

# PHYS2326

## Lecture #09

Prof. Fabiano Rodrigues

Department of Physics  
The University of Texas at Dallas

# Announcements / Reminders

- Bring to exam:
  - Pen, pencil and scientific calculator
- Arrive early
- Final during last day of classes (April 27)?

# Goals for this lecture

- Quick Recap
  - Electric Potential Energy
  - Electric Potential
- Examples
- Conductors and Electric Potential
- Potential gradient

Chapter 23

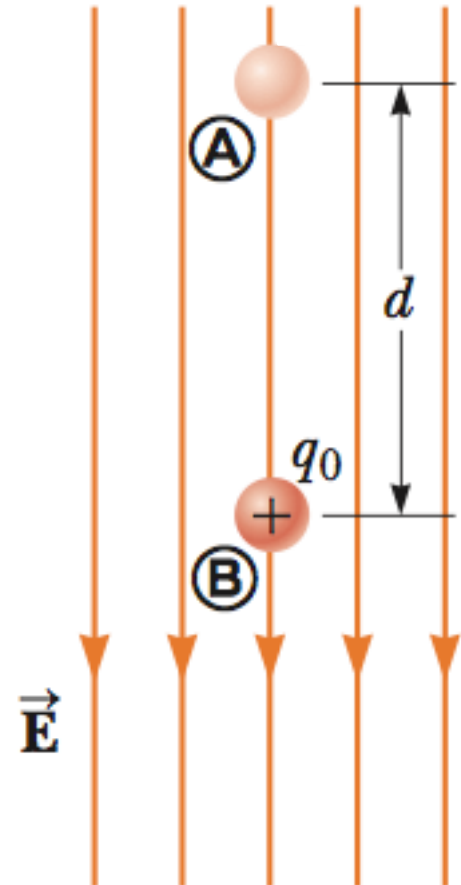
# Review

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$$\Delta U = -W_E$$

Uniform electric field

$$\Delta U = -\vec{F}_E \cdot \vec{d}$$



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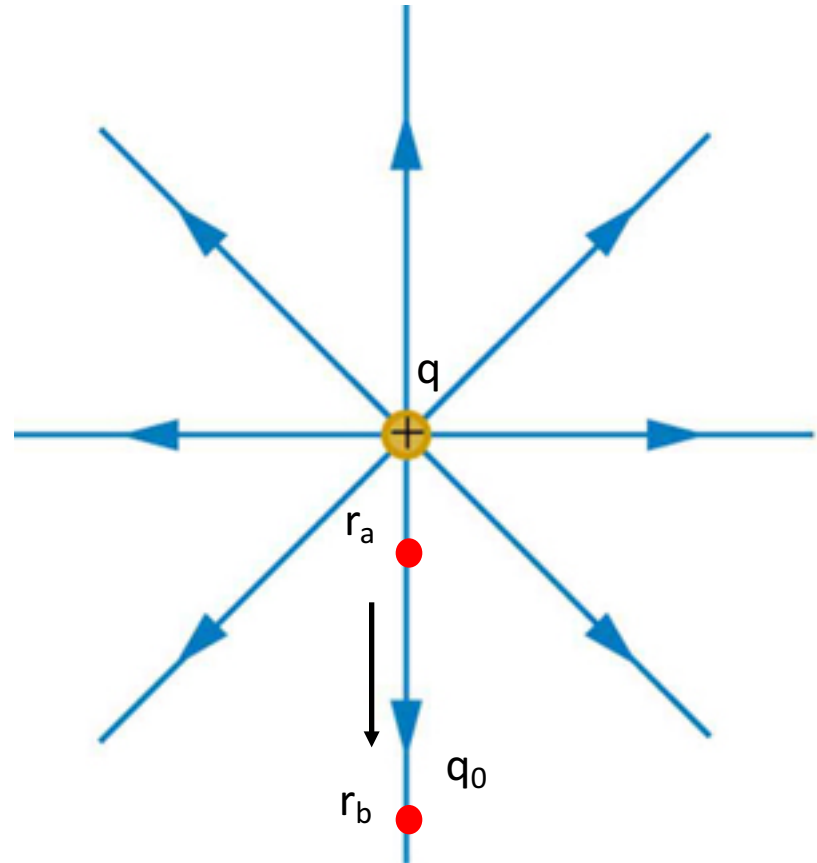
Non-uniform electric field (two point charges)

$$\Delta U = - \int_{r_a}^{r_b} \vec{F}_E \cdot d\vec{r} = \left( \frac{qq_0}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \right) \left[ \frac{1}{r_b} - \frac{1}{r_a} \right]$$

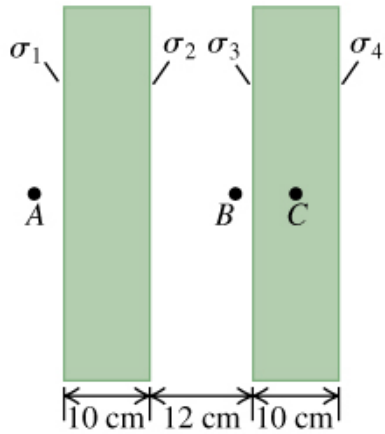
$$U = \left( \frac{qq_0}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \right) \left[ \frac{1}{r} \right] \quad \text{for } U(\infty) = 0$$

$$V = \frac{U}{q_0}$$

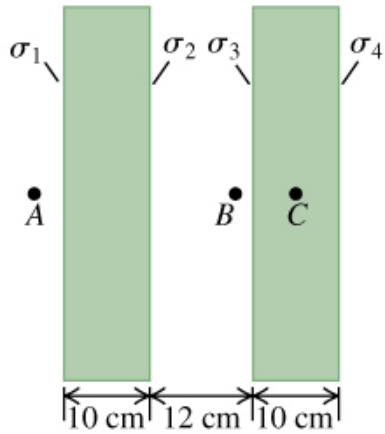
$$V = \left( \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \right) \left[ \frac{1}{r} \right]$$



**Example:** Non-conducting sheets, each 10.0 cm thick, carry uniform charge densities  $\sigma_1 = -6.00 \mu\text{C}$ ,  $\sigma_2 = +5.00 \mu\text{C}$ ,  $\sigma_3 = +2.00 \mu\text{C}$ , and  $\sigma_4 = +4.00 \mu\text{C}$ . Find the magnitude and direction of  $E$  at point A, 5.00 cm from the left face of the left-hand sheet.



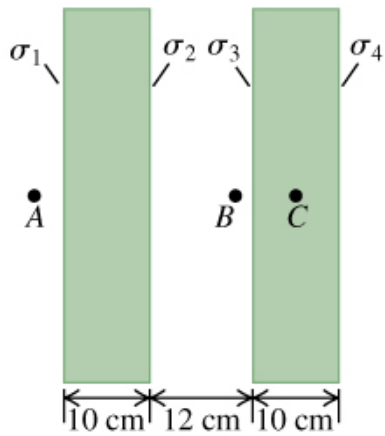
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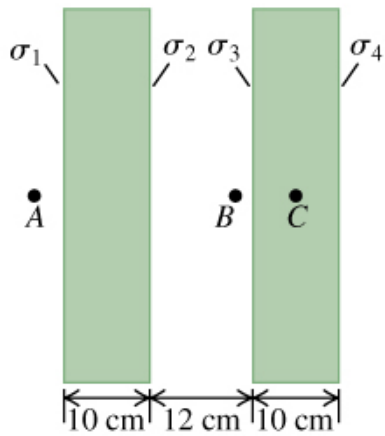
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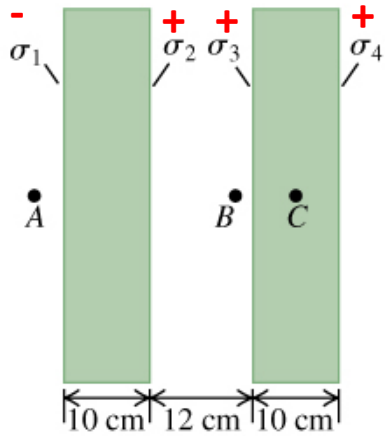


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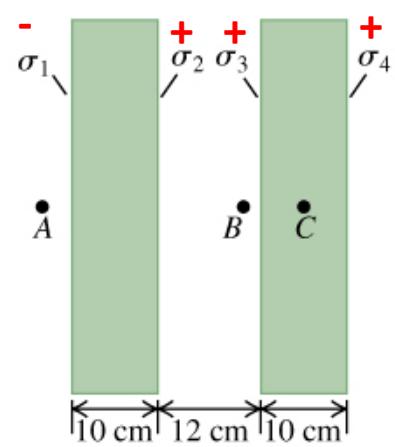


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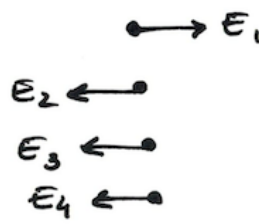
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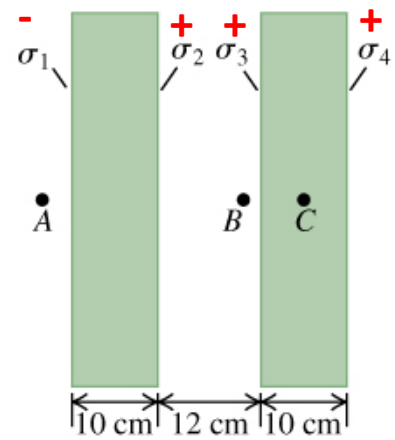
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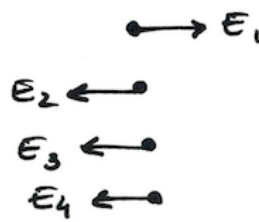


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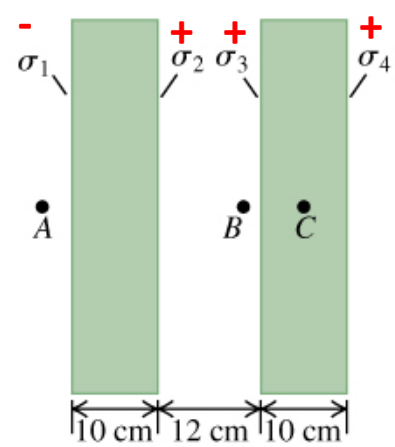
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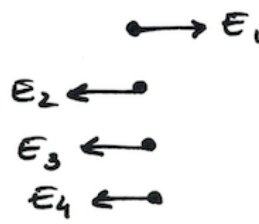
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$$= \frac{1}{2\epsilon_0} [\sigma_1 - \sigma_2 - \sigma_3 - \sigma_4] \hat{x}$$

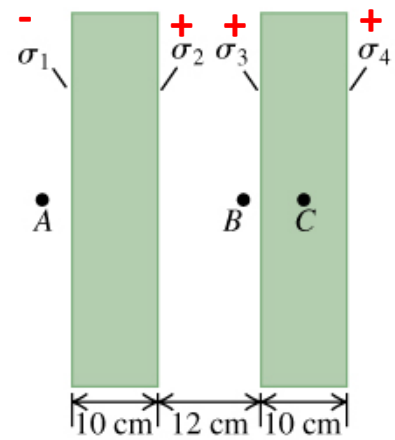
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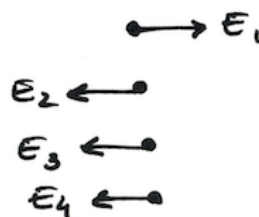


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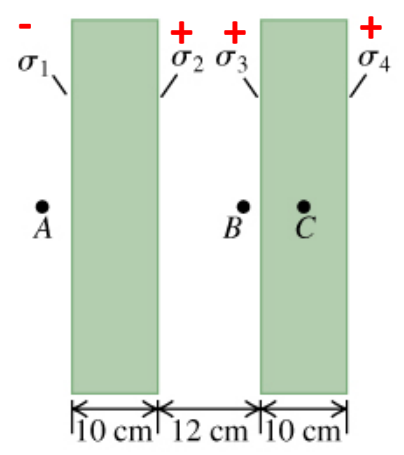
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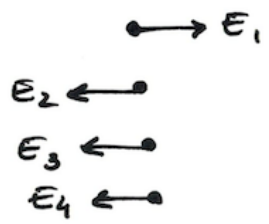


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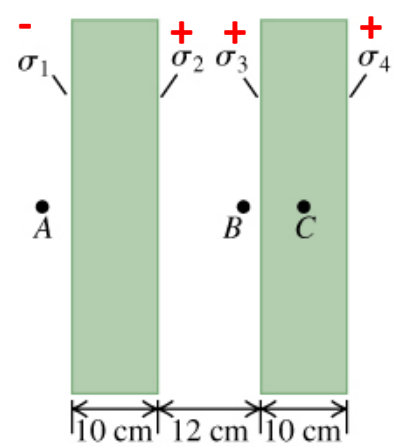
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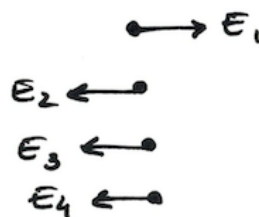
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Direction: to the left



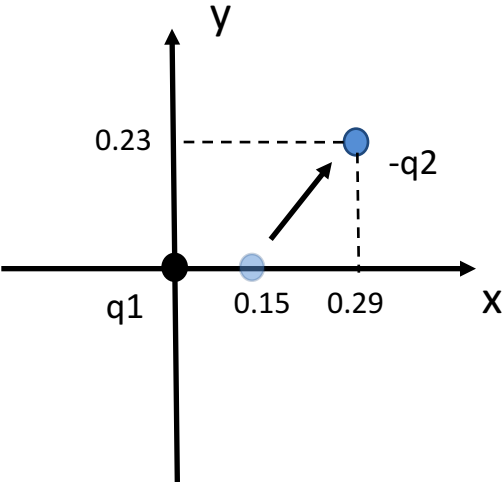
# Electric Potential Energy (U)

- Potential energy associated with electric fields
- Change in potential energy ( $\Delta U$ ) is what matters
- Change in  $\Delta U = U_b - U_a$  for a charge that moved from “a” to “b” is determined from the work necessary to move the charge from “a” to “b”

$$\Delta U = -W_E$$

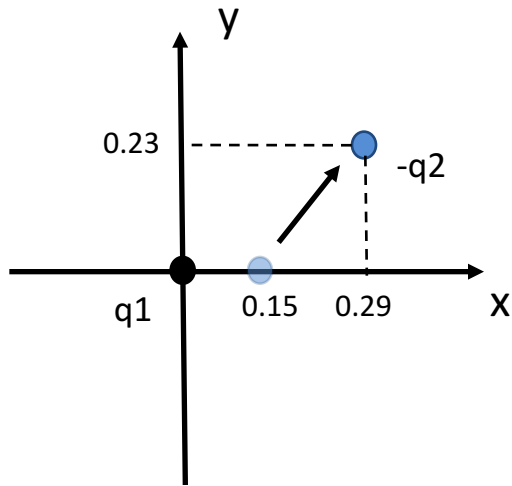
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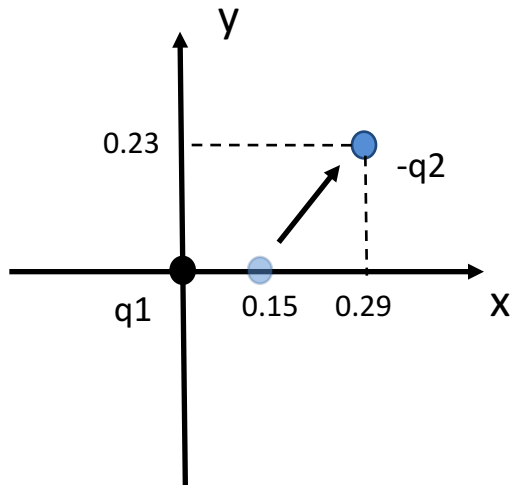
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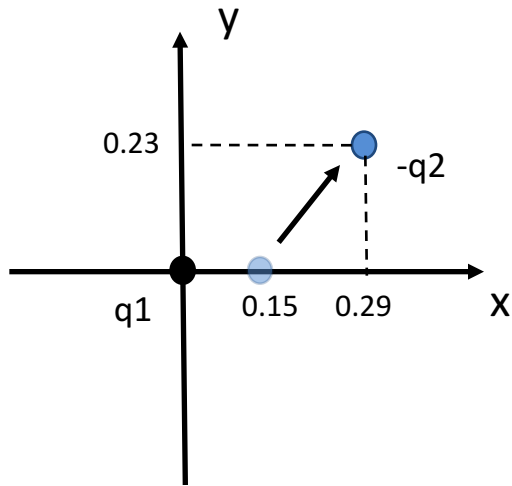


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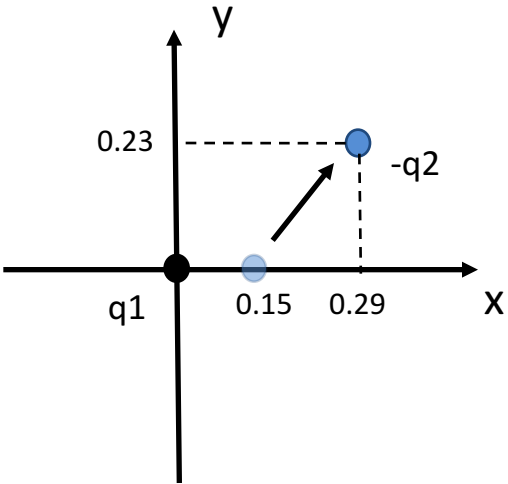


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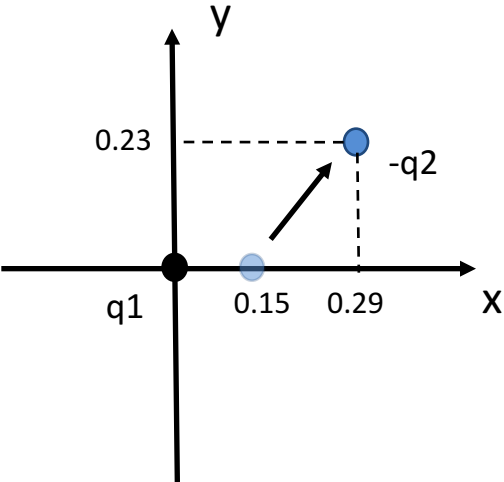
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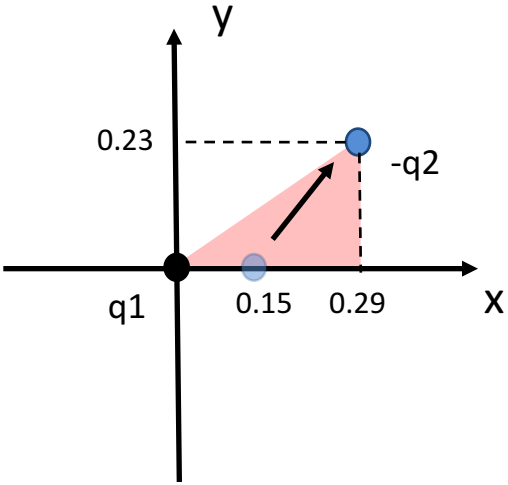
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$$r_a = 0.15\text{ m}$$

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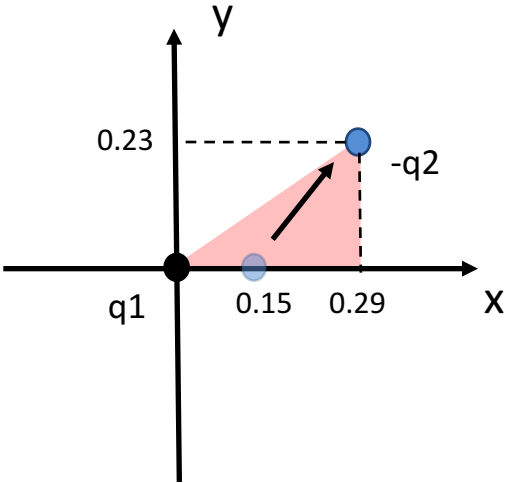
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$$r_b = \sqrt{(0.29^2 + 0.23^2)} = 0.37\text{ m}$$

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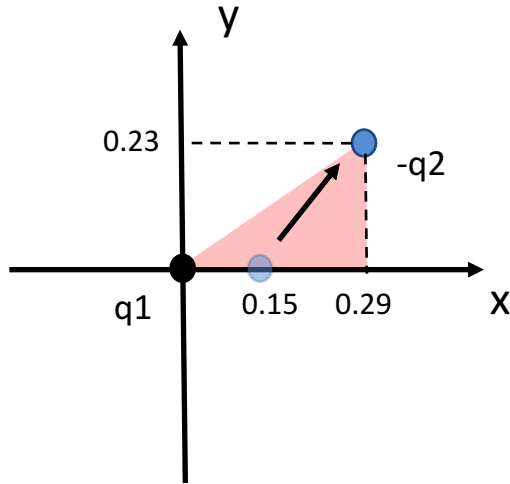
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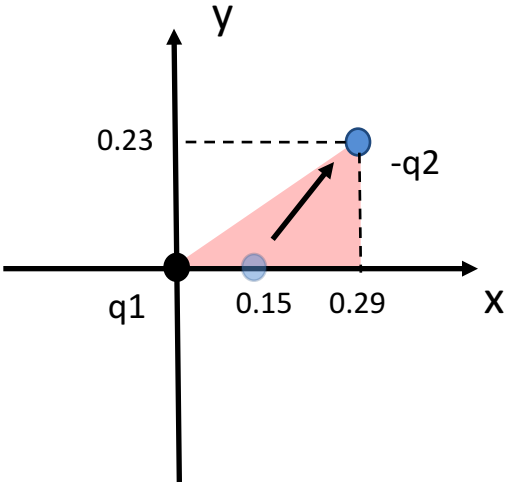
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$$\Delta U = 0.57\text{ J}$$



**Example:** A point charge  $q_1 = 3.40\mu\text{C}$  is held stationary at the origin. A second point charge with charge  $q_2 = -4.70\mu\text{C}$  moves from the point  $x = 0.150\text{ m}$ ,  $y = 0\text{ m}$  to the point  $x = 0.290\text{ m}$ , and  $y = 0.230\text{ m}$ . How much work is done by the electric force on  $q_2$ ?



$$W_E = ?$$

$$\Delta U = -W_E$$

$$W_E = -\Delta U$$

$$\Delta U = - \int_{r_a}^{r_b} \vec{F}_E \cdot d\vec{r} = \left( \frac{qq_0}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \right) \left[ \frac{1}{r_b} - \frac{1}{r_a} \right]$$

$$r_a = 0.15\text{ m}$$

$$r_b = \sqrt{(0.29^2 + 0.23^2)} = 0.37\text{ m}$$

$$\Delta U = \left( \frac{(3.40 \times 10^{-6})(-4.70 \times 10^{-6})}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \right) \left[ \frac{1}{0.37} - \frac{1}{0.15} \right]$$

$$\Delta U = 0.57\text{ J}$$

$$W_E = -0.57\text{ J}$$

# Electric Potential (V)

- Electric potential refers to electric potential energy *per unit charge*.

$$U = \left( \frac{qq_0}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \right) \left[ \frac{1}{r} \right] \quad \text{for } U(\infty) = 0$$

$$V = \frac{U}{q_0}$$

$$V = \left( \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \right) \left[ \frac{1}{r} \right]$$

# Determining the Potential (V)

Two routes:

1. Compute V from a charge distribution
2. Compute V from the electric field vector  $\vec{E}(x, y, z)$

# Determining the Potential (V)

- Potential from charge distribution:

$$V = \left( \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \right) \left[ \frac{1}{r} \right]$$

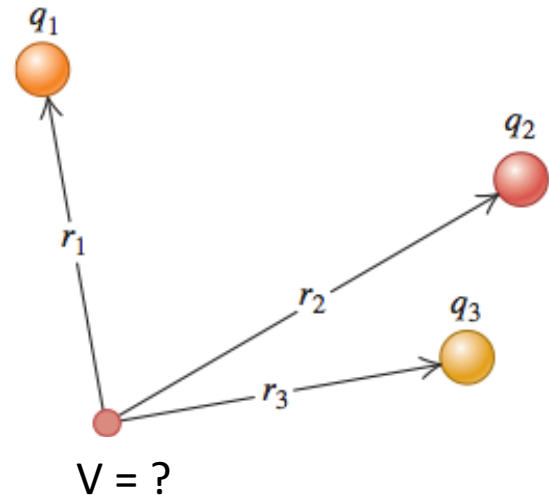
Single point charge

$$V = \left( \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \right) \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{q_i}{r_i}$$

Multiple point charges

$$V = \left( \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \right) \int \frac{dq}{r}$$

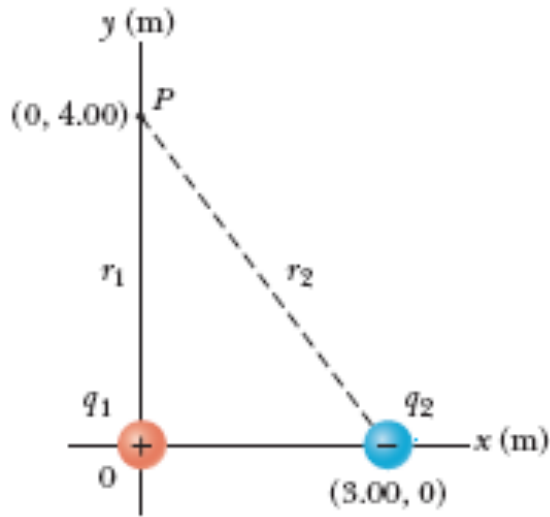
Continuous charge





**Example:** Two point charges  $q_1 = 2.30\text{nC}$  and  $q_2 = -6.40\text{nC}$  are shown in the figure below. Take the electric potential to be zero at infinity. Find the potential at point P.

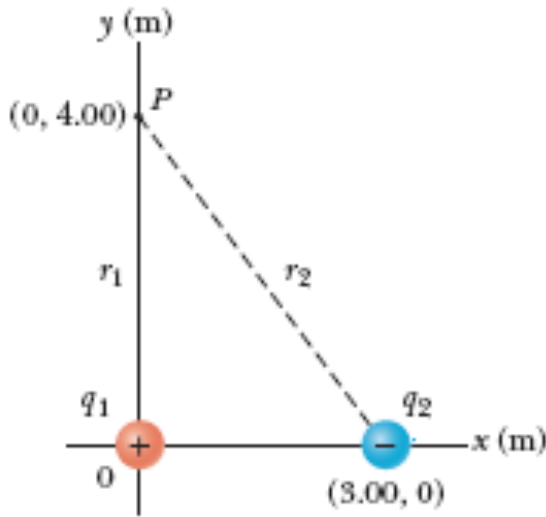
$$V = ?$$



**Example:** Two point charges  $q_1 = 2.30\text{nC}$  and  $q_2 = -6.40\text{nC}$  are shown in the figure below. Take the electric potential to be zero at infinity. Find the potential at point P.

$$V = ?$$

$$V = \left( \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \right) \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{q_i}{r_i}$$

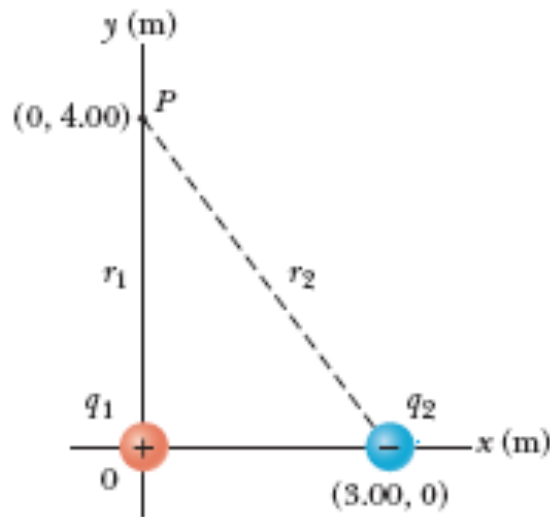


**Example:** Two point charges  $q_1 = 2.30\text{nC}$  and  $q_2 = -6.40\text{nC}$  are shown in the figure below. Take the electric potential to be zero at infinity. Find the potential at point P.

$$V = ?$$

$$V = \left( \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \right) \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{q_i}{r_i}$$

$$V = \left( \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \right) \left[ \frac{q_1}{r_1} + \frac{q_2}{r_2} \right]$$



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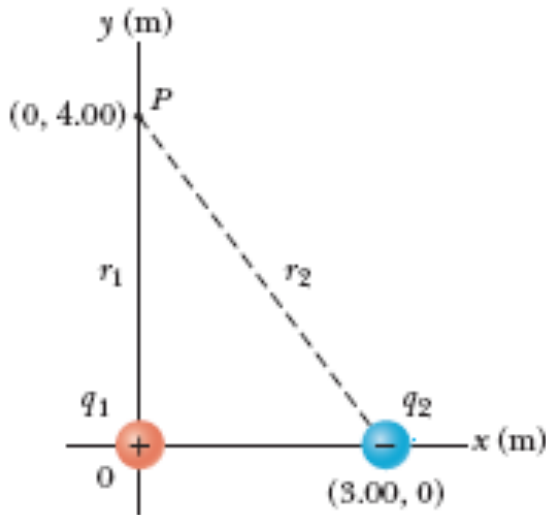
$$V = ?$$

$$V = \left( \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \right) \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{q_i}{r_i}$$

$$V = \left( \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \right) \left[ \frac{q_1}{r_1} + \frac{q_2}{r_2} \right]$$

$$r_1 = 4.00 \text{ m}$$

$$r_2 = \sqrt{(3.00)^2 + (4.00)^2} = 5.00 \text{ m}$$



**Example:** Two point charges  $q_1 = 2.30\text{nC}$  and  $q_2 = -6.40\text{nC}$  are shown in the figure below. Take the electric potential to be zero at infinity. Find the potential at point P.

$$V = ?$$

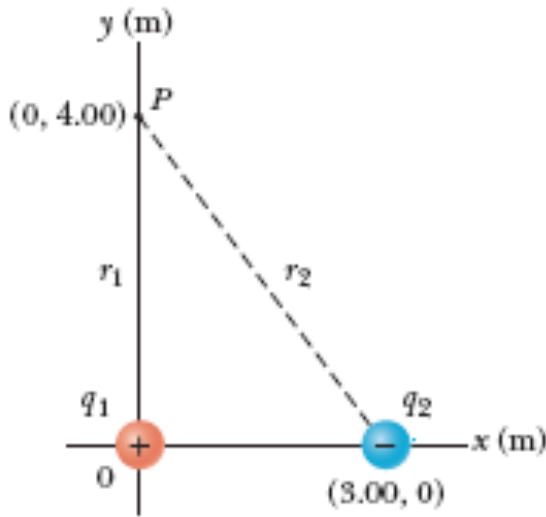
$$V = \left( \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \right) \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{q_i}{r_i}$$

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$$r_2 = \sqrt{(3.00)^2 + (4.00)^2} = 5.00 \text{ m}$$

$$V = \left( \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \right) \left[ \frac{+2.30 \times 10^{-9}}{4.00} + \frac{-6.40 \times 10^{-9}}{5.00} \right]$$



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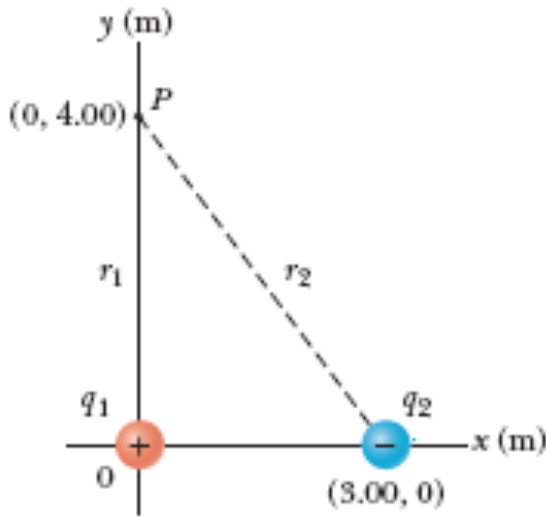
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$$V = \left( \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \right) \left[ \frac{+2.30 \times 10^{-9}}{4.00} + \frac{-6.40 \times 10^{-9}}{5.00} \right]$$

$$V = -6.34 \text{ V}$$



# Determining the Potential (V)

- Potential from electric vector field  $\mathbf{E}(x,y,z)$

$$V_b - V_a = \frac{\Delta U}{q_0} = -\frac{W_E}{q_0} = -\int_a^b \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s}$$

# Electron Volt (eV)

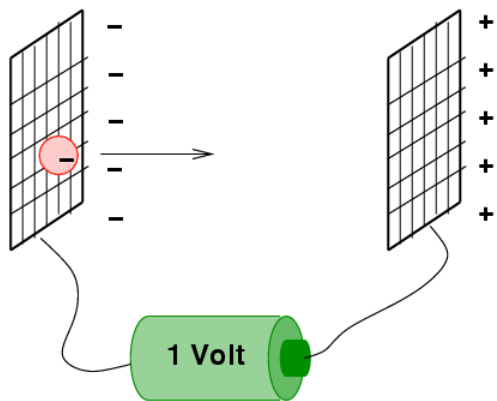


# Electron Volt (eV)

- Electron volt is a unit of **energy**
- 1 eV is the energy gained (or lost) by 1 electron when moving across  $\Delta V = 1$  Volt.

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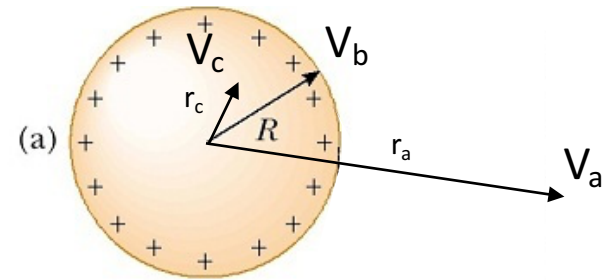


$$q\Delta V = q\left(\frac{\Delta U}{q}\right) = \Delta U \quad (\text{Energy})$$

$$1\text{eV} = (1)(1.6 \times 10^{-19}\text{C})(1\text{V}) = 1.6 \times 10^{-19}\text{J}$$

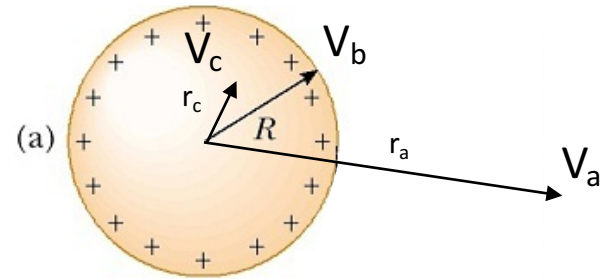
# Conductors and Electric Potential

# Conductors and Electric Potential



# Conductors and Electric Potential

$$V_b - V_a = - \int_{r_a}^R \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s}$$

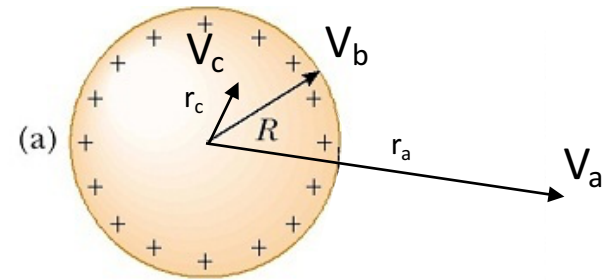


# Conductors and Electric Potential

$$V_b - V_a = - \int_{r_a}^R \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s}$$

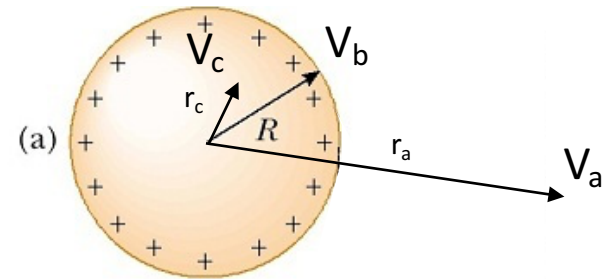
Now, inside conductor:

$$V_c - V_b = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad V_c = V_b$$



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V is the same within conductor!  
Conductors are equipotential!

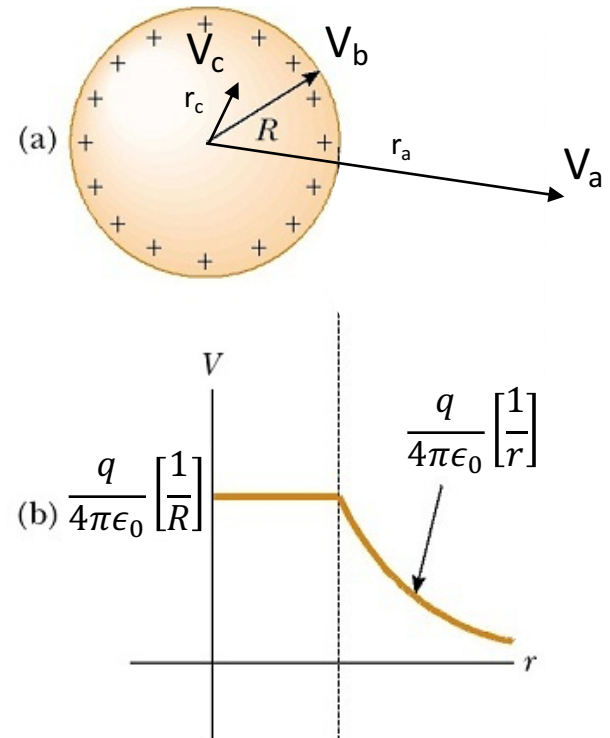
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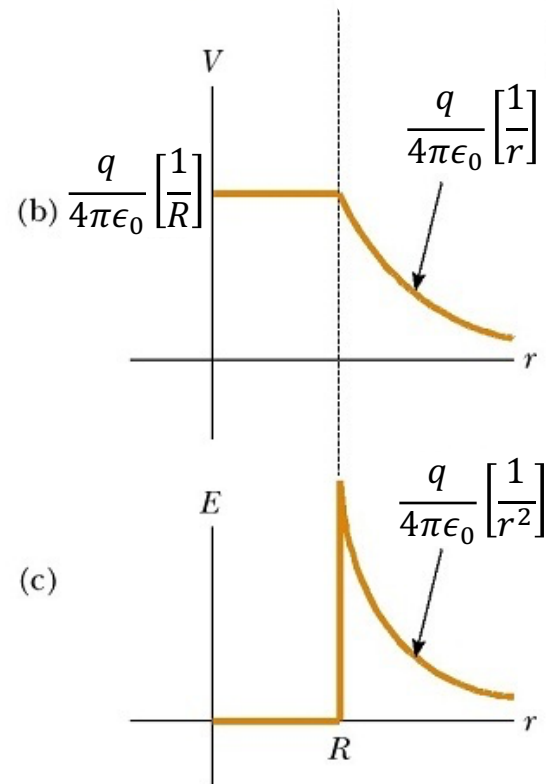
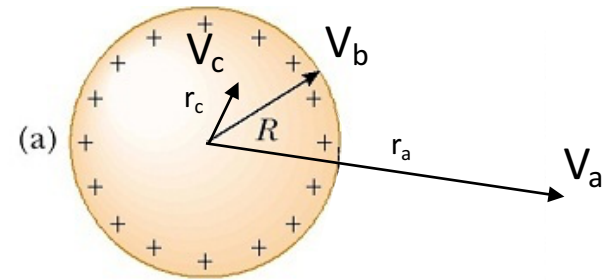
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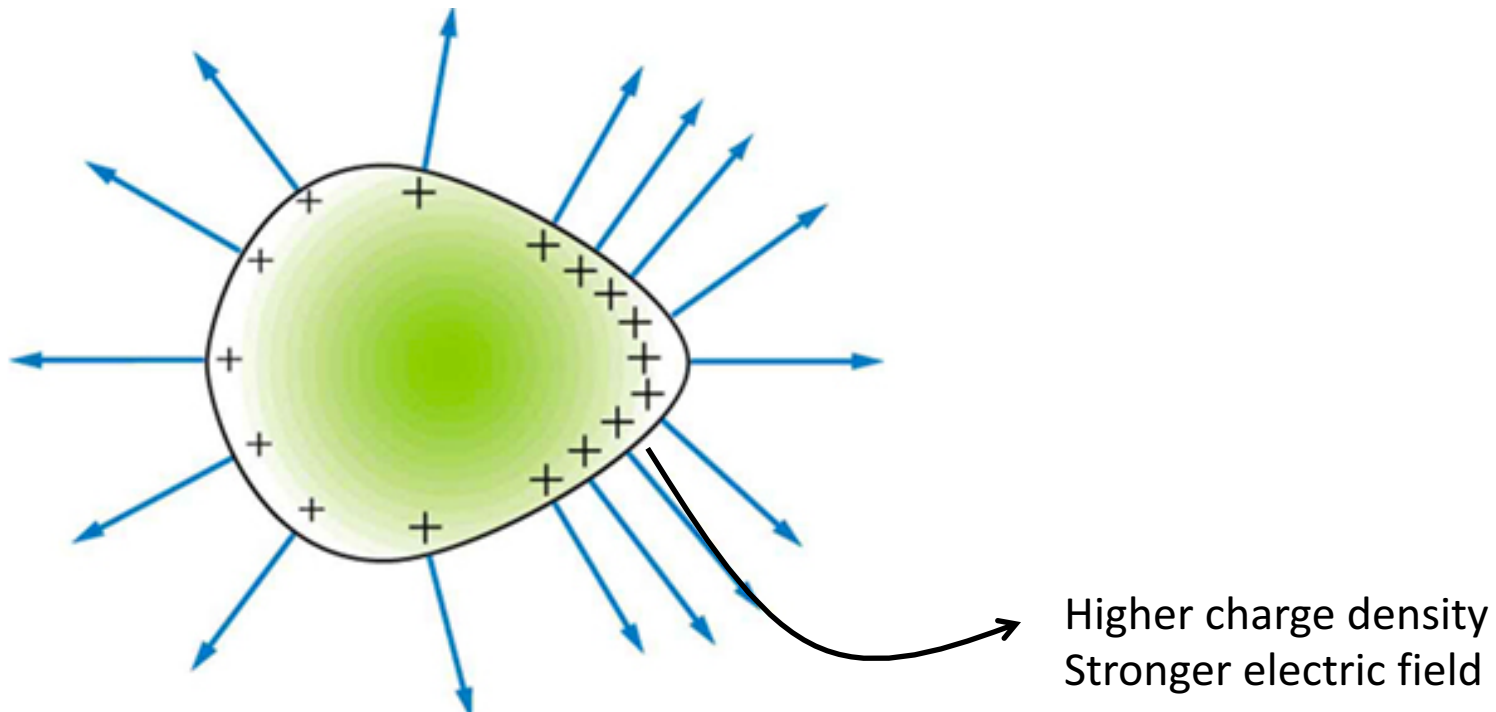


# Conductors and Electric Potential



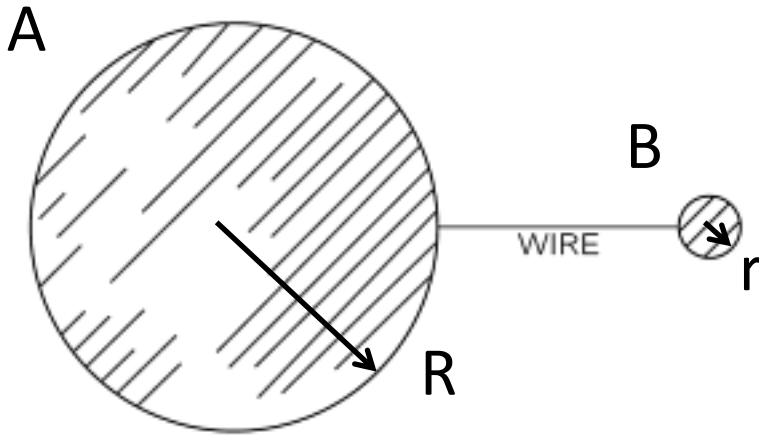
# Conductors and Electric Potential

- On irregularly shaped conductors,  $\sigma$  is greatest where the radius of curvature is smallest



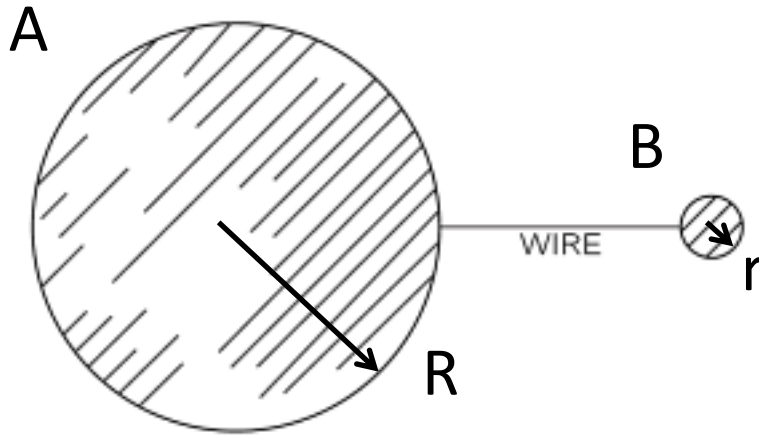
# Conductors and Electric Potential

Conductors



# Conductors and Electric Potential

Conductors



*After charging:*

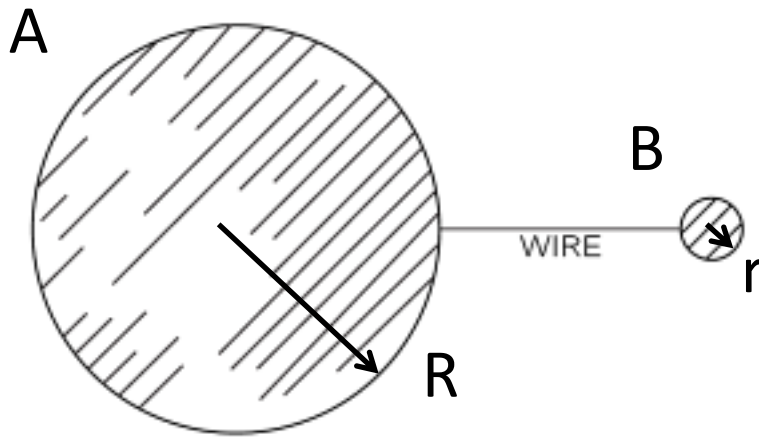
$$\sigma_A = \frac{q_A}{4\pi R^2}$$

$$\sigma_B = \frac{q_B}{4\pi r^2}$$

$$\frac{\sigma_A}{\sigma_B} = ?$$

# Conductors and Electric Potential

Conductors



*Conductors, therefore, equipotential:*

$$V_A = V_B$$

*After charging:*

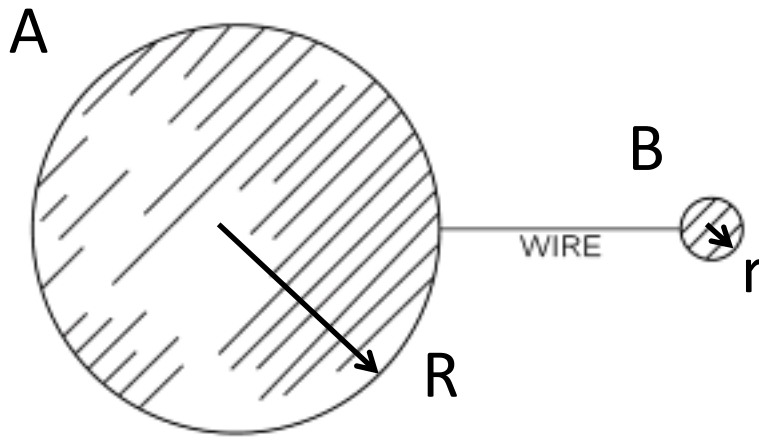
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# Conductors and Electric Potential

Conductors



*Conductors, therefore, equipotential:*

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$$\frac{q_A}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R} = \frac{q_B}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}$$

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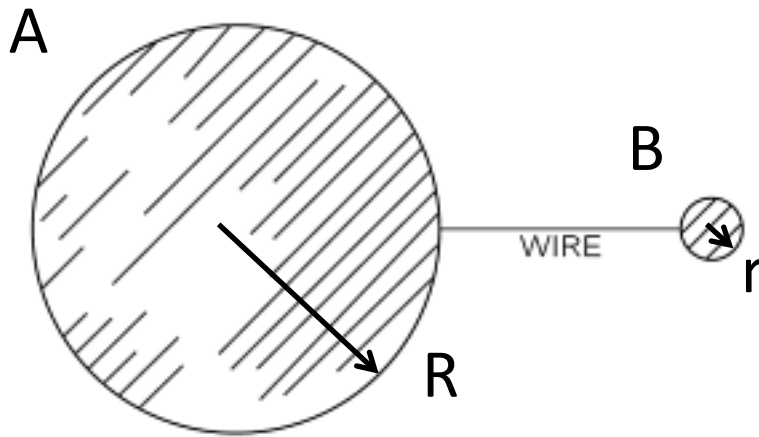
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# Conductors and Electric Potential

Conductors



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$$V_A = V_B$$

$$\frac{q_A}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R} = \frac{q_B}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}$$

$$\frac{q_A}{q_B} = \frac{R}{r}$$

*After charging:*

$$\sigma_A = \frac{q_A}{4\pi R^2}$$

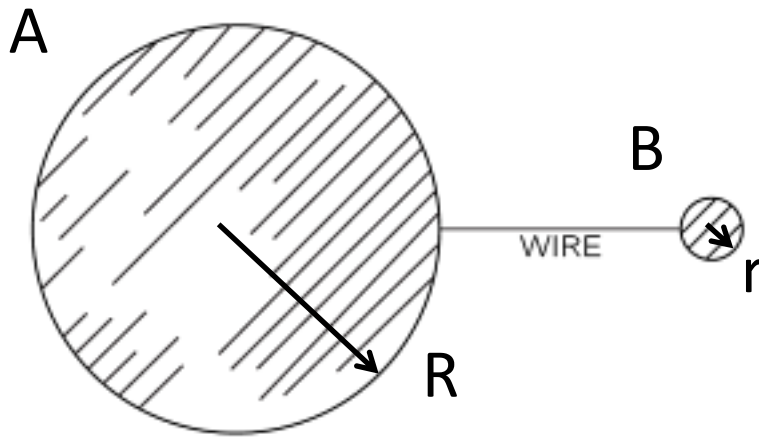
$$\sigma_B = \frac{q_B}{4\pi r^2}$$

$$\frac{\sigma_A}{\sigma_B} = ?$$



# Conductors and Electric Potential

Conductors



*Conductors, therefore, equipotential:*

$$V_A = V_B$$

$$\frac{q_A}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R} = \frac{q_B}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}$$

$$\frac{q_A}{q_B} = \frac{R}{r}$$

$$\frac{\sigma_A(4\pi R^2)}{\sigma_B(4\pi r^2)} = \frac{R}{r}$$

*After charging:*

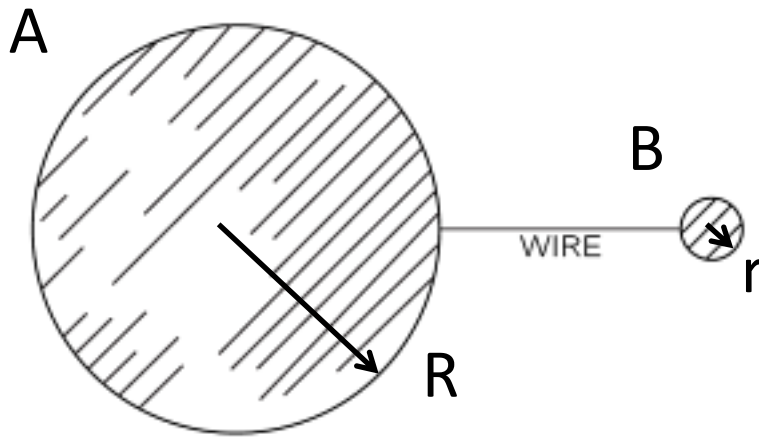
$$\sigma_A = \frac{q_A}{4\pi R^2}$$

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$$\frac{\sigma_A}{\sigma_B} = ?$$

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Conductors



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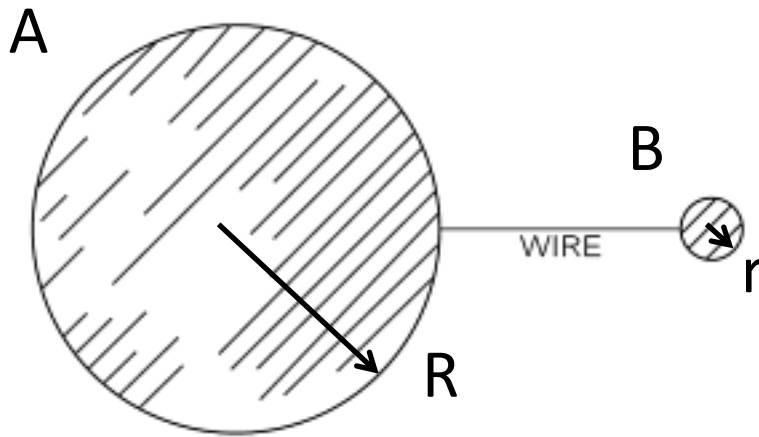
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$$\frac{\sigma_A}{\sigma_B} = \frac{r}{R}$$

$$\sigma_B = \frac{R}{r} \sigma_A$$

*After charging:*

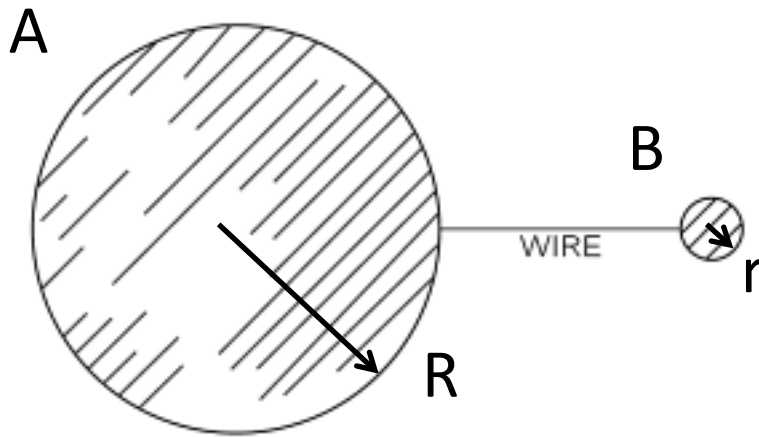
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# Conductors and Electric Potential

Conductors



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$$\frac{\sigma_A(4\pi R^2)}{\sigma_B(4\pi r^2)} = \frac{R}{r}$$

$$\frac{\sigma_A}{\sigma_B} = \frac{r}{R}$$

$$\sigma_B = \frac{R}{r} \sigma_A$$

*After charging:*

$$\sigma_A = \frac{q_A}{4\pi R^2}$$

$$\sigma_B = \frac{q_B}{4\pi r^2}$$

$$\frac{\sigma_A}{\sigma_B} = ?$$

Larger charge density (and E field) on the smaller radius sphere!

# Potential Gradient

# Potential Gradient

$$V_b - V_a = - \int_a^b \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s}$$

$$\int_a^b dV = \int_a^b -\vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s}$$

$$dV = -\vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} = -(E_x dx + E_y dy + E_z dz)$$

*Assuming  $d\vec{s}$  only along  $x$ :  $dy = dz = 0$*

$$E_x = - \left. \frac{dV}{dx} \right|_{y=z=\text{constant}} = - \frac{\partial V}{\partial x}$$

*Other components:*

$$E_y = - \left. \frac{dV}{dy} \right|_{x=z=\text{constant}} = - \frac{\partial V}{\partial y}$$

$$E_z = - \left. \frac{dV}{dz} \right|_{x=y=\text{constant}} = - \frac{\partial V}{\partial z}$$

# Potential Gradient

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Other components:

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$$E_z = - \left. \frac{dV}{dz} \right|_{x=y=\text{constant}} = - \frac{\partial V}{\partial z}$$

$$\vec{E} = E_x \hat{x} + E_y \hat{y} + E_z \hat{z}$$

$$\vec{E} = - \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} \hat{x} - \frac{\partial V}{\partial y} \hat{y} - \frac{\partial V}{\partial z} \hat{z}$$

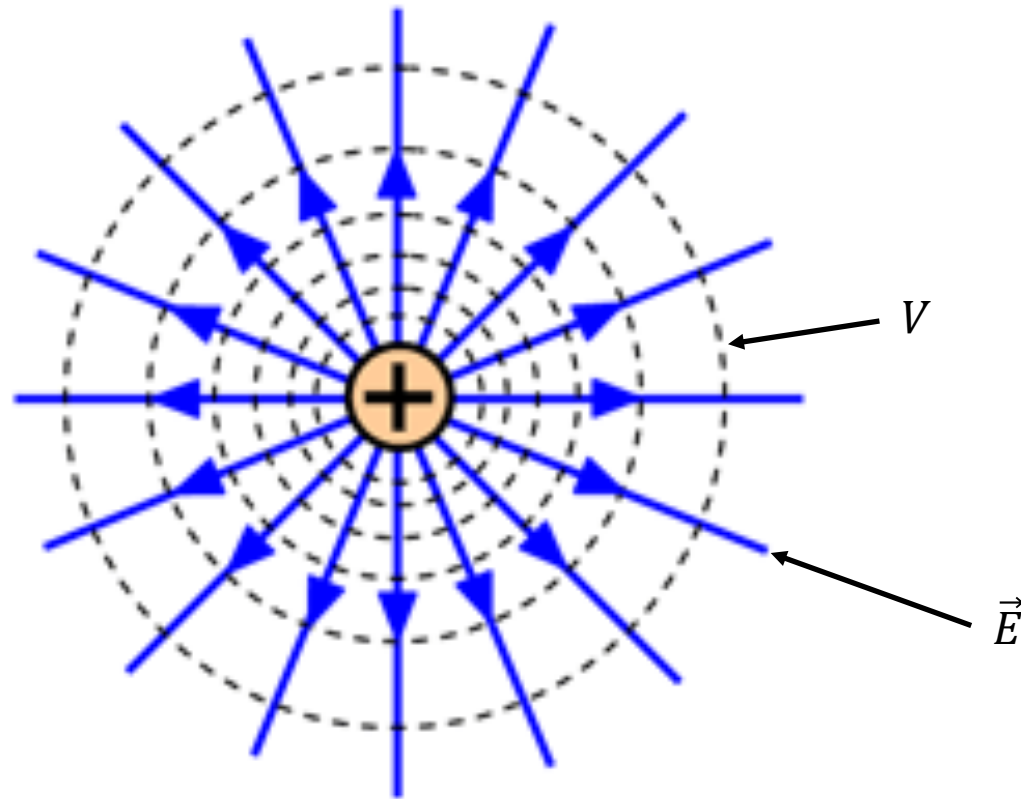
$$\vec{\nabla} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \hat{x} + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \hat{y} + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \hat{z}$$

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

1.  $\vec{\nabla}V$  is the potential gradient

2. If you know  $V(x, y, z)$  you can compute  $\vec{E}(x, y, z)$

# Potential Gradient



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