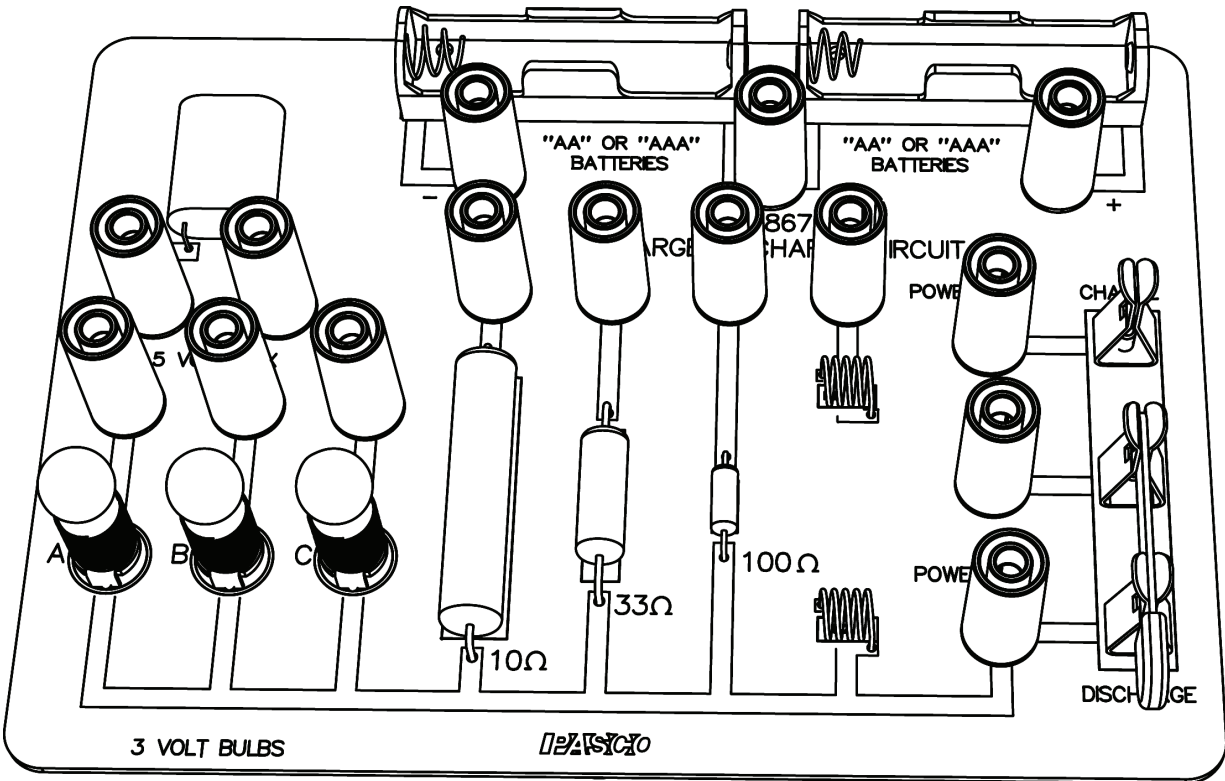


# Charge/Discharge Circuit

EM-8678A



Included Items	Information
Charge/Discharge Circuit	EM-8678A
Light Bulbs, #14 GE mini-screw (3)	EM-8627 (pack of 25)*

\*Order EM-8627 for replacement bulbs. See the PASCO catalog or web site at [www.pasco.com](http://www.pasco.com) for more information.

Required Items	Information
AA* Batteries (2)	PI-6601 (pack of 4)
Banana Plug Patch Cords	SE-7123 (set of 8)

\*AAA Batteries can also be used in the EM-8678A Charge/Discharge Circuit.

Additional Equipment Recommended for Experiments	Information*
PASCO Interface (such as UI-5000 850 Universal Interface)	See PASCO web site
PASCO Data Acquisition Software (such as PASCO Capstone)	See PASCO web site*
PASPORT Voltage/Current Sensor	PS-2115
Power Supply (Low Voltage)	See PASCO web site*

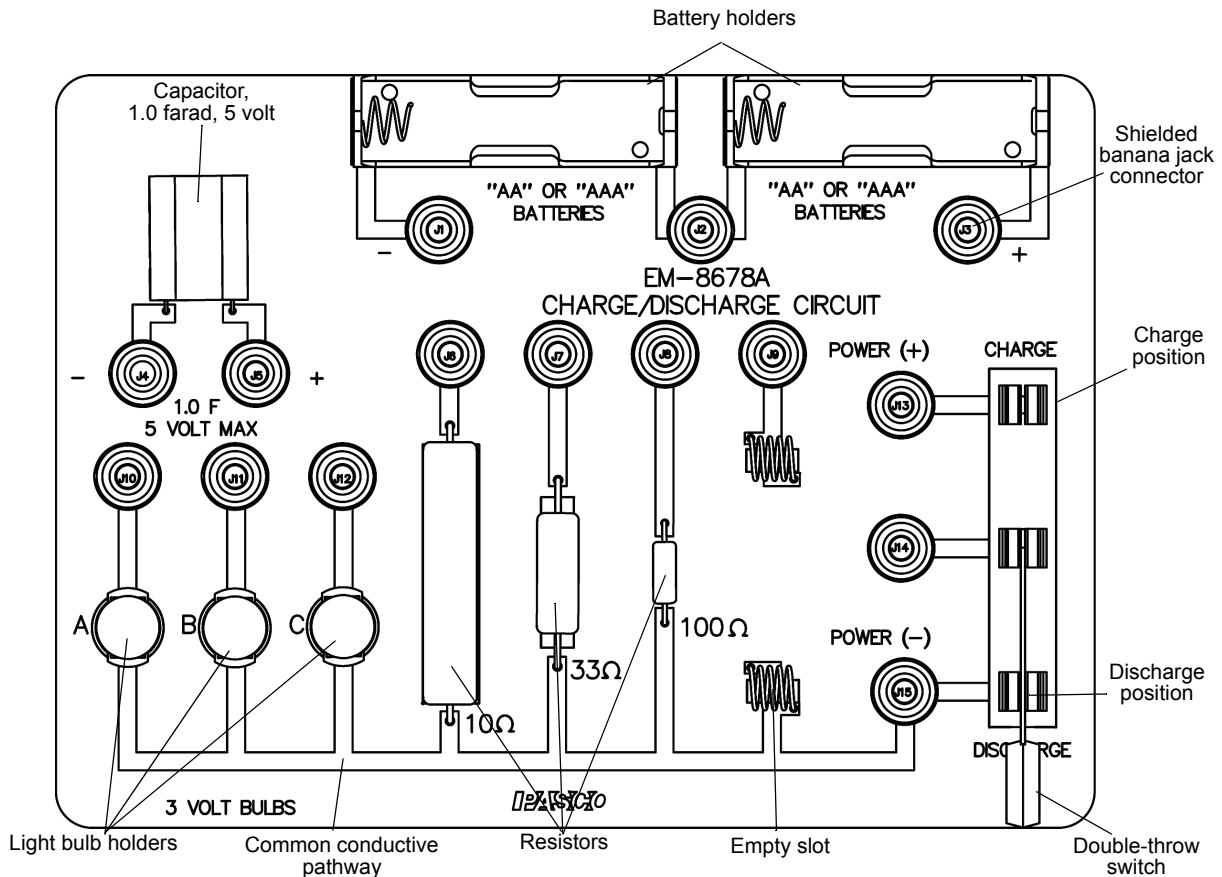
\*See the PASCO web site at [www.pasco.com](http://www.pasco.com).

## Product Description

The EM-8678A Charge/Discharge Circuit can be used for the study of Ohm’s Law, battery and capacitor charge/discharge rates, or for various other experiments in electronics. The Charge/Discharge Circuit is included in the EX-9949 and EX-9953 Ohm’s Law Experiments.

Mounted to the circuit board are three types of resistors (10, 33, and 100 ohm), a double-throw switch, three light bulb holders, and a 1.0 farad (F) capacitor. The board also includes 15 shrouded banana jack connectors for attaching leads and cables and one empty slot for connecting any other devices.

The circuit board also has holders for two AA or AAA batteries, which would provide the main power supply to the circuit. The resistors and light bulbs connect to a common ground (negative terminal) through the conductive electrical pathway on the lower half of the board.



Auxiliary power supplies, sensors, and other external devices can also be connected. A set of short banana patch cords is recommended for making connections between or into other leads. A Voltage/Current Sensor can be connected to measure voltage and current in the circuit and discharge rates for the capacitor.

Using the Charge/Discharge Circuit with a sensor such as the Voltage/Current Sensor requires a PASCO computer interface and data acquisition software (such as the UI-5000 850 Universal Interface and UI-5400 PASCO Capstone).

## Equipment Setup

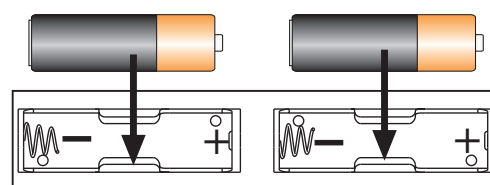
You will need two “AA” or “AAA” batteries (not included), three #14 GE Mini Light Bulbs (included), and a set of banana plug patch cords (not included).

For real-time data recording\*, you will need a PASPORT Voltage/Current Sensor and a PASCO computer interface with data acquisition software (such as the UI-5000 850 Universal Interface and UI-5400 PASCO Capstone). NOTE: If you use the PASCO Capstone software, you can also use the *ScienceWorkshop* CI-6503 Voltage Sensor and the *ScienceWorkshop* CI-6556 Current Sensor with either the UI-5100 850 Universal Interface or the CI-7650 750 *ScienceWorkshop* Interface.

\*See Appendix B for a typical experiment setup option.

### Inserting/Replacing the Batteries

When inserting the batteries, follow the orientation for the positive and negative ends of the batteries shown on the battery holders. A set of AA alkaline batteries can be ordered from PASCO (PI-6601 pack of 4).



Inserting batteries into the battery holders

For Ohm’s law studies, alkaline batteries or re-rechargeable batteries can be used.

### Inserting/Replacing the Light Bulbs

A set of three 3-volt light bulbs comes with the Charge/Discharge Circuit. To remove a burnt out bulb, turn the bulb counterclockwise and lift out. To replace a bulb, insert the bulb into one of the plastic slots (slot A, B, or C) and turn the bulb clockwise until it fits tightly into the slot. For the bulb to light, the bulb tip must maintain contact with the metal piece in the slot.

CAUTION: To avoid overloading the circuit, do not use bulbs greater than a 3 volt capacity.

### Using the Double-Throw Switch

The double-throw switch is used to control the path of the electrical current through the components on the Charge/Discharge Circuit.

For the Ohm’s Law circuit, for example, when the switch lever is in the “Charge Position,” energy from the batteries can be routed to the capacitor. Moving the lever to the “Discharge Position” allows the capacitor to discharge energy through a resistor or light bulb or other component that is connected. For example, if a light bulb is connected, as the energy dissipates as heat and light, the bulb slowly becomes dim.

### Connecting External Devices to the Charge/Discharge Circuit

The Charge/Discharge Circuit was designed to be used with PASCO sensors, meters, and external power supplies. Connecting an external device requires a set of banana plug patch cords (i.e. at least one positive and one negative banana patch cord, such as the SE-7123 Banana Plug Patch Cords (set of 8)).

The board has three positive, three negative, and nine neutral (unlabeled) shrouded banana jack connectors. The connectors with the (+) label are for inserting positive leads and the connectors with the (-) label are for inserting negative leads. The neutral connectors are for connecting either positive or negative leads, depending on your setup.

**To Connect an External Power Supply to the Charge/Discharge Circuit**

- Connect the cord from the positive terminal on the power supply to the positive “Power(+)” connector on the circuit board.
- Connect the cord from the negative terminal on the power supply to the negative “Power(-)” connector on the circuit board.

CAUTION: When using an external power supply, do not exceed a voltage of 3 volts for the bulbs or 5 volts for the capacitor.

Also, always connect the positive lead from an external power supply to a positive (+) connector and the negative cord to a designated negative (-) connector on the circuit board. Reversing positive and negative cord connections from an external power source may permanently damage the capacitor.

**WARNING:** To avoid shock, never place water or a wet hand in the path of the circuit. Always connect an external power supply to a properly grounded electrical outlet. Do not get the board or any of its components wet. Do not place the board near water. Follow standard electrical safety precautions, and treat the Charge/Discharge Circuit like any other conductor.

**To Connect a PS-2115 PASPORT Voltage-Current Sensor to the Charge/Discharge Circuit**

- To measure voltage: Plug the positive (+ red) voltage lead from the sensor into a positive connector on the circuit board. Plug the negative (- black) voltage lead into a negative connector on the circuit board. (Note: The connection of the leads from the sensor must be in parallel with a component of the circuit.)
- To measure current: Plug banana plug patch cords into the positive (+) and negative (-) banana plug ports on the Voltage-Current Sensor. Connect the Voltage-Current Sensor in series with the Charge/Discharge Circuit. For example, plug the patch cord from the positive banana plug port on the sensor into the “Power (+)” connector on the Charge/Discharge Circuit board. Plug the other patch cord from the sensor into the positive connector for the capacitor.

**To Connect Other Devices to the Charge/Discharge Circuit**

Two empty slot springs are available for adding (or testing) other types of components with the circuit board.

**Suggested Applications**

- Demonstrating Ohm’s Law, the relationship of current to voltage and resistance in a direct current circuit.
- Comparing the voltage-current curve for an ohmic resistor to the voltage-current curve for a light bulb (which may be nonlinear).
- Measuring the charge-discharge of the capacitor.
- Comparing battery discharge rates for different types of rechargeable batteries (not included).

## Appendix A: Specifications

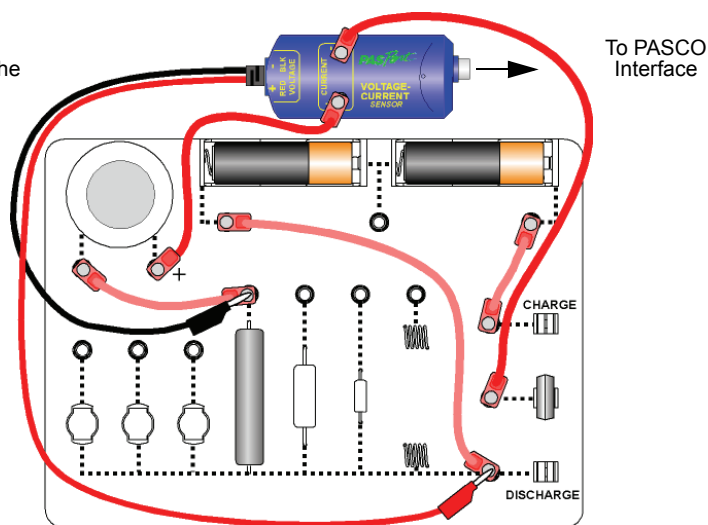
Item	Information
Capacitor	1.0 farad, 5 volt maximum
Resistors	10 ohm, 33 ohm and 100 ohm, 5 volt maximum
Light Bulbs	3 volt maximum
Board	18.3 by 13 centimeters composed of fiberglass

## Appendix B: Typical Circuit Diagram

The Charge/Discharge Circuit board was designed to allow the user flexibility in measurement and experimentation. The lower portion of the board contains a built-in copper circuit with a lacquer finish. The upper half of the board provides multiple connection points for various setup options. (Note: The board does not contain a series-parallel circuit.)

### Diagram: Typical Setup for Demonstrating Ohm's Law

Note: The appearance of the Charge/Discharge Circuit may vary slightly.

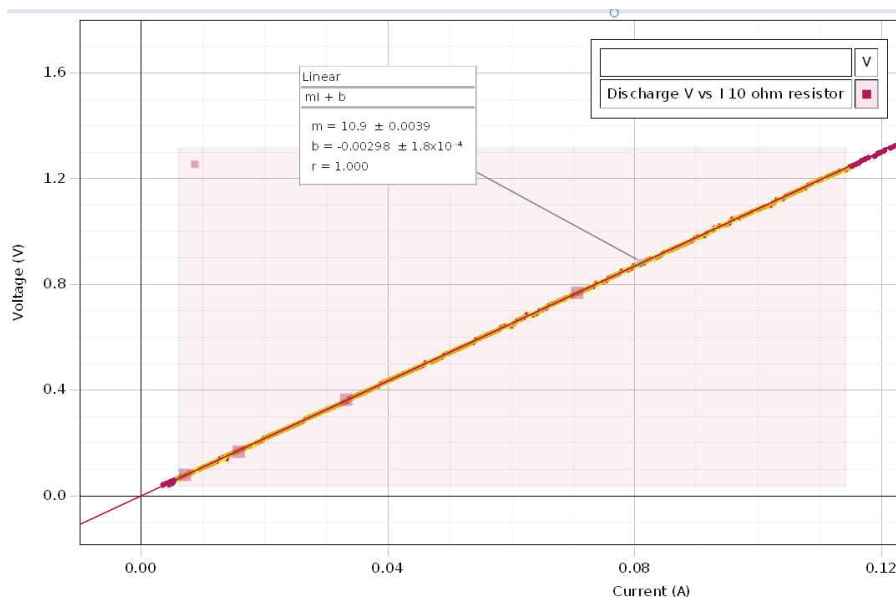


By allowing the batteries to charge a capacitor connected to a resistor, this setup may be used to study Ohm's law in "real time" (that is, seeing the current and voltage dynamically change). When the switch is moved to the charge position, the battery charges the capacitor. When the switch is moved to the discharge position, the capacitor discharges through the resistor. In the PASCO data acquisition software, plot the voltage vs. the current during "Discharge" for each separate run. The slope of the graph is resistance. To see the effect of varying the resistance on the voltage discharge rate, the student can switch the lead connections to different resistors.

### Using the Data Acquisition Software

- For example, in the PASCO Capstone software, click the "Hardware Setup" icon in the Tools palette to open the "Hardware Setup" panel. Confirm that the Voltage-Current Sensor icon appears with the interface's icon.
- Create a graph display. Select "Voltage" for the vertical axis and "Current" for the horizontal axis. (The slope of this graph will be the resistance.)
- Move the switch to the "Charge" position and let the capacitor charge for 20 to 30 seconds.
- Next, move the switch to the "Discharge" position and click 'Record' to begin collecting data.
- When the current reaches zero, click 'Stop' and move the switch to the middle position.

## Sample Data



## Technical Support

For assistance with any PASCO product, contact PASCO at:

Address: PASCO scientific  
10101 Foothills Blvd.  
Roseville, CA 95747-7100

Web: [www.pasco.com](http://www.pasco.com)

Phone: +1 916-786-3800 (worldwide)  
800-772-8700 (U.S.)

Email: [support@pasco.com](mailto:support@pasco.com)

For the latest information about the Charge/Discharge Circuit, visit the PASCO web site at [www.pasco.com](http://www.pasco.com) and enter “EM-8678A” in the Search window.

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## Product End of Life Disposal Instructions:

This electronic product is subject to disposal and recycling regulations that vary by country and region. It is your responsibility to recycle your electronic equipment per your local environmental laws and regulations to ensure that it will be recycled in a manner that protects human health and the environment. To find out where you can drop off your waste equipment for recycling, please contact your local waste recycle/disposal service, or the place where you purchased the product.

The European Union WEEE (Waste Electronic and Electrical Equipment) symbol (to the right) and on the product or its packaging indicates that this product must not be disposed of in a standard waste container.

