

Tools we can use if we want to find electric field $\vec{E}(\vec{r})$ or potential $V(\vec{r})$

♥ Coulomb's Law: $\vec{E}(\vec{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int \frac{\rho(\vec{r}')}{r^2} \hat{i} d\tau' \quad (2.8)$

♥ First find potential V , then get $\vec{E}(\vec{r})$:

$$V(\vec{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int \frac{\rho(\vec{r}')}{r} d\tau' \quad (2.29) \quad \text{then} \quad \vec{E}(\vec{r}) = -\vec{\nabla}V(\vec{r})$$

♥ Gauss' Law (if symmetry permits) $\frac{Q_{enc}}{\epsilon_0} = \oint_S \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{a} \quad (2.13)$

♥ Poisson's equation $\nabla^2 V = -\frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0} \quad (2.24)$

(solve differential equation with boundary conditions)

♥ Method of Images (replace equipotential surfaces)

♥ Use Separation of Variables to solve Laplace's Equation

♥ Multipole Expansion (approximation)