### **RC Circuit: Fundamentals**

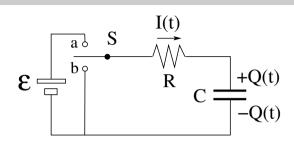


### Specifications:

- $\mathcal{E}$  (emf)
- R (resistance)
- C (capacitance)

#### Switch S:

- a: charging
- b: discharging



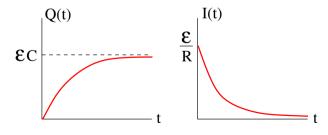
#### Time-dependent quantities:

- Q(t): instantaneous charge on capacitor
- $I(t) = \frac{dQ}{dt}$ : instantaneous current
- $V_R(t) = I(t)R$ : instantaneous voltage across resistor
- $V_C(t) = \frac{Q(t)}{C}$ : instantaneous voltage across capacitor

# **RC Circuit: Charging the Capacitor**



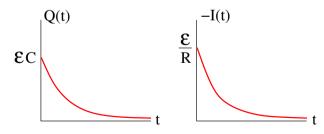
- Loop rule:  $\mathcal{E} IR \frac{Q}{C} = 0$
- Differential equation:  $R \frac{dQ}{dt} + \frac{Q}{C} = \mathcal{E} \quad \Rightarrow \frac{dQ}{dt} = \frac{\mathcal{E}C Q}{RC}$   $\int_0^Q \frac{dQ}{\mathcal{E}C Q} = \int_0^t \frac{dt}{RC} \quad \Rightarrow \quad -\ln\left(\frac{\mathcal{E}C Q}{\mathcal{E}C}\right) = \frac{t}{RC} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{\mathcal{E}C Q}{\mathcal{E}C} = e^{-t/RC}$
- Charge on capacitor:  $Q(t) = \mathcal{E}C\left[1 e^{-t/RC}\right]$
- Current through resistor:  $I(t) \equiv \frac{dQ}{dt} = \frac{\mathcal{E}}{R} \; e^{-t/RC}$



## **RC Circuit: Discharging the Capacitor**



- Loop rule:  $IR + \frac{Q}{C} = 0$
- Differential equation:  $R \frac{dQ}{dt} + \frac{Q}{C} = 0 \implies \frac{dQ}{dt} = -\frac{Q}{RC}$   $\Rightarrow \int_{\mathcal{E}C}^{Q} \frac{dQ}{Q} = -\int_{0}^{t} \frac{dt}{RC} \implies \ln\left(\frac{Q}{\mathcal{E}C}\right) = -\frac{t}{RC} \implies \frac{Q}{\mathcal{E}C} = e^{-t/RC}$
- Charge on capacitor:  $Q(t) = \mathcal{E}Ce^{-t/RC}$
- Current through resistor:  $I(t) \equiv \frac{dQ}{dt} = -\frac{\mathcal{E}}{R} \; e^{-t/RC}$



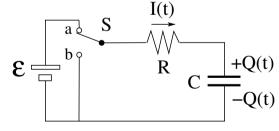
# **RC Circuit: Energy Transfer While Charging**



Loop rule: 
$$IR + \frac{Q}{C} = \mathcal{E}$$
 (*I* is positive)

- ullet IE: rate at which emf source delivers energy
- $IV_R = I^2R$ : rate at which energy is dissipated in resistor
- $IV_C = \frac{IQ}{C}$ : rate at which energy is stored in capacitor

Balance of energy transfer:  $I^2R + \frac{IQ}{C} = I\mathcal{E}$ 



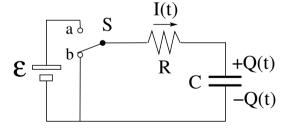
# **RC Circuit: Energy Transfer While Discharging**



Loop rule: 
$$IR + \frac{Q}{C} = 0$$
 (*I* is negative)

- $IV_R = I^2R$ : rate at which energy is dissipated in resistor
- $IV_C = \frac{IQ}{C}$ : rate at which capacitor releases energy

Balance of energy transfer:  $I^2R + \frac{IQ}{C} = 0$ 

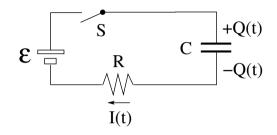


### **RC Circuit: Some Physical Properties**



Specification of *RC* circuit by 3 device properties:

- • E [V] (emf)
- R  $[\Omega]$  (resistance)
- C [F] (capacitance)



Physical properties of RC circuit during charging process determined by 3 combinations of the device properties:

- $\mathcal{E}/R = I(t=0)$ : rate at which charge flows onto capacitor initially
- $\mathcal{EC} = Q(t = \infty)$ : total charge placed on capacitor ultimately
- RC= au: time it takes to place 63% of the charge onto the capacitor  $[1-e^{-1}=0.632\ldots]$

### **RC Circuit: Application (3)**



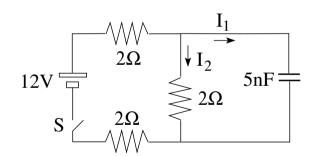
At time t=0 the capacitor in this circuit is discharged and the switch is being closed.

Find the current  $I_1$ 

- (a) at t = 0,
- (b) at  $t = \infty$ .

Find the current  $I_2$ 

- (c) at t = 0,
- (d) at  $t = \infty$ .

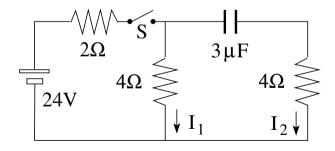


## **RC Circuit: Application (5)**



In the RC circuit shown, the switch S has been open for a long time.

- (a) Find the currents  $I_1$  and  $I_2$  immediately after the switch has been closed.
- (b) Find the currents  $I_1$  and  $I_2$  a very long time later.

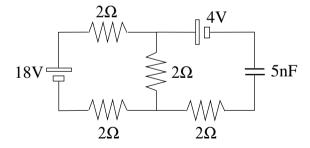


### **RC Circuit: Application (1)**



This circuit has been running for a very long time.

- (a) Find the current through the 18V battery.
- (b) Find the total power dissipated in the resistors.
- (c) Find the charge stored on the capacitor.

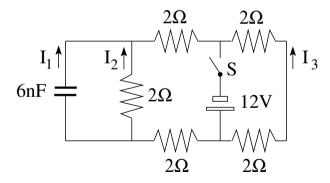


## **RC Circuit: Application (4)**



In this 3-loop RC circuit, the switch S is closed at time t = 0.

- (a) Find the currents  $I_1$ ,  $I_2$ ,  $I_3$  just after the switch has been closed.
- (b) Find the currents  $I_1$ ,  $I_2$ ,  $I_3$  a very long time later.

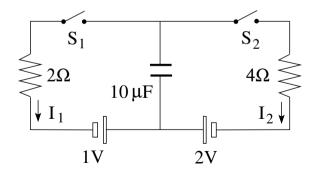


### **RC Circuit: Application (6)**



In the RC circuit shown, both switches are initially open and the capacitor is discharged.

- (a) Close switch  $S_1$  and find the currents  $I_1$  and  $I_2$  immediately afterwards.
- (b) Find the currents  $I_1I_2$  and the charge  ${\it Q}$  on the capacitor a very long time later.
- (c) Now close switch  $S_2$  also and find the currents  $I_1$  and  $I_2$  immediately afterwards.
- (d) Find the currents  $I_1$ ,  $I_2$  and the charge Q on the capacitor a very long time later.



### **RC Circuit: Application (2)**



The switches are closed at t=0. This begins the charging process in each RC circuit.

Name the circuit in which...

- (i) the charge flows into the capacitor at the highest rate initially,
- (ii) the capacitor has the most charge ultimately,
- (iii) the capacitor is 63% full in the shortest time.

