

(brief) Review of gravity

Calculate  $F_g$  between an electron ( $m_e = 9.11 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$ ) and a positron ( $m_p = m_e$ ) 1 m apart.

(recall:  $G = 6.67 \times 10^{-11} \text{ N} \cdot \text{m}^2 / \text{kg}^2$ ,  $F_g = G \frac{m_1 m_2}{r^2}$ )

$$F_g = \frac{(6.67 \times 10^{-11})(9.11 \times 10^{-31})(9.11 \times 10^{-31})}{1^2}$$

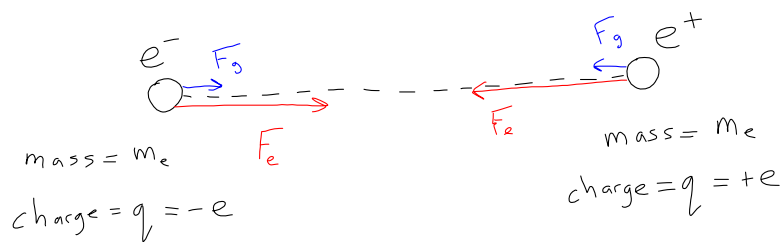
$$= 5.54 \times 10^{-71} \text{ N}$$

Actual experiment:

$$F = 2.3 \times 10^{-28} \text{ N}$$

4 - million - trillion - trillion - trillion - trillion times larger!

Explanation: In addition to mass, some objects carry another fundamental property that we call electric charge. Just like masses give rise to the gravitational force, electric charges give rise to the electrostatic (Coulomb) force.



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

$$e = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ Coulombs (C)}$$

↑  
new fundamental unit

$$F_g = G \frac{m_1 m_2}{r^2}$$

Discovered by  
Newton

$$G = 6.67 \times 10^{-11} \frac{\text{N} \cdot \text{m}^2}{\text{kg}^2}$$

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

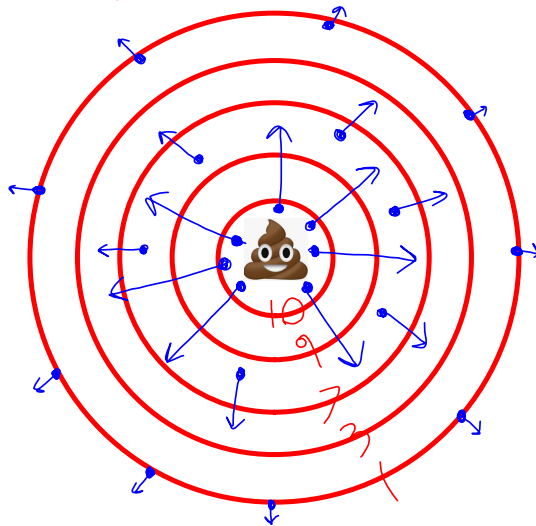
discovered by Coulomb

$$k = 8.99 \times 10^9 \text{ N} \cdot \text{m}^2 / \text{C}^2$$

Additional findings:

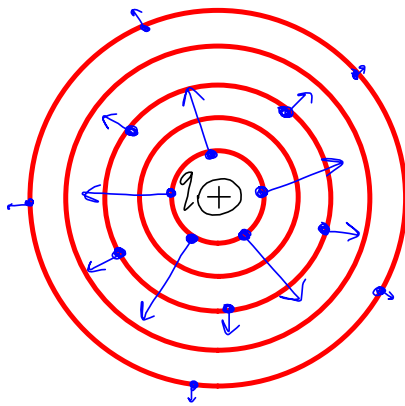
- charges can be (+) or (-)
- opposite charges attract
- like charges repel

red = how bad is the smell? scale 0-10  
(scalar)



blue = which direction  
to run in (vector)

Charges



Electric potential:

$$V = \frac{kq}{r} \text{ (scalar)}$$

Electric Field: (vector)

$$\vec{E} = -\vec{\nabla} V$$

$$|\vec{E}| = \frac{kq}{r^2}$$

Example

$q_1 = 2 \times 10^{-4} \text{ C}$   
 $q_2 = -1 \times 10^{-4} \text{ C}$

Find  $V$  and  $\vec{E}$  at the point

Solution:

$r_1 = \sqrt{2^2 + 2^2} = 2\sqrt{2} \text{ m}$   
 $r_2 = 2 \text{ m}$

$V_1 (\text{calculated at } (2,2)) = \frac{k q_1}{r_1}$   
 $V_2 (\text{calculated at } (2,2)) = \frac{k q_2}{r_2}$

$V_{\text{total}}^{(2,2)} = V_1 + V_2 = 1.86 \times 10^5 \frac{\text{N} \cdot \text{m}}{\text{C}}$   
 Volts (V)

$$|\vec{E}_1| = \left| \frac{k q_1}{r_1^2} \right| = 2.24 \times 10^5 \text{ N/C}$$

$$|\vec{E}_2| = \left| \frac{k q_2}{r_2^2} \right| = 2.25 \times 10^5 \text{ N/C}$$

$$\vec{E}_1 = (2.24 \times 10^5 \text{ N/C}) \cos(45^\circ) \hat{i} + (2.24 \times 10^5 \text{ N/C}) \sin(45^\circ) \hat{j}$$

$$\vec{E}_2 = 0 \hat{i} - 2.25 \times 10^5 \text{ N/C} \hat{j}$$

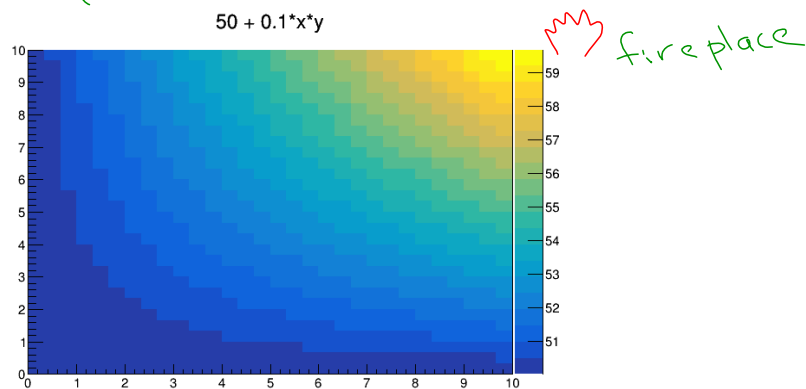
$$\vec{E}_{\text{total}} = (1.59 \times 10^5 \hat{i} - 0.66 \times 10^5 \hat{j}) \text{ N/C}$$

Aside: Field  $\begin{cases} \rightarrow \text{scalar fields} \\ \rightarrow \text{vector fields} \end{cases}$

Scalar fields - Every point in space has a number (scalar)

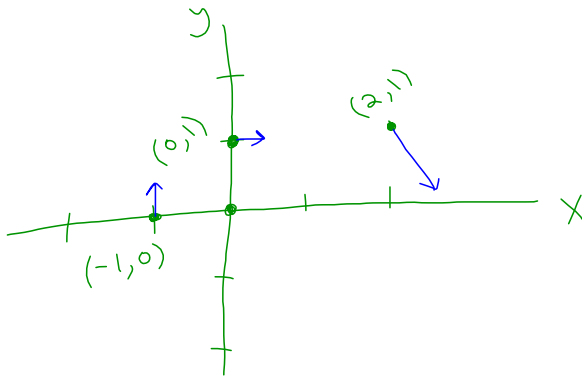
e.g. temperature distribution in a room

$$T(x, y, z) = 50 + (0.1)xy + z$$



Vector fields - Every point in space has a vector

2-D example:  $\vec{f}(x, y) = \left( \underbrace{\frac{y}{2}}_{\text{x-component}}, \underbrace{\frac{-x}{2}}_{\text{y-component}} \right)$



$$\begin{aligned} \vec{f}(0, 0) &= (0, 0) \\ \vec{f}(0, 1) &= \left(\frac{1}{2}, 0\right) \\ \vec{f}(2, 1) &= \left(\frac{1}{2}, -1\right) \\ \vec{f}(-1, 0) &= \left(0, \frac{1}{2}\right) \end{aligned}$$

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In[1]:= VectorPlot[{y/2, -x/2}, {x, -3, 3}, {y, -3, 3}]

