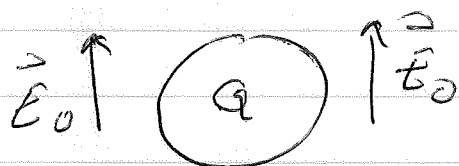


1) 3.21 Potential outside conducting sphere with charge  $Q$ , radius  $R$ , in uniform external  $\vec{E}_0 = E_0 \hat{z}$ .



We already found the solution for a grounded sphere in an external  $\vec{E}_0$

$$V_{\text{grounded}}(\vec{r}) = -E_0 \left( r - \frac{R^3}{r^2} \right) \cos\theta$$

For  $r = R$  we set  $V_{\text{grounded}}(R, \theta) = 0$  as we must

For the sphere with charge  $Q$ , let us continue to set  $V = 0$  on the sphere. Because we can always add an arbitrary constant to  $V$ , we have the freedom to make this choice.

The above grounded sphere has net charge = 0 since the induced charge is  $\sigma = 3\epsilon_0 E_0 \cos(\theta)$  integrates to zero.

So for the charged sphere we want to add charge  $Q$  in such a way that the net  $\vec{E}$  field stays  $\perp$  surface of sphere, and  $V = 0$ .

We can do this by adding a uniform charge density  $\sigma_0 = \frac{Q}{4\pi R^2}$  on surface of sphere.

This would give zero E field inside the sphere, and an E that is perpendicular to the surface.

The potential  $V_Q$  from such a distribution is

$$V(r, \theta) = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} + C$$

where we can choose the constant C so that the potential V vanishes at our desired reference point. Since we want  $V(R, \theta) = 0$ , then

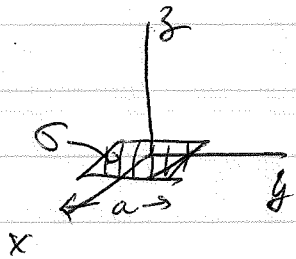
$$C = -\frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R}$$

So finally we have for the charged sphere in the external  $\vec{E}_0$

$$V(r, \theta) = V_{\text{grounded}}(r, \theta) + V_Q(r, \theta)$$

$$V(r, \theta) = -E_0 \left( r - \frac{R^3}{r^2} \right) \cos\theta + \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} - \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R}$$

2) Square of length  $a$  in  $x, y$  plane at  $z=0$  centered at origin  
 with uniform surface charge  $\sigma$ .



monopole:

$$Q = \text{total charge} = a^2 \sigma$$

dipole:

$$\vec{p} = \int d^3r \rho(\vec{r}) \vec{r}$$

$$\vec{r} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \sigma \int_{-\frac{a}{2}}^{\frac{a}{2}} dx \int_{-\frac{a}{2}}^{\frac{a}{2}} dy \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

evaluated at  $z=0$

as charge distribution  
is symmetric about  
the origin

quadrupole

$$Q_{ij} = \int d^3r [3r_i r_j - r^2 \delta_{ij}] \rho(r)$$

$$= \sigma \int_{-\frac{a}{2}}^{\frac{a}{2}} dx \int_{-\frac{a}{2}}^{\frac{a}{2}} dy [3r_i r_j - r^2 \delta_{ij}]$$

evaluated at  $z=0$

$$r_1 = x, r_2 = y, r_3 = z$$

Because all the charge is at  $z=0$  the only components of  $\vec{Q}$   
that are not zero are

$$\vec{Q} = \begin{pmatrix} Q_{xx} & Q_{xy} & 0 \\ Q_{yx} & Q_{yy} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & Q_{zz} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{ie } Q_{xz} = 0$$

$$Q_{yz} = 0$$

$$Q_{zx} = 0$$

$$Q_{zy} = 0$$

Since, for example,

$$Q_{xz} = \sigma \int_{-\frac{a}{2}}^{\frac{a}{2}} dx \int_{-\frac{a}{2}}^{\frac{a}{2}} dy \left[ 3x \cdot \overset{\text{since } z=0}{0} - (x^2 + y^2 + \overset{\text{since } z=0}{0^2}) \overset{\uparrow}{\delta_{xz}} \right]$$

$$= 0 \quad \text{since } \delta_{ij} = 0 \text{ for } i \neq j$$

But  $Q_{zz} \neq 0$  !

$$Q_{zz} = \sigma \int_{-\frac{a}{2}}^{\frac{a}{2}} dx \int_{-\frac{a}{2}}^{\frac{a}{2}} dy \left[ 3 \cdot 0 \cdot 0 - (x^2 + y^2) \overset{\uparrow}{\delta_{zz}} \right]$$

$$= -\sigma \int_{-\frac{a}{2}}^{\frac{a}{2}} dx \int_{-\frac{a}{2}}^{\frac{a}{2}} dy (x^2 + y^2)$$

$$= -\sigma a \left[ \int_{-\frac{a}{2}}^{\frac{a}{2}} dx x^2 + \int_{-\frac{a}{2}}^{\frac{a}{2}} dy y^2 \right]$$

$$= -2a \left[ \frac{x^3}{3} \right]_{-\frac{a}{2}}^{\frac{a}{2}} = -2a \left[ \frac{a^3}{8} - \frac{-a^3}{8} \right] = \frac{-4}{3 \cdot 8} a^4 \sigma$$

$$\boxed{Q_{zz} = -\frac{a^4}{6} \sigma}$$

$Q_{xx} = Q_{yy}$  by symmetry

$$= \sigma \int_{-\frac{a}{2}}^{\frac{a}{2}} dx \int_{-\frac{a}{2}}^{\frac{a}{2}} dy (3x^2 - (x^2 + y^2) \overset{\uparrow}{\delta_{xx}})$$

$$= \sigma \int_{-\frac{a}{2}}^{\frac{a}{2}} dx \int_{-\frac{a}{2}}^{\frac{a}{2}} dy (2x^2 - y^2)$$

$$= \sigma a \left[ 2 \int_{-\frac{a}{2}}^{\frac{a}{2}} dx x^2 - \int_{-\frac{a}{2}}^{\frac{a}{2}} dy y^2 \right]$$

$$= \sigma a \left[ \frac{x^3}{3} \right]_{-\frac{a}{2}}^{\frac{a}{2}} - \frac{\sigma a}{3} \left[ \frac{a^3}{8} - \frac{-a^3}{8} \right] = \frac{\sigma a^4}{12}$$

Finally

$$Q_{xy} = Q_{yx} = \sigma \int_{-\frac{a}{2}}^{\frac{a}{2}} dx \int_{-\frac{a}{2}}^{\frac{a}{2}} dy \left[ xy - (x^2 + y^2) \delta_{xy} \right]$$

$$= \sigma \int_{-\frac{a}{2}}^{\frac{a}{2}} dx \int_{-\frac{a}{2}}^{\frac{a}{2}} dy xy = 0$$

$$\vec{Q} = \frac{\sigma a^4}{12} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$V(\vec{r}) = \frac{Q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} + \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^3} \frac{1}{2} \vec{r} \cdot \vec{Q} \cdot \vec{r}$$

$$\hat{r} = (\sin\theta \cos\varphi, \sin\theta \sin\varphi, \cos\theta)$$

$$\vec{Q} \cdot \hat{r} = \frac{\sigma a^4}{12} \begin{pmatrix} \sin\theta \cos\varphi \\ \sin\theta \sin\varphi \\ -2\cos\theta \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{r} \cdot \vec{Q} \cdot \vec{r} &= \frac{\sigma a^4}{12} \left( \sin^2 \theta \cos^2 \varphi + \sin^2 \theta \sin^2 \varphi - 2 \cos^2 \theta \right) \\ &= \frac{\sigma a^4}{12} \left( \sin^2 \theta - 2 \cos^2 \theta \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\sigma a^2 = q$$

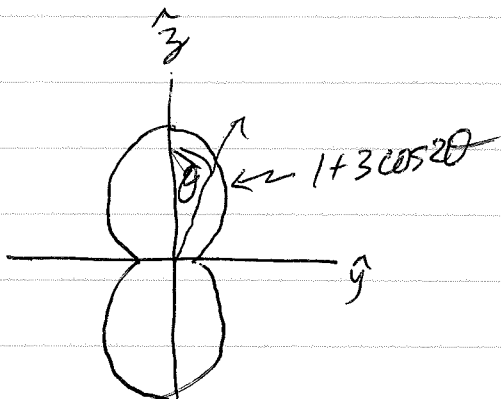
$$V(\vec{r}) = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} + \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q a^2}{24 r^3} (\sin^2 \theta - 2 \cos^2 \theta)$$

Note: at this level of approximation,  $V(\vec{r})$  is rotationally invariant about  $\hat{z}$  axis (i.e.  $V(\vec{r})$  does not depend on  $\varphi$ ) even though the charge distribution is NOT rotationally invariant.

To see the  $\varphi$  dependence of  $V(\vec{r})$  we would have to go to higher multipoles.

Note:  $\sin^2 \theta = 1 - \cos^2 \theta$   $\cos^2 \theta = \frac{1 + \cos 2\theta}{2}$

$$\text{so } \sin^2 \theta - 2 \cos^2 \theta = 1 - 3 \cos^2 \theta$$



$$= 1 - 3 \left( \frac{1 + \cos 2\theta}{2} \right)$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2} - \frac{3}{2} \cos 2\theta$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2} (1 + 3 \cos 2\theta)$$