

- 5 Two capacitors A and B are connected into the circuit shown in Fig. 5.1.

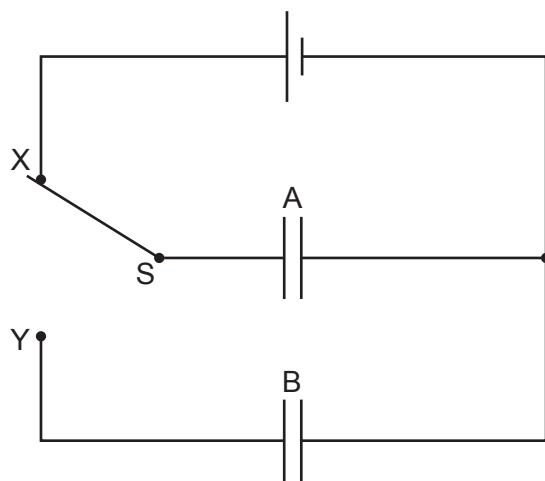


Fig. 5.1

Capacitor A has capacitance C and capacitor B has capacitance $3C$.

The electromotive force (e.m.f.) of the cell is V .

The two-way switch S is initially at position X, and capacitor B is initially uncharged.

(a) State, in terms of V and C , expressions for:

(i) the initial charge Q_A on the plates of capacitor A

$$Q_A = \dots \quad [1]$$

(ii) the initial energy E_A stored in capacitor A.

$$E_A = \dots \quad [1]$$

(b) The two-way switch S is now moved to position Y.

(i) State and explain what happens to the charge that was initially on the plates of capacitor A.

.....
.....
.....

[2]

- (ii) Show that the final potential difference (p.d.) V_B across capacitor B is given by

$$V_B = \frac{V}{4}.$$

Explain your reasoning.

[3]

- (iii) Determine an expression, in terms of V and C , for the decrease ΔE in the total energy that is stored in the capacitors as a result of the change of the position of the switch.

$$\Delta E = \dots \quad [2]$$