

## 1 Part a

Outside both of the plates, the total  $\vec{E}$  field is zero (a Gaussian pillbox including both plates contains no net charge). Between the plates, the  $\vec{E}$  fields from each plate add. So, for the magnitude of the field between the plates, I just need to double the contribution for one plate.

Use a pillbox on the upper plate with area,  $a$ , and squish the box so that the contributions from the sides are zero.

$$\oint \vec{E} \cdot \hat{n} da = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \int \rho(\vec{x}) d^3x \quad (1)$$

$$E_{outside}a + E_{inside}a = \frac{\sigma a}{\epsilon_0} \quad (2)$$

$$2E = \frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0} \quad (3)$$

$$(4)$$

So, the field between the plates is  $\vec{E} = -\frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0} \hat{z}$ .

Choosing a path in the  $-\hat{z}$  direction, the potential difference between the plates is:

$$V = -\int_d^0 \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} \quad (5)$$

$$= \int_0^d \frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0} dl \quad (6)$$

$$= \frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0} d \quad (7)$$

$$(8)$$

But,  $\sigma = \frac{Q}{A}$ , so  $V = \frac{Qd}{\epsilon_0 A}$ .

And, the capacitance is:

$$\Rightarrow C = \frac{Q}{V} = \frac{\epsilon_0 A}{d}$$

## 2 Part b

The field between  $a$  and  $b$  is:

$$\oint \vec{E} \cdot \hat{n} da = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \int \rho(\vec{x}) d^3x \quad (9)$$

$$4\pi r^2 E = \frac{Q}{\epsilon_0} \quad (10)$$

$$E = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2} \quad (11)$$

$$(12)$$

Then,

$$V = - \int_b^a \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} \quad (13)$$

$$= - \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_b^a r^{-2} dr \quad (14)$$

$$= \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{1}{a} - \frac{1}{b} \right] \quad (15)$$

$$(16)$$

And the capacitance is:

$$\Rightarrow C = \frac{Q}{V} = 4\pi\epsilon_0 \frac{ab}{b-a}$$

## 3 Part c

Using a cylinder between the conducting cylinders as the Gaussian surface,

$$\oint \vec{E} \cdot \hat{n} da = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \int \rho(\vec{x}) d^3x \quad (17)$$

$$2\pi r L E = \frac{Q}{\epsilon_0} \quad (18)$$

$$E = \frac{Q}{2\pi L \epsilon_0 r} \quad (19)$$

$$(20)$$

So the potential is:

$$V = - \int_b^a \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} \quad (21)$$

$$= - \frac{Q}{2\pi L \epsilon_0} \int_b^a r^{-1} dr \quad (22)$$

$$= \frac{Q}{2\pi L \epsilon_0} (\ln(b) - \ln(a)) \quad (23)$$

$$= \frac{Q}{2\pi L \epsilon_0} \ln\left(\frac{b}{a}\right) \quad (24)$$

$$(25)$$

And the capacitance:

$$\Rightarrow C = \frac{Q}{V} = 2\pi L \epsilon_0 \left[ \ln\left(\frac{b}{a}\right) \right]^{-1}$$