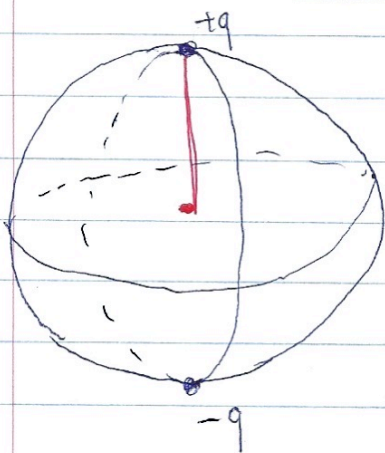


Jackson.

3.6 (a) Inside the sphere, what is the boundary?



This pole between $+q$ and $-q$
is defined by $\theta=0$, $r \in [0, a]$,
gives boundary condition

$$\Phi(r < a, \theta=0, \phi) = kq \left[\frac{1}{a-r} - \frac{1}{a+r} \right]$$

This expression is expanded using geometric series:

$$kq \left[\frac{1}{a-r} - \frac{1}{a+r} \right] = kq \left[\frac{\frac{1}{a}}{1 - \frac{r}{a}} - \frac{\frac{1}{a}}{1 + \frac{r}{a}} \right]$$

(putting things in $\frac{r}{a}$ because we are looking for an expansion in $\frac{r}{a}$ since $r < a$)

$$\begin{aligned} &= kq \frac{1}{a} \left[\frac{1}{1 - \frac{r}{a}} - \frac{1}{1 + \frac{r}{a}} \right] \\ &= kq \frac{1}{a} \left[\frac{1}{1 - \frac{r}{a}} - \frac{1}{1 - (-\frac{r}{a})} \right] \\ &= kq \frac{1}{a} \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \left[\left(\frac{r}{a} \right)^i - \left(-\frac{r}{a} \right)^i \right] \\ &= \boxed{\frac{kq(a)}{a} \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{r}{a} \right)^{2i+1}} \end{aligned}$$

This is not the solution, since we are looking for expansion over spherical harmonics.

It's clear that this configuration is ~~spherically~~ ^{azimuthally} symmetric, thus expansion in spherical harmonics is equivalent to expansion in Legendre Polynomials:

$$\Phi(r < a, \theta = 0, \phi) = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} A_l r^l P_l[\cos \theta] \Big|_{\theta=0}$$

We recall the simple behavior: $P_l[\cos \theta] \Big|_{\theta=0}$ is $P_l[x=1] = 1$.

$$\Rightarrow \Phi(r < a, \theta = 0, \phi) = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} A_l r^l$$

This gives the coefficients $A_l = \frac{2kq}{a} \left(\frac{1}{a}\right)^l$

for odd l , and 0 for all even l :

$$A_l = \begin{cases} \frac{2kq}{a} \left(\frac{1}{a}\right)^l & l \text{ odd} \\ 0 & l \text{ even} \end{cases}$$

~~Clearly, the expansion in~~

This concludes the determination of the Legendre polynomial coefficients using the pole boundary condition, and we write the full expansion over P_l :

$$\boxed{\Phi(r < a, \theta, \phi) = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \frac{2kq}{a} \left(\frac{r}{a}\right)^{2l+1} P_l[\cos \theta]}$$

Now for $r > a$,

$$\Phi(r > a, \theta = 0, \phi) = kq \left[\frac{1}{r-a} - \frac{1}{r+a} \right]$$

$$= kq \left[\frac{1/r}{1 - \frac{a}{r}} - \frac{1/r}{1 + \frac{a}{r}} \right]$$

$$= \frac{kq}{r} \left[\frac{1}{1 - \frac{a}{r}} - \frac{1}{1 + \frac{a}{r}} \right]$$

(Here, ~~the~~ the expansion is over $\frac{a}{r}$ since $r > a$)

$$= \frac{kq}{r} \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \left[\left(\frac{a}{r} \right)^i - \left(-\frac{a}{r} \right)^i \right]$$

$$= \left[\frac{2kq}{r} \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{a}{r} \right)^{2i+1} \right]$$

This gives B_l since

$$\Phi(r > a, \theta = 0, \phi) = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} B_l r^{-(l+1)} P_l[\cos \theta] \Big|_{\theta=0}$$

$$= \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} B_l \left(\frac{1}{r} \right)^{l+1}$$

The boundary condition dictates

$$B_l = \begin{cases} 2kq a^l & l \text{ odd} \\ 0 & l \text{ even} \end{cases}$$

Thus we have $\Phi(r > a, \theta, \phi) = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \frac{2kq a^{l+1}}{2kq a^{2l+1} r^{-(2l+2)}} P_l[\cos \theta]$

Jackson

3.6.b) We previously obtained for $r > a$,

$$\Phi(r > a, \theta, \phi) = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} 2kq a^{2l+1} \frac{r^{-(2l+2)}}{r} P_{2l+1}[\cos \theta].$$

take $qa \equiv P/2$ constant,

$$\Phi = kp \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} a^{2l} \frac{r^{-(2l+2)}}{r} P_{2l+1}[\cos \theta].$$

$$= kp \left[\frac{1}{r^2} P_1[\cos \theta] + \frac{a^2}{r^4} P_3[\cos \theta] + \dots \right]$$

$$\cong \boxed{\frac{kp}{r^2} \cos \theta}$$

To see this is the potential of a dipole, expansion of $\Phi(\vec{r})$ for arbitrary configuration is given in Jackson (4.10):

$$\Phi(\vec{r}) = k \left[\frac{q}{r} + \left[\frac{\vec{p} \cdot \vec{r}}{r^3} \right] + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{ij} Q_{ij} \frac{x_i x_j}{r^5} + \dots \right].$$

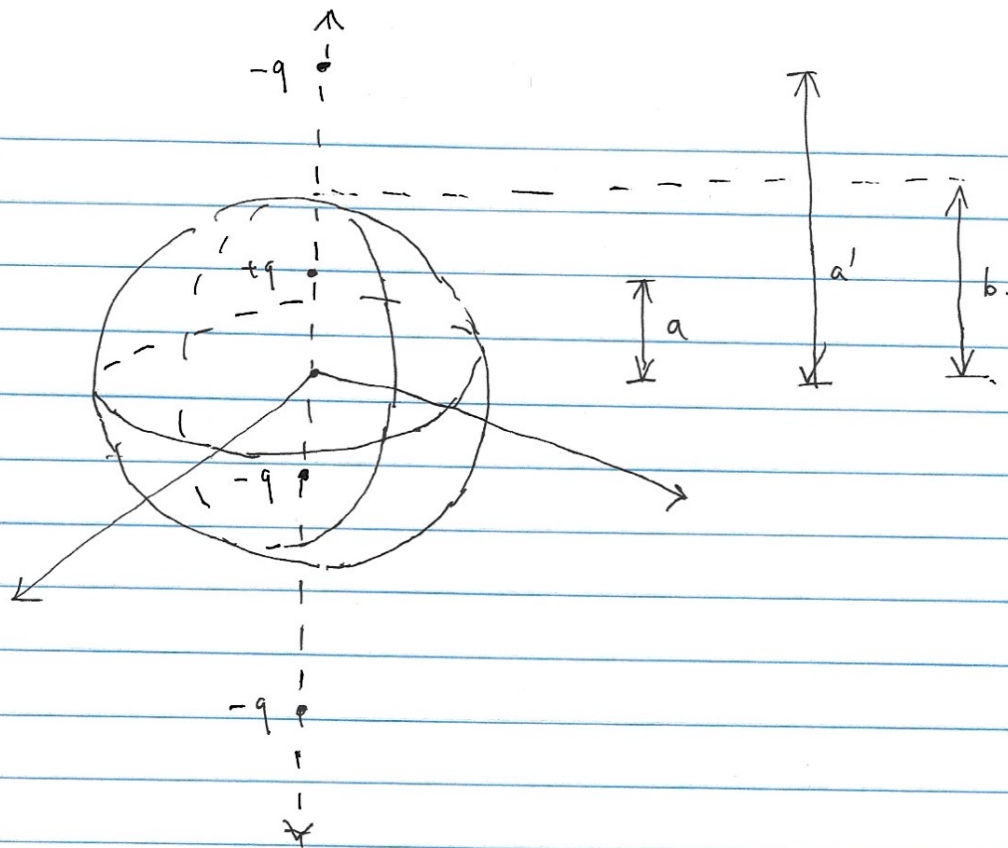
$$\Rightarrow \Phi_{\text{dip}}(\vec{r}) = k \frac{\vec{p} \cdot \vec{r}}{r^3}$$

$$\text{Take } \vec{p} = p \hat{z}, \quad \vec{p} \cdot \vec{r} = r \cos \theta.$$

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1.10.2024.

Jackson

3.6 (c)



Solving the problem of charge q inside grounded conductor via method of images:

$$\Phi(\vec{r}) = \frac{kq}{|\vec{r} - a\hat{z}|} + \frac{kq'}{|\vec{r} - a'\hat{z}|}$$

Impose $\Phi(r=b) = 0$:

$$0 = \Phi(r=b) = \frac{kq}{|b\hat{n} - a\hat{z}|} + \frac{kq'}{|b\hat{n} - a'\hat{z}|}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{kq}{b|\hat{n} - \frac{a}{b}\hat{z}|} + \frac{kq'}{a'|\hat{z} - \frac{b}{a'}\hat{n}|} = 0.$$

Jackson solved this equation via

$$q' = -\frac{b}{a}q, \quad a' = \frac{b^2}{a}$$

We superimpose the two solutions:

$$\Phi_1 = \frac{kq}{|x\hat{n} - a\hat{z}|} + \left(-\frac{b}{a}\right) q k \frac{1}{|x\hat{n} - \frac{b^2}{a}\hat{z}|}$$

The second solution is obtained by $q \rightarrow -q$, $\hat{z} \rightarrow -\hat{z}$:

$$\Phi_2 = \frac{k(-q)}{|x\hat{n} + a\hat{z}|} + \left(-\frac{b}{a}\right)(-q) k \frac{1}{|x\hat{n} + \frac{b^2}{a}\hat{z}|}$$

$$\Rightarrow \Phi = kq \left[\frac{1}{|x\hat{n} - a\hat{z}|} - \left(\frac{b}{a}\right) \frac{1}{|x\hat{n} - \frac{b^2}{a}\hat{z}|} - \frac{1}{|x\hat{n} + a\hat{z}|} + \left(\frac{b}{a}\right) \frac{1}{|x\hat{n} + \frac{b^2}{a}\hat{z}|} \right]$$

single line, not
a vector,
(obviously).

This is the contribution from
2 real and 2 image charges.