

Name: _____ Section: _____ Score: _____/20

1. As shown in Figure 1 several point charges are fixed in space, making an electric field \mathbf{E} in a plane. At the origin O the electric field is given by $\mathbf{E} = (2.3, -0.8) \times 10^3 \text{ N/C}$.

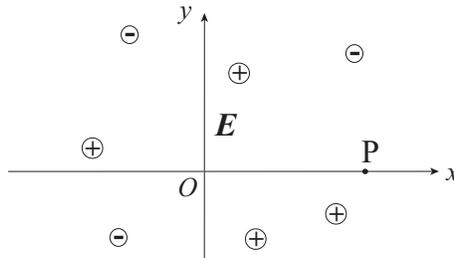


Figure 1:

(a) A charge $q = -1.3 \mu\text{C}$ is placed at the origin. What is the magnitude of the force acting on this charge q ? [5]

$$|F| = |qE| = 1.3 \times 10^{-6} \times |E|.$$

$$\text{Here, } |E| = 2.435 \times 10^3 \text{ N/C, so } |F| = 3.165 \times 10^{-3} = 3.2 \text{ mN}.$$

(b) Now, the charge q in (a) is moved to location P whose coordinate vector is given by $(1.2, 0) \text{ m}$. What is the electric field at the origin due to all the charges? [5]

The field created by q is only along the x-axis and its magnitude is

$$kq/r^2 = 9 \times 10^9 \times (1.3 \times 10^{-6}) / 1.2^2 = 8.125 \times 10^3 \text{ N/C}$$

Since $q < 0$, as a vector this field is $(+8.2, 0) \times 10^3$, so total $E = (10.5, -0.8) \times 10^3 \text{ N/C}$.

2. Electric field lines due to 6 charges A - F (and other charges outside the figure window) on a plane are depicted in Fig. 2.

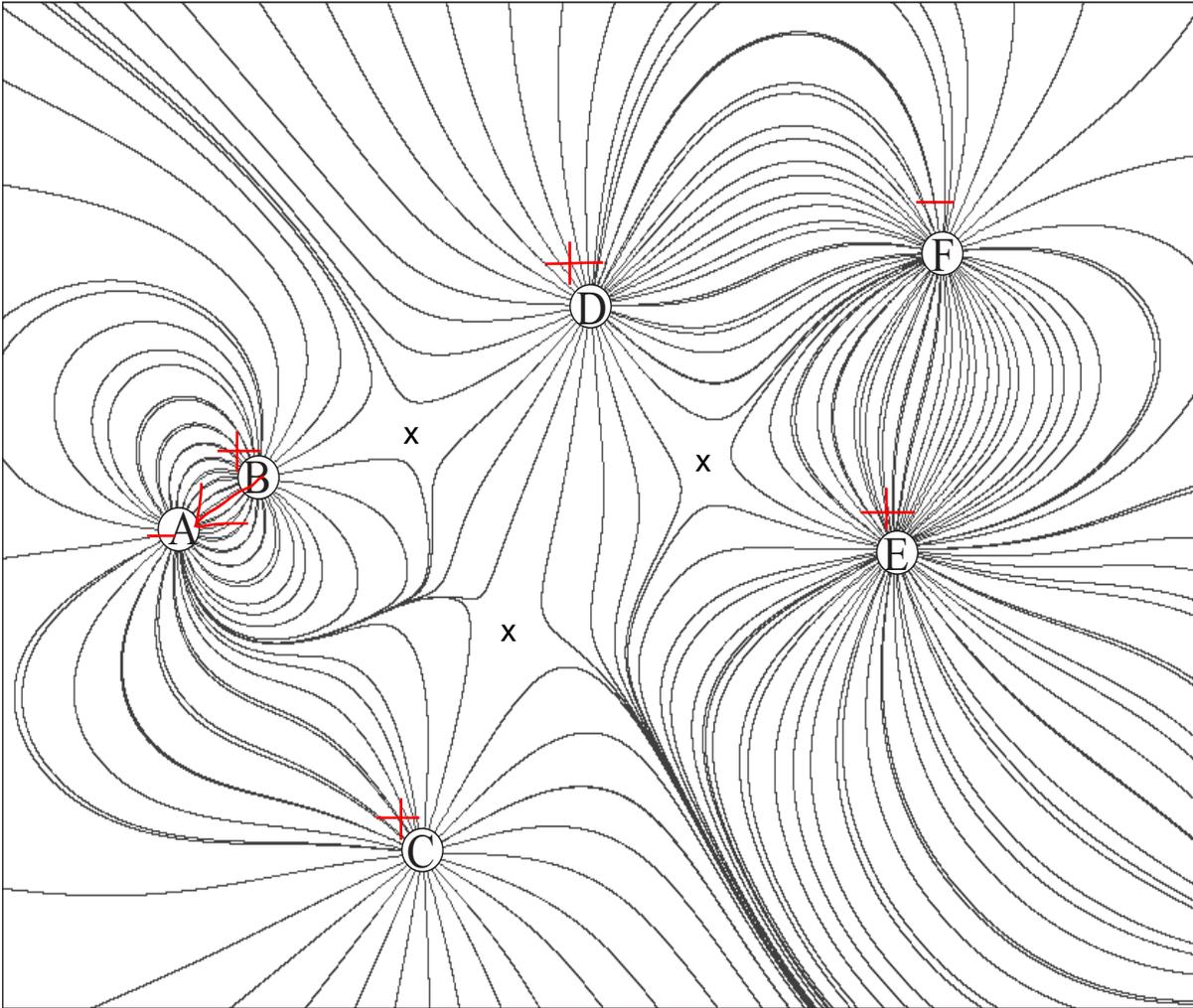


Figure 2:

(a) Suppose charge A is negative. Tell all the other negative charges. [4]

only F is negative.

(b) There are locations where the electric field is zero. Mark all such points in the figure with X. [3]

(c) Suppose only charge B is allowed to move. Draw an arrow that indicates the initial direction of its motion. [3]