



ENGINEERING PHYSICS

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Dielectrics

- **Polarization mechanisms in dielectrics**
- **Non Linear dielectrics - $BaTiO_3$, structure and origin of non-centro symmetry of charges, phase changes**
- **Piezo electric materials - Pyro electric materials properties and applications**
- **Ferro electric hysteresis and application as memory materials**

Class #53

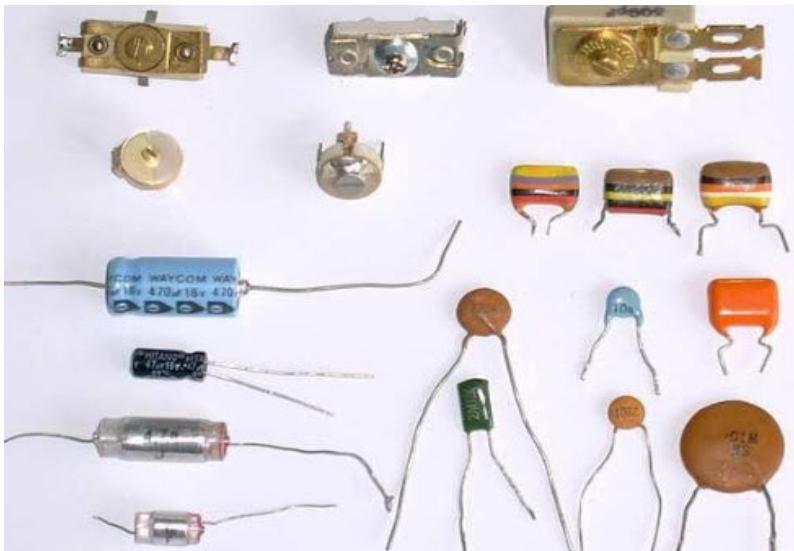
- *Introduction to dielectrics*
- *Polarization*
- *Local electric field in a dielectric material*
- *Clausius- Mossotti relation*
- *Different polarization mechanisms*

➤ Suggested Reading

1. *The Science and Engineering of Materials, Sixth Edition, Chapter 19, Donald R. Askeland, Pradeep P. Fulay and Wendelin J. Wright, 2010, Cengage Learning, Inc.*
2. *Learning material prepared by the Department of Physics*

Dielectrics

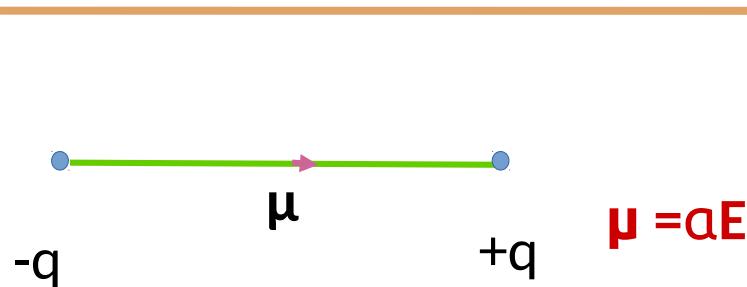
- *Conductors and semi conductors at appropriate temperatures conducts electricity*
- *Insulators do not conduct electricity*
- *Dielectrics: Insulators that have very few or no conduction electrons*



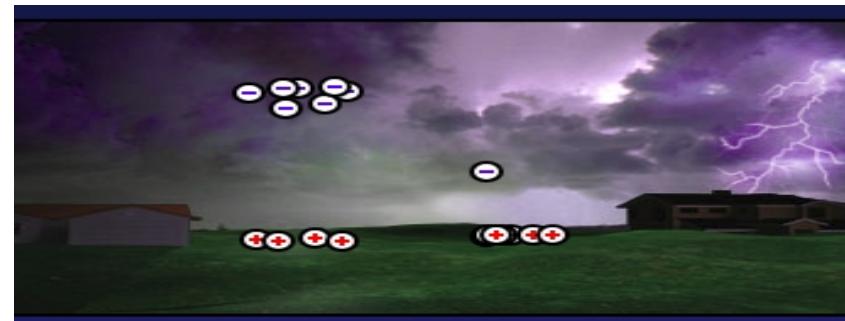
<https://www.elprocus.com/ceramic-capacitor-working-construction-applications/>

Dielectrics

- *Very high electrical resistivities ($\sim 10^{14}\Omega\cdot\text{cm}$)*
- *Electric field (E) creates electric dipoles leading to polarization*
- *Net dipole moment created per unit volume is polarization P*
- *At very high E, due to ionization free electrons start conducting current ($\sim \text{few kV/mm}$)*



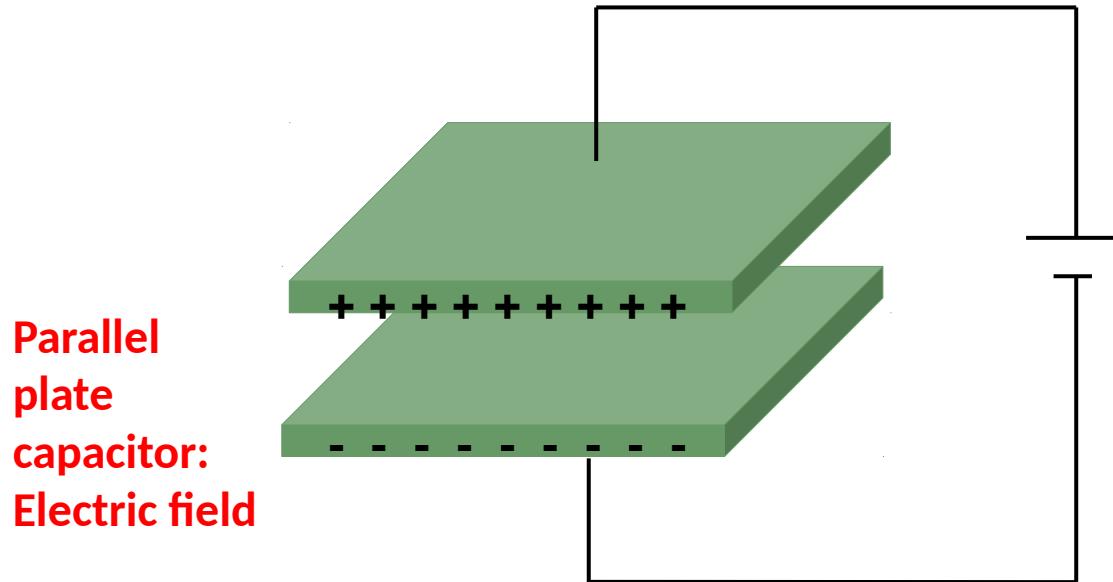
Electric dipole



Natural capacitor (Ref: Olympus website)

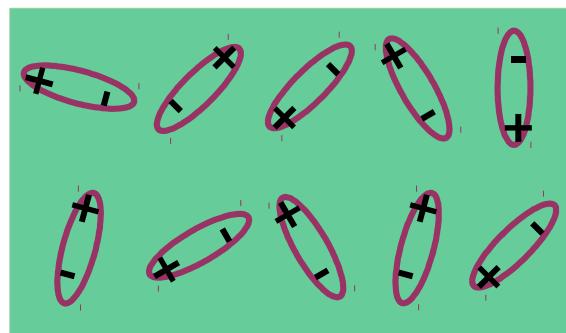
Polarization

- *Polarization of dielectrics finds useful application in capacitors*
- *In a parallel plate capacitor, electric field $E_o = \frac{q}{A\epsilon_0}$*
- *where $\epsilon_0 = 8.854 \times 10^{-12} \text{ F/m}$, permittivity of free space*

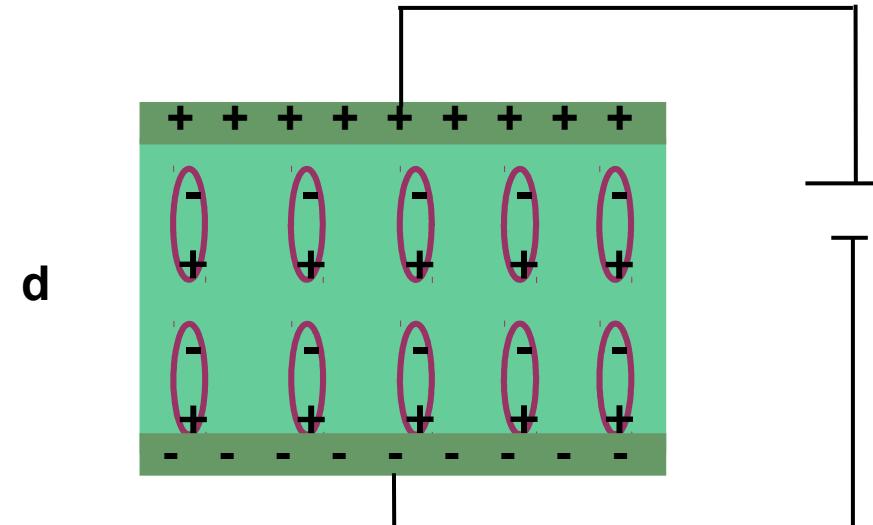


Polarization

- If $E=0$, then there will be no net electric dipole moment
- Dielectric placed between the capacitor plates will induce surface charge (q') $E = \frac{q - q'}{A\epsilon_0} = \frac{q}{A\epsilon_0\epsilon_r}$
- Capacitance increases $C = \frac{q}{V} = \frac{A\epsilon_0\epsilon_r}{d}$ with $\epsilon_r = \frac{C}{C_o}$



Dielectric material in the absence of E



- ϵ_r is the relative permittivity or dielectric constant
- It is a measure of how susceptible the material is to the applied electric field.
- Depends on the composition, micro structure, applied field frequency and temperature
- At room temperature and frequency $\sim 10^6$ Hz

Material	Dielectric Constant	Material	Dielectric Constant
Air	1.00059	Paraffin	2.5
Water	78	BaTiO ₃	2000

Electric susceptibility

- Equation for capacitance and net electric field can be recombined to get $\frac{q}{A} = \frac{q}{\epsilon_r A} + \frac{q'}{A} \Rightarrow \vec{D} = \epsilon_0 \vec{E} + \vec{P}$
- D is electric displacement field vector $\vec{D} = \epsilon \vec{E}$
- where $\epsilon = \epsilon_r \epsilon_0$ is the permittivity of the material
- It describes the displacement effects of an electric field on the charges
- In an isotropic material, D , P and E will lie in the same direction
- Polarization can be written as $\vec{P} = \epsilon_0 (\epsilon_r - 1) \vec{E} = \chi \epsilon_0 \vec{E}$

Electric susceptibility

- $\chi = (\epsilon_r - 1)$ is electric susceptibility of the material
- If N is the number of atoms per unit volume,
- then $\vec{P} = \chi \epsilon_0 \vec{E} = N \alpha \vec{E}$
- Note that α is polarizability of individual dipoles

$$\chi = \frac{N\alpha}{\epsilon_0} = \epsilon_r - 1$$

- This relates macroscopic dielectric susceptibility with microscopic polarizability

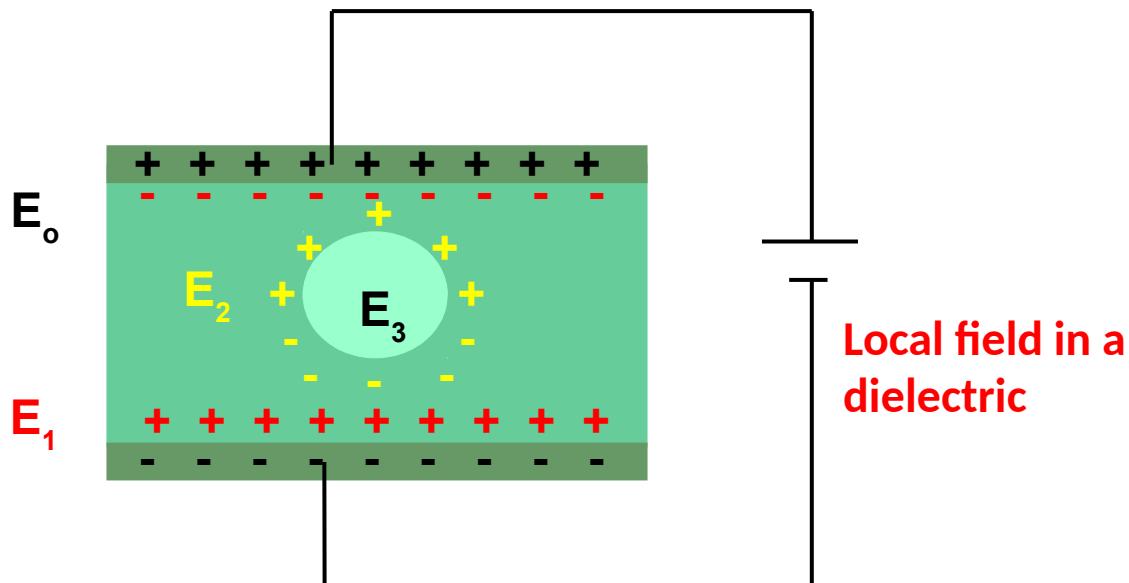
Local electric field in a dielectric material

$E_o \rightarrow$ External electric field

$E_1 \rightarrow$ Depolarization field

$E_2 \rightarrow$ Lorentz field on the surface of the spherical cavity

$E_3 \rightarrow$ Internal field due to other dipoles lying within the sphere



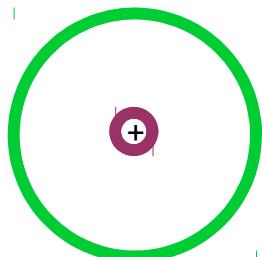
- In the case of a dielectric with a cubic structure the effective field is, $\vec{E}_{in} = \frac{\vec{P}}{3\epsilon_0}$
- Net field across the dielectric $\vec{E}_{loc} = \vec{E} + \frac{\vec{P}}{3\epsilon_0}$
- Polarization $\vec{P} = N\alpha \left(\vec{E} + \frac{\vec{P}}{3\epsilon_0} \right) = \epsilon_0(\epsilon_r - 1)\vec{E}$
- On solving, we obtain $\frac{N\alpha}{3\epsilon_0} = \frac{\epsilon_r - 1}{\epsilon_r + 2}$

This is the Clausius-Mossotti relation

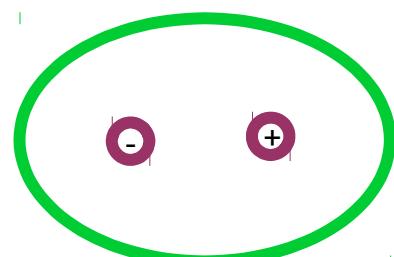
- It relates the macroscopic dielectric constant to the microscopic polarizability of the material

- Any separation of charges leads to polarization
- It could happen due to vibration of atoms or ions or due to applied electric field or migration of charges...
- Polarization phenomena which occurs in dielectrics are
 1. Electronic polarization
 2. Ionic polarization
 3. Orientation or dipole polarization
 4. Space charge or interfacial polarization

- *Electronic polarization is present in all the materials*
- *In the absence of E, the centres of positive and negative charges coincide*
- *Electron cloud gets displaced from the nucleus in response to the applied field*
- *The separation of charges creates a dipole moment (μ_e)*



$E=0$



$E>0$

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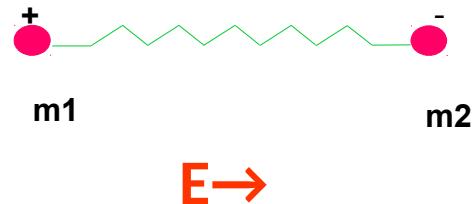
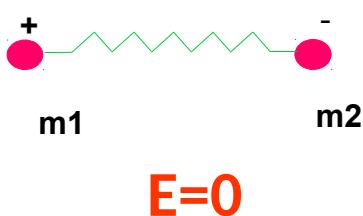
Electronic polarization

- Occurs even at very high frequencies ($\sim 10^{15}$ Hz)
- Electronic polarizability, $\alpha_e = 4\pi\epsilon_0 R^3$
- where R is the radius of the atom
- Larger atoms and ions have higher electronic polarizability
- Higher the electronic polarizability, higher is the refractive index of the material
- Electronic polarization

$$\vec{P}_e = N \vec{\mu}_e = N \alpha_e \vec{E}$$

Ionic Polarization

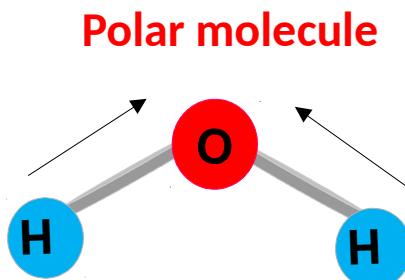
- *Relative displacement of ions in ionic crystals (ex: NaCl) giving rise to additional polarization*
- *Permanent dipole moment ($r_o e$) exists even in the absence of applied field*
- *But net polarization will be zero*
- *In the presence of E, positive and negative ions are displaced in opposite directions*



- **Ionic polarization is independent of temperature**
- **Dipoles are not free to rotate**
- **For frequencies below infrared, molecules just manage to keep in phase with the field polarity**
- **At optical frequencies, there will be no ionic polarization**
- **Ionic polarizability is an order of magnitude less than electronic polarizability**
- **Dipole moment due to ionic polarization,** $\vec{\mu}_i = \frac{e^2}{\omega_o^2} \left(\frac{1}{m_1} + \frac{1}{m_2} \right) \vec{E} = \alpha_i \vec{E}$
where ω_o is the angular frequency of vibration of molecule and α_i is the ionic polarizability

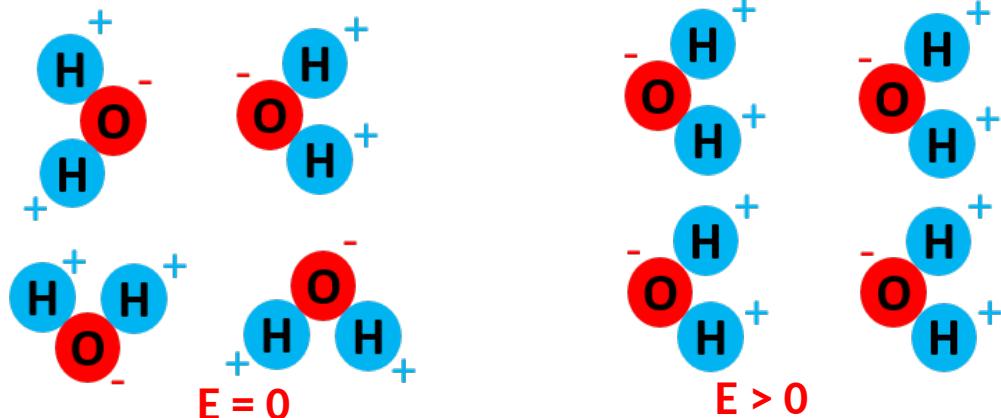
Orientational/molecular polarization

- It occurs only in polar molecules
- Examples: HCl, H₂O, HF ...
- Within a molecule each polar bond has a bond dipole
- It depends on the geometry of the molecule
- In the absence of E and at thermal equilibrium, no net dipole moment exists
- There are no forces to oppose the force due to external field

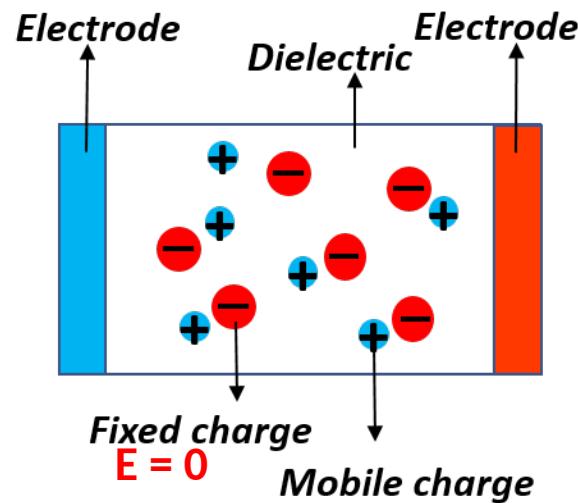


Orientational/molecular polarization

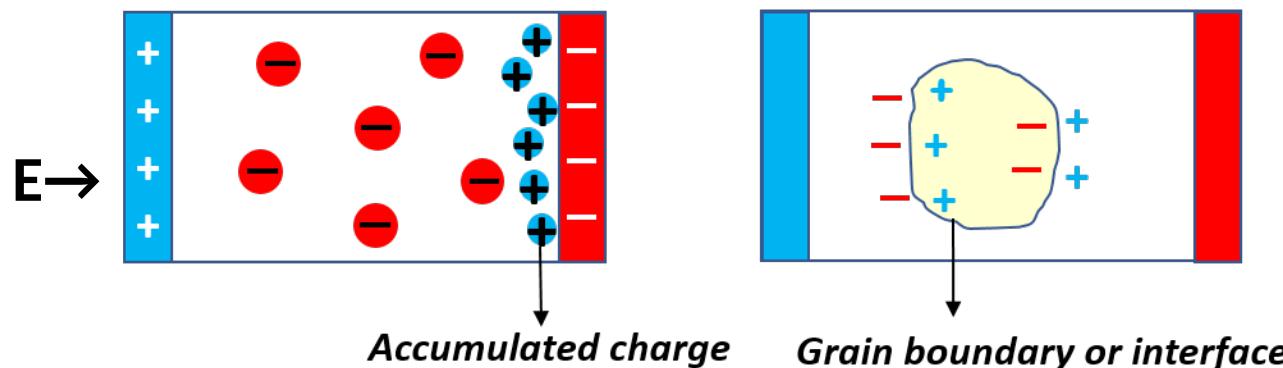
- In the presence of E , molecular dipole moments can rotate about their axis of symmetry and align with it
- This gives rise to orientation polarization $\vec{P}_o = \frac{N\vec{\mu}^2 \vec{E}}{3kT} = \alpha_o \vec{E}$
- It is dependent on the temperature
- It occurs only till radio frequencies



- It is usually associated with the presence of migrating charges, like electrons or ions
- Occurs at physical boundaries such as defects, voids, impurities, grain or phase boundaries
- Accumulated charges distort the local electric field



- It is different as it affects bound charges as well as free charges
- It is observed only at lower frequencies
- In the presence of E, positive ions migrate to the negative electrode and pile up at the interface
- Positive charges at the interface attract more electrons to the negative electrode
- This gives rise to interfacial polarization



The concepts related to the polarization mechanism in dielectrics which are true are...

- 1. Polarization is net dipole moment per unit area**
- 2. Dielectric constant depends on the micro structure**
- 3. Electronic polarisation is dependent on temperature**
- 4. Orientational polarisation occurs only in polar molecules**
- 5. Ionic polarization occurs even at optical frequencies**
- 6. Space charge polarisation affects free as well as bound charges**



THANK YOU

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