

Lecture 11: Dielectrics and the Equation of Continuity

ECE221: Electric and Magnetic Fields

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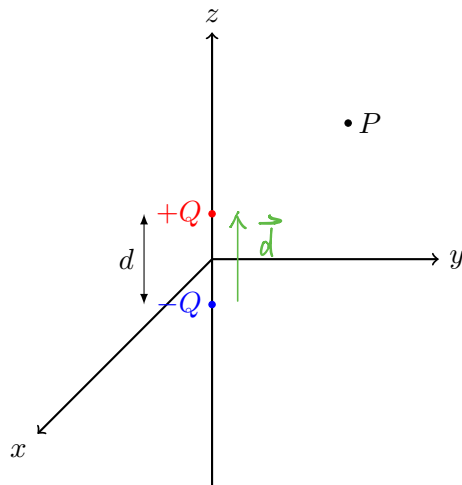
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Outline

- 1 Dipole Description of Materials
- 2 Polarization and Dielectric Constant
- 3 Dielectric Breakdown
- 4 Conservation of Charge and the Equation of Continuity

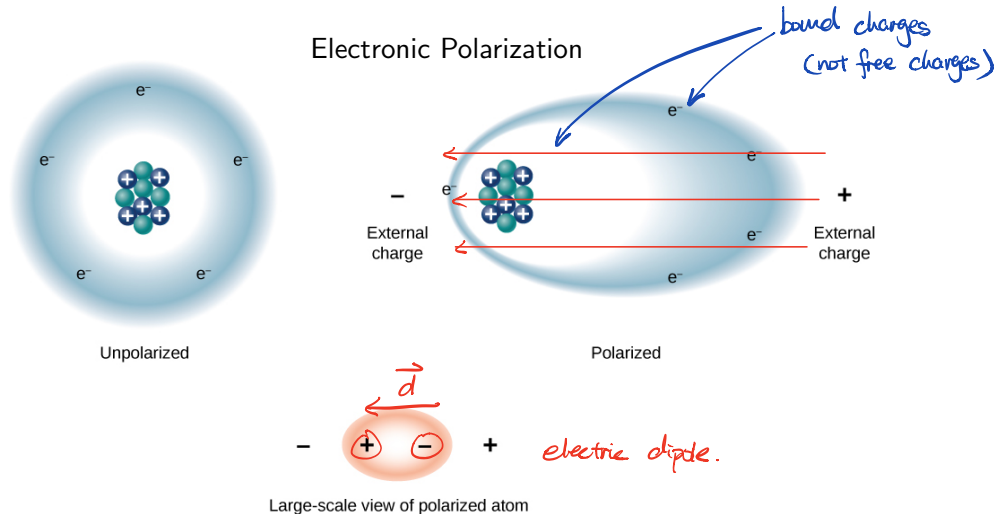
Review: Electric Dipole



$$\mathbf{E} = \frac{Qd}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R^3} (2 \cos \theta \hat{\mathbf{R}} + \sin \theta \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}})$$

$$\vec{p} = \text{dipole moment} = Q\vec{d}$$

The Effect of an Applied Electric Field on Dielectrics



Source: phys.libretexts.org

Effect of an Applied Electric Field on Polar Molecules

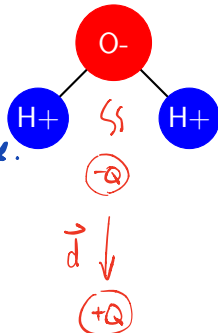
Say we have a mass of water. There are n dipoles per unit volume in the water

$$\vec{P}_{\text{total}} = \sum_{i=1}^{n\Delta V} \vec{P}_i$$

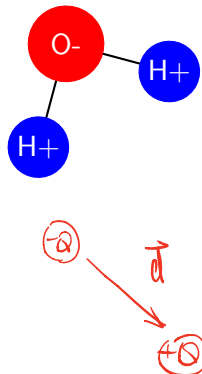
dipole moment per unit volume.

$$\vec{P} = \lim_{\Delta V \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\Delta V} \sum_{i=1}^{n\Delta V} \vec{P}_i \quad [\text{C/m}^2]$$

$$\mathbf{E} = 0$$



$$\mathbf{E} \longrightarrow$$



Polarization of a Dielectric

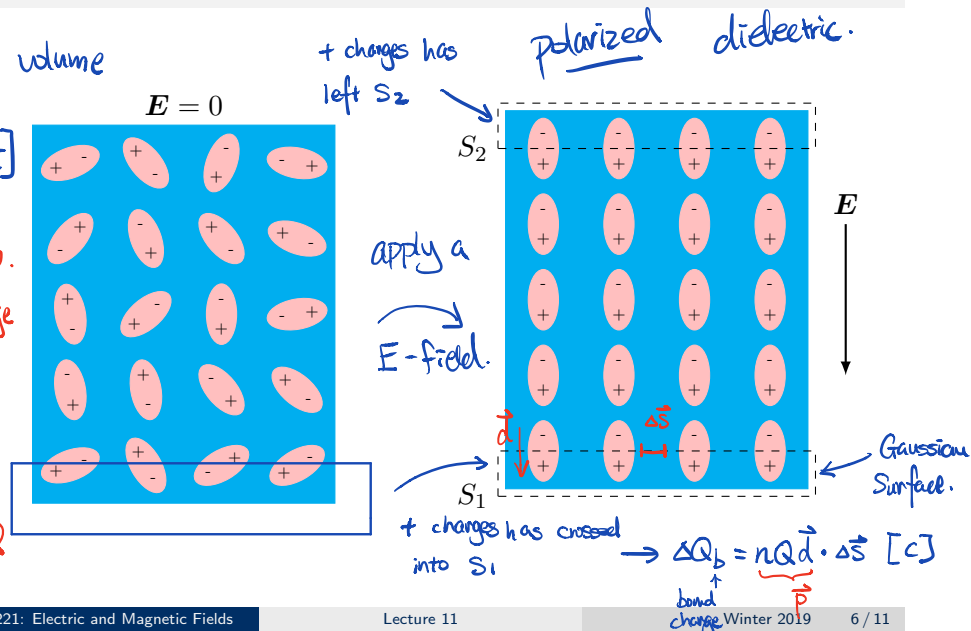
Dipole Moment per unit volume

$$\vec{P} = \lim_{\Delta V \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\Delta V} \sum_{i=1}^{N\Delta V} \vec{P}_i \quad \left[\frac{C}{m^2} \right]$$

Generalized Gauss's law.
(accounts for both free charge
& bound charges)

$$Q_T = Q_b + Q$$

$$= \oint_S \epsilon_0 \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{S} = Q_b + Q$$



$$Q = \oint_S \epsilon_0 \cdot \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} - Q_b$$

Dielectric Breakdown

$$= \oint_S \epsilon_0 \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} + \oint_S \vec{P} \cdot d\vec{s}$$

$$= \oint_S (\underbrace{\epsilon_0 \vec{E} + \vec{P}}_{\vec{D}}) \cdot d\vec{s}$$

only non-zero in dielectric

$$\vec{D} = \epsilon_0 \vec{E} + \vec{P}$$

$$\text{let } \vec{P} \equiv \chi_e \epsilon_0 \vec{E}$$

where χ_e = "electric susceptibility"

$$Q_b = - \oint_{S_2 \text{ or } S_1} \vec{P} \cdot d\vec{s}$$

change in S_1 is increasing

looks kind of like

Gauss's law.

$$Q = \oint_S \vec{D} \cdot d\vec{s}$$

↑ free charge.

apply to free charge only.



The **dielectric strength** is the maximum electric field that a dielectric can withstand without electrical breakdown.

$$\vec{D} = \epsilon_0 (1 + \chi_e) \vec{E}$$

ϵ_r = relative permittivity
of the dielectric.

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

$$\epsilon = \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r$$

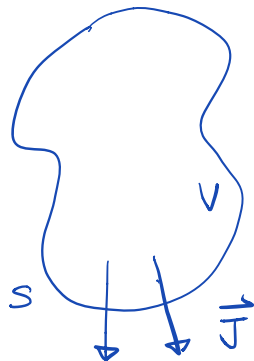
Table of Dielectrics

Material	Dielectric constant ϵ_r	Dielectric strength ($\times 10^6$ V/m)
Vacuum	1	∞
Dry air (1 atm)	1.00059	3.0
Teflon TM	2.1	60 to 173
Paraffin	2.3	11
Silicon oil	2.5	10 to 15
Polystyrene	2.56	19.7
Nylon	3.4	14
Paper	3.7	16
Fused quartz	3.78	8
Glass	4 to 6	9.8 to 13.8
Concrete	4.5	—
Diamond	5.5	2,000
Mica	6.0	118
Water	80	—
Titanium dioxide	86 to 173	—
Strontium titanate	310	8
Barium titanate	1,200 to 10,000	—
Calcium copper titanate	> 250,000	—

Conservation of Charge and the Equation of Continuity

Charges cannot be created or destroyed.

What is the circuit equivalent of this law?



Total current leaving closed surface

S is $I = \oint_S \vec{J} \cdot d\vec{S}$ = outward flow of positive charge.

If the total change in S is Q_i

$$I = \oint_S \vec{J} \cdot d\vec{S} = -\frac{dQ_i}{dt}$$

integral.

Div. theorem.

$$\iiint_V (\nabla \cdot \vec{J}) dV = -\frac{d}{dt} \underbrace{\iiint_V \rho_v dV}_{Q_i}$$

$$= -\iiint_V \frac{d\rho_v}{dt} dV$$

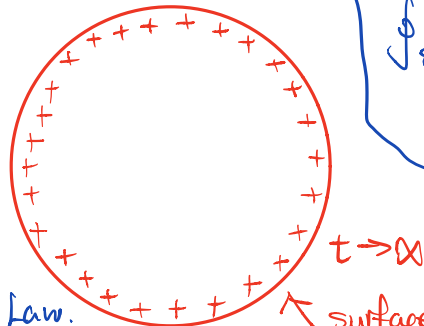
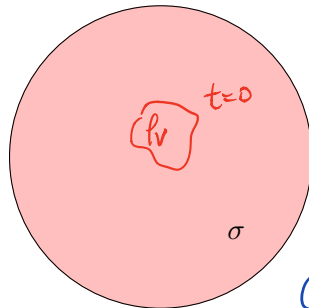
$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\nabla \cdot \vec{J} = -\frac{d\rho_v}{dt}}$$

point form.

Equation of continuity (of current)
 Q_i is decreasing w time.

Relaxation Time

Consider a problem where charges are introduced into the interior of a conductor during the time $t < 0$. What happens for $t > 0$?



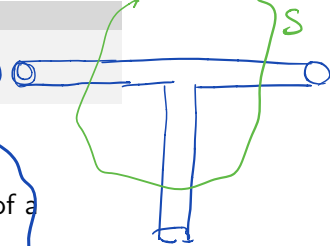
Gauss's Law.

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{E} = \rho_v / \epsilon_0$$

$$\nabla \cdot \underbrace{\vec{E}}_{=0} = \frac{\sigma \rho_v}{\epsilon_0} = -\frac{d\rho_v}{dt}$$

$$\oint_S \vec{J} \cdot d\vec{S} = 0$$

(KCL)



surface charge (density)

Relaxation Time

$$\frac{\partial \rho_v}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \frac{\rho_v}{\epsilon_0} = 0 \rightarrow \frac{\partial \rho_v}{\rho_v} = -\frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0} dt$$

Relaxation time is the time it takes a charge density placed in the interior of a material to drop to $e^{-1} = 36.8\%$ of its original value.

$$\ln(\rho_v) - \ln(\rho_{v_0}) = -\frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0} t$$

$$\rho_v = \rho_{v_0} e^{-t/T_r}$$

$$\boxed{T_r = \frac{\epsilon}{\sigma}} \text{ relaxation time.}$$