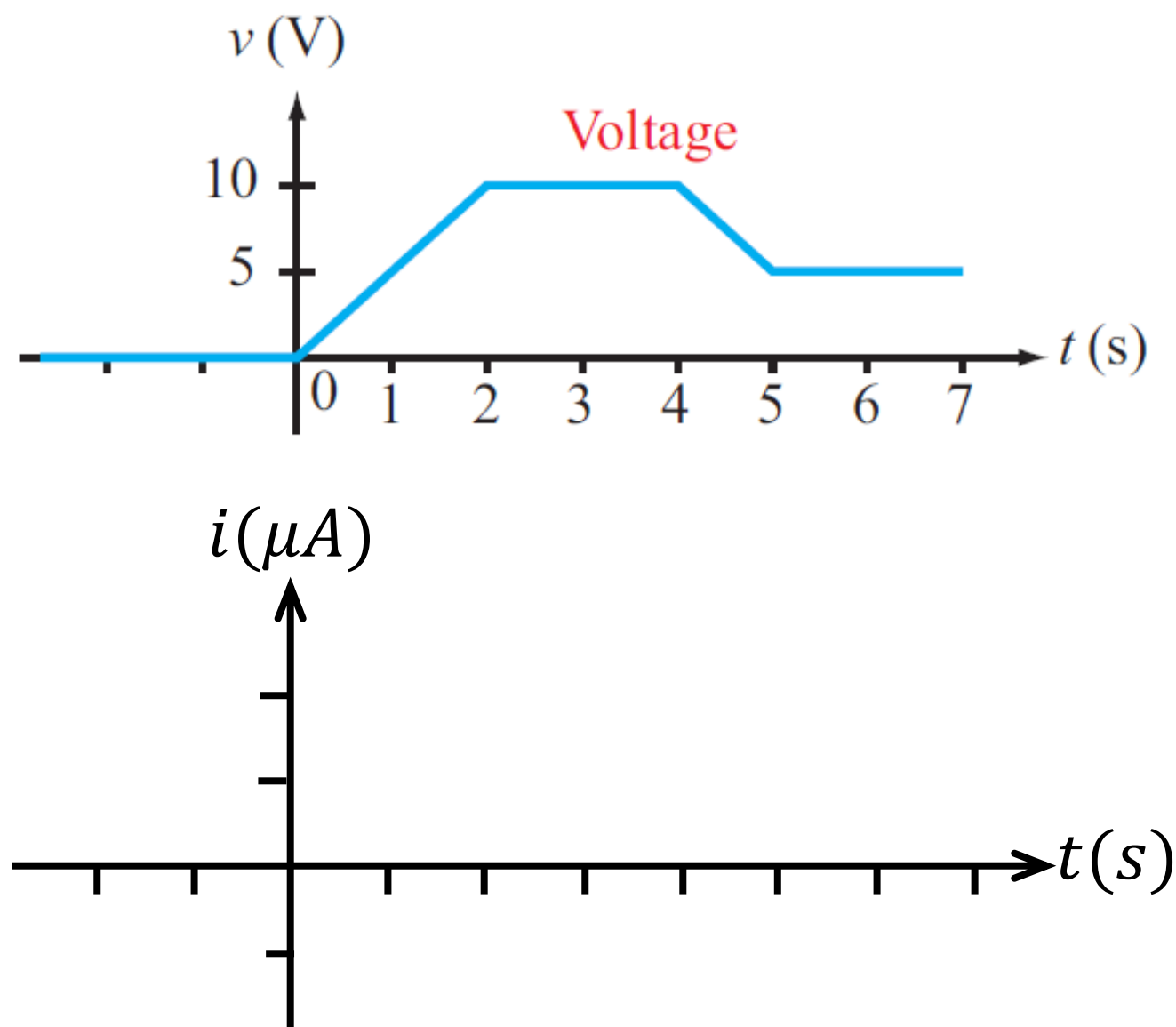




A voltage  $v$  was applied over a  $0.6\mu F$  capacitor. Determine the corresponding waveforms for the current  $i_c(t)$ .  $= C \frac{dv_c(t)}{dt}$





**THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**

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COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

# Transient Response of RC Circuits



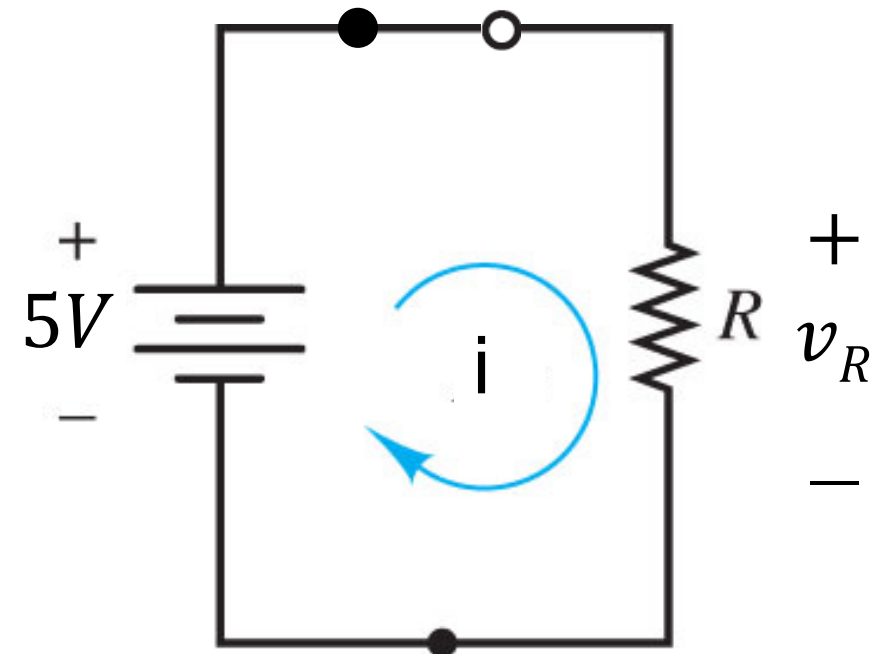
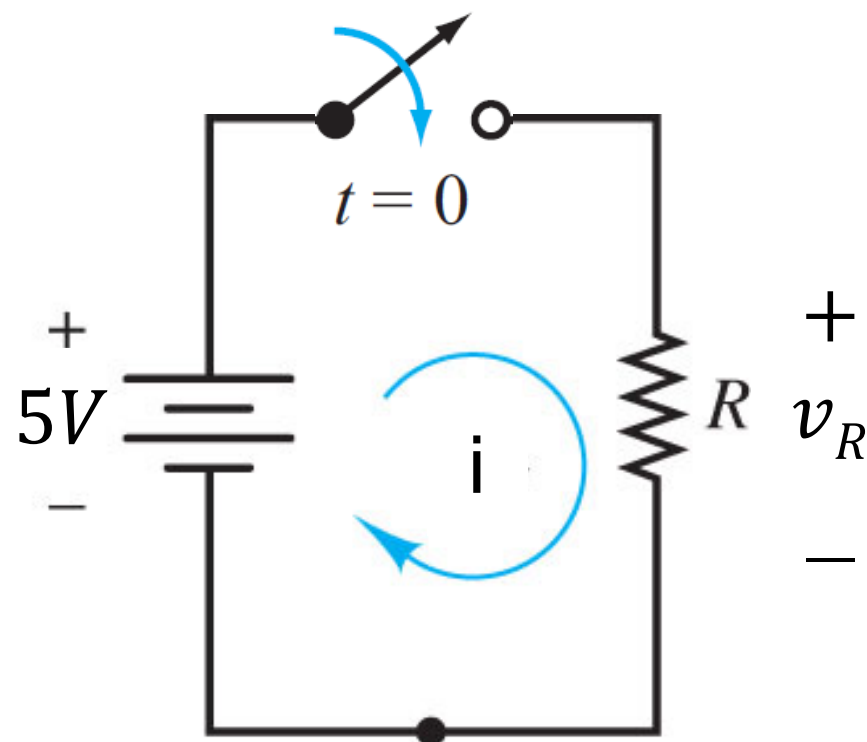
- Learning Objectives:
  - Understand what transient response is.
  - Analyze the transient responses of first order  $RC$  circuits.



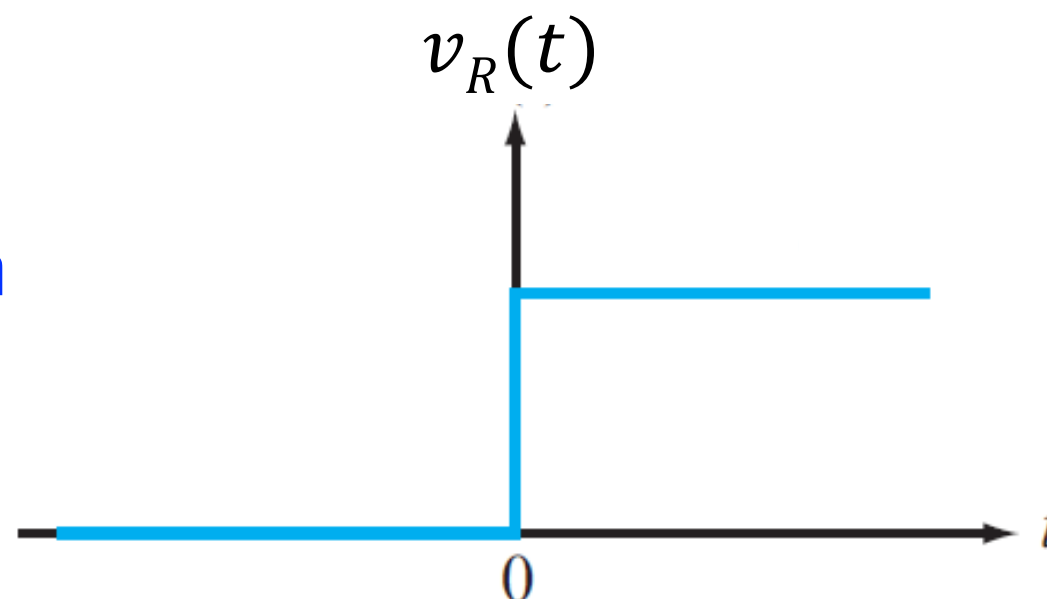


So far all our circuits have been DC and steady-state:

- System is not changing for a long time.
- Steady for enough time to reach equilibrium.

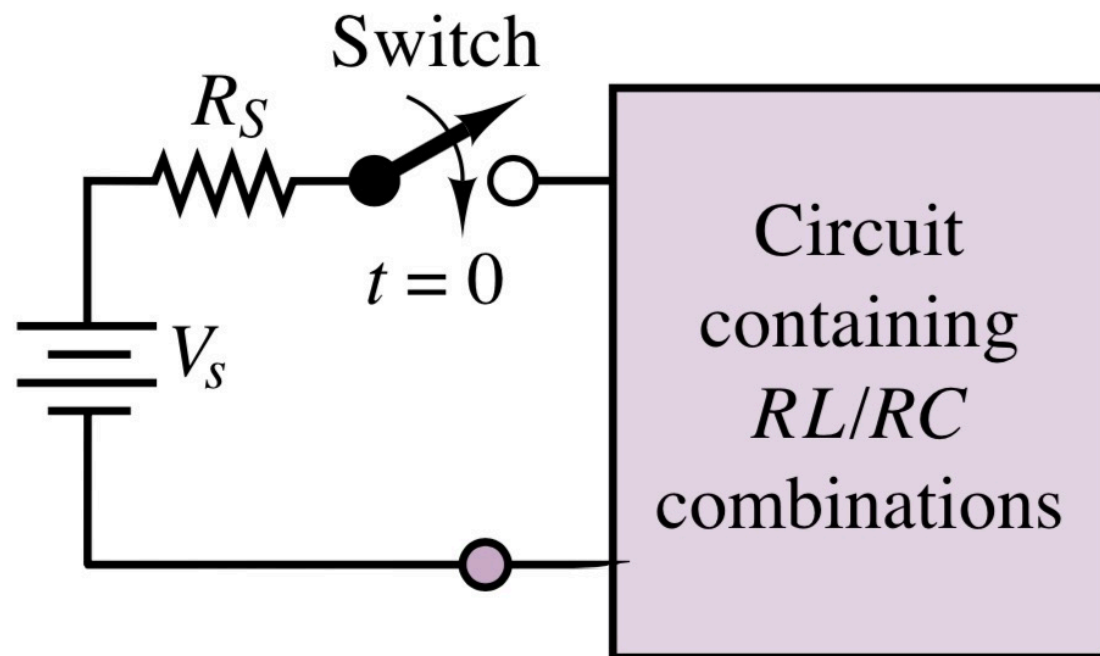


An ideal resistor can change its  $v$  and  $i$  instantly.





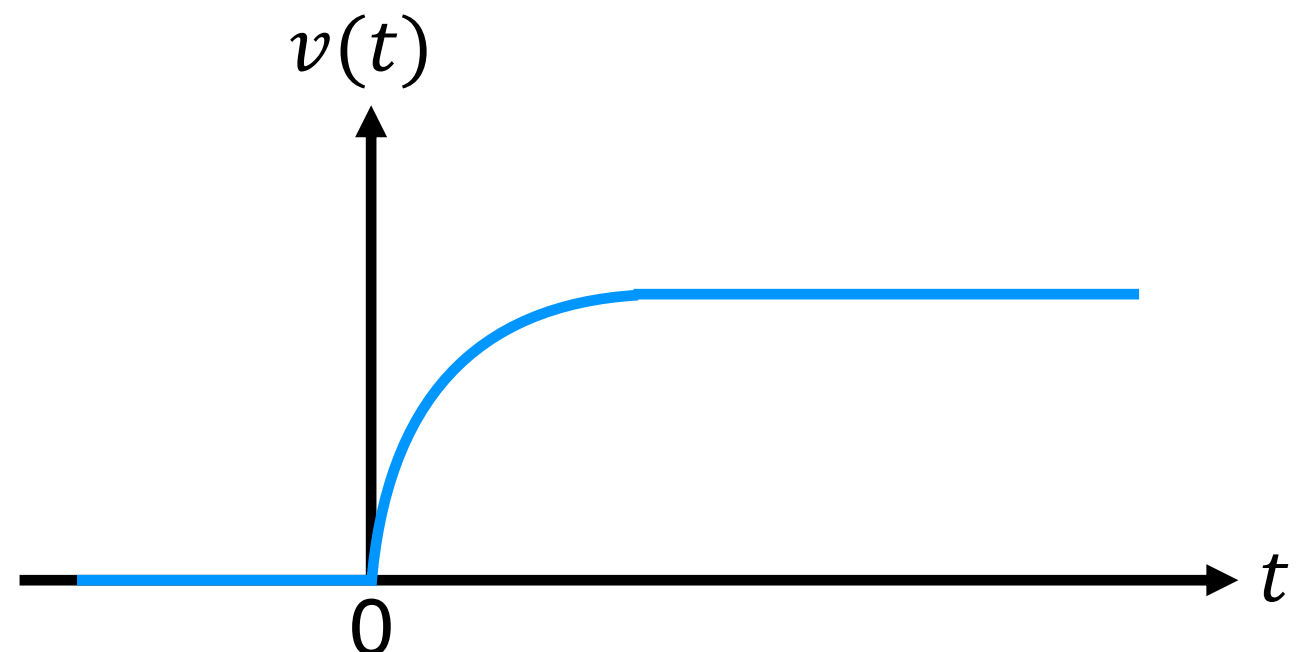
Transient response: represents the initial reaction immediately after a sudden change, such as closing or opening a switch.



DC circuit

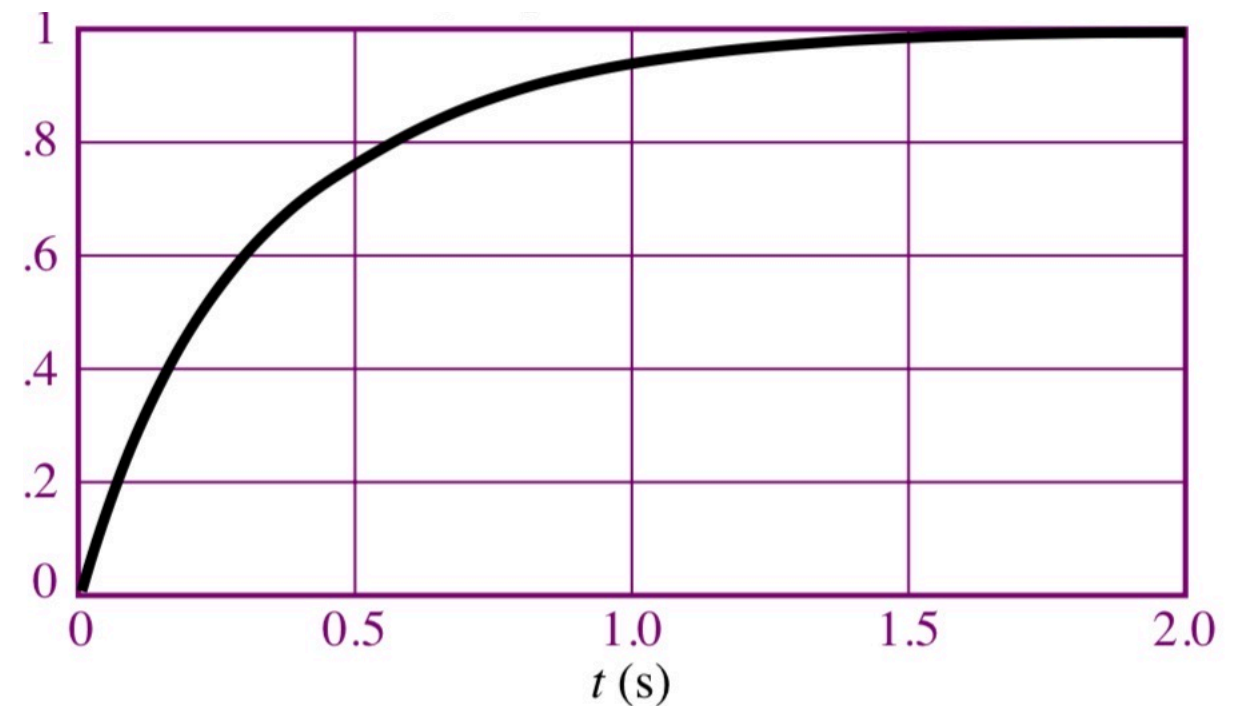
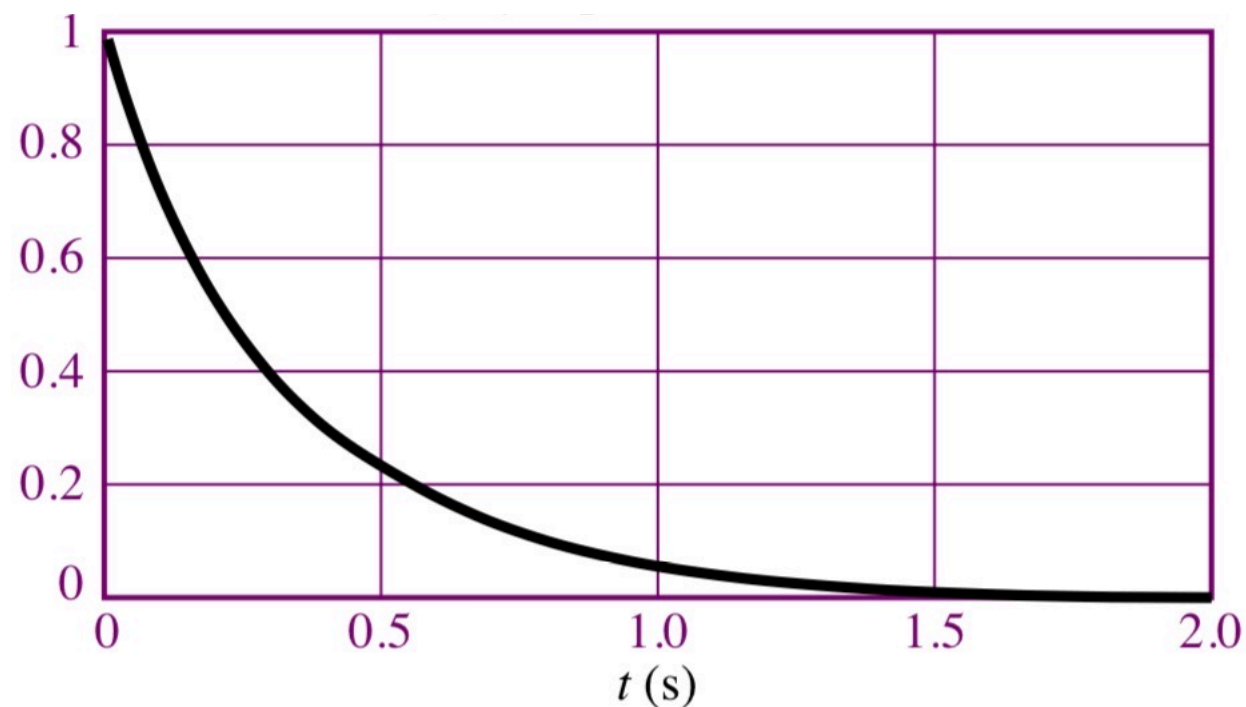
- Capacitor: open circuit
- Inductor: short circuit

1. Physical switch.
2. Circuit element.
3. Voltage/current source.





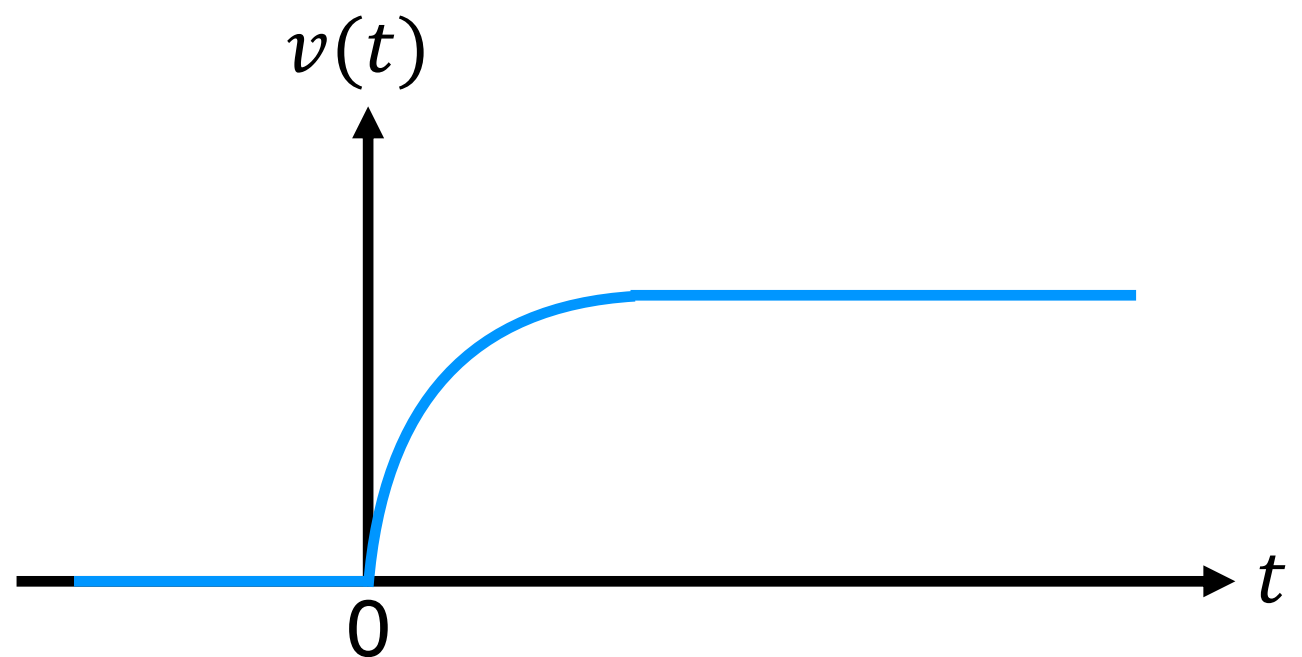
- A first-order circuit can only contain one energy storage element (a capacitor or an inductor).
- There are two types of first order circuits:  $RC$  and  $RL$ .





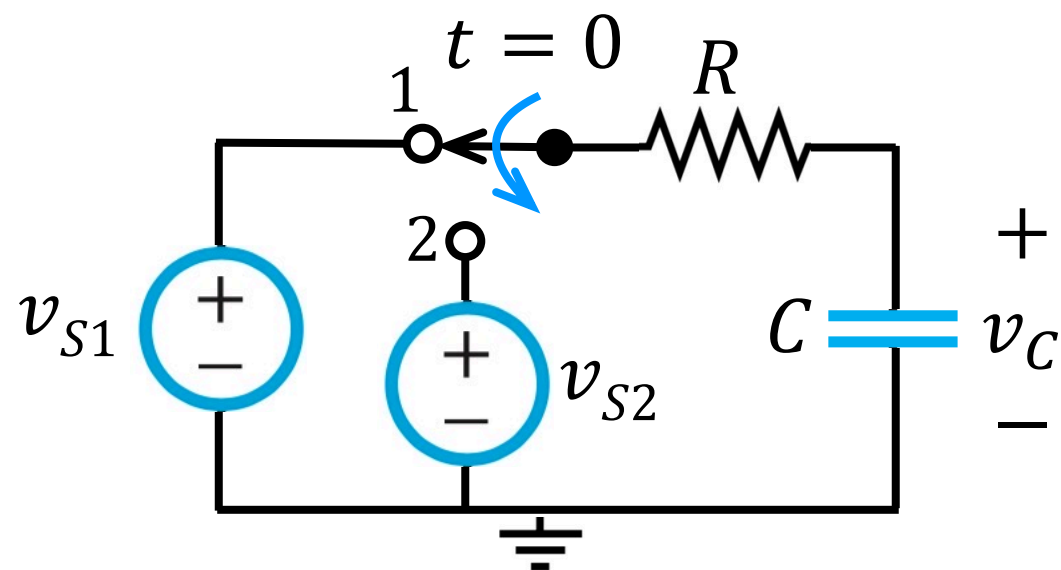
- $\tau$  which is a circuit time constant that controls the rate of decay of the exponential.
- It determines the time between steady states  $v(0)$  and  $v(\infty)$ .

$t$	$v(t)$
$\tau$	63% of $K$
$2\tau$	86%
$3\tau$	95%
$4\tau$	98%
$5\tau$	99.3%
$10\tau$	99.995%





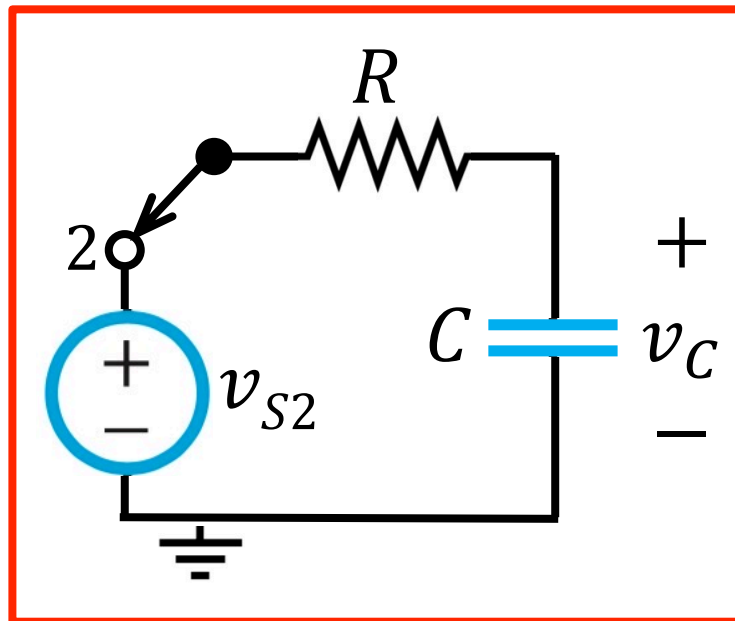
1. Calculate the initial value of the capacitor  $v_C(0)$  (e.g., when switch at 1).
2. Calculate the steady-state response of the capacitor  $v_C(\infty)$  (e.g., when switch at 2).
3. Solve for the transient response.







Thevenin equivalent circuit with  $C$  as the load.

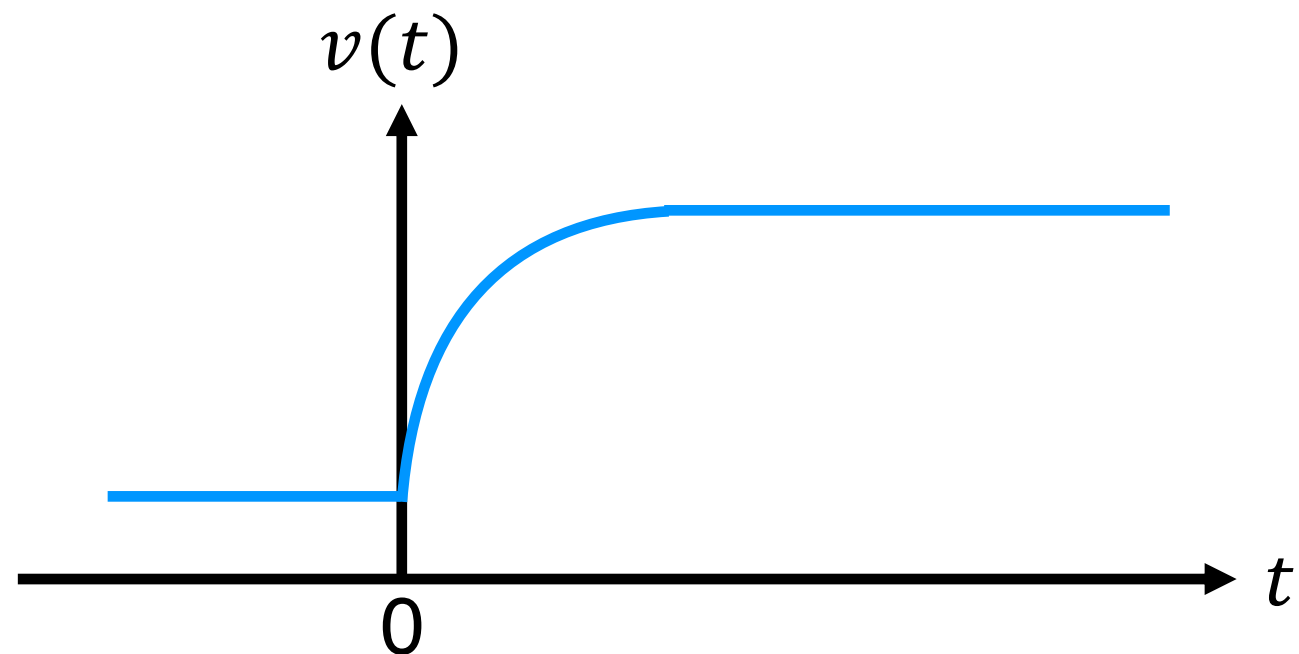


What if the circuit does not look like this?

How do we calculate the transient response?

Replace  $R$  with  $R_{TH}$

$$v_C(t) = v_C(\infty) + (v_C(0) - v_C(\infty))e^{-\frac{1}{RC}t}$$





“For a long time” before  $t = 0$ ,  $s_1 = \textit{open}$  and  $s_2 = \textit{closed}$ . At  $t = 0$ ,  $s_1 = \textit{closes}$  and  $s_2 = \textit{opens}$ . Find  $v_C(t)$ , for  $t \geq 0$ .

