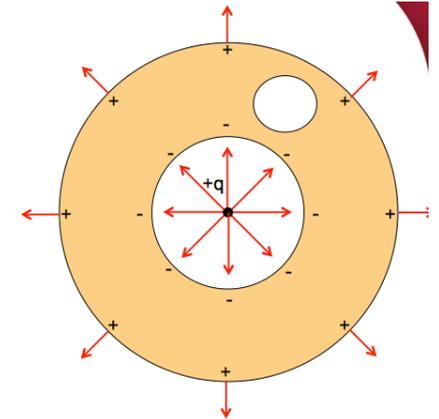


University Physics 227N/232N Old Dominion University

Gauss's Law and Conductors Starting Electric Potential

Exam Wed Feb 12



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Monday, February 3 2014

Happy Birthday to Julio Jones, Isla Fisher, Felix Mendelssohn,

Norman Rockwell, and James Michner!

RIP to Philip Seymour Hoffman

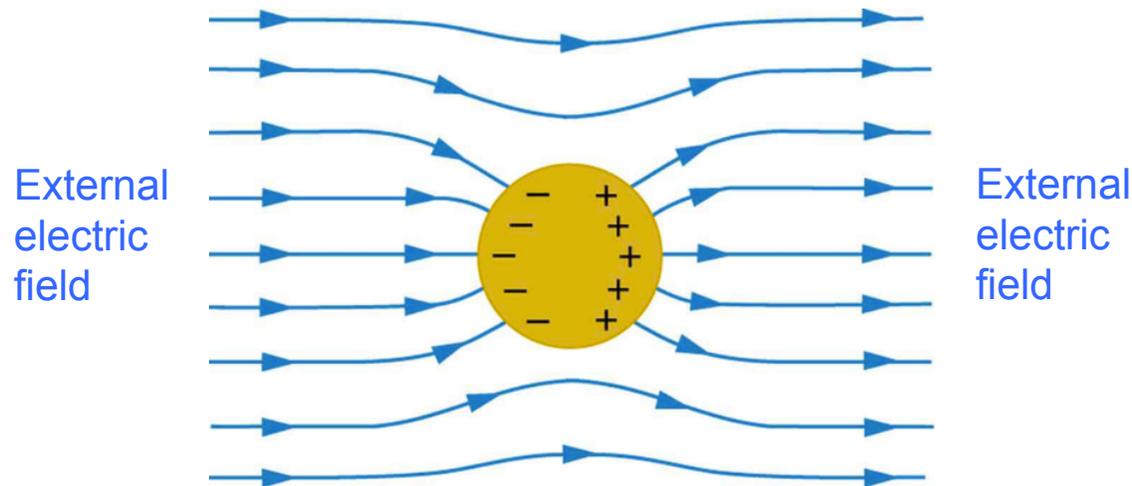


Jefferson Lab



Review: Conductors and Electric Fields

- Electrons move freely in conductors until **electrical forces balance**
 - The electric field **inside** a perfect conductor is **always zero**
 - Any nonzero field moves electrons until the overall electric field is zero
 - The electric field on the **surface** of a perfect conductor is always only **perpendicular** to the surface
 - Any tangential field moves electrons until the tangential field is zero



Electric field at
surface of conductor
perpendicular to surface

Electric field inside
conductor: $E=0$ N/m

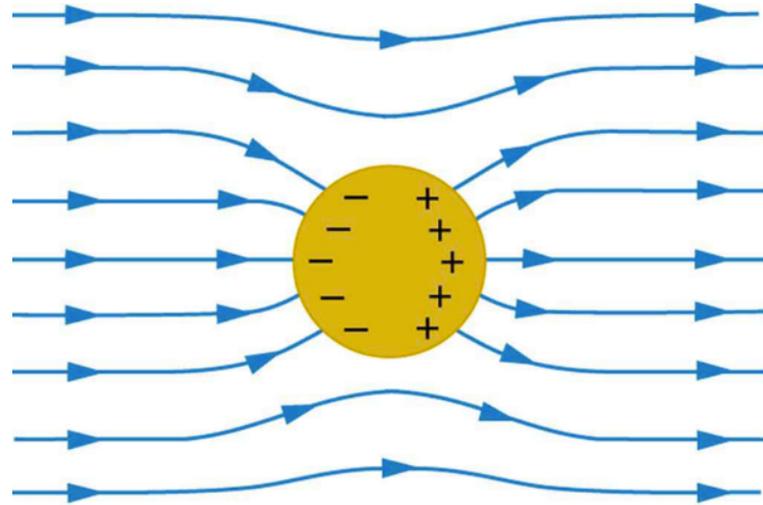


Review: Induced Electric Field Demo

Charged wand



Conductor is neutral



Attractive force
on - charges



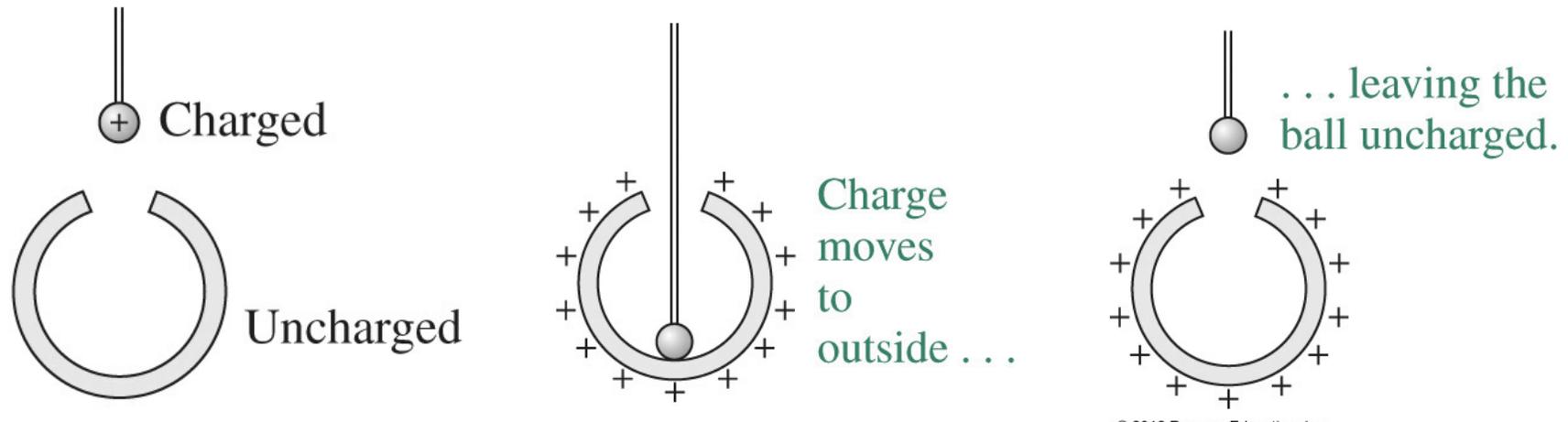
Repulsive force
on + charges



Net **attractive** force on
conductor from wand



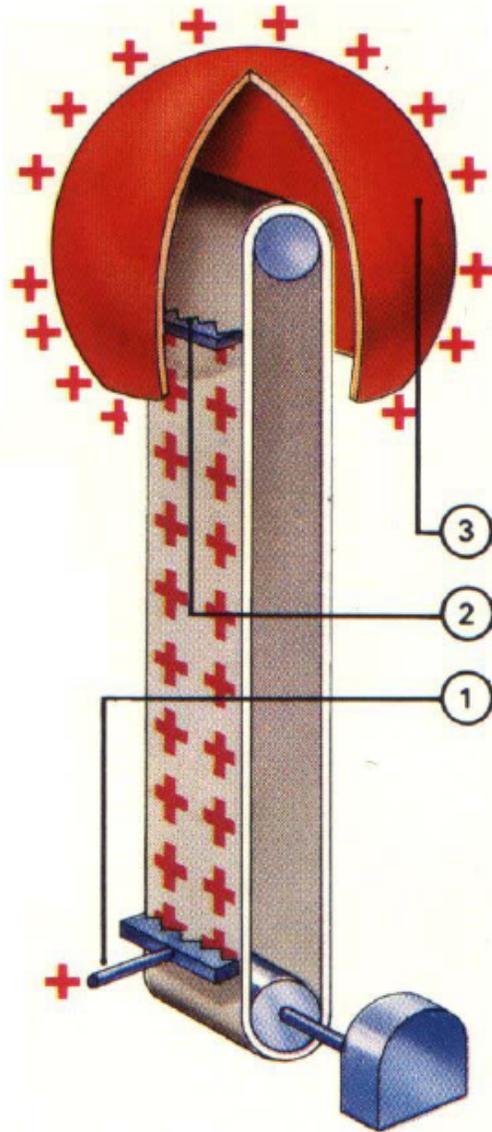
Review: Charging A Hollow Conductor



- Electrons move freely over any connected conductive surface
 - Mutual repulsion distributes charges on “outside” of conductors
 - The inserted charged conductor emerges with zero net charge
 - Also the principle behind electrical “grounding”, discharging excess electrical charge relative to the “ground”
 - This is also a very sensitive test of Gauss’s law/Coulomb’s law
 - And thus the inverse square power of electrostatics
 - To better than 1 part in 10^{16} !!
 - <http://adsabs.harvard.edu/abs/1971PhRvL..26..721W>
 - Also a limit on the photon “rest mass”



Conductors and Accelerators: Van de Graaff, SF₆



- How to increase voltage for accelerators?
 - R.J. Van de Graaff: charge transport
 - Electrode (1) sprays HV charge onto insulated belt
 - Carried up to spherical conductor
 - Removed by second electrode (2) and distributed over sphere (3)
- Limited by atmospheric electric breakdown
 - ~2 MV in air
 - 20+ MV in SF₆!

(After that, lightning bolts!)

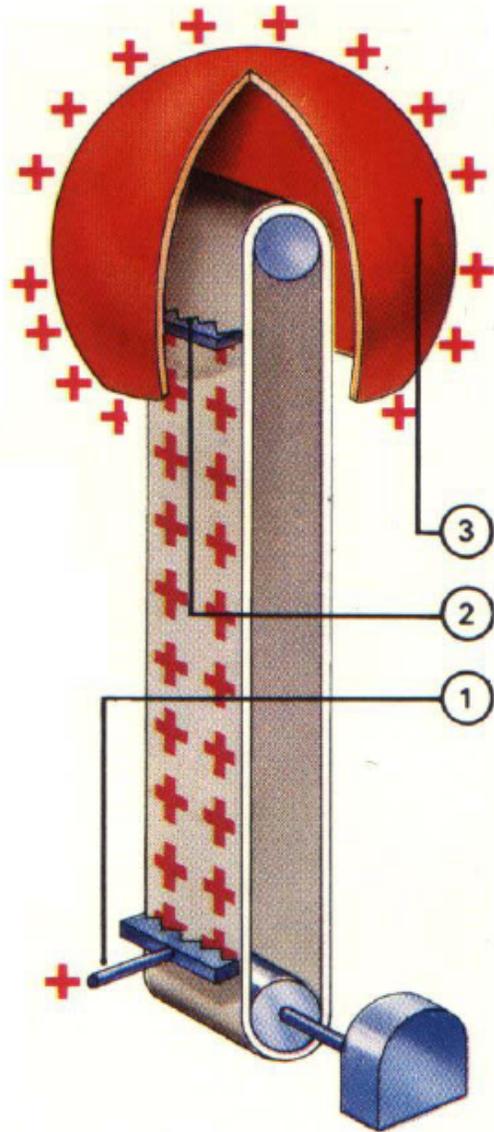


SF₆ also happens to be the most effective greenhouse gas known

Also extremely dense: for fun, see <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u19QfJWI1oQ>



Conductors and Accelerators: Van de Graaff, SF₆



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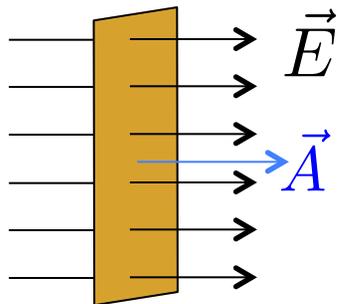


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Review: Flux

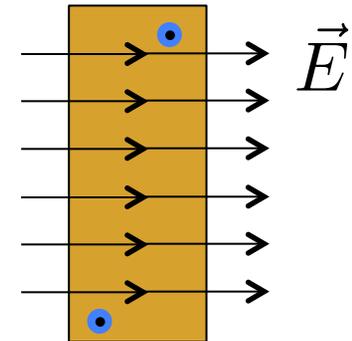
- **Electric Flux** of an electric field through a surface is defined as
 - ... the sum of the electric field components **perpendicular** to the surface **times** the area of the surface that they intersect
 - It really is a measure of **how much electric field points through the surface**
 - Bigger surface with the same field => bigger flux
 - Bigger field with the same surface => bigger flux
 - Electric field is a **vector** and flux depends on the angle between the surface and the electric field vector at any point



$$\theta = 0^\circ$$

$$\Phi = \vec{E} \cdot \vec{A} = E A \cos \theta$$

\vec{A} points **perpendicular** to the surface



$$\theta = 90^\circ$$



Gauss's Law Problem 1: Solution

- A sphere of radius $r = 2 \text{ cm}$ creates an electric field of strength $E = 3 \text{ N/C}$ at a distance $d = 5 \text{ cm}$ from the center of the sphere. What is the electric charge on the sphere?
 - **Gauss's law** relates the enclosed electric charge to the total flux through a surface surrounding that charge

$$\Phi = 4\pi k q_{\text{enclosed}}$$

- We calculated the flux in an earlier problem: $\Phi = 0.1 \text{ N m}^2/\text{C}^2$
- The only charge inside the sphere (Gaussian surface) is the electric charge on the sphere, so $q_{\text{enclosed}} = q_{\text{sphere}}$
- The rest is just a calculation:

$$q_{\text{enclosed}} = q_{\text{sphere}} = \frac{\Phi}{4\pi k} = \frac{(0.1 \text{ N m}^2/\text{C}^2)}{4\pi(9 \times 10^9 \text{ N m}^2/\text{C}^2)}$$

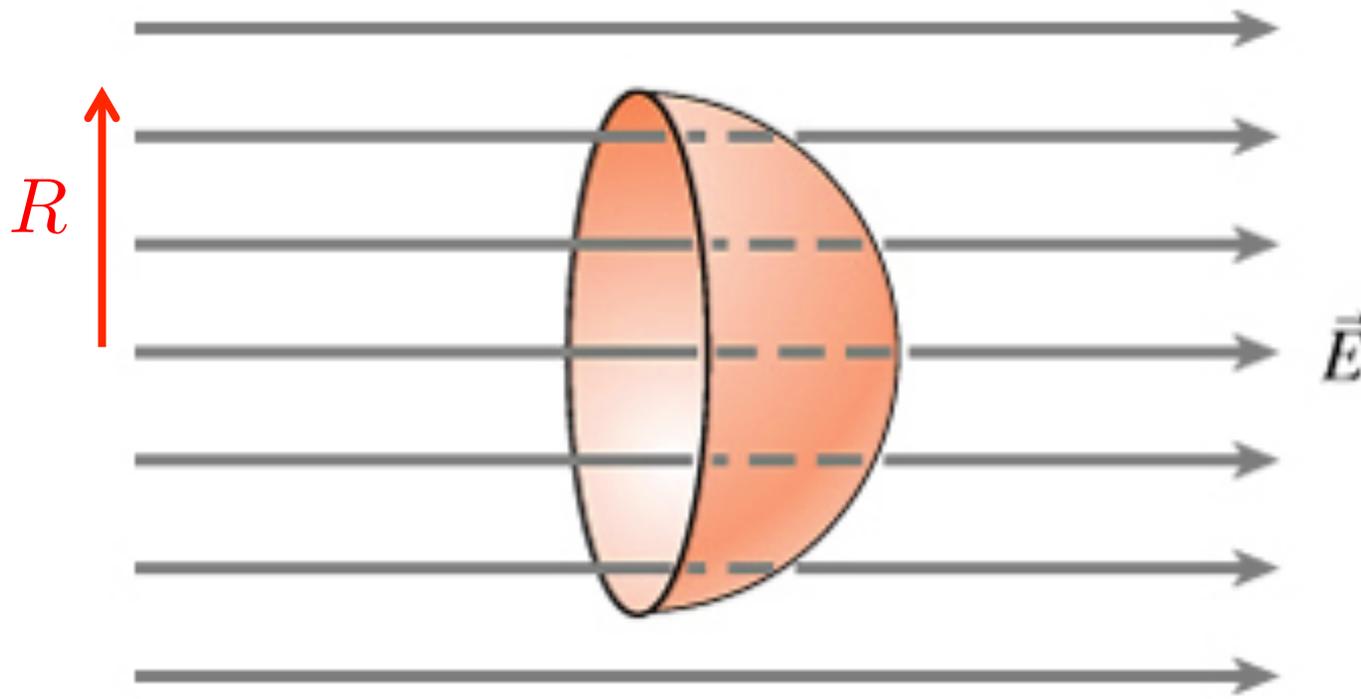
$$q_{\text{sphere}} = 8.1 \times 10^{-13} \text{ C}$$



Gauss's Law/Flux Ponderable (5+ minutes)

- A half-sphere of radius R is placed in a region of constant electric field \vec{E} as shown below. What is the flux Φ through the surface of the half-sphere?
 - Hint: Use Gauss's Law to make the problem simpler...
 - No calculus needed

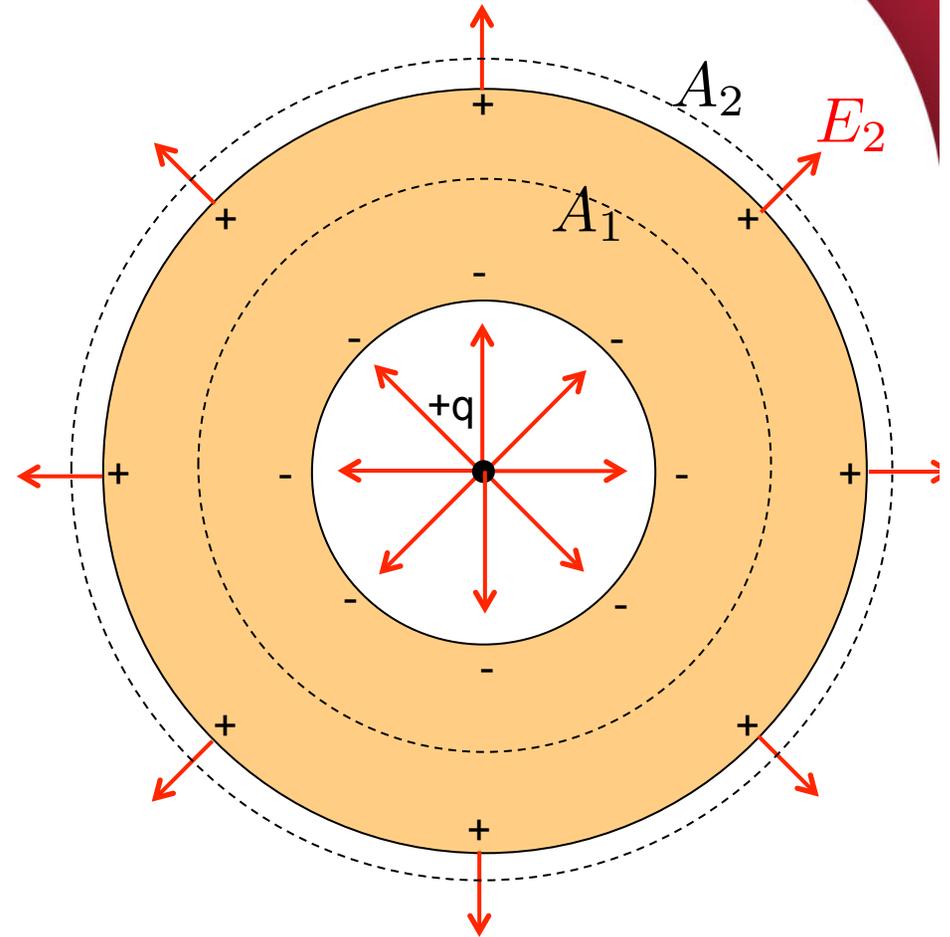
$$\Phi = 4\pi k q_{\text{enclosed}}$$



Conductor Shells

$$\Phi = 4\pi k q_{\text{enclosed}}$$

- What about a shell of a neutral conductor with a hollow spot in the middle?
 - A charge q placed in the middle attracts an equal and opposite amount of charge $-q$ to the inner surface
 - The electric field inside the conductor is still zero
 - The overall conductor is still neutral, so $+q$ charge must be on the outer surface of the conductor



$$\Phi(A_1) = 0 \text{ (since } E = 0) \Rightarrow q_{\text{enclosed}}(A_1) = 0$$

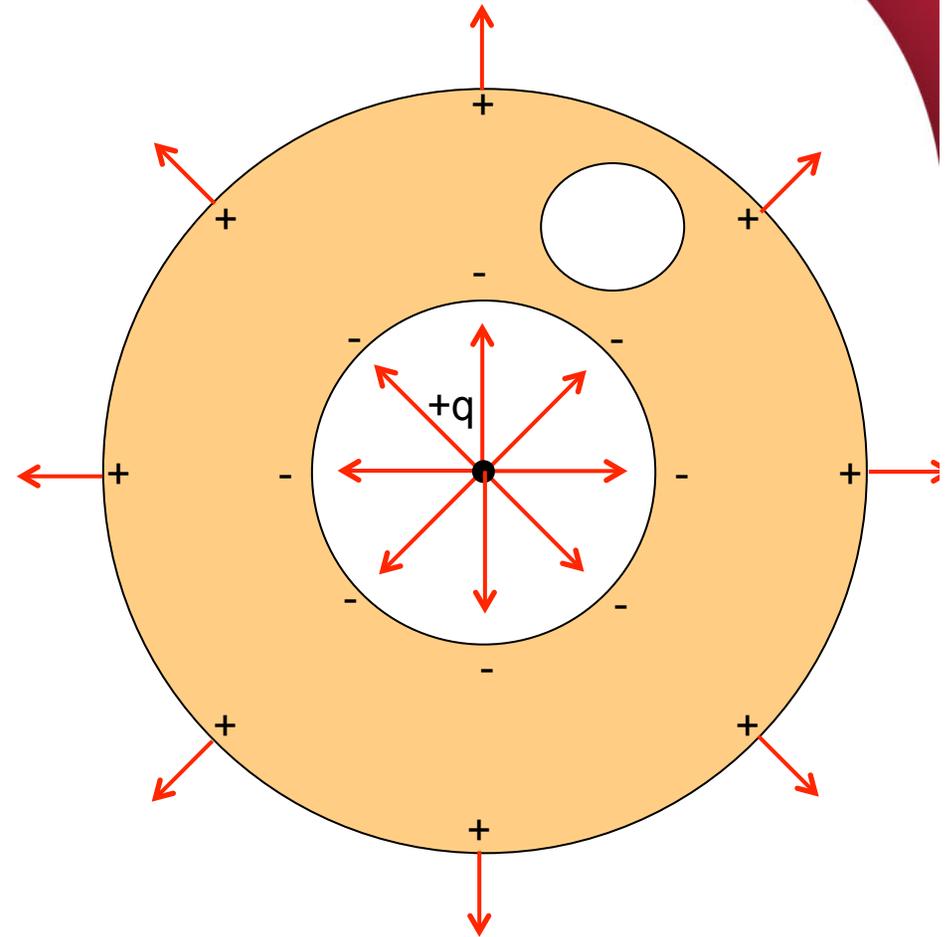
$$\Phi(A_2) = 4\pi r^2 E_2 = 4\pi k(+q) \Rightarrow E_2 = \frac{kq}{r^2}$$



Conductor Shells

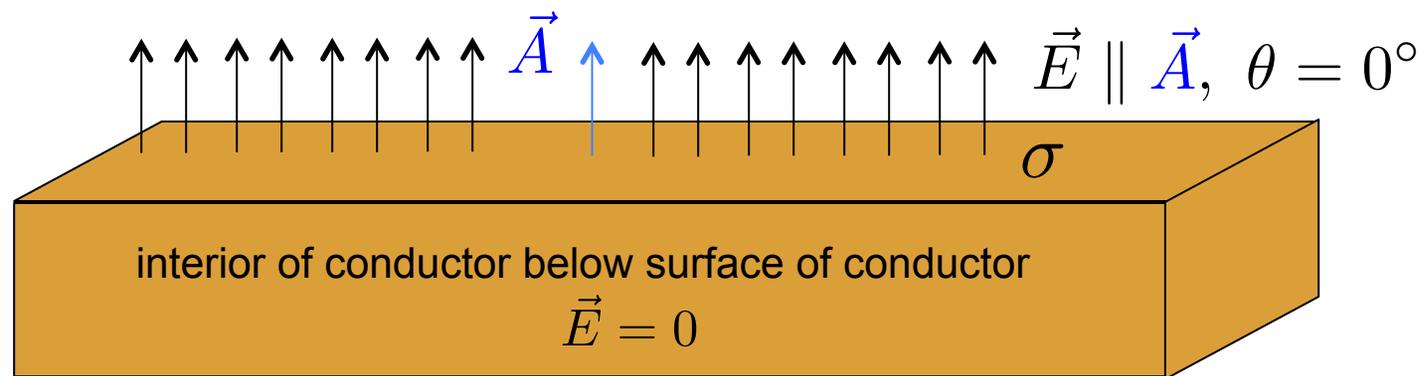
$$\Phi = 4\pi k q_{\text{enclosed}}$$

- What's the electric field inside a hollow spot in the conductor indicated here?
- What's the distribution of charges on the inner surface of that hollow spot?

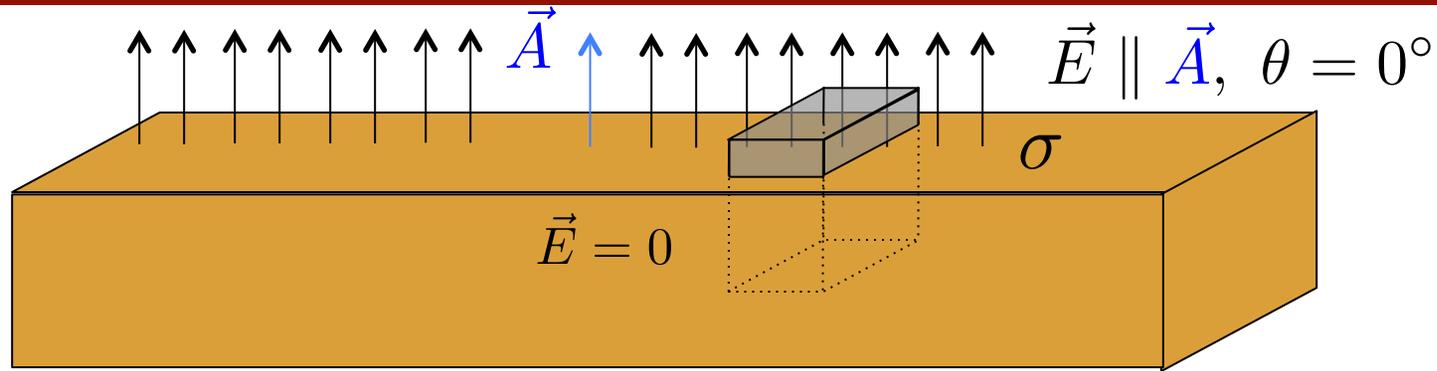


Electric Field on Flat Surface of Conductor

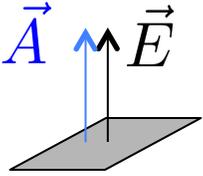
- Remember that the **electric field on the inside of a conductor is zero**
 - Any surface that we draw for Gauss's law that's **inside** a conductor has zero flux, $\Phi = 0$
 - We can use this to calculate electric fields without calculus for some interesting conductors
 - Very close to any surface, the surface basically **looks flat** and **looks like it has a constant charge distribution**
- Consider the surface of an infinitely large flat conductor that has a charge distributed evenly on it, with charge density σ



Gauss's Law on Flat Surface of Conductor



- E is constant and points out over the surface
- To use Gauss's law, we need a surface
 - Draw a little box with sides parallel to E
 - Flux through the box inside conductor is zero
 - Flux through the sides of the box outside of conductor is zero
 - So the total flux through the box is just flux through the **top**



$$\Phi = \vec{E} \cdot \vec{A} = EA = 4\pi k q_{\text{enclosed}} = 4\pi k (A\sigma)$$

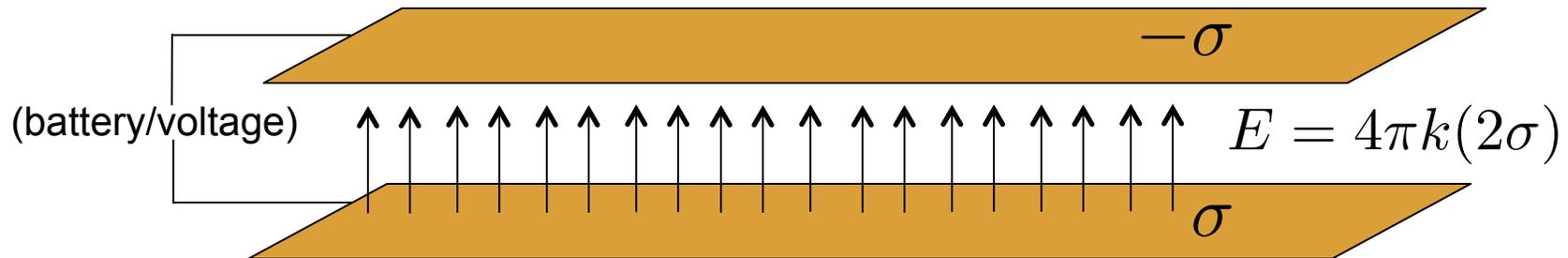
$$E = 4\pi k \sigma = \sigma / \epsilon_0 \quad \epsilon_0 = \frac{1}{4\pi k}$$

Independent of A or distance from the (infinite flat) conductor!!

Also true very close to the surface of **any** conductor



Parallel Plate Capacitors



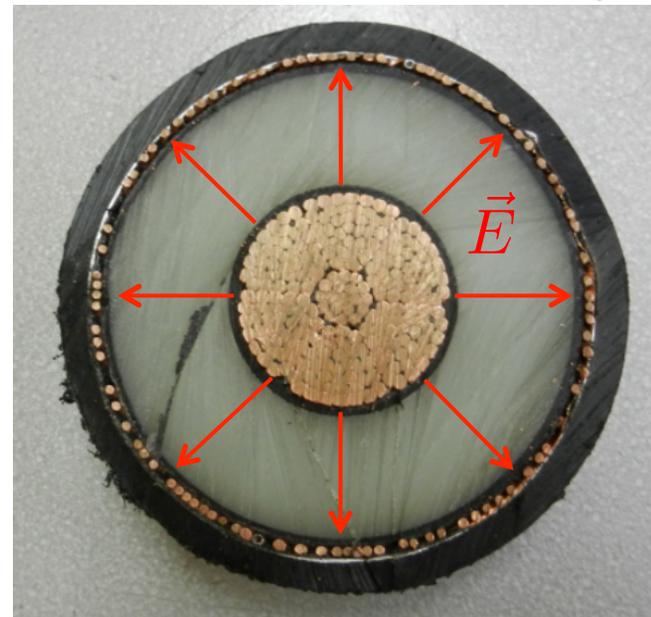
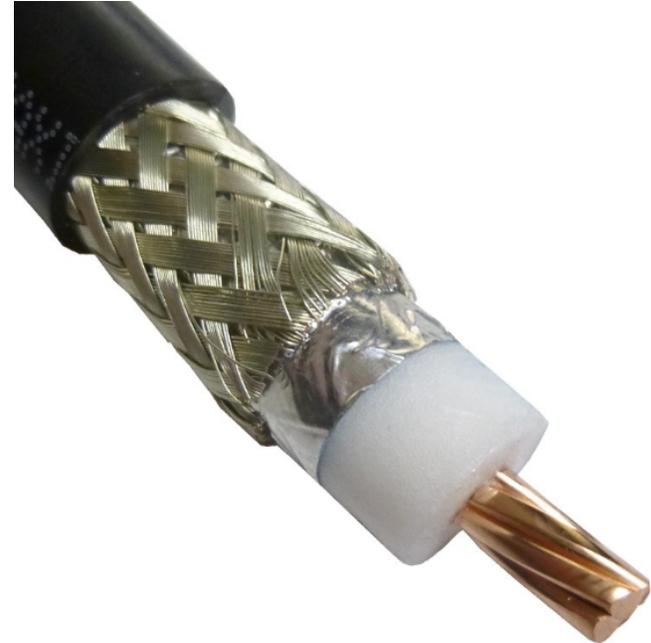
- A **capacitor** is a electrical device that stores energy in an electric field between two (or more) conductors
 - The simplest example is a **parallel plate capacitor**
 - Both conductors have equal and opposite charge density
 - No field outside conductors
 - Twice the field (sum of both plane fields) between them
 - The easiest way to create the different surface charges is with a battery
 - There is a “voltage difference” between the battery terminals
 - **What exactly is voltage?**



Coaxial Cable (homework)

- Coaxial cables are used in **many** electrical signal applications
 - Inner and outer conductors carry equal and opposite charges
- Like parallel plane capacitor
 - Electric field restricted to region between conductor surfaces
- In the region of the electric field, Gauss's Law (with a cylindrical Gaussian surface) gives

$$E = \frac{2k\lambda}{r} \hat{r}$$



Chapter 22: Electric Potential

- What exactly is **voltage**?
 - It's related to **energy** and **work** for electrical forces and fields
- Refresher
 - **Work**: a scalar (number) defined by physicists as the total force exerted over a distance
 - Like flux, it's really the component of the force in the direction of motion times the distance the object moves in that direction

$$W = \vec{F} \cdot \Delta\vec{r} = F \Delta r \cos \theta$$

- **Energy**: a useful bookkeeping term to calculate ability to do work
 - Potential energy (springs, gravity, chemical energy, etc)
 - Kinetic energy (energy of motion of objects with mass)
 - (Friction dissipates energy in ways that make it difficult to do work)



Work Due To Electric Fields

$$W = \vec{F} \cdot \Delta\vec{r} = F \Delta r \cos \theta$$

- But an electric charges q experience a **force** \vec{F} (a vector) from an electric field \vec{E}
 - We even have an equation for how those relate

$$\vec{F} = q\vec{E}$$

- What is the work I have to do to move a particle against this force?

$$W = \vec{F} \cdot \Delta\vec{r} = q\vec{E} \cdot \Delta\vec{r}$$

or adding this up over an entire path the charge moves

$$W = \int \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = q \int \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{r}$$

- This is the change in energy (potential, kinetic) of q that I put in
- My energy change (the work I did) is **equal and opposite** to this



Electric Potential

$$W_{\text{done on } q} = \int \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{r} = q \int \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{r}$$

- The charge q is a test charge that I selected (so divide by it)
- The **electric potential of an electric field** between two points (A and B) is the **work done per unit charge** in moving a charge between those two points

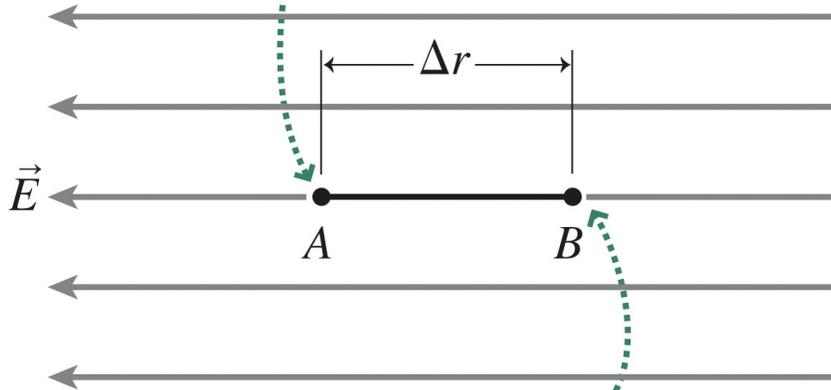
$$\Delta V_{AB} = - \int_A^B \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{r}$$

- It turns out that for a given electric field, **this only depends on the points A and B, not the path between them**
 - There is a direct analogue to gravitational potential energy
 - (The electric field force is “conservative”, i.e. frictionless)



Electric Potential of a Constant Field

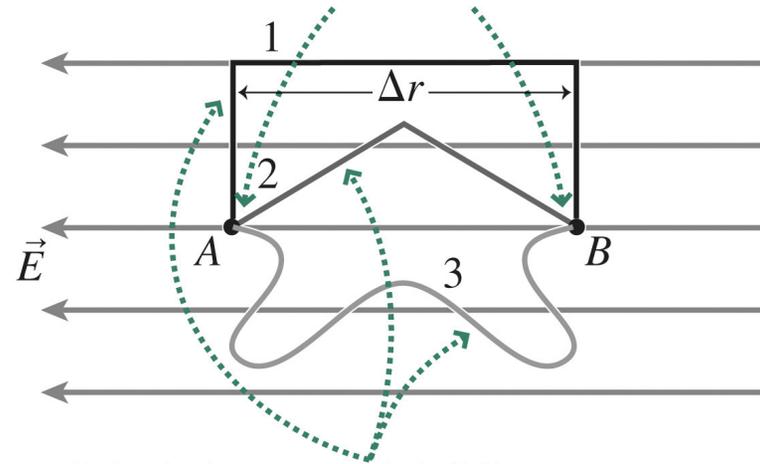
Positive charge q is initially at A in uniform electric field \vec{E} . . .



. . . Moving the charge a distance Δr from A to B requires work $qE \Delta r$.

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Potential difference ΔV_{AB} depends only on points A and B .



Calculating potential difference along any path (1, 2, or 3) gives $\Delta V_{AB} = E \Delta r$.

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- Moving a charge along a constant electric field involves exertion of a force over distance: work (and energy)
 - Depends on the charge and which direction the particle moves

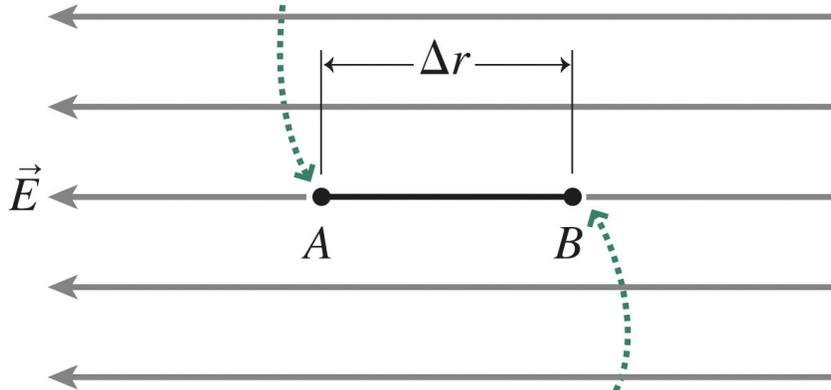
$$\Delta V_{AB} = -\vec{E} \cdot \Delta \vec{r}_{AB} = E \Delta r_{AB} \quad \Delta V_{BA} = -\vec{E} \cdot \Delta \vec{r}_{BA} = -E \Delta r_{BA}$$

$$W = q \Delta V$$



Electric Potential of a Constant Field

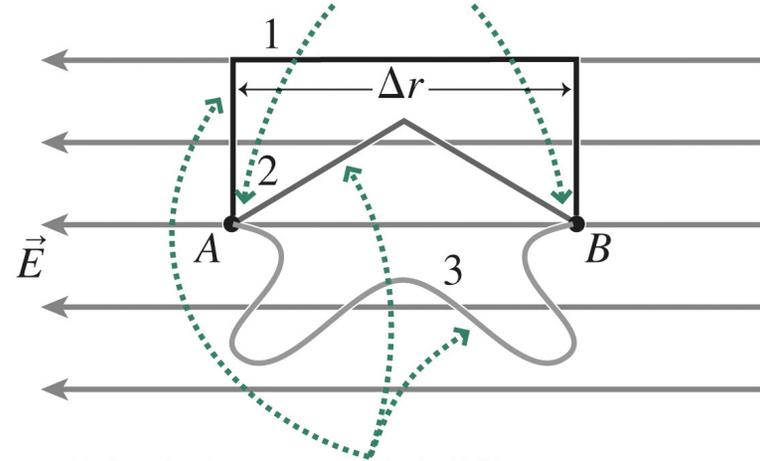
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$$\Delta V_{AB} = -\vec{E} \cdot \Delta \vec{r}_{AB} = E \Delta r_{AB} \quad \Delta V_{BA} = -\vec{E} \cdot \Delta \vec{r}_{BA} = -E \Delta r_{BA}$$

- “B has a higher potential than A”
 - I usually think of this as being similar to “B is uphill from A”
 - I have to “push uphill” (do work that becomes potential energy of my charge q) to move a $+q$ charge from A to B
 - Conversely, a $+q$ charge will “accelerate downhill” from B to A



The Volt and the Electron Volt (eV)

- The unit of electric potential difference is the **volt (V)**.
 - 1 volt is 1 joule per coulomb ($1 \text{ V} = 1 \text{ J/C}$).
 - Example: A 9-V battery supplies 9 joules of energy to every coulomb of charge that passes through an external circuit connected between its two terminals.

Table 22.2 Typical Potential Differences

- The volt is *not* a unit of energy, but of energy per charge—that is, of electric potential difference.
 - A related *energy* unit is the **electron volt (eV)**, defined as the energy gained by one elementary charge e “falling” through a potential difference of 1 volt.
 - Therefore, $1 \text{ eV} = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$.

Between human arm and leg due to heart’s electrical activity	1 mV
Across biological cell membrane	80 mV
Between terminals of flashlight battery	1.5 V
Car battery	12 V
Electric outlet (depends on country)	100–240 V
Between long-distance electric transmission line and ground	365 kV
Between base of thunderstorm cloud and ground	100 MV

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Electric Potential: Problem

- An electron starts at rest, and moves between two points with electric potential difference $\Delta V = 9 \text{ V}$. What is its final velocity, and does it move from lower to higher electric potential, or higher to lower?



Electric Potential: Solution

- An electron starts at rest, and moves between two points with electric potential difference $\Delta V = 9 \text{ V}$. What is its final velocity, and does it move from lower to higher electric potential, or higher to lower?
 - A + charge “goes downhill” in moving from a higher to lower electric potential
 - So the – charge electron “goes downhill” in moving from **lower** to **higher** electric potential. It accelerates through a potential difference of $\Delta V = -9 \text{ V}$
 - All the energy it gains goes into kinetic energy, $\text{KE} = \frac{1}{2}m_e v^2$

$$\text{KE} = \frac{1}{2}m_e v^2 = q\Delta V = (-e)(-9 \text{ V})$$

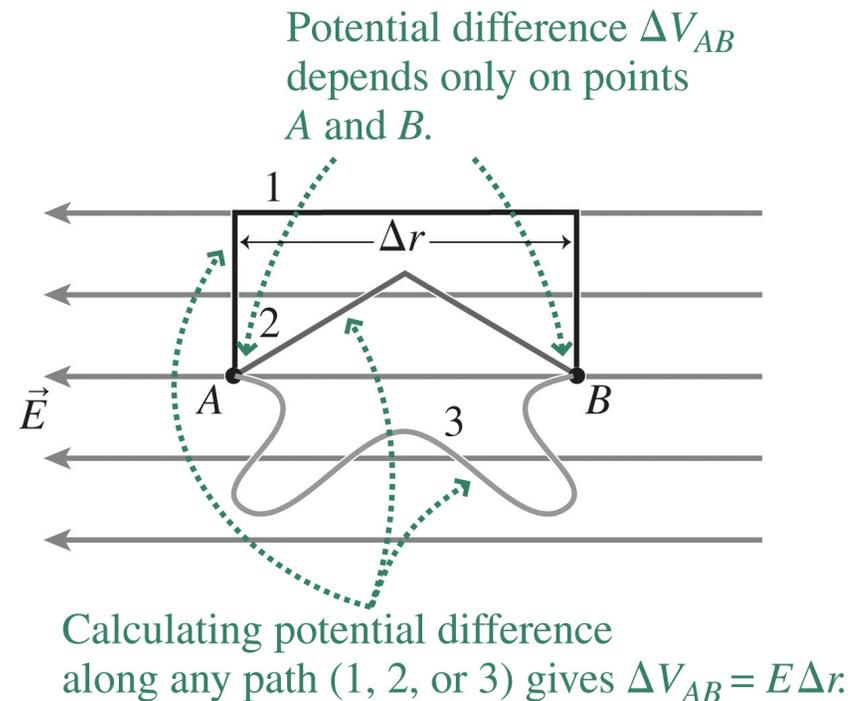
$$v = \sqrt{\frac{(2)(-1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C})(-9 \text{ V})}{(9.1 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg})}} = \boxed{1.8 \times 10^6 \text{ m/s} = v}$$

0.6% the speed of light!



Quick Question 1

- What would happen to the potential difference between points A and B in the figure if the distance Δr were doubled?
 - A. ΔV would be doubled.
 - B. ΔV would be halved.
 - C. ΔV would be quadrupled.
 - D. ΔV would be quartered.



Quick Question 2

- An alpha particle (charge $2e$) moves through a 10-V potential difference. How much work, expressed in eV, is done on the alpha particle?

A. 5 eV
B. 10 eV
C. 20 eV
D. 40 eV

