

Chapter 3:

Static Electric Fields

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Many slides courtesy of Sung-Liang¹ Chen

3-10 Capacitance and Capacitors

- Deposit charges Q on a conductor $\rightarrow V$
- $kQ \rightarrow k\rho_s \rightarrow kV$

$$V = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_{s'} \frac{\rho_s}{R} ds' \quad (\text{V});$$

- The ratio Q/V unchanged

$$Q = CV,$$

C : capacitance (C/V, or Farad)

Capacitor

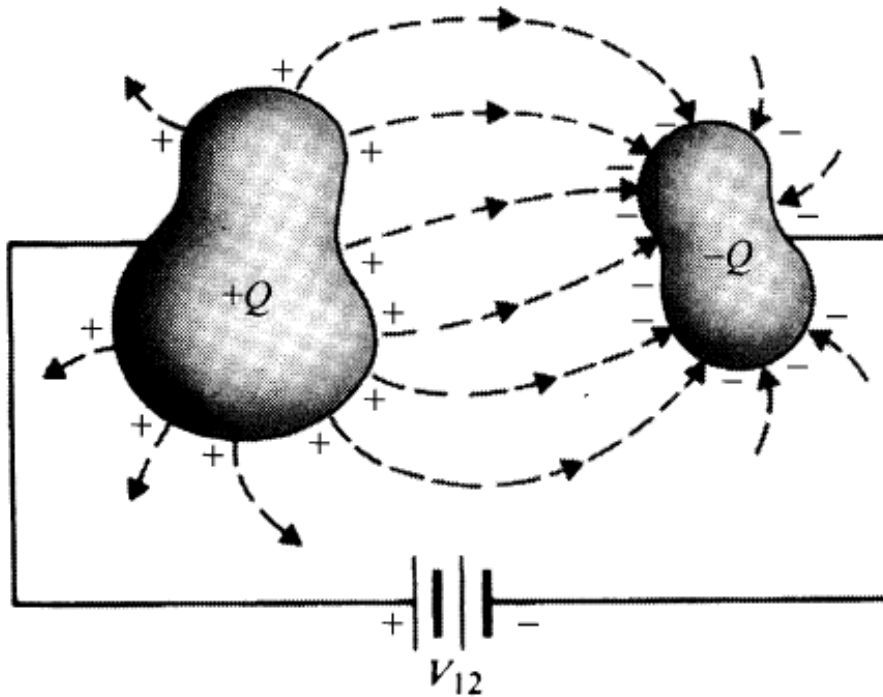


FIGURE 3-27
A two-conductor capacitor.

$\mathbf{E} \perp$ conductor surfaces (equipotential surfaces)

$$C = \frac{Q}{V_{12}} \quad (\text{F}).$$

Capacitance

- C depends on
 - the geometry of the conductors
 - the permittivity of the medium between conductors
 - **Independent of Q and V**
- Measurement of C
 - Method 1: V_{12} known, determine Q (Chap.4)
 - Method 2: Q known, determine V_{12}

Capacitance

- Method 2: Q known, determine V_{12}
 1. Choose a proper coordinate system
 2. Assume $+Q$, $-Q$ on the conductors
 3. Find \mathbf{E} from Q (Gauss's law, etc.)
 4. Find V_{12} by $V_{12} = -\int_2^1 \mathbf{E} \cdot d\boldsymbol{\ell}$
 5. $C=Q/V_{12}$

3-10.1 Series and Parallel Connections of Capacitors

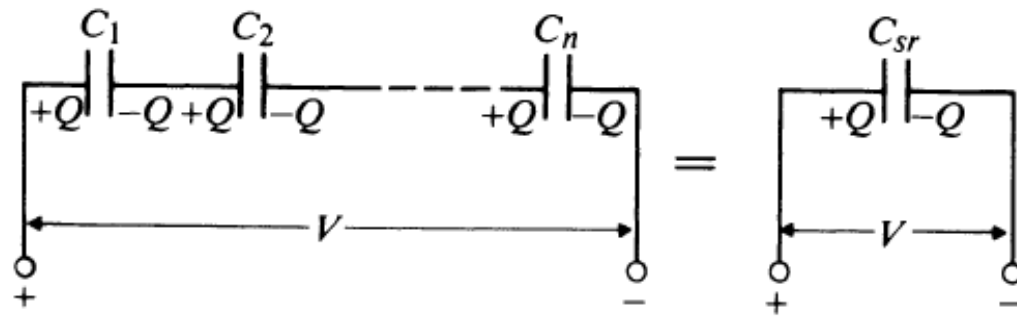


FIGURE 3-31
Series connection of capacitors.

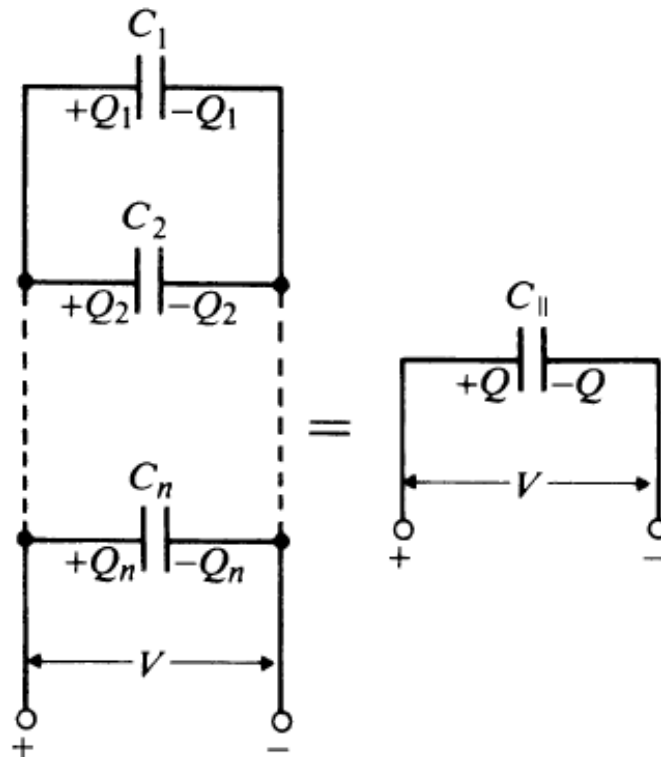


FIGURE 3-32
Parallel connection of capacitors.

Series

- V
 - ➔ $+Q$ and $-Q$ on **two external terminals**
 - ➔ $+Q$ and $-Q$ also induced internally

➔
$$V = \frac{Q}{C_{sr}} = \frac{Q}{C_1} + \frac{Q}{C_2} + \cdots + \frac{Q}{C_n},$$

$$\boxed{\frac{1}{C_{sr}} = \frac{1}{C_1} + \frac{1}{C_2} + \cdots + \frac{1}{C_n}.}$$

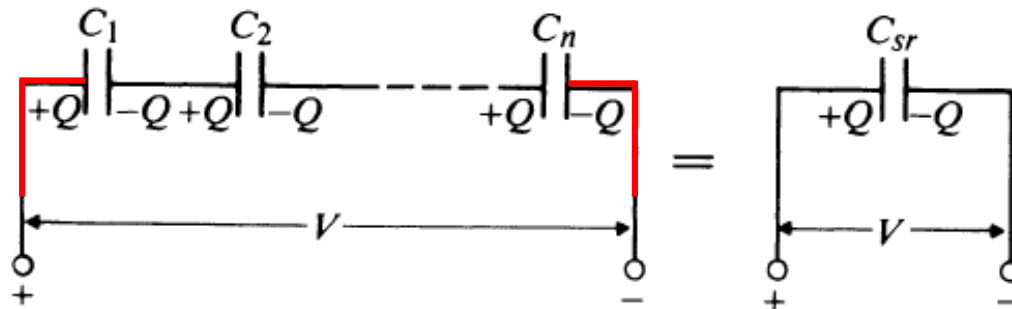


FIGURE 3-31
Series connection of capacitors.

Parallel

- V

→ Q_1, Q_2, Q_3, \dots on each capacitor



$$Q = Q_1 + Q_2 + \dots + Q_n$$
$$= C_1 V + C_2 V + \dots + C_n V = C_{\parallel} V$$

$$C_{\parallel} = C_1 + C_2 + \dots + C_n.$$

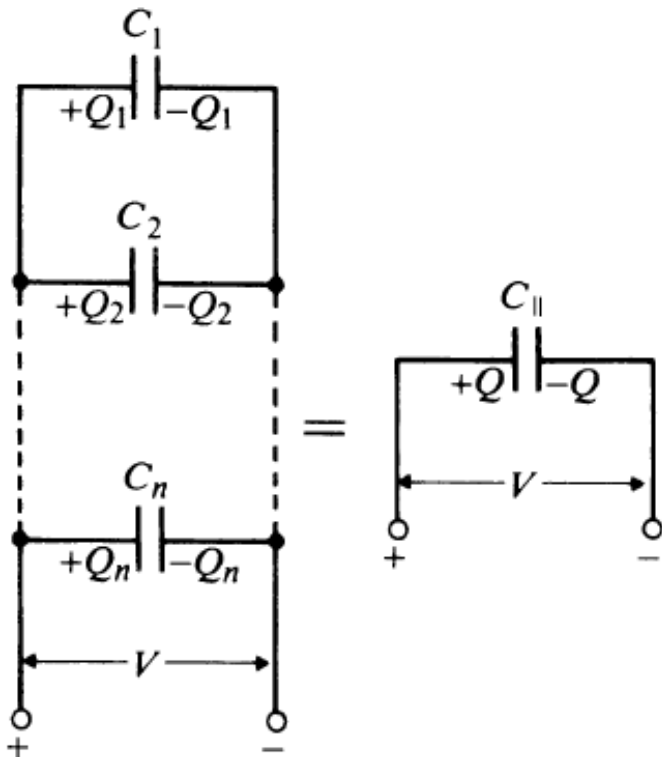


FIGURE 3-32
Parallel connection of capacitors.

3-10.2 Capacitances in Multiconductor Systems

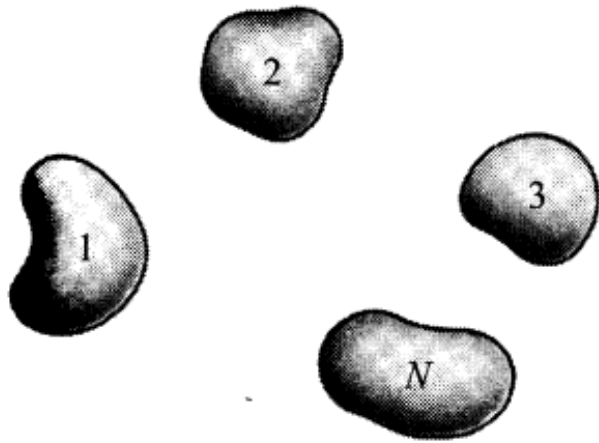


FIGURE 3–34
A multiconductor system.

Presence of a charge on any one of the conductors

➔ Affect potential of all the other conductors

$$V_1 = p_{11}Q_1 + p_{12}Q_2 + \cdots + p_{1N}Q_N,$$

$$V_2 = p_{21}Q_1 + p_{22}Q_2 + \cdots + p_{2N}Q_N,$$

$$\vdots$$

$$V_N = p_{N1}Q_1 + p_{N2}Q_2 + \cdots + p_{NN}Q_N.$$

p_{ij} : coefficients of potential; depends on
1. Shape and position of the conductor
2. Permittivity of surroundings

For an isolated system $Q_1 + Q_2 + Q_3 + \cdots + Q_N = 0.$

$$\begin{aligned}
Q_1 &= c_{11}V_1 + c_{12}V_2 + \cdots + c_{1N}V_N, \\
Q_2 &= c_{21}V_1 + c_{22}V_2 + \cdots + c_{2N}V_N, \\
&\vdots \\
Q_N &= c_{N1}V_1 + c_{N2}V_2 + \cdots + c_{NN}V_N,
\end{aligned}$$

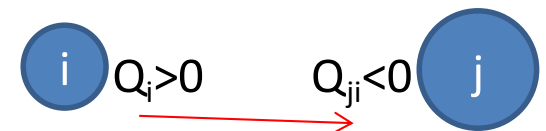
c_{ii} : coefficients of capacitance
 c_{ij} : coefficients of induction ($i \neq j$)

c_{ii} : ground all other conductors, then $c_{ii} = Q_i / V_i$

c_{ji} : Induced charge $Q_{ji} = c_{ji} V_i$

 If Q_i on i th conductor, $V_i > 0 \Rightarrow$ induced $Q_{ji} < 0$

Thus, $c_{ii} > 0$; $c_{ji} < 0$



By reciprocity, $p_{ij} = p_{ji}$ and $c_{ij} = c_{ji}$

A Four-conductor System

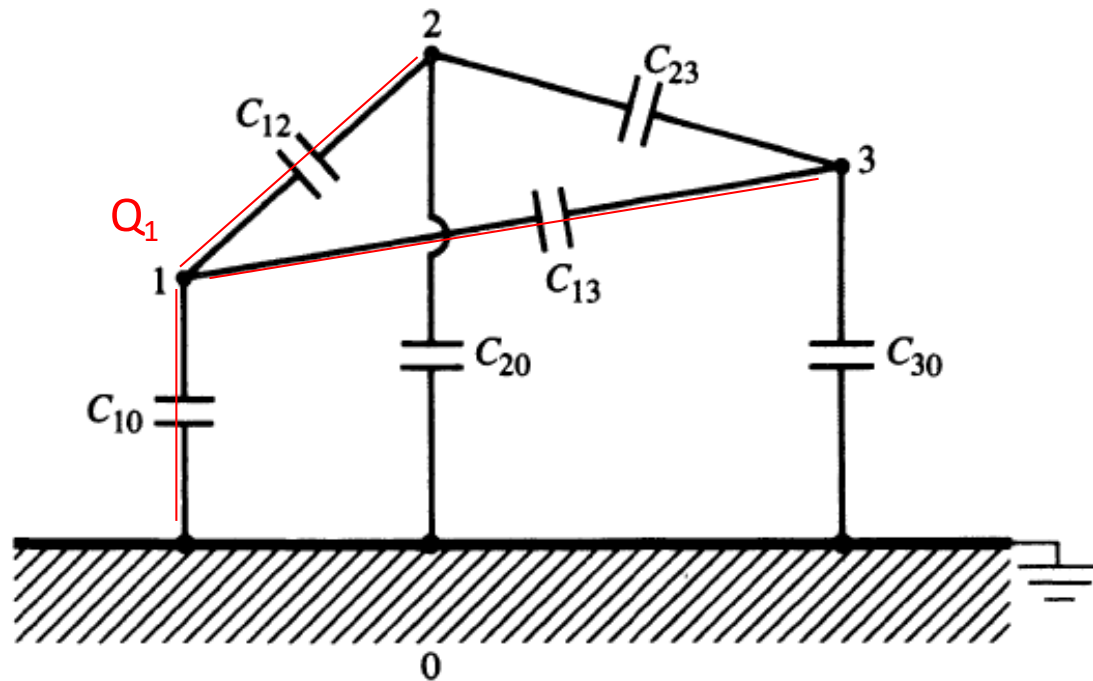
$$\begin{aligned}Q_1 &= c_{11}V_1 + c_{12}V_2 + \cdots + c_{1N}V_N, \\Q_2 &= c_{21}V_1 + c_{22}V_2 + \cdots + c_{2N}V_N, \\&\vdots \\Q_N &= c_{N1}V_1 + c_{N2}V_2 + \cdots + c_{NN}V_N,\end{aligned}$$



Conductors 0,1,2,3. Let conductor 0 be grounded (i.e., $V_0=0$).

$$\begin{aligned}Q_1 &= c_{11}V_1 + c_{12}V_2 + c_{13}V_3, \\Q_2 &= c_{12}V_1 + c_{22}V_2 + c_{23}V_3, \\Q_3 &= c_{13}V_1 + c_{23}V_2 + c_{33}V_3,\end{aligned}$$

A Four-conductor System



c: Coefficient of capacitance
C: Capacitance

FIGURE 3–35
Schematic diagram of three conductors
and the ground.

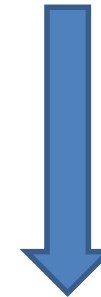
Rewrite the $Q \sim V$ relation

$$\begin{aligned} Q_1 &= C_{10}V_1 + C_{12}(V_1 - V_2) + C_{13}(V_1 - V_3), \\ Q_2 &= C_{20}V_2 + C_{12}(V_2 - V_1) + C_{23}(V_2 - V_3), \\ Q_3 &= C_{30}V_3 + C_{13}(V_3 - V_1) + C_{23}(V_3 - V_2), \end{aligned}$$

C_{10}, C_{20}, C_{30} : self-partial capacitance
 C_{ij} ($i \neq j$): mutual partial capacitance



$$\begin{aligned}
 Q_1 &= (C_{10} + C_{12} + C_{13})V_1 - C_{12}V_2 - C_{13}V_3, \\
 Q_2 &= -C_{12}V_1 + (C_{20} + C_{12} + C_{23})V_2 - C_{23}V_3, \\
 Q_3 &= -C_{13}V_1 - C_{23}V_2 + (C_{30} + C_{13} + C_{23})V_3.
 \end{aligned}$$



Compare with

$$\begin{aligned}
 Q_1 &= c_{11}V_1 + c_{12}V_2 + c_{13}V_3, \\
 Q_2 &= c_{12}V_1 + c_{22}V_2 + c_{23}V_3, \\
 Q_3 &= c_{13}V_1 + c_{23}V_2 + c_{33}V_3,
 \end{aligned}$$

Coefficient of capacitance:

c_{11} is the total capacitance between conductor 1 and all the other conductors connected

$$\begin{aligned}
 c_{11} &= C_{10} + C_{12} + C_{13}, \\
 c_{22} &= C_{20} + C_{12} + C_{23}, \\
 c_{33} &= C_{30} + C_{13} + C_{23},
 \end{aligned}$$

Coefficient of inductance:

c_{12} is negative of the C_{12} (mutual partial capacitance)

$$\begin{aligned}
 c_{12} &= -C_{12}, \\
 c_{23} &= -C_{23}, \\
 c_{13} &= -C_{13}.
 \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}
 C_{10} &= c_{11} + c_{12} + c_{13}, \\
 C_{20} &= c_{22} + c_{12} + c_{23}, \\
 C_{30} &= c_{33} + c_{13} + c_{23}.
 \end{aligned}$$

3-10.3 Electrostatic Shielding

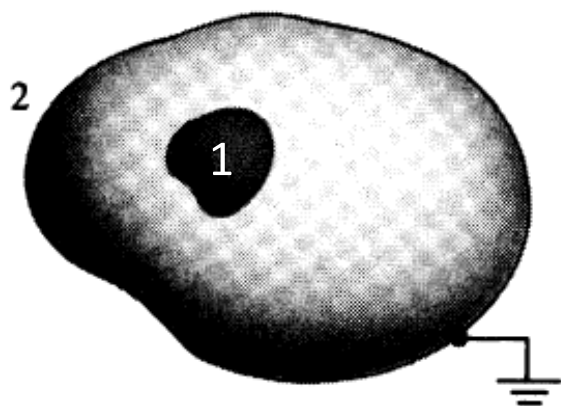


FIGURE 3-37

Illustrating electrostatic shielding.

A three-conductor system

Setting $V_2=0$

$$\Rightarrow Q_1 = C_{10}V_1 + C_{12}V_1 + C_{13}(V_1 - V_3).$$

$$Q_1 = C_{10}V_1 + C_{12}(V_1 - V_2) + C_{13}(V_1 - V_3),$$

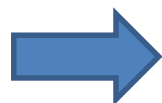
$$Q_2 = C_{20}V_2 + C_{12}(V_2 - V_1) + C_{23}(V_2 - V_3),$$

$$Q_3 = C_{30}V_3 + C_{13}(V_3 - V_1) + C_{23}(V_3 - V_2),$$

$$\text{When } Q_1=0 \Rightarrow \mathbf{E} \text{ inside } 2=0 \Rightarrow V_1=V_2=0 \Rightarrow 0=-C_{13}V_3 \Rightarrow C_{13}=0$$

Gauss's law

$$V = - \int \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{l}$$



A change of V_3 will not affect Q_1

3-11 Electrostatic Energy and Forces

- From Eq. 3-44 $\frac{W}{q} = - \int_{P_1}^{P_2} \mathbf{E} \cdot d\boldsymbol{\ell} = V_{21}$
 - Work required to bring a charge q from P_1 to P_2
 $W = qV_{21}$

- A charge Q_1 in free space. Work required to bring a **second** charge Q_2 from infinity to a distance R_{12} (position 2): $W = Q_2 V_{2\infty} = Q_2 V_2$

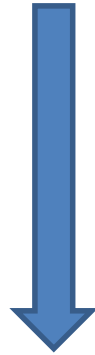
$$W_2 = Q_2 V_2 = Q_2 \frac{Q_1}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R_{12}}$$

Against E field of charge Q_1
(V_2 is due to charge Q_1)

Rewrite $W_2 = Q_2 V_2 = Q_2 \frac{Q_1}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R_{12}}$



$$W_2 = Q_1 \frac{Q_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R_{12}} = Q_1 V_1.$$



$$Q_1 V_1 = Q_2 V_2$$

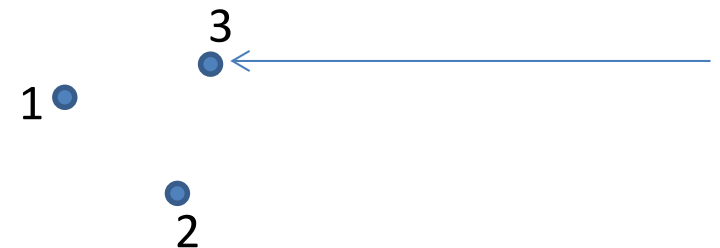
$$\rightarrow Q_1 V_1 + Q_2 V_2 = 2Q_1 V_1 = 2W_2$$

$$W_2 = \frac{1}{2}(Q_1 V_1 + Q_2 V_2).$$

- Another charge Q_3 . Work required to bring a **third** charge Q_3 from infinity to a distance R_{13} from Q_1 and R_{23} from Q_2 : $\Delta W = Q_3 V_{3\infty}$

Against E field of charge Q_1 and E field of charge Q_2
 V_3 is due to charges Q_1 and Q_2

$$\Delta W = Q_3 V_3 = Q_3 \left(\frac{Q_1}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R_{13}} + \frac{Q_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R_{23}} \right).$$



- Total work to assemble the 3 charges Q_1 , Q_2 , and Q_3 : $W_3 = W_2 + \Delta W$

$$W_3 = W_2 + \Delta W = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left(\frac{Q_1 Q_2}{R_{12}} + \frac{Q_1 Q_3}{R_{13}} + \frac{Q_2 Q_3}{R_{23}} \right).$$



Rewrite: 3 terms divided into 6 terms

$$\begin{aligned} W_3 &= \frac{1}{2} \left[Q_1 \left(\frac{Q_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R_{12}} + \frac{Q_3}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R_{13}} \right) + Q_2 \left(\frac{Q_1}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R_{12}} + \frac{Q_3}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R_{23}} \right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + Q_3 \left(\frac{Q_1}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R_{13}} + \frac{Q_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R_{23}} \right) \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (Q_1 V_1 + Q_2 V_2 + Q_3 V_3). \end{aligned}$$

Potential V_1 is caused by charges Q_2 and Q_3

Different from the previous V_1 due to Q_2 only $W_2 = Q_1 \frac{Q_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R_{12}} = Q_1 V_1.$

General expression

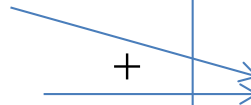
Self energy: Work required to assemble the individual point charges

Mutual energy: the interacting energy

Initially, Q_1 in space

Introduce Q_2 $\Delta W = Q_2 V_{2\infty}$

Introduce Q_3 $\Delta W = Q_3 V_{3\infty}$



$$W_2 = \frac{1}{2}(Q_1 V_1 + Q_2 V_2).$$

$$W_3 = \frac{1}{2}(Q_1 V_1 + Q_2 V_2 + Q_3 V_3).$$

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$$W_e = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^N Q_k V_k \quad (\text{J}),$$

Potential V_k is caused by all the other charges

$$V_k = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ (j \neq k)}}^N \frac{Q_j}{R_{jk}}.$$

3-11.1 Electrostatic Energy in terms of Field Quantities

- For a continuous charge distribution of density ρ

$$W_e = \frac{1}{2} \int_V \rho V dv \quad (\text{J}).$$

Volume

Electrical potential



$$W_e = \frac{1}{2} \int_V (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D}) V dv.$$



$$\nabla \cdot (V\mathbf{D}) = V\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} + \mathbf{D} \cdot \nabla V,$$

$$\begin{aligned} W_e &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{V'} \nabla \cdot (V\mathbf{D}) dv - \frac{1}{2} \int_{V'} \mathbf{D} \cdot \nabla V dv \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \oint_{S'} V\mathbf{D} \cdot \mathbf{a}_n ds + \frac{1}{2} \int_{V'} \mathbf{D} \cdot \mathbf{E} dv, \end{aligned}$$



- V' can be any volume
- Choose its radius $R \rightarrow \infty \rightarrow 1^{\text{st}}$ term disappears

$$W_e = \frac{1}{2} \int_{V'} \mathbf{D} \cdot \mathbf{E} dv \quad (\text{J}).$$



$$\mathbf{D} = \epsilon \mathbf{E} \quad \text{For a linear medium}$$

$$W_e = \frac{1}{2} \int_{V'} \epsilon E^2 dv \quad (\text{J})$$

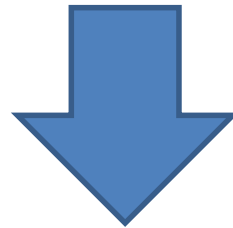
$$W_e = \frac{1}{2} \int_{V'} \frac{D^2}{\epsilon} dv \quad (\text{J}).$$

Electrostatic Energy Density w_e

$$W_e = \frac{1}{2} \int_{V'} \mathbf{D} \cdot \mathbf{E} dv \quad (\text{J}).$$

$$W_e = \frac{1}{2} \int_{V'} \epsilon E^2 dv \quad (\text{J})$$

$$W_e = \frac{1}{2} \int_{V'} \frac{D^2}{\epsilon} dv \quad (\text{J}).$$



$$W_e = \int_{V'} w_e dv.$$

$$w_e = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{D} \cdot \mathbf{E} \quad (\text{J/m}^3)$$

$$w_e = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon E^2 \quad (\text{J/m}^3)$$

$$w_e = \frac{D^2}{2\epsilon} \quad (\text{J/m}^3).$$

Definition of density form is artificial;
Volume integral form can be verified.

3-11.2 Electrostatic Forces

- Using Coulomb's law to determine the force on one body that is caused by the charges on other bodies would be very tedious.
- Thus, a simple method of **principle of virtual displacement** is introduced.
 - System of bodies with fixed charges
 - System of conducting bodies with fixed potentials

System of Bodies with Fixed Charges

- An isolated system consisting of charged conductor and dielectric bodies.
- Condition: Charges are constant.
- Electric force displaces one of the bodies by $d\ell$ (a virtual displacement)
 - Mechanical **work** done **by the system**:

$$dW = \mathbf{F}_Q \cdot d\boldsymbol{\ell},$$

\mathbf{F}_Q : total electric force acting on the body

- In other words, **reduced stored electrostatic energy** produces the mechanical **work**

$$dW = -dW_e = \mathbf{F}_Q \cdot d\boldsymbol{\ell}.$$

Reduced stored electrostatic energy



$$dW_e = (\nabla W_e) \cdot d\boldsymbol{\ell}$$

$$\mathbf{F}_Q = -\nabla W_e \quad (\text{N}).$$

A very simple formula for the calculation of \mathbf{F}_Q from the electrostatic energy of the system

- Electric torque rotates one of the bodies by $d\phi$ (a virtual rotation) about an axis (e.g., z axis)
 - Work done by the system:

$$dW = (T_Q)_z d\phi$$



⋮



$$(T_Q)_z = -\frac{\partial W_e}{\partial \phi} \quad (\text{N}\cdot\text{m}).$$

System of Conducting Bodies with Fixed Potentials

- Condition: potentials are fixed.
- System connected to **external sources** to maintain fixed potentials
- A displacement $d\ell \rightarrow dW_e, dQ_k$ to maintain fixed potentials V_k
 - 1. Work done by the external sources:

$$dW_s = \sum_k V_k dQ_k$$

- 2. Produced mechanical work:

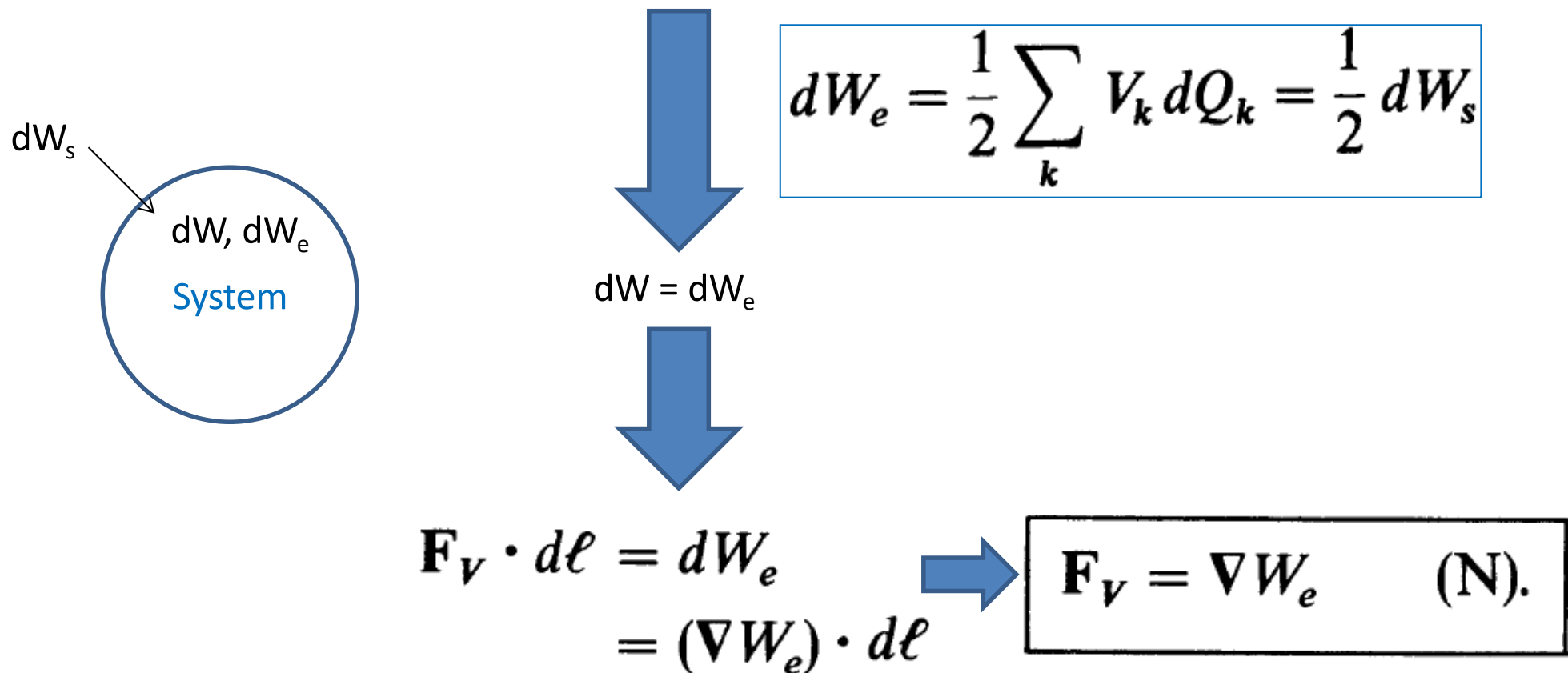
$$dW = \mathbf{F}_v \cdot d\ell$$

\mathbf{F}_v : electric force acting on the body

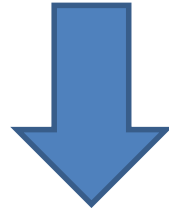
- 3. Change of electrostatic energy due to dQ_k :

$$dW_e = \frac{1}{2} \sum_k V_k dQ_k = \frac{1}{2} dW_s$$

- Thus, $dW + dW_e = dW_s$.



- Similarly, a displacement $d\phi \rightarrow dW_e, dQ_k$



⋮



$$(T_v)_z = \frac{\partial W_e}{\partial \phi} \quad (\text{N} \cdot \text{m}),$$

The difference in formulas for fixed potentials and for fixed charges is only a sign change.