

# Capacitive displacement sensor 1

$$C = \frac{2\pi \epsilon_0 l}{\ln(b/a)}. \quad (3.21)$$

46 3 Physical Principles of Sensing

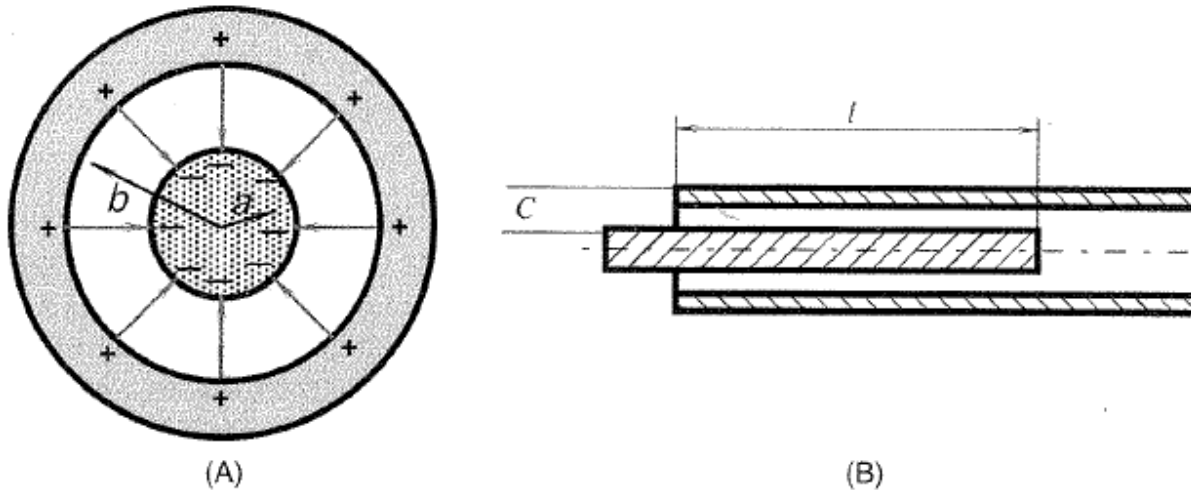
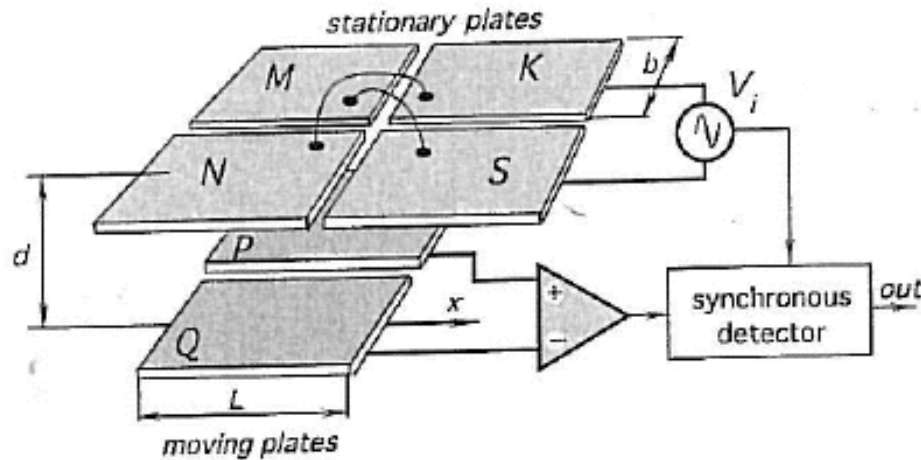


Fig. 3.5. Cylindrical capacitor (A); capacitive displacement sensor (B).

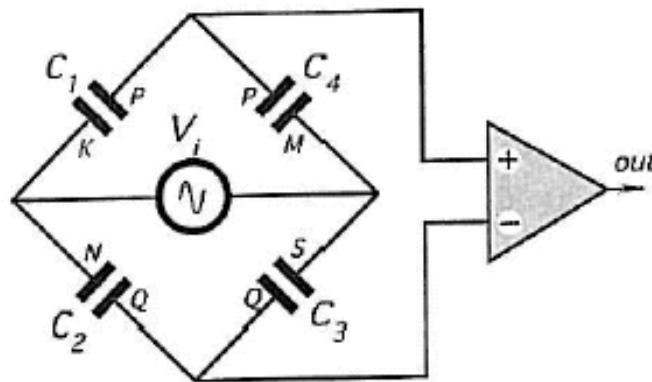
# Capacitive displacement sensor 2

262 7 Position, Displacement, and Level



$$C = \frac{\epsilon_0 \epsilon_r A}{d}$$

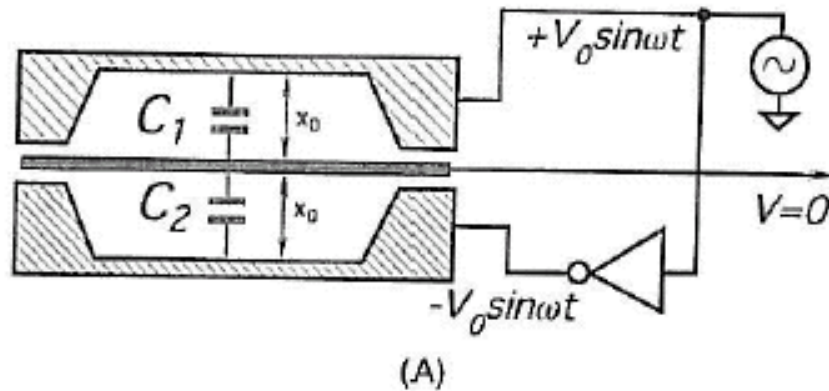
(A)



(B)

Fig. 7.8. Parallel-plate capacitive bridge sensor: (A) plate arrangement, (B) equivalent circuit diagram

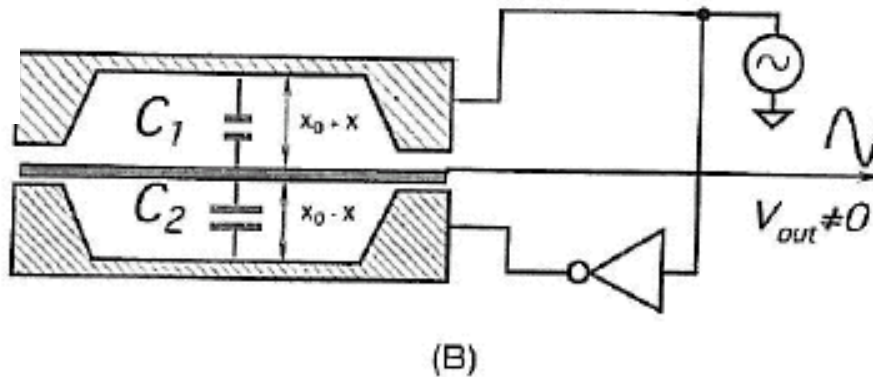
# Capacitive displacement sensing 3



$$V = \frac{Q}{C} = \frac{\int i dt}{C} = \frac{i}{j\omega C}$$

$$C_1 = \frac{\epsilon A}{x_0 + x}$$

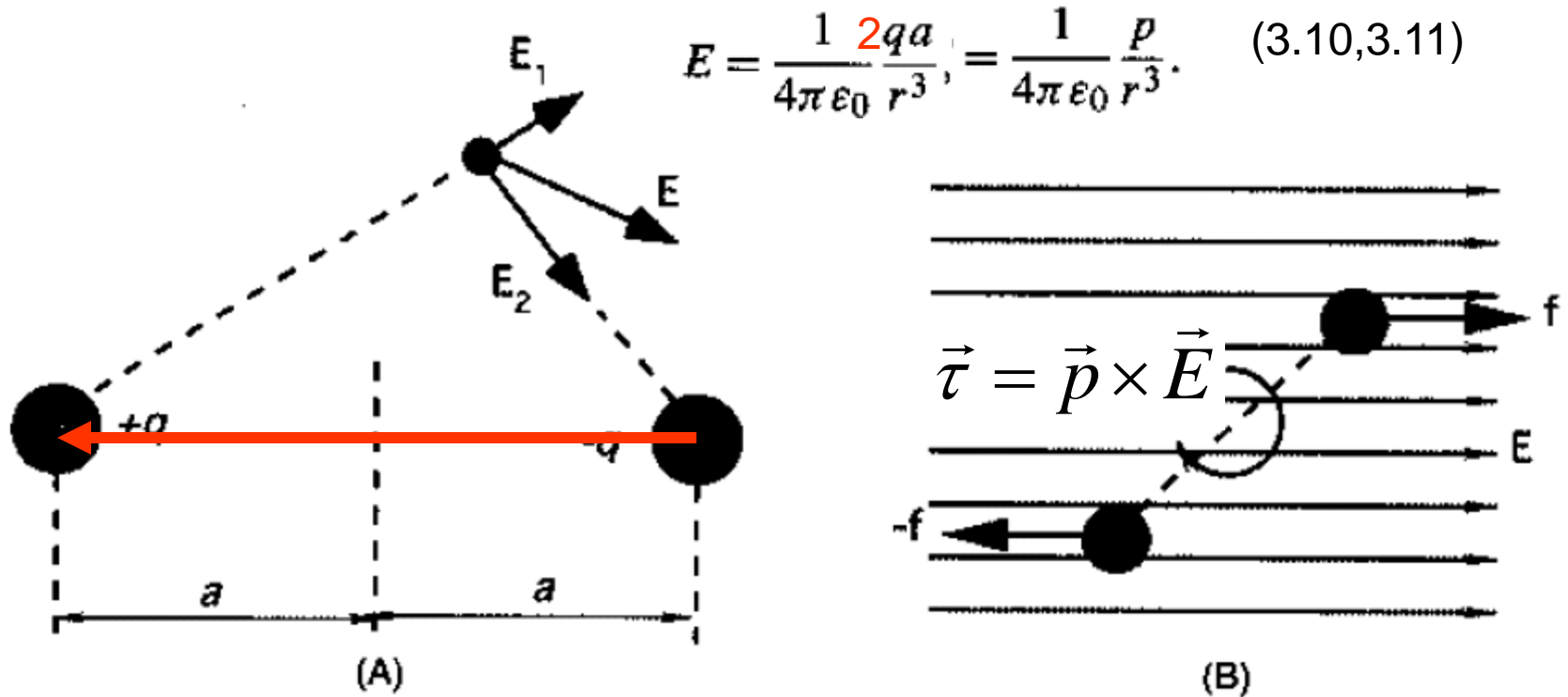
$$C_2 = \frac{\epsilon A}{x_0 - x}$$



$$V_{out} = V_0 \left( -\frac{x}{x_0 + x} + \frac{\Delta C}{C} \right)$$

7.5. Operating principle of a flat plate capacitive sensor A-balanced position; B-disbalanced position

# Electric dipoles



**Fig. 3.3.** Electric dipole (A); an electric dipole in an electric field is subjected to a rotating force (B).

# Near- and far field from dipole

Far field (dipole field) depend on:

- Dipole moment (charge\*separation)
- Distance from dipole (->amplitude)
- Angle with dipole (->direction)

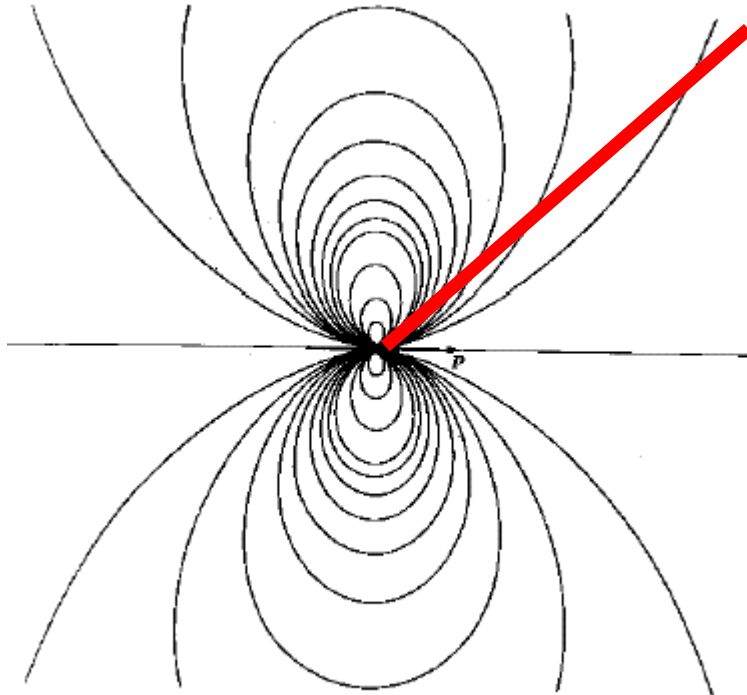
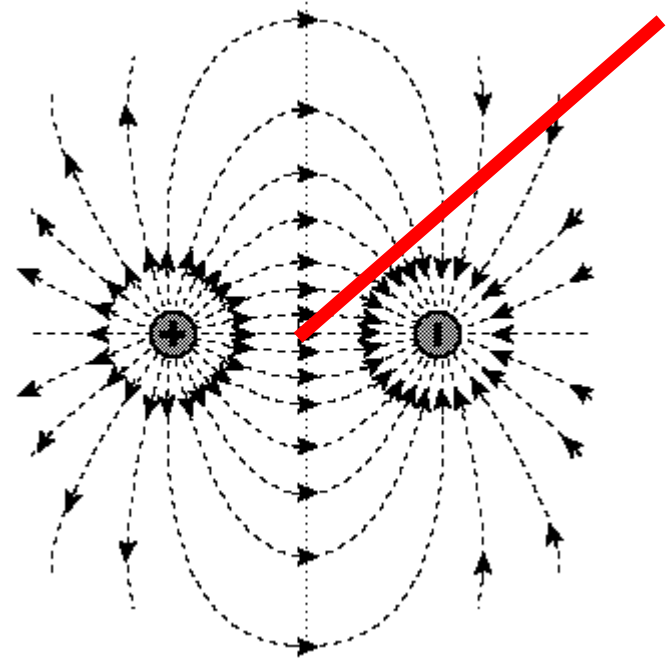


Fig. 1-26. Lines of force of the electric field of an electric dipole.

Alonso/Finn: Fundamental univeristy physics

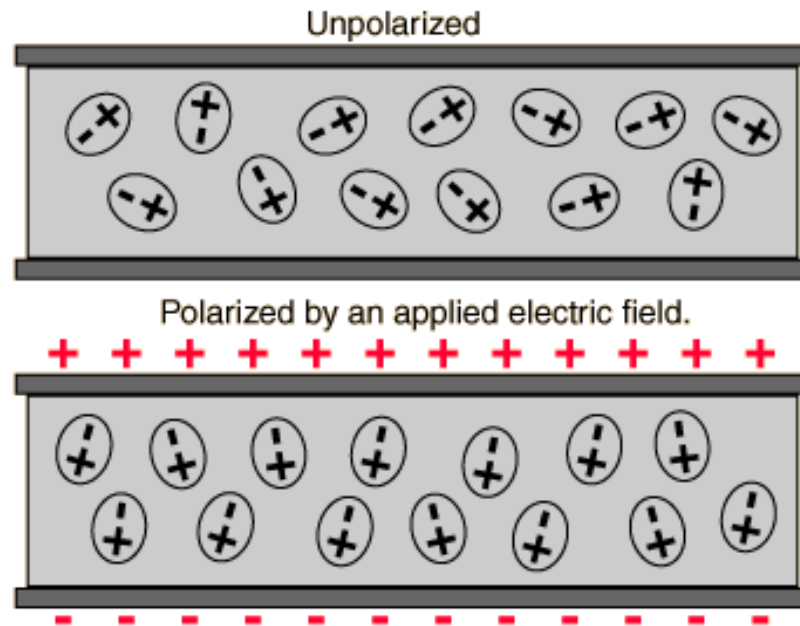
Near field depend on:

- Charge
- Exact location of charges



Hyperphysics

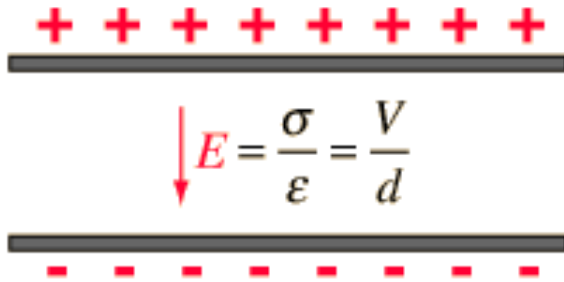
# Dipoles in an electric field



Due to thermal agitation the alignment of the dipoles is proportional to the applied field!!

<http://hyperphysics.phy-astr.gsu.edu/hbase/electric/dielec.html>

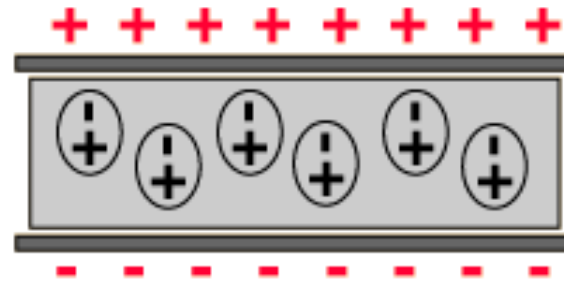
# Displaced charge



For air,  $\epsilon \approx \epsilon_0$

$$C = \frac{\epsilon_0 A}{d}$$

The capacitance is increased by the factor  $k$ .



$$E_{\text{effective}} = E - E_{\text{polarization}} = \frac{\sigma}{k\epsilon_0}$$

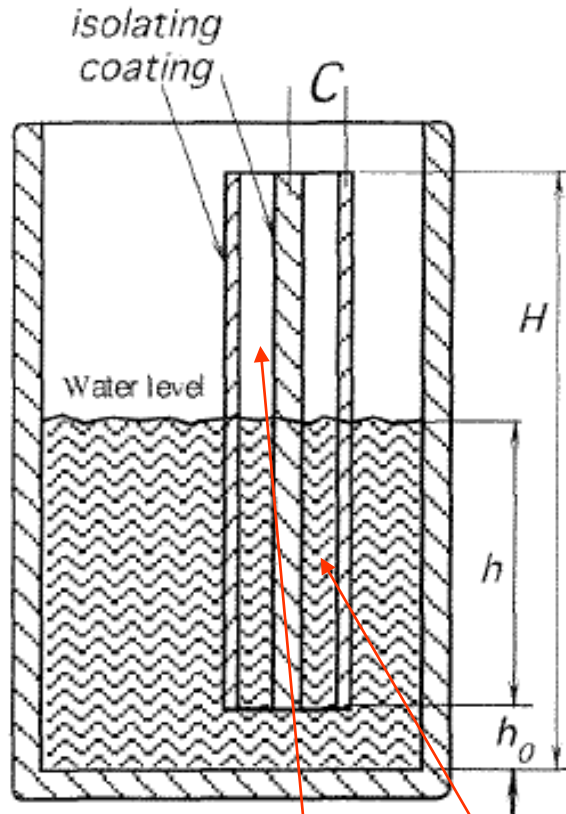
$$C = \frac{k\epsilon_0 A}{d}$$

$$k = \kappa = \epsilon_r$$

$$\oint_S \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{S} = \frac{q}{\epsilon_r \epsilon_0}$$

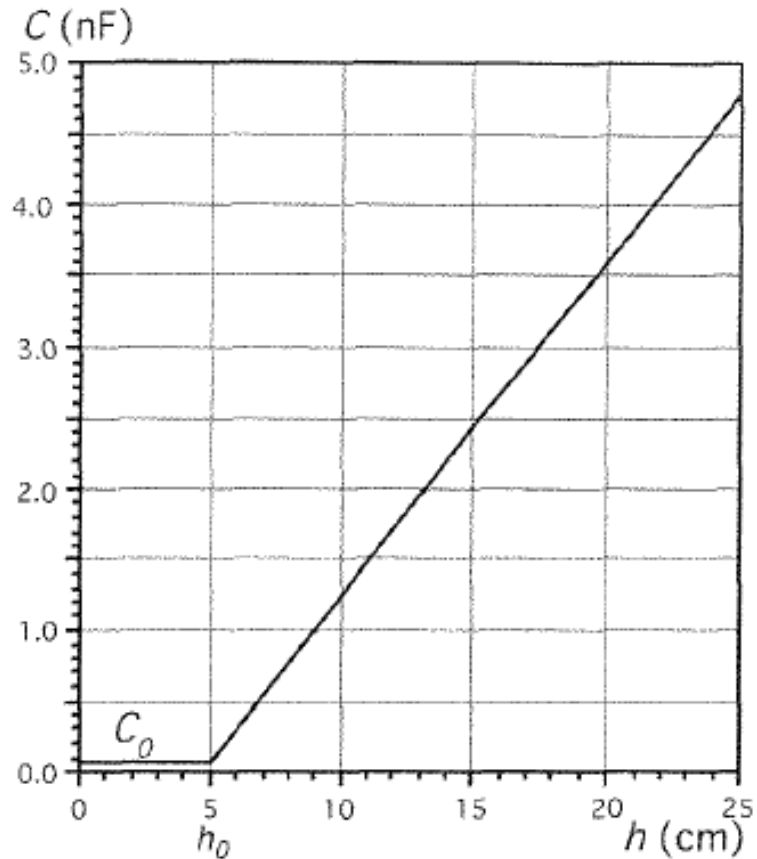
Total dielectric constant

# Capacitive level measurement



$$C_h = C_1 + C_2 = \epsilon_0 G_1 + \epsilon_0 \kappa G_2,$$

(A)



(B)



# Humidity sensor

30 Physical Principles of Sensing

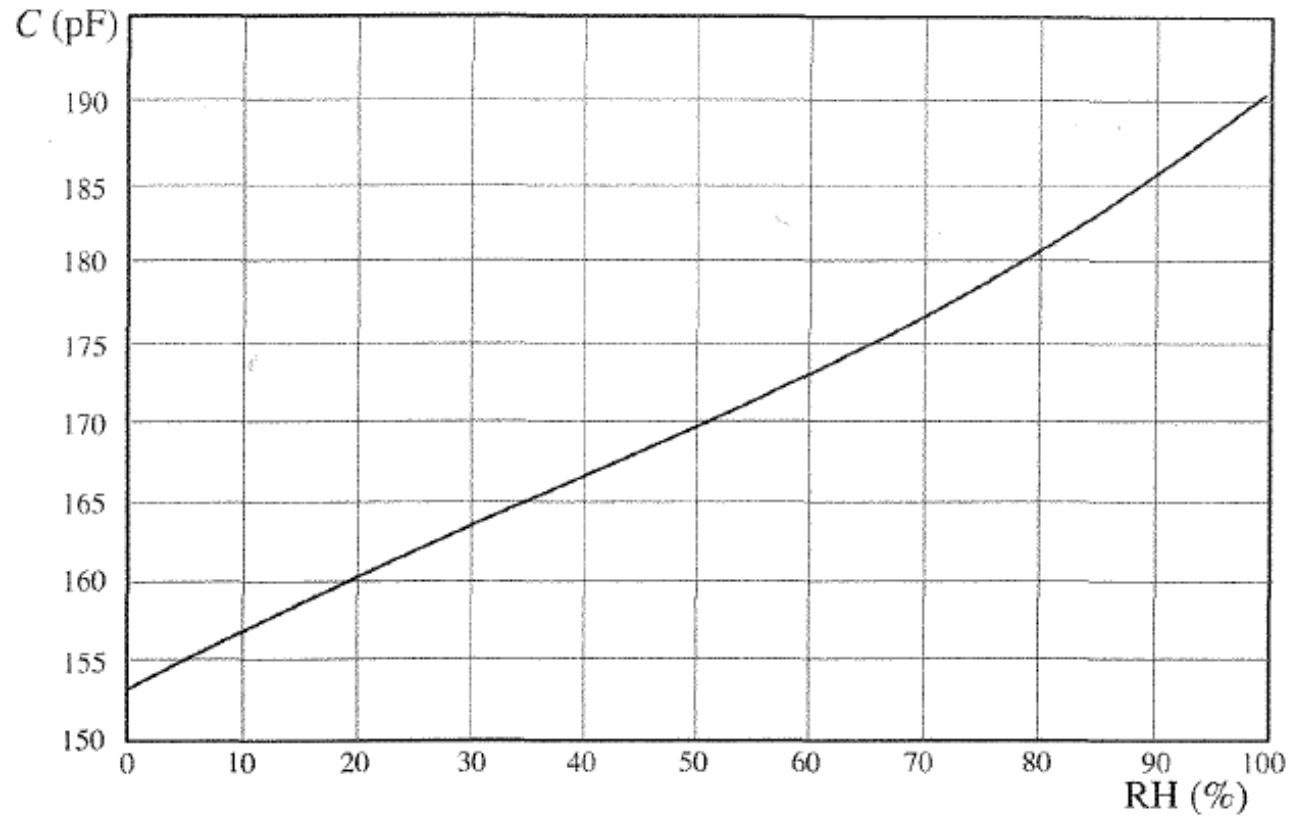
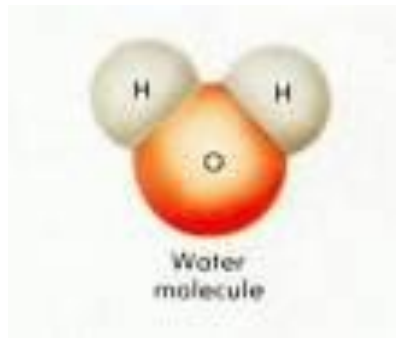


Fig. 3.9. Transfer function of a capacitive relative humidity sensor.

# Occupancy



## 6.3 Capacitive Occupancy Detectors

233

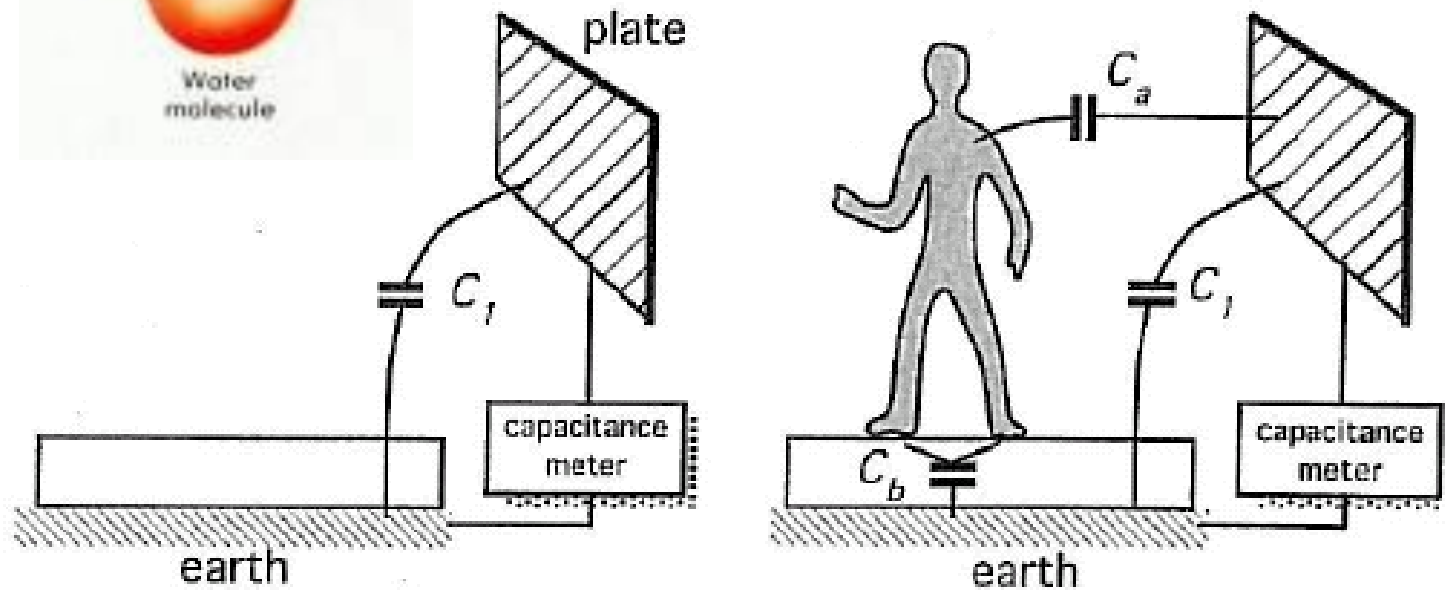


Fig. 6.3. An intruder brings in an additional capacitance to a detection circuit.

# Monopolar capacitive probe

260 7 Position, Displacement, and Level

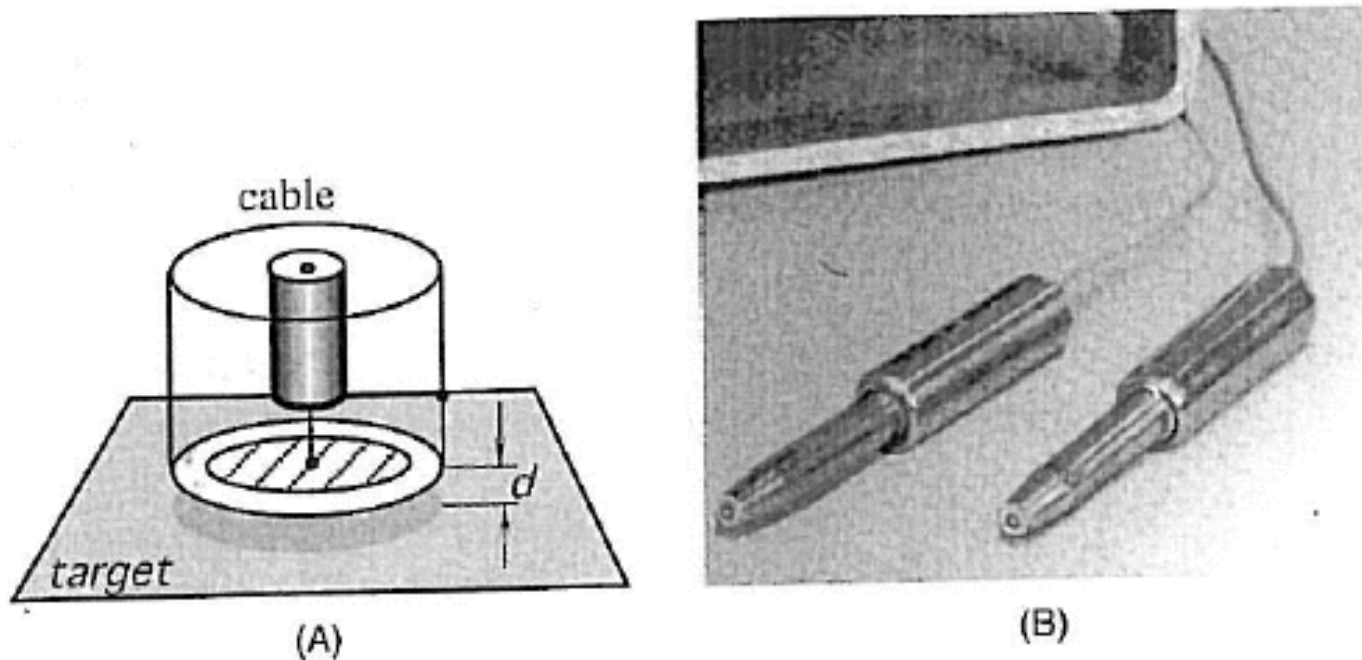


Fig. 7.6. A capacitive probe with a guard ring: (A) cross-sectional view; (B) outside view. (Courtesy of ADE Technologies, Inc., Newton, MA.)

# Driven shield proximity sensor

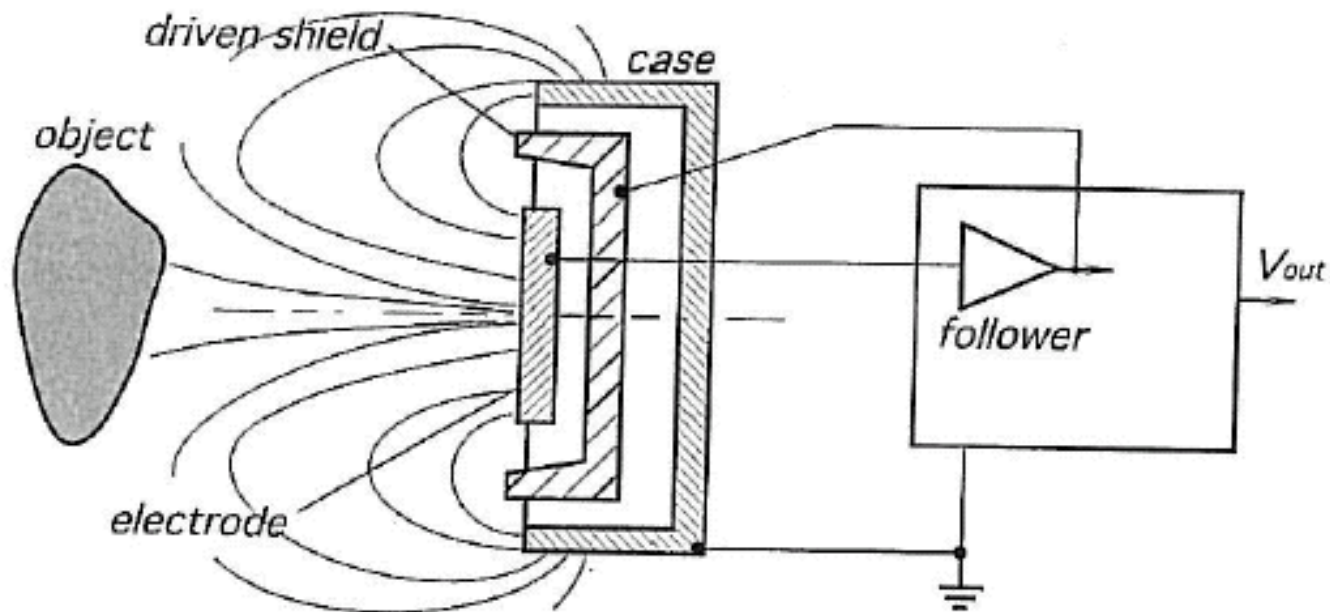


Fig. 7.7. Driven shield around the electrode in a capacitive proximity sensor.