

Filling a capacitor with a dielectric II: Partial filling

2nd version

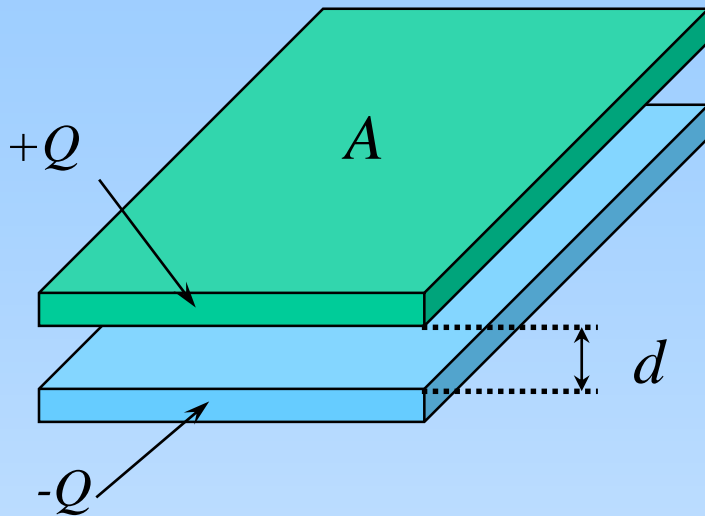
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Presentations:

- Electromagnetism: History
- Electromagnetism: Electr. topics
- Electromagnetism: Magn. topics
- Electromagnetism: Waves topics
- Capacitor filling (complete)
- Capacitor filling (partial)
- Divergence Theorem
- E-field of a thin long charged wire
- E-field of a charged disk
- E-field of a dipole
- E-field of a line of dipoles
- E-field of a charged sphere
- E-field of a polarized object
- E-field: field energy
- Electromagnetism: integrations
- Electromagnetism: integration elements
- Gauss' Law for a cylindrical charge
- Gauss' Law for a charged plane
- Laplace's and Poisson's Law
- B-field of a thin long wire carrying a current
- B-field of a conducting charged sphere
- B-field of a homogeneously charged sphere

More information and downloads: www.demul.net/frits

Partial filling of a capacitor (1)



Available: Flat capacitor:
= surface area A ,
= distance of plates d ,
= empty ($\epsilon_r = 1$) .

Assume: initially, plates are charged with $+Q$, $-Q$.

$\sigma = Q/A$: charge density

E = electric field strength

D = dielectric displacement

ΔV = potential difference

C = capacitance

Question: What will happen with

Q , σ , E , D , ΔV and C

upon **PARTIALLY** filling the capacitor with dielectric material (with $\epsilon_r > 1$) ???

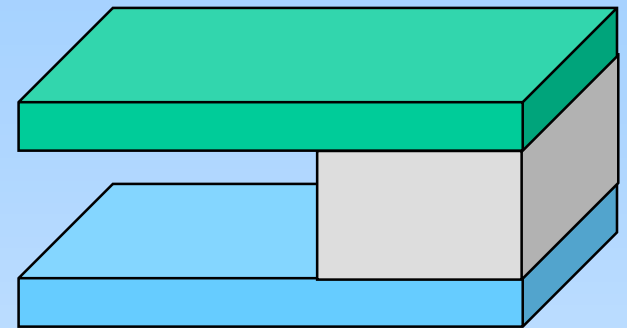
Partial filling of a capacitor (2)

Options:

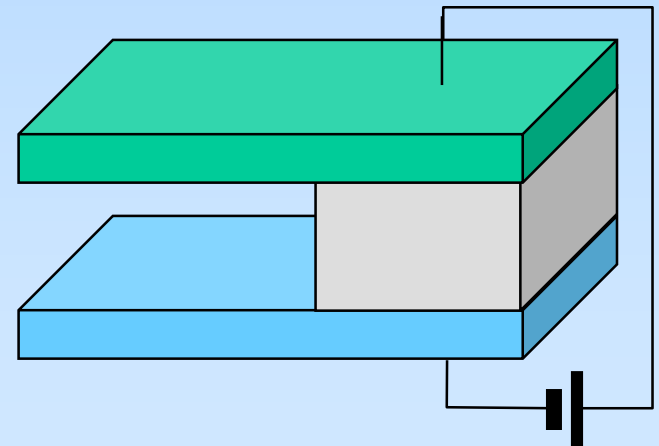
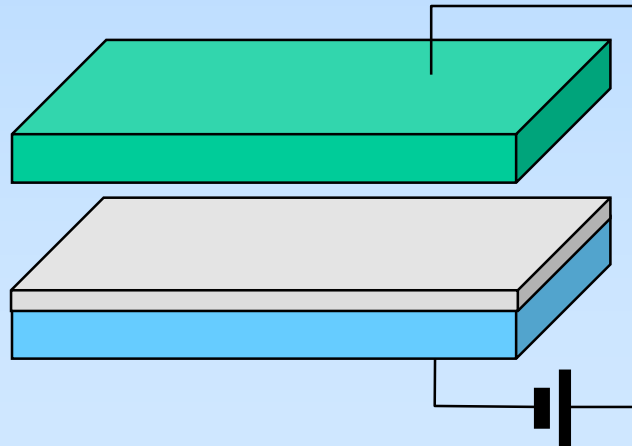
A. Series

B. Parallel

I. Free

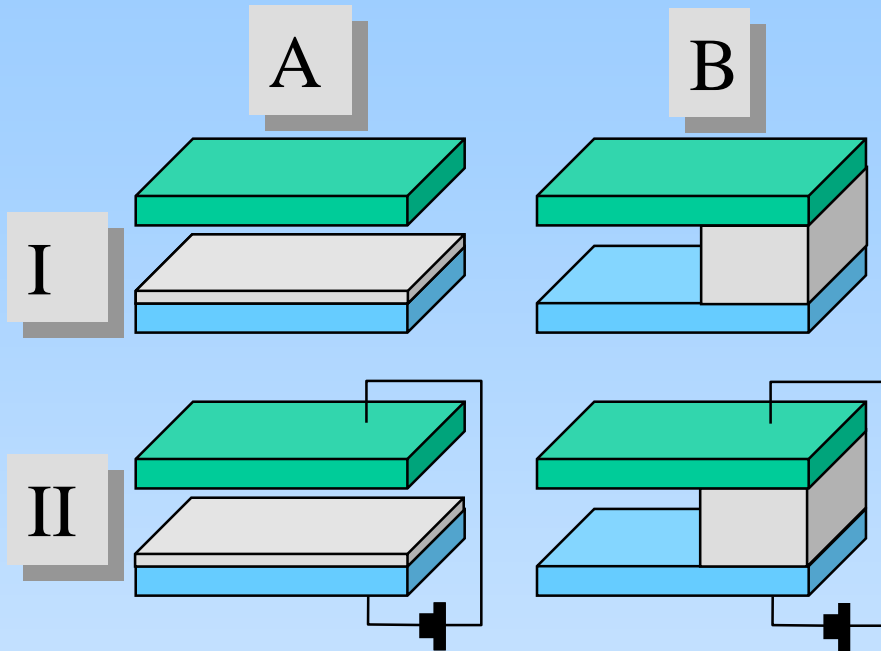


II. Connected to battery



Partly filling a capacitor with dielectric

Partial filling of a capacitor (3)



Assume :

no “edge effects” :

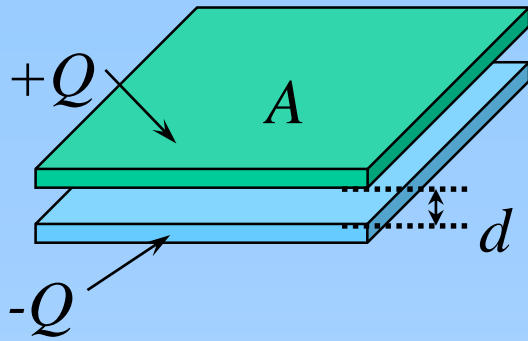
$d \ll$ plate dimensions

Consequences :

- no E -field leakage
- planar symmetry everywhere
- Gauss’ Law is applicable
- straight field lines (E and D)

Suppose:

- when empty: Q_0, V_0 etc.
- when filled: Q', V' etc.
- filling for $1/3$ of volume,
- with $\epsilon_r = 5$



Relations

for an ideal flat capacitor

Capacitance:

$$C = Q_f / \Delta V$$

Gauss:

$$\oiint_A \mathbf{D} \cdot d\mathbf{A} = Q_f = \iiint_V \rho_f dV$$

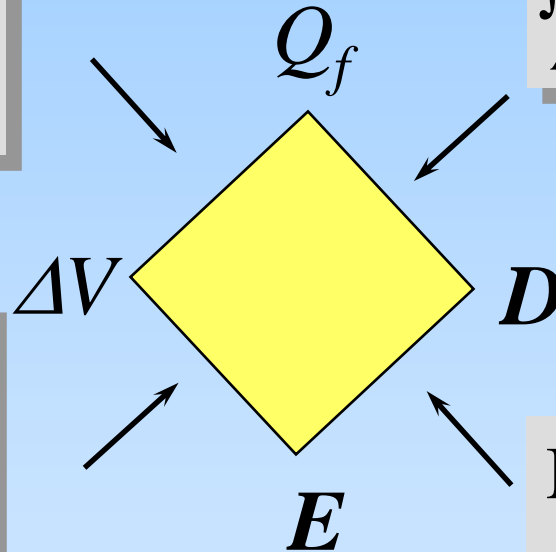
$$Q_f = \mathbf{D} \cdot \mathbf{A} = \sigma_f \cdot \mathbf{A}$$

$Q_f =$ free charge

Potential:

$$\Delta V = \int_{path} \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{l}$$

$$\Delta V = E \cdot d$$

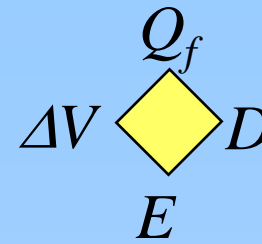


Material constants:

$$\mathbf{D} = \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r \mathbf{E}$$

$$\text{Capacitance: } C = \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r A/d$$

What to expect ??

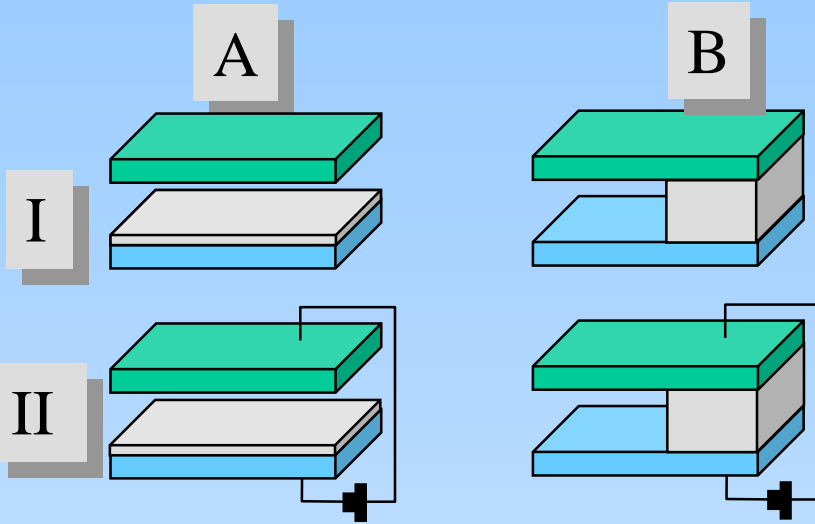


$$Q_f = D.A$$

$$D = \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r E$$

$$\Delta V = E.d$$

$$C = Q_f / \Delta V$$



A.I and B.I: total charge unchanged

A.II and B.II: total potential unchanged

A.I and A.II:
potentials in series

B.I and B.II:
potentials parallel

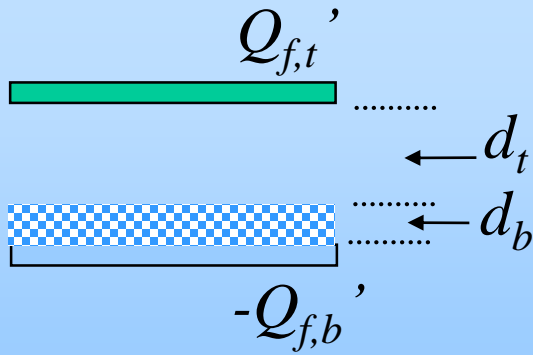
= equal ; ↑ up ; ↓ down

<..> = average
over both parts

I: $Q_f =$ $D =$ $\langle E \rangle \downarrow$ $\Delta V \downarrow$ $C \uparrow$

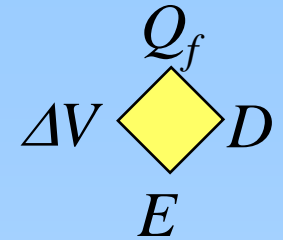
II: $\Delta V =$ $E =$ $\langle D \rangle \uparrow$ $\langle Q_f \rangle \uparrow$ $C \uparrow$

A.I. Horizontal filling, not connected



d_b, d_t : bottom and top layer
 Fill: $d_b = d_0/3$ with $\epsilon_r = 5$
 $d_t = 2d_0/3$ with $\epsilon_r = 1$

o = old (empty)
 t = top } total
 b = bottom



$$Q_f = D \cdot A$$

$$D = \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r E$$

$$\Delta V = E \cdot d$$

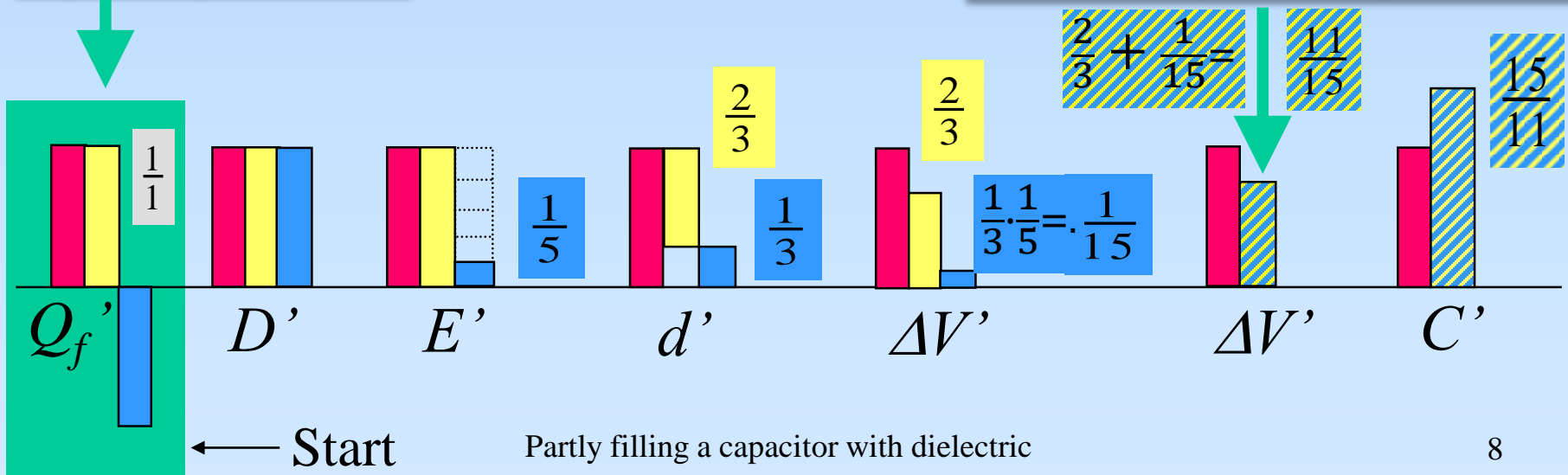
$$C = Q_f / \Delta V$$

Where to start ??

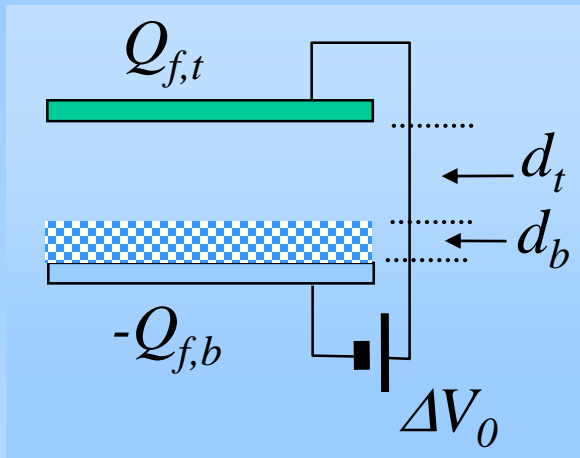
Q_f remains constant

$$Q_{f,t}' = Q_{f,b}' = Q_0$$

$$\Delta V' = \Delta V'_t + \Delta V'_b \neq \Delta V_0$$

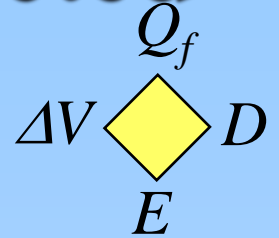


A.II. Horizontal filling, connected



Fill: $d_b = d_0/3$ with $\epsilon_r = 5$
 $d_t = 2d_0/3$ with $\epsilon_r = 1$

o = old (empty)
 t = top
 b = bottom } total

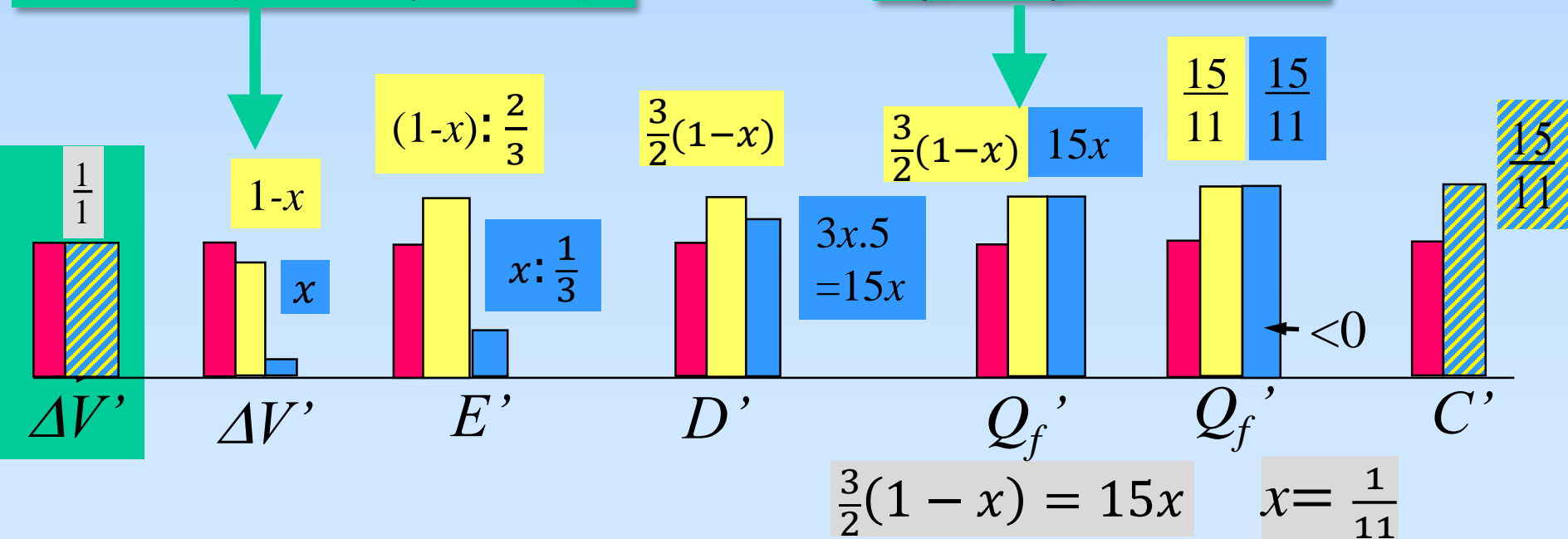


$Q_f = D.A$
 $D = \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r E$
 $\Delta V = E.d$
 $C = Q_f / \Delta V$

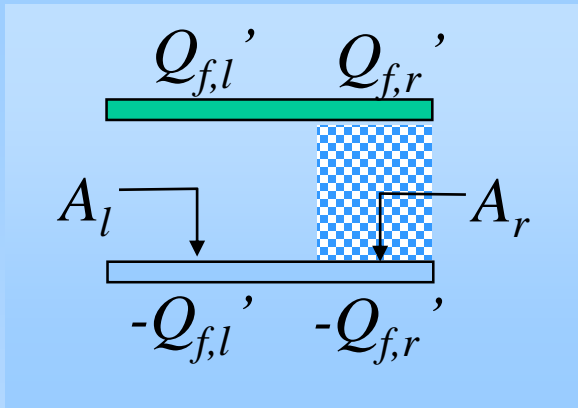
Start: ΔV remains constant

$$\Delta V' = \Delta V'_t + \Delta V'_b = \Delta V_0$$

$$Q_{f,t}' = Q_{f,b}' \neq Q_0$$

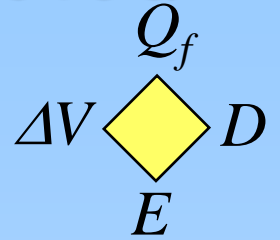


B.I. Vertical filling, not connected



Fill: right: $A_r = A_0/3$ with $\epsilon_r = 5$
 left: $A_l = 2A_0/3$ with $\epsilon_r = 1$

o = old (empty)
 l = left
 r = right } total



$$Q_f = D.A$$

$$D = \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r E$$

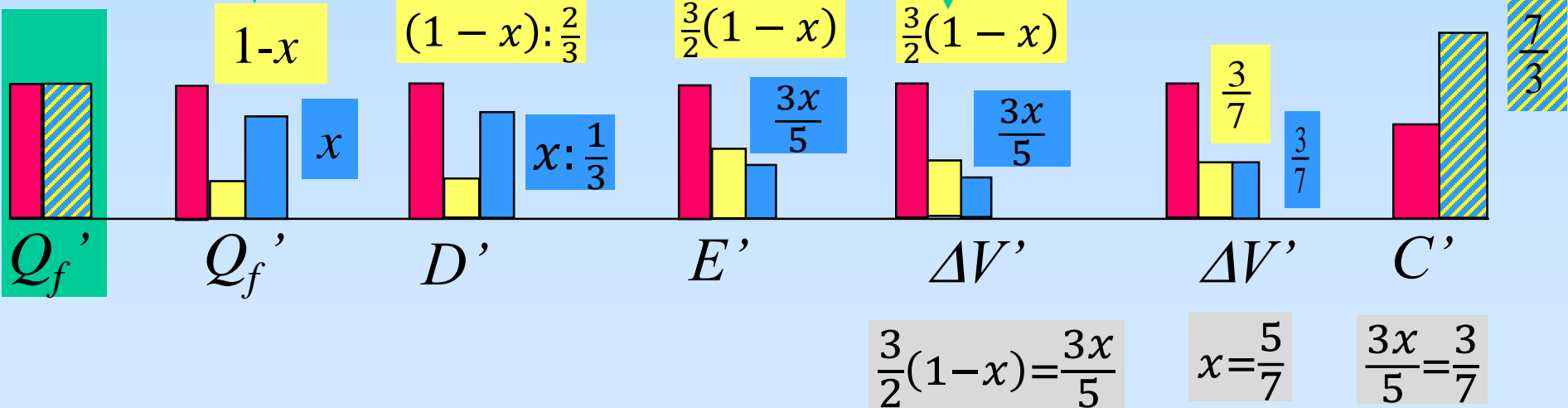
$$\Delta V = E.d$$

$$C = Q_f / \Delta V$$

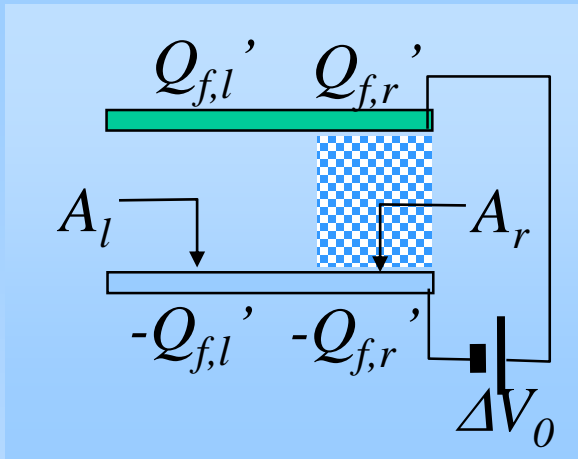
Start: Q_f remains constant

$$Q_f' = Q_{f,l}' + Q_{f,r}' = Q_0$$

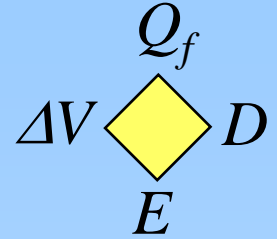
$$\Delta V_l' = \Delta V_r' \neq \Delta V_0$$



B.II. Vertical filling, connected



Fill: $A_r = A_0/3$ with $\epsilon_r = 5$
 $A_l = 2A_0/3$ with $\epsilon_r = 1$



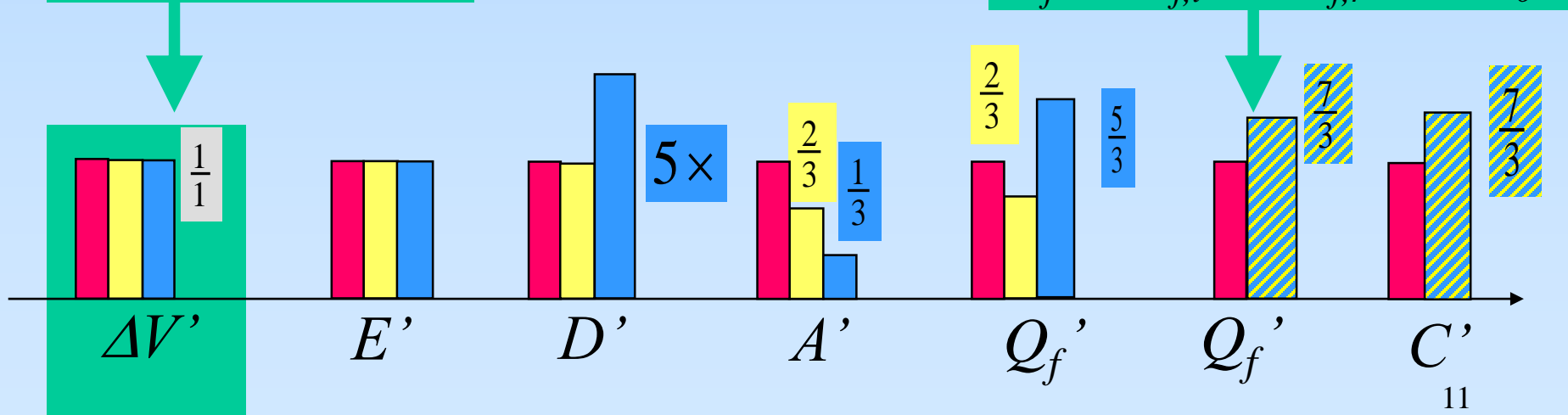
o = old (empty)
 l = left
 r = right } total

$Q_f = D.A$
 $D = \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r E$
 $\Delta V = E.d$
 $C = Q_f / \Delta V$

Start: ΔV remains constant

$\Delta V_l' = \Delta V_r' = \Delta V_0$

$Q_f' = Q_{f,l}' + Q_{f,r}' \neq Q_0$



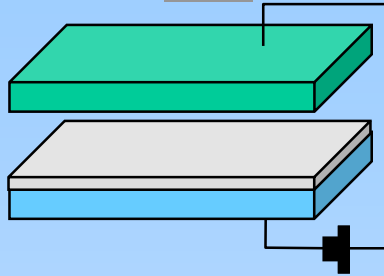
Overview: 1/3 filled, $\epsilon_r=5$

I



A

II



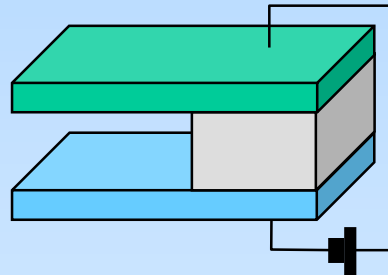
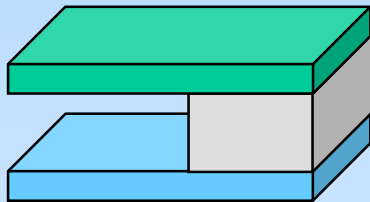
A.I and A.II:
potentials in series

Q_f : unchanged
 ΔV : 11/15 x

ΔV : unchanged
 Q_f : 15/11 x

C : 15/11 x

B



B.I and B.II: potentials
parallel

Q_f : unchanged
 ΔV : 3/7 x

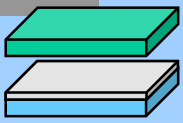
ΔV : unchanged
 Q_f : 7/3 x

C : 7/3 x

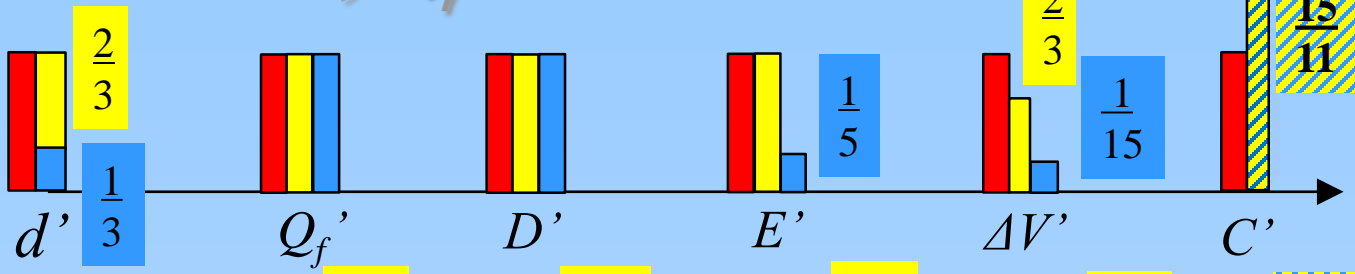
C does not depend on how the capacitor is used (intrinsic property)

Selftest: 1/3 filled, $\epsilon_r=5$:

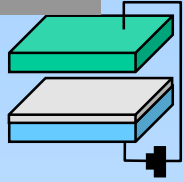
A.I



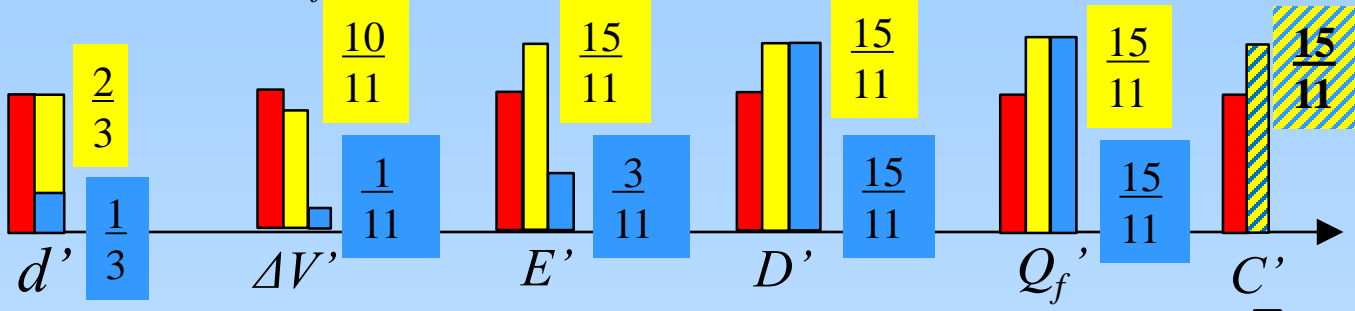
- old
- top
- bottom



A.II



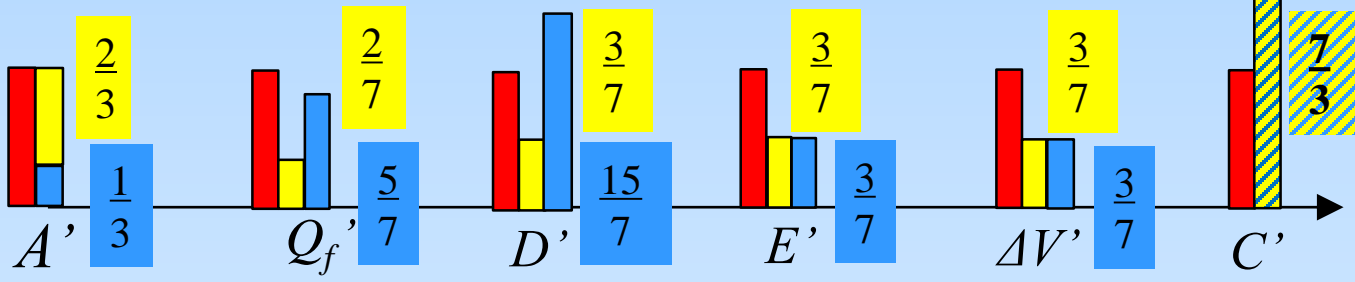
- old
- top
- bottom



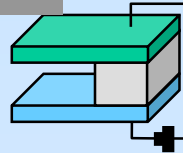
B.I



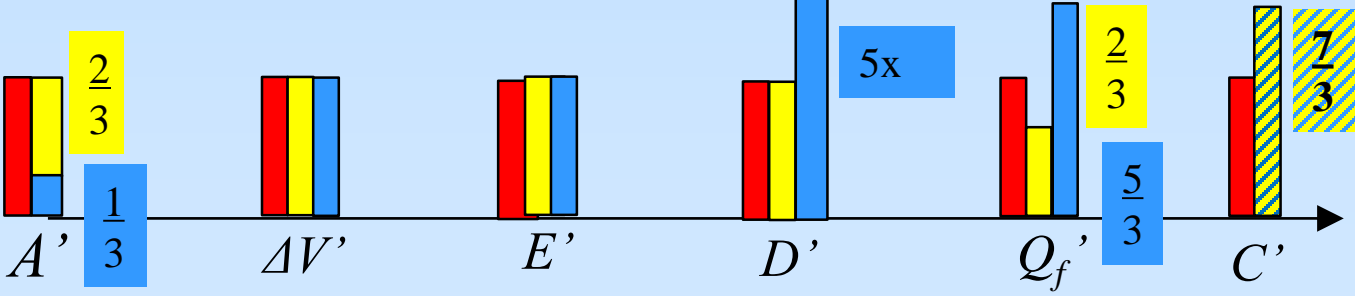
- old
- left
- right



B.II



- old
- left
- right



Dielectric polarization P , for A.I.

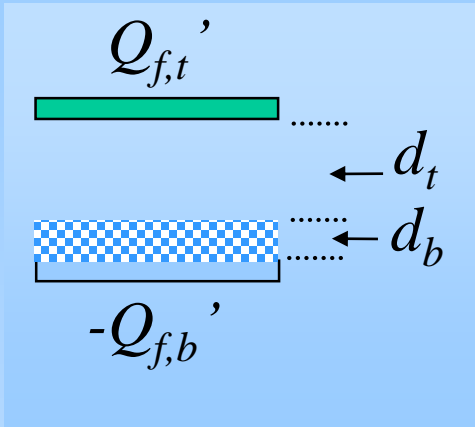
$$\Delta V \begin{array}{c} Q_f \\ \diamond \\ D \\ E \end{array}$$

$$Q_f = D \cdot A$$

$$D = \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r E$$

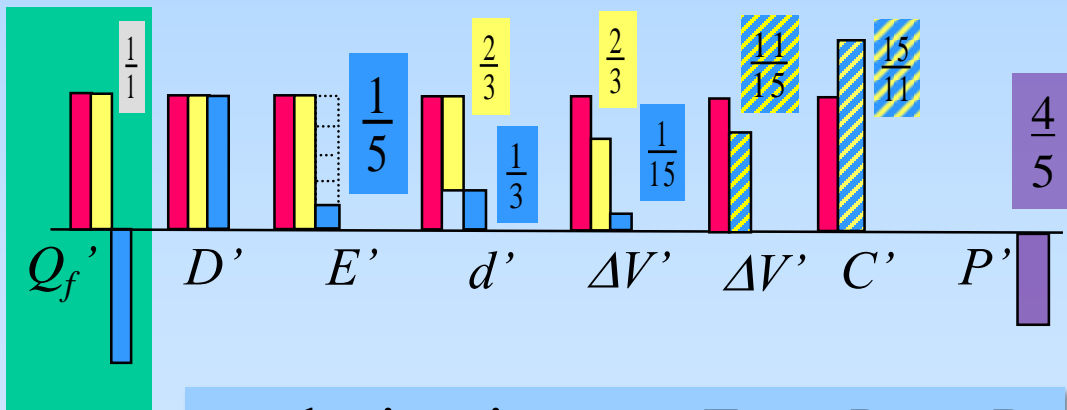
$$\Delta V = E \cdot d$$

$$C = Q_f / \Delta V$$



d_b, d_t : bottom and top layer
 Fill: $d_b = d_0 / 3$ with $\epsilon_r = 5$
 $d_t = 2d_0 / 3$ with $\epsilon_r = 1$

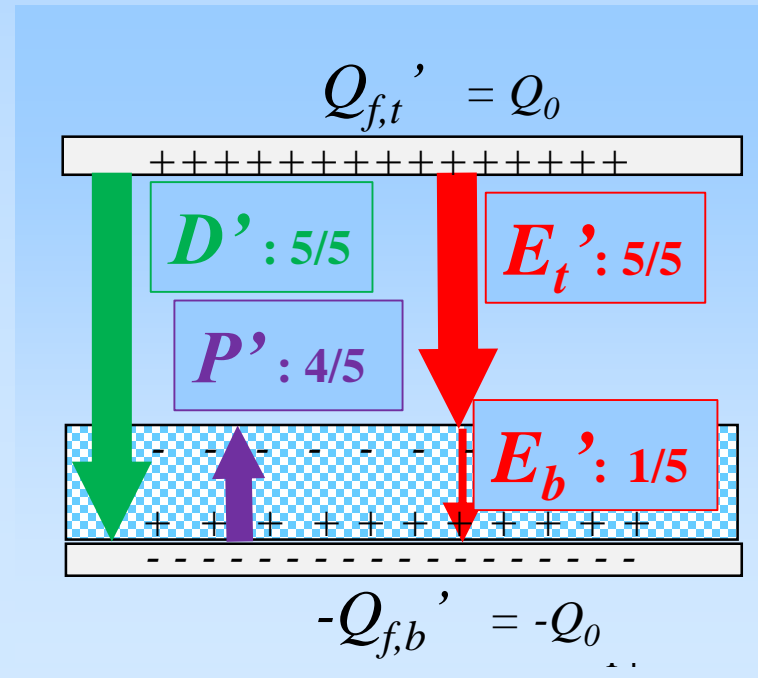
o = old (empty)
 t = top
 b = bottom } total



Polarization: $\epsilon_0 E = D - P$

$P = (\epsilon_r - 1) \epsilon_0 E = \chi_e \epsilon_0 E$; E = total field

$\chi_e = \epsilon_r - 1$ = electric susceptibility



Dielectric polarization P

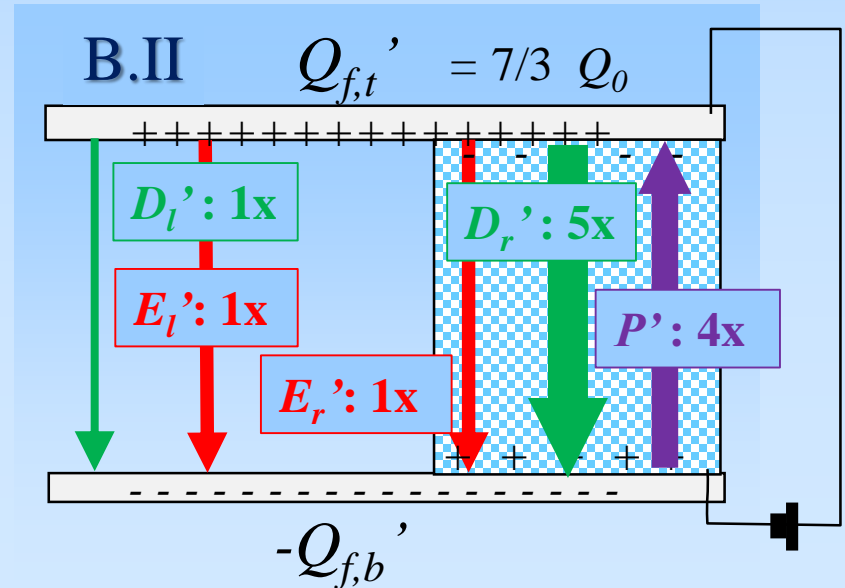
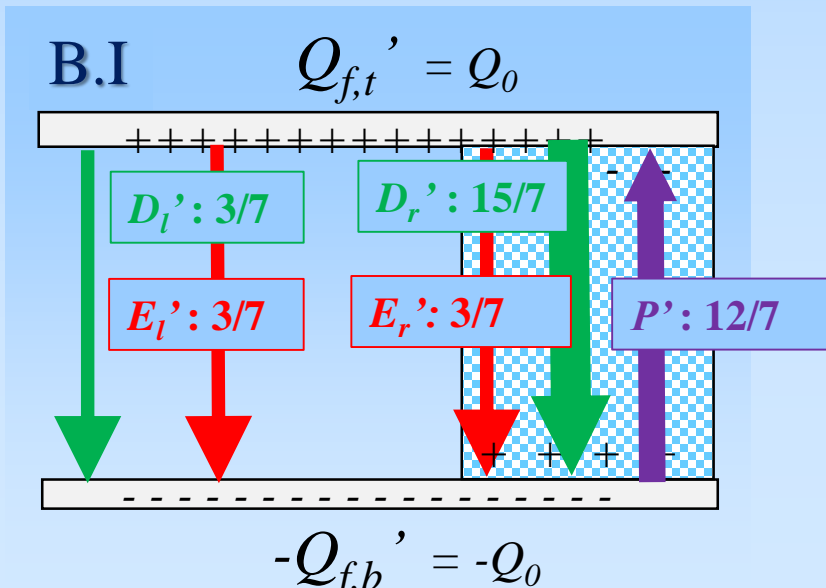
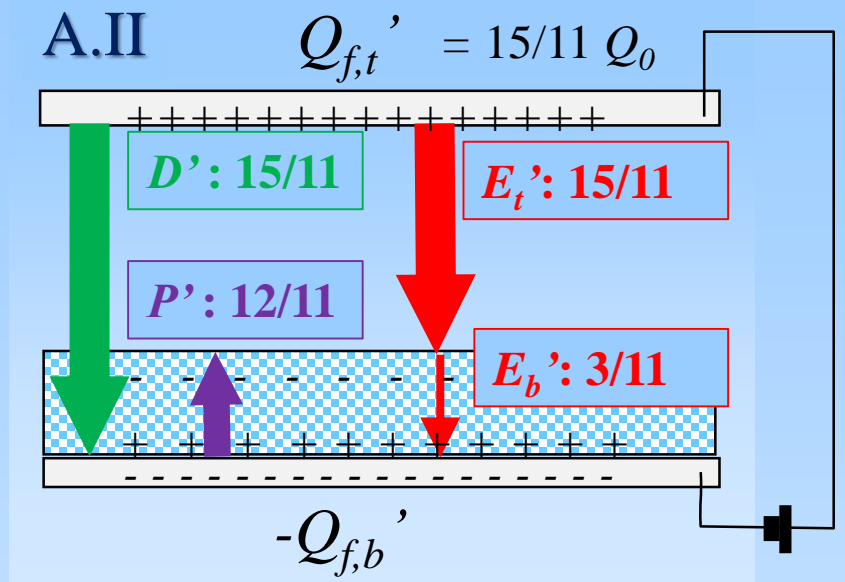
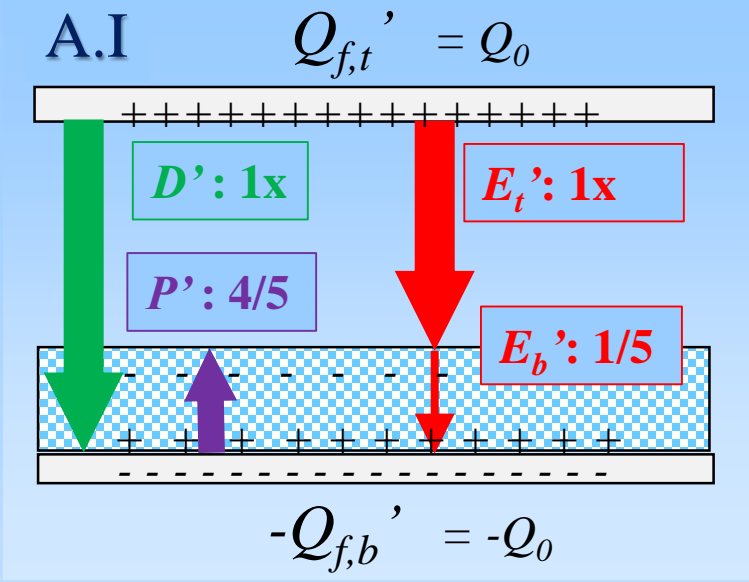
Comparison with empty situation

$$Q_f = D \cdot A$$

$$D = \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r E$$

$$\Delta V = E \cdot d$$

$$\epsilon_0 E = D - P$$



Homework 1

In the example, the capacitor was filled for 1/3 of the volume, with $\epsilon_r = 5$.

Now suppose that the filling was: for a volume fraction p , with $\epsilon_r > 1$.

Show that the capacitance changes with a factor F :

$$F = \left[1 - p + \frac{p}{\epsilon_r} \right]^{-1}$$

for SERIES



$$F = 1 - p + \epsilon_r \cdot p$$

for PARALLEL



Note: with $\epsilon_r > 1$: for all p with $0 \leq p \leq 1$: $1 \leq F(p) \leq \epsilon_r$.

Homework 1

$$F = \left[1 - p + \frac{p}{\epsilon_r} \right]^{-1}$$

for SERIES

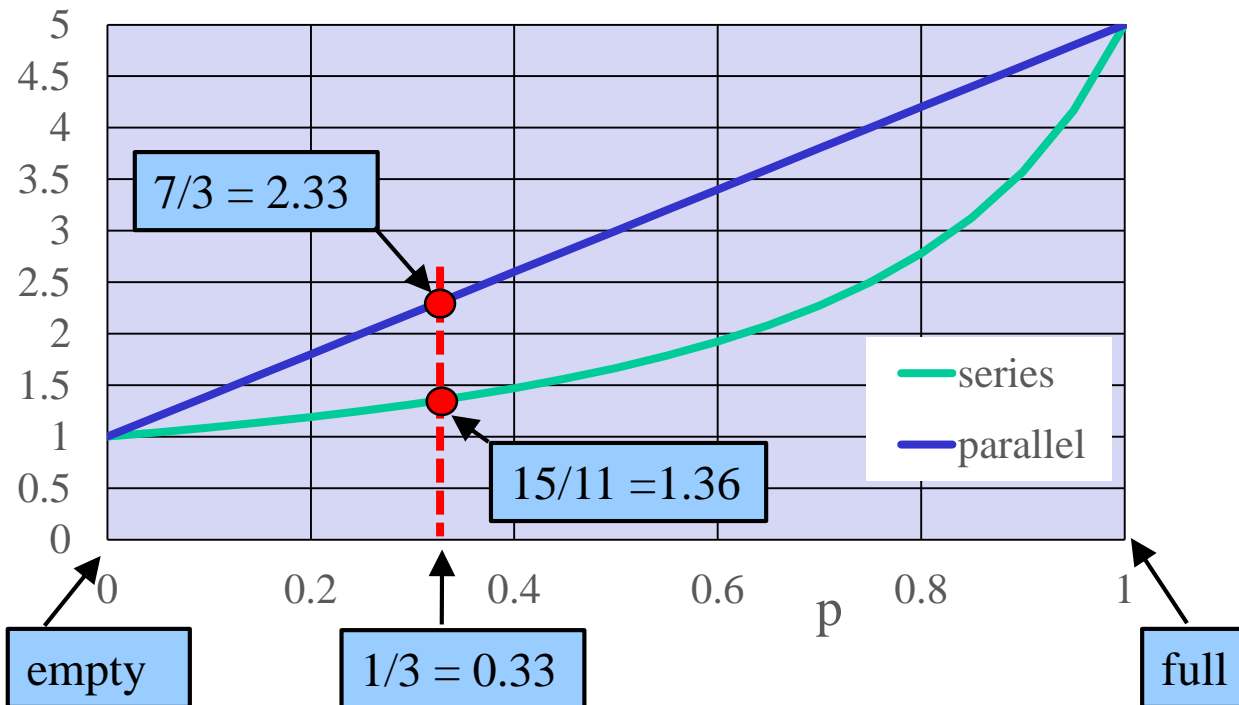


$$F = 1 - p + \epsilon_r \cdot p$$

for PARALLEL



$F(p)$ for $\epsilon_r = 5$



Example:

for $p = 1/3$

and $\epsilon_r = 5$:

series: $F = 15/11$

parallel: $F = 7/3$

Homework 2

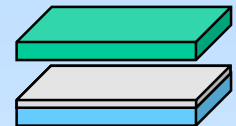
In the example, the capacitor was filled for 1/3 of the volume, with $\epsilon_r = 5$.

Now suppose that the filling was: 2 dielectrics,
- for volume fraction p , with $\epsilon_{r1} > 1$, and
- for volume fraction $1-p$, with $\epsilon_{r2} > 1$.

Show that the capacitance changes with a factor F :

$$F = \frac{\epsilon_{r1}\epsilon_{r2}}{\epsilon_{r1}(1-p) + \epsilon_{r2}p}$$

for SERIES

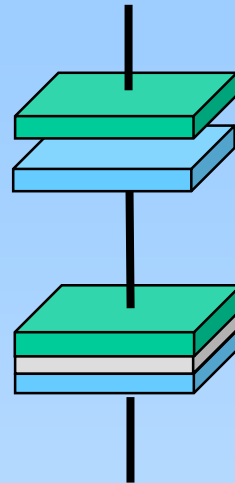
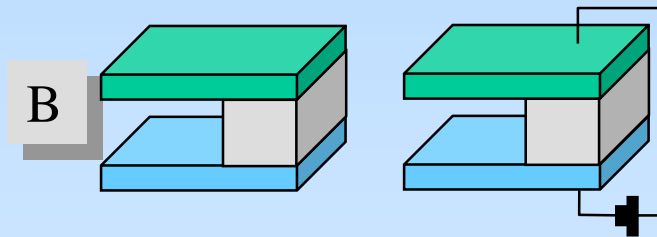
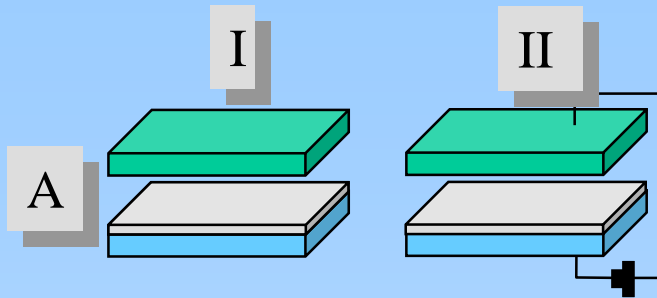


$$F = \epsilon_{r2}(1-p) + \epsilon_{r1} \cdot p$$

for PARALLEL

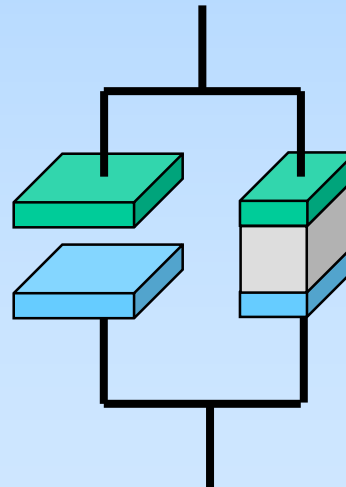


Finally... Combination rules



A.I and A.II:
series

$$\frac{1}{C'} = \frac{1}{C_t} + \frac{1}{C_b}$$



B.I and B.II:
parallel

$$C' = C_l + C_r$$

the end