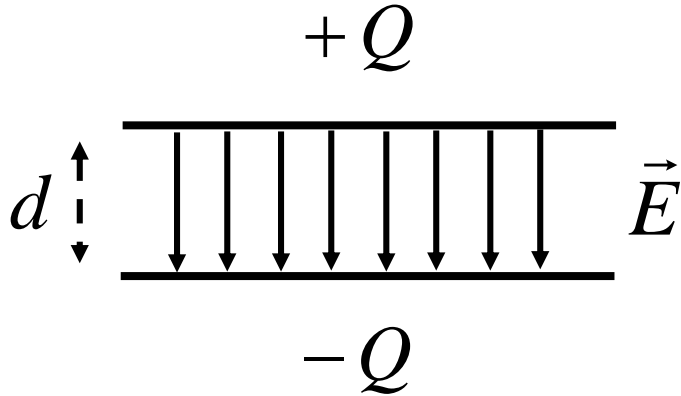


# Parallel Plate Capacitor

$$C = Q/V$$

$$\Delta V = -\int \vec{E} \bullet d\vec{\ell}$$

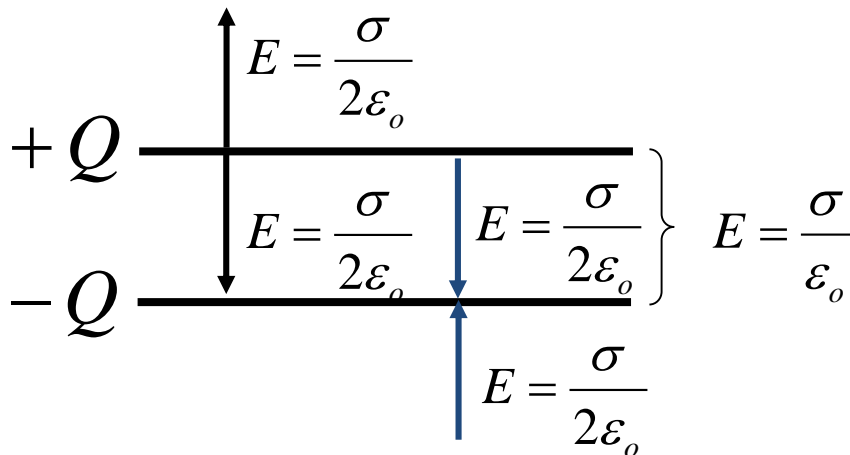


$$= -\int \frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0} d\ell$$

$$= -\frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0} \int d\ell$$

$$= -\frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0} d$$

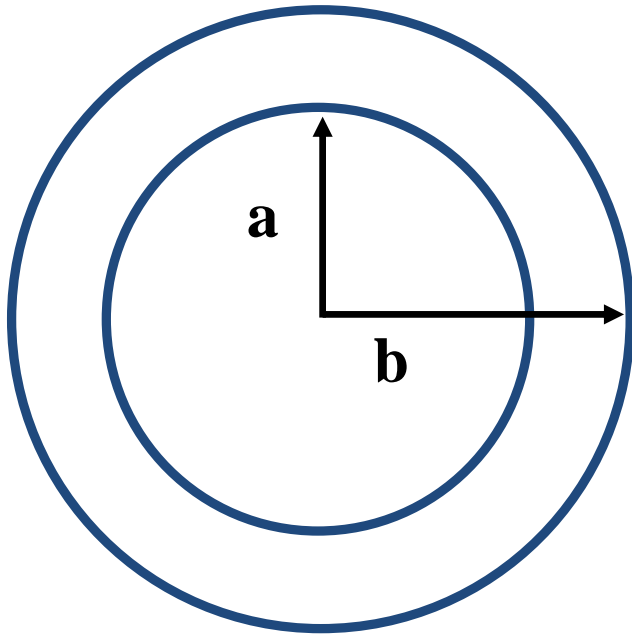
$$= -\frac{Qd}{A\epsilon_0}$$



$$C = \frac{Q}{V} = \frac{\epsilon_0 A}{d}$$

Capacitance depends on “geometry” & “material”

# Capacitance of Concentric Spheres



1.  $C = Q / V$

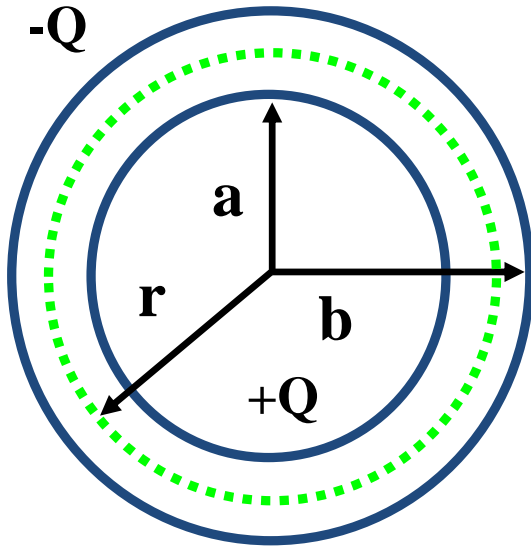
2. Assume a charge

3. Use Gauss's Law to find the E-field

4. Use  $\Delta V = -\int \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l}$  to find the potential

5. Solve for capacitance

# Capacitance of Concentric Spheres



$$\oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{A} = \frac{Q_{\text{encl}}}{\epsilon_0}$$

Since  $\vec{E} \parallel d\vec{A}$  and  $\vec{E}$  is constant everywhere on the Gaussian surface

$$\oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{A} = \oint E \cdot dA = E \oint dA = E(4\pi r^2)$$

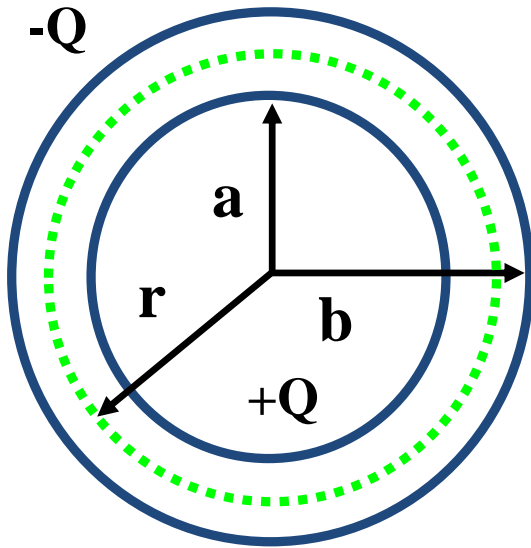
1.  $C = Q / V$
2. Assume a charge
3. Use Gauss's Law to find the E-field
4. Use  $\Delta V = -\int \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l}$  to find the potential
5. Solve for capacitance

$$Q_{\text{encl}} = +Q$$

$$E(4\pi r^2) = \frac{Q}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$E = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2}$$

# Capacitance of Concentric Spheres



1.  $C = Q / V$
2. Assume a charge
3. Use Gauss's Law to find the E-field
4. Use  $\Delta V = -\int \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l}$  to find the potential
5. Solve for capacitance

$$E = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2}$$

$$|\Delta V| = \left| -\int_a^b \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} \right|$$

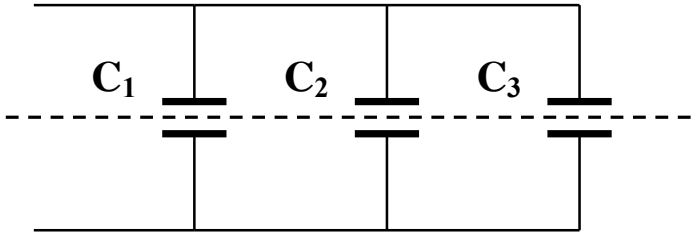
$$= \left| -\int_a^b \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2} dr \right|$$

$$|\Delta V| = \left| \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} \right|_a^b = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left| \frac{1}{b} - \frac{1}{a} \right|$$

$$C = \frac{Q}{V} = \frac{Q}{\frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left| \frac{1}{b} - \frac{1}{a} \right|} = \boxed{\frac{4\pi\epsilon_0}{\left| \frac{1}{b} - \frac{1}{a} \right|}}$$

# Capacitors in Parallel

Capacitors in parallel each have the same potential difference



$$C_1 = \frac{Q_1}{V_1}, \quad C_2 = \frac{Q_2}{V_2}, \quad C_3 = \frac{Q_3}{V_3}$$

$$Q_{\text{total}} = \sum_i Q_i = C_1 V_1 + C_2 V_2 + C_3 V_3$$

$$\sum_i Q_i = V(C_1 + C_2 + C_3)$$

$$\sum_i Q_i = V \sum_i C_i = V C_{\text{eq}}$$

$$C_{\text{eq, parallel}} = \sum_i C_i$$

Conductors are *equipotential surfaces*.

$$V_1 = V_2 = V_3$$

$$\frac{Q_1}{C_1} = \frac{Q_2}{C_2} = \frac{Q_3}{C_3}$$

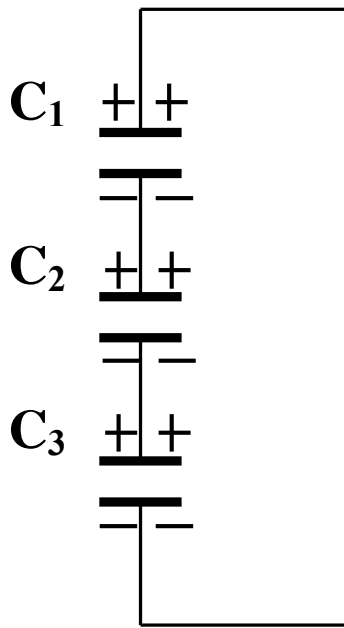
Why put capacitors in parallel?

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

When  $C$  increases,  $U$  also increases (for a given  $V$ )

# Capacitors in Series

Capacitors in series each store the same charge.



$$C_1 = \frac{Q_1}{V_1}$$

$$C_2 = \frac{Q_2}{V_2}$$

$$C_3 = \frac{Q_3}{V_3}$$

$$V_{\text{total}} = \sum_i V_i = \frac{Q_1}{C_1} + \frac{Q_2}{C_2} + \frac{Q_3}{C_3}$$

**$Q$ 's in series are the same**

$$V_{\text{total}} = Q \left( \frac{1}{C_1} + \frac{1}{C_2} + \frac{1}{C_3} \right) = Q \sum_i \frac{1}{C_i}$$

$$V_{\text{total}} = \frac{Q}{C_{\text{eq}}}$$

$$\frac{1}{C_{\text{eq, series}}} = \sum_i \frac{1}{C_i}$$

# Energy Stored in Capacitors

$$C = Q / V$$

$$dU = Vdq = \frac{q}{C} dq$$

$$U = \int dU = \int_0^Q \frac{q}{C} dq = \frac{1}{2} \frac{Q^2}{C}$$

$$U = \frac{1}{2} \frac{Q^2}{C} = \frac{1}{2} QV = \frac{1}{2} CV^2$$

**Consider the Parallel-Plate Capacitor:**

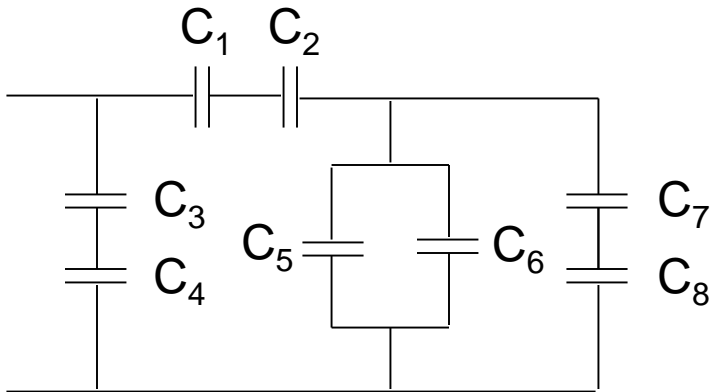
$$U = \frac{1}{2} CV^2 = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\epsilon_o A}{d} \right) (Ed)^2 = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_o E^2 (Ad)$$

$\Delta V = -\int \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{\ell}$

$$u_E = \frac{\text{energy}}{\text{volume}} = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_o E^2$$

**Energy Density: True for any electric field**

# Arbitrary Combinations of Capacitors

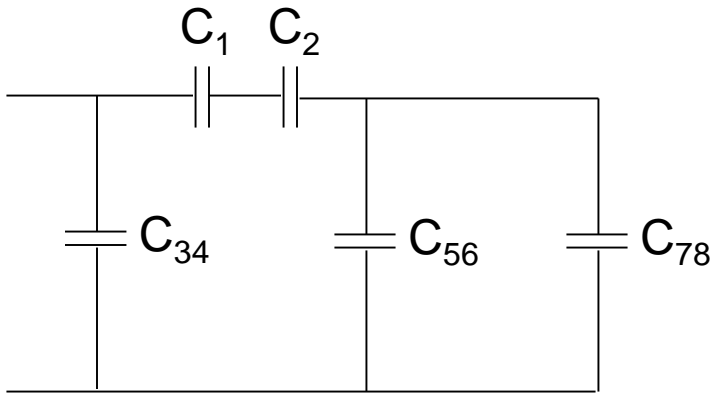


**Find a convenient starting point and start making combinations.**

$$C_5 \parallel C_6 \Rightarrow C_{56} = C_5 + C_6$$

$$C_3 \text{ series } C_4 \Rightarrow C_{34} = \left( \frac{1}{C_3} + \frac{1}{C_4} \right)^{-1}$$

$$C_7 \text{ series } C_8 \Rightarrow C_{78} = \left( \frac{1}{C_7} + \frac{1}{C_8} \right)^{-1}$$

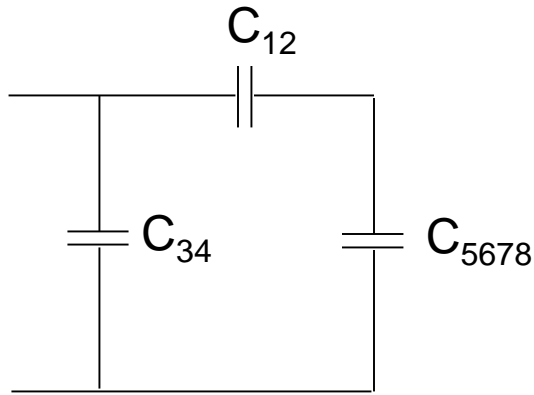


$$C_1 \text{ series } C_2 \Rightarrow C_{12} = \left( \frac{1}{C_1} + \frac{1}{C_2} \right)^{-1}$$

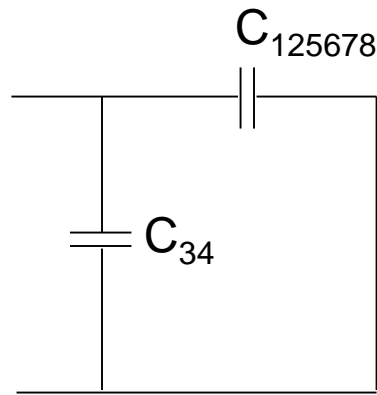
$$C_{56} \parallel C_{78} \Rightarrow C_{5678} = C_{56} + C_{78}$$



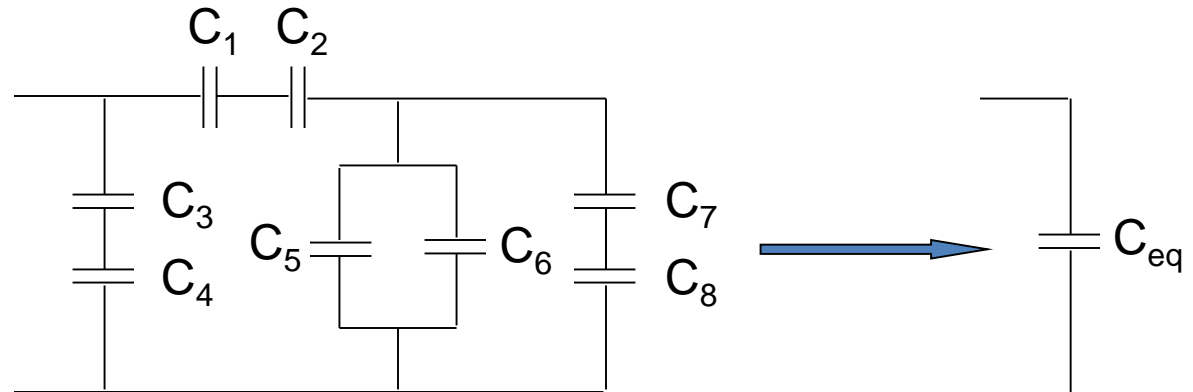
# Arbitrary Combinations of Capacitors



$$C_{12} \text{ series } C_{5678} \Rightarrow C_{125678} = \left( \frac{1}{C_{12}} + \frac{1}{C_{5678}} \right)^{-1}$$



$$C_{34} \parallel C_{125678} \Rightarrow C_{12345678} = C_{34} + C_{125678} = C_{\text{eq}}$$



**Plugging in numbers  
early is wise here**