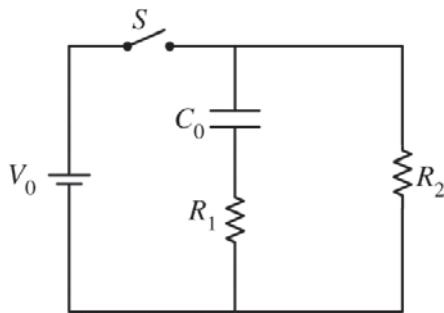


**2017 AP® PHYSICS C: ELECTRICITY AND MAGNETISM FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS**



2. In the circuit above, an ideal battery of voltage  $V_0$  is connected to a capacitor with capacitance  $C_0$  and resistors with resistances  $R_1$  and  $R_2$ , with  $R_1 > R_2$ . The switch  $S$  is open, and the capacitor is initially uncharged.

- (a) The switch is closed at time  $t = 0$ . On the axes below, sketch the charge  $q$  on the capacitor as a function of time  $t$ . Explicitly label any intercepts, asymptotes, maxima, or minima with numerical values or algebraic expressions, as appropriate.



- (b) On the axes below, sketch the current  $I$  through each resistor as a function of time  $t$ . Clearly label the two curves as  $I_1$  and  $I_2$ , the currents through resistors  $R_1$  and  $R_2$ , respectively. Explicitly label any intercepts, asymptotes, maxima, or minima with numerical values or algebraic expressions, as appropriate.



The circuit is constructed using an ideal 1.5 V battery, an  $80 \mu\text{F}$  capacitor, and resistors  $R_1 = 150 \Omega$  and  $R_2 = 100 \Omega$ . The switch is closed, allowing the capacitor to fully charge. The switch is then opened, allowing the capacitor to discharge.

- (c) The time it takes to charge the capacitor to 50% of its maximum charge is  $\Delta t_C$ . The time it takes for the capacitor to discharge to 50% of its maximum charge is  $\Delta t_D$ . Which of the following correctly relates the two time intervals?

$\Delta t_C > \Delta t_D$       $\Delta t_C = \Delta t_D$       $\Delta t_C < \Delta t_D$

Justify your answer.

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(d)

- i. Calculate the current through resistor  $R_2$  immediately after the switch is opened.
- ii. Is the current through resistor  $R_2$  increasing, decreasing, or constant immediately after the switch is opened?

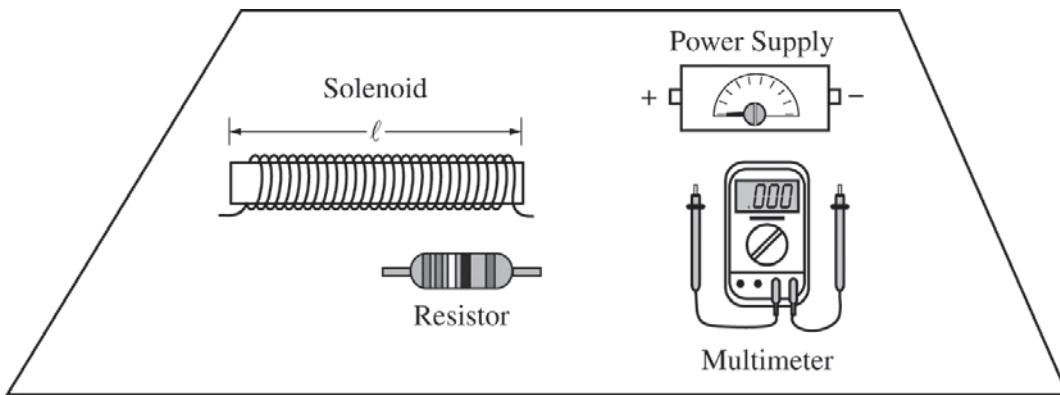
Increasing     Decreasing     Constant

Justify your answer.

(e)

- i. Calculate the energy stored in the capacitor immediately after the switch is opened.
- ii. Calculate the energy dissipated by resistor  $R_1$  as the capacitor completely discharges.

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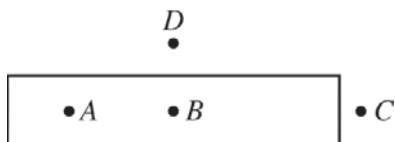
3. When studying Ampere's law, students collect data on the magnetic field of two different solenoids in order to determine the magnetic permeability of free space  $\mu_0$ . The solenoids are created by wrapping wire around a hollow plastic tube. The solenoids of length  $\ell$  with  $N$  turns of wire will be connected in series to a power supply and resistor. A multimeter will be used as an ammeter to measure the magnitude of the current  $I$  through the solenoids. The main components for the setup with one of the solenoids are shown in the figure above.

(a)

- On the figure above, draw wire connections between the solenoid, power supply, resistor, and multimeter that will complete the circuit and allow students to measure the magnitude of the current through the solenoid.
- Using the connections you made in part (a)i above, what will be the direction of the magnetic field inside the solenoid?

Toward the top of the page       To the left       Out of the page  
 Toward the bottom of the page       To the right       Into the page

The rectangle shown below represents the solenoid (the loops of wire are not shown). Points  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  are along the central axis of the solenoid with point  $B$  at the middle of the solenoid. Point  $D$  is directly above point  $B$ .



- From the choices below, select the point where you would place a magnetic field probe (a probe that can measure the magnitude of the magnetic field) to best measure the strength of the magnetic field of the solenoid in order to determine the magnetic permeability of free space  $\mu_0$ .

$A$       $B$       $C$       $D$

Justify your answer based on the model for a simple solenoid.

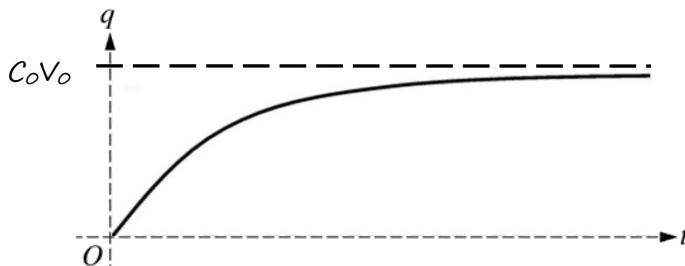
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2017 SCORING GUIDELINES**

**Question 2**

**15 points total**

**Distribution  
of points**

(a) 3 points



For a concave down curve starting at the origin

1 point

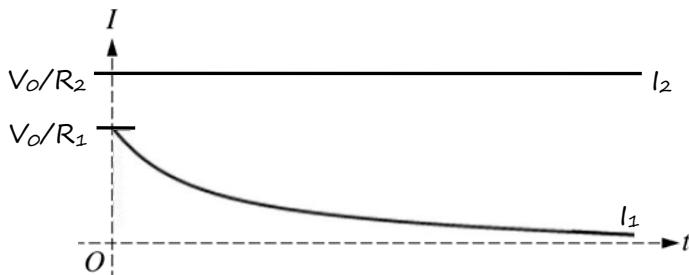
For a horizontal asymptote

1 point

For properly labeling the horizontal asymptote

1 point

(b) 4 points



For showing that  $I_2$  is horizontal with the correct vertical intercept

1 point

For showing that  $I_1$  is concave up and asymptotic to  $I = 0$

1 point

For correctly labeling the vertical intercept of the  $I_1$  graph

1 point

For drawing the  $I_2$  graph always above the  $I_1$  graph

1 point

(c) 2 points

Select “ $\Delta t_C < \Delta t_D$ ”

1 point

For indicating that the equivalent resistance during discharging is greater than during charging

1 point

For a statement relating the greater resistance to the greater time constant, or to a smaller current

1 point

Example: Because the resistance as the capacitor discharges is greater than when it charges, the time constant is larger for discharging. Therefore, the time to charge to 50% of its maximum charge is less than the time to discharge to 50% of its maximum charge.