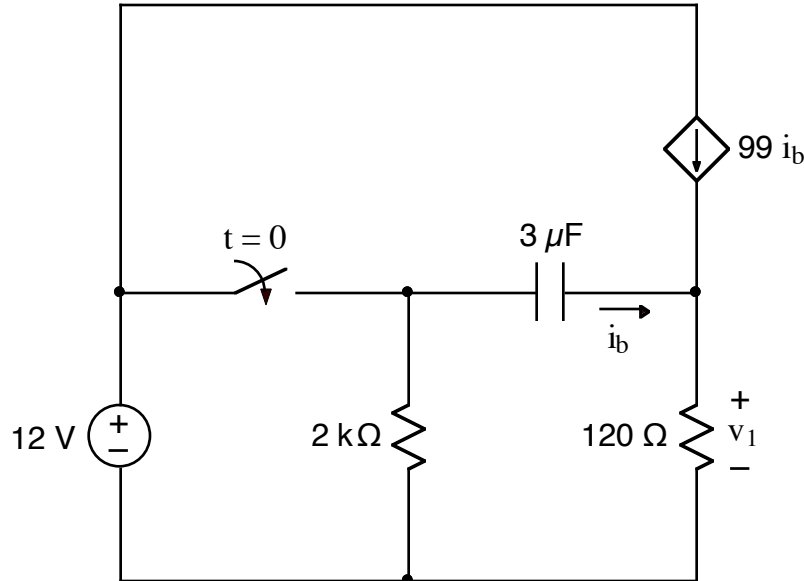


Ex:



After being open for a long time, the switch closes at  $t = 0$ .

- Find  $v_C(0^-)$  for the above circuit.
- For  $t > 0$ , find the Thevenin equivalent of the above circuit as seen from the terminals where the capacitor is attached.
- For the above circuit, find  $v_1(t)$  for  $t > 0$ .

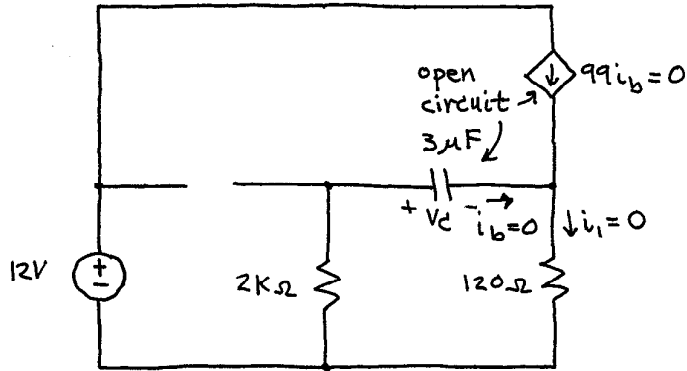
**NOTE:** The original problem shows the current in the capacitor as  $99i_b$ . The dependent source in the problem was intended to represent a bipolar transistor, in which case  $i_b$  is the base current that is approximately 1/100 times the collector current shown in the problem as  $99i_b$ . The solution below assumes the base (and capacitor) current is  $i_b$ . The method of solution using the capacitor current as  $99i_b$  is the same, but  $R_{Th}$  changes, and the answers obtained are as follows:

- 0 V (same as below)
- $R_{Th} = 240\ \Omega$  ( $2 \cdot 120\ \Omega$  instead of  $100 \cdot 120\ \Omega$ )
- $v_1(t > 0) = 12e^{-t/720\ \mu\text{s}}\ \text{V}$

sol'n: Use general form of solution for RC problems:

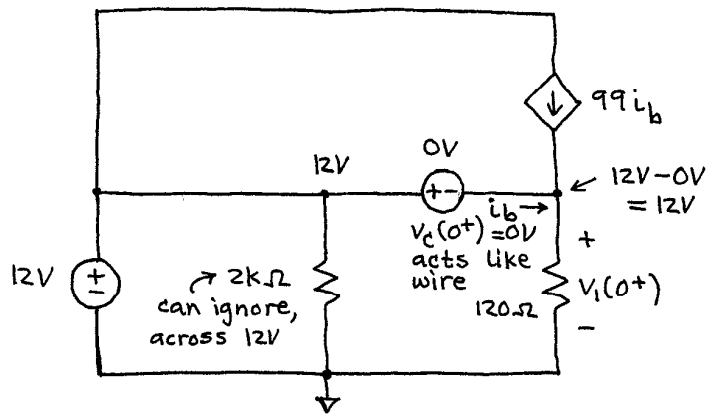
$$v_1(t > 0) = v_1(t \rightarrow \infty) + [v_1(0^+) - v_1(t \rightarrow \infty)] e^{-t/R_{Th}C}$$

$t=0^-$ : C acts like open circuit  $\Rightarrow i_b = 0$ ,  $99i_b = 0$   
switch is open



Since no power is connected to C,  $v_c(0^-) = 0V$

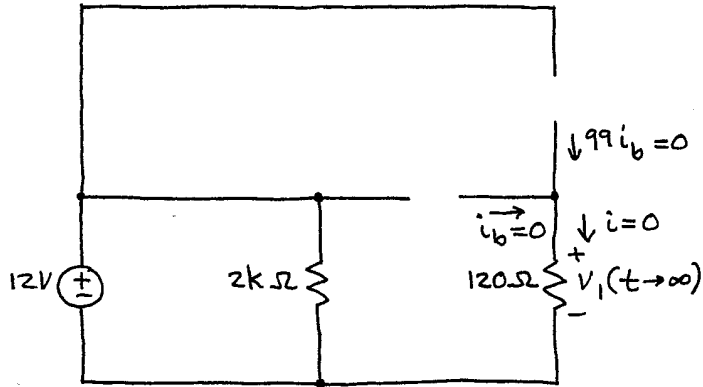
$t=0^+$ : C acts like v src,  $v_c(0^+) = v_c(0^-)$ .  
switch is closed



If we consider a v-loop around the outside of the bottom half of the circuit, we find that we have 12V across the 120Ω resistor:

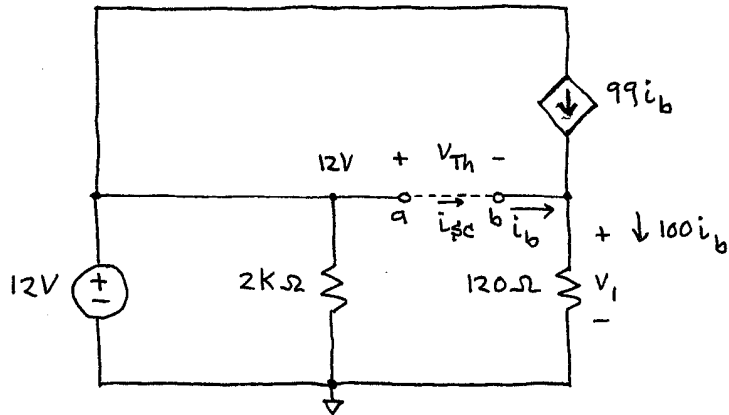
$$v_1(0^+) = 12V$$

$t \rightarrow \infty$ : C acts like open circuit  $\Rightarrow i_b = 0$ ,  $99i_b = 0$   
switch is closed



No power is connected to  $120\Omega$ .  
Thus,  $v_1(t \rightarrow \infty) = 0V$

$R_{Th}$ :



$$R_{Th} = \frac{V_{Th}}{i_{sc}} \quad V_{Th} = v_{a,b} \text{ with } C \text{ removed (a,b open circuit)}$$

With open circuit a,b we have  $i_b = 0$   
and  $99i_b = 0$ . Thus,  $v_1 = 0V$ .

$$V_{Th} = 12V - v_1 = 12V - 0V = 12V$$

Now connect wire from a to b and measure current,  $i_{sc}$ .

We have  $v_1 = 12V$  since it is now connected across 12V source by wires.

The current thru the  $120\Omega$  resistor is  $100i_b$ :

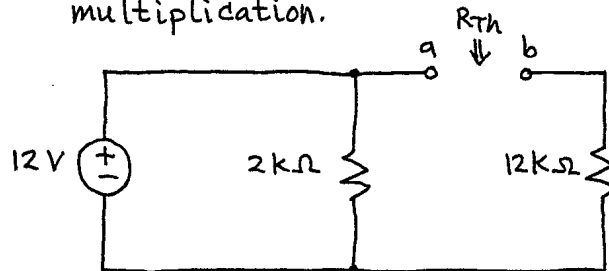
$$\frac{v_1}{120\Omega} = \frac{12V}{120\Omega} = 100\text{mA} = 100i_b$$

$$\text{Thus, } i_{sc} = i_b = \frac{100\text{mA}}{100} = 1\text{mA}$$

$$R_{Th} = \frac{v_{Th}}{i_{sc}} = \frac{12V}{1\text{mA}} = 12\text{k}\Omega$$

Note: We get the same result if we remove the dependent source and multiply the  $120\Omega$  resistor by 100 to account for the  $100i_b$  flowing thru it.

This is the concept of impedance multiplication.



We find  $R_{Th}$  by turning off the 12V source (which becomes a wire) and determining  $R$  seen looking into a, b.

We have  $R_{Th} = 12k\Omega$ , as before.

Plugging values into the general solution yields our final answer:

$$v_1(t) = 0V + [12V - 0V] e^{-t/12k\Omega \cdot 3\mu F}, \quad t > 0$$

or

$$v_1(t > 0) = 12V e^{-t/36ms}$$