## ENERGY-STORING COUPLING BETWEEN DOMAINS

## MULTI-PORT ENERGY STORAGE ELEMENTS

Context: examine limitations of some basic model elements.

## EXAMPLE:

open fluid container with deformable walls

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathrm{P}=\rho \mathrm{g} \mathrm{~h} \\
& \mathrm{~h}=\mathrm{AV} \\
& \mathrm{~V}=\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{f}} \mathrm{P}
\end{aligned}
$$

where $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{f}}=\frac{\mathrm{A}}{\rho \mathrm{g}}$
-fluid capacitor
But when squeezed, $h$ (and hence $P$ ) may vary with time even though $V$ does not.
Seems to imply $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{f}}=\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{f}}(\mathrm{t})$
i.e., $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{f}}=\frac{\mathrm{A}(\mathrm{t})}{\rho \mathrm{g}}$
—apparently a "modulated capacitor"

## PROBLEM!

$$
\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}=\frac{\mathrm{V}^{2}}{2 \mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{f}}}
$$

V is constant, therefore no (pressure) work done

$$
\mathrm{dV}=0 \therefore \mathrm{PdV}=0
$$

-yet (stored) energy may change
This would violate the first law (energy conservation)

-a BIG problem!

MODULATED ENERGY STORAGE IS PROSCRIBED!

## SOLUTION

Identify another power port to keep track of the work done to change the stored energy

$$
\frac{\mathrm{F}}{\mathrm{v}=\mathrm{dx} / \mathrm{dt}} \mathrm{C} \frac{\mathrm{P}}{\mathrm{Q}=\mathrm{dV} / \mathrm{dt}}
$$

introduces a new network element: a multiport capacitor

## Mathematical foundations:

## Power variables:

Each power port must have properly defined conjugate power and energy variables.
Net input power flow is the sum of the products of effort and flow over all ports.

$$
\mathrm{P}=\sum_{\mathrm{i}} \mathrm{e}_{\mathrm{i}} \mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{i}}
$$

In vector notation:


$$
\mathrm{P}=\mathbf{e}^{\mathrm{t}} \mathbf{f}=\mathbf{f}^{\mathrm{t}} \mathbf{e}
$$

## Energy variables

Energy variables are defined as in the scalar case as time integrals of the flow and effort vectors respectively. generalized displacement

$$
\mathbf{q}=\int \mathbf{f} d t+\mathbf{q}_{\mathbf{o}}
$$

generalized momentum

$$
\mathbf{p}=\int \mathbf{e} \mathrm{dt}+\mathbf{p}_{0}
$$

## MULTI-Port CAPACITOR

A "vectorized" or multivariable generalization of the one-port capacitor.

## definition

A multiport capacitor is defined as an entity for which effort is a single-valued (integrable) function of displacement.

$$
\mathbf{e}=\Phi(\mathbf{q})
$$

The vector function $\Phi(\cdot)$ is the capacitor constitutive equation.
-a vector field (in the mathematical sense of the word).
A multi-port capacitor is sometimes called a C-field or capacitive field.

## BOND GRAPH NOTATION

By convention, power is defined positive into all ports.


An alternative notation:

n denotes the number of ports.
More on this multi-bond notation later.

## STORED ENERGY:

determined by integrating the constitutive equation.

$$
\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}-\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{po}}=\int \mathbf{e}^{\mathrm{t}} \mathbf{f} \mathrm{dt}=\int \mathbf{e}^{\mathrm{t}} \mathrm{~d} \mathbf{q}=\int \Phi(\mathbf{q})^{\mathrm{t}} \mathrm{~d} \mathbf{q}=\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}(\mathbf{q})
$$

potential energy, as it is a function of displacement
-a function of as many displacements as there are ports.

## COUPLING BETWEEN PORTS.

Each effort may depend on any or all displacements.

$$
\mathrm{e}_{\mathrm{i}}=\Phi_{\mathrm{i}}\left(\mathrm{q}_{1}, \mathrm{q}_{2}, \ldots \mathrm{q}_{\mathrm{n}}\right) \text { all } \mathrm{i}
$$

This coupling between ports is constrained.

## Mathematically:

Energy stored is a scalar function of vector displacement.
Stored energy is a scalar potential field.
The effort vector is the gradient of this potential field.

$$
\mathbf{e}=\nabla_{\mathbf{q}} \mathrm{E}_{\mathbf{p}}(\mathbf{q})
$$

Therefore the constitutive equation, $\Phi(\cdot)$, must have zero curl.

$$
\nabla \times \mathbf{e}=\mathbf{0}
$$

or

$$
\nabla \times \Phi=\mathbf{0}
$$

In terms of the individual efforts and displacements,

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathrm{e}_{\mathrm{i}}=\frac{\partial \mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}}{\partial \mathrm{q}_{\mathrm{i}}} \quad \text { all } \mathrm{i} \\
& \frac{\partial \mathrm{e}_{i}}{\partial \mathrm{q}_{j}}=\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathrm{q}_{j}} \frac{\partial \mathrm{E}_{p}}{\partial \mathrm{q}_{i}}=\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathrm{q}_{i}} \frac{\partial \mathrm{E}_{p}}{\partial \mathrm{q}_{j}}=\frac{\partial \mathrm{e}_{j}}{\partial \mathrm{q}_{i}} \quad \text { all } \mathrm{i}, \mathrm{j} .
\end{aligned}
$$

## Coupling between ports must be symmetric.

The dependence of $\mathrm{e}_{\mathrm{i}}$ on $\mathrm{qj}_{\mathrm{j}}$ must be identical to the dependence of $\mathrm{e}_{\mathrm{j}}$ on qi .
This is known as Maxwell's reciprocity condition.
Later we will see that stability and passivity further constrain the capacitor constitutive equation.

## EXAMPLE: "CONDENSER" MICROPHONE

HEADS UP!
There's an error in what follows - see if you can spot it.
The sketch depicts a simple electro-mechanical transducer, a "condenser" microphone.
-essentially a moving-plate capacitor.
Electrically a capacitor, but capacitance varies with plate separation.
Mechanically, electric charge pulls the plates together.

Fixed plate on


Schematic of condenser microphone

## DEVICE CAN STORE ENERGY.

Energy can change in two ways:
mechanical displacement
charge displacement
-a two-port capacitor

$$
\frac{F}{v=d x / d t} C \underset{i=d q / d t}{C}
$$

like a spring in the mechanical domain
like a capacitor in the electrical domain
Two constitutive equations needed
both relate effort to displacement

$$
\begin{aligned}
& e=e(q, x) \\
& F=F(q, x)
\end{aligned}
$$

## Assuming electrical linearity:

$$
\mathrm{e}=\frac{\mathrm{q}}{\mathrm{C}(\mathrm{x})}
$$

To find $C(x)$ assume a pair of parallel plates very close together.
(i.e., plates are very large compared to their separation)
(Fringing effects can be handled in a completely analogous way)

$$
\mathrm{C}=\varepsilon_{0} \mathrm{~A} / \mathrm{x}
$$

$\varepsilon_{o}$ is a permittivity
A is plate area
One constitutive equation is

$$
\mathrm{e}=\frac{\mathrm{qX}}{\varepsilon \mathrm{~A}}
$$

To find the other constitutive equation we could work out the attraction due to the charges on the plates ...

## AN EASIER WAY:

-use the energy equation

$$
\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}=\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}(\mathrm{q}, \mathrm{x})
$$

capacitor effort $=$ gradient of stored energy.
(by definition)
energy is the same in all domains.
compute energy in the electrical domain
(easy)
gradient with respect to plate separation = force
(also easy)

Stored electrical energy:

$$
\text { Eelectrical }=\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{Ce}^{2}=\frac{1}{2} \frac{\varepsilon \mathrm{~A}}{\mathrm{x}} \mathrm{e}^{2}
$$

Gradient:

$$
\mathrm{F}=\frac{\partial \mathrm{E}_{\text {electrical }}}{\partial \mathrm{x}}=-\frac{1}{2} \frac{\varepsilon \mathrm{~A}}{\mathrm{x}^{2}} \mathrm{e}^{2}
$$

Why the minus?
-a sign error!

## ENERGY AND CO-ENERGY

There are two ways to integrate the capacitor constitutive equation.
-only one of them is energy
—the other is co-energy

energy:
$\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}(\mathbf{q}) \triangleq \int \mathbf{e}^{\mathrm{t}} \mathrm{d} \mathbf{q}$
$\frac{q^{2}}{2 \mathrm{C}} \quad$ is electrical energy
co-energy:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}^{*}(\mathbf{q}) \triangleq \int \mathbf{q}^{\mathrm{t}} \mathrm{~d} \mathbf{e} \\
& \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{C} \mathrm{e}^{2} \quad \text { is electrical co-energy }
\end{aligned}
$$

THE ERROR WAS TO CONFUSE ENERGY WITH CO-ENERGY
Stored electrical energy:

$$
E_{p}=\frac{q^{2} x}{2 \varepsilon A}
$$

gradient of energy with respect to plate separation:

$$
\mathrm{F}=\frac{\partial \mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}}{\partial \mathrm{x}}=\frac{\mathrm{q}^{2}}{2 \varepsilon \mathrm{~A}}
$$

Sign error corrected, but ...
this equation implies force is independent of plate separation.

## IS THAT PHYSICALLY REASONABLE?

Shouldn't electrostatic attraction weaken as plate separation increases?
Would the plates pull together just as hard if they were infinitely far apart?
A paradox?
Cross-check:
are the two constitutive equations reciprocal (symmetric)?
partial derivatives

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \frac{\partial F}{\partial q}=\frac{q}{\varepsilon A} \\
& \frac{\partial \mathrm{e}}{\partial \mathrm{x}}=\frac{\mathrm{q}}{\varepsilon \mathrm{~A}}
\end{aligned}
$$

As required, the constitutive equations are reciprocal.
WHAT'S WRONG?

A "PARADOX" RESOLVED:
A clue: the electrical constitutive equation

$$
\mathrm{e}=\frac{\mathrm{qx}}{\varepsilon \mathrm{~A}}
$$

voltage drop increases with plate separation.
for a fixed charge, infinite separation requires infinite voltage.
-NOT THE USUAL ARRANGEMENT
real devices cannot sustain arbitrarily large voltages.

Change "boundary conditions" to input voltage:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& q=\frac{e \varepsilon A}{x} \\
& F=\frac{1}{2 \varepsilon A}\left(\frac{e \varepsilon A}{x}\right)^{2}=\frac{e^{2} \varepsilon A}{2 x^{2}}
\end{aligned}
$$

For fixed voltage, force between plates declines sharply with separation.
-much more plausible
Mechanically, a spring
—albeit a highly nonlinear one.

## KEY POINT:

BOUNDARY CONDITIONS PROFOUNDLY INFLUENCE BEHAVIOR

## CAUSAL ASSIGNMENT

Different "boundary conditions" correspond to different causal assignments.
displacement in, effort out on both ports

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathrm{e}=\mathrm{e}(\mathrm{q}, \mathrm{x})=\frac{\mathrm{qx}}{\varepsilon \mathrm{~A}} \\
& \mathrm{~F}=\mathrm{F}(\mathrm{q}, \mathrm{x})=\frac{\mathrm{q}^{2}}{2 \varepsilon \mathrm{~A}} \\
& \text {-Integral causality }
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\stackrel{F}{\mathrm{v}=\mathrm{dx} / \mathrm{dt}} \mathrm{C} \frac{\mathrm{e}}{\mathrm{i}=\mathrm{dq} / \mathrm{dt}}
$$

## Energy function:

$$
E_{p}=E_{p}(q, x)=\frac{q^{2} x}{2 \varepsilon A}
$$

Expressing force as a function of voltage and displacement is equivalent to changing the electrical boundary conditions.
voltage in, charge out on the electrical port.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& q=e(e, x)=\frac{e \varepsilon A}{x} \\
& F=F(e, x)=\frac{q^{2}}{2 \varepsilon A}
\end{aligned}
$$

—differential causality on the electrical port.

$$
\frac{\mathrm{F}}{\mathrm{v}=\mathrm{dx} / \mathrm{dt}} \mathrm{C} \frac{\mathrm{e}}{\mathrm{i}=\mathrm{dq} / \mathrm{dt}}
$$

Co-energy function:

$$
\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}^{*}=\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}} *(\mathrm{e}, \mathrm{x})=\frac{\mathrm{e}^{2} \varepsilon \mathrm{~A}}{2 \mathrm{x}}
$$

## CO-ENERGY AND LEGENDRE TRANSFORMATIONS

Energy and co-energy are related by a Legendre transformation


The rectangle eq is the sum of energy and co-energy.

$$
\mathrm{eq}=\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}(\mathrm{q})+\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}} *(\mathrm{e})
$$

Re-arranging:

$$
\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}} *(\mathrm{e})=\mathrm{eq}-\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}(\mathrm{q})
$$

This is the negative of a Legendre transformation

$$
\mathrm{L}\left\{\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}(\mathrm{q})\right\}=\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}(\mathrm{q})-\left(\frac{\partial \mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}}{\partial \mathrm{q}}\right) \mathrm{q}=-\mathrm{E}^{*}(\mathrm{e})
$$

## Commonly used in thermodynamics

## SINGLE-PORT CAPACITOR:

Constitutive equation

$$
\mathrm{e}=\Phi(\mathrm{q})
$$

Energy equation

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}=\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}(\mathrm{q})=\int \Phi(\mathrm{q}) \mathrm{dq} \\
& \mathrm{e}=\partial \mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}(\mathrm{q}) / \partial \mathrm{q}
\end{aligned}
$$

Co-energy equation

$$
\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}^{*}(\mathrm{e})=\int \Phi^{-1}(\mathrm{e}) \mathrm{de}
$$

Legendre transformation

$$
\mathrm{L}\left\{\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}(\mathrm{q})\right\} \mathrm{e}=\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}(\mathrm{q})-\mathrm{eq}=-\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}^{*}(\mathrm{e})
$$

thus

$$
\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}} *(\mathrm{e})=\mathrm{eq}-\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}(\mathrm{q})
$$

Partial differential with respect to e

$$
\partial \mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}{ }^{*}(\mathrm{e}) / \partial \mathrm{e}=\mathrm{q}
$$

## TWO-PORT CAPACITOR:

Constitutive equations

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathrm{e}_{1}=\Phi\left(\mathrm{q} 1, \mathrm{q}_{2}\right) \\
& \mathrm{e}_{2}=\Phi\left(\mathrm{q} 1, \mathrm{q}_{2}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

Energy equation

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}=\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}(\mathrm{q} 1, \mathrm{q} 2) \\
& \mathrm{e}_{1}=\partial \mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}} / \partial \mathrm{q} 1 \\
& \mathrm{e}_{2}=\partial \mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}} / \partial \mathrm{q} 2
\end{aligned}
$$

Co-energy equations: three possibilities

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}^{*}=\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}} *\left(\mathrm{e} 1, \mathrm{q}_{2}\right) \\
& \mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}^{*}=\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}} *\left(\mathrm{q} 1, \mathrm{e}_{2}\right) \\
& \mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}^{*}=\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}^{*}\left(\mathrm{e}_{1}, \mathrm{e}_{2}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

Legendre transformation applied to port 1

$$
\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}} *\left(\mathrm{e} 1, \mathrm{q}_{2}\right)=\mathrm{e} 1 \mathrm{q} 1-\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}(\mathrm{q} 1, \mathrm{q} 2)
$$

Partial differential with respect to e1

$$
\partial \mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}} *\left(\mathrm{e}_{1}, \mathrm{q}_{2}\right) / \partial \mathrm{e}_{1}=\mathrm{q} 1
$$

Partial differential with respect to q 2

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \partial \mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}^{*}\left(\mathrm{e} 1, \mathrm{q}_{2}\right) / \partial \mathrm{q}_{2}=-\partial \mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}\left(\mathrm{q} 1, \mathrm{q}_{2}\right) / \partial \mathrm{q}_{2} \\
& \partial \mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}} *(\mathrm{e} 1, \mathrm{q} 2) / \partial \mathrm{q}_{2}=-\mathrm{e}_{2}
\end{aligned}
$$

## APPLY TO THE CONDENSER MICROPHONE

Energy:

$$
E_{p}=\frac{q^{2} x}{2 \varepsilon A}
$$

Legendre transform:

$$
L\left\{\frac{q^{2} x}{2 \varepsilon A}\right\}=E_{p}(q)-e q=\frac{q^{2} x}{2 \varepsilon A}-e q=-E_{p}^{*}(e)
$$

Substitute

$$
q=\frac{e \varepsilon A}{x}
$$

Co-energy:

$$
E_{p}^{*}(e)=-\left(\frac{e \varepsilon A}{x}\right) 2 \frac{x}{2 \varepsilon A}+e\left(\frac{e \varepsilon A}{x}\right)=\frac{e^{2} \varepsilon A}{2 x}
$$

This is the "electrical energy" we had used previously. It is actually a co-energy. Thus

$$
\mathrm{F}=-\frac{\partial \mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}} *}{\partial \mathrm{x}}=\frac{\mathrm{e}^{2} \varepsilon \mathrm{~A}}{2 \mathrm{x}^{2}}
$$

## Note:

mechanical force is the negative gradient of electrical co-energy with respect to displacement.
-That fixes our sign error.

## Comment:

In this simple (electrically linear) example, co-energy may as easily be determined without the Legendre transform by substitution for q in the energy equation.

## REMARKS:

Even with the idealizing assumptions above
(no electrical saturation, no "fringe effects" in the electrostatic field)
the multi-port constitutive equations are
profoundly nonlinear

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathrm{e}=\mathrm{e}(\mathrm{q}, \mathrm{x})=\frac{\mathrm{qx}}{\varepsilon \mathrm{~A}} \\
& \mathrm{~F}=\mathrm{F}(\mathrm{q}, \mathrm{x})=\frac{\mathrm{e}^{2} \varepsilon \mathrm{~A}}{2 \mathrm{x}^{2}}
\end{aligned}
$$

fundamentally coupled

$$
\frac{\partial \mathrm{F}}{\partial \mathrm{q}}=\frac{\partial \mathrm{e}}{\partial \mathrm{x}}=\frac{\mathrm{q}}{\varepsilon \mathrm{~A}} \neq 0 \text { if } \mathrm{q} \neq 0
$$

That is, except when the stored charge is identically zero,
-the electrical domain affects the mechanical domain and
-the mechanical domain affects the electrical domain.
The condenser microphone is not well modeled by one-port energy storage elements in either the mechanical or the electrical domains.
Because of inter-domain coupling, this device serves is both a sensor (a microphone)
or
an actuator (a speaker)
-It is commonly used for both purposes.
It is an example of an energy-storing transducer.
Energy may be stored or removed from either domain
Thus energy and power may be transferred between domains.

## INTRINSIC STABILITY

Review the multi-port capacitor definition

$$
\mathbf{e}=\Phi(\mathbf{q})
$$

such that

$$
\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}-\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{po}}=\int \Phi(\mathbf{q})^{\mathrm{t}} \mathrm{~d} \mathbf{q}=\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}(\mathbf{q})
$$

That is, $\mathbf{q}$ uniquely determines $\mathbf{e}$ and hence $\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}$
The converse is not required - $\mathbf{q}$ need not be a well-defined function of $\mathbf{e}$.
The constitutive equation(s) may be recovered by differentiation
$\mathbf{e}=\nabla_{\mathbf{q}} \mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}(\mathbf{q})$
In other notation,

$$
\mathrm{e}_{\mathrm{i}}=\frac{\partial \mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}}{\partial \mathrm{q}_{\mathrm{i}}} \quad \text { all } \mathrm{i}
$$

The constitutive equations may be coupled

$$
\mathrm{e}_{\mathrm{i}}=\Phi_{\mathrm{i}}\left(\mathrm{q}_{1}, \mathrm{q}_{2}, \ldots \mathrm{q}_{\mathrm{n}}\right) \text { all i }
$$

## MAXWELL'S RECIPROCITY CONSTRAINT

The coupling is constrained such that

$$
\nabla \times \mathbf{e}=\mathbf{0}
$$

In other notation,

$$
\frac{\partial \mathrm{e}_{i}}{\partial \mathrm{q}_{j}}=\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathrm{q}_{j}} \frac{\partial \mathrm{E}_{p}}{\partial \mathrm{q}_{i}}=\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathrm{q}_{i}} \frac{\partial \mathrm{E}_{p}}{\partial \mathrm{q}_{j}}=\frac{\partial \mathrm{e}_{j}}{\partial \mathrm{q}_{i}} \quad \text { all } \mathrm{i}, \mathrm{j} .
$$

Define inverse capacitance

$$
\mathrm{C}^{-1}=\left[\frac{\partial \mathbf{e}}{\partial \mathbf{q}}\right]=\left[\frac{\partial^{2} \mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}}{\partial \mathrm{q}_{\mathrm{i}} \partial \mathrm{q}_{\mathrm{j}}}\right]
$$

The inverse capacitance must be a symmetric matrix.

## STABILITY

A physically observable multi-port capacitor must also be intrinsically stable.
A further constraint on the constitutive equations.

## Mathematically:

Intrinsically stable if $\mathrm{C}^{-1}$ positive definite
-sufficient condition, not necessary

## EXAMPLE: CONDENSER MICROPHONE (REVISITED)

Energy

$$
E_{p}(q, x)=\frac{q^{2} x}{2 \varepsilon A}
$$

## Inverse capacitance

$$
\mathrm{C}^{-1}=\left[\frac{\partial \mathbf{e}}{\partial \mathbf{q}}\right]=\left[\frac{\partial^{2} \mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}}{\partial \mathrm{q}_{\mathrm{i}} \partial \mathrm{q}_{\mathrm{j}}}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{cc}
0 & \mathrm{q} / \varepsilon \mathrm{A} \\
\mathrm{q} / \varepsilon \mathrm{A} & \mathrm{x} / \varepsilon \mathrm{A}
\end{array}\right]
$$

Stability
determinant $\mathrm{C}^{-1}=-\left(\frac{\mathrm{q}}{\varepsilon \mathrm{A}}\right)^{2}$
-Unstable for non-zero charge

## PHYSICALLY REASONABLE

## — STABILITY REQUIRES SOMETHING TO OPPOSE THE ATTRACTIVE ELECTROSTATIC FORCE.

Include elasticity of the supporting structure
Assume elastic linearity (for simplicity)

$$
\mathrm{E}_{\text {elastic }}=\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{k}\left(\mathrm{x}-\mathrm{x}_{\mathrm{o}}\right)^{2}
$$

Energy (revised)

$$
E_{p}(q, x)=\frac{q^{2} x}{2 \varepsilon A}+\frac{1}{2} k\left(x-x_{0}\right)^{2}
$$

Constitutive equation

$$
\mathbf{e}=\left[\begin{array}{l}
F \\
e
\end{array}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{c}
\frac{q^{2}}{2 \varepsilon A}+k\left(x-x_{0}\right) \\
\frac{q x}{\varepsilon A}
\end{array}\right]
$$

Inverse capacitance (revised)

$$
\mathrm{C}^{-1}=\left[\frac{\partial \mathbf{e}}{\partial \mathbf{q}}\right]=\left[\frac{\partial^{2} \mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{p}}}{\partial \mathrm{q}_{\mathrm{i}} \partial \mathrm{q}_{\mathrm{j}}}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{cc}
\mathrm{k} & \mathrm{q} / \varepsilon \mathrm{A} \\
\mathrm{q} / \varepsilon \mathrm{A} & \mathrm{x} / \varepsilon \mathrm{A}
\end{array}\right]
$$

## Stability (revised)

determinant $\mathrm{C}^{-1}=\frac{\mathrm{kx}}{\varepsilon \mathrm{A}}-\left(\frac{\mathrm{q}}{\varepsilon \mathrm{A}}\right)^{2}$

## Sufficient condition for stability:

$\mathrm{k}>0$
$\frac{\mathrm{x}}{\varepsilon \mathrm{A}}>0$
$k>\frac{q^{2}}{x \varepsilon A}$

## PHYSICAL INTERPRETATION

With charge as an input, electrostatic force is independent of displacement.

$$
\mathrm{Felectrostatic}=F(\mathrm{q}, \mathrm{x})=\frac{\mathrm{q}^{2}}{2 \varepsilon \mathrm{~A}}
$$

Electrostatic force will pull the capacitor plates together until equilibrium is reached.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathrm{F}_{\text {total }}=\frac{\mathrm{q}^{2}}{2 \varepsilon \mathrm{~A}}+\mathrm{k}\left(\mathrm{x}-\mathrm{x}_{0}\right)=0 \\
& \mathrm{x}_{\text {equilibrium }}=\mathrm{x}_{0}-\frac{q^{2}}{2 \varepsilon \mathrm{Ak}}
\end{aligned}
$$

This establishes a minimum value for $\mathrm{x}_{0}$ if $\mathrm{x}_{\text {equilibrium }}$ is to be positive.
Intuitively, stability about that equilibrium point should only require non-zero mechanical stiffness.
Why does the mechanical stiffness have to be any larger?

## CONSIDER EACH SUFFICIENT CONDITION IN TURN

If charge remains constant $(\Delta q=0)$
a displacement from equilibrium of $\Delta x$
requires an applied force change of $k \Delta x$
$k>0$ means that
increasing displacement requires increasing applied force
—provided charge remains constant
If displacement remains constant $(\Delta \mathrm{x}=0)$
a displacement from equilibrium of $\Delta q$
requires an applied voltage change of $\frac{x}{\varepsilon A} \Delta q$
$\frac{\mathrm{x}}{\varepsilon A}>0$ means that
increasing charge requires increasing applied voltage
-provided displacement remains constant

## However

If displacement may also change ( $\Delta \mathrm{x} \neq 0$ )
$\Delta q$ also increases electrostatic force by $\frac{q}{\varepsilon A} \Delta q$
that decreases displacement by $\Delta x=-\frac{q}{\varepsilon A} \frac{1}{k} \Delta q$
that, in turn, decreases voltage by $\Delta \mathrm{e}=-\frac{\mathrm{q}}{\varepsilon \mathrm{A}} \frac{1}{\mathrm{k}} \frac{\mathrm{q}}{\varepsilon \mathrm{A}} \Delta \mathrm{q}$
The net voltage increase is $\left(\frac{x}{\varepsilon A}-\frac{q}{\varepsilon A} \frac{1}{k} \frac{q}{\varepsilon A}\right) \Delta q$
If increasing charge is to require increasing applied voltage, then

$$
\frac{x}{\varepsilon A}>\frac{q}{\varepsilon A} \frac{1}{k} \frac{q}{\varepsilon A}
$$

manipulating:
$k>\frac{q^{2}}{x \varepsilon A}$ means that
increasing charge requires increasing applied voltage
-when both charge and displacement are free to change

