Reading: Chapter 28



Gauss's Law



Definition:

- *Electric flux* is the product of the magnitude of the electric field and the surface area, *A*, perpendicular to the field
- $\Phi_E = EA$
- The field lines may make some angle θ with the perpendicular to the surface
- Then $\Phi_E = EA \cos \theta$





Electric Flux: Surface as a Vector

Vector, corresponding to a Flat Surface of Area *A*, is determined by the following rules:

- the vector is orthogonal to the surface
- the magnitude of the vector is equal to the area A



The first rule

the vector is orthogonal to the surface

does not determine the direction of \vec{A} . There are still two possibilities:



Electric Flux: Surface as a Vector

If we consider more complicated surface then the directions of vectors should be adjusted, so the direction of vector is a smooth function of the surface point





Definition:

- **Electric flux** is the scalar product of electric field and the vector \vec{A}
- $\Phi = \vec{E}\vec{A}$







 In the more general case, look at a small flat area element

$$\Delta \Phi_{E} = E_{i} \Delta A_{i} \cos \theta_{i} = \vec{E}_{i} \cdot \Delta \vec{A}_{i}$$

• In general, this becomes

$$\Phi_{E} = \lim_{\Delta \vec{A}_{i} \to 0} \sum \vec{E}_{i} \cdot \Delta \vec{A}_{i} = \int_{\text{surface}} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{A}$$

- The surface integral means the integral must be evaluated over the surface in question
- The units of electric flux will be N·m²/C²



The vectors $\Delta \vec{A}_i$ point in different directions

At each point, they are perpendicular to the surface

By convention, they point outward

$$\Phi_{E} = \lim_{\Delta \vec{A}_{i} \to 0} \sum \vec{E}_{i} \cdot \Delta \vec{A}_{i} = \int_{\text{surface}} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{A}$$



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$$\Phi_{E} = \Phi_{1} + \Phi_{2} + \Phi_{3} + \Phi_{4} + \Phi_{5} + \Phi_{6}$$

$$\vec{E} \text{ is orthogonal to } \vec{A}_{3}, \vec{A}_{4}, \vec{A}_{5}, \text{ and } \vec{A}_{6}$$
Then
$$\Phi_{3} = \vec{E}\vec{A}_{3} = 0 \quad \Phi_{4} = \vec{E}\vec{A}_{4} = 0$$

$$\Phi_{5} = \vec{E}\vec{A}_{5} = 0 \quad \Phi_{6} = \vec{E}\vec{A}_{6} = 0$$

$$\Phi_{E} = \Phi_{1} + \Phi_{2}$$

$$\Phi_{1} = \vec{E}\vec{A}_{1} = EA_{1}\cos(90^{\circ} + \alpha) = -EA_{1}\sin\alpha$$

$$\Phi_{2} = \vec{E}\vec{A}_{2} = EA_{2}$$

$$\Phi_{E} = E(A_{2} - A_{1}\sin\alpha)$$
but
$$A_{2} = A_{1}\sin\alpha \quad A_{1}/\alpha$$

$$A_{2} \quad \text{Then} \quad \Phi_{E} = 0$$
(no charges inside closed surface)

(no charges inside closed surface)

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- A positive point charge, *q*, is located at the center of a sphere of radius *r*
- The magnitude of the electric field everywhere on the surface of the sphere is

 $E = k_e q / r^2$

 Electric field is perpendicular to the surface at every point, so

 \vec{E} has the same direction as \vec{A} at every point.



 \vec{E} has the same direction as \vec{A} at every point. $E = k_e \frac{q}{r^2}$

Then

$$\Phi = \sum_{i} \vec{E}_{i} d\vec{A}_{i} = E \sum_{i} dA_{i} =$$

$$= EA_{0} = E 4\pi r^{2} = 4\pi r^{2} k_{e} \frac{q}{r^{2}} =$$

$$= 4\pi k_{e} q = \frac{q}{\varepsilon_{0}} \quad \text{Gauss's Law}$$

$$\Phi \text{ does not depend on } r \quad \blacksquare \quad \text{ONLY BECAUSE} \quad E \propto \frac{1}{r^{2}}$$

Sphorical

 \vec{E} and \vec{A} have opposite directions at every point.

$$E = k_e \frac{|q|}{r^2}$$

Then $\Phi = \sum_{i} \vec{E}_{i} d\vec{A}_{i} = -E \sum_{i} dA_{i} =$ $=-EA_{0}=-E4\pi r^{2}=-4\pi r^{2}k_{e}\frac{|q|}{r^{2}}=$ $= -4\pi k_e |q| = \frac{q}{\varepsilon_0}$ Gauss's Law

 Φ does not depend on *r*



 $E \propto \frac{1}{2}$

The net flux through any closed surface surrounding a point charge, *q*, is given by *q*/εο and is independent of the shape of that surface

The net electric flux through a closed surface that surrounds no charge is zero



Gauss's law states

$$\Phi_{E} = \iint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{A} = \frac{q_{\text{in}}}{\epsilon}$$

> q_{in} is the net charge inside the surface

E is the total electric field and may have contributions from charges both inside and outside of the surface



Gauss's law states

$$\Phi_{E} = \prod \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{A} = \frac{q_{\rm in}}{\varepsilon_{\rm o}}$$

 \succ q_{in} is the net charge inside the surface

E is the *total electric field* and may have contributions from charges both inside and outside of the surface



Gauss's law states

$$\Phi_{E} = \prod \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{A} = \frac{q_{\rm in}}{\varepsilon_{o}}$$

➤ q_{in} is the net charge inside the surface

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Gauss's law states

$$\Phi_{E} = \prod \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{A} = \frac{q_{\rm in}}{\varepsilon_{o}}$$

 \succ **q**_{in} is the net charge inside the surface

E is the total electric field and may have contributions from charges both inside and outside of the surface

Gauss's Law: Problem

What is the flux through surface 1

$$\Phi_{1} + \Phi_{2} = 0$$

$$\Phi_{2} = \vec{E}\vec{A}_{0} = -\vec{E}A_{0}$$

$$\Phi_{1} = -\Phi_{2} = \vec{E}A_{0}$$

$$\vec{E} \qquad \vec{A}_{0} \qquad \vec{A}_{1} \qquad \vec{A}_{2}$$

$$\vec{A}_{0} \qquad \vec{A}_{3}$$

Although Gauss's law can, in theory, be solved to find E for any charge configuration, in practice it is limited to symmetric situations

To use Gauss's law, you want to choose a Gaussian surface over which the surface integral can be simplified and the electric field determined

$$\Phi = \prod \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{A} = \frac{q_{\rm in}}{\varepsilon_o}$$

- > Take advantage of symmetry
- > Remember, the gaussian surface is a surface you

choose, it does not have to coincide with a real surface

$$q_6$$
 q_2 q_1 q_1

$$\Phi = \frac{q_1 + q_2 + q_3 + q_4}{\varepsilon_0}$$

Gauss's Law: Point Charge

SYMMETRY:

- $ar{E}$ - direction - along the radius
- \vec{E} - depends only on radius, r

Gaussian Surface – Sphere

Only in this case the magnitude of electric field is constant on the Gaussian surface and the flux can be easily evaluated

$$\Phi = rac{q}{arepsilon_0}$$
 - Gauss's Law

 \mathcal{E}_0

$$\Phi = \sum_{i} \vec{E}_{i} d\vec{A}_{i} = E \sum_{i} dA_{i} = EA_{0} = E 4\pi r^{2}$$
Then
$$\frac{q}{r} = 4\pi r^{2} E$$

$$E = k_{e} \frac{q}{r^{2}}$$

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- definition of the Flux

Gaussian surface

 $d\mathbf{A}_i$

E

$$\Phi = \prod \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{A} = \frac{q_{\rm in}}{\varepsilon_o}$$

- Try to choose a surface that satisfies one or more of these conditions:
 - The value of the electric field can be argued from symmetry to be constant over the surface
 - The dot product of E·dA can be expressed as a simple algebraic product EdA because E and dA are parallel
 - The dot product is 0 because E and dA are perpendicular
 - The field can be argued to be zero over the surface

wrong Gaussian surface

Spherically Symmetric Charge Distribution

SYMMETRY:

- É - direction - along the radius
- É - depends only on radius, r
 - Select a sphere as the gaussian surface
 - For r > a

$$\Phi_{E} = \prod \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{A} = \prod \vec{E} dA = 4\pi r^{2}E = \frac{q_{\text{in}}}{\varepsilon_{o}} = \frac{Q}{\varepsilon_{o}}$$

for the point charge **Q**

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Spherically Symmetric Charge Distribution

Spherically Symmetric Charge Distribution

SYMMETRY:

- $ec{E}$ direction along the radius
- \vec{E} depends only on radius, *r*
- Select a sphere as the gaussian surface, r < a

$$q_{in} = \frac{Q}{\frac{4}{3}\pi a^{3}} \frac{4}{3}\pi r^{3} = Q\frac{r^{3}}{a^{3}} < Q$$

$$\Phi_{E} = \prod \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{A} = \prod E dA = 4\pi r^{2}E = \frac{q_{in}}{\varepsilon_{o}}$$

$$E = \frac{q_{in}}{4\pi\varepsilon_{o}r^{2}} = k_{e}\frac{Qr^{3}}{a^{3}}\frac{1}{r^{2}} = k_{e}\frac{Q}{a^{3}}r$$

Spherically Symmetric Charge Distribution

- Inside the sphere, *E* varies linearly with *r*
 - $E \rightarrow 0$ as $r \rightarrow 0$
- The field outside the sphere is equivalent to that of a point charge located at the center of the sphere

Field due to a thin spherical shell

- Use spheres as the gaussian surfaces
- When r > a, the charge inside the surface is Q and
 E = k_eQ / r²
- When r < a, the charge inside the surface is 0 and E = 0

Field due to a thin spherical shell

When r < a, the charge inside the surface is 0 and E = 0

Field from a line of charge

- Select a cylindrical Gaussian surface
 - The cylinder has a radius of *r* and a length of *e*
- Symmetry:

E is constant in magnitude (depends only on radius *r*) and perpendicular to the surface at every point on the curved part of the surface

Field from a line of charge

Field due to a plane of charge

• Symmetry:

E must be perpendicular to the plane and must have the same magnitude at all points equidistant from the plane

 Choose a small cylinder whose axis is perpendicular to the plane for the gaussian surface

The flux through this surface is **0**

r

 $Q = \frac{4}{3} \pi a^3 \beta$

$$E = k_e \frac{Q}{a^3} r = k_e \frac{\frac{4}{3} \pi a^3 \rho}{a^3} r = \frac{4}{3} \pi k_e \rho$$

 $\vec{E} = \frac{4}{3} \pi k_e \vec{\rho}$

Find electric field inside the hole

Example

The sphere has a charge Q and radius a. The point charge -Q/8 is placed at the center of the sphere. Find all points where electric field is zero.

$$\vec{E}_1 = k_e \frac{Q}{a^3} \vec{r}$$
$$\vec{E}_2 = -k_e \frac{Q}{8r^2} \vec{r}$$
$$\vec{E}_1 + \vec{E}_2 = 0$$
$$k_e \frac{Q}{a^3} r = k_e \frac{Q}{8r^2}$$
$$r^3 = \frac{a^3}{8}$$
$$r = \frac{a}{2}$$

Conductors in Electric Field

Electric Charges: Conductors and Isolators

> Electrical conductors are materials in which some of the electrons are free electrons These electrons can move relatively freely through the material Examples of good conductors include copper, aluminum and silver Electrical insulators are materials in which all of the electrons are bound to atoms These electrons can not move relatively freely through the material Examples of good insulators include glass, rubber and wood

Semiconductors are somewhere between insulators and conductors

Electrostatic Equilibrium

Definition:

when there is no net motion of charge within a conductor, the conductor is said to be in **electrostatic equilibrium**

Because the electrons can move freely through the material

no motion means that there are no electric forces
 no electric forces means that the electric field
 inside the conductor is 0

If electric field inside the conductor is not **0**, $\vec{E} \neq 0$ then there is an electric force $\vec{F} = q\vec{E}$ and, from the second Newton's law, there is a motion of free electrons.

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 The electric field is zero everywhere inside the conductor

- Before the external field is applied, free electrons are distributed throughout the conductor
- When the external field is applied, the electrons redistribute until the magnitude of the internal field equals the magnitude of the external field
- There is a net field of zero inside the conductor

 If an isolated conductor carries a charge, the charge resides on its surface

- The electric field just outside a charged conductor is perpendicular to the surface and has a magnitude of σ/ε_o
- Choose a cylinder as the gaussian surface
- The field must be perpendicular to the surface
 - If there were a parallel component to E, charges would experience a force and accelerate along the surface and it would not be in equilibrium
- The net flux through the gaussian surface is through only the flat face outside the conductor
 - The field here is perpendicular to the surface
- Gauss's law:

$$\Phi_E = EA = \frac{\sigma A}{\xi} \text{ and } E = \frac{\sigma}{\xi}$$

Find electric field if the conductor spherical shell has zero charge

Find electric field if the conductor spherical shell has zero charge

This is because the total charge of the conductor is **0!!!**

Find electric field if the conductor spherical shell has zero charge

Find electric field if the charge of the conductor spherical shell is Q

