

- 5 The variation with potential difference V of the charge Q on one of the plates of a capacitor is shown in Fig. 5.1.

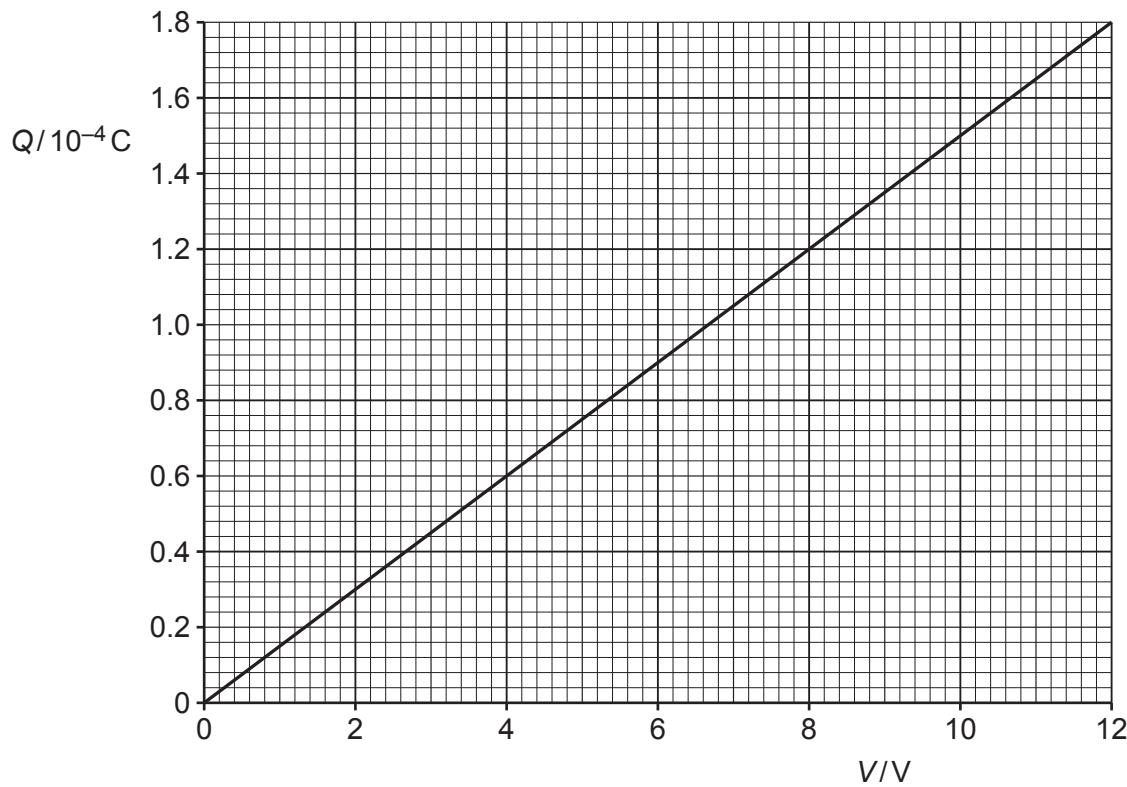


Fig. 5.1

The capacitor is connected to an 8.0V power supply and two resistors R and S as shown in Fig. 5.2.

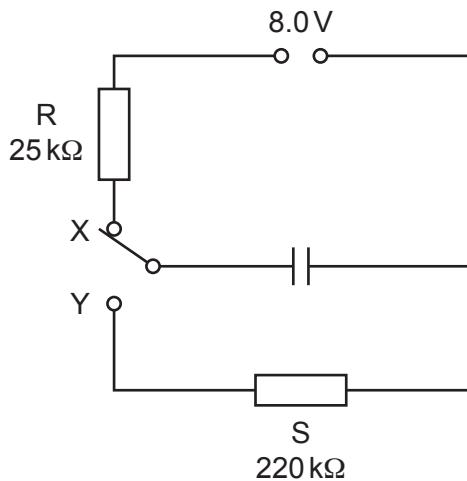


Fig. 5.2

The resistance of R is $25 \text{ k}\Omega$ and the resistance of S is $220 \text{ k}\Omega$.

The switch can be in either position X or position Y.

- (a) The switch is in position X so that the capacitor is fully charged.

Calculate the energy E stored in the capacitor.

$$E = \dots \text{ J} [2]$$

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

- (i) Show that the time constant of the discharge circuit is 3.3 s.

[2]

- (ii) The fully charged capacitor in (a) stores energy E .

Determine the time t taken for the stored energy to decrease from E to $E/9$.

$$t = \dots \text{ s} [4]$$

- (c) A second identical capacitor is connected in parallel with the first capacitor.

State and explain the change, if any, to the time constant of the discharge circuit.

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[2]