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| 2.51 |
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| You have two parallel plate capacitors, both with the |
| same area and the same gap size. |
| Capacitor \#1 has twice the charge of \#2. |
| Which has more capacitance? More stored energy? |
| A) $\mathrm{C} 1>\mathrm{C} 2, \mathrm{PE} 1>\mathrm{PE} 2$ <br> B) $\mathrm{C} 1>\mathrm{C} 2, \mathrm{PE} 1=\mathrm{PE} 2$ <br> C) $\mathrm{C} 1=\mathrm{C} 2, \mathrm{PE} 1=\mathrm{PE} 2$ <br> D) $\mathrm{C} 1=\mathrm{C} 2, \mathrm{PE} 1>\mathrm{PE} 2$ <br> E) Some other combination! <br>  |

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A region of space contains no charges. $\qquad$ What can I say about V in the interior?

A) Not much, there are lots of possibilities for $\mathrm{V}(\mathrm{r})$ in there
B) $V(r)=0$ everywhere in the interior. $\qquad$
C) $V(r)=$ constant everywhere in the interior

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$\qquad$ Two very strong (big C) ideal
capacitors are well separated.
If they are connected by 2 thin conducting wires, as shown, is this electrostatic situation physically stable?

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Two very strong (big C) ideal $\qquad$ capacitors are well separated.
What if they are connected by one thin $\qquad$ conducting wire, is this electrostatic situation physically stable?


## General properties of solutions of $\nabla^{\mathbf{2}} \mathbf{V}=\mathbf{0}$

(1) V has no local maxima or minima inside. Maxima and minima are located on surrounding boundary.
$(2) \mathrm{V}$ is boring. (I mean "smooth \& continuous" everywhere).
(3) $\mathrm{V}(\mathbf{r})=$ average of V over any surrounding sphere:

$$
V(\vec{r})=\frac{1}{4 \pi R^{2}} \oint_{\substack{\text { Sphere with } \\ \text { radius } R \\ \text { around } \vec{r}}} V d a
$$

(4) $V$ is unique: The solution of to the Laplace eq. is uniquely determined if V is specified on the boundary surface around the volume.
3.5 If you put a + test charge at the center of this cube of charges, could it be in stable equilibrium?
A) Yes
B) No
C) ???

## Earnshaw's Theorem


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3.7 A point charge $+Q$ sits above a very large conducting slab. What is $\mathrm{E}(\mathrm{r})$ for other points above the slab? $\qquad$
A) Simple Coulomb's law:

$$
\vec{E}(\vec{r})=\frac{Q}{4 \pi \varepsilon_{0}} \frac{\Re}{\Re^{3}} \quad \text { with } \vec{\Re}=(\vec{r}-d \hat{z})
$$

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B) Something more complicated
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A point charge $+Q$ sits above a very large conducting slab. What is the electric force on this charge?
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { A) } 0 & \text { B) } \frac{Q^{2}}{4 \pi \varepsilon_{0}(2 d)^{2}} \text { downwards }\end{array}$
$\qquad$
C) $\frac{Q^{2}}{4 \pi \varepsilon_{0} d^{2}}$ downwards
D) Something more complicated

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3.8b A point charge $+Q$ sits above a very
large grounded conducting slab.
What's the energy of this system?
A) $\frac{-Q^{2}}{4 \pi \varepsilon_{0}(2 d)}$
B) Something else. $\qquad$
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Is this a stable charge distribution for two neutral, conducting spheres?
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A) Yes
C) ???

