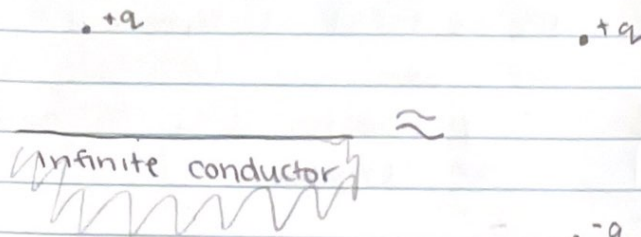


lecture 12: method of images:

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this can be done because of boundary conditions

electric fields near conductors

→ electrostatics: charges have come to rest

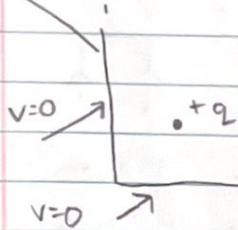
non-uniform

-  $E=0$  in material of conductor

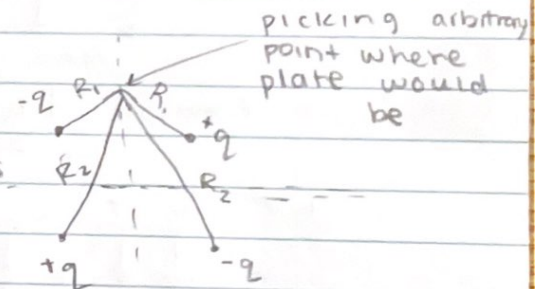
- excess  $q$  on conductor sits on surface

negative charge

example: method of images



equiv situation ≈ w/point charges



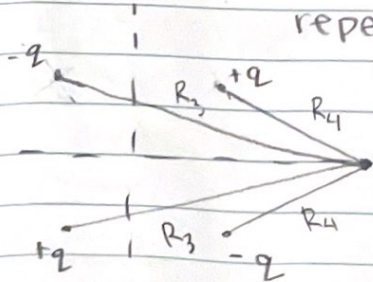
picking arbitrary point where plate would be

mathematical test:

1)  $V = \frac{k(-q)}{R_1} + \frac{k(+q)}{R_1} + \frac{k(-q)}{R_2} = \frac{k(-q)}{R_2}$  ✗ DOES NOT WORK, add positive point

2)  $V = \frac{k(-q)}{R_1} + \frac{k(+q)}{R_1} + \frac{k(-q)}{R_2} + \frac{k(+q)}{R_2} = 0$  ✓ yay!

repeating, using different point for calculating voltage at

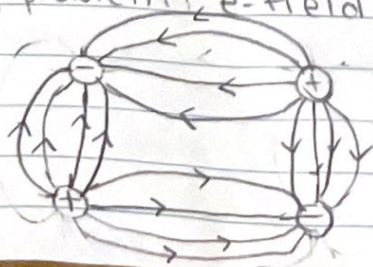


mathematical test:

$V = \frac{k(+q)}{R_4} + \frac{k(-q)}{R_4} + \frac{k(+q)}{R_3} + \frac{k(-q)}{R_3} = 0$

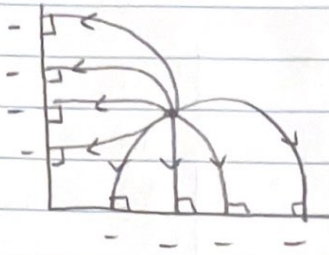
⇒ math once again works!

▽ problem: e-field must be unique



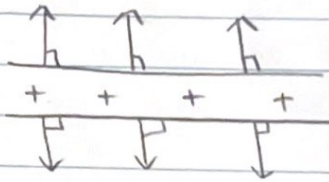
→ no e-field in center of charges

(continued example on back)

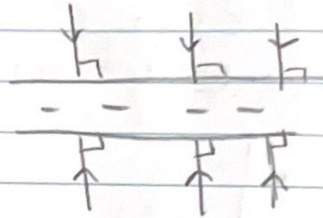


the e-field is symmetrical, and we can use boundary conditions a proportionality to determine the charge.

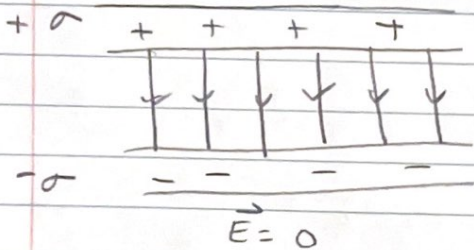
infinite positive plane: (e-fields)



infinite negative plane:



combined:  
 $\vec{E} = 0$

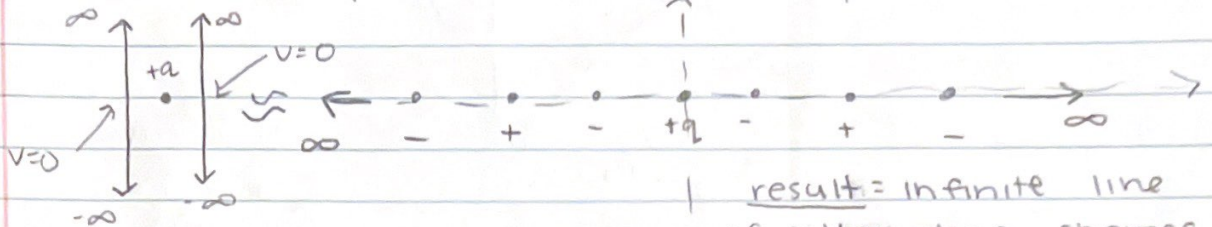


combine together using the principles of super-position

method of images example:

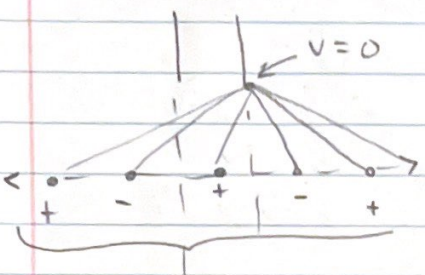
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→ 2 infinite planes of charge w/a point charge btwn



result = infinite line of alternating charges from either side of  $q$

check:



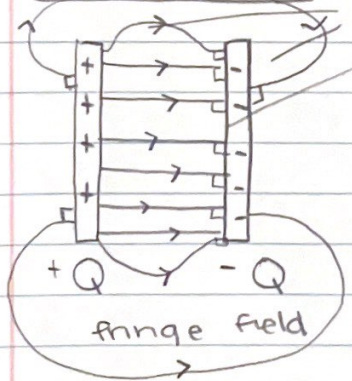
$$V = \frac{k(+q)}{R_1} + \frac{k(-q)}{R_1} + \frac{k(+q)}{R_2} + \frac{k(-q)}{R_2} + \dots$$

⇒ now we can find e-field and voltage everywhere in this space

all the charges pair up and cancel along places where the plates would be

approx. uniform  $\sigma$  (surface charge) on inner surface

real world



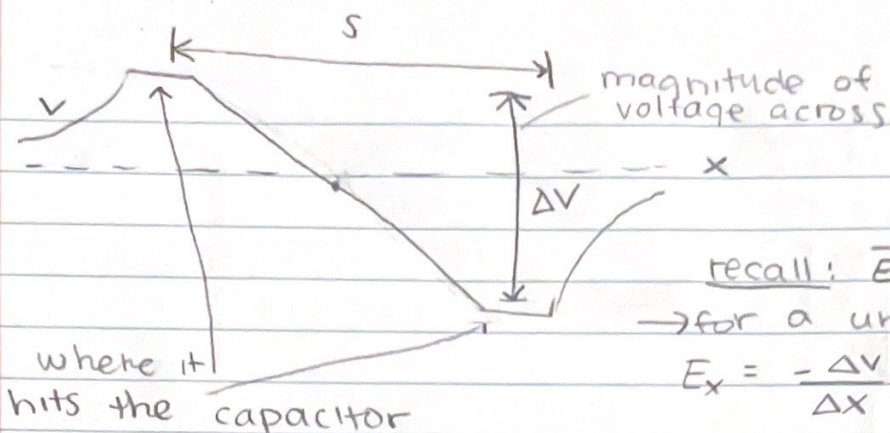
two metal plates → charges will be drawn to surface - closest to each other  
 small amount ← generating an e-field  
 of charge will be repelled from same charge and go to outside of plate, creating a fringe field w/ the outer charge from the other plate's outer charge

fringe field:

anything that does not go straight across. it is very weak and usually ignored. (can be seen on pg. 152/143 in textbook)

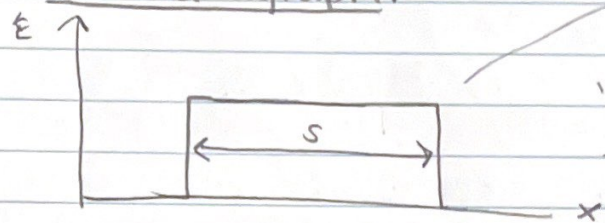
\*example/graph of potential cont. on back

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recall:  $\vec{E} = -\vec{\nabla}V$   
 → for a uniform  $\vec{E}$   
 $E_x = -\frac{\Delta V}{\Delta x}$

e-field graph:



→ derivative of voltage graph  
 in terms of s:  
 $E_x = \frac{|\Delta V|}{s}$

⇒ capacitors store energy

youtube video on capacitors:

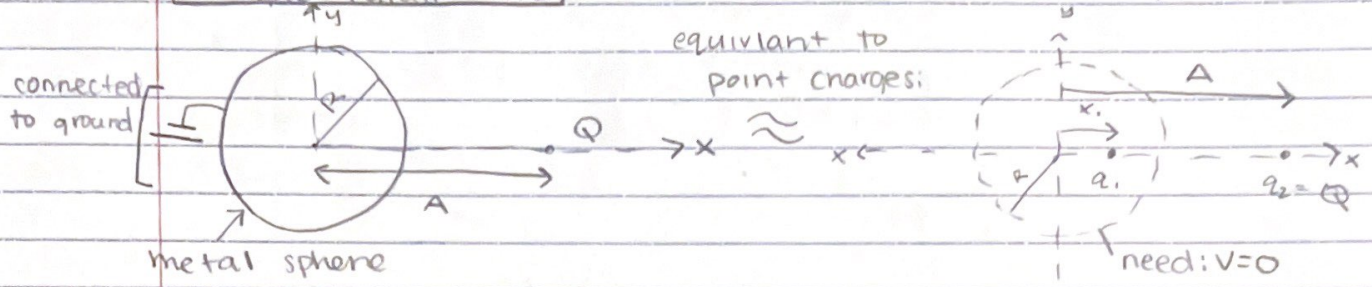
what's a capacitor on khan academy

$$C = \frac{Q}{V} = \frac{\text{charge}}{\text{voltage}}$$

\*units = Farads =  $\frac{\text{coulomb}}{\text{volt}}$

example: Purall 3.13

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claim: if  $x_1 = \frac{R^2}{A}$  and  $q_1 = \frac{-R}{A} Q$ , then it is a method of images.

check: boundary conditions:  $\infty \approx \infty$   
 $q_2 = Q \approx q_2 = Q$

→ testing that there is a sphere of no charge still when using point charges:  
 - arbitrary point "P" represents any point on sphere  
 → voltage at P =

for  $R_1$ :

$$V_p = \frac{kq_1}{R_1} + \frac{kq_2}{R_2}$$

$p: (x_p, y_p)$

$$R_1^2 = (x_p - x_1)^2 + y_p^2$$

$$\sqrt{R_1^2 - y_p^2} + x_1 = x_p \quad \sin \phi = \frac{y_p}{R} \Rightarrow x_p = R \cos \phi$$

$$\cos \phi = \frac{x_p}{R} \Rightarrow y_p = R \sin \phi$$

$$R_1^2 = (R \cos \phi - x_1)^2 + (R \sin \phi)^2$$

$$= R^2 \cos^2 \phi - 2x_1 R \cos \phi + x_1^2 + R^2 \sin^2 \phi$$

$$= R_1^2 + x_1^2 - 2x_1 R \cos \phi$$

for  $R_2$ :

$$R_2^2 = (A - x_p)^2 + y_p^2$$

$$= (A - R \cos \phi)^2 + (R \sin \phi)^2$$

$$= A^2 - 2AR \cos \phi + R^2 \cos^2 \phi + R^2 \sin^2 \phi$$

$$= A^2 - 2AR \cos \phi + R^2$$

plugging → back into equation for voltage:

$$V_p = \frac{kq_1}{\sqrt{R^2 + x_1^2 - 2x_1 R \cos \phi}} + \frac{kq_2}{\sqrt{A^2 - 2AR \cos \phi + R^2}}$$

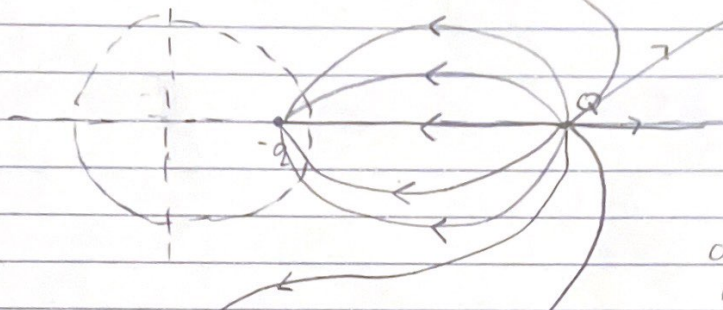
$$= k \left( \frac{-\frac{R}{A} Q}{\sqrt{R^2 + \left(\frac{R^2}{A}\right)^2 - 2\frac{R^2}{A} \cos \phi}} + \frac{kQ}{\sqrt{A^2 - 2AR \cos \phi + R^2}} \right)$$

(continued on the back)

$$V_D = \frac{k\left(\frac{-R}{A}\right)Q}{\sqrt{\left(\frac{R^2}{A^2}\right)[A^2+R^2-2AR\cos\theta]}} = \left(\frac{A}{R}\right) \frac{k\left(\frac{-R}{A}\right)Q + kQ}{\sqrt{A^2+R^2-2AR\cos\theta}}$$

$$= \frac{kQ - kQ}{\sqrt{A^2+R^2-2AR\cos\theta}} = 0 \quad \text{yay! proof that the field is zero on disk}$$

e-fields for point charges



$$q = \frac{-R}{A} Q$$

⇒ whole thing is net positive, will have to look like a single point charge from far away

\*going off to infinity\*

⇒ Khan academy: dielectrics in capacitors  
(find in physics: circuits section of Khan academy)