

RC 3: Dielectrics and Boundary Condition

1 Conductors and dielectrics in static electric field

- conductors:
 - Orbiting electrons are loosely held by an atom and migrate easily from one atom to another.
 - **static state conditions:**

- * inside the conductor:

$$\rho = 0, \mathbf{E} = 0$$

, where $\rho = 0$ represents no charge in the interior

- * on the conductor surface (boundary conditions)

$$E_t = 0, E_n = \frac{\rho_s}{\epsilon_0}$$

- semiconductors: ← *doping*
 - Relatively small number of freely movable charges.
- insulators(dielectrics):
 - Electrons are confined to their orbits.
 - External electric field $E_{external}$ polarizes a dielectric material and creates electric dipoles. The induced electric dipoles (result in an induced electric field $E_{induced}$) will modify the electric field both inside and outside the dielectric material, as shown in Fig 1.

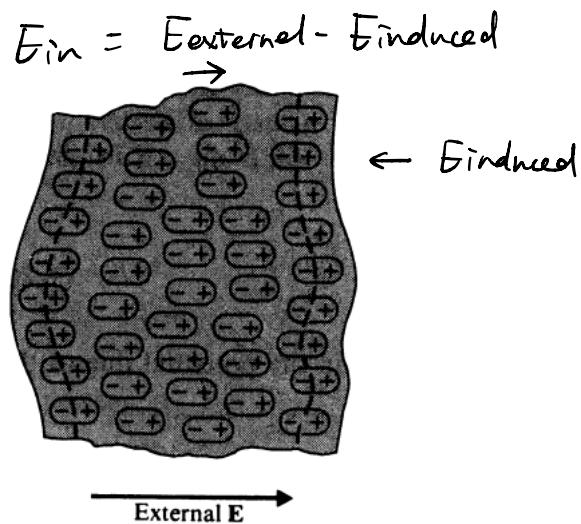


Figure 1: A cross section of a polarized dielectric medium

– polarization charge densities / bound-charge densities:

* **Polarization vector, \mathbf{P}** (Measures the density of electric dipoles):

$$\mathbf{P} = \lim_{\Delta v \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sum_{k=1}^{n_{\Delta v}} \mathbf{p}_k}{\Delta v}$$

where the numerator represents the vector sum of the induced dipole moment contained in a very small volume Δv .

* Charge distribution on surface density (Polarization surface charge densities):

$$\rho_{ps} = \underline{\mathbf{P} \cdot \vec{a_n}}$$

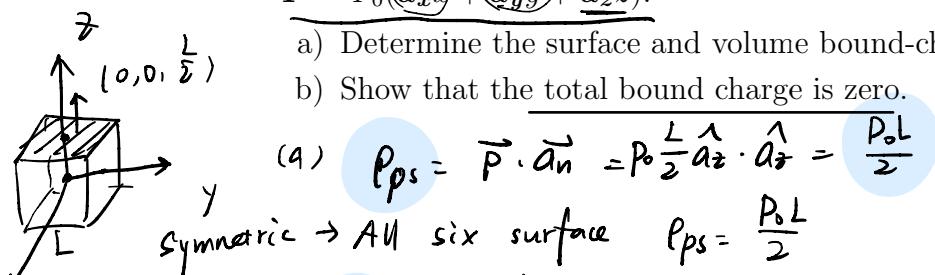
* Volume charge distribution density (Polarization bound-charge densities):

$$\rho_p = -\nabla \cdot \mathbf{P}$$

Ex.1

The polarization in a dielectric cube of side L , centered at the origin is given by $\mathbf{P} = P_0(\mathbf{a}_x x + \mathbf{a}_y y + \mathbf{a}_z z)$.

- Determine the surface and volume bound-charge densities.
- Show that the total bound charge is zero.



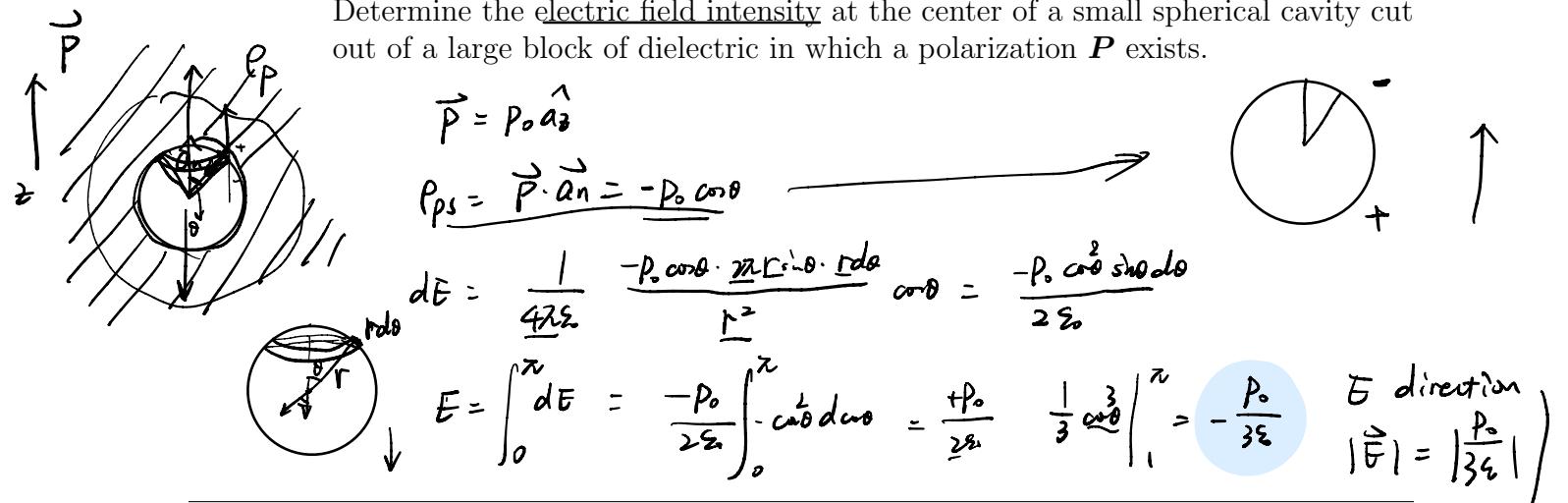
(a) $\rho_{ps} = \mathbf{P} \cdot \vec{a_n} = P_0 \frac{L}{2} \hat{a_z} \cdot \hat{a_z} = \frac{P_0 L}{2}$

Symmetric \rightarrow All six surface $\rho_{ps} = \frac{P_0 L}{2}$
 $\rho_p = -\nabla \cdot \mathbf{P} = -P_0 (\frac{\partial}{\partial x} x + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} y + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} z) = -3P_0$

(b) $6L^2 \cdot \frac{P_0 L}{2} + L^3 (-3P_0) = 0$ verified.

Ex.2

Determine the electric field intensity at the center of a small spherical cavity cut out of a large block of dielectric in which a polarization \mathbf{P} exists.



2 Electric Flux Density and Dielectric Constant

- electric flux density/electric displacement, \underline{D} :

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \underline{D} = \epsilon_0 \underline{E} + \underline{P} \quad (\text{C/m}^2)$$

•

$$\nabla \cdot \underline{D} = \rho \quad (\text{C/m}^3)$$

where ρ is the volume density of free charges.

$$P = P_{\text{free}} + P_{\text{induced}}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \underline{E} = \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0} \rightarrow P_{\text{free}} + P_{\text{induced}}$$

- Another form of Gauss's law:

$$\oint_S \underline{D} \cdot d\underline{s} = Q \quad (\text{C})$$

the total outward flux of the electric displacement (the total outward electric flux) over any closed surface is equal to the total free charge enclosed in the surface.

- If the dielectric of the medium is linear and isotropic (χ_e is independent of the space coordinate),

$$\textcircled{2} \quad \underline{P} = \epsilon_0 \chi_e \underline{E}$$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad \underline{D} = \epsilon_0 (1 + \chi_e) \underline{E} = \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r \underline{E} = \epsilon \underline{E}$$

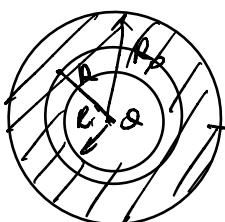
χ_e (V)

where χ_e is a dimensionless quantity called electric susceptibility, and ϵ_r is a dimensionless quantity called as relative permittivity/ electric constant of the medium and ϵ_0 is the absolute permittivity/permittivity of the medium (F/m).

Ex.3

$\epsilon_0 \epsilon_r$ (F/m)

A positive point charge Q is at the center of a spherical dielectric shell of an inner radius R_i and an outer radius R_o . The dielectric constant of the shell is ϵ_r . Determine \underline{E} , V , \underline{D} , \underline{P} as functions of the radial distance R .



$$\textcircled{1} \quad D_{(R)} \frac{4\pi R^2}{4\pi \epsilon_0 R^2} = Q \Rightarrow D_{(R)} = \frac{Q}{4\pi \epsilon_0 R^2} \quad \textcircled{4} \quad V = - \int \underline{E} \cdot d\underline{l}$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad \underline{D} = \epsilon \underline{E}$$

$$\underline{E}_{(R)} = \begin{cases} \frac{Q}{4\pi \epsilon_0 R^2} & R < R_i \\ \frac{Q}{4\pi \epsilon_0 R^2} & R > R_o \\ \frac{Q}{4\pi \epsilon_0 R^2} (1 - \frac{1}{\epsilon_r}) & R_i < R < R_o \end{cases}$$

$$\rightarrow \begin{array}{l} V_1 > V_2 \\ V_{(R_o)} = ? \\ V_{(R_o)} - 0 = \int_{R_o}^{R_o} \underline{E} \cdot d\underline{l} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{aligned} V_{(R_o)} - 0 &= \int_{R_o}^{R_o} \underline{E} \cdot d\underline{l} \\ &= \int_{R_o}^{R_o} \frac{Q}{4\pi \epsilon_0 R^2} dR = \frac{Q}{4\pi \epsilon_0} (0 + \frac{1}{R_o}) \\ &= \frac{Q}{4\pi \epsilon_0 R_o} \end{aligned}$$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad \underline{P} = (\underline{D} - \epsilon_0 \underline{E}) = \begin{cases} 0 & R < R_i / R > R_o \\ \frac{Q}{4\pi \epsilon_0 R^2} (1 - \frac{1}{\epsilon_r}) & R_i < R < R_o \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 2. \quad V_{(R_i)} - V_{(R_o)} &= \int_{R_o}^{R_i} \underline{E} \cdot d\underline{l} \\ &= \int_{R_o}^{R_i} \frac{Q}{4\pi \epsilon_0 R^2} dR = \frac{Q}{4\pi \epsilon_0} (\frac{1}{R_o} - \frac{1}{R_i}) \\ 3. \quad V_{(A)} - V_{(R_i)} &= \int_R^{R_i} \underline{E} \cdot d\underline{l} = \frac{Q}{4\pi \epsilon_0} (\frac{1}{R} - \frac{1}{R_i}) \end{aligned}$$

Please refer to text book instead of this sheet as the standard

$$R < R_i \quad V(R) = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left(\frac{1}{R_0} - \frac{1}{R} \right) + \frac{1}{R} + \frac{1}{R} \left(\frac{1}{R_0} - \frac{1}{R} \right)$$

$$R_i < R < R_o \quad V(R) - V(R_i) = \text{Fan Hu} \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left(\frac{1}{R} - \frac{1}{R_0} \right)$$

$$R > R_o \quad V(R) = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left(\frac{1}{R_0} + \left(1 - \frac{1}{R_0} \right) \frac{1}{R} \right)$$

$$V(R) = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R}$$

- For anisotropic, ✓

$$\begin{bmatrix} D_x \\ D_y \\ D_z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon_{11} & \epsilon_{12} & \epsilon_{13} \\ \epsilon_{21} & \epsilon_{22} & \epsilon_{23} \\ \epsilon_{31} & \epsilon_{32} & \epsilon_{33} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} E_x \\ E_y \\ E_z \end{bmatrix}$$

- For biaxial, ✓

$$\begin{bmatrix} D_x \\ D_y \\ D_z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \epsilon_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \epsilon_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} E_x \\ E_y \\ E_z \end{bmatrix}$$

For uniaxial, $\epsilon_1 = \epsilon_2$, For isotropic, $\epsilon_1 = \epsilon_2 = \epsilon_3$ (the only kind of media we deal with in this course).

- dielectric breakdown: electric field is very strong, causes permanent dislocations and damage in the material.

dielectric strength: the maximum electric field intensity that a dielectric material can withstand without breakdown.

3 Boundary Conditions for Electrostatic Fields

- the tangential component of an \mathbf{E} field is continuous across an interface.

$$E_{1t} = E_{2t} \quad (\text{V/m})$$

or

$$\frac{D_{1t}}{\epsilon_1} = \frac{D_{2t}}{\epsilon_2}$$

bounded charge

if no free charge in the surface $\vec{D}_{1n} = \vec{D}_{2n}$

- The normal component of \mathbf{D} field is discontinuous across an interface where a surface charge exists - the amount of discontinuity being equal to the surface charge density. $\vec{D}_{1n} \neq \vec{D}_{2n}$

$$\mathbf{a}_{n2} \cdot (\mathbf{D}_1 - \mathbf{D}_2) = \rho_s$$

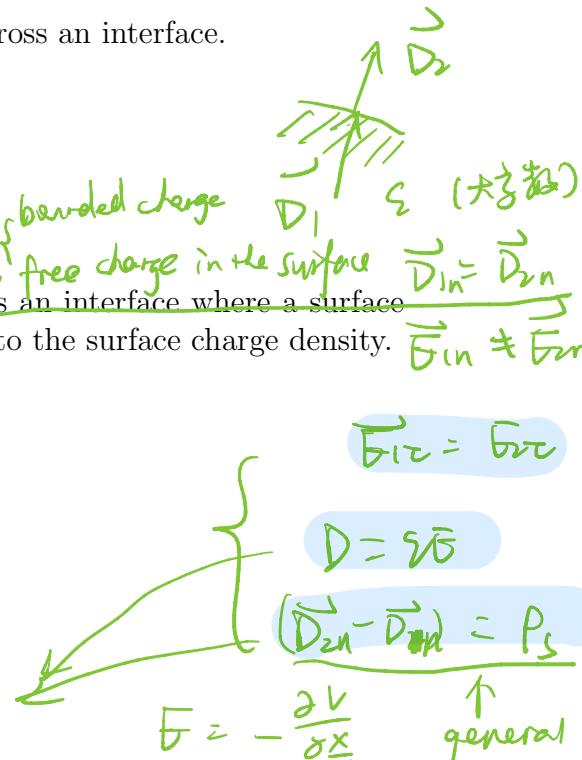
or

$$D_{1n} - D_{2n} = \rho_s \quad (\text{C/m}^2)$$

- In terms of potential,

$$V_1 = V_2$$

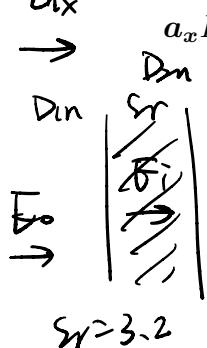
$$\epsilon_1 \frac{\partial V_1}{\partial n} - \epsilon_2 \frac{\partial V_2}{\partial n} = -\rho_{sf}$$



$\epsilon_s \approx 0$
for most cases.

Ex.4

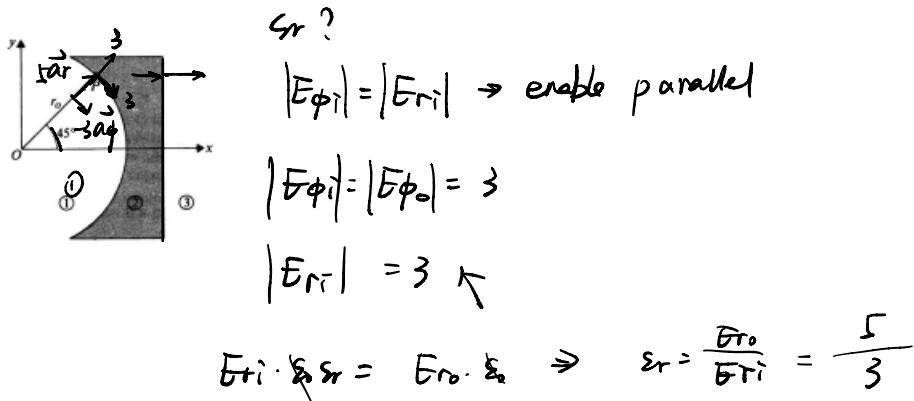
A lucite sheet ($\epsilon_r = 3.2$) is introduced perpendicularly in a uniform electric field $\underline{\mathbf{E}_o} = a_x E_o \hat{\mathbf{x}}$ in free space. Determine $\underline{\mathbf{E}_i}$, $\underline{\mathbf{D}_i}$, $\underline{\mathbf{P}_i}$ inside the lucite.



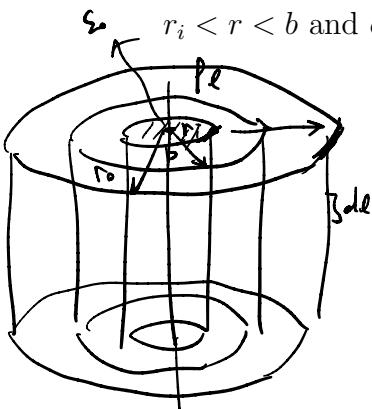
$$\begin{aligned}\underline{\mathbf{D}_m} &= \underline{\mathbf{D}_m} \\ \underline{\mathbf{D}_m} &= \epsilon_0 \underline{\mathbf{E}_o} = \underline{\mathbf{D}_m} = \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r \underline{\mathbf{E}_i} \Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \underline{\mathbf{D}_i} = \frac{\epsilon_0 \underline{\mathbf{E}_i}}{\epsilon_r} \\ \underline{\mathbf{E}_i} = \frac{\underline{\mathbf{D}_i}}{\epsilon_0 \epsilon_r} \end{array} \right. \\ \underline{\mathbf{D}_i} &= \epsilon_0 \underline{\mathbf{E}_i} + \underline{\mathbf{P}_i} \Rightarrow \underline{\mathbf{P}_i} = \underline{\mathbf{D}_i} - \epsilon_0 \underline{\mathbf{E}_i} = \underline{\mathbf{D}_o} \left(1 - \frac{1}{\epsilon_r} \right)\end{aligned}$$

Ex.5

Dielectric lenses can be used to collimate electromagnetic fields. In Fig ??, the left surface of the lens is that of a circular cylinder, and the right surface is a plane. If $\underline{\mathbf{E}_1}$ at point $P(r_0, 45^\circ, z)$ in region 1 is $a_r 5 - a_\phi 3$, what must be the dielectric constant of the lenses in order that $\underline{\mathbf{E}_3}$ in region 3 is parallel to the x -axis?

**Ex.6**

The radius of the core and the inner radius of the outer conductor of a very long coaxial transmission line are r_i and r_o , respectively. The space between the conductors is filled with two coaxial layers of dielectrics. The dielectric constants of the dielectrics are ϵ_{r1} for $r_i < r < b$ and ϵ_{r2} for $b < r < r_o$. Determine its capacitance per unit length. $P.L.$



$$\begin{aligned}D &= \frac{p_e}{2\pi r} \hat{\mathbf{z}} \\ \underline{\mathbf{D}} &= \epsilon_0 \underline{\mathbf{E}} \\ \underline{\mathbf{E}} &= \begin{cases} \hat{\mathbf{r}} & \frac{p_e}{2\pi \epsilon_{r1} r} = E_1 \\ \hat{\mathbf{r}} & \frac{p_e}{2\pi \epsilon_{r2} r} = E_2 \end{cases} \quad \begin{array}{l} r_i < r < b \\ b < r < r_o \end{array} \\ V_{ri} - V_{ro} &= \int_{r_i}^b |\underline{\mathbf{E}}_1| dr + \int_b^{r_o} |\underline{\mathbf{E}}_2| dr = \frac{p_e}{2\pi} \left(\frac{1}{\epsilon_{r1}} \ln \frac{b}{r_i} + \frac{1}{\epsilon_{r2}} \ln \frac{r_o}{b} \right)\end{aligned}$$

Please refer to text book instead of this sheet as the standard

$$C_L = \frac{p_e}{\Delta V} = 2\pi \left(\frac{1}{\epsilon_{r1}} \ln \frac{b}{r_i} + \frac{1}{\epsilon_{r2}} \ln \frac{r_o}{b} \right)$$

Ex.7

Two dielectric media with permittivities ϵ_1 and ϵ_2 are separated by a charge-free boundary as shown in Fig 2. The electric field intensity in medium 1 at the point P_1 has a magnitude E_1 and makes an angle α_1 with the normal. Determine the magnitude and direction of the electric field intensity at point P_2 in medium 2.

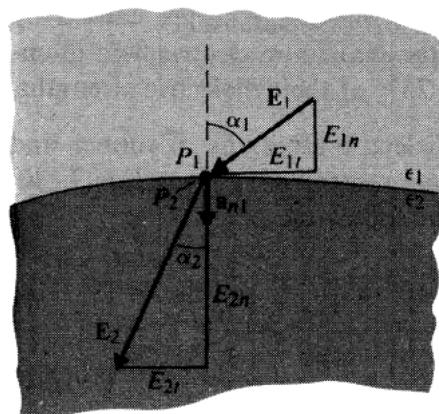


Figure 2: Boundary conditions at the interface between two dielectric media

$$\underline{D_m = D_n} \Leftrightarrow \epsilon_1 E_{1n} = \epsilon_2 E_{2n} \Leftrightarrow \epsilon_1 E_1 \cos \alpha_1 = \epsilon_2 E_m \Rightarrow E_n = \frac{\epsilon_1}{\epsilon_2} E_1 \cos \alpha_1$$

$$\underline{E_{1t} = E_{2t}} \Leftrightarrow E_{2t} = E_1 \sin \alpha_1$$

$$\tan \alpha_2 = \frac{E_{2t}}{E_{2n}} = \frac{\epsilon_1}{\epsilon_2} \tan \alpha_1$$

$$|E_2| = \sqrt{(E_{2t})^2 + (E_{2n})^2}$$