


Charge distribution in insulators vs conductors

Uniformly charged sphere



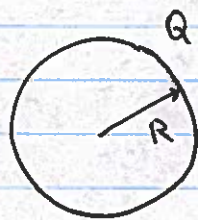
$\rho = \frac{Q}{\frac{4\pi}{3}R^3}$

$E_r = -\frac{dV}{dr}$

$\vec{E} = \begin{cases} \frac{kQ}{r^2} \hat{r} & r > R \\ \frac{kQ}{R^3} \vec{r} & r < R \end{cases}$

$V(r) = \begin{cases} \frac{kQ}{r} & r > R \\ -\frac{kQ}{2R^3}r^2 + \frac{3kQ}{2R} & r < R \end{cases}$

Thin shell



$E_r = -\frac{dV}{dr}$

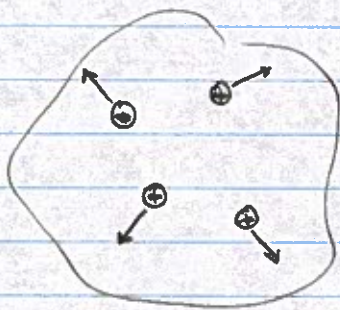
$\vec{E} = \begin{cases} \frac{kQ}{r^2} \hat{r} & r > R \\ 0 & r < R \end{cases}$

$V(r) = \begin{cases} \frac{kQ}{r} & r > R \\ \frac{kQ}{R} & r < R \end{cases}$

constant

Conducting sphere — charges are free to move.

Bulk: all elementary charges (electrons) will push away from each other until the electric field inside is zero (otherwise there still be a force pushing charges around).



All charges will end up on a surface as far away

from such that there is no force pushing them along the surface.

$V|_{\text{surface}} = \text{const}$

\vec{E} is always perpendicular to the surface

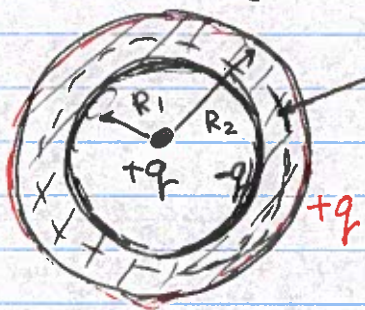
Important takeaways: in static (no moving charges) electric field inside a conductor is zero. Any added charges or intrinsic charges will arrange themselves to make it happen.

Solid conducting sphere \rightarrow no charges inside, uniformly $\&$ surface charge



Same \vec{E} and V as a hollow shell.

A charge inside a conducting shell



$E=0$

so total charge inside the dashed sphere must be zero!

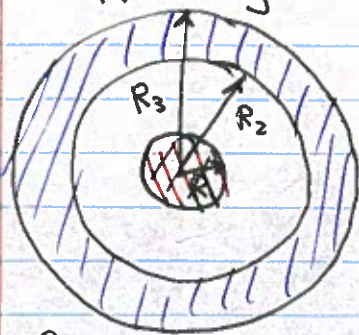
So even though the total charge of the shell is zero, there will be negative charge

on the inner surface, and positive charge on the outer surface

lets see what Electric field looks like concentric shells

$$E(r) = \begin{cases} \frac{kq}{r} & r < R_1 & q_{enc} = +q \\ 0 & R_1 < r < R_2 & q_{enc} = +q - q = 0 \\ \frac{kq}{r} & r > R_2 & q_{enc} = +q - q + q = +q \end{cases}$$

Oppositely charged nested shells



+Q on an inner ~~sphere~~ sphere
 -Q on the outer shell

Insulator

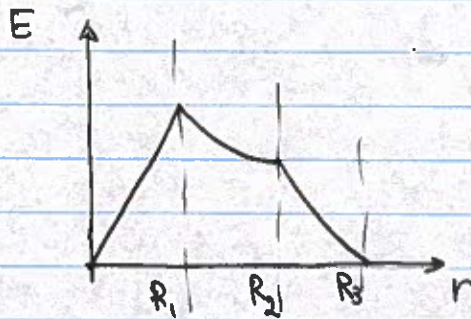
$\rho(r) =$

$$\rho(r) = \begin{cases} \frac{Q}{\frac{4\pi}{3} R_1^3} & r < R_1 \\ \frac{-Q}{\frac{4\pi}{3} (R_3^3 - R_2^3)} & R_2 < r < R_3 \\ 0 & \text{elsewhere} \end{cases}$$

Gaussian surface - sphere

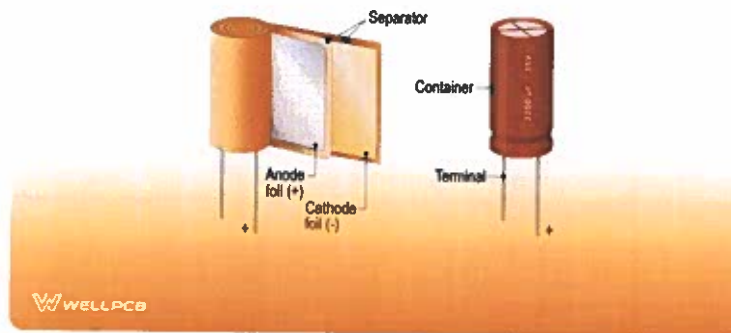
$$\Phi = E \cdot 4\pi r^2$$

$$E_r = \begin{cases} \frac{kQ}{R_1^3} r & r < R_1 \\ \frac{kQ}{r} & R_1 < r < R_2 \\ \frac{1}{r^2} \left[kQ - kQ \frac{(r^3 - R_2^3)}{R_3^3 - R_2^3} \right] & R_2 < r < R_3 \\ 0 & r > R_3 \end{cases}$$

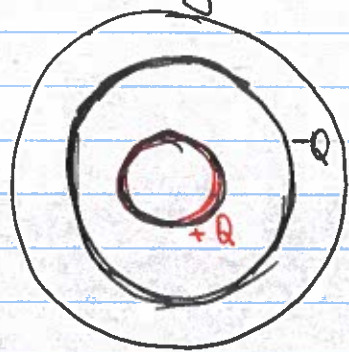


- Spanish: "condensador" (most common translation, though "capacitor" is also understood)
- French: "condensateur"
- German: "Kondensator"
- Italian: "condensatore"
- Portuguese: "condensador"
- Chinese (traditional): "電容器" (literally translates to "electric container")

CAPACITOR



Conducting shells



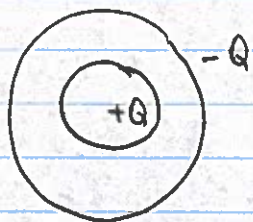
+Q - outside of the inner sphere

-Q - inside of the shell

$$E = \begin{cases} \frac{kQ}{r} & R_1 < r < R_2 \\ 0 & \text{elsewhere} \end{cases}$$

electric field is so concentrated
b/w two surfaces.

This is one possible version of a capacitor
(can simplify to two thin shells)



Potential difference

$$V_+ = kQ/R_1$$

$$V_- = kQ/R_2$$

$$V_+ - V_- = \frac{kQ}{R_1} - \frac{kQ}{R_2} = Q \left[\frac{k}{R_1} - \frac{k}{R_2} \right] = \frac{Q}{C}$$

$$C_{\text{sphere}} = 4\pi\epsilon_0 \frac{R_2 \cdot R_1}{R_2 - R_1} \quad \text{depends on geometry}$$

More standard capacitor - parallel planes

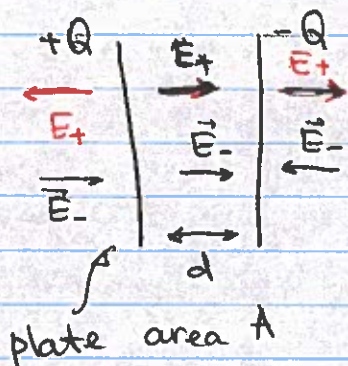
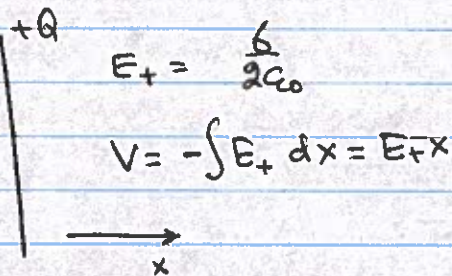


plate area A

Outside E-field from two
plates cancel each other
inside it doubles

$$E = 2 \cdot \frac{\sigma}{2\epsilon_0} = \frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0} = \frac{Q}{\epsilon_0 A}$$

$$V_+ = 0 \quad V_- = E \cdot d = -\frac{Qd}{\epsilon_0 A}$$



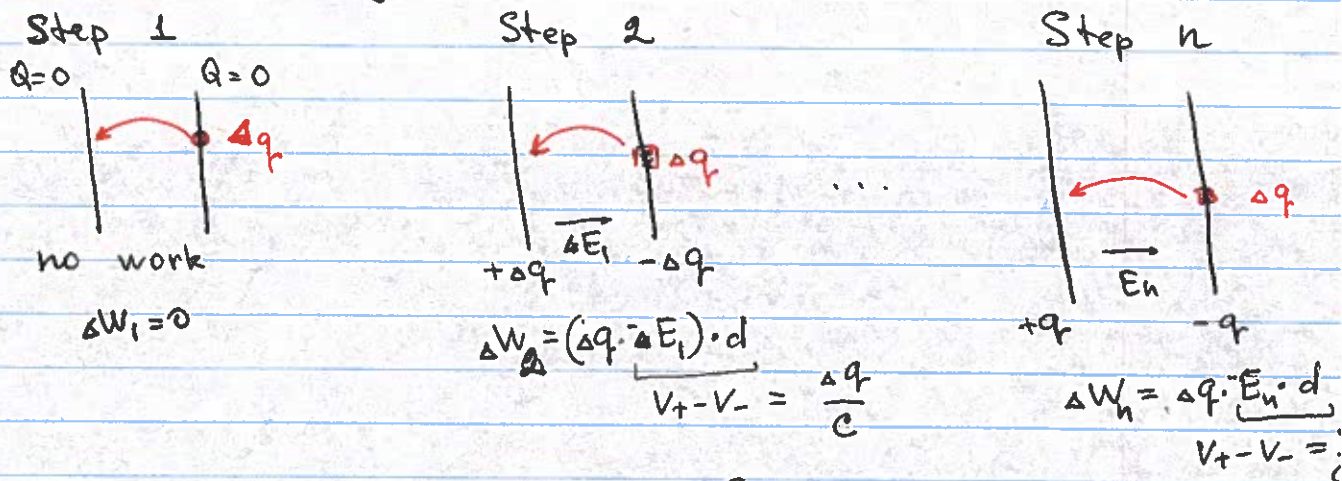
$$E_+ = \frac{\sigma}{2\epsilon_0}$$

$$V = -\int E_+ dx = E_+ x$$

$$V_+ - V_- = \frac{Qd}{\epsilon_0 A} = \frac{Q}{C}$$

$$C_{\text{plate}} = \frac{\epsilon_0 A}{d}$$

Energy stored in a capacitor = work we must do to charge it



At each step $\Delta W = \frac{q}{C} \Delta q$

Total work $W = \int_0^Q \frac{q}{C} dq = \frac{Q^2}{2C}$

Commonly used notation: potential difference

$$V_+ - V_-$$

↕

voltage V

For a capacitor $V \equiv V_+ - V_- = \frac{Q}{C}$ or $Q = VC$

Energy stored in a capacitor

$$U = \frac{Q^2}{2C} = \frac{V^2 \cdot C}{2} = \frac{QV}{2}$$

We can also relate this to electric field strength

$$U = \frac{1}{2} V^2 \cdot C = \frac{1}{2} \frac{Q^2}{C} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{Q^2 \cdot d}{\epsilon_0 \cdot A}$$

Energy density $u = \frac{U}{V} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{Q^2 \cdot d}{\epsilon_0 \cdot A} \frac{1}{d \cdot A} = \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{Q}{\epsilon_0 \cdot A} \right]^2 \cdot \epsilon_0 = \frac{\epsilon_0}{2} E^2$