

12. ELECTROSTATICS

1. A 600 μF capacitor is charged by 250 V battery.

i) How much electrostatic energy is stored in capacitor ?

ii) The capacitor is disconnected from battery and connected to another 600 μF capacitor. What is the energy of system ?

Given :

$$\begin{aligned} C &= 600 \mu\text{F} \\ &= 600 \times 10^{-6} \text{ F} \\ &= 6 \times 10^{-4} \text{ F} \end{aligned}$$

$$V = 250 \text{ V}$$

To Find :

i) $U_1 = ?$

ii) $U_2 = ?$

Formula :

$$U = \frac{1}{2} CV^2$$

Solution :

$$U = \frac{1}{2} CV^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{i) } U_1 &= \frac{1}{2} \times 6 \times 10^{-4} \times (250)^2 \\ &= 3 \times 250 \times 250 \times 10^{-4} \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore U_1 = 18.75 \text{ J}$$

ii) Effective capacity of capacitor is given by

$$\begin{aligned} C &= C_1 + C_2 \\ &= 6 \times 10^{-4} + 6 \times 10^{-4} \\ &= 12 \times 10^{-4} \text{ F} \end{aligned}$$

The total charge Q will remain constant by law of conservation of charge.

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore Q &= CV = 6 \times 10^{-4} \times 250 \\ &= 0.15 \text{ V} \end{aligned}$$

\therefore Energy stored becomes,

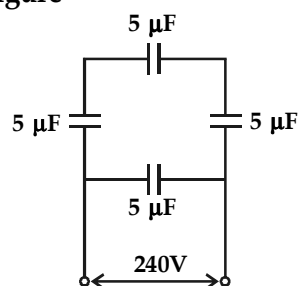
$$U_2 = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{Q^2}{C}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \times \frac{(0.15)^2}{12 \times 10^{-4}}$$

$$= \frac{0.0225}{2 \times 1.2} \times 10^3$$

$$\therefore U_2 = 9.375 \text{ J}$$

2. A network of four capacitors 5 μF each are connected to a 240 V supply as shown in figure



Determine

i) the equivalent capacitance of network

ii) the charge on each capacitor.

Given :

$$C_1 = C_2 = C_3 = C_4 = 5 \times 10^{-6} \text{ F}$$

$$V = 240 \text{ V}$$

To Find :

i) $C_{\text{eq}} = ?$

ii) $Q_1 = ?$

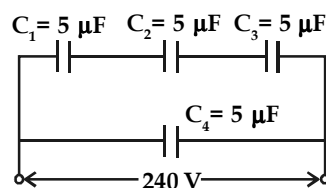
iii) $Q_2 = ?$

iv) $Q_3 = ?$

v) $Q_4 = ?$

Solution :

The equivalent network for the given circuit is as follows



Equivalent capacity of three capacitors is given by

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{1}{C_s} &= \frac{1}{C_1} + \frac{1}{C_2} + \frac{1}{C_3} \\ &= \frac{1}{5 \times 10^{-6}} + \frac{1}{5 \times 10^{-6}} + \frac{1}{5 \times 10^{-6}}\end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \frac{1}{C_s} = \frac{3}{5 \times 10^{-6}}$$

$$\therefore C_s = \frac{5}{3} \times 10^{-6} \text{ F}$$

C_4 is connected across the parallel combination of C_1, C_2, C_3

$$\begin{aligned}\therefore C_p &= C_4 + C_s \\ &= 5 \times 10^{-6} + \frac{5}{3} \times 10^{-6}\end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore C_p = \frac{20}{3} \times 10^{-6}$$

$$\therefore C_p = 6.667 \mu\text{F}$$

\therefore Equivalent capacitance

$$C_{\text{eq}} = C_p = 6.667 \mu\text{F}$$

Potential across C_1, C_2, C_3 is given by V_1, V_2, V_3 respectively

$$\text{Also } C_1 = C_2 = C_3 \\ \text{then } V_1 = V_2 = V_3$$

$$\therefore V_1 = \frac{V}{3} = \frac{240}{3} = 80 \text{ V}$$

Also charges Q_1, Q_2, Q_3 on C_1, C_2, C_3 respectively are same

$$\begin{aligned}\therefore Q_1 &= Q_2 = Q_3 = Q \\ Q &= C_1 \times V_1 \\ &= 5 \times 10^{-6} \times 80 \\ &= 4 \times 10^{-4} \text{ C}\end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore Q_1 = Q_2 = Q_3 = 4 \times 10^{-4} \text{ C}$$

The charge on capacitor C_4 is Q_4 and is given by

$$\begin{aligned}Q_4 &= C_4 V \\ &= 5 \times 10^{-6} \times 240 \\ &= 12 \times 10^{-4}\end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore Q_4 = 12 \times 10^{-4} \text{ C}$$

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3. A $10 \mu\text{F}$ capacitor is connected to a 100 V battery. What is the electrostatic energy stored ?

Given :

$$\begin{aligned}C &= 10 \mu\text{F} \\ &= 10 \times 10^{-6} \text{ F} = 10^{-5} \text{ F} \\ V &= 100 \text{ V}\end{aligned}$$

To Find :

$$U = ?$$

Formula :

$$U = \frac{1}{2} CV^2$$

Solution :

$$U = \frac{1}{2} CV^2$$

$$U = \frac{1}{2} \times 10^{-5} \times (100)^2$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \times 10^{-5} \times 10000$$

$$\therefore U = 0.05 \text{ J}$$

4. A metal sphere of radius 1 cm is charged with $3.14 \mu\text{C/m}$. Find the electric intensity at a distance 1 m from centre of metal sphere.

Given :

$$\begin{aligned}R &= 1 \text{ cm} \\ &= 1 \times 10^{-2} \text{ m} \\ q &= 3.14 \mu\text{C/m} \\ &= 3.14 \times 10^{-6} \text{ C} \\ r &= 1 \text{ m}\end{aligned}$$

To Find :

$$E = ?$$

Formula :

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

Solution :

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

$$E = \frac{3.14 \times 10^{-6}}{4 \times 3.14 \times 8.85 \times 10^{-12} \times (1)^2}$$

$$\therefore E = 0.02825 \times 10^6 \text{ N/C}$$

5. A long cylinder of radius 2 cm carries a charge of $5 \mu\text{C/m}$ kept in a medium of dielectric constant 10 ? Find the electric field intensity at a point situated at a distance 1 m from the axis of cylinder.

Given :

$$R = 2 \text{ cm}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{Q}{l} = 5 \mu\text{C/m}$$

$$= 5 \times 10^{-6} \text{ C/m}$$

$$k = 10$$

$$r = 1 \text{ m}$$

To Find :

$$E = ?$$

Formula :

$$E = \frac{2\lambda}{2\pi k \epsilon_0 r}$$

Solution :

$$E = \frac{2\lambda}{4\pi \epsilon_0 k r}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi \epsilon_0} \cdot \frac{2\lambda}{kr}$$

$$= \frac{(9 \times 10^9) \times 2(5 \times 10^{-6})}{10 \times 1}$$

$$\therefore E = 9 \times 10^3 \text{ V/m}$$

6. A metal plate of area 0.01 m^2 carries a charge of $100 \mu\text{C}$. Calculate the outward pull on plate.

Given :

$$Q = 100 \mu\text{C}$$

$$= 100 \times 10^{-6} \text{ C}$$

$$= 10^{-4} \text{ C}$$

$$A = 0.01 \text{ m}^2$$

To Find :

$$K = ?$$

$$F = ?$$

Formula :

$$F = \frac{\sigma^2}{2k\epsilon_0} \times A$$

Solution :

$$F = \frac{\sigma^2}{2k\epsilon_0} \times A$$

$$F = \frac{\left(\frac{Q}{A}\right)^2}{2k\epsilon_0} \times A = \frac{Q^2}{2k\epsilon_0 A}$$

$$\dots \left(\because \sigma = \frac{Q}{A}\right)$$

$$= \frac{(10^{-4})^2}{2 \times 1 \times 8.85 \times 10^{-12} \times (0.01)}$$

$$= \frac{10^{-8}}{2 \times 8.85 \times 10^{-14}}$$

$$= 5.6497 \times 10^4 \text{ N}$$

$$\therefore F = 56500 \text{ N}$$

7. The energy density at a point in a medium of dielectric constant 8 is $26.55 \times 10^6 \text{ J/m}^2$. Calculate electric field intensity at that point.

Given :

$$k = 8$$

$$U = 26.55 \times 10^6 \text{ J/m}^2$$

To Find :

$$E = ?$$

Formula :

$$U = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_0 k E^2$$

Solution :

$$U = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_0 k E^2$$

$$E = \sqrt{\frac{2u}{\epsilon_0 k}}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{2 \times 26.55 \times 10^6}{8.85 \times 10^{-12} \times 8}}$$

$$= 8.66 \times 10^8 \text{ N/C}$$

$$\therefore E = 8.66 \times 10^2 \mu\text{N/C}$$

8. A parallel plate air capacitor has rectangular plates each of length 20 cm and breadth 10 cm. They are separated by a distance of 2 mm. If the potential difference between the plates is 500 volt. Calculate

- capacitance
- charge on each plate
- electric field intensity between the two plates.

Given :

$$l = 20 \text{ cm} = 0.2 \text{ m}$$

$$b = 10 \text{ cm} = 0.1 \text{ m}$$

$$d = 2 \text{ mm} = 2 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}$$

$$k = 1$$

$$A = l \times b$$

$$= 0.2 \times 0.1 = 0.02 \text{ m}^2$$

$$V = 500 \text{ V}$$

To Find :

- $C = ?$
- $Q = ?$
- $E = ?$

Formula :

$$\text{i) } C = \frac{A\epsilon_0 k}{d}$$

$$\text{ii) } Q = CV$$

$$\text{iii) } E = \frac{V}{d}$$

Solution :

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

$$C = \frac{0.02 \times 8.85 \times 10^{-12} \times 1}{2 \times 10^{-3}}$$

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$$\therefore C = 8.85 \times 10^{-11} \text{ F}$$

$$\text{ii) } Q = CV$$

$$Q = 8.85 \times 10^{-12} \times 500$$

$$\therefore Q = 4.425 \times 10^{-9} \text{ C}$$

$$\text{iii) } E = \frac{V}{d}$$

$$E = \frac{500}{2 \times 10^{-3}}$$

$$\therefore E = 2.5 \times 10^5 \text{ V/m}$$

9. A parallel plate air capacitor with air as dielectric has a capacity of 20 μF . What will be the new capacity if

- the distance between two plates is doubled ?
- a marble slab of dielectric constant 8 is introduced between the two plate such that entire space between plates is filled by marble slab ?

Given :

$$C_1 = 20 \mu\text{F}$$

$$d_2 = 2d$$

$$k_1 = k_2 = k(\text{air})$$

$$k_3 = 8$$

To Find :

- $C_2 = ?$
- $C_3 = ?$

Formula :

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

Solution :

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

$$C_1 = \frac{A\epsilon_0 k}{d_1} \quad \text{and}$$

$$C_2 = \frac{A\epsilon_0 k}{d_2} = \frac{A\epsilon_0 k}{2d_1}$$

$$\therefore \frac{C_2}{C_1} = \frac{\frac{A\epsilon_0 k}{2d_1}}{\frac{A\epsilon_0 k}{d_1}}$$

$$\therefore \frac{C_2}{C_1} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\therefore C_2 = C_1 \times \frac{1}{2}$$

$$= 20 \times \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\therefore C_2 = 10 \mu\text{F}$$

ii) $C_3 = \frac{A\epsilon_0 k_3}{d} = \frac{A\epsilon_0 \times 8}{d}$
 [∵ Distance between plates remains same]

$$= 8 C_1$$

$$= 8 \times 20 = 160 \mu\text{F}$$

$$\therefore C_3 = 160 \mu\text{F}$$

10. A parallel plate capacitor has rectangular plates each of length 20 cm and breadth 10 cm. The separation between the plates is 1 mm.

- i) Calculate the potential difference between the plates if 1 nC is given to capacitor.
- ii) With the same charge of 1 nC, if the separation between plates is doubled what is the new potential difference?
- iii) Electric field between the plates.

Given :

$$l = 20 \text{ cm} = 0.2 \text{ m}$$

$$b = 10 \text{ cm} = 0.1 \text{ m}$$

$$d = 1 \text{ mm} = 1 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}$$

$$A = l \times b$$

$$= 0.2 \times 0.1 = 0.02 \text{ m}^2$$

To Find :

- i) $V_1 = ?$
when $Q = 1 \text{ nC} = 1 \times 10^{-9} \text{ C}$
- ii) $V_2 = ?$
when $Q = 1 \text{ nC} = 1 \times 10^{-9} \text{ C}$

iii) $E = \frac{d_2 = 2d_1}{?}$

Formula :

- i) $C = \frac{A\epsilon_0 k}{d}$
- ii) $Q = CV$
- iii) $E = \frac{V}{d}$

Solution :

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

$$C_1 = \frac{A\epsilon_0 k_1}{d_1}$$

$$= \frac{(0.2 \times 0.1) \times 8.85 \times 10^{-12} \times 1}{1 \times 10^{-3}}$$

$$C_1 = 17.70 \times 10^{-11} \text{ F}$$

$$Q = CV$$

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

$$V_1 = \frac{1 \times 10^{-9}}{17.7 \times 10^{-11}}$$

$$V_1 = 5.65 \text{ V}$$

$$E = \frac{V}{d}$$

$$E = \frac{V_1}{d_1} = \frac{V_2}{d_2}$$

$$\therefore \frac{V_1}{d_1} = \frac{V_2}{2d_1}$$

$$\therefore V_2 = 2V_1 = 2 \times 5.65$$

$$\therefore V_2 = 11.30 \text{ V}$$

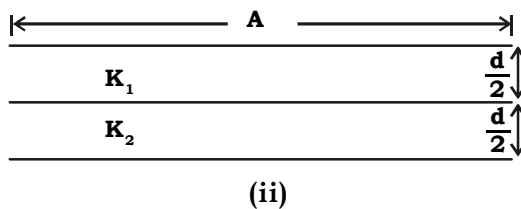
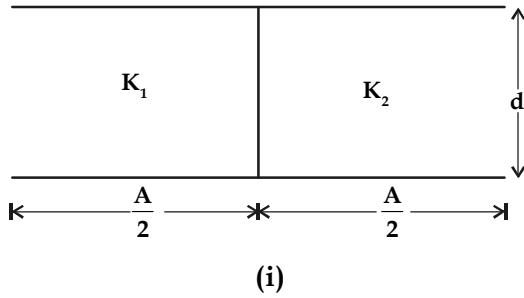
$$\therefore E = \frac{V}{d}, \text{ gives,}$$

$$E = \frac{V_2 - V_1}{d} = \frac{5.65}{1 \times 10^{-3}}$$

$$= 5.65 \times 10^3$$

$$\therefore E = 5650 \text{ N/C}$$

11. A parallel plate capacitor consists of two identical metal plates. Two dielectric slabs having dielectric constants K_1 and K_2 are introduced in the space between two plates as shown below.



Show that capacity in arrangement (i) is given by

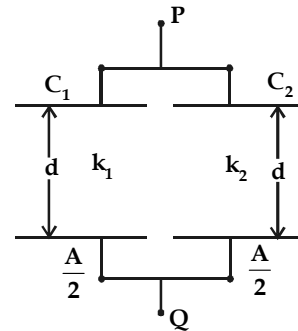
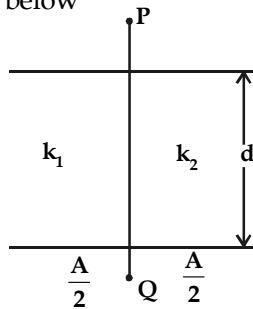
$$C = \frac{\epsilon_0 (K_1 + K_2) A}{2d}$$

Also show that the capacity of capacitor in arrangement (ii) is given by

$$C = \frac{2\epsilon_0 K_1 K_2 A}{(K_1 + K_2) d}$$

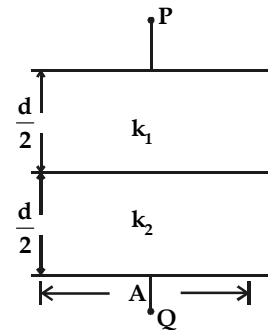
Solution :

The arrangement (i) can be regarded as two capacitors connected in parallel as shown below

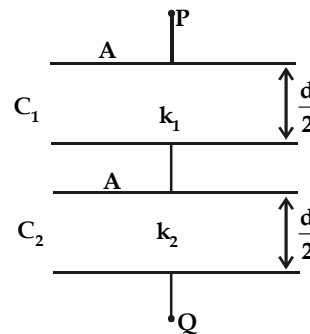


$$\begin{aligned} C_{\text{effective}} &= C_1 + C_2 \\ &= \frac{k_1 \epsilon_0 \left(\frac{A}{2}\right)}{d} + \frac{k_2 \epsilon_0 \left(\frac{A}{2}\right)}{d} \\ &= \frac{\epsilon_0 A (K_1 + K_2)}{2d} \\ &= \frac{(K_1 + K_2) \epsilon_0 A}{2d} \quad (\text{proved}) \end{aligned}$$

The arrangement (i) can be regarded as two capacitors connected in series as shown below,



$$\frac{1}{C_{\text{effective}}} = \frac{1}{C_1} + \frac{1}{C_2}$$



$$= \frac{1}{\frac{k_1 \epsilon_0 A}{d}} + \frac{1}{\frac{k_2 \epsilon_0 A}{d}}$$

$$= \frac{d}{2k_1 \epsilon_0 A} + \frac{d}{2k_2 \epsilon_0 A}$$

$$= \frac{d}{2\epsilon_0 A} \left(\frac{1}{k_1} + \frac{1}{k_2} \right)$$

$$= \frac{d}{2\epsilon_0 A} \left(\frac{k_1 + k_2}{k_1 k_2} \right)$$

$$\therefore C_{\text{effective}} = \frac{2\epsilon_0 A (k_1 k_2)}{d(k_1 + k_2)}$$

$$\therefore C_{\text{effective}} = \frac{2(k_1 k_2) \epsilon_0 A}{(k_1 + k_2)d} \text{ (proved)}$$