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1 Introduction

2 Theory

Identical infinitely-long thin metal plates $A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4, A_5, B_1, B_2, B_3$ and B_4 are placed in an *interleaved* arrangement as depicted in fig1.(a) Group of plates A_i and B_i are connected to the terminal A and B , respectively, by means of gold wires. The terminals are connected to different potential sources U_A and U_B respectively.

This arrangement can be seen as a number of parallel plate capacitors connected in parallel to each other as seen in fig1(b),

This is called an interleaved capacitor, Our goal will be to approximate the potential distribution (in two dimensions considering symmetry along the the third axis which will be dropped) inside the capacitor after we disconnect the capacitor from sources, treating the interior plates as line charge distributions.

$$U_A = 5V$$

$$U_B = -5V$$

$$\text{Capacitance} = 0.1\mu F$$

$$\text{Distance between plates } (d) = 0.5\mu m$$

$$\text{Dimensions: } 4 \times 4.4\mu m$$

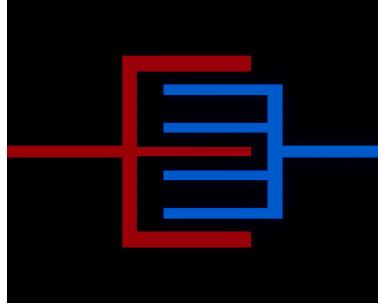


Figure 1: Diagram depicting the arrangement of plates in a interleaved fashion.

Mathematical Formulation:

Let $U(x, y)$ and $\vec{E}(x, y)$ be the potential and Electric field distribution defined in the region of our arrangement $(x, y) = [0, 4\mu m] \times [0, 4.4\mu m]$.

We know from maxwell's laws that for static electric fields $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = \rho/\epsilon_0$, $\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E} = 0$

From the later we get $E = -\vec{\nabla}U$, substituting this back into the former we get,

$$\vec{\nabla}^2 U = \frac{-\rho}{\epsilon_0}$$

In two dimensions with euclidean coordinate system the equation reduces to,

$$\frac{\partial^2 U(x, y)}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 U(x, y)}{\partial y^2} = -\frac{\rho(x, y)}{\epsilon_0} \quad (2.1)$$

where,

$$\rho(x, y) = \begin{cases} -0.55\mu C/m & : \text{if } (x, y) \in B_i \text{ where } i = 1, 2, 3, 4 \\ +0.74\mu C/m & : \text{if } (x, y) \in A_2 \\ 0\mu C/m & : \text{elsewhere} \end{cases} \quad (2.2)$$

Now according to our given arrangement,

$$B_1 = \{(x^*, y^*) : x^* = 0.5\mu m ; 0.3\mu m \leq y^* \leq 4.3\mu m\} \quad (2.3)$$

$$B_2 = \{(x^*, y^*) : x^* = 1.5\mu m ; 0.3\mu m \leq y^* \leq 4.3\mu m\} \quad (2.4)$$

$$B_3 = \{(x^*, y^*) : x^* = 2.5\mu m ; 0.3\mu m \leq y^* \leq 4.3\mu m\} \quad (2.5)$$

$$B_4 = \{(x^*, y^*) : x^* = 3.5\mu m ; 0.3\mu m \leq y^* \leq 4.3\mu m\} \quad (2.6)$$

$$A_2 = \{(x^*, y^*) : x^* = 2\mu m ; 0\mu m \leq y^* \leq 4\mu m\} \quad (2.7)$$

We get the following boundary conditions for the above boundary value problem,

$$U(0, y) = +5V ; U(4, y) = +5V \quad (2.8)$$

$$U_y(x, 0) = 0V/m ; U_y(x, 4.4) = 0V/m \quad (2.9)$$

Non-Dimensionalizing the variables,

Let new dimensionless variables,

$$x' = \frac{x}{s} \quad y' = \frac{y}{s} \quad U' = \frac{U}{\nu} \quad (2.10)$$

where s and ν are known constant scaling factors having dimensions of length and electric potential respectively.

The B.V.P reduces to,

$$\frac{\partial^2 U'(x', y')}{\partial x'^2} + \frac{\partial^2 U'(x', y')}{\partial y'^2} = -\frac{\rho'(x', y')s^2}{\epsilon_0 \nu} \quad (2.11)$$

where,

$$\rho'(x', y') = \begin{cases} -0.55\frac{s}{\nu} & : \text{if } (x', y') \in B_i \text{ where } i = 1, 2, 3, 4 \\ +0.74\frac{s}{\nu} & : \text{if } (x', y') \in A_2 \\ 0 & : \text{elsewhere} \end{cases} \quad (2.12)$$

Now according to our given arrangement,

$$B_1 = \{(x^*, y^*) : x^* = 0.5/s ; 0.3/s \leq y^* \leq 4.3/s\} \quad (2.13)$$

$$B_2 = \{(x^*, y^*) : x^* = 1.5/s ; 0.3/s \leq y^* \leq 4.3/s\} \quad (2.14)$$

$$B_3 = \{(x^*, y^*) : x^* = 2.5/s ; 0.3/s \leq y^* \leq 4.3/s\} \quad (2.15)$$

$$B_4 = \{(x^*, y^*) : x^* = 3.5/s ; 0.3/s \leq y^* \leq 4.3/s\} \quad (2.16)$$

$$A_2 = \{(x^*, y^*) : x^* = 2/s ; 0/s \leq y^* \leq 4/s\} \quad (2.17)$$

We get the following boundary conditions for the above boundary value problem,

$$U(0, y) = +5/\nu ; U(4, y) = +5/\nu \quad (2.18)$$

$$U_y(x, 0) = 0 ; U_y(x, 4.4) = 0 \quad (2.19)$$

3 Methodology

4 Analysis of Numerical Results

5 Appendix

5.1 Non-Dimensionalization

5.2 Programs

5.3 Contributions