PHYS 1444 – Section 004 Lecture #4

Monday, Jan. 30, 2012 Dr. Jaehoon Yu

- Chapter 21
 - **Electric Field Lines**
 - **Electric Fields and Conductors**
 - Motion of a Charged Particle in an _ **Electric Field**
 - **Electric Dipoles**

Today's homework is homework #3, due 10pm, Tuesday, Feb. 7!!



Announcements

- I still have about half of you who haven't subscribed to the class email distribution list <u>PHYS1444-004-SP12</u>. Please be sure to subscribe by clicking on the link <u>https://listserv.uta.edu/cgi-bin/wa.exe?A0=PHYS1444-004-SP12</u>
 - Only 14 of you have registered
 - A test message was sent out Saturday, Jan. 28
- Quiz results
 - Class Average: 17/45
 - Equivalent to 36.7/100
 - Top score: 33/45
- Reading assignments
 - CH21.12 and CH21.13
- Colloquium this Wednesday
 - 4:00pm in SH101



Special Project

- Particle Accelerator. A charged particle of mass M with charge -Q is accelerated in the uniform field E between two parallel charged plates whose separation is D as shown in the figure on the right. The charged particle is accelerated from an initial speed v₀ near the negative plate and passes through a tiny hole in the positive plate.
 - Derive the formula for the electric field E to accelerate the charged particle to fraction *f* of the speed of light *c*. Express E in terms of M, Q, D, *f*, c and v₀.
 - (a) Using the Coulomb force and kinematic equations. (8 points)
 - (b) Using the work-kinetic energy theorem. (8 points)
 - (c) Using the formula above, evaluate the strength of the electric field E to accelerate an electron from 0.1% of the speed of light to 90% of the speed of light. You need to look up the relevant constants, such as mass of the electron, charge of the electron and the speed of light. (5 points)
- Due beginning of the class Monday, Feb. 13







Field Lines

- The electric field is a vector quantity. Thus, its magnitude can be expressed by the length of the vector and the direction by the direction the arrowhead points.
- Since the field permeates through the entire space, drawing vector arrows is not a good way of expressing the field.
- Electric field lines are drawn to indicate the direction of the force due to the given field on a **positive test charge**.
 - Number of lines crossing unit area perpendicular to E is proportional to the magnitude of the electric field.
 - The closer the lines are together, the stronger the electric field in that region.

Earth's G-field lines

- Start on positive charges and end on negative charges.



Electric Fields and Conductors

- The electric field inside a conductor is ZERO in the static situation. (If the charge is at rest.) Why?
 - If there were an electric field within a conductor, there would be force on its free electrons.
 - The electrons will move until they reached positions where the electric field become zero.
 - Electric field can exist inside a non-conductor.
- Consequences of the above
 - Any net charge on a conductor distributes itself on the surface.
 - Although no field exists inside a conductor, the fields can exist outside the conductor due to induced charges on either surface
 - The electric field is always perpendicular to the surface outside of a conductor.





Example 21-13

- Shielding, and safety in a storm. A hollow metal box is placed between two parallel charged plates. What is the field like in the box?
- If the metal box were solid
 - The free electrons in the box would redistribute themselves along the surface so that the field lines would not penetrate into the metal.
- The free electrons do the same in hollow metal boxes just as well as it did in a solid metal box.
- Thus a conducting box is an effective device for shielding. → Faraday cage
- So what do you think will happen if you were inside a car when the car was struck by a lightening?







Motion of a Charged Particle in an Electric Field

- If an object with an electric charge q is at a point in space where electric field is **E**, the force exerting on the object is $\vec{F} = q\vec{E}$.
- What do you think will happen to the charge?
 - Let's think about the cases like these on the right.
 - The object will move along the field line...Which way?
 - Depends on the sign of the charge
 - The charge gets accelerated under an electric field.





Electron accelerated by electric field. An electron (mass m = 9.1x10⁻³¹kg) is accelerated in the uniform field E (E=2.0x10⁴N/C) between two parallel charged plates. The separation of the plates is 1.5cm. The electron is accelerated from rest near the negative plate and passes through a tiny hole in the positive plate. (a) With what speed does it leave the hole? (b) Show that the gravitational force can be ignored. Assume the hole is so small that it does not affect the uniform field between the plates. The magnitude of the force on the electron is F=qE and is directed to the right. The equation to solve this problem is

$$F = qE = ma$$

The magnitude of the electron's acceleration is $a = \frac{F}{m} = \frac{qE}{m}$

Between the plates the field **E** is uniform, thus the electron undergoes a uniform acceleration

$$a = \frac{eE}{m_e} = \frac{\left(1.6 \times 10^{-19} \, C\right) \left(2.0 \times 10^4 \, N \, / \, C\right)}{\left(9.1 \times 10^{-31} \, kg\right)} = 3.5 \times 10^{15} \, m/s^2$$



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Since the travel distance is 1.5x10⁻²m, using one of the kinetic eq. of motions,

$$v^2 = v_0^2 + 2ax$$
 : $v = \sqrt{2ax} = \sqrt{2 \cdot 3.5 \times 10^{15} \cdot 1.5 \times 10^{-2}} = 1.0 \times 10^7 \ m/s$

Since there is no electric field outside the conductor, the electron continues moving with this speed after passing through the hole.

• (b) Show that the gravitational force can be ignored. Assume the hole is so small that it does not affect the uniform field between the plates.

The magnitude of the electric force on the electron is

$$F_e = qE = eE = (1.6 \times 10^{-19} C)(2.0 \times 10^4 N/C) = 3.2 \times 10^{-15} N$$

The magnitude of the gravitational force on the electron is

$$F_G = mg = 9.8 \, m / s^2 \times (9.1 \times 10^{-31} \, kg) = 8.9 \times 10^{-30} \, N$$

Thus the gravitational force on the electron is negligible compared to the electromagnetic force.



Electric Dipoles

- An electric dipole is the combination of two equal charges of opposite signs, +Q and -Q, separated by a distance l_{i} which behaves as one entity.
- The quantity $Q \ell$ is called the electric dipole moment and is represented by the symbol p. р
 - The dipole moment is a vector quantity, p
 - The magnitude of the dipole moment is $\mathbf{Q}\mathcal{L}$ Unit?
 - Its direction is from the negative to the positive charge.
 - Many of diatomic molecules like CO have a dipole moment. These are referred as polar molecules.
 - Even if the molecule is electrically neutral, their sharing of electron causes separation of charges
 - Symmetric diatomic molecules, such as O_2 , do not have dipole moment.
 - The water molecule also has a dipole moment which is the vector sum of two dipole moments between Oxygen and each of Hydrogen atoms.

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Dipoles in an External Field

- Let's consider a dipole placed in a uniform electric field **E**.
- What do you think will happen to the dipole in the figure?
 - Forces will be exerted on the charges.
 - The positive charge will get pushed toward right while the negative charge will get pulled toward left.
 - What is the net force acting on the dipole?
 - Zero
 - So will the dipole not move?
 - Yes, it will.
 - Why?
 - There is a torque applied on the dipole.





Dipoles in an External Field, cnt'd

- How much is the torque on the dipole?
 - Do you remember the formula for torque?

•
$$\vec{\tau} = \vec{r} \times \vec{F}$$



 The magnitude of the torque exerting on each of the charges with respect to the rotational axis, at the center is

•
$$\tau_{+Q} = \left| \vec{r} \times \vec{F} \right| = rF \sin \theta = \left| \left(\frac{l}{2} \right) (QE) \sin \theta \right| = \frac{l}{2} QE \sin \theta$$

•
$$\tau_{-Q} = \left| \vec{r} \times \vec{F} \right| = rF \sin \theta = \left| \left(-\frac{l}{2} \right) (-QE) \sin \theta \right| = \frac{l}{2} QE \sin \theta$$

– Thus, the total torque is 2

•
$$\tau_{Total} = \tau_{+Q} + \tau_{-Q} = \frac{l}{2}QE\sin\theta + \frac{l}{2}QE\sin\theta = lQE\sin\theta = pE\sin\theta$$

– So the torque on a dipole in vector notation is $\vec{\tau} = \vec{p} \times \vec{E}$

• The effect of the torque is to try to turn the dipole so that the dipole moment is parallel to **E**. Which direction?



Potential Energy of a Dipole in an External Field

• What is the work done on the dipole by the electric field to change the angle from θ_1 to θ_2 ? Why negative?

$$W = \int_{\theta_1}^{\theta_2} dW = \int_{\theta_1}^{\theta_2} \vec{\tau} \cdot d\vec{\theta} = \int_{\theta_1}^{\theta_2} \vec{\Phi} d\theta$$

The torque is $\tau = pE\sin\theta$.

Because τ and θ are opposite directions to each other.

- Thus the work done on the dipole by the field is $W = \int_{\theta_1}^{\theta_2} -pE\sin\theta \,d\theta = pE\left[\cos\theta\right]_{\theta_1}^{\theta_2} = pE\left(\cos\theta_2 - \cos\theta_1\right)$
- What happens to the dipole's potential energy, U, when a positive work is done on it by the field?
 - It decreases.
- We choose U=0 when θ_1 =90 degrees, then the potential energy at θ_2 = θ becomes $U = -W = -pE\cos\theta = -\vec{p}\cdot\vec{E}$



Electric Field by a Dipole

 \mathbf{E}_{+}

0

- Let's consider the case in the picture.
- There are fields by both the charges. So the total electric field by the dipole is $\vec{E}_{Tot} = \vec{E}_{+Q} + \vec{E}_{-Q}$
- The magnitudes of the two fields are equal

$$E_{+Q} = E_{-Q} = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{Q}{\left(\sqrt{r^2 + (l/2)^2}\right)^2} = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{Q}{r^2 + (l/2)^2} = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{Q}{r^2 + l^2/4}$$

- Now we must work out the x and y components of the total field.
 - Sum of the two y components is

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- Zero since they are the same but in opposite direction
- So the magnitude of the total field is the same as the sum of the two x-components:

$$E = 2E_{+}\cos\phi = \frac{1}{2\pi\varepsilon_{0}}\frac{Q}{r^{2} + l^{2}/4}\frac{l}{2\sqrt{r^{2} + l^{2}/4}} = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_{0}}\frac{p}{\left(r^{2} + l^{2}/4\right)^{3/2}}$$
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Dipole Electric Field from Afar

• What happens when r>>l?.

$$E_D = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{p}{\left(r^2 + l^2/4\right)^{3/2}} \approx \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{p}{r^3} \quad \text{(when } r \gg l\text{)}$$

- Why does this make sense?
 - Since from a long distance, the two charges are very close so that the overall charge gets close to 0!!
 - This dependence works for the point not on the bisecting line as well



 Dipole in a field. The dipole moment of a water molecule is 6.1x10⁻³⁰C-m. A water molecule is placed in a uniform electric field with magnitude 2.0x10⁵N/C. (a) What is the magnitude of the maximum torque that the field can exert on the molecule? (b) What is the potential energy when the torque is at its maximum? (c) In what position will the potential energy take on its greatest value? Why is this different than the position where the torque is maximized?

(a) The torque is maximized when θ =90 degrees. Thus the magnitude of the maximum torque is

$$\tau = pE\sin\theta = pE =$$

= $(6.1 \times 10^{-30} C \cdot m)(2.5 \times 10^5 N/C) = 1.2 \times 10^{-24} N \cdot m$

What is the distance between a hydrogen atom and the oxygen atom?



(b) What is the potential energy when the torque is at its maximum? Since the dipole potential energy is $U = -\vec{p} \cdot \vec{E} = -pE\cos\theta$ And τ is at its maximum at θ =90 degrees, the potential energy, U, is

$$U = -pE\cos\theta = -pE\cos(90^\circ) = 0$$

Is the potential energy at its minimum at θ =90 degrees? No Why not? Because U will become negative as θ increases.

(c) In what position will the potential energy take on its greatest value?

The potential energy is maximum when $\cos\theta = -1$, $\theta = 180$ degrees. Why is this different than the position where the torque is maximized? The potential energy is maximized when the dipole is oriented so that it has to rotate through the largest angle against the direction of the field, to reach the equilibrium position at $\theta = 0$.

Torque is maximized when the field is perpendicular to the dipole, θ =90.

