



FIG. 9.9 V - I curve shapes: (a) ideal characteristic, (b) inadequate current-transfer length between current contacts and voltage taps, (c) damaged sample, (d) premature thermal runaway, and (e) switching effect that can occur when a resistive zone forms outside the voltage taps or when current suddenly transfers between poorly connected filaments or strands. (Adapted from Ekin 1983a and Goodrich et al. 1995.)