

Engineering Electromagnetics

Lecture 14

27/09/2023

by

Debolina Misra

Department of Physics
IITDM Kancheepuram, Chennai, India

Coulomb's law

What is the force on a test charge Q due to a single point charge q , that is at *rest* a distance r away?

$$\mathbf{F} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{qQ}{r^2} \hat{\mathbf{r}}$$

permittivity of free space $\epsilon_0 = 8.85 \times 10^{-12} \frac{\text{C}^2}{\text{N} \cdot \text{m}^2}$

- ▶ the force is proportional to the product of the charges
- ▶ Inversely proportional to the square of the separation distance $r = |\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2|$
- ▶ The force points along the line from q to Q
- ▶ it is repulsive if q and Q have the same sign, and attractive if their signs are opposite


The Electric Field

If we have *several* point charges q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n , at distances r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n from Q , the total force on Q is evidently

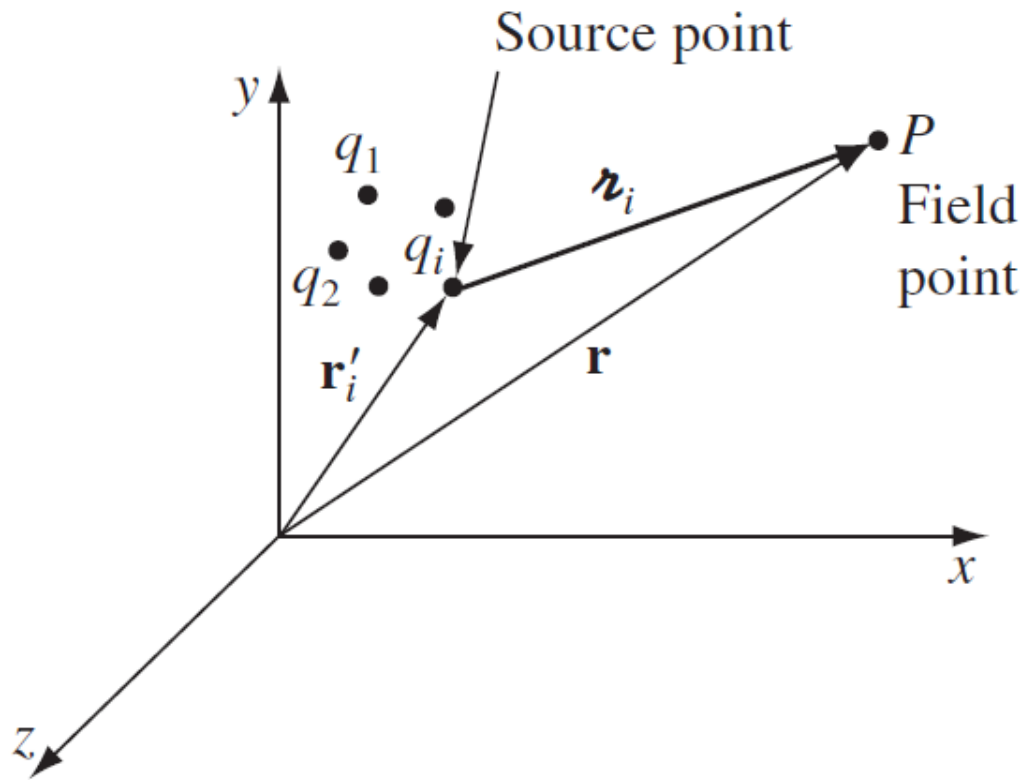
$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{F} &= \mathbf{F}_1 + \mathbf{F}_2 + \dots = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left(\frac{q_1 Q}{r_1^2} \hat{\mathbf{r}}_1 + \frac{q_2 Q}{r_2^2} \hat{\mathbf{r}}_2 + \dots \right) \\ &= \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left(\frac{q_1}{r_1^2} \hat{\mathbf{r}}_1 + \frac{q_2}{r_2^2} \hat{\mathbf{r}}_2 + \frac{q_3}{r_3^2} \hat{\mathbf{r}}_3 + \dots \right),\end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{\mathbf{F} = QE,}$$

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}) \equiv \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{q_i}{r_i^2} \hat{\mathbf{r}}_i$$

 **electric field** of the source charges.

The Electric Field



$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}) \equiv \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{q_i}{r_i^2} \hat{\mathbf{r}}_i$$

\mathbf{E} is called the **electric field** of the source charges.

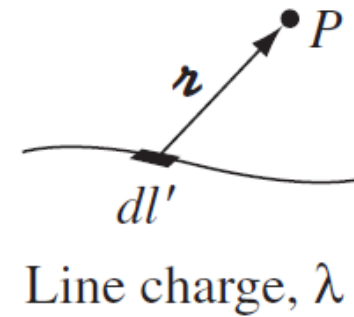
- \mathbf{E} is a function of position (\mathbf{r}), because the separation vectors depend on the location of the **field point** P .
- no reference to the test charge Q .
- The electric field is a vector quantity that varies from point to point and is determined by the configuration of source charges.
- physically, $\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r})$ is the force per unit charge that would be exerted on a test charge, if you were to place one at P .

Continuous charge distributions

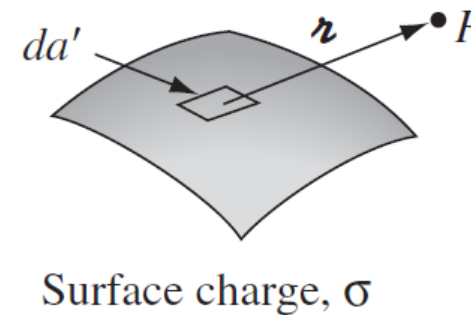
If charge is distributed continuously over some region (not discrete)

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int \frac{1}{r^2} \hat{\mathbf{r}} dq$$

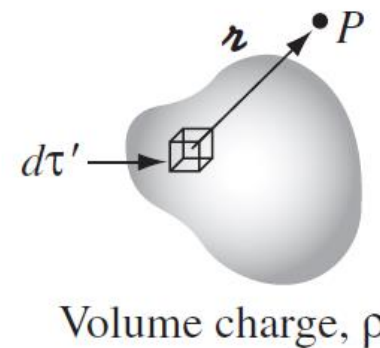
Q: If the charge is spread out along a line with charge-per-unit-length λ , then $dq=?$



Q: over a surface, with charge-per-unit-area σ , then $dq=?$



Q: a volume, with charge-per-unit-volume ρ , then $dq = ?$



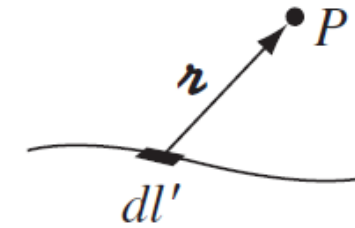
$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}) \equiv \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{q_i}{r_i^2} \hat{\mathbf{r}}_i$$

Continuous charge distributions

If charge is distributed continuously over some region (not discrete)

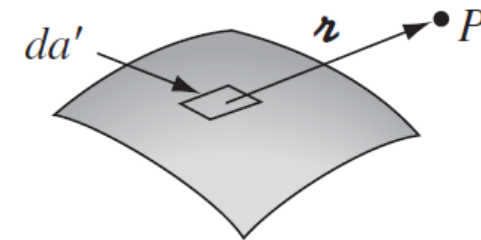
$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int \frac{1}{r^2} \hat{\mathbf{r}} dq$$

A: If the charge is spread out along a line with charge-per-unit-length λ , then $dq = \lambda dl'$ (where dl' is an element of length along the line)



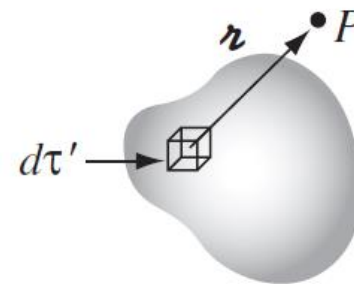
Line charge, λ

A: over a surface, with charge-per-unit-area σ , then $dq = \sigma da'$ (where da' is an element of area on the surface)



Surface charge, σ

A: a volume, with charge-per-unit-volume ρ , then $dq = \rho d\tau'$ (where $d\tau'$ is an element of volume)



Volume charge, ρ

E due to continuous charge distribution

$$dq \rightarrow \lambda dl' \sim \sigma da' \sim \rho d\tau'$$

Thus the electric field of a line charge is

$$dq = \lambda dl'$$

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int \frac{\lambda(\mathbf{r}')}{r^2} \hat{\mathbf{r}} dl'$$

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int \frac{1}{r^2} \hat{\mathbf{r}} dq$$

for a surface charge,

$$dq = \sigma da'$$

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int \frac{\sigma(\mathbf{r}')}{r^2} \hat{\mathbf{r}} da'$$

and for a volume charge,

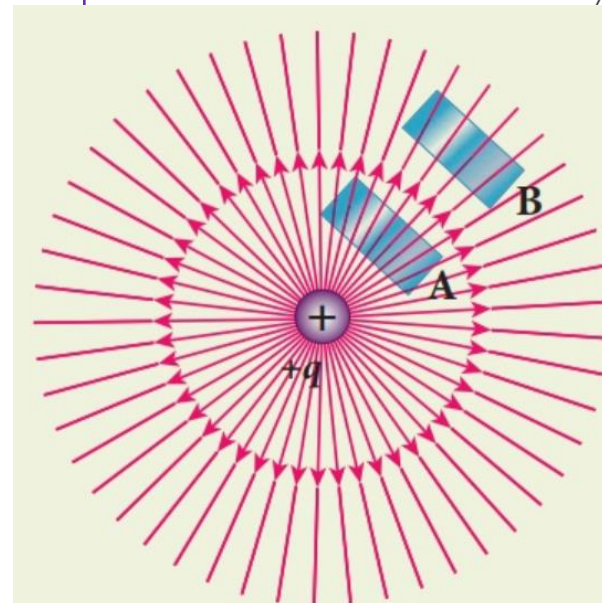
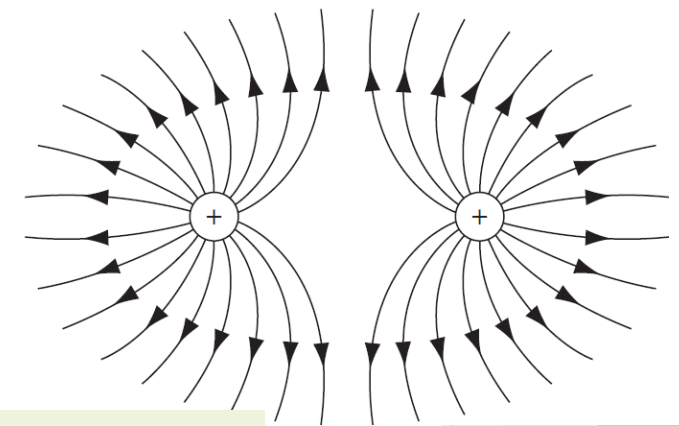
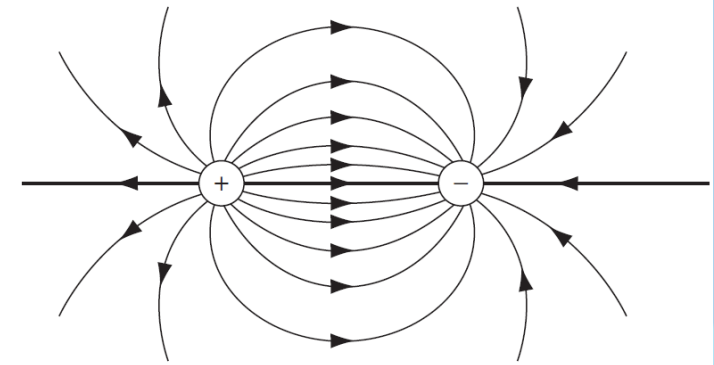
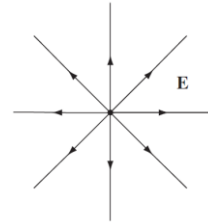
$$dq = \rho d\tau'$$

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int \frac{\rho(\mathbf{r}')}{r^2} \hat{\mathbf{r}} d\tau'$$

Field lines for point charges

- ▶ And you must space them fairly—they emanate from a point charge symmetrically in all directions. **Field lines begin on positive charges and end on negative ones**
- ▶ **they cannot simply terminate in midair**, though they may extend out to infinity.
- ▶ **Field of any simple configuration of point charges:** Begin by drawing the lines in the neighborhood of each charge, and then connect them up or extend them to infinity
- ▶ In this model, the flux of \mathbf{E} through a surface S is,

$$\Phi_E \equiv \int_S \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{a}$$



Which surface will feel \mathbf{E} more strongly/denser field lines?

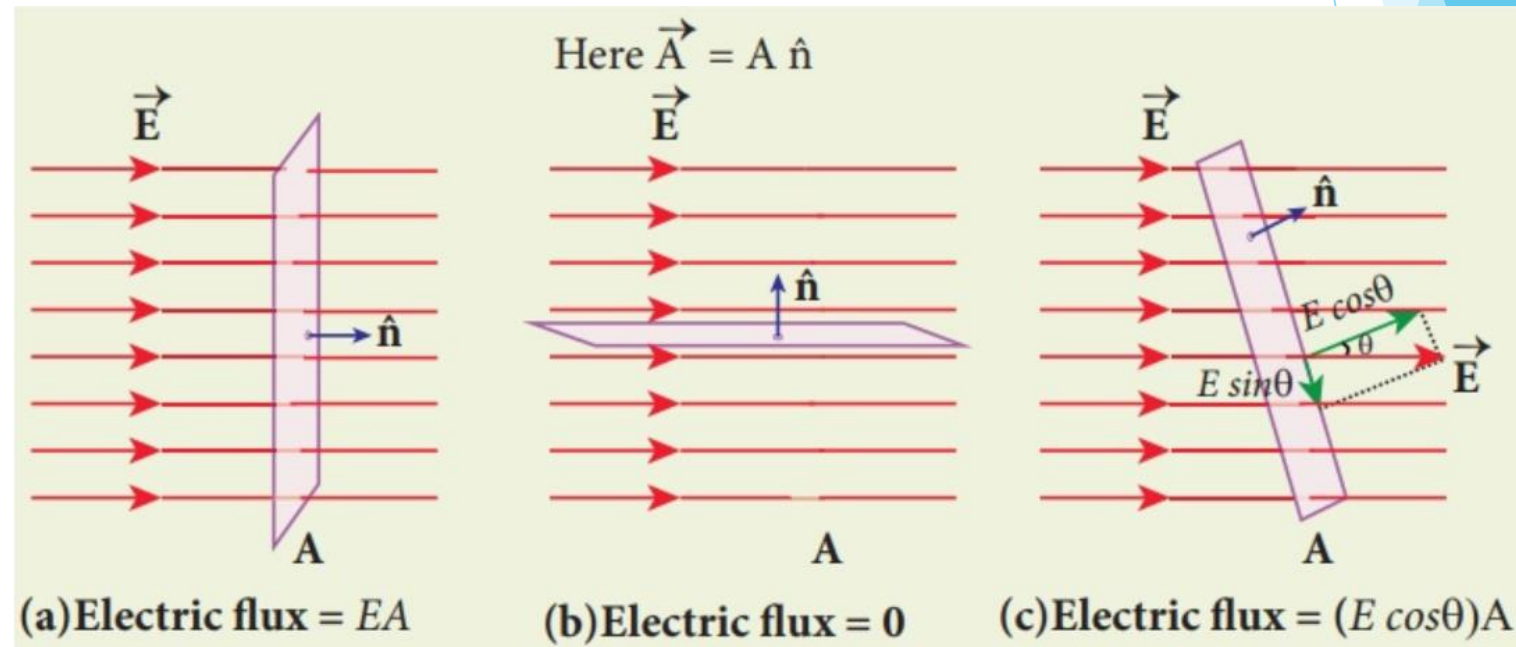
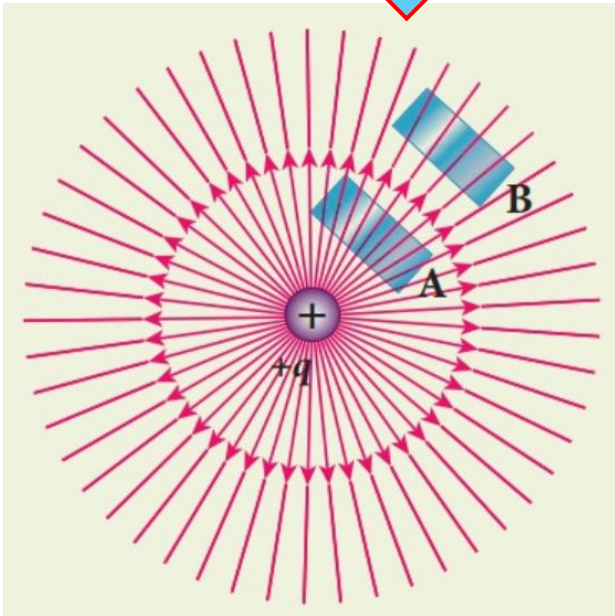
Flux

- ▶ This suggests that the flux through any closed surface is a measure of the total charge inside.
- ▶ For the field lines that originate on a positive charge must either pass out through the surface or else terminate on a negative charge inside. On the other hand, a charge outside the surface will contribute nothing to the total flux → essence of Gauss's law.

From Griffith Book

$$\Phi_E \equiv \int_S \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{a}$$

Which surface will feel \mathbf{E} more strongly/denser field lines?



- ▶ For a point charge q at the origin, calculate the flux of \mathbf{E} through a spherical surface of radius r .

Flux

- ▶ In the case of a point charge q at the origin, the flux of \mathbf{E} through a spherical surface of radius r is

$$\oint \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{a} = \int \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left(\frac{q}{r^2} \hat{\mathbf{r}} \right) \cdot (r^2 \sin\theta d\theta d\phi \hat{\mathbf{r}}) = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} q$$

- ▶ the flux through any surface enclosing the charge is q/ϵ_0
- ▶ Now suppose that instead of a single charge at the origin, we have a bunch of charges scattered about. $\mathbf{E} = \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{E}_i$
- ▶ The flux through a surface that encloses them all is

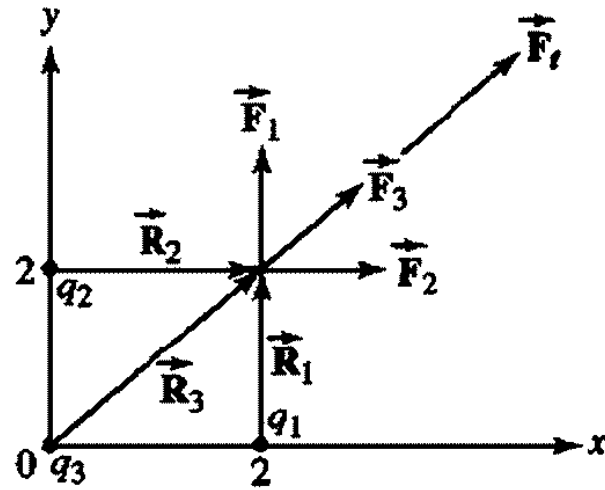
$$\oint \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{a} = \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\oint \mathbf{E}_i \cdot d\mathbf{a} \right) = \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{1}{\epsilon_0} q_i \right)$$

- ▶ For any closed surface

$$\Phi_E \equiv \int_S \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{a} \quad \oint \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{a} = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} Q_{\text{enc}}$$

where Q_{enc} is the total charge enclosed within the surface

Problem-1



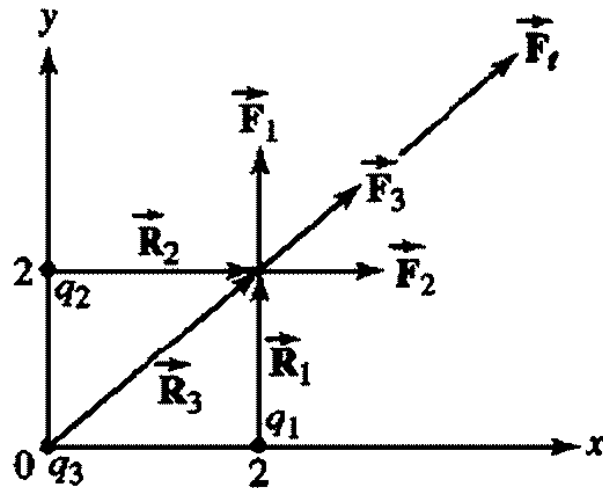
Three equal charges of 200 nC are placed in free space at (0, 0, 0), (2, 0, 0), and (0, 2, 0). Determine the total force acting on a charge of 500 nC at (2, 2, 0).

Solution-1

$$\vec{R}_1 = \vec{r} - \vec{r}_1 = 2\vec{a}_y \Rightarrow R_1 = 2 \text{ m}$$

$$\vec{R}_2 = \vec{r} - \vec{r}_2 = 2\vec{a}_x \Rightarrow R_2 = 2 \text{ m}$$

$$\vec{R}_3 = \vec{r} - \vec{r}_3 = 2\vec{a}_x + 2\vec{a}_y \Rightarrow R_3 = 2.828 \text{ m}$$



The force on q due to q_1 is

$$\vec{F}_1 = \frac{9 \times 10^9 \times 200 \times 10^{-9} \times 500 \times 10^{-9}}{2^3} [2\vec{a}_y] = 225\vec{a}_y \mu\text{N}$$

Similarly, we can compute the forces acting on q due to q_2 and q_3 as

$$\vec{F}_2 = 225\vec{a}_x \mu\text{N} \quad \text{and} \quad \vec{F}_3 = 79.6[\vec{a}_x + \vec{a}_y] \mu\text{N}$$

Thus, the total force experienced by q , from (3.6), is

$$\vec{F}_r = \vec{F}_1 + \vec{F}_2 + \vec{F}_3 = 304.6[\vec{a}_x + \vec{a}_y] \mu\text{N}$$

Problem-2

Two point charges of 20 nC and -20 nC are situated at $(1, 0, 0)$ and $(0, 1, 0)$ in free space. Determine the electric field intensity at $(0, 0, 1)$.

Solution-2

The two distance vectors are

$$\vec{\mathbf{R}}_1 = \vec{\mathbf{r}} - \vec{\mathbf{r}}_1 = -\vec{\mathbf{a}}_x + \vec{\mathbf{a}}_z, \quad R_1 = |\vec{\mathbf{r}} - \vec{\mathbf{r}}_1| = 1.414 \text{ m}$$

and

$$\vec{\mathbf{R}}_2 = \vec{\mathbf{r}} - \vec{\mathbf{r}}_2 = -\vec{\mathbf{a}}_y + \vec{\mathbf{a}}_z, \quad R_2 = |\vec{\mathbf{r}} - \vec{\mathbf{r}}_2| = 1.414 \text{ m}$$

Substituting in equation (3.10), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{\mathbf{E}} &= 9 \times 10^9 \left[\frac{20 \times 10^{-9}}{1.414^3} (-\vec{\mathbf{a}}_x + \vec{\mathbf{a}}_z) - \frac{20 \times 10^{-9}}{1.414^3} (-\vec{\mathbf{a}}_y + \vec{\mathbf{a}}_z) \right] \\ &= 63.67 [-\vec{\mathbf{a}}_x + \vec{\mathbf{a}}_y] \text{ V/m} \end{aligned}$$

Thank You