

## Administrivia

- WTh 5 - 8 lab cancelled
- Reading newsgroups outside campus using Windows: Check webpage!
- Confusion in last lecture: concept of ground. Answered in newsgroup.
- Supernode example in lecture 3 - look at my complete notes tomorrow.
- I will put up all complete notes by tomorrow - sorry for the delay.
- Practice problems will be up by this weekend.
- Lab 1, 2 and 3 solutions will also be enabled by this weekend.

## Last Time...

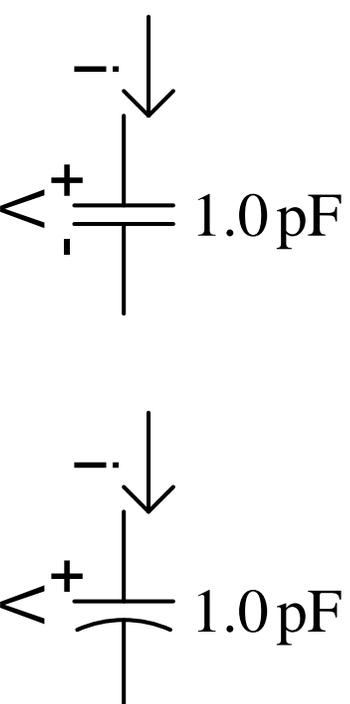
- Circuit analysis tools: Voltage and current divider, nodal analysis
- Instruments: Voltmeters and Ammeters.
- **Do you have questions on any of these concepts?**

## This Time...

- Capacitors
  - Properties
  - Equivalent capacitance - Series and Parallel
- RC Circuits
  - Natural and step response: example
- A look at propagation delay

# Capacitors

- What is a capacitor?
  - A passive element that stores electrical energy.
- Circuit symbol:



## Capacitors: $i$ - $v$ relationship

- Let  $q$  be measured in coulombs,  $C$  in farads and  $V$  in volts. Then:
  - $q = CV$ .
  - Assuming  $C$  is constant and differentiating with respect to  $t$ ,

$$i = C \frac{dV}{dt}$$

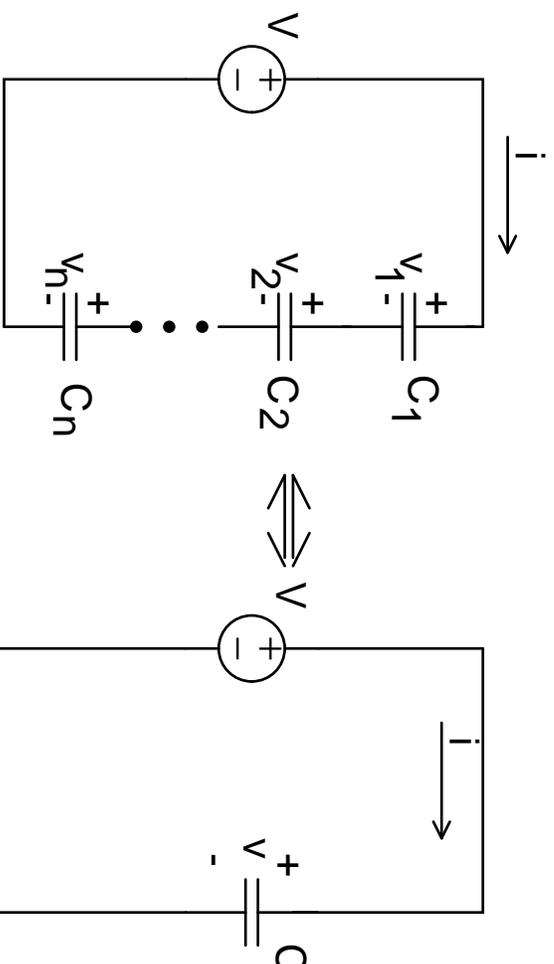
- Remember the passive sign convention!
- Expression for Power =  $VI =$  -----

## Capacitors: Two important ideas

- Voltage cannot change instantaneously across the terminals of a capacitor.
- If voltage across the capacitor is constant, the capacitor current is zero.

## Equivalent capacitances

- Let us go through the series example from your notes.



$$\frac{1}{C} = \frac{1}{C_1} + \frac{1}{C_2} + \dots + \frac{1}{C_n}$$

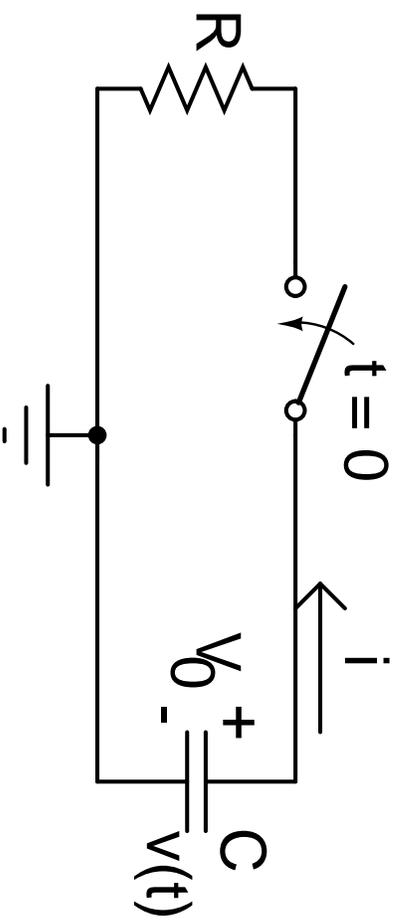
- Caps in parallel: exercise (hint: use KCL and capacitor IV relationship)

## RC circuits: Introduction

- RC circuit:
- Analyze circuit in two phases:
  - Natural Response
  - Forced (or step) Response

## RC circuits: Natural Response

- The circuit we will use is shown below:



## RC circuits: Natural Response

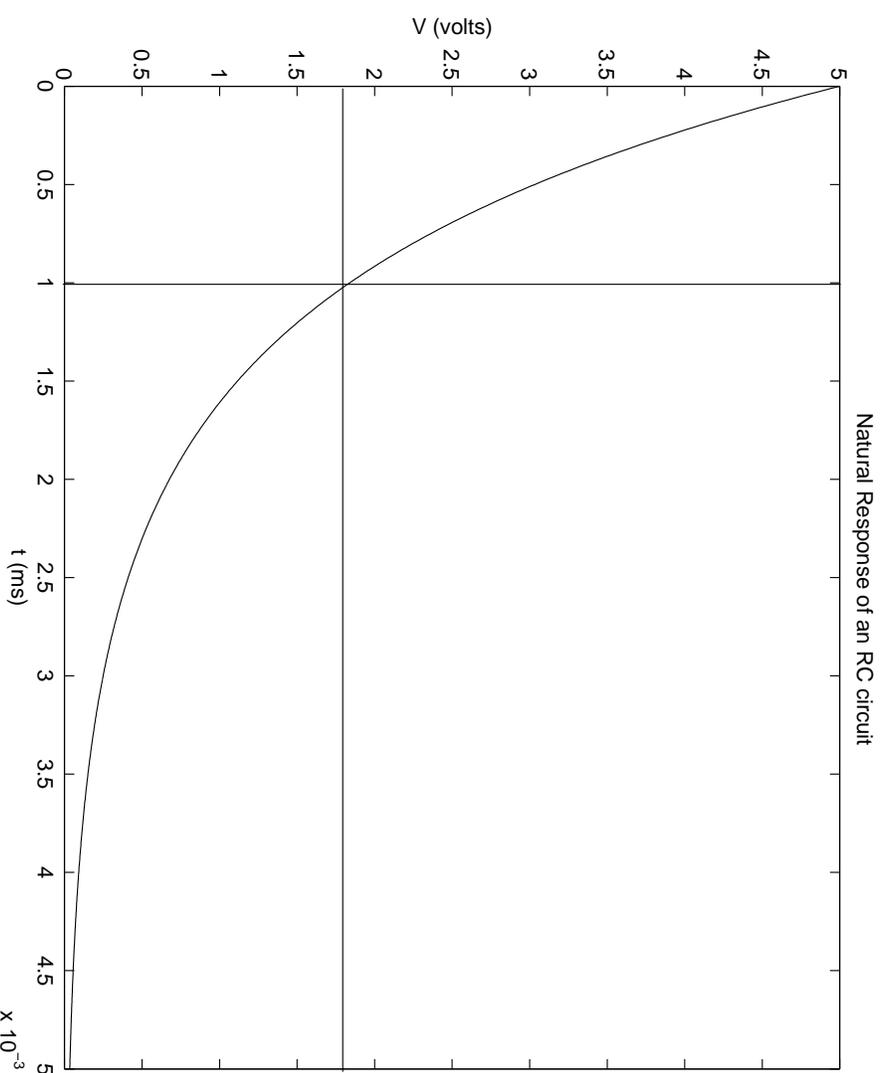
- The output voltage function is:

$$v(t) = V_0 e^{\frac{-t}{RC}}$$

- In the equation above: we have a **time constant** of  $\tau = RC$ .
  - Useful to think about multiples of time constants.
  - Important multiples: One time constant ( $e^{-1}$ ) and 5 time constants ( $e^{-5}$ )

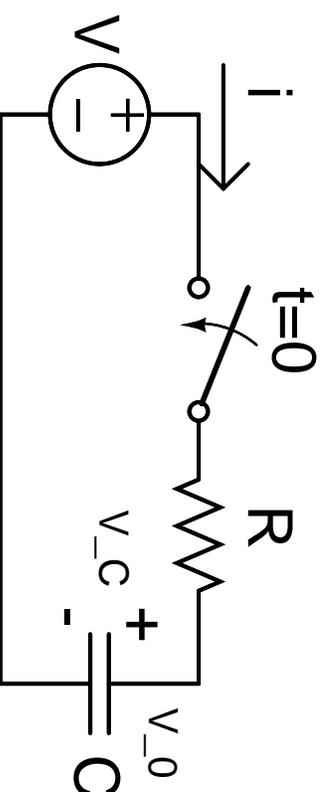
# RC circuits: Concept of a time constant

- Understand time constant better by looking at a plot of  $v(t)$ :



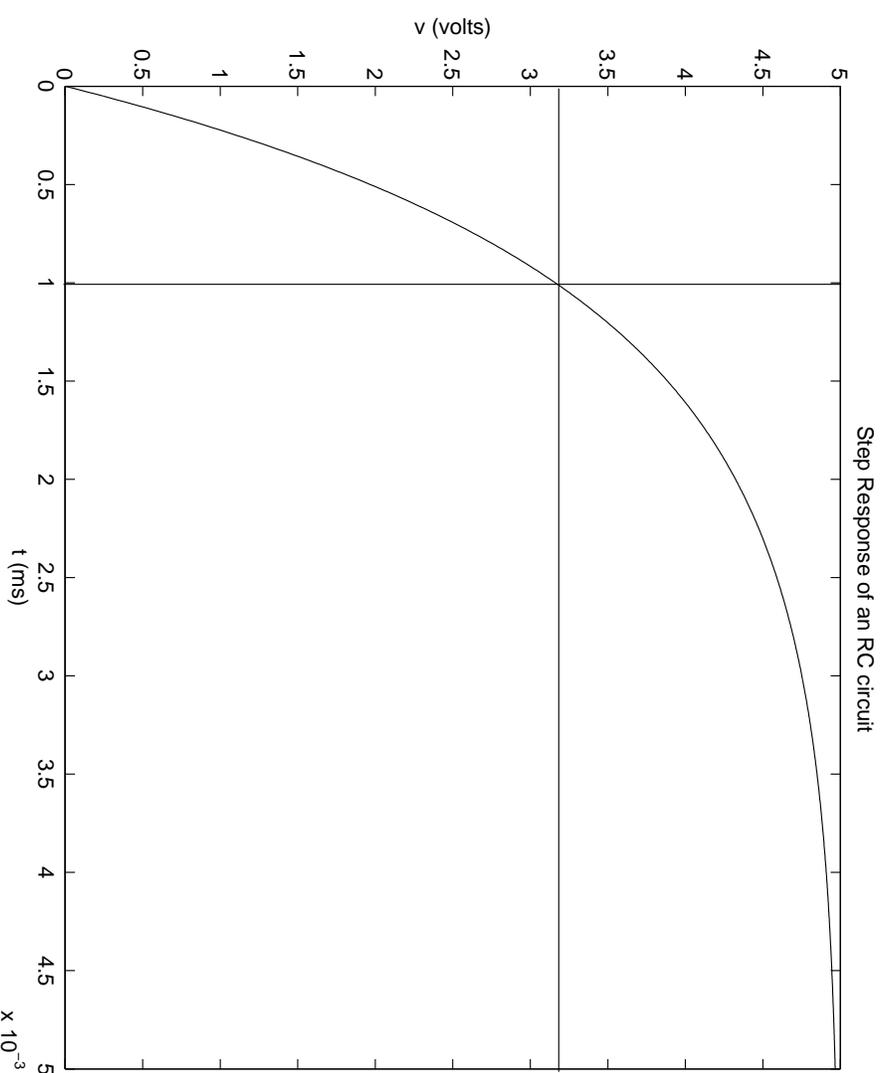
## RC circuits: Forced Response

- The circuit we will use is shown below:



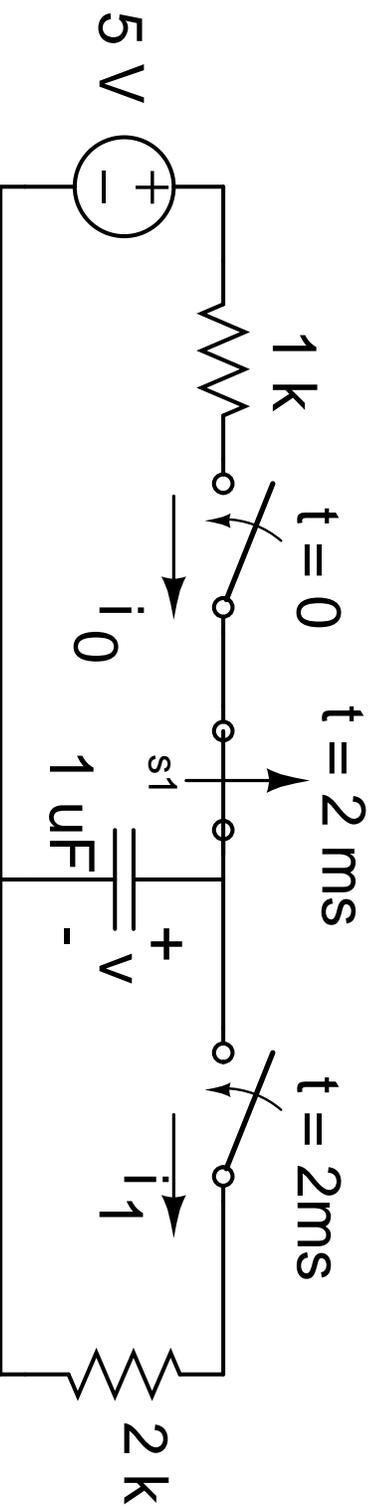
# RC circuits: Forced Response Plot

- A plot of the forced response is shown below ( $V_0 = 0$  V,  $V = 5$  V,  $\tau = 1$  ms)



## RC circuits: An example

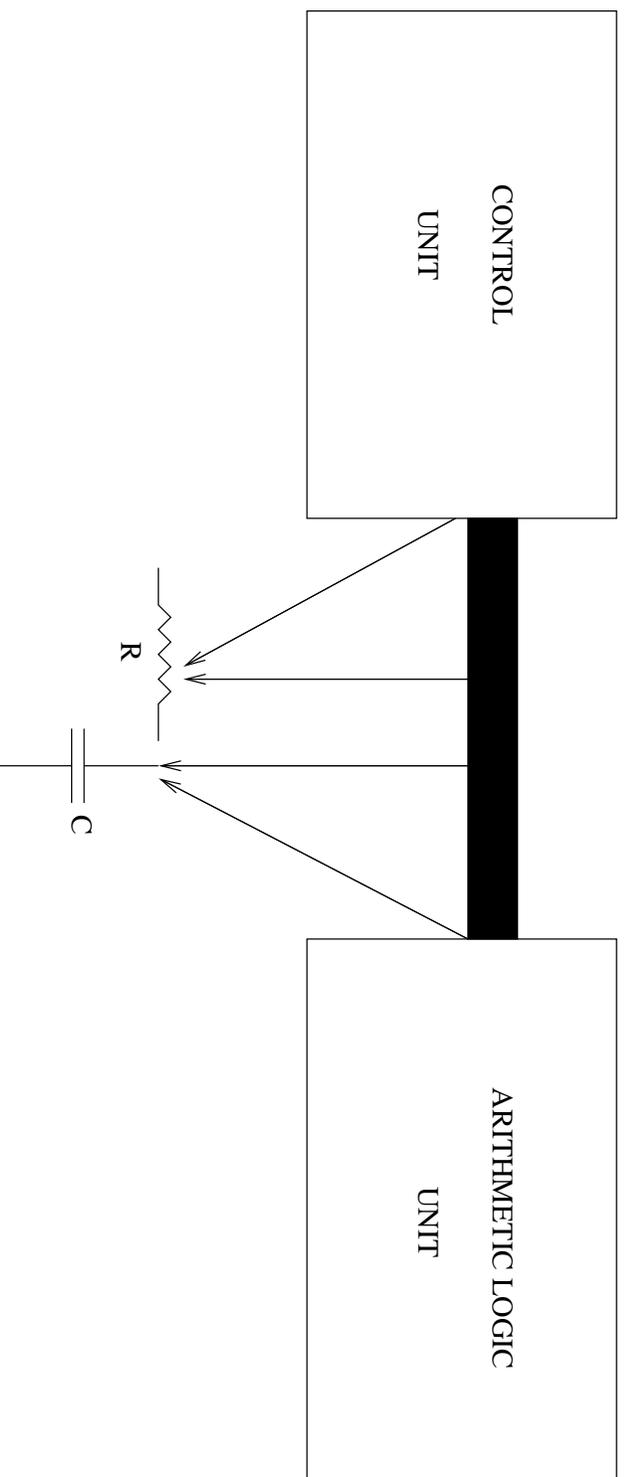
- In the circuit below



- Assume capacitor is initially uncharged. Find:  $i_0(0^-)$ ,  $i_0(0^+)$ ,  $v_{s1}(2^-)$  (voltage across switch  $s1$ ),  $v_{s1}(2^+)$ ,  $i_1(2^-)$ ,  $i_1(2^+)$  and an expression for  $v$ .

# Propagation delay model

- Consider the high-level view of your microprocessor:



## Summary

- We studied a very important practical circuit element: the capacitor
  - IV relationship
  - Two important Properties
  - Equivalent capacitance: capacitors in series and parallel
  - Analyzing RC circuits
- You will see a propagation delay application in HW #2.
- Inductors: HW #2.

## In Conclusion...

- Next time:
  - Thevenin and Norton theorems
  - Intro. to op-amps
- Reading for today: handout.
- Reading for Wednesday: 4.10 and 4.11 from reader
- In lab this week: RC circuits and make-up
- Please send me feedback (if any)!
- Questions?