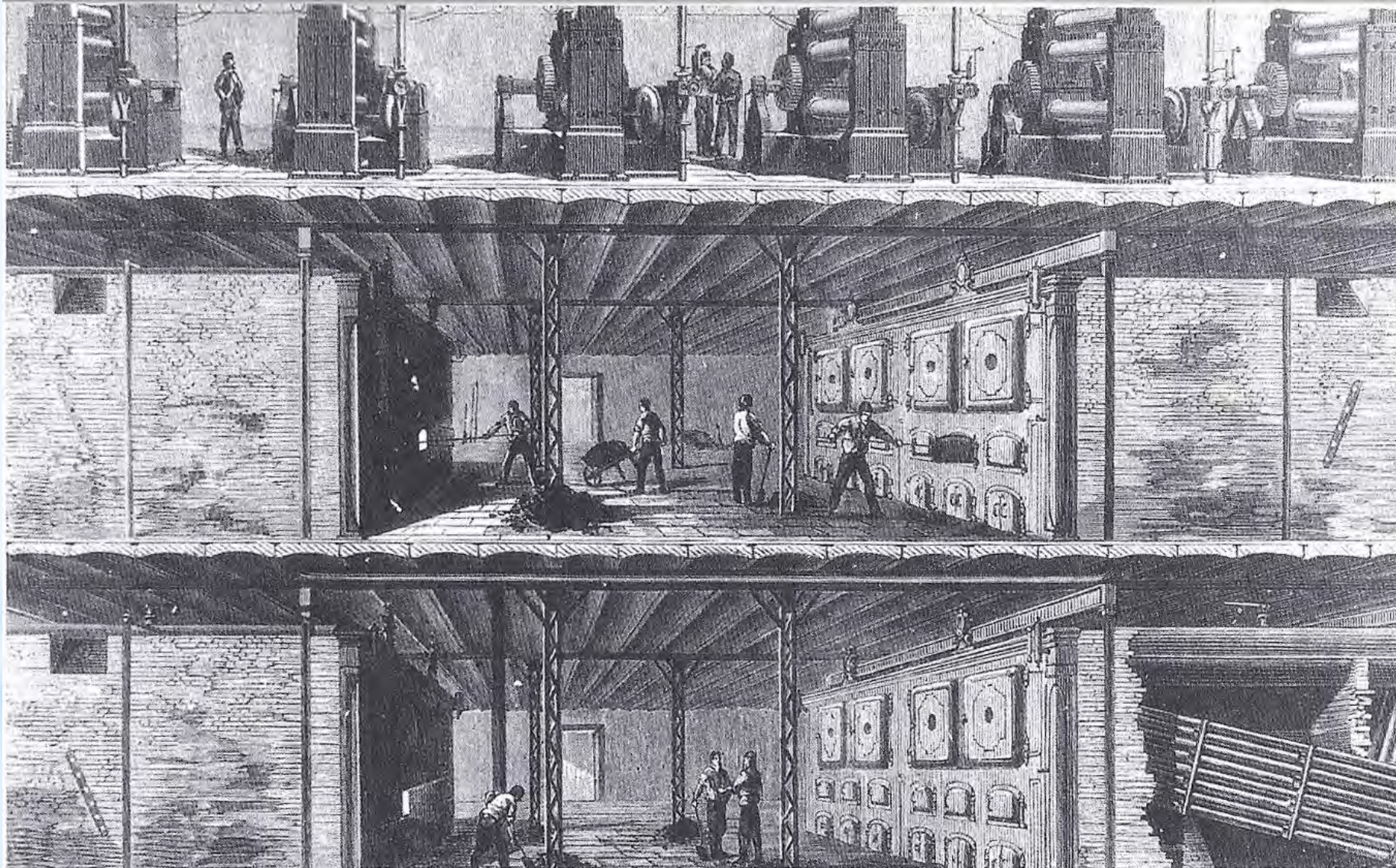
generator section

# Early DC Generator (Dynamo)



commutator section

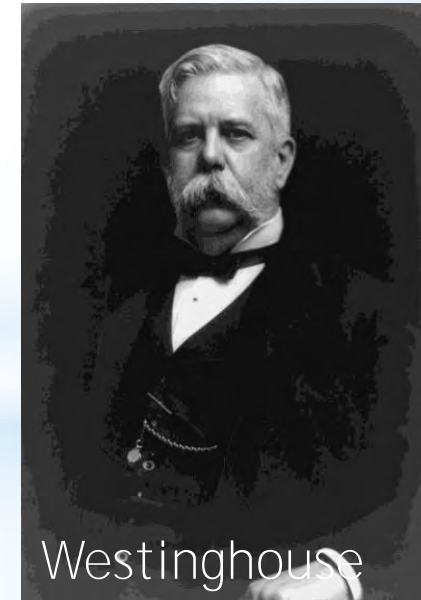
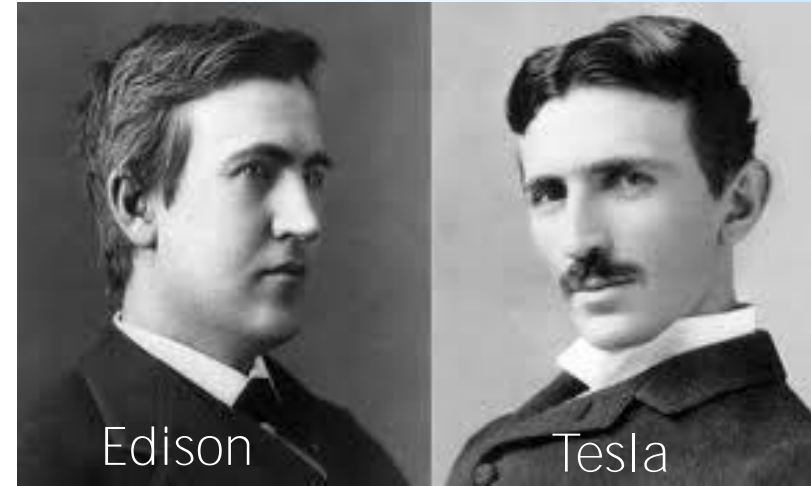
# Edison's Pearl Street Power Station, 1883





## Review of Key Events:

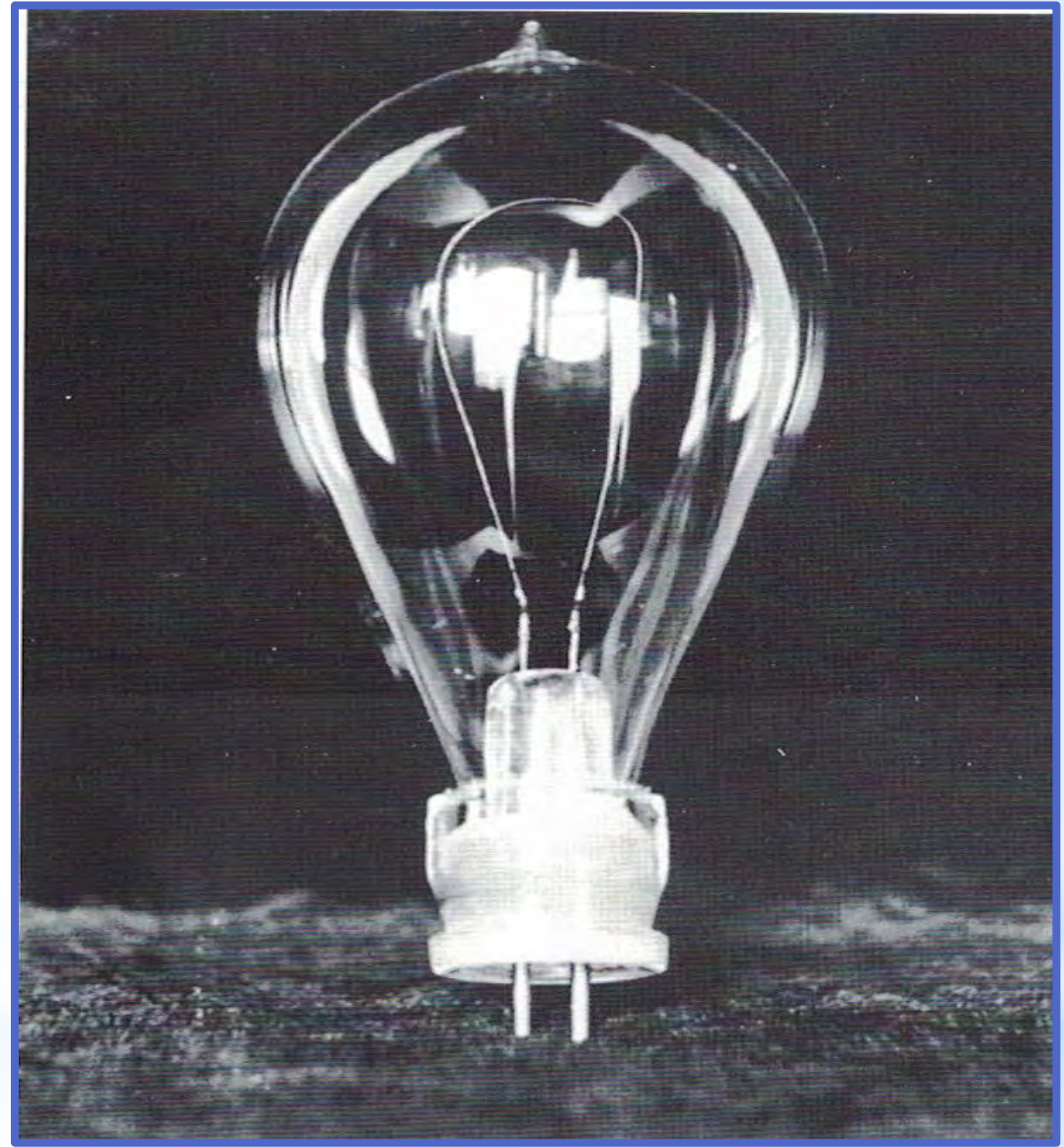
- 1831 – Faraday discovers power generation
- 1878 – Edison markets incandescent lighting (DC)
- 1884 – Tesla comes to NYC to work for Edison but quits within a year
- 1885-87 – Tesla develops AC motor and patents complete AC power system.
- 1888 – Westinghouse buys Tesla's AC patents and hires him as a consultant.



# War of the Currents



Edison one-piece Lamp

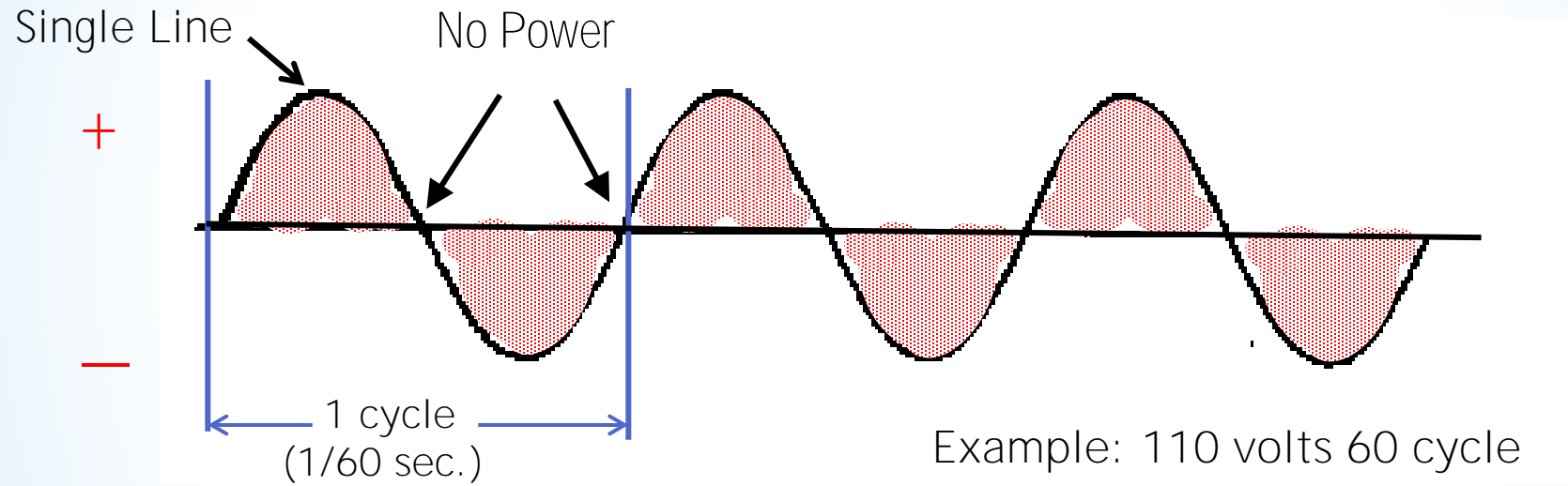


Westinghouse two-piece Stopper Lamp

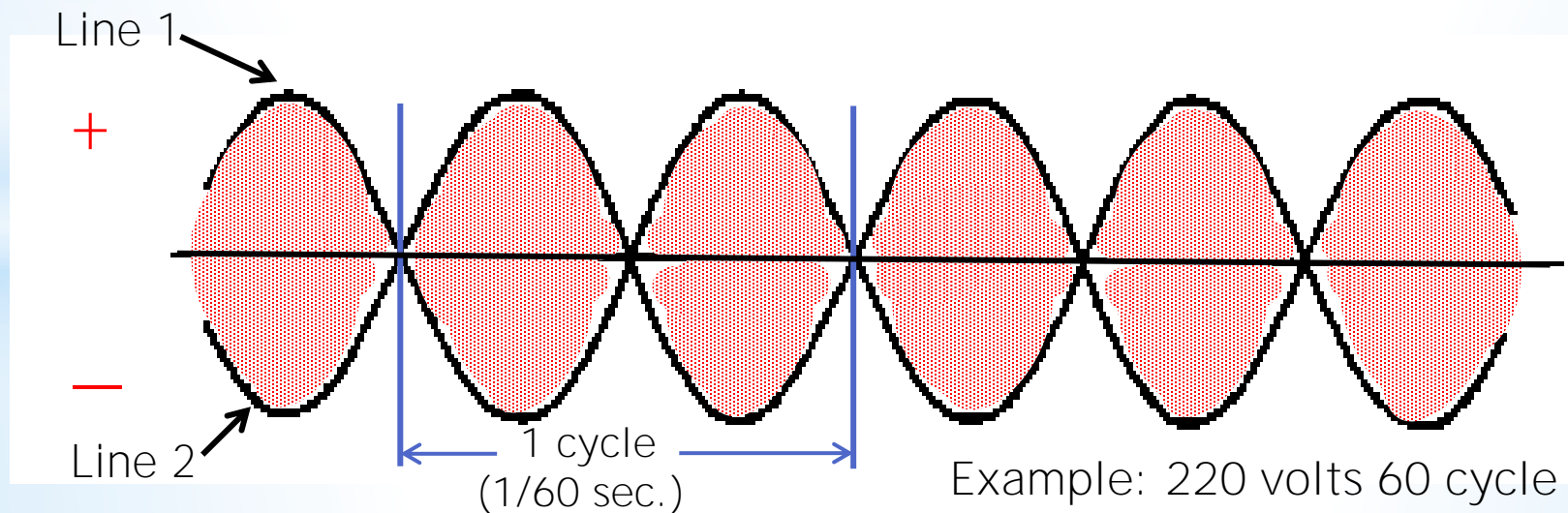
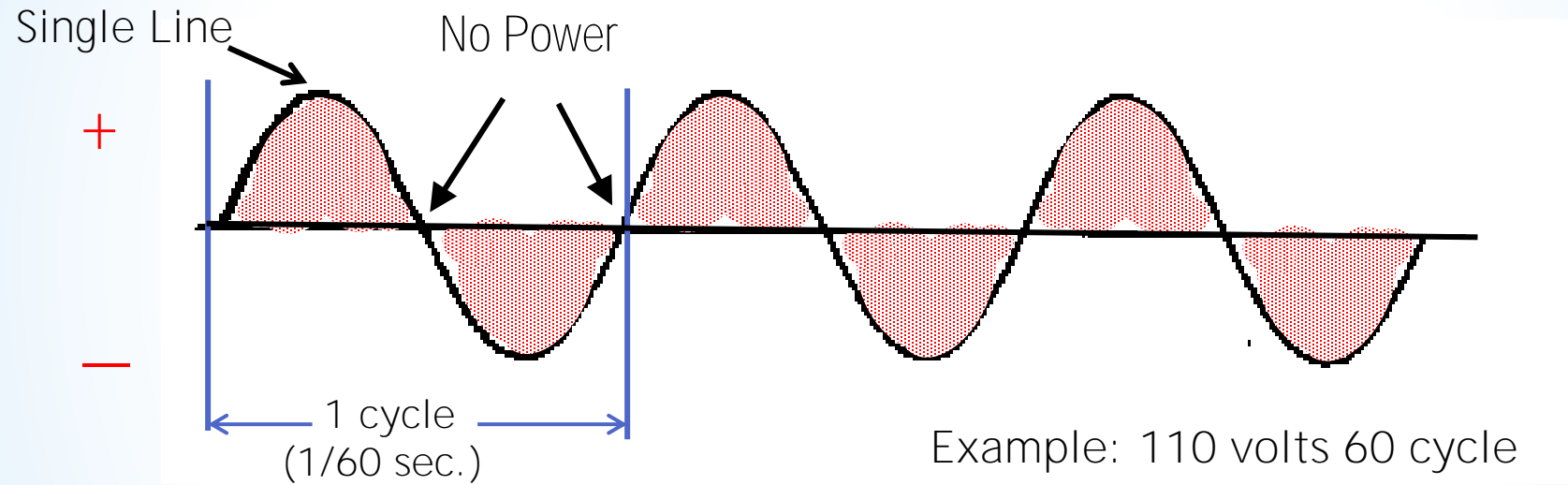
# Tesla Polyphase System



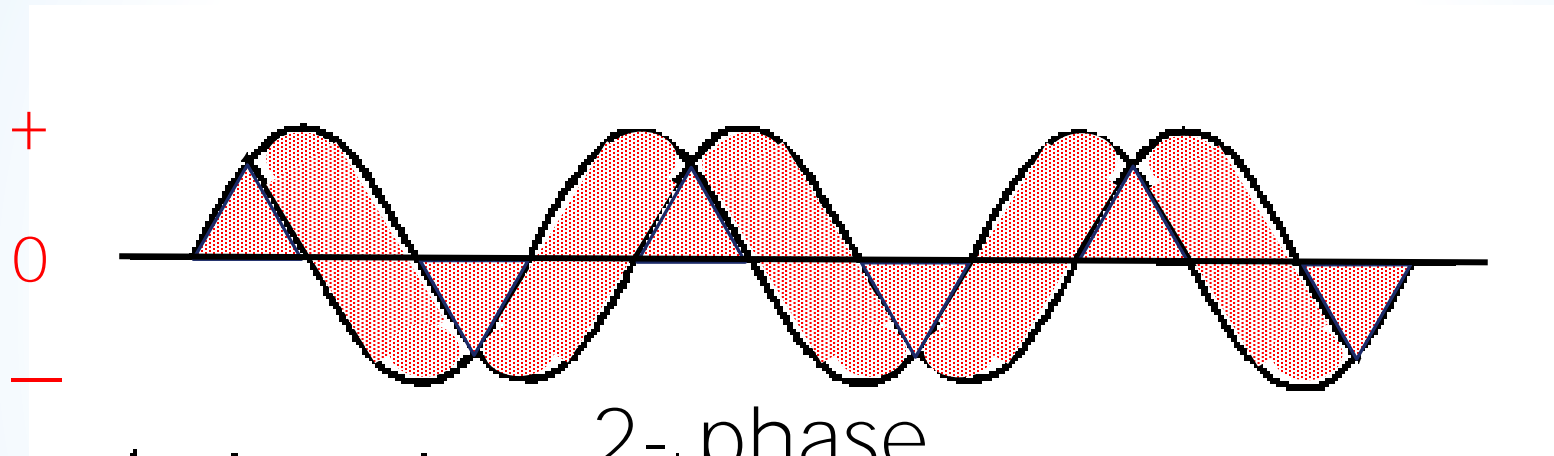
# AC Power (single phase - residential)



# AC Power (single phase - residential)

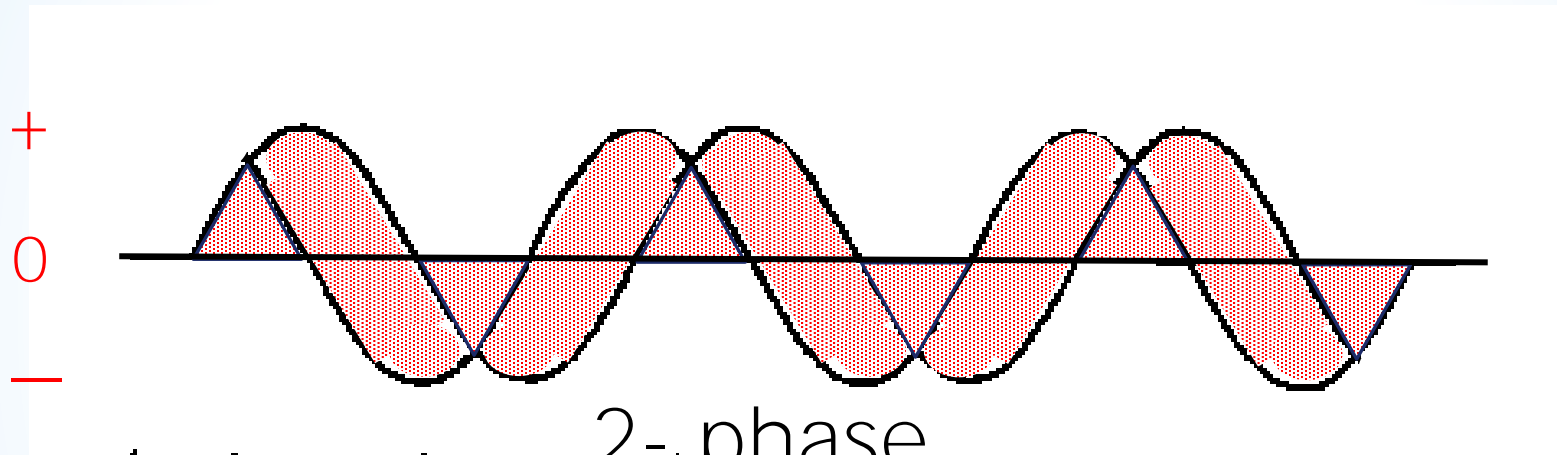


# Polyphase AC (industrial power)



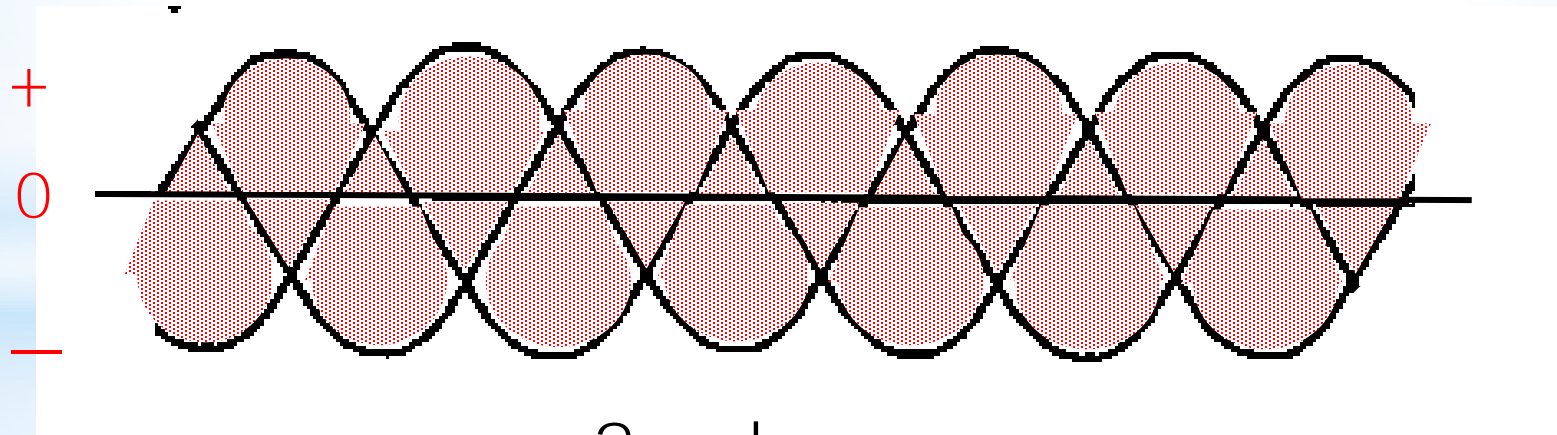
2-phase  
(2 Currents - **90° out of phase**)

# Polyphase AC (industrial power)



2- phase


(2 Currents - **90° out of phase**)



3- phase

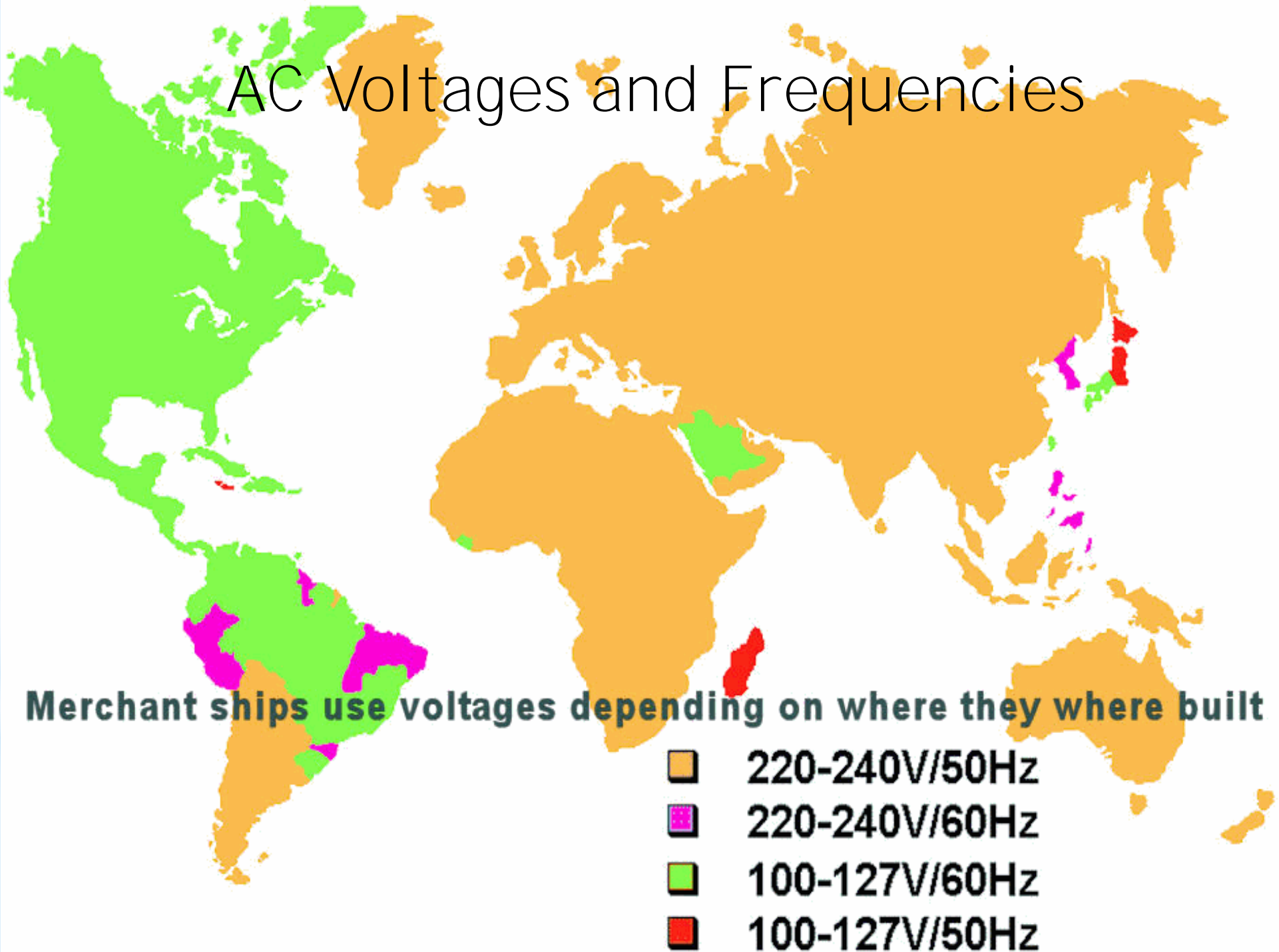
(3 Currents - **120° out of phase**)



A dark, atmospheric photograph of a waterfall at night. The water is illuminated from above, creating a bright, glowing area in the upper left quadrant. The rest of the scene is mostly black, with some faint, wispy light patterns suggesting mist or spray. The word "Niagara" is overlaid in a white, serif font, centered horizontally and slightly below the vertical center.

Niagara

# AC Voltages and Frequencies



# Niagara Power Station - 1900



# AC Power Timeline

- 1884 - Tesla goes to New York to work for Edison
- 1887 - **Tesla's AC system patented**
- 1888 - Westinghouse buys patents (DC vs AC war)
- 1892 - Westinghouse wins Chicago Expo contract
- 1893 - Chicago Expo opens - Lord Kelvin is convinced
- 1893 - Westinghouse wins Niagara Falls Contract
- 1896 - Niagara power online to Buffalo
- 1900 - Niagara power reaches NYC

# Next Class: Thurs. January 13<sup>th</sup> – “High Frequency”

12,000,000 V. 800 A. Dec. 13, 1899.

OSCILLATION TRANSFORMER

INDUCTION MOTOR

WORLD WIRELESS TELEPHONE TRANSMITTER

TELAUTOMATON

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