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- Consider a homogeneous linear dielectric sphere with a dielectric constant of 10 placed in an otherwise uniform electric field  $\mathbf{E}_0$ . The total polarization inside the sphere is said to be  $\mathbf{P} = P_0 \hat{\mathbf{z}}$ .  
 [Examples 4.2, 4.3, and 4.7]
  - Find the self-field  $\mathbf{E}_{in}$  inside the sphere caused by the polarization. (20%)
  - The total electric field within the sphere is  $\mathbf{E} = \alpha \mathbf{E}_0$ , find  $\alpha$ . (15%)
  - Determine electric potential  $V$  outside the sphere in terms of  $P_0$ . (15%)

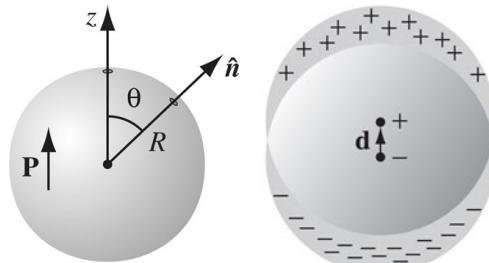
Ans:

Method 1:

Setting  $V_{origin} = 0$

For  $r \rightarrow \infty$ :  $V(r) = -E_0 r \cos \theta$

$$V(r, \theta) = \begin{cases} \sum A_l r^l P_l(\cos \theta) & (r \leq R) \\ -E_0 r \cos \theta + \sum \frac{B_l}{r^{l+1}} P_l(\cos \theta) & (r \geq R) \end{cases}$$



$$\text{B.C.} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} 1: V_{r \leq R}|_{r=R} = V_{r \geq R}|_{r=R} \\ 2: \varepsilon_0 \frac{\partial V_{r \geq R}}{\partial r}|_{r=R} - \varepsilon_0 \varepsilon_r \frac{\partial V_{r \leq R}}{\partial r}|_{r=R} = \sigma_f = 0 \\ 3: \frac{\partial V_{r \geq R}}{\partial r}|_{r=R} - \frac{\partial V_{r \leq R}}{\partial r}|_{r=R} = -\frac{\sigma_b}{\varepsilon_0} = -\frac{P_0}{\varepsilon_0} \cos \theta \end{array} \right. \Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} 1: \begin{cases} A_0 = \frac{B_0}{R} & l=0 \\ A_l R \cos \theta = -E_0 R \cos \theta + \frac{B_l}{R^2} \cos \theta & l=1 \\ A_l R^l P_l(\cos \theta) = \frac{B_l}{R^{l+1}} P_l(\cos \theta) & l>1 \end{cases} & l=0 \\ 2: \begin{cases} 0 = \varepsilon_0 \frac{-B_0}{R^2} & l=0 \\ \varepsilon_0 \varepsilon_r A_l \cos \theta = -\varepsilon_0 E_0 \cos \theta + \varepsilon_0 (-2) \frac{B_1}{R^3} \cos \theta & l=1 \\ \varepsilon_0 \varepsilon_r l A_l R^{l-1} P_l(\cos \theta) = \varepsilon_0 (-l-1) \frac{B_l}{R^{l+2}} P_l(\cos \theta) & l>1 \end{cases} & l=1 \\ 3: A_l \cos \theta - (-1) E_0 \cos \theta - (-2) \frac{B_1}{R^3} \cos \theta = -\frac{P_0}{\varepsilon_0} \cos \theta & l=1 \end{array} \right.$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} A_0 = B_0 = A_{l>1} = B_{l>1} = 0 \\ A_1 = -\frac{3\varepsilon_0}{\varepsilon_0 \varepsilon_r + 2\varepsilon_0} E_0 = -\frac{3}{\varepsilon_r + 2} E_0 = -\frac{1}{4} \\ B_1 = \frac{\varepsilon_r - 1}{\varepsilon_r + 2} E_0 R^3 = \frac{3}{4} E_0 R^3 \\ E_0 = \frac{4}{9} \frac{P_0}{\varepsilon_0} \end{cases} \Rightarrow V(r, \theta) = \begin{cases} -\frac{1}{4} E_0 r \cos \theta & (r \leq R) \\ -E_0 r \cos \theta + \frac{3}{4} E_0 \frac{R^3}{r^2} \cos \theta & (r \geq R) \end{cases} \dots \text{The final, the total potential.}$$

$$(r \leq R): V(r, \theta) = -\frac{1}{4} E_0 r \cos \theta \Rightarrow \mathbf{E}_{r \leq R}^{tot} = \mathbf{E}_0 + \mathbf{E}_{in} \Rightarrow \mathbf{E}_{in} = -\frac{3}{4} \mathbf{E}_0 = \boxed{-\frac{\mathbf{P}}{3\varepsilon_0}} \dots \text{(a)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} E_0 \hat{\mathbf{z}} \Rightarrow \boxed{\alpha = \frac{1}{4}} \dots \text{(b)}$$

$$(r \geq R): V(r, \theta) = -E_0 r \cos \theta + \frac{3}{4} E_0 \frac{R^3}{r^2} \cos \theta = -E_0 r \cos \theta + \frac{P_0}{3\varepsilon_0} \frac{R^3}{r^2} \cos \theta = -\frac{4}{9} \frac{P_0}{\varepsilon_0} r \cos \theta + \frac{P_0}{3\varepsilon_0} \frac{R^3}{r^2} \cos \theta \dots \text{(c)}$$

## Method 2

$$\mathbf{E}_{in} = \mathbf{E}_+ + \mathbf{E}_- = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Q_+}{r_+^2} \hat{\mathbf{r}}_+ + \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Q_-}{r_-^2} \hat{\mathbf{r}}_- = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{\frac{4\pi r_+^3}{3} \rho_+}{r_+^2} \hat{\mathbf{r}}_+ + \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{\frac{4\pi r_-^3}{3} \rho_-}{r_-^2} \hat{\mathbf{r}}_-$$

Take  $r_+ \approx r_-$ ,  $\mathbf{r}_+ - \mathbf{r}_- = -\mathbf{d}$

$$\mathbf{E}_{in} = \mathbf{E}_+ + \mathbf{E}_- = \frac{\rho}{3\epsilon_0} (\mathbf{r}_+ - \mathbf{r}_-) = -\frac{\rho}{3\epsilon_0} \mathbf{d} = \boxed{-\frac{\mathbf{P}}{3\epsilon_0}} \dots\dots (a)$$

$$\mathbf{E}_{r \leq R}^{tot} = \mathbf{E}_0 + \mathbf{E}_{in} = \mathbf{E}_0 - \frac{\mathbf{P}}{3\epsilon_0} = \mathbf{E}_0 - \frac{\epsilon_0 \chi_e \mathbf{E}_{r \leq R}^{tot}}{3\epsilon_0} \Rightarrow \mathbf{E}_{r \leq R}^{tot} = \frac{1}{1 + \chi_e/3} \mathbf{E}_0 = \frac{1}{4} \mathbf{E}_0 \Rightarrow \boxed{\alpha = \frac{1}{4}} \dots\dots (b)$$

$$V_{r \geq R} = -E_0 r \cos \theta + \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{\mathbf{P} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{r}}}{r^2} = -E_0 r \cos \theta + \frac{R^3 \mathbf{P} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{r}}}{3\epsilon_0 r^2} = \boxed{-E_0 r \cos \theta + \frac{P_0 R^3 \cos \theta}{3\epsilon_0 r^2}} \dots\dots (c)$$

### Partial Image Charge (Example 4.8)

Suppose the entire region below the plane  $z = 0$  is filled with uniform linear dielectric material of susceptibility  $\chi_e$ . Consider a point charge  $q$  situated at distance  $d$  above the origin.

(a) Write down the electric potential  $V$  above the plane ( $z > 0$ ) and below the plane ( $z < 0$ ) using the image charge  $q_b$ . (20%)

(b) Find  $q_b$  using the boundary condition  $D_{above}^\perp - D_{below}^\perp = 0$ . (15%)

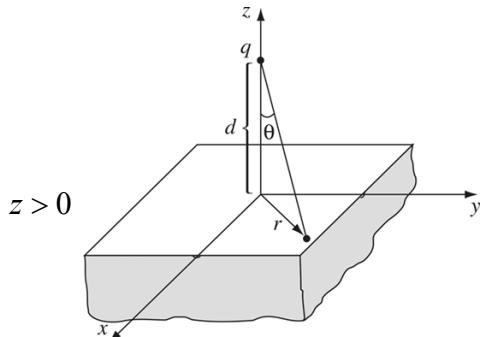
(c) Calculate the force on the point charge  $q$ . (15%)

Ans:

(a)

$$V = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{q}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + (z-d)^2}} + \frac{q_b}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + (z+d)^2}} \right]$$

$$V = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{(q+q_b)}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + (z-d)^2}} \right] \quad z < 0$$



(b)

$$D_{above}^\perp - D_{below}^\perp = 0 \Rightarrow \epsilon_0 E_{above}^\perp = \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r E_{below}^\perp = (1 + \chi_e) \epsilon_0 E_{below}^\perp \text{ when } z = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow -\epsilon_0 \frac{\partial V_{above}}{\partial z} \Big|_{z=0^+} = -(1 + \chi_e) \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial V_{below}}{\partial z} \Big|_{z=0^-}$$

$$\frac{(q - q_b)d}{(x^2 + y^2 + d^2)^{3/2}} = \frac{(1 + \chi_e)(q + q_b)d}{(x^2 + y^2 + d^2)^{3/2}} \Rightarrow q_b = \frac{-\chi_e}{\chi_e + 2} q$$

(c) The surface bound charge on the xy plane is of opposite sign to  $q$ , so the force will be attractive.

$$\mathbf{F} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{qq_b}{(2d)^2} \hat{\mathbf{z}} = -\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left( \frac{\chi_e}{\chi_e + 2} \right) \frac{q^2}{4d^2} \hat{\mathbf{z}}. \quad (4.54)$$