

0. The top card overhangs the second one by a maximum of a half of a card length, the second one a fourth over the third one, the third one the sixth over the fourth one and so on. So for $N + 1$ cards the total overhang is

$$L = \frac{a}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{i},$$

where $a = 88$ mm is the card length.

a₀) If you have many cards ($N \rightarrow \infty$) you can build the bridge of infinite length $\left(\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} L(N) \rightarrow \infty \right)$. Do you believe that it is real?

b₀) I give you 100 cards (two deck of cards, ($L(100) \approx 23$ cm)). Can you at home on table build the bridge by 22 cm-long?

1. The field in the dielectric is reduced by $\varepsilon/\varepsilon_0$ times. So, the field in the first dielectric is

$$E_1 = \frac{q}{4\pi\varepsilon_1 r^2},$$

and in the second one

$$E_2 = \frac{q}{4\pi\varepsilon_2 r^2}.$$

The potential is respective for these fields.

a₁) Suppose that the interface between the two dielectric media coincides with the plane $z=0$. Your relations

$$E_i = \frac{q}{4\pi\varepsilon_i r^2} \quad (i=1,2) \text{ implies a jump in the } z \text{ component of the electric field across the interface}$$

$(E_1)_{z \rightarrow +0} \neq (E_2)_{z \rightarrow -0}$. If I understood you well, you assume that there is a bound charge sheet ($z=0$) on the interface between the two dielectric media. Please provide for me an expression for the bound surface charge density $\sigma = \sigma(x, y)$.

3. By introducing the new variable $t = a\sqrt{x}$ this expression simplifies to

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{t dt}{1 + e^t} = \frac{\pi^2}{12}.$$

a₃) you have successfully carried out change of variables. Sorry but I do not see the proof here. Why

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{dt}{e^{a^t} + 1} = \frac{\pi^2}{12}, \text{ may be } \int_0^\infty \frac{dt}{e^t + 1} = \frac{1}{12} \cdot \left(\frac{355}{113} \right)^2.$$