

What if we draw a surface that is not a sphere. For a sphere all the field lines are \perp to the surface. For an irregular surface the surface element is larger than a spherical surface element - the projection factor is $\cos \theta$. So if we sum up all the lines $E \Delta A \cos \theta$ we get the same result - the total # of lines is conserved

$$\sum E \Delta A \cos \theta = 4\pi kq$$

provided the surface is closed. Since E varies across surface this is only strictly true if we take infinitesimal surface elements \Rightarrow

$$\oint E \cos \theta dA = 4\pi kq$$

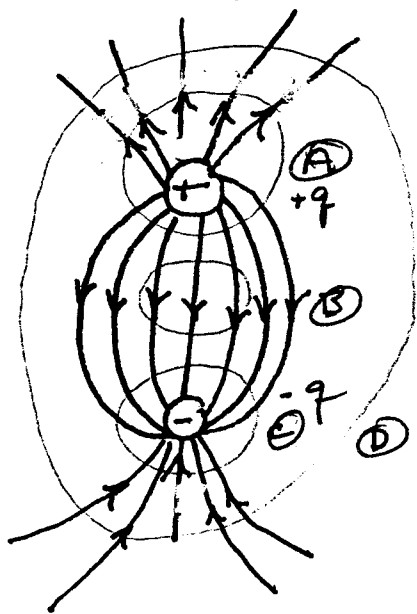
$$\oint E_{\perp} dA = 4\pi kq$$

The quantity $E_{\perp} dA = E \cos \theta dA$ is called the electric flux. If there is more than one charge then

$$Q = \sum q \text{ and } \epsilon_0 = \frac{1}{4\pi k}$$

$$\Rightarrow \oint E_{\perp} dA = \frac{Q}{\epsilon_0} \quad \text{Gauss's Law}$$

Look at Gauss's Law from point of lines of force. Look at dipole



Lines always away from \oplus and toward \ominus charge

Can place surfaces anywhere we want

1) A encloses + charge all lines of force are outward

$$\int E_{\perp} dA = \frac{q}{\epsilon_0}$$

2) B encloses no charge

$$\int E_{\perp} dA = 0$$

No lines are created within B \Rightarrow every line that enters B must exit B as!

3) C encloses - charge all lines of force are inward

$$\int E_{\perp} dA = -\frac{Q}{\epsilon_0}$$

4) D - Net charge within $D = 0$

$$\int E_{\perp} dA = 0$$

For every line entering D there must be a corresponding line exiting D

- 0 -

We will see that it is often advantageous to break a surface up into segments and look at the contributions to $\int E_{\perp} dA$ separately for each segment. The integral is then just the sum of the contributions from each segment. A few simple ones fall out directly

1) If the surface segment has E at right angles everywhere and E has the same magnitude everywhere then $E = E_{\perp}$ $\int E_{\perp} dA = EA$

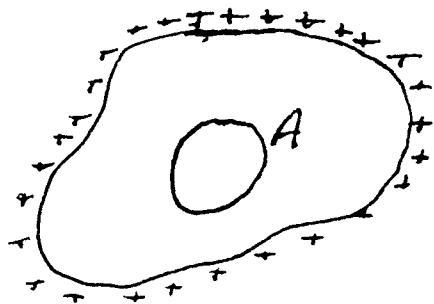
2) If $E \parallel$ to the surface $E_{\perp} = 0$
 $\int E_{\perp} dA = 0$

3) If $E = 0$ everywhere $\int E_{\perp} dA = 0$

How do we apply Gauss's Law. There are a variety of useful applications but they often require a bit of creativity in setting them up

1) Conductors - we have already discussed that conductors are materials in which the electrons move freely. We can see quite simply that the \vec{E} field intensity inside a conductor must be zero unless there is a current. If \vec{E} is not zero then any charge q will feel a force $q\vec{E}$. Being free to move a current will be created (charges will be moving). No current \Rightarrow no electric field.

Now supposing we charge up a conductor; what can we say about where charge will be located. Any surface within the conductor must have



$$E = 0 \Rightarrow \int E_{\perp} dA = 0 = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} q$$

There can be no net charge anywhere within a conductor. \Rightarrow charge,