

PH108

Lecture 14: Multipole expansion – 2

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Supplementary reading: Griffiths Section 3.4

Any good reference on Dirac delta functions, eg: <http://goo.gl/NAOofd>

Multipole expansion of $V(r)$ due to ρ

$$V(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{r^{(n+1)}} \int (r')^n P_n(\cos\theta') \rho(\mathbf{r}') d\tau'$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{r} \int \rho(\mathbf{r}') d\tau' \quad \text{Monopole}$$

$$+ \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{r^2} \int r' \cos\theta' \rho(\mathbf{r}') d\tau' \quad \text{Dipole}$$

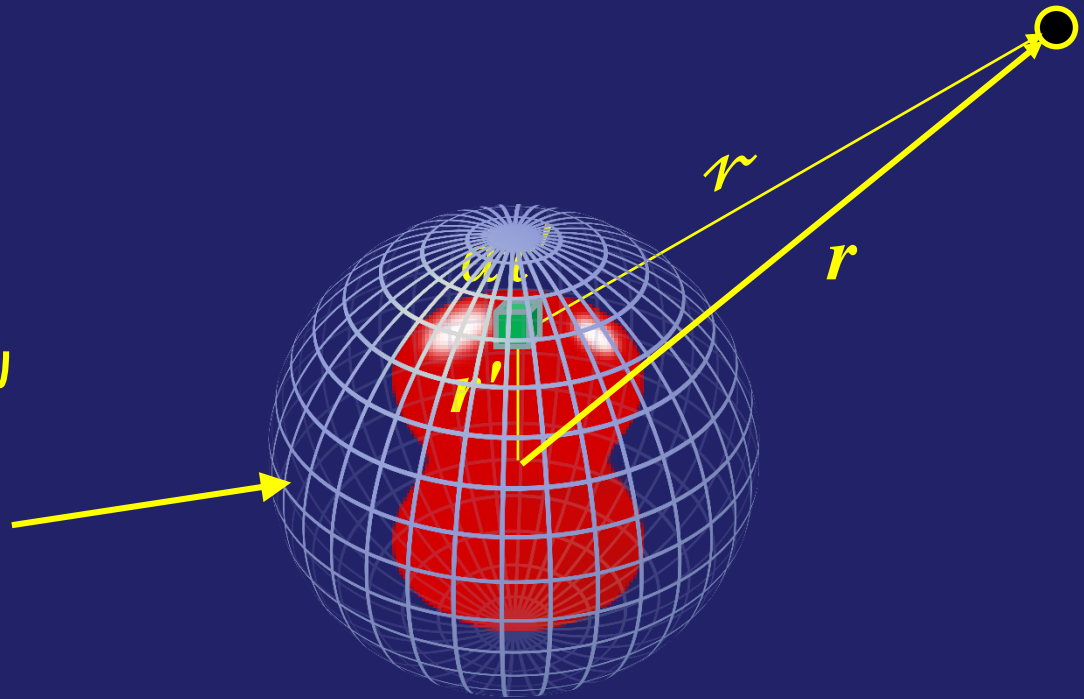
$$+ \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{r^3} \int (r')^2 \left(\frac{3}{2} \cos^2 \theta' - \frac{1}{2} \right) \rho(\mathbf{r}') d\tau' \quad \text{Quadrupole}$$

$$+ \dots \text{higher order 'pole' terms } \frac{1}{r^4}, \frac{1}{r^5} \dots$$

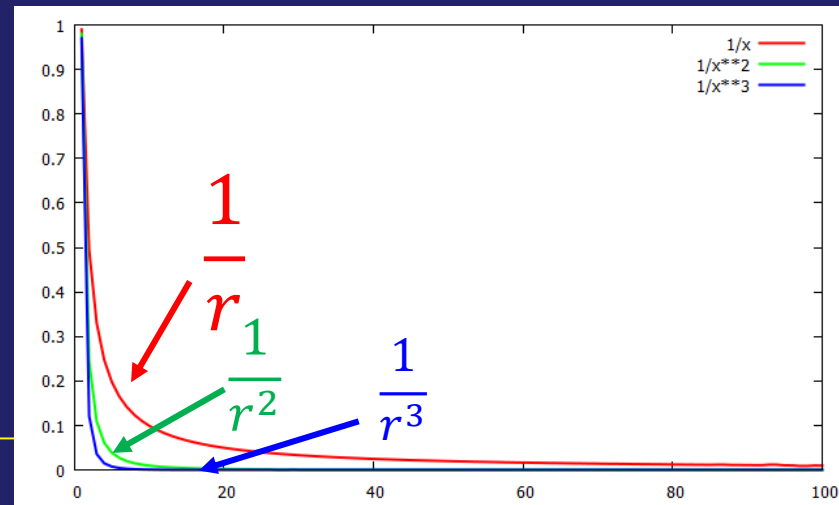
We will look at the first few terms in more detail

Monopole : Net total charge

$$\underbrace{\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{r} \int \rho(\mathbf{r}') d\tau'}_{= Q}$$



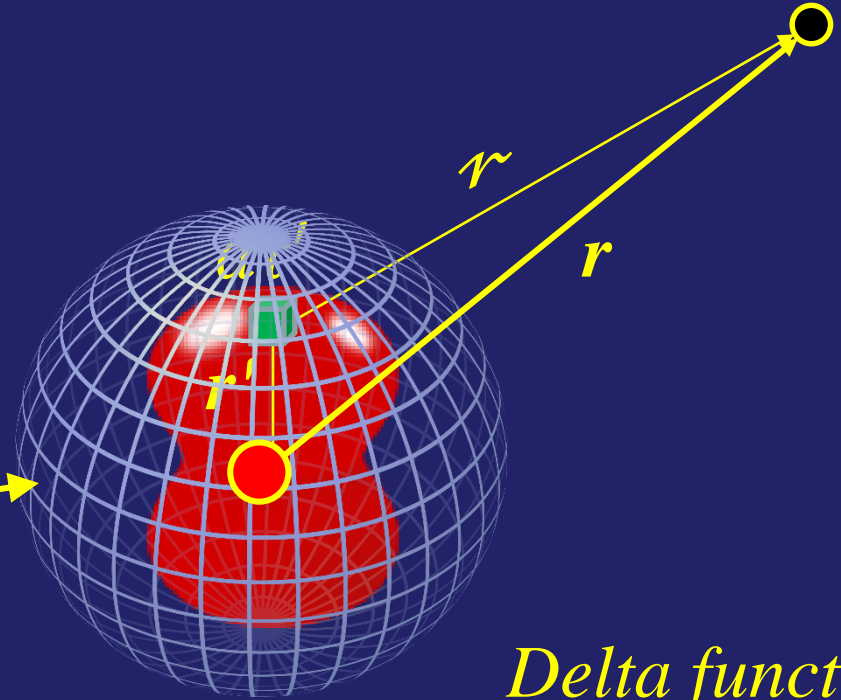
At large r : $V(r) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{Q}{r}$
is the 'dominant' term



Monopole : Net total charge

$$\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{r} \int \rho(\mathbf{r}') d\tau'$$

$$= Q$$



Delta function

$\delta(x) \rightarrow \infty$ at $x = 0$, elsewhere $= 0$

$$\int \delta(x) dx = 1 \quad \int f(x) \delta(x) dx = f(0)$$

If Q is point charge at origin,
Monopole $V(r)$ is EXACT

Point charge at origin: $\rho(r) = Q\delta(r) \rightarrow \int \rightarrow Q$; All higher multipoles
have $\int r^n \delta(r) dr = 0$

Dipole term dominates if $Q = 0$

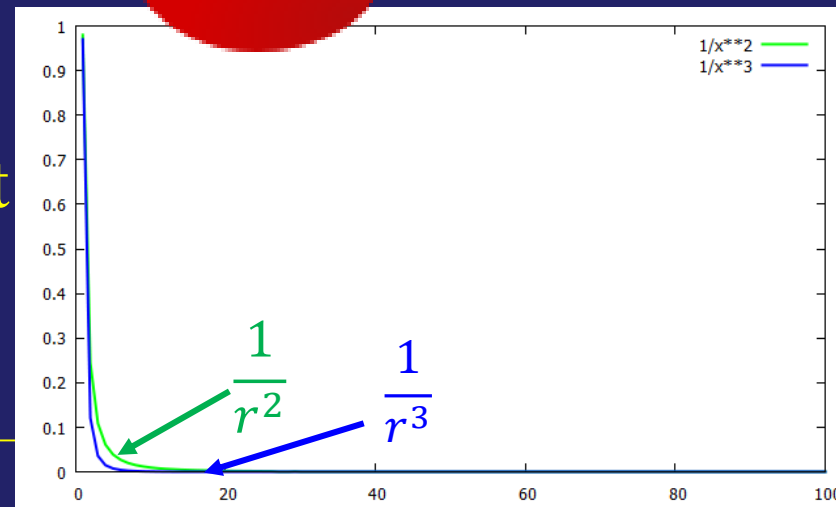
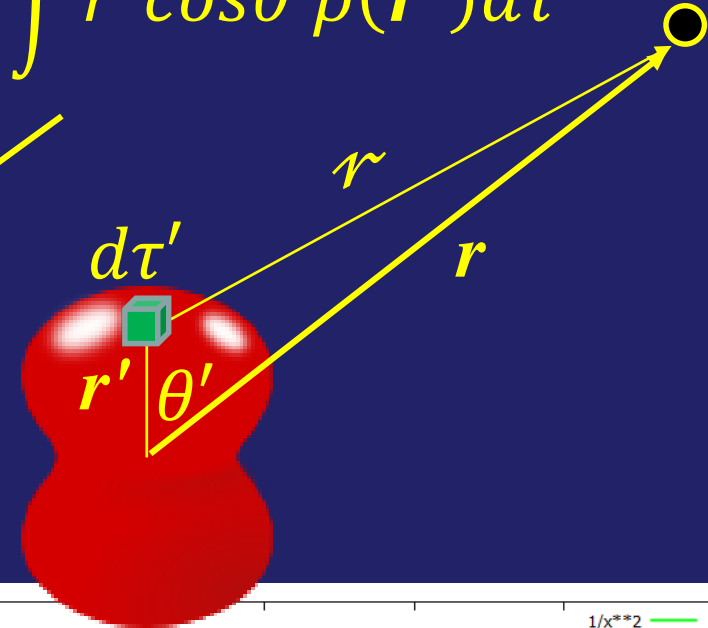
$$\frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{r} \int \rho(\vec{r}') d\tau' + \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{1}{r^2} \int r' \cos\theta' \rho(\vec{r}') d\tau'$$

0 ←

$$r' \cos\theta' = \hat{r} \cdot \vec{r}'$$

$$\hat{r} \cdot \int \vec{r}' \rho(\vec{r}') d\tau' \equiv \vec{p} \text{ Dipole moment}$$

$$V_{\text{dipole}}(r) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{\hat{r} \cdot \vec{p}}{r^2}$$



How to calculate dipole moment?

Examples ...

$$\int \vec{r}' \rho(\vec{r}') d\tau'$$

This is a *vector* quantity because of \vec{r}'

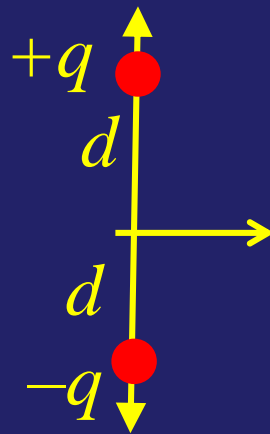
This is a *volume integral* over $\rho(\vec{r}')$

Example 1: Two equal and opposite point charges

Located at $\vec{r} = +d\hat{k}$ and $\vec{r} = -d\hat{k}$

$$\rho(\vec{r}') = q\delta^3(\vec{r} - d\hat{k}) - q\delta^3(\vec{r} + d\hat{k})$$

$$\vec{p} = \int \vec{r}' \rho(\vec{r}') d\tau' = qd\hat{k} - q(-d\hat{k}) = 2qd\hat{k}$$



Dipole moment of collection of point charges located at $\vec{r}'_1, \vec{r}'_2 \dots$

$$\rho(\vec{r}') = q_1 \delta^3(\vec{r}' - \vec{r}'_1) + q_2 \delta^3(\vec{r}' - \vec{r}'_2) + \dots$$

$\int \vec{r}' \rho(\vec{r}') d\tau'$ will convert each $\delta^3(\vec{r}' - \vec{r}'_i)$ into \vec{r}'_i

$$\vec{p} = \int \vec{r}' \rho(\vec{r}') d\tau' = \sum q_i \vec{r}'_i$$

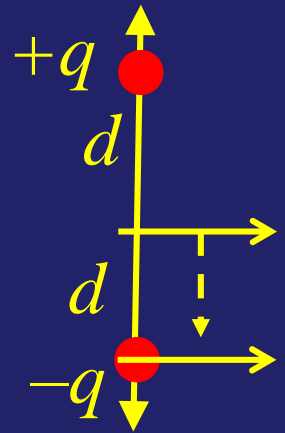
Choice of origin affects dipole moments

$$\vec{p} = qd\hat{k} - q(-d\hat{k}) = 2qd\hat{k}$$

Shift origin to $-d\hat{k}$

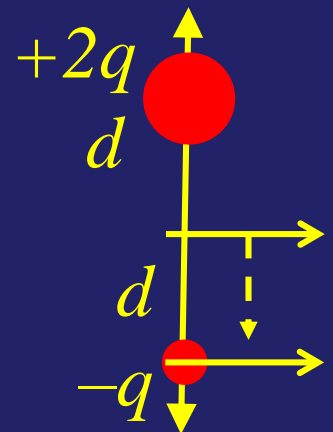
New co-ordinates are $+2d\hat{k}$ and 0

$$\vec{p}_{new} = +q2d\hat{k} - q(0) = 2qd\hat{k} = \vec{p}_{old}$$



If charges are $+2q$, $-q$

$$\vec{p}_{new} = +2q2d\hat{k} - q(0) = 4qd\hat{k} \neq \vec{p}_{old}$$



In general, dipole moment is independent of coordinates if total $Q=0$

$$\vec{p} = \int \vec{r} \rho d\tau$$

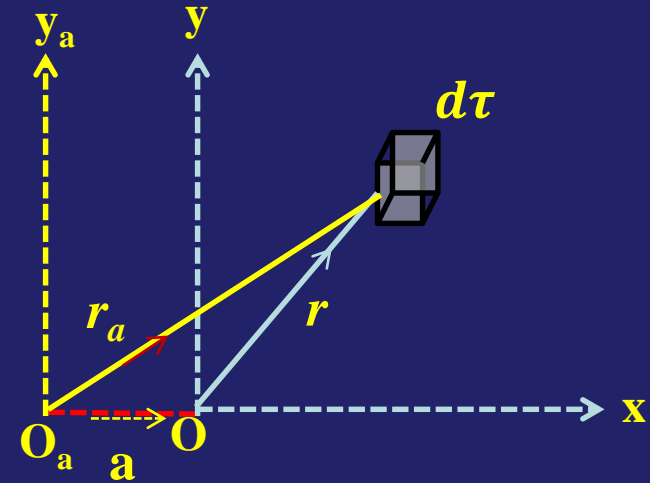
Change origin so $\vec{r} \rightarrow \vec{r} - \vec{a}$

$$\vec{p}_{new} = \int (\vec{r} - \vec{a}) \rho d\tau$$

Then $\vec{p}_{new} = \vec{p}_{old}$

$$\vec{p}_{new} = \int \vec{r} \rho d\tau - \vec{a} \int \rho d\tau$$

If $Q_{tot}=0$



Why no 'tripoles' ?

It does not matter *how many* point charges are present

As long as $\sum q_i \vec{r}_i' \neq 0$ the dominant term in multipole expansion is $\sim \frac{1}{r^2}$

$$\vec{p} = \int \vec{r}' \rho(\vec{r}') d\tau' = \sum q_i \vec{r}_i'$$

$$V_{dipole}(r) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{\hat{r} \cdot \vec{p}}{r^2}$$



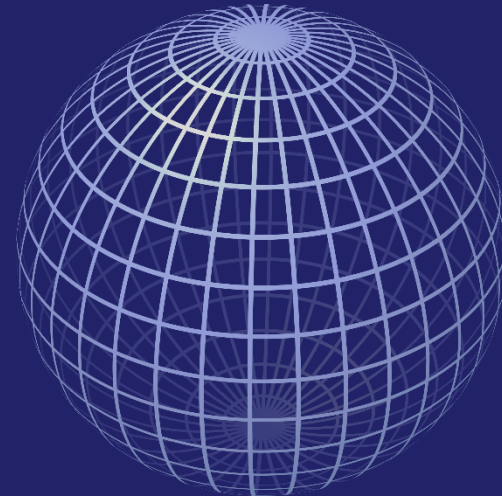
Other examples of dipole moment

Spherical SHELL with surface charge $\sigma = \sigma_0 \cos\theta$

All volume $\int \dots d\tau$ become surface $\int \dots dS$

Will it have monopole moment?

Will it have dipole moment?



Visualize the charge density

Spherical shell charge: dipole moment

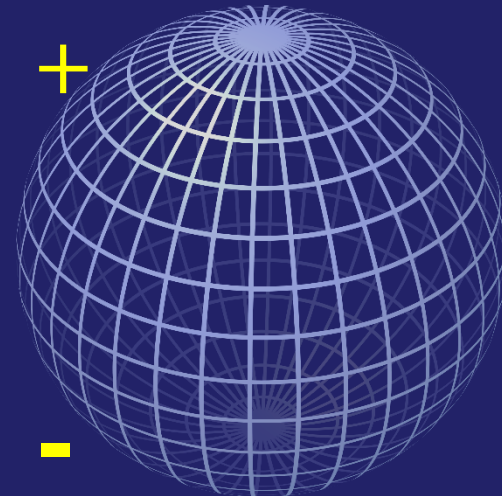
Spherical SHELL with surface charge $\sigma = \sigma_0 \cos\theta$

All volume $\int \dots d\tau$ become surface $\int \dots dS$

Will it have monopole moment?

NO

$$\int \sigma dS = \int \sigma_0 \cos\theta R^2 \sin\theta d\theta d\phi = 0$$



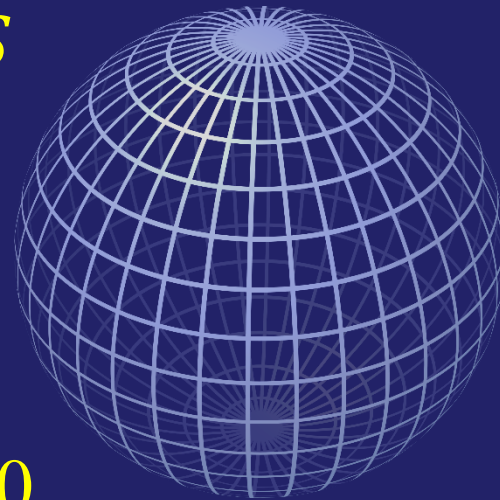
Spherical shell charge: dipole moment

Spherical SHELL with surface charge $\sigma = \sigma_0 \cos\theta$

All volume $\int \dots d\tau$ become surface $\int \dots dS$

Will it have dipole moment?

YES



$$\vec{p} = \int \vec{r} \sigma dS = \int (R \sin\theta \cancel{\cos\phi \hat{i}} + R \sin\theta \cancel{\sin\phi \hat{j}} + R \cos\theta \hat{k}) * \sigma_0 \cos\theta R^2 \sin\theta d\theta d\phi$$

$$\boxed{\vec{p} = \sigma_0 \frac{4}{3} \pi R^3 \hat{k}}$$

If there is ϕ symmetry, $\vec{p} \sim \hat{k}$

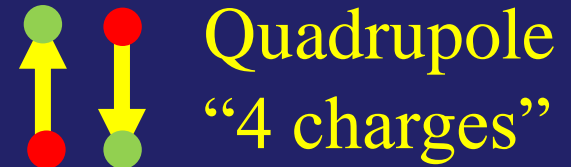
When do higher multipoles matter?

When $\vec{p} = \int \vec{r}' \rho(\vec{r}') d\tau' = 0$, next term $\sim \frac{1}{r^3}$ dominates

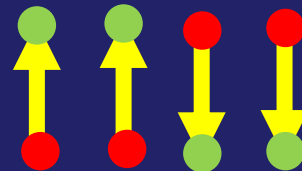
Example: for point charges, if $\sum q_i \vec{r}'_i = 0$

This happens if:

Two dipoles with equal and opposite \vec{p} cancel



Two quadrupoles cancel



Octupole
“8 charges”

More poles in tutorials !



Details of the Dirac delta function sketched on slide 5

(These are the useful working formulae. For a review: <http://goo.gl/NAOofd>)

The role of a $\delta(x - x_0)$ function is to ‘pick’ out the value of $f(x)$ at $x = x_0$

This is how it works in 1,2,3 dimensions:

1D: $\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x) \delta(x - x_0) = f(x_0)$ with normalization $\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \delta(x) \equiv 1$

2D: on a circle of radius R :

$$\iint_{r,\theta=0}^{r=\infty,\theta=2\pi} f(r, \theta) \delta^2(r - R) r dr d\theta = \int_0^{2\pi} R f(R, \theta) d\theta$$

Represent a ring with uniform charge λ : $f(r, \theta) \delta^2(r - R) = \lambda \delta^2(r - R) \rightarrow 2\pi\lambda R$

3D: on a spherical shell of radius R : surface charge σ_0

$$\iiint_{r=0,\theta=0,\phi=0}^{r=\infty,\theta=\pi,\phi=2\pi} f(r, \theta, \phi) \delta^3(r - R) r^2 \sin\theta d\theta d\phi = 4\pi R^2 \sigma_0$$