Answer on Question #45991 – Physics – Electromagnetism

Question.

The current I in a conductor as a function of time t is given as I(t)=5t2-3t+10, where current is in amperes A and t is in seconds s. What quantity of charge moves across a section through the conductor during the interval t=2s to t=5s?

Given: $I(t) = 5t^2 - 3t + 10$ $t \in [2,5]$

Find:

Q = ?

Solution.

Electric current is the rate of charge flow past a given point in an electric circuit. By definition the electric current is:

$$I = \frac{\Delta Q}{\Delta t} = \frac{dQ}{dt}$$

So, dQ = Idt. Let integrate this expression:

$$Q = \int dQ = \int Idt = \int_{2}^{5} (5t^{2} - 3t + 10)dt = \frac{5}{3}t^{3} - \frac{3}{2}t^{2} + 10t|_{2}^{5} =$$

= $\frac{5}{3} \cdot 125 - \frac{3}{2} \cdot 25 + 10 \cdot 5 - \frac{5}{3} \cdot 8 + \frac{3}{2} \cdot 4 - 10 \cdot 2 = \frac{5}{3} \cdot 117 - \frac{3}{2} \cdot 21 + 10 \cdot 3 =$
= 195 - 31.5 + 30 = 193.5 C

Answer.

$$Q = \int I dt = 193.5 C$$

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