

## 2.2 Parallel-Plate Capacitor: Laplace's Equation

### QUESTION 1

$$\Phi((i-1)h, jh) + \Phi((i+1)h, jh) + \Phi(ih, (j-1)h) + \Phi(ih, (j+1)h) - 4\Phi(ih, jh) = 0$$

Rearranging the terms on the left-hand side and then dividing both sides by  $h$ , we get the following:

$$\frac{\Phi((i-1)h, jh) - \Phi(ih, jh)}{h} + \frac{\Phi((i+1)h, jh) - \Phi(ih, jh)}{h} + \frac{\Phi(ih, (j-1)h) - \Phi(ih, jh)}{h} + \frac{\Phi(ih, (j+1)h) - \Phi(ih, jh)}{h} = 0$$

Taking the limit  $h \rightarrow 0$ , we get

$$-\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial X}((i-1)h) + \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial X}(ih) - \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial Y}((j-1)h) + \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial Y}(jh) = 0$$

Rearranging the terms on the left-hand side and then dividing both sides by  $h$  once again, we get:

$$\frac{\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial X}(ih) - \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial X}((i-1)h)}{h} + \frac{\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial Y}(jh) - \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial Y}((j-1)h)}{h} = 0$$

Taking the limit  $h \rightarrow 0$ , we get

$$\frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial X^2}((i-1)h) + \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial Y^2}((j-1)h) = 0$$

As  $i$  and  $j$  are arbitrary, we get that as  $h \rightarrow 0$ , this numerical solution approximates a solution of the Laplace equation.

#### Programming Task:

The program used to carry out the successive over-relaxation (SOR) method to determine  $\Phi$  in the positive quadrant of  $D$  is **Code 1** on page 20, labelled as

SOR(L, DX, DY, h, omega, tol)

### QUESTION 2

Using **Code 1**, we get the following table of values for  $\Phi$  and 3D plot:

**Table 1:**  $\Phi(X, Y)$  when  $L=1$ ,  $D_X=D_Y=2$ ,  $h=0.5$ ,  $\omega=1$  and  $\epsilon_{tol}=10^{-6}$

		y				
		0	0.5	1	1.5	2
x	0	0.0000	0.2440	0.5000	0.2440	0.0000
	0.5	0.0000	0.2381	0.5000	0.2381	0.0000
	1	0.0000	0.2083	0.5000	0.2083	0.0000
	1.5	0.0000	0.0952	0.1726	0.0952	0.0000
	2	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000

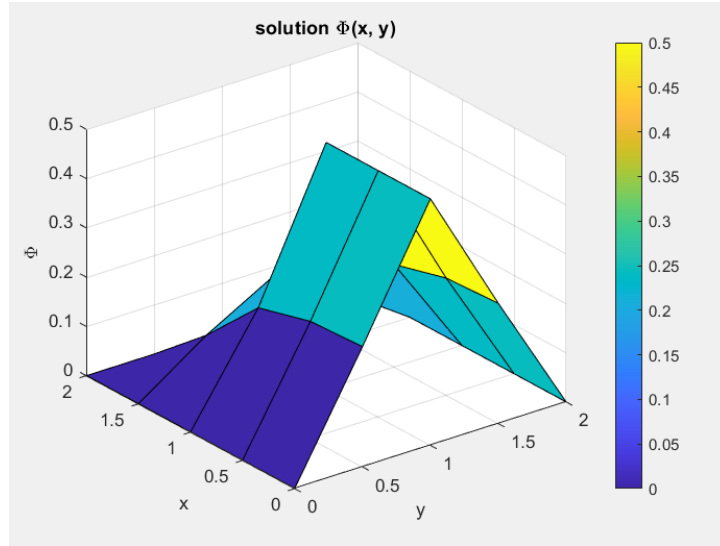


Figure 1: A 3D plot of the solution to  $\Phi$  obtained using the SOR method, with input parameters  $L=1$ ,  $D_X=D_Y=2$ ,  $h=0.5$ ,  $\omega=1$  and  $\epsilon_{tol}=10^{-6}$ .

When setting the error tolerance to be  $10^{-6}$ , we get that  $\Phi(0.5, 0.5) = \Phi_{1,1} = \Phi_{1,3} = \Phi(0.5, 1.5) = 0.2381$  to four decimal places, which is 0.238 to 3 decimal places. To verify that the validity of the method does not depend on the initial guess  $\Phi^{(0)}$ , just try the iteration with two other initial guesses, e.g. a matrix of just ones and a matrix with each row being 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 respectively. When we try both of these, we get the exact same table of values and 3D plot, verifying our belief.

### QUESTION 3

The program used to plot the numerical approximations to  $\Phi(0, Y)$  and  $\Phi(2, Y)$  for  $0 < Y < D_Y$  when  $L=2$ ,  $D_X=D_Y=4$ ,  $h=0.25$ ,  $\omega=1$  and  $\epsilon_{tol}=10^{-6}$  is **Code 2** on page 21, labelled as

SOR\_2(L, DX, DY, h, omega, tol)

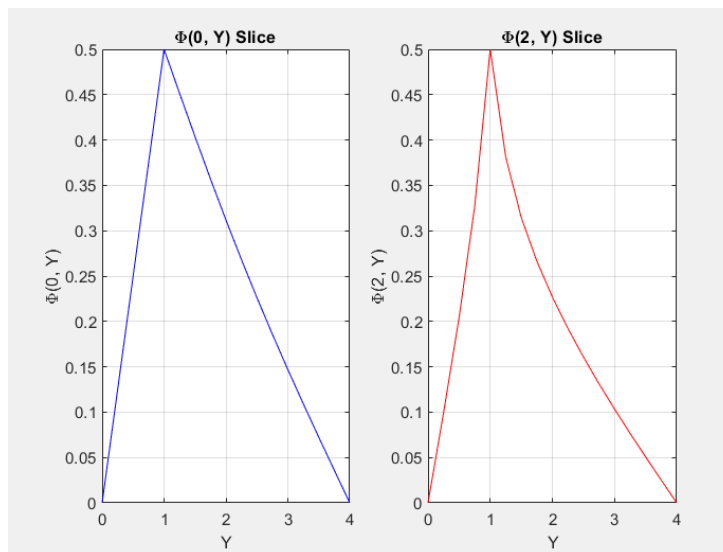


Figure 2: 2D plot of the solution to  $\Phi(0, Y)$  and  $\Phi(2, Y)$  obtained using the SOR method, with input parameters  $L=2$ ,  $D_X=D_Y=4$ ,  $h=0.25$ ,  $\omega=1$  and  $\epsilon_{tol}=10^{-6}$ .

We are given that  $\varepsilon_Y \approx \pm \frac{1}{h} [\Phi(X, Y \mp h) - \Phi(X, Y)]$ , so substituting  $Y=0$  gives:

$$\varepsilon_Y \approx \pm \frac{1}{h} [\Phi(X, \mp h) - \Phi(X, 0)]$$

Because  $\Phi$  is odd in  $Y$ ,

- $\Phi(X, 0) = 0$
- $\frac{1}{h} [\Phi(X, -h)] = -\frac{1}{h} [\Phi(X, h)]$

So, we can just say that:

$$\varepsilon_Y(X, 0) \approx -\frac{1}{h} [\Phi(X, h)]$$

The program used to plot the estimate of  $\varepsilon_Y(X, 0)$  for  $L=2$ ,  $D_X=D_Y=4$ ,  $h=0.25$ ,  $\omega=1$  and  $\varepsilon_{tol}=10^{-6}$  is **Code 3** on page 22, labelled as

```
SOR_3_efield(L, DX, DY, h, omega, tol)
```

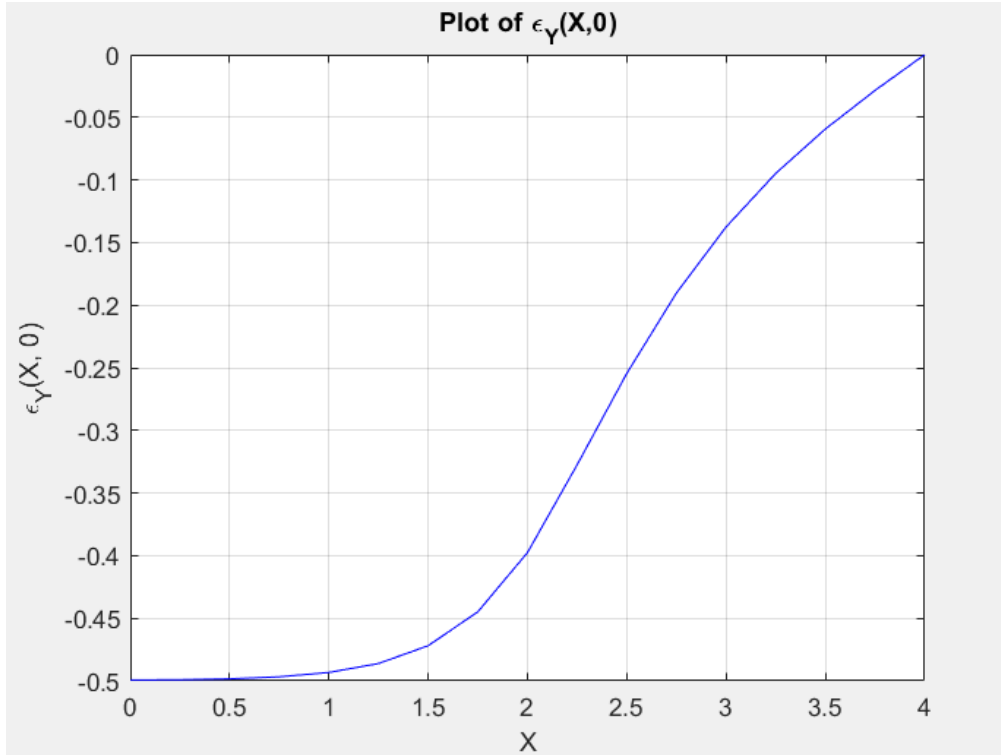


Figure 3: 2D plot of the solution to  $\varepsilon_Y(X,0)$  obtained using the SOR method, with input parameters  $L=2$ ,  $D_X=D_Y=4$ ,  $h=0.25$ ,  $\omega=1$  and  $\varepsilon_{tol}=10^{-6}$ .

The program used to plot the estimate of  $\varepsilon_Y(X, 1)$  for  $L=2$ ,  $D_X=D_Y=4$ ,  $h=0.25$ ,  $\omega=1$  and  $\varepsilon_{tol}=10^{-6}$  on both the lower surface and upper surface is **Code 4** on page 23, labelled as

```
SOR_3_efield_plate(L, DX, DY, h, omega, tol)
```

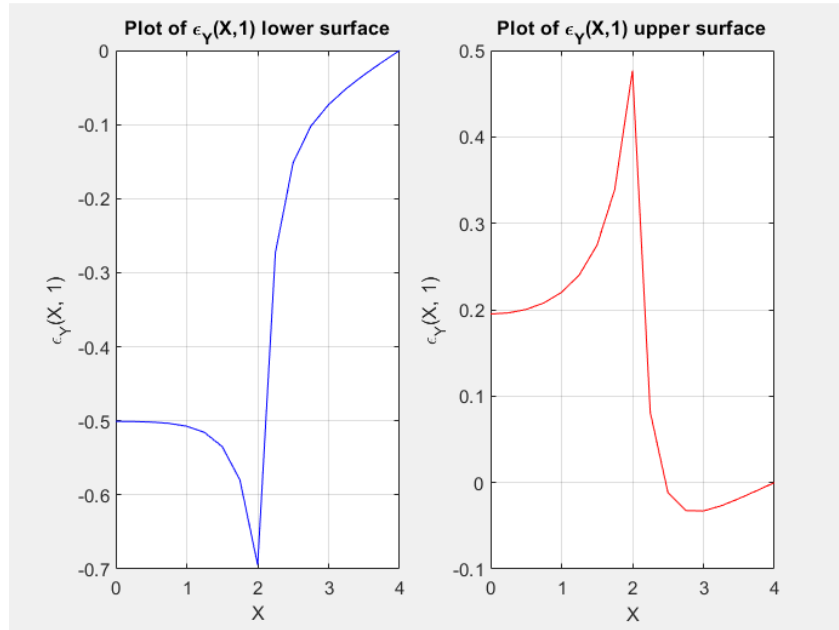


Figure 4: 2D plot of the solution to  $\epsilon_Y(X,1)$  on the lower and upper surfaces of the plate obtained using the SOR method, with input parameters  $L=2$ ,  $D_X=D_Y=4$ ,  $h=0.25$ ,  $\omega=1$  and  $\epsilon_{tol}=10^{-6}$ .

To check the accuracy of this program, I inclusively outputted the table with the values of  $\Phi$  for smaller tolerances, like  $10^{-15}$ , and saw that they all outputted the same values of  $\Phi$  to four significant figures.

## QUESTION 4

Firstly look at how the plots of the numerical approximations to  $\Phi(0, Y)$  and  $\Phi(2, Y)$  change with  $h$ , with all other parameters remaining the same.

**$h=1/8$ :**

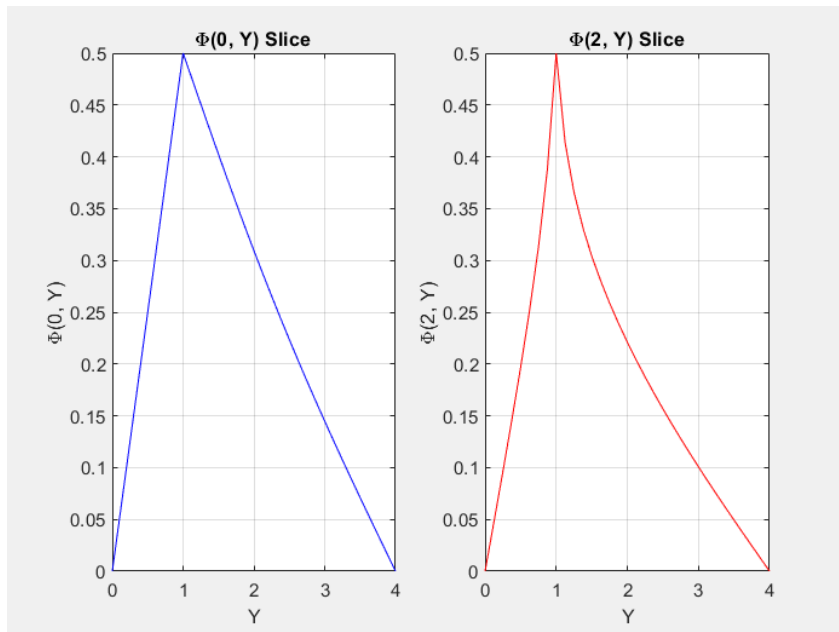


Figure 5: 2D plot of the solution to  $\Phi(0,Y)$  and  $\Phi(2,Y)$  obtained using the SOR method, with input parameters  $L=2$ ,  $D_X=D_Y=4$ ,  $h=1/8$ ,  $\omega=1$  and  $\epsilon_{tol}=10^{-6}$ .

**h=1/12:**

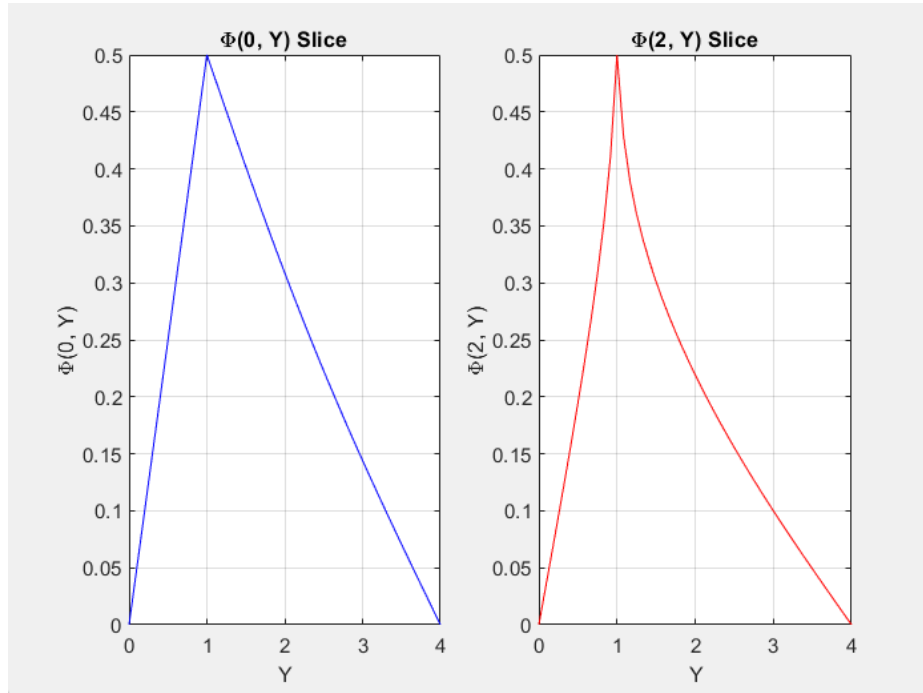


Figure 6: 2D plot of the solution to  $\Phi(0,Y)$  and  $\Phi(2,Y)$  obtained using the SOR method, with input parameters  $L=2$ ,  $D_X=D_Y=4$ ,  $h=1/12$ ,  $\omega=1$  and  $\epsilon_{tol}=10^{-6}$ .

**h=1/20:**

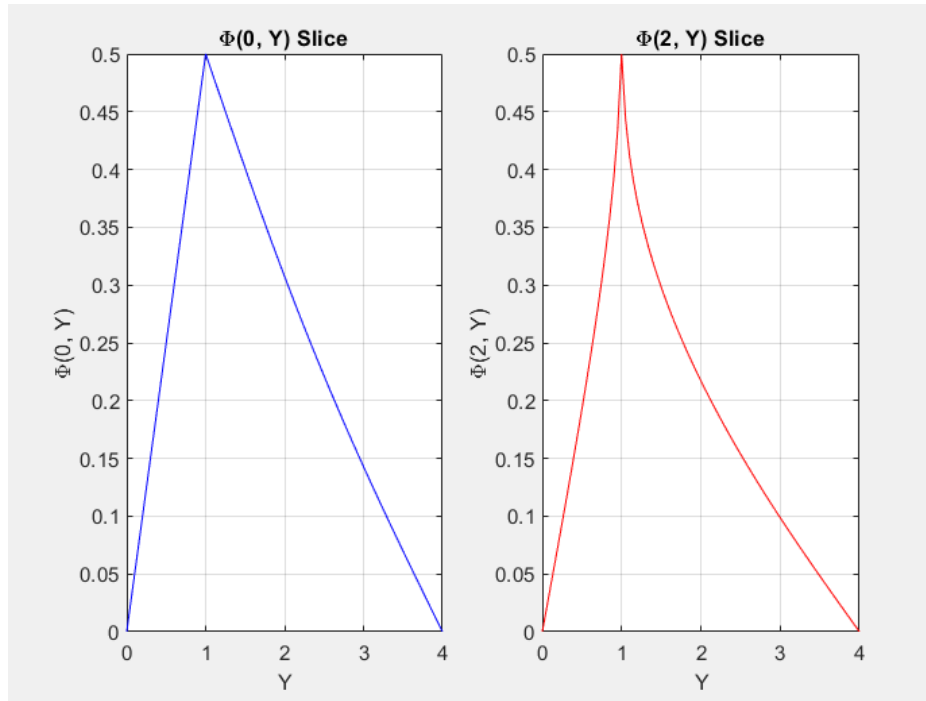


Figure 7: 2D plot of the solution to  $\Phi(0,Y)$  and  $\Phi(2,Y)$  obtained using the SOR method, with input parameters  $L=2$ ,  $D_X=D_Y=4$ ,  $h=1/20$ ,  $\omega=1$  and  $\epsilon_{tol}=10^{-6}$ .

**h=1/50:**

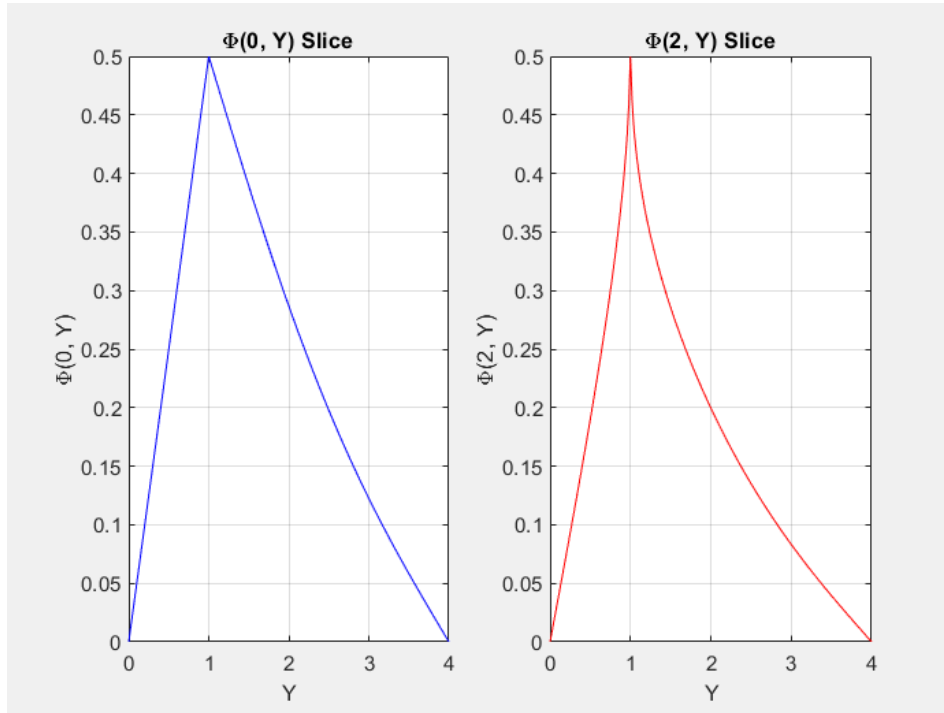


Figure 8: 2D plot of the solution to  $\Phi(0,Y)$  and  $\Phi(2,Y)$  obtained using the SOR method, with input parameters  $L=2$ ,  $D_X=D_Y=4$ ,  $h=1/50$ ,  $\omega=1$  and  $\varepsilon_{tol}=10^{-6}$ .

**h=1/100:**

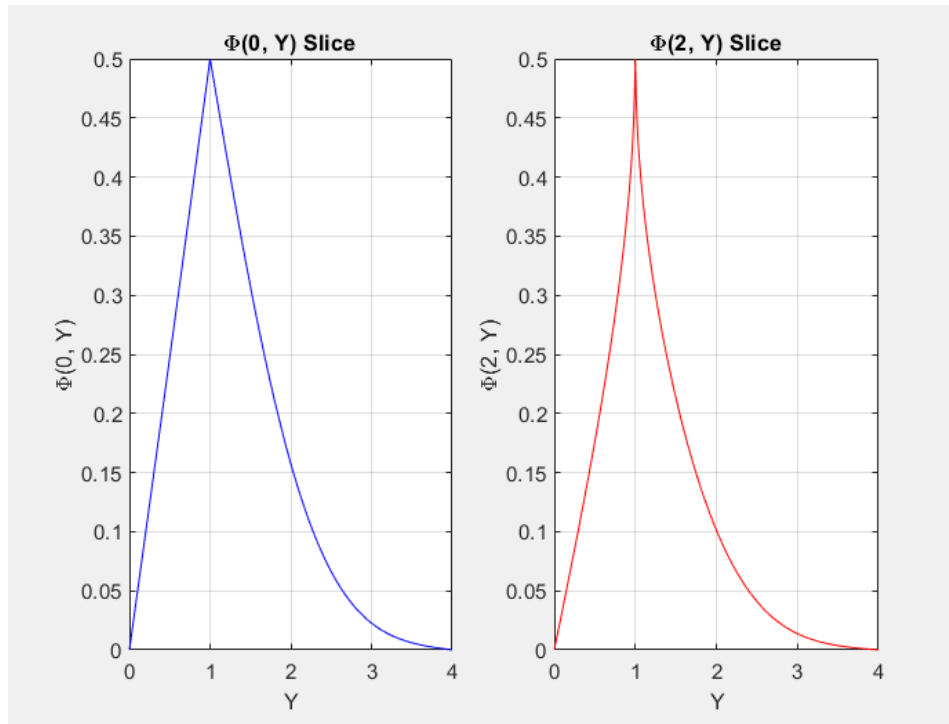


Figure 9: 2D plot of the solution to  $\Phi(0,Y)$  and  $\Phi(2,Y)$  obtained using the SOR method, with input parameters  $L=2$ ,  $D_X=D_Y=4$ ,  $h=1/100$ ,  $\omega=1$  and  $\varepsilon_{tol}=10^{-6}$ .

Then look at how the plot of the numerical approximation to  $\epsilon_Y(X,0)$  changes with  $h$ , with all other parameters remaining the same.

**$h=1/8$ :**

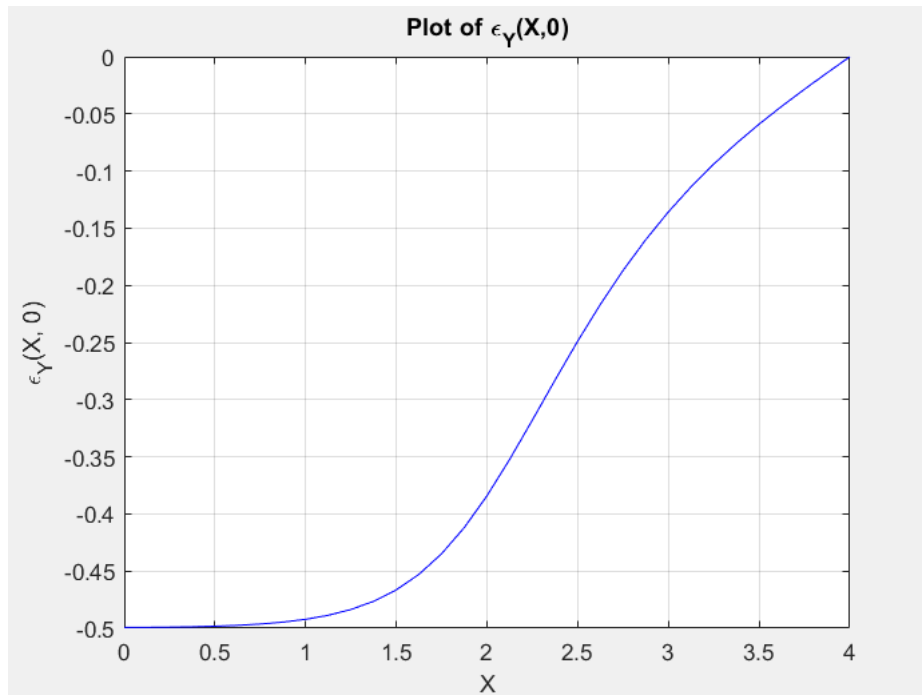


Figure 10: 2D plot of the solution to  $\epsilon_Y(X,0)$  obtained using the SOR method, with input parameters  $L=2$ ,  $D_X=D_Y=4$ ,  $h=1/8$ ,  $\omega=1$  and  $\epsilon_{tol}=10^{-6}$ .

**$h=1/12$ :**

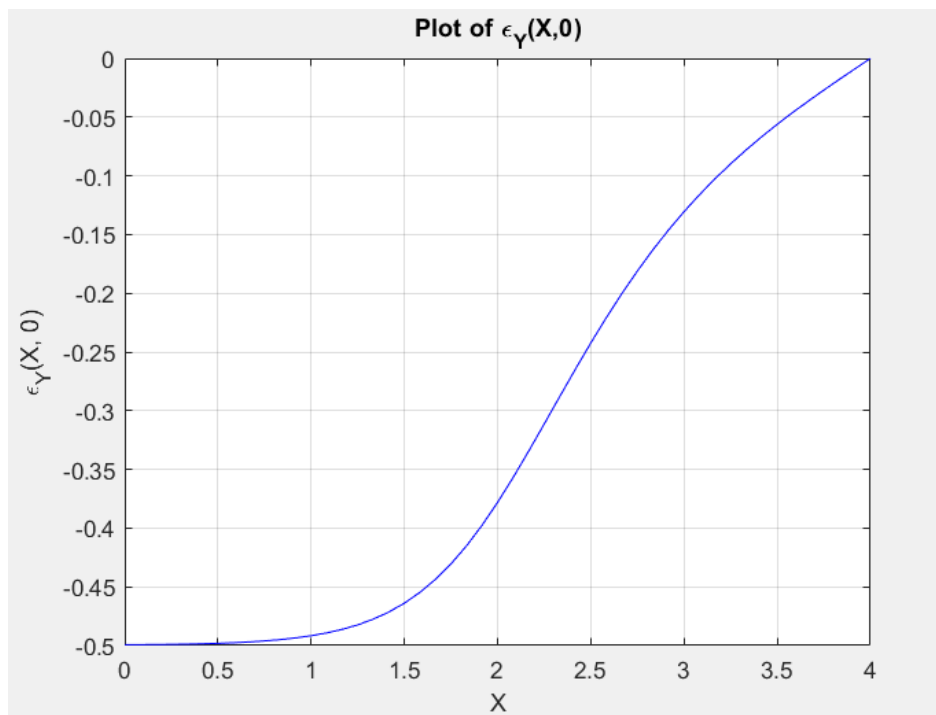


Figure 11: 2D plot of the solution to  $\epsilon_Y(X,0)$  obtained using the SOR method, with input parameters  $L=2$ ,  $D_X=D_Y=4$ ,  $h=1/12$ ,  $\omega=1$  and  $\epsilon_{tol}=10^{-6}$ .

**h=1/20:**

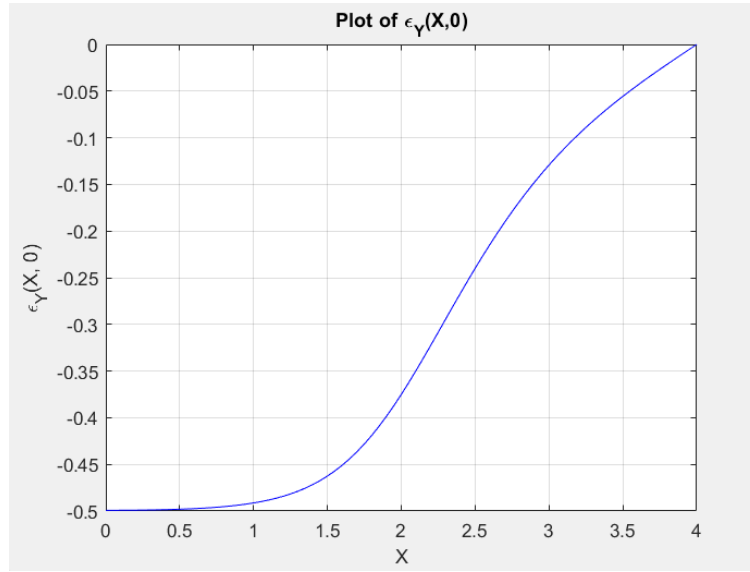


Figure 12: 2D plot of the solution to  $\epsilon_Y(X,0)$  obtained using the SOR method, with input parameters  $L=2$ ,  $D_X=D_Y=4$ ,  $h=1/20$ ,  $\omega=1$  and  $\epsilon_{tol}=10^{-6}$ .

**h=1/50:**

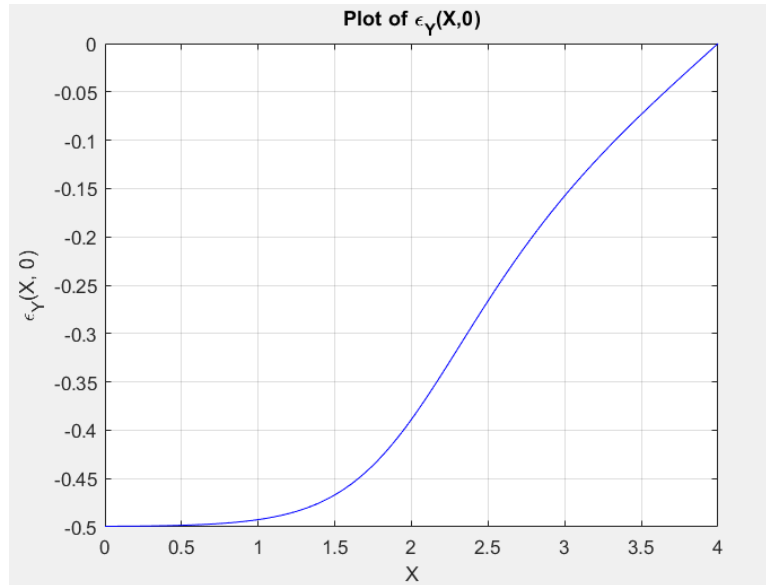


Figure 13: 2D plot of the solution to  $\epsilon_Y(X,0)$  obtained using the SOR method, with input parameters  $L=2$ ,  $D_X=D_Y=4$ ,  $h=1/50$ ,  $\omega=1$  and  $\epsilon_{tol}=10^{-6}$ .

As the value of  $h$  decreases, the peaks for  $\Phi(0,Y)$  and  $\Phi(2,Y)$  become sharper, which is expected and consistent with convergence to a suitable solution to the Laplace equation. Furthermore, we would expect it to be a straight line because in the analytic case, as stated in the project booklet, for large  $L$  the expected physical behaviour in the gap between the plates is that  $\nabla\Phi$  is (almost) aligned with the  $Y$  – direction, which implies little to no  $X$  dependence. Hence to solve Laplace's equation, we just have to solve:

$$\frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial Y^2} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \Phi = AY + B$$



Using boundary conditions  $\Phi = \pm 0.5$  at  $Y = \pm 1$ , we get that  $A=0.5$ ,  $B=0$ , meaning that we get:

$$\Phi = \frac{1}{2}Y$$

, which aligns with what is shown in the graphs.

## QUESTION 5

The number of iterations required for convergence of the SOR code, using the same parameters as in **Question 3** ( $L=2$ ,  $D_X=D_Y=4$ ,  $h=1/4$ ,  $\omega=1$  and  $\epsilon_{tol}=10^{-6}$ ) is 213.

To investigate how this depends on  $\omega$ , I added the whole iteration within another FOR loop that runs through different values of  $\omega$  within the range  $1 \leq \omega < 2$  with 0.01 intervals and plots a graph of  $\omega$  against the number of iterations. The program used to carry this out is **Code 5** on page 24, labelled as

`SOR_4_changing_omega(L, DX, DY, h, tol)`

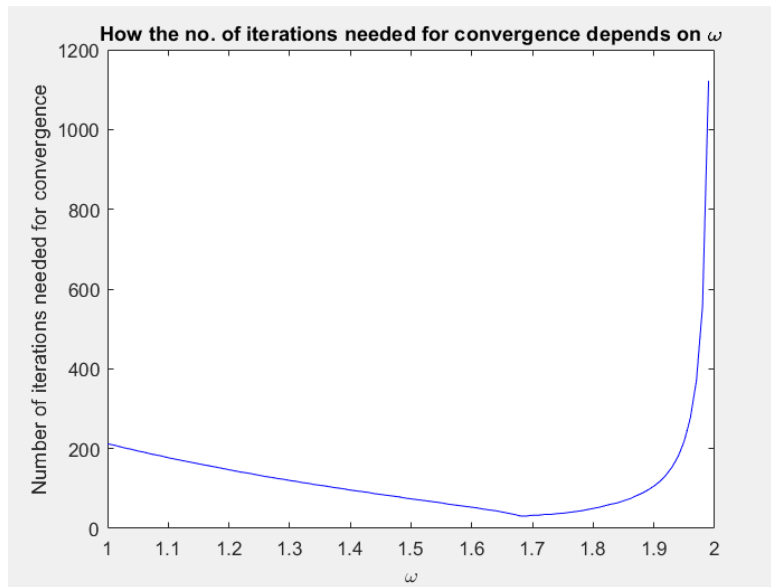


Figure 14: Graph to indicate how the number of iterations changes with  $\omega$ , with input parameters  $L=2$ ,  $D_X=D_Y=4$ ,  $h=0.25$ ,  $\omega=1$  and  $\epsilon_{tol}=10^{-6}$ .

From this, we can see that the optimum value of  $\omega$  is approximately 1.7.

## QUESTION 6

Try out values  $(D_X, D_Y) = (10, 10), (20, 20), (20, 25), (30, 30), (50, 60)$  and  $(80, 100)$  (testing out cases where  $D_X = D_Y$  and also  $D_X \neq D_Y$ ). I've plotted some graphs at the end to display the behaviour, using **Code 1** to do so.

From these, we can see that as  $D_X$  and  $D_Y$  increase in value, due to the boundary conditions of  $\Phi = 0$ , the right side of the peak spreads out more. Intuitively thinking, this makes sense because if the boundary value of  $\Phi$  is zero, but the boundary is made to be further from the peak, the function can be non-zero over a larger area. The right side of the peak looks to decrease in a way that indicates proportionality to  $1/r$ , which aligns with what we know about electric potential generally.

As for the left side of the peak, this remains a straight line for all values of  $D_X$  and  $D_Y$ , which does make sense as the distance till the boundary on that side is not increasing, and it is a requirement that  $\Phi(X, 0) = 0$ .

Furthermore, as proven in **Question 4**, the analytic solution for the left side of the peak is  $\Phi = \frac{1}{2}Y$ , meaning that we would expect a straight line for the left side of the peak.

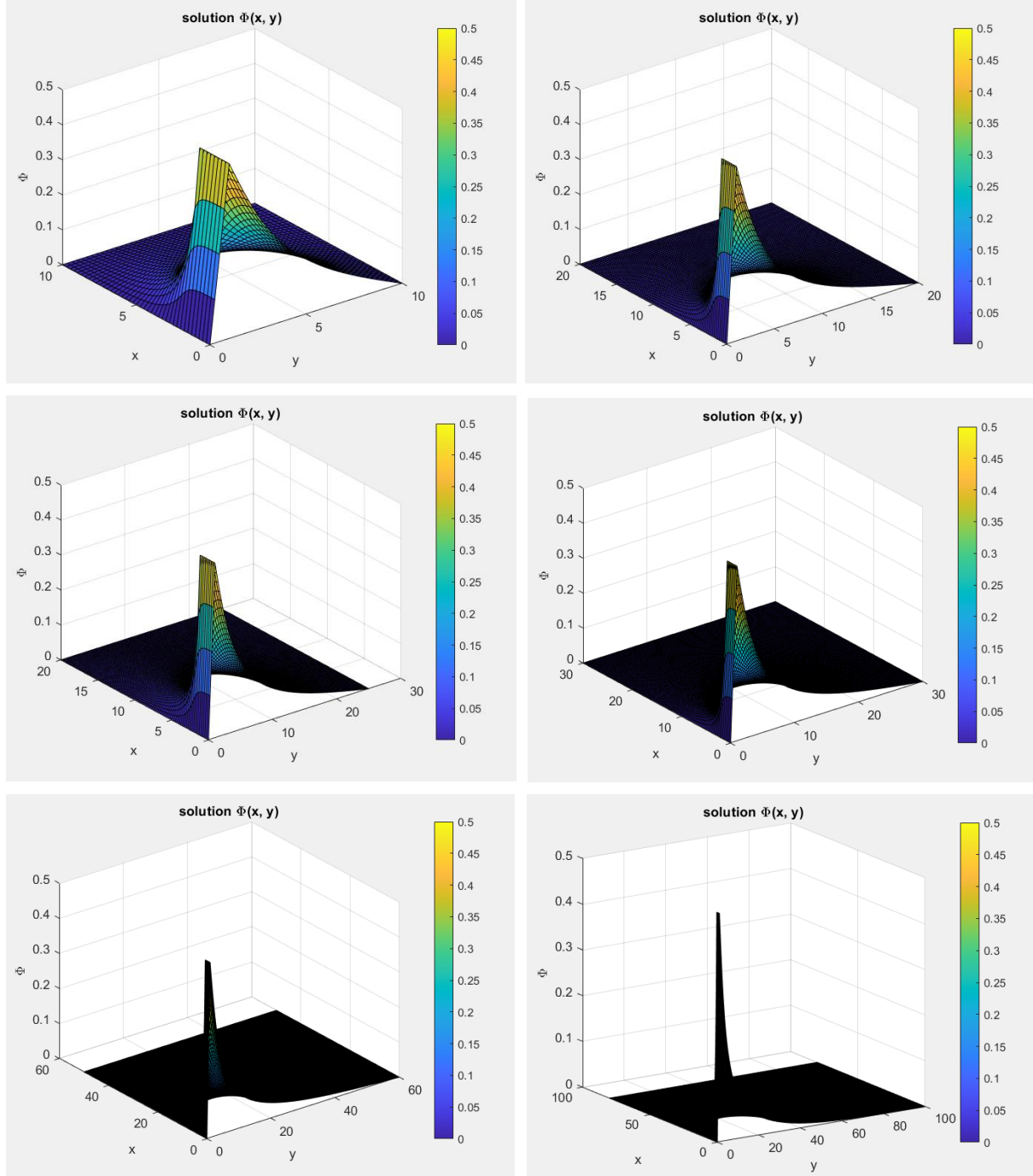


Figure 15: Six 3D graphs of  $\Phi(X, Y)$  for various  $D_X$  and  $D_Y$  to indicate how much the numerical solutions near the plates are affected by the boundary condition that  $\Phi = 0$  on the boundary of  $D$ .

## QUESTION 7

We are given the following definition:  $W = -\Phi + i\Psi$ . To interpret this parametrically, take  $\Phi=c$  and  $\Psi=k$ , where  $c$  and  $k$  are both real constants, with  $c \in [-1/2, 1/2]$ , so now  $W = -c + ik$ .

Also recall that we are given the following equation relating  $X$ ,  $Y$ ,  $L$  and  $W$ :

$$(X - L) + iY = \frac{1 + e^{-2\pi iW}}{\pi} - 2iW$$

Substitute the formula we have for  $W$  into this, and  $L=0$ :

$$X + iY = \frac{1 + e^{-2\pi i(-c+ik)}}{\pi} - 2i(-c + ik)$$

$$X + iY = \frac{1 + e^{2\pi ic + 2\pi k}}{\pi} + 2ic + 2k$$

$$X + iY = \frac{1 + e^{2\pi k}(\cos(2\pi c) + i\sin(2\pi c))}{\pi} + 2ic + 2k$$

$$X + iY = \frac{1 + e^{2\pi k} \cos(2\pi c)}{\pi} + 2k + 2ic + \frac{ie^{2\pi k} \sin(2\pi c)}{\pi}$$

Equating real and imaginary parts, we obtain the following parametric equations:

$$X = \frac{1 + e^{2\pi k} \cos(2\pi c)}{\pi} + 2k \quad Y = \frac{e^{2\pi k} \sin(2\pi c)}{\pi} + 2c$$

To plot each equipotential line, we need to keep  $c$  fixed and vary  $k$ .

The program used to plot the equipotential lines when  $L=0$  is **Code 6** on page 25, labelled as

equipotential\_lines

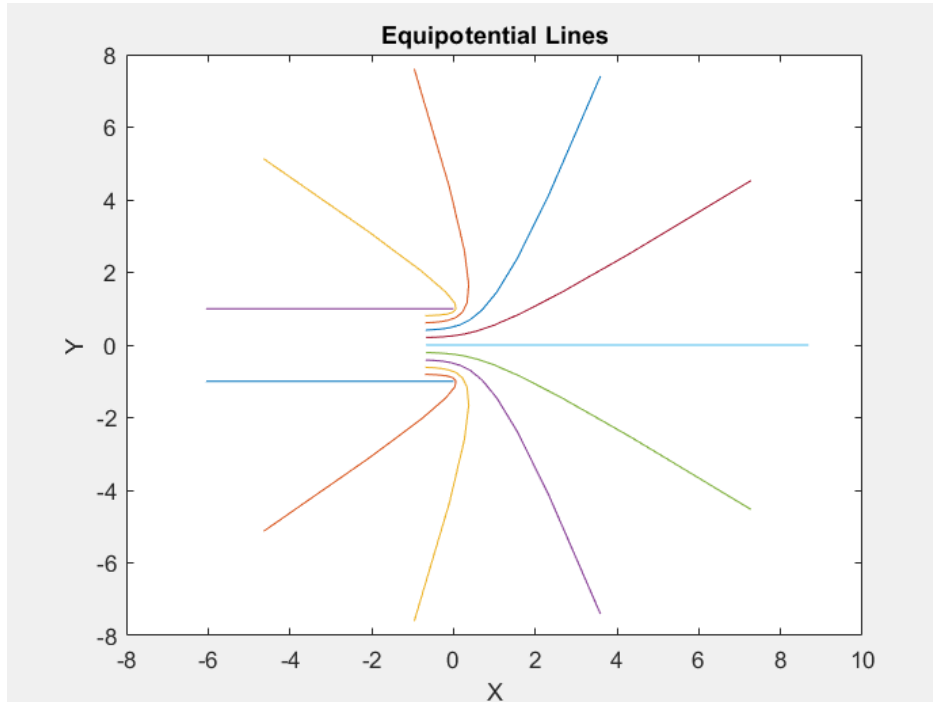


Figure 16: Plot of the equipotential lines for the semi-infinite case with  $L = 0$ .

The program used to plot the field lines when  $L=0$  is **Code 7** on page 25, labelled as

field\_lines

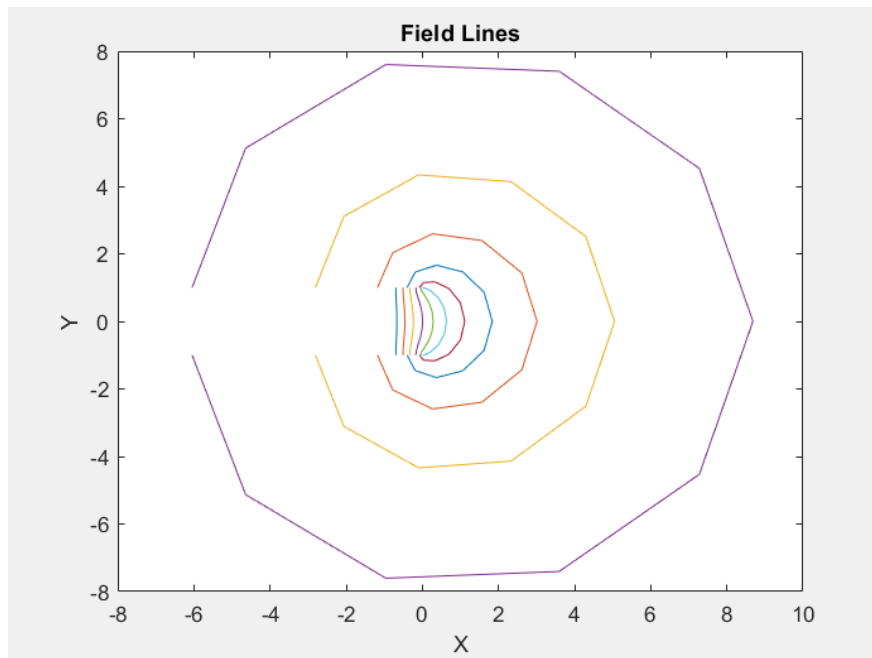


Figure 17: Plot of the field lines for the semi-infinite case with  $L = 0$ .

To see the behaviour of the equipotentials near the plate (below and above), I have written two codes – one to show the equipotentials right below the plate, and the other to show the equipotentials right above the plate. For the lower plate, I used negative  $\Psi$ , and positive  $\Psi$  for the upper plate.

The program used to plot the equipotential lines when  $L=0$  right below the plate is **Code 8** on page 26, labelled as

equipotential\_at\_plate\_lower

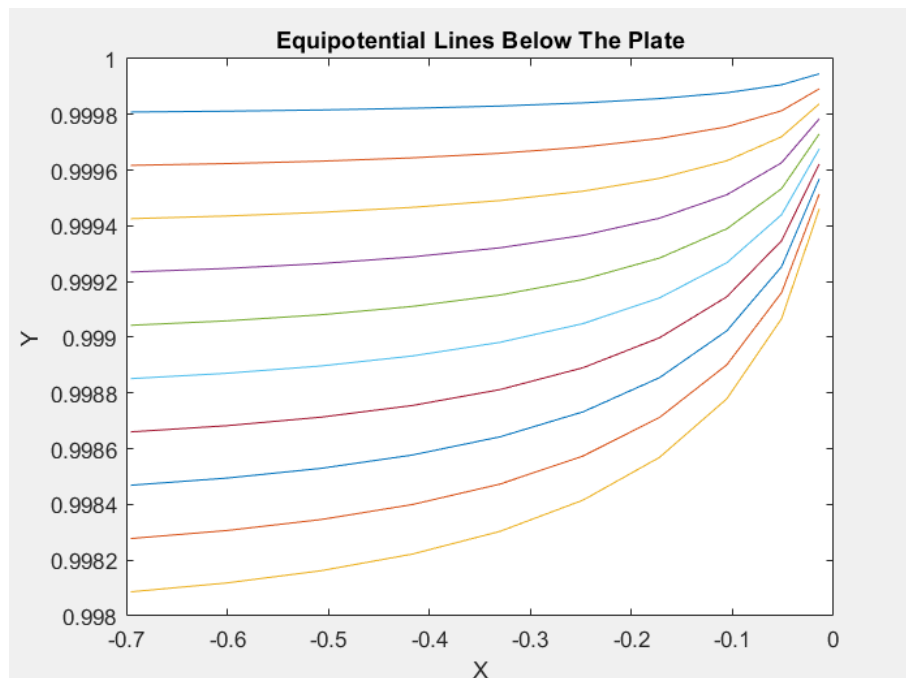


Figure 18: Plot of the equipotential lines for the semi-infinite case with  $L = 0$  at the lower surface of the plate.

The program used to plot the equipotential lines when  $L=0$  right above the plate is **Code 9** on page 26, labelled as

equipotential\_at\_plate\_upper

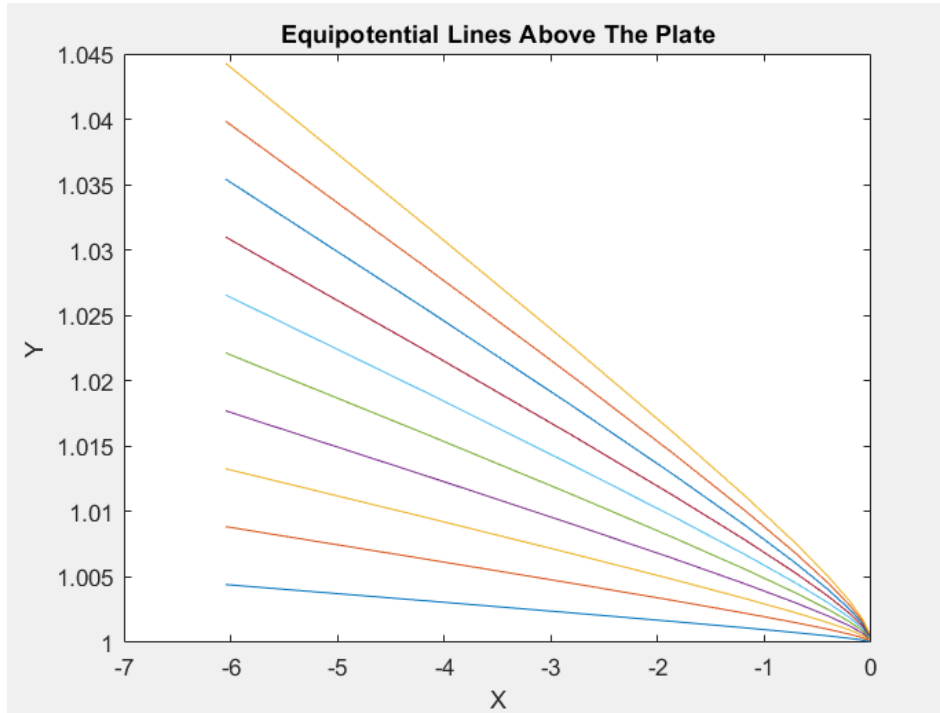


Figure 19: Plot of the equipotential lines for the semi-infinite case with  $L = 0$  at the upper surface of the plate.

## QUESTION 8

Recall equation (12):

$$-\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial X} + i \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial Y} = \frac{i}{2(e^{-2\pi i W} + 1)}$$

Once again, take  $W = -c + ik$ , but this time, as we are looking at the behaviour on the plate,  $c = 1/2$ :

$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial X} + i \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial Y} &= \frac{i}{2\left(e^{-2\pi i\left(-\frac{1}{2} + ik\right)} + 1\right)} \\ -\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial X} + i \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial Y} &= \frac{i}{2(e^{i\pi} e^{2\pi k} + 1)} \end{aligned}$$

Recall that  $e^{i\pi} = -1$ , so:

$$-\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial X} + i \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial Y} = \frac{i}{2(-e^{2\pi k} + 1)}$$

, which is purely imaginary, so when we compare real parts, we get that  $\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial X} = 0$  hence the electric field will just be in the  $Y$  direction.

Equating imaginary components, the magnitude of the electric field at the plate is:

$$\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial Y} = \frac{1}{2(1 - e^{2\pi k})}$$

, where k is the magnitude of  $\Psi$ .

### Asymptotic behaviour of Equation (11)

At the plate, see what the equations for X and Y become:

$$\begin{aligned} X - L &= \frac{1 + e^{2\pi k} \cos(2\pi c)}{\pi} + 2k & Y &= \frac{e^{2\pi k} \sin(2\pi c)}{\pi} + 2c \\ X - L &= \frac{1 + e^{2\pi k} \cos(2\pi(0.5))}{\pi} + 2k & Y &= \frac{e^{2\pi k} \sin(2\pi(0.5))}{\pi} + 2(0.5) \\ X - L &= \frac{1 + e^{2\pi k} \cos(\pi)}{\pi} + 2k & Y &= \frac{e^{2\pi k} \sin(\pi)}{\pi} + 1 \\ X - L &= \frac{1 - e^{2\pi k}}{\pi} + 2k & Y &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

, where k is the magnitude of  $\Psi$ .

$\Psi \rightarrow 0^+$ :

- For  $k > 0$ ,  $e^{2\pi k} > 1$ , so the numerator of the first term is negative.
- However, as k approaches zero from above,  $e^{2\pi k} \rightarrow 1$ , so  $1 - e^{2\pi k} \rightarrow 0^-$ .
- $1 - e^{2\pi k}$  becomes negative faster than  $2k$  becomes positive, so  $X - L$  remains negative, tending to zero from below.
- Hence  $X - L \rightarrow 0^-$ .

$\Psi \rightarrow \infty$ :

- For  $k \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $e^{2\pi k} \rightarrow \infty$ , so the numerator of the first term becomes very large and negative.
- $2k \rightarrow \infty$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$  too, but  $\frac{1 - e^{2\pi k}}{\pi}$  becomes large negative much faster than  $2k$  becomes large positive, so  $X - L \rightarrow -\infty$  as  $\Psi \rightarrow \infty$ .

### Asymptotic behaviour of Equation (12)

At the plate, we've already shown that the equation just becomes:

$$\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial Y} = \frac{1}{2(1 - e^{2\pi k})}$$

, where k is the magnitude of  $\Psi$ .

$\Psi \rightarrow 0^+$ :

- For  $k > 0$ ,  $e^{2\pi k} > 1$ , so the denominator is negative.
- However, as k approaches zero from above,  $e^{2\pi k} \rightarrow 1$ , so the denominator tends to zero.
- Hence  $\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial Y} \rightarrow -\infty$ .

$\Psi \rightarrow \infty$ :

- For  $k \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $e^{2\pi k} \rightarrow \infty$ , so the denominator becomes very large and negative.
- Hence  $\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial Y} \rightarrow 0^-$ .
- So, the electric field tends to zero as  $\Psi \rightarrow \infty$ .

To get the first formula for  $X \rightarrow L^-$ , firstly recall that this is equivalent to  $k \rightarrow 0^+$ .

Now focus on the formula  $X - L = \frac{1 - e^{2\pi k}}{\pi} + 2k$ . From this, we firstly get that:

$$L - X = \frac{e^{2\pi k} - 1}{\pi} - 2k.$$

Taylor expand  $e^{2\pi k}$  and simplify the expression on the right-hand side:

$$\begin{aligned} L - X &= \frac{1 + 2\pi k + \frac{(2\pi k)^2}{2!} + \dots - 1}{\pi} - 2k \\ L - X &= \frac{1 + 2\pi k + \frac{(2\pi k)^2}{2!} + \dots - 1 - 2\pi k}{\pi} \\ L - X &\approx \frac{\frac{(2\pi k)^2}{2!}}{\pi} \end{aligned}$$

We ignore higher-order terms this time, as for  $k \rightarrow 0^+$ , higher-order terms become extremely small and therefore negligible. So:

$$\begin{aligned} L - X &\approx \frac{4\pi^2 k^2}{2\pi} = 2\pi k^2 \\ k &\approx \left( \frac{L - X}{2\pi} \right)^{1/2} \end{aligned}$$

Now focus on the equation for the Y-component of the electric field:

$$\varepsilon_Y(X, 1^+) = -\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial Y} = \frac{1}{2(e^{2\pi k} - 1)}$$

Taylor expand  $e^{2\pi k}$  again and simplify the expression on the right-hand side:

$$\varepsilon_Y(X, 1^+) \approx \frac{1}{2(1 + 2\pi k + \dots - 1)} = \frac{1}{4\pi k}$$

Substitute the expression for k derived:

$$\frac{1}{4\pi k} \approx \frac{1}{4\pi} \left( \frac{2\pi}{L - X} \right)^{1/2} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{8\pi}} (L - X)^{-1/2}$$

Hence, we get that:

$$\varepsilon_Y(X, 1^+) \approx a(L - X)^{-1/2}$$

for  $X \rightarrow L^-$ , where  $a = \frac{1}{\sqrt{8\pi}}$ .

To get the second formula for  $X \rightarrow -\infty$  ( $X - L \rightarrow -\infty$ ), recall that this is equivalent to  $k \rightarrow \infty$ .

Go back to  $X - L = \frac{1 - e^{2\pi k}}{\pi} + 2k$ ; we will ignore the second  $2k$  term as its positive growth is trivial compared to the negative growth of the first term.

Now rearrange  $X - L \approx \frac{1 - e^{2\pi k}}{\pi}$ :

$$e^{2\pi k} - 1 \approx \pi(L - X)$$

Substituting this into the expression for  $\varepsilon_Y(X, 1^+)$ ,

$$\varepsilon_Y(X, 1^+) \approx \frac{1}{2(\pi(L - X))} = \frac{1}{2\pi}(L - X)^{-1}$$

Hence, we get that:

$$\varepsilon_Y(X, 1^+) \approx b(L - X)^{-1}$$

for  $X \rightarrow -\infty$ , where  $b = \frac{1}{2\pi}$ .

On the lower surface of the plate, instead consider  $\Psi \rightarrow 0^-$  and  $\Psi \rightarrow -\infty$ .

### Asymptotic behaviour of Equation (11)

$$X - L = \frac{1 - e^{2\pi k}}{\pi} + 2k \quad Y = 1$$

, where k is the magnitude of  $\Psi$ .

$\Psi \rightarrow 0^-$ :

- For  $k < 0$ ,  $0 < e^{2\pi k} < 1$ , so the numerator of the first term is positive.
- However, as k approaches zero from below,  $e^{2\pi k} \rightarrow 1$ , so  $1 - e^{2\pi k} \rightarrow 0^+$ .
- $1 - e^{2\pi k}$  becomes positive slower than  $2k$  becomes negative, so  $X - L$  remains negative, tending to zero from negative. Hence  $X - L \rightarrow 0^-$ .

$\Psi \rightarrow -\infty$ :

- For  $k \rightarrow -\infty$ ,  $e^{2\pi k} \rightarrow 0$ , so the first term just tends to  $1/\pi$ .
- $2k \rightarrow -\infty$  as  $k \rightarrow -\infty$  too, so the  $1/\pi$  term becomes trivial and  $X - L \rightarrow -\infty$  as  $\Psi \rightarrow -\infty$ .

### Asymptotic behaviour of Equation (12)

$$\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial Y} = \frac{1}{2(1 - e^{2\pi k})}$$

$\Psi \rightarrow 0^-$ :

- For  $k < 0$ ,  $0 < e^{2\pi k} < 1$ , so the denominator is positive.
- However, as k approaches zero from below,  $e^{2\pi k} \rightarrow 1$ , so the denominator tends to zero.
- Hence  $\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial Y} \rightarrow \infty$ .

$\Psi \rightarrow -\infty$ :

- For  $k \rightarrow -\infty$ ,  $e^{2\pi k} \rightarrow 0$ , so  $\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial Y} \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}$

For  $X \rightarrow L^-$ , by using the same method as before but taking the negative square root for k in terms of L and X, we can derive the same result as we did for the upper surface of the plate, but  $a = -1/\sqrt{8\pi}$ .

For  $X \rightarrow -\infty$ ,

$$\varepsilon_Y(X, 1^+) = -\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial Y} \approx -\frac{1}{2}$$



## QUESTION 9

The program used to plot the solutions for  $\epsilon_Y(X,1)$  on both the lower surface and upper surface for the finite and semi-finite case is **Code 10** on page 27, labelled as

`SOR_3_efield_plate_q9(L, DX, DY, h, omega, tol)`

$(L, D_X, D_Y, h, \omega, \epsilon_{tol}) = (20, 100, 100, 0.25, 1.7, 10^{-6})$ :

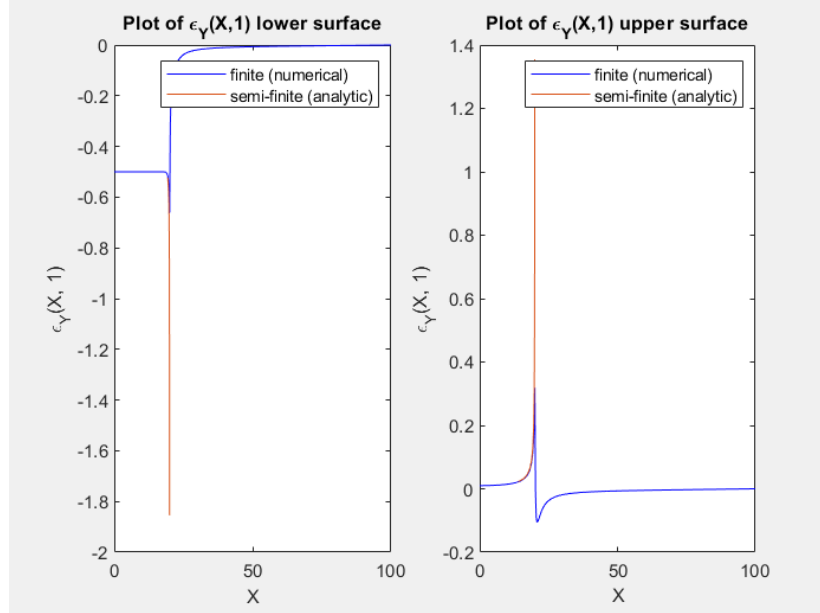


Figure 20: 2D plot of the numerical and analytic solutions to  $\epsilon_Y(X,1)$  on the lower and upper surfaces of the plate for  $L=20$ .

$(L, D_X, D_Y, h, \omega, \epsilon_{tol}) = (40, 200, 200, 0.25, 1.7, 10^{-6})$ :

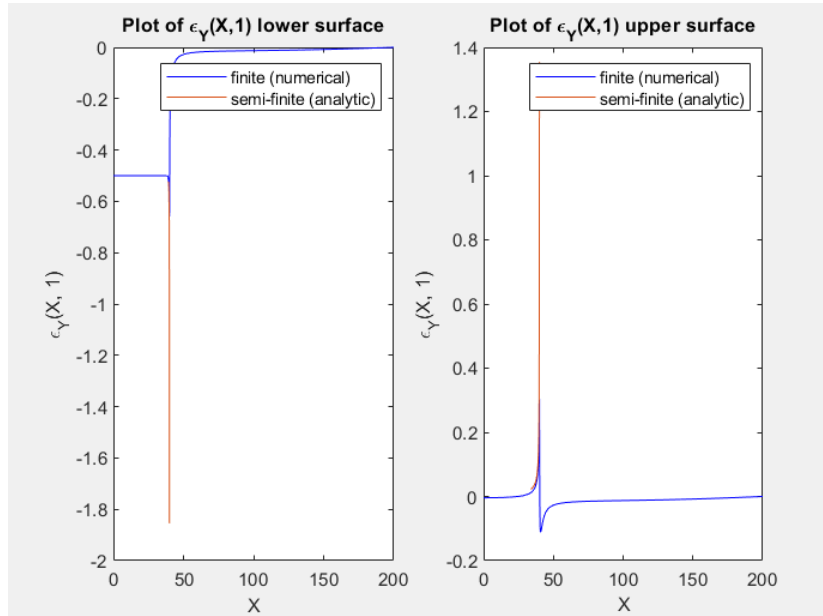


Figure 21: 2D plot of the numerical and analytic solutions to  $\epsilon_Y(X,1)$  on the lower and upper surfaces of the plate  $L=40$ .

$(L, D_X, D_Y, h, \omega, \varepsilon_{tol}) = (50, 250, 250, 0.25, 1.7, 10^{-6})$ :

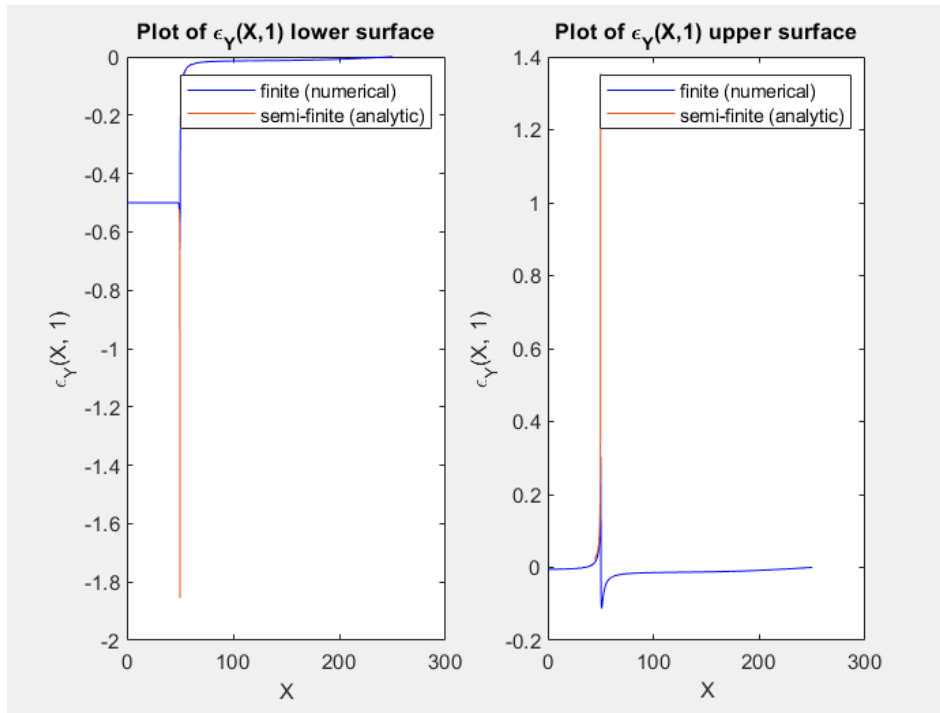


Figure 22: 2D plot of the numerical and analytic solutions to  $\varepsilon_Y(X,1)$  on the lower and upper surfaces of the plate for  $L=50$ .

Firstly, look into the effect of changing  $h$  whilst keeping other parameters the same; I will take parameters  $(L, D_X, D_Y, h, \omega, \varepsilon_{tol}) = (10, 40, 40, h, 1.7, 10^{-6})$ , using  $\omega=1.7$  throughout this question as we showed in **Question 5** that this is the optimum value. I will be comparing  $h=0.1$  and  $h=0.25$ .

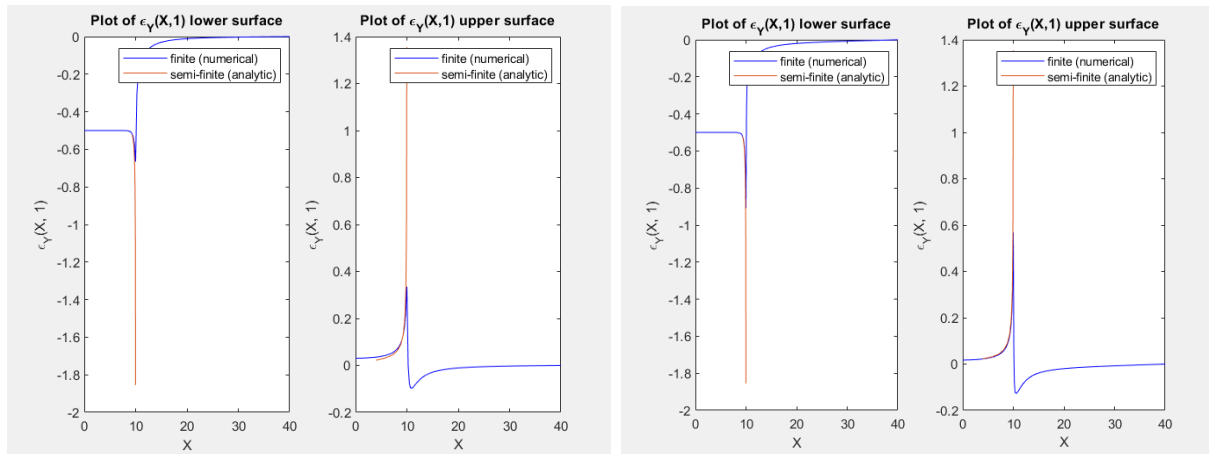


Figure 23: 2D plot of the numerical and analytic solutions to  $\varepsilon_Y(X,1)$  on the lower and upper surfaces of the plate for  $(L, D_X, D_Y, h, \omega, \varepsilon_{tol}) = (10, 40, 40, h, 1.7, 10^{-6})$ , with  $h=0.1$  and  $h=0.25$ .

As we can see from these graphs, the peaks are higher at  $X=L$  when  $h$  is smaller. Furthermore, the numerical solution looks to be more accurate for smaller  $h$  (as it aligns more with the analytic solution), which makes sense. However, we use 0.25 for most of this question as the computational time for  $h=0.1$  is incredibly high.

We can inclusively see the effect of changing  $D_X$  and  $D_Y$  whilst keeping other parameters the same; I will take parameters  $(L, D_X, D_Y, h, \omega, \varepsilon_{tol}) = (10, D_X, D_Y, 0.25, 1.7, 10^{-6})$ , and test  $D_X=D_Y=20$  and  $D_X=D_Y=40$ .

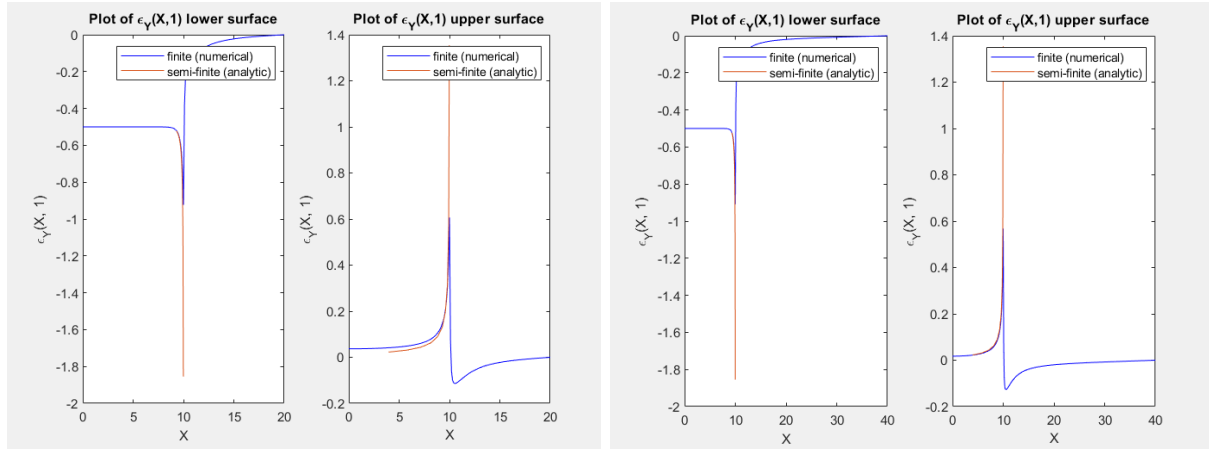


Figure 24: 2D plot of the numerical and analytic solutions to  $\varepsilon_Y(X, 1)$  on the lower and upper surfaces of the plate for  $(L, D_X, D_Y, h, \omega, \varepsilon_{tol}) = (10, D_X, D_Y, 0.25, 1.7, 10^{-6})$ , with  $D_X = D_Y = 20$  and  $D_X = D_Y = 40$ .

As Figure 24 shows, the numerical solution aligns with the analytic solution at  $X=L$  better for higher  $D_X$  and  $D_Y$ , suggesting that a higher  $D_X$  and  $D_Y$  outputs a more accurate solution.

For all of these, the shape of the numerical graph depends on  $L$ , as this is where the peaks occur. Furthermore, we can see that the part of the domain for which the numerical solution depends the most on the other parameters is at  $X=L$  itself.

The solutions for the finite and semi-finite cases seem to match between  $X=0$  and  $X=L$ ; the semi-finite solutions show a higher peak, but considering the fact that peak height of the finite case increases when a smaller  $h$  is used, as shown before, this is probably just due to the use of a higher  $h$  (we used  $h=0.25$  for the numerical solutions generally because otherwise the computational time is far too high).

# Programs

## CODE 1

```
function[phi] = SOR(L, DX, DY, h, omega, tol)
Nx = DX / h;
Ny = DY / h;
N=(Nx+1)*(Ny+1);
x = linspace(0, DX, Nx+1);
y = linspace(0, DY, Ny+1);

phi = zeros(Nx+1, Ny+1);
phi(Nx+1,:) = 0;
phi(:,1) = 0;
phi(:,Ny+1) = 0;

max_iter = 10000;

for k=1:max_iter
    residual=0;
    phi_old = phi;
    for i = 1:Nx
        for j = 2:Ny
            if i==1
                phi(i,j) = (1 - omega) * phi(i,j) + (omega/4) * (phi(i+1,j) +
phi(i+1,j) + phi(i,j-1) + phi(i,j+1));
            else
                phi(i,j) = (1 - omega) * phi(i,j) + (omega/4) * (phi(i-1,j) +
phi(i+1,j) + phi(i,j-1) + phi(i,j+1));
            end
            if j==(1/h)+1 && i<=(L/h)+1
                phi(i,j)=1/2;
            end
            residual = residual+abs(phi(i,j) - phi_old(i,j));
        end
    end
    residual=residual/N;
    if residual < tol
        break;
    end
end

fprintf(num2str(k))

[Y, X] = meshgrid(y, x);
surf(Y, X,phi);
title('solution \Phi(x, y)');
xlabel('y');
ylabel('x');
zlabel('\Phi');
colorbar;
end
```

## CODE 2

```
function[phi] = SOR_2(L, DX, DY, h, omega, tol)
Nx = DX / h;
Ny = DY / h;
N=(Nx+1)*(Ny+1);
x = linspace(0, DX, Nx+1);
y = linspace(0, DY, Ny+1);

phi = zeros(Nx+1, Ny+1);
phi(Nx+1,:) = 0;
phi(:,1) = 0;
phi(:,Ny+1) = 0;

max_iter = 10000;

for k=1:max_iter
    residual=0;
    phi_old = phi;
    for i = 1:Nx
        for j = 2:Ny
            if i==1
                phi(i,j) = (1 - omega) * phi(i,j) + (omega/4) * (phi(i+1,j) +
phi(i+1,j) + phi(i,j-1) + phi(i,j+1));
            else
                phi(i,j) = (1 - omega) * phi(i,j) + (omega/4) * (phi(i-1,j) +
phi(i+1,j) + phi(i,j-1) + phi(i,j+1));
            end
            if j==(1/h)+1 && i<=(L/h)+1
                phi(i,j)=1/2;
            end
            residual=residual+abs(phi(i,j) - phi_old(i,j));
        end
    end
    residual=residual/N;
    if residual < tol
        break;
    end
end

subplot(1, 2, 1);
plot(y, phi(1, :), 'b-');
title('\Phi(0, Y) Slice');
xlabel('Y');
ylabel('\Phi(0, Y)');
grid on;

subplot(1, 2, 2);
plot(y, phi((L/h)+1,:), 'r-');
title(['\Phi(', num2str(L), ', Y) Slice']);
xlabel('Y');
ylabel(['\Phi(', num2str(L), ', Y)']);
grid on;
end
```

### CODE 3

```
function[phi] = SOR_3_efield(L, DX, DY, h, omega, tol)
Nx = DX / h;
Ny = DY / h;
N=(Nx+1)*(Ny+1);
x = linspace(0, DX, Nx+1);
y = linspace(0, DY, Ny+1);

phi = ones(Nx+1, Ny+1);
phi(Nx+1,:) = 0;
phi(:,1) = 0;
phi(:,Ny+1) = 0;

max_iter = 10000;

for k=1:max_iter
    residual=0;
    phi_old = phi;
    for i = 1:Nx
        for j = 2:Ny
            if i==1
                phi(i,j) = (1 - omega) * phi(i,j) + (omega/4) * (phi(i+1,j) +
phi(i+1,j) + phi(i,j-1) + phi(i,j+1));
            else
                phi(i,j) = (1 - omega) * phi(i,j) + (omega/4) * (phi(i-1,j) +
phi(i+1,j) + phi(i,j-1) + phi(i,j+1));
            end
            if j==(1/h)+1 && i<=(L/h)+1
                phi(i,j)=1/2;
            end
            residual = residual+abs(phi(i,j) - phi_old(i,j));
        end
    end
    residual=residual/N;
    if residual < tol
        break;
    end
end

e_field_Y0=-(1/h)*(phi);
plot(y, e_field_Y0(:,2), 'b-');
title('Plot of \epsilon_Y(X,0)');
xlabel('X');
ylabel('\epsilon_Y(X, 0)');
grid on;
end
```

## CODE 4

```

function[phi] = SOR_3_efield_plate(L, DX, DY, h, omega, tol)
Nx = DX / h;
Ny = DY / h;
N=(Nx+1)*(Ny+1);
x = linspace(0, DX, Nx+1);
y = linspace(0, DY, Ny+1);

phi = ones(Nx+1, Ny+1);
phi(Nx+1,:) = 0;
phi(:,1) = 0;
phi(:,Ny+1) = 0;

max_iter = 10000;

for k=1:max_iter
    residual=0;
    phi_old = phi;
    for i = 1:Nx
        for j = 2:Ny
            if i==1
                phi(i,j) = (1 - omega) * phi(i,j) + (omega/4) * (phi(i+1,j) +
phi(i+1,j) + phi(i,j-1) + phi(i,j+1));
            else
                phi(i,j) = (1 - omega) * phi(i,j) + (omega/4) * (phi(i-1,j) +
phi(i+1,j) + phi(i,j-1) + phi(i,j+1));
            end
            if j==(1/h)+1 && i<=(L/h)+1
                phi(i,j)=1/2;
            end
            residual = residual+abs(phi(i,j) - phi_old(i,j));
        end
    end
    residual=residual/N;
    if residual < tol
        break;
    end
end

e_field_Y1_lower=(1/h)*(phi);
e_field_Y1_lower_2=e_field_Y1_lower(:,((1-h)/h)+1)-e_field_Y1_lower(:,(1/h)+1);
e_field_Y1_higher=-(1/h)*(phi);
e_field_Y1_higher_2=e_field_Y1_higher(:,((1+h)/h)+1)-e_field_Y1_higher(:,(1/h)+1);

subplot(1, 2, 1);
plot(y, e_field_Y1_lower_2, 'b-');
title('Plot of \epsilon_Y(X,1) lower surface');
xlabel('X');
ylabel('\epsilon_Y(X, 1)');
grid on;

subplot(1, 2, 2);
plot(y, e_field_Y1_higher_2, 'r-');
title('Plot of \epsilon_Y(X,1) upper surface');
xlabel('X');
ylabel('\epsilon_Y(X, 1)');
grid on;

```

## CODE 5

```

function[phi] = SOR_4_changing_omega(L, DX, DY, h, tol)
Nx = DX / h;
Ny = DY / h;
N=(Nx+1)*(Ny+1);
x = linspace(0, DX, Nx+1);
y = linspace(0, DY, Ny+1);
k_vector=zeros(1,100);
omega_vector=linspace(1,1.99,100);

for omega_index=1:length(omega_vector)
    omega = omega_vector(omega_index);
    phi = zeros(Nx+1, Ny+1);
    phi(Nx+1,:) = 0;
    phi(:,1) = 0;
    phi(:,Ny+1) = 0;
    phi(1,(L/h)+1)=0.5;

    max_iter = 10000;

    for k=1:max_iter
        residual=0;
        phi_old = phi;
        for i = 1:Nx
            for j = 2:Ny
                if i==1
                    phi(i,j) = (1 - omega) * phi(i,j) + (omega/4) * (phi(i+1,j) +
phi(i+1,j) + phi(i,j-1) + phi(i,j+1));
                else
                    phi(i,j) = (1 - omega) * phi(i,j) + (omega/4) * (phi(i-1,j) +
phi(i+1,j) + phi(i,j-1) + phi(i,j+1));
                end
                if j==(1/h)+1 && i<=(L/h)+1
                    phi(i,j)=1/2;
                end
                residual = residual+abs(phi(i,j) - phi_old(i,j));
            end
        end
        residual=residual/N;
        if residual < tol
            break;
        end
    end
    k_vector(omega_index)=k;
end
disp(k_vector)
disp(omega_vector)
plot(omega_vector,k_vector,'-b')
title('How the no. of iterations needed for convergence depends on \omega' )
xlabel('\omega');
ylabel('Number of iterations needed for convergence');
end

```



## CODE 6

**equipotential\_lines:**

```
psi_values = linspace(-1/2, 1/2, 11);
phi_values = linspace(-1/2,1/2,11);
for i = 1:11
    X_vector=zeros(1,11);
    Y_vector=zeros(1,11);
    phi = phi_values(i);
    for j = 1:11
        psi = psi_values(j);
        X=(1/pi)*(1+(exp(2*pi*psi)*cos(2*pi*phi)))+2*psi;
        Y=(1/pi)*(exp(2*pi*psi)*sin(2*pi*phi))+2*phi;
        X_vector(j)=X;
        Y_vector(j)=Y;
    end
    plot(X_vector,Y_vector)
    hold on;
end
xlabel('X');
ylabel('Y');
title('Equipotential Lines');
```

## CODE 7

**field\_lines:**

```
psi_values = linspace(-1/2, 1/2, 11);
phi_values = linspace(-1/2,1/2,11);
for i = 1:11
    X_vector=zeros(1,11);
    Y_vector=zeros(1,11);
    psi = psi_values(i);
    for j = 1:11
        phi = phi_values(j);
        X=(1/pi)*(1+(exp(2*pi*psi)*cos(2*pi*phi)))+2*psi;
        Y=(1/pi)*(exp(2*pi*psi)*sin(2*pi*phi))+2*phi;
        X_vector(j)=X;
        Y_vector(j)=Y;
    end
    plot(X_vector,Y_vector)
    hold on;
end
xlabel('X');
ylabel('Y');
title('Field Lines');
```

## CODE 8

**equipotential\_at\_plate\_lower:**

```
psi_values_1 = linspace(-0.5, -0.05, 10);
delta_values = linspace(0.0001,0.001,10);
phi_original=1/2;

for m = 1:10
    X_vector=zeros(1,10);
    Y_vector=zeros(1,10);
    phi = phi_original-delta_values(m);
    for n = 1:10
        psi_2 = psi_values_1(n);
        X=(1/pi)*(1+(exp(2*pi*psi_2)*cos(2*pi*phi)))+2*psi_2;
        Y=(1/pi)*(exp(2*pi*psi_2)*sin(2*pi*phi))+2*phi;
        X_vector(n)=X;
        Y_vector(n)=Y;
    end
    plot(X_vector,Y_vector)
    hold on;
end

xlabel('X');
ylabel('Y');
title('Equipotential Lines Below The Plate');
```

## CODE 9

**equipotential\_at\_plate\_upper:**

```
psi_values_2 = linspace(0.05, 0.5, 10);
delta_values = linspace(0.0001,0.001,10);
phi_original=1/2;

for p = 1:10
    X_vector=zeros(1,10);
    Y_vector=zeros(1,10);
    phi = phi_original-delta_values(p);
    for q = 1:10
        psi_2 = psi_values_2(q);
        X=(1/pi)*(1+(exp(2*pi*psi_2)*cos(2*pi*phi)))+2*psi_2;
        Y=(1/pi)*(exp(2*pi*psi_2)*sin(2*pi*phi))+2*phi;
        X_vector(q)=X;
        Y_vector(q)=Y;
    end
    plot(X_vector,Y_vector)
    hold on;
end

xlabel('X');
ylabel('Y');
title('Equipotential Lines Above The Plate');
```

## CODE 10

```

function[phi] = SOR_3_efield_plate_q9(L, DX, DY, h, omega, tol)
Nx = DX / h;
Ny = DY / h;
N=(Nx+1)*(Ny+1);
x = linspace(0, DX, Nx+1);
y = linspace(0, DY, Ny+1);

phi = ones(Nx+1, Ny+1);
phi(Nx+1,:) = 0;
phi(:,1) = 0;
phi(:,Ny+1) = 0;

max_iter = 10000;

for k=1:max_iter
    residual=0;
    phi_old = phi;
    for i = 1:Nx
        for j = 2:Ny
            if i==1
                phi(i,j) = (1 - omega) * phi(i,j) + (omega/4) * (phi(i+1,j) +
phi(i+1,j) + phi(i,j-1) + phi(i,j+1));
            else
                phi(i,j) = (1 - omega) * phi(i,j) + (omega/4) * (phi(i-1,j) +
phi(i+1,j) + phi(i,j-1) + phi(i,j+1));
            end
            if j==(1/h)+1 && i<=(L/h)+1
                phi(i,j)=1/2;
            end
            residual = residual+abs(phi(i,j) - phi_old(i,j));
        end
    end
    residual=residual/N;
    if residual < tol
        break;
    end
end

psi_values = linspace(-1/2, 0, 11);
X_vector=zeros(1,11);
e_field_vector=zeros(1,11);
for j = 1:11
    psi = psi_values(j);
    X=(1/pi)*(1-exp(2*pi*psi))+2*psi+L;
    X_vector(j)=X;
    e_field=-0.5*(1-exp(2*pi*psi))^-1;
    e_field_vector(j)=e_field;
end

psi_values_2 = linspace(0, 1/2, 11);
X_vector_2=zeros(1,11);
e_field_vector_2=zeros(1,11);
for m = 1:11
    psi_2 = psi_values_2(m);
    X_2=(1/pi)*(1-exp(2*pi*psi_2))+2*psi_2+L;
    X_vector_2(m)=X_2;
    e_field_2=-0.5*(1-exp(2*pi*psi_2))^-1;

```

```

    e_field_vector_2(m)=e_field_2;
end

e_field_Y1_lower=(1/h)*(phi);
e_field_Y1_lower_2=e_field_Y1_lower(:,((1-h)/h)+1)-e_field_Y1_lower(:,(1/h)+1);
e_field_Y1_higher=-(1/h)*(phi);
e_field_Y1_higher_2=e_field_Y1_higher(:,((1+h)/h)+1)-e_field_Y1_higher(:,(1/h)+1);

subplot(1, 2, 1);
plot(y, e_field_Y1_lower_2, 'b-');
hold on;
plot(X_vector,e_field_vector)
legend('finite (numerical)','semi-finite (analytic)')
title('Plot of \epsilon_Y(X,1) lower surface');
xlabel('X');
ylabel('\epsilon_Y(X, 1)');

subplot(1, 2, 2);
plot(y, e_field_Y1_higher_2, 'b-');
hold on;
plot(X_vector_2,e_field_vector_2)
legend('finite (numerical)','semi-finite (analytic)')
title('Plot of \epsilon_Y(X,1) upper surface');
xlabel('X');
ylabel('\epsilon_Y(X, 1)');

```