

4 (a) State Coulomb's law.

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- (b) A charged sphere X is supported on an insulating stand. A second charged sphere Y is suspended by an insulating thread so that sphere Y is in equilibrium at the position shown in Fig. 4.1.

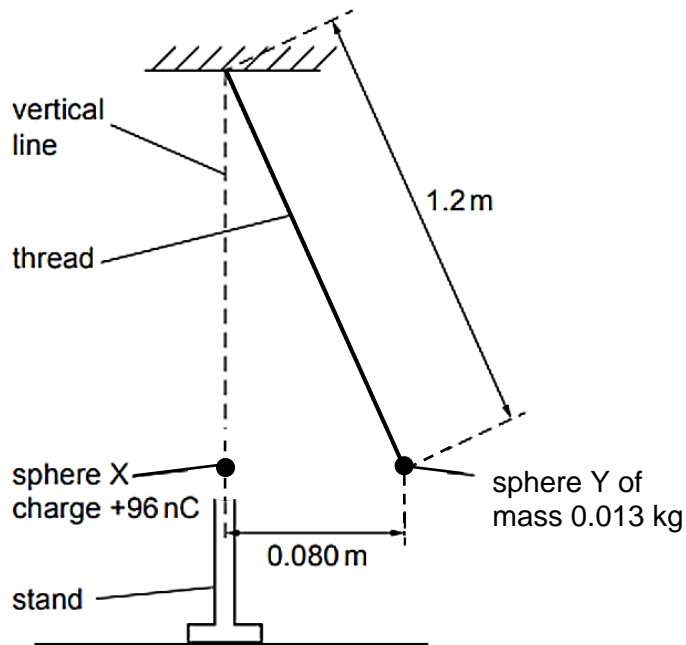


Fig. 4.1

The charge on sphere X is +96 nC and the mass of sphere Y is 0.013 kg.
Assume that the spheres behave as point charges.

The length of the thread is 1.2 m and the centres of sphere X and sphere Y are separated horizontally by a distance of 0.080 m.

- (i) Show that the charge on sphere Y is +63 nC.

[2]

- (ii) Hence, determine the net potential at the mid-point between sphere X and sphere Y.

potential = V [2]

- (c) An electron, with a speed of $2.0 \times 10^7 \text{ m s}^{-1}$, enters the region between two parallel plates P and Q, that are separated by a distance of 18 mm, as shown in Fig. 4.2. The length of the parallel plate is 20 cm.

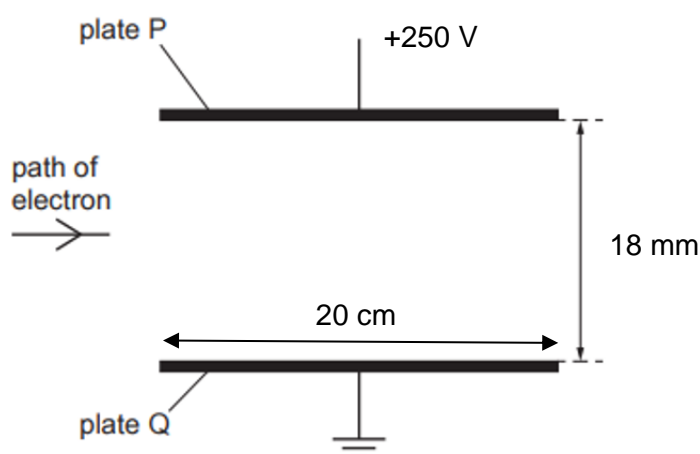


Fig. 4.2 (not to scale)

The space between the plates is a vacuum.

The potential difference between the plates is 250 V. The electric field may be assumed to be uniform in the region between the plates and zero outside this region.

- (i) Show that the acceleration of the electron within the parallel plate is $2.4 \times 10^{15} \text{ m s}^{-2}$.

[2]

- (ii) Determine the speed with which the electron leaves the parallel plates.

speed = m s^{-1} [3]

- (iii) State and explain the difference in the path if a proton enters the parallel plates with the same initial velocity instead of the electron.

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