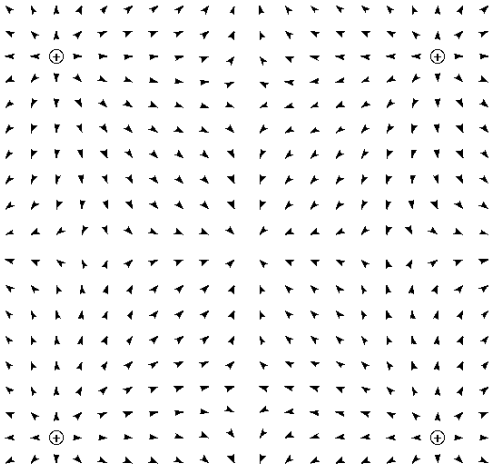
Problem 1. (15 Points)

I. (5 points)

Suppose that four stationary point charges $+Q$ are placed at the corners of a square of side length a as shown. If a free point charge $+q$ is placed at rest somewhere in the square, at how many distinct points can it stay at rest?

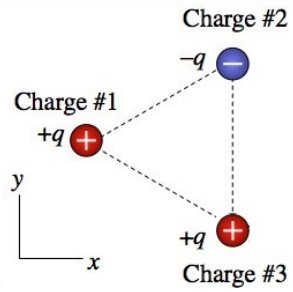
(a) 0
(b) 1
(c) 2
(d) 3
(e) 4
(f) 5



II. (5 points)

Three point charges lie at the vertices of an equilateral triangle as shown. Charges 2 and 3 make up an electric dipole. The net electric force that charge 1 exerts on the dipole is in the:

(a) $+\hat{\boldsymbol{x}}$ direction
(b) $+\hat{\boldsymbol{y}}$ direction
(c) none of the above
(d) $-\hat{\boldsymbol{x}}$ direction
(e) $-\hat{\boldsymbol{y}}$ direction



III. (5 points)

True/False questions.

(a) If there is no net charge inside of a Gaussian surface, the electric field must be zero at all points of that surface. (2 points)

(b) Only charge enclosed within a Gaussian surface can produce an electric field at points on that surface. (2 points)

(c) If there is no field in the area, there is also no charge in that area. (1 point)

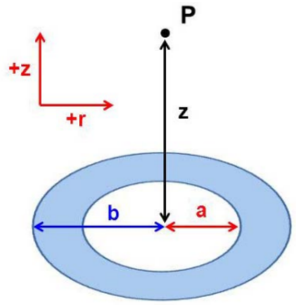
Problem 2. (30 Points)

An annulus of radii between a and b has a uniform charge density of σ.

(a) Calculate the potential at point P, a distance z on the positive z-axis. (15 points)

(b) Using $\boldsymbol{E} = -\nabla V$, calculate the electric field at point P from the potential. (10 points)

(c) Take a suitable limiting approximation to estimate the electric field at P for a uniformly charged disk of radius R, (5 points)

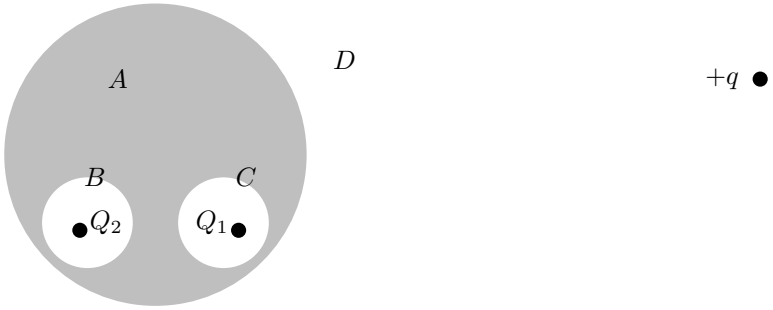


Problem 3. (20 Points)

Two off-centered cavities are located inside a spherical conductor. Two off-centered point charges $+Q_1$ and $+Q_2$ are located inside these cavities as shown.

(a) Please plot the surface charge distributions and representative electric field lines in space A, B, C and D (10 points)

(b) A point charge $+q$ is placed outside the conductor a distance r from the center of the conductor, a distance r_1 from charge Q_1 and a distance r_2 from charge Q_2 ($r \gg$ the radius of the spherical conductor). What is the total force acting on the point charge $+q$? (10 points)



Problem 4. (35 Points)

A hollow insulating spherical shell of inner radius R_0 and outer radius R_1 is positively charged with a charge density of $\rho(r) = \rho_0(1 - (r/R_1)^3)$. A positive charge $+Q$ is placed in the center of the hollow sphere and a concentric grounded conducting shell with inner radius R_2 and outer radius R_3 surrounds the hollow sphere. (The conducting shell was neutral before it is grounded.)

(a) What is the total charge on the insulating sphere? (5 points)

(b) What charges are on the inner and outer surfaces of the conducting shell? (5 points)

(c) Find the electric field at all points in space; plot this as a function of r. (20 points)

(d) What about your answers for (a) and (b) would be different if the conducting shell was not grounded (and was not given any charge)? (5 points)