

Energy in Capacitor

Capacitor is filled with ϵ dielectric. We saw

previously that putting dielectric

in capacitor reduced the potential difference

This is because

the dipoles produce an apposing electric field.

Work must be

done to maintain the same potential as before

How much work? That is the subject of today's lecture.

Let's compute energy of capacitor W_{cap}

We calculate work done to separate a free

charge $+Q$ from $-Q$

If charge Q is moved from negative plate to

positive plate then work done

$$dW_{cap} = V dQ = \frac{Q}{C} dQ$$

$$\frac{Q}{V} = C = \frac{\epsilon A}{d}$$

$$V = \frac{\epsilon d}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$Q = \frac{\epsilon}{A} V$$

$$D = \epsilon$$

$$E = D/\epsilon_0$$

$$V = \frac{\epsilon}{B} d$$

$$V_A = \frac{\epsilon_0}{C} V_B$$

$$V_A = \frac{\epsilon_0}{C} d \quad V_A < V_B$$

Total work to transfer charge $\Delta Q = W_{cap}$

$$W_{cap} = \int_0^Q \frac{QdQ}{C} = \frac{Q^2}{2C}$$

How much energy is in the field? W_{field}

$$E = \frac{Q}{\epsilon A}, \quad \text{Volume} = Ad \quad \text{so}$$

$$W_{field} = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_0 E^2 = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_0 \frac{Q^2 Ad}{\epsilon^2 A^2} = \frac{\epsilon_0}{2\epsilon} \frac{Q^2}{C}$$

(Ad)
"electrostatic
energy"

$W_{field} < W_{cap}$ by a factor ϵ_0/ϵ

This is because the formula $\frac{\epsilon_0 E^2}{2}$ does not

account for the energy needed to polarize

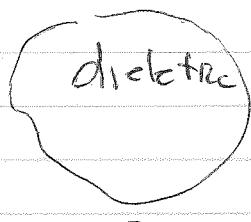
dipole.

When dealing with dielectrics we
need energy required to build up the charge-

The next step is to generalize the
formula for W_{cap}

Energy in dielectric - general treatment

With an unpolarized dielectric in place, we bring in free charges, one by one. The dielectric responds



bring in

$\leftarrow q_{\text{free}}$

free charge from
infinity

amount of work to bring in free charge Δq
 V is potential due to charge density

$$\Delta W = \Delta q_f V, \quad \Delta q_f \text{ is distributed over some area}$$

$$= \int (\Delta p_f) V d\tau \quad \text{already present}$$

We control p_f

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{D} = p_f$$

for an increase Δp_f
we get change in D

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot (\Delta \vec{D}) = \Delta p_f$$

$$\Delta W = \int_D \vec{\nabla} \cdot (\Delta \vec{D}) V d\tau$$

3 dim integration by parts

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{\nabla} \cdot (\Delta \vec{D} V) &= (\vec{\nabla} \cdot \Delta \vec{D}) V + \Delta \vec{D} \cdot \vec{\nabla} V \\ &= \Delta p_f - \Delta \vec{D} \cdot \vec{E} \end{aligned}$$

So

$$\Delta W = \int_V (\nabla \cdot (\Delta \vec{D} V) + \Delta \vec{D} \cdot \vec{E}) dV$$

↓

$$\int_V \nabla \Delta \vec{D} \cdot d\vec{a} + \int_V (\Delta \vec{D} \cdot \vec{E}) dV$$

Imagine boundary at ∞

$$dA \propto r^2$$

$$D \propto 1/r^2 \quad \text{and} \quad V \sim 1/r \quad \text{so}$$

surface integral $\propto \frac{r^2}{r^3}$ with $r \rightarrow \infty$

goes to 0

$$\Delta W = \int_V (\Delta \vec{D} \cdot \vec{E}) dV$$

This is general. For a linear dielectric

can go further

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

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

$$\Delta \vec{D} \cdot \vec{E} = \Delta(\epsilon \vec{E}) \cdot \vec{E} = \frac{1}{2} \Delta (\epsilon E^2)$$

$$\Delta W = \Delta \left[\int_V \vec{D} \cdot \vec{E} dV \right]$$

$$W = \frac{1}{2} \int_V \vec{D} \cdot \vec{E} dV = \boxed{\frac{1}{2} \int_V \epsilon \vec{D} \cdot \vec{E} dV}$$

So for a linear dielectric the energy

$$\text{density is } \frac{1}{2} \vec{\mathbf{D}} \cdot \vec{\mathbf{E}} = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon \epsilon^2$$

not $\frac{\epsilon_0}{2} \epsilon^2$ that we had before

The difference is the energy

"carried

by bound charges. Let's try to

understand this using a concrete model.

Doing the model right requires quantum

mechanics. Instead do classical mechanics

Consider a model in which electrons & nucleci

bound by a spring spring energy $U = \frac{1}{2} k x^2$



the charges are separated by some equilibrium distance x_{eq} . The system has no dipole moment because there are many atoms with orientations in random directions

Let's say there are n atoms/volume
 $n = \text{density of atoms}$

Now turn on electric field in \hat{x} -direction

$$\vec{E} = E_0 \hat{x}$$

+q feels force to right

-q feels force to left

The equilibrium position is charged by Δx
 so that the total force is balanced

$$\vec{F} = \vec{F}_E + \vec{F}_{\text{spring}} = 0$$

$$(q E_0 - k \Delta x) = 0$$

$$\Delta x = \frac{q E_0}{k}$$

Now there is a dipole moment $P_x = \frac{q^2 E_0}{k}$

The polarization is the dipole moment/volume

$$P_x = \frac{q^2 E_0}{k} n$$

$$D_x = \epsilon_0 E_0 + P_x = E_0 \left[\epsilon_0 + \frac{n q^2}{k} \right]$$

$$U = \frac{D \cdot E}{2} = \frac{E_0^2}{2} \cdot \left(E_0 + \frac{n q^2}{k} \right)$$

energy density of E field

$$\text{second term } \frac{1}{2} E_0^2 \frac{n q^2}{k} = \boxed{n \frac{1}{2} k^2 \Delta x^2}$$

Potential energy density of spring

$$U = \frac{D \cdot E}{2} = \epsilon_0 \frac{E^2}{2} + \boxed{\frac{P \cdot E}{2}}$$

\downarrow Potential energy in spring

Example Sphere of radius R filled with dielectric ϵ . There is also a constant density P_f of free charge configuration?

II Need D, E



Physics is
no +

(I) Gauss Law Make sphere of radius $r < R$
 $DA = Q_{\text{free enclosed}}$ D is radial

$$D 4\pi r^2 = \frac{4\pi}{3} P_f r^3$$

$$D = P_f r / 3$$

$$E = D/\epsilon = P_f r / 3\epsilon$$

II $D 4\pi r^2 = \frac{4\pi}{3} P_f R^3$

$$D = \frac{P_f}{3} \frac{R^3}{r^2}$$

$$\frac{E \cdot D}{\epsilon} = \frac{P_f}{3} \frac{R^3}{r^2} \frac{1}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$dr = 4\pi r^2 dr$$

"Electrostatic" energy $\int_{\frac{1}{2}}^{\frac{1}{2}} \epsilon_0 \epsilon^2 dr \equiv W$

$$W = \frac{\epsilon_0}{2} \left[\int_0^R \left(\frac{P_f r}{3\epsilon} \right)^2 4\pi r^2 dr + \int_R^\infty \left(\frac{P_f R^3}{3\epsilon_0 r^2} \right)^2 4\pi r^2 dr \right]$$

$$= \frac{\epsilon_0 4\pi P_f^2}{2 \cdot 9} \left[\frac{R^5}{\epsilon^2 \epsilon_0} + \frac{1}{\epsilon_0^2} R^5 \right] = \frac{2\pi P_f^2 R^5}{9\epsilon_0 \epsilon^2} \left(\frac{1}{\epsilon_0^2} + 1 \right)$$

Total electrostatic energy W_2

$$\text{energy density} = \frac{1}{2} \vec{D} \cdot \vec{E} = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon E^2 \quad \text{in I}$$

$$= \frac{\epsilon_0 E^2}{2} \quad \text{in II}$$

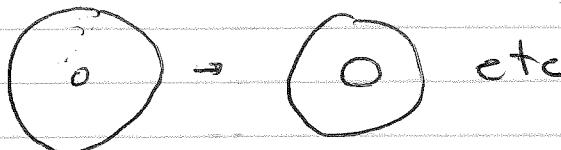
only first integral from 0 to R is changed

$$W_2 = \frac{2\pi p_r^{3/5}}{6.9} \left[\frac{1}{\epsilon_r^{1/5}} + 1 \right]$$

The $W_2 > W_1$ W_2 includes work needed
to stretch the molecules

Next check that W_2 is really what we
say it is - the energy required to bring in
free charge from infinity, start with
uncharged dielectric

Suppose we bring in free charge in increments
 dq , we fill out the sphere layer by layer



Suppose we reach radius r' . \vec{E} is given by E -in radial direction

$$\vec{E}(r) = \frac{P_f}{3\epsilon_0} r \quad r < r' \\ = \frac{P_f}{3\epsilon_0} \frac{r'^3}{r^2} \quad r' < r < R$$

The work needed to bring in next dq from

∞ to r' is

$$dW(r') = -dq \left[\int_{\infty}^R \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} + \int_R^{r'} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} \right]$$

$$= -dq \int_{\infty}^R \frac{P_f}{3\epsilon_0} \frac{r'^3}{r^2} dr - dq \int_R^{r'} \frac{P_f}{3\epsilon_0} \frac{r'^3}{r^2} dr$$

$$dW(r') = \left(\frac{P_f r'^3}{3\epsilon_0} \left(\frac{1}{R} \right) + \frac{P_f r'^3}{3\epsilon_0} \left[\frac{1}{r'} - \frac{1}{R} \right] \right) dq$$

This increases the radius by dr' $dq = P_f 4\pi r'^2 dr'$

$$\text{Total Work} = \int dW(r') = W_2 \text{ see text}$$

$$W_{\text{Spring}} = W_2 - W_1 = \frac{2\pi}{45\epsilon_0} \frac{P_f R^5}{Er-1} (Er-1)$$

Interpret $W_2 - W_1$ in terms of spring model

$$W_2 - W_1 = W_{sp} ??$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \int d\vec{r} (\epsilon E^2 - \epsilon_0 E^2)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \int d\vec{r} (\epsilon - \epsilon_0) E^2$$

But $\vec{P} = \frac{\epsilon - \epsilon_0}{\epsilon_0} \vec{E}$ so

$$W_2 - W_1 = \frac{1}{2} \int d\vec{r} \vec{P} \cdot \vec{E} = \text{spring energy } \frac{1}{2} h x^2$$

of previous

$$d\vec{P} = \vec{P} d\vec{E}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \int (d\vec{P}) \cdot \vec{E}$$

$$P_0(\cos\theta) = 1$$

More mathematical
multiplication

$$V_a = \sum_l (Ae^{rl} + \frac{Be}{r^{l+1}}) P_l(\cos\theta)$$

by $P_n(\cos\theta)$, and integrate $d\cos\theta$

$$\text{LHS has } \int d\cos\theta P_n(\cos\theta) V_a P_l(\cos\theta) \rightarrow V_a \frac{2}{2n+1} \delta_{nl}$$

$$\text{RHS} = \frac{2}{2n+1} \delta_{nl} \left(Ae^{rl} + \frac{Be}{r^{l+1}} \right)$$

$$\therefore Ae^{rl} + \frac{Be}{r^{l+1}} = 0 \quad \text{if } l \neq 0$$

Can do same thing at $r=b$

$$Ae^{bl} + \frac{Be}{b^{l+1}} = 0$$

$$\text{Thus if } l \neq 0 \quad Ae=0, Be=0$$

$$V(r) = \frac{B}{r} \quad \begin{matrix} \text{drop A constant} \\ B_0 \rightarrow B \end{matrix}$$

$$\vec{E} = -\vec{\nabla} V = \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\vec{B}}{r^2} \quad \begin{matrix} \text{spherically} \\ \text{symmetric} \end{matrix}$$

Radially symmetric Why?

E depends on total charge & bound free total charge is spherical

check BC on vertical boundaries

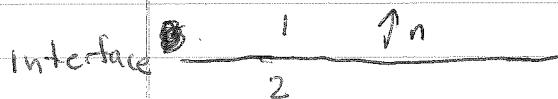
tangential \vec{E} continuous $\hat{t} = \hat{t}$ ok

Normal \vec{E} continuous normal $\perp \hat{r}$ so $D_n = 0$

on both sides

Today First Part Boundary Problems with Dielectrics

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



$$(\vec{D}_1 - \vec{P}_1) \cdot \hat{n} = \sigma_f \quad \text{General}$$

$$(\vec{E}_1 - \vec{E}_2) \cdot \hat{n} = 0$$

V is continuous

Linear dielectric

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

$$= -\epsilon \nabla V$$

Surface of conductor
is equipotential

B.C. on \vec{D} :

$$\hat{n} \cdot [-\epsilon_1 \nabla V + \epsilon_2 \nabla V] = \sigma_f$$

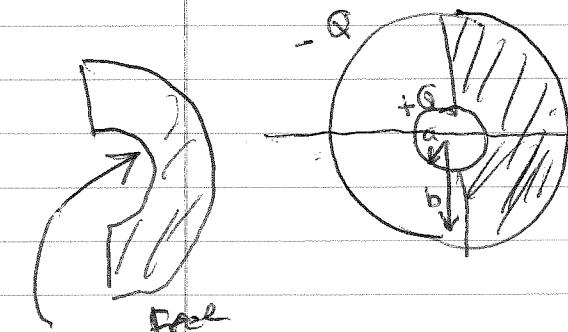
$$-\frac{\epsilon_1 \partial V}{\partial n} + \epsilon_2 \frac{\partial V}{\partial n} = \sigma_f$$

To solve problems all must be kept in mind

Two concentric conducting

spheres of inner outer free
radii a and b , $+Q$ charge
 $-Q$

Then half filled by hemisphere
of dielectric ϵ permittivity



bound + free
charge 1. Calculate \vec{E} between spheres $a < r < b$

Z -axis is horizontal to have $98 \mu\text{m}$ thickness.

$$V(r) = \sum \left(\frac{A_r}{r} + \frac{B_r}{r^2} \right) P_l(\cos\theta)$$

$V(r=a) = V_a = \text{const}$ (surface of conductor)

$V(r=b) = V_b = \text{"}$

This means if $l \neq 0$

$A_l = 0, B_l \neq 0$

only terms with $l=0$ have no angular dependence

To get \vec{E} inside need to get B

In terms of Q

The total free charge on inner surface is Q

$$S \cdot \int \vec{D} \cdot d\vec{a} = Q$$

$$\rightarrow \int \vec{D} \cdot d\vec{a} \rightarrow \int \vec{D} \cdot d\vec{a}$$

RIGHT $\vec{D} = \epsilon_0 E$ LEFT $\vec{D} = \epsilon_0 \vec{E}$

$$= \epsilon \frac{B 2\pi a^2}{a^2} + \epsilon_0 \frac{B 2\pi a^2}{a^2} = Q$$

$$B = \frac{Q}{2\pi(\epsilon + \epsilon_0)}$$

$$\boxed{E = \frac{Q}{2\pi(\epsilon + \epsilon_0)} \frac{\hat{r}}{r^2}}$$

2. Get surface charge distribution on inner sphere

$$\text{For } \frac{\pi}{2} \leq \theta \leq \pi \quad \sigma_{\text{free}} = \vec{D} \cdot \hat{r} = \epsilon_0 \vec{E}(a) \cdot \hat{r}$$

$$= \frac{\epsilon_0 Q}{2\pi(\epsilon + \epsilon_0)} \frac{1}{a^2}$$

$$\text{For } 0 \leq \theta \leq \frac{\pi}{2} \quad \sigma_{\text{free}} = \vec{E} \cdot \hat{r}$$

$$= \frac{\epsilon Q}{2\pi(\epsilon + \epsilon_0) a^2}$$

This is consistent w/ $\int \sigma_{\text{free}} d\Omega = Q$

What about bound charge? $\sigma_b = \hat{n} \cdot \vec{P} = \hat{n} \cdot (\epsilon - \epsilon_0) \vec{E}(a)$

$0 \leq \theta \leq \pi/2 \quad \hat{n} = -\hat{r}$

$$\sigma_B = -(\epsilon - \epsilon_0) E(a)$$

$$= -(\epsilon - \epsilon_0) \frac{Q}{2\pi a^2 (\epsilon_0 + \epsilon)}$$

Note that for $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi$,

$$G_{\text{free}} + \sigma_B = \frac{\epsilon Q}{2\pi (\epsilon + \epsilon_0) a^2} + \frac{(\epsilon_0 - \epsilon) Q}{2\pi a^2 (\epsilon + \epsilon_0)}$$

$$= \frac{\epsilon_0 Q}{2\pi a^2 (\epsilon + \epsilon_0)}$$

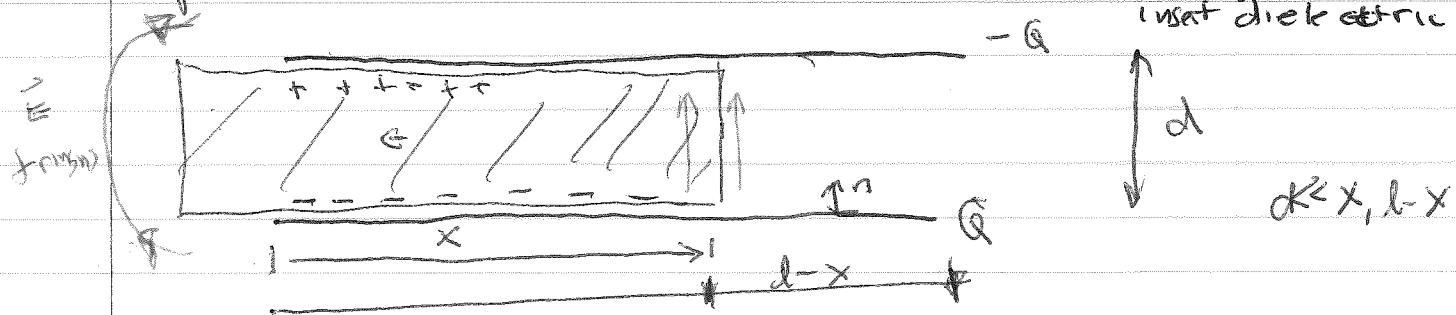
Same as for $\pi/2 \leq \theta \leq \pi$.

So spherical symm of E is justified.

Forces on dielectric

Starting from simple
Capacitance

Parallel conducting plates of size $l \times w$ (finite)
partially filled with dielectric κ Put free charge on them
- Q in air
inset dielectric



Let potential difference between plates = V

E is the same in the two regions

E \perp to plates is tangent to \perp boundary
tangential field is continuous. E is same
one either side of boundary

$$\vec{E} = \hat{n} \frac{V}{d}$$

To compute capacitance relate V to free charge $\pm Q$ on plates

Use Gauss Law to lower plate

$$\int \vec{D} \cdot d\vec{a} = Q = D \text{Area}$$

$$D = \epsilon E \text{ in dielectric Area} = xw$$

$$D = \epsilon_0 E \text{ in vacuum Area} = (l-x)w$$

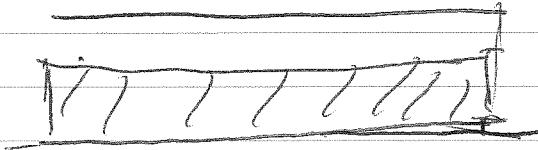
So

$$\epsilon E x w + \epsilon_0 E (l-x) w = Q$$

$$E = V/d, C = Q/V$$

$$C = \frac{(\epsilon x + \epsilon_0(l-x))w}{d}$$

Another related example



What is continuous in the two regions
is it D or E or None

Normal components of D are continuous no free charge

Go back to

Now compute force on dielectric slab

The slab experiences force into capacitor atoms in dielectric polarized by electric field

But we have always pretended field is uniform in a parallel plate capacitor - if exactly true no net force to right

But plates have finite size There is a slinging field - usually small but necessary here

How to calculate Force? Direct calculation
Use E but ^{would} need to compute slingin field.
Too difficult

Instead use energy consideration

Will determine the force F in two different ways

• Plates with fixed charge isolated

$$-Q \quad \text{---}$$

no external wires + voltage

$$Q \quad \text{---}$$

work done by electrostatic force F

if slab moves dx into capacitor is

$F dx$ - but energy is conserved two
field energy W total energy is conserved

$$F dx + dW = 0$$

$$F = -\frac{dW}{dx}$$

charge is fixed use

Here Q is fixed $W = -Q^2/2C$

$$W = \frac{Q^2 d}{2 \epsilon_0 [\epsilon x + \epsilon_0 (l-x)]}$$

$$\epsilon > \epsilon_0$$

as x increases
 W decreases

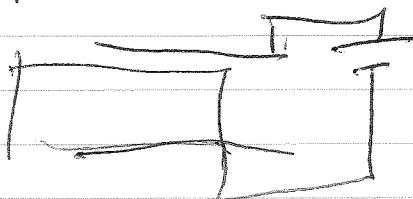
Force on slab is

$$F = -\frac{dW}{dx} = \frac{Q^2 d}{2 \epsilon_0} \frac{(\epsilon - \epsilon_0)}{[\epsilon x + \epsilon_0 (l-x)]^2} = \frac{V^2 \epsilon_0 (\epsilon - \epsilon_0)}{2 d}$$

$$\text{using } C = QV$$

For fixed Q the force decreases as
 x increases

Another example - plates with fixed potential difference connected to battery



Battery Plates

No work done by electrostatic force F is ~~not~~ $-dW$ because additional energy is supplied by battery

If slab moves distance dx then dQ is transferred to plates from battery
battery supplies dQV

^{now}

$$dW = VdQ - Fdx$$

now use $W = \frac{1}{2} CV^2$
 V is fixed

$$Q = CV, \quad dQ = dC V$$

$$Fdx = -dW + VdQ$$

$$\bullet dW + Fdx = VdQ$$

V is constant

C changes with x

$$\begin{aligned} Fdx &= dC V^2 - dQV \\ &= dC V^2 - \frac{1}{2} dC V^2 = \frac{1}{2} dC V^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$F = \frac{1}{2} \frac{dC}{dx} V^2$$

$$= \frac{V^2}{2d} \text{ or } (\epsilon - \epsilon_0)$$

same as before

If V is constant F is independent of x

We have neglected end (fringing) effects & used $\epsilon < \epsilon_0$

If $x = l$ $F = 0$ so formula is $P.G$