

2015

02. Electric Field II

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Abstract

Part two of course materials for Elementary Physics II (PHY 204), taught by Gerhard Müller at the University of Rhode Island. Documents will be updated periodically as more entries become presentable.

Some of the slides contain figures from the textbook, Paul A. Tipler and Gene Mosca. *Physics for Scientists and Engineers*, 5th/6th editions. The copyright to these figures is owned by W.H. Freeman. We acknowledge permission from W.H. Freeman to use them on this course web page. The textbook figures are not to be used or copied for any purpose outside this class without direct permission from W.H. Freeman.

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Particle in Uniform Electric or Gravitational Field

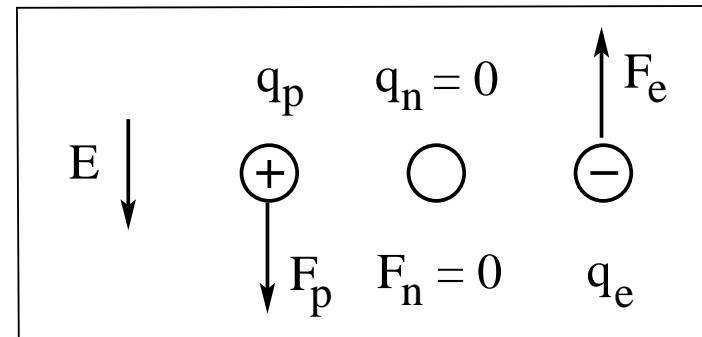


particle	charge	mass
electron	$q_e = -e$	$m_e = 9.109 \times 10^{-31} \text{kg}$
proton	$q_p = +e$	$m_p = 1.673 \times 10^{-27} \text{kg}$
neutron	$q_n = 0$	$m_n = 1.675 \times 10^{-27} \text{kg}$

Elementary charge:
 $e = 1.602 \times 10^{-19} \text{C}$.

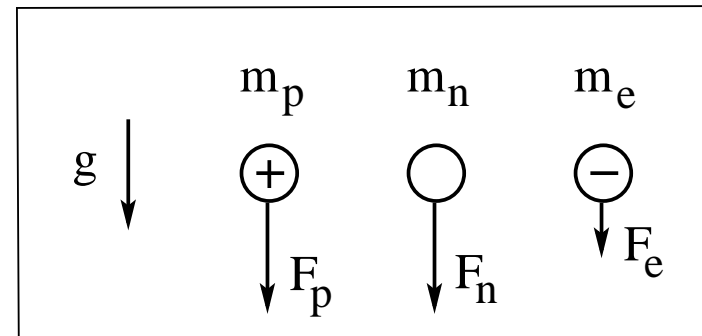
Electric field

- equation of motion: $\vec{F} = m\vec{a}$
- force law: $\vec{F} = q\vec{E}$
- acceleration: $\vec{a} = (q/m)\vec{E}$



Gravitational field

- equation of motion: $\vec{F} = m\vec{a}$
- force law: $\vec{F} = m\vec{g}$
- acceleration: $\vec{a} = \vec{g}$

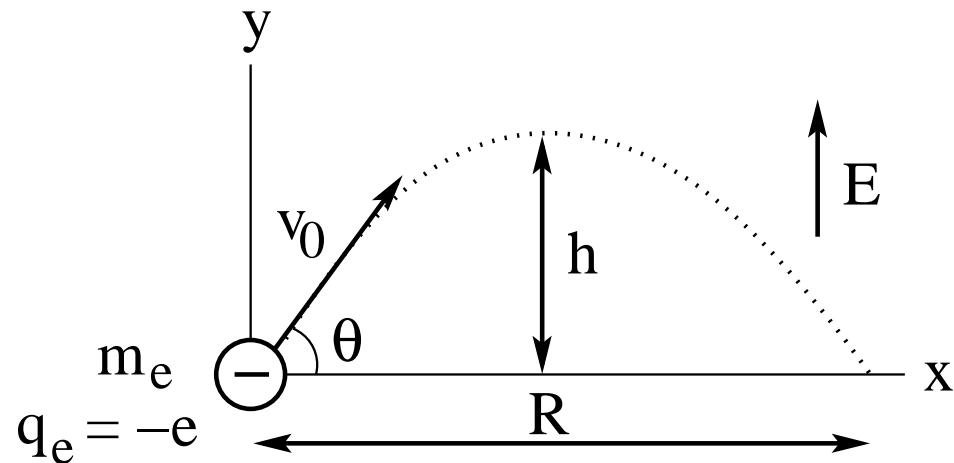


Projectile Motion in Electric Field

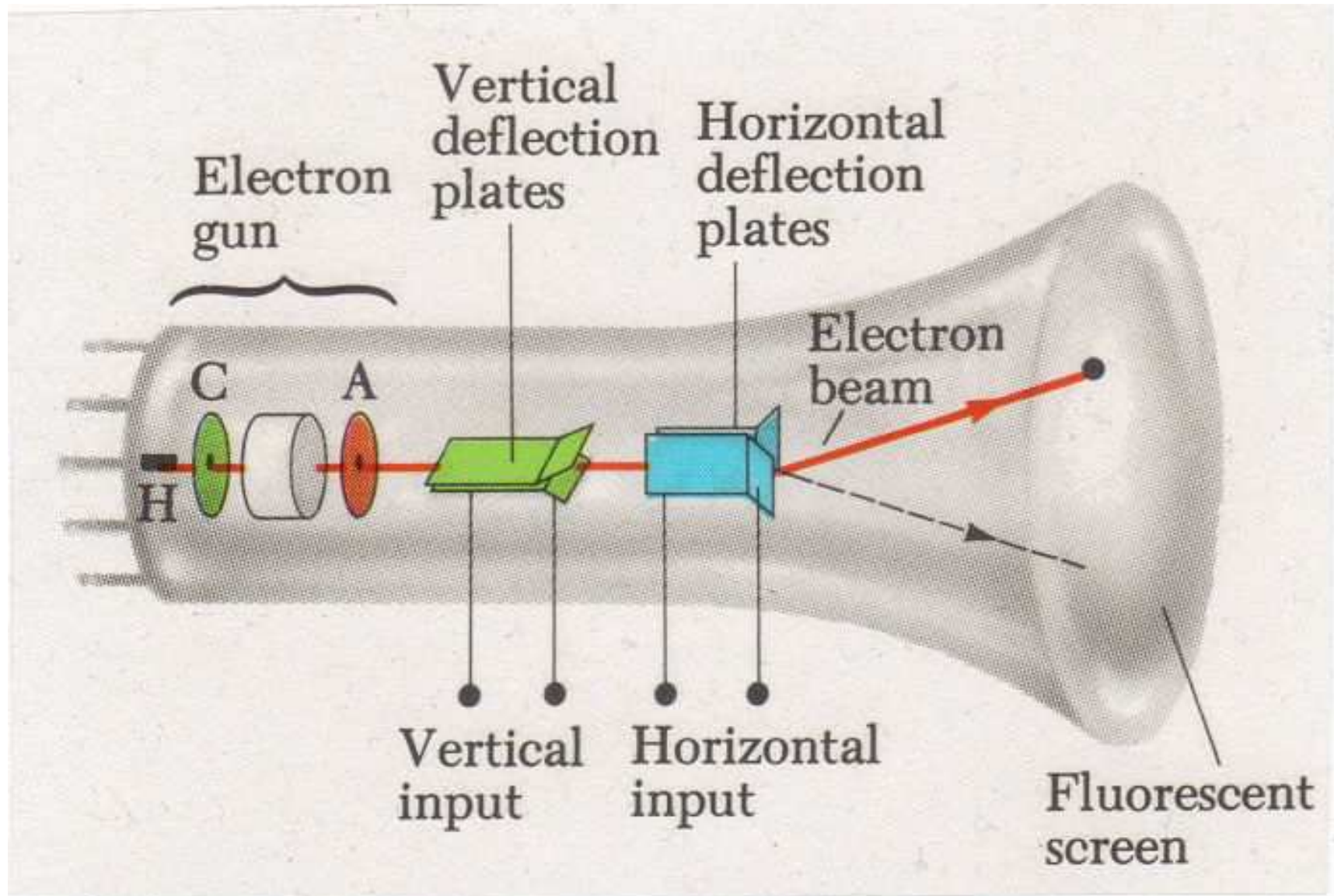


- electrostatic force: $F_x = 0$ $F_y = -eE$
- equation of motion: $\vec{F} = m_e \vec{a}$
- acceleration: $a_x = 0$ $a_y = -\frac{e}{m_e} E \equiv -a$
- velocity: $v_x(t) = v_0 \cos \theta$ $v_y(t) = v_0 \sin \theta - at$
- position: $x(t) = v_0 [\cos \theta] t$ $y(t) = v_0 [\sin \theta] t - \frac{1}{2} at^2$

- height: $h = \frac{v_0^2}{2a} \sin^2 \theta$
- range: $R = \frac{v_0^2}{a} \sin(2\theta)$



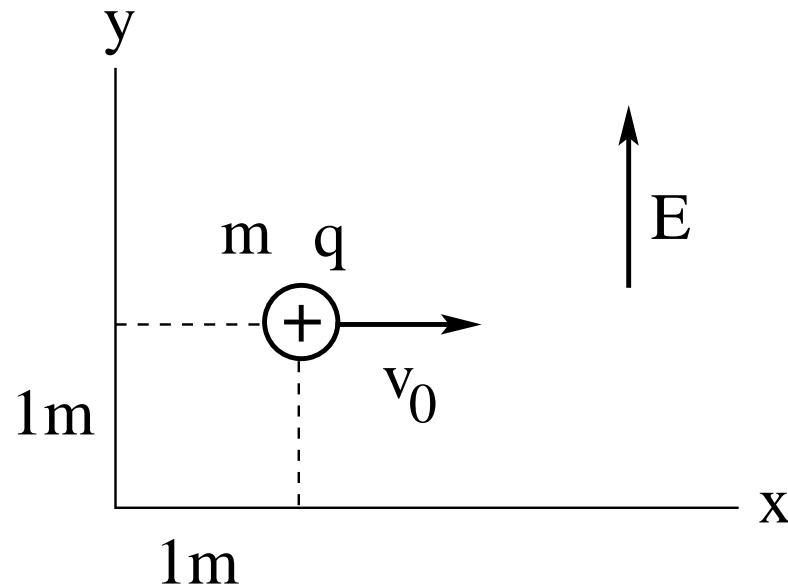
Cathode Ray Tube



Particle Projected Perpendicular to Uniform Electric Field



A charged particle ($m = 3\text{kg}$, $q = 1\mu\text{C}$) is launched at $t_0 = 0$ with initial speed $v_0 = 2\text{m/s}$ in an electric field of magnitude $E = 6 \times 10^6\text{N/C}$ as shown.



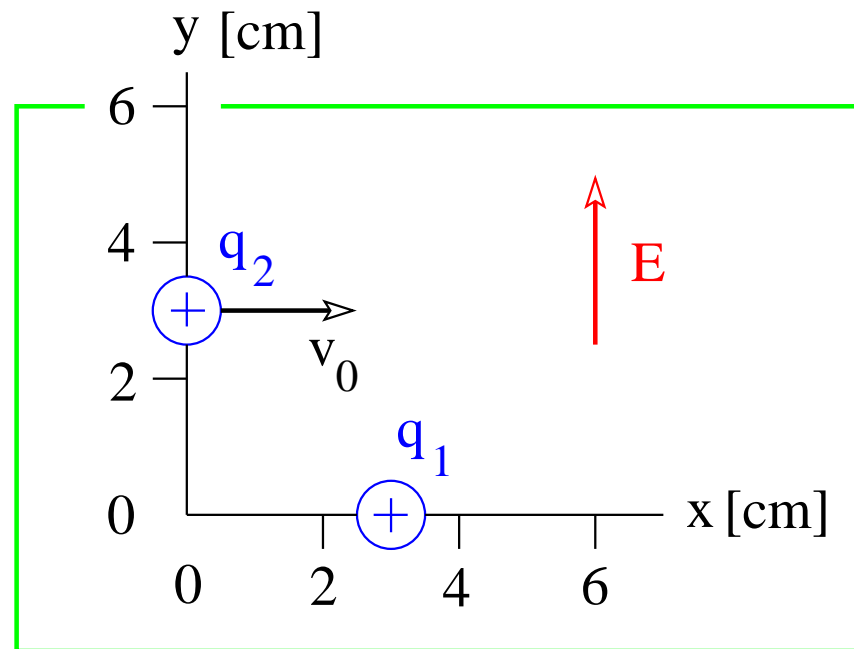
- (a) Find the position of the particle at $t_1 = 3\text{s}$.
- (b) By what angle does the velocity vector turn between $t_0 = 0$ and $t_1 = 3\text{s}$?

Particles Accelerated by Uniform Electric Field



A uniform electric field $E = 0.75 \times 10^3 \text{ N/C}$ exists in the box.

- (a) A charged particle of mass $m_1 = 1.9 \times 10^{-9} \text{ kg}$ is released from rest at $x = 3 \text{ cm}$, $y = 0$. It exits the box at $x = 3 \text{ cm}$, $y = 6 \text{ cm}$ after a time $t_1 = 5.7 \times 10^{-5} \text{ s}$. Find the charge q_1 .
- (b) A second charged particle of mass $m_2 = 2.7 \times 10^{-14} \text{ kg}$ is projected from position $x = 0$, $y = 3 \text{ cm}$ with initial speed $v_0 = 3.2 \times 10^4 \text{ m/s}$. It exits the box at $x = 3.9 \text{ cm}$, $y = 6 \text{ cm}$. Find the charge q_2 .



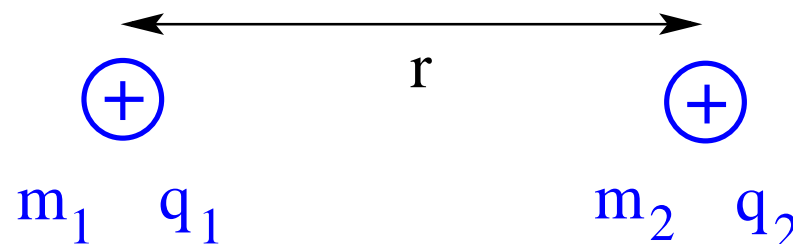
Action and Reaction due to Coulomb Interaction



Two particles with masses m_1, m_2 and charges q_1, q_2 are released from rest a distance r apart.

We consider the following four distinct configurations:

- (a) $m_1 = 1\text{kg}, m_2 = 1\text{kg}, q_1 = 1\text{C}, q_2 = 1\text{C}$
- (b) $m_1 = 1\text{kg}, m_2 = 1\text{kg}, q_1 = 1\text{C}, q_2 = 2\text{C}$
- (c) $m_1 = 1\text{kg}, m_2 = 2\text{kg}, q_1 = 1\text{C}, q_2 = 1\text{C}$
- (d) $m_1 = 1\text{kg}, m_2 = 2\text{kg}, q_1 = 1\text{C}, q_2 = 2\text{C}$



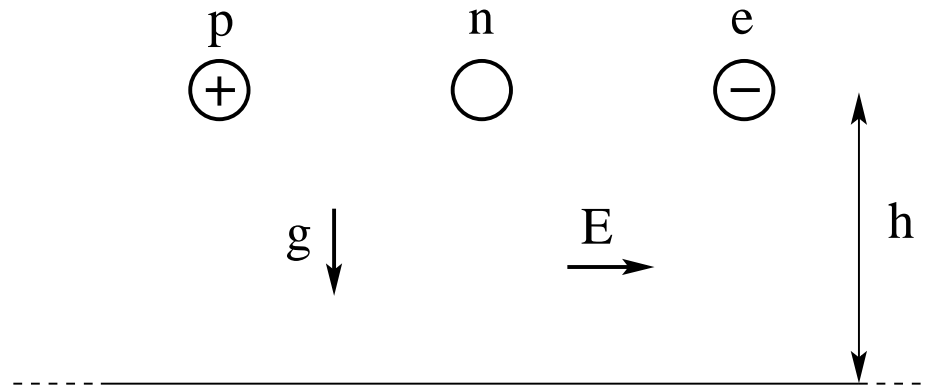
Answer the following questions for each configuration:

- (1) Is the force experienced by particle 1 **smaller than** or **equal to** or **larger than** the force experienced by particle 2?
- (2) Is the acceleration of particle 1 **smaller than** or **equal to** or **larger than** the acceleration of particle 2?

Particle in Uniform Electric and Gravitational Field (1)



A proton, a neutron, and an electron are dropped from rest in a vertical gravitational field \vec{g} and in a horizontal electric field \vec{E} as shown. Both fields are uniform.



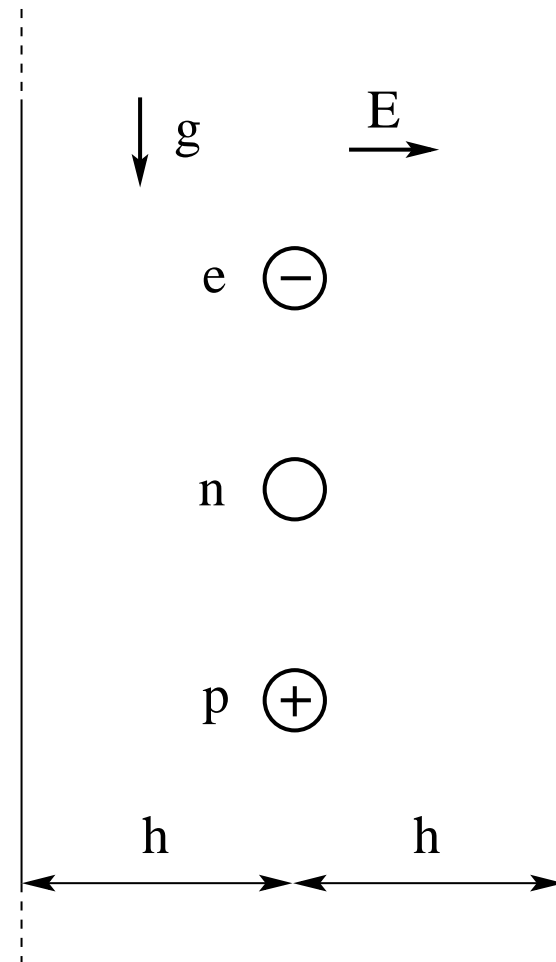
- (a) Which particle travels the shortest distance?
- (b) Which particle travels the longest distance?
- (c) Which particle travels the shortest time?
- (d) Which particle reaches the highest speed?

Particle in Uniform Electric and Gravitational Field (2)



A proton, a neutron, and an electron are dropped from rest in a vertical gravitational field \vec{g} and in a horizontal electric field \vec{E} as shown. Both fields are uniform.

- (a) Which particle travels the shortest distance?
- (b) Which particle travels in a straight line?
- (c) Which particle travels the shortest time?
- (d) Which particle reaches the highest speed?

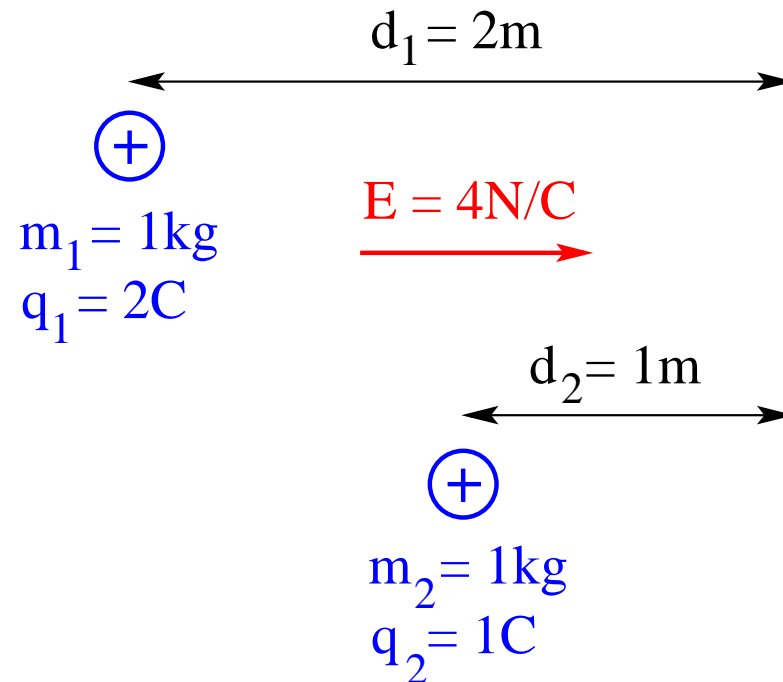


Is the Faster also the Quicker?



Charged particles 1 and 2 are released from rest in a uniform electric field.

- (a) Which particle moves faster when it hits the wall?
- (b) Which particle reaches the wall more quickly?

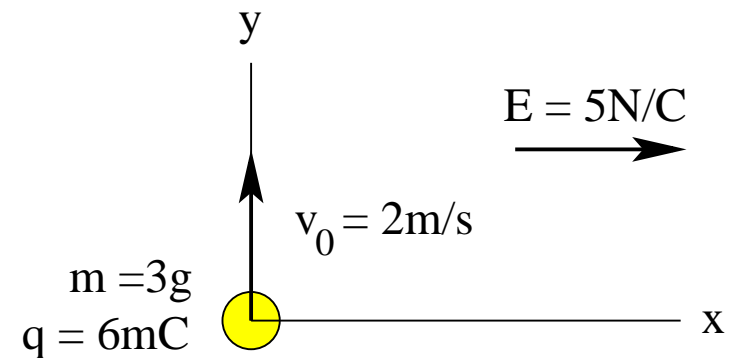


Intermediate Exam I: Problem #3 (Spring '06)



Consider a region of uniform electric field as shown. A charged particle is projected at time $t = 0$ with initial velocity as shown. Ignore gravity.

- (a) Find the components a_x and a_y of the acceleration at time $t = 0$.
- (b) Find the components v_x and v_y of the velocity at time $t = 0$.
- (c) Find the components v_x and v_y of the velocity at time $t = 1.2\text{s}$.
- (d) Find the components x and y of the position at time $t = 1.2\text{s}$.



Intermediate Exam I: Problem #3 (Spring '06)

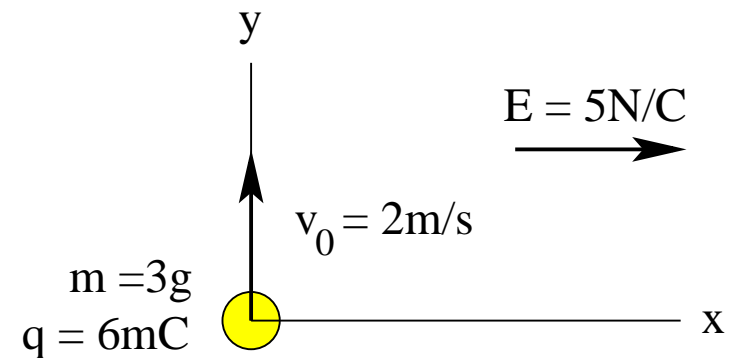


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- (c) Find the components v_x and v_y of the velocity at time $t = 1.2\text{s}$.
- (d) Find the components x and y of the position at time $t = 1.2\text{s}$.

Solution:

$$(a) \quad a_x = \frac{q}{m} E = \frac{6 \times 10^{-3} \text{C}}{3 \times 10^{-3} \text{kg}} (5 \text{N/C}) = 10 \text{m/s}^2, \quad a_y = 0.$$



Intermediate Exam I: Problem #3 (Spring '06)



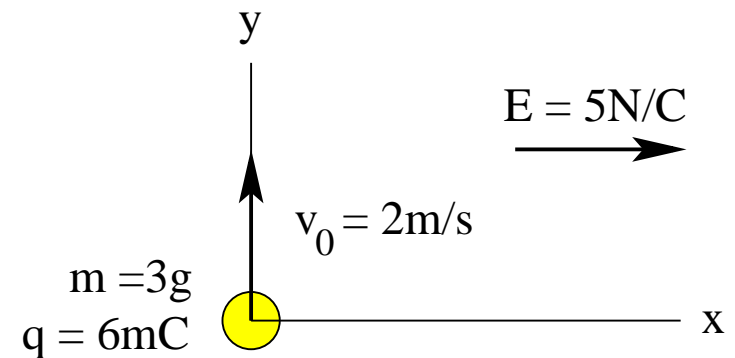
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- (b) Find the components v_x and v_y of the velocity at time $t = 0$.
- (c) Find the components v_x and v_y of the velocity at time $t = 1.2\text{s}$.
- (d) Find the components x and y of the position at time $t = 1.2\text{s}$.

Solution:

$$(a) \quad a_x = \frac{q}{m} E = \frac{6 \times 10^{-3} \text{C}}{3 \times 10^{-3} \text{kg}} (5 \text{N/C}) = 10 \text{m/s}^2, \quad a_y = 0.$$

$$(b) \quad v_x = 0, \quad v_y = v_0 = 2 \text{m/s}.$$



Intermediate Exam I: Problem #3 (Spring '06)



Consider a region of uniform electric field as shown. A charged particle is projected at time $t = 0$ with initial velocity as shown. Ignore gravity.

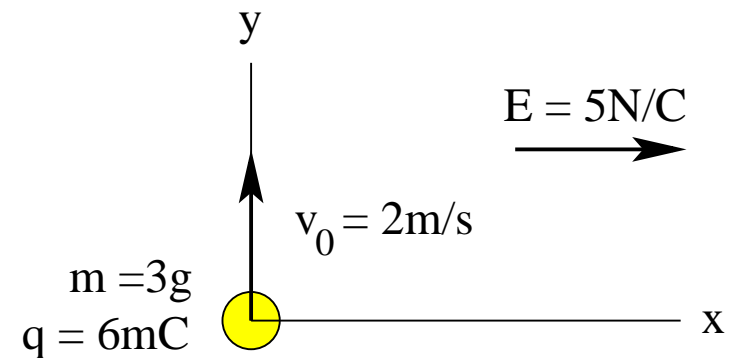
- (a) Find the components a_x and a_y of the acceleration at time $t = 0$.
- (b) Find the components v_x and v_y of the velocity at time $t = 0$.
- (c) Find the components v_x and v_y of the velocity at time $t = 1.2\text{s}$.
- (d) Find the components x and y of the position at time $t = 1.2\text{s}$.

Solution:

$$(a) \quad a_x = \frac{q}{m} E = \frac{6 \times 10^{-3} \text{C}}{3 \times 10^{-3} \text{kg}} (5 \text{N/C}) = 10 \text{m/s}^2, \quad a_y = 0.$$

$$(b) \quad v_x = 0, \quad v_y = v_0 = 2 \text{m/s}.$$

$$(c) \quad v_x = a_x t = (10 \text{m/s}^2)(1.2 \text{s}) = 12 \text{m/s}, \quad v_y = v_0 = 2 \text{m/s}.$$



Intermediate Exam I: Problem #3 (Spring '06)



Consider a region of uniform electric field as shown. A charged particle is projected at time $t = 0$ with initial velocity as shown. Ignore gravity.

- (a) Find the components a_x and a_y of the acceleration at time $t = 0$.
- (b) Find the components v_x and v_y of the velocity at time $t = 0$.
- (c) Find the components v_x and v_y of the velocity at time $t = 1.2\text{s}$.
- (d) Find the components x and y of the position at time $t = 1.2\text{s}$.

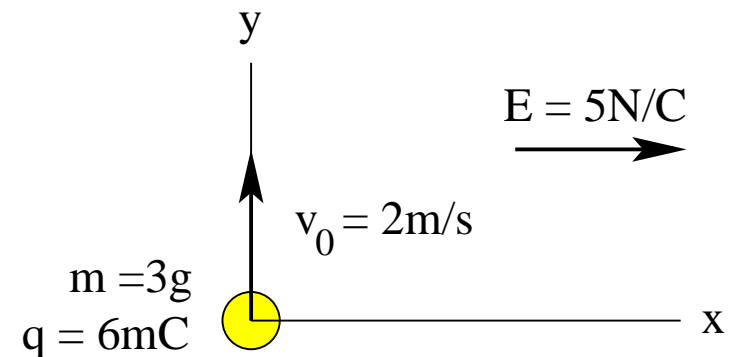
Solution:

$$(a) \quad a_x = \frac{q}{m} E = \frac{6 \times 10^{-3}\text{C}}{3 \times 10^{-3}\text{kg}} (5\text{N/C}) = 10\text{m/s}^2, \quad a_y = 0.$$

$$(b) \quad v_x = 0, \quad v_y = v_0 = 2\text{m/s}.$$

$$(c) \quad v_x = a_x t = (10\text{m/s}^2)(1.2\text{s}) = 12\text{m/s}, \quad v_y = v_0 = 2\text{m/s}.$$

$$(d) \quad x = \frac{1}{2} a_x t^2 = 0.5(10\text{m/s}^2)(1.2\text{s})^2 = 7.2\text{m}, \quad y = v_y t = (2\text{m/s})(1.2\text{s}) = 2.4\text{m}.$$

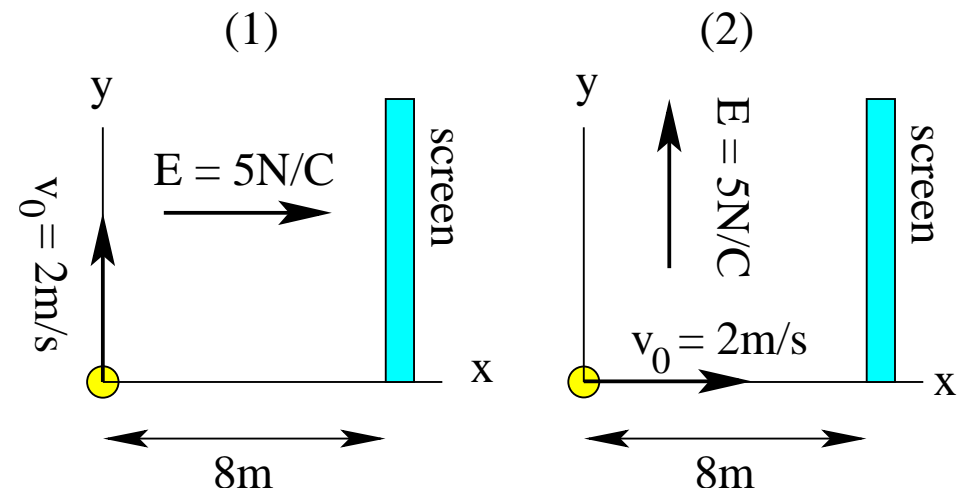


Unit Exam I: Problem #3 (Spring '07)



Consider two regions of uniform electric field as shown. Charged particles of mass $m = 2\text{kg}$ and charge $q = 1\text{C}$ are projected at time $t = 0$ with initial velocities as shown. Both particles will hit the screen eventually. Ignore gravity.

- (a) At what time t_1 does the particle in region (1) hit the screen?
- (b) At what height y_1 does the particle in region (1) hit the screen?
- (c) At what time t_2 does the particle in region (2) hit the screen?
- (d) At what height y_2 does the particle in region (2) hit the screen?



Unit Exam I: Problem #3 (Spring '07)

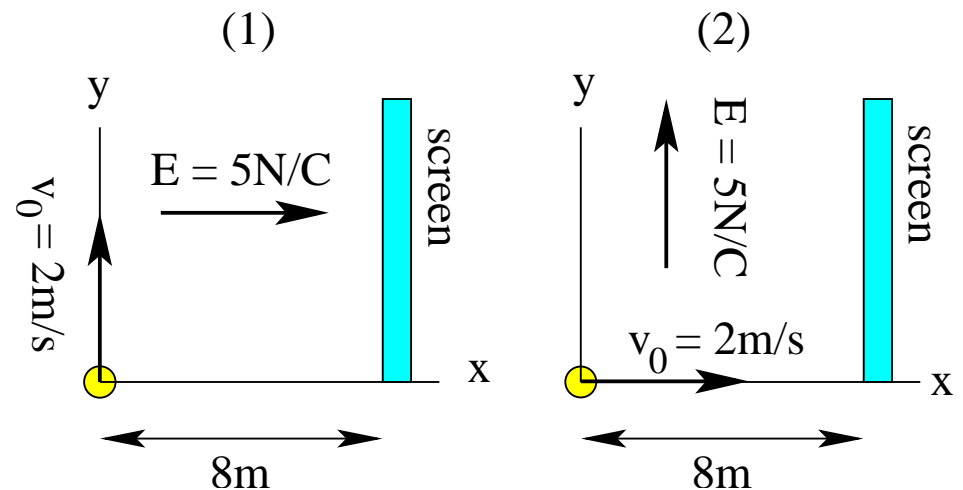


Consider two regions of uniform electric field as shown. Charged particles of mass $m = 2\text{kg}$ and charge $q = 1\text{C}$ are projected at time $t = 0$ with initial velocities as shown. Both particles will hit the screen eventually. Ignore gravity.

- (a) At what time t_1 does the particle in region (1) hit the screen?
- (b) At what height y_1 does the particle in region (1) hit the screen?
- (c) At what time t_2 does the particle in region (2) hit the screen?
- (d) At what height y_2 does the particle in region (2) hit the screen?

Solution:

(a) $x_1 = \frac{1}{2}at_1^2$ with $a = \frac{q}{m}E = 2.5\text{m/s}^2$,
 $x_1 = 8\text{m} \Rightarrow t_1 = 2.53\text{s}.$



Unit Exam I: Problem #3 (Spring '07)



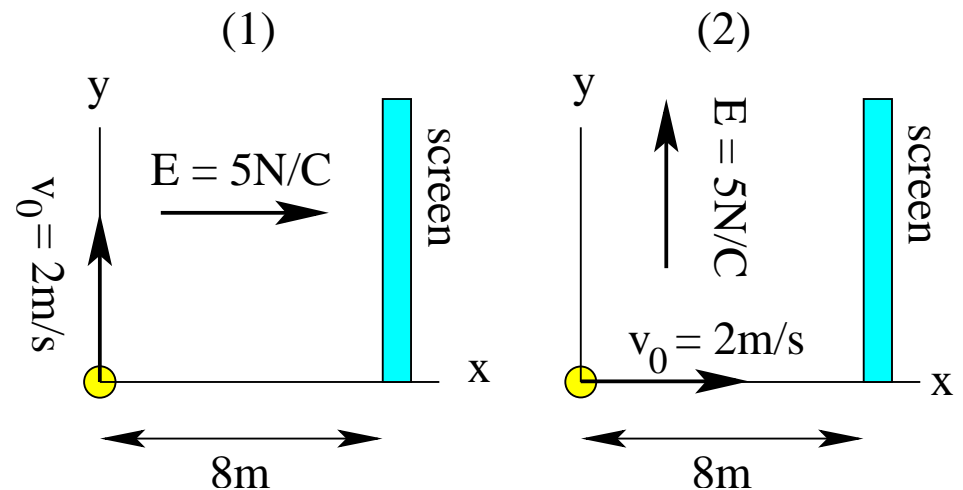
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- (b) At what height y_1 does the particle in region (1) hit the screen?
- (c) At what time t_2 does the particle in region (2) hit the screen?
- (d) At what height y_2 does the particle in region (2) hit the screen?

Solution:

(a) $x_1 = \frac{1}{2}at_1^2$ with $a = \frac{q}{m}E = 2.5\text{m/s}^2$,
 $x_1 = 8\text{m} \Rightarrow t_1 = 2.53\text{s}$.

(b) $y_1 = v_0t_1 = 5.06\text{m}$.



Unit Exam I: Problem #3 (Spring '07)



Consider two regions of uniform electric field as shown. Charged particles of mass $m = 2\text{kg}$ and charge $q = 1\text{C}$ are projected at time $t = 0$ with initial velocities as shown. Both particles will hit the screen eventually. Ignore gravity.

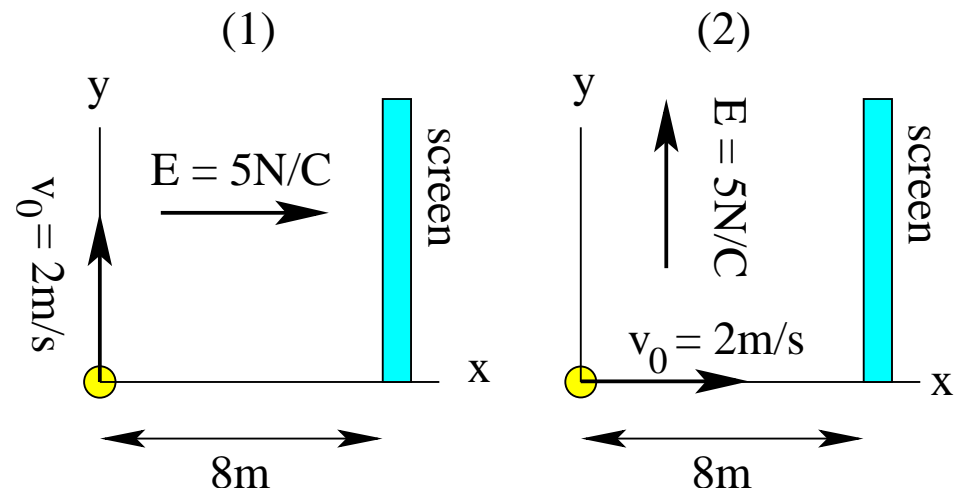
- (a) At what time t_1 does the particle in region (1) hit the screen?
- (b) At what height y_1 does the particle in region (1) hit the screen?
- (c) At what time t_2 does the particle in region (2) hit the screen?
- (d) At what height y_2 does the particle in region (2) hit the screen?

Solution:

(a) $x_1 = \frac{1}{2}at_1^2$ with $a = \frac{q}{m}E = 2.5\text{m/s}^2$,
 $x_1 = 8\text{m} \Rightarrow t_1 = 2.53\text{s}$.

(b) $y_1 = v_0t_1 = 5.06\text{m}$.

(c) $x_2 = v_0t_2 \Rightarrow t_2 = \frac{8\text{m}}{2\text{m/s}} = 4\text{s}$.



Unit Exam I: Problem #3 (Spring '07)



Consider two regions of uniform electric field as shown. Charged particles of mass $m = 2\text{kg}$ and charge $q = 1\text{C}$ are projected at time $t = 0$ with initial velocities as shown. Both particles will hit the screen eventually. Ignore gravity.

- (a) At what time t_1 does the particle in region (1) hit the screen?
- (b) At what height y_1 does the particle in region (1) hit the screen?
- (c) At what time t_2 does the particle in region (2) hit the screen?
- (d) At what height y_2 does the particle in region (2) hit the screen?

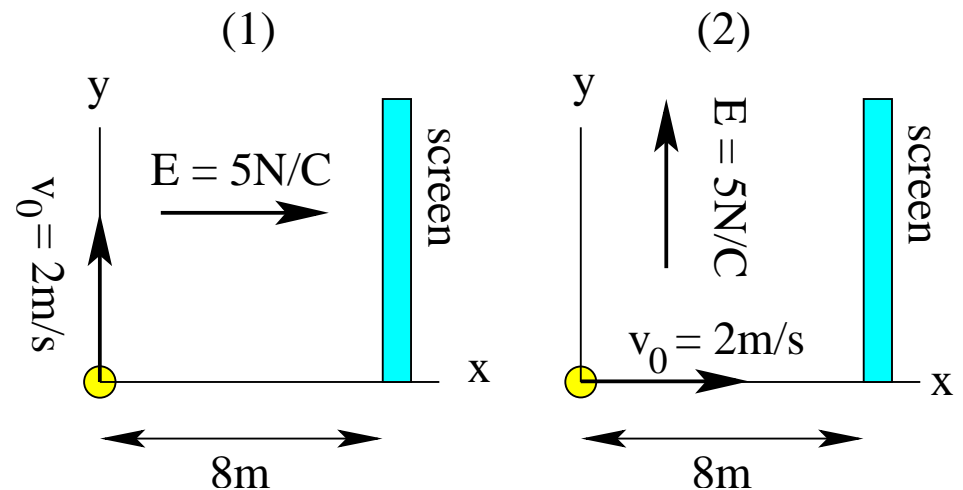
Solution:

(a) $x_1 = \frac{1}{2}at_1^2$ with $a = \frac{q}{m}E = 2.5\text{m/s}^2$,
 $x_1 = 8\text{m} \Rightarrow t_1 = 2.53\text{s}.$

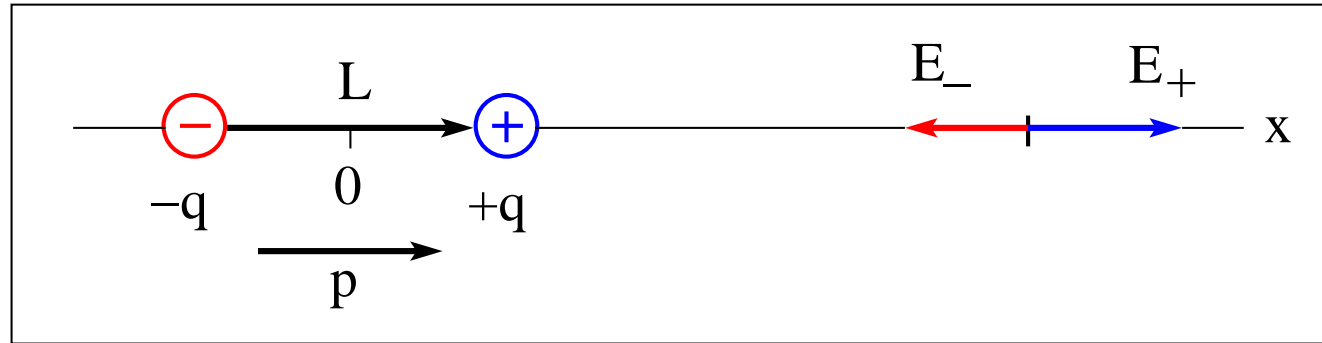
(b) $y_1 = v_0t_1 = 5.06\text{m}.$

(c) $x_2 = v_0t_2 \Rightarrow t_2 = \frac{8\text{m}}{2\text{m/s}} = 4\text{s}.$

(d) $y_2 = \frac{1}{2}at_2^2 = 20\text{m}.$



Electric Dipole Field



$$E = \frac{kq}{(x - L/2)^2} - \frac{kq}{(x + L/2)^2} = kq \left[\frac{(x + L/2)^2 - (x - L/2)^2}{(x - L/2)^2(x + L/2)^2} \right] = \frac{2kqLx}{(x^2 - L^2/4)^2}$$
$$\approx \frac{2kqL}{x^3} = \frac{2kp}{x^3} \quad (\text{for } x \gg L)$$

Electric dipole moment: $\vec{p} = q\vec{L}$

- Note the more rapid decay of the electric field with distance from an electric dipole ($\sim r^{-3}$) than from an electric point charge ($\sim r^{-2}$).
- The dipolar field is not radial.

Water Molecule

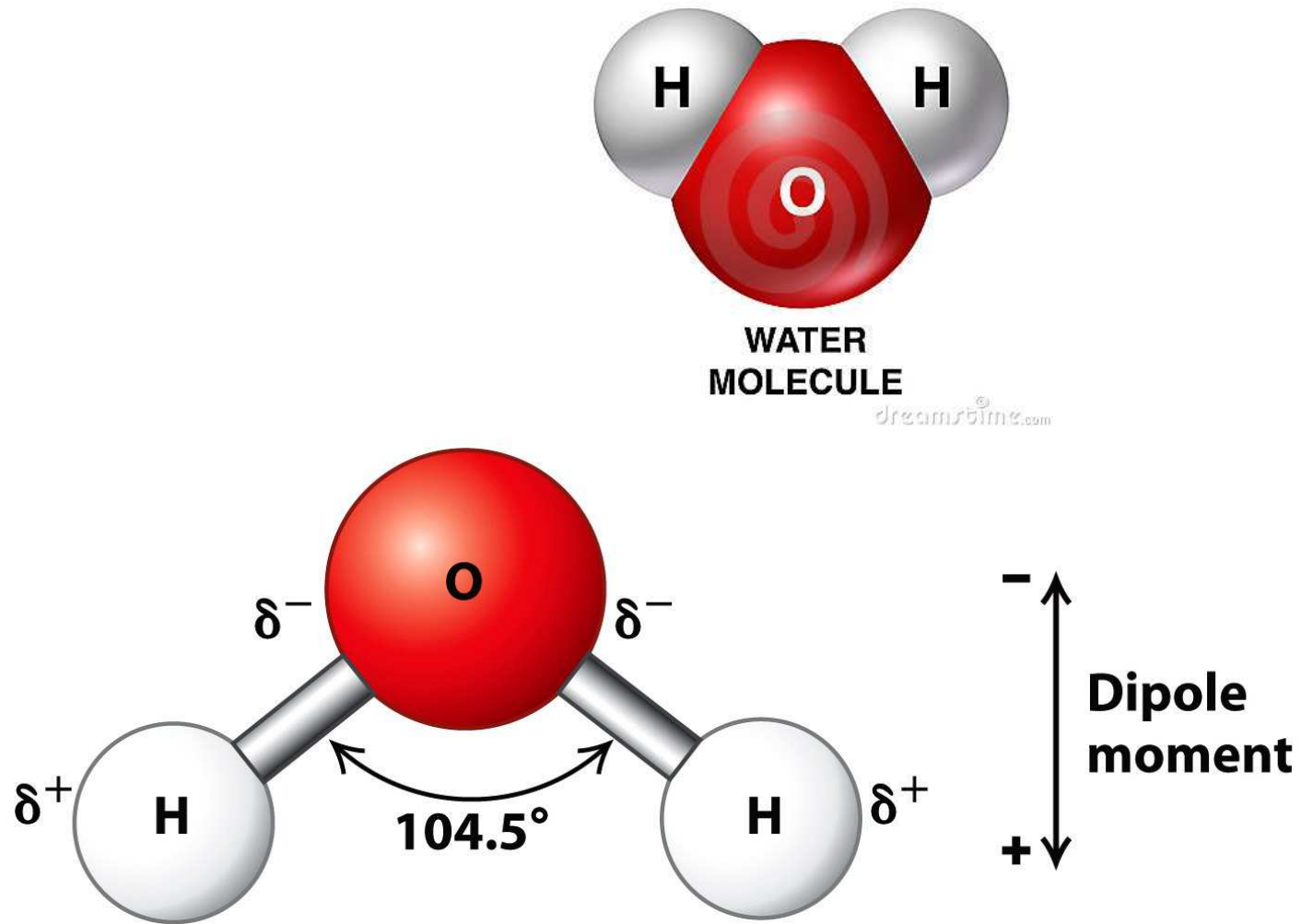
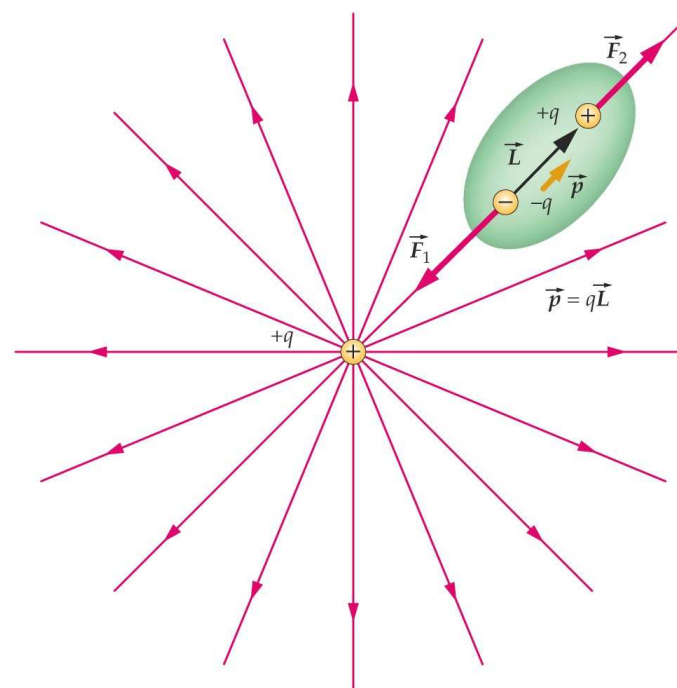
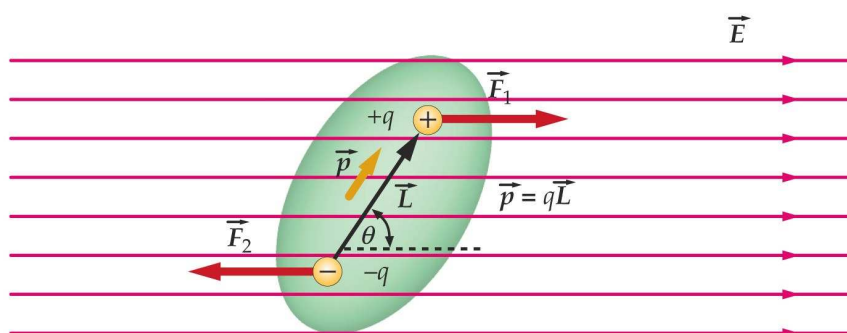


Figure 2-5
Molecular Cell Biology, Sixth Edition
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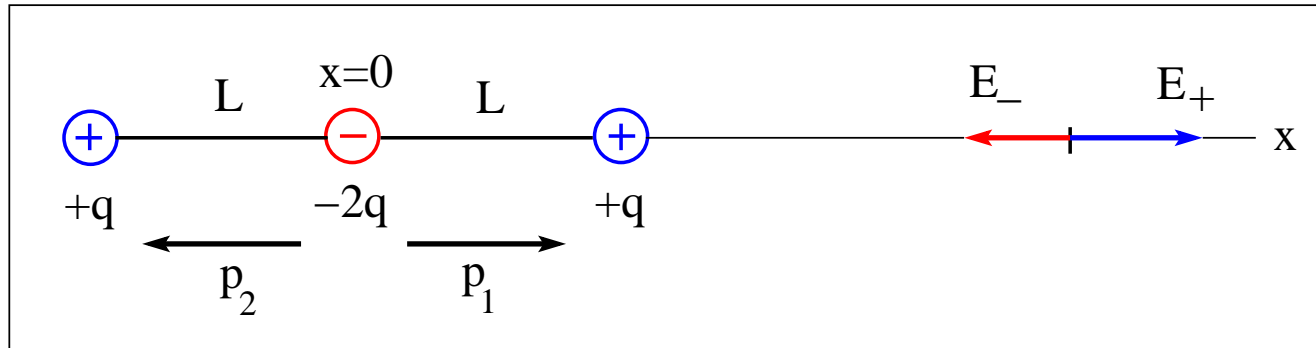
Force and Torque on Electric Dipole



- The net force on an electric dipole in a *uniform* electric field vanishes.
- However, this dipole experiences a torque $\vec{\tau} = \vec{p} \times \vec{L}$ that tends to align the vector \vec{p} with the vector \vec{E} .
- Now consider an electric dipole that is already aligned (locally) with a *nonuniform* electric field. This dipole experiences a net force that is always in the direction where the field has the steepest increase.



Electric Quadrupole Field



$$\begin{aligned}
 E &= \frac{kq}{(x-L)^2} + \frac{kq}{(x+L)^2} + \frac{k(-2q)}{x^2} = \frac{kq}{x^2} \left[\left(1 - \frac{L}{x}\right)^{-2} + \left(1 + \frac{L}{x}\right)^{-2} - 2 \right] \\
 &= \frac{kq}{x^2} \left[\left(1 + \frac{2L}{x} + \frac{3L^2}{x^2} + \dots\right) + \left(1 - \frac{2L}{x} + \frac{3L^2}{x^2} - \dots\right) - 2 \right] \\
 &\simeq \frac{6kqL^2}{x^4} = \frac{3kQ}{x^4} \quad (\text{for } x \gg L)
 \end{aligned}$$

Electric quadrupole moment: $Q = 2qL^2$

Different quadrupole configuration:

