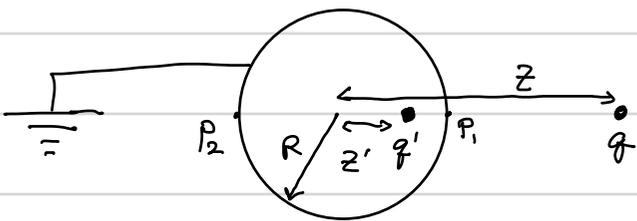


Physics 511: Electrodynamics  
 Problem Set #3: Solutions

Problem 1: Solution to Poisson's Equation outside a conducting sphere

(a) A point charge is placed a distance  $z$  away from the center of a grounded conducting sphere. We take this on the  $z$ -axis. To find the potential outside the sphere we use the method of images. The goal is to find a point charge inside the sphere so that its potential, plus the physical charge satisfy the (Dirichlet) boundary conditions. There's guarantee that this will work, nor is there any recipe for finding the image charges. We just have to make an educated guess and hope it works. Luckily in this case it does!

By symmetry we place the image charge also on the  $z$ -axis.



There are two unknowns,  $q'$  and  $z'$ . Thus we need two equations. We require the electrostatic potential to be zero everywhere. We choose two points to ensure these constraints and then double check that it holds everywhere. The points I choose are  $P_1$  +  $P_2$  as these are simplest, by symmetry.

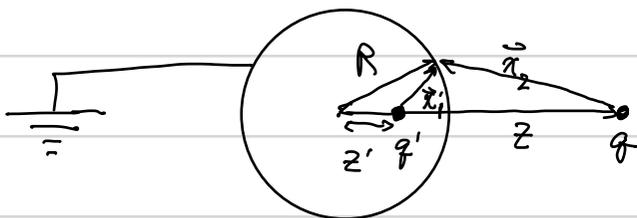
$$\phi(P_1) = \frac{q}{z-R} + \frac{q'}{R-z'} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \phi(P_2) = \frac{q}{z+R} + \frac{q'}{z'+R} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow q' = -q \frac{R-z'}{z-R} = -q \frac{z'+R}{z+R} \Rightarrow (z+R)(R-z') = (z-R)(z'+R)$$

Solving  $\Rightarrow$   $z' = \frac{R^2}{z}, \quad q' = -q \frac{R}{z}$

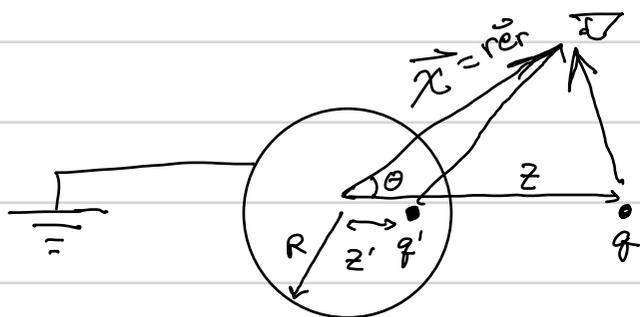
Note: As  $z/R \rightarrow \infty$   $q' \rightarrow 0$  as expected

It is a matter of algebra to show that with this image charge



$$\frac{q}{|x_1|} + \frac{q'}{|x_2|} = 0 \quad \text{everywhere on the surface of the sphere.}$$

Now the potential at an arbitrary point outside the sphere



$$\begin{aligned}\phi(\vec{x}) &= \frac{q}{|\vec{x} - z\vec{e}_z|} + \frac{q'}{|\vec{x} - z'\vec{e}_z|} = \frac{q}{\sqrt{\vec{x}\cdot\vec{x} + z^2 - 2z\vec{x}\cdot\vec{e}_z}} + \frac{q'}{\sqrt{\vec{x}\cdot\vec{x} + z'^2 - 2z'\vec{x}\cdot\vec{e}_z}} \\ &= \frac{q}{\sqrt{r^2 + z^2 - 2zr\cos\theta}} + \frac{-q \frac{R}{z}}{\sqrt{r^2 + \frac{R^4}{z^2} - 2r\frac{R^2}{z}\cos\theta}}\end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \phi(\vec{x}) = \frac{q}{\sqrt{r^2 + z^2 - 2zr\cos\theta}} - \frac{q}{\sqrt{\left(\frac{rR}{z}\right)^2 + R^2 - 2rR\cos\theta}} \quad \text{for } r \geq R$$

Note: As required,  $\phi(\vec{x} = R\vec{e}_r) = 0$  (grounded sphere)

(b) According to the boundary condition, the surface charge density induced on the conducting sphere caused by the nearby point charge is

$$\sigma(\theta) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \vec{e}_r \cdot \vec{E}(R, \theta) = \frac{1}{4\pi} (-\vec{e}_r \cdot \vec{\nabla}\phi)|_{r=R} = -\frac{1}{4\pi} \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial r} \Big|_{r=R}$$

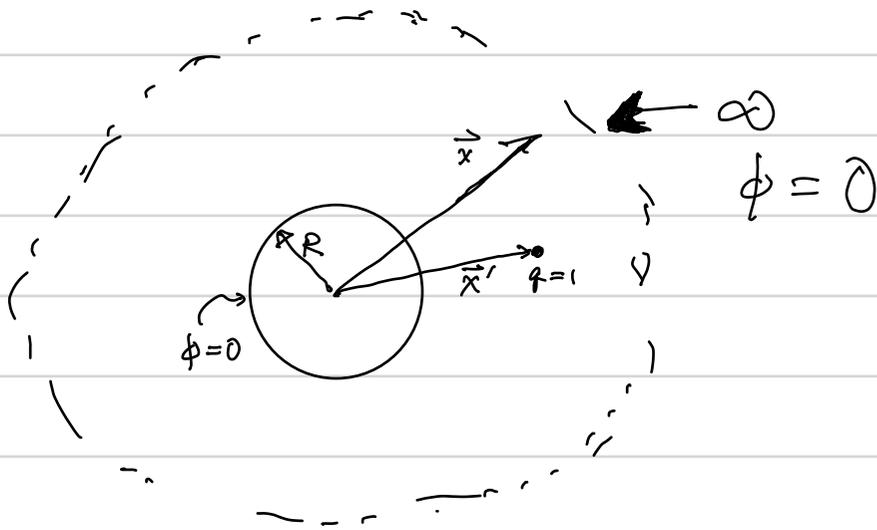
$$\text{Plugging in } \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial r} \Big|_{r=R} = q \left[ \frac{-r + z\cos\theta}{(r^2 + z^2 - 2rz\cos\theta)^{3/2}} - \frac{-\frac{rR^2}{z^2} + z\cos\theta}{\left(\left(\frac{rR}{z}\right)^2 + R^2 - 2rR\cos\theta\right)^{3/2}} \right]_{r=R}$$

$$= \frac{q}{R} \frac{z^2 - R^2}{(R^2 + z^2 - 2Rz\cos\theta)^{3/2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \sigma(\theta) = -\frac{q}{4\pi R^2} \frac{\left(\frac{z}{R}\right)^2 - 1}{\left[\left(\frac{z}{R}\right)^2 + 1 - 2\frac{z}{R}\cos\theta\right]^{3/2}}$$

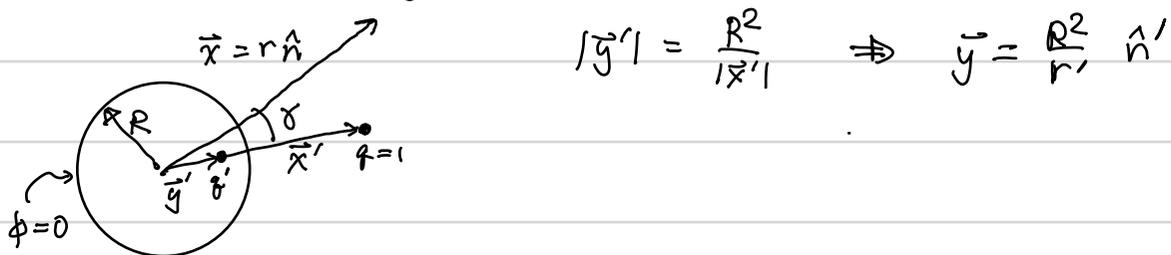
Note  $\int d\Omega \sigma(\theta) = \int d(\cos\theta) 2\pi R^2 \sigma(\theta) = \frac{q}{z} (a^2 - 1) \int_{-1}^1 du \frac{1}{[a^2 + 1 - 2au]^{3/2}}$  where  $u = \cos\theta$   
 $a = z/R$   
 $= +\frac{q}{2} (a^2 - 1) a \left[ \frac{1}{a+1} - \frac{1}{a-1} \right] = \frac{1}{a} \left[ \frac{1}{a+1} - \frac{1}{a-1} \right]$   
 $= -\frac{q}{a} = -q \frac{R}{z} = q'$  as expected by Gauss's Law.

(c) With Dirichlet boundary conditions, the Green's function  $G(\vec{x}-\vec{x}') = \phi_{\vec{x}}(\vec{x})$ , the potential at position  $\vec{x}$  (within the volume of interest) given a unit point charge at  $\vec{x}'$  with  $\phi|_S = G(\vec{x}-\vec{x}')|_{r=R} = 0$  everywhere on the surface. Here, the bounding surface is the conducting sphere and the surface at  $|\vec{x}'| = \infty$ .



But we just solved this problem in part (a), except for the charge fixed on the z-axis. Now it can be at an arbitrary point  $\vec{x}'$  outside the conducting sphere. W

Now we place the image charge along  $\vec{y}' = r' \hat{n}'$ ,  $q' = -q \frac{R}{|\vec{x}'|} = -\frac{R}{r'}$



$$|\vec{y}'| = \frac{R^2}{r'} \Rightarrow \vec{y}' = \frac{R^2}{r'} \hat{n}'$$

$$G(\vec{x}-\vec{x}') = \phi_{\vec{x}}(\vec{x}) = \frac{q}{|\vec{x}-\vec{x}'|} + \frac{q'}{|\vec{x}-\vec{y}'|} = \frac{1}{|\vec{x}-\vec{x}'|} - \frac{Rr'}{|\vec{x}-\frac{R^2}{r'}\hat{n}'|} = \frac{1}{|\vec{x}-\vec{x}'|} - \frac{R}{r'|\vec{x}-\frac{R^2}{r'}\hat{x}'|}$$

(d) According to Green's Theorem, with Dirichlet boundary conditions

$$\Phi(\vec{x}) = \int_V d^3x' \rho(\vec{x}') G(\vec{x}-\vec{x}') - \frac{1}{4\pi} \oint_S \Phi(\vec{x}') \nabla' G(\vec{x}-\vec{x}') \cdot \hat{n}'_S da'$$

We seek the solution to Laplace's Eq.  $\nabla^2 \Phi = 0$  in the volume of interest  $\Rightarrow \rho(\vec{x}) = 0$  in volume

$\Rightarrow$  we must find  $\nabla' G(\vec{x}-\vec{x}') \cdot \hat{n}'_S$  where here  $\hat{n}'_S$  is the normal to surface away from volume

$$\Rightarrow \hat{n}'_S = -\hat{n}' \quad \text{defined in part (c)} \quad \hat{n}'_S \cdot \nabla' G(\vec{x}-\vec{x}')|_S = -\frac{\partial G}{\partial r'} \Big|_{r=R}$$

$$G(r\hat{n} - r'\hat{n}') = \frac{1}{\sqrt{r^2+r'^2-2rr'\cos\delta}} - \frac{R}{r'\sqrt{\frac{r^2+R^4}{r^2}-2\frac{R^2r}{r'}\cos\delta}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{r^2+r'^2-2rr'\cos\delta}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{\frac{r^2r'^2}{R^2}+R^2-2rr'\cos\delta}}$$

$$\cos\delta = \hat{n} \cdot \hat{n}'$$

After some algebra:  $\left. \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial r'} \right|_{r=R} = - \frac{r^2 - R^2}{R(r^2 + R^2 - 2Rr \cos \gamma)^{3/2}}, \quad da' = R^2 d\Omega'$

Thus, by Green's theorem, with Dirichlet boundary condition  $\Phi(R, \theta, \phi)$

$$\Phi(r, \theta, \phi) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int d\Omega' \Phi(R, \theta', \phi') \frac{R(r^2 - R^2)}{(r^2 + R^2 - 2rR \cos \gamma)^{3/2}}$$

$$\cos \gamma = \hat{r} \cdot \hat{r}' = \cos \theta \cos \theta' + \sin \theta \sin \theta' (\underbrace{\cos \phi \cos \phi' + \sin \phi \sin \phi'}_{\cos(\phi - \phi')})$$

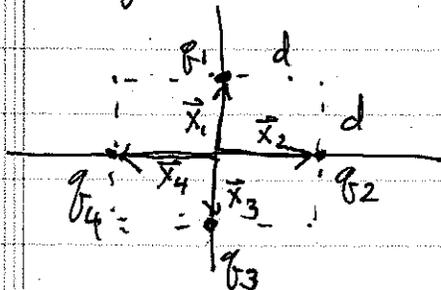
## Problem 2

(a)

For a discrete set of charges, the charge density is  $\rho(\vec{x}) = \sum_{\alpha} q_{\alpha} \delta^{(3)}(\vec{x} - \vec{x}_{\alpha})$ , where  $\alpha$  labels the particle

$$\Rightarrow Q_{ij \dots l} \equiv \int d^3x \rho(\vec{x}) [x_i x_j \dots x_l]^{(e)} = \sum_{\alpha} q_{\alpha} \underbrace{[x_i(\alpha) x_j(\alpha) \dots x_l(\alpha)]^{(e)}}_{i^{\text{th}} \text{ coordinate of } \alpha^{\text{th}} \text{ particle}}$$

Configuration (i)



$$q_1 = 3q, \quad q_2 = q_3 = -2q, \quad q_4 = q$$

$$\vec{x}_1 = d\hat{z}, \quad \vec{x}_2 = d\hat{x}$$

$$\vec{x}_3 = -d\hat{x}, \quad \vec{x}_4 = -d\hat{z}$$

Monopole moment:  $q_{\text{net}} = \sum_{\alpha} q_{\alpha} = 0$

Dipole moment:  $\vec{p} = \sum_{\alpha} \vec{x}_{\alpha} q_{\alpha} = q_1 \vec{x}_1 + q_2 \vec{x}_2 + q_3 \vec{x}_3 + q_4 \vec{x}_4$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{p} = 3qd\hat{z} - 2qd\hat{x} - 2q(-d\hat{x}) + q(-d\hat{z}) = \boxed{2qd\hat{z}}$$

Quadrupole:  $Q_{ij} = \sum_{\alpha} [3x_i(\alpha)x_j(\alpha) - r_{\alpha}^2 \delta_{ij}] q_{\alpha}$

$$\Rightarrow Q_{xx} = \sum_{\alpha} (3x_x^2(\alpha) - r_{\alpha}^2) q_{\alpha} = \{ (3 \cdot 0 - d^2)(3q) + (3 \cdot d^2 - d^2)(-2q) + (3 \cdot d^2 - d^2)(-2q) + (3 \cdot 0 - d^2)q \}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{Q_{xx} = -12qd^2} \quad \text{Next page}$$

$$Q_{yy} = \sum_{\alpha} (3y_{\alpha}^2 - r_{\alpha}^2) q_{\alpha} \rightarrow - \sum_{\alpha} r_{\alpha}^2 q_{\alpha} \quad (\text{Since } y\text{-coord is zero } \forall \text{ charges})$$

$$= -d^2 \sum_{\alpha} q_{\alpha} \quad (\text{since } r_{\alpha}^2 = d^2 \forall \text{ charges})$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{Q_{yy} = 0} \quad (\text{since } \sum q_{\alpha} = q_{\text{net}} = 0)$$

$$\text{Since } Q_{xx} + Q_{yy} + Q_{zz} = 0 \Rightarrow \boxed{Q_{zz} = -Q_{xx} = 12gd^2}$$

Since the x-axis and z-axis are the "principle axes" (think about moment of inertia)  $Q_{ij}$  is diagonal:

check:  $Q_{xy} = Q_{yx} = Q_{yz} = Q_{zy} = 0$  since y-coordinate = 0

$$Q_{xz} = Q_{zx} = 3 \sum_{\alpha} q_{\alpha} x_{\alpha} z_{\alpha} = 0 \quad (\text{since } z\text{-coord} = 0 \text{ when } x \text{ nonzero } \& \text{ vice versa})$$

$$Q_{ij} = \begin{bmatrix} -12gd^2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 12gd^2 \end{bmatrix} = +12gd^2 \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

### Spherical moments

$$q_{\ell, m} = \sum_{\alpha} q_{\alpha} r_{\alpha}^{\ell} Y_{\ell, m}^*(\theta_{\alpha}, \phi_{\alpha})$$

We can use spherical ~~coordinates~~ <sup>coordinates</sup> of charge position, or express  $r^{\ell} Y_{\ell, m}(\theta, \phi)$  in cartesian coordinates

as in Jackson (4.4) - (4.6). Here I'll show the latter

(next page)

(1a) Spherical moments, distribution (i)

Monopole:  $q_{0,0} = 0$  (net charge)

Dipole:  $q_{1,1} = \sum_{\alpha} q_{\alpha} r_{\alpha} Y_{1,1}^*(\theta_{\alpha}, \phi_{\alpha}) = -\sqrt{\frac{3}{8\pi}} \sum_{\alpha} q_{\alpha} (x_{\alpha} + iy_{\alpha})^*$   
 $= -\sqrt{\frac{3}{8\pi}} (p_x - ip_y) = 0 = q_{1,-1}$

$q_{1,0} = \sum_{\alpha} q_{\alpha} r_{\alpha} Y_{1,0}^*(\theta_{\alpha}, \phi_{\alpha}) = \sqrt{\frac{3}{4\pi}} \sum_{\alpha} q_{\alpha} z_{\alpha} = 0$

Quadrupole:  $q_{2,2} = \sum_{\alpha} q_{\alpha} r_{\alpha}^2 Y_{2,2}^*(\theta_{\alpha}, \phi_{\alpha}) = \frac{1}{4} \sqrt{\frac{15}{2\pi}} \sum_{\alpha} q_{\alpha} [(x_{\alpha} + iy_{\alpha})^2]^*$   
 $= \frac{1}{4} \sqrt{\frac{15}{2\pi}} (3q_z(0) - 2q_x(d^2) + q_y(0) - 2q_y(d^2))$   
 $= -qd^2 \sqrt{\frac{15}{2\pi}} = q_{2,-2} = \frac{1}{12} \sqrt{\frac{15}{2\pi}} (Q_{xx} - 2iQ_{xy} - Q_{yy})$

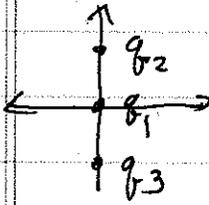
$q_{2,1} = \sum_{\alpha} q_{\alpha} r_{\alpha}^2 Y_{2,1}^*(\theta_{\alpha}, \phi_{\alpha}) = -\sqrt{\frac{15}{8\pi}} \sum_{\alpha} q_{\alpha} z_{\alpha} (x_{\alpha} - iy_{\alpha})^*$   
 $= 0$  since either  $x, y,$  or  $z$  coordinate is zero  
 $= -q_{2,-1}$

$q_{2,0} = \sum_{\alpha} q_{\alpha} r_{\alpha}^2 Y_{2,0}^*(\theta_{\alpha}, \phi_{\alpha}) = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{5}{4\pi}} \sum_{\alpha} q_{\alpha} (3z_{\alpha}^2 - r_{\alpha}^2)$   
 $= \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{5}{4\pi}} Q_{zz} = \sqrt{\frac{5}{4\pi}} 6qd^2$

Not page

(1a)

For configuration (i)



$$q_1 = -q$$

$$\vec{x}_1 = \vec{0}$$

$$q_2 = q$$

$$\vec{x}_2 = d\hat{z}$$

$$q_3 = q$$

$$\vec{x}_3 = -d\hat{z}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{q_{\text{net}} = q} \quad \boxed{\vec{p} = 0} \quad (\text{average position})$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \bullet Q_{xy} = Q_{yz} = Q_{xz} = 0 \\ \bullet Q_{xx} = Q_{yy} = -\frac{1}{2} Q_{zz} \end{aligned} \right\} \text{Since distribution is symmetric about } z\text{-axis}$$

$$Q_{zz} = \sum_i q_i (3z_i^2 - r_i^2) = q(3d^2 - d^2) + q(3(-d)^2 - d^2) = \boxed{4qd^2}$$

$$Q_{ij} = 4qd^2 \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -\frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{"Quadrupole moment"}$$

In spherical moments

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} q_{0,0} &= \frac{q}{\sqrt{4\pi}} \\ q_{1,m} &= 0 \\ q_{2,2} &= q_{2,1} = 0 \\ q_{2,0} &= 2qd^2 \sqrt{\frac{5}{4\pi}} \end{aligned} \right.$$

$$(1b) \quad \Phi(\vec{x}) \cong \frac{q_{\text{net}}}{r} + \frac{\vec{x} \cdot \vec{p}}{r^3} + \frac{\vec{x} \cdot \overleftrightarrow{Q} \cdot \vec{x}}{2r^5} \quad (\text{up to order } \frac{d^3}{r^3})$$

$$\text{Config. (i): } \Phi(\vec{x}) \cong \frac{q}{r} + \frac{Q_{zz}}{2} \frac{z^2}{r^5} + \frac{Q_{yy}}{2} \frac{y^2}{r^5}$$

$$\boxed{\Phi(\vec{x}) \cong \frac{2qd}{r^3} - \frac{6qd^2}{4} \left( \frac{x^2 - z^2}{r^5} \right)}$$

Config. (ii):

$$\Phi(\vec{x}) \cong \frac{q_{\text{net}}}{r} + \frac{Q_{zz}}{2} \frac{z^2}{r^5} - \frac{Q_{zz}}{4} \left( \frac{x^2}{r^5} + \frac{y^2}{r^5} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\Phi(\vec{x}) \cong \frac{q_{\text{net}}}{r} + \frac{Q_{zz}}{4} \frac{3z^2 - r^2}{r^5} = \frac{q}{r} + 4qd^2 \left( \frac{3z^2 - r^2}{r^5} \right)}$$

(c) The exact potential at position  $\vec{x}$

$$\Phi(\vec{x}) = \sum_{\alpha} \frac{q_{\alpha}}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}_{\alpha}|} \quad (\text{superposition})$$

Configuration (i)

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(\vec{x}) &= \frac{3q}{|\vec{x} - d\hat{z}|} + \frac{-2q}{|\vec{x} - d\hat{x}|} + \frac{-2q}{|\vec{x} + d\hat{x}|} + \frac{q}{|\vec{x} + d\hat{z}|} \\ &= \frac{3q}{\sqrt{r^2 - 2zd + d^2}} - \frac{2}{\sqrt{r^2 - 2xd + d^2}} - \frac{2}{\sqrt{r^2 + 2xd + d^2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{r^2 + 2zd + d^2}} \\ &= \frac{q}{r} \left\{ 3 \left( 1 - \frac{2zd}{r^2} + \frac{d^2}{r^2} \right)^{-1/2} - 2 \left( 1 - \frac{2xd}{r^2} + \frac{d^2}{r^2} \right)^{-1/2} \right. \\ &\quad \left. - 2 \left( 1 + \frac{2xd}{r^2} + \frac{d^2}{r^2} \right)^{-1/2} + \left( 1 + \frac{2zd}{r^2} + \frac{d^2}{r^2} \right)^{-1/2} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

Now expand using  $(1 + \delta)^{-1/2} \approx 1 - \frac{1}{2}\delta + \frac{3}{8}\delta^2$ ,  $\delta \ll 1$

Thus, to order  $\left(\frac{d}{r}\right)^3$

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(\vec{x}) &\approx \frac{q}{r} \left\{ 3 \left( 1 + \frac{zd}{r^2} - \frac{d^2}{2r^2} + \frac{3}{8} \left( \frac{-2zd}{r^2} \right)^2 \right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. - 2 \left( 1 + \frac{xd}{r^2} - \frac{d^2}{2r^2} + \frac{3}{8} \left( \frac{-2xd}{r^2} \right)^2 \right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. - 2 \left( 1 - \frac{xd}{r^2} - \frac{d^2}{2r^2} + \frac{3}{8} \left( \frac{2xd}{r^2} \right)^2 \right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \left( 1 - \frac{zd}{r^2} - \frac{d^2}{2r^2} + \frac{3}{8} \left( \frac{2zd}{r^2} \right)^2 \right) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

(Note: I have dropped all terms, order  $\left(\frac{d}{r}\right)^4$  or smaller)

$$\Rightarrow \Phi(\vec{x}) \approx 2qd \frac{z}{r^3} - 6qd^2 \left( \frac{x^2 - z^2}{r^5} \right) \quad (\text{as before!})$$

(1c) Continued  
Configuration (ii)

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi(\vec{x}) &= -\frac{q}{r} + \frac{q}{|\vec{x}-d\hat{z}|} + \frac{q}{|\vec{x}+d\hat{z}|} \\ &= -\frac{q}{r} + \frac{q}{\sqrt{r^2 - 2zd + d^2}} + \frac{q}{\sqrt{r^2 + 2zd + d^2}} \\ &= \frac{q}{r} \left\{ -1 + \left(1 - \frac{2zd}{r^2} + \frac{d^2}{r^2}\right)^{-1/2} + \left(1 + \frac{2zd}{r^2} + \frac{d^2}{r^2}\right)^{1/2} \right\} \\ &\approx \frac{q}{r} \left\{ -1 + \left(1 - \frac{zd}{r^2} - \frac{d^2}{2r^2} + \frac{3}{8}\left(\frac{-2zd}{r^2}\right)^2\right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \left(1 + \frac{zd}{r^2} - \frac{d^2}{2r^2} + \frac{3}{8}\left(\frac{2zd}{r^2}\right)^2\right) \right\}\end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \Phi(\vec{x}) \approx \frac{q}{r} \left\{ 1 - \frac{d^2}{r^2} + \frac{3z^2 d^2}{r^4} \right\} = \frac{q}{r} + qd^2 \left( \frac{3z^2 - r^2}{r^5} \right)$$

✓ As before

(d) In order to plot the equipotentials, let us put the potential in dimensionless form

Configuration (i)

$$\Phi(\vec{x}) = \frac{q}{d} \left\{ 2\left(\frac{z}{d}\right) \left(\frac{d}{r}\right)^3 - 6\left(\frac{x^2}{d^2} - \frac{z^2}{d^2}\right) \left(\frac{d}{r}\right)^5 \right\}$$

Configuration (ii)

$$\Phi(\vec{x}) = \frac{q}{d} \left\{ \frac{d}{r} + 3\left(\frac{z^2}{d^2}\right) \left(\frac{d}{r}\right)^5 - \left(\frac{d}{r}\right)^3 \right\}$$

All plots in units  $\frac{q}{d}$ , with distances in units  $d$

## Multipole Expansions of Discrete Charge Distributions

### ■ Configuration (i)

#### ■ Definitions

```

Norm[vector_] := Sqrt[vector.vector] (* norm of vector *)
V0[r_,rp_] := 1/Norm[r-rp]
(* potential of a unit point charge at rp *)

Vtruei[x_,z_] :=
  Module[{r={x,z}},
    3 V0[r,{0,1}] + V0[r,{0,-1}] -
    2 (V0[r,{1,0}] + V0[r,{-1,0}])]
(*The exact potential *)

Vi[x_,z_] := Module[{r=Sqrt[x^2+z^2]},
  2 z/r^3 - 6 (x^2-z^2)/r^5]
(* Approximate potential including quadrapole correction *)

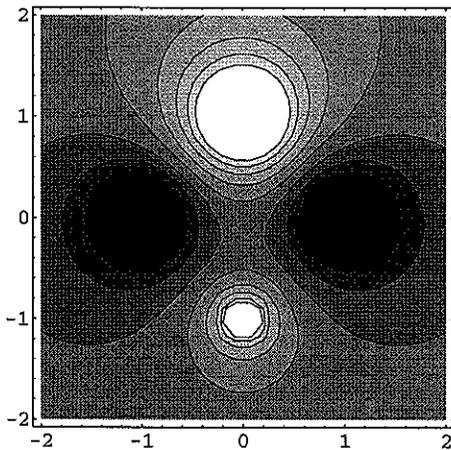
```

#### ■ Close up to the charges

```

(* Exact potential *)
ContourPlot[Vtruei[x,z],{x,-2,2},{z,-2,2},PlotPoints->30]

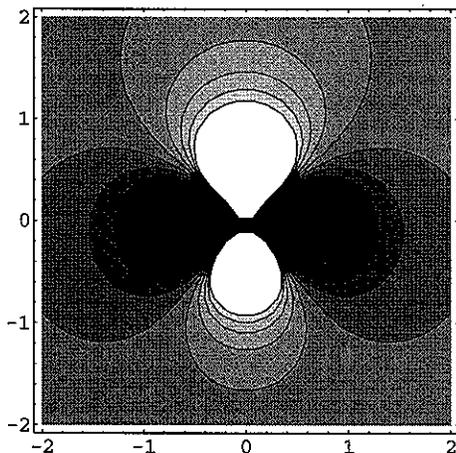
```



```

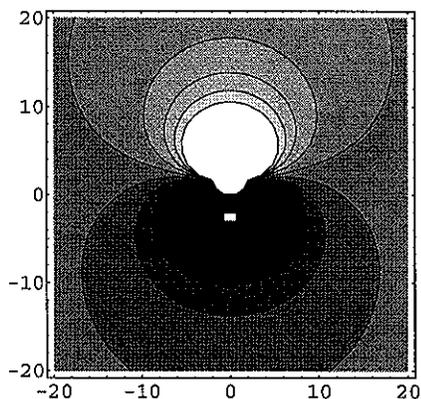
(* Approximate Potential *)
ContourPlot[Vi[x,z],{x,-2,2},{z,-2,2},PlotPoints->30]

```



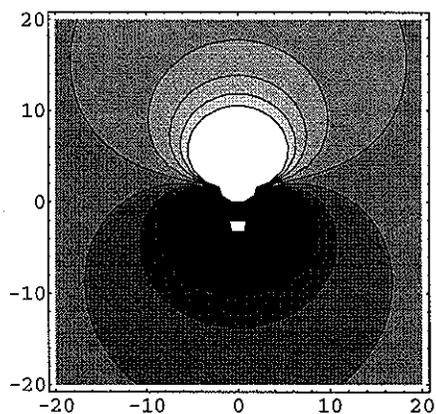
### ■ Far away from the charges (Dipole term dominates)

```
(* Exact potential *)
ContourPlot[Vtruei[x,z],{x,-20,20},{z,-20,20},PlotPoints->30]
```



-ContourGraphics-

```
(* Approximate Potential *)
ContourPlot[Vi[x,z],{x,-20,20},{z,-20,20},PlotPoints->30]
```



-ContourGraphics-

### ■ Configuration (ii)

#### ■ Definitions

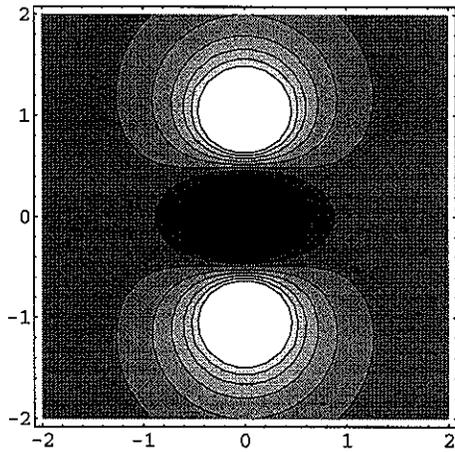
```
Vtrueii[x_,z_] :=
  Module[{r={x,z}},
    V0[r,{0,1}] + V0[r,{0,-1}] - V0[r,{0,0}]
    (*The exact potential *)

  Vii[x_,z_] := Module[{r=Sqrt[x^2+z^2]},
    1/r + 3 z^2/r^5 - 1/r^3
    (* Approximate potential including quadrapole correction *)
```

■ Close up to the charges

(\* Exact potential \*)

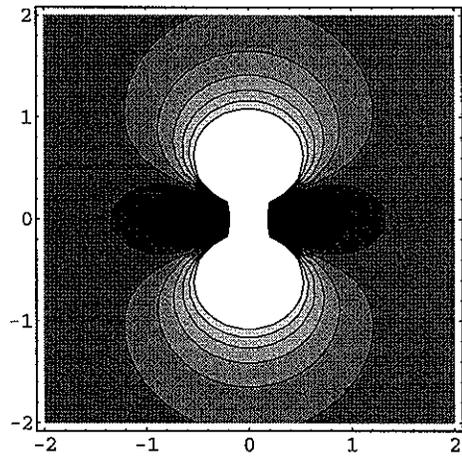
```
ContourPlot[Vtrueii[x,z],{x,-2,2},{z,-2,2},PlotPoints->30]
```



-ContourGraphics-

(\* Approximate Potential \*)

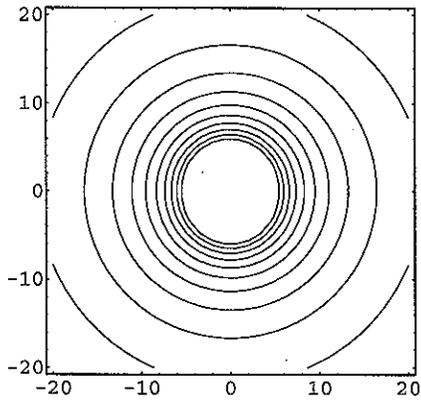
```
ContourPlot[Vii[x,z],{x,-2,2},{z,-2,2},PlotPoints->30]
```



-ContourGraphics-

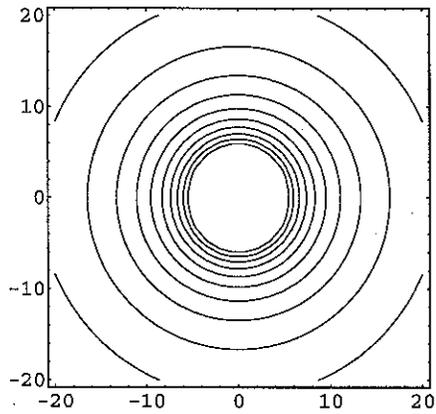
■ Far away from the charges (Monopole term dominates)

```
(* Exact potential *)  
ContourPlot[Vtrueii[x,z], {x,-20,20}, {z,-20,20}, PlotPoints->30,  
ContourShading->False]
```



-ContourGraphics-

```
(* Approximate Potential *)  
ContourPlot[Vii[x,z], {x,-20,20}, {z,-20,20}, PlotPoints->30,  
ContourShading->False]
```



-ContourGraphics-

Problem 3 (Jackson 4.6)

Quadrupole moment  $Q = \frac{1}{2} Q_{33}$  in a cylindrically symmetric electric field with  $\left. \frac{\partial E_z}{\partial z} \right|_0$  along  $z$  axis

(a) Since the field is cylindrically symmetric we can rotate our coordinate axes to lie along the eigenvectors ~~vectors~~ of the  $Q_{ij}$  tensor

$$\Rightarrow Q_{ij} = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{2}Q_{33} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -\frac{1}{2}Q_{33} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & Q_{33} \end{bmatrix} = eQ \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -\frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

The energy of quadrupole interaction is given in (4.24) as

$$W = -\frac{1}{6} Q_{ij} \left. \frac{\partial E_j}{\partial x_i} \right|_0 = -\frac{eQ}{6} \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \left. \frac{\partial E_x}{\partial x} \right|_0 + \frac{1}{2} \left. \frac{\partial E_y}{\partial y} \right|_0 + \left. \frac{\partial E_z}{\partial z} \right|_0 \right]$$

For a cylindrically symmetric field  $\frac{\partial E_x}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial E_y}{\partial y}$

$$\Rightarrow W = \frac{eQ}{4} \left. \frac{\partial E_z}{\partial z} \right|_0$$

And since  $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = 0$

$$\frac{\partial E_z}{\partial z} = -\left( \frac{\partial E_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial E_y}{\partial y} \right)$$

(b) For  $Q = 2 \times 10^{-24} \text{ cm}^2$ ,

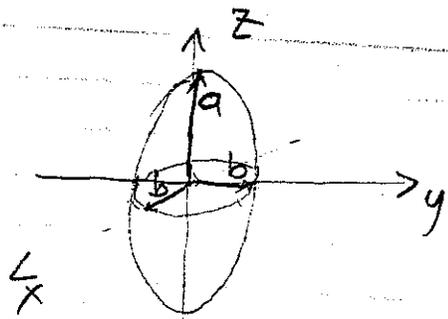
$$\frac{W}{h} = 10 \text{ MHz} \Rightarrow W = 6.63 \times 10^{-20} \text{ erg} = 6.63 \times 10^{-27} \text{ J}$$

$$\Rightarrow Q = \frac{2 \times 10^{-24} \text{ cm}^2}{(0.529 \times 10^{-8} \text{ cm})^2} a_0^2 = 7.15 \times 10^{-8} a_0^2$$

$$\Rightarrow W = 4.14 \times 10^{-9} \text{ eV} = 1.52 \times 10^{-9} \left( \frac{e^2}{a_0} \right) \quad \left( \text{using } \frac{e^2}{2a_0} = \text{Rydberg} = 13.6 \text{ eV} \right)$$

$$\therefore 1.52 \times 10^{-9} \left( \frac{e^2}{a_0} \right) = \frac{-e}{4} (7.15 \times 10^{-8} a_0^2) \left. \frac{\partial E_z}{\partial z} \right|_0$$

$$\Rightarrow \left. \frac{\partial E_z}{\partial z} \right|_0 = -0.85 \left( \frac{e}{a_0^3} \right)$$



Charge density: Uniform charge  $Ze$  distributed over the spheroid

$$\frac{x^2}{b^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} + \frac{z^2}{a^2} = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \rho(\vec{x}) = \frac{3Ze}{4\pi ab^2}$$

$$Q = \frac{Q_{zz}}{e} = \frac{1}{e} \int_{\text{spheroid}} (2z^2 - x^2 - y^2) \rho(\vec{x}) d^3x$$

Changing coordinates:  $x' = \frac{x}{b}$      $y' = \frac{y}{b}$      $z' = \frac{z}{a}$      $\Rightarrow x'^2 + y'^2 + z'^2 = 1$   
 $\Rightarrow d^3x = \frac{\partial(x,y,z)}{\partial(x',y',z')} d^3x' = ab^2 d^3x'$      $\uparrow$  unit sphere  
Jacobian

$$\therefore Q = \frac{3Ze}{4\pi} \int_{\text{unit sphere}} (2a^2 z'^2 - b^2(x'^2 + y'^2)) d^3x' = \frac{3Ze}{4\pi} \int (2a^2 \cos^2 \theta' - b^2 \sin^2 \theta') r'^2 dV$$

$$= \frac{3Ze}{4\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} d\varphi' \int_0^1 r'^4 dr' \int_{-1}^1 [(2a^2 + b^2) \cos^2 \theta' - b^2] d(\cos \theta')$$

$$= \frac{3Ze}{4\pi} (2\pi) \left(\frac{1}{5}\right) \left(\frac{2}{3}(2a^2 + b^2) - 2b^2\right)$$

$$Q = \frac{2}{5} Z(a^2 - b^2)$$

Example  $E_u^{153}$ ,  $Z = 63$ ,  $Q = 2.5 \times 10^{-24} \text{ cm}^2$ ,  $R = \frac{a+b}{2} = 7 \times 10^{-13} \text{ cm}$

$$\Rightarrow Q = \frac{2}{5} Z(a+b)(a-b) = \frac{4}{5} ZR(a-b)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{(a-b)}{R} = \frac{5Q}{4ZR^2} = 0.10$$

## Problem 4

Multipole Moments of an <sup>azimuthally</sup> symmetric charge distribution

Aside

If  $\rho$  is symmetric about the  $z$ -axis then:  ~~$Q_x = Q_y = 0$~~

- $P_x = P_y = 0$  (average  $x$ -position = average  $y$ -position = 0)

- $Q_{xy} = Q_{xz} = Q_{yz} = 0$  (principle axes  $x$ - $y$ - $z$ )

- $Q_{xx} = Q_{yy}$  (by symmetry) =  $-\frac{1}{2} Q_{zz}$  since  $\text{Tr}(Q_{ij}) = 0$

⇒ Up to quadrupole term:

$$\Phi(\vec{r}) = \frac{Q_{\text{net}}}{r} + \frac{z P_z}{r^3} + \frac{1}{2} Q_{zz} \left( \frac{-x^2 - y^2 + z^2}{2} \right) \frac{1}{r^5}$$

$$= \frac{Q_{\text{net}}}{r} + P_z \frac{\cos \theta}{r^2} + \frac{1}{4} Q_{zz} \frac{3z^2 - r^2}{r^5}$$

$$= \frac{Q_{\text{net}}}{r} + P_z \frac{\cos \theta}{r^2} + \frac{1}{4} Q_{zz} \frac{(3 \cos^2 \theta - 1)}{r^3}$$

$$= \frac{Q_{\text{net}}}{r} P_0(\cos \theta) + \frac{P_z}{r^2} P_1(\cos \theta) + \frac{Q_{zz}}{2r^3} P_2(\cos \theta)$$

where  $P_0(u) = 1$ ,  $P_1(u) = u$ ,  $P_2(u) = \frac{3u^2 - 1}{2}$   
are the Legendre Polynomials

(Next Page)

This also follows from the spherical multipoles

$$g_{\ell, m} \equiv \int d^3x \rho(\vec{x}) r^\ell Y_{\ell, m}^*(\theta, \varphi) : \text{ If } \rho \text{ independent of } \phi$$

then  $g_{\ell, m} = 0$  if  $m \neq 0$

$$\Rightarrow \Phi(\vec{x}) = \sum_{\ell} \frac{4\pi}{2\ell+1} g_{\ell, 0} \frac{Y_{\ell, 0}(\theta)}{r^{\ell+1}}$$

$$Y_{\ell, 0}(\theta) = \sqrt{\frac{2\ell+1}{4\pi}} P_{\ell}(\cos\theta)$$

$$\Rightarrow \Phi(\vec{x}) = \sum_{\ell} Q^{(\ell)} \frac{P_{\ell}(\cos\theta)}{r^{\ell+1}}$$

where  $Q^{(\ell)} = \sqrt{\frac{4\pi}{2\ell+1}} \int d^3x \rho(\vec{x}) r^\ell Y_{\ell, 0}^*(\theta, \varphi) = \int d^3x \rho(\vec{x}) r^\ell P_{\ell}(\cos\theta)$

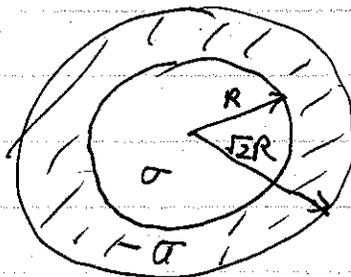
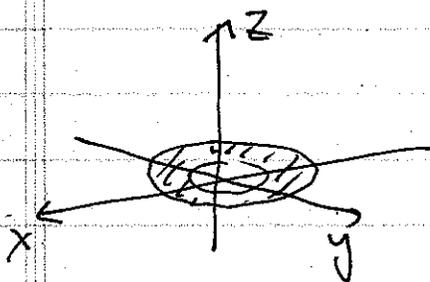
It is easy to show that

$$Q^{(\ell)} = \frac{1}{\ell!} Q_{33 \dots 3}^{(\ell)}$$

$\ell$  times

(the " $z$ -component" of the  $\ell^{\text{th}}$  cartesian tensor)

OK, with that background consider the distribution



$$q_{\text{net}} = (\pi R^2) \sigma + [(\pi 2R^2) - \pi R^2] (-\sigma) = 0$$

Problem 4 continued

•  $p_x = p_y = 0$  by symmetry

and  $p_z = 0$  since all charge is in  $x-y$  plane

• We need  $Q_{zz} = \int d^3x \rho(\vec{x}) (3z^2 - r^2) = \int da \sigma(r) (r^2)$   
all charge at  $z=0$

$da = 2\pi r dr$  (differential rings)

$$\Rightarrow Q_{zz} = \sigma \int_0^R (-r^2) 2\pi r dr - \sigma \int_R^{\sqrt{2}R} (-r^2) 2\pi r dr$$

$$= 2\pi\sigma \left( -\int_0^R r^3 dr + \int_R^{\sqrt{2}R} r^3 dr \right)$$

$$= 2\pi\sigma \left( -\frac{r^4}{4} \Big|_0^R + \frac{r^4}{4} \Big|_R^{\sqrt{2}R} \right) = 2\pi\sigma \left( -\frac{R^4}{4} + \frac{4R^4}{4} - \frac{R^4}{4} \right)$$

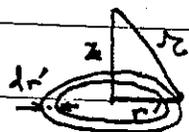
$$\Rightarrow \boxed{Q_{zz} = \pi\sigma R^4} \quad (\text{units: charge} \cdot \text{Length}^2)$$

$$\Rightarrow Q_{ij} = \pi\sigma R^4 \begin{bmatrix} -1/2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\Phi(r, \theta) = Q_{zz} \frac{P_2(\cos \theta)}{2r^3} = \frac{\pi\sigma R^4}{4} \frac{(3\cos^2\theta - 1)}{r^3}}$$

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(b) By direct integration, the potential along the  $z$ -axis is found by adding up the contribution of rings of charge of radius  $r'$  and thickness  $dr'$



$$d\Phi = \frac{\sigma(r') da'}{r}, \quad da' = 2\pi r' dr'$$

$$= \frac{2\pi\sigma(r') dr'}{\sqrt{r'^2 + z^2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \Phi(z) = \int d\Phi = 2\pi\sigma \int \frac{dr' \sigma(r')}{\sqrt{r'^2 + z^2}}$$

$$= 2\pi\sigma \left[ \int_0^R \frac{dr'}{\sqrt{r'^2 + z^2}} - \int_R^{\sqrt{2}R} \frac{dr'}{\sqrt{r'^2 + z^2}} \right]$$

$$= 2\pi\sigma \left[ \sqrt{r'^2 + z^2} \Big|_0^R - \sqrt{r'^2 + z^2} \Big|_R^{\sqrt{2}R} \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow \Phi(z) = 2\pi\sigma \left( \sqrt{z^2 + R^2} - z - \sqrt{z^2 + 2R^2} + \sqrt{z^2 + R^2} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \Phi(z) = 2\pi\sigma \left( 2\sqrt{z^2 + R^2} - \sqrt{z^2 + 2R^2} - z \right)$$

(c) Since  $\rho$  is azimuthally symmetric, we know  $V$  is independent of  $\phi$ , and therefore outside the charge distribution

$$\Phi(r, \theta) = \sum_l (A_l r^l + \frac{B_l}{r^{l+1}}) P_l(\cos \theta)$$

for  $r > \sqrt{2}R$  we have the b.c.  $V \rightarrow 0$  and  $r \rightarrow \infty$   
 $\Rightarrow A_l = 0 \quad \forall l$

$$\Rightarrow \Phi(r, \theta) = \sum_l \frac{B_l}{r^{l+1}} P_l(\cos \theta)$$

We also have the b.c.  $V(r, \theta=0)$  (along z-axis)

$$\Phi(r, \theta=0) = 2\pi\sigma(2\sqrt{r^2+R^2} - \sqrt{r^2+2R^2} - r)$$

To find the expansion coefficients,  $B_l$ , expand the above expression in powers of  $\frac{R}{r} \ll 1$

$$\Phi(r, \theta=0) = 2\pi\sigma r \left( 2 \left( 1 + \frac{R^2}{r^2} \right)^{1/2} - \left( 1 + \frac{2R^2}{r^2} \right)^{1/2} - 1 \right)$$

$$\approx 2\pi\sigma r \left\{ 2 \left( 1 + \frac{R^2}{2r^2} - \frac{1}{8} \left( \frac{R^2}{r^2} \right)^2 \right) - \left( 1 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{2R^2}{r^2} - \frac{1}{8} \left( \frac{2R^2}{r^2} \right)^2 \right) - 1 \right\}$$

here I used  $(1+\delta)^n \approx 1 + n\delta + \frac{n(n-1)}{2}\delta^2$   
 for  $\delta < 1$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \Phi(r, \theta=0) &\approx 2\pi\sigma r \left( 2 + \frac{R^2}{r^2} - \frac{1}{4} \frac{R^4}{r^4} \right. \\ &\quad \left. - 1 - \frac{R^2}{r^2} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{R^4}{r^4} - 1 \right) \\ &= 2\pi\sigma r \left( \frac{R^4}{4r^4} \right) = \frac{\pi\sigma R^4}{2} \frac{1}{r^3} \end{aligned}$$

The general expansion is

$$\Phi(r, \theta) = \sum_{\ell} B_{\ell} \frac{1}{r^{\ell+1}} P_{\ell}(\cos\theta)$$

$$\Rightarrow \Phi(r, \theta=0) = \sum_{\ell} B_{\ell} \frac{1}{r^{\ell+1}} P_{\ell}(1) = \sum_{\ell} B_{\ell} \frac{1}{r^{\ell+1}}$$

$$= \frac{B_0}{r} + \frac{B_1}{r^2} + \frac{B_2}{r^3} + \dots$$

$$\Rightarrow B_0 = B_1 = 0 \quad B_2 = \frac{\pi\sigma R^4}{2}$$

$\therefore$  Up to order  $1/r^3$

$$\boxed{\Phi(r, \theta) = \frac{\pi\sigma R^4}{2} \frac{1}{r^3} P_2(\cos\theta)}$$

(as in part (a)) ✓