

# Lecture 13: Dielectrics and the Equation of Continuity

ECE221: Electric and Magnetic Fields

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# Outline

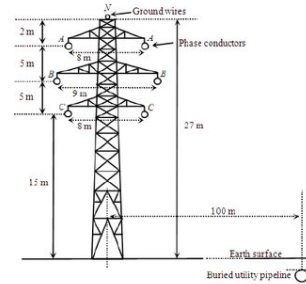
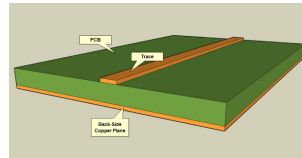
1 Boundary Conditions for Electrostatics

2 Poisson's and Laplace's Equation

# Examples of Boundaries



Source: imgur



Source: researchgate.net

## Boundary Conditions: Dielectric-Dielectric Interface

Consider an interface between two dielectric materials, and apply

$$\oint_C \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = 0$$

$$\oint_C \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} = \int_a^b + \int_b^c + \int_c^d + \int_d^a = 0$$

$$= \int \vec{E}_{t1} \cdot d\vec{l}_{ab}$$

$$= E_{t1} \cdot \Delta W - E_{n1}(\text{at } b) \Delta h - E_{t2} \cdot \Delta W + E_{n2}(\text{at } a) \Delta h$$

Take the limit as  $\Delta h \rightarrow 0$

$$= E_{t1} \cdot \Delta W - \cancel{E_{n1}(\text{at } b) \Delta h} - E_{t2} \cdot \Delta W + \cancel{E_{n2}(\text{at } a) \Delta h} = 0$$

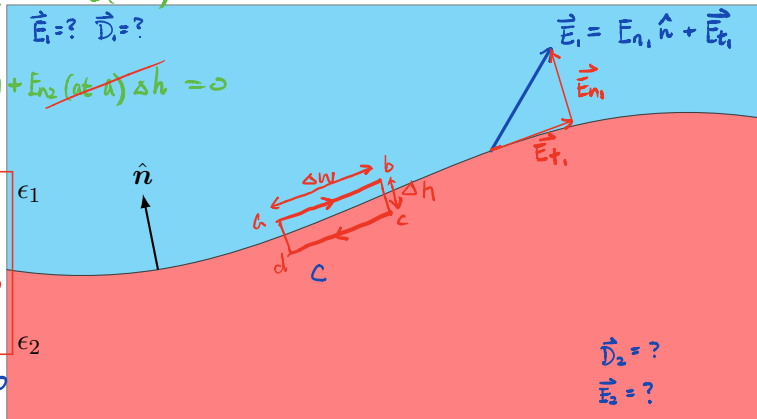
$$\Rightarrow E_{t1} \cdot \Delta W = E_{t2} \cdot \Delta W$$

$$E_{t1} = E_{t2}$$

(The tangential component of  $\vec{E}$  must remain continuous as we cross the interface)

$$\vec{n} \times \vec{E}_1 = \vec{n} \times \vec{E}_2$$

$$\vec{n} \times (\vec{n}_2 - \vec{n}_1) = 0$$



$$\hat{n} \times \frac{\vec{V}_1}{\epsilon_1} = \hat{n} \times \frac{\vec{V}_2}{\epsilon_2}$$

$$\oint_S \vec{D} \cdot d\vec{S} = \iint_{\text{top}} + \iint_{\text{side}} + \iint_{\text{bottom}} = Q_{\text{encl.}}$$

$$= \iint_{\text{top}} \vec{D} \cdot d\vec{S}_{\text{top}}$$

$$= D_{n1} \Delta S + \cancel{\iint_{\text{side}} \vec{D} \cdot d\vec{S}} - D_{n2} \Delta S = \iint_{\text{middle}} \rho_s ds \approx \rho_s \Delta S$$

$\approx 0$  if  $\Delta H \Rightarrow 0$

Normal component of  $\vec{D}$  is discontinuous by an amount  $\rho_s$  as we cross the surface.

$$D_{n1} - D_{n2} = \rho_s$$

$$\epsilon_0 E_{n1} - \epsilon E_{n2} = \rho_s$$

$$\hat{n} \cdot \vec{D}_1 - \hat{n} \cdot \vec{D}_2 = \rho_s$$

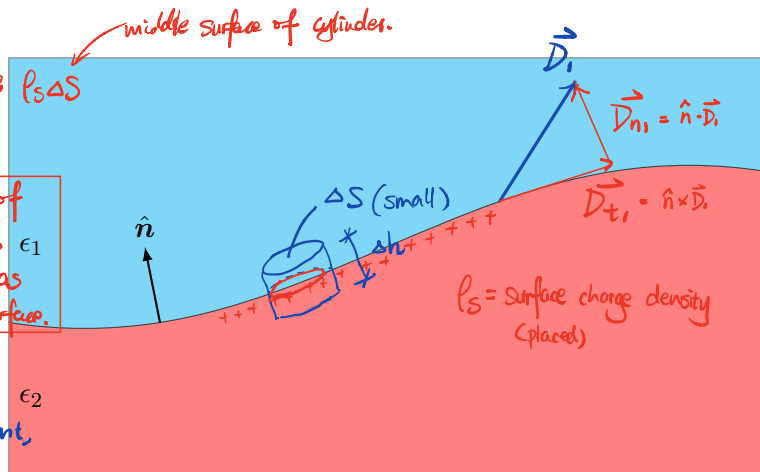
If there's no charge density ( $\rho_s$ ) present,

$$\hat{n} \cdot \vec{D}_1 = \hat{n} \cdot \vec{D}_2$$

## Boundary Conditions: Dielectric-Dielectric Interface

$$\oint_S \vec{D} \cdot d\vec{S} = Q_{\text{encl.}}$$

Consider an interface between two dielectric materials, and apply **Gauss' Law**.



## Boundary Conditions: Dielectric-Conductor Interface

$$\vec{E}_{t1} = \vec{E}_{t2} \Rightarrow \vec{E}_t = 0$$

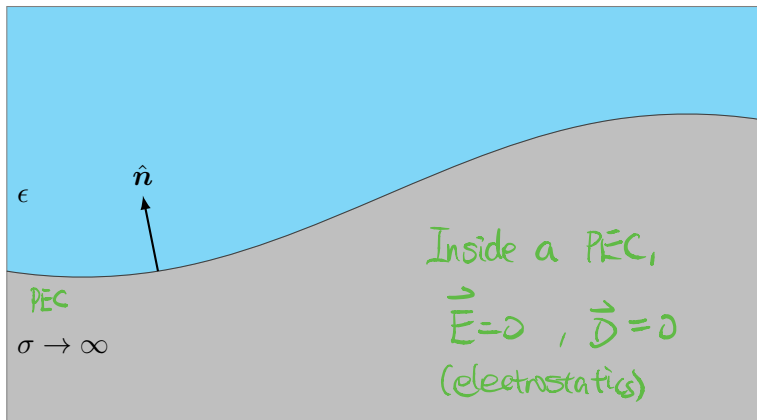
At the surface of a PEC,

$$\hat{n} \times \vec{E} = 0 \quad \vec{E}_t = 0$$

$$\hat{n} \cdot \vec{D}_1 - \hat{n} \cdot \vec{D}_2 = \rho_s$$

$$D_n = \rho_s$$

$$\epsilon \vec{E} = \rho_s$$



$$\vec{E} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \vec{D}$$

$$\text{as } \sigma \rightarrow \infty$$

$$\vec{E} \rightarrow 0$$

## Poisson's and Laplace's Equation

Gauss's Law  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} = \rho_v$        $\mathbf{D} = \epsilon \mathbf{E}$

$$\nabla \cdot \epsilon \mathbf{E} = -\nabla \cdot (\epsilon \nabla V) = \rho_v$$

$$\mathbf{E} = -\nabla V$$

if medium is homogeneous. (i.e.  $\epsilon$  is not a function of space)

$$\underbrace{\nabla \cdot \nabla V}_{\text{source}} = -\rho_v / \epsilon \quad \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \hat{x} + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \hat{y} + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \hat{z} \right) \cdot \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \hat{x} + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \hat{y} + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \hat{z} \right)$$

$$\nabla \cdot \nabla V = \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial z^2} \equiv \boxed{\nabla^2 V = -\rho_v / \epsilon} \quad \text{Poisson's Eqn.}$$

↑ Laplacean operator.

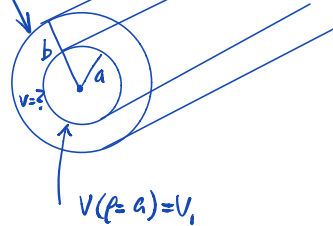
If we consider regions where there's no charges. ( $\rho_v = 0$ )

## Laplacian Operator

$\nabla^2 V = 0$  Laplace's Eqn. (2nd order homogeneous PDE)

$$V(r=b) = V_2$$

$$\nabla^2 V = \nabla \cdot \nabla V$$





## Laplacian Operator

$$\nabla^2 V = \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial z^2}$$

$$\nabla^2 V = \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} \left( \rho \frac{\partial V}{\partial \rho} \right) + \frac{1}{\rho^2} \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial \phi^2} + \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial z^2}$$

$$\nabla^2 V = \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r^2 \frac{\partial V}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{\partial V}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial \phi^2}$$