

**Jackson 3.3.**

- (a) We're going to exploit the azimuthal symmetry of the problem so we can write the potential as the general solution

$$\Phi(r, \theta) = \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} (A_{\ell} r^{\ell} + B_{\ell} r^{-\ell-1}) P_{\ell}(\cos \theta) \quad (1)$$

Next, we divide the space  $r > R$  into two regions: one for  $\theta < \pi/2$  and another for  $\theta > \pi/2$ , which indicate the upper and lower parts of the disk (recall that  $\theta = \pi/2$ ,  $r \in [0, R]$  constitute the disk). We avoid blowing up as  $r \rightarrow \infty$  so we set all  $A_{\ell} = 0$ . Now, there are two sets of coefficients we must solve, one for the upper and one for the lower, so let's indicate them with  $B_{\ell}$  for the upper and  $B_{\ell, \text{lower}}$  for the lower.

Next, we apply symmetry of the potential in the upper and lower regions in order to match the boundary conditions at  $\theta = \pi/2$ . This allows us to write

$$\Phi(z) = \Phi(-z) \rightarrow \Phi(\cos \theta) = \Phi_{\text{lower}}(\cos \theta) \quad (2)$$

$$\sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} B_{\ell} r^{-\ell-1} P_{\ell}(\cos \theta) = \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} B_{\ell, \text{lower}} r^{-\ell-1} P_{\ell}(-\cos \theta) \quad (3)$$

But then,  $P_{\ell}$  is even for even  $\ell$  and odd for odd  $\ell$ , so we can write the relation between the lower and upper coefficients as  $B_{\ell, \text{lower}} = B_{\ell}(-1)^{\ell}$ .

At this point, we exhausted the conditions available for  $r > R$ . We really can't do much in answering  $B_{\ell}$  unless we start answering  $r < R$ , so let's go ahead and do that.

- (b) For the region  $r < R$ , we follow the same steps in (a). We divide the region into upper ( $\theta < \pi/2$ ) and lower ( $\theta > \pi/2$ ), prevent the potential from blowing up as  $r \rightarrow 0$  (which leads us to  $B_{\ell, \text{in}} = 0$ ), and apply symmetry to the upper and lower regions. Summarizing our findings, we get

$$\Phi(r, \theta) = \begin{cases} \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} B_{\ell} r^{-\ell-1} P_{\ell}(\cos \theta) & r > R \ \& \ \theta < \pi/2 \\ \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} B_{\ell} r^{-\ell-1} (-1)^{\ell} P_{\ell}(\cos \theta) & r > R \ \& \ \theta > \pi/2 \\ \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} A_{\ell} r^{\ell} P_{\ell}(\cos \theta) & r < R \ \& \ \theta < \pi/2 \\ \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} A_{\ell} r^{\ell} (-1)^{\ell} P_{\ell}(\cos \theta) & r < R \ \& \ \theta > \pi/2 \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

Another condition we can place is that for  $r < R$  and  $\theta = \pi/2$ , the potential should be  $V$ :

$$V = \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} A_{\ell} r^{\ell} P_{\ell}(\cos \pi/2) \quad (5)$$

$$V = \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} A_{\ell} r^{\ell} (-1)^{\ell} P_{\ell}(\cos \pi/2) \quad (6)$$

Since there are no higher-order  $r$  terms present in the LHS, the constant term  $A_0 = V$ , which would cause the summation for the higher terms to vanish. We can then conclude that  $A_{\ell} = 0$  for  $\ell > 0$ . We can relax this condition by noting that  $P_{\ell}(0) = 0$  for all odd  $\ell$ , so that we only collect the odd terms for which  $A_{\ell} \neq 0$ . We then update our potential for  $r < R$ :

$$\Phi(r < R, \theta) = \begin{cases} V + \sum_{\ell=1,3,5,\dots}^{\infty} A_{\ell} r^{\ell} P_{\ell}(\cos \theta) & \theta < \pi/2 \\ V - \sum_{\ell=1,3,5,\dots}^{\infty} A_{\ell} r^{\ell} P_{\ell}(\cos \theta) & \theta > \pi/2 \end{cases} \quad (7)$$

We then match the potentials at  $r = R$  and invoke orthogonality in order to drop the higher even terms for the solution in  $r > R$ . We can then rewrite the solution to make it symmetric to the solution in  $r < R$ :

$$\Phi(r > R, \theta) = \begin{cases} \frac{B_0}{r} + \sum_{\ell=1,3,5,\dots}^{\infty} B_{\ell} r^{-\ell-1} P_{\ell}(\cos \theta) & \theta < \pi/2 \\ \frac{B_0}{r} - \sum_{\ell=1,3,5,\dots}^{\infty} B_{\ell} r^{-\ell-1} P_{\ell}(\cos \theta) & \theta > \pi/2 \end{cases} \quad (8)$$

We start to match the solution at  $r = R$ :

$$\frac{B_0}{R} + \sum_{\ell=1,3,5,\dots}^{\infty} B_{\ell} R^{-\ell-1} P_{\ell}(\cos \theta) = V + \sum_{\ell=1,3,5,\dots}^{\infty} A_{\ell} R^{-\ell-1} P_{\ell}(\cos \theta) \quad (9)$$

$$\frac{B_0}{R} - \sum_{\ell=1,3,5,\dots}^{\infty} B_{\ell} R^{-\ell-1} P_{\ell}(\cos \theta) = V - \sum_{\ell=1,3,5,\dots}^{\infty} A_{\ell} R^{-\ell-1} P_{\ell}(\cos \theta) \quad (10)$$

which allows us to see the relation between  $B_\ell$  and  $A_\ell$ :  $B_0 = VR$  and  $B_\ell = A_\ell R^{2\ell+1}$ , leaving us with determining  $A_\ell$ . It turns out we can find these coefficients by using the discontinuity of the electric field across the plate:

$$(\mathbf{E}_2 - \mathbf{E}_1) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}_{12} = \frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0} \quad (11)$$

$$(\mathbf{E}_{\text{in, lower}} - \mathbf{E}_{\text{in, upper}}) \cdot \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = \frac{\sigma}{\epsilon_0} \quad (12)$$

We are then given the information that  $\sigma \propto 1/\sqrt{R^2 - \rho^2}$ . We just need to find the constant of proportionality. We can do this by using Coulomb's law at the origin and setting it equal to  $V$ :

$$V = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int \frac{\sigma(\mathbf{x}')}{|\mathbf{x}'|} da' \quad (13)$$

Set  $C$  to be the proportionality constant and expand the integral in 2D spherical coordinates:

$$V = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^R \frac{C}{r' \sqrt{R^2 - r'^2}} r' dr' d\varphi' \quad (14)$$

$$= \frac{C}{2\epsilon_0} \int_0^R \frac{dr'}{\sqrt{R^2 - r'^2}} \quad (15)$$

$$= \frac{C}{2\epsilon_0} \left[ \arcsin \frac{r'}{R} \right]_0^R = \frac{C}{2\epsilon_0} \frac{\pi}{2} \quad (16)$$

which makes  $C = \frac{4\epsilon_0 V}{\pi}$ . Going back to the discontinuity condition,

$$-\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \Phi_{\text{in, lower}}}{\partial \theta} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \Phi_{\text{in, upper}}}{\partial \theta} = \frac{4V}{\pi} \frac{1}{\sqrt{R^2 - r^2}} \quad (17)$$

$$-\frac{\partial \Phi_{\text{in, lower}}}{\partial \theta} + \frac{\partial \Phi_{\text{in, upper}}}{\partial \theta} = \frac{4V}{\pi} \frac{r}{R} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{r}{R}\right)^2}} \quad (18)$$

We then evaluate the derivatives using the following relations for  $P_\ell$ :

$$\left. \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} P_\ell(\cos \theta) \right|_{\theta=\pi/2} = - \left. \frac{\partial}{\partial x} P_\ell(x) \right|_{x=0} \quad (19)$$

$$= \left. \frac{\ell x P_\ell(x) - \ell P_{\ell-1}(x)}{x^2 - 1} \right|_{x=0} \quad (20)$$

so that when we simplify it, the discontinuity equation becomes

$$-2 \sum_{\ell=1,3,5,\dots}^{\infty} A_\ell \left( \frac{r}{R} \right)^\ell (\ell P_{\ell-1}(0)) = \frac{4V}{\pi} \frac{r}{R} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \left( \frac{r}{R} \right)^2}} \quad (21)$$

In order to match coefficients, we need to expand the RHS using the generating function for  $P_\ell$ :  $g(t, x) = (1 - 2xt + t^2)^{1/2} = 1 + \sum_{\ell=1}^{\infty} \frac{(2\ell-1)!!}{(2n)!!} (2xt - t^2)^n = \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} P_\ell(x) t^\ell$  (cf. Arfken 6th, equation (12.4-5)). Rewriting, we get

$$-2 \sum_{\ell=1,3,5,\dots}^{\infty} A_\ell \left( \frac{r}{R} \right)^\ell (\ell P_{\ell-1}(0)) = \frac{4V}{\pi} \sum_{\ell=1,3,5,\dots}^{\infty} (-1)^{(\ell-1)/2} \left( \frac{r}{R} \right)^\ell (\ell P_{\ell-1}(0)) \quad (22)$$

which tells us that  $A_\ell = \frac{2V}{\pi \ell} (-1)^{(\ell-1)/2}$ . Thus the particular solution for both (a) and (b) is

$$\Phi(r, \theta) = \begin{cases} \frac{VR}{r} + \frac{2V}{\pi} \sum_{\ell=1,3,5,\dots}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{(\ell-1)/2}}{\ell} \left( \frac{R}{r} \right)^{\ell+1} P_\ell(\cos \theta) & r > R \text{ \& } \theta < \pi/2 \\ \frac{VR}{r} - \frac{2V}{\pi} \sum_{\ell=1,3,5,\dots}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{(\ell-1)/2}}{\ell} \left( \frac{R}{r} \right)^{\ell+1} P_\ell(\cos \theta) & r > R \text{ \& } \theta > \pi/2 \\ V + \frac{2V}{\pi} \sum_{\ell=1,3,5,\dots}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{(\ell-1)/2}}{\ell} \left( \frac{r}{R} \right)^{\ell+1} P_\ell(\cos \theta) & r < R \text{ \& } \theta < \pi/2 \\ V - \frac{2V}{\pi} \sum_{\ell=1,3,5,\dots}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{(\ell-1)/2}}{\ell} \left( \frac{r}{R} \right)^{\ell+1} P_\ell(\cos \theta) & r > R \text{ \& } \theta > \pi/2 \end{cases} \quad (23)$$

- (c) To obtain the capacitance, we first need the total charge which can be obtained by integrating  $\sigma = \frac{4\epsilon_0 V}{\pi \sqrt{R^2 - r^2}}$  over all space and dividing this by the constant potential  $V$ :

$$Q = \frac{4\epsilon_0 V}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\pi \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{\sqrt{R^2 - r'^2}} \frac{\delta(\theta' - \pi/2)}{r'} r'^2 \sin \theta' dr' d\theta' d\varphi' \quad (24)$$

$$= 8\epsilon_0 V \int_0^R \frac{r' dr'}{\sqrt{R^2 - r'^2}} \quad (25)$$

which gives us  $Q = 8\epsilon_0 V R$ , and thus,  $C = Q/V = 8\epsilon_0 R$ .

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**Jackson 3.5** The equivalence of the two solutions can be proven indirectly by solving the same problem and invoking the uniqueness of solutions.

- (a) This solution comes from using the Green function method. Recall the general solution to the Green function method:

$$\Phi(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int \rho(\mathbf{x}') G(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') d^3\mathbf{x}' - \frac{1}{4\pi} \oint \left( \Phi(\mathbf{x}') \frac{dG}{dn'} \right) da' \quad (1)$$

There's no charge/charge density present, so the first term vanishes. For a hollow sphere of radius  $a$  and a boundary condition  $\Phi(r = a, \theta, \varphi) = V(\theta, \varphi)$ , we can immediately deduce the Green's function using the method of images:

$$G(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \frac{1}{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'|} - \frac{1}{\left| \frac{x'}{a} \mathbf{x} - \frac{a}{x'} \mathbf{x}' \right|} \quad (2)$$

Converting into spherical coordinates,

$$G(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 + x'^2 - 2xx' \cos \gamma}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{\frac{x'^2}{a^2} x^2 + a^2 - 2xx' \cos \gamma}} \quad (3)$$

where  $\cos \gamma = \cos \theta \cos \theta' + \sin \theta \sin \theta' \cos(\varphi - \varphi')$ . To complete our solution, we also need the normal derivative of the (spherical) Green's function evaluated at the sphere's surface. Since we're looking at the potential inside, we need a negative (towards the origin) normal:

$$\left. \frac{dG}{dn'} \right|_{x'=a} = - \frac{\partial}{\partial x'} \left[ \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 + x'^2 - 2xx' \cos \gamma}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{\frac{x'^2}{a^2} x^2 + a^2 - 2xx' \cos \gamma}} \right]_{x'=a} \quad (4)$$

$$= - \left[ \frac{(2x' - 2x \cos \gamma)}{2(x^2 + x'^2 - 2xx' \cos \gamma)^{3/2}} - \frac{2 \frac{x^2}{a^2} x' - 2x \cos \gamma}{2 \left( \frac{x^2}{a^2} x'^2 + a^2 - 2xx' \cos \gamma \right)^{3/2}} \right]_{x'=a} \quad (5)$$

$$= \frac{x^2 - a^2}{a(x^2 + a^2 - 2ax \cos \gamma)^{3/2}} \quad (6)$$

Plugging this back to the general solution, we get

$$\Phi(\mathbf{x}) = -\frac{1}{4\pi} \oint V(\theta', \varphi') \frac{x^2 - a^2}{a(x^2 + a^2 - 2ax \cos \gamma)^{3/2}} da' \quad (7)$$

We can convert the differential area  $da'$  into its equivalent differential surface solid angle  $a^2 d\Omega'$ . Simplifying, we get

$$\Phi(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{a(a^2 - r^2)}{4\pi} \int \frac{V(\theta', \varphi')}{(r^2 + a^2 - 2ar \cos \gamma)^{3/2}} d\Omega' \quad (8)$$

- (b) We then use an alternate method to solve the same problem. Using Laplace's equation (no charges present), we start with the general solution (exploiting azimuthal symmetry):

$$\Phi(r, \theta, \varphi) = \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-\ell}^{\ell} (A_{\ell m} r^{\ell} + B_{\ell m} r^{-\ell-1}) Y_{\ell m}(\theta, \varphi) \quad (9)$$

Since we're solving the potential inside the sphere, we want the potential to be finite even as  $r \rightarrow 0$ , so all  $B_{\ell m} = 0$ . Applying the boundary condition  $\Phi(r = a, \theta, \varphi) = V(\theta, \varphi)$ , we get

$$V(\theta, \varphi) = \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-\ell}^{\ell} A_{\ell m} a^{\ell} Y_{\ell m}(\theta, \varphi) \quad (10)$$

We then kill the summations by using the orthogonality relations for the spherical harmonics:

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{\pi} Y_{\ell' m'}^*(\theta, \varphi) Y_{\ell m}(\theta, \varphi) \sin \theta d\theta d\varphi = \delta_{\ell' \ell} \delta_{m' m} \quad (11)$$

Thus, we multiply both sides by  $Y_{\ell' m'}^* \sin \theta$  and integrate in  $\theta \in [0, \pi]$  and  $\varphi \in [0, 2\pi]$  to get

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{\pi} Y_{\ell m}^*(\theta, \varphi) V(\theta, \varphi) \sin \theta d\theta d\varphi = A_{\ell m} a^{\ell} \quad (12)$$

So that our full solution becomes

$$\Phi(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-\ell}^{\ell} A_{\ell m} \left(\frac{r}{a}\right)^{\ell} Y_{\ell m}(\theta, \varphi), \quad A_{\ell m} = \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{\pi} Y_{\ell m}^*(\theta', \varphi') V(\theta', \varphi') \sin \theta' d\theta' d\varphi' \quad (13)$$

$$= \int d\Omega' Y_{\ell m}^*(\theta, \varphi) V(\theta, \varphi) \quad (14)$$

which is equivalent to the Green's function solution since we solved the same problem.





**Jackson 3.12** In this problem, we are free to exploit the azimuthal symmetry again, so we tweak the 3D Laplace equation in cylindrical coordinates to yield no  $\varphi$  term. Recall the ansatz  $\Phi(\rho, \varphi, z) = R(\rho)\phi(\varphi)Z(z)$ . Then the Laplace equation becomes

$$\nabla^2 \Phi = \frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial^2 R}{\partial \rho^2} + \frac{1}{R\rho} \frac{\partial R}{\partial \rho} + \frac{1}{Z} \frac{\partial^2 Z}{\partial z^2} = 0. \quad (1)$$

- (a) Because we have no  $\varphi$  terms in the equation, the two former terms must be equal to the negative of the third term. This implies that their sum must be a constant. Let that constant be  $-k^2$ ,  $k > 0$ . Then

$$\frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial^2 R}{\partial \rho^2} + \frac{1}{R\rho} \frac{\partial R}{\partial \rho} = -k^2 \quad (2)$$

$$\frac{1}{Z} \frac{\partial^2 Z}{\partial z^2} = k^2 \quad (3)$$

We can easily solve the equation for  $Z(z)$ :

$$Z(z) = \sum_k A_k \exp(kz) + B_k \exp(-kz) \quad (4)$$

We then see that we can easily eliminate one of the integration constants by letting the potential be finite as  $z \rightarrow \infty$ , so that  $A_k = 0$ . We next solve  $R(\rho)$  with the remaining equation from earlier:

$$\frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial^2 R}{\partial \rho^2} + \frac{1}{R\rho} \frac{\partial R}{\partial \rho} + k^2 = 0 \quad (5)$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 R}{\partial \rho^2} + \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial R}{\partial \rho} + k^2 R = 0 \quad (6)$$

We rescale the problem to solve  $k\rho$  that enables us to show that the solution is (cf. Arfken 6th equation 11.22a):

$$R(\rho) = J_0(k\rho) \quad (7)$$

We now expand the possibilities of  $k$ , from being a discrete spectrum to a continuous one, and write the whole solution as

$$\Phi(\rho, z) = \int_0^\infty B(k) \exp(-kz) J_0(k\rho) dk \quad (8)$$

for which we limit the values of  $k$  in order to prevent writing  $\exp(-kz)$ . Now we apply the boundary condition at  $z = 0$  and  $\rho < a$ :

$$\Phi(\rho < a, z = 0) = V(\rho < a) = \int_0^\infty B(k) J_0(k\rho) dk \quad (9)$$

We then use the integral killer: a Dirac delta from the orthogonality relations of the Bessel function of the first kind (eq. 3.108 of Jackson 3rd or eq. 11.59 of Arfken 6th):

$$\int_0^\infty x J_0(kx) J_0(k'x) dx = \frac{1}{k} \delta(k' - k) \quad (3.108)$$

Thus, we multiply both sides by  $\rho J_0(k'\rho)$  and integrate in  $\rho$  from 0 to  $a$ :

$$\int_0^a \rho J_0(k'\rho) V d\rho = \frac{1}{k'} B(k') \quad (10)$$

so that our potential becomes

$$\Phi(\rho, z) = V \int_0^\infty \left( \int_0^a k\rho' J_0(k\rho') d\rho' \right) e^{-kz} J_0(k\rho) dk \quad (11)$$

which can be simplified further by recalling the Bessel identity  $k \int_0^a \rho J_0(k\rho) d\rho = a J_1(ka)$  so that

$$\Phi(\rho, z) = Va \int_0^\infty e^{-kz} J_1(ka) J_0(k\rho) dk \quad (12)$$

(b) At  $\rho = 0$ , equation (11) reduces to the following form:

$$\Phi(\rho = 0, z) = V \int_0^\infty \int_0^a k\rho' J_0(k\rho') e^{-kz} dk d\rho' \quad (13)$$

We can regroup terms in order to obtain a familiar expression involving  $J_0$ :

$$\Phi(\rho = 0, z) = V J_0(0) \int_0^a \rho' \left[ \int_0^\infty k e^{-kz} J_0(k\rho') dk \right] d\rho' \quad (14)$$

$$= V \int_0^a \rho' \left[ -\frac{\partial}{\partial z} \int_0^\infty e^{-kz} J_0(k\rho') dk \right] d\rho' \quad (15)$$

$$= V \int_0^a \left[ -\frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{\rho'^2 + z^2}} \right) \right] d\rho' \quad (16)$$

$$= Vz \int_0^a \frac{\rho' d\rho'}{(\rho'^2 + z^2)^{3/2}} \quad (17)$$

where we used Feynman's trick of differentiating under the integral sign as well as the form of the generating function used for  $J_0$ . Then, we let  $r = \rho'^2 + z^2$ ,  $dr = 2\rho'd\rho'$ ,  $\rho' = 0 \rightarrow r = z^2$  and  $\rho' = a \rightarrow r = a^2 + z^2$ , and the above integral simplifies to

$$\Phi(\rho = 0, z) = \frac{Vz}{2} \int_{z^2}^{a^2+z^2} r^{-3/2} dr \quad (18)$$

$$= -Vz \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{r}} \right) \Big|_{z^2}^{a^2+z^2} \quad (19)$$

Which, when simplified, gives us  $\Phi(\rho = 0, z) = V \left( 1 - \frac{z}{\sqrt{a^2 + z^2}} \right)$ .

- (c) When we transfer our point of inquiry to the edge of the disk, we let  $\rho = a$  in equation (12):

$$\Phi(\rho = a, z) = Va \int_0^\infty e^{-kz} J_1(ak) J_0(ak) dk \quad (20)$$

Using tables of integrals involving Bessel functions (Okui, 1974)<sup>1</sup>, we get to simplify this integral directly using the complete elliptic integral:

$$\int_0^\infty e^{-px} J_1(ax) J_0(ax) dx = -\frac{pk}{2\pi a^2} K(k) + \frac{1}{2a} \quad (\text{LU 317})$$

Here,  $k^2 = \frac{4a^2}{p^2 + a^2}$  and  $K(k)$  is the complete elliptic integral of the first kind. Thus, applying back the equation earlier, we get

$$\Phi(\rho = a, z) = Va \left( -\frac{kz}{2\pi a^2} K(k) + \frac{1}{2a} \right) = \frac{V}{2} \left( 1 - \frac{kz}{\pi a} K(k) \right) \quad (21)$$

where  $k = \frac{4a^2}{z^2 + 4a^2}$  and  $K(k)$  is the complete elliptic integral of the first kind, obtained by solving Jacobi's elliptic equation:  $K(k^2) \equiv \int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{d\vartheta}{\sqrt{1 - k^2 \sin^2 \vartheta}}$ .

■

<sup>1</sup>[https://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/jres/78B/jresv78Bn3p113\\_A1b.pdf](https://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/jres/78B/jresv78Bn3p113_A1b.pdf)

**Jackson 3.19** We are invited to compare this problem with the configurations in Problem 3 (3.12) as well as Problem 3.18 (not included in this problem set). Recall that in 3.12 we considered an infinite plane in  $z = 0$  that has a circular conducting disk of radius  $a$  centered on the origin, with an insulating ring that keeps it from redistributing its constant potential  $V$  to the grounded plane. For 3.18, we modify this configuration by placing a similar conducting disk-conducting plane configuration at  $z = L$  and leaving the plane at  $z = 0$  fully grounded. In this problem, we modify the system yet again by removing the disk and replacing the plane with a full conducting one, both at  $z = 0$  and  $z = L$ . We then place a point charge  $q$  at the  $z = z_0$  for which  $0 < z_0 < L$ . The potential and induced charges can then be solved by exploiting Green's reciprocity theorem.

- (a) Recall Green's reciprocity theorem (Problem 1.12) which allows us to determine charge densities and potentials of one volume with the knowledge from another volume:

$$\int_V \rho' \Phi \, dV + \int_S \sigma' \Phi \, dA = \int_V \rho \Phi' \, dV + \int_S \sigma \Phi' \, dA \quad (1)$$

where  $\rho$  here refers to the volume charge densities and not the radial cylindrical coordinate (which we assign to  $r$ ). We then get all the unprimed variables and assign to them the configuration presented in Problem 3.18, while 3.19 gets assigned to the primed ones. For problem 3.18,  $\rho(r, z) = 0$ ,  $\Phi(r, z = 0) = 0$ ,  $\Phi(r > a, z = L) = 0$ ,  $\Phi(r < a, z = L) = 0$ , and  $\Phi(r, 0 < z < L) = V \int_0^\infty dk \, a J_1(ak) J_0(rk) \frac{\sinh(kz)}{\sinh(kL)}$ . For problem 3.19,  $\rho(r, z) = q\delta(r - 0)\delta(z - z_0)$  and  $\Phi(r, z = 0, L) = 0$ . To get the induced charge density, we plug the relevant values to Green's reciprocity theorem to solve  $\sigma'$  which, when integrated, will yield the induced charge.

$$\begin{aligned} \int_V \rho' \Phi \, dV + \int_S \sigma' \Phi \, dA &= \int_V \cancel{\rho \Phi'} \, dV + \int_S \cancel{\sigma \Phi'} \, dA \quad (2) \\ q \left[ \int_0^\infty dk \left( \int_0^\infty J_0(rk) \delta(r) \, dr \int_0^L \frac{\sinh(kz)}{\sinh(kL)} \delta(z - z_0) \, dz \right) a J_1(ak) \right] \\ &+ V \int_{z=L, r < a} \sigma'(r, z) \, dA = 0 \quad (3) \end{aligned}$$

Integrating the surface charge density, we get the induced charge on the circular disk at  $z = L$ :

$$\int_{z=L, r < a} \sigma'(r, z) \, dA = -q \int_0^\infty dk \, a J_1(ak) \frac{\sinh(kz_0)}{\sinh(kL)} \frac{V}{V} = -\frac{q}{V} \Phi(z_0, 0) \quad (4)$$

- (b) We then try to extract  $\sigma'$  from the integral. We can do this by expanding the surface integral along  $r$  and  $\varphi$ :

$$\int_{z=L, r<a} \sigma'(r, z) dA = \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^a \sigma(r, L) r dr d\varphi = 2\pi \int_0^a \sigma'(r, L) r dr \quad (5)$$

We can extract  $\sigma'$  by differentiating with respect to  $a$  and using the first fundamental theorem of calculus to get  $2\pi a\sigma'(a, L)$ . We then do the same to the second integral in equation (4):

$$2\pi a\sigma'(a, L) = -q \int_0^\infty dk \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial a} aJ_1(ak) \right) \frac{\sinh(kz_0)}{\sinh(kL)} \quad (6)$$

We then use the recursion relation for Bessel functions of the first kind:  $\frac{d}{dx}(x^n J_n(x)) = x^n J_{n-1}(x)$  so we can simplify the product rule in the right-hand side:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial a}(aJ_1(ak)) = \cancel{J_1(ak)} + akJ_0(ak) = akJ_0(ak) \quad (7)$$

Thus, we get

$$\sigma'(a, L) = -\frac{q}{2\pi} \int_0^\infty dk kJ_0(ak) \frac{\sinh(kz_0)}{\sinh(kL)} \quad (8)$$

and in general  $r$ ,

$$\boxed{\sigma'(r, L) = -\frac{q}{2\pi} \int_0^\infty dk kJ_0(kr) \frac{\sinh(kz_0)}{\sinh(kL)}} \quad (9)$$

- (c) Lastly, when we calculate the charge density at  $r = 0$ ,

$$\sigma'(r, L) = -\frac{q}{2\pi} \int_0^\infty dk k \frac{\sinh(kz_0)}{\sinh(kL)} \quad (10)$$

We can solve this via contour integral methods. Consider the integral of the fraction first before differentiating under the integral sign to include the remaining  $k$  factor. We first integrate  $\frac{\sinh(kz_0)}{\sinh(kL)}$  over  $k \in [0, \infty]$ . We do this by considering that the integrand is even, so we solve  $\frac{1}{2} \int_{-\infty}^\infty \frac{\sinh(kz_0)}{\sinh(kL)} dk$ . We then shift to the complex plane and consider the contour integral  $\oint_C \frac{\sinh(zz_0)}{\sinh(zL)} dz$ , where  $C$  is the rectangular indented contour with

length  $2R$  from  $-R$  to  $R$  and width  $L/2$  from  $0$  to  $iL/2$ . The indent is a semicircle of radius  $\varepsilon$  centered on  $z = 0$  that will allow us to bypass the singularity there. Then, by Cauchy's theorem,

$$\oint_C \frac{\sinh(zz_0)}{\sinh(zL)} dz = 0 \quad (11)$$

which can be expanded into six contour paths, 3 of which will eventually vanish as we let  $R \rightarrow \infty$ :

$$\int_{-R}^{-\varepsilon} \frac{e^{z_0x} - e^{-z_0x}}{e^{Lx} - e^{-Lx}} dx + \int_{\varepsilon}^R \frac{e^{z_0x} - e^{-z_0x}}{e^{Lx} - e^{-Lx}} dx = \int_0^\pi \frac{e^{z_0\varepsilon e^{i\theta}} - e^{-z_0\varepsilon e^{i\theta}}}{e^{L\varepsilon e^{i\theta}} - e^{-L\varepsilon e^{i\theta}}} i\varepsilon e^{i\theta} d\theta \quad (12)$$

Using L'Hopital's rule and simplifying the RHS, we let the limits  $R \rightarrow \infty$  and  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$  to get the desired result:

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{\sinh(xz_0)}{\sinh(Lx)} dx = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\infty}^\infty \frac{\sinh(xz_0)}{\sinh(Lx)} dx = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\pi}{L} \tan\left(\frac{\pi z_0}{2L}\right) \quad (13)$$

We then differentiate equation (13) with respect to  $z_0$  by  $2\ell$  times to arrive at the desired integral:

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{\sinh(xz_0)}{\sinh(Lx)} x^{2\ell} dx = \frac{\partial^{2\ell}}{\partial z_0^{2\ell}} \frac{\pi}{2L} \tan\left(\frac{\pi z_0}{2L}\right) \quad (14)$$

Letting  $\ell = 1/2$ , we arrive at the answer:

$$\boxed{\sigma'(0, L) = -\frac{q}{2\pi} \left[ \left( \frac{\pi}{2L} \right)^2 \sec^2\left(\frac{\pi z_0}{2L}\right) \right] = -\frac{q\pi}{8L^2} \sec^2\left(\frac{\pi z_0}{2L}\right)} \quad (15)$$

■