

Electric Field

Coulomb's Law

electrostatic force to q_1 add by q_2

$$\vec{F}_e = \frac{q_1 q_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2} \hat{r}$$

permittivity ϵ_0 in vacuum: $\epsilon_0 = 8.854 \times 10^{-12} \text{C}^2 \text{m}^{-2} \text{N}^{-1}$

superposition of discrete charges

$$\vec{F}_Q = \sum \frac{Q q_i}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2} \hat{r}_i$$

superposition of continuous charges

$$\vec{F}_Q = \int_V \frac{Q dq}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2} \hat{r}_i = \int_V \frac{\rho Q dV}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2} \hat{r}_i$$

here ρ is volume charge density

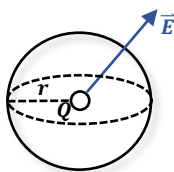
Electric Field

electric field on q_0 add by Q

$$\vec{E} = \frac{\vec{F}_e}{q_0} = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2} \hat{r}$$

here \vec{E} is a vector field

Permittivity



define $1/\epsilon_0$ electric field line generated per coulomb

at spherical surface of radius r , \vec{E} at each point is given by

$$\vec{E} = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \frac{Q}{4\pi r^2} \hat{r} = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2} \hat{r}$$

Superposition of Electric field

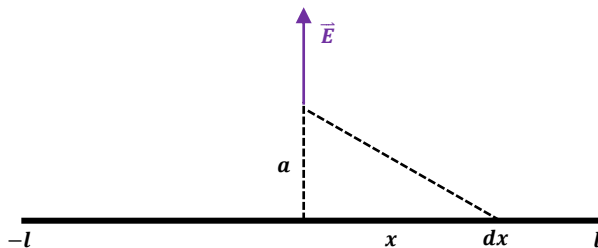
$$\vec{F} = \sum_{i=1}^n \vec{F}_i$$

$$\vec{E} = \sum_{i=1}^n \vec{E}_i = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{q_i}{r_i^2} \hat{r}_i$$

E Field Calculation

- charged wire

find \vec{E} of distance a from symmetric position of $2l$ wire with charge density λ



$$\vec{E} = \int_{-l}^l d\vec{E}_y = \int_{-l}^l \frac{\lambda dx}{4\pi\epsilon_0(x^2 + a^2)} \cdot \frac{a}{\sqrt{x^2 + a^2}} = \frac{2\lambda a}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_{-l}^l \frac{1}{(x^2 + a^2)^{3/2}} dx$$

apply substitution $x = a \tan \theta$

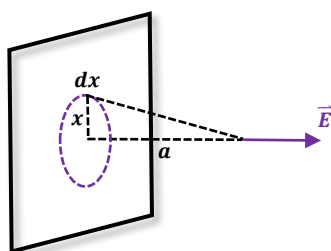
$$\Rightarrow \frac{2\lambda a}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_{-l}^l \frac{a \sec^2 \theta d\theta}{(a^2(\tan^2 \theta + 1))^{3/2}} = \frac{\lambda}{2\pi\epsilon_0 a} \left(\frac{l}{\sqrt{l^2 + a^2}} \right)$$

when having an infinite long wire

$$l \rightarrow \infty \Rightarrow \vec{E} = \frac{\lambda}{2\pi\epsilon_0 a}$$

- charged plane

find \vec{E} of distance a from an infinite plane with charge density σ



$$E = \int_0^\infty dE = \int_0^\infty \frac{2\pi x dx \sigma}{4\pi\epsilon_0(x^2 + a^2)} \cdot \frac{a}{\sqrt{x^2 + a^2}} = \frac{\sigma}{2\epsilon_0} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{ax}{(x^2 + a^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} dx$$

apply substitution $x = a \tan \theta$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\sigma}{2\epsilon_0} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{\tan \theta}{(\tan^2 \theta + 1)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \sec^2 \theta d\theta = \frac{\sigma}{2\epsilon_0} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin \theta d\theta = \frac{\sigma}{2\epsilon_0}$$