ELECTRIC FIELDS (ELECTROSTATICS)

UNIT 2- SECTION 1 PHYSICS 3204

• An electric field is a region in space that affects charge, and causes the electric force on a test charge placed inside the electric field. Electric field are graphically represented by lines of force



- 2 methods to charge an object 1) conduction 2) Induction
- The materials towards the top of the "Electrostatic Series" have a poor attraction for electrons.
- Understand the charge on an electroscope (and instrument used to detect the presence of a net charge on an object).
- The charge on an electron or proton is $e = 1,602 \times 10^{19} \text{ C}.$
- Know how charge is distributed on objects,



This picture suggests that electrical discharge is more likely to occur from places of high curvature (i.e., pointy places).

• Determining Charge



• Common Electric Field Configurations



The electric field in the vicinity of two negative charges



• Look over the Laws for Electric Field Lines

• Below are a list of formulae that can be used in electrostatics:

Coulomb's Law (The electrical force between two objects)	$F_{\varepsilon} = \frac{kQ_1Q_2}{d^2} (\text{ unit: N})$
positive = repulsive force negative = attractive force	$k = 9.0 \times 10^9 \text{ N} \cdot \text{m}^2/\text{c}^2$ (Coulomb's constant)
Electric Field Strength (\overline{E}) Sign indicates direction of the field	$\bar{E} = \frac{F_s}{q} \text{ (unit: (N/C))}$ or $\bar{E} = \frac{kq_m}{r^2} \text{ (for the main point charge)}$
Electric Potential Energy (E _e): The work done to move a charge in an electric field	$E_{\varepsilon} = \frac{kq_m q_t}{r}$ (unit: J)
Electric Potential (V) The potential energy per unit charge	$V = \frac{E_{\varepsilon}}{q}$ (unit: J/C or Volts)
	or $V = \frac{kq}{r}$
Potential Difference (ΔV) The change in electric potential	$\Delta V = \frac{\Delta E_s}{q} $ (Unit: Volts)
For a Parallel Plate Electric Field Strength	$E = \frac{v}{d} $ (Unit: N/C)

