

# Chapter 25: Capacitance

- A Capacitor Consists of 2 isolated conductors
- A charged capacitor, its plates have charges of  $+q, -q$
- net charge on a capacitor = 0

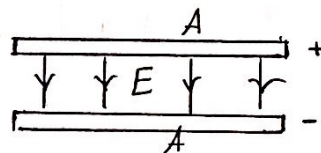
• Capacitance ::  $C = \frac{q}{V}$  F (it's a constant) Note: 1F = 1 C/V

• A fully charged capacitor: happens when  $\Delta V$  between plates becomes equal to  $\Delta V$  coming from the battery

Calculating the Capacitance (C depends on Geometry only)

↳ A Parallel-Plate Capacitor

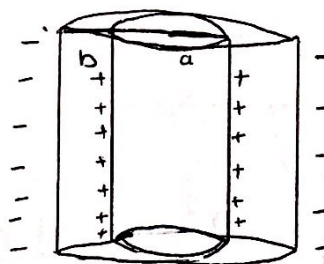
$$C = \frac{\epsilon_0 A}{d} \text{ [F]}$$



↳ A Cylindrical Capacitor

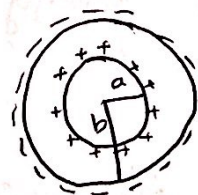
$$C = \frac{2\pi\epsilon_0 L}{\ln(b/a)} \text{ [F]}$$

$b > a$



↳ A spherical Conductor

$$C = \frac{4\pi\epsilon_0 ab}{b-a}$$



If there is only a sphere (meaning that the other sphere is at the infinity we say  $b \rightarrow \infty$ )

$$\text{So } \frac{4\pi\epsilon_0 a b}{b(1 - \frac{a}{b})} \Rightarrow C = 4\pi\epsilon_0 \frac{a}{\frac{1}{R}}$$

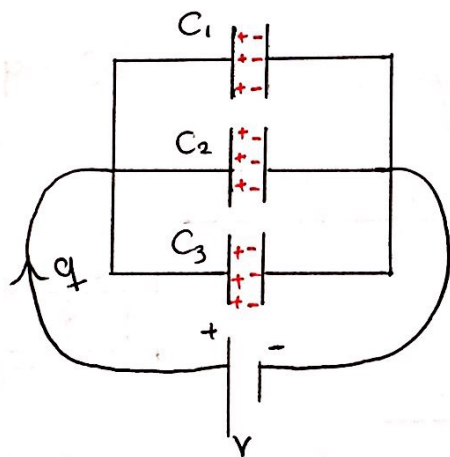
(An isolated sphere)  
Ulaa Etawi

# Capacitors in Parallel and series

## Parallel:

- $V$  is the same
  - $q_{tot} = q_1 + q_2 + q_3$
  - Knowing that:  $q_1 = C_1 V$   
 $q_2 = C_2 V$   
 $q_3 = C_3 V$
- $$C_{eq} = \frac{q_{tot}}{V} = \frac{C_1 V + C_2 V + C_3 V}{V} = C_1 + C_2 + C_3$$

$$C_{eq} = C_1 + C_2 + C_3$$

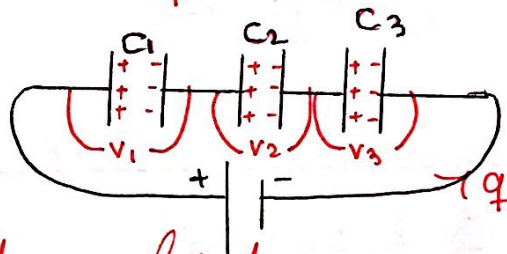


## series

- $q$  is the same
  - $V = V_1 + V_2 + V_3$
  - Knowing that:  
 $V_1 = \frac{q}{C_1}$   
 $V_2 = \frac{q}{C_2}$   
 $V_3 = \frac{q}{C_3}$
- $$C_{eq} = \frac{q}{V_{eq}} = \frac{q}{\frac{q}{C_1} + \frac{q}{C_2} + \frac{q}{C_3}}$$

$$C_{eq} = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{C_1} + \frac{1}{C_2} + \frac{1}{C_3}}$$

$$\frac{1}{C_{eq}} = \frac{1}{C_1} + \frac{1}{C_2} + \frac{1}{C_3}$$



## Energy stored in an Electric field

$$U = \frac{q^2}{2C} = \frac{1}{2} C V^2$$

Potential energy stored in the capacitor or (the electric field) of the capacitor

it's the same meaning

## Energy density

$$u = \frac{U}{V} \rightarrow \text{Volume of space between the 2 plates}$$

$$u = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_0 \left( \frac{V}{d} \right)^2 \quad \text{J/m}^3$$

$\rightarrow = E$       electric potential

Alaa Etawi

# Capacitor with dielectric

$$K = \frac{\epsilon}{\epsilon_0} > 1$$

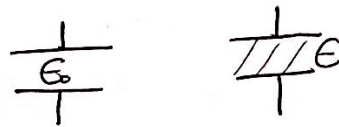
→ You replace  $\epsilon_0$  in equations with  $K\epsilon_0$

→ So: •  $C = \frac{K\epsilon_0}{d} A$

• In Gauss's law:  $\oint E \cdot dA = \frac{q}{K\epsilon_0}$

energy density •  $u = \frac{1}{2} (K\epsilon_0) E^2$

$$\epsilon_{\text{dielectric}} > \epsilon_0$$



$$C_{\text{dielectric}} > C_0$$


$$C_{\text{diel}} = KC$$

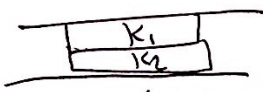
## Problems solving

1- two capacitors, one charged and the other isn't. If you charge the second one using the charged capacitor, it will get to an equilibrium point where  $V_1 = V_2$  also you can use charge conservation.

$$q_1 + q_2 = q_0$$

the charge of the first one initially

2- 48)  This becomes on parallel

 This becomes on series

• when a slab is inserted and battery is disconnected →  $q$  is constant and  $V$  changes

The opposite is true

3) 70) New Capacitance  

$$= \frac{\epsilon_0 A}{d-b}$$



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