

# EvaluAlde Beta Bonus Assignment – College Physics

## II: Electrostatics

### Instructions:

- Answer all questions in detail. Show your work and reasoning for each part.
- Your submission must be a single PDF file. You may type your solutions or handwrite and scan them.
- This assignment is for bonus credit and will help improve our grading tools—thank you for participating!
- Submit your PDF via the usual course submission portal by the posted deadline.

### Questions

#### 1. Coulomb's Law:

Two point charges,  $q_1 = +2.0 \mu\text{C}$  and  $q_2 = -3.0 \mu\text{C}$ , are placed 0.50 m apart in vacuum.

a) Calculate the magnitude and direction of the electrostatic force on each charge.

$$\begin{aligned}
 F &= k \cdot \frac{|q_1 q_2|}{r^2} \\
 &= \left( 8.99 \times 10^9 \frac{\text{N} \cdot \text{m}^2}{\text{C}^2} \right) \times \frac{|(+2.0 \times 10^{-6} \text{C}) \times (-3.0 \times 10^{-6} \text{C})|}{(0.5 \text{m})^2} \\
 &= \left( 8.99 \times 10^9 \frac{\text{N} \cdot \text{m}^2}{\text{C}^2} \right) \left( 2.4 \times 10^{-11} \frac{\text{C}^2}{\text{m}^2} \right) = 0.21576 \text{ N}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$0.21576 \text{ N}$$

The force on  $q_1$  is directed towards  $q_2$ .  
The force on  $q_2$  is directed towards  $q_1$ .

b) Is the force attractive or repulsive?

The force is attractive.

#### 2. Electric Field of a Point Charge:

What is the magnitude and direction of the electric field at a point 0.30 m away from a  $+5.0 \mu\text{C}$  point charge?

$$\begin{aligned}
 \vec{E} &= k \cdot \frac{|q|}{r^2} \\
 &= \left( 8.99 \times 10^9 \frac{\text{N} \cdot \text{m}^2}{\text{C}^2} \right) \times \frac{|5.0 \times 10^{-6} \text{C}|}{(0.3 \text{m})^2} \\
 &= 499444.44 \frac{\text{N}}{\text{C}}
 \end{aligned}$$

$\approx 5.0 \times 10^5 \frac{\text{N}}{\text{C}}$ , which points radially outwards from the charge.

### 3. Electric Field from Multiple Charges:

Two charges,  $+1.0 \mu\text{C}$  and  $-2.0 \mu\text{C}$ , are fixed 0.40 m apart.

a) Find the electric field at the midpoint between them (magnitude and direction).

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{E} &= k \cdot \frac{q}{r^2} \\ E_+ &= \left(8.99 \times 10^9 \frac{\text{N} \cdot \text{m}^2}{\text{C}^2}\right) \times \frac{(1.0 \times 10^{-6} \text{C})}{(0.20 \text{m})^2} \\ &= 224750 \frac{\text{N}}{\text{C}} = 2.2475 \times 10^5 \frac{\text{N}}{\text{C}}, \text{ to the right} \\ E_- &= \left(8.99 \times 10^9 \frac{\text{N} \cdot \text{m}^2}{\text{C}^2}\right) \times \frac{|-2.0 \times 10^{-6} \text{C}|}{(0.20 \text{m})^2} \\ &= 449500 \frac{\text{N}}{\text{C}} = 4.495 \times 10^5 \frac{\text{N}}{\text{C}}, \text{ to the right} \\ E_{\text{total}} &= E_+ + E_- \\ &= 2.2475 \times 10^5 \frac{\text{N}}{\text{C}} + 4.495 \times 10^5 \frac{\text{N}}{\text{C}} \\ &= 6.7425 \times 10^5 \frac{\text{N}}{\text{C}}, \text{ to the right.} \end{aligned}$$

b) If a  $+1.0 \text{ nC}$  test charge is placed at the midpoint, what force does it experience (magnitude and direction)?

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{F} &= q \cdot \vec{E} \\ &= (1.0 \times 10^{-9} \text{C}) \times (6.7425 \times 10^5 \frac{\text{N}}{\text{C}}) \\ &= 6.7425 \times 10^{-4} \text{ N}, \text{ to the right.} \end{aligned}$$

### 4. Electric Potential (Point Charges):

What is the electric potential at a point 0.25 m from a  $-4.0 \mu\text{C}$  point charge? (Assume zero potential at infinity.)

$$\begin{aligned} V &= k \cdot \frac{q}{r} \\ &= \left(8.99 \times 10^9 \frac{\text{N} \cdot \text{m}^2}{\text{C}^2}\right) \times \frac{(-4.0 \times 10^{-6} \text{C})}{0.25 \text{m}} \\ &= -143840 \text{ V} \end{aligned}$$

### 5. Potential Difference and Work:

An electron moves from point A (potential =  $+100 \text{ V}$ ) to point B (potential =  $-50 \text{ V}$ ).

a) What is the potential difference  $V_B - V_A$ ?

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta V &= V_B - V_A \\ &= -50 \text{ V} - 100 \text{ V} \\ &= -150 \text{ V} \end{aligned}$$

b) How much work is done by the electric field on the electron during this move?

$$\begin{aligned} W &= q \times \Delta V \\ &= (-1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{C})(-150 \text{ V}) \\ &= 2.4 \times 10^{-17} \text{ J} \end{aligned}$$