



e.) Release an electron at D. In what direction will it accelerate? Will it experience a voltage decrease or increase as it moves? Will it experience a potential energy decrease or increase as it moves?



Extra 2:
$$d_{AC} = .7 \text{ m}$$
 $d_{AB} = 1 \text{ m}$ $d_{AD} = .5 \text{ m}$
 $V_A = 45 \text{ volts}$ $V_C = 25 \text{ volts}$ $\theta = 60^\circ$

Note that this problem is completely driven by the relationship $E \bullet d = -(V_{\text{final position}} - V_{\text{initial position}})$

a.) Determine E.

The first thing to notice is that Points B and C are on equipotential lines (they are both as far down stream in the electric field as the other, so both must have the same voltage). That means that $V_B = V_C = 25$ volts. Assume we traversed the distance between points A and B by starting at A, we go a distance "d" WITH the electric field (see sketch). As such:

$$E \bullet d = -(V_{\text{final position}} - V_{\text{initial position}})$$

$$\Rightarrow E d \cos \theta = -(V_{\text{B}} - V_{\text{A}})$$

$$\Rightarrow E (1 \text{ m}) \cos 0^{\circ} = -(25 \text{ volts} - 45 \text{ volts})$$

$$\Rightarrow E = 20 \text{ N} / \text{C}$$



Extra 2:

b.) Determine V_{B}

We've already done this. See Part a.

c.) Determine V_D

Knowing E, assuming we traverse from A to D as the arrow in the sketch shows, and noting that the angle between the line of E and the line of d is $\theta = 90^{\circ} - \delta = 90^{\circ} - 30^{\circ} = 60^{\circ}$, we can write:

$$E \bullet d = -(V_D - V_A)$$

$$\Rightarrow E d \cos \theta = -(V_D - V_A)$$

$$\Rightarrow (20 \text{ N/C}) (.5 \text{ m}) \cos 60^\circ = -(V_D - 45 \text{ volts})$$

$$\Rightarrow V_D = 40 \text{ volts}$$



Extra 2:

d.) Determine V_D another way.

We still know E, but we could assume that we traverse from D to A as the arrow in the sketch shows. Noting in that case the angle between the line of E and the line of d is ϕ , we can write:

$$E \bullet d = -(V_D - V_A)$$

$$\Rightarrow E d \cos \phi = -(V_A - V_D)$$

$$\Rightarrow (20 \text{ N/C}) (.5 \text{ m}) \cos 120^\circ = -(45 \text{ volts} - V_D)$$

$$\Rightarrow V_D = 40 \text{ volts}$$

$$\phi = 90^{\circ} + \gamma = 90^{\circ} + 30^{\circ} = 120^{\circ}$$

SAME ANSWER AS PART C

Note: It doesn't matter which way you traverse as long as you get the angle right and be consistent with your voltage difference.

Extra 2:

e.) Release an electron at D. In what direction will it accelerate?

If allowed to freely accelerate, electrons always accelerate opposite the direction of the E-fld. In this case, it will take off parallel to the E-fld but moving upstream (physically downward and to the left). (Note:That doesn't mean you can't force an electron to go down stream. It just isn't something an electron would do naturally.



Will it experience a voltage decrease or increase as it moves?

If protons move from higher voltage to lower voltage, electrons will move from lower voltage to higher voltage.

Will it experience a potential energy decrease or increase as it moves?

All object naturally tend from higher to lower potential energy. What's tricky here is that a lower voltage multiplied by a negative number (remember, $U_{e^-} = (-q)V$) is bigger than a higher voltage multiplied by a negative number. Electrons flow from points at which they have higher potential energy to points where they have lower potential energy.