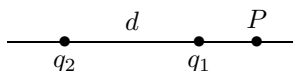


9. At points between the charges, the individual electric fields are in the same direction and do not cancel. Charge  $q_2$  has a greater magnitude than charge  $q_1$ , so a point of zero field must be closer to  $q_1$  than to  $q_2$ . It must be to the right of  $q_1$  on the diagram.



We put the origin at  $q_2$  and let  $x$  be the coordinate of  $P$ , the point where the field vanishes. Then, the total electric field at  $P$  is given by

$$E = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left( \frac{q_2}{x^2} - \frac{q_1}{(x-d)^2} \right)$$

where  $q_1$  and  $q_2$  are the magnitudes of the charges. If the field is to vanish,

$$\frac{q_2}{x^2} = \frac{q_1}{(x-d)^2} .$$

We take the square root of both sides to obtain  $\sqrt{q_2}/x = \sqrt{q_1}/(x-d)$ . The solution for  $x$  is

$$\begin{aligned} x &= \left( \frac{\sqrt{q_2}}{\sqrt{q_2} - \sqrt{q_1}} \right) d \\ &= \left( \frac{\sqrt{4.0q_1}}{\sqrt{4.0q_1} - \sqrt{q_1}} \right) d \\ &= \left( \frac{2.0}{2.0 - 1.0} \right) d = 2.0d \\ &= (2.0)(50 \text{ cm}) = 100 \text{ cm} . \end{aligned}$$

The point is 50 cm to the right of  $q_1$ .