

Physics 2102

Jonathan Dowling



Benjamin Franklin  
(1705–1790)

# Physics 2102

## Lecture 01: TUE 19 JAN

### Electric Charge



21-1 *What Is Physics?* 562

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Charles-Augustin  
de Coulomb  
(1736–1806)



# Who am I & Why am I Here?

Prof. J. P. Dowling

*1994–98: Research Physicist, US Army Aviation & Missile Command*

*1998–2004: Principal Scientist, NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory*

*2004–Present: Director, Hearne Institute for Theoretical Physics, LSU*

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My Own Research:

Quantum Technologies  
Photonics

*Hearne Institute for Theoretical Physics  
Quantum Sciences & Technologies Group*



# Course Details

- Main Class Website for All Sections:  
<http://www.phys.lsu.edu/classes/spring2010/phys2102/>  
Syllabus, Schedule, Grading Policy, Exam Solutions, ...
- Lectures will be posted in this section's website:  
<http://phys.lsu.edu/~jdowling/PHYS21024SP10/>
- Text: Fundamentals of Physics, Halliday, Resnick, and Walker, 8th edition. We will cover Chapters 21-33,35-36,38.
- Exams: Midterms 6-7PM: THU 11 FEB, THU 11 MAR, THU 15 APR; Final Exam 7:30-9:30AM TUE 11 MAY 2010.
- Lab: Meets This Week! Show up or be dropped!
- Tutoring: *Free Tutors* in 102 Nicholson & 141 Middleton:  
<http://cas.lsu.edu/tutorial-centers>

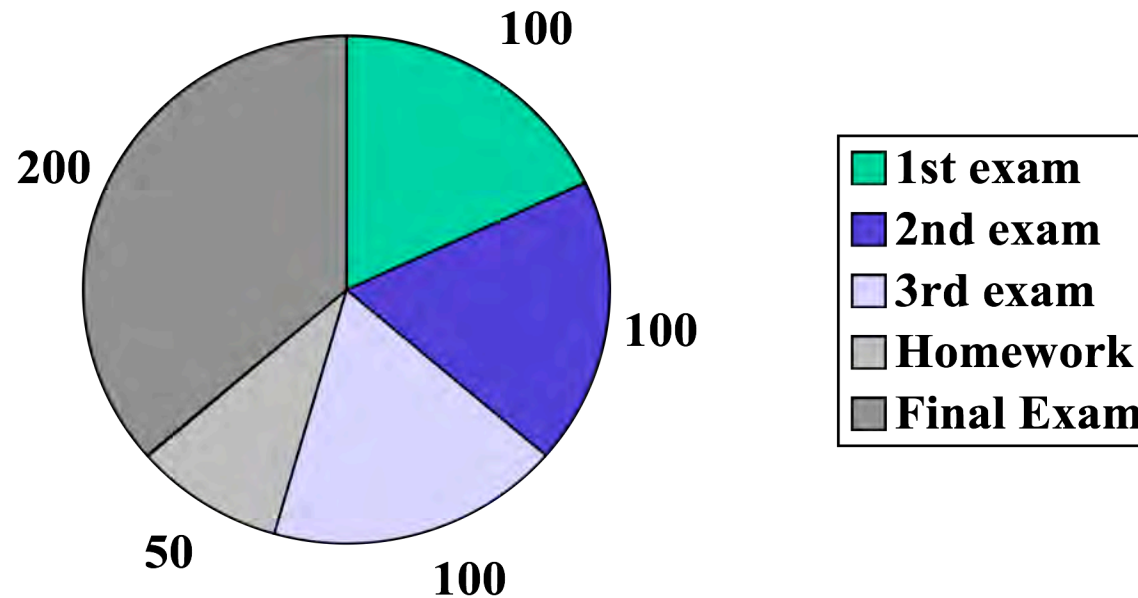
# Course Details: Homework

Web-based system: Web Assign

To register:

- Go to <http://www.webassign.net/student.html>
- On the left frame, "student login"
  - *Username:* pawsusername@lsu
  - *Institution:* lsu
  - *Password:* lsuidnumber
- Choose "credit card registration" (\$\$\$) or FREE with Purchase of PHYS2102 Book from Bookstore
- One Assignment Per Week Due 2AM Wednesdays.
- First HW Is Posted This Week Due Next WED 2AM.

# Course Details: Grading



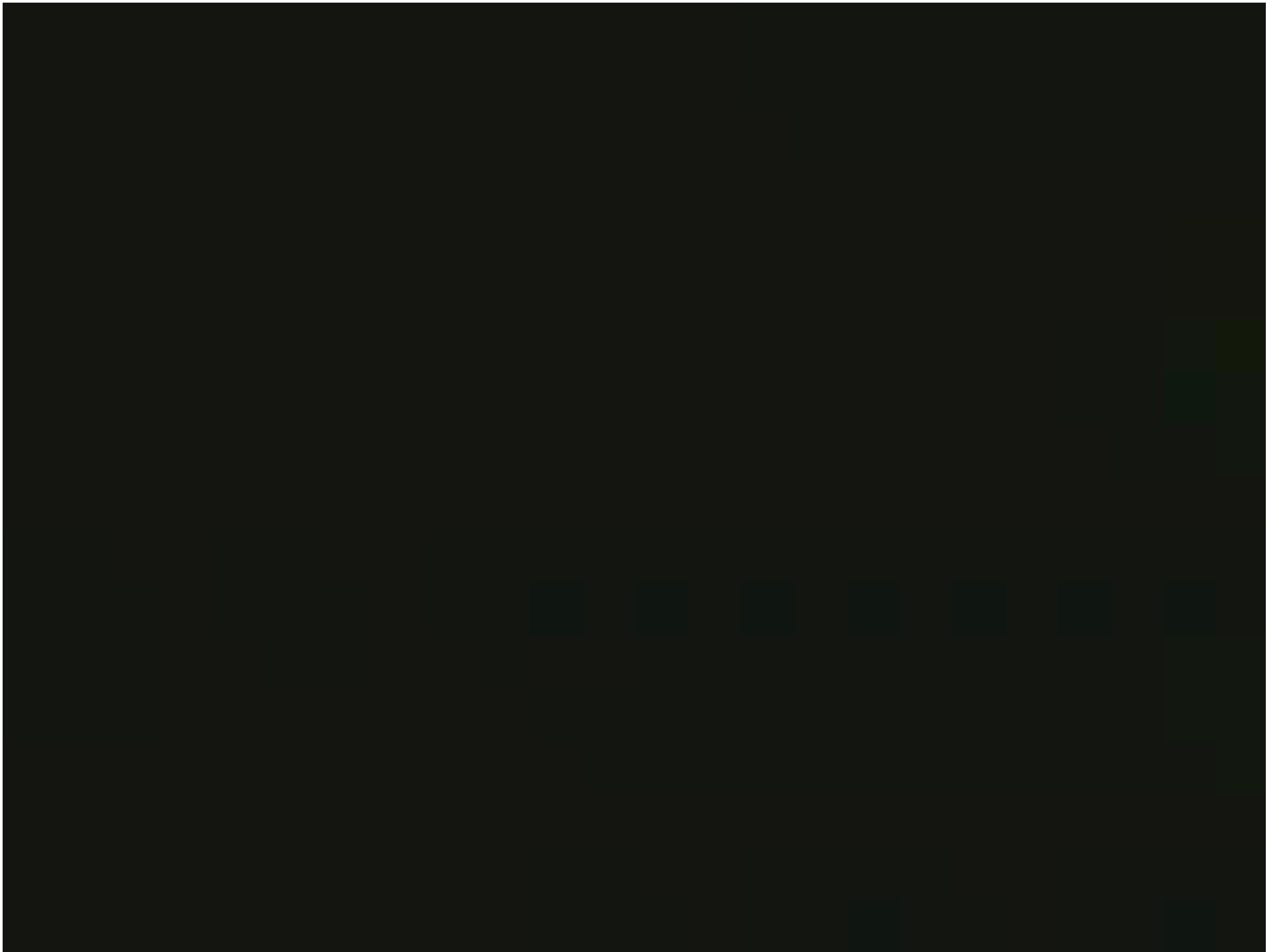
**A:  $\geq 90$    B: 80–89   C: 60–79   D: 50–59   F:  $< 50$**

**Borderline Cases Decided by Class Attendance Checkmarks!**

# What Are We Going to Learn? A Roadmap!

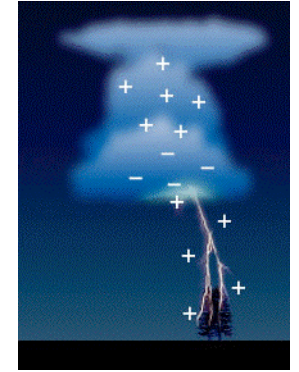


- Electric *Charge*  
& Electric *Force* on Other Electric Charges  
& Electric *Field*, and Electric *Potential*
- Moving Electric Charges: *Current*
- Electronic *Circuit* Components: Batteries, Resistors, Capacitors
- Electric Currents & *Magnetic Field*  
& Magnetic *Force* on Moving Charges
- *Time-Varying* Magnetic Field & Electric Field
- More Circuit Components: Inductors, AC Circuits.
- Maxwell's Equations & Electromagnetic *Waves* & Light Waves
- Physical Optics (Light Waves): Interference, Diffraction.
- *Quantum Physics!*





# Let's Get Started! Electric Charges...



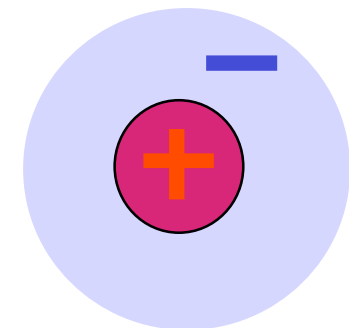
- Two Types of Charges: Positive/Negative
- Like Charges Repel
- Opposite Charges Attract

## Atomic Structure:

- Negative Electron Cloud
- Nucleus of Positive Protons, Uncharged Neutrons

The Unit of Electric Charge is  
the "Coulomb" which is "C".

Proton Charge:  $e = 1.60 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$





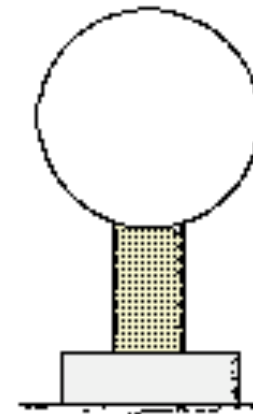
Benjamin Franklin  
(1705-1790)

# Rules of Electric Attraction and Repulsion Discovered by Benjamin Franklin

Opposite charges attract



Like charges repel

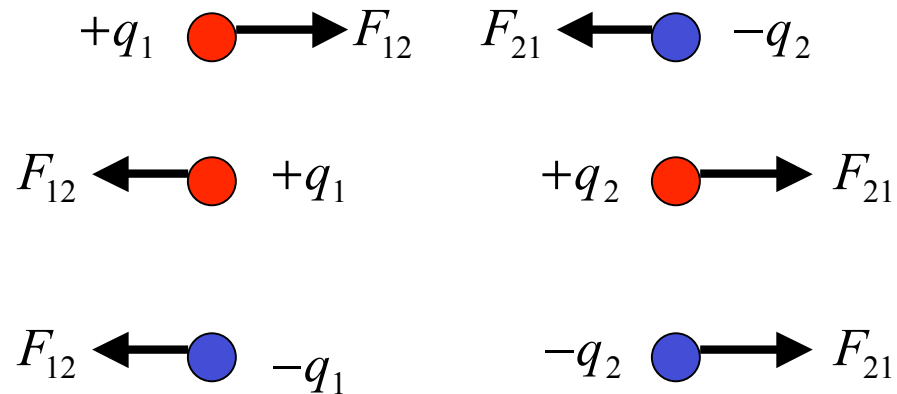


**A negatively charged object is brought near to a neutral, conducting sphere. Electrons in the sphere are forced from the left side of the sphere to the right side.**

# Force Between Pairs of Point Charges: Coulomb's Law

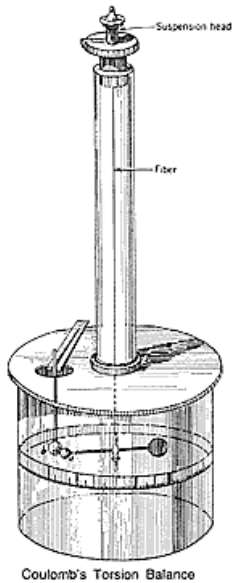


Charles-Augustin  
De Coulomb  
(1736–1806)

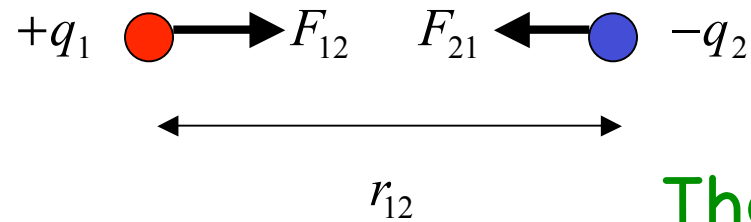


## Coulomb's Law – the Force Between Point Charges:

- Lies Along the Line Connecting the Charges.
- Is Proportional to the Product of the Magnitudes.
- Is Inversely Proportional to the Distance Squared.
- Note That Newton's Third Law Says  $|F_{12}| = |F_{21}|!!$



# Coulomb's Law



The "k" is the electric constant of proportionality.

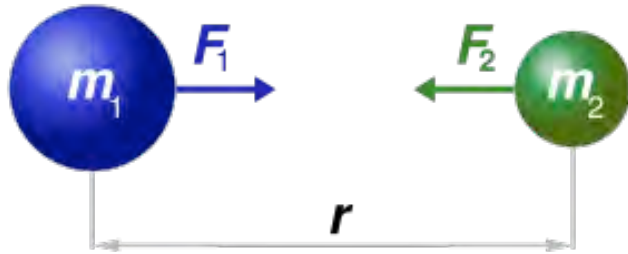
$$|F_{12}| = \frac{k |q_1| |q_2|}{r_{12}^2}$$

$$k = 8.99 \times 10^9 \frac{\text{Nm}^2}{\text{C}^2}$$

Usually, we write:  $k = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0}$  with  $\epsilon_0 = 8.85 \times 10^{-12} \frac{\text{C}^2}{\text{Nm}^2}$

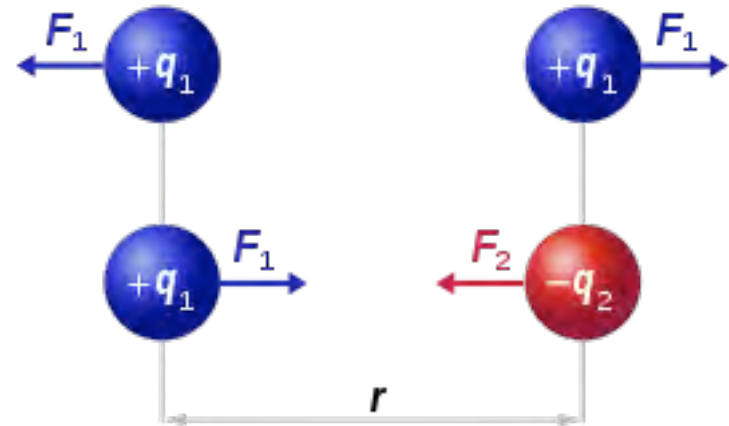
Units:  $F = [\text{N}] = [\text{Newton}]$ ;  $r = [\text{m}] = [\text{meter}]$ ;  $q = [\text{C}] = [\text{Coulomb}]$

# Two Inverse Square Laws



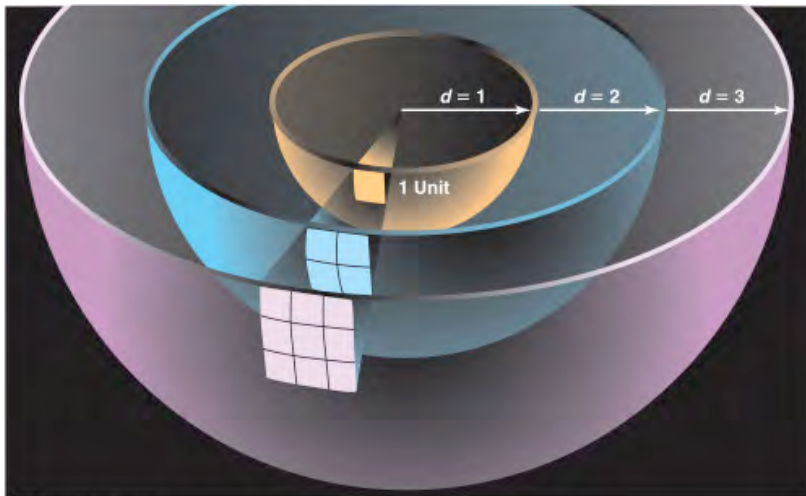
$$F_1 = F_2 = G \frac{m_1 \times m_2}{r^2}$$

Newton's Law of Gravitational Force



$$F_1 = F_2 = k_c \frac{q_1 \times q_2}{r^2}$$

Coulomb's Law of Electrical Force



Area of Sphere =  $4\pi r^2$

Number of Lines of Force is Constant.

Hence Force Per-Unit-Area is Proportional to  $1/r^2$

# Superposition

- **Question:** How Do We Figure Out the Force on a Point Charge Due to Many Other Point Charges?
- **Answer:** Consider One Pair at a Time, Calculate the Force (a Vector!) In Each Case Using Coulomb's Law and Finally Add All the Vectors! ("Superposition")
- Useful To Look Out for SYMMETRY to Simplify Calculations!

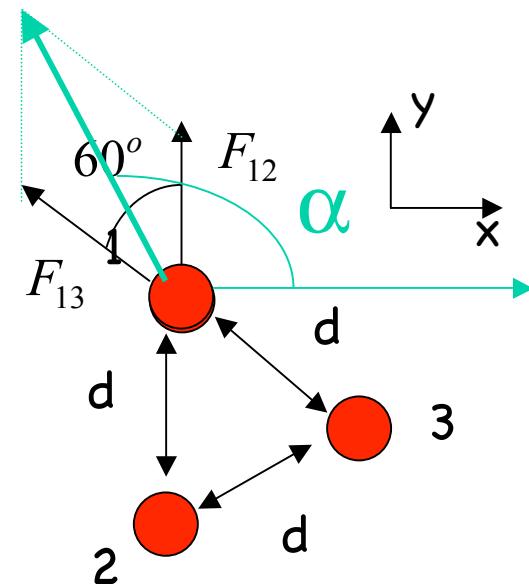
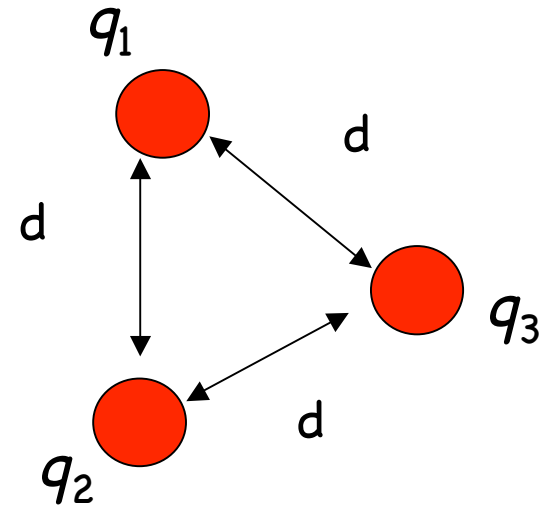


# Feel the Force! Example

- Three Equal Charges Form an Equilateral Triangle of Side 1.5 m as Shown
- Compute the Force on  $q_1$
- What are the Forces on the Other Charges?

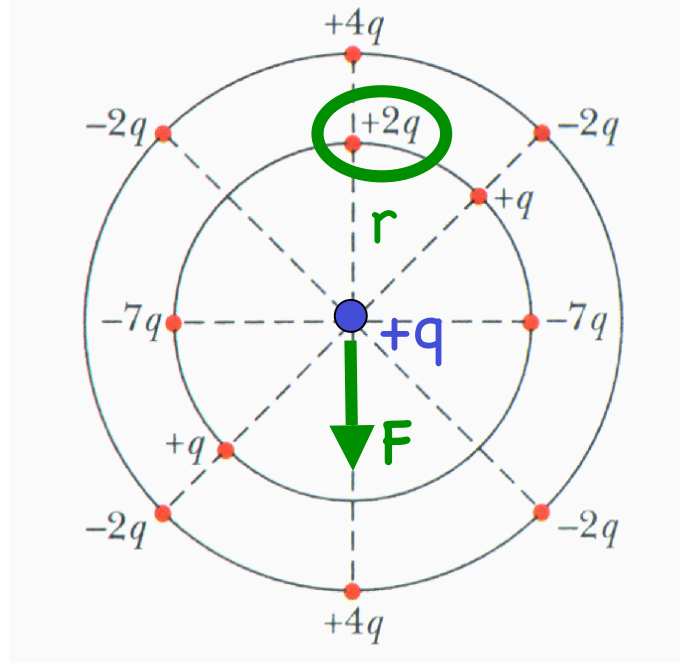
Solution: Set up a Coordinate System, Compute Vector Sum of  $F_{12}$  and  $F_{13}$

$$q_1 = q_2 = q_3 = 20 \text{ mC}$$



# Another Example With Symmetry

$$|\vec{F}| = \frac{k |+2q| |+q|}{r^2}$$



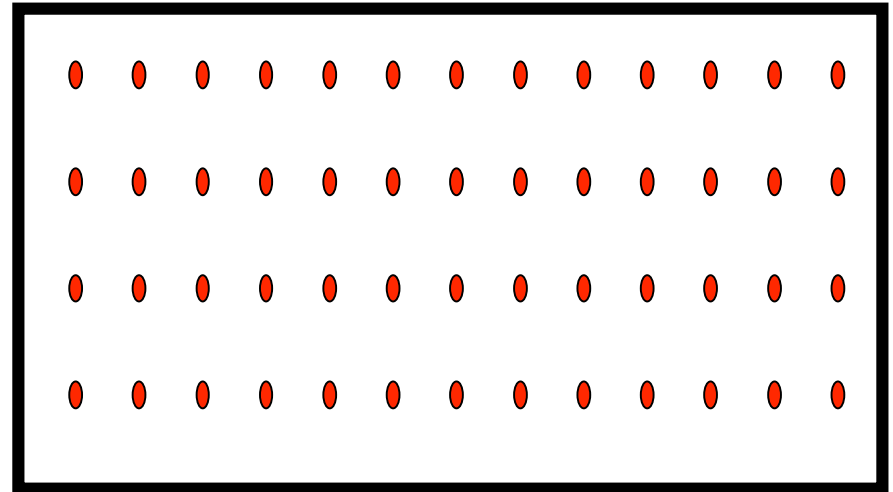
Charge +q  
Placed at Center

What is the Force on Central Particle?

All Forces Cancel Except From +2q!

# Electric Charges in Solids

- In Macroscopic Solids, Nuclei Often Arrange Themselves Into a Stiff Regular Pattern Called a "Crystal Lattice".
- Electrons Move Around This Lattice. Depending on How They Move the Solid Can Be Classified by Its "Electrical Properties" As an **Insulator** or a **Conductor**.

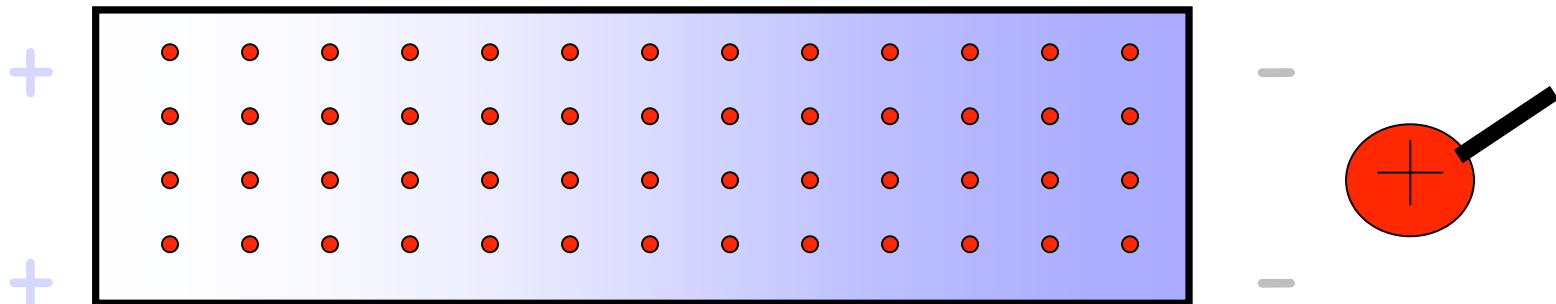


# Charges in Solids

- In a **Conductor**, Electrons Move Around Freely, Forming a "Sea" of Electrons. This Is Why **Metals Conduct Electricity**.
- Charges Can Be "Induced" (Moved Around) in Conductors.

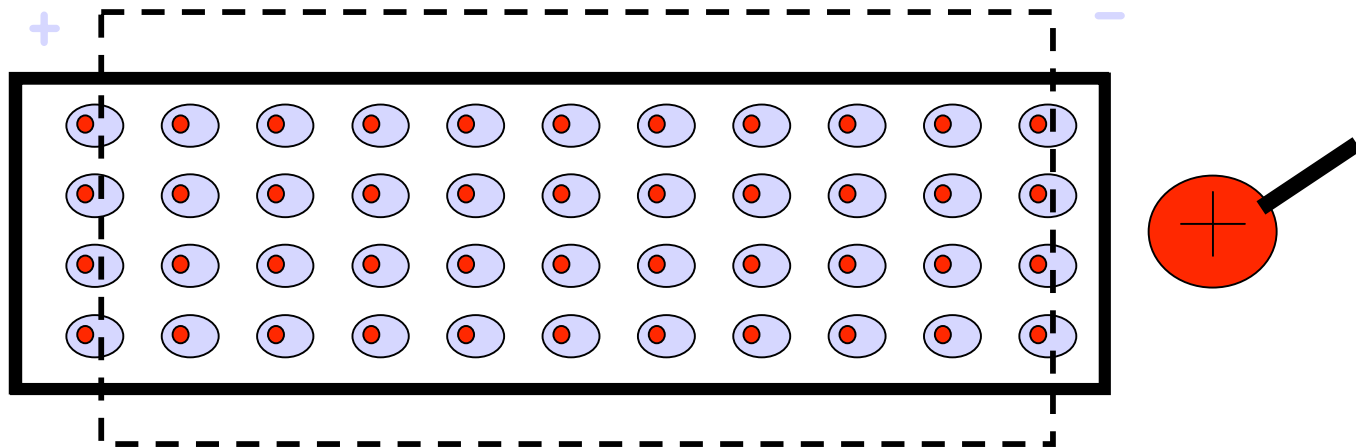
Blue Background = Mobile Electrons

Red Circles = Static Positive Charge (Nuclei)



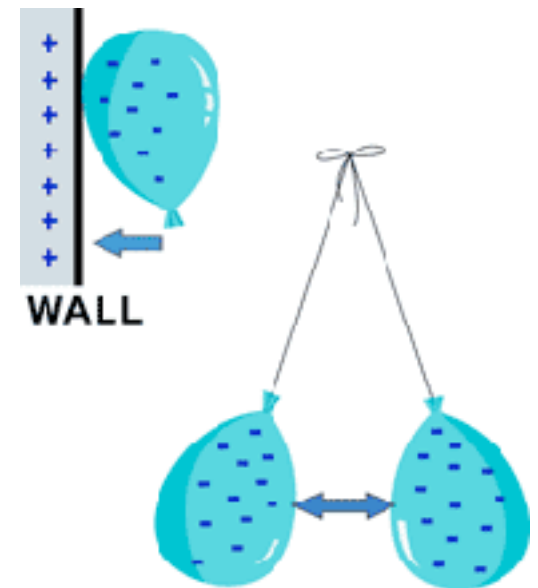
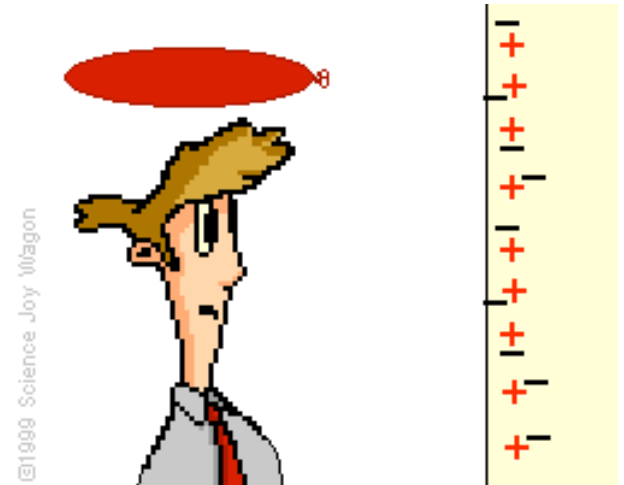
# Insulating Solids

- In an **Insulator**, Each Electron Cloud Is Tightly Bound to the Protons in a Nucleus. **Wood, Glass, Rubber.**
- Note That the Electrons Are Not Free to Move Throughout the Lattice, but the Electron Cloud Can "Distort" Locally.

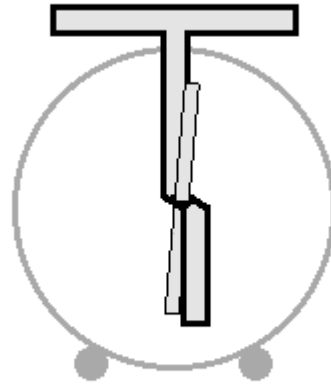


# How to Charge an Object

- An Object Can Be Given Some “Excess” Charge: Giving Electrons to It (We Give It Negative Charge) or Taking Electrons Away (We “Give” It Positive Charge).
- How Do We Do Charge an Object? Usually, Moving Charges From One Surface to Another by Adhesion (Helped by Friction), or by Contact With Other Charged Objects.
- If a Conductor, the Whole Electron Sea Redistributes Itself.
- If an Insulator, the Electrons Stay Where They Are Put.



# Electroscope

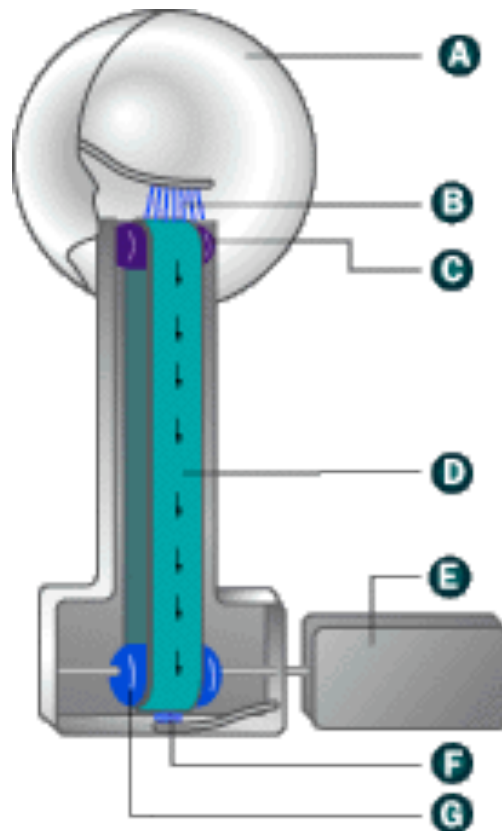


The electroscope is neutral as evidenced by the needle in a relaxed position.



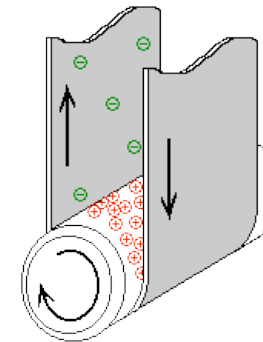
<http://www.physicsclassroom.com/mmedia/estatics/esn.html>

# Van der Graaf Generator



- A** Output terminal — An aluminum or steel sphere
- B** Upper brush — A piece of fine metal wire
- C** Upper roller — A piece of nylon
- D** Belt — A piece of surgical tubing
- E** Motor
- F** Lower brush
- G** Lower roller — A piece of nylon covered with silicon tape

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<http://science.howstuffworks.com/vdg2.htm>

<http://www.amasci.com/emotor/vdg.html>

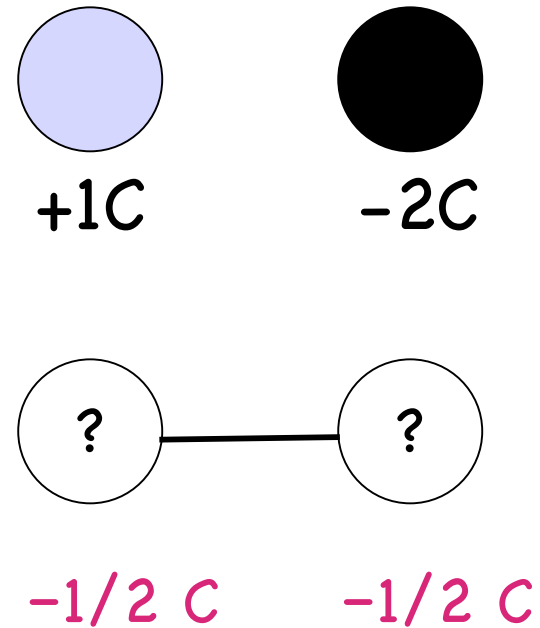


# Conservation of Charge

Total Amount of Charge in an Isolated System Is Fixed ("Conserved")

Example: 2 Identical Metal Spheres Have Charges +1C and -2C.

You connect these together with a metal wire; what is the final charge distribution?



# Quantization of Charge

- Charge is always found in **INTEGER** multiples of the charge on an electron/proton.
- Unit of charge: Coulomb (C) in SI units
- Electron charge =  $-e = -1.6 \times 10^{-19}$  Coulombs
- Proton charge =  $+e = +1.6 \times 10^{-19}$  Coulombs
- One cannot **ISOLATE FRACTIONAL CHARGE** (e.g.  $-1/2 e$ ,  $+1/3 e$ , etc.)

# Ch. 21: Summary

- **Electric Charges** Come With Two Signs: **Positive and Negative**.
- Like Charges Repel, Opposite Charges Attract, With a Magnitude Calculated From **Coulomb's Law**:  $F = kq_1q_2/r^2$
- **Atoms** Have a Positive Nucleus and a Negative "Cloud".
- Electron Clouds Can Combine and Flow Freely in **Conductors**; Are Stuck to the Nucleus in **Insulators**.
- We Can **Charge Objects** by Transferring Charge, or by Induction.
- Electrical Charge Is **Conserved**, and **Quantized**.

