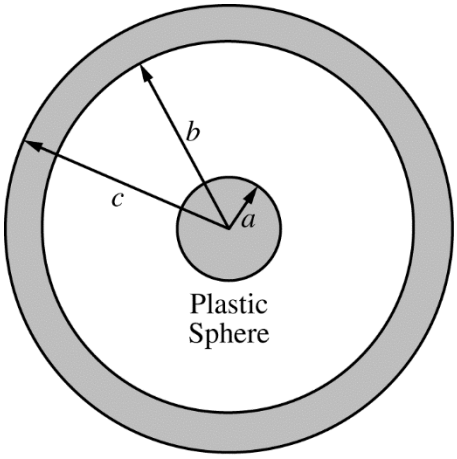
PHYSICS C: ELECTRICITY AND MAGNETISM

SECTION II
Time—45 minutes
3 Questions

Directions: Answer all three questions. The suggested time is about 15 minutes for answering each of the questions, which are worth 15 points each. The parts within a question may not have equal weight. Show all your work in this booklet in the spaces provided after each part.



Conducting Spherical Shell

1. A solid plastic sphere of radius a and a conducting spherical shell of inner radius b and outer radius c are shown in the figure above. The shell has an unknown charge. The solid plastic sphere has a charge per unit volume given by $\rho(r) = \beta r$, where β is a positive constant and r is the distance from the center of the sphere. Express your answers to parts (a), (b), and (c) in terms of β, r, a, and physical constants, as appropriate.

   (a) Consider a Gaussian sphere of radius r concentric with the plastic sphere. Derive an expression for the charge enclosed by the Gaussian sphere for the following regions.

      i. $r < a$

      ii. $a < r < b$

   (b) Use Gauss's law to derive an expression for the magnitude of the electric field in the following regions.

      i. $r < a$

      ii. $a < r < b$

   (c) At any point outside of the conducting shell, it is observed that the magnitude of the electric field is zero.

      i. Determine the charge on the inner surface of the conducting shell.

      Justify your answer.

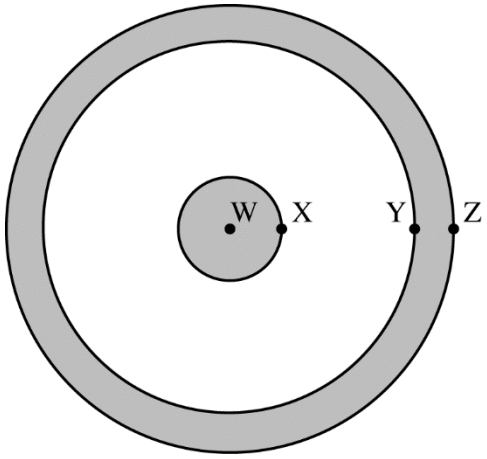
      ii. Determine the charge on the outer surface of the conducting shell.

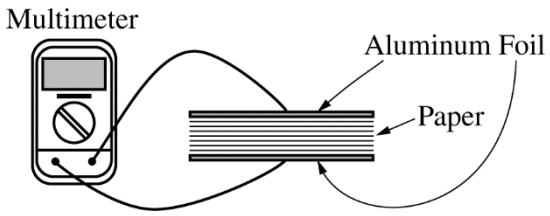
(d)

i. On the axes below, sketch the electric field E as a function of distance r from the center of the sphere. Sketch the graph for the range $r = 0$ at the center of the sphere to $r = c$ at the outside of the conducting shell.

ii. The figure below shows the sphere and shell with four points labeled W, X, Y, and Z. Point W is at the center of the sphere, point X is on the surface of the sphere, and points Y and Z are on the inner and outer surface of the shell, respectively. Rank the points according to the electric potential at that point, with 1 indicating the largest electric potential. If two points have the same electric potential, give them the same numerical ranking.

____ W ____ X ____ Y ____ Z





2. An experiment is designed to measure the dielectric constant of paper that has an area $A = 0.060\ \text{m}^2$. Using aluminum foil, two parallel plates are created with the same area as the paper. Five hundred sheets of paper are placed between the aluminum foil plates to create a parallel plate capacitor, as shown in the figure above. Using a multimeter, the capacitance C of the capacitor is measured. The number of sheets and the total thickness d of the stack of paper are recorded. The experiment is repeated, reducing the number of sheets of paper each time. The data are recorded in the table below.

Sheets of Paper	d (m)	C (F)		
500	0.045	6.5×10^{-11}		
400	0.036	7.4×10^{-11}		
300	0.027	8.9×10^{-11}		
200	0.018	11.9×10^{-11}		
100	0.010	21.0×10^{-11}		

(a) Indicate below which quantities should be graphed to yield a straight line whose slope could be used to calculate a numerical value for the dielectric constant of the paper.

Vertical axis: _____

Horizontal axis: _____

Use the remaining columns in the table above, as needed, to record any quantities that you indicated that are not given. Label each column you use and include units.