

[gex66] **Electrostatic field of three point charges**

Consider three point charges  $q_1 = 1\text{nC}$ ,  $q_2 = 2\text{nC}$ , and  $q_3 = 3\text{nC}$  positioned at  $\mathbf{x}_1 = 1\hat{\mathbf{i}}\text{cm}$ ,  $\mathbf{x}_2 = 2\hat{\mathbf{j}}\text{cm}$ , and  $\mathbf{x}_3 = 3\hat{\mathbf{k}}\text{cm}$ , respectively.

(a) Find the electric field at position  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$  and express it in the form  $\mathbf{E} = (E_x\hat{\mathbf{i}} + E_y\hat{\mathbf{j}} + E_z\hat{\mathbf{k}})\text{N/C}$  with explicit numerical values of the three components in SI units.

(b) Find the position  $\mathbf{x}'$  between the three charges at which the electrostatic field vanishes.

Hint: For part (b) Use the `NSolve` command and identify the sole physically meaningful solution.

**Solution:**