



























<sup>3</sup> Griffiths p. 63 finds E a distance z from a line segment with charge density  $\lambda$ :  $\vec{\mathbf{E}} = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{2\lambda L}{z\sqrt{z^2 + L^2}} \hat{\mathbf{k}}$ What is the approx. form for E, if z<<L?  $E = \frac{2\lambda}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \cdot (...)$ A) 0 B) 1 C) 1/z D) 1/z^2 E) None of these is remotely correct.

## Deep questions to ponder

- Is Coulomb's force law valid for all separation distances? (How about r=0?)
- What is the physics origin of the r<sup>2</sup> dependence of Coulomb's force law?
- What is the physics origin of the  $1/\epsilon_0$  dependence of Coulomb's force law?
- What is the physics origin of the 1/4 $\pi$  factor in Coulomb's force law?
- What really is electric charge?
- Why is electric charge quantized (in units of e)?
- What really is negative vs. positive electric charge (i.e. -e vs. +e)?
- Why does the Coulomb force vary as the *product* of charges  $q_1q_2$ ?
- What really is the *E*-field associated with e.g. a point electric charge, e?
- Are electric field lines real? Do they *really* exist in space and time?