

Example 3.2. A wattmeter reads 25.34 watts. The absolute error in the measurement is -0.11 watt. Determine the true value of power.

Solution:

$$\text{Measured value, } A_m = 25.34 \text{ watts}$$

$$\text{Absolute error, } \delta A = -0.11 \text{ watt}$$

$$\text{True value, } A = \text{Measured value} - \text{absolute error}$$

$$= A_m - \delta A = 25.34 - (-0.11) = 25.45 \text{ watts Ans.}$$

Example 3.3. The measured value of a capacitor is 205.3 μF , whereas its true value is 201.4 μF . Determine the relative error.

[B.P. Univ. of Technology Orissa Electronics Measurements and Measuring Instruments, 2007]

Solution:

$$\text{Measured value, } A_m = 205.3 \times 10^{-6} \text{ F}$$

$$\text{True value, } A = 201.4 \times 10^{-6} \text{ F}$$

$$\text{Absolute error, } \epsilon_0 = A_m - A = 205.3 \times 10^{-6} - 201.4 \times 10^{-6} = 3.9 \times 10^{-6} \text{ F}$$

$$\text{Relative error, } \epsilon_r = \frac{\epsilon_0}{A} = \frac{3.9 \times 10^{-6}}{201.4 \times 10^{-6}} = 0.0194 \text{ or } 1.94\% \text{ Ans.}$$

Example 3.4. The expected value of the voltage across a resistor is 80 V. However, the measurement gives a value of 79 V. Calculate:

(i) absolute error (ii) % error (iii) relative accuracy (iv) % of accuracy.

[M.D. Univ. Electrical Measurement and Measuring Instruments, December-2010]

Solution: Measured value of voltage, $A_m = 79 \text{ V}$

Expected value of voltage, $A = 80 \text{ V}$

$$(i) \text{ Absolute error, } \epsilon_0 = A_m - A = 79 - 80 = -1 \text{ V Ans.}$$

$$(ii) \% \text{ error} = \frac{A_m - A}{A} \times 100 = \frac{79 - 80}{80} \times 100 = -1.25\% \text{ Ans.}$$

$$(iii) \text{ Relative accuracy} = 1 - \left| \frac{\epsilon_0}{A} \right| = 1 - \frac{1}{80} = 0.9875 \text{ Ans.}$$

$$(iv) \% \text{ of accuracy} = 100 \times \text{relative accuracy} = 100 \times 0.9875 = 98.75\% \text{ Ans.}$$

Example 3.5. A resistor of value 4.7 k Ω is read as 4.65 k Ω in a measurement. Calculate (i) absolute error, (ii) % error and (iii) accuracy.

[U.P.S.C. I.E.S. Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering-I, 2009]

Solution: Measured value of voltage, $A_m = 4.65 \text{ k}\Omega$

True value of resistor, $A = 4.7 \text{ k}\Omega$

$$(i) \text{ Absolute error, } \epsilon_0 = A_m - A = 4.65 - 4.7 = -0.05 \text{ k}\Omega \text{ or } -50 \Omega \text{ Ans.}$$

$$(ii) \% \text{ error} = \frac{A_m - A}{A} \times 100 = \frac{4.65 - 4.7}{4.7} \times 100 = -1.064\% \text{ Ans.}$$

$$(iii) \text{ Accuracy} = 100 - |\% \text{ error}| = 100 - 1.064 = 98.936\% \text{ Ans.}$$

Example 3.6. Define limiting errors.

A 0-10 A ammeter has a guaranteed accuracy of 1.5 per cent of full-scale reading. The current measured by the instrument is 2.5 A. Calculate the limiting values of current and the percentage limiting error.

[U.P. Technical Univ. Elec. Measurements and Measuring Instruments 2005-06]

Solution: The magnitude of limiting error of the instrument,

$$\delta A = \epsilon_r \times A = \frac{1.5}{100} \times 10 = 0.15 \text{ A}$$