

1 | Electrostatics

1.1 | Conduction vs Insulation

- Charge can flow through or over the surface of conductors:
 - Metals, graphite, plasma
- Insulators do not allow charge to flow along or through them.

1.2 | Transferred and Induced Charges

- Charge can jump from a charged object to an uncharged object, sometimes through insulators depending on voltage.
- A charged object can induce a temporary charge **migration** in an uncharged object, but the entire object is still neutral.

1.3 | Coulomb's Law

$$F\vec{F} = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left(\frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2} \right) = k \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2}$$

$$k = 8.99 \times 10^5 \frac{Nm^2}{C^2}$$

Variable	Units	Description
q_1, q_2	Coulomb (C)	The charge of each particle
r	Meters (m)	Distance between centers of charges

ϵ_0 and k are different ways of representing the constant.

1.3.1 | Signs

Be very careful with signs:

If $\vec{F} < 0$, charges repel each other.

If $\vec{F} > 0$, charges attract each other.

1.3.2 | Multiple Charges

You have to calculate each pairwise charge, and then add them up for each particle. This is normal (vector) addition, so you can actually add them (to get a vector field) and then apply it to a test particle directly.

1.3.3 | Fields

$$F_{elec} = k \frac{Q_1 Q_2}{R^2}$$

$$F_{grav} = G \frac{M_1 M_2}{R^2}$$

$$F_{elec} = \mathbf{E}Q_1$$

You can add fields together component-wise to get a combined field from multiple charged particles.
