



Treat dq as a point charge which creates field $d\vec{E}$ at P :

$$d\vec{E} = \frac{Kdq}{r^2} \hat{r} \quad \text{and} \quad |d\vec{E}| = \frac{Kdq}{r^2}$$

Now, to integrate this, we have to express dq , r , and \hat{r} in terms of constants, the coordinates of P , and the coordinates of dq .

So: $dq = \lambda dy$

$$r^2 = x^2 + y^2$$

$$d\vec{E} = |d\vec{E}| \cos\theta \hat{i} - |d\vec{E}| \sin\theta \hat{j}$$

where: $\cos\theta = \frac{x}{r} = \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}$

$$\sin\theta = \frac{y}{r} = \frac{y}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}$$

Or, $\hat{r} = \cos\theta \hat{i} - \sin\theta \hat{j}$

So:
$$d\vec{E} = \frac{K\lambda dy}{(x^2+y^2)} \left\{ \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2+y^2}} \hat{i} - \frac{y}{\sqrt{x^2+y^2}} \hat{j} \right\}$$

Or,
$$d\vec{E} = \underbrace{\frac{K\lambda x dy}{(x^2+y^2)^{3/2}}}_{dE_x} \hat{i} - \underbrace{\frac{K\lambda y dy}{(x^2+y^2)^{3/2}}}_{dE_y} \hat{j}$$

Integrate components separately:

$$dE_x = \frac{K\lambda x dy}{(x^2+y^2)^{3/2}}$$

$$E_x = \int_{\text{charge}} dE_x = \int_0^L \frac{K\lambda x dy}{(x^2+y^2)^{3/2}}$$

$$= K\lambda x \int_0^L \frac{dy}{(x^2+y^2)^{3/2}}$$

How do we do this integral?

Use the table in Appendix A-3:

find:
$$\int \frac{dx}{(x^2 \pm a^2)^{3/2}} = \frac{\pm x}{a^2 \sqrt{x^2 \pm a^2}}$$

 $a = \text{const.}$

for our integral:

Table	x	\leftrightarrow	y
	a	\leftrightarrow	x

So:

$$\begin{aligned}
 E_x &= K\lambda x \int_0^L \frac{dy}{(x^2+y^2)^{3/2}} \\
 &= K\lambda x \left\{ \frac{y}{x^2\sqrt{x^2+y^2}} \right\} \Big|_0^L \\
 &= \frac{K\lambda}{x} \left\{ \frac{L}{\sqrt{x^2+L^2}} - 0 \right\}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore E_x = \frac{K\lambda L}{x\sqrt{x^2+L^2}}$$

Now:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Delta y &= \int_{\text{change}} d\bar{E}_y = - \int_0^L \frac{K\lambda y dy}{(x^2+y^2)^{3/2}} \\
 &= -K\lambda \int_0^L \frac{y dy}{(x^2+y^2)^{3/2}}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Table: } \int \frac{x dx}{(x^2+a^2)^{3/2}} = \frac{-1}{\sqrt{x^2+a^2}}$$

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \text{Table} \quad \frac{ds}{ds} \\
 x \leftrightarrow y \\
 a \leftrightarrow x
 \end{array}$$

So:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Delta y &= -K\lambda \left\{ \frac{-1}{\sqrt{x^2+y^2}} \right\} \Big|_0^L \\
 &= K\lambda \left\{ \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2+L^2}} - \frac{1}{x} \right\}
 \end{aligned}$$

So, finally:

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{E} &= E_x \hat{i} + E_y \hat{j} \\ &= \frac{K\lambda L}{x\sqrt{x^2+L^2}} \hat{i} + K\lambda \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2+L^2}} - \frac{1}{x} \right] \hat{j}\end{aligned}$$

or, $\lambda = \frac{Q}{L}$

$$\vec{E} = \frac{KQ}{x\sqrt{x^2+L^2}} \hat{i} + \frac{KQ}{L} \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2+L^2}} - \frac{1}{x} \right] \hat{j}$$

also, for $x \gg L$, ignore L^2 in $\sqrt{x^2+L^2}$

$$\vec{E}(x \gg L) \rightarrow \frac{KQ}{x^2} \hat{i}$$

i.e. a point charge when viewed from far away.