

Long line of charge (essentially infinite)

Consider point in  $y-z$  plane on  $z$  axis

If charge density on line of charge is  $\lambda$  (Coulombs per meter) then

$$dq = \lambda dy$$

$$\vec{E} = k \int \frac{\hat{s} dq}{s^2} = k\lambda \int \frac{\hat{s} dy}{s^2}$$

Since  $\hat{s}$  lies in  $y-z$  plane  $\hat{s}_x = 0$

$$E_x = 0$$

$$E_y = k\lambda \int \frac{\hat{s}_y dy}{s^2}$$

$$\hat{s}_y = |\hat{s}| \cos \theta = \cos \theta$$

or (since  $\cos \theta = \frac{y}{s}$ )

$$E_y = k\lambda \int \frac{y dy}{s^3}$$

$$\text{but } s = \sqrt{r^2 + y^2}$$

$$E_y = k\lambda \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{y dy}{(y^2 + r^2)^{3/2}}$$

$$= k\lambda \left( \frac{-1}{(y^2 + r^2)^{1/2}} \right) \Big|_{-\infty}^{+\infty}$$

$$= 0$$

$$E_z = k\pi \int \frac{\hat{s}_z dy}{s^2}$$

$$\hat{s}_z = |\hat{s}| \sin \theta = \sin \theta$$

$$\sin \theta = \frac{r}{s}$$

$$E_z = k\pi \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{r dy}{(y^2 + r^2)^{3/2}}$$

$$= k\pi r \frac{y}{r^2 (y^2 + r^2)^{1/2}} \Big|_{-\infty}^{+\infty}$$

As  $y \rightarrow \infty$   $(y^2 + r^2)^{1/2} \rightarrow (y^2)^{1/2} \rightarrow |y|$

$$E_z = k\pi r \frac{y}{r^2 |y|} \Big|_{-\infty}^{+\infty}$$

$$= 2 \frac{k\pi}{r}$$

If we had taken a point on x axis

$$E_z = 0$$

$$E_y = 0$$

$$E_x = \frac{2k\pi}{r}$$

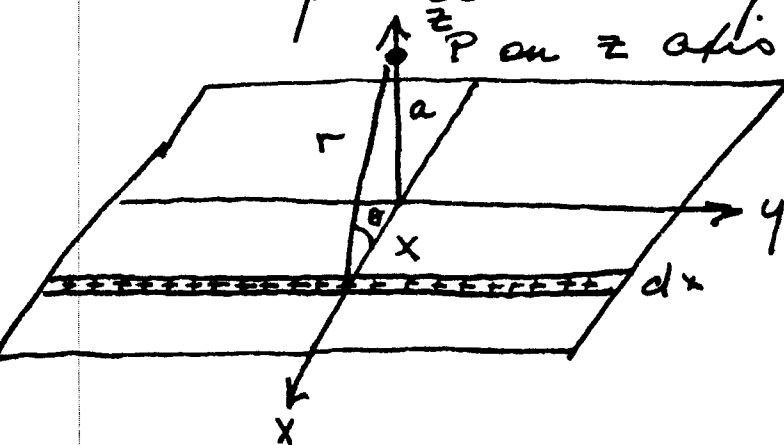
Clearly anywhere surrounding line  
of charge

$$\vec{E} = \frac{2k\pi}{r} \hat{r}$$

use 2 types of arguments -

- 1) Break up into tractable (familiar pieces)
- 2) Argue from common sense

Infinite sheet of charge.



Treat plane as  
sum of large numbr  
of lines of charge  
If there is charge  
density  $\sigma$  per unit  
surface area

then the charge density per unit length  
 $dz = \sigma dx$       then from previous  
result

$$dE = 2k \frac{dz}{r} = 2k \frac{\sigma dx}{r}$$

$$E_z = \int 2k\sigma \frac{\hat{s}_z dx}{r}$$

$$\hat{s}_z = \sin \theta = \frac{a}{r} = \frac{a}{(x^2 + a^2)^{1/2}}$$

$$E_z = 2k\sigma a \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{dx}{x^2 + a^2}$$

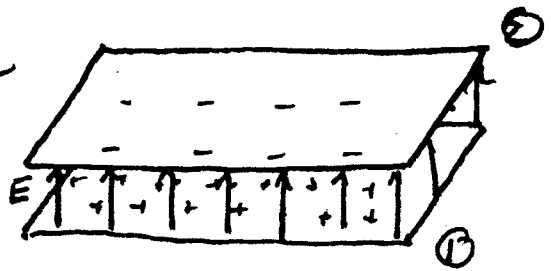
$$= 2k\sigma a \left[ \frac{1}{a} \tan^{-1} \frac{x}{a} \right]_{-\infty}^{+\infty}$$

$$= 2k\sigma \left[ \frac{\pi}{2} - \left(-\frac{\pi}{2}\right) \right] = 2\pi k\sigma$$

$$\vec{E} = 2\pi k\sigma \hat{z}$$

UNIFORM  
FIELD

Can use superposition  
to find other  
fields



$$\vec{E} = \vec{E}_1 + \vec{E}_2$$

Between plates  $E_1 = 2\pi k \sigma \uparrow$

$$E_2 = 2\pi k \sigma \uparrow$$

$$E = 4\pi k \sigma$$

$$\epsilon_0 = \frac{1}{4\pi k}$$

$$E = \frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0}$$

Above - plate

$$E_1 = 2\pi k \sigma \uparrow$$

$$E_2 = 2\pi k \sigma \downarrow$$

$$E = 0$$

Below + plate

$$E_1 = 2\pi k \sigma \downarrow$$

$$E_2 = 2\pi k \sigma \uparrow$$

$$E = 0$$