

جامعة الملك سعود  
كلية العلوم  
قسم الفيزياء والفلك  
مذكرة المقرر 104 فيز  
تنسيق: أ.د. ناصر بن صالح الزايد

الباب 23  
محاضرة رقم 2 (صيفي)

أجزاء كبيرة من هذه المذكرة معتمدة على عروض الأستاذة نورة علي  
المنيف - قسم الفيزياء.

2019

*Physics 104*  
*Chapter 23*

**Electric Field**

*Lecture No. 02*

# The Electric Field

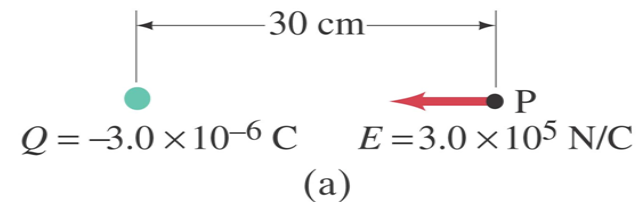
Example : Electric field of a single point charge.

(a) Calculate the magnitude and direction of the electric field at a point P which is 30 cm to the right of a point charge  $Q = -3.0 \times 10^{-6} \text{ C}$ .

$$E = k \frac{|q|}{r^2}$$

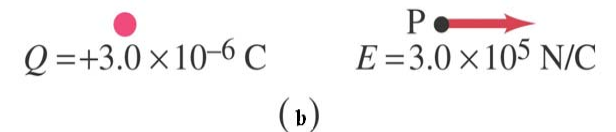
$$E = \frac{(9.0 \times 10^9 \text{ N}\cdot\text{m}^2/\text{C}^2)(3.0 \times 10^{-6} \text{ C})}{(0.30 \text{ m})^2}$$

$$E = 3.05 \times 10^5 \text{ N/C} \quad \textit{towards the charge}$$



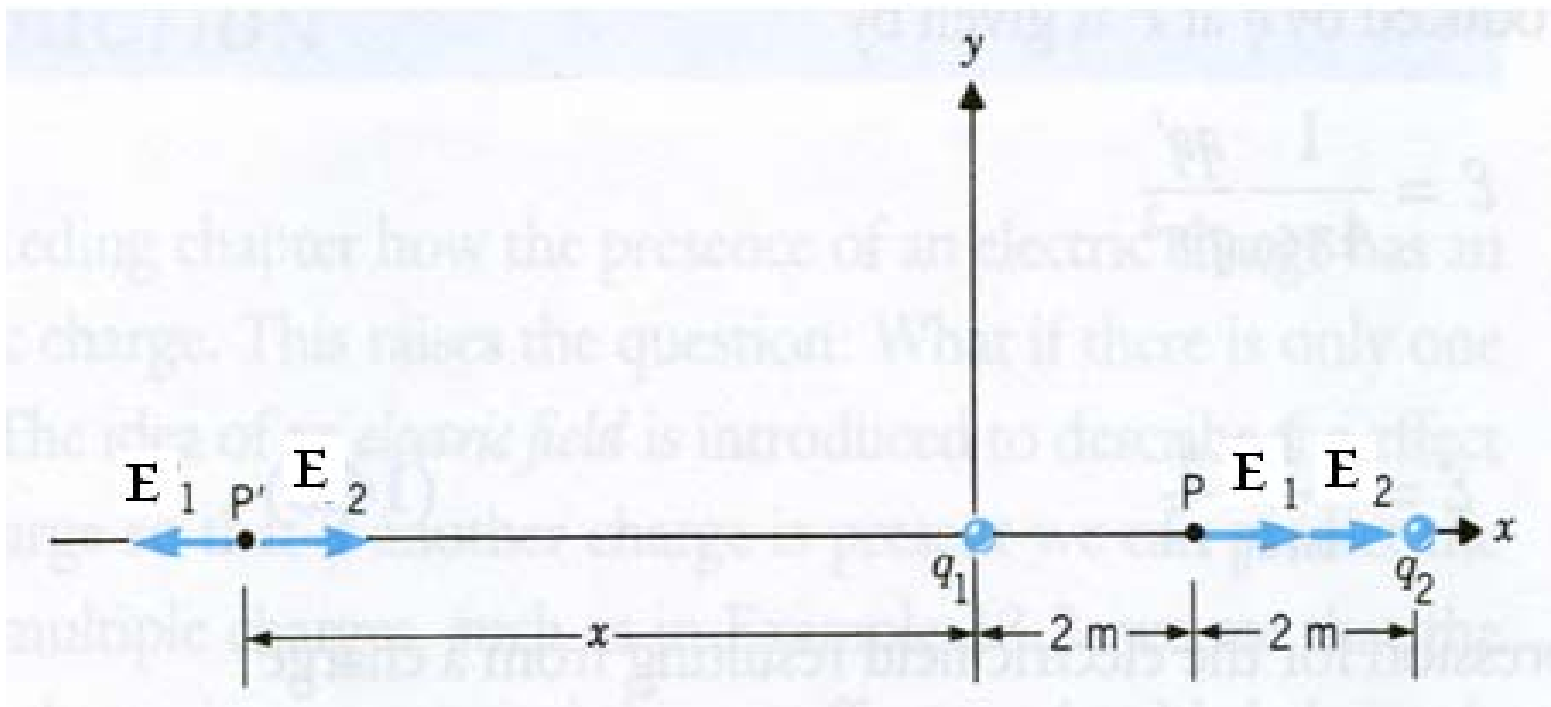
(b) due to a positive charge  $Q$ , each 30 cm from P.

**Solution:** Substitution gives  $E = 3.0 \times 10^5 \text{ N/C}$ . The field points away from the positive charge and towards the negative one



# Example

- A charge  $q_1 = 3 \times 10^{-6} \text{ C}$  is located at the origin of the  $x$  axis. A second charge  $q_2 = -5 \times 10^{-6} \text{ C}$  is also on the  $x$  axis 4 m from the origin in the positive  $x$  direction
- (a) Calculate the electric field at the midpoint  $P$  of the line joining the two charges.
- (b) At what point  $P'$  on that line is the resultant field zero?



# Example - Solution

(a) Since  $q_1$  is positive and  $q_2$  is negative, at any point between them, both electric fields produced by them are the same direction which is toward to  $q_2$ . Thus,

$$\mathbf{E}_1 = 9 \times 10^9 \frac{\text{N}\cdot\text{m}^2}{\text{C}^2} \frac{3 \times 10^{-6} \text{ C}}{(2 \text{ m})^2} = 6.75 \times 10^3 \text{ N/C}$$

$$\mathbf{E}_2 = 9 \times 10^9 \frac{\text{N}\cdot\text{m}^2}{\text{C}^2} \frac{5 \times 10^{-6} \text{ C}}{(2 \text{ m})^2} = 11.25 \times 10^3 \text{ N/C}$$

The resultant electric field  $E$  at  $P$  is

$$\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{E}_1 + \mathbf{E}_2 = 18 \times 10^3 \text{ N/C}$$

(b) It is clear that the resultant  $E$  can not be zero at any point between  $q_1$  and  $q_2$  because both  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  are in the same direction. Similarly  $E$  can not be zero to the right of  $q_2$  because the magnitude of  $q_2$  is greater than  $q_1$  and the distance  $r$  is smaller for  $q_2$  than  $q_1$ . Thus,  $E$  can only be zero to the left of  $q_1$  at some point  $P'$  to be found. Let the distance from  $P'$  to  $q_1$  be  $x$ .

$$k \frac{q_1}{x^2} = k \frac{q_2}{(x + 4)^2}$$

$$3 (x + 4)^2 = 5 x^2$$

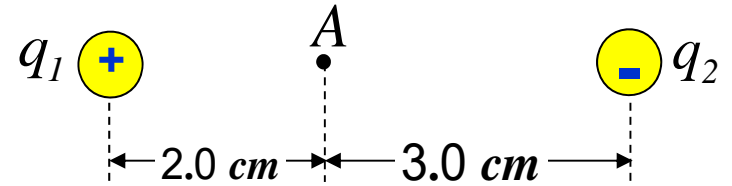
$$2x^2 - 24x - 48 = 0$$

$$x = 13.75m \quad , \quad x = -1.75m$$

**Apparently, we need to take  $x$  which is negative.**

## Example

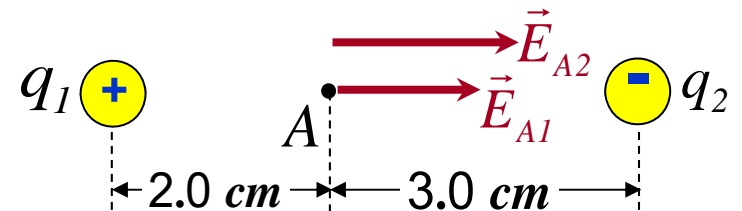
Two point charges,  $q_1=1.0$  C and  $q_2=-4.0$  C, are placed 2.0 cm and 3.0 cm from the point A respectively as shown in the figure.



Find

- the magnitude and direction of the electric field intensity at point A.
- the resultant electric force exerted on  $q = 4.0$  C if it is placed at point A.  
(Given Coulomb's constant,  $k = 9.0 \times 10^9$  N m<sup>2</sup> C<sup>-2</sup>)

a)



$$E_{A1} = \frac{kq_1}{r_1^2} = \frac{(9.0 \times 10^9)(1.0)}{(2.0 \times 10^{-2})^2} = 2.3 \times 10^{13} \text{ N C}^{-1} \rightarrow$$

$$E_{A2} = \frac{kq_2}{r_2^2} = \frac{(9.0 \times 10^9)(4.0)}{(3.0 \times 10^{-2})^2} = 4.0 \times 10^{13} \text{ N C}^{-1} \rightarrow$$

$$\vec{E}_A = \vec{E}_{A1} + \vec{E}_{A2}$$

$$|\vec{E}_A| = 2.3 \times 10^{13} + 4 \times 10^{13} = 6.3 \times 10^{13} \text{ N/C}$$

**Direction : to the right**

b)

$$E_A = \frac{F_A}{q}$$

$$F_A = qE_A$$

$$F_A = 4 \times 6.3 \times 10^{13} = 24.2 \text{ N} \times 10^{13}$$

**Direction : to the right**

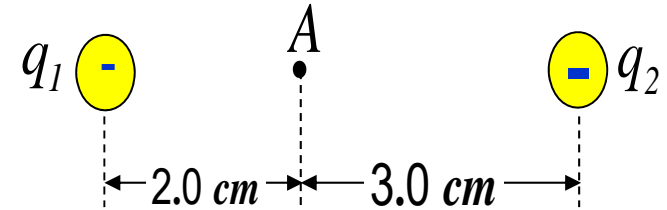


## Example

Two point charges,  $q_1 = -1.0 \text{ C}$  and  $q_2 = -4.0 \text{ C}$ , are placed 2.0 cm and 3.0 cm from the point A respectively as shown in the figure.

Find

- the magnitude and direction of the electric field intensity at point A.
- the resultant electric force exerted on  $q = 4.0 \text{ C}$  if it is placed at point A.  
(Given Coulomb's constant,  $k = 9.0 \times 10^9 \text{ N m}^2 \text{ C}^{-2}$ )



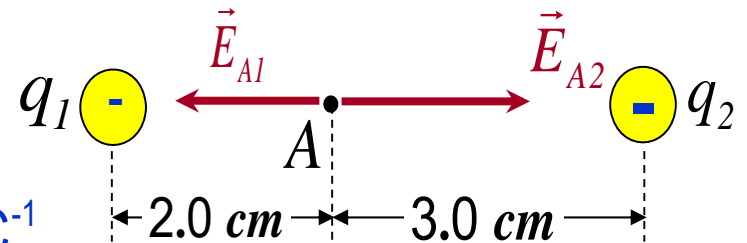
a)

$$E_{A1} = \frac{kq_1}{r_1^2} = \frac{(9.0 \times 10^9)(1.0)}{(2.0 \times 10^{-2})^2} = 2.3 \times 10^{13} \text{ N C}^{-1}$$

Direction : to the left

$$E_{A2} = \frac{kq_2}{r_2^2} = \frac{(9.0 \times 10^9)(4.0)}{(3.0 \times 10^{-2})^2} = 4.0 \times 10^{13} \text{ N C}^{-1}$$

Direction : to the right



The electric field strength at point A due to the charges is given by

$$\vec{E}_A = \vec{E}_{A1} + \vec{E}_{A2}$$

$$|\vec{E}_A| = -2.3 \times 10^{13} + 4.0 \times 10^{13}$$

$$|\vec{E}_A| = 1.7 \times 10^{13} \text{ N C}^{-1} \quad \text{Direction : to the right}$$

b)

$$E_A = \frac{F_A}{q}$$

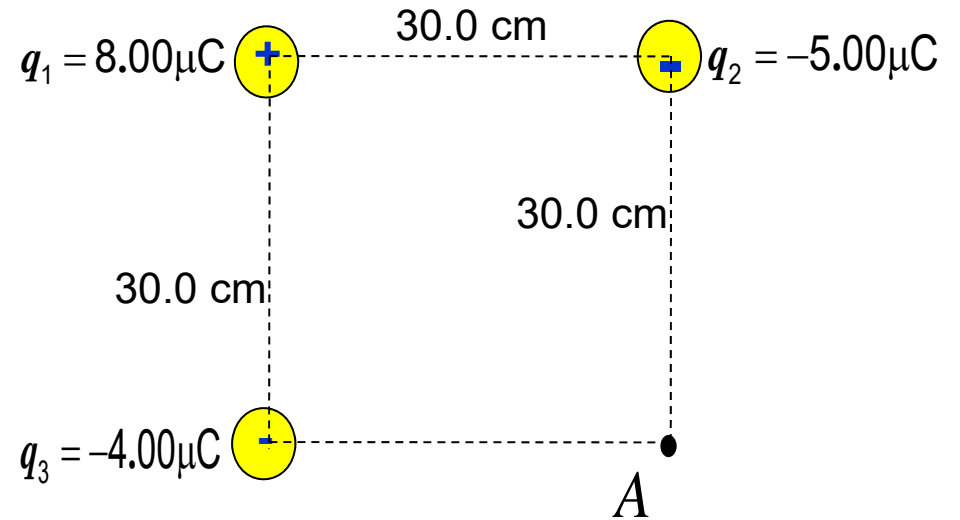
$$F_A = qE_A$$

$$F_A = (4.0)(1.7 \times 10^{13}) = 6.8 \times 10^{13} \text{ N}$$

Direction : to the right

# Example

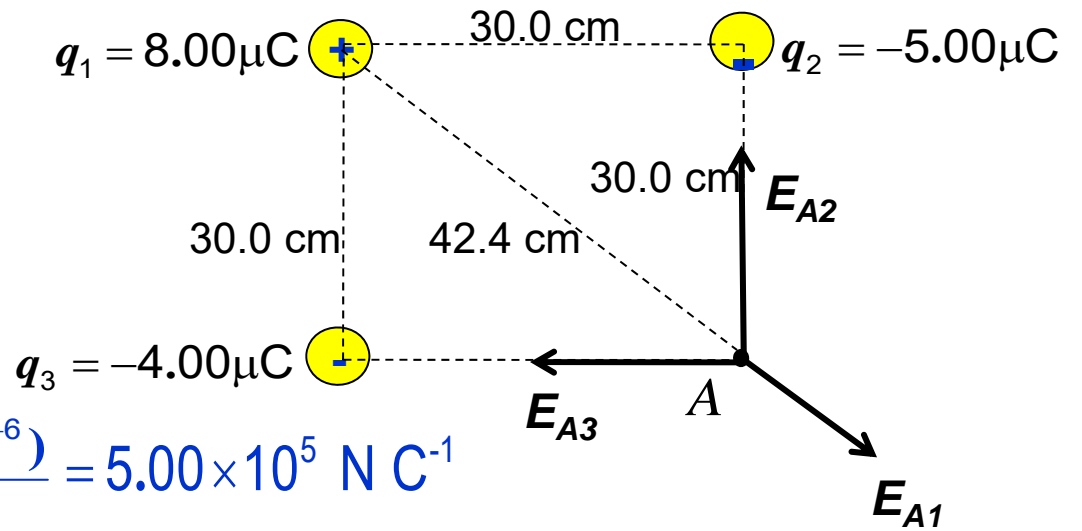
Three charges are placed on three corners of a square, as shown above. Each side of the square is 30.0 cm. Calculate the electric field strength at point A. What would be the force on a 6.00  $\mu\text{C}$  charge placed at the point A?



$$E_{A1} = \frac{kq_1}{r_1^2} = \frac{(9.0 \times 10^9)(8.00 \times 10^{-6})}{(42.4 \times 10^{-2})^2}$$

$$= 4.00 \times 10^5 \text{ N C}^{-1}$$

$$E_{A2} = \frac{kq_2}{r_2^2} = \frac{(9.0 \times 10^9)(5.00 \times 10^{-6})}{(30.0 \times 10^{-2})^2} = 5.00 \times 10^5 \text{ N C}^{-1}$$



$$E_{A3} = \frac{kq_3}{r_3^2} = \frac{(9.0 \times 10^9)(4.00 \times 10^{-6})}{(30.0 \times 10^{-2})^2} = 4.00 \times 10^5 \text{ N C}^{-1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum E_{AX} &= E_{A1} \cos 45^\circ - E_{A3} \\ &= -1.17 \times 10^5 \text{ N/C} \end{aligned}$$

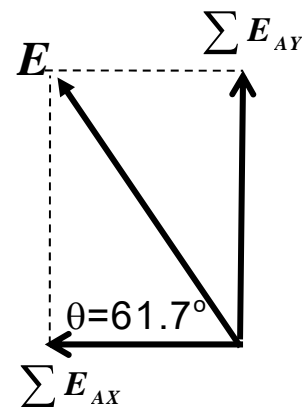
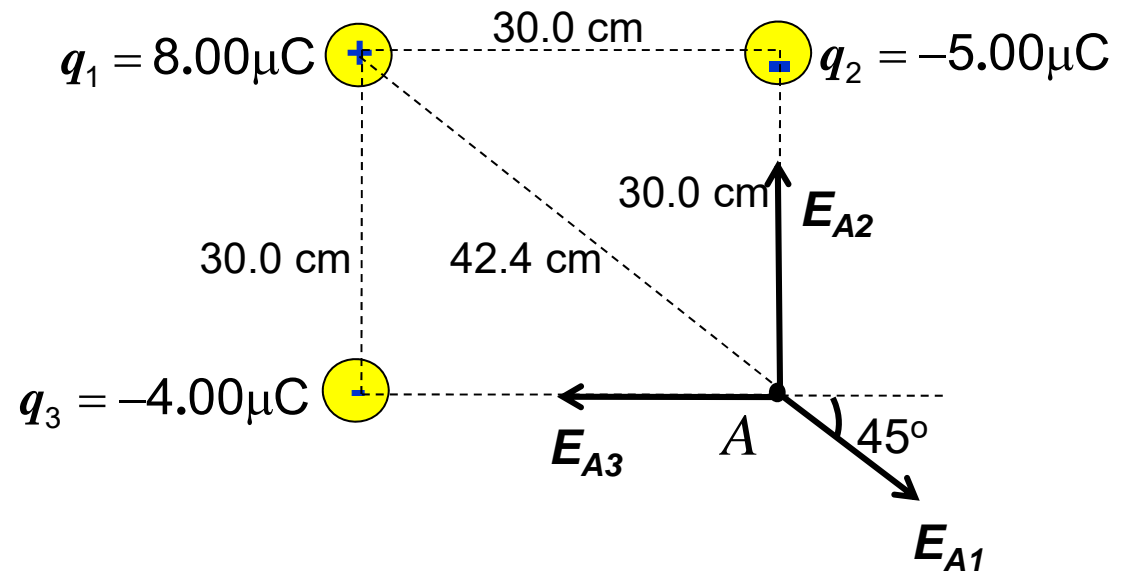
$$\begin{aligned} \sum E_{AY} &= E_{A2} - E_{A1} \sin 45^\circ \\ &= 2.17 \times 10^5 \text{ N/C} \end{aligned}$$

$$E = \sqrt{\sum E_{AX}^2 + \sum E_{AY}^2}$$

$$E = 2.46 \times 10^5 \text{ N/C}$$

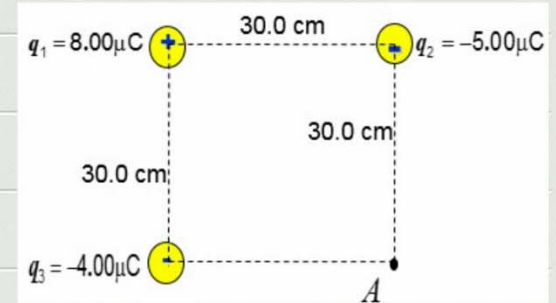
$$\tan \theta = \frac{\sum E_{AY}}{\sum E_{AX}}$$

$$\theta = 61.7^\circ$$



# Example: solution

We need to find  $E$  at  $A$ .



x component: need  $q_{1x}$ ,  $q_{2x}$ ,  $q_{3x}$

$$\textcircled{1} q_{1x}: E_{1x} = k \frac{q_1}{(\sqrt{2} \times 0.3)^2} \cos 45 = 9 \times 10^9 \times \frac{8 \times 10^{-6}}{2 \times 0.3^2} \times 0.71 = 2.83 \times 10^5 \text{ N/C}$$

$$\textcircled{2} q_{2x}: 0 \quad \textcircled{3} q_{3x}: E_{3x} = -9 \times 10^9 \frac{4 \times 10^{-6}}{0.3^2} = -4 \times 10^5 \text{ N/C}$$

$$\therefore E_{Ax} = E_{1x} + E_{3x} = 2.83 \times 10^5 - 4 \times 10^5 = -1.17 \times 10^5 \text{ N/C} \quad \leftarrow$$

y compo. need  $q_{1y}$ ,  $q_{2y}$ ,  $q_{3y}$ :

$$\textcircled{1} q_{1y}: E_{1y} = 9 \times 10^9 \frac{8 \times 10^{-6}}{2 \times 0.3^2} \times 0.71 = -2.83 \times 10^5 \text{ N/C} \quad \downarrow \text{ لَبَبِ بِيْتِ، لَبَبِ بِيْتِ، لَبَبِ بِيْتِ}$$

$$\textcircled{2} q_{2y}: E_{2y} = +9 \times 10^9 \frac{5 \times 10^{-6}}{0.3^2} = 5 \times 10^5 \text{ N/C} \quad \uparrow \text{ لَبَبِ بِيْتِ، لَبَبِ بِيْتِ، لَبَبِ بِيْتِ}$$

$$\therefore E_{Ay} = 5 \times 10^5 - 2.83 \times 10^5 = +2.17 \times 10^5 \text{ N/C} \quad \uparrow$$

$$\therefore E_A = \sqrt{E_x^2 + E_y^2} = \sqrt{1.17 \times 10^5^2 + 2.17 \times 10^5^2} = 2.46 \times 10^5 \text{ N/C} \quad \#$$

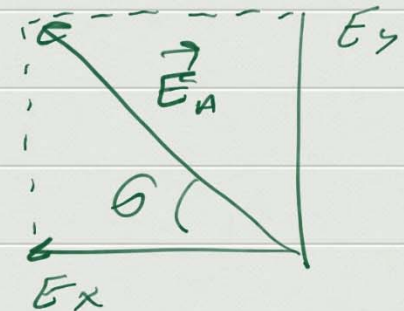
## Example: solution

To find direction of  $E$  at A:

$$\theta = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{E_y}{E_x} \right) = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{2.17 \times 10^5}{-1.17 \times 10^6} \right) = -61.7^\circ \quad \text{in } \underline{E_y} \text{ and } \underline{E_x}$$

b) To find force on  $q = 6 \times 10^{-6} \text{ C}$  at A.

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore F &= Eq \\ &= 2.46 \times 10^5 \times 6 \times 10^{-6} \\ &= 1.48 \text{ N} \quad \# \end{aligned}$$



## 23-7 Motion of a Charged Particle in a Uniform Electric Field

Consider a particle with charge  $q$  and mass  $m$ , moving in a region of space where the electric field  $\mathbf{E}$  is **constant**.

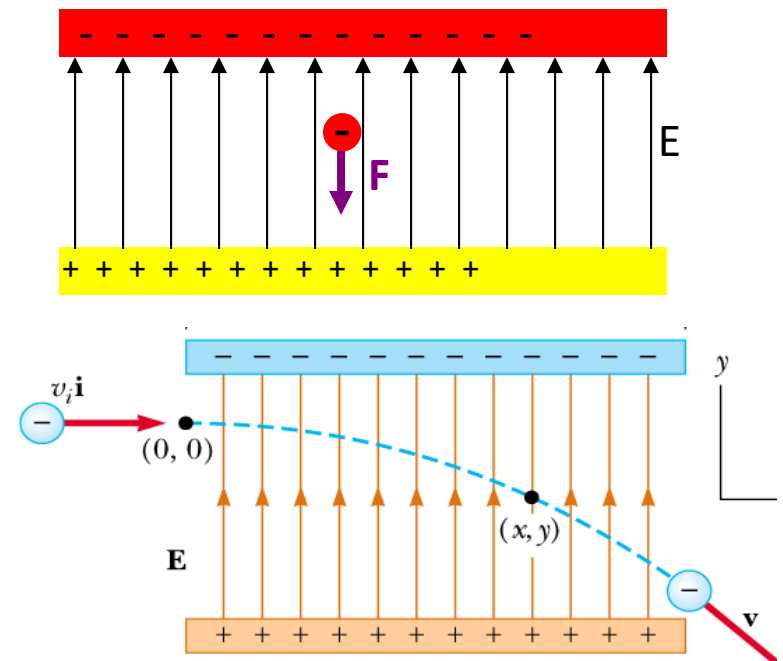
As always, the force on a charge  $q$  is  $\vec{\mathbf{F}} = q\vec{\mathbf{E}} = m\vec{\mathbf{a}}$ .

**Constant acceleration,**

$$\vec{\mathbf{a}} = \vec{\mathbf{F}}/m = (q\vec{\mathbf{E}}/m)$$

and will move in a **parabola**.

- If  $E$  is **uniform** (that is, constant in magnitude and direction), then the **acceleration is constant**.
- If the particle has a **positive** charge, then its acceleration is **in the direction** of the electric field.
- If the particle has a **negative** charge, then its acceleration is in the direction **opposite** the electric field.



### EXAMPLE 23.10 An Accelerating Positive Charge

A positive point charge  $q$  of mass  $m$  is released from rest in a uniform electric field  $\mathbf{E}$  directed along the  $x$  axis. Describe its motion.

*we can apply the equations of kinematics in one dimension*

$$x_f = x_i + v_i t + \frac{1}{2} a t^2$$

$$v_f = v_i + a t$$

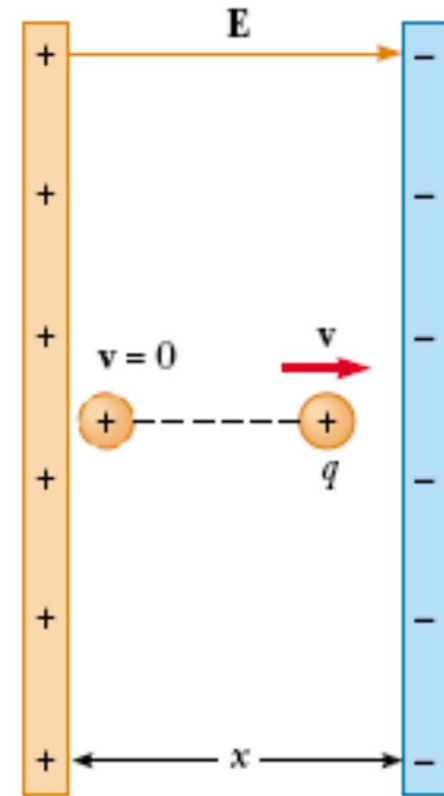
$$v_f^2 = v_i^2 + 2a(x_f - x_i)$$

Taking  $x_i = 0$  and  $v_{xi} = 0$

$$x_f = \frac{1}{2} a t^2 = \frac{1}{2} \frac{qE}{m} t^2 \quad (1)$$

$$v_f = a t = \frac{qE}{m} t \quad (2)$$

$$v_f^2 = 2a x_f = 2 \frac{qE}{m} x_f \quad (3)$$



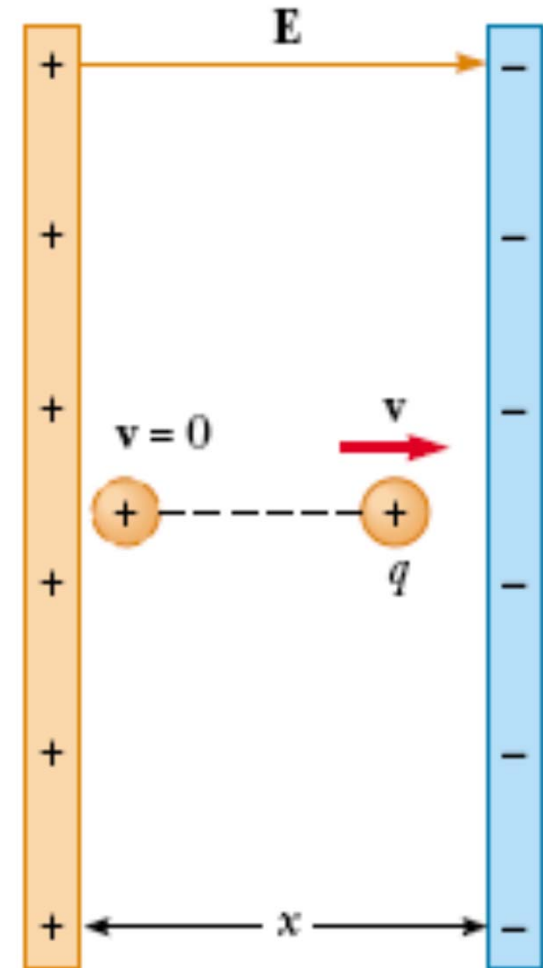


### EXAMPLE 23.10 An Accelerating Positive Charge

The kinetic energy of the charge after it has moved a distance  $x = x_f - x_i$  is

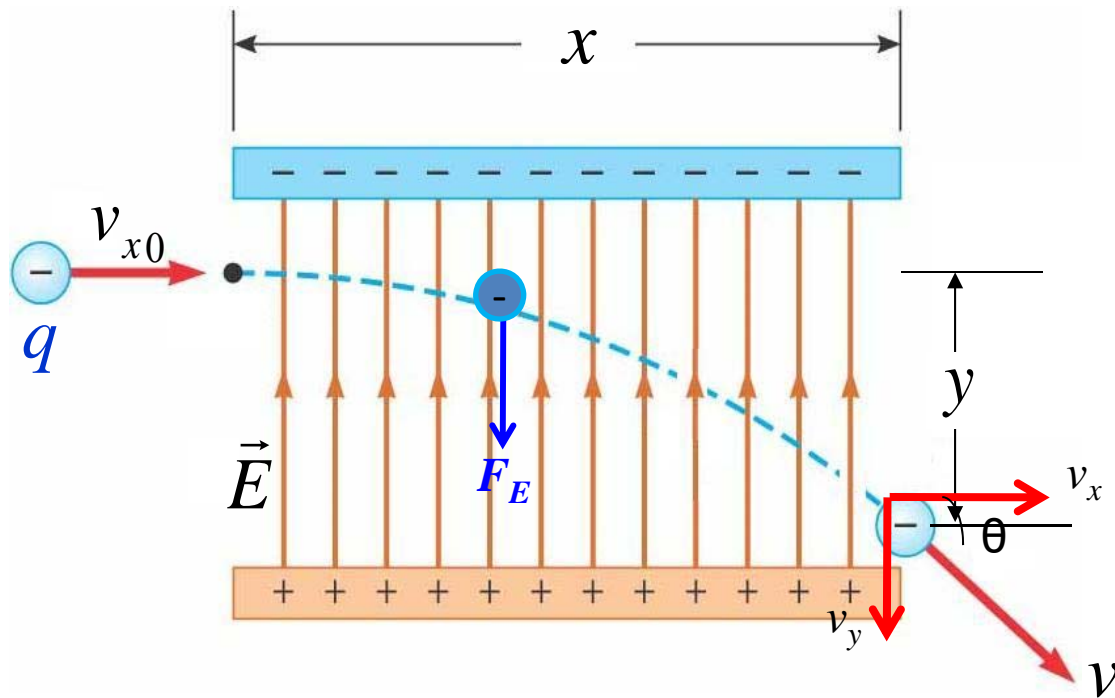
$$K = \frac{1}{2}mv^2 = \frac{1}{2}m \frac{2qE}{m}x = qEx$$

We can also obtain this result from the work–kinetic energy theorem because the work done by the electric force is  $F_e x = qEx$  and  $W = \Delta K$



## Charge moving perpendicularly to the field

Figure below shows the path of an electron  $q$  which enters the uniform electric field between two parallel metal plates with a velocity  $v_0$ .



- When the electron enters the electric field,  $E$  the only force that acts on the electron is **electrostatic force**,  $F_E = qE$ .

- This causes the electron of mass  $m$  to accelerate downwards
- with an acceleration  $a$ .

$$a_y = \frac{qE}{m} \quad (\pm)$$

- Since the horizontal component of the velocity of the electron remains unchanged as  $v_{x0}$ , the path of the electron in the uniform electric field is a parabola.
- The time taken for the electron to transverse the electric field is given by

$$\because x = v_{x0}t \quad \therefore t = \frac{x}{v_{x0}}$$

- The vertical component of the velocity  $v_y$ , when the electron emerges from the electric field is given by

$$v_y = v_{y0} + a_y t$$

$$v_y = 0 + \left( \frac{qE}{m} \right) \left( \frac{x}{v_{x0}} \right)$$

$$v_y = \frac{qEx}{mv_{x0}}$$

- After emerging from the electric field, the electron travels with constant velocity  $v$ , where

$$v = \sqrt{v_x^2 + v_y^2}$$

- The direction of the velocity  $v$  is at an angle

$$\theta = \mathbf{tan}^{-1} \left( \frac{\mathbf{v}_y}{\mathbf{v}_x} \right) \text{ to the horizontal.}$$

- Please note that:

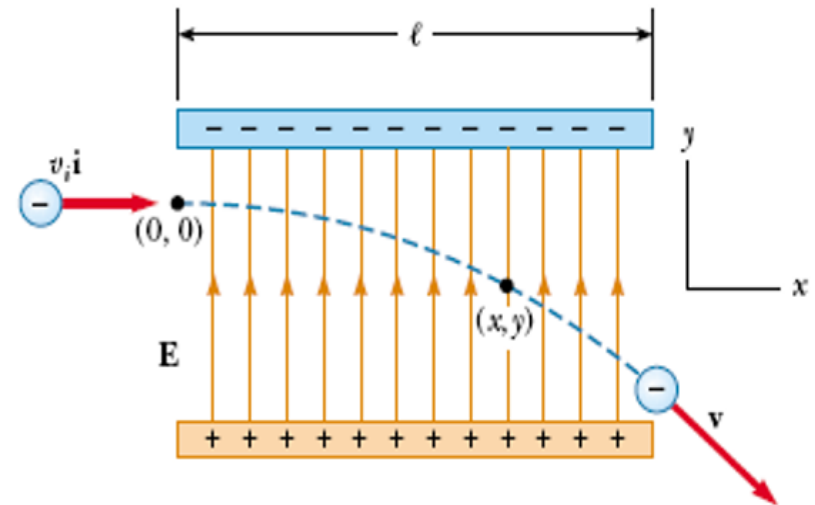
$$V_x = V_{x0}$$

**EXAMPLE 23.11** An Accelerated Electron

An electron enters the region of a uniform electric field with  $v_i = 3.00 \times 10^6$  m/s and  $E = 200$  N/C. The horizontal length of the plates is  $\ell = 100$  cm.

**(A)** Find the acceleration of the electron while it is in the electric field.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{a} &= -\frac{eE}{m_e} \hat{\mathbf{j}} = -\frac{(1.60 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C})(200 \text{ N/C})}{9.11 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}} \hat{\mathbf{j}} \\ &= -3.51 \times 10^{13} \hat{\mathbf{j}} \text{ m/s}^2 \end{aligned}$$



**(B)** If the electron enters the field at time  $t = 0$ , find the time at which it leaves the field.

**Solution** The horizontal distance across the field is  $\ell = 0.100$  m. Using Equation 23.16 with  $x_f = \ell$ , we find that the time at which the electron exits the electric field is

$$t = \frac{\ell}{v_i} = \frac{0.100 \text{ m}}{3.00 \times 10^6 \text{ m/s}} = 3.33 \times 10^{-8} \text{ s}$$

**EXAMPLE 23.11** An Accelerated Electron

**(C)** If the vertical position of the electron as it enters the field is  $y_i = 0$ , what is its vertical position when it leaves the field?

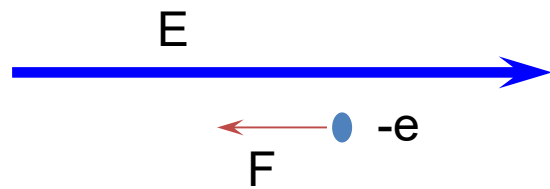
**Solution** Using Equation 23.17 and the results from parts (A) and (B), we find that

$$\begin{aligned} y_f &= \frac{1}{2} a_y t^2 = -\frac{1}{2} (3.51 \times 10^{13} \text{ m/s}^2) (3.33 \times 10^{-8} \text{ s})^2 \\ &= -0.0195 \text{ m} = -1.95 \text{ cm} \end{aligned}$$

If the separation between the plates is less than this, the electron will strike the positive plate.

## Example - Motion of a charged particle in an Electric Field

Determine the final velocity and kinetic energy of an electron released from rest in the presence of a uniform electric field of 300 N/C in the x direction after a period of 0.5 ms.



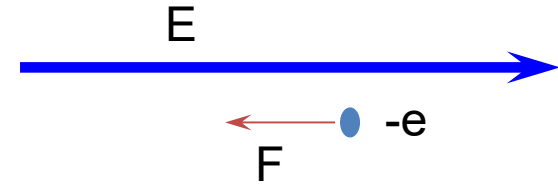
$$\vec{F} = q\vec{E} = -eE\hat{i} \qquad \vec{F} = -(1.60 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C})\left(300 \frac{\text{N}}{\text{C}}\right)\hat{i}$$

$$\vec{F} = -(4.80 \times 10^{-17} \text{ N})\hat{i}$$

$$\vec{a} = \frac{\vec{F}}{m} = \frac{-(4.80 \times 10^{-17} \text{ N})\hat{i}}{9.11 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}} = -\left(5.3 \times 10^{+13} \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}^2}\right)\hat{i}$$



$$\vec{v} = \vec{v}_i + \vec{a}t$$



$$\vec{v} = 0 - \left( 5.3 \times 10^{+13} \frac{m}{s^2} \hat{i} \right) \left( 0.5 \times 10^{-3} s \right)$$

$$\vec{v} = -2.6 \times 10^{10} \frac{m}{s} \hat{i}$$

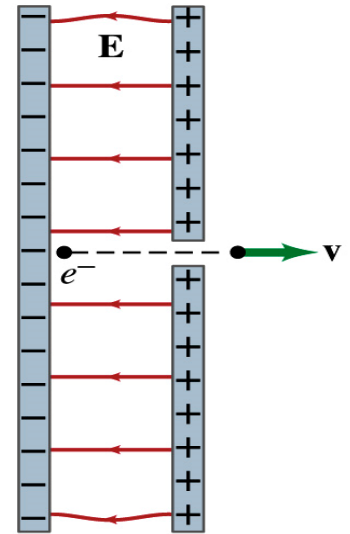
$$K = \frac{1}{2} m v^2$$

$$K = \frac{1}{2} \left( 9.11 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg} \right) \left( -2.6 \times 10^{10} \frac{m}{s} \right)^2$$

$$K = 3.16 \times 10^{-10} \text{ J}$$

# Example

An electron (mass  $m = 9.1 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$ ) is accelerated in the uniform field  $E$  ( $E = 2.0 \times 10^4 \text{ N/C}$ ) between two parallel charged plates. The separation of the plates is 1.5 cm. The electron is accelerated from rest near the negative plate and passes through a tiny hole in the positive plate. (a) With what speed does it leave the hole? (b) Show that the gravitational force can be ignored. Assume the hole is so small that it does not affect the uniform field between the plates.



The magnitude of the force on the electron is  $F = qE$  and is directed to the right. The equation to solve this problem is

$$F = qE = ma$$

The magnitude of the electron's acceleration is

$$a = \frac{F}{m} = \frac{qE}{m}$$

Between the plates the field  $E$  is uniform, thus the electron undergoes a uniform acceleration

$$a = \frac{eE}{m_e} = \frac{(1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C})(2.0 \times 10^4 \text{ N/C})}{(9.1 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg})} = 3.5 \times 10^{15} \text{ m/s}^2$$

# Example (Continued)

Since the travel distance is  $1.5 \times 10^{-2} \text{m}$ , using one of the kinetic eq. of motions,

$$v^2 = v_0^2 + 2ax \quad \therefore v = \sqrt{2ax} = \sqrt{2 \cdot 3.5 \times 10^{15} \cdot 1.5 \times 10^{-2}} = 1.0 \times 10^7 \text{ m/s}$$

Since there is no electric field outside the conductor, the electron continues moving with this speed after passing through the hole.

- (b) Show that the gravitational force can be ignored. Assume the hole is so small that it does not affect the uniform field between the plates.

The magnitude of the electric force on the electron is

$$F_e = qE = eE = (1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C})(2.0 \times 10^4 \text{ N/C}) = 3.2 \times 10^{-15} \text{ N}$$

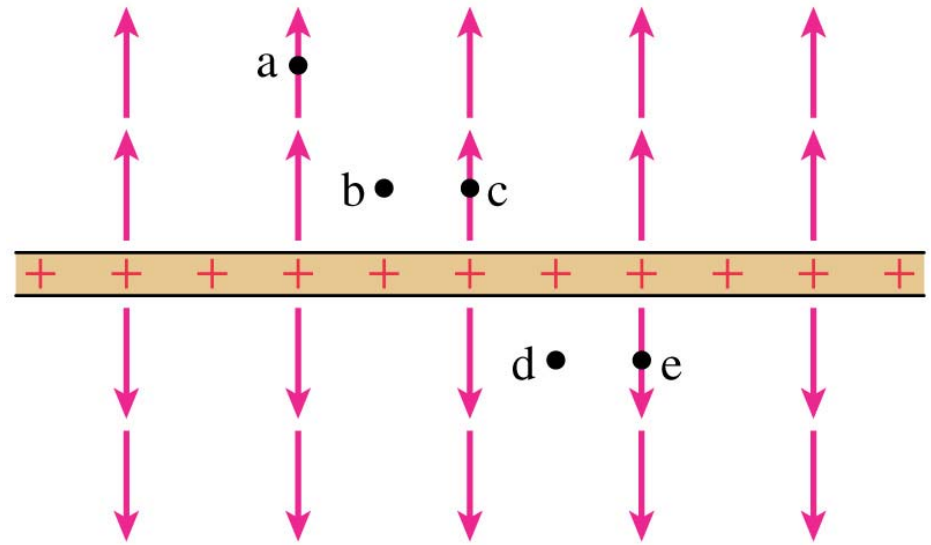
The magnitude of the gravitational force on the electron is

$$F_G = mg = 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2 \times (9.1 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}) = 8.9 \times 10^{-30} \text{ N}$$

Thus the gravitational force on the electron is negligible compared to the electromagnetic force.

# Quiz

Rank in order, from largest to smallest, the electric field strengths  $E_a$  to  $E_e$  at these five points near a plane of charge.



Copyright © 2004 Pearson Education, Inc., publishing as Addison Wesley

1.  $E_a = E_b = E_c = E_d = E_e$
2.  $E_a > E_c > E_b > E_e > E_d$
3.  $E_b = E_c = E_d = E_e > E_a$
4.  $E_a > E_b = E_c > E_d = E_e$
5.  $E_e > E_d > E_c > E_b > E_a$

at any point  $P$ , the total electric field due to a group of charges equals the vector sum of the electric fields of the individual charges.

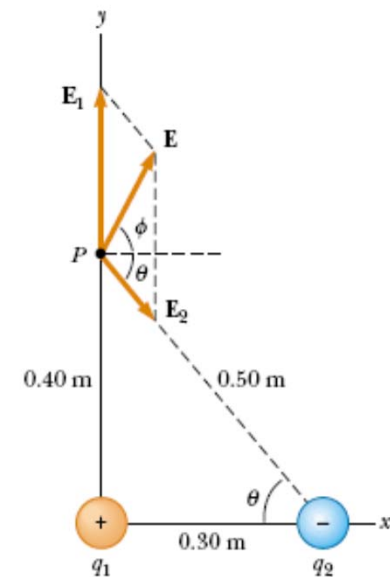
$$\mathbf{E} = k_e \sum_i \frac{q_i}{r_i^2} \hat{\mathbf{r}}_i$$

### EXAMPLE 23.5 Electric Field Due to Two Charges

A charge  $q_1 = 7.0 \mu\text{C}$  is located at the origin, and a second charge  $q_2 = -5.0 \mu\text{C}$  is located on the  $x$  axis,  $0.30 \text{ m}$  from the origin (Fig. 23.13). Find the electric field at the point  $P$ , which has coordinates  $(0, 0.40) \text{ m}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} E_1 &= k_e \frac{|q_1|}{r_1^2} = \left( 8.99 \times 10^9 \frac{\text{N}\cdot\text{m}^2}{\text{C}^2} \right) \frac{(7.0 \times 10^{-6} \text{ C})}{(0.40 \text{ m})^2} \\ &= 3.9 \times 10^5 \text{ N/C} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} E_2 &= k_e \frac{|q_2|}{r_2^2} = \left( 8.99 \times 10^9 \frac{\text{N}\cdot\text{m}^2}{\text{C}^2} \right) \frac{(5.0 \times 10^{-6} \text{ C})}{(0.50 \text{ m})^2} \\ &= 1.8 \times 10^5 \text{ N/C} \end{aligned}$$



The vector  $\mathbf{E}_1$  has only a  $y$  component. The vector  $\mathbf{E}_2$  has an  $x$  component given by  $E_2 \cos \theta = \frac{3}{5}E_2$  and a negative  $y$  component given by  $-E_2 \sin \theta = -\frac{4}{5}E_2$ . Hence, we can express the vectors as

$$\mathbf{E}_1 = 3.9 \times 10^5 \mathbf{j} \text{ N/C}$$

$$\mathbf{E}_2 = (1.1 \times 10^5 \mathbf{i} - 1.4 \times 10^5 \mathbf{j}) \text{ N/C}$$

$$\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{E}_1 + \mathbf{E}_2 = (1.1 \times 10^5 \mathbf{i} + 2.5 \times 10^5 \mathbf{j}) \text{ N/C}$$

From this result, we find that  $\mathbf{E}$  has a magnitude of  $2.7 \times 10^5 \text{ N/C}$  and makes an angle  $\phi$  of  $66^\circ$  with the positive  $x$  axis.

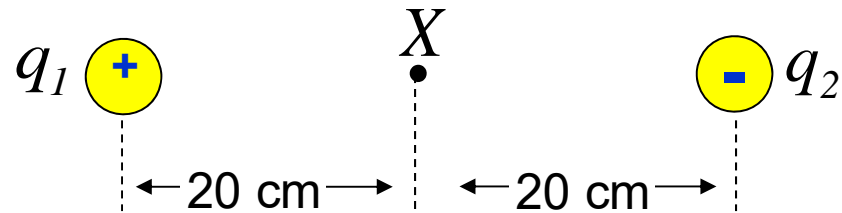
**Exercise** Find the electric force exerted on a charge of  $2.0 \times 10^{-8} \text{ C}$  located at  $P$ .

**Answer**  $5.4 \times 10^{-3} \text{ N}$  in the same direction as  $\mathbf{E}$ .

## Exercise

1. Determine
  - a) the electric field strength at a point X at a distance 20 cm from a point charge  $Q = + 6\mu\text{C}$ . ( **$1.4 \times 10^6 \text{ N/C}$** )
  - b) the electric force that acts on a point charge  $q = -0.20 \mu\text{C}$  placed at point X. ( **$0.28 \text{ N towards Q}$** )

2.



Two point charges,  $q_1 = +2.0 \text{ C}$  and  $q_2 = -3.0 \text{ C}$ , are separated by a distance of 40 cm, as shown in figure above. Determine

- a) The resultant electric field strength at point X.  
( **$1.13 \times 10^3 \text{ kN C}^{-1}$  towards  $q_2$** )
- b) The electric force that acts on a point charge  $q = 0.50 \mu\text{C}$  placed at X.  
( **$0.57 \text{ N}$** )