Ohm's Law: V = IRPower dissipated (Joule heating) =

 $\mathsf{P} = \mathsf{I}^2\mathsf{R} = \mathsf{I}\mathsf{V}$ 

Kirchoff's Loop equation:  $\sum_{closed loop} V_i = 0$ 

Kirchoff's junction rule: 
$$\sum_{entering / leaving junction} I_i = 0$$

Resistors in series:  $R_{eq} = R_1 + R_2 + ...$ Resistors in parallel:  $R_{eq}^{-1} = R_1^{-1} + R_2^{-1} + ...$ Capacitors in series:  $C_{eq}^{-1} = C_1^{-1} + C_2^{-1} + ...$ Capacitors in parallel:  $C_{eq} = C_1 + C_2 + ...$ 

# **Group Problems**

1. R combo – all 100  $\Omega$ 

a)



- Find I through each R b)
- 2. a) Find equivalent R (in terms of R)

b) Find the battery current if  $R = 100 \Omega$ 



## Simple RC Series circuit

• Discharging:  $Q(t) = Q_o exp(-t/RC)$ and  $I(t) = I_o exp(-t/RC)$ 



When t = RC = 1 time constant, then Q =  $Q_0 exp(-1) = 0.37Q_0$ 

### Microscopic Picture of Electric Current

- E field in wire produces forces on free electrons leading to a net drift velocity:  $v_{drift} = a\tau$ , where a is the acceleration (a = F/m = eE/m = e(V/L)/m where V is the applied voltage across the wire of length L) and  $\tau$  is the meanfree time between collisions
- Solving for the charge drifting by allows us to compute the current I: I=[(ne<sup>2</sup>τ/m)(A/L)]V = [1/R]V = GV, where n is the free charge density, e is the electron charge, A is the wire cross-sectional area, R is the wire's resistance and G is its conductance
- We can also introduce intrinsic parameters: conductivity,  $\sigma = ne^2 \tau/m$  and resistivity,  $\rho = 1/\sigma$  to write R =  $\rho L/A$







retinal "starburst" cell (red) found in visual processing network, Courtesy of Thomas Euler, Max Planck Institute for Medical Research, Heidelberg

#### Inside



### Outside







Time (ms)