



HistoLab

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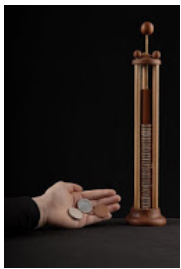
Voltaic Pile

🔊 Listen

branch of study: electromagnetism

inventor: Alessandro Volta, 1799

The Voltaic Pile consists of copper and zinc plates, between which a piece of paper or cloth is placed, which has been soaked with salt water. Volta expected the electrical current to be a consequence from the direct contact between the two metal plates and thus separated them by means of a piece of paper.



further reading

Volta, A. (1800). **On the Electricity Excited by the Mere Contact of Conducting Substances of Different Kinds.** Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London, 90, 403-431.

Pera, M. (1992). **The Ambiguous Frog: The Galvani-Volta Controversy on Animal Electricity.** Princeton (NJ): UP.

Pancaldi, G. (2003). **Volta : science and culture in the Age of Enlightenment.** Princeton: Princeton University Press.

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