# Physics 2: Recitations

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# 1 Instructor Information

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### Part I

## **Electrostatics**

## 1 Gravitation and Electromagnetism

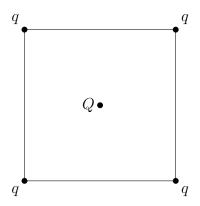
### 2 Coulomb's Law

#### Recitation 1 – Exercise 1.

Four identical charges q are placed in the corners of a square of length a. A fifth charge Q is free to move along the straight line perpendicular to the square plane and passing through its centre. When the charge Q is in the same plane as the other charges, all the forces in the system cancel out.

- 1. Calculate Q for a given q and a.
- 2. Find the force  $\overrightarrow{F(z)}$  acting on the charge Q when it is at height z above the square.

#### Recitation 1 – Solution 1.



Consider q on the top right corner of the square. The total force acting on it is 0. Therefore

$$0 = \frac{kq^2}{a^2} \cos \frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{kq^2}{a^2} \cos \frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{kq^2}{2a^2} + \frac{2kQq}{a^2}$$
$$\therefore Q = -\frac{1 + 2\sqrt{2}}{4}q$$

If Q is at a height z from the plane, the distance between each q and Q is

$$r = \sqrt{z^2 + \left(\frac{a}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^2}$$

Therefore the force of each q on Q is  $\frac{kQq}{r^2}$ .

Due to symmetry, the components of the forces in the z direction will add up, and all other components will cancel out.

Let the angle between the z direction and the line joining q and Q be  $\varphi$ . Therefore, the net force is

$$F = 4\frac{kQq}{r^2}\cos\varphi$$

$$= 4\frac{kQq}{r^2}\frac{z}{r}$$

$$= 4\frac{kQq}{z^2\left(1 + \frac{a^2}{2z^2}\right)^{3/2}}$$

#### Recitation 1 – Exercise 2.

1. A wire of length 3 metre is charged with 2 C m<sup>-1</sup>. What is the wire's total charge?

#### Recitation 1 – Solution 2.

$$\lambda = \frac{Q}{L}$$

$$\therefore Q = L\lambda$$

$$= 6C$$

#### Recitation 1 – Exercise 3.

A wire of length L has the following charge distribution:  $\lambda = \lambda_0 \cos \frac{\pi x}{L}$ , where x is the distance from the wire's edge. What is the wire's total charge?

#### Recitation 1 – Solution 3.

$$\lambda = \frac{dq}{dx}$$

$$\therefore \frac{dq}{dx} = \lambda_0 \cos \frac{\pi x}{L}$$

$$\therefore q = \int_0^L \lambda_0 \cos \frac{\pi x}{L} dx$$

$$= 0$$

#### Recitation 1 – Exercise 4.

A hollow sphere of radius R is uniformly charged with a charge Q. Calculate the charge distribution on the surface of the sphere.

#### Recitation 1 – Solution 4.

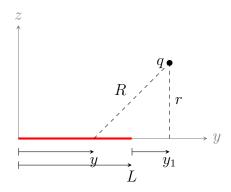
$$\sigma = \frac{Q}{A}$$
$$= \frac{Q}{4\pi R^2}$$

#### Recitation 1 – Exercise 5.

A straight thin wire is uniformly charged with distribution  $\lambda$ . A charge q is positioned at distance  $y_1$  beneath the wire and r away form it.

- 1. Find the force acting on the charge q.
- 2. Show that when the charge is positioned in front of the centre of the wire the  $\hat{y}$  component of the force is cancelled.
- 3. Calculate the force an infinite straight wire will exert on the charge q.

Recitation 1 – Solution 5.



Consider an elemental charge dQ of length dy, at distance y as shown. Let the angle between the line joining dQ and q and the y direction be  $\theta$ .

$$F_y = F\cos\theta$$

$$F_z = F\sin\theta$$

Let

$$a = L + y_1$$

$$\therefore R = \sqrt{r^2 + (a - y)^2}$$

Therefore,

$$\cos \theta = \frac{a - y}{R}$$
$$\sin \theta = \frac{r}{R}$$

Therefore,

$$F_{y} = kq \int_{0}^{L} \frac{\lambda \, dy}{R^{2}} \frac{(a-y)}{R}$$

$$= kq \lambda \int_{0}^{L} \frac{dy(a-y)}{((a-y)^{2} + r^{2})^{3/2}}$$

$$= kq \lambda \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{y_{1}^{2} + r^{2}}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{a^{2} + r^{2}}}\right)$$

$$F_z = kq \int_0^L \frac{\lambda \, \mathrm{d}y}{R^2} \frac{r}{R}$$

$$= kq \lambda \int_0^L \frac{r \, \mathrm{d}y}{\left((a-y)^2 + r^2\right)^{3/2}}$$

$$= \frac{kq\lambda}{r} \left(\frac{a}{\sqrt{r^2 + a^2}} - \frac{y_1}{\sqrt{r^2 + y_1^2}}\right)$$

When the charge is positioned above the centre of the wire,

$$y_1 = -\frac{L}{2}$$
$$\therefore a = \frac{L}{2}$$

Therefore,

$$F_{y} = kq\lambda \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{y_{1}^{2} + r^{2}}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{a^{2} + r^{2}}} \right)$$

$$= kq\lambda \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{-\frac{L^{2}}{2} + r^{2}}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{\frac{L^{2}}{2} + r^{2}}} \right)$$

$$= 0$$

$$F_z = \frac{kq\lambda}{r} \left( \frac{a}{\sqrt{r^2 + a^2}} - \frac{y_1}{\sqrt{r^2 + y_1^2}} \right)$$

$$= \frac{kq\lambda}{r} \left( \frac{\frac{L}{2}}{\sqrt{r^2 + \frac{L^2}{2}}} - \frac{-\frac{L}{2}}{\sqrt{r^2 + -\frac{L^2}{2}}} \right)$$

$$= \frac{kq\lambda}{r} \left( \frac{L}{\sqrt{r^2 + \frac{L^2}{2}}} \right)$$

$$= \frac{kq\lambda}{r} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{\frac{1}{4} + \left(\frac{r}{L}\right)^2}} \right)$$

If the line is infinite,  $L \to \infty$ . Therefore

$$F_z = \frac{kq\lambda}{r} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{\frac{1}{4} + \left(\frac{r}{L}\right)^2}} \right)$$
$$= \frac{2kq\lambda}{r}$$

## 3 Gauss' Law

#### Recitation 2 – Exercise 2.

A ball of radius a is charged with distribution  $\rho = \rho_0 \frac{r}{a}$ . Find the electric field everywhere.

#### Recitation 2 – Solution 2.

Consider a spherical Gaussian surface of radius r.

If  $r \leq a$ , the charge in the interior of the Gaussian surface is

$$q(r) = \int_{0}^{r} \frac{\rho_0 r}{a} \cdot 4\pi r^2 dr$$
$$= \frac{\rho_0}{a} \pi r^4$$

Therefore, by Gauss' Law,

$$E \cdot 4\pi r^2 = \frac{q(r)}{\varepsilon_0}$$

$$\therefore E = \frac{\rho_0 \pi r^4}{4\pi a r^2}$$

$$= \frac{\rho_0 r^2}{4a\varepsilon_0}$$

If  $r \geq a$ , the entire ball of charge is in the interior of the Gaussian surface. Therefore,

$$Q = q(a)$$

$$= \frac{\rho_0}{a} \cdot \pi a^4$$

$$= \rho_0 \pi a^3$$

Therefore, by Gauss' Law,

$$E \cdot 4\pi r^2 = \frac{Q}{\varepsilon_0}$$

$$\therefore E = \frac{Q}{4\pi r^2 \varepsilon_0}$$

$$= \frac{\rho_0 a^3}{4r^2 \varepsilon_0}$$

Therefore,

$$E = \begin{cases} \frac{\rho_0 r^2}{4a\varepsilon_0} & ; \quad r \le a \\ \frac{\rho_0 a^3}{4r^2\varepsilon} & ; \quad r \ge a \end{cases}$$

#### Recitation 2 – Exercise 3.

An infinitely long cylinder of radius a is charged with distribution  $\rho = \rho_0 \frac{r}{a}$ . Find the electric field everywhere.

#### Recitation 2 – Solution 3.

Consider a infinite cylindrical Gaussian surface with radius r. If  $r \leq a$ , the charge in the interior of the Gaussian surface is

$$q(r) = \int_{0}^{r} \frac{\rho_0 r}{a} \pi r^2 dr$$
$$= \frac{2\pi \rho_0 L r^3}{3a}$$

Therefore, by Gauss' Law,

$$E \cdot 2\pi r L = \frac{2\pi \rho_0 L r^3}{3a\varepsilon_0}$$
$$\therefore E = \frac{\rho_0 r^2}{3a\varepsilon_0}$$

If  $r \geq a$ , the entire cylinder of charge is in the interior of the Gaussian surface. Therefore,

$$Q = q(a)$$

$$= \frac{2\pi\rho_0 La^3}{3a}$$

$$= \frac{2\pi\rho_0 La^2}{3}$$

Therefore, by Gauss' Law,

$$E \cdot 2\pi r L = \frac{2\pi \rho_0 L a^2}{3\varepsilon_0}$$
$$\therefore E = \frac{\rho_0 a^2}{3\varepsilon_0 r}$$

Therefore,

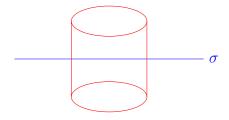
$$E = \begin{cases} \frac{\rho_0 r^2}{3a\varepsilon_0} & ; \quad r \le a \\ \frac{\rho_0 a^2}{3\varepsilon_0 r} & ; \quad r \ge a \end{cases}$$

### Recitation 2 – Exercise 4.

Find the electric field due to a thin infinite plane of uniform charge distribution  $\sigma$ .

#### Recitation 2 – Solution 4.

Consider a cylindrical Gaussian surface, with ends of area A, as shown.



The charge in the interior of the surface is

$$dq = A\sigma$$

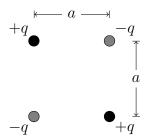
Therefore, by Gauss' Law,

$$E_1 \cdot A_1 + E_2 \cdot A_2 = \frac{A\sigma}{\varepsilon_0}$$
$$\therefore 2EA = \frac{A\sigma}{\varepsilon_0}$$
$$\therefore E = \frac{\sigma}{2\varepsilon_0}$$

## 4 Electric Potential

#### Recitation 3 – Exercise 2.

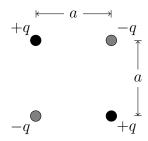
A system of four charges is constructed as shown.



- a) Calculate the work needed to build this system.
- b) What is the potential in the centre of the system?
- c) Calculate the potential in each of the corners (calculate as if there is no charge in the corner you are calculating for).

#### Recitation 3 – Solution 2.

a) Let the positions of the charges be A, B, C, D.



The work done to bring the first charge from infinity to A is

$$W_{\rm A} = 0$$

The work done to bring the first charge from infinity to B is

$$W_{\rm B} = \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{q^2}{a\sqrt{2}}$$

Similarly for the other two charges. Therefore,

$$W = 0 + \frac{q^2}{4\sqrt{2}\pi\varepsilon_0} + \frac{-2q^2}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 a} + \left(\frac{-2q^2}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 a} + \frac{q^2}{4\sqrt{2}\pi\varepsilon_0}\right)$$
$$= \frac{q^2}{2\sqrt{2}\pi\varepsilon_0} - \frac{q^2}{\pi\varepsilon_0 a}$$

$$\begin{split} V_{\text{centre}} &= V_q + V_q + V_{-q} + V_{-q} \\ &= \frac{q}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 \left(\frac{a}{\sqrt{2}}\right)} + \frac{q}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 \left(\frac{a}{\sqrt{2}}\right)} - \frac{q}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 \left(\frac{a}{\sqrt{2}}\right)} - \frac{q}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 \left(\frac{a}{\sqrt{2}}\right)} \\ &= 0 \end{split}$$

c)

$$\begin{split} V_{\mathrm{A}} &= \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{-q}{a} + \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{-q}{a} + \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{q}{\sqrt{2}a} \\ V_{\mathrm{B}} &= \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{-q}{a} + \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{-q}{a} + \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{q}{\sqrt{2}a} \\ V_{\mathrm{C}} &= \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{q}{a} + \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{q}{a} + \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{-q}{\sqrt{2}a} \\ V_{\mathrm{D}} &= \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{q}{a} + \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{q}{a} + \frac{1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \frac{-q}{\sqrt{2}a} \end{split}$$

#### Recitation 3 – Exercise 3.

A ring of radius R is charged with total charge Q.

- a) Calculate the electric field in the centre of the ring.
- b) Calculate the potential in the centre of the ring by integrating the contributions of the infinitesimal charge elements of the ring.

#### Recitation 3 – Solution 3.

a) Due to the symmetry of the ring, the field due to every elemental charge dq will be cancelled out by the field due to a elemental charge diametrically opposite to dq.

$$\overrightarrow{E} = 0$$

$$dV = \frac{dq}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 R}$$
$$\therefore V = \frac{Q}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 R}$$

#### Recitation 3 – Exercise 4.

Calculate the potential resulting from a ball charged with constant volume distribution  $\rho$ . Use the expression

$$\varphi(r_2) - \varphi(r_1) = -\int_{r_1}^{r_2} E(r) \, \mathrm{d}r$$

Repeat the calculation twice:

a) Set 
$$\varphi(r=R)=0$$

b) Set 
$$\varphi(r=\infty)=0$$

#### Recitation 3 – Solution 4.

a) Let 
$$\varphi(r=\infty)=0$$
.

If r > R,

$$E = -\frac{\mathrm{d}\varphi}{\mathrm{d}r}$$

$$\therefore -\frac{\mathrm{d}\varphi}{\mathrm{d}r} = \frac{Q}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 r^2}$$

$$\therefore \int \mathrm{d}\varphi = \int_{\infty}^{r} \frac{Q}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 r^2} \, \mathrm{d}r$$

$$\therefore \varphi(r) - \varphi(\infty) = \frac{Q}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 r} - 0$$

$$\therefore \varphi(r) = \frac{Q}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 r}$$

If r < R,

$$E = \frac{q(r)}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 r^2}$$
$$= \frac{\rho \cdot \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 r^2}$$
$$= \frac{\rho r}{3\varepsilon_0}$$

Therefore

$$E = -\frac{\mathrm{d}\varphi}{\mathrm{d}r}$$

$$\therefore \int \mathrm{d}\varphi = \int_{r}^{R} \frac{\rho}{3\varepsilon_{0}} r \, \mathrm{d}r$$

$$\therefore \varphi(R) - \varphi(r) = \frac{\rho}{6\varepsilon_{0}} \left(r^{2} - R^{2}\right)$$

$$\therefore \varphi(r) = \frac{Q}{4\pi\varepsilon_{0}R} + \frac{\rho\left(R^{2} - r^{2}\right)}{6\varepsilon_{0}}$$

$$= \frac{Q}{8\pi\varepsilon_{0}R} \left(3 - \frac{r^{2}}{R^{2}}\right)$$

b) Let 
$$\varphi(r=R)=0$$
.

$$\therefore \varphi(R) - \varphi(r) = \frac{\rho}{6\varepsilon_0} \left( r^2 - R^2 \right)$$
$$\therefore \varphi(r) = \frac{\rho}{6\varepsilon_0} \left( R^2 - r^2 \right)$$
$$= \frac{Q}{8\pi R \varepsilon_0} \left( 1 - \frac{r^2}{R^2} \right)$$

#### Recitation 4 – Exercise 1.

A point charge Q is surrounded by a spherical grounded shell of radius  $R_1$ .

- 1. What is the charge accumulated on the shell? Where did it come from?
- 2. The entire system is covered with another spherical shell of radius  $R_2$  and charged with q. What will be the charge accumulated on the grounded shell?

#### Recitation 4 – Solution 1.

1. The charge accumulated on the shell comes from the ground. Let the charge on the shell be  $Q_1$ . As the shell is grounded, the net potential on it must be zero.

$$\varphi = \varphi$$
 due to  $Q + \varphi$  due to  $Q'$ 

$$\therefore 0 = \frac{Q}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 R_1} + \frac{Q_1}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 R_1}$$

$$\therefore Q_1 = -Q$$

2. Let the charge on the grounded shell be  $Q_2$ .

$$\varphi = \varphi \text{ due to } Q + \varphi \text{ due to } Q_2 + \varphi \text{ due to } q$$

$$\therefore 0 = \frac{Q}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 R_1} + \frac{Q_2}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 R_1} + \frac{q}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 R_2}$$

$$\therefore Q_2 = Q - \frac{qR_1}{R_2}$$

#### Recitation 4 – Exercise 3.

A point charge Q is set in the center (same distance from all corners) of a perfect tetrahedron. The bottom face of the tetrahedron is uniformly charged with charge density  $\sigma$ .

#### Recitation 4 – Solution 3.

1. Consider a spherical Gaussian surface passing through the vertices of the tetrahedron.

Therefore by Gauss' Law, the total flux passing through the sphere, due to Q is  $\oiint \overrightarrow{E} \cdot dA$ .

Hence, by symmetry, the flux through every surface of the tetrahedron, due to Q is

$$\Phi = \frac{1}{4} \oiint \overrightarrow{E} \cdot dA$$
$$= \frac{1}{4} \frac{Q}{\varepsilon_0}$$

The flux on the bottom face due to the bottom face itself is zero. Therefore the total flux through the bottom face is the flux due to Q only.

- 2. As the charge on Q and the bottom face of the tetrahedron are similar in charge, the force between them is repulsive in nature. Hence, the force on the bottom face is directed downwards.
- 3. Let the area of the bottom face

$$F = (\sigma A)E$$
$$= \sigma(EA)$$

As Q is exactly above the centre of the bottom face, due to symmetry,  $\oiint\overrightarrow{E}\cdot\overrightarrow{\mathrm{d}A}=EA$ 

$$\therefore F = \sigma \left( \iint \overrightarrow{E} \cdot \overrightarrow{dA} \right)$$
$$= F \left( \frac{Q}{4\varepsilon_0} \right)$$

#### Recitation 4 – Exercise 4.

The following electric field is given:

$$\overrightarrow{E} = \alpha y^2 \hat{i} + \alpha (2xy + z^2) \hat{j} + 2\alpha yz \hat{k}$$

Calculate the potential at âČ $\mathring{\mathbf{C}}\mathring{\mathbf{U}}r=(x,y,z)$ , set the potential at the origin to be zero.

#### Recitation 4 - Solution 4.

Let  $\varphi(0,0,0) = 0$ . Therefore,

$$E_x = -\frac{\mathrm{d}\varphi}{\mathrm{d}x}$$

$$= \alpha y^2$$

$$\therefore \varphi = -\alpha x y^2 + f_1(y, z)$$

$$E_y = -\frac{\mathrm{d}\varphi}{\mathrm{d}y}$$

$$= \alpha (2xy + z^2)$$

$$\therefore \varphi = -\alpha x y^2 - \alpha z^2 y + f_1(x, z)$$

$$E_z = -\frac{\mathrm{d}\varphi}{\mathrm{d}z}$$

$$= 2\alpha y z$$

$$\therefore \varphi = -\alpha y z^2 + f_2(x, y)$$

Comparing the three expressions of  $\varphi$ ,

$$\varphi = -\alpha x y^2 - \alpha y z^2 + c$$

As  $\varphi(0,0,0) = 0$ , c = 0. Therefore,

$$\varphi = -\alpha x y^2 - \alpha y z^2$$

#### Recitation 4 – Exercise 5.

A thin rod of length L is charged with a uniform charge density  $\lambda$  is laid along the x-axis.

- 1. Calculate the electric potential along the x-axis (where x > L)
- 2. Calculate the electric field along the x-axis (where x > L)

3. A second identical thin rod is placed along the x-axis at distance L from the edge of the first rod. Calculate the force due to left rod, acting on the right one.

#### Recitation 4 – Solution 5.

1. Consider an elemental charge dq with length dx at a distance x from the origin.

Therefore, the potential at a distance d from the origin is

$$d\varphi = \frac{dq}{4\pi\varepsilon_0(L+d-x)}$$

$$\therefore \int d\varphi = \int_0^L \frac{\lambda \, dx}{4\pi\varepsilon_0(L+d-x)}$$

$$\therefore \varphi = \frac{\lambda}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \ln\left(\frac{L+d}{d}\right)$$

2.

$$dE = \frac{d\varphi}{dr}$$

$$dE = \frac{dq}{4\pi\varepsilon_0(L+d-x)^2}$$

$$E = \frac{\lambda}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \int_{L+d}^d \frac{du}{u^2}$$

$$= \frac{\lambda}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \left(\frac{L}{(L+d)(d)}\right)$$

3. Consider an elemental charge dq with length dx, on the second rod, at a distance x from the end of the first rod.

$$dF = \frac{\lambda}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \left(\frac{L}{(L+x)(x)}\right) dq$$

$$= \frac{\lambda}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \left(\frac{L}{(L+x)(x)}\right) \lambda dx$$

$$\therefore F = \int_L^{2L} \frac{\lambda^2}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \left(\frac{L}{(L+x)(x)}\right) dx$$

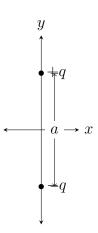
$$= \frac{\lambda^2}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \ln \frac{x}{L+x} \Big|_L^{2L}$$

$$= \frac{\lambda^2}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \left(\ln \frac{2}{3} - \ln \frac{1}{2}\right)$$

$$= \frac{\lambda^2}{4\pi\varepsilon_0} \left(\ln \frac{4}{3}\right)$$

#### Recitation 5 – Exercise 1.

An electric dipole is comprised of two opposite charges q and -q positioned at distance a from each other as shown.



- 1. Calculate the electric field along the y-axis.
- 2. What is the electric field when y >> a?
- 3. Repeat the previous sub-questions for points along the x-axis.

#### Recitation 5 – Solution 1.

1.

$$\overrightarrow{E_y} = \frac{q}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 \left(y - \frac{a}{2}\right)^2} \hat{j} - \frac{q}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 \left(y + \frac{a}{2}\right)^2} \hat{j}$$

$$= \frac{q}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 y^2} \left( \left(1 - \frac{d}{2y}\right)^{-2} - \left(1 - \frac{d}{2y}\right)^{-2} \right) \hat{j}$$

2. By the Binomial theorem, if x << 1,  $(1 \pm x)^n \approx 1 \pm nx$ ). Therefore, as y << d,

$$\left(1 \pm \frac{d}{2y}\right)^2 = \left(1 \pm \frac{2d}{2y}\right)$$

Therefore,

$$\overrightarrow{E_y} = \frac{q}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 y^2} \left( 1 + \frac{d}{y} - 1 + \frac{d}{y} \right) \hat{j}$$

$$= \frac{2(q\hat{j}d)}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 y^2 \cdot y}$$

$$= \frac{2\overrightarrow{p}}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 y^3}$$

3. Let the distance between a point (x,0) and each of the charges be r. Let the angle between the x-axis and the line joining a point (x,0) and +q or -q be  $\theta$ .

Therefore,

$$\sin(\theta) = \frac{d}{2r}$$

$$\overrightarrow{E_x} = -2\frac{q}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 r^2}\sin(\theta)\hat{j}$$

$$= -\frac{qd}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 r^3}\hat{j}$$

$$= -\frac{\overrightarrow{p}}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 r^3}$$

If x >> d, r = d. Therefore,

$$\overrightarrow{E_x} = -\frac{\overrightarrow{p}}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 r^3}$$

#### Recitation 5 – Exercise 2.

Calculate the following expressions using both spherical and Cartesian coordinates

1. 
$$\overrightarrow{\nabla} r = \hat{r}$$

$$2. \ \overrightarrow{\nabla} \frac{1}{r} = -\frac{\hat{r}}{r^2}$$

#### Recitation 5 – Solution 2.

1. Using Cartesian coordinates,

$$\overrightarrow{r} = x\hat{i} + y\hat{j} + z\hat{k}$$

$$\therefore r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{split} \overrightarrow{\nabla}(r) &= \hat{i} \, \frac{\partial r}{\partial x} + \hat{j} \, \frac{\partial r}{\partial y} + \hat{k} \, \frac{\partial r}{\partial z} \\ &= \hat{i} \, \frac{\partial \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}}{\partial x} + \hat{j} \, \frac{\partial \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}}{\partial y} + \hat{k} \, \frac{\partial \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}}{\partial z} \\ &= \hat{i} \, \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}} + \hat{j} \, \frac{y}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}} + \hat{k} \, \frac{z}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}} \\ &= \frac{\overrightarrow{r}}{r} \\ &= \hat{r} \end{split}$$

Using spherical coordinates,

$$\overrightarrow{\nabla}(r) = \hat{r} \frac{\partial \cancel{f}}{\partial r} + \hat{\theta} \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \cancel{f}}{\partial \theta} + \hat{\varphi} \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial \cancel{f}}{\partial \varphi}$$

$$= \hat{r}$$

2. Using Cartesian coordinates,

$$\begin{split} \overrightarrow{\nabla} \left( \frac{1}{r} \right) &= \hat{i} \, \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}} \right) + \hat{j} \, \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}} \right) + \hat{k} \, \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}} \right) \\ &= -\left( \hat{i} \frac{x}{\left( x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \right)^{\frac{3}{2}}} + \hat{j} \frac{y}{\left( x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \right)^{\frac{3}{2}}} + \hat{k} \frac{z}{\left( x^2 + y^2 + z^2 \right)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \right) \\ &= -\frac{\overrightarrow{r}}{r^3} \\ &= -\frac{\hat{r}}{r^2} \end{split}$$

Using spherical coordinates,

$$\overrightarrow{\nabla}\left(\frac{1}{r}\right) = \hat{r}\frac{\partial}{\partial r}\left(\frac{1}{r}\right) + \hat{\theta}\frac{1}{r}\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta}\left(\frac{1}{r}\right) + \hat{\varphi}\frac{1}{r\sin\theta}\frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi}\left(\frac{1}{r}\right)^{0}$$

$$= \hat{r}\frac{-1}{r^{2}}$$

$$= -\frac{\hat{r}}{r^{2}}$$

### 5 Differential Form of Gauss' Law

#### Recitation 5 – Exercise 3.

The following potential is given in cylindrical coordinates

$$\varphi(r) = \begin{cases} -\frac{\rho_0 r^2}{8\varepsilon_0} - \frac{\rho_0 rR}{4\varepsilon_0} & ; \quad r < R \\ -\frac{\rho_0 R^2}{2\varepsilon_0} \ln\left(\frac{r}{R}\right) + c & ; \quad r > R \end{cases}$$

- 1. Find the constant c.
- 2. Calculate the electric field  $\overrightarrow{E}$  everywhere.
- 3. Calculate the total charge, Q, inside a section with height H.
- 4. Calculate the charge density  $\rho$  using the differential Gauss' Law.
- 5. Show that an integral on the density you found , i.e.  $\rho$ , gives the total charge you calculated above.

#### Recitation 5 – Solution 3.

1. In cylindrical coordinates,

$$x = r \cos \varphi$$
$$y = r \sin \varphi$$
$$z = z$$

where  $\varphi$  is the angle between  $\overrightarrow{r}$  and the x-axis. Let

$$-\frac{\rho_0 r^2}{8\varepsilon_0} - \frac{\rho_0 rR}{4\varepsilon_0} = \varphi_1(r)$$
$$-\frac{\rho_0 R^2}{2\varepsilon_0} \ln\left(\frac{r}{R}\right) + c = \varphi_2(r)$$

Therefore,

$$\varphi(r) = \begin{cases} \varphi_1(r) & ; \quad r < R \\ \varphi_2(r) & ; \quad r > R \end{cases}$$

At the surface the values of  $\varphi_1$  and  $\varphi_2$  must be equal. Therefore,

$$\varphi_1(R) = \varphi_2(R)$$

$$\therefore -\frac{\rho_0 R^2}{8\varepsilon_0} - \frac{\rho_0 R \cdot R}{4\varepsilon_0} = -\frac{\rho_0 R^2}{2\varepsilon_0} \ln\left(\frac{R}{R}\right) + c$$

$$\therefore c = -\frac{3\rho_0 R^2}{8\varepsilon_0}$$

2.

$$E_1 = -\frac{\mathrm{d}\varphi_1}{\mathrm{d}r}$$

$$= \frac{\rho_0(r+R)}{4\varepsilon_0}$$

$$E_2 = -\frac{\mathrm{d}\varphi_2}{\mathrm{d}r}$$

$$= \frac{\rho_0 R^2}{2\varepsilon_0 r}$$

3. Consider a cylindrical Gaussian surface with radius just larger than R and height H.

Therefore by Gauss' Law,

4. By the differential form of Gauss' Law,

$$\overrightarrow{\nabla} \cdot \overrightarrow{E} = \frac{\rho}{\varepsilon_0}$$

$$\overrightarrow{\nabla} \cdot \overrightarrow{E} = \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (rE_r) + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi} (E_\varphi) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (E_z)$$

$$\therefore \overrightarrow{\nabla} \cdot \overrightarrow{E}_1 = \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r \frac{\rho_0}{4\varepsilon_0} (r+R) \right) + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi} (E_\varphi) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (E_z)$$

$$\therefore \frac{\rho}{\varepsilon_0} = \frac{\rho_0}{4\varepsilon_0 r} (2r+R)$$

$$\therefore \rho = \frac{\rho_0}{4} \left( 2 + \frac{R}{h} \right)$$

5.

$$Q = \int_{0}^{R} \rho(r) \cdot 2\pi r H \, dr$$
$$= \frac{2\rho_0 \pi H}{4} \left( \frac{(2r)^2}{2} + Rr \right) \Big|_{0}^{R}$$
$$= \pi R^2 H \rho_0$$

#### Recitation 5 – Exercise 4.

- 1. Calculate the potential resulting from a solid ball of radius R charged uniformly with constant distribution  $\rho$ .
- 2. Calculate the potential along the z-axis resulting from a solid cylinder of radius a and height L charged uniformly with constant distribution  $-\rho$ .

#### Recitation 5 – Solution 4.

1.

$$q(r) = \begin{cases} \rho_0 \cdot \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3 & ; & r < R \\ \rho_0 \cdot \frac{4}{3}\pi R^3 & ; & r > R \end{cases} \therefore \varphi(r) = \begin{cases} \frac{Q}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 r} & ; & r > R \\ \frac{Q}{8\pi\varepsilon_0 R^3} (3R^2 - r^2) & ; & r < R \end{cases}$$

2. Consider an elemental disk of charge  $d^2q$  at height z from the centre of the cylinder.

Therefore, the potential along the z-axis is

$$V(z') = \int_{r=0}^{r=a} \int_{z=-\frac{L}{2}}^{z=+\frac{L}{2}} \frac{\mathrm{d}^2 q}{4\pi\varepsilon_0(z'-z)}$$

## 6 Capacitors

#### Recitation 6 - Exercise 1.

A plate capacitor which is made of square plates of sides a fell and a little angle  $\theta$  formed between its plates as shown. The smallest distance between the plates is d. Calculate the new capacitance.



#### Recitation 6 – Solution 1.

The tilted capacitor plate can be considered to be approximately equivalent to a parallel plate at height  $d + \frac{a \tan \theta}{2}$ , i.e. the tilted plate can be considered to be made parallel to the other plate by pivoting it at the axis through its midpoint.



The capacitance of the original capacitor is

$$C = \frac{Q}{V}$$
$$= \frac{\varepsilon_0 A}{d}$$

Therefore, the capacitance of the tilted capacitor is

$$C' = \frac{\varepsilon_0 a^2}{\left(d + \frac{a \tan \theta}{2}\right)}$$

As  $\theta \ll 1$ ,  $\tan \theta \approx \theta$ .

$$\therefore C' = \frac{\varepsilon_0 A}{d} \left( 1 + \frac{a\theta}{2d} \right)^{-1}$$

Alternatively, the tilted capacitor can be considered to be a capacitor with capacitance varying with x.

Considering the origin to be at the left end of the lower plate, the equation of the tilted plate is

$$y = d + mx$$
$$= d + \tan \theta x$$

As  $\theta \ll 1$ ,

$$y = d + \theta x$$

Thererefore,

Therefore, 
$$C = \frac{\int_{0}^{L} \frac{\varepsilon_{0}A}{y}}{\int_{0}^{L} dx}$$

$$= \frac{\int_{0}^{L} \frac{\varepsilon_{0}a dx}{d+\theta x}}{L}$$

$$= \frac{\frac{\varepsilon_{0}A}{\theta} \int_{0}^{L} \frac{du}{u}}{L}$$

$$= \frac{\varepsilon_{0}A}{a\theta} \ln\left(\frac{d+a\theta}{d}\right)$$

$$= \frac{\varepsilon_{0}A}{d} \left(\left(\frac{a\theta}{d}\right) - \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{a\theta}{d}\right)^{2} + \dots\right)$$

$$= \frac{\varepsilon_{0}A}{d} - \frac{\varepsilon_{A}}{2} \frac{a\theta}{d^{2}} + \dots$$

#### Recitation 6 - Exercise 2.

A cylindrical capacitor is comprised of two concentric cylinders of length L and radii a and b (where L >> a, b and a < b). The inner cylinder (radius a) carries total charge Q and the outer cylinder (radius b) is grounded. Assume vacuum inside the system and all bodies to be conducting.

- 1. Calculate the electric field everywhere.
- 2. Calculate the capacitance per unit length.
- 3. Calculate the energy density everywhere.

#### Recitation 6 – Solution 2.

1. As the bodies are condicting, the field inside the inner cylinder is 0. Consider a cylindrical Gaussian surface with radius a < r < b. Therefore, by Gauss' Law,

$$\oint \overrightarrow{E} \cdot \overrightarrow{dS} = \frac{Q}{\varepsilon_0}$$

$$\therefore E = \frac{Q}{2\pi\varepsilon_0 Lr}$$

As the outer cylinder is grounded, and due to the charge on the inner cylinder, the charge on its inner surface is -Q.

Therefore, by Gauss's Law, the field outside must be 0.

2.

$$E = \frac{Q}{2\pi\varepsilon_0 Lr}$$

$$\therefore V = \int_a^b \frac{Q}{2\pi\varepsilon_0 Lr} dr$$

$$= \frac{Q}{2\pi\varepsilon_0 L} \ln\left(\frac{b}{a}\right)$$

$$\therefore C = \frac{2\pi\varepsilon_0 L}{\ln\left(\frac{b}{a}\right)}$$

3.

$$U = \frac{CV^2}{2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \frac{2\pi\varepsilon_0 L}{\ln\left(\frac{b}{a}\right)} \left(\frac{Q}{2\pi\varepsilon_0 L} \ln\left(\frac{b}{a}\right)\right)^2$$

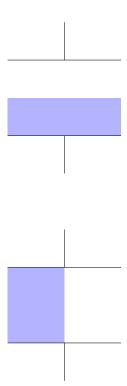
Therefore,

$$u = \frac{U}{\pi L(b^2 - a^2)}$$

### 7 Dielectric Materials

#### Recitation 6 - Exercise 3.

The capacitance of an empty plate capacitor (vacuum between the plates) is  $C_0$ . Half of the capacitor volume is filled with a dielectric material of constant  $\kappa$  in two different ways as shown.

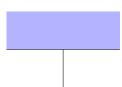


Calculate the new capacitance in the two cases.

#### Recitation 6 – Solution 3.

The arrangements are equivalent to connection of capacitors in series and parallel respectively.





 $\equiv$ 

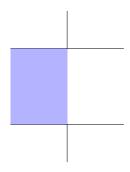


In this case,

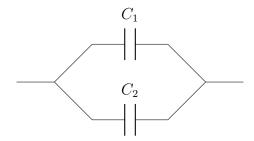
$$C_1 = \frac{\varepsilon_0 A}{\frac{d}{2}}$$
$$C_2 = \frac{\kappa \varepsilon_0 A}{\frac{d}{2}}$$

Therefore,

$$C_{\text{equivalent}} = \frac{C_1 C_2}{C_1 + C_2}$$



 $\equiv$ 



In this case,

$$C_1 = \frac{\varepsilon_0 \frac{A}{2}}{d}$$
$$C_2 = \frac{\kappa \varepsilon_0 \frac{A}{2}}{d}$$

Therefore,

$$C_{\text{equivalent}} = C_1 + C_2$$

#### Recitation 7 – Exercise 1.

A plate capacitor of area A and distance d is connected to a potential difference V. A dielectric material of constant  $\varepsilon = \kappa_e \varepsilon_0$  is inserted into the capacitor (while connected to the voltage source).

- 1. Calculate the new capacitance.
- 2. How did the free charge on the capacitor plates change in the process?
- 3. How did the energy stored in the capacitor change?

Now, all the dielectric material is removed. Afterward, the capacitor is disconnected from the voltage source. A dielectric material of constant  $\varepsilon = \kappa_e \varepsilon_0$  is inserted into the capacitor (while disconnected from the voltage source).

- 4. Calculate the new capacitance.
- 5. How did the potential difference between the plates change?
- 6. How did the energy stored in the capacitor change?

For both cases, was the dielectric material attracted or repelled by the capacitor?

### Recitation 7 – Solution 1.

If there is no dielectric in the capacitor, the capacitance is

$$C_0 = \frac{Q_0}{V_0}$$

$$= \frac{Q_0}{E_0 d}$$

$$= \frac{\sigma_0 A}{\frac{\sigma_0}{\varepsilon_0} d}$$

$$= \frac{\varepsilon_0 A}{d}$$

1. After the dielectric material is inserted,

$$C_1 = \frac{Q_1}{V_1}$$

As the battery is connected, the voltage will remain constant. Therefore,  $V_0 = V_1$ .

$$\therefore C_1 = \frac{Q_1}{V_0}$$

$$= \frac{\sigma_1 A}{\frac{\sigma_1}{\kappa_e \varepsilon_0} d}$$

$$= \frac{\kappa_e \varepsilon_0 A}{d}$$

$$= \kappa_e C_0$$

2.

$$C_1 = \frac{Q_1}{V_1}$$

$$\therefore \kappa_e C_0 = \frac{Q_1}{V_0}$$

$$\therefore Q_1 = \kappa_e C_0 V_0$$

$$= \kappa_e Q_0$$

3.

$$U_1 = \frac{1}{2}C_1V_1^2$$
$$= \frac{1}{2}\kappa_e C_0V_0^2$$
$$= \kappa_e U_0$$

4.

$$C_2 = \frac{Q_2}{V_2}$$

As the battery is disconnected, the charge cannot flow out and must remain constant. Therefore,  $Q_0 = Q_1$ .

$$\therefore C_2 = \frac{Q_0}{V_2}$$

$$= \frac{\sigma_2 A}{\frac{\sigma_2}{\kappa_e \varepsilon_0} d}$$

$$= \frac{\kappa_e \varepsilon_0 A}{d}$$

$$= \kappa_e C_0$$

5.

$$C_2 = \frac{Q_2}{V_2}$$

$$\therefore \kappa_e C_0 = \frac{Q_0}{V_2}$$

$$\therefore V_2 = \frac{Q_0}{\kappa_e C_0}$$

$$= \frac{V_0}{\kappa_e}$$

6.

$$U_2 = \frac{1}{2}C_2V_2^2$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}\kappa_eC_0\frac{{V_0}^2}{{\kappa_e}^2}$$

$$= \frac{U_0}{\kappa_e}$$

As  $U_1 > U_0$ , the process of inserting the dielectric increases the potential. Therefore, the dielectric is repelled by the plates.

As  $U_2 < U_0$ , the process of inserting the dielectric decreases the potential. Therefore, the dielectric is attracted by the plates.

## Part II

# Electrodynamics

#### Recitation 7 – Exercise 2.

The current and current density are related by the relations

$$\overrightarrow{j} = \rho \overrightarrow{v}$$

$$\overrightarrow{k} = \sigma \overrightarrow{v}$$

$$I = \lambda v$$

- 1. Calculate the current in a cylinder of radius R carrying uniform charge density  $\rho$  moving in velocity v along the cylinder axis.
- 2. Calculate the current on a segment of length L in an infinite thin plane carrying uniform charge density  $\sigma$  moving in velocity v along the plane surface.
- 3. Calculate the current in a thin ring of radius R carrying uniform charge distribution  $\lambda$  rotating around its axis with period T.

#### Recitation 7 – Solution 2.

1.

$$I = \iint \overrightarrow{j} \cdot \overrightarrow{dA}$$
$$= \rho v A$$

2.

$$I = \int \overrightarrow{k} \cdot \overrightarrow{dl}$$
$$= \sigma v l$$

3.

$$\begin{split} I &= \lambda v \\ &= \lambda \omega R \\ &= \lambda \cdot \frac{2\pi}{T} \cdot R \\ &= \frac{2\pi \lambda R}{T} \end{split}$$

#### Recitation 7 – Exercise 3.

A cylinder of length L and cross-section A is made of metallic material with conductivity  $\sigma = \sigma_0 \frac{L}{x}$ . The bases of the cylinder are connected to potential difference V.

- 1. Calculate the resistivity.
- 2. Calculate the current density in the cylinder.
- 3. Calculate the electric field inside the metal.

#### Recitation 7 – Solution 3.

1.

$$\sigma = \sigma_0 \frac{L}{x}$$

$$\therefore \rho = \frac{1}{\sigma}$$

$$= \frac{x}{\sigma_0 L}$$

2. The cylinder can be considered to be a resistor made up of elemental disk resistors in series.

Consider an elemental disk of thickness dx at a distance x from the origin. Therefore, the resistance of the disk is

$$dR = \frac{\rho \, dx}{A}$$

$$= \frac{x \, dx}{\sigma_0 L A}$$

$$\therefore R = \int_0^L \frac{x \, dx}{\sigma_0 L A}$$

$$= \frac{L^2}{2\sigma_0 L A}$$

$$= \frac{L}{2\sigma_0 A}$$

Therefore,

$$V = IR$$

$$= I \frac{L}{2\sigma_0 A}$$

$$\therefore I = \frac{2\sigma_0 AV}{L}$$

$$\therefore \frac{I}{A} = \frac{2\sigma_0 V}{L}$$

$$\therefore j = \frac{2\sigma_0 V}{L}$$

3.

$$j = \sigma E$$

$$\therefore \frac{2\sigma_0 V}{L} = \sigma E$$

$$\therefore E = \frac{2Vx}{L^2}$$

#### Recitation 7 – Exercise 5.

A cylinder of length L and radius a (L >> a) is made of metallic material with resistivity  $\rho = \rho_0 \frac{r}{a}$ . The bases of the cylinder are made of ideal conductor and are connected to potential difference V.

- 1. Calculate the resistance.
- 2. Calculate the current in the cylinder.
- 3. Calculate the electric field,  $\overrightarrow{E}$ , inside the metal.
- 4. Calculate the current density,  $\overrightarrow{j}$ , and make sure that  $\int \overrightarrow{j} \cdot \overrightarrow{ds} = I$ .

#### Recitation 7 – Solution 5.

1. The cylinder can be considered to be a resistor made up of elemental cylindrical shell disk resistors in parallel.

Consider an elemental cylindrical shell of radius r thickness dr.

Therefore, the resistance of the shell is

$$dR = \frac{\rho L}{2\pi r dr}$$

$$= \frac{\rho_0 r L}{2\pi a r dr}$$

$$= \frac{\rho_0 L}{2\pi a dr}$$

$$\therefore \frac{1}{R} = \int \frac{1}{dR}$$

$$= \int_0^a \frac{2\pi a dr}{\rho_0 L}$$

$$= \frac{2\pi a^2}{\rho_0 L}$$

$$\therefore R = \frac{\rho_0 L}{2\pi a^2}$$

2.

$$V = IR$$

$$\therefore V = I \frac{\rho_0 L}{2\pi a^2}$$

$$\therefore I = \frac{2\pi a^2 V}{\rho_0 L}$$

3.

$$V = EL$$
$$\therefore E = \frac{V}{L}$$

4.

$$j = \frac{I}{A}$$

$$= \frac{\frac{2\pi a^2 V}{\rho_0 L}}{\frac{\rho_0 L}{\pi a^2}}$$

$$= \frac{2V}{\rho_0 L}$$

Therefore,

$$\int \overrightarrow{j} \cdot \overrightarrow{ds} = \int_{0}^{a} \frac{2V}{\rho_0 L} \cdot 2\pi r \, dr$$
$$= \frac{2\pi a^2 V}{\rho_0 L}$$
$$= I$$

Therefore,  $\int \overrightarrow{j} \cdot \overrightarrow{ds} = I$ .