

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

## Topic 11.3 – Capacitance

*Show formulas, substitutions, answers (in spaces provided) and units!*

1. A 3.25-V battery is used to fully charge a 725  $\mu\text{F}$  capacitor. How much charge was transferred from the negative to the positive plate? 1. \_\_\_\_\_

*Three 725  $\mu\text{F}$  capacitors are connected in parallel to a 3.25 V battery.*

2. What is the equivalent capacitance? 2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. What is the charge on each capacitor? 3. \_\_\_\_\_

*Three 725  $\mu\text{F}$  capacitors are connected in series to a 3.25 V battery.*

4. What is the equivalent capacitance? 4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. What is the voltage on each capacitor? 5. \_\_\_\_\_

A  $725 \mu\text{F}$  capacitor will be manufactured using a dielectric having a permittivity of  $4.50 \epsilon_0$  and circular plates having a diameter of  $0.750 \text{ cm}$ .

6. What should the plate separation (and the thickness of the dielectric) be? 6. \_\_\_\_\_

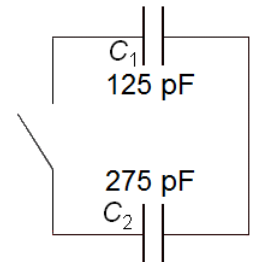
7. Is it likely that this large a capacity could be constructed using parallel plate architecture? \_\_\_ Why?  
\_\_\_\_\_

The following question is about the electrical energy stored in a capacitor.

8. Find the energy stored in a  $725 \mu\text{F}$  capacitor charged up to  $3.25 \text{ V}$ . 8. \_\_\_\_\_

$C_1$  is initially charged to  $3.25 \text{ V}$ .  $C_2$  is initially uncharged.

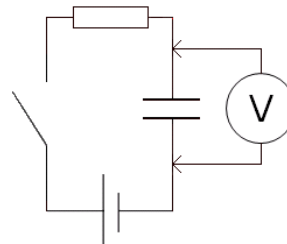
9. What is the charge on  $C_1$ 's plates? 9. \_\_\_\_\_



10. The switch is closed, connecting  $C_1$  to  $C_2$ . What is the new charge on the plates of  $C_1$ ? 10. \_\_\_\_\_

The following question is about a charging RC circuit. The capacitor is initially uncharged.

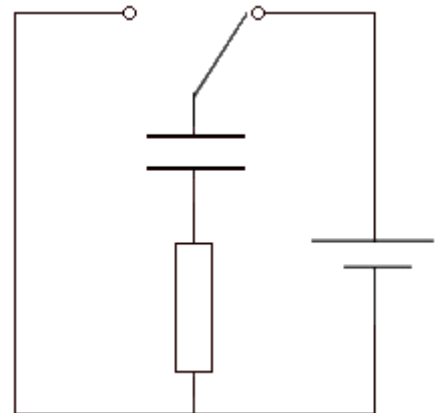
11. Make a sketch graph showing the family of curves representing the voltage across the **capacitor** after the switch is closed and as  $RC$  increases. Show at least three different  $RC$  curves, and label them "low," "medium," and "high." 11. in sketch



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A circuit constructed of a resistor  $R$  and a capacitor  $C$  has a switch which can be made to charge and discharge the capacitor.

12. Label the switch position which **charges** the capacitor with an “A” at the small circle in the schematic.      12. in diagram
13. Label the switch position which **discharges** the capacitor with a “B” at the small circle in the schematic.      13. in diagram
14. Draw arrows in the discharge loop showing the direction of current flow during discharge.      14. in diagram
15. What equation does Kirchhoff’s rule for  $V$  produce during discharge? Your final equation should have only these variables:  $q$ ,  $\Delta q$ ,  $\Delta t$ ,  $R$  and  $C$ .



A  $725 \mu\text{F}$  capacitor is charged to  $2.35 \text{ V}$ . It is then discharged through a  $15.0 \text{ M}\Omega$  resistor.

16. Find the time constant.      16. \_\_\_\_\_
17. Find the initial charge on the plates.      17. \_\_\_\_\_
18. Find the charge on the plates exactly three time constants after discharge has begun.      18. \_\_\_\_\_
19. Find the capacitor’s voltage  $1870 \text{ s}$  after discharge begins.      19. \_\_\_\_\_

(CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE)

20. Find the instantaneous current at  $t = 1870$  s. 20. \_\_\_\_\_

21. Find the half-life of the capacitor's voltage. 21. \_\_\_\_\_

*A timer using a capacitor and a resistor needs the RC circuit to have a half-life of 60.0 seconds. It will be using a capacitor of  $725 \mu\text{F}$ , initially charged to a voltage of 6.25 V.*

22. What should the value of the time constant be? 22. \_\_\_\_\_

23. What value should the resistor have? 23. \_\_\_\_\_

24. What will the capacitor voltage be at this time? 24. \_\_\_\_\_