

# EM HW #4 - Physical Systems due 20 Feb 2007

3.12, 13, 23, 24

**Problem 3.12** Find the potential in the infinite slot of Ex. 3.3 if the boundary at  $x = 0$  consists of two metal strips: one, from  $y = 0$  to  $y = a/2$ , is held at a constant potential  $V_0$ , and the other, from  $y = a/2$  to  $y = a$ , is at potential  $-V_0$ . See attached worksheet

**Problem 3.13** For the infinite slot (Ex. 3.3) determine the charge density  $\sigma(y)$  on the strip at  $x = 0$ , assuming it is a conductor at constant potential  $V_0$ .

$$V(x, y) = \frac{4V_0}{\pi} \sum_{n=1,3,5\dots} \frac{1}{n} e^{-n\pi x/a} \sin(n\pi y/a). \quad (3.36)$$

Recall from Ch. 2 that the E field changes across a charge distribution:  $\nabla E = \frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0} = -\frac{\partial V}{\partial n} = -\frac{\partial V}{\partial x}$  in this case

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial x} = \frac{4V_0}{\pi} \sum \frac{1}{n} \underbrace{\frac{\partial}{\partial x} e^{-n\pi x/a}}_{-\frac{n\pi}{a} e^{-n\pi x/a}} \sin \frac{n\pi y}{a} \Big|_{x=0}$$

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial x} = -\frac{4V_0}{a} \sum \underbrace{e^{-n\pi x/a}}_{+1 @ x=0} \sin \frac{n\pi y}{a} \Big|_{x=0}$$

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial x} = -\frac{4V_0}{a} \sum \sin \frac{n\pi y}{a}$$

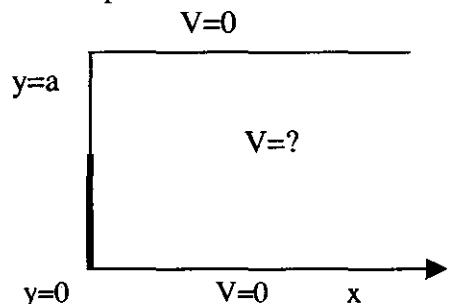
$$\text{so } \sigma = -\epsilon_0 \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} = +\frac{4V_0 \epsilon_0}{a} \sum_{n=1,3,5\dots} \frac{\sin n\pi y}{a}$$

**Separation of Variables: a technique for solving Laplace's equation  $\nabla^2 V = 0$** **Worksheet for fall E&M Problem 3.12 (p.136)**

Find the potential in the infinite slot if the boundary at  $x=0$  has two metal strips:

One, from from  $(\frac{a}{2} < y \leq a)$ , is at potential  $-V_0$

The other, from  $(0 \leq y \leq \frac{a}{2})$ , is held at constant potential  $V_0$



First, guess that Laplace's equation  $\nabla^2 V = 0$  has solutions of the form

*Just like Example 3.3*

$$(1) \quad V(x,y) = X(x) Y(y). \text{ If so, then the differential equation } \frac{\partial^2 V(x,y)}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 V(x,y)}{\partial y^2} = 0 \quad (2)$$

becomes separable. Substitute (1) into (2) to get

$$\frac{Y \frac{\partial^2 Y}{\partial x^2}}{X \frac{\partial^2 X}{\partial y^2}} + \frac{X \frac{\partial^2 X}{\partial y^2}}{Y \frac{\partial^2 Y}{\partial x^2}} = 0$$

(3)

Divide (3) by  $V = X Y$  and simplify:

$$\frac{\frac{\partial^2 X}{\partial x^2}}{X \frac{\partial^2 X}{\partial y^2}} + \frac{\frac{\partial^2 Y}{\partial y^2}}{Y \frac{\partial^2 Y}{\partial x^2}} = 0$$

(4)

*I argued in class that each term must be constant*

Find solutions to (5)  $\frac{\partial^2 X}{\partial x^2} = k^2 X$  and (6)  $\frac{\partial^2 Y}{\partial y^2} = -k^2 Y$

$$\underline{X} = \underline{X}_0 e^{-kx}$$

$$\underline{Y} = C \sin ky + D \cos ky$$

(3.27)  
129

*(growing solution cannot fit BC that  $V(x \rightarrow \infty) = 0$ )*

Substitute (5) and (6) into (1) for the general solution.

$$\underline{V} = \underline{X} \underline{Y} = e^{-kx} (C \sin ky + D \cos ky) \quad (\text{absorb } X_0 \text{ into } CD)$$

where  $k = \frac{n\pi}{a}$  we may need both sin & cos to fit  $V(x=0, y)$

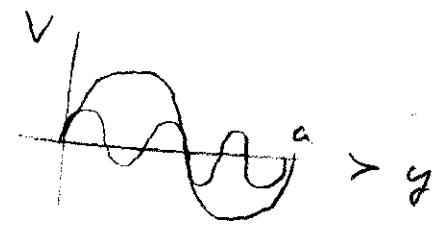
Apply boundary conditions to find undetermined constants.

over

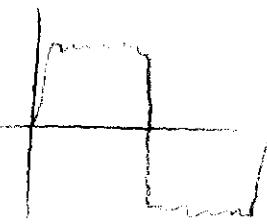
Now apply BC at  $x=0$  to find  $C_n$ , as in Ex 3.3 p. 130.

To match  $\frac{V}{V_0}$ ,

$$\frac{1}{2} - i > y \text{ we'll use the sine form.}$$



since you can see that start + odd is to something like our BC.



$$V(x, y) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} C_n e^{-\frac{n\pi}{a}x} \sin \frac{n\pi}{a} y \quad n=1, 2, 3, \dots$$

$$\text{where, by (3.34), } C_n = \frac{2}{a} \int_0^a V_0(y) \sin \frac{n\pi}{a} y \, dy$$

$$C_n = \frac{2}{a} V_0 \int_{-\frac{a}{2}}^{\frac{a}{2}} \sin \frac{n\pi}{a} y \, dy - \frac{2}{a} V_0 \int_a^{\frac{a}{2}} \sin \frac{n\pi}{a} y \, dy. \text{ These are easy integrals:}$$

$$= \frac{2}{a} V_0 \left[ -\frac{a}{n\pi} \cos \frac{n\pi}{a} y \Big|_{-\frac{a}{2}}^0 \right] - \frac{2}{a} V_0 \left[ -\frac{a}{n\pi} \cos \frac{n\pi}{a} y \Big|_{\frac{a}{2}}^a \right]$$

$$= \frac{2}{a} V_0 \left\{ -\frac{a}{n\pi} \left( \cos \frac{n\pi}{2} - \cos 0 \right) + \frac{a}{n\pi} \left( \cos n\pi - \cos \frac{n\pi}{2} \right) \right\}$$

$$C_n = \frac{2 V_0}{n\pi} \left\{ -\cos \frac{n\pi}{2} + 1 + \cos n\pi - \cos \frac{n\pi}{2} \right\}$$

$$C_n = \frac{2 V_0}{n\pi} \left\{ 1 + \cos n\pi - 2 \cos \frac{n\pi}{2} \right\} = \frac{2 V_0}{n\pi} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \\ \end{array} \right\}$$

$$n=1: \quad \cos \pi = -1 \quad \cos \frac{\pi}{2} = 0 : \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \\ \end{array} \right\} = \left\{ 1 - 1 + 0 \right\} = 0 \quad n=5, \dots$$

$$n=2: \quad \cos 2\pi = 1 \quad \cos \pi = -1 : \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \\ \end{array} \right\} = \left\{ 1 + 1 - 2(-1) \right\} = 4 \quad n=6, \dots$$

$$n=3: \quad \cos 3\pi = -1 \quad \cos \frac{3\pi}{2} = 0 : \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \\ \end{array} \right\} = \left\{ 1 - 1 + 0 \right\} = 0 \quad n=7, \dots$$

$$n=4: \quad \cos 4\pi = 1 \quad \cos \frac{4\pi}{2} = 1 : \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \\ \end{array} \right\} = \left\{ 1 + 1 - 2(1) \right\} = 0 \quad n=8, \dots$$

$$n=6: \quad \cos 6\pi = 1 \quad \cos 3\pi = -1 : \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \\ \end{array} \right\} = \left\{ 1 + 1 - 2(-1) \right\} = 4 \quad n=10, \dots$$

$C_n = 0$  if  $n$  is odd and if  $n$  is divisible by 4.

$$C_n = \frac{2 V_0}{n\pi} \cdot 4 \text{ for } n=2, 6, 10, \dots$$

$$V(x, y) = \frac{8 V_0}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} e^{-\frac{n\pi}{a}x} \sin \frac{n\pi}{a} y$$

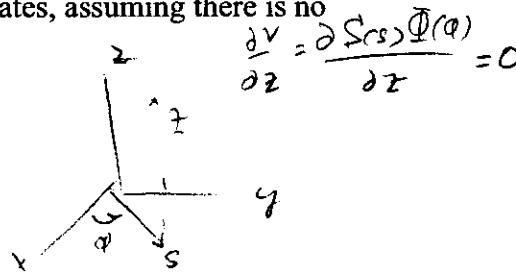
## Separation of Variables: Laplace's equation $\nabla^2 V = 0$ in cylindrical coordinates

### Worksheet for fall E&M Problem 3.23 (p.145)

Solve Laplace's eqn by separation of variables in cylindrical coordinates, assuming there is no dependence on  $z$  (this is cylindrical symmetry).

The Laplacian in cylindrical coordinates is eqn (1.82) p.44:

$$(1) \quad \nabla^2 V = \frac{1}{s} \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \left( s \frac{\partial V}{\partial s} \right) + \frac{1}{s^2} \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial \phi^2} + \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial z^2}$$



Look for solutions of the form  $V(s, \phi) = S(s) \Phi(\phi)$  (2)

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial s} = \Phi \frac{\partial S}{\partial s}, \quad \nabla^2 V = \Phi \frac{1}{s} \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \left( s \frac{\partial S}{\partial s} \right) + \frac{1}{s^2} S \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial \phi^2} + 0$$

Multiply by  $s^2$  and divide by  $V = S \Phi$ :

$$\frac{\Phi}{S \Phi} \frac{s^2}{s} \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \left( s \frac{\partial S}{\partial s} \right) + \frac{s^2}{s^2} \frac{S}{S} \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial \phi^2} = \frac{s}{S} \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \left( s \frac{\partial S}{\partial s} \right) + \frac{1}{\Phi} \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial \phi^2} = 0$$

Both terms must be constant, and they must sum to zero, so the two constants are equal and opposite. Choose  $-k^2$  for the  $\Phi$  solution so it returns to its original value in one cycle.

Find solutions to (3) and (4)

$$\frac{s}{S} \frac{d}{ds} \left( s \frac{dS}{ds} \right) = -k^2 = C_1$$

$$\frac{1}{\Phi} \frac{d^2 \Phi}{d\phi^2} = C_2 = -k^2$$

(4) Since  $\Phi(\phi + 2\pi) = \Phi(\phi)$ ,  $k$  must be an integer.

$$\frac{d^2 \Phi}{d\phi^2} = -k^2 \Phi \rightarrow \Phi = \Phi_0 e^{ik\phi}$$

Show that  $S = s^n$  is a solution to (3): what is the relation between  $n$  and  $k$ ?

$$\frac{\partial S}{\partial s} = \frac{d}{ds} s^n = n s^{n-1}, \quad \frac{d}{ds} \left( s [n s^{n-1}] \right) = n \frac{d}{ds} s^n = n^2 s^{n-1}, \quad \frac{s}{S} [n^2 s^{n-1}] = k^2$$

$$\frac{1}{s^n} n^2 s^n = k^2$$

$$n = \pm k$$

Show that for  $k \neq 0$ ,  $S = A s^k + B s^{-k}$ , and for  $k=0$ ,  $S = D + C \ln s$ .

$$\frac{s}{S} \frac{d}{ds} \left( s \frac{dS}{ds} \right) = 0$$

$$\left( s \frac{dS}{ds} \right) = \text{const} \rightarrow \int dS = S = \int C \frac{ds}{s} = C \ln s + D$$

$$S = s^n = A s^k + B s^{-k}$$

$$\text{for } k \neq 0$$

What is  $\Phi$  for the  $k=0$  case? Put it all together into a general solution.

Then apply it to problem 3.24.

$$\frac{1}{\Phi} \frac{d^2 \Phi}{d\phi^2} = 0 \quad ; \quad \frac{d\Phi}{d\phi} = \text{constant} = a$$

$$\Phi = \int d\Phi = \int a d\phi = a\phi + b \rightarrow \Phi = b \quad k=0$$

$$\text{SOLUTION: } V = S \Phi = C \ln s + D + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (A s^k + B s^{-k}) e^{ik\phi}$$

**Problem 3.23** Solve Laplace's equation by separation of variables in cylindrical coordinates, assuming there is no dependence on  $z$  (cylindrical symmetry). [Make sure you find all solutions to the radial equation; in particular, your result must accommodate the case of an infinite line charge, for which (of course) we already know the answer.]

See attached worksheet. Solution:

$$V = \underbrace{C \ln s + D}_{k=0} + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (A s^k + B s^{-k}) e^{\pm i k \phi}$$

**Problem 3.24** Find the potential outside an infinitely long metal pipe, of radius  $R$ , placed at right angles to an otherwise uniform electric field  $E_0$ . Find the surface charge induced on the pipe. [Use your result from Prob. 3.23.]

This is much like Ex 3.8 p. 141

The conducting pipe is an equipotential

far from the pipe,  $V \rightarrow -E_0 x + C$

$$(i) V(s \gg r) = -E_0 s \cos \phi$$

$$(ii) \text{ We can set } V(s=R) = 0$$

We must fit these boundary conditions to the solution

of the Laplacian in cylindrical coordinates, above:

$$V = C \ln s + D + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (A s^k + B s^{-k}) c \cos k \phi - d \sin k \phi$$

$C$  and  $D = 0$  because  $V = 0$  at  $s = R$  - no constant terms

$d = 0$  because of the orientation of the  $E$  field - no sines

(i) And the only wave number is  $k = 1$ , since  $V \sim \cos \phi$

$$\text{so } V = (a s + \frac{b}{s}) \cos \phi \text{ where I combined } a = \frac{A}{c}, b = B c$$

$$\text{BC (i)} \quad V(s=R) = 0 = (aR + \frac{b}{R}) \cos \phi \rightarrow aR^2 = -b$$

$$\text{BC (ii)} \quad V(s \gg R) = (a s + \frac{b}{s}) \cos \phi \approx a s \cos \phi = -E_0 s \cos \phi$$

$$a = -E_0 \rightarrow b = +E_0 R^2$$

$$V = \left( as + \frac{b}{s} \right) \cos \phi = \left( -E_0 s + \frac{E_0 R^2}{s} \right) \cos \phi$$

$$V = E_0 s \left( -1 + \frac{R^2}{s^2} \right) \cos \phi$$

$$\tau = -E_0 \frac{\partial V}{\partial s} \Big|_{s=R} = -E_0 E_0 \cos \phi \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \left[ s \left( -1 + \frac{R^2}{s^2} \right) \right]$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial s} \left[ -s + \frac{R^2}{s} \right] = -1 - \frac{R^2}{s^2}$$

$$\tau = +E_0 E_0 \cos \phi \left( 1 + \frac{R^2}{s^2} \right) \Big|_{s=R} = G E_0 \cos \phi (1+1)$$

$$\tau = 2 G E_0 \cos \phi$$