

USING VECTOR CALCULUS TO SOLVE PROBLEMS IN ELECTRICITY AND MAGNETISM

Summer 2020

Zoom Lecture: F: 2:00-4:00 p.m.

National Science Foundation (NSF) Center for Integrated Quantum Materials (CIQM), DMR -1231319

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PROBLEM SET VIII

(due Tuesday, August 18, 2020)

Problem 1

In Lecture 8 we found the electrostatic potential V and electric field \vec{E} at a distance z above the center of the charge distribution of two identical charges q separated by a distance d . Repeat this calculation for the case where we changed the right-hand charge from q to $-q$. What then is the electrostatic potential V at the point \vec{P} ? What field does that suggest? Compare your answer to Problem 5 in Problem Set 5 and carefully explain any discrepancy.

Problem 2

In Lecture 8 we found the electrostatic potential V and electric field \vec{E} at a distance z above the origin of a finite line charge of length $2L$ and uniform linear charge density λ . Repeat this calculation with the integration steps we skipped in lecture.

Problem 3

In Lecture 8 we found the electrostatic potential V and electric field \vec{E} everywhere for a spherical shell of radius a . Repeat this calculation with the integration steps we skipped in lecture.

Problem 4

Repeat Problem 2 for the case where the wire is infinite.

Problem 5

Using the following equation for the electrostatic potential $V(r)$

$$V(r) = - \int_{\infty}^r \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{r}'$$

find the electrostatic potential V and electric field \vec{E} everywhere for a uniformly charged solid sphere of radius a and whose total charge is q . Use infinity as your reference point. Check that your results are in agreement with the results we previously obtained in this course for this problem. Sketch V .

Problem 6

Given the system discussed in Problem 4 of Problem Set VII, find the electrostatic potential V at the center using infinity as your reference point. Use the following equation for the electrostatic potential $V(r)$

$$V(r) = - \int_{\infty}^r \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{r}'$$

Problem 7

Given the system discussed in Problem 7 of Problem Set VII, find the electrostatic potential difference between a point on the axis and a point on the outer cylinder. Note that it is not necessary to commit yourself to a particular reference point if you use the appropriate equation. Start with the following equation for the electrostatic potential $V(r)$

$$V(r) = - \int_{\infty}^r \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{r}'$$