

# Chapter 26

## Direct-Current Circuits

PowerPoint® Lectures for  
*University Physics, Thirteenth Edition*  
– *Hugh D. Young and Roger A. Freedman*

Lectures by Wayne Anderson

# Goals for Chapter 26

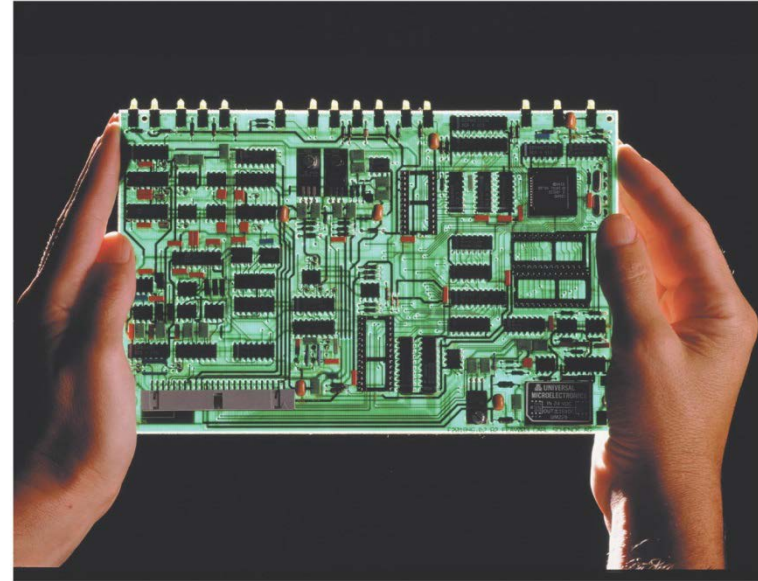
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- To analyze circuits having resistors in series and parallel
- To apply Kirchhoff's rules to multiloop circuits
- To learn how to use various types of meters in a circuit
- To analyze circuits containing capacitors and resistors
- To study power distribution in the home

# Introduction

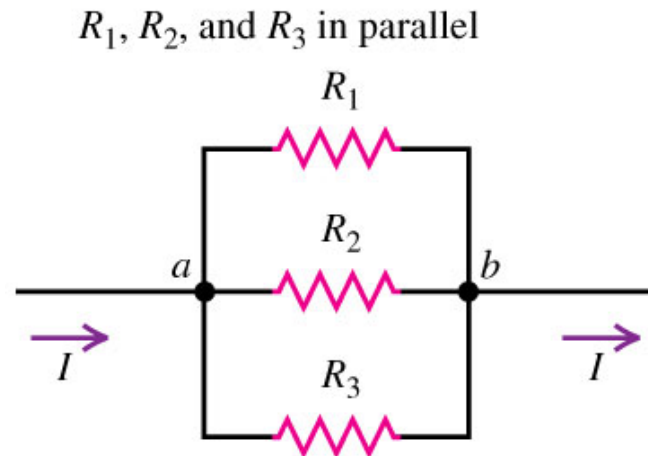
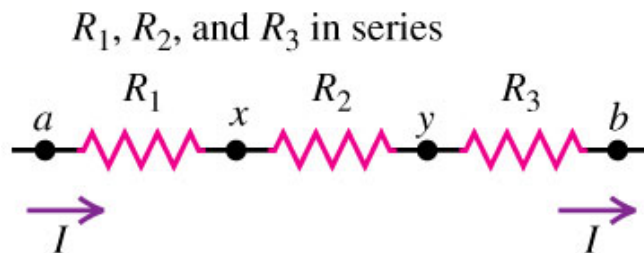
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- How can we apply series/parallel combinations of resistors to a complex circuit board?
- In this chapter, we will learn general methods for analyzing more complex networks.
- We shall look at various instruments for measuring electrical quantities in circuits.



# Resistors in series and parallel

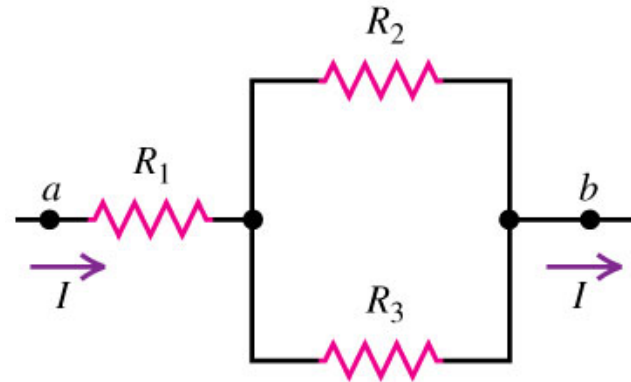
- Resistors are in *series* if they are connected one after the other so the current is the same in all of them (see left figure below).
- The *equivalent resistance* of a series combination is the *sum* of the individual resistances:  $R_{\text{eq}} = R_1 + R_2 + R_3 + \dots$
- Resistors are in *parallel* if they are connected so that the potential difference must be the same across all of them (see right figure below).
- The *equivalent resistance* of a parallel combination is given by  $1/R_{\text{eq}} = 1/R_1 + 1/R_2 + 1/R_3 + \dots$



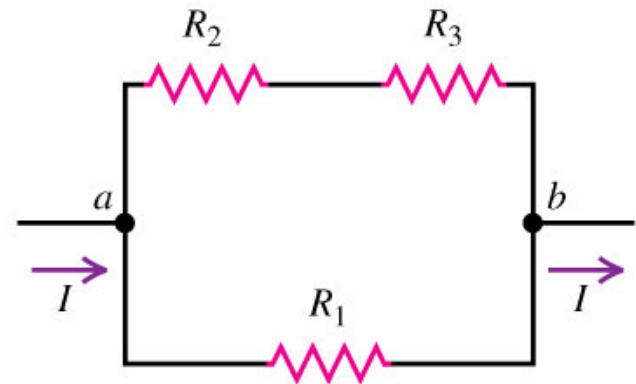
# Series and parallel combinations

- Resistors can also be connected in combinations of series and parallel, as shown in Figure 26.1(c) and (d) at the right.

(c)  $R_1$  in series with parallel combination of  $R_2$  and  $R_3$

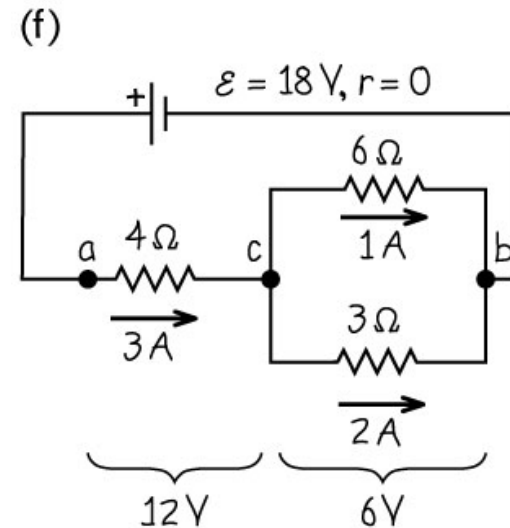
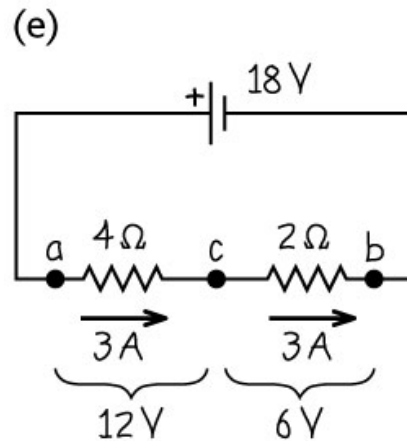
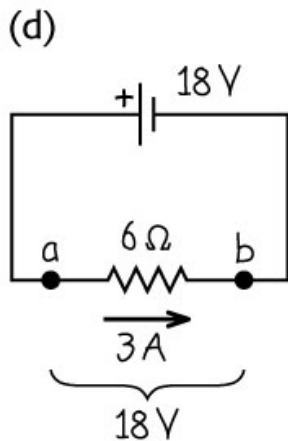
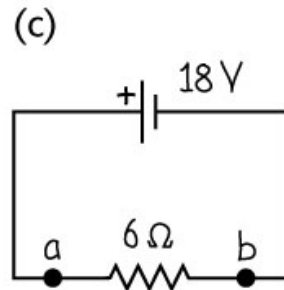
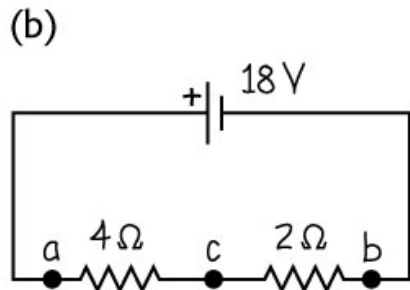
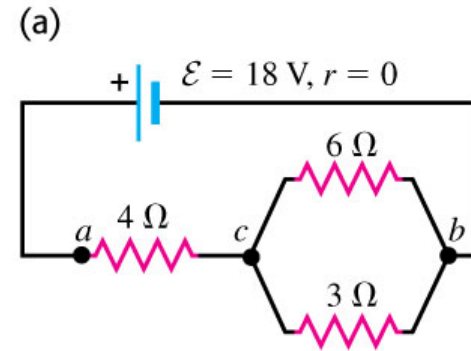


(d)  $R_1$  in parallel with series combination of  $R_2$  and  $R_3$



# Equivalent resistance

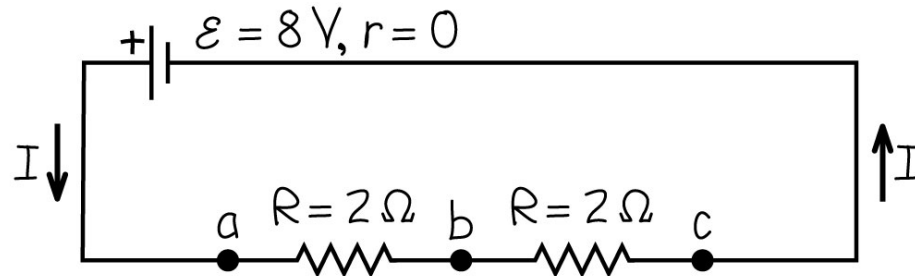
- Read Problem-Solving Strategy 26.1.
- Follow Example 26.1 using Figure 26.3 below and right.



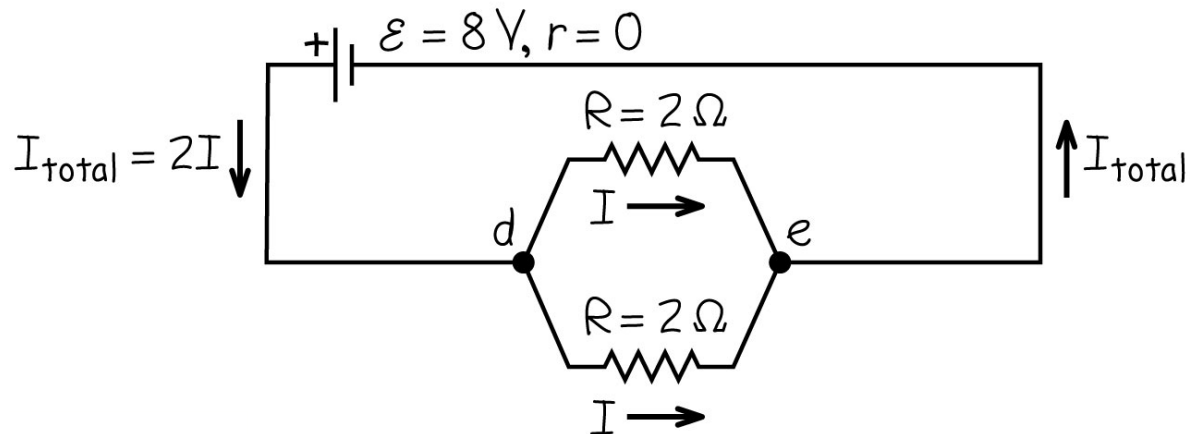
# Series versus parallel combinations

- Follow Example 26.2 using Figure 26.4 below.

(a) Light bulbs in series

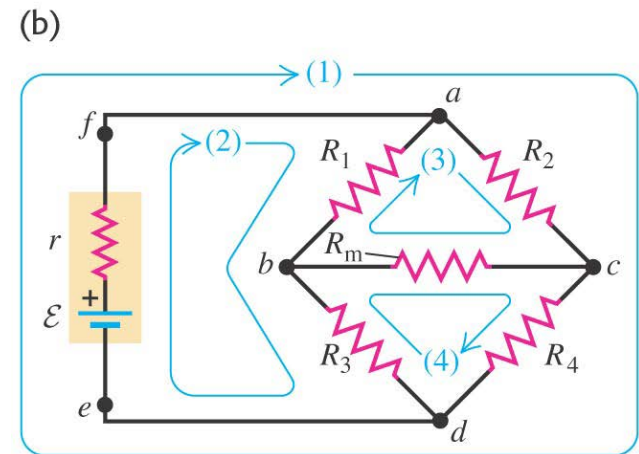
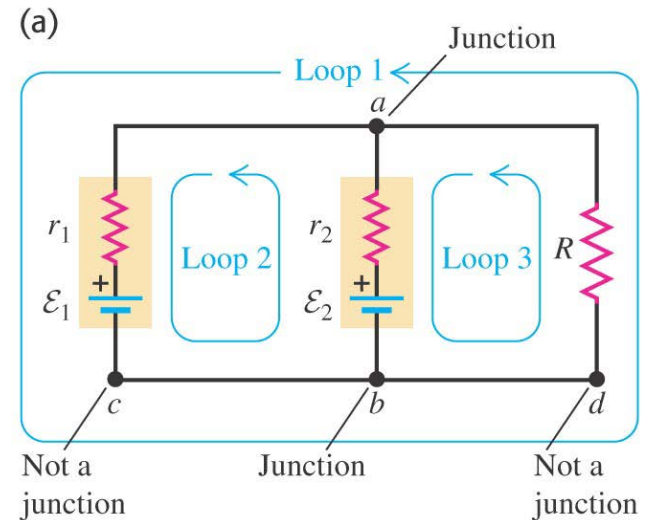


(b) Light bulbs in parallel



# Kirchhoff's Rules I

- A *junction* is a point where three or more conductors meet.
- A *loop* is any closed conducting path.
- See Figure 26.6 at the right.

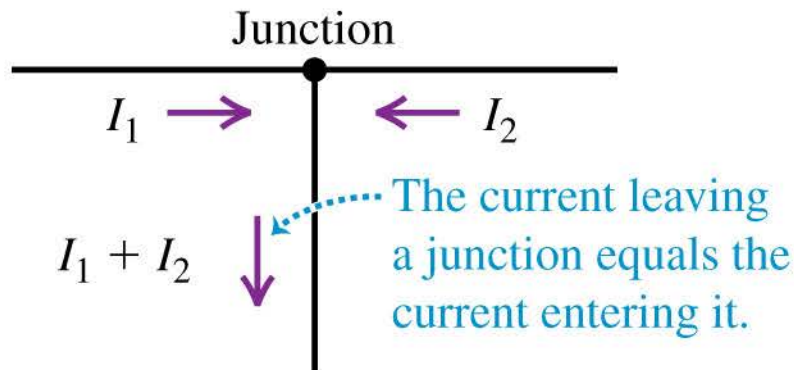




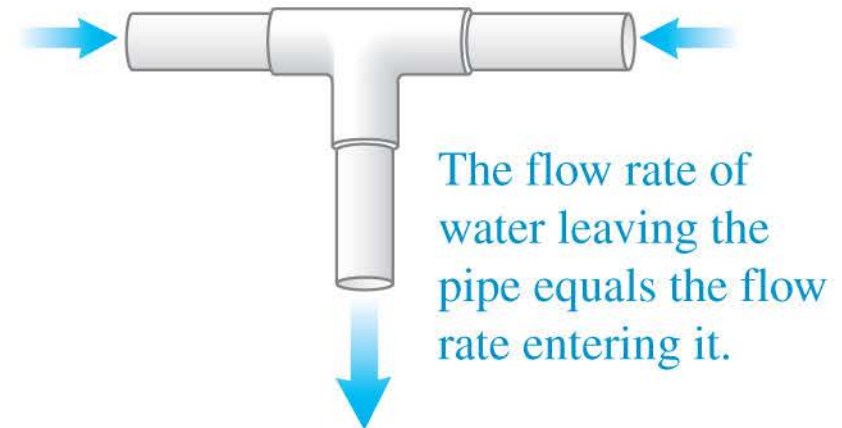
# Kirchoff's Rules II

- Kirchoff's *junction rule*: The algebraic sum of the currents into any junction is zero:  $\Sigma I = 0$ . (See Figure 26.7 below.)
- Kirchoff's *loop rule*: The algebraic sum of the potential differences in any loop must equal zero:  $\Sigma V = 0$ .

(a) Kirchoff's junction rule



(b) Water-pipe analogy

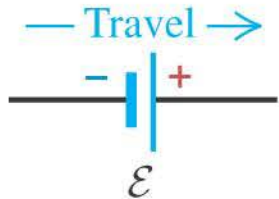


# Sign convention for the loop rule

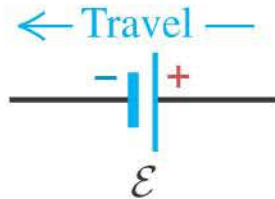
- Figure 26.8 below shows the sign convention for emfs and resistors.

(a) Sign conventions for emfs

$+\mathcal{E}$ : Travel direction from  $-$  to  $+$ :

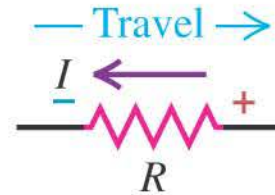


$-\mathcal{E}$ : Travel direction from  $+$  to  $-$ :

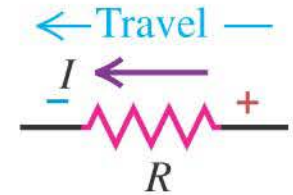


(b) Sign conventions for resistors

$+IR$ : Travel *opposite* to current direction:



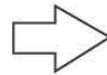
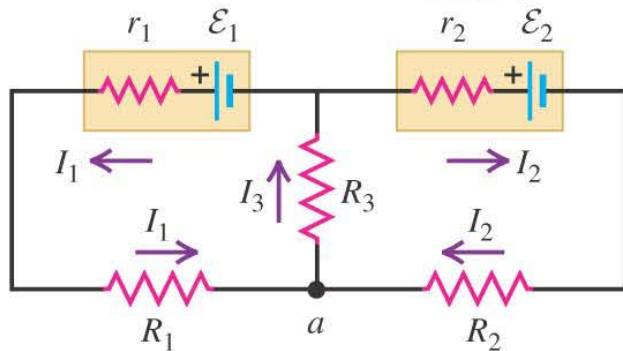
$-IR$ : Travel *in* current direction:



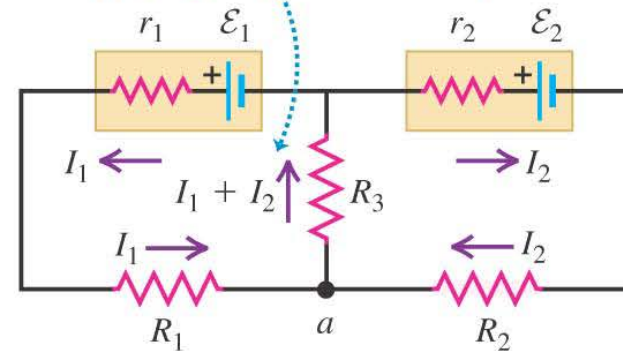
# Reducing the number of unknown currents

- Read Problem-Solving Strategy 26.2.
- Figure 26.9 below shows how to use the junction rule to reduce the number of unknown currents.

(a) Three unknown currents:  $I_1$ ,  $I_2$ ,  $I_3$

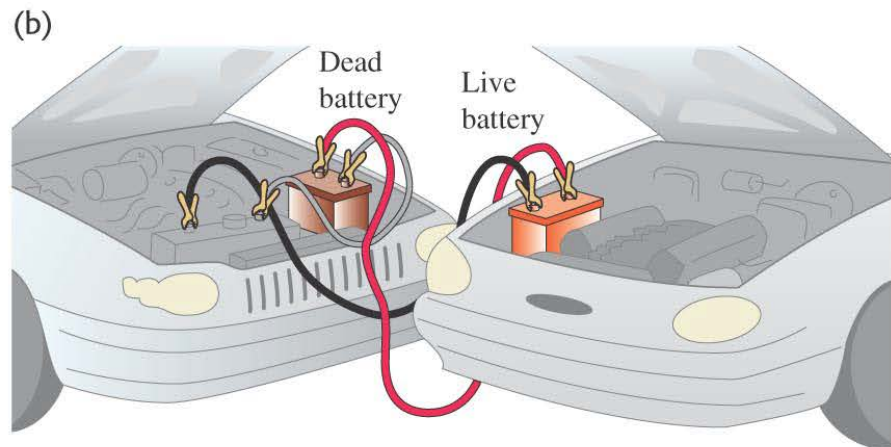
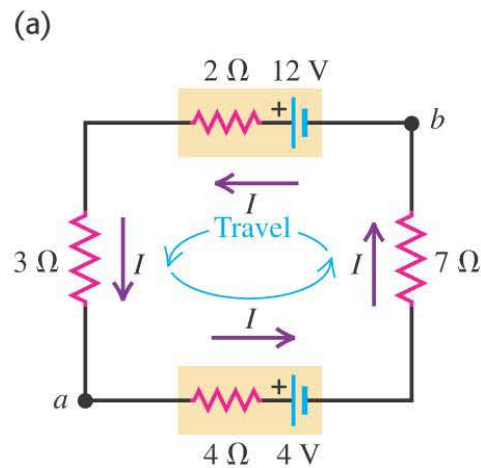


(b) Applying the junction rule to point  $a$  eliminates  $I_3$ .



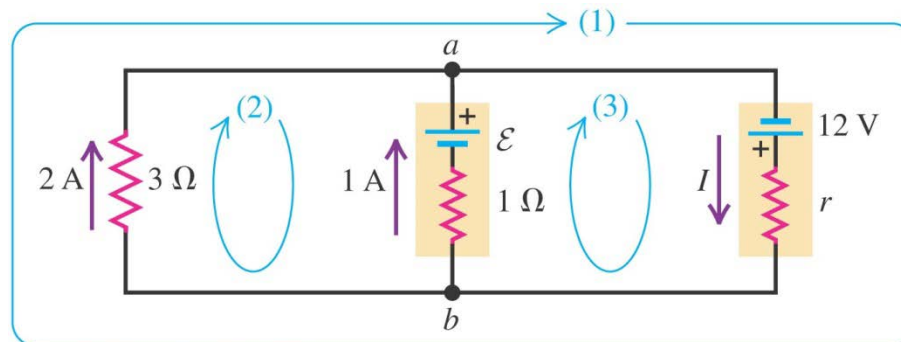
# A single-loop circuit

- Follow Example 26.3, using Figure 26.10 below.



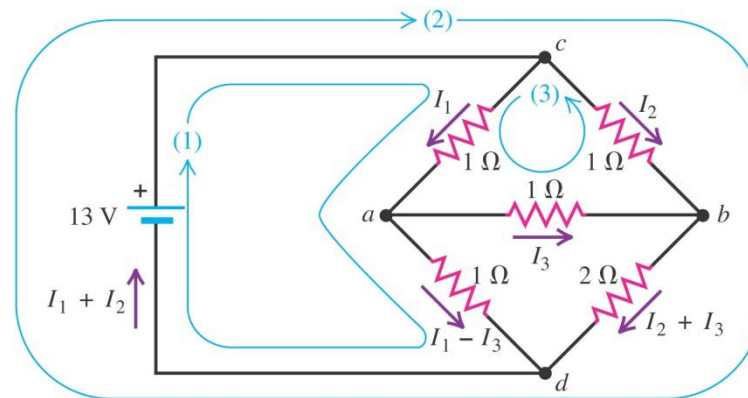
# Charging a battery

- Follow Example 26.4, which shows how to charge a battery. Use Figure 26.11 below.
- Follow Example 26.5, which looks at the power delivered in the same circuit as in the previous example.

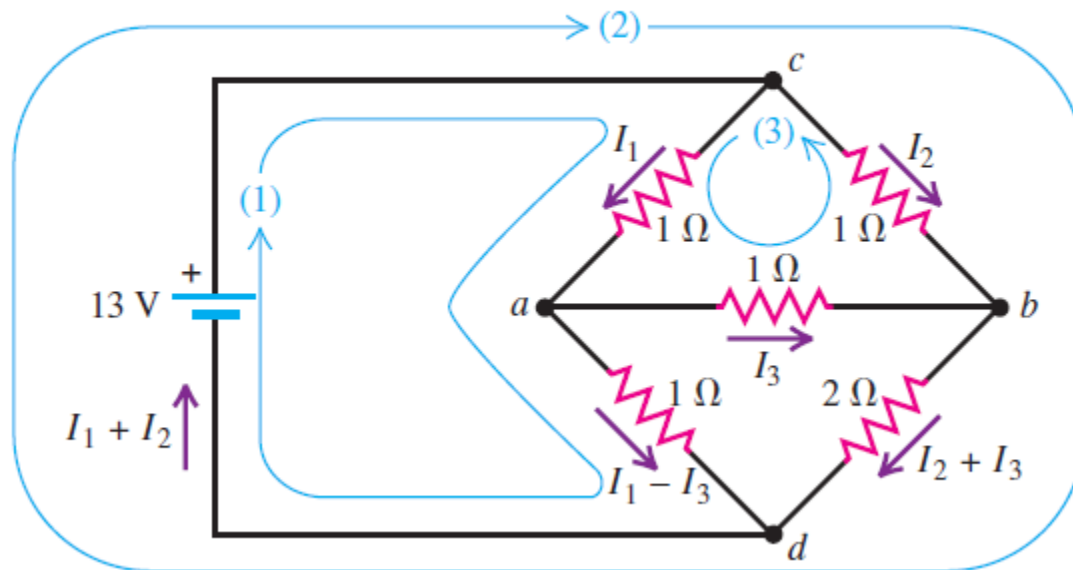


# A complex network

- Follow Example 26.6, using Figure 26.12 below.
- Follow Example 26.7 which looks at the same circuit as above.



**26.12** A network circuit with several resistors.



$$\begin{aligned}
 13 \text{ V} - I_1(1 \Omega) - (I_1 - I_3)(1 \Omega) &= 0 \\
 -I_2(1 \Omega) - (I_2 + I_3)(2 \Omega) + 13 \text{ V} &= 0 \\
 -I_1(1 \Omega) - I_3(1 \Omega) + I_2(1 \Omega) &= 0
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 13 \text{ V} &= I_1(2 \Omega) - I_3(1 \Omega) \\
 13 \text{ V} &= I_1(3 \Omega) + I_3(5 \Omega)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$78 \text{ V} = I_1(13 \Omega) \quad I_1 = 6 \text{ A}$$

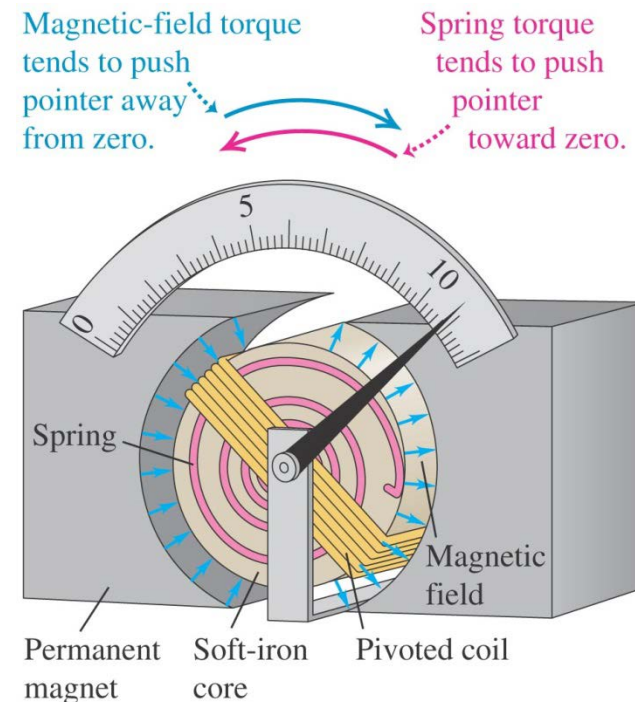
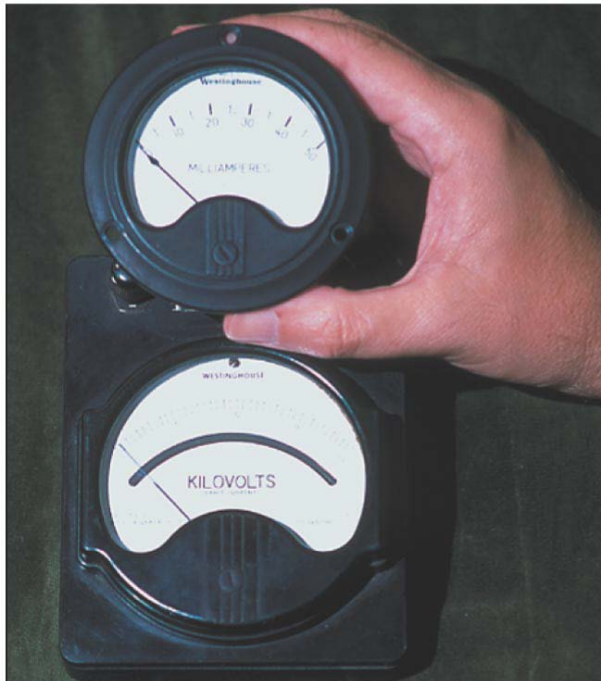
$$I_3 = -1 \text{ A},$$

$$I_2 = 5 \text{ A}.$$

$$R_{\text{eq}} = \frac{13 \text{ V}}{11 \text{ A}} = 1.2 \Omega$$

# D'Arsonval galvanometer

- A *d'Arsonval galvanometer* measures the current through it (see Figures 26.13 and 26.14 below).
- Many electrical instruments, such as ammeters and voltmeters, use a galvanometer in their design.

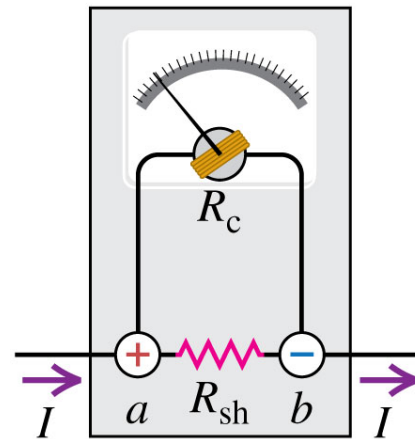




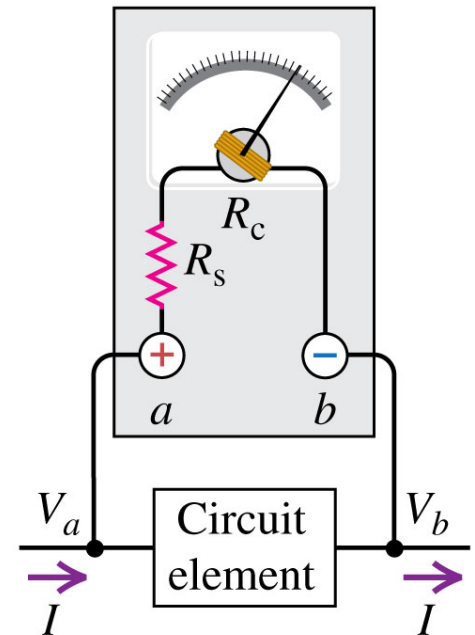
# Ammeters and voltmeters

- An *ammeter* measures the current passing through it.
- A *voltmeter* measures the potential difference between two points.
- Figure 26.15 at the right shows how to use a galvanometer to make an ammeter and a voltmeter.
- Follow Examples 26.8 (ammeter) and 26.9 (ammeter).

(a) Moving-coil ammeter

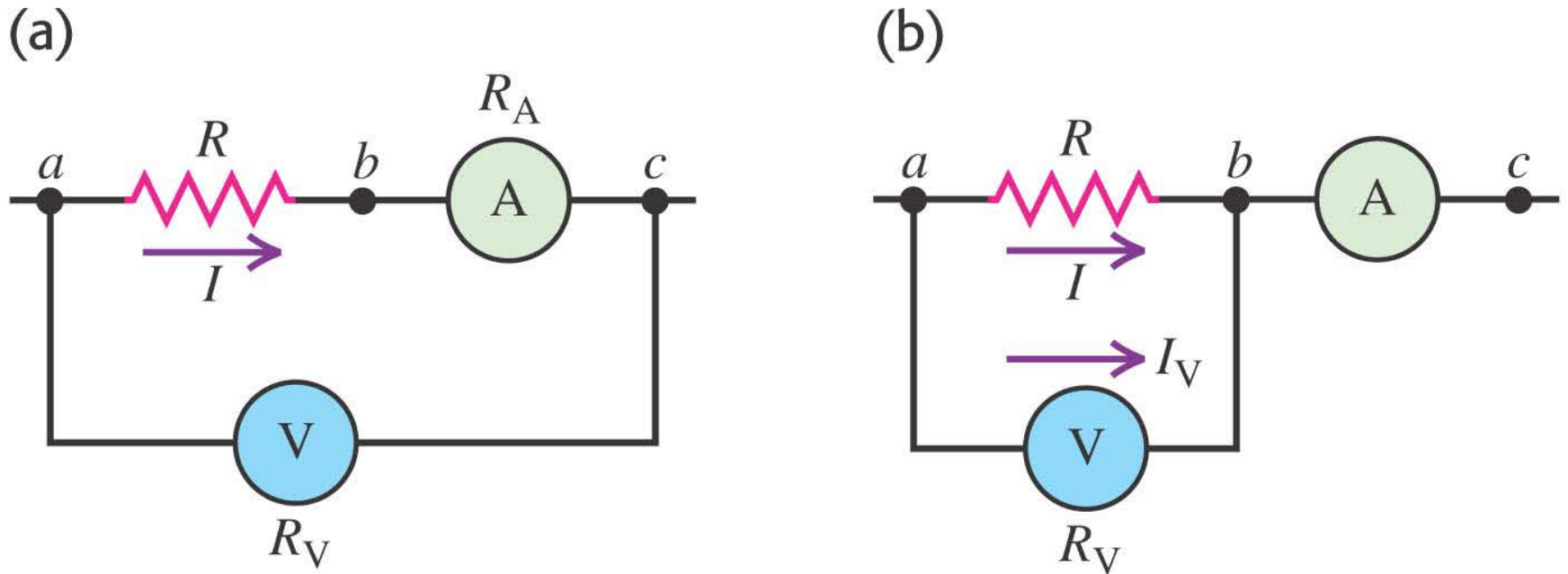


(b) Moving-coil voltmeter



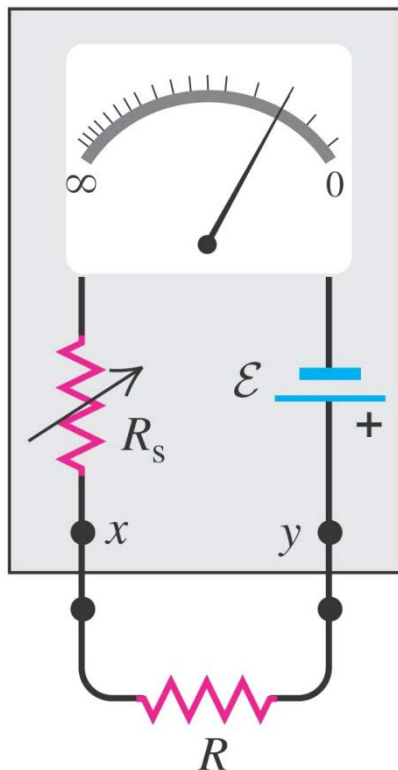
# Ammeters and voltmeters in combination

- An ammeter and a voltmeter may be used together to measure resistance and power. Figure 26.16 below illustrates how this can be done.
- Follow Example 26.10 using Figure 26.16(a).
- Follow Example 26.11 using Figure 26.16(b).

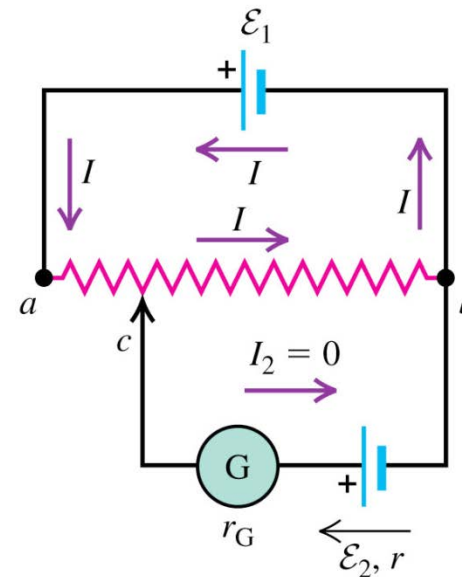


# Ohmmeters and potentiometers

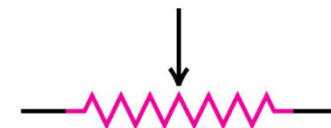
- An *ohmmeter* is designed to measure resistance. (See Figure 26.17 below left.)
- A *potentiometer* measures the emf of a source without drawing any current from the source. (See Figure 26.19 below right.)



(a) Potentiometer circuit



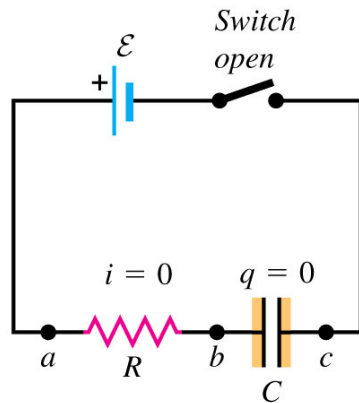
(b) Circuit symbol for potentiometer (variable resistor)



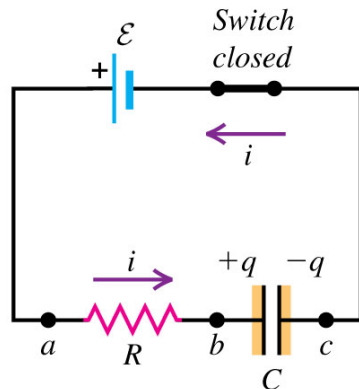
# Charging a capacitor

- Read the discussion of charging a capacitor in the text, using Figures 26.20 and 26.21 below.
- The *time constant* is  $\tau = RC$ .

(a) Capacitor initially uncharged

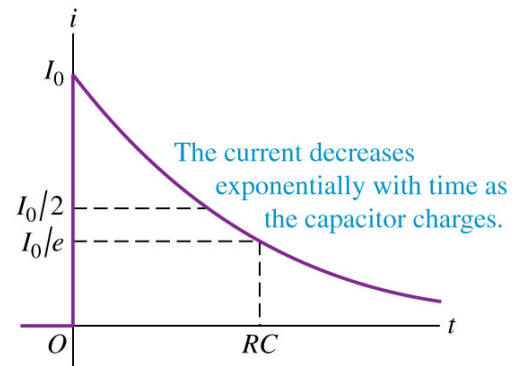


(b) Charging the capacitor

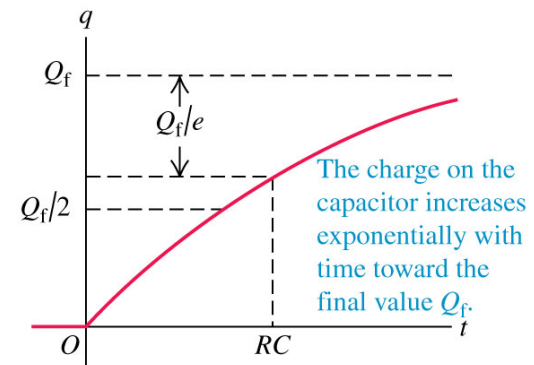


When the switch is closed, the charge on the capacitor increases over time while the current decreases.

(a) Graph of current versus time for a charging capacitor



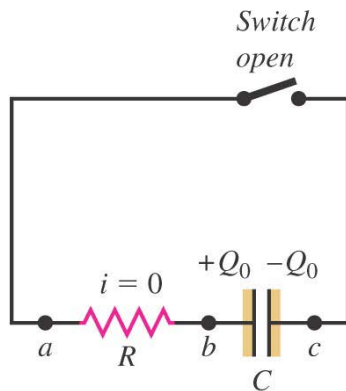
(b) Graph of capacitor charge versus time for a charging capacitor



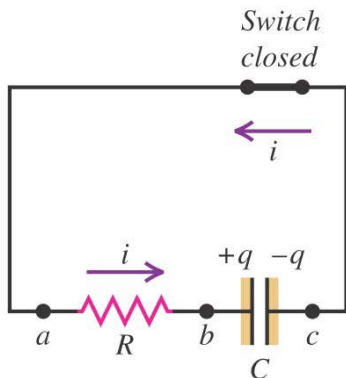
# Discharging a capacitor

- Read the discussion of discharging a capacitor in the text, using Figures 26.22 and 26.23 below.
- Follow Examples 26.12 and 26.13.

(a) Capacitor initially charged

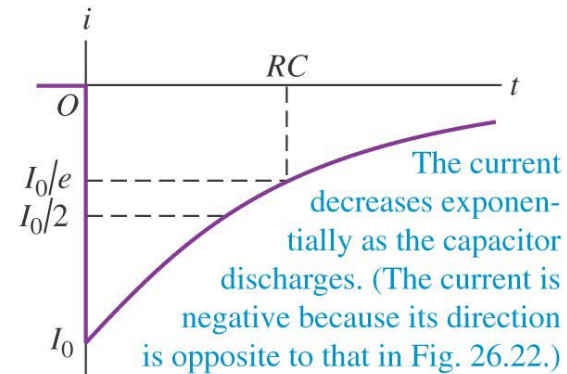


(b) Discharging the capacitor

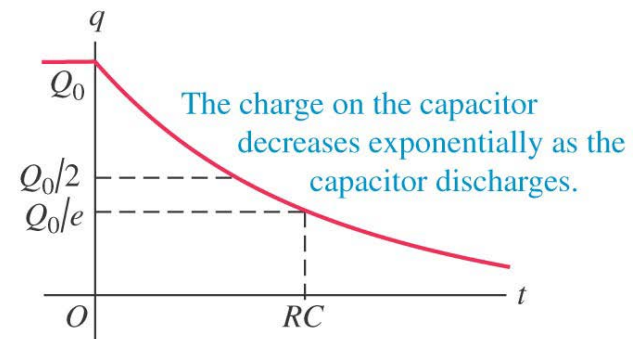


When the switch is closed, the charge on the capacitor and the current both decrease over time.

(a) Graph of current versus time for a discharging capacitor

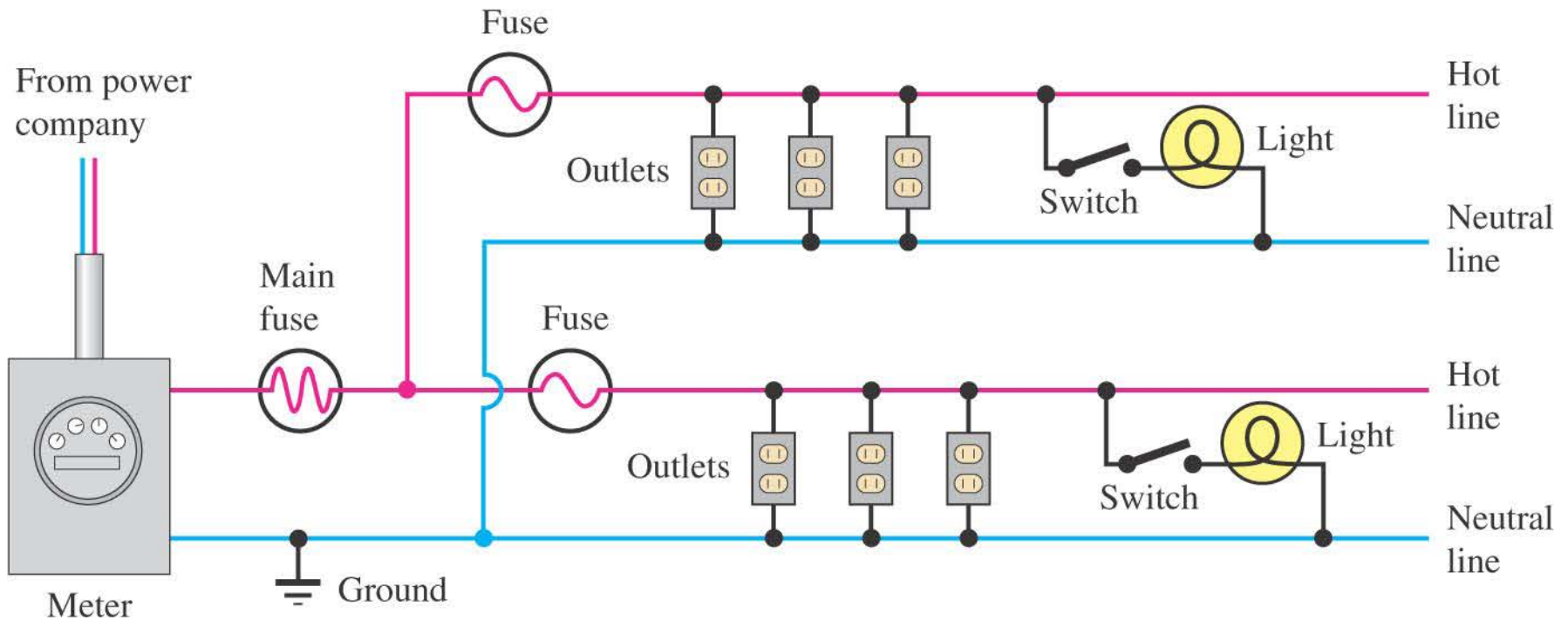


(b) Graph of capacitor charge versus time for a discharging capacitor



# Power distribution systems

- Follow the text discussion using Figure 26.24 below.



# Household wiring

- Figure 26.26 at the right shows why it is safer to use a three-prong plug for electrical appliances.
- Follow Example 26.14.

