

**Ex:** In (a)-(c), the voltage  $v_C(t)$  across a 0.2 µF capacitor is listed. Find the current,  $i_C(t)$ , flowing in the capacitor in each case as a function of time:

a) 
$$v_C(t) = 3 V$$
  
b)  $v_C(t) = 1000t V/s$ 

c)  $v_C(t) = 1 - e^{-t/4 \text{ms}} V$ 

**SOL'N:** We use the defining equation for a capacitor in each case:

$$i_C = C \frac{dv_C}{dt}$$

a)

$$i_C = C \frac{d}{dt} 3 \text{ V} = 0 \text{ A}$$

b)

$$i_C = C \frac{d}{dt} 1000t \text{ V/s} = 0.2 \ \mu\text{F} \cdot 1000 \text{ V/s} = 200 \ \mu\text{A or } 0.2 \text{ mA}$$

c)

$$i_C = C \frac{d}{dt} (1 - e^{-t/4 \text{ ms}}) \text{ V} = 0.2 \ \mu\text{F} \cdot \left(-\frac{-1}{4 \text{ ms}} e^{-t/4 \text{ ms}}\right) = 50 \ \mu\text{A} \ e^{-t/4 \text{ ms}}$$