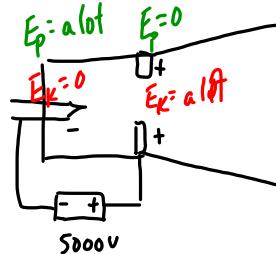


Example

In an electron gun, electrons are emitted by a hot filament in a process called thermionic emission. The electrons are then accelerated across a gap towards a positive electrode (the anode). The potential difference between the filament and the anode is 5000V.



Determine:

- a) the electric potential energy of the electrons at the filament

$$\Delta E_p = V e$$

$$\Delta E_p = (5000 \text{ J C}^{-1})(1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C})$$

$$\Delta E_p = 8.0 \times 10^{-16} \text{ J}$$

← electric potential energy.

- b) the gain in kinetic energy of the electrons as they reach the anode.

$$\text{loss in } E_p = \text{gain in } E_k$$

$$\therefore \Delta E_k = 8.0 \times 10^{-16} \text{ J}$$

- c) the speed of the electrons as they pass through the hole in the anode (assuming they start from rest)

$$E_k \text{ final} = 8.0 \times 10^{-16} \text{ J} \quad (\text{since } E_k \text{ initial} = 0)$$

$$E_k = \frac{1}{2} m v^2$$

$$v^2 = \frac{2 E_k}{m}$$

mass of electron

$$v^2 = \frac{2(8.0 \times 10^{-16} \text{ J})}{(9.1 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg})}$$

$$v = 4.2 \times 10^7 \text{ m s}^{-1}$$

Example

An alpha particle is a helium nucleus. It is stable and consists of 2 neutrons + 2 protons. The alpha particle is positively charged ( $2e = 2(1.6 \times 10^{-19} C) = 3.2 \times 10^{-19} C$ )

Recall Rutherford used alpha particles in his "Gold Foil Experiment" to investigate the structure of the gold atoms.

He accelerated alpha particles across a large potential difference such that their kinetic energy was  $3.6 \times 10^{-16} J$ . The mass of the alpha particle is  $6.7 \times 10^{-27} kg$ .

Determine the speed of the alpha particles:

$$E_k = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$$

$$v^2 = \frac{2E_k}{m}$$

$$v^2 = \frac{2(3.6 \times 10^{-16} J)}{6.7 \times 10^{-27} kg}$$

$$v = 3.3 \times 10^5 m s^{-1}$$

Determine the potential difference needed to accelerate them from rest to this speed.

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} E_{k\text{ initial}} = 0 \\ E_{k\text{ final}} = 3.6 \times 10^{-16} J \end{array} \right\} \Delta E_k = 3.6 \times 10^{-16} J$$

$$V = \frac{\Delta E_k}{q}$$

$$V = \frac{3.6 \times 10^{-16} J}{3.2 \times 10^{-19} C}$$

$$V = 1.1 \times 10^3 V$$

*potential difference (quantity)*      *volts (unit)*

### The electronvolt (eV)

The joule is not very convenient to use when working with very small objects. (like subatomic particles)

Atomic + Nuclear Physicists use the electronvolt

The electron volt is not an SI unit.

(The work done on a charge of "e" across a pot. diff. of 1 V)

$$V = \frac{\Delta W}{q}$$

$$\Delta W = Vq$$

$$\Delta W = V \cdot e$$

$$\Delta W = (1 \text{ J C}^{-1})(1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C})$$

$$\boxed{\Delta W = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}}$$

$$\therefore \underset{\text{unit}}{1 \text{ eV}} = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$$

$$3.2(1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}) \\ 3.2(1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J})$$

### Example

An electron accelerates across a pot. diff of  $1.0 \times 10^3 \text{ V}$ .

What is its KE in J?

$$\Delta E_K = Vq$$

$$\Delta E_K = (1.0 \times 10^3 \text{ J C}^{-1})(1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C})$$

$$\boxed{\Delta E_K = 1.6 \times 10^{-16} \text{ J}}$$

What is its KE in eV?

$$\Delta E_K = 1.6 \times 10^{-16} \text{ J} \left( \frac{1 \text{ eV}}{1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}} \right)$$

$$\boxed{\Delta E_K = 1.0 \times 10^3 \text{ eV}}$$

$$\text{Recall } V = 1.0 \times 10^3 \text{ V}$$

match

If an electron accelerates across a pot. diff of  $5.0 \times 10^3 \text{ V}$   $\Rightarrow E_K = 5.0 \times 10^3 \text{ eV}$

## §6.2 Electric Force + Field

- Greeks → tried to explain the attraction/repulsion of objects that had been rubbed together.
- proposed the idea of an electric charge.
- positive and negative charges
- like charges repel and unlike charges attract

Electrostatics → Study of <sup>the effect of</sup> stationary charges.

### Law of Conservation of Charge

In any closed system, the algebraic sum of all the charges remains constant

#### Conductors

- a material that allows the flow of electric charge.
- charges must be free to move.
- metals, ionic solution, graphite.

carbon has 4 valence electrons  
3 involved in bonding  
1 electron is left and delocalized  
between the layers of atoms.

#### Insulators

- materials that do not have any free charges to move → they do not allow the flow of electric charge.
- nothing is a perfect insulator.
- a high enough potential difference can cause the charges to move.

#### Semiconductor

- a material like Silicon in which a conduction band exists, but normally without any electrons.
- electrons can be excited (heat or light) into the conduction band and now the material is conducting.

## Coulomb's Law

- late 1700s

- Coulomb used a torsion balance to measure the force of attraction/repulsion between charged objects.

- Coulomb found:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} F &\propto q_1 \\ F &\propto q_2 \\ F &\propto \frac{1}{r^2} \end{aligned} \right\} \quad F \propto \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2}$$

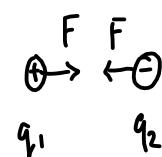
### Coulomb's Law

- applies to point charges.



- the forces on each object are related by Newton's Third Law

- the force between the two charges is a mutual force.



- the magnitude of the force between the two charges depends on the medium in which the charges are located.

We will worry about air or a vacuum.

$$F \propto \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2}$$

$$F = k \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2}$$

Where  $k = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0}$  and  $\epsilon_0$  is the permittivity of free space.

(vacuum)

$$(k = 8.99 \times 10^9 \text{ N m}^2 \text{ C}^{-2}) \quad (8.85 \times 10^{-12} \text{ C}^2 \text{ N}^{-1} \text{ m}^{-2})$$

a fundamental constant.

Example

Determine the force between a  $+2.5\text{nC}$  charge and a  $-5.0\text{nC}$  charge placed 2.5 mm apart.

attractive  $\rightarrow$  unlike charges

$$F = \frac{kq_1q_2}{r^2}$$

$\nwarrow$  magnitude of force.

do not put signs on charges

$$F = \frac{(8.99 \times 10^9 \text{ N m}^2 \text{ C}^{-2})(2.5 \times 10^{-9} \text{ C})(5.0 \times 10^{-9} \text{ C})}{(2.5 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m})^2}$$

$$F = 1.8 \times 10^{-2} \text{ N}$$

Example

The force between two point charges is  $6.0 \times 10^{-6} \text{ N}$

What is the force between them if the charge on one of them is halved and the distance is doubled?

$$F = \frac{kq_1q_2}{r^2}$$

$$(\text{new force}) \quad F' = \frac{k\left(\frac{q_1}{2}\right)q_2}{(2r)^2}$$

$$F' = \frac{\frac{1}{2}kq_1q_2}{4r^2}$$

$$F' = \frac{1}{8} \frac{kq_1q_2}{r^2}$$

$$F' = \frac{1}{8} F$$

$$F' = \frac{1}{8} (6.0 \times 10^{-6} \text{ N})$$

$$F' = 7.5 \times 10^{-7} \text{ N}$$

Field

- a region in space where a force is experienced

by:

a test mass  $\rightarrow$  gravitational field

a test charge  $\rightarrow$  electric field

a test pole

a test current element }  $\rightarrow$  magnetic field

Electric Field

A region of space throughout which an electric test charge experiences an electrical force.

The direction of the field is the direction of the force on a positive test charge

Electric Field Strength

The electric field strength  $\vec{E}$  at a point in space is defined as the force per unit charge on a small positive test charge placed at that point.

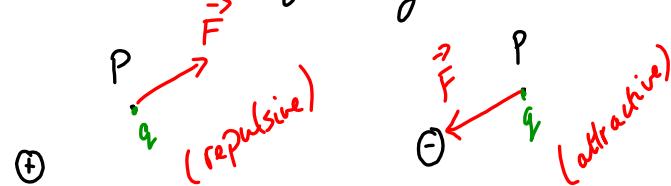
$$\vec{E} = \frac{\vec{F}}{q} \quad \leftarrow \text{do not put a sign on } q.$$

Where  $\vec{E}$  is the electric field strength ( $N C^{-1}$ )

$\vec{F}$  is the force on the test charge ( $N$ ) due to the field at  $P$ .

$q$  is the charge on the small positive test charge ( $C$ )

$\vec{E}$  is a vector quantity



Gravitational

Force

$$F = \frac{Gm_1 m_2}{r^2}$$

$$\text{Field Strength } g = \frac{F}{m}$$

Electric

$$F = \frac{kq_1 q_2}{r^2}$$

$$E = \frac{F}{q}$$

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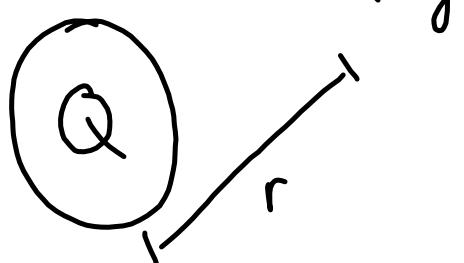
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Field Strength  
(at a certain)  
point  
due to a source

$$g = \frac{GM}{r^2}$$

$$E = \frac{kQ}{r^2}$$

Electric Field Strength due to a single point charge:



$$F = \frac{kQq}{r^2}$$

$$E = \frac{\frac{kQq}{r^2}}{q}$$

$$E = \frac{kQ}{r^2}$$

Where Q is  
the source charge.

## Acceleration of a charged body in an electric field

Consider an object of mass  $m$  and carrying a charge  $q$  which is placed in an electric field strength  $\vec{E}$ :

$$\vec{E} = \frac{\vec{F}}{q}$$

$$\vec{F} = q\vec{E}$$

$$\vec{F}_{\text{net}} = m\vec{a}$$

$$q\vec{E} = m\vec{a}$$

$$\vec{a} = \frac{q\vec{E}}{m}$$

(the force experienced by charge  $q$ )

### Example

Calculate the acceleration of an electron in an electric field of strength  $100\text{NC}^{-1}$

$$q = 1.60 \times 10^{-19}\text{C}$$

$$m = 9.11 \times 10^{-31}\text{kg}$$

$$a = \frac{qE}{m}$$

$$a = \frac{(1.60 \times 10^{-19}\text{C})(100\text{NC}^{-1})}{(9.11 \times 10^{-31}\text{kg})}$$

$\text{kg ms}^{-2}$

Huge!

$$a = 1.76 \times 10^{13}\text{ms}^{-2}$$

Example

A small oil droplet carries a positive charge of  $3.0 \times 10^{-9} \text{ C}$ . When the oil droplet is placed in an electric field there is a force on the droplet of  $1.5 \times 10^{-5} \text{ N}$  to the right.

What is the strength of the electric field at this point?

What is the acceleration of the oil droplet if its mass is  $1.5 \text{ mg}$ ?

$$\vec{E} = \frac{\vec{F}}{q}$$

$$\vec{E} = \frac{1.5 \times 10^{-5} \text{ N}[R]}{3.0 \times 10^{-9} \text{ C}}$$

$$\vec{E} = 0.50 \times 10^4 \text{ NC}^{-1}[R]$$

$$\vec{E} = 5.0 \times 10^3 \text{ NC}^{-1}[R]$$

$$\vec{F} = m\vec{a}$$

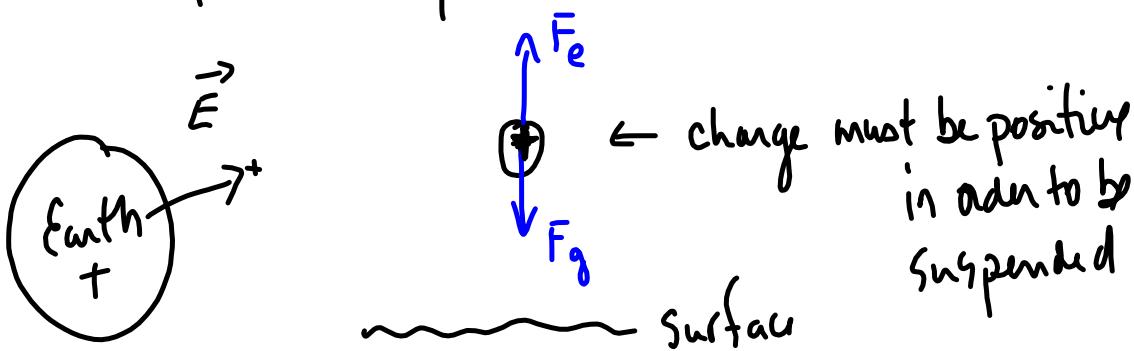
$$\vec{a} = \frac{\vec{F}}{m}$$

$$\vec{a} = \frac{1.5 \times 10^{-5} \text{ N}[R]}{1.5 \times 10^{-6} \text{ kg}}$$

$$\vec{a} = 10 \text{ m s}^{-2}[R]$$

Example

Delicate measurements indicate that the Earth has an electric field surrounding it similar to that around a positively charged sphere. Its magnitude at the Earth's surface is about  $100 \text{ N C}^{-1}$ . What charge would an oil drop of mass  $2.0 \times 10^{-15} \text{ kg}$  have to have, in order to remain suspended by the Earth's electric field?



$$\bar{F}_e = \bar{F}_g$$

$$qE = mg$$

$$q = \frac{mg}{E}$$

$$q = \frac{(2.0 \times 10^{-15} \text{ kg})(9.8 \text{ m s}^{-2})}{100 \text{ N C}^{-1}}$$

$$q = 2.0 \times 10^{-16} \text{ C}$$

## Drift Speed of Charge Carriers

$$\underline{I} = n A v q$$

$$v = \frac{\underline{I}}{n A q}$$

Where  $v$  is the drift speed ( $\text{ms}^{-1}$ )

$I$  is the current ( $\text{A}$  or  $\text{Cs}^{-1}$ )

$n$  is the density of charge carriers (free electron density)  
 $(\text{electrons/m}^3)$

$q$  is the charge on the charge carrier ( $\text{C}$ )

$$q = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C for electron}$$

$A$  is the cross-sectional area of the wire ( $\text{m}^2$ )

