2023

AP

AP® Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism

Free-Response Questions

Set 1

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ADVANCED PLACEMENT PHYSICS C TABLE OF INFORMATION

CONSTANTS AND CONVERSION FACTORS

Proton mass, $m_p = 1.67 \times 10^{-27}$ kg	Electron charge magnitude, $e = 1.60 \times 10^{-19}$ C
Neutron mass, $m_n = 1.67 \times 10^{-27}$ kg	1 electron volt, $1 \text{ eV} = 1.60 \times 10^{-19}$ J
Electron mass, $m_e = 9.11 \times 10^{-31}$ kg	Speed of light, $c = 3.00 \times 10^8$ m/s
Avogadro's number, $N_0 = 6.02 \times 10^{23}\ \text{mol}^{-1}$	Universal gravitational constant, $G = 6.67 \times 10^{-11}\ (\text{N}\cdot\text{m}^2)/\text{kg}^2$
Universal gas constant, $R = 8.31$ J/(mol•K)	Acceleration due to gravity at Earth's surface, $g = 9.8\ \text{m/s}^2$
Boltzmann's constant, $k_B = 1.38 \times 10^{-23}$ J/K	

1 unified atomic mass unit,	$1 \text{ u} = 1.66 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg} = 931 \text{ MeV}/c^2$
Planck's constant,	$h = 6.63 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J}\cdot\text{s} = 4.14 \times 10^{-15} \text{ eV}\cdot\text{s}$
	$hc = 1.99 \times 10^{-25} \text{ J}\cdot\text{m} = 1.24 \times 10^3 \text{ eV}\cdot\text{nm}$
Vacuum permittivity,	$\varepsilon_0 = 8.85 \times 10^{-12}\ \text{C}^2/(\text{N}\cdot\text{m}^2)$
Coulomb's law constant,	$k = 1/(4\pi\varepsilon_0) = 9.0 \times 10^9\ (\text{N}\cdot\text{m}^2)/\text{C}^2$
Vacuum permeability,	$\mu_0 = 4\pi \times 10^{-7}\ (\text{T}\cdot\text{m})/\text{A}$
Magnetic constant,	$k' = \mu_0/(4\pi) = 1 \times 10^{-7}\ (\text{T}\cdot\text{m})/\text{A}$
1 atmosphere pressure,	$1 \text{ atm} = 1.0 \times 10^5\ \text{N/m}^2 = 1.0 \times 10^5 \text{ Pa}$

UNIT SYMBOLS								
	meter,	m	mole,	mol	watt,	W	farad,	F
	kilogram,	kg	hertz,	Hz	coulomb,	C	tesla,	T
	second,	s	newton,	N	volt,	V	degree Celsius,	°C
	ampere,	A	pascal,	Pa	ohm,	Ω	electron volt,	eV
	kelvin,	K	joule,	J	henry,	H		

PREFIXES		
Factor	Prefix	Symbol
10^9	giga	G
10^6	mega	M
10^3	kilo	k
10^{-2}	centi	c
10^{-3}	milli	m
10^{-6}	micro	μ
10^{-9}	nano	n
10^{-12}	pico	p

VALUES OF TRIGONOMETRIC FUNCTIONS FOR COMMON ANGLES							
θ	0°	30°	37°	45°	53°	60°	90°
$\sin\theta$	0	$1/2$	$3/5$	$\sqrt{2}/2$	$4/5$	$\sqrt{3}/2$	1
$\cos\theta$	1	$\sqrt{3}/2$	$4/5$	$\sqrt{2}/2$	$3/5$	$1/2$	0
$\tan\theta$	0	$\sqrt{3}/3$	$3/4$	1	$4/3$	$\sqrt{3}$	∞

The following assumptions are used in this exam.

I. The frame of reference of any problem is inertial unless otherwise stated.
II. The direction of current is the direction in which positive charges would drift.
III. The electric potential is zero at an infinite distance from an isolated point charge.
IV. All batteries and meters are ideal unless otherwise stated.
V. Edge effects for the electric field of a parallel plate capacitor are negligible unless otherwise stated.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT PHYSICS C EQUATIONS

MECHANICS

$v_x = v_{x0} + a_x t$

$x = x_0 + v_{x0} t + \frac{1}{2} a_x t^2$

$v_x^2 = v_{x0}^2 + 2a_x (x - x_0)$

$\vec{a} = \frac{\sum \vec{F}}{m} = \frac{\vec{F}_{net}}{m}$

$\vec{F} = \frac{d\vec{p}}{dt}$

$\vec{J} = \int \vec{F}\, dt = \Delta \vec{p}$

$\vec{p} = m\vec{v}$

$|\vec{F}_f| \le \mu |\vec{F}_N|$

$\Delta E = W = \int \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r}$

$K = \frac{1}{2} m v^2$

$P = \frac{dE}{dt}$

$P = \vec{F} \cdot \vec{v}$

$\Delta U_g = mg\Delta h$

$a_c = \frac{v^2}{r} = \omega^2 r$

$\vec{\tau} = \vec{r} \times \vec{F}$

$\vec{\alpha} = \frac{\sum \vec{\tau}}{I} = \frac{\vec{\tau}_{net}}{I}$

$I = \int r^2 dm = \sum m r^2$

$x_{cm} = \frac{\sum m_i x_i}{\sum m_i}$

$v = r\omega$

$\vec{L} = \vec{r} \times \vec{p} = I\vec{\omega}$

$K = \frac{1}{2} I \omega^2$

$\omega = \omega_0 + \alpha t$

$\theta = \theta_0 + \omega_0 t + \frac{1}{2} \alpha t^2$

a = acceleration
E = energy
F = force
f = frequency
h = height
I = rotational inertia
J = impulse
K = kinetic energy
k = spring constant
ℓ = length
L = angular momentum
m = mass
P = power
p = momentum
r = radius or distance
T = period
t = time
U = potential energy
v = velocity or speed
W = work done on a system
x = position
μ = coefficient of friction
θ = angle
τ = torque
ω = angular speed
α = angular acceleration
ϕ = phase angle

$\vec{F}_s = -k\Delta\vec{x}$

$U_s = \frac{1}{2} k (\Delta x)^2$

$x = x_{\max} \cos(\omega t + \phi)$

$T = \frac{2\pi}{\omega} = \frac{1}{f}$

$T_s = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{m}{k}}$

$T_p = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{\ell}{g}}$

$|\vec{F}_G| = \frac{G m_1 m_2}{r^2}$

$U_G = -\frac{G m_1 m_2}{r}$

ELECTRICITY AND MAGNETISM

$|\vec{F}_E| = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \left| \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2} \right|$

$\vec{E} = \frac{\vec{F}_E}{q}$

$\oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{A} = \frac{Q}{\varepsilon_0}$

$E_x = -\frac{dV}{dx}$

$\Delta V = -\int \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{r}$

$V = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \sum_i \frac{q_i}{r_i}$

$U_E = qV = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{q_1 q_2}{r}$

$\Delta V = \frac{Q}{C}$

$C = \frac{\kappa \varepsilon_0 A}{d}$

$C_p = \sum_i C_i$

$\frac{1}{C_s} = \sum_i \frac{1}{C_i}$

$I = \frac{dQ}{dt}$

$U_C = \frac{1}{2} Q \Delta V = \frac{1}{2} C (\Delta V)^2$

$R = \frac{\rho \ell}{A}$

$\vec{E} = \rho \vec{J}$

$I = N e v_d A$

$I = \frac{\Delta V}{R}$

$R_s = \sum_i R_i$

$\frac{1}{R_p} = \sum_i \frac{1}{R_i}$

$P = I \Delta V$

A = area
B = magnetic field
C = capacitance
d = distance
E = electric field
$\mathcal{E}$ = emf
F = force
I = current
J = current density
L = inductance
ℓ = length
n = number of loops of wire per unit length
N = number of charge carriers per unit volume
P = power
Q = charge
q = point charge
R = resistance
r = radius or distance
t = time
U = potential or stored energy
V = electric potential
v = velocity or speed
ρ = resistivity
Φ = flux
κ = dielectric constant

$\vec{F}_M = q\vec{v} \times \vec{B}$

$\oint \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{\ell} = \mu_0 I$

$d\vec{B} = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \frac{I\, d\vec{\ell} \times \hat{r}}{r^2}$

$\vec{F} = \int I\, d\vec{\ell} \times \vec{B}$

$B_s = \mu_0 n I$

$\Phi_B = \int \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{A}$

$\mathcal{E} = \oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{\ell} = -\frac{d\Phi_B}{dt}$

$\mathcal{E} = -L \frac{dI}{dt}$

$U_L = \frac{1}{2} L I^2$

ADVANCED PLACEMENT PHYSICS C EQUATIONS

GEOMETRY AND TRIGONOMETRY

Rectangle

$A = bh$

Triangle

$A = \frac{1}{2}bh$

Circle

$A = \pi r^2$

$C = 2\pi r$

$s = r\theta$

Rectangular Solid

$V = \ell wh$

Cylinder

$V = \pi r^2 \ell$

$S = 2\pi r\ell + 2\pi r^2$

Sphere

$V = \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3$

$S = 4\pi r^2$

Right Triangle

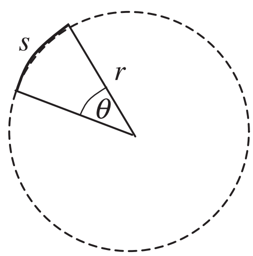
$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$

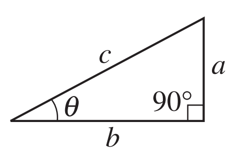
$\sin\theta = \frac{a}{c}$

$\cos\theta = \frac{b}{c}$

$\tan\theta = \frac{a}{b}$

A = area
C = circumference
V = volume
S = surface area
b = base
h = height
ℓ = length
w = width
r = radius
s = arc length
θ = angle





CALCULUS

$$\frac{df}{dx} = \frac{df}{du}\frac{du}{dx}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}\left(x^n\right) = nx^{n-1}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}\left(e^{ax}\right) = ae^{ax}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\ln ax) = \frac{1}{x}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}[\sin(ax)] = a\cos(ax)$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}[\cos(ax)] = -a\sin(ax)$$

$$\int x^n\,dx = \frac{1}{n+1}x^{n+1},\ n \neq -1$$

$$\int e^{ax}\,dx = \frac{1}{a}e^{ax}$$

$$\int \frac{dx}{x+a} = \ln|x+a|$$

$$\int \cos(ax)\,dx = \frac{1}{a}\sin(ax)$$

$$\int \sin(ax)\,dx = -\frac{1}{a}\cos(ax)$$

VECTOR PRODUCTS

$\vec{A}\bullet\vec{B} = AB\cos\theta$

$\left|\vec{A}\times\vec{B}\right| = AB\sin\theta$

Begin your response to **QUESTION 1** on this page.

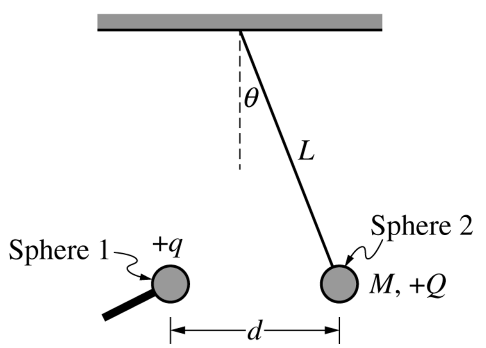
PHYSICS C: ELECTRICITY AND MAGNETISM

SECTION II

Time—45 minutes

3 Questions

Directions: Answer all three questions. The suggested time is about 15 minutes for answering each of the questions, which are worth 15 points each. The parts within a question may not have equal weight. Show all your work in this booklet in the spaces provided after each part.



1. Students perform an experiment to determine the value of vacuum permittivity ε_0. Sphere 1 is nonconducting with charge $+q$ and is attached to an insulating rod. Sphere 2 is nonconducting with charge $+Q$ and has mass M. Sphere 2 is hung from a string of negligible mass and length L. Sphere 1 is brought near, without touching, Sphere 2, as shown. Equilibrium is established when the centers of the two spheres have the same vertical position, are a horizontal distance d apart, and the string is at an angle θ from the vertical.

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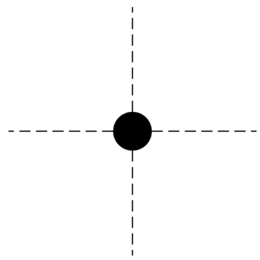
(a) On the following dot that represents Sphere 2 at the position shown in the previous figure, draw and label the forces (not components) that act on Sphere 2. Each force must be represented by a distinct arrow starting on, and pointing away from, the dot.



(b) Derive the relationship between the distance d and the angle θ to show that $d = \sqrt{\dfrac{Qq}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 Mg \tan\theta}}$.

(c) These values are collected in one trial: $Q = q = 6.0 \times 10^{-8}$ C, $\theta = 12°$, and $d = 0.057$ m. Calculate the expected force of tension exerted on Sphere 2 by the string.

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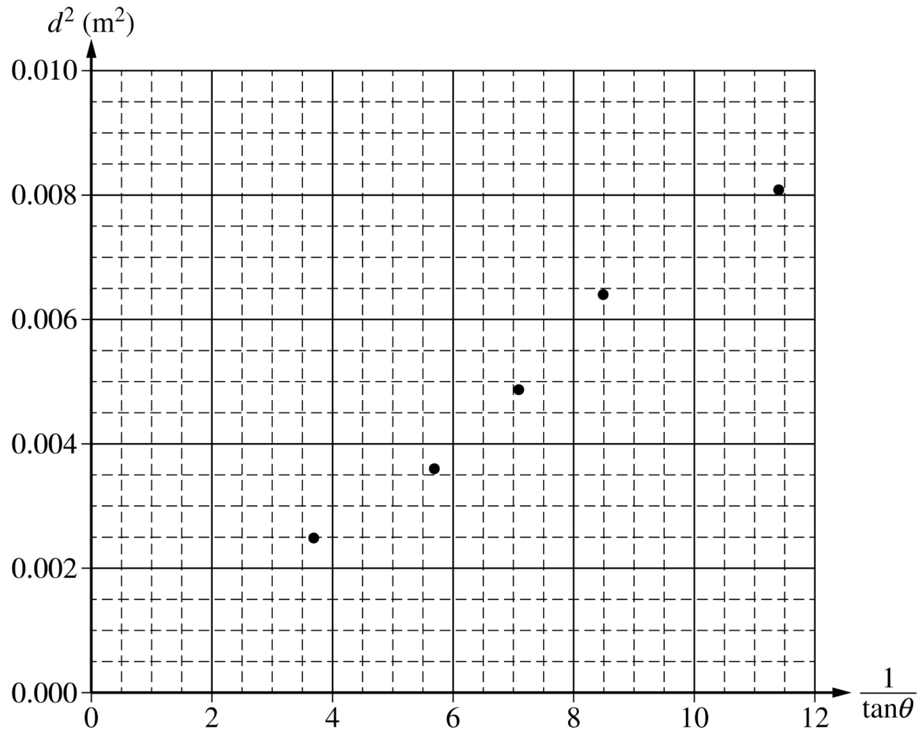
(d) The students vary d and measure θ after equilibrium is reached. The students use the collected data to plot the following graph of d^2 vs. $\frac{1}{\tan\theta}$.



i. Draw the best-fit line for the data.

ii. Using the best-fit line, calculate an experimental value for the vacuum permittivity ε_0 when $M = 0.0050\ \text{kg}$ and $Q = q = 6.0 \times 10^{-8}\ \text{C}$.

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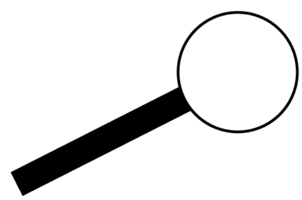
(e) The students modify the experiment by replacing Sphere 1 with a conducting Sphere 3 that has the same size and charge $+q$. The experiment is repeated.

i. The circle in the following figure represents Sphere 3 when spheres 2 and 3 are at equilibrium. On the circle, draw a single "+" sign to represent the location of highest concentration of the excess positive charges.

Sphere 3



ii. Briefly explain your reasoning for the sketch drawn in part (e)(i).

iii. In the original experiment, when the centers of the two spheres are a horizontal distance d_1 apart, the string makes an angle θ_1 from the vertical. In the modified experiment, when the centers of the two spheres are a horizontal distance d_1 apart, the string makes an angle θ_2 from the vertical.

Is θ_2 greater than, less than, or equal to θ_1 ?

_____ $\theta_2 > \theta_1$ _____ $\theta_2 < \theta_1$ _____ $\theta_2 = \theta_1$

Briefly justify your answer.

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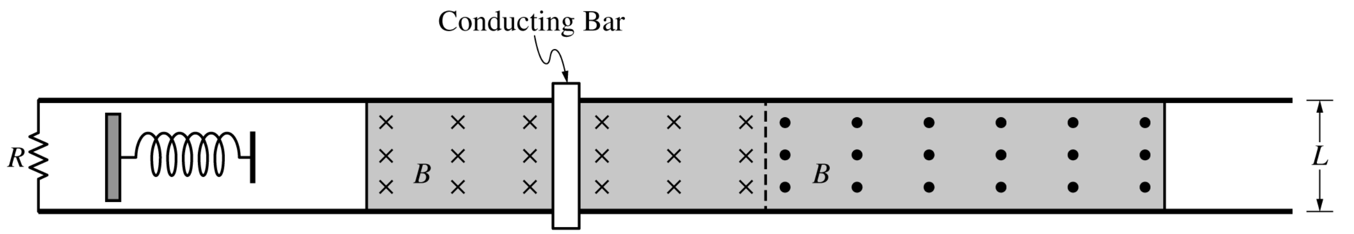
Begin your response to **QUESTION 2** on this page.



Top View (at time t_B)

2. Two horizontal, parallel, conducting rails are separated by distance $L = 0.40$ m. A resistor of resistance $R = 0.30\ \Omega$ connects the rails. A horizontal ideal spring is located between the rails. The right end of the spring is free to move and the left end is fixed in place. A conducting bar of mass $m = 0.23$ kg is placed on the rails and is in contact with the spring, which is initially compressed. Frictional forces and the resistance of the bar and rails are negligible.

- At time $t = 0$, the bar is released from rest and is pushed to the right by the spring.
- At time t_1, the bar loses contact with the spring and slides to the right.
- At time t_2, the bar enters and travels through a uniform magnetic field of magnitude $B = 0.50$ T that is directed into the page, as shown.
- At time t_3, the bar enters a region where the magnitude of the uniform magnetic field is still $B = 0.50$ T but is directed out of the page.
- At time t_4, the bar enters a region with no magnetic field.

Consider time t_B such that $t_2 < t_B < t_3$.

(a) On the following diagram of the bar, draw an arrow indicating the direction of the net force F_{net} exerted on the bar at time t_B. If the net force is zero, write $F_{net} = 0$.

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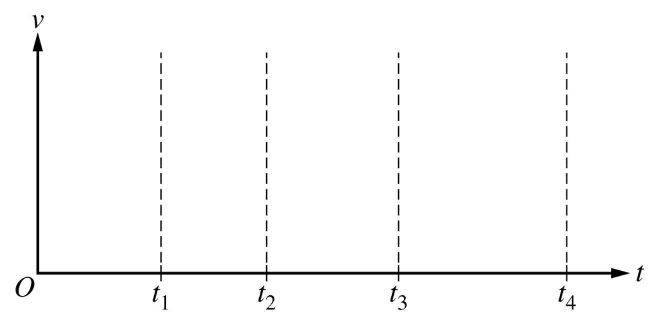
(b) At time t_B, the speed of the bar is $v = 2.5$ m/s.

i. Calculate the magnitude of the current in the bar at time t_B.

ii. Calculate the magnitude of the net force F_{net} exerted on the bar at time t_B.

(c) On the following axes, sketch a graph of the speed v of the bar as a function of time t between $t = 0$ and t_4.



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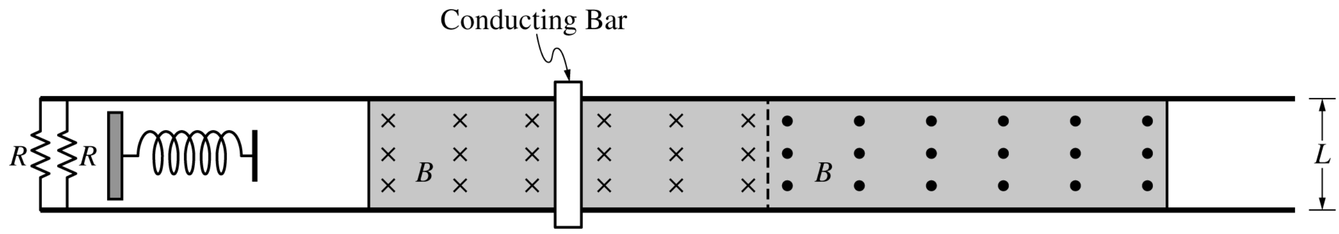

Top View (at time t_B)

(d) The scenario is repeated but an additional resistor of resistance $R = 0.30\ \Omega$ is connected, as shown.

i. Determine the total resistance R_{total} of the closed circuit for the new scenario.

ii. In the original scenario, the magnitude of the acceleration of the bar immediately after the bar enters the first uniform magnetic field is $a_{original}$. In the new scenario, the magnitude of the acceleration of the bar immediately after the bar enters the first uniform magnetic field is a_{new}. Is a_{new} greater than, less than, or equal to $a_{original}$? Justify your answer.

(e) Describe a modification to m, B, or L that will result in a smaller induced potential difference across the original resistor immediately after the bar enters the first uniform magnetic field. Justify your answer.

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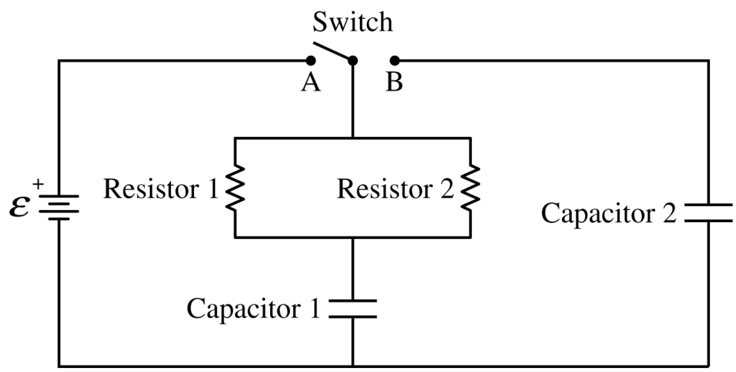

3. The circuit shown consists of a battery of emf $\mathcal{E}$, resistors 1 and 2 each with resistance R, capacitors 1 and 2 with capacitances C and $2C$, respectively, and a switch. The switch is initially open and both capacitors are uncharged.

At time $t = 0$, the switch is closed to Position A.

(a) Write, but do NOT solve, a differential equation that can be used to determine the charge Q on the positive plate of Capacitor 1 as a function of time t after the switch is closed to Position A. Express your answer in terms of $\mathcal{E}$, R, C, Q, t, and fundamental constants, as appropriate.

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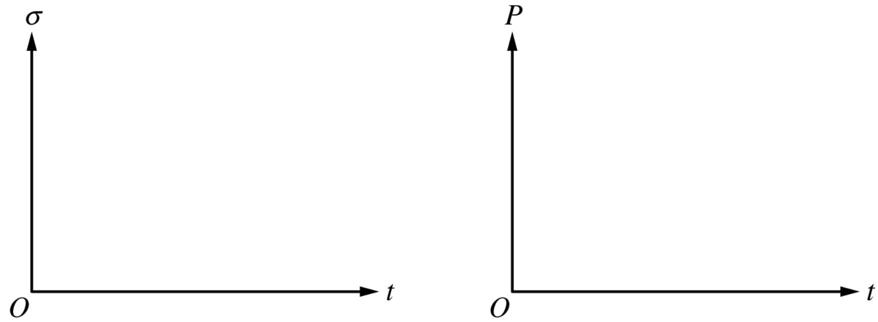
(b) On the axes shown, sketch graphs of the surface charge density σ on the positive plate of Capacitor 1 and the total power P dissipated by the resistors as functions of time t from time $t = 0$ until steady-state conditions are nearly reached.



A long time after the switch is closed to Position A, the charge on the positive plate of Capacitor 1 is Q_0 and Capacitor 2 is uncharged.

(c) At time t_1, the switch is closed to Position B.

i. Immediately after time t_1, is the direction of the current in the switch directed toward the left, directed toward the right, or is there no current? Briefly justify your answer.

ii. Determine an expression for the total charge on the positive plate of Capacitor 2 a long time after t_1. Express your answer in terms of Q_0 and fundamental constants, as appropriate.

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iii. Derive an expression for the total energy E_R dissipated by resistors 1 and 2 from immediately after time t_1 until new steady-state conditions have been reached. Express your answer in terms of C, Q_0, and fundamental constants, as appropriate.

With the switch still closed to Position B, the parallel plates of Capacitor 2 are moved so that the separation distance increases by a factor of 2.

(d) Determine the ratio $\frac{U_2}{U_1}$ of the energy U_2 stored in Capacitor 2 to the energy U_1 stored in Capacitor 1 a long time after the plates of Capacitor 2 have been moved. Briefly justify your answer.

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With the capacitors still charged as in part (d), the switch is now closed to Position A.

(e) Express your answers to part (e)(i) and part (e)(ii) in terms of R, C, Q_0, and fundamental constants, as appropriate.

i. Derive an expression for the current I_0 from the battery immediately after the switch is closed to Position A.

ii. Determine the current I_∞ from the battery a long time after the switch is closed to Position A.

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STOP

END OF EXAM

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