

4) To make a direct connection between what we've done with image charges and the Official Solution to $\nabla^2 \phi = -4\pi\rho$ via Green's Fns, note Jk^b Sec. (2.6).

In Eq. (7) above, we have found the sphere-pt. charge potential for points outside the sphere as...

$$\rightarrow \phi_p(r) = q \left\{ \frac{1}{|r-r'|} + F(r, r') \right\} \quad \text{at all } r \geq a, \quad (8)$$

\swarrow outside sphere (i.e. q itself) \nwarrow inside sphere (image charge)

$$\text{w/ } F(r, r') = \frac{(-)k}{|r-k^2 r'|}, \quad k = \frac{a}{r'} \leq 1.$$

Set the $\{ \} = G(r, r')$, and note for outside points

$$\nabla^2 \{ \} = \nabla^2 G = -4\pi \delta(r-r') + \cancel{\nabla^2 F} \quad \begin{matrix} \nearrow 0, \text{ image charge is} \\ \text{not outside sphere;} \end{matrix}$$

\rightarrow $G = \{ \}$ qualifies as a Green's fn for $r \geq a$. (9)

The general solution for ϕ outside the sphere is, from Eq. (1) above...

$$\phi_p(r) = \int_{V(\text{outside})} G(r, r') \rho(r') d^3x' + \frac{1}{4\pi} \oint_{\text{sphere: } a} \left[G(r, r') \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial n'} - \phi(r') \frac{\partial G}{\partial n'} \right] dS' \quad (10)$$

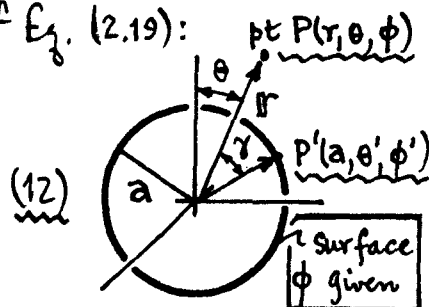
\nearrow 0, on sphere surface

$$\text{w/ } \left\{ \begin{aligned} \phi_p(r) &= \int_V G \rho d^3x' + \frac{1}{4\pi} \oint_{\text{sphere}} \phi [(-) \partial G / \partial n'] dS' \\ G(r, r') &= \frac{1}{|r-r'|} - \frac{a}{r'} \left(\frac{1}{|r-(a/r')^2 r'|} \right), \text{ all } r \neq r' \geq a. \end{aligned} \right. \quad (11)$$

This solution to $\nabla^2 \phi = -4\pi\rho$ will now work for all points in V outside the sphere, where ρ is the density in V , and in RHS integral ϕ is potential on the sphere surface. In particular, note Jk^b Eq. (2.19):

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \rho &\equiv 0 \text{ in } V; \\ \phi &\text{ given on sphere;} \\ z &= \frac{r}{a}, dS' = a^2 d\Omega' \end{aligned} \right\} \phi(r) = \frac{(z^2-1)}{4\pi} \oint_{\text{sphere}} \frac{\phi(a, \theta', \phi') d\Omega'}{(1-zz' \cos \gamma + z^2)^{3/2}}, \quad (12)$$

$\text{w/ } \cos \gamma = \cos \theta \cos \theta' + \sin \theta \sin \theta' \cos(\phi - \phi')$



5) There are other methods of solving our electrostatics prob^m: $\nabla^2 \phi = -4\pi\rho$. This PDE (after separation of variables) can be attacked with a considerable arsenal of techniques from the theory of special functions.

In Secs. 2.8-2.10, and 3.1-3.12 (except 3.4, 3.8, 3.10) Jackson hauls out the arsenal. You have (or will) see most of it in § 566, so we will not go over all the details -- just the highlights.

A useful overview is provided by Sturm-Liouville theory...*

Review of Sturm-Liouville Theory

1. Most general linear, 2nd-order differential equation, on $a \leq x \leq b$:

$$\rightarrow p_2(x)u'' + p_1(x)u' + p_0(x)u = 0 \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{coeffs } p_i(x) \text{ given,} \\ \text{solution } u = u(x) \text{ desired.} \end{array} \quad (13)$$

The $p_i(x)$ have to be "well-behaved" (in some sense) on $[a, b]$ for useful solutions $u(x)$ to exist. For the particular choice:

$$p_2' = p_1 = p(x), \quad p_0(x) = q(x) + \lambda w(x) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{prime } (') \text{ means} \\ d/dx \end{array} \right. \quad (14)$$

Eq. (13) can be written as the "STURM-LIOUVILLE EQUATION":

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \boxed{L(u) + \lambda w(x)u = 0}, \quad x \in [a, b], \\ L(u) = \frac{d}{dx}[p(x)u'] + q(x)u \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{S-L operator } L \\ \text{is "self-adjoint"} \end{array}; \\ w(x) \text{ is called a "weighting fn" (will be clear momentarily);} \\ \lambda = \text{constant, and may be restricted to "eigenvalues" by boundary conditions on } u(x). \end{array} \right. \quad (15)$$

* Mathews & Walker "Math. Methods of Physics" (Benjamin: 2nd ed, 1970) p. 264, 334, 338.
G. Arfken "Math. Methods for Physicists" (Academic: 3rd ed, 1985) Chap. 9.

• Many (most!) of the ODE's of canonical math physics can be put in this S-L form... e.g. Legendre's & Bessel's Eqns, LaGuerre & Hermite, etc.★
And -- fortunately -- it is possible to learn a great deal about the nature of the solutions to all of these ODE's by studying the nature of solutions to this generic S-L problem.

3. Acceptable solutions $u(x)$ & $v(x)$ to the S-L problem usually (must!) obey certain "boundary conditions" at the endpts of $[a, b]$... e.g. if $a=0$ & $b \rightarrow \infty$, we might require: $u(0) = \text{finite}$ & $u(\infty) = 0$. Generally, when such "boundary conditions" are imposed, the solutions $u(x)$ are limited to certain "eigenfunctions" $u_n(x)$, $n=0, 1, 2, \dots \rightarrow \infty$. Corresponding to this quantization of the u 's, the permissible values of λ are limited to a discrete set of "eigenvalues" λ_n . The B.C. may be one of the following types (for the 1D problem):

<p><u>A.</u> Dirichlet: $u(a)$ & $u(b)$ given.</p> <p><u>B.</u> Neumann: $u'(a)$ & $u'(b)$ given.</p> <p><u>C.</u> Cauchy: u & u' given at a ^{and/or} b.</p>	<p>One of these B.C. (usually) cause the following products to vanish:</p> $u p u' \Big _{x=a} = 0, \quad u p u' \Big _{x=b} = 0. \quad (16)$
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We will adopt a less restrictive assumption for the B.C., viz:

→ $u p u' \Big|_{x=a} = v p u' \Big|_{x=b}$, u & v = any solns to S-L Eq. (15). (17)

With this choice of B.C., it is easy to show (by partial-integration) that:

→ $\int_a^b v \mathcal{L}(u) dx = \int_a^b u \mathcal{L}(v) dx$. (18)

This gives meaning to the "self-adjoint" character of \mathcal{L} . The relation is reminiscent of a Hermitian operator \mathcal{H} , $\int \psi_\alpha^* (\mathcal{H} \psi_\beta) dx = \int \psi_\beta (\mathcal{H} \psi_\alpha)^* dx$.

★ Both the HyperGeometric & Confluent Hypergeometric Eqs. are of S-L type.

$$\frac{d}{dx} [pu'] + (q + \lambda w)u = 0 \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{S-L} \\ \text{Eqn.} \end{array} \right.$$

I. With this statement of the Sturm-Liouville problem, the following general results can be proved:

A. For L a real operator (p & q real), and w a real weighting fn, but eigenfns u_n & eigenvalues λ_n possibly complex, it happens that the eigenvalues λ_n are in fact real.

B. There is a denumerable infinity of eigenvalues λ_n , which can be ordered: $\lambda_0 < \lambda_1 < \lambda_2 < \dots < \lambda_\infty$, and which correspond to a denumerably infinite set of eigenfns: $u_0(x), u_1(x), u_2(x), \dots, u_\infty(x)$. The "large" eigenvalues behave as: $\lambda_n \propto n^2$ ($[a, b]$ finite), or $\lambda_n \propto n$ ($[a, b]$ infinite) as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

C. The eigenfns $u_n(x)$ are orthogonal: $\int_a^b u_m(x) u_n(x) w(x) dx = 0$, when $m \neq n$.[†] By appropriate normalization of u_n (i.e. $u_n \rightarrow C_n u_n$ such that $\int_a^b [C_n u_n(x)]^2 w(x) dx = 1$) can have the u_n orthonormal:

$$\rightarrow \boxed{\int_a^b [u_m(x) u_n(x)] w(x) dx = \delta_{mn}} \quad (\text{Kronecker delta}). \quad (19)$$

Notice how $w(x)$ "weights" the integration interval.

D. Completeness of the eigenfn set $\{u_n(x)\}$? There are two ways to discuss this problem, which is concerned with the possibility of expanding:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} C_n u_n(x), \quad f(x) \text{ on } [a, b]; \\ \text{or} \\ C_n = \int_a^b f(\xi) u_n(\xi) d\xi, \quad \text{expansion coefficients.} \end{array} \right\} \quad (20)$$

This is \sim expanding a vector f in terms of a set of unit vectors $\{\hat{u}_n\}$, i.e.

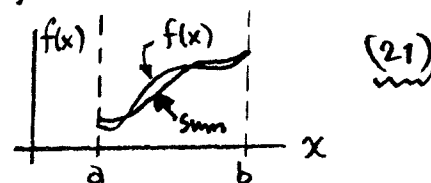
[†] Case of degeneracy excluded. In degenerate case, use Schmidt orthogonalization.

$$\frac{d}{dx}[pu'] + (q + \lambda w)u = 0 \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{S-L} \\ \text{Eqtn.} \end{array} \right.$$

$f = \sum_n c_n \hat{u}_n$, and asking whether the $\{\hat{u}_n\}$ "span" the space of f . Do the $u_n(x)$ in Eq. (20) "span" the space (domain of definition) of $f(x)$? Can show...

① A partial sum expansion: $f(x) \approx \sum_{n=0}^N c_n u_n(x)$ "converges in-the-mean", i.e.

$$\rightarrow \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \int_a^b \left[f(x) - \sum_{n=0}^N c_n u_n(x) \right]^2 w(x) dx = 0.$$



The mean-square difference vanishes as $N \rightarrow \infty$.

② Do a recursion: put the c_n 's in Eq. (20) back into the sum for $f(x)$:

$$\rightarrow f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left[\int_a^b f(\xi) u_n(\xi) d\xi \right] u_n(x), \text{ expansion possible on } [a, b];$$

$$\text{or} \quad f(x) = \int_a^b f(\xi) \left[\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} u_n(x) w(\xi) u_n(\xi) \right] d\xi$$

this acts precisely as $\delta(x-\xi)$ on $[a, b]$

$$\text{i.e.} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{if } f(x) \text{ expansion} \\ \text{is possible on } [a, b] \end{array} \right\} \quad \boxed{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} u_n(x) w(\xi) u_n(\xi) = \delta(x-\xi).} \quad (22)$$

Last result is known as CLOSURE RELATION for the $\{u_n\}$. Either Eq. (21) or Eq. (22) is enough to establish the $\{u_n\}$ as a "complete set" on $[a, b]$.

5. Specific example of above account is the Associated Legendre Equation:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} (1-x^2)u'' - 2xu' + \left[l(l+1) - \frac{m^2}{1-x^2} \right] u = 0 \quad \int \begin{array}{l} x = \cos \theta, \\ [a, b] = [-1, +1] \end{array} ; \\ \text{S-L Eqtn, with: } p(x) = (1-x^2), \quad q(x) = \frac{-m^2}{1-x^2}, \quad w(x) = 1, \quad \lambda = l(l+1). \end{array} \right. \quad (23)$$

Eigenfn solutions are well-known Associated Legendre polynomials, i.e. $u_{lm}(x) = P_{lm}(\cos \theta)$ $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} l=0, 1, \dots, \infty \\ |m| \leq l \end{array} \right.$ (the P_{lm} 's are finite on $[-1, +1]$; there are also Q_{lm} 's which are singular at endpts). The P_{lm} 's are ∞ in number, and obey orthogonality [like Eq. (19)]. Also, $\lambda = l^2$ as $l \rightarrow \infty$, per claim 4.B above.

Jackson Math Topics

9/13/91

<u>Sec</u>	<u>Topic</u>
2.8	Orthogonal Fns & Expansions.
2.9	Separation of Variables: $\nabla^2 \phi = 0$.
<u>2.10</u>	Fourier Series
3.1	$\nabla^2 \phi = 0$ in Spherical Cds
3.2	Legendre Eq. & Legendre Polynomials
3.3	Boundary-Value Probs. & Symmetries
3.5	Spherical Harmonics $Y_l^m(\theta, \phi)$.
3.6	Addition Theorem for the $Y_l^m(\theta, \phi)$.
3.7	$\nabla^2 \phi = 0$ in Cyl. Cds (Bessel Eq.).
3.9	Green's Fns in Spherical Cds.
3.11	" " " Cylindrical Cds.
<u>3.12</u>	Eigenfn expansions for Green's Fcn.

What is overlap with $\phi 566$ topics?
... $\phi 506$...