

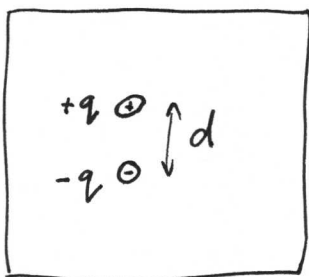
DAY 16

PH 631  
2015

Instructor:  
Ethan Minot

MULTIPOLE EXPANSION CONTINUED...

Last time



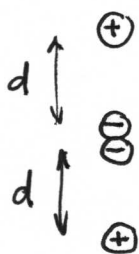
$$\Phi(r, \theta) = \frac{q d}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{\cos\theta}{r^2} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{r^3}\right)$$

By putting two <sup>opposing</sup> monopoles close to each other we killed the  $\frac{1}{r}$  term at large  $r$ .

Now, let's put two opposing dipoles close to each other

Find  $\Phi(\vec{r})$  at large  $r$

Step 1: Calculate  $\Phi$  on  $z$ -axis for large  $z$ .



$$\Phi(0,0,z) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left( \frac{-2q}{z} + \frac{q}{z+d} + \frac{q}{z-d} \right)$$

$$= \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 z} \left( -2 + \frac{1}{1+d/z} + \frac{1}{1-d/z} \right)$$

in the limit of large  $z$

$$= \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 z} \left( 2 + \left(1 - \frac{d}{z} + \frac{d^2}{2z^2} + \dots\right) + \left(1 + \frac{d}{z} - \frac{d^2}{2z^2} + \dots\right) \right)$$

$$= \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0 z} \left( \frac{d^2}{z^2} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{z^3}\right) \right) \quad (2)$$

$$= \frac{qd^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 z^3} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{z^4}\right) \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

Step 2: Use this as a boundary condition to match to the sum of orthogonal fns in spherical coordinates (separable fns that satisfy  $\nabla^2 \Phi = 0$ ).

$$\Phi(r, \theta) = \frac{B_0}{r} P_0(\cos\theta) + \frac{B_1}{r^2} P_1(\cos\theta) + \frac{B_2}{r^3} P_2(\cos\theta) + \dots$$

$$\Rightarrow \underbrace{\Phi(r, \theta=0)}_{\text{along the } z \text{ axis}} = \frac{B_0}{z} P_0(1) + \frac{B_1}{z^2} P_1(1) + \frac{B_2}{z^3} P_2(1) + \dots$$

Comparison with eq<sup>n</sup> (1)

$$\Rightarrow B_2 = \frac{qd^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \quad B_1 = 0 \quad B_0 = 0$$

Final answer:

$$\Phi(r, \theta) = \frac{qd^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^3} P_2(\cos\theta) + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{r^4}\right)$$

This is the quadrupole term in the multipole expansion.