

1. Jackson 2.7: Green function for a plane.

(a) Green function: Let $\mathbf{r} = (x, y, z)$ and $\mathbf{r}' = (x', y', z')$, then

$$G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z-z')^2}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{(x-x')^2 + (y-y')^2 + (z+z')^2}}$$

(b) Solution for $\Phi = V$ inside a circle of radius a on $x-y$ plane. First we evaluate

$$\frac{\partial G}{\partial n'} = - \left. \frac{\partial G}{\partial x'} \right|_{z'=0} = - \frac{2z}{[z^2 + \rho^2 + \rho'^2 - 2\rho\rho' \cos(\phi' - \phi)]^{3/2}}$$

From azimuthal symmetry Φ is independent of ϕ . It follows that

$$\Phi(\rho, z) = \frac{zV}{2\pi} \int_0^a \rho' d\rho' \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{d\phi'}{[z^2 + \rho^2 + \rho'^2 - 2\rho\rho' \cos \phi']^{3/2}}$$

(c) For $\rho = 0$, we find

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(0, z) &= \frac{zV}{2\pi} \int_0^a \rho' d\rho' \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{d\phi'}{[z^2 + \rho'^2]^{3/2}} \\ &= \frac{zV}{2} \int_0^{a^2} \frac{d\rho'^2}{[z^2 + \rho'^2]^{3/2}} \\ &= V \left[1 - \frac{z}{\sqrt{z^2 + a^2}} \right] \end{aligned}$$

(d) Asymptotic expansion for $z^2 + \rho^2 \gg a^2$. Let $x^2 = z^2 + \rho^2$, then

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{1}{[x^2 + \rho'^2 - 2\rho\rho' \cos \phi']^{3/2}} \\ &= \frac{1}{x^3} \left[1 - \frac{3}{2} \frac{\rho'^2 - 2\rho\rho' \cos \phi'}{x^2} + \frac{15}{8} \frac{(\rho'^2 - 2\rho\rho' \cos \phi')^2}{x^4} + \dots \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{d\phi'}{[x^2 + \rho'^2 - 2\rho\rho' \cos \phi']^{3/2}} \\ &= \frac{1}{x^3} \left[1 - \frac{3}{2} \frac{\rho'^2}{x^2} + \frac{15}{8} \frac{2\rho^2 \rho'^2 + \rho'^4}{x^4} + \dots \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^a \rho' d\rho' \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{d\phi'}{[x^2 + \rho'^2 - 2\rho\rho' \cos \phi']^{3/2}} \\ &= \frac{a^2}{2x^3} \left[1 - \frac{3}{4} \frac{a^2}{x^2} + \frac{5}{8} \frac{3\rho^2 a^2 + a^4}{x^4} + \dots \right] \end{aligned}$$

Substituting $x^2 = z^2 + \rho^2$, we obtain

$$\Phi(\rho, z) = \frac{Vza^2}{2(z^2 + \rho^2)^{3/2}} \left[1 - \frac{3}{4} \frac{a^2}{z^2 + \rho^2} + \frac{5}{8} \frac{3\rho^2 a^2 + a^4}{(z^2 + \rho^2)^2} + \dots \right]$$

On the axis, $\Phi(\rho, z)$ reduces to

$$\Phi(0, z) = \frac{Va^2}{2z^2} \left[1 - \frac{3}{4} \frac{a^2}{z^2} + \frac{5}{8} \frac{a^4}{z^4} + \dots \right]$$

This is identical to the expansion for $z \gg a$ of the result from (c) above:

$$V \left[1 - \frac{z}{\sqrt{z^2 + a^2}} \right] = \frac{Va^2}{2z^2} \left[1 - \frac{3}{4} \frac{a^2}{z^2} + \frac{5}{8} \frac{a^4}{z^4} + \dots \right]$$

2. Jackson 2.11: Image potential for charged wire at $x = R$ parallel to a cylinder of radius b centered at the origin.

(a) The potential in cylindrical coordinates is

$$\Phi(\rho, \phi) = \frac{1}{2\pi\epsilon_0} \left[-\tau \ln \sqrt{\rho^2 + R^2 - 2R\rho \cos \phi} \right. \\ \left. + \tau' \ln \sqrt{\rho^2 + r^2 - 2r\rho \cos \phi} \right]$$

where r is the distance of the image from the axis of the cylinder. To achieve $\Phi = V$ on surface of the cylinder and $\lim_{\rho \rightarrow \infty} \Phi(\rho, \phi) = 0$, we choose $r = b^2/R$ and $\tau' = \tau$.

(b) With the above conditions, we find

$$\Phi(\rho, \phi) = \frac{\tau}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \ln \left[\frac{\rho^2 + r^2 - 2r\rho \cos \phi}{\rho^2 + R^2 - 2R\rho \cos \phi} \right]$$

Note that the potential at the cylindrical surface is

$$V = \Phi(b, \phi) = \frac{\tau}{2\pi\epsilon_0} \ln \left[\frac{b}{R} \right]$$

This equation relates the potential on the cylinder to the other parameters of the problem. For large ρ , we find

$$\Phi(\rho, \phi) = \frac{\tau}{2\pi\epsilon_0} \left[\frac{R-r}{\rho} \cos \phi + \frac{R^2 - r^2}{2\rho^2} \cos 2\phi + \frac{R^3 - r^3}{3\rho^3} \cos 3\phi + \dots \right]$$

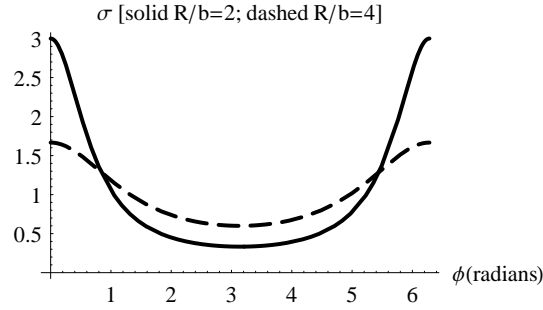
(c) Induced charge density. The radial electric field at the surface is

$$E_\rho = - \left. \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial \rho} \right|_{\rho=b} = - \frac{\tau}{2\pi\epsilon_0 b} \frac{R^2 - b^2}{R^2 + b^2 - 2Rb \cos \phi}$$

Therefore

$$\sigma = -\frac{\tau}{2\pi b} \frac{R^2 - b^2}{R^2 + b^2 - 2Rb \cos \phi}$$

Below is a graph of the negative of the induced charge $-\sigma$



(d) The force on the charged wire: We first evaluate E_ρ at the wire.

$$E_\rho(\rho, \phi) = -\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial \rho} = -\frac{\tau}{2\pi\epsilon_0} \left[\frac{\rho - r \cos \phi}{\rho^2 + r^2 - 2r\rho \cos \phi} - \frac{\rho - R \cos \phi}{\rho^2 + R^2 - 2R\rho \cos \phi} \right]$$

From this, it follows that at the wire

$$E_\rho(R, 0) = -\frac{\tau}{2\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{R - r}{R^2 + r^2 - 2rR} = -\frac{\tau}{2\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{R - r}$$

The force/length on the charged wire is, therefore,

$$F_\rho/L = \tau E_\rho(R, 0) = -\frac{\tau^2}{2\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{R - r} = -\frac{\tau^2}{2\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{R}{R^2 - b^2}$$

3. Jackson 2.13; "Cracking an interesting integral"

(a) Let $\Phi(b, \phi') = V_1$ for $0 < \phi' < \pi$ and V_2 for $\pi < \phi' < 2\pi$. It follows from the Green function given in Prob. 2.12 that

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(\rho, \phi) &= \frac{V_1}{2\pi}(1 - \xi^2) \int_0^\pi \frac{d\phi'}{1 + \xi^2 - 2\xi \cos(\phi' - \phi)} \\ &\quad + \frac{V_2}{2\pi}(1 - \xi^2) \int_\pi^{2\pi} \frac{d\phi'}{1 + \xi^2 - 2\xi \cos(\phi' - \phi)} \end{aligned}$$

where $\xi = \rho/b$. Notice that the second integral can be obtained from the first by the transformation $\xi \rightarrow -\xi$. It follows that

$$\Phi(\rho, \phi) = (1 - \xi^2) \frac{1}{2\pi} [V_1 I(\xi, \phi) + V_2 I(-\xi, \phi)]$$

where

$$I(\xi, \phi) = -\int_\phi^{\phi+\pi} \frac{d\psi}{1 + \xi^2 - 2\xi \cos \psi}$$

With a change of variables to $x = e^{i\psi}$, we can then rewrite the integral as

$$I(\xi, \phi) = \frac{i}{\xi} \int_{-x_0}^{x_0} \frac{dx}{(x - \xi)(x - 1/\xi)}$$

where $x_0 = e^{i\phi}$. In this later form, the integral may be done using a partial fraction decomposition. One finds

$$\begin{aligned} I(\xi, \phi) &= \frac{i}{1 - \xi^2} \ln \left[\frac{(1 - x_0\xi)(x_0^{-1}\xi + 1)}{(1 + x_0\xi)(x_0^{-1}\xi - 1)} \right] \\ &= \frac{i}{1 - \xi^2} \ln \left[\frac{1 - \xi^2 - 2i\xi \sin \phi}{-1 + \xi^2 + 2i\xi \sin \phi} \right] \end{aligned}$$

The absolute values of the numerator and denominator in the above fraction are equal. The phase of the numerator is

$$- \arctan(\xi \sin \phi / (1 - \xi^2))$$

and the phase of the denominator is

$$\pi + \arctan(\xi \sin \phi / (1 - \xi^2))$$

. Therefore

$$I(\xi, \phi) = \frac{1}{1 - \xi^2} \left[\pi + 2 \arctan \left(\frac{2\xi \sin \phi}{1 - \xi^2} \right) \right]$$

(n.b. This integral is given in Eq. (47a) on p. 100 of *Integraltafel, teil 2, Bestimmte Integrale*, W. Gröbner & N. Hofreiter, Springer (1958).)

Combining terms, we find

$$\Phi(\rho, \phi) = \frac{V_1 + V_2}{2} + \frac{V_1 - V_2}{\pi} \arctan \left(\frac{2b\rho \sin \phi}{b^2 - \rho^2} \right)$$

(n.b. Jackson's cylinder is rotated by $\pi/2$ with respect to our's)

(b) Surface charge density:

$$\sigma = -\epsilon_0 E_r = \epsilon_0 \left. \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial \rho} \right|_{\rho=b} = \epsilon_0 \frac{V_1 - V_2}{\pi b} \csc \phi.$$

Equal and opposite charges accumulate on the two halves and the charge density diverges at the gap!

(c) Jackson 2.13; **Alternative solution.**

Expand $\Phi(\rho, \phi)$ in a series:

$$\Phi(\rho, \phi) = a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \rho^n \cos n\phi + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \rho^n \sin n\phi$$

The expansion coefficients are easily found in terms of the potentials on the surface.

$$\begin{aligned} a_0 &= \frac{V_1 + V_2}{2} \\ a_n &= 0, \quad n > 0 \\ b_n &= \frac{2(V_1 - V_2)}{b^n \pi} \quad n = 1, 3, \dots \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\Phi(\rho, \phi) = \frac{V_1 + V_2}{2} + \frac{(V_1 - V_2)}{\pi} 2 \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2m+1)} \left(\frac{\rho}{b}\right)^{2m+1} \sin(2m+1)\phi$$

Now, let $z = \rho e^{i\phi}/b$ and note that (twice) the sum becomes

$$S = 2 \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2m+1)} \left(\frac{\rho}{b}\right)^{2m+1} \sin(2m+1)\phi = -i \left[\sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{z^{2m+1}}{(2m+1)} - \text{c.c.} \right]$$

Make a second transformation $z = i\xi$ to obtain

$$S = \left[\sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^m \xi^{2m+1}}{(2m+1)} + \text{c.c.} \right] = \arctan \xi + \arctan \xi^*$$

From the rule $\tan(A+B) = (\tan A + \tan B)/(1 - \tan A \tan B)$, it follows

$$\tan S = \frac{\xi + \xi^*}{1 - \xi\xi^*} = -i \frac{z - z^*}{1 - zz^*} = 2 \frac{(\rho/b) \sin \phi}{1 - (\rho/b)^2} = \frac{2b\rho \sin \phi}{b^2 - \rho^2}$$

The sum S is therefore

$$S = \arctan \left[\frac{2b\rho \sin \phi}{b^2 - \rho^2} \right]$$

and

$$\Phi(\rho, \phi) = \frac{V_1 + V_2}{2} + \frac{V_1 - V_2}{\pi} \arctan \left(\frac{2b\rho \sin \phi}{b^2 - \rho^2} \right)$$

4. Jackson 2.16: Green Function for rectangular region. The potential is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(x, y) &= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_0^1 dx' \int_0^1 dy' G(x, y; x'y') \rho(x', y') \\ &= \frac{2}{\pi\epsilon_0} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sin n\pi x}{n \sinh n\pi} \int_0^{\infty} \sin n\pi x' dx' \left[\sinh n\pi(1-y) \int_0^y \sinh n\pi y' dy' \right. \\ &\quad \left. \sinh n\pi y \int_y^1 \sinh n\pi(1-y') dy' \right] \rho(x', y') \end{aligned}$$

For the case of a uniform charge distribution $\rho(x, y) = 1$, we can carry out the integrals easily:

$$\begin{aligned}\int_0^1 \sin n\pi x' dx' &= \frac{2}{n\pi} \text{ for odd } n \text{ and } 0 \text{ for even } n \\ \int_0^y \sinh n\pi y' dy' &= \frac{1}{n\pi} [\cosh n\pi y - 1] \\ \int_y^1 \sinh n\pi(1 - y') dy' &= \frac{1}{n\pi} [\cosh n\pi(1 - y) - 1]\end{aligned}$$

The combination arising from the y' integration can be simplified:

$$\begin{aligned}(\cosh n\pi y - 1) \sinh n\pi(1 - y) + (\cosh n\pi(1 - y) - 1) \sinh n\pi y \\ &= \sinh n\pi - \sinh n\pi y - \sinh n\pi(1 - y) \\ &= \sinh n\pi \left[1 - \frac{2 \sinh \frac{n\pi}{2} \cosh n\pi(y - \frac{1}{2})}{\sinh n\pi} \right] \\ &= \sinh n\pi \left[1 - \frac{\cosh n\pi(y - \frac{1}{2})}{\cosh \frac{n\pi}{2}} \right]\end{aligned}$$

Collecting terms and introducing m through $n = 2m + 1$, we obtain

$$\Phi(x, y) = \frac{4}{\pi^3 \epsilon_0} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{\sin(2m+1)\pi x}{(2m+1)^3} \left[1 - \frac{\cosh(2m+1)\pi(y - \frac{1}{2})}{\cosh \frac{(2m+1)\pi}{2}} \right]$$

Here is a plot of $4\pi\epsilon_0\Phi(x, y)$ obtained by summing terms up to $m = 10$

