

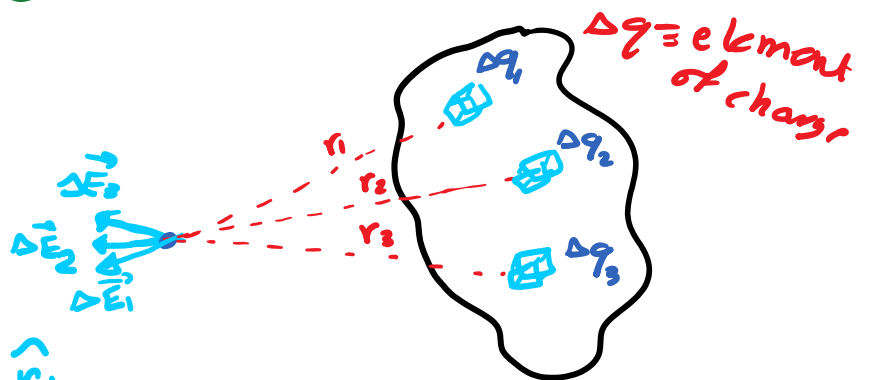
## 23.5 Electric Field of a Continuous Charge Distribution

Note that  
 $\Delta \vec{E} = k_e \frac{\Delta q}{r^2} \hat{r}$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{E} \approx k_e \sum_i \frac{\Delta q_i}{r_i^2} \hat{r}_i$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{E} = k_e \lim_{\Delta q \rightarrow 0} \sum_i \frac{\Delta q_i}{r_i^2} \hat{r}_i$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\vec{E} = k_e \int \frac{dq}{r^2} \hat{r}}$$



$r \equiv$  distance from  $dq$  to the point at which you need to find  $\vec{E}$  at.

• If  $Q$  is uniformly distributed throughout a volume  $V \Rightarrow$  volume charge density is:

uniformly  $\rho = \frac{Q}{V} \quad (\text{C/m}^3)$

• If  $Q$  is distributed over a surface  $A$

• If  $Q$  is <sup>uniformly</sup> distributed over a surface  $A$   
 $\Rightarrow$  surface charge density is:

$$\sigma = \frac{Q}{A} \quad (\text{C/m}^2)$$

• If  $Q$  is <sup>uniformly</sup> distributed along a line  $L$   
 $\Rightarrow$  linear charge density is:

$$(\text{C/m}) \quad \lambda = \frac{Q}{L}$$

For a small volume  $\Rightarrow dq = \rho dV$   
 " " " area  $\Rightarrow dq = \sigma dA$   
 " " " length  $\Rightarrow dq = \lambda dl$

Ex 23.7:

$$\vec{E}_P = ?$$

$\vec{E}$  to the left

Now  $E = ?$

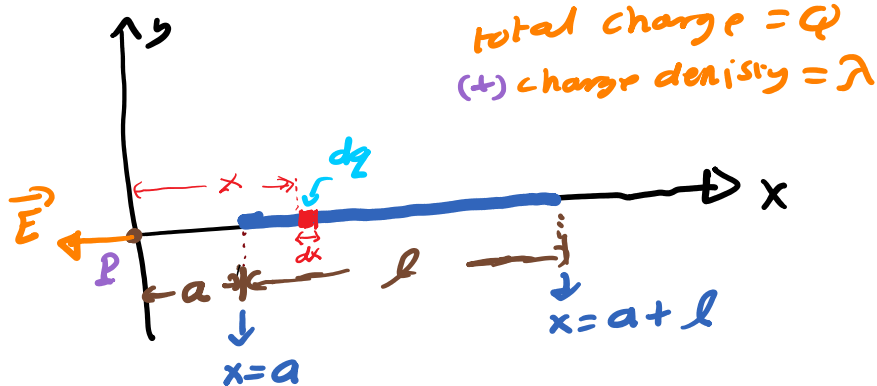
$$E = k_e \int \frac{dq}{r^2}$$

$$dq = \lambda dx, \quad r = x$$

$$\Rightarrow E = k_e \int_a^{a+l} \frac{\lambda dx}{x^2} = k_e \lambda \int_a^{a+l} \frac{dx}{x^2}$$

$$= k_e \lambda \left[ -\frac{1}{x} \right]_a^{a+l} \Rightarrow E = \frac{k_e Q}{a(l+a)}$$

$E = ?$  if  $a \gg l$   
 $\Rightarrow E = \frac{k_e Q}{a^2}$   
 point charge!!



$\frac{Q}{l}$

$Q$

point charge!!

$$\lambda = \frac{Q}{L} \quad \leftarrow \frac{dQ}{dL}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{dQ}{dL}$$

$$dQ = \lambda dL$$

$$\sigma = \frac{Q}{A} \quad \leftarrow \frac{dQ}{dA}$$



$$\sigma = \frac{dQ}{dA}$$

$$dQ = \sigma dA$$

$$\rho = \frac{Q}{V} \quad \leftarrow \frac{dQ}{dV}$$

$$\rho = \frac{dQ}{dV}$$

$$dQ = \rho dV$$

