

1. An azimuthally symmetric voltage has been placed on the surface of the sphere:

$$V(\theta) = V_0 \cos^2 \theta$$

where V_0 is a given constant. Find the resulting voltage ϕ inside and outside the sphere. This is a rather long problem, so let me give you some initial help. Since the problem is azimuthally symmetric and ϕ must satisfy Laplace's equation, I know:

$$\phi_{\text{in}}(r, \theta) = \sum_{n=\text{even}} A_n r^n P_n(\cos \theta)$$

$$\phi_{\text{out}}(r, \theta) = \sum_{n=\text{even}} C_n r^{-n-1} P_n(\cos \theta)$$

where A_n and C_n are currently undetermined constants, ϕ_{in} gives ϕ for $r < R$, and ϕ_{out} gives ϕ for $r > R$.

- (a) Explain why (words!) these particular formulas must hold. I.e., what is the general case and how/why does this problem simplify that general case.
- (b) At the boundary (i.e., $r = R$) the following condition must hold:

$$\phi_{\text{in}}(R, \theta) = \phi_{\text{out}}(R, \theta) = V(\theta)$$

I conclude from this condition that, for every n ,

$$A_n R^{2n+1} = C_n$$

Explain (words!) the basis for this conclusion. How do we go from one equation (which involves a sum of an infinite number of terms) to an infinite number of equations (one for every n)?

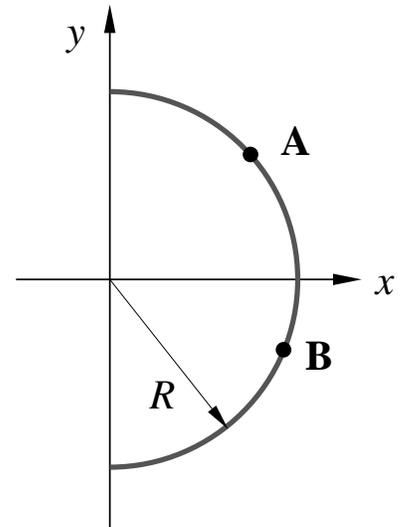
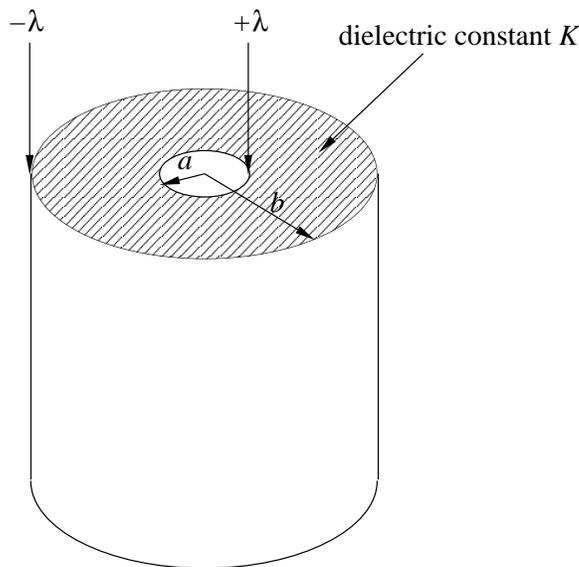
- (c) The Mathematica command:

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Table[Integrate[c^2 LegendreP[n,c],{c,-1,1}],{n,0,10}]
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Produces the output: $\{\frac{2}{3}, 0, \frac{4}{15}, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0\}$. Use this result to write down the first two non-zero terms (i.e., a couple of non-zero A s and a couple of non-zero C s) of the formulas for $\phi_{\text{in}}(r, \theta)$ and $\phi_{\text{out}}(r, \theta)$.

2. Consider two conducting coaxial infinite cylindrical shells. The volume between these shells is filled with dielectric (dielectric constant K); the remaining volume is vacuum. The inner cylinder (of radius a) carries a net charge per length of $+\lambda$ spread evenly around its surface. The outer shell (of radius b) carries the opposite net charge per length. (Note: the same charge per length with different surface areas means the σ are the not same.)

- (a) Use Gauss' Law to find the electric field in the three regions: (i) $r < a$, (ii) $a < r < b$, and (iii) $b < r$. Remember to report the direction of \mathbf{E} and any symmetry arguments you have used.
- (b) Integrate \mathbf{E} to find formulae for electric potential in those three regions (assume that the electric potential is zero at the center of the cylinder and make sure ϕ is continuous across boundaries).



3. A half circle (radius R) is made of a wire with uniform charge per length λ . Find the electric potential (voltage) and electric field vector at the center of the circle. Report what you are using for \mathbf{r} , \mathbf{r}' and dq . Directly on the figure above right: draw the vector \mathbf{r}' for the bit of charge labeled **A** and draw the vector $\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{r}'$ for the charge labeled **B**. Show all steps required to connect the general formulas for ϕ and \mathbf{E} to the integrals you finally evaluate. (The integrals should not be hard to do.)

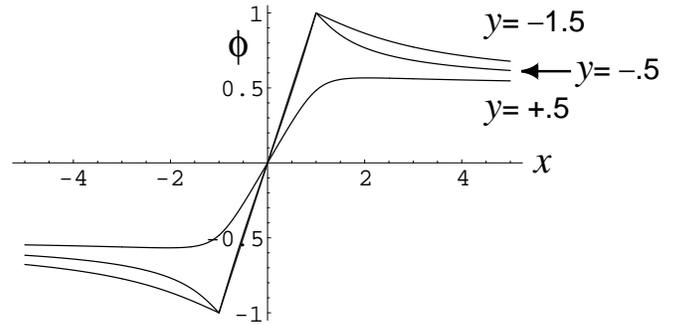
4. Consider the following three image charge problems:

- (a) A point charge q is a distance d from an infinite conducting, grounded plane
- (b) A point charge q is a distance d from the center of a conducting, uncharged sphere (radius R ; $d > R$)
- (c) A uniform line charge λ is coaxial to and a distance d from the center of an infinite conducting cylinder (radius R ; $d > R$) carrying a net charge per length of $-\lambda$.

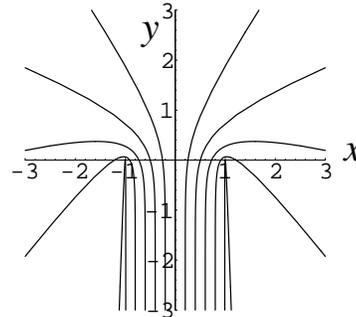
For each of these problems draw an appropriate set of image charges. (No proofs required, simply apply the results we proved in class.) In each case, report a formula for the force on the charge. Carefully note in the above the words “grounded” and “uncharged”. What is the difference?

5. The middle figure shows a contour graph of the potential (voltage) ϕ near the edge of a pair of parallel conducting plates forming a capacitor. The plates are infinite in the z directions (perpendicular to this page) and infinite in the y^- direction (down the page). The plate at $x = 1$ has potential $+1$; the plate at $x = -1$ has potential -1 . The 11 contours shown are for $\phi = \{-.99, -.8, ., -.6, \dots, +.6, +.8, +.99\}$. The potential ϕ as a function of x is plotted at several different y values: $y = +.5$ (just above the capacitor edge); and $y = -.5$ and $y = -1.5$ (in part, inside the capacitor). Note that inside the capacitor the potential is nearly a linear function of x .

(a) From the ϕ vs. x plots I conclude that the surface charge densities inside the capacitor at $y = -.5$ and $y = -1.5$ are much the same, whereas the surface charge density on the outside surface of the ($x = 1$) plate at $y = -.5$ is larger than surface charge density on the outside surface of the plate at $y = -1.5$. Explain! Hint: think \mathbf{E} !



(b) Directly on the contour plot draw several $\vec{\mathbf{E}}$ -field lines, including lines that go through the points: $(0, -2)$, $(0, 0)$, and $(0, 2)$. Be sure to include the direction of each $\vec{\mathbf{E}}$ -field line. The electric field at $(0, 2)$ is smaller than that at $(0, -2)$. Explain how the contour plot displays this fact.



(c) The bottom figure represents a cut through the capacitor plates in the vicinity of its top. Directly on this diagram, show the direction of the electric field at the points: $(-1.01, -1)$, $(-.99, -1)$, $(1.01, -1)$ and $(.99, -1)$ (i.e., slightly to the right and left of each plate at $y = -1$). Using little $+$ and $-$ signs show how the electric charge is distributed in/on the plates.

