

Problem set 4:

The following problems from Jackson:

Chapter 4: 1, 2

Chapter 5: 19, 22

Dipoles: Assume you have a dipole (electric or magnetic) at the coordinate \vec{r} . This can be thought of as due to a negative charge (electric or “magnetic”) $-q$ at \vec{r} and a positive charge q at $\vec{r} + \vec{d}$, where \vec{d} is an infinitesimal vector (and we can define $\vec{p} = q\vec{d}$ as the dipole moment).

- (a) Calculate the field around the dipole.
- (b) Derive a formula for the *force* acting on this dipole in an external field.
- (c) Imagine you now have two such moments, \vec{p}_1 and \vec{p}_2 . Derive a general formula for the force between them.
- (d) For a given small separation between the two dipoles, with say \vec{p}_2 pointing in an arbitrary direction, which orientation of \vec{p}_1 is more likely to result in binding between them: When \vec{p}_1 lies (i) parallel or (ii) perpendicular to the connecting line between them.