



Chapter 1 Electrostatic Field

1.1 Charge and Matter

1.2 Electric Field and Intensity

1.3 The Gauss's Law For \mathbf{E}

1.4 Electric Potential





1.4 Electric Potential

◇ The Work Due to Electric Force

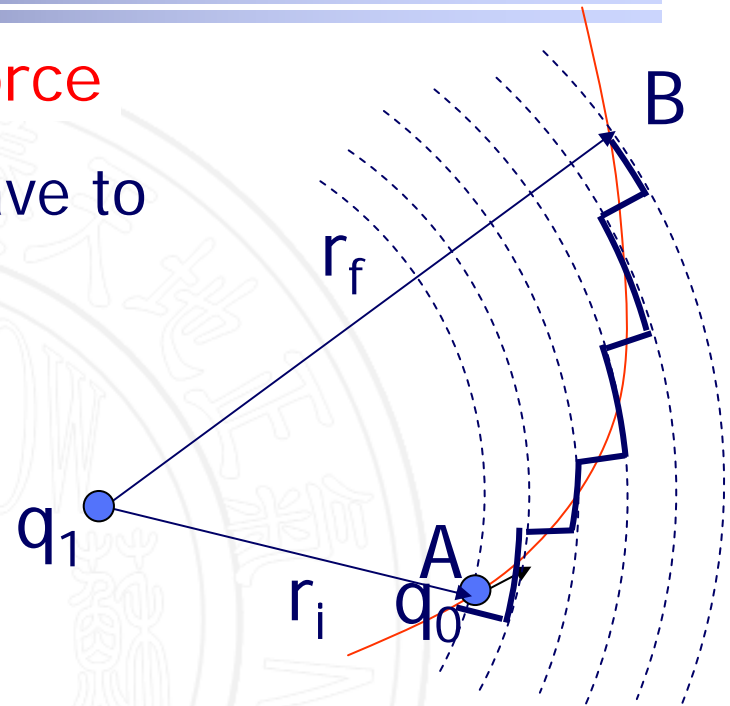
★ How much work does F_{coulomb} have to do to move q_0 from r_i to r_f

$$dA = \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{l} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_1 q_0}{r^2} \hat{r} \cdot d\vec{l}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_1 q_0}{r^2} dl \cos\theta$$

$$A = \int_{r_i}^{r_f} \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_1 q_0}{r^2} dl \cos\theta = \int_{r_i}^{r_f} \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_1 q_0}{r^2} dr$$

$$= \frac{q_1 q_0}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_{r_i}^{r_f} \frac{1}{r^2} dr = \frac{q_1 q_0}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left(\frac{1}{r_i} - \frac{1}{r_f} \right)$$





1.4 Electric Potential

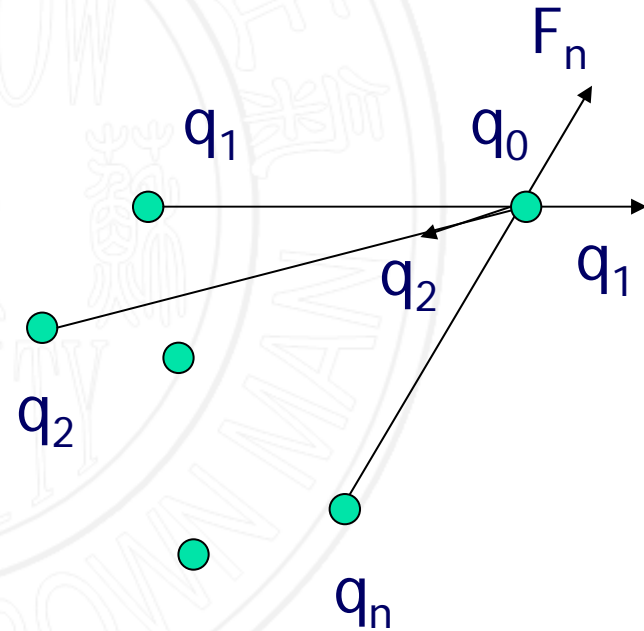
◇ The Work Due to Electric Force

✧ *The work done by the force action on q_0 due a point charge q is path independent, and only depends on the initial and final position.*

✧ If we have a group of charges, q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n how much work does F_c have to do ?

✧ Superposition Principle

$$\vec{F} = \vec{F}_1 + \vec{F}_2 + \dots + \vec{F}_n$$





1.4 Electric Potential

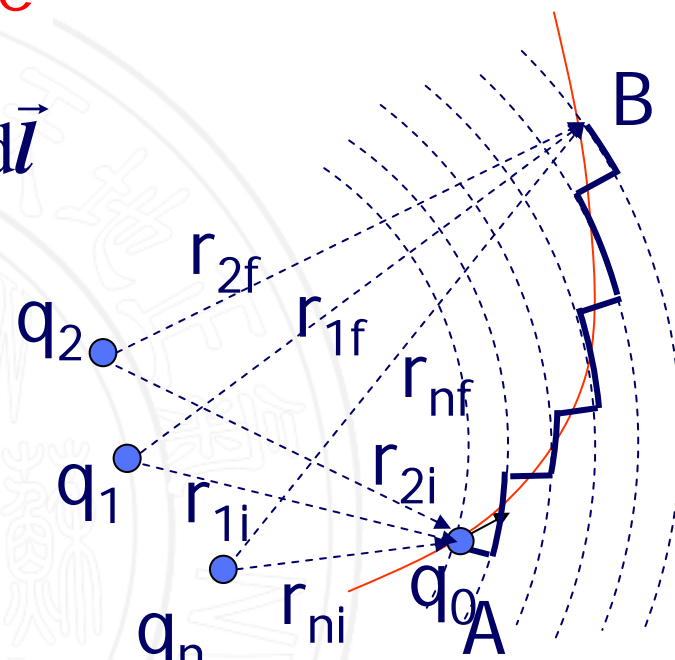
◇ The Work Due to Electric Force

$$dA = \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{l} = (\vec{F}_1 + \vec{F}_2 + \dots + \vec{F}_n) \cdot d\vec{l}$$

$$= \int_{r_{1i}}^{r_{1f}} \vec{F}_1 \cdot d\vec{l} + \int_{r_{2i}}^{r_{2f}} \vec{F}_2 \cdot d\vec{l}$$

$$+ \dots + \int_{r_{ni}}^{r_{nf}} \vec{F}_n \cdot d\vec{l}$$

$$= \frac{q_1 q_0}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left(\frac{1}{r_{1i}} - \frac{1}{r_{1f}} \right) + \frac{q_2 q_0}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left(\frac{1}{r_{2i}} - \frac{1}{r_{2f}} \right) + \frac{q_n q_0}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left(\frac{1}{r_{ni}} - \frac{1}{r_{nf}} \right)$$





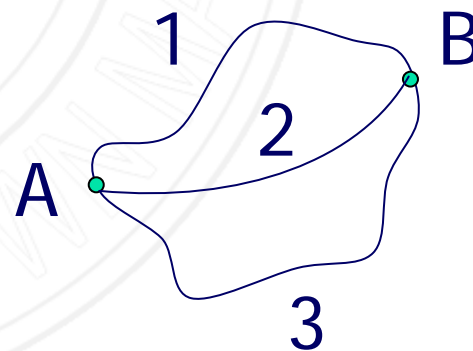
1.4 Electric Potential

◇ The Work Due to Electric Force

- ✧ *The work done by the force of electric field due to any distribution of charges is path independent, and only depends on the initial and final position.*
- ✧ *The work done by electric force to move a charge from A to B along the different path is the same.*

$$A_{AB} = \int_{\text{path 1}} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{l} = \int_{\text{path 2}} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{l}$$

$$= \int_{\text{path 3}} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{l}$$





1.4 Electric Potential

◇ Loop Theorem of Electric Field

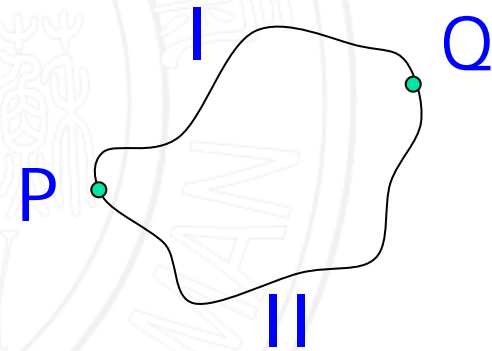
▲ The work done to move a charge on a closed path

$$A_{PP} = \oint_{\text{any}} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{l} = \int_{(I)P}^Q \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{l} + \int_{(II)Q}^P \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{l}$$

$$= \int_{(I)P}^Q \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{l} - \int_{(II)P}^Q \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{l} = 0$$

$$\oint_{\text{any}} q\vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} = 0$$

$$\oint_{\text{any}} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} = 0$$

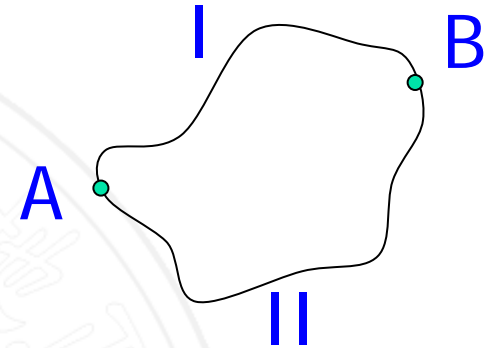




1.4 Electric Potential

◇ Loop Theorem of Electric Field

$$\oint_{\text{any}} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} = 0$$



- ✦ The work done to move a charge on a closed path is zero.
- ✦ The integration of Electric Field along any loop is zero.
- ✦ It expresses that electrostatic force is **conservative**.

Electrostatic field is **conservative**.

To describe conservative field by the concept of potential!





1.4 Electric Potential

◇ Energy of a system of charges

★ How much work does **agent force** do to assemble a certain configuration of charges?

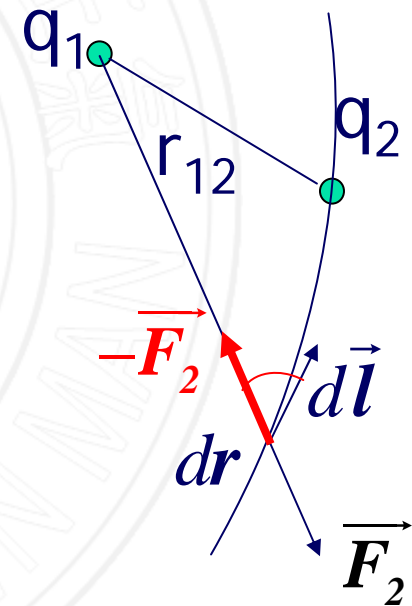
★ Move q_1 , $W_1 = 0$, $F = 0$

★ Move q_2 , q_1 presents

$$dA_2 = -\vec{F}_2 \cdot d\vec{l} = -\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2} dr$$

$$A_2 = -\int_{\infty}^{r_{12}} \vec{F}_2 \cdot d\vec{l} = -\int_{\infty}^{r_{12}} \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2} dr$$

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





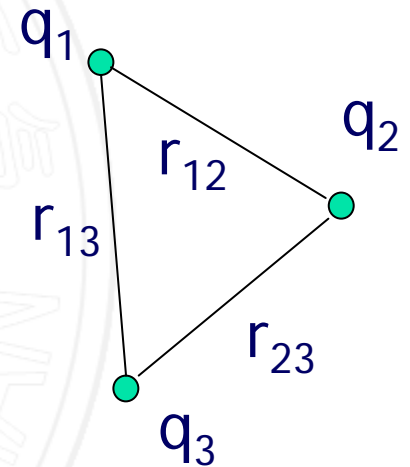
1.4 Electric Potential

◇ Energy of a system of charges

★ How much work does agent force do to assemble a certain configuration of charges?

▲ Move q_3 , q_1 , q_2 present

$$A_3 = A_{13} + A_{23} = - \int_{\infty}^{r_{12}} \vec{F}_{13} \cdot d\vec{l} + - \int_{\infty}^{r_{12}} \vec{F}_{23} \cdot d\vec{l}$$
$$= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_1 q_3}{r_{13}} + \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_2 q_3}{r_{23}}$$



$$A = A_1 + A_2 + A_3 \dots = 0 + \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_1 q_2}{r_{12}} + \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_1 q_3}{r_{13}} + \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_2 q_3}{r_{23}}$$





1.4 Electric Potential

◇ Energy of a system of charges

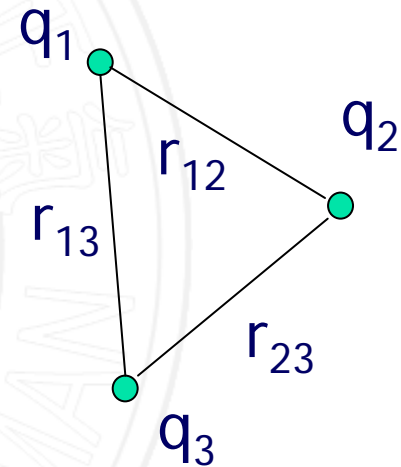
★ How much work does agent force do to assemble a certain configuration of charges?

$$A = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_1 q_2}{r_{12}} + \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_1 q_3}{r_{13}} + \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_2 q_3}{r_{23}}$$

- ★ Where does the work go?
- ★ It is stored in the electric field.

$$W = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{(i=1, j=1, i \neq j)}^n \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_i q_j}{r_{ij}}$$

- ★ The Combination Energy of molecule or atom





1.4 Electric Potential

◇ Electric Potential Difference, Electric Potential

★ Electric Potential Energy

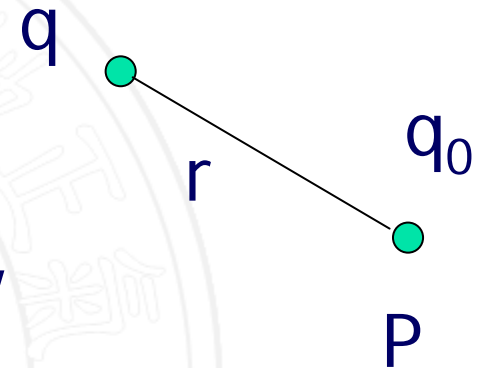
$$W = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_0 q}{r}$$

★ Difference of Electric Potential Energy

$$\Delta W = W_B - W_A = \frac{q_0 q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left(\frac{1}{r_B} - \frac{1}{r_A} \right)$$

▲ ΔW the work done by **electric** force to move q_0 (test charge) from A to B = Difference of Energy

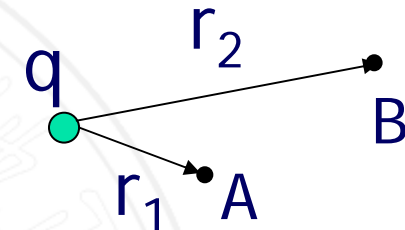
▲ Electric potential energy at P is defined the work done by **electric** force to move q from P to infinite.





1.4 Electric Potential

◇ Electric Potential Difference, Electric Potential

$$V_{AB} = \frac{W_{A-B}}{q_0} = \int_A^B \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left(\frac{1}{r_1} - \frac{1}{r_2} \right)$$


⚡ **Difference** V_{AB} of Electric potential is defined the work done by **electric** force to move unit +charge from A to B.

⚡ Electric Potential is defined the work done by **electric** force to move unit +charge from P to infinite.

$$V_P = \frac{W_{P-\infty}}{q_0} = \int_P^{\infty} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{r}$$





1.4 Electric Potential

◆ Electric Potential Difference, Electric Potential

$$V_P = \frac{W_{P-\infty}}{q_0} = \int_P^{\infty} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l}$$

✧ Infinite is the reference point, if the charge distribution is finite, inversely.

✧ Find potential energy from potential

$$W_P = qV_P$$

✧ Find difference of potential energy from potential difference

$$W_A - W_B = q(V_A - V_B)$$

Infinite

Finite charge distribution





1.4 Electric Potential

◇ The Calculation of Electric Potential

★ Two methods to find V_p

▲ Definition Method (E known or easy to find)

$$V_P = \int_P^R \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} \quad (1.43)$$

▲ Superposition Principle (E unknown or hard to find)

★ Examples for definition method

Math trick: chose the easiest path for integration





1.4 Electric Potential

◇ The Calculation of Electric Potential

Example 1.12 Find electric potential due to a point charge.

Solution:

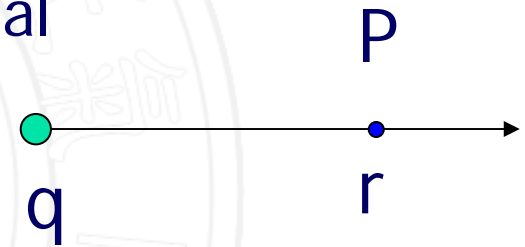
According to the definition of potential

$$V_P = \int_P^{\infty} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l}$$

and E of point charge, we get

$$V_P = \int_P^{\infty} \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{r^2} \hat{r} \cdot d\vec{l} \quad (\text{choose } d\vec{l} = d\vec{r})$$

$$V_P = \int_P^{\infty} \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{r^2} dr = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{r}$$





1.4 Electric Potential

◇ The Calculation of Electric Potential

Example 1.13 Find electric potential due to a charged sphere shell with charge q and radius R .

Solution:

According to the definition of potential

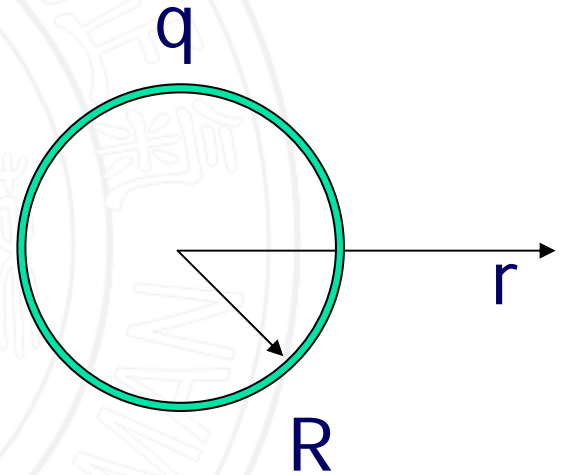
$$V_P = \int_P^{\infty} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l}$$

and E of the charged sphere shell,

$$E = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{r^2} \quad (r > R)$$

$$E = 0 \quad (r < R)$$

Easy to find by Gauss's law





1.4 Electric Potential

◇ The Calculation of Electric Potential

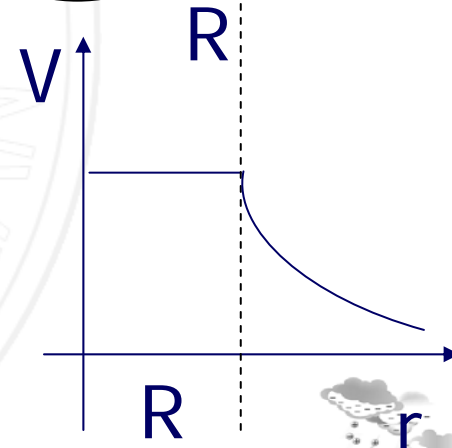
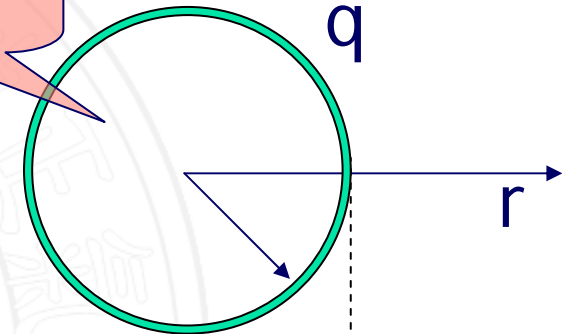
If ($r > R$), Out

$$V = \int_r^{\text{Ref.}} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} = \int_r^{\infty} \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{r^2} dr = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{r}$$

If ($r < R$) In

$$V = \int_r^{\text{ref.}} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} = \int_r^R 0 dr + \int_R^{\infty} \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{r^2} dr = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{R}$$

Equipotential region



- ⚡ Any concentric sphere is equipotential.
- ⚡ Is the potential continuous at R?





1.4 Electric Potential

◇ The Calculation of Electric Potential

★ Superposition principle for

▲ a set of charges

$$\vec{E} = \sum \vec{E}_i \quad V_P = \int_P^{\infty} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l}$$

$$V_P = \sum_{i=1}^N V_i = \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_i}{r_i} \quad (\text{Algebraic sum})$$

▲ continuous distribution of charges

$$V_P = \int \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{dq}{r} \quad (\text{Integral operation})$$





1.4 Electric Potential

◇ The Calculation of Electric Potential

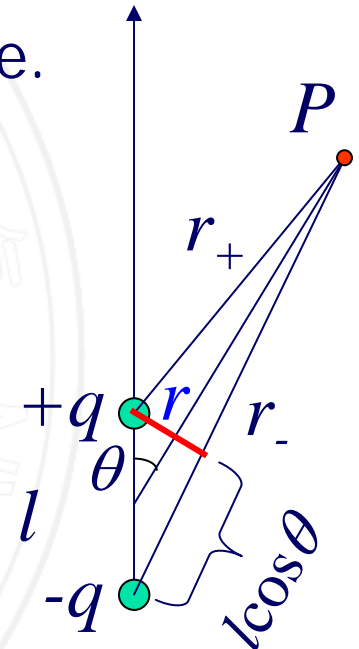
★ Superposition principle for point charges

Example 1.14 Find potential due to a dipole.

Solution: potential of point charge
superposition principle

$$V = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{r_+} + \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{-q}{r_-} = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left(\frac{1}{r_+} - \frac{1}{r_-} \right)$$
$$= \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left(\frac{r_- - r_+}{r_+ r_-} \right)$$

$$r_- = r + \frac{l}{2} \cos \theta \quad r_+ = r - \frac{l}{2} \cos \theta$$





1.4 Electric Potential

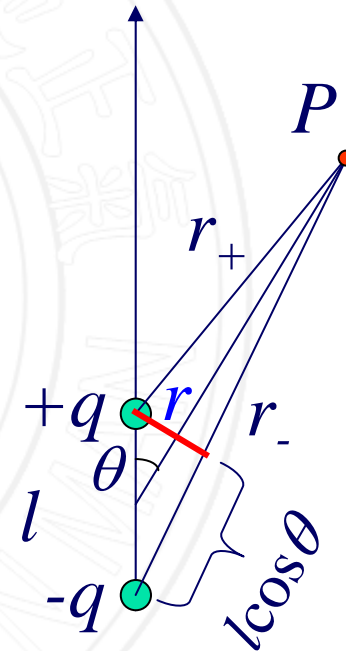
◇ The Calculation of Electric Potential

★ Superposition principle for point charges

$$V = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{l \cos \theta}{r^2 - \frac{1}{4}l^2 \cos^2 \theta}$$

★ If $r \gg l$

$$V = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{p \cos \theta}{r^2}$$





1.4 Electric Potential

◇ The Calculation of Electric Potential

★ Superposition principle for Cont. distribution charges

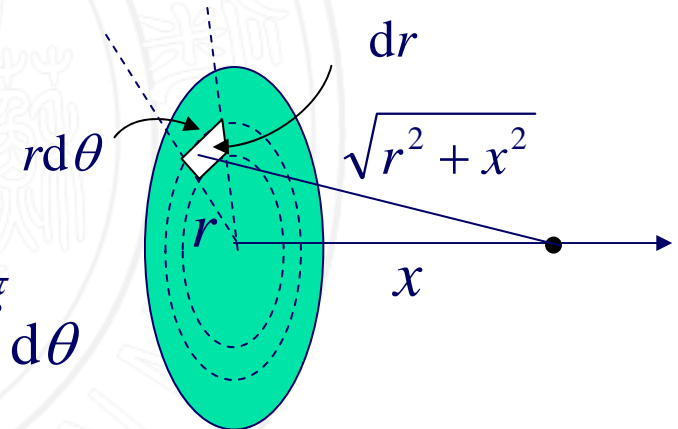
Example 1.15 Find the electric potential on the axis of charged disk, charge density is σ

Solution: Differential charge dq

$$dq = \sigma ds = \sigma r d\theta dr$$

$$V_P = \int \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{dq}{\sqrt{r^2 + x^2}} = \int_0^R \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{\sigma r dr}{\sqrt{r^2 + x^2}} \int_0^{2\pi} d\theta$$

$$= \frac{\sigma}{2\epsilon_0} \sqrt{r^2 + x^2} \Big|_0^R = \frac{\sigma}{2\epsilon_0} (\sqrt{R^2 + x^2} - x)$$





1.4 Electric Potential

◇ The Calculation of Electric Potential

★ Superposition principle for Cont. distribution charges

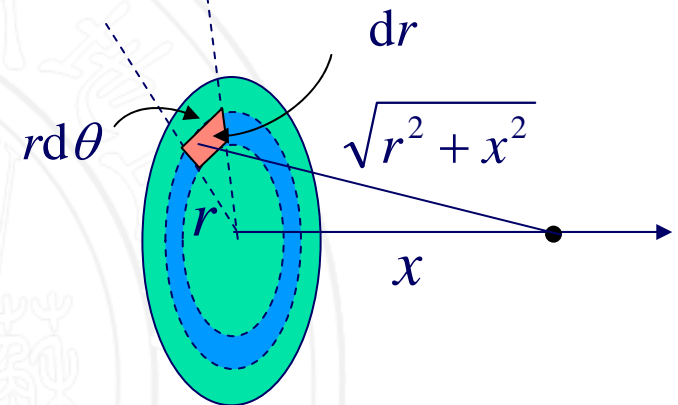
$$V = \frac{\sigma}{2\epsilon_0} (\sqrt{R^2 + x^2} - x)$$

▲ Math trick, Tylor's expansion

If $x \gg R$

$$\sqrt{x^2 + R^2} = x \left(1 + \frac{R^2}{x^2}\right)^{1/2} = x \left(1 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{R^2}{x^2} + \dots\right) \approx x + \frac{R^2}{2x}$$

$$V = \frac{\sigma}{2\epsilon_0} \frac{R^2}{2x} = \frac{\sigma}{2\epsilon_0} \frac{\pi R^2}{2\pi x} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{x}$$





1.4 Electric Potential

◇ The Calculation of E from V

✦ We have two ways to find E :

Superposition Principle, difficult

Gauss's Law, easy but strict



✦ To describe electric field by \mathbf{E} or V , To find V from \mathbf{E} . Can we find \mathbf{E} from V ?

✦ Yes. The Gradient!

Equipotential surface

Have you ever heard contour line?



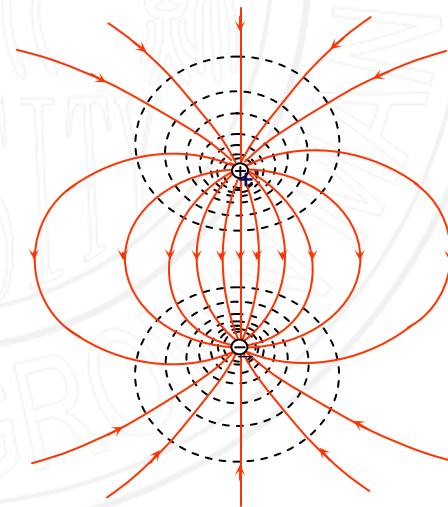
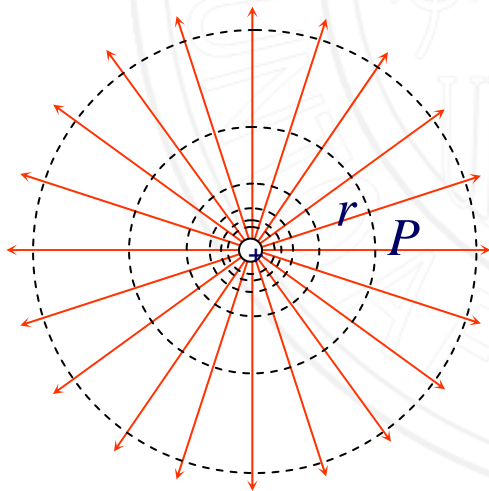


1.4 Electric Potential

✱ Equipotential surface: same potential everywhere

Characteristics of EPS:

- ✱ $E \perp$ equipotential surface.
- ✱ The denser equipotential surface, the stronger the field.
- ✱ Equipotential surface never cross.
- ✱ Equipotential surface can be closed.





1.4 Electric Potential

- ★ Gradient, Find E from V
 - ▲ How much work done by agent force to make q_0 displace Δl ?

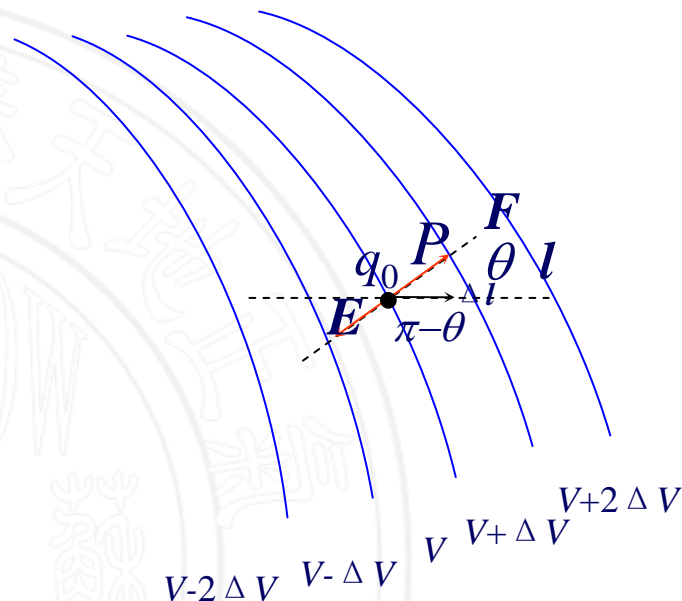
$$\Delta W = \vec{F} \cdot \Delta \vec{l} = q_0 \Delta V$$

$$\vec{F} \cdot \Delta \vec{l} = -q_0 \vec{E} \cdot \Delta \vec{l} =$$

$$-q_0 E \Delta l \cos(\pi - \theta) = q_0 E \Delta l \cos \theta$$

$$q_0 \Delta V = q_0 E \Delta l \cos \theta$$

$$\frac{\Delta V}{\Delta l} = E \cos \theta$$



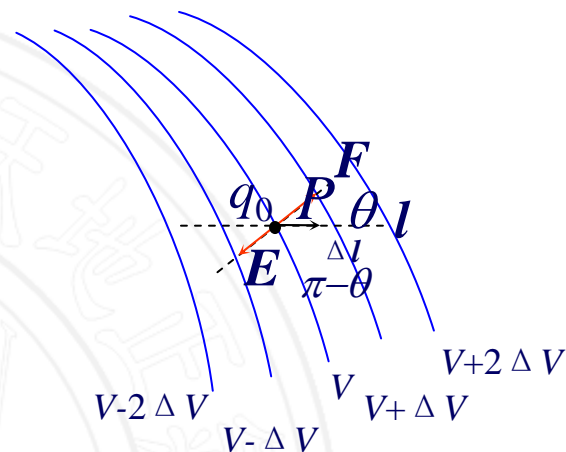


1.4 Electric Potential

★ Gradient, Find E from V

$$\frac{\Delta V}{\Delta l} = E \cos \theta$$

$$E_l = -\frac{\Delta V}{\Delta l}$$



Different direction, different differential coefficient V.

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

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





1.4 Electric Potential

★ Gradient, Find E from V

$$\vec{E} = -\nabla V = -\left(\frac{\partial V}{\partial x} \vec{i} + \frac{\partial V}{\partial y} \vec{j} + \frac{\partial V}{\partial z} \vec{k}\right)$$

★ $V=V(x,y,z)$ Rectangular coordinate

$$\nabla = \vec{i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \vec{j} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \vec{k} \frac{\partial}{\partial z}$$

★ $V=V(r,\theta,\phi)$ Spherical coordinate

$$\nabla = \vec{e}_r \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \vec{e}_\theta \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + \vec{e}_\phi \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi}$$

★ $V=V(r,\theta,z)$ Cylindrical coordinate

$$\nabla = \vec{e}_r \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \vec{e}_\theta \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + \vec{e}_z \frac{\partial}{\partial z}$$





1.4 Electric Potential

★ Gradient, Find E from V

Example 1.15 Find E on the axis of charged ring

Solution:

From superposition principle,

$$dV = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{dq}{r}$$

We get

$$V = \oint \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{dq}{r} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{r} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{\sqrt{R^2 + x^2}}$$

$$E_x = -\frac{\partial V}{\partial x} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{qx}{(R^2 + x^2)^{3/2}}$$

$$E_y = E_z = 0$$

