

6 (a) (i) Explain what is meant by a *field of force*.

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..... [2]

(ii) A force due to a field is acting on a charged particle.

Explain why this force may **not** be due to the presence of an electric field.

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..... [4]

(b) Two charged solid metal spheres A and B are situated in a vacuum. Their centres are separated by a distance of 30.0 cm, as illustrated in Fig. 6.1. The diagram is not to scale.

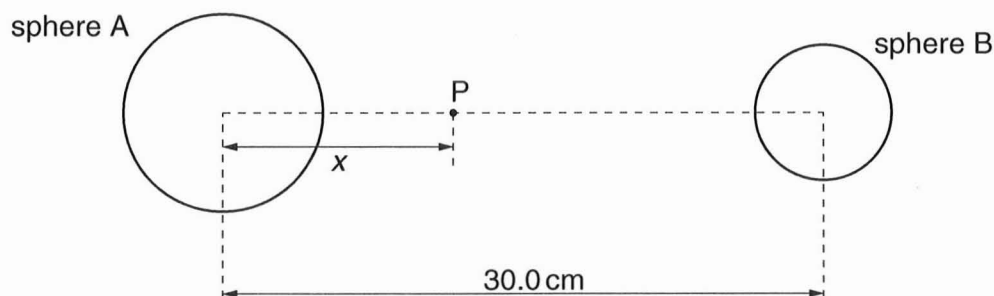


Fig. 6.1

Point P is a point on the line joining the centres of the two spheres. Point P is a distance x from the centre of sphere A.

The variation with distance x of the electric field strength E at point P is shown in Fig. 6.2.

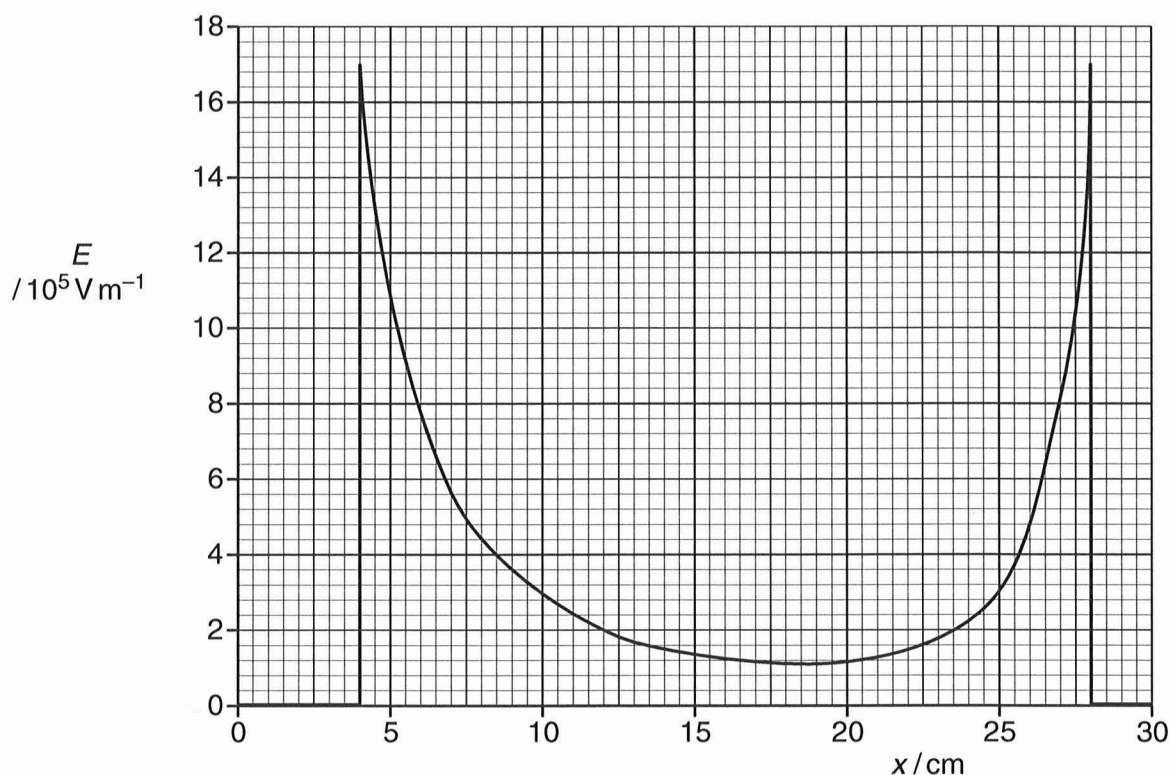


Fig. 6.2

- (i) Suggest why the electric field strength is zero for two regions of x .

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 [1]

- (ii) Use Fig. 6.2 to

1. determine the radius of each sphere,

radius of sphere A = cm

radius of sphere B = cm
 [1]

2. state and explain whether the spheres have charges of the same, or opposite, sign.

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 [2]



(iii) A lithium-7 (${}^7_3\text{Li}$) nucleus moves along the line joining the centres of the two spheres.

1. Estimate the energy gained by this nucleus as it moves from point P where $x = 16.0$ cm to the point P where $x = 21.0$ cm.

energy = J [5]

2. Calculate the acceleration of the nucleus at point P where $x = 25.0$ cm.

acceleration = ms^{-2} [2]

3. The nucleus is at rest at point P where $x = 4.0$ cm.

Describe qualitatively the variation with x of the acceleration of the nucleus for $x = 4.0$ cm to $x = 28.0$ cm.

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 [3]