



# Electromagnetic waves

## Lecture 3

### Static Electric Field with Coordinates

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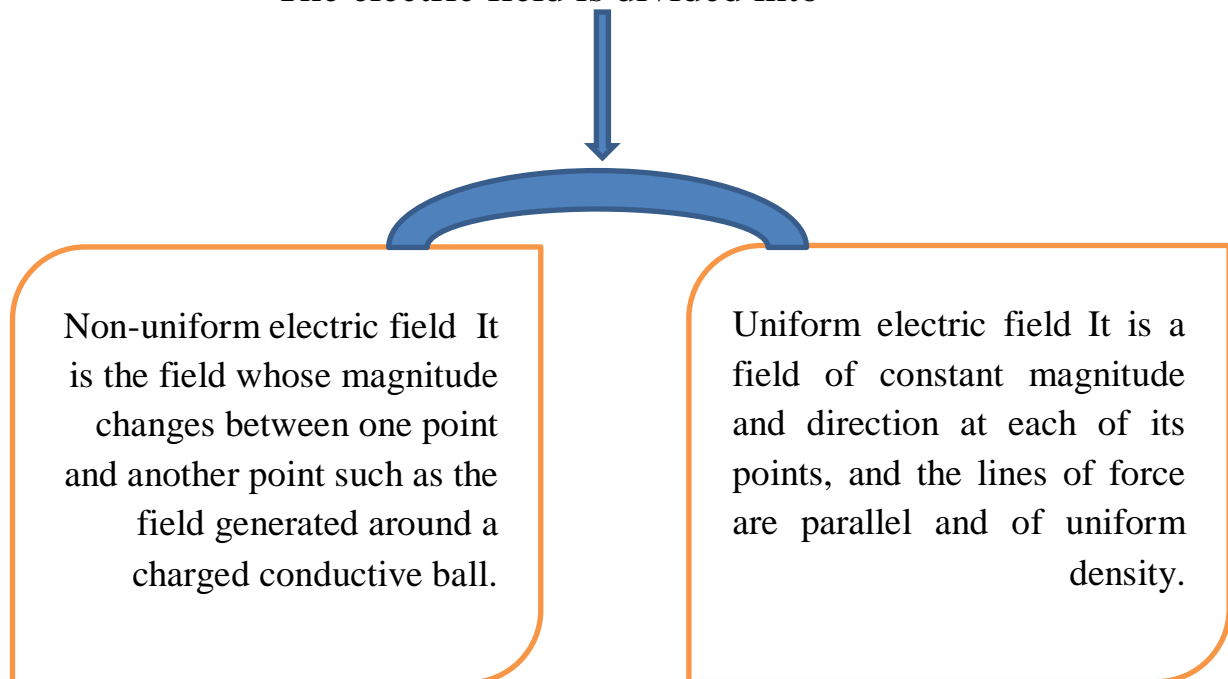
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## ❖ Electric field

- E-field is the physical field that surrounds electrically charged particles and exerts force on all other charged particles in the field, either attracting or repelling them.
- The electric field is represented by lines called lines of electric force or electric field lines.
- Electric fields originate from electric charges, or from time-varying magnetic fields.
- Electric fields and magnetic fields are both manifestations of the electromagnetic force.
- Electric fields are important in many areas of physics, and are exploited practically in electrical technology.
- In atomic physics and chemistry, for instance, the electric field is the attractive force holding the atomic nucleus and electrons together in atoms. It is also the force responsible for chemical bonding between atoms that result in molecules .
- The electric field is defined mathematically as a vector field that associates to each point in space the (electrostatic or Coulomb) force per unit of charge exerted on an infinitesimal positive test charge at rest at that point.
- The derived SI units for the electric field are volts per meter (V/m), exactly equivalent to newtons per coulomb (N/C).

The electric field is divided into



## ❖ Characteristics of electric field lines:

- 1- It originates from the positive charge and is perpendicular to the charged surface and is directed towards the negative charge.
- 2-The tangent represents the direction of the electric field.
- 3-Electric field lines do not intersect with some of them.

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

$$\mathbf{E} = K (q)/r^2 \quad \text{The equation of the field for a single charge}$$

**Example** :- Two parallel plates charged with equal amounts of charge and different in type, placed a charge of ( $2 \times 10^{-6}$  C) at the point (a) and was affected by an electric force of ( $6 \times 10^{-4}$  N) in the direction of the field lines.

1- What kind of shipment ?

2- Calculate the magnitude of the electric field at point (a) ?

Sol:-

1- positive charge .

$$2- E = F/q$$

$$E = 6 \times 10^{-4} / 2 \times 10^{-6}$$

$$E = 3 \times 10^{-4} \times 10^6$$

$$E = 3 \times 10^2 \text{ N/C}$$

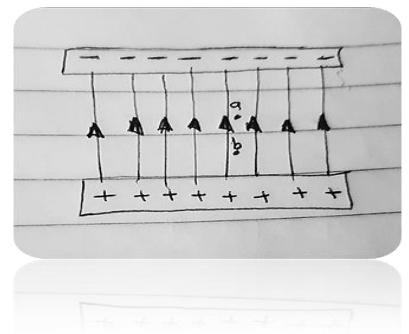
Example: A charged conductive sphere has a charge (100 PC) and a radius (1cm).

Calculate:-

1-The electric field is at a point (50 cm) away from its center?

2-The electric field on its surface?

3-Electric field at a point inside the sphere?



Sol:-

1-  $E = K(q)/r^2$

$$E = 9 \times 10^9 \times 100 \times 10^{-12} / (50 \times 10^{-2})^2$$

$$E = 9 \times 10^9 \times 100 \times 10^{-12} / (5 \times 10^{-1})^2$$

$$E = 9 \times 10^9 \times 100 \times 10^{-12} / 25 \times 10^{-2}$$

$$E = 36 \times 10^{-1} \text{ N/C}$$

2-  $E = K(q)/r^2$

$$E = 9 \times 10^9 \times 100 \times 10^{-12} / (1 \times 10^{-2})^2$$

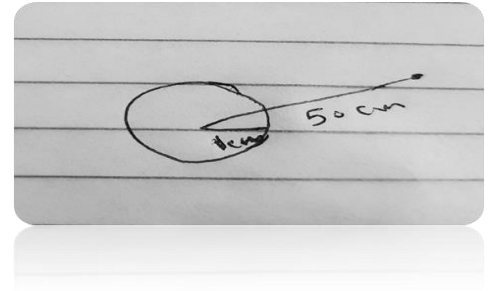
$$E = 900 \times 10^{-3} / 10^{-4}$$

$$E = 900 \times 10^{-3} \times 10^4$$

$$E = 900 \times 10^{+1} \text{ N/C}$$

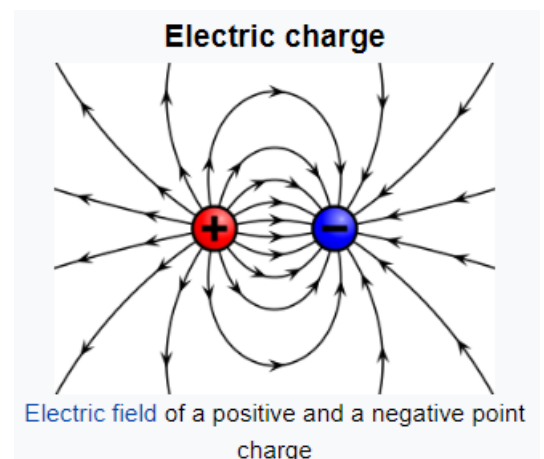
$$E = 900 \text{ N/C}$$

3 -  $E = 0$



### ❖ Electric Charge

- Electric charge is the basic physical property of matter that causes it to experience a force when kept in an electric or magnetic field.
- An electric charge is associated with an electric field, and the moving electric charge generates a magnetic field. A combination of electric and magnetic fields is known as the electromagnetic field. Interaction of the charges generates an electromagnetic force which is the foundation of Physics.
- Electric charges are of two types: Positive and Negative, commonly carried by charge carriers protons and electrons.
- Examples of the types of charges are subatomic particles or the particles of matter: protons are positively charged, electrons are negatively charged, neutrons have zero charge.



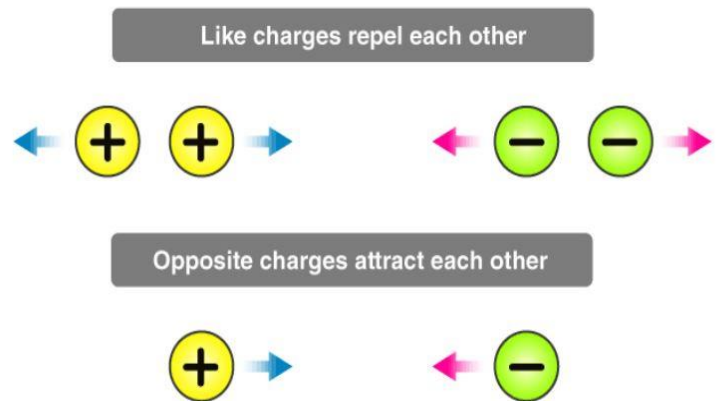
- Negative Charge when an object has a negative charge it means that it has more electrons than protons.
- Positive Charge when an object has a positive charge it means that it has more protons than electrons.
- When there is an identical number of positive and negative charges, the negative and positive charges would cancel out each other and the object would become neutral.

### ❖ Properties of Electric Charge

- Additivity of Electric Charge  
consider a system of charges containing  $q_1$ ,  $q_2$ , and  $q_3$ . The total charge of the system can be obtained by algebraically adding the three charges.

$$Q = q_1 + q_2 + q_3$$

These charges have magnitude but no direction, are scalar quantities.



- Conservation of Electric Charge

We have two objects, one has some charge and the other having no charge are made to come in contact with each other, the charge is transferred from the object possessing some charge to the object possessing no charge until the charge is equally distributed over the whole system.

- Quantization of Electric Charge

According to the principle of quantization of electric charge, all the free charges are integral multiples of a basic predefined unit, which we denote by  $e$ . Thus, the charge possessed by a system can be given as,

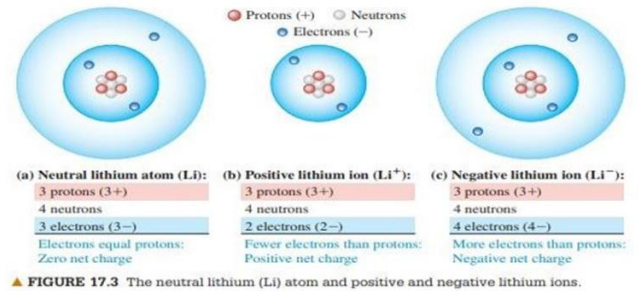
$$q = ne$$

Where  $n$  is an integer (zero, a positive or a negative number) and  $e$  is the basic unit of charge, that is, the charge carried by an electron or a proton. The value of  $e$  is  $1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{C}$ .

An **ion** is an atom that has lost or gained one or more electrons. If one or more electrons are removed, the remaining positively charged structure is called a **positive ion** (Figure 17.3b).

A negative ion is an atom that has gained one or more electrons (Figure 17.3c).

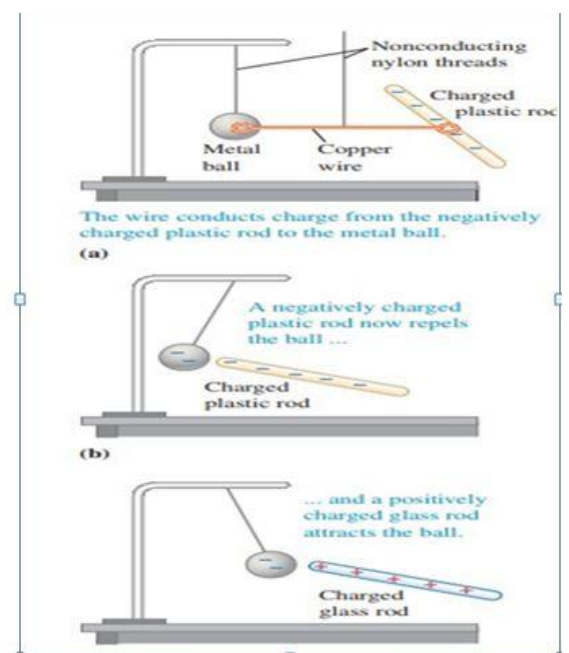
This gaining or losing of electrons is called ionization. Ordinarily, when an ion is formed, the structure of the nucleus is unchanged.



experience

Conductors and Insulators Some materials permit electric charge to move from one region of the material to another; others do not. For example, Figure 17.4 shows a copper wire supported by a nylon thread. Suppose you touch one end of the wire to a charged plastic rod and touch the other

end to a metal ball that is initially uncharged. When you remove the copper wire and bring another charged object near the ball, the ball is attracted or repelled, showing that it has become electrically charged. Electric charge has been transferred through the copper wire between the ball and the surface of the plastic rod. The wire is called a conductor of electricity. If you repeat the experiment, but this time using a rubber band or nylon thread in place of the wire, you find that no charge is transferred to the ball. These materials are called insulators. Conductors permit charge to move through them; insulators do not. Carpet fibers on a dry day are good insulators and allow charge to build up on us as we walk across the carpet. Coating the fibers with an antistatic layer that does not easily transfer electrons to or from our shoes is one solution to the charge-buildup problem; another is to wind some of the fibers around conducting cores. Most of the materials we call metals are good conductors, and most nonmetals are insulators. Within a solid metal such as copper, one or more outer electrons in each atom become detached and can move freely throughout the material, just as the molecules of a gas can move through the spaces between the grains in a bucket of sand. The other electrons remain bound to the positively charged nuclei, which themselves are bound in fixed positions within the material. In an insulator, there are no, or at most very few, free electrons, and electric



charge cannot move freely through the material. Some materials called semiconductors are intermediate in their properties between good conductors and good insulators. Unlike copper, which is always a good conductor, no matter what you do to it, or rubber, which is always a bad conductor, no matter what you do to it, a semiconductor such as silicon can be engineered to have a controllable conductivity.

▲ Figure 17.4 Charging by conduction. A copper wire is a good conductor. (a) The wire conducts charge between the plastic rod and the metal ball, giving the ball a negative charge. The charged ball is then (b) repelled by a like charge and (c) attracted by an unlike charge.

- The earth acquires a negative charge that is equal in magnitude to the induced positive charge remaining on the sphere.
- **In fact**, when we study electric currents, we will find that, for historical reasons, currents in wires are described as though the moving charges were positive. When excess charge is placed on a solid conductor and is at rest (i.e., an electrostatic situation), the excess charge rests entirely on the surface of the conductor. If there were excess charge in the interior of the conductor, there would be electric forces among the excess charges that would cause them to move

### ❖ Coulomb's law

- The law states that the magnitude of the electrostatic force of attraction or repulsion between two point charges is directly proportional to the product of the magnitudes of charges and inversely proportional to the square of the distance between them
- Coulomb's law was essential to the development of the theory of electromagnetism, maybe even its starting point, as it made it possible to discuss the quantity of electric charge in a meaningful way.
- The Coulomb's Law is given by the expression:

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

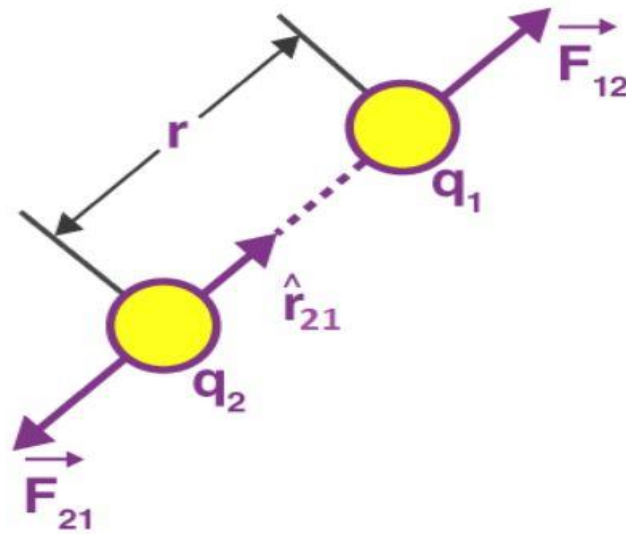
where  $F_e$  is the electric force

$q_1$  and  $q_2$  are electric charges,

$k$  is the Coulomb's constant  $8.988 \times 10^9 \text{ N}\cdot\text{m}^2/\text{C}^2$  or  $9 \times 10^9 \text{ N}\cdot\text{m}^2/\text{C}^2$

$r$  is the distance of separation.

## Coulomb's Law in Vector Form



$$\vec{F}_{12} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_1 q_2}{r_{12}^2} \hat{r}_{12}$$

$$\vec{F}_{12} = -\vec{F}_{21}$$

Here  $F_{12}$  is the force exerted by  $q_1$  on  $q_2$  and  $F_{21}$  is the force exerted by  $q_2$  on  $q_1$ .

Coulomb's law holds for stationary charges only, which are point sized. This law obeys Newton's third law

The value of  $1/4\pi\epsilon_0$  is equal to  $9 \times 10^9 \text{ Nm}^2/\text{C}^2$ .

## Limitations of Coulomb's Law

- The law is applicable only for the point charges at rest.
- Coulomb's Law can only be applied in those cases where the inverse square law is obeyed.
- It is difficult to implement Coulomb's law where charges are in arbitrary shape because in such cases, we cannot determine the distance between the charges.
- The law can't be used directly to calculate the charge on the big planets.



**Example** :- The figure shows three point charges  $q_1, q_2, q_3$  calculate the force acting on the charge  $q_1$

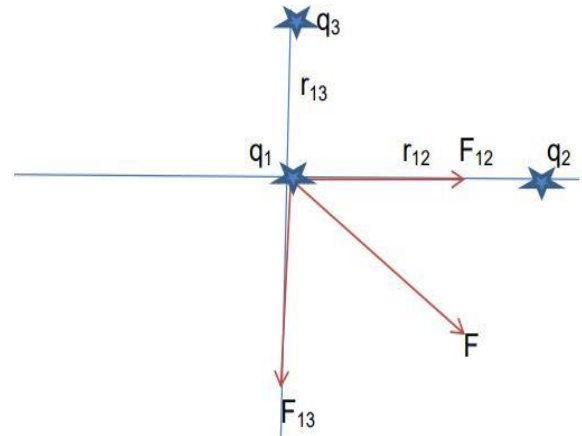
$$q_1 = 1 \times 10^{-6} \text{ C} \quad q_2 = -3.6 \times 10^{-6} \text{ C} \quad q_3 = 4.8 \times 10^{-6} \text{ C} \quad r_{13} = 4 \text{ m} \quad r_{12} = 3 \text{ m}$$

**Solution** :-

$$F_{12} = 9 \times 10^9 \frac{(1 \times 10^{-6})(3.6 \times 10^{-6})}{9} = 36 \times 10^{-4} \text{ N}$$

$$F_{13} = 9 \times 10^9 \frac{(1 \times 10^{-6})(4.8 \times 10^{-6})}{16} = 27 \times 10^{-4} \text{ N}$$

$$F = \sqrt{F_{12}^2 + F_{13}^2} = \sqrt{(36 \times 10^{-4})^2 + (27 \times 10^{-4})^2} = 45 \times 10^{-4} \text{ N}$$



**Example**:-

What distance must separate two charges of  $+5.6 \times 10^{-4} \text{ C}$  and  $-6.3 \times 10^{-4} \text{ C}$  in order to have an electric potential energy with a magnitude of 5.0 J in the system of the two charges ?

**Solution** :-

The magnitude of the electric Potential energy  $E_p$  of a system of two charges  $q_1$  and  $q_2$

Separated by a distance  $r$  is given by

$$E_p = K|q_1||q_2|/r$$

Solve for  $r$

$$r = k q_1 q_2 / E_p = 9.00 \times 10^9 \times 5.6 \times 10^{-4} \times 6.3 \times 10^{-4} / 5.0 = 6.35 \times 10^2 \text{ m}$$

**Example:-**

A Positive charge  $q$  exerts a force of magnitude  $-0.20$  N on another charge  $-2q$ . Find the magnitude of each charge if the distance separating them is equal to  $50$  cm.

Solution :-

The force that  $q$  exert on  $2q$  is given by Coulomb's law

$$F = k(q)(-2q) / r^2, \quad r = 0.5\text{m}, \quad F = -0.20 \text{ N},$$

$$-0.2 = -2q^2 k / 0.5^2$$

$$q^2 = 0.2 \times 0.5^2 / (2k)$$

$$q = \sqrt{[(0.2 \times 0.5^2 / (2 \times 9 \times 10^9))]2} = 1.66 \times 10^{-6} \text{ C}$$

$$q = 1.66 \times 10^{-6} \text{ C}$$

$$-2q = -3.23 \times 10^{-6} \text{ C}$$

**Example:-** in the radioactive decay of uranium  ${}_{92}^{238}\text{U}$  it was the alpha minute (the nucleus of a helium atom)  ${}_{2}^4\text{He}$  emitted on a distance  $(9 \times 10^{-15} \text{ m})$  from the center of the remaining nucleus of thorium  ${}_{90}^{234}\text{Th}$  calculate :-

1-The force acting on the alpha minute, which is at this aforementioned dimension

2-Acceleration of an alpha minute at the same distance

Solution:-

$$1- F = K \frac{q_1 q_2}{r_{12}^2}$$

$$q_1 = 2 \times 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}, \quad q_2 = 90 \times 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$$

$$F = 9 \times 10^9 \frac{2 \times 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \times 90 \times 1.6 \times 10^{-19}}{(9 \times 10^{-15})^2}$$

$$F = 5.12 \times 10^2 \text{ N}$$

$$2- m_p = 1.6 \times 10^{-27} \text{ Kg}$$

$$F = ma$$

$$a = \frac{F}{m} = \frac{5.12 \times 10^2}{2 \times 1.67 \times 10^{-27}} \text{ m/sec}^2$$

- ❖ **Homework** :- A small metal ball bearing a charge of  $(+2C)$  is placed (20 cm) away from a similar ball bearing a charge of  $(-1C)$ . At any point on the straight line connecting two charges, another ball of positive charge must be placed, so that the force acting on it is zero.

