

Name:

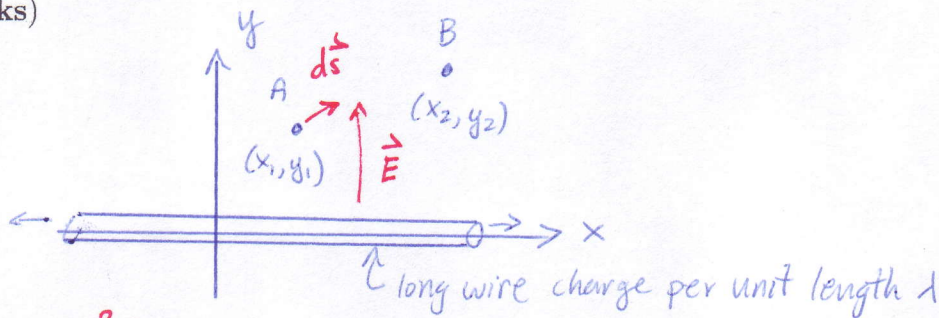
Solutions

Student Number:

1. The electric field due a long wire with charge per unit length λ is:

$$\vec{E} = \frac{\lambda}{2\pi\epsilon_0 r} \hat{r}$$

Suppose the wire lies along the x -axis. What is the difference in electric potential between points A and B? (4 marks)



$$\Delta V = V_B - V_A = - \int_A^B \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} \quad (1)$$

In xy -plane can write $\vec{E} = \frac{\lambda}{2\pi\epsilon_0 y} \hat{j}$ where y is dist. from wire.

$\vec{E} \cdot d\vec{s} = \frac{\lambda}{2\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{dy}{y}$ (1) Only displacement parallel to \vec{E} results in change to potential.

$$\therefore \Delta V = - \int_{y_1}^{y_2} \frac{\lambda}{2\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{dy}{y} = - \frac{\lambda}{2\pi\epsilon_0} \int_{y_1}^{y_2} \frac{dy}{y} = - \frac{\lambda}{2\pi\epsilon_0} \ln y \Big|_{y_1}^{y_2}$$

$$\Delta V = - \frac{\lambda}{2\pi\epsilon_0} (\ln y_2 - \ln y_1)$$

$$\Delta V = - \frac{\lambda}{2\pi\epsilon_0} \ln \left(\frac{y_2}{y_1} \right) \quad (2)$$

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3. For the potential $V = 3x^2 - 6xy$, what is the corresponding electric field at the point $(x, y) = (2, 2)$? (3 marks)

$$\textcircled{1} E_x = -\frac{dV}{dx} = -(6x - 6y)$$

$$\textcircled{1} E_y = -\frac{dV}{dy} = -(-6x)$$

$$\vec{E} = E_x \hat{i} + E_y \hat{j}$$

$$\textcircled{a} (2, 2) \quad E_x = -(12 - 12) = 0$$

$$E_y = -(-12) = +12$$

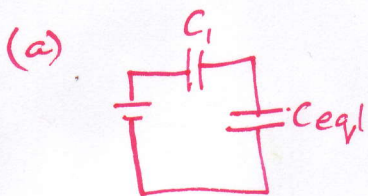
$$\therefore \boxed{\vec{E} = 12 \hat{j}} \quad \textcircled{1}$$

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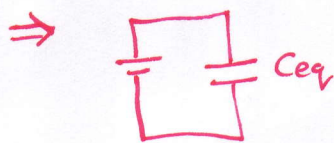
Solutions

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1. (a) Three capacitors are connected to a battery as shown in the figure. Their capacitances are $C_1 = 3C$, $C_2 = C$, and $C_3 = 5C$. (a) What is the equivalent capacitance of this set of capacitors? (2 marks)
- (b) Find the charge stored on each capacitor in terms of C and the potential difference ΔV supplied by the battery. (3 marks)
- (c) Assume that C_3 is increased, how does the charge stored by each capacitor change (increase or decrease)? (3 marks)



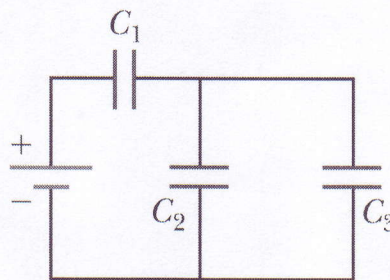
$$C_{eq1} = C_2 + C_3 = 6C$$



$$\frac{1}{C_{eq}} = \frac{1}{C_1} + \frac{1}{C_{eq1}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{3C} + \frac{1}{6C} = \frac{3}{6C}$$

$$\therefore C_{eq} = 2C$$



(b) $C = \frac{q}{\Delta V}$

$$\therefore q_{eq} = C_{eq} \Delta V = 2C \Delta V$$

capacitors in series have same charge

$$\therefore q_1 = 2C \Delta V$$

$$q_{eq1} = 2C \Delta V$$

$$\Delta V_{eq1} = \frac{q_{eq1}}{C_{eq1}} = \frac{2C \Delta V}{6C} = \frac{\Delta V}{3}$$

capacitors in parallel have same potential.

$$\therefore \Delta V_2 = \Delta V_3 = \Delta V / 3$$

$$q_2 = C_2 \Delta V_2 = \frac{C \Delta V}{3}$$

$$q_3 = C_3 \Delta V_3 = \frac{5C \Delta V}{3}$$

(c) suppose C_3 very large.

Then, $C_{eq1} \approx C_3$

$$C_{eq} \approx C_1$$

$$q_1 = C_{eq} \Delta V \approx C_1 \Delta V \approx 3C \Delta V$$

$\therefore q_1$ increases

Parallel combo of C_2 & C_3 must store same total charge.

$$q_2 = C_2 \Delta V_1$$

$$q_3 = C_3 \Delta V_1$$

since $C_3 \gg C_2$

$$q_3 \gg q_2$$

$\therefore q_3$ increase
 q_2 decrease