

2021 Ph H1 Q22

Section: Electricity

Topic: Current, PD, Power, Resistance

Question Summary

A resistor has resistance $R = 100\ \Omega$ and a maximum power rating of $4.0\ \text{W}$. Find the maximum voltage that can be applied across the resistor without exceeding its rating.

Worked Solution

Use $P = V^2/R$.

Rearrange: $V = \sqrt{PR}$.

Substitute: $V = \sqrt{(4.0 \times 100)} = \sqrt{400} = 20\ \text{V}$.

Final Answer: C

Revision Tips

- Power relations: $P = VI = I^2R = V^2/R$ — pick the form that fits the data.
- Component power ratings limit safe V and I ; exceeding them risks damage.
- Keep significant figures appropriate to the given data (here, 2–3 s.f.).