

A point charge  $q$  sits on the  $+x$  axis, a distance  $a$  from the origin. For each of the following parts, point  $P$  is located at a point described by the polar coordinates  $(r, \theta)$  and all potentials are measured with respect to infinity.

- 1a) (5 points) Find the electric potential at point  $P$ .

$$V(r) = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 \sqrt{r^2 + a^2 - 2ar \cos\theta}}$$

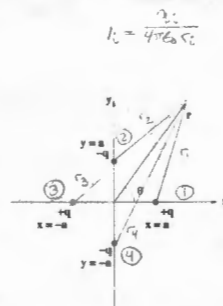
- 1b) (5 points)  $(1 - 2bx + x^2)^{-1/2} \approx 1 + bx + \frac{1}{2}(3b^2 - 1)x^2 + \dots$  when  $x < 1$ . Expand the potential at point  $P$  in the limit  $r \gg a$  and comment on the result.

$$V(r) \approx \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} \left( 1 - 2\cos\theta \frac{a}{r} + \frac{3a^2}{2r^2} (3\cos^2\theta - 1) \dots \right) \quad b = \cos\theta$$

$$V(r) \approx \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} \left[ 1 + \frac{a}{r} \cos\theta + \frac{1}{2} \frac{a^2}{r^2} (3\cos^2\theta - 1) \dots \right]$$

$V(r)$  has terms proportional to  $\frac{1}{r}$ ,  $\frac{1}{r^2}$ ,  $\frac{1}{r^3}$  ...  
 off the origin, the field due to a monopole  
 this dipole, quadrupole... contributions to the field!

$$\begin{aligned} b_1 &= r \cos\theta \\ b_2 &= r \cos(90^\circ - \theta) = r \sin\theta \\ b_3 &= r \cos(180^\circ - \theta) = -r \cos\theta \\ b_4 &= r \cos(90^\circ + \theta) = -r \sin\theta \end{aligned}$$



The charges opposite to each other  
 $q_1 = \theta$   
 $q_2 = 90^\circ - \theta$   
 $q_3 = 180^\circ - \theta$   
 $q_4 = 90^\circ + \theta$

- 1c) (10 points) Find the electric potential at point  $P$  for the charge arrangement shown above. Hint: You do not have to start from scratch, but be real careful about identifying the relevant angle for each charge. Comment on the result.

use part b

$$V_1 = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} \left[ 1 + \frac{a}{r} \cos\theta + \frac{1}{2} \frac{a^2}{r^2} (3\cos^2\theta - 1) \dots \right]$$

$$V_2 = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} \left[ 1 - \frac{a}{r} \sin\theta + \frac{1}{2} \frac{a^2}{r^2} (3\sin^2\theta - 1) \dots \right]$$

$$V_3 = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} \left[ 1 - \frac{a}{r} \cos\theta + \frac{1}{2} \frac{a^2}{r^2} (3\cos^2\theta - 1) \dots \right]$$

$$+ V_4 = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} \left[ 1 + \frac{a}{r} \sin\theta - \frac{1}{2} \frac{a^2}{r^2} (3\sin^2\theta - 1) \dots \right]$$

$$V_p = \frac{3qa^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^3} (\cos^2\theta - \sin^2\theta)$$

$$V_p = \frac{3a^2q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^3} \cos(2\theta)$$

$V \propto \frac{1}{r^3} \Rightarrow$  this is a quadrupole!  
 (see you surprised? c)

- 1d) (10 points) Find the electric field (vector) at point  $P$ .

$$E_r = -\frac{\partial V}{\partial r} = \frac{9a^2q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^4} \cos(2\theta) \quad E_\theta = -\frac{1}{r} \sin\theta \frac{\partial V}{\partial \theta} = 0$$

$$E_\theta = -\frac{\partial V}{\partial \theta} = \frac{6a^2q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^4} \sin(2\theta)$$

$$\vec{E} = \frac{3a^2q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^4} [3\cos(2\theta) \hat{r} + 2\sin(2\theta) \hat{\theta}]$$

A nonconducting sphere of radius  $a$  carries electric charge distributed with a volume charge-density  $\rho(r) = \rho_0 \left( 1 - \frac{r}{2a} \right)$ . It is surrounded by a concentric spherical conducting shell of inner-radius  $a$  and outer-radius  $b$  that carries an excess charge  $Q$ .

$$Q_{in}(r) = \int dq = \int \rho(r) dv = \int_0^r \rho(r) 4\pi r^2 dr$$

- 2a) (10 points) Find the amount of charge contained in a concentric sphere of radius  $r$ , for all values of  $r$ .

(r < a)

$$Q_{in}(r) = \int_0^r \rho_0 \left( 1 - \frac{r}{2a} \right) 4\pi r^2 dr$$

$$Q_{in}(r) = 4\pi \rho_0 \left( \frac{r^3}{3} - \frac{r^4}{8a} \right)$$

$$Q_{in}(r) = \frac{4}{3} \pi \rho_0 r^3 \left( 1 - \frac{r}{2a} \right)$$

(a < r < b)

The field inside the conductor is zero, Gauss' law with spherical symmetry requires  $Q_{in}(r) \equiv 0$

\* Induced by charges

$$Q_{in}(r) = \begin{cases} \frac{4}{3} \pi \rho_0 r^3 \left( 1 - \frac{r}{2a} \right) & r < a \\ 0 & a < r < b \\ Q & b < r \end{cases}$$



$$Q = Q_{in}(a) \quad (\text{induced})$$

- 2b) (10 points) Find the electric field (vector) at all points inside and outside the distribution.

spherical symmetry:  $\vec{E} = \frac{Q_{in}(r)}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2} \hat{r}$

$$\vec{E} = \begin{cases} \frac{\rho_0 r}{3\epsilon_0} \left( 1 - \frac{r}{2a} \right) \hat{r} & r < a \\ 0 & a < r < b \\ \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2} \hat{r} & b < r \end{cases}$$

- 2c) (10 points) Find the electric potential at all points inside and outside the distribution, if the potential at  $r = a$  is defined to be  $V_a$ .

$$\Delta V(b, r) = V(r) - V(a) = - \int_a^r \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{r} = - \int_a^r E_r dr \quad (\text{inner} \rightarrow \text{negative})$$

$$V(r) = V_a - \int_a^r E_r dr$$

$$(r < a) \quad V(r) = V_a - \frac{\rho_0}{3\epsilon_0} \int_a^r \left( r - \frac{r^2}{2a} \right) dr$$

$$= V_a - \frac{\rho_0}{3\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{r^2}{2} - \frac{r^3}{6a} \right]_a^r$$

$$= V_a - \frac{\rho_0}{3\epsilon_0} r^2 \left[ \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{6} \frac{r}{a} - \frac{1}{6} \frac{a}{r} \right]$$

$$= V_a - \frac{\rho_0 r^2}{6\epsilon_0} \left[ 3 - \frac{r}{a} - \frac{a}{r} \right]$$

$$(a < r < b) \quad V(r) = V_a - \int_a^r 0 dr$$

$$V(r) = V_a$$

$$(b < r) \quad V(r) = V_a - \int_a^b E_r dr - \int_b^r \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^2} dr$$

$$V(r) = V_a + \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{b} \right)$$

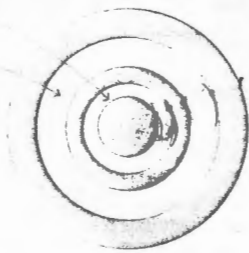
$$V(r) = \begin{cases} V_a - \frac{\rho_0 r^2}{6\epsilon_0} \left( 3 - 2\frac{r}{a} - \frac{a}{r} \right) & r < a \\ V_a & a < r < b \\ V_a + \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{b} \right) & b < r \end{cases}$$

$$C_1 = \frac{2\pi\epsilon_0 L}{\ln(b/a)}$$

$$C_2 = \frac{2\pi\epsilon_0 L}{\ln(c/a)}$$

In Series:

$$C_{eq} = \frac{C_1 C_2}{C_1 + C_2}$$



A long solid conducting cylinder of radius  $a$  is surrounded by a long coaxial conducting cylindrical shell of inner-radius  $b$  and outer-radius  $c$ . That cylinder, in turn, is surrounded by a long coaxial conducting cylindrical shell of inner-radius  $e$  and outer-radius  $f$ .

- 1a) (10 points) How much capacitance will be measured (per unit length) between the inner-most and outer-most conductors?

Solve:

$$C_{eq} = \frac{\pi\epsilon_0 L \left( \frac{1}{\ln(b/a)} + \frac{1}{\ln(c/a)} \right)}{\frac{1}{\ln(b/a)} + \frac{1}{\ln(c/a)}}$$

$$C_{eq} = \frac{2\pi\epsilon_0 L}{\ln(b/a) + \ln(c/a)}$$

- 1b) (5 points) Evaluate your answer to part a in the limit  $b \rightarrow d$  and comment.

In the limit  $b \rightarrow d$ :

$$C_{eq} \rightarrow \frac{2\pi\epsilon_0 L}{\ln(c/a)}$$

describes a simple cylindrical capacitor of inner radius  $a$  and outer radius  $c$

$$\frac{1}{C} = \frac{1}{C_1} + \frac{1}{C_2}$$

$$C = \frac{2\pi L \epsilon_0}{\ln(b/a)} + \frac{2\pi L \epsilon_0}{\ln(c/a)}$$

$$C = \frac{C_1 C_2}{C_1 + C_2} = \frac{C_1 C_2}{C_1 + C_2}$$

$$C = \frac{2\pi L \epsilon_0 \left( \ln(b/a) + \ln(c/a) \right)}{\ln(b/a) \ln(c/a)}$$

$$\ln(d/a) + \ln(c/a) = \ln\left(\frac{cd}{a^2}\right)$$

$$\frac{2\pi L \epsilon_0}{\ln(b/a) + \ln(c/a)}$$

$$\frac{2\pi L \epsilon_0}{\ln(c/a)}$$

- 1c) (10 points) Assume the conductors start uncharged, and then, charge is transferred from the outer-most conductor to the inner-most conductor. What fraction of the total energy contained in the capacitor will be stored in the outer-most gap between the conductors?

$$U = \frac{1}{2} Q^2$$

$$\frac{U_2}{U_1 + U_2} = \frac{V C_2}{V C_1 + V C_2}$$

$$\frac{U_2}{U_1 + U_2} = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{C_1}{C_2}}$$

$$\frac{U_2}{U_1 + U_2} = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{\ln(b/a)}{\ln(c/a)}}$$

- 1d) (5 points) Evaluate your answer to part b in the limit  $a \rightarrow b$  and comment.

if  $a \rightarrow b$ ,  $\ln(b/a) \rightarrow 0$

$$\frac{U_2}{U_1 + U_2} \rightarrow 1$$

There is no energy stored in the inner gap

$$\frac{(2\pi L \epsilon_0)^2 \ln(b/a) \ln(c/a)}{2\pi L \epsilon_0 \ln(b/a) + 2\pi L \epsilon_0 \ln(c/a)}$$

$$\frac{2\pi L \epsilon_0 \ln(c/a)}{\ln(b/a) + \ln(c/a)}$$