

Solutions to practice problems

This equation can be used to find the electric field of a point charge q some distance r away from that charge.

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

This equation can be used to find the electric (Coulombic) force between two charges q_1 and q_2 which are separated by a distance r .

$$F = \frac{kq_1q_2}{r^2}$$

Write an equation which relates the electric field created by a point charge q to the force between that charge and another charge q_0 .

$$F = Eq_0 \rightarrow \frac{kq}{r^2} \cdot q_0$$

A $40 \mu\text{C}$ charge produces an Electric field of 30 N/C at what distance from the charge?

$$k = 8.99 \times 10^9$$

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

$$30 = \frac{k(40 \times 10^{-6})}{r^2}$$

$$r = 109 \text{ m}$$

What is the intensity (magnitude) of the electric field produced by a -3.0 C charge at a distance of 2.3 m ?
What is the direction of that field? Explain your answer.

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

$$= \frac{k(-3)}{2.3^2}$$

$$= \sqrt{5.10 \times 10^9 \frac{\text{N}}{\text{C}}} \text{ Towards the charge}$$

b/c it's negative

A negative charge of $4.0 \times 10^{-5} \text{ C}$ and a positive charge of $7.0 \times 10^{-5} \text{ C}$ are separated by a distance of 0.15 m . What is the magnitude and direction of the electric force between the two charges?

$$F = \frac{kq_1q_2}{r^2}$$

$$F = \frac{k(4 \times 10^{-5})(7 \times 10^{-5})}{.15^2} = 1119 \text{ N attract}$$

Two protons are separated by $36 \mu\text{m}$. What is the magnitude and direction of the electric force between the two charges?

$$q_1 = q_2 = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$$

$$F = \frac{kq_1q_2}{r^2} = \frac{k(1.6 \times 10^{-19})^2}{36 \times 10^{-6}}$$

$$F = 1.78 \times 10^{-19} \text{ N repulsive}$$

$$1.78 \times 10^{-19} \text{ N}$$

A positive charge of $72 \mu\text{C}$ is separated from a positive charge of $15 \mu\text{C}$ by a distance of 3.2 cm . What is the magnitude and direction of the electric force between the two charges?

$$F = \frac{kq_1q_2}{r^2} = \frac{k(72 \times 10^{-6})(15 \times 10^{-6})}{.032^2} = 9482 \text{ N}$$

Two negative charges of magnitude 50 nC push each other apart with a force of 32 N . How far apart are the charges and what are their signs?

$$F = \frac{kq_1q_2}{r^2}$$

~~$$32 = \frac{k(50 \times 10^{-9})(50 \times 10^{-9})}{r^2}$$~~

$$32 = \frac{k(50 \times 10^{-9})^2}{r^2}$$

Same signs

$$r = \sqrt{7.02 \times 10^{-7}}$$

$$r = 8.38 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m}$$

A negative charge of $500 \mu\text{C}$ exerts an attractive force of 9.0 N on a second charge 10 m away. What is the sign and magnitude of the second charge?

$$9 = \frac{k(500 \times 10^{-6})q_2}{10^2}$$

$$q_2 = 2.00 \times 10^{-4} \text{ C}$$

positive

If an electric field produces a force of 12.3 N on a charge of $6 \mu\text{C}$, what is the intensity of the field which produced the force?

$$F = Eq$$

$$12.3 = E(6 \times 10^{-6})$$

$$E = 2.05 \times 10^6 \frac{\text{N}}{\text{C}}$$

When an electric field of $3 \text{ milli-Newton/Coulomb}$ interacts with an electron, what magnitude of force is "felt" by the electron?

$$\rightarrow 3 \frac{\text{mN}}{\text{C}}$$

$$\rightarrow q = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$$

$$\frac{3 \text{ mN} / 1 \text{ N}}{\text{C} / 1000 \text{ mN}} = .003 \frac{\text{N}}{\text{C}}$$

$$F = Eq$$

$$F = (.003)(1.6 \times 10^{-19})$$

$$F = 4.8 \times 10^{-22} \text{ N}$$