

Continuous Charge distribution

- two methods

- i) Superposition

- will reduce problem to an integral
- the integral may be unsolvable

- ii) gauss's law method

- generally quicker than superposition
- require a system of high degree (\vec{E} to be constant)

- the exact form of dQ depends on what sort of charge distribution we have

- For 1D continuous distribution (line of charge)

$$\lambda = \frac{dQ}{dx} \Rightarrow dQ = \lambda(x) dx$$

- For 2D continuous distributions (surface of charge)

$$\sigma = \frac{dQ}{dA} \Rightarrow dQ = \sigma(A) dA$$

- For 3D continuous distributions

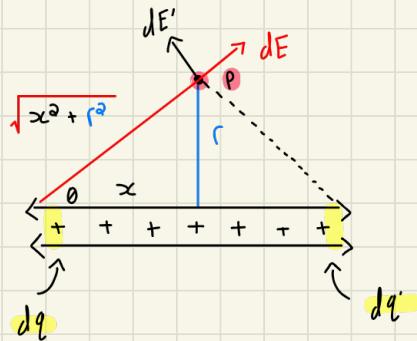
$$\rho = \frac{dQ}{dV} \Rightarrow dQ = \rho(V) dV$$

- What is Superposition

In Physics Superposition means total effect is the sum of individual effects

$$E_{\text{total}} = E_1 + E_2 + E_3 \dots$$

For example, consider an infinite long line of charge Jensity λ



Zoom into Point P



- they cancel in the x direction but add in the y direction

$$dE_{\text{net}} = dE_y \sin\theta$$

$$dE_y = \frac{dq}{4\pi\epsilon_0(x^2+r^2)}$$

$$\sin\theta = \frac{r}{\sqrt{x^2+r^2}}$$

Plug into
 dE_{net}

$$dE_{\text{net}} = \frac{rdq}{4\pi\epsilon_0(x^2+r^2)^{3/2}}$$

this is a line of Charge so $dq = \lambda(x)dx$

$$dE_{\text{net}} = \frac{r\lambda dx}{4\pi\epsilon_0(x^2+r^2)^{3/2}}$$

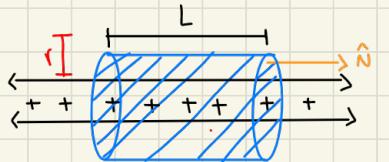
this line of
charge goes
from $-\infty$ to
 ∞

$$\int dE_{\text{net}} = \frac{r\lambda}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dx}{(x^2+r^2)^{3/2}}$$

* You cannot solve this integral we would need complex analysis but if we look at an integral table we see that

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dx}{(x^2+r^2)^{3/2}} = \frac{2}{r^2} \Rightarrow E = \frac{\lambda}{2\pi\epsilon_0 r}$$

We can also use gauss's law to get the same answer also notice this system has cylindrical symmetry hence the field can only depend on r



$$Q_{\text{enclosed}} = \lambda L$$

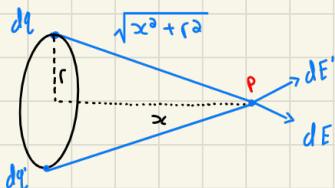
$$\frac{Q_{\text{enclosed}}}{\epsilon_0} = \oint E(r) dA$$

$$\text{Charge density } \frac{\lambda L}{\epsilon_0} = EA \Rightarrow \frac{\lambda L}{\epsilon_0} = E(2\pi r L)$$

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

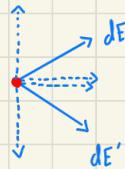
- the \hat{N} is perpendicular to the surface so the angle it makes is 90° the flux equation is $\Phi = EA \cos\theta \Rightarrow EA \cos(90^\circ) = 0$ So No Field lines are passing through there

- Now consider a slender ring of total charge Q and radius r



$$\lambda = \frac{dQ}{dx} \Rightarrow dQ = \lambda dx$$

zoom in to point P



- the y-component cancel

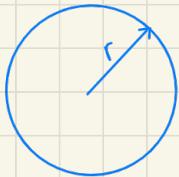
- we do not have to add the $E_x \cos\theta$ because we are already integrating

$$dE_{\text{net}} = \frac{\lambda dx}{4\pi\epsilon_0(x^2+r^2)} \cdot \left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2+r^2}}\right)$$

$$dE_{\text{net}} = \frac{x \lambda dx}{4\pi\epsilon_0(x^2+r^2)^{3/2}}$$

$$\cos\theta = \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2+r^2}}$$

* but keep in mind that this is a ring and we only want the circumference



You need to use a Jacobian Factor. What is a Jacobian Factor? A Jacobian gives you curvature if you look at the circle it has curvature



this has curvature
so you need
a Jacobian Factor

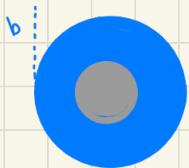
so you need $r d\theta$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{x \lambda r d\theta}{4\pi \epsilon_0 (x^2 + r^2)^{3/2}}$$

- and because we are going around a circle we will be integrating from 0 to 2π

$$E = \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{x \lambda r d\theta}{4\pi \epsilon_0 (x^2 + r^2)^{3/2}} = \boxed{\frac{x Q}{4\pi \epsilon_0 (x^2 + r^2)^{1/2}}}$$

Consider a hollow sphere of inner radius a and outer radius b



- in the gray area the \vec{E} is zero



- we will be integrating from

$$\frac{dQ}{\epsilon_0} = \oint E dA$$

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

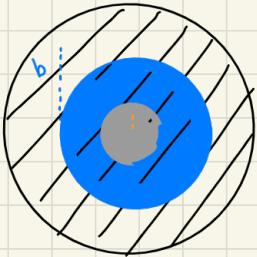
$$\int_{x=a}^{x=r} \frac{P dA}{\epsilon_0} dx = \oint E dA$$

- we are integrating over area keep in mind this is a hollow sphere

$$\frac{4\pi P}{3\epsilon_0} \left[x^3 \right]_{x=a}^{x=r} = E (4\pi r^2)$$

$$\frac{4\pi p}{3\epsilon_0} [r^3 - a^3] = E(4\pi r^2)$$

$$E = \frac{p}{3\epsilon_0 r^2} (r^3 - a^3)$$



$$\oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{A} = \frac{dq}{\epsilon_0}$$

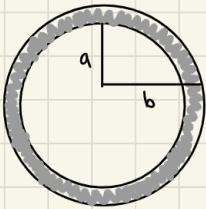
$$\oint \vec{E} dA = \int_{x=a}^{x=b} \frac{pdA}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$E(4\pi r^2) = \frac{p}{\epsilon_0} \int_{x=a}^{x=b} 4\pi x^2 dx$$

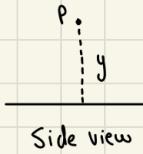
$$E(4\pi r^2) = \frac{4\pi p}{3\epsilon_0} [(b^3 - a^3)]$$

$$E = \frac{p}{3\epsilon_0 r^2} (b^3 - a^3)$$

More examples

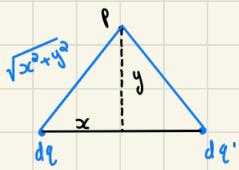


Top View



Side view

Find the electric field \vec{E}



Zoom into Point P



- Notice the x components cancel out

$$dE_{\text{net}} = dE_y \sin\theta$$

$$dE_y = \frac{dq}{4\pi r^2 \epsilon_0} = \frac{dy}{4\pi \epsilon_0 (x^2 + y^2)}$$

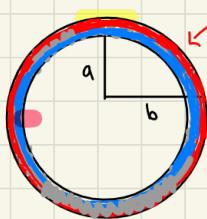
$$\sin\theta = \frac{y}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}$$

the square root goes away because it gets squared

$$dE_{\text{net}} = \left(\frac{dq}{4\pi \epsilon_0 (x^2 + y^2)} \right) \left(\frac{y}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}} \right)$$

$$dE_{\text{net}} = \frac{y \, dq}{4\pi \epsilon_0 (x^2 + y^2)^{3/2}}$$

$$\sigma = \frac{dq}{dA} \Rightarrow dq = \sigma \, dA$$



the red can be $2\pi x$ as circumference

the blue is change in dx as we can all agree that here and here are not the same because the x is changing in length

because here we are dealing with a ring with circumference we want the charge along that circumference so for our Jacobian Factor we use $2\pi x \, dx$

$$dq = 2\pi x \, dx$$

$$dE_{\text{net}} = \frac{y \, 2\pi x \, dx}{4\pi \epsilon_0 (x^2 + y^2)^{3/2}} \Rightarrow \int_a^b \frac{y \sigma \, 2\pi x}{4\pi \epsilon_0 (x^2 + y^2)^{3/2}} \, dx$$

$$\frac{\sigma y}{2\epsilon_0} \int_a^b \frac{x}{(x^2 + y^2)^{3/2}} \, dx$$

$$\frac{\sigma y}{4\epsilon_0} \int_a^b \frac{x}{(u)^{3/2}} \, \frac{du}{x}$$

$$-\frac{\sigma y}{2\epsilon_0} \left[(u)^{-1/2} \right]_a^b$$

use u-substitution

$$u = x^2 + y^2 - y \text{ is constant}$$

$$du = 2x \cdot dx$$

$$\frac{du}{2x} = dx$$

$$-\frac{\sigma y}{2\epsilon_0} \left[(u)^{-1/2} \right]_a^b$$

$$E = -\frac{\sigma y}{2\epsilon_0} \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{b^2+y^2}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{a^2+y^2}} \right]$$

We can now use the equation we got to modify and get other equation for other shapes

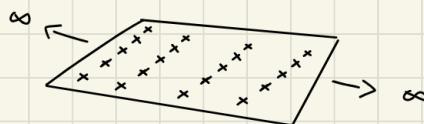
Consider a disk charge of radius R and uniform charge density σ and a distance d above the center of the disk what is the electric field

* Notice this only has one radius so from the last problem we know that we had two radii on ending at the end (b) and one ends a bit more earlier (a) in this we can assume we have a regular radius R like b so $a=0$ and $b=R$ you can also replace $y=d$

$$\vec{E} = -\frac{\sigma d}{2\epsilon_0} \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{R^2+d^2}} - \frac{1}{d} \right]$$

$$\vec{E} = -\frac{\sigma d}{2\epsilon_0 \sqrt{R^2+d^2}} + \frac{\sigma}{2\epsilon_0}$$

Consider the case of a infinite plane of charge of constant surface charge density σ find the electric field a distance z above the plane you can also use gauss's law



- goes on for infinite

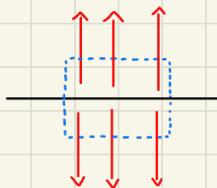
$$E = -\frac{\sigma y}{2\epsilon_0} \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{b^2+y^2}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{a^2+y^2}} \right]$$

b will go to infinite

$$\vec{E} = -\frac{\sigma y}{2\epsilon_0} \left[-\frac{1}{y} \right]$$

$$\vec{E} = \frac{\sigma}{2\epsilon_0} \hat{z}$$

* You can also use gauss law to get the same answer



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

$$\oint \vec{E} d\vec{A} = \frac{dQ_{\text{enclosed}}}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$\oint E dA = \int \frac{\sigma dA}{\epsilon_0}$$

We have two dA or areas that the electric Field line is passing through

$$E dA = \frac{\sigma A}{\epsilon_0} \Rightarrow E = \frac{\sigma}{2\epsilon_0}$$

- anything that's divided by infinite is 0

- b goes to infinite because if you look back b is the longer radius we treat b as if its ∞ but a was the shorter radius a infinite sheet has no radius so $a=0$

the black is the infinitely charged surface

Gaussian Surface

- electric Field lines they can only go in a straight line due to symmetry if they move in a curved path they break that symmetry

Using the previous answer find the electric potential V at a distance z above a infinite sheet of uniform charge density σ assume the potential on the plane is V_0 .

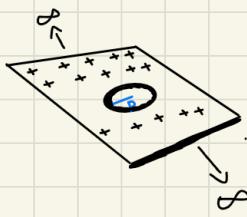
$$\vec{E} = -\nabla V$$

$$\int \frac{\sigma}{2\epsilon_0} \hat{z} = - \int \frac{\partial V}{\partial z} \hat{z}$$

$$\frac{\sigma}{2\epsilon_0} + C = -V$$

$$V = V_0 - \frac{\sigma}{2\epsilon_0}$$

Now Consider a infinite sheet of charge with uniform surface density σ and has a circular hole of radius R . What is the \vec{E} at height h



- the Sheet is going to INFinite
- The blue line in the hole of the Paper is R (radius) while b is going to INFinite because b was the bigger radius and a was the smaller radius

$$E = -\frac{\sigma y}{2\epsilon_0} \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{b^2+y^2}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{a^2+y^2}} \right]$$

$$b = \infty \quad a = R \quad y = h$$

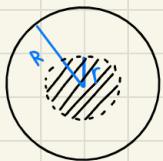
$$\vec{E} = \frac{\sigma h}{2\epsilon_0} \cdot \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{R^2+h^2}} \right]$$

Find the Force using Consider a - q the previous question.

$$F = ? E \Rightarrow$$

$$\vec{E} = \frac{-\sigma h q}{2\epsilon_0} \cdot \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{R^2+h^2}} \right]$$

Consider a Spherical Gaussian Surface of radius $r < R$ centered within the Sphere



$$P = \frac{dQ}{dV} \Rightarrow dQ = P dV$$

$$\oint \vec{E} dA = \frac{dQ_{enclosed}}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$\oint \vec{E} dA = \int \frac{P dV}{\epsilon_0}$$

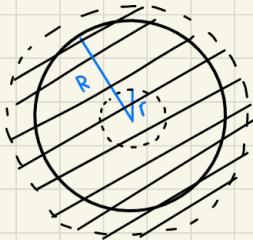
$$EA = \frac{PV}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$E(4\pi r^2) = \frac{P(4\pi r^3)}{3\epsilon_0}$$

$$E = \frac{Pr}{3\epsilon_0}$$

* this answer is for the inside surface that shaded

Now consider a spherical gaussian surface of radius $r > R$



$$P = \frac{dq}{dV} \Rightarrow dq = PdV$$

$$\oint \vec{E} dA = \frac{dq}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$\oint \vec{E} dA = \int \frac{PdV}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$EA = \frac{PV}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$E(4\pi r^2) = \frac{P(4\pi R^3)}{3\epsilon_0}$$

$$\boxed{\vec{E} = \frac{PR^3}{3\epsilon_0 r^2}}$$

here we take the surface area of the gaussian surface but the volume of R

Now find V , the electric potential, at all points in space assuming $V \rightarrow 0$ in a region very far from the charged sphere
hint: Start in the region outside the sphere and work inward
also notice that V must be continuous on the boundary between Solution $r=R$

$$E = -\nabla V$$

$$\int \frac{PR^3}{3\epsilon_0 r^2} dr = - \int \frac{\partial V}{\partial r} dr$$

$r > R$

$$\boxed{\frac{PR^3}{3\epsilon_0 r} + C = V}$$

• this is for $r > R$

$V \rightarrow 0$ as $r \rightarrow \infty$, we conclude $C=0$ for the region $r < R$

$$\frac{Pr}{3\epsilon_0} = -\frac{\partial V}{\partial r} \Rightarrow V = -\frac{P}{3\epsilon_0} \int r dr = -\frac{Pr^2}{6\epsilon_0} + C$$

We said it must be continuous on $r=R$

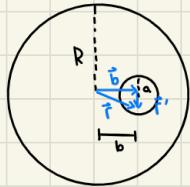
$$-\frac{Pr^2}{6\epsilon_0} + C = \frac{PR^3}{3\epsilon_0 R} \Rightarrow C = \frac{PR^3}{3\epsilon_0} + \frac{PR^2}{6\epsilon_0} = \frac{PR^2}{2\epsilon_0}$$

• we said $r=R$
so we can replace r with R

$$V = \frac{\rho R^2}{2\epsilon_0} - \frac{\rho r^2}{6\epsilon_0}$$

• this is for $r < R$

Finding the electric field of the hole?



$$E_{\text{tot}} = \frac{\rho \vec{r}}{3\epsilon_0} - \frac{\rho \vec{r}'}{3\epsilon_0} = \frac{\rho}{3\epsilon_0} (\vec{r} - \vec{r}')$$

$$E_{\text{tot}} = \frac{\rho}{3\epsilon_0} \vec{b} \Rightarrow |\vec{E}| = \frac{\rho b}{3\epsilon_0}$$

• this points in the direction given by vector \vec{b}