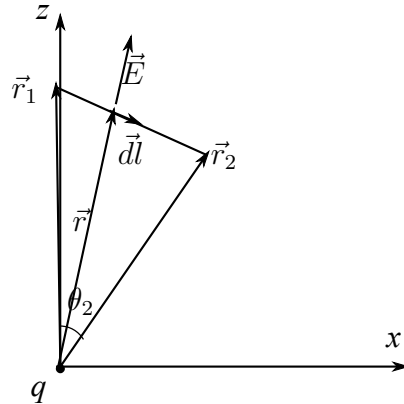


1. Consider a point charge  $q$  at the origin. Find the electric potential at a point  $\vec{r}_2 : (r = r_2, \theta = \theta_2, \phi = 0)$  with respect to the potential at  $\vec{r}_1 : r = r_1, \theta = 0, \phi = 0$  as reference by evaluating the integral  $-\int_{\vec{r}_1}^{\vec{r}_2} \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{l}$  along a straight line joining  $\vec{r}_1$  to  $\vec{r}_2$ .



2. (a) A charge distribution  $\rho_1(\vec{r})$  produces a potential  $\phi_1(\vec{r})$  in a region  $\tau$  and another charge distribution  $\rho_2(\vec{r})$  produces a potential  $\phi_2(\vec{r})$  in the region. Prove that

$$\int_{\tau} \rho_1 \phi_2 d^3\vec{r} = \int_{\tau} \rho_2 \phi_1 d^3\vec{r}$$

How do you interpret this result.

- (b) The interaction energy of two point charges  $q_1$  and  $q_2$  placed at  $\vec{r}_1$  and  $\vec{r}_2$  is given as  $\epsilon_0 \int \vec{E}_1 \cdot \vec{E}_2 d^3\vec{r}$  where the integration is done over the whole space. Prove that this is equal to  $\frac{q_1 q_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r_{12}}$  where  $r_{12} = |\vec{r}_2 - \vec{r}_1|$  as is expected.

3. Prove the mean value theorem in electrostatics which states that in a chargeless region, the average of the potential over the surface of any sphere is equal to the potential at the center of the sphere.

This is true for any regular polyhedron. If the faces of a regular polyhedron having  $n$  faces are maintained at potentials

$V_1, V_2, \dots, V_n$  then the potential at the center of the polyhedron is  $(V_1 + V_2 + \dots + V_n)/n$ . How many such regular polyhedron do you think are possible? Look for platonic solids. Tetrahedron, cube, octahedron, dodecahedron and icosahedron.

4. Prove that in a chargeless region electrostatic potential cannot have a maxima or a minima.

5. A chargeless region is bounded by two conducting surfaces.

(a) If a charge  $Q_1$  is placed on conductor 1 while 2 is chargeless the potential in the region is given by the function  $\Phi_1(x, y, z)$ . If a charge  $Q_2$  is placed on conductor 2 while 1 is chargeless the potential in the region is given by the function  $\Phi_2(x, y, z)$ .

Now if charge  $Q_1$  is placed on conductor 1 and charge  $Q_2$  is placed on 2 prove that the potential in the region will be given by the function  $\Phi = \Phi_1 + \Phi_2$ .

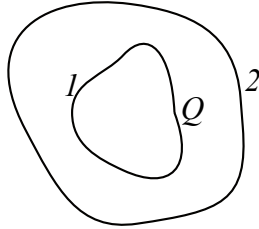
(b) If conductor 1 is maintained at potential  $V_1$  and 2 is grounded the potential in the region is given by the function  $\Phi_1(x, y, z)$ . If conductor 2 is maintained at potential  $V_2$  and 1 is grounded the potential in the region is given by the function  $\Phi_2(x, y, z)$ . Now if conductor 1 is maintained at potential  $V_1$  and conductor 2 is maintained at potential  $V_2$  prove that the potential in the region will be given by the function  $\Phi = \Phi_1 + \Phi_2$ .

This result can be extended to a region bounded by any number of conductors.

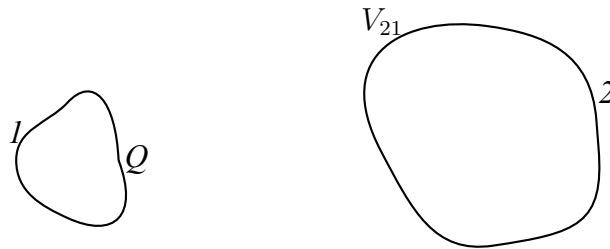
6. A conducting sphere of radius  $a$  is concentrically surrounded by another conducting spherical shell of radius  $b$ .

(a) A charge  $Q$  is placed on the inner conducting sphere. What will be the potential over the outer sphere.

- (b) Instead if the charge  $Q$  is placed over the outer shell, what will be the potential of the inner sphere?
- (c) How will your answer change if the shapes of the conductors were not spherical but arbitrary.



- (d) In general if we have two conducting surfaces  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ , when a charge  $Q$  is placed on conductor 1, the potential on conductor 2 is found to be  $V_{21}$ . Whereas when the charge  $Q$  is placed on conductor 2 the potential on conductor 1 is found to be  $V_{12}$ . Prove that  $V_{12} = V_{21}$ .



7. Two infinitely long wires running parallel to the  $x$  axis carry uniform charge densities  $+\lambda$  and  $-\lambda$ .
- (a) Find the potential at any point using the origin as the reference.
- (b) Show that the equipotential surfaces are circular cylinders. Locate the axis and radius of the cylinder corresponding to a given potential  $V_0$ .