



<u>Lecture – 12</u>

Date: 11.02.2016

• Electric Field Due to Line Charge (contd.)



Electric Field due to a Line Charge

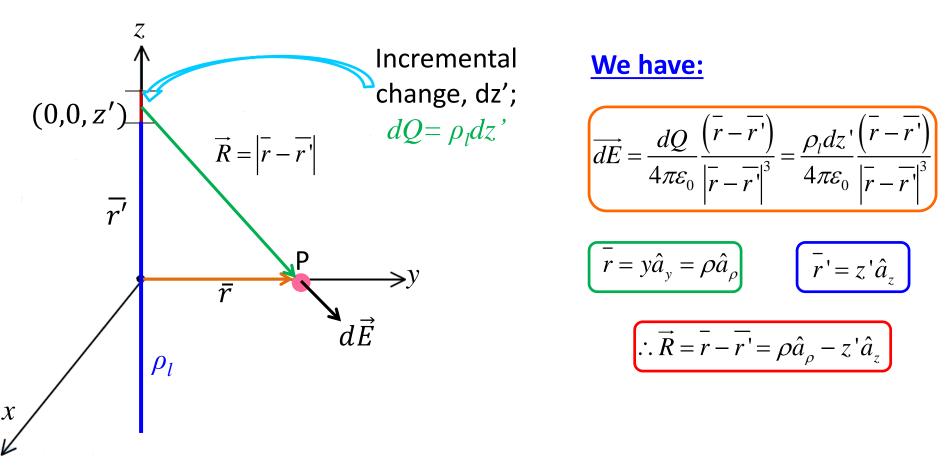
- Filament like distribution of charge density.
- For example, sharp beam in a cathode-ray tube or charged conductor of a very small radius.
- Let us assume an infinite straight-line charge, with charge density ρ_l C/m, lying along the z-axis.

Q: What electric field $\vec{E}(\vec{r})$ is produced by this line charge? **A:** Apply Coulomb's Law.



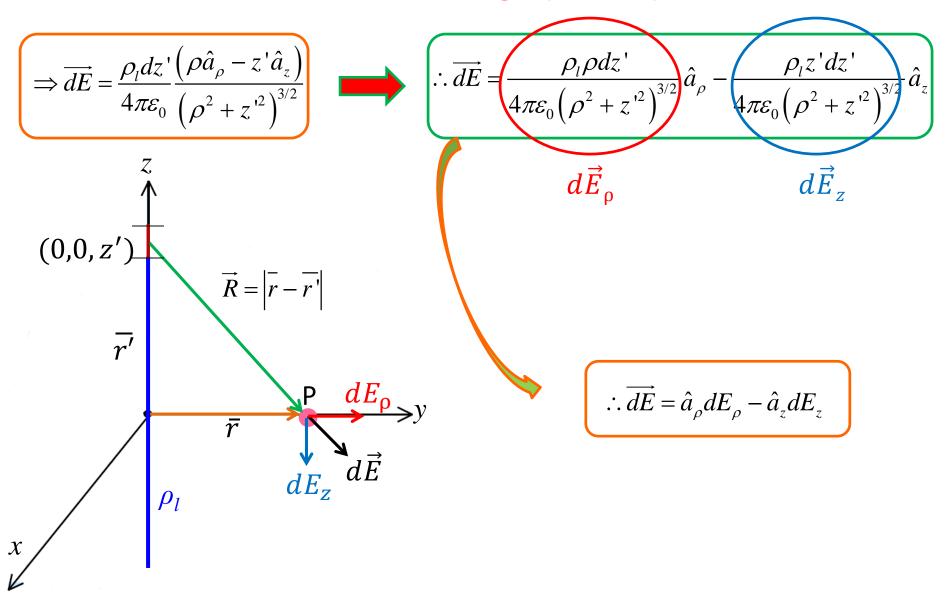
Electric Field due to a Line Charge (contd.)

• For the calculation of electric field \vec{E} at P(0, y, 0), the first step is to determine the incremental field at P due to the incremental charge $dQ = \rho_l dz'$



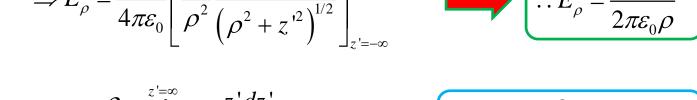


Electric Field due to a Line Charge (contd.)



Electric Field due to a Line Charge (contd.)

Now:



Therefore:

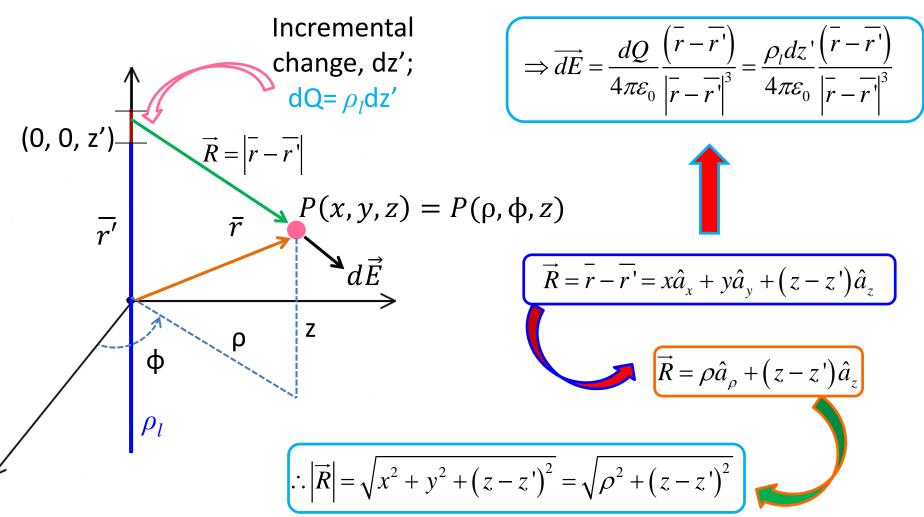
$$\vec{E}(\vec{r}) = E_{\rho}\hat{a}_{\rho} - E_{z}\hat{a}_{z} = \frac{\rho_{l}}{2\pi\varepsilon_{0}\rho}\hat{a}_{\rho}$$

BTW, there are multiple ways of solving this problem. You can master this art through practice!



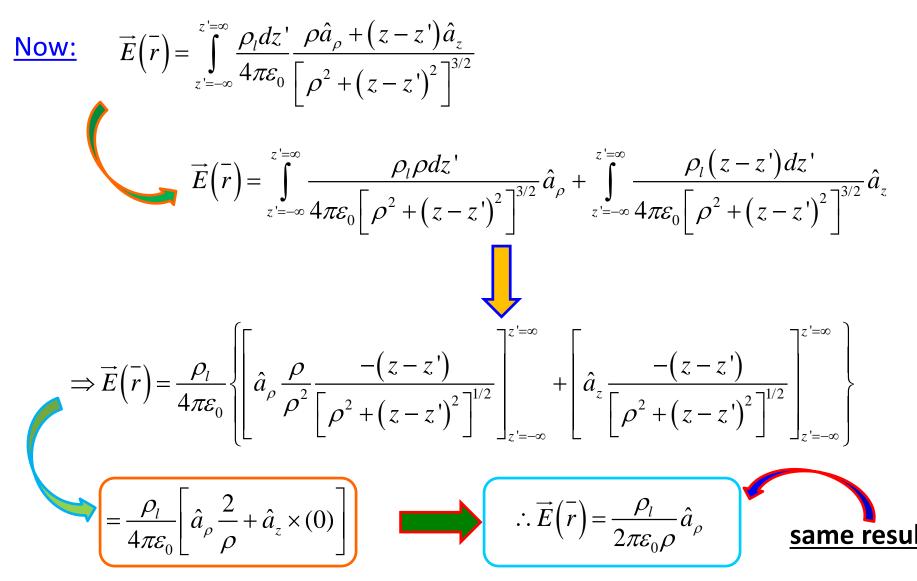
Example – 1

• Determine electric field \vec{E} at P(x, y, z)



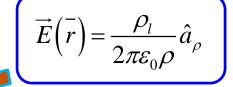
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Example – 1 (contd.)



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Recall unit vector \hat{a}_{ρ} is the direction that **points away from** the z-axis.

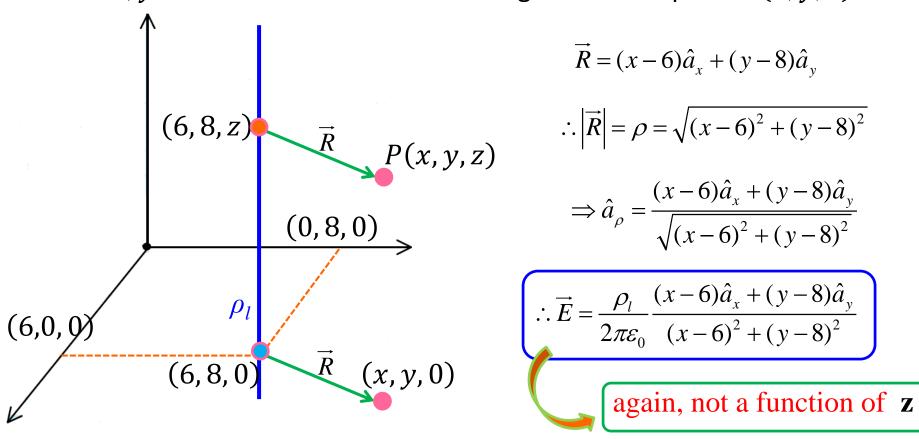
Thus, the electric field produced by the uniform line charge points away from the line charge, just like the electric field produced by a point charge points away from the charge.

- Note the magnitude of the electric field is proportional to 1/ρ, therefore the electric field diminishes as we get further from the line charge.
- Note however, the electric field does not diminish as quickly as that generated by a point charge. Recall in the case of point charge, the magnitude of the electric field diminishes as 1/r².



Example – 2

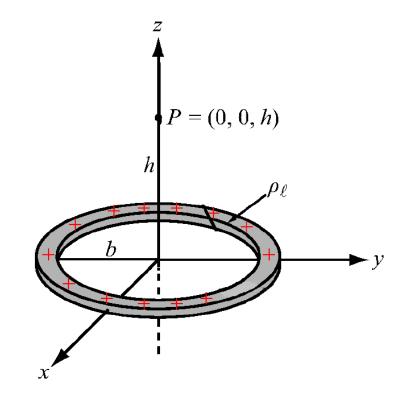
- Oh yes! It is important to note that not all the line charges will be located along the *z*-axis.
- For example, let us consider an infinite line charge parallel to the z-axis at x = 6, y = 8. We wish to find \vec{E} at the general field point P(x, y, z).





Example – 3

- A ring of charge of radius b is characterized by a uniform line charge density of positive polarity ρ_l . The ring, with its center at (0,0,0), resides in free medium and is positioned in the xy-plane.
 - i. Determine \vec{E} at point P = (0, 0, h) along the axis of the ring at a distance h from the center.
 - ii. What values of h gives the maximum value of \vec{E} .
 - iii. If the total charge on the ring is Q, find \vec{E} as $b \rightarrow 0$.

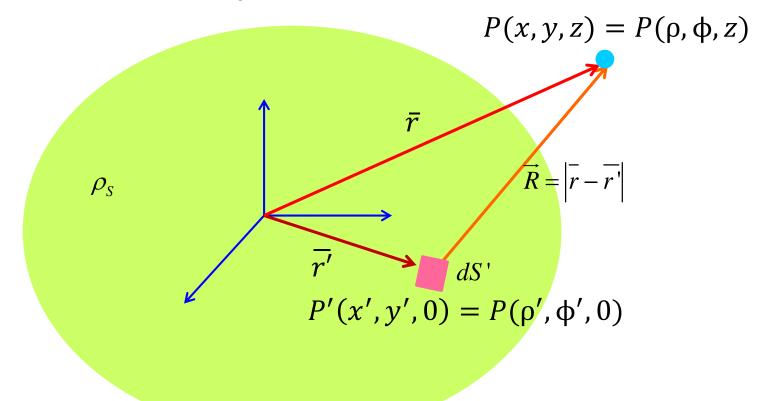


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Electric Field due to a Surface Charge

• Consider a **disk of radius a**, centered at the origin, and lying entirely on the xy-plane (i.e., z = 0 plane). Let us also assume that this disk carries a uniform charge density of $\rho_s C/m^2$.



Challenge: determine electric field at point P



• From Coulomb's Law:

$$\vec{E}(\vec{r}) = \iint_{S} \frac{\rho_{S}(r')}{4\pi\varepsilon_{0}} \frac{\vec{r} - \vec{r'}}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r'}|^{3}} dS'$$
$$dS' = \rho' d\rho' d\phi' \qquad 0 < \rho' < a \qquad 0 < \phi' < 2\pi$$
$$\vec{r} = x\hat{a}_{x} + y\hat{a}_{y} + z\hat{a}_{z}$$
$$\vec{r}' = x'\hat{a}_{x} + y'\hat{a}_{y}$$
$$\therefore \vec{R} = \vec{r} - \vec{r'} = (x - x')\hat{a}_{x} + (y - y')\hat{a}_{y} + z\hat{a}_{z}$$
Convert to cylindrical
$$\therefore \vec{R} = \vec{r} - \vec{r'} = (x - \rho'\cos\phi')\hat{a}_{x} + (y - \rho'\sin\phi')\hat{a}_{y} + z\hat{a}_{z}$$

$$\left|\vec{R}\right|^{3} = \left|\vec{r} - \vec{r'}\right|^{3} = \left[\left(x - \rho'\cos\phi'\right)^{2} + \left(y - \rho'\sin\phi'\right)^{2} + z^{2}\right]^{3/2}$$

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$$\vec{E}(\vec{r}) = \iint_{S} \frac{\rho_{s}(r')}{4\pi\varepsilon_{0}} \frac{\vec{r} - \vec{r'}}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r'}|^{3}} dS'$$

$$= \frac{\rho_{s}}{4\pi\varepsilon_{0}} \int_{\phi=0}^{2\pi} \int_{\rho=0}^{a} \frac{(x - \rho'\cos\phi')\hat{a}_{x} + (y - \rho'\sin\phi')\hat{a}_{y} + z\hat{a}_{z}}{\left[(x - \rho'\cos\phi')^{2} + (y - \rho'\sin\phi')^{2} + z^{2}\right]^{3/2}} \rho'd\rho'd\phi'$$

$$\text{Yikes! What a mess!}$$

• To **simplify** our integration let's determine the electric field $\vec{E}(\vec{r})$ along the **z-axis** only. In other words, set x = 0 and y = 0.

$$\Rightarrow \vec{E}(x=0, y=0, z) = \frac{\rho_s}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \int_{\phi=0}^{2\pi} \int_{\rho=0}^{a} \frac{(0-\rho'\cos\phi')\hat{a}_x + (0-\rho'\sin\phi')\hat{a}_y + z\hat{a}_z}{\left[\left(0-\rho'\cos\phi'\right)^2 + \left(0-\rho'\sin\phi'\right)^2 + z^2\right]^{3/2}} \rho'd\rho'd\phi'$$

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Electric Field due to a Surface Charge (contd.)

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Electric Field due to a Surface Charge (contd.)

$$\vec{E}(x=0, y=0, z) = \frac{\rho_{s}}{4\pi\varepsilon_{0}} \left[\int_{\phi=0}^{2\pi} \int_{\rho=0}^{a} \frac{z\hat{a}_{z}}{\left[\rho'^{2}+z^{2}\right]^{3/2}} \rho' d\rho' d\phi' \right]$$

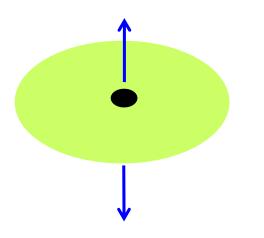
$$\vec{E}(x=0, y=0, z) = -\frac{\rho_{s}}{2\varepsilon_{0}}\hat{a}_{z} \left[1 - \frac{z}{\sqrt{z^{2}+a^{2}}} \right] \qquad \text{if } z > 0$$

$$-\frac{\rho_{s}}{2\varepsilon_{0}}\hat{a}_{z} \left[1 + \frac{z}{\sqrt{z^{2}+a^{2}}} \right] \qquad \text{if } z < 0$$

From this expression, we can conclude **two** things. The first is that **above** the disk (z > 0), the electric field points in the direction \hat{a}_z , and below the disk (z < 0), it points in the direction $-\hat{a}_z$.



• What a surprise (not)! The electric field **points away** from the charge. It appears to be **diverging** from the charged disk



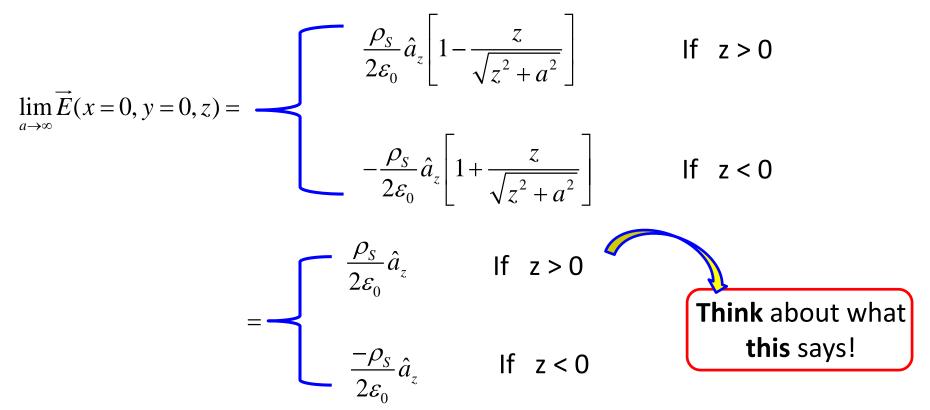
 Likewise, it is evident that as we move further and further from the disk, the electric field will diminish. In fact, as distance z goes to infinity, the magnitude of the electric field approaches zero. This of course is similar to the point or line charge; as we move an infinite distance away, the electric field diminishes to nothing.



Say that we have a very large charge disk. So large, in fact, that its radius a approaches infinity !

Q: What electric field is created by this infinite plane?

A: We **already** know! Just evaluate the charge disk solution for the case where the disk **radius** *a* is **infinity**.





- First, we note that the electric field **points away** from the plane if ρ_s is positive, and toward the plane if ρ_s is negative.
- Second, we notice that the magnitude of the electric field is a constant the magnitude is independent of the distance from the infinite plane!

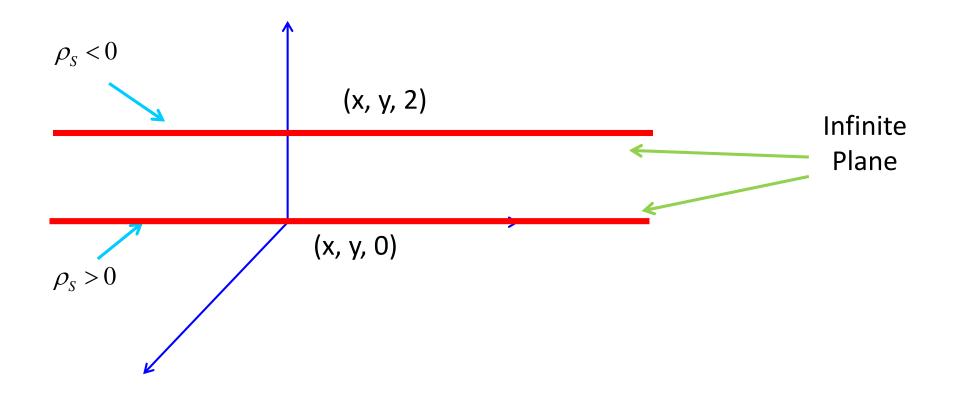
$$\rho_{s} > 0$$

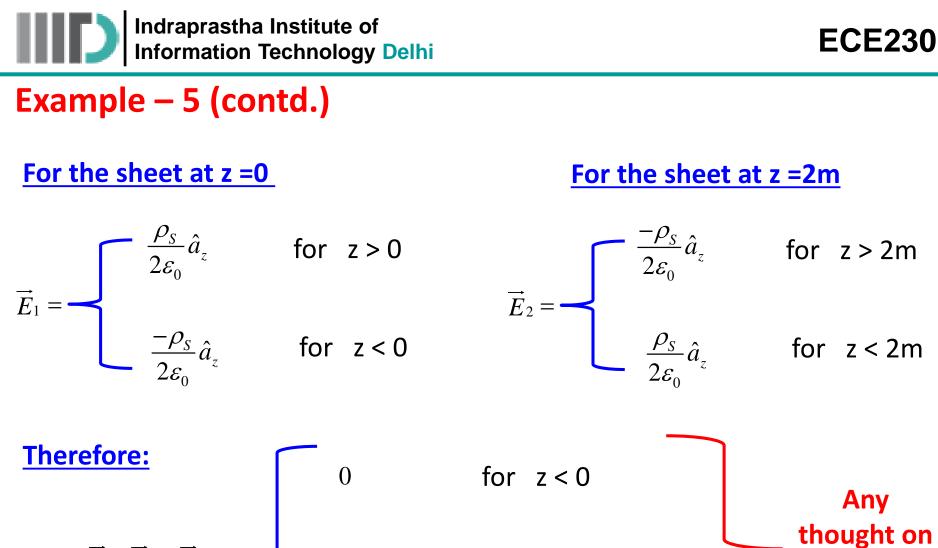


Example – 5

• An infinite sheet with uniform surface charge density ρ_s is located at z=0 (x-y plane), and another infinite sheet with $-\rho_s$ is located at z=2m, both in free space. Determine \vec{E} everywhere.

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$$\vec{E} = \vec{E}_1 + \vec{E}_2 = - \frac{\rho_s}{\varepsilon_0} \hat{a}_z \qquad \text{for } 0 < z < 2m$$

$$0 \qquad \text{for } z > 2m$$

this

outcome !





Electric Field of a Charged Sphere

Involves tricky triple integration. Lets first learn Gauss Theorem. It will simplify this problem.



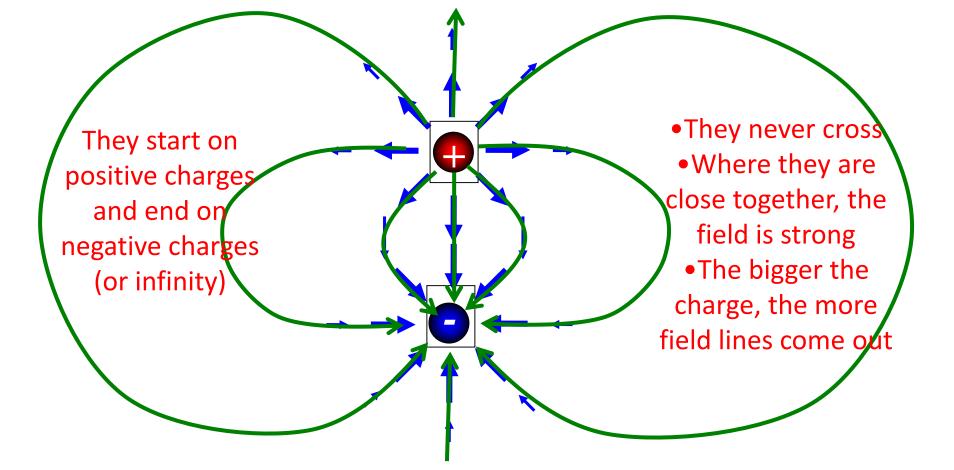
Electric Field Lines

- Electric *field lines* are a pictorial representation of the electric field. These consist of directed lines indicating the direction of electric field at various points in space.
- There is no rule as to how many lines are to be shown. However, it is customary to draw number of lines proportional to the charge. Thus if N number of lines are drawn from or into a charge Q, 2N number of lines would be drawn for charge 2Q.
- Lines are dense close to a source of the electric field and become sparse as one moves away.
- Lines originate from a positive charge and end either on a negative charge or move to infinity.
- Lines of force due to a solitary negative charge is assumed to start at infinity and end at the negative charge.
- Field lines do not cross each other. (if they did, the field at the point of crossing will not be uniquely defined.)



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Electric Field Lines (contd.)





Electric Field Lines (contd.)

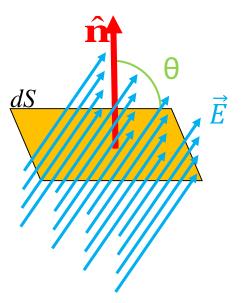
Note:

- **Near field:** very close to a charge, the field due to that charge predominates. Therefore, the lines are radial and spherically symmetric.
- Far field: far from the system of charges, the pattern should look like that of a single point charge of value $Q = \sum_i Q_i$. Thus, the lines should be radially inward or outward, unless Q = 0.
- The direction of the electric field vector \vec{E} at a point is always tangent to the field lines.



Electric Flux

 Simply speaking, electric flux is the amount of electric field going through a surface. It is defined in terms of a direction, unit vector, perpendicular to the surface.



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$$\psi = \int_{S} d\psi = \int_{S} \vec{E} \cdot \hat{n} dS$$

 $\psi = E(S\cos\theta)$

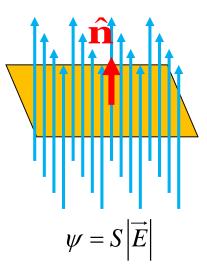
• If the electric field is uniform, the angle θ is constant and we have:

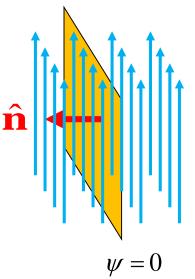




Electric Flux (contd.)

When the surface is flat, and the fields are constant, you can just use multiplication to get the flux.





• When the surface is curved, or the fields are not constant, you have to perform an integration:

$$\boldsymbol{\psi} = \int \vec{E} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}} dS$$

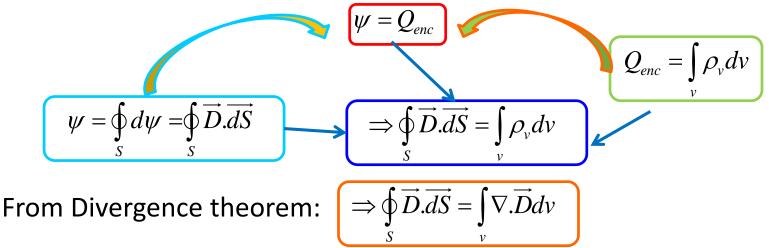


Gauss Law

- In practice, electric field intensity is dependent on the medium in which the charge is placed (free space in our discussion).
- Let us define a new vector \vec{D} that relates the medium and the electric field as:



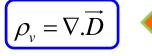
• According to Gauss [full name: Carl Friedrich Gauss], the total electric flux ψ through any closed surface is equal to the total charge enclosed by that surface.





Gauss Law (contd.)

• Therefore:



First of the four Maxwell's

equations

Gauss's Law can be used to solve three types of problems:

- 1. Finding the total charge in a region when you know the electric field outside that region
- 2. Finding the total flux out of a region when the charge is known
 - It can also be used to find the flux out of one side in symmetrical problems ↔ In such cases, you must first argue from symmetry that the flux is identical through each side
- 3. Finding the electrical field in highly symmetrical situations
 - One must first use reason to find the direction of the electric field everywhere
 - Then draw a Gaussian surface over which the electric field is constant
 - Use this surface to find the electric field using Gauss's Law
 - Works generally only for spherical, cylindrical, or planar-type problems



Gauss Law (contd.)

- 1. A continuous charge distribution has rectangular symmetry if it depends only on x (or y or z), cylindrical symmetry if it depends only on ρ , and spherical symmetry if it depends only on r (independent of θ and φ).
- 2. Gauss's Law is also valid for asymmetric charge distribution. However, you can't apply Gauss's Law to determine \vec{E} or \vec{D} . In such situations, apply Coulomb's Law.
- 3. Gaussian surface is chosen such that \vec{D} is normal or tangential to the surface. When \vec{D} is normal to the surface then $\vec{D} \cdot \vec{ds} = \vec{D}$ and for tangential \vec{D} we get $\vec{D} \cdot \vec{ds} = 0$.



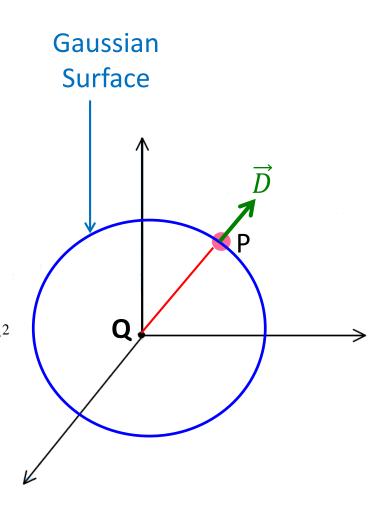
Applications of Gauss's Law

Point Charge

- Suppose a point charge is located at origin.
- Determine \vec{D} at a point P.
- Choose a spherical surface containing P.
- \vec{D} is everywhere normal to the Gaussian surface.

$$Q = \oint_{S} \overrightarrow{D}.\overrightarrow{dS} = \oint_{S} DdS \cos 0^{\circ} = \oint_{S} DdS = D \oint_{S} dS = D \times 4\pi r$$

$$\therefore D = \frac{Q}{4\pi r^2}$$



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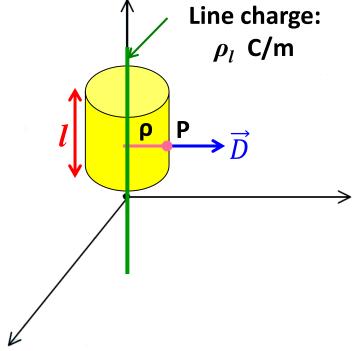
Applications of Gauss's Law (contd.)

Infinite Line Charge

- To determine \overrightarrow{D} at a point P, lets choose a cylindrical surface of arbitrary length l.
- \vec{D} is normal to side surface, doesn't exist on the top and bottom surface (because there is no z-component of \vec{D}).
- <u>Therefore:</u>

$$Q = \rho_l l = \oint_S \overrightarrow{D}.\overrightarrow{dS} = D_\rho \oint_S dS = D_\rho \times 2\pi\rho l$$
$$D_\rho = \frac{\rho_l}{2\pi\rho}$$

$$\therefore D = \frac{\rho_l}{2\pi\rho} \hat{a}_{\rho}$$



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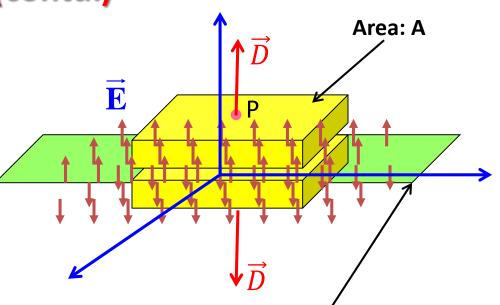
Applications of Gauss's Law (contd.)

Infinite Sheet Charge

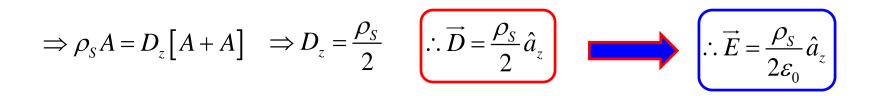
- To determine \overrightarrow{D} at a point P, lets choose a rectangular box with top and bottom area A
- \overrightarrow{D} is normal to the top and bottom, doesn't exist on the side surface

• <u>Therefore:</u>

$$Q = \rho_S \int dS = \oint_S \overrightarrow{D}.\overrightarrow{dS} = D_z \left[\int_{top} dS + \int_{bottom} dS \right]$$



Infinite sheet of charge: $\rho_s C/m^2$

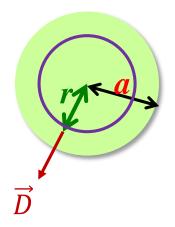


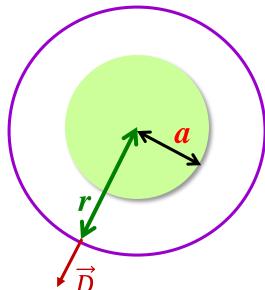


Applications of Gauss's Law (contd.)

Uniformly Charged Sphere

- A sphere of radius *a* has uniform charge density ρ_v throughout. What is the direction and magnitude of the electric field everywhere?
 - To determine \overrightarrow{D} everywhere, let us construct Gaussian surfaces for cases $\mathbf{r} \leq \mathbf{a}$ and $\mathbf{r} \geq \mathbf{a}$ separately.





- Clearly, all directions are created equal in this problem
- Certainly the electric field will point away from the sphere at all points
- The electric field must depend only on the distance

Applications of Gauss's Law (contd.)

Uniformly Charged Sphere

Case-I: r < a

• When computing the flux for a Gaussian surface, only include the electric charges *inside* the surface. Here, the enclosed charge is:

$$Q_{enc} = \int_{v} \rho_{v} dv = \rho_{v} \int_{v} dv = \rho_{v} \int_{\phi=0}^{2\pi} \int_{\theta=0}^{\pi} \int_{r=0}^{r} r^{2} \sin \theta dr d\theta d\phi \qquad (\therefore Q_{enc} = \rho_{v} \frac{4}{3} \pi r^{3})$$

• The total flux:

$$\psi = \oint_{S} \overrightarrow{D}.\overrightarrow{dS} = D_r \oint_{S} dS = D_r \int_{\phi=0}^{2\pi} \int_{\theta=0}^{\pi} r^2 \sin\theta d\theta d\phi \quad (:\psi = D_r 4\pi r^2)$$

• From Gauss's Law: $\psi = Q_{enc} \qquad \Rightarrow D_r 4\pi r^2 = \rho_v \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3 \qquad \Rightarrow D_r = \frac{\rho_v}{3}r$

$$\overrightarrow{D} = \frac{r}{3} \rho_v \hat{a}_r$$

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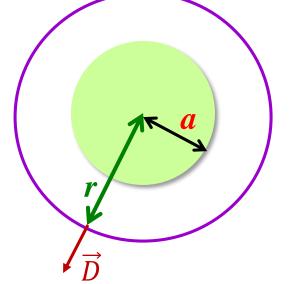
Applications of Gauss's Law (contd.)

Uniformly Charged Sphere

Case-II: $r \ge a$

The charge enclosed in this case is the entire charge:

$$Q_{enc} = \int_{v} \rho_{v} dv = \rho_{v} \int_{\phi=0}^{2\pi} \int_{\theta=0}^{\pi} \int_{r=0}^{a} r^{2} \sin\theta dr d\theta d\phi \qquad \therefore Q_{enc} = \rho_{v} \frac{4}{3} \pi a^{3}$$



• While:

$$\psi = \oint_{S} \overrightarrow{D}.\overrightarrow{dS} = D_{r} \oint_{S} dS = D_{r} \int_{\phi=0}^{2\pi} \int_{\theta=0}^{\pi} r^{2} \sin \theta d\theta d\phi \qquad (\therefore \psi = D_{r} 4\pi r^{2})$$

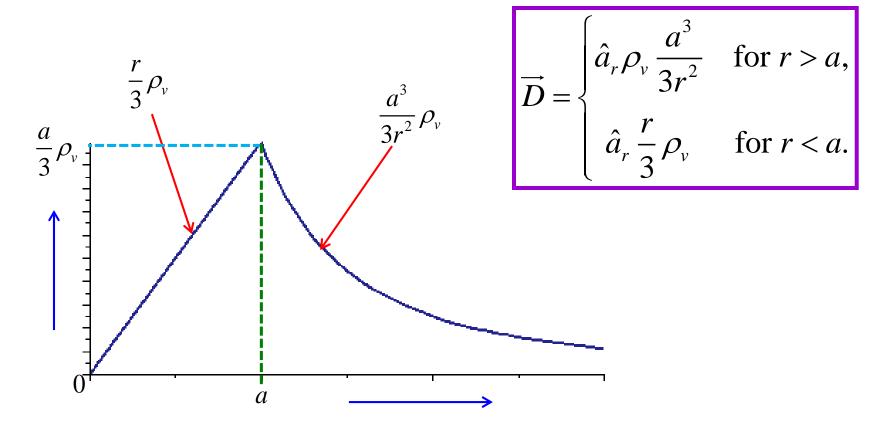
• From Gauss's Law: $\Psi = Q_{enc} \implies D_r 4\pi$

$$\Rightarrow D_r 4\pi r^2 = \rho_v \frac{4}{3}\pi a^3 \quad \Rightarrow D_r = \frac{a^3}{3r^2}\rho_v$$
$$\therefore \vec{D} = \frac{a^3}{3r^2}\rho_v \hat{a}_r$$



Applications of Gauss's Law (contd.)

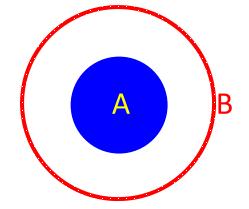
Uniformly Charged Sphere





Example – 6

A blue sphere A is contained within a red spherical shell B. There is a charge Q_A on the blue sphere and charge Q_B on the red spherical shell.



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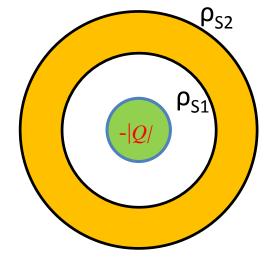
• The electric field in the region between the spheres is completely independent of Q_B the charge on the red spherical shell.



Example – 7

Consider the following topology:

A) A solid non-conducting sphere carries a total charge Q = -3 mC distributed evenly throughout. It is surrounded by an *uncharged* conducting spherical shell.



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- What is the surface charge density ρ_{S1} on the inner surface of the conducting shell?

(c) $\rho_{S1} < 0$ (c) $\rho_{S1} = 0$ (c) $\rho_{S1} > 0$

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Example – 7 (contd.)

- Inside the conductor, we know the field $\vec{E} = 0$
- Select a Gaussian surface inside the conductor
 - Since $\vec{E} = 0$ on this surface, the total enclosed charge must be 0.
 - Therefore, the surface charge density on the inner surface of the conducting shell must be positive, to cancel the charge -|Q|.

