

PHY 712 Electrodynamics
9-9:50 AM MWF Olin 103

Plan for Lecture 3:

Reading: Chapter 1 in JDJ

- 1. Review of electrostatics with one-dimensional examples**
- 2. Poisson and Laplace Equations**
- 3. Green's Theorem and their use in electrostatics**

1/21/2015 PHY 712 Spring 2015 -- Lecture 3 1

PHY 712 Electrodynamics

MWF 9-9:50 AM OPL 103 <http://www.wfu.edu/~natalie/s15phy712/>

Instructor: [Natalie Holzwarth](mailto:natalie@wfu.edu) Phone:758-5510 Office:300 OPL e-mail:natalie@wfu.edu

Course schedule for Spring 2015
(Preliminary schedule -- subject to frequent adjustment.)

Lecture date	JDJ Reading	Topic	Assign.	Due date
1 Mon: 01/12/2015	Chap. 1	Introduction, units and Poisson equation	#1	01/23/2015
2 Wed: 01/14/2015	Chap. 1	Electrostatic energy calculations	#2	01/23/2015
Fri: 01/16/2015	No class	NAWH out of town		
Mon: 01/19/2015	No class	MLK Holiday		
3 Wed: 01/21/2015	Chap. 1	Poisson equation and Green's theorem	#3	01/23/2015

1/21/2015 PHY 712 Spring 2015 -- Lecture 3 2

WFU Physics Colloquium

TITLE: Quantum Poetics: The Word and Its Earthwork

SPEAKER: Dr. Amy Catanzano,
Department of English
Wake Forest University

TIME: Wednesday January 21, 2015 at 4:00 PM

PLACE: Room 101 Olin Physical Laboratory

Refreshments will be served at 3:30 PM in the Olin Lounge. All interested persons are cordially invited to attend.

ABSTRACT

Poetry and science are ordinarily considered to be different disciplines with distinct goals, methods, and questions. I am part of a contemporary and historical lineage of poets who explore the intersections of poetry and science. My work focuses on poetry in relation to relativity, quantum mechanics, and string theory. My methodology follows in the tradition of

1/21/2015 PHY 712 Spring 2015 -- Lecture 3 3

Poisson and Laplace Equations

We are concerned with finding solutions to the Poisson equation:

$$\nabla^2 \Phi_p(\mathbf{r}) = -\frac{\rho(\mathbf{r})}{\epsilon_0}$$

and the Laplace equation:

$$\nabla^2 \Phi_L(\mathbf{r}) = 0$$

The Laplace equation is the “homogeneous” version of the Poisson equation. The Green's theorem allows us to determine the electrostatic potential from volume and surface integrals:

$$\Phi(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_V d^3r' \rho(\mathbf{r}') G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') + \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_S d^2r' [G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') \nabla' \Phi(\mathbf{r}') - \Phi(\mathbf{r}') \nabla' G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}')] \cdot \hat{\mathbf{r}}'$$

1/21/2015 PHY 712 Spring 2015 – Lecture 3 4

General comments on Green's theorem

$$\Phi(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_V d^3r' \rho(\mathbf{r}') G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') + \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_S d^2r' [G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') \nabla' \Phi(\mathbf{r}') - \Phi(\mathbf{r}') \nabla' G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}')] \cdot \hat{\mathbf{r}}'$$

This general form can be used in 1, 2, or 3 dimensions. In general, the Green's function must be constructed to satisfy the appropriate (Dirichlet or Neumann) boundary conditions. Alternatively or in addition, boundary conditions can be adjusted using the fact that for any solution to the Poisson equation, $\Phi_p(\mathbf{r})$ other solutions may be generated by use of solutions of the Laplace equation

$$\Phi(\mathbf{r}) = \Phi_p(\mathbf{r}) + C\Phi_L(\mathbf{r}), \text{ for any constant } C.$$

1/21/2015 PHY 712 Spring 2015 – Lecture 3 5

“Derivation” of Green's Theorem


Poisson equation: $\nabla^2 \Phi(\mathbf{r}) = -\frac{\rho(\mathbf{r})}{\epsilon_0}$

Green's relation: $\nabla'^2 G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') = -4\pi\delta^3(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}')$

Divergence theorem: $\int_V d^3r \nabla \cdot \mathbf{A} = \oint_S d^2r \mathbf{A} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{r}}$

Let $\mathbf{A} = f(\mathbf{r})\nabla g(\mathbf{r}) - g(\mathbf{r})\nabla f(\mathbf{r})$

$$\int_V d^3r \nabla \cdot (f(\mathbf{r})\nabla g(\mathbf{r}) - g(\mathbf{r})\nabla f(\mathbf{r})) = \oint_S d^2r (f(\mathbf{r})\nabla g(\mathbf{r}) - g(\mathbf{r})\nabla f(\mathbf{r})) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{r}}$$



$$\int_V d^3r (f(\mathbf{r})\nabla^2 g(\mathbf{r}) - g(\mathbf{r})\nabla^2 f(\mathbf{r}))$$

1/21/2015 PHY 712 Spring 2015 – Lecture 3 6

"Derivation" of Green's Theorem

Poisson equation: $\nabla^2\Phi(\mathbf{r}) = -\frac{\rho(\mathbf{r})}{\epsilon_0}$

Green's relation: $\nabla'^2 G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') = -4\pi\delta^3(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}')$.

$$\int_V d^3r \nabla \cdot (f(\mathbf{r})\nabla^2 g(\mathbf{r}) - g(\mathbf{r})\nabla^2 f(\mathbf{r})) = \oint_S d^2r' (f(\mathbf{r}')\nabla g(\mathbf{r}') - g(\mathbf{r}')\nabla f(\mathbf{r}')) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}$$

$f(\mathbf{r}) \leftrightarrow \Phi(\mathbf{r}) \qquad g(\mathbf{r}) = G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}')$

$$\Phi(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_V d^3r' \rho(\mathbf{r}') G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') + \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_S d^2r' [G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}')\nabla'\Phi(\mathbf{r}') - \Phi(\mathbf{r}')\nabla'G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}')] \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}'$$

1/21/2015 PHY 712 Spring 2015 – Lecture 3 7

Example of charge density and potential varying in one dimension

Consider the following one dimensional charge distribution:

$$\rho(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } x < -a \\ -\rho_0 & \text{for } -a < x < 0 \\ +\rho_0 & \text{for } 0 < x < a \\ 0 & \text{for } x > a \end{cases}$$

We want to find the electrostatic potential such that

$$\frac{d^2\Phi(x)}{dx^2} = -\frac{\rho(x)}{\epsilon_0},$$

with the boundary condition $\Phi(-\infty) = 0$.

1/21/2015 PHY 712 Spring 2015 – Lecture 3 8

Electrostatic field solution

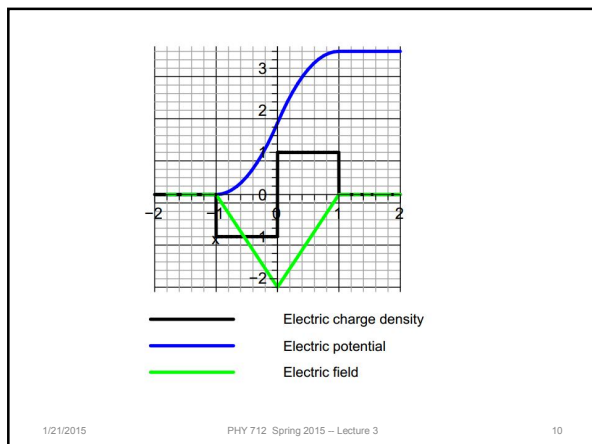
The solution to the Poisson equation is given by:

$$\Phi(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } x < -a \\ \frac{\rho_0}{2\epsilon_0}(x+a)^2 & \text{for } -a < x < 0 \\ -\frac{\rho_0}{2\epsilon_0}(x-a)^2 + \frac{\rho_0 a^2}{\epsilon_0} & \text{for } 0 < x < a \\ \frac{\rho_0}{\epsilon_0} a^2 & \text{for } x > a \end{cases}$$

The electrostatic field is given by:

$$E(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } x < -a \\ -\frac{\rho_0}{\epsilon_0}(x+a) & \text{for } -a < x < 0 \\ \frac{\rho_0}{\epsilon_0}(x-a) & \text{for } 0 < x < a \\ 0 & \text{for } x > a \end{cases}$$

1/21/2015 PHY 712 Spring 2015 – Lecture 3 9



Comment about the example and solution

This particular example is one that is used to model semiconductor junctions where the charge density is controlled by introducing charged impurities near the junction.

The solution of the Poisson equation for this case can be determined by piecewise solution within each of the four regions. Alternatively, from Green's theorem in one-dimension, one can use the Green's function

$$\Phi(x) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} G(x, x') \rho(x') dx' \quad \text{where } G(x, x') = 4\pi x_{<}$$

$x_{<}$ should be take as the smaller of x and x' .

1/21/2015 PHY 712 Spring 2015 – Lecture 3 11

Notes on the one-dimensional Green's function

The Green's function for the one-dimensional Poisson equation can be defined as a solution to the equation: $\nabla^2 G(x, x') = -4\pi\delta(x - x')$

Here the factor of 4π is not really necessary, but ensures consistency with your text's treatment of the 3-dimensional case. The meaning of this expression is that x' is held fixed while taking the derivative with respect to x .

1/21/2015 PHY 712 Spring 2015 – Lecture 3 12

Construction of a Green's function in one dimension

Consider two independent solutions to the homogeneous equation

$$\nabla^2 \phi_i(x) = 0$$

where $i = 1$ or 2 . Let

$$G(x, x') = \frac{4\pi}{W} \phi_1(x_<) \phi_2(x_>).$$

This notation means that $x_<$ should be taken as the smaller of x and x' and $x_>$ should be taken as the larger.

W is defined as the "Wronskian":

$$W \equiv \frac{d\phi_1(x)}{dx} \phi_2(x) - \phi_1(x) \frac{d\phi_2(x)}{dx}.$$

1/21/2015

PHY 712 Spring 2015 – Lecture 3

13

Summary

$$\nabla^2 G(x, x') = -4\pi \delta(x - x')$$

$$G(x, x') = \frac{4\pi}{W} \phi_1(x_<) \phi_2(x_>)$$

$$W \equiv \frac{d\phi_1(x)}{dx} \phi_2(x) - \phi_1(x) \frac{d\phi_2(x)}{dx}$$

$$\left. \frac{dG(x, x')}{dx} \right|_{x=x'+\epsilon} - \left. \frac{dG(x, x')}{dx} \right|_{x=x'-\epsilon} = -4\pi$$

1/21/2015

PHY 712 Spring 2015 – Lecture 3

14

One dimensional Green's function in practice

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(x) &= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} G(x, x') \rho(x') dx' \\ &= \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \left\{ \int_{-\infty}^x G(x, x') \rho(x') dx' + \int_x^{\infty} G(x, x') \rho(x') dx' \right\} \end{aligned}$$

For the one-dimensional Poisson equation, we can construct the Green's function by choosing $\phi_1(x) = x$ and $\phi_2(x) = 1$; $W = 1$:

$$\Phi(x) = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \left\{ \int_{-\infty}^x x' \rho(x') dx' + x \int_x^{\infty} \rho(x') dx' \right\}.$$

This expression gives the same result as previously obtained for the example $\rho(x)$ and more generally is appropriate for any neutral charge distribution.

1/21/2015

PHY 712 Spring 2015 – Lecture 3

15

Orthogonal function expansions and Green's functions

Suppose we have a "complete" set of orthogonal functions $\{u_n(x)\}$ defined in the interval $x_1 \leq x \leq x_2$ such that

$$\int_{x_1}^{x_2} u_n(x)u_m(x) dx = \delta_{nm}.$$

We can show that the completeness of these functions implies that

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} u_n(x)u_n(x') = \delta(x - x').$$

This relation allows us to use these functions to represent a Green's function for our system. For the 1-dimensional Poisson equation, the Green's function satisfies

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} G(x, x') = -4\pi\delta(x - x').$$

1/21/2015 PHY 712 Spring 2015 – Lecture 3 16

Orthogonal function expansions –continued

Therefore, if

$$\frac{d^2}{dx^2} u_n(x) = -\alpha_n u_n(x),$$

where $\{u_n(x)\}$ also satisfy the appropriate boundary conditions, then we can write Green's functions as

$$G(x, x') = 4\pi \sum_n \frac{u_n(x)u_n(x')}{\alpha_n}.$$

1/21/2015 PHY 712 Spring 2015 – Lecture 3 17

Example

For example, consider the example discussed earlier in the interval $-a \leq x \leq a$ with

$$\rho(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } x < -a \\ -\rho_0 & \text{for } -a < x < 0 \\ +\rho_0 & \text{for } 0 < x < a \\ 0 & \text{for } x > a \end{cases} \quad (24)$$

We want to solve the Poisson equation with boundary condition $d\Phi(-a)/dx = 0$ and $d\Phi(a)/dx = 0$. For this purpose, we may choose

$$u_n(x) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{a}} \sin\left(\frac{[2n+1]\pi x}{2a}\right). \quad (25)$$

The Green's function for this case as:

$$G(x, x') = \frac{4\pi}{a} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\sin\left(\frac{[2n+1]\pi x}{2a}\right) \sin\left(\frac{[2n+1]\pi x'}{2a}\right)}{\left(\frac{[2n+1]\pi}{2a}\right)^2}. \quad (26)$$

1/21/2015 PHY 712 Spring 2015 – Lecture 3 18

