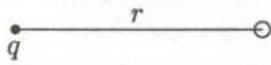


1. [G 4.4] A point charge q is situated at a large distance r from a neutral atom of polarizability α . Find the force of attraction between them.



Field of q : $\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{r^2} \hat{\mathbf{r}}$. Induced dipole moment of atom: $\mathbf{p} = \alpha \mathbf{E} = \frac{\alpha q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2} \hat{\mathbf{r}}$.

Field of this dipole, at location of q ($\theta = \pi$, in Eq. 3.103): $E = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{r^3} \left(\frac{2\alpha q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2} \right)$ (to the right).

Force on q due to this field: $F = 2\alpha \left(\frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \right)^2 \frac{1}{r^3}$ (attractive).

2. Consider a localized (of small dimension) charge distribution ρ with zero net charge and dipole moment \mathbf{p} , placed in an external field \mathbf{E}_{ext} . Let 0 be some suitable origin.

- (a) Show that the force on the charge distribution is given by

$$\mathbf{F} = (\mathbf{p} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{E}_{ext}(0) + \dots$$

- (b) Show that the torque on the charge distribution is given by

$$\mathbf{N} = \mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{E}_{ext}(0) + \dots$$

- (c) Show that the energy of the charge distribution is given by

$$U = -\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{E}_{ext}$$

Let 0 be the origin. Assume that the charge distribution is small enough such that the variation of \mathbf{E} over the dimension of the charge distribution is slow.

- (a) The x component of the net force on the charge distribution (due to \mathbf{E}_{ext}) is

$$F_x = \int_V \rho(\mathbf{r}) E_{ext,x}(\mathbf{r}) dv$$

Using Taylor expansion

$$\begin{aligned} F_x &= \int_V \rho(\mathbf{r}) [E_{ext,x}(0) + \mathbf{r} \cdot \nabla E_{ext,x}(0) + \dots] dv \\ &= \left[E_{ext,x}(0) \int_V \rho(\mathbf{r}) dv + \nabla E_{ext,x}(0) \cdot \int_V \mathbf{r} \rho(\mathbf{r}) dv + \dots \right] \\ &= 0 + \mathbf{p} \cdot \nabla E_{ext,x}(0) \end{aligned}$$

- (b) The net torque is

$$\mathbf{T} = \int_V \rho(\mathbf{r}) \mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{E}_{ext}(\mathbf{r}) dv$$

Keeping only first term is the Taylor expansion of \mathbf{E} , we get

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{T} &= \int_V \rho(\mathbf{r}) \mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{E}_{ext}(0) dv + \dots \\ &= \left(\int_V \rho(\mathbf{r}) \mathbf{r} dv \right) \times \mathbf{E}_{ext}(0) + \dots \\ &= \mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{E}_{ext}(0) + \dots \end{aligned}$$

(c) Similarly, the potential energy

$$\begin{aligned}U &= \int_V \rho(\mathbf{r})V(\mathbf{r})dv \\ &= \int_V \rho(\mathbf{r}) (V(0) + \mathbf{r} \cdot \nabla V(0) + \dots) dv \\ &= 0 - \mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{E} + \dots\end{aligned}$$

-
3. [G 4.5, G 4.29] In Fig., \mathbf{p}_1 and \mathbf{p}_2 are (perfect) dipoles a distance r apart. What is the torque on p_1 due to p_2 ? What is the torque on p_2 due to p_1 ? For the same configuration, calculate the force on \mathbf{p}_2 due to \mathbf{p}_1 , and the force on \mathbf{p}_1 due to \mathbf{p}_2 . Are the answers consistent with Newton's third law? Also, find the total torque on \mathbf{p}_2 with respect to the center of \mathbf{p}_1 , and compare it with the torque on \mathbf{p}_1 about that same point.

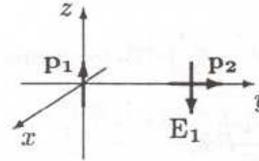
Field of \mathbf{p}_1 at \mathbf{p}_2 ($\theta = \pi/2$ in Eq. 3.103): $\mathbf{E}_1 = \frac{p_1}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^3} \hat{\theta}$ (points down).

Torque on \mathbf{p}_2 : $\mathbf{N}_2 = \mathbf{p}_2 \times \mathbf{E}_1 = p_2 E_1 \sin 90^\circ = p_2 E_1 = \boxed{\frac{p_1 p_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^3}}$ (points into the page).

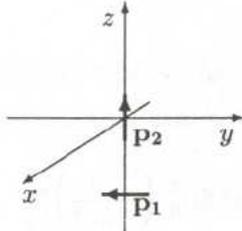
Field of \mathbf{p}_2 at \mathbf{p}_1 ($\theta = \pi$ in Eq. 3.103): $\mathbf{E}_2 = \frac{p_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^3} (-2\hat{\mathbf{r}})$ (points to the right).

Torque on \mathbf{p}_1 : $\mathbf{N}_1 = \mathbf{p}_1 \times \mathbf{E}_2 = \boxed{\frac{2p_1 p_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^3}}$ (points into the page).

(a) Eq. 4.5 $\Rightarrow \mathbf{F}_2 = (\mathbf{p}_2 \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{E}_1 = p_2 \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (\mathbf{E}_1)$;
 Eq. 3.103 $\Rightarrow \mathbf{E}_1 = \frac{p_1}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^3} \hat{\theta} = -\frac{p_1}{4\pi\epsilon_0 y^3} \hat{z}$. Therefore



$$\mathbf{F}_2 = -\frac{p_1 p_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[\frac{d}{dy} \left(\frac{1}{y^3} \right) \right] \hat{z} = \frac{3p_1 p_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 y^4} \hat{z}, \text{ or } \mathbf{F}_2 = \frac{3p_1 p_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^4} \hat{z} \text{ (upward).}$$



To calculate \mathbf{F}_1 , put \mathbf{p}_2 at the origin, pointing in the z direction; then \mathbf{p}_1 is at $-r \hat{z}$, and it points in the $-\hat{y}$ direction. So $\mathbf{F}_1 = (\mathbf{p}_1 \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{E}_2 = -p_1 \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}_2}{\partial y} \Big|_{x=y=0, z=-r}$; we need \mathbf{E}_2 as a function of $x, y,$ and z .

From Eq. 3.104: $\mathbf{E}_2 = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{r^3} \left[\frac{3(\mathbf{p}_2 \cdot \mathbf{r})\mathbf{r}}{r^2} - \mathbf{p} \right]$, where $\mathbf{r} = x \hat{x} + y \hat{y} + z \hat{z}$, $\mathbf{p}_2 = -p_2 \hat{y}$, and hence $\mathbf{p}_2 \cdot \mathbf{r} = -p_2 y$.

$$\mathbf{E}_2 = \frac{p_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[\frac{-3y(x \hat{x} + y \hat{y} + z \hat{z}) + (x^2 + y^2 + z^2) \hat{y}}{(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{5/2}} \right] = \frac{p_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[\frac{-3xy \hat{x} + (x^2 - 2y^2 + z^2) \hat{y} - 3yz \hat{z}}{(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{5/2}} \right]$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{E}_2}{\partial y} = \frac{p_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left\{ -\frac{5}{2} \frac{1}{r^7} 2y [-3xy \hat{x} + (x^2 - 2y^2 + z^2) \hat{y} - 3yz \hat{z}] + \frac{1}{r^5} (-3x \hat{x} - 4y \hat{y} - 3z \hat{z}) \right\};$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{E}_2}{\partial y} \Big|_{(0,0)} = \frac{p_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{-3z}{r^5} \hat{z}; \quad \mathbf{F}_1 = -p_1 \left(\frac{p_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{3r}{r^5} \hat{z} \right) = \boxed{-\frac{3p_1 p_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^4} \hat{z}}.$$

These results are consistent with Newton's third law: $\mathbf{F}_1 = -\mathbf{F}_2$.

(b) $\mathbf{N}_2 = (\mathbf{p}_2 \times \mathbf{E}_1) + (\mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{F}_2)$. The first term was calculated in Prob. 4.5; the second we get from (a), using $\mathbf{r} = r \hat{y}$:

$$\mathbf{p}_2 \times \mathbf{E}_1 = \frac{p_1 p_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^3} (-\hat{x}); \quad \mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{F}_2 = (r \hat{y}) \times \left(\frac{3p_1 p_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^4} \hat{z} \right) = \frac{3p_1 p_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^3} \hat{x}; \text{ so } \mathbf{N}_2 = \boxed{\frac{2p_1 p_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^3} \hat{x}}.$$

This is equal and opposite to the torque on \mathbf{p}_1 due to \mathbf{p}_2 , with respect to the center of \mathbf{p}_1 (see Prob. 4.5).

4. [G 4.13] A very long cylinder, of radius a , carries a uniform polarization \mathbf{P} perpendicular to its axis. Find the electric field inside the cylinder. Show that the field outside the cylinder can be expressed in the form

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{a^2}{2\epsilon_0 s^2} [2(\mathbf{P} \cdot \hat{s})\hat{s} - \mathbf{P}].$$

Think of it as two cylinders of opposite uniform charge density $\pm\rho$. Inside, the field at a distance s from the axis of a uniformly charge cylinder is given by Gauss's law: $E 2\pi s \ell = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \rho \pi s^2 \ell \Rightarrow \mathbf{E} = (\rho/2\epsilon_0)\mathbf{s}$. For two such cylinders, one plus and one minus, the net field (inside) is $\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{E}_+ + \mathbf{E}_- = (\rho/2\epsilon_0)(\mathbf{s}_+ - \mathbf{s}_-)$. But $\mathbf{s}_+ - \mathbf{s}_- = -\mathbf{d}$, so $\mathbf{E} = \boxed{-\rho\mathbf{d}/(2\epsilon_0)}$, where \mathbf{d} is the vector from the negative axis to positive axis. In this case the total dipole moment of a chunk of length ℓ is $\mathbf{P} (\pi a^2 \ell) = (\rho \pi a^2 \ell) \mathbf{d}$. So $\rho \mathbf{d} = \mathbf{P}$, and $\mathbf{E} = \boxed{-\mathbf{P}/(2\epsilon_0)}$, for $s < a$.

Outside, Gauss's law gives $E2\pi s\ell = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0}\rho\pi a^2\ell \Rightarrow \mathbf{E} = \frac{\rho a^2}{2\epsilon_0} \frac{\hat{\mathbf{s}}}{s}$, for one cylinder. For the combination, $\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{E}_+ + \mathbf{E}_- = \frac{\rho a^2}{2\epsilon_0} \left(\frac{\hat{\mathbf{s}}_+}{s_+} - \frac{\hat{\mathbf{s}}_-}{s_-} \right)$, where

$$s_{\pm} = s \mp \frac{d}{2};$$

$$\frac{s_{\pm}}{s_{\pm}^2} = \left(s \mp \frac{d}{2} \right) \left(s^2 + \frac{d^2}{4} \mp s \cdot \mathbf{d} \right)^{-1} \cong \frac{1}{s^2} \left(s \mp \frac{d}{2} \right) \left(1 \mp \frac{s \cdot \mathbf{d}}{s^2} \right)^{-1} \cong \frac{1}{s^2} \left(s \mp \frac{d}{2} \right) \left(1 \pm \frac{s \cdot \mathbf{d}}{s^2} \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{s^2} \left(s \pm s \frac{(s \cdot \mathbf{d})}{s^2} \mp \frac{d}{2} \right) \quad (\text{keeping only 1st order terms in } \mathbf{d}).$$

$$\left(\frac{\hat{\mathbf{s}}_+}{s_+} - \frac{\hat{\mathbf{s}}_-}{s_-} \right) = \frac{1}{s^2} \left[\left(s + s \frac{(s \cdot \mathbf{d})}{s^2} - \frac{d}{2} \right) - \left(s - s \frac{(s \cdot \mathbf{d})}{s^2} + \frac{d}{2} \right) \right] = \frac{1}{s^2} \left(2 \frac{s(s \cdot \mathbf{d})}{s^2} - \mathbf{d} \right).$$

$$\boxed{\mathbf{E}(s) = \frac{a^2}{2\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{s^2} [2(\mathbf{P} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{s}}) \hat{\mathbf{s}} - \mathbf{P}]}, \quad \text{for } s > a.$$

5. [G 4.15] A thick spherical shell (inner radius a , outer radius b) is made of dielectric material with a “frozen-in” polarization

$$\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{k}{r} \hat{\mathbf{r}},$$

where k is a constant and r is the distance from the center (Fig.). (There is no free charge in the problem.) Find the electric field in all three regions by two different methods:

- (a) Locate all the bound charge, and use Gauss's law to calculate the field it produces.
 (b) Use $\oint \mathbf{D} \cdot d\mathbf{a} = Q_{f_{enc}}$, to find \mathbf{D} , and then get \mathbf{E} from $\mathbf{D} \equiv \epsilon_0 \mathbf{E} + \mathbf{P}$.

$$(a) \rho_b = -\nabla \cdot \mathbf{P} = -\frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{k}{r} \right) = -\frac{k}{r^2}; \quad \sigma_b = \mathbf{P} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}} = \begin{cases} +\mathbf{P} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{r}} = k/b & (\text{at } r = b), \\ -\mathbf{P} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{r}} = -k/a & (\text{at } r = a). \end{cases}$$

Gauss's law $\Rightarrow \mathbf{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Q_{enc}}{r^2} \hat{\mathbf{r}}$. For $r < a$, $Q_{enc} = 0$, so $\boxed{\mathbf{E} = 0}$. For $r > b$, $Q_{enc} = 0$ (Prob. 4.14), so $\boxed{\mathbf{E} = 0}$.

For $a < r < b$, $Q_{enc} = \left(\frac{-k}{a} \right) (4\pi a^2) + \int_a^r \left(\frac{-k}{\bar{r}^2} \right) 4\pi \bar{r}^2 d\bar{r} = -4\pi k a - 4\pi k (r - a) = -4\pi k r$; so $\boxed{\mathbf{E} = -(k/\epsilon_0 r) \hat{\mathbf{r}}}$.

(b) $\oint \mathbf{D} \cdot d\mathbf{a} = Q_{f_{enc}} = 0 \Rightarrow \mathbf{D} = 0$ everywhere. $\mathbf{D} = \epsilon_0 \mathbf{E} + \mathbf{P} = 0 \Rightarrow \mathbf{E} = (-1/\epsilon_0) \mathbf{P}$, so

$$\boxed{\mathbf{E} = 0 \text{ (for } r < a \text{ and } r > b);} \quad \boxed{\mathbf{E} = -(k/\epsilon_0 r) \hat{\mathbf{r}} \text{ (for } a < r < b).$$

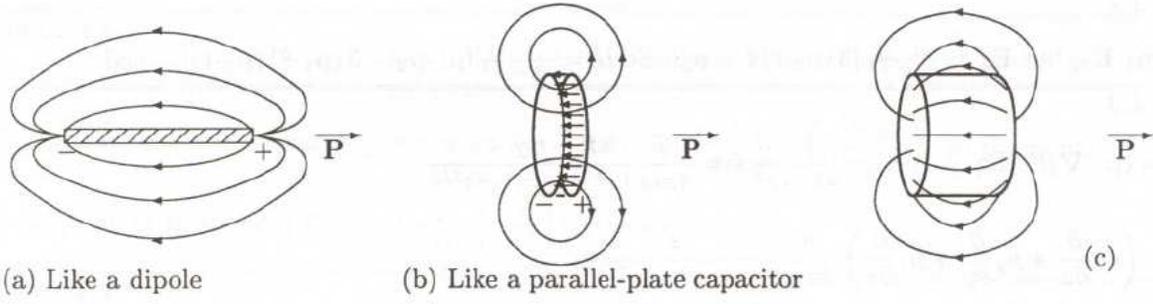
6. [G 4.11] A short cylinder, of radius a and length L , carries a “frozen-in” uniform polarization \mathbf{P} , parallel to its axis. Find the bound charge, and sketch the electric field (i) for $L \gg a$, (ii) $L \ll a$ and (iii) $L \approx a$.

$\rho_b = 0$; $\sigma_b = \mathbf{P} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}} = \pm P$ (plus sign at one end—the one \mathbf{P} points *toward*; minus sign at the other—the one \mathbf{P} points *away* from).

(i) $L \gg a$. Then the ends look like point charges, and the whole thing is like a physical dipole, of length L and charge $P\pi a^2$. See Fig. (a).

(ii) $L \ll a$. Then it's like a circular parallel-plate capacitor. Field is nearly uniform inside; nonuniform "fringing field" at the edges. See Fig. (b).

(iii) $L \approx a$. See Fig. (c).



7. [G 4.31] A dielectric cube of side a , centered at the origin, carries a "frozen-in" polarization $\mathbf{P} = k\mathbf{r}$, where k is a constant. Find all the bound charges, and check that they add up to zero.

$$\mathbf{P} = k\mathbf{r} = k(x\hat{x} + y\hat{y} + z\hat{z}) \implies \rho_b = -\nabla \cdot \mathbf{P} = -k(1 + 1 + 1) = \boxed{-3k.}$$

Total volume bound charge: $\boxed{Q_{\text{vol}} = -3ka^3.}$

$\sigma_b = \mathbf{P} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}$. At top surface, $\hat{\mathbf{n}} = \hat{z}$, $z = a/2$; so $\sigma_b = ka/2$. Clearly, $\boxed{\sigma_b = ka/2}$ on all six surfaces.

Total surface bound charge: $\boxed{Q_{\text{surf}} = 6(ka/2)a^2 = 3ka^3.}$ Total bound charge is zero.

8. [G 4.19] Suppose you have enough linear dielectric material, of dielectric constant ϵ_r , to half-fill a parallel-plate capacitor (Fig.). By what fraction is the capacitance increased when you distribute the material as in (a) of given Fig.? How about (b) of the same? For a given potential difference V between the plates, find \mathbf{E} , \mathbf{D} , and \mathbf{P} , in each region, and the free and bound charge on all surfaces, for both cases.

With no dielectric, $C_0 = A\epsilon_0/d$

In configuration (a), with $+\sigma$ on upper plate, $-\sigma$ on lower, $D = \sigma$ between the plates. $E = \sigma/\epsilon_0$ (in air) and $E = \sigma/\epsilon$ (in dielectric). So $V = \frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0} \frac{d}{2} + \frac{\sigma}{\epsilon} \frac{d}{2} = \frac{Qd}{2\epsilon_0 A} \left(1 + \frac{\epsilon_0}{\epsilon}\right)$.

$$C_a = \frac{Q}{V} = \frac{\epsilon_0 A}{d} \left(\frac{2}{1 + \epsilon_0/\epsilon} \right) \Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{C_a}{C_0} = \frac{2\epsilon_r}{1 + \epsilon_r}}$$

In configuration (b), with potential difference V : $E = V/d$, so $\sigma = \epsilon_0 E = \epsilon_0 V/d$ (in air).

$P = \epsilon_0 \chi_e E = \epsilon_0 \chi_e V/d$ (in dielectric), so $\sigma_b = -\epsilon_0 \chi_e V/d$ (at top surface of dielectric).

$\sigma_{\text{tot}} = \epsilon_0 V/d = \sigma_f + \sigma_b = \sigma_f - \epsilon_0 \chi_e V/d$, so $\sigma_f = \epsilon_0 V(1 + \chi_e)/d = \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r V/d$ (on top plate above dielectric).

$$\Rightarrow C_b = \frac{Q}{V} = \frac{1}{V} \left(\sigma \frac{A}{2} + \sigma_f \frac{A}{2} \right) = \frac{A}{2V} \left(\epsilon_0 \frac{V}{d} + \epsilon_0 \frac{V}{d} \epsilon_r \right) = \frac{A\epsilon_0}{d} \left(\frac{1 + \epsilon_r}{2} \right). \quad \boxed{\frac{C_b}{C_0} = \frac{1 + \epsilon_r}{2}}$$

[Which is greater? $\frac{C_b}{C_0} - \frac{C_a}{C_0} = \frac{1 + \epsilon_r}{2} - \frac{2\epsilon_r}{1 + \epsilon_r} = \frac{(1 + \epsilon_r)^2 - 4\epsilon_r}{2(1 + \epsilon_r)} = \frac{1 + 2\epsilon_r + 4\epsilon_r^2 - 4\epsilon_r}{2(1 + \epsilon_r)} = \frac{(1 - \epsilon_r)^2}{2(1 + \epsilon_r)} > 0$. So $C_b > C_a$.]

If the x axis points down:

	E	D	P	σ_b (top surface)	σ_f (top plate)
(a) air	$\frac{2\epsilon_r}{(\epsilon_r + 1)} \frac{V}{d} \hat{x}$	$\frac{2\epsilon_r}{(\epsilon_r + 1)} \frac{\epsilon_0 V}{d} \hat{x}$	0	0	$\frac{2\epsilon_r}{(\epsilon_r + 1)} \frac{V}{d}$
(a) dielectric	$\frac{2}{(\epsilon_r + 1)} \frac{V}{d} \hat{x}$	$\frac{2\epsilon_r}{(\epsilon_r + 1)} \frac{\epsilon_0 V}{d} \hat{x}$	$\frac{2(\epsilon_r - 1)}{(\epsilon_r + 1)} \frac{\epsilon_0 V}{d} \hat{x}$	$-\frac{2(\epsilon_r - 1)}{(\epsilon_r + 1)} \frac{\epsilon_0 V}{d}$	—
(b) air	$\frac{V}{d} \hat{x}$	$\frac{\epsilon_0 V}{d} \hat{x}$	0	0	$\frac{\epsilon_0 V}{d}$ (left)
(b) dielectric	$\frac{V}{d} \hat{x}$	$\epsilon_r \frac{\epsilon_0 V}{d} \hat{x}$	$(\epsilon_r - 1) \frac{\epsilon_0 V}{d} \hat{x}$	$-(\epsilon_r - 1) \frac{\epsilon_0 V}{d}$	$\epsilon_r \frac{\epsilon_0 V}{d}$ (right)

9. [G 4.32] A point charge q is imbedded at the center of a sphere of linear dielectric material (with susceptibility χ_e and radius \mathbf{R}). Find the electric field, the polarization, and the bound charge densities, ρ_b and σ_b . What is the total bound charge on the surface? Where is the compensating negative bound charge located?

$$\oint \mathbf{D} \cdot d\mathbf{a} = Q_{f, \text{enc}} \Rightarrow \mathbf{D} = \frac{q}{4\pi r^2} \hat{r}; \quad \mathbf{E} = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \mathbf{D} = \frac{q}{4\pi \epsilon_0 (1 + \chi_e) r^2} \hat{r}; \quad \mathbf{P} = \epsilon_0 \chi_e \mathbf{E} = \frac{q \chi_e}{4\pi (1 + \chi_e) r^2} \hat{r}$$

$$\rho_b = -\nabla \cdot \mathbf{P} = -\frac{q \chi_e}{4\pi (1 + \chi_e)} \left(\nabla \cdot \frac{\hat{r}}{r^2} \right) = \boxed{-q \frac{\chi_e}{1 + \chi_e} \delta^3(\mathbf{r})} \quad (\text{Eq. 1.99}); \quad \sigma_b = \mathbf{P} \cdot \hat{r} = \boxed{\frac{q \chi_e}{4\pi (1 + \chi_e) R^2}}$$

$$Q_{\text{surf}} = \sigma_b (4\pi R^2) = \boxed{q \frac{\chi_e}{1 + \chi_e}} \quad \text{The compensating negative charge is at the center:}$$

$$\int \rho_b d\tau = -\frac{q \chi_e}{1 + \chi_e} \int \delta^3(\mathbf{r}) d\tau = -q \frac{\chi_e}{1 + \chi_e}$$

10. [G 4.36] A conducting sphere at potential V_0 is half embedded in linear dielectric material of susceptibility χ_e , which occupies the region $z < 0$ shown in the first Fig. Claim: the potential everywhere is exactly the same as it would have been in the absence of the dielectric! Check the claim as follows:

- (a) Write down the formula for the proposed potential $V(r)$, in terms of V_0 , \mathbf{R} , and r . Use it to determine the field, the polarization, the bound charge, and the free charge distribution on the sphere.

- (b) Show that the total charge configuration would indeed produce the potential $V(r)$.
 (c) Appeal to the uniqueness theorem to complete the argument.
 (d) Could you solve the configurations in the second Fig. with the same potential? If not, explain why.

(a) Proposed potential: $V(r) = V_0 \frac{R}{r}$. If so, then $\mathbf{E} = -\nabla V = V_0 \frac{R}{r^2} \hat{\mathbf{r}}$, in which case $\mathbf{P} = \epsilon_0 \chi_e V_0 \frac{R}{r^2} \hat{\mathbf{r}}$,

in the region $z < 0$. ($\mathbf{P} = 0$ for $z > 0$, of course.) Then $\sigma_b = \epsilon_0 \chi_e V_0 \frac{R}{R^2} (\hat{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}) = -\frac{\epsilon_0 \chi_e V_0}{R}$. (Note: $\hat{\mathbf{n}}$ points out of dielectric $\Rightarrow \hat{\mathbf{n}} = -\hat{\mathbf{r}}$.) This σ_b is on the surface at $r = R$. The flat surface $z = 0$ carries no bound charge, since $\hat{\mathbf{n}} = \hat{\mathbf{z}} \perp \hat{\mathbf{r}}$. Nor is there any volume bound charge (Eq. 4.39). If V is to have the required spherical symmetry, the *net* charge must be uniform:

$\sigma_{\text{tot}} 4\pi R^2 = Q_{\text{tot}} = 4\pi \epsilon_0 R V_0$ (since $V_0 = Q_{\text{tot}}/4\pi \epsilon_0 R$), so $\sigma_{\text{tot}} = \epsilon_0 V_0/R$. Therefore

$$\sigma_f = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} (\epsilon_0 V_0/R), \text{ on northern hemisphere} \\ (\epsilon_0 V_0/R)(1 + \chi_e), \text{ on southern hemisphere} \end{array} \right\}.$$

(b) By construction, $\sigma_{\text{tot}} = \sigma_b + \sigma_f = \epsilon_0 V_0/R$ is uniform (on the northern hemisphere $\sigma_b = 0$, $\sigma_f = \epsilon_0 V_0/R$; on the southern hemisphere $\sigma_b = -\epsilon_0 \chi_e V_0/R$, so $\sigma_f = \epsilon V_0/R$). The potential of a uniformly charged sphere is

$$V_0 = \frac{Q_{\text{tot}}}{4\pi \epsilon_0 r} = \frac{\sigma_{\text{tot}}(4\pi R^2)}{4\pi \epsilon_0 r} = \frac{\epsilon_0 V_0}{R} \frac{R^2}{\epsilon_0 r} = V_0 \frac{R}{r}.$$

(c) Since everything is consistent, and the boundary conditions ($V = V_0$ at $r = R$, $V \rightarrow 0$ at ∞) are met, Prob. 4.35 guarantees that this is *the* solution.

(d) Figure (b) works the same way, but Fig. (a) does *not*: on the flat surface, \mathbf{P} is *not* perpendicular to $\hat{\mathbf{n}}$, so we'd get bound charge on this surface, spoiling the symmetry.