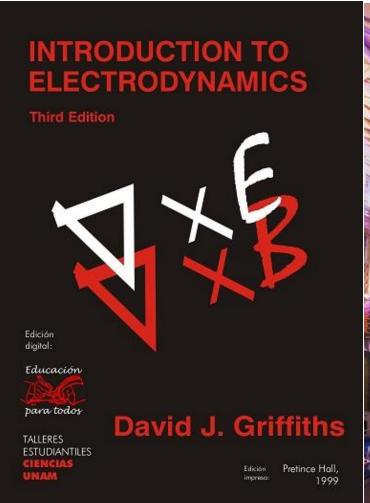
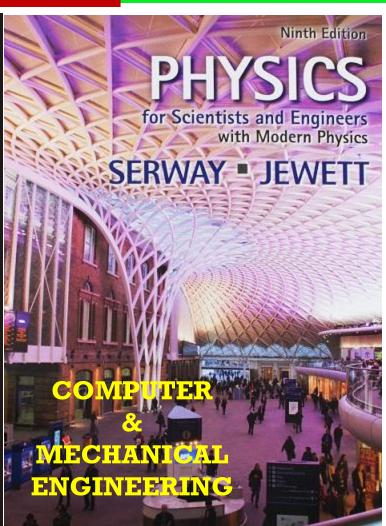
PHYSICS







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Course Outline





- Coulomb's Law
- The Electric Field
- Continuous Charge Distributions
- Problems

Electric Charge



Electric Charge (q):

- Charge is a fundamental and characteristics property of the elementary particles which make up matter.
- It is a scalar quantity.
- SI unit of charge is coulomb (C).
- Kinds of Charges
 - I. Positive Charge
 - 2. Negative Charge

Elementary Charge:

The magnitude of charge on a proton or an electron.

$$e = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} C$$

Properties of Charges:

- I. Like charges repel each other and unlike charges attract each other.
- 2. Electric charge is quantized.
- $q = \pm ne$
- 3. Electric charge is conserved.
- 4. The electric charge is additive in nature.
- 5. The charge on a body is not affected by the speed of the body.

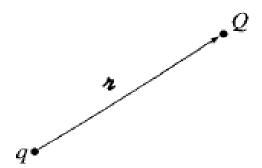
Coulomb's Law



Coulomb's Law:

• The force on a test charge Q due to a single point charge q, which is at rest a distance χ away is given by **Coulomb's law**:

$$\vec{F} = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{qQ}{t^2} \hat{t}$$



- The magnitude of the electric force between two point charges is directly proportional to the product of the charges and inversely proportional to the square of the distance between them.
- The constant \mathcal{E}_0 is called the **permittivity of free space**.

$$\varepsilon_0 = 8.85 \times 10^{-12} \frac{\text{C}^2}{\text{N} \cdot \text{m}^2}$$

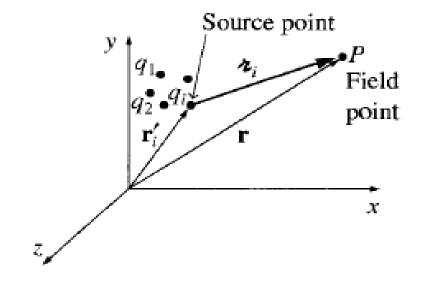
Electric Field



Coulomb's Law:

• If we have several point charges $q_1, q_2, ..., q_n$ at distances $l_1, l_2, ..., l_n$ from Q, the total force on Q is given by

$$\begin{split} \vec{F} &= \vec{F}_1 + \vec{F}_2 + \dots \\ &= \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \left(\frac{q_1 Q}{t_1^2} \, \hat{t}_1 + \frac{q_2 Q}{t_2^2} \, \hat{t}_2 + \dots \right) \\ &= \frac{Q}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \left(\frac{q_1}{t_1^2} \, \hat{t}_1 + \frac{q_2}{t_2^2} \, \hat{t}_2 + \dots \right) \\ \vec{F} &= Q \vec{E} \end{split}$$



where
$$\vec{E}(\vec{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{q_i}{\ell_i^2} \hat{\ell}_i$$

→ electric field of the source charges

Principle of Superposition:

$$\vec{E} = \vec{E}_1 + \vec{E}_2 + \dots$$

Electric Field



Electric Field:

• The electric field E at a point in space is defined as the electric force F acting on a positive test charge Q placed at that point divided by the magnitude of the test charge:

$$\vec{E} = \frac{\vec{F}}{Q}$$

• The **electric field** is <u>a vector quantity</u> that varies from point to point and is determined by the configuration of source charges.

• The SI unit of **electric field** $ec{E}$ is newton per coulomb (N ${
m C}^{ ext{--1}}$).

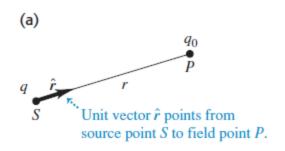
Electric Field



Electric Field of a Point Charge:

• The electric field \vec{E} produced at point P by an isolated point charge q at the origin S is given by

$$\vec{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{q}{r^2} \hat{r} = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{q}{r^3} \vec{r}$$



b) \vec{E}

At each point P, the electric field set up by an isolated *positive* point charge q points directly *away* from the charge in the *same* direction as \hat{r} .

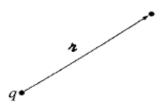


At each point P, the electric field set up by an isolated *negative* point charge q points directly *toward* the charge in the *opposite* direction from \hat{r} .

 \vec{E} is produced by q but acts q_0 on the charge at point P.

• The electric field \vec{E} produced at field point P by an isolated point charge q at the source point S is given by

$$\vec{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{q}{r^2} \hat{i} = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{q}{r^3} \vec{r}$$



Line Integral of Electric Field



Electric Field:

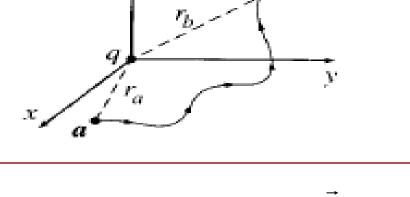
• The electric field at a point \vec{r} due to a point charge q located at the origin is given by

$$\vec{E}(\vec{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{\mathbf{q}}{r^2} \hat{r}$$

• The line integral of electric field:

$$\int_{a}^{b} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} = \int_{a}^{b} \left(\frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_{0}} \frac{q}{r^{2}} \hat{r} \right) \cdot \left(dr \, \hat{r} + r \, d\theta \, \hat{\theta} + r \sin\theta \, d\phi \, \hat{\phi} \right)$$

$$= \frac{q}{4\pi\varepsilon_{0}} \int_{a}^{b} \frac{1}{r^{2}} dr = \frac{q}{4\pi\varepsilon_{0}} \left[-\frac{1}{r} \right]_{r}^{r_{b}}$$



$$= \frac{\mathbf{q}}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \left[\frac{1}{r_a} - \frac{1}{r_b} \right]$$

 The electric field due to stationary charges is conservative field The amount of work done by the electric field \vec{E} when a unit positive charge moves from point a to point b

$$W_E = \int_a^b \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} = \frac{q}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \left[\frac{1}{r_a} - \frac{1}{r_b} \right]$$

The curl of Electric Field



The curl of Electric Field:

• The line integral of electric field around a closed path is zero.

i.e.
$$\oint_{c} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} = 0$$
or
$$\int_{s} (\nabla \times \vec{E}) \cdot d\vec{a} = 0$$
 [Using Stoke's Theorem]
$$\therefore \quad \nabla \times \vec{E} = 0$$



The electric field at point \vec{r} due to a point charge q located at the origin is

$$\vec{E}(\vec{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{q}{r^3} \vec{r}$$

So,
$$\nabla \times \vec{E} = \nabla \times \left[\frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{q}{r^3} \vec{r} \right] = \frac{q}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \left[\nabla \times \left(\frac{\vec{r}}{r^3} \right) \right] = \frac{q}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \left[\frac{1}{r^3} (\nabla \times \vec{r}) + \nabla \left(\frac{1}{r^3} \right) \times \vec{r} \right]$$
$$= \frac{q}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \left[0 + (-3r^{-3-2})\vec{r} \times \vec{r} \right]$$

Continuous Charge Distribution



Linear Charge Density

$\lambda = \frac{dq}{dl'}$ \downarrow

charge-per-unit-length

 $dl' \rightarrow$ an element of length along the line

Surface Charge Density

$$\sigma = \frac{dq}{da'}$$

charge-per-unit-area

$$\begin{bmatrix} da' \rightarrow \text{ an element of area} \\ \text{ on the surface} \end{bmatrix}$$

Volume Charge Density

$$\rho = \frac{dq}{d\tau'}$$

charge-per-unit-volume

 $[d\tau' \rightarrow \text{an element of volume}]$

Small Charge Distribution

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

Electric Field due to Continuous Charge Distribution



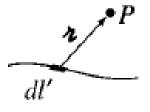
Electric Field Due to a Continuous Charge Distribution:

$$\vec{E}(\vec{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \int \frac{dq}{r^2} \,\hat{r}$$



The electric field of a line charge

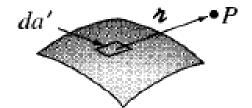
$$\vec{E}(\vec{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \int \frac{\lambda(r') \ dl'}{\epsilon^2} \,\hat{\epsilon}$$



Line charge, λ

The electric field for a surface charge

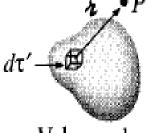
$$\vec{E}(\vec{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \int \frac{\sigma(r') \, da'}{\ell^2} \, \hat{\ell}$$



Surface charge, σ

The electric field for a volume charge

$$\vec{E}(\vec{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \int \frac{\rho(r') d\tau'}{t^2} \hat{t}$$



Volume charge, ρ



I. Electric Field a distance z above the midpoint between two equal charges, q, a distance d apart

From Figure

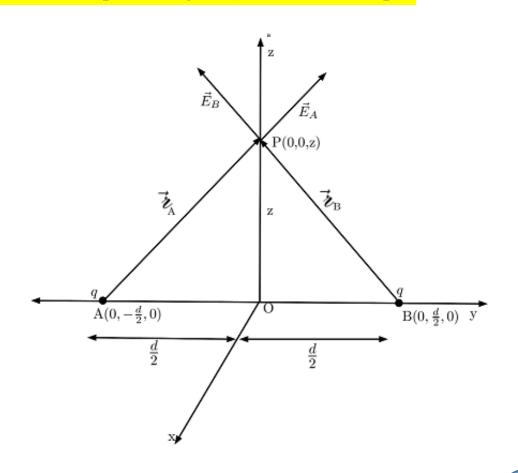
$$\vec{k}_{A} = (0-0)\hat{i} + \left(0 + \frac{d}{2}\right)\hat{j} + (z-0)\hat{k} = \frac{d}{2}\hat{j} + z\hat{k}$$

$$\Rightarrow t_{\rm A} = \left(\frac{d^2}{4} + z^2\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

and

$$\vec{k}_{\rm B} = (0-0)\hat{i} + \left(0 - \frac{d}{2}\right)\hat{j} + (z-0)\hat{k} = -\frac{d}{2}\hat{j} + z\hat{k}$$

$$\Rightarrow t_{\rm B} = \left(\frac{d^2}{4} + z^2\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$





I. Electric Field a distance z above the midpoint between two equal charges, q, a distance d apart

Electric Field at *P* due to the charge at A is

$$\vec{E}_{A} = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_{0}} \frac{q}{{l_{A}}^{3}} \vec{l}_{A} = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_{0}} \frac{q}{\left(\frac{d^{2}}{4} + z^{2}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \left(\frac{d}{2} \hat{j} + z\hat{k}\right)$$

• Electric Field at P due to the charge at B is

Therefore, the total electric field at P:

$$\begin{split} \vec{E} &= \vec{E}_{\mathrm{A}} + \vec{E}_{\mathrm{B}} \\ &= \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_{0}} \frac{q}{\left(\frac{d^{2}}{4} + z^{2}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \left(\frac{d}{2}\hat{j} + z\hat{k}\right) + \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_{0}} \frac{q}{\left(\frac{d^{2}}{4} + z^{2}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \left(-\frac{d}{2}\hat{j} + z\hat{k}\right) \end{split}$$

....(1)

$$\therefore \qquad \vec{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} q \frac{2z}{\left(\frac{d^2}{4} + z^2\right)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \hat{k}$$

when $z \gg d$

Electric field,
$$\vec{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} q \frac{2z}{\left(z^2\right)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \hat{k}$$

$$\therefore \left| \vec{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{2q}{z^2} \hat{k} \right|$$



2. Electric Field a distance z above the midpoint of a straight line segment of length 2L, which carries a uniform charge λ

From Figure

$$\vec{k} = (0 - 0)\hat{i} + (0 - y')\hat{j} + (z - 0)\hat{k} = -y'\hat{j} + z\hat{k}$$

$$\Rightarrow k = (y'^2 + z^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

The charge on an element of length dy' at C along the line is

$$dq = \lambda dy'$$

The electric field at P due to the charge $dq = \lambda dy'$ is given by

$$d\vec{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{dq}{z^3} \vec{i} = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{\lambda dy'}{\left(y'^2 + z^2\right)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \left(-y' \hat{j} + z \hat{k}\right)$$

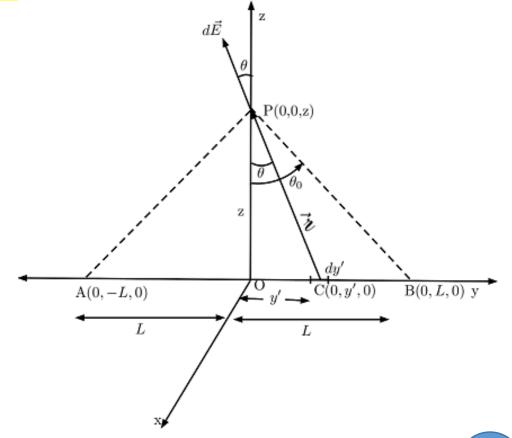


Figure E-2 illustrates the geometry and the coordinates to be used



- 2. Electric Field a distance z above the midpoint of a straight line segment of length 2L, which carries a uniform charge λ
- Total Electric field at P due to the charge on whole line segment AB:

$$\vec{E} = \int_{-L}^{+L} d\vec{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \lambda \left[\int_{-L}^{L} \frac{\left(-y'\,\hat{j} + z\,\hat{k}\right) dy'}{\left(y'^2 + z^2\right)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \right] = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \lambda \left[\int_{-L}^{L} \frac{-y'\,\hat{j}\,dy'}{\left(y'^2 + z^2\right)^{\frac{3}{2}}} + \int_{-L}^{L} \frac{z\,\hat{k}\,dy'}{\left(y'^2 + z^2\right)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \right] = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \lambda \left[2\int_{0}^{L} \frac{zdy'}{\left(y'^2 + z^2\right)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \hat{k} \right] \hat{k} \qquad(2)$$

put
$$y'= z \tan \theta$$

 $\Rightarrow dy'= z \sec^2 \theta \ d\theta$
when $y'=0$, then $\theta=0$
when $y'=L$, then $\theta=\tan^{-1}\left(\frac{L}{z}\right)=\theta_0$ (say)

$$\therefore \int_{-\alpha}^{\alpha} f(x)dx = 2\int_{0}^{\alpha} f(x)dx \text{ ; for even function } f(x)$$

$$= 0 \text{ ; for odd function } f(x)$$



2. Electric Field a distance z above the midpoint of a straight line segment of length 2L, which carries a uniform charge λ

$$\vec{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \lambda \left[2z \int_0^{\theta_0} \frac{z \sec^2\theta d\theta}{z^3 \sec^3\theta} \right] \hat{k}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{2\lambda}{z} \left[\int_0^{\theta_0} \cos\theta d\theta \right] \hat{k}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{2\lambda}{z} \left[\sin\theta_0 \right] \hat{k}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{2\lambda}{z} \left[\frac{L}{\sqrt{z^2 + L^2}} \right] \hat{k}$$

$$\vec{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{\lambda(2L)}{z\sqrt{z^2 + L^2}} \hat{k}$$
.....(3)

For points far from the line $(z \gg L)$: $\vec{E} \cong \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{\lambda(2L)}{z^2} \hat{k}$ $\therefore \vec{E} \cong \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_1} \frac{q}{z^2} \hat{k}$ (4)

For far away the line "looks" like a point charge $q = \lambda(2L)$.

As $L \to \infty$: $\vec{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{\lambda(2L)}{z\sqrt{z^2 + L^2}} \hat{k} = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{2\lambda}{z\sqrt{\frac{z^2}{L^2} + 1}} \hat{k}$

$$\therefore \vec{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{2\lambda}{z} \hat{k}$$
 [Field of an infinite straight wire]

....(5)



3. Electric Field a distance z above the centre of a circular loop of radius r, which carries a uniform line charge λ .

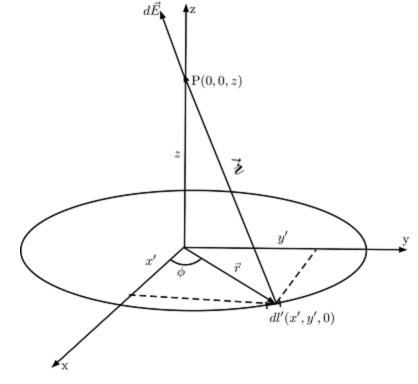
From Figure

$$\vec{k} = -x' \hat{i} - y' \hat{j} + z \hat{k} = -r \cos \phi \hat{i} - r \sin \phi \hat{j} + z \hat{k}$$

and $t = (r^2 + z^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$

The charge on an element of length dl' along a cirular loop is

$$dq = \lambda dl' = \lambda (rd\phi)$$



An elemental length dl' on the ring with coordinates (x', y', 0) subtends an elemental angle $d\phi$ at the centre.

Figure E-3 illustrates the geometry and the coordinates to be used



3. Electric Field a distance z above the centre of a circular loop of radius r, which carries a uniform line charge λ .

The electric field at P due to the charge $dq (= \lambda dl')$ is given by

$$d\vec{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{dq}{r^3} \vec{r}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{\lambda dl'}{\left(r^2 + z^2\right)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \left(-r\cos\phi \ \hat{i} - r\sin\phi \ \hat{j} + z \ \hat{k}\right)$$

$$\therefore \quad d\vec{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{\lambda (rd\phi)}{(r^2 + z^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \left(-r\cos\phi \ \hat{i} - r\sin\phi \ \hat{j} + z \ \hat{k} \right)$$

The net electric field at P due to the charge on whole circular loop is $\vec{E} = \int d\vec{E}$ $= \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{r\lambda}{\left(r^2 + z^2\right)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \left[-\left(r\int_0^{2\pi} \cos\phi \ d\phi\right) \hat{i} - \left(r\int_0^{2\pi} \sin\phi \ d\phi\right) \hat{j} + z\left(\int_0^{2\pi} \ d\phi\right) \hat{k} \right]$ $= \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{r\lambda}{\left(r^2 + z^2\right)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \left[0 - 0 + z(2\pi)\hat{k} \right]$ $= \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \lambda \left(2\pi r\right) \frac{z}{\left(r^2 + z^2\right)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \hat{k}$

where $q = \lambda [2\pi r]$ is the total charge on the circular loop.



- 4. Electric Field a distance z above the centre of a flat circular disc of radius R, which carries a uniform surface charge σ .
- The disk can be considered as the combination of an infinite number of infinitesimally thin rings.

Consider a ring of radius r and thickness dr of this disk.

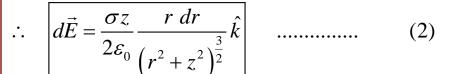
The charge on this ring is $dq = \sigma(2\pi r dr)$

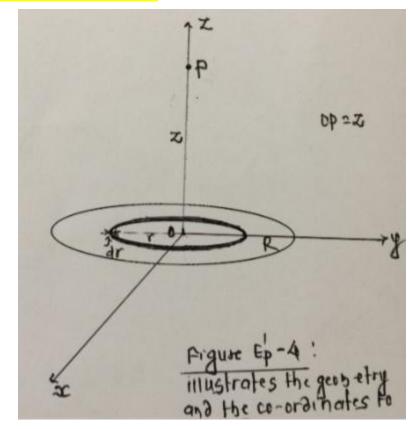
.....(1)

The electric field at P due to the charge $dq (= \sigma 2\pi r dr)$ on the ring is given by

$$d\vec{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} dq \frac{z}{\left(r^2 + z^2\right)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \hat{k}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \left(\sigma \ 2\pi r \ dr\right) \frac{z}{\left(r^2 + z^2\right)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \hat{k}$$
 using Eq.(1)







- **Electric Field** a distance z above the centre of a flat circular disc of radius R, which carries a uniform surface charge σ .
 - Hence the electric field at P due to the charge on the whole flat circular disk is given by

put
$$r^2 + z^2 = t^2$$

 $\Rightarrow r \, dr = t \, dt$
when $r = 0$, then $t = z$
when $r = R$, then $t = \sqrt{R^2 + z^2}$

$$\vec{E} = \frac{\sigma z}{2\varepsilon_0} \begin{bmatrix} \int_z^{\sqrt{R^2 + z^2}} t \, dt \\ \int_z^{\sqrt{R^2 + z^2}} t \, dt \end{bmatrix} \hat{k} = \frac{\sigma z}{2\varepsilon_0} \begin{bmatrix} \int_z^{\sqrt{R^2 + z^2}} \frac{1}{t^2} \, dt \end{bmatrix} \hat{k}$$

$$= \frac{\sigma z}{2\varepsilon_0} \left[-\frac{1}{t} \right]_z^{\sqrt{R^2 + z^2}} \hat{k} = \frac{\sigma z}{2\varepsilon_0} \left[\left(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{R^2 + z^2}} \right) - \left(-\frac{1}{z} \right) \right] \hat{k}$$

$$\vec{E} = \frac{\sigma}{2\varepsilon_0} \left[1 - \frac{z}{\sqrt{R^2 + z^2}} \right] \hat{k}$$



4. Electric Field a distance z above the centre of a flat circular disc of radius R, which carries a uniform surface charge σ .

As $R \to \infty$: $\vec{E} = \frac{\sigma}{2\varepsilon_0} [1 - 0] \hat{k}$ $= \frac{\sigma}{2\varepsilon_0} \hat{k}$ \uparrow

Electrcic field due to infinite sheet of charge

For points far from the disk $(z \gg R)$:

$$\vec{E} = \frac{\sigma}{2\varepsilon_0} \left[1 - \frac{z}{\sqrt{R^2 + z^2}} \right] \hat{k} \qquad = \frac{\sigma}{2\varepsilon_0} \left[1 - \frac{1}{\left(\frac{R^2 + z^2}{z^2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \right] \hat{k} \qquad = \frac{\sigma}{2\varepsilon_0} \left[1 - \left(1 + \frac{R^2}{z^2}\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right] \hat{k}$$

$$\therefore \vec{E} \cong \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{q}{z^2} \hat{k}$$
 where $q = \sigma(\pi R^2)$ is the total charge on the disk

For far away the disk "looks" like a point charge $q = \sigma(4\pi R^2)$.

Text Books & References



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- 4. D. Halliday, R. Resnick, and K. Krane, Physics, Volume 2, Fourth Edition



