February 20, 2017

Physics 132

Prof. E. F. Redish

- Theme Music: Maynard Ferguson High Voltage
- <u>Cartoon:</u> Wiley Miller Non-Sequitur

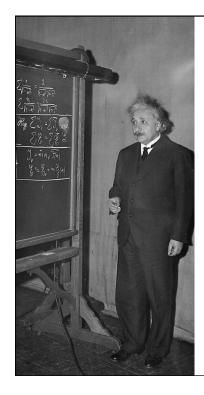




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The Equation of the Day

The Electric Potential

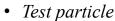
$$V(\vec{r}) = \frac{\Delta U(\vec{r})}{q}$$
$$V(\vec{r}) = \sum_{j=1}^{N} \frac{k_C q_j}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}_j|}$$

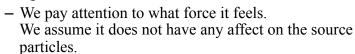
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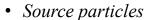
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## Foothold idea: Fields







 We pay attention to the forces they exert and assume they do not move.

Physical field

 We consider what force a test particle would feel if it were at a particular point in space and divide by its coupling strength to the force. This gives a vector at each point in space.

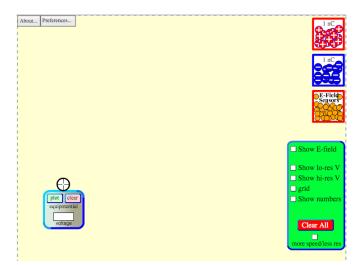
$$\vec{g} = \frac{1}{m} \vec{W}_{E \to m}$$
  $\vec{E} = \frac{1}{q} \vec{F}_{\text{all charges} \to q}$   $V = \frac{1}{q} U_{\text{all charges} \to q}^{elec}$ 

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## Explore the potential near a point charge



https://phet.colorado.edu/sims/charges-and-fields/charges-and-fields\_en.html 2/20/17 Physics 132

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