

Field eqns for Electrostatic (& Gravitational) Fields

$\rho(\vec{r}) =$ given charge density

$\vec{E}(\vec{r}) =$ electric field



① $\nabla \cdot \vec{E} = \rho$

Field equation (normalized)

$\rho \Rightarrow$ faucets in $\vec{E} \Rightarrow \vec{E}$

We also know \vec{E} is conservative

i.e., ② $\vec{E} = -\nabla \phi$

Substitute ② \rightarrow ① \Rightarrow

$\nabla^2 \phi = -\rho$ ③
Thus, $\rho \Rightarrow \phi$

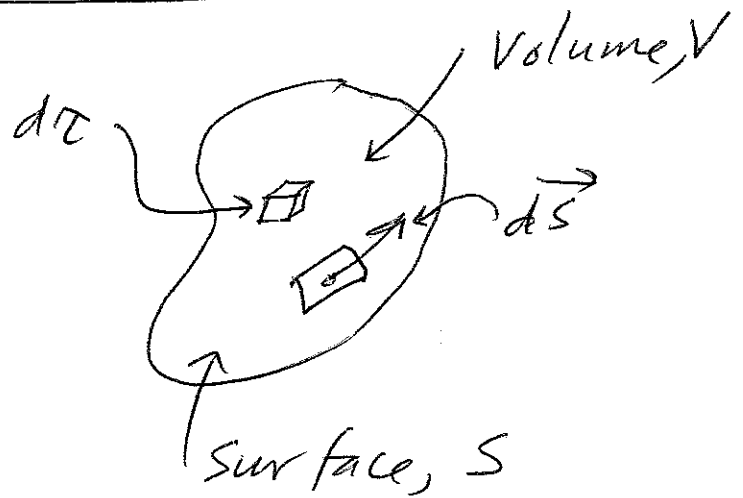
For Gravitational fields

$\rho(\vec{r}) =$ mass density, $\vec{E} \rightarrow \vec{F} =$
grav. field; $\vec{F} = -\nabla \phi_g$. SAME eqns
(normalized)

Enclosed Charge Theorem

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Eqn ① can
be rewritten as



$$\oint_S \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} = (\text{Charge enclosed in volume } V)$$
$$\equiv \int_V d\tau \rho$$

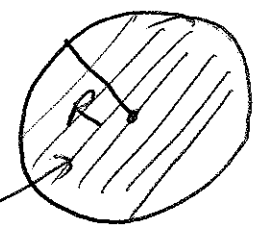
Proof $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = \rho \quad - \text{①}$

Gauss Theorem: $\int_V \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} d\tau \equiv \oint_S d\vec{s} \cdot \vec{E}$

Apply $\int_V d\tau$ to both sides of ①

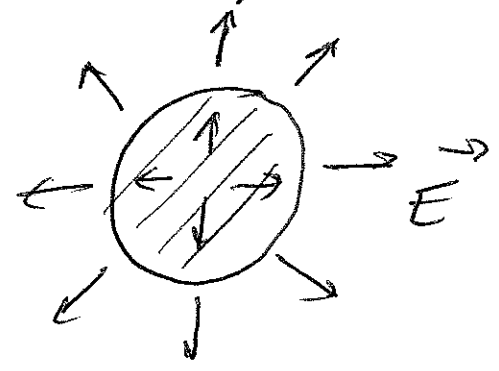
$$\Rightarrow \oint_S \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} = \int_V d\tau \rho. \quad \text{QED}$$

Enclosed Charge Theorem gives quick results for \vec{E} if $\rho(\vec{r})$ is highly symmetric

Example suppose $\rho =$  $\rho = \rho_0 = \text{constant}$


To find \vec{E} • First, \vec{E} must be central, by symmetry and "Faucet physics".


• ie, \vec{E} must point along \vec{r} and $|\vec{E}|$ must be const for given radius r .




• Making above assumption, the LHS of the theorem becomes easy to evaluate if the chosen surface is spherical, ie, consider

then $\oint_S \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} = \int |\vec{E}| ds$
 $= |\vec{E}| \int ds = |\vec{E}| 4\pi r^2 = E 4\pi r^2$



• For the same surface, RHS =
charge enclosed in 

• Apply these to  $\rho = \rho_0$ problem

• There are two possible surfaces 

First, $r > R \Rightarrow$

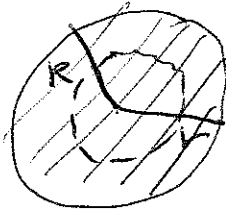
then, LHS = RHS



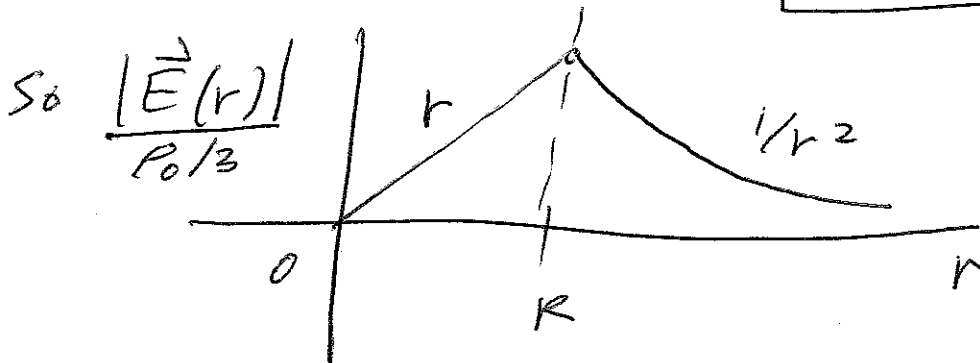
$$\Rightarrow E_{out} 4\pi r^2 = \rho_0 \frac{4}{3} \pi R^3 \Rightarrow E_{out} = \frac{\rho_0 R^3}{3r^2}$$

Next, $r < R \Rightarrow$

LHS = RHS



$$\Rightarrow E_{in} 4\pi r^2 = \rho_0 \frac{4}{3} \pi r^3 \Rightarrow E_{in} = \frac{\rho_0 r}{3}$$



ϕ can be found from E

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$$\text{eg, } \vec{E}_{in} = \frac{\rho_0}{3} \vec{r}$$

$$\text{If } \vec{E}_{in} = -\vec{\nabla} \phi_{in}$$

$$\Rightarrow -\vec{\nabla} \phi_{in} = \frac{\rho_0}{3} \vec{r}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial \phi_{in}}{\partial x} = -\frac{\rho_0}{3} x, \text{ etc}$$

Cartesian
coords \rightarrow

as shown earlier \Rightarrow $\phi_{in} = \frac{-\rho_0 r^2}{6} + \text{const}$

In Spherical coords: $\frac{\partial \phi_{in}}{\partial r} = -\frac{\rho_0}{3} r$

$$\Rightarrow \phi_{in} = \frac{-\rho_0 r^2}{6} + \text{const}$$

likewise, $\vec{E}_{out} = \frac{\rho_0 R^3}{3 r^2} \vec{r}$

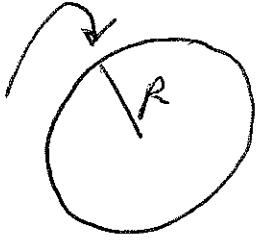
$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial \phi_{out}}{\partial r} = -\frac{\rho_0 R^3}{3 r^2}$$

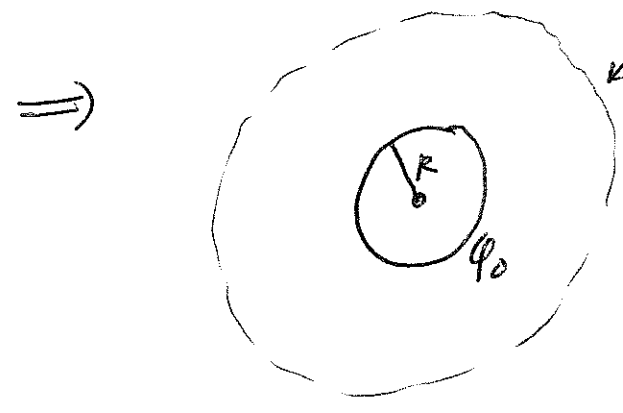
$$\Rightarrow \phi_{out} = \frac{+\rho_0 R^3}{3 r}$$

Note $\phi \rightarrow 0$
as $r \rightarrow \infty$

Solution of $\phi(\vec{r})$ as Boundary

Value Problem for high symmetry situation

• Suppose $\phi = \text{constant} = \phi_0$ on  and $\phi \rightarrow 0$ as $|\vec{r}| \rightarrow \infty$



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

(there is no charge for $r > R$)

• Use Spherical coordinates

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

But Symmetry $\Rightarrow \partial/\partial \theta = 0 + \partial/\partial \phi = 0$

$$\therefore \Rightarrow \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{d}{dr} \left(r^2 \frac{d\phi}{dr} \right) = 0 \Rightarrow r^2 \frac{d\phi}{dr} = C$$

$$\Rightarrow \phi = -\frac{C}{r} + D \quad \begin{array}{l} \phi(r \rightarrow \infty) \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow D = 0 \\ \phi(r=R) = \phi_0 \Rightarrow \boxed{\phi = +\phi_0 \left(\frac{R}{r} \right)} \end{array}$$

General Boundary Value

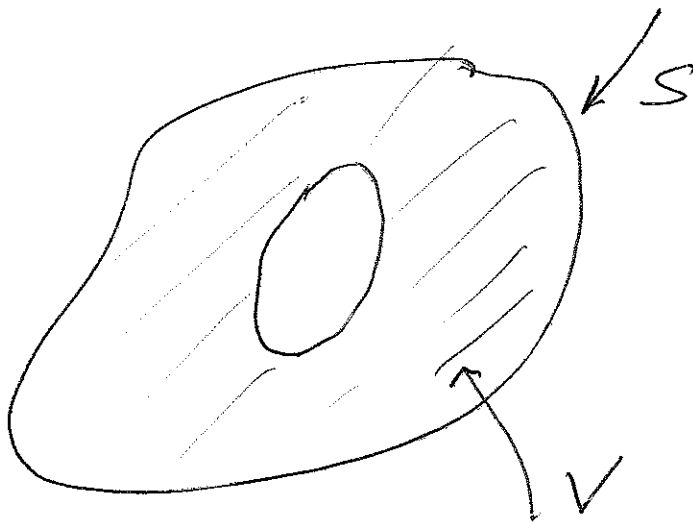
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problem for $\varphi(\vec{r})$ ($\rho=0$)

o $\nabla^2 \varphi = 0$

$\varphi(\text{Surface}) = \text{Given}$

(both surfaces)

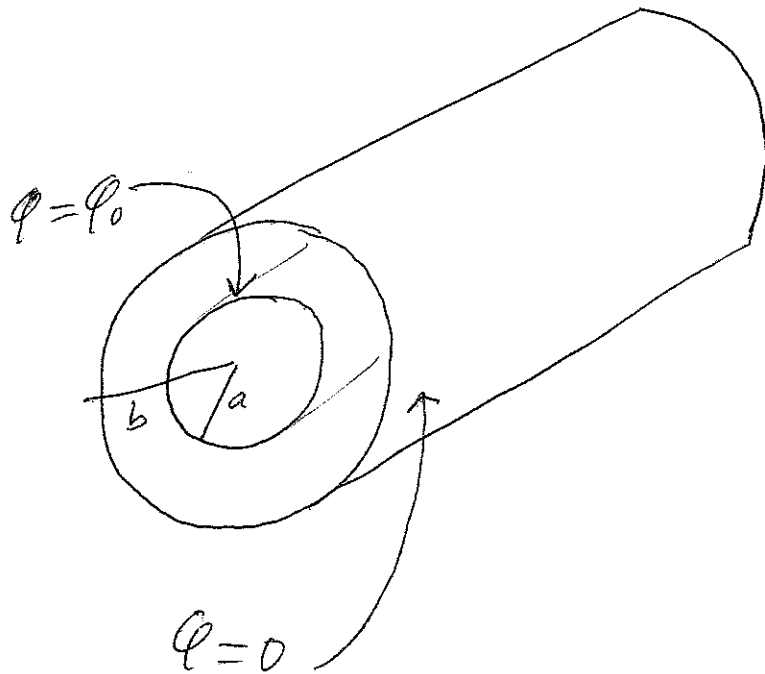


\Rightarrow Solve $\nabla^2 \varphi = 0$ inside the volume
and adjust φ to satisfy BC

$\Rightarrow \varphi = \varphi(\vec{r})$ inside

o Uniqueness Theorem: If a solution exists $\exists \nabla^2 \varphi = 0$ and $\varphi = \varphi(S)$ on boundary, then it is the solution.
(no proof)

High Symm BV Pbm in Cyl Coords F8



• $\nabla^2 \phi = 0$, Find ϕ in between cyles.

• Cylindrical $\Rightarrow \nabla^2 \rightarrow \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2}$

• Symmetry $\Rightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} = 0, \frac{\partial}{\partial z} = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{r} \frac{d}{dr} \left(r \frac{d\phi}{dr} \right) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow r \frac{d\phi}{dr} = C \Rightarrow \phi = C \ln r + D$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \phi(a) = \phi_0 = C \ln a + D \\ \phi(b) = 0 = C \ln b + D \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow C \text{ and } D$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\phi(r) = \phi_0 \frac{\ln(r/b)}{\ln(a/b)}}$$