

# Unit - I Electric field

①

## Coulomb's law

In 1785 Coulomb stated a law regarding the force acting b/w two charges:- the force of attraction or repulsion b/w two charges (point charges) is directly proportional to the product of the charges and inversely proportional to the square of distance b/w them. The direction of this force is along the one joining the two charges. This is called also called coulomb's law.

Let  $q_1$  &  $q_2$  are two point charges and separated by a distance  $r$  then force is

$$F \propto \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2}$$

$$F = k \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

where  $k$  is proportionality constant and depends on (i) medium b/w the charges  
(ii) system of unit chosen.

If the medium b/w charges is air or vacuum then value of  $k$  in MKSA unit system or SI unit is

$$k = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \quad \text{where } \epsilon_0 \text{ is universal constant called permittivity of vacuum or free space}$$

and is given by

$$E_0 = 8.854 \times 10^{-12} \text{ C}^2/\text{Nm}^2$$

$$\therefore k = \frac{1}{4\pi E_0} = \frac{1}{4 \times 3.14 \times 8.854 \times 10^{-12}} \\ k = 9 \times 10^9 \text{ Nm}^2/\text{C}^2$$

therefore coulomb's law

$$F = \frac{1}{4\pi E_0} \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2}$$

the magnitude of value of  $k$  in cgs unit system is on

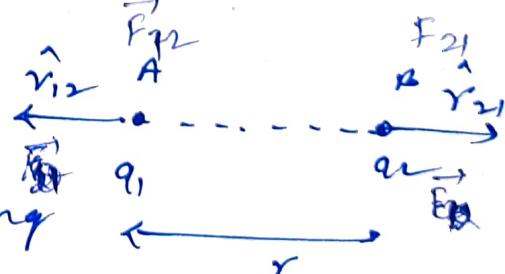
the coulomb's law in vector form

let two charges  $q_1$  and  $q_2$  are placed at points A and B in vacuum respectively and separated by distance  $r$  the charges are like, they repel each other.

let  $\vec{F}_{12}$  is force acting on  $q_1$  due to  $q_2$  and  $\vec{F}_{21}$  is force acting on  $q_2$  due to  $q_1$ , and  $\vec{r}_{12}$  is position vector of  $q_1$  w.r.t  $q_2$  and  $\vec{r}_{21}$  is position vector of  $q_2$  w.r.t  $q_1$ .  $\vec{r}_{12}$  and  $\vec{r}_{21}$  is position unit vector along B to A and A to B respectively. the force  $\vec{F}_{21}$  along A to B is

$$\vec{F}_{21} = \frac{1}{4\pi E_0} \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2} \hat{r}_{21}$$

but  $\hat{r}_{21} = \frac{\vec{r}_{21}}{r}$



$$\vec{F}_{21} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2} \cdot \frac{\vec{r}_{21}}{r} \\ = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^3} \vec{r}_{21} \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

Similarly force on  $q_1$  is

$$\vec{F}_{12} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2} \vec{r}_{12}$$

$$\vec{F}_{12} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^3} \vec{r}_{12} \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

but  $\vec{r}_{12} = -\vec{r}_{21}$  then

$$F_{12} = -\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^3} \vec{r}_{21} \quad \text{--- (4)}$$

thus

$$F_{12} = -F_{21}$$

this means that the Coulomb's force acted on  $q_2$  by  $q_1$  is equal and opposite to the Coulomb's force acted on  $q_1$  by  $q_2$  according to Newton's third law.

Unit of charge :- Coulomb

The S.I unit of charge is coulombs and denoted by 'C' the force b/w two charges  $q_1$  and  $q_2$  and separated by  $r$  in air is

$$F = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2}$$

$$\text{If } q_1 = q_2 = 1 \text{ C}$$

$$r = 1 \text{ m}$$

$$\text{then } F = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} = 9 \times 10^9 \text{ N.}$$

thus  $1C$  is the charge which when placed at a distance of  $1m$  from an equal and similar charge in air with will repel it with force of  $9 \times 10^9$  Newton.

By quantization of charge

$$q = n e$$

$$n = \frac{q}{e} = \frac{1C}{1.6 \times 10^{-19} C}$$

$$n = 6.25 \times 10^{18}$$

Thus  $1C$  is the charge that is produced by removal of  $6.25 \times 10^{18}$  electron from a neutral body.

generally  $C$  is expressed in microcoulomb or nanocoulomb

$$1\mu C = 10^{-6} C$$

$$1nC = 10^{-9} C$$

Derive Unit of charge

The rate of flow of charge is called current-

current =  $\frac{\text{charge flowing}}{\text{time}}$

$$I = \frac{Q}{t}$$

$$\text{charge } Q = I \times t$$

$$= \text{current} \times \text{time}$$

The derived unit of charge is Ampere  $\times$  second.  
or dimensional formula is

[A T]

$1C$  is the charge which when flowing in a conductor for 1 second causes a current of 1 Amp.

Other unit of charge

(i) Electrostatic unit of charge (e.s.u. of charge). This is also called stat coulombs

$$1 \text{ C} = 3 \times 10^9 \text{ stat coulombs}$$

(ii) Electromagnetic unit of charge (e.m.u. of charge)

$$1 \text{ e.m.u. of charge} = 1 \text{ C} = 3 \times 10^{10} \text{ stat coulombs}$$

58

### Electric field strength

The region in which a charge experiences a force is called electric field.

If an infinitesimally small charge  $q_0$  experiences a force  $\vec{F}$  at a point in electric field, then the strength of field at that point is

$$\vec{E} = \frac{\vec{F}}{q_0}$$

thus the intensity of electric field or electric field strength at any point is equal to the ratio of the force experienced by an infinitesimally small test charge and value of charge.

If value of charge is  $q_0 = \pm 1$

$$\text{then } \vec{E} = \vec{F}$$

thus intensity of electric field or electric field strength at any point is equal to the force experienced by a unit positive charge placed at that point.

$$\text{or } \vec{E} = \min \vec{F}$$

$$\text{or } \vec{E} = \vec{F}$$

Dimension of electric field strength.

$$E = \frac{\text{force}}{\text{charge}} = \frac{[MLT^{-2}]}{[AT]} \\ = [MLT^{-3}A^{-1}]$$

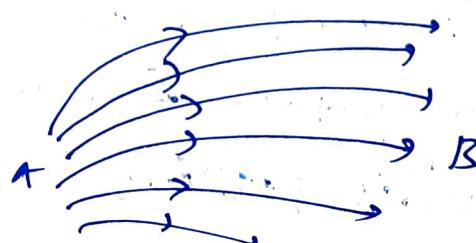
### Concept of electric field

According to Faraday each vector field may be supposed to be formed of vector line of force.

The path of motion of positive test charge, placed free in an electric field, is called electric line of force.

Hence the electric line of force in an electric field is an imaginary smooth curve along which an isolated free positive charge (initially at rest) tends to move.

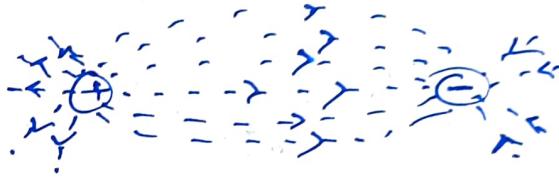
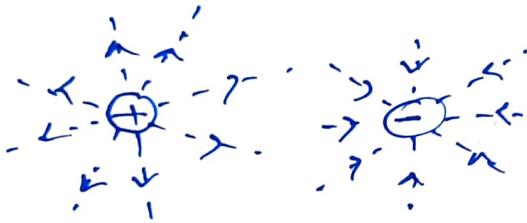
The electric field strength at any point is defined as vector quantity whose magnitude is measured by the number of electric field lines of force passing normally through per unit small area around that point and whose direction is along the tangent on the line of force drawn at that point.



If the electric lines of force are nearer, the electric field is strong. If the electric lines of force are far away, the electric field is weak. (Q)

### Properties of Electric lines of force

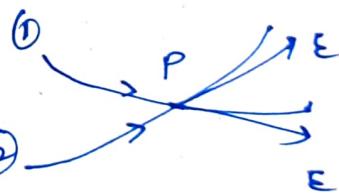
- (i) The electric lines of force appear to start from positive charge and to end, at negative charge or at infinity.



- (ii) The tangent drawn at any point on the line of force gives the direction of field.



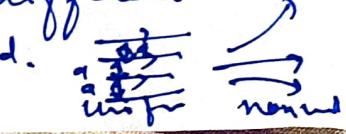
- (iii) No two electric lines of force can intersect each other.



- (iv) The electric lines of force are always in form of open curves. They do not form closed loops.

- (v) The electric lines of force do not pass through a conductor since  $E=0$  in con. inside conductor.

- (vi) The equidistant electric lines of force represent uniform electric field and electric lines of force at different separation represent non-uniform electric field.



## calculation of electric field strength

### (i) Electric field due to a point charge

Let a point charge  $q$  be placed

at  $O$ , which produces electric field.



Let a positive test charge  $q_0$  is placed at  $P$  at a distance  $r$  from  $O$ .

From Coulomb's law

$$\vec{F} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{qq_0}{r^2} \text{ along } P \text{ to } A$$

Electric field at  $P$

$$\vec{E} = \frac{\vec{F}}{q_0} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{r^2} \text{ along } P \text{ to } A$$

$$\vec{E} = \frac{\vec{F}}{q_0} \vec{r} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{r^2} \vec{r}$$

where  $\vec{r}$  is unit vector along  $P \rightarrow A$ .

If  $\vec{r}$  is position vector of point  $P$  then

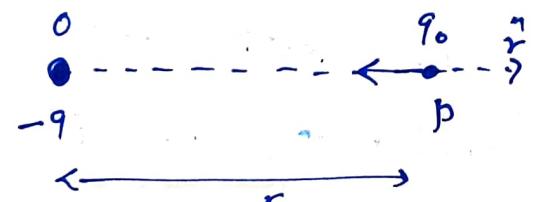
$$\vec{r} = \frac{\vec{r}}{|\vec{r}|}$$

$$\vec{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{r^2} \frac{\vec{r}}{|\vec{r}|}$$

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

If  $-q$  charge is placed at  $O$  then electric field strength at  $P$  is

$$\vec{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{r^2} \text{ from } P \text{ to } O$$



$$\text{or } \vec{E} = \vec{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{r^2} \frac{\vec{r}}{r^2} = -\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{r^3} \vec{r}$$

(iii) Electric field due to continuous charge distribution

A continuous charge distribution is supposed to be formed of a large no. of very small charge elements. Let  $dq$  be a small charge element.

If  $\vec{r}'$  be the position vector of charge  $dq$  w.r.t. origin and position vector of point  $P$  under consideration is  $\vec{r}$ .

The field at  $P$  due to this charge element.

$$dE = \frac{dq}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R^2}$$

$$\text{where } R = r - r'$$

Therefore total electric field strength at  $P$  is

$$E = \int dE = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int \frac{dq}{R^2}$$

In vector form

$$\vec{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int \frac{dq}{R^3} \vec{R}$$

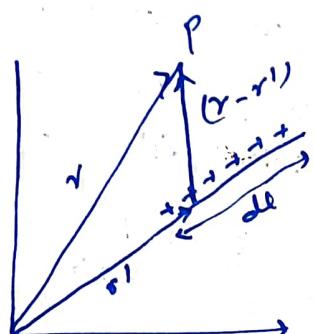
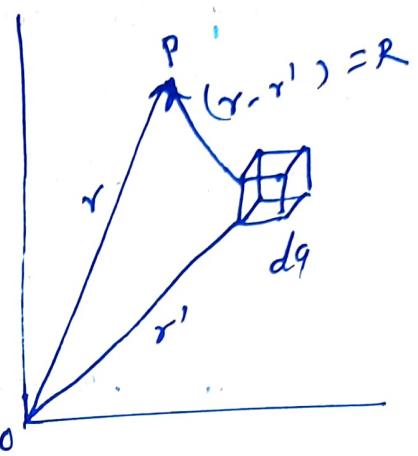
$$\vec{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int \frac{dq}{|r - r'|^3} (\vec{r} - \vec{r}')$$

(a) Due to line charge

If  $\lambda$  is charge per unit length, then charge on element of length  $dl$  is

$$dq = \lambda dl$$

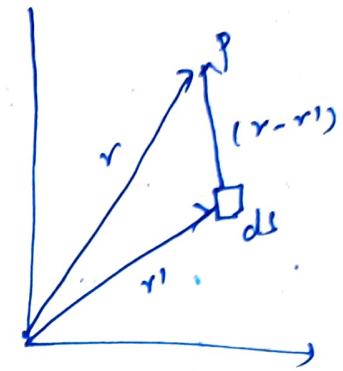
$$\text{then } E = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int \frac{\lambda dl}{|r - r'|^3} (\vec{r} - \vec{r}')$$



### (b) Due to surface charge distribution

Let charge be distributed at the surface and surface charge density is  $\sigma$ , then charge on surface element of area  $ds$  is

$$dq = \sigma ds$$



Therefore electric field strength at P is

$$\vec{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_S \frac{\sigma ds}{(r - r')^3} (\vec{r} - \vec{r}')$$

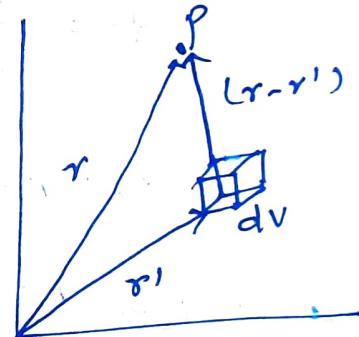
### (c) Due to volume charge distribution

Let charge be distributed over volume  $V$  of body and  $\rho$  is volume charge density, then charge in small volume element  $dV$  is

$$dq = \rho dV$$

Then electric field strength at P is

$$\vec{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_V \frac{\rho dV}{(r - r')^3} (\vec{r} - \vec{r}')$$



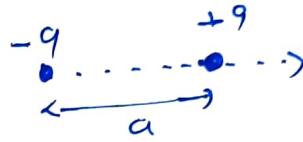
### (d) General charge distribution

If the charge is distributed in space a length  $L$ , surface  $S$  and volume  $V$  and there are  $n$  point charges  $q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n$  then net electric field strength at point P located at  $\vec{r}$  from origin will be

$$\vec{E} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \int_L \frac{\lambda dl}{(r - r')^3} (\vec{r} - \vec{r}') + \int_S \frac{\sigma ds}{(r - r')^3} (\vec{r} - \vec{r}') + \int_V \frac{\rho dV}{(r - r')^3} (\vec{r} - \vec{r}') \right. \\ \left. + \sum_{i=1}^n q_i \frac{(\vec{r} - \vec{r}_i)}{(\vec{r} - \vec{r}_i)^3} \right]$$

## Electric field strength due to electric dipole

Electric dipole:- It is a system of two equal and opposite charges separated by a small distance.



### Electric dipole moment

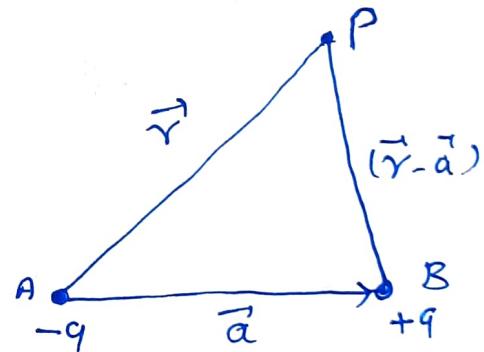
It is a product of magnitude of either charge and separation b/w the two charges and direction directed from negative charge to positive charge.

dipole moment-

$$\vec{P} = q \cdot \vec{a}$$

### Electric field strength

Let P is a observation point with position vector  $\vec{r}$  w.r.t to A and  $(\vec{r}-\vec{a})$  w.r.t to B.



The electric field strength at point P due to charge (-q) is

$$E_A = -\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{r^3} \vec{r}$$

and due to charge (+q) is

$$E_B = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{(\vec{r}-\vec{a})^3} (\vec{r}-\vec{a})$$

The electric field strength at P due to both charges of dipole is

$$E(r) = E_A + E_B = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{(\vec{r}-\vec{a})}{(\vec{r}-\vec{a})^3} - \frac{\vec{r}}{r^3} \right] \quad \text{---(1)}$$

If  $r \gg a$  then from first term of eq ① with binomial expansion

$$\begin{aligned}
 |\vec{r} - \vec{a}|^{-3} &= 1(\vec{r} - \vec{a})^2 r^{-3} \\
 &= [r^2 - 2\vec{r} \cdot \vec{a} + \vec{a}^2]^{-3/2} \\
 &= \frac{1}{r^3} \left[ 1 - \frac{2\vec{r} \cdot \vec{a}}{r^2} + \frac{\vec{a}^2}{r^2} \right]^{-3/2} \\
 &= \frac{1}{r^3} \left[ 1 + \frac{3}{2} \left( \frac{2\vec{r} \cdot \vec{a}}{r^2} + \frac{\vec{a}^2}{r^2} \right) \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

since  $r \gg a$  then

$$= \frac{1}{r^3} \left[ 1 + \frac{3\vec{r} \cdot \vec{a}}{r^2} \right]$$

from eq ①

$$\begin{aligned}
 E(\vec{r}) &= \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{1}{r^3} \left( 1 + \frac{3\vec{r} \cdot \vec{a}}{r^2} \right) (\vec{r} - \vec{a}) - \frac{\vec{r}}{r^3} \right] \\
 &= \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{\vec{r}}{r^3} - \frac{\vec{a}}{r^3} + \frac{3(\vec{r} \cdot \vec{a}) \vec{r}}{r^5} - \frac{3(\vec{r} \cdot \vec{a}) \cdot \vec{a}}{r^5} - \frac{\vec{r}}{r^5} \right] \\
 &\quad \text{since again } r \gg a \text{ then} \\
 &= \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{3(\vec{r} \cdot \vec{a}) \vec{r}}{r^5} - \frac{\vec{a}}{r^3} \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

but  $qa = p$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 E(\vec{r}) &= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{3(\vec{r} \cdot \vec{a}) \vec{r}}{r^5} - \frac{qa}{r^3} \right] \\
 &= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{3(\vec{r} \cdot \vec{p}) \vec{r}}{r^5} - \frac{p}{r^3} \right] . - \textcircled{2}
 \end{aligned}$$

This is required relation for electric field strength.

## 7

### Component of electric field :-

Let  $x$  axis is along the direction of  $P$  and  $(x, y)$  be the coordinates of  $P$ . Then  $x$  and  $y$  components of field are.

$$E_x = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{3\pi P r^{60^\circ}}{r^5} - \frac{P}{r^3} \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{3P r^{60^\circ}}{r^5} - \frac{P}{r^3} \right]$$

$$E_y = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{3P x^2}{r^5} - \frac{P}{r^3} \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{1}{3} 3P \left( \frac{x}{r} \right)^2 - \frac{P}{r^3} \right]$$

$$E_x = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{P}{r^3} \left[ 3 \cos^2 \theta - 1 \right] \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

and  $E_y = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{3\pi P}{r^5} \cdot y \right]$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{3P}{r^3} \left( \frac{x}{r} \right) \left( \frac{y}{r} \right) \right]$$

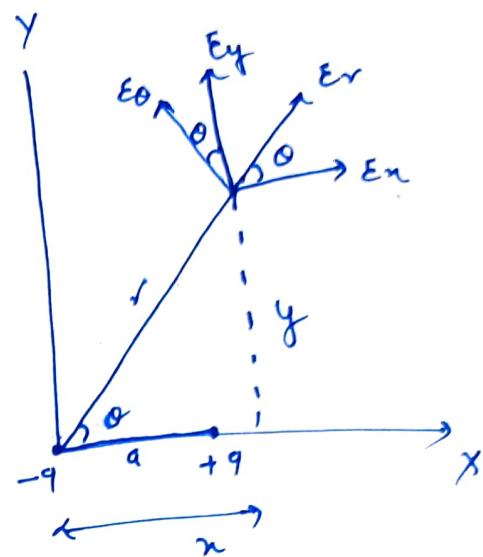
$$E_y = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{3P}{r^3} \cos \theta \sin \theta \quad \text{--- (4)}$$

The polar component of electric field

$$E_r = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{3(rP \cos \theta)}{r^5} - \frac{P \cos \theta}{r^3} \right]$$

$$E_r = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{2P \cos \theta}{r^3} \right] \quad \checkmark$$

and  $E_\theta = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ 0 - \left( \frac{P \sin \theta}{r^3} \right) \right]$



$$\begin{aligned} n &= r \cos \theta \\ y &= r \sin \theta \\ r &= \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} \\ \text{along } x \text{ axis } \theta &= 0 \\ r \cdot P &= r P \cos \theta \\ &= r P \end{aligned}$$

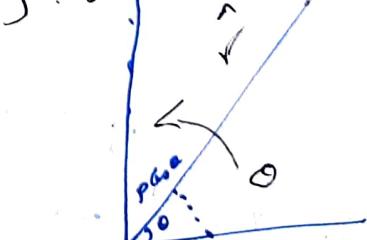
$x$  component of  $P$  is  
 $P_x = P$   
 $y$  is  $P_y = 0$   
 $x$  component of  $r$  is  
 $x$  and  $y$  component  
 $\theta$  is  $y$

$$E_n = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{3x \cdot P \cdot n \cdot P}{r^5} - \frac{P}{r^3} \right]$$

$$E_r = \frac{[(x+iy) \cdot P] \cdot [x+iy]}{r^5} - \frac{P}{r^3}$$

$$E_\theta = \left[ \frac{2yP}{r^5} (x+iy) - \frac{P}{r^3} \right]$$

$$\begin{aligned} i &= (\cos \theta \hat{i} - \sin \theta \hat{j}) \\ j &= (\sin \theta \hat{i} + \cos \theta \hat{j}) \cdot E_r \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned} E &= \left[ \frac{(x \cos \theta \cos \phi - y \sin \theta \cos \phi)}{r^5} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{x \cos \theta \sin \phi + y \sin \theta \cos \phi}{r^3} \right] \hat{i} \\ &+ \left[ \frac{y \cos \theta \cos \phi + x \sin \theta \cos \phi}{r^5} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{y \cos \theta \sin \phi - x \sin \theta \cos \phi}{r^3} \right] \hat{j} \end{aligned}$$

$$E_0 = +\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{P \sin\theta}{r^3}$$

that is the radial and transverse (azimuthal) component of electric field.

$$E_r = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left( 2P \frac{\cos\theta}{r^3} \right) \quad \text{--- (5)}$$

$$E_\theta = +\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left( P \frac{\sin\theta}{r^3} \right) \quad \text{--- (6)}$$

special case or along the axis of dipole

(i) If the point  $P$  is along  $x$  axis / then  $\theta = 0$

therefore  $E_r = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{2P}{r^3}$  and  $E_\theta = 0 = E_y$   
 $= E_x$

that is electric field is directed along  $x$  axis

(ii) if the point  $P$  is lies & perpendicular to  $x$  axis  
 or axis of dipole then

$$\theta = 90^\circ$$

$$E_r = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad E_\theta = +\frac{P}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^3}$$

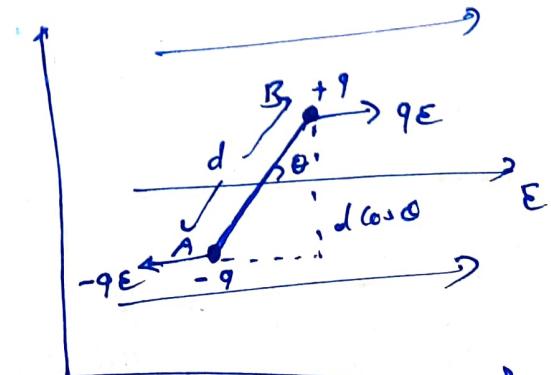
$$E_x = -\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{P}{r^3}, \quad E_y = 0$$

### Electric dipole in Uniform Electric field

let a dipole consisting of two charges  $-q$  and  $+q$  separated by a distance  $d$ , is placed in a uniform electric field.

the potential energy of dipole is

$$W = q(V_B - V_A)$$



(8)

$$W = -qd \cos \theta E =$$

$$= -qd \cdot E$$

$$W = -\vec{P} \cdot \vec{E} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} r &= \text{force \times distance} \\ &\text{b/w lines of action} \\ &\text{of force} \\ C &= qEd \sin \theta = qdE \sin \theta \\ &= PE \sin \theta \\ &= \vec{P} \times \vec{E} \end{aligned} \right\}$$

the energy does not depend on the position of dipole and depends only on the angle b/w  $\vec{P}$  and  $\vec{E}$ . therefore there is no translational force acting on the dipole.

The field exerts a force  $+qE$  on the charge  $+q$  and  $-qE$  on  $-q$ , there is a couple  $\tau$  acting on it

$$\tau = -\frac{dW}{d\theta} = -PE \frac{d}{d\theta}(-\sin \theta)$$

$$\tau = PE \sin \theta$$

$$\tau = \vec{P} \times \vec{E} \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

which tends to turn the dipole into a position parallel to the field.

Case I when  $\theta = 0^\circ$

$$\text{then } \tau = 0 = \tau_{\min}$$

i.e. dipole is aligned with the field and no torque acts on it. this is equilibrium state.

Case II when  $\theta = 90^\circ$

$$\tau = PE = \tau_{\max}$$

i.e. Torque acting on it is maximum.

$$\begin{aligned} dW &= \tau d\theta \\ W &= \int_{0^\circ}^{90^\circ} PE \sin \theta d\theta \\ &= PE \int_{0^\circ}^{90^\circ} \cos \theta d\theta \\ &= -PE \cos \theta \\ &= -PE \cos 90^\circ \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} W &= \int_0^{\theta} \tau d\theta = \int_0^{\theta} PE \sin \theta d\theta \\ &= PE \int_0^{\theta} \cos \theta d\theta = PE \sin \theta \\ \text{if } \theta &= 90^\circ, \theta_1 = 0^\circ \\ &= -PE \sin 90^\circ \\ &= -PE \end{aligned}$$

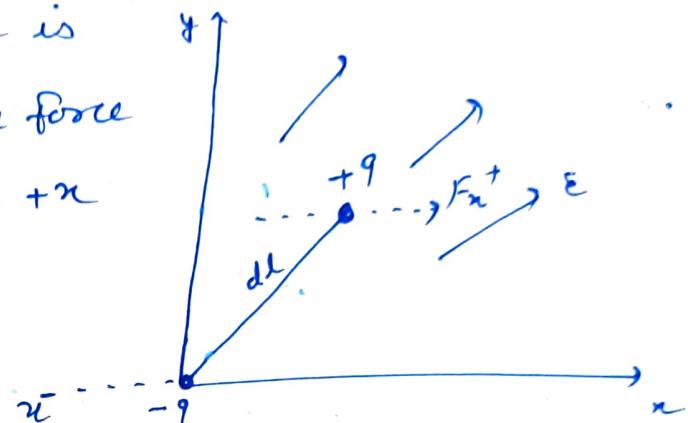
1

## Electric dipole in a non-uniform field

If the field in which the dipole is placed is non-uniform a translational force is exerted on it

Let charge  $-q$  of dipole is placed on the origin. The force acting on the dipole in  $+x$  direction is

$$F_x^+ = q(E_x + dE_x)$$



whereas in  $-x$  direction force is

$$F_x^- = qE_x$$

The net component of force in  $+x$  direction

$$F_x = q dE_x$$

Since the field is non-uniform

$$dE_x = \left(\frac{\partial E_x}{\partial x}\right) dx + \left(\frac{\partial E_x}{\partial y}\right) dy + \left(\frac{\partial E_x}{\partial z}\right) dz$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore F_x &= q \left[ dx \frac{\partial E_x}{\partial x} + dy \frac{\partial E_x}{\partial y} + dz \frac{\partial E_x}{\partial z} \right] \\ &= q \left[ dx \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + dy \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + dz \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right] E_x \\ &= q (\vec{dl} \cdot \vec{\nabla}) E_x \\ &= (\vec{P} \cdot \vec{\nabla}) E_x \end{aligned}$$

Similarly the components of force on  $y$  and  $z$  direction are

$$F_y = (\vec{P} \cdot \vec{\nabla}) E_y$$

$$F_z = (\vec{P} \cdot \vec{\nabla}) E_z$$

The net force acting on dipole is

$$\vec{F} = (\vec{P} \cdot \vec{\nabla}) \vec{E}$$

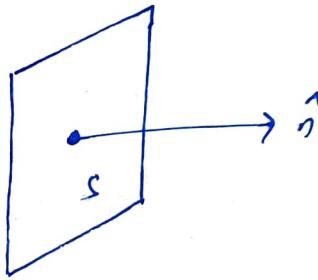
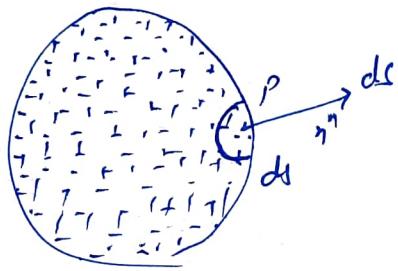
# Necessary basis concepts for Gauss's theorem

(9)

## 1. Vector Area

Any surface is supposed to form a large no. of small elements. Each surface element is a vector quantity.

Let a surface element around a point  $P$ , having magnitude  $dA$  and direction along the outward drawn normal ( $\hat{n}$ )



If our entire surface  $S$  is plane surface, then its magnitude is  $\star S$  and direction along outward drawn normal to plane of surface

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

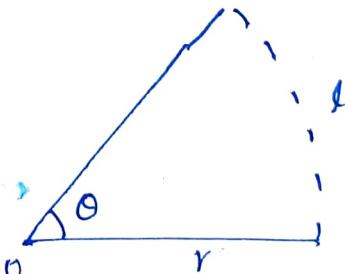
## 2. Solid Angle

The angle subtended by an arc of a circle at the centre of circle is called plane angle.

$$\text{Plane angle} = \frac{\text{length of arc}}{\text{radius}}$$

$$\theta = \frac{l}{r}$$

$$l = r, \text{ then } \theta = 1 \text{ rad.}$$



thus 1 radian is the angle subtended by the arc of circle whose length is equal to radius

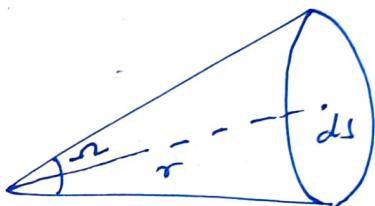
Similarly the angle subtended by an element of surface of a sphere at its centre is called the solid angle. Its unit is steradian and denoted by sr.

The angle subtended by the surface area  $\Delta S$  of the sphere of radius  $r$  at the centre is

$$\Omega = \frac{\Delta S}{r^2}$$

$$\Delta S = r^2$$

then  $\Omega = 1$  steradian



thus 1 ster. is the solid angle subtended by that part of surface of sphere whose surface area is equal to the square of radius of that sphere.

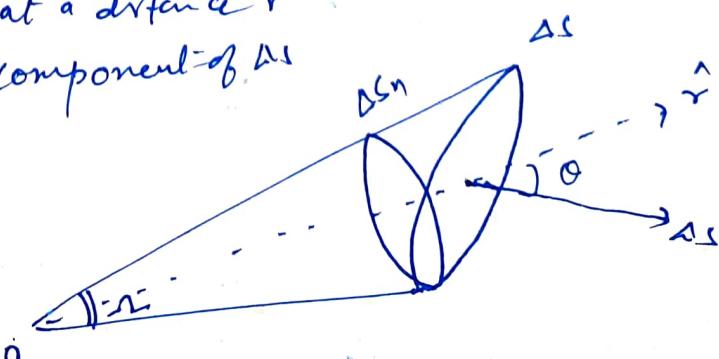
In case the surface area is not spherical or point is not the <sup>centre</sup> of sphere, then the solid angle

$$\Omega = \frac{\text{normal surface area}}{(\text{perpendicular distance of surface from the point})^2}$$

If  $\Delta S$  is surface area at a distance  $r$  from point  $O$  and normal component of  $\Delta S$  is  $\Delta S_n$  then

solid angle

$$\Omega = \frac{\Delta S_n}{r^2}$$



$$\text{Then } \Delta S_n = \Delta S \cos \theta$$

$\theta$  is angle b/w  $r$  and direction of  $\Delta S$

$$\Omega = \frac{\Delta \cos \theta}{r^2} = \Delta \cos \theta \frac{1}{r^2}$$

$$\Omega = \frac{\Delta S \cdot r}{r^3}$$

Total solid angle subtended by a close surface at any internal point is same as that of a complete surface of sphere at the centre of sphere.

$$\Sigma \Omega = \frac{4\pi r^2}{r^2} = 4\pi$$

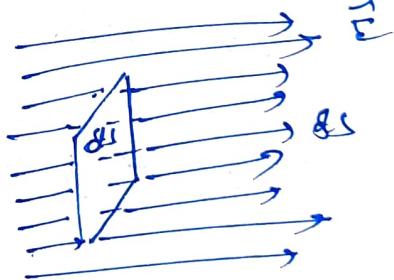
That is a solid angle subtended by a closed surface at internal point is always  $4\pi$ .

### Electric flux

Total no. of electric lines of force passing through ~~that~~ the given surface normally.

Since electric field strength is no. of lines of force passing per unit area normally.

If  $\sigma_s$  is elementary area normal to the  $\vec{E}$  the electric flux through surface area  $\phi_E = E \sigma_s$

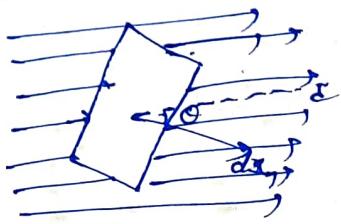


If  $\sigma_s$  is not perpendicular to  $\vec{E}$  but whose normal makes an angle  $\theta$  with  $\vec{E}$ , the normal component of surface is  $\sigma_{sn} = \sigma_s \cos \theta$

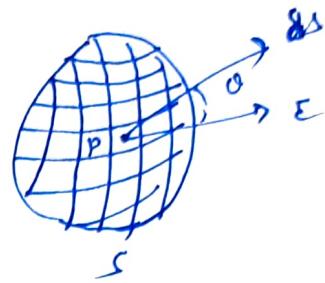
The electric flux through surface area

$$\phi_E = E \sigma_n = E (\sigma_s \cos \theta)$$

$$\phi_E = E \cdot \sigma_s$$



The electric flux through whole surface  $\phi$   
 If the element of surface are same  
 $\phi = \sum E \cdot dS$



If the surface is continuous and  $E$  is different at different surface element then electric flux is

$$\phi = \int_S E \cdot dS$$

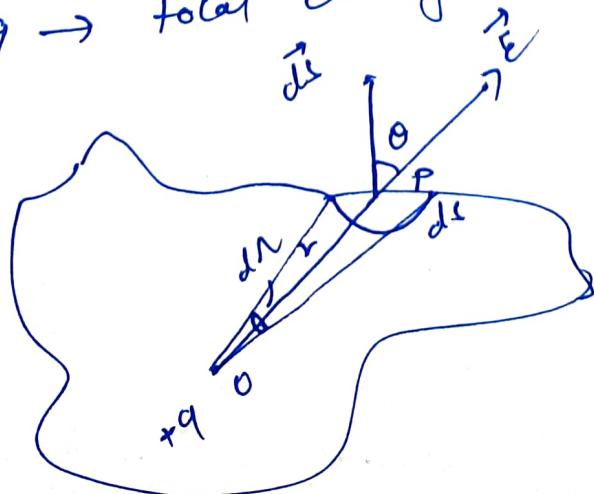
### Gauss's theorem

K.F. Gauss gave a theorem, known as Gauss's theorem.  
 The net outward normal electric flux through any closed surface of any shape (called Gaussian surface) is equal to  $1/\epsilon_0$  times the total charge contained within that surface.

i.e.  $\oint_S E \cdot dS = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \Sigma q$

where  $\oint_S$   $\rightarrow$  surface integral over whole of the closed surface.

$\Sigma q \rightarrow$  total charge enclosed by surface  $S$ .



Proof

let a charge is placed at O with in closed surface. (11)  
 $\vec{E}$  be electric field at P and  $OP = r$ .

$d\vec{s}$  is small area of the surface at P

then electric field through  $d\vec{s}$  is.

$$d\phi = \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s}$$

Field at P is

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

$$\text{since } \vec{r} = r \hat{r}$$

$$d\phi = \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} q \cdot \frac{\vec{r} \cdot d\vec{l}}{r^3}$$

$$= \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} d\Omega$$

where  $d\Omega = \frac{d\vec{l} \cos\theta}{r^2} = \frac{d\vec{l} \cos\theta}{r^2}$  solid angle subtended by area

$d\vec{l}$  at point O and  $\theta$  is angle b/w  $d\vec{l}$  ad  $\vec{E}$

Net electric flux through whole of closed surface

$$\phi = \oint_S \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \oint d\Omega$$

since  $\oint d\Omega = 4\pi$  then

$$\phi = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \cdot 4\pi = \frac{q}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$\therefore \phi = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \cdot q$$

If there are large no. of charges  $q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n$  inside the closed surface then electric flux is

$$\phi = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} q_1 + \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} q_2 + \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} q_3 + \dots + \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} q_n$$

$$\phi = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \Sigma q, \text{ where } \Sigma q \text{ is algebraic sum of charges.}$$

If the charge is uniformly distributed, then Gauss's theorem

$$\oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \int_V \rho \cdot dV$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{charge density} : \rho = \frac{dq}{dv} \\ dq = \rho dv \\ q = \int dq = \int \rho dv \end{array} \right.$$

where  $\rho$  is charge density and

$dV$  is small element of volume and volume integral is taken through the volume bounded by surface  $S$ .

### Application of Gauss's theorem

It provides a convenient method for determination of electric field strength in symmetrical cases. Now three steps are involved in this method.

- (i) to image a Gaussian surface symmetrical to given charge.
- (ii) computing electric flux through this surface.
- (iii) equating this flux to  $\frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \times$  charge enclosed by this surface.

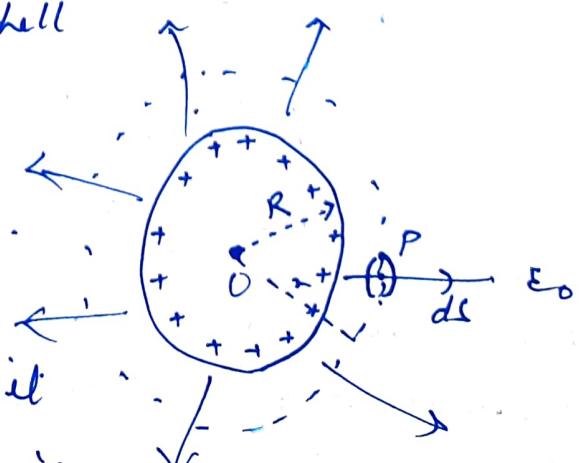
### ① Electric field strength due to uniformly charged thin spherical shell

- (i) Electric field outside the shell

Let  $R$  be the radius of spherical shell centre at  $O$ .

Let  $+q$  charge is uniformly distributed on it

$r$  is the radius of Gaussian surface and  $E_0$  is field on Gaussian surface.



Electric flux through the Gaussian surface

$$\phi = \oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s}$$

$$= \int E_0 ds \cos 0^\circ = \int E_0 ds$$

$$\phi = E_0 \int ds = E_0 4\pi r^2$$

$$\phi = \frac{Q}{\epsilon_0} \times \text{charge enclosed}$$

$$E_0 4\pi r^2 = \frac{Q}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$E_0 = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2} \quad \text{for } r > R$$

For external points the uniformly charged spherical shell behaves as if the whole charge is concentrated at the centre of the shell.

(ii) On surface of shell

for points on surface of shell  
 $r = R$

then

$$E_0 = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R^2}$$

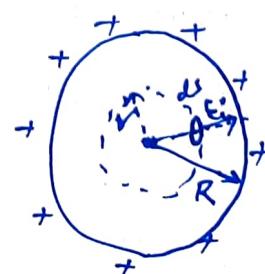
(iii) Field inside the shell

or field inside the shell is zero

Consider a Gaussian surface of radius  $r$  the electric flux through Gaussian surface

$$\phi = \oint E_i \cdot d\vec{s}$$

$$= \int E_i ds \cos 0^\circ = E_i \times 4\pi r^2$$



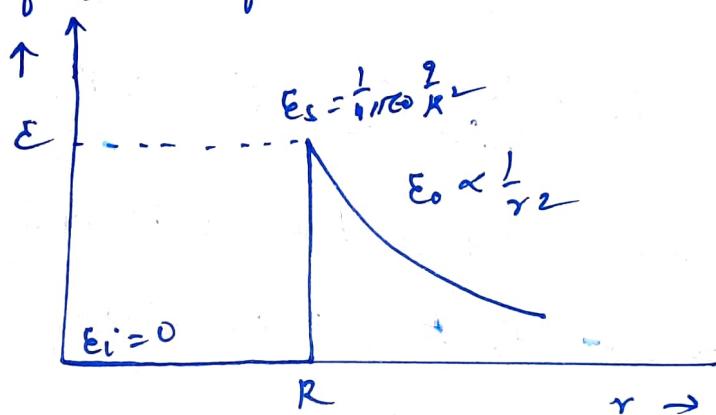
From Gaunian theorem

$$\oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \text{ charge enclosed}$$
$$= \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \times 0$$

$$E_i = 0$$

thus electric field at each point inside a charged thin spherical shell is zero.

variation of electric field with distance



② Electric field due to uniformly charged non-conducting sphere.

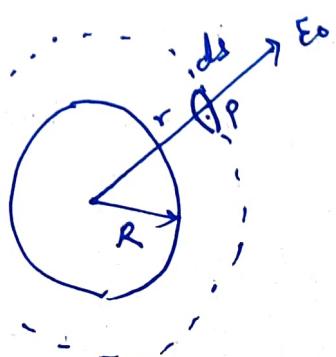
Let  $Q$  charge is uniformly distributed on the sphere of radius  $R$ . the charge density

$$\rho = \frac{Q}{\frac{4}{3}\pi R^3}$$

i) Field outside the sphere

let  $r$  be the radius of Gaussian surface. electric field at  $P$  is  $E_0$  and  $d\vec{s}$  is small surface element.

The total electric flux through the whole surface.



$$\phi = \oint_S \vec{E}_0 \cdot d\vec{s} = \int E_0 ds \cos 0$$

$$= E_0 \pi r^2$$

From Gauss theorem

$$\phi = E_0 \pi r^2 = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \text{ charge enclosed}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} Q$$

$$E_0 = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0 \pi} \frac{Q}{r^2}$$

(ii) Field at. the surface of Sphere  
 $r = R$

then

$$E_s = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0 \pi} \frac{Q}{R^2}$$

(iii) Field inside the sphere

at.  $r$  be the radius of Gaussian surface inside the sphere the

total flux through Gaussian surface



$$\phi = \oint \vec{E}_i \cdot d\vec{s} = \int E_i ds \cos 0$$

$$= E_i \int ds = E_i \pi r^2$$

$$= E_i \pi r^2$$

the charge enclosed by Gaussian surface

$$q = \frac{8}{3} \frac{4}{3} \pi r^3$$

From Gauss theorem

$$E_i \pi r^2 = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} q = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \frac{8}{3} \frac{4}{3} \pi r^3$$

$$= \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \frac{Q}{4/3 \pi R^3} \frac{4}{3} \pi r^3$$

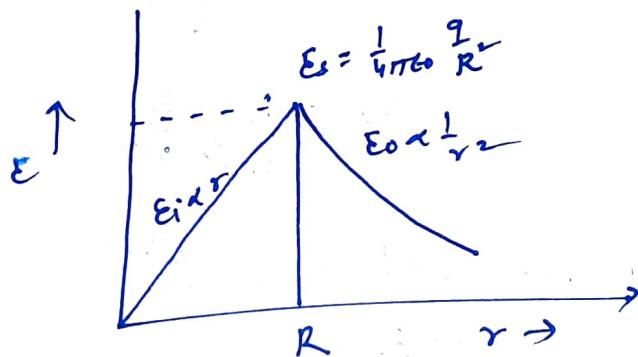
$$E_i = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \frac{Q r^3}{R^3} \frac{1}{4 \pi r^2}$$

$$E_i = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Q_r}{R^3}$$

$$E_i \propto r$$

$$E_i \propto \frac{1}{R^3}$$

variation of field with distance



### ③ Electric field due to concentric spherical shell

Let there are two concentric spherical shell of radii  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  ( $R_1 < R_2$ ) and bearing charge  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$  respectively

(i) Field inside the inner shell

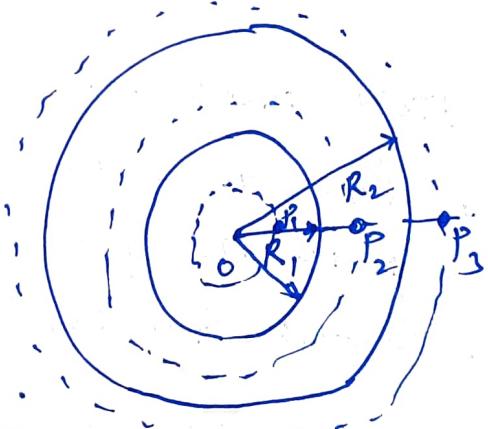
Let  $r$  (where  $r < R_1$ ) be the radius of Gaussian surface

From Gaussian theorem

$\phi = 1/\epsilon_0$  charge inside the shell of radius  $r$

$$E_i \cdot 4\pi r^2 = \phi = 1/\epsilon_0 \times 0$$

$$E_i = 0 \quad \text{if} \quad r < R_1$$



(ii) Field outside both shell

Let  $r$  be the radius of Gaussian surface of radius ( $r > R_2$ )

Total flux =  $\frac{1}{\epsilon_0}$  charge enclosed by Gaussian surface

$$\epsilon_0 \cdot \frac{1}{4\pi r^2} = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} (Q_1 + Q_2)$$

$$\epsilon_0 = \frac{1}{4\pi r^2 \epsilon_0} \frac{Q_1 + Q_2}{r^2}$$

(c) Field b/w shell

let Gaussian surface lies b/w spherical shells. The radius of surface is  $r$  ( $R_1 < r < R_2$ )

Total flux =  $\frac{1}{\epsilon_0}$  charge enclosed by surface

$$E_1 \cdot 4\pi r^2 = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} Q_1$$

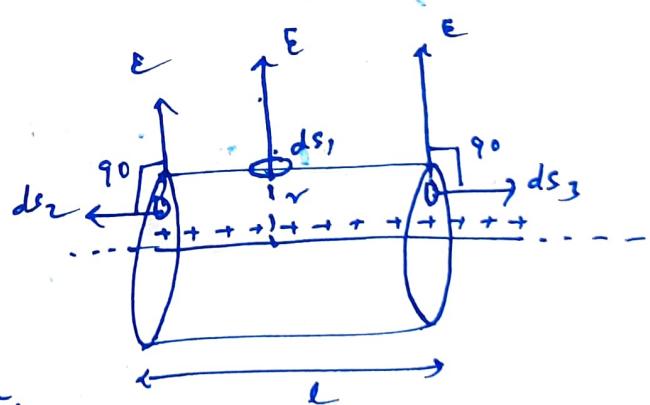
$$E_1 = \frac{1}{4\pi \epsilon_0 r^2} \frac{Q_1}{r^2}$$

④ Electric field due to an infinitely long straight wire

Let  $\lambda$  be the linear charge density of infinitely long charge.

Consider the Gaussian surface of radius  $r$  and length  $l$  coaxial with line charge.

Consider the 3 surface elements  $d\vec{s}_1$ ,  $d\vec{s}_2$  and  $d\vec{s}_3$ .  $d\vec{s}_1$  and  $d\vec{s}_2$  are parallel to wire and  $d\vec{s}_3$  is perpendicular to wire.



Total electric flux through the cylindrical Gaussian surface

$$\begin{aligned} \oint_S \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} &= \int_{S_1} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s}_1 + \int_{S_2} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s}_2 + \int_{S_3} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s}_3 \cos 90^\circ \\ &= \int_{S_1} E d\vec{s}_1 \cos 0^\circ + \int_{S_2} E d\vec{s}_2 \cos 90^\circ + \int_{S_3} E d\vec{s}_3 \cos 90^\circ \\ &= \int_{S_1} E d\vec{s}_1 + 0 + 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$= E_0 \int ds, \quad (\text{area of cylindrical curve surface})$$

$$= E_0 2\pi r l$$

By the Gaussian surface

$$\oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} = \frac{L}{E_0} \text{ charge enclosed}$$

$$= \frac{L}{E_0} (\lambda l)$$

$$E 2\pi r l = \frac{L}{E_0} \lambda l$$

$$E = \frac{L}{2\pi E_0} \frac{\lambda}{r} = \frac{1}{4\pi E_0} \frac{2\lambda}{r}$$

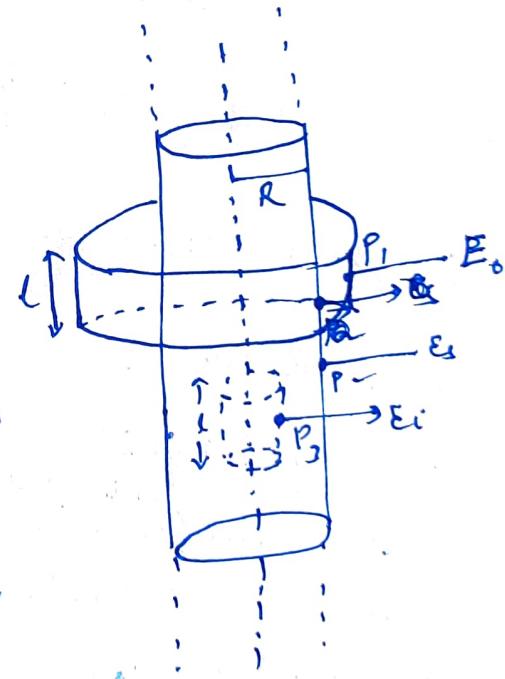
### ⑤ Field due to a uniform infinite cylindrical charge

Consider the charge is uniformly distributed within an infinite cylinder of radius  $R$

If  $\lambda$  is linear charge density and  $\rho$  is volume charge density then charge on the cylinder of radius  $R$  and length  $l$  is

$$\pi R^2 \lambda l = \lambda l$$

$$\rho = \frac{\lambda}{\pi R^2}$$



i) Field outside the cylinder

When point  $P_1$  lies outside the charge distribution  $r > R$  let field at point  $P_1$  is  $E_0$  then flux through the Gaussian surface

$$\phi = \oint_S E_0 ds = E_0 \oint_S ds$$

$$= E_0 2\pi r l$$

from Gauss's theorem

$\phi = \frac{q}{\epsilon_0} \text{ (Gauss law)} = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \times \text{total charge enclosed by Gaussian surface}$

point at left

$$E_x = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{2\lambda}{R}$$

(ii) Field on the surface of charge distribution  
let  $P_s$  be the point on the surface of charge distribution  
then from Gauss's theorem

field  $= \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \times \text{total charge enclosed by surface}$

$$\sigma_s (2\pi RL) = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} (\lambda L)$$

$$\sigma_s = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{2\lambda}{R}$$

(iii) Field inside the charge distribution

(iii) Field inside the charge distribution

let  $P_i$  be the point at a distance  $r(R)$  from the axis of cylinder. The field at  $P_i$  is  $E_i$  then from Gauss's theorem

enclosed charge  $= \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \times \text{charge enclosed by Gaussian surface}$

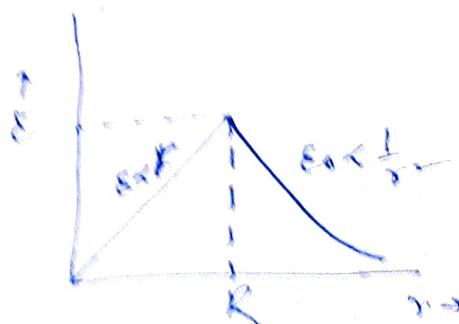
$$2\pi r \sigma_i = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} (\text{charge enclosed})$$

$$E_i = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \cdot \frac{1}{2\pi r} \rho r^2 \cdot \frac{\lambda}{\pi R^2}$$

$$\sigma_i = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{2\lambda r}{R^2}$$

$$E_i \propto r$$

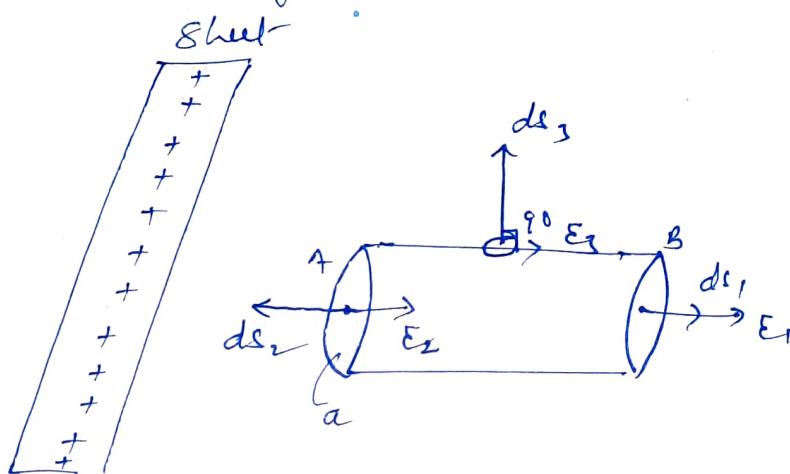
$$E_i \propto \frac{1}{r}$$



## ⑥ Electric field strength due to an infinite non-conducting plane sheet of charge

Let charge be uniformly distributed over the surface of a thin non-conducting infinite sheet.

Let  $\sigma$  be the surface charge density



Consider a cylindrical Gaussian surface on one side of sheet bounded by two flat surfaces A and B each of area  $a$  parallel to sheet and cylindrical surface perpendicular to sheet

Let  $S_1, S_2$  be flat faces and  $S_3$  be curved face of cylinder

Total flux through the Gaussian cylinder

$$\begin{aligned} \oint \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{s} &= \int_{S_1} \mathbf{E}_1 \cdot d\mathbf{s}_1 + \int_{S_2} \mathbf{E}_2 \cdot d\mathbf{s}_2 + \int_{S_3} \mathbf{E}_3 \cdot d\mathbf{s}_3 \\ &= \int_{S_1} E_1 ds_1 \cos 0 + \int_{S_2} E_2 ds_2 \cos 180 + \int_{S_3} E_3 ds_3 \cos 90 \\ &= E_1 \int ds_1 - E_2 \int ds_2 \\ &= E_1 a - E_2 a \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Total flux} = (E_1 - E_2)a$$

charge enclosed by Gaussian surface = 0  
given from Gauss's theorem

$$\text{Total flux} = \phi = (E_1 - E_2)a = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \text{charge enclosed}$$

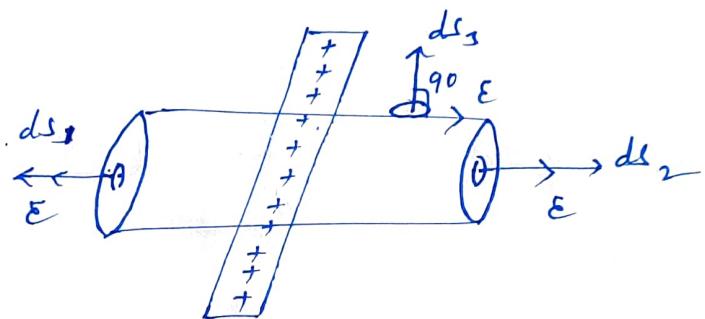
$$(E_1 - E_2) a = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \times 0 = 0$$

$$E_1 = E_2$$

i.e. field strength is same at all points near the sheet

For determining the electric field near the sheet, consider the cylindrical Gaussian surface bounded by two plane faces and lying on the opposite sides and parallel to sheet.

and cylindrical surface normal to the sheet



Total flux through the Gaussian cylinder

$$\begin{aligned}\oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} &= \int_{S_1} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s}_1 + \int_{S_2} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s}_2 + \int_{S_3} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s}_3 \\ &= \int_{S_1} E ds_1 \cos 0 + \int_{S_2} E ds_2 \cos 0 + \int_{S_3} E ds_3 \cos 90 \\ &= E \int ds_1 + E \int ds_2 \\ &= Ea + Ea \\ \phi &= 2Ea\end{aligned}$$

Total charge from Gauss's theorem

~~Total charge~~ from Gauss's theorem

$\oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0}$  charge enclosed by Gaussian cylinder

$$= \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} 6q$$

$$2Ea = \frac{6q}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$\vec{E} = \frac{6}{2\epsilon_0}$$

$E$  is independent of distance

## for Electric Potential

The electric field produced by a charge may be described in two ways

- (i) by electric field strength
- (ii) by electric potential

### Electric Potential :-

The electric potential at any point in electric field is defined as the work done by external force in carrying unit positive test charge from infinity to that point, without any acceleration.

The potential at infinite is assumed zero.

If  $W$  is work done in bringing positive test charge  $q_0$  from infinity to any point in electric field, then potential at that point

$$\phi \text{ or } V\phi = \frac{W}{q_0}$$

It is scalar quantity and its unit if it is Joule/Coulomb or volt.

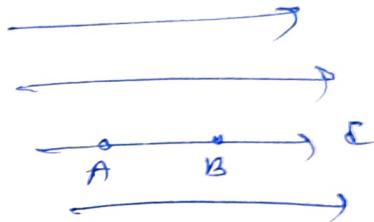
$$1 \text{ volt} = \frac{1 \text{ Joule}}{1 \text{ Coulomb}}$$

1 volt is the electric potential at a point in an electric field if the work done in bringing one coulombs of charge from infinity to that point is 1 Joule, provided that charge of 1 coulombs does not affect the original electric field.

## Potential difference:-

The work done by external force in carrying per unit positive test charge from one point to another point in an electric field is called the electric potential difference b/w those two points.

If ~~is~~  $W_{BA}$  is work done in carrying positive test charge  $q_0$



from point B to A against the direction of electric field, the potential difference b/w A and B is.

$$\phi_A - \phi_B = \frac{W_{BA}}{q_0}$$

unit of potential difference is also volt.

Therefore one volt is the potential difference b/w two points in an electric field if work done in carrying 1 coulomb of charge from one point to another point is 1 joule.

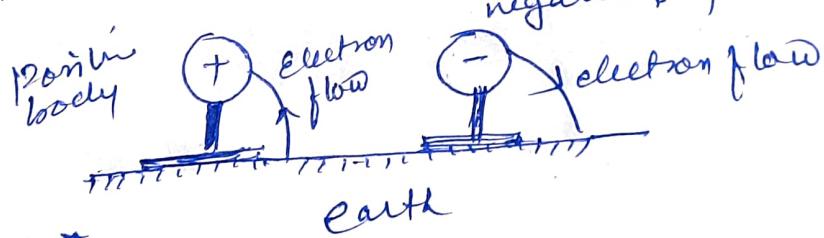
Physical significance  
the electric potential is that physical quantity which determines the direction of flow of charge (point). The positive charge always flows from higher potential to lower potential. There is no relation of direction of flow of charge with quantity of charge.

The negative charge always flows from <sup>lower</sup> higher potential to <sup>higher</sup> lower potential.

When two conductors are placed in contact, the electrons flow from lower potential to higher potential until their potentials become equal.

the earth as a Reference of Potential

The earth is taken as reference point for zero potential. The earth is good conductor and its size is so large that any charge given to it taken from earth does not at all alter its electric condition. So that potential of earth always remains the same.

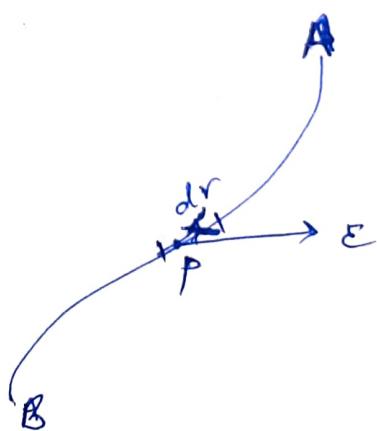


Electric potential as line integral of electric field

The electric potential may be defined as negative of line integral of electric field.

Let the positive charge (test)  $q_0$  be displaced from point A to B in electric field (opposite). The field at point P is  $E$ .

Force on test charge =  $-q_0 E$



(18)

The work done in displacing the test charge through the small displacement  $d\vec{r}$  will be

$$dW = -q_0 \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{r}$$

Total work done in displacing the charge from A to B

$$W_{AB} = -q_0 \int_A^B \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{r}$$

$\therefore$  Potential difference between A and B

$$\phi_B - \phi_A = \frac{W_{AB}}{q_0} = - \int_A^B \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{r}$$

If A is taken at infinity at this point  $\phi_A = 0$

then potential at B is

$$\phi_B = - \int_{\infty}^B \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{r}$$

Thus the electric potential at any point in an electric field is defined as the negative of the integral of electric field from infinity to a given point.

Electric field as negative gradient of potential

Let potential at point A and

B are  $\phi$  and  $\phi + \delta\phi$  and  
coordinates of A and B are  
 $(x_1, y_1, z_1)$  and  $(x_1 + \delta x, y_1 + \delta y, z_1 + \delta z)$

$(x_1, y_1, z_1)$



$(x_1 + \delta x, y_1 + \delta y, z_1 + \delta z)$

$(\phi + \delta\phi)$

The potential is a function of  $(x, y, z)$  i.e.

$$\phi = \phi(x, y, z)$$

then potential difference  $V_{AB}$  is

$$\delta\phi = \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial x} s_x + \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial y} s_y + \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial z} s_z$$

$$= \left( i \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial x} + j \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial y} + k \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial z} \right) \cdot (i s_x + j s_y + k s_z)$$

$$= \nabla\phi \cdot d\vec{r} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

If  $\vec{E}$  is electric field strength in region of point  $A$  and  $B$   
then by the definition of potential difference  $V_{AB}$  and  $\vec{E}$

$$\delta\phi = -\vec{E} \cdot d\vec{r} \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

from eq<sup>n</sup> (1) and (2)

$$-\vec{E} \cdot d\vec{r} = \nabla\phi \cdot d\vec{r}$$

$$(\vec{E} + \nabla\phi) \cdot d\vec{r} = 0$$

since  $d\vec{r} \neq 0$

$$\text{For } \vec{E} + \nabla\phi = 0$$

$$\vec{E} = -\nabla\phi = \text{grad } \phi$$

thus the electric field at any point is equal to  
the negative gradient of the potential at that point.

In terms of component

$$\vec{E} = (i E_x + j E_y + k E_z) = -\left( i \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial x} + j \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial y} + k \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial z} \right)$$

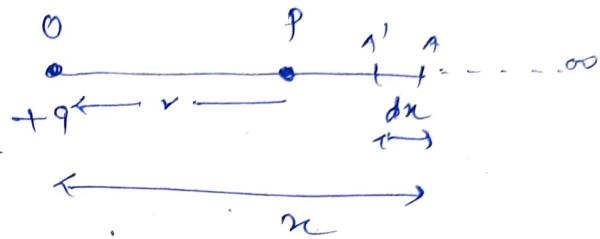
$$\text{Then } E_x = -\frac{\partial\phi}{\partial x}, \quad E_y = -\frac{\partial\phi}{\partial y}, \quad E_z = -\frac{\partial\phi}{\partial z}$$

$$\text{again } \delta\phi = -\vec{E} \cdot d\vec{r} = (\text{grad } \phi) \cdot d\vec{r}$$

## Calculation of electric potential

### (i) Potential due to point charge

Let a point charge  $+q$  is placed at  $O$ ,  $r$  is distance b/w  $O P$



Let a test unit charge  $q_0$  is brought from infinity to point  $P$

When test charge is at  $A$  at distance  $n$  from  $O$  then

force on test charge

$$F = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q q_0}{n^2}$$

The force is repulsive, carrying charge  $q_0$  from  $q$

Therefore external force on  $q_0$

$$F_{ext} = -\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q q_0}{n^2}$$

The work done by this force in displacing  $q_0$  a small distance

due to

$$dW = -\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q q_0}{n^2} dn$$

The total work done in bringing charge  $q_0$  from infinity

to a point  $P$  is

$$W = - \int_{\infty}^{r} \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q q_0}{n^2} dn$$

$$= - \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} q q_0 \int_{\infty}^{r} \frac{1}{n^2} dn$$

$$= - \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} q q_0 \left[ -\frac{1}{n} \right]_{\infty}^{r} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q q_0}{r}$$

## Electric Potential

$$\phi = \frac{W}{q_0} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{r}$$

(ii) Electric potential due to a system of point charge

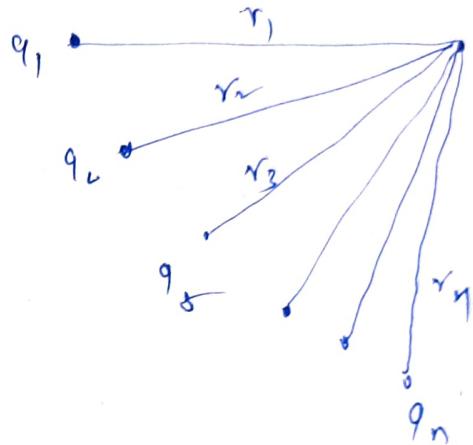
The electric potential is scalar quantity, therefore the potential is sum of potential due to all point charge

The potential at point P is

$$\phi = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_1}{r_1} + \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_2}{r_2} + \dots + \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_n}{r_n}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{q_1}{r_1} + \frac{q_2}{r_2} + \dots + \frac{q_n}{r_n} \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \sum \frac{q_i}{r_i}$$



(iii) The electric potential due to a continuous charge distribution

Let continuous charge distribution is formed of a large no. of small charge elements

Consider a charge element  $dq$

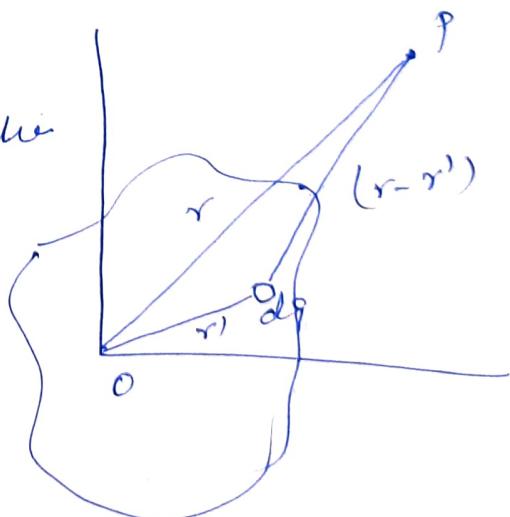
having position vector  $r'$  w.r.t. O

Let  $\vec{r}$  be the position vector

of point P relative to O.

The potential at P due to charge element  $dq$  is

$$d\phi = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{dq}{|r - r'|}$$



for net potential due to whole charge distribution

$$\phi = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int \frac{dq}{|r-r'|}$$

(a) If charge distribution is linear  
and  $\lambda$  is charge per unit length then potential at  $P$  is

$$\phi = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int \frac{\lambda dl}{|r-r'|} \quad \text{since } dq = \lambda dl$$

(b) If charge distribution is surface charge,  
and  $\sigma$  is surface charge density  
 $\Rightarrow dq = \sigma ds$

then potential is

$$\phi = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_s \frac{\sigma ds}{|r-r'|}$$

(c) If charge is distributed in volume  
and  $\rho$  is volume charge density then potential

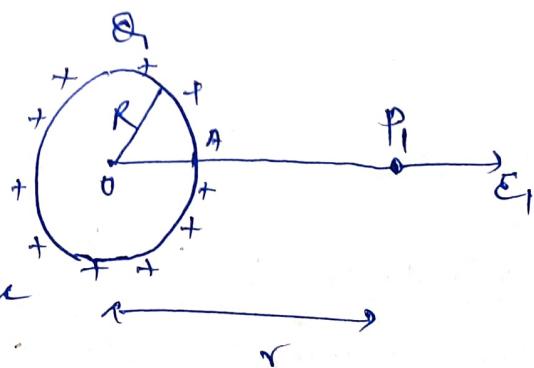
$$\phi = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_v \frac{\rho dv}{|r-r'|}$$

Potential due to a uniformly charged hollow conducting

sphere

Let the radius of hollow sphere  
is  $R$  and charge on sphere is  $Q$

Let the charge distribution  
is uniform and  $\sigma$  is surface charge  
density



(i) At external point

field at point  $P_1$  is

$$E_1 = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Q}{r^2} \hat{r}$$

for electric potential

$$\phi_0 = - \int_{\infty}^r E \cdot dr = - \int_{\infty}^r \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Q}{r^2} \hat{r} \cdot dr$$

$$= - \int_{\infty}^r \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} Q \cdot \frac{1}{r^2} dr$$

$$= - \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ -\frac{1}{r} \right]_{\infty}^r$$

$$\phi_0 = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}$$

$$\phi_0 \propto \frac{1}{r}$$

ii) At the surface of conductor  
 $r=R$

$$\phi_s = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Q}{R}$$

(iii) At internal point

Let  $P$  be the internal point at  $r$

distance  $r$  ( $r < R$ ) from centre

for external point field is

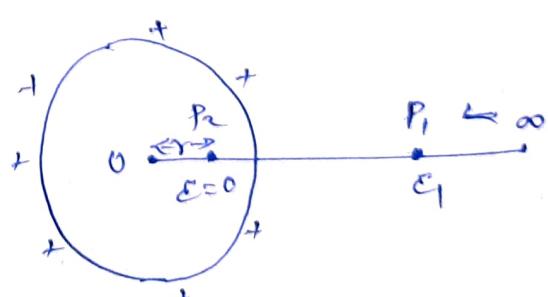
$$E_0 = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Q}{r^2} \hat{r}$$

for internal point field is

$$E_i = 0$$

the potential at  $P_2$

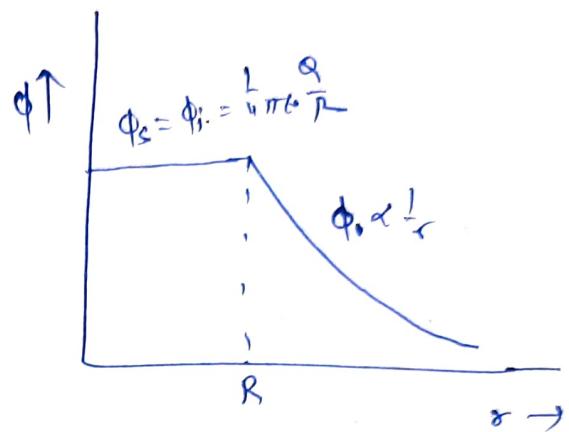
$$\begin{aligned} \phi_i &= - \int_{\infty}^r E \cdot dr = - \left[ \int_{\infty}^R E_0 dr + \int_R^r E_2 \cdot dr \right] \\ &= - \int_{\infty}^R E_1 dr \end{aligned}$$



$$\phi_i = - \int_{\infty}^R \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Q}{r^2} dr$$

$$= -\frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ -\frac{1}{r} \right]_{\infty}^R$$

$$\phi_i = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Q}{R}$$

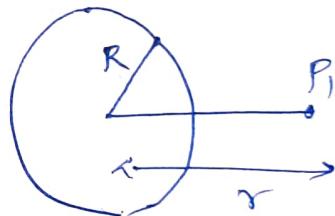


Electric potential due to uniformly charge non-conducting sphere

Let charge is distributed uniformly on sphere of radius  $R$ .

Then <sup>volume</sup> charge density

$$\rho = \frac{Q}{\frac{4}{3}\pi R^3}$$



(a) outside the sphere

at  $P$  is outside the sphere at distance  $r$  ( $r > R$ )

the field at  $P$

$$E_0 = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Q}{r^2}$$

Potential at  $P_i$

$$\phi_0 = - \int_{\infty}^r E_0 dr = - \int_{\infty}^r \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Q}{r^2} dr$$

$$= -\frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_{\infty}^r \frac{1}{r^2} dr = -\frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{1}{r} \right]_{\infty}^r$$

$$\phi_0 = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Q}{r}$$

(b) At the surface

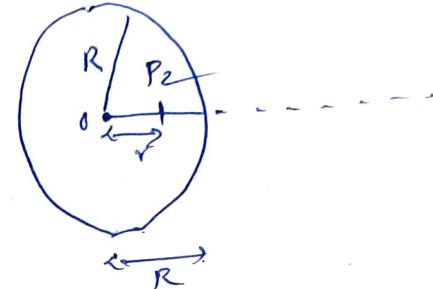
$r=R$  then

$$\phi_s = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Q}{R}$$

(c) at inside the sphere.

Let point  $P_2$  is inside the sphere at distance  $r$  ( $r < R$ )

the field at  $r > R$  and  $r < R$



is  $E_o = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Q}{r^2} \hat{r}$  and  $E_{in} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Qr}{R^3} \hat{r}$

the potential at  $P_2$  is

$$\begin{aligned}\phi &= - \int_{\infty}^{r} E_o \cdot d\vec{r} = - \left[ \int_{\infty}^R E_o \cdot d\vec{r} + \int_R^r E_{in} \cdot d\vec{r} \right] \\ &= - \left[ \int_{\infty}^R \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Q}{r^2} \hat{r} \cdot d\vec{r} + \int_R^r \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Qr}{R^3} \hat{r} \cdot d\vec{r} \right] \\ &= - \left[ \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_{\infty}^R \frac{1}{r^2} dr + \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} Q \left[ \int_{\infty}^R \frac{1}{r^2} dr + \int_R^r \frac{r}{R^3} dr \right] \right] \\ &= - \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left\{ \left[ \frac{1}{r} \right]_{\infty}^R + \frac{1}{R^3} \left( \frac{r^2}{2} \right)_R^r \right\} \\ &= - \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ -\frac{1}{R} + \left( \frac{\frac{r^2}{2} - \frac{R^2}{2}}{R^3} \right) \frac{1}{R^3} \right] \\ &= - \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ -\frac{1}{R} + \frac{r^2}{2R^3} - \frac{1}{2R} \right] \\ &= \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{1}{2R} - \frac{r^2}{2R^3} \right] \\ &= \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{3R^2 - r^2}{3R^3} \right]\end{aligned}$$

## Potential due to infinitely long charge wire

We know that the electric field  
due to infinitely long charge wire  
is given by

$$E = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{2\lambda}{r}$$

where  $\lambda$  is linear charge density

the potential at a distance  $r$  from axis is

$$\phi_r = - \int_{r_0}^r E dr$$

where  $r_0$  denotes the reference distance for zero potential

Here reference distance can not be taken as infinity since  
the wire itself extends to infinity

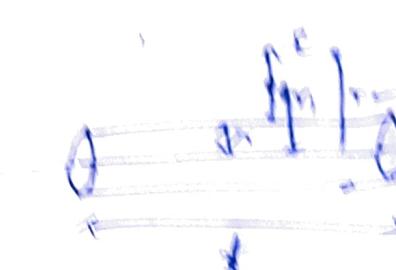
therefore potential difference b/w two points distance  
 $r_1$  and  $r_2$  from wire

the potential difference

$$\Delta\phi = - \int_{r_2}^{r_1} E dr = - \int_{r_2}^{r_1} \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{2\lambda}{r} dr$$

$$= - \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} 2\lambda \left[ \log r \right]_{r_2}^{r_1}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi\epsilon_0} \lambda \log \frac{r_1}{r_2}$$

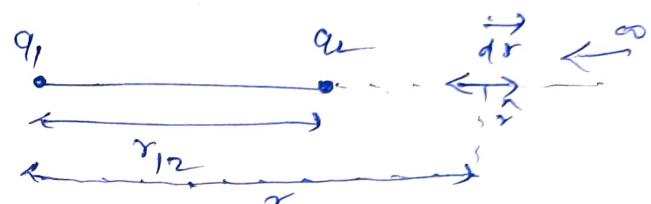


## Electric Potential energy of a system of point charges

The electric potential energy of a system of point charge is defined as the work done in assembling this system of charges by bringing them from an infinite distance.

### i) system of two point charge

Consider two point charges



$q_1$  and  $q_2$ . If  $q_1$  is kept stationary,

the work is required to bring the charge  $q_2$  towards  $q_1$ .

If at any instant the distance of charge  $q_2$  from  $q_1$  is  $r$

then force acting b/w  $q_1$  and  $q_2$  is

$$\vec{F} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2} \hat{r}$$

If charge  $q_2$  is displaced by  $dr$  towards  $q_1$  then

work done

$$dW_1 = -\vec{F}_{12} \cdot d\vec{r} = -\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2} \hat{r} \cdot d\hat{r}$$

$$= -\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2} dr$$

Therefore the work done in bringing the charge  $q_2$  from infinity to a distance  $r_{12}$  from  $q_1$  is

$$W_1 = - \int_{\infty}^{r_{12}} \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2} dr = \frac{q_1 q_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ -\frac{1}{r} \right]_0^{r_{12}}$$

$$W_1 = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_1 q_2}{r_{12}}$$

$$U = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_1 q_2}{r_{12}}$$

### (ii) System of three point charges

Let  $q_3$  is brought from infinity to at point C whose distance from charges  $q_1$  and  $q_2$  are  $r_{13}$  and  $r_{23}$  resp.

The work required to do so against the electrostatic forces is

$$W_2 = - \int_{\infty}^C (E_{13} + E_{23}) \cdot d\vec{r}$$

$F_{13}$  force b/w  $q_1$  and  $q_3$

$F_{23}$  force b/w  $q_2$  and  $q_3$

$$\begin{aligned} W_2 &= - \int_{\infty}^C F_{13} d\vec{r} - \int_{\infty}^C F_{23} d\vec{r} \\ &= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_{\infty}^{r_{13}} \frac{q_1 q_3}{r^2} dr - \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_{\infty}^{r_{23}} \frac{q_2 q_3}{r^2} dr \\ &= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_1 q_3}{r_{13}} + \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_2 q_3}{r_{23}} \end{aligned}$$

thus total work done to assemble this arrangement of 3 charges initially at infinity distance from one-another

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

### (iii) System of n charges

Open potential energy

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

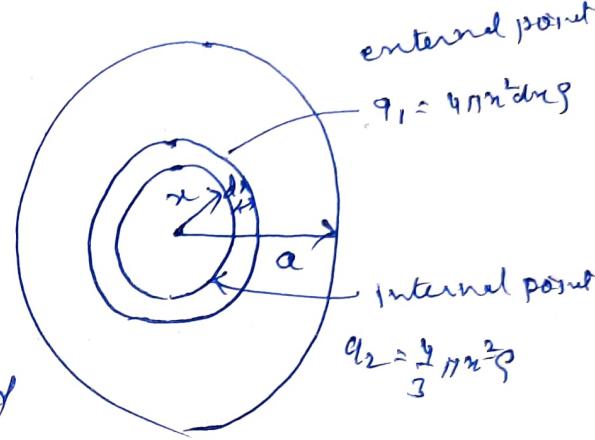
$$U = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^n \frac{q_i q_j}{r_{ij}} \quad \text{if } \sum \text{ is used since in the summation each term appears twice.}$$

## Potential energy of a spherical charge

Let sphere of radius  $a$  carries charge  $Q$

charge density

$$\rho = \frac{Q}{\frac{4}{3}\pi a^3} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$



Let spherical charge may be formed

of a large no. of thin concentric shells

Consider one such shell of radius  $x$  and thickness  $dx$

The Volume of shell =  $4\pi x^2 dx$

charge on shell  $\approx q_1 = 4\pi x^2 \rho dx$

charge on the ~~sphere~~ of a radius  $x$  is  $\frac{4}{3}\pi x^3 \rho$

Therefore potential energy of sphere of radius  $x$  and spherical shell of radius  $x$  and thickness  $dx$  is

$$\begin{aligned} dU &= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_1 q_2}{x} \\ &= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{(4\pi x^2 \rho dx) \left( \frac{4}{3}\pi x^3 \rho \right)}{x} \\ &= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{16}{3} \pi^2 \rho^2 x^4 dx \end{aligned}$$

Total potential energy of spherical charge

$$\begin{aligned} U &= \int_0^a \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{16}{3} \pi^2 \rho^2 x^4 dx \\ &= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{16}{3} \pi^2 \rho^2 \left[ \frac{x^5}{5} \right]_0^a = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{16}{3} \pi^2 \rho^2 \frac{a^5}{5} \end{aligned}$$

$$V = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \cdot \frac{16}{3}\pi^2 \left( \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 a^3} \right) \frac{a^5}{5}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \cdot \frac{3}{5} \frac{Q^2}{a^2}$$

$$V = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left( \frac{3}{5} \frac{Q^2}{a^2} \right) = \frac{3}{20\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Q^2}{a^2}$$

## Potential energy of a charged conducting sphere

Let conducting sphere of radius  $a$  having charge  $Q$ . The charge is on the surface of conductor.

Let the charge is given in small steps. The potential on the conductor when charge  $q$  on conductor

$$\phi = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{a}$$

Now the charge increases from  $q$  to  $q + dq$ .

The work done

$$dW = \phi \cdot dq = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{a} dq$$

Total work done when charge given from 0 to  $Q$

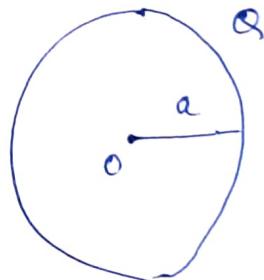
$$W = \int dW = \int_0^Q \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{a} dq$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{a} \left[ \frac{Q^2}{2} \right]_0^Q$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Q^2}{2a}$$

The potential energy is

$$U = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Q^2}{2a}$$



## Differential form of Gauss theorem

from Gauss theorem

$$\oint_S \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \times \text{Net charge enclosed}$$

(1)

If  $\rho$  is volume density at small volume element  $dV$  and  $V$  is total volume enclosed by surface  $S$  then net charge enclosed by surface  $S$  is

$$\Sigma q = \int_V \rho dV$$

from eq<sup>n</sup> (1)

$$\oint_S \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \int_V \rho dV \quad (2)$$

using Gauss's divergence theorem

$$\oint_S \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} = \int_V (\nabla \cdot \vec{E}) dV$$

from eq<sup>n</sup> (2)

$$\int_S \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} = \int_V (\nabla \cdot \vec{E}) dV = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \int_V \rho dV$$

$$\int_V (\nabla \cdot \vec{E} - \rho/\epsilon_0) dV = 0$$

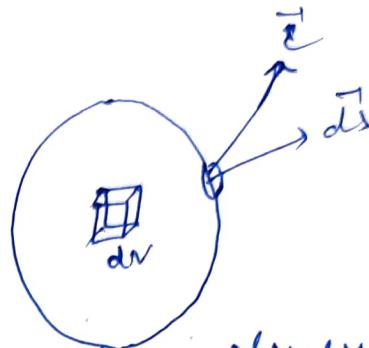
$$dV \neq 0$$

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{E} - \rho/\epsilon_0 = 0$$

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{E} = \rho/\epsilon_0$$

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{E} = \rho/\epsilon_0$$

This is Gauss's theorem in differential form



## Laplace Equations

If  $\vec{E}$  and  $\phi$  are the electric field strength and electric potential at any point respect.,

then  $\vec{E} = -\nabla \phi = -\left(\hat{i}\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} + \hat{j}\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} + \hat{k}\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial z}\right) \quad \text{--- (1)}$

### (i) Poisson eq'

differential form of Gauss theorem

$$\operatorname{div} \vec{E} = \rho/\epsilon_0$$

using from eq' (1)

$$\operatorname{div}(-\nabla \phi) = \rho/\epsilon_0$$

$$\operatorname{div} \nabla \phi = \nabla \cdot (\nabla \phi) = -\rho/\epsilon_0$$

$$\nabla \cdot \nabla \phi = -\rho/\epsilon_0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{But } \nabla \cdot \nabla &= \left(\hat{i}\frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \hat{j}\frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \hat{k}\frac{\partial}{\partial z}\right) \cdot \left(\hat{i}\frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \hat{j}\frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \hat{k}\frac{\partial}{\partial z}\right) \\ &= \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2}\right) = \nabla^2 \end{aligned}$$

is called Laplacian operator

$$\nabla^2 \phi = -\rho/\epsilon_0$$

This eq' is known as Poisson eq'

### (ii) Laplace eq'

If there is no free charge in the region i.e. charge free region, then  $\rho = 0$  so that Poisson eq' becomes

$$\nabla^2 \phi = 0$$

This is Laplace eq'

Laplace eq<sup>n</sup> in spherical polar co-ordinate ( $r, \theta, \phi$ )

$$\nabla^2\phi = \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r^2 \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial \phi^2} = 0$$

in cylindrical coordinate ( $r, \theta, z$ )

$$\nabla^2\phi = \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial \theta^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial z^2} = 0$$

Poisson eq<sup>n</sup> in spherical coordinate ( $r, \theta, \phi$ )

$$\nabla^2\phi = \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r^2 \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial \phi^2} = -\rho/\epsilon_0$$

and in spherical coordinate ( $r, \theta, \phi$ )

$$\nabla^2\phi = \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial \theta^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial z^2} = -\rho/\epsilon_0$$

Two properties for the solution of Laplace eq<sup>n</sup>

### (i) Super-position theorem

If the function  $\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_3, \dots, \phi_n$ , are the solution of Laplace's equation, then the linear superposition of these functions will also be a solution of Laplace eq<sup>n</sup>.

The linear superposition of given function

$$\phi = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i \phi_i = c_1 \phi_1 + c_2 \phi_2 + c_3 \phi_3 + \dots + c_n \phi_n$$

where  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n$  are constant

ProofSince  $\phi_1, \phi_2, \phi_3, \dots, \phi_n$  are the solution of Laplace's eq<sup>n</sup>

$$\nabla^2 \phi = 0$$

Then

$$\nabla^2 \phi_1 = \nabla^2 \phi_2 = \dots = \nabla^2 \phi_n = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla^2 \phi &= \nabla^2 (C_1 \phi_1 + C_2 \phi_2 + \dots + C_n \phi_n) \\ &= C_1 \nabla^2 \phi_1 + C_2 \nabla^2 \phi_2 + \dots + C_n \nabla^2 \phi_n \\ &= 0\end{aligned}$$

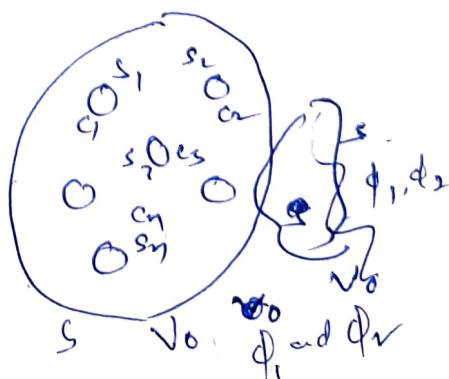
i.e.  $\phi = \sum_{i=1}^n C_i \phi_i$  is also the solution of Laplace's eq<sup>n</sup>(ii) Uniqueness theorem

It states that Laplace's eq<sup>n</sup>  $\nabla^2 \phi = 0$ , satisfying given boundary conditions has one and only one solution (i.e. unique solution)

Proof Consider a closed volume  $V_0$  exterior to surfaces  $S_1, S_2, \dots, S_n$  of the various conductors  $C_1, C_2, \dots, C_n$  and bounded on outside by surface  $S$

If  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$  are two different solutions of Laplace's eq<sup>n</sup> in  $V_0$ , which satisfy the same boundary conditions on surfaces  $S, S_1, S_2, \dots, S_n$ .

These boundary conditions may be specified by assigning values of either  $\phi_1 = \phi_2$  or  $(\nabla \phi_1)_n = (\nabla \phi_2)_n$  (normal component of gradient i.e.  $\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial n}$ )



If  $\phi \nabla \phi$  is a vector function  
then Gauss's divergence theorem

$$\int_{S+s_1+s_2+\dots+s_n} \phi \nabla \phi \cdot ds = \int_{V_0} \nabla \cdot (\phi \nabla \phi) dV \quad (1)$$

From vector identity

$$\nabla \cdot (\phi \nabla \phi) = \phi \nabla^2 \phi + (\nabla \phi)^2$$

from eq<sup>n</sup> (1)

$$\int_{S+s_1+s_2+\dots+s_n} \phi \nabla \phi \cdot ds = \int_{V_0} [\phi \nabla^2 \phi + (\nabla \phi)^2] dV \quad (2)$$

But Laplace eq<sup>n</sup>  $\nabla^2 \phi = 0$  at all point in  $V_0$

from eq<sup>n</sup> (2)

$$\int_{S+s_1+s_2+\dots+s_n} \phi \nabla \phi \cdot ds = \int_{V_0} (\nabla \phi)^2 dV \quad (2)$$

As  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$  are two solutions of Laplace eq<sup>n</sup> in  $V_0$   
hence from superposition theorem their linear combination

$\phi = \phi_1 - \phi_2$  is also a solution of Laplace eq<sup>n</sup>  
satisfying same boundary conditions

from eq<sup>n</sup> (3)

$$\int (\phi_1 - \phi_2) \cdot (\phi_1 - \phi_2) \cdot ds = \int (\nabla(\phi_1 - \phi_2))^2 dV \quad (4)$$

Either boundary condition equality of potential  $\phi_1 = \phi_2$   
or  $(\nabla \phi_1)_n = (\nabla \phi_2)_n$  assures that L.H.S. of eq<sup>n</sup> (4) vanishes

$$\int_{V_0} (\nabla(\phi_1 - \phi_2))^2 dV = 0 \quad \rightarrow \textcircled{5}$$

since  $dV \neq 0$

therefore  $\nabla(\phi_1 - \phi_2) = 0$

$$\nabla\phi_1 = \nabla\phi_2 \quad \rightarrow \textcircled{6}$$

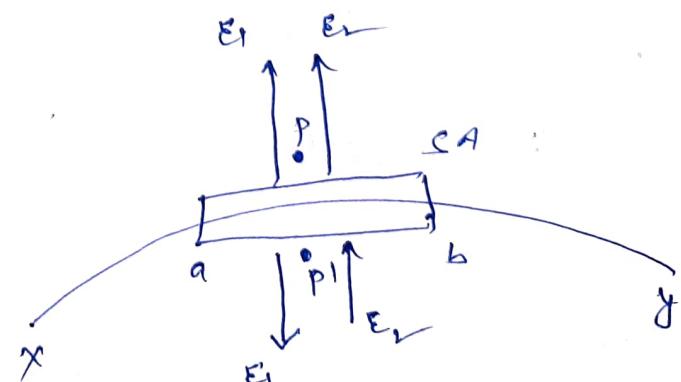
then  $\phi_1 = \phi_2 + \text{constant } \textcircled{7}$

thus two potential that were assumed different, yet satisfying the same boundary conditions can differ at most by an additive constant, which make no contribution to the gradient, therefore these potentials will give the same electric field distribution:

Under the given boundary conditions Laplace's eq has unique solution.

force on a surface charge and energy associated with an electric field

In a charge conductor, the total charge resides on its surface, since similar charges ~~on any~~ repel each other, the charge on any part of surface is repelled by the charge



on remaining surface of conductor. This mutual repulsion b/w like charges on the surface of charged conductor causes a tension on the surface of conductor. Thus the charged conductor experiences a mechanical force whose magnitude per unit area, we have to determine.

Let  $x_0$  be the surface of a charged conductor of charged density  $\sigma$  placed in free space.

Consider a small element  $ab$  of area  $SA$  on the surface of conductor and point  $P$  just outside it.

\* Electric field strength at  $P$  is normal to the surface is

$$E = \frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

It is assumed that this intensity is partly due to the charge on element  $ab$  and partly due to the charge on remaining surface.

If  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  are true field intensities at  $P$  respectively

$$E = E_1 + E_2 = \frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0} \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

Now consider a point  $P'$  just near the element  $ab$  inside the conductor. Field at  $P'$  may also be assumed to be partly due to charge on element  $ab$  and partly due to remaining charge.

(17)

the field at point p' due to element ab has same magnitude ( $E_1$ ) as that point p, but opposite in direction to be due to the charge on the remaining surface surface has the same magnitude and direction as that at P, since p and p' are very close to each other. Thus resultant intensity at P is  $E_2 - E_1$ .

But the resultant intensity must be conducted is zero.

$$E_2 - E_1 = 0$$

$$E_2 = E_1$$

from q,  $E_1 = E_0 \frac{q}{2\pi a}$

thus the field strength on element ab due to the charge on remaining surface is  $E_2 = \frac{q}{2\pi a}$ .

this is the mechanical force per unit charge on the element ab.

The charge on small element is  $q = \epsilon A$

the force on element ab of area  $SA$  is

$$\frac{q}{2\pi a} \cdot \epsilon \cdot SA = \frac{\epsilon^2}{2\pi a} SA$$

thus mechanical force per unit area =  $\frac{\epsilon^2}{2\pi a}$

This force acts ~~out~~ normal to the surface

$$\text{As } \epsilon = \frac{q}{A} \Rightarrow q = \epsilon \cdot A$$

$$\frac{F}{SA} = \frac{(E_0 E)^2}{2\epsilon_0} = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_0 E^2$$

Therefore mechanical force per unit area on the surface of charged conductor acting to the normal

$$= \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_0 E^2$$

### Energy associated with an electric field

The outward mechanical force on a small charge element of area  $SA$  is

$$F = \frac{\epsilon_0 E^2}{2} SA$$

If this small element is displaced normally through a distance  $sy$  in the opposite direction of force the work done is

$$\delta W = \left( \frac{\epsilon_0 E^2}{2} SA \right) sy$$

The energy thus extended can be regarded as stored in additional volume (increase in volume) of electric field is

$$\delta V = SA sy$$

This work done increasing  $SA$  volume of electric field

$$\delta W = \frac{\epsilon_0 E^2}{2} (SA sy) = \frac{\epsilon_0 E^2}{2} \cdot \delta V$$

Hence work done per unit volume of field is given as

$$\frac{dW}{dV} = \frac{\epsilon_0 E^2}{2} \text{ J/m}^3 \text{ (energy of storing in field)}$$

## Method of Electrical Images

Lord Kelvin invented the method of electrical images for solving many special problems of electrostatics with great simplicity.

The method of electrical images is to locate either a point charge or a set of point charges or a simplified charge distribution known as electrical image in place of complicated charge distribution such that by their electrical effects the boundary conditions of the problem remain the same as with the charge distribution.

The general principle underlying the method of electrical images is given below.

(i) In a system of  $n$  point charges  $q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n$  the potential at  $\text{any}$  point is given by

$$\phi = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{q_i}{r_i} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

(ii) The surface of zero potential (grounded conductor) is the locus of points for which

$$\phi = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{q_i}{r_i} = 0 \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

(iii) In any problem involving the system of charges  $q_1, q_2, \dots, q_i$  and the grounded conductor may be replaced by system of charges  $q_{j+1}, q_{j+2}, \dots, q_n$  constituting the image if the image charge and the system of real charges combine to produce zero potential over the surface occupied by the conductor.

Eq<sup>n</sup> ② can be written as

$$\phi = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{q_i}{r_i} + \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \sum_{i=j+1}^n \frac{q_i}{r_i} = 0 \quad -③$$

This eq<sup>n</sup> represents the condition of potential function over the surface occupied by grounded conductor replaced by electrical image constituted by system of charges  $q_{j+1}, q_{j+2}, \dots, q_n$ .

(iv) If the conductor ~~is at~~ is at constant potential  $\phi \neq 0$ , the system of charges and its image must combine to produce the equal potential  $\phi$ .

Eq<sup>n</sup> ③ can be written as

$$\phi = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{q_i}{r_i} + \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \sum_{i=j+1}^n \frac{q_i}{r_i} \quad -④$$

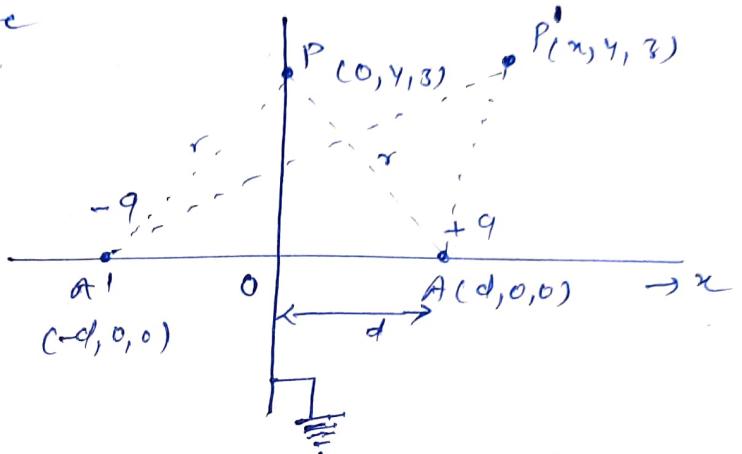
This eq<sup>n</sup> represents the condition of potential function over the surface occupied by conductor replaced by image constituted by system of charges  $q_{j+1}, q_{j+2}, \dots, q_n$ .

## A point charge near an infinite conducting plane

Let a point charge  $+q$ , be

placed on  $x$ -axis at  $a$

distance  $d$  to the  
right of infinite conducting  
plane placed at  $x=0$



the electric potential at every point of conducting plane  
is zero due to grounded plane

thus the boundary conditions are

(i) the  $\phi$  at every point of conductor is zero  
 $\phi = 0$  at  $x = 0$

(ii)  $\nabla \phi$  at infinitely far points is zero  
 $\phi = 0$ , at  $y = \infty$

These conditions can be satisfied if a point charge  
 (-image charge)  $-q$  is placed at a distance  $d$  to the  
 left side of plane such that line joining the image  
 charge to the right charge intersects the plane of  
 conductor at right angle.

(i) A point  $P(x, y, z)$  on the <sup>plane</sup> conductor,  $\phi$  due  
 to real charge  $+q$  and image charge  $-q$  is

$$\phi(P) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{q}{PA} - \frac{q}{PA'} \right] = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{q}{r} - \frac{q}{r'} \right] = 0$$

which is first boundary condition of problem

- (ii) the charge  $-q$  placed at point  $A'$  does not affect the condition of electric potential at infinitely far points.

The replacement of grounded conducting plane by the charge  $-q$  at  $A'$  fulfills the given boundary condition and therefore, according to uniqueness theorem, is the only solution of the problem.

The image charge  $-q$  at  $A'$  and real charge  $q$  at  $A$  will produce same field on right hand side of plane as produced due to real charge  $+q$  at charge induced on the grounded conductor.

With the help of image charge ( $-q$ ), we can calculate the surface density of induced charge ~~density~~ on the conductor, force by real charge and grounded conducting plane, electric field, potential at any point due to real charge and grounded conducting plane.

force b/w point charge +q and grounded conductor (3)

Plane

The force b/w them is same as that b/w charge +q at A and image charge -q at A', thus

$$\begin{aligned} F &= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q(-q)}{(AA')^2} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{(-q^2)}{(2d)^2} \\ &= \frac{-1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q^2}{4d^2} N \quad \text{---(1)} \end{aligned}$$

Force b/w them is attractive in nature.  
potential  $\phi$

Electric field at point P' due to point charge q and grounded plane conductor

The potential at P'(x, y, z) due to them is same as that due to charge +q at A and image charge -q at A', thus

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(P') &= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{q}{AP'} - \frac{q}{A'P'} \right] \\ &= \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{1}{\sqrt{(x-d)^2 + y^2 + z^2}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{(x+d)^2 + y^2 + z^2}} \right] \quad \text{---(2)} \end{aligned}$$

If  $x=0$ ,  $\phi(P)=0$

If  $x=\infty$  from eq (2)  $\phi \approx 0$

thus the boundary condition  $\phi \approx 0$  at  $x=\infty$  is also satisfied if the grounded plane conductor is replaced by point charge -q at A'

for electric field component at  $P(x, y, z)$

$$E_x = -\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[ \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left\{ \frac{1}{(x-d)^2 + y^2 + z^2} + \frac{1}{(x+d)^2 + y^2 + z^2} \right\} \right]$$

$$E_x = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{(x-d)}{\{(x-d)^2 + y^2 + z^2\}^{3/2}} - \frac{(x+d)}{\{(x+d)^2 + y^2 + z^2\}^{3/2}} \right] \rightarrow \textcircled{3}$$

$$E_y = -\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left[ \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left\{ \frac{1}{(x-d)^2 + y^2 + z^2} - \frac{1}{(x+d)^2 + y^2 + z^2} \right\} \right]$$

$$= \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{y}{\{(x-d)^2 + y^2 + z^2\}^{3/2}} - \frac{y}{\{(x+d)^2 + y^2 + z^2\}^{3/2}} \right] \rightarrow \textcircled{4}$$

Similarly

$$E_z = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{z}{\{(x-d)^2 + y^2 + z^2\}^{3/2}} - \frac{z}{\{(x+d)^2 + y^2 + z^2\}^{3/2}} \right]$$

$$\text{then } \vec{E} = iE_x + jE_y + kE_z \rightarrow \textcircled{5}$$

Electric field at conductor

Field at point  $P(0, y, z)$  is

$$(E_x)_{x=0} = -\left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x}\right)_{x=0} = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{-d}{(d^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{3/2}} - \frac{d}{(-d^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{3/2}} \right]$$

$$(E_x)_{x=0} = -\frac{qd}{2\pi\epsilon_0 (d^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{3/2}} \rightarrow \textcircled{6}$$

$$(E_y)_{x=0} = -\left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y}\right)_{y=0} = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{y}{(d^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{3/2}} - \frac{y}{(-d^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{3/2}} \right]$$

$$(E_y)_{x=0} = 0 \rightarrow \textcircled{7}$$

Similarly  $(E_z)_{x=0} = 0$

The electric field at point P(x,y,z) on the conductor has magnitude  $\frac{qd}{r^2}$  and is directed normally toward the conductor. Hence

$$E(P) = - \frac{qd}{\pi \epsilon_0 r^2 (d^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{3/2}} \hat{r} \quad \textcircled{9}$$

$\hat{r}$  is unit vector along  $x$ -axis.

Surface charge density on the conductor

If  $\sigma$  is surface charge density of induced charge on the conducting plane at P(x,y,z), the electric field at P can be given as

$$E = (\epsilon_0)_{x>0} = \frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0} \quad \textcircled{10}$$

$$\text{Then } \sigma = \epsilon_0 E_x \Big|_{x=0}$$

$$= \epsilon_0 \left[ \frac{-qd}{\pi \epsilon_0 (d^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{3/2}} \right]$$

$$= \frac{-qd}{\pi \epsilon_0 (d^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{3/2}}$$

$$= - \frac{qd}{\pi \epsilon_0 (d^2 + r^2)^{3/2}}$$

$$\text{where } r^2 = y^2 + z^2$$

Total charge induced on the conducting plane

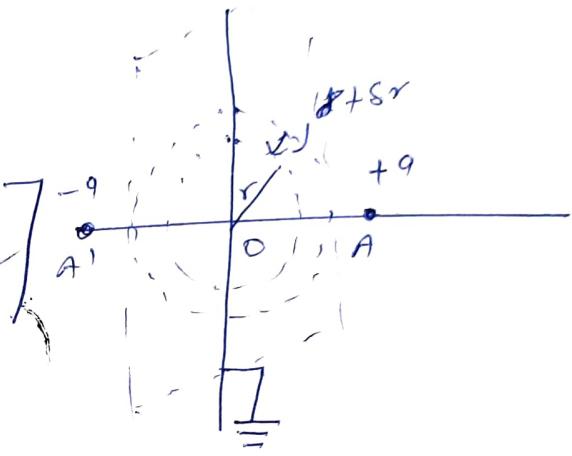
Consider a ring area on the plane ~~area~~ conductor around O with radius  $r$  and  $r+sr$ .

The charge  $dQ_i$  on this elementary area

$$dQ_i = 2\pi r sr d$$

$$= 2\pi r sr \left[ \frac{-qd}{2\pi(r+d)^3} \right]$$

$$= -\frac{qd r sr}{(r^2+d^2)^3}$$



Total charge induced on plane

$$Q_i = - \int_0^{\infty} \frac{qd r sr}{(r^2+d^2)^3} dr = -qd \int_0^{\infty} \frac{r sr}{(r^2+d^2)^3} dr$$

$$\text{put } r = d \tan \theta$$

$$sr = d \sec^2 \theta d\theta$$

$$\text{then } Q_i = -qd \int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{d \tan \theta \cdot d \sec^2 \theta \cdot d\theta}{(d^2 \tan^2 \theta + d^2)^3} sr$$

$$= -qd \int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{d \tan \theta \cdot d \sec^2 \theta \cdot d\theta}{d^3 \sec^3 \theta}$$

$$= -q \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin \theta \cos \theta d\theta$$

$$= -q [-\cos \theta]_0^{\pi/2}$$

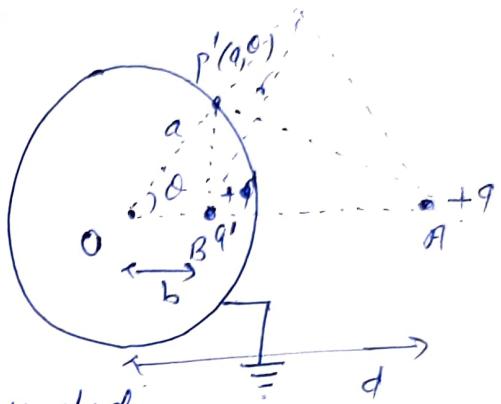
$$= -q$$

Thus charge induced on earthed plane conductor is

# (33)

## A point charge near the conducting sphere

Consider a point charge  $+q$  placed at a distance  $d$  from centre  $O$  of grounded conducting sphere of radius  $a$  ( $a < d$ )



Since the conducting sphere is grounded, the boundary conditions are

(i) potential  $\phi$  at every point on surface of sphere is zero

$$\phi = 0 \text{ where } r = a$$

(ii) potential at infinity is zero

$$\phi = 0 \text{ where } r = \infty$$

Let the image charge  $q'$  placed at point  $B$  ( $OB = b$ )

when combined with charge  $+q$  leads to zero potential at any point  $P'$  on the surface of conductor

The potential at  $P'$  due to charge  $+q$  and  $q'$  is

$$\phi(P') = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{q}{AP'} + \frac{q'}{BP'} \right] = 0$$

$$\text{Then } \frac{q}{AP'} + \frac{q'}{BP'} = 0$$

$$q' = -q \frac{BP'}{AP'} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

from  $\triangle OAP'$

$$(AP')^2 = (OP')^2 + (OA)^2 - 2OP' \cos \theta$$

$$(AP') = \sqrt{a^2 + d^2 - 2ad \cos\theta}$$

Similarly from  $\Delta OBP'$

$$(BP')^2 = (OP')^2 + (OB)^2 - 2(OP') OB \cos\theta$$

$$BP' = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 - 2ab \cos\theta}$$

from eqn ①

$$q' = -q \frac{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 - 2ab \cos\theta}}{\sqrt{a^2 + d^2 - 2ad \cos\theta}} \quad \text{--- } ②$$

Let us choose  $b = \frac{a^2}{d}$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } q' &= -q \frac{\sqrt{a^2 + (\frac{a^2}{d})^2 - 2q \cdot \frac{a^2}{d} \cos\theta}}{\sqrt{a^2 + d^2 - 2ad \cos\theta}} \\ &= -q \frac{q}{d} \left[ \frac{\sqrt{d^2 + a^2 - 2ad \cos\theta}}{\sqrt{a^2 + d^2 - 2ad \cos\theta}} \right]^2 \\ q' &= -q(\frac{q}{d}) \quad \text{--- } ③ \end{aligned}$$

thus the image charge is a point charge of magnitude  $-q(\frac{q}{d})$  placed at a distance  $(\frac{a^2}{d})$  from the centre of sphere along the line joining the centre sphere to real point charge  $+q$

The potential at  $P(r, \theta)$  due to  $+q$  and  $q'$  (due to point charge  $+q$  placed near on earthed conducting sphere of radius  $a$ ) is

(34)

$$\phi(P) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left( \frac{q}{AP} + \frac{q'}{BP} \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{q}{(r^2 + d^2 - 2rd\cos\theta)^{1/2}} + \frac{q'}{(r^2 + b^2 - 2rb\cos\theta)^{1/2}} \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{q}{\sqrt{r^2 + d^2 - 2rd\cos\theta}} - \frac{q(q/d)}{\sqrt{r^2 + (q/d)^2 - 2r \cdot q^2/d^2 \cos\theta}} \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{q}{\sqrt{r^2 + d^2 - 2rd\cos\theta}} - \frac{q}{\sqrt{\frac{r^2}{q^2} + q^2 - 2rq\cos\theta}} \right]$$

Electric field component at  $P(r, \theta)$  is — (5)

$$E_r = -\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{r - d\cos\theta}{(r^2 + d^2 - 2rd\cos\theta)^{3/2}} - \frac{(rd^2/a^2 - d\cos\theta)}{(r^2/a^2 + q^2 - 2rq\cos\theta)^{3/2}} \right] — (5)$$

and

$$E_\theta = -\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \theta} = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{d\sin\theta}{(r^2 + d^2 - 2rd\cos\theta)^{3/2}} - \frac{d\sin\theta}{(\frac{r^2}{a^2} + q^2 - 2rq\cos\theta)^{3/2}} \right] — (6)$$

Electric field on the surface of sphere

Field at  $P'(a, \theta)$  is

$$(E_r)_{r=a} = -\left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r}\right)_{r=a} = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{a - d^2/a}{(a^2 + d^2 - 2ad\cos\theta)^{3/2}} \right]$$

$$(E_r)_{r=a} = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{1}{a} \cdot \frac{a^2 - d^2}{(a^2 + d^2 - 2ad\cos\theta)} \right]$$

$$(E_\theta)_{r=a} = 0 — (8)$$

The field at surface is

$$E = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \cdot \frac{1}{a} \cdot \frac{a^2 - d^2}{(a^2 + d^2 - 2ad\cos\theta)^{3/2}}$$

is along the line joining from centre of sphere to the point P on surface.

surface charge density of induced charge on sphere.

If  $\sigma$  is surface density of induced charge on P' in

$$E = (E_r)_{r=a} = \frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma &= \epsilon_0 (E_r)_{r=a} \\ &= -\frac{q}{4\pi a^2} \frac{d^2 - q^2}{(a^2 + d^2 - 2ad\cos\theta)^{3/2}} \quad \text{--- (9)} \end{aligned}$$

the force b/w sphere and point charge:

the force b/w sphere of radius a and point charge  $+q$  is same as that b/w point charges  $+q$  and  $-q'$ .

$$+q \text{ and } -q' = (-q')$$

thus

$$F = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{qq'}{(AB)^2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q(-q')}{(d-a)^2} = \frac{q(-q'/d)}{(d-q'/d)^2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \cdot \frac{q^2(ad)}{(d^2-a^2)^2} \text{ Newton.}$$

\* -ve sign indicates that force is attractive