

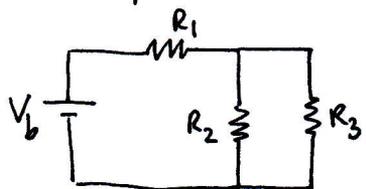
At first C is not charged.

* Close the switch \leftrightarrow turn on the supply and we have a complete circuit.

- Right after the switch is closed:

$C = \text{wire}$

\Rightarrow equivalent circuit:



(a)

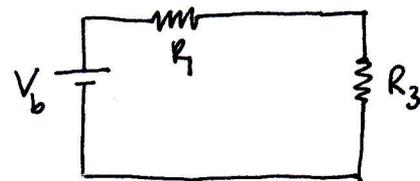
$$((R_2 // R_3) + R_1)$$

\uparrow
"in series with"

- A long time after the switch is closed:

$C = \text{break in circuit}$

\Rightarrow equivalent circuit:

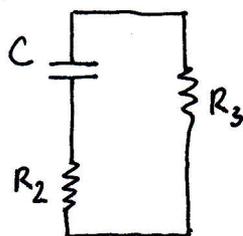


(b)

$$(R_1 + R_3)$$

Now C is fully charged. Open the switch:

equivalent circuit is:



(c)

$$(R_2 + R_3)$$

Follow the derivation on page 1,

we have

$$I = \frac{Q_0}{(R_2 + R_3)C} e^{-t/(R_2 + R_3)C}$$

$$V_C = \frac{Q_0}{C} e^{-t/(R_2 + R_3)C}$$

$$\text{where } Q_0 = V_3 C = \underset{\uparrow}{I R_3} C = \left(\frac{V_b}{R_1 + R_3}\right) R_3 C$$

current through
circuit (b).