

# **Explaining Complex Technical Topics to Researchers**

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# What it Takes

— — —

- Complex Topic and Researcher is an interesting mixture.
- Subtlety is required.
- Humility is a force
- Knowing your interlocutor is an impetus
- Preparedness is your key.
- Your choice of words makes the difference

# Explaining should not be ...



Image courtesy <https://www.jarkkorantanen.com/four-steps-to-get-forward-when-youre-stuck-in-a-conversation/>

# Explaining should not be ...

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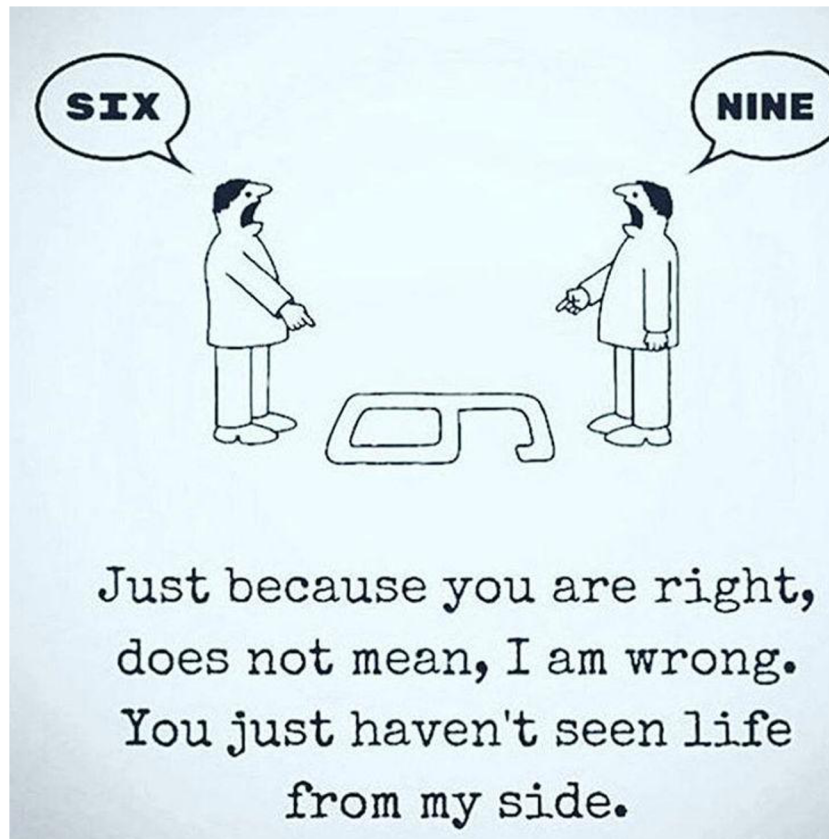


Image courtesy <https://www.jarkkorantanen.com/four-steps-to-get-forward-when-youre-stuck-in-a-conversation/>



# Painting the Picture

— — —

Accurate picture as much as possible  
relying on Commonality.

- Operators: Theory Versus Experiment
- Basis Sets: Chemist Versus Physicist
- Secure Computing Environment:
  - Concept Versus Reality
    - Shield vs vault

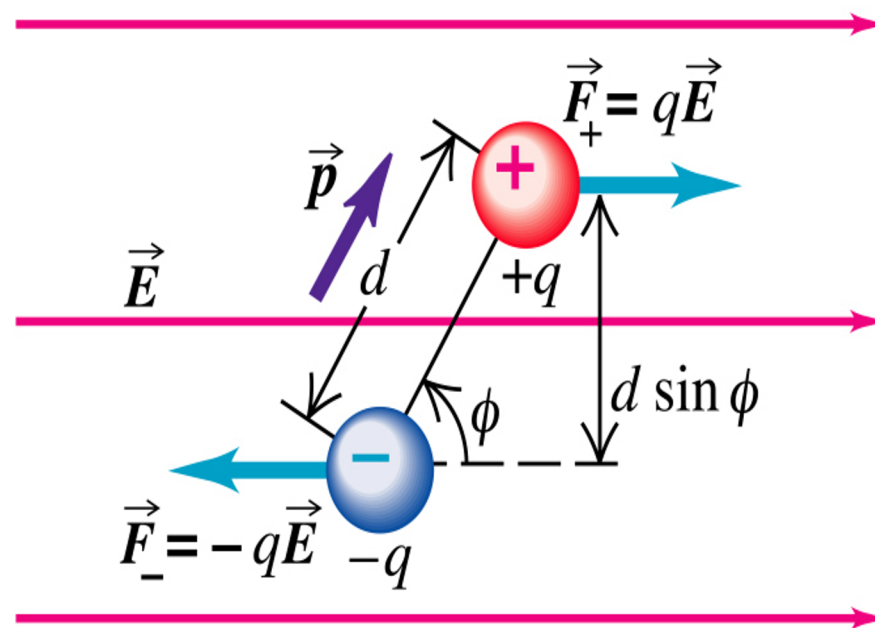


# Hard-Coded Misconceptions

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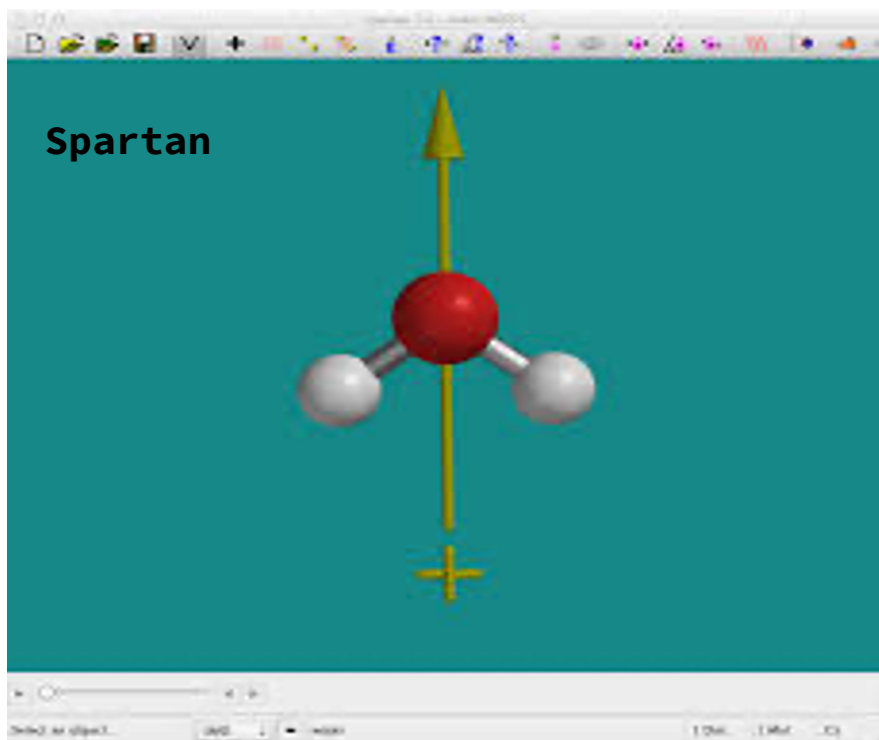


Dipole Moment has a  
Magnitude and a Direction

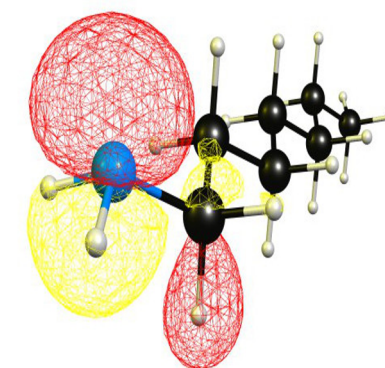


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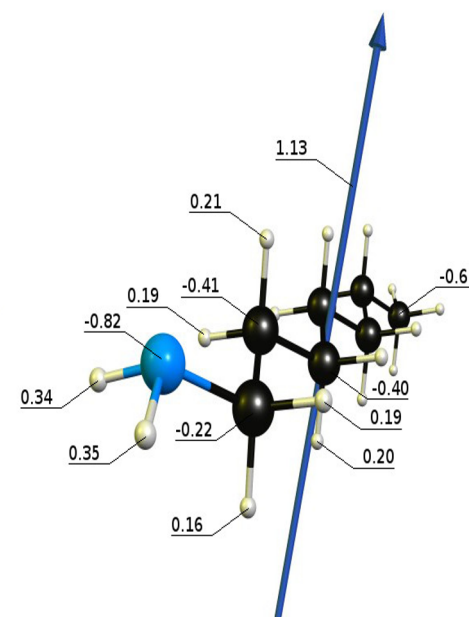
# Hard-Coded Misconceptions



**GaussView**



DF-BP86/def2TZVPP (Gaussian 09)



# Ending the Encounter

— — —

- Express appreciation for the discussion.
- Be forthcoming about your shortcomings.
- Note Questions you couldn't answer.
- Follow up with clarifications or with additional information

