



# History pages

## To the Question of Work Made by Electrostatic Field

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We know some simple examples of work making due to the forces, which appear in electrostatic field. Since the field itself does not require energy consumption from the source (not taking into account the charge leakage), then free energy can be received with these forces. The first phenomenon that we are going to consider is a phenomenon of **electrostriction**. Mechanical forces appearing in dielectric under the influence of electrical field tend to deform it. Sometimes these forces are small, but they can be huge in special dielectrics. The character of deformation also depends on non-linearity of electrical field. Suffice it to remember that heating of a body takes place during deformation, and we can make a conclusion on possible using of the given effect in practice. Periodical deformation can be created due to the rotor or any other methods to change the field.

The second effect is not so popular. It was found by Hertz in 1881 that there is a rotation of dielectrical cylinder (or ball) in permanent electric field if it is created in some liquid or in gas (see Fig.1).

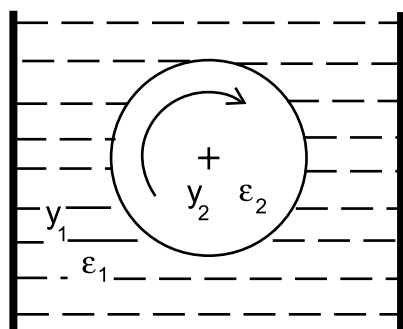


Fig.1

Here  $\epsilon_1$  is a dielectrical permittivity of the liquid,  $\epsilon_2$  is a dielectrical permittivity of the rotor,  $\gamma_1$  is a conductivity of the liquid and  $\gamma_2$  is a conductivity of the rotor. This effect was discovered by Hertz, then it was described by G. Quincke, Germany. Also Japan scientist I. Sumoto studied the effect in 1955. Modern research work was made by K.M. Polivanov, Moscow. There is the so called equation by Polivanov describing special conditions, which are necessary to begin rotation ( $\epsilon_1/\epsilon_2 = \gamma_2/\gamma_1$  is the Polivanov's condition).

Forces of electrostatic field produce this rotation and it is a real free energy system that can trap energy from inner structure of potential field. Let's try to describe the mechanism of this effect and then we'll be able to increase the power of the system up to the level of industrial application. So, why does it work? To my mind, there are some differences in conditions for polarization of the rotor and molecules of liquid or gas those are surrounding the rotor since there is a difference in permittivity and conductivity.

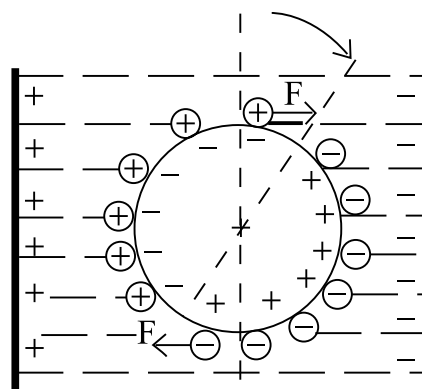


Fig.2

Due to this reason the molecules are polarized both by the field of electrodes and by the field of rotor. The rotor is polarized in the electrical field of electrodes, and molecules of liquid on its surface are polarized by the electric charge of the rotor, but not according to direction of the field. So, the rotor is surrounded by "screen" of molecules on its surface. The electric charge of this screen partially compensates the field of electrodes.

When some angle is created by the first initial turn, there is some part of the rotor surface, where molecules of liquid on the surface of the rotor are attracted to electrodes and it is the reason for future rotation. After some angle of the turn the polarization in this point of the rotor surface is changed but new molecules are incoming in the so called "sector of attraction" and the rotation is always accelerated. This well-known effect of 1881 is a very good example of possibility to produce useful work in load by means of electrostatic field only.

# Letter On Hertz-Quincke-Sumoto Effect

from Doug Marett

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One more interesting effect is known as Faraday effect. In 1836 Faraday noted that raising of liquid upwards takes place in condenser with liquid dielectric (plates are installed vertically). During this process electrostatic field makes the work against gravity. A. Gyemant in 1926 established that value of this force is proportional to the square of voltage on condenser. Later in 1955 this phenomenon was studied in details by I. Sumoto, Japan. That's why in physical encyclopedias this effect is called "Faraday-Sumoto effect". In Tareev's book [1] it is pointed: "Under high voltage this phenomenon leads to flowing and turbulent boiling of liquid". I should remember for those, who see nothing unusual here, that it does not necessary to consume the power from initial source. Creating an initial field in electric capacitor, then we can use the received mechanical work. It is evident that the gradient of electrical field creates the conditions for movement of liquid dielectric. A task to create conditions for liquid circulation is more complex, but it has solution, if we take into account the presence of one more static field, i.e. gravitational field. Joint action of electrostatic and gravitational fields stipulates the circulation of liquid dielectric even in the simplest constructions. Besides, electrostatic field can be partially screened.

The analyzed examples should draw attention of experimenters to these obvious ways of how to create useful work by means of electrostatic field.

## References

1. Tareev B.M. Physics of dielectrical materials, Moscow, Energoisdat, 1982, p.199 – 200.

*Editor: Below we publish the comments of our reader.*

...As far as I can tell, the original reference by Hertz is "On the Distribution of Electricity over the Surface of Moving Conductors", Wiedemann's Annalen, 13, pp.266-275, 1881. Hertz's discussion of this phenomenon is cursory at best, having very little experimental work included. The real phenomenon appears to have been discovered by W. Weiler in 1893 (Zeitschrift fur den Physikalischen und Chemischen Unterricht, Vol.6, pp194-195). Weiler observed that a glass cylinder placed in a poorly conducting liquid between two spherical electrodes began to rotate when the electrodes were connected to an electrostatic generator. In 1896, George Quincke reported the same phenomenon and published a comprehensive report on it. This was in Annalen der Physik, Ser.3, Vol. 59, pp.417-486. Subsequent investigators have tended to attribute the discovery to Quincke, when in fact Weiler was the first to pioneer the work.

I do know that P.E. Secker et al. performed work on this field, references of which are available in the English language. These are:

- P.E. Secker, et al., (1968) Journal of Applied Physics, Vol. 39, pp.2957-2961, and  
P.E. Secker, et al., (1970) Journal of Physics D: Applied Physics Vol.3, pp 216-220.

I hope that this information might be of use to you.



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Ph. M. Kanarev

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The book is intended for physicists, chemists and other specialists who are seeking the new directions for understanding the foundations of the micro world and the new energy sources.