

1. Jackson 2.22: Study the potential inside two hemispheres with $\Phi(a, \theta) = V$ for $\theta < \pi/2$ and $\Phi(a, \theta) = -V$ for $\theta > \pi/2$.

- (a) The interior solution is obtained from Eq. (2.19) in the text by changing sign. (Why?)

$$\Phi(r, \theta) = \frac{a(a^2 - r^2)}{4\pi} \int \frac{\Phi(a, \theta', \phi')}{(r^2 + a^2 - 2ar \cos \gamma)^{3/2}} d\Omega',$$

where $\cos \gamma = \cos \theta \cos \theta' + \sin \theta \sin \theta' \cos(\phi - \phi')$. Along the z axis, this reduces to

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(z) &= \frac{a(a^2 - z^2)}{2} \left[\int_0^1 \frac{V d\mu'}{(z^2 + a^2 - 2az\mu')^{3/2}} + \int_{-1}^0 \frac{-V d\mu'}{(z^2 + a^2 - 2az\mu')^{3/2}} \right] \\ &= \frac{a(a^2 - z^2)}{2} \frac{V}{az} \left[\frac{2a}{(a^2 - z^2)} - \frac{2}{\sqrt{z^2 + a^2}} \right] \\ &= V \frac{a}{z} \left[1 - \frac{a^2 - z^2}{a\sqrt{a^2 + z^2}} \right] \\ &= V \frac{3z}{2a} \left(1 - \frac{7z^2}{12a^2} + \frac{11z^4}{24a^4} - \frac{25z^6}{64a^6} + \frac{133z^8}{384a^8} + \dots \right) \end{aligned}$$

The counterpart of Eq. (2.27) for $r < a$ is

$$\Phi(r, \theta) = \frac{3Vr}{2a} \left[P_1(\cos \theta) - \frac{7r^2}{12a^2} P_3(\cos \theta) + \frac{11r^4}{24a^4} P_5(\cos \theta) + \dots \right]$$

Since $P_l(1) = 1$, we see that, for $\theta = 0$ and $r = z$, the first three terms in the two expansions agree.

- (b) Field along the axis. For $z > a$

$$E_z = -V \frac{d}{dz} \left[1 - \frac{z^2 - a^2}{z\sqrt{z^2 + a^2}} \right] = \frac{Va^2}{(z^2 + a^2)^{3/2}} \left[3 + \frac{a^2}{z^2} \right]$$

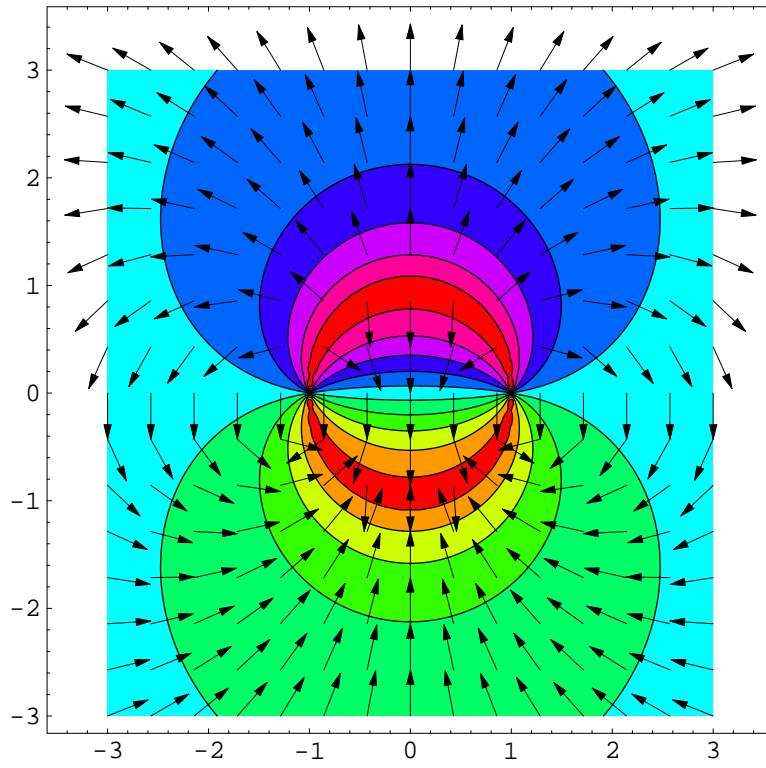
and for $z < a$

$$E_z = -V \frac{d}{dz} \frac{a}{z} \left[1 - \frac{a^2 - z^2}{za\sqrt{z^2 + a^2}} \right] = -\frac{V}{a} \left[\frac{3 + (a/z)^2}{(1 + (z/a)^2)^{3/2}} - \frac{a^2}{z^2} \right]$$

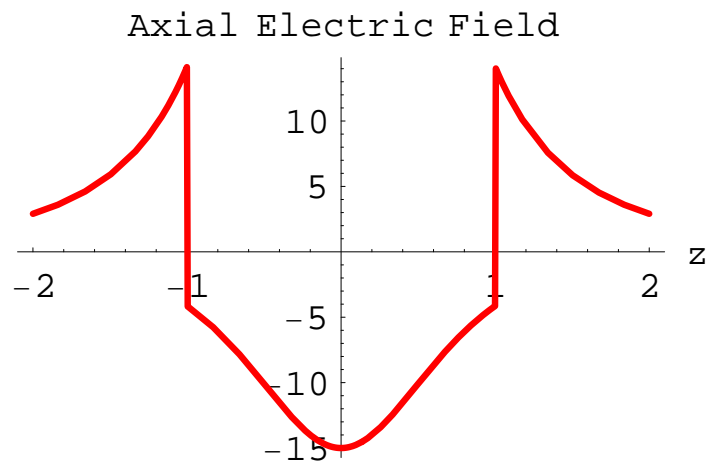
The leading term in powers of z in an expansion of this expression is $-3V/2a$.

Therefore, $E_z(0) = -3V/a$. Similarly, $E_z(a) = -(\sqrt{2} - 1)V/a$ inside and $E_z(a) = \sqrt{2}V/a$ outside.

(c) Sketch of field lines



Plot of $E_z(z)$



2. Jackson 2.23:

- (a) Potential inside cube of side a subject to boundary conditions $\Phi = 0$ on surfaces $x = 0, a$ and $y = 0, a$, and $\Phi = V$ on surfaces $z = 0, a$. A solution that satisfies the x and y boundary conditions is

$$\Phi(x, y, z) = \sum_{m,n} \sin \frac{m\pi x}{a} \sin \frac{n\pi y}{a} [a_{mn}e^{k_{mn}z} + b_{mn}e^{-k_{mn}z}]$$

where

$$k_{mn} = \sqrt{m^2 + n^2} \frac{\pi}{a}$$

At $z = 0$ this reduces to

$$\Phi(x, y, 0) = \sum_{m,n} c_{mn} \sin \frac{m\pi x}{a} \sin \frac{n\pi y}{a}$$

where

$$c_{mn} = a_{mn} + b_{mn}.$$

At $z = a$ we have $\Phi(x, y, a) = \Phi(x, y, 0)$, from which it follows

$$c_{mn} = a_{mn}e^{k_{mn}a} + b_{mn}e^{-k_{mn}a}$$

With a little algebra one obtains

$$a_{mn}e^{k_{mn}z} + b_{mn}e^{-k_{mn}z} = \frac{\cosh k_{mn}(z - a/2)}{\cosh k_{mn}a/2} c_{mn}$$

where c_{mn} is determined from

$$\sum_{m,n} c_{mn} \sin \frac{m\pi x}{a} \sin \frac{n\pi y}{a} = V$$

This problem has been previously solved for x and y separately. We find:

$$\Phi(x, y, z) = \frac{16V}{\pi^2} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\sin [(2m+1)\pi x/a] \sin [(2n+1)\pi y/a]}{(2m+1)(2n+1)} \frac{\cosh k_{mn}(z - a/2)}{\cosh k_{mn}a/2}$$

where $k_{mn} = \sqrt{(2m+1)^2 + (2n+1)^2} \pi/a$

- (b) Average at center $\Phi = 0.3329V$ including only 4 terms ($m = 0, 1$ and $n = 0, 1$). The result compares well with average value of $V/3$.
- (c) Surface charge density at $z = a$. One can obtain a formal expression for the surface charge, but the sum does not converge! The corresponding situation for the two-dimensional case was discussed in class.

3. Jackson Prob. 2.26

(a) Solution in wedge shaped region.

$$\Phi(\rho, \phi) = \sum_n a_n \left[\rho^{n\pi/\beta} - \left(\frac{a^2}{\rho} \right)^{n\pi/\beta} \right] \sin(n\pi\phi/\beta)$$

is a solution to Laplace's equation satisfying all 3 boundary conditions.

(b) The lowest term above is

$$\Phi(\rho, \phi) \approx a_1 \left[\rho^{\pi/\beta} - \left(\frac{a^2}{\rho} \right)^{\pi/\beta} \right] \sin(\pi\phi/\beta)$$

$$E_\rho = -a_1 \frac{\pi}{\beta\rho} \left[\rho^{\pi/\beta} + \left(\frac{a^2}{\rho} \right)^{\pi/\beta} \right] \sin(\pi\phi/\beta)$$

$$E_\phi = -a_1 \frac{\pi}{\beta\rho} \left[\rho^{\pi/\beta} - \left(\frac{a^2}{\rho} \right)^{\pi/\beta} \right] \cos(\pi\phi/\beta)$$

It follows that

$$\sigma(\phi = 0) = \epsilon_0 E_\phi = -a_1 \epsilon_0 \frac{\pi}{\beta\rho} \left[\rho^{\pi/\beta} - \left(\frac{a^2}{\rho} \right)^{\pi/\beta} \right]$$

$$\sigma(\phi = \beta) = -\epsilon_0 E_\phi = -a_1 \epsilon_0 \frac{\pi}{\beta\rho} \left[\rho^{\pi/\beta} - \left(\frac{a^2}{\rho} \right)^{\pi/\beta} \right]$$

$$\sigma(\rho = a) = -\epsilon_0 E_\rho = -2\epsilon_0 a_1 \frac{\pi}{\beta} a^{\pi/\beta-1} \sin(\pi\phi/\beta)$$

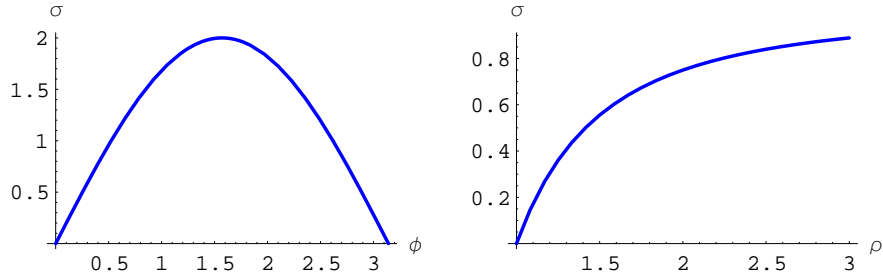
(c) For the case $\beta = \pi$,

$$E_\rho = -a_1 \left[1 + \left(\frac{a}{\rho} \right)^2 \right] \sin\phi \rightarrow -a_1 \sin\phi$$

$$E_\phi = -a_1 \left[1 - \left(\frac{a}{\rho} \right)^2 \right] \cos\phi \rightarrow -a_1 \cos\phi$$

Thus $E_x = \cos\phi E_\rho - \sin\phi E_\phi = 0$ and $E_y = \sin\phi E_\rho + \cos\phi E_\phi = -a_1$. The field far away is uniform and in the y direction and has magnitude $E = -a_1$.

Plot of charge density on plane and on cylinder ($a_1 = -1$).



The charge on the cylindrical boss is

$$Q_a = -2a_1\epsilon_0 \int_0^\pi a \sin \phi d\phi = -4a_1a\epsilon_0$$

This is just twice the charge on a uniformly charged strip of width $2a$ with charge density $\sigma = -a_1\epsilon_0$.

Now, consider the total charge in the interval $[0, L]$. From the right half of the boss, we have $Q_b = -2a_1a\epsilon_0$. From the section of the plane $[a, L]$, we have

$$Q_p = -a_1\epsilon_0 \int_a^L \left[1 - \frac{a^2}{\rho^2}\right] d\rho = -a_1\epsilon_0 \left[L - a - a + \frac{a^2}{L}\right]$$

In the limit as $L \rightarrow \infty$, one finds

$$Q_b + Q_p \rightarrow -a_1\epsilon_0 L,$$

independent of the boss!