

Physics Courses

V A P E N A T I O N

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Chapter 1

Electrostatics

1.1 Discrete distribution of charges

1.1.1 Definitions

- Discrete distribution : We are for the moment only considering point like charges q_i , $i = 1, \dots, n$ $q > 0$ or $q < 0$

Remember that charge has a unit of Coulomb (C).

- The elementary charge $e = 1,6 * 10^{-19}C$, this corresponds to the electric monopole, the so-called electron : $q_{e-} = -e$

1.1.2 Electric field and force

a) Electric field \vec{E}

- Any charge q_i creates an electric field at point M :

$\vec{E}_i(M)$, which reads:

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$$\vec{E}_i(M) = k \frac{q_i}{r^2} \vec{u}_i = k \frac{q_i}{||O_i M||^3} O_i \vec{M}$$

- If we now consider all charges, the total electric field is just given by superposition theorem:

$$\vec{E}_{tot}(M) = \sum_{i=0}^n \vec{E}_i(M) = \sum_{i=0}^n k \frac{q_i}{r^2} \vec{u}_i$$

- k is the constant $\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0}$ and \vec{u}_i depends on the point O_i .

$$\vec{E}_{tot} = k \sum \frac{q_i}{r^2} \vec{u}_i$$

b) Induced force (s)

Let's introduce charge q_m at point M. The distribution acts on charge q_m and this force reads :

$$\vec{F}_{tot}(M) = q_m \vec{E}_{tot}(M) = \sum \vec{F}_i(M)$$

1.1.3 Electric potential

q_i , $i = 1, \dots, n$ Charge q_i creates at point M a potential : $V(M) = k \frac{q_i}{r_i}$ And total potential $V_{tot}(M) = \sum V_i(M)$

1.1.4 Units

- [Potential] Volt (V)
- [Electric field] Volt/Meter ($V.m^{-1}$)
- [Electric force] Newton (N) = $(C.V.m^{-1}) = [k][C]^2[m]^{-2} = (kg.m.s^{-2})$
- [Energy] Joule (J) Newton * Meter ($N.m$)
- [k] = $(kg.m^3.C^{-2}.s^{-2}) = [\epsilon_0]^{-1}$
- [g] = $(m.s^2)$

1.1.5 Field lines

Consider two charges q_i and q_j

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For instance $q_i > 0$,

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Chapter 2

Continuous state

Chapter 3

Gauss' Theorem

Chapter 4

Electrokinetics