

Sample problem set 2.

In all problems.
 $\epsilon_0 = 8.854 \times 10^{-12} \text{ (F/m)}$

(1) The following vectors are given in free space (Example 4-1 in the textbook)

(a) $A_1 = \hat{x} x$

(b) $A_2 = \hat{x} 5$

(c) $A_3 = \hat{z} 6y$

Are these vector fields conservative? (or electrostatic fields).

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A} = \begin{vmatrix} \hat{x} & \hat{y} & \hat{z} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ A_x & A_y & A_z \end{vmatrix} = \hat{x} \left(\frac{\partial A_z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial A_y}{\partial z} \right) + \hat{y} \left(\frac{\partial A_x}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial x} \right) + \hat{z} \left(\frac{\partial A_y}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial A_x}{\partial y} \right)$$

you might need this \nearrow

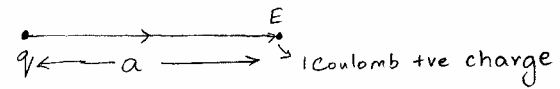
(2) A dielectric slab has an electric field $\vec{E} = 4\hat{x} + 5y\hat{y} + 10x\hat{z}$ (V/m)

Find the volume charge density in the dielectric if the permittivity of the dielectric $\epsilon = 4\epsilon_0$.

(Hint: $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A} = \frac{\partial A_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial A_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial A_z}{\partial z}$) \rightarrow this might be useful

(3) According to Coulomb's law, the force on a unit positive charge due to a point charge q at a distance 'a' meters is

$$E = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 a^2} \quad (\epsilon = \epsilon_0 \text{ in free space or air.})$$



Can you show this is true, using Gauss's law?

(Hint: start by drawing a Gaussian surface (sphere) of radius 'a' around the point charge q).

(4) In a slab of dielectric material for which $\epsilon = 2.5\epsilon_0$ & $V = 200z^2$ (volts) find

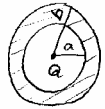
(a) The flux density (D)

(b) volume charge density (ρ_v)

(c) Polarization vector (\vec{P})

(Hint: Use the divergence formula from (2) & grad formula from the problem (quiz))

(5) A point charge Q is surrounded by a hollow conducting sphere: Calculate



inner radius - 'a'
outer radius - 'b'

(This is a tougher one; draw a Gaussian surface (sphere) in each of the three regions & then use Gauss's law for part b)

a) Surface charge densities on the inner & outer surfaces of the sphere

b) Electric fields in the three regions.

(i) $r < a$.

(ii) $a < r < b$

(iii) $r > b$.

(6). An electron of charge 'e' & mass 'm' is placed at a point A, at a distance 'r' meters from a charge Q (+ve charge).

(a) Calculate the acceleration on the electron (direction also)

(b) If we placed the electron at a point B (distance $r_1 > r$), would the acceleration be higher?

For problem 6, you can use the formula for electric field due to a point charge from problem (3)

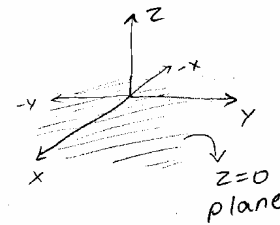
& Force = mass \times acceleration

$$\vec{F} = m\vec{a}$$

(7) The plane $z=0$ marks the boundary between free space & a dielectric medium with $\epsilon_r = 40$.
($\epsilon = \epsilon_r \epsilon_0$)
The E field in the free space, just next to the interface is.

$$\vec{E} = 13\hat{x} + 40\hat{y} + 50\hat{z} \text{ (V/m)}$$

Determine \vec{E} on the other side of the interface (in the dielectric)



Identify the tangential & normal components & then use the boundary conditions

$$D = \epsilon E \quad D_{n2} - D_{n1} = \rho_s$$

(assume $\rho_s = 0$)

$$E_{t2} - E_{t1} = 0$$