September 17th

Chapter 26 Capacitance

Capacitance

- Parallel-plate capacitor charged to potential *V* by battery
- Disconnect battery to have an isolated system
- If the distance, *d*, between the plates is decreased what happens to *C*?
 LARGER
- What happens to V ?

Isolated system q stays same so V decreases if C increases





Capacitance

- What if we have more than one capacitor in a circuit?
 - Replace combination with an equivalent capacitance

 C_{eq}

- Two basic combinations
 - Parallel
 - Series

- Capacitors in parallel
- Capacitors are directly wired together at eac plate and *V* applied across the group of plates



 V is same across all capacitors

$$V_1 = V_2 = V_3 = V$$

- Capacitors in parallel
- Total q stored on capacitors is sum of the charges of all capacitors

$$q = q_1 + q_2 + q_3$$

C_{eq} has total charge *q* and same *V* as original capacitors

$$C_{eq} = \frac{q}{V}$$







• Capacitors in series

- Capacitors are wired one after the other and *V* is applied across the two ends of the series
- Capacitors have identical q

$$q_1 = q_2 = q_3 = q$$

 Battery produces q only on top and bottom plates, induced q on other plates



- Capacitors in series
- Sum of *V* across all capacitors is equal to applied *V*

$$V = V_1 + V_2 + V_3$$

C_{eq} has same *q* and total *V* as original capacitors

$$C_{eq} = rac{q}{V}$$











- Capacitors in series
- Charge can only be shifted from one capacitor to another.

$$\frac{1}{C_{eq}} = \sum_{i}^{n} \frac{1}{C_{i}}$$

C_{eq} is always less than smallest capacitance



Capacitance

Capacitors in parallel

- V across each is equal
- Total q is sum
- Multiple paths for q
- Capacitors in series
 - q is equal on each
 - Total V is sum
 - One path for q







 $C1=12\mu$, $C2=5.3\mu$ F, $C3=4.5\mu$ F, V=12.5V

What is the charge on C1?

Capacitance (Question #4)



(c)

 C_2

(d)

Capacitance (Checkpoint #3)

- A battery with V stores total charge q on two identical capacitors
- a) What is *V* across and *q* on either capacitor if they are in parallel?
- V is same for each and equal to V of battery.
- Total charge conserved and

$$q = q_1 + q_2$$

BUT
$$q_1 = q_2$$
 SO $q_{cap} = \frac{q}{2}$

Capacitance (Checkpoint #3)

- A battery with V stores charge q on two identical capacitors
- b) What is *V* across and *q* on either capacitor if they are in series?
- q is same for each

$$V = V_1 + V_2$$

• BUT
$$V_1 = V_2$$
 SO $V_{cap} = \frac{V}{2}$