Recall Coulomb's Law

- Magnitude of the force between charges q_1 and q_2 separated a distance r:

$$F = k\, q_1 q_2 / r^2 \qquad k = 9 \times 10^9 \text{ Nm}^2/\text{C}^2$$

- Force is
  - attractive if q_1 and q_2 have opposite sign
  - repulsive if q_1 and q_2 have same sign
- Units:
  - q's have units of Coulombs (C)
    - charge on proton is 1.6×10^{-19} C
  - r has units of m
  - F has units of N