# Henry, Morse and the Telegraph The Scientist and The Artist - Discovery and Design

CEE 102: Prof. Michael G. Littman Course Administrator: Hiba Abdel-Jaber hiba@princeton.edu

Computers allowed for NOTETAKING ONLY Please - NO Cell Phones, Texting, Internet use



Connecting the Continent 1830 – 1883

Information - Transportation

Edward Hopper's "Railroad Sunset"



Connecting the Continent 1830 – 1883

Information - Transportation

Edward Hopper's "Railroad Sunset"

### Electricity

Morse - intelligence at a distance
Edison - lighting a city
Westinghouse - power at a distance

Marconi – wireless global telegraphy



# Electricity

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West by West







# Samuel Morse

1825: painter - president, National Academy of Design

1835: Professor of Art, NYU

1840: engineer - telegraph patent

Morse by Morse



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Eli Whitney





# Eli Whitney

# Buffalo



# Albany



# Buffalo



Albany



#### Dewitt Clinton





Prof. Benjamin Silliman

# Dewitt Clinton



#### Prof. Benjamin Silliman

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OF

#### SCIENCE AND ARTS.

CONDUCTED BY

#### BENJAMIN SILLIMAN, M. D. LL. D.

Prof. Chem., Min., &c. in Yale Coll.; Cor. Mem. Soc. Arts, Man. and Com; and For. Mem. Geol. Soc., London; Mem. Roy. Min. Soc., Dresden; Nat. Hist. Soc., Halle; Imp. Agric. Soc., Mosecow; Hon. Mem. Lin. Soc., Paris; Nat. Hist. Soc. Belfast, Ire.; Phil. and Lit. Soc. Bristol, Eng.; Mem. of various Lit. and Scien. Soc. in America.

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- 1820 Electricity linked to Magnetism
- 1825 First Horseshoe Electromagnet
- 1831 Henry's Strong Electromagnet and Telegraph

Demonstration of compass needle deflection by electric current

# Telegraph - Discovery

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Demonstration of compass needle deflection by electric current

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Why is this demonstration important?

1831 Henry's Strong Electromagnet and Telegraph



- 1820 Electricity linked to Magnetism
- ► 1825 First Horseshoe Electromagnet
  - 1831 Henry's Strong Electromagnet and Telegraph

Electromagnet in circuit with copper-zinc batteries and on-off switch



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►1831 Henry's Strong Electromagnet and Telegraph







# $\mathbf{R} = \frac{\rho \mathbf{L}}{\mathbf{A}}$ Resistance

# + bell N - bell N - magnet S - pivot



# $I = \frac{V}{R}$ Ohm's Law

# $\mathbf{R} = \frac{\rho \mathbf{L}}{\mathbf{A}}$ Resistance



How does Henry's sounding telegraph work?

**Pole-reversal** 

# $\mathbf{R} = \frac{\rho \mathbf{L}}{\mathbf{A}}$ Resistance

**Ohm's Law** 

R





- Demo of telegraph and weakening effect of a long line
- Multiple batteries in series compensate for long line
- Earth as return conductor allows for single wire telegraph

# $\mathbf{R} = \frac{\rho \mathbf{L}}{\mathbf{A}}$ Resistance

How Ohm's Law helps us to understand Henry's experiment?



- Demo of telegraph and weakening effect of a long line
- Multiple batteries in series compensate for long line
- Earth as return conductor allows for single wire telegraph

# $I = \frac{V}{R}$ Ohm's Law

The greater the voltage, the greater the current

 $\mathbf{R} = \frac{\rho \mathbf{L}}{\mathbf{A}}$ Resistance

The longer the path, the greater the resistance

# How Ohm's Law helps us to understand Henry's experiment?



- Demo of telegraph and weakening effect of a long line
- Multiple batteries in series compensate for long line
- Earth as return conductor allows for single wire telegraph



1 volt and <u>up to</u> 1 amp



Parallel - more available current



Series – greater voltage

# How Ohm's Law helps us to understand Henry's experiment?



- Demo of telegraph and weakening effect of a long line
- Multiple batteries in series compensate for long line
- Earth as return conductor allows for single wire telegraph

"The electro-magnetic telegraph was invented by me in Albany in 1830."

"I think that the first actual line of telegraph using the earth as a conductor was made in the beginning of 1836. A wire was extended across the front campus of the College grounds from the upper story of the Library building to the Philosophical Hall on the opposite side, the ends terminating in two wells. Through this wire signals were sent from time to time from my house to my laboratory."

- Joseph Henry





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# Philosophical Hall

Library







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#### Joseph Henry's House in 1836

# Philosophical Hall Library



# Telegraph - Design

1832 – Morse' s shipboard idea
1836 – Gale and Vail help out
1838 – Morse shows Van Buren





#### Joseph Henry's House in 1836



# Telegraph - Design

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181<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Digital Code 31<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of CD



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#### MORSE' S PRINTING TELEGRAPH

âm.







# ARTIST' S CANVAS STRETCHER



# Copper-Zinc Battery









#### MOVEABLE TYPE HOLDER



#### CONTACTS USING MERCURY





# DEMONSTRATION

#### MOVEABLE TYPE HOLDER



#### CONTACTS USING MERCURY



Judge Vail – Morse Investor Alfred Vail – Morse Partner





#### MOVEABLE TYPE HOLDER



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# Telegraph - Design

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1838 – Morse shows Van Buren

Judge Vail – Morse Investor Alfred Vail – Morse Partner





# MORSE PATENTS THE IDEA OF A BINARY INFORMATION CODE

Judge Vail – Morse Investor Alfred Vail – Morse Partner

# TELEGRAPH - Early

- Congress \$30,000 to Morse
- Morse hires Vail & Cong. Smith
- Smith hires Ezra Cornell

- 5	F. B. Morse. Tionmak Stans.	
Nº1647.	Patented Jun. 20,18	40.
W W W W W W W W W W W W W W W W W W W	6 1 9 j # 14 #	
W-WW-WW-WW		<u> *</u> –

38 miles connecting Baltimore to Washington

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Congress - \$30,000 to Morse Morse - hires Vail & Cong. Smith Smith - hires Ezra Cornell



38 miles connecting Baltimore to Washington

Telegraph Wires along **B&O** RR Right-of-Way

# TELEGRAPH - Early

Congress - \$30,000 to Morse Morse - hires Vail & Cong. Smith Smith - hires Ezra Cornell

38 miles connecting Baltimore to Washington



Ezra Cornell



# May 24, 1844 at 8:45am





#### $\bullet - - \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet$

### Ezra Cornell

#### MORSE CODE – dots and dashes



 $\bullet - - \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet$ 

MORSE CODE – dots and dashes

# Science and Engineering

Discovery Scientist and remote sounder

Development Gov't Grant, Private Company

# Design

Artist plans whole network



# Science and Engineering

Discovery Scientist and remote sounder

Development Gov't Grant, Private Company

#### 7<sup>th</sup> and E St, Washington, DC

Design

Artist plans whole network



# 7<sup>th</sup> and E St, Washington, DC



# Telegraph Lines in 1853

**CONNECTING CITIES** 

1845 – independent telegraph companies; patent disputes

1856 – Western Union – Cornell becomes the major stockholder

1861 – Western Union completes Transcontinental Telegraph Line

1872 – Stearns invents Duplex Telegraph



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THE ELECTRO-MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH.

#### A DEFENCE

AGAINST THE INJURIOUS DEDUCTIONS DRAWN FROM THE

DEPOSITION OF PROF. JOSEPH HENRY

(IN THE SEVERAL TELEGRAPH SUITS),

WITH A CRITICAL REVIEW OF SAID DEPOSITION, AND AN EXAMI-NATION OF PROF. HENRY'S ALLEGED DISCOVERIES, BEARING UPON THE ELECTRO-MAG-NETIC TELEGRAPH.

BY SAMUEL F. B. MORSE, LL.D.,

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CONNECTING THE CONTINENT

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# Christian Schussele's "Men of Progress"

# Joseph Henry



Telegraph Register

### Samuel Morse

Christian Schussele's "Men of Progress"



#### Joseph Henry

# Stearns Duplex Idea-1872 TWO MESSAGES ON ONE WIRE





# Telegraph Register

# Samuel Morse

Christian Schussele's "Men of Progress"

# DEMONSTRATION

#### Joseph Henry



Telegraph Register

Samuel Morse

Christian Schussele's "Men of Progress"



Vail telegraph register at Cornell

# SIBLEY COLLEGE at CORNELL







# Vail telegraph register at Cornell

# SIBLEY COLLEGE at CORNELL





Telegraphers		
Morse	telegraph	
Carnegie	steel industry	
Bell	telephone	
Edison	electric power	
Marconi	wireless	



# Telegraphers

MorsetelegraphCarnegiesteel industryBelltelephone

Edison

Marconi

electric power

wireless



# Telegraphers

Morse

Carnegie

telegraph

steel industry

Bell

Edison

Marconi

telephone

electric power

wireless







# Telegraphers

Morse

Carnegie steel industry

Bell

Edison

Marconi

telephone

telegraph

electric power

wireless



# TelegraphersMorsetelegraphCarnegiesteel industryBelltelephoneEdisonelectric powerMarconiwireless



MARCONI FIRST WIRELESS MESSAGE 1895

#### Telegraphers Morse telegraph Carnegie steel industry Bell telephone Edison electric power wireless Marconi





Key Ideas

#### Scientific

40

Electromagnetic Binary Code

#### Social

Public Investment **Private Industry** 

Symbolic Artist as Innovator