

42. Let $C_1 = \varepsilon_0(A/2)\kappa_1/2d = \varepsilon_0 A\kappa_1/4d$, $C_2 = \varepsilon_0(A/2)\kappa_2/d = \varepsilon_0 A\kappa_2/2d$, and $C_3 = \varepsilon_0 A\kappa_3/2d$. Note that C_2 and C_3 are effectively connected in series, while C_1 is effectively connected in parallel with the C_2 - C_3 combination. Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} C &= C_1 + \frac{C_2 C_3}{C_2 + C_3} = \frac{\varepsilon_0 A \kappa_1}{4d} + \frac{(\varepsilon_0 A/d)(\kappa_2/2)(\kappa_3/2)}{\kappa_2/2 + \kappa_3/2} \\ &= \frac{\varepsilon_0 A}{4d} \left(\kappa_1 + \frac{2\kappa_2 \kappa_3}{\kappa_2 + \kappa_3} \right). \end{aligned}$$