

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_.

PHYSICS 331

MISSION 4: ELECTROSTATICS IN MATTER (37+3)PTS

Problems mentioned refer to David Griffith's *Introduction to Electrodynamics*, 5th edition.

- Problem 35** (5pt) Problem 4.4 (force of attraction neutral polarized atom)
- Problem 36** (6pt) Problem 4.6 (method of images, plane with ~~few charges~~ **dipole**)
- Problem 37** (5pt) Problem 4.8 (energy of interaction for dipoles)
- Problem 38** (6pt) Problem 4.14 (neutrality maintained via bound charge balanced)
- Problem 39** (6pt) Problem 4.15 (dielectric shell, contrasts methods)
- Problem 40** (6pt) Problem 4.24 (conducting sphere, coated with insulator, find E-field)
- Problem 41** (6pt) Problem 4.26 (conducting sphere, coated with insulator, find energy)

P35 GRIFFITHS PROBLEM 4.4

A point charge  $q$  is situated a large distance  $r$  from a neutral atom of polarization  $\alpha$ . Find force of attraction between them.

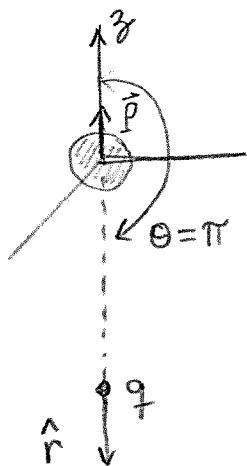


$$\vec{E}_q = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{\hat{z}}{d^2} \text{ is electric field at origin due to } q \text{ at } (0,0,-d)$$

Then the polarization of the neutral atom is given by  $\vec{P} = \alpha \vec{E}$   
The neutral atom has dipole field,

$$\vec{E}_{\text{dipole}} = \frac{P}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^3} (2\cos\theta \hat{r} + \sin\theta \hat{\theta})$$

assuming  $\vec{P} = P \hat{z}$



$$\vec{E}_{\text{dipole}} = \frac{\alpha E_q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 d^3} (-2\hat{r}) = \frac{-2\alpha}{4\pi\epsilon_0 d^3} \left( \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 d^2} \right) \hat{z}$$

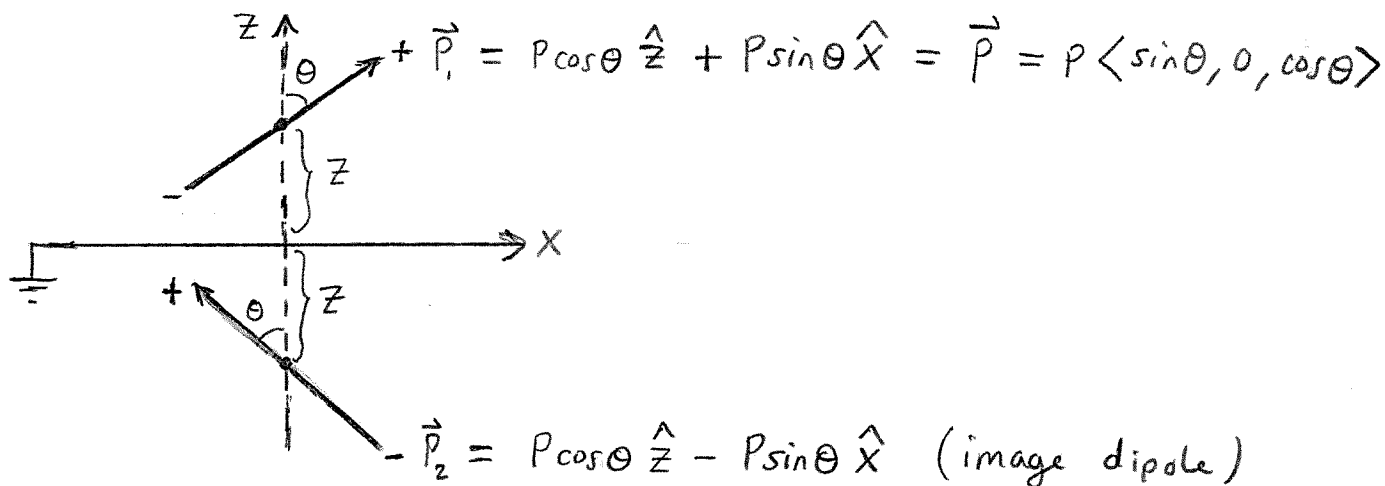
at  $(0,0,-d)$   $\vec{F} = q \vec{E}_{\text{dipole}}$

$$|\vec{F}| = \frac{2\alpha q^2}{(4\pi\epsilon_0)^2 d^5} = \boxed{\frac{\alpha q^2}{8\pi^2 \epsilon_0^2 d^5}}$$

(attractive force)

P36 GRIFFITHS PROBLEM 4.6

A perfect dipole  $\vec{p}$  is situated distance  $z$  above an infinite grounded conducting plane. The dipole makes an angle  $\theta$  with the normal to the plane. Find the torque on  $\vec{p}$ . If the dipole is free to rotate, in what orientation will it come to rest?

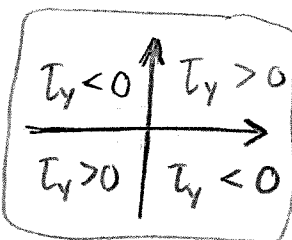


Concept: we can replace  $\sigma$  induced at  $z=0$  with  $\vec{p}_2$  and the resulting  $E$ -field above conducting plane is same. We wish to find torque on  $\vec{p}$ , it is due to  $\vec{E}$ -field generated by induced charge on plane, so, use  $\vec{p}_2$  to find  $E$ -field acting on  $\vec{p}$  at  $(0,0,z)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \vec{E} &= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0 (2z)^3} \left( 3(\vec{p}_2 \cdot \hat{z})\hat{z} - \vec{p}_2 \right) \quad \left( \text{Using GRIFFITHS PROBLEM 3.38} \right) \\
 &= \frac{p}{32\pi\epsilon_0 z^3} \left( (3\cos\theta)\hat{z} - (\cos\theta)\hat{z} + (\sin\theta)\hat{x} \right) \\
 &= \frac{p}{32\pi\epsilon_0 z^3} \left( (2\cos\theta)\hat{z} + (\sin\theta)\hat{x} \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

The torque on a dipole is given by  $\vec{\tau} = \vec{p} \times \vec{E}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \vec{\tau} &= \frac{p^2}{32\pi\epsilon_0 z^3} \langle \sin\theta, 0, 2\cos\theta \rangle \times \langle \sin\theta, 0, \cos\theta \rangle \\
 &= \frac{p^2}{32\pi\epsilon_0 z^3} \langle 0, \sin\theta\cos\theta, 0 \rangle \Rightarrow \vec{\tau} = \frac{p^2 \sin\theta \cos\theta}{32\pi\epsilon_0 z^3} \hat{y}
 \end{aligned}$$



$\vec{p}$  rests  $\perp$  to plane

$\theta = 0, \pi$  stable equilibria

**P37** GRIFFITH'S PROBLEM 4.8

show that the interaction energy of two ideal dipoles separated by a displacement  $\vec{r}$  is

$$U = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{r^3} \left[ \vec{P}_1 \cdot \vec{P}_2 - 3(\vec{P}_1 \cdot \hat{r})(\vec{P}_2 \cdot \hat{r}) \right]$$

Hint: we know the energy of permanent ideal dipole in electric field  $\vec{E}$  is given by  $U = -\vec{P} \cdot \vec{E}$ . Furthermore

$$\vec{E}_{\text{dipole}} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{r^3} \left[ 3(\vec{P} \cdot \hat{r})\hat{r} - \vec{P} \right]$$

Place  $\vec{P}_1$  at the origin then the electric field due to  $\vec{P}_1$  at  $\vec{r}$

$$U = -\vec{P}_2 \cdot \vec{E}_1$$

$$= -\vec{P}_2 \cdot \left( \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{r^3} \left[ 3(\vec{P}_1 \cdot \hat{r})\hat{r} - \vec{P}_1 \right] \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{r^3} \left[ \vec{P}_2 \cdot \vec{P}_1 - 3(\vec{P}_1 \cdot \hat{r})(\vec{P}_2 \cdot \hat{r}) \right]$$

Remark: we should have worked Problem 3.38

P38 PROBLEM 4.14

When you polarize a neutral dielectric, the charge moves a bit, but the total remains zero. Show that the total bound charge vanishes.

We have  $\sigma_b = \vec{P} \cdot \hat{n}$  and  $\rho_b = -\nabla \cdot \vec{P}$  where  $\vec{P}$  is the polarization of an object with normal  $\hat{n}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \int_V \rho_b d\tau &= - \int_V (\nabla \cdot \vec{P}) d\tau \\ &= - \int_{\partial V} \vec{P} \cdot d\vec{a} \\ &= - \int_{\partial V} (\vec{P} \cdot \hat{n}) da \\ &= - \int_{\partial V} \sigma_b da \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\underbrace{\int_V \rho_b d\tau}_{\text{net bound charge within } V} + \underbrace{\int_{\partial V} \sigma_b da}_{\text{net bound charge on surface of } V} = 0$$

**P39** PROBLEM 4.15

A thick spherical shell  $a < r < b$  is made of a dielectric material with a "frozen-in" polarization

$$\vec{P}(\vec{r}) = \frac{k}{r} \hat{r}$$

where  $k$  is a constant (there is no free charge in this problem)

Find electric field via

(a.) locate bound charge, use Gauss' law and calculate field from the bound charge.

(b.) use  $\oint \vec{D} \cdot d\vec{a} = Q_{\text{enc}}$  to find  $\vec{D}$  and then get  $\vec{E}$  from  $\vec{D} = \epsilon_0 \vec{E} + \vec{P}$

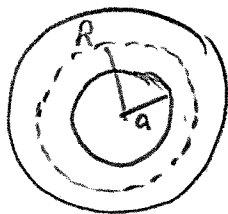
$$(a.) \sigma_{b,a} = \vec{P} \cdot \hat{n}_a = \frac{k}{a} \hat{r} \cdot (-\hat{r}) = -\frac{k}{a} \quad (\text{at } r=a)$$

$$\sigma_{b,b} = \vec{P} \cdot \hat{n}_b = \frac{k}{b} \hat{r} \cdot (\hat{r}) = \frac{k}{b} \quad (\text{at } r=b)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_b &= -\nabla \cdot \vec{P} = -\frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} [r^2 P_r] \quad (P_\phi = P_\theta = 0) \\ &= -\frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left[ r^2 \frac{k}{r} \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$= -\frac{k}{r^2}, \quad \rho_b d\tau = -\frac{k}{r^2} r^2 \sin\theta d\theta d\phi dr = -k d\Omega dr$$

$$Q_{\text{enc}}(a < R < b) = \int_a^R \rho_b d\tau = -k \int d\Omega \int_a^R dr = -4\pi k(R-a)$$



$$\epsilon_0 \Phi_E = Q_{\text{enc}}(a) + Q_{\text{enc}}(a < R < b)$$

$$4\pi\epsilon_0 R^2 E = (4\pi a^2) \sigma_{b,a} + 4\pi k(a-R)$$

$$4\pi\epsilon_0 R^2 E = (4\pi a^2) \left( -\frac{k}{a} \right) + 4\pi k(a-R)$$

$$E = \frac{4\pi k}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R^2} [-a + a - R] = -\frac{4\pi k}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R}$$



P39 continued (a.)

We find for  $a < r < b$  that

$$\vec{E}(\vec{r}) = \left( \frac{-k}{\epsilon_0 r} \right) \hat{r} \quad \text{for } a < r < b$$

Consider  $r > b$  then the Gaussian sphere at  $r = R$  includes  $4\pi a^2 \sigma_{b,a} + 4\pi b^2 \sigma_{b,b} + Q_{\text{enc}}$  (total from  $r=a$  to  $r=b$ )

$$Q_{\text{enc}} = 4\pi a^2 \left( \frac{-k}{a} \right) + 4\pi b^2 \left( \frac{k}{b} \right) + 4\pi k(a-b) = 0$$

Therefore Gauss' Law yields

$$4\pi R^2 \vec{E} = \frac{Q_{\text{enc}}}{\epsilon_0} = 0 \Rightarrow \boxed{\vec{E}(\vec{r}) = 0 \text{ For } r > b}$$

Likewise,  $\boxed{\vec{E} = 0 \text{ for } 0 \leq r < a}$  since  $Q_{\text{enc}} = 0$  within the inner sphere.

(b.) Since  $Q_f = 0$  everywhere we have  $\oint \vec{D} \cdot d\vec{a} = Q_f$  yields

$\vec{D}(\vec{r}) = 0$  everywhere. Now  $\vec{D} = \epsilon_0 \vec{E} + \vec{P}$

(i.)  $0 \leq r < a$  have  $\vec{P} = 0 \therefore \boxed{\vec{E} = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \vec{D} = \vec{0} \text{ for } 0 \leq r < a}$

(ii.)  $a < r < b$  have  $\vec{P} = \frac{k}{r} \hat{r}$  thus

$$0 = \epsilon_0 \vec{E} + \frac{k}{r} \hat{r} \Rightarrow \boxed{\vec{E} = \frac{-k}{\epsilon_0 r} \hat{r} \text{ for } a < r < b}$$

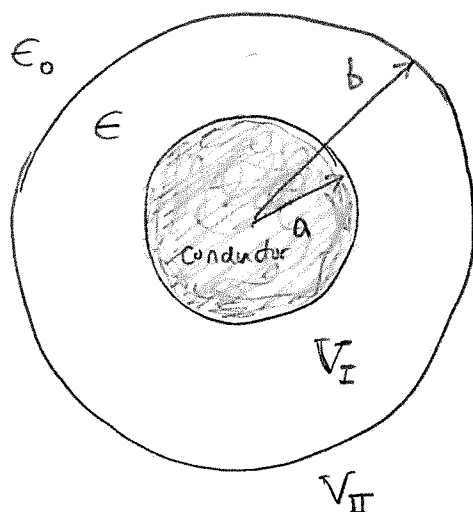
(iii.)  $r > b$  have  $\vec{P} = 0 \therefore \boxed{\vec{E} = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \vec{D} = 0 \text{ for } r > b}$

Remark: if  $\vec{D}$  is defined by  $\epsilon_0 \vec{E} + \vec{P} = \vec{D}$  then we cannot really say  $\vec{D} = 0$  at  $r = a$  or  $r = b$  where charge is localized

P40/ PROBLEM 4.24

$$\epsilon_r \equiv 1 + \chi_e = \frac{\epsilon}{\epsilon_0}$$

An uncharged conducting sphere of radius  $a$  is coated with a thick insulating shell (with dielectric constant  $\epsilon_r$ ) out to radius  $b$ . The object is now placed in otherwise uniform electric field  $\vec{E}_0$ . Find electric field in the insulator



Suppose  $\vec{E}_0 = E_0 \hat{z}$  for  $r \gg b$

then  $\vec{E} = -\nabla V \Rightarrow V = -E_0 z$

or  $V(\vec{r}) = -E_0 r \cos \theta$  for  $r \gg b$  BC1

$$V_I = V_{II} \text{ for } r = b \quad \text{BC 2}$$

We can set  $V = 0$  within conductor, you might worry this is inconsistent with  $V(\vec{r}) = -E_0 r \cos \theta$  for  $r \gg b$  but, following path along  $xy$ -plane it is somewhat clear  $\vec{E} \perp$  to  $xy$ -plane.

$$V_I = 0 \text{ for } r = a \quad \text{BC 3}$$

$$\text{Finally, we have } \epsilon \frac{\partial V_I}{\partial r} = \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial V_{II}}{\partial r} \text{ at } r = b \quad \text{BC 4}$$

Since  $V_I$  has  $a < r < b$  we face all terms in the Legendre expansion (thanks to axial symmetry, no  $\phi$  dep)

$$V_I(\vec{r}) = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \left( A_m r^m + \frac{B_m}{r^{m+1}} \right) P_m(\cos \theta)$$

Apply BC3,

$$0 = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \left( A_m a^m + \frac{B_m}{a^{m+1}} \right) P_m(\cos \theta)$$

$$\Rightarrow A_m a^m + \frac{B_m}{a^{m+1}} = 0 \Rightarrow B_m = -A_m a^{2m+1} \quad \text{III}$$



P40 continued

For  $r > b$ , thanks to BC1 we find

$$V_{II}(\vec{r}) = -E_0 r \cos \theta + \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{C_m}{r^{m+1}} P_m(\cos \theta)$$

Notice  $B_m = -A_m a^{2m+1}$  yields

$$V_I(\vec{r}) = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} A_m \left( r^m - \frac{a^{2m+1}}{r^{m+1}} \right) P_m(\cos \theta)$$

Apply BC2 and equate  $V_I$  and  $V_{II}$  at  $r = b$ ,

$$\sum_{m=0}^{\infty} A_m \left( b^m - \frac{a^{2m+1}}{b^{m+1}} \right) P_m(\cos \theta) = -E_0 b \cos \theta + \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{C_m}{b^{m+1}} P_m(\cos \theta)$$

We find conditions from LI of  $P_m(\cos \theta)$

$m=0$   $A_0(1 - a^3/b^2) = C_0/b \leftarrow$  (these must be zero since  $V=0$  where  $z=0$ )

$m=1$   $A_1(b - a^3/b^2) = -E_0 b + C_1/b^2$

$m \geq 2$   $A_m \left( b^m - \frac{a^{2m+1}}{b^{m+1}} \right) = \frac{C_m}{b^{m+1}}$

$$\underline{C_m = A_m (b^{2m+1} - a^{2m+1})} \quad \textcircled{IV}$$

It remains to apply BC4, applying IV to  $V_{II}$  formula,

$$V_{II}(\vec{r}) = \left( -E_0 r + \frac{C_1}{r^2} \right) \cos \theta + \sum_{m=2}^{\infty} \frac{A_m (b^{2m+1} - a^{2m+1})}{r^{m+1}} P_m(\cos \theta)$$

p40 continued

$$\epsilon \frac{\partial V_I}{\partial r} = \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial V_{II}}{\partial r} \quad \text{at } r=b$$

$$\epsilon \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} A_m \left( m b^{m-1} + \frac{(m+1)a^{2m+1}}{b^{m+2}} \right) P_m(\cos \theta) = \leftarrow *$$

$$\rightarrow = \epsilon_0 \left[ \left( -E_0 - \frac{2C_1}{b^3} \right) \cos \theta + \sum_{m=2}^{\infty} \frac{-(m+1)A_m (b^{2m+1} - a^{2m+1})}{b^{m+2}} P_m(\cos \theta) \right]$$

Equating coefficients of  $P_m(\cos \theta)$

$$\cos \theta \mid \epsilon A_1 \left( 1 + \frac{2a^3}{b^3} \right) = \epsilon_0 \left( -E_0 - \frac{2C_1}{b^3} \right)$$

From BC2,  $m=1$  we also have  $\frac{C_1}{b^3} = E_0 + A_1 \left( 1 - \frac{a^3}{b^3} \right)$

Thus,

$$\epsilon A_1 \left( 1 + \frac{2a^3}{b^3} \right) = -\epsilon_0 E_0 - 2\epsilon_0 \left( E_0 + A_1 \left( 1 - \frac{a^3}{b^3} \right) \right)$$

$$A_1 \left[ \epsilon \left( 1 + \frac{2a^3}{b^3} \right) + 2\epsilon_0 \left( 1 - \frac{a^3}{b^3} \right) \right] = -3\epsilon_0 E_0$$

$$A_1 \left[ \epsilon (b^3 + 2a^3) + 2\epsilon_0 (b^3 - a^3) \right] = -3\epsilon_0 b^3 E_0$$

$$A_1 = \frac{-3b^3 E_0}{\epsilon_r (2a^3 + b^3) + 2(b^3 - a^3)}$$

From \* for  $m \geq 2$  we find

$$\epsilon A_m \left( m b^{m-1} + \frac{(m+1)a^{2m+1}}{b^{m+2}} \right) = \epsilon_0 A_m \left( \frac{(m+1)(a^{2m+1} - b^{2m+1})}{b^{m+2}} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{A_m = 0 \text{ for } m=2, 3, \dots}$$

P40 continued

The potential within the media is  $V_I$   
in my notation, we've shown for  $a < r < b$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} V(\vec{r}) &= \left( A_1 r + \frac{B_1}{r^2} \right) \cos \theta \quad : \text{ since } P_1(\cos \theta) = \cos \theta \\ &= A_1 \left( r - \frac{a^3}{r^2} \right) \cos \theta \quad : B_1 = -A_1 a^3 \\ &= \frac{-3E_0 \cos \theta}{\epsilon_r \left( 2a^3/b^3 + 1 \right) + 2 \left( 1 - a^3/b^3 \right)} \left( r - \frac{a^3}{r^2} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Finally, we can answer the question: what is the electric field in the insulator?

$$\vec{E} = -\nabla V$$

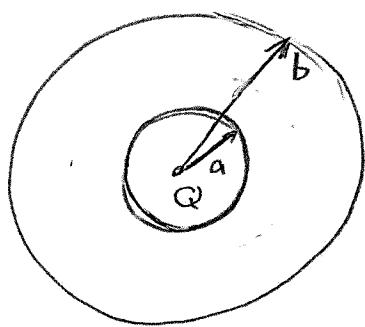
$$= -\hat{r} \left( \frac{\partial V}{\partial r} \right) - \hat{\theta} \left( \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial V}{\partial \theta} \right)$$

$$= \frac{3E_0}{\epsilon_r \left( \frac{2a^3}{b^3} + 1 \right) + 2 \left( 1 - \frac{a^3}{b^3} \right)} \left[ \cos \theta \left( 1 + \frac{2a^3}{r^3} \right) \hat{r} - \sin \theta \left( 1 - \frac{a^3}{r^3} \right) \hat{\theta} \right]$$

$$\boxed{\vec{E}(\vec{r}) = \frac{3E_0}{2 \left[ 1 - \frac{a^3}{b^3} \right] + \epsilon_r \left[ 1 + \frac{2a^3}{b^3} \right]} \left[ \cos \theta \left( 1 + \frac{2a^3}{r^3} \right) \hat{r} - \sin \theta \left( 1 - \frac{a^3}{r^3} \right) \hat{\theta} \right]}$$

P41) PROBLEM 4.26

A spherical conductor, of radius  $a$ , carries a charge  $Q$ . It is surrounded by linear dielectric material of susceptibility  $\chi_e$ , out to radius  $b$ . Find the energy of this configuration



$$\vec{D} = \epsilon_0 \vec{E} + \vec{P} = \epsilon_0 \vec{E} + \epsilon_0 \chi_e \vec{E}$$

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

(linear dielectric)

If we consider any sphere of radius  $r > a$  then  $Q_{\text{enc}} = Q$  and  $\oint \vec{D} \cdot d\vec{a} = Q$  yields

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

Now for  $r > b$  we have  $\vec{D} = \epsilon_0 \vec{E} \Rightarrow \vec{E} = \underbrace{\frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{\hat{r}}{r^2}}_{r > a}$

On the other hand, for  $a < r < b$ ,

$$\vec{D} = \epsilon \vec{E} \Rightarrow \vec{E} = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon} \frac{\hat{r}}{r^2} \quad (a < r < b)$$

The work to assemble this configuration, given by

$$W = \frac{1}{2} \int (\vec{D} \cdot \vec{E}) d\tau$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left( \iiint_{a < r < b} \left( \frac{Q}{4\pi} \frac{\hat{r}}{r^2} \right) \cdot \left( \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon} \frac{\hat{r}}{r^2} \right) d\tau + \iiint_{r > b} \left( \frac{Q}{4\pi} \frac{\hat{r}}{r^2} \right) \cdot \left( \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{\hat{r}}{r^2} \right) d\tau \right)$$

$$= \frac{Q^2 \cdot 4\pi}{32\pi^2 \epsilon} \int_a^b \frac{dr}{r^2} + \frac{Q^2 \cdot 4\pi}{32\pi^2 \epsilon_0} \int_b^\infty \frac{dr}{r^2}$$

$$= \boxed{\frac{Q^2}{8\pi} \left[ \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left( \frac{1}{a} - \frac{1}{b} \right) + \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \left( \frac{1}{b} \right) \right]}$$