

The Coulomb's law equation gives the magnitude of the force that Q_A exerts on a Q_B , and also the magnitude of the force that can be exerts on a Q_A . These magnitude are equal. You can observe this example of Newton's third law of motion when you bring two stripes of tape with like charge together, each exerts of force on the other, if you bring charged come near, either striped the stripe with its small mass moves readily. The acceleration of the is less because of its much greater mass the electrostatic force like all force is a vector quantity force vectors have both magnitude and direction. The Coulomb's law equation gives only the magnitude of the force to determine direction you can draw a diagram, using force vectors