

Exercise sheet n°4

Gauss' theorem

Exercise 1

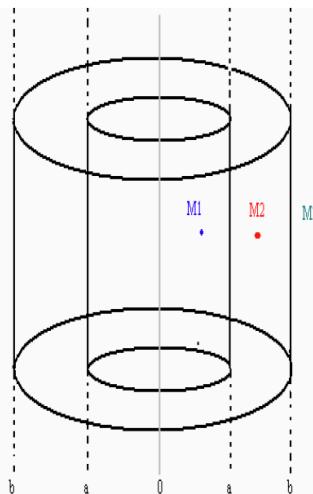
Consider a charged wire, whose length L is infinite, with a constant positive linear charge λ .

1- Use the symmetries to determine the direction of the electric field. Then, use the invariances to deduce the relevant coordinate dependence of the electric field.

2- Use Gauss' theorem to get the expression of the electric field created at any point M outside the wire.

Exercise 2

Two hollow coaxial cylinders made of metal, of respective radii a and b , have the respective charges $+Q$ and $-Q$. The cylinders have an infinite length l .



1) Use the symmetries and the invariances to find the direction and the dependences of the electric field.

2) Using the Gauss theorem, express the electrostatic field generated in the domains

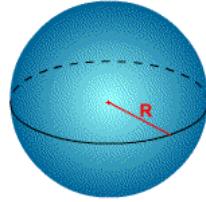
$$r < a ; \quad a < r < b ; \quad r > b$$

3) Deduce the expressions of the electric potential in those domains.

4) Recover the expression of the capacitance of this system, which reads: $C = \frac{Q}{V_a - V_b}$

Exercise 3

Consider a hollow sphere of radius R with a surfacic charge density σ , constant and positive.



- 1- Use the symmetries and the invariances to find the direction and the dependences of the electric field.
- 2- Express the electrostatic field for $r < R$ and $r > R$ using Gauss' theorem.
- 3- Deduce the expressions of the potential. Is given $V(\infty) = 0$.
- 4- Consider the same questions when the sphere is charged with a volumic density ρ , constant and positive.