

# PHYS 1441 – Section 001

## Lecture #8

*Friday, June 16, 2016*

*Dr. Jaehoon Yu*

- Chapter 23 Electric Potential
  - Equi-potential Lines and Surfaces
  - Electric Potential Due to Electric Dipole
- Chapter 24 Capacitance etc..
  - Capacitors



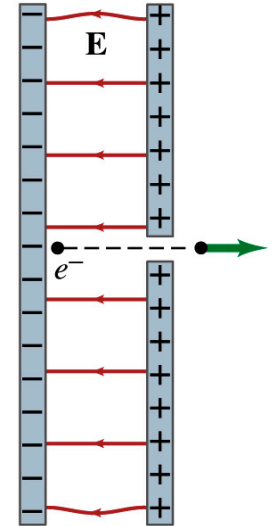
# Announcements

- Mid Term Exam
  - In class Wednesday, June 22
  - Covers CH21.1 through what we cover in class coming Tuesday + appendix
  - Bring your calculator but DO NOT input formula into it!
    - Cell phones or any types of computers cannot replace a calculator!
  - BYOF: You may bring a one 8.5x11.5 sheet (front and back) of handwritten formulae and values of constants for the quiz
  - No derivations, word definitions or solutions of any problems!
  - No additional formulae or values of constants will be provided!
- Reading assignments
  - CH23.9



# Reminder for Special Project #3

- **Particle Accelerator.** A charged particle of mass  $M$  with charge  $-Q$  is accelerated in the uniform field  $E$  between two parallel charged plates whose separation is  $D$  as shown in the figure on the right. The charged particle is accelerated from an initial speed  $v_0$  near the negative plate and passes through a tiny hole in the positive plate.
  - Derive the formula for the electric field  $E$  to accelerate the charged particle to a fraction  $f$  of the speed of light  $c$ . Express  $E$  in terms of  $M$ ,  $Q$ ,  $D$ ,  $f$ ,  $c$  and  $v_0$ .
  - (a) Using the Coulomb force and kinematic equations. (8 points)
  - (b) Using the work-kinetic energy theorem. (8 points)
  - (c) Using the formula above, evaluate the strength of the electric field  $E$  to accelerate an electron from 0.1% of the speed of light to 90% of the speed of light. You need to look up the relevant constants, such as mass of the electron, charge of the electron and the speed of light. (5 points)
- Due beginning of the class Monday, June 20



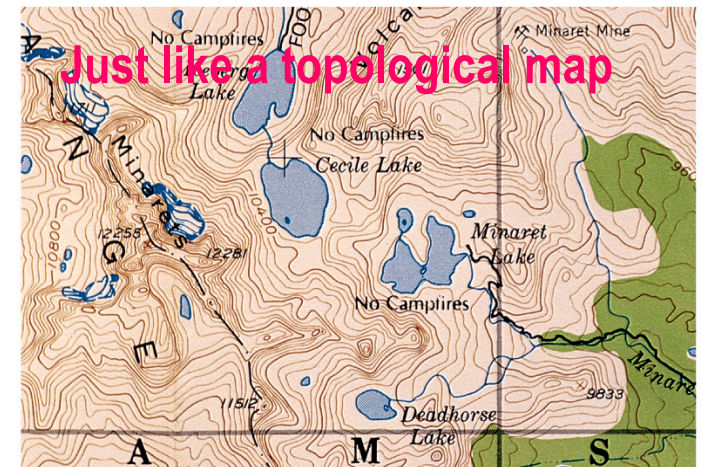
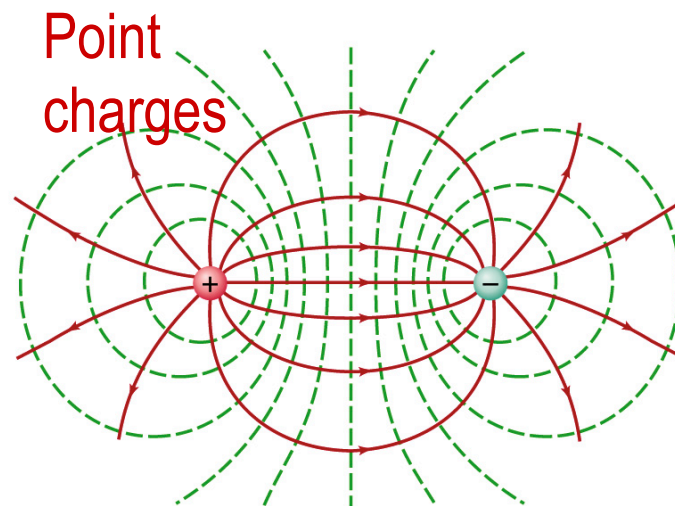
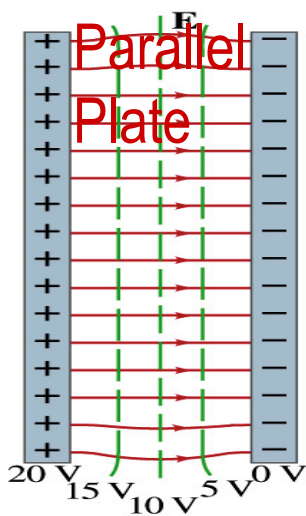
# Equi-potential Surfaces

- Electric potential can be graphically shown using the equipotential lines in 2-D or the equipotential surfaces in 3-D
- Any two points on the equipotential surfaces (lines) are at the same potential
- What does this mean in terms of the potential difference?
  - The potential difference between the two points on an equipotential surface is 0.
- How about the potential energy difference?
  - Also 0.
- What does this mean in terms of the work to move a charge along the surface between these two points?
  - No work is necessary to move a charge between these two points.



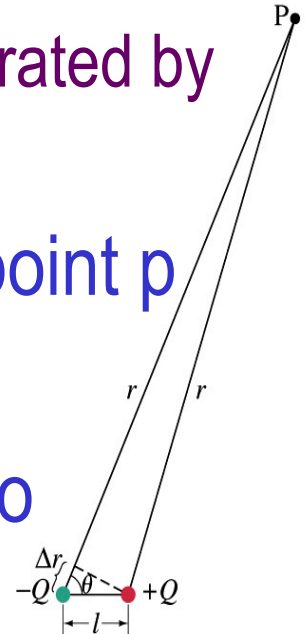
# Equi-potential Surfaces

- An equipotential surface (line) must be perpendicular to the electric field. Why?
  - If there are any parallel components to the electric field, it would require work to move a charge along the surface.
- Since the equipotential surface (line) is perpendicular to the electric field, we can draw these surfaces or lines easily.
- Since there can be no electric field within a conductor in a static case, the entire volume of a conductor must be at the same potential.
- So the electric field must be perpendicular to the conductor surface.



# Electric Potential due to Electric Dipoles

- What is an electric dipole?
  - Two equal point charge  $Q$  of opposite signs separated by a distance  $l$  and behaves like one entity:  $P=Ql$
- For the electric potential due to a dipole at a point  $p$ 
  - We take  $V=0$  at  $r=\infty$



- The simple sum of the potential at  $p$  by the two charges is

$$V = \sum \frac{Q_i}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r_{ia}} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left( \frac{Q}{r} + \frac{(-Q)}{r + \Delta r} \right) = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left( \frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{r + \Delta r} \right) = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{\Delta r}{r(r + \Delta r)}$$

- Since  $\Delta r = l \cos \theta$  and if  $r \gg l$ ,  $r \gg \Delta r$ , thus  $r \sim r + \Delta r$  and

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

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V by a dipole at a distance  $r$  from the dipole

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

# E Determined from V

- Potential difference between two points under the electric field is  $V_b - V_a = -\int_a^b \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l}$
- So in a differential form, we can write

$$dV = -\vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} = -E_l dl$$

– What are  $dV$  and  $E_l$ ?

- $dV$  is the infinitesimal potential difference between the two points separated by a distance  $d\vec{l}$
  - $E_l$  is the field component along the direction of  $d\vec{l}$
- Thus we can write the field component  $E_l$  as

$$E_l = -\frac{dV}{dl}$$

**Physical  
Meaning?**

The component of the electric field in any direction is equal to the negative rate of change of the electric potential as a function of distance in that direction.!!



# E Determined from V

- The quantity  $dV/d\ell$  is called the **gradient of V** in a particular direction
  - If no direction is specified, the term gradient refers to the direction on which **V changes most rapidly** and this would be the direction of the field vector **E** at that point.
  - So if **E** and  $d\ell$  are parallel to each other,  $E = -\frac{dV}{d\ell}$
- If **E** is written as a function of  $x$ ,  $y$  and  $z$ , the  $\ell$  refers to  $x$ ,  $y$  and  $z$ 

$$E_x = -\frac{\partial V}{\partial x} \quad E_y = -\frac{\partial V}{\partial y} \quad E_z = -\frac{\partial V}{\partial z}$$
- $\frac{\partial V}{\partial x}$  is the “partial derivative” of  $V$  with respect to  $x$ , while  $y$  and  $z$  held constant
- In vector form,  $\vec{E} = -\text{grad}V = -\vec{\nabla}V = -\left(\vec{i}\frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \vec{j}\frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \vec{k}\frac{\partial}{\partial z}\right)V$

$\vec{\nabla} = -\left(\vec{i}\frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \vec{j}\frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \vec{k}\frac{\partial}{\partial z}\right)$  is called **del** or the **gradient operator** and is a **vector operator**.



# Electrostatic Potential Energy

- Consider a case in which a point charge  $q$  is moved between points  $a$  and  $b$  where the electrostatic potential due to other charges in the system is  $V_a$  and  $V_b$
- The change in electrostatic potential energy of  $q$  in the field by other charges is

$$\Delta U = U_b - U_a = q(V_b - V_a) = qV_{ba}$$

- Now what is the electrostatic potential energy of a system of charges?
  - Let's choose  $V=0$  at  $r=\infty$
  - If there are no other charges around, single point charge  $Q_1$  in isolation has no potential energy and is under no electric force



# Electrostatic Potential Energy; Two charges

- If a second point charge  $Q_2$  is brought close to  $Q_1$  at a distance  $r_{12}$ , the potential due to  $Q_1$  at the position of  $Q_2$  is

$$V = \frac{Q_1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{r_{12}}$$

- The potential energy of the two charges relative to  $V=0$  at  $r = \infty$  is

$$U = Q_2 V = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Q_1 Q_2}{r_{12}}$$

- This is the work that needs to be done by an external force to bring  $Q_2$  from infinity to a distance  $r_{12}$  from  $Q_1$ .
- It is also a negative of the work needed to separate them to infinity.



# Electrostatic Potential Energy; Three Charges

- So what do we do for three charges?
- Work is needed to bring all three charges together
  - Work needed to bring  $Q_1$  to a certain location without the presence of any charge is 0.
  - Work needed to bring  $Q_2$  to a distance to  $Q_1$  is  $U_{12} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Q_1 Q_2}{r_{12}}$
  - Work need to bring  $Q_3$  to certain distances to  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$  is

$$U_3 = U_{13} + U_{23} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Q_1 Q_3}{r_{13}} + \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Q_2 Q_3}{r_{23}}$$

- So the total electrostatic potential energy of the three charge system is
$$U = U_{12} + U_{13} + U_{23} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left( \frac{Q_1 Q_2}{r_{12}} + \frac{Q_1 Q_3}{r_{13}} + \frac{Q_2 Q_3}{r_{23}} \right) \quad [V = 0 \text{ at } r = \infty]$$
- What about a four charge system or N charge system?



# Electrostatic Potential Energy: electron Volt

- What is the unit of electrostatic potential energy?
  - Joules
- Joules is a very large unit in dealing with electrons, atoms or molecules atomic scale problems
- For convenience a new unit, electron volt (eV), is defined
  - 1 eV is defined as the energy acquired by a particle carrying the charge equal to that of an electron ( $q=e$ ) when it moves across a potential difference of 1V.
  - How many Joules is 1 eV then?  $1eV = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} C \cdot 1V = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} J$
- eV however is **NOT a standard SI unit**. You must convert the energy to Joules for computations.
- What is the speed of an electron with kinetic energy 5000eV?



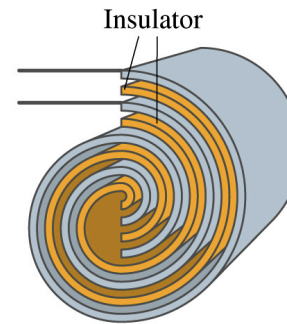
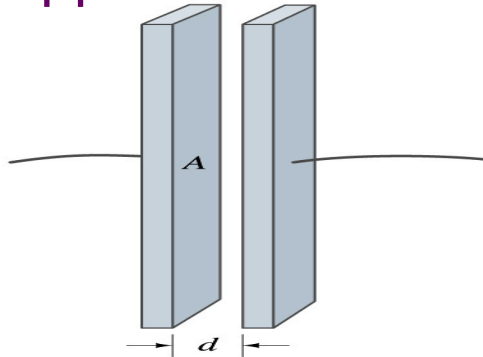
# Capacitors (or Condensers)

- What is a capacitor?
  - A device that can store electric charge
  - But does not let them flow through
- What does it consist of?
  - Usually consists of two conducting objects (plates or sheets) placed near each other without touching
  - Why can't they touch each other?
    - The charge will neutralize...
- Can you give some examples?
  - Camera flash, UPS, Surge protectors, binary circuits, memory, etc...
- How is a capacitor different than a battery?
  - Battery provides potential difference by storing energy (usually chemical energy) while the capacitor stores charges but very little energy.



# Capacitors

- A simple capacitor consists of a pair of parallel plates of area  $\mathcal{A}$  separated by a distance  $d$ .
  - A cylindrical capacitors are essentially parallel plates wrapped around as a cylinder.



- How would you draw symbols for a capacitor and a battery?

- Capacitor  $-||-$
- Battery  $(+) -||- (-)$

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