

Electrostatics

Maxwell equations reduce to

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = \rho / \epsilon_0$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{E} = -\vec{\nabla} \Phi$$

$$\Rightarrow$$

$$\nabla^2 \Phi = -\rho / \epsilon_0$$

Poisson eq'n

if $\rho = 0 \Rightarrow$

$$\nabla^2 \Phi = 0$$

Laplace eq'n

Gauss's Law in integral form:

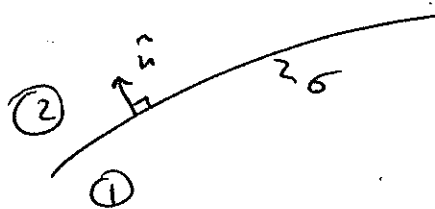
$$\int_S da \hat{n} \cdot \vec{E} = Q / \epsilon_0$$

$$\Rightarrow$$

boundaries:

$$\hat{n} \cdot (\vec{E}_2 - \vec{E}_1) = \sigma / \epsilon_0$$

$$E_{2t} = E_{1t}$$



Solution of Poisson eq'n in infinite space:

$$\Phi(\vec{x}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int d^3x' \frac{\rho(\vec{x}')}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|}$$

Note that

$$\nabla^2 \frac{1}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|} = -4\pi \delta^3(\vec{x} - \vec{x}')$$

Solving Poisson equation: use "Master formula": (B2)

$$\Phi(\vec{x}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_V d^3x' G(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') \rho(\vec{x}') + \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_S da' \left[G(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial n'} - \Phi(\vec{x}') \frac{\partial G}{\partial n'} \right]$$

where

$$\nabla^2 G(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') = -4\pi \delta^3(\vec{x} - \vec{x}')$$

↑ Green function



Dirichlet b.c. problem: Φ given on S'

$$\Phi(\vec{x}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_V d^3x' G_D(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') \rho(\vec{x}') - \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{S'} da' \Phi(\vec{x}') \frac{\partial G}{\partial n'}$$

$G_D \sim$ Dirichlet Green fn (vanishes on S')

Neumann b.c. problem: $\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial n}$ given on S'

$$\Phi(\vec{x}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_V d^3x' G_N(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') \rho(\vec{x}') + \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_S da' G_N(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial n'} + \langle \Phi \rangle_{\text{surf.}}$$

$G_N \sim$ Neumann Green fn, $\left. \frac{\partial G_N}{\partial n} \right|_{\text{on } S} = -\frac{4\pi}{S}$

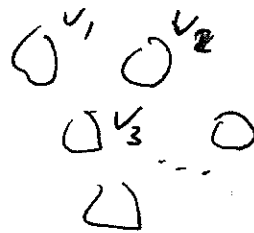
Electrostatic energy:

$$\mathcal{E} = \int d^3x \frac{\epsilon_0}{2} \vec{E}^2 = \frac{1}{2} \int d^3x \Phi(\vec{x}) \rho(\vec{x})$$

B3

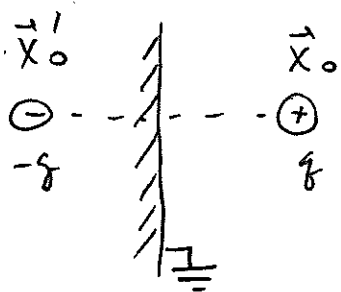
Capacitance:

$$Q_i = \sum_j C_{ij} V_j$$

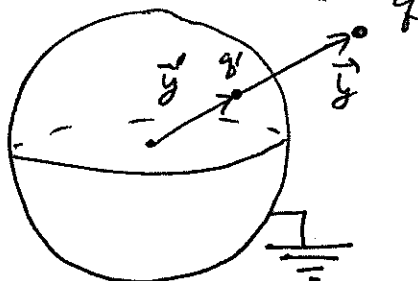


$C_{ii} \sim$ capacitances

Method of Images



$$\Rightarrow \Phi(\vec{x}) = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[\frac{1}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}_0|} - \frac{1}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}_0'|} \right]$$



$$q' = -q \frac{R}{y}, \quad y' = \frac{R^2}{y}$$

$$\Phi(\vec{x}) = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[\frac{1}{|\vec{x} - \vec{y}|} - \frac{R}{y} \frac{1}{|\vec{x} - \frac{R^2}{y^2} \vec{y}|} \right]$$

\Rightarrow can be used to find Dirichlet Green function

\Rightarrow outside the sphere we have:

$$G_D(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') = \frac{1}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|} - \frac{R}{x'} \frac{1}{|\vec{x} - \frac{R^2}{x'^2} \vec{x}'|}$$

ditto inside the sphere, for a half-space, etc.

Separation of Variables and Special Functions

(B4)

$\{u_n(x)\}$ complete orthonormal set:

$$\int_a^b dx u_n^*(x) u_m(x) = \delta_{nm} \quad \text{orthonormality}$$

$$\sum_n u_n^*(x) u_n(y) = \delta(x-y) \quad \text{completeness}$$

$\Rightarrow \forall f(x)$ can be expanded $f(x) = \sum_n a_n u_n(x)$

if $\hat{L} u_n(x) = \lambda_n u_n(x)$

$$\Rightarrow G(x, x') = -4\pi \sum_n \frac{u_n(x) u_n^*(x')}{\lambda_n}$$

e.g. $u_n(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{a}} e^{i \frac{2\pi n x}{a}}$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{a} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{i \frac{2\pi n}{a} (x-x')} = \delta(x-x')$$

Fourier integral:

$$f(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dk}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{ikx} A(k)$$

$$A(k) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dx}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-ikx} f(x)$$

a useful relation:

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dk e^{ik(x-x')} = 2\pi \delta(x-x')$$

Solving Laplace equation in rectangular coordinates (B5)

$$\Phi(\vec{x}) = X(x) Y(y) Z(z)$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} X(x) = e^{\pm i\alpha x} \\ Y(y) = e^{\pm i\beta y} \\ Z(z) = e^{\pm \gamma z} \end{cases}, \quad \gamma^2 = \alpha^2 + \beta^2$$

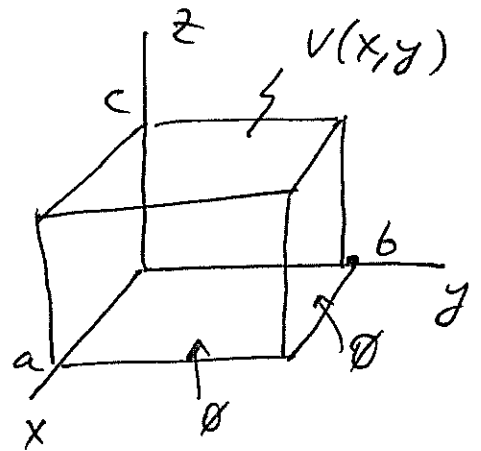
Example

$$\Phi(x, y, z) = \sum_{n, m=1}^{\infty} A_{nm} \sin\left(\frac{\pi n x}{a}\right) \sin\left(\frac{\pi m y}{b}\right)$$

$$\cdot \sinh(z \gamma_{nm}),$$

$$\gamma_{nm} = \pi \sqrt{\frac{n^2}{a^2} + \frac{m^2}{b^2}}.$$

$$A_{nm} = \frac{4}{ab \sinh(\gamma_{nm} c)} \int_0^a dx \int_0^b dy V(x, y) \sin\left(\frac{\pi n x}{a}\right) \sin\left(\frac{\pi m y}{b}\right).$$



Solving Laplace equation in spherical coordinates

$$\Phi(r, \theta, \varphi) = \frac{u(r)}{r} P(\theta) Q(\varphi)$$

$$\Rightarrow Q(\varphi) = e^{\pm im\varphi}, \quad \frac{u(r)}{r} = A_{em} r^e + B_{em} r^{-e-1}$$

(A) Azimuthally symmetric case ($m=0$)

$$\Phi(\vec{x}) = \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} [A_{\ell} r^{\ell} + B_{\ell} r^{-\ell-1}] P_{\ell}(\cos \theta)$$

$P_{\ell}(\cos \theta) \sim$ Legendre polynomials

(B) Azimuthally asymmetric case ($m \neq 0$)

$$\Phi(\vec{x}) = \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-\ell}^{\ell} [A_{\ell m} r^{\ell} + B_{\ell m} r^{-\ell-1}] Y_{\ell m}(\theta, \varphi)$$

$Y_{\ell m}(\theta, \varphi) \sim$ spherical harmonics

$$\int_0^{2\pi} d\varphi \int_{-1}^1 d\cos \theta Y_{\ell' m'}^*(\theta, \varphi) Y_{\ell m}(\theta, \varphi) = \delta_{\ell' \ell} \delta_{m' m}$$

$$\sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-\ell}^{\ell} Y_{\ell m}^*(\theta', \varphi') Y_{\ell m}(\theta, \varphi) = \delta(\varphi - \varphi') \delta(\cos \theta - \cos \theta')$$

$$Y_{\ell 0}(\theta, \varphi) = \sqrt{\frac{2\ell+1}{4\pi}} P_{\ell}(\cos \theta)$$

$$\frac{1}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|} = 4\pi \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-\ell}^{\ell} \frac{1}{2\ell+1} \frac{r_2^{\ell}}{r_1^{\ell+1}} Y_{\ell m}^*(\theta', \varphi') Y_{\ell m}(\theta, \varphi).$$

Green function of Poisson eqn in unlimited space expanded over $Y_{\ell m}$'s.