

2.12 Solution: The general solution to the two-dimensional potential problem can be expressed in a series form,

$$\Phi(\rho, \phi) = A_0 + B_0 \log \rho + \sum_{m \neq 0} (A_m \rho^m + B_m \rho^{-m}) e^{im\phi},$$

where the summation index m in the third term runs from $-\infty$ to $+\infty$, excluding 0. Since we are seeking regular solution inside a cylinder, coefficients for terms $\log \rho$, ρ^{-m} with $m > 0$, and ρ^m with $m < 0$ must vanish. Therefore, the series solution becomes

$$\Phi(\rho, \phi) = A_0 + \sum_{m=1}^{+\infty} (A_m e^{im\phi} + B_{-m} e^{-im\phi}) \rho^m.$$

On the surface of the cylinder, $\rho = b$, the potential is specified and must satisfy the following condition,

$$\Phi(b, \phi) = A_0 + \sum_{m=1}^{+\infty} (A_m e^{im\phi} + B_{-m} e^{-im\phi}) b^m.$$

By direct integration, the coefficients can be determined as

$$A_0 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \Phi(b, \phi') d\phi',$$

$$A_m = \frac{1}{2\pi b^m} \int_0^{2\pi} \Phi(b, \phi') e^{-im\phi'} d\phi',$$

and

$$B_{-m} = \frac{1}{2\pi b^m} \int_0^{2\pi} \Phi(b, \phi') e^{im\phi'} d\phi'.$$

Put everything back, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(\rho, \phi) &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \Phi(b, \phi') \left[1 + \sum_{m=1}^{+\infty} \left(\frac{\rho}{b} \right)^m (e^{-im(\phi' - \phi)} + e^{im(\phi' - \phi)}) \right] d\phi' \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \Phi(b, \phi') \left[\frac{1}{1 - \rho e^{-i(\phi' - \phi)}/b} + \frac{1}{1 - \rho e^{i(\phi' - \phi)}/b} - 1 \right] d\phi' \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \Phi(b, \phi') \left[\frac{2b^2 - 2\rho b \cos(\phi' - \phi)}{b^2 + \rho^2 - 2\rho b \cos(\phi' - \phi)} - 1 \right] d\phi' \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \Phi(b, \phi') \frac{b^2 - \rho^2}{b^2 + \rho^2 - 2\rho b \cos(\phi' - \phi)} d\phi', \end{aligned}$$

for $\rho < b$.

For the potential in the region bounded by the cylinder and infinity, we can replace the $(\rho/b)^m$ terms with $(b/\rho)^m$ in the series to preserve the regularity of the potential at infinity. Then we can sum the series again and will obtain the potential as

$$\Phi(\rho, \phi) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \Phi(b, \phi') \frac{\rho^2 - b^2}{b^2 + \rho^2 - 2\rho b \cos(\phi' - \phi)} d\phi',$$

for $\rho > b$.