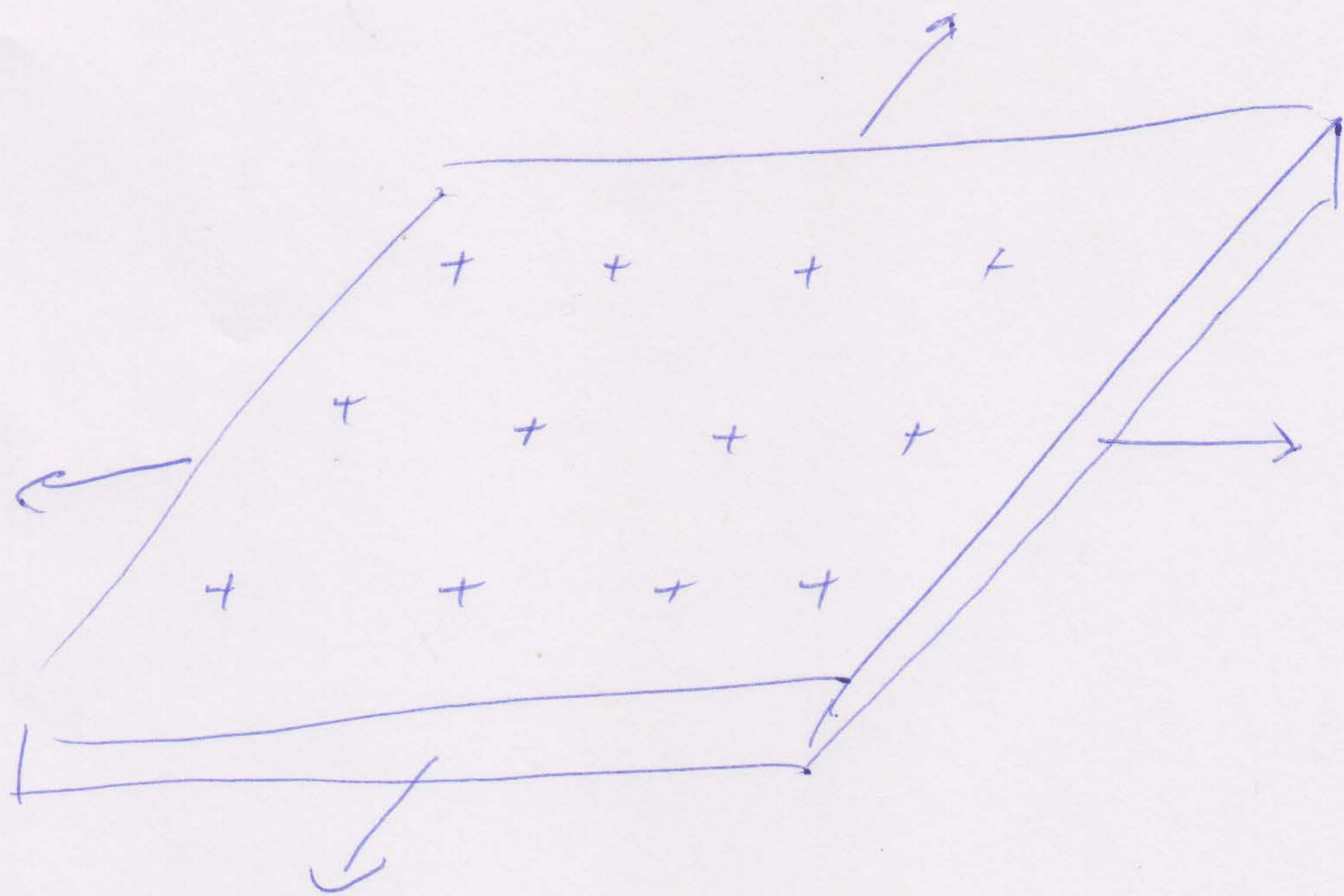


Find the electric field a distance z away from an infinitely-large σ uniformly-charged sheet of charge.

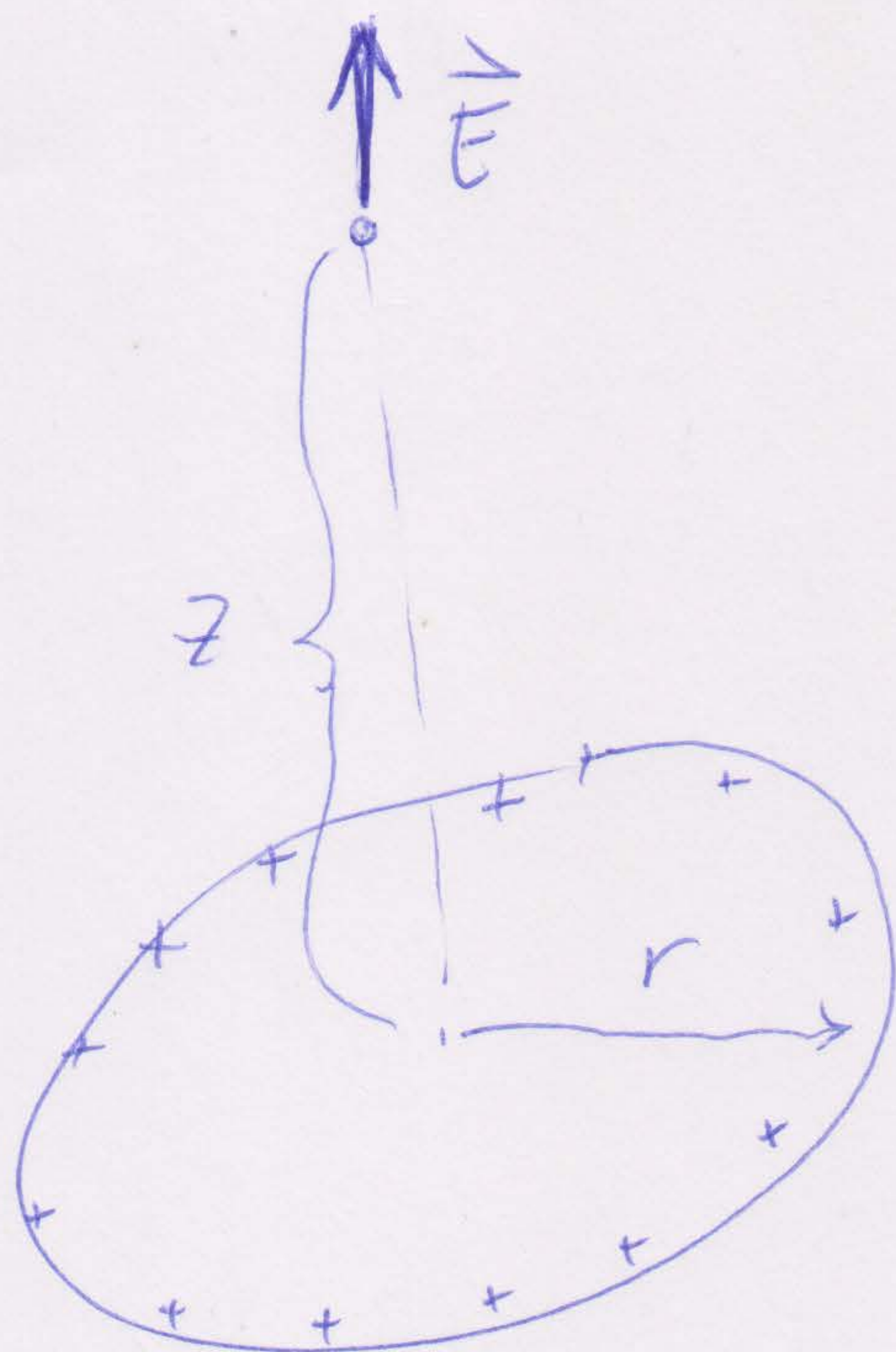


Assume the sheet has a surface charge density (charge per unit area) σ .

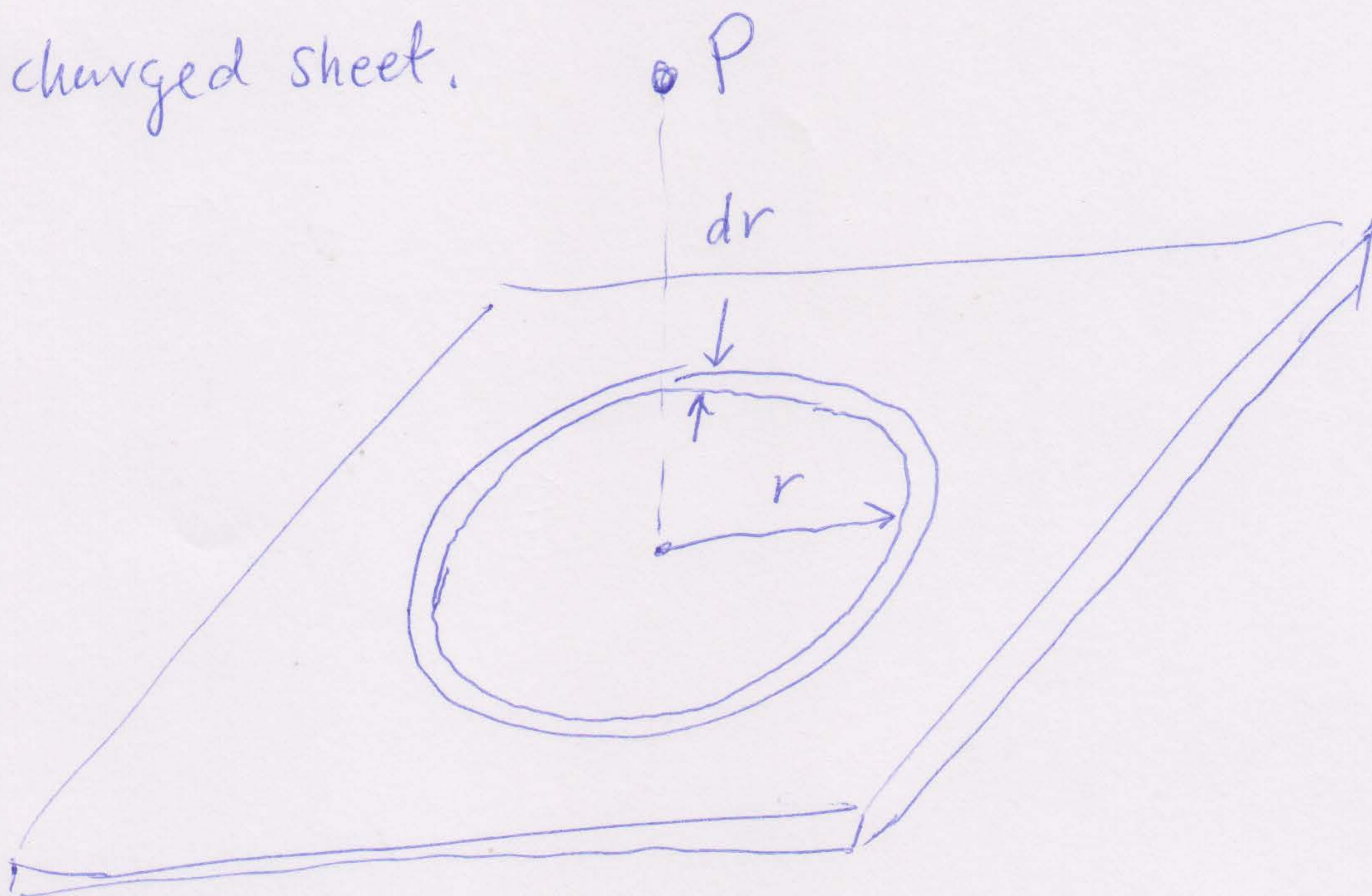
Strategy: Consider forming a sheet of charge by summing a bunch of charged rings of different sizes.

Already know that the electric field a height z above the centre of a charged ring is given by

$$|\vec{E}| = \frac{2\pi r k_e \lambda z}{(z^2 + r^2)^{3/2}}$$



A ring of radius r & thickness dr , placed within the charged sheet.



The ring has area $2\pi r dr$
↳ thickness
circumference

∴ Its charge is $Q_{\text{ring}} = \sigma (2\pi r dr)$

∴ charge per unit length of the ring is

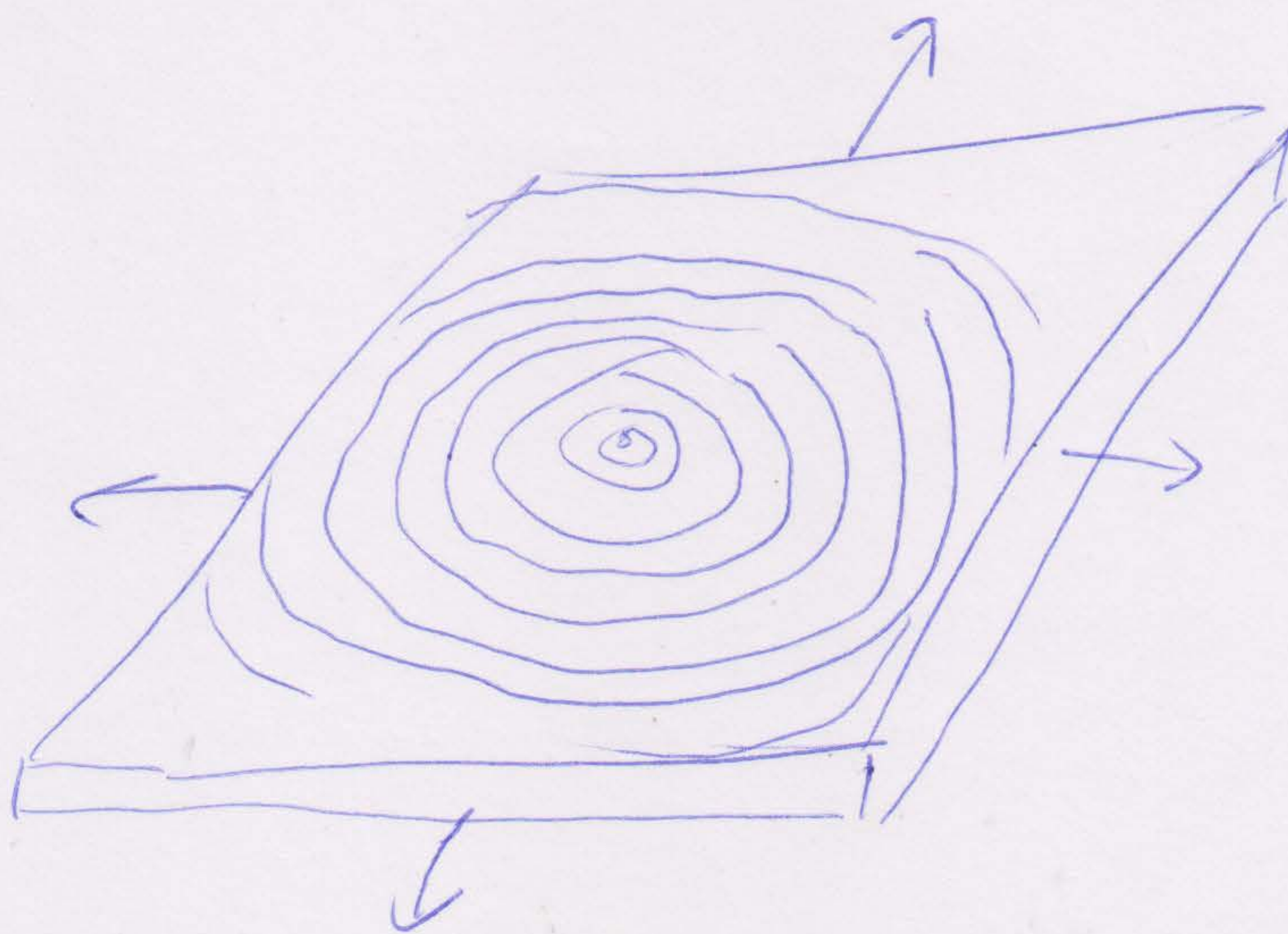
$$\lambda = \frac{Q_{\text{ring}}}{2\pi r} = \sigma dr$$

\therefore the electric field at P due to this one ring is

$$dE = \frac{2\pi r k_e \sigma z dr}{(z^2 + r^2)^{3/2}}$$

To get the total electric field due to the sheet, sum contributions from all rings

$$\vec{E}_{\text{sheet}} = \sum_{\text{all rings}} d\vec{E} = 2\pi k_e \sigma \sum_{\text{all rings}} \frac{r z dr}{(z^2 + r^2)^{3/2}} \quad (1)$$



That is, consider rings starting from $r = 0$ to $r = \infty$.

The sum given in Eq. ① can be expressed as the following integral:

$$\bar{E}_{\text{sheet}} = 2\pi k_e \sigma \int_{r=0}^{\infty} \frac{r z dr}{(z^2 + r^2)^{3/2}}$$

This integral can be solved using the substitution

$$u = z^2 + r^2$$

$$du = 2r dr \Rightarrow r dr = \frac{du}{2}$$

$$\text{when } r=0, u=z^2$$

$$r=\infty, u=\infty$$

$$\bar{E}_{\text{sheet}} = 2\pi k_e \sigma \int_{u=z^2}^{\infty} \frac{z du}{2(u)^{3/2}}$$

$$= \frac{2\pi k_e \sigma z}{z} \left(-z \right) \frac{1}{u^{1/2}} \Bigg|_{u=z^2}^{\infty}$$

$$\therefore E_{\text{sheet}} = -2\pi k_e \sigma z \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{\infty}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{z^2}} \right)$$

$$= 2\pi k_e \sigma$$

replace k_e w/ $k_e = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0}$

$$E_{\text{sheet}} = \frac{2\pi\sigma}{4\pi\epsilon_0}$$

$$\therefore E_{\text{sheet}} = \frac{\sigma}{2\epsilon_0}$$

The electric field due to a uniformly-charged sheet is independent of the distance z away from the sheet.