

# Fundamentals of Engineering Physics 2019

---

Week 6.

# Energy of a System of Charges

II.5.

- Consider the "Work" which must be done on the system to bring some charged bodies into a particular arrangement.

\* Consider two charged bodies first:

$$W = \int \text{force} \times \text{distance} = \int_{\infty}^{r_{12}} \frac{q_1 q_2 (-dr)}{r^2} = \frac{q_1 q_2}{r_{12}} \quad (3)$$

final distance  
initial distance

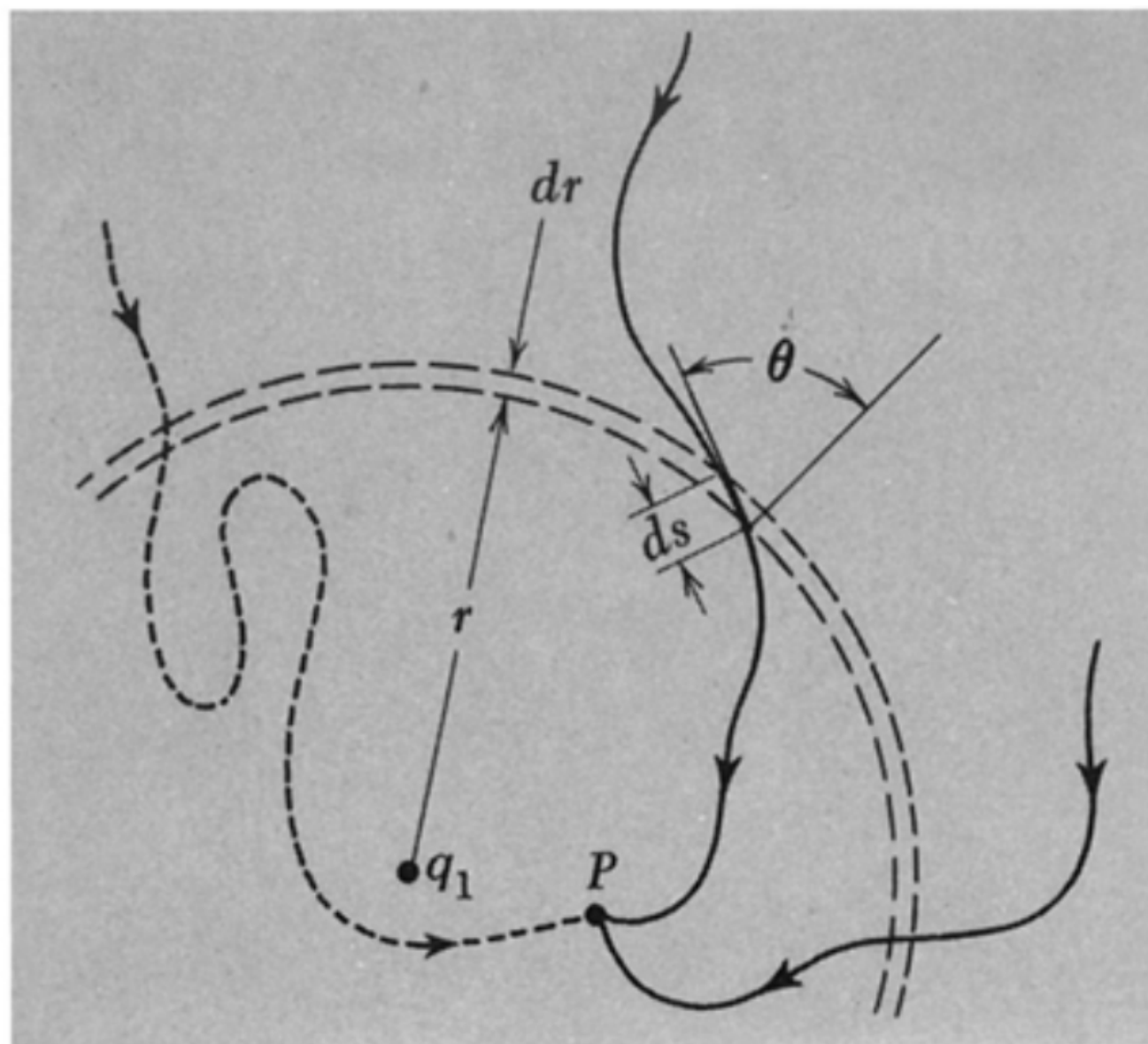
(See Fig. 1.4.)

- $W$  is "independent" of the path of approach!

$$\therefore \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{s} = F dr \quad \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{only radial component of} \\ d\vec{s} \text{ matters} \end{array} \right)$$

(See Fig 1.5.)

~ electric forces are "conservative".



**FIGURE 1.5**

Because the force is central, the sections of different paths between  $r + dr$  and  $r$  require the same amount of work.

\* Now, bring the third charge  $q_3$  from infinity

(See Fig. 1.4. (c))

$$\begin{aligned}
 W_3 &= - \int_{\infty}^{P_3} \vec{F}_3 \cdot d\vec{s} = - \int (\vec{F}_{31} + \vec{F}_{32}) \cdot d\vec{s} \\
 &\quad \text{from superposition principle.} \\
 &= - \int \vec{F}_{31} \cdot d\vec{s} - \int \vec{F}_{32} \cdot d\vec{s} \quad (5)
 \end{aligned}$$

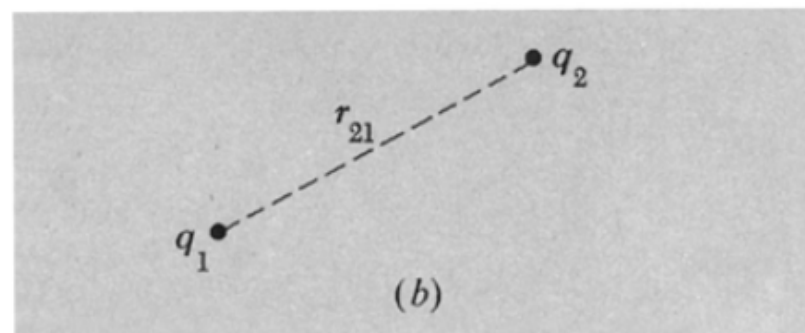
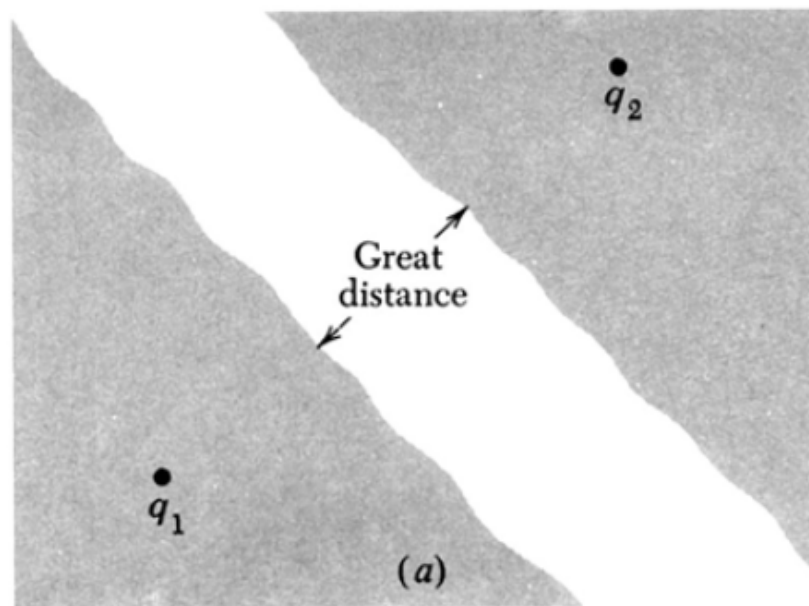
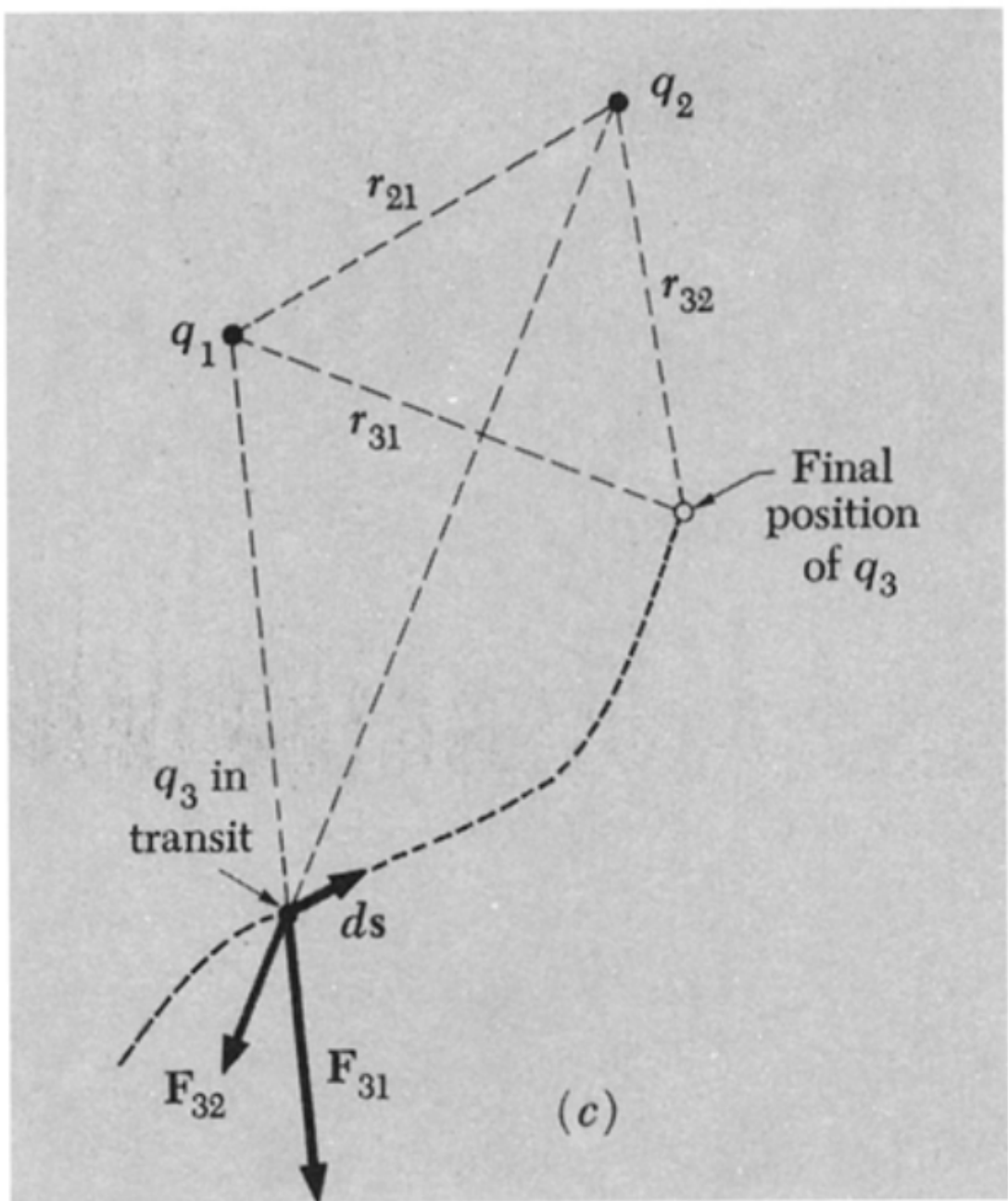
$$= \frac{q_1 q_3}{r_{31}} + \frac{q_2 q_3}{r_{32}}. \quad (6)$$

∴ The total work done in assembling this arrangement of three charges,  $U$ , is.

$$\text{"Electrical Potential Energy"} \quad U = \frac{q_1 q_2}{r_{12}} + \frac{q_2 q_3}{r_{23}} + \frac{q_3 q_1}{r_{31}} \quad (7)$$

- Symmetric w.r.t.  $q_1, q_2$  and  $q_3$ .
- Independent of the order in which charges are assembled.





**FIGURE 1.4**

Three charges are brought near one another. First  $q_2$  is brought in; then with  $q_1$  and  $q_2$  fixed,  $q_3$  is brought in.

\* The potential energy belongs to the configuration as a whole. II, -7,

- Eg. 1. in Fig 1.6.

$$U = \frac{8(-2e^2)}{\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}b} + \frac{12e^2}{b} + \frac{12e^2}{\sqrt{2}b} + \frac{4e^2}{\sqrt{3}b} = \frac{4.32e^2}{b} \quad (8)$$

(number of legs connecting two charges)

$U > 0$  : work had to be done  
on the system to assemble it.

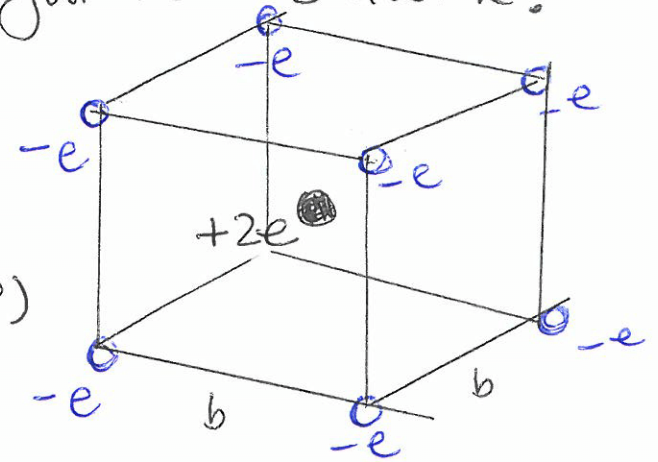


Fig. 1.6.

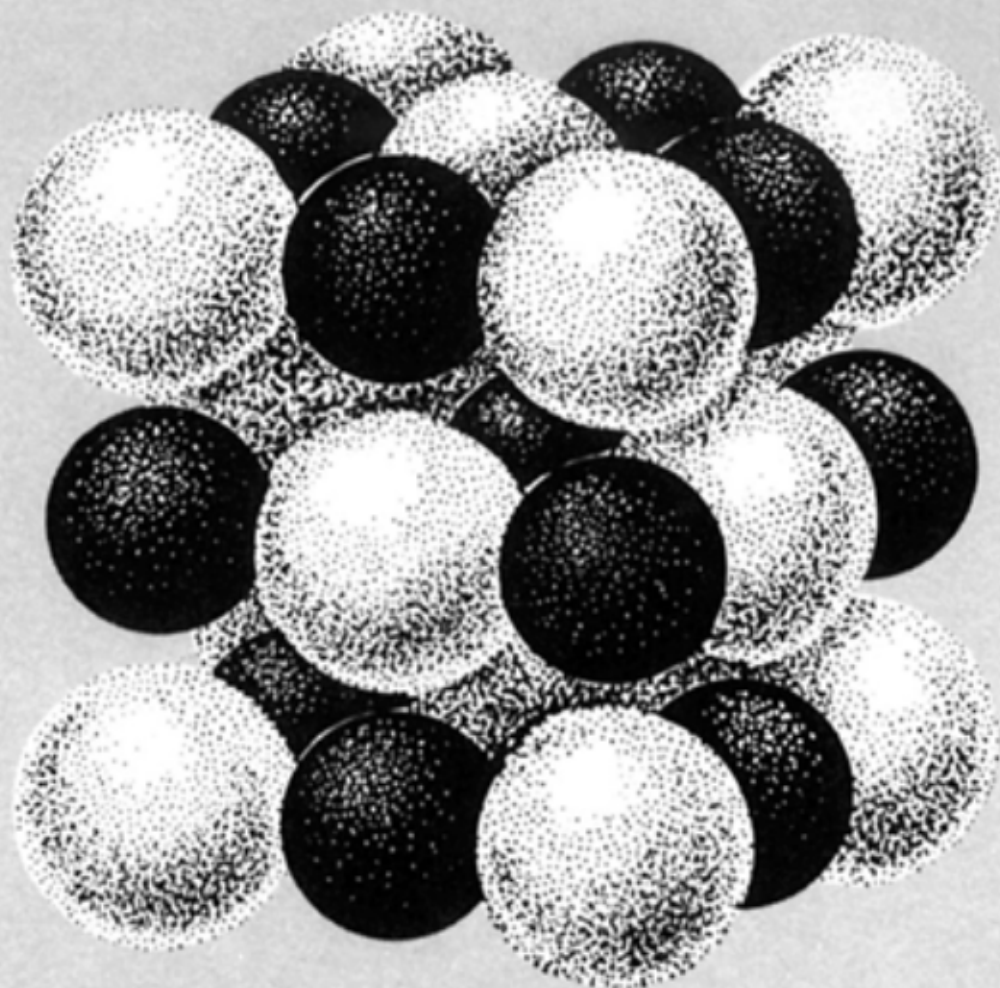
• For  $N$  bodies of charges :

$$U = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^N \sum_{k \neq j} \frac{q_j q_k}{r_{jk}} \quad (9)$$

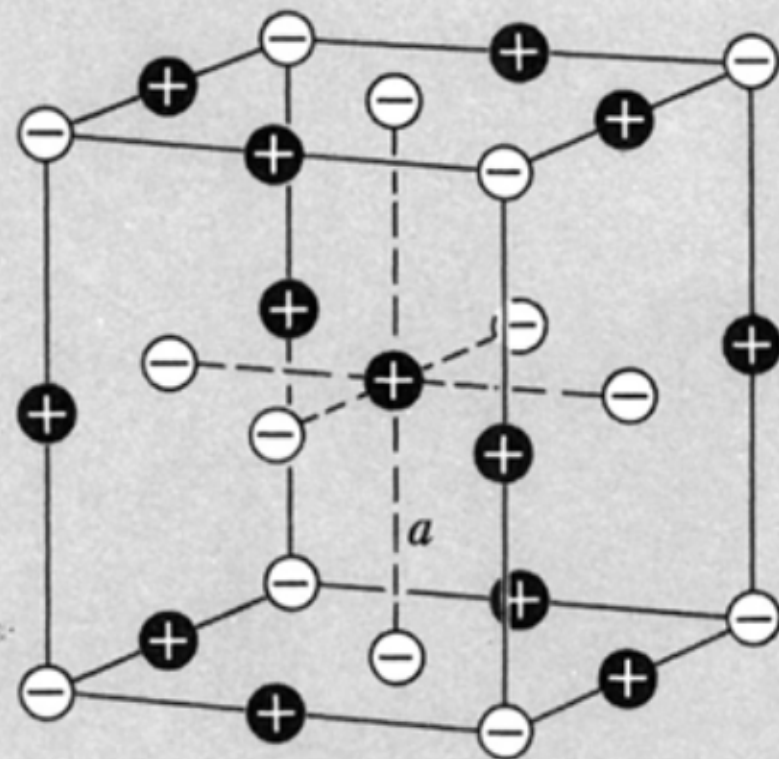
- Eg. 2. "A Crystal Lattice" in Fig 1.7

$$U = \frac{1}{2} N \left( -\frac{6e^2}{a} + \frac{12e^2}{\sqrt{2}a} - \frac{8e^2}{\sqrt{3}a} + \dots \right) = \dots = -\frac{0.87 Ne^2}{a} < 0. \quad (12)$$

" Work would have to done to ~~take~~ take the crystal apart into individual ions. "



(a)



(b)

**FIGURE 1.7**

A portion of a sodium chloride crystal, with the ions  $\text{Na}^+$  and  $\text{Cl}^-$  shown in about the right relative proportions (a), and replaced by equivalent point charges (b).



# The Electric Field

- \* Consider some arrangement of charges,  $q_1, q_2, \dots, q_N$ , and the force on another charge  $q_0$  they exert.

$$\vec{F}_0 = \sum_{j=1}^N \frac{q_0 q_j \hat{r}_{0j}}{r_{0j}^2} = q_0 \sum_{j=1}^N q_j \frac{\hat{r}_{0j}}{r_{0j}^2} \quad (13)$$

\* Electric Field:  $\vec{E}(x, y, z) = \sum_{j=1}^N \frac{q_j \hat{r}_{0j}}{r_{0j}^2} \quad (14)$

at the point  $(x, y, z)$ .

- charges  $q_1, q_2, \dots, q_N$  are the sources of the field.

- \* There are at least two different ways to illustrate the

Electric Field : using arrows  
or  
lines.

Fig 1.9,

Fig. 1.11,

## \* Charge Distributions :

II-9.

$$\vec{E}(x, y, z) = \sum_{j=1}^N \frac{q_j \vec{r}_{0j}}{r_{0j}^2} \xrightarrow{\text{continuum limit}} \int \frac{\rho(x', y', z') \vec{r}}{r^2} dx' dy' dz' \quad (15)$$

Electric Field at  $(x, y, z)$  produced by Sources at  $(x', y', z')$

where,

$\vec{r}$  : unit vector from  $(x', y', z')$  to  $(x, y, z)$

$$r^2 = (x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2$$

## Flux

$$\Phi = \sum_{\text{all } j} \vec{E}_j \cdot \vec{a}_j \rightarrow \int_{\text{entire Surface}} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{a}$$

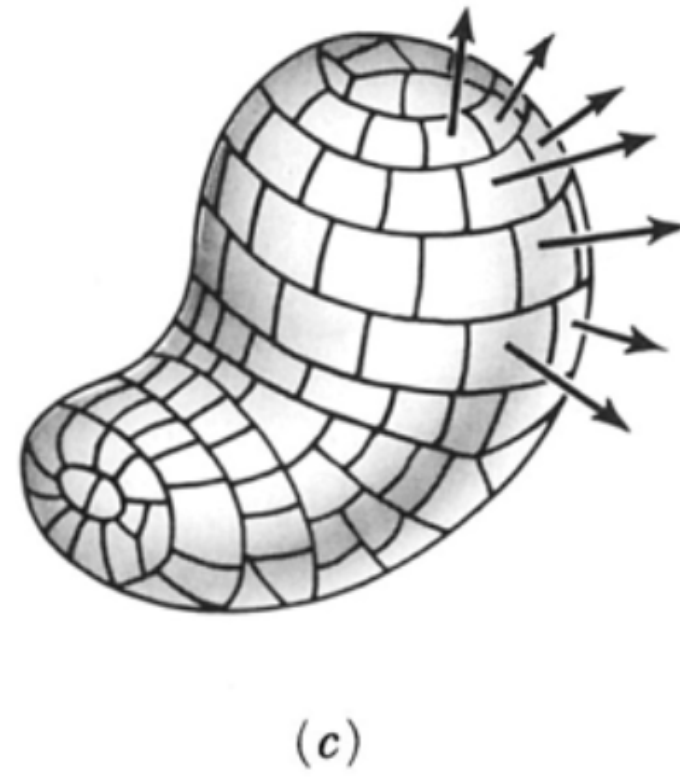
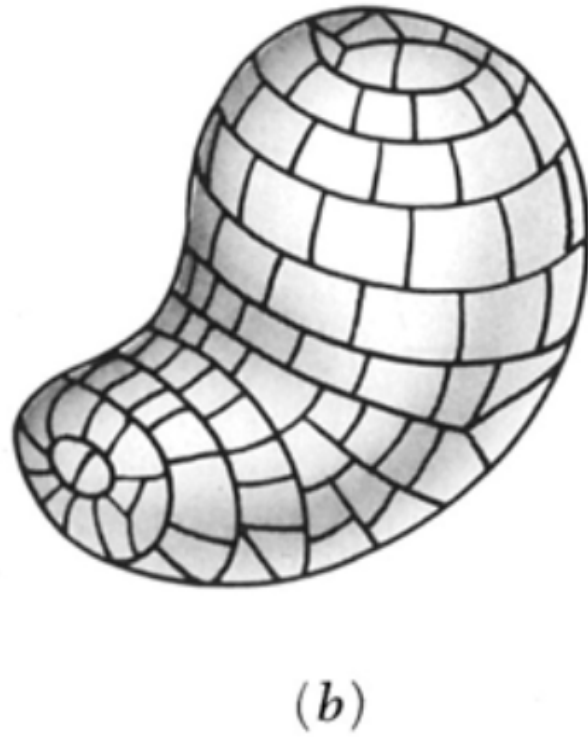
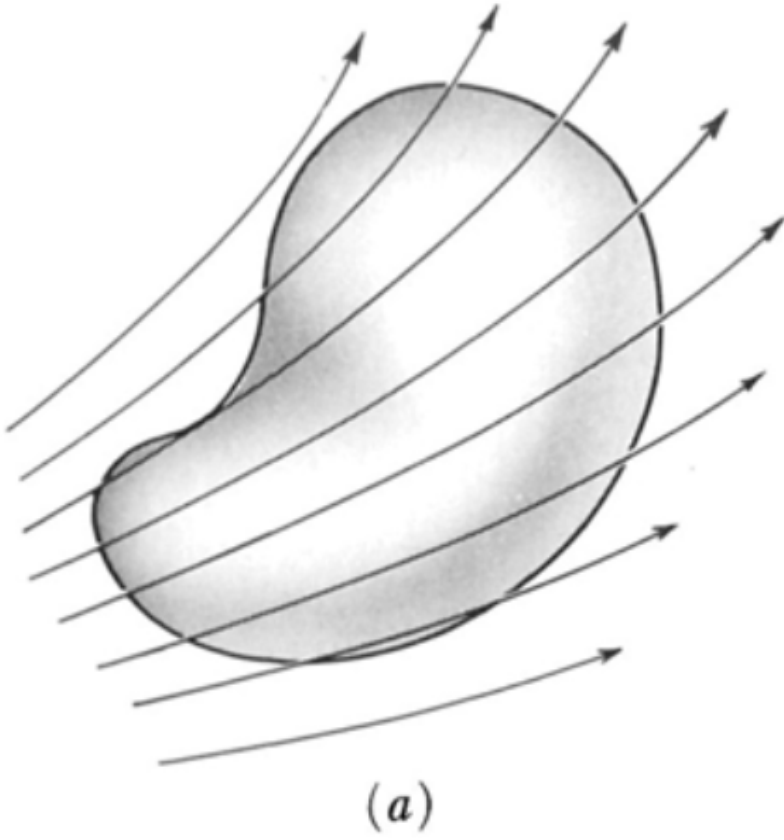
See Fig. 1.13 and 1.14.

Consider a number of fishes one can catch.



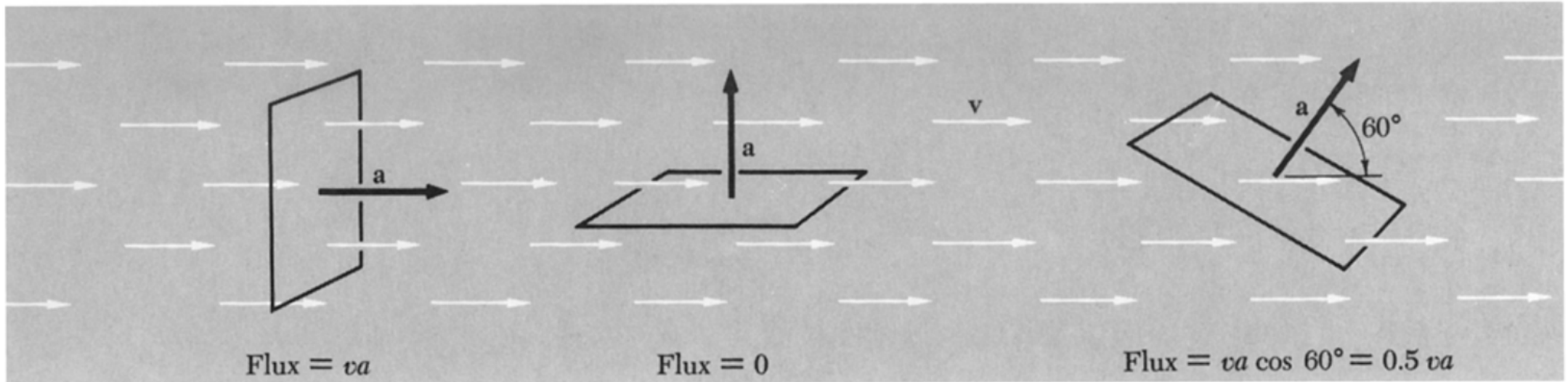
Rate of flow of water thru the frame per unit time





**FIGURE 1.13**

(a) A closed surface in a vector field is divided (b) into small elements of area. (c) Each element of area is represented by an outward vector.



**FIGURE 1.14**

The flux through the frame of area  $\mathbf{a}$  is  $\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{a}$ , where  $\mathbf{v}$  is the velocity of the fluid. The flux is the volume of fluid passing through the frame, per unit time.

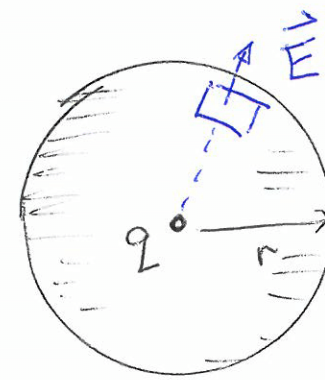
# Gauss's Law

II-10.

\* Consider a single point charge "q" at the origin:

- Flux through the surface of a sphere of radius r:

$$\Phi = E \times (\text{area}) = \frac{q}{r^2} \times 4\pi r^2 = 4\pi q \quad (18)$$



- Flux through the surface of arbitrary shape:

considering a patch  $\vec{A}$  at a distance R

from the point charge q.

and compare fluxes thru  $\vec{A}$  and thru a small patch  $\vec{a}$  on the inner spherical surface.

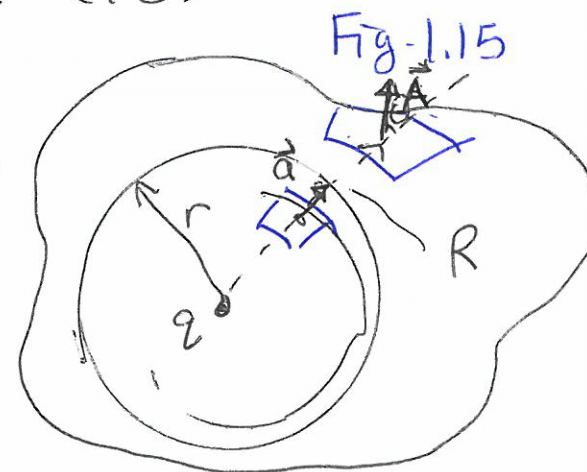


Fig 1.16.

$$\underset{\text{thru outer patch}}{E_{(R)} A \cos \theta} = \left[ E_{(r)} \left( \frac{r}{R} \right)^2 \right] \cdot \left[ a \left( \frac{R}{r} \right)^2 \frac{1}{\cos \theta} \right] \cos \theta = \underset{\text{thru inner patch}}{E_{(r)} a}$$

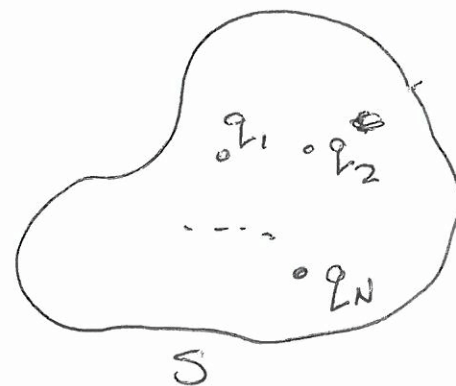
∴  $\Phi = 4\pi q !$

\* Flux through some surface  $S$  enclosing charges  $q_1, q_2, \dots, q_N$ ;

$$\Phi = \int_S \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{a} = \int_S (\vec{E}_1 + \vec{E}_2 + \dots + \vec{E}_N) \cdot d\vec{a}$$

↑  
from principle of  
superposition!

$$= 4\pi \sum_{i=1}^N q_i \quad (20)$$



## Gauss's Law

"The flux of the electric field  $\vec{E}$  through any closed surface, that is, the integral  $\int \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{a}$  over the surface, equals  $4\pi$  times the total charge enclosed by the surface."

$$\int_S \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{a} = 4\pi \sum_i q_i = 4\pi \int \rho dV. \quad (21)$$



⊛ For systems with symmetry, one can calculate the  $\vec{E}$  field more easily using Gauss's law without using the Coulomb's law followed by integrations, for instance using

$$\vec{E}(x, y, z) = \int \frac{\rho(x', y', z') \hat{r}}{r^2} dx' dy' dz' \quad (15)$$

1. Field of a spherically symmetric charge distribution

• Considering a spherical surface  $S_1$  of radius  $r_1$ ,

See Fig 1.18 and 1.19

$$\Phi = E_1 \cdot 4\pi r_1^2 = 4\pi \cdot (\text{charge inside } S_1),$$

$$\therefore E_1 = \frac{\text{charge inside } S_1}{r_1^2} \quad (23)$$

2. Field of a line charge with the line charge density  $\lambda$ ,

• Considering a "tin can" with radius  $r$  and Length  $L$ ,

$$\Phi = E_r \cdot 2\pi r L = 4\pi \lambda L$$

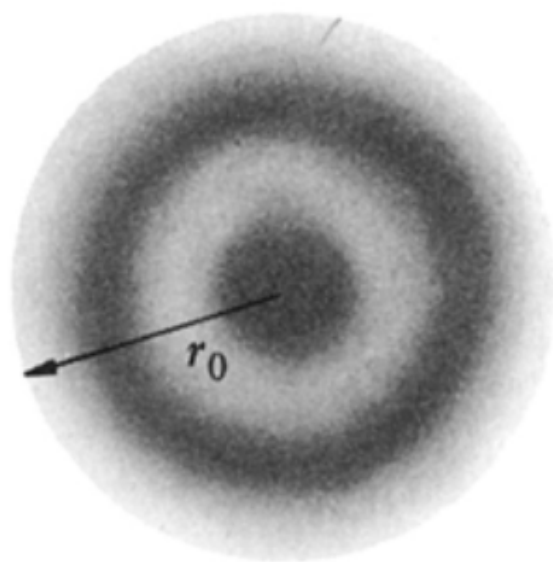
See Fig 1.22

$$\therefore E_r = 2\lambda/r \quad (27)$$



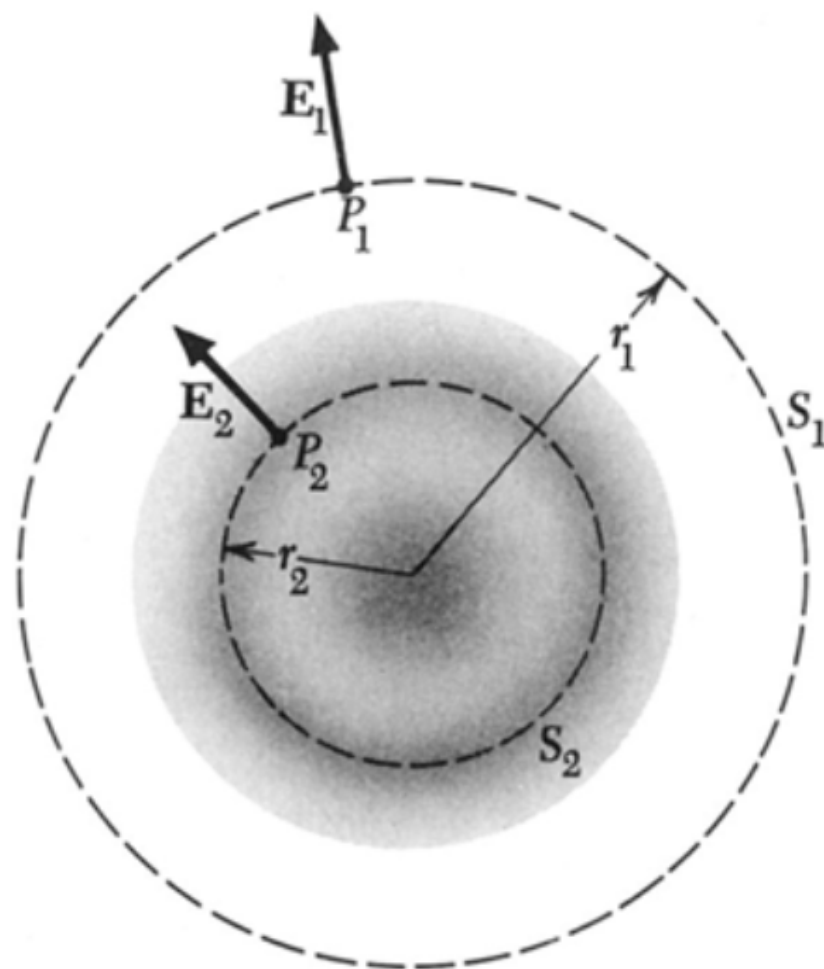
**FIGURE 1.18**

A charge distribution with spherical symmetry.



**FIGURE 1.19**

The electric field of a spherical charge distribution.



3. Field of an infinite flat sheet of charge,  
with a surface charge density  $\sigma$ .

• Considering a cylinder in  
Fig. 1.23, and using Gauss's law,

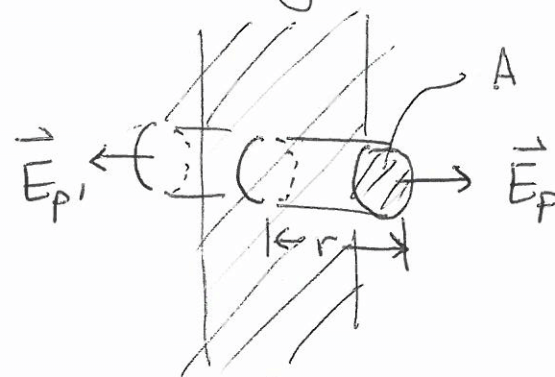


Fig. 1.23

$$A \cdot E_p + A E_{p'} = 4\pi \cdot \sigma A$$

Since this system has a reflectional (mirror) symmetry,

$$E_p = E_{p'}.$$

$$\therefore E_p = 4\pi\sigma/2 = 2\pi\sigma \quad (28)$$

i.e., independent of distance "r" from the sheet.

Homework

Problems 1.5, 1.14, 1.17, 1.21

## 2. The Electric Potential

- Line Integral of the Electric Field is path-independent.

- In the presence of a point charge source  $q$ ,

$$\int_{P_1}^{P_2} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} = \int_{r_1}^{r_2} \frac{q}{r^2} dr = q \left( \frac{1}{r_1} - \frac{1}{r_2} \right) \quad (2)$$

(Only the component of  $d\vec{s}$  parallel to  $\vec{E}$  contributes.)

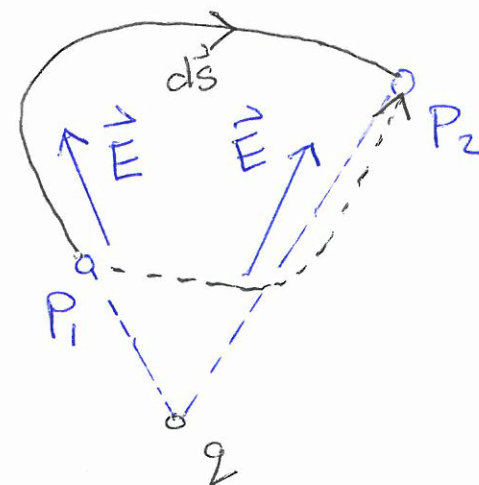


Fig. 2.2.

- In the presence of many charge sources,  
infinitely many  
continuously "

we can use the principle of superposition

$$\int_{P_1}^{P_2} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} = \int_{P_1}^{P_2} \sum_i \vec{E}_i \cdot d\vec{s} = \sum_i \int_{P_1}^{P_2} \vec{E}_i \cdot d\vec{s} \quad \left( \text{each integral for particular } i \text{ is path-independent as shown in Eq. (2)} \right)$$

$\therefore$  The line integral  $\int_{P_1}^{P_2} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s}$  for any electrostatic field  $\vec{E}$  has the same value for all paths from  $P_1$  to  $P_2$  (4)

## Potential Difference and Potential Function

II-15.

• Potential Difference:  $\Phi_{21} = - \int_{P_1}^{P_2} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} \quad (6)$

Then,  $\boxed{\vec{E} = -\vec{\nabla} \varphi(x, y, z)} \quad (12)$

with  $P_2 = (x, y, z)$  and  $P_1$  is the reference point.

Now,

We can obtain  $\vec{E}$  once we know a scalar function  $\varphi(x, y, z)$  !

\* Potential of a charge distribution

$$\varphi(x, y, z) = \int_{\text{All sources}} \frac{\rho(x', y', z') dx' dy' dz'}{r} \quad (15)$$

In most cases, this integral is easier to perform than that using the Coulomb's law.

For instance, potential of a long charged wire with line density  $\lambda$  is given by  $\varphi = -2\lambda \ln r + \text{const.} \quad (17)$

$$\vec{E} = -\vec{\nabla} \varphi = \frac{2\lambda}{r} \hat{r} \quad (18)$$



## Potential of a Uniformly Charged Disk.

II-16.

$$\begin{aligned} \bullet \quad \varphi(0, y, 0) &= \int \frac{dq}{r} = \int \frac{2\pi\sigma s ds}{\sqrt{y^2 + s^2}} \\ &= 2\pi\sigma \left[ \sqrt{y^2 + s^2} \right]_{s=0}^{s=a} \quad (19) \end{aligned}$$

$$= 2\pi\sigma \left( \sqrt{y^2 + a^2} - |y| \right) \quad (20, 21).$$

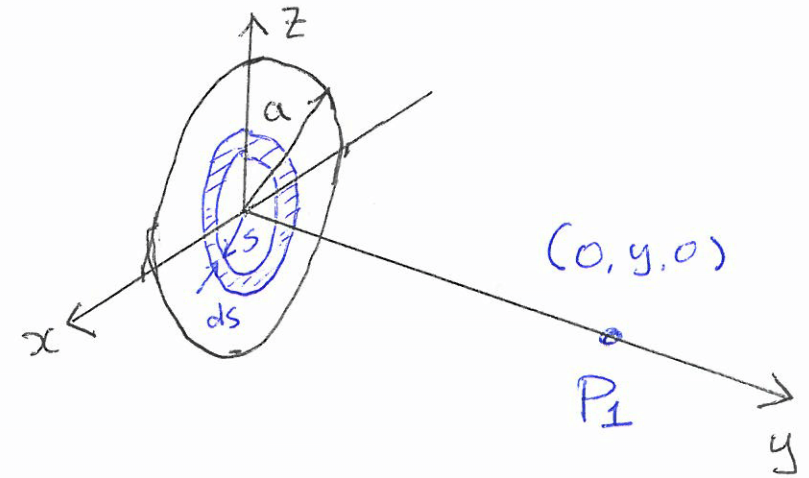


Fig. 2.6.

(In the Limit of very large  $y (\gg a)$ ,  $\varphi(0, y, 0) \rightarrow \frac{(\pi a^2)\sigma}{y}$ , for  $y \gg a$   
i.e., " $(\pi a^2)\sigma$ " acts like a point charge source.) (23)

$$\begin{aligned} \bullet \quad \vec{E} &= -\vec{\nabla} \varphi = -\hat{y} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \{ 2\pi\sigma (\sqrt{y^2 + a^2} - |y|) \} \\ &= \hat{y} 2\pi\sigma \left[ 1 - \frac{|y|}{\sqrt{y^2 + a^2}} \right]. \quad (26) \end{aligned}$$

• This procedure is easier than computing  $\vec{E}$  directly.



# Divergence and Gauss's Theorem

II.-17.

- Divergence of a Vector Function;  $\vec{F}$ :

$$\boxed{\text{div } \vec{F} \equiv \lim_{V_i \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{V_i} \int_{S_i} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{a}} \quad (33)$$

↑  
a scalar

See Fig 2.12.  
and illustration on page 56-57.

- Gauss's Theorem (Divergence Theorem)

$$\boxed{\int_S \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{a} = \int_V \text{div } \vec{F} dV} \quad (36)$$

for any vector field  $\vec{F}$  and any closed surface "S" enclosing a volume "V".

This is a mathematical theorem.

\* We can apply this to the Gauss's law, " $\int_S \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{a} = 4\pi \int_V \rho dV$ ".

Then,  $\int_V \text{div } \vec{E} dV = \int_V 4\pi \rho dV$ . Since this is true for any "V",

→  $\boxed{\text{div } \vec{E} = 4\pi \rho}$  Gauss's Law in differential form,  
(→ "Poisson Equation.")

# Gradient, Divergence, and Laplacian

II.-18.

- Scalar "G" :  $\vec{F} = \underbrace{\vec{\nabla}}_{\text{gradient}} G$  : Vector " $\vec{F}$ "

- Scalar "A" :  $A = \underbrace{\text{div}}_{\text{divergence}} \vec{F} \equiv \underbrace{\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{F}}_{=}$  :

- In Cartesian coordinate,  $\vec{\nabla} G = \hat{x} \frac{\partial G}{\partial x} + \hat{y} \frac{\partial G}{\partial y} + \hat{z} \frac{\partial G}{\partial z}$ ,

$$\text{For } \vec{F} = (F_x, F_y, F_z), \quad \text{div } \vec{F} = \frac{\partial F_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial F_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial F_z}{\partial z}.$$

- Laplacian : "divergence of gradient" (of a scalar)

$$\text{div} \cdot \text{grad } G = \text{div} \left( \hat{x} \frac{\partial G}{\partial x} + \hat{y} \frac{\partial G}{\partial y} + \hat{z} \frac{\partial G}{\partial z} \right) = \left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} \right) G$$

↳ in Cartesian coordinate,

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{\nabla} G \equiv \underbrace{\nabla^2}_{\text{Laplacian}} G \quad \left( \neq \overset{\text{not}}{(\text{grad})^2} \right)$$

# Poisson's Equation.

II-19.

\* Gauss's Law in differential form:

$$\text{div } \vec{E} = 4\pi\rho$$

✗

$$\text{div}(-\text{grad } \varphi) = -\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{\nabla} \varphi = -\nabla^2 \varphi$$

$$\boxed{\nabla^2 \varphi = -4\pi\rho} : \text{Poisson's Equation (50)}$$

Physical content is the same as the Gauss's Law,

But it ~~relates~~ relates ~~the~~ scalar " $\rho$ " to another scalar  $\varphi$  directly.

\* In cylindrical coordinates  $(\rho, \theta, z)$ ;

$$\vec{\nabla} G = \hat{\rho} \frac{\partial G}{\partial \rho} + \hat{\theta} \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial G}{\partial \theta} + \hat{z} \frac{\partial G}{\partial z}, \quad \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{F} = \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} (\rho F_\rho) + \frac{1}{\rho} \left( \frac{\partial F_\theta}{\partial \theta} \right) + \left( \frac{\partial F_z}{\partial z} \right).$$

$$\nabla^2 G = \text{div} \cdot \text{grad } G = \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} \left( \rho \frac{\partial G}{\partial \rho} \right) + \frac{1}{\rho^2} \frac{\partial^2 G}{\partial \theta^2} + \frac{\partial^2 G}{\partial z^2} \quad \text{Laplacian} \quad \text{✗} \left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \rho^2} + \frac{1}{\rho^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} \right) G$$



## Curl of a Vector Function

II-20.

- $$(\text{Curl } \vec{F}) \cdot \hat{n} = \lim_{a_i \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Gamma_i}{a_i} = \lim_{a_i \rightarrow 0} \frac{\int_{C_i} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{l}}{a_i} \quad (61)$$

See Fig 2.21, 22

Stokes' Theorem:

$$\int_C \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{l} = \int_S \text{curl } \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{a} \quad (64)$$

where  $C$  is the curve which bounds a surface.

- In Cartesian coordinates,

$$\text{Curl } \vec{F} = \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{F} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{x} & \hat{y} & \hat{z} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ F_x & F_y & F_z \end{vmatrix} = \hat{x} \left( \frac{\partial F_z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial F_y}{\partial z} \right) + \hat{y} \left( \frac{\partial F_x}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial F_z}{\partial x} \right) + \hat{z} \left( \frac{\partial F_y}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial F_x}{\partial y} \right).$$

II-21,

\* For electrostatic field  $\vec{E}$ ,  $\vec{E} = -\vec{\nabla}\varphi$ ,

then

$$\text{curl } \vec{E} = -\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{\nabla} \varphi = 0, \text{ everywhere.} \quad (75)$$

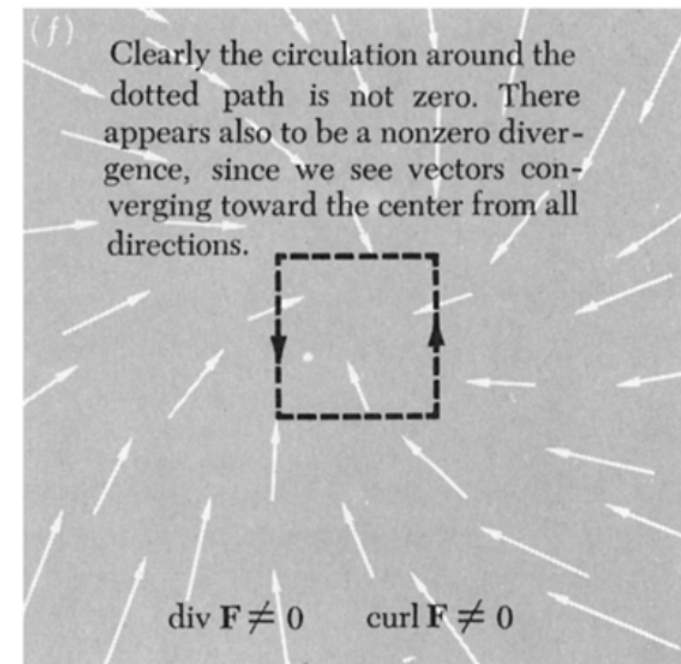
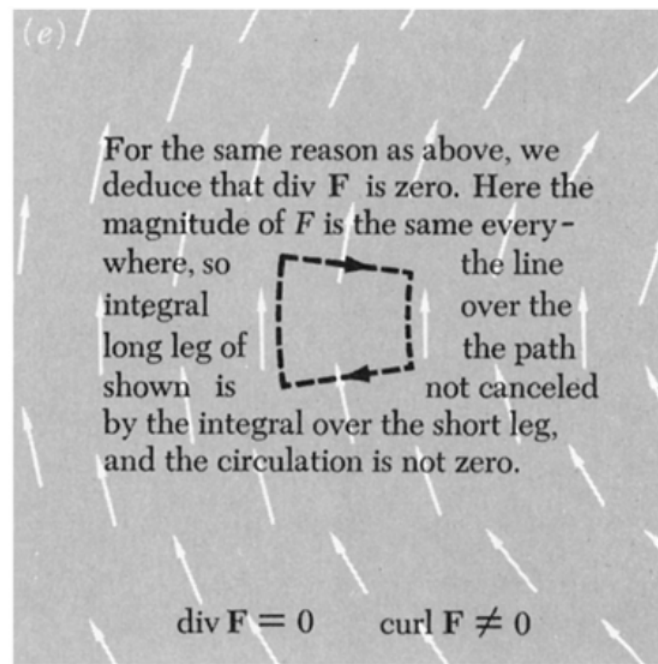
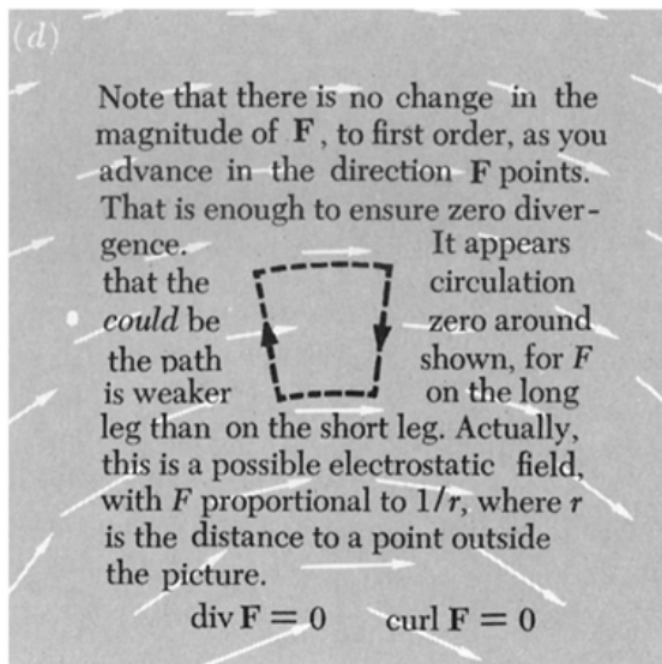
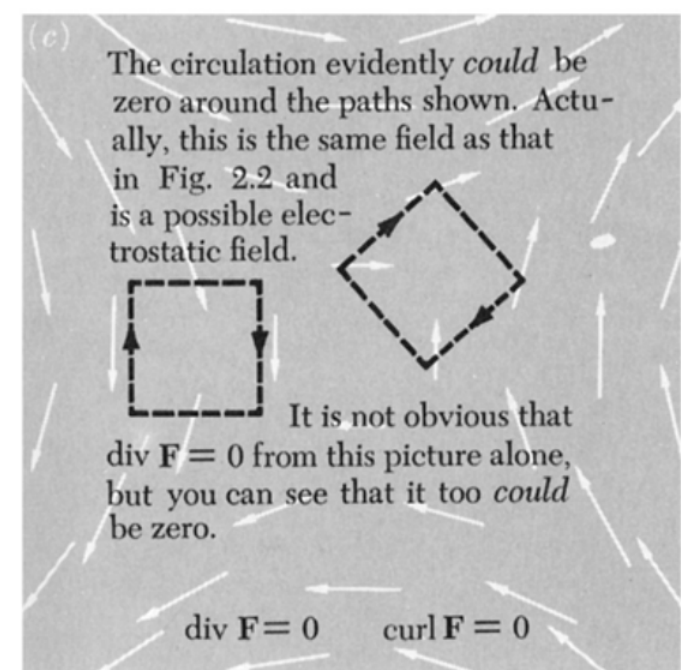
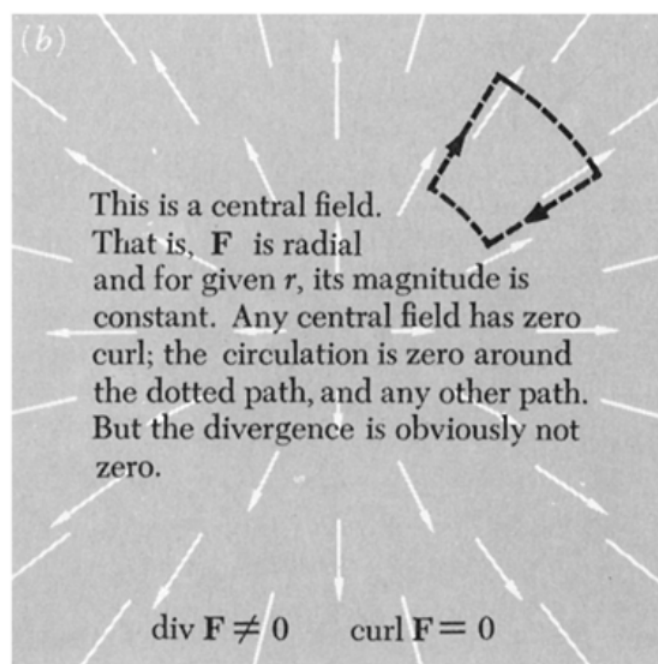
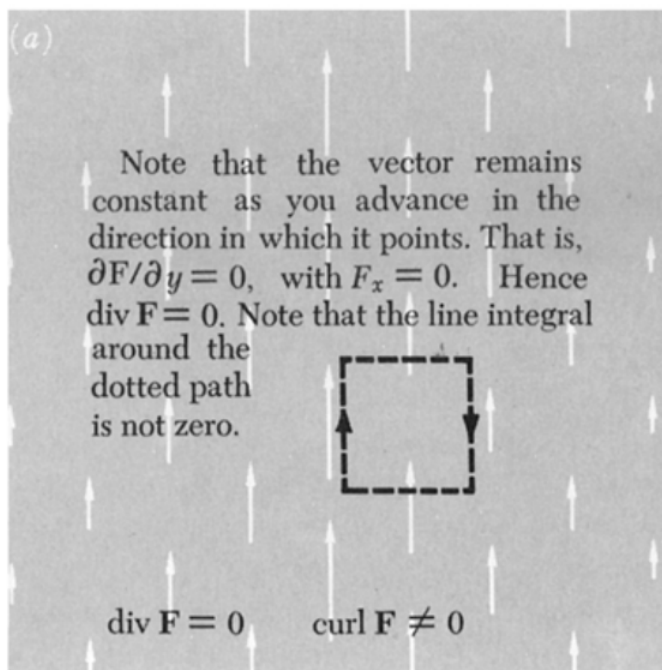
(Note that  $\text{curl} \cdot \text{grad}$  of any scalar field = 0 :  
mathematical identity).

- One can see not all of vector fields in Fig 2.30  
can be an electrostatic field  $\vec{E}$ .

## Homework

Problems 2.8, 2.11, 2.12, and 2.16,





**FIGURE 2.32**

Discussion of Fig. 2.30.