Class 12 physics NCERT Solutions Electric Charges and Fields Important Questions

Q 1.1) What is the force between two small charged spheres having charges of 2 × 10^{-7}C and 3 × 10^{-7} C placed 30 cm apart in the air?

Soln: Given,

The Charge on the 1st sphere and 2nd sphere is q_1 = 2 x 10^{-7} C and q_2 = 3 x 10^{-7} C

The distance between two charges is given by r = 30cm = 0.3m

The electrostatic force between the spheres is given by the relation :

$F = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_o} \cdot \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2}$

Here,

ϵ_o = permittivity of free space and,

$\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_o}$ = 9 x 10^9 Nm^2C^{-2}

Force, $F = \frac{9\times10^9\times2\times10^{-7}}{(0.3)^2}$ = 6 x 10^{-3} N.

The force between the charges will be repulsive as they have the same nature.

Q 1.2) The electrostatic force on a small sphere of charge 0.4 μC due to another small sphere of charge −0.8 μC in the air is 0.2 N.

(a) What is the distance between the two spheres?

(b) What is the force on the second sphere due to the first?

Soln:

Given,

The charge on 1st sphere (q_1) and 2nd sphere (q_2) is 0.4 μC or 0.4 × 10^{-6} C and -0.8 × 10^{-6}C respectively.

The electrostatic force on the 1st sphere is given by F = 0.2N.

Electrostatic force between the spheres is given by the relation :

$F = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_o} \cdot \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2}$

Here,

ϵ_o = permittivity of free space and,

$\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_o}$ = 9 × 10^9 Nm^2C^{-2}

$r^2 = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_o} \cdot \frac{q_1 q_2}{F}$

$= \frac{0.4\times10^{-6}\times8\times10^{-6}\times9\times10^9}{0.2}$ = 144 x 10^{-4}

$r = \sqrt{144\times10^{-4}}$ = 12 x 10^{-2} = 0.12m

Therefore, the distance between the two spheres = 0.12 m

(2) Since the spheres have opposite charges, the force on the second sphere due to the first sphere will also be equal to 0.2N.

Q 1.3)Check that the ratio $ke^2/G m_e m_p$ is dimensionless. Look up a Table of Physical Constants and determine the value of this ratio. What does the ratio signify?

Soln.:

The ratio to be determined is given as follows :

$$\frac{ke^2}{Gm_e m_p}$$

where G is the gravitational constant in N m^2 kg^{-2}

m_e and m_p is the masses of electron and proton in kg.

e is the electric charge (unit – C)

k = $\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_o}$ (unit – Nm^2C^{-2})

Therefore, the unit of given ratio,

$$\frac{ke^2}{Gm_e m_p} = \frac{[Nm^2C^{-2}][C^{-2}]}{[Nm^2kg^{-2}][kg][kg]} = M^0L^0T^0$$

So, the given ratio is dimensionless.

Given,

e = 1.6 x 10^{-19} C

G = 6.67 x 10^{-11} N m^2 kg^{-2}

m_e = 9.1 x 10^{-31} kg

m_p = 1.66 x 10^{-27} kg

Putting the above values in the given ratio, we get

$$\frac{ke^2}{Gm_e m_p} = \frac{9\times10^9\times(1.6\times10^{-19})^2}{6.67\times10^{-11}\times9.1\times10^{-31}\times1.67\times10^{-27}} = 2.3 \times 10^{39}$$

So, the above ratio is the ratio of the electric force to the gravitational force between a proton and an electron when the distance between them is constant.

Q 1.4) (i) Explain the meaning of the statement 'electric charge of a body is quantised'
(ii) Why can one ignore quantisation of electric charge when dealing with macroscopic i.e., large scale charges?

Soln.:

(i) The 'electric charge of a body is quantized' means that only integral (1, 2, …n) numbers of electrons can be transferred from a body to another.

Charges cannot get transferred in fractions. Hence, the total charge possessed by a body is only in integral multiples of electric charge.

(ii) In the case of large scale or macroscopic charges, the charge which is used over there is comparatively too huge to the magnitude of the electric charge. Hence, on a macroscopic level, the quantization of charge is of no use Therefore, it is ignored and the electric charge is considered to be continuous.

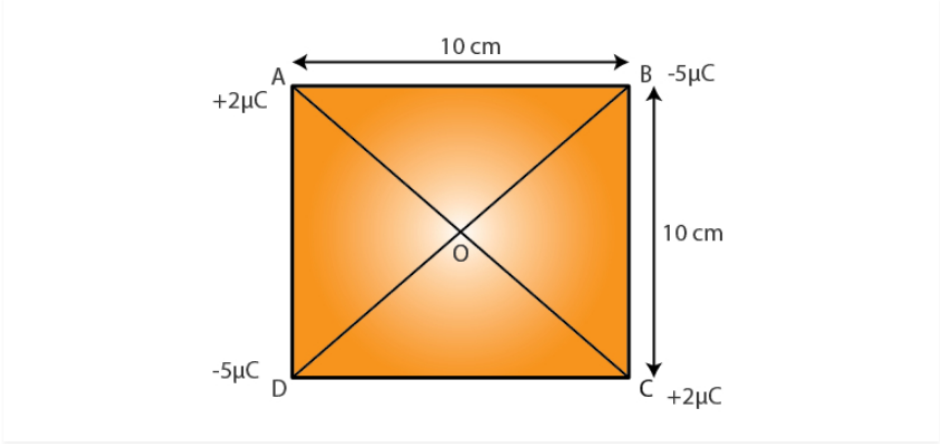
Q 1.5) When a glass rod is rubbed with a silk cloth, charges appear on both. A similar phenomenon is observed with many other pairs of bodies. Explain how this observation is consistent with the law of conservation of charge.

Soln.:

When two bodies are rubbed against each other, a charge is developed on both bodies. These charges are equal but opposite in nature. And this phenomenon of inducing a charge is known as charging by friction. The net charge on both of the bodies is 0 and the reason behind it is that an equal amount of charge repels it. When we rub a glass rod with a silk cloth, charge with opposite magnitude is generated over there. This phenomenon is in consistence with the law of conservation of energy. A similar phenomenon is observed with many other pairs of bodies.

Q 1.6) Four point charges $q_A = 2\mu C,\ q_B = -5\mu C,\ q_C = 2\mu C,\ and q_D = -5\mu C$ are located at the corners of a square ABCD of side 10 cm. What is the force on a charge of 1 μC placed at the centre of the square?

Soln.:



In the above picture, we have shown the square mentioned in the question. Whose side are 10 cm and four charges are placed at the corners of the squares? And O is the centre of the square.

Where,

(Sides) AB = BC = CD = DA = 10 cm

(Diagonals) AC = BD = $10\sqrt{2}\ cm$

AO = OC = DO = OB = $5\sqrt{2}\ cm$

At the centre point 'O', we have placed a charge of $1\ \mu C$

In the above case, the repulsive force between the corner A and the centre O is same in magnitude with the repulsive force by the corner C to the centre O, but these forces are opposite in direction. Hence, these forces will cancel each other and from A and C no forces are applied on the centre O. Similarly from the corner C the attractive force is applying on to the centre O and another force with the same magnitude is applying on the centre O, also these two forces are opposite in direction hence it is also opposing each other.

Therefore, the net force applying to the centre is zero. Because all the forces here are being cancelled by each other.

Q 1.7) (i) An electrostatic field line is a continuous curve. That is, a field line cannot have sudden breaks. Why not?

(ii) Explain why two field lines never cross each other at any point?

Soln.:

(i) When a charge is placed in an electrostatic field then it experiences a continuous force. Therefore, an electrostatic field line is a continuous curve. And a charge moves continuously and does not jump from on point to the other. So, the field line cannot have a sudden break.

(ii) if two field lines will cross each other at any point then at that point the field intensity will start shooing two directions at the same point which is impossible. Therefore, two field lines can never cross each other.

Q 1.8) Two point charges qA = 3 μC and qB= −3 μC are located 20 cm apart in a vacuum.

(i) What is the electric field at the midpoint O of the line AB joining the two charges?

(ii) If a negative test charge of magnitude 1.5 × 10^{-9} C is placed at this point, what is the force experienced by the test charge?

Soln.:

(i) The figure given below shows the situation given to us, in which AB is a line and O is the midpoint.

Distance between two charges, AB = 20 cm

Therefore, AO = OB = 10 cm

Total electric field at the centre is (Point O) = E

Electric field at point O caused by $+3\ \mu C$ charge,

$E_1 = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \cdot \frac{3\times10^{-6}}{(OA)^2} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \cdot \frac{3\times10^{-6}}{(10\times10^{-2})^2} NC^{-1}$ along OB

Where ϵ_0 = Permittivity of free space and $\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} = 9 \times 10^9\ Nm^2C^{-2}$

Therefore,

Electric field at point O caused by $-3\ \mu C$ charge,

$E_2 = \left| \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \cdot \frac{-3\times10^{-6}}{(OB)^2} \right| = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \cdot \frac{3\times10^{-6}}{(10\times10^{-2})^2} NC^{-1}$ along OB

$\therefore\ E_1 + E_2 = 2 \times \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \cdot \frac{3\times10^{-6}}{(10\times10^{-2})^2}\ NC^{-1}$ along OB

[Since the magnitudes of $E_1\ and\ E_2$ are equal and in the same direction] $\therefore\ E = 2 \times 9 \times 10^9 \times \frac{3\times10^{-6}}{(10\times10^{-2})^2}\ NC^{-1}$

$= 5.4 \times 10^6 NC^{-1}$ along OB

Therefore, the electric field at mid – point O is $5.4 \times 10^6 NC^{-1}$ along OB.

(ii) A test charge with a charge potential of $1.5 \times 10^{-9}\ C$ is placed at mid – point O.

$q = 1.5 \times 10^{-9}\ C$

Let the force experienced by the test charge be F

Therefore, F = qE

$= 1.5 \times 10^{-9} \times 5.4 \times 10^6$

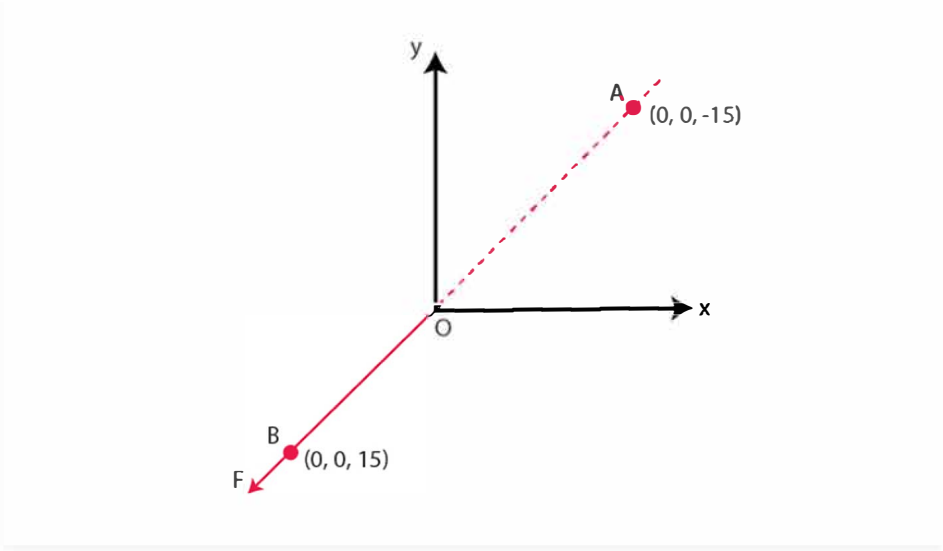
$= 8.1 \times 10^{-3}\ N$

The force is directed along line OA because the negative test charge is attracted towards point A and is repelled by the charge placed at point B. As a result, the force experienced by the test charge is $q = 8.1 \times 10^{-3}\ N$ along OA.

Q 1.9) A system has two charges $q_A = 2.5 \times 10^{-7}\ C$ and $q_B = -2.5 \times 10^{-7}\ C$ located at points A :(0, 0, -15 cn) and B (0, 0, + 15 cm), respectively. What is the total charge and electric dipole moment of the system?

Soln.:

The charges which are located at the given points are shown in the o-ordinate system as:



At point A, total charge amount, $q_A = 2.5 \times 10^{-7}\ C$

At point B, total charge amount, $q_B = -2.5 \times 10^{-7}\ C$

Total charge of the system is, $q_A + q_B = 2.5 \times 10^{-7}\ C - 2.5 \times 10^{-7}\ C = 0$

Distance between two charges at points A and B,

d = 15 + 15 = 30 cm = 0.3 m

Electric dipole moment of the system is given by,

$$p = q_A \times d = q_B \times d = 2.5 \times 10^{-7} \times 0.3$$

$= 7.5 \times 10^{-8}\ C$ m along positive z – axizs

Therefore, the electric dipole moment of the system is $7.5 \times 10^{-8}\ C$ m along positive z-axis.

Q 1.10) An electric dipole with dipole moment $4 \times 10^{-9}\ Cm$ is aligned at 30° with the direction of a uniform electric field of magnitude $5 \times 10^4\ NC^{-1}$. Calculate the magnitude of the torque acting on the dipole.

Soln.:

Electric dipole moment, $p = 4 \times 10^{-9}\ Cm$

Angle made by p with a uniform electric field, $\theta = 30^\circ$

Electric field, $E = 5 \times 10^4\ NC^{-1}$

Torque acting on the dipole is given by the relation,

$\tau = pE \sin\theta$

$= 4 \times 10^{-9} \times 5 \times 10^4 \times \sin 30 = 20 \times 10^{-5} \times \frac{1}{2} = 10^{-4}\ Nm$

Therefore, the magnitude of the torque acting on the dipole is $10^{-4}\ Nm$

Q 1.11) A polythene piece rubbed with wool is found to have a negative charge of $3 \times 10^{-7}\ C$.

(i) Estimate the number of electrons transferred (from which to which?)

(ii) Is there a transfer of mass from wool to polythene?

Soln.:

(i) Since the wool is positively charged and the polythene is negatively charged, so we can say that few amounts of electrons are transferred from wool to polythene.

Charge on the polythene, q = $3 \times 10^{-7}\ C$.

Amount of charge on an electron, $e = -1.6 \times 10^{-19}\ C$

Let number of electrons transferred from wool to polythene be n

So, by using the given equation we can calculate the value of n,

q = ne

$\Rightarrow n = \frac{q}{e} = \frac{-3 \times 10^{-7}}{-1.6 \times 10^{-19}} = 1.87 \times 10^{12}$

Therefore, the number of electrons transferred from wool to polythene is 1.87×10^{12}

(ii) Yes,

Mass is also transferred as an electron is transferred from wool to polythene and an electron particle have some mass.

Mass of an electron, $m_e = 9.1 \times 10^{-3} kg$

Total mass transferred , m = $m_e \times n$

$= 9.1 \times 10^{-31} \times 1.85 \times 10^{12}$

$= 1.706 \times 10^{-18}\ kg$

Here, the mass transferred is too low that it can be neglected.

Q 1.12) (i) Two insulated charged copper spheres A and B have their centres

separated by a distance of 50 cm. What is the mutual force of electrostatic repulsion if the charge on each is

$6.5 \times 10^{-7}\ C$ each? The radii of A and B are negligible compared to the distance of separation.
(ii) What is the force of repulsion if each sphere is charged double the above amount, and the distance between them is halved?

Soln.:

(i) Charge on sphere A, $q_A = 6.5 \times 10^{-7}\ C$

Charge on sphere B, $q_B = 6.5 \times 10^{-7}\ C$

Distance between the spheres, r = 50 cm = 0.5 m

Force of repulsion between the two spheres, $F = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \cdot \frac{q_A q_B}{r^2}$

Where ϵ_0 = Permittivity of free space and $\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} = 9 \times 10^9\ Nm^2C^{-2}$

Therefore,

$$F = \frac{9\times10^9\times\left(6.5\times10^{-7}\right)^2}{(0.5)^2}$$

$$= 1.52 \times 10^{-2}\ N$$

Therefore, the force between the two spheres is $1.52 \times 10^{-2}\ N$

(ii) After doubling the charge,

Charge on sphere A, $q_A = 1.3 \times 10^{-6}\ C$

Charge on sphere B, $q_B = 1.3 \times 10^{-6}\ C$

The distance between the spheres is halved.

$$\therefore r = \frac{0.5}{2} = 0.25\ m$$

Force of repulsion between the two spheres,

$$F = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \cdot \frac{q_A q_B}{r^2} = \frac{9\times10^9\times1.3\times10^{-6}\times1.3\times10^{-6}}{(0.25)^2}$$

$$= 16 \times 1.52 \times 10^{-2}$$

$$= 0.243\ N$$

Therefore, the force between the two spheres is 0.243 N.

Q 1.13) Suppose the spheres A and B in Exercise 12 have identical sizes. A third sphere of the same size but uncharged is brought in contact with the first, then brought in contact with the second, and finally removed from both. What is the new force of repulsion between A and B?

Soln.:

Distance between the spheres, A and B, r = 0.5 m

Initially, the charge on each of sphere $q = 1.3 \times 10^{-7}\ C$

When the sphere A is touched with An uncharged sphere C, then half of the charge will be transferred to the sphere C. Hence the charge on both the spheres A and C will be q/2.

After that when sphere C with charge q/2 is brought in touch with sphere B with charge q, then charge on each of the sphere will be divided in two equal parts, is.

$$\frac{1}{2}\left(q + \frac{q}{2}\right) = \frac{3q}{4}$$

Hence, charge on each of the spheres, C and B , is $\frac{3q}{4}$

Force of repulsion between sphere A and B is:

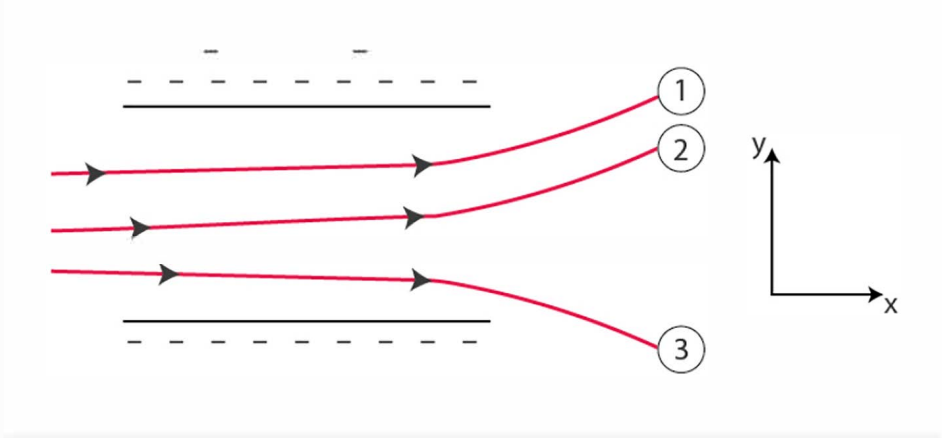
$$F = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \cdot \frac{q_A q_B}{r^2} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \cdot \frac{\frac{q}{2} \times \frac{3q}{4}}{r^2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \cdot \frac{3q^2}{8r^2}$$

$$= \frac{9\times10^9 \times 3 \times \left(6.5\times10^{-7}\right)^2}{8\times(0.5)^2} = 5.703 \times 10^{-3}\ N$$

Therefore, the force of attraction between the two spheres is $5.703 \times 10^{-3}\ N$

Q 1.14) The figure below shows tracks of three charged particles in a uniform electrostatic field. Give the signs of the three charges. Which particle has the highest charge to mass ratio?



Soln.:

We can see here that the particles 1 and 2 are moving in the direction of the positive charge and we know that the opposite charge attracts each other and the same charge repels each other. So, here we can say that the charged particles 1 and 2 which are going towards the charged particle are negatively charged. And the particle 3 is being attracted towards the negative charge. So, the particle 3 will be the positively charged particle.

The EMF or charge to mass ratio is directly proportional to the amount of depletion or depletion at a given velocity. Here we can see that the particle 3 is depleting more as compared to the other two. Therefore, it will have a higher charge to mass ratio.

Question 1.15)

Consider a uniform electric field E = 3 × 10 ^{3} î N/C.

(a) What is the flux of this field through a square of 10 cm on a side whose plane is parallel to the y z – plane?

(b) What is the flux through the same square if the normal to its plane makes a 60 ° angle with the x-axis?

Answer 1.15 :

(a) Electric field intensity, E = 3 × 10 ^{3} î N / C

Magnitude of electric field intensity, $|E| = 3 \times 10^3$ N / C

Side of the square, s = 10 cm = 0.1 m

Area of the square, $A = s^2 = 0.01\ m^2$

The plane of the square is parallel to the y – z plane. Hence, angle between the unit vector normal to the plane and electric field, θ = 0 °

Flux (φ) through the plane is given by the relation,

$\varphi = |E| A \cos\theta$

$\varphi = 3 \times 10^3 \times 0.01 \times \cos 0°$

$\varphi = 30\ N\ m^2/C$

(b) Plane makes an angle of 60 ° with the x – axis.

Hence, θ = 60°

Flux, $\varphi = |E| A \cos\theta$

Flux, $\varphi = 3 \times 10^3 \times 0.01 \times \cos 60°$

Flux, $\varphi = 30 \times 0.5$

Flux, $\varphi = 15\ N\ m^2/C$

Question 1.16)

What is the net flux of the uniform electric field of Exercise 1.15 through a cube of side 20 cm oriented so that its faces are parallel to the coordinate planes?

Answer 1.16 :

All the faces of a cube are parallel to the coordinate axes. Therefore, the number of field lines entering the cube is equal to the number of field lines piercing out of the cube. As a result, net flux through the cube is zero.

Question 1.17)

Careful measurement of the electric field at the surface of a black box indicates that the net outward flux through the surface of the box is $8.0 \times 10^3\ N\ m^2/C$.

(a) What is the net charge inside the box?

(b) If the net outward flux through the surface of the box were zero, could you conclude that there were no charges inside the box? Why or Why not?

Answer 1.17 :

(a) Net outward flux through the surface of the box, $\varphi = 8.0 \times 10^3\ N\ m^2/C$

For a body containing net charge q, flux is given by the relation,

$$\phi = \frac{q}{\varepsilon_0}\ \varepsilon_0 = permitivityof freespace\ \varepsilon_0 = 8.854 \times 10^{-12} N^{-1} C^2 m^{-2}\ q = \varepsilon_0 \phi$$

$= 8.854 \times 10^{-12} \times 8.0 \times 10^3\ C = 7.08 \times 10^{-8}\ C = 0.07\ \mu C$

Thus, the total charge inside the box is 0.07 μC

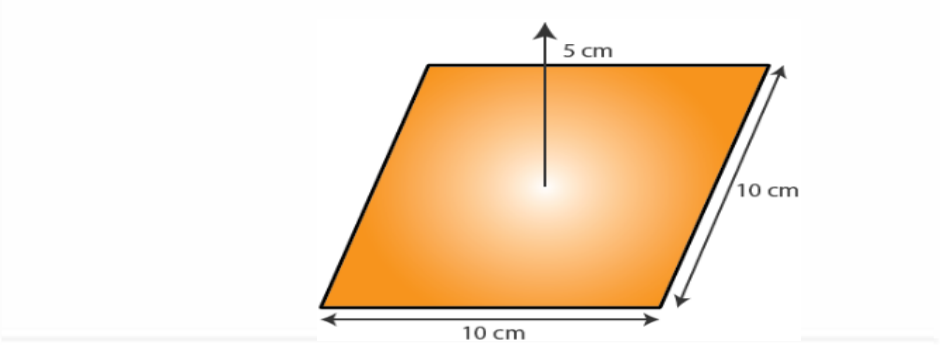
(b) No

Net flux piercing out through a body depends on the net charge contained in the body. If net flux is zero, then it can be inferred that net charge inside the body is zero. The body may have equal amount of positive and negative charges.

Question 1.18)

A point charge + 10 μC is at a distance 5 cm directly above the centre of a square of side 10 cm, as shown in Fig. 1.34. What is the magnitude of the electric flux through the square?

(Hint : Think of the square as one face of a cube with edge 10 cm)



Answer 1.18 :

The square can be considered as one face of a cube of edge 10 cm with a centre where charge q is placed. According to Gauss's theorem for a cube, total electric flux is through all its six faces.

$$\phi_{Total} = \frac{q}{\epsilon_0}$$

Hence, electric flux through one face of the cube i.e., through the square is

$$\phi = \frac{\phi_{Total}}{6} = \frac{1}{6} \cdot \frac{q}{\epsilon_0}$$

Here,

ϵ_0 = permittivity of free space = $8.854 \times 10^{-12} n^{-1} c^2 m^{-2}$

$$q = 10\mu C = 10 \times 10^{-6} C$$

Therefore,

$\phi = \frac{1}{6} \cdot \frac{10 \times 10^{-6}}{8.854 \times 10^{-12}}$ $\phi = 1.88 \times 10^5 N m^2 C^{-1}$

Therefore, electric flux through the square is $1.88 \times 10^5 N m^2 C^{-1}$

Question 1.19)

A point charge of 2.0 μC is at the centre of a cubic Gaussian surface 9.0 cm on edge. What is the net electric flux through the surface?

Answer 1.19 :

Net electric flux (φ_{Net}) through the cubic surface is given by

$$\phi_{net} = \frac{q}{\epsilon_0}$$

Here,

ϵ_0 = permittivity of free space = $8.854 \times 10^{-12} n^{-1} c^2 m^{-2}$

$$q = total\ charge\ contained\ in\ the\ cube\ given = 2.0\mu\ C = 2 \times 10^{-6} C$$

Therefore,

$$\phi_{net} = \frac{2 \times 10^{-6}}{8.854 \times 10^{-12}} \quad \phi_{net} = 2.26 \times 10^5 Nm^2 C^{-1}$$

The total electric flux through the surface of the cube given is , $\phi_{net} = 2.26 \times 10^5 Nm^2 C^{-1}$

Question 1.20)

A point charge causes an electric flux of − 1.0 × 10 3 N m 2 /C to pass through a spherical Gaussian surface of 10.0 cm radius centred on

the charge.

(a) If the radius of the Gaussian surface were doubled, how much flux would pass through the surface?

(b) What is the value of the point charge?

Answer 1.20 :

(a) Electric flux, Φ = − 1.0 × 10^{3} N m^{2} /C

Radius of the Gaussian surface, r = 10.0 cm

Electric flux penetrating through a surface depends on the net charge enclosed inside the body. It does not depend on the size of the body. If the radius of the Gaussian surface is doubled, then the flux passing through the surface remains the same i.e., − 10^{3} N m^{2} /C.

(b) Electric flux is given by the relation

$$\phi_{Total} = \frac{q}{\epsilon_0}$$

Here,

ϵ_0 = permittivity of free space = 8.854 x 10^{-12} n^{-1} c^{2} m^{-2}

q = total charge contained enclosed by the spherical surface = φ ε_0

q = − 1.0 x 10^{3} x 8.854 x 10^{-12}

q = − 8.854 x 10^{-9} C

q = − 8.854 n C

Therefore, the value of the point charge is − 8.854 n C.

Question 1.21)

A conducting sphere of radius 10 cm has an unknown charge. If the electric field 20 cm from the centre of the sphere is 1.5 × 10^{3} N/C and points radially inward, what is the net charge on the sphere?

Answer 1.21 :

Electric field intensity (E) at a distance (d) from the centre of a sphere containing net charge q is given by the relation,

$$E = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \cdot \frac{q}{d^2}$$

Where, q = Net charge = 1.5 × 10^{3} N/C

d = Distance from the centre = 20 cm = 0.2 m

ε_0 = Permittivity of free space and $\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} = 9 \times 10^{9} Nm^{2}C^{-2}$

Therefore, the net charge on the sphere is 6.67 n C.

Question 1.22)

A uniformly charged conducting sphere of 2.4 m diameter has a surface charge density of 80.0 μC /m^{2}

(a) Find the charge on the sphere.

(b) What is the total electric flux leaving the surface of the sphere?

Answer 1.22 :

(a) The diameter of the sphere, d = 2.4 m

The radius of the sphere, r = 1.2 m

Surface charge density, σ = 80.0 μC /m^{2} = 80 × 10^{-6} C/m^{2}

The total charge on the surface of the sphere can be calculated as follows,

Q = Charge density × Surface area

= σ × 4πr^{2}

= 80 × 10^{-6} × 4 × 3.14 × (1.2)^{2}

= 1.447 × 10^{-3} C

Therefore, the charge on the sphere is 1.447 × 10^{-3} C.

(b) Total electric flux (φ_{Total}) leaving out the surface of a sphere containing net charge Q is given by the relation,

$$\phi_{Total} = \frac{q}{\epsilon_0}$$

Here,

ϵ_0 = permittivity of free space = 8.854 x 10^{-12} n^{-1} c^2 m^{-2}

Q = 1.63 x 10^8 N C^{-1} m^2

Therefore, the total electric flux leaving the surface of the sphere is 1.63 × 10^8 N C^{-1} m^2

Question 1.23)

An infinite line charge produces a field of 9 × 10^4 N/C at a distance of 2 cm. Calculate the linear charge density.

Answer 1.23 :

Electric field produced by the infinite line charges at a distance d having linear charge density λ is given by the relation,

$$E = \frac{\lambda}{2\pi\epsilon_0 d}$$

à $\lambda = 2\pi\epsilon_0 dE$

Here,

d = 2 cm = 0.02 m

E = 9 x 10^4 N / C

ε_0 = Permittivity of free space and $\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} = 9 \times 10^9 Nm^2C^{-2}$

Question 1.24)

Two large, thin metal plates are parallel and close to each other. On their inner faces, the plates have surface charge densities of opposite signs and of magnitude 17.0 × 10^{-22} C /m^2

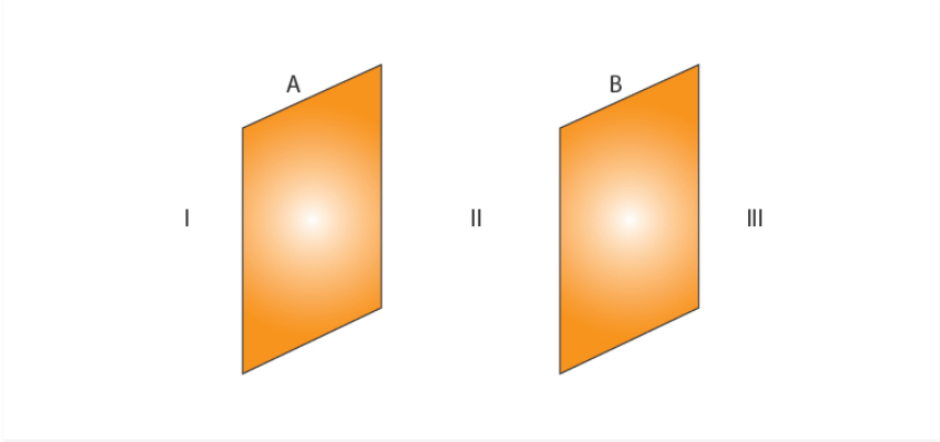
What Is E :

(a) In the outer region of the first plate,

(b) In the outer region of the second plate, and (c) between the plates?

Answer 1.24 :

The situation given in the question can be depicted through the following figure.



Parallel plates A and B are placed close to each other as shown in the figure. The region between plates A and B is labelled as II, and outer region of plate A is labelled as I, outer region of plate B is labelled as III.

The charge density of plate A can be calculated as,

$\sigma = 17.0 \times 10^{-22}\ C/m^2$

Similarly, the charge density of plate B can be calculated as,

$\sigma = -17.0 \times 10^{-22}\ C/m^2$

In regions, I and III, electric field E is zero. This is because the charge is not enclosed by the respective plates.

Electric field E in region II is given by the relation,

$$E = \frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0}$$

here,

ε_0 = Permittivity of free space = $8.854 \times 10^{-12}\ N^{-1}C^2\ m^{-2}$

$$E = \frac{17.0 \times 10^{-22}}{8.854 \times 10^{-12}} = 1.92 \times 10^{-10}\ N/C$$

Therefore, electric field between the plates is 1.92×10^{-10} N/C