

# task\_tb6pi8dgh0m2e2pw\_with\_calculation

## Student Group

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### Exercise E1 Charging Capacitors

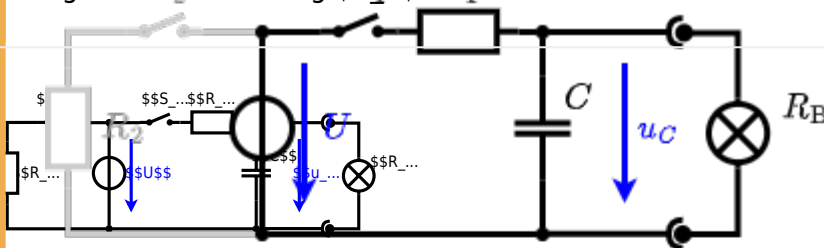
(written test, approx. 16 % of a 60-minute written test, WS2022)

The capacitor (with time constant  $\tau$ ) is in parallel with  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  and a voltage source  $U$  is connected in series with  $R_1$ . The voltage across the capacitor is again  $0 \text{ V}$  at the moment  $t_0 = 0 \text{ s}$  when the switch  $S_1$  is closed. Calculate the voltage  $u_c(t_2)$  across the capacitor at  $t_2 = 1 \text{ ms}$  after closing the switch.

**Solution**  
Hint: To solve this, first create an equivalent linear voltage source from  $U$ ,  $R_1$ , and  $R_2$ .

**Solution**  
The equivalent linear voltage source is given by  $U_{eq} = U \cdot \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2}$  and the internal resistance is  $R_{eq} = R_1 \parallel R_2$ .

On an alternative view, one can try to create an equivalent linear voltage source again. Then, the internal resistance is given by substituting the ideal voltage source is again short-circuiting  $R_1$ .



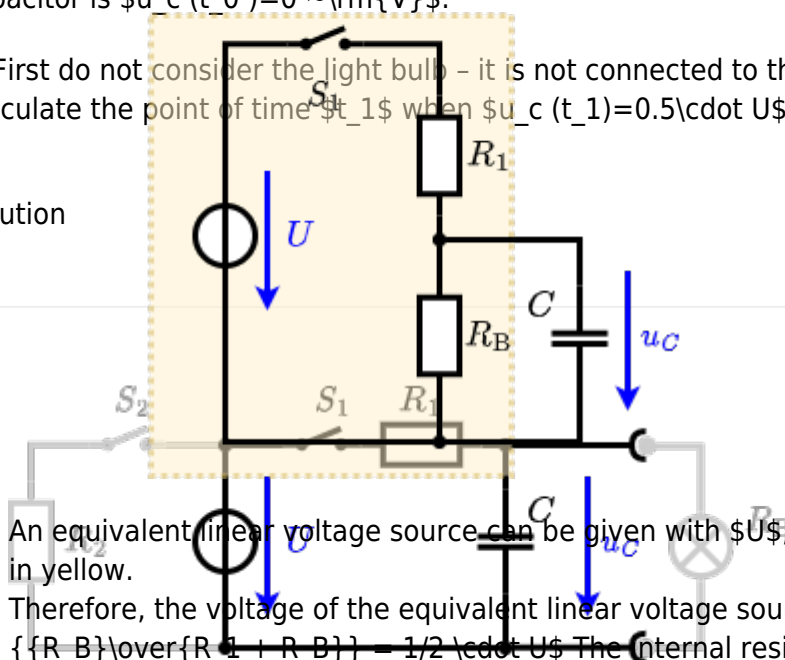
The circuit contains a voltage source  $U = 12 \text{ V}$ , a switch  $S_1$ , a resistor of  $R_1 = 20 \text{ }\Omega$  and a capacitor of  $C = 100 \text{ }\mu\text{F}$ .

The switch  $S_2$  to an additional consumer  $R_2$  will be considered to be open for the first tasks. At the moment  $t_0 = 0 \text{ s}$  the switch  $S_1$  is closed, the voltage across the capacitor is  $u_c(t_0) = 0 \text{ V}$ .

.. First do not consider the light bulb - it is not connected to the RC circuit.

Calculate the point of time  $t_1$  when  $u_c(t_1) = 0.5 \cdot U$ .

**Solution**



An equivalent linear voltage source can be given with  $U$ ,  $R_1$ , and  $R_2$  as seen in yellow.

Therefore, the voltage of the equivalent linear voltage source is:  $U_s = U \cdot \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2} = \frac{1}{2} \cdot U$ . The internal resistance is given by substituting the ideal voltage source with its resistance ( $= 0 \text{ }\Omega$ , short-circuit).

So if we only  $R_1$  and  $C$  give  $t$  we have  $t = \frac{1}{\omega} \arctan\left(\frac{\omega R_1 C}{1}\right)$

The following formula describes the time course  $i(t)$  of a capacitor  $C$  which has  $U_0$  voltage at  $t=0$ .  

$$i(t) = \frac{U_0}{R_1} \cdot \left(1 - e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}}\right)$$

$$\tau = R_1 \cdot C$$
 It has to be rearranged to  $t = -\tau \cdot \ln\left(1 - \frac{i(t) \cdot R_1}{U_0}\right)$   

$$t = -R_1 \cdot C \cdot \ln\left(1 - \frac{i(t) \cdot R_1}{U_0}\right)$$

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