

## Coulomb's law

Is an equation describing the attraction between 2 charged objects.

Coulomb found the attraction between 2 objects depends on 2 things:

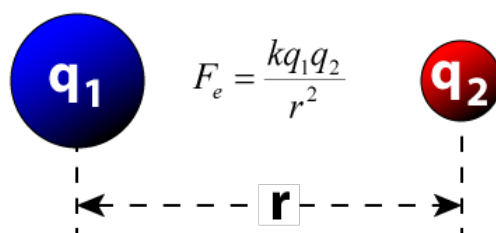
- 1- the charge of the object
- 2- The distance between the 2 charged objects.

- The stronger the charge the stronger the attraction will be, the greater the distance the weaker the attraction is.

Formula:  $F_e = \frac{kq_1q_2}{r^2}$

Symbol	Stands for	Unit
K	Coulomb's constant = $9 \times 10^9$	$\text{Nm}^2/\text{C}^2$
$q_1$	Charge of 1st item	C
$q_2$	Charge of 2nd item	C
$r^2$	Distance between both objects	$\text{m}^2$
$F_e$	Electrical force of objects	N

- $q_1$  and  $q_2$  will be the same number unless specified in the problem.
- $r$  often given in cm, must convert to m.  $\div 100$



ex-1

$q_1 = 4 \times 10^{-7} \text{ C}$  and  $r = 3 \text{ cm}$

$$F_e = \frac{k q_1 q_2}{r^2} = \frac{9 \times 10^9 \frac{\text{N} \cdot \text{m}^2}{\text{C}^2} \times 4 \times 10^{-7} \text{ C} \times 4 \times 10^{-7} \text{ C}}{(0.03 \text{ m})^2} = 1.6 \text{ N} = 2 \text{ N}$$

ex-2

Two positively charged objects each have a charge of  $5.0 \times 10^{-8} \text{ C}$  and are placed  $1.0 \text{ cm}$  apart. What is the electrical force between the 2 objects?

$$F_e = \frac{9 \times 10^9 \times 5.0 \times 10^{-8} \times 5.0 \times 10^{-8}}{(0.010)^2} = 0.225 \text{ N}$$

ex-3

Two positively charged particles at rest exert a force of  $5.6 \times 10^3 \text{ N}$  on one another. The charge of the first particle is  $8.0 \times 10^{-5} \text{ C}$  and the charge of the second particle is  $2.0 \times 10^{-4} \text{ C}$ . What is the distance between the two charged particles?

$$(5.6 \times 10^3 \text{ N}) = \frac{9 \times 10^9 \times 8.0 \times 10^{-5} \times 2.0 \times 10^{-4}}{r^2}$$

$$r = \sqrt{\frac{9 \times 10^9 \times 8.0 \times 10^{-5} \times 2.0 \times 10^{-4}}{5.6 \times 10^3}} = 0.14 \text{ m}$$

ex-4

Two positively charged particles at rest exert a force of  $4.65 \times 10^3 \text{ N}$  on one another. The charge of the first particle is  $7 \times 10^{-5} \text{ C}$  and the charge of the second particle is  $5.55 \times 10^{-4} \text{ C}$ . What is the distance between the two charged particles?

$$(4.65 \times 10^3 \text{ N}) = \frac{9 \times 10^9 \times 7 \times 10^{-5} \times 5.55 \times 10^{-4}}{r^2} = 0.001 \text{ m}$$

ex-5

What is the charge of sphere 2, if sphere 1 has a charge of  $5 \times 10^{-4} \text{ C}$  the distance between both is  $0.004 \text{ m}$  and the electrical force acting between both spheres is  $4 \times 10^{-4} \text{ N}$ ?

$$4 \times 10^{-4} \text{ N} = \frac{9 \times 10^9 \times 5 \times 10^{-4} \times q_2}{(0.004 \text{ m})^2}$$

$$q_2 = \frac{4 \times 10^{-4} \times (0.004)^2}{9 \times 10^9 \times 5 \times 10^{-4}} = 0.000000177 \text{ C} = 1.77 \times 10^{-7} \text{ C}$$

ex-6

What is the charge of a sphere, if one of the spheres has a charge of  $9.99 \times 10^{-3} \text{ C}$  the distance between both is  $1.75 \text{ cm}$  and the electrical force acting between both spheres is  $4.855 \times 10^{-4} \text{ N}$ ?

$$4.855 \times 10^{-4} \text{ N} = \frac{9 \times 10^9 \times 9.99 \times 10^{-3} \times q_2}{(0.0175 \text{ m})^2}$$

$$q_2 = \frac{4.855 \times 10^{-4} \times (0.0175)^2}{9 \times 10^9 \times 9.99 \times 10^{-3}} = 1.65 \times 10^{-4} \text{ C}$$

