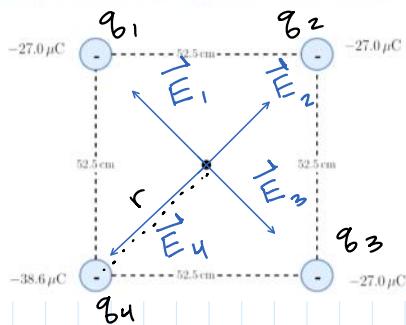


Find the magnitude & direction of the  $\vec{E}$  at the center of a square with sidelength 52.5 cm if one corner is occupied by a  $-38.6 \mu\text{C}$  charge and the other three are occupied by  $-27.0 \mu\text{C}$  charges.

Hint: Use symmetry to your advantage!

Answer:  $|\vec{E}| = 7.6 \times 10^6 \text{ N/C}$ , towards the  $-38.6 \mu\text{C}$  charge i.e.  $225^\circ$  from the  $+x$  axis



$$\text{LET } l = 52.5 \text{ cm}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} r \\ \diagdown \\ \text{45}^\circ \\ \diagup \\ l/2 \end{array} \rightsquigarrow r = \frac{l\sqrt{2}}{2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} |\vec{E}_{\text{NET}}| &= |\vec{E}_4| - |\vec{E}_2| = K \frac{q_4}{r^2} - K \frac{q_2}{r^2} \\ &= K \frac{1}{r^2} [q_4 - q_2] = K \frac{4}{l^2/2} [q_4 - q_2] \\ &= (9 \times 10^9) \frac{4}{(0.525)^2/2} [38.6 - 27] \\ &= [7.6 \times 10^6 \text{ N/C}] \sim \text{MAGNITUDE} \end{aligned}$$

$\cdot \vec{E}_{\text{NET}}$  POINTS IN THE SAME DIRECTION AS  $\vec{E}_4$

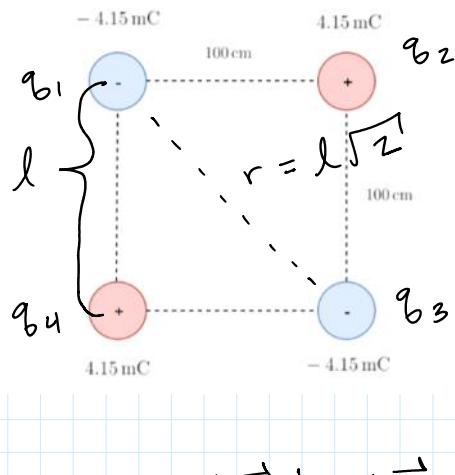
$+ 225^\circ$  FROM  $+x$  AXIS OR  $45^\circ$  SOUTH OF WEST

NOTE: TYPO, SORRY, SHOULD SAY  $1.4 \times 10^5 \text{ N/C}$

Find the magnitude & direction of the force on each charge shown in the figure below.

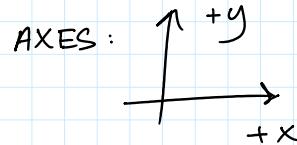
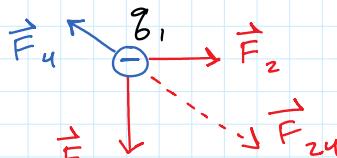
Hint: There's definitely some clever trick involving the symmetry . . . but what is it???

Answer:  $|\vec{F}| = 1.4 \times 10^7 \text{ N}$  and the direction for each charge is basically just towards the center of the square.



FIND  $\vec{F}_{\text{NET}}$  FOR EACH POINT CHARGE

LOOKING AT  $q_1$ :



LET'S COMBINE  $\vec{F}_2$  &  $\vec{F}_4$

$$\vec{F}_2 + \vec{F}_4 = \vec{F}_{24}$$

WE SEE THAT  $|\vec{F}_2| = |\vec{F}_4| = K \frac{q^2}{l^2}$ , WHERE  $q = 4.15 \text{ mC}$

$$\vec{F}_{24} = \vec{F}_2 + \vec{F}_4 = K \frac{q^2}{l^2} (+\vec{i}) + K \frac{q^2}{l^2} (-\vec{j})$$

$$|\vec{F}_{24}| = \sqrt{\left(K \frac{q^2}{l^2}\right)^2 + \left(K \frac{q^2}{l^2}\right)^2} = \sqrt{2} K \frac{q^2}{l^2}$$

SIMILAR TO THE PREVIOUS PROBLEM, WE CAN STRAIGHT UP ADD/SUBTRACT MAGNITUDES SINCE  $\vec{E}_3$  &  $\vec{E}_{24}$  LIE ON THE SAME LINE

$$|\vec{F}_{NET}| = |\vec{F}_{24}| - |\vec{F}_3| = \sqrt{2} K \frac{q^2}{l^2} - K \frac{q^2}{r^2}$$

$$= Kq^2 \left[ \frac{\sqrt{2}}{l^2} - \frac{1}{r^2} \right] = (9 \times 10^9) (4.15 \times 10^{-3})^2 \left[ \frac{\sqrt{2}}{(1)^2} - \frac{1}{(1)^2 2} \right]$$

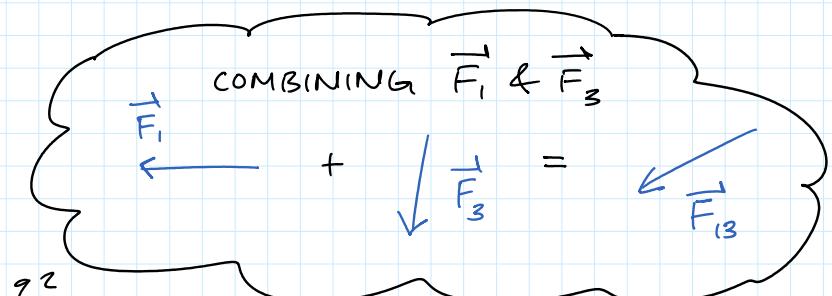
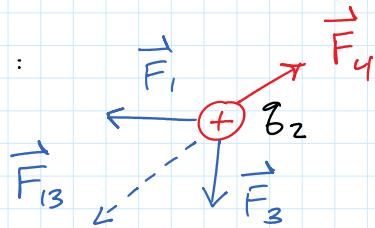
$$= 1.42 \times 10^5 \text{ N/C}$$

BY LOOKING AT THE SIGN OF THE DIFFERENCE  $|\vec{F}_{24}| - |\vec{F}_3|$

WE CAN FIND OUT WHICH FORCE "WINS", WHICH ALSO TELLS US THE RESULTANT DIRECTION

IN THIS CASE, WE SEE THAT  $|\vec{F}_{24}| > |\vec{F}_3|$  SO  $\vec{F}_{NET}$  POINTS IN THE DIRECTION OF  $\vec{F}_{24}$  i.e.  $45^\circ$  SOUTH OF EAST

NOW FOR  $g_2$ :



$$\vec{F}_{13} = \vec{F}_1 + \vec{F}_3 = K \frac{q^2}{l^2} (-\vec{i}) + K \frac{q^2}{l^2} (-\vec{j})$$

$$|\vec{F}_{13}| = \sqrt{\left(K \frac{q^2}{l^2}\right)^2 + \left(K \frac{q^2}{l^2}\right)^2} = \sqrt{2} K \frac{q^2}{l^2}$$

$$|\vec{F}_{NET}| = |\vec{F}_{13}| - |\vec{F}_4| = \sqrt{2} K \frac{q^2}{l^2} - K \frac{q^2}{r^2} = Kq^2 \left[ \frac{\sqrt{2}}{l^2} - \frac{1}{r^2} \right]$$

$$|F_{NET}| = |\vec{F}_{13}| - |\vec{F}_4| = \sqrt{2} K \frac{6}{\ell^2} - K \frac{6}{r^2} = K g^2 \left[ \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\ell^2} - \frac{1}{r^2} \right]$$

$$= K g^2 \left[ \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\ell^2} - \frac{1}{2\ell^2} \right] = (9 \times 10^9) (4.15 \times 10^{-3})^2 \left[ \frac{\sqrt{2}}{(1)^2} - \frac{1}{2(1)^2} \right]$$

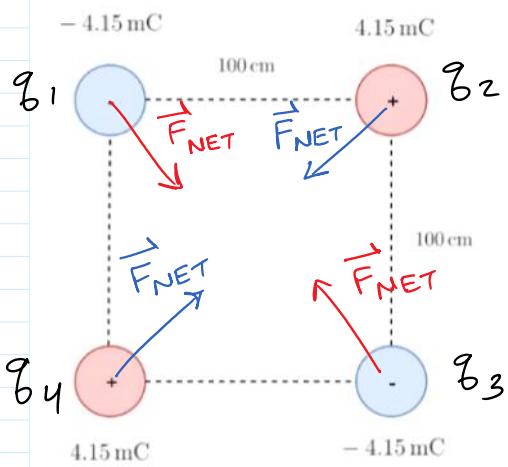
$$= \boxed{1.42 \times 10^5 \text{ N/C}} \sim \text{MAGNITUDE}$$

DIRECTION:  $45^\circ$  SOUTH OF WEST

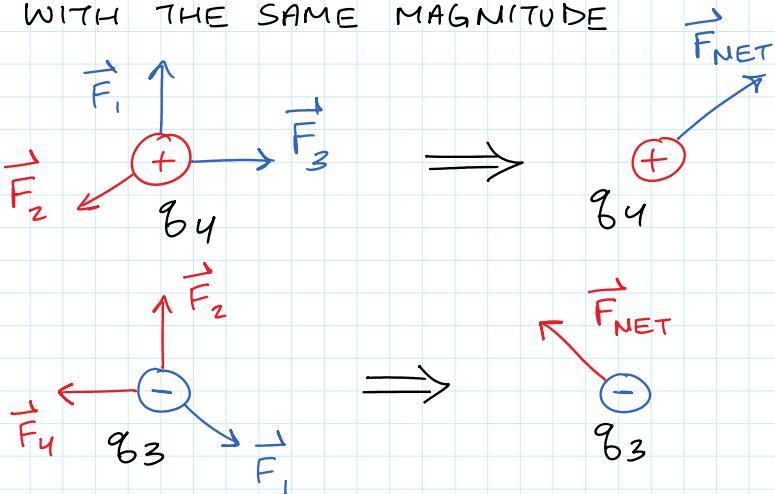
LET'S STOP HERE TO REFLECT. SO FAR, WE FOUND

$$\begin{cases} q_1: |\vec{F}_{NET}| = 1.42 \times 10^5 \text{ N/C} \text{ & POINTS } 45^\circ \text{ SOUTH OF EAST} \\ q_2: |\vec{F}_{NET}| = 1.42 \times 10^5 \text{ N/C} \text{ & POINTS } 45^\circ \text{ SOUTH OF WEST} \end{cases}$$

LET'S DRAW OUT THE NET FORCE VECTORS:



SIMILARLY, BY SYMMETRY, WE SEE THAT  $q_3$  &  $q_4$  HAVE A NET FORCE GOING TOWARDS THE CENTER WITH THE SAME MAGNITUDE



*Thank you for signing up for my LARC sessions!*