

Linear Materials

Macroscopic Maxwell Equations

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{B} = 0 \quad \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E} + \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} = 0$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{D} = 4\pi\rho \quad \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{H} = \frac{4\pi}{c} \vec{j} + \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \vec{D}}{\partial t}$$

where ρ and \vec{j} are macroscopic charge + current densities
and

$$\vec{D} = \vec{E} + 4\pi\vec{P} \quad \vec{P} \text{ is polarization density}$$

$$\vec{H} = \vec{B} - 4\pi\vec{M} \quad \vec{M} \text{ is magnetization density}$$

To close these equations, we will in general need to know how \vec{P} and \vec{M} are related to the \vec{E} and \vec{B} in the material.

In some materials, there can be a finite \vec{P} or \vec{M} even if \vec{E} and \vec{B} are zero:

Ferro magnet: \vec{M} can be non zero even if $\vec{B} = 0$

Ferroelectric: \vec{P} can be non zero even if $\vec{E} = 0$

But more common are linear materials in which, for small \vec{E} and \vec{B} , one has $\vec{P} \propto \vec{E}$ and $\vec{M} \propto \vec{B}$.

linear dielectric

$$\vec{P} = \chi_e \vec{E}$$

χ_e is "electric susceptibility"
 $\chi_e > 0$ for statics

$$\vec{D} = \vec{E} + 4\pi \vec{P} = (1 + 4\pi \chi_e) \vec{E}$$

$$\vec{D} = \epsilon \vec{E} \quad \text{with} \quad \epsilon = 1 + 4\pi \chi_e$$

ϵ is the dielectric constant

linear magnetic materials

$$\vec{M} = \chi_m \vec{H}$$

χ_m is "magnetic susceptibility"

$\chi_m > 0 \Rightarrow$ paramagnetic

$\chi_m < 0 \Rightarrow$ diamagnetic

$$\vec{H} = \vec{B} - 4\pi \vec{M} = \vec{B} - 4\pi \chi_m \vec{H}$$

$$\vec{B} = (1 + 4\pi \chi_m) \vec{H}$$

$$\vec{B} = \mu \vec{H} \quad \text{with} \quad \mu = 1 + 4\pi \chi_m$$

μ is magnetic permeability

For statics, $\chi_e > 0$ and $\chi_m < 0$ (or alternatively ϵ and μ) are constants depending on the material.

When we consider dynamics we will see that ϵ becomes a function of frequency.

Clausius - Mossotti equation

Electric susceptibility + atomic polarizability

If a field \vec{E}_{loc} is applied to an atom, it gets polarized

$$\vec{p} = \alpha \vec{E}_{loc}$$

↑ ↑ ↑
atomic dipole moment atomic polarizability "local field" - field the atom sees

α is what one calculates from a microscopic theory

If $\vec{E}_{loc} = \vec{E}$ the average field in the material then electric susceptibility given by

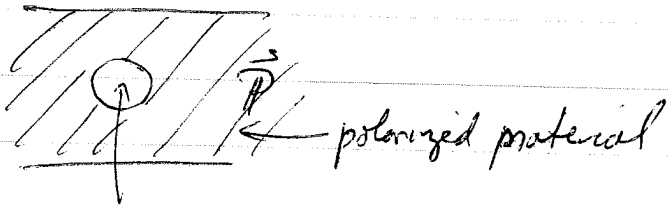
$$\vec{P} = n \vec{p} = n \alpha \vec{E}_{loc} = n \alpha \vec{E} = \chi_e \vec{E}$$

$\Rightarrow \chi_e = n \alpha$ where $n =$ density of atoms

But a more careful consideration shows $\vec{E}_{loc} \neq \vec{E}$
The average field \vec{E} includes the electric field created by the polarized atom itself. \vec{E}_{loc} , the local field the atom sees, should exclude its own self field.

$$\vec{E} = \vec{E}_{loc} + \vec{E}_{atom}$$

↑ ↑ ↑
average field average field excluding atom average field of the atom



cut out sphere whose volume is $\frac{1}{n}$
the volume per atom

\vec{E}_{loc} is field excluding the field of the polarized sphere of volume $\frac{1}{n}$.

\vec{E}_{atom} is field of the polarized sphere

$$\vec{E}_{atom} = -\frac{4\pi\vec{P}}{3} = -\frac{4\pi}{3}m\vec{p}$$

$$\vec{E}_{loc} = \vec{E} - \vec{E}_{atom} = \vec{E} + \frac{4\pi\vec{P}}{3} = \vec{E} + \frac{4\pi}{3}m\vec{p}$$

$$\vec{p} = \alpha \vec{E}_{loc} = \alpha \left(\vec{E} + \frac{4\pi}{3}m\vec{p} \right) = \alpha \vec{E} + \frac{4\pi m \alpha}{3} \vec{p}$$

$$\vec{p} = \frac{\alpha}{1 - \frac{4\pi}{3}m\alpha} \vec{E}$$

$$\vec{P} = m\vec{p} = \frac{\alpha m}{1 - \frac{4\pi}{3}m\alpha} \vec{E} = \chi_e \vec{E}$$

$$\chi_e = \frac{m\alpha}{1 - \frac{4\pi}{3}m\alpha}$$

or solve for α in terms of ϵ

$$\chi_e = \frac{m\alpha}{1 - \frac{4\pi}{3}m\alpha} \Rightarrow \chi_e - \frac{4\pi}{3}m\alpha\chi_e = \alpha m$$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha = \frac{\chi_e}{m(1 + \frac{4\pi}{3}\chi_e)}$$

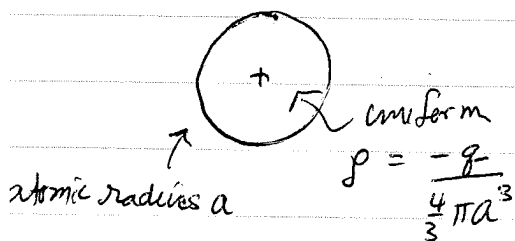
$$\epsilon = 1 + 4\pi\chi_e \Rightarrow \alpha = \frac{\epsilon - 1}{4\pi m} \frac{1}{(1 + \frac{\epsilon - 1}{3})}$$

relates atomic polarizability to measured dielectric constant

$$\alpha = \frac{3}{4\pi m} \left(\frac{\epsilon - 1}{\epsilon + 2} \right)$$

Clausius-Mossotti
or Lorentz-Lorenz equation

single model for α



field inside is $E(r) = \frac{4\pi\rho}{3} r \hat{r}$

induced dipole

In external field E_0 , net forces balance $\Rightarrow qE_0 = q \frac{4\pi\rho}{3} d$

$$\chi_e = \frac{m a^3}{1 - \frac{4\pi}{3} m a^3}$$

$$\rho = \frac{q}{d} = \frac{3}{4\pi\rho} q E_0 = \frac{3}{4\pi} \left(\frac{4\pi a^3}{3} \right) q E_0$$

$$= a^3 E_0 \Rightarrow \alpha = a^3$$

if $f = m \frac{4}{3}\pi a^3$ fraction of vol that is occupied by atoms

$$\chi_e = \frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{3f}{1-f}$$

Linear Dielectrics

bound charge is proportional to free charge

$$\rho_b = -\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{P} = -\vec{\nabla} \cdot (\chi_e \vec{E}) = -\vec{\nabla} \cdot \left(\frac{\chi_e}{\epsilon} \vec{D} \right)$$

if χ_e (and hence ϵ) is spatially constant, then

$$\rho_b = -\frac{\chi_e}{\epsilon} \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{D} = -\frac{\chi_e}{\epsilon} 4\pi\rho$$

$$\rho_b = -\frac{4\pi\chi_e}{1+4\pi\chi_e} \rho$$

when free charge $\rho = 0$,
then $\rho_b = 0$

$$\rho_{\text{total}} = \rho + \rho_b = \rho \left[1 - \frac{4\pi\chi_e}{1+4\pi\chi_e} \right] = \frac{\rho}{1+4\pi\chi_e} = \boxed{\frac{\rho}{\epsilon} = \rho_{\text{total}}}$$

bound charge "screens" the free charge so the total charge is reduced compared to the free charge.

For linear dielectrics

Statics

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{D} = 4\pi\rho$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E} = 0$$

$$\vec{D} = \epsilon \vec{E} \Rightarrow \vec{\nabla} \cdot (\epsilon \vec{E}) = 4\pi\rho$$

If ϵ is constant in space then $\epsilon \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = 4\pi\rho$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = 4\pi\rho/\epsilon = 4\pi\rho_{\text{tot}}$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E} = 0$$

} look just like ordinary electrostatics but with $\rho \rightarrow \rho/\epsilon$

Alternatively, could write $\vec{E} = \vec{D}/\epsilon$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{\nabla} \times (\vec{D}/\epsilon) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{D} = 0 \text{ when } \epsilon \text{ constant in space}$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{D} = 4\pi\rho$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{D} = 0$$

} looks just like ordinary electrostatics, but with $\vec{E} \rightarrow \vec{D}$

Complication arises at interface between dielectrics (or between dielectric and vacuum). At interface, ϵ is not constant $\Rightarrow \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{D} \neq 0$.

What we can do is to solve for \vec{E} or \vec{D} inside each dielectric separately, and then use the boundary conditions

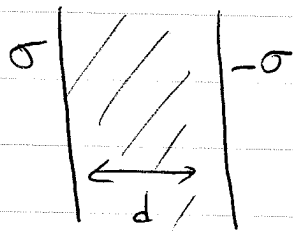
$$\hat{n} \cdot (\vec{D}^{\text{above}} - \vec{D}^{\text{below}}) = 4\pi\sigma$$

$$\hat{t} \cdot (\vec{E}^{\text{above}} - \vec{E}^{\text{below}}) = 0$$

to match solutions across the interfaces.

A similar story holds for linear magnetic materials

Simple example: parallel plate capacitor filled with a dielectric



σ free charge

What is E between plates?

We know $\vec{E} = \vec{D} = 0$ outside plates

Between plates $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{D} = 0$ as $\rho = 0$

$$\vec{D} = D(x) \hat{x} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial D}{\partial x} = 0 \Rightarrow D \text{ is constant}$$

Boundary conditions:

left side plate

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \hat{n} = \hat{x} \\ D = 0 \end{array} \right\} \vec{D}$$

$$\hat{x} \cdot (\vec{D}^{\text{above}} - \vec{D}^{\text{below}}) = D = 4\pi\sigma$$

right side plate

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \hat{n} = \hat{x} \\ D = 0 \end{array} \right\} \vec{D}$$

$$\hat{x} \cdot (\vec{D}^{\text{above}} - \vec{D}^{\text{below}}) = -D = 4\pi(-\sigma)$$

$D = 4\pi\sigma$ as before

$$\Rightarrow \vec{D} = 4\pi\sigma \hat{x}$$

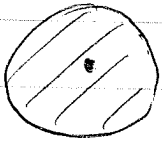
$$\boxed{\vec{E} = \frac{\vec{D}}{\epsilon} = \frac{4\pi\sigma}{\epsilon} \hat{x}}$$

electric field reduced by factor $\frac{1}{\epsilon}$ as compared to capacitor with vacuum between plates

see Jackson section 4.4 for more interesting examples
- dielectric sphere in uniform applied \vec{E}

see Jackson section (5.11) (5.12) for an interesting magnetic h.c. problem.

point charge within a dielectric sphere



pt charge q at center of dielectric sphere of radius R , dielectric const ϵ

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{D} = 4\pi q = \oint_S da \hat{n} \cdot \vec{D} = 4\pi Q_{\text{enc}}$$

From symmetry $\vec{D}(r) = D(r) \hat{r}$

$$\oint_S da \hat{n} \cdot \vec{D} = 4\pi r^2 D(r) = 4\pi q$$

sphere of radius r

$$\vec{D} = \frac{q}{r^2} \hat{r} \quad \text{all } r$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{E}(r) = \begin{cases} \frac{q}{\epsilon r^2} \hat{r} & r < R \\ \frac{q}{r^2} \hat{r} & r > R \end{cases}$$

can check that tangential component of \vec{E} is continuous and normal component of \vec{D} is continuous as there is no free σ at surface of dielectric.

normal component of \vec{E} jumps by

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{n} \cdot (\vec{E}^{\text{above}} - \vec{E}^{\text{below}}) &= \frac{q}{R^2} - \frac{q}{\epsilon R^2} = \frac{q}{R^2} \left(1 - \frac{1}{\epsilon}\right) = \frac{q}{R^2} \left(\frac{\epsilon - 1}{\epsilon}\right) \\ &= \frac{q}{R^2} \left(\frac{4\pi \kappa \epsilon}{1 + 4\pi \kappa \epsilon}\right) = 4\pi \sigma_{\text{total}} = 4\pi \sigma_b \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \sigma_b = \frac{q}{4\pi R^2} \left(\frac{4\pi \kappa \epsilon}{1 + 4\pi \kappa \epsilon}\right) = \frac{q \kappa \epsilon}{R^2 \epsilon}$$

We can check this directly

$$\vec{P} = \chi_e \vec{E} = \frac{\chi_e q}{\epsilon} \frac{\hat{r}}{r^2}$$

$$q_b = -\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{P} = -\frac{\chi_e}{\epsilon} q 4\pi \delta(r)$$

↑

bound charge at origin $q_b = -\frac{\chi_e}{\epsilon} 4\pi q$

total charge at origin is $q + q_b = q \left(1 - \frac{4\pi\chi_e}{\epsilon}\right)$

$$\epsilon = 1 + 4\pi\chi_e$$

$$= q \left(\frac{\epsilon - 4\pi\chi_e}{\epsilon}\right) = \frac{q}{\epsilon} \quad \text{screened charge}$$

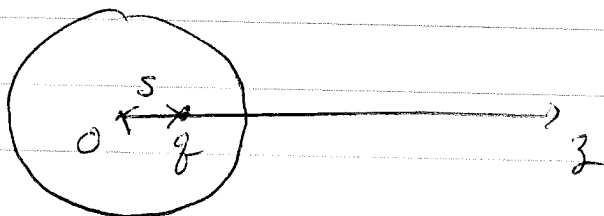
at surface,

$$\sigma_b = \hat{n} \cdot \vec{P} = \frac{\chi_e q}{\epsilon R^2}$$

agrees with what we get from Gauss in $\hat{n} \cdot \vec{E}$.

Note: inside the dielectric the \vec{E} field is that of the screened point charge $\frac{q}{\epsilon}$.
outside the dielectric \vec{E} is just that of the free charge q . There is no evidence in \vec{E}_{out} that the dielectric even exists!

Now consider same problem but q is off center



what is \vec{E} inside + outside?

inside $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{D} = 4\pi\rho$ where $\rho = q\delta(\vec{r} - s\hat{z})$

$$\vec{D} = \epsilon\vec{E} \Rightarrow \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = 4\pi\rho/\epsilon$$

$$\vec{E} = -\vec{\nabla}\phi \Rightarrow \nabla^2\phi = -\frac{4\pi\rho}{\epsilon} = -\frac{4\pi q}{\epsilon}\delta(\vec{r} - s\hat{z})$$

solution for ϕ will be of the form

$$\phi(\vec{r}) = \frac{q}{\epsilon|\vec{r} - s\hat{z}|} + F(\vec{r})$$

where 1st term is due to the point charge q/ϵ and 2nd term satisfies $\nabla^2 F = 0$ and will be chosen to get the correct behavior at the boundary of the dielectric

Since there is azimuthal symmetry about \hat{z} we can write

$$F(\vec{r}) = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} a_l r^l P_l(\cos\theta)$$

there are no $\frac{b_l}{r^{l+1}}$ terms since F should not diverge at the origin

So inside, $r < R$

$$\phi^{in}(\vec{r}) = \frac{q}{\epsilon |\vec{r} - s \hat{z}|} + \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} a_l r^l P_l(\cos\theta)$$

From our discussion of electric multipole expansion, we know we can write for $r > s$,

$$\frac{1}{|\vec{r} - s \hat{z}|} = \frac{1}{r} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{s}{r}\right)^l P_l(\cos\theta)$$

So for $r > s$ (not true for $r < s$!)

$$\phi^{in}(\vec{r}) = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{q}{\epsilon r} \left(\frac{s}{r}\right)^l + a_l r^l \right) P_l(\cos\theta)$$

Outside the sphere there is no charge, so $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = 0$
or $\nabla^2 \phi = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \phi^{out}(\vec{r}) = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \frac{b_l}{r^{l+1}} P_l(\cos\theta)$$

there are no $a_l r^l$ terms since $\phi^{out} \rightarrow 0$ as $r \rightarrow \infty$

To determine the unknown a_l and b_l we use the boundary conditions at surface of dielectric at $r = R$

① Tangential component \vec{E} is continuous

$$\vec{E} = -\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} \hat{r} - \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \theta} \hat{\theta} = E_r \hat{r} + E_\theta \hat{\theta}$$

$\Rightarrow E_\theta$ is continuous at $r=R$

condition that E_θ is continuous is the same condition that ϕ is continuous (check this out for yourself if you are not sure)

$$\Rightarrow \phi^{\text{in}}(R, \theta) = \phi^{\text{out}}(R, \theta)$$

$$\text{as } \vec{E}^{\text{above}} - \vec{E}^{\text{below}} = 4\pi\sigma \hat{n}$$

$$\frac{q}{\epsilon R} \left(\frac{s}{R}\right)^l + a_l R^l = \frac{b_l}{R^{l+1}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{b_l = \frac{q}{\epsilon} s^l + a_l R^{2l+1}}$$

normal component \vec{D} is continuous (since free surface charge $\sigma = 0$)

$$\vec{D} = \epsilon \vec{E}$$

$$\Rightarrow \epsilon E_r^{\text{in}} = E_r^{\text{out}}$$

$$-\epsilon \left. \frac{\partial \phi^{\text{in}}}{\partial r} \right|_R = - \left. \frac{\partial \phi^{\text{out}}}{\partial r} \right|_R$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{(l+1)q}{R^2} \left(\frac{s}{R}\right)^l - l \epsilon a_l R^{l-1} = \frac{(l+1)b_l}{R^{l+2}}$$

$$g s^l - \frac{l}{l+1} \epsilon a_l R^{2l+1} = b_l$$

substitute in b_l from previous boundary condition

$$g s^l - \frac{l}{l+1} \epsilon a_l R^{2l+1} = \frac{g}{\epsilon} s^l + a_l R^{2l+1}$$

$$g s^l \left[1 - \frac{1}{\epsilon} \right] = a_l R^{2l+1} \left[1 + \frac{l}{l+1} \epsilon \right]$$

$$a_l = \frac{g s^l}{R^{2l+1}} \frac{\left[1 - \frac{1}{\epsilon} \right]}{\left[1 + \left(\frac{l}{l+1} \right) \epsilon \right]}$$

$$b_l = \frac{g}{\epsilon} s^l + a_l R^{2l+1}$$

$$= \frac{g}{\epsilon} s^l + g s^l \frac{\left[1 - \frac{1}{\epsilon} \right]}{\left[1 + \left(\frac{l}{l+1} \right) \epsilon \right]}$$

$$b_l = \frac{g s^l}{\epsilon} \left[1 + \frac{\epsilon - 1}{1 + \left(\frac{l}{l+1} \right) \epsilon} \right]$$

$$= \frac{g s^l}{\epsilon} \left[\frac{\epsilon \left(1 + \frac{1}{l+1} \right)}{1 + \left(\frac{l}{l+1} \right) \epsilon} \right]$$

$$b_l = g s^l \left[\frac{1 + \left(\frac{1}{l+1} \right)}{1 + \left(\frac{l}{l+1} \right) \epsilon} \right]$$

check the result:

as $s \rightarrow 0$, should recover previous answer

for $s=0$, $a_l = b_l = 0$ for all $l \neq 0$

$$a_0 = \frac{q}{R} \left[1 - \frac{1}{\epsilon} \right]$$

$$b_0 = q$$

$$s_0 \quad \phi^{\text{in}}(r) = \frac{q}{\epsilon r} + \frac{q}{R} \left[1 - \frac{1}{\epsilon} \right]$$

$$\vec{E}^{\text{in}} = -\vec{\nabla} \phi^{\text{in}} = \frac{q}{\epsilon r^2} \hat{r} \quad \text{as before}$$

$$\phi^{\text{out}}(r) = \frac{q}{r}$$

$$\vec{E}^{\text{out}} = -\vec{\nabla} \phi^{\text{out}} = \frac{q}{r^2} \hat{r} \quad \text{as before}$$

Note: the constant that is the 2nd term in ϕ^{in}
is just what is needed to make ϕ continuous at $r=R$

another check:

let $\epsilon \rightarrow \infty$ this models a conductor!

again one finds $a_l = b_l = 0$ for all $l \neq 0$

$$a_0 = \frac{q}{R}$$

$$b_0 = q$$

$$\phi^{\text{in}}(\vec{r}) = \sum_{l \in \mathbb{N}} \frac{q(S)^l}{\epsilon r(r)^l} e^l + \frac{q}{R} \rightarrow \frac{q}{R} \text{ as } \epsilon \rightarrow \infty$$

$\Rightarrow E^{\text{in}}(\vec{r}) = 0$ as ϕ^{in} is a constant.

$$\phi^{\text{out}}(\vec{r}) = \frac{q}{r} \Rightarrow \vec{E}^{\text{out}} = \frac{q}{r^2} \hat{r}$$

field outside is like point charge q at the origin, independent of where q is inside the sphere. This is the correct behavior of a conductor.

The mobile charges in the conductor completely screen the q inside, and leave a uniform surface charge $\sigma_b = \frac{q}{4\pi R^2}$ on the surface.

Magnetostatics

Bar magnets - $\vec{j} = 0$, \vec{M} fixed and given

(not a linear material)

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{B} = 0$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{H} = \frac{4\pi}{c} \vec{j} = 0$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{H} = 0 \Rightarrow \vec{H} = -\vec{\nabla} \phi_M \quad \text{magnetic scalar potential}$$

$$\vec{B} = \vec{H} + 4\pi \vec{M}$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{B} = \vec{\nabla} \cdot (\vec{H} + 4\pi \vec{M}) = 0$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{H} = -\nabla^2 \phi_M = -4\pi \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{M}$$

$$\nabla^2 \phi_M = 4\pi \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{M}$$

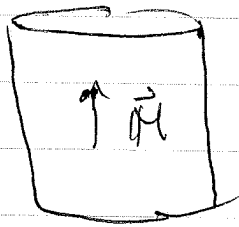
so $\rho_M \equiv -\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{M}$ looks like a magnetic "charge"

ρ_M is source for \vec{H}

also at surfaces of material $\sigma_M = \hat{n} \cdot \vec{M}$ looks like surface charge

$$\vec{H}(\vec{r}) = \int_V d^3r' \rho_M(\vec{r}') \frac{(\vec{r} - \vec{r}')}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|^3} + \oint_S da' \sigma_M(\vec{r}') \frac{(\vec{r} - \vec{r}')}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|^3}$$

Field lines for \vec{H} can start and end at sources and sinks given by ρ_M and σ_M



$$\vec{M} = M \hat{z}$$

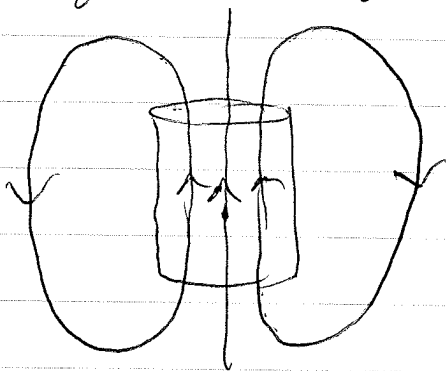
bound currents

$$\vec{j}_b = c \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{M} = 0$$

$$\vec{K}_b = c \vec{M} \times \hat{n}$$

$$\vec{K}_b = \begin{cases} cM \hat{\phi} & \text{on side} \\ 0 & \text{on top + bottom} \end{cases}$$

\vec{K}_b is like solenoid current
field lines of \vec{B} look like

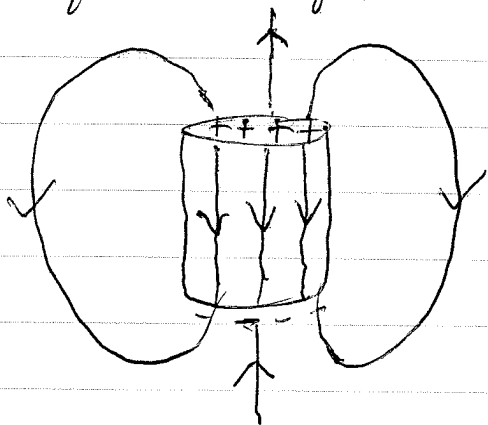


But \vec{H} is determined as follows:

$$\rho_M = -\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{M} = 0$$

$$\sigma_M = \vec{m} \cdot \vec{M} = \begin{cases} M & \text{on top} \\ -M & \text{on bottom} \end{cases}$$

field lines of \vec{H} look like parallel plate capacitor



field lines of \vec{H} = field lines of \vec{B}
outside magnet, but they
are very different inside
the magnet!