


**First Midterm Examination  
 Summer Semester 2023 – 2024**
**June 29, 2024**
**Time: 2:30 – 4:00 PM**

Name: ..... Student No: .....

Section No: ..... Serial No: .....

Instructors: Drs. Alfailakawi, Lajko, and Vagenas

**Fundamental constants**

$k = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} = 9.0 \times 10^9 \text{ N}\cdot\text{m}^2 / \text{C}^2$	(Coulomb constant)
$\epsilon_0 = 8.85 \times 10^{-12} \text{ C}^2 / (\text{N} \cdot \text{m}^2)$	(Permittivity of free space)
$\mu_0 = 4\pi \times 10^{-7} \text{ T} \cdot \text{m/A}$	(Permeability of free space)
$ e  = 1.60 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$	(Elementary unit of charge)
$N_A = 6.02 \times 10^{23}$	(Avogadro's number)
$g = 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2$	(Acceleration due to gravity)
$m_e = 9.11 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$	(Electron mass)
$m_p = 1.67 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$	(Proton mass)

**Prefixes of units**

$m = 10^{-3}$	$\mu = 10^{-6}$	$n = 10^{-9}$	$p = 10^{-12}$
$k = 10^3$	$M = 10^6$	$G = 10^9$	$T = 10^{12}$

**For use by Instructors only**

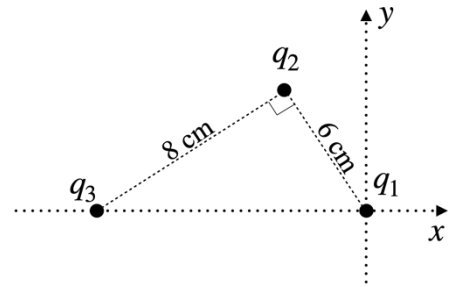
Problems	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Questions	Total
Marks										

**Instructions to the Students:**

1. Mobile or other electronic devices are **strictly prohibited** during the exam.
2. Programmable calculators, which can store equations, are not allowed.
3. **Cheating incidents will be processed according to the university rules.**

**PART I: Solve the following problems. Show your solutions in detail.**

1. Three point charges  $q_1 = 20 \text{ nC}$ ,  $q_2 = -15 \text{ nC}$ , and  $q_3 = 10 \text{ nC}$  are placed on the  $xy$ -plane, as shown in the figure. Find the net electric force  $\vec{F}_3$  acting on  $q_3$ . [4 points]



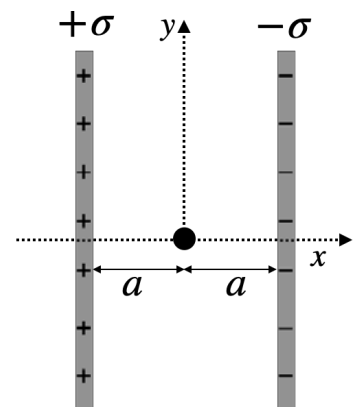
$$r_{13} = 10 \text{ cm}$$

$$\vec{F}_1 = \frac{kq_1q_3}{r_{13}^2}(-\hat{i}) = 1.8 \times 10^{-4} \text{ N}(-\hat{i})$$

$$\vec{F}_2 = \frac{kq_2q_3}{r_{23}^2}(0.8(+\hat{i}) + 0.6(+\hat{j})) = 1.69 \times 10^{-4} \text{ N}(+\hat{i}) + 1.27 \times 10^{-4} \text{ N}(+\hat{j})$$

$$\vec{F}_3 = \vec{F}_1 + \vec{F}_2 = 1.1 \times 10^{-5} \text{ N}(-\hat{i}) + 1.27 \times 10^{-4} \text{ N}(+\hat{j})$$

2. A proton is released from rest at the origin between two oppositely charged parallel plates with uniform surface charge density  $+\sigma = +17.7 \text{ nC/m}^2$  and  $-\sigma = -17.7 \text{ nC/m}^2$ . Calculate the kinetic energy that the proton acquires when it reaches the plate. Take  $a = 10 \text{ cm}$ . [4 points]



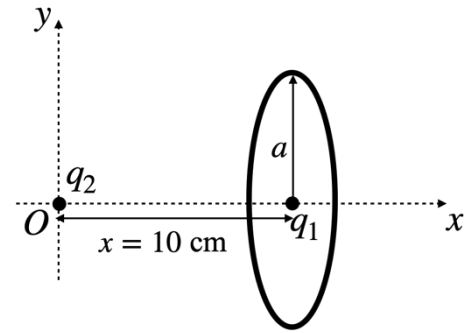
$$\vec{E} = \frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0} = 2000 \text{ N/C}(+\hat{i})$$

$$F = qE = ma \Rightarrow a = \frac{qE}{m} = 1.92 \times 10^{11} \text{ m/s}^2$$

$$v_x^2 = v_{0x}^2 + 2a\Delta x \Rightarrow v_x = 1.96 \times 10^5 \text{ m/s}$$

$$K = \frac{1}{2}mv_x^2 = 3.2 \times 10^{-17} \text{ J}$$

3. A positive charge  $Q = 5 \text{ nC}$  is distributed uniformly over a ring of radius  $a = 5 \text{ cm}$ . A point charge  $q_1 = -10 \text{ nC}$  is placed at the center of that ring as shown in the figure. Calculate the net electric force  $\vec{F}_2$  acting on charge  $q_2 = +5 \text{ nC}$  placed at the origin  $O$ . **[4 points]**



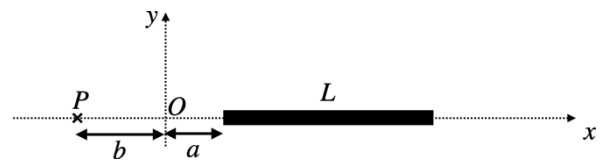
$$\vec{E}_{point} = \frac{k|q_1|}{r^2} (+\hat{i}) = 9000 \frac{\text{N}}{\text{C}} (+\hat{i})$$

$$\vec{E}_{ring} = \frac{kQx}{(a^2+x^2)^{3/2}} (-\hat{i}) = 3219.94 \frac{\text{N}}{\text{C}} (-\hat{i})$$

$$\vec{E}_{net} = \vec{E}_{point} + \vec{E}_{ring} = 5780 \frac{\text{N}}{\text{C}} (+\hat{i})$$

$$\vec{F}_{q_2} = q_2 \vec{E}_{net} = 2.89 \times 10^{-5} \text{ N} (+\hat{i})$$

4. A charge  $Q = 30 \mu\text{C}$  is uniformly distributed along a rod of length  $L = 1.0 \text{ m}$  on the  $x$ -axis, as shown. Calculate the electric field at point  $P$ . Take  $a = 10 \text{ cm}$ ,  $b = 20 \text{ cm}$ . **[4 points]**



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

$$d\vec{E} = \frac{k dQ}{r^2} (-\hat{i}) = \frac{k \lambda dx}{(x+b)^2} (-\hat{i})$$

$$\vec{E} = \int_a^{a+L} \frac{k \lambda dx}{(x+b)^2} (-\hat{i}) = k \lambda \left[ \frac{1}{x+b} \right]_a^{a+L} (-\hat{i})$$

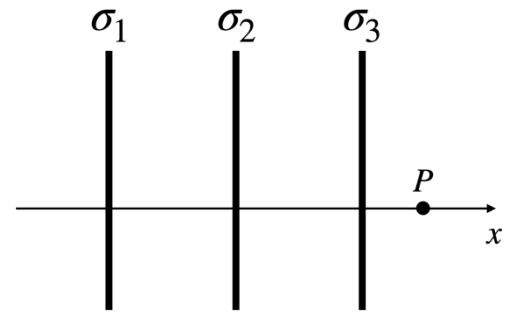
$$\vec{E} = 6.92 \times 10^5 \text{ N/C} (-\hat{i})$$

5. Three large sheets carry uniform surface charge densities  $\sigma_1 = +1.77 \text{ C/m}^2$ ,  $\sigma_2 = +0.885 \text{ C/m}^2$ , and  $\sigma_3 = -3.54 \text{ C/m}^2$ . Find the net electric field  $\vec{E}$  at point  $P$ . [4 points]

$$\vec{E}_p = \vec{E}_1 + \vec{E}_2 + \vec{E}_3$$

$$\vec{E}_p = \frac{\sigma_1}{2\epsilon_0} (+\hat{i}) + \frac{\sigma_2}{2\epsilon_0} (+\hat{i}) + \frac{\sigma_3}{2\epsilon_0} (+\hat{i})$$

$$\vec{E}_p = -5 \times 10^{10} \text{ N/C } (+\hat{i})$$



6. A cube of sides  $L = 10 \text{ cm}$  as shown in the figure, is placed in a space with a uniform electric field. The magnitude of the electric field is  $3 \times 10^3 \text{ N/C}$  and it is parallel to  $xy$ -plane at an angle of  $60^\circ$  from the  $y$ -axis. What is the electric flux through each of the faces (left, right, top, bottom, front and back) of the cube? [4 points]

$$\Phi_E = \vec{E} \cdot \vec{A} = EA \cos \phi$$

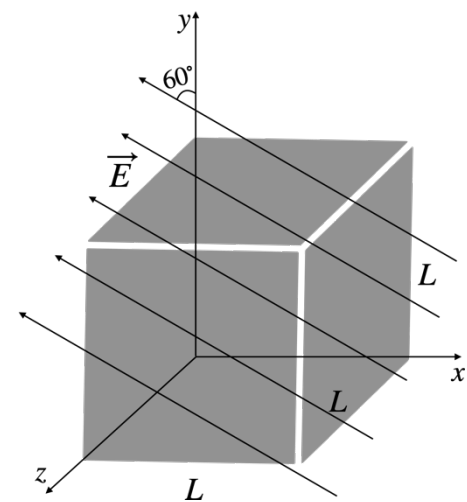
$$\Phi_{\text{front+back}} = E L^2 \cos 90^\circ = 0$$

$$\Phi_{\text{left}} = E L^2 \cos 30^\circ = +25.98 \frac{\text{Nm}^2}{\text{C}}$$

$$\Phi_{\text{right}} = E L^2 \cos 150^\circ = -25.98 \frac{\text{Nm}^2}{\text{C}}$$

$$\Phi_{\text{top}} = E L^2 \cos 60^\circ = +15 \frac{\text{Nm}^2}{\text{C}}$$

$$\Phi_{\text{bottom}} = E L^2 \cos 120^\circ = -15 \frac{\text{Nm}^2}{\text{C}}$$

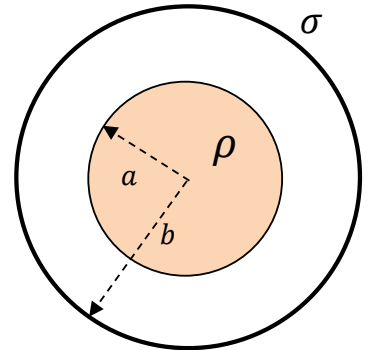


7. A non-conducting sphere has radius  $a = 25$  cm and it is concentric with a spherical surface of radius  $b = 40$  cm. The sphere has a uniform volume charge density  $\rho = 100$  nC/m<sup>3</sup> and outer spherical surface has a uniform surface charge density  $\sigma$ . At a distance 50 cm from the center, the magnitude of the electric field is 50 N/C and it points towards the center. Find the value of  $\sigma$ . **[4 points]**

$$\oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{A} = \frac{Q_{enc.}}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$E 4\pi r^2 = \frac{\rho \frac{4}{3}\pi a^3 + \sigma 4\pi b^2}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$\sigma = -3.95 \times 10^{-9} \text{ C/m}^2$$



8. Two concentric spherical surfaces have radii  $a = 5$  cm and  $b = 8$  cm, and uniform surface charge densities  $\sigma_a = +7$  nC/m<sup>2</sup>, and  $\sigma_b = -10$  nC/m<sup>2</sup>, respectively. Find the magnitude and direction (inward or outward) of the electric field at a distance  $r = 10$  cm from the center. **[4 points]**

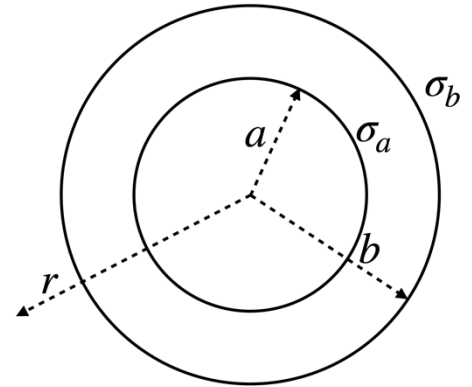
$$\oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{A} = \frac{Q_{enc.}}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$E 4\pi r^2 = \frac{\sigma_a(4\pi a^2) + \sigma_b(4\pi b^2)}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$Q_{enc.} = \sigma_a(4\pi a^2) + \sigma_b(4\pi b^2) = -0.584 \text{ nC}$$

$$E = 525.4 \text{ N/C}$$

$\vec{E}$  is inward.



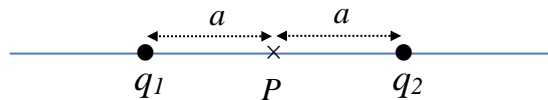
**PART II: Conceptual Questions (each carries 1 point). Tick the best answer:**

1. The electric field at a point in space is the measure of

- a) **the electric force per unit charge at that point.**
- b) the electric force on any charge at that point.
- c) the electric force per unit mass at that point.
- d) the total charge at that point.

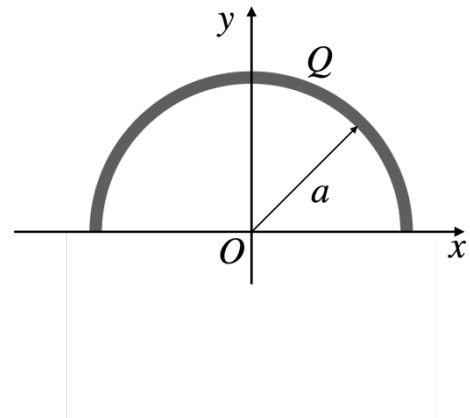
2. If two point charges  $q_1$  and  $q_2$  are fixed on the x-axis at a distance  $2a$  the net electric field is zero at point  $P$ . Which statement is correct for the charges?

- a)  $q_1 + q_2 = 0$ .
- b)  $q_1 > q_2 > 0$ .
- c)  **$q_1 = q_2$ .**
- d)  $q_1 > |q_2|$ .



3. A positive charge is uniformly distributed around a semicircle. The electric field produced at the origin is in

- a) the  $+x$ -direction.
- b) the  $-x$ -direction.
- c) the  $+y$ -direction.
- d) **the  $-y$ -direction.**



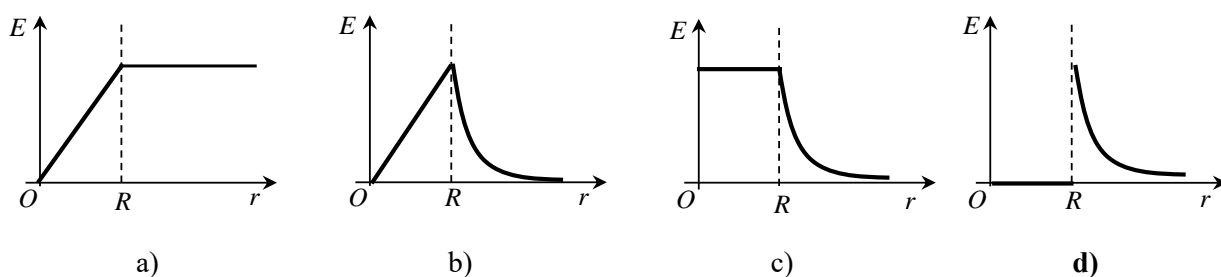
4. Which statement is true about electric field lines?

- a) Electric field lines are always straight.
- b) **Electric field lines do not intersect with each other.**
- c) Electric field lines are always parallel to each other.
- d) Electric field lines are always perpendicular to each other.

5. A charge  $Q$  is uniformly distributed through a cube of side  $L$ . The volume charge density of the cube is:

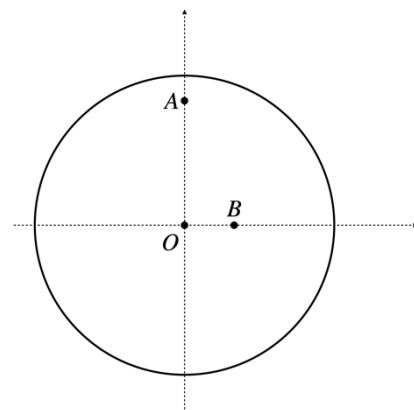
- a)  $\rho = \frac{Q}{L^2}$ .
- b)  $\rho = \frac{Q}{L^3}$ .
- c)  $\rho = \frac{Q}{6L^2}$ .
- d)  $\rho = \frac{Q}{(2L)^3}$ .

6. Which of the following figures shows the electric field magnitude  $E$  as a function of the distance  $r$  for a uniformly charged conducting sphere of radius  $R$ ?



7. The figure shows a spherical conductor with total charge  $Q$ . Which relation is correct for the magnitude of electric field at points  $A$  and  $B$ ?

- a)  $E_A > E_B$ .
- b)  $E_A < E_B$ .
- c)  $E_A + E_B > 0$ .
- d)  $E_A = E_B$ .



8. A conductor has a net charge of 20 nC and a point charge  $q = +5$  nC is placed in its cavity, as shown in the figure. The charge on the outer surface of the conductor is:

- a) 25 nC.
- b) 15 nC.
- c) 10 nC.
- d) 5 nC.

