

#### **CHAPTER 24**

#### **ELECTRIC POTENTIAL**

#### **PROBLEM SET**

- **1)** A uniform electric field  $\vec{E} = -4.20 \text{ N/C}$  î points in the negative *x* direction as shown in Fig. 23–25. The *x* and *y* coordinates of points A, B, and C are given on the diagram (in meters). Determine the differences in potential (*a*)  $V_{BA}$ , (*b*)  $V_{CB}$ , and  $(c)$   $V_{CA}$ .  $[R_{\text{1}}(A \cap B) \mid V_{BA} = 0, b] \mid V_{CB} = -29.4 \mid V, c] \mid V_{CA} = -29.4 \mid V$  $C(-3.00, 4.00)$  $-B(4.00, 4.00)$  $\xrightarrow{\bullet} A(4.00, 1.00)$  $\overline{0}$
- **2)** \*\*\* A hollow spherical conductor, carrying a net charge +Q, has inner radius  $r_1$  and outer radius  $r_2 = 2r_1$  (Fig. 23–26). At the center of the sphere is a point charge  $+Q/2$ . (*a*) Write the electric field strength *E* in all three regions as a function of  $r$ . Then determine the potential as a function of  $r$ , the distance from the center, for (*b*)  $r > r_2$ , (*c*)  $r_1 < r < r_2$ , and (*d*)  $0 < r < r_1$ .

[Answer: a) For 
$$
r > r_2
$$
,  $E = \frac{3Q}{8\pi\epsilon_0 r^2}$ ; For  $r_1 < r < r_2$ ,  
\n $E = \frac{Q}{8\pi\epsilon_0 r^2}$  b)  $V = \frac{3Q}{8\pi\epsilon_0 r}$  c)  $V = \frac{3Q}{8\pi\epsilon_0 r_2}$  d)  $V = \frac{Q}{8\pi\epsilon_0} (\frac{1}{r_2} + \frac{1}{r})$ ]





- **3)** Two point charges, 3.4 µC and -2.0µC are placed 5.0 cm apart on the *x* axis. At what points along the *x* axis is (*a*) the electric field zero and (*b*) the potential zero? Let  $V = 0$  at r =infinite.[Answers: a) 16 cm left of  $q_2$ , b) 1.9 cm from **the negative charge towards the positive charge, and 7.1 cm from the negative charge away from the positive charge.]**
- **4)** A +25  $\mu$ C point charge is placed 6.0 cm from an identical +25  $\mu$ C point charge. How much work would be required by an external force to move a  $+0.18 \mu C$  test charge from a point midway between them to a point 1.0 cm closer to either of the charges? **[Answer: 0.34 J]**
- **5)** \*\*\* A total charge *Q* is uniformly distributed on a thread of length *l*. The thread forms a semicircle. What is the potential at the center? (Assume  $V = 0$ at large distances.)

**[Answer:** 

 $\frac{Q}{4\varepsilon_{0}l}$ 

**6)** A thin rod of length *2l* is centered on the *x* axis as shown in Fig. 23–31. The rod carries a uniformly distributed charge *Q*. Determine the potential *V* as a function of *y* for points along the *y* axis. Let  $V = 0$  at infinity. **[Answer:**

**]**

$$
\frac{Q}{8\pi\varepsilon_0 \ell} \left[ \ln \left( \frac{\sqrt{\ell^2 + y^2} + \ell}{\sqrt{\ell^2 + y^2} - \ell} \right) \right]
$$
\n
$$
\frac{\ell}{\sqrt{\ell^2 + y^2}} \times \frac{\ell}{2\ell}
$$



**7)** The dipole moment, considered as a vector, points from the negative to the positive charge. The water molecule, Fig. 23–32, has a dipole moment **p** which can be considered as the vector sum of the two dipole moments  $\vec{p}_1$  and  $\vec{p}_2$  as shown. The distance between each H and the O is about  $0.96 \times 10^{-10}$ m ;the lines joining the center of the O atom with each H atom make an angle of 104° as shown, and the net dipole moment has been measured to be  $p = 6.1 \times 10^{-30}$  C · m. Determine the effective charge *q* on each H atom.  $[Answer: 5.2 \times 10^{-20} C]$ 



8) \*\*\* The electric potential in a region of space varies as  $V = by/(a^2 + y^2)$ . Determine **E***.* **[Answer:** 

$$
\vec{\mathbf{E}} = \frac{\left[\left(y^2 - a^2\right)b}{\left(a^2 + y^2\right)^2}\hat{\mathbf{j}}\right]
$$

**9)** Four point charges are located at the corners of a square that is 8.0 cm on a side. The charges, going in rotation around the square, are  $Q$ ,  $2Q$ ,  $-3Q$  and 2*Q*, where  $Q = 3.1 \mu C$  (Fig. 23–35). What is the total electric potential energy stored in the system, relative to  $U = 0$  at infinite separation?

**[Answer: -7.9 J]**





**10)** In a television picture tube (CRT), electrons are accelerated by thousands of volts through a vacuum. If a television set is laid on its back, would electrons be able to move upward against the force of gravity? What potential difference, acting over a distance of 3.5 cm, would be needed to balance the downward force of gravity so that an electron would remain stationary? Assume that the electric field is uniform. **[Answer: 2.0**  $\times$  10<sup>-12</sup> V, the thousands of volts in **a television set move electrons upward against the force of gravity.]**