

Last time | (B) Problems without azimuthal symmetry  
(cont'd)

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

Orthogonality:

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

completeness:

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

$Y_{lm}$ 's, together with  $\frac{U(r)}{r} = A e^{r^2} + B e^{-r^2}$   
solve Laplace equation



## Expansion of potential:

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$$\Phi(r, \theta, \varphi) = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-l}^l (A_{lm} r^l + B_{lm} r^{-l-1}) Y_{lm}(\theta, \varphi).$$

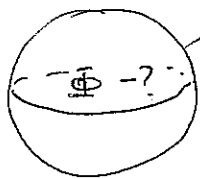
If we know the potential to be  $V(\theta, \varphi)$  at  $r=a$

$$\Rightarrow V(\theta, \varphi) = \sum_{l,m} (A_{lm} a^l + B_{lm} a^{-l-1}) Y_{lm}(\theta, \varphi)$$

$$\Rightarrow A_{lm} a^l + B_{lm} a^{-l-1} = \int d\varphi d\cos\theta Y_{lm}^*(\theta, \varphi) V(\theta, \varphi)$$

$\Rightarrow$  need 2 conditions to determine both  $A_{lm}$ 's &  $B_{lm}$ 's.

e.g.



$V(\theta, \varphi)$  if potential is inside the sphere  $\Rightarrow B_{lm} = 0$  (no  $\frac{1}{r^{l+1}}$  sing.)

$$\Rightarrow A_{lm} a^l = \int d\varphi d\cos\theta Y_{lm}^*(\theta, \varphi) V(\theta, \varphi)$$

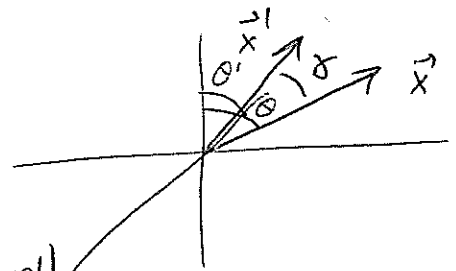
## Addition Theorem for Spherical Harmonics.

Let's find expansion for  $P_l(\cos \gamma)$  in  $Y_{lm}$ 's

$$\cos \gamma = \frac{\vec{x} \cdot \vec{x}'}{r r'} = \cos \theta \cos \theta' + \sin \theta \sin \theta' \cos(\varphi - \varphi')$$

$$\cdot (\cos \varphi \cos \varphi' + \sin \varphi \sin \varphi') =$$

$$= \cos \theta \cos \theta' + \sin \theta \sin \theta' \cdot \cos(\varphi - \varphi')$$



$$\text{Look for } P_l(\cos \gamma) = \sum_{l'=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-l'}^{l'} a_{l'm}(\theta', \varphi') Y_{lm}(\theta, \varphi)$$

Choose  $\vec{x}'$  along  $z$ -axis  $\Rightarrow \gamma = \theta$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla^2 P_\ell(\cos \theta) + \frac{\ell(\ell+1)}{r^2} P_\ell(\cos \theta) = 0$$

\$\Rightarrow\$ rotate this eqn back, so that \$\vec{x}' \parallel z\$-axis

\$\Rightarrow \nabla^2\$ is rotationally invariant \$\Rightarrow\$

$$\nabla^2 P_\ell(\cos \gamma) + \frac{\ell(\ell+1)}{r^2} P_\ell(\cos \gamma) = 0$$

This is an equation which solutions are

\$Y\_{\ell m}\$'s with the same \$\ell\$ as in \$P\_\ell \Rightarrow\$

$$P_\ell(\cos \gamma) = \sum_{m=-\ell}^{\ell} A_m(\theta', \varphi') Y_{\ell m}(\theta, \varphi).$$

\$\cos \gamma\$ is symmetric under \$\theta \leftrightarrow \theta', \varphi \leftrightarrow \varphi'\$

$$\Rightarrow P_\ell(\cos \gamma) = \sum_{m=-\ell}^{\ell} \alpha_m Y_{\ell m}^*(\theta', \varphi') Y_{\ell m}(\theta, \varphi)$$

conjugate \$\alpha\$ to make invariant under \$\varphi, \varphi' \to \varphi, \varphi' + \beta\$.  
(azimuthal rotational invariance \$\alpha\$ has to be a fn of \$\varphi - \varphi'\$)

$$\alpha_m \cdot Y_{\ell m}^*(\theta', \varphi') = \int d\varphi d\cos\theta \cdot P_\ell(\cos \gamma) Y_{\ell m}^*(\theta, \varphi)$$

put \$\theta' = \varphi' = 0\$ & note that \$P\_\ell(\cos \theta) = \sqrt{\frac{4\pi}{2\ell+1}} Y\_{\ell 0}(\theta, \varphi)\$

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_m Y_{\ell m}^*(0, 0) &= \sqrt{\frac{4\pi}{2\ell+1}} \cdot \int d\varphi d\cos\theta \cdot Y_{\ell m}^*(\theta, \varphi) Y_{\ell 0}(\theta, \varphi) \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{4\pi}{2\ell+1}} S_{m0} \end{aligned}$$

$$Y_{\ell m}^*(0, 0) = \sqrt{\frac{2\ell+1}{4\pi} \frac{(\ell-m)!}{(\ell+m)!}} \cdot P_\ell^m(1) = S_{m0} = \sqrt{\frac{2\ell+1}{4\pi}} S_{m0}$$

$$\text{den } Y_{lm}^* (\theta', \varphi') = \int d\varphi d\cos\theta P_l(\cos\gamma) Y_{lm}^* (\theta, \varphi)$$

Working in the coord. system with  $\hat{z}' \parallel \vec{x}$  write

$$Y_{lm}^* (\theta, \varphi) = \sum_{m'=-l}^l B_{m'} Y_{lm'} (\gamma, \beta)$$

as  $Y_{lm}(\theta, \varphi) \propto \delta_{m0}$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{\gamma \rightarrow 0} Y_{lm}^* (\theta, \varphi) = Y_{lm}^* (\theta', \varphi') = B_0 Y_{l0} (\gamma, \beta) = B_0 \sqrt{\frac{2l+1}{4\pi}}$$

$$\Rightarrow B_0 = \sqrt{\frac{4\pi}{2l+1}} Y_{lm}^* (\theta', \varphi')$$

On the other hand, using orthogonality write

$$B_{m'} = \int d\cos\gamma d\beta Y_{lm}^* (\theta, \varphi) Y_{lm'}^* (\gamma, \beta)$$

$$\Rightarrow B_0 = \int d\cos\gamma d\beta Y_{lm}^* (\theta, \varphi) Y_{l0}^* (\gamma, \beta) =$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{2l+1}{4\pi}} \int d\cos\gamma d\beta Y_{lm}^* (\theta, \varphi) P_l(\cos\gamma) \Rightarrow \text{as}$$

$$\int d\cos\gamma d\beta = \int d\cos\theta d\varphi$$

$$B_0 = \sqrt{\frac{2l+1}{4\pi}} \cdot \text{den } Y_{lm}^* (\theta', \varphi')$$

$\Rightarrow$  comparing the two get  $\text{den} = \frac{4\pi}{2l+1}$  as desired.



$\Rightarrow$   $a_{lm} = \frac{4\pi}{2l+1}$  and (see p. 142 for an alternative (more correct) derivation of  $a_{lm}$ ) (143)

$$P_l(\cos \gamma) = \frac{4\pi}{2l+1} \sum_{m=-l}^l Y_{lm}^*(\theta', \varphi') Y_{lm}(\theta, \varphi)$$

$\Rightarrow$  addition theorem.

Using  $\frac{1}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|} = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \frac{r_l^l}{r_l^{l+1}} P_l(\cos \gamma)$  we get

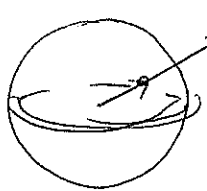
$$\frac{1}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|} = 4\pi \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-l}^l \frac{1}{2l+1} \frac{r_l^l}{r_l^{l+1}} Y_{lm}^*(\theta', \varphi') Y_{lm}(\theta, \varphi)$$

expansion for  $G(\vec{x}, \vec{x}')$

(Dirichlet)

in vacuum.

Example: Green function outside of conducting sphere: (of radius  $R$ )  $\Rightarrow$  using method of images



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

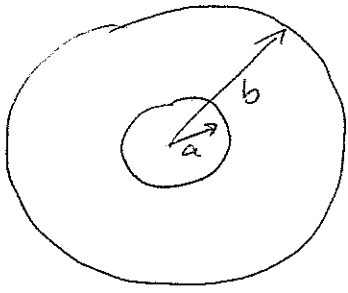
where  $r = |\vec{x}|$ ,  $r' = |\vec{x}'|$ .  $\Rightarrow$  using the above expansion

$$\Rightarrow G_D(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') = 4\pi \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-l}^l \frac{1}{2l+1} \left[ \frac{r_l^l}{r_l^{l+1}} - \frac{1}{R} \left( \frac{R^2}{r r'} \right)^{l+1} \right]$$

$$Y_{lm}^*(\theta', \varphi') Y_{lm}(\theta, \varphi)$$

$$\frac{R}{r'} \cdot \left( \frac{R^2}{r'} \right)^l \cdot \frac{1}{r^{l+1}} \quad \Rightarrow \frac{R^l}{r^l} < R < r$$

Another example: find Dirichlet Green function (144)  
 in the region between two concentric  
 spheres of radii  $a$  &  $b$ :



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

$$\delta^3(\vec{x} - \vec{x}') = \frac{1}{r^2} \delta(r - r') \delta(\varphi - \varphi') \delta(\cos\theta - \cos\theta') =$$

$$= \frac{1}{r^2} \delta(r - r') \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-\ell}^{\ell} Y_{\ell m}^*(\theta', \varphi') Y_{\ell m}(\theta, \varphi)$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{look for } G_D(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') = \sum_{\ell, m} g_{\ell m}(r, r') Y_{\ell m}^*(\theta', \varphi') Y_{\ell m}(\theta, \varphi)$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{\ell, m} \left[ \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r^2} (r g_{\ell m}(r, r')) - \frac{\ell(\ell+1)}{r^2} g_{\ell m}(r, r') \right] Y_{\ell m}^* Y_{\ell m} =$$

$$= -\frac{4\pi}{r^2} \delta(r - r') \sum_{\ell, m} Y_{\ell m}^* Y_{\ell m}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r^2} (r g_{\ell m}) - \frac{\ell(\ell+1)}{r^2} g_{\ell m} = -\frac{4\pi}{r^2} \delta(r - r')$$

$$\Rightarrow g_{\ell m}(r, r') = \begin{cases} A_{\ell} r^{\ell} + B_{\ell} r^{-\ell-1}, & r < r' \\ A'_{\ell} r^{\ell} + B'_{\ell} r^{-\ell-1}, & r > r' \end{cases}$$

$$g_{\ell m} = 0 \text{ for } r, r' = a, b \Rightarrow$$



$$g_{lm}(r, r') = \begin{cases} A e (r^l - a^{2l+1} r^{-l-1}), & r < r' \\ B e' (r^{-l-1} - r^l \cdot b^{-(2l+1)}), & r > r' \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow g_{lm}(r, r') = C \left( r_{<}^l - \frac{a^{2l+1}}{r_{<}^{l+1}} \right) \left( \frac{1}{r_{>}^{l+1}} - \frac{r_{>}^l}{b^{2l+1}} \right)$$

Fix the coefficient from  $\left. \frac{d}{dr} (r g_{lm}) \right|_{r=r'+\epsilon}^{r=r'-\epsilon} = -\frac{4\pi}{r'}$

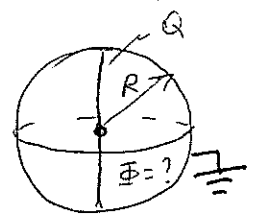
$$\Rightarrow C = \frac{4\pi}{(2l+1) \left( 1 - \left( \frac{a}{b} \right)^{2l+1} \right)} \Rightarrow \text{finally}$$

$$G_D(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') = 4\pi \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-l}^l \frac{Y_{lm}^*(\theta', \varphi') Y_{lm}(\theta, \varphi)}{(2l+1) \left( 1 - \left( \frac{a}{b} \right)^{2l+1} \right)} \cdot \left( r_{<}^l - \frac{a^{2l+1}}{r_{<}^{l+1}} \right) \left( \frac{1}{r_{>}^{l+1}} - \frac{r_{>}^l}{b^{2l+1}} \right)$$

take  $a \rightarrow 0, b \rightarrow \infty \Rightarrow$  get  $\frac{1}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|}$

take  $b \rightarrow \infty, a$  fixed  $\Rightarrow$  get the Green function outside a sphere.

Example: Find the field of a uniformly charged stick inside a grounded conducting sphere:



$$\Phi(\vec{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int d^3x' G_D(\vec{r}-\vec{r}') \rho(\vec{r}') = \int \frac{dq'}{4\pi} \underbrace{\Phi(\vec{r}')}_{0 \text{ here}} \frac{\partial G_D}{\partial n'} \quad (146)$$

$$\rho(\vec{r}') = \frac{Q}{2R} \frac{1}{2\pi r'^2} [\delta(\cos\theta'-1) + \delta(\cos\theta'+1)] \theta(R-r')$$

\$\Rightarrow\$ taking \$a \to 0\$, \$b=R\$ limit of the obtained

Green function we write:

$$\Phi(r, \theta, \varphi) = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-l}^l \frac{1}{2l+1} Y_{lm}(\theta, \varphi) \cdot \int_0^R dr' r'^{l+2}$$

$$\cdot \int_{-1}^1 d\cos\theta' \cdot \int_0^{2\pi} d\varphi' \underbrace{Y_{lm}^*(\theta', \varphi')}_{2\pi Y_{l0}^*(\theta', 0) \delta_{m0} = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{2l+1}{4\pi}} \delta_{m0} P_l(\cos\theta')}$$

$$\cdot \frac{Q}{2R} \frac{1}{2\pi r'^2} [\delta(\cos\theta'-1) + \delta(\cos\theta'+1)] =$$

$$= \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2l+1} \cdot 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{2l+1}{4\pi}} \underbrace{Y_{l0}(\theta, \varphi)}_{\frac{1}{4} \sqrt{\frac{2l+1}{4\pi}} P_l(\cos\theta)} \cdot \int_0^R dr' \int_{-1}^1 d\cos\theta'$$

$$\cdot P_l(\cos\theta') [\delta(\cos\theta'-1) + \delta(\cos\theta'+1)] \frac{Q}{4\pi R} \cdot \left( \frac{r'^l}{r'^{l+1}} - \frac{(rr')^l}{R^{2l+1}} \right)$$

$$= \frac{Q}{2R\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{4\pi} \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} P_l(\cos\theta) \cdot \underbrace{[P_l(1) + P_l(-1)]}_{\substack{=1 \\ (-1)^l}} \int_0^R dr'$$

$$\cdot \left( \frac{r'^l}{r'^{l+1}} - \frac{(rr')^l}{R^{2l+1}} \right)$$

\$\Rightarrow\$ only even \$l=2j\$ contribute.

Performing  $r'$ -integral:

$$\int_0^R dr' \left( \frac{r'^{\ell}}{r'^{\ell+1}} - \frac{(rr')^{\ell}}{R^{2\ell+1}} \right) = \int_0^r dr' \left( \frac{r'^{\ell}}{r'^{\ell+1}} \right) + \int_r^R dr' \frac{r'^{\ell}}{r'^{\ell+1}} -$$

$$- \frac{1}{\ell+1} \frac{R^{\ell+1}}{R^{2\ell+1}} \cdot r^{\ell} = \frac{1}{\ell+1} + r^{\ell} \cdot \left( \frac{-1}{\ell} \right) (r')^{\ell} \Big|_r^R - \frac{1}{\ell+1} \frac{r^{\ell}}{R^{\ell}} =$$

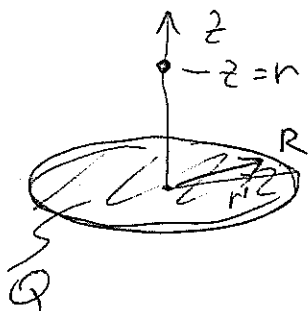
$$= \frac{1}{\ell+1} \left( 1 - \frac{r^{\ell}}{R^{\ell}} \right) + \frac{1}{\ell} \left( 1 - \frac{r^{\ell}}{R^{\ell}} \right) = \frac{2\ell+1}{\ell(\ell+1)} \left( 1 - \frac{r^{\ell}}{R^{\ell}} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \Phi(r, \theta) = \frac{Q}{8\pi R \epsilon_0} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \frac{4j+1}{j(2j+1)} \left( 1 - \frac{r^{2j}}{R^{2j}} \right) P_{2j}(\cos \theta)$$

where, for  $\ell=0$  ( $j=0$ ) the coefficient becomes  $2 \ln R/r$  (just take  $j \rightarrow 0$  limit of it).

← review

Example: uniformly charged disk of radius  $R$



find  $\Phi(r, \theta, \varphi)$ .

Remember: we need potential along  $z$ -axis as a series in  $r$ :

$$\Phi = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Q}{\pi R^2} \int_0^{2\pi} d\varphi \int_0^R dr' \cdot r' \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{r'^2 + z^2}} = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{2\pi}{R^2} \cdot \sqrt{r'^2 + z^2} \Big|_0^R =$$

$$= \frac{Q}{2\pi\epsilon_0 R^2} \left( \sqrt{R^2 + z^2} - z \right) \Rightarrow \text{let's look at large distances:}$$

$$\Phi = \frac{Qz}{2\pi\epsilon_0 R^2} \left( \sqrt{1 + \frac{R^2}{z^2}} - 1 \right) \approx \frac{Qz}{2\pi\epsilon_0 R^2} \left( \frac{1}{2} \frac{R^2}{z^2} - \frac{1}{8} \frac{R^4}{z^4} + \dots \right) \Rightarrow \text{put } z = r$$

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$$\Rightarrow \Phi(z=r) = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R^2} \left[ \frac{R^2}{r} - \frac{1}{4} \frac{R^4}{r^3} + \dots \right]$$

compare with  $\Phi \sim \sum_l (A_l r^l + B_l r^{-l-1}) P_l(\cos\theta)$

to include Legendre polynomials

$$\Phi(r, \theta) = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R^2} \left[ \frac{R^2}{r} P_0(\cos\theta) - \frac{1}{4} \frac{R^4}{r^3} P_2(\cos\theta) + \dots \right]$$

$\Rightarrow$  as  $P_0(x) = 1 \Rightarrow$

$$\Phi(r, \theta) = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{r} \left[ 1 - \frac{R^2}{4r^2} P_2(\cos\theta) + \dots \right]$$

can explicitly see corrections to point charge approximation at larger  $r$ .