

Last time: worked out an example of a static problem with dielectrics:

LH dielectric in \vec{E} -field



$\nabla^2 \Phi = 0$ everywhere

$$\Rightarrow \Phi_{in, out} = \sum_l [A_l r^l + B_l r^{-l-1}] P_l(\cos \theta) \quad \vec{E}_0$$

\Rightarrow map Φ_{out} onto $-E_0 z$ as $r \rightarrow \infty$ & make sure that Φ_{in} is finite at $r=0$

\Rightarrow match $E_{in,t} = E_{out,t}$ and $D_{in,n} = D_{out,n}$ at $r=a$

boundary \Rightarrow fix all the coefficients.

$P_{out,n} - P_{in,n} = -\sigma_b \Rightarrow$ gives bound (polarization) charge density σ_b on the surface

Images ~ also works, but we will not work on this, can read about it in Jackson, ch 4.4.

Electrostatic Energy in Dielectrics.

$$W = \frac{1}{2} \int d^3x \rho_{\text{free}} \Phi \quad \text{doesn't apply anymore}$$

As we bring in charges from ∞ , we also need to construct correct polarization of the medium. (effect of ρ_b)

Change $\rho_{\text{free}}(\vec{x})$ by small quantity $\delta \rho_{\text{free}}(\vec{x}) \Rightarrow$

$$\delta W = \int_V d^3x \delta \rho_{\text{free}}(\vec{x}) \Phi(\vec{x})$$

$$\text{as } \rho_{\text{free}} = \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{D} \Rightarrow \delta \rho_{\text{free}} = \vec{\nabla} \cdot (\delta \vec{D})$$

$$\Rightarrow \delta W = \int_V d^3x \vec{\nabla} \cdot (\delta \vec{D}) \Phi = (\text{parts}) = - \int d^3x \delta \vec{D} \cdot \vec{\nabla} \Phi$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \Phi = - \vec{E} \Rightarrow \delta W = \int d^3x \vec{E} \cdot \delta \vec{D} \Rightarrow \boxed{W = \int d^3x \int_0^{\vec{D}} \vec{E} \cdot \delta \vec{D}}$$

and isotropic.

If medium is linear, then $\vec{D}_{(x)} = \epsilon_{(x)} \vec{E}_{(x)}$

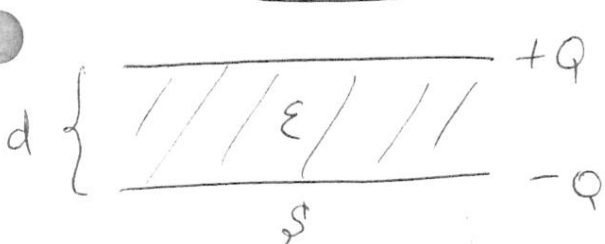
$$\Rightarrow \delta W = \int d^3x \vec{E} \cdot \epsilon \cdot \delta \vec{E} = \delta \left(\int d^3x \epsilon \cdot \frac{1}{2} \vec{E}^2 \right) =$$

$$= \delta \left(\int d^3x \frac{1}{2} \vec{E} \cdot \vec{D} \right) \Rightarrow \boxed{W = \frac{1}{2} \int d^3x \vec{E} \cdot \vec{D}}$$

also, $\vec{E} = -\vec{\nabla} \Phi$, $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{D} = \rho_{\text{free}} \Rightarrow \boxed{W = \frac{1}{2} \int d^3x \rho_{\text{free}} \Phi}$

pt. charge q : $W = \int \Phi(\vec{r}_0) \rho(\vec{r}_0) d^3r_0 \Rightarrow \vec{E} = -\vec{\nabla} W = +\vec{\nabla} \Phi$
 capacitor with dielectric in it.

Example



$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{D} = \rho_{\text{free}} \Rightarrow D = Q/\sigma$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = \frac{\rho_{\text{free}}}{\epsilon} \Rightarrow E = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \frac{Q}{\sigma}$$

$$W = \frac{1}{2} \underbrace{S \cdot d}_{\text{volume}} \frac{1}{\epsilon} \frac{Q^2}{S^2} \Rightarrow W = \frac{1}{2} \frac{d Q^2}{\epsilon S}$$

Capacitance $C = \frac{Q}{\Delta V} = \frac{Q}{E \cdot d} = \frac{Q}{\frac{Q}{S} \frac{1}{\epsilon} \cdot d} = \frac{\epsilon S}{d}$

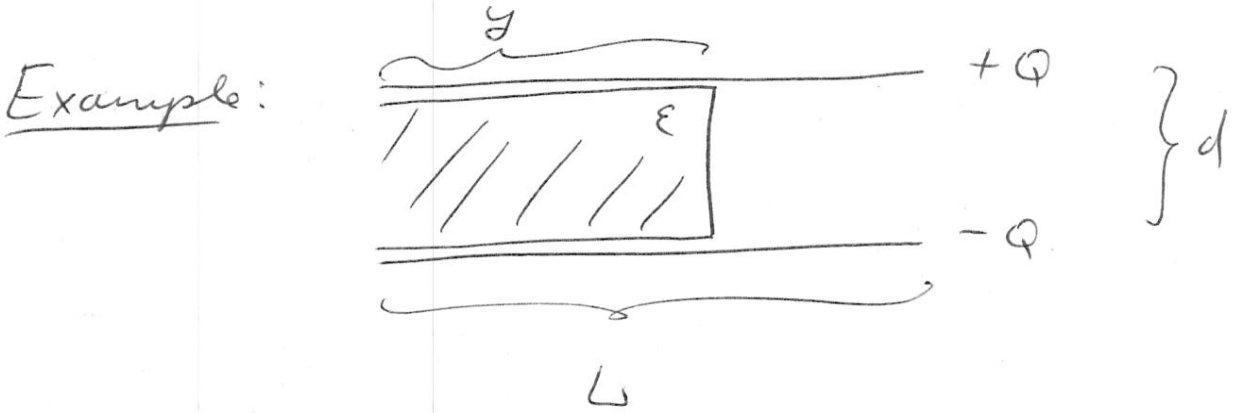
$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{C}{S} = \frac{\epsilon}{d}}$$

in vacuum $\epsilon = \epsilon_0 \Rightarrow \frac{C}{S} = \frac{\epsilon_0}{d}$
works!

Forces: $F_z = - \left(\frac{\partial W}{\partial z} \right)_Q$

[$\delta E_{\text{ext}} = 0 \Rightarrow \delta W = + \delta E_{\text{pot. for body}}$]

Force due to displacement in z -direction with sources Q fixed, (insulated from external world)



L x L square plates.

In general, surface charge density is different in vacuum & dielectric parts:

$$\sigma_d = \epsilon E_d, \quad \sigma_v = \epsilon_0 E_v.$$

at the interface $E_{d,t} = E_{v,t} \Rightarrow E_d = E_v \equiv E$

$\Rightarrow Q = Ly \sigma_d + L \cdot (L-y) \sigma_v = L(y \cdot \epsilon + (L-y) \epsilon_0) E$

$\Rightarrow E = \frac{Q}{L[\epsilon y + \epsilon_0(L-y)]}$

in dielectric $D = \epsilon E$, in vacuum $D = \epsilon_0 E$

\Rightarrow total energy $W = \frac{1}{2} \cdot dy L \cdot D_d \cdot E_d +$

$+ \frac{1}{2} d(L-y)L D_v E_v = \frac{1}{2} dy L \cdot \epsilon \cdot \left(\frac{Q}{L[\epsilon y + \epsilon_0(L-y)]} \right)^2 +$

$+ \frac{1}{2} d(L-y)L \cdot \epsilon_0 \left(\frac{Q}{L[\epsilon y + \epsilon_0(L-y)]} \right)^2 =$

$= \frac{1}{2} d \frac{Q^2}{L[\epsilon y + \epsilon_0(L-y)]} \Rightarrow F = - \left(\frac{\partial W}{\partial y} \right)_Q \Rightarrow$

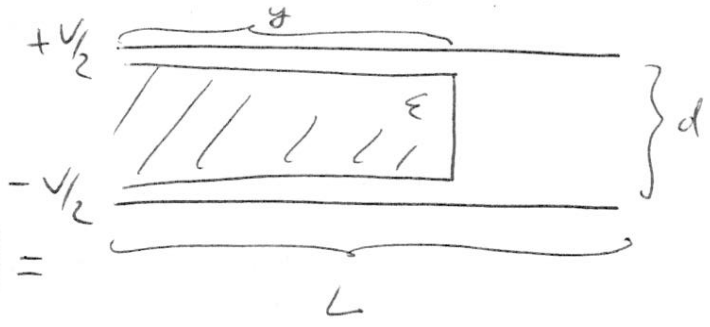
$\Rightarrow \left(\frac{1}{2} \frac{d Q^2 (\epsilon - \epsilon_0)}{L[\epsilon y + \epsilon_0(L-y)]^2} = F \right) > 0$

$F > 0 \Rightarrow$ the force pulls the slab inside the capacitor

if $\epsilon = \epsilon_0 \Rightarrow F = 0$ no force in vacuum. etc.

The problem is different if capacitor plates are held at constant potential difference V :

$$V = E \cdot d \Rightarrow E = \frac{V}{d}$$



$$W = \frac{1}{2} L d E^2 [\epsilon y + \epsilon_0(L-y)] =$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \frac{L V^2}{d} [\epsilon y + \epsilon_0(L-y)]$$

$$\Rightarrow F = + \left(\frac{\partial W}{\partial y} \right)_V = \frac{1}{2} \frac{L V^2}{d} (\epsilon - \epsilon_0) > 0$$

force still pulls dielectric in

note the sign! The system is not isolated anymore.

When we move the dielectric, we first fix the charges $\Rightarrow \delta W_1 = \frac{1}{2} \int \rho \delta \Phi_1 d^3x$.

$$\delta W_1 = \frac{1}{2} \int \rho \delta \Phi_1 d^3x$$

Then we let the charges exit/enter the system to keep potential constant

$$\delta W_2 = \frac{1}{2} \int d^3x [\rho \delta \Phi_2 + \Phi \delta \rho_2]$$

Now, to keep Φ constant, we need $\delta \Phi_1 = -\delta \Phi_2, \Rightarrow$

$$\delta W_2 = -\delta W_1 + \frac{1}{2} \int d^3x \Phi \delta \rho_2. \text{ Now, as } \delta \Phi = -\frac{\rho}{\epsilon} \Rightarrow$$

\Rightarrow both terms in δW_2 are equal $\Rightarrow \delta W_2 = -2 \delta W_1$

$$\Rightarrow \delta W_V = \delta W_1 + \delta W_2 = -\delta W_1 = -\delta W_Q \Rightarrow F = \left(\frac{\partial W}{\partial z} \right)_V$$