

Exercise 9:

Consider a longer cylinder of radius R and length h uniformly charged in volume with a density $\rho > 0$.

1- Find the electric field and potential at any point in space, we take $V(0)=0V$.

2- Plot the graphs of these two quantities.

Solution

The electric field under these conditions is radial. The Gaussian surface in this case is a cylinder of radius r and height h , with its axis coinciding with the axis of the charged cylinder.

- In this case, two regions are distinguished.

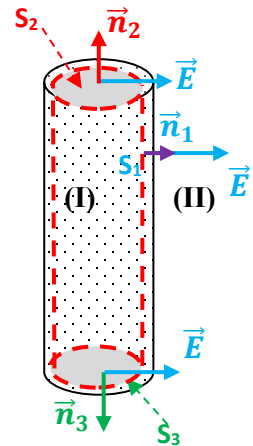
- Region (I); $r \leq R$

a)- Find the flux through the Gaussian surface S_G

The total flux through the Gaussian surface:

$$\Phi_{S_G} = \Phi_1 + \Phi_2 + \Phi_3$$

$$\oiint_{S_G} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} = \iint_{S_1} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s}_1 + \iint_{S_2} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s}_2 + \iint_{S_3} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s}_3$$



We have $\vec{E} \perp \vec{s}_2$ ($\vec{E} \perp \vec{n}_2$) et $\vec{E} \perp \vec{s}_3$ ($\vec{E} \perp \vec{n}_3$), since the field is radial, then :

$$\iint_{S_2} \vec{E}_2 \cdot d\vec{s}_2 = \iint_{S_3} \vec{E}_3 \cdot d\vec{s}_3 = 0$$

with $\vec{E} \parallel d\vec{s}_1$ and in the same direction, then :

$$\oiint_{S_G} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} = \iint_{S_1} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s}_1 = \iint_{S_1} E ds_1$$

$\vec{E} \cdot \vec{n}_1 ds_1$
 $E \parallel \vec{n}_1 \parallel \cos 0$

So, we obtain:

Constant on the surface S_1 because $E(r)$

$$\oiint_{S_G} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} = E \iint_{S_1} ds_1$$

$$\oiint_{S_G} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} = E S_1$$

S_1 is the lateral surface of the cylinder S_G

Hence:

$$\oiint_{S_G} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} = E \underbrace{2\pi r h}_{S_1} \quad (1)$$

b)- Find the charge inside the Gaussian surface:

The charge is uniformly distributed over the volume bounded by the **Gaussian cylinder**.

$$Q_{net} = \iiint_{v_{chargé}} \overset{Cte}{\tilde{\rho}} dv$$

Volume bounded by the Gaussian surface S_G

$$Q_{int} = \rho \iiint_{v_{chargé}} dv \Rightarrow Q_{net} = \rho v_{chargé}$$

$$Q_{int} = \rho h \pi r^2 \quad (2)$$

From equations (1) and (2), the Gauss's law equality gives us:

$$E 2\pi r h = \frac{\pi \rho h r^2}{\epsilon_0} \Rightarrow E(r) = \frac{\rho}{2\epsilon_0} r$$

- Region (II) ; $r > R$

The expression of the flux through the Gaussian surface is the same as that of the first region.

$$\oiint_{S_G} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} = E \underbrace{2\pi r h}_{S_1} \quad (1)$$

b)- Calculate the charge inside the Gaussian surface:

The charge is uniformly distributed over the volume bounded by the real cylinder.

$$Q_{int} = \iiint_{v_{charg\acute{e}}} \overset{Cte}{\tilde{\rho}} dv$$

$$Q_{int} = \rho \iiint_{v_{charg\acute{e}}} dv \Rightarrow Q_{int} = \rho v_{charg\acute{e}}$$

$$Q_{int} = \rho h \pi R^2 \quad (3)$$

From equations (1) and (3), the Gauss's equality yields:

$$E 2\pi r h = \frac{\pi \rho h R^2}{\epsilon_0} \Rightarrow E(r) = \frac{\rho}{2\epsilon_0} \left(\frac{R^2}{r} \right)$$

Conclusion :

The field created by the uniformly charged infinite cylinder in volume is given by:

$$E(r) = \begin{cases} \frac{\rho}{2\epsilon_0} r & 0 \leq r \leq R \\ \frac{\rho}{2\epsilon_0} \left(\frac{R^2}{r} \right) & ; r > R \end{cases}$$

- Find the electric potential $V(r)$ created by this charge distribution at any point in space:

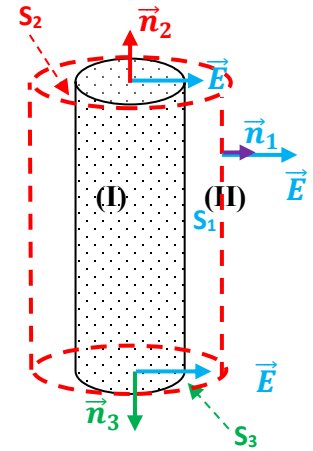
We know that: $\vec{E} = -\overrightarrow{\text{grad}} V$

The electric field in this case is radial, so: $\vec{E} = E(r) \vec{u}_r$

$$E(r) = -\frac{dV}{dr} \Rightarrow dV = -E(r) dr$$

- Region (I) ; $r \leq R$:

We substitute the expression of the electric field in this region



$$dV = -E(r) dr \Rightarrow dV = -\frac{\rho}{2\varepsilon_0} r dr$$

$$\Rightarrow V(r) = -\frac{\rho}{4\varepsilon_0} r^2 + C_1$$

The constant of integration to be determined

-Region (II) ; $r > R$:

$$dV = -E(r) dr \Rightarrow dV = -\frac{\rho}{2\varepsilon_0} \left(\frac{R^2}{r} \right) dr$$

$$\Rightarrow \int dV = -\frac{\overbrace{\rho R^2}^{cte}}{2\varepsilon_0} \int \left(\frac{1}{r} \right) dr$$

The constant of integration to be determined

$$\Rightarrow V(r) = -\frac{\rho R^2}{2\varepsilon_0} \ln(r) + C_2$$

So, the electric potential created by this charge distribution is:

$$V(r) = \begin{cases} -\frac{\rho}{4\varepsilon_0} r^2 + C_1 & ; 0 \leq r \leq R \\ -\frac{\rho R^2}{2\varepsilon_0} \ln(r) + C_2 & ; r > R \end{cases}$$

Now, we need to calculate the integration constants C_1 and C_2

According to the exercise data $V(0) = 0$, we notice that this data belongs to region

We calculate first C_1 : pour $r = 0 \rightarrow V(0) = 0$

$$V(0) = -\frac{\rho}{4\varepsilon_0} 0^2 + C_1 \Rightarrow C_1 = 0$$

Hence, the electric potential in region I is:

$$V(r) = -\frac{\rho}{4\varepsilon_0} r^2$$

To calculate C_2 , we use the continuity of the electric potential at $r = R$ between region I and II.

$$V_{region II}(R) = V_{region I}(R)$$

$$-\frac{\rho R^2}{2\varepsilon_0} \ln(R) + C_2 = -\frac{\rho}{4\varepsilon_0} R^2 \Rightarrow C_2 = \frac{\rho R^2}{2\varepsilon_0} \left(\ln(R) - \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

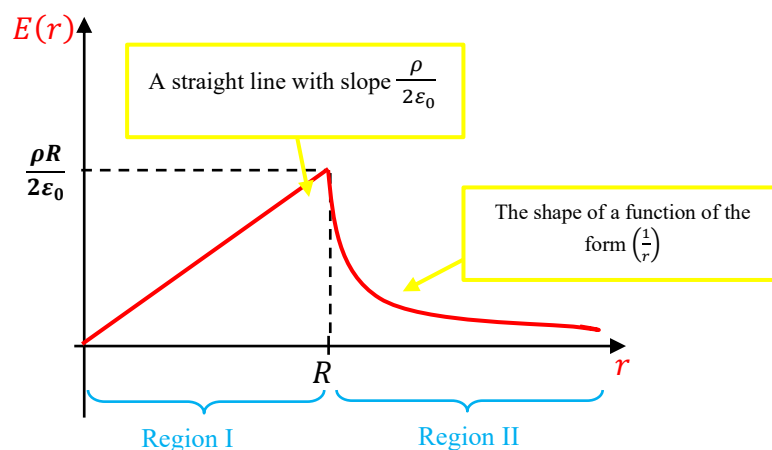
Hence, the electric potential in region II is:

$$V(r) = \frac{\rho R^2}{2\epsilon_0} \left(\ln \left(\frac{R}{r} \right) - \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

So, the electric potential created by this charge distribution is:

$$V(r) = \begin{cases} -\frac{\rho}{4\epsilon_0} r^2 & ; \quad 0 \leq r \leq R \\ \frac{\rho R^2}{2\epsilon_0} \left(\ln \left(\frac{R}{r} \right) - \frac{1}{2} \right) & ; \quad r > R \end{cases}$$

- The graphs of $E(r)$



The graphs of $V(r)$

