

Chapter 20: Electric Charge, Force & Field

Thursday September 1st

- Reminders and Brief Review
 - History
 - Charge
- Coulomb's law
 - Example problems
- Electric field
 - The equivalent of Newton's law in electrostatics
 - Electric field lines
 - Example problems
- Electric dipoles (if time)

Reading: pages 328 - 342 in the text book (Ch. 20)

Physics 2049 Reminders

- First LON-CAPA assignment due tonight!!
 - Next LONCAPA due Wed. (opens tonight)
- First Mini-Exam next Thursday (Sep. 8th)
 - Read instructions posted in LONCAPA
- First use of *iClicker* on Tuesday
 - Make sure to purchase and register
- No labs next week

History Lesson

- 600BC** **Greek philosophers**
First references to magnetism and electric charge
- 1175-1600** **Alexander Neckem, Petrus Peregrinus, William Gilbert**
References to, and explanation for, the compass
- 1747** **Benjamin Franklin (and William Watson)**
Discovers that there are two kinds of charge
- 1780s** **Charles Augustine de Coulomb**
Discovers law of forces between charges – birth of electrostatics
- 1825** **André-Marie Ampère**
Discovers law of forces between currents – birth of magnetostatics
- 1720** **Hans Christian Oersted**
Discovers that electric currents influence compass needles
- 1831** **Michael Faraday**
Discovers law of electromagnetic induction – birth of electrodynamics
- 1873** **James Clerk Maxwell**
Publishes *A Treatise on Electricity and Magnetism*
- 1887** **Henrich Hertz**
Confirms that light is an electromagnetic wave
- 1905** **Albert Einstein***
Formulates special theory of relativity
- 1909** **Robert Millikan***
Measurement of elementary unit of charge

***Nobel
prize**

History Lesson



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PHY3101 - next semester

At the end of the 19th century, A. A. Michelson (very famous physicist) stated that *"all of the grand underlying physical principles had been firmly established."*

Then came two revolutions:

- Relativity

concepts of space and time change at large relative velocities

- Quantum mechanics

concept of matter changes on small length scales

- Classical laws of mechanics break down in these limits, and much remains to be discovered

What is charge?

- Charge is measured in Coulombs (C)
 - Fundamental unit.
 - Definition based on forces between current carrying wires (current = Ampères, or C/s), i.e. chapter 26.
- Charge is discrete
 - Thompson discovered the electron in 1896. He found that charge was carried by elementary particles with the same charge to mass ratio.
 - The elementary charge of the electron was not measured until 1909 (Millikan).
 - Both experiments earned Nobel prizes.

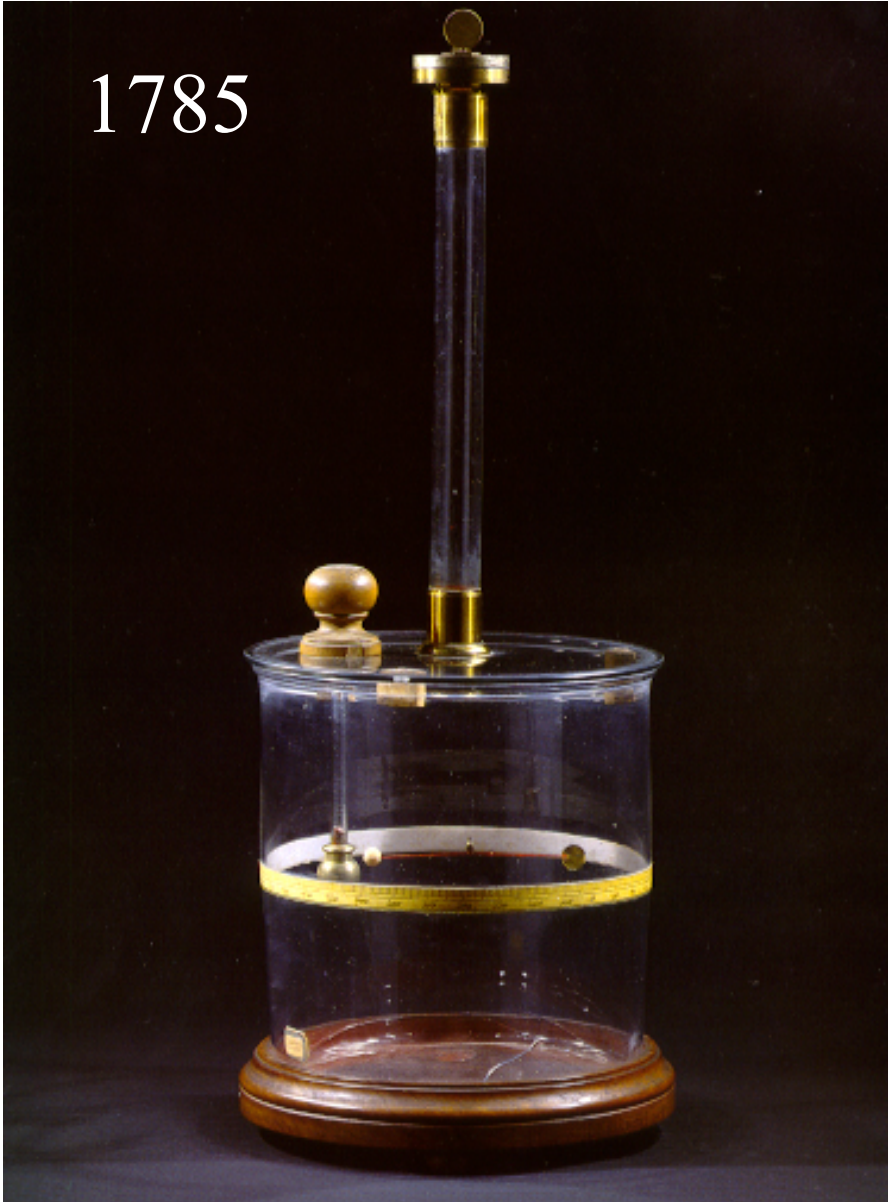
Charge on an electron:	$e = 1.6 \times 10^{-19}$ Coulombs
1 Coulomb of charge:	6.24×10^{18} electrons
1 Ampère (= 1 C/s)	6.24×10^{18} electrons/second

Charge is discrete: $q = ne$ $n = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \dots$

Coulomb's Law

Coulomb's torsional balance

1785



$$F \propto \frac{|q_1||q_2|}{r^2}, \quad \text{or} \quad F = k \frac{|q_1||q_2|}{r^2}$$

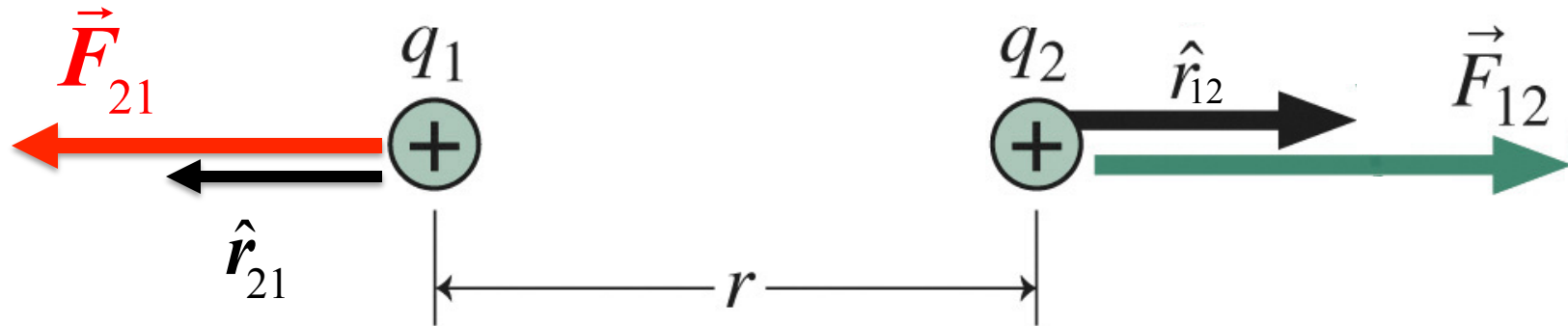
$$k = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} = 8.99 \times 10^9 \text{ N} \cdot \text{m}^2 / \text{C}^2$$

$$\epsilon_0 = 8.85418781762 \times 10^{-12} \text{ C}^2/\text{N} \cdot \text{m}^2$$

$$\epsilon_0 = \frac{1}{\left(4\pi \times 10^{-7} \text{ N} \cdot \text{s}^2 / \text{C}^2\right) \times c^2}$$

$$c = \text{speed of light in vacuum} \\ = 299792458 \text{ m/s}$$

Coulomb's Law in vector notation



$$\vec{F}_{12} = k \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2} \hat{r}_{12} \quad k = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0}$$

Newton's 3rd law:

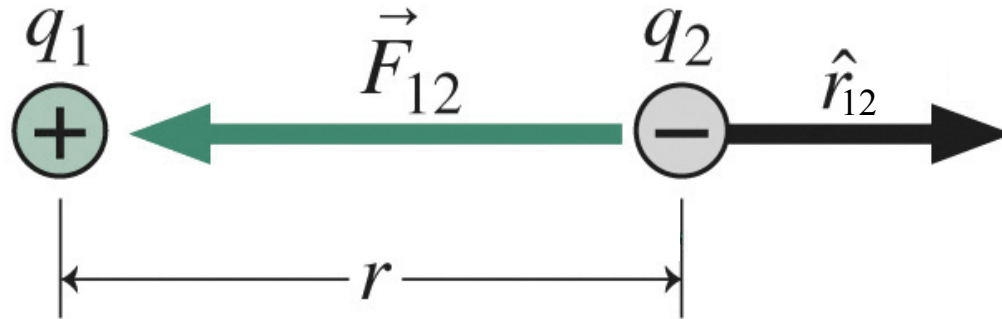
$$\vec{F}_{12} = -\vec{F}_{21}$$

$$\vec{F}_{21} = k \frac{q_1 q_2}{r_{21}^2} \hat{r}_{21}$$

Unit vectors:

$$\hat{r}_{12} = \frac{\vec{r}_{12}}{r} = -\hat{r}_{21}$$

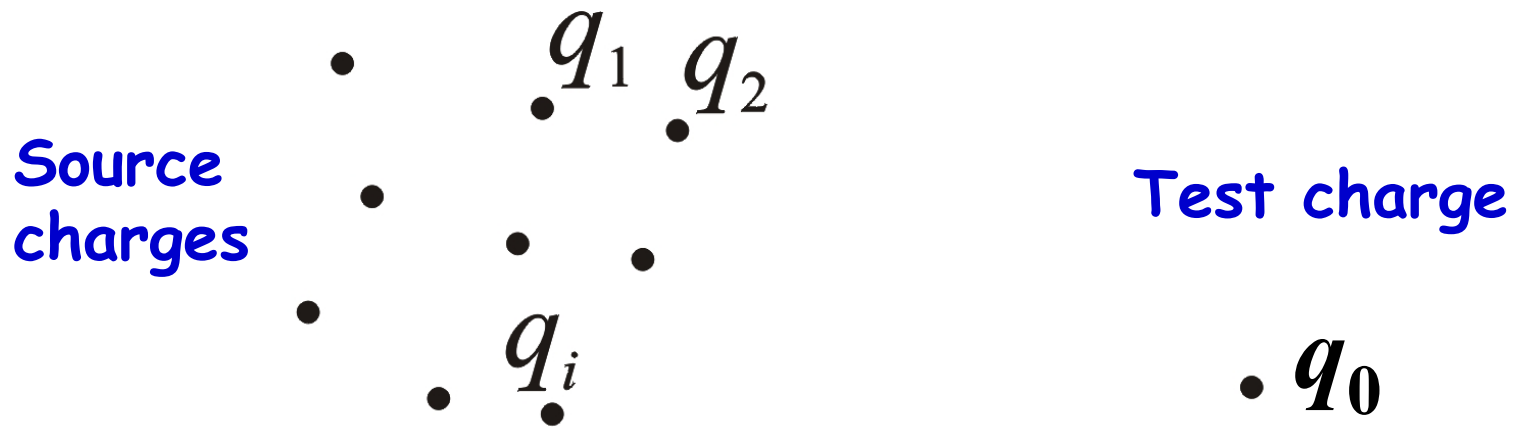
Coulomb's Law in vector notation



$$\vec{F}_{12} = k \frac{q_1 q_2}{r^2} \hat{r}_{12} \quad k = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0}$$

$q_2 < 0$, so the force is in the opposite direction to \hat{r}_{12}

Superposition principle



$$\vec{F}_{q_0} = \vec{F}_1 + \vec{F}_2 + \vec{F}_3 + \dots + \vec{F}_i = \sum_i \vec{F}_i$$

• Leads to Maxwell's equations being linear.

Electric fields

Analogy with gravitation

- **Problem:**

Force depends on test mass!

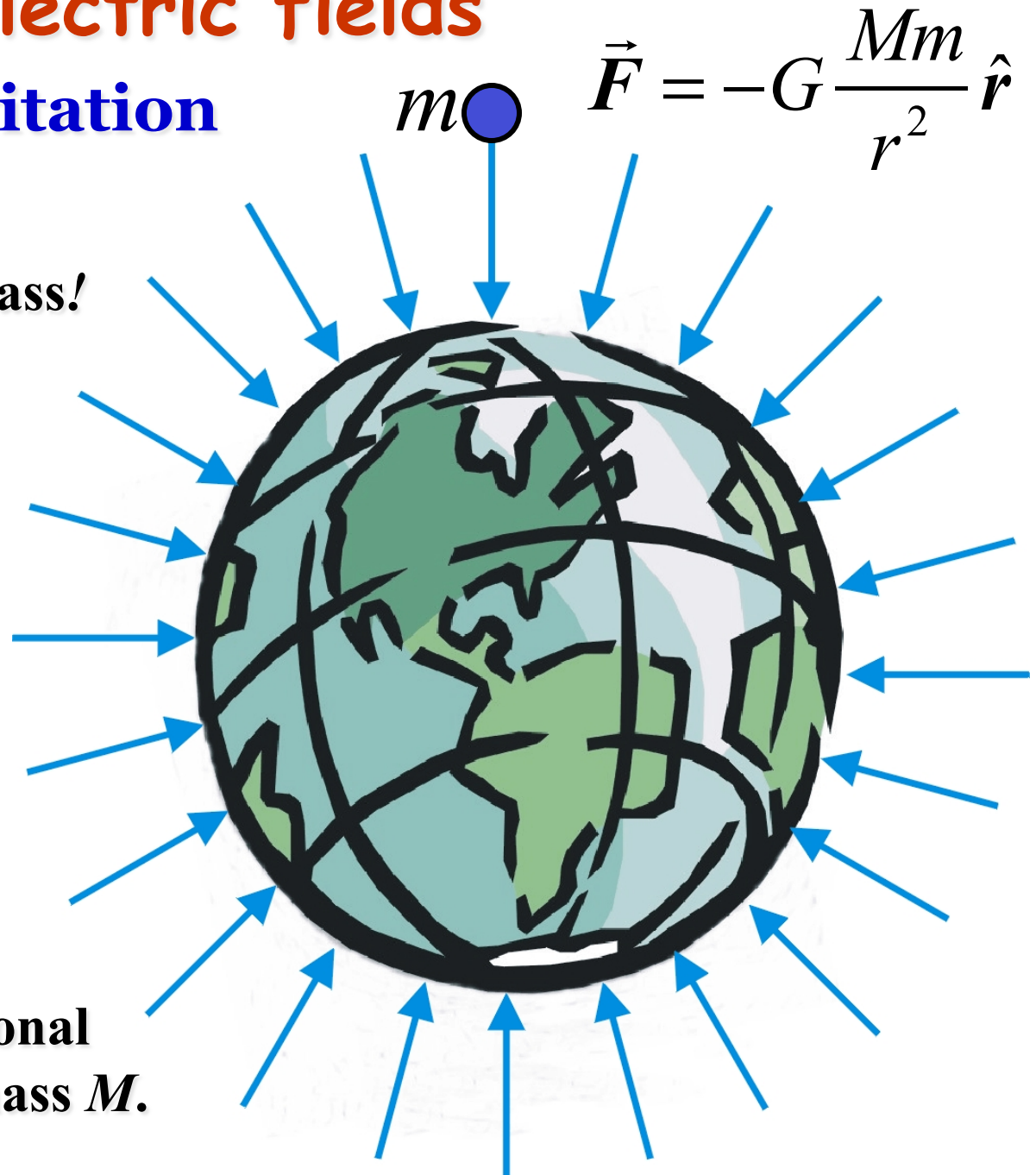
- **Newton's law:**

$$\vec{F} = m\vec{g} \quad \text{or} \quad \vec{g} = \frac{\vec{F}}{m}$$

$$\vec{g} = -\frac{GM}{r^2} \hat{r}$$

- **Same for all masses.**

- **Represents the gravitational influence (field) of the mass M .**



Electric fields

Analogy with gravitation

- **Problem:**

Force depends on test charge!

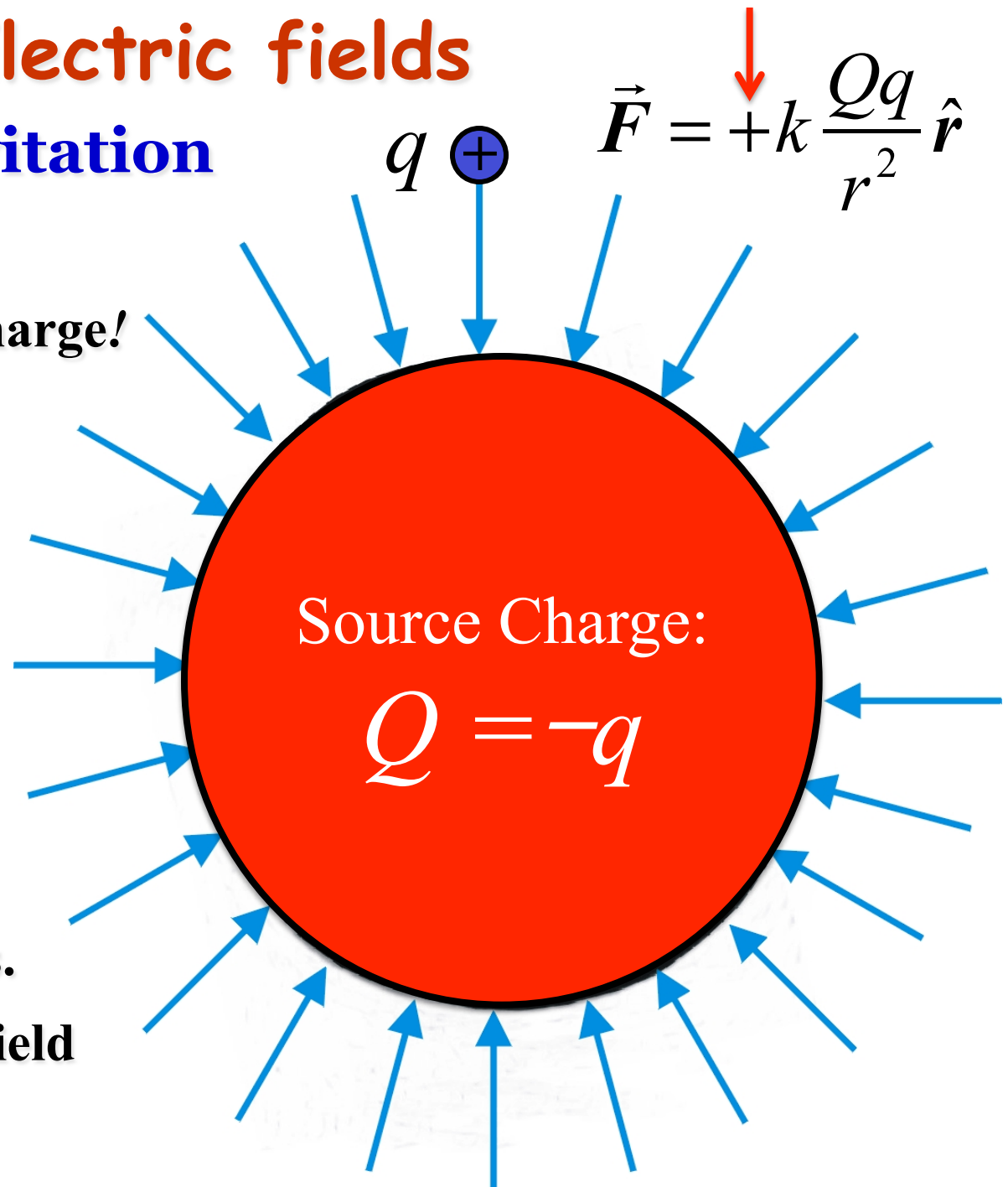
- **Definition:**

$$\vec{F} = q\vec{E} \quad \text{or} \quad \vec{E} = \frac{\vec{F}}{q}$$

$$\vec{E} = +k \frac{Q}{r^2} \hat{r}$$

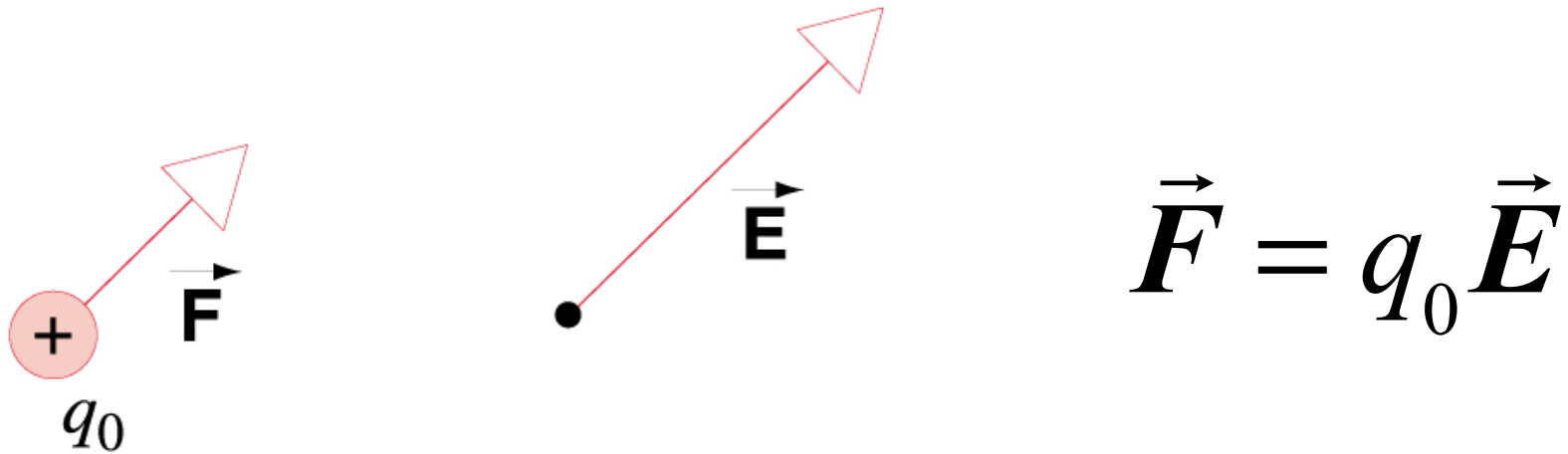
- Same for all test charges.

- Represents the electric field due to the charge Q .



Electric fields

Newton's law for electrostatics:



There's really no need for the "test charge"

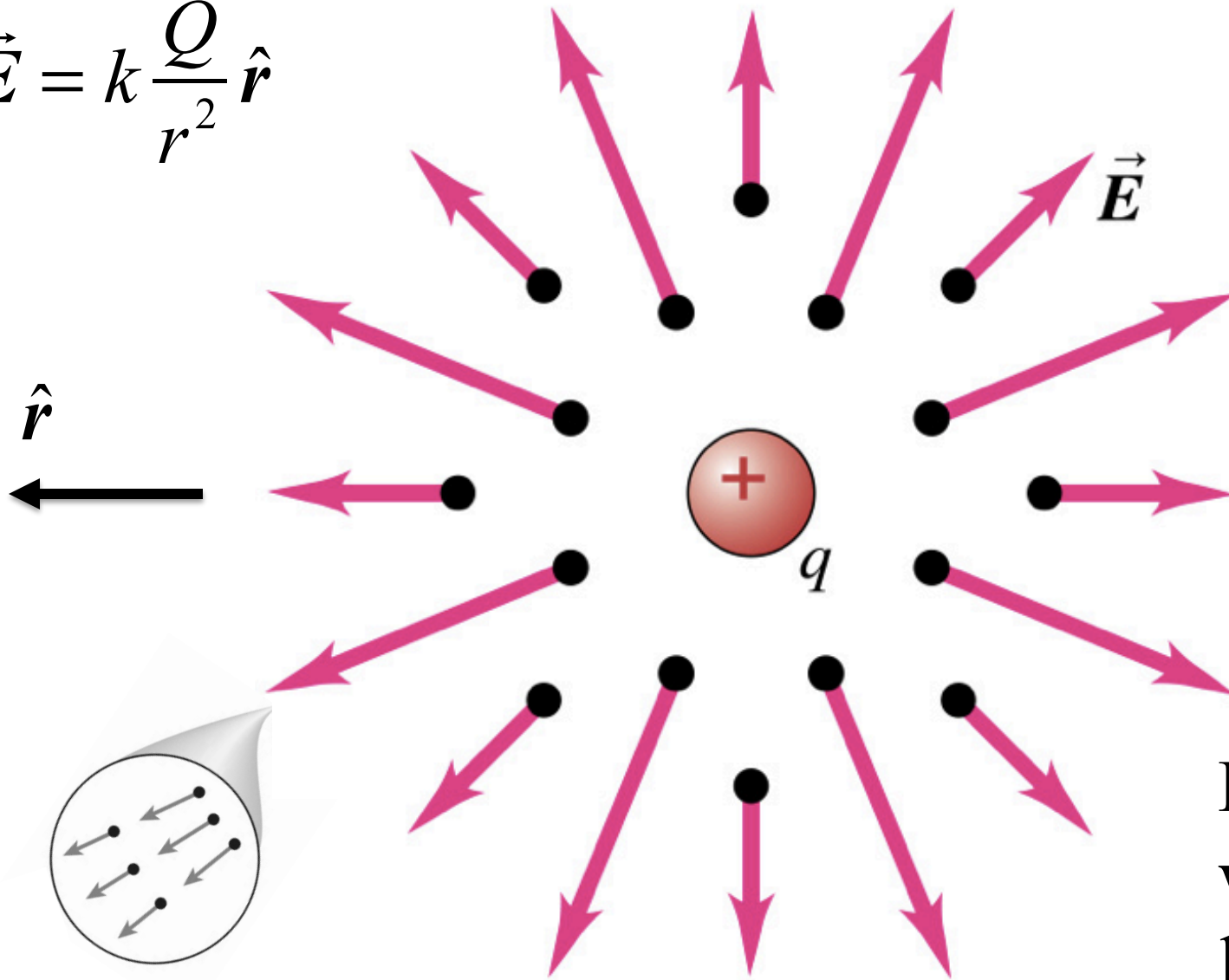
$$\vec{F} = q\vec{E}$$

This is the force on a charge q in an electric field \vec{E}

Units for E are N/C in this chapter
(later we shall use volts per meter)

Electric fields

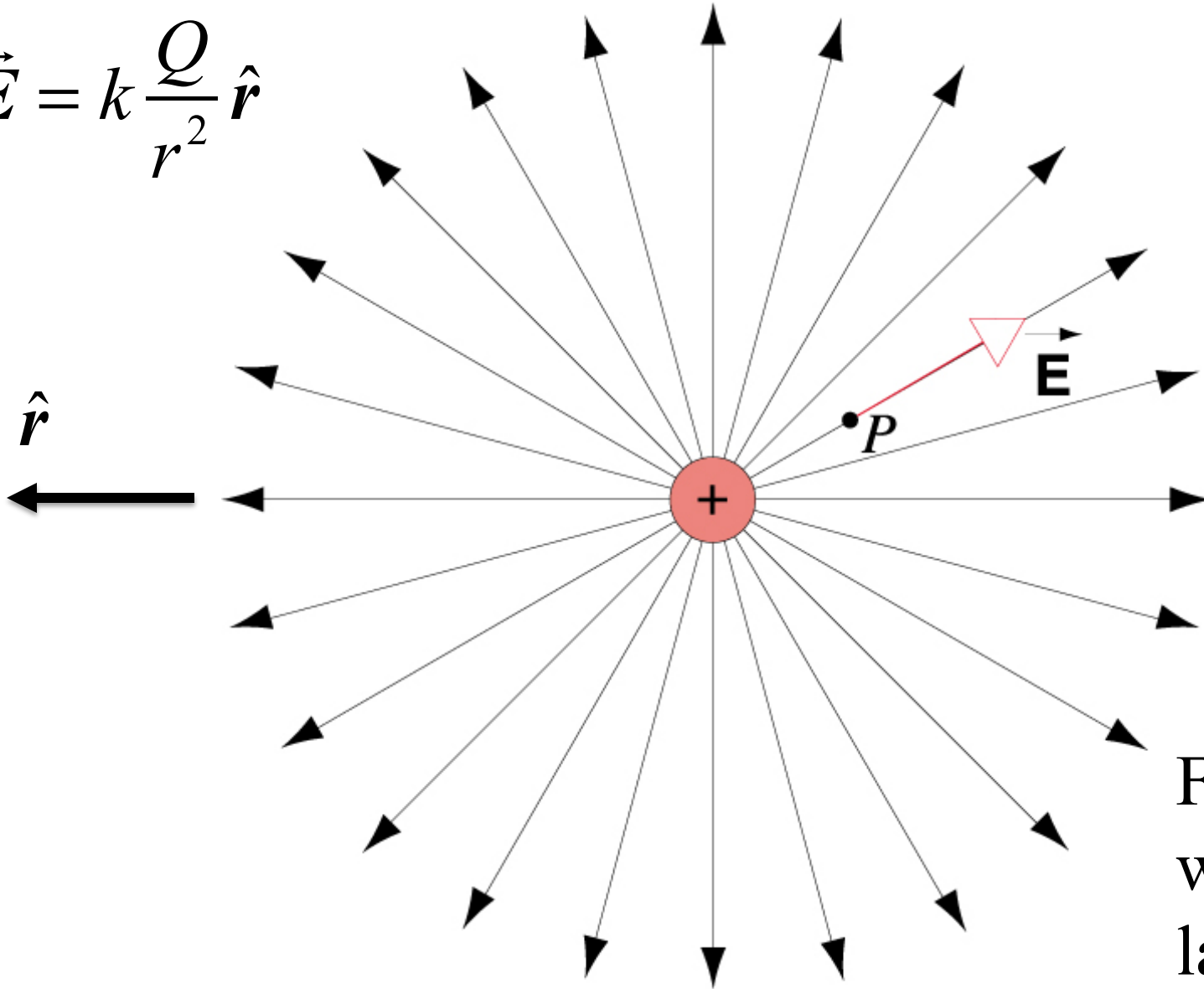
$$\vec{E} = k \frac{Q}{r^2} \hat{r}$$



Field gets weaker at larger distances

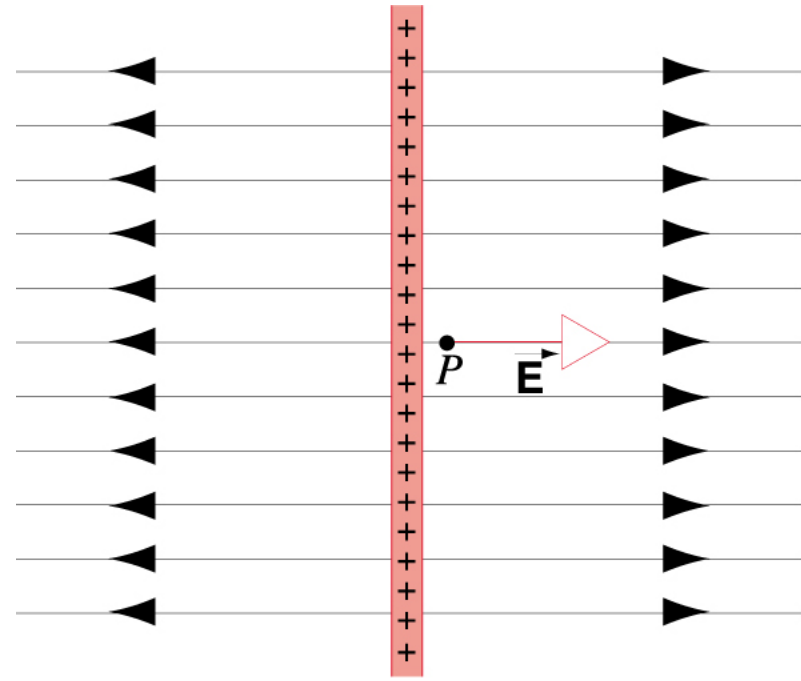
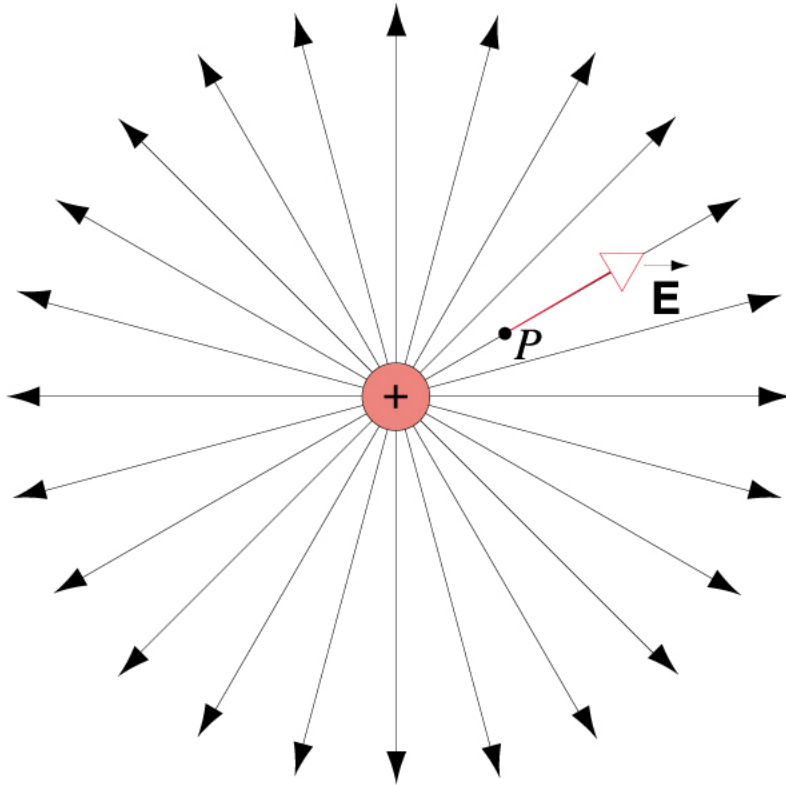
Electric field lines

$$\vec{E} = k \frac{Q}{r^2} \hat{r}$$



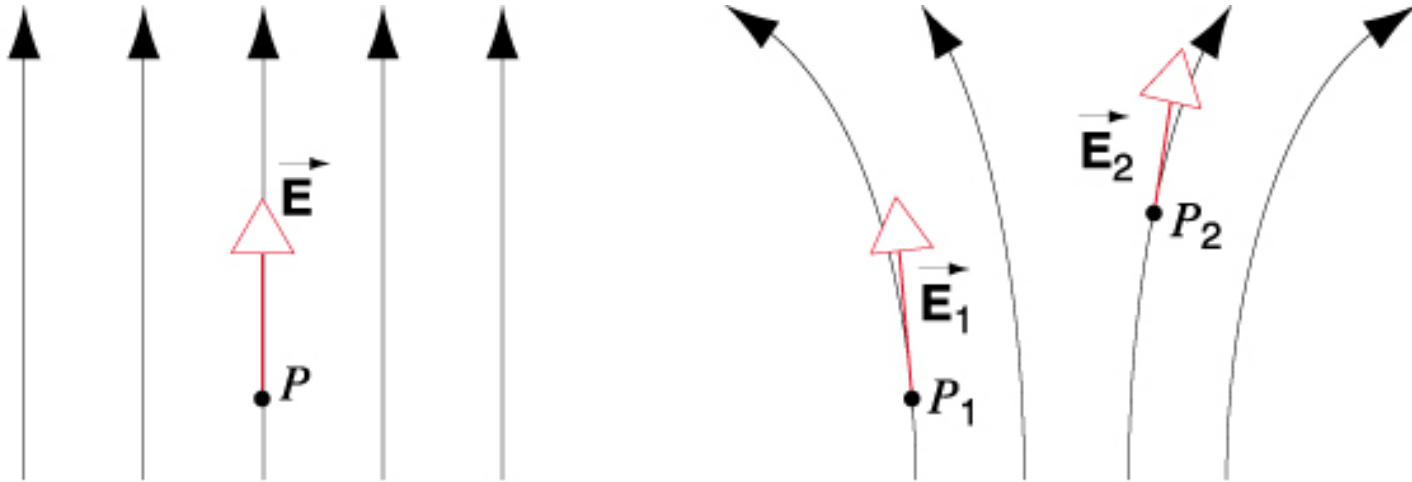
Field gets weaker at larger distances

Electric field lines



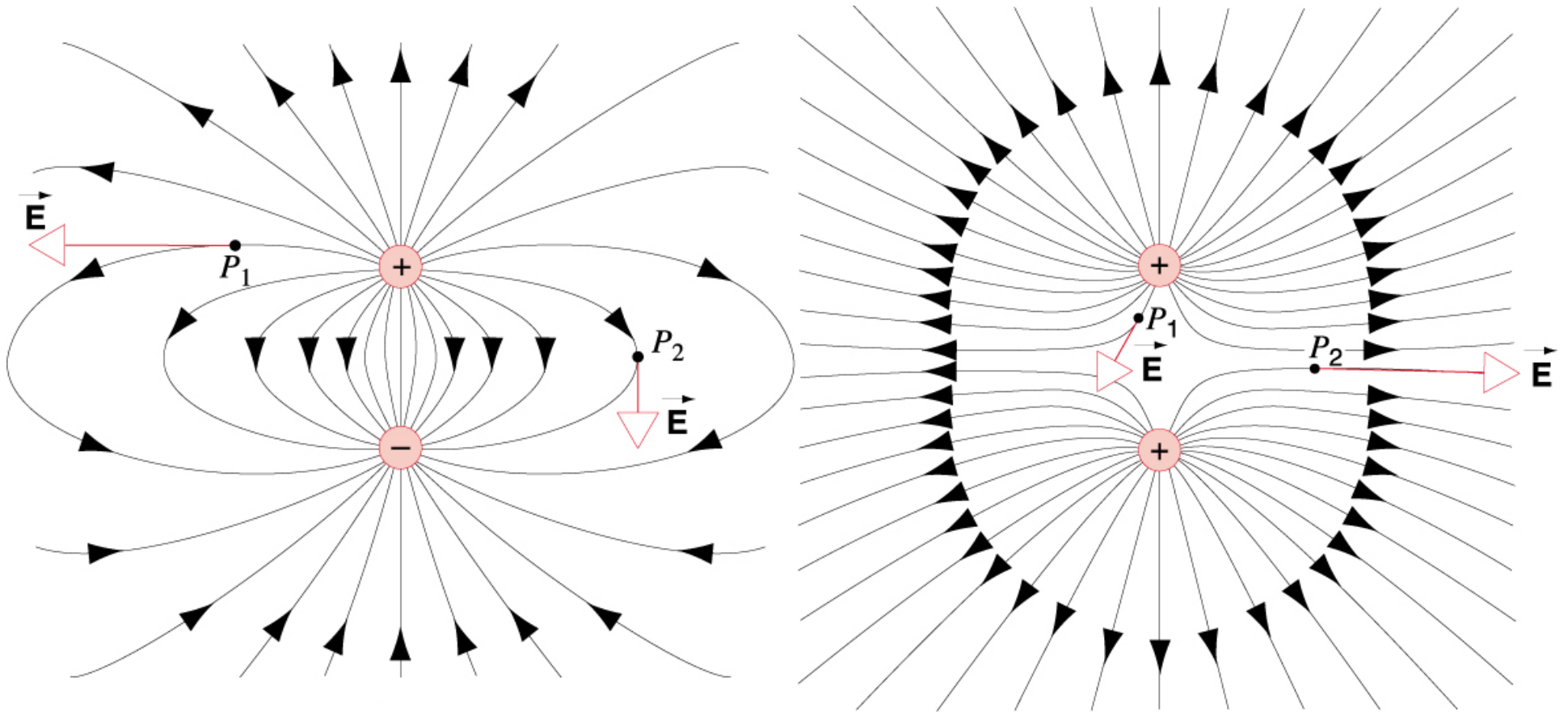
- Electric field lines start on positive charges and end on negative charges (can also start/end at infinity).
- The symmetry of the problem dictates the directions in which field lines radiate from charges.

Electric field lines



- The tangent to an electric field line at a point in space gives the direction of the electric field at that point.
- The magnitude of the electric field at any point is proportional to the number of field lines per unit cross-sectional area perpendicular to the lines (tightness of their spacing).
- Plus charges experience a force parallel to the field lines; negative charges in the opposite direction.

Electric field lines



- The number of field lines radiating from a charge is proportional to the charge.
- Field lines cannot cross (why?)