### Designing an Electron Gun for an Electrostatic Accelerator

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# What is an Electrostatic Accelerator?



## The Electrostatic Accelerator at Houghton College



Accelerating Column



## Simlon Modelling Software



#### Laplace's Equation

Gauss's Law  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = \rho/\epsilon_0$ 

 $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = -\nabla \cdot \nabla \mathbf{V} = -\nabla^2 \mathbf{V}$ 

Electrostatic System: Laplace's Equation  $\nabla^2 V = 0$  $\nabla^2 V = -\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = -dE_x/dx - dE_y/dy - dE_z/dz$ 

> One Dimension  $d^2V/dx^2 = 0$ V = ax + b

Approximation  $V = (V_1 + V_2 + V_3 + V_4)/4$ 



## **Designing an Electron Gun**

SIMION 7.0w WinNT     Quit   Use   Non-Electrode   Set   Elect   Cylind   Mirror Y     Keep   +	
Z2D Colors Find Find ±	
Copy   Move     Mirror   RotCpy     (AB)   (AB)     Where   (AB)     Print   (AB)_     GeonF   (AB)_     (AB)_   (AB)_     (AB)_	

# **Electron Gun: Early Designs**



## **Electron Gun: Later Designs**



# **Electron Gun: Current Design**



### Simulations



## **Actual Construction**



## Testing the Gun



## Testing the Gun



# Conclusion

- Overview
  - We need an electron gun for our electrostatic accelerator
  - By building our own, we can easily repair and modify the gun as needed
  - We can model and simulate gun designs in Simlon
  - Simlon has its limits, and physical testing is necessary to finalize a design