

# B.Sc. Physics Notes

Subject

Physics

Paper

B

Chapter 2

Electric Field

Edited By Admin

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Topics

1. Electric field due point charge and n-point charge.
2. Electric field due electric dipole.
3. Electric field due to ring of charge.
4. Electric field due to disk of charge.

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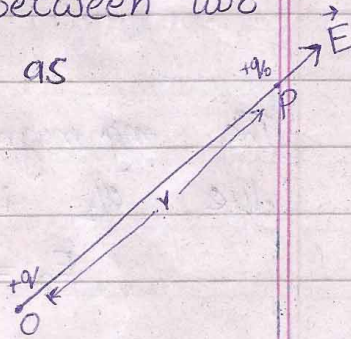
Q Calculate electric field due to point charge and due to n-point charges?

Electric field Due to Point Charge

Consider a  $+q$  charge placed at a point "O". Now place a test charge  $+q_0$  at point "P" having distance  $r$  from charge  $q$ . The electric force between two charges is given as

$$\vec{F} = \frac{kq_0q}{r^2} \hat{r}$$

$$\frac{\vec{F}}{q_0} = \frac{kq}{r^2} \hat{r}$$



The electric force per unit charge is called electric field which is denoted by  $\vec{E}$ .

$$\frac{\vec{F}}{q_0} = \vec{E}$$

So 
$$\vec{E} = \frac{kq}{r^2} \hat{r}$$

Thus the magnitude of electric field is

$$E = \frac{kq}{r^2}$$

## Electric Field Due To N-Point Charges

Consider charges  $q_1, q_2, q_3, \dots, q_n$  having distance  $r_1, r_2, r_3, \dots, r_n$  from point P. The magnitude of electric field at P due to charge  $q_1$  is

$$E_1 = \frac{kq_1}{r_1^2}$$

The magnitude of electric field due to  $q_2$  is

$$E_2 = \frac{kq_2}{r_2^2}$$

Net magnitude of electric field

$$E = E_1 + E_2 + \dots + E_n$$

$$E = \frac{kq_1}{r_1^2} + \frac{kq_2}{r_2^2} + \dots + \frac{kq_n}{r_n^2}$$
$$= k \left( \frac{q_1}{r_1^2} + \frac{q_2}{r_2^2} + \dots + \frac{q_n}{r_n^2} \right)$$

$$= k \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{q_i}{r_i^2}$$

Q What is an electric dipole?  
Calculate electric field at a point due to electric dipole?

Ans Electric Dipole:-

A pair of positive charge and negative charge having constant distance between them is called electric dipole.

Electric dipole Moment:-

The product of magnitude of charge and separation between them is called electric dipole moment. It can be written as

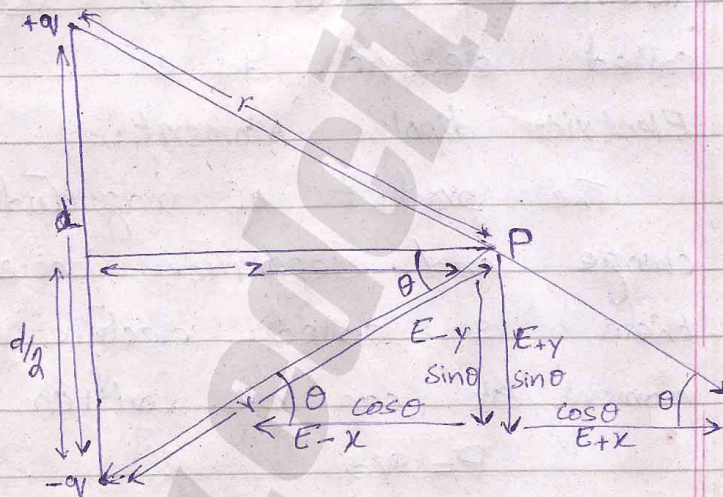
$$P = qd$$

Electric dipole moment is a vector quantity and its direction is from -ve to +ve charge.

Electric field due to electric dipole :-

Consider a  $+q$  and  $-q$  charge having distance " $d$ "

between them. This is called electric dipole. Electric dipole moment is  $P = qd$ . We have to calculate electric field at "P" having distance "z" which is perpendicular of distance d.



The electric field at P due to  $+q$  charge having distance  $r$  from point  $+q$  is

$$E_+ = \frac{kq}{r^2} \quad \text{--- ①}$$

The direction of  $E_+$  is from  $+q$  towards point P.

The electric field at P due to  $-q$  charge having distance  $r$  is

$$E_- = \frac{kq}{r^2} \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

Direction of  $E_-$  is from point P to  $-q$  charge.

Combining equation (1) and (2)

$$|E_+| = |E_-|$$

To calculate net electric field, resolve electric field  $E_+$  and  $E_-$  into components.

Resultant Rectangular component of  $E_+$  are

$$E_{+x} = E_+ \sin\theta, \quad E_{+y} = E_+ \cos\theta$$

$$E_{+x} = E_+ \cos\theta$$

Rectangular component of  $E_-$  are

$$E_{-x} = E_- \cos\theta, \quad E_{-y} = E_- \sin\theta$$

Resultant x-components will be cancelled due to opposite direction.

Resultant y-components will be

$$\begin{aligned} E_y &= E_{+y} \sin\theta + E_{-y} \sin\theta \\ &= 2E_{+y} \sin\theta \end{aligned}$$

Magnitude of electric field is

$$\begin{aligned} E &= \sqrt{E_x^2 + E_y^2} \\ &= \sqrt{(0)^2 + (2E_+ \sin \theta)^2} \\ &= \sqrt{(2E_+ \sin \theta)^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$E = 2E_+ \sin \theta$$

$$= 2 \frac{kq}{r^2} \cdot \frac{d}{4}$$

$$= \frac{kqd}{r^3}$$

$$= \frac{kP}{r^3} \quad [\because qd = P]$$

$$= \frac{kP}{\left[ z^2 + \frac{d^2}{4} \right]^{3/2}} \quad \left[ \because r^2 = z^2 + \frac{d^2}{4} \right]$$

$$= kP \left[ z^2 + \frac{d^2}{4} \right]^{-3/2}$$

$$= kP z^{-3} \left[ 1 + \frac{d^2}{4z^2} \right]^{-3/2}$$

Expand term using binomial theorem

$$E = \frac{kP}{z^3} \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{3}{2} \right) \frac{d^2}{4z^2} + \dots \right]$$

Neglect the higher order term

$$E = \frac{kP}{z^3}$$

This is electric field at P due to electric dipole.

Q Calculate electric field due to ring of charge?

Ans Electric field due to Ring of charge :-

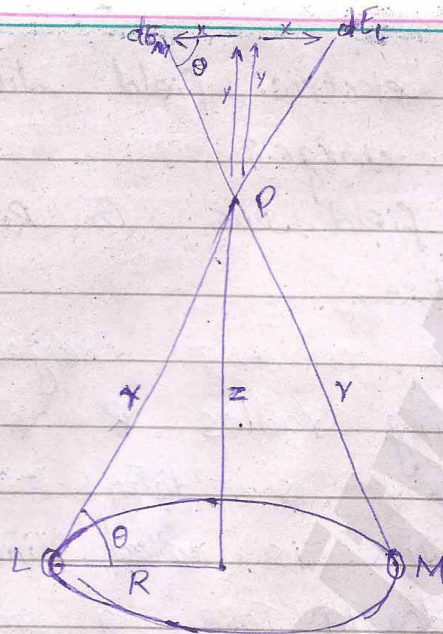
Consider a +vely charged ring having radius  $R$  on which +ve charge is distributed uniformly. This is called linear charge density. Take a small length element  $ds$  of ring having charge  $dq$  is

$$\lambda = \frac{dq}{ds}$$

$$dq = \lambda ds$$

Now consider two length element  $ds$  at opposite ends which is denoted by  $L$  and  $M$ . We have to calculate electric field at  $P$  having distance  $z$  which is perpendicular of joining line of two length elements.





Electric field at P due to length elements is

$$dE_L = \frac{k dq}{r^2} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

Direction of  $dE_L$  is from L element to point P

Electric field at P due to charge element M is

$$dE_M = \frac{k dq}{r^2} \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

Combining eq (1) and (2)

$$|dE_L| = |dE_M|$$

Now to calculate electric field  
we resolve  $dE_L$  and  $dE_M$  into  
components

Rectangular components of  $dE_L$  are

$$dE_{Lx} = dE_L \cos\theta, \quad dE_{Ly} = dE_L \sin\theta$$

Rectangular components of  $dE_M$  are

$$dE_{Mx} = dE_M \cos\theta, \quad dE_{My} = dE_M \sin\theta$$

Resultant x-components will be  
cancelled due to opposite direction.

Resultant y-components will be

$$dE_y = dE_L \sin\theta + dE_M \sin\theta$$

$$= 2dE_L \sin\theta$$

→

Magnitude of electric field is

$$dE = \sqrt{dE_x^2 + dE_y^2}$$
$$= \sqrt{(0)^2 + (2dE_L \sin\theta)^2}$$

$$dE = 2dE_L \sin\theta$$

$$= 2 \frac{kq}{r^2} \cdot \frac{z}{r}$$

Net magnitude of electric field is

$$E = \int \frac{2zkdq}{r^3}$$

$$E = \int \frac{2z k \lambda ds}{(z^2 + R^2)^{3/2}}$$

$$E = \frac{2z k \lambda}{(z^2 + R^2)^{3/2}} \int ds$$

$$= \frac{2z k \lambda}{(z^2 + R^2)^{3/2}} \cdot \pi R$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore dq &= \lambda ds \\ r^2 &= (r^2)^{3/2} \\ &= (z^2 + R^2)^{3/2} \end{aligned}$$

As  $\lambda = \frac{dq}{ds}$

$$dq = \lambda ds$$

$$q = \lambda \int ds = \lambda (2\pi R)$$

So  $E = \frac{z k (\lambda 2\pi R)}{(z^2 + R^2)^{3/2}}$

$$= \frac{z k q}{(z^2 + R^2)^{3/2}}$$

The term  $R^2$  can be neglected as compared to  $z^2$

$$= \frac{z k q}{z^3} = \frac{k q}{z^2}$$

$$E = \frac{k q}{z^2}$$

This is electric field at P due to ring of charge.

Q calculate Electric field due to disk of charge.

Ans Electric field due to disk of charge.

Consider a positively charged disk of having radius  $R$  on which +ve charge distributed uniformly. Divide the disk into small rings. Take such a small ring having radius  $\omega$  and width  $d\omega$ .

Take a pair of small area element  $da$  at opposite ends of diameter  $LM$  which is denoted by  $L$  and  $M$ .

The area of the element having radius  $\omega$  and width  $d\omega$  and length  $s = \omega d\alpha$  is given as  
$$da = \omega d\alpha d\omega$$

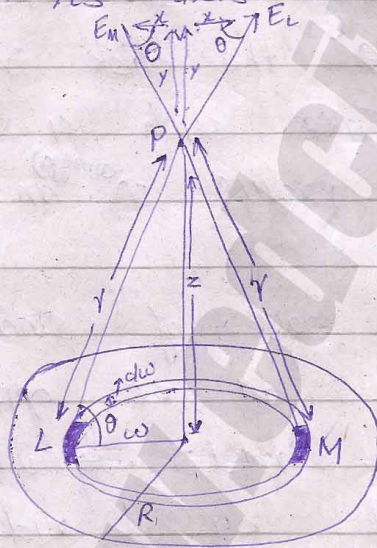
The area element  $da$  has charge  $dq$ . The charge per unit area is called surface charge density.

$$\sigma = \frac{dq}{da}$$

$$dq = \sigma da$$

$$dq = \sigma w dx dw$$

We have to calculate electric field at point P having distance z from plane of the ring disk along its axis.



The electric field at P due to area element L having distance r is

$$dE_L = \frac{k dq}{r^2} \quad \text{--- } \textcircled{1}$$

The electric field due to area element M is

$$dE = \frac{qzkdq}{r^3}$$

Now to calculate net electric field

$$\begin{aligned}
 E &= \int \frac{qzkdq}{r^3} \\
 &= \int \frac{zK\sigma d\alpha d\omega \cdot \omega}{(z^2 + \omega^2)^{3/2}} \\
 &= 2Kz\sigma \int \frac{\omega d\omega}{(z^2 + \omega^2)^{3/2}} \int d\alpha \\
 &= 6zK \left| \frac{(z^2 + \omega^2)^{-3/2+1}}{-3/2+1} \right|_0^R \cdot (\pi) \\
 &= 6zK\pi \left( \frac{-2}{1} \right) \left| \frac{1}{\sqrt{z^2 + \omega^2}} \right|_0^R \\
 &= -26zK\pi \left[ \frac{1}{\sqrt{z^2 + R^2}} - \frac{1}{z} \right] \\
 &= 26zK\pi \left[ \frac{1}{z} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{z^2 + R^2}} \right] \\
 &= \frac{1}{2K\epsilon_0} 26z\pi \left[ \frac{1}{z} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{z^2 + R^2}} \right] \\
 &= \frac{6z}{2\epsilon_0} \cdot \frac{1}{z} \left[ 1 - \frac{z}{\sqrt{z^2 + R^2}} \right] \\
 &= \frac{6}{2\epsilon_0} \left[ 1 - \frac{z}{\sqrt{z^2 + R^2}} \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

When  $R > z$ , the term  $\frac{z}{\sqrt{z^2 + R^2}}$  goes to zero

$$E = \frac{6}{2\epsilon_0}$$