

$$\nabla^2 \varphi = 0$$



# Solution of Laplace's Equation

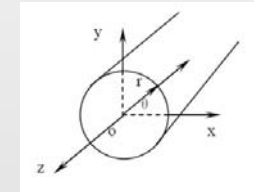
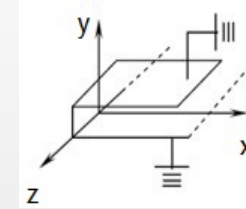
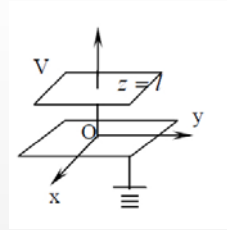
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Ruth He, Angela Zhou  
Sullen Chan

# Structure

Derivation & Range

Analytical Solutions



Numerical Solutions

Equal Spacing &  
Unequal Spacings

Iteration &  
Convergence

Program Realization

# Derivation

Gauss's Law:  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \nabla \bullet \vec{D} = \rho_V \\ \vec{D} = \epsilon \vec{E} \end{array} \right. \Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \nabla \bullet (\epsilon \vec{E}) = \rho_V \\ \vec{E} = -\nabla \varphi \end{array} \right. \Rightarrow \nabla \bullet (-\epsilon \nabla \varphi) = \rho_V$

$\Downarrow$

$$\nabla^2 \varphi = -\frac{\rho_V}{\epsilon}$$

Poisson's Equation

# Range

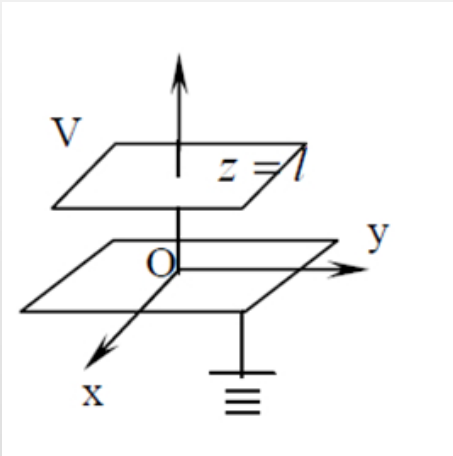
- Being analytical in the area D
- Space being free

In free space:  $\rho_V = 0$

$$\therefore \nabla^2 \varphi = 0$$

# Analytical Solutions

## Example 1

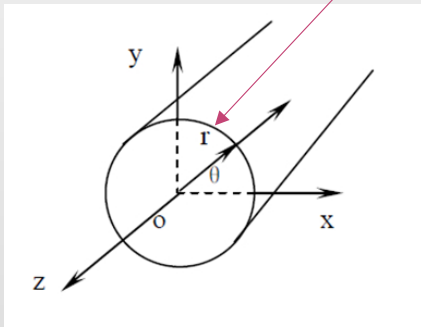


$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \nabla^2 \varphi = 0 \\ \varphi(z=0) = 0 \\ \varphi(z=l) = V \end{array} \right. \Rightarrow \varphi = \frac{V}{l} z$$

# Analytical Solutions

## Example 2

Uniform charge distribution:  $\sigma$



$$\begin{cases} \nabla^2 \varphi = 0 \\ \varphi(r = a) = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \varphi(r) = -\frac{a\sigma}{\epsilon_0} \ln \frac{r}{a}$$

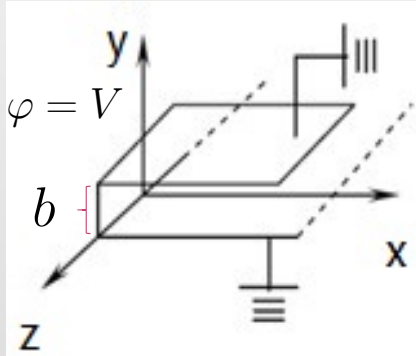
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$$\epsilon_0 = 8.85 \quad pF/m$$

Permittivity of free space

# Analytical Solutions

## Example 3



$$\nabla^2 \varphi = \frac{\partial^2 \varphi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \varphi}{\partial y^2} = 0$$

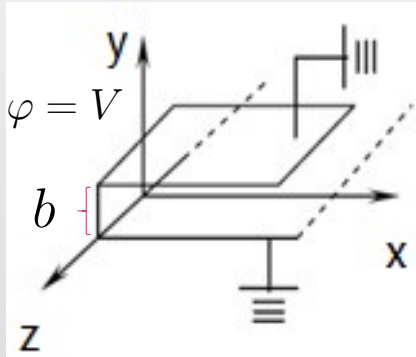
Let  $\varphi = X(x)Y(y)$





# Analytical Solutions

## Example 3



From boundary conditions:

$$y = 0, \varphi = 0 \Rightarrow D = 0 \quad (AB \neq 0)$$

$$y = b, \varphi = 0 \Rightarrow \sin kb = 0 \quad kb = n\pi$$

$\therefore \varphi$  is related to  $n$

$$\Rightarrow \varphi_n(x, y) = (A_n e^{kx} + B_n e^{-kx}) \left( C'_n \sin \frac{n\pi}{b} y \right)$$

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$$B_n C'_n = C_n$$

# Analytical Solutions

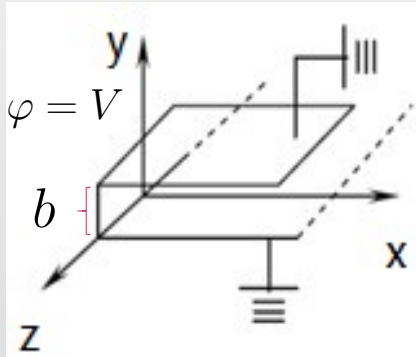
## Example 3

Further:

$$x \rightarrow \infty \quad \varphi = 0 \Rightarrow A_n = 0$$

$$x = 0 \quad \varphi = V \Rightarrow C_n = \begin{cases} \frac{4V}{m\pi} & m = \text{odd num.} \\ 0 & m = \text{even num.} \end{cases}$$

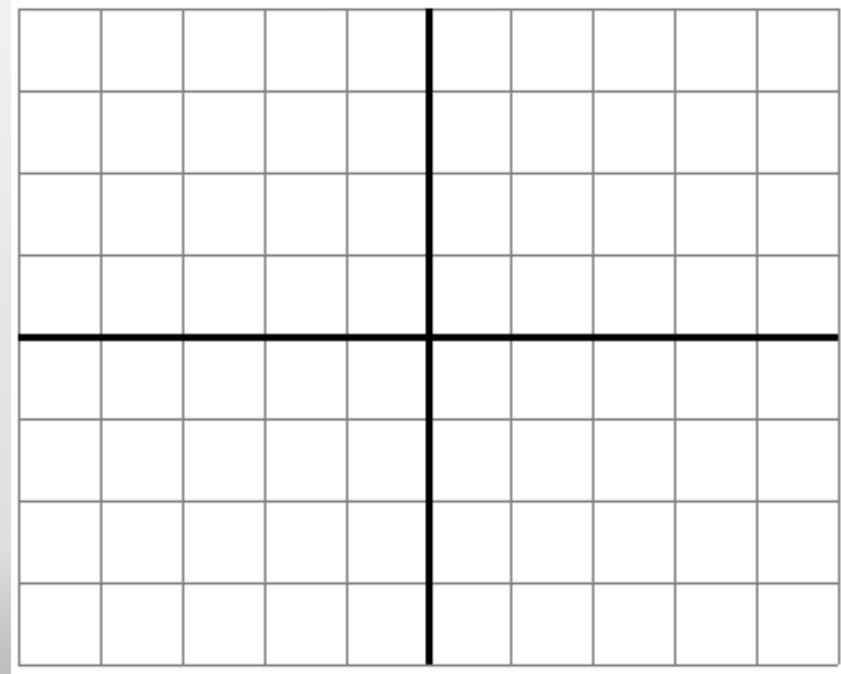
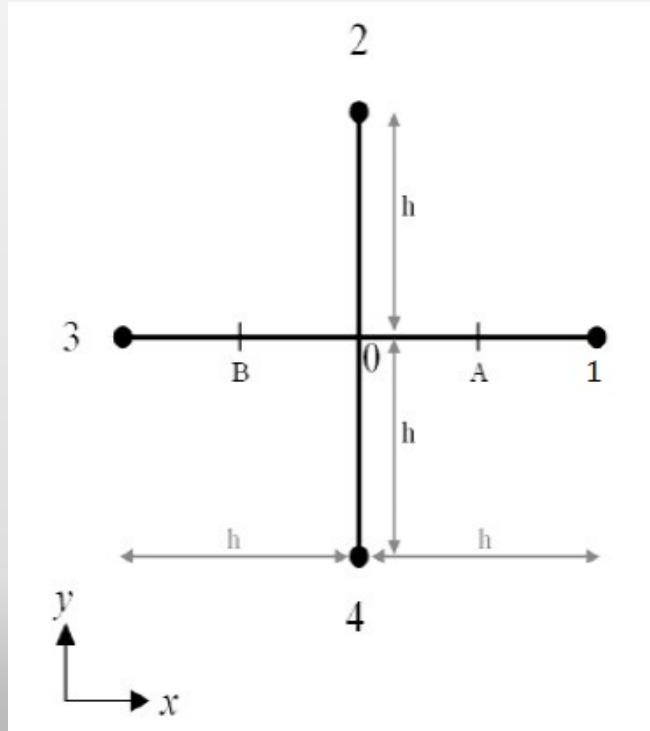
Let  $m = 2n + 1, n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$



$$\Rightarrow \varphi(x, y) = \frac{4V}{\pi} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2n+1} \sin \frac{(m+1)\pi y}{b} e^{-\frac{(2n+1)\pi x}{b}}$$

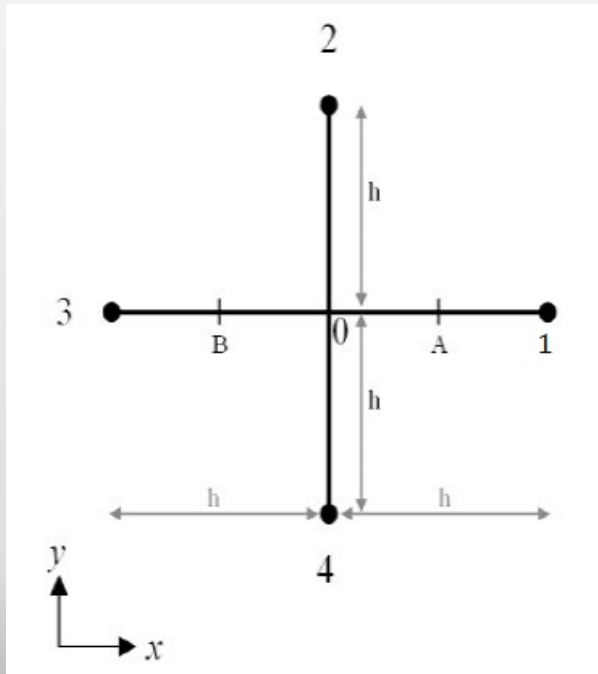
# Numerical Solutions

## Equal Spacing



# Numerical Solutions

## Equal Spacing



$$\left. \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x} \right|_A = \frac{\varphi_1 - \varphi_0}{h}, \quad \left. \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x} \right|_B = \frac{\varphi_0 - \varphi_3}{h}$$

$$\Rightarrow \left. \frac{\partial^2 \varphi}{\partial x^2} \right|_0 = \frac{\left. \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x} \right|_A - \left. \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x} \right|_B}{h}$$

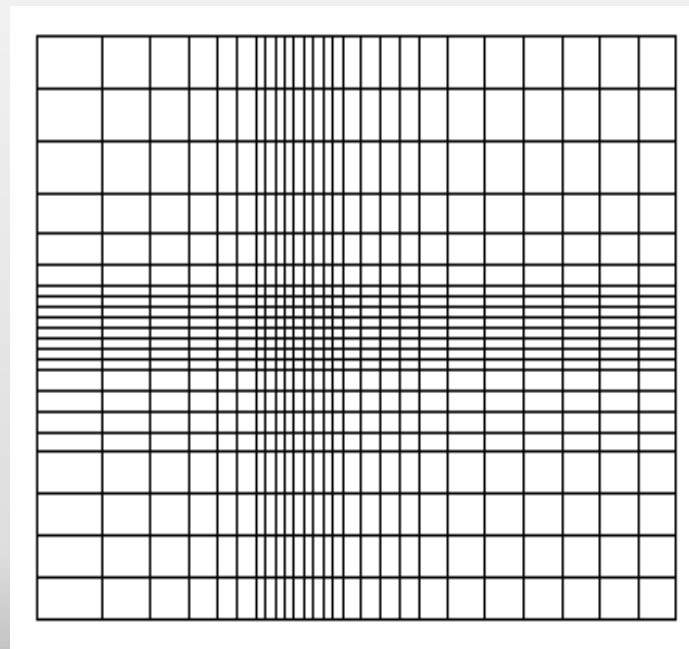
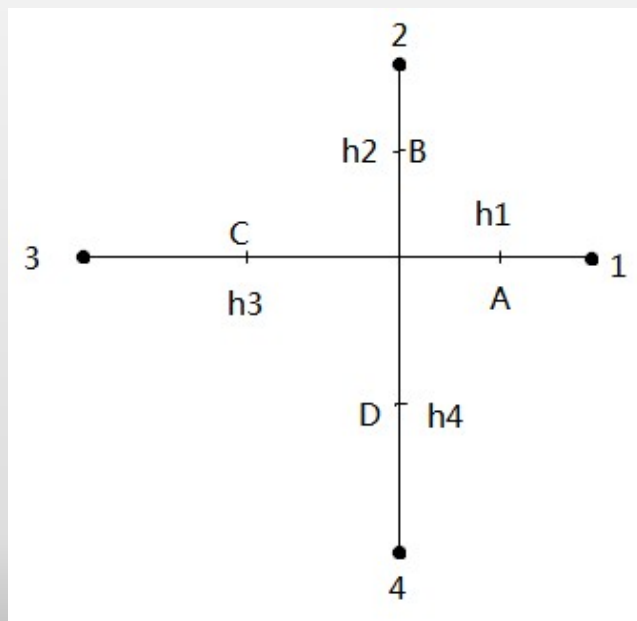
$$= \frac{1}{h^2} [(\varphi_1 - \varphi_0) + (\varphi_3 - \varphi_0)]$$

Similarly  $\left. \frac{\partial^2 \varphi}{\partial y^2} \right|_0 = \frac{1}{h^2} [(\varphi_2 - \varphi_0) + (\varphi_4 - \varphi_0)]$

$$\Rightarrow \varphi_0 = \frac{1}{4} (\varphi_1 + \varphi_2 + \varphi_3 + \varphi_4)$$

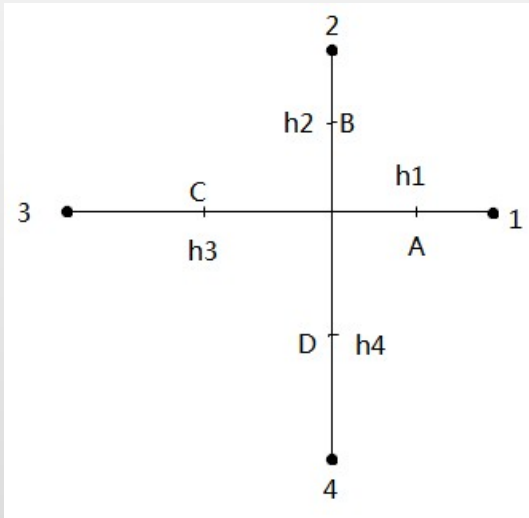
# Numerical Solutions

## Unequal Spacings



# Numerical Solutions

## Unequal Spacings



$$\varphi_0 = \frac{1}{\beta} (m\varphi_1 + n\varphi_2 + p\varphi_3 + q\varphi_4)$$

where

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \beta = \frac{1}{h_1 h_3} + \frac{1}{h_2 h_4} \\ m = \frac{1}{h_1 (h_1 + h_3)} \\ n = \frac{1}{h_2 (h_2 + h_4)} \\ p = \frac{1}{h_3 (h_3 + h_1)} \\ q = \frac{1}{h_4 (h_2 + h_4)} \end{array} \right.$$

# Numerical Solutions

## Iteration & Convergence

Synchronization Iterative Method(SIM):

$$\varphi_{i,j}^{(1)} = \frac{1}{4} \left( \varphi_{i,j-1}^{(0)} + \varphi_{i,j+1}^{(0)} + \varphi_{i-1,j}^{(0)} + \varphi_{i+1,j}^{(0)} \right)$$

Iterate...

$$\varphi_{i,j}^{(k+1)} = \frac{1}{4} \left( \varphi_{i,j-1}^{(k)} + \varphi_{i,j+1}^{(k)} + \varphi_{i-1,j}^{(k)} + \varphi_{i+1,j}^{(k)} \right)$$

Until

$$\left| \varphi_{i,j}^{(k+1)} - \varphi_{i,j}^{(k)} \right| < w$$

**Minimum error**



# Numerical Solutions

## Iteration & Convergence

Asynchronous(or Gauss-Seidel) Iterative Methods(AIM):

$$\varphi_{i,j}^{(k+1)} = \frac{1}{4} \left( \varphi_{i,j-1}^{(k+1)} + \varphi_{i,j+1}^{(k)} + \varphi_{i-1,j}^{(k+1)} + \varphi_{i+1,j}^{(k)} \right)$$



# Numerical Solutions

## Iteration & Convergence

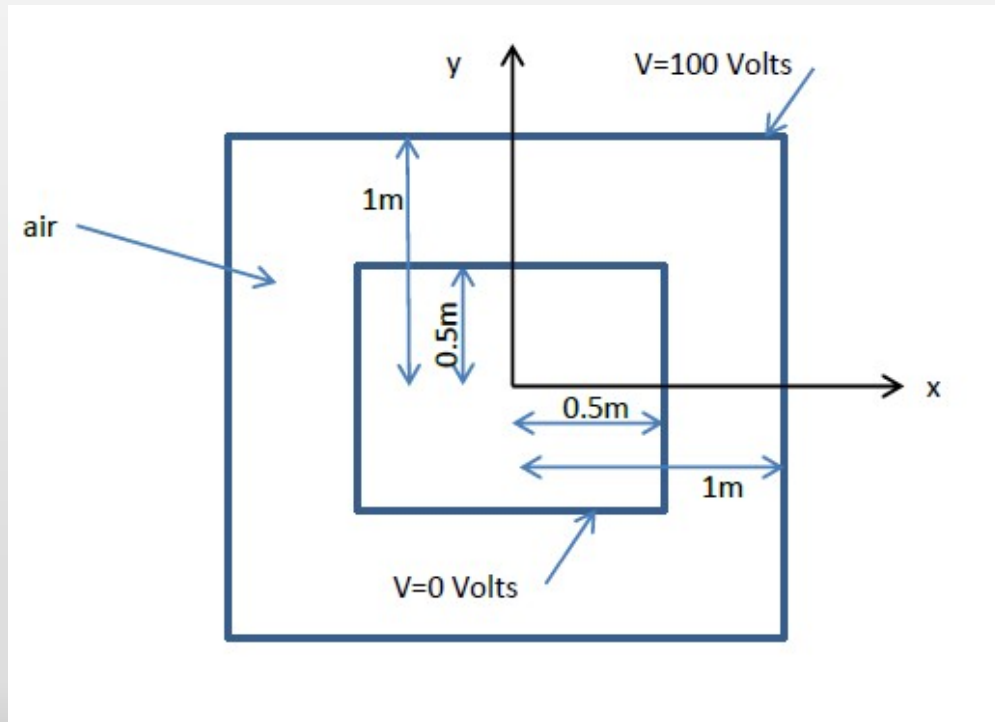
Successive Over Relaxation Iteration Method(SOR Method):

$$\varphi_{(i,j)}^{(k+1)} = \varphi_{(i,j)}^{(k)} + \frac{\alpha}{4} \left( \varphi_{i,j-1}^{(k+1)} + \varphi_{i,j+1}^{(k)} + \varphi_{i-1,j}^{(k+1)} + \varphi_{i+1,j}^{(k)} - 4\varphi_{(i,j)}^{(k)} \right)$$

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$$\alpha \in [1, 2)$$

# Program Realization

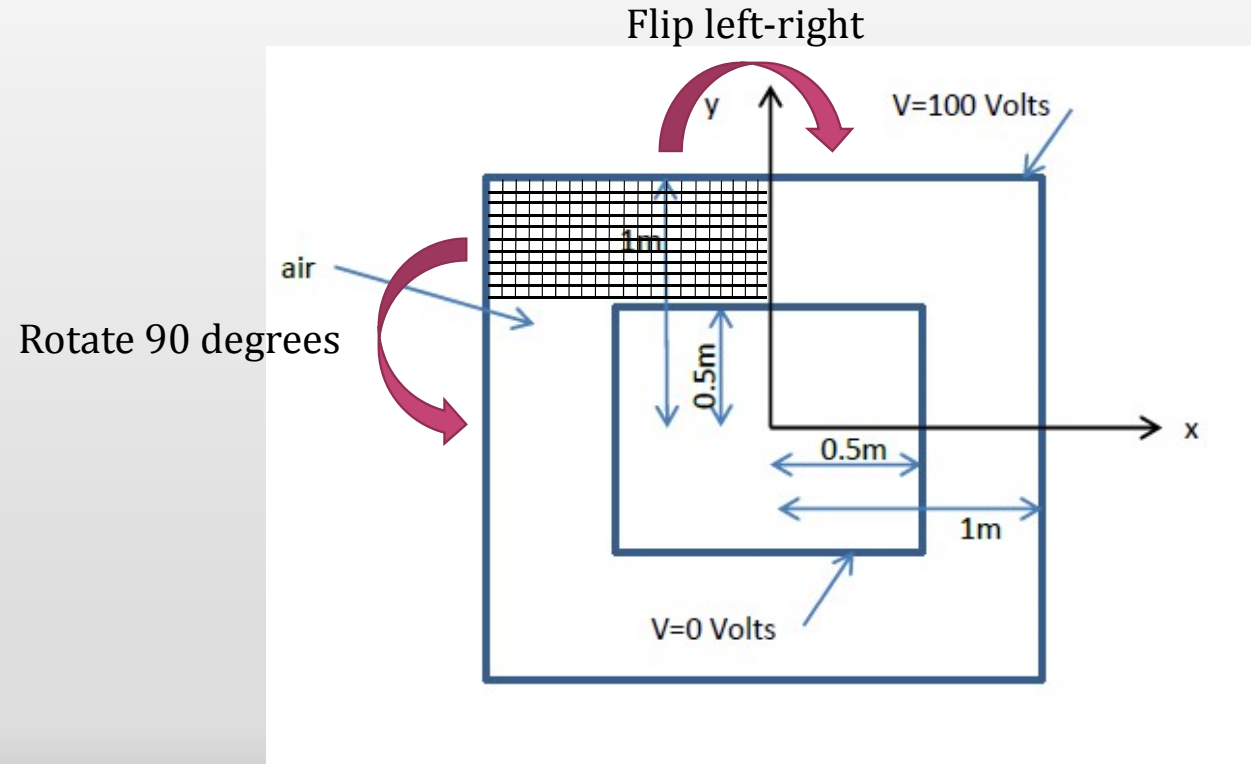


- Potential
- Electric field intensity
- Capacitance per meter

 $\varphi$  $\vec{E}$  $C$

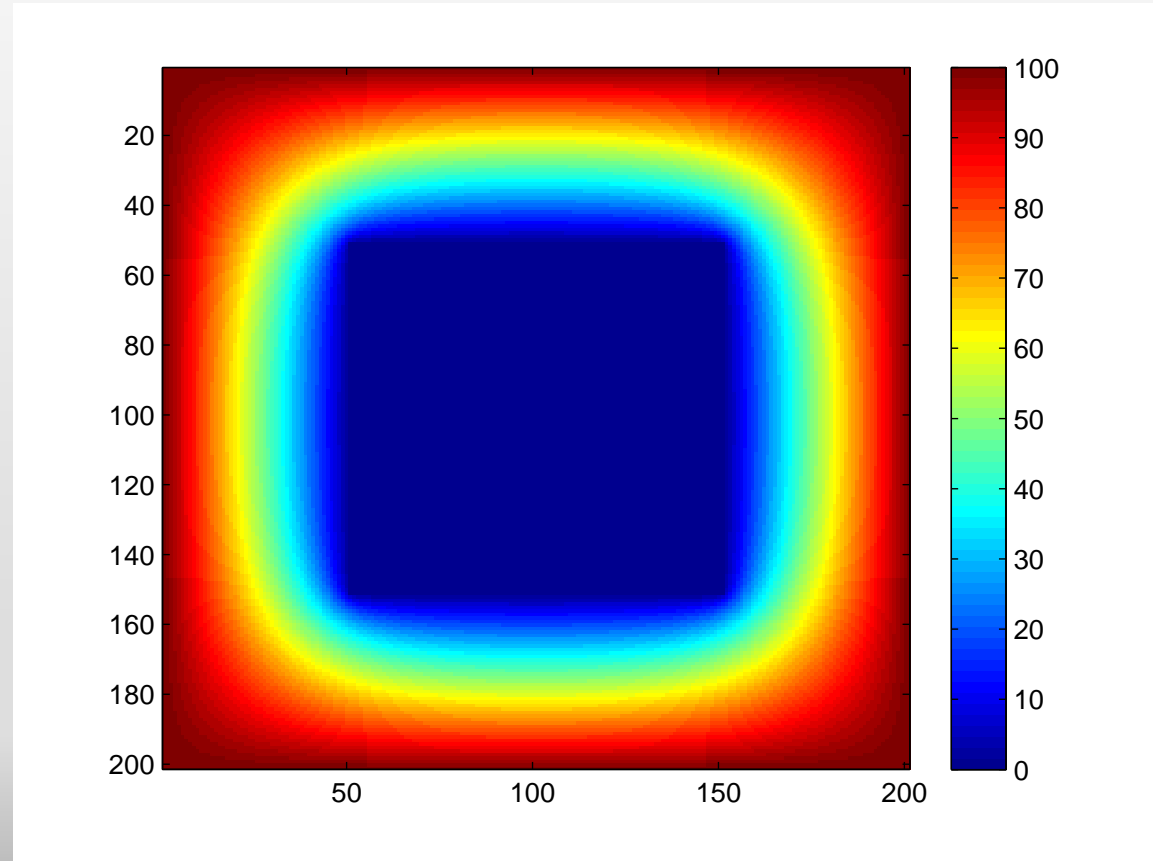
# Program Realization

## Potential Calculating



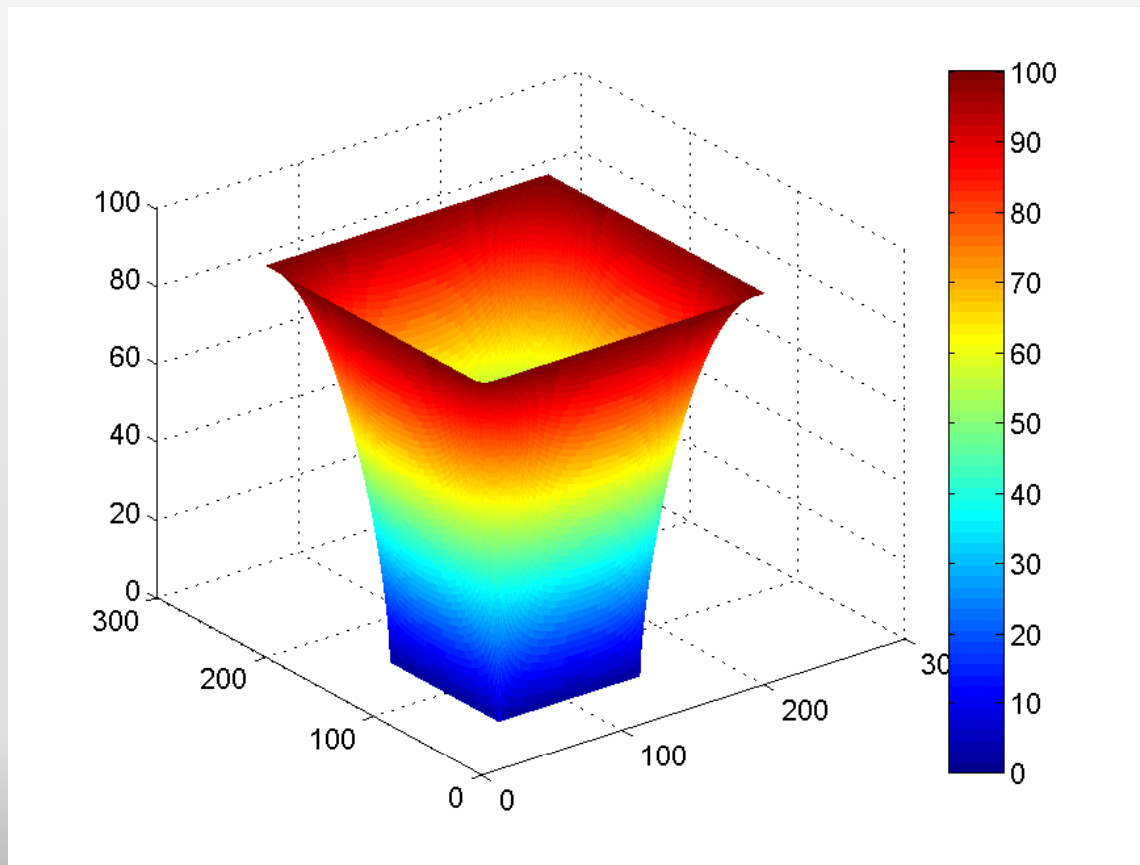
# Program Realization

## Potential Calculating



# Program Realization

## Potential Calculating



# Program Realization

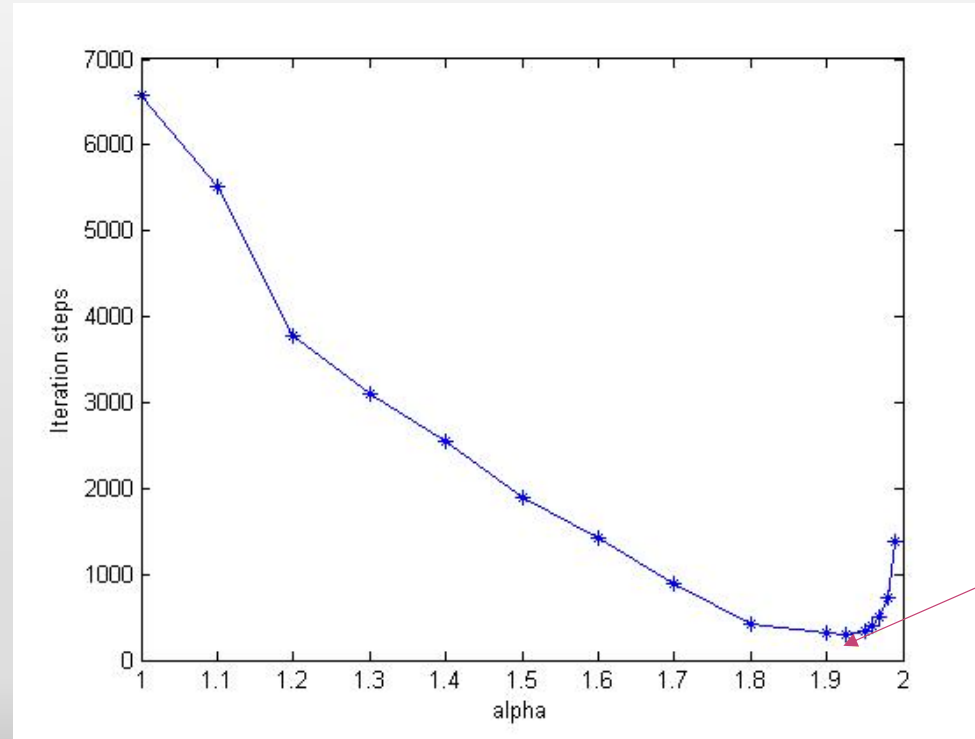
## Potential Calculating

Asynchronous Iterative Method(AIM): 6579 steps

Successive Over Relaxation Iteration  
Method(SOR Method): 296 steps(Min)

# Program Realization

## Potential Calculating

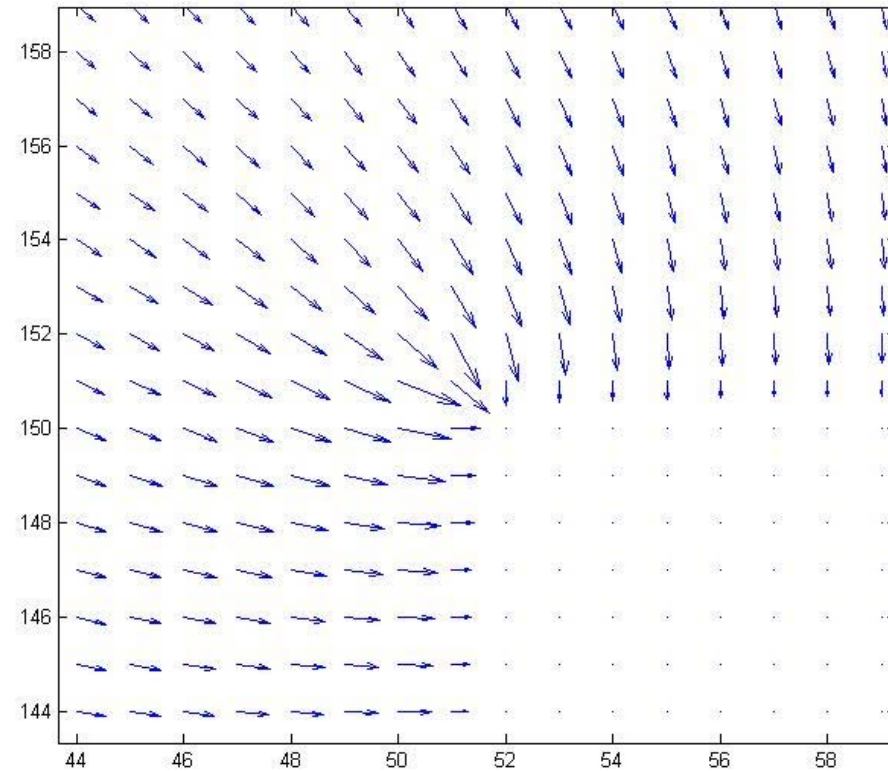


$$\alpha = 1.925$$

# Program Realization

Electric Field Intensity Calculating

$$\vec{E} = -\nabla\varphi \quad \Rightarrow$$



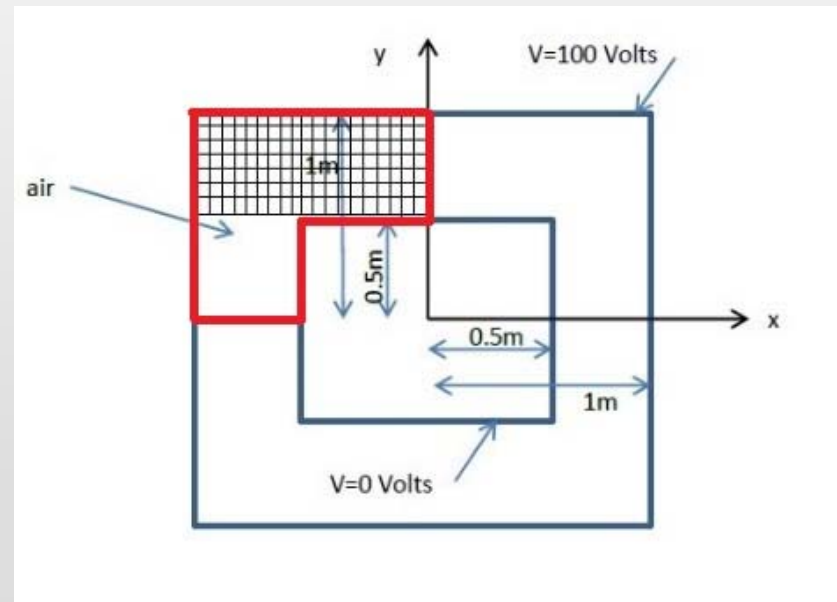


# Program Realization

## Capacitance Calculating

$$q = \oint \epsilon_0 \vec{E} ds$$

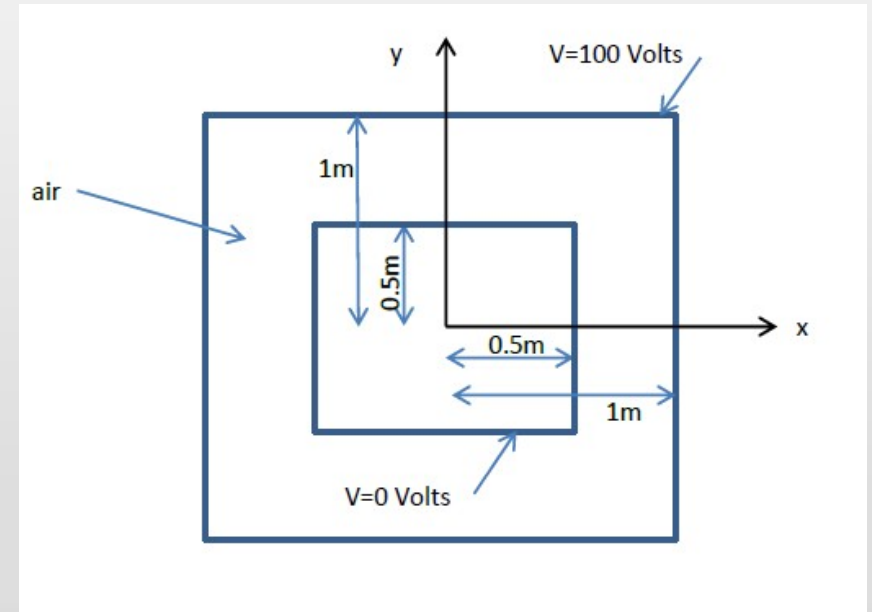
$$= \epsilon_0 \left( \oint E_x dl + E_y dl \right)$$



# Program Realization

## Capacitance Calculating

$$C = \frac{Q}{U} = \frac{4q}{U} = 0.73819 \quad pF/m$$



# Summary

- Derivation & Range (Albert & Dean)
- Three examples of analytical solutions (Ruth)
- Numerical solutions: equal spacing & unequal spacings;  
iteration & convergence (Sullen & Angela)  
(Dean)
- Program realization:  $\varphi \quad \overrightarrow{E} \quad C$  (Dean)

Question Time