

Physics 2102

Lecture 19

Ch 30:









Inductors and RL Circuits



Nikolai Tesla

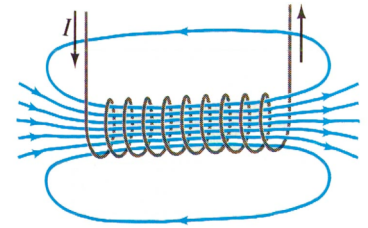
What are we going to learn?

A road map

- Electric *charge* 
 - Electric *force* on other electric charges 
 - Electric *field*, and electric *potential* 
- Moving electric charges : *current* 
- Electronic *circuit* components: batteries, resistors, capacitors 
- Electric currents → *Magnetic* field 
- → *Magnetic force* on moving charges 
- *Time-varying* magnetic field → Electric Field 
- **More circuit components: inductors.**
- Electromagnetic *waves* → light waves
- Geometrical Optics (light rays).
- Physical optics (light waves)

Inductors: Solenoids

Inductors are with respect to the magnetic field what capacitors are with respect to the electric field. They “pack a lot of field in a small region”. Also, the higher the current, the higher the magnetic field they produce.



Capacitance → how much **potential** for a given charge: $Q=CV$

Inductance → how much **magnetic flux** for a given current: $\Phi=Li$

Using Faraday's law: $EMF = -L \frac{di}{dt}$

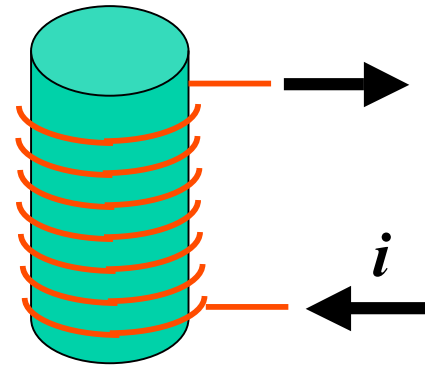
Units: $[L] = \frac{\text{Tesla} \cdot \text{m}^2}{\text{Ampere}} \equiv \text{H (Henry)}$



Joseph Henry
(1799-1878)

“Self”-Inductance of a solenoid

- Solenoid of cross-sectional area A , length l , total number of turns N , turns per unit length n
- Field inside solenoid = $\mu_0 n i$
- Field outside ~ 0



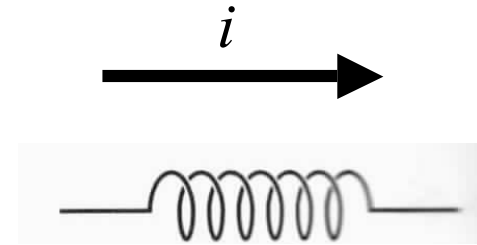
$$\Phi_B = NAB = NA\mu_0 ni = Li$$

$$L = \text{“inductance”} = \mu_0 NAn = \mu_0 \frac{N^2}{l} A$$

$$EMF = -L \frac{di}{dt}$$

Example

- The current in a 10 H inductor is decreasing at a steady rate of 5 A/s.
- If the current is as shown at some instant in time, what is the magnitude and direction of the induced EMF?



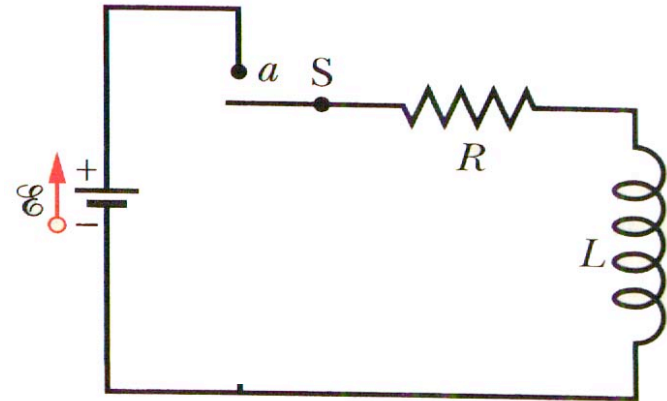
(a) 50 V \longrightarrow

(b) 50 V \longleftarrow

- Magnitude = $(10 \text{ H})(5 \text{ A/s}) = 50 \text{ V}$
- Current is decreasing
- Induced emf must be in a direction that OPPOSES this change.
- So, induced emf must be in same direction as current

The RL circuit

- Set up a single loop series circuit with a battery, a resistor, a solenoid and a switch.
- Describe what happens when the switch is closed.
- Key processes to understand:
 - What happens JUST AFTER the switch is closed?
 - What happens a LONG TIME after switch has been closed?
 - What happens in between?



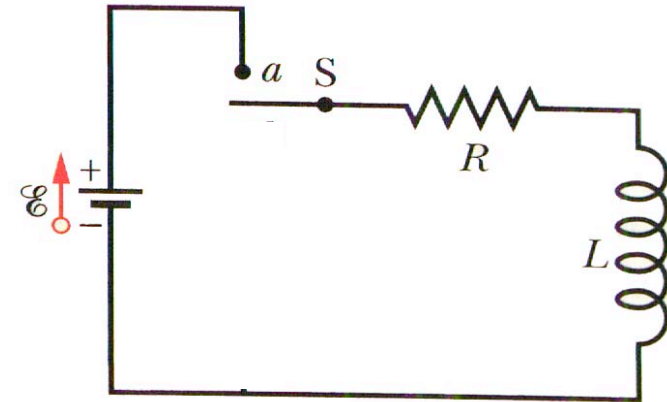
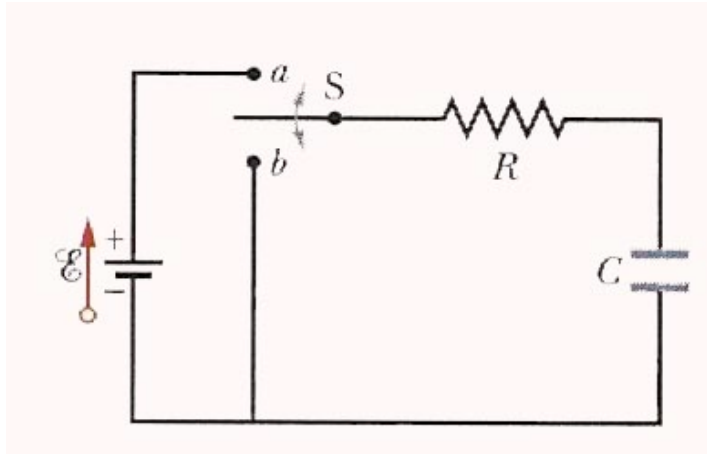
Key insights:

- If a circuit is not broken, one cannot change the CURRENT in an inductor instantaneously!
- If you wait long enough, the current in an RL circuit stops changing!

At $t=0$, a capacitor acts like a wire; an inductor acts like a broken wire.

After a long time, a capacitor acts like a broken wire, and inductor acts like a wire.

RL circuits



In an RC circuit, while charging,
 $Q = CV$ and the loop rule mean:

- charge increases from 0 to CE
- current decreases from E/R to 0
- voltage across capacitor
increases from 0 to E

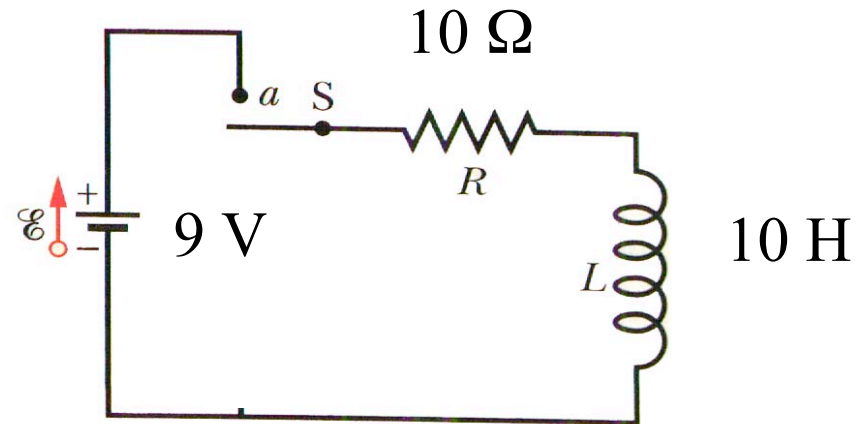
In an RL circuit, while “charging”
(rising current), $\text{emf} = Ldi/dt$ and the
loop rule mean:

- magnetic field increases from 0 to B
- current increases from 0 to E/R
- voltage across inductor
decreases from $-E$ to 0

Example

Immediately after the switch is closed, what is the potential difference across the inductor?

- (a) 0 V
- (b) 9 V
- (c) 0.9 V

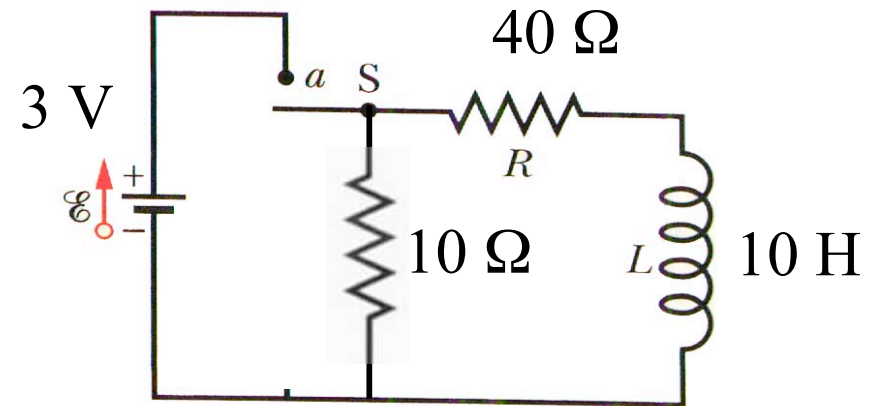


- Immediately after the switch, current in circuit = 0.
- So, potential difference across the resistor = 0!
- So, the potential difference across the inductor = $\mathbf{E} = 9 \text{ V!}$

Example

- Immediately after the switch is closed, what is the current i through the $10\ \Omega$ resistor?

- (a) $0.375\ \text{A}$
- (b) $0.3\ \text{A}$
- (c) 0



- Immediately after switch is closed, current through inductor = 0 .
- Hence, current through battery and through $10\ \Omega$ resistor is $i = (3\ \text{V})/(10\ \Omega) = 0.3\ \text{A}$

- Long after the switch has been closed, what is the current in the $40\ \Omega$ resistor?

- (a) $0.375\ \text{A}$
- (b) $0.3\ \text{A}$
- (c) $0.075\ \text{A}$

- Long after switch is closed, potential across inductor = 0 .
- Hence, current through $40\ \Omega$ resistor = $(3\ \text{V})/(40\ \Omega) = 0.075\ \text{A}$

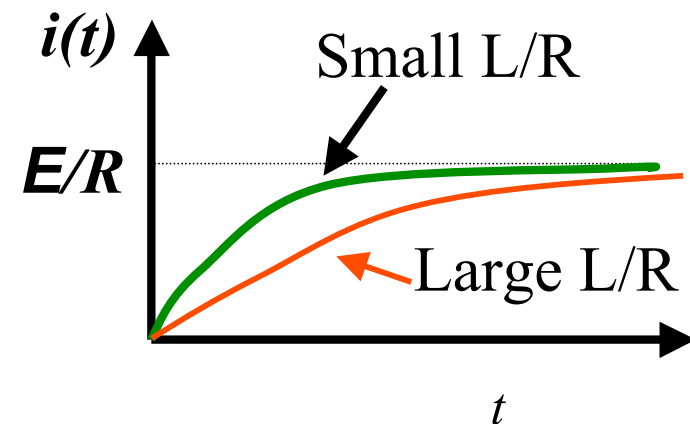
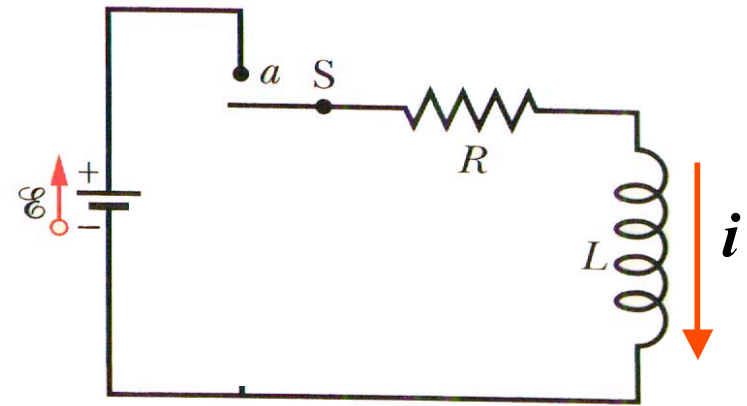
“Charging” an inductor

- How does the current in the circuit change with time?

$$-iR + E - L \frac{di}{dt} = 0$$

$$i = \frac{E}{R} \left(1 - e^{-\frac{Rt}{L}} \right)$$

“Time constant” of RL circuit = L/R



“Discharging” an inductor

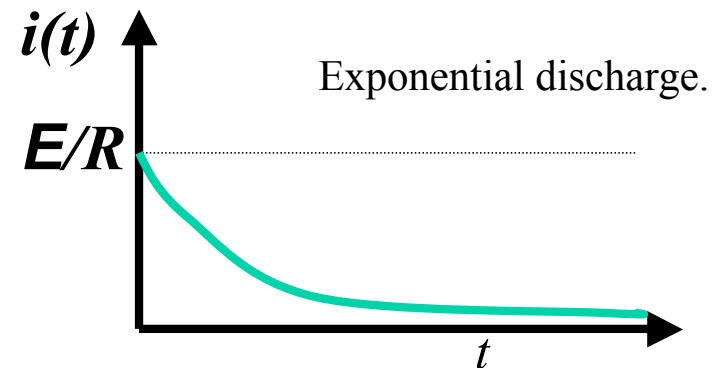
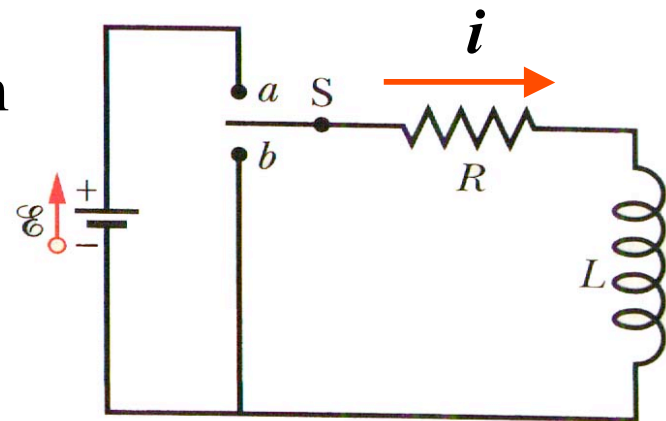
The switch is in a for a long time, until the inductor is charged. Then, the switch is closed to b.

What is the current in the circuit?

Loop rule around the new circuit:

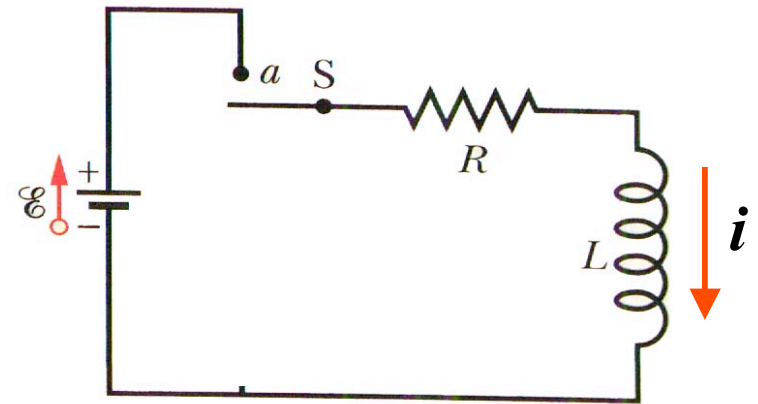
$$iR + L \frac{di}{dt} = 0$$

$$i = \frac{E}{R} e^{-\frac{Rt}{L}}$$



Inductors & Energy

- Recall that **capacitors** store energy in an **electric** field
- Inductors** store energy in a **magnetic** field.



$$\mathcal{E} = iR + L \frac{di}{dt}$$

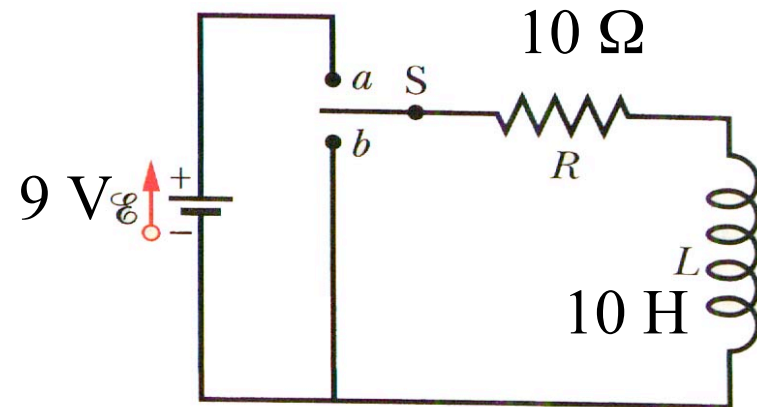
$$(i\mathcal{E}) = (i^2 R) + Li \frac{di}{dt} \quad \Rightarrow \quad (i\mathcal{E}) = (i^2 R) + \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{Li^2}{2} \right)$$

Power delivered by battery = power dissipated by R

+ (d/dt) energy stored in L

Example

- The switch has been in position “a” for a long time.
- It is now moved to position “b” without breaking the circuit.
- What is the total energy dissipated by the resistor until the circuit reaches equilibrium?



- When switch has been in position “a” for long time, current through inductor = $(9\text{V})/(10\Omega) = 0.9\text{A}$.
- Energy stored in inductor = $(0.5)(10\text{H})(0.9\text{A})^2 = 4.05\text{ J}$
- When inductor “discharges” through the resistor, all this stored energy is dissipated as heat = 4.05 J .

$E=120\text{V}$, $R_1=10\Omega$, $R_2=20\Omega$, $R_3=30\Omega$, $L=3\text{H}$.

1. What are i_1 and i_2 immediately after closing the switch?
2. What are i_1 and i_2 a long time after closing the switch?
3. What are i_1 and i_2 1 second after closing the switch?
4. What are i_1 and i_2 immediately after reopening the switch?
5. What are i_1 and i_2 a long time after reopening the switch?

