

ASSIGNMENT-I [ELECTROSTATICS]

① State and Explain Coulomb's Law.

Ans:-

Statement :-

Coulomb's law states that the force  $F$  between two point charges  $q_1$  and  $q_2$  is

- i. Along the line joining them.
- ii. Directly proportional to the product of  $q_1 q_2$ .
- iii. Inversely proportional to the square of the distance ( $R$ ) between them.

$$F = \frac{K \cdot q_1 q_2}{R^2} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

where,  $K$  is proportionality constant.

$q_1$  &  $q_2$  in coulombs (c)

$R$  in meters

$F$  in Newtons

$$K = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0}$$

where,  $\epsilon_0$  - permittivity of free space (farads/meter)  
( $F/m$ )

$$\epsilon_0 = 8.854 \times 10^{-12} = \frac{10^{-9}}{36\pi} \text{ F/m}$$

(or)

$$K = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} = 9 \times 10^9 \text{ m/F}$$

earn ① becomes

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$$F = \frac{Q_1 Q_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R^2}$$

② State Gauss Law?

Ans:

Statement:- The total electric flux  $\Psi$  through any closed surface is equal to the total charge enclosed by that surface.

Thus,  $\Psi = Q_{enc}$

i.e.  $\Psi = \oint d\Psi = \oint_s D \cdot ds$   
= total change enclosed  $Q = \int_V dv$ .

$$\oint D \cdot ds = \int_V \rho V dv$$

→ Integral form of  
Gauss law.

③ Define Linear, Isotropic and Homogeneous dielectrics?

Ans:

Linear Dielectric:- A material is said to be linear if  $D$  varies linearly with  $E$  & non-linear otherwise.

Homogeneous Dielectrics:- Materials for which  $E$  (or  $\sigma$ ) does not vary in the region being considered and is therefore same at all points (i.e. independent of  $(x, y, z)$ ) are said to be homogeneous.

### Isotropic Dielectric:-

Materials for which  $D$  &  $E$  are in the same direction are said to be isotropic i.e. Isotropic dielectrics are those which have the same properties in all directions.

④ Define Poisson's and Laplace equations?

Ans: The Poisson's and Laplace equations are derived easily from Gauss law. (for a linear material medium).

$$\nabla \cdot D = \nabla \cdot E = \rho_v \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$\& E = -\nabla V \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

Substituting (2) in (1)

$$\boxed{\nabla \cdot (-E \cdot \nabla V) = \rho_v} \quad \text{for a non-homogeneous medium}$$

For homogeneous medium,

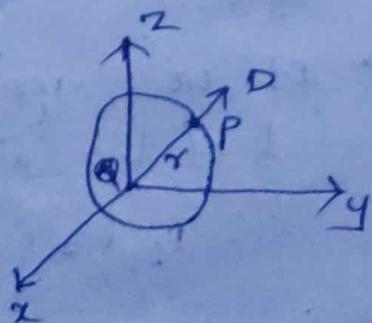
$$\boxed{\nabla^2 V = -\frac{\rho_v}{\epsilon_0}} \quad \text{- Poisson's Eqn}$$

For a charge free region,  $\rho_v = 0$

$$\boxed{\nabla^2 V = 0} \quad \text{- Laplace's equation.}$$

⑦ Derive  $D$  at a point  $P$ , due to a point charge and an infinite line charge?

Ans:- a.) Point charge :-



→ suppose a point charge  $Q$  is located at the origin. To determine  $D$  at a point  $P$ , it is easy if we choose a spherical surface containing  $P$  will satisfy symmetry conditions.

→ A spherical surface centered at the origin is the gaussian surface in this case as shown in the fig.

→ some  $D$  is normal every where normal to the gaussian surface i.e.  $D = D_r \hat{r}$ . then applying gauss law:

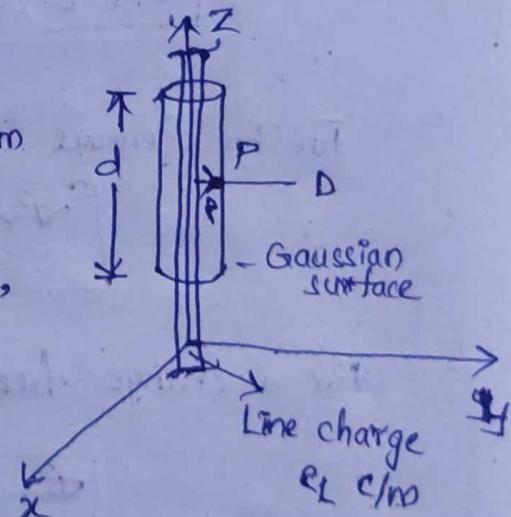
$$\Phi = \oint D \cdot dS = D_r \oint dS = D_r (4\pi r^2)$$

where  $\oint dS = \int_{\phi=0}^{2\pi} \int_{\theta=0}^{\pi} r^2 \sin\theta d\theta d\phi = 4\pi r^2$

$$D = \frac{\Phi}{4\pi r^2} = a_r$$

### b) Infinite Line charge :-

→ suppose infinite line of uniform charge  $\rho_L$  c/m lies along the  $z$ -axis. To find  $D$  at a point  $P$ , we choose a cylindrical surface containing  $P$  to satisfy symmetry condition as shown in fig.



→  $D$  is constant on & normal to the cylindrical gaussian surface, i.e.  $D = D_p \hat{a}_p$

→ If we apply Gauss Law to an arbitrary length  $l$  of the line,

$$\rho_L l = Q = \oint D \cdot dS = D_p \oint dS$$

$$\rho_L I = D_p (2\pi \rho L)$$

$$D_p = \frac{\rho_L}{2\pi \rho} \alpha_p$$

$$\begin{aligned} [\because ds &= r d\theta dz \alpha_p \\ \oint ds &= \int_{z=0}^{2\pi} \int_{r=0}^{\alpha_p} r d\theta dz \\ &= (2\pi)(\alpha_p) \\ &= 2\pi \rho L ] \end{aligned}$$

[Note:  $\oint D \cdot ds$  evaluated on the top & bottom surfaces of the cylinder is zero. since  $D$  has no  $z$ -component i.e.  $D$  is tangential to those surfaces.]

- ⑨ Derive the expression for equation of continuity and relaxation time?

### Ans: Continuity Equation:-

- Due to the principle of charge conservation the time rate of decrease of charge within a given volume must be equal to the net outward current flow through the closed surface of the volume.
- Thus current  $I_{out}$  coming out of the closed surface is

$$I_{out} = \oint \mathbf{J} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = -\frac{d Q_{in}}{dt} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

- where  $Q_{in}$  is the total charge enclosed by the closed surface.

- Applying divergence theorem,

$$\oint \mathbf{J} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = \iiint_V \nabla \cdot \mathbf{J} dv \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

But

$$-\frac{d Q_{in}}{dt} = -\frac{d}{dt} \iiint_V \rho_v dv = -\iiint_V \frac{\partial \rho_v}{\partial t} dv \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

substituting ② & ③ in ①

$$\int_v \nabla \cdot J dv = - \int_v \frac{\delta p_v}{\delta t} dv$$

$$\boxed{\nabla \cdot J = - \frac{\delta p_v}{\delta t}} \quad \text{continuity of current equation.}$$

Relaxation time :-

$$J = \sigma E$$

$$D = \epsilon F$$

$$E = \frac{D}{\epsilon}, \quad J = \sigma \frac{D}{\epsilon}$$

The point form of the continuity equation states that

$$\nabla \cdot J = - \frac{\delta p_v}{\delta t}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \left( \sigma \frac{D}{\epsilon} \right) = - \frac{\delta p_v}{\delta t}$$

$$\frac{\sigma}{\epsilon} (\nabla \cdot D) = - \frac{\delta p_v}{\delta t} \quad \text{but } \nabla \cdot D = p_v$$

$$\frac{\sigma}{\epsilon} p_v = - \frac{\delta p_v}{\delta t}$$

$$\therefore \frac{\delta p_v}{\delta t} + \frac{\sigma}{\epsilon} p_v = 0$$

This is the 1<sup>st</sup> order differential equation in  $p_v$  whose solution is given by

$$p_v = A \cdot e^{-\sigma t / \epsilon}$$

where  $A$  is a constant

Let the initial value at  $t=0$  be  $\rho_v = \rho_{v0}$

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so that  $A = \rho_{v0}$

$$\therefore \rho_v = \rho_{v0} e^{-\epsilon t/\tau}$$

The time constant  $\epsilon/\tau = T_r$  is the relaxation time in seconds.

$$\therefore \rho_v = \rho_{v0} e^{-t/T_r}$$

$$\text{At } t = T_r, \rho_v = \frac{\rho_{v0}}{e} = 0.368 \rho_{v0}$$

$\therefore T_r$  (relaxation time)  $T_r = \epsilon/\tau$  is the time taken for the charge density to decay to 36.8% (or) ( $1/e$ ) time its initial value

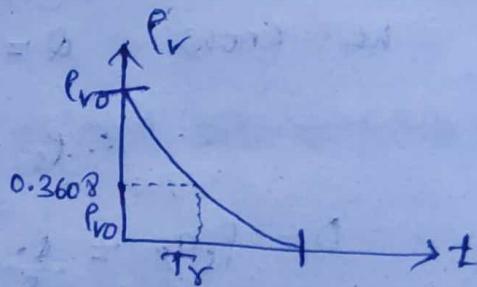


Fig. charge density & relaxation time

- ⑩ Define Capacitance of a capacitor in electrostatic fields? And obtain the expression for the capacitance for coaxial and parallel plate capacitors?

Ans:- Capacitance of a capacitor:-

Capacitance  $C$  of a capacitor is the ratio of magnitude of the charge one on one of the plates to the potential difference b/w them

$$C = \frac{Q}{V} = \frac{E \phi E ds}{\int E \cdot dd}$$

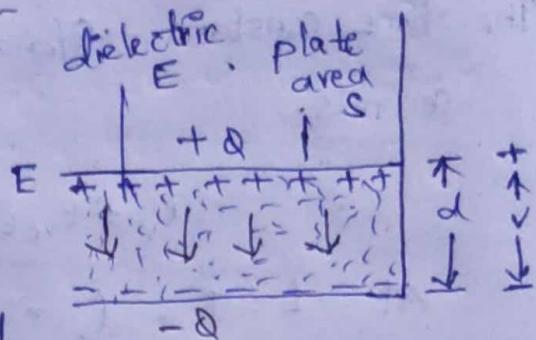
unit - farads

→ The negative sign for  $V = -\int E \cdot dl$  has been dropped because we consider only absolute value of  $V$ .

### ① ⇒ parallel-plate Capacitor :-

→ Consider the parallel plate capacitor shown.

→ Each of the plates has an area  $S$  & they are separated by a distance  $d$ . We assume that plates 1 & 2 respectively carry charges  $+Q$  &  $-Q$  uniformly distributed on them, so



$$\text{We know, } Q = \rho_s S$$

$$\therefore \rho_s = Q/S$$

$$D = \rho_s a_2 = \frac{Q}{S} a_2$$

$$E = \frac{D}{\epsilon_0} = \frac{\phi}{\epsilon_0 S} a_2$$

$$V = \int E \cdot dl = \frac{\phi}{\epsilon_0 S} a_2 \cdot d \cdot a_2$$

$$= \frac{Q \cdot d}{\epsilon_0 S} a_2 \cdot a_2 = \frac{Qd}{\epsilon_0 S} \text{ volts}$$

$$C = \frac{Q}{V} = \frac{Q \cdot \epsilon_0 S}{Qd} = \frac{\epsilon_0 S}{d} \text{ volts},$$

$$\therefore C = \frac{\epsilon_0 S}{d} \text{ volts}$$

c-cap of metal plates  
with dielectric

$$E_r = \frac{C}{\epsilon_0}$$

c<sub>0</sub>-cap of metal plates  
with air field

→ Energy stored in a capacitor

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$$W_E = \frac{1}{2} CV^2 = \frac{1}{2} QV = \frac{Q^2}{2C}$$

### coaxial capacitor:-

- This is a coaxial cable or coaxial cylindrical capacitor. consider length L of two coaxial conductors of inner radius 'a' & outer radius 'b' ( $b > a$ ).
- E is directed from inner conductor to the outer conductor. The potential difference is work done in moving unit charge against E i.e from  $r=b$  to  $r=a$ .
- space b/w the conductors is filled with a homogeneous dielectric with permittivity  $\epsilon$ .
- we assume that conductors 1 & 2 respectively carry  $+Q$  &  $-Q$ .
- Applying Gauss's Law

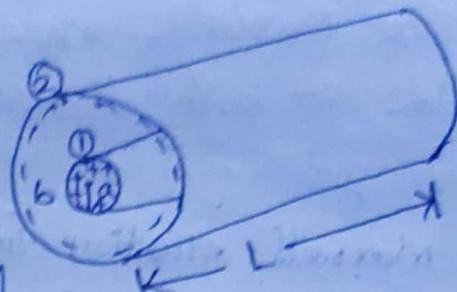
$$\Phi = E \oint E \cdot d\mathbf{s}$$

$$= E \epsilon_0 2\pi r L$$

$$E = \frac{Q}{2\pi \epsilon_0 r L}$$

$$V = - \int_a^b E dr = - \int_a^b \left[ \frac{Q}{2\pi \epsilon_0 r L} \right] dr$$

$$= - \frac{Q}{2\pi \epsilon_0 L} \left[ \ln(r) \right]_a^b = \frac{Q}{2\pi \epsilon_0 L} \ln\left(\frac{b}{a}\right)$$



$$\begin{aligned} \therefore d\mathbf{s} &= \int_{\phi=0}^{2\pi} \int_{z=0}^L \int_{r=a}^b \mathbf{e}_\phi dr dz \\ &= \rho(2\pi)(L) \\ &= \rho 2\pi L \end{aligned}$$

$$C = \frac{Q}{V} = \frac{2\pi\epsilon_0 L}{\ln(b/a)}$$

- ⑤ state Maxwell's equations for static electrostatics fields in both differential and integral form?

Ans:

→ Maxwell equation for static electrostatics fields in differential form:

$$\rho_v = \nabla \cdot D$$

→ It is also called point first form Maxwell equation.

→ Maxwell equation for static electrostatics fields in integral form:

$$Q = \oint_S D \cdot dS = \int_V \rho_v dv.$$

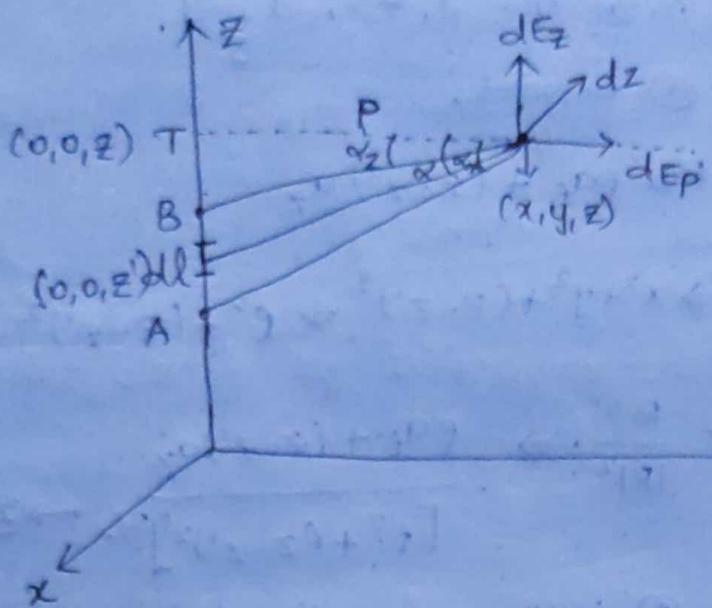
- ⑥ obtain an expression for electric field at a point due to an infinite line charge?

Ans:

Consider a line charge with uniform charge density  $\rho_L$  extending from A to B along z direction as shown.

→ The charge element  $dQ$  associated with the element  $dl = dz$  of the line is,

$$dQ = \rho_L dl = \rho_L dz$$



→ The total charge  $Q$  is,  $Q = \int_{z_A}^{z_B} \rho_L dz$

→ The electric field intensity  $E$  at an arbitrary point  $P(x, y, z)$  can be found by eqn,

$$E = \int \frac{\rho_L dl}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R^2} a_R \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

→ we denote field point by  $(x, y, z)$  and the source point by  $(x', y', z')$ .

From figure,

$$dl = dz'$$

$$R = (x, y, z) - (0, 0, z')$$

$$\rightarrow x a_x + y a_y + (z - z') a_z \rightarrow (a)$$

$$\text{put } a_x = \cos\phi a_r - \sin\phi a_\theta$$

$$a_y = \sin\phi a_r + \cos\phi a_\theta$$

$$x = r \cos\phi$$

$$y = r \sin\phi$$

}  $\rightarrow (b)$

sub ⑥ in ④ for  $x, \alpha_x, y, \alpha_y$

∴ ④ becomes,

$$R = p \alpha_e + (z - z') \alpha_z$$

$$R^2 = |R|^2 \Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 + (z - z')^2 \Rightarrow p^2 + (z - z')^2$$

$$\frac{\alpha_R}{R^2} = \frac{R}{|R|^2} \Rightarrow \frac{p \alpha_e + (z - z') \alpha_z}{[p^2 + (z - z')^2]^{3/2}} \rightarrow ②$$

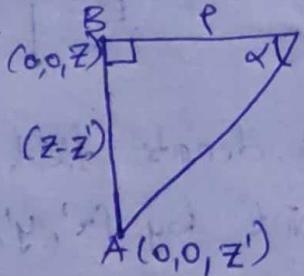
substituting ② in ① and  $dl = dz'$

$$E = \frac{P_L}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int \frac{p \alpha_e + (z - z') \alpha_z}{[p^2 + (z - z')^2]^{3/2}} dz' \rightarrow ②$$

Let we define  $\alpha$ ,  $\alpha_1$ , and  $\alpha_2$  in the figure,

$$\cos \alpha_x = \frac{p}{R} \quad \frac{1}{\cos \alpha} = \frac{R}{p}$$

$$[P = R \cos \alpha], \quad \sec \alpha = \frac{R}{p}$$



$$[R = p \sec \alpha]$$

$$R^2 = p^2 + (z - z')^2$$

$$[R = \sqrt{p^2 + (z - z')^2} = p \sec \alpha]$$

$$\sin \alpha = \frac{z - z'}{R}$$

$$[z - z' = R \sin \alpha]$$

$$\tan\alpha = \frac{z - z'}{r}$$

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$$z - z' = r \cdot \tan\alpha$$

$$\frac{dz}{d\alpha} - \frac{dz'}{d\alpha} = r \sec^2\alpha$$

$$dz' = -r \sec^2\alpha d\alpha$$

$\therefore \frac{dz}{d\alpha}$  is a constant = 0

$\therefore$  eqn ③ becomes,

$$E = -\frac{\rho_L}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_{\alpha_1}^{\alpha_2} \frac{(R \cos\alpha_p + R \sin\alpha_z)}{r^3 \sec^3\alpha} r^2 \sec^2\alpha d\alpha$$

$$= -\frac{\rho_L}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_{\alpha_1}^{\alpha_2} \frac{(\cos\alpha_p + \sin\alpha_z)}{r^3 \sec^3\alpha} r^2 \sec^2\alpha d\alpha$$

$$= -\frac{\rho_L}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_{\alpha_1}^{\alpha_2} (\cos\alpha_p + \sin\alpha_z) d\alpha$$

for a finite line charge,

$$E = \frac{\rho_L}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} [-\sin\alpha_p + \cos\alpha_z]_{\alpha_1}^{\alpha_2}$$

$$E = \frac{\rho_L}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} [-(\sin\alpha_2 - \sin\alpha_1)\alpha_p + (\cos\alpha_2 - \cos\alpha_1)\alpha_z]$$

for an infinite line charge,

point B is at  $(0, 0, \infty)$  and point A is at  $(r, 0, -\infty)$   
so, that

$$\alpha_1 = \frac{\pi}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad \alpha_2 = -\frac{\pi}{2}$$

∴  $E = \frac{e_L}{2\pi\epsilon_0 R^2} \propto r$

- ⑧ Derive the expression for electric potential in electrostatic fields?

Ans:

→ To move a point charge  $q$  from point A to point B in an electric field  $E$ , the work done in displacing the charge by  $dl$  is,

$$dW = -F \cdot dl \Rightarrow -qE \cdot dl$$

where 'F' is the force on  $q$ .

→ The (-ve) sign indicates that the work is being done by an external agent.

→ The total work done or the potential energy required in moving  $q$  from A to B is,

$$W = -q \int_A^B E \cdot dl$$

→ The potential energy per unit charge or the potential difference b/w points A and B is

$$V_{AB} = \frac{W}{q} = - \int_A^B E \cdot dl$$

→ Electric potential at any point is the negative gradient of line integral of electric field from  $\infty$  to given point.

Note:-

- In determining  $V_{AB}$ , 'A' is the initial point while 'B' is the final point.
- $V_{AB}$  is independent of the path taken.
- $V_{AB}$  is measured in Joules/coulomb or volts.

→ If  $E$  is the field due to a point charge  $Q$  located at the origin then,

$$E = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2} \text{ ars}$$

Substituting  $E$  in  $V_{AB}$  eqn

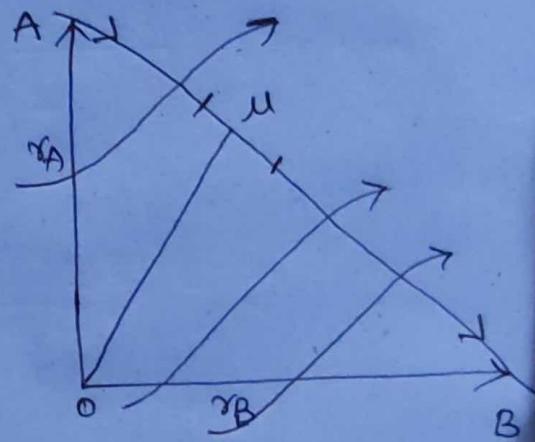
$$V_{AB} = - \int_{r_A}^{r_B} \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2} ar dr \text{ ars}$$

$$= - \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{-1}{r} \right]_{r_A}^{r_B}$$

$$= \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{1}{r_B} - \frac{1}{r_A} \right]$$

$$\boxed{V_{AB} = V_B - V_A}$$

where  $V_A$  &  $V_B$  are potentials at A & B.



→  $V_{AB}$  is potential at B w.r.t A.

→ In problems involving point charges, it is customary to choose infinity as reference i.e. potential at infinity is zero.

→ In general, the potential at any point  $\mathbf{r}$  is defined as the potential difference b/w that point and a chosen point at which the potential is zero.

→ If the point charge  $Q$  is not located at the origin but at a point where position vector is  $\mathbf{r}'$ , the potential  $V(x,y,z)$  or  $V(\mathbf{r})$  is,

$$V(x) = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0(r-r')}$$