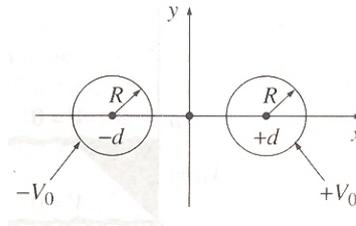


[Note: Only the first four problems will be discussed in the tutorial class. You must attempt the remaining problems, and if you are stuck, ask your tutor.]

1. [G 3.11] Two long, straight copper pipes, each of radius  $R$ , are held a distance  $2d$  apart. One is at potential  $V_0$ , the other at  $-V_0$  (Fig.). Find the potential everywhere.



2. [G 3.14] A rectangular pipe, running parallel to the  $z$ -axis (from  $-\infty$  to  $\infty$ ), has three grounded metal sides, at  $y = 0$ ,  $y = a$ , and  $x = 0$ . The fourth side, at  $x = b$ , is maintained at a specific potential  $V_0(y)$ .
- Develop a general formula for the potential within the pipe.
  - Find the potential explicitly, for the case  $V_0(y) = V_0$  (a constant).

3. [G 3.1] Find the average potential over a spherical surface of radius  $R$  due to a point charge  $q$  located *inside*. Show that in general,  

$$V_{\text{ave}} = V_{\text{center}} + \frac{Q_{\text{enc}}}{4\pi\epsilon_0 R},$$
 where  $V_{\text{center}}$  is the potential at the center due to all the *external* charges, and  $Q_{\text{enc}}$  is the total enclosed charge.

4. [G 3.3] Find the general solution to Laplace's equation in spherical coordinates, for the case where  $V$  depends only on  $r$ . Do the same for cylindrical coordinates, assuming  $V$  depends only on  $s$ .

5. [G 3.7]

(a) Using the law of cosines, show that  $V(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left( \frac{q}{r} + \frac{q'}{r'} \right)$  (where  $r$  and  $r'$  are the distances from  $q$  and  $q'$  respectively) can be written as follows:

$$V(r, \theta) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left[ \frac{q}{\sqrt{r^2 + s^2 - 2rs \cos \theta}} - \frac{q}{\sqrt{R^2 + (rs/R)^2 - 2rs \cos \theta}} \right],$$

where  $r$  and  $\theta$  are the usual spherical polar coordinates, with the  $z$ -axis along the line through  $q$ . In this form it is obvious that  $V = 0$  on the sphere,  $r = R$ .

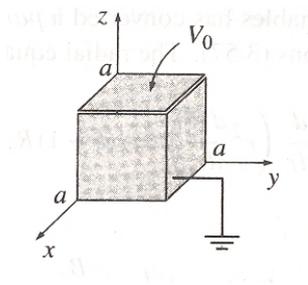
(b) Find the induced surface charge on the sphere, as a function of  $\theta$ . Integrate this to get the total induced charge.

(c) Calculate the energy of this configuration.

6. [G 3.8] Consider a point charge  $q$  situated at a distance  $a$  from the center of a grounded conducting sphere of radius  $R$ . The same basic model will handle the case of a sphere at *any* potential  $V_0$  (relative to infinity) with the addition of a second image charge. What charge should you use, and where should you put it? Find the force of attraction between a point charge  $q$  and a *neutral* conducting sphere.

7. [G 3.12] Two infinite grounded metal plates lie parallel to the  $xz$  plane, one at  $y = 0$ , the other at  $y = a$ . The left end, at  $x = 0$ , consists of two metal strips: one, from  $y = 0$  to  $y = a/2$ , is held at a constant potential  $V_0$ , and the other, from  $y = a/2$  to  $y = a$ , is at potential  $-V_0$ . Find the potential in the infinite slot.

8. [G 3.15] A cubical box (sides of length  $a$ ) consists of five metal plates, which are welded together and grounded. The top is made of a separate sheet of metal, insulated from the others, and held at a constant potential  $V_0$ . Find the potential inside the box.



**Additional Problem:**

1. Consider an insulated spherical conductor with radius  $a$  and net charge  $q$ . Another point charge  $q$  is placed outside the conductor at a distance  $d$  from the center of the conductor. Show that if  $d/a = (1 + \sqrt{5})/2$ , the point charge is in equilibrium. [Hint: Show that  $d/a$  must be the solution of the quintic equation  $x^5 - 2x^3 - 2x^2 + x + 1 = 0$ . There are three real and two imaginary solutions. Verify that  $x^2 - x - 1$  is a factor of the quintic polynomial.]