

44. (a) We use $q = q_0 e^{-t/\tau}$, or $t = \tau \ln (q_0/q)$, where $\tau = RC$ is the capacitive time constant. Thus, $t_{1/3} = \tau \ln [q_0/(2q_0/3)] = \tau \ln(3/2) = 0.41 \tau$, or $t_{1/3}/\tau = 0.41$.

(b) $t_{2/3} = \tau \ln [q_0/(q_0/3)] = \tau \ln 3 = 1.1 \tau$, or $t_{2/3}/\tau = 1.1$.

45. During charging, the charge on the positive plate of the capacitor is given by

$$q = C\mathcal{E}(1 - e^{-t/\tau}),$$

where C is the capacitance, \mathcal{E} is applied emf, and $\tau = RC$ is the capacitive time constant. The equilibrium charge is $q_{\text{eq}} = C\mathcal{E}$. We require $q = 0.99q_{\text{eq}} = 0.99C\mathcal{E}$, so

$$0.99 = 1 - e^{-t/\tau}.$$

Thus, $e^{-t/\tau} = 0.01$. Taking the natural logarithm of both sides, we obtain $t/\tau = -\ln 0.01 = 4.61$ or $t = 4.61 \tau$.

46. (a) $\tau = RC = (1.40 \times 10^6 \Omega)(1.80 \times 10^{-6} \text{ F}) = 2.52 \text{ s}$.

(b) $q_o = \mathcal{E}C = (12.0 \text{ V})(1.80 \mu\text{ F}) = 21.6 \mu\text{C}$.

(c) The time t satisfies $q = q_o(1 - e^{-t/RC})$, or

$$t = RC \ln \left(\frac{q_o}{q_o - q} \right) = (2.52 \text{ s}) \ln \left(\frac{21.6 \mu\text{C}}{21.6 \mu\text{C} - 16.0 \mu\text{C}} \right) = 3.40 \text{ s}.$$

47. (a) The voltage difference V across the capacitor is $V(t) = \mathcal{E}(1 - e^{-t/RC})$. At $t = 1.30 \mu\text{s}$ we have $V(t) = 5.00 \text{ V}$, so $5.00 \text{ V} = (12.0 \text{ V})(1 - e^{-1.30 \mu\text{s}/RC})$, which gives

$$\tau = (1.30 \mu\text{ s})/\ln(12/7) = 2.41 \mu\text{s}.$$

(b) $C = \tau/R = 2.41 \mu\text{s}/15.0 \text{ k}\Omega = 161 \text{ pF}$.

48. Here we denote the battery emf as V . Then the requirement stated in the problem that the resistor voltage be equal to the capacitor voltage becomes $iR = V_{\text{cap}}$, or

$$Ve^{-t/RC} = V(1 - e^{-t/RC})$$

where Eqs. 27-34 and 27-35 have been used. This leads to $t = RC \ln 2$, or $t = 0.208 \text{ ms}$.

49. (a) The potential difference V across the plates of a capacitor is related to the charge q on the positive plate by $V = q/C$, where C is capacitance. Since the charge on a discharging capacitor is given by $q = q_0 e^{-t/\tau}$, this means $V = V_0 e^{-t/\tau}$ where V_0 is the initial potential difference. We solve for the time constant τ by dividing by V_0 and taking the natural logarithm:

$$\tau = -\frac{t}{\ln(V/V_0)} = -\frac{10.0 \text{ s}}{\ln[(1.00 \text{ V})/(100 \text{ V})]} = 2.17 \text{ s}.$$

(b) At $t = 17.0 \text{ s}$, $t/\tau = (17.0 \text{ s})/(2.17 \text{ s}) = 7.83$, so

$$V = V_0 e^{-t/\tau} = (100 \text{ V})e^{-7.83} = 3.96 \times 10^{-2} \text{ V}.$$

50. The potential difference across the capacitor varies as a function of time t as $V(t) = V_0 e^{-t/RC}$. Using $V = V_0/4$ at $t = 2.0 \text{ s}$, we find

$$R = \frac{t}{C \ln(V_0/V)} = \frac{2.0 \text{ s}}{(2.0 \times 10^{-6} \text{ F}) \ln 4} = 7.2 \times 10^5 \Omega.$$

51. (a) The initial energy stored in a capacitor is given by $U_C = q_0^2 / 2C$, where C is the capacitance and q_0 is the initial charge on one plate. Thus

$$q_0 = \sqrt{2CU_C} = \sqrt{2(1.0 \times 10^{-6} \text{ F})(0.50 \text{ J})} = 1.0 \times 10^{-3} \text{ C}.$$

(b) The charge as a function of time is given by $q = q_0 e^{-t/\tau}$, where τ is the capacitive time constant. The current is the derivative of the charge

$$i = -\frac{dq}{dt} = \frac{q_0}{\tau} e^{-t/\tau},$$

and the initial current is $i_0 = q_0/\tau$. The time constant is

$$\tau = RC = (1.0 \times 10^{-6} \text{ F})(1.0 \times 10^6 \Omega) = 1.0 \text{ s}.$$

Thus $i_0 = (1.0 \times 10^{-3} \text{ C})/(1.0 \text{ s}) = 1.0 \times 10^{-3} \text{ A}$.

(c) We substitute $q = q_0 e^{-t/\tau}$ into $V_C = q/C$ to obtain

$$V_C = \frac{q_0}{C} e^{-t/\tau} = \left(\frac{1.0 \times 10^{-3} \text{ C}}{1.0 \times 10^{-6} \text{ F}} \right) e^{-t/1.0 \text{ s}} = (1.0 \times 10^3 \text{ V}) e^{-1.0t},$$

where t is measured in seconds.

(d) We substitute $i = (q_0/\tau) e^{-t/\tau}$ into $V_R = iR$ to obtain

$$V_R = \frac{q_0 R}{\tau} e^{-t/\tau} = \frac{(1.0 \times 10^{-3} \text{ C})(1.0 \times 10^6 \Omega)}{1.0 \text{ s}} e^{-t/1.0 \text{ s}} = (1.0 \times 10^3 \text{ V}) e^{-1.0t},$$

where t is measured in seconds.

(e) We substitute $i = (q_0/\tau) e^{-t/\tau}$ into $P = i^2 R$ to obtain

$$P = \frac{q_0^2 R}{\tau^2} e^{-2t/\tau} = \frac{(1.0 \times 10^{-3} \text{ C})^2 (1.0 \times 10^6 \Omega)}{(1.0 \text{ s})^2} e^{-2t/1.0 \text{ s}} = (1.0 \text{ W}) e^{-2.0t},$$

where t is again measured in seconds.

53. At $t = 0$ the capacitor is completely uncharged and the current in the capacitor branch is as it would be if the capacitor were replaced by a wire. Let i_1 be the current in R_1 and take it to be positive if it is to the right. Let i_2 be the current in R_2 and take it to be positive if it is downward. Let i_3 be the current in R_3 and take it to be positive if it is downward. The junction rule produces $i_1 = i_2 + i_3$, the loop rule applied to the left-hand loop produces

$$\mathcal{E} - i_1 R_1 - i_2 R_2 = 0 ,$$

and the loop rule applied to the right-hand loop produces

$$i_2 R_2 - i_3 R_3 = 0 .$$

Since the resistances are all the same we can simplify the mathematics by replacing R_1 , R_2 , and R_3 with R .

(a) Solving the three simultaneous equations, we find

$$i_1 = \frac{2\mathcal{E}}{3R} = \frac{2(1.2 \times 10^3 \text{ V})}{3(0.73 \times 10^6 \Omega)} = 1.1 \times 10^{-3} \text{ A}$$

$$(b) \ i_2 = \frac{\mathcal{E}}{3R} = \frac{1.2 \times 10^3 \text{ V}}{3(0.73 \times 10^6 \Omega)} = 5.5 \times 10^{-4} \text{ A}.$$

$$(c) \ i_3 = i_2 = 5.5 \times 10^{-4} \text{ A}.$$

At $t = \infty$ the capacitor is fully charged and the current in the capacitor branch is 0. Thus, $i_1 = i_2$, and the loop rule yields

$$\mathcal{E} - i_1 R_1 - i_1 R_2 = 0 .$$

(d) The solution is

$$i_1 = \frac{\mathcal{E}}{2R} = \frac{1.2 \times 10^3 \text{ V}}{2(0.73 \times 10^6 \Omega)} = 8.2 \times 10^{-4} \text{ A}.$$

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(f) As stated before, the current in the capacitor branch is $i_3 = 0$.

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54. In the steady state situation, the capacitor voltage will equal the voltage across $R_2 = 15 \text{ k}\Omega$:

$$V_0 = R_2 \frac{\mathcal{E}}{R_1 + R_2} = (15.0 \text{ k}\Omega) \left(\frac{20.0 \text{ V}}{10.0 \text{ k}\Omega + 15.0 \text{ k}\Omega} \right) = 12.0 \text{ V}.$$

Now, multiplying Eq. 27-39 by the capacitance leads to $V = V_0 e^{-t/RC}$ describing the voltage across the capacitor (and across $R_2 = 15.0 \text{ k}\Omega$) after the switch is opened (at $t = 0$). Thus, with $t = 0.00400 \text{ s}$, we obtain

$$V = (12) e^{-0.004 / (15000)(0.4 \times 10^{-6})} = 6.16 \text{ V}.$$

Therefore, using Ohm's law, the current through R_2 is $6.16 / 15000 = 4.11 \times 10^{-4} \text{ A}$.