

Homework due Tuesday March 3

The following problems from chapter 3 of the textbook: 22, 23, 26, 27, plus the problem below.

Consider a charge distribution $\rho(x, y, z) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{for } x > a, \\ \rho_0 = \text{constant in } x, & \text{for } |x| < a, \\ 0, & \text{for } x < -a. \end{cases}$

(a) Assuming symmetry of the electric field about the plane $x=0$ (that is, $E_x(x) = -E_x(-x)$), use Gauss's law to find $E_x(x)$ for $|x| < a$, for $x > a$, and for $x < -a$. The dielectric constant is ϵ_0 everywhere.

(b) Now consider the same charge distribution, but with a spherical hole of radius $a/2$ centered at $(x, y, z) = (0, 0, 0)$. Use the principle of superposition to find the electric field at the point $x = a/2, y = a/2, z = 0$.

Diagram for part (a)

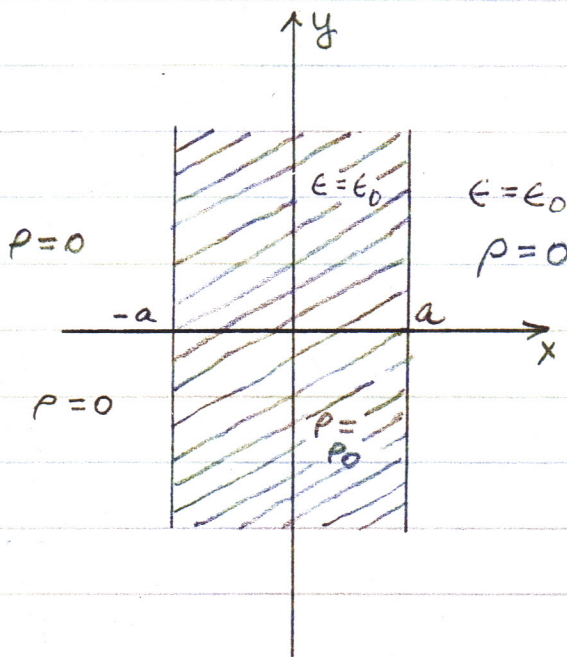


Diagram for part (b)

