

# Unit - I

## 1.9 Capacitor Charging and Revision

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## UNIT – I

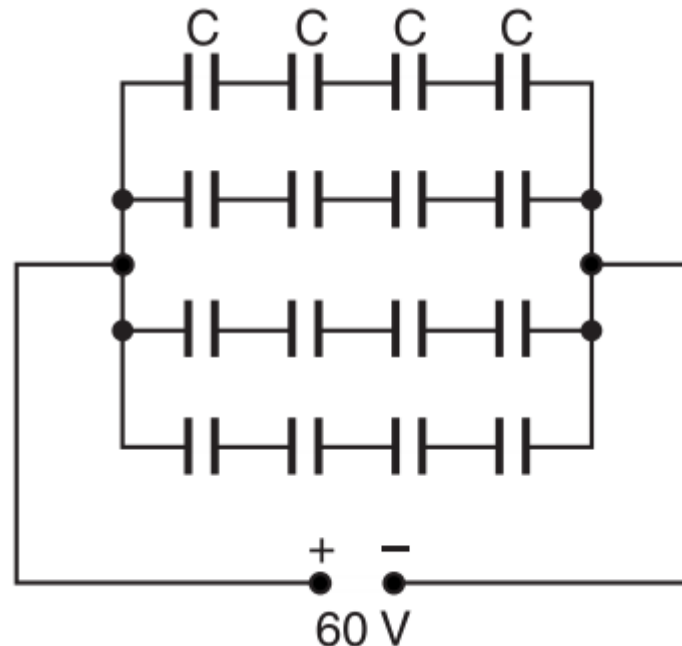
10 Periods

**Introduction and Basic Concepts:** Concept of Potential difference, voltage, current - Fundamental linear passive and active elements to their functional current-voltage relation - Terminology and symbols in order to describe electric networks - Concept of work, power, energy and conversion of energy- Principle of batteries and application.

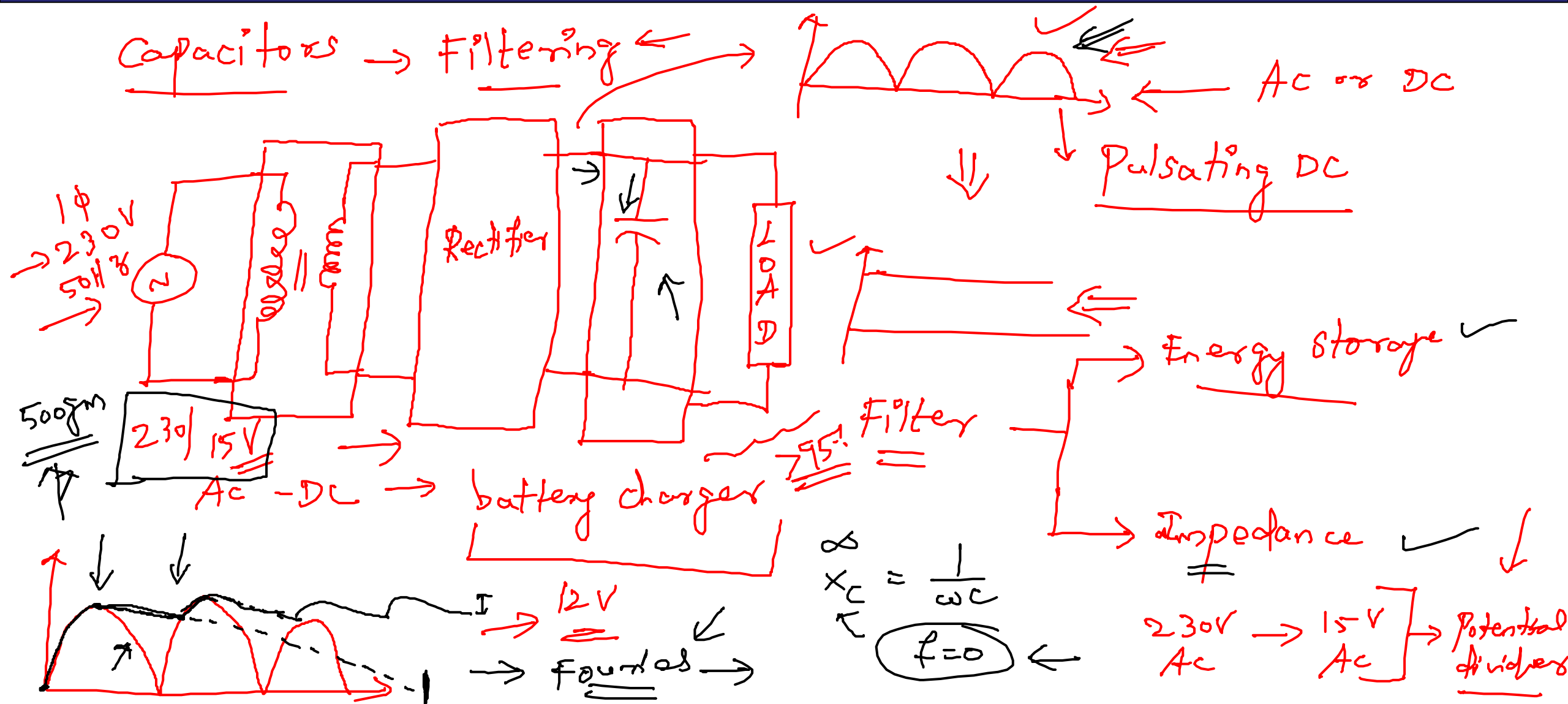
**Principles of Electrostatics:** Electrostatic field - electric field intensity - electric field strength - absolute permittivity - relative permittivity - capacitor composite – dielectric capacitors - capacitors in series & parallel - energy stored in capacitors - charging and discharging of capacitors.

# Problem

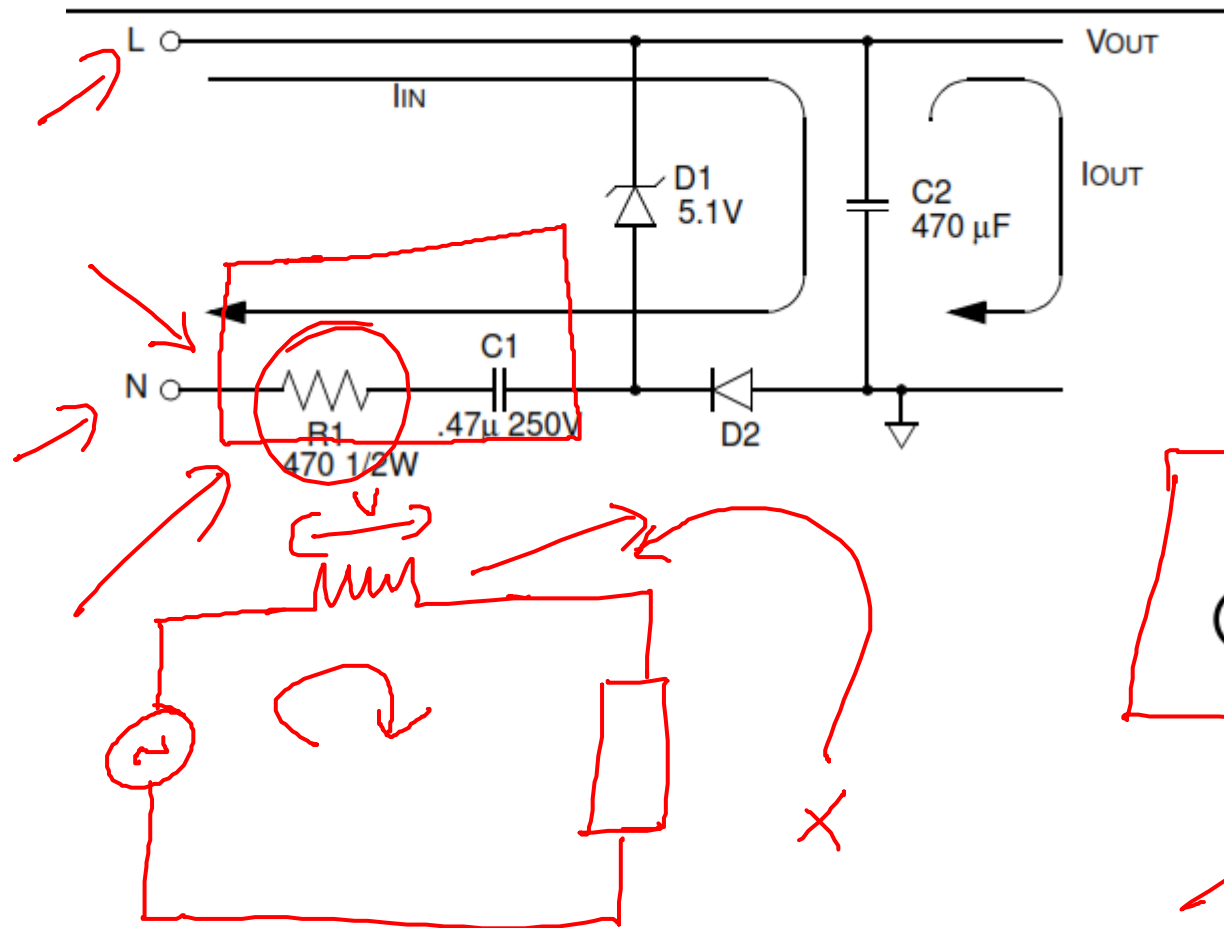
- Given some capacitors of  $0.1 \mu\text{F}$  capable of withstanding  $15\text{V}$ . Calculate the number of capacitors needed if it is desired to obtain a capacitance of  $0.1 \mu\text{F}$  for use in a circuit involving  $60\text{ V}$ .



# Capacitors in Power Supplies

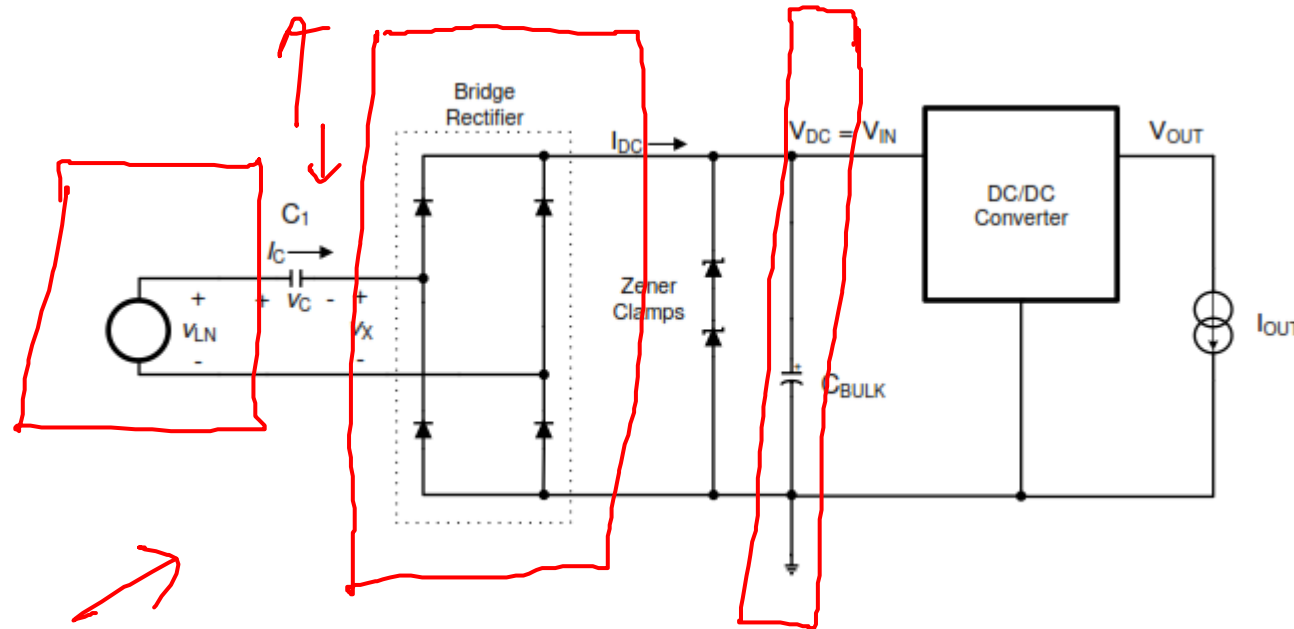
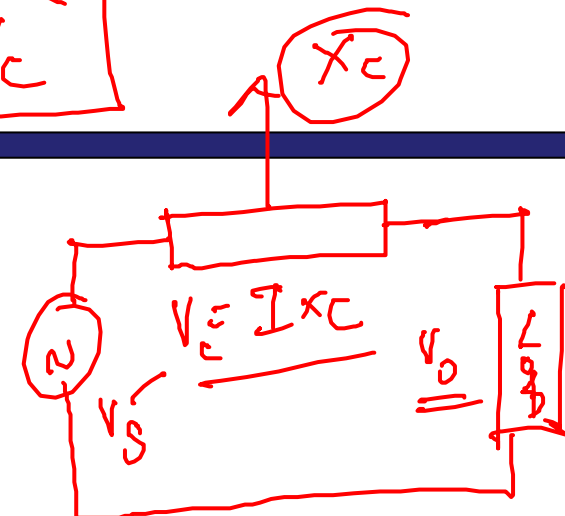


## CAPACITIVE POWER SUPPLY



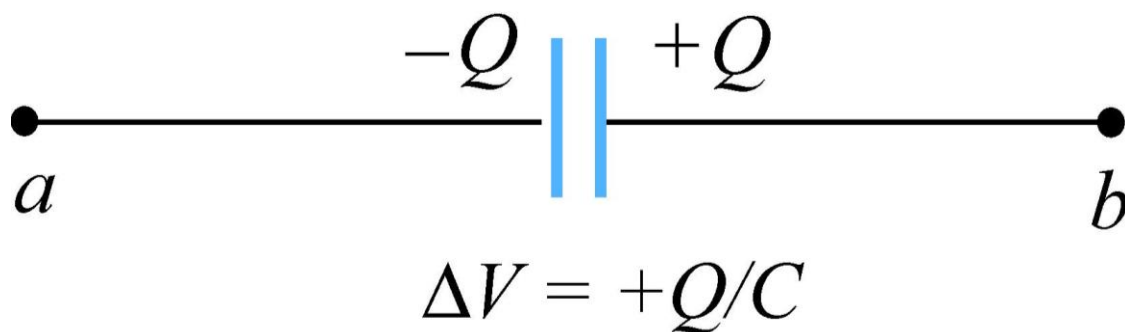
$$V_o = V_s - V_c$$

Transformer

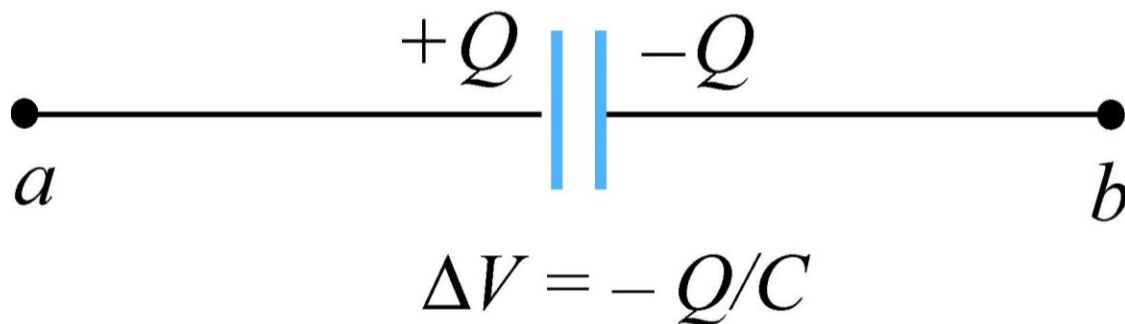


# Sign Conventions - Capacitor

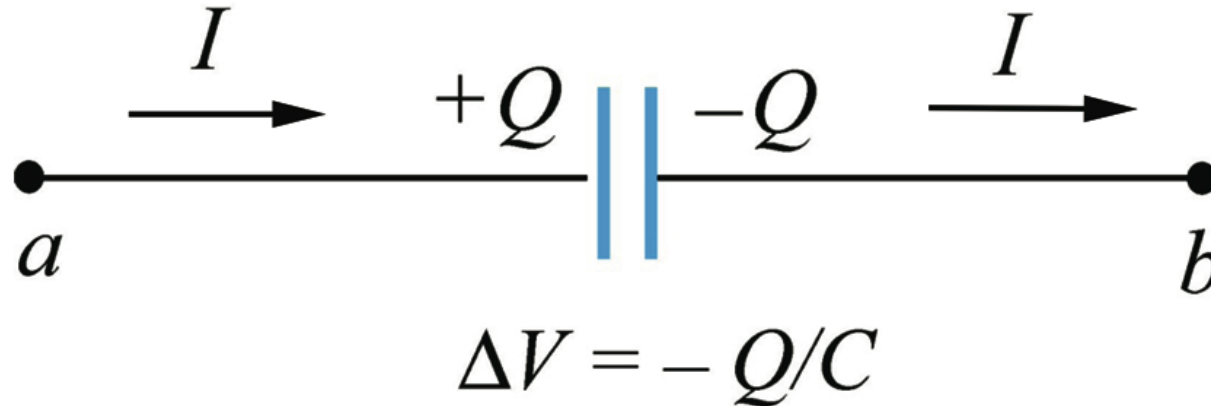
Moving across a capacitor from the negatively to positively charged plate **increases** the electric potential



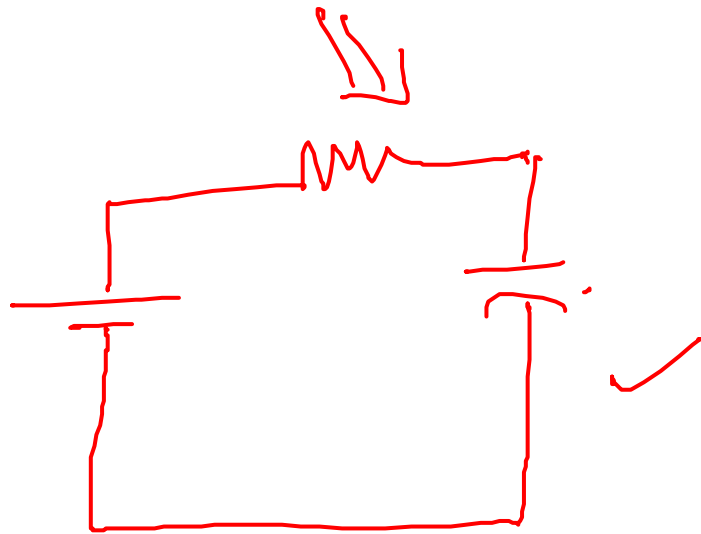
$$\Delta V = V_b - V_a$$



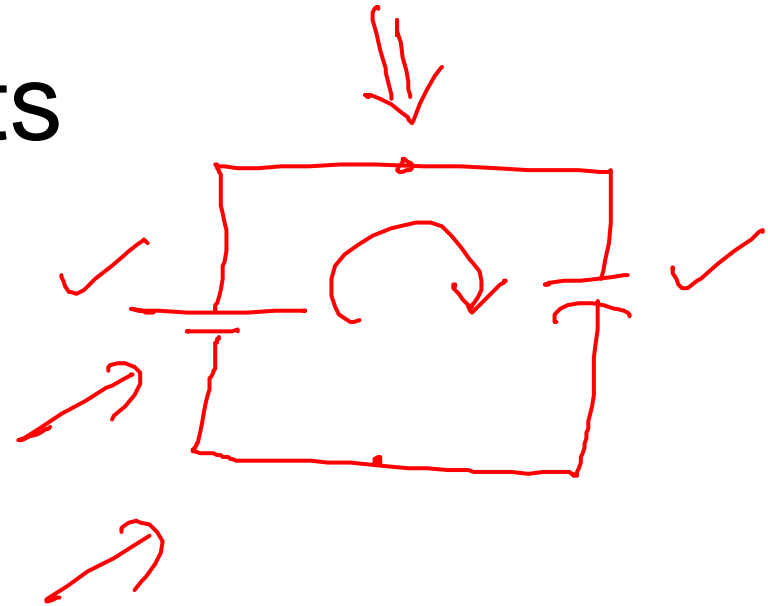
Moving across a capacitor from the positive to negative plate **decreases** your potential. If current flows in that direction the capacitor **absorbs** power (stores charge)



$$P_{\text{absorbed}} = I \Delta V = \frac{dQ}{dt} \frac{Q}{C} = \frac{d}{dt} \frac{Q^2}{2C} = \frac{dU}{dt}$$



## RC Circuits

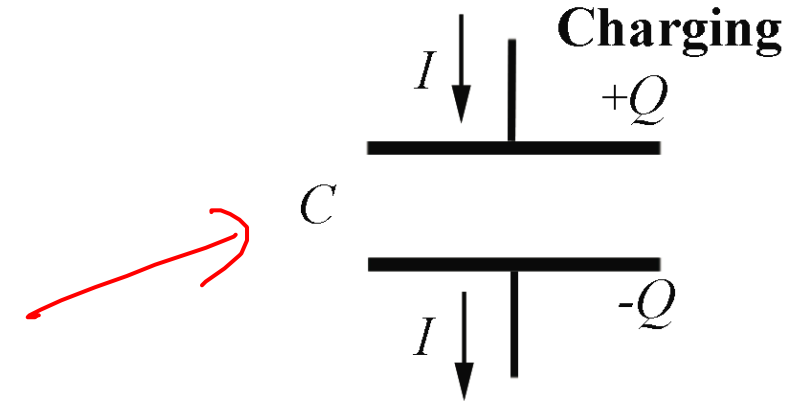




# (Dis)Charging a Capacitor

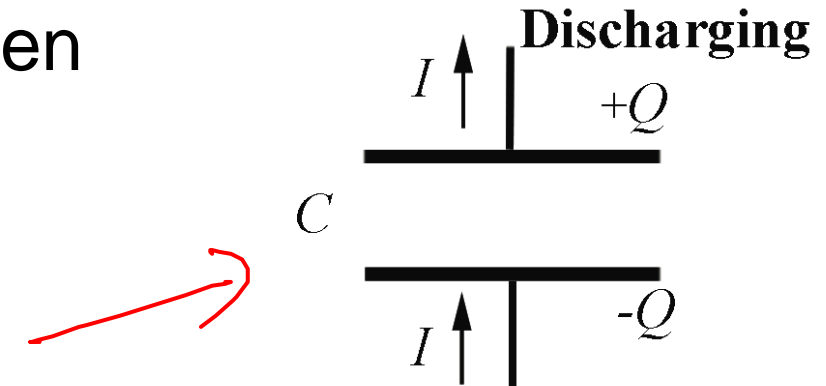
1. When the direction of current flow is toward the positive plate of a capacitor, then

$$I = + \frac{dQ}{dt}$$

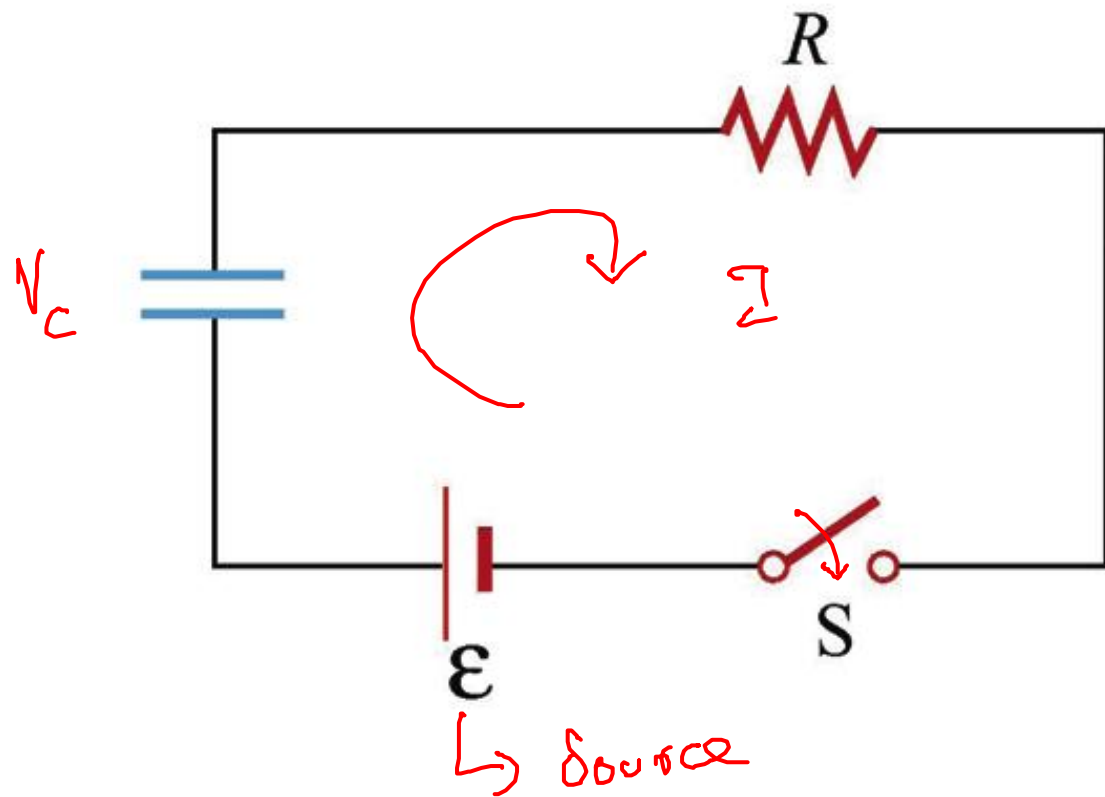


2. When the direction of current flow is away from the positive plate of a capacitor, then

$$I = - \frac{dQ}{dt}$$



# Charging a Capacitor



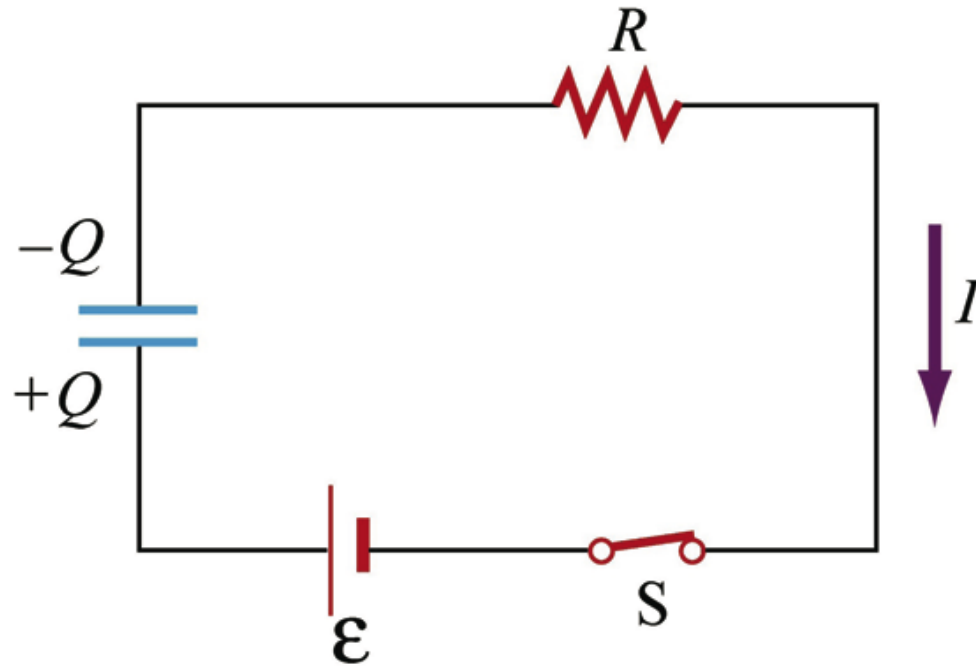
$$\epsilon - V_C - IR = 0$$

↓

$$\frac{Q}{C}$$

What happens when we close switch S at  $t = 0$ ?

# Charging a Capacitor



Circulate clockwise

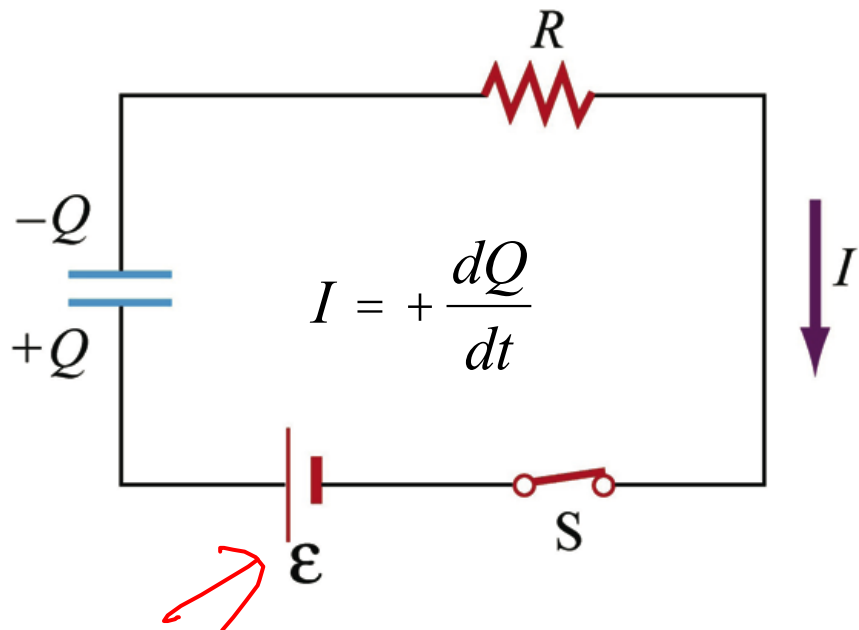
$$\sum_i \Delta V_i = e - \frac{Q}{C} - IR = 0$$

$$I = + \frac{dQ}{dt}$$

First order linear  
inhomogeneous differential  
equation

$$\frac{dQ}{dt} = - \frac{1}{RC} (Q - Ce)$$

# Energy Balance: Circuit Equation



$$e - \frac{Q}{C} - IR = 0$$

Multiplying by  $I = + \frac{dQ}{dt}$

$$eI = I^2 R + \frac{Q}{C} \frac{dQ}{dt} = I^2 R + \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{1}{2} \frac{Q^2}{C} \right)$$

(power delivered by battery) = (power dissipated through resistor)  
 + (power absorbed by the capacitor)

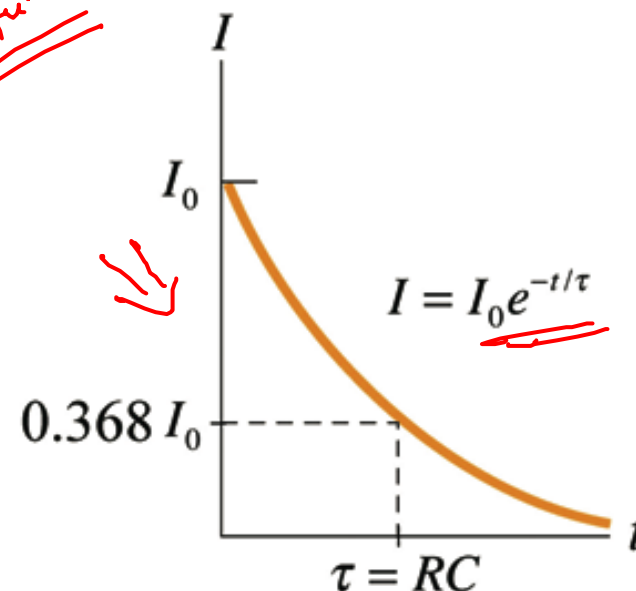
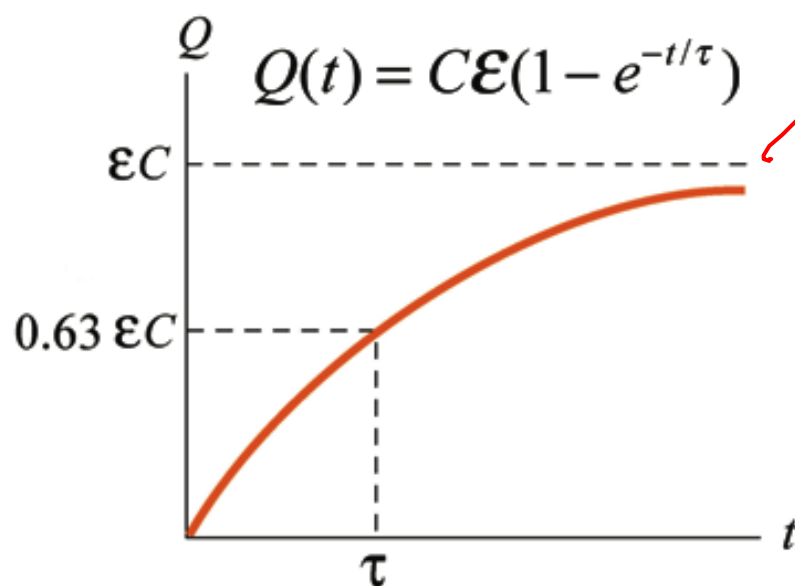
# RC Circuit Charging: Solution

$$\rightarrow \frac{dQ}{dt} = -\frac{1}{RC}(Q - Ce)$$

Solution to this equation when switch is closed at  $t = 0$ :

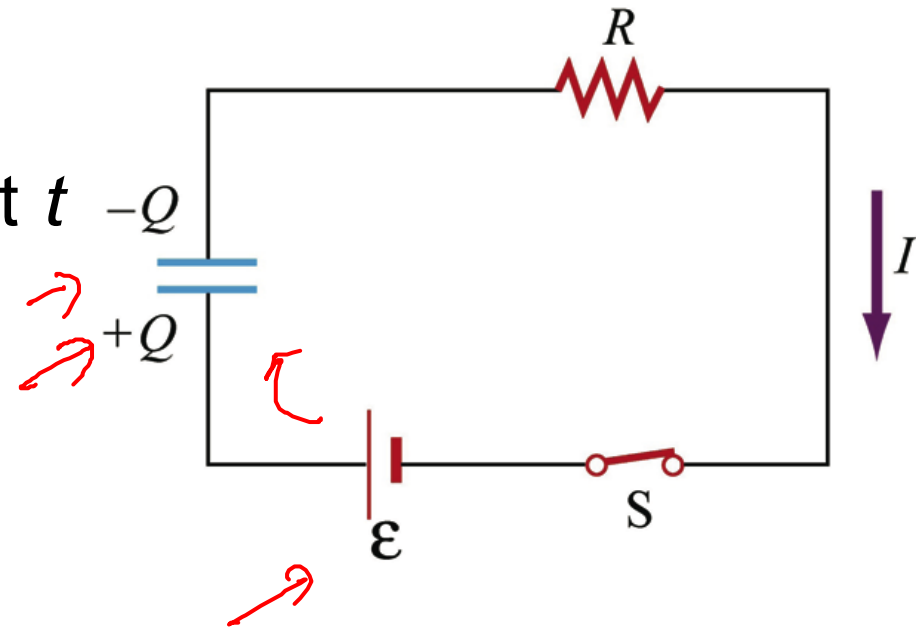
$$Q(t) = Ce(1 - e^{-t/\tau}) \quad I(t) = +\frac{dQ}{dt} \Rightarrow I(t) = I_0 e^{-t/\tau}$$

$\tau = RC$  : time constant (units: seconds)



# Concept Question: RC Circuit

An uncharged capacitor is connected to a battery, resistor and switch. The switch is initially open but at  $t = 0$  it is closed. A very long time after the switch is closed, the current in the circuit is

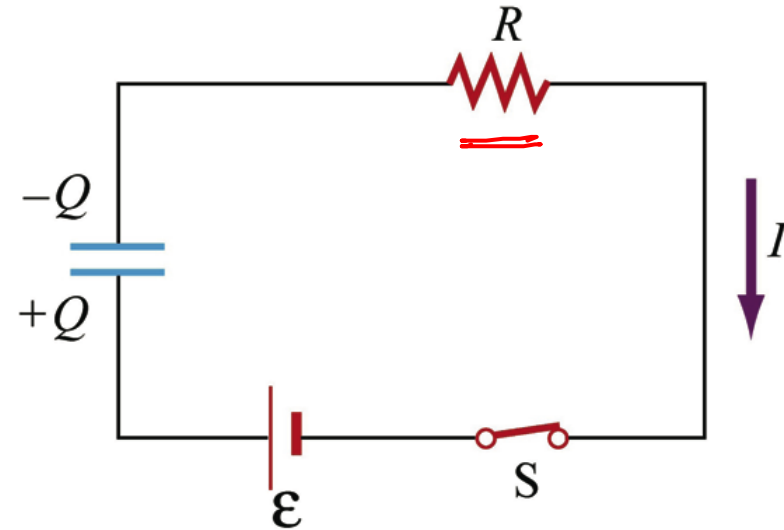


1. Nearly zero
2. At a maximum and decreasing
3. Nearly constant but non-zero

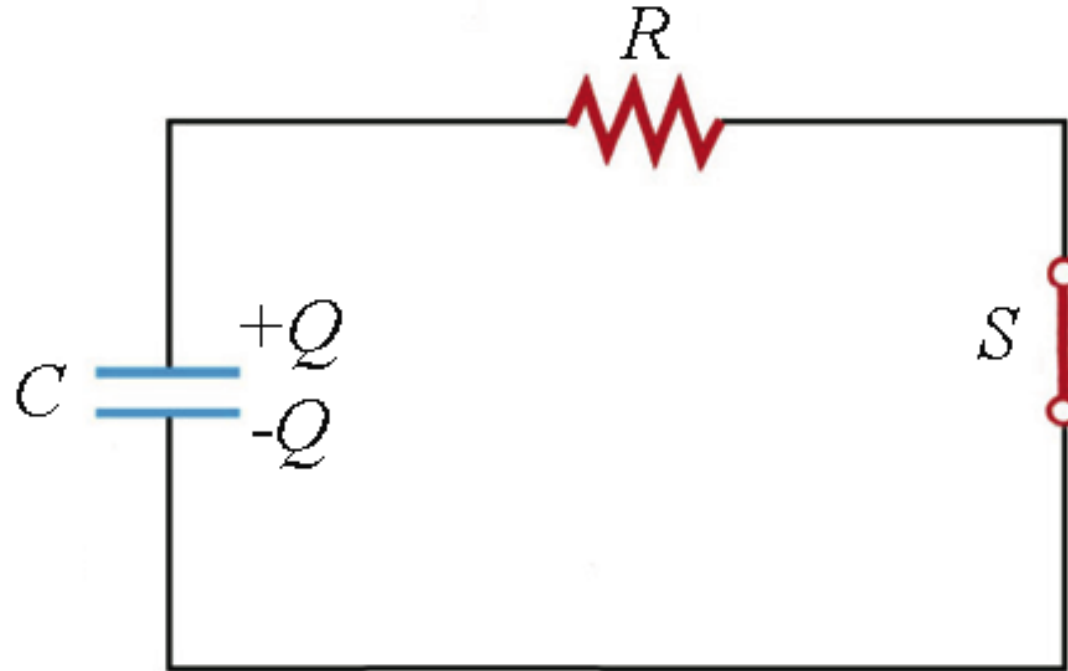
# Concept Q. Answer: RC Circuit

Answer: 1. After a long time the current is 0

Eventually the capacitor gets “completely charged” – the voltage increase provided by the battery is equal to the voltage drop across the capacitor. The voltage drop across the resistor at this point is 0 – no current is flowing.



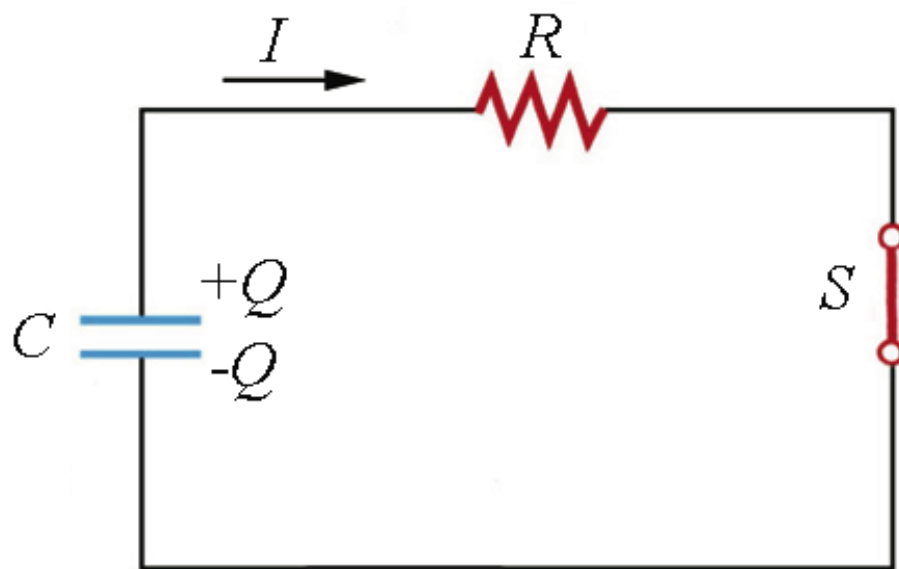
# Discharging A Capacitor



At  $t = 0$  charge on capacitor is  $Q_0$ . What happens when we close switch  $S$  at  $t = 0$ ?



# Discharging a Capacitor



Circulate clockwise

$$\sum_i DV_i = \frac{Q}{C} - IR = 0$$

$$I = - \frac{dQ}{dt}$$

First order linear  
differential equation

$$\frac{dQ}{dt} = - \frac{Q}{RC}$$

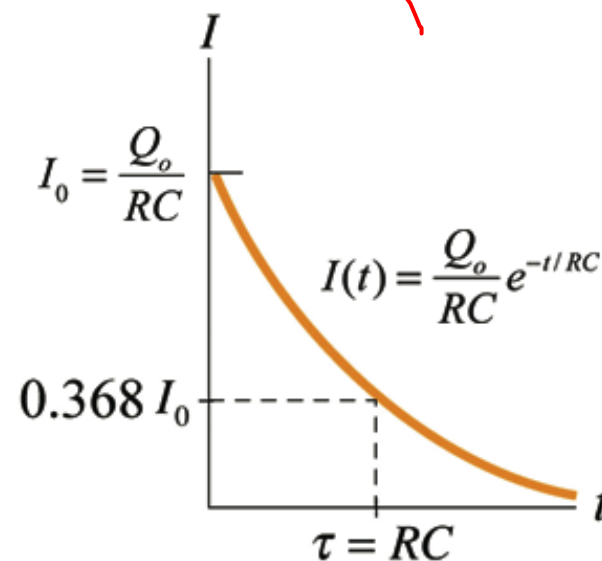
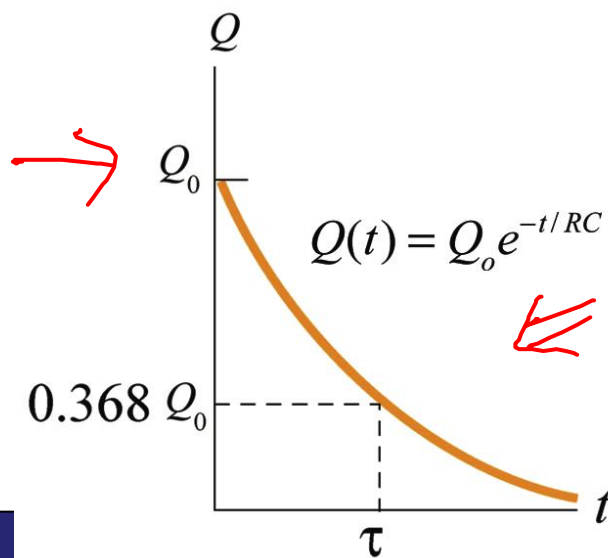


# RC Circuit: Discharging

$$\frac{dQ}{dt} = -\frac{1}{RC}Q \quad \Rightarrow \quad Q(t) = Q_o e^{-t/RC}$$

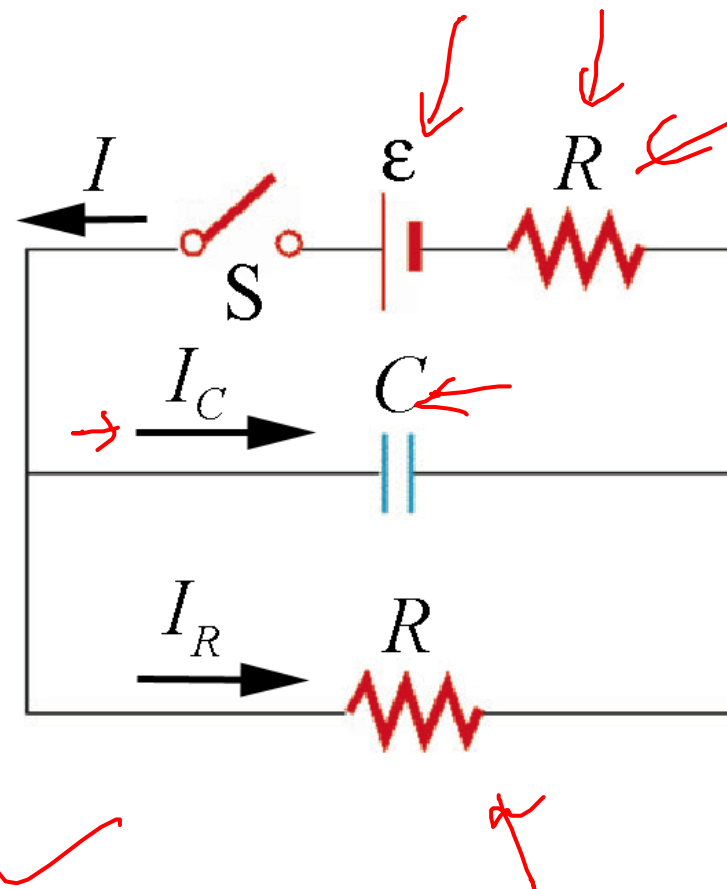
Solution to this equation when switch is closed at  $t = 0$   
with time constant  $\tau = RC$

$$I = -\frac{dQ}{dt} \Rightarrow I(t) = \frac{Q_o}{t} e^{-t/t} = \frac{Q_o}{RC} e^{-t/RC}$$



# Concept Question: RC Circuit

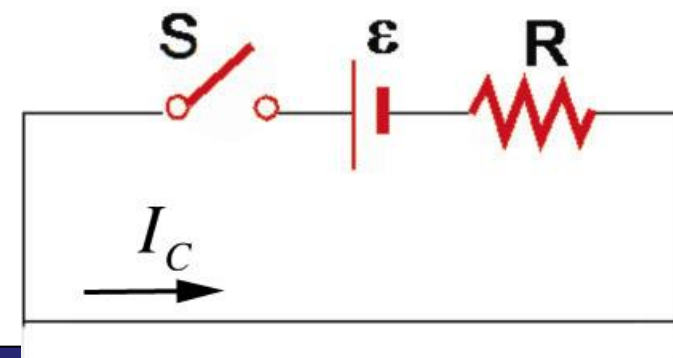
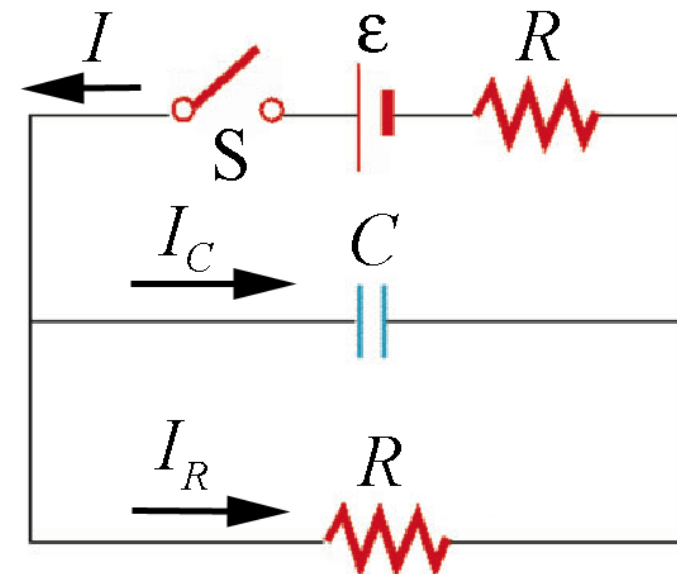
Consider the circuit at right, with an initially uncharged capacitor and two identical resistors. At the instant the switch is closed:



1.  $I_R = I_C = 0$
2.  $I_R = e / 2R, I_C = 0$
3.  $I_R = 0, I_C = e / R$
4.  $I_R = e / 2R, I_C = e / R$

Answer: 3.  $I_R = 0$   $I_C = \epsilon / R$

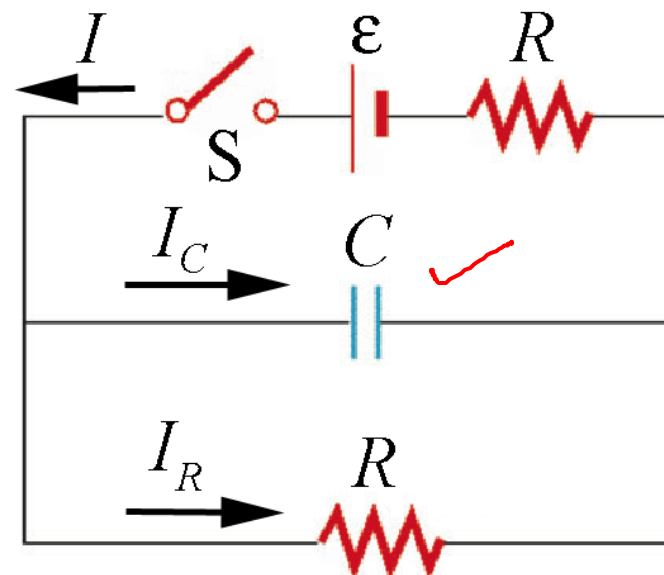
Initially there is no charge on the capacitor and hence no voltage drop across it – it looks like a short. Thus all current will flow through it rather than through the bottom resistor. So the circuit looks like:



# Concept Q.: Current Thru Capacitor

In the circuit at right the switch is closed at  $t = 0$ .  
 At  $t = \infty$  (long after) the current through the capacitor will be:

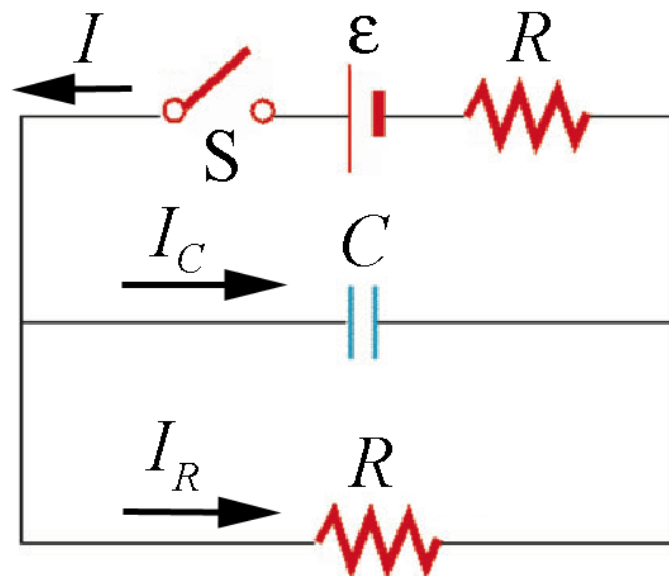
1.  $I_C = 0$  ✓
2.  $I_C = e/R$
3.  $I_C = e/2R$



# Con. Q. Ans.: Current Thru Capacitor

Answer 1.  $I_C = 0$

After a long time the capacitor becomes “fully charged.” No more current flows into it.



Revision

charge  $\rightarrow$  Voltage & Current

$R, L, C \rightarrow i, v,$

Energy Conversion

Batteries

Electrostatics

$\rightarrow$  Capacitors

# Summary

