

# Dipole in dielectric & External field & Free charge $\sigma = \sigma_0 \cos \theta$

Friday, December 07, 2012  
9:17 AM

Note: this practice problem combines FOUR different possible source terms into a single calculation: a) internal dipole b) external [dipole] field, c) dipole free charge distribution, and d) bound charge from a dielectric [a passive "source"]. You can reproduce simpler solutions by setting one or more constants equal to zero.

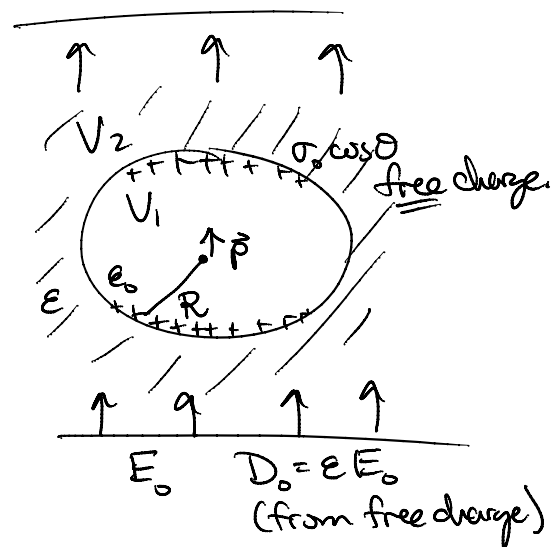
$$V = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (a_l r^l + b_l r^{-l-1}) P_l(\cos \theta)$$

$$V_p = \frac{\vec{p} \cdot \vec{r}}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^3} = \frac{p}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{r^2 \cos \theta}{r^{1+1} P_1} \quad l=1$$

$$V_E = -\int E_0 dz = -E_0 z = -\frac{E_0 r^1 \cos \theta}{a_1 r^1 P_1} \quad l=1$$

$$V_1 = \frac{p}{4\pi\epsilon_0} r^2 P_1 + \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} a_l r^l P_l$$

$$V_2 = -E_0 r P_1 + \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} b_l r^{-l-1} P_l$$



\* Apply boundary conditions:

$$\Delta V|_b = 0: \left( -E_0 R P_1 + \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} b_l R^{-l-1} P_l \right) - \left( \frac{p}{4\pi\epsilon_0} R^{-2} P_1 + \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} a_l R^l P_l \right) = 0$$

$$-\Delta \epsilon \frac{\partial V}{\partial n} \Big|_b = 0: -\epsilon_r \left( -E_0 P_1 + \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} (-l+1) b_l R^{-l-2} P_l \right) + \left( \frac{p}{4\pi\epsilon_0} (-2) R^{-3} P_1 + \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} l a_l R^{l-1} P_l \right) = \sigma_0 / \epsilon_0 P_1$$

\* Separate out components:

$$\text{if } l \neq 1: b_l R^l - a_l R^{-l-1} = 0$$

$$-\epsilon_r (-l+1) b_l R^{l-2} + l a_l R^{l-1} = 0 \Rightarrow a_l = b_l = 0 \quad (\text{no "source" term})$$

$$l=1: -E_0 R + b_1 R^{-2} - \frac{p}{4\pi\epsilon_0} R^{-2} - a_1 R = 0 \quad (\text{divide by } R)$$

$$\epsilon_r E_0 + 2\epsilon_r b_1 R^{-3} - 2 \frac{p}{4\pi\epsilon_0} R^{-3} + a_1 = \sigma_0 / \epsilon_0$$

$$b' - a_1 = E_0 + p' \quad (1)$$

$$2\epsilon_r b' + a_1 = -\epsilon_r E_0 + 2p' + \sigma' \quad (2)$$

source terms  
on right

$$(2) - 2\epsilon_r(1): (1+2\epsilon_r) a_1 = (-\epsilon_r - 2\epsilon_r) E_0 + (2 - 2\epsilon_r) p' + \sigma'$$

$$(2) + (1): (1+2\epsilon_r) b' = (-\epsilon_r + 1) E_0 + (2+1) p' + \sigma'$$

$$a_1 = \left( \frac{-3\epsilon_r}{1+2\epsilon_r} E_0 + \frac{2-2\epsilon_r}{1+2\epsilon_r} \frac{p}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R^3} + \frac{\sigma_0/\epsilon_0}{1+2\epsilon_r} \right)$$

$$b'_1 = \frac{b_1}{R^3} = \left( \frac{1-\epsilon_r}{1+2\epsilon_r} E_0 + \frac{3}{1+2\epsilon_r} \frac{p}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R^3} + \frac{\sigma_0/\epsilon_0}{1+2\epsilon_r} \right)$$

$$V_1(r, \theta) = \frac{p \cos \theta}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2} + \left( -3\epsilon_r E_0 + (2-2\epsilon_r) \frac{p}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R^3} + \sigma_0/\epsilon_0 \right) \frac{r \cos \theta}{1+2\epsilon_r}$$

$$V_2(r, \theta) = -E_0 r \cos \theta + \left( (1-\epsilon_r) E_0 + 3 \frac{p}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R^3} + \sigma_0/\epsilon_0 \right) \frac{\cos \theta R^3}{(1+2\epsilon_r) r^2}$$

$$V(r, \theta) = -E_0 r \cos \theta + \frac{p \cos \theta}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2} + \frac{(1-\epsilon_r) E_0 + (2-2\epsilon_r) \frac{p}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R^3} + \sigma_0/\epsilon_0}{1+2\epsilon_r} \begin{cases} r \cos \theta & r < R \\ \frac{R^3 \cos \theta}{r^2} & r > R \end{cases}$$

\* check: i)  $V_1 = \frac{R \cos \theta}{1+2\epsilon_r} \left( \frac{p/\epsilon_0}{4\pi R^3} - 3\epsilon_r E_0 + \sigma_0/\epsilon_0 \right) = V_2$  at  $r=R$  ✓

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ii) } -\epsilon_r \frac{\partial V_1}{\partial r} \Big|_R + \frac{\partial V_2}{\partial r} \Big|_R &= \left( \epsilon_r E_0 + \frac{2\epsilon_r}{1+2\epsilon_r} \left[ (1-\epsilon_r) E_0 + 3 \frac{p}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R^3} + \sigma_0/\epsilon_0 \right] \right. \\ &\quad \left. - 2 \frac{p}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R^3} + \frac{1}{1+2\epsilon_r} \left[ -3\epsilon_r E_0 + (2-2\epsilon_r) \frac{p}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R^3} + \sigma_0/\epsilon_0 \right] \right) \cdot \cos \theta \\ &= \left( \epsilon_r E_0 - 2 \frac{p}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R^3} + \frac{1}{1+2\epsilon_r} \left[ -\epsilon_r (1+2\epsilon_r) E_0 + 2(1+2\epsilon_r) p + (1+2\epsilon_r) \sigma_0/\epsilon_0 \right] \right) \cos \theta \\ &= \sigma_0/\epsilon_0 \cos \theta \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

\* limit:  $\epsilon_r \rightarrow 1$   $V = -E_0 r \cos \theta + \frac{p \cos \theta}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2} + \frac{\sigma_0 \cos \theta}{3\epsilon_0} \begin{cases} r & r < R \\ R^3/r^2 & r > R \end{cases}$