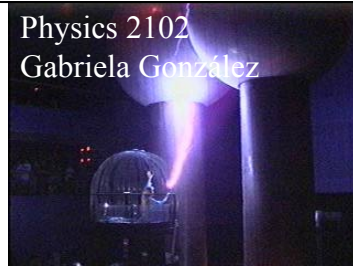


Physics 2102
Gabriela González



Physics 2102

Capacitors



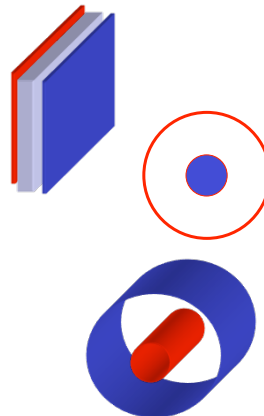
Summary (last class)

- Any two charged conductors form a capacitor.
- Capacitance : $C = Q/V$
- Simple Capacitors:

Parallel plates: $C = \epsilon_0 A/d$

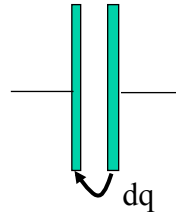
Spherical: $C = \epsilon_0 4\pi ab/(b-a)$

Cylindrical: $C = \epsilon_0 2\pi L/\ln(b/a)$



Energy Stored in a Capacitor

- Start out with uncharged capacitor
- Transfer small amount of charge dq from one plate to the other until charge on each plate has magnitude Q
- How much work was needed?



$$U = \int_0^Q V dq = \int_0^Q \frac{q}{C} dq = \frac{Q^2}{2C} = \frac{CV^2}{2}$$

Energy Stored in Electric Field

- Energy stored in capacitor: $U = Q^2/(2C) = CV^2/2$
- View the energy as stored in ELECTRIC FIELD
- For example, parallel plate capacitor:

Energy DENSITY = energy/volume = $u =$

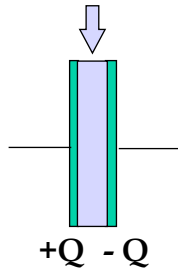
$$U = \frac{Q^2}{2CAd} = \frac{Q^2}{2\left(\frac{\epsilon_0 A}{d}\right)Ad} = \frac{Q^2}{2\epsilon_0 A^2} = \frac{\epsilon_0}{2} \left(\frac{Q}{\epsilon_0 A}\right)^2 = \frac{\epsilon_0 E^2}{2}$$

\uparrow
 volume = Ad

General expression for any region with vacuum (or air)

Dielectric Constant

DIELECTRIC

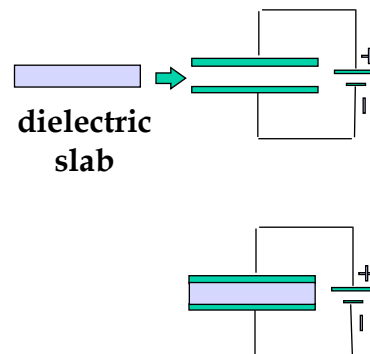


$$C = \kappa \epsilon_0 A/d$$

- If the space between capacitor plates is filled by a dielectric, the capacitance **INCREASES** by a factor κ
- This is a useful, working definition for dielectric constant.
- Typical values of κ : 10 - 200

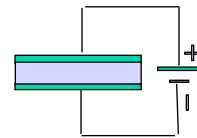
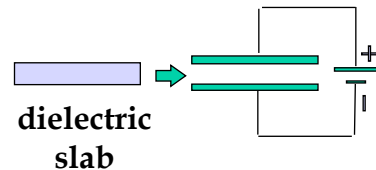
Example

- Capacitor has charge Q , voltage V
- Battery remains connected while dielectric slab is inserted.
- Do the following increase, decrease or stay the same:
 - Potential difference?
 - Capacitance?
 - Charge?
 - Electric field?



Example (soln)

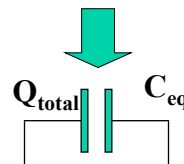
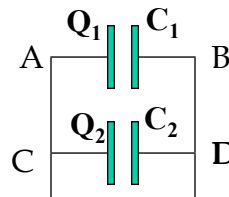
- Initial values:
 capacitance = C ; charge = Q ;
 potential difference = V ;
 electric field = E ;
- Battery remains connected
- V is FIXED; $V_{\text{new}} = V$ (**same**)
- $C_{\text{new}} = \kappa C$ (**increases**)
- $Q_{\text{new}} = (\kappa C)V = \kappa Q$ (**increases**).
- Since $V_{\text{new}} = V$, $E_{\text{new}} = E$ (**same**)



Energy stored? $u = \epsilon_0 E^2 / 2 \Rightarrow u = \kappa \epsilon_0 E^2 / 2 = \epsilon E^2 / 2$

Capacitors in Parallel

- A wire is a conductor, so it is an equipotential.
- Capacitors in parallel have SAME potential difference but NOT ALWAYS same charge.
- $V_{AB} = V_{CD} = V$
- $Q_{\text{total}} = Q_1 + Q_2$
- $C_{\text{eq}}V = C_1V + C_2V$
- $C_{\text{eq}} = C_1 + C_2$
- Equivalent parallel capacitance = sum of capacitances**



PARALLEL:

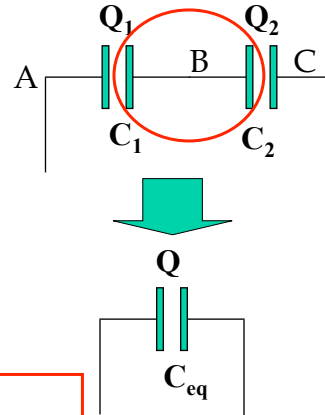
- V is same for all capacitors
- Total charge in $C_{\text{eq}} =$ sum of charges

Capacitors in series

- $Q_1 = Q_2 = Q$ (WHY???)
- $V_{AC} = V_{AB} + V_{BC}$

$$\frac{Q}{C_{eq}} = \frac{Q}{C_1} + \frac{Q}{C_2}$$

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



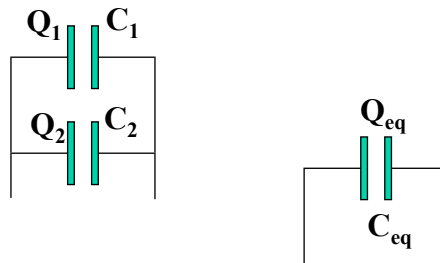
SERIES:

- Q is same for all capacitors
- Total potential difference in C_{eq} = sum of V

Capacitors in parallel and in series

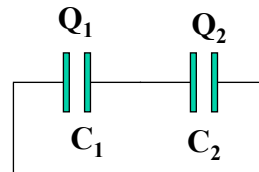
In parallel :

- $C_{eq} = C_1 + C_2$
- $V_{eq} = V_1 = V_2$
- $Q_{eq} = Q_1 + Q_2$



In series :

- $1/C_{eq} = 1/C_1 + 1/C_2$
- $V_{eq} = V_1 + V_2$
- $Q_{eq} = Q_1 = Q_2$



Summary

- Capacitors in series and in parallel:
 - in series: charge is the same, potential adds, equivalent capacitance is given by $1/C=1/C_1+1/C_2$
 - in parallel: charge adds, potential is the same, equivalent capacitance is given by $C=C_1+C_2$.
- Energy in a capacitor: $U=Q^2/2C=CV^2/2$; energy density $u=\epsilon_0 E^2/2$
- Capacitor with a dielectric: capacitance increases $C'=\kappa C$

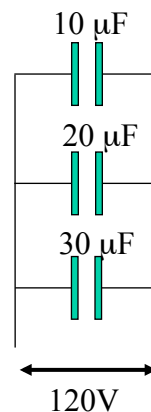
Example 1

What is the charge on each capacitor?

- $Q = CV$; $V = 120 \text{ V}$
- $Q_1 = (10 \mu\text{F})(120\text{V}) = 1200 \mu\text{C}$
- $Q_2 = (20 \mu\text{F})(120\text{V}) = 2400 \mu\text{C}$
- $Q_3 = (30 \mu\text{F})(120\text{V}) = 3600 \mu\text{C}$

Note that:

- Total charge ($7200 \mu\text{C}$) is shared between the 3 capacitors in the ratio $C_1:C_2:C_3$ -- i.e. 1:2:3

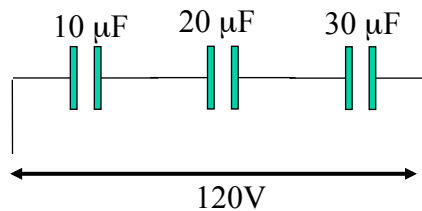


Example 2

What is the potential difference across each capacitor?

- $Q = CV$; Q is same for all capacitors
- Combined C is given by:

$$\frac{1}{C_{eq}} = \frac{1}{(10\mu F)} + \frac{1}{(20\mu F)} + \frac{1}{(30\mu F)}$$



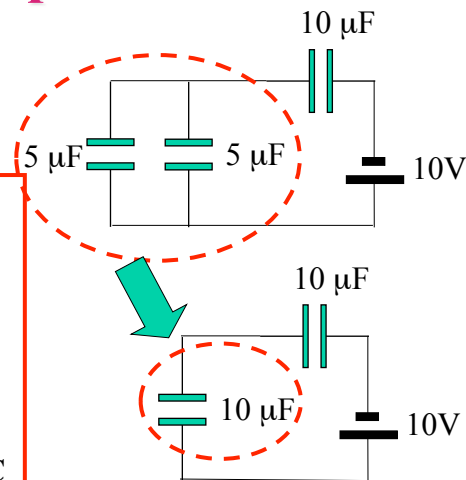
- $C_{eq} = 5.46 \mu F$
- $Q = CV = (5.46 \mu F)(120V) = 655 \mu C$
- $V_1 = Q/C_1 = (655 \mu C)/(10 \mu F) = 65.5 V$
- $V_2 = Q/C_2 = (655 \mu C)/(20 \mu F) = 32.75 V$
- $V_3 = Q/C_3 = (655 \mu C)/(30 \mu F) = 21.8 V$

Note: 120V is shared in the ratio of INVERSE capacitances i.e. 1:(1/2):(1/3)
(largest C gets smallest V)

Example 3

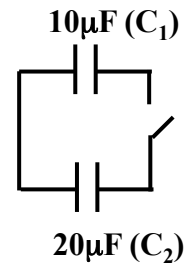
In the circuit shown, what is the charge on the $10\mu F$ capacitor?

- The two $5\mu F$ capacitors are in parallel
- Replace by $10\mu F$
- Then, we have two $10\mu F$ capacitors in series
- So, there is 5V across the $10\mu F$ capacitor of interest
- Hence, $Q = (10\mu F)(5V) = 50\mu C$



Example

- **10 μ F capacitor is initially charged to 120V.**
20 μ F capacitor is initially uncharged.
- **Switch is closed, equilibrium is reached.**
- **How much energy is dissipated in the process?**



Initial charge on 10 μ F = (10 μ F)(120V) = 1200 μ C

After switch is closed, let charges = Q_1 and Q_2 .

Charge is conserved: $Q_1 + Q_2 = 1200\mu\text{C}$

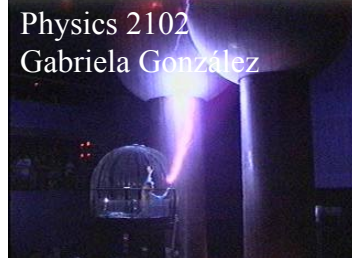
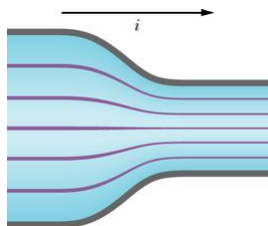
Also, V_{final} is same: $\frac{Q_1}{C_1} = \frac{Q_2}{C_2} \Rightarrow Q_1 = \frac{Q_2}{2}$

- $Q_1 = 400\mu\text{C}$
- $Q_2 = 800\mu\text{C}$
- $V_{\text{final}} = Q_1/C_1 = 40\text{ V}$

Initial energy stored = $(1/2)C_1 V_{\text{initial}}^2 = (0.5)(10\mu\text{F})(120)^2 = 72\text{mJ}$

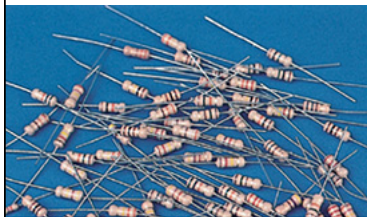
Final energy stored = $(1/2)(C_1 + C_2)V_{\text{final}}^2 = (0.5)(30\mu\text{F})(40)^2 = 24\text{mJ}$

Energy lost (dissipated) = 48mJ



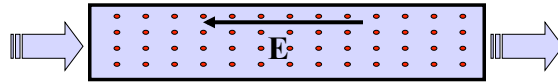
Physics 2102

Current and resistance



Georg Simon Ohm
(1789-1854)

Electrical current



In a conductor, electrons are free to move. If there is a field E inside the conductor, $F=qE$ means the electrons move in a direction opposite to the field: this is an electrical current.

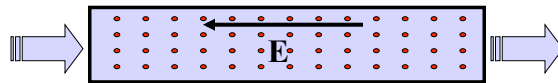
We think of current as motion of imaginary **positive** charges along the field directions.

$$i = \frac{dq}{dt}, \quad q = \int i dt \quad \text{Units : } [i] = \frac{\text{Coulomb}}{\text{second}} \equiv \text{Ampere}$$

Andre-Marie
Ampere
1775-1836



Electrical current



Wasn't the field supposed to be zero inside conductors?

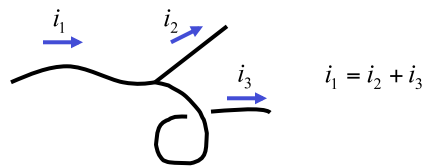
Yes, if the charges were in *equilibrium*. The reasoning was “electrons move until they cancel out the field”. If the situation is not static, that is, if electrons are moving, then the field can be nonzero in a conductor, and the potential is not constant across it!

However, “somebody” has to be pumping the electrons: this is the job of the battery we put across a circuit. If there is no source creating the electric field, the charges reach equilibrium at $E=0$.

Electrical current: Conservation

Current is a scalar, NOT a vector, although we use arrows to indicate direction of propagation.

Current is conserved, because charge is conserved!



“junction rule”: everything that comes in, must go out.

Resistance

Electrons are not “completely free to move” in a conductor. They move erratically, colliding with the nuclei all the time: this is what we call “resistance”.

The resistance is related to the potential we need to apply to a device to drive a given current **through** it. The larger the resistance, the larger the potential we need to drive the same current.

Ohm's laws

$$R \equiv \frac{V}{i} \quad \text{and therefore: } i = \frac{V}{R} \quad \text{and } V = iR$$



Georg Simon Ohm
(1789-1854)

"a professor who preaches such heresies is unworthy to teach science." Prussian minister of education 1830

$$\text{Units: } [R] = \frac{\text{Volt}}{\text{Ampere}} \equiv \text{Ohm (abbr. } \Omega \text{)}$$

Devices specifically designed to have a constant value of R are called resistors, and symbolized by 