

Physics 303L

Instructor

Prof. H. L. Berk

T. A.

Alex Hawk

Topic for Term

Electricity, Magnetism,

Light

(they are connected)

How have you experienced  
electrical phenomena in  
your life

1. lightning

2. outlet — shocked bad  
get energy

3. electric fence

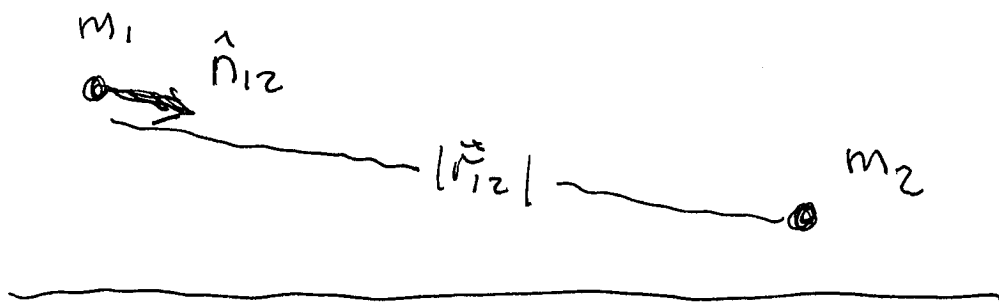
4. static electricity

5. neurons

# Recall Newton's Law of Gravitation

$$\vec{F}_{12} = \frac{G m_1 m_2}{|\vec{r}_{12}|^2} \hat{n}_{12}, \quad G = 6.67 \times 10^{-11} \text{ Nm}^2/\text{kg}^2$$

Force on "body" 1, from body 2, is an inverse square law, with force directed from body 1 to body 2



In nature there are electric charges that produce electrical forces.

The building blocks of matter,  
electrons with mass  
 $m_e = 9.11 \times 10^{-31}$  kg and protons

$m_p = 1.67 \times 10^{-27}$  kg have

charges

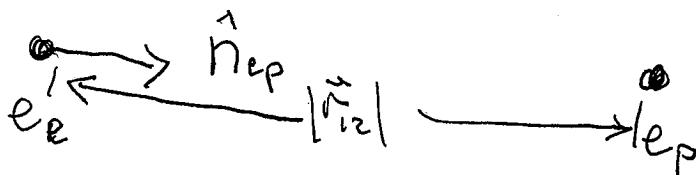
$-1.6 \times 10^{-19}$  Coulombs (C)

and  $+1.6 \times 10^{-19}$  C respectively

electrical

The force between an  
electron from a proton is also  
is also an inverse  
square law

$$\vec{F}_{elec} = \frac{k e_e e_p}{|\vec{r}_{ep}|^2} \hat{n}_{ep}; \quad k = 9.0 \times 10^9 \text{ Nm}^2/\text{C}^2$$



Estimate (guess, intuit) the ratio of gravitational to electrical force is between an electron and a proton

$$|\vec{F}_g| / |\vec{F}_{elec}| \approx \text{(approximate symbol)}$$

(a) 1

(b)  $10^{-39}$

(c)  $10^{+10}$

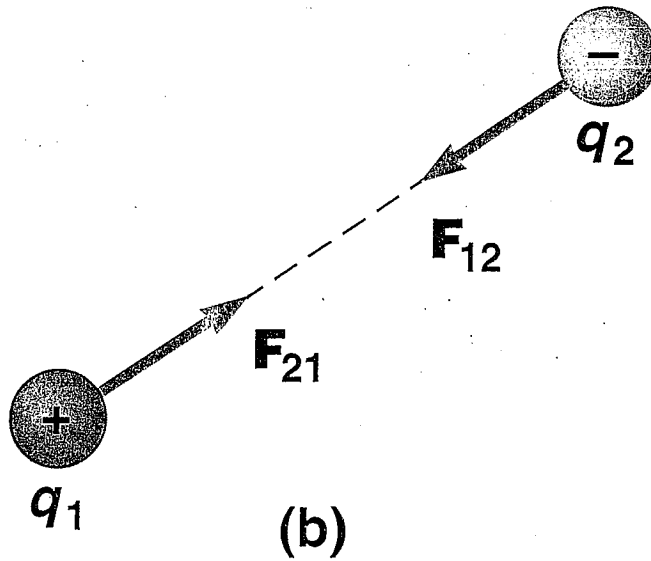
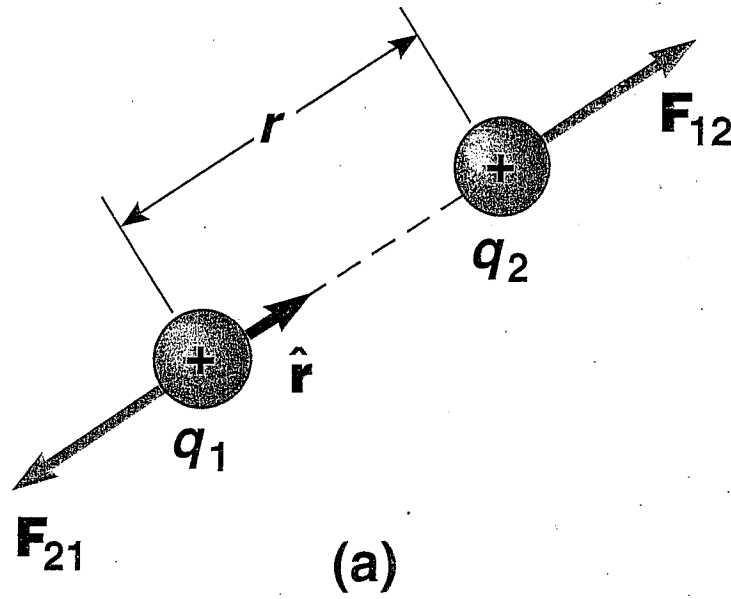
(d)  $1/137$

On an atomic level gravitational forces are insignificant. Why is it that the most obvious external force we are conscious of is the force of gravity?

(a) atomic forces do not affect macroscopic forces

(b) A human being, is electrically neutral, so that electrical forces have no importance to their senses.

(c) As protons and electrons have opposite charges, equal amounts of electrons and protons, cancel the forces out to first approximation



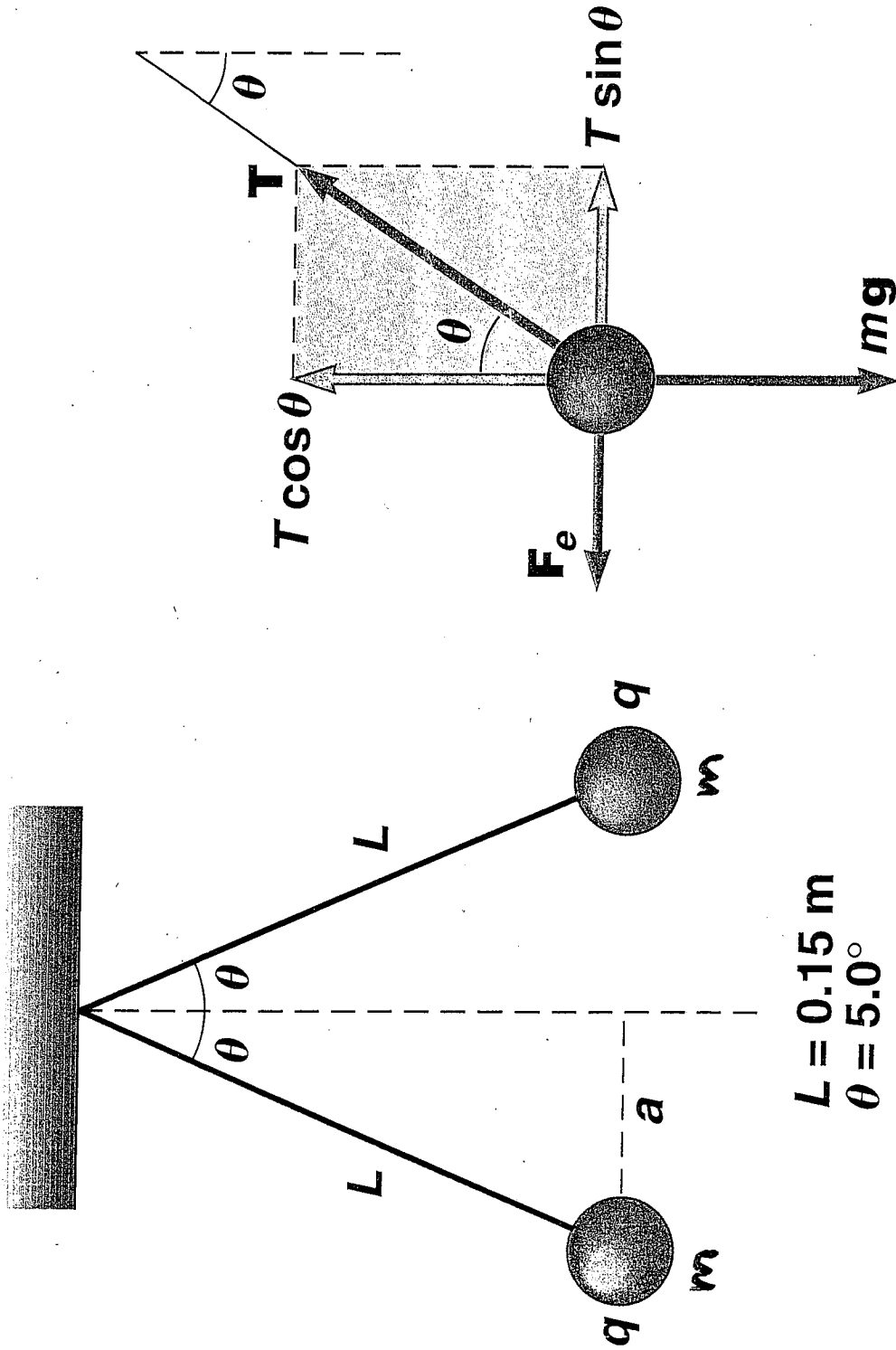
*Serway and Jewett, Physics for Scientists and Engineers, 6/e*  
**Figure 23.7**

### Figure 23.7

Two point charges separated by a distance  $r$  exert a force on each other that is given by Coulomb's law. The force  $\mathbf{F}_{21}$  exerted by  $q_2$  on  $q_1$  is equal in magnitude and opposite in direction to the force  $\mathbf{F}_{12}$  exerted by  $q_1$  on  $q_2$ . (a) When the charges are of the same sign, the force is repulsive. (b) When the charges are of opposite signs, the force is attractive.



Combining Gravitational & Electrical Forces

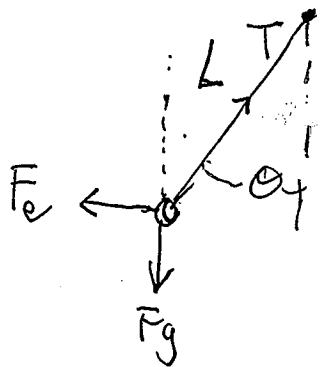
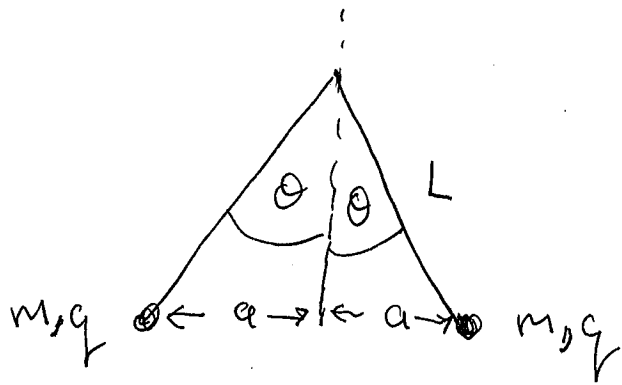


(a) (b)

What is charge  $q$ , given  $m, \theta, L$ ?  
 Serway and Jewett, Physics for Scientists and Engineers, 6/e  
 Figure 23.10

**Figure 23.10**

(Example 23.4) (a) Two identical spheres, each carrying the same charge  $q$ , suspended in equilibrium. (b) The free-body diagram for the sphere on the left.



$$F_g = T \cos \theta$$

$$F_e = T \sin \theta$$

eliminate  $T$  :  $\frac{F_e}{F_g} = \frac{T \sin \theta}{T \cos \theta} = \frac{F_e}{F_g} = \tan \theta$

$$F_e = \frac{k q^2}{(2a)^2}, \quad F_g = mg$$

$$\tan \theta = \frac{k q^2}{(2a)^2 mg}; \quad a = L \sin \theta$$

$$= \frac{k q^2}{(2L \sin \theta)^2 mg}, \quad \text{solve for } q^2$$

$$q^2 = \frac{4mg \sin^3 \theta}{k \cos \theta} L^2; \quad q = 2 \sin \theta L \left( \frac{gm \tan \theta}{k} \right)^{1/2}$$