

## **Lecture – 10**

**Date: 09.02.2015**

- Electrostatic Boundary Value Problems (contd.)
- Capacitances
- Energy Storage in a Capacitor

## Example – 1

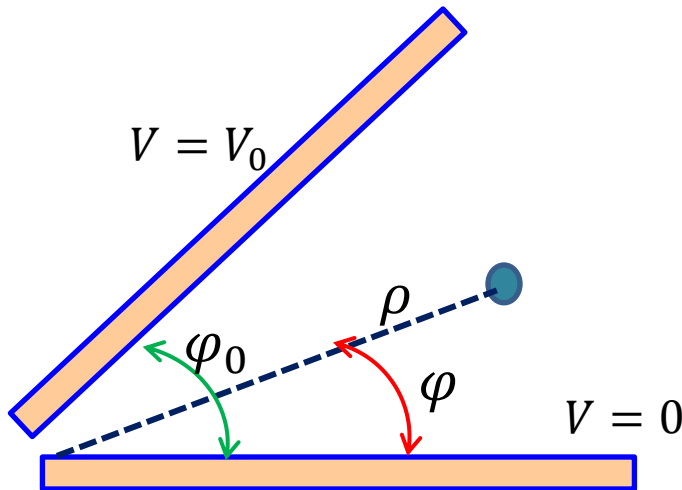
- Let us assume there is a parallel plate capacitor along x-axis. The upper plate is maintained at  $-100\text{V}$ , and the lower plate is maintained at  $0\text{V}$ . The plates are  $10\text{cm}$  apart, and they are infinitely large. Find  $V(\vec{r})$  and  $\vec{E}(\vec{r})$  in the parallel-plate region.

$$V(\vec{r}) = -1000x$$

$$\vec{E}(\vec{r}) = 1000\hat{a}_x$$

## Example – 2

- Two semi-infinite plates are arranged at an angle  $\varphi_0$ , as shown in following figure. One plate is charged to  $V_0$  volts and the other to  $0V$ . A gap at the tip insulates one plate from the other. Find  $V(\vec{r})$  and the corresponding  $\vec{E}(\vec{r})$  in the region  $0 < \varphi < \varphi_0$ .

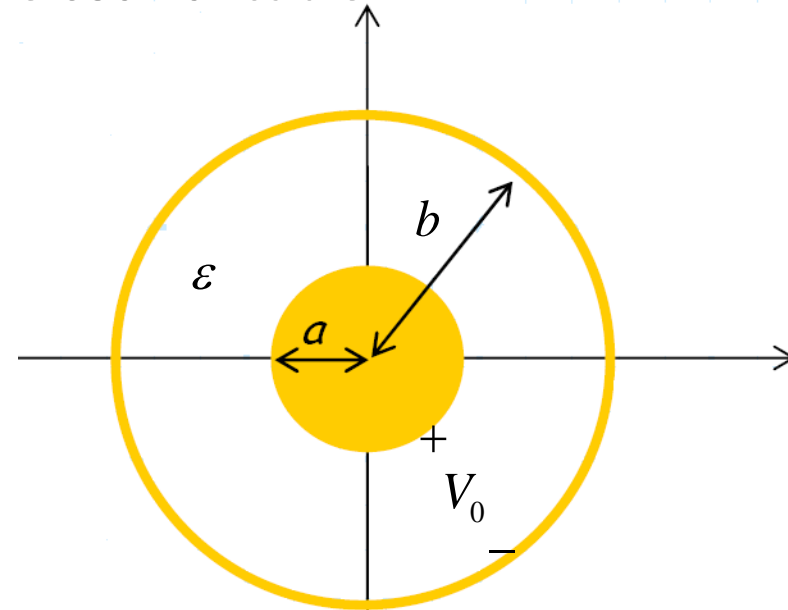
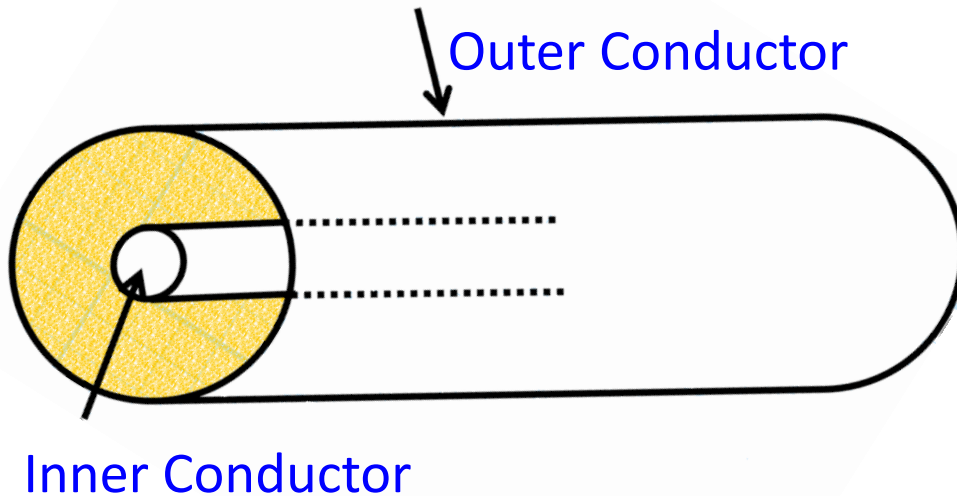


$$V(\vec{r}) = \left( \frac{V_0}{\varphi_0} \right) \varphi$$

$$\vec{E}(\vec{r}) = -\frac{1}{\rho} \left( \frac{V_0}{\varphi_0} \right) \hat{a}_\varphi$$

## Example – 3: The Electrostatic Fields of a Coaxial Line

- A common form of a transmission line is the **coaxial** cable.



Coax Cross-Section

The coax has an **outer** radius  $b$ , and an **inner** radius  $a$ . The space between the conductors is filled with **dielectric** material of permittivity  $\epsilon$ .

Say a voltage  $V_0$  is placed across the conductors, such that the electric potential of the **outer** conductor is **zero**, and the electric potential of the **inner** conductor is  $V_0$ .

## Example – 3 (contd.)

- The potential **difference** between the inner and outer conductor is therefore  $V_0 - 0 = V_0$  volts.

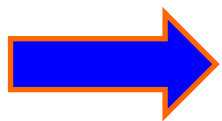
**Q:** What electric potential field  $V(\vec{r})$ , electric field  $\vec{E}(\vec{r})$ , and charge density  $\rho_s(\vec{r})$  is produced by this situation?

**A:** We must solve a **boundary-value** problem! We must find solutions that:

- a) Satisfy the **differential equations** of electrostatics (e.g., Poisson's, Laplace's, Gauss's).
- b) Satisfy the electrostatic **boundary conditions**.

Yikes! Where do we start ?

## Example – 3 (contd.)



We might start with the electric potential field  $V(\vec{r})$ , since it is a **scalar** field.

- a) The electric potential function must satisfy **Poisson's** equation:

$$\nabla^2 V(\vec{r}) = \frac{-\rho_v(\vec{r})}{\epsilon_0}$$

- b) It must also satisfy the **boundary conditions**:

$$V(\rho = a) = V_0$$

$$V(\rho = b) = 0$$

- Consider first the **dielectric** region ( $a < \rho < b$ ). Since the region is a dielectric, there is **no** free charge, and:

$$\rho_v(\vec{r}) = 0$$

## Example – 3 (contd.)

- Therefore, Poisson's equation reduces to **Laplace's** equation:

$$\nabla^2 V(\vec{r}) = 0$$

- This particular problem (i.e., coaxial line) is directly solvable because the structure is **cylindrically symmetric**. Rotating the coax around the z-axis (i.e., in the  $\hat{a}_\phi$  direction) does not change the geometry at all. As a result, we know that the electric potential field is a function of  $\rho$  **only!** i.e.,:

$$V(\vec{r}) = V(\rho)$$

- This make the problem much **easier**. Laplace's equation becomes:

$$\nabla^2 V(\vec{r}) = 0$$



$$\nabla^2 V(\rho) = 0$$

$$\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} \left( \rho \frac{\partial V(\rho)}{\partial \rho} \right) + 0 + 0 = 0$$



$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} \left( \rho \frac{\partial V(\rho)}{\partial \rho} \right) = 0$$

## Example – 3 (contd.)

$$\therefore \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} \left( \rho \frac{\partial V(\rho)}{\partial \rho} \right) = 0$$

Be **very** careful during **this** step! Make sure you implement the **Laplacian** operator correctly.





## Example – 3 (contd.)

- Integrating **both sides** of the resulting equation, we find:

$$\int \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} \left( \rho \frac{\partial V(\rho)}{\partial \rho} \right) d\rho = \int (0) d\rho \quad \longrightarrow \quad \rho \frac{\partial V(\rho)}{\partial \rho} = C_1$$

where  $C_1$  is some constant.

- Rearranging the above equation, we find:

$$\frac{\partial V(\rho)}{\partial \rho} = \frac{C_1}{\rho}$$

- Integrating both sides **again**, we get:

$$\int \frac{\partial V(\rho)}{\partial \rho} d\rho = \int \frac{C_1}{\rho} d\rho \quad \longrightarrow \quad V(\rho) = C_1 \ln[\rho] + C_2$$

We find that this final equation  $V(\rho) = C_1 \ln[\rho] + C_2$  will satisfy Laplace's equation (try it!).

We must now apply the **boundary conditions** to determine the value of constants  $C_1$  and  $C_2$ .

## Example – 3 (contd.)

- We know that on the outer surface of the inner conductor (i.e.,  $\rho = a$ ), the electric potential is equal to  $V_0$  (i.e.,  $V(\rho = a) = V_0$ ).
- And, we know that on the inner surface of the outer conductor (i.e.,  $\rho = b$ ) the electric potential is equal to zero (i.e.,  $V(\rho = b) = 0$ ).

Therefore, we can write:

$$V(\rho = a) = C_1 \ln[a] + C_2 = V_0$$

$$V(\rho = b) = C_1 \ln[b] + C_2 = 0$$

- Solving for  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  we get:

$$C_1 = \frac{-V_0}{\ln[b] - \ln[a]} = \frac{-V_0}{\ln[b/a]}$$


$$C_2 = \frac{V_0 \ln[b]}{\ln[b/a]}$$

- Therefore, the **electric potential** field within the dielectric is found to be:


$$V(\bar{r}) = \frac{-V_0 \ln[\rho]}{\ln[b/a]} + \frac{V_0 \ln[b]}{\ln[b/a]} \quad (b > \rho > a)$$

## Example – 3 (contd.)

- Before we move on, we should do a **sanity check** to make sure we have done everything correctly. Evaluating our result at  $\rho = a$ , we get:

$$V(\rho = a) = \frac{-V_0 \ln[a]}{\ln[b/a]} + \frac{V_0 \ln[b]}{\ln[b/a]} \xrightarrow{\text{red arrow}} = \frac{V_0 (\ln[b] - \ln[a])}{\ln[b/a]} \xrightarrow{\text{green arrow}} = \frac{V_0 \ln[b/a]}{\ln[b/a]} = V_0$$


- Likewise, we evaluate our result at  $\rho = b$ :

$$V(\rho = b) = \frac{-V_0 \ln[b]}{\ln[b/a]} + \frac{V_0 \ln[b]}{\ln[b/a]} \xrightarrow{\text{red arrow}} = \frac{V_0 (\ln[b] - \ln[b])}{\ln[b/a]} \xrightarrow{\text{green arrow}} \therefore V(\rho = b) = 0$$


Our result is correct!

## Example – 3 (contd.)

- Now, we can determine the **electric field** within the dielectric by taking the gradient of the electric potential field:

$$\vec{E}(\vec{r}) = -\nabla V(\vec{r}) = \frac{V_0}{\ln[b/a]} \frac{1}{\rho} \hat{a}_\rho \quad (b > \rho > a)$$

- Note that **electric flux density** is therefore:

$$\vec{D}(\vec{r}) = \epsilon \vec{E}(\vec{r}) = \frac{\epsilon V_0}{\ln[b/a]} \frac{1}{\rho} \hat{a}_\rho \quad (b > \rho > a)$$

Finally, we need to determine the **charge density** that actually created these fields!

## Example – 3 (contd.)

**Q1:** Just where **is** this charge? After all, the dielectric (if it is perfect) will contain **no** free charge.

**A1:** The free charge, as we might expect, is in the **conductors**. Specifically, the charge is located at the surface of the conductor.

**Q2:** Just how do we **determine** this surface charge  $\rho_s(\vec{r})$  ?

**A2:** Apply the boundary conditions!

- Recall that we found that **at** a conductor/dielectric **interface**, the **surface charge density** on the conductor is related to the **electric flux density** in the dielectric as:

$$D_n = \vec{D}(\vec{r}) \cdot \hat{a}_n = \rho_s(\vec{r})$$

## Example – 3 (contd.)

- First, we find that the electric flux density **on the surface** of the inner conductor (i.e., at  $\rho = a$ ) is:

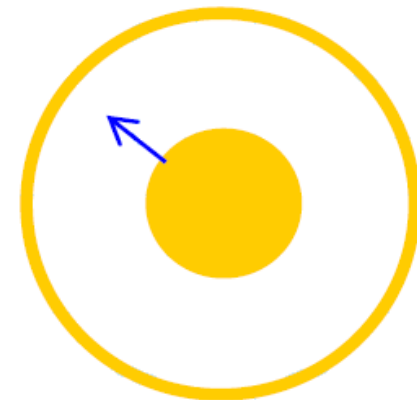
$$\vec{D}(\vec{r})|_{\rho=a} = \hat{a}_\rho \frac{\epsilon V_0}{\ln[b/a]} \frac{1}{\rho} |_{\rho=a} = \frac{\epsilon V_0}{\ln[b/a]} \frac{1}{a} \hat{a}_\rho$$

- For **every** point on **outer** surface of the **inner** conductor, we find that the unit vector **normal** to the conductor is:

$$\hat{a}_n = \hat{a}_\rho$$

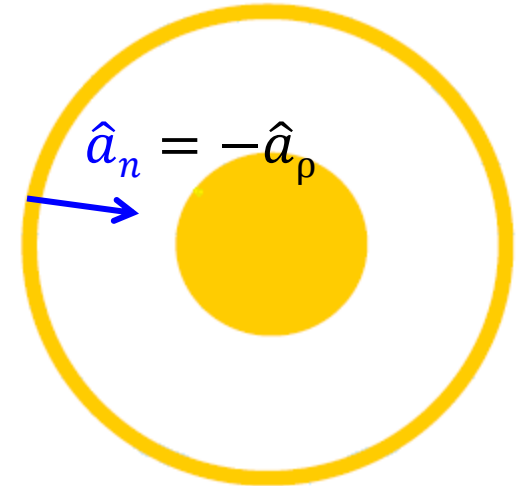
- Therefore, we find that the **surface charge density** on the outer surface of the inner conductor is:

$$\rho_{sa}(\vec{r}) = \hat{a}_n \cdot \vec{D}(\vec{r})|_{\rho=a} \quad \rightarrow \quad \rho_{sa}(\vec{r}) = \hat{a}_\rho \cdot \hat{a}_\rho \frac{\epsilon V_0}{\ln[b/a]} \frac{1}{a} \quad \rightarrow \quad \rho_{sa}(\vec{r}) = \frac{\epsilon V_0}{\ln[b/a]} \frac{1}{a} \quad \rho = a$$



## Example – 3 (contd.)

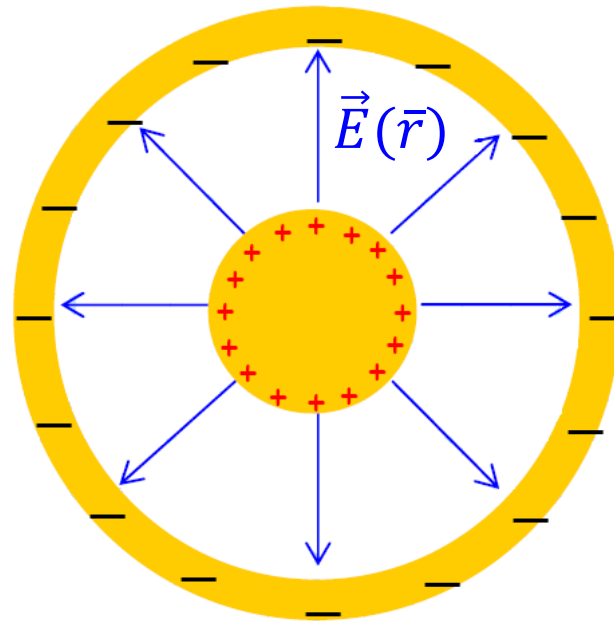
- Likewise, we find the unit vector **normal** to the **inner** surface of the **outer** conductor is (do you see why?):
- Therefore, evaluating the electric flux density on the inner surface of the outer conductor (i.e.,  $\rho = b$ ), we find:



$$\rho_{sb}(\bar{r}) = \hat{a}_n \cdot \vec{D}(\bar{r})|_{\rho=b} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \rho_{sb}(\bar{r}) = -\hat{a}_\rho \cdot \hat{a}_\rho \frac{\epsilon V_0}{\ln[b/a]} \frac{1}{b} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \rho_{sb}(\bar{r}) = \frac{-\epsilon V_0}{\ln[b/a]} \frac{1}{b} \quad \rho = b$$

## Example – 3 (contd.)

- Note the charge on the outer conductor is **negative**, while that of the inner conductor is **positive**. Hence, the electric field points from the inner conductor to the outer.





## Example – 3 (contd.)

- We should **note** several things about these solutions:

1)  $\nabla \times \vec{E}(\vec{r}) = 0$

2)  $\nabla \cdot \vec{D}(\vec{r}) = 0$  and  $\nabla^2 V(\vec{r}) = 0$

3)  $\vec{D}(\vec{r})$  and  $\vec{E}(\vec{r})$  are normal to the surface of the conductor (i.e., their tangential components equal zero!

In other words, the **fields**  $\vec{E}(\vec{r})$ ,  $\vec{D}(\vec{r})$ , and  $V(\vec{r})$  are attributable to **free charge densities**  $\rho_{sa}(\vec{r})$  and  $\rho_{sb}(\vec{r})$ .

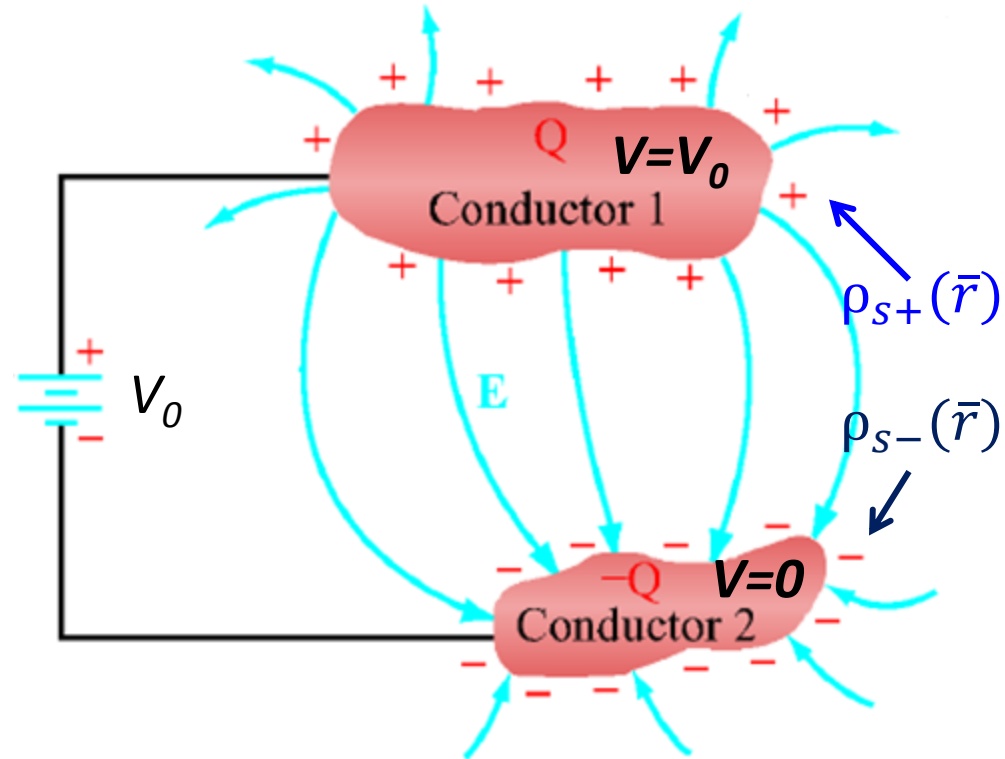
## Capacitance

- Any **two conducting bodies**, when separated by an insulating (dielectric) medium, regardless of their shapes and sizes form a capacitor.
- If a dc voltage is connected across them, **the surfaces of conductors connected to the positive and negative source terminals will accumulate charges  $+Q$  and  $-Q$  respectively.**
- If a conductor has excess charge, it distributes the charge on its surface in such a manner as to maintain a zero electric field everywhere within the conductor → to ensure that electric potential is same at every point in the conductor.

## Capacitance (contd.)

- Consider two **conductors**, with a **potential difference** of  $V$  volts.

- Since there is a potential difference between the conductors, there must be an **electric potential field**  $V(\vec{r})$ , and therefore an **electric field**  $\vec{E}(\vec{r})$  in the region between the conductors.



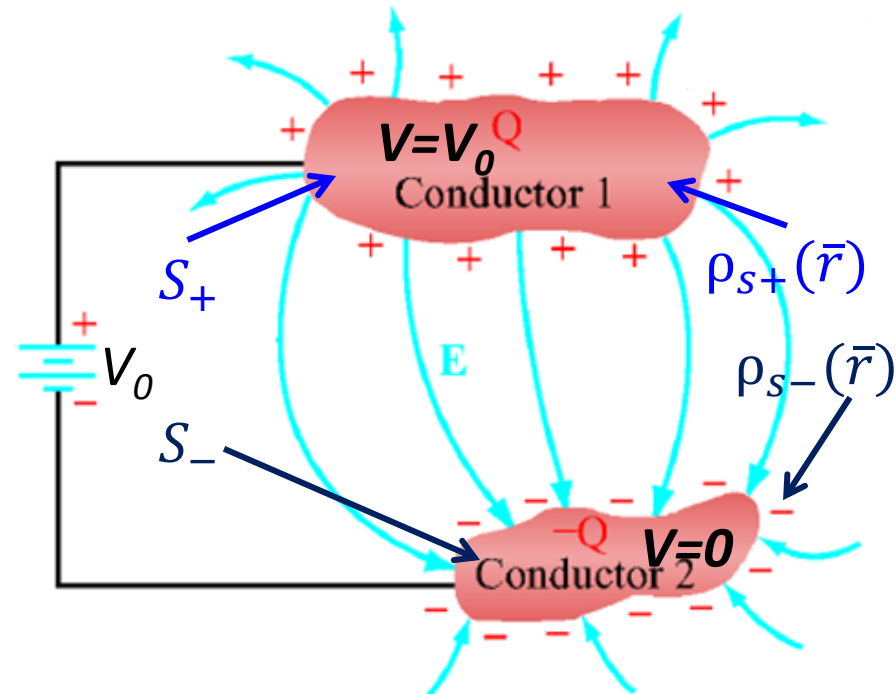
- Likewise, if there is an electric field, then we can specify an **electric flux density**  $\vec{D}(\vec{r})$ , which we can use to determine the **surface charge density**  $\rho_s(\vec{r})$  on each of the conductors.

## Capacitance (contd.)

- We find that if the total net charge on **one** conductor is  $Q$  then the charge on the **other** will be equal to  $-Q$ .
- In other words, the total net charge on each conductor will be **equal** but **opposite!**
- Note that this does **not** mean that the surface charge densities on each conductor are equal (i.e.,  $\rho_{s+}(\vec{r}) \neq \rho_{s-}(\vec{r})$ ). Rather, it means that:

$$\oiint_{S_+} \rho_{s+}(\vec{r}) dS = -\oiint_{S_-} \rho_{s-}(\vec{r}) dS = Q$$

where surface  $S_+$  is the surface surrounding the conductor with the positive charge (and the higher electric potential), while the surface  $S_-$  surrounds the conductor with the negative charge.



## Capacitance (contd.)

**Q:** How much free **charge**  $Q$  is there on each conductor, and how does this charge relate to the **voltage**  $V_0$ ?

**A:** We can determine this from the mutual **capacitance**  $C$  of these conductors!

- The mutual **capacitance** between two conductors is **defined** as:

$$C = \frac{Q}{V} \quad \left[ \frac{\text{Coulombs}}{\text{Volts}} \equiv \text{Farad} \right]$$

where  $Q$  is the **total charge** on **each conductor**, and  $V$  is the **potential difference** between each conductor (for our example,  $V = V_0$ ).

- Recall that the total charge on a conductor can be determined by **integrating** the surface charge density  $\rho_s(\vec{r})$  across the **entire surface**  $S$  of a conductor:

$$Q = \oiint_{S_+} \rho_{s_+}(\vec{r}) dS = -\oiint_{S_-} \rho_{s_-}(\vec{r}) dS$$

## Capacitance (contd.)

- But recall also that the surface charge density on the surface of a conductor can be determined from the **electric flux density**  $\vec{D}(\vec{r})$ :

$$\rho_s(\vec{r}) = \vec{D}(\vec{r}) \cdot \hat{a}_n$$

where  $\hat{a}_n$  is a unit vector **normal** to the conductor.

- Combining** the two equations, we get:

$$Q = \oiint_{S_+} \vec{D}(\vec{r}) \cdot \hat{a}_n dS = -\oiint_{S_-} \vec{D}(\vec{r}) \cdot \hat{a}_n dS$$



$$Q = \oiint_{S_+} \vec{D}(\vec{r}) \cdot \overline{dS} = -\oiint_{S_-} \vec{D}(\vec{r}) \cdot \overline{dS}$$

where we remember that  $\overline{dS} = \hat{a}_n dS$ .

- Hey! This is **no surprise!** We **already** knew that:

$$Q = \oiint_S \vec{D}(\vec{r}) \cdot \overline{dS}$$

This expression is also known as \_\_\_\_\_ !!

## Capacitance (contd.)

- Note since  $\vec{D}(\vec{r}) = \epsilon\vec{E}(\vec{r})$  we can also say:

$$Q = \oiint_S \epsilon \vec{E}(\vec{r}) \cdot \vec{dS}$$

- The **potential difference**  $V$  between two conductors can likewise be determined as:

$$V = \int_C \vec{E}(\vec{r}) \cdot \vec{dl}$$

where  $C$  is **any contour** that leads from one conductor to the other.

**Q:** Why **any** contour?

**A:**

- We can therefore determine the **capacitance** between two conductors as:

$$C = \frac{Q = \oiint_S \epsilon \vec{E}(\vec{r}) \cdot \vec{dS}}{V = \int_C \vec{E}(\vec{r}) \cdot \vec{dl}} \quad [Farad]$$

- Where the contour  $C$  must start at **some** point on surface  $S_+$  and end at **some** point on surface  $S_-$ .
- $S_+ = S_-$

## Capacitance (contd.)

- Note this expression can be written as:

$$Q = CV$$

In other words, the charge **stored** by two conductors is equal to the product of their mutual capacitance and the potential difference between them.

Therefore, the **greater** capacitance, the **greater** the amount of **charge** that is stored.

- Furthermore, try taking the **time derivative** of the above equation:

$$\frac{dQ}{dt} = C \frac{dV}{dt}$$



$$I = C \frac{dV}{dt}$$

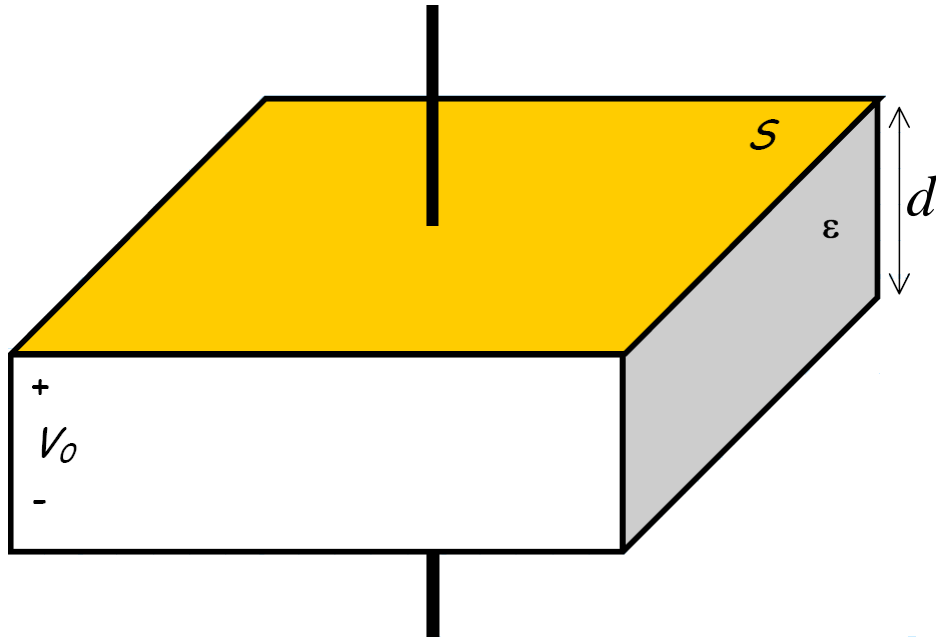
**Look familiar ?**

By the way, the current  $I$  in this equation is **displacement current**.



## The Parallel Plate Capacitor

- Consider the geometry of a **parallel plate capacitor**:



Recall that we determined the fields and surface charge density of an **infinite** pair of parallel plates. We can use those results to approximate the fields and charge densities of this **finite** structure, where the **area** of each plate is  $S$ .

### Where:

$V_0$  = the **potential difference** between the plates

$S$  = **surface area** of each conducting plate

$d$  = **distance** between plates

$\epsilon$  = **permittivity** of the dielectric between the plates

## The Parallel Plate Capacitor (contd.)

- For example, we determined that the **surface charge density** on the upper plate is:

$$\rho_{s+}(\bar{r}) = \frac{\epsilon V_0}{d}$$

- The **total charge** on the upper plate is therefore:

$$Q = \iint_{S_+} \rho_{s+}(\bar{r}) ds \quad \rightarrow \quad Q = \iint_{S_+} \frac{\epsilon V_0}{d} ds \quad \rightarrow \quad Q = \frac{\epsilon V_0}{d} \iint_{S_+} ds \quad \rightarrow \quad Q = \frac{\epsilon V_0 S}{d}$$

- The **capacitance** of this structure is therefore:

$$C = \frac{Q}{V} \quad \rightarrow \quad C = \left( \frac{\epsilon V_0 S}{d} \right) \left( \frac{1}{V_0} \right) \quad \rightarrow \quad \therefore C = \frac{\epsilon S}{d}$$

## The Parallel Plate Capacitor (contd.)

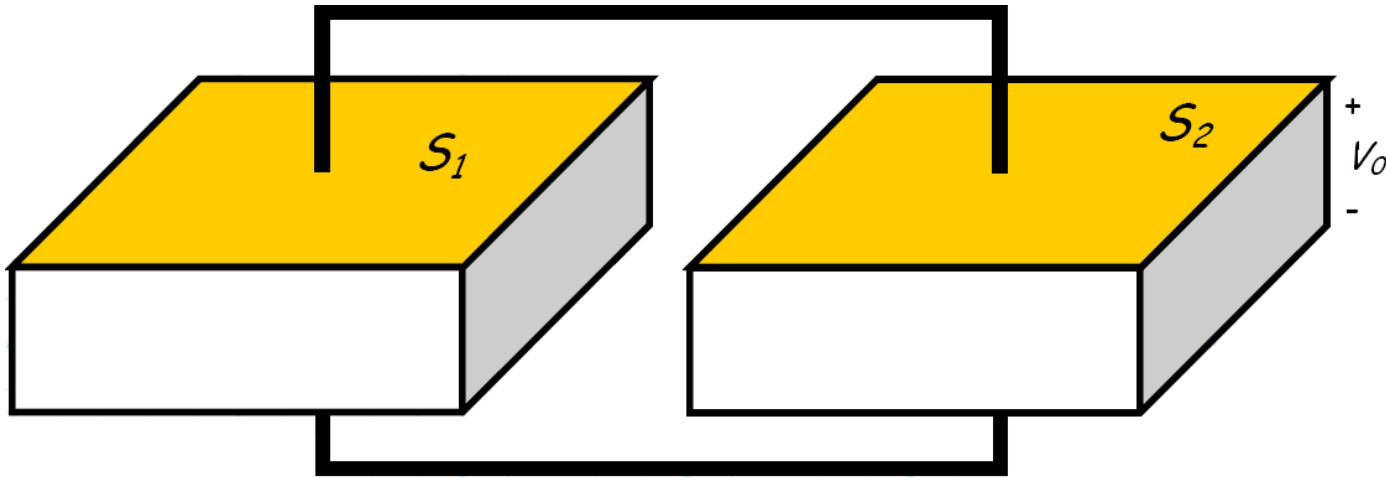
$$\therefore C = \frac{\epsilon S}{d}$$

Therefore, we can **increase** the capacitance of a parallel plate capacitor by:

- 1) **Increasing** surface area  $S$ .
- 2) Decreasing separation distance  $d$ .
- 3) **Increasing** the dielectric permittivity  $\epsilon$ .

## The Parallel Plate Capacitor (contd.)

- Consider now the structure:



Note the **two** upper plates form **one** conducting structure, and the **two** bottom plates form **another**.

**Q:** What is the **capacitance** between these two conducting structures?

**A:** The potential difference between them is  $V_0$ . The **total charge** on one conducting structure is simply the **sum** of the charges on **each plate**:

$$Q = Q_1 + Q_2 = \frac{\epsilon V_0 S_1}{d} + \frac{\epsilon V_0 S_2}{d}$$

## The Parallel Plate Capacitor (contd.)

- Therefore, the **capacitance** of this structure is:

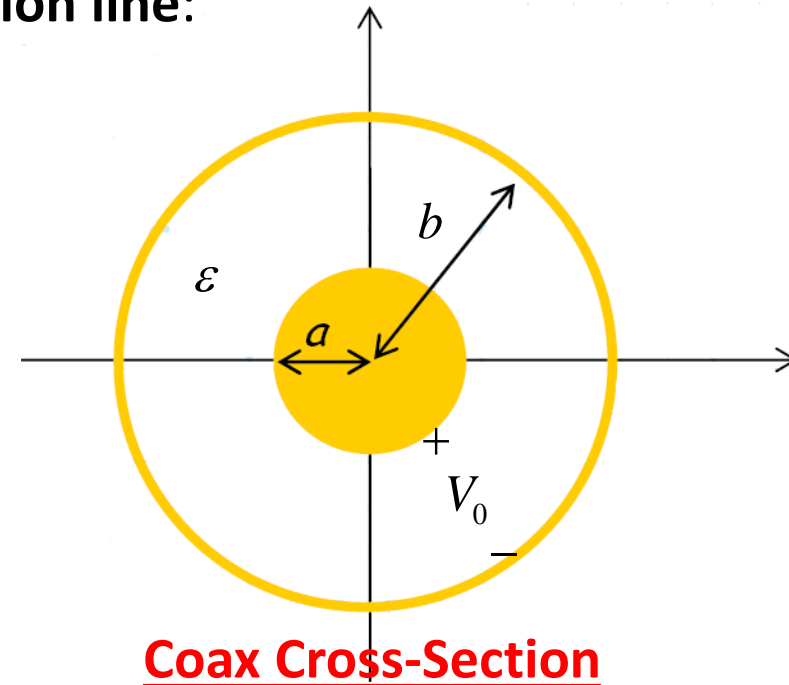
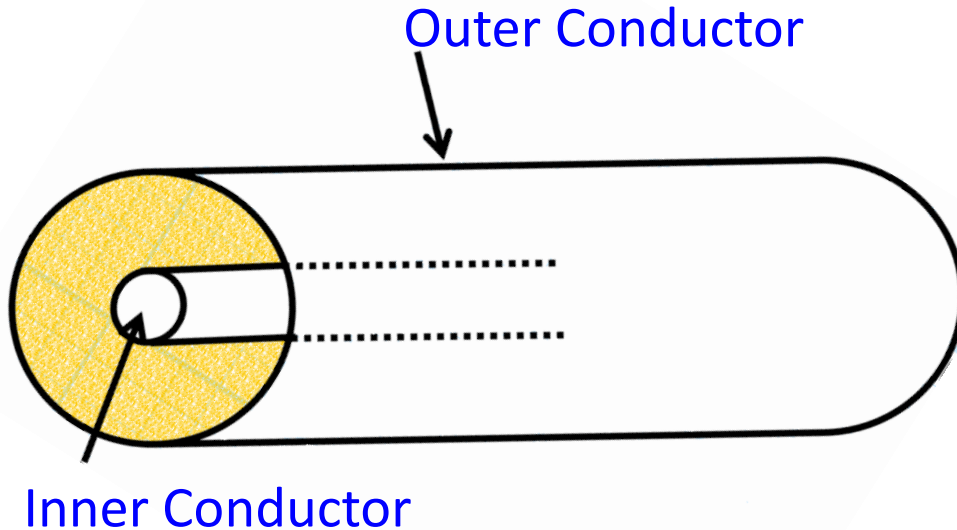
$$C = \frac{Q}{V} = \left( \frac{\epsilon V_0 (S_1 + S_2)}{d} \right) \left( \frac{1}{V_0} \right) \quad \Rightarrow \quad C = \frac{\epsilon (S_1 + S_2)}{d}$$

$$C = \frac{\epsilon S_1}{d} + \frac{\epsilon S_2}{d} \quad \Rightarrow \quad C = C_1 + C_2$$

But **you** knew this! The total capacitance of two capacitors in **parallel** is equal to the **sum** of **each** capacitance.

## Capacitance of a Coaxial Transmission Line

- Recall the geometry of a **coaxial transmission line**:



- We earlier determined that if a **potential difference** of  $V_0$  volts is placed across the conductors, the **surface charge density** on the **inner** conductor is:

$$\rho_{sa}(\bar{r}) = \frac{\epsilon V_0}{\ln[b/a]} \frac{1}{a} \quad \rho = a$$

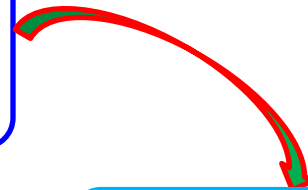
## Capacitance of a Coaxial Transmission Line (contd.)

- The **total charge**  $Q$  on the **inner** conductor of a coax of length  $l$  is determined by **integrating** the surface charge density across the **conductor surface**:

$$Q = \iint_{S_+} \rho_{s+}(\vec{r}) ds$$



$$Q = \int_0^l \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{\epsilon V_0}{\ln[b/a]} \frac{1}{a} \rho d\phi dz$$



$$Q = \frac{\epsilon V_0}{\ln[b/a]} \frac{1}{a} \rho \int_0^l \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi dz$$



$$Q = \left[ \frac{\epsilon V_0}{\ln[b/a]} \frac{1}{a} \rho \right]_{\rho=a} \int_0^l \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi dz$$

$$\therefore Q = \frac{\epsilon V_0}{\ln[b/a]} 2\pi l$$

## Capacitance of a Coaxial Transmission Line (contd.)

- We can now determine the **capacitance** of this coaxial line!
- Since  $C = Q/V$ , and since the **potential difference** between the conductors is  $V = V_0$ , we find:

$$C = \frac{Q}{V} = \left( \frac{\epsilon V_0}{\ln[b/a]} 2\pi l \right) \left( \frac{1}{V_0} \right) \quad \longrightarrow \quad C = \frac{2\pi\epsilon}{\ln[b/a]} l$$

- This value represents the capacitance of a coaxial line of length  $l$ . A more useful expression is the capacitance of a coaxial line **per unit length** (e.g. farads/meter). We find this simply by **dividing** it by length  $l$ :

$$\frac{C}{l} = \frac{2\pi\epsilon}{\ln[b/a]} \quad \left[ \frac{\text{Farads}}{\text{metre}} \right]$$



## Capacitance of a Coaxial Transmission Line (contd.)

$$C = \frac{2\pi\epsilon}{\ln[b/a]} l$$

Note the **longer** the transmission line,  
the **greater** the capacitance!

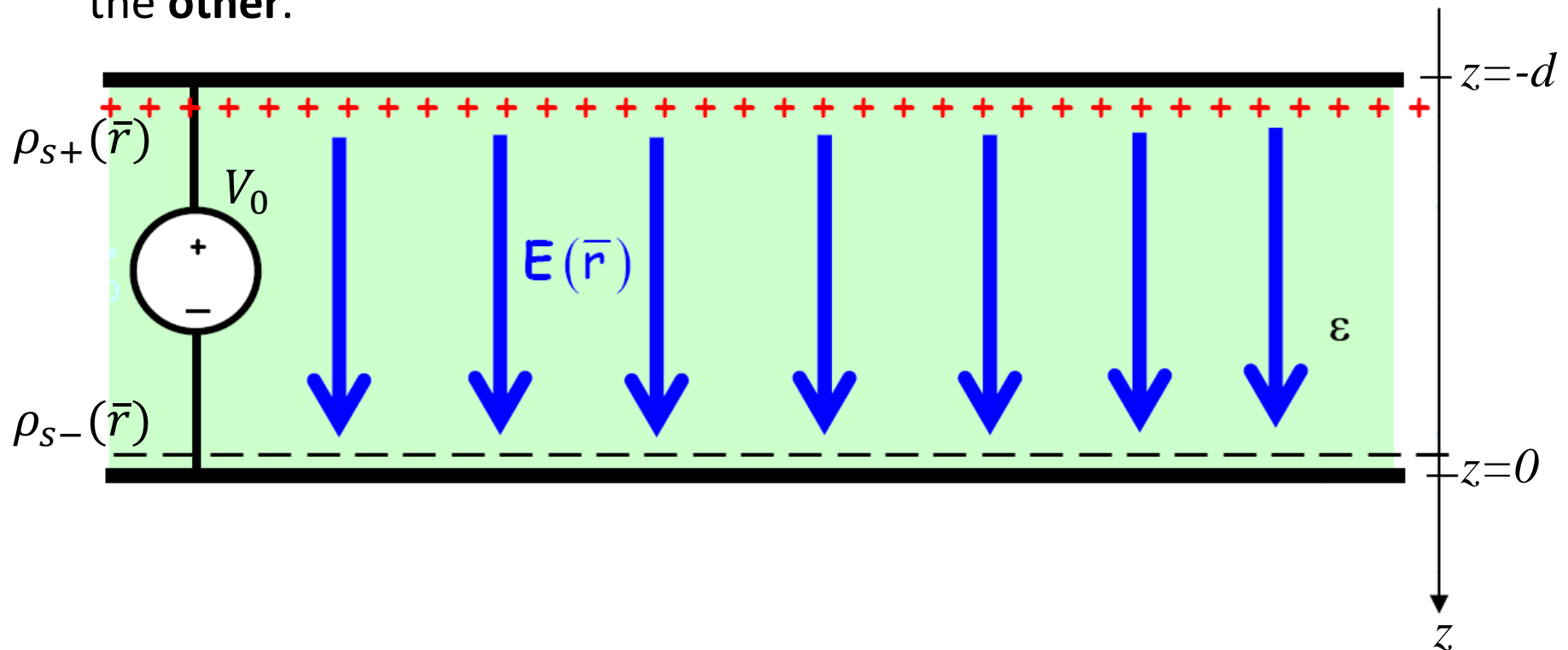
This can cause **great difficulty** if the voltage across the transmission line conductors is **time varying** (as it almost certainly will be!).

For **long** transmission lines, engineers cannot consider a transmission line simply as a “**wire**” conductor that connects circuit elements together. Instead, capacitance (and inductance) make the transmission line **itself** a **circuit element**!

In this case, engineers must use **transmission line theory** to analyze circuits!

## Energy Storage in Capacitors

- Recall in a **parallel plate capacitor**, a surface charge distribution  $\rho_{s+}(\vec{r})$  is created on **one** conductor, while charge distribution  $\rho_{s-}(\vec{r})$  is created on the **other**.



**Q:** How much **energy** is stored by these charges?

## Energy Storage in Capacitors (contd.)

- We learnt that the energy **stored** by a **charge distribution** is:

$$W_e = \frac{1}{2} \iiint_v \rho_v(\vec{r}) V(\vec{r}) dv$$

- The **equivalent** equation for **surface** charge distributions is:

$$W_e = \frac{1}{2} \iint_s \rho_s(\vec{r}) V(\vec{r}) dS$$

- For the parallel plate capacitor, we must integrate over **both** plates:

$$W_e = \frac{1}{2} \iint_{S_+} \rho_{s+}(\vec{r}) V(\vec{r}) dS + \frac{1}{2} \iint_{S_-} \rho_{s-}(\vec{r}) V(\vec{r}) dS$$

- But on the **top** plate (i.e.,  $S_+$ ), we know that:

$$V(z = -d) = V_0$$

- While on the **bottom** plate (i.e.,  $S_-$ ):

$$V(z = 0) = 0$$

## Energy Storage in Capacitors (contd.)

- Therefore:

$$W_e = \frac{V_0}{2} \iint_{S_+} \rho_{s_+}(\vec{r}) dS + \frac{0}{2} \iint_{S_-} \rho_{s_-}(\vec{r}) dS$$



$$W_e = \frac{V_0}{2} \iint_{S_+} \rho_{s_+}(\vec{r}) dS$$

here

$$\iint_{S_+} \rho_{s_+}(\vec{r}) dS = Q$$

here

$$\therefore W_e = \frac{1}{2} QV$$

- $Q = CV$
- and  $V$  is the **potential difference** between the two conductors

- Combining these **two** equations, we find:

$$W_e = \frac{1}{2} CV^2$$

## Energy Storage in Capacitors (contd.)

$$W_e = \frac{1}{2} CV^2$$

It shows that the **energy stored** within a capacitor is proportional to the product of its capacitance and the squared value of the voltage across the capacitor.

- Recall that we also can determine the stored energy from the **fields** within the dielectric:

$$W_e = \frac{1}{2} \iiint_v \vec{D}(\vec{r}) \cdot \vec{E}(\vec{r}) dv$$



$$W_e = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\epsilon V^2}{d^2} (\text{volume})$$

- Here  $\text{volume} = Sd$ , therefore:

$$W_e = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\epsilon S}{d} V^2$$

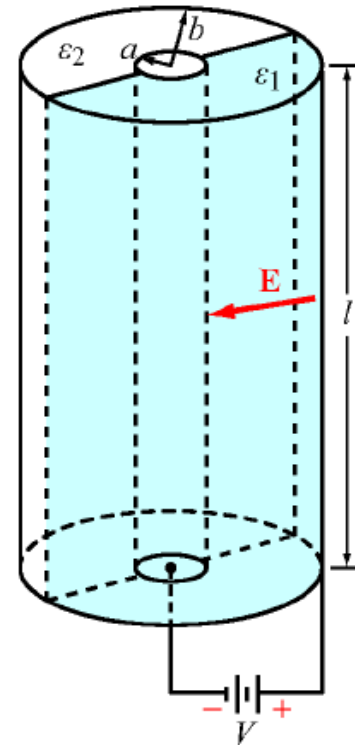


$$W_e = \frac{1}{2} CV^2$$

## Example – 4

- A coaxial capacitor consists of two concentric, conducting, cylindrical surfaces, one of radius  $a$  and another of radius  $b$ . The insulating layer separating the two conducting surfaces is divided equally into two semi-cylindrical sections, one filled with dielectric  $\epsilon_1$  and the other filled with dielectric  $\epsilon_2$ .

- Develop an expression for  $C$  in terms of the length  $l$  and the given quantities.
- Evaluate the value of  $C$  for  $a = 2$  mm,  $b = 6$  mm,  $\epsilon_{r1} = 2$ ,  $\epsilon_{r2} = 4$ , and  $l = 4$  cm.



## Example – 4 (contd.)

- (a) For the indicated voltage polarity, the **electric field** inside the capacitor exists in only the dielectric materials and **points radially inward**. Let  $\vec{E}_1$  be the field in dielectric  $\epsilon_1$  and  $\vec{E}_2$  be the field in dielectric  $\epsilon_2$ .
- (b) At the interface between the two dielectric sections,  $\vec{E}_1$  is parallel to  $\vec{E}_2$  and both are tangential to the interface.
- (c) Since boundary conditions require that the tangential components of  $\vec{E}_1$  and  $\vec{E}_2$  be the same, it follows that:

$$\vec{E}_1 = \vec{E}_2 = -E\hat{a}_\rho$$

- At  $r = a$  (surface of inner conductor), in medium 1, the boundary condition on  $\vec{D}$ , leads to:

$$\vec{D}_1 = \epsilon_1 \vec{E}_1 = \rho_{s1} \hat{a}_n$$



$$-\epsilon_1 E \hat{a}_\rho = \rho_{s1} \hat{a}_\rho$$



$$\rho_{s1} = -\epsilon_1 E$$

## Example – 4 (contd.)

- Similarly, in medium 2:  $\rho_{s2} = -\epsilon_2 E$
- Thus, the electric fields will be the same in the two dielectrics, but the charge densities will be different along the two sides of the inner conducting cylinder.
- Since the same voltage applies for the two sections of the capacitor, we can treat them as two capacitors in parallel. For first half of the cylinder that includes dielectric  $\epsilon_1$ , we can express:

$$C_1 = \frac{\pi \epsilon_1}{\ln[b/a]} l$$

← Only half cylinder

- Similarly:

$$C_2 = \frac{\pi \epsilon_2}{\ln[b/a]} l$$

**Therefore:**

$$C = C_1 + C_2 = \frac{\pi l (\epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2)}{\ln[b/a]}$$