

# Chapter 24 Electric Potential

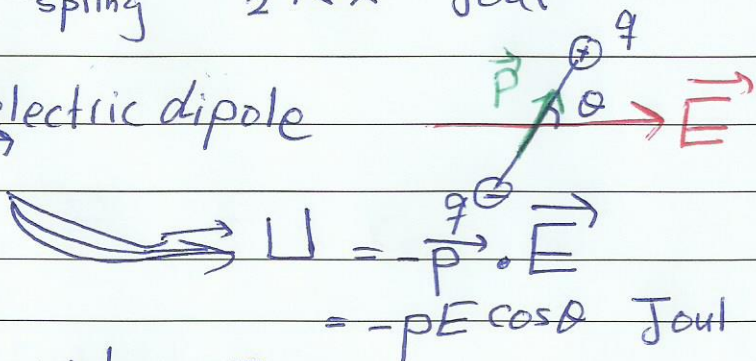
## Conservative Forces & Potential Energy:

$$\vec{F}_g = m\vec{g} \Rightarrow U_g = mgy \text{ Joule}$$

$$F_{\text{spring}} = -kx \Rightarrow U_{\text{spring}} = \frac{1}{2}kx^2 \text{ Joule}$$

Electric Force acting on electric dipole

$$\vec{E} \text{ on } \vec{P} = qd$$



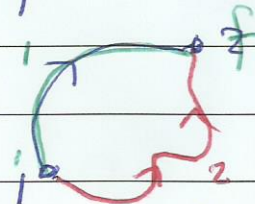
## Properties of conservative Forces:-

1) Work done Against Conservative Force is Stored as energy, called Potential energy.

2) Work done by Conservative force is path independent.

Work done by conservative force depends on initial point & final point

$$(W_{\text{cons.}})_{i \rightarrow f} = (W_{\text{cons.}})_{i \rightarrow f}$$



$$3) \text{ Work done by Conservative force } = -\Delta U = -[U_f - U_i]$$

$U$  is the Potential Energy depends on the state.

4) Mechanical Energy is Conserved Under the influence of conservative force

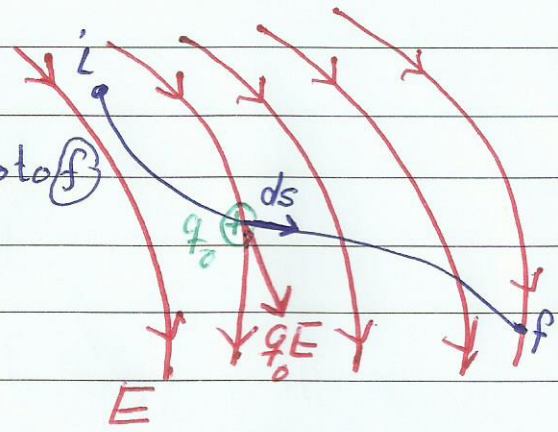
$$(K + U)_i = (K + U)_f, \quad K = \frac{1}{2}mv^2 \text{ Joule}$$

①

# Electric Potential Energy $U$ :

$E$  is a nonuniform  
Electric Field

$q_0$  is a test charge moves from  $(i) \rightarrow (f)$   
along the shown path



$$dW_E = q_0 \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s}$$

$$(W_E)_{i \rightarrow f} = \int_i^f q_0 \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} \text{ Joule}$$

But: The electric Force  $\vec{F}_E = q_0 \vec{E}$  is Conservative Force

$$W_{E, i \rightarrow f} = -\Delta U = -[U_f - U_i]$$

$$U_f - U_i = -W_{E, i \rightarrow f} = -\int_i^f q_0 \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s}$$

$$U_f - U_i = (-) q_0 \int_i^f \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} \text{ Joule} \quad \text{①} \quad \text{Electric}$$

the zero level for Potential Energy is  
when  $q_0$  is at  $\infty$

$$U_f - U_\infty = (-) q_0 \int_\infty^f \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s}, \text{ let } U_\infty = 0$$

$$U_f = (-) q_0 \int_\infty^f \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} \quad \text{②} \quad \text{Electric Potential energy for } q_0 \text{ in an Electric Field.}$$

$U_f = (-)$  Work done by  $\vec{E}$  in moving  $q_0 (\infty \rightarrow f)$

②

# Electric Potential $V$ :

$$U_f - U_i = (-)q_0 \int_i^f \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} \quad \text{J}$$

$$\frac{U_f}{q_0} - \frac{U_i}{q_0} = - \int_i^f \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} \quad \text{J/C}$$

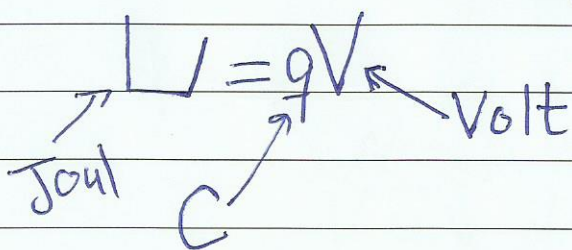
$$V_f - V_i = - \int_i^f \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} \quad \text{J/C} = \text{Volt} \quad (1)$$

to find  $V$  at a certain point let  $V_\infty = 0$

$$V_f - V_\infty = - \int_\infty^f \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s}$$

$$V_f = - \int_\infty^f \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} \quad \text{J/C} = \text{Volt} \quad (2)$$

$V$  at a certain point =  $(-)$  Work done by  $\vec{E}$  in moving  $(+1C)$  from  $\infty \rightarrow$  to the point



In this course We will find  $V$  from  $E$

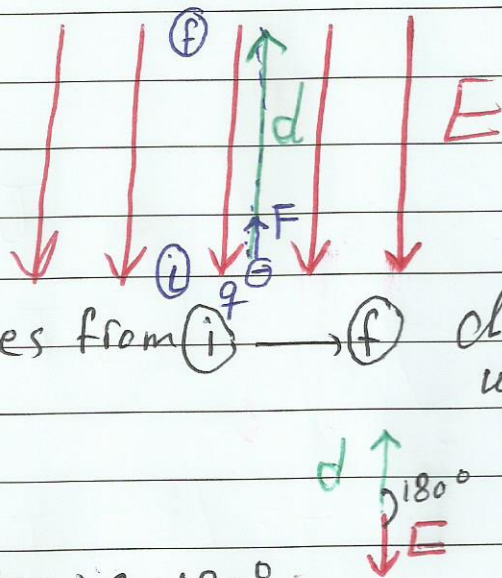
- 1) We will find  $V$  due to a point charge
- 2) We will find  $V$  due to a Set of Point charges
- 3) We will find  $V$  due to a continuous charge distribution

# Sample Problem 24.01

$E = 150 \text{ N/C}$  downward

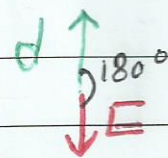
$q = -e = -1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$

Due to  $\vec{E}$ , the electron moves from (i)  $\rightarrow$  (f)  $d = 520 \text{ nm}$  upward



1)  $W = \int_{i \rightarrow f} q \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} = q \vec{E} \cdot \vec{d}$

$W_E = (-1.6 \times 10^{-19})(150)(520) \cos 180^\circ = 1.2 \times 10^{-14} \text{ J}$



2) find  $\Delta U = U_f - U_i$  ?

$\Delta U = U_f - U_i = -W_E = -1.2 \times 10^{-14} \text{ J}$

3) find  $\Delta V = V_f - V_i$  ?

$\Delta U = q \Delta V$

$U_f - U_i = q(V_f - V_i)$

$V_f - V_i = \frac{U_f - U_i}{q} = \frac{-1.2 \times 10^{-14}}{-1.6 \times 10^{-19}} = +7.5 \times 10^4 \text{ V}$

$V_f > V_i$

Note: When you move with  $\vec{E}$ ,  $V$  will decrease

When you move opposite to  $\vec{E}$

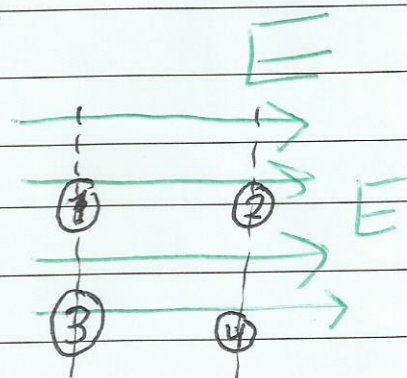
$V$  will increase.

$\Rightarrow V_1 > V_2$

$V_1 = V_3 \Rightarrow V_2 = V_4$

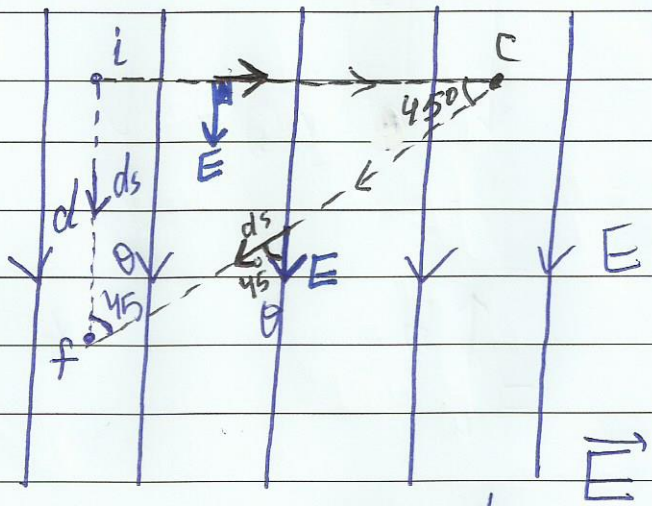
(4)

$(V_1 = V_3) > (V_2 = V_4)$



Sample Problem 24.02  $\Delta U$  is path independent  $\Delta V$  is path independent

$\vec{E}$  is Uniform downward  
 $d_{if} = d$



a) find  $V_f - V_i$  by moving directly from  $i \rightarrow f$

$$V_f - V_i = - \int_i^f \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s}$$

$$= - \int_i^f E \cdot d \cos \theta$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{d}{d_{cf}}$$

$$d = d_{cf} \cos \theta$$

$$V_f - V_i = -Ed \Rightarrow V_i > V_f$$

b) find  $V_f - V_i$  by moving  $\oplus$  along the path  $i \rightarrow c \rightarrow f$

$$V_f - V_i = - \int_i^c \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} - \int_c^f \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s}$$

$$= - \vec{E} \cdot \vec{d}_{i \rightarrow c} - \vec{E} \cdot \vec{d}_{c \rightarrow f}$$

$$= -Ed \cos 90 - Ed \cos 45$$

$$= 0 - Ed \cos 45$$

from the graph  $\cos 45 = \frac{d}{d_{cf}}$

$$d = d_{cf} \cos 45$$

$$V_f - V_i = -Ed \Rightarrow V_i > V_f$$

as Part (a)

1)  $V$  due to a point charge:

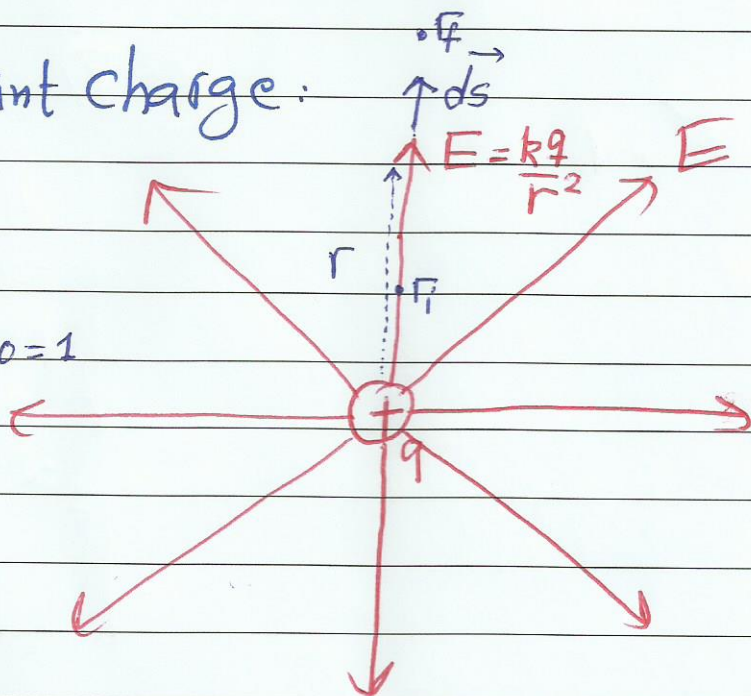
$$E = k \frac{q}{r^2} = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2}$$

$$V_f - V_i = - \int_i^f \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s}, \quad \cos 0 = 1$$

$$= (-) \int_{r_i}^{r_f} \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2} dr$$

$$= -\frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_{r_i}^{r_f} \frac{dr}{r^2}$$

$$= -\frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ -\frac{1}{r} \right]_{r_i}^{r_f} = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{1}{r} \right]_{r_i}^{r_f}$$



$$V_f - V_i = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r_f} - \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r_i}, \quad \text{let } (i) \text{ at } \infty, \quad V_\infty = 0$$

$$V_f - V_\infty = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r_f} - 0$$

$$V_f = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r_f}$$

for  $(+q)$   $V_f \rightarrow +$

for  $(-q)$   $V_f \rightarrow -$

2)  $V$  due to a Set of point charges

$$V = V_1 + V_2 + V_3 + \dots = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{q_i}{r_i}$$

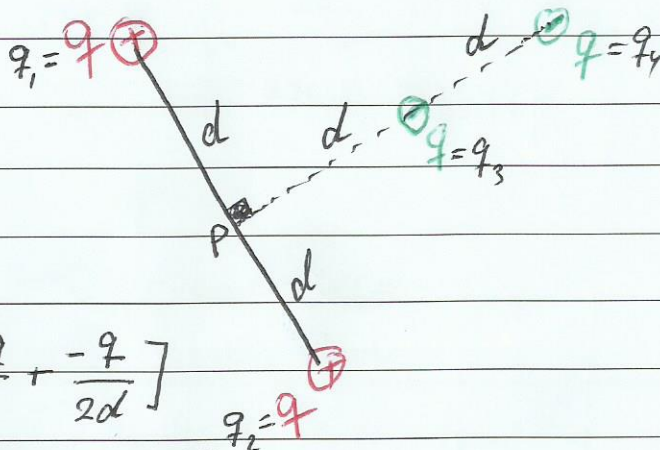
Solve Sample Problems 24.03 & 24.04

(24-31)

$$q = 7.50 \text{ fC}$$

$$d = 1.60 \text{ cm}$$

find  $V_p$ ?



$$V_p = V_1 + V_2 + V_3 + V_4$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{+q}{d} + \frac{+q}{d} + \frac{-q}{d} + \frac{-q}{2d} \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{+q}{2d} \right] = \frac{9 \times 10^9 \times 7.5 \times 10^{-15}}{2(1.6 \times 10^{-2})}$$

$$V_p = \frac{4.22 \times 10^{-3} \text{ V}}{2} = \frac{4.22 \text{ mV}}{2} = 2.11 \text{ mV}$$

(24-7)  $q_1 = +15e$

$$q_2 = -5e$$

$$d = 240 \text{ cm}$$

find values of  $x$ ? At which  $V=0$

a) At  $x_1$  between them?

$$V_a = \frac{+15e}{4\pi\epsilon_0 x_1} + \frac{-5e}{4\pi\epsilon_0 (d-x_1)} = 0$$

$$\frac{+15e}{4\pi\epsilon_0 x_1} + \frac{-5e}{4\pi\epsilon_0 (d-x_1)} = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{3}{x_1} = \frac{1}{d-x_1}$$

$$x_1 = 3d - 3x_1 \Rightarrow 4x_1 = 3d \Rightarrow x_1 = \frac{3}{4}d = 18 \text{ cm}$$

b) At  $x_2$  to the right of  $q_2$

$$V_b = \frac{+15e}{4\pi\epsilon_0 (x_2 + d)} + \frac{-5e}{4\pi\epsilon_0 x_2} = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{15e}{4\pi\epsilon_0 (x_2 + d)} = \frac{5e}{4\pi\epsilon_0 x_2}$$

$$\frac{3}{x_2 + d} = \frac{1}{x_2} \Rightarrow 3x_2 - 3d = x_2$$

$$2x_2 = 3d \Rightarrow x_2 = 1.5d = 36 \text{ cm}$$

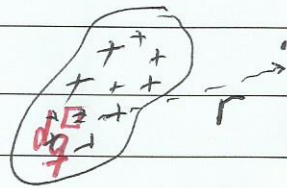
Problem Repeat problem 7 for  $q_1 = +5e$   
 $q_2 = -15e$

(7)

### 3) Potential due to a continuous charge distribution:

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

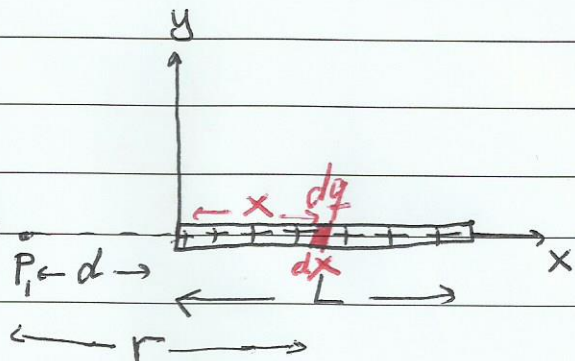
$$V = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int \frac{dq}{r}$$



#### I] V due to a Uniformly charged rod (Line of Charge)

Problem (24-02)

Thin Plastic rod  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{length} = L = 12 \text{ cm} \\ Q = +47.9 \text{ fC} \\ \lambda = \frac{Q}{L} = 400 \text{ fC/m} \\ = +400 \text{ fC/m} \end{array} \right.$



Find V at point  $P_1$ , a distance

$d = 2.5 \text{ cm}$  from the left end of the rod?

$$dV = \frac{dq}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} = \frac{\lambda dx}{4\pi\epsilon_0 (d+x)}, \quad \lambda = 4.00 \times 10^{-13} \text{ C/m Constant}$$

$$V_{P_1} = \frac{\lambda}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_0^L \frac{dx}{(d+x)} = \frac{\lambda}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \ln(d+x) \right]_0^L$$

$$= \frac{\lambda}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \ln(d+L) - \ln(d) \right]$$

$$V_{P_1} = \frac{\lambda}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \ln\left(\frac{d+L}{d}\right)$$

$$V_{P_1} = 9 \times 10^9 \times 4 \times 10^{-13} \ln\left(\frac{2.5+12}{2.5}\right)$$

$$= 36 \times 10^{-4} (1.75786)$$

$$= 6.33 \times 10^{-3} \text{ V}$$

$$= 6.33 \text{ mV}$$

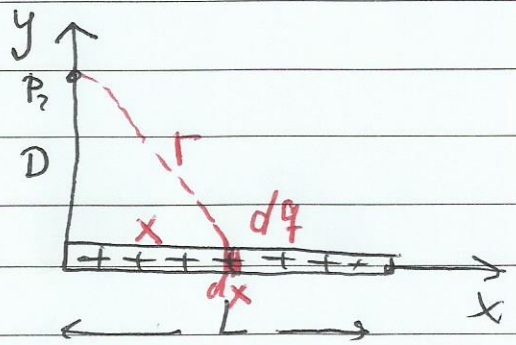


# Problem (24-6) Nonuniform

Linear charge density

The thin plastic rod  $\rightarrow$  length = 12 cm  
 $\rightarrow$   $\lambda = cx$

$$c = 49.9 \text{ pC/m}^2$$



a) Find  $V$  at  $P_2$  on the  $y$ -axis at  $y = D = 3.56 \text{ cm}$

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

$$V_{P_2} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_0^L \frac{dq}{r} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_0^L \frac{\lambda dx}{\sqrt{D^2 + x^2}} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_0^L \frac{(cx) dx}{\sqrt{D^2 + x^2}}$$

$$= \frac{c}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_0^L \frac{x dx}{\sqrt{D^2 + x^2}}, \text{ let } D^2 + x^2 = u$$

$$du = 2x dx$$

$$= \frac{c}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int \frac{du/2}{u^{1/2}} = \frac{c}{8\pi\epsilon_0} \int u^{-1/2} du = \frac{u^{1/2}}{1/2}$$

$$= \frac{2c}{8\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \sqrt{D^2 + x^2} \right]_0^L = \frac{c}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \sqrt{D^2 + L^2} - D \right]$$

$$V_{P_2} = \frac{c}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \sqrt{D^2 + L^2} - D \right] = 9 \times 10^9 [49.9 \times 10^{-12}] \left[ \sqrt{(0.0356)^2 + (0.12)^2} - 0.0356 \right] = 0.04 \text{ Volt}$$

## V due to a Uniformly Charged Ring

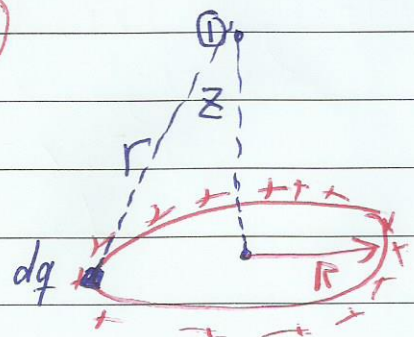
Ring  $\rightarrow$  radius =  $R$   
 $\rightarrow$  charge =  $+Q$   
 $\rightarrow$   $\lambda = \frac{Q}{2\pi R}$

Find  $V$  at a point above the center  
 a distance =  $z$

$$dV = \frac{dq}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} = \frac{dq}{4\pi\epsilon_0 \sqrt{z^2 + R^2}}$$

$$V_{\text{ring}} = \int \frac{dq}{4\pi\epsilon_0 \sqrt{z^2 + R^2}} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0 \sqrt{z^2 + R^2}} \int dq = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 \sqrt{z^2 + R^2}}$$

(a)

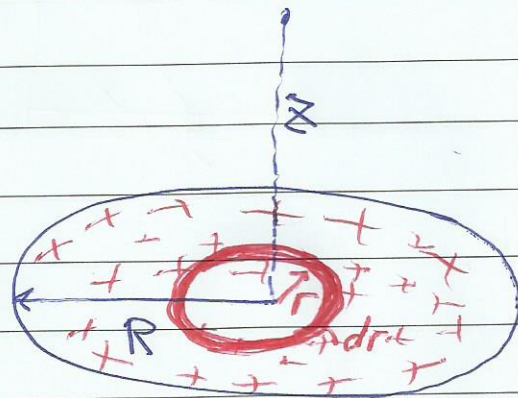


# V due to a Uniformly charged Disk

Disk  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{radius} = R \\ \text{Charge} = Q \text{ on one face} \\ \sigma = \frac{Q}{\pi R^2} \end{array} \right.$

Find V at a point above the center  
a distance (z) from the center

Divide the disk to rings



each ring of  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{radius} = r \\ \text{width} = dr \\ \text{Area } dA = 2\pi r dr \\ dq = \sigma(2\pi r dr) \leftarrow \text{charge on the ring} \\ dV = \frac{dq}{4\pi\epsilon_0\sqrt{r^2+z^2}} \leftarrow \text{due to the ring} \end{array} \right.$

$$dV = \frac{\sigma(2\pi r dr)}{4\pi\epsilon_0\sqrt{r^2+z^2}} \text{ (ring Potential)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} V_{\text{disk}} &= \int dV_{\text{ring}} = \frac{\sigma\pi}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_0^R \frac{2r dr}{\sqrt{r^2+z^2}}, \quad \text{let } u = r^2+z^2 \\ & \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad du = 2r dr \\ &= \frac{\sigma}{4\epsilon_0} \int \frac{du}{u^{1/2}} = \frac{\sigma}{4\epsilon_0} \int u^{-1/2} du = \frac{\sigma}{4\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{u^{1/2}}{1/2} \right] \\ &= \frac{\sigma}{2\epsilon_0} \left[ \sqrt{r^2+z^2} \right]_0^R = \frac{\sigma}{2\epsilon_0} \left[ \sqrt{R^2+z^2} - z \right] \end{aligned}$$

## Calculating The Field E From the Potential V

$$dV = -\vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} \Rightarrow -\frac{\partial V}{\partial s} = E \Rightarrow$$

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

## Sample Problem 24.05

$$V_{\text{disk}} = \frac{\sigma}{2\epsilon_0} [\sqrt{z^2 + R^2} - z]$$

Find  $E_z$ ?

$$E_z = -\frac{\partial V}{\partial z} = -\frac{\sigma}{2\epsilon_0} \frac{d}{dz} [\sqrt{z^2 + R^2} - z]$$

$$= -\frac{\sigma}{2\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \frac{2z}{\sqrt{z^2 + R^2}} - 1 \right] = \frac{\sigma}{2\epsilon_0} \left[ 1 - \frac{z}{\sqrt{z^2 + R^2}} \right]$$

Problem:

$$V_{\text{ring}} = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 (R^2 + z^2)^{1/2}} \quad \text{Find } E_z$$

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

$$= -\frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ -\frac{1}{2} (R^2 + z^2)^{-3/2} \cdot 2z \right]$$

$$E_z = \frac{Qz}{4\pi\epsilon_0 (R^2 + z^2)^{3/2}} \quad \text{Ring}$$

## Example

$$V = 2x^2 + 3y^2$$

Find  $\vec{E}$  at the point (4m, 2m)?

$$E_x = -\frac{\partial V}{\partial x} = -2(2x) = -4x$$

$$E_y = -\frac{\partial V}{\partial y} = -3(2y) = -6y$$

$$\vec{E} = -4x\hat{i} - 6y\hat{j}$$

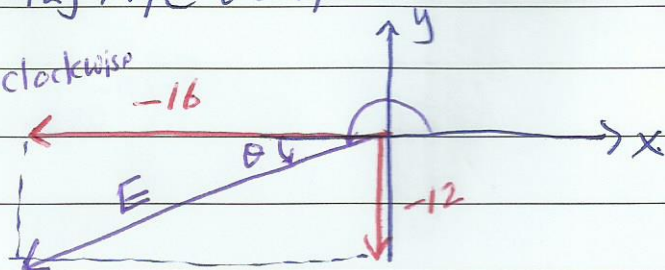
$$\vec{E} = -4(4)\hat{i} - 6(2)\hat{j} = -16\hat{i} - 12\hat{j} \text{ N/C or V/m}$$

$$\theta = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{-12}{-16}\right) = 37^\circ$$

$$\vec{E} = 20 \text{ V/m, at } 37^\circ \text{ with } -x$$

$$= 20 \text{ V/m, at } 217^\circ \text{ with } +x$$

Counter clockwise

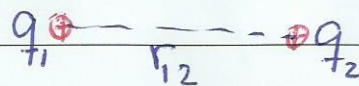


II

# Electric Potential Energy (U) of a System of Charged Particles

U between 2 point charges = Work must be done to put the 2 charges in their places by bringing them from  $\infty$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 U_{12} &= W_{q_1 \rightarrow \infty} + W_{q_2 \rightarrow \infty} \\
 &= 0 + q_2 V_1 \\
 &= 0 + q_2 \left( \frac{q_1}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r_{12}} \right)
 \end{aligned}$$



$$U_{12} = \frac{q_1 q_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r_{12}} \text{ Joule}$$

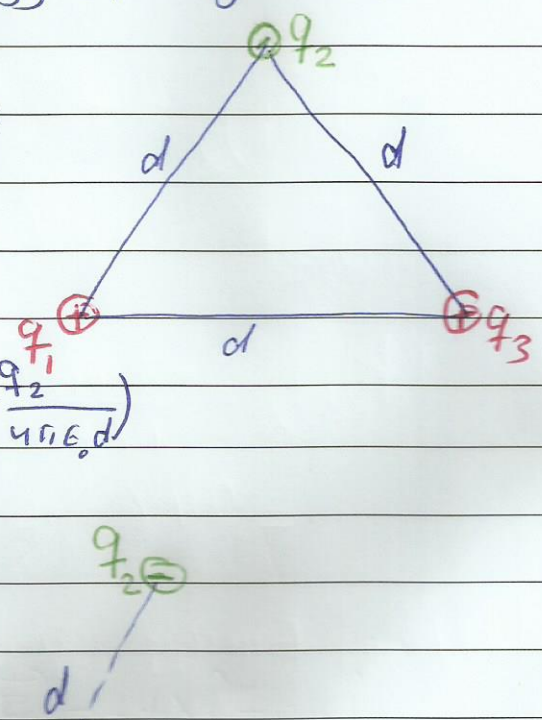
Sample Problem 24.06 Potential energy of a system of 3 charged particles.

$$q_1 = +q, q_2 = -4q$$

$$q_3 = +2q, q = 150 \text{ nC}, d = 12 \text{ cm}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 U &= W_{q_1} + W_{q_2} + W_{q_3} \\
 &= 0 + q_2 \left( \frac{q_1}{4\pi\epsilon_0 d} \right) + q_3 \left( \frac{q_1}{4\pi\epsilon_0 d} + \frac{q_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 d} \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{q_1 q_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 d} + \frac{q_1 q_3}{4\pi\epsilon_0 d} + \frac{q_2 q_3}{4\pi\epsilon_0 d} \\
 &= U_{12} + U_{13} + U_{23}
 \end{aligned}$$



$$= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0 d} [ (+q)(-4q) + (+q)(+2q) + (-4q)(+2q) ]$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0 d} [ -4q^2 + 2q^2 - 8q^2 ]$$

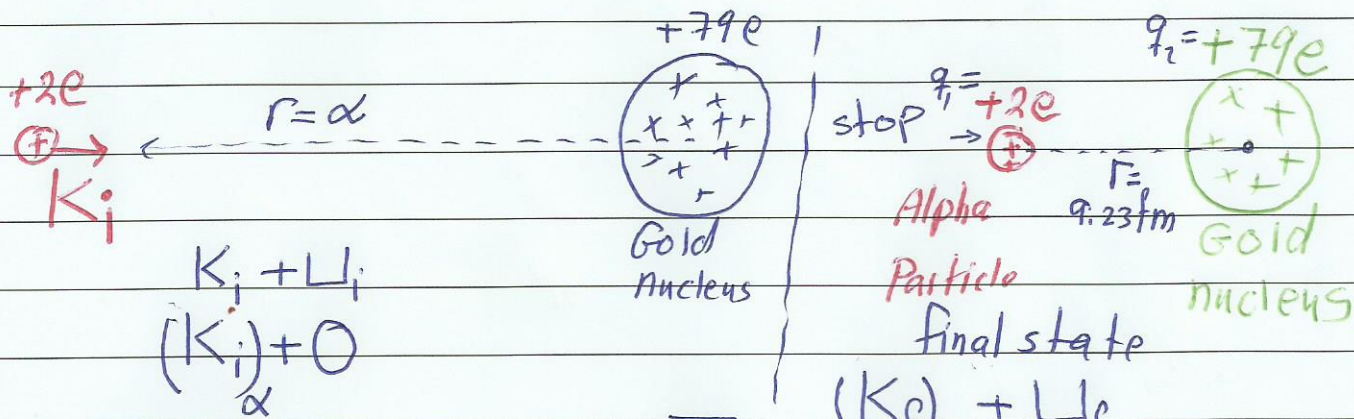
$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{-10q^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 d} = \frac{(-10)(9 \times 10^{-9}) \times (150 \times 10^{-9})^2}{0.12} = -0.017 \text{ V.C} \\
 &= -0.017 \text{ J}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$= (-) 17 \text{ mJ}$$

(12)

# Sample Problem: 24.07

Conservation of Mechanical energy With electric Potential energy:



$$K_i + U_i$$

$$(K_i) + 0$$

Alpha Particle final state

$$(K_f) + U_f$$

$$0 + \frac{q_1 q_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}$$

$$(K_i)_\alpha$$

$$= \frac{q_1 q_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}$$

$$= \frac{9 \times 10^9 \times 2(1.6 \times 10^{-19})(+79)(1.6 \times 10^{-19})}{9.23 \times 10^{-15}}$$

$$(K_i)_\alpha = +3.94 \times 10^{-12} \text{ J}$$

But  $1 \text{ eV} = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$

$$(K_i)_\alpha = \frac{+3.94 \times 10^{-12}}{1.6 \times 10^{-19}} = 2.46 \times 10^7 \text{ eV}$$

$$= 24.6 \text{ MeV}$$

Units of Energy: Joule

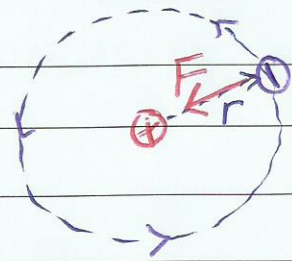
$$\text{kWh} = (1000)(3600) = (1000 \frac{\text{J}}{\text{s}})(3600 \text{ s}) = 3.6 \times 10^6 \text{ J}$$

$$\text{kWh} = 3.6 \text{ MJ}$$

$$\text{eV} = (1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C})(1 \text{ V}) = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$$

## Problem: Hydrogen Atom

In the H-atom, the electron moves in a Uniform Circular motion around the nucleus, of radius  $= 5.29 \times 10^{-11} \text{ m}$



$$q_{\text{electron}} = -1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$$

$$q_{\text{nucleus}} = +1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$$

$$m_e = 9.11 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$$

- 1) Find the kinetic energy of the electron?
- 2) Find the Potential energy of the electron?
- 3) Find the Mechanical Energy of the electron?

$$1) F = \frac{q_e q_n}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2} = \frac{mv^2}{r} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Coulomb's Law} \\ \text{Newton's 2nd Law} \end{array}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} [mv^2 = \frac{q_e q_n}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}]$$

$$\frac{1}{2} mv^2 = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{q_e q_n}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} \right) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{(1.6 \times 10^{-19})^2 (9 \times 10^9)}{5.29 \times 10^{-11}} \right)$$

$$K.E = 2.18 \times 10^{-18} \text{ J} = 13.6 \text{ eV}$$

$$2) U = q_e \left( \frac{q_n}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} \right) = -1.6 \times 10^{-19} \left( \frac{9 \times 10^9 \times 1.6 \times 10^{-19}}{5.29 \times 10^{-11}} \right)$$
$$= (-) 4.36 \times 10^{-18} \text{ J} = (-) 27.2 \text{ eV}$$

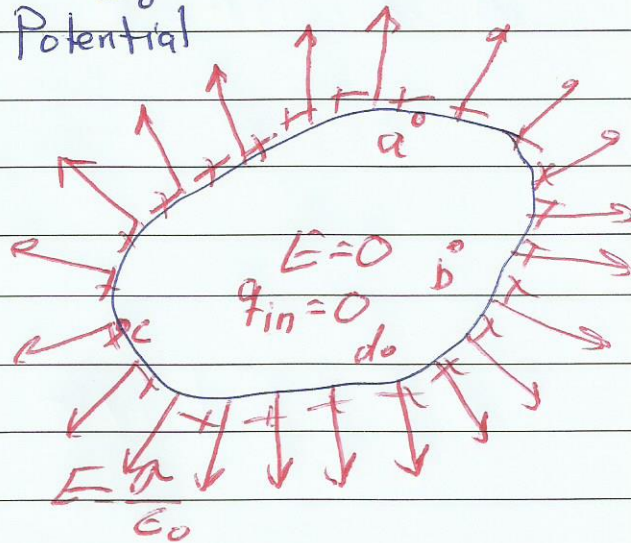
$$3) \text{ Mechanical Energy} = K.E + U = +13.6 + -27.2$$
$$= -13.6 \text{ eV}$$
$$= -2.18 \times 10^{-18} \text{ J}$$

# Potential of a Charged Isolated Conductor.

## Charged Isolated Conductor:

- 1) The charge sit at the outer surface
- 2) Charge inside the Conductor = 0
- 3)  $E$  inside the Conductor = 0
- 4)  $E_{\text{near}}$  the outer surface =  $\frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0}$
- 5) All its points have the same Potential

$$V_a = V_b = V_c = V_d$$



## Charged Isolated Conducting sphere.

Conducting sphere

- radius =  $R$
- charge =  $+Q$

$\sigma = \frac{+Q}{4\pi R^2}$  [All extra charge  $Q$  on the surface charged]

$\rho = 0$  [No charge inside] Conducting sphere

$$E_s = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R^2} \quad \text{or} \quad E_s = \frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0}$$

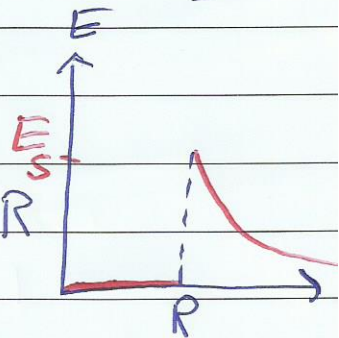
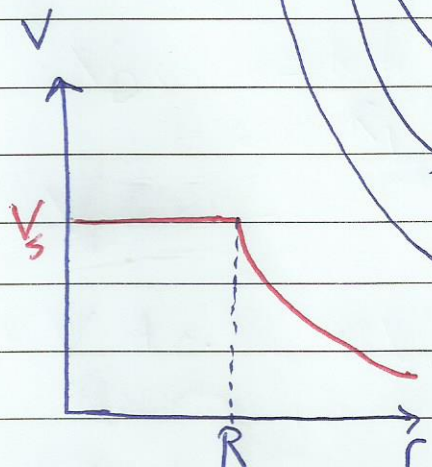
$$E_{\text{inside}} = 0, \quad r < R$$

$$E_{\text{outside}} = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2}, \quad r \geq R$$

$$V_s = \frac{+Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R}$$

$$V_{\text{inside}} = V_s = \frac{+Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R}, \quad r \leq R$$

$$V_{\text{outside}} = \frac{+Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}, \quad r \geq R$$



### The voltage on the surface of a uniformly conducting sphere

To find the potential on the surface let's find it relative to  $\infty$

Note  $V_R$  is the voltage at the surface of a sphere of radius  $R$

$$V_{\infty} - V_R = - \int_R^{\infty} \vec{E}_{outside} \cdot d\vec{r}$$

$$0 - V_R = - \int_R^{\infty} E_{outside} dr$$

$$V_R = \int_R^{\infty} E_{outside} dr$$

Note that the electric field outside the sphere is  $E_{outside} = KQ/r^2$ , thus

$$V_R = \int_R^{\infty} \frac{KQ}{r^2} dr$$

$$V_R = \left. \frac{-KQ}{r} \right|_R^{\infty}$$

$$V_R = -KQ \left( \frac{1}{\infty} - \frac{1}{R} \right)$$

$V_R = \frac{KQ}{R}$  this is the potential at the surface of a uniformly charged conducting sphere

### Now let's find the voltage inside the sphere

The difference in the voltage between the center of the sphere and the surface is

Note:  $V_0$  is the voltage at the center of the sphere

$$V_R - V_0 = - \int_0^R \vec{E}_{inside} \cdot d\vec{r}$$

$$V_R - V_0 = - \int_0^R E_{inside} dr$$

Note that the electric field inside the sphere is  $E_{inside} = 0$ , thus

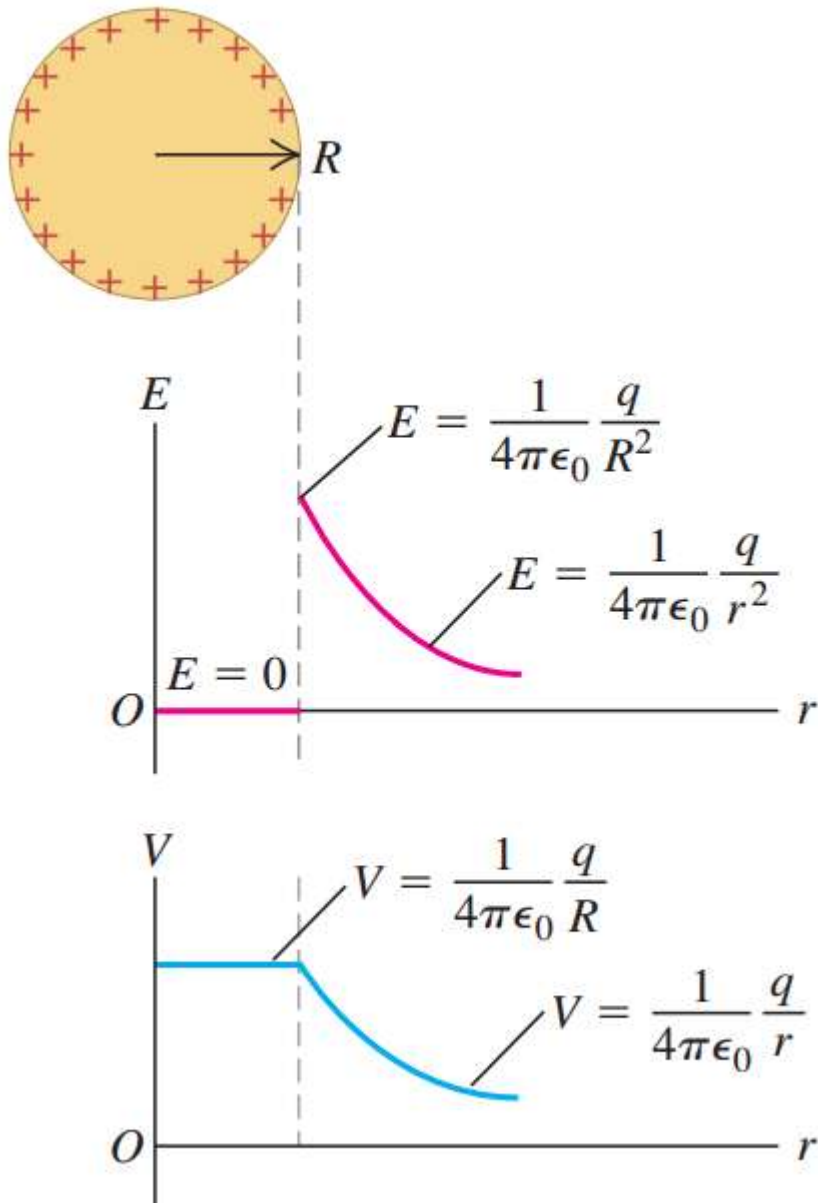
$$V_R - V_0 = 0, \text{ Thus}$$

$$V_R = V_0$$



This means that the potential at the center of a uniformly charged conducting sphere equals the voltage on its surface, thus the potential inside a uniformly conducting sphere is constant

See the figures below



As you can see from the figures the electric field inside a **conductor** is zero while the potential is constant