# **Electrostatics**



# Source of Charges

# 1. Point Charge

If charge is put at a point only •+Q

# 2. Line charge density

It is charge per unit length.

$$\frac{dQ}{dL} = \rho_L \quad C/m$$

$$Q = \int \rho_L dL \quad C$$

# 3. Surface charge density

It is the charge per unit area

$$\frac{dQ}{dS} = \rho_S C/m^2$$

$$Q = \iint_S \rho_S dS C$$

# 4. Volume charge density

It is the charge per unit volume

$$\frac{dQ}{dV} = \rho_V C/m^3$$

$$Q = \iiint_V \rho_V dV C$$

# Charge in terms of Various Charge Distributions

$$Q = \int_{L} \rho_{L} dL = \int_{S} \rho_{S} dS = \int_{V} \rho_{V} dV C$$

where,  $\rho_L,\rho_S$  and  $\rho_V$  are line charge, surface charge and volume charge density respectively.

### Coulomb's Law

The force acting between two point charges is directly proportional to the products of charges and inversely proportional to the square of the distance between them

$$\begin{array}{c} Q_1\times & \times & \times \\ \hline F \propto \frac{Q_1\,Q_2}{R^2} & \text{Newton} \\ \\ \hline F = K \cdot \frac{Q_1\,Q_2}{R^2} = \frac{Q_1\,Q_2}{4\pi\,\,\varepsilon_0\,\,R^2} \\ \\ \text{Where,} & K = \frac{1}{4\pi\,\varepsilon_0} = 9\times 10^9 \,\text{in S.I. system} \end{array}$$

If two same positive charge are placed then they experience a repulsive force.

$$\vec{F}_{1} = \frac{+Q_{1}}{X} \frac{\vec{R}_{21}}{\vec{A}_{21}} \qquad \vec{F} \qquad \vec{R}_{12} + Q_{2} \\ \vec{A}_{12} = \frac{\vec{R}_{12}}{|R_{12}|} \quad \text{and} \quad \vec{A}_{21} = \frac{\vec{R}_{21}}{|R_{21}|} \\ \vec{R}_{12} = -\vec{R}_{21} \quad \text{and} \quad \vec{A}_{12} = -\vec{A}_{21} \\ \vec{F}_{1} = \frac{Q_{1}Q_{2}}{4\pi \epsilon_{0} R_{21}^{2}} \vec{A}_{21}, \quad \vec{F}_{2} = \frac{Q_{1}Q_{2}}{4\pi \epsilon_{0} R_{12}^{2}} \vec{A}_{12} \\ \vec{F}_{11} = -\vec{F}_{2}$$

- Linear forces are another property of Coulomb force i.e.  $nF \propto nQ_1Q_2$
- Coulomb's force Obeys law of superposition.
- Coulomb's forces are called mutual and linear force.

# **Electric Field Intensity**

The electric field intensity or electric field strength (E) is the force per unit charge when placed in an electric field

$$E = \lim_{Q \to 0} \frac{\vec{F}}{Q} \text{ Newton/C}$$

### Electric field due to continuous charge distribution

(i) Line charge

$$E = \int_{L} \frac{\rho_{L} dL}{4\pi \in_{0} R^{2}} a_{r}$$

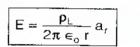
(ii) Surface charge

$$E = \int_{S} \frac{\rho_{S} dS}{4\pi \epsilon_{0} R^{2}} a_{r}$$

(iii) Volume charge

$$E = \int_{V} \frac{\rho_{V} dV}{4\pi \in_{0} R^{2}} a_{r}$$

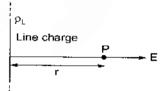
Electric field intensity due to infinitely long line charge



where.

 $p_1$  = Charge per unit length

= Line charge density C/m



# Electric field intensity due to infinite charge sheet

$$E = \frac{\rho_s}{2 \epsilon_o} i_n$$

 $\rho_s$  = Surface charge density, C/m<sup>2</sup> where. If sheet is on xy plane  $z = z_0$ 

$$E = \begin{cases} \frac{\rho_s}{2 \in_o} i_z & \text{for } z > z_o \\ -\frac{\rho_s}{2 \in_o} i_z & \text{for } z < z_o \end{cases}$$

# Remember:

In a parallel plate capacitor, the electric field existing between the two plates having equal and opposite charges

$$E = \frac{\rho_s}{\epsilon_0} i_n$$

# Electric field intensity due to uniformly charged sphere

$$E = \begin{cases} \frac{r}{3 \in_{o}} \rho_{o} i_{r}; & 0 < r \le a \\ \frac{a^{3}}{3 \in_{o} r^{2}} \rho_{o} i_{r}, & r \ge a \end{cases}$$

Where

 $\rho_{o}$  = Volume charge density

a = Radius of sphere

# **Electric/Displacement Flux Density**

The electric flux density is always tangential to electric flux lines. Electric flux lines originates from a positive charge and ends on a negative charge.

$$D = \frac{\text{Flux}}{\text{Unit area}}$$

$$\vec{D} = \frac{Q}{4\pi r^2} i_r \quad \text{and} \quad \vec{E} = \frac{Q}{4\pi \epsilon_0 r^2} i_r$$

$$\vec{D} = \epsilon_0 \vec{E}$$

where.

 $\vec{D}$  = Electric flux density C/m<sup>2</sup>

 $\vec{E}$  = Electric field intensity V/m

€ = Electrical permittivity of medium

$$\epsilon = \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r$$

 $\epsilon_0$  = Free space permittivity

= 
$$8.854 \times 10^{-12} \text{ F/m} = \left(\frac{1}{36\pi}\right) \times 10^{-9} \text{ F/m}$$

 $\epsilon_r =$  Relative permittivity or Dielectric constant of medium

 $\epsilon_r = 1$  (For air (or) free space)

 $\epsilon_r > 1$  (For rest of the material)

Note:

Electric field  $\vec{E}$  depends upon the medium where as  $\vec{D}$  is independent of the medium.

#### Gauss's Law

Gauss law states that flux leaving any closed surface is equal to the charge enclosed by that surface.

$$\psi = \oint_S \vec{D} \cdot d\vec{S} = Q = \int_V \rho_V \cdot dV$$
 .... Gauss law in integral form

 $\rho_V = \nabla \cdot \vec{D}$  ... Gauss law in differential or point form Maxwell's first equation.

#### Note:

- The Gauss law is applicable for time varying as well as static fields.
- The equation is valid irrespective of the shape of closed surface area'S'.

# **Electrical Energy Density**

It is total electrical per unit volume

$$W_e = \frac{1}{2} \in \vec{E}^2 = \frac{1}{2} \vec{D} \cdot \vec{E}$$
 J/m<sup>3</sup>

Total electrical energy stored

$$W_e = \frac{1}{2}CV^2 = \frac{1}{2}QV = \frac{1}{2}\frac{Q^2}{C}$$

# **Energy Density in Electrostatic Field**

**Electrostatic energy density** 

$$W_{E} = \frac{dW_{E}}{dv} = \frac{1}{2}\vec{D} \cdot \vec{E} = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{0} E^{2} = \frac{D^{2}}{2 \epsilon_{0}}$$

Total electrostatic energy

$$W_{E} = \frac{1}{2} \int_{V} \vec{D} \cdot \vec{E} \, dV = \frac{1}{2} \int_{V} \epsilon_{0} E_{2} \, dV$$

#### **Electric Potential**

#### Potential difference



(a)
Movement of a test charge
in an electric field

$$V_{AB} = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{1}{r_B} - \frac{1}{r_A} \right] \quad V_{AB} = \frac{W_{AB}}{q} = -\int_A^B \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l}$$

where.

V<sub>AB</sub> = Potential difference between the points A & B

W<sub>AB</sub> = Work done by the field in moving a test charge q from A to B

dl = Infinitesimal length of segments

# Remember:

- The negative sign in above equation indicates that the work is being done by an external agent.
- If V<sub>AB</sub> is negative, there is a loss in potential energy in moving charge Q from A to B i.e. the field does the work.

# Potential at a point P due to point charge

$$V(r) = \int_{r}^{r} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l} = -\int_{r}^{r} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l}$$
 Vol

where,

V(r) = Potential at a distance r from the point charge r = distance of point P from point charge

$$V = \frac{Q}{4\pi \epsilon_0 r}$$

For static electric field

$$\oint \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{i} = 0 \qquad ; \qquad \nabla \times \mathbf{E} = 0$$

# Remember: .

The potential at any point is the potential difference between that point and a chosen point (or reference point) at which the potential is zero.

### Relation between electric field Intensity vector and potential at a point

$$E = -\nabla V$$

# Poisson's and Laplace Equation

$$\nabla^2 V = \frac{-\rho_V}{\epsilon}$$
 ....Poisson's equation

For charge free region  $\rho_{\gamma} = 0$ 

$$\nabla^2 V = 0$$
 ....Laplace equation

- In Poisson's equation the potential or electric field can be found due to specified volume charge distribution in the given region.
- In Laplace equation the potential or electric field can be found in the charge free region.

# Remember:

- Both Poisson's and Laplace equation are second order three dimensional non linear differential equations.
- Poisson's equation is valid in the region where some charge is present, where as Laplace equation is valid for charge free region.
- At least two boundary conditions must be known to calculate two arbitrary constants of integration when the two equations are solved.

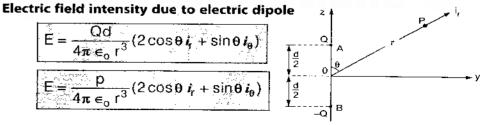
# **Electric Dipole**

An electric dipole is formed when two point charges of equal magnitude but opposite sign are separated by small distance

# Dipole moment

$$\vec{p} = Q\vec{d}$$
  $\vec{q}$   $\vec{q}$ 

Direction of dipole moment is from negative charge to positive charge.



### Conductor

A perfect conductor ( $\sigma = \infty$ ) cannot contain an electrostatic field within it. Inside a conductor

$$E = 0, \rho_v = 0, V_{ab} = 0$$

where,  $V_{ab}$  = Potential difference between points a and b in the conductor.

#### Power

Joule's law

$$P = \int_{V} \vec{E} \cdot \vec{J} \, dV$$

where.

= Current density, A/m<sup>2</sup>

## **Continuity Equation**

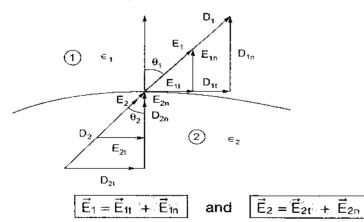
$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{J} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{p}_{\mathbf{v}}}{\partial \mathbf{t}}$$

Note:

- For steady current  $\frac{\partial \rho_0}{\partial t} = 0$ .
- For lossless region  $\rho_v = 0$ ;  $\nabla \cdot J = 0$ .

# **Boundary Conditions**

# **Dielectric-Dielectric Boundary Condition**



where,  $\vec{E}_1$ ,  $\vec{E}_2$  = Fields in media 1 and 2 respectively

 $\vec{E}_t, \vec{E}_n = \text{Tangential}$  and normal components of E

# Tangential component relation

$$\vec{E}_{1t} = \vec{E}_{2t}$$
 or  $\vec{\frac{D}{tt}} = \vec{\frac{D}{D2t}}$ 

# Normal component relation

$$\vec{D}_{1n} - \vec{D}_{2n} = \rho_s$$

where,  $\epsilon_1 \& \epsilon_2$  = Permittivity of dielectric 1 and 2

 $\rho_s$  = Free charge density placed deliberately at the boundary

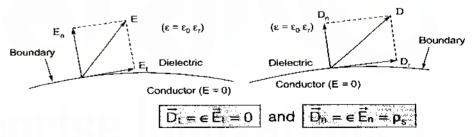
#### Remember:

- The tangential component of  $\vec{E}$  is continuous while that of  $\vec{D}$  is discontinuous at boundary.
- The normal component of  $\vec{D}$  is continuous while that of  $\vec{E}$  is discontinuous at boundary.

# If no free charges exists at the interface

$$\vec{D}_{1n} = \vec{D}_{2n}$$
 or  $\vec{E}_{1n} = \vec{E}_{2n}$ 

### Conductor-Dielectric Boundary Conditions.



### Remember:

- Since  $\vec{E} = -\nabla V = 0$ , there can be no potential difference between any two points in the conductor (i.e. a conductor is an equipotential body).
- An electric field E must be external to the conductor and must be normal to its surface.

$$\vec{D}_t = \in \vec{E}_t = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \vec{D}_n = \in \vec{E}_n = \rho_s$$