
PHY481: Electrostatics

Introductory E&M review (2)

Course web site: www.pa.msu.edu/courses/phy481

All homework is due AT 12:30 pm (no later)
HW1 due one week from today

Field of a charged spherical shell - Gauss's Law

- Consider a radius R spherical shell with surface charge density σ .
 - A spherical Gaussian surface with radius $r < R$, is inside the charge surface, and encloses no charge $\rightarrow E_{\text{inside}} = 0$.
 - A spherical Gaussian surface with radius $r > R$, has the electric field normal to its surface.

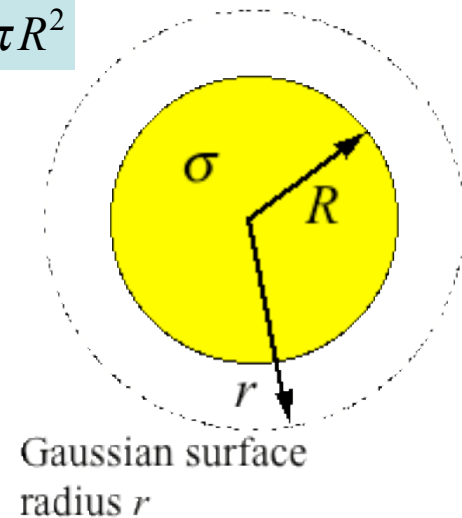
$$\int_S \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{A} = E \int_0^\pi r^2 \sin\theta d\theta \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi$$

$$E 4\pi r^2 = \frac{q}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$E = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2} ; \quad \mathbf{E} = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2} \hat{\mathbf{r}}$$

Same electric field as
charge q at the origin

$$q = \sigma 4\pi R^2$$



Uniform charge density sphere - Gauss's Law

- Find the electric field inside of a sphere, radius R , with a uniform charge density ρ throughout the volume.
 - Pick a spherical **Gaussian surface**, radius r , **inside** the charged sphere

$$\int_S \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{A} = Er^2 \int_0^\pi \sin\theta d\theta \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi$$

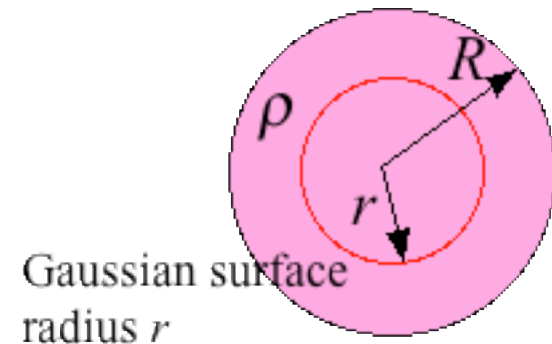
$$E4\pi r^2 = \frac{q_{encl}}{\epsilon_0} = \frac{Qr^3}{\epsilon_0 R^3}$$

$$E = \frac{Qr}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R^3} ; \quad \mathbf{E} = \frac{Qr}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R^3} \hat{\mathbf{r}}$$

- Electric field **outside** of a sphere

$$\mathbf{E} = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2} \hat{\mathbf{r}}$$

Same electric field as charge Q at the origin



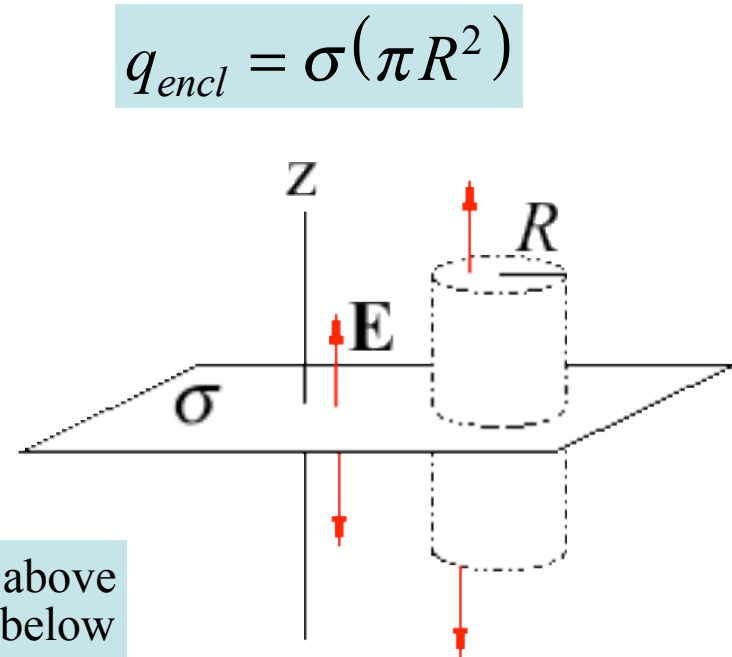
$$\rho = Q / \left(\frac{4}{3} \pi R^3 \right)$$

$$q_{encl} = \rho \left(\frac{4}{3} \pi r^3 \right) = Q \frac{r^3}{R^3}$$

Infinite sheet (again) - Gauss's Law

- Infinite sheet of charge with surface density σ .
 - Pick a cylindrical **Gaussian surface**, radius r , passing through the sheet.
 - The dot product $\mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{A}$ is non zero only on **TWO** the ends.

$$\int_S \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{A} = 2E \int_0^R r dr \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi$$
$$2(E\pi R^2) = \frac{q_{encl}}{\epsilon_0} = \frac{\sigma(\pi R^2)}{\epsilon_0}$$
$$E = \frac{\sigma}{2\epsilon_0}; \quad \mathbf{E} = \pm \frac{\sigma}{2\epsilon_0} \hat{\mathbf{k}}$$



Electric Potential Energy $U(x)$

- Potential energy change ΔU of charge q' in known E-field.
 - Calculate the (negative) of the work done by the field along a path

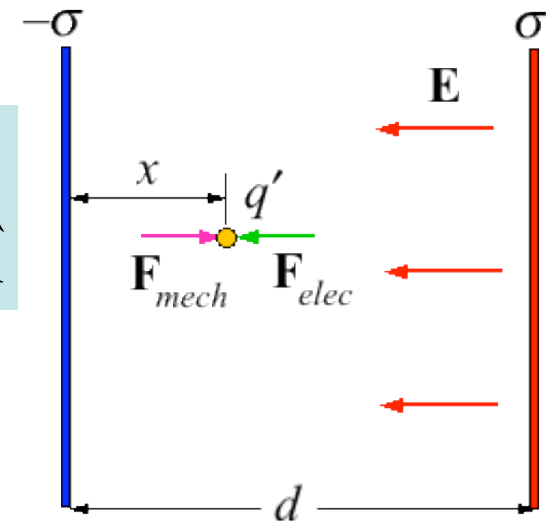
$$\Delta U = - \int_{r_1}^{r_2} \mathbf{F}_{elec} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = -q' \int_{r_1}^{r_2} \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{s}$$

U is a scalar !

- Example: parallel plate capacitor

$$\Delta U = q'E \int_0^x dx' = q'Ex$$

$$\mathbf{E} = -E \hat{\mathbf{i}}$$
$$d\mathbf{s} = dx' \hat{\mathbf{i}}$$



- Move q' across entire capacitor

$$\Delta U = U(d) - U(0) = q'Ed$$

$U = 0$ at negative plate.

Electric potential $V(x)$

- Potential $V(x)$ is potential energy/unit test charge q'
 - The potential V is defined without the test charge q'

U & V
are scalars !

$$\Delta V = \frac{\Delta U}{q'} = - \int_{r_1}^{r_2} \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{s}$$

PE of test charge

$$V(x) = \frac{U(x)}{q'}$$

+ arbitrary constant

- Example: parallel plate capacitor

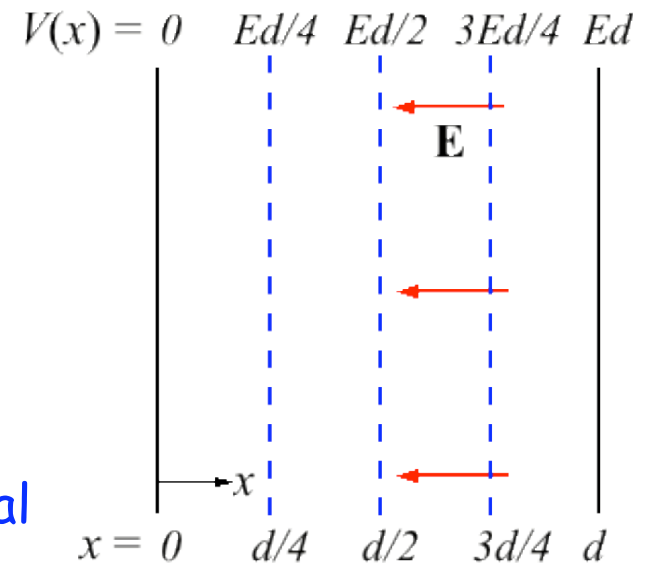
Set $V(0) = 0$
constant = 0

$$V(x) = \frac{U(x)}{q'} = Ex$$

$$V(d) = Ed$$

- Equipotential surfaces

- Electric field lines always cross equipotential surfaces at 90° .
- In parallel plate capacitors equipotential surfaces are planes parallel to plates



Batteries, capacitors, and energy storage

- A battery moves charge Q between plates of area A
 - Battery moves electrons to create charge densities σ .
 - We have two expressions for electric field E !

$$E = \frac{V_B}{d} \quad E = \frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0}$$

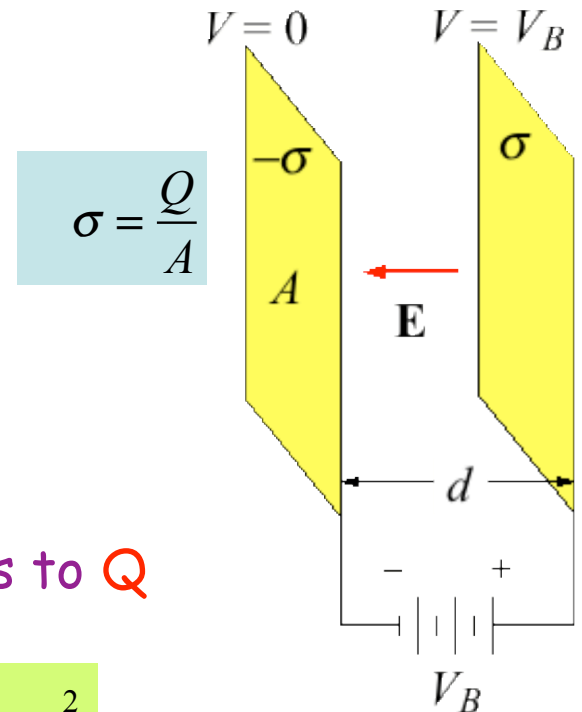
- Find expression relating Q and V

$$Q = \frac{\epsilon_0 A}{d} V_B = C V_B \quad C = \frac{\epsilon_0 A}{d}$$

- Find energy stored while charging plates to Q

$$U = \int dU = \int_0^Q V dq = \int_0^Q \frac{q}{C} dq = \frac{Q^2}{2C}$$

$$U = \frac{1}{2} C V_B^2$$



Energy density

Show ! $u = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_0 E^2$

Potential of a point charge

- Move test charge q' toward charge q .
 - ΔU is negative of work done by field in this motion

$$\Delta U = - \int_{r_1}^{r_2} \mathbf{F}_{elec} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = - \frac{qq'}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_{r_1}^{r_2} \frac{dr}{r^2}$$

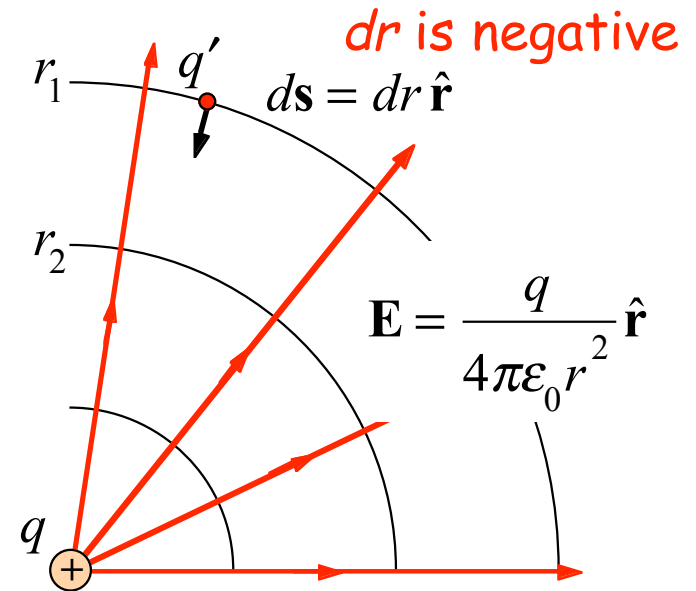
$$= \frac{qq'}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[\frac{1}{r_2} - \frac{1}{r_1} \right] (> 0)$$

$$\Delta V = \frac{\Delta U}{q'} = V(r_2) - V(r_1)$$

- Potential of a point charge

V is a scalar !

$$V(r) = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} \quad V(\infty) = 0$$



$$\mathbf{E} = - \frac{dV}{dr} \hat{\mathbf{r}} = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2} \hat{\mathbf{r}}$$

becomes -Grad (V)

Potential due to a charge distribution

- Two ways to get potential of a charge distribution

- Line integral of a known electric field
- Integration of point charge potentials

$$\Delta V = -\int \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{s}$$

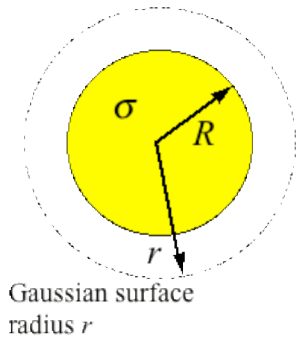
$$V(r) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int \frac{dq}{r}$$

- Example: spherical shell with charge density σ

- Electric field known from Gauss's Law
(same as point charge $r > R$, and zero $r < R$)
- Potential obtained from line integral along \mathbf{E}

$$\mathbf{E} = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2} \hat{\mathbf{r}}$$

$$\Delta V = -\frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_R^r \frac{dr}{r^2} = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[\frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{R} \right]$$



outside

point charge
potential

$$V(r) = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} \quad r \geq R$$

$$V(r) = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R} \quad r < R$$

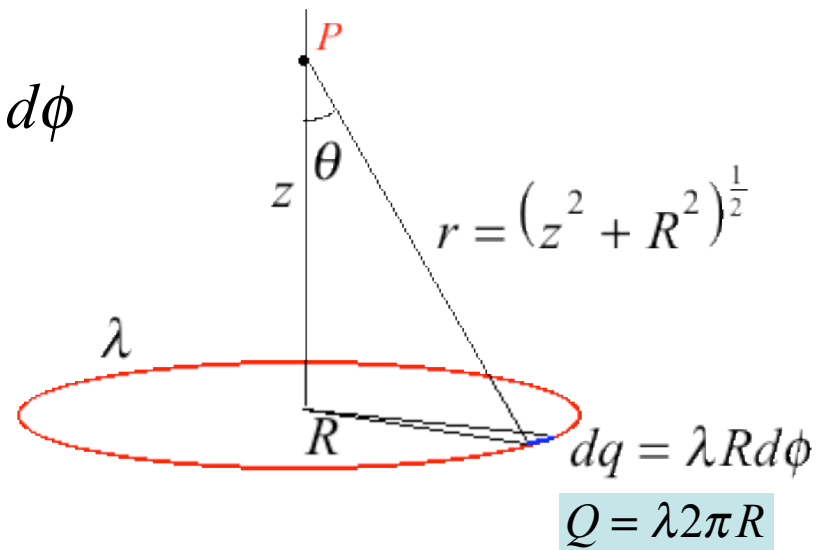
inside potential
is constant

Potential by integration over point charges dq

- Potential **on axis** from ring with charge density λ

$$V(r) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int \frac{dq}{r} = \frac{\lambda R}{4\pi\epsilon_0 (z^2 + R^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi$$

$$= \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} (z^2 + R^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$



- Obtain \mathbf{E} on axis from (-)Gradient of V

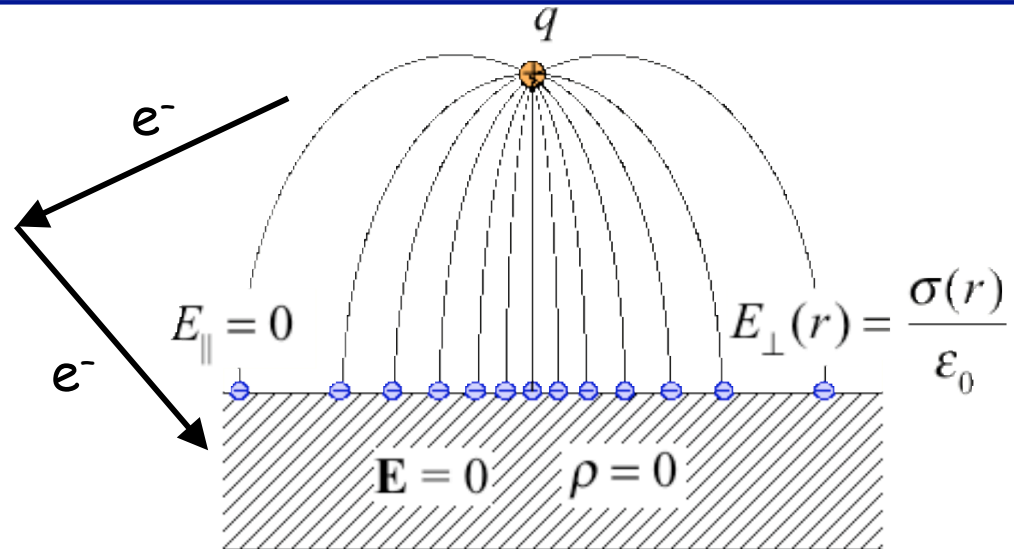
$$\mathbf{E} = -\frac{dV}{dz} \hat{\mathbf{k}} = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} z (z^2 + R^2)^{-\frac{3}{2}} \hat{\mathbf{k}}$$

Note: $z (z^2 + R^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}} = \cos \theta$

- Why V ? More tools available to determine V than \mathbf{E}

Conductors and static electric fields

Move electrons **from** pebble **to** a metal surface. Pebble becomes charged $+q$.



- When charges stop moving, **the electric field within the conductor is zero**, charge is “pulled” to the surface. Also, Gauss's Law requires that the **charge density within this conductor is zero**.
- When charges stop moving, the components of the electric field parallel to the surface, **$E_{\parallel} = \text{zero}$** . Also, Gauss's Law requires that at the surface the electric field normal component, **$E_{\perp} = \sigma / \epsilon_0$** .
- The **electric potential is a constant** throughout the conductor.
- Later we will learn “method of images” to determine fields & charges

Magnetic fields

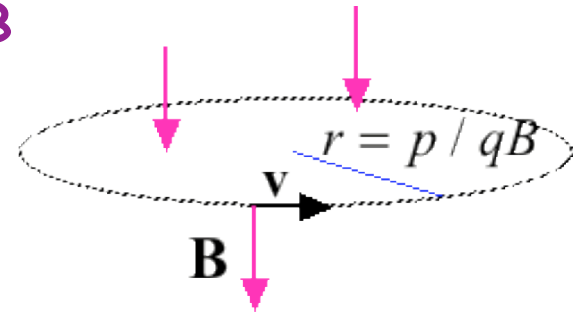
- A charge q moves at a velocity \mathbf{v} in magnetic field \mathbf{B} .

- Force on the charge (use right hand rule for + charges)

$$\mathbf{F} = q\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B}$$

- Circular motion for \mathbf{v} perpendicular to \mathbf{B}

$$F = mv^2/r = qvB$$



- A current I flows in a thin wire

- Force on small segment or on length L

$$d\mathbf{F} = I d\boldsymbol{\ell} \times \mathbf{B}$$

$$\mathbf{F} = I \mathbf{L} \times \mathbf{B}$$

- Force between parallel straight wires

$$F = \frac{\mu_0 I_1 I_2 L}{4\pi d}; \quad \mu_0 = 4\pi \times 10^{-7} \text{ T} \cdot \text{m/A}$$

straight wire \mathbf{B}

$$\mathbf{B} = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi r} \hat{\phi}$$

Attractive for same I 's

right hand rule

Magnetic fields from currents

■ Ampere's Law

- Closed path integral around current I

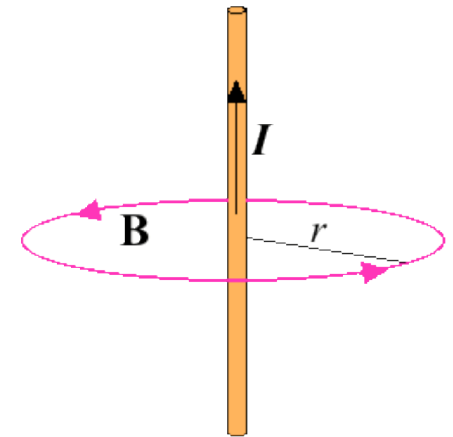
$$\oint \mathbf{B} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = \mu_0 I$$

- Example: long straight wire carrying current I

$$\oint \mathbf{B} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = 2\pi r B = \mu_0 I$$

$$B = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi r}; \quad \mathbf{B} = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi r} \hat{\phi}$$

Choose a
circular path!



■ Biot-Savart Law

- Magnetic field from small current element $d\mathbf{I}$

$$d\mathbf{B} = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \frac{I d\boldsymbol{\ell} \times \hat{\mathbf{r}}}{r^2}$$