



3055 BA SANGAM COLLEGE

PH: 6674003/9264117 E-mail: basangam@connect.com.fj



WORKSHEET 9

SCHOOL: BA SANGAM COLLEGE

YEAR: 13

SUBJECT: PHYSICS

NAME OF STUDENT: _____

STRAND	4- ELECTROSTATIC
SUB-STRAND	ELECTRIC POTENTIAL
LEARNING OUTCOME	<ul style="list-style-type: none">To calculate the net Electric Potential (voltage) between different charges

Electric Potential (Voltage)

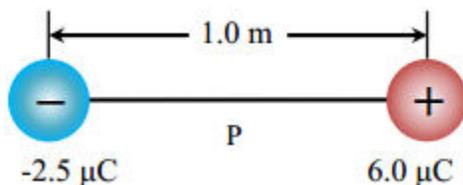
- The potential difference, V , for a charge at different positions can be described as the amount of work done in moving the charge from one point to another. If the charge is moved from A to B and is found by:

$$V = \frac{kQ}{r}$$

- Voltage or Electric Potential is a scalar quantity therefore we will directly add the voltages.
- use the negative sign in the calculations as shown below.

EXAMPLE 1

Find the net electric potential at point P, halfway between the $-2.5 \mu\text{C}$ and $6.0 \mu\text{C}$ charges separated by a distance of 1.0 m?



$$V = \frac{kQ}{r}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{8.99 \times 10^9 (-2.5 \times 10^{-6})}{(0.5)} \\ &= -44950 \text{ V} \end{aligned}$$

+

$$V = \frac{kQ}{r}$$

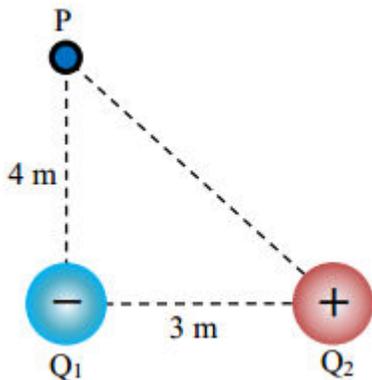
$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{8.99 \times 10^9 (6.0 \times 10^{-6})}{(0.5)} \\ &= 107880 \text{ V} \end{aligned}$$

$$\underline{V_{\text{TOTAL}} = 62930 \text{ V}}$$

EXAMPLE 2

A $6.0 \mu\text{C}$ point charge Q_1 is at the origin and a point charge Q_2 of value $-4.0 \mu\text{C}$ is 3 m on x-axis.

a) If the electric potential is zero at infinity, find the total electric potential due to these charges at P.



$$V_1 = \frac{k_e q}{r} = \frac{8.99 \times 10^9 (6.0 \times 10^{-6})}{4} = 1.35 \times 10^4 \text{ V}$$

$$V_2 = \frac{k_e q}{r} = \frac{8.99 \times 10^9 (-4.0 \times 10^{-6})}{5} = -0.72 \times 10^4 \text{ V}$$

$$V_P = V_1 + V_2 = 6.3 \times 10^3 \text{ V}$$

Note: use Pythagoras theorem to find distance from point P to Q_2

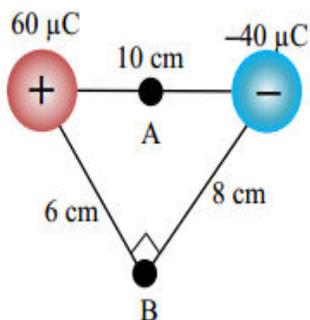
b) How much work is required to bring a third charge of $8.0 \mu\text{C}$ from infinity of point P.

$$W = V_P q_3 = (8.0 \times 10^{-6}) \times (6.3 \times 10^3) = 5.2 \times 10^{-2} \text{ J}$$

EXERCISE

1. Two point charges of 12 nC and -12 nC are placed 10 cm apart. Calculate the electric field and potential at point A in between them that 6 cm from the positive charge. (4 marks)

2. Two point charges of $60 \mu\text{C}$ and $-40 \mu\text{C}$ are placed 10 cm apart. Point A is midway between these charges and point B is a point near this two charges as shown in Figure 4.27. (6 marks)



- Determine the magnitude of the electric field vector at point A.
- Find the value of electric potential at points A and B.
- When a test charge is moved from A to B, its electric potential energy increases by $9 \times 10^{-5} \text{ J}$. Find the magnitude of charge of the test charge.