



# Midterm Exam 1

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# Electric Charges & Fields, Coulomb's Law, Superposition

## Electric Charge

- charge is a fundamental prop of matter
  - two types:  $\textcircled{P}$  &  $\textcircled{G}$  matter(atoms) are normally neutral
- Triboelectricity:** Friction transfers charge

### Metal Rods in Demo?

- Plastic & crystal are insulators
  - charge "stays where put"
- Metals are conductors
  - charge "flow freely"

### Charge is conserved

- Rubbing transfers charges, but does not create nor destroy it

### Charge is quantized

- charge is always a multiple of  $e = 1.6 \times 10^{-19}$  Coulombs (C)  $\Rightarrow$  electron =  $-e$ , proton =  $+e$

### Why the rods are moving!

- Attraction or Repulsion  $\Rightarrow$  There is a force between the charges

$\hookrightarrow$  Force is known as coulomb's force

$$F = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \cdot \frac{qQ}{r^2} \quad \text{where } \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} = 9 \times 10^9 \frac{\text{N} \cdot \text{m}^2}{\text{C}^2}$$

$\square$  When two charges  $q$  and  $Q$  are same signed  $\Rightarrow F$  is positive = Repulsive

$\square$  When they have opposite signs  $\Rightarrow F$  is negative = Attractive

## Demo - Rods

$$\textcircled{P} \textcircled{P} \textcircled{G} \leftarrow \rightarrow$$

$$\textcircled{G} \textcircled{G} \textcircled{P} \leftarrow \rightarrow$$

$$\textcircled{P} \textcircled{G} \textcircled{P} \rightarrow \leftarrow$$

Note: the metal is still neutral

## Demoval / Metal

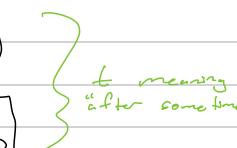
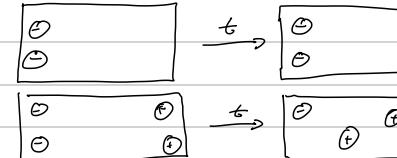
$$\textcircled{G} \quad \textcircled{G}$$

$$\textcircled{P} \quad \textcircled{G}$$

$$\textcircled{G} \quad \textcircled{G}$$

$$\textcircled{P} \quad \textcircled{G}$$

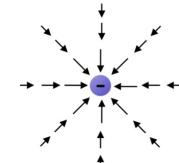
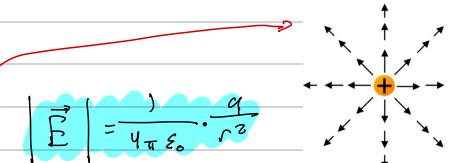
$$\textcircled{G} \quad \textcircled{G}$$



## Electric Field and Coulomb's Law

### Laws of Electrostatics

- Electrostatics = charges @ rest
- charges produce electric fields
- electric fields push charges



$$q \quad r \quad |r| = r$$

$$|\vec{E}| = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \cdot \frac{q}{r^2} \quad \text{Note: } r = |\vec{r}|$$

$$\vec{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{r^2} \hat{r} \quad \text{or alternatively so } \hat{r} = \frac{\vec{r}}{|\vec{r}|} \text{ and } \vec{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{r^2} \frac{\vec{r}}{|\vec{r}|}$$

$\vec{r}$  is a unit vector that points away from charge  $q$

Equivalent!

## Superposition Principle

### In Words:

Electric Field produced = Sum of the electric field produced by many point charges by each point charge independently

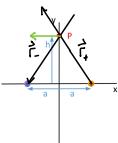
$$\text{In Maths: } \vec{E}(q_1, q_2) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_1}{r_1^2} \hat{r}_1 + \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_2}{r_2^2} \hat{r}_2$$

## Second Law of Electrostatics

$$\text{Fields push/pull charges: } \vec{F} = Q \vec{E} \Rightarrow \vec{F} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{qQ}{r^2} \hat{r}$$

EN? EC? EN?

## Example: Point Charges



Calculate the Electric field at point P.

Pos vector  $\vec{r}_1$  from O to  $p_1: -a\hat{i} + b\hat{j}$

Pos vector  $\vec{r}_2$  from O to  $p_2: a\hat{i} + b\hat{j}$  (not mass, position not dipole charge!)

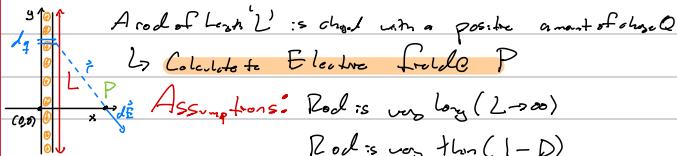
Calculate the Electric Field at P:

$$\vec{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{r^3} \vec{r} \rightarrow \vec{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left( \frac{1}{(\sqrt{a^2+b^2})^3} [q(-a\hat{i}+b\hat{j}) + -q(a\hat{i}+b\hat{j})] \right) = \frac{2qa}{4\pi\epsilon_0 \sqrt{a^2+b^2}^3} \cdot (-\hat{i})$$

$$r_1 = a\hat{i} + b\hat{j} \rightarrow r_1 = \sqrt{a^2+b^2} \quad \rightarrow \vec{E} = \vec{E}_1 + \vec{E}_2$$

$$r_2 = -a\hat{i} + b\hat{j} \rightarrow r_2 = \sqrt{a^2+b^2}$$

## Continuous Distribution of Charge



Assumptions: Rod is very long ( $L \rightarrow \infty$ )

Rod is very thin ( $L \ll D$ )

$$\vec{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{r^3} \vec{r} \rightarrow d\vec{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{dq}{r^3} \vec{r}$$

$$\vec{r} = x\hat{i} - y\hat{j} \quad \rightarrow d\vec{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{dq}{r^3} \cdot (x\hat{i} - y\hat{j})$$

Definition: Charge per unit length or linear charge density

$$\lambda = \frac{\text{Charge}}{\text{Length}} = \frac{Q}{L}$$

$$\vec{E} = \vec{E}_1 + \vec{E}_2 = \sum_{i=1}^N \vec{E}_i = \int d\vec{E}$$

$$\text{so, } \vec{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda}{\sqrt{x^2+y^2}} (x\hat{i} - y\hat{j}) dy \quad \text{Solve } x \text{ and } y \text{ separately}$$

## Example

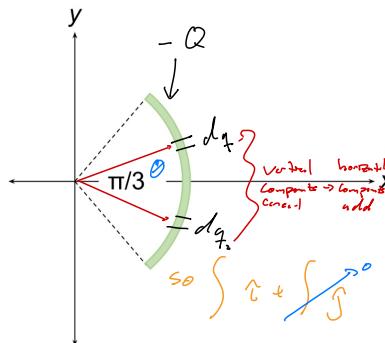
A plastic rod with a uniformly distributed charge  $-Q$  is bent into a circular arc of radius  $r$  that subtends an angle of  $\pi/3$  radians. We place coordinate axes such that the axis of symmetry of the rod lies along the x-axis and the origin is the center of curvature for the rod. What is the electric field (magnitude and direction) at the origin?

**Hint:** Imagine that the arc is made up of many infinitesimally small point charges  $dq$ . Each  $dq$  creates a differential electric field of magnitude  $dE = k dq/r^2$ .

Sum up all the  $dEs$  from all the  $dqs$  to get the magnitude of the overall electric field.

Integration is a way to add many infinitesimally small elements.

$$d\vec{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{dq}{r^3} \vec{r}$$



To integrate, let's use polar!  $(x, y) \rightarrow (r, \theta)$

$$\int dE_x = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_{-\pi/6}^{\pi/6} \frac{r d\cos\theta}{r^2} d\theta$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} \left[ \sin\theta \right]_{-\pi/6}^{\pi/6}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \cdot \frac{3Q}{\pi r^2}$$

$$\text{but what is lambda? } \lambda = \frac{Q}{L} = \frac{Q}{r(\pi/3)}$$

$$\vec{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{3Q}{\pi r^2} \hat{i}$$

$$|d\vec{E}| = \left| \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{dq}{r^3} \vec{r} \right|$$

$$\begin{cases} \cos\theta = \frac{a}{r} \\ \sin\theta = \frac{b}{r} \end{cases} \rightarrow \vec{r} = -r\cos\theta\hat{i} - r\sin\theta\hat{j}$$

$$x\text{-component of } |dE|: dE_x = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{da}{r^2} \cos\theta$$

We need to integrate over all  $\theta$ ,  $b$ ,  $dE_x$  in terms of  $dq$ , not  $d\theta$ !

$$\Rightarrow dq = \int ds \quad \text{where } ds \text{ is segment of arc}$$

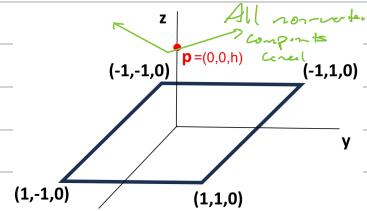
$\lambda$  linear charge density

$$\Rightarrow \frac{2\pi r}{\theta} \text{ so } ds = r d\theta \rightarrow dq = r \lambda d\theta$$

$$\text{Just think length = angle * radius}$$

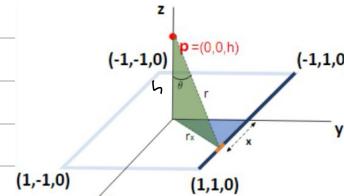
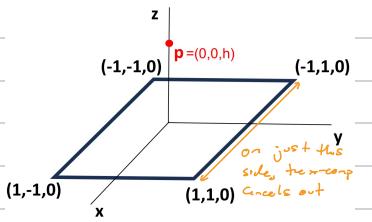
### Example

A plastic rod with a uniformly distributed charge  $Q$  is shaped forming a square whose side is 1m. We place coordinate axes such that the square is on the x-y plane and the origin is the center of the square. What is the electric field (magnitude and direction) at the point  $p=(0,0,h)$ ?



$\Rightarrow$  The problem solution will be  $\vec{E} = E \hat{k}$

So we just need to calculate the vertical (z) component of one side and add the rest!



**Hint:** What is the square formed by? Is there any symmetry?

Imagine that the square is made up of many infinitesimally small point charges  $dq$ . Each  $dq$  creates a differential electric field of magnitude  $dE = k dq/r^2$ .

Sum up all the  $dEs$  from all the  $dqs$  to get the magnitude of the overall electric field.

Integration is a way to add many infinitely small elements.

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{r}_h &= h \hat{k} \\ \vec{r}_{xy} &= -x \hat{i} - \hat{j} \Rightarrow r_{xy}^2 = x^2 + 1^2 \\ \text{so, } r^2 &= r_{xy}^2 + h^2 \\ \Rightarrow r &= \sqrt{x^2 + h^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} d\vec{E} &= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{dq}{(x^2 + h^2)^{3/2}} (-x \hat{i} - \hat{j} + h \hat{k}) \\ \Rightarrow \vec{E} &= \int \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{dq}{(x^2 + h^2)^{3/2}} (-x \hat{i} - \hat{j} + h \hat{k}) \end{aligned}$$

*only components  $\hat{k}$*

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{E}_{\text{Top}} &= \int d\vec{E}_{\text{Top}} = \int_{-1}^1 \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{dq}{(\sqrt{x^2 + h^2})^3} (-x \hat{i} - \hat{j} + h \hat{k}) = +c \hat{j} + d \hat{k} \\ \Rightarrow \vec{E}_{\text{Top}} &= \int d\vec{E}_{\text{Top}} = \dots = -c \hat{j} + d \hat{k} \end{aligned}$$

*In one side  $\hat{j}$  component part, but disappears when using Left cancellation*

$$\vec{E}_{\text{Top}} = \int_{-1}^1 \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{dq}{(\sqrt{x^2 + h^2})^3} (-x \hat{i} - \hat{j} + h \hat{k})$$

$$\vec{E}_{\text{Bottom}} = \int_{-1}^1 \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{dq}{(\sqrt{x^2 + h^2})^3} (+\hat{i} - \hat{j} + h \hat{k})$$

$$\text{so } \boxed{\vec{E} = \vec{E}_{\text{Top}} + 4 \hat{k}}$$

# Gauss Law

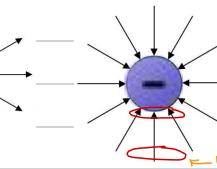
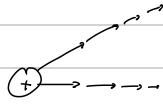
## Electric Field Lines

- (i) Lines are tangent to  $\vec{E}$  at every point in space
- (ii) The density of lines is proportional to  $|\vec{E}|$
- (iii) Lines never cross
- (iv) No closed loops
- (v) Lines start or stop on charges

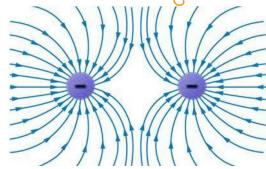
↳ Start should be a positive charge, and  
should be on negative charge

↳ This rule inherently enforces part (iv)

## Single Charge



## Two charges

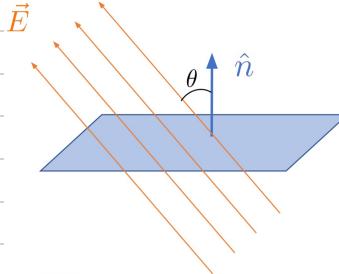


Recall Vector Multiplication

$$\begin{cases} \vec{A} \cdot \vec{B} = A_x B_x + A_y B_y + A_z B_z \\ = |\vec{A}| |\vec{B}| \cos \theta \end{cases} \quad \text{for } \theta \text{ the angle between } \vec{A} \text{ and } \vec{B}$$

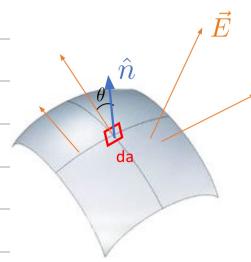
## Electric Flux

- Plot surface and uniform  $\vec{E}$
- Defined:  $\Phi_E = A \hat{n} \cdot \vec{E} = A |\hat{n}| |\vec{E}| \cos \theta = A |\vec{E}| \cos \theta$ 
  - o  $\hat{n}$  is a unit vector perpendicular to the surface (normal vector)
  - o  $\theta$  is the angle between  $\hat{n}$  and  $\vec{E}$
  - o  $A$  is the area of the surface
- Non-Plot surface and/or Non-uniform  $\vec{E}$



$$\Phi_E = \int \hat{n} \cdot \vec{E} dA = \int |\hat{n}| |\vec{E}| \cos \theta dA = \int |\vec{E}| \cos \theta dA$$

- o  $\hat{n}$  is a unit vector perpendicular to the surface da
- o  $\theta$  is the angle between  $\hat{n}$  and  $\vec{E}$



## Gauss Law

- Rest of Maxwell's Equations

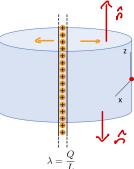
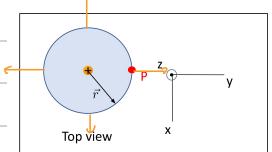
• In words: The electric flux through a closed surface =  $\frac{\text{Amount of charge inside the surface}}{\epsilon_0}$

• Equation:  $\Phi_E = \int_{\text{closed}} \hat{n} \cdot \vec{E} dA = \frac{Q}{\epsilon_0}$

- $\vec{E}$  points outside the surface by convention
- $\hat{n} \cdot d\vec{A} = \frac{dA}{\epsilon_0}$  is logically since  $d\vec{A} = dA \cdot \hat{n}$

• Example / Review: Infinite Line

Assumption: rod is very long ( $L \rightarrow \infty$ )  
rod is very thin ( $l \rightarrow 0$ )



Length  $l$  of rod make cylinder

$$\Rightarrow Q_{ENC} = \lambda l$$

$$\phi_E = \frac{Q_{ENC}}{\epsilon_0} = \frac{\lambda l}{\epsilon_0}$$

Ext records  
Question

What is the direction of the total electric field @ P?

$$\vec{E} = \frac{\lambda}{2\pi\epsilon_0 r} \hat{n}, \quad E = \frac{\lambda}{2\pi\epsilon_0 r}$$

$$2 \int_{\text{Cups}} |\vec{E}| \cos \theta da + \int_{\text{Side}} \vec{n} \cdot \vec{E} da$$

$\theta = 90^\circ, \text{ so } 0$

$$= 0 + \int_{\text{Side}} |\vec{E}| \cos \theta da$$

$$= \int E da = E dA = EA$$

$$\Phi_E = E \cdot 2\pi r l$$

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

CAPS radial

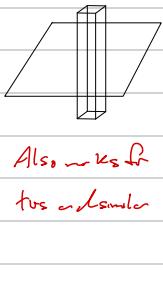
$$\vec{E} = E \hat{r} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \vec{n} = \pm \hat{r} \\ \theta = 90^\circ \end{array} \right\}$$

SIDE radial

$$\vec{E} = E \hat{r} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \vec{n} = \hat{r} \\ \theta = 0 \end{array} \right\}$$

The magnitude is constant  
for all parts on SIDE

### Infinite Plane



Also works for  
two conductors

Direction of Electric Field?

$$A = \pi r^2$$

$$\sigma = \frac{Q}{l^2} \quad \int \vec{n} \cdot \vec{E} da = \frac{Q_{ENC}}{\epsilon_0}$$

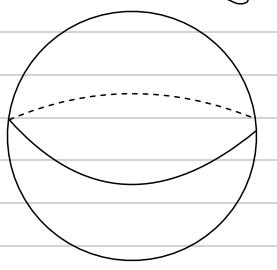
$$Q_{ENC} = \sigma \pi r^2$$

SIDE  $\vec{n} = \hat{r} \quad \theta = 90^\circ$   
CAPS  $\vec{n} = \pm \hat{r} \quad \theta = 0$

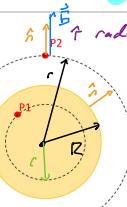
$$\int_{\text{Cups}} \vec{n} \cdot \vec{E} da = 2 \int E da = 2EA = 2E\pi r^2$$

$$2B\pi r^2 = \frac{\sigma \pi r^2}{\epsilon_0} \Rightarrow E = \frac{\sigma}{2\epsilon_0}$$

### Spherical Symmetry



Charge Density  $\rho = \frac{Q}{V} \quad \left\{ \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3 \right\}$



Calculate the Electric field at points P1 and P2 using Gauss Law of the sphere of Radius R and charged with a density  $\rho$

$$\vec{E} = E \hat{r}$$

$\vec{n} = \hat{r}$

$\vec{E} = E \hat{r}$

$$\int \vec{n} \cdot \vec{E} da = \frac{Q_{enc}}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$\frac{Q_{enc}}{\epsilon_0} = \frac{\rho \frac{4}{3}\pi R^3}{\epsilon_0}$$

Flux through gaussian Surface which is outer radius of sphere  $\rightarrow \int E \cos(\theta) da = EA = E(4\pi r^2)$

$$R > R: \frac{\rho \frac{4}{3}\pi R^3}{\epsilon_0} = E(4\pi r^2) \Rightarrow E = \frac{\rho R^3}{3\epsilon_0 r^2}$$

$R < R: \vec{n} = \hat{r}$

$$\vec{E} = E \hat{r} \quad \frac{Q_{enc}}{\epsilon_0} = \frac{\rho V}{\epsilon_0} = \frac{\rho \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$\int E da = EA = E(4\pi r^2)$$

Gaussian surface is  $r$

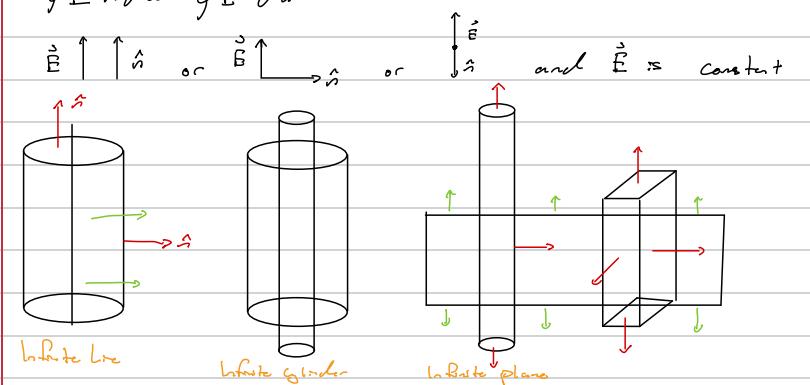
$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \int \vec{n} \cdot \vec{E} da = \frac{Q_{enc}}{\epsilon_0} \\ \frac{Q_{enc}}{\epsilon_0} = E(4\pi r^2) \end{array} \right\} E = \frac{\rho r}{3\epsilon_0}$$

Any charge outside the gaussian surface does not affect the Flux

# Exam 1 Review Lecture

## Gauss Law

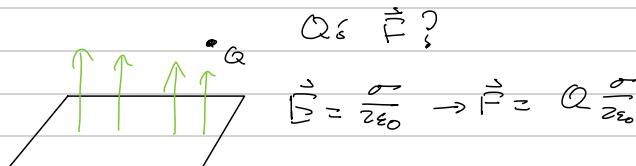
$$\oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{a} = \oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{a}$$



## Coulomb's Law

- $\vec{F} = Q \vec{E}$
  - $E$  by point  $q$ :  $E = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{r^2} \hat{r}$
- $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{If you have only} \\ \text{two charges} \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \vec{F} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2} \hat{r}$

But if not 2 point-line:



## $\vec{r}$ vs. $\hat{r}$

Direct Integration

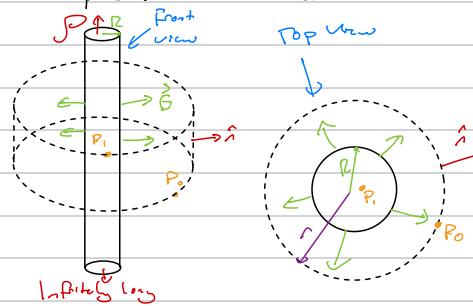
$$\begin{aligned} \vec{r} &= x\hat{i} + y\hat{j} \\ \vec{r} &= |\vec{r}| \cdot \hat{r} \\ \rightarrow |\vec{r}| &= r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} \\ \rightarrow \hat{r} &= \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}} \hat{i} + \frac{y}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}} \hat{j} \end{aligned}$$

magnitude      direction

## charge densities

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda &= \frac{C}{m} & \sigma &= \frac{C}{m^2} & J &= \frac{C}{m^3} \\ \text{linear} & & \text{surface} & & \text{volume} & \end{aligned}$$

## Example: Gauss Law



$$\oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{a} = \frac{\rho_{cav}}{\epsilon_0} = \frac{\pi r^2 l \cdot \rho}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{E} &= E\hat{r} \\ \text{Side } \hat{n} &= \hat{r} \\ \text{CAPS. } \hat{n} &= \pm \hat{r} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= 2 \int_{\text{CAPS}} E \cos(90^\circ) da + \int_{\text{S.DBS}} E \cos 0 da \\ &= 0 + E a = E(2\pi r l) \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow E = \frac{\rho r^2 l}{2\pi r \epsilon_0} \quad \text{outward right}$$

Cannot depend on parameter of Gaussian surface (in this case)

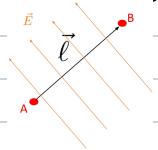
## Midterm Exam 2

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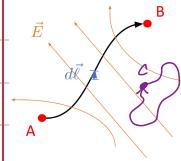
# Circulation Law

## Line Integrals



Straight line & uniform  $\vec{E}$

- Line Integral =  $\int \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l}$  for  $d\vec{l}$  the displacement vector  
↳ For this simple application (straight line & uniform  $\vec{E}$ )



General

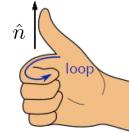
$$\bullet \text{Line integral} = \int_A^B \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l}$$

## Closed Loops

$$\bullet \text{Circulation: } \oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l}$$

## Right Hand Rule

- Stokes' theorem
- Use orientation of loop to determine  $\vec{l}$  direction using:



## Circulation

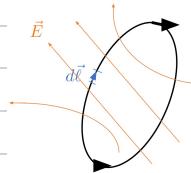
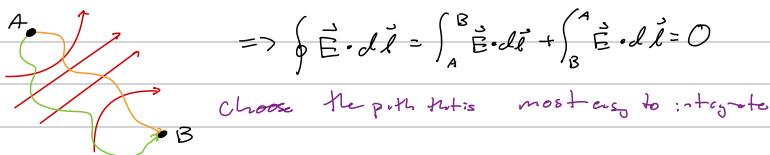
- The circulation of the electric field equals zero

$$\rightarrow \text{Circulation} = \oint d\vec{l} \cdot \vec{E} = 0$$

(Coulomb's law)

Alternative: The line integral between two points do not depend on path

$$\int_A^B \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} = - \int_B^A \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} \quad \left\{ \int_A^B \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{l} \right\}$$



No closed loops! (Proof by contradiction)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Assume to the contrary:} \\ \oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} &= \int |E| d\ell > 0 \text{ (arbitrarily)} \\ \Theta &= 0 = \int |E| d\ell \\ &= (+) > 0 \end{aligned}$$

No closed loops! but  $\oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} = 0$  by circ. law

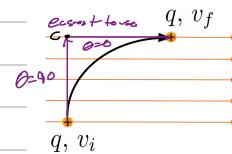
## Application / PIZI

• Recall: Work-Energy Theorem

$$\int_{i \rightarrow f} d\vec{l} \cdot \vec{F}_{\text{total}} = \Delta K = \frac{1}{2} m(v_f^2 - v_i^2)$$

• But for electric force we don't need the path!

$$\rightarrow \int_{i \rightarrow f} d\vec{l} \cdot (q \vec{E}) = \Delta K = \frac{1}{2} m(v_f^2 - v_i^2) = \text{Same for all paths b/w i and f}$$

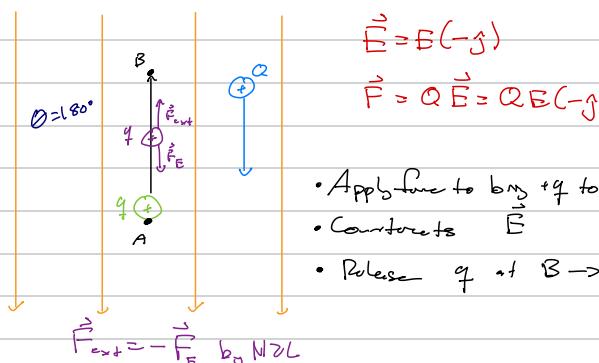


## Example

$$\begin{aligned} \int_A^B \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} &= \int_A^C \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} + \int_C^B \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} \\ &= \int_A^C q E \cos 90^\circ d\ell + \int_C^B q E \cos 90^\circ d\ell \\ &= E \int_C^B d\ell = E \cdot L \end{aligned}$$

# Electrostatic Energy

Overview / Introduction

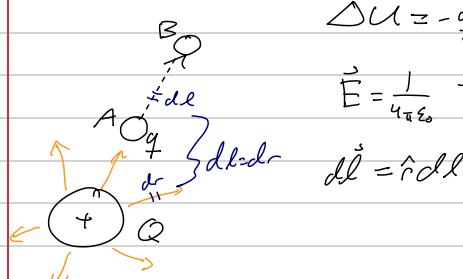


Using our assumption

- The external force matches the electric force:  $U_B - U_A = \Delta U = \int_A^B d\vec{l} \cdot \vec{F}_{\text{ext}} = - \int_A^B d\vec{l} \cdot (q \vec{E})$
- In this simple case:  $U_B - U_A = \Delta U = q E (z_B - z_A) \rightarrow \text{GPE } (U_0 = mg)$

This is a particular formula, not general!

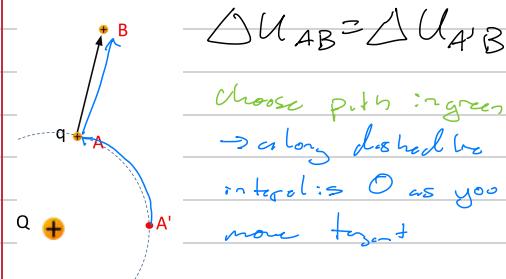
Point Charge



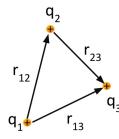
$$\Delta U = -q \int_A^B d\vec{l} \cdot \vec{E} = -q \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_A^B \frac{\hat{r} \cdot \hat{r}}{r^2} dr = -\frac{qQ}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_A^B \frac{dr}{r^2} = \frac{-qQ}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_A^B \frac{dr}{r^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \Delta U = \frac{qQ}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left( \frac{1}{r_B} - \frac{1}{r_A} \right)$$

$$\text{If } r_A \rightarrow \infty \text{ chooses reference: } U = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{qQ}{r}$$



Arrangement of Charges



- The total energy of the system equals the sum of the energy of each pair of charges

$$U = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left( \frac{q_1 q_2}{r_{12}} + \frac{q_1 q_3}{r_{13}} + \frac{q_2 q_3}{r_{23}} \right)$$

# Electrostatic Potential

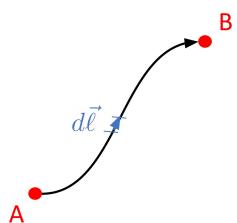
- Defined  $\Phi$ , also known as  $V$
- Do not confuse w/ electrostatic energy ( $U$ )
- Another way to describe an electric field
- Electric static potential is a scalar (not a vector)
- To know  $\vec{E}$  or  $\Phi$  for any point in space provides some amount of info (on electrostatics)
- If you know one you can find the other
- Voltage  $V = \Delta \Phi$

## Example of Scalar Fields

- Elevation
- Temperature
- Gravity
- Wind

$\vec{E}(r) \rightarrow \Phi(r)$  ← not discussed here  
not easily but durable

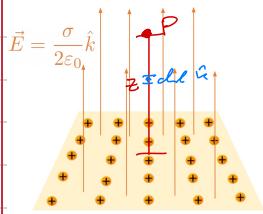
## Demonstration



- $\Delta \Phi = \Phi(B) - \Phi(A) = - \int_A^B d\vec{l} \cdot \vec{E}$
- If we set a reference point ( $\Phi = 0$ )

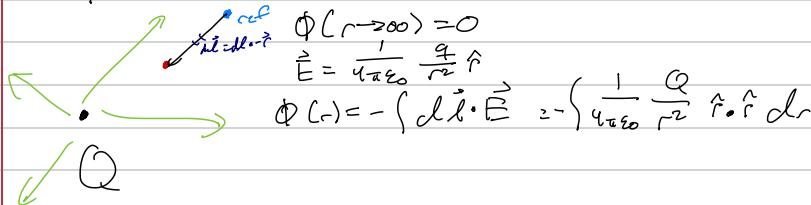
$$\Phi(r) = - \int_{\text{ref}}^r d\vec{l} \cdot \vec{E} \quad \Phi(\text{ref}) = 0$$

## Example: Potential - In Finite Plane



$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Ch. } \sigma \text{ at } z=0 \text{ so } \Phi(z=0)=0 \\ & \vec{E} = \frac{\sigma}{2\epsilon_0} (\pm \hat{x}) \quad (\text{from gauss law}) \\ & \Delta \Phi = \Phi_{\text{ref}} - \Phi_P = - \left( \int_{\text{ref}}^P d\vec{l} \cdot \vec{E} \right) = \int E d\vec{l} \cos \theta = E \int_z^0 dz = E_z = \frac{-\sigma z}{2\epsilon_0} \end{aligned}$$

## Example: Potential - Point Line Charge



$$\begin{aligned} & \Phi(r \rightarrow \infty) = 0 \\ & \vec{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{r^2} \hat{r} \\ & \Phi(r) = - \int d\vec{l} \cdot \vec{E} = - \int \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Q}{r^2} \hat{r} \cdot \hat{r} dr \end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{\Phi(r) = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}}$$