

28. (a) The potential difference across C_1 (the same as across C_2) is given by

$$V_1 = V_2 = \frac{C_3 V}{C_1 + C_2 + C_3} = \frac{(4.00 \mu\text{F})(100 \text{ V})}{10.0 \mu\text{F} + 5.00 \mu\text{F} + 4.00 \mu\text{F}} = 21.1 \text{ V} .$$

Also, $V_3 = V - V_1 = V - V_2 = 100 \text{ V} - 21.1 \text{ V} = 78.9 \text{ V}$. Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} q_1 &= C_1 V_1 = (10.0 \mu\text{F})(21.1 \text{ V}) = 2.11 \times 10^{-4} \text{ C} \\ q_2 &= C_2 V_2 = (5.00 \mu\text{F})(21.1 \text{ V}) = 1.05 \times 10^{-4} \text{ C} \\ q_3 &= q_1 + q_2 = 2.11 \times 10^{-4} \text{ C} + 1.05 \times 10^{-4} \text{ C} = 3.16 \times 10^{-4} \text{ C} . \end{aligned}$$

- (b) The potential differences were found in the course of solving for the charges in part (a).

- (c) The stored energies are as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} U_1 &= \frac{1}{2} C_1 V_1^2 = \frac{1}{2} (10.0 \mu\text{F})(21.1 \text{ V})^2 = 2.22 \times 10^{-3} \text{ J} , \\ U_2 &= \frac{1}{2} C_2 V_2^2 = \frac{1}{2} (5.00 \mu\text{F})(21.1 \text{ V})^2 = 1.11 \times 10^{-3} \text{ J} , \\ U_3 &= \frac{1}{2} C_3 V_3^2 = \frac{1}{2} (4.00 \mu\text{F})(78.9 \text{ V})^2 = 1.25 \times 10^{-2} \text{ J} . \end{aligned}$$