

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, MADRAS

PH5020 Electromagnetic Theory

Assignment 2

28.01.2015 (due: 04.02.2015)

1. Using the Green's function technique, obtain the solution of the problem

$$\frac{d^2\phi(\theta)}{d\theta^2} = -\frac{\rho(\theta)}{\epsilon_0}, \quad 0 < \theta < \pi$$

subjected to the boundary condition $\phi(0) = A$ and $\phi(\pi) = B$, where A and B are constants.

2. Consider the electrostatic problem in a two dimensional region $0 \leq x \leq a, y \geq 0$ without any source. Show that the solution to the Laplace equation in the above region with boundary condition

$$\Phi = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{at } x = 0, x = a \text{ (} y > 0 \text{)} \\ V_0 & \text{at } y = 0 \text{ (} V_0 = \text{const.)} \\ 0 & \text{for } y \rightarrow \infty \end{cases}$$

is given by

$$\Phi(x, y) = \frac{4V_0}{\pi} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{(2n+1)\pi}{a}y} \sin\left(\frac{(2n+1)\pi}{a}x\right).$$

3. Show that the above series can be summed to give

$$\Phi(x, y) = \frac{2V_0}{\pi} \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{\sin(\pi x/a)}{\sinh(\pi y/a)} \right)$$

4. Consider a two dimensional rectangular region $0 \leq x \leq a, 0 \leq y \leq b$. Show that the Green function, which vanishes on the boundary, can be expressed as

$$G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') = \frac{2}{a} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} g_n(y, y') \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{a}\right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x'}{a}\right),$$

where the function $g_n(y, y')$ satisfies the differential equation

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

with the boundary condition $g_n(0, y') = g_n(b, y') = 0$. Solve the above differential equation to determine $g_n(y, y')$.¹

¹You may find the following Fourier series expansion, for the Dirac δ -function in an interval $0 \leq x \leq a$, useful:

$$\delta(x - x') = \frac{2}{a} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{a}\right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x'}{a}\right).$$