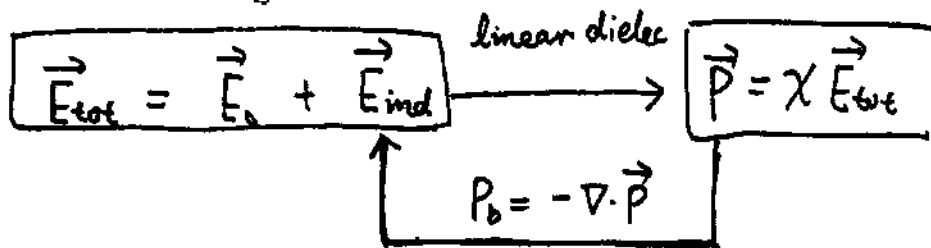


# Lect 19 Linear Dielectrics

For many material, at small fields, the polarization is proportional to  $\vec{E}$  described as  $\vec{P} = \chi \vec{E}$ , where  $\chi$  is called electric susceptibility of the medium. This is called linear dielectrics.  $\vec{E}$  here is the total field, not the external field  $\vec{E}_0$ . So the entire process is a self-consistent process.

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Polarization generate induced field.

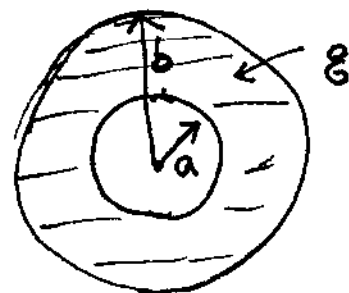
we have  $\vec{D} = \vec{E}_{tot} + 4\pi \vec{P} = (1 + 4\pi\chi) \vec{E}_{tot}$

dielectric constant  $\epsilon = 1 + 4\pi\chi$

For a homogenous medium, the electric field generated by a free charge

$$\vec{E} = \frac{Q}{\epsilon r^2} \hat{r}$$

Example: a metal sphere with radius "a" carries a total charge Q, it's surrounded out to radius b, by linear dielectric material of dielectric const  $\epsilon$ .



Solution: The only free charge is on the sphere "a".  $\Rightarrow \vec{D} = \begin{cases} \frac{Q}{r^2} \hat{r} & \text{for } r > a \\ 0 & \text{for } r < a \end{cases}$

The dielectric const is  $\epsilon = \begin{cases} 1 & r > b \\ \epsilon & a < r < b \end{cases}$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{E}(r) = \begin{cases} \frac{Q}{r^2} \hat{r} & \text{for } r > b \\ \frac{Q}{\epsilon r^2} \hat{r} & \text{for } b > r > a \\ 0 & \text{for } r < a \end{cases} \Rightarrow \text{the electric potential}$$

$$V(r) = - \int_{\infty}^r dr E(r)$$

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$$V(r) = \begin{cases} \frac{Q}{r} & \text{for } r > b \\ \frac{Q}{b} + \left[ \frac{Q}{r} - \frac{Q}{b} \right] \frac{1}{\epsilon} & \text{for } b > r > a \\ \frac{Q}{b} + \left[ \frac{Q}{a} - \frac{Q}{b} \right] \frac{1}{\epsilon} & \text{for } r < a \end{cases}$$

The polarization  $\vec{P} = \chi \vec{E} = \frac{\chi}{\epsilon} \frac{Q}{r^2} \hat{r}$  for  $a < r < b$

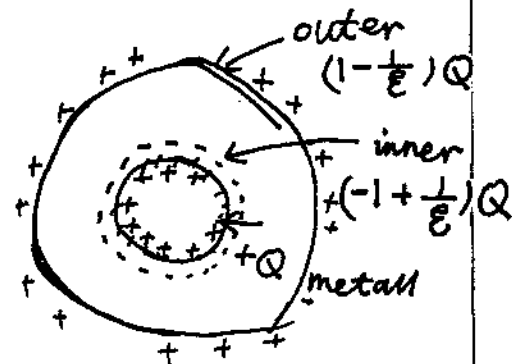
$$\Rightarrow \rho_b = - \nabla \cdot \vec{P} = - \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r^2 P) = 0$$

$$\sigma_b = \vec{P} \cdot \hat{n} = \begin{cases} \frac{\chi}{\epsilon} \frac{Q}{b^2} & \text{at } r = b \\ -\frac{\chi}{\epsilon} \frac{Q}{a^2} & \text{at } r = a \end{cases}$$

The total charge bound at the sphere of  $r = a$  is  $-\frac{4\pi\chi}{\epsilon} Q = -\left(\frac{\epsilon-1}{\epsilon}\right) Q = \left(-1 + \frac{1}{\epsilon}\right) Q$

at the outer sphere  $r = b$  is  $\left(1 - \frac{1}{\epsilon}\right) Q$ .

Clearly in the region  $a < r < b$ , the  $+Q$  charge of the metal is partially screened to  $\frac{1}{\epsilon}$ . As  $\epsilon \rightarrow +\infty$ , we recover metall.



### § Boundary value problem with linear dielectrics with $\epsilon$ ③

ex: a sphere of homogeneous linear dielectric material is placed in an otherwise uniform electric field  $\vec{E}_0$ . Find the electric field distribution.

There's no free charge  $\rho_f = 0$ . we know  $\rho_b = -\nabla \cdot \vec{P} = -\nabla \cdot \left[ \frac{4\pi\chi}{\epsilon} \vec{D} \right]$   
 $= -\frac{4\pi\chi}{\epsilon} \rho_f = 0$

$\Rightarrow \rho_{tot} = 0$  at the place of  $\rho_f = 0$

$\Rightarrow$  we can still use  $-\nabla^2 V = 0$  everywhere except at  $r = R$ .

again due to the axial symmetry, we have

$V_{in}(r, \theta)$  for  $r \leq R$ ,  $V_{out}(r, \theta)$  for  $r > R$ .

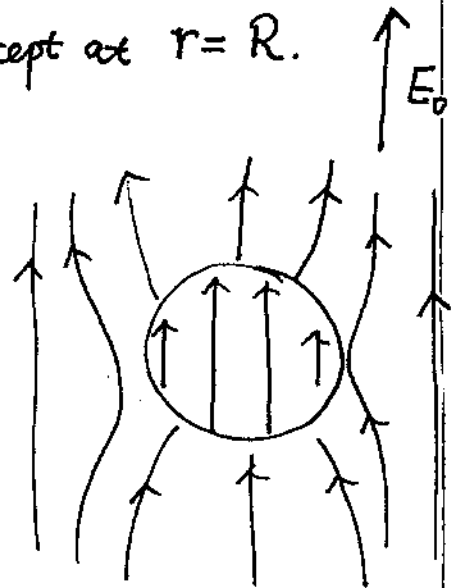
i)  $V_{in} = V_{out}$  at  $r = R$ .

ii) the norm component of Displacement is continuous

$$\epsilon \frac{\partial V_{in}}{\partial r} = \frac{\partial V_{out}}{\partial r} \quad \text{at } r = R$$

iii) at  $r \rightarrow \infty$   $V_{out} = -E_0 r \cos \theta$ .

boundary conditions



According to the general solution

$$V_{in}(r, \theta) = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} A_l r^l P_l(\cos \theta)$$

$$V_{out}(r, \theta) = -E_0 r \cos \theta + \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \frac{B_l}{r^{l+1}} P_l(\cos \theta)$$

$$i) \Rightarrow \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} A_l R^l P_l(\cos\theta) = -E_0 R \cos\theta + \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \frac{B_l}{R^{l+1}} P_l(\cos\theta)$$

$$\begin{cases} A_l R^l = \frac{B_l}{R^{l+1}} & \text{for } l \neq 1 \\ A_1 R^1 = -E_0 R + \frac{B_1}{R} & \text{for } l=1 \end{cases}$$

$$ii) \Rightarrow \epsilon \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} l A_l R^{l+1} P_l(\cos\theta) = -E_0 \cos\theta + \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} -(l+1) \frac{B_l}{R^{l+2}} P_l(\cos\theta)$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} \epsilon l A_l R^{l-1} = -\frac{l+1}{R^{l+2}} B_l & \text{for } l \neq 1 \\ \epsilon A_1 = -E_0 - \frac{2B_1}{R^3} & \text{for } l=1 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow A_l = B_l = 0 \quad \text{for } l \neq 1$$

$$\text{and } A_1 = -\frac{3}{\epsilon+2} E_0 \quad \text{and } B_1 = \frac{\epsilon-1}{\epsilon+2} R^3 E_0$$

$$\Rightarrow V_{in} = -\frac{3E_0}{\epsilon+2} r \cos\theta = -\frac{3E_0}{\epsilon+2} z \Rightarrow \boxed{\vec{E}_{in} = \frac{3}{\epsilon+2} \vec{E}_0 < \vec{E}_0}$$

$$V_{out} = -E_0 r \cos\theta + \frac{\epsilon-1}{\epsilon+2} R^3 E_0 \frac{\cos\theta}{r^2} \quad \text{IP} \cdot \text{Vol}$$

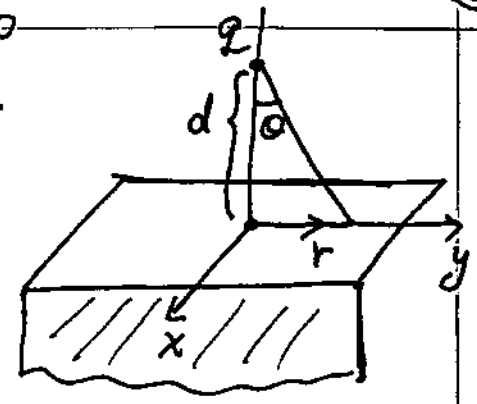
$$\boxed{V_{out} = -E_0 r \cos\theta + \frac{\vec{p} \cdot \hat{z}}{r^2}} \quad \text{where } \vec{p} = \frac{\epsilon-1}{\epsilon+2} E_0 \frac{3}{4\pi} \cdot \left(\frac{4\pi}{3} R^3\right) =$$

$$\text{The polarization inside } \boxed{\vec{P} = \chi \vec{E}_{in} = \frac{(\epsilon-1)}{4\pi} \vec{E}_{in} = \left(\frac{\epsilon-1}{\epsilon+2} \frac{3}{4\pi}\right) \vec{E}_0}$$

$\Rightarrow$  The potential outside is a superposition of the background field + a dipole field with the magnet. polarization  $\left(\frac{\epsilon-1}{\epsilon+2} \frac{3}{4\pi}\right) \vec{E}_0$ .

$$\text{The induced surface } \boxed{\sigma_b(\theta) = \vec{P} \cdot \hat{n} = \frac{\epsilon-1}{\epsilon+2} \frac{3}{4\pi} E_0 \cos\theta}$$

Example: Suppose that the entire region below  $z=0$  is filled by a material with dielectric constant  $\epsilon$ .



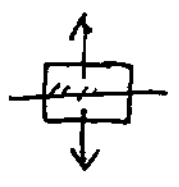
Surface bound charges  $\sigma_b(r)$  must appear on the plane of  $z=0$ . There should be no induced body charge  $\rho_b(r)$ , because  $\rho_f = 0$  at  $z < 0$ .

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at  $z < 0$ .

$$\sigma_b(r) = \vec{P} \cdot \hat{n} = \frac{\epsilon - 1}{4\pi} E_z(0^-) \quad \text{just below } z=0.$$

$E_z(0^-)$  is a super-position of the field generated by  $q$  and by the surface charge  $\sigma_b(r)$ .

The first contribution  $\frac{q}{(d^2+r^2)} \frac{-d}{(d^2+r^2)^{3/2}}$



the second one is related by  $\sigma_b(r)$  itself  $-2\pi \sigma_b(r)$ .

$$\Rightarrow \sigma_b(r) = \frac{\epsilon - 1}{4\pi} E_z(0^-) = \frac{\epsilon - 1}{4\pi} \left[ \frac{-qd}{(d^2+r^2)^{3/2}} - 2\pi \sigma_b(r) \right]$$

$$\text{or } \left[ 1 + \frac{\epsilon - 1}{2} \right] \sigma_b(r) = \frac{\epsilon - 1}{4\pi} \frac{-qd}{(d^2+r^2)^{3/2}} \Rightarrow \boxed{\sigma_b(r) = \frac{\epsilon - 1}{\epsilon + 1} \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{-qd}{(d^2+r^2)^{3/2}}}$$

The total induced charge  $2\pi \int r dr \sigma_b(r) = -\left(\frac{\epsilon - 1}{\epsilon + 1}\right) q$ .

The total electric field generated by  $\sigma_b(r)$  toward  $q$  is

$$E_z = \int d\theta r dr \frac{\sigma_b(r)}{(d^2+r^2)^2} \frac{(+d)}{(d^2+r^2)^{1/2}}$$

$$E_z = \pi \int_0^{+\infty} dr^2 \left( \frac{\epsilon-1}{\epsilon+1} \right) \frac{-q}{2\pi} \frac{d^2}{(d^2+r^2)^3} = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{\epsilon-1}{\epsilon+1} \frac{q}{d^2} \int_0^{+\infty} d\left(\frac{r^2}{d^2}\right) \frac{1}{(1+r^2/d^2)^3}$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2} \frac{\epsilon-1}{\epsilon+1} \frac{q}{d^2} \int_0^{\infty} dx \frac{1}{(1+x)^3} \quad \int \frac{dx}{(1+x)^3} = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{(1+x)^2}$$

$$= -\frac{1}{4} \frac{\epsilon-1}{\epsilon+1} \frac{q}{d^2}$$

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$\vec{F}_{tot}$  is along the z-axis  $\Rightarrow \vec{F}_{tot} = -\frac{1}{4} \frac{\epsilon-1}{\epsilon+1} \frac{q^2}{d^2} \hat{z}$

if we set  $\epsilon = \infty$ , we have

$$\vec{F}_{tot} = -\frac{1}{4} \frac{q^2}{d^2} \hat{z} \text{ as in the metallic case of plane.}$$

### § Energy in dielectric systems.

The energy not only stored in the field, but also in the material, done

Suppose we do a little work to increase the free charge, certainly the polarization and the bound charge also change. So during this process not only work is done by us to free charge, but also work is done to the bound charge by the medium. The second part will be added into the field energy as the total energy stored in the medium. part of the

Only the free charge that we can control. — the right amount energy that we can use.

$$\bullet \text{ Work} = \int (\Delta P_f) V dz = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int \Delta (\nabla \cdot \vec{D}) V dz$$

$$\text{Work} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int \nabla \cdot (\Delta \vec{D}) V dz = \frac{1}{4\pi} \left( \int \nabla \cdot (\Delta \vec{D} V) dz - \int \Delta \vec{D} \cdot \nabla V dz \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi} \oint \Delta \vec{D} V da + \frac{1}{4\pi} \int \Delta \vec{D} \cdot \vec{E} dz$$

set surf surface to infinity

$$\Rightarrow dW = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int d\vec{D} \cdot \vec{E} dz$$

Answer

for a linear media  $\Rightarrow D = \epsilon E \Rightarrow d\vec{D} \cdot \vec{E} = d\vec{E} \cdot \vec{D}$

$$\Rightarrow dw = \frac{1}{8\pi} d \int \vec{D} \cdot \vec{E} dz \Rightarrow \boxed{W = \frac{1}{8\pi} \int \vec{D} \cdot \vec{E} dz}$$

example: the energy change during polarization

① We know that in order to charge capacitor C, to voltage V, the energy stored  $dw = V'dq = CV'dV' \Rightarrow W = C \int_0^V V'dV' = \frac{1}{2} CV^2$ .

-If the medium between the plates is just vacuum, we know

the energy density is simply  $\frac{1}{8\pi} E^2 = \frac{1}{8\pi} \left(\frac{V}{d}\right)^2$

the volum is  $A \cdot d \Rightarrow \frac{1}{8\pi} E^2 A \cdot d = \frac{1}{2} \frac{A}{4\pi d} V^2$  ; which is just  $\frac{1}{2} CV^2$ .

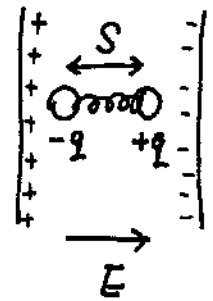
total energy is

If we use the medium of dielectric constant  $\epsilon$ , then "C" is increases to  $\frac{\epsilon A}{4\pi d}$ . If the voltage is the same V, and so does the E, the

energy stored in the medium increase to  $\frac{1}{8\pi} \int \epsilon E^2 dz$ . But how does

the extra amount of energy is stored?

Let us just consider a polarizable molecule, two charges  $\pm q$ , connected by a spring. Its dipole  $p = qS$ . Suppose that at the field strength  $E$ ,



the spring is elongated at  $ds$ , the  $E$ -field does work to the molecule.

$$dw' = E q ds = \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{p}$$

← this work is stored as energies,

which contains two parts ① the elongated spring

② the field of the dipoles.

In practice, we do not make this distinction, because both belong to energy of molecule structure. The point is that the battery does the amount of work on molecules to change their structure.

This amount of work is just

$$dw' = \vec{E} \cdot d\left(\frac{\vec{D} - \vec{E}}{4\pi}\right) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{D} - \frac{\vec{E}}{4\pi} \cdot d\vec{E}$$

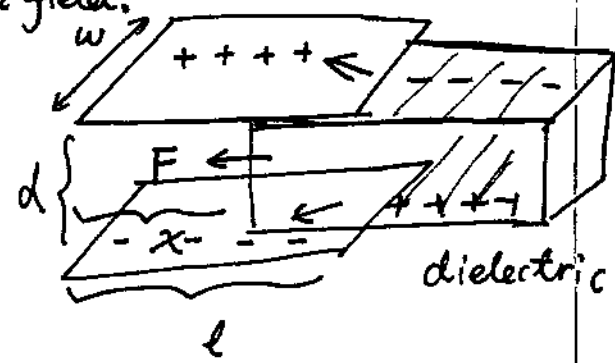
$$\Rightarrow dw = \underbrace{dw' + \frac{\vec{E} \cdot d\vec{E}}{4\pi}}_{\text{the energy change from field}} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{D}$$

the energy change from field.



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§ forces: dielectric is attracted into the field:



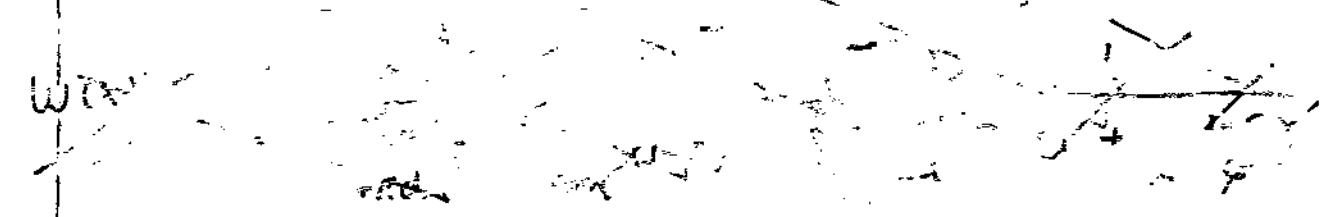
Let us calculate the energy of the system as a function of  $x$ :  $W(x)$ .

If I pull out the dielectric a little  $x + \Delta x$ , the energy changes to  $W(x + \Delta x)$ , thus

$dW = F dx$ , thus the force acting on the dielectric due to the charges on the plates is  $-\frac{dW}{dx}$ .

$$C = \frac{wx}{4\pi d} + \frac{w(l-x)}{4\pi d} \epsilon$$

$$W = \frac{1}{2} CV^2 = \frac{1}{2} \frac{(CV)^2}{C} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{Q^2}{C(x)}$$



$$F = -\frac{dW}{dx} = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{Q^2}{C^2} \frac{dC}{dx} = \frac{1}{2} V^2 \frac{dC}{dx} = \frac{1}{2} V^2 \frac{w}{4\pi d} (\epsilon - 1)$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2} V^2 \frac{w}{4\pi d} (\epsilon - 1)$$

we need to use fixing  $Q$ , rather than fixing  $V$ , because the capacitor is open. Its voltage is not fixed during the process.