

Answer on Question #61327, Physics / Electromagnetism

5)A tiny ball of mass 0.60 g is suspended from a rigid support with a piece of thread in a horizontal electric field of intensity 700 N/C. The ball is in equilibrium when the thread is inclined at an angle of 20° to the vertical. What are the magnitude and sign of the charge on the ball? Take $g=9.8\text{m/s}^2$

- a) $-3.1 \times 10^{-6}\text{C}$
- b) $3.2 \times 10^{-6}\text{C}$
- c) $4.2 \times 10^{-6}\text{C}$
- d) -4.1×10^{-3}

Find: $q - ?$

Given:

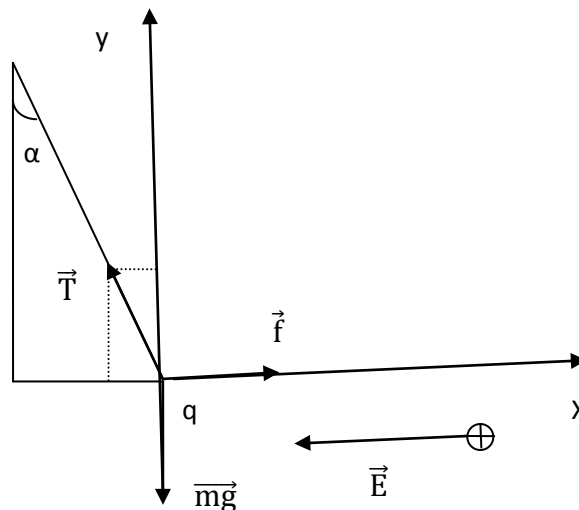
$$m=0.6 \times 10^{-3}\text{ kg}$$

$$E=700\text{ N/C}$$

$$\alpha=20^\circ$$

$$g=9.8\text{m/s}^2$$

Solution:



Consider the forces which acting on the tiny ball q.

Newton's Second Law:

$$\vec{F} = m\vec{a} \quad (1)$$

$$\text{Of (1)} \Rightarrow \vec{T} + m\vec{g} + \vec{f} = m\vec{a} \quad (2),$$

where \vec{T} is tension force,

$m\vec{g}$ is gravity,

\vec{f} is force of electric field

Projections of the vectors:

$$\text{OX: } -T \sin \alpha + f = 0 \quad (3)$$

$$\text{OY: } T \cos \alpha - mg = 0 \quad (4)$$

Force of electric field:

$$f = E|q| \quad (5)$$

$$(5) \text{ in } (3): T \sin \alpha = E|q| \quad (6)$$

$$\text{Of } (4) \Rightarrow T \cos \alpha = mg \quad (7)$$

We divide (6) on (7) term by term:

$$\tan \alpha = \frac{E|q|}{mg} \quad (8)$$

$$\text{Of } (8) \Rightarrow |q| = \frac{mg \tan \alpha}{E} \quad (9)$$

$$\text{Of } (9) \Rightarrow |q| = 3.1 \times 10^{-6} \text{C}$$

From Figure \Rightarrow sign of the charge: $q = -3.1 \times 10^{-6} \text{C}$

Answer:

a) $-3.1 \times 10^{-6} \text{C}$

6) The following are true about electric field lines except that they

- a) are drawn such that the magnitude of the field is proportional to the number of lines crossing a unit area perpendicular to the lines
- b) do not intersect one another
- c) are discontinuous and may terminate in a vacuum
- d) give the direction of motion of a unit positive test-charge under the action of the electrostatic force

Answer:

- c) are discontinuous and may terminate in a vacuum