

## VE230 Chapter 3 Part 1

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### 1 Basic Concept

Electrostatics:

- electric charges are **at rest(not moving)**;
- electric field **do not change with time**.

### 2 Electrostatics in Free Space

Static electric charges (source) in free space  $\rightarrow$  electric field

#### 2.1 Electric field intensity

$$\mathbf{E} = \lim_{q \rightarrow 0} \frac{\mathbf{F}}{q} \quad (\text{V/m}) \quad \vec{F} = q\vec{E}$$

#### 2.2 Fundamental Postulates of Electrostatics

- Differential form:

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} &= \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0} \\ \nabla \times \mathbf{E} &= 0 \end{aligned} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \int_V \nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} dV = \int_V \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0} dV = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \int_V \rho dV \\ \int_V \nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} dV = \oint_S \mathbf{E} \cdot d\vec{S} = \frac{Q}{\epsilon_0} \end{cases}$$

- Integral form:

$$\begin{aligned} \oint_S \mathbf{E} \cdot d\vec{s} &= \frac{Q}{\epsilon_0} \quad (\text{Gauss Law}) \\ \oint_C \mathbf{E} \cdot d\vec{\ell} &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$\mathbf{E}$  is **not solenoidal**, but **irrotational (conservative)**

### 3 Coulomb's Law

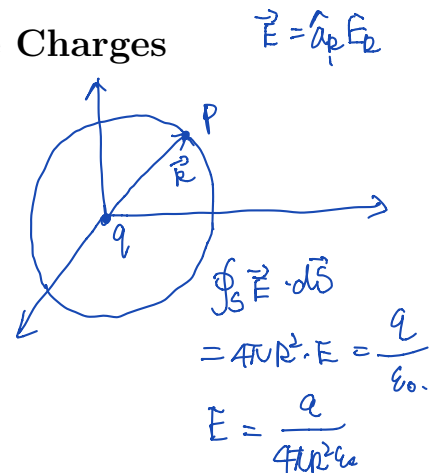
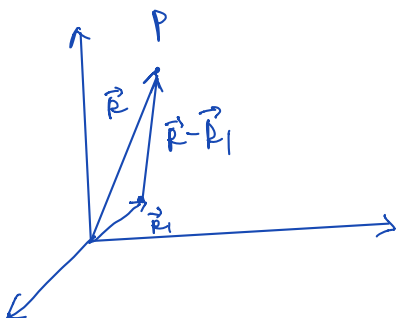
#### 3.1 Electric Field due to a System of Discrete Charges

- a single point charge (charge on the origin):

$$\hat{\mathbf{a}}_R = \frac{\vec{R}}{|\vec{R}|} \quad \frac{\vec{R}q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R^2} = \mathbf{E} = \mathbf{a}_R E_R = \mathbf{a}_R \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R^2} \quad (\text{V/m})$$

- a single point charge (charge is not on the origin):

$$\mathbf{E}_p = \frac{q(\mathbf{R} - \mathbf{R}')}{4\pi\epsilon_0 |\mathbf{R} - \mathbf{R}'|^3} \quad (\text{V/m})$$



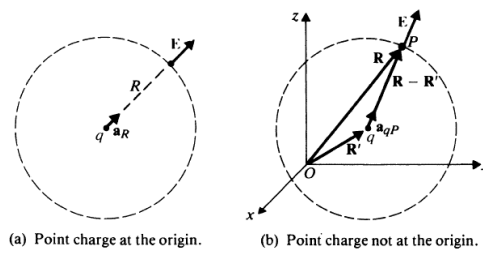


FIGURE 3-2  
Electric field due to a point charge.

### Example:

Determine the electric field intensity at  $P(-0.2, 0, -2.3)$  due to a point charge of  $+5(\text{nC})$  at  $Q(0.2, 0.1, -2.5)$  in air. (All dimensions are in meters).

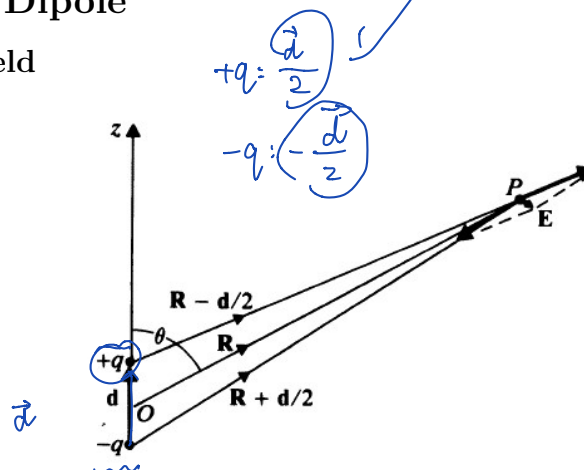
$$\begin{aligned}\vec{R}_1 &= \hat{a}_x 0.2 + \hat{a}_y 0.1 - \hat{a}_z 2.5 \\ \vec{R} &= -\hat{a}_x 0.2 - \hat{a}_z 2.3 \\ \vec{R} - \vec{R}_1 &= -\hat{a}_x 0.4 - \hat{a}_y 0.1 + \hat{a}_z 0.2 \\ |\vec{R} - \vec{R}_1| &= \sqrt{0.4^2 + 0.1^2 + 0.2^2} \\ \vec{E} &= \frac{(\vec{R} - \vec{R}_1) \cdot q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 |\vec{R} - \vec{R}_1|^3} \\ &= \frac{1}{\epsilon^2 \mu_0}\end{aligned}$$

- several point charges:

$$\vec{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{q_k (\vec{R} - \vec{R}'_k)}{|\vec{R} - \vec{R}'_k|^3}$$

## 3.2 Electric Dipole

- Electric Field



general expression:

$$\vec{E} = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left\{ \frac{\vec{R} - \frac{d}{2}}{\left|\vec{R} - \frac{d}{2}\right|^3} - \frac{\vec{R} + \frac{d}{2}}{\left|\vec{R} + \frac{d}{2}\right|^3} \right\}$$

if  $d \ll R$

$$|\vec{R} - \frac{\vec{d}}{2}|^3 = \left[ (\vec{R} - \frac{\vec{d}}{2}) \cdot (\vec{R} - \frac{\vec{d}}{2}) \right]^{-\frac{3}{2}}$$

$$= \left[ R^2 - \vec{R} \cdot \vec{d} + \frac{d^2}{4} \right]^{-\frac{3}{2}}$$

$$= (R^2)^{-\frac{3}{2}} \left[ 1 - \frac{\vec{R} \cdot \vec{d}}{R^2} + \frac{d^2}{4R^2} \right]^{-\frac{3}{2}}$$

$$\approx R^{-3} \left[ 1 - \frac{\vec{R} \cdot \vec{d}}{R^2} \right]^{-\frac{3}{2}}$$

$$\approx R^{-3} \left( 1 + \left(-\frac{3}{2}\right) \left(-\frac{\vec{R} \cdot \vec{d}}{R^2}\right) + \dots \right)$$


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$$|\vec{R} + \frac{\vec{d}}{2}|^3 \approx R^{-3} \left( 1 - \frac{3}{2} \frac{\vec{R} \cdot \vec{d}}{R^2} \right)^{-\frac{3}{2}}$$


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if  $d \ll R$ :

$$\mathbf{E} \cong \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R^3} \left[ 3 \frac{\mathbf{R} \cdot \mathbf{d}}{R^2} \mathbf{R} - \mathbf{d} \right] = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{3\mathbf{R} \cdot \mathbf{d}}{R^3} - \frac{\mathbf{d}}{R^3} \right]$$

- Electric Dipole Moment

Definition:

$$\hat{a}_z = \hat{a}_R \cos\theta - \hat{a}_\theta \sin\theta$$

$$\mathbf{p} = q\mathbf{d}$$

$$\mathbf{p} = \mathbf{a}_z p = p (\mathbf{a}_R \cos\theta - \mathbf{a}_\theta \sin\theta)$$

$$\mathbf{R} \cdot \mathbf{p} = R p \cos\theta$$

$$\hat{a}_R$$

- Electric Field:

$$\mathbf{E} = \frac{p}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R^3} (\mathbf{a}_R 2 \cos\theta + \mathbf{a}_\theta \sin\theta) \quad (\text{V/m})$$

### 3.3 Electric Field due to a Continuous Distribution of Charge

- General Differential Element:

$$d\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{a}_R \frac{\rho dv'}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R^2}$$



- Line Charge:

$$\mathbf{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_{L'} \mathbf{a}_R \frac{\rho_\ell d\ell'}{R^2} \quad (\text{V/m})$$

- Surface Charge:

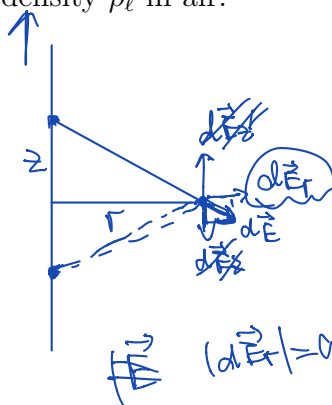
$$\mathbf{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_{S'} \mathbf{a}_R \frac{\rho_s ds'}{R^2} \quad (\text{V/m})$$

- Volume Charge:

$$\mathbf{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_{V'} \mathbf{a}_R \frac{\rho dv'}{R^2} \quad (\text{V/m})$$

**Example:**

Determine the electric field intensity of an infinitely long, straight, line charge of a uniform density  $\rho_\ell$  in air.



$$\int d\mathbf{E} = \int d\mathbf{E}_r$$

$$d\mathbf{E}_r = \frac{\rho_\ell dl}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R^2}$$

$$= \frac{\rho_\ell}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \cdot \frac{\mathbf{r}}{(r^2+z^2)^{3/2}} dz$$

$$\int d\mathbf{E}_r = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\rho_\ell}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{\mathbf{r}}{(r^2+z^2)^{3/2}} dz$$

$$= \frac{\rho_\ell r}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dz}{(r^2+z^2)^{3/2}} \right]$$

$$\mathbf{E} = \hat{a}_r \frac{\rho_\ell}{2\pi\epsilon_0 r}$$

## 4 Gauss's Law and Application

### 4.1 Definition

The total outward flux of the E-field over any closed surface in free space is equal to the total charge enclosed in the surface divided by  $\epsilon_0$ .

$$\oint_S \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = \frac{Q}{\epsilon_0}$$

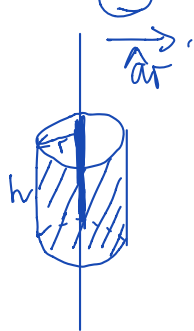
### 4.2 Application

- Conditions for Maxwell's Integral Equations:

There is a **high degree of symmetry** in the charge distribution or in the electrical field (i.e., spherically symmetric, planar, line charge, etc.

#### Example:

Determine the electric field intensity of an infinitely long, straight, line charge of a uniform density  $\rho_l$  in air.



$$\oint_S \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = 2\pi r h \cdot E$$

$$Q_{\text{total}} = \rho_l \cdot h$$

$$2\pi r h \cdot E = \frac{Q}{\epsilon_0} = \frac{\rho_l \cdot h}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$E = \frac{\rho_l}{2\pi \epsilon_0 r}$$

$$\vec{E} = \hat{a}_r \frac{\rho_l}{2\pi \epsilon_0 r}$$

$$\oint_S \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{S} = \frac{Q}{\epsilon_0}$$

Determine the  $\mathbf{E}$  field caused by a spherical cloud of electrons with a volume charge density  $\rho = -\rho_o$  for  $0 \leq R \leq b$  (both  $\rho_o$  and  $b$  are positive) and  $\rho = 0$  for  $R > b$ .

①  $0 \leq r \leq b$ .

$$\oint_S \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{S} = \frac{Q}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$\oint_S \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{S} = 4\pi r^2 \cdot E$$

$$Q_{\text{total}} = \rho V = -\rho_o \cdot \frac{4\pi r^3}{3}$$

$$4\pi r^2 \cdot E = -\frac{\rho_o 4\pi r^3}{3\epsilon_0}$$

$$\vec{E} = -\hat{a}_r \frac{\rho_o r}{3\epsilon_0}$$



②  $R > b$ .

$$\oint_S \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{S} = 4\pi R^2 \cdot E$$

$$Q_{\text{total}} = -\rho_o \frac{4\pi b^3}{3}$$

$$4\pi R^2 \cdot E = -\frac{\rho_o 4\pi b^3}{3\epsilon_0}$$

$$\vec{E} = -\hat{a}_R \frac{\rho_o b^3}{3R^2 \epsilon_0}$$

### 4.3 Several Useful Models

Note: The charge distribution should be **uniform**.

different models	E(magnitude)
infinitely long, line charge	$E = \frac{\rho_l}{2\pi r \epsilon_0}$
infinite planar charge	$E = \frac{\rho_s}{2\epsilon_0}$
uniform spherical surface charge with radius R	$\begin{cases} E = 0 (r < R) \\ E = \frac{Q}{4\pi r^2 \epsilon_0} (r > R) \end{cases}$
uniform sphere charge with radius R	$\begin{cases} E = \frac{Qr}{4\pi R^3} (r < R) \\ E = \frac{Q}{4\pi r^2 \epsilon_0} (r > R) \end{cases}$
infinitely long, cylindrical charge with radius R	$\begin{cases} E = \frac{\rho_v r}{2\epsilon_0} (r < R) \\ E = \frac{\rho_v R^2}{2r \epsilon_0} (r > R) \end{cases}$

## 5 Electric Potential

- Expression:

$$\mathbf{E} = -\nabla V$$

- Electric Potential Difference:

$$V = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R} \text{ (V)}$$

$$V_2 - V_1 = -\int_{P_1}^{P_2} \mathbf{E} \cdot d\ell$$

- Electric Potential due to a Charge Distribution

- Line Charge:

$$V = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_{L'} \frac{\rho_l}{R} dl' \text{ (V)}$$

- Surface Charge:

$$V = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_{S'} \frac{\rho_s}{R} ds' \text{ (V)}$$

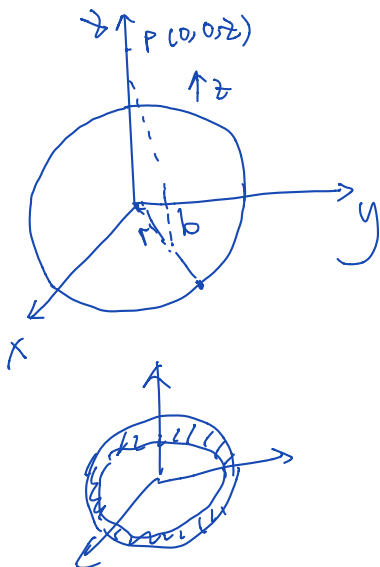
- Volume Charge:

$$V = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_{V'} \frac{\rho}{R} dv' \text{ (V)}$$

- Example:

Obtain a formula for the electric field intensity and potential on the axis of a circular disk of radius b that carries a uniform surface charge  $\rho_s$ .

Example 3-9



① find V

②  $\vec{E} = -\nabla V$

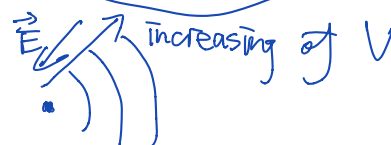
$$ds = r dr d\phi$$

$$V = \int_S \frac{\rho_s}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R} ds$$

$$= \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^b \frac{\rho_s}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \cdot r dr d\phi$$

$$= \frac{\rho_s}{2\epsilon_0} [(z^2 + b^2)^{1/2} - |z|]$$

②  $\vec{E} = -\nabla V$



$P_1, P_2$

a single point charge:

$$\vec{E} = \hat{a}_r \frac{q}{4\pi R^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow V = -\int_{-\infty}^R \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{\ell}$$

$$= -\int_{-\infty}^R \left( \hat{a}_r \frac{q}{4\pi R^2} \right) \cdot \hat{a}_r dR$$

$$= \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R} \text{ (V)}$$

$$\nabla^2 \frac{1}{r} = 0 \quad r \neq 0$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} -4\pi\delta(\vec{r}) \end{array} \right. \quad r=0.$$

$$\nabla^2 \frac{1}{r} = \nabla \cdot \left( \nabla \frac{1}{r} \right) \rightarrow \nabla \frac{1}{r} = \hat{a}_r \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( \frac{1}{r} \right) = -\frac{\hat{a}_r}{r^2}$$

$$= \nabla \cdot \left( -\frac{\vec{r}}{r^3} \right) = -\nabla \cdot \frac{\vec{r}}{r^3} = -\frac{\vec{r}}{r^3}$$

$$= -\left( \frac{1}{r^3} \nabla \cdot \vec{r} + \vec{r} \cdot \nabla \frac{1}{r^3} \right)$$

$r \neq 0$

$$= \frac{3}{r^3} \rightarrow \vec{r} \cdot \frac{\vec{r}}{r^3}$$

$$= 0$$

$\frac{1}{r}$

$$\int \left( \nabla \cdot \left( \frac{\vec{r}}{r^3} \right) \right) dV \stackrel{\uparrow ds}{=} \lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \oint_S \frac{\vec{r}}{r^3} \cdot d\vec{S} = \lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \oint \frac{1}{r^2} dS.$$

$$= 4\pi$$

$$r=0 \Rightarrow \nabla \cdot \frac{\vec{r}}{r^3} = 4\pi \Rightarrow \nabla^2 \frac{1}{r} = -4\pi$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla^2 \frac{1}{r} = -4\pi \delta(\vec{r})$$