

Electromagnetic Theory I

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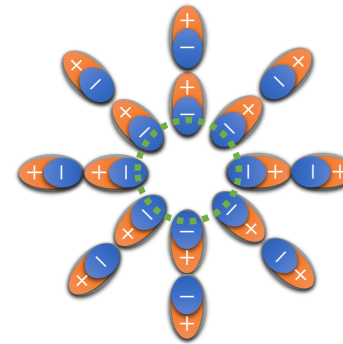
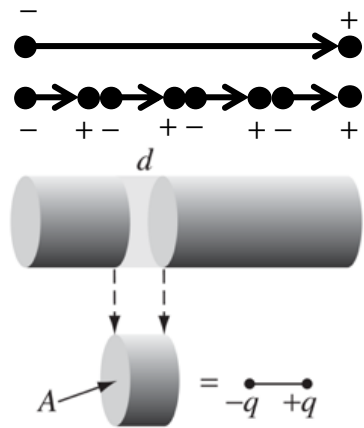
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Chapter 4: Electric Fields in Matter

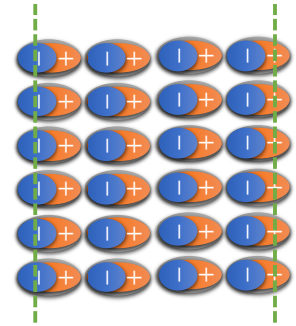
- ❖ Polarization
- ❖ The Field of a Polarized Object
- ❖ The Electric Displacement
- ❖ Linear Dielectrics

4.2 The Field of a Polarized Object

Physical interpretation of bound charges



$$\rho_b = -\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{P}$$



$$\sigma_b = \vec{P} \cdot \hat{n}$$

$$\sigma_b = \frac{q}{A} = P$$

$$\sigma_b = \frac{q}{A_{end}} = P \cos \theta = \vec{P} \cdot \hat{n}$$

If the polarization is nonuniform, we get accumulations of bound charge within the material.

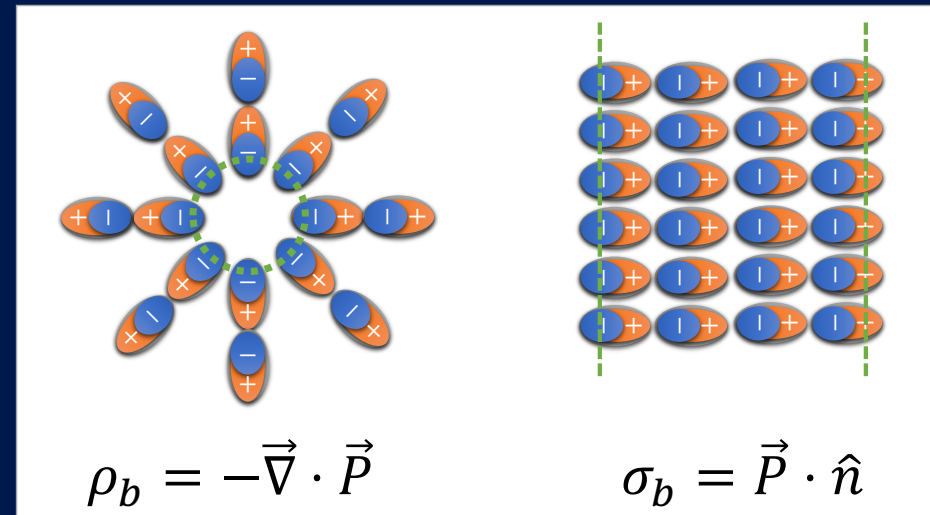
$$q_b = \int \rho_b d\tau = - \int \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{P} d\tau$$

4.2 The Field of a Polarized Object

$$V(\vec{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int \vec{\nabla}' \cdot \left(\frac{\vec{P}(\vec{r}')}{r} \right) - \left(\frac{\vec{\nabla}' \cdot \vec{P}(\vec{r}')}{r} \right) d\tau'$$

$$V(\vec{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \oint \frac{\vec{P}(\vec{r}')}{r} \cdot d\vec{a}' + \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int - \left(\frac{\vec{\nabla}' \cdot \vec{P}(\vec{r}')}{r} \right) d\tau'$$

$$V(\vec{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \oint \frac{\sigma_b}{r} da' + \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int \frac{\rho_b}{r} d\tau'$$



4.2 The Field of a Polarized Object

Example: Find the electric field produced by a uniformly polarized sphere of radius R . (revisited)

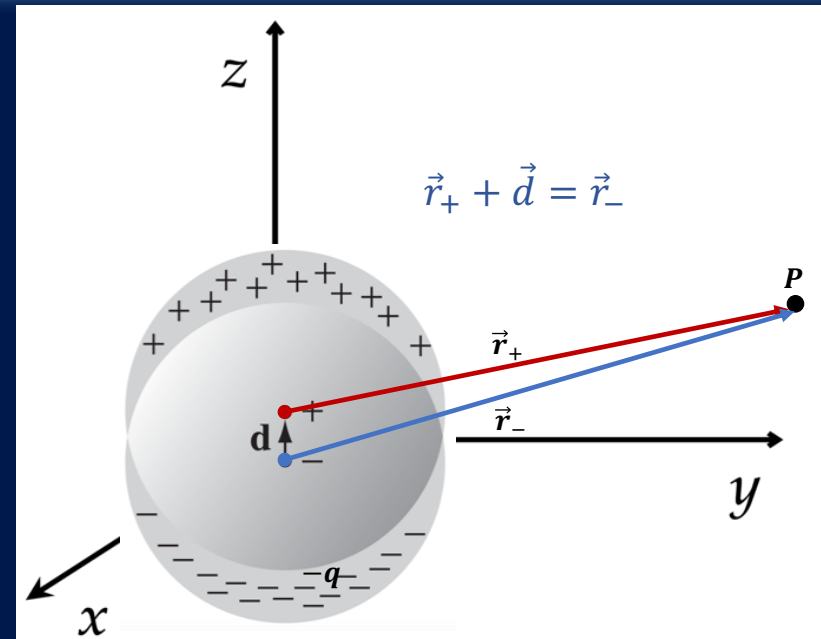
Let us consider a positive and negative uniformly charged spheres with small center mismatch d

Recall, inside a uniformly charged sphere,

$$\vec{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Qr}{R^3} \hat{r} = \frac{\rho r}{3\epsilon_0} \hat{r} = \frac{\rho}{3\epsilon_0} \vec{r}$$

Hence, in the region of overlap between the two spheres,

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{E} &= \vec{E}_+ + \vec{E}_- = \frac{\rho}{3\epsilon_0} (\vec{r}_+ - \vec{r}_-) = -\frac{\rho}{3\epsilon_0} \vec{d} \\ &= -\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Q\vec{d}}{R^3} = -\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{\vec{p}}{R^3} = -\frac{\vec{P}}{3\epsilon_0} \end{aligned}$$



4.2 The Field of a Polarized Object

Example: A sphere of radius R carries a frozen-in polarization $\vec{P}(\vec{r}) = k\vec{r}$. Find The electric field everywhere

We have a spherically symmetric system so we can use Gauss's Law

$$\vec{E} = \frac{Q_{enc}}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{\hat{r}}{r^2}$$

For $r < R$,

$$Q_{enc} = \int_0^r \rho_b 4\pi r^2 dr = -4\pi \int_0^r \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{P} r^2 dr = -4\pi \int_0^r 3k r^2 dr = -4\pi k r^3 \rightarrow \vec{E} = -\frac{k r \hat{r}}{\epsilon_0} = -\frac{\vec{P}}{\epsilon_0}$$

For $r > R$,

$$\begin{aligned} Q_{enc} &= \int_0^R \rho_b 4\pi r^2 dr + 4\pi R^2 \sigma_b = -4\pi \int_0^R \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{P} r^2 dr + 4\pi R^2 \vec{P}(R\hat{r}) \cdot \hat{r} \\ &= -4\pi \int_0^R 3k r^2 dr + 4\pi R^2 (kR\hat{r}) \cdot \hat{r} = -4\pi k R^3 + 4\pi k R^3 = 0 \rightarrow \vec{E} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

4.3 The Electric Displacement

Gauss's Law in the presence of dielectrics

If any free charge exists within a dielectric, the total charge density can be written as

$$\rho = \rho_f + \rho_b \rightarrow \epsilon_0 \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = \rho_f - \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{P}$$

We usually know the free energy charge density,

Electric Displacement Vector

$$\rho_f = \epsilon_0 \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} + \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{P} = \vec{\nabla} \cdot (\epsilon_0 \vec{E} + \vec{P}) = \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{D}$$

If symmetry is present, we can calculate \vec{D} by the integral form of Gauss's law,

$$\int \vec{D} \cdot d\vec{a} = Q_{f\text{enc}}$$

4.2 The Field of a Polarized Object

- **Example:** A long straight wire, carrying uniform line charge λ , is surrounded by rubber insulation out to a radius a . Find the electric displacement \vec{D} and the field \vec{E} .

We have a cylindrically symmetric system so we can use Gauss's Law

$$\int \vec{D} \cdot d\vec{a} = Q_{fenc}$$

For $s < a$,

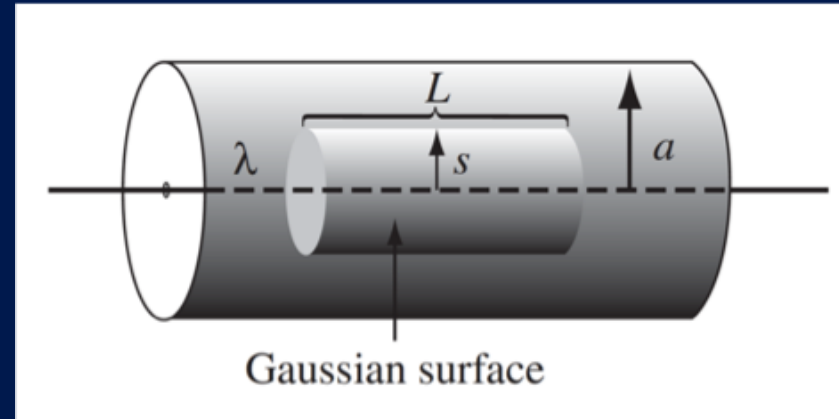
$$\int \vec{D} \cdot d\vec{a} = D2\pi sL = Q_{fenc} = \lambda L \rightarrow \vec{D}(\vec{s}) = \frac{\lambda}{2\pi s} \hat{s}$$

$$\vec{E} = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} (\vec{D} - \vec{P})$$

Inside the rubber the electric field cannot be determined, since we do not know \vec{P}

For $s > a$,

$$\vec{D}(\vec{s}) = \frac{\lambda}{2\pi s} \hat{s} \ \& \ \vec{E} = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} (\vec{D} - \vec{P}) = \vec{E} = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} (\vec{D} - 0) = \frac{\lambda}{2\pi\epsilon_0 s} \hat{s}$$



4.2 The Field of a Polarized Object

Example: A thick spherical shell (inner radius a , outer radius b) is made of dielectric material with a "frozen-in" polarization $\vec{P}(\vec{r}) = k \frac{\hat{r}}{r}$ (No free charge inside). Find the electric field in all three regions

We have a spherically symmetric system so we use Gauss's law

$$\vec{D} = \frac{Q_{fenc}}{4\pi r^2} \hat{r}$$

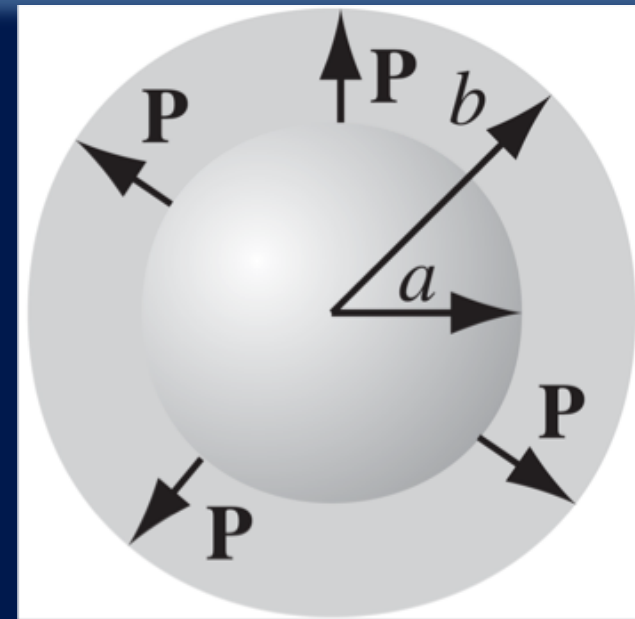
But no free charges anywhere, so always $Q_{fenc} = 0$

$$\vec{D} = 0$$

$$\text{For } \mathbf{r} < a, \vec{E} = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} (\vec{D} - \vec{P}) = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} (\vec{0} - \vec{0}) = 0$$

$$\text{For } \mathbf{b} > \mathbf{r} > a, \vec{E} = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} (\vec{D} - \vec{P}) = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \left(\vec{0} - k \frac{\hat{r}}{r} \right) = -\frac{k\hat{r}}{\epsilon_0 r}$$

$$\text{For } \mathbf{r} > \mathbf{b}, \vec{E} = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} (\vec{D} - \vec{P}) = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} (\vec{0} - \vec{0}) = 0$$



4.3 The Electric Displacement

A deceptive parallel: misleading comparison between \vec{E} and \vec{D}

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{D} = \rho_f \quad \text{is similar to} \quad \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = \rho / \epsilon_0$$

“to solve problems involving dielectrics, you just forget all about the bound charge, calculate the field as you ordinarily would using Coulomb law, only call the answer \vec{D} instead of \vec{E} ”

$$\vec{D}(\vec{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int \frac{\rho_f}{r^2} \hat{r} d\tau$$

This is because

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{D} = \vec{\nabla} \times (\epsilon_0 \vec{E} + \vec{P}) = \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{P} \neq 0$$

4.3 The Electric Displacement

Boundary Conditions

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{D} = \rho_f \rightarrow$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = \rho / \epsilon_0 \rightarrow$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{D} = \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{P} \rightarrow$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E} = \mathbf{0} \rightarrow$$

$$D_{above}^{\perp} - D_{below}^{\perp} = \sigma_f$$

The normal component of \vec{D} is discontinuous

$$E_{above}^{\perp} - E_{below}^{\perp} = 1 / \epsilon_0 (\sigma_f + \sigma_b)$$

$$D_{above}^{\parallel} - D_{below}^{\parallel} = P_{above}^{\parallel} - P_{below}^{\parallel}$$

$$E_{above}^{\parallel} - E_{below}^{\parallel} = 0$$

4.4 Linear Dielectrics

Susceptibility, Permittivity and Dielectric constant

For linear dielectrics, if the electric field is weak, $\vec{P} \propto \vec{E}$

$$\vec{P} = \epsilon_0 \chi_e \vec{E}$$

Electric susceptibility

*The electric field is the total field from free charges and the polarization itself.

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{D} &= (\epsilon_0 \vec{E} + \vec{P}) = (\epsilon_0 \vec{E} + \epsilon_0 \chi_e \vec{E}) \\ &= \epsilon_0 (1 + \chi_e) \vec{E} = \epsilon \vec{E}\end{aligned}$$

Relative permittivity or dielectric constant

$$\epsilon_r = \frac{\epsilon}{\epsilon_0}$$

Permittivity

Material	Dielectric Constant
Vacuum	1
Helium	1.000065
Neon	1.00013
Hydrogen	1.00025
Argon	1.00052
Air (dry)	1.00054
Nitrogen	1.00055
Water vapor (100° C)	1.00587
Diamond	5.7
Salt	5.9
Silicon	11.8

4.4 Linear Dielectrics

Example: A metal sphere of radius a carries a charge Q . It is surrounded, out to radius b , by linear dielectric material of permittivity ϵ . Find the potential V at the center (relative to infinity).

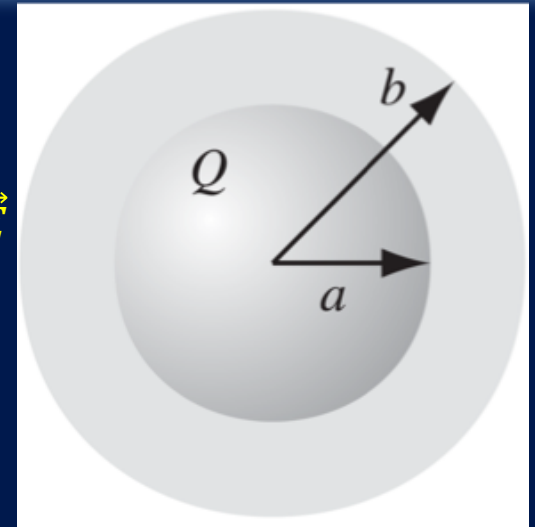
For $r < a$, $\vec{E} = \vec{P} = \vec{D} = 0$

For $b > r > a$,

$$\vec{D} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{Q\hat{r}}{r^2} \rightarrow \vec{E} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \vec{D} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon} \frac{Q\hat{r}}{r^2} \ \& \ \vec{P} = \epsilon_0 \chi_e \vec{E} = \epsilon_0 \left(\frac{\epsilon}{\epsilon_0} - 1 \right) \vec{E}$$

For $r > b$,

$$\vec{D} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{Q\hat{r}}{r^2} \rightarrow \vec{E} = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \vec{D} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Q\hat{r}}{r^2} \ \& \ \vec{P} = 0$$



$$V(0) = - \int_{\infty}^0 \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} = - \int_{\infty}^b \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Q}{r^2} dr - \int_b^a \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon} \frac{Q}{r^2} dr - \int_b^a 0 dr$$

$$V(0) = \frac{Q}{4\pi} \left(\frac{1}{\epsilon_0 b} + \frac{1}{\epsilon a} - \frac{1}{\epsilon b} \right)$$

$$\rho_b = -\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{P} = 0$$

$$\sigma_b = \vec{P} \cdot \hat{n} = \begin{cases} -\epsilon_0 \chi_e Q / 4\pi \epsilon a^2 & r = a \\ \epsilon_0 \chi_e Q / 4\pi \epsilon b^2 & r = b \end{cases}$$