

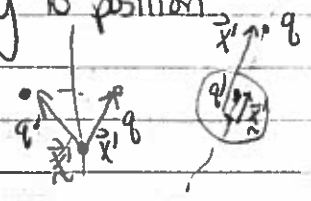
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7701 Lecture 28

Summary points for image charges (with outside conducting sphere and infinite plane as prototypes)

① Use boundary conditions (BCs) and symmetry to position the image charge (or charges)

- mirrored for infinite plane
- on line joining q and center of sphere
- more charges by superposition



② Determine q' and x' (charge and location of image) by requiring BC to be satisfied

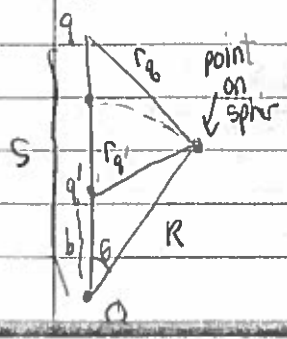
- grounded conductor (or G_0) \Rightarrow surface has $\Phi = 0$
- other potential of sphere from additional charge $q_0 = 4\pi\epsilon_0 q_0 R$ at the center (superposition again!)

③ Force between "real" charge and conductor from Coulomb force on real charge from image charges

④ Surface charge density from Gauss's law

⑤ Dirichlet Green function $G_D(\vec{x}, \vec{x}')$ from potential at \vec{x}' from unit charge ($q=1$) at \vec{x}' . (or vice versa, since $G_D(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') = G_D(\vec{x}', \vec{x})$)

Note: fix of image charge derivation



spot the error! had this bR last time!

$$\Phi_p = 0 = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left(\frac{q}{sR} + \frac{q'}{Rb} \right) \Rightarrow q(R-b) = q'(s-R)$$

$$\Phi_p = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left(\frac{q}{sR} + \frac{q'}{bR} \right) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow q(R+b) = q'(s+R)$$

add: $2qR = 2q's \Rightarrow q' = -\frac{R}{s}q$

substitute $\frac{R}{s}(s+R) = bR \Rightarrow b = \frac{R^2}{s}$

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Dirichlet Green Function for Rectangular Box

Method I:



- Need to solve $\nabla^2 G_D(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') = -4\pi \delta^3(\vec{x} - \vec{x}')$ with
 - $G_D(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') = G_D(\vec{x}', \vec{x})$ symmetric (proved in bonus problem)
 - $G_D(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') = 0$ for \vec{x} (or \vec{x}') on surface. From master formula
- \Rightarrow vanish on edges in $x, y, z \Rightarrow \sin(\frac{l\pi x}{a}) \sin(\frac{m\pi y}{b}) \sin(\frac{n\pi z}{c})$
(separated in Cartesian coordinate)

(depends on l, m, n but not x, x', y, y', z, z')

Symmetric $\Rightarrow \infty$

$$G_D(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') = \sum_{l, m, n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{2}{a}\right) \left(\frac{2}{b}\right) \left(\frac{2}{c}\right) G_{lmn} \sin\left(\frac{l\pi x}{a}\right) \sin\left(\frac{l\pi x'}{a}\right) \sin\left(\frac{m\pi y}{b}\right) \sin\left(\frac{m\pi y'}{b}\right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi z}{c}\right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi z'}{c}\right)$$

$G_D(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') = 0$
↑
on surface

- The sines mean that G_D vanishes at $x=x'=0, y=y'=0, z=z'=0$
 - The arguments mean that G_D vanishes at $x=x'=a, y=y'=b, z=z'=c$
 - We could absorb the $\frac{8}{abc}$ normalization into G_{lmn} .
 - But it makes explicit the usual $\sqrt{\frac{2}{abc}}$ normalization for each sine.
- } That is, any of these make it vanish

- Now we need to determine G_{lmn} from $\nabla^2 G_D(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') = -4\pi \delta^3(\vec{x} - \vec{x}')$ with $\nabla^2 = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2}$ in Cartesian coordinates, and $\delta^3(\vec{x} - \vec{x}') = \delta(x-x') \delta(y-y') \delta(z-z')$.

$$\Rightarrow \nabla^2 G_D(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') = \sum_{lmn} \left(\frac{-9}{abc}\right) G_{lmn} \left(\frac{l^2 \pi^2}{a^2} + \frac{m^2 \pi^2}{b^2} + \frac{n^2 \pi^2}{c^2}\right) \times \sin(\dots) \sin(\dots) \sin(\dots) \sin(\dots) \sin(\dots)$$

$$= -4\pi \left(\sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \frac{2}{a} \sin\left(\frac{l\pi x}{a}\right) \sin\left(\frac{l\pi x'}{a}\right) \right) \left(\sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{2}{b} \sin\left(\frac{m\pi y}{b}\right) \sin\left(\frac{m\pi y'}{b}\right) \right) \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2}{c} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi z}{c}\right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi z'}{c}\right) \right)$$

from (193) \rightarrow $\delta(x-x')$ $\delta(y-y')$ $\delta(z-z')$

• Now we equate l, m, n terms (or we can project out coefficients)

$$\Rightarrow -\frac{8}{abc} G_{lmn} \pi^2 \left(\frac{l^2}{a^2} + \frac{m^2}{b^2} + \frac{n^2}{c^2}\right) = -4\pi \frac{8}{abc} \Rightarrow G_{lmn} = \frac{4}{\pi} \frac{1}{\frac{l^2}{a^2} + \frac{m^2}{b^2} + \frac{n^2}{c^2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow G_D(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') = \frac{32}{\pi abc} \sum_{l, m, n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\left(\frac{l^2}{a^2} + \frac{m^2}{b^2} + \frac{n^2}{c^2}\right)} \sin\left(\frac{l\pi x}{a}\right) \sin\left(\frac{l\pi x'}{a}\right) \sin\left(\frac{m\pi y}{b}\right) \sin\left(\frac{m\pi y'}{b}\right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi z}{c}\right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi z'}{c}\right)$$

That's it! \Rightarrow Use in Master formula to find $\Phi(\vec{x})$

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Method II: Division of region or direct integration.

In this approach we use the sine expansion for two of the three dimensions (say x and y) but find the z, z' dependent part a different way.

This yields a different expansion that nonetheless gives the same result if you include all the terms \Rightarrow but for a truncated sum one of them may converge much faster.

So the form we are looking is

$$G_D(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') = \left(\frac{z}{a} \frac{z'}{b}\right)^2 \sum_{l,m=1}^{\infty} g_{lm}(z, z') \sin\left(\frac{l\pi x}{a}\right) \sin\left(\frac{l\pi x'}{a}\right) \sin\left(\frac{m\pi y}{b}\right) \sin\left(\frac{m\pi y'}{b}\right)$$

where $g_{lm}(z, z')$ is a symmetric function [$g(z, z') = g(z', z)$, recall $G_D(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') = G_D(\vec{x}', \vec{x})$] that is different for each l and m value. (cf. the constant G_{lm} in method I.)

Boundary conditions: $g_{lm}(0, z') = g_{lm}(z, 0) = 0$.

Determine the equation for $g_{lm}(z, z')$ by requiring $\nabla^2 G_D(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') = -4\pi \delta^3(\vec{x} - \vec{x}')$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \nabla^2 G_D(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') &= \frac{4}{ab} \sum_{l,m=1}^{\infty} \sin\left(\frac{l\pi x}{a}\right) \sin\left(\frac{l\pi x'}{a}\right) \sin\left(\frac{m\pi y}{b}\right) \sin\left(\frac{m\pi y'}{b}\right) \\ &\quad \times \left\{ \left(-\frac{l^2 \pi^2}{a^2} - \frac{m^2 \pi^2}{b^2} \right) g_{lm}(z, z') + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} g_{lm}(z, z') \right\} \\ &= -4\pi \delta^3(\vec{x} - \vec{x}') = -4\pi \delta(x-x') \delta(y-y') \delta(z-z') \\ &= -4\pi \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \frac{2}{a} \sin\left(\frac{l\pi x}{a}\right) \sin\left(\frac{l\pi x'}{a}\right) \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{2}{b} \sin\left(\frac{m\pi y}{b}\right) \sin\left(\frac{m\pi y'}{b}\right) \cdot \delta(z-z') \end{aligned}$$

\Rightarrow equate coefficients of each l, m term:

$$\boxed{\frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} g_{lm}(z, z') - \pi^2 \left(\frac{l^2}{a^2} + \frac{m^2}{b^2} \right) g_{lm}(z, z') = -4\pi \delta(z-z')}$$

We'll solve this by the "division-of-region" method.

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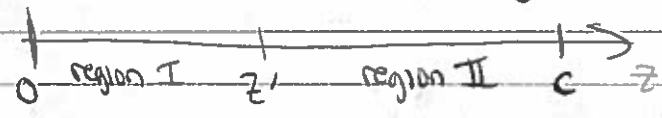
Let's first note that $\pi^2 \left(\frac{l^2}{a^2} + \frac{m^2}{b^2} \right) > 0$, so define a new constant:

$$k_{lm} = \sqrt{\pi^2 \left(\frac{l^2}{a^2} + \frac{m^2}{b^2} \right)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} - k_{lm}^2 \right) G_{lm}(z, z') = -4\pi \delta(z - z')$$
 with $\begin{cases} g(0, z') = 0 \\ g(z, 0) = 0 \end{cases}$

• Some of you may recognize this as a problem from one-dimensional quantum mechanics; An attractive delta function (with $\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} = 1$)

• You may also remember the method to solve this equation: first solve the homogeneous problem in the two regions where the delta function is zero ($z < z'$ and $z > z'$) and then determine any remaining coefficients by a matching condition found by integrating across the delta function (as well as continuity of G).



• The general solution to $\left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} - k_{lm}^2 \right) g_{lm}(z, z') = 0$ is $g_{lm}(z, z') = A e^{k_{lm} z} + B e^{-k_{lm} z} = A' \sinh k_{lm} z + B' \cosh k_{lm} z$

• Region I: $z < z'$ and $g_{lm}(0, z') = 0 \Rightarrow B' = 0$ and $g_{lm}^{(I)}(z, z') = A'_I \sinh k_{lm} z$ with $A'_I = A'_I(z')$.

• Region II: $z > z'$ and $g_{lm}(c, z') = 0$.
• We could use a combination of A and B or A' and B', but with some foresight we realize $g_{lm}^{(II)}(z, z') \propto \sinh k_{lm}(c - z)$.

• But we must have $g_{lm}(z', z) = g_{lm}(z, z')$ everywhere

$$\Rightarrow z < z': g_{lm}^{(I)}(z, z') \propto \sinh(k_{lm}(c - z')) \sinh k_{lm} z$$

$$z > z': g_{lm}^{(II)}(z, z') \propto \sinh k_{lm} z' \cdot \sinh(k_{lm}(c - z))$$

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In terms of θ -functions this is

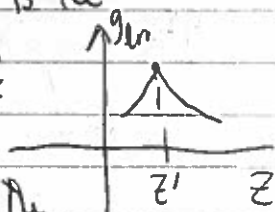
$$g_{lm}(z, z') = C \left[\theta(z-z') (\sinh k_{lm} z) (\sinh k_{lm} (c-z')) + \theta(z-z') (\sinh k_{lm} (c-z)) (\sinh k_{lm} z') \right]$$

but we usually use the compact notation $\begin{cases} z_{<} = \max\{z, z'\} \\ z_{>} = \min\{z, z'\} \end{cases}$

$$\Rightarrow g_{lm}(z, z') = C \sinh(k_{lm} z_{<}) \sinh[k_{lm}(c-z_{>})]$$

Note that we have built in the continuity of $g_{lm}(z, z')$ at $z=z'$. This makes sense physically because the Green function is the potential from a point source, which should be continuous.

However, the slope does not need to be continuous:



So how do we find C ? It must be determined by the inhomogeneous part (ie, the delta function) of the equation for g_{lm} .

Standard procedure: integrate g_{lm} equation across delta function

$$\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_{z'-\epsilon}^{z'+\epsilon} dz \left[\frac{d^2}{dz^2} g_{lm}(z, z') - x_{lm}^2 g_{lm}(z, z') \right] = -4\pi \int_{z'-\epsilon}^{z'+\epsilon} dz \delta(z-z')$$

$\underbrace{\frac{d}{dz} g_{lm}(z, z') \Big|_{z'-\epsilon}^{z'+\epsilon}}_{\text{continuous}} - \underbrace{x_{lm}^2 \int_{z'-\epsilon}^{z'+\epsilon} g_{lm}(z, z') dz}_{\text{constant}} = -4\pi$

$z=z'-\epsilon \equiv z'_-$ means region I: $\frac{d}{dz} C \sinh(k_{lm} z) \sinh k_{lm}(c-z') \Big|_{z=z'_-} = x_{lm} C \cosh(k_{lm} z') (\sinh k_{lm}(c-z'))$

$z=z'+\epsilon \equiv z'_+$ means region II: $\frac{d}{dz} C \sinh k_{lm}(c-z) \sinh(k_{lm} z') \Big|_{z=z'_+} = -x_{lm} C \cosh(k_{lm}(c-z')) (\sinh k_{lm} z')$

$$\Rightarrow -x_{lm} C \left[\sinh k_{lm} z' (\cosh k_{lm}(c-z')) + \cosh k_{lm} z' (\sinh k_{lm}(c-z')) \right] = -4\pi$$

$$\Rightarrow x_{lm} C \sinh [x_{lm}(c-z') + x_{lm} z'] = -4\pi \Rightarrow C = \frac{4\pi}{x_{lm} \sinh(x_{lm} c)}$$

$$\Rightarrow G_D(x, x') = \frac{16\pi}{ab} \sum_{l,m=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{x_{lm} \sinh k_{lm} c} \times \sin \frac{l\pi x}{a} \sin \frac{l\pi x'}{a} \sin \frac{m\pi y}{b} \sin \frac{m\pi y'}{b} \sinh(x_{lm} z_{<}) \sinh(x_{lm}(c-z_{>}))$$

with $x_{lm} = \sqrt{\pi^2 \left(\frac{l^2}{a^2} + \frac{m^2}{b^2} \right)}$