

Assignment II, HONS 158 (Honors Physics II)
Spring 2016
Due 1/20/16 at start of class

As always, please put your answers on separate paper.

1. Let the following charges exist:

$$\begin{aligned}q_1 &= 970 \text{ nC} & \text{at} & \quad 2 \text{ m}\hat{i} - 1.5 \text{ m}\hat{j} \\q_2 &= -1.3 \text{ }\mu\text{C} & \text{at} & \quad 2 \text{ m}\hat{i} \\q_3 &= 1.8 \text{ }\mu\text{C} & \text{at} & \quad -0.3 \text{ m}\hat{i} - 1.0 \text{ m}\hat{j}\end{aligned}$$

- a) If q_4 had charge $-2.1 \text{ }\mu\text{C}$ and was at $1.5 \text{ m}\hat{i} - 1.0 \text{ m}\hat{j}$, what would the force on this charge be due to the presence of q_1 , q_2 , and q_3 ? (You may assume q_1 , q_2 , and q_3 remain stationary). Remember, force is a vector quantity.
- b) If q_4 had charge $+380 \text{ nC}$ and it was at $1.5 \text{ m}\hat{i} - 1.0 \text{ m}\hat{j}$ (the same position as part (a)), what would the force on this charge q_4 be due to the presence of q_1 , q_2 , and q_3 ? Again – you may assume that the other charges are stationary. (There may be a shortcut to this one if you’ve already done part (a)).
2. A ping-pong ball has a mass of about 2.7 grams. Let us say I was able (somehow) to put a total net charge of -34.6 nC on its surface. What minimum strength (and direction) of electric field would be required to levitate the ping-pong ball (near the surface of the Earth). (When you report the direction, report it as “up” or “down” or “East” or “West” or “North” or “South”; don’t use \hat{i} , \hat{j} , \hat{k} unless it is obvious to me how that relates back to the Earth).
3. A Helium nucleus is made up of two protons and two neutrons. (For this problem, assume a neutron has the same mass as a proton, but does not have any charge). Assume that this Helium nucleus is placed in a uniform electric field of $1.35 \times 10^5 \text{ N/C}\hat{i}$.
- a) Assume the Helium nucleus is released from rest at the origin at time $t = 0$. Find the speed of the Helium nucleus after it travels 1.00 cm.
- b) The speed of light in a vacuum is $3 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s}$. No matter can actually move that fast (we’ll find out why later this semester). However, if matter *could* travel that fast (and all the results you learned in HONS 157 hold), where would the nucleus be when it reaches the speed of light?
- c) How long does it take the Helium nucleus to reach the location identified in part (b) above?

(Over)

4. The Earth – near its surface – has its own electric field of approximately 150 N/C (pointing towards the center of the Earth).
- What is the approximate net charge of the Earth? (Treat the Earth as a point-mass and point-charge at its center).
 - What magnitude and sign of net charge would a person have to obtain in order to levitate due to the superposition of gravitational and electric forces?
 - Let's say two people have the charge calculated in part (b). What would their force of repulsion be if they were 1 meter apart?
5. If you didn't know, inkjet printers work through an electromechanical interaction. What happens is that drops of ink are "spit" at the paper from a nozzle. The ink drops each have a mass of about 150 ng and travel toward the paper at about 20 m/s . During their travel, the drops go through a "charging unit" that assigns each drop some positive charge q by removing some electrons. The drops then pass between parallel plates that are about 2 cm long where a uniform electric field of magnitude about 80 kN/C is applied. (The plates are oriented so that they can apply some horizontal motion to the droplet). If a drop needs to be deflected 0.4 mm by the time it reaches the end of the deflection plates, how many electrons were removed from the drop?

