

LECTURE 6 7: POTENTIAL AND CONDUCTORS

Given source charge with density ρ the electric field at $\vec{r}$ is given by the following where $\vec{r} = \vec{r} - \vec{r}'$

$$\vec{E}(\vec{r}) = \int \frac{\rho(\vec{r}') d\tau'}{r^2} \hat{r}$$

where the integration is over all of space.

Lemma: $\nabla \times \left(\frac{\hat{r}}{r^2} \right) = 0$ see over $\rightarrow$

Therefore, as $\nabla = \hat{x} \partial_x + \hat{y} \partial_y + \hat{z} \partial_z$ we find

$$\nabla \times \vec{E} = \int (\rho(\vec{r}') d\tau) \nabla \times \left(\frac{\hat{r}}{r^2} \right) = 0.$$

Thus, wherever $\vec{E}$ is defined, $\nabla \times \vec{E} = 0$. It follows $\int_C \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l}$ is independent of path,

Remark: $\nabla \times \vec{F} = 0$ on a simply connected domain gives path-independence and hence the existence of f s.t. $\vec{F} = \nabla f$. We do need $\text{dom}(\vec{E})$ simply connected. Can you think of a distribution which would spoil the simple connectedness of domain for $\vec{E}$?

Lemma: $\nabla \times \frac{\hat{\mathbf{r}}}{r^3} = 0$ Proof $\rightarrow$

(2)

$$\vec{F} = \frac{\vec{r}}{r^3} \quad \vec{r} = \langle x-x', y-y', z-z' \rangle$$

$$F_j = \frac{x_j - x'_j}{((x_1 - x'_1)^2 + (x_2 - x'_2)^2 + (x_3 - x'_3)^2)^{3/2}} = \frac{x_j - x'_j}{r^3}$$

$$\frac{\partial r}{\partial x_i} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left[\sqrt{(x_1 - x'_1)^2 + (x_2 - x'_2)^2 + (x_3 - x'_3)^2} \right] = \frac{x_i - x'_i}{r}$$

$$\frac{\partial F_j}{\partial x_i} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left[\frac{x_j - x'_j}{r^3} \right] = \frac{\delta_{ij}}{r^3} + (x_j - x'_j) \left(\frac{-3}{r^4} \right) \frac{\partial r}{\partial x_i}$$

$$\frac{\partial F_j}{\partial x_i} = \frac{\delta_{ij}}{r^3} - \frac{3(x_j - x'_j)(x_i - x'_i)}{r^5} =$$

$$= \frac{\delta_{ji}}{r^3} - \frac{3(x_i - x'_i)(x_j - x'_j)}{r^5}$$

$$= \frac{\partial F_i}{\partial x_j}$$

Thus, $\partial_i F_j = \partial_j F_i$ and we find

$$\nabla \times \vec{F} = \sum_{i,j,k} \epsilon_{ijk} (\partial_i F_j) \hat{x}_k$$

$$= \sum_{j,i,k} \epsilon_{jik} (\partial_j F_i) \hat{x}_k$$

$$= - \sum_{i,j,k} \epsilon_{ijk} (\partial_i F_j) \hat{x}_k$$

$$= - \nabla \times \vec{F} \quad \therefore \quad \underline{\nabla \times \vec{F} = 0}.$$

Since $\nabla \times \vec{E} = 0$ we can be sure there exists a potential function V on simply connected regions of space such that $\vec{E} = -\nabla V$.

Defⁿ/ Given an electric field $\vec{E}$ we say V is a potential for $\vec{E}$ if $\vec{E} = -\nabla V$

Let's examine a few simple examples,

[E1] $\vec{E} = E_0 \hat{z}$ has $V(x, y, z) = -E_0 z$, since

$$\nabla(-E_0 z) = -E_0 \nabla z = -E_0 \hat{z} \quad (\text{we assume } E_0 \text{ constant})$$

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

[E2] $\vec{E} = \frac{\lambda}{2\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{\hat{S}}{S}$ was the electric field for an infinite uniform line charge λ along z -axis.

$$\nabla V = \hat{S} \frac{\partial V}{\partial S} + \frac{1}{S} \frac{\partial V}{\partial \phi} \hat{\phi} + \frac{\partial V}{\partial z} \hat{z} = \left(\frac{-\lambda}{2\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{S} \right) \hat{S}$$

Thru we must solve, we see $V = V(S)$,

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial S} = \frac{-\lambda}{2\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{S}$$

$$\underline{V(S) = \frac{-\lambda}{2\pi\epsilon_0} \ln(S)}$$

Remark: the potential is zero for [E1] on the whole xy -plane where $z=0$. In [E2] the potential is zero on the cylinder $S=1$. Both [E1] & [E2] correspond to charge dist. extending only forward.

[E3] Point charge Q at $\vec{r}'$ has Coulomb field

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

(4)

where $\vec{r} = \langle x-x', y-y', z-z' \rangle$ then $\vec{E} = -\nabla V$ gives

$$\frac{-Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{r^3} \langle x-x', y-y', z-z' \rangle = \left\langle \frac{\partial V}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial V}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial V}{\partial z} \right\rangle$$

We wish to solve:

$$* \begin{cases} \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} = \frac{-Q(x-x')}{4\pi\epsilon_0 [(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2]^{3/2}} \\ \frac{\partial V}{\partial y} = \frac{-Q(y-y')}{4\pi\epsilon_0 [(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2]^{3/2}} \\ \frac{\partial V}{\partial z} = \frac{-Q(z-z')}{4\pi\epsilon_0 [(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2]^{3/2}} \end{cases}$$

Notice $r^2 = (x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2$ gives us

$$2r \frac{\partial r}{\partial x_i} = 2(x_i - x'_i) \quad \hookrightarrow \quad \frac{\partial r}{\partial x_i} = \frac{x_i - x'_i}{r}$$

Ok, let's look at $*$ with x_i - notation,

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial x_i} = \frac{-Q(x_i - x'_i)}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^3} = \frac{-Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2} \frac{\partial r}{\partial x_i}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{V = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}}$$

Remark: this is much easier if we consider $\vec{r}' = 0 \quad \hookrightarrow$

[E4] Find potential for Q at origin, this time we are able to use spherical coordinates

(5)

$$\vec{E} = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{\hat{r}}{r^2} = -\nabla V = -\frac{\partial V}{\partial r} \hat{r} - \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial V}{\partial \theta} \hat{\theta} - \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial V}{\partial \phi} \hat{\phi}$$

We find $\frac{\partial V}{\partial \theta} = \frac{\partial V}{\partial \phi} = 0$ hence $V = V(r)$ and,

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial r} = \frac{dV}{dr} = \frac{-Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2} \Rightarrow \underline{V(r) = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}}$$

Often calculation of potential from integration of $\vec{E} = -\nabla V$ is a wise method to calculate V , especially if $\vec{E}$ can be calculated via symmetry-based Gauss Law arguments. We should review some relevant vector calculus

Th^m/ Given simply connected subset $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$ the following are equivalent,

- (1.) $\vec{F} = \nabla f$ on S ($\vec{F}$ is conservative vector field)
- (2.) $\int_{C_1} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{l} = \int_{C_2} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{l}$ for cotermined paths C_1, C_2 inside S
- (3.) $\oint_{\text{loop}} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{l} = 0$ for loops in S
- (4.) $\nabla \times \vec{F} = 0$

Moreover, if $\vec{r}_0$ is some point in S then

$$f(\vec{r}) = \int_{\vec{r}_0}^{\vec{r}} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{l}$$

Since $\nabla \times \vec{E} = 0$ we have $\oint_{\text{loop}} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} = 0$ and provided we adjust the formula above with appropriate minus we also can calculate V by calculating line-integral $\oint$

(6)

Provided $\rho(r') = 0$ for r' sufficiently large, that is supposing the charge distribution is local and does not extend to $r' \rightarrow \infty$, we may set the potential $V(\infty) = 0$ and calculate the potential via the following:

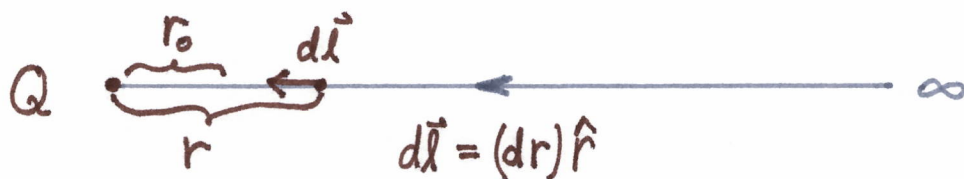
$$V(\vec{r}) = - \int_{\infty}^{\vec{r}} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l}$$

Notice we may also take some point $\odot$ as the zero for potential

$$V(r) = - \int_{\odot}^{\vec{r}} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l}$$

But, it's nice to use ∞ when it's possible.

[E5] Consider point charge at origin,



$$d\vec{l} = (dr) \hat{r}$$

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

$$\vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{dr}{r^2}$$

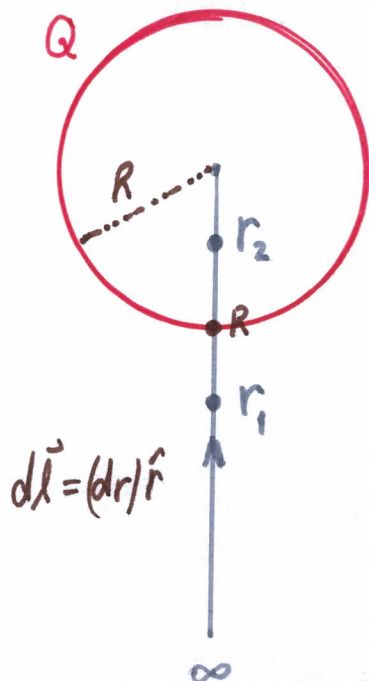
$$\begin{aligned} V(r_0) &= - \int_{\infty}^{r_0} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} \\ &= - \int_{\infty}^{r_0} \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{dr}{r^2} \\ &= \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left. \frac{1}{r} \right|_{\infty}^{r_0} \\ &= \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r_0} \end{aligned}$$

Remark: notice on path from ∞ to r_0 we decrease r hence $dr < 0$, so $d\vec{l} = (dr) \hat{r}$ points towards the origin.

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

[E6] Find voltage for spherical shell charge Q spread uniformly on sphere of radius R

(7)



$$\vec{E} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } r < R \\ \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{\hat{r}}{r^2} & \text{for } r > R \end{cases}$$

For $r_1 > R$,

$$V(r_1) = - \int_{\infty}^{r_1} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{r_1}$$

For $r_2 < R$,

$$V(r_2) = - \int_{\infty}^{r_2} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} = - \int_{\infty}^R \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} - \int_R^{r_2} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l}$$

$$V(r) = \begin{cases} \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{R} & : r \leq R \\ \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{r} & : r > R \end{cases}$$

$$\therefore V(r_2) = V(R) = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{R}$$

[E7] Consider uniformly charged sphere of radius R we derived by Gauss' Law

$$\vec{E} = \begin{cases} \frac{Qr\hat{r}}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R^3} & : 0 \leq r < R \\ \frac{Q\hat{r}}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2} & : r \geq R \end{cases}$$

to be fussy, we have to take limit to approach $r=R$, but continuity of V requires we set

$$V(R) = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{R}$$

Thus, for $r_0 < R$, once more $d\vec{l} = \hat{r} dr$ and,

$$V(r_0) = - \int_{\infty}^{r_0} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} = - \int_{\infty}^R \frac{Q\hat{r}}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2} \cdot \hat{r} dr - \int_R^{r_0} \frac{Qr\hat{r}}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R^3} \cdot \hat{r} dr$$

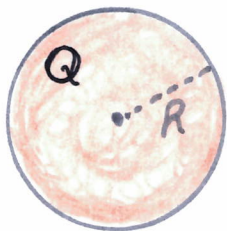
$$\therefore V(r_0) = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{r} \Big|_{\infty}^R - \left(\frac{1}{2} r^2 \Big|_R^{r_0} \right) \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R^3}$$

$$V(r_0) = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R} + \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R^3} \left(\frac{R^2}{2} - \frac{r_0^2}{2} \right)$$

$$V(r) = \frac{3Q}{8\pi\epsilon_0 R} - \frac{Qr^2}{8\pi\epsilon_0 R^3} = \frac{Q}{8\pi\epsilon_0} \left[\frac{3}{R} - \frac{r^2}{R^3} \right]$$

E7 continued: the potential depends on r alone and,

(8)



$$V(r) = \begin{cases} \frac{Q}{8\pi\epsilon_0} \left[\frac{3}{R} - \frac{r^2}{R^3} \right] & : r \leq R \\ \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{r} & : r \geq R \end{cases}$$

outside the sphere the potential is same as if the entire charge was concentrated at $r=0$. In other words, sufficiently far away a localized charge has potential resembling that of the Coulomb field. I often call $\frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{r}$ the Coulomb potential

Th^m/ Superposition of Potentials

If ρ_1 gives potential V_1 and ρ_2 gives potential V_2 then $V_1 + V_2$ serves as potential for $\rho = \rho_1 + \rho_2$

Proof: V_1 gives $\vec{E}_1 = -\nabla V_1$ for which $\nabla \cdot \vec{E}_1 = \rho_1/\epsilon_0$
likewise $\vec{E}_2 = -\nabla V_2$ with $\nabla \cdot \vec{E}_2 = \rho_2/\epsilon_0$. Then,

$$-\nabla(V_1 + V_2) = -\nabla V_1 - \nabla V_2 = \vec{E}_1 + \vec{E}_2$$

and

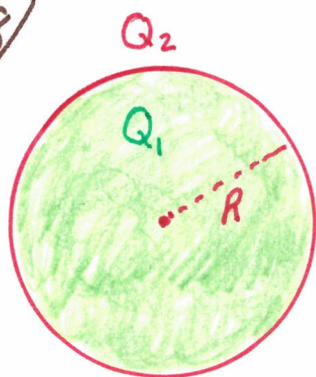
$$\nabla \cdot (\vec{E}_1 + \vec{E}_2) = \nabla \cdot \vec{E}_1 + \nabla \cdot \vec{E}_2 = \frac{\rho_1}{\epsilon_0} + \frac{\rho_2}{\epsilon_0}$$

Hence $V = V_1 + V_2$ is potential for charge distribution $\rho = \rho_1 + \rho_2$.

Remark: if $V_1(\infty) = 0$ and $V_2(\infty) = 0$ then

$V_1 + V_2 = V$ also has $V(\infty) = 0$.

E8



Given shell of charge at $r = R$ of Q_2 and uniform ball of charge on $0 \leq r \leq R$ of Q_1 , we can write down potential from E6 and E7 and superposition,

$$V(r) = V_{E6}(r) + V_{E7}(r) = \begin{cases} \frac{Q_1}{8\pi\epsilon_0} \left[\frac{3}{R} - \frac{r^2}{R^3} \right] + \frac{Q_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R} & : 0 \leq r \leq R \\ \frac{Q_1 + Q_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{r} & : r \geq R \end{cases}$$

We have shown $V(\vec{r}) = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{r}$ for Q at $\vec{r}'$ thus if we consider an infinitesimal charge dQ at $\vec{r}'$ then naturally $dV = \frac{dQ}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{r}$ where $r = \|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'\|$ thus,

$$V(\vec{r}) = \int \frac{dQ}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} \quad \text{for local distribution of } dQ$$

As we saw in the formulation of $\vec{E}$ from integration of charge distribution we have cases to consider,

LINEAR CHARGE DISTRIBUTION λ : $V(\vec{r}) = \int \frac{\lambda dl'}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}$

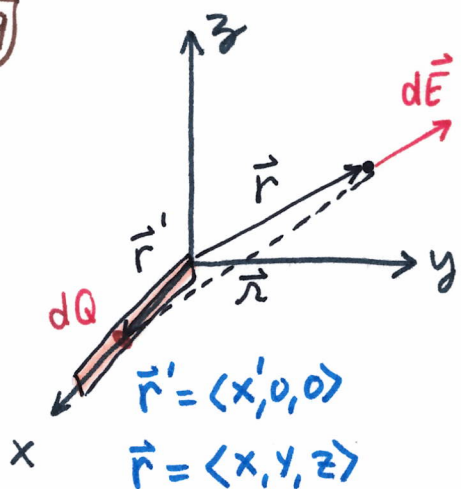
SURFACE CHARGE DISTRIBUTION σ : $V(\vec{r}) = \int \frac{\sigma da'}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}$

VOLUME CHARGE DISTRIBUTION ρ : $V(\vec{r}) = \int \frac{\rho d\tau'}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}$

$$r = \sqrt{(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2}$$

E9

10



Consider \$Q\$ uniformly distributed on \$x\$-axis from \$(0,0,0)\$ to \$(L,0,0)\$

$$dV = \frac{dQ}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{\sqrt{(x-x')^2 + y^2 + z^2}}$$

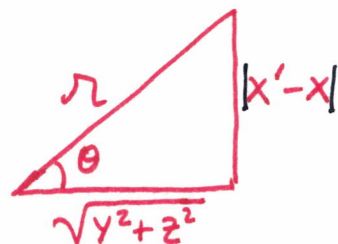
$$dQ = \lambda dx' = \frac{Q}{L} dx'$$

$$V(x,y,z) = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 L} \int_0^L \frac{dx'}{\sqrt{(x'-x)^2 + y^2 + z^2}} \quad \begin{cases} x' = x + \tan\theta \sqrt{y^2 + z^2} \\ dx' = \sec^2\theta \sqrt{y^2 + z^2} d\theta \end{cases}$$

$$= \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 L} \int_{x'=0}^{x'=L} \frac{\sec^2\theta \sqrt{y^2 + z^2} d\theta}{\sqrt{(\tan\theta \sqrt{y^2 + z^2})^2 + y^2 + z^2}}$$

$$\tan\theta = \frac{|x'-x|}{\sqrt{y^2 + z^2}}$$

$$= \frac{\lambda}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_{x'=0}^{x'=L} \frac{\sqrt{y^2 + z^2} \sec^2\theta d\theta}{\sqrt{y^2 + z^2} \sec\theta}$$



$$= \frac{\lambda}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \ln|\sec\theta + \tan\theta| \Big|_{x'=0}^{x'=L}$$

$$x'=L:$$

$$\lambda = \sqrt{(L-x)^2 + y^2 + z^2}$$

$$= \frac{\lambda}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \ln \left| \frac{\sec\theta_L + \tan\theta_L}{\sec\theta_0 + \tan\theta_0} \right|$$

$$\sec\theta_L = \frac{\sqrt{(x-L)^2 + y^2 + z^2}}{\sqrt{y^2 + z^2}}$$

$$= \frac{\lambda}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \ln \left| \frac{\frac{|x-L| + \sqrt{(x-L)^2 + y^2 + z^2}}{\sqrt{y^2 + z^2}}}{\frac{\sqrt{y^2 + z^2} + L}{\sqrt{y^2 + z^2}} + \frac{|x|}{\sqrt{y^2 + z^2}}} \right|$$

$$\tan\theta_L = \frac{|x-L|}{\sqrt{y^2 + z^2}}$$

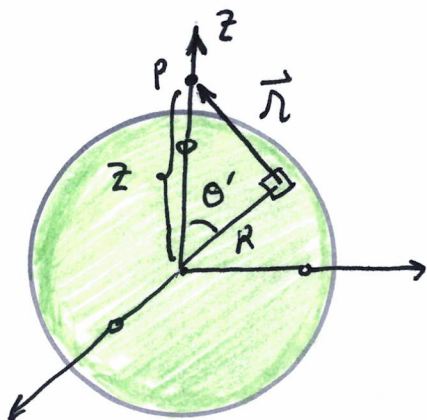
$$= \frac{\lambda}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \ln \left| \frac{|x-L| + \sqrt{(x-L)^2 + y^2 + z^2}}{|x| + \sqrt{L^2 + y^2 + z^2}} \right|$$

$$V(x,y,z)$$

E10 Potential of uniformly charged spherical shell of radius R with density σ ($Q = 4\pi R^2 \sigma$)
 This is Example 2.8 in Griffiths.

(11)

$$\frac{\sigma R}{\epsilon_0} = \frac{QR}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R^2} = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0}$$



$$r^2 = R^2 + z^2 - 2Rz \cos \theta'$$

$$dQ = \sigma da' = \sigma R^2 \sin \theta' d\theta' d\phi'$$

using θ', ϕ' to range over the shell of charge at $r = R$.

$$\begin{aligned} V(P) &= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int \frac{\sigma da'}{r} \\ &= \frac{\sigma}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\pi \frac{R^2 \sin \theta' d\theta' d\phi'}{\sqrt{R^2 + z^2 - 2Rz \cos \theta'}} \\ &= \frac{2\pi R^2 \sigma}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_0^\pi \frac{\sin \theta' d\theta'}{\sqrt{R^2 + z^2 - 2Rz \cos \theta'}} \\ &= \frac{R^2 \sigma}{2\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{Rz} \left[\sqrt{R^2 + z^2 - 2Rz \cos \theta'} \right]_0^\pi \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} u &= R^2 + z^2 - 2Rz \cos \theta' \\ du &= +2Rz \sin \theta' d\theta' \\ \sin \theta' d\theta' &= \frac{du}{2Rz} \end{aligned}$$

$$= \frac{\sigma R}{2\epsilon_0 z} \left[\sqrt{R^2 + z^2 + 2Rz} - \sqrt{R^2 + z^2 - 2Rz} \right]$$

$$= \frac{\sigma R}{2\epsilon_0 z} \left[\sqrt{(z+R)^2} - \sqrt{(z-R)^2} \right]$$

$$= \frac{\sigma R}{2\epsilon_0 z} \left[|z+R| - |z-R| \right]$$

$$= \frac{\sigma R}{2\epsilon_0 z} \begin{cases} z+R - (R-z) & : 0 \leq z \leq R \\ z+R - (z-R) & : z \geq R \end{cases}$$

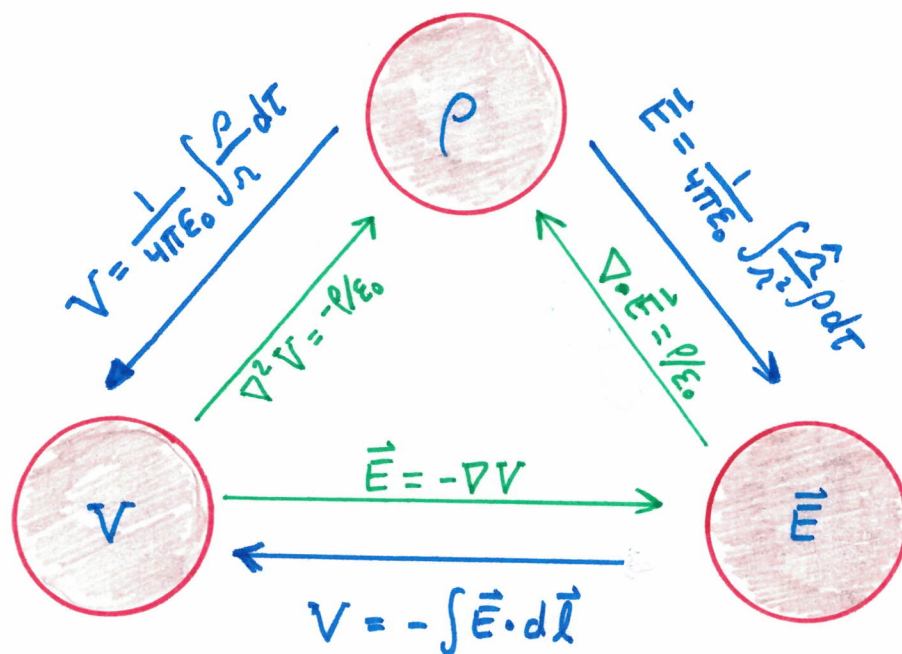
$$= \frac{\sigma R}{2\epsilon_0 z} \begin{cases} 2z & : 0 \leq z \leq R \\ 2R & : z \geq R \end{cases}$$

$$\therefore V(z) = \begin{cases} \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R} & : 0 \leq z \leq R \\ \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 z} & : z \geq R \end{cases}$$

PROPERTIES OF $\vec{E}$ and V and $\rho = \frac{dQ}{dT}$

(12)

Griffiths offers a digram to illustrate the inter dependencies of $\vec{E}$, V , and ρ .



Remark: I've omitted $\nabla \times \vec{E} = 0$ from the diagram, it seems to me it belongs in at least two places since,

- ① $\vec{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int \frac{\hat{r}}{r^2} \rho d\tau \Rightarrow \nabla \times \vec{E} = 0$ (integrate the lemma earlier)
- ② $\vec{E} = -\nabla V \Rightarrow \nabla \times \vec{E} = 0$ as $\nabla \times \nabla V = 0$.

Key Features of $\vec{E}$ in electrostatics

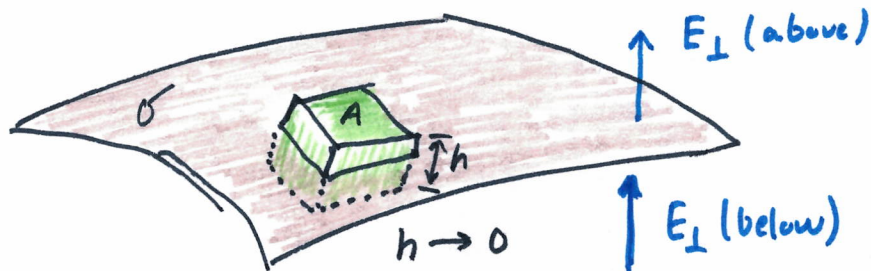
$$\oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{a} = \frac{Q_{enc}}{\epsilon_0} \quad \text{and} \quad \oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} = 0$$

we examine what these imply about the values of $\vec{E}$ and V as we go above/below a given surface.

Boundary Conditions for $\vec{E}$ and V

(13)

Consider surface with surface charge density σ

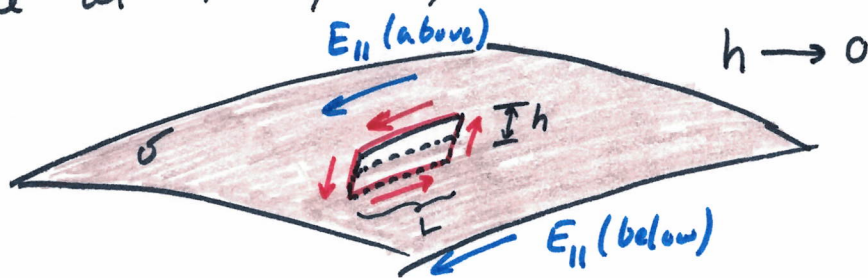


We imagine a thin-volume with cross-sectional area A
then Gauss' Law yields:

$$\Phi_E = AE_{\perp}(\text{above}) - AE_{\perp}(\text{below}) = \frac{\sigma A}{\epsilon_0} = \frac{Q_{\text{enc}}}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$E_{\perp}(\text{above}) - E_{\perp}(\text{below}) = \frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0}$$

Now imagine a loop around the same point such that the top and bottom legs are parallel to the surface at the point,



$$\oint_C \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} = 0 = E_{\parallel}(\text{above})L - E_{\parallel}(\text{below})L$$

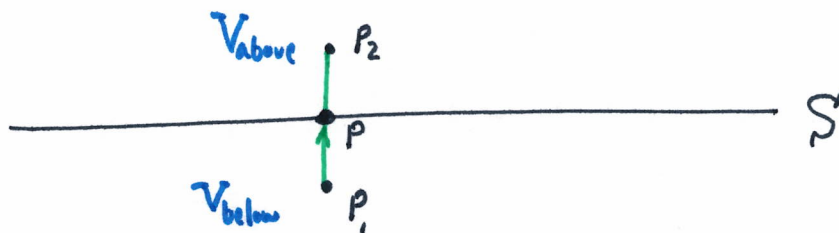
$$\therefore E_{\parallel}(\text{above}) = E_{\parallel}(\text{below})$$

Holds for any direction
tangent to surface at given point.

$$\text{Thm: } \vec{E}_{\text{above}} - \vec{E}_{\text{below}} = \frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0} \hat{n} \quad \left. \vphantom{\frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0}} \right\} \text{ here } \hat{n} \text{ defines the "above" direction.}$$

Boundary Conditions for V

Consider a boundary S and imagine a path from P_1 to P_2 where P_1 is just below S and P_2 is just above S . I'll use 2D-picture



$$V_{\text{above}} - V_{\text{below}} = - \int_{P_1}^{P_2} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } P_1, P_2 \rightarrow P.$$

$$\therefore \boxed{V_{\text{above}} = V_{\text{below}}}$$

Remark: S above is totally arbitrary, we can justly expect potential must be everywhere continuous.
(excluding wild ideas like ∞ charge at a point)

We argued $\vec{E}_{\text{above}} - \vec{E}_{\text{below}} = \frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0} \hat{n}$ but we know $\vec{E} = -\nabla V$ hence we find,

$$\boxed{\nabla V_{\text{above}} - \nabla V_{\text{below}} = \frac{-\sigma}{\epsilon_0} \hat{n}}$$

$$\rightarrow \underline{\underline{\frac{\partial V_{\text{above}}}{\partial n} - \frac{\partial V_{\text{below}}}{\partial n} = \frac{-\sigma}{\epsilon_0}}}$$

Defⁿ $\frac{\partial f}{\partial n} = (\nabla f) \cdot \hat{u}$ hence $\frac{\partial f}{\partial n} = \underbrace{(\nabla f) \cdot \hat{n}}_{\text{normal derivative.}}$

WORK AND ENERGY IN ELECTROSTATICS (§2.4 Griffiths)

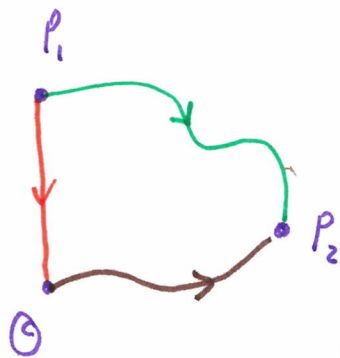
15

Given a configuration of charge which produces electric field $\vec{E}$, if we move Q from P_1 to P_2 using minimal effort we have $\vec{F}_{\text{push}} + \vec{F}_{\text{electric}} = m\vec{a} = 0$ (just barely moving $\Rightarrow \vec{F}_{\text{push}} = -\vec{F}_{\text{electric}} = -Q\vec{E}$)

$$W = \int_{P_1}^{P_2} \vec{F}_{\text{push}} \cdot d\vec{l} = -Q \int_{P_1}^{P_2} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} = Q \left(-\int_{P_1}^{P_2} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow W = Q \left(-\int_0^{P_2} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} + \int_0^{P_1} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} \right) \quad (\text{see below for details})$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{W = Q(V(P_2) - V(P_1))}$$



If we do not increase KE of Q then work to move Q from P_1 to P_2 against $Q\vec{E}$ is given by $W = Q\Delta V$ where $\Delta V = V(P_2) - V(P_1)$

path-indep.
of $\vec{E}$

$$\therefore \boxed{V(P_2) - V(P_1) = \frac{W}{Q}}$$

Remark: $\int_{P_1}^{P_2} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} = \underbrace{\int_{P_1}^0 \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l}}_{\text{path-indep.}} + \underbrace{\int_0^{P_2} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l}}_{\text{path-indep.}} = \int_0^{P_2} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} - \int_0^{P_1} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l}$

$$\text{Therefore, } -\int_{P_1}^{P_2} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} = -\int_0^{P_2} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} - \left(-\int_0^{P_1} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} \right) = V(P_2) - V(P_1).$$

Th^o/ work to bring Q from far away ~~is given at~~ $\vec{r}$ by $W = Q[V(\vec{r}) - V(\infty)]$ hence if $V(\infty) = 0$ we have $\boxed{W = QV(\vec{r})}$

potential is PE per unit-charge.

ENERGY TO CREATE CHARGE DISTRIBUTION

16

Imagine bringing $q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n$ to positions $\vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2, \dots, \vec{r}_n$
then we can argue the work required is given by

WHY? SEE
BELOW.

$$W = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j>i}^n \frac{q_i q_j}{r_{ij}} = \frac{1}{8\pi\epsilon_0} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j \neq i}^n \frac{q_i q_j}{r_{ij}}$$

where $r_{ij} = \|\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j\|$ is distance between q_i and q_j

Notice $V(\vec{r}_i) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{q_j}{r_{ij}}$ is potential due to

$q_1, q_2, \dots, \hat{q}_i, \dots, q_n$ (delete q_i) then

$$W = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n q_i \left(\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{q_j}{r_{ij}} \right) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n q_i V(\vec{r}_i)$$

Allow $n \rightarrow \infty$ to consider continuous charge distribution
then $\sum$ replaced with $\int$ as appropriate

$$W = \frac{1}{2} \int \rho V d\tau$$

we'll study this next $\rightarrow$

To assemble charge distribution we can imagine bringing
in q_1 , then q_2 then q_3 etc.

1.) q_1 is free, nothing else to repulse it

2.) q_2 : $W_2 = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_1 q_2}{r_{12}}$

3.) q_3 : $W_3 = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left(\frac{q_1 q_2}{r_{12}} + \frac{q_1 q_3}{r_{13}} + \frac{q_2 q_3}{r_{23}} \right)$

4.) q_4 : $W_4 = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left(\frac{q_1 q_2}{r_{12}} + \frac{q_1 q_3}{r_{13}} + \frac{q_2 q_3}{r_{23}} + \frac{q_1 q_4}{r_{14}} + \frac{q_2 q_4}{r_{24}} + \frac{q_3 q_4}{r_{34}} \right)$

ENERGY TO CREATE CONTINUOUS CHARGE DISTRIBUTION

(17)

Since $\nabla \cdot \vec{E} = \rho/\epsilon_0$ we find $\rho = \epsilon_0 (\nabla \cdot \vec{E})$

$$W = \frac{1}{2} \int \rho V d\tau \quad (dQ = \rho d\tau)$$

$$= \frac{\epsilon_0}{2} \int_V (\nabla \cdot \vec{E}) V d\tau$$

$$= \frac{\epsilon_0}{2} \left[- \int_V \vec{E} \cdot (\nabla V) d\tau + \oint_{\partial V} V \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{a} \right]$$

$$= \frac{\epsilon_0}{2} \left(\int_V E^2 d\tau + \oint_{\partial V} V \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{a} \right)$$

Given $V(\infty) = 0$ we find $W = \frac{\epsilon_0}{2} \int E^2 d\tau$

[E11] Consider spherical shell charge Q at $r = R$, the energy to construct this distribution we can calculate two ways.

$$V(r) = \begin{cases} \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R} \cdot \frac{1}{R} & : 0 \leq r \leq R \\ \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \cdot \frac{1}{r} & : r \geq R \end{cases} \quad \vec{E} = \begin{cases} 0 & : 0 \leq r \leq R \\ \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2} \hat{r} & : r \geq R \end{cases}$$

Thus, for surface charge

$$W = \frac{1}{2} \int_{S_R} \sigma V da = \frac{1}{2} \int_{S_R} \frac{Q}{4\pi R^2} \cdot \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R} da = \frac{Q^2}{2(4\pi)^2 \epsilon_0 R^3} \int_{S_R} da = \boxed{\frac{Q^2}{8\pi\epsilon_0 R}}$$

Alternatively, we can integrate E^2 over all space, since $E = 0$ for $0 \leq r < R$ we simply integrate from R to ∞ ,

$$\begin{aligned} W &= \frac{\epsilon_0}{2} \int_{\text{space}} E^2 d\tau = \frac{\epsilon_0}{2} \int \left(\frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \right)^2 \frac{1}{r^4} \cdot r^2 \sin\theta d\phi d\theta dr \\ &= \frac{4\pi\epsilon_0 Q^2}{2(4\pi\epsilon_0)^2} \int_R^\infty \frac{dr}{r^2} = \frac{Q^2}{8\pi\epsilon_0} \left[\frac{-1}{\infty} + \frac{1}{R} \right] = \boxed{\frac{Q^2}{8\pi\epsilon_0 R}} \end{aligned}$$

CONDUCTORS

(18)

A perfect conductor contains an unlimited supply of free charges.

A perfect insulator has no free charge.

When we say "conductor" we mean perfect conductor.

PROPERTIES

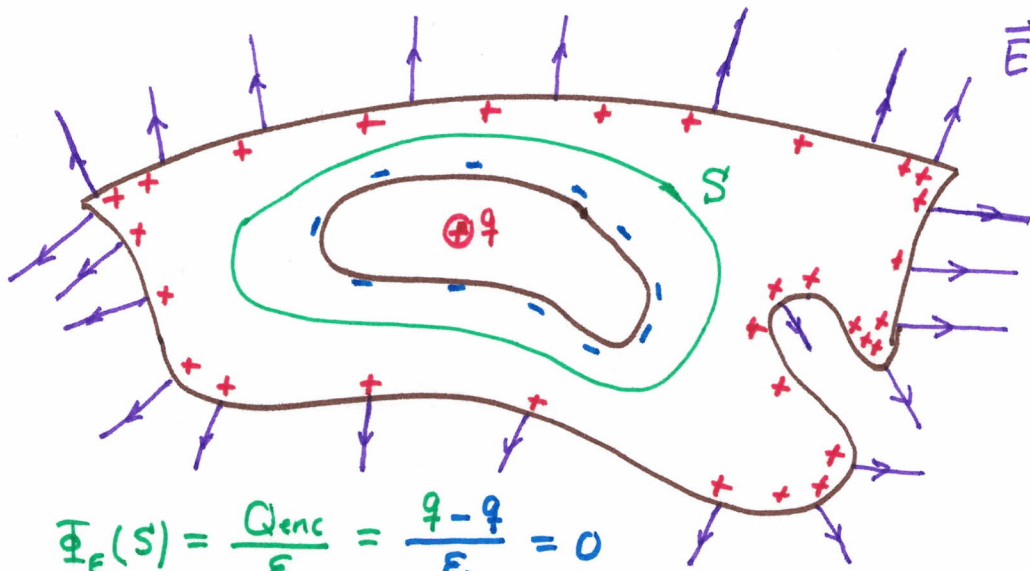
- (i.) $\vec{E} = 0$ inside a conductor,
- (ii.) $\rho = 0$ inside a conductor,
- (iii.) any net charge resides on the surface
- (iv.) conductor is an equipotential
- (v.) $\vec{E} \perp d\vec{a}$ for points near boundary of conductor

The properties follow from the electrostatic condition,

- (i.) if $\vec{E} \neq 0$ then free charge moves
- (ii.) if $\rho \neq 0$ then $\nabla \cdot \vec{E} \neq 0$ at some point within conductor and a small bubble would have electric flux and hence $\vec{E} \neq 0$.
- (iii.) follows from (ii.)
- (iv.) $\vec{E} = -\nabla V = 0 \Rightarrow \underline{V \text{ constant over conductor}}$.
- (v.) If $\vec{E}$ had nontrivial tangential component then charge near surface would move
 $\therefore \vec{E}$ only has normal component at surface to the conductor.

Charge Density and $\vec{E}$ -field near conductor

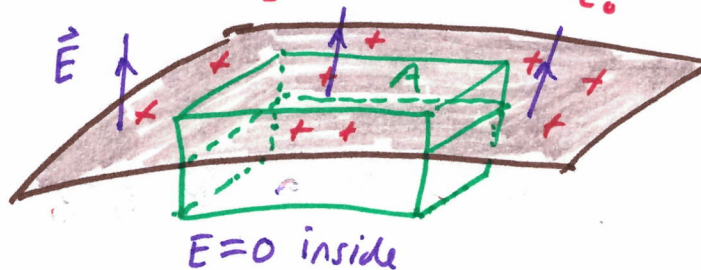
(19)



$$\Phi_E(S) = \frac{Q_{enc}}{\epsilon_0} = \frac{q - q}{\epsilon_0} = 0$$

$-q$ is induced on interior surface

- If the conductor is neutral (uncharged) (zero total charge) then $+q$ resides on the outside edge.
- Examining Gaussian thin box as below
we see $\Phi_E = AE = \frac{\sigma A}{\epsilon_0} \Rightarrow E = \frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0}$



$$\vec{E} = \frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0} \hat{n}$$

Since $\vec{E} = -\nabla V$ we find $\frac{\partial V}{\partial n} = -\frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0}$

Which means $\sigma = -\epsilon_0 \frac{\partial V}{\partial n}$

can calculate σ from V at conductor surface.

Remark: see pgs. 100-101 for $\vec{f} = \frac{1}{2\epsilon_0} \sigma^2 \hat{n}$ force per area
why the electrostatic pressure or $P = \frac{\epsilon_0}{2} E^2$

CAPACITORS

(20)

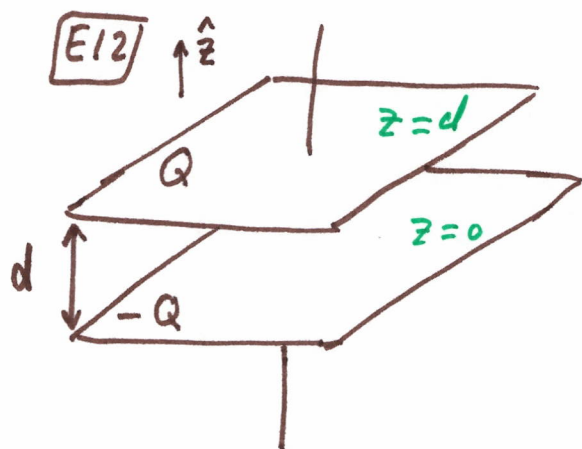
Given two conductors, suppose we place Q on one and $-Q$ on another. If

V_+ is voltage on the Q conductor and V_- on the $-Q$ then study

$$V = V_+ - V_- = - \int_{(-)}^{(+)} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l}$$

then since $\vec{E}$ is proportional to Q via Coulomb's Law we may define CAPACITANCE of the conductor pair,

$$C = \frac{Q}{V}$$



parallel plates, area A
separated distance d
Assume $d \approx 0$ relative to A

$$\vec{E} = \frac{\sigma_+}{2\epsilon_0} (-\hat{z}) + \frac{\sigma_-}{2\epsilon_0} (\hat{z})$$

$$\vec{E} = \frac{-Q}{2A\epsilon_0} \hat{z} - \frac{Q}{2\epsilon_0 A} \hat{z}$$

$$\vec{E} = -\frac{Q}{A\epsilon_0} \hat{z} = -\frac{\partial V}{\partial z}$$

$$\Rightarrow V(z) = \frac{Qz}{A\epsilon_0}$$

$$V = V(d) - V(0) = \frac{Qd}{A\epsilon_0}$$

$$\therefore \frac{A\epsilon_0}{d} = \frac{Q}{V} \Rightarrow C = \frac{A\epsilon_0}{d}$$

Remark: see pgs. (56)-(59) of my physics 232 notes for more, if you desire it.