

Coulomb's Law قانون كولوم

In 1785, Coulomb established the fundamental law of electric force between two stationary, charged particles. Experiments show that an electric force has the following properties:

في عام 1785 أجرى العالم كولوم مجموعة تجارب من أجل وضع القانون الأساسي للقوة الكهربائية بين

- (1) The force is *inversely proportional* to the square of separation,  $r^2$ , between the two charged particles. حيث استنتج ثلاث نقاط :

$$F \propto \frac{1}{r^2}$$

- (2) The force is *proportional* to the product of charge  $q_1$  and the charge  $q_2$  on the particles.

$$F \propto q_1 q_2$$

- (3) The force is *attractive* if the charges are of opposite sign and *repulsive* if the charges have the same sign.

We conclude that the electric force between two electric charges is directly proportional to the product of the product the two charges are inversely with the square of the distance between them

نستنتج ان القوة الكهربائية بين شحنتين كهربائيتين تتناسب طرديا مع حاصل ضرب الشحنتين وعكسيا مع مربع المسافة بينهما

$$F \propto \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2}$$

$$\therefore F = K \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2}$$

where  $K$  is the coulomb constant  $= 9 \times 10^9 \text{ N.m}^2/\text{C}^2$ .

The above equation is called *Coulomb's law*, which is used to calculate the force between electric charges. In that equation  $F$  is measured in Newton (N),  $q$  is measured in unit of coulomb (C) and  $r$  in meter (m).

The constant  $K$  can be written as where

$$K = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0}$$

where  $\epsilon_0$  is known as the *Permittivity constant of free space*.

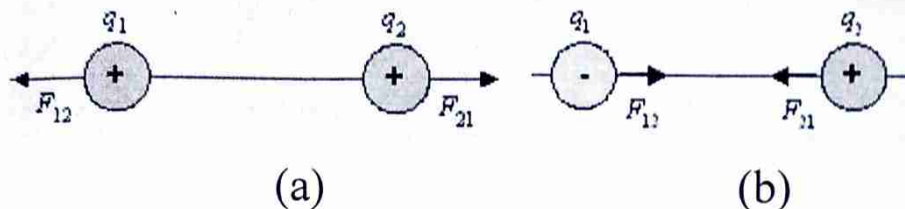
$$\epsilon_0 = 8.85 \times 10^{-12} \text{ C}^2/\text{N.m}^2$$

$$K = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} = \frac{1}{4\pi \times 8.85 \times 10^{-12}} = 9 \times 10^9 \text{ N.m}^2/\text{C}^2$$

## Calculation of the electric force

Electrical forces are caused by the effect of one charge on another, or from the effect of a particular distribution of several charges on. For example, to calculate the electrical force affecting that charge,  $q_1$ , we follow the following steps

القوى الكهربائية تكون ناتجة من تأثير شحنة على شحنة أخرى أو من تأثير توزيع معين لعدة شحنات على شحنة معينة  $q_1$  على سبيل المثال، ولحساب القوة الكهربائية المؤثرة على تلك الشحنة نتبع الخطوات التالية:-

Electric force between two electric charges

The amount of electric force

$$F_{12} = K \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2} = F_{21}$$

And its direction

$$\vec{F}_{12} = -\vec{F}_{21}$$

That is, the two forces are equal in magnitude and opposite in direction.

The same applies to the figure (b), which represents two different charges, where mutual force is attractive.

Example 1

Calculate the value of two equal charges if they repel one another with a force of 0.1N when situated 50cm apart in a vacuum.

Solution

Since  $q_1 = q_2$

$$F = K \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2}$$

$$0.1 = \frac{9 \times 10^9 \times q^2}{(0.5)^2}$$

$$q = 1.7 \times 10^{-6} \text{ C} = 1.7 \mu\text{C}$$

### Example 2

What must be the distance between point charge  $q_1 = 26.0 \mu\text{C}$  and point charge  $q_2 = -47.0 \mu\text{C}$  for the electrostatic force between them to have a magnitude of 5.70 N?

### Solution

We are given the charges and the magnitude of the (attractive) force between them. We can use Coulomb's law to solve for  $r$ , the distance between the charges:

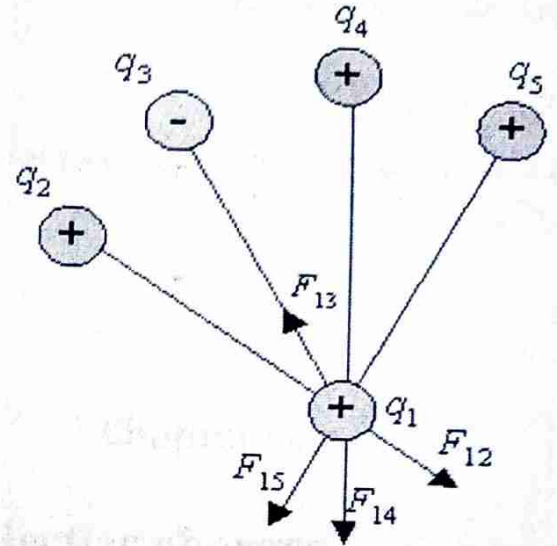
$$F = K \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2}$$

$$r_2 = k |q_1 q_2| / F$$



Electric force between more than two electric charges

In case of dealing with more than two charges, the total electrical forces affecting the  $Q_1$  charge are calculated as shown in the figure this force is  $F_1$ , which is the directional addition of all forces exchanged with the charge, meaning that:



في حالة التعامل مع أكثر من شحنتين والمراد حساب القوى الكهربائية الكلية المؤثرة على شحنة  $q_1$  كما في الشكل فإن هذه القوة هي  $F_1$  وهي الجمع الاتجاهي لجميع القوى المتبادلة مع الشحنة أي أن:

$$\vec{F}_1 = \vec{F}_{12} + \vec{F}_{13} + \vec{F}_{14} + \vec{F}_{15}$$

$$F_{12} = K \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2}$$

$$F_{13} = K \frac{q_1 q_3}{r^2}$$

$$F_{14} = K \frac{q_1 q_4}{r^2}$$

The result of these forces is  $F_1$ , but, as is evident from the figure, the line of action of the forces is different the method of analyzing vectors into two components is as follows

تكون محصلة هذه القوى هي  $F_1$  ولكن كما هو واضح على الشكل فإن خط عمل القوى مختلف ولذلك نستخدم طريقة تحليل المتجهات إلى مركبتين كما يلي:

## Coulomb's Law

## Chapter One

$$F_{1x} = F_{12x} + F_{13x} + F_{15x}$$

$$F_{1y} = F_{12y} + F_{13y} + F_{15y} + F_{14y}$$

The resultant of the forces

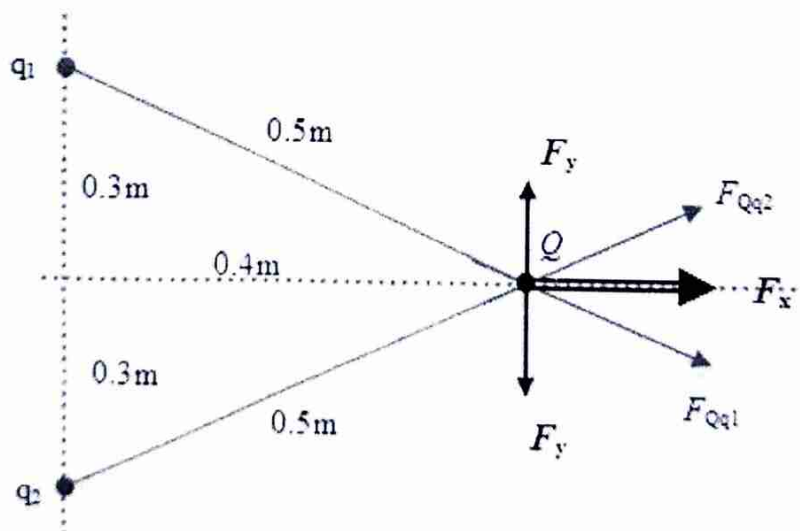
$$F_1 = \sqrt{(F_x)^2 + (F_y)^2}$$

and its direction

$$\theta = \tan^{-1} \frac{F_y}{F_x}$$

### Example (1)

In figure, two equal positive charges  $q=2 \times 10^{-6} \text{C}$  interact with a third charge  $Q=4 \times 10^{-6} \text{C}$ . Find the magnitude and direction of the resultant force on  $Q$ .



### Solution

To find the resultant of the electric forces affecting the charge  $Q$ , we apply Coulomb's law to calculate how much force each affects charge on charge  $Q$ .

Since the two charges  $q_1$  &  $q_2$  are equal and they are the same distance from charge  $Q$ , the two forces are equal in magnitude and value of force.

لإيجاد محصلة القوى الكهربائية المؤثرة على الشحنة  $Q$  نطبق قانون كولوم لحساب مقدار القوة التي تؤثر بها كل شحنة على الشحنة  $Q$ . وبما أن الشحنتين  $q_1$  &  $q_2$  متساويتان وتبعدان نفس المسافة عن الشحنة  $Q$  فإن القوتين متساويتان في مقدار وقيمة القوة

سُم استخرج  $r$  من نظرية فيثاغورس ويكون النتيجة:  $r = 0.5$

$$F_{Qq_1} = K \frac{qQ}{r^2} = 9 \times 10^9 \frac{(4 \times 10^{-6})(2 \times 10^{-6})}{(0.5)^2} = 0.29 \text{ N} = F_{Qq_2}$$

By analyzing the force vector of two components, it produces:

$$F_x = F \cos \theta = 0.29 \left( \frac{0.4}{0.5} \right) = 0.23 \text{ N}$$

$$F_y = -F \sin \theta = -0.29 \left( \frac{0.3}{0.5} \right) = -0.17 \text{ N}$$

وبالمثل يمكن إيجاد القوة المتبادلة بين الشحنتين  $Q$  وهي  $F_{Qq_2}$  وبالتحليل الاتجاهي نلاحظ أن مركبتَي  $Y$  متساويتان في المقدار ومتعاكستان في الاتجاه

$$\sum F_x = 2 \times 0.23 = 0.46 \text{ N}$$

$$\sum F_y = 0$$

نضع في نظرية فيثاغورس:

$$r^2 = x^2 + y^2$$

$$r^2 = (0.3)^2 + (0.4)^2 = 0.09 + 0.16 = 0.25$$

$$\therefore r = 0.5 \text{ m}$$

## Coulomb's Law

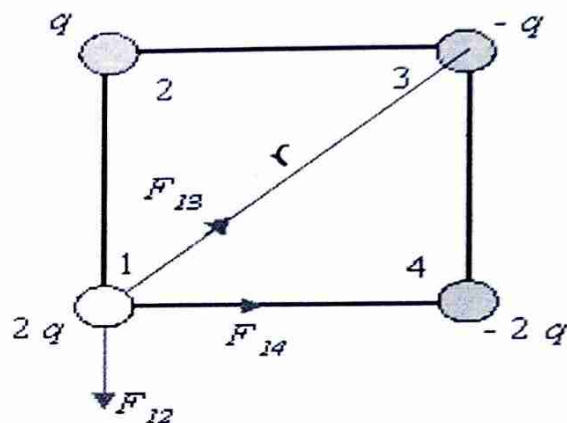
## Chapter One

### Example (2)

In this figure what is the resultant force on the charge in the lower left corner of the square? Assume that  $q=1 \times 10^{-7}$  C and  $a = 5$  cm.

### Solution

For simplicity we number the charges as shown in above figure, and then we determine the direction of the electric forces acted on the charge in the lower left corner of the square  $q_1$



$$\vec{F}_1 = \vec{F}_{12} + \vec{F}_{13} + \vec{F}_{14}$$

$$F_{12} = K \frac{2qq}{a^2}$$

$$F_{13} = K \frac{2qq}{2a^2}$$

$$F_{14} = K \frac{2q2q}{a^2}$$

تطبيق المراتبة

$$\begin{aligned} r^2 &= a^2 + a^2 \\ &= 2a^2 \end{aligned}$$

By substituting in the equations it results that:

$$F_{12} = 0.072 \text{ N}$$

$$F_{13} = 0.036 \text{ N}$$

$$F_{14} = 0.144 \text{ N}$$

We notice here that we cannot directly add the three forces because the action line of the powers is different, so we calculate the outcome the two



## Coulomb's Law

## Chapter One

axes are orthogonal X and Y, and we analyze the forces that do not fall on these two axes, that is, the vector of  $F_{13}$  to become

نلاحظ هنا أننا لا نستطيع جمع القوى الثلاث مباشرة لأن خط عمل القوى مختلف، ولذلك لحساب المحصلة نفرض محورين متعامدين X, Y ونحلل القوى التي لا تقع على هذين المحورين أي متجه القوة  $F_{13}$  ليصبح

$$\cos 45 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = 0.707 = \sin 45$$

$$F_{13x} = F_{13} \sin 45 = 0.025 \text{ N \&}$$

$$F_{13y} = F_{13} \cos 45 = 0.025 \text{ N}$$

$$F_x = F_{13x} + F_{14} = 0.025 + 0.144 = 0.169 \text{ N}$$

$$F_y = F_{13y} - F_{12} = 0.025 - 0.072 = -0.047 \text{ N}$$

The negative signal indicates that the direction of the force vehicle is in the direction of the y axis negative.

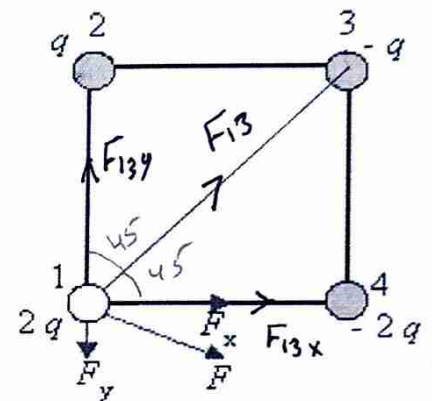
The resultant force equals

$$F_1 = \sqrt{(F_x)^2 + (F_y)^2}$$

$$F_1 = 0.175 \text{ N}$$

The direction with respect to the x-axis equals

$$\theta = \tan^{-1} \frac{F_y}{F_x} = \tan^{-1} \frac{-0.047}{0.169} = -15.5^\circ$$



## Coulomb's Law

## Chapter One

axes are orthogonal X and Y, and we analyze the forces that do not fall on these two axes, that is, the vector of  $F_{13}$  to become

نلاحظ هنا أننا لا نستطيع جمع القوى الثلاث مباشرة لأن خط عمل القوى مختلف، ولذلك لحساب المحصلة نفرض محورين متعامدين X, Y ونحلل القوى التي لا تقع على هذين المحورين أي متجه القوة  $F_{13}$  ليصبح

$$F_{13x} = F_{13} \sin 45 = 0.025 \text{ N \&}$$

$$F_{13y} = F_{13} \cos 45 = 0.025 \text{ N}$$

$$F_x = F_{13x} + F_{14} = 0.025 + 0.144 = 0.169 \text{ N}$$

$$F_y = F_{13y} - F_{12} = 0.025 - 0.072 = -0.047 \text{ N}$$

The negative signal indicates that the direction of the force vehicle is in the direction of the y axis negative.

The resultant force equals

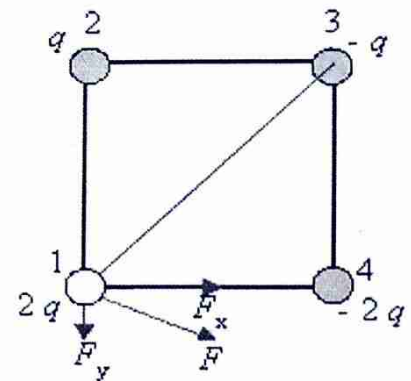
$$F_1 = \sqrt{(F_x)^2 + (F_y)^2}$$

$$F_1 = 0.175 \text{ N}$$

The direction with respect to the x-axis equals

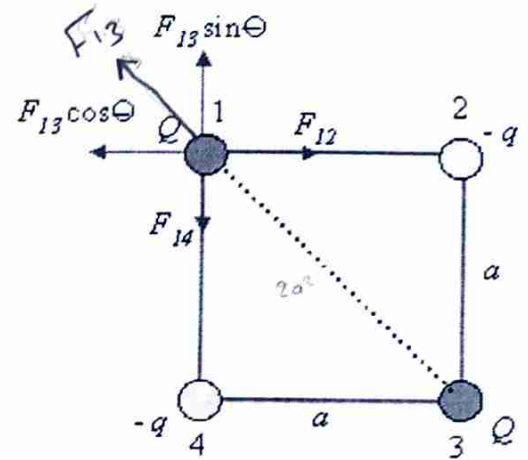
$$\theta = \tan^{-1} \frac{F_y}{F_x} = -0.278$$

$$= -15.5^\circ$$



## Example (3)

A charge  $Q$  is fixed at each of two opposite corners of a square as shown in figure is below. A charge  $q$  is placed at each of the other two corners. (a) If the resultant electrical force on  $Q$  is Zero, how are  $Q$  and  $q$  related.



## Solution

نحدد اتجاهات القوى على الشكل بعد تحليل متجه القوة  $F_{13}$  نلاحظ أن هناك أربعة متجهات قوى متعامدة، كما هو موضح في الشكل أدناه، وبالتالي يمكن أن تكون محصلتهم تساوى صفراً إذا كانت محصلة المركبات الأفقية تساوى صفراً وكذلك محصلة المركبات الرأسية

$$F_x = 0 \Rightarrow F_{12} - F_{13x} = 0$$

Then

$$F_{12} = F_{13} \cos 45$$

$$K \frac{Qq}{a^2} = K \frac{QQ}{2a^2 \sqrt{2}} \Rightarrow q = \frac{Q}{2\sqrt{2}}$$

$$F_y = 0 \Rightarrow F_{13y} - F_{14} = 0$$

$$F_{13} \sin 45 = F_{14}$$

$$K \frac{QQ}{2a^2 \sqrt{2}} = K \frac{Qq}{a^2} \Rightarrow q = \frac{Q}{2\sqrt{2}}$$

$$\rightarrow Q = 2\sqrt{2} q$$

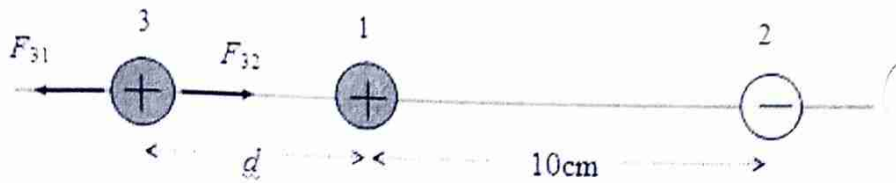
So:  $Q = -2\sqrt{2} q$

## \* Coulomb's Law

### Chapter One

#### Example (4)

Two fixed charges,  $1 \mu C$  and  $-3 \mu C$  are separated by 10cm as shown in figure, (a) where may a third charge be located so that no force acts on it? (b) Is the equilibrium stable or unstable for the third charge?



#### Solution

المطلوب من السؤال هو أين يمكن وضع شحنة ثالثة بحيث تكون محصلة القوى الكهربائية المؤثرة عليها تساوى صفراً، أي أن تكون في وضع اتزان equilibrium. حتى يتحقق هذا فإنه يجب أن تكون القوى المؤثرة متساوية في المقدار ومتعاكسة في الاتجاه. وحتى يتحقق هذا الشرط فإن الشحنة الثالثة يجب أن توضع خارج الشحنتين وبالقرب من الشحنة الأصغر. لذلك نفرض شحنة موجبة  $q_3$  كما في الرسم ونحدد اتجاه القوى المؤثرة عليها.

$$F_{31} = F_{32}$$

$$k \frac{q_3 q_1}{r_{31}^2} = k \frac{q_3 q_2}{r_{32}^2}$$

$$\frac{1 \times 10^{-6}}{d^2} = \frac{3 \times 10^{-6}}{(d+10)^2} \times 10^{-2}$$

نحل هذه المعادلة ونوجد قيمة  $d$ .

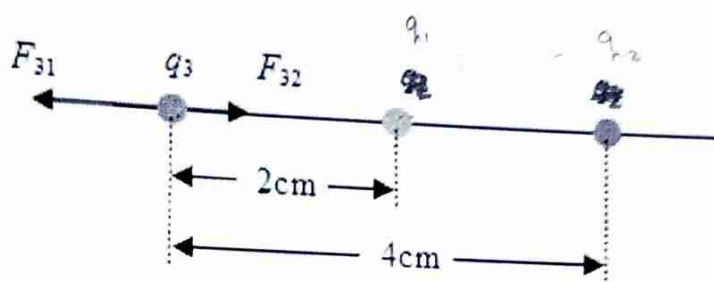


# Coulomb's Law

## Chapter One

### Example (5)

Two charges are located on the positive x-axis of a coordinate system, as shown in below figure. Charge  $q_1=2\text{nC}$  is 2cm from the origin, and charge  $q_2=-3\text{nC}$  is 4cm from the origin. What is the total force exerted by these two charges on a charge  $q_3=5\text{nC}$  located at the origin?



### Solution

The total force on  $q_3$  is the vector sum of the forces due to  $q_1$  and  $q_2$  individually.

$$F_{31} = \frac{(9 \times 10^9)(2 \times 10^{-9})(5 \times 10^{-9})}{(0.02)^2} = 2.25 \times 10^{-4} \text{ N}$$

$$F_{32} = \frac{(9 \times 10^9)(3 \times 10^{-9})(5 \times 10^{-9})}{(0.04)^2} = 0.84 \times 10^{-4} \text{ N}$$

$$F_3 = F_{31} + F_{32}$$

$$\therefore F_3 = 0.84 \times 10^{-4} - 2.25 \times 10^{-4} = -1.41 \times 10^{-4} \text{ N}$$

The total force is directed to the left, with magnitude  $1.41 \times 10^{-4} \text{ N}$ .