

Chapter 23

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ELECTRIC FIELDS

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Lecture 01

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Electric Charge

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Electric Charges

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Electric charge is an intrinsic property of the fundamental particles that make up objects such as: the rods, silk, and fur.

Electric charge is a **scalar** quantity.

The SI unit of charge is the **Coulomb**; it is derived from the SI unit Ampere:

$$(1\text{ C}) = (1\text{ A})(1\text{ s})$$

The **fundamental charge** has the magnitude of:

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

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Electric Charges

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- There are two kinds of electric charges

- Called **positive** and **negative**

- ✦ Negative charges are the type possessed by electrons.

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

- ✦ Positive charges are the type possessed by protons.

$$p = +1.6 \times 10^{-19}\text{ C}$$

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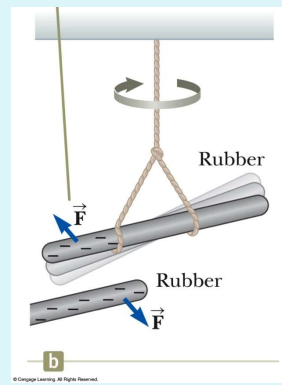
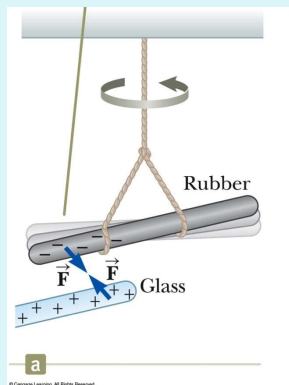
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Electric Charges

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Charges with opposite signs attract one another.

Charges of the same sign repel one another.



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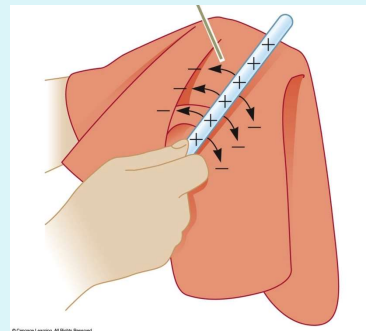
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Conservation of charge

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- **Neutral objects:** there are equal numbers of negative charges and positive charges, and so the net charge is zero.
- During a charging process, **charge isn't created**, but it is transferred from one object to another; electrons are transferred from the glass to the silk.
 - Object that **gained** negative charge becomes negatively charged.
 - Object that **lost** negative charge becomes positively charged.



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Quantization of Electric Charges

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- The electric charge is said to be quantized.
 - Charge on any object is a **multiple of the fundamental charge**.

$$q = \pm ne$$

- ✦ q is the standard symbol used for charge as a variable.
- ✦ n is an integer = 1, 2, 3,
- ✦ e is the fundamental unit of charge

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

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Conductors

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- Electrical conductors are materials in which some of the electrons are **free electrons**.
 - Free electrons are not bound to the atoms.
 - These electrons can move relatively freely through the material.
 - Examples of good conductors include copper, aluminum and silver.
 - When a good conductor is charged in a small region, the charge readily distributes itself over the entire surface of the material.

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Insulators

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- Electrical insulators are materials in which all of the **electrons are bound** to atoms.
 - These electrons can not move relatively freely through the material.
 - Examples of good insulators include glass, rubber and wood.
 - When a good insulator is charged in a small region, the charge is unable to move to other regions of the material.

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Semiconductors

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- The electrical properties of semiconductors are somewhere between those of insulators and conductors.
- Examples of semiconductor materials include silicon and germanium.
 - Semiconductors made from these materials are commonly used in making electronic chips.

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★ Charge is quantized

Friday, 29 January, 2021 19:53

Lecturer: Mustafa Al-Zyout, Philadelphia University, Jordan.

-  R. A. Serway and J. W. Jewett, Jr., *Physics for Scientists and Engineers*, 9th Ed., CENGAGE Learning, 2014.
-  J. Walker, D. Halliday and R. Resnick, *Fundamentals of Physics*, 10th ed., WILEY, 2014.
-  H. D. Young and R. A. Freedman, *University Physics with Modern Physics*, 14th ed., PEARSON, 2016.
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How many electrons would have to be removed from a coin to leave it with a charge of $1 \times 10^{-7} \text{ C}$?

Solution:

From the fundamental charge (e) and the total charge q on each coin, we can find the number of removed electrons n as follows:

$$Q = Ne$$

$$\Rightarrow +1 \times 10^{-7} = N \times 1.6 \times 10^{-19}$$

$$\Rightarrow N = 6.25 \times 10^{11}$$