

YOUR NAME: SOLUTIONS

DISCUSSION SECTION: \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Please write your answer *clearly*.

Partial credits are given, so show as much work as possible. You may use diagrams where appropriate.

Make sure you have all 8 pages.

A calculator and one 3"x5" index card with notes is allowed.

Problem	
#1 (8 pts)	
#2 (13 pts)	
#3 (6 pts)	
#4 (10 pts)	
#5 (5 pts)	
#6 (13 pts)	
Total: 55 pts	

1. Two small, identical conducting spheres A and B are a distance R apart; each carries the same charge Q. [8 pts]

(a) What is the force sphere B exerts on sphere A? [2 pts]

$$F = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Q^2}{R^2}$$

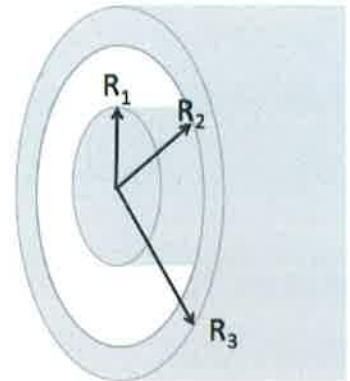
(b) An identical sphere with zero charge, sphere C, makes contact with sphere B and is then moved very far away. What is the force sphere B now exerts on sphere A? [3 pts]

$$Q_B = \frac{1}{2}Q$$
$$F = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Q^2}{2R^2} = \frac{1}{8\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Q^2}{R^2}$$

(c) Sphere C is brought back and now makes contact with sphere A and is then moved far away. What is the force sphere B exerts on sphere A in this third case? [3 pts]

$$Q_A = (Q + \frac{1}{2}Q) / 2 = \frac{3}{4}Q$$
$$F = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Q^2}{R^2} \left(\frac{3}{4}\right) \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$$
$$F = \frac{1}{32\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Q^2}{R^2}$$

2. A very long solid nonconducting cylinder of radius  $R_1$  is uniformly charged with a charge density  $\rho_E$ . It is surrounded by a concentric cylindrical tube of inner radius  $R_2$  and outer radius  $R_3$  as shown in the figure, and it too carries a uniform charge density  $\rho_E$ . [13 pts]



(a) What is the electric field for  $R_1 < r < R_2$  as a function of  $r$ ? [4 pts]

$$E(2\pi r l) = \frac{Q_{enc}}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$E = \frac{Q_{enc}}{2\pi \epsilon_0 r l}$$

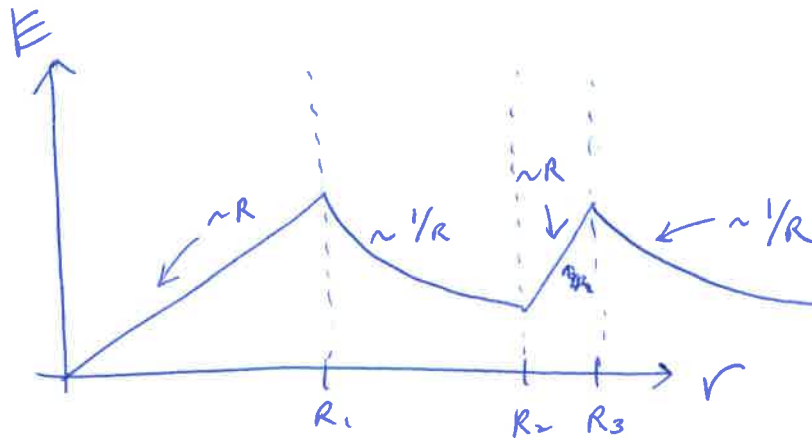
$$E = \frac{\rho_E \pi R_1^2 l}{2\pi \epsilon_0 r l} = \boxed{\frac{\rho_E}{2\epsilon_0} \frac{R_1^2}{r}}$$

(b) What is the electric field for  $r < R_1$ ? [3 pts]

$$r < R_1 \quad E = \frac{\rho_E \pi r^2 l}{2\pi \epsilon_0 r l}$$

$$\boxed{E = \frac{\rho_E}{2\epsilon_0} r}$$

(c) Sketch the electric field as a function of the distance  $r$  from the center of the cylinders. Indicate clearly where  $r=R_1$ ,  $R_2$  and  $R_3$ . Also indicate what function of  $r$  the electric field is (for e.g.,  $E \sim 1/r$ , etc). [6 pts]



3. A conducting spherical shell has inner radius = 10.0cm, outer radius = 15.0cm, and has a  $+3.0\mu\text{C}$  point charge at the center. A charge of  $-3.0\mu\text{C}$  is put on the conductor. [6 pts]

(a) Where on the conductor does the  $-3.0\mu\text{C}$  end up? Explain. [2 pts]

Since  $E=0$  inside the conductor,

$$Q_{\text{enc}} = 0 \quad \text{for} \quad 10\text{cm} < r < 15\text{cm}$$

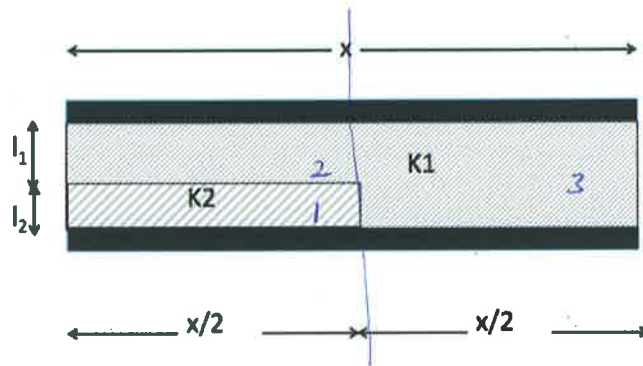
$\Rightarrow -3\mu\text{C}$  needs to be on the  
inner surface of the shell.

(b) What is the electric field both inside and outside the shell? [4 pts]

inside:  $E = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q}{r^2}$

outside:  $E = 0$

4. A parallel-plate capacitor of area  $A$  has a dielectric inside, with dielectric constant  $K_1$ , except for one corner of it which has a different dielectric of dielectric constant  $K_2$  as shown below. Determine the capacitance as a function of  $K_1$ ,  $K_2$  and thicknesses  $l_1$  and  $l_2$ . [10 pts]



Left half:

$$\frac{1}{C_1} = \frac{1}{C_1} + \frac{1}{C_2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\left(\frac{K_2 \epsilon_0 A / 2}{l_2}\right)} + \frac{1}{\left(\frac{K_1 \epsilon_0 A / 2}{l_1}\right)}$$

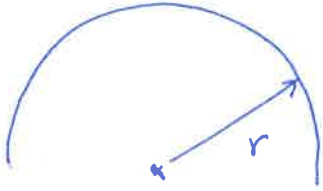
$$= \frac{2 l_2}{K_2 \epsilon_0 A} + \frac{2 l_1}{K_1 \epsilon_0 A}$$

$$C_1 = \frac{\epsilon_0 A}{2} \frac{K_1 K_2}{l_1 K_2 + l_2 K_1}$$

$$C = C_1 + C_3$$

$$C = \frac{\epsilon_0 A}{2} \frac{K_1 K_2}{l_1 K_2 + l_2 K_1} + \frac{K_1 \epsilon_0 A / 2}{(l_1 + l_2)}$$

5. A total charge  $Q$  is uniformly distributed on a thread of length  $l$ . The thread forms a semicircle. What is the potential at the center as a function of  $Q$  and  $l$ ? Assume  $V = 0$  at large distances. [5 pts]



$$\pi r = l$$

$$r = l/\pi$$

$$\begin{aligned} V &= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int \frac{dq}{r} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} \int dq \\ &= \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} = \boxed{\frac{Q}{4\epsilon_0 l} = V} \end{aligned}$$

6. Two parallel-plate air-gap capacitors, each having a capacitance of  $2.00\mu\text{F}$ , are connected in parallel across a  $12.0\text{-V}$  battery. The battery is disconnected from the parallel combination, and then a slab that has a dielectric constant  $K=2.50$  is inserted between the plates of one of the capacitors, completely filling the gap. [13 pts]

(a) Before the dielectric slab is inserted, find the charge on each capacitor. [4 pts]

$$Q_1 = CV$$

$$= (2\mu\text{F})(12\text{V})$$

$$Q_1 = 24\mu\text{C}$$

(b) After the dielectric is inserted, find the potential across each capacitor and the total energy stored in the capacitors. [9 pts]

$$C_{\text{eq}} = C_1 + KC_2 = (2\mu\text{F}) + (2.5)(2\mu\text{F}) = 7\mu\text{F}$$

$$V = \frac{Q_{\text{total}}}{C_{\text{eq}}} = \frac{48}{7} = 6.86\text{V}$$

$$Q_1 = (2\mu\text{F})(6.86) = 13.7\mu\text{C}$$

$$Q_2 = (5\mu\text{F})(6.86) = 34.3\mu\text{C}$$

$$U = U_1 + U_2 = \frac{1}{2}Q_1V + \frac{1}{2}Q_2V$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}(Q_1 + Q_2)V$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}(13.7 + 34.3)(6.86)$$

$$U = 165\mu\text{J}$$

