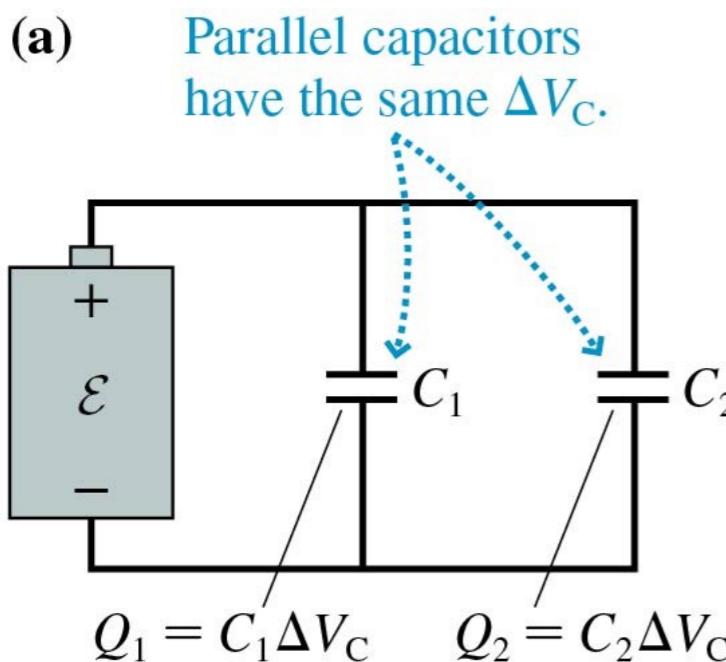


Capacitors in parallel



- Charge adds up:

$$Q = Q_1 + Q_2$$

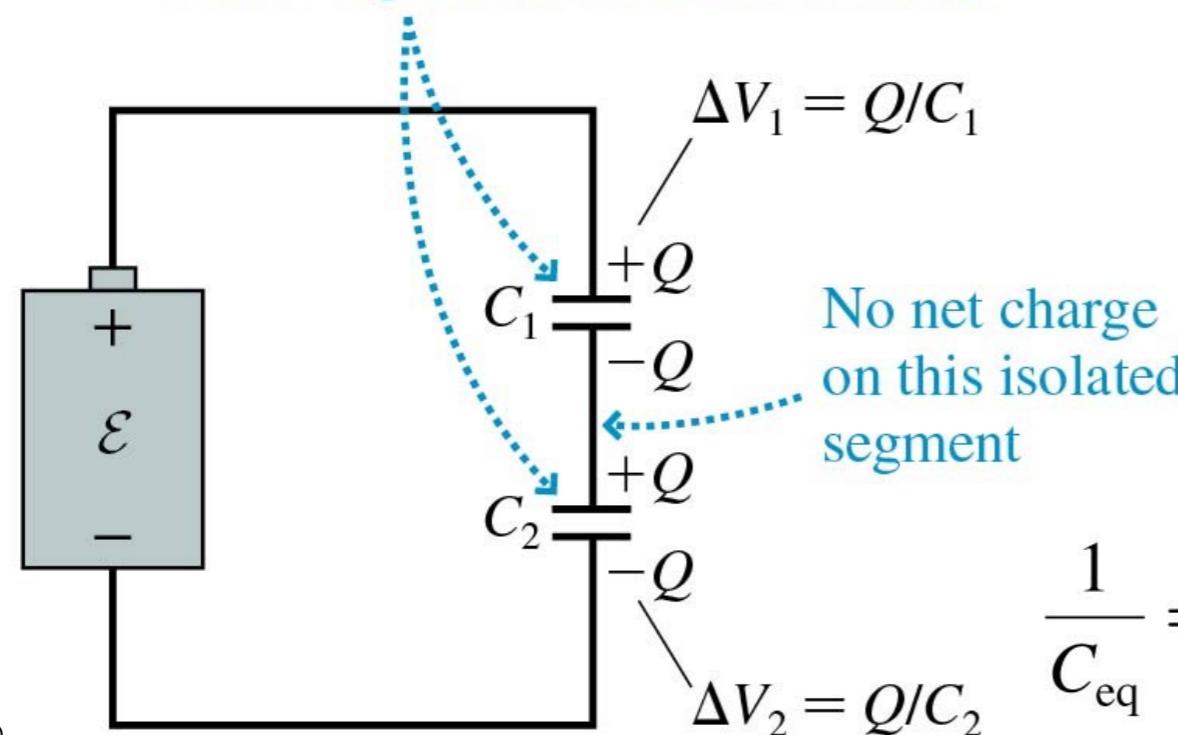
- Voltage is the same:

$$\Delta V_C = \Delta V_1 = \Delta V_2$$

$$C_{\text{eq}} = \frac{Q}{\Delta V_C} = \frac{Q_1 + Q_2}{\Delta V_C} = \frac{Q_1}{\Delta V_C} + \frac{Q_2}{\Delta V_C} = C_1 + C_2$$

Capacitors in series

- (a) Series capacitors have the same Q .



- Charge is the same:

$$Q = Q_1 = Q_2$$

- Voltage adds up:

$$\Delta V_C = \Delta V_1 + \Delta V_2$$

$$\frac{1}{C_{\text{eq}}} = \frac{\Delta V_C}{Q} = \frac{\Delta V_1 + \Delta V_2}{Q} = \frac{\Delta V_1}{Q} + \frac{\Delta V_2}{Q} = \frac{1}{C_1} + \frac{1}{C_2}$$

PHYS 2B: Resources available to help you succeed in this class

- We have many resources dedicated to this class:
 - Discussion sessions: Wed 1 hour (5 TAs!)
 - Office hours: 12+ hours
 - Tutorial center by your TAs: 10+ hours
 - Besides lectures and quiz: T, Th 2:00—3:20, F 5:00—5:50
 - **More than 24 hours per week of help in person!**
- piazza (24/7)
- many office hours (12+ hours, one for each section [@271](#))
- discussion sessions (1 each, [@254](#)), **know how to do all discussion problems.**
- [tutorial center](#) (10 additional hours by your discussion session TAs [@271](#)), **Score < 7, attend sessions, use resources!**
- [OASIS](#),
- [IDEA](#), engineering student center, [PHYS 2B Wed 10-11:50](#)
- [Teaching + Learning Commons](#), Drop-in Geisel PHYS 2B
- [Academic Achievement Hub](#) (see image below)
- Library reserves (yes, now the physical book must be there)

Minimum to pass this class:

know how to do all discussion problems.

Score < 7, attend sessions, use resources!

Class at a Glance

Updated 5 seconds ago. [Reload](#)

[Request stickers for my students](#)



no unread posts



no unanswered questions (0)



no unresolved followups



0 posts due for an answer

322 total posts

1885 total contributions

233 instructors' responses

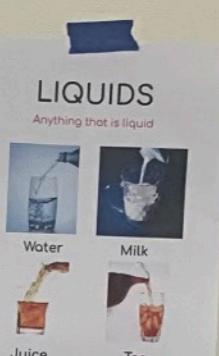
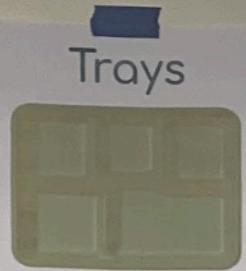
211 students' responses

7 min avg. response time

Student Enrollment

..out of 350 (estimated) [Edit](#)

395 enrolled



5th grade exercise nowadays!!

Agenda

Opening Circle

Instructions

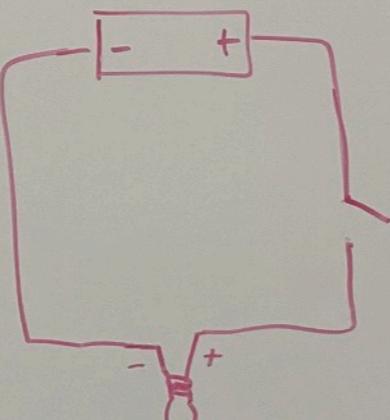
Engineering Challenge

Clean Up

Closing Circle

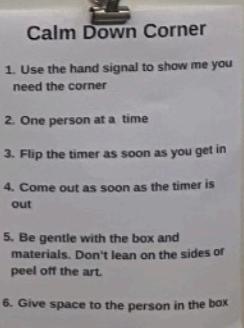
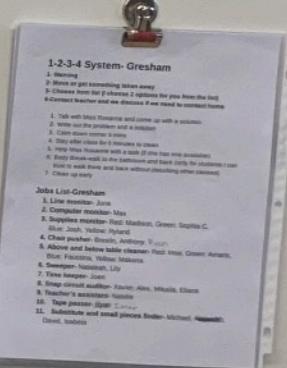
Job Check

1. Turn on the light
2. Make a switch
3. Turn on 2 lights
4. Turn on the light without it touching the battery



Piper
Karsten

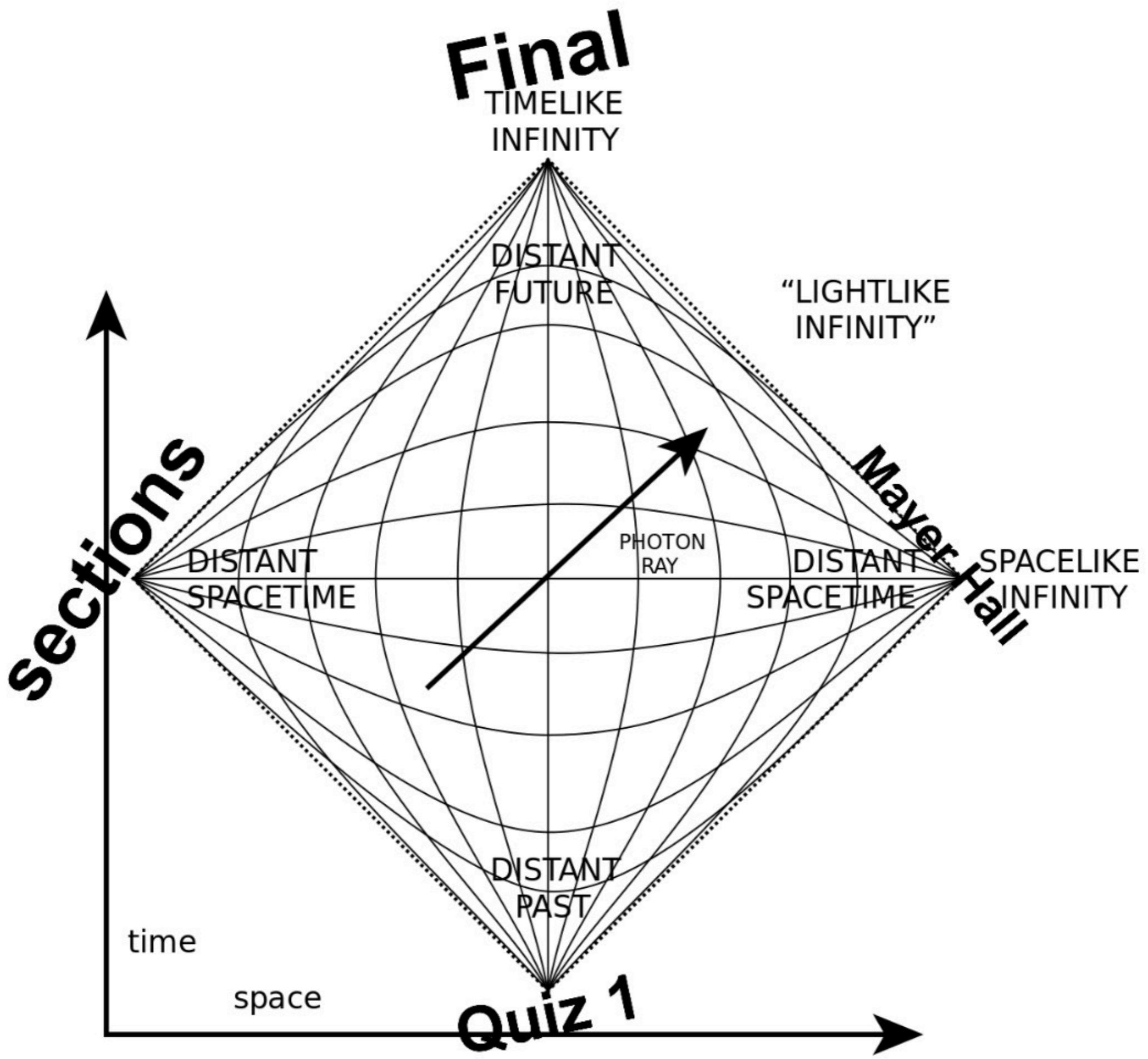
Goal: Get quiet by 8



Do Not touch
the wall

Dear Ms. Roxanne
I LOVE
Your Class
Thank You
for letting us be
in your class

I love playing ring
It is fun
I hope I get to
be in your class
next year. I'm
fun.

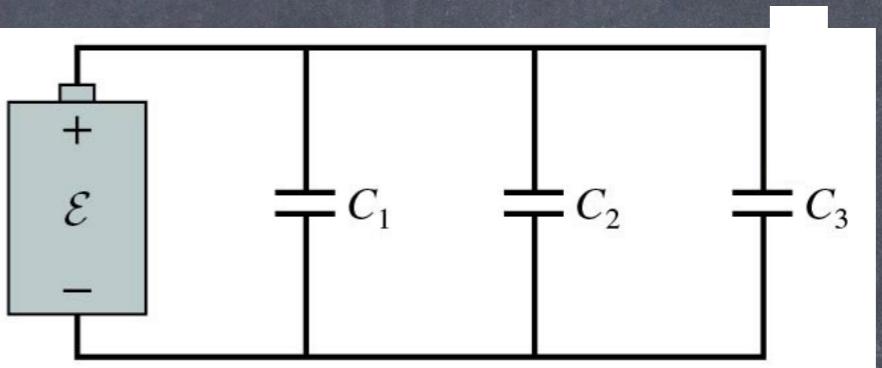


Capacitors

Remember when you have multiple capacitors in a circuit that:

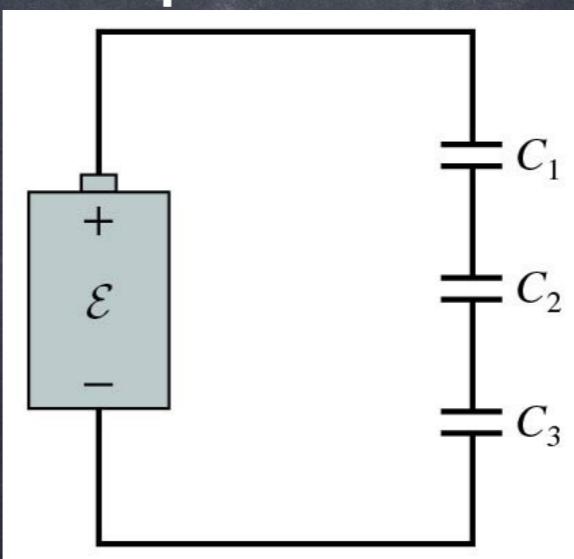
- Capacitors in **parallel** all have **same potential differences**
- The equivalent capacitance of the parallel capacitors also will have the same potential difference.

$$C_{\text{eq}} = C_1 + C_2 + C_3 + \dots$$



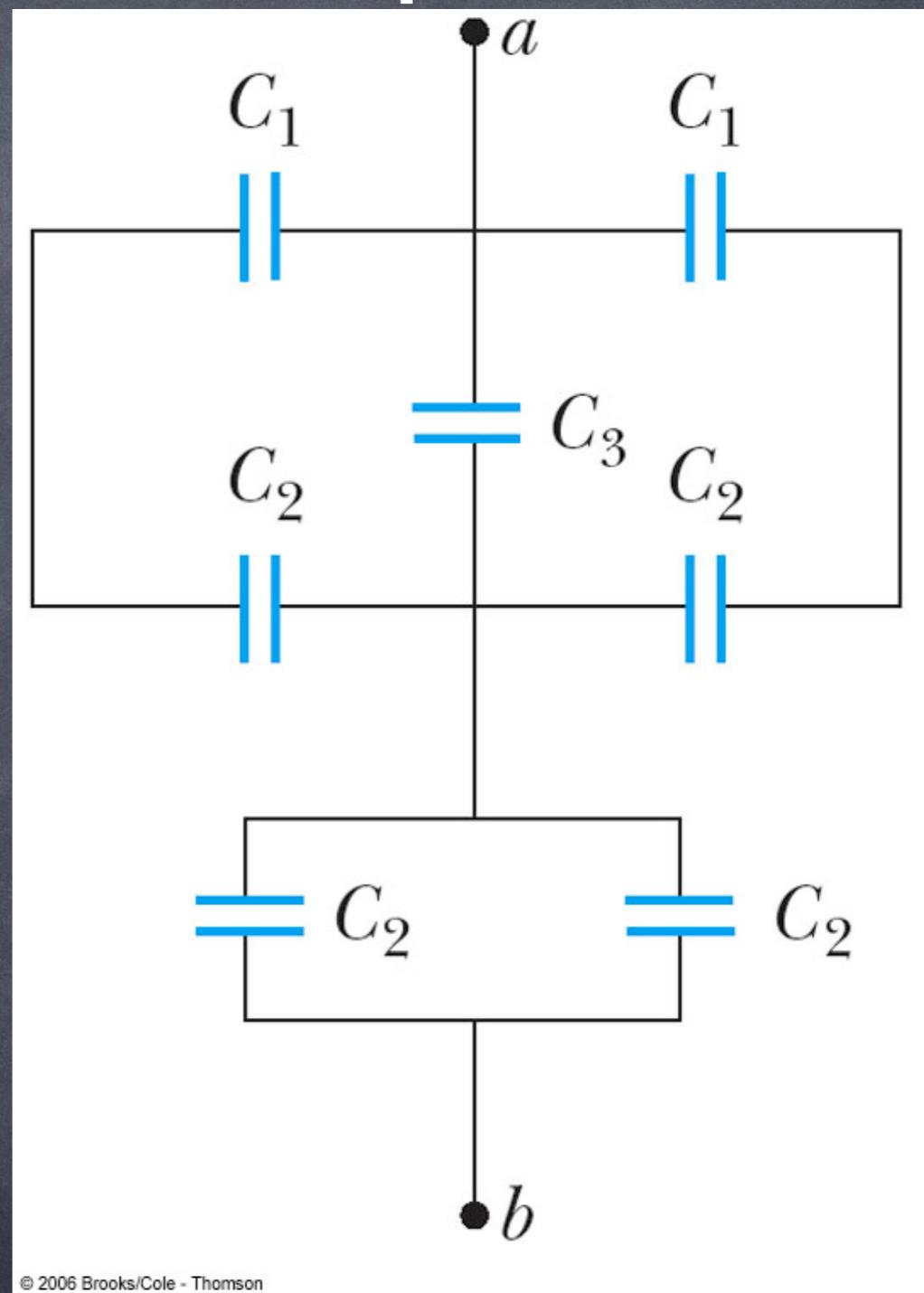
- Capacitors in **series** all have **same charge**
- The equivalent capacitor of the series capacitors also will have the same charge.

$$C_{\text{eq}} = \left(\frac{1}{C_1} + \frac{1}{C_2} + \frac{1}{C_3} + \dots \right)^{-1}$$



Capacitor network, example

Find the equivalent capacitance between points a and b in the group of capacitors connected in series as shown in the figure to the right (take $C_1 = 5.00 \mu\text{F}$, $C_2 = 10.0 \mu\text{F}$, and $C_3 = 2.00 \mu\text{F}$). If the potential difference between points a and b is 60.0V, what is the charge stored on C_3 ?



© 2006 Brooks/Cole - Thomson

Answer

- Reduce the circuit by equivalent capacitance to find Q_3 .
- Start with the C_1 and C_2 in series on the top.

Capacitor network, example

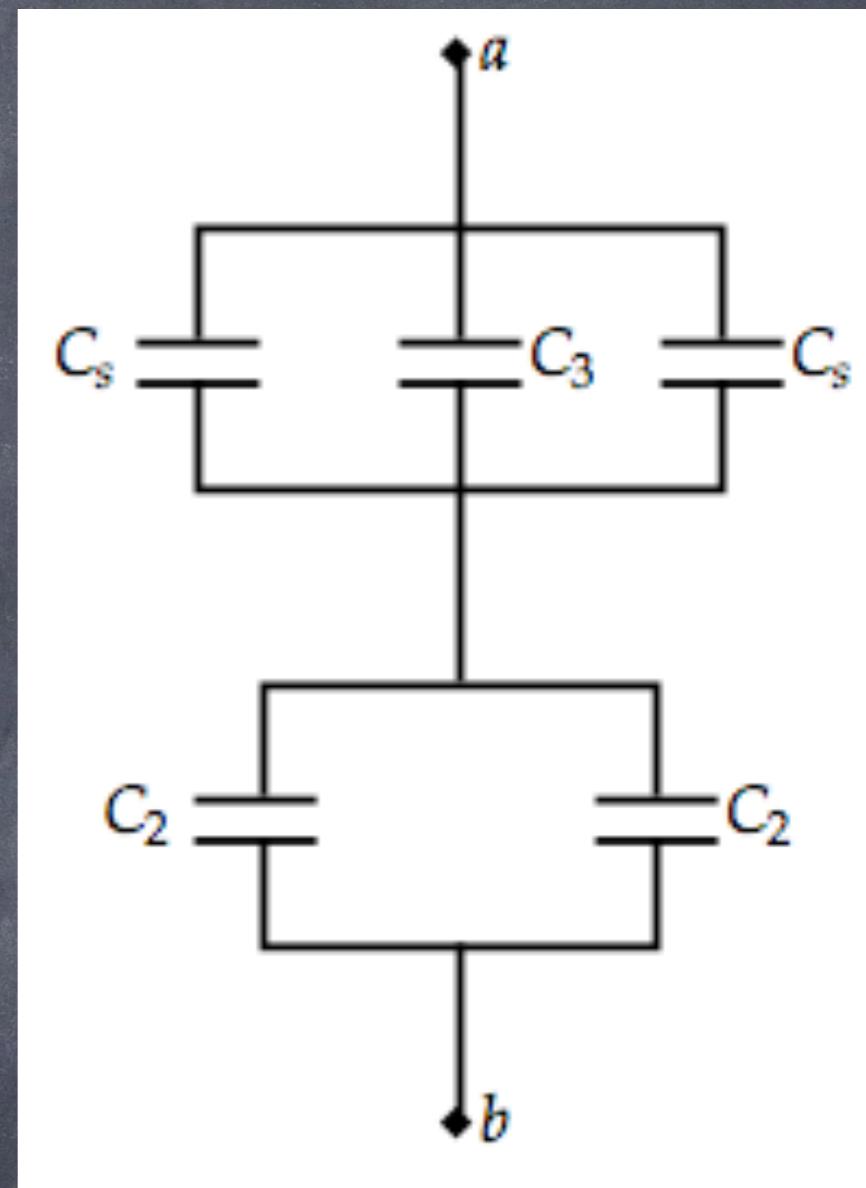
- Answer

- Combine the two top capacitors that are in series (left and right are the same) to form an equivalent C_s :

$$\frac{1}{C_s} = \frac{1}{C_1} + \frac{1}{C_2} = \frac{1}{5\mu\text{F}} + \frac{1}{10\mu\text{F}}$$

$$\frac{1}{C_s} = \frac{2}{10\mu\text{F}} + \frac{1}{10\mu\text{F}} = \frac{3}{10\mu\text{F}}$$

$$C_s = \frac{10\mu\text{F}}{3} = 3.33\mu\text{F}$$



- Next, combine the top three that are in parallel:

$$C_{P1} = C_s + C_3 + C_s$$

$$C_{P1} = 3.33\mu\text{F} + 2.00\mu\text{F} + 3.33\mu\text{F} = 8.66\mu\text{F}$$

Capacitor network, example

- Answer

- Next, combine the bottom two that are in parallel:

$$C_{P2} = C_2 + C_2$$

$$C_{P2} = 10.0 \mu\text{F} + 10.0 \mu\text{F} = 20.0 \mu\text{F}$$

- Finally, combine the remaining two capacitors that are in series:

$$\frac{1}{C_{eq}} = \frac{1}{C_{P1}} + \frac{1}{C_{P2}} = \frac{1}{8.66 \mu\text{F}} + \frac{1}{20 \mu\text{F}}$$

$$\frac{1}{C_{eq}} = (0.1155) \text{ } \mu\text{F}^{-1} + (0.0500) \text{ } \mu\text{F}^{-1} = (0.1655) \text{ } \mu\text{F}^{-1}$$

$$C_{eq} = 6.04 \mu\text{F}$$



Capacitor network, example

Answer

- Next, we need to find the total charge stored on the equivalent capacitor:

$$Q_{eq} = C_{eq} (\Delta V_{ab})$$

$$Q_{eq} = 6.04 \mu\text{F}(60\text{V}) = 362 \mu\text{C}$$



- Looking back at the two equivalent capacitors in series (C_{p1} and C_{p2}), we see that they must have the same amount of charge:

$$Q_{eq} = Q_{P1} = Q_{P2} = 362 \mu\text{C}$$

- This means that the potential difference across C_{p1} is:

$$\Delta V_{P1} = \frac{Q_{P1}}{C_{P1}}$$

$$\Delta V_{P1} = \frac{362 \mu\text{C}}{8.66 \mu\text{F}} = 41.8\text{V}$$

Capacitor network, example

Answer

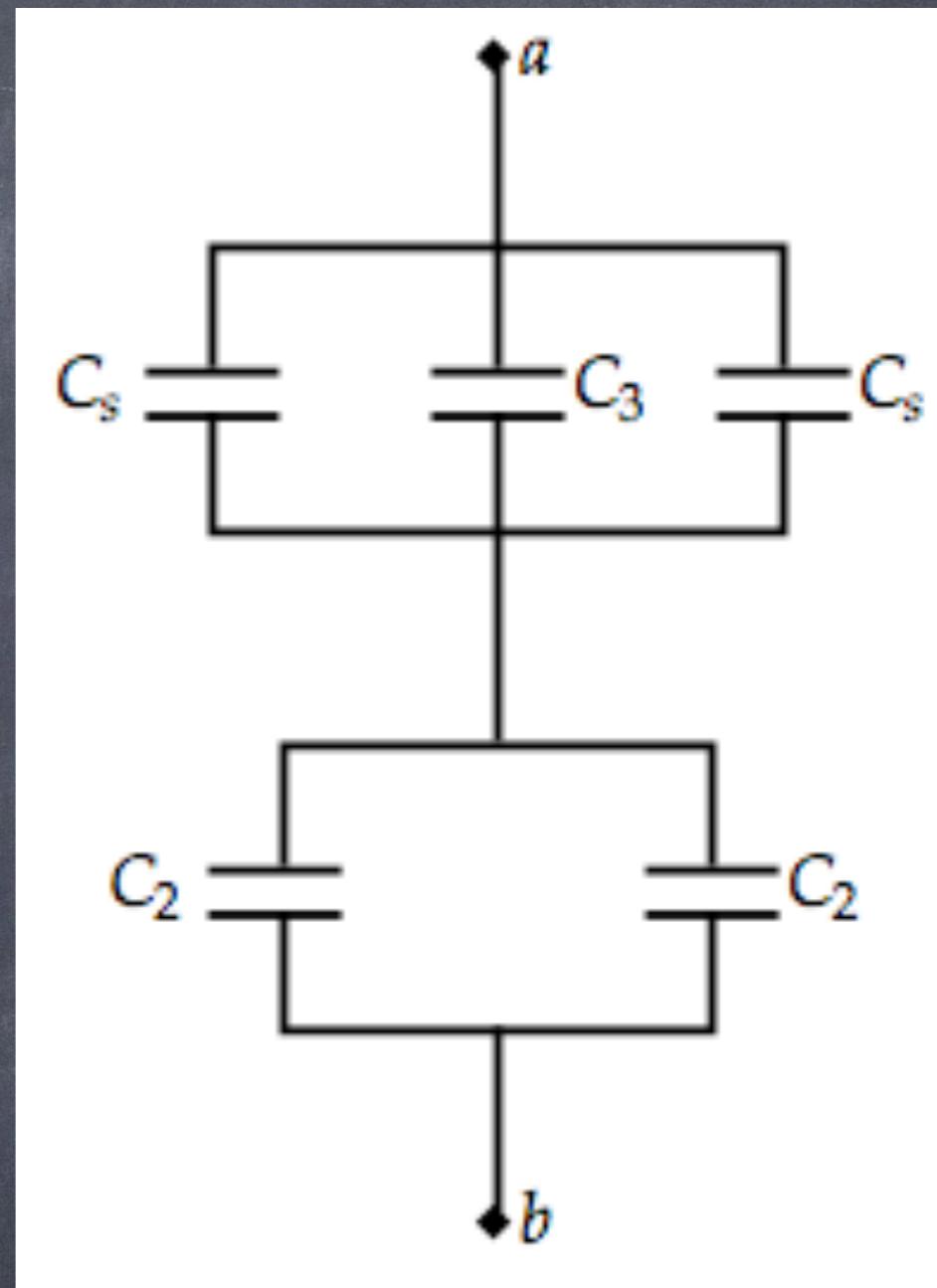
- We turn back to the three top capacitors in parallel (C_s , C_3 , and C_s).
- We note that all three of these capacitors must have the same potential difference as each other (and C_{p1}).

$$\Delta V_{C3} = 41.8V$$

- This means that the charge on C_3 is:

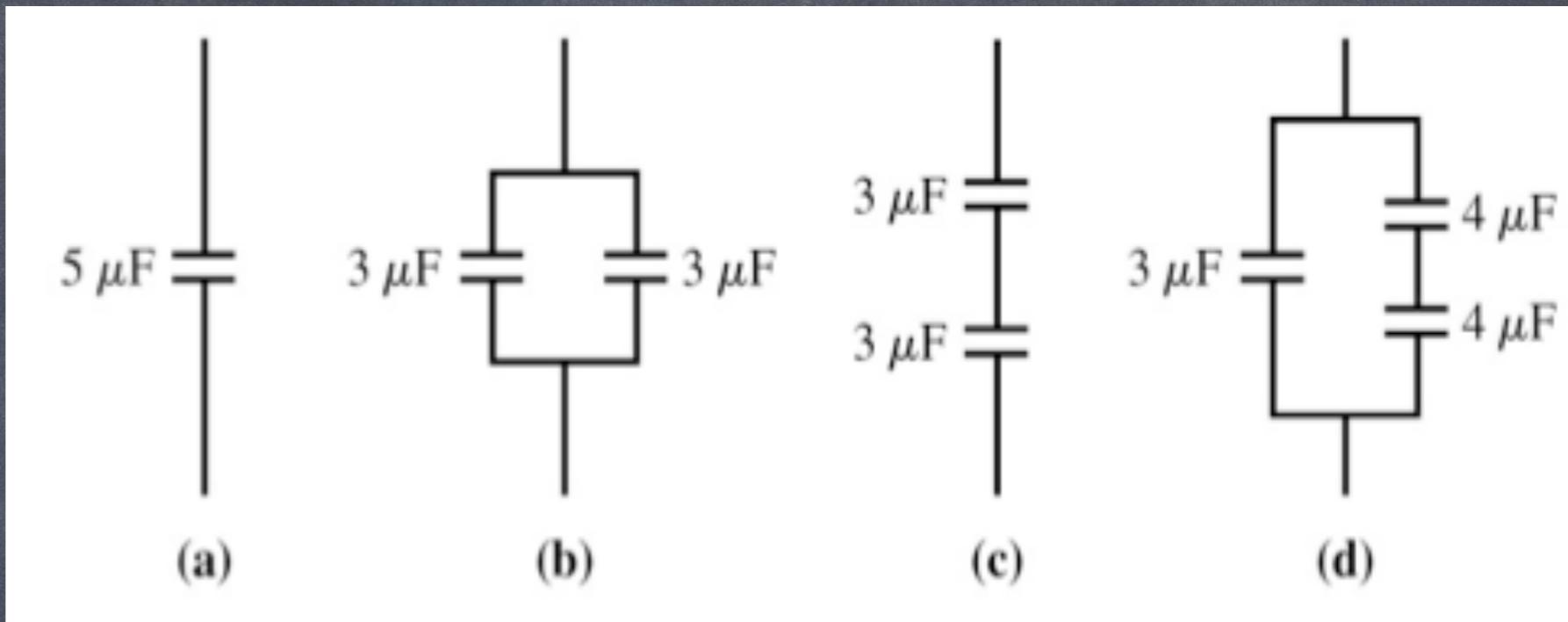
$$Q_3 = C_3(\Delta V_{C3})$$

$$Q_3 = 2.00\mu F(41.8V) = 83.6\mu C$$



iClicker take home Question

- Rank in order, from largest to smallest the equivalent capacitance C_a to C_d of the circuits a to d.



- A) $C_d > C_b > C_a > C_c$.
- B) $C_d > C_b = C_c > C_a$.
- C) $C_a > C_b = C_c > C_d$.
- D) $C_b > C_a = C_d > C_c$.
- E) $C_c > C_a = C_d > C_b$.

Energy stored in a Capacitor

- Suppose you have a given capacitor charged to a potential difference ΔV with a charge $\pm q$ on either plate. How much energy would it take to transfer a small amount of charge dq ?
- Start with the relationship between work and electric potential:

$$dW = (\Delta V) dq$$

$$dW = \left(\frac{q}{C}\right) dq$$

- If we wanted to calculate the entire work done to fully charge the capacitor in this manner (from $q = 0$ to $q = Q$) we have:

$$W = \int dW = \int_0^Q \left(\frac{q}{C}\right) dq$$

Energy of a Capacitor

- Since C merely depends on the geometry of the capacitor, we have:

$$W = \frac{1}{C} \int_0^Q (q) dq$$

$$W = \frac{1}{C} \left(\frac{Q^2}{2} \right)$$

- Since the electric force is conservative, the energy stored (U_{elec}) in the capacitor is equivalent to the work put in:

$$\text{Energy stored} = \frac{1}{2} Q (\Delta V) = \frac{1}{2} C (\Delta V)^2 = \frac{Q^2}{2C}$$

- The main use of a capacitor is to store and then discharge energy.

The Energy Stored in a Capacitor

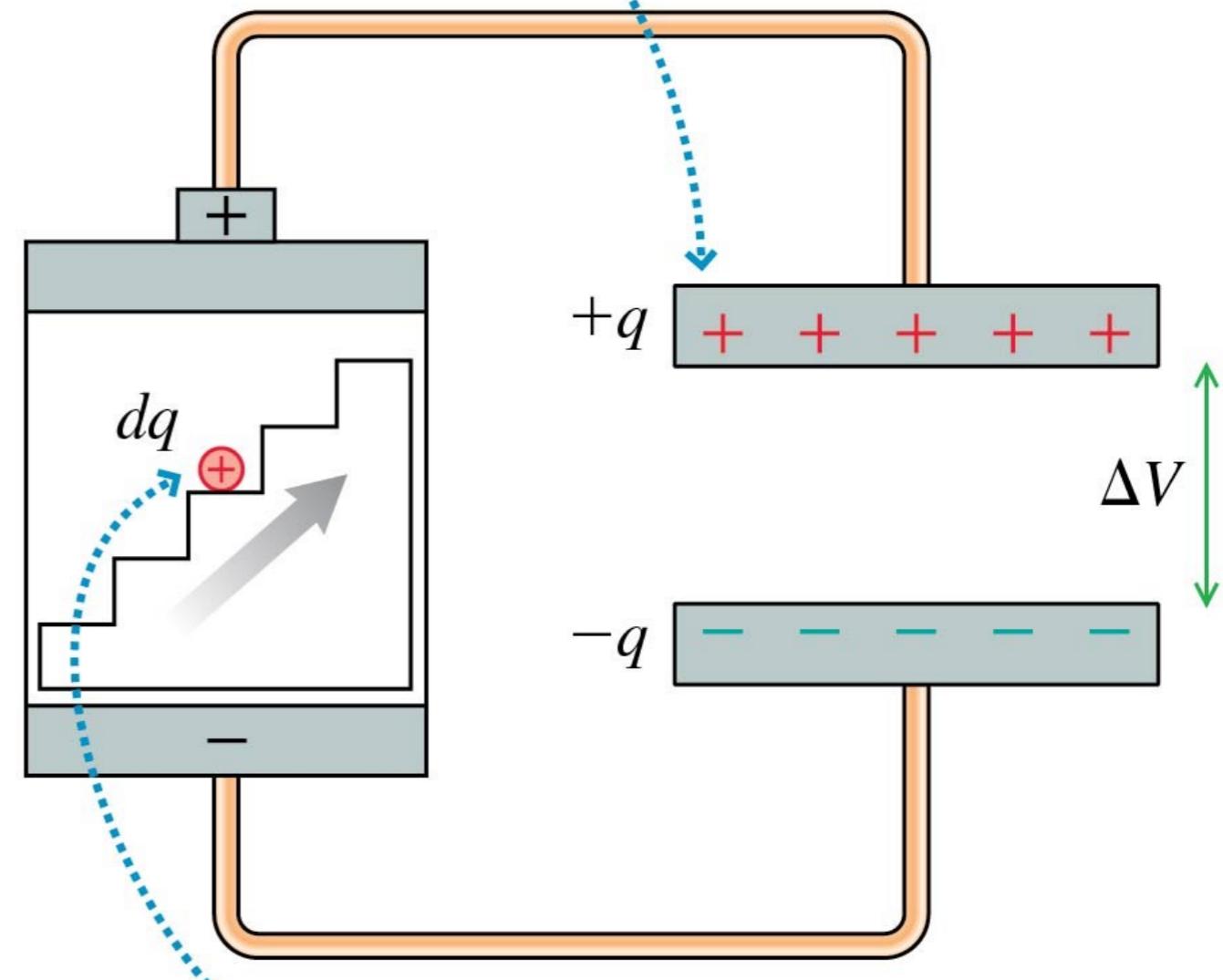
- The figure shows a capacitor being charged.
- As a small charge dq is lifted to a higher potential, the potential energy of the capacitor increases by

$$dU = dq \Delta V = \frac{q dq}{C}$$

- The total energy transferred from the battery to the capacitor is

$$U_C = \frac{1}{C} \int_0^Q q dq = \frac{Q^2}{2C}$$

The instantaneous charge on the plates is $\pm q$.



The charge escalator does work $dq \Delta V$ to move charge dq from the negative plate to the positive plate.

write eq on blackboard!

The Energy Stored in a Capacitor

- Capacitors are important elements in electric circuits because of their ability to store energy.
- The charge on the two plates is $\pm q$ and this charge separation establishes a potential difference $\Delta V = q/C$ between the two electrodes.
- In terms of the capacitor's potential difference, the potential energy stored in a capacitor is

$$U_C = \frac{Q^2}{2C} = \frac{1}{2} C (\Delta V_C)^2$$

write eq on blackboard!

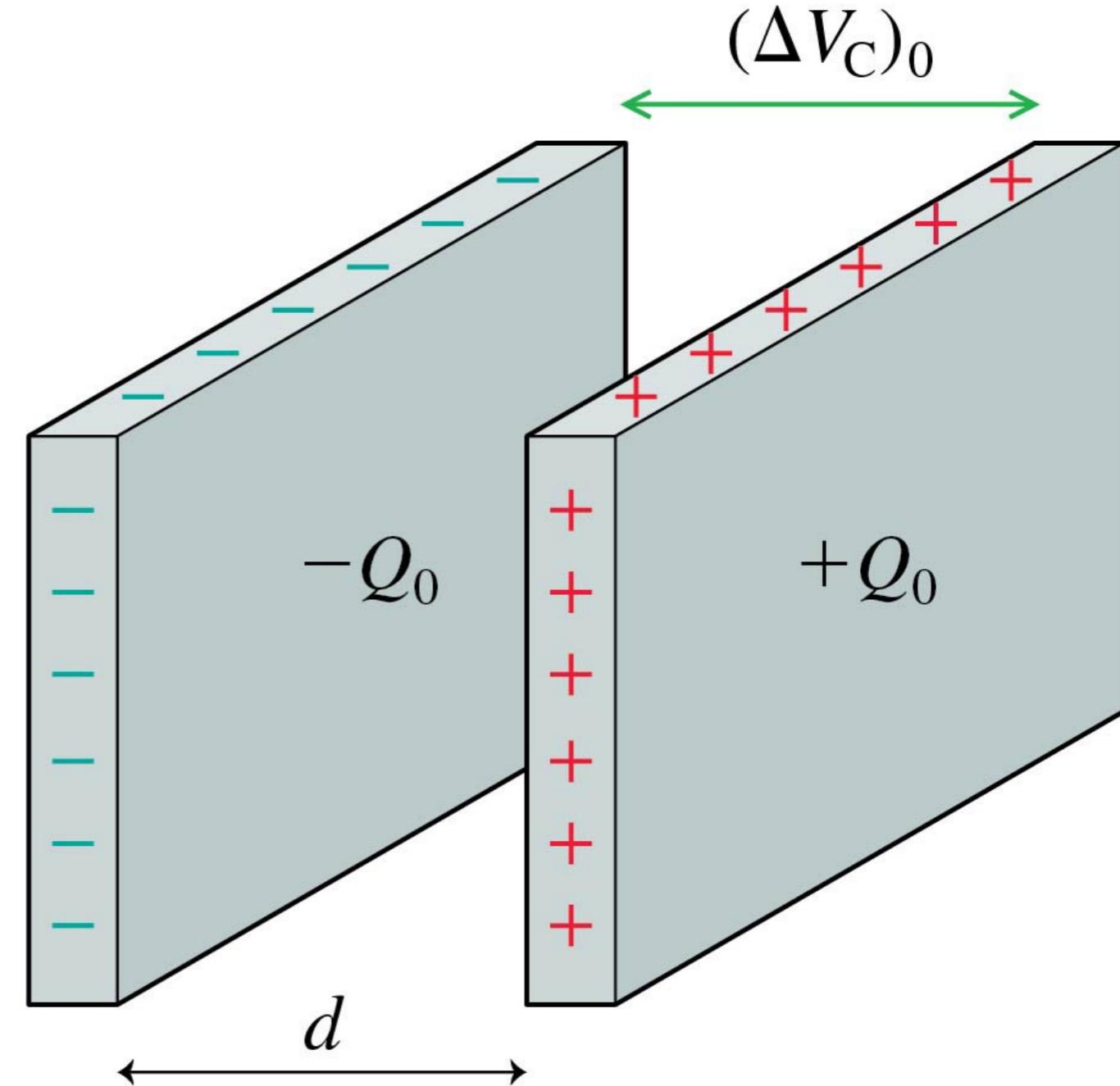
The Energy Stored in a Capacitor

- A capacitor can be charged slowly but then can release the energy very quickly.
- An important medical application of capacitors is the *defibrillator*.
- A heart attack or a serious injury can cause the heart to enter a state known as *fibrillation* in which the heart muscles twitch randomly and cannot pump blood.
- A strong electric shock through the chest completely stops the heart, giving the cells that control the heart's rhythm a chance to restore the proper heartbeat.



Dielectrics

- The figure shows a parallel-plate capacitor with the plates separated by a vacuum.
- When the capacitor is fully charged to voltage $(\Delta V_C)_0$, the charge on the plates will be $\pm Q_0$, where $Q_0 = C_0(\Delta V_C)_0$.
- In this section the subscript 0 refers to a vacuum-filled capacitor.
- How do we increase C?



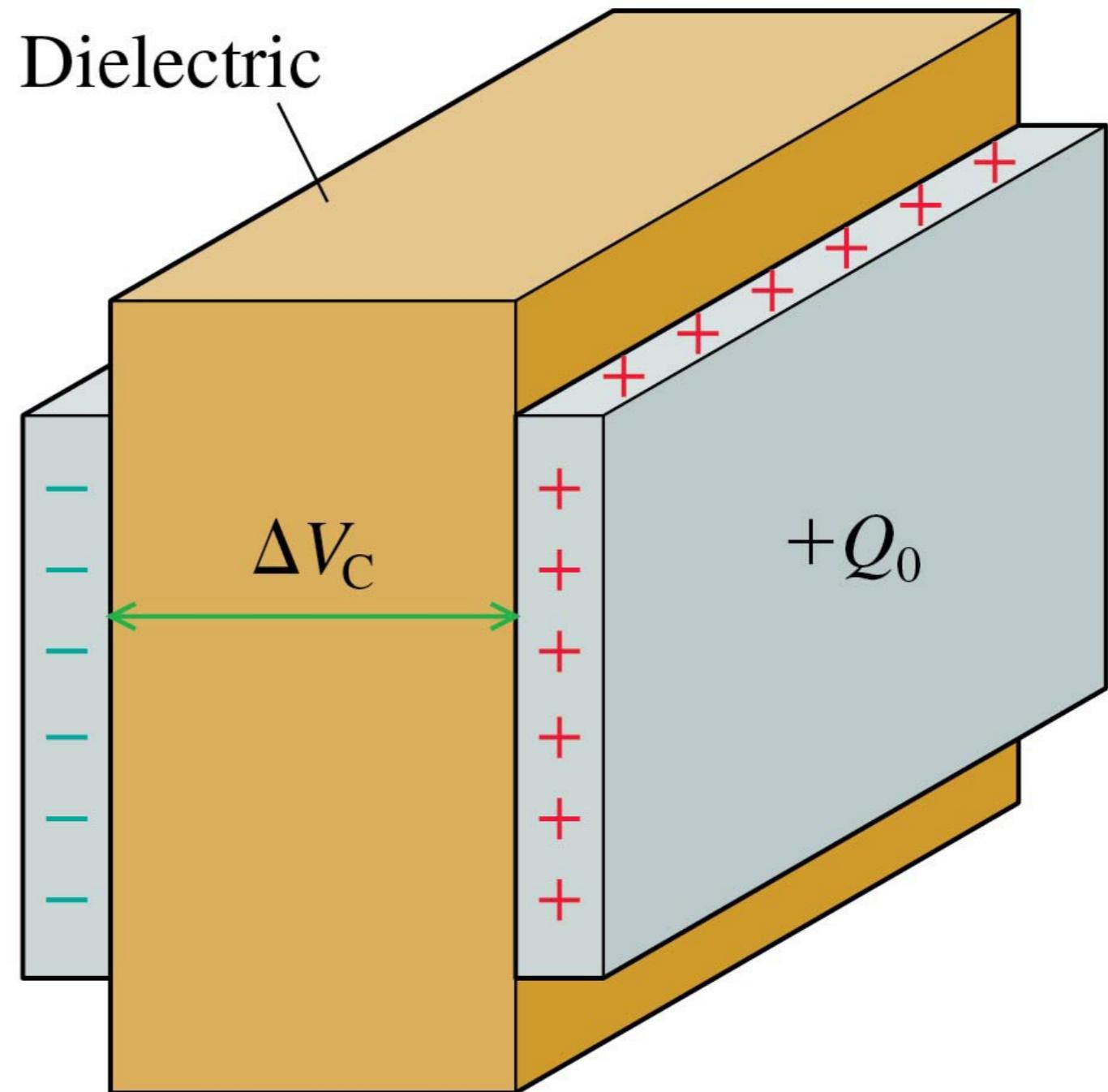
Capacitance C_0 in vacuum

Dielectrics

- Now an insulating material is slipped between the capacitor plates.
- An insulator in an electric field is called a dielectric.
- The charge on the capacitor plates does not change ($Q = Q_0$).
- However, the voltage has decreased:

$$\Delta V_C < (\Delta V_C)_0$$

WHY?

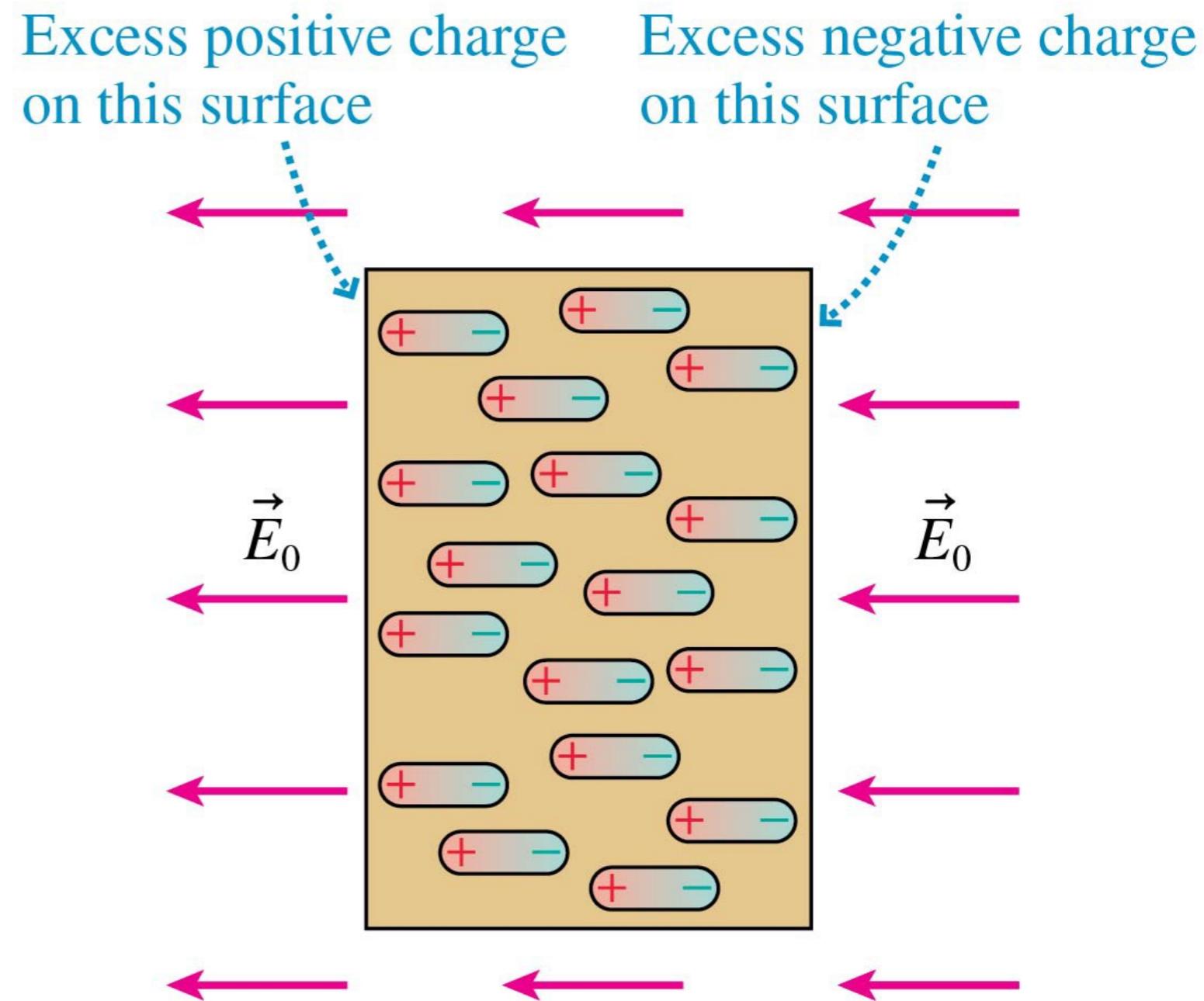


$$\text{Capacitance } C > C_0$$

Dielectrics

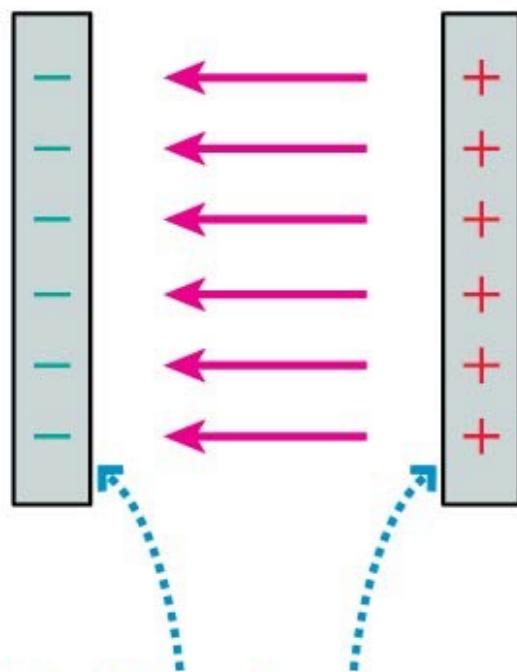
The insulator is polarized.

- The figure shows how an insulating material becomes polarized in an external electric field.
- The insulator as a whole is still neutral, but the external electric field separates positive and negative charge.



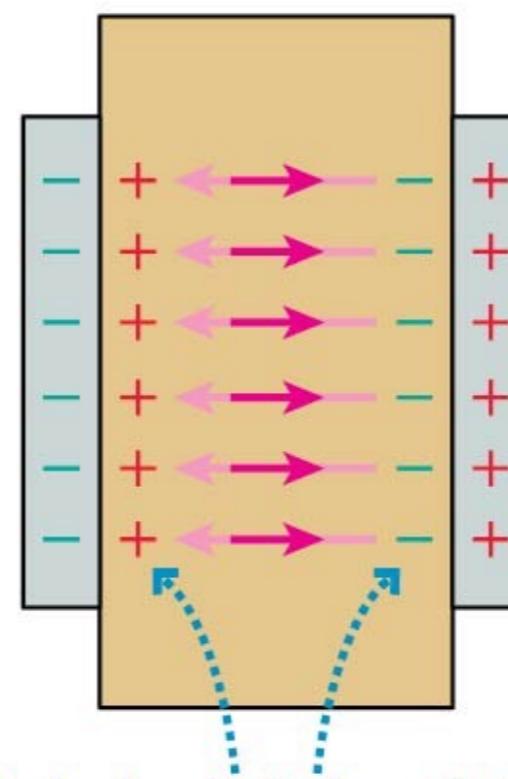
Dielectrics

$$E_0 = \frac{\eta_0}{\epsilon_0}$$

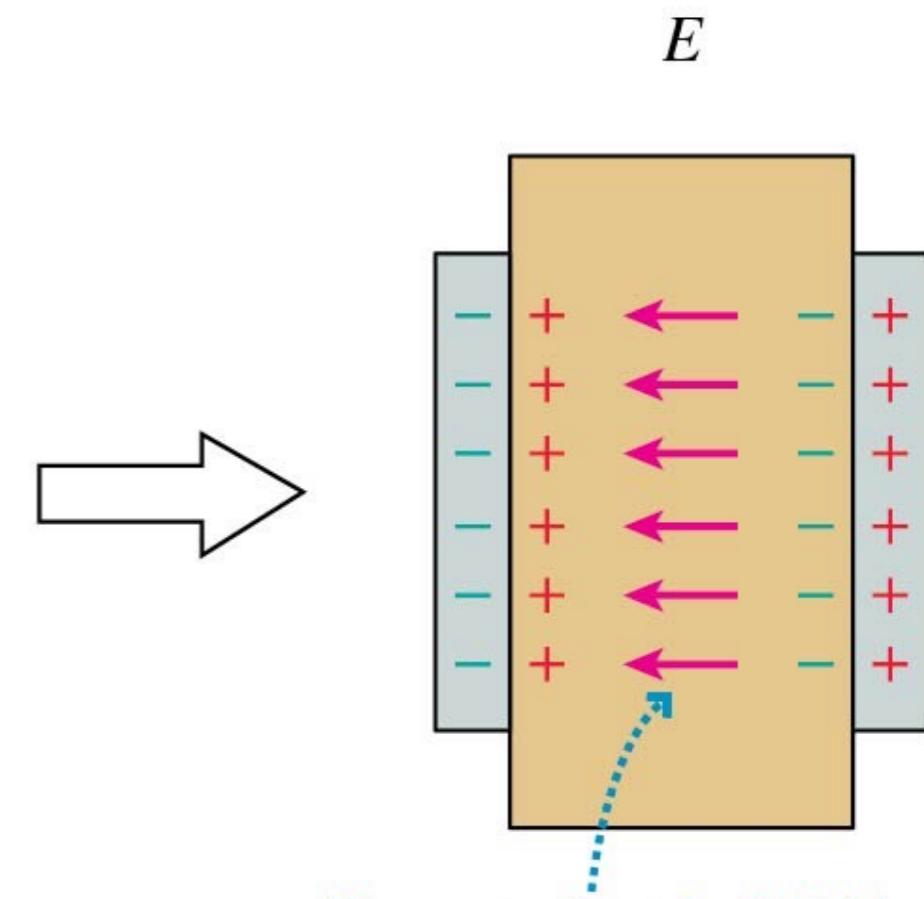


Surface charge density $\pm \eta_0$ on the capacitor plates

$$E_{\text{induced}} = \frac{\eta_{\text{induced}}}{\epsilon_0}$$



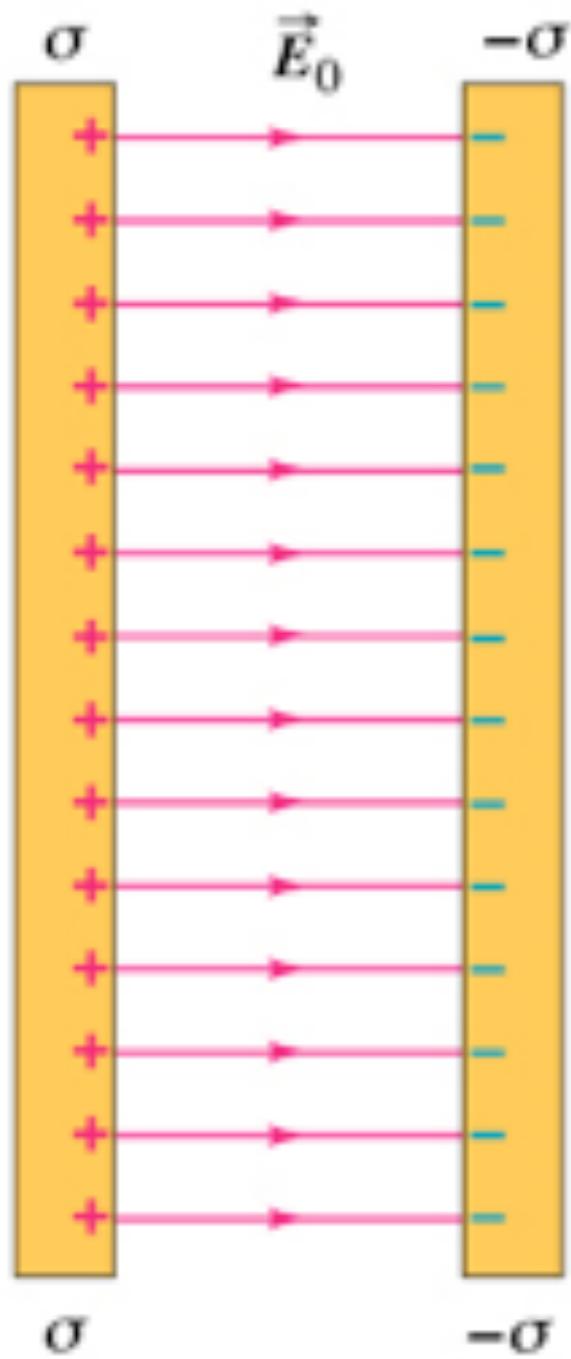
Polarized dielectric has surface charge density $\pm \eta_{\text{induced}}$. \vec{E}_{induced} is opposite \vec{E}_0 .



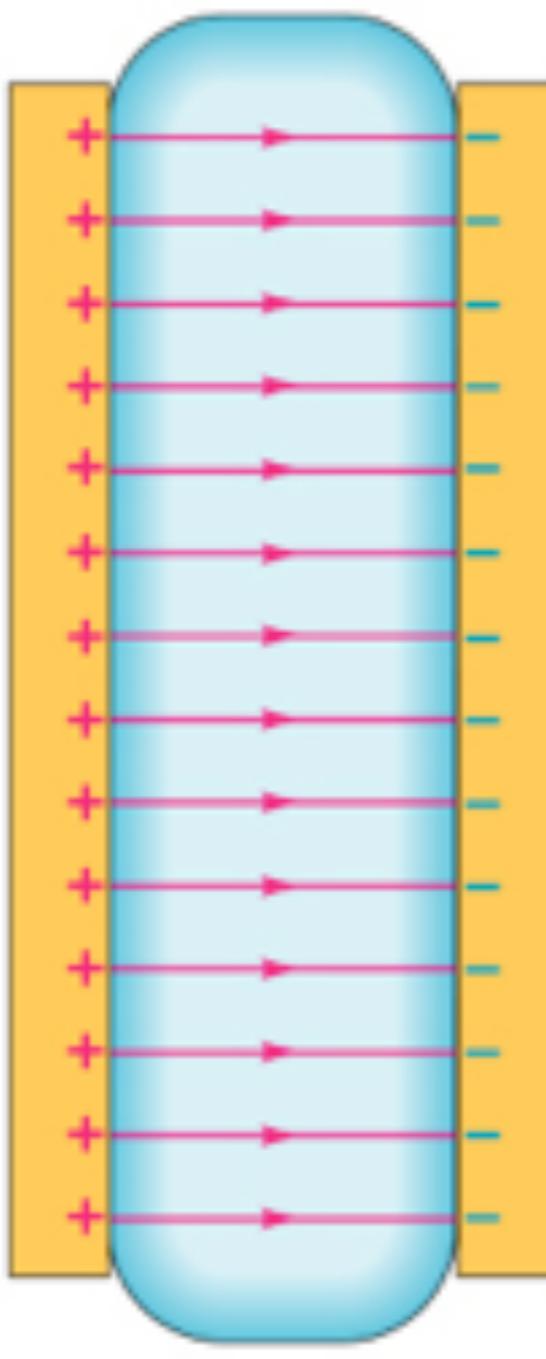
The net electric field is the superposition $\vec{E}_0 + \vec{E}_{\text{induced}}$. It still points from positive to negative but is weaker than E_0 .

Dielectrics

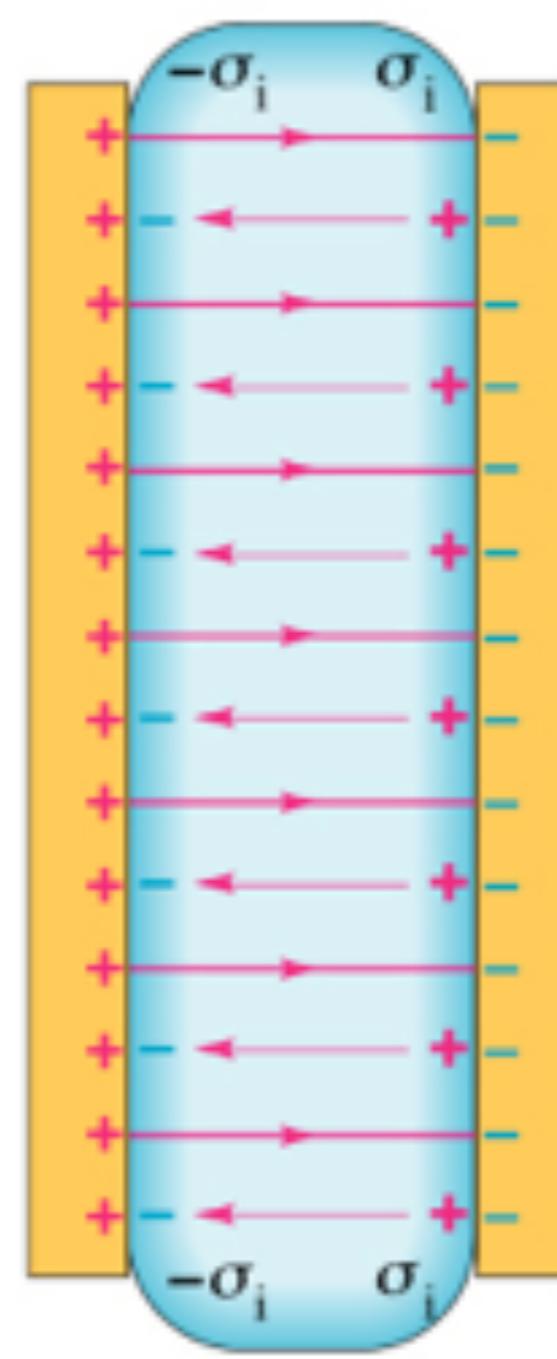
- Easily polarized materials have larger dielectric constants than materials not easily polarized.



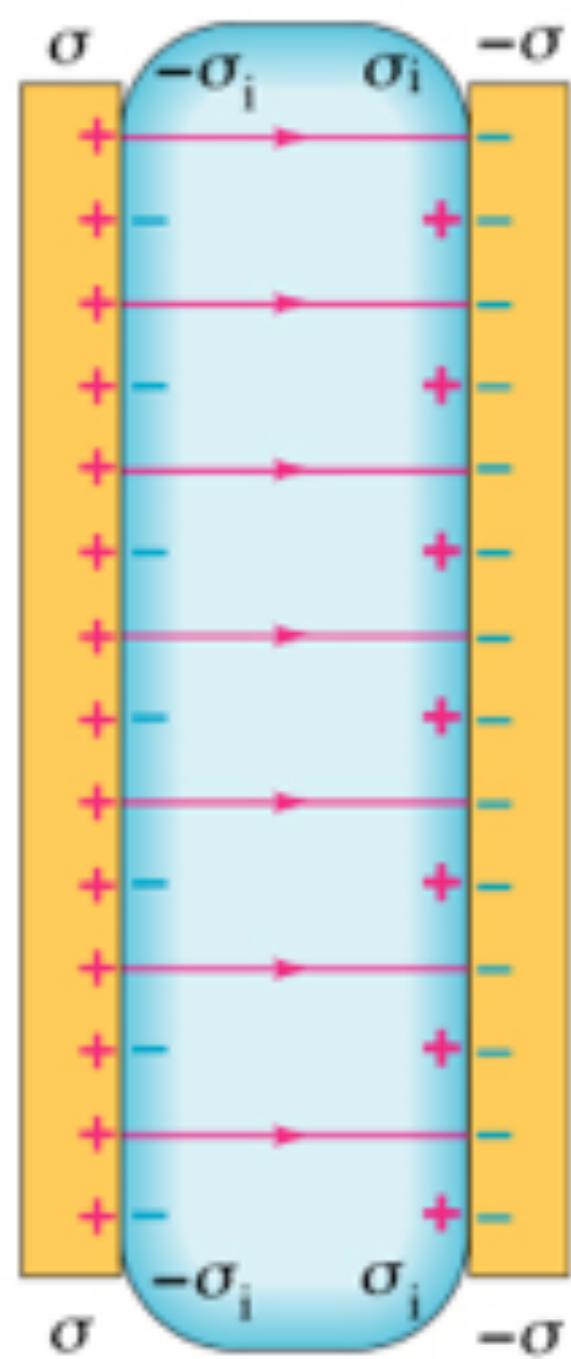
(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)

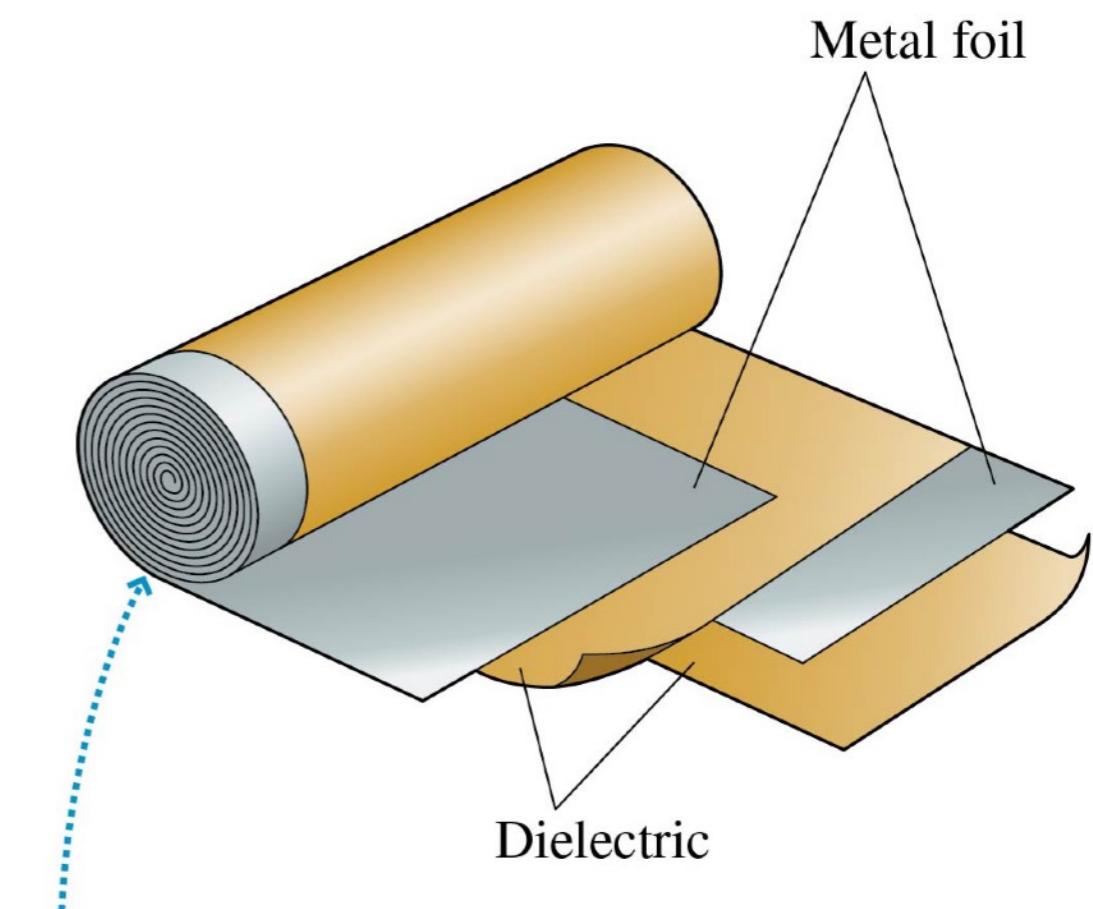
Dielectrics

- We define the **dielectric constant**: $\kappa \equiv \frac{E_0}{E}$
- The dielectric constant, like density or specific heat, is a property of a material.
- Easily polarized materials have larger dielectric constants than materials not easily polarized.
- Vacuum has $\kappa = 1$ exactly.
- **Filling a capacitor with a dielectric increases the capacitance by a factor equal to the dielectric constant:**

$$C = \frac{Q}{\Delta V_C} = \frac{Q_0}{(\Delta V_C)_0/\kappa} = \kappa \frac{Q_0}{(\Delta V_C)_0} = \kappa C_0$$

Dielectrics

- The production of a practical capacitor, as shown, almost always involves the use of a solid or liquid dielectric.
- All materials have a maximum electric field they can sustain without breakdown—the production of a spark.
- The breakdown electric field of air is about 3×10^6 V/m.
- A material's maximum sustainable electric field is called its **dielectric strength**.



Many real capacitors are a rolled-up sandwich of metal foils and thin, insulating dielectrics.

Table 25-1

Dielectrics

- Filling a capacitor with a dielectric increases the capacitance by a factor equal to the dielectric constant.

- Remember: the capacitance for a parallel-plate capacitor changes to:

$$C = \kappa \epsilon_0 \frac{A}{d}$$

- Note that the dielectric constant is a unitless variable.

Some Properties of Dielectrics^a

Material	Dielectric Constant κ	Dielectric Strength (kV/mm) (10 ⁶ V/m)
Air (1 atm)	1.00054	3
Polystyrene	2.6	24
Paper	3.5	16
Transformer oil	4.5	
Pyrex	4.7	14
Ruby mica	5.4	
Porcelain	6.5	
Silicon	12	
Germanium	16	
Ethanol	25	
Water (20°C)	80.4	
Water (25°C)	78.5	
Titania ceramic	130	
Strontium titanate	310	8

For a vacuum, $\kappa = \text{unity}$.

Dielectric

- In general, you can say that in a region completely filled by a dielectric material of dielectric constant κ , that **all equations containing ϵ_0 are replaced with $\kappa\epsilon_0$** .
- If you have a partially filled region, the common thing to do is turn to Gauss' Law.
- For any given plate separation, there is a maximum electric field that can be produced in the dielectric before it breaks down and begins to conduct.
- This maximum electric field is called the **dielectric strength** (measured in N/C).

The Energy Stored in a Capacitor

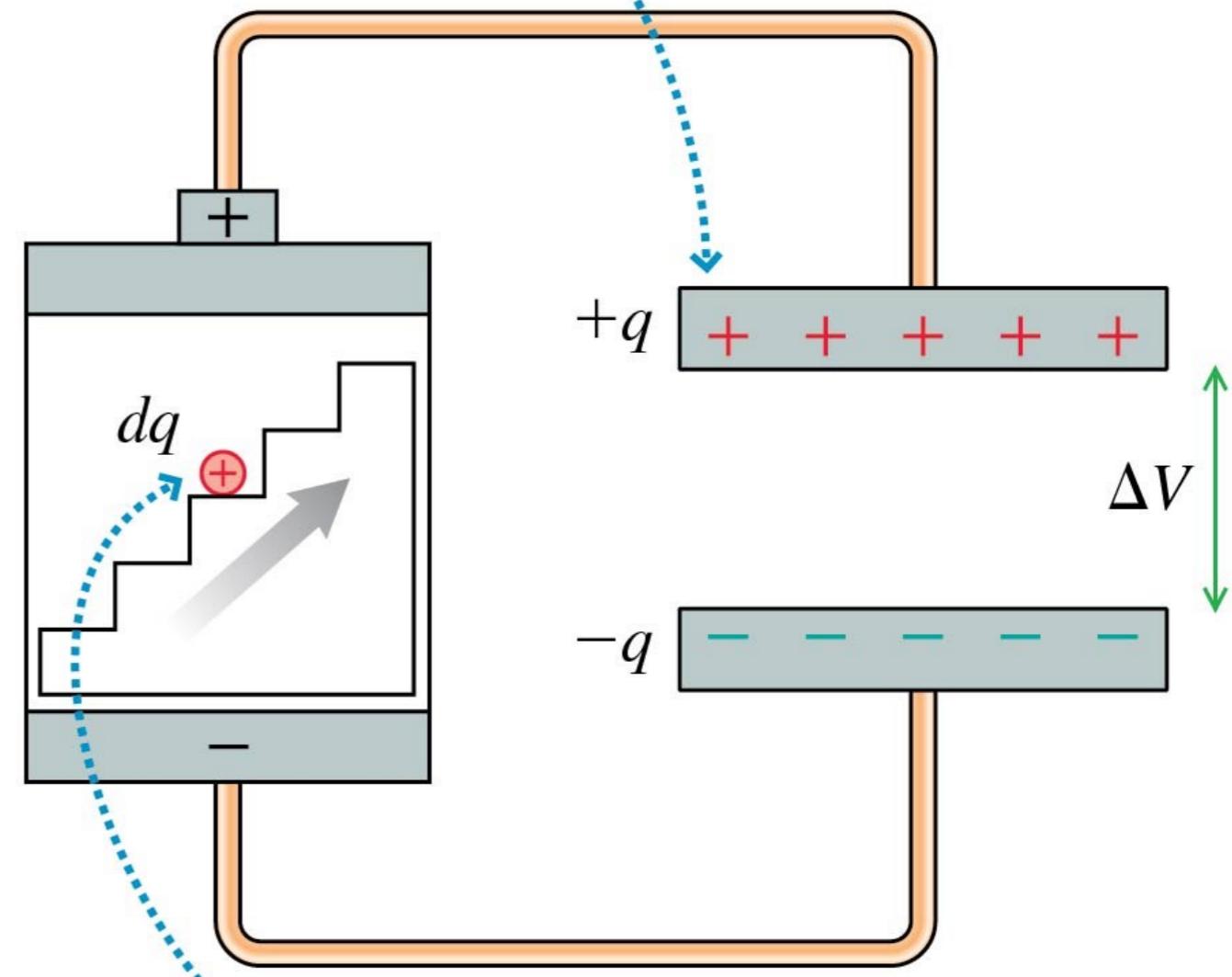
- The figure shows a capacitor being charged.
- As a small charge dq is lifted to a higher potential, the potential energy of the capacitor increases by

$$dU = dq \Delta V = \frac{q dq}{C}$$

- The total energy transferred from the battery to the capacitor is

$$U_C = \frac{1}{C} \int_0^Q q dq = \frac{Q^2}{2C}$$

The instantaneous charge on the plates is $\pm q$.



The charge escalator does work $dq \Delta V$ to move charge dq from the negative plate to the positive plate.

write eq on blackboard!

The Energy Stored in a Capacitor

- Capacitors are important elements in electric circuits because of their ability to store energy.
- The charge on the two plates is $\pm q$ and this charge separation establishes a potential difference $\Delta V = q/C$ between the two electrodes.
- In terms of the capacitor's potential difference, the potential energy stored in a capacitor is

$$U_C = \frac{Q^2}{2C} = \frac{1}{2} C (\Delta V_C)^2$$

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The Energy Stored in a Capacitor

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- An important medical application of capacitors is the *defibrillator*.
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- A strong electric shock through the chest completely stops the heart, giving the cells that control the heart's rhythm a chance to restore the proper heartbeat.



iClicker question 9-1

A capacitor charged to 1.5 V stores 2.0 mJ of energy. If the capacitor is charged to 3.0 V, it will store

- A. 1.0 mJ
- B. 2.0 mJ
- C. 4.0 mJ
- D. 6.0 mJ
- E. 8.0 mJ

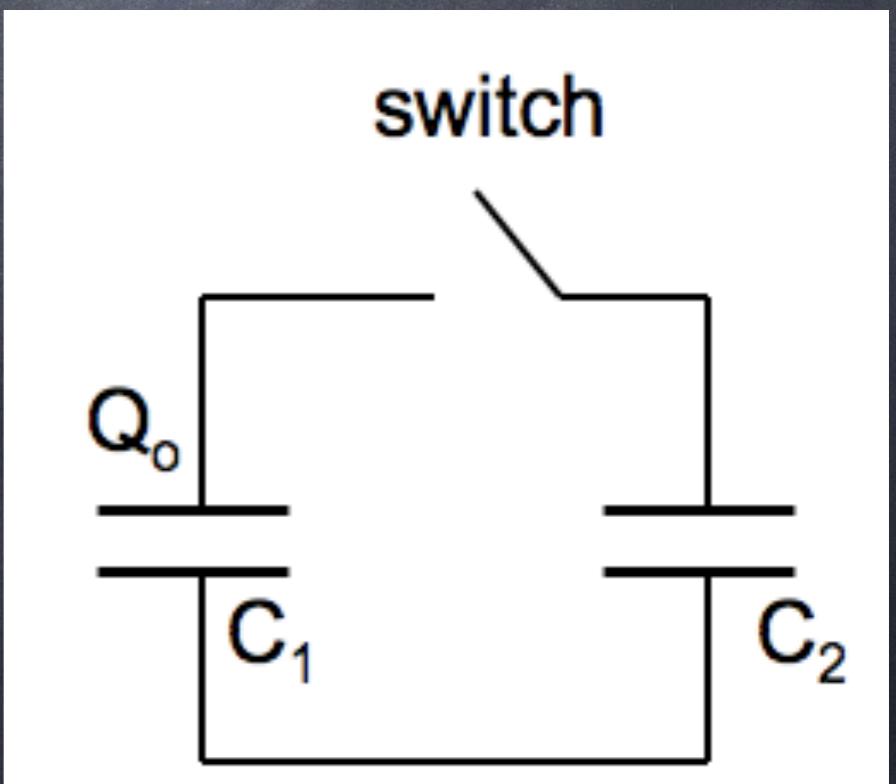
Capacitance, example

- Example

- A $3.55 \mu\text{F}$ capacitor (C_1) is charged to a potential difference $\Delta V_o = 6.30 \text{ V}$, using a battery. The charging battery is then removed, and the capacitor is connected to an uncharged $8.95 \mu\text{F}$ capacitor (C_2). After the switch is closed, charge flows from C_1 to C_2 until an equilibrium is established with both capacitors at the same potential difference, ΔV_f . What energy is stored in the two capacitors after the switch has been closed?

- Answer

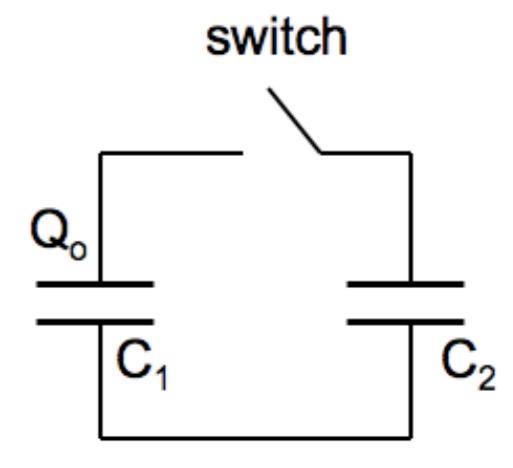
- Usually no coordinate system needs to be defined for a capacitor (start with the original charge amount Q_o .)



Capacitance, example

- Answer
- The original charge, Q_0 , shared by the two capacitors is:

$$Q_0 = Q_1 + Q_2$$



- Next, turn to the definition of capacitance:

$$C = \frac{Q}{\Delta V}$$

- Substituting back into our charge equation gives us:

$$C_1(\Delta V_o) = C_1(\Delta V_1) + C_2(\Delta V_2)$$

- But we know the final potential difference is the same between the two capacitors:

$$\Delta V_1 = \Delta V_2 = \Delta V_f$$

$$C_1(\Delta V_o) = C_1(\Delta V_f) + C_2(\Delta V_f) = (C_1 + C_2)\Delta V_f$$

Capacitance

Answer

Solving for ΔV_f gives us:

$$\Delta V_f = \frac{C_1(\Delta V_o)}{(C_1 + C_2)}$$

$$\Delta V_f = \frac{3.55\mu F(6.30V)}{(3.55\mu F + 8.95\mu F)} = 1.79V$$

Putting this common potential difference into the energy equation gives us:

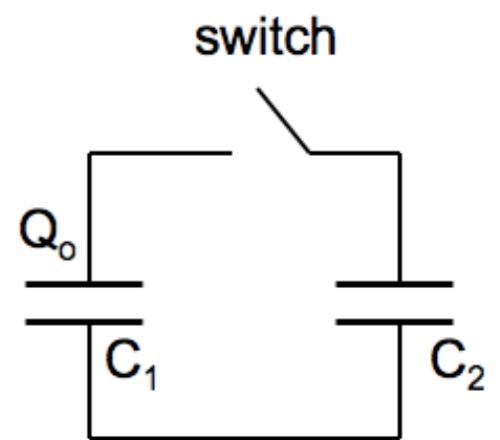
$$E_{Tot} = E_1 + E_2$$

$$E_0 = 3.55\mu F(6.3V)^2/2 = 70.5\mu J$$

$$E_{Tot} = \frac{1}{2}C_1(\Delta V_f)^2 + \frac{1}{2}C_2(\Delta V_f)^2$$

$$E_{Tot} = \frac{1}{2}(C_1 + C_2)(\Delta V_f)^2$$

$$E_{Tot} = \frac{1}{2}(3.55\mu F + 8.95\mu F)(1.79V)^2 = 20.0\mu J$$



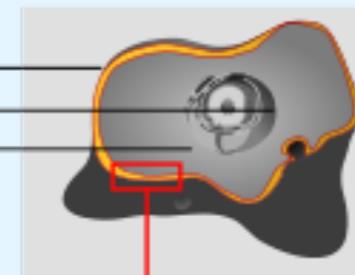
Cellular technology

“... local dielectric properties can play crucial roles in membrane functions.”

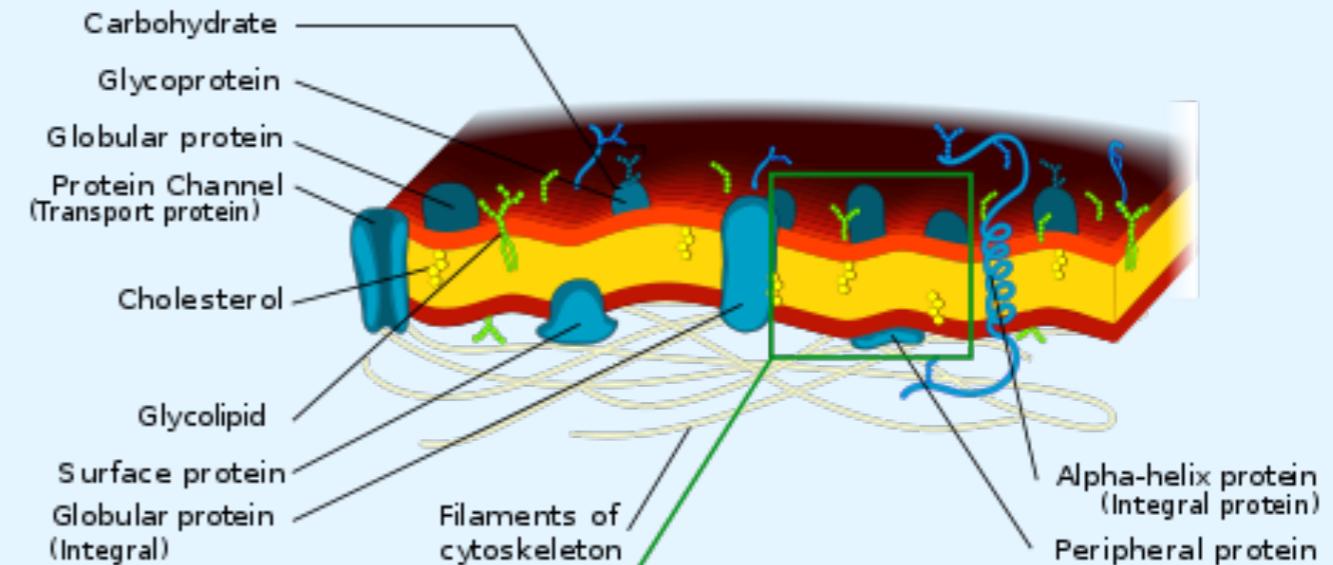
-- Local Dielectric Properties Around Polar Region of Lipid Bilayer Membranes, *J. Membrane Biol.* 85,225-231 (1985)

Cell

Extracellular fluid
Nucleus
Cytoplasm



Cell membrane



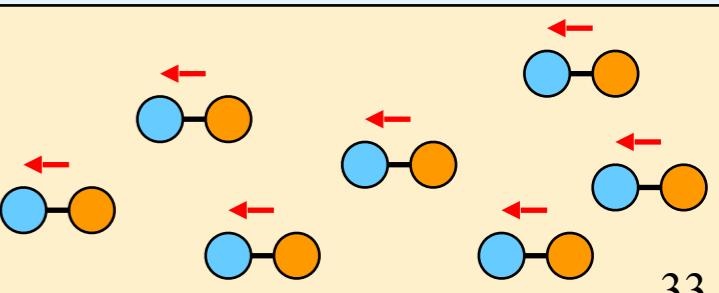
“An important physical effect of cholesterol is to increase the membrane's internal **electrical dipole potential**, which is one of the major mechanisms by which it modulates ion permeability. The dipole potential ... arises because of the alignment of dipolar residues ... in the .. interior of the membrane. ... its magnitude can vary from ~100 to >400 mV.... Recent investigations have suggested that it affects numerous different biological membrane processes.”

-- Cholesterol Effect on the Dipole Potential of Lipid Membranes, *Biophys J.* 2006 June 1; 90(11).

Phospholipid
(Phosphatidylcholine)

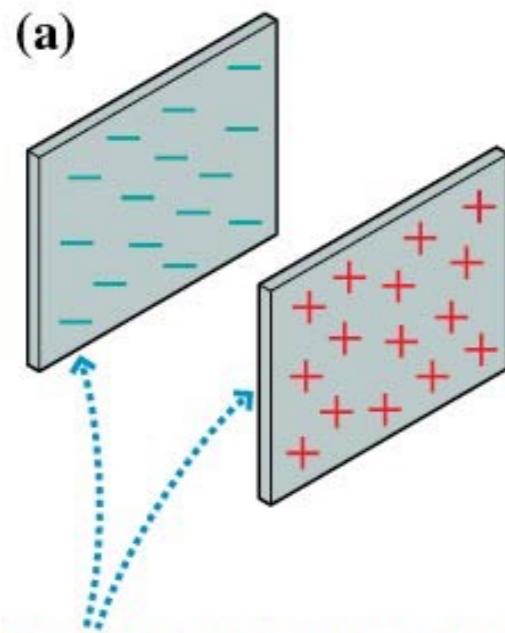
Hydrophilic head

Hydrophobic tail

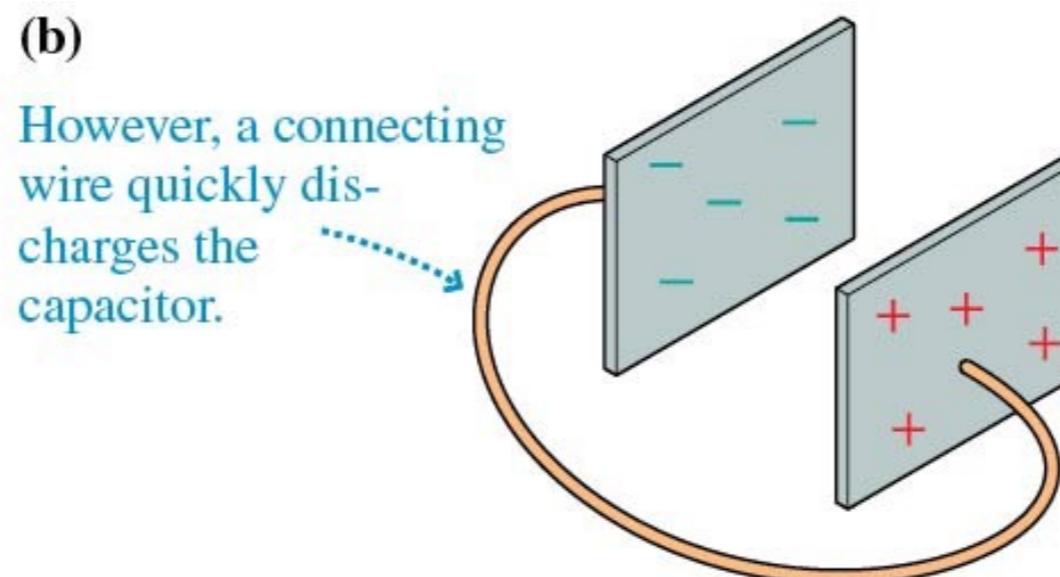


Ch. 27: Electric Current

- How does a capacitor get discharged?
- Figure (a) shows a charged capacitor in equilibrium.
- Figure (b) shows a wire discharging the capacitor.



Isolated electrodes stay charged indefinitely.



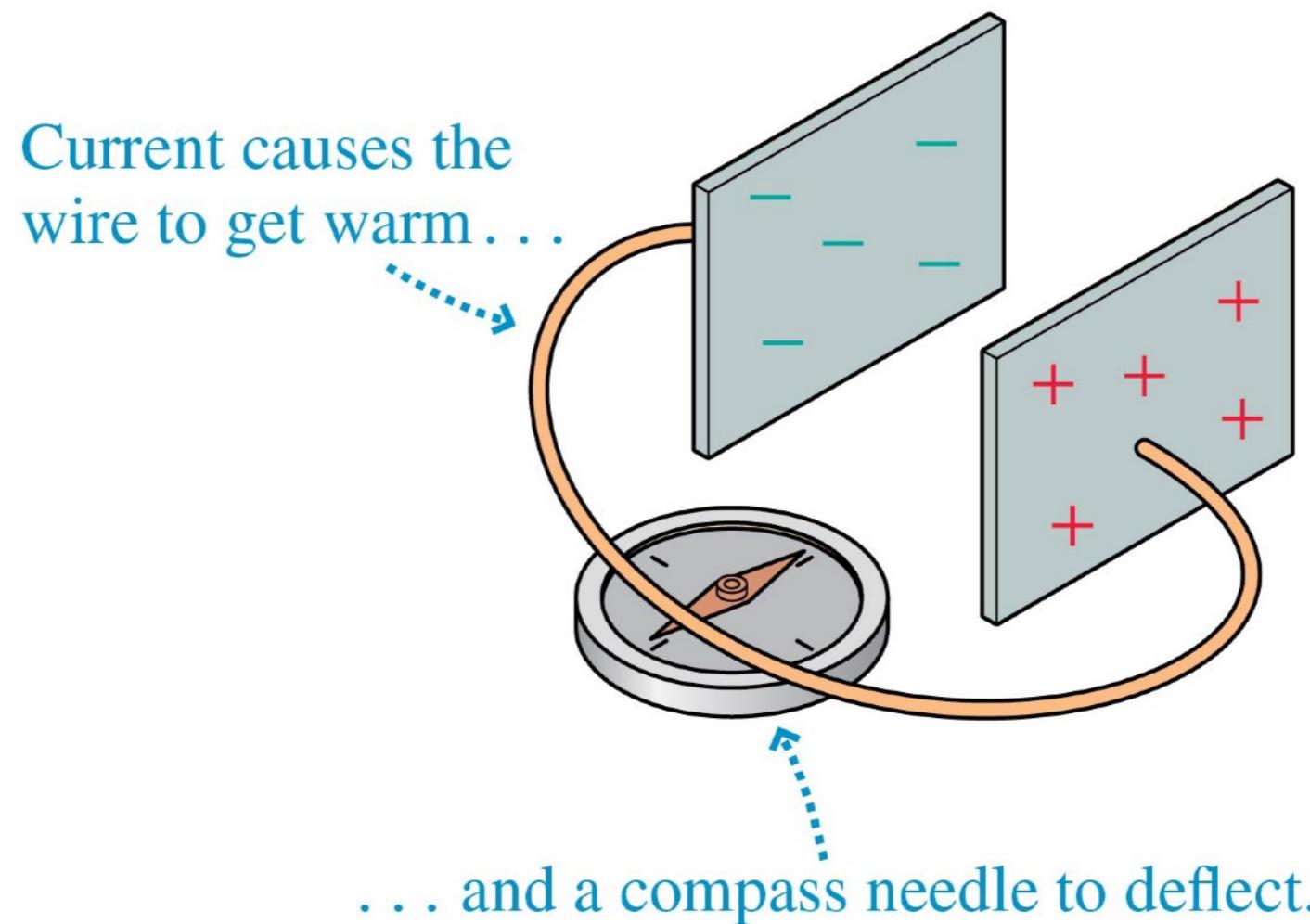
However, a connecting wire quickly discharges the capacitor.

The net charge of each plate is decreasing.

- As the capacitor is discharging, there is a *current* in the wire.

Electric Current

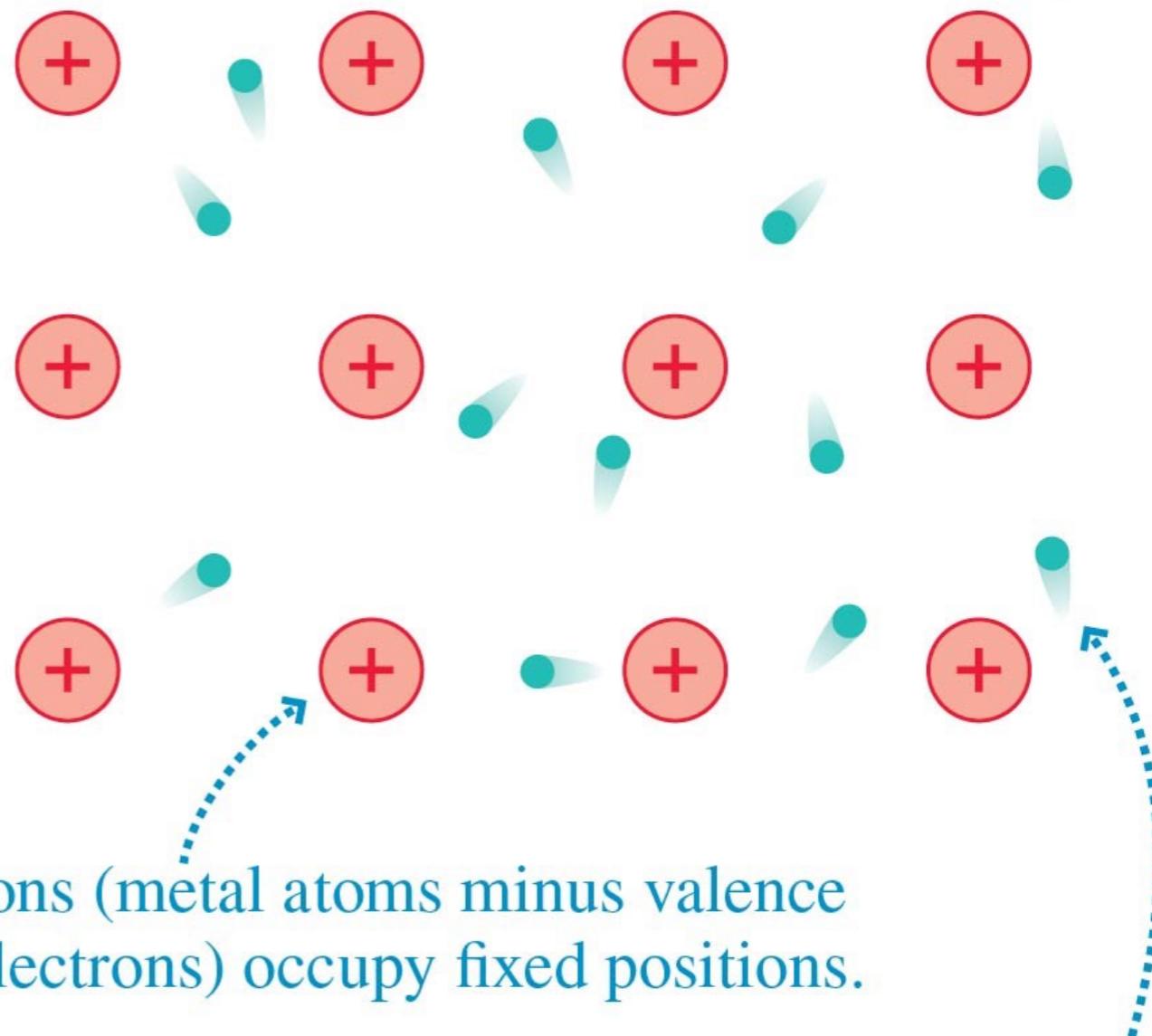
- When a current is flowing, the conductors are *not* in electrostatic equilibrium.
- Though you cannot see current directly, there are certain *indicators* that current is present in a wire.



Charge Carriers

- The outer electrons of metal atoms are only weakly bound to the nuclei.
- In a metal, the outer electrons become detached from their parent nuclei to form a fluid-like sea of *electrons* that can move through the solid.
- **Electrons are the charge carriers in metals.**

The metal as a whole is electrically neutral.



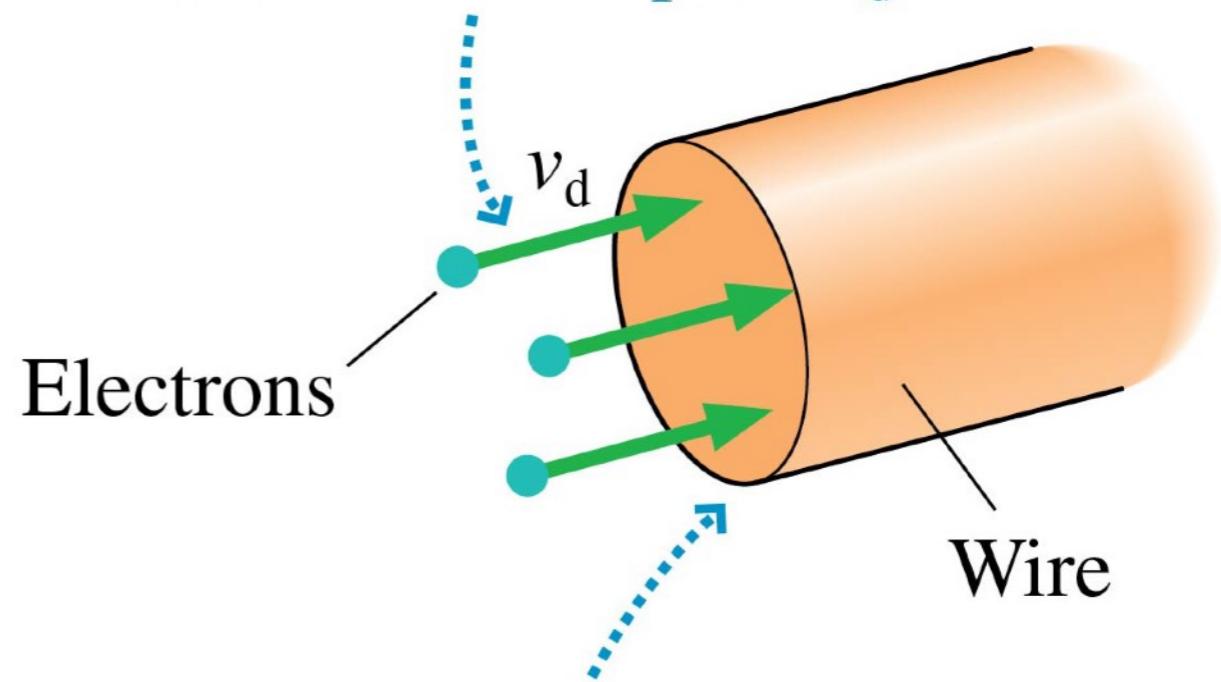
The conduction electrons are bound to the solid as a whole, not any particular atom. They are free to move around.

The Electron Current

- We define the **electron current** i_e to be the number of electrons per second that pass through a cross section of the conductor.
- The number N_e of electrons that pass through the cross section during the time interval Δt is

$$N_e = i_e \Delta t$$

The sea of electrons flows through a wire at the drift speed v_d .



The electron current i_e is the number of electrons passing through this cross section of the wire per second.

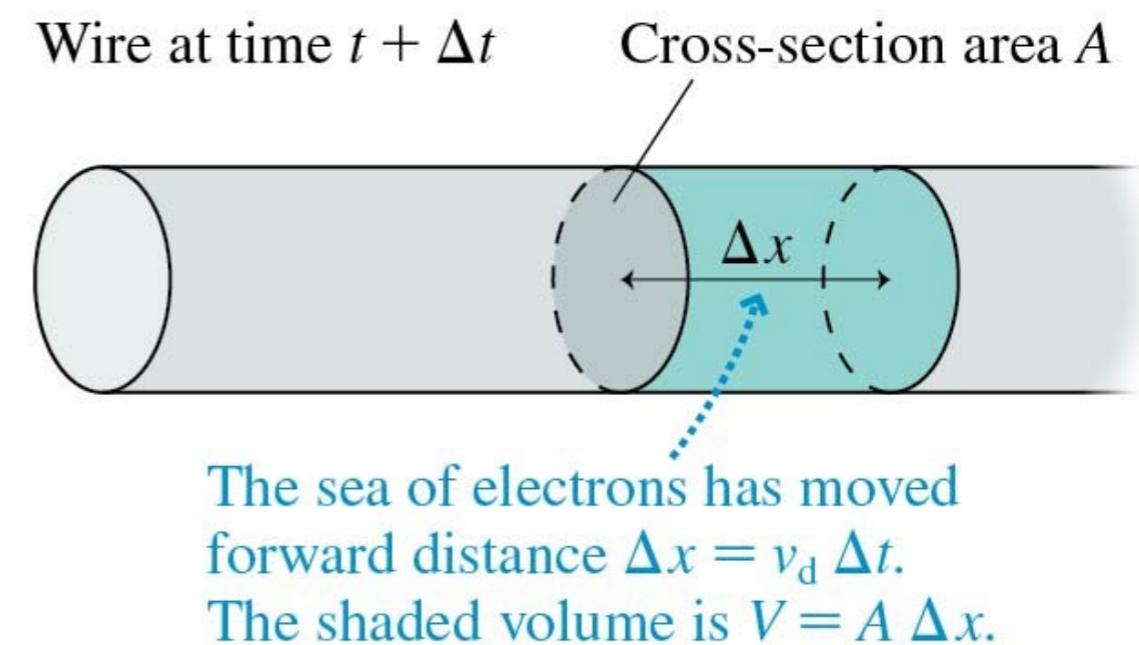
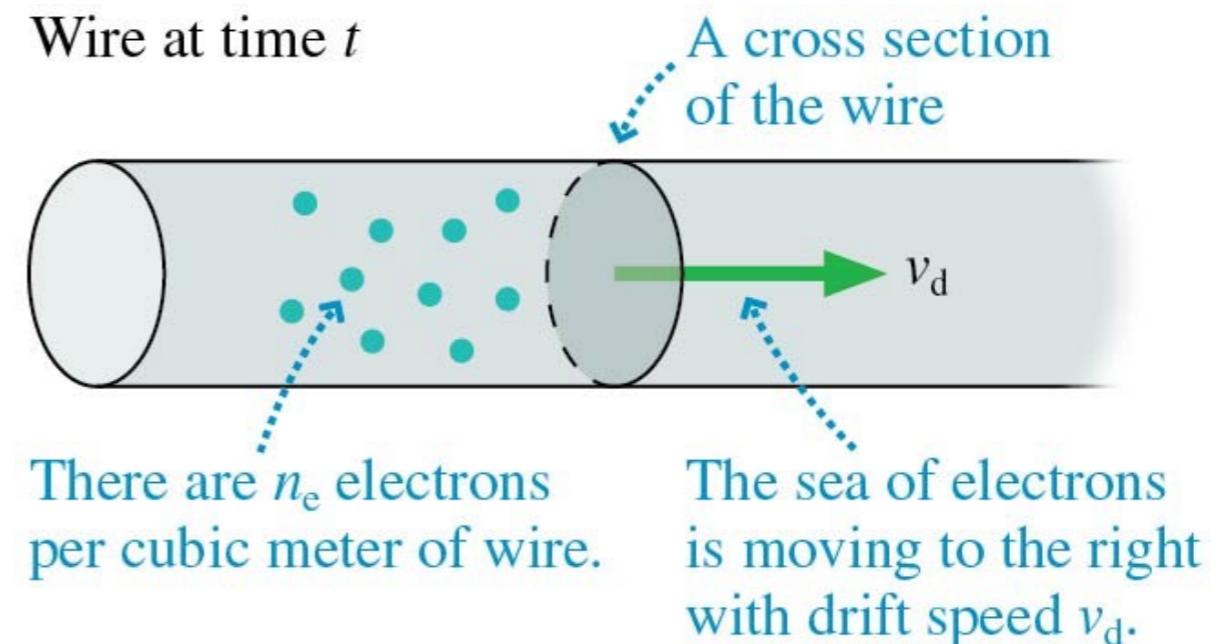
The Electron Current

- If the number density of conduction electrons is n_e , then the total number of electrons in the shaded cylinder is

$$\begin{aligned}N_e &= n_e V \\&= n_e A \Delta x \\&= n_e A v_d \Delta t\end{aligned}$$

- So the electron current is

$$i_e = n_e A v_d$$



iClicker question 9-2

A wire carries a current. If both the wire diameter and the electron drift speed are doubled, the electron current increases by a factor of

- A. 2.
- B. 4.
- C. 6.
- D. 8.
- E. Some other value.