

Electrodynamics and Optics

1. Static electricity



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Amber or ἤλεκτρον

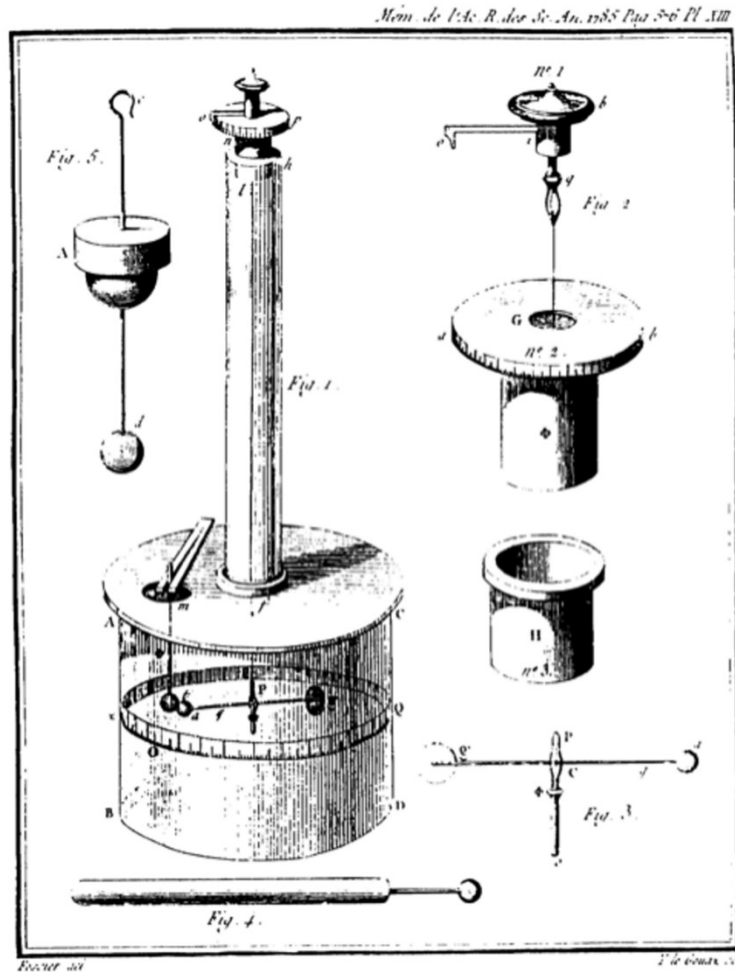
Electron: „beaming or shining sun”

600 B.C. Thales recorded:
Amber rubbed with rabbits fur attract bits of paper and
other light objects.

Triboelectric Effects



Coulomb's experiment



Charles (Augustin de) Coulomb

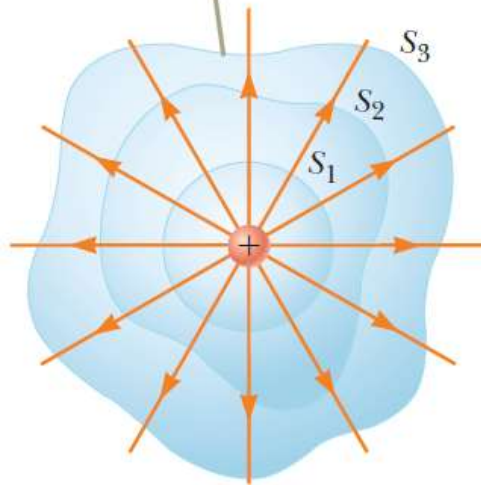
French physicist (1736–1806)

Coulomb's major contributions to science were in the areas of electrostatics and magnetism.

Gauss's law

$$\Phi_E = \oint \vec{\mathbf{E}} \cdot d\vec{\mathbf{A}} = \frac{q_{\text{in}}}{\epsilon_0}$$

The net electric flux is the same through all surfaces.



Karl Friedrich Gauss

German mathematician and astronomer (1777–1855)

In addition to his work in electromagnetism, he made contributions to mathematics and science in number theory, statistics, non-Euclidean geometry, and cometary orbital mechanics. He was a founder of the German Magnetic Union, which studies the Earth's magnetic field on a continual basis.