

Electrostatics

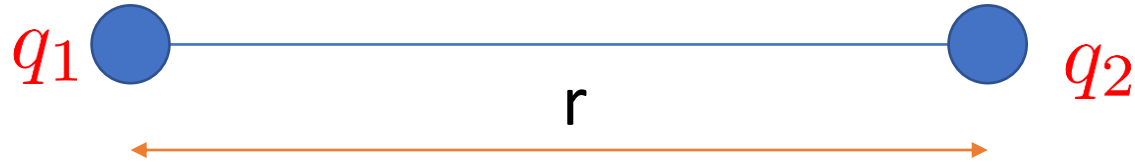
[1 long question + 1 numerical = 15 marks]



9 marks

6 marks

Coulomb's law :



The force acting between the two charges is given by

$$F \propto q_1 \cdot q_2$$
$$\text{and } F \propto \frac{1}{r^2}$$

Combining we get,

$$F \propto \frac{q_1 \cdot q_2}{r^2}$$

In SI System,

$$F = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2}$$

$$\text{where } \epsilon_0 = 8.854 \times 10^{-12} \text{ C}^2 \text{N}^{-1} \text{m}^{-2}$$

= permittivity of free space or vacuum or air

$$\text{and } \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} = 9 \times 10^9 \text{ Nm}^2\text{C}^{-2}$$

If the charges are placed in a medium, force is given by

$$F_m = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_m} \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2}$$

where ϵ_m = permittivity of medium

$$= \epsilon_0 \cdot \epsilon_r [\epsilon_r \text{ being the relative permittivity}]$$

Now dividing we get,

$$\frac{F}{F_m} = \epsilon_r$$

$$\text{i.e. } \boxed{\frac{F_{air}}{F_{med}} = \epsilon_r = \frac{\epsilon_m}{\epsilon_0}}$$

Also, $\epsilon_r = k = \frac{F_{air}}{F_{med}} = \frac{\epsilon_m}{\epsilon_0}$

where $k =$ *dielectric constant of the medium*


insulator

Electric Field Intensity or Electric Field Strength :

A charge (a point charge) creates a field of influence around it.

The force exerted on a unit positive test charge due to a given charge is called the the electric field intensity/strength or simply the electric field.

It is denoted by E and is given by

$E = \frac{F}{q_0}$ where $q_0 =$ test charge

Note

- (i) *Electric force is a vector.*
- (ii) *Electric field is a vector.*

(iii) *Electric charge is a scalar.*

(iv) *Electric potential is a scalar.*

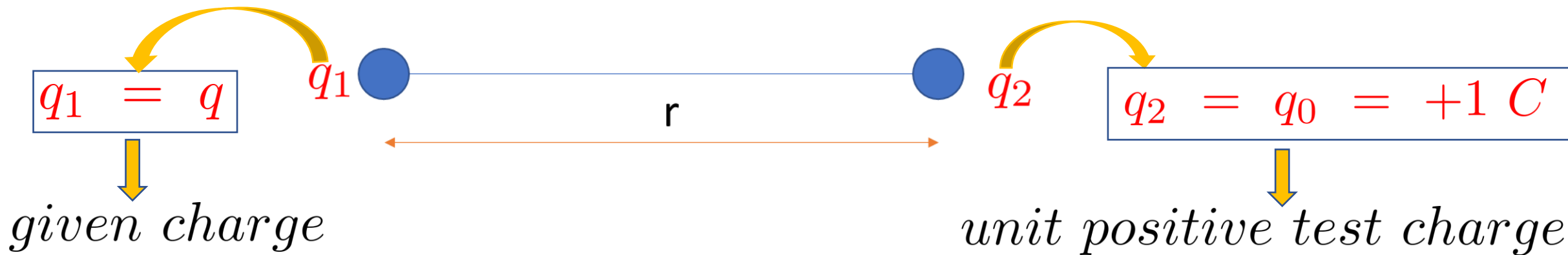
Definition of E :

$$E = \frac{F}{q_0}$$

Use this formula to write the unit of E

Unit : N/C

Expression (Formula) for E :



Then, $F = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2}$ becomes

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



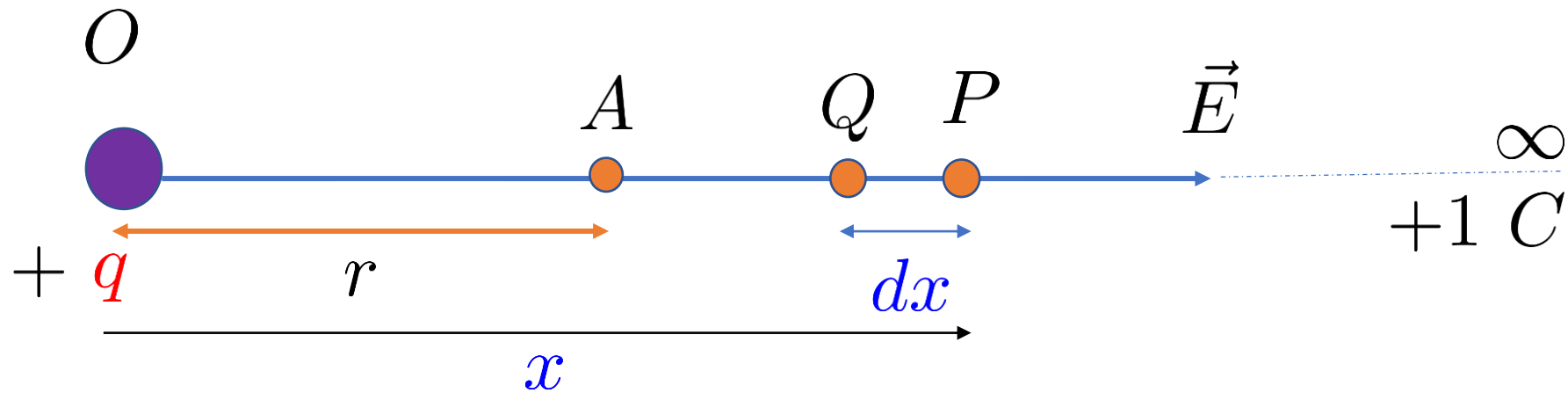
[We use this formula for theory derivation and numerical calculation]

Electric Potential (V) :

It is defined as the amount of work done in bringing a unit positive test charge from infinity to a given point within the electric field region of the given charge.

It is denoted by V and is a scalar.

Expression (Derivation) for V :



Consider a point charge $+q$ at the point O . This charge is considered to be positive. Then the direction of the electric field is away from it, as shown in the figure. Then $+1 \text{ C}$ is brought from infinity to a point A such that $OA = r$.

Consider an intermediate point P such that $OP = x$. Let another point Q be such that $PQ = dx$.

By the definition of potential, the potential at A is given by,
 $V = V_A = \text{Work done in bringing } +1C \text{ from infinity to A}$

$$= \int_{\infty}^r dW = \int_{\infty}^r \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{x} = - \int_{\infty}^r E dx$$

where E is the electric field at the point P , $E = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 x^2}$

and the negative sign is due to the opposite direction of \vec{E} and $d\vec{x}$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } V &= - \int_{\infty}^r \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 x^2} dx \\ &= - \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_{\infty}^r x^{-2} dx \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{or, } V = -\frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left| (-1)x^{-1} \right|_{\infty}^r$$

$$\text{or, } V = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left| x^{-1} \right|_{\infty}^r$$

$$\text{or, } V = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left(\frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{\infty} \right)$$

$$\text{So, } \boxed{V = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}}$$

Note: Potential(V) is a scalar and unit is Volt(V).