

Answer on Question #45158, Physics, Electromagnetism

Determine the electrostatic force and electrostatic field on particle A due to particles B and C. Express your result both in the unit vector notation and as magnitude. Given B is at origin A is at positive z axis C is at positive y axis forming a right triangle centered at B. Where side AB= 30 cm and side BC= 40 cm.

Charge on A= $-4 \cdot 10^{-6}$ C B= $2 \cdot 10^{-6}$ C C= $-6 \cdot 10^{-6}$ C

Solution

Force on A due to B is

$$F_{ab} = k \frac{q_a q_b}{r_{ab}^2} = 9 \cdot 10^9 \frac{-4 \cdot 2 \cdot 10^{-12}}{0.3^2} \approx -88.9 \cdot 10^{-3} N$$

They are attracting and force is along y axis:

$$\vec{F}_{ab} = -88.9 \cdot 10^{-3} \vec{j} N$$

Force on A due to C is

$$F_{ac} = k \frac{q_a q_c}{r_{ac}^2} = 9 \cdot 10^9 \frac{-4 \cdot (-6) \cdot 10^{-12}}{0.3^2} \approx 266.7 \cdot 10^{-3} N$$

They are repelling and force under angle 45 degrees to axis z:

$$\vec{F}_{ac} = 266.7 \cdot 10^{-3} \cdot \left(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \vec{j} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \vec{k} \right) N$$

Their sum will be

$$\vec{F} = \vec{F}_{ab} + \vec{F}_{ac} = \left(\left(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} 266.7 - 88.9 \right) \vec{j} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} 266.7 \vec{k} \right) \cdot 10^{-3} N = \left(99.7 \vec{j} + 188.6 \vec{k} \right) \cdot 10^{-3} N$$

Its magnitude is

$$F = \sqrt{99.7^2 + 188.6^2} \cdot 10^{-3} N \approx 213.3 \cdot 10^{-3} N$$