

EXAMPLE 29.5 Rotating a molecule QUESTION:

EXAMPLE 29.5 Rotating a molecule

The water molecule is a permanent electric dipole with dipole moment 6.2×10^{-30} Cm. A water molecule is aligned in an electric field with field strength 1.0×10^7 N/C. How much energy is needed to rotate the molecule 90°?

Review of electric potential.. • For the space surrounding a point charge, q, the electric potential due to this charge is: $V = \frac{Kq}{r}$

- where V is electric potential [V], K = 8.99×10⁹ Nm²/C², q is the charge [C] (including +/- sign), and r is the distance from q (always positive).
- Potential has an arbitrary zero point. We could have just as correctly written:

$$V = \frac{Kq}{r} + V_0$$

- where V_0 is some constant.
- By convention, we choose V=0 when $r\to\infty$. So $V_0=0$ in the first equation.

Review of electric potential..

• For the space surrounding a point charge, *q*, the electric potential due to this charge is:

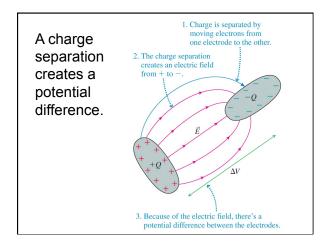
$$V = \frac{Kq}{r}$$

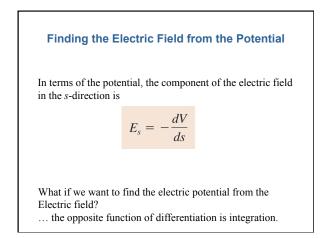
- where V is electric potential [V], K = 8.99×10⁹ Nm²/C², q is the charge [C] (including +/- sign), and r is the distance from q (always positive).
- When two or more charges are present, the total potential is the sum of the potentials of the individual charges.
- A positive test charge tends to accelerate from high *V* to low *V*. It gains kinetic energy as it does this, and we say that this energy comes from the electric potential.

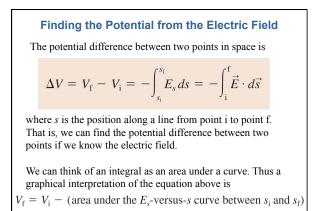
In Class Discussion Question

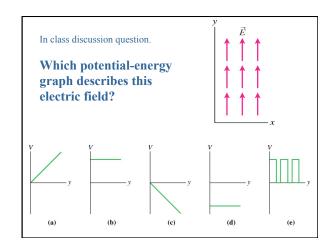
The electric field

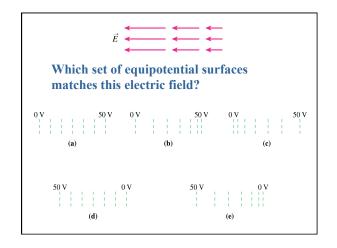
- A. is always perpendicular to an equipotential surface.
- B. is always tangent to an equipotential surface.
- C. always bisects an equipotential surface.
- D. makes an angle to an equipotential surface that depends on the amount of charge.













The potential difference between the terminals of an ideal battery is

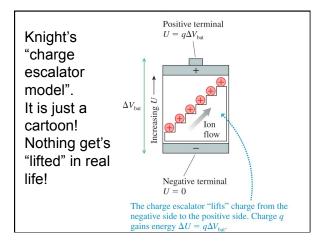
$$W_{\text{bat}} = \frac{W_{\text{chem}}}{q} = \mathcal{E}$$
 (ideal battery)

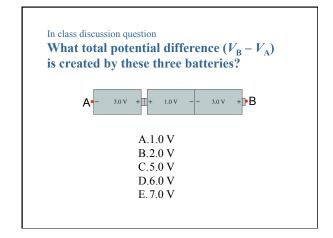
In other words, a battery constructed to have an emf of 1.5V creates a 1.5 V potential difference between its positive and negative terminals.

 Δ

The total potential difference of batteries in series is the sum of their individual terminal voltages:

$$\Delta V_{\text{series}} = \Delta V_1 + \Delta V_2 + \cdots$$
 (batteries in series)





Before Next Class:

• Please finish reading Chapter 30 on "Potential and Field" before Wednesday's class. We will be talking about capacitors.

• MasteringPhysics Problem Set 5, due Wednesday evening, only has 3 problems, but they aren't easy. They test your understanding of Chapter 29.

See you Wednesday!