

6. An RC circuit consists of a voltage source, a resistor, and a capacitor (and no inductor). If Q is the charge collected on the capacitor, then the circuit satisfies the equation

$$R \frac{dQ}{dt} + \frac{Q}{C} = E(t),$$

Since $I = \frac{dQ}{dt}$, this equation can be written as

$$RI + \frac{Q}{C} = E(t).$$

Suppose that the external voltage applied to this circuit is

$$E(t) = E_0 \cos(\omega t),$$

and $Q(0) = 0$.

A) Substitute the steady periodic solution $Q_{sp}(t) = A \cos(\omega t) + B \sin(\omega t)$ in the equation, and find the expressions for A and B. The steady periodic solution may also be written in the form

$$Q_{sp}(t) = C \cos(\omega t - \beta).$$

B) Derive the expression for the amplitude C .

C) Derive the formula for the phase shift β .

D) Find the expression for the current, I , in this circuit.

E) Does the current lead or lag the external voltage? Support your answer with a formula or an argument.