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# **Maxwell's Equations:**

## *Physical Interpretation*

EE-3321

Electromagnetic Field Theory

## **Outline**



- Maxwell's Equations
- Physical Meaning of Maxwell's Equations
  - Gauss' law
  - Gauss' law for magnetic fields
  - Faraday's law
  - Ampere's circuit law
  - Constitutive relations

# Forms of Maxwell's Equations



	Integral Form	Differential Form
Time-Domain	$\oiint_S \vec{D} \cdot d\vec{s} = \iiint_V \rho_v dv$ <p><b>Most general form</b></p> $\oiint_S \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{s} = 0$ $\oint_L \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{\ell} = -\iint_S \left[ \frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} \right] \cdot d\vec{s}$ $\oint_L \vec{H} \cdot d\vec{\ell} = \iint_S \left[ \vec{J} + \frac{\partial \vec{D}}{\partial t} \right] \cdot d\vec{s}$	$\nabla \cdot \vec{D} = \rho_v$ $\nabla \cdot \vec{B} = 0$ $\nabla \times \vec{E} = -\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t}$ $\nabla \times \vec{H} = \vec{J} + \frac{\partial \vec{D}}{\partial t}$
Frequency-Domain	$\oiint_S \vec{D} \cdot d\vec{s} = \iiint_V \rho_v dv$ $\oiint_S \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{s} = 0$ $\oint_L \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{\ell} = -\iint_S [j\omega \vec{B}] \cdot d\vec{s}$ $\oint_L \vec{H} \cdot d\vec{\ell} = \iint_S [\vec{J} + j\omega \vec{D}] \cdot d\vec{s}$	<p><b>Most common form</b></p> $\nabla \cdot \vec{D} = \rho_v$ $\nabla \cdot \vec{B} = 0$ $\nabla \times \vec{E} = -j\omega \vec{B}$ $\nabla \times \vec{H} = \vec{J} + j\omega \vec{D}$

**Constitutive Relations:**  $\vec{D} = \epsilon \vec{E}$        $\vec{B} = \mu \vec{H}$

Maxwell's Equations -- Physical Interpretation

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## Physical Meaning of Maxwell's Equations:

*Gauss' Law*

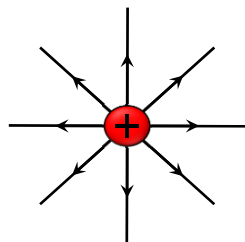
## Fields & Charges (1 of 2)



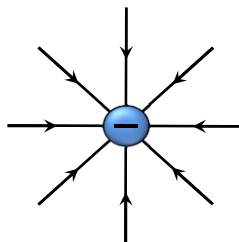
The electric field induced by charges is best described by the electric flux density  $D$  because this quantity is most closely associated with charge.

$$\vec{D} = \frac{Q}{4\pi r^2}$$

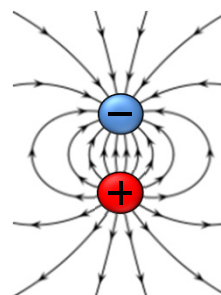
Electric field lines diverge from positive charges.



Electric field lines converge on negative charges.



...or both!



Maxwell's Equations -- Physical Interpretation

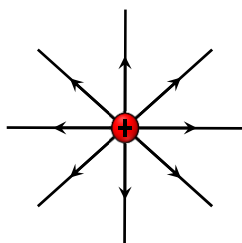
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## Fields & Charges (2 of 2)

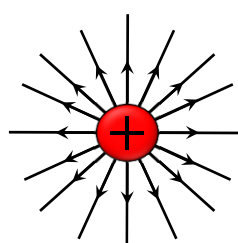


The magnitude of the charge is usually conveyed by the density of the field lines.

Small charge



Large charge



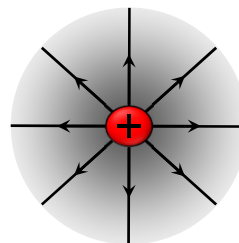
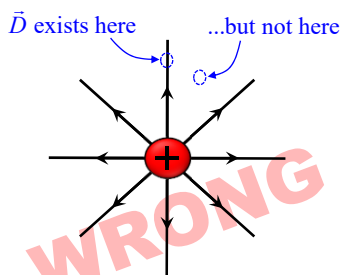
Maxwell's Equations -- Physical Interpretation

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## A Note About Field Lines



It is in some ways misleading to draw electric field lines because it incorrectly implies that the field exists at some points but not others.



The electric field is a smooth and continuous phenomenon, but that is hard to convey in a diagram.

Maxwell's Equations -- Physical Interpretation

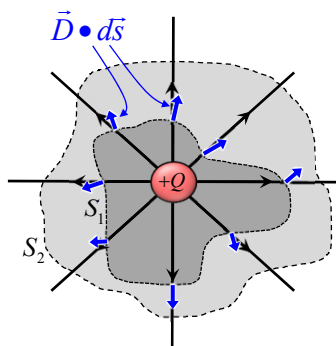
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## How to Calculate Total Charge $Q$



### Method 1: Surface integral of electric flux

Since the density of field lines convey the amount of charge, it makes sense that we can calculate the total charge  $Q$  enclosed within a surface  $S$  by integrating the flux of the field lines at the surface.



$$Q = \oiint_{S_1} \vec{D} \cdot d\vec{s} = \oiint_{S_2} \vec{D} \cdot d\vec{s}$$

The choice of surface  $S$  does not matter as long as the surface completely encloses the charge. Usually the shape of the surface is chosen to make the math as simple as possible.

Maxwell's Equations -- Physical Interpretation

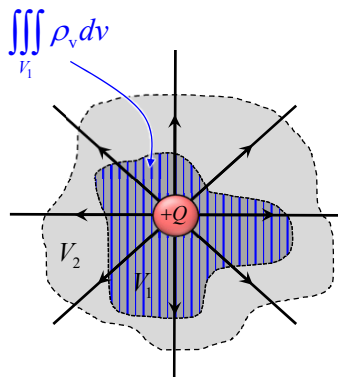
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## How to Calculate Total Charge $Q$



### Method 2: Volume integral of electric charge density

The total charge  $Q$  can be calculated by integrating the electric charge density  $\rho_v$  within a volume  $V$  that completely encompasses the charge.



$$Q = \iiint_{V_1} \rho_v dv = \iiint_{V_2} \rho_v dv$$

The choice of volume  $V$  is the same as the choice of the surface for Method 1. the shape does not matter as long as it completely encompasses the charge. It is usually chosen for mathematical convenience.

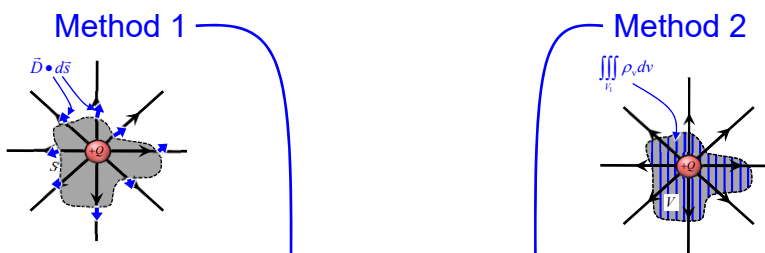
Maxwell's Equations -- Physical Interpretation

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## Gauss' Law in Integral Form



Both methods calculate the same total charge so they can be set equal.



$$Q = \oiint_S \vec{D} \cdot d\vec{s} = \iiint_V \rho_v dv$$

Maxwell's Equations -- Physical Interpretation

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## Apply Divergence Theorem



The *divergence theorem* allows us to write a closed-contour surface integral as a volume integral.

$$\oiint_S \vec{A} \cdot d\vec{s} = \iiint_V (\nabla \cdot \vec{A}) dv$$

Applying this to Gauss' law gives us

$$Q = \oiint_S \vec{D} \cdot d\vec{s} = \iiint_V \rho_v dv$$

↓

$$Q = \iiint_V (\nabla \cdot \vec{D}) dv = \iiint_V \rho_v dv$$

Maxwell's Equations -- Physical Interpretation

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## Gauss' Law in Differential Form



If the surface  $S$  and volume  $V$  describe the same space, the argument of both integrals must be equal. Setting these arguments equal gives Gauss' law in differential form.

$$Q = \iiint_V (\nabla \cdot \vec{D}) dv = \iiint_V \rho_v dv$$

$$\boxed{\nabla \cdot \vec{D} = \rho_v}$$

Maxwell's Equations -- Physical Interpretation

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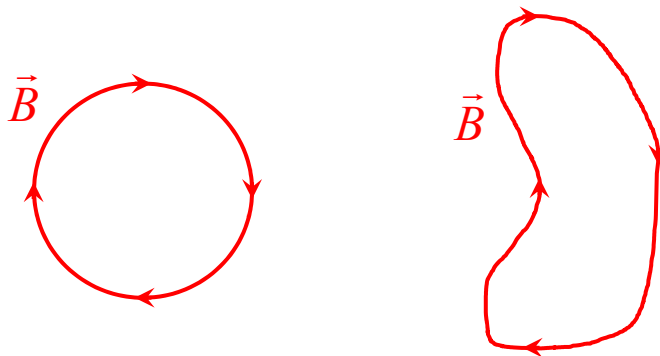
# Physical Meaning of Maxwell's Equations:

## *Gauss' Law for Magnetic Fields*

### No Magnetic Charge



Since there exists no isolated magnetic charge, the magnetic field cannot have a beginning or an end. The magnetic field can only form loops.



## Prove Zero Magnetic Charge



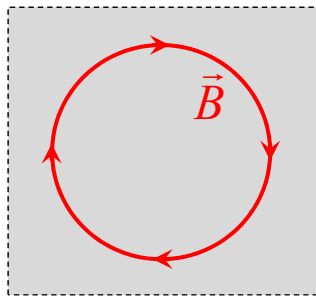
### Surface integral of magnetic flux

Following what we did for electric fields, we calculate total magnetic charge enclosed within a surface  $S$  by integrating the flux of the magnetic field lines at the surface.

$$0 = \oiint_S \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{s}$$

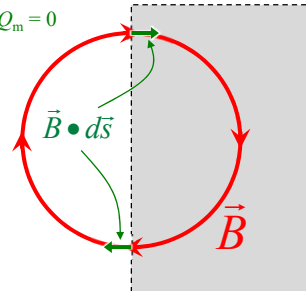
No flux lines through surface.

$$Q_m = 0$$



Flux adds to zero.

$$Q_m = 0$$



Maxwell's Equations -- Physical Interpretation

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## Gauss' Law for Magnetic Fields in Integral Form



The result from last slide is Gauss' law for magnetic fields.

$$\oiint_S \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{s} = 0$$

Maxwell's Equations -- Physical Interpretation

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## Apply Divergence Theorem



The *divergence theorem* allows us to write a closed-contour surface integral as a volume integral.

$$\oiint_S \vec{A} \cdot d\vec{s} = \iiint_V (\nabla \cdot \vec{A}) dv$$

Applying this to Gauss' law for magnetic fields gives us

$$Q_m = \oiint_S \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{s} = \iiint_V \rho_m dv$$

↓

$$Q_m = \iiint_V (\nabla \cdot \vec{B}) dv = \iiint_V \rho_m dv$$

Maxwell's Equations -- Physical Interpretation

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## Gauss' Law for Magnetic Fields in Differential Form



If the surface  $S$  and volume  $V$  describe the same space, the argument of both integrals must be equal. Setting these arguments equal gives Gauss' law for magnetic fields in differential form.

$$Q_m = \iiint_V (\nabla \cdot \vec{B}) dv = \iiint_V \rho_m dv$$

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

However, there is no magnetic charge so  $\rho_m = 0$ .

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

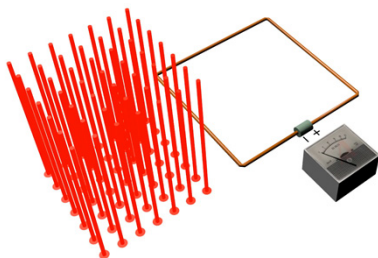
Maxwell's Equations -- Physical Interpretation

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# Physical Meaning of Maxwell's Equations:

## *Faraday's Law*

### Faraday's Experiment



#### Observations:

1. The more (or stronger) the magnetic flux, the higher the voltage reading.

$$V_{\text{emf}} \propto \psi \quad \psi = \iint_S \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{s}$$

2. The more turns of the loop, the higher the voltage reading.

$$V_{\text{emf}} \propto N \quad N \equiv \# \text{ turns}$$

3. The faster the time rate of change of the magnetic flux, the higher the voltage reading.

$$V_{\text{emf}} \propto \frac{d\psi}{dt}$$

## Calculate Induced Voltage (1 of 2)



### Method 1: By experiment.

Faraday performed an experiment and determined that

$$V_{\text{emf}} = -N \frac{d\psi}{dt}$$

The total magnetic flux  $\psi$  accounting for the number of turns  $N$  is

$$N\psi = \iint_S \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{s}$$

$\psi \equiv$  magnetic flux

$N\psi \equiv$  magnetic flux linkage

Flux linkage is a property of a two-terminal device. It is not equivalent to flux. Flux can exist without the loop. Further, if the loops do not have the same orientation, they will not "link" to the magnetic field the same.

Flux and flux linkage are not the same thing, but often used synonymously because most devices are designed so that each loop links the same to the magnetic field and the math reduces to them being nearly equivalent.

Combining the above equations leads an expression for  $V_{\text{EMF}}$  in terms of just the magnetic flux density  $B$ .

$$V_{\text{emf}} = -N \frac{d\psi}{dt} = -\frac{d}{dt}(N\psi) = -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \iint_S \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{s} = -\iint_S \left[ \frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} \right] \cdot d\vec{s}$$

Maxwell's Equations -- Physical Interpretation

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## Calculate Induced Voltage (2 of 2)



### Method 2: Use Kirchoff's voltage law

The voltage across the terminals of the resistor can be calculated using Kirchoff's voltage law. For electromagnetics, Kirchoff's voltage law becomes a line integral. Assuming the resistor is very small compared to the loop, we get

$$V_{\text{emf}} = \oint_L \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{\ell} \quad V = E \cdot \ell$$

Maxwell's Equations -- Physical Interpretation

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## Faraday's Law in Integral Form



Both methods calculate the same voltage so they can be set equal.

Method 2

Method 1

$$V_{\text{emf}} = \oint_L \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{\ell} = - \iint_S \left[ \frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} \right] \cdot d\vec{s}$$

Maxwell's Equations -- Physical Interpretation

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## Apply Stoke's Theorem



Stoke's theorem allows us to write a closed-contour line integral as a surface integral.

$$\oint_L \vec{A} \cdot d\vec{\ell} = \iint_S (\nabla \times \vec{A}) \cdot d\vec{s}$$

Applying this to Faraday's law in integral form gives us

$$V_{\text{emf}} = \oint_L \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{\ell} = - \iint_S \left[ \frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} \right] \cdot d\vec{s}$$

↓

$$V_{\text{emf}} = \iint_S (\nabla \times \vec{E}) \cdot d\vec{s} = - \iint_S \left[ \frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} \right] \cdot d\vec{s}$$

Maxwell's Equations -- Physical Interpretation

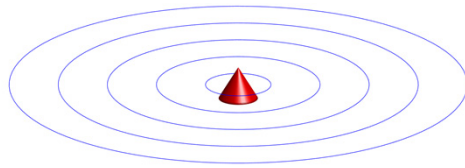
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## Faraday's Law in Differential Form



If the line  $L$  and surface  $S$  describe the same space, the argument of both integrals must be equal. Setting these arguments equal gives Faraday's law in differential form.

$$V_{\text{emf}} = \iint_S (\nabla \times \vec{E}) \cdot d\vec{s} = \iint_S \left[ -\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} \right] \cdot d\vec{s}$$



$$\nabla \times \vec{E} = -\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t}$$

Maxwell's Equations -- Physical Interpretation

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## Physical Meaning of Maxwell's Equations:

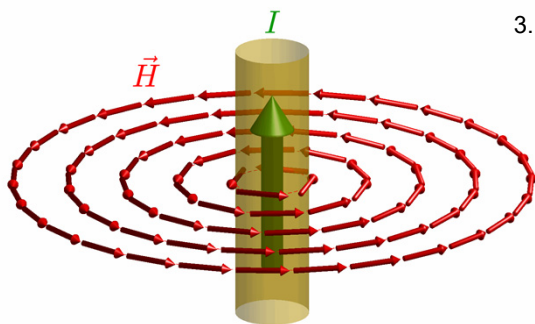
*Ampere's Circuit Law*

## Ampere's Experiment



### Observations:

1. There exists a circulating magnetic field  $H$  around a conductor carrying a current  $I$ .
2. The current  $I$  can induce the magnetic field  $H$ , or the magnetic field  $H$  can induce the current  $I$ .
3. The measured current  $I$  is in proportion to the circulation of  $H$ .



$$I = \oint_L \vec{H} \cdot d\vec{\ell}$$

Maxwell's Equations -- Physical Interpretation

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## Three Types of Current



The total current  $I$  can be calculated by integrating the flux of the electric current density  $J$  through a cross section of the conductor.

$$I = \iint_S \vec{J}_{\text{total}} \cdot d\vec{s}$$

However, recall that there are three types of electric current.

$$\vec{J}_{\text{total}} = \underbrace{\vec{J}_\sigma + \vec{J}_\epsilon}_{\vec{J}} + \vec{J}_D \quad \vec{J}_D = \frac{\partial \vec{D}}{\partial t} \equiv \text{displacement current}$$

$$\vec{J} \equiv \text{current due to free charges}$$

Putting this together gives

$$I = \iint_S \left[ \vec{J} + \frac{\partial \vec{D}}{\partial t} \right] \cdot d\vec{s}$$

Maxwell's Equations -- Physical Interpretation

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## Ampere's Circuit Law in Integral Form



We have two ways of calculating the total current  $I$  in a conductor. Setting these equal gives...

Ampere's  
Experiment

Simple integration  
of current density

$$I = \oint_L \vec{H} \cdot d\vec{\ell} = \iint_S \left[ \vec{J} + \frac{\partial \vec{D}}{\partial t} \right] \cdot d\vec{s}$$

Maxwell's Equations -- Physical Interpretation

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## Apply Stoke's Theorem



Stoke's theorem allows us to write a closed-contour line integral as a surface integral.

$$\oint_L \vec{A} \cdot d\vec{\ell} = \iint_S (\nabla \times \vec{A}) \cdot d\vec{s}$$

Applying this to Ampere's law in integral form gives us

$$I = \oint_L \vec{H} \cdot d\vec{\ell} = \iint_S \left[ \vec{J} + \frac{\partial \vec{D}}{\partial t} \right] \cdot d\vec{s}$$

↓

$$I = \iint_S (\nabla \times \vec{H}) \cdot d\vec{s} = \iint_S \left[ \vec{J} + \frac{\partial \vec{D}}{\partial t} \right] \cdot d\vec{s}$$

Maxwell's Equations -- Physical Interpretation

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## Ampere's Circuit Law in Differential Form



If the line  $L$  and surface  $S$  describe the same space, the argument of both integrals must be equal. Setting these arguments equal gives Ampere's circuit law in differential form.

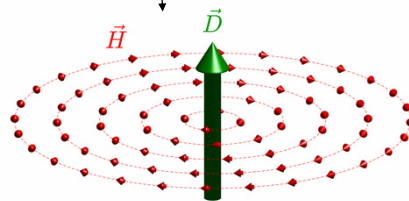
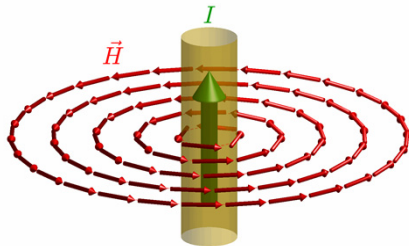
$$I = \iint_S (\nabla \times \vec{H}) \cdot d\vec{s} = \iint_S \left[ \vec{J} + \frac{\partial \vec{D}}{\partial t} \right] \cdot d\vec{s}$$

$$\nabla \times \vec{H} = \vec{J} + \frac{\partial \vec{D}}{\partial t}$$

## Visualization of Ampere's Circuit Law in Differential Form



$$\nabla \times \vec{H} = \vec{J} + \frac{\partial \vec{D}}{\partial t}$$





# Physical Meaning of Maxwell's Equations:

## *Constitutive Relations*

### Electric Response of Materials

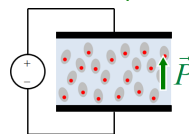


$$\vec{D} = \underbrace{\epsilon_0 \vec{E}}_{\text{Vacuum response}} + \underbrace{\vec{P}}_{\text{Material response}}$$

Vacuum response

Material response

Note:  $\epsilon_0$  is the free space permittivity and multiples  $E$  so that  $\epsilon_0 E$  has the same units as  $P$ .



## Electric Polarization



In general, the relation between the applied electric field  $E$  and the electric polarization  $P$  is nonlinear so it can be expressed as a polynomial.

$$P = \underbrace{\epsilon_0 \chi_e^{(1)}}_{\text{Linear response}} E + \underbrace{\epsilon_0 \chi_e^{(2)} E^2 + \epsilon_0 \chi_e^{(3)} E^3 + \dots}_{\text{Nonlinear response}}$$

These terms are usually ignored.  
They tend to only become significant  
when the electric field is very strong.

$\chi_e^{(2)}$  is pronounced "chi two"

$\chi_e^{(3)}$  is pronounced "chi three"

⋮

$\chi_e^{(n)}$   $\equiv$  electric susceptibility (no units)

Maxwell's Equations -- Physical Interpretation

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## Electric Permittivity & Susceptibility



The permittivity is related to the electric susceptibility through

$$\vec{D} = \epsilon_0 \vec{E} + \vec{P} = \epsilon_0 \vec{E} + \epsilon_0 \chi_e^{(1)} \vec{E} = \epsilon_0 (1 + \chi_e^{(1)}) \vec{E}$$

The constitutive relation can  
also be written in terms of  
the relative permittivity  $\epsilon_r$ .

$$\vec{D} = \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r \vec{E}$$

$$\epsilon_r = 1 + \chi_e^{(1)}$$

Vacuum response

Dielectric response

Maxwell's Equations -- Physical Interpretation

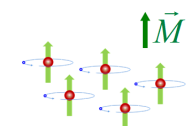
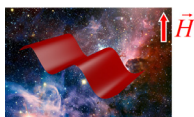
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## Magnetic Response of Materials



$$\vec{B} = \underbrace{\mu_0 \vec{H}}_{\text{Vacuum response}} + \underbrace{\vec{M}}_{\text{Material response}}$$

Note:  $\mu_0$  is the free space permeability and multiples  $H$  so that  $\mu_0 H$  has the same units as  $M$ .



Maxwell's Equations -- Physical Interpretation

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## Magnetic Polarization



In general, the relation between the applied magnetic field  $H$  and the magnetic polarization  $M$  is nonlinear so it can be expressed as a polynomial.

$$M = \underbrace{\mu_0 \chi_m^{(1)} H}_{\text{Linear response}} + \underbrace{\mu_0 \chi_m^{(2)} H^2 + \mu_0 \chi_m^{(3)} H^3 + \dots}_{\text{Nonlinear response}}$$

These terms are usually ignored. They tend to only become significant when the electric field is very strong.

$\chi_m^{(2)}$  is pronounced "chi two"

$\chi_m^{(3)}$  is pronounced "chi three"

⋮

$\chi_m^{(n)} \equiv$  magnetic susceptibility (no units)

Maxwell's Equations -- Physical Interpretation

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## Magnetic Permeability & Susceptibility



The permeability is related to the magnetic susceptibility through

$$\vec{B} = \mu_0 \mu_r \vec{E} = \mu_0 \vec{H} + \mu_0 \chi_m^{(1)} \vec{H} = \mu_0 (1 + \chi_m^{(1)}) \vec{H}$$

$$\mu_r = 1 + \chi_m^{(1)}$$

Vacuum response

Magnetic response

Maxwell's Equations -- Physical Interpretation

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## Types of Magnetic Materials



- Diamagnetic
  - Negative magnetic susceptibility ( $\chi_m < 0$ )
  - Tends to oppose an applied magnetic field.
  - All materials are diamagnetic, but usually very weak.
  - Copper, silver, gold
- Paramagnetic
  - Small positive susceptibility ( $\chi_m > 0$  but small)
  - Material is magnetizable and is attracted to an applied magnetic field.
  - Does not retain magnetization when the external field is removed.
- Ferromagnetic
  - Large positive susceptibility
  - Like paramagnetic, but they retain their magnetism to some degree when the external field is removed.
  - Iron, nickel, cobalt, and some alloys.

Maxwell's Equations -- Physical Interpretation

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# Anisotropy



The dielectric response of a material arises due to the electric field displacing charges.

Due to structural and bonding effects at the atomic scale, charges are often more easily displaced in some directions than others.

This gives rise to anisotropy where the electric field may experience an entirely different permittivity depending on what direction it is oriented.

$$\vec{D} = [\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}] \vec{E}$$

↑ tensor

$$\begin{bmatrix} D_x \\ D_y \\ D_z \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon_{xx} & \varepsilon_{xy} & \varepsilon_{xz} \\ \varepsilon_{yx} & \varepsilon_{yy} & \varepsilon_{yz} \\ \varepsilon_{zx} & \varepsilon_{zy} & \varepsilon_{zz} \end{bmatrix}}_{[\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}]} \begin{bmatrix} E_x \\ E_y \\ E_z \end{bmatrix}$$

$\varepsilon_{ij}$  = how much of  $E_j$  contributes to  $D_i$

Maxwell's Equations -- Physical Interpretation

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# Types of Anisotropy (1 of 2)



## Isotropic Media

$$\begin{bmatrix} D_a \\ D_b \\ D_c \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \varepsilon & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \varepsilon \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} E_a \\ E_b \\ E_c \end{bmatrix}$$

This is the typical approximation made in electromagnetics. The permittivity tensor reduces to a scalar.

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

## Uniaxial Media

$$\begin{bmatrix} D_a \\ D_b \\ D_c \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon_o & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \varepsilon_o & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \varepsilon_e \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} E_a \\ E_b \\ E_c \end{bmatrix}$$

Anisotropic materials are said to be birefringent.

$$\Delta\varepsilon = \varepsilon_e - \varepsilon_o$$

$\varepsilon_o$   $\equiv$  ordinary permittivity

Positive birefringence:  $\Delta\varepsilon > 0$

$\varepsilon_e$   $\equiv$  extraordinary permittivity

Negative birefringence:  $\Delta\varepsilon < 0$

## Biaxial Media

$$\begin{bmatrix} D_a \\ D_b \\ D_c \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon_a & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \varepsilon_b & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \varepsilon_c \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} E_a \\ E_b \\ E_c \end{bmatrix}$$

When orientation is not important, it so convention to order the tensor elements according to  $\varepsilon_a < \varepsilon_b < \varepsilon_c$

Maxwell's Equations -- Physical Interpretation

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# Types of Anisotropy (2 of 2)



Doubly Anisotropic

$$\vec{D} = [\epsilon] \vec{E} \quad \text{and} \quad \vec{B} = [\mu] \vec{H}$$

Chiral Materials

$$\begin{bmatrix} D_a \\ D_b \\ D_c \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon_a & -j\epsilon_b & 0 \\ j\epsilon_b & \epsilon_a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \epsilon_c \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} E_a \\ E_b \\ E_c \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{Gyroelectric}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} B_a \\ B_b \\ B_c \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mu_a & -j\mu_b & 0 \\ j\mu_b & \mu_a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \epsilon_c \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} H_a \\ H_b \\ H_c \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{Gryomagnetic}$$

# Ordinary and Bi- Materials



	Ordinary Materials	Bi- Materials
Isotropic Materials	<p>Isotropic Materials</p> $\vec{D} = \epsilon \vec{E}$ $\vec{B} = \mu \vec{H}$	<p>Bi-Isotropic Materials</p> $\vec{D} = \epsilon \vec{E} + \xi \vec{H}$ $\vec{B} = \xi \vec{E} + \mu \vec{H}$ <p><math>\xi \equiv</math> magnetoelectric coupling coefficient</p>
Anisotropic Materials	<p>Anisotropic Materials</p> $\vec{D} = [\epsilon] \vec{E}$ $\vec{B} = [\mu] \vec{H}$	<p>Bi-Anisotropic Materials</p> $\vec{D} = [\epsilon] \vec{E} + [\xi] \vec{H}$ $\vec{B} = [\xi]^T \vec{E} + [\mu] \vec{H}$