

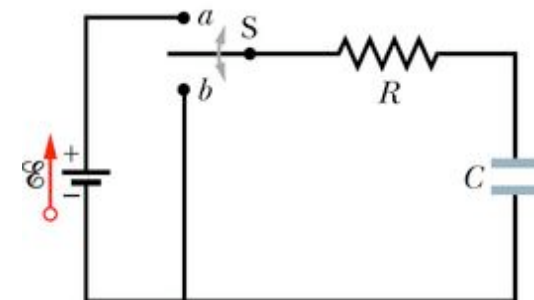
Physics 2102

Lecture 17

DC circuits, RC circuits



Version: 02/20/2009



Review

- The potential of ideal emf devices does not depend on the current; real emf devices have **internal resistance**
- **Kirchhoff's junction rule:**

KJR : The sum of the currents entering any junction is equal to the sum of the currents leaving the junction.

- **Resistors in parallel** replace by equivalent resistance

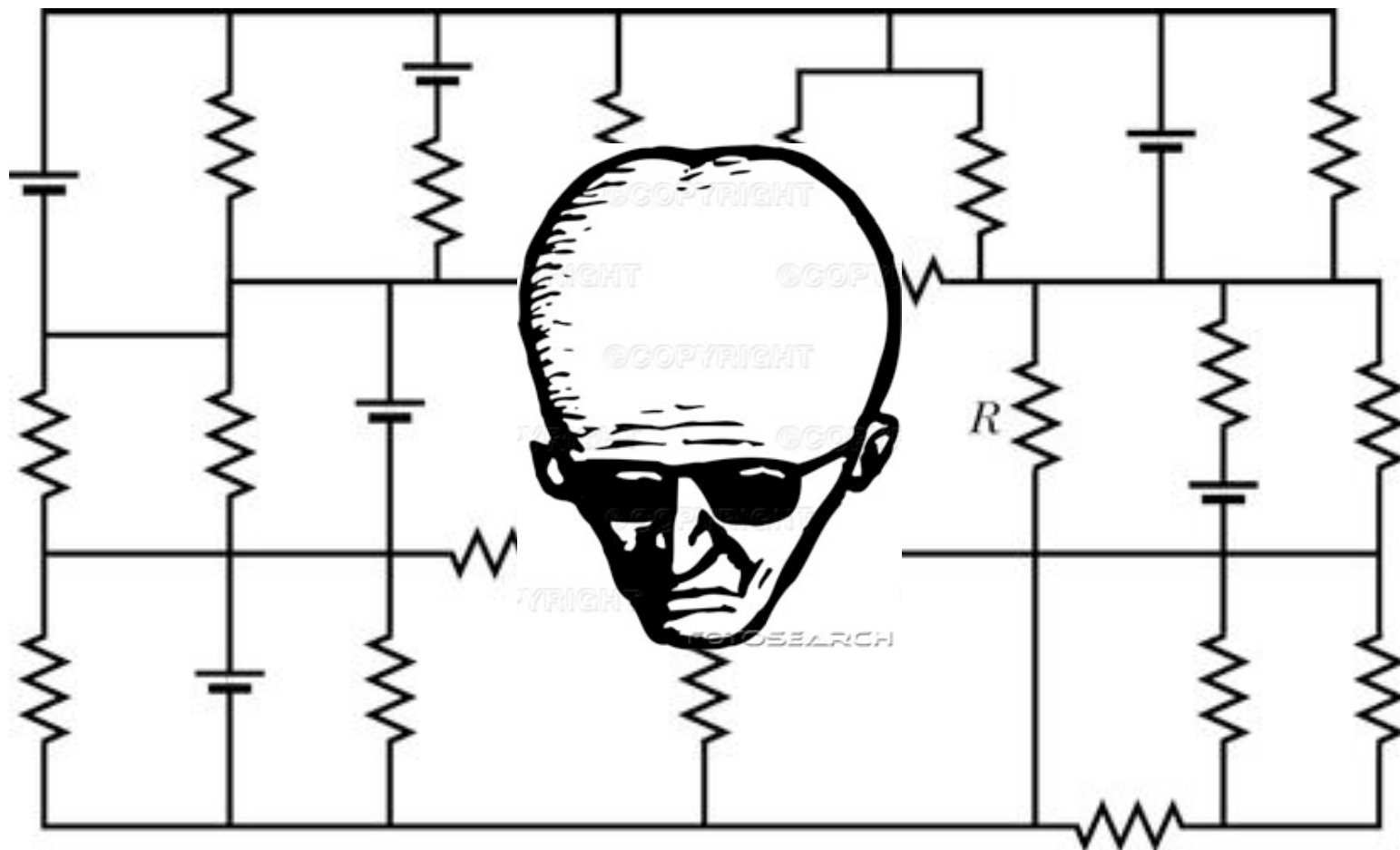
$$\frac{1}{R_{eq}} = \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{1}{R_j}$$

- **Resistors in series** replace by equivalent resistance

$$R_{eq} = \sum_{j=1}^n R_j$$

- **Ammeter** measures current; **voltmeter** measures voltage

How to Solve Multi-Loop Circuits



Step I: Simplify “Compile” Circuits

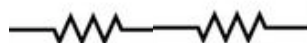
Resistors



Key formula: $V=iR$

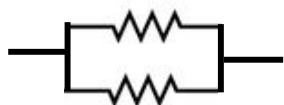
In series: same current

$$R_{eq} = \sum R_j$$



In parallel: same voltage

$$1/R_{eq} = \sum 1/R_j$$



Capacitors



$$Q=CV$$

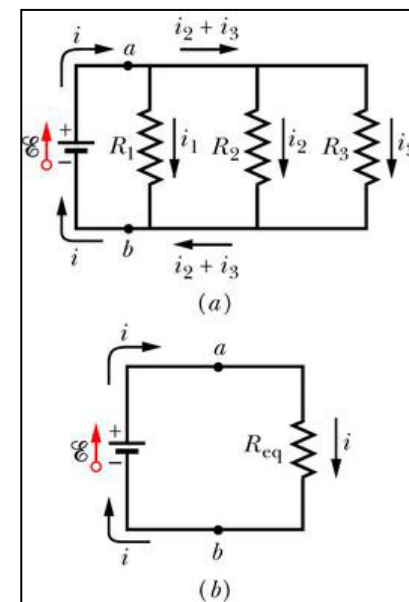
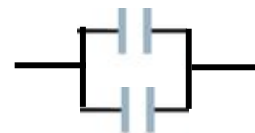
same charge

$$1/C_{eq} = \sum 1/C_j$$



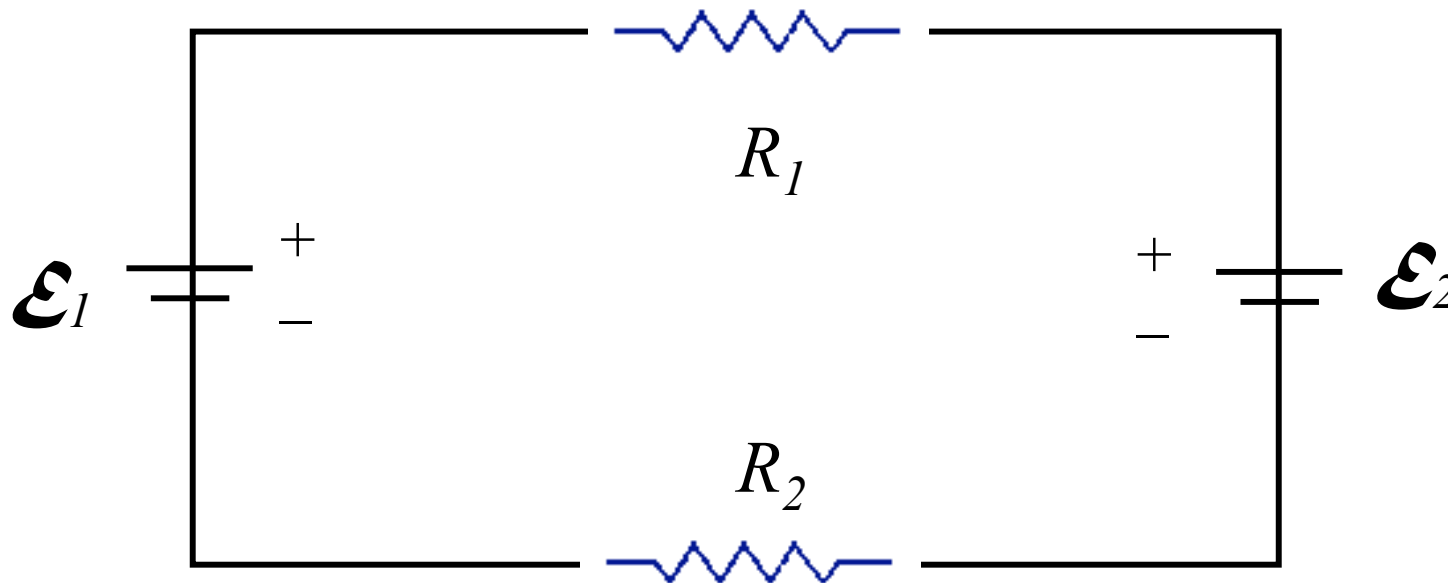
same voltage

$$C_{eq} = \sum C_j$$



Step II: Apply Loop Rule

Around *every* loop add $+\mathcal{E}$ if you cross a battery from minus to plus, $-\mathcal{E}$ if plus to minus, and $-iR$ for each resistor. Then sum to Zero: $+\mathcal{E}_1 - \mathcal{E}_2 - iR_1 - iR_2 = 0$.

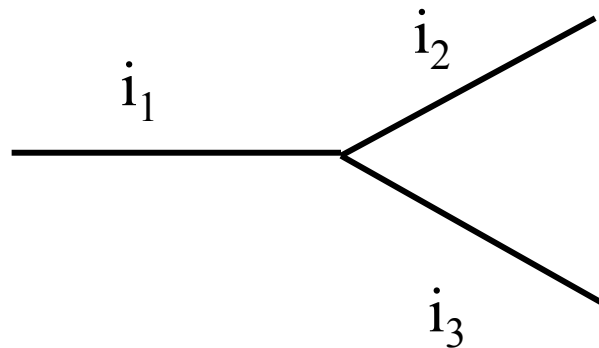


Conservation of ENERGY!

Step II: Apply Junction Rule

At every junction sum the ingoing currents and outgoing currents and set them equal.

$$i_1 = i_2 + i_3$$



Conservation of CHARGE!

Step III: Equations to Unknowns

Continue Steps I–III until you have as many equations as unknowns!

Given: \mathcal{E}_1 , \mathcal{E}_2 , i , R_1 , R_2

$$+\mathcal{E}_1 - \mathcal{E}_2 - i_1 R_1 - i_2 R_2 = 0$$

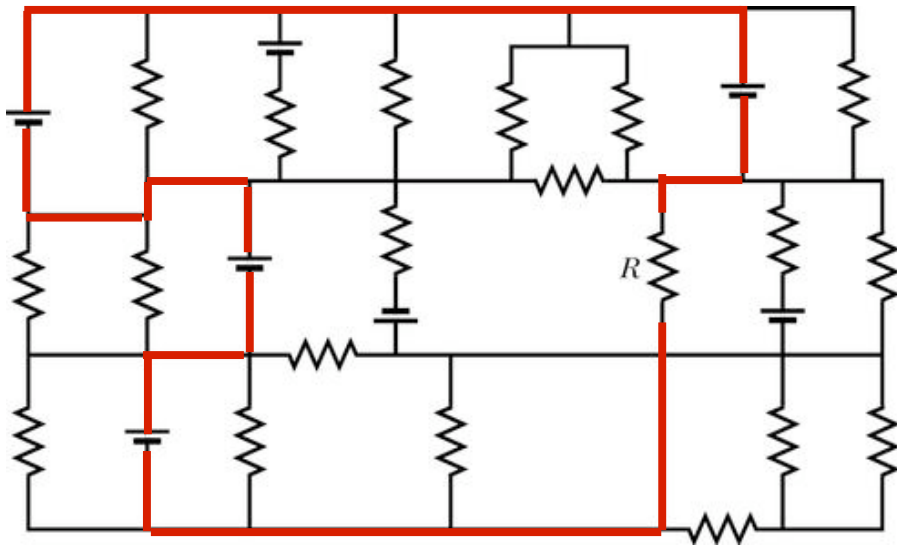
and

$$i = i_1 + i_2$$

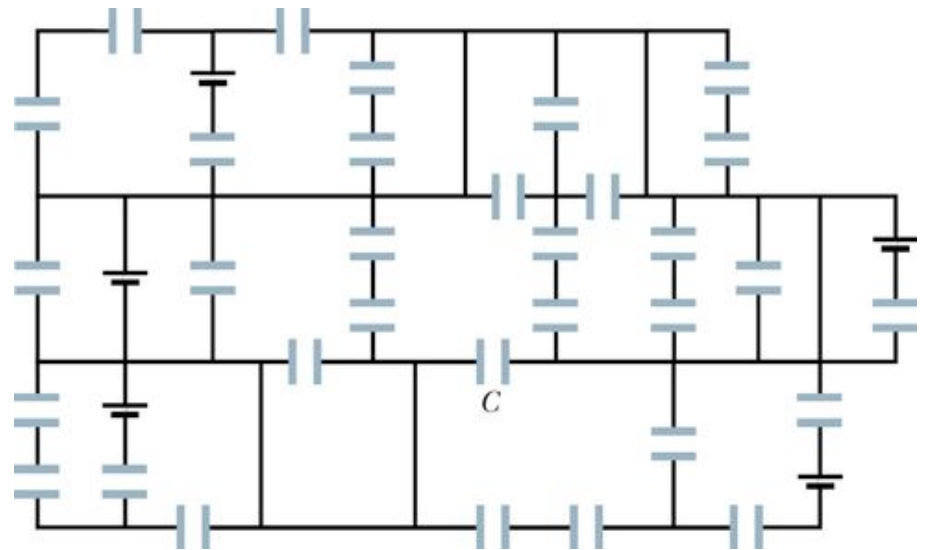
Solve for i_1 , i_2

Monster Mazes

If all resistors have a resistance of 4Ω , and all batteries are ideal and have an emf of $4V$, what is the current through R ?



If all capacitors have a capacitance of $6\mu\text{F}$, and all batteries are ideal and have an emf of 10V , what is the charge on capacitor C?



RC Circuits: Charging a Capacitor

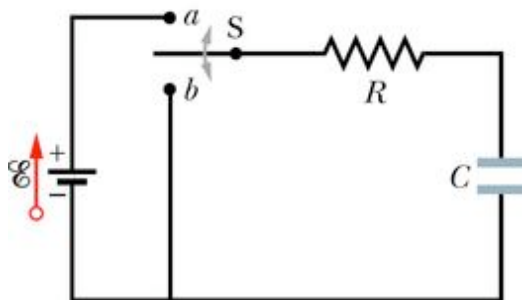
In these circuits, current will change for a while, and then stay constant.

We want to solve for current as a function of time $i(t)$.

The charge on the capacitor will also be a function of time: $q(t)$.

The voltage across the resistor and the capacitor also change with time.

To charge the capacitor, close the switch on a .



$$E + V_R(t) + V_C(t) = 0$$

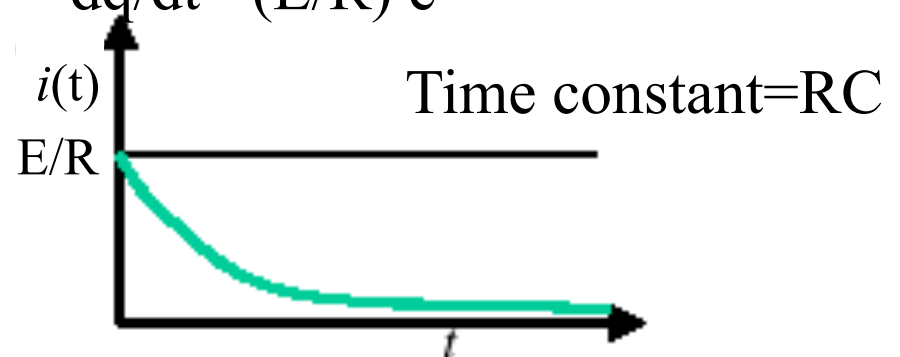
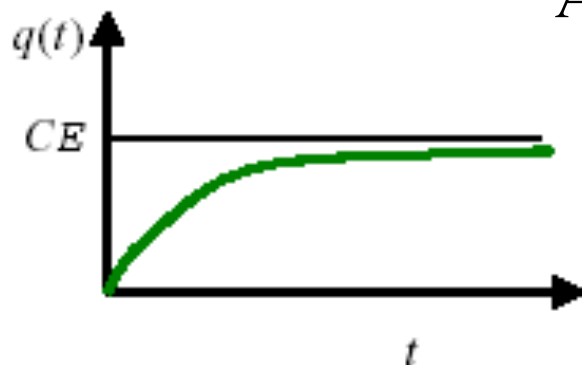
$$E - i(t)R - q(t)/C = 0$$

$$E - (dq(t)/dt)R - q(t)/C = 0$$

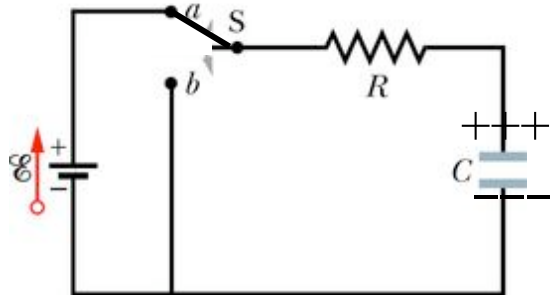
A differential equation for $q(t)$! The solution is:

$$q(t) = CE(1 - e^{-t/RC})$$

And then $i(t) = dq/dt = (E/R) e^{-t/RC}$



RC Circuits: Discharging a Capacitor



Assume the switch has been closed on a for a long time: the capacitor will be charged with $Q=CE$.

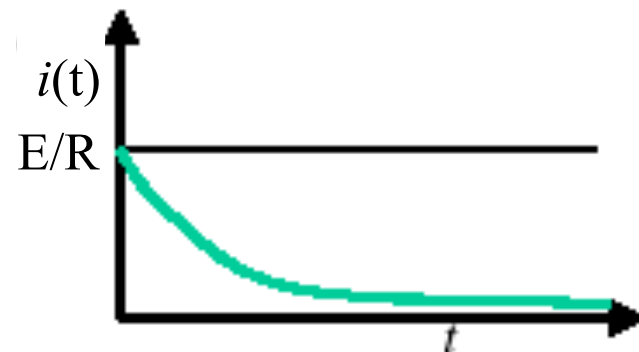
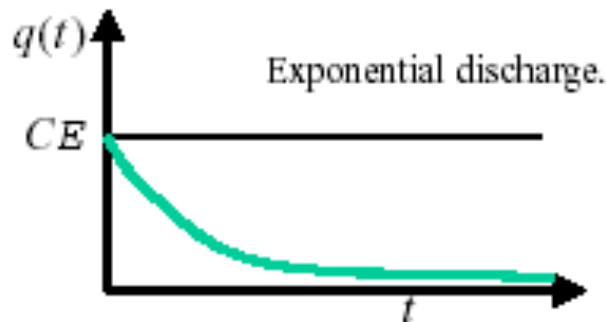
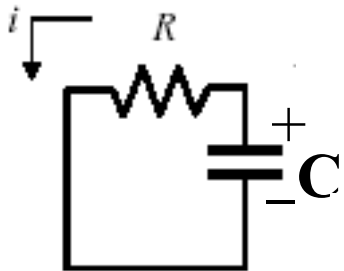
Then, close the switch on b : charges find their way across the circuit, establishing a current.

$$V_R + V_C = 0$$

$$-i(t)R - q(t)/C = 0 \Rightarrow (dq/dt)R + q(t)/C = 0$$

$$\text{Solution: } q(t) = q_0 e^{-t/RC} = CE e^{-t/RC}$$

$$i(t) = dq/dt = (q_0/RC) e^{-t/RC} = (E/R) e^{-t/RC}$$



Summary

- Technique to **solve multiloop circuits**
 1. Simplify “compile” circuits
 2. Apply loop rule
 3. Equations to unknowns
- **RC circuits**: simple circuit with time-varying current; time constant is $\tau = RC$
- **Charging** a capacitor: $q(t) = CE(1 - e^{-t/RC})$
- **Discharging** a capacitor: $q(t) = CEe^{-t/RC}$