

1. (a) (5%) Show that the Green function $G(x, y; x', y')$ appropriate for Dirichlet boundary conditions for a square two-dimensional region, $0 \leq x \leq 1, 0 \leq y \leq 1$, has an expansion

$$G(x, y; x', y') = 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} g_n(y, y') \sin(n\pi x) \sin(n\pi x')$$

where $g_n(y, y')$ satisfies

$$\left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial y'^2} - n^2\pi^2\right)g_n(y, y') = -4\pi\delta(y' - y) \text{ and } g_n(y, 0) = g_n(y, 1) = 0$$

- (b) (10%) Taking for $g_n(y, y')$ appropriate linear combinations of $\sinh(n\pi y')$ and $\cosh(n\pi y')$ in the two regions, $y' < y$ and $y' > y$, in accord with the boundary conditions and the discontinuity in slope required by the source delta function, show that the explicit form of G is

$$G(x, y; x', y') = 8 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n \sinh(n\pi)} \sin(n\pi x) \sin(n\pi x') \sinh(n\pi y_{<}) \sinh[n\pi(1 - y_{>})]$$

where $y_{<}(y_{>})$ is the smaller (larger) of y and y' .

2. (20%) Solve that the Green function for a spherical shell bounded by $r = a$ and $r = b$ can be expressed as

$$G(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') = 4\pi \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-l}^l \frac{Y_{lm}^*(\theta', \phi') Y_{lm}(\theta, \phi)}{(2l+1)[1 - (\frac{a}{b})^{2l+1}]} \left(r_{<}^l - \frac{a^{2l+1}}{r_{<}^{l+1}} \right) \left(\frac{1}{r_{>}^{l+1}} - \frac{r_{>}^l}{b^{2l+1}} \right)$$

3. (15%) Solve that the Green function for the infinite system in terms of the cylindrical coordinates can be expressed as

$$G(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') = \frac{2}{\pi} \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} \int_0^{\infty} dk e^{im(\phi-\phi')} \cos[k(z-z')] I_m(k\rho_{<}) K_m(k\rho_{>})$$

4.(20%) Point charge in the presence of a grounded conducting sphere — A point charge q is located at \vec{y} relative to the origin, around which is centered a grounded conducting sphere of radius a as illustrated in Fig. 2.2.

(a) By the method of images, find the potential $\Phi(\vec{x})$ outside the sphere such that $\Phi(|\vec{x}| = a) = 0$.

(b) What is the charge density σ induced on the surface of the sphere? Plot the surface-charge density σ as a function of γ , the angle between \vec{x} and \vec{y} .

(c) Calculate the total force acting on the charge q . Give the force on each element of area da of the conducting sphere.

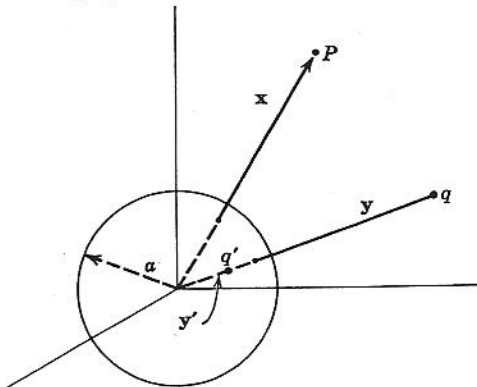


Figure 2.2 Conducting sphere of radius a , with charge q and image charge q' .

5.(20%) Derivation of Green's theorem — Consider a well-behaved vector field \vec{A} defined in the volume V bounded by the closed surface S . The divergence theorem states:

$$\int_V \nabla \cdot \vec{A} d^3x = \oint_S \vec{A} \cdot \vec{n} da.$$

(a) Derive the Green's theorem for the choice $\vec{A} = \phi \nabla \psi$, where ϕ and ψ are arbitrary scalar fields.

(b) In part (a), we set $\phi = \Phi$ with $\nabla^2 \Phi = -\rho/\epsilon_0$ and $\psi = G(\vec{x}, \vec{x}')$ with the specified properties of the Green's function G

$$\nabla'^2 G(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') = -4\pi \delta(\vec{x} - \vec{x}').$$

Find the general solution of $\Phi(\vec{x})$ for Dirichlet boundary conditions, *i. t.*, $G_D(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') = 0$ for \vec{x}' on S .

(c) Alternatively, if we are seeking the general solution of $\Phi(\vec{x})$ for Neumann boundary conditions, what is the simplest allowable boundary condition on the Green's function G_N ? Write down the general solution of $\Phi(\vec{x})$ in this case.

6.(10%) Green function for the sphere; general solution for the potential — Using the result of part (b) in problem 5, find the solution of the Laplace equation outside a sphere of radius a with the potential specified on its surface, that is, $\Phi(a, \theta', \phi')$ is known in spherical coordinates. Note that the appropriate Green's function is given by

$$G_D(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') = \frac{1}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|} - \frac{a}{x' |\vec{x} - \frac{a^2}{x'^2} \vec{x}'|}.$$