

Green's Reciprocity Theorem

Motivating: Green's reciprocity theorem goes as follows: if there exists a charge distribution ρ with voltage distribution V_1 , and a completely independent C in absence of ρ , distribution ρ with potential V_2 ,

$$\int_{\text{all space}} \rho V_2 d\tau = \int_{\text{all space}} \rho V_1 d\tau$$

Proving:

Let E_1 be field due to ρ , and E_2 due to ρ_2 .

$$\int E_1 \cdot E_2 d\tau = \int -E_1 \cdot \nabla V_2 d\tau \quad (E = -\nabla V)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int \nabla (E_1 \cdot V_2) d\tau &= \int -E_1 \cdot \nabla V_2 d\tau - \int V_2 \nabla \cdot E_1 d\tau \\ \therefore \int E_1 \cdot E_2 d\tau &= \int V_2 \nabla \cdot E_1 d\tau - \int \nabla (E_1 \cdot V_2) d\tau \\ &= \int V_2 \nabla \cdot E_1 d\tau - \oint E_1 \cdot V_2 da \end{aligned}$$

For all space, surface integral $\rightarrow 0$

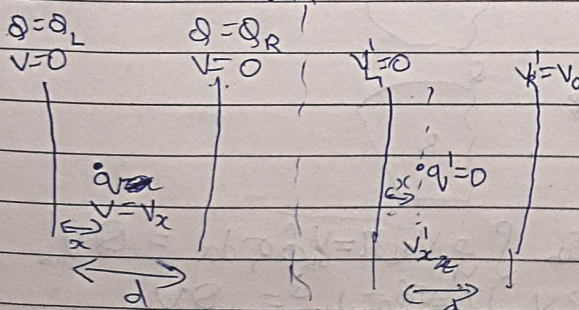
$$\nabla \cdot E_1 = \rho_1 / \epsilon_0$$

$$\therefore \int E_1 \cdot E_2 d\tau = \int V_2 \rho_1 / \epsilon_0 d\tau = \int V_1 \rho_2 / \epsilon_0 d\tau$$

$$\text{Hence, } \int V_2 \rho_1 d\tau = \int V_1 \rho_2 d\tau$$

Solving a problem:

Take a parallel plate capacitor with grounded plates and a charge placed in between (distance x from a plate). Charges on conducting plates can be found.



actual situation ; New situation

From actual situation,

$$\int V_1 \rho_2 d\tau = V_L \int \rho_L' d\tau + V_R \int \rho_R' d\tau + V_x \int \rho_x' d\tau$$

$$V_L = V_R = \rho_x' = 0$$

$$\therefore \int V_1 \rho_2 d\tau = 0$$

$$\int V_2 \rho_1 d\tau = V_L' \int \rho_L' d\tau + V_R' \int \rho_R' d\tau + V_x' \int \rho_x' d\tau$$

$$V_L' = 0 \quad V_R' = V_0 \quad \int \rho_R' d\tau = Q_R \quad \int \rho_x' d\tau = q$$

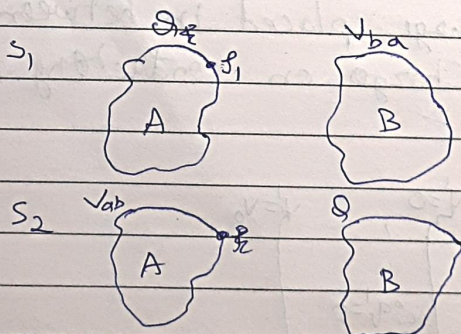
$$V_x' = \frac{V_0 x}{d}$$

$$\therefore V_0 Q_R + \frac{V_0 x q}{d} = 0$$

$$\Phi_R = -q x / d \quad \text{by sy}$$

For Φ_L , take $x = d - x$. $\Phi_L = -q \left(1 - \frac{x}{d}\right)$

Another property: if we take 2 uncharged conductors and put charge on either, the other IF V_{ab} is potential of ^{uncharged} conductor A because of charge Q on B. Then V_{ba} (V of uncharged B because of Q on A) $= V_{ab}$.



$$\int \rho_1 V_2 d\tau = \int V_{ab} \int \rho_1 V_{ab} d\tau = V_{ab} \int \rho_1 d\tau = Q_1 V_{ab}$$

$$\int \rho_2 V_1 d\tau = \int \rho_2 V_{ba} d\tau = V_{ba} \int \rho_2 d\tau = Q_2 V_{ba}$$

$$Q_1 V_{ab} = Q_2 V_{ba}$$

$$V_{ab} = V_{ba}$$

Usage: Helps simplify problems involving conductors where exact charge distribution is not necessary.

Forms of reciprocity theorem used to analyse electrical networks. $(\int J_1 \cdot E_2 dV = \int E_1 \cdot J_2 dV)$