

Construction

A capacitor is made up of 2 metal plates, separated by a dielectric. The surface areas of the metal plates, the dielectric and the gap between the plates all go towards determining the characteristic of the capacitor. See figure 1.

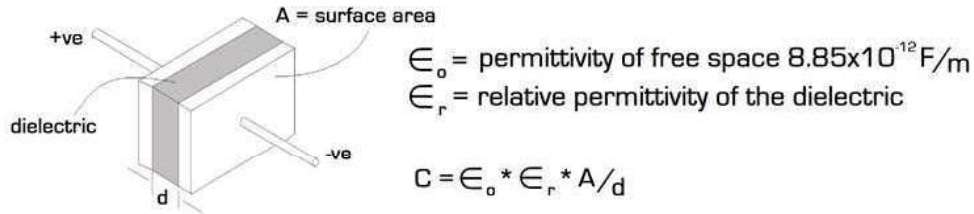


Figure 1

This is the theory. In practice, the metal plates are aluminium foil and the dielectric is an oxide layer on the anode. The cathode is a chemical soaked in paper with the cathode foil acting as a terminal plate. As can be seen in figure 2, the foils and papers are rolled into a cylinder to minimise volume. Interconnecting tabs connect the winding to the terminals mounted on the deck of the capacitor. The winding is fitted into an aluminium can. The interconnecting tabs are welded to the terminal pads on the underside of the terminal deck. The terminal deck is secured down and sealed to the can with a gasket.

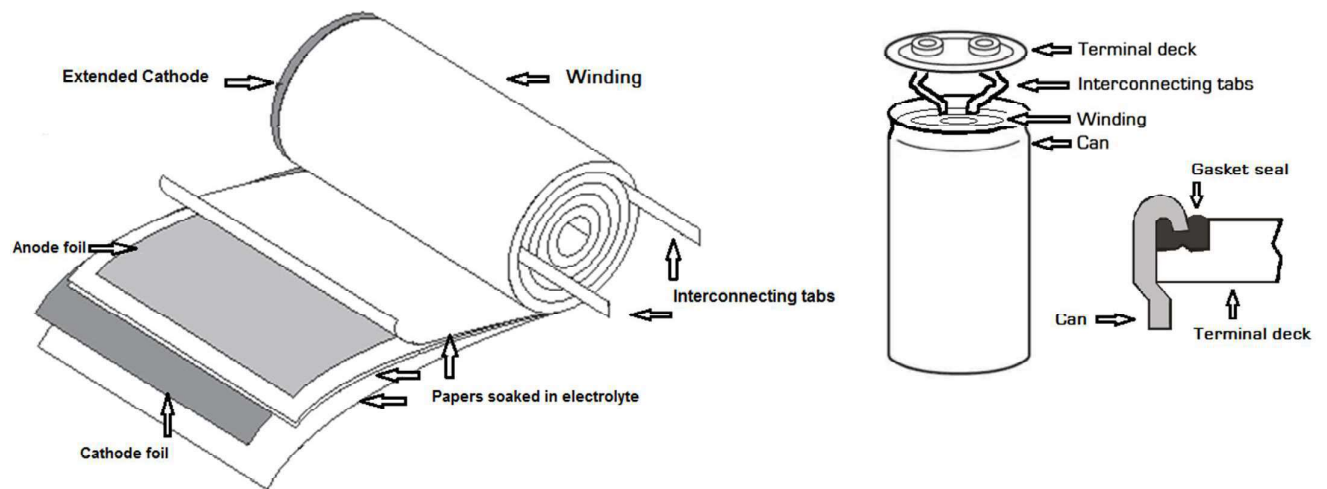


Figure 2

