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After this activity, you should know: • Use Gauss's Law in situations with cylindrical symmetry.

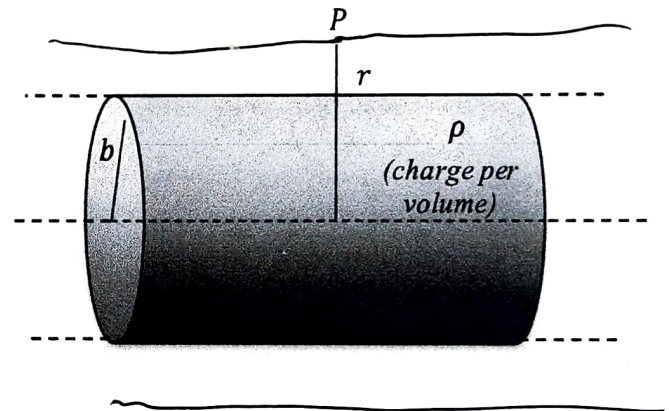
1. What is the volume of a cylinder of radius  $r$  and length  $L$ ? What is the surface area of the curved portion of surface? What is the surface area of one of the endcaps?

volume =  $\pi r^2 L$       area (curved section) =  $2\pi r L$       area (one end) =  $\pi r^2$

2. A very long (treat as infinite) solid cylindrical tube of radius  $b$  has a uniform charge per volume  $\rho$  (units:  $\text{Coul}/\text{m}^3$ ). We want to determine the electric field at point  $P$  a distance  $r$  from the central axis. Assume  $r > b$ .

- a. From symmetry, the electric field will be radial (either away or toward the central axis) and the magnitude of the electric field depends only on the distance  $r$  from the central axis.

On the diagram, draw the cylindrical Gaussian surface you would use to find the electric field at point  $P$ . To make this a closed surface, introduce a finite length  $L$  for your Gaussian cylinder.



- b. What is the flux through the endcaps of the Gaussian cylinder? Give answer in terms of the unknown electric field  $E$  and lengths  $L$ ,  $r$  and/or  $b$ .

Hint: pick a point on the endcap. What is the angle between the unit normal and the electric field at that point? Remember the tube is infinite in length.

$$E \cos(90^\circ) \int dA = E \lambda = E \pi b^2$$

- c. What is the flux through the curved portion of your Gaussian cylinder? Give answer in terms of the unknown electric field  $E$  and the lengths  $L$ ,  $r$  and/or  $b$ . Make sure your expression for the area has the correct dimensions.

$$2 E \pi b L \cos(\theta)$$

$$2 E \pi r L$$

- d. Use Gauss's law and your result from (c) to write the electric field in terms of  $q_{\text{enc}}$ ,  $L$ ,  $b$  and/or  $r$ .

$$2 E \pi r L = \frac{q_{\text{enc}}}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$E = \frac{q_{\text{enc}}}{2 \pi \epsilon_0 r L}$$

- e. Since  $L$  was not a given we want to eliminate it in the final answer. Rewrite your answer in (d) in terms of the the charge per length enclosed,  $\lambda_{\text{enc}} = q_{\text{enc}}/L$  and  $b$  and/or  $r$ .

$$E = \frac{\lambda_{\text{enc}}}{2 \pi \epsilon_0 r}$$

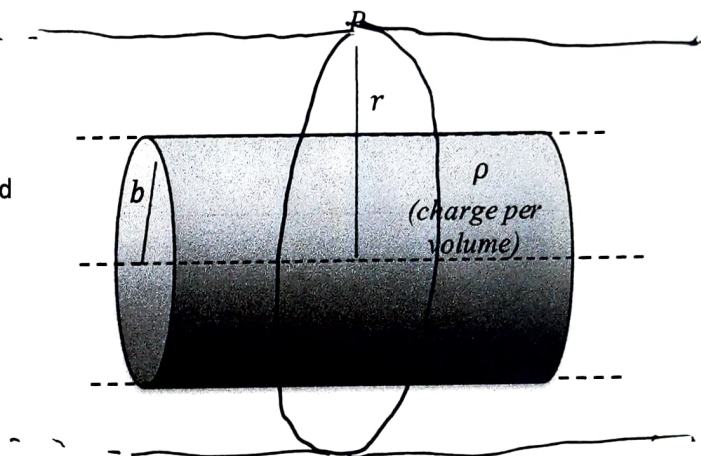
The expression is the same as  $E$  for an infinite line of charge except the charge per length  $\lambda$  is replaced by charge per length enclosed  $\lambda_{enc}$ :

$$E = \frac{\lambda_{enc}}{2\pi\epsilon_0 r}$$

Therefore the electric field due to a cylindrical charge distribution is the same as if all the charge inside  $r$  is at the central axis while the  $E$  field from the cylinder outside  $r$  cancels out.

f. We start by assuming point  $P$  is outside the cylinder so that  $r > b$ .

- Draw the Gaussian surface you would use to find  $E$  at point  $P$ . This is the same surface as on first page.
- What is the charge enclosed and charge per length enclosed by the Gaussian surface in this case? Write your answers in terms of the charge per volume  $\rho$  and lengths  $r$ ,  $b$ , and/or  $L$  (the length of your imaginary Gaussian cylinder). Check your units.



$$q_{enc} = \rho \pi b^2 L$$

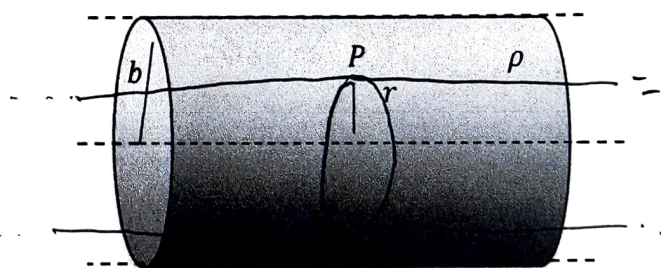
$$\lambda_{enc} = \frac{\rho \pi b^2 L}{L} = \rho \pi b^2$$

- What is the electric field for  $r > b$ ?

$$E = \frac{\rho \pi b^2}{2\pi\epsilon_0 r} = \frac{\rho b^2}{2\epsilon_0 r} = \frac{\lambda_{enc}}{2\pi\epsilon_0 r}$$

g. Now we assume that point  $P$  is inside the cylinder so that  $r < b$ .

- Draw the Gaussian surface you would use to find  $E$  at point  $P$ .
- What is the charge per length enclosed by the Gaussian surface in this case? Answer in terms of  $\rho$ ,  $r$  and/or  $b$ . Check your units.



$$q_{enc} = \rho \pi r^2 L$$

$$\lambda_{enc} = \frac{\rho \pi r^2 L}{L} = \rho \pi r^2$$

- What is the electric field for  $r < b$ ?

$$\frac{\rho \pi r^2}{2\pi\epsilon_0 r} \quad E_{r < b} = \frac{\rho r}{2\epsilon_0}$$

3. A very long cylinder of radius  $2b$  with a co-axial cylindrical hole of radius  $b$ . (Co-axial means the two cylinders have the same axis.) The charge per volume  $\rho$  is constant in the solid shell  $b < r < 2b$ .

- a. What is the charge per length enclosed and the electric field for point  $P$  inside the hole ( $r < b$ )? Answer in terms of  $\rho$ ,  $b$  and/or  $r$ .

$$4\pi r^2 L \sim \pi r^2 L$$

$$V = 3\pi r^2 L$$



$$\lambda_{enc} = \underline{\underline{0}}$$

$$E = \underline{\underline{0}}$$

- b. What is the charge per length enclosed and electric field for a point  $P$  inside the solid region ( $b < r < 2b$ )?

$$E = \frac{\lambda_{enc}}{2\pi\epsilon_0 r}$$

$$q_{enc} = \underline{\underline{\rho (\pi r^2 L - \pi b^2 L)}}$$

$$\lambda_{enc} = \underline{\underline{\frac{\rho \pi L (r^2 - b^2)}{L} = \rho \pi (r^2 - b^2)}}$$

$$E = \underline{\underline{\frac{\rho \pi (r^2 - b^2)}{2\epsilon_0 r}}}$$

- c. What is the charge per length enclosed and electric field for a point  $P$  outside the cylinder ( $r > 2b$ )?

$$q_{enc} = \underline{\underline{3\pi b^2 L \rho}}$$

$$\lambda_{enc} = \underline{\underline{\frac{3\pi b^2 L \rho}{L} = 3\pi b^2 \rho}}$$

$$E = \underline{\underline{\frac{3\pi b^2 \rho}{2\epsilon_0 r}}}$$