

# PHY 117 HS2024

Today: Electric potential  
Capacitance  
Dielectrics  
Electrodynamics { Electric current  
{ Resistance

Note: sometimes we refer to  
a potential difference  $\Delta V$  as  $V$

Be careful with  $E_0$  +  $\epsilon_0$ :  
(two different things)

Week 9, Lecture 2  
Nov. 13th, 2024  
Prof. Ben Kilminster



what is  $V(x)$  if  $\vec{E} = 10 \frac{N}{C} \hat{x}$  ?  
(assume that  $V=0$  at  $x=0$ )

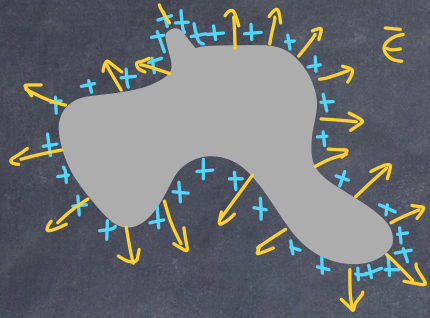


we saw that  $\Delta U = q \Delta V$

↑ energy [J]      ↑ charge [C]      ↑ potential [V]



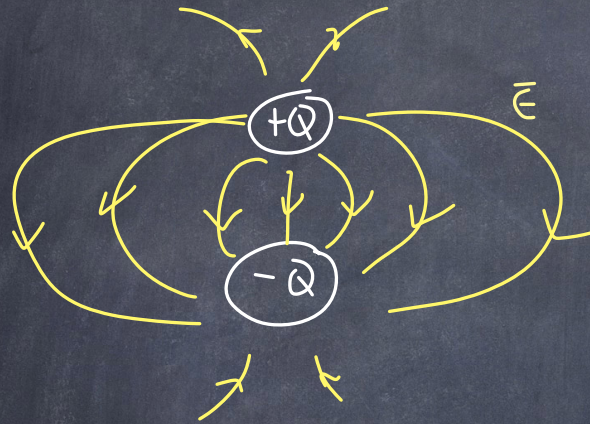
What is  $\vec{E}$  close to a conductor?





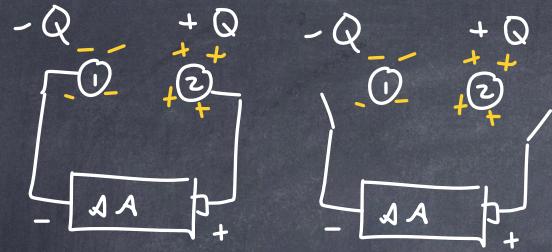
Capacitors :

Any two oppositely charged conductors form a capacitor





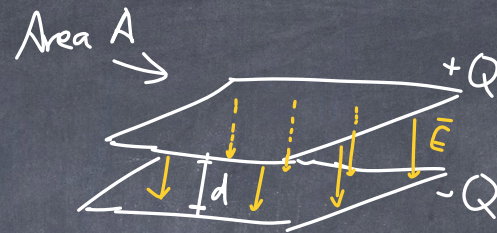
Let's charge a capacitor:



we charge with  
 $1.5\text{ V}$



what is the capacitance  
of a parallel-plate  
capacitor, with area  $A$ ,  
separation  $d$ , and a charge  
 $+Q$ ,  $-Q$ ?

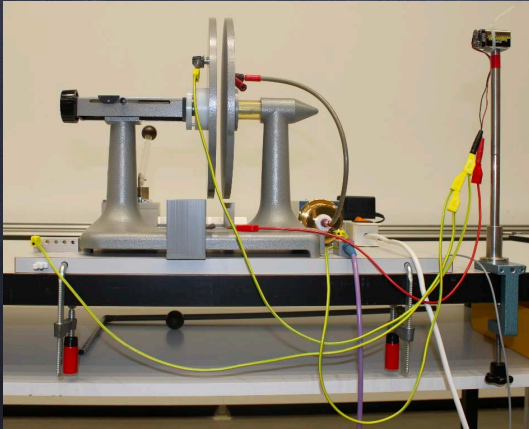




Consider:



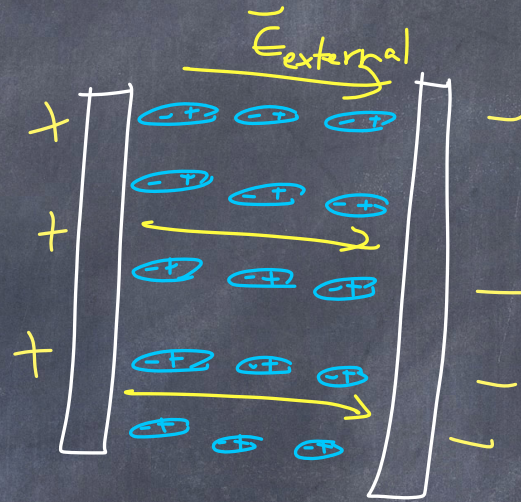
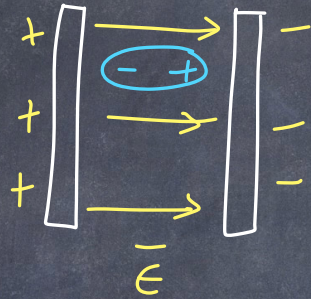
← capacitance is  $C = \frac{\epsilon_0 A}{d} = \frac{Q}{|\Delta V|}$





Dielectrics -

In a non-conducting material, we know that dipoles tend to align opposite to the  $E$ -field

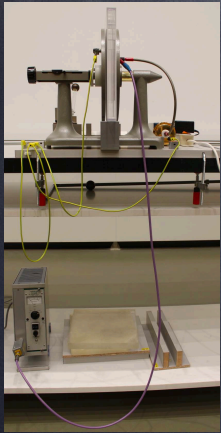
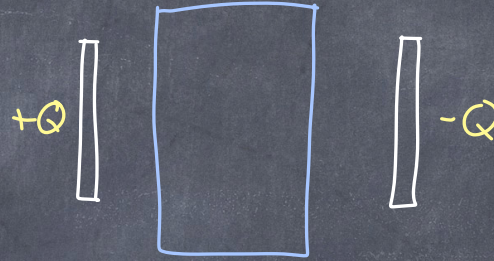
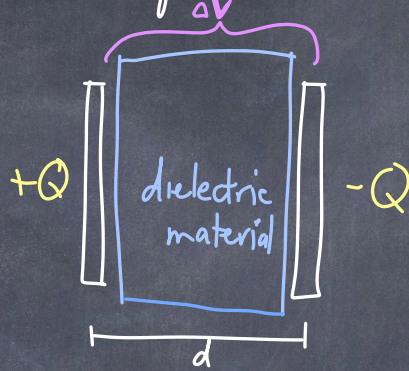
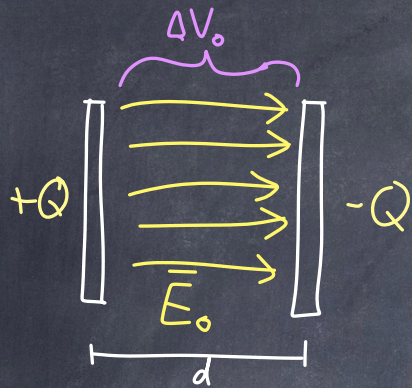








# Parallel-plate capacitor with a dielectric





In general:

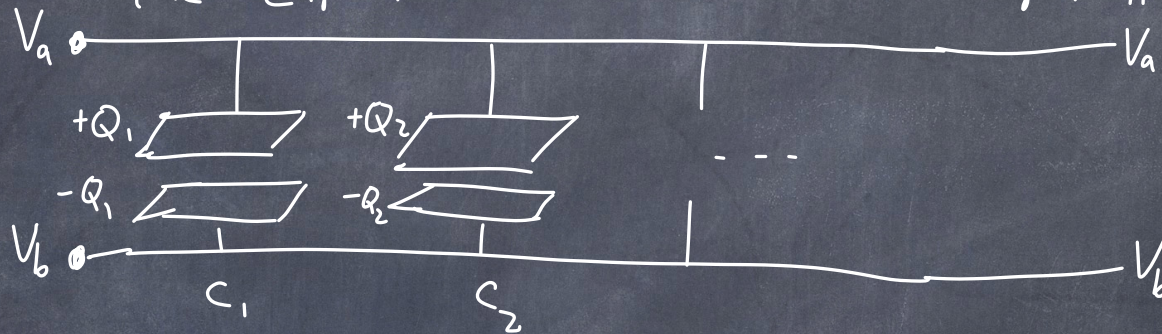
$$C = Q/V$$

$$Q = CV$$

## Combining capacitors:

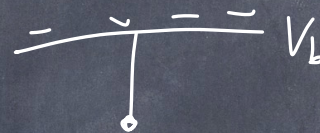
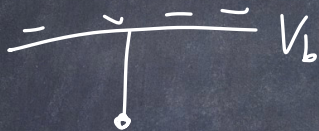
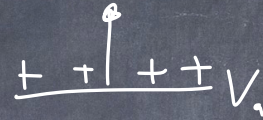
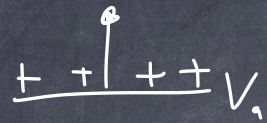
when we combine capacitors in parallel,  
the capacitors are at the same potential

$$V \equiv V_a - V_b$$





Combining capacitors in series:













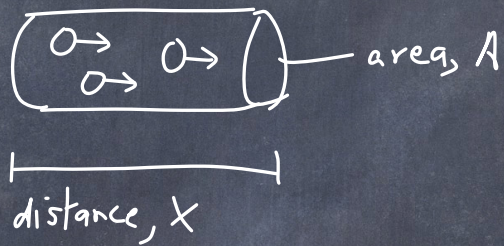






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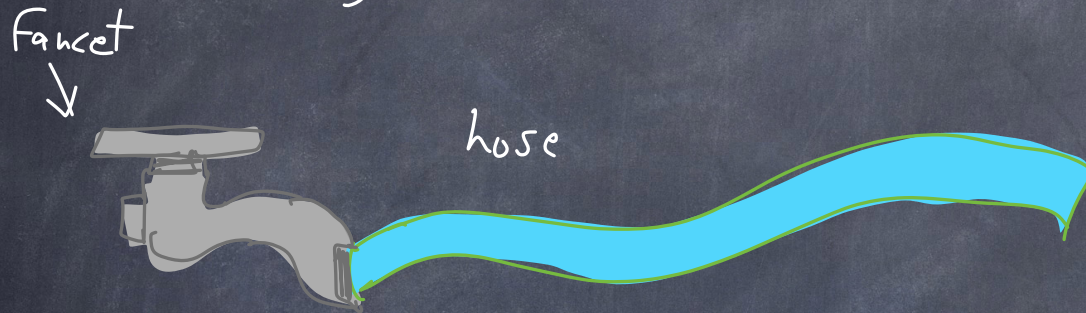
Calculate speed of charge carriers:





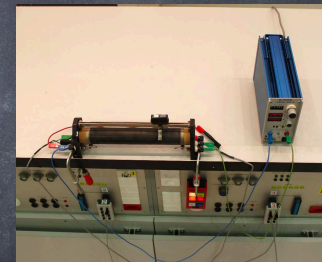
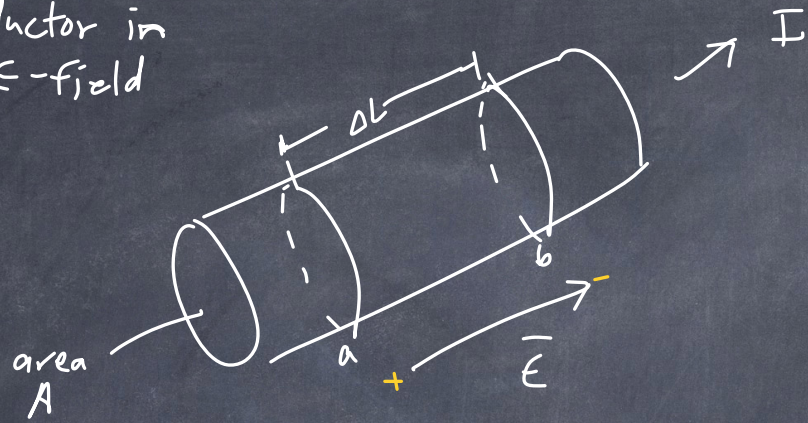
If  $v_d$  is so slow, why does electricity seem so fast?

Analogy to a hose with water in it.





Conductor in  
an  $E$ -field









material

$\rho_{20} [\Omega \cdot m]$

$\alpha \left[ \frac{1}{\text{C}} \right]$

Copper

$1.7 \text{ E-}8$

$3.9 \text{ E-}3$

aluminum

$2.8 \text{ E-}8$

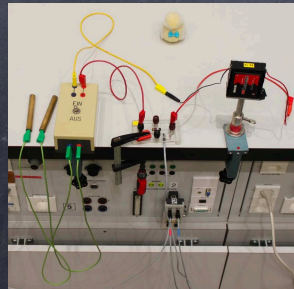
$3.9 \text{ E-}3$

wood

$10^8 - 10^{14}$

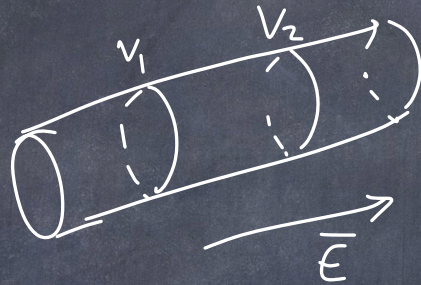
glass

$10^{10} - 10^{14}$





Energy is lost in a conductor as electrical energy is converted into thermal energy.

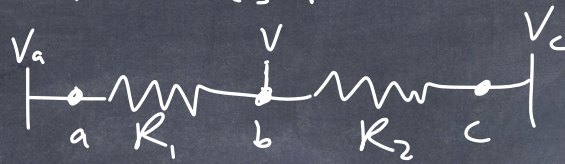






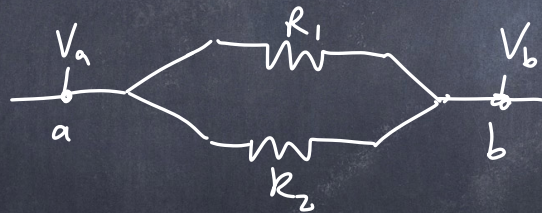


Resistors in series :

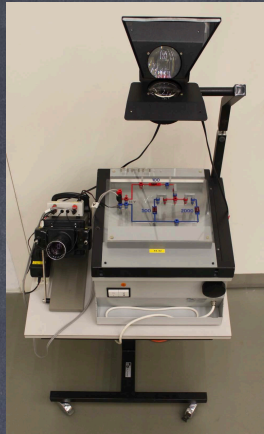


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Resistors in parallel :



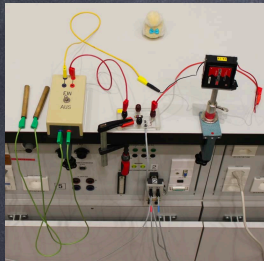




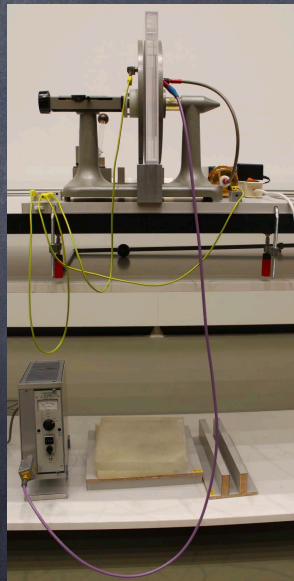
ES62



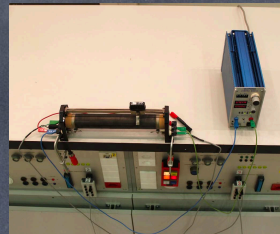
ES28



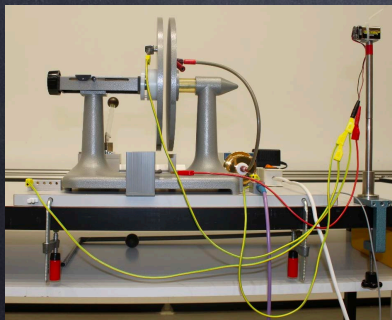
ES70



ES44



ES61



ES34