

# Lecture 2

## Introduction 1

## Outline for the first 4 weeks: Electrostatic

Lecture 1: General **BUT** very important considerations for a smooth course Ve230

Lecture 2: Introduction 1  
Lecture 3: Introduction 2

} Review of the mains concepts  
bringing to Maxwell's equations

Lectures 4-7: Coordinate system and Scalar versus Vector fields Operators

Lectures 8: Gauss law in Electrostatics

Lectures 9&10: Conductors and Dipoles

Lectures 11&12: Dielectrics

Lectures 13: Potential and Energy

Lectures 1 to 5 are absolutely crucial for the term



# Establishing Maxwell's equations without a single mathematical manipulation: Getting a flavor of the main concepts

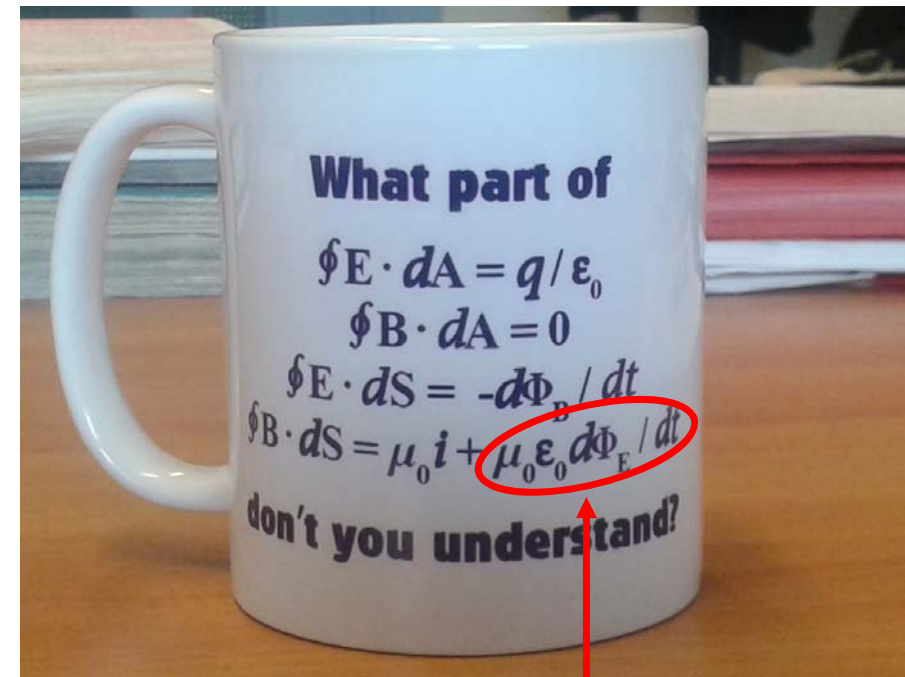
A physical understanding is a:

- Completely unmathematical
- Imprecise
- Inexact

... theory...

... but absolutely necessary for physicist

... *R. Feynman*



Maxwell's major contribution

## Electricity is all around

- Phone
- Microphone
- Electric clock
- Calculator
- TV
- Video
- Computer
- Light (EM wave)
- Stars
- Car/train/plane
- Nerves
- Cells
- Vision
- Heart beats owing to electricity
- Thinking requires electricity

Since the Greeks (600 BC) we know that amber (electrons) attract dry leaves



Benjamin Franklin (1750): concept of electrical fluid

Two types of electricity

A = Glass

B = Amber

A – A repel

B – B repel

A – B attract

All substances are penetrated by electric fluid

## Electricity is all around

**\*\*Question #1** What is the working principle of a touch screen in smartphones?

Answer to **\*\*Question #1**

Faraday's discovery: Wait for Lecture on capacitor

## Concepts reviewed in the next two lectures

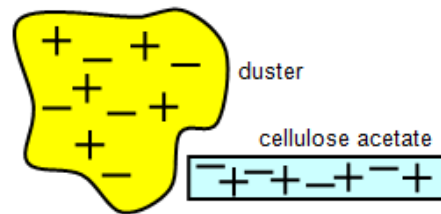
- Charge
- Charge conservation
- Force
- Superposition principle
- Field vector
- Field line
- Charge induction
- Polarization
- Work and Energy
- Flux of field vector
- Circulation of field vector

## Concept #1: Charge

From labelling the charges A/B to  $+/-$

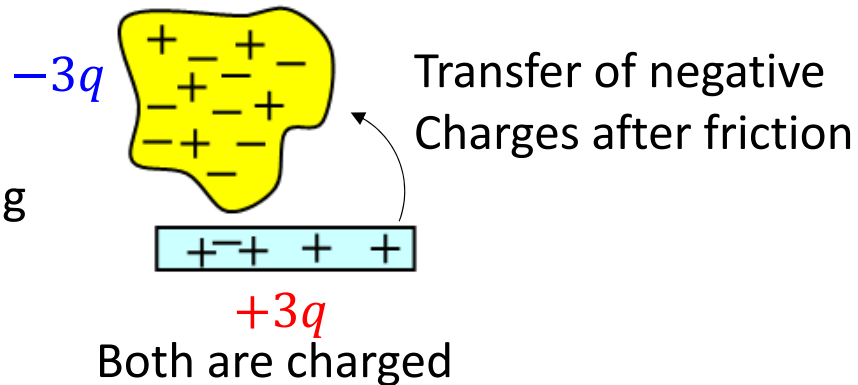
J.J. Thomson

Before rubbing



Both are neutral

After rubbing



- Discovery of electron 1897
- Determination of its charge 1899

$$|q| = |e| = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} C$$

- Charge is quantized

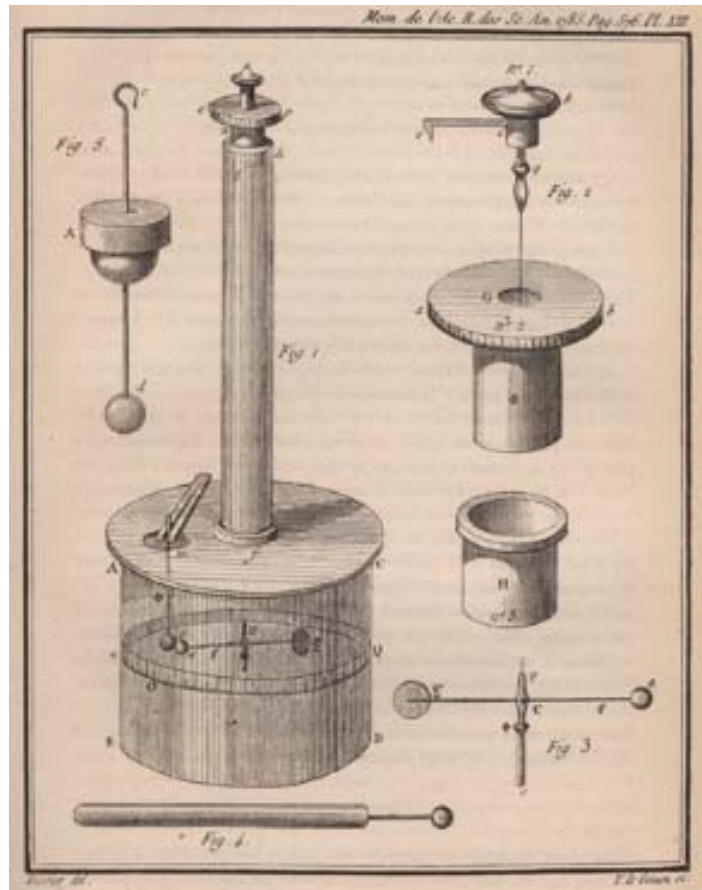
## Concept #2: Charge conservation

*Charge is neither created nor destroyed:  
**it is transferred** from one body to another*

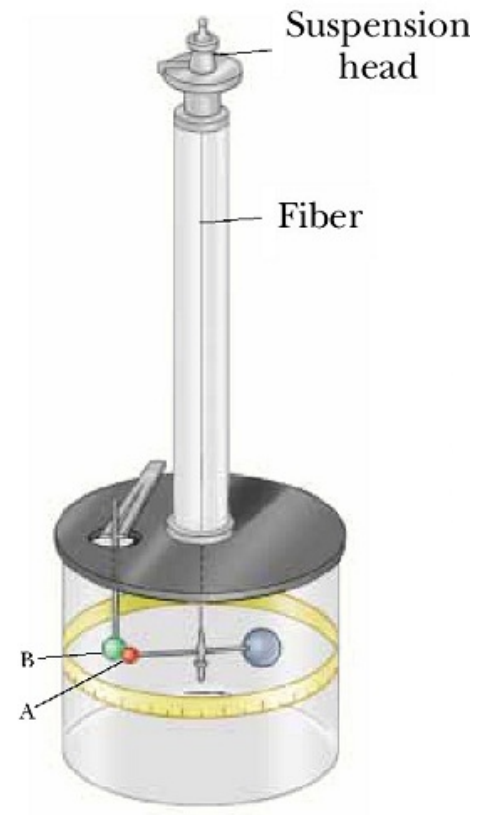
$$\sum_{univers} charges = 0$$

# Setup by which Coulomb established his law in 1785

Original version



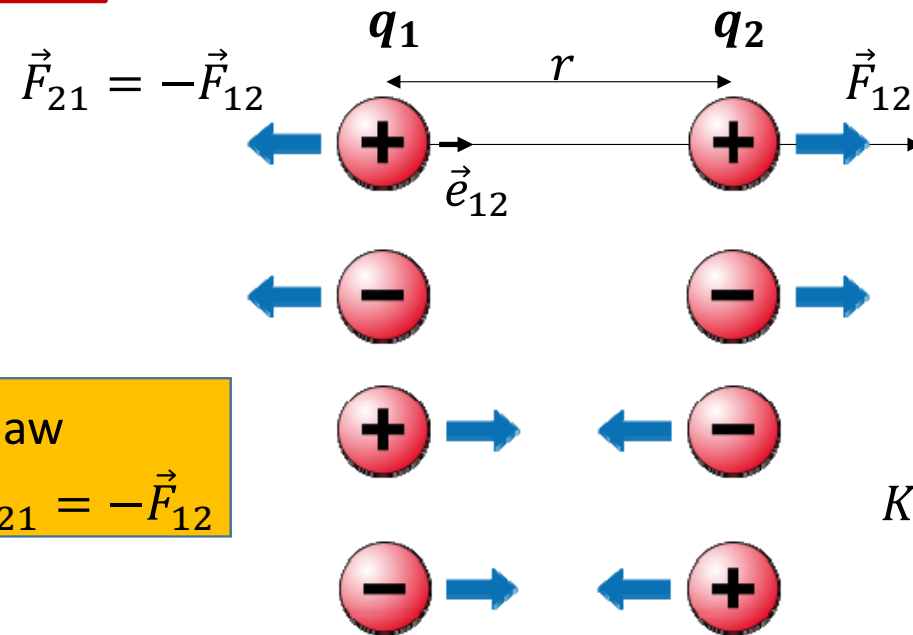
Modern version





# Coulomb law

## Concept #3: Electric force



$$\vec{F}_{12} = K \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2} \vec{e}_{12}$$

*Miracle of the nature*

$$K = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} = 9.0 \times 10^9 \text{ Nm}^2/\text{C}^2$$

Gravitational **attraction**

$$\vec{F}_{12} = G \frac{Mm}{r^2} \vec{e}_{12}$$

$$G = 6.67 \times 10^{-11} \text{ kg}^{-1} \text{ m}^3 \text{ s}^{-2}$$

# Coulomb's law for electricity/Newton's law for gravity

Electric: Attractive or repulsive

Gravity: Attractive only

$$F_C \propto \frac{1}{r^2}$$

$$F_G \propto \frac{1}{r^2}$$

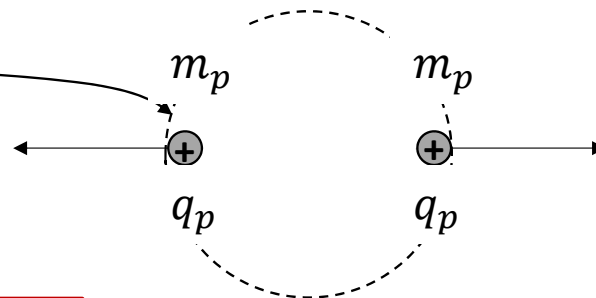
$$K = 9.0 \times 10^9 \text{ Nm}^2/\text{C}^2$$

$$F_C = K \frac{q_p q_p}{r^2}$$

$$F_G = G \frac{m_p m_p}{r^2}$$

$$G = 6.7 \times 10^{-11} \text{ Nm}^2/\text{kg}^2$$

Size of the nucleus



$$\frac{F_C}{F_G} = 10^{36}$$

Acceleration ratio  $F = ma$   
 $d = 10^{-12} \text{ cm}$



$$\frac{a_C}{a_G} = 10^{26}$$

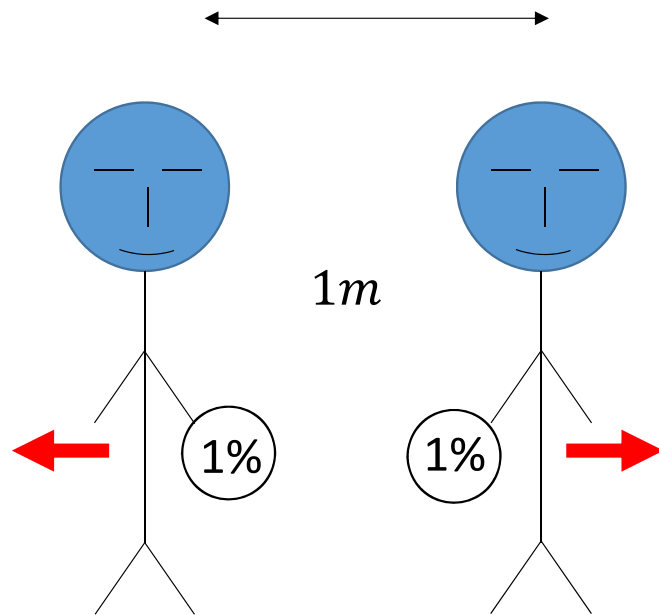
To the earth

$$\frac{F_C}{F_G} = 10^{36} \quad \text{Contradiction that at large distance } F_G \text{ is playing a much important role !}$$

Reason: Planets have very little charges BUT large masses

$$\text{Earth / Mars} \quad Q = 4 \times 10^5 C \quad F_G = 10^{17} F_C$$

Attractive gravitational force is negligible



$$n_e - n_p = 1\%$$

**\*\*Question #2**

How big would be the repelling force ?

**Answer to \*\*Question #2**


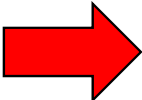
Coulomb force = Enough to lift the entire earth

The coulomb force is terrific !

**\*\*Question #3**

Why don't protons and electrons end up on the top of each other and the nucleus does not fly apart if the electric forces are so terrific?

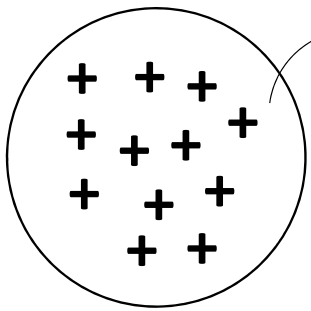
**Answer to \*\*Question #3**

For electrons:  Heisenberg uncertainty principle  $\Delta x \cdot \Delta p \approx \hbar$   $\Delta x \rightarrow 0, \Delta p \rightarrow \infty$   
 Repulsion

For protons:  Nuclear force  $\propto 1/r^n$   $n > 2$



Combination of electrical forces and quantum physics



Nuclear attractive force acting between each  $p^+$  and its first neighbors  $\propto 1/r^n$   
 $n > 2$

Electric repulsive force between  $p^+ \propto 1/r^2$

Nucleus

At short distances, Nuclear attractive force  $\gg$  Coulomb's Electric repulsive force

More protons in a nucleus  $\rightarrow$  Stronger Coulomb's Electric repulsive force  $\rightarrow$  Breaking of nucleus

$\rightarrow$  Radiactivity for heavy atoms  $^{92}\text{U}$   $\rightarrow$  Nuclear energy (Atomic bomb)

What is nuclear energy?  $\rightarrow$  Electric energy resulting from Coulomb's force

## Two types of Forces involving charges

Immobile charges

$$F_E = F_C \propto 1/r^2$$

Mobile charges

$F \neq 1/r^2$  Much more complicated than Coulomb's form !

!

Lorentz force

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{F}_L &= \vec{F}_E + \vec{F}_B \\ &= q\vec{E} + \underbrace{q\vec{v} \times \vec{B}}_{F_B = \text{Magnetic force}}\end{aligned}$$

$F_B = \text{Magnetic force}$

$\vec{F}_L(\vec{r}, t)$  because mobile charges change position with time

$F_E$  Electric force  
 $F_C$  Coulomb force  
 $\vec{F}_B$  Magnetic force  
 $\vec{F}_L$  Lorentz force

Does a charge act on itself?

If so, in normal classical electromagnetism this would lead to an infinite self-force

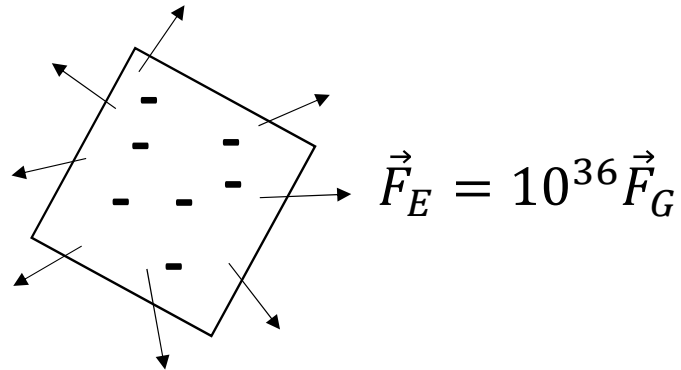
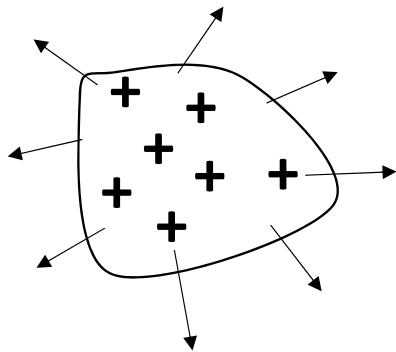


What makes the electron stable?

Why all its negative “parts” do not fly apart according to Coulomb?

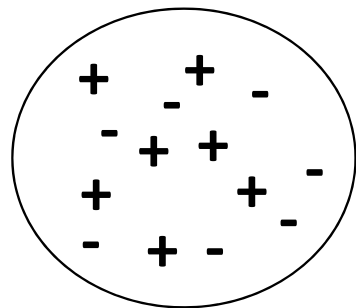
This question has never been answered !

## Charges and stability



$$\vec{F}_E = 10^{36} \vec{F}_G$$

Like charges will fly a part with a terrific force !



≡

Atom (forces balance)



Stable matter

## About the notion of charge test

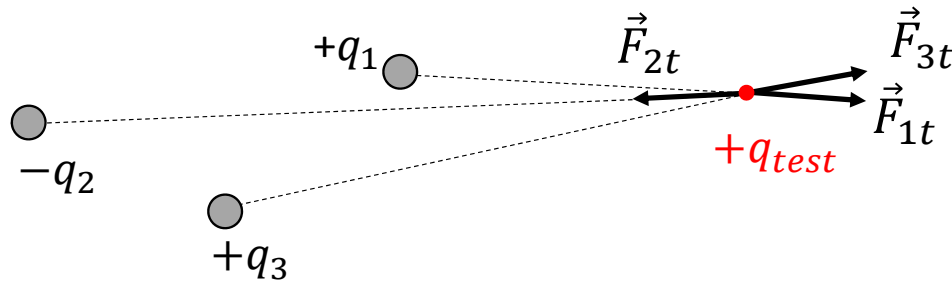
### \*\*Question #4

What property should have a test charge to be able to make good predictions?

### Answer to \*\*Question #4

Must have the weakest possible charge in order not to disturb the field created by the source to be probed

#### Concept #4: Principle of superposition



Total force acting on the test charge?

$$\vec{F}_{tot} = \sum_i \vec{F}_{it}$$

Superposition of all individual forces

Is the superposition principle intuitive?

Not at all

Is it pertinent?

Yes it is

Is it out of doubt?

It remains consistent with all experiments carried to date

Superposition principle applies to all types of forces: Gravitational – Electric – Magnetic - Nuclear

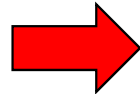
And beyond....

For linear differential equations the same principle applies

*Equation 1*  $\rightarrow \vec{F}_1$

*Equation 2*  $\rightarrow \vec{F}_2$

*Equation 3*  $\rightarrow \vec{F}_3$



*Equation*  $\rightarrow \vec{F} = \sum \text{individual equations}$



***“Tuning” a radio station would not be possible  
without the principle of superposition***

## Concept #5: Field (Faraday 1845)

**Scalar field**

**Vector field**

Quantities which depend  
upon position in space

**Scalar field:** To each point in space is associated a number which may vary in time:

$$T(x, y, z, t)$$

$$P(x, y, z, t)$$

**Vector field:** To each point in space is associated a number which may vary in time **and direction**,

$$\vec{h}(x, y, z, t)$$

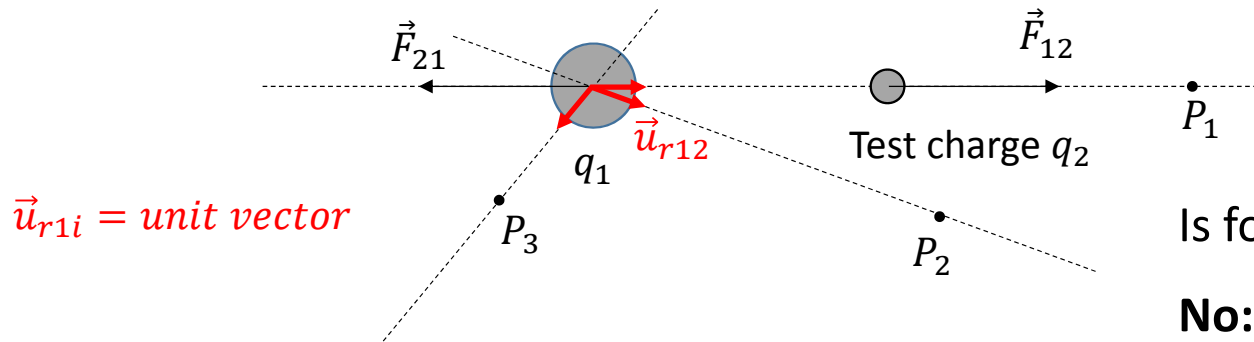
$$\vec{v}(x, y, z, t)$$

$$\vec{E}(x, y, z, t)$$

$$\vec{B}(x, y, z, t)$$

## Vector Field

Electric force requires at least two charges



Action – reaction  $\Rightarrow \vec{F}_{21} = -\vec{F}_{12}$

Is force **field** meaningful?

**No:** The force appears only at  $q_2$  when it is there

If there is only one charge  $q_1$  how can we evaluate the effect at  $P_i$  when there is no test charge?

When there is only one charge  $q_1$  **SOMETHING** builds up all around in the rest of the universe

Concept of Field

Speed of light is **NOT** infinite

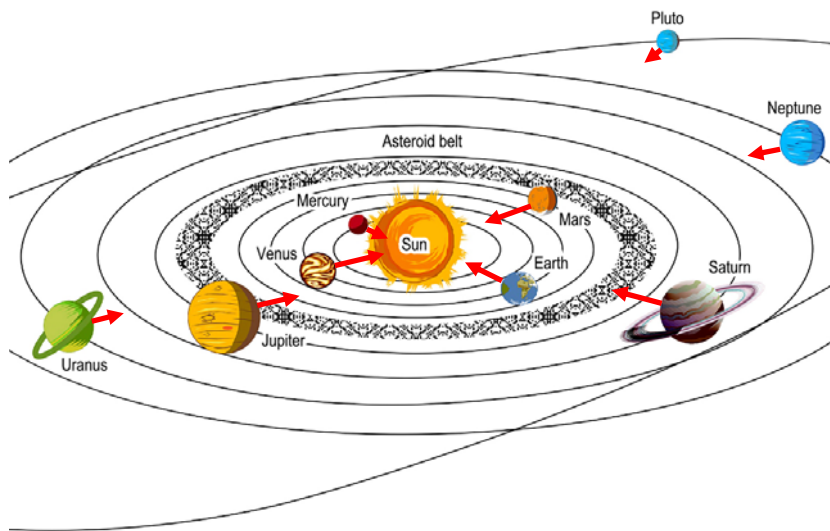
Concept of retarded time

## Action at distance versus action at contact

The effect is felt at every point in space

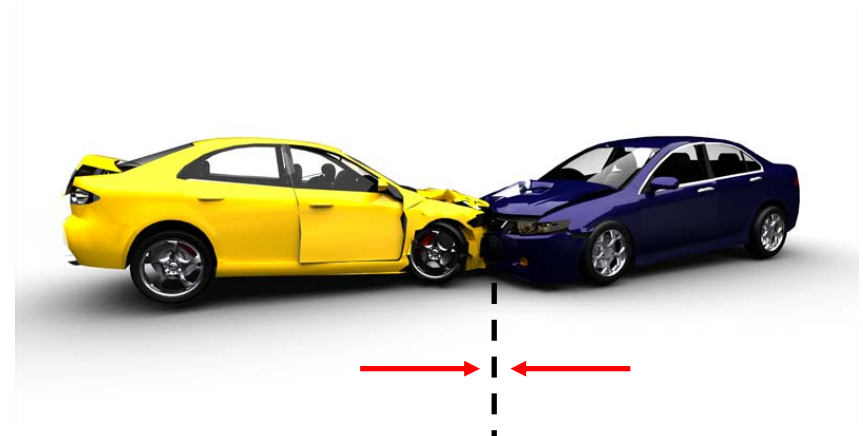
***If a planet is removed the attraction effect is still there***

*A force is acting with nothing to transmit to !*



Action at distance: Gravitation field

The effect is felt only at the point of contact



Action at contact

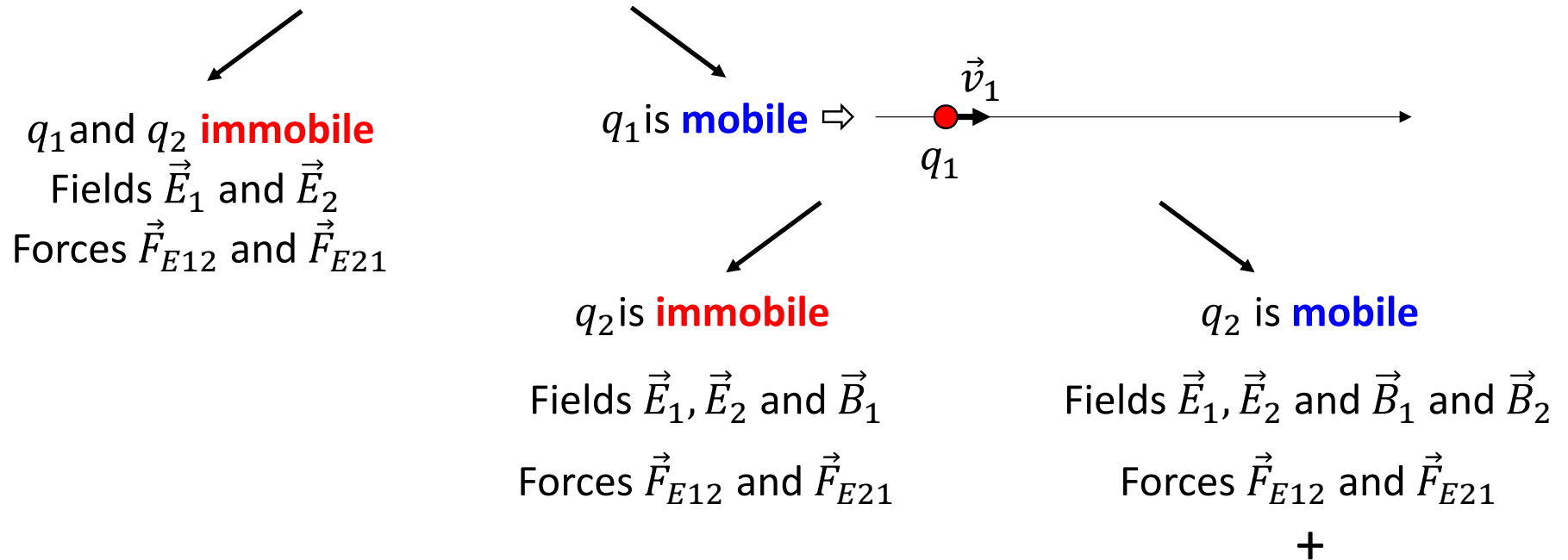
*What does that mean ?*

**Contact force is an illusion**



There is something in the universe around a single charge  $q_1$  even when **NO OTHER** charges are present

If we bring a charge  $q_2$ , forces act on both charges



Under certain conditions on directions of motions of  $q_1$  and  $q_2$   $\longrightarrow$   $\vec{F}_{B12}$  and  $\vec{F}_{B21}$

A moving charge settles in the whole universe electric and magnetic vector fields

## Concept of field is NOT restricted to electromagnetism

...Other vector fields

Heat flow  $\vec{h}(x, y, z, t)$

Current density flow  $\vec{j}(x, y, z, t)$

Velocity flow  $\vec{v}(x, y, z, t)$


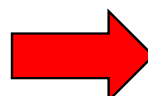
...

Temperature  $T(x, y, z, t)$

...There are also scalar fields

Electric potential  $V(x, y, z, t)$

...

$\vec{E}(x, y, z, t)$   
 $V(x, y, z, t)$    $\vec{E}(x + \Delta x, y + \Delta y, z + \Delta z, t + \Delta t)$   
 $V(x + \Delta x, y + \Delta y, z + \Delta z, t + \Delta t)$    $\frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial x_i}, \frac{\partial V}{\partial x_i}$  etc ... Differential equation to describing the fields

locally



Laws of electrodynamics

## Concept #6: Field lines

Action at distance



Concept of field filling the whole space like:

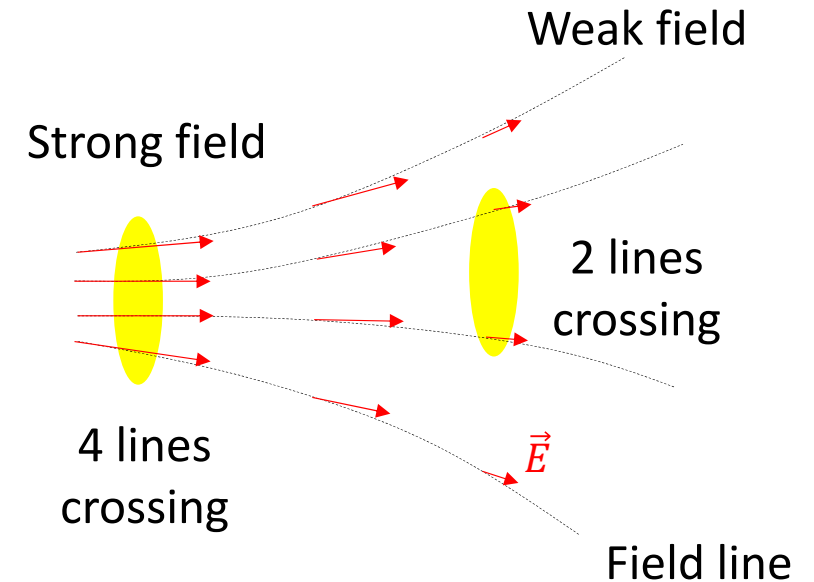
- Gravitation field
- Electric field
- Magnetic field

- $\vec{E}$  is **ALWAYS** tangent to the field line
- Local density of field lines /unit area at right angle = strength of the field at each point

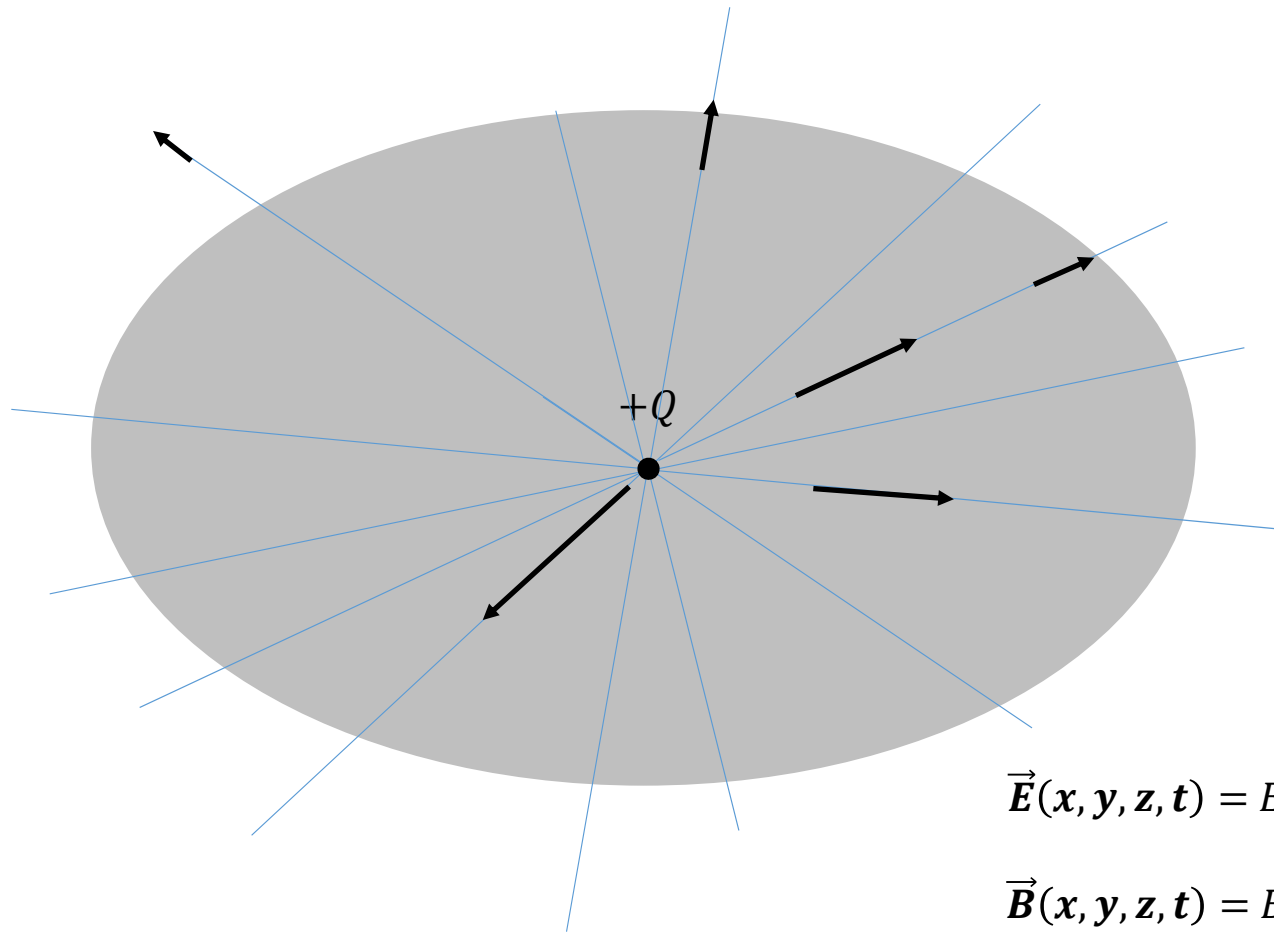
- Field lines **NEVER** cross

**Why?**

If lines cross, at the crossing point the field will have two directions



# The concept of **electric field** and **field lines**



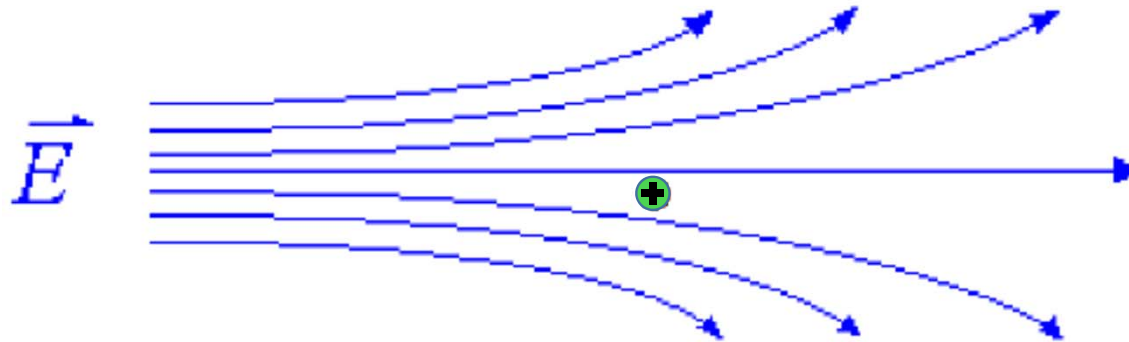
$$\vec{F} = q_{test} \vec{E}$$

↑                      ↑

NOT a Field          Field

$$\vec{E}(x, y, z, t) = E_x(x, y, z, t)\vec{i} + E_y(x, y, z, t)\vec{j} + E_z(x, y, z, t)\vec{k}$$

$$\vec{B}(x, y, z, t) = B_x(x, y, z, t)\vec{i} + B_y(x, y, z, t)\vec{j} + B_z(x, y, z, t)\vec{k}$$



A positive charge is placed in a region of electric field as shown. Which way does it move

- a) Up
- b) Down
- c) Left
- d) Right
- e) It does not move

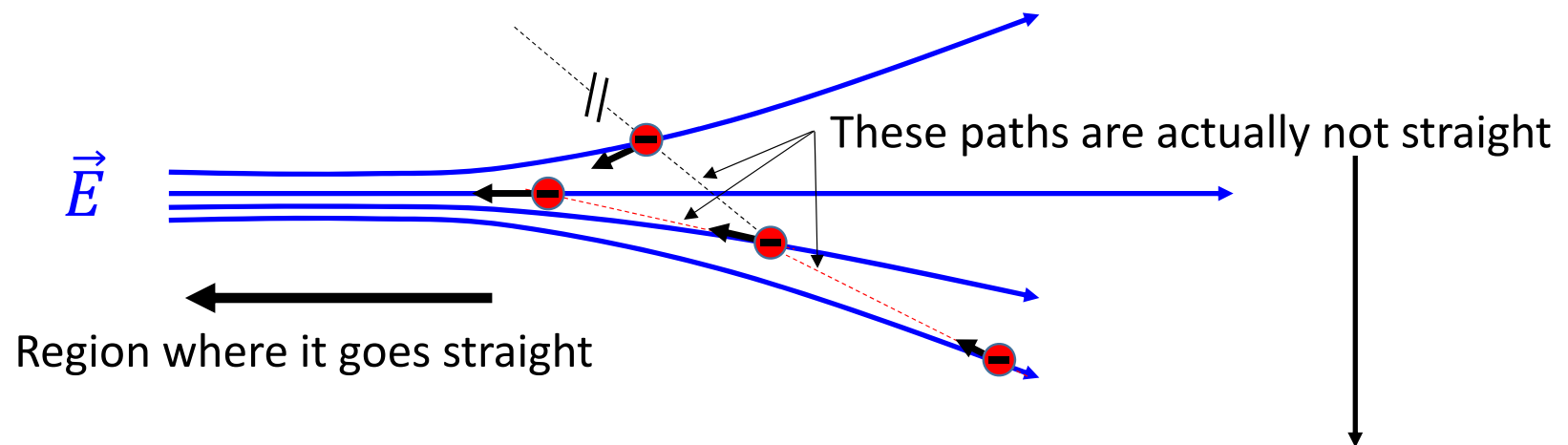
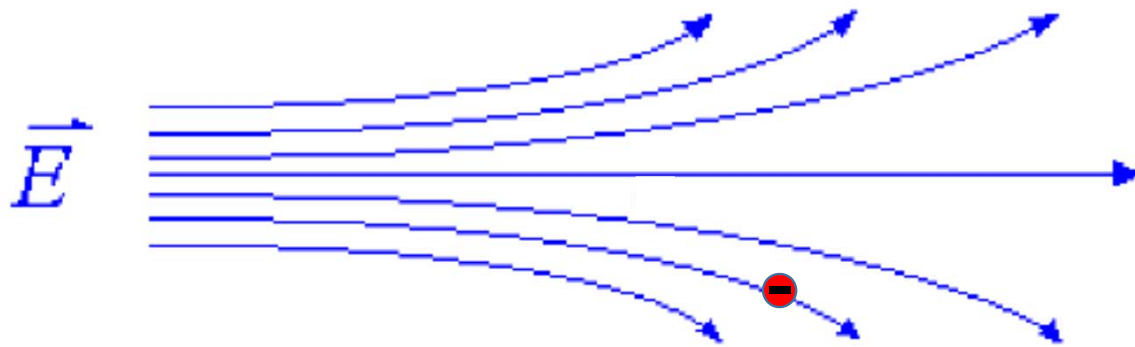
**\*\*Question #5**

Does it move straight to the right ?

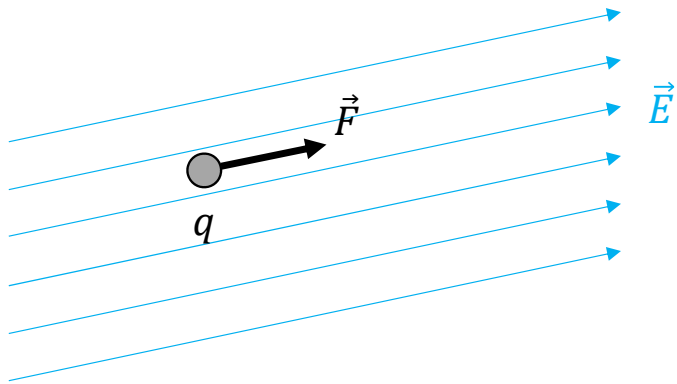
**Answer to \*\*question #5**

No ! It will follow a very complicated trajectory

What about a negative charge?

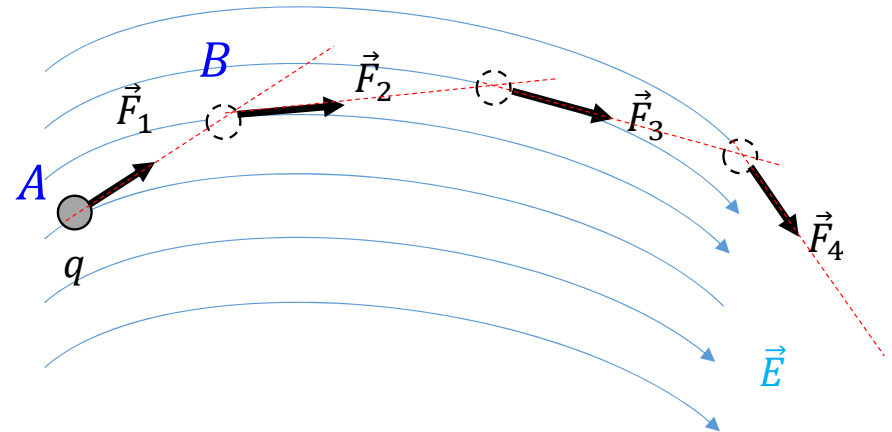


## Uniform versus no uniform field



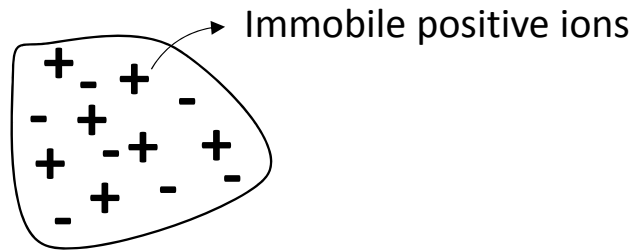
The charge goes straight like in a gravitational field  
**(close to the earth !)**

The charge takes a very complicated trajectory

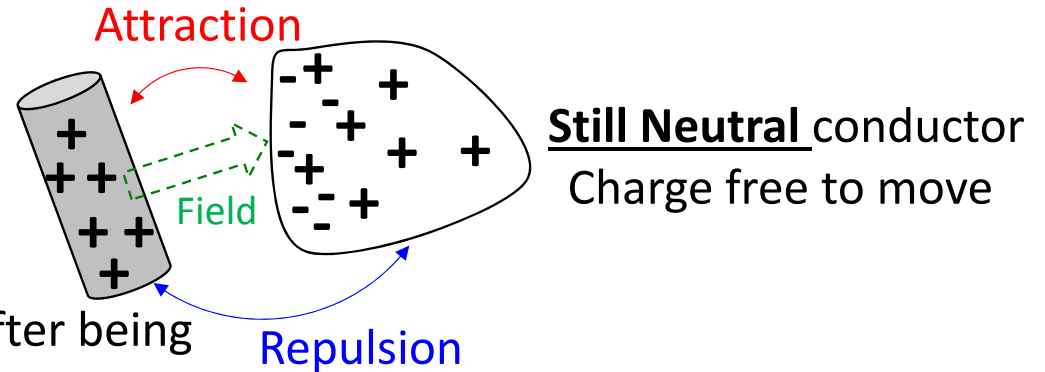


Same remark as in the previous slide

## Concept #7: Charge induction: Non contact action or action at distance

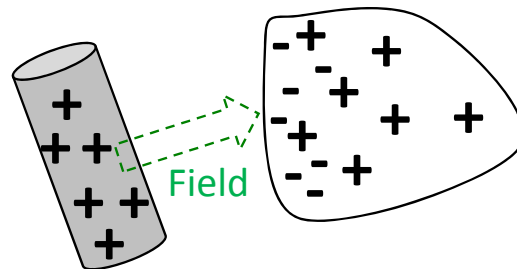


Neutral conductor  
Electrons are free to move



Glass rod after being  
rubbed with silk

Process of induction in conductors  $\Leftrightarrow$  Induces **long** distance separation of charges



Positively charged rod

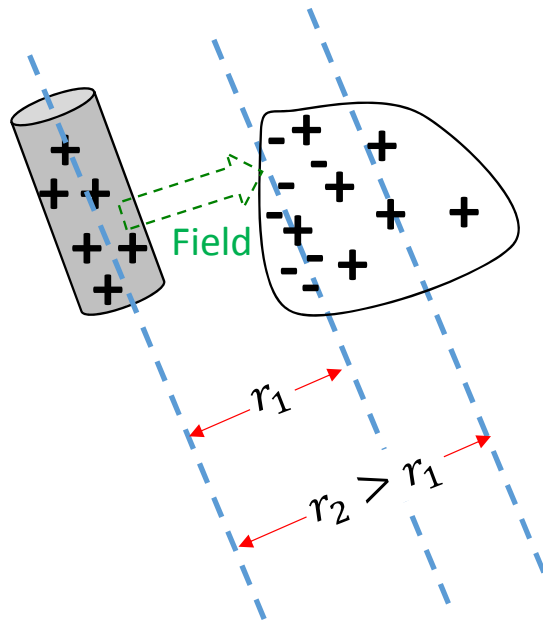
Conductor free to move

**\*\*Question #6**

If the whole conductor is free to move  
Does it move? why? and in which direction?



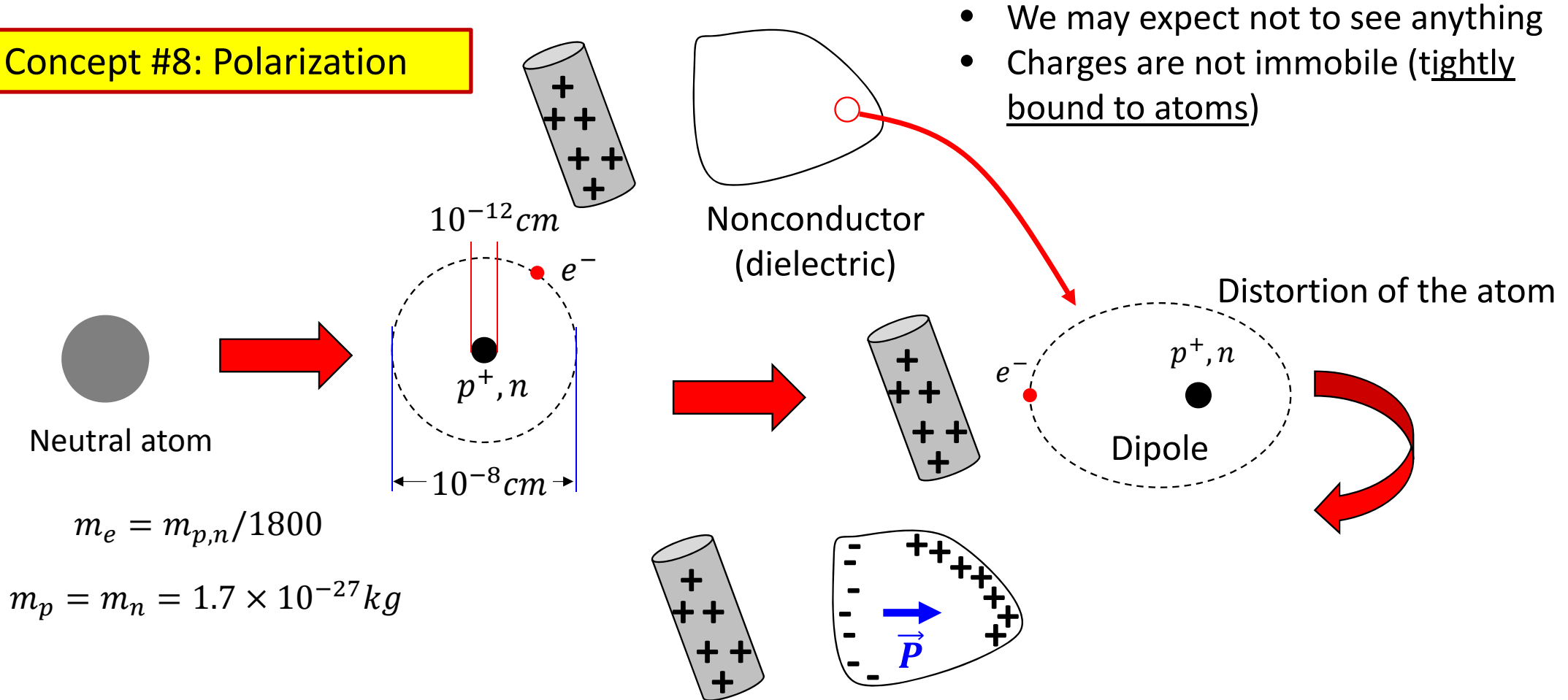
## Answer to \*\*Question #6



- Yes because of induction
- Net attraction > Net repulsion
- Towards the positively charged rod

$$F \propto 1/r^2$$

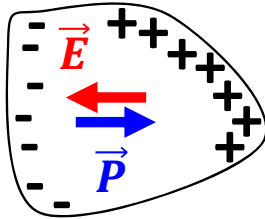
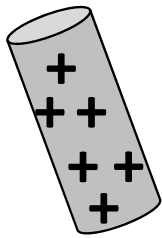
## Concept #8: Polarization



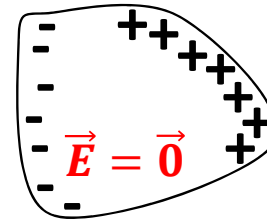
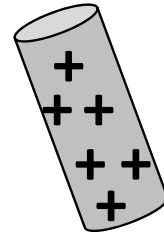
- We may expect not to see anything
- Charges are not immobile (tightly bound to atoms)

Process of polarization of dielectrics  $\Leftrightarrow$  Induces short distance separation of charges

***BUT looks like a conductor !***



- Dielectric
- Charge **NOT** free
- Polarization

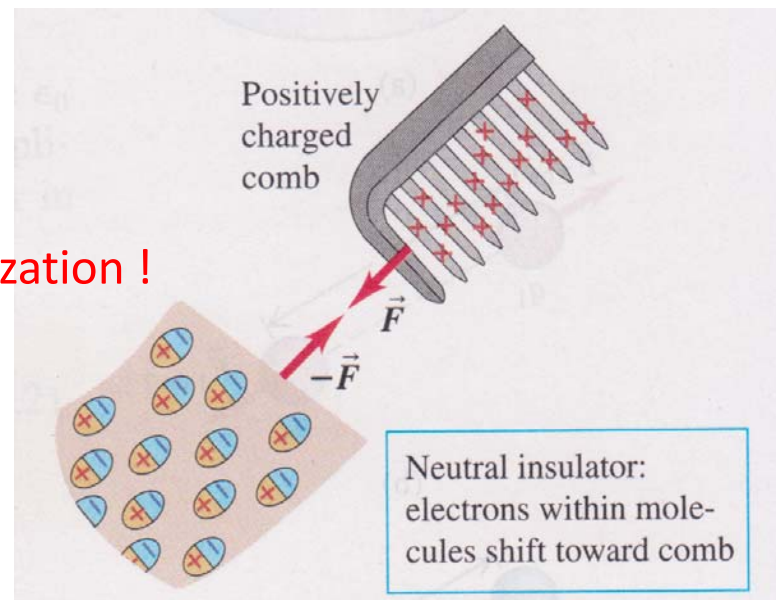


- Conductor
- Charge free to move
- Induction

What is the major difference between these two situations?

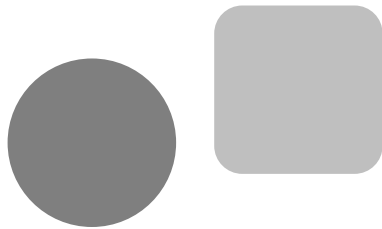
- Inside the dielectric there is a field which tends to oppose the external applied field
- Inside the conductor there is **NO** field: The conductor cancels completely the external applied field (**in statics !**)

Polarization !



From University of Physics

### \*\*\*Question #7



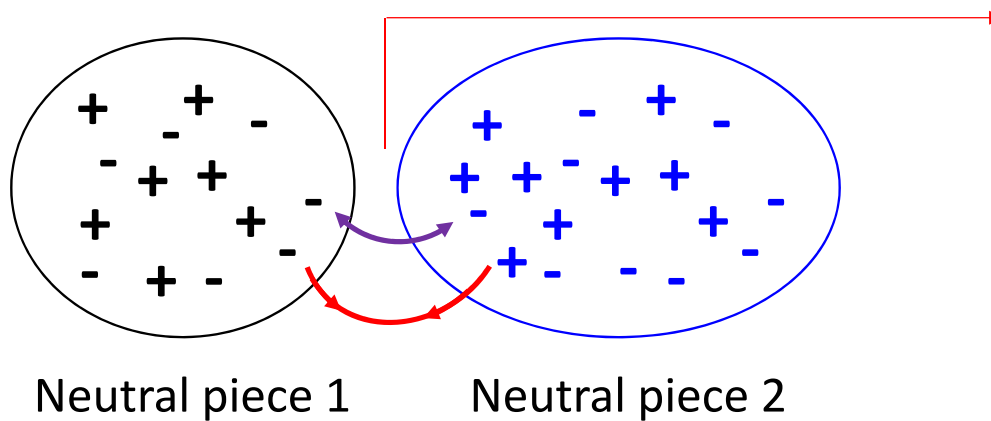
- Could these two neutral bodies experience a net force if brought close to each other?
- If so how and why?

Two perfectly neutral bodies

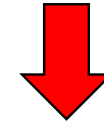
$$\sum_1^N q_i^+ = \sum_1^N q_j^-$$

## Answer to \*\*\*Question #7

We did not say anything about spatial distribution ! A net force can arise if negative charge of one body is closer to the positive than to the negative charge of the other body



These forces keep the two NEUTRAL pieces close to each other



Because  $\vec{F}_E \propto \frac{1}{r^2}$

How can we proceed to make an interaction between two neutral pieces happen?

By polarizing them first (to make the distribution of charge non-uniform inside each piece)

Induction and polarization are  
**NOT TRANSFER** of charges !



Charge separation  
possible without contact

No transfer of charge without contact  $\Rightarrow$

By friction or electric contact in a circuit