

# PHYS 5C: Capacitors Cont.

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- $C = \frac{Q}{V}$
- $V_{\text{battery}} = V_{\text{cap}} = \frac{Q}{C}$
- $V = \frac{Q_1}{C_1} = \frac{Q_2}{C_2} = \frac{Q}{C_{\text{eq}}}$  where  $Q = Q_1 + Q_2 = C_1V + C_2V = (C_1 + C_2)V$   
 $\Rightarrow \frac{(C_1 + C_2)V}{C_{\text{eq}}} \Rightarrow C_{\text{eq}} = C_1 + C_2$
- If Capacitors are parallel then,  $C_{\text{eq}} = C_1 + C_2$   
If not let  $\frac{1}{C_{\text{eq}}} = \frac{1}{C_1} + \frac{1}{C_2}$

## I. Energy

- Charging a capacitor requires work
- Potential energy  $U = qV$
- If there is some  $V$  across capacitor moving an amount of charge  $dq$  requires an amount of work  
 $du = dqV$
- If you charge a capacitor from 0 to  $Q$ , then  $U = \int_0^Q dqV \Rightarrow \frac{1}{C} \int_0^Q dq q = \frac{Q^2}{2C} = \frac{1}{2}CV^2$
- Energy is stored in the Electric field itself
- $C = \frac{\epsilon_0 A}{d}$   $V = Ed$   
 $\frac{1}{2}CV = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\epsilon_0 A}{d} \right) V^2 = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\epsilon_0 A}{d} \right) (E^2 d^2) = \frac{\epsilon_0}{2} E^2 [Ad]$
- Suggests that  $\frac{\epsilon_0}{2} E^2$  is an energy per volume or energy density
- Generally,  $U = \frac{\epsilon_0}{2} \int E^2 d(\text{volume})$

## II. Dielectrics

- Some insulators are polarizable
- $E_D = \frac{E_0}{k}$  where  $k \geq 1$
- $C_d = kC_0$   $V_D = \frac{V_0}{k}$   $C_d = \frac{Q}{V_D} = k \frac{Q}{V_0} = kC_0$
- Define  $\epsilon = k\epsilon_0$  permittivity of dielectric