

PHY232 Spring 2002 Practice Exam 1

2/5/02: **Note:** In Question 1, the equation for E had too many q's in it. It's now fixed.

1. What is the value of the electric field at the origin of a coordinate system if a $7\mu\text{C}$ charge is placed at the point $(x,y) = (-0.18\text{ m}, -0.24\text{ m})$?

- a) **$7.0 \times 10^5\text{ N/C}$**
- b) $2.1 \times 10^6\text{ N/C}$
- c) 70 N/C
- d) $2.1 \times 10^5\text{ N/C}$
- e) zero

$$\text{Distance to origin} = r = \sqrt{0.18^2 + 0.24^2} = 0.30\text{ m}$$
$$E = k_e q / r^2 = 7.0 \times 10^5\text{ N/C}$$

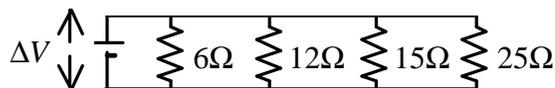
2. Consider the following statements.

- I. Resistance of parallel connected resistors is smaller than the value for each resistor.
- II. Capacitance of parallel connected capacitors is smaller than the value for each capacitor.
- III. Charged by a battery, a capacitor has the same magnitude of charge on each plate.

Are the statements true or false?

- a) I, II and III are true.
- b) **I and III are true, but II is false.**
- c) I and II are true, but III is false.
- d) II is true, but I and III are false.
- e) I, II, and III are false.

3. Four resistors are connected in parallel to a voltage source as shown in the diagram to the right. The $25\ \Omega$ resistor carries a current of 5 A. What is the total current supplied by the battery to the resistors?



- a) **45A**
- b) 35A
- c) 25A
- d) 15A
- e) 5A

$$\Delta V = (5\text{ A}) \cdot (25\ \Omega) = 125\text{ V}$$
$$1/R_{\text{eq}} = 1/6 + 1/12 + 1/15 + 1/25 \rightarrow R_{\text{eq}} = 2.8\ \Omega$$
$$\therefore I = \Delta V / R_{\text{eq}} = 45\text{ A}$$

4. A parallel plate capacitor with square plates 25cm on a side, separated by 1mm, is charged to $16 \times 10^{-12}\text{ C}$. What voltage difference exists between the plates?

Note: capacitance of a parallel plate capacitor, $C = \frac{\epsilon_0 A}{d}$.

- a) 1.5 V
- b) 9.0 V
- c) **29 mV**
- d) 0.18 V
- e) 50 V

$$C = \epsilon_0 (0.25\text{ m})^2 / (0.001\text{ m}) = 5.5 \times 10^{-10}\text{ F}$$
$$\Delta V = Q / C = (1.6 \times 10^{-11}\text{ C}) / (5.5 \times 10^{-10}\text{ F}) = 2.9 \times 10^{-2}\text{ V}$$

5. An electric water heater ($R = 8 \Omega$) draws 15 A of current when connected to the voltage supply. If the electric company charges \$0.10/kW-hour (energy dissipated by a power source of 1kW, in 1hr.), what is the cost of operating the water heater for 4 hours?

- a) \$1.20
 b) \$0.05
 c) **\$0.72**
 d) \$4.80
 e) \$0.12

$$P = I^2 \cdot R = (15\text{A})^2 \cdot (8\Omega) = 1.8 \text{ kW}$$

$$P \cdot \Delta t = (1.8\text{kW}) \cdot (4\text{hr}) = 7.2 \text{ kW-hr}$$

$$\text{\$} = (7.2 \text{ kW-hr}) \cdot (\text{\$}0.10/\text{kW-hr}) = \text{\$}0.72$$

6. What work is done by an electric field moving a $-3 \mu\text{C}$ charge from a point where the electric potential is 40V to another point where the potential is 25V higher?

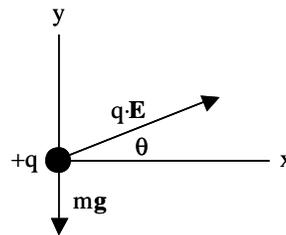
- a) **75 mJ**
 b) 120 μJ
 c) 45 μJ
 d) 15 μJ
 e) 195 μJ

For (-) charge, electric force points in direction of motion between the two points. $\therefore W > 0$.

$$W = q \cdot \Delta V = (3 \times 10^{-6}\text{C}) \cdot (25\text{V}) = 7.5 \times 10^{-5} \text{ J}$$

7. Near the earth's surface, for a particle with charge, $+q$, and mass, m , to accelerate **horizontally**, an electric field of magnitude, E , must act at what angle, θ , from horizontal? (Hint: a gravitational force, $\mathbf{F} = mg$, acts downward on the particle)

- a) $\theta = \sin^{-1} \left[\frac{mg}{qE} \right]$
 b) $\theta = \cos^{-1} \left[\frac{mg}{qE} \right]$
 c) $\theta = \tan^{-1} \left[\frac{mg}{qE} \right]$
 d) $\theta = \sin^{-1} \left[\frac{qE}{mg} \right]$
 e) $\theta = \cos^{-1} \left[\frac{qE}{mg} \right]$



To balance gravitational force,

$$q \cdot E_y = mg = q \cdot E \cdot \sin(\theta)$$

$$\therefore \theta = \sin^{-1} [mg / (qE)]$$

8. Consider the spot mid-way between two positive point charges of equal magnitude. Which statement below is true?
- a) Both the electric field and the electric potential are zero.
 b) The electric potential is zero but the electric field is not.
 c) **The electric field is zero but the electric potential is not.**
 d) The sum of electric field and the electric potential is zero.
 e) Both the electric field and the electric potential are non-zero.

9. For 18 grams of water (1 mole, 6.02×10^{23} atoms) to obtain a charge of $1 \mu\text{C}$, what **fraction** of the molecules must lose one electron?

- a) 1 part in 10^{23}
- b) 1 part in 6×10^{23}
- c) 1 part in 6×10^{18}
- d) 1 part in 10^{11}**
- e) 1 part in 10^5

$$\begin{aligned} \# \text{ of electrons in } 1 \mu\text{C} &= 1 \times 10^{-6} \text{C} / 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{C} = 6.2 \times 10^{12} \\ \text{fraction} &= 6.2 \times 10^{12} / 6.0 \times 10^{23} = 1.0 \times 10^{-11} \end{aligned}$$

10. From a great distance, a positive point charge of $2.0 \mu\text{C}$ is fired with a kinetic energy of 25J, directly at a fixed positive point charge of $5.0 \mu\text{C}$. When the moving charge slows to a stop, what is the distance between the charges.

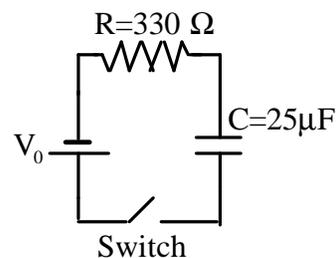
- a) 4.0×10^{-13} m
- b) 2.0×10^{-13} m
- c) 9.0×10^{-3} m
- d) 1.8×10^{-3} m
- e) 3.6 mm**

$$\begin{aligned} KE_i &= PE_f = k_e q_1 q_2 / r; \text{ Note: } KE_f \text{ and } PE_i = 0 \\ r &= k_e q_1 q_2 / KE_i \\ &= 9 \times 10^9 \cdot 2.0 \times 10^{-6} \cdot 5.0 \times 10^{-6} / 25 = 3.6 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m} \end{aligned}$$

11. When the switch in the circuit at the right is closed, how long does it take for the capacitor to reach 98% of the battery voltage?

- a) 8 msec
- b) 32 msec**
- c) 330 msec
- d) 825 msec
- e) 4.12 sec

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta V(t) &= V_0(1 - e^{-t/RC}) \\ \Delta V(t)/V_0 &= 0.98 = (1 - e^{-t/RC}) \\ \therefore 0.02 &= e^{-t/RC} \\ \text{take } \ln \text{ of both sides of equation} \\ -3.91 &= -t/RC \\ t &= 3.91 \cdot (330 \Omega) \cdot (25 \times 10^{-6} \text{F}) \\ &= 3.2 \times 10^{-2} \text{ s} \end{aligned}$$



12. In the circuit at the right, what is the voltage drop across the 20Ω resistor?

- a) 20 V**
- b) 25 V
- c) 33 V
- d) 2.25 V
- e) 1 V

$$\begin{aligned} 100 \Omega \text{ and } 33 \Omega \text{ resistors are in parallel} \\ 1/R_{\text{eq}} &= 1/100 + 1/33; \quad R_{\text{eq}} = 24.8 \Omega \\ \text{Total circuit resistance:} \\ R_{\text{total}} &= 24.8 \Omega + 20 \Omega = 45 \Omega \\ I &= 45 \text{V} / R_{\text{total}} = 1.0 \text{ A} \\ \Delta V &= (1.0 \text{A}) \cdot (20 \Omega) = 20 \text{ V} \end{aligned}$$

